

Exercise for The Distribution Function

LIU Anke, PENG Qi

July 17, 2021

Question

Show that the density function

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{\pi\sqrt{x(1-x)}} & 0 < x < 1, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases}$$

has the distribution with the form

$$F(x) = c \sin^{-1}(\sqrt{x}), \quad 0 < x < 1,$$

and find the constant c .

Solution

Set $u = \sqrt{x}$, then

$$\begin{aligned} du &= \frac{1}{2\sqrt{x}} dx \\ dx &= 2\sqrt{x} du \end{aligned}$$

Then substitute the expression of u into the equation below, we calculate the distribution of the probability density function:

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{-\infty}^t f(x) dx &= \int_0^t \frac{1}{\pi\sqrt{x(1-x)}} dx \\ &= \int_0^{\sqrt{t}} \frac{2\sqrt{x}}{\pi\sqrt{x(1-x)}} du \\ &= \int_0^{\sqrt{t}} \frac{2}{\pi\sqrt{1-u^2}} du \\ &= \frac{2}{\pi} \int_0^{\sqrt{t}} \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-u^2}} du, \quad 0 < u < 1. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, we can obtain the distribution:

$$F(x) = \frac{2}{\pi} \sin^{-1} \sqrt{x}, \quad 0 < x < 1,$$

and $c := \frac{2}{\pi}$. \square