

5.4 Some common density functions.

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$\Gamma(\omega)$ is the gamma function, defined by.

$$\Gamma(\omega) = \int_0^{\infty} x^{\omega-1} e^{-x} dx \quad \text{where } \omega \text{ is positive integers.}$$

Exercise 5.46.

- Show that the gamma function $\Gamma(\omega)$ satisfies $\Gamma(\omega) = (\omega-1)\Gamma(\omega-1)$ for $\omega > 1$.

$$\Gamma(\omega) = \int_0^{\infty} x^{\omega-1} e^{-x} dx$$

Now integrate by parts $\Gamma(\omega) = -x^{\omega-1} e^{-x} \Big|_0^{\infty} + \int_0^{\infty} (\omega-1) x^{\omega-2} e^{-x} dx$

$$= \underbrace{(0-0)}_{\Gamma(\omega-1)} + (\omega-1) \int_0^{\infty} x^{\omega-2} e^{-x} dx = \frac{(\omega-1)\Gamma(\omega-1)}{\Gamma(\omega-1)}$$

- deduce that $\Gamma(n) = (n-1)!$ for $n = 1, 2, 3$

Set $\omega = n$.

$$\Gamma(n) = (n-1)\Gamma(n-1)$$

$$\Gamma(n-1) = (n-2)\Gamma(n-2)$$

\vdots

$$\Gamma(2) = 1\Gamma(1) = \int_0^{\infty} x^0 e^{-x} dx = \int_0^{\infty} e^{-x} dx = e^{-x} \Big|_0^{\infty} = 1.$$

$$\Gamma(n) = (n-1)(n-2)(n-3) \dots \Gamma(1) = (n-1)!$$

Exercise 5.47.

$$\text{Let } I = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-x^2} dx.$$

$$I^2 = \iint_{\mathbb{R}^2} e^{-x^2-y^2} dx dy.$$

In polar coordinates : $x = r \cos \vartheta$
 $y = r \sin \vartheta$
 $dx dy = r dr d\vartheta$.

$$I^2 = \int_0^{2\pi} \int_0^{\infty} e^{-r^2 \cos^2 \vartheta - r^2 \sin^2 \vartheta} r dr d\vartheta = \int_0^{2\pi} \int_0^{\infty} e^{-r^2} r dr d\vartheta =$$

$$\int_0^{2\pi} d\vartheta \int_0^{\infty} e^{-r^2} \frac{dr^2}{2} = \frac{2\pi}{2} \left(-\frac{e^{-r^2}}{2} \right) \Big|_0^{\infty} = \frac{2\pi}{2} (1-0) = \pi$$

$$I^2 = \pi \Rightarrow I = \sqrt{\pi}.$$