# **Chapter 4** w/ Aaron, Erika, and Peihan

# Summary

- 4.1 Continuous Random Variables
  - Solved Problems
- 4.2 Special Distributions
  - Uniform, Exponential, Normal, Gamma, etc.
  - Solved Problems
- 4.3 Mixed Random Variables
  - Solved Problems
- Q&A

Continuous Random Variables



Expected Value (for continuous R.V.)  

$$E[x] = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \propto f_{X}(x) dx$$
ex) x is a continuous R.V. W/ pdf s  $f_{X}(x) = \begin{cases} 2x & 0 \le x \le 1 \\ 0 & 0 \text{ therwise} \end{cases}$ 

$$E[x] = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \propto f_{X}(x) dx$$

$$= \int_{-\infty}^{0} x(0) dx + \int_{0}^{1} x(2x) dx + \int_{1}^{\infty} x(0) dx$$

$$= \int_{0}^{1} 2x^{2} dx = \frac{2}{3}x^{3}|_{0}^{1} = \begin{bmatrix} 2\\ -3 \end{bmatrix}$$
COTUS :  $E[g(x)] = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} g(x) f_{X}(x) dx$ 
Properties :  $O E[ax+b] = E[ax] + E[b]$ 

$$= a E[x] + b$$
(2)  $E[x_{1}+x_{2}+...+x_{n}] = E[x_{1}] + E[x_{2}] + ... + E[x_{n}]$ 

# Variance

$$Var[X] = E[X^{2}] - (E[X])^{2} (*)$$

Functions of Continuous Random Variables X is a R.N. Y=g(X) -> Y is a R.V. If we know the CDF (or pdf) of X how can we find the CDF (and pdf of Y)? () Find Fx(x) if you are given fx(x) (2) Define Fy(y) = P(Y ≤ y) (3) Plug in g(X) for Y: P(g(X) < y)  $(\Psi) \text{ Isolate } X \quad \ \ P(X \leq g^{-1}(Y)) = F_X(g^{-1}(Y))$ (5) we know Fx (x). Evaluate Fx (x) at g-1(4) and this equals Fyly) ( Take the derivative of Fyly) to find fyly) (the pdf of Y)

Example: X is a RV W/ pdf: 
$$f_X(x) = \begin{cases} 4x^3 & 0.2x \le 1 \\ 0 & else \end{cases}$$
  
 $Y = \frac{1}{X}$ . Find  $F_Y(y)$  and  $f_Y(y)$   
() Find  $F_X(x)$  if you are given  $f_X(x)$   
 $F_X(x) = \int_0^X 4x^3 dx = X^4$   
() Define  $F_Y(y) = P(Y \le y)$   
 $F_Y(y) = P(Y \le y)$   
() Plug in  $g(X)$  for  $Y : P(g(X) \le y)$   
 $P(Y \le y) = P(\frac{1}{X} \le y)$   
() Isolate X  $i = P(X \le g^{-1}(y)) = F_X(g^{-1}(y))$   
 $P(\frac{1}{X} \le y) = P(X \le \frac{1}{y}) = F_X(\frac{1}{y})$   
() we know  $F_X(x)$ . Evaluate  $F_X(x)$  at  $g^{-1}(y)$   
 $F_X(\frac{1}{y}) = (\frac{1}{y})^4 = \frac{1}{y^4} = F_Y(y)$   
() Take the derivative of  $F_Y(y)$  to find  $f_Y(y)$  (the pdf of Y)  
 $f_Y(y) = \frac{d}{dy}F_Y(y) = \frac{d}{dx}(\frac{1}{y}) = -\frac{1}{y^5}$   $i \le y$ 

#### Problem 1: Problem 3 from Textbook

#### **Problem 3**

Let X be a continuous random variable with PDF

$$f_X(x) = \begin{cases} x^2 + \frac{2}{3} & 0 \le x \le 1\\ 0 & otherwise \end{cases}$$

a. Find  $E(X^n)$ , for  $n = 1, 2, 3, \cdots$ . b. Find the variance of X. Problem 1 : Problem 3 From Textbook

$$f_{X}(x) = \begin{cases} x^{2} + \frac{2}{3} & 0 \le x \le 1 \\ 0 & 0 + herwise \end{cases}$$

(a) Find 
$$E(x^{n})$$
 for  $n=1, 2, 3, ...$   
 $E[x^{n}] = \int_{0}^{1} x^{n} (x^{2} + \frac{2}{3}) dx = \int_{0}^{1} x^{n+2} + \frac{2}{3} x^{n} dx$   
 $= \frac{x^{n+3}}{n+3} + \frac{2}{3(n+1)} x^{n+1} \Big|_{x=0}^{1} = \frac{1^{n+3}}{n+3} + \frac{2}{3(n+1)} 1^{n+1}$   
 $= \underbrace{\frac{1}{n+3}}_{n+3} + \frac{2}{3(n+1)}$ 

(b) Find Var [X]  

$$E[X] = E[X'] = \frac{1}{(1)+3} + \frac{2}{3(1+1)} = \frac{1}{4} + \frac{2}{6} = \frac{7}{12}$$

$$\lim_{x \to y} E[X'] = \frac{1}{(1)+3} + \frac{2}{3(1+1)} = \frac{1}{1+3} + \frac{2}{3(1+1)}$$

$$E[X^{2}] = \frac{1}{2+3} + \frac{2}{3(2+1)} = \frac{1}{5} + \frac{2}{4} = \frac{4}{45} + \frac{10}{45} = \frac{19}{45}$$

$$Var[X] = E[X^{2}] - (E[X])^{2}$$
$$= \frac{19}{45} - (\frac{7}{12})^{2} = 0.0819$$

#### Problem 2: Problem 5 from Textbook

#### **Problem 5**

Let X be a continuous random variable with  $\ensuremath{\mathsf{PDF}}$ 

$$f_X(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{5}{32}x^4 & 0 < x \le 2\\ 0 & otherwise \end{cases}$$

and let  $Y = X^2$ .

a. Find the CDF of Y.b. Find the PDF of Y.c. Find EY.

Problem 23 Problem 5 from Textbook  $f_X(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{5}{32} \times 4 & 0 < x \le 2 \\ 0 & else \end{cases}$  $Y = X^2$ 

A) Find CDF of Y  

$$F_{X}(x) = \int_{0}^{X} \frac{5}{32} x^{4} dx = \frac{1}{32} x^{5} \Big|_{0}^{x} = \frac{1}{32} x^{5} \text{ for } 0 < x \leq 2$$

$$F_{Y}(y) = P(Y \leq y) = P(x^{2} \leq y) = P(x \leq \sqrt{y}) = F_{X}(\sqrt{y})$$

$$F_{X}(\sqrt{y}) = \frac{1}{32} (\sqrt{y})^{5} = \frac{1}{32} y^{\frac{5}{2}}$$

$$for \quad 0 < y \leq y$$

(b) Find the PDF of Y  

$$f_{Y}(y) = \frac{d}{dy} F_{Y}(y) = \frac{d}{dy} \frac{1}{32}y^{\frac{5}{2}} = \frac{5}{2} \frac{1}{32}y^{\frac{3}{2}} = \frac{5}{64}y^{\frac{3}{2}}$$
for  $0 \le y \le 4$   
(c) Find  $E[Y]$   
 $E[Y] = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} yf_{Y}(y) dy = \int_{0}^{4} y \frac{5}{64}y^{\frac{3}{2}} dy$   
 $= \int_{0}^{4} \frac{5}{64}y^{\frac{5}{2}} dy = \frac{2}{7} \cdot \frac{5}{64}y^{\frac{7}{2}} \Big|_{y=0}^{4} = \frac{2}{7} \cdot \frac{5}{64} \cdot 128$   
 $= \frac{2}{7} \cdot 10 = \boxed{\frac{20}{7}}$ 

### Problem 3: Problem 10 from Textbook

#### Problem 10

Let X be a continuous random variable with PDF

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

for all  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ .

and let  $Y = \sqrt{|X|}$ . Find  $f_Y(y)$ .

Problem 3: Problem 10 from Textbook

$$f_{X}(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-\frac{x^{2}}{2}} \text{ for all } x \in \mathbb{R}$$

$$Y = \sqrt{|X|}$$

Find Syly) 1) Find Fx (x) from fx(x)  $F_{X}(x) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f_{X}(x) dx = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{1}{12\pi} e^{-\frac{x^{2}}{2}} dx$ 2) Define Fyly)  $F_{Y}(y_{1}) = P(Y \leq y_{1})$ 3) Plug in G(X) for Y  $P(Y \leq y) = P(T|X| \leq y)$ 

4) Isolate X  $P(f|X| \leq y) = P(|X| \leq y^2) = P(-y^2 \leq X \leq y^2)$ 5) Evaluate integral to solve for Fyly)  $F_{Y}(y) = P(-y^{2} \le X \le y^{2}) = \int_{-y^{2}}^{y^{2}} \frac{1}{12\pi} e^{-\frac{x^{2}}{2}} dx$ 6) Find fyly) by taking the derivative wrt/y of Fyly)  $f_{Y}(y) = \frac{d}{dy}F_{Y}(y) = \frac{d}{dy}\int_{-y^{2}}^{y^{2}} \frac{1}{1_{2}\pi}e^{-\frac{\chi^{2}}{2}} dx$  $\frac{d}{dx}\int_{g(x)}^{f(x)} h(t)dt = h(f(x))f'(x) - h(g(x))g'(x)$  $h(f(y)) f'(y) = h(y^{2})(2y) = \frac{1}{12\pi} e^{-\frac{y^{2}}{2}} (2y)$  $h(g(y)g'(y) = h(-y^{2})(-2y) = \frac{1}{12\pi}e^{-\frac{y^{4}}{2}}(-2y)$   $f_{y(y)} = \frac{1}{12\pi}e^{-\frac{y^{4}}{2}}(2y - (-2y)) = \frac{4y}{12\pi}e^{-\frac{y^{9}}{2}}$ 

### 4.2.1 Uniform Distributions

 Uniform random variables work the same way even when you're looking at a joint distribution! You just divide 1 by an area instead of a length.

$$f(x) = \left\{egin{array}{cc} rac{1}{b-a} & ext{for } a \leq x \leq b, \ 0 & ext{for } x < a ext{ or } x > b \end{array}
ight.$$

$$F(x) = egin{cases} 0 & ext{for } x < a \ rac{x-a}{b-a} & ext{for } a \leq x \leq b \ 1 & ext{for } x > b \end{cases}$$

$$E(X)=rac{1}{2}(b+a)$$

$$E(X^2) = rac{b^3-a^3}{3b-3a} \qquad V(X) = rac{1}{12}(b-a)^2$$



## 4.2.2 Exponential Distributions

- Just think of these as the time elapsed between events
- From homework, related to both Geometric *and* Poisson Distributions
- Memoryless Property
  - Constrained to nonnegative real numbers
  - The memoryless distribution is exponential

 $\Pr(X > t + s \mid X > t) = \Pr(X > s).$ 

$$egin{aligned} f(x;\lambda) &= egin{cases} \lambda e^{-(\lambda x)} & x \geq 0,\ 0 & x < 0. \end{aligned} \ F(x;\lambda) &= egin{cases} 1 - e^{-(\lambda x)} & x \geq 0,\ 0 & x < 0. \end{aligned} \ \mathrm{E}[X] &= rac{1}{\lambda}. \end{aligned} \ \mathrm{E}[X] &= rac{1}{\lambda^2}, \end{array} \ \mathrm{E}[X^n] &= rac{n!}{\lambda^n}. \end{aligned}$$

## 4.2.3 Normal (Gaussian) Distributions

- If you're doing anything with stats, this comes up everywhere (too much)
- You can "standardize" by using the formula (X-mu)/sigma





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

$$F_X(x) = P(X \le x) = \Phi\left(rac{x-\mu}{\sigma}
ight),$$
 $P(a < X \le b) = \Phi\left(rac{b-\mu}{\sigma}
ight) - \Phi\left(rac{a-\mu}{\sigma}
ight).$ 

- Alice and Bob each uniformly and independently select a point from the interval [0, 2].
  - (a) What is the joint distribution of the two chosen points?
  - (b) What is the probability that the distance between these two points is no more than 1?

#### Solution

(a) Uniform on  $R = [0, 2] \times [0, 2]$ , which has area 4. The joint density is  $f(a, b) = \frac{1}{4}$  on R, 0 elsewhere.

(b) The region  $R_0$  in R satisfying  $|a - b| \leq 1$ , or  $-1 \leq a - b \leq 1$ . Since the distribution is uniform, the probability is the fraction of the area, i.e.  $\frac{area(R_0)}{area(R)} = \frac{3}{4}$ .

6. Let  $X_1, X_2, \ldots, X_n$  be a random sample of size *n* form a uniform distribution on the interval  $[\theta_1, \theta_2]$ . Let  $Y = \min(X_1, X_2, \ldots, X_n)$ .

(a) Find the density function for Y. (Hint find the cdf and then differentiate.)

(b) Compute the expectation of Y.

#### Solution:

That hint seems like a good idea, lets do that. To get the cdf, we have

$$F_Y(y) = \mathbb{P}(Y \le y) = 1 - \mathbb{P}(Y > y) = 1 - \prod_{i=1}^n \mathbb{P}(X_i > y)$$

since Y > y if and only if all of the  $X_i > y$ , and the  $X_i$  are independent. This gives us

$$F_Y(y) = 1 - \left(\frac{\theta_2 - y}{\theta_2 - \theta_1}\right)$$

for  $y \in [\theta_1, \theta_2]$ , and  $F_Y(y) = 1$  for  $y > \theta_2$  and 0 for  $y < \theta_1$ .

Differentiating to get the density, we obtain

$$f_Y(y) = \frac{d}{dy} F_Y(y)$$
  
=  $-n \left(\frac{\theta_2 - y}{\theta_2 - \theta_1}\right)^{n-1} \left(\frac{-1}{\theta_2 - \theta_1}\right)$   
=  $n \frac{(\theta_2 - y)^{n-1}}{(\theta_2 - \theta_1)^n}$ 

for  $y \in [\theta_1, \theta_2]$ , and  $f_Y(y) = 0$  otherwise.

 Suppose that X and Y are independent random variables that are exponential with parameter λ and let
 Y

$$Z = \frac{X}{X+Y}.$$

Show that for 0 < z < 1

$$F_z(z) = P(Z \le z) = z,$$

i.e. the random variable Z is uniformly distributed over (0,1).

**Solution:** To find Z's distribution, we want to look at  $P(Z \le z)$ . Let  $z \in (0, 1)$ .

$$\begin{split} P(Z \leq z) &= P(\frac{X}{X+Y} \leq z) \\ &= P(X \leq Xz+Yz) \\ &= P(X - Xz \leq Yz) \\ &= P(X \leq \frac{Yz}{1-z}) \\ &= P(X\frac{1-z}{z} \leq Y) \\ &= P((X,Y) \in \{(x,y) : x(1-z)/z \leq y\}) \\ &= \int_0^\infty \int_{x(1-z)/z}^\infty \frac{1}{\beta} e^{-\frac{y}{\beta}} \frac{1}{\beta} e^{-\frac{x}{\beta}} dy dx \\ &= \int_0^\infty -e^{-\frac{y}{\beta}} \Big|_{x(1-z)/z}^\infty \frac{1}{\beta} e^{\frac{-x}{\beta}} dx \\ &= \int_0^\infty \frac{1}{\beta} e^{\frac{-x}{\beta} - \frac{x(1-z)}{\beta z}} dx \\ &= \int_0^\infty \frac{1}{\beta} e^{\frac{-x}{\beta} - \frac{x(1-z)}{\beta z}} dx \\ &= \int_0^\infty \frac{1}{\beta} e^{\frac{-x}{\beta} \frac{1}{z}} dx \\ &= \int_0^\infty \frac{1}{\beta} e^{\frac{-x}{\beta} \frac{1}{z}} \Big|_0^\infty \\ &= z \end{split}$$

 $F_z(z) = z$ , for 0 < z < 1 is the distribution function for a uniform (0,1) random variable.

40. One method of arriving at economic forecasts is to use a consensus approach. A forecast is obtained from each of a large number of analysts; the average of these individual forecasts is the consensus forecast. Suppose that the individual 1996 January prime interest-rate forecasts of all economic analysts are approximately normally distributed with mean 7% and standard deviation 2.6%. If a single analyst is randomly selected from among this group, what is the probability that the analyst's forecast of the prime interest rate will

(a) exceed 11%?

(b) be less than 9%?

We want P(X > .11). Knowing our mean is .07 and our standard deviation is .026, we can standardize.  $P(X > .11) = P\left(\frac{X - .07}{.026} > \frac{.11 - .07}{.026}\right)$ . This gives us P(Z > 1.54) = .0618, by looking at the z-table.

**Solution:** Now we want P(X < .09), we do a similar procedure of standardizing and get P(Z < .77). However, our z-table is written for  $P(Z \ge .77)$ , so when we look up the value in the table, we need to make sure that we do 1 - the value that we find.  $P(Z \ge .77) = .2206$ , so P(Z < .77) = 1 - .2206 = .7794.

6. Suppose X and Y are independent normal random variables with the same mean  $\mu = 0$  and the same variance  $\sigma^2$ . Then the pair (X, Y) gives the coordinates of a random point in the plane. Let A = A(X, Y) denote the area of the circle centered at the origin passing through (X, Y). (That is to say, the circle has center (0,0) and radius  $R = \sqrt{X^2 + Y^2}$ . Compute the expected value of A.

E[A]. Know A = TTR because its the area of a circle with radius R.  $E[A] = E[TR^{2}] = E[T(X^{2} + Y^{2})]$ so we just need to calculate E[X2] & E[Y2] by linearly of expectation.  $\chi \sim N(0, T^2) \notin \Upsilon \sim N(0, T^2).$  $V[X] = T^2 = E[X^2] - (E[X])^2$ o blc it Normal with mean 0.  $\sigma^2 = E[\chi^2].$ Similarly, V[Y] = J2. =)  $E[\pi(x^2 + Y^2)] = \pi(E[x^2] + E[Y]^{\bullet})$  $= \pi (T^2 + T^2) = |2\pi T^2|$ 

6. Let consider two pdfs

$$f_1(x) = \mathbb{1}_{[0,1]}(x), \quad f_2(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}}e^{-\frac{x^2}{2}}.$$

For some  $0 < \alpha < 1$ , let define

$$f(x) = \alpha f_1(x) + (1 - \alpha)f_2(x).$$

(a) Show that f(x) is a probability density function.

(b) Let  $X_1$  be a random variable whose pdf is  $f_1(x)$  and  $X_2$  be a random variable whose pdf is  $f_2(x)$ where

$$E[X_1] = \mu_1$$
,  $Var[X_1] = \sigma_1^2$ ,  $E[X_2] = \mu_2$ ,  $Var[X_2] = \sigma_2^2$ .

Let X be a random variable whose pdf is f(x). Find E[X] and Var[X].

Since  $f_1(x)$  and  $f_2(x)$  are probability density functions, we know  $f_1(x) \ge 0$ ,  $f_2(x) \ge 0$ ,  $\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f_1(x)dx = 1$ , and  $\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f_2(x)dx = 1$ . Since  $0 < \alpha < 1$  (and so  $0 < 1 - \alpha < 1$ ), we know  $f(x) \ge 0$ . Also,

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x)dx = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \alpha f_1(x) + (1-\alpha)f_2(x)dx$$
$$= \alpha \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f_1(x)dx + (1-\alpha) \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f_2(x)dx \text{ by linearity of integrals}$$
$$= \alpha + (1-\alpha)$$
$$= 1$$

 $\therefore f(x)$  is a probability density function.

Since  $X_1 \sim \text{Uniform}([0,1])$ ,  $\mu_1 = \frac{1}{2}$  and  $\sigma_1^2 = \frac{1}{12}$ . Similarly,  $X_2$  follows a standard normal distribution, so we know  $\mu_2 = 0$ ,  $\sigma_2^2 = 1$ .

Thus,

$$\begin{split} E[X] &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x f(x) dx \\ &= \alpha \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x f_1(x) dx + (1-\alpha) \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x f_2(x) dx \\ &= \alpha E[X_1] + (1-\alpha) E[X_2] \\ &= \alpha \left(\frac{1}{2}\right) + (1-\alpha)(0) \\ &= \frac{1}{2}\alpha \end{split}$$

To find the variance, we will use  $Var(X) = E[X^2] - E[X]^2$ . First, we compute  $E[X^2]$ .

$$\begin{split} E[X^2] &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x^2 f(x) dx \\ &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \alpha x^2 f_1(x) + (1-\alpha) x^2 f_2(x) dx \\ &= \alpha E[X_1^2] + (1-\alpha) E[X_2^2] \\ &= \alpha (\operatorname{Var}(X_1) + E[X_1]^2) + (1-\alpha) (\operatorname{Var}(X_2) + E[X_2]^2 \\ &= \alpha (\frac{1}{12} + \frac{1}{4}) + (1-\alpha) (1) \\ &= 1 - \frac{2}{3} \alpha \end{split}$$

Therefore,

$$Var(X) = E[X^2] - E[X]^2$$
$$= 1 - \frac{2}{3}\alpha - \left(\frac{1}{2}\alpha\right)^2$$
$$= 1 - \frac{2}{3}\alpha - \frac{1}{4}\alpha^2$$

4. Suppose we know that starting from any particular moment in time, the amount of time we must wait for the next person to enter the store is a continuous random variable with probability density function

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} 10e^{-10x}, & \text{if } x \ge 0, \\ 0, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Here x is measured in hours.

- (a) Find the probability that we must wait more than 6 minutes for the next person to enter the store.
- (b) Find the expected time before the next person enters the store.
- (c) Find the variance.