

Ex. (Piecewise constant PDF)

Alice's driving time to work is 40-44 minutes in good weather, and 44-50 minutes in bad, uniformly distributed in each case. Suppose

$$P(\text{good weather}) = \frac{2}{3}$$

Determine the PDF of X , Alice's driving time.

note: $\text{range}(X) = [40, 50]$.

we have

$$f_X(x) = \begin{cases} c_1 & \text{if } 40 \leq x \leq 44 \text{ (good)} \\ c_2 & \text{if } 44 < x \leq 50 \text{ (bad)} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Also

$$\frac{2}{3} = P(\text{good}) = P(40 \leq X \leq 44)$$

$$= \int_{40}^{44} f_X(x) dx = \int_{40}^{44} c_1 dx = c_1 \cdot 4$$

$$\therefore c_1 = \frac{1}{4} \cdot \frac{2}{3} = \boxed{\frac{1}{6}}$$

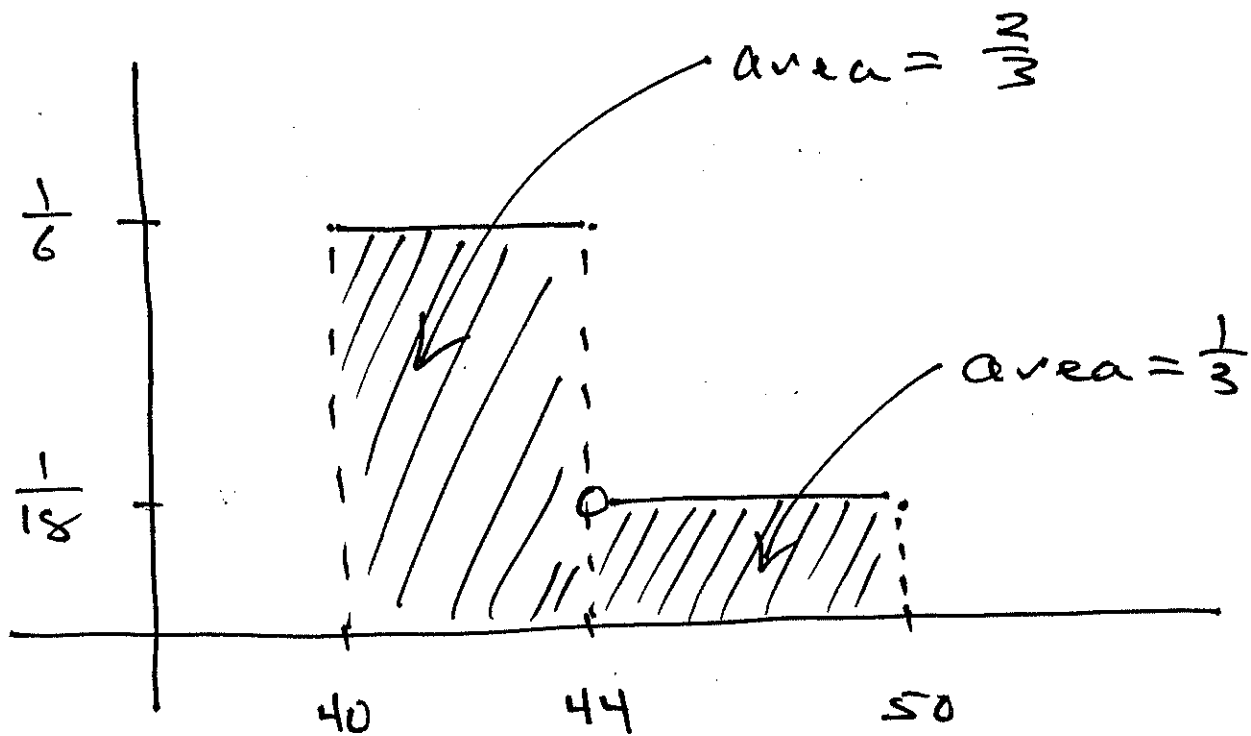
and

$$\frac{1}{3} = P(\text{bad}) = P(44 \leq X \leq 50)$$

$$= \int_{44}^{50} c_2 dx = 6 \cdot c_2$$

$$\therefore c_2 = \frac{1}{6} \cdot \frac{1}{3} = \boxed{\frac{1}{18}}$$

$$\therefore f_X(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{6} & 40 \leq x \leq 44 \\ \frac{1}{18} & 44 < x \leq 50 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$



note: a PDF can become infinite.

Ex

$$f_X(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{2\sqrt{x}} & \text{if } 0 < x \leq 1 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Then

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f_x(x) dx = \int_0^1 \frac{1}{2} x^{-\frac{1}{2}} dx$$

$$= \lim_{a \rightarrow 0^+} \int_a^1 \frac{1}{2} x^{-\frac{1}{2}} dx$$

$$= \lim_{a \rightarrow 0^+} \left. \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{x^{\frac{1}{2}}}{\frac{1}{2}} \right|_a^1$$

$$= \lim_{a \rightarrow 0^+} (1 - \sqrt{a}) = \boxed{1}$$

Defn

The expected value of a continuous r.v. X is

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

Expected value rule:

$$E[g(X)] = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} g(x) f_X(x) dx \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{see Prob.} \\ \#4 \text{ on p. 185} \\ \text{with soln.} \end{array} \right.$$

The n^{th} moment of X is

$$E[X^n]$$

and

□

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

Then: $\text{Var}(X) = E[X^2] - E[X]^2$

exercise: Prove this.

If $Y = aX + b$ then

$$E[Y] = aE[X] + b$$

and

$$\text{Var}(Y) = a^2 \text{Var}(X)$$

exercise: Prove these

Ex. cont. uniform r.v. on $[a, b]$

$$f_X(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{b-a} & \text{if } a \leq x \leq b \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$\Rightarrow$

$$E[X] = \int_a^b x \left(\frac{1}{b-a} \right) dx$$

$$= \frac{1}{b-a} \cdot \frac{x^2}{2} \Big|_a^b = \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{\overbrace{b^2 - a^2}^{(b-a)(b+a)}}{(b-a)}$$

$$= \frac{a+b}{2}$$

$$E[X^2] = \dots = \frac{a^2 + ab + b^2}{3}$$

↑
exercise

Hence

$$\text{Var}(X) = \dots = \frac{(b-a)^2}{12}$$

↑
exercise

Exercise

Alice driving example

$$f_X(x) = \begin{cases} 1/6 & 40 \leq x \leq 44 \\ 1/18 & 44 < x \leq 5 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

find:

$$E[X] =$$

$$E[X^2] =$$

$$\text{Var}(X) =$$

Ex. Exponential Random Variable

$$f_X(x) = \begin{cases} \lambda e^{-\lambda x} & \text{if } x \geq 0 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Parameter: $\lambda > 0$

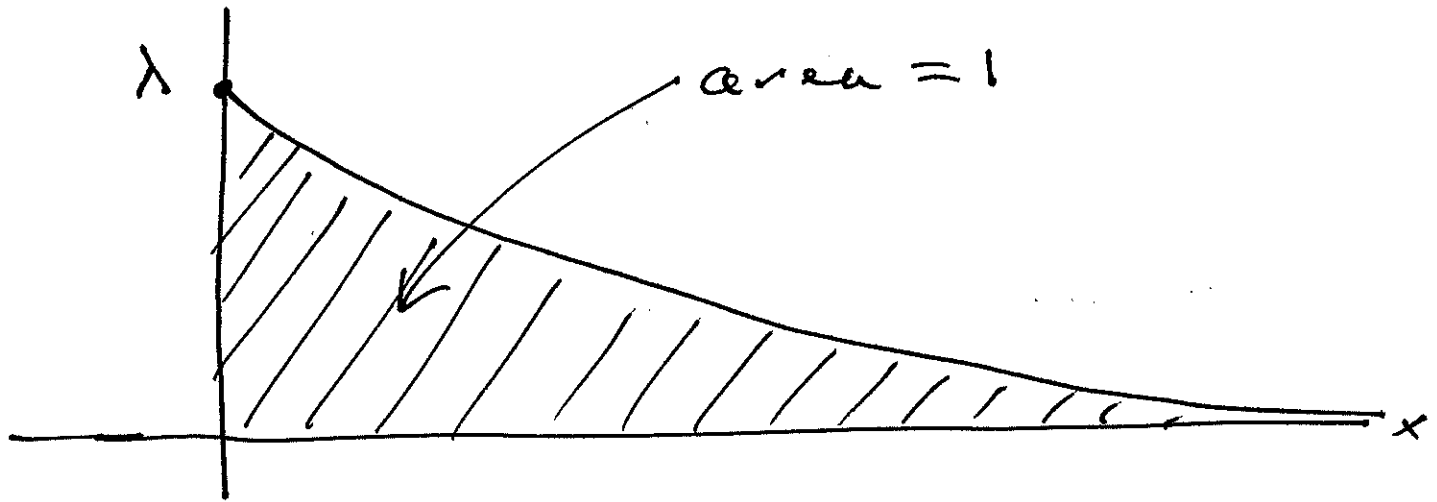
This is the continuous time analog of the geometric r.v.

check

$$\int_0^{\infty} \lambda e^{-\lambda x} dx = \lambda \cdot \left(\frac{1}{-\lambda} \right) \cdot e^{-\lambda x} \Big|_0^{\infty}$$

$$= - (0 - 1) = \boxed{1}$$

g-aph



Exercise: show that

• $E[X] = \frac{1}{\lambda}$ ✓

and

• $\text{Var}(X) = \frac{1}{\lambda^2}$

Hint: use integration by parts.

$$E[X] = - \int_0^{\infty} x \cdot (-\lambda e^{-\lambda x}) dx$$

$$\begin{cases} u = x & dv = -\lambda e^{-\lambda x} \\ du = dx & v = e^{-\lambda x} \end{cases}$$

$$= - \left(x e^{-\lambda x} \Big|_0^{\infty} - \int_0^{\infty} e^{-\lambda x} dx \right)$$

$$= - \left(\cancel{(0 - 0)} - \left(-\frac{1}{\lambda}\right) e^{-\lambda x} \Big|_0^{\infty} \right)$$

$$= -\frac{1}{\lambda} (0 - 1) = \frac{1}{\lambda} \quad \checkmark$$

Note: For X exponential, Param. λ

$E[X]$ has units $\frac{\text{time}}{\text{event}}$

$\frac{1}{\lambda}$ " " $\frac{\text{time}}{\text{event}}$

λ " " $\frac{\text{events}}{\text{time}}$

Thus we call λ the 'event rate'
or 'arrival rate' or 'rate' of
the r.v. X .

Theorem

If X is Exponential then

$$P(X \geq a) = \begin{cases} e^{-\lambda a} & \text{if } a > 0 \quad \checkmark \\ 1 & \text{if } a \leq 0 \quad \checkmark \end{cases}$$

Proof

Let $a > 0$. Then

$$P(X \geq a) = \int_a^{\infty} \lambda e^{-\lambda x} dx$$

$$= \lambda \left(\frac{1}{-\lambda} \right) e^{-\lambda x} \Big|_a^{\infty}$$

$$= - (0 - e^{-\lambda a}) = e^{-\lambda a} . \quad \text{QED}$$

Ex

The time X until the next earthquake (of 4.0 or above) is modeled as an exp. r.v. with a mean of 53 minutes (worldwide).

(a)

What is the Probability that such an earthquake occurs in next 10 minutes?

$$E[X] = \frac{1}{\lambda} = 53 \Rightarrow \lambda = \frac{1}{53}$$

hence

$$\begin{aligned} P(0 \leq X \leq 10) &= P(X \geq 0) - P(X > 10) \\ &= 1 - e^{-\lambda 10} = 1 - e^{-\frac{10}{53}} = \boxed{0.1719} \end{aligned}$$

(b) exercise

determine a number a such that the Prob. of an earthquake within next a minute is 0.99, i.e. find a such that

$$P(0 \leq X \leq a) = .99$$

Answer:

$$a = 53 \ln(100)$$

$$= 244.07 \text{ min}$$

$$= 4.068 \text{ hours}$$

3.2 Cumulative Distribution Functions

Defn

let X be a random variable

(disc. or cont.) The cumulative distribution function (CDF) of X

is

$$F_X(x) = P(X \leq x)$$

$$F_X(x) = \begin{cases} \sum_{k \leq x} P_X(k) & (X \text{ discrete}) \\ \int_{-\infty}^x f_X(t) dt & (X \text{ continuous}) \end{cases}$$

Ex. (discrete)

$$\text{PMF : } P_X(k) = \begin{cases} 3/10 & k=1 \\ 5/10 & k=2 \\ 2/10 & k=3 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

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