

1. Let $X \sim \text{Gamma}(\alpha, \beta)$ with density

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{\beta^\alpha \Gamma(\alpha)} x^{\alpha-1} e^{-x/\beta}, \quad x \geq 0.$$

- (a) Prove that X has MGF $M_X(t) = 1/(1 - \beta t)^\alpha$ provided $t < 1/\beta$.
- (b) Using the above MGF, find $E(X)$ and $E(X^2)$. Then find $V(X)$.
2. Let $X \sim \chi_\nu^2$ (chi-squared distribution with ν degrees of freedom).
- (a) Write down the density of X , using the definition of chi-squared distribution as a Gamma distribution with appropriately chosen parameters α and β .
- (b) Find $E(X)$ and $V(X)$.
3. Let X be a gamma random variable with mean $E(X) = 20$ and $V(X) = 100$.
- (a) Find α and β , the two parameters in a Gamma distribution. [**Answer:** $\alpha = 4, \beta = 5$.]
- (b) Using Chebyshev's theorem, provide an interval such that the probability that X lies in this interval is at least 99%. [**Answer:** $[0, 120]$]
4. Let Z follow the standard normal distribution with PDF $f(z) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-\frac{z^2}{2}}$ for $-\infty < z < \infty$. Verify that $f(z)$ is indeed a PDF. Observe that $f(z) > 0$ for any $z \in \mathbb{R}$ is automatic. So all you have to prove is $\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(z) dz = 1$. [**Hint:** Note that $\int_0^{\infty} e^{-\frac{z^2}{2}} dz = \int_0^{\infty} z^{-1} e^{-\frac{z^2}{2}} z dz$. Now use the substitution $t = z^2/2$ and modify the proof for $E(Z^2) = 1$.]
5. The mode of a continuous RV X is defined to be the point where f_X , the density of X , is maximum. Let $X \sim N(\mu, \sigma^2)$. Show that X has mode μ . Also find the density at the mode.
6. (WMS, Problem 4.73.) The width of bolts of fabric is normally distributed with mean 950 mm (millimeters) and standard deviation 10 mm. For the following two problems, leave the final answers in terms of the standard normal CDF Φ .
- (a) What is the probability that a randomly chosen bolt has a width between 947 and 958 mm? [**Answer:** $\Phi(0.8) - \Phi(-0.3)$.]
- (b) What is the appropriate value for C such that a randomly chosen bolt has a width less than C with probability 0.8531? [**Answer:** $C = 950 + 10 \Phi^{-1}(0.8531)$.]
7. Let $X \sim N(\mu, \sigma^2)$. Using the values $\Phi(1) = 0.841$, $\Phi(2) = 0.977$ and $\Phi(3) = 0.998$, calculate the probabilities $P(|X - \mu| \leq \sigma)$, $P(|X - \mu| \leq 2\sigma)$ and $P(|X - \mu| \leq 3\sigma)$. [**Note:** This is almost like the empirical law, except for the fact that here the population quantities μ and σ^2 (which are typically unknown in a practical problem) instead of their sample analogues are used.] [**Answer:** 0.682, 0.954, 0.996.]
8. (WMS, Problem 4.80) Assume that Y is normally distributed with mean μ and standard deviation σ . After observing a value of Y , a mathematician constructs a rectangle with length $L = |Y|$ and width $W = 3|Y|$. Let A denote the area of the resulting rectangle. What is $E(A)$? [**Answer:** $3(\mu^2 + \sigma^2)$.]