Section 05

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1 Continuous Random Variables

X has uncountable/infinite number of values.

1.1 Probability Density function (PDF)

$$f(x)$$

$$P(a \le X \le b) = \int_a^b f(x)dx$$

$$P(X = x) = 0$$

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x)dx = 1$$

1.2 Cumulative Distribution function (CDF)

$$F(x) = P(X \le x) = \int_{-\infty}^{x} f(x)dx$$

Notes

$$P(a \le X \le b) = P(a < X \le b) = P(a < X < b) = F(b) - F(a)$$

$$P(X > a) = 1 - P(X \le a) = 1 - F(a)$$

1.3 Expected Value and Variance

$$\mu = E[x] = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x f(x) dx$$

$$V(x) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} (x - \mu)^2 f(x) dx = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x^2 f(x) dx - \mu^2$$

1.4 Exercises

1.4.1 Example 1

Suppose that

$$f(x) = \frac{x}{8}$$

Where

Determine the following:

- (a) P(X < 4)
- (b) P(X > 3.5)
- (c) P(4 < X < 5)
- (d) P(X > 4.5)
- (e) P(X < 3.5 or x > 4.5)

1.4.2 EXample 2

Suppose that

$$f(x) = e^{-x}$$

Where

Determine the following:

- (a) P(X > 1)
- (b) $P(1 \le X < 2.5)$
- (c) P(X = 3)
- (d) $P(X \ge 3)$
- (e) Find the value of x where P(X > x) = 0.1

1.4.3 EXample 3

Suppose that the cumulative distribution function of the random variable X is

$$F(x) = \begin{cases} 0 & x < 0 \\ 0.25x & 0 \le x \le 4 \\ 1 & 4 \le x \end{cases}$$

Determine the following:

- (a) P(X < 2.8)
- (b) P(X > 1.5)
- (c) P(X < -2)
- (d) P(X > 6)

1.4.4 Example 4

The probability density function of the time you arrive at a terminal (in minutes after 8:00 a.m.) is

$$f(x) = 0.1e^{-0.1x}$$

for

Determine the probability that

- (a) You arrive before 9:00 a.m.
- (b) You arrive between 8:15 a.m. and 8:30 a.m.
- (c) Determine the cumulative distribution function and use the cumulative distribution function to determine the probability that you arrive between 8:15 a.m. and 8:30 a.m.

1.4.5 Example 5

Determine the probability density function for the following cumulative distribution function.

$$F(x) = \begin{cases} 0 & x < 0 \\ 0.2x & 0 \le x < 4 \\ 0.04x + 0.64 & 4 \le x < 9 \\ 1 & 9 < x \end{cases}$$

1.4.6 Example 6

Determine the mean and the variance of the random variable X where

$$f(x) = 2x^{-3}$$

for

1.4.7 Example 7

Integration by parts is required.

The probability density function for the diameter of a drilled hole in millimeters

$$f(x) = 10e^{-10(x-5)}$$

for x > 5 mm.

Although the target diameter is 5 millimeters, vibrations, tool wear, and other nuisances produce diameters greater than 5 millimeters.

- (a) Determine the mean and variance of the diameter of the holes.
- (b) Determine the probability that a diameter exceeds 5.1 millimeters.

1.5 Continuous Distributions

1.5.1 Uniform Distribution

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{b-a}$$

where

$$a \le x \le b$$

and

$$\mu = E[X] = \frac{a+b}{2}$$

$$\sigma^2 = V(x) = \frac{(b-a)^2}{12}$$

1.5.2 Normal Distribution (Gaussian Dist.)

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma}} e^{\frac{-(x-\mu)^2}{2\sigma^2}}$$

Where

$$-\infty < x < \infty$$

also can be written as $N(\mu, \sigma^2)$

Standard Normal Distribution

So $\mu = 0$ and $\sigma^2 = 1$

Normal distribution to Standard normal distribution to convert any normal distribution to a standard normal distribution just apply the following equation

$$Z = \frac{X - \mu}{\sigma}$$

Where μ is the mean and σ is the standard deviation of X

• Standard normal distribution table

The table represent the cumulative distribution function (CDF) of N(0,1)

$$\Phi(z) = P(Z \le z)$$

1.5.3 Normal approximation

1. Binomal RV The binomial distribution can be approximated to a normal distribution if np>5 and n(1-p)>5

So

$$Bin(\mu, \sigma^2) \to N(\mu, \sigma^2)$$

Where $\mu = np$ and $\sigma^2 = np(1-p)$

And the approximated normal distribution can be transformed to a std normal distribution by:

$$Z = \frac{X - np}{\sqrt{np(1-p)}}$$

So we can use the table to get our probabilities

Continuity correction

We need to apply a correction because the binomial distribution is discrete and the normal distribution is continuous.

$$P(X \le x) \to P(X \le x + 0.5)$$

$$P(X \ge x) \rightarrow P(X \ge x - 0.5)$$

2. Piosson RV If $\lambda > 5$ we can approximate the Piosson RV to $N(\lambda, \sqrt{\lambda})$ and to std. normal dist. using

$$Z = \frac{X - \lambda}{\sqrt{\lambda}}$$

1.5.4 Other Distributions

1. Exponential Dist.

$$f(x) = \lambda e^{-\lambda x}$$

for
$$0 \le x < \infty$$

where
$$\mu = E[X] = \frac{1}{\lambda}$$
 and $\sigma^2 = V(x) = \frac{1}{\lambda^2}$

- 2. Erlang RV.
- 3. Gamma RV.

1.5.5 Example 8

Suppose X has a continuous uniform distribution over the interval [-1,1]. Determine the following:

- (a) Mean, variance, and standard deviation of X
- (b) Value for x such that P(-x < X < x) = 0.90
- (c) Cumulative distribution function

1.5.6 Example 9

A show is scheduled to start at 9:00 a.m., 9:30 a.m., and 10:00 a.m. Once the show starts, the gate will be closed. A visitor will arrive at the gate at a time uniformly distributed between 8:30 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. Determine the following:

- (a) Cumulative distribution function of the time (in minutes) between arrival and 8:30 a.m.
- (b) Mean and variance of the distribution in the previous part
- (c) Probability that a visitor waits less than 10 minutes for a show
- (d) Probability that a visitor waits more than 20 minutes for a show

1.5.7 Example 10

Assume that Z has a standard normal distribution. Use Appendix Table III to determine the value for z that solves each of the following

- (a) P(Z < z) = 0.9
- (b) P(Z < z) = 0.5
- (c) P(Z > z) = 0.1
- (d) P(Z > z) = 0.9
- (e) P(-1.24 < Z < z) = 0.8

1.5.8 Example 11

Assume that X is normally distributed with a mean of 5 and a standard deviation of 4. Determine the following:

- (a) P(X < 11)
- (b) P(X > 0)
- (c) P(3 < X < 7)
- (d) P(-2 < X < 9)
- (e) P(2 < X < 8)

1.5.9 Example 12

The time until recharge for a battery in a laptop com- puter under common conditions is normally distributed with a mean of 260 minutes and a standard deviation of 50 minutes.

- a) What is the probability that a battery lasts more than four hours?
- (b) What are the quartiles (the 25% and 75% values) of battery life?
- (c) What value of life in minutes is exceeded with 95% probability?

1.5.10 Example 13

The life of a semiconductor laser at a constant power is normally distributed with a mean of 7000 hours and a standard deviation of 600 hours.

- (a) What is the probability that a laser fails before 5000 hours?
- (b) What is the life in hours that 95% of the lasers exceed?
- (c) If three lasers are used in a product and they are assumed to fail independently, what is the probability that all three are still operating after 7000 hours?

1.5.11 Example 14

Suppose that X is a binomial random variable with n=200 and p=0.4. Approximate the following probabilities:

- (a) $P(X \le 70)$
- (b) P(70 < x < 90)
- (c) P(X = 80)

1.5.12 Example 15

The manufacturing of semiconductor chips produces 2% defective chips. Assume that the chips are independent and that a lot contains 1000 chips. Approximate the

following probabilities:

- (a) More than 25 chips are defective.
- (b) Between 20 and 30 chips are defective.