

Review.

- Normal r.v. X with parameters μ and σ^2 :

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

$Z := \frac{X - \mu}{\sigma}$ is a standard normal r.v.

(with mean 0, Variance 1)

- DeMoivre-Laplace Thm: Given $p \in (0, 1)$,
let X_n be a binomial rv with parameters (n, p) .

Then

$$p \left\{ a < \frac{X_n - np}{\sqrt{np(1-p)}} < b \right\}$$

$$\longrightarrow \int_a^b \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-\frac{x^2}{2}} dx$$

as $n \rightarrow \infty$.

- Exponential r.v with parameter λ ($\lambda > 0$),

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} \lambda e^{-\lambda x}, & \text{if } x > 0 \\ 0, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Example 1.

Suppose that the length of a phone call in minutes is an exponential random variable with parameter $\lambda = 1/10$. If someone arrives immediately ahead of you at a public telephone booth, find the probability that you will have to wait

- (a) more than 10 minutes;
- (b) between 10 and 20 minutes.

Solution :

Let X denote the waiting time of the person (in minutes).

According to our assumption, X is an exponential r.v with parameter $\lambda = \frac{1}{10}$.

Hence

$$\begin{aligned} \text{(a)} \quad P\{X \geq 10\} &= \int_{10}^{\infty} f(x) dx = \int_{10}^{\infty} \lambda e^{-\lambda x} dx \\ &= -e^{-\lambda x} \Big|_{10}^{\infty} \end{aligned}$$

$$= e^{-\lambda \cdot 10} = e^{-1}.$$

$$(b) \quad P\{10 \leq X \leq 20\}$$

$$= \int_{10}^{20} \lambda e^{-\lambda x} dx$$

$$= -e^{-\lambda x} \Big|_{10}^{20} = e^{-10\lambda} - e^{-20\lambda} \\ = e^{-1} - e^{-2}. \quad \square$$

§ 5.7 The distribution of a function of a cts r.v.

Q: Let X be a cts r.v. with density f_X .

Let $g: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be a function.

Let $Y = g(X)$.

How to find the distribution of Y ?

Exer 2. Let X be a cts r.v. with density f_X .

$$\text{Let } Y = X^2.$$

Find the pdf of Y .

Solution: We first calculate the CDF of Y :

$$\begin{aligned} F_Y(y) &= P\{Y \leq y\} \\ &= P\{X^2 \leq y\} \\ &= \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } y < 0 \\ P\{-\sqrt{y} \leq X \leq \sqrt{y}\} & \text{if } y \geq 0 \end{cases} \\ &= F_X(\sqrt{y}) - F_X(-\sqrt{y}) \end{aligned}$$

Taking derivative of F_Y with respect to y gives

$$f_Y(y) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } y \leq 0 \\ f_X(\sqrt{y}) \cdot \frac{1}{2\sqrt{y}} + f_X(-\sqrt{y}) \cdot \frac{1}{2\sqrt{y}} & \text{if } y > 0 \end{cases}$$

Ex 3. Let X be an exponential r.v with parameter λ . Let $Y = \frac{1}{X}$

Find the pdf of Y .

Solution: First notice that

$$P\{X \leq 0\} = 0$$

Now

$$F_Y(y) = P\{Y \leq y\}$$

$$= P\left\{\frac{1}{X} \leq y\right\}$$

$$= \begin{cases} P\left\{X \geq \frac{1}{y}\right\} & \text{if } y > 0 \\ 0 & \text{if } y < 0 \end{cases}$$

$$= \begin{cases} 1 - F_x\left(\frac{1}{y}\right) & \text{if } y > 0 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Taking derivative of F_Y wrt y gives

$$f_Y(y) = \begin{cases} -f_x\left(\frac{1}{y}\right) \cdot \left(-\frac{1}{y^2}\right) & y > 0 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$$= \begin{cases} f_x\left(\frac{1}{y}\right) \cdot \frac{1}{y^2} & \text{if } y > 0 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$$= \begin{cases} \lambda \cdot e^{-\lambda \frac{1}{y}} \cdot \frac{1}{y^2} & \text{if } y > 0 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Prop. 4: Let X be a r.v. with density f_X . Let $g: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be a differentiable, strictly monotone function. Let $Y = g(X)$, then the pdf of Y is given by

$$f_Y(y) = \begin{cases} f_X(g^{-1}(y)) \cdot \left| \frac{d g^{-1}(y)}{d y} \right| & \text{if } y = g(x) \text{ for some } x \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Pf. Suppose that g is strictly increasing.

Then

$$F_Y(y) = P\{Y \leq y\}$$

$$= P\{g(X) \leq y\}$$

$$= \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } y > \max_{x \in \mathbb{R}} g(x) \\ P\{X \leq g^{-1}(y)\} & \text{if } y \in \text{Range}(g) \\ 0 & \text{if } y < \min_{x \in \mathbb{R}} g(x) \end{cases}$$

$$P\{X \leq g^{-1}(y)\}$$

$$= F_X(g^{-1}(y)).$$

Taking derivative of F_Y gives

$$f_Y(y) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } y \notin \text{Range}(g) \\ f_X(g^{-1}(y)) \cdot \frac{d g^{-1}(y)}{d y} & \end{cases}$$

if $y = g(x)$
for some x .

□.