

Prob. Density Function of $g(X)$

X random variable

$f_X(x) = \text{p.d.f. of } X$

$F_X(x) = \text{c.d.f. of } X$

$$F_X'(x) = f(x)$$

g
 $g: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$

$Y = g(X)$ "new" random var.

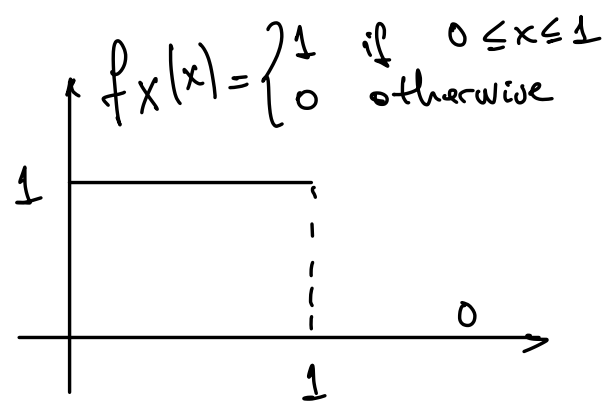
$f_Y(y) = \text{p.d.f. of } Y?$

$F_Y(y) = \text{c.d.f. of } Y?$

$$F_Y'(y) = f_Y(y)$$

Ex: $g(x) = x^n$ for some $n \in \mathbb{N}$.

$X \sim \text{Uniform}(0,1)$



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

$$= \int_0^x 1 dt = x$$

$$F_X(x) = \begin{cases} x & \text{if } 0 \leq x \leq 1 \\ 1 & \text{if } x \geq 1 \end{cases}$$

$Y = g(X) = X^n$?

$$F_Y(y) = P(Y \leq y) = P(X^n \leq y)$$

$$(X \geq 0) \Rightarrow P(X \leq y^{1/n})$$

$$= F_X(y^{1/n}) = \begin{cases} y^{1/n} & \text{if } y \leq 1 \\ 1 & \text{if } y \geq 1 \end{cases}$$

$$f_Y(y) = \frac{d}{dy} F_Y(y) = \frac{d}{dy} y^{1/n} = \frac{1}{n} y^{\frac{1}{n}-1}$$

$$f_Y(y) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{n} y^{\frac{1}{n}-1} & \text{if } 0 \leq y \leq 1 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Thm. If X is a continuous random variable w/ p.d.f. $f_X(x)$ and $g: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is a monotonic function, differentiable, then $Y = g(X)$ has p.d.f.

$$f_Y(y) = \begin{cases} f_X(g^{-1}(y)) \cdot \left| \frac{d}{dy} g^{-1}(y) \right| & \text{if } y = g(x) \text{ for some } x. \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

increasing
or
decreasing

Pf. Suppose $g(x)$ is increasing. g increasing

$$\underline{F_Y(y)} = P(Y \leq y) = P(g(X) \leq y) \stackrel{\downarrow}{=} P(X \leq g^{-1}(y)) = \underline{F_X(g^{-1}(y))}.$$

Differentiate in y :

$$\begin{aligned} f_Y(y) &= \frac{d}{dy} F_Y(y) = \frac{d}{dy} F_X(g^{-1}(y)) \stackrel{\text{c.r.}}{=} F_X'(g^{-1}(y)) \cdot \frac{d}{dy} g^{-1}(y) \\ &= f_X(g^{-1}(y)) \cdot \frac{d}{dy} g^{-1}(y). \end{aligned}$$

If, instead, $g(x)$ is decreasing.

$$\begin{aligned} F_Y(y) &= P(Y \leq y) = P(g(X) \leq y) \stackrel{\downarrow}{=} P(X \geq g^{-1}(y)) = 1 - P(X \leq g^{-1}(y)) \\ &= 1 - F_X(g^{-1}(y)) \end{aligned}$$

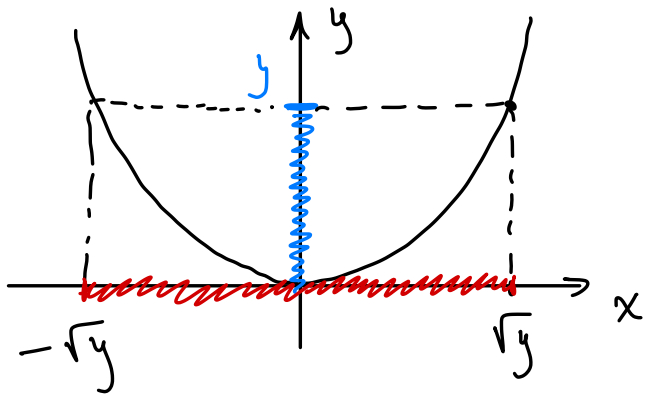
Diff. in y :

$$\begin{aligned} f_Y(y) &= \frac{d}{dy} F_Y(y) = \frac{d}{dy} (1 - F_X(g^{-1}(y))) = -F_X'(g^{-1}(y)) \frac{d}{dy} g^{-1}(y) \\ &= -f_X(g^{-1}(y)) \cdot \frac{d}{dy} g^{-1}(y). \end{aligned}$$

Altogether: $f_Y(y) = f_X(g^{-1}(y)) \left| \frac{d}{dy} g^{-1}(y) \right|$ if $y \in \text{Im } g$. \square

What if $g: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is not monotonic?

Ex: Suppose $g(x) = x^2$, $Y = g(X) = X^2$

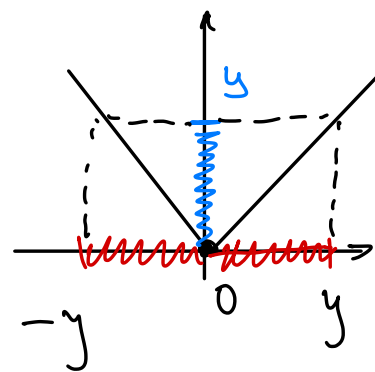


$$\begin{aligned} F_Y(y) &= P(Y \leq y) = P(X^2 \leq y) \\ &= P(-\sqrt{y} \leq X \leq \sqrt{y}) \\ &= P(X \leq \sqrt{y}) - P(X \leq -\sqrt{y}) \\ &= F_X(\sqrt{y}) - F_X(-\sqrt{y}) \end{aligned}$$

Diff. in y :

$$\begin{aligned} f_Y(y) &= \frac{d}{dy} F_Y(y) = \frac{d}{dy} (F_X(\sqrt{y}) - F_X(-\sqrt{y})) \\ &= F_X'(\sqrt{y}) \cdot \frac{1}{2\sqrt{y}} - F_X'(-\sqrt{y}) \cdot \left(-\frac{1}{2\sqrt{y}}\right) \\ &= \frac{1}{2\sqrt{y}} f_X(\sqrt{y}) + \frac{1}{2\sqrt{y}} f_X(-\sqrt{y}) \\ &= \frac{1}{2\sqrt{y}} (f_X(\sqrt{y}) + f_X(-\sqrt{y})) \end{aligned}$$

What if $g: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is not differentiable?



$$g(x) = |x|$$

$$Y = g(X) = |X|$$

$$\begin{aligned} F_Y(y) &= P(Y \leq y) = P(|X| \leq y) = P(-y \leq X \leq y) \\ &= F_X(y) - F_X(-y) \end{aligned}$$

Diff. in y :

$$f_Y(y) = \frac{d}{dy} F_Y(y) = \frac{d}{dy} (F_X(y) - F_X(-y)) = f_X(y) + f_X(-y)$$

Lognormal random variables

Motivation: Suppose the price of a stock on day n is S_n .

#: $S_1 \rightarrow S_2 \rightarrow S_3 \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow S_{n-1} \rightarrow S_n \rightarrow \dots$
 Days Day1 Day2 Day3

$$Y = \frac{S_n}{S_{n-1}} = e^X$$

rate of return $\sim \text{Normal}(\mu, \sigma^2)$

ratio between prices on consecutive days.

use exp. to account for compounding effect in pricing.

Def: If $X \sim \text{Normal}(\mu, \sigma^2)$, then $Y = e^X$ is a lognormal random variable, w/ parameters μ, σ^2 .

What is the pdf of Y ?

$$Y = g(X), \quad g(x) = e^x \rightsquigarrow \underline{g^{-1}(y) = \log y} \quad (\text{increasing})$$

$$f_Y(y) = f_X(g^{-1}(y)) \cdot \frac{d}{dy} g^{-1}(y)$$

$$\frac{d}{dy} g^{-1}(y) = \frac{1}{y}$$

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

$$\boxed{= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma y} e^{-\frac{(\log y - \mu)^2}{2\sigma^2}}}$$

Using the above relation $Y = e^X$, we can compute:

$$E(Y) = e^{\mu + \frac{\sigma^2}{2}} \quad \leftarrow \text{mean (expected value)}$$

$$P(Y \leq e^\mu) = \frac{1}{2} = P(Y \geq e^\mu)$$

median is smaller than mean for lognormal rand. var.
(cf. when $\mu = 0$)

Pareto random variables

Def. If $X \sim \text{Exponential}(\lambda)$, then $Y = \alpha e^X$ is a Pareto random variable w/ parameters α and λ . $\alpha > 0$

Recall: $P(X \geq x) = e^{-\lambda x}$

$$\begin{aligned} P(Y > y) &= P(\alpha e^X > y) = P(e^X > \frac{y}{\alpha}) = P(X > \log \frac{y}{\alpha}) \\ &= e^{-\lambda \log \frac{y}{\alpha}} = e^{\log(\frac{y}{\alpha})^{-\lambda}} = \left(\frac{y}{\alpha}\right)^{-\lambda} = \left(\frac{\alpha}{y}\right)^{\lambda} \end{aligned}$$

$$F_Y(y) = P(Y \leq y) = 1 - P(Y > y) = 1 - \left(\frac{\alpha}{y}\right)^{\lambda} = 1 - \alpha^{\lambda} y^{-\lambda}$$

Diff. in y :

$$f_Y(y) = \begin{cases} \lambda \alpha^{\lambda} y^{-(\lambda+1)} & \text{if } y \geq \alpha. \\ 0 & \text{if } y < \alpha. \end{cases}$$

Expected Value:

$$E(Y) = \int_{\alpha}^{+\infty} \lambda \alpha^{\lambda} y^{-\lambda} dy = \lambda \alpha^{\lambda} \cdot \frac{\alpha^{1-\lambda}}{\lambda-1} = \frac{\lambda \alpha}{\lambda-1}$$

$$\text{Var}(Y) = E(Y^2) - E(Y)^2 = \frac{\lambda \alpha^2}{(\lambda-2)(\lambda-1)^2}$$

"Pareto's Law" / "80-20 rule":

- 80% of the outcomes are caused by 20% of the actions
- 80% of the profits go to only 20% of the people

Mathematically, this is only true if

$$\alpha = \log_4 5 \cong 1.161.$$

↑
sharpe ratio

However, the following is a mathematically rigorous version of this principle:

Profits are distributed according to a Pareto distribution ($\alpha \geq 1$)



$\exists p \in (0, 1/2)$ s.t.
100p % of people receive
100(1-p) % of all profits

"80-20 rule"
 $p = 0.2 \iff \alpha = \log_4 5$

b/c $1 - \frac{1}{\alpha} = \frac{\log(1-p)}{\log p}$