

Example Suppose X_1 and X_2 are independent exponential random variables with $E(X_1) = E(X_2) = \frac{1}{3}$.

Write $X_{(1)}$ to denote $\min(X_1, X_2) \leftarrow$ 1st order statistic

$X_{(2)}$ to denote $\max(X_1, X_2) \leftarrow$ 2nd order statistic

For $0 < a < b$ find $F_{X_{(1)}, X_{(2)}}(a, b)$.

$$= P(X_{(1)} \leq a, X_{(2)} \leq b)$$

$$= \underbrace{(1 - e^{-3a})(1 - e^{-3a})}_{\substack{\text{prob both } X_1, X_2 \\ \text{smaller than } a}} + \underbrace{(1 - e^{-3a})(e^{-3a} - e^{-3b})}_{\substack{\text{prob } X_1 < a \\ \text{prob } a < X_2 < b}} + \underbrace{(e^{-3a} - e^{-3b})(1 - e^{-3a})}_{\substack{\text{prob} \\ a < X_1 < b \\ \text{prob } X_2 < a}}$$

$$= (1 - e^{-3a})^2 + 2(1 - e^{-3a})(e^{-3a} - e^{-3b})$$

Find the joint density of $X_{(1)}, X_{(2)}$

$$\begin{aligned} f_{X_{(1)}, X_{(2)}}(x_1, x_2) &= \frac{\partial}{\partial x_1} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_2} \left[(1 - e^{-3x_1})^2 + 2(1 - e^{-3x_1})(e^{-3x_1} - e^{-3x_2}) \right] \\ &= (2)(3e^{-3x_1})(3e^{-3x_2}) \quad \text{for } 0 < x_1 < x_2. \end{aligned}$$

This is a special case of a more general idea

Find the density of $X_{(1)} = \min(X_1, X_2) =$ 1st order statistic

$$f_{X_{(1)}}(x_1) = \int_{x_1}^{\infty} (2)(3e^{-3x_1})(3e^{-3x_2}) dx_2 = 6e^{-6x_1} \quad \text{for } x_1 > 0$$

So $X_{(1)}$ is an exponential random variable with $E(X_{(1)}) = \frac{1}{6}$.

Find the density of $X_{(2)} = \max(X_1, X_2) =$ 2nd order statistic

$$\begin{aligned} f_{X_{(2)}}(x_2) &= \int_0^{x_2} (2)(3e^{-3x_1})(3e^{-3x_2}) dx_1 = 6e^{-3x_2} - 6e^{-6x_2} \\ &= 6e^{-3x_2}(1 - e^{-3x_2}) \end{aligned}$$

So $X_{(2)}$ is not an exponential random variable. for $x_2 > 0$

For those who are curious, $X_{(2)} - X_{(1)}$ is an exponential random variable, but we won't show it here.