

11/7/25

Recall "Carville" (Memoryless Property)

$$P(T > t_0 + t \mid T > t_0) = P(T > t)$$

Theorem: There are unique random variables with the memoryless property

proof: (not doing it; involves solving a differential equation)

Exponential Random Variable:

* Generalization of geometric distribution!

$$X \sim \text{Exp}(\lambda), \lambda > 0$$

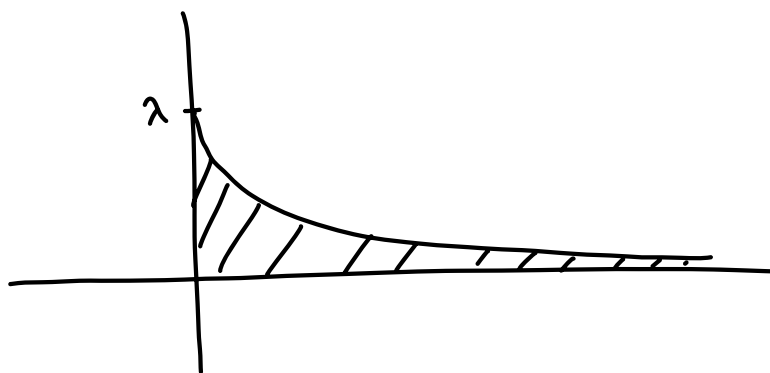
$$P_X(t) = \begin{cases} 0, & t < 0 \\ \lambda e^{-\lambda t}, & t \geq 0 \end{cases}$$

— Note that if $t=0$, $P_X(t)$ could be > 1 . This is fine for a pdf. (not for pmf)

Is $P_X(t)$ a valid pdf?

← because we integrate

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} P_X(t) = 1$$



$$\begin{aligned}
 \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} P_X(t) dt &= \int_0^{\infty} \lambda e^{-\lambda t} dt = \lim_{a \rightarrow \infty} \int_0^a \lambda e^{-\lambda t} dt \\
 &= \lim_{a \rightarrow \infty} -e^{-\lambda t} \Big|_0^a = \lim_{a \rightarrow \infty} (-e^{-\lambda a} + e^{-\lambda \cdot 0}) \\
 &= \lim_{a \rightarrow \infty} \left(1 - \frac{1}{e^{\lambda a}} \right) = 1
 \end{aligned}$$

What about the CDF of X ?

$$\begin{aligned}
 F_X(t) = P(X \leq t) &= \int_0^t P_X(t) dt = \int_0^t \lambda e^{-\lambda t} dt \\
 &= 1 - e^{-\lambda t}
 \end{aligned}$$

we want $P(X > t_0 + t \mid X > t_0) = P(X > t)$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{LHS} &= \frac{P(X > t_0 + t \text{ and } X > t_0)}{P(X > t_0)} = \frac{P(X > t_0 + t)}{P(X > t_0)} \\
 &= \frac{1 - P(X \leq t_0 + t)}{1 - P(X \leq t_0)} = \frac{1 - (1 - e^{-\lambda t_0 - \lambda t})}{1 - (1 - e^{-\lambda t_0})} = \frac{e^{-\lambda t_0 - \lambda t}}{e^{-\lambda t_0}} = e^{-\lambda t}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{RHS} = 1 - P(X \leq t) = 1 - (1 - e^{-\lambda t}) = e^{-\lambda t}$$

* This is the only pdf that satisfies memoryless principle

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

In carville,

- Buses have no schedule
- Average wait time is 10 minutes

How do we model this?

$$X \sim \text{Exp}\left(\frac{1}{10}\right) \quad \left(E(X) = 10 = \frac{1}{\frac{1}{10}}\right)$$

— —

The Gamma function is the function $\Gamma: (0, \infty) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$

$$\Gamma(x) = \int_0^{\infty} t^{x-1} e^{-t} dt$$

The Beta function is a function on two positive variables $x, y > 0$ such that

$$B(x, y) = \frac{\Gamma(x) \Gamma(y)}{\Gamma(x+y)}$$

Proposition 2.70: The following hold.

1. $\Gamma(1) = 1$

2. $\Gamma(x+1) = x \Gamma(x), \quad \forall x > 0$

★ Continuous analog of factorials

3. For any $n \in \{1, 2, 3, 4, \dots\}$, $\Gamma(n) = (n-1)!$

4. $\Gamma\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) = \sqrt{\pi}$

5. For any $x, y > 0$ we have

$$\int_0^1 s^{x-1} (1-s)^{y-1} ds = \frac{\Gamma(x) \Gamma(y)}{\Gamma(x+y)} = B(x, y)$$

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$$X \sim \text{Exp}(\lambda)$$

$$\mu_k(X) = \int_0^\infty t^k \lambda e^{-\lambda t} dt$$

$$= \int_0^\infty x^k \lambda^{-k} e^{-x} dx$$

$$= \lambda^{-k} \int_0^\infty x^k e^{-x} dx$$

$$= \lambda^{-k} \Gamma(k+1)$$

$$= \lambda^{-k} \cdot k!$$

$$\begin{aligned} x &= \lambda t & dx &= \lambda dt \\ t &= \frac{x}{\lambda} & t^k &= x^k \lambda^{-k} \end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow E(X) = \frac{1}{\lambda} \quad (\text{first moment})$$

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