

Problem Set 4 Solution

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Bulmer Problem 3.1 Since x is uniformly distributed, you can have the distribution function of x . (Uniform distribution between $[a, b]$ is $\frac{1}{b-a}$.)

$$X \sim U[0, 1] \text{ then, } f(x) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } 0 \leq x \leq 1 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Then, what is $G(y)$ and $g(y)$?

(a) $y = x^2$

According to the rule demonstrated in the book,

$$\begin{aligned} G(y) &= \Pr[Y \leq y] = \Pr[x^2 \leq y] \\ &= \Pr[-\sqrt{y} \leq x \leq \sqrt{y}] \\ &= \Pr[-\sqrt{y} \leq x \leq 0] + \Pr[0 \leq x \leq \sqrt{y}] \\ &= \Pr[0 \leq x \leq \sqrt{y}] \leftarrow \text{because } x \text{ is between } 0 \text{ and } 1 \\ &= \int_0^{\sqrt{y}} f(x) dx = F(\sqrt{y}) - F(0) \\ &= [x]_0^{\sqrt{y}} = \sqrt{y} \end{aligned}$$

$$g(y) = \frac{dG(y)}{dy} = \frac{d\sqrt{y}}{dy} = \frac{1}{2} \cdot y^{-\frac{1}{2}}$$

(b) $y = \sqrt{x}$

$$\begin{aligned} G(y) &= \Pr[Y \leq y] = \Pr[\sqrt{x} \leq y] \\ &= \Pr[x \leq y^2] \\ &= \int_0^{y^2} f(x) dx = F(y^2) - F(0) \\ &= [x]_0^{y^2} = y^2 \end{aligned}$$

$$g(y) = \frac{dG(y)}{dy} = \frac{dy^2}{dy} = 2y$$

Bulmer Problem 3.2

(a) First, the proof when b is a negative number follows.

$$G(y) = Pr[Y \leq y] = Pr[a + bX \leq y] = Pr[bX \leq y - a] = Pr\left[X \geq \frac{y - a}{b}\right]$$

Since the total probability of any distribution is 1, $Pr\left[X \geq \frac{y - a}{b}\right]$ will be the same as $1 - Pr\left[X \leq \frac{y - a}{b}\right]$. (note: you can also consider this as same as $Pr\left[X \leq -\frac{y - a}{b}\right]$, but it only works when the symmetry of a distribution is assumed.) Therefore,

$$G(y) = 1 - Pr\left[X \leq \frac{y - a}{b}\right] = 1 - F\left(\frac{y - a}{b}\right)$$

$$g(y) = \frac{dG(y)}{dy} = -\frac{1}{b}f\left(\frac{y - a}{b}\right)$$

by Chain rule.

(b) Now, the application. When $Y = -\log_e x$, find $g(y)$. First, X is assumed to be uniformly distributed between 0 and 1. From this assumption, we can induce X 's probability density function of $f(x)$. It is

$$f(x) \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } 0 \leq x \leq 1 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$f(x)$ is always a constant of 1, since the probability of $f(x)$ is evenly 1 at any point on x -axis. Using the procedure in (a),

$$\begin{aligned} G(y) &= Pr[Y \leq y] = Pr[-\log_e x \leq y] = Pr[\log_e x \geq -y] \\ &= 1 - Pr[\log_e x \leq -y] = 1 - Pr[x \leq e^{-y}] \\ &= 1 - F(e^{-y}) \end{aligned}$$

$$g(y) = \frac{dG(y)}{dy} = -f(e^{-y})(-1)e^{-y} = e^{-y}$$

Bulmer Problem 3.3

This is a similar question as the first one, but with different X distribution. Now, X is uniformly distributed between -1 and 2 , which makes the probability density function of X is

$$f(x) \begin{cases} \frac{1}{3} & \text{if } -1 \leq x \leq 2 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

And $Y = X^2$. The transformation process yields

$$G(y) = Pr[Y \leq y] = Pr[X^2 \leq y] = Pr[-\sqrt{y} \leq x \leq \sqrt{y}]$$

Here, we have to consider the range of possible x s. Differing from the Problem 3.1, x has the range of $[-1, 2]$. Between $[-1, 1]$, Y is non-monotonous function and then monotonously increasing between $[1, 2]$. The distribution function should be different for these two different ranges.

First, I consider when x is between $[-1, 1]$. The transformation is:

$$\begin{aligned} G(y) &= Pr[-\sqrt{y} \leq x \leq \sqrt{y}] = \int_{-\sqrt{y}}^{\sqrt{y}} f(x) dx \\ &= F(\sqrt{y}) - F(-\sqrt{y}) \\ g(y) &= \frac{dG(y)}{dy} = f(\sqrt{y}) \frac{1}{2} y^{-\frac{1}{2}} - f(\sqrt{y}) \left(-\frac{1}{2}\right) y^{-\frac{1}{2}} \\ &= \frac{1}{3} y^{\frac{1}{2}} \end{aligned}$$

This works if $0 < y \leq 1$ since the function is not defined if y is 0.

Now, consider the case when x is between $[1, 2]$. As noted, it is increasingly monotonous with a lower boundary. Therefore,

$$G(y) = Pr [1 \leq x \leq \sqrt{y}] = \int_1^{\sqrt{y}} f(x)dx = F(\sqrt{y}) - F(1)$$

$$g(y) = \frac{dG(y)}{dy} = f(\sqrt{y}) \frac{1}{2} y^{-\frac{1}{2}}$$

$$= \frac{1}{6} y^{-\frac{1}{2}}$$

This is when $1 < y \leq 4$.

Experimental Question

For the Stata result, please see attached.

Theoretical mean can be obtained by using the following formula.

$$E(x) = \int_0^1 x f(x) dx = \int_0^1 x \cdot 1 dx = \left[\frac{1}{2} x^2 \right]_0^1$$

$$= \frac{1}{2}$$

$$Var(x) = \int_0^1 (x - E(x))^2 dx = \int_0^1 x^2 - x + \frac{1}{4} dx$$

$$= \left[\frac{1}{3} x^3 - \frac{1}{2} x^2 + \frac{1}{4} x \right]_0^1 = \frac{1}{12}$$

Now, compare these with Stata result.