Quantile functions

6 marks

Quantile functions. Suppose a continuous random variate X has a strictly increasing cumulative distribution function $F_X(x)$, a continuous density $f_X(x)$, and a quantile function $Q_X(p)$.

a. (2 marks) Suppose $U \sim U(0,1)$. Define a random variate $Y = Q_X(U)$. Prove that $Pr(Y \le a) = F_X(a)$ for any value of a, and hence that Y has the same distribution as does X.

let x be a rv of X

$$P(Y \le a) = P(F_X(Y) \le F_X(a))$$

$$= P(U \le F_X(a))$$

$$= P(F_U(F_X(a)))$$

$$= F_X(a)$$

we are done

b. (4 marks) Let Y = aX + b for some constants a > 0 and b. Prove that the quantile function $Q_Y(p)$ for Y is related to that of X as

$$Q_Y(p) = aQ_X(p) + b.$$

$$P(aQ_X(p) + b < Y)$$

$$= P(Q_X(p) < (Y - b)/a)$$

$$= P(Q_X(p) < X)$$

$$= P(Q_X(p) < Q_X(U))$$

$$= P(p < U)$$

$$P(Q_Y(p) < Y)$$

$$= P(Q_Y(p) < Q_Y(U))$$

$$= P(p < U)$$

we see these two are equal