

1. Integration add-on from 2019 Notes

Of special interest are cumulative distribution functions such that $F(x) = \int_{-\infty}^x f(y)dy$ where $f(y) \geq 0$ is called the *density function*, i.e. a non-negative measurable and integrable function that integrates to 1. (We do not assume continuity! Improper Riemann integrals are OK here.)

Proposition 1.0.1. *If random variable X is integrable and has cumulative distribution function $F(x) = \int_{-\infty}^x f(y)dy$ then*

$$(1) \quad \mathbb{E}[X] = \int_{\mathbb{R}} xf(x)dx.$$

To prove this, we consider separately X^+ and X^- .

We decompose $X = X^+ - X^-$ and approximate $\psi_n(X^+) \uparrow X^+$ with $\psi_n(x) = (k-1)/2^n$ on $((k-1)/2^n, k/2^n]$, $\psi_n(x) = 0$ for $x < 0$, compare (??). Then

$$E(\psi_n(X^+)) = \sum_{k=1}^{n2^n} \frac{k-1}{2^n} \left(F\left(\frac{k}{2^n}\right) - F\left(\frac{k-1}{2^n}\right) \right) = \int_{\mathbb{R}} \psi_n(x)f(x)dx.$$

Taking the limit, by monotone convergence theorem (see Remark ??) we get $E(X^+) = \int_{\mathbb{R}} x^+ f(x)dx$ and hence $E(X) = \int_{\mathbb{R}} (x^+ - x^-)f(x)dx = \int_{\mathbb{R}} xf(x)dx$

Example 1.0.2. *Uniform density $U[a, b]$ is $f(x) = \frac{1}{b-a}I_{[a,b]}(x)$. The mean and the variance are $m = (a+b)/2$, $\sigma^2 = (b-a)^2/12$*

Example 1.0.3. *Exponential distribution: $F(x) = \begin{cases} 1 - e^{-x} & x > 0 \\ 0 & x \leq 0 \end{cases}$. The density is $f(x) = e^{-x}I_{[0,\infty)}(x)$. The mean and the variance are $m = 1$, $\sigma^2 = 1$.*

Example 1.0.4. *Standard normal density: $f(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}}e^{-x^2/2}$. The mean and the variance are $m = 0$ and $\sigma^2 = 1$.*

1.0.1. *Multivariate densities.* Similar approximation argument shows that if $\mu(d\mathbf{x}) = f(\mathbf{x})d\mathbf{x}$ has the density with respect to Lebesgue measure on \mathbb{R}^k then

$$\mathbb{E}[g(X_1, \dots, X_k)] = \int_{\mathbb{R}^k} g(\mathbf{x})f(\mathbf{x})d\mathbf{x}$$

In particular, $cov(X_1, X_2) = \int_{\mathbb{R}^2} (x - m_1)(y - m_2)f(x_1, x_2)dx_1dx_2$

Example 1.0.5. *Uniform distribution on a disk: $f(x, y) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{\pi} & x^2 + y^2 \leq 1 \\ 0 & x^2 + y^2 > 1 \end{cases}$*