



Important Continuous Random Variables

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Important continuous random variables

variable	pdf	mean	variance
Normal	Use table, $Z = \frac{X - \mu}{\sigma}$	μ	σ^2
Exponential	$f(x) = \lambda e^{-\lambda x}, x > 0$	$\mu = \frac{1}{\lambda}$	$\sigma^2 = \frac{1}{\lambda^2}$
Gamma <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If $\alpha > 1$, then $\Gamma(\alpha) = (\alpha - 1)\Gamma(\alpha - 1)$ • For positive integers, $\Gamma(n) = (n - 1)!$ • $\Gamma(\frac{1}{2}) = \sqrt{\pi}$ 	$f(x) = \frac{1}{\beta^\alpha \Gamma(\alpha)} x^{\alpha-1} e^{-x/\beta}, x > 0$ where $\Gamma(\alpha) = \int_0^\infty x^{\alpha-1} e^{-x} dx$ and $F(x; \alpha) = \int_0^x y^{\alpha-1} e^{-y} dy, x > 0$	$\mu = \alpha\beta$	$\sigma^2 = \alpha\beta^2$
Weibull	$f(x) = \frac{\alpha}{\beta^\alpha} x^{\alpha-1} e^{-(x/\beta)^\alpha}, x > 0$	$\mu = \beta \Gamma\left(1 + \frac{1}{\alpha}\right)$	$\sigma^2 = \beta^2 \left\{ \Gamma\left(1 + \frac{2}{\alpha}\right) - \left[\Gamma\left(1 + \frac{1}{\alpha}\right) \right]^2 \right\}$
Lognormal	$Y = \ln(X)$ where $X \sim N(\mu, \sigma^2)$	$\mu = e^{\mu + \sigma^2/2}$	$\sigma^2 = e^{2\mu + \sigma^2} (e^{\sigma^2} - 1)$
Beta	$f(x) =$	$\mu =$	$\sigma^2 =$
Chi-squared	$f(x) =$	$\mu =$	$\sigma^2 =$