HSO201A

1. Let (Ω, \mathcal{F}, P) be a probability space. Let $X : \Omega \longmapsto \mathbb{R}$, be a random variable given as

$$X(\omega) = c, \quad \forall \ \omega \in \Omega$$

Find the distribution function F_X and draw its graph. Is the variable continuous or discrete?

- 2. A distribution function F_X is continuous at the point y if and only if $P(\{y\}) = 0$ or P(X = y) = 0.
- 3. Let X be a random variable with a finite variance and let $a \in \mathbb{R}$, then $Var(aX) = a^2Var(X)$. Is this true? Give reasons for your answer.
- 4. If a < b, then find the following probabilities in terms of their distribution function:
 - i) $P(a < x \le b)$
 - ii) $P(a \le x \le b)$
 - iii) P(a < x < b)
 - iv) $P(a \le x < b)$
- 5. Let f_x and h_x be two probability density functions & let $\lambda \in [0,1]$. Then $\lambda f_x + (1-\lambda)h_x$ is a probability density. Prove this. In general $f_x h_x$ is not a probability density. Construct an example where it is.
- 6. Find the parameters c & d for which the following will be a density function,

$$f_X(x) = \begin{cases} cx^{-d}, & x > 1\\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$
 (1)

Compute the distribution function.

- 7. Check for yourself the following properties of the moment generating function
 - a) $m_{X+c}(t) = e^{ct} m_X(t); c \in \mathbb{R}$, a constant

- b) $m_{bX}(t) = m_X(bt); b \in \mathbb{R}$, a constant
- c) $m_{\frac{X+a}{b}}(t) = e^{\frac{a}{b}t} m_X(\frac{t}{b}); \ a, b \in \mathbb{R}, \text{ constants \& } b > 0$
- 8. Consider the following density function

$$f_X(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{x^2}, & x \ge 1\\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$
 (2)

Show that it is a density function. Try to compute its expectation and variance and see what happens.

- 9. Consider $f_X(x) = e^{-x}$, if x > 0 & zero otherwise. Show it is a density function. Note that f_X is not continuous. But show that its distribution function is continuous.
- 10. Let f_X be a density which is symmetric. Show that $F_X(0) = \frac{1}{2}$, where F_X is the distribution function. Also show that

$$P(x \ge a) = \frac{1}{2} - \int_0^a f_X(x) dx$$

and

$$F(-a) + F(a) = 1$$

11. Let us consider the experiment of repeatedly tossing a coin. Let S_n be the number of heads that appear in n tosses. Let us assume the coin is fair. Then show that for each $\epsilon > 0$

$$\lim_{n \to \infty} P\left(\left| \frac{S_n}{n} - \frac{1}{2} \right| > \epsilon \right) = 0$$

(This is a version of the weak law of large numbers). Can you interpret what it means? If you can you will start enjoying probability theory!