

Supplemental Lecture

Goal: Compare CDFs of Geometric & exponential r.v.s.

Let X be geometric with param. p .

PMF:
$$P_X(k) = p(1-p)^{k-1} \quad (k=1, 2, 3, \dots)$$

CDF:
$$\begin{aligned} F_{\text{geo}}(n) &= \sum_{k=1}^n p(1-p)^{k-1} \\ &= p \cdot \sum_{k=1}^n (1-p)^{k-1} \\ &= p \cdot \frac{1 - (1-p)^n}{1 - (1-p)} = \boxed{1 - (1-p)^n} \\ &\quad n=1, 2, \dots \end{aligned}$$

another way:

$$F_{\text{geo}}(n) = P(X \leq n) = 1 - P(X > n) = 1 - (1-p)^n.$$

Let Y be exponential with Param. λ .

Then

$$f_Y(x) = \lambda e^{-\lambda x} \quad (x \geq 0)$$

Thus, for $x \geq 0$, we have

$$F_{\text{exp}}(x) = \int_0^x \lambda e^{-\lambda t} dt$$

$$= -e^{-\lambda t} \Big|_0^x = -(e^{-\lambda x} - 1)$$

$$= \boxed{1 - e^{-\lambda x}}$$

To compare F_{exp} and F_{geo} , Pick $\delta > 0$

so that

$$e^{-\lambda \delta} = 1 - p \quad (\text{i.e. } p = 1 - e^{-\lambda \delta})$$

i.e. $- \lambda \delta = \ln(1-p)$

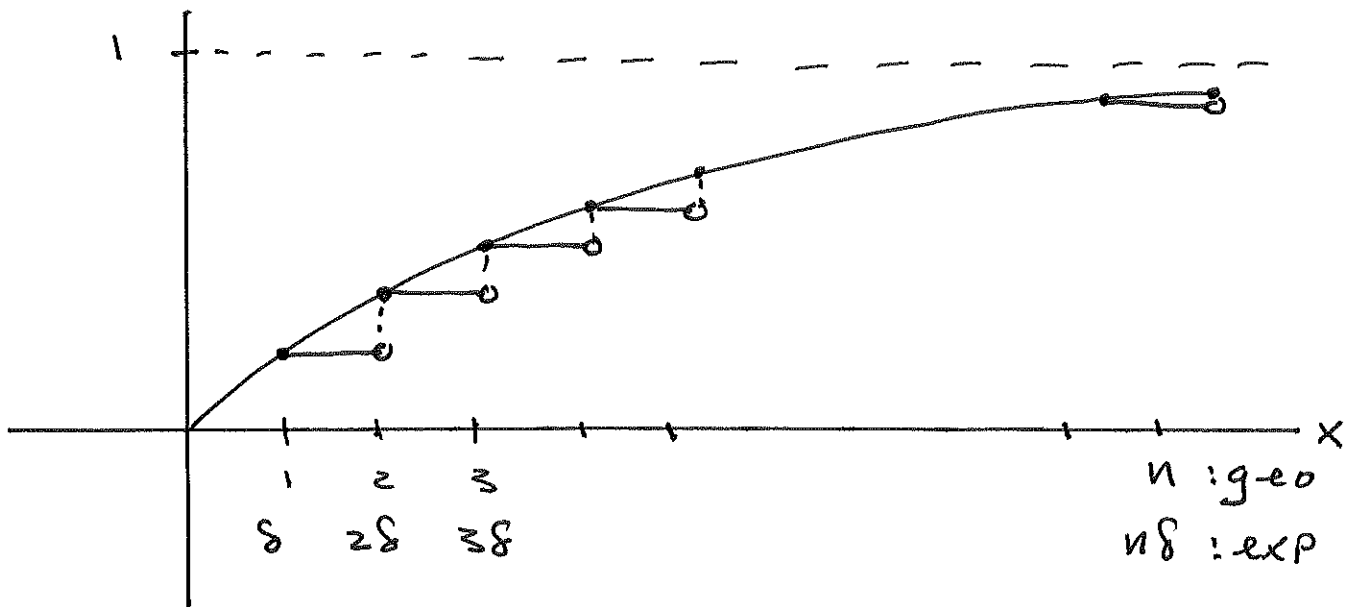
i.e. $\delta = \frac{-\ln(1-p)}{\lambda}$

For this value of δ , we have

$$(e^{-\lambda \delta})^n = (1-p)^n$$

$$\therefore 1 - e^{-\lambda \delta n} = 1 - (1-p)^n$$

$$\therefore F_{\text{exp}}(\delta n) = F_{\text{geo}}(n)$$



14

Thus if we toss quickly (every 8 seconds) with probability of heads

$$p = 1 - e^{-\lambda \delta}$$

then the 1st timeⁿ to get heads is an approx. to the exponential at time δn .

3.3 Normal Random Variables

Let X be a cont. r.v. with PDF

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

we call X normal or Gaussian random variable. we can show

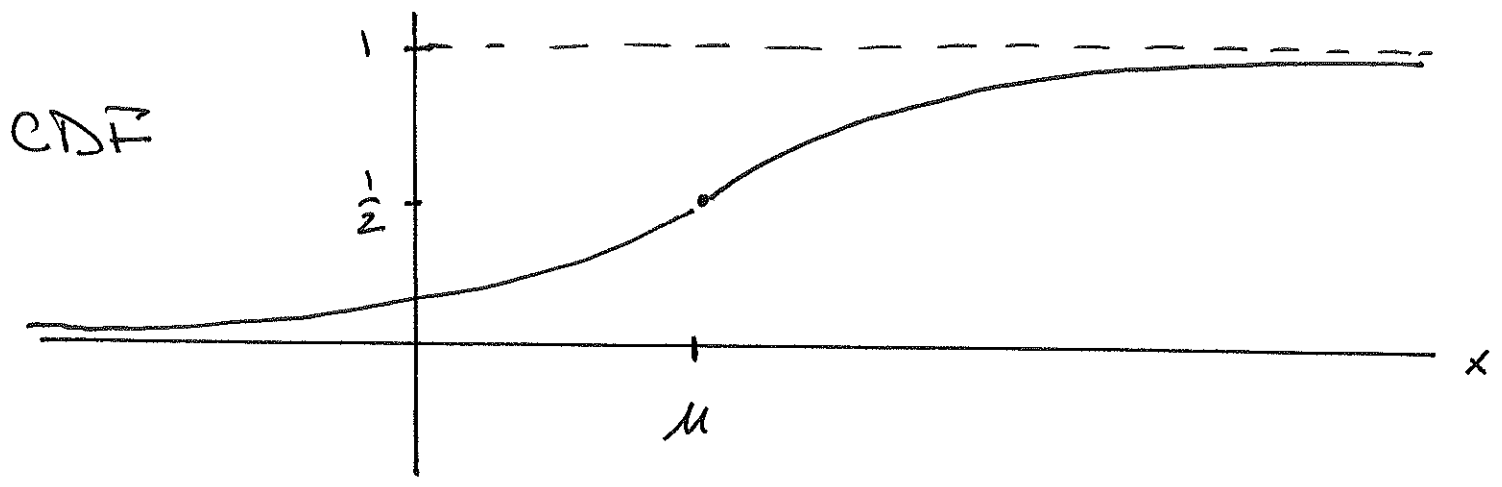
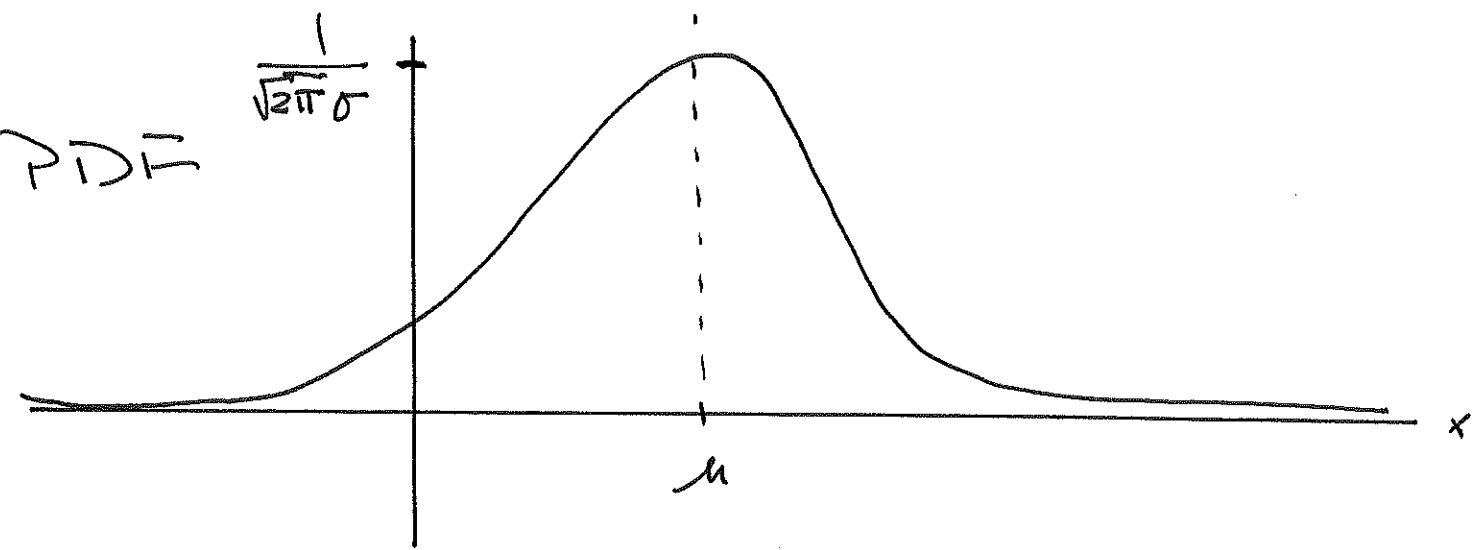
$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f_X(x) dx = 1$$

we can also show

$$E[X] = \mu$$

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

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



It is evident that: $f_X(-(x-\mu)) = f_X(x-\mu)$

$$x-\mu \leftrightarrow -(x-\mu) = \mu-x$$

hence f_X is symmetric about $x=\mu$.

$$\therefore E[X] = \mu.$$

Theorem

If X is any cont. r.v. with PDF satisfying $f_X(x) = f_X(-x) \quad \forall x \in \mathbb{R}$,

then $E[X] = 0$

Proof : exercise

Theorem

If X is a normal r.v. with param. μ & σ^2 , and $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$, $a \neq 0$, then

$$Y = aX + b$$

is also normal with

$$E[Y] = a\mu + b$$

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

Note:

We already knew formulas for $E[Y]$ and $\text{Var}(Y)$. What's new is the fact that Y is normal.

Proof later

A normal r.v. Y is called standard normal iff its mean is 0 and its variance is 1.

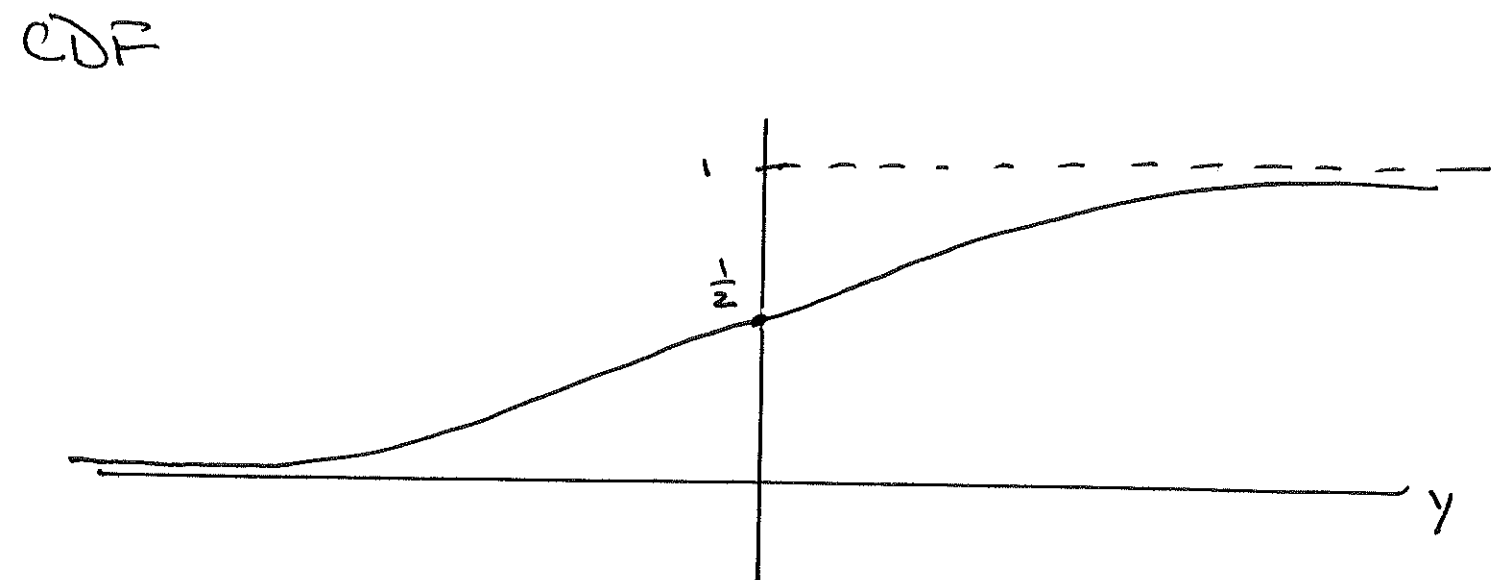
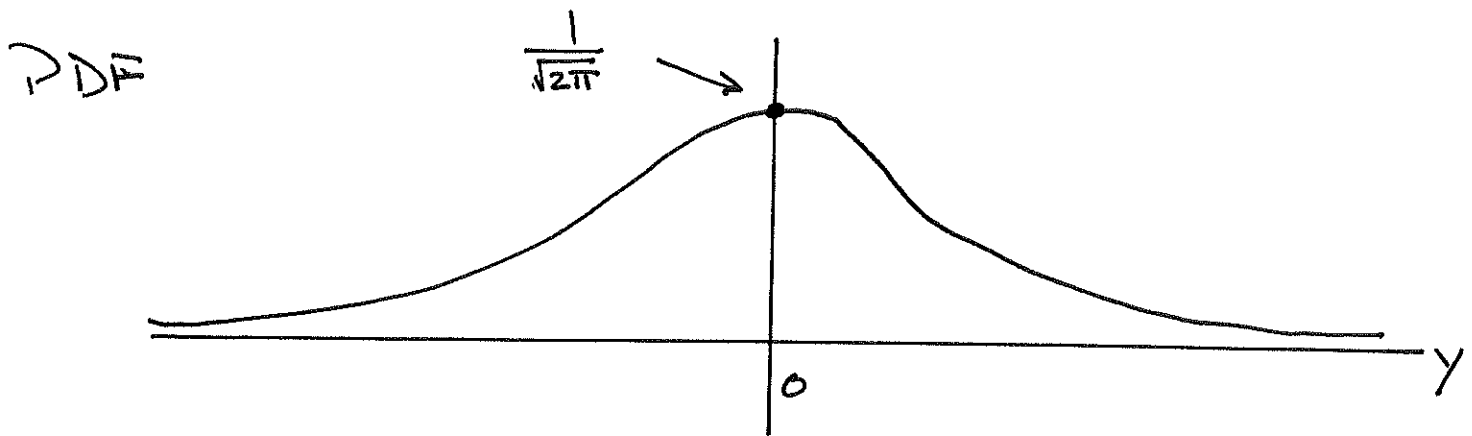
$$\text{PDF: } f_Y(y) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \cdot e^{-\frac{y^2}{2}}$$

The CDF of the standard normal is denoted $\Phi(y)$.

So

$$\Phi(y) = P(Y \leq y) = P(Y < y)$$

$$= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^y e^{-\frac{t^2}{2}} dt$$



Handout Standard Normal Table
gives values of $\Phi(y)$ for

$$0 \leq y \leq 3.49$$

If $y > 3.49$, then $\Phi(y) \approx 1$. The
identity

$$\Phi(-y) = 1 - \Phi(y) \quad (y \in \mathbb{R})$$

allows us to compute $\Phi(y)$ for $y < 0$

Exercise: Prove $\Phi(-y) = 1 - \Phi(y)$ for

all $y \in \mathbb{R}$. Hint: use symmetry

of $f_y(y) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-y^2/2}$.

Ex.

- $\Phi(1.84) = .9671$

- $\Phi(-1.84) = 1 - \Phi(1.84)$
 $= 1 - .9671$
 $= .0329$

\Rightarrow suppose X is normal with mean, and variance μ, σ^2 , resp. How do we compute values at $F_X(x)$?

Let $Y = \frac{X - \mu}{\sigma} = \frac{1}{\sigma} X - \frac{\mu}{\sigma}$.

Then Y is normal with

$$E[Y] = \frac{1}{\sigma} \mu - \frac{\mu}{\sigma} = \frac{\mu - \mu}{\sigma} = 0$$

and $Var(Y) = \frac{1}{\sigma^2} Var(X) = \frac{\sigma^2}{\sigma^2} = 1$.

Hence Y is std. normal. Thus

$$\begin{aligned}F_X(x) &= \mathbb{P}(X \leq x) \\&= \mathbb{P}(X - \mu \leq x - \mu) \\&= \mathbb{P}\left(\frac{X - \mu}{\sigma} \leq \frac{x - \mu}{\sigma}\right) \\&= \mathbb{P}\left(Y \leq \frac{x - \mu}{\sigma}\right) \\&= \Phi\left(\frac{x - \mu}{\sigma}\right),\end{aligned}$$