

Continuous Distributions

Distribution	Probability Function	Mean	Variance	Moment-Generating Function
Uniform	$f(y) = \frac{1}{\theta_2 - \theta_1}; \theta_1 \leq y \leq \theta_2$	$\frac{\theta_1 + \theta_2}{2}$	$\frac{(\theta_2 - \theta_1)^2}{12}$	$\frac{e^{t\theta_2} - e^{t\theta_1}}{t(\theta_2 - \theta_1)}$
Normal	$f(y) = \frac{1}{\sigma\sqrt{2\pi}} \exp\left[-\left(\frac{1}{2\sigma^2}\right)(y - \mu)^2\right]$ $-\infty < y < +\infty$	μ	σ^2	$\exp\left(\mu t + \frac{t^2\sigma^2}{2}\right)$
Exponential	$f(y) = \frac{1}{\beta} e^{-y/\beta}; \beta > 0$ $0 < y < \infty$	β	β^2	$(1 - \beta t)^{-1}$
Gamma	$f(y) = \left[\frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha)\beta^\alpha}\right] y^{\alpha-1} e^{-y/\beta};$ $0 < y < \infty$	$\alpha\beta$	$\alpha\beta^2$	$(1 - \beta t)^{-\alpha}$
Chi-square	$f(y) = \frac{(y)^{(v/2)-1} e^{-y/2}}{2^{v/2} \Gamma(v/2)}$; $y^2 > 0$	v	$2v$	$(1 - 2t)^{-v/2}$
Beta	$f(y) = \left[\frac{\Gamma(\alpha + \beta)}{\Gamma(\alpha)\Gamma(\beta)}\right] y^{\alpha-1} (1 - y)^{\beta-1};$ $0 < y < 1$	$\frac{\alpha}{\alpha + \beta}$	$\frac{\alpha\beta}{(\alpha + \beta)^2(\alpha + \beta + 1)}$	does not exist in closed form

STAT 511 - Test 3
Additional Formulas

If $Y \sim \text{beta}(\alpha, \beta)$ with α, β both integers:

$$F(y) = P(Y \leq y) = \sum_{i=\alpha}^{\alpha+\beta-1} \binom{\alpha+\beta-1}{i} y^i (1-y)^{(\alpha+\beta-1)-i}$$

[a sum of $\text{Bin}(n = \alpha + \beta - 1, p = y)$ probabilities]

For $k > 0$:

$$P\{|Y - \mu| < k\sigma\} \geq 1 - \frac{1}{k^2} \Leftrightarrow P\{|Y - \mu| \geq k\sigma\} \leq \frac{1}{k^2}$$