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continuing CDF:

• note that

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

is always monotonically non-decreasing.

• if  $X$  is discrete  $F_X(x)$  is piecewise constant.

$$F_X(k) = \sum_{i \leq k} P_X(i)$$

and

$$P_X(k) = P(X=k)$$

$$= P(X \leq k) - P(X \leq k-1)$$

$$= F_X(k) - F_X(k-1)$$

• If  $X$  is continuous, then

$F_X(x)$  is a continuous function. Also

$$F_X(x) = \int_{-\infty}^x f_X(t) dt$$

and

$$f_X(x) = \frac{d}{dx} F_X(x)$$

Ex

You take a test 3 times, and final score  $X$  is the maximum of individual scores  $X_1, X_2, X_3$

$$X = \max(X_1, X_2, X_3)$$

Assume  $X_i$  ( $i=1, 2, 3$ ) are independent

Suppose  $X_i$  is uniform on  $\{1, 2, \dots, 10\}$

i.e.

$$P_{X_i}(k) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{10} & \text{if } k=1,2,\dots,10 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Find PMF of  $X$ .First find CDF  $F_X(k)$ , then difference.

$$P_X(k) = F_X(k) - F_X(k-1)$$

so

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

$$= P(X_1 \leq k, X_2 \leq k, X_3 \leq k)$$

by indep. }

$$= P(X_1 \leq k) \cdot P(X_2 \leq k) \cdot P(X_3 \leq k)$$

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$$= F_{X_1}(k) \cdot F_{X_2}(k) \cdot F_{X_3}(k)$$

$$= \frac{k}{10} \cdot \frac{k}{10} \cdot \frac{k}{10}$$

$$= \left(\frac{k}{10}\right)^3$$

Thus

$$F_X(k) = \begin{cases} \left(\frac{k}{10}\right)^3 - \left(\frac{k-1}{10}\right)^3 & \text{if } k=1, 2, \dots, 10 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Goal: Compare Geometric and Exponential CDFs

Recall if  $X$  is Geometric, param.  $p$  then

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

Thus

$$F_{\text{geo}}(n) = \sum_{k=1}^n p(1-p)^{k-1}$$

$$= p \cdot \frac{1 - (1-p)^n}{1 - (1-p)}$$

$$= 1 - (1-p)^n$$

If  $Y$  is Exponential, Param.  $\lambda$ ,

then

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

Thus

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

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

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

To compare, pick  $\delta > 0$  such that

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

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

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

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

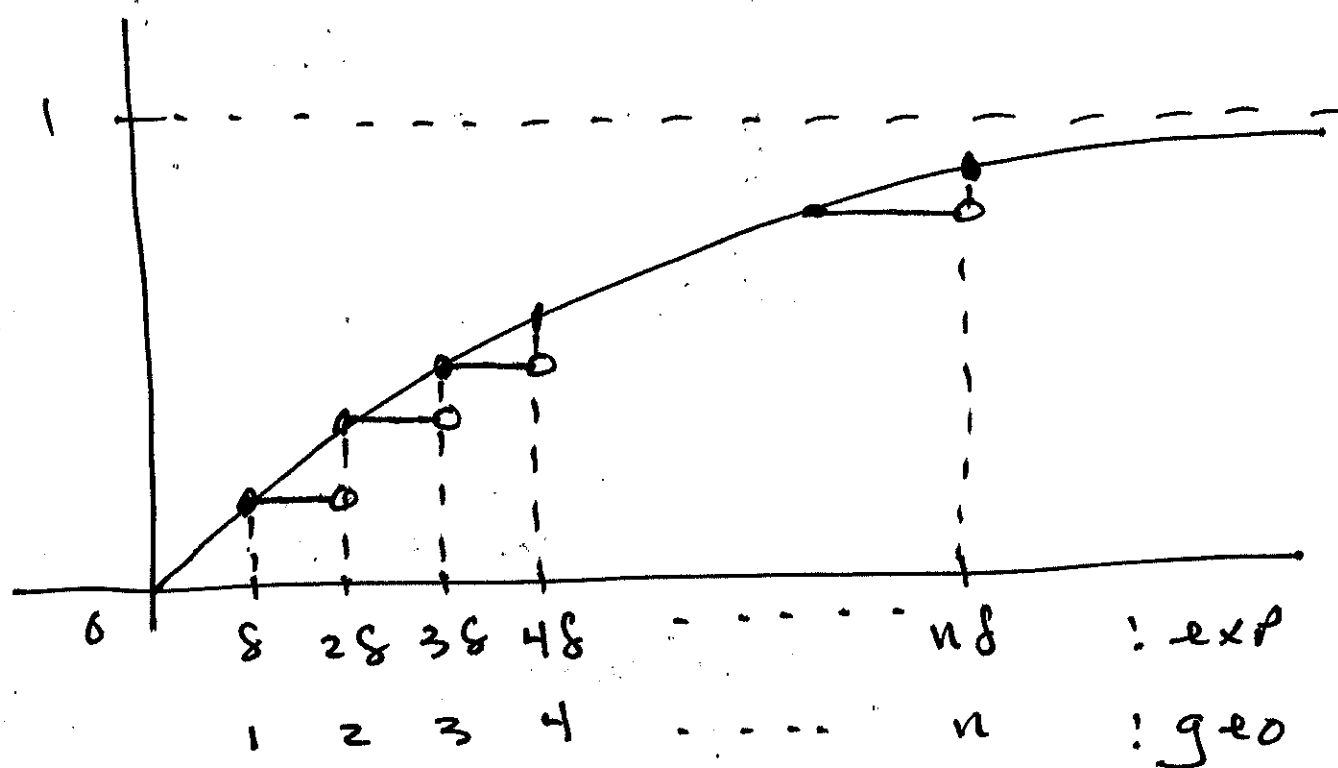
For this  $\delta$ , we have

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

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

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





If we flip coin fast (every 8 sec.)  
 with Prob.  $P = 1 - e^{-1/8}$ , then the  
 time at 1<sup>st</sup> head is an approx  
 to exponential CDF.

### 3.3 Normal random variable

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

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

call this the normal or Gaussian r.v. with Params.  $\sigma, \mu$ .

one checks

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

Also

$$E[X] = \mu$$

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

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