Survey of simple, continuous, univariate probability distributions

Over 100 distributions, and another 150 synonyms.

Gavin E. Crooks

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Preface: The search for GUD

A common problem is that of describing the probability distribution of a single, continuous variable. A few distributions, such as the normal and exponential, were discovered in the 1800's or earlier. But about a century ago, the great statistician, Karl Pearson, realized that the known probability distributions were not sufficient to handle all of the phenomena then under investigation, and set out to create new distributions with useful properties.

During the 20th century this process continued with abandon and a vast menagerie of distinct mathematical forms were discovered and invented, investigated, analyzed, rediscovered and renamed, all for the purpose of describing the probability of some interesting variable. There are some hundreds of named distributions and synonyms in current usage. The apparent diversity is unending and disorientating.

Fortunately, the situation is less confused than it might at first appear: Most common, continuous, univariate, unimodal distributions can be organized into a small number of distinct families, which are all special cases of a single Grand Unified Distribution. This compendium details these hundred or so simple distributions, their properties and their interrelations.

Gavin E. Crooks

Contents

List of Tables

List of Figures

Figure 1: Hierarchy of principle, simple, continuous, univariate distributions

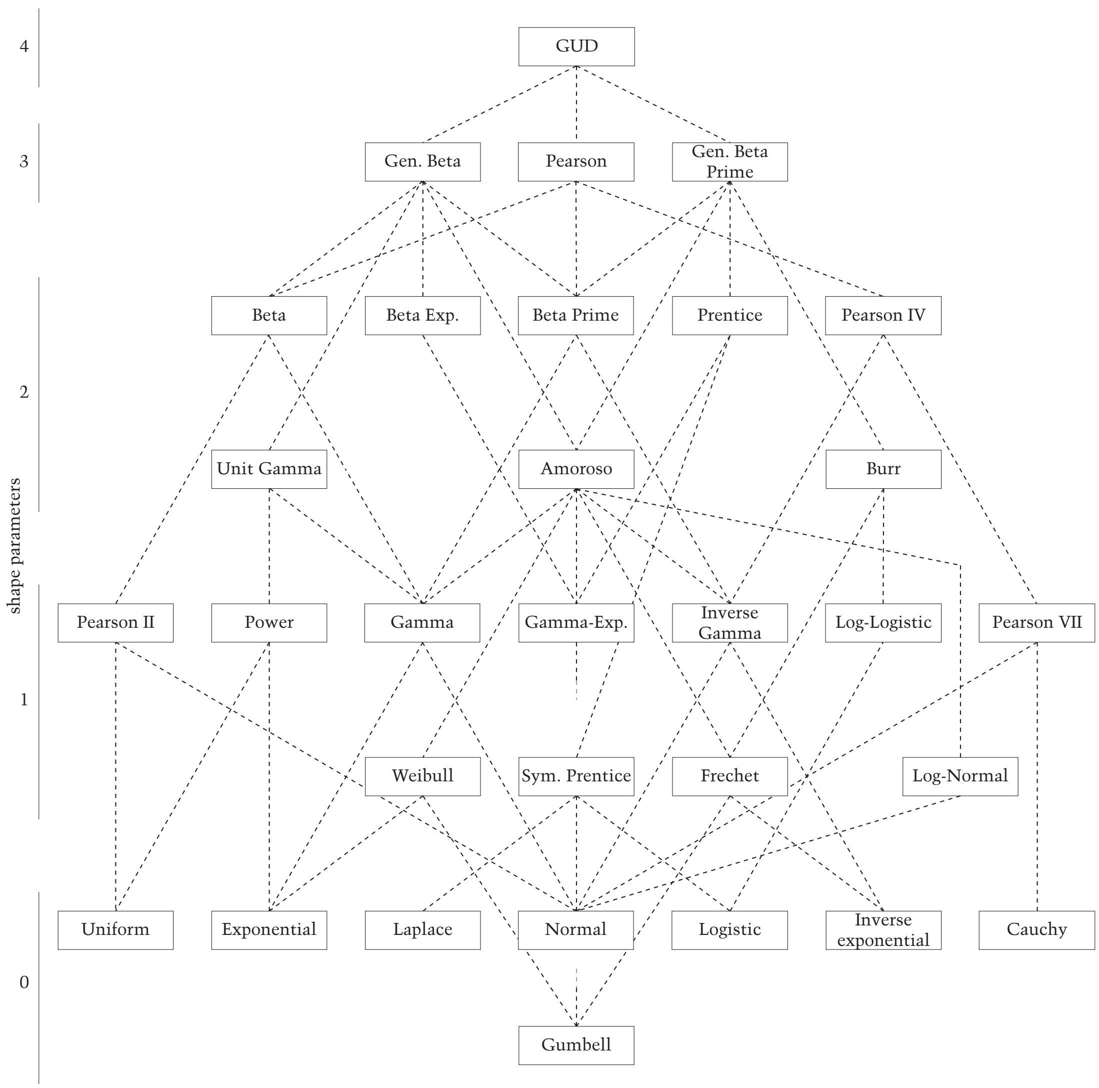


Figure 2: Hierarchy of principle Pearson distributions

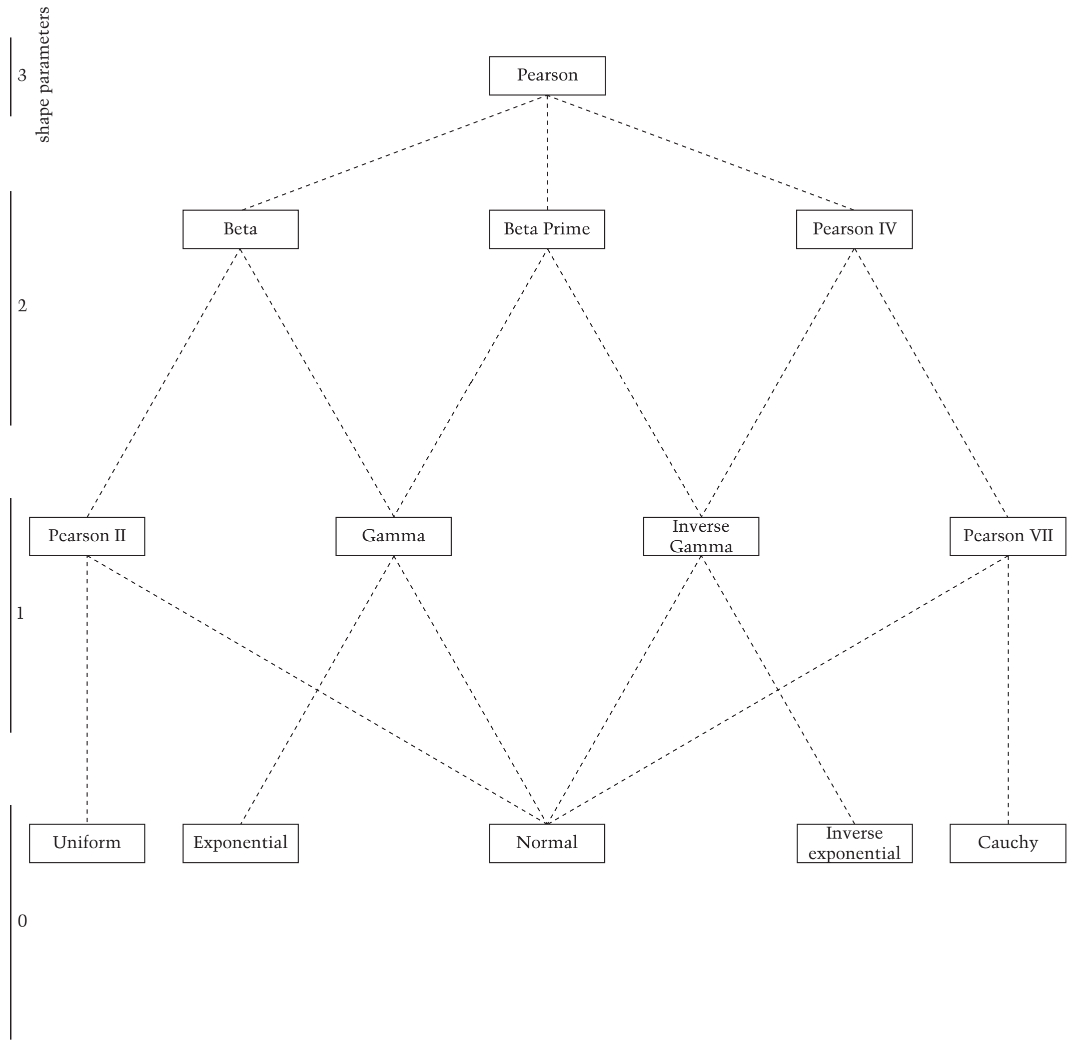


Figure 3: Hierarchy of extreme value distributions

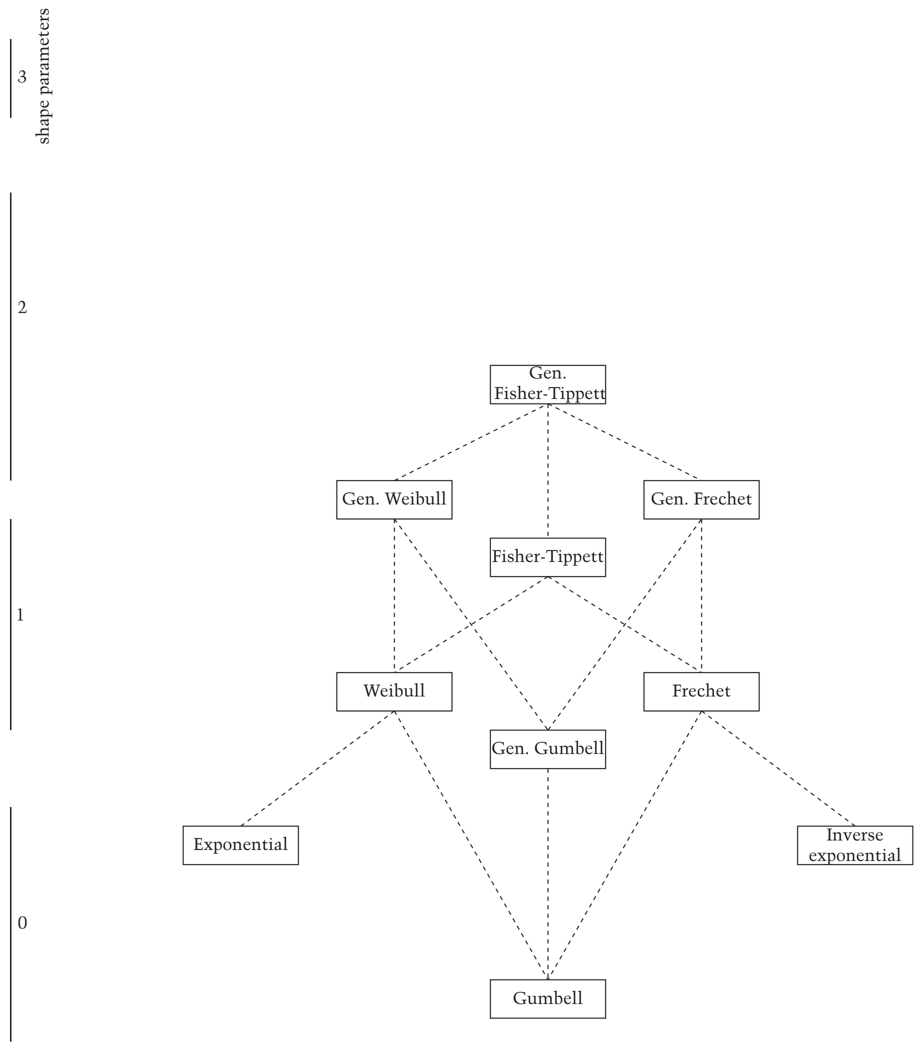
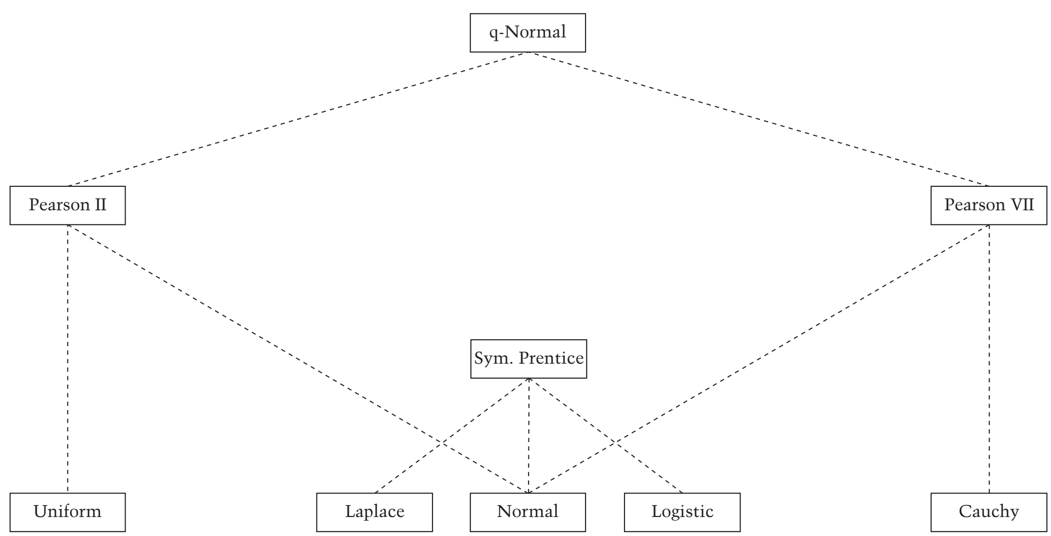


Figure 4: Hierarchies of symmetric simple distributions



1 Uniform

The simplest continuous distribution is a uniform density over an interval.

Uniform (Flat, rectangular) distribution:

$$\mathrm{Uniform}(x|a,s) = \frac{1}{|s|} \tag{1.1}$$
$$\text{for } x, a, s \text{ in } \mathbb{R},$$
$$\text{range } x \in [a, a+s], s > 0$$
$$\text{or } x \in [a+s, a], s < 0$$

The uniform distribution is also commonly parameterized with both boundary points, a and $b = a + s$, rather than location a and scale s as here. Note that the discrete analog of the continuous uniform distribution is also often referred to as the uniform distribution.

Special cases

The **standard uniform** distribution covers the unit interval, $x \in [0, 1]$.

$$\mathrm{StdUniform}(x) = \mathrm{Uniform}(x|0,1) \tag{1.2}$$

The **standardized uniform** distribution (zero mean, unit variance) is $\mathrm{Uniform}(x|-\sqrt{3}, 2\sqrt{3})$.

Three limits of the uniform distribution are important. If one of the boundary points is infinite (infinite scale), then we obtain an improper (unnormalizable) **half uniform** distribution. In the limit that both boundary points reach infinity (with opposite signs) we obtain an **unbounded uniform** distribution. In the alternative limit that the boundary points converge, we obtain a **degenerate** (delta) distribution, wherein the entire probability density is concentrated on a single point.

Interrelations

Uniform distributions, with finite, semi-infinite, or infinite range, are limits of many distribution families. The finite uniform distribution is a special case of the beta distribution (11.1)

$$\mathrm{Uniform}(x|a,s) = \mathrm{Beta}(x|a,s,1,1)$$
$$= \mathrm{PearsonII}(x|a + \tfrac{s}{2}, s)$$

Similarly, the semi-infinite uniform distribution is a limit of the Pareto (5.6), beta prime (12.1), Amoroso (13.1), gamma (6.1), and exponential (2.1) distributions, and the infinite range uniform distribution is a limit of the normal (4.1), Cauchy (9.5), logistic (15.5) and gamma-exponential (7.1) distributions, among others.

The order statistics (§C) of the uniform distribution is the beta distribution (11.1).

$$\mathrm{OrderStatistic}_{\mathrm{Uniform}(a,s)}(x|\alpha,\gamma) = \mathrm{Beta}(x|a,s,\alpha,\gamma)$$

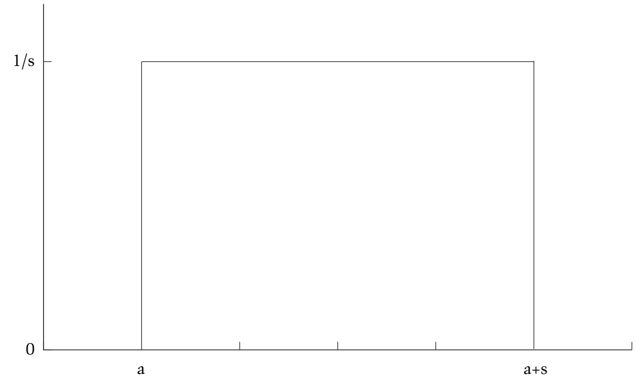


Figure 5: Uniform distribution, $\mathrm{Uniform}(x|a,s)$ (1.1)

The standard uniform distribution is related to every other continuous distribution via the inverse probability integral transform (Smirnov transform). If X is a random variable and $F_X^{-1}(z)$ the inverse of the corresponding cumulative distribution function then

$$X \sim F_X^{-1}\big(\mathrm{StdUniform}()\big)\ .$$

If the inverse cumulative distribution function has a tractable closed form, then inverse transform sampling can provide an efficient method of sampling random numbers from the distribution of interest.

The power function distribution (5.1) is related to the uniform distribution via a Weibull transform.

$$\mathrm{PowerFn}(a,s,\beta) \sim a + s\ \mathrm{StdUniform}()^{\frac{1}{\beta}}$$

The sum of n independent standard uniform variates is the Irwin-Hall (21.6) distribution,

$$\sum_{i=1}^{n} \mathrm{Uniform}_i(0,1) \sim \mathrm{IrwinHall}(n)$$

and the product is a standard unit gamma distribution (10.2).

$$\prod_{i=1}^{n} \mathrm{Uniform}_i(0,1) \sim \mathrm{UnitGamma}(0,1,n,1)$$

Table 1.1: Properties of the uniform distribution

Properties		
notation	$\mathrm{Uniform}(x \mid a, s)$	
pdf	$\dfrac{1}{\lvert s \rvert}$	
cdf/ccdf	$\frac{x-a}{s}$	$s > 0 \,/\, s < 0$
parameters	$a,\ s$ in $\mathbb{R}$	
range	$[a, a+s]$	$s > 0$
	$[a+s, a]$	$s < 0$
mode	any supported value	
mean	$a + \frac{1}{2}s$	
variance	$\frac{1}{12}s^2$	
skew	0	
kurtosis	$-\frac{6}{5}$	
entropy	$\ln \lvert s \rvert$	
mgf	$\dfrac{e^{at}(1-e^{st})}{\lvert s \rvert t}$	
cf	$\dfrac{e^{iat}(1-e^{ist})}{i \lvert s \rvert t}$	

2 Exponential

Exponential (Pearson type X, waiting time, negative exponential, inverse exponential) distribution [3, 5, 6]:

$$\mathrm{Exp}(x|a,\theta) = \frac{1}{|\theta|} \exp\left\{-\frac{x-a}{\theta}\right\} \tag{2.1}$$
$$a,\ \theta,\ \text{in } \mathbb{R}$$
$$\text{range } x > a, \quad \theta > 0$$
$$x < a, \quad \theta < 0$$

An important property of the exponential distribution is that it is memoryless: assuming positive scale and zero location ($a = 0,\ \theta > 0$) the conditional probability given that $x > c$, where c is a positive content, is again an exponential distribution with the same scale parameter. The only other distribution with this property is the geometric distribution, the discrete analog of the exponential distribution. The exponential is the maximum entropy distribution given a semi-infinite range and the mean.

Special cases

The exponential distribution is commonly defined with zero location and positive scale (**anchored exponential**). With $a = 0$ and $\theta = 1$ we obtain the **standard exponential** distribution.

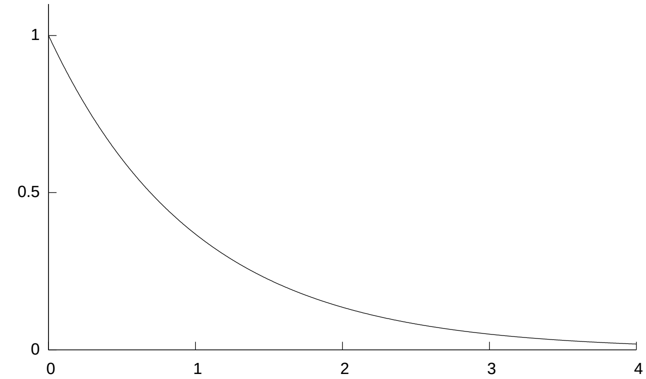


Figure 6: Standard exponential distribution, $\mathrm{Exp}(x|0,1)$

Interrelations

The exponential distribution is common limit of many distributions.

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathrm{Exp}(x|a,\theta) &= \mathrm{Amoroso}(x|a,\theta,1,1) \\
&= \mathrm{PearsonIII}(x|a,\theta,1) \\
\mathrm{Exp}(x|0,\theta) &= \mathrm{Amoroso}(x|0,\theta,1,1) \\
&= \mathrm{Gamma}(x|\theta,1) \\
\mathrm{Exp}(x|a,\theta) &= \lim_{\beta\to\infty} \mathrm{PowerFn}(x|a-\beta\theta,\beta\theta,\beta)
\end{aligned}$$

The sum of independent exponentials is an Erlang distribution, a special case of the gamma distribution (6.1).

$$\sum_{i=1}^{n} \mathrm{Exp}_i(0,\theta) \sim \mathrm{Gamma}(\theta,n)$$

The minima of a collection of exponentials, with positive scales $\theta_i > 0$, is also exponential,

$$\min\big(\mathrm{Exp}_1(0,\theta_1),\ \mathrm{Exp}_2(0,\theta_2),\ \ldots,\ \mathrm{Exp}_n(0,\theta_n)\big) \sim \mathrm{Exp}(0,\theta'),$$

where $\theta' = (\sum_{i=1}^{n} \frac{1}{\theta_i})^{-1}$.

The order statistics (§C) of the exponential distribution are beta-exponential (14.1).

$$\mathrm{OrderStatistic}_{\mathrm{Exp}(\zeta,\lambda)}(x|\alpha,\gamma) \tag{2.2}$$
$$= \mathrm{BetaExp}(x|\zeta,\lambda,\alpha,\gamma) \tag{2.3}$$

A Weibull transform of the standard exponential distribution yields the Weibull distribution (13.25).

$$\mathrm{Weibull}(a,\theta,\beta) \sim a + \theta\ \mathrm{StdExp}()^{\frac{1}{\beta}}$$

Special case of the Weibull distribution include the stretched exponential distribution (13.3) when $a = 0$ and the inverse exponential distribution (13.15) when $\beta = -1$.

$$\mathrm{InvExp}(0,\theta) \sim \frac{1}{\mathrm{Exp}(0,\theta)}$$

Table 2.1: Properties of the exponential distribution

Properties		
notation	$\mathrm{Exp}(x \mid a, \theta)$	
pdf	$\frac{1}{\lvert\theta\rvert} \exp\left\{-\frac{x-a}{\theta}\right\}$	
cdf/ccdf	$1 - \exp\left\{-\frac{x-a}{\theta}\right\}$	$\theta > 0 \;/\; \theta < 0$
parameters	$a,\ \theta,$ in $\mathbb{R}$	
range	$[a, +\infty]$	$\theta > 0$
	$[-\infty, a]$	$\theta < 0$
mode	a	
mean	$a + \theta$	
variance	θ^2	
skew	2	
kurtosis	6	
entropy	$1 + \ln \lvert\theta\rvert$	
mgf	$\frac{\exp(at)}{(1-\theta t)}$	
cf	$\frac{\exp(iat)}{(1-i\theta t)}$	

The ratio of independent anchored exponential distributions is the exponential ratio distribution (12.7), a special case of the beta prime distribution (12.1).

$$\mathrm{BetaPrime}(0, \tfrac{\theta_1}{\theta_2}, 1, 1) \sim \mathrm{ExpRatio}(0, \tfrac{\theta_1}{\theta_2}) \sim \frac{\mathrm{Exp}_1(0, \theta_1)}{\mathrm{Exp}_2(0, \theta_2)}$$

3 Laplace

Laplace (Laplacian, double exponential, Laplace's first law of error, two-tailed exponential, bilateral exponential) distribution [7, 8, 9] is a two parameter, symmetric, continuous, univariate, unimodal probability density with infinite range, smooth expect for a single cusp. The functional form is

$$\mathrm{Laplace}(x|\zeta,\theta) = \frac{1}{2|\theta|} e^{-|\frac{x-\zeta}{\theta}|} \qquad (3.1)$$
$$\text{for } x,\ \zeta,\ \theta \text{ in } \mathbb{R}$$

The two real parameters consist of a location parameter ζ, and a scale parameter θ.

Special cases

The **standard Laplace** (Poisson's first law of error) distribution occurs when $\zeta = 0$ and $\theta = 1$.

Interrelations

The Laplace distribution is a limit of the symmetric Prentice (15.4), exponential power (21.4) and generalized Pearson VII (21.5) distributions.

As θ limits to infinity, the Laplace distribution limits to a degenerate distribution. In the alternative limit that θ limits to zero, we obtain an indefinite uniform distribution.

The difference between two independent identically distributed exponential random variables is Laplace, and therefore so is the time difference between two independent Poisson events.

$$\mathrm{Laplace}(\zeta,\theta) \sim \mathrm{Exp}(\zeta,\theta) - \mathrm{Exp}(\zeta,\theta)$$

Conversely, the absolute value (about the centre of symmetry) is exponential.

$$\mathrm{Exp}(\zeta, \tfrac{|\theta|}{2}) \sim |\mathrm{Laplace}(\zeta,\theta) - \zeta| + \zeta$$

The log ratio of standard uniform distributions is a standard Laplace.

$$\mathrm{Laplace}(0,1) \sim \ln \frac{\mathrm{StdUniform}_1()}{\mathrm{StdUniform}_2()}$$

The Fourier transform of a standard Laplace distribution is the standard Cauchy distribution (9.5).

$$\int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \frac{1}{2} e^{-|x|} e^{itx}\, dx = \frac{1}{1+t^2}$$

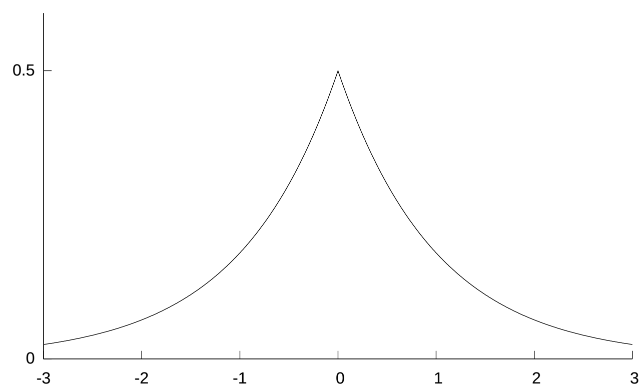


Figure 7: Standard Laplace distribution, $\mathrm{Laplace}(x|0,1)$

Table 3.1: Properties of the Laplace distribution

Properties	
notation	$\mathrm{Laplace}(x \mid \zeta, \theta)$
pdf	$\dfrac{1}{2\lvert\theta\rvert} e^{-\left\lvert\frac{x-\zeta}{\theta}\right\rvert}$
cdf	$\begin{cases} \frac{1}{2} e^{-\left\lvert\frac{x-\zeta}{\theta}\right\rvert} & x \leqslant \zeta \\ \frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{2} e^{-\left\lvert\frac{x-\zeta}{\theta}\right\rvert} & x \geqslant \zeta \end{cases}$
parameters	$\zeta,\ \theta$ in $\mathbb{R}$
range	$x \in [-\infty, +\infty]$
mode	ζ
mean	ζ
variance	$2\theta^2$
skew	0
kurtosis	3
entropy	$1 + \ln(2\theta)$
cgf	$\dfrac{\exp(\zeta t)}{1 - \theta^2 t^2}$
cf	$\dfrac{\exp(i\zeta t)}{1 + \theta^2 t^2}$

4 Normal

The **Normal** (Gauss, Gaussian, bell curve, Laplace-Gauss, de Moivre, error, Laplace's second law of error, law of error) [3, 10] is a ubiquitous two parameter, continuous, univariate unimodal probability distribution with infinite range, and an iconic bell shaped curve.

$$\mathrm{Normal}(x|\mu,\sigma) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}} \exp\left\{-\frac{(x-\mu)^2}{2\sigma^2}\right\} \tag{4.1}$$

$$\text{for } x,\ \mu,\ \sigma \text{ in } \mathbb{R} \tag{4.2}$$

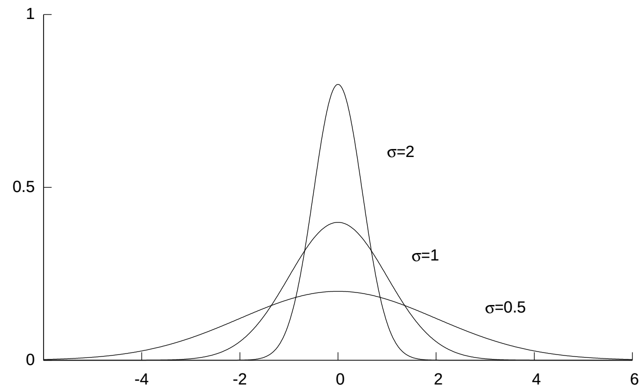


Figure 8: Normal distributions, $\mathrm{Normal}(x|0,\sigma)$

The location parameter μ is the mean, and the scale parameter σ is the standard deviation. Note that the normal distribution is commonly parameterized with the variance σ^2 rather than the standard deviation. Herein we choose to consistently parameterize distributions with a scale parameter.

The normal distribution most often arises as a consequence of the famous central limit theorem [1, 1], which states (in its simplest form) that the mean of independent and identically distribution random variables, with finite mean and variance, limit to the normal distribution as the sample size become large. Also, the maximum entropy distribution for fixed mean and variance.

Special cases

With $\mu = 0$ and $\sigma = 1/\sqrt{2}h$ we obtain the **error function** distribution, and with $\mu = 0$ and $\sigma = 1$ we obtain the **standard normal** (Φ, z, unit normal) distribution.

Interrelations

In the limit that $\sigma \to \infty$ we obtain an unbounded **uniform** (flat) distribution, and in the limit $\sigma \to 0$ we obtain a **degenerate** (delta) distribution.

The normal distribution is a limiting form of many distributions, including the gamma-exponential (7.1), Amoroso (13.1) and Pearson IV (16.1) families and their superfamilies.

Many distributions are transforms of normal distributions.

$$\exp\big(\mathrm{Normal}(\mu,\sigma)\big) \sim \mathrm{LogNormal}(0, e^{\mu}, \sigma) \tag{8.1}$$

$$\big|\mathrm{Normal}(0,\sigma)\big| \sim \mathrm{HalfNormal}(\sigma) \tag{13.7}$$

$$\mathrm{StdNormal}()^2 \sim \mathrm{ChiSqr}(1) \tag{6.4}$$

$$\sum_{i=1,k} \mathrm{StdNormal}_i()^2 \sim \mathrm{ChiSqr}(k) \tag{6.4}$$

$$\mathrm{Normal}(0,\sigma)^{-2} \sim \mathrm{L\acute{e}vy}(0, \tfrac{1}{\sigma^2}) \tag{13.16}$$

$$\sum_{i=1,k} \big|\mathrm{Normal}_i(0,\sigma)\big|^{\frac{2}{\beta}} \sim \mathrm{Stacy}(\sigma^{\frac{2}{\beta}}, \tfrac{k}{2}, \beta) \tag{13.2}$$

$$\frac{\mathrm{Normal}_1(0,1)}{\mathrm{Normal}_2(0,1)} \sim \mathrm{Cauchy}(0,1) \tag{9.5}$$

The normal distribution is stable (21.13), that is a sum of independent normal random variables is also normally distributed.

$$\mathrm{Normal}_1(\mu_1,\sigma_1) + \mathrm{Normal}_2(\mu_2,\sigma_2) \sim \mathrm{Normal}_3(\mu_1+\mu_2, \sigma_1+\sigma_2)$$

Table 4.1: Properties of the normal distribution

Properties	
notation	$\mathrm{Normal}(x\|\mu, \sigma)$
pdf	$\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}} \exp\left\{-\frac{(x-\mu)^2}{2\sigma^2}\right\}$
cdf	$\frac{1}{2}\left[1 + \mathrm{erf}\left(\frac{z-\mu}{\sqrt{2\sigma^2}}\right)\right]$
parameters	$\mu,\ \sigma$ in $\mathbb{R}$
range	$x \in [-\infty, +\infty]$
mode	μ
mean	μ
variance	σ^2
skew	0
kurtosis	0
entropy	$\frac{1}{2}\ln(2\pi e\sigma^2)$
mgf	$\exp\left(\mu t + \frac{1}{2}\sigma^2 t^2\right)$
cf	$\exp\left(i\mu t + \frac{1}{2}\sigma^2 t^2\right)$

5 Power function

Power function (power) distribution [4, 5, 11] is a three parameter, continuous, univariate, unimodal probability density, finite or semi-infinite range. The functional form in most straightforward parameterization consists of a single power function.

$$\mathrm{PowerFn}(x|a,s,\beta) = \left|\frac{\beta}{s}\right| \left(\frac{x-a}{s}\right)^{\beta-1} \tag{5.1}$$
$$\text{for } x, a, s, \beta \text{ in } \mathbb{R}$$
$$\begin{aligned} \text{range } & x \in [a, a+s], s>0,\ \beta>0 \\ \text{or } & x \in [a+s, a], s<0,\ \beta>0 \\ \text{or } & x \in [a+s, +\infty], s>0,\ \beta<0 \\ \text{or } & x \in [-\infty, a+s], s<0,\ \beta<0 \end{aligned}$$

With positive β we obtain a distribution with finite range. But by allowing β to extend to negative numbers, the power function distribution also encompasses the semi-infinite Pareto distribution (5.6), and in the limit $\beta \to \infty$ the exponential distribution (2.1).

Alternative parameterizations

Generalized Pareto [1, 1] distribution: An alternative parameterization that emphasizes the limit to exponential.

$$\begin{aligned} &\mathrm{GenPareto}(x|a', s', \xi) \\ &\quad = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{|\theta|}\left(1+\xi\frac{x-\zeta}{\theta}\right)^{-\frac{1}{\xi}-1} & \xi \neq 0 \\ \frac{1}{|\theta|}\exp\left(-\frac{x-\zeta}{\theta}\right) & \xi = 0 \end{cases} \\ &\quad = \mathrm{PowerFn}(x|\zeta - \tfrac{\theta}{\xi}, \tfrac{\theta}{\xi}, -\tfrac{1}{\xi}) \end{aligned} \tag{5.2}$$

q-exponential (generalized Pareto) [1, 1, 1] distribution is an alternative paramaterization of the power function distribution, utilizing the Tsallis generalized q-exponential function, $\exp_q(x)$ (§D).

$$\begin{aligned} &\mathrm{QExp}(x|\zeta,\theta,q) \\ &\quad = \frac{(2-q)}{|\theta|}\exp_q\left(-\frac{x-\zeta}{\theta}\right) \\ &\quad = \begin{cases} \frac{(2-q)}{|\theta|}\left(1-(1-q)\frac{x-\zeta}{\theta}\right)^{\frac{1}{1-q}} & q \neq 1 \\ \frac{1}{|\theta|}\exp\left(-\frac{x-\zeta}{\theta}\right) & q = 1 \end{cases} \end{aligned} \tag{5.3}$$

$$= \mathrm{PowerFn}(x|\zeta - \frac{\theta}{1-q}, -\frac{\theta}{1-q}, \frac{2-q}{1-q}) \tag{5.4}$$
$$\text{for } x, \zeta, \theta, q \text{ in } \mathbb{R}$$

Special cases: Positive β

Pearson [3, 5] noted two special cases, the monotonically decreasing **Pearson type VIII** $0<\beta<1$, and the monotonically increasing **Pearson type IX** distribution [3, 5] with $\beta>1$.

Wedge distribution [1, 1]:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathrm{Wedge}(x|a,s) &= 2\,\mathrm{sgn}(s)\frac{x-a}{s^2} \\ &= \mathrm{PowerFn}(x|a,s,2) \end{aligned} \tag{5.5}$$

With a positive scale we obtain an **ascending wedge** (right triangular) distribution, and with negative scale a **descending wedge** (left triangular).

Special cases: Negative β

Pareto (Pearson XI) distribution [3, 5, 12]:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathrm{Pareto}(x|a,s,\gamma) &= \left|\frac{\bar\beta}{s}\right|\left(\frac{x-a}{s}\right)^{-\bar\beta-1} \qquad \bar\beta > 0 \\ & x > a+s,\ s>0 \\ & x < a+s,\ s<0 \\ &= \mathrm{PowerFn}(x|a,s,-\bar\beta) \end{aligned} \tag{5.6}$$

The most important special case is the Pareto distribution, which has a semi-infinite range with a power-law tail. The Zipf distribution is the discrete analog of the Pareto distribution.

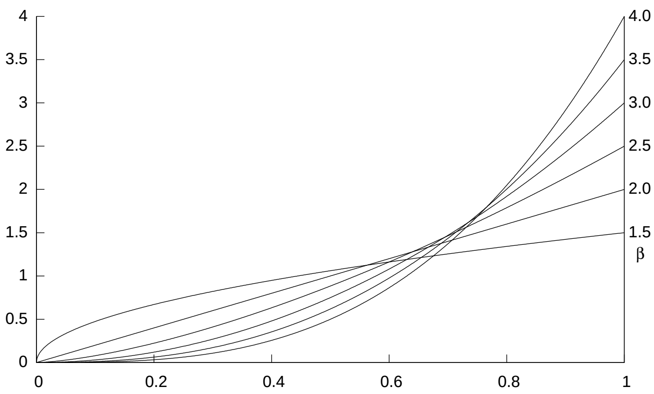


Figure 9: Pearson type IX, $\text{PowerFn}(x|0, 1, \beta)$, $\beta > 1$

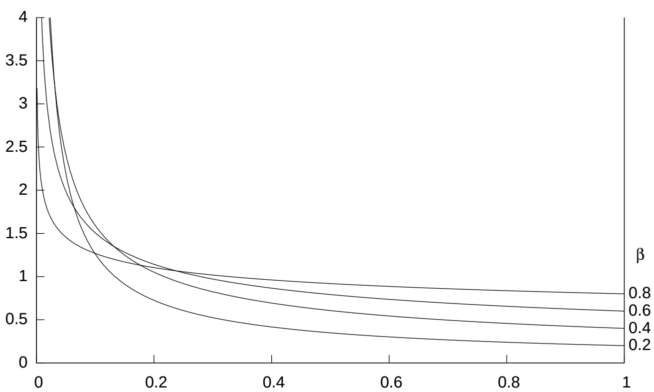


Figure 10: Pearson type VIII, $\text{PowerFn}(x|0, 1, \beta)$, $0 < \beta < 1$.

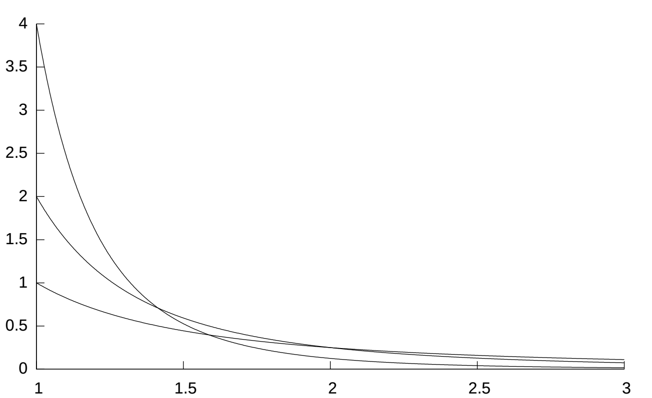


Figure 11: Pareto distributions, $\text{Pareto}(x|0, 1, \bar\beta)$, $\bar\beta$ left axis.

Simple Pareto (Pareto, Pareto type I) distribution [1, 12]: An anchored Pareto distribution without an independent location parameter.

$$\begin{aligned}\text{ParetoI}(x|s,\gamma) &= \left|\frac{\bar\beta}{s}\right| \left(\frac{x-a}{s}\right)^{-\bar\beta-1} \qquad \bar\beta > 0 \qquad (5.7)\\ &\quad x > s,\ s > 0\\ &\quad x < s,\ s < 0\\ &= \text{Pareto}(x|0, s, \bar\beta)\\ &= \text{PowerFn}(x|0, s, -\bar\beta)\end{aligned}$$

Limits and subfamilies

With $\beta = 1$ we recover the uniform distribution.

$$\text{PowerFn}(a, s, 1) \sim \text{Uniform}(a, s)$$

As β limits to infinity, the power function distribution limits to the exponential distribution (2.1).

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Exp}(x|\nu,\lambda) &= \lim_{\beta\to\infty} \text{PowerFn}(x|\nu - \beta\lambda, \beta\lambda, \beta)\\ &= \lim_{\beta\to\infty} \left|\frac{1}{\lambda}\right| \left(1 + \frac{x-\nu}{\beta\lambda}\right)^{\beta-1}\end{aligned}$$

Recall that $\lim_{c\to\infty}\left(1+\frac{x}{c}\right)^c = e^x$.

Interrelations

With positive β, the power function distribution is a special case of the beta distribution (11.1), with negative beta, a special case of the beta prime distribution (12.1), and with either sign a special case of the generalized beta (17.1) and unit gamma (10.1) distributions.

$$\begin{aligned}&\text{PowerFn}(x|a, s, \beta)\\ &\quad= \text{GenBeta}(x|a, s, 1, 1, \beta)\\ &\quad= \text{GenBeta}(x|a, s, \beta, 1, 1) && \beta > 0\\ &\quad\quad= \text{Beta}(x|a, s, \beta, 1) && \beta > 0\\ &\quad= \text{GenBeta}(x|a, s, -\beta, \beta, -1) && \beta < 0\\ &\quad\quad= \text{BetaPrime}(x|a, s, -\beta, \beta) && \beta < 0\\ &\quad= \text{UnitGamma}(x|a, s, 1, \beta)\end{aligned}$$

The order statistics (§C) of the power function distribution yields the generalized beta distribution (17.1).

$$\text{OrderStatistic}_{\text{PowerFn}(a,s,\beta)}(x|\alpha,\gamma) = \text{GenBeta}(x|a, s, \alpha, \gamma, \beta)$$

Since the power function distribution is a special case of the generalized beta distribution (17.1),

$$\text{GenBeta}(x|a, s, \alpha, 1, \beta) = \text{PowerFn}(x|a, s, \alpha\beta)$$

it follows that the power function family is closed under maximization for $\frac{\beta}{s} > 0$ and minimization for $\frac{\beta}{s} < 0$.

Table 5.1: Specializations of the power function distribution

(5.1)	power function	a	s	β
(5.6)	Pareto	.	.	<0
(5.1)	Pearson type VIII	0	.	$(0,1)$
(1.1)	uniform	.	.	1
(5.1)	Pearson type IX	0	.	>1
(5.5)	wedge	.	.	2
(2.1)	exponential	.	.	$+\infty$

The product of independent power function distributions (With zero location parameter, and the same β) is a unit-gamma distribution (10.1) [13].

$$\prod_{i=1}^{\alpha} \mathrm{PowerFn}_i(0, s_i, \beta) \sim \mathrm{UnitGamma}(0, \prod_{i=1}^{\alpha} s_i, \alpha, \beta)$$

Consequently, the geometric mean of independent, anchored power function distributions (with common β) is also unit-gamma.

$$\sqrt[\alpha]{\prod_{i=1}^{\alpha} \mathrm{PowerFn}_i(0, s_i, \beta)} \sim \mathrm{UnitGamma}(0, \prod_{i=1}^{\alpha} s_i, \alpha, \alpha\beta)$$

The power function distribution can be obtained from the Weibull transform $x \to (\frac{x-a}{s})^{\beta}$ of the uniform distribution (1.1).

$$\mathrm{PowerFn}(a, s, \beta) \sim a + s\ \mathrm{StdUniform}()^{\frac{1}{\beta}}$$

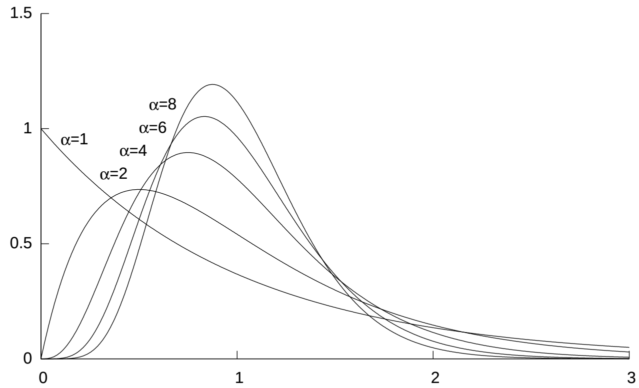


Figure 12: Gamma distributions, unit variance $\mathrm{Gamma}(x|\frac{1}{\alpha}, \alpha)$

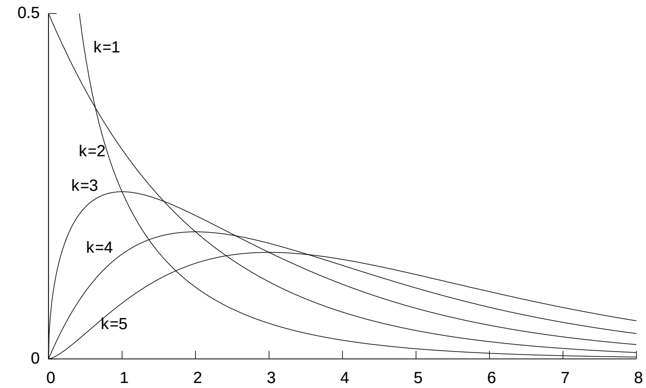


Figure 13: Chi-square distributions, $\mathrm{ChiSqr}(x|k)$

6 Gamma

Gamma (Γ) distribution [3, 14, 15] :

$$\begin{aligned} \mathrm{Gamma}(x|\theta, \alpha) &= \frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha)|\theta|} \left(\frac{x}{\theta}\right)^{\alpha-1} \exp\left\{-\frac{x}{\theta}\right\} \qquad (6.1) \\ &= \mathrm{PearsonIII}(x|0, \theta, \alpha) \\ &= \mathrm{Stacy}(x|\theta, \alpha, 1) \\ &= \mathrm{Amoroso}(x|0, \theta, \alpha, 1) \end{aligned}$$

The name of this distribution derives from the normalization constant.

Pearson type III distribution [3, 15]:

$$\begin{aligned} &\mathrm{PearsonIII}(x|a, \theta, \alpha) \qquad (6.2) \\ =&\frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha)|\theta|} \left(\frac{x-a}{\theta}\right)^{\alpha-1} \exp\left\{-\left(\frac{x-a}{\theta}\right)\right\} \\ =&\mathrm{Amoroso}(x|a, \theta, \alpha, 1) \end{aligned}$$

The gamma distribution with a location parameter.

Special cases

Special cases of the beta prime distribution are listed in table 13, under $\beta = 1$.

The gamma distribution often appear as a solution to problems in statistical physics. For example, the energy density of a classical ideal gas, or the **Wien** (Vienna) distribution $\mathrm{Wien}(x|T) = \mathrm{Gamma}(x|T, 4)$, an approximation to the relative intensity of black body radiation as a function of the frequency. The **Erlang** (m-Erlang) distribution [16] is a gamma distribution with integer α, which models the waiting time to observe α events from a Poisson process with rate $1/\theta$ ($\theta > 0$). Fro $\alpha = 1$ we obtain an exponential (2.1) distribution.

Standard gamma (standard Amoroso) distribution [3]:

$$\mathrm{StdGamma}(x|\alpha) = \frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha)} x^{\alpha-1} e^{-x} \qquad (6.3)$$

Chi-square (χ^2) distribution [3, 17]:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathrm{ChiSqr}(x|k) &= \frac{1}{2\Gamma(\frac{k}{2})} \left(\frac{x}{2}\right)^{\frac{k}{2}-1} \exp\left\{-\left(\frac{x}{2}\right)\right\} \qquad (6.4) \\ &\quad \text{for positive integer } k \\ &= \mathrm{Gamma}(x|2, \tfrac{k}{2}) \\ &= \mathrm{Stacy}(x|2, \tfrac{k}{2}, 1) \\ &= \mathrm{Amoroso}(x|0, 2, \tfrac{k}{2}, 1) \end{aligned}$$

The distribution of a sum of squares of k independent standard normal random variables. The chi-square distribution is important for statistical hypothesis testing in the frequentist approach to statistical inference.

Scaled chi-square distribution [18]:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathrm{ScaledChiSqr}(x|\sigma, k) &= \frac{1}{2\sigma^2\Gamma(\frac{k}{2})} \left(\frac{x}{2\sigma^2}\right)^{\frac{k}{2}-1} \exp\left\{-\left(\frac{x}{2\sigma^2}\right)\right\} \qquad (6.5) \\ &\quad \text{for positive integer } k \\ &= \mathrm{Stacy}(x|2\sigma^2, \tfrac{k}{2}, 1) \\ &= \mathrm{Gamma}(x|2\sigma^2, \tfrac{k}{2}) \\ &= \mathrm{Amoroso}(x|0, 2\sigma^2, \tfrac{k}{2}, 1) \end{aligned}$$

The distribution of a sum of squares of k independent normal random variables with variance σ^2.

Interrelations

Gamma distributions obey an addition property:

$$\mathrm{Gamma}_1(\theta, \alpha_1) + \mathrm{Gamma}_2(\theta, \alpha_2) \sim \mathrm{Gamma}_3(\theta, \alpha_1 + \alpha_2)$$

Table 6.1: Properties of the Gamma distribution

Properties		
notation	$\mathrm{PearsonIII}(x\vert a, \theta, \alpha)$	
pdf	$\frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha)\,\lvert\theta\rvert}\left(\frac{x-a}{\theta}\right)^{\alpha-1}\exp\left\{-\frac{x-a}{\theta}\right\}$	
cdf / ccdf	$1 - Q\left(\alpha, \frac{x-a}{\theta}\right)$	$\theta > 0 \big/ \theta < 0$
parameters	$a,\ \theta,\ \alpha,\ \text{in}\ \mathbb{R},\ \alpha > 0$	
range	$x \geqslant a$	$\theta > 0$
	$x \leqslant a$	$\theta < 0$
mode	$a + \theta(\alpha - 1)$	$\alpha \geqslant 1$
	a	$\alpha \leqslant 1$
mean	$a + \theta\alpha$	$\alpha + 1 \geqslant 0$
variance	$\theta^2\alpha$	
skew		
kurtosis		
entropy	$\ln(\theta\Gamma(\alpha)) + \alpha + (1-\alpha)\,\psi(\alpha)$	
mgf	$\cdots$	
cf	$\cdots$	

The sum of two independent, gamma distributed random variables (with common θ's, but possibly different α's) is again a gamma random variable [3].

The Amoroso distribution can be obtained from the standard gamma distribution by the Weibull change of variables, $x \mapsto \left(\frac{x-a}{\theta}\right)^{\beta}$.

$$\mathrm{Amoroso}(a, \theta, \alpha, \beta) \sim a + \theta\Big[\mathrm{StdGamma}(\alpha)\Big]^{1/\beta}$$

For large α the gamma distribution limits to normal (4.1).

$$\mathrm{Normal}(x\vert\mu, \sigma) = \lim_{\alpha\to\infty} \mathrm{PearsonIII}(x\vert\mu - \sigma\sqrt{\alpha}, \tfrac{\sigma}{\sqrt{\alpha}}, \alpha)$$

Conversely, the sum of squares of normal distributions is gamma distributed, see chi-square (6.4).

$$\sum_{i=1,k} \mathrm{StdNormal}_i()^2 \sim \mathrm{ChiSqr}(k) \sim \mathrm{Gamma}(2, \frac{k}{2})$$

A large variety of distributions can be obtained from transformations of gamma distributions. See appendix(§E).

7 Gamma-exponential

The **gamma-exponential** (Coale-McNeil, log-gamma) distribution [4, 19, 20] is a three parameter, continuous, univariate, unimodal probability density with infinite range. The functional form in the most straightforward parameterization is

$$\begin{aligned} &\mathrm{GammaExp}(x \mid \nu, \lambda, \alpha) \qquad (7.1)\\ &= \frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha)|\lambda|} \exp\left\{ \alpha \left(\frac{x-\nu}{\lambda}\right) - \exp\left(\frac{x-\nu}{\lambda}\right) \right\} \\ &\quad \text{for } x,\ \nu,\ \lambda,\ \alpha,\ \text{in } \mathbb{R},\ \alpha > 0, \\ &\quad \text{range } -\infty \leqslant x \leqslant \infty \end{aligned}$$

The three real parameters consist of a location parameter ν, a scale parameter λ, and a shape parameter α.

Note that this distribution is often called the "log-gamma" distribution. This naming convention is the opposite of that used for the log-normal distribution (8.1). The name "log-gamma" has also been used for the antilog transform of the generalized gamma distribution, which leads to the unit-gamma distribution (10.1).

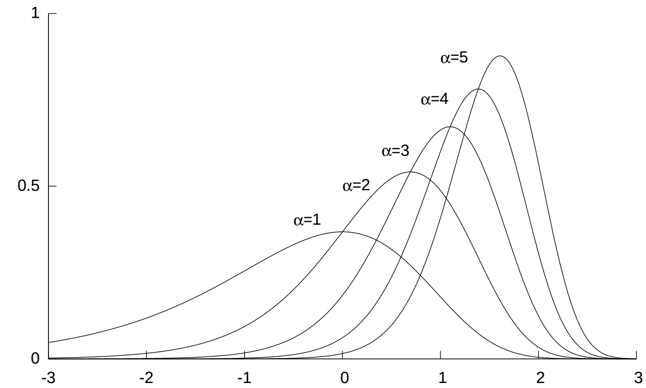


Figure 14: Gamma exponential distributions, $\mathrm{GammaExp}(x \mid 0, 1, \alpha)$

Table 7.1: Specializations of the gamma-exponential family

(7.1)	gamma-exponential	ν	λ	α	
(7.2)	standard gamma-exponential	0	1	α	
(7.3)	log-chi-square	ln 2	1	$\frac{k}{2}$	
(7.4)	generalized Gumbel	.	.	n	
(7.6)	Gumbel	.	.	1	
(7.8)	BHP	.	.	$\frac{\pi}{2}$	
(7.7)	standard Gumbel	0	-1	1	
	Limits				
(4.1)	normal	.	.	α	$\lim_{\alpha\to\infty}$

Special cases

Standard gamma-exponential distribution:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathrm{StdGammaExp}(x \mid \alpha) &= \frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha)} \exp\{\alpha\, x - \exp(x)\} \qquad (7.2) \\ &= \mathrm{GammaExp}(x \mid 0, 1, \alpha) \end{aligned}$$

The gamma-exponential distribution with zero location and unit scale.

Chi-square-exponential (log-chi-square) distribution [18]:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathrm{ChiSqrExp}(x \mid k) &= \frac{1}{2^{\frac{k}{2}}\Gamma(\frac{k}{2})} \exp\left\{ \frac{k}{2}x - \frac{1}{2}\exp(x) \right\} \\ &\quad \text{for positive integer } k \qquad (7.3) \\ &= \mathrm{GammaExp}(x \mid \ln 2, 1, \tfrac{k}{2}) \end{aligned}$$

The logarithmic transform of the chi-square distribution (6.4).

Generalized Gumbel distribution [4, 21]:

$$\begin{aligned} &\mathrm{GenGumbel}(x \mid u, \bar{\lambda}, n) \qquad (7.4) \\ &= \frac{n^n}{\Gamma(n)|\bar{\lambda}|} \exp\left\{ -n\left(\frac{x-u}{\bar{\lambda}}\right) - n\exp\left(-\frac{x-u}{\bar{\lambda}}\right) \right\} \\ &\quad \text{for positive integer } n \qquad (7.5) \\ &= \mathrm{GammaExp}(x \mid u + \bar{\lambda}\ln n, -\bar{\lambda}, n) \end{aligned}$$

The limiting distribution of the nth largest value of a large number of unbounded identically distributed random variables whose probability distribution has an exponentially decaying tail.

Gumbel (Fisher-Tippett type I, Fisher-Tippett-Gumbel, FTG, Gumbel-Fisher-Tippett, log-Weibull, extreme value (type I), doubly exponential, double exponential) distribution [4, 21, 22]:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathrm{Gumbel}(x \mid u, \bar{\lambda}) &= \frac{1}{|\bar{\lambda}|} \exp\left\{ -\left(\frac{x-u}{\bar{\lambda}}\right) - \exp\left(-\frac{x-u}{\bar{\lambda}}\right) \right\} \qquad (7.6) \\ &= \mathrm{GammaExp}(x \mid u, -\bar{\lambda}, 1) \end{aligned}$$

This is the asymptotic extreme value distribution for variables of "exponential type", unbounded with finite moments [21]. With positive scale $\bar{\lambda} > 0$, this is an extreme value distribution of the maximum, with negative scale $\bar{\lambda} < 0$ $(\lambda > 0)$ an extreme value distribution of the minimum. Note that the Gumbel is sometimes defined with the negative of the scale used here.

Note that the term "double exponential distribution" can refer to either the Gumbel or Laplace [4] distributions.

Table 7.2: Properties of the gamma-exponential distribution

Properties		
notation	$\mathrm{GammaExp}(x \mid \nu, \lambda, \alpha)$	
pdf	$\dfrac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha)\lvert\lambda\rvert} \exp\left\{\alpha\left(\dfrac{x-\nu}{\lambda}\right) - \exp\left(\dfrac{x-\nu}{\lambda}\right)\right\}$	
cdf/ccdf	$1 - \mathrm{Q}\left(\alpha, e^{\frac{x-\nu}{\lambda}}\right)$	$\lambda > 0 \,/\, \lambda < 0$
parameters	$\nu,\ \lambda,\ \alpha,\ \text{in } \mathbb{R},\ \alpha > 0,$	
range	$x \in [-\infty, +\infty]$	
mode	$\nu + \lambda \ln \alpha$	
mean	$\nu + \lambda\psi(\alpha)$	
variance	$\lambda^2 \psi_1(\alpha)$	
skew	$\mathrm{sgn}(\lambda)\frac{\psi_2(\alpha)}{\psi_1(\alpha)^{3/2}}$	
kurtosis	$\frac{\psi_3(\alpha)}{\psi_1(\alpha)^2}$	
entropy	$\ln\Gamma(\alpha)\lvert\lambda\rvert - \alpha\psi(\alpha) + \alpha$	
mgf	$e^{\nu t}\dfrac{\Gamma(\alpha+\lambda t)}{\Gamma(\alpha)}$	[4]
cf	$e^{i\nu t}\dfrac{\Gamma(\alpha+i\lambda t)}{\Gamma(\alpha)}$	

Standard Gumbel (Gumbel) distribution [21]:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathrm{StdGumbel}(x) &= \exp\left\{-x - e^{-x}\right\} \\ &= \mathrm{GammaExp}(x \mid 0, -1, 1) \end{aligned} \tag{7.7}$$

The Gumbel distribution with zero location and a unit scale.

BHP (Bramwell-Holdsworth-Pinton) distribution [23]:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathrm{BHP}(x \mid \nu, \lambda) &= \frac{1}{\Gamma(\frac{\pi}{2})\lvert\lambda\rvert} \exp\left\{\frac{\pi}{2}\left(\frac{x-\nu}{\lambda}\right) - \exp\left(\frac{x-\nu}{\lambda}\right)\right\} \\ &= \mathrm{GammaExp}(x \mid \nu, \lambda, \frac{\pi}{2}) \end{aligned} \tag{7.8}$$

Proposed as a model of rare fluctuations in turbulence and other correlated systems.

Interrelations

The name "log-gamma" arises because the standard log-gamma distribution is the logarithmic transform of the standard gamma distribution

$$\mathrm{StdGammaExp}(\alpha) \sim \ln\Big(\mathrm{StdGamma}(\alpha)\Big)$$
$$\mathrm{GammaExp}(\nu, \lambda, \alpha) \sim \ln\Big(\mathrm{Amoroso}(0, e^{\nu}, \alpha, \tfrac{1}{\lambda})\Big)$$

8 Log-normal

Log-normal (Galton, Galton-McAlister, antilog-normal, logarithmic-normal, logarithmico-normal, Cobb-Douglas, Λ) distribution [3, 24, 25] is a three parameter, continuous, univariate, unimodal probability density with semi-infinite range. The functional form in the standard parameterization is

$$\begin{aligned}
&\mathrm{LogNormal}(x|a,\vartheta,\sigma) && (8.1)\\
&\quad = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2\vartheta^2}}\left(\frac{x-a}{\vartheta}\right)^{-1}\exp\left\{-\frac{1}{2\sigma^2}\left(\ln\frac{x-a}{\vartheta}\right)^2\right\}\\
&\quad \text{for } x,\ a,\ \vartheta,\ \sigma \text{ in } \mathbb{R},\\
&\quad \tfrac{x-a}{\vartheta} > 0
\end{aligned}$$

The log-normal is so called because the log transform of the log-normal variate is a normal random variable. The distribution should, perhaps, be more accurately called the antilog-normal distribution, but the nomenclature is now standard.

Special cases

The **anchored log-normal** (two-parameter log-normal) distribution ($a = 0$) arises from the multiplicative version of the central limit theorem: When the sum of independent random variables limits to normal, the product of those random variables limits to log-normal. With $a = 0$, $\vartheta = 1$, $\sigma = 1$ we obtain the **standard log-normal** (Gibrat) distribution [26].

Interrelations

The log-normal distribution is the anti-log transform of a normal random variable.

$$\mathrm{LogNormal}(a,\vartheta,\sigma) \sim a + \exp\Big(\mathrm{Normal}(\ln\vartheta,\sigma)\Big)$$

The lognormal is a location-scale-power distribution family, where the power parameter is $\beta = 1/\sigma$.

$$\mathrm{LogNormal}(a,\vartheta,\sigma) \sim a + \vartheta\Big(\mathrm{StdLogNormal}()\Big)^{\sigma}$$

The log-normal distribution is a limiting form of the Amoroso (13.1) distribution (And therefore also of the generalized beta and generalized beta prime distributions.)

A product of log-normal distributions (With zero location parameter) is again a log-normal distribution. This follows from the fact that the sum of normal distributions is normal.

$$\prod_{i=1}^{n}\mathrm{LogNormal}_i(0,\vartheta_i,\sigma_i) \sim \mathrm{LogNormal}_i(0,\prod_{i=1}^{n}\vartheta_i,\sqrt{\sum_{i=0}^{n}\sigma_i^2})$$

Table 8.1: Properties of the log-normal distribution

Properties		
notation	$\text{LogNormal}(x \mid a, \vartheta, \sigma)$	
pdf	$\dfrac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2\vartheta^2}} \left(\dfrac{x-a}{\vartheta}\right)^{-1} \exp\left\{-\dfrac{1}{2\sigma^2}\left(\ln\dfrac{x-a}{\vartheta}\right)^2\right\}$	
cdf/ccdf	$\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2}\text{erf}\left(\dfrac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}} \ln\dfrac{x-a}{\vartheta}\right)$	$\vartheta > 0 \;/\; \vartheta < 0$
parameters	$a,\ \vartheta,\ \sigma$ in $\mathbb{R}$	
range	$x \in [0, +\infty] \quad \vartheta > 0$	
	$x \in [-\infty, 0] \quad \vartheta < 0$	
mode	$a + \vartheta e^{-\sigma^2}$	
mean	$a + \vartheta e^{\frac{1}{2}\sigma^2}$	
variance	$\vartheta^2(e^{\sigma^2} - 1)e^{\sigma^2}$	
skew	$(e^{\sigma^2} + 2)\sqrt{e^{\sigma^2} - 1}$	
kurtosis	$e^{4\sigma^2} + 2e^{3\sigma^2} + 3e^{2\sigma^2} - 6$	
entropy	$\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2}\ln(2\pi\sigma^2\vartheta)$	
mgf	$\cdots$	
cf	$\cdots$	

9 Pearson VII

The **Pearson type VII** distribution [5] is a three parameter, continuous, univariate, unimodal, symmetric probability distribution, with infinite range. The functional form in the most straight forward parameterization is

$$\begin{aligned}
&\mathrm{PearsonVII}(x|a, s, m) &(9.1)\\
&\quad = \frac{1}{sB(m-\frac{1}{2},\frac{1}{2})}\left(1+\left(\frac{x-a}{s}\right)^2\right)^{-m}\\
&\quad m > \tfrac{1}{2}
\end{aligned}$$

This distribution family is notable for having long power-law tails in both directions.

Special cases

Student's t (Student, t, Student-Fisher) distribution [27, 28, 29, 30] :

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathrm{StudentsT}(x|k) &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{k}B(\frac{1}{2},\frac{1}{2}k)}\left(1+\frac{x^2}{k}\right)^{-\frac{1}{2}(k+1)} &(9.2)\\
&= \mathrm{PearsonVII}(x|0,\sqrt{k},\tfrac{1}{2}(k+1))\\
&\quad \text{integer } k \geqslant 0
\end{aligned}$$

The distribution of the statistic t, which arrises when considering the error of samples means drawn from normal random variables.

$$\begin{aligned}
t &= \sqrt{n}\frac{\bar{x}-\mu}{s}\\
\bar{x} &= \tfrac{1}{n}\sum_{i=1}^{n} \mathrm{Normal}_i(\mu,\sigma)\\
\bar{\sigma}^2 &= \tfrac{1}{n-1}\sum_{i=1}^{n}\left(\mathrm{Normal}_i(\mu,\sigma)-\bar{x}\right)^2
\end{aligned}$$

Here, $\bar{x}$ is the sample mean of n independent normal (4.1) random variables with mean μ and variance σ^2, s is the sample variance, and $k = n-1$ is the 'degrees of freedom'.

Student's t_2 (t_2) distribution [31] :

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathrm{StudentsT}_2(x) &= \frac{1}{(1+x^2)^{\frac{3}{2}}} &(9.3)\\
&= \mathrm{StudentsT}(x|2)\\
&= \mathrm{PearsonVII}(x|0,\sqrt{2},\tfrac{3}{2})
\end{aligned}$$

Student's t distribution with 2 degrees of freedom has a particularly simple form.

Student's z distribution [27, 29]:

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathrm{StudentsZ}(x|n) &= \frac{1}{B(\frac{n-1}{2},\frac{1}{2})}\left(1+x^2\right)^{-\frac{n}{2}} &(9.4)\\
&= \mathrm{PearsonVII}(x|0,1,\tfrac{n}{2})
\end{aligned}$$

The distribution of the statistic z, which was the original distribution investigated by Gosset (aka Student) in his famous 1908 paper on the statistical error of sample means [27].

$$\begin{aligned}
z &= \frac{\bar{x}-\mu}{s'}\\
\bar{x} &= \tfrac{1}{n}\sum_{i=1}^{n} \mathrm{Normal}_i(\mu,\sigma)\ ,\\
s'^2 &= \tfrac{1}{n}\sum_{i=1}^{n}\left(\mathrm{Normal}_i(\mu,\sigma)-\bar{x}\right)^2
\end{aligned}$$

Here, $\bar{x}$ is the sample mean of n independent normal (4.1) random variables with mean μ and variance σ^2, and s' is the sample variance, expect normalized by n rather than the now conventional $n-1$. Latter work by Student and Fisher [28] resulted in a switch to the statistic $t = z/\sqrt{n-1}$.

Cauchy (Lorentz, Lorentzian, Cauchy-Lorentz, Breit-Wigner [32], normal ratio) distribution [4]:

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathrm{Cauchy}(x|a,s) &= \frac{1}{s\pi}\left(1+\left(\frac{x-a}{s}\right)^2\right)^{-1} &(9.5)\\
&= \mathrm{PearsonVII}(x|a,s,1)
\end{aligned}$$

The Cauchy distribution is stable. That is a sum of independent Cauchy random variables is also Cauchy distributed.

$$\mathrm{Cauchy}(a_1,s_1)+\mathrm{Cauchy}(a_2,s_2) \sim \mathrm{Cauchy}(a_1+a_2,s_1+s_2)$$

Standard Cauchy distribution [4]:

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathrm{StdCauchy}(x) &= \frac{1}{\pi}\frac{1}{1+x^2} &(9.6)\\
&= \frac{1}{\pi}(i-x)^{-1}(x-i)^{-1}\\
&= \mathrm{Cauchy}(x|0,1)\\
&= \mathrm{PearsonVII}(x|0,1,1)
\end{aligned}$$

Relativistic Breit-Wigner (modified Lorentzian [33]) distribution [1]:

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathrm{RelBreitWigner}(x|a,s) &= \frac{2}{s\pi}\left(1+\left(\frac{x-a}{s}\right)^2\right)^{-2} &(9.7)\\
&= \mathrm{PearsonVII}(x|a,s,2)
\end{aligned}$$

Interrelations

The Pearson type VII distribution is given by a ratio of normal and gamma random variables [34].

$$\mathrm{PearsonVII}(0,s,m) \sim \frac{\mathrm{Normal}(0,s)}{\sqrt{\mathrm{Gamma}(\frac{1}{2},m-\frac{1}{2})}}$$

Table 9.1: Specializations of the Pearson type VII family

(9.1)	Pearson type VII	a	s	m	
(9.2)	Student's t	0	$\sqrt{k}$	$\frac{k+1}{2}$	
(9.3)	Student's t_2	0	$\sqrt{2}$	$\frac{3}{2}$	
(9.4)	Student's z	0	1	$n/2$	
(9.5)	Cauchy	.	.	1	
(9.6)	standard Cauchy	0	1	1	
(9.7)	relativistic Breit-Wigner	.	.	2	
	Limits				
(4.1)	normal	μ	$2\sigma^2 m^{\frac{1}{2}}$	m	$\lim_{m\to\infty}$

The Cauchy distribution can be generated as a ratio of normal distributions

$$\text{Cauchy}(0,1) \sim \frac{\text{Normal}_1(0,1)}{\text{Normal}_2(0,1)}$$

and as a ratio of gamma distributions [34].

$$\Big(\text{Cauchy}(0,1)\Big)^2 \sim \frac{\text{StdGamma}_1(\frac{1}{2})}{\text{StdGamma}_2(\frac{1}{2})}$$

10 Unit gamma

Unit gamma (log-gamma[13]) distribution [13, 35, 36, 37]:

$$\begin{aligned}
&\mathrm{UnitGamma}(x|a, s, \alpha, \beta) && (10.1)\\
&= \frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha)} \left|\frac{\beta}{s}\right| \left(\frac{x-a}{s}\right)^{\beta-1} \left(-\beta \ln \frac{x-a}{s}\right)^{\alpha-1}\\
&\text{for } x,\ a,\ s,\ \alpha,\ \beta \text{ in } \mathbb{R},\quad \alpha > 0\\
&\text{range } x \in [a, a+s], s > 0,\ \beta > 0\\
&\text{or } x \in [a+s, a], s < 0,\ \beta > 0\\
&\text{or } x \in [a+s, +\infty], s > 0,\ \beta < 0\\
&\text{or } x \in [-\infty, a+s], s < 0,\ \beta < 0
\end{aligned}$$

A curious distribution that occurs as a limit of the generalized beta (17.1), and as the anti-log transform of the gamma distribution (6.1). For this reason, it is also sometimes called the log-gamma distribution.

Special cases

Standard unit gamma distribution:

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathrm{StdUnitGamma}(x|\alpha) &= \frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha)} \frac{1}{x^2} (\ln x)^{\alpha-1} \qquad (10.2)\\
&= \mathrm{UnitGamma}(x|0, 1, \alpha, -1)
\end{aligned}$$

Uniform product distribution [38]:

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathrm{UniformProduct}(x|n) &= \frac{1}{\Gamma(n)} (-\ln x)^{n-1} \qquad (10.3)\\
&= \mathrm{UnitGamma}(x|0, 1, n, 1)\\
&\quad 0 > x > 1, \quad = 1,\ 2,\ 3,\ \ldots
\end{aligned}$$

The product of n standard uniform distributions (1.2)

Interrelations

With $\alpha = 1$ we obtain the power function distribution (5.1) as a special case.

$$\mathrm{UnitGamma}(x|a, s, 1, \beta) = \mathrm{PowerFn}(x|a, s, \beta).$$

The unit gamma and standard unit gamma distribution are related by the Weibull transform.

$$\mathrm{UnitGamma}(a, s, \alpha, \beta) \sim a + s\ \mathrm{StdUnitGamma}(\alpha)^{\frac{1}{\beta}}$$

The standard unit gamma is the anti-log transform of the standard gamma distribution (6.3).

$$\mathrm{UnitGamma}(0, s, \alpha, -1) \sim \exp\big(\mathrm{StdGamma}(\alpha)\big)$$

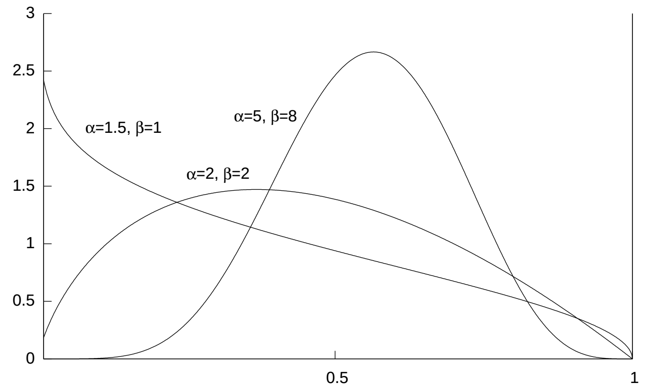


Figure 15: Unit gamma, finite range, $\mathrm{UnitGamma}(x|0, 1, \alpha, \beta)$, $\beta > 0$.

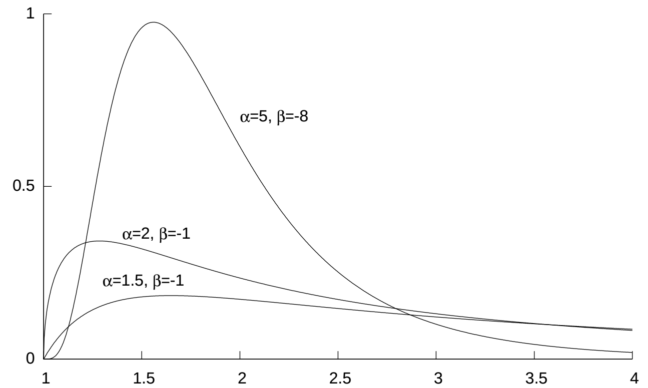


Figure 16: Unit gamma, semi-infinite range. $\mathrm{UnitGamma}(x|0, 1, \alpha, \beta)$, $\beta < 0$

The product of two unit-gamma distributions with common β is again a unit-gamma distribution [2, 13].

$$\begin{aligned}
&\mathrm{UnitGamma}_1(0, s_1, \alpha_1, \beta)\ \mathrm{UnitGamma}_2(0, s_2, \alpha_2, \beta)\\
&\qquad \sim \mathrm{UnitGamma}(0, s_1 s_2, \alpha_1 + \alpha_2, \beta)
\end{aligned}$$

The property is related to the analogous additive relation of the gamma distribution.

$$\begin{aligned}
&\mathrm{UnitGamma}_1(0, s_1, \alpha_1, \beta)\ \mathrm{UnitGamma}_2(0, s_2, \alpha_2, \beta)\\
&\sim s_1 s_2 \left(\mathrm{StdUnitGamma}_1(\alpha_1)\ \mathrm{StdUnitGamma}_2(\alpha_2)\right)^{\frac{1}{\beta}}\\
&\sim s_1 s_2 \left(e^{\mathrm{StdGamma}_1(\alpha_1) + \mathrm{StdGamma}_2(\alpha_2)}\right)^{\frac{1}{\beta}}\\
&\sim s_1 s_2 \left(e^{\mathrm{StdGamma}(\alpha_1 + \alpha_2)}\right)^{\frac{1}{\beta}}\\
&\sim \mathrm{UnitGamma}(0, s_1 s_2, \alpha_1 + \alpha_2, \beta)
\end{aligned}$$

11 Beta

Beta (β, Beta type I, Pearson, Pearson type I) distribution [15]:

$$\begin{aligned} &\mathrm{Beta}(x|a, s, \alpha, \gamma) && (11.1)\\ &= \frac{1}{B(\alpha,\gamma)} \frac{1}{|s|} \left(\frac{x-a}{s}\right)^{\alpha-1} \left(1-\left(\frac{x-a}{s}\right)\right)^{\gamma-1}\\ &= \mathrm{GenBeta}(x|0, 1, \alpha, \gamma, 1)\end{aligned}$$

The beta distribution is one member of Person's distribution family, notable for having two roots located at the minimum and maximum of the distribution. The name arises from the beta function in the normalization constant.

Special cases

Special cases of the beta distribution are listed in table 17, under $\beta = 1$.

With $\alpha < 1$ and $\gamma < 1$ the distribution is U-shaped with a single anti-mode (**U-shaped beta** distribution). If $(\alpha-1)(\gamma-1) \leqslant 0$ then the distribution is a monotonic **J-shaped beta** distribution.

Standard beta (Beta) distribution:

$$\begin{aligned}\mathrm{StdBeta}(x|\alpha, \gamma) &= \frac{1}{B(\alpha,\gamma)} x^{\alpha-1}(1-x)^{\gamma-1} && (11.2)\\ &= \mathrm{GenBeta}(x|0, 1, \alpha, \gamma, 1)\end{aligned}$$

The standard beta distribution has two shape parameters, $\alpha > 0$ and $\gamma > 0$, and range $x \in [0, 1]$.

Pert (beta-pert) distribution [39, 40] is a subset of the beta distribution, parameterized by minimum (a), maximum (b) and mode (x_{mode}).

$$\begin{aligned} &\mathrm{Pert}(x|a, b, x_{\mathrm{mode}}) && (11.3)\\ &= \frac{1}{B(\alpha,\gamma)(b-a)} \left(\frac{x-a}{b-a}\right)^{\alpha-1} \left(\frac{b-x}{b-a}\right)^{\gamma-1}\\ &\quad x_{\mathrm{mean}} = \frac{a+4x_{\mathrm{mode}}+b}{6}\\ &\quad \alpha = \frac{(x_{\mathrm{mean}}-a)(2x_{\mathrm{mode}}-a-b)}{(x_{\mathrm{mode}}-x_{\mathrm{mean}})(b-a)}\\ &\quad \gamma = \alpha\frac{(b-x_{\mathrm{mean}})}{x_{\mathrm{mean}}-a}\\ &= \mathrm{Beta}(x|a, b-a, \alpha, \gamma)\\ &= \mathrm{GenBeta}(x|a, b-a, \alpha, \gamma, 1)\end{aligned}$$

The PERT (Program Evaluation and Review Technique) distribution is used in project management to estimate task completion times. The **modified PERT** distribution replaces the estimate of the mean with $x_{\mathrm{mean}} = \frac{a+\lambda x_{\mathrm{mode}}+b}{2+\lambda}$, where λ is an additional parameter that controls the spread of the distribution [40].

Pearson II (Symmetric beta) distribution [15]:

$$\begin{aligned}\mathrm{PearsonII}(x|s, \alpha) &= \frac{1}{2s}\frac{\Gamma(2\alpha)}{\Gamma(\alpha)}\left(1-\frac{x^2}{4s^2}\right)^{\alpha-1} && (11.4)\\ &= \mathrm{Beta}(x|-\tfrac{s}{2}, s, \alpha, \alpha)\\ &= \mathrm{GenBeta}(x|-\tfrac{s}{2}, s, \alpha, \alpha, 1)\end{aligned}$$

A symmetric distribution with range $[-\frac{s}{2}, +\frac{s}{2}]$.

Pearson XII distribution [5]:

$$\begin{aligned}\mathrm{PearsonXII}(x|a, b, \alpha) &= \frac{1}{B(\alpha, -\alpha+2)} \frac{1}{|b-a|}\left(\frac{x-a}{b-x}\right)^{\alpha-1} && (11.5)\\ &= \mathrm{GenBeta}(x|a, b-a, \alpha, 2-\alpha, 1)\\ \alpha &< 2 && (11.6)\end{aligned}$$

A monotonic, J-shaped special case of the beta distribution noted by Pearson [5].

Arcsine distribution [41]:

$$\begin{aligned}\mathrm{Arcsine}(x) &= \frac{1}{\pi\sqrt{x(1-x)}} && (11.7)\\ &= \mathrm{Beta}(x|\tfrac{1}{2}, \tfrac{1}{2})\\ &= \mathrm{GenBeta}(x|0, 1, \tfrac{1}{2}, \tfrac{1}{2}, 1)\end{aligned}$$

Describes the percentage of time spent ahead of the game in a fair coin tossing contest [4, 41]. The name comes from the inverse sine function in the cumulative distribution function, $\mathrm{ArcsineCDF}(x) = \frac{2}{\pi}\sin^{-1}\sqrt{x}$.

Central arcsine distribution [41]:

$$\begin{aligned}\mathrm{CentralArcsine}(x|b) &= \frac{1}{\pi\sqrt{b^2-x^2}} && (11.8)\\ &= \mathrm{PearsonII}(x|b, \tfrac{1}{2})\\ &= \mathrm{GenBeta}(x|b, -2b, \tfrac{1}{2}, \tfrac{1}{2}, 1)\end{aligned}$$

A common variant of the arcsin, with support $x \in [-b, b]$ symmetric about the origin. Describes the position at a random time of a particle engaged in simple harmonic motion with amplitude b [41]. With $b = 1$, the limiting distribution of the proportion of time spent on the positive side of the starting position by a simple one dimensional random walk [42]

Semicircle (Wigner semicircle, Sato-Tate) distribution [43]

$$\begin{aligned}\mathrm{Semicircle}(x|b) &= \frac{2}{\pi b^2}\sqrt{b^2-x^2} && (11.9)\\ &= \mathrm{GenBeta}(x|b, -2b, 1\tfrac{1}{2}, 1\tfrac{1}{2}, 1)\end{aligned}$$

As the name suggests, the probability density describes a semicircle, or more properly a half-ellipse. This distribution arrises as the distribution of eignevectors of various large random symmetric matrices.

Interrelations

The beta distribution describes the order statistics of a rectangular (1.1) distribution.

$$\mathrm{OrderStatistic}_{\mathrm{Uniform}(a,s)}(x|\alpha,\gamma) = \mathrm{Beta}(x|a,s,\alpha,\gamma)$$

Conversely, the uniform (1.1) distribution is a special case of the beta distribution.

$$\mathrm{Beta}(x|a,s,1,1) = \mathrm{Uniform}(x|a,s)$$

The beta and gamma distributions are related by

$$\mathrm{StdBeta}(\alpha,\gamma) \sim \frac{\mathrm{StdGamma}_1(\alpha)}{\mathrm{StdGamma}_1(\alpha) + \mathrm{StdGamma}_2(\gamma)}$$

which provides a convenient method of generating beta random variables, given a source of gamma random variables.

The Dirichlet distribution [44, 45] is a multivariate generalization of the beta distribution.

12 Beta Prime

Beta prime (beta type II, Pearson type VI, inverse beta, variance ratio, gamma ratio, compound gamma[46]) distribution [4, 47]:

$$\begin{aligned} &\mathrm{BetaPrime}(x|a,s,\alpha,\gamma) &(12.1)\\ &= \frac{1}{B(\alpha,\gamma)}\left(\frac{x-a}{s}\right)^{\alpha-1}\left(1+\frac{x-a}{s}\right)^{-\alpha-\gamma}\\ &= \mathrm{GenBetaPrime}(x|a,s,\alpha,\gamma,1)\end{aligned}$$

A Pearson distribution (§19) with semi-infinite range, and both roots on the real line. Arises notable as the ratio of gamma distributions, and as the order statics of the uniform-prime distribution (12.8).

Special cases

Special cases of the beta prime distribution are listed in table 18.1, under $\beta = 1$.

Standard beta prime (beta prime) distribution [47]:

$$\begin{aligned}\mathrm{StdBetaPrime}(x|\alpha,\gamma) &= \frac{1}{B(\alpha,\gamma)}x^{\alpha-1}(1+x)^{-\alpha-\gamma} \quad (12.2)\\ &= \mathrm{BetaPrime}(x|,0,1,\alpha,\gamma)\\ &= \mathrm{GenBetaPrime}(x|,0,1,\alpha,\gamma,1)\end{aligned}$$

F (Snedecor's F, Fisher-Snedecor, Fisher, variance-ratio, F-ratio) distribution [4, 48, 49]:

$$\begin{aligned}\mathrm{F}(x|k_1,k_2) &= \frac{k_1^{\frac{k_1}{2}}k_2^{\frac{k_2}{2}}}{B(\frac{k_1}{2},\frac{k_2}{2})}\frac{x^{\frac{k_1}{2}-1}}{(k_2+k_1x)^{\frac{1}{2}(k_1+k_2)}} &(12.3)\\ &= \mathrm{BetaPrime}(x|,0,\tfrac{k_2}{k_1},\tfrac{k_1}{2},\tfrac{k_2}{2}) &(12.4)\\ &= \mathrm{GenBetaPrime}(x|,0,\tfrac{k_2}{k_1},\tfrac{k_1}{2},\tfrac{k_2}{2},1)\\ &\text{for positive integers } k_1,\ k_2\end{aligned}$$

An alternative parameterization of the beta prime distribution that derives from the ratio of two Chi distributions (13.8) with k_1 and k_2 degrees of freedom.

$$\mathrm{F}(k_1,k_2) \sim \frac{\mathrm{Chi}(k_1)}{\mathrm{Chi}(k_2)}$$

Lomax (Pareto type II, ballasted Pareto) distribution [50]:

$$\begin{aligned}\mathrm{Lomax}(x|s,\gamma) &= \frac{\gamma}{s}\left(1+\frac{x}{s}\right)^{-\gamma-1} \quad (12.5)\\ &= \mathrm{BetaPrime}(x|0,s,1,\gamma)\\ &= \mathrm{GenBetaPrime}(x|0,s,1,\gamma,1)\end{aligned}$$

Originally explored as a model of business failure. The alternative name "ballasted Pareto" arises since this distribution is a shifted Pareto distribution (5.6) whose origin is fixed at zero, and no longer moves with changes in scale.

Inverse Lomax (inverse Pareto) distribution [51]:

$$\begin{aligned}\mathrm{InvLomax}(x|s,\alpha) &= \frac{\alpha}{s}\left(\frac{x}{s}\right)^{\alpha-1}\left(1+\frac{x}{s}\right)^{-\alpha-1} \quad (12.6)\\ &= \mathrm{BetaPrime}(x|0,s,\alpha,1)\\ &= \mathrm{GenBetaPrime}(x|0,s,\alpha,1,1)\end{aligned}$$

Exponential ratio distribution [2]:

$$\begin{aligned}\mathrm{ExpRatio}(x|s) &= \frac{1}{|s|}\frac{1}{\left(1+\frac{x}{s}\right)^2} \quad (12.7)\\ &= \mathrm{BetaPrime}(x|0,s,1,1)\\ &= \mathrm{GenBetaPrime}(x|0,s,1,1,1)\end{aligned}$$

Arises as the ratio of independent exponential distributions (p 2).

Uniform-prime distribution [2]:

$$\begin{aligned}\mathrm{UniPrime}(x|a,s) &= \frac{1}{|s|}\frac{1}{\left(1+\frac{x-a}{s}\right)^2} \quad (12.8)\\ &= \mathrm{LogLogistic}(x|a,s,1)\\ &= \mathrm{BetaPrime}(x|a,s,1,1)\\ &= \mathrm{GenBetaPrime}(x|a,s,1,1,1)\end{aligned}$$

An exponential ratio (12.7) distribution with a shift parameter. So named since this distribution is related to the uniform distribution as beta is to beta prime. The ordering distribution (§C) of the beta-prime distribution.

Interrelations

Similarly, the standard beta prime distribution is closed under inversion.

$$\mathrm{StdBetaPrime}(\alpha,\gamma) \sim \frac{1}{\mathrm{StdBetaPrime}(\gamma,\alpha)}$$

The beta and beta prime distributions are related by the transformation

$$\mathrm{BetaPrime}(\alpha,\gamma) \sim \left(\frac{1}{\mathrm{Beta}(\alpha,\gamma)}-1\right)^{-1}$$

and, therefore, the gen. beta prime can be realized as a transformation of the standard beta (11.2) distribution.

$$\mathrm{GenBetaPrime}(a,s,\alpha,\gamma,\beta) \sim a + s\left(\mathrm{StdBeta}(\alpha,\gamma)^{-1}-1\right)^{\frac{1}{\beta}}$$

The standard beta prime distribution also occurs as the ratio of gamma random variables (6.3)

$$\mathrm{StdBetaPrime}(\alpha,\gamma) \sim \frac{\mathrm{StdGamma}_1(\gamma)}{\mathrm{StdGamma}_2(\alpha)}$$

Table 12.1: Properties of the beta prime distribution

Properties		
notation	$\mathrm{BetaPrime}(x \mid a, s, \alpha, \gamma)$	
pdf	$\dfrac{1}{B(\alpha,\gamma)} \left\lvert \dfrac{1}{s} \right\rvert \left(\dfrac{x-a}{s} \right)^{\alpha-1} \left(1 + \dfrac{x-a}{s} \right)^{-\alpha-\gamma}$	
cdf / ccdf	$\dfrac{B\big(\alpha, \gamma; (1 + (\frac{x-a}{s})^{-1})^{-1}\big)}{B(\alpha,\gamma)}$	$\frac{1}{s} > 0 \,/\, \frac{1}{s} < 0$
	$= I\left(\alpha, \gamma; (1 + (\frac{x-a}{s})^{-1})^{-1}\right)$	
parameters	$a,\ s,\ \alpha,\ \gamma,\ \text{in } \mathbb{R}$	
	$\alpha > 0, \gamma > 0$	
range	$x \geqslant a$	$s > 0$
	$x \leqslant a$	$s < 0$
mode	$\cdots$	
mean	$a + \dfrac{sB(\alpha+1, \gamma-1)}{B(\alpha,\gamma)}$	$-\alpha < 1 < \gamma$
variance	$s^2 \left[\dfrac{B(\alpha+2,\gamma-2)}{B(\alpha,\gamma)} - \left(\dfrac{B(\alpha+1,\gamma-1)}{B(\alpha,\gamma)} \right)^2 \right]$	$-\alpha < 2 < \gamma$
skew	not simple	
kurtosis	not simple	
entropy	$\ln \dfrac{1}{B(\alpha,\gamma)} \left\lvert \dfrac{1}{s} \right\rvert + (1-\alpha)\big[\psi(\alpha) - \psi(\gamma)\big]$	
	$+ (\alpha+\gamma)\big[\psi(\alpha+\gamma) - \psi(\gamma)\big]$	[52]
mgf	$\cdots$	
cf	$\cdots$	

If the scale parameter of a gamma distribution (6.1) is also gamma distributed, the resulting compound distribution is beta prime [53]. The beta prime distribution is also a compound gamma distribution, where

$$\mathrm{BetaPrime}(0, s, \alpha, \gamma) \sim \mathrm{Gamma}_2\big(\mathrm{Gamma}_1(s, \gamma), \alpha\big)$$

It follows that the Lomax distribution (12.5) arises as a mixed exponential-gamma distribution.

$$\mathrm{Lomax}(s, \gamma) \sim \mathrm{Exp}\big(\mathrm{Gamma}(s, \gamma)\big)$$

13 Amoroso

The **Amoroso** (generalized gamma, Stacy-Mihram) distribution [3, 54] is a four parameter, continuous, univariate, unimodal probability density, with semi-infinite range. The functional form in the most straightforward parameterization is

$$\begin{aligned}
&\mathrm{Amoroso}(x|a,\theta,\alpha,\beta) \qquad (13.1)\\
&= \frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha)}\left|\frac{\beta}{\theta}\right|\left(\frac{x-a}{\theta}\right)^{\alpha\beta-1}\exp\left\{-\left(\frac{x-a}{\theta}\right)^{\beta}\right\}\\
&\text{for } x,\ a,\ \theta,\ \alpha,\ \beta \text{ in } \mathbb{R},\ \alpha>0,\\
&\text{range } x \geqslant a \text{ if } \theta>0,\ x\leqslant a \text{ if } \theta<0.
\end{aligned}$$

The Amoroso distribution was originally developed to model lifetimes [54]. It occurs as the Weibullization of the standard gamma distribution (6.1) and, with integer α, in extreme value statistics (13.22). The Amoroso distribution is itself a limiting form of various more general distributions, most notable the generalized beta (17.1) and generalized beta prime (18.1) distributions [55]. Many common and interesting probability distributions are special cases or limiting forms of the Amoroso (See Table 13).

The four real parameters of the Amoroso distribution consist of a location parameter a, a scale parameter θ, and two shape parameters, α and β. Whenever these symbols appears in special cases or limiting forms, they refer directly to the parameters of the Amoroso distribution. The shape parameter α is positive, and in many specializations an integer, $\alpha = n$, or half-integer, $\alpha = \frac{k}{2}$. The negation of a standard parameter is indicated by a bar, e.g. $\bar{\beta} = -\beta$. The chi, chi-squared and related distributions are traditionally parameterized with the scale parameter σ, where $\theta = (2\sigma^2)^{1/\beta}$, and σ is the standard deviation of a related normal distribution. Additional alternative parameters are introduced as necessary.

Special cases: Miscellaneous

Stacy (hyper gamma, generalized Weibull, Nukiyama-Tanasawa, generalized gamma, generalized semi-normal, hydrograph, Leonard hydrograph, transformed gamma) distribution [56, 57]:

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathrm{Stacy}(x|\theta,\alpha,\beta) =& \frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha)}\left|\frac{\beta}{\theta}\right|\left(\frac{x}{\theta}\right)^{\alpha\beta-1}\exp\left\{-\left(\frac{x}{\theta}\right)^{\beta}\right\} \qquad (13.2)\\
=&\mathrm{Amoroso}(x|0,\theta,\alpha,\beta)
\end{aligned}$$

If we drop the location parameter from Amoroso, then we obtain the Stacy, or generalized gamma distribution, the parent of the gamma family of distributions. If β is negative then the distribution is **generalized inverse gamma**, the parent of various inverse distributions, including the inverse gamma (13.14) and inverse chi (13.20).

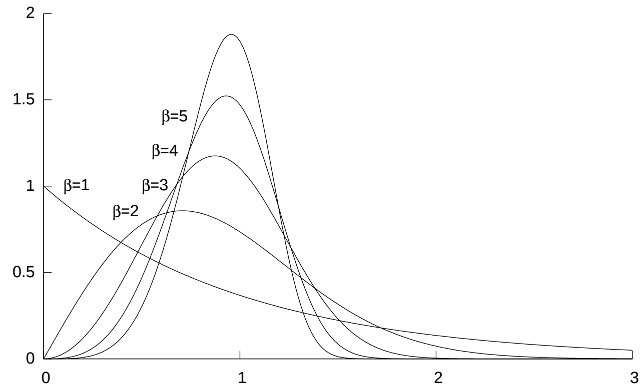


Figure 17: Stretched exponential distributions, $\mathrm{Amoroso}(x|0,1,1,\beta)$

The Stacy distribution is obtained as the positive even powers, modulus, and powers of the modulus of a centered, normal random variable (4.1),

$$\mathrm{Stacy}\left((2\sigma^2)^{\frac{1}{\beta}},\tfrac{1}{2},\beta\right) \sim \left|\mathrm{Normal}(0,\sigma)\right|^{\frac{2}{\beta}}$$

and as powers of the sum of squares of k centered, normal random variables.

$$\mathrm{Stacy}\left((2\sigma^2)^{\frac{1}{\beta}},\tfrac{1}{2}k,\beta\right) \sim \left(\sum_{i=1}^{k}\Big(\mathrm{Normal}(0,\sigma)\Big)^2\right)^{\frac{1}{\beta}}$$

Stretched exponential distribution [58]:

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathrm{StretchedExp}(x|\theta,\beta) =& \frac{\beta}{|\theta|}\left(\frac{x}{\theta}\right)^{\beta-1}\exp\left\{-\left(\frac{x}{\theta}\right)^{\beta}\right\} \qquad (13.3)\\
&\text{for } \beta>0\\
=&\mathrm{Weibull}(x|0,\theta,\beta)\\
=&\mathrm{Amoroso}(x|0,\theta,1,\beta)
\end{aligned}$$

Stretched exponentials are an alternative to power laws for modeling fat tailed distributions. For $\beta = 1$ we recover the exponential distribution (2.1).

Pseudo-Weibull distribution [59]:

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathrm{PseudoWeibull}(x|\theta,\beta) =& \frac{1}{\Gamma(1+\frac{1}{\beta})}\frac{\beta}{|\theta|}\left(\frac{x}{\theta}\right)^{\beta}\exp\left\{-\left(\frac{x}{\theta}\right)^{\beta}\right\} \qquad (13.4)\\
&\text{for } \beta>0\\
=&\mathrm{Amoroso}(x|0,\theta,1+\tfrac{1}{\beta},\beta)
\end{aligned}$$

Proposed as another model of failure times.

Table 13.1: Specializations of the Amoroso and gamma families

(13.1)	Amoroso	a	θ	α	β	
(13.2)	Stacy	0	.	.	.	
(13.5)	half exponential power	0	.	$\frac{1}{\beta}$	.	
(13.22)	gen. Fisher-Tippett	.	.	n	.	
(13.23)	Fisher-Tippett	.	.	1	.	
(13.28)	Fréchet	.	.	1	<0	
(13.26)	generalized Fréchet	.	.	n	<0	
(13.19)	scaled inverse chi	0	.	$\frac{1}{2}k$	-2	
(13.20)	inverse chi	0	$\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$	$\frac{1}{2}k$	-2	
(13.21)	inverse Rayleigh	0	.	1	-2	
(13.13)	Pearson type V	.	.	.	-1	
(13.14)	inverse gamma	0	.	.	-1	
(13.17)	scaled inverse chi-square	0	.	$\frac{1}{2}k$	-1	
(13.18)	inverse chi-square	0	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}k$	-1	
(13.16)	Lévy	.	.	$\frac{1}{2}$	-1	
(13.15)	inverse exponential	0	.	1	-1	
(6.2)	Pearson type III	.	.	.	1	
(6.1)	gamma	0	.	.	1	
(6.1)	Erlang	0	>0	n	1	
(6.3)	standard gamma	0	1	.	1	
(6.5)	scaled chi-square	0	.	$\frac{1}{2}k$	1	
(6.4)	chi-square	0	2	$\frac{1}{2}k$	1	
(2.1)	exponential	0	.	1	1	
(6.1)	Wien	0	.	4	1	
(13.6)	Nakagami	.	.	.	2	
(13.9)	scaled chi	0	.	$\frac{1}{2}k$	2	
(13.8)	chi	0	$\sqrt{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}k$	2	
(13.7)	half-normal	0	.	$\frac{1}{2}$	2	
(13.10)	Rayleigh	0	.	1	2	
(13.11)	Maxwell	0	.	$\frac{3}{2}$	2	
(13.12)	Wilson-Hilferty	0	.	.	3	
(13.24)	generalized Weibull	.	.	n	>0	
(13.25)	Weibull	.	.	1	>0	
(13.4)	pseudo-Weibull	.	.	$1+\frac{1}{\beta}$	>0	
(13.3)	stretched exponential	0	.	1	>0	
	<u>Limits</u>					
(7.1)	gamma-exponential	ν-$\beta\lambda$	$\beta\lambda$	.	β	$\lim_{\beta\to\infty}$
(8.1)	log-normal	.	$\vartheta(\beta\sigma)^{\frac{2}{\beta}}$	$(\beta\sigma)^{-2}$	β	$\lim_{\beta\to 0}$
(4.1)		.	.	.	1	$\lim_{\alpha\to\infty}$

(k, n positive integers)

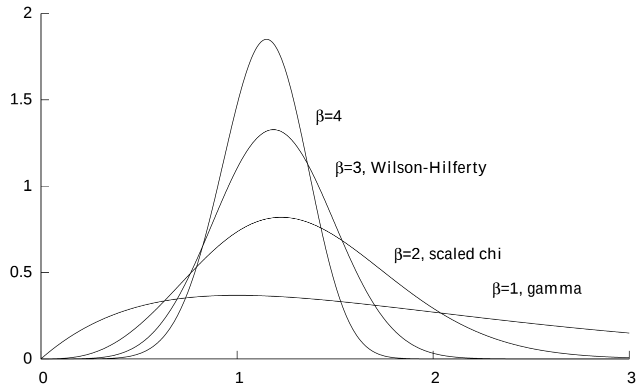


Figure 18: Gamma, scaled chi and Wilson-Hilferty distributions, $\text{Amoroso}(x|0, 1, 2, \beta)$

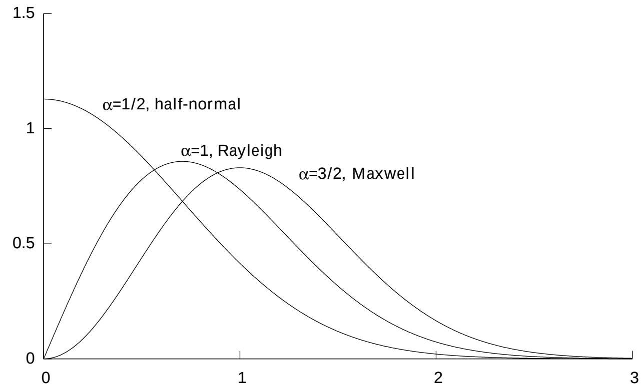


Figure 19: Half-normal, Rayleigh and Maxwell distributions, $\text{Amoroso}(x|0, 1, \alpha, 2)$

Half exponential power (half Subbotin) distribution [60]:

$$\begin{aligned}\text{HalfExpPower}(x|\theta,\beta) =& \frac{1}{\Gamma(\frac{1}{\beta})}\left|\frac{\beta}{\theta}\right| \exp\left\{-\left(\frac{x}{\theta}\right)^{\beta}\right\} \quad (13.5)\\ =&\text{Amoroso}(x|0,\theta,\tfrac{1}{\beta},\beta)\end{aligned}$$

As the name implies, half an exponential power (21.4) distribution. Special cases include $\beta = 1$ exponential (2.1), $\beta = -1$ inverse exponential (13.15) and $\beta = 2$ half-normal (13.7) distributions.

Special cases: Positive integer β

With $\beta = 1$ we obtain the gamma family of distributions, which includes the Pearson III (6.2), gamma (6.1), standard gamma (6.3) and chi square (6.4) distributions. See (§6).

Nakagami (generalized normal, Nakagami-m) distribution [61]:

$$\begin{aligned}&\text{Nakagami}(x|a,\theta,\alpha) \quad (13.6)\\ &= \frac{2}{\Gamma(\alpha)|\theta|}\left(\frac{x-a}{\theta}\right)^{2\alpha-1} \exp\left\{-\left(\frac{x-a}{\theta}\right)^{2}\right\}\\ &= \text{Amoroso}(x|a,\theta,\alpha,2)\end{aligned}$$

Used to model attenuation of radio signals that reach a receiver by multiple paths [61].

Half-normal (semi-normal, positive definite normal, one-sided normal) distribution [3]:

$$\begin{aligned}\text{HalfNormal}(x|\sigma) &= \frac{2}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}} \exp\left\{-\left(\frac{x^2}{2\sigma^2}\right)\right\} \quad (13.7)\\ &= \text{ScaledChi}(x|\sigma,1)\\ &= \text{Stacy}(x|\sqrt{2\sigma^2},\tfrac{1}{2},2)\\ &= \text{Amoroso}(x|0,\sqrt{2\sigma^2},\tfrac{1}{2},2)\end{aligned}$$

The modulus of a normal distribution with zero mean and variance σ^2.

Chi (χ) distribution [3]:

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Chi}(x|k) &= \frac{\sqrt{2}}{\Gamma(\frac{k}{2})}\left(\frac{x}{\sqrt{2}}\right)^{k-1} \exp\left\{-\left(\frac{x^2}{2}\right)\right\} \quad (13.8)\\ &\quad \text{for positive integer } k\\ &= \text{ScaledChi}(x|1,k)\\ &= \text{Stacy}(x|\sqrt{2},\tfrac{k}{2},2)\\ &= \text{Amoroso}(x|0,\sqrt{2},\tfrac{k}{2},2)\end{aligned}$$

The root-mean-square of k independent standard normal variables, or the square root of a chi-square random variable.

$$\text{Chi}(k) \sim \sqrt{\text{ChiSqr}(k)}$$

Scaled chi (generalized Rayleigh) distribution [3, 62]:

$$\begin{aligned}\text{ScaledChi}(x|\sigma,k) &= \frac{2}{\Gamma(\frac{k}{2})\sqrt{2\sigma^2}}\left(\frac{x}{\sqrt{2\sigma^2}}\right)^{k-1} \exp\left\{-\left(\frac{x^2}{2\sigma^2}\right)\right\}\\ &\quad \text{for positive integer } k\\ &= \text{Stacy}(x|\sqrt{2\sigma^2},\tfrac{k}{2},2) \quad (13.9)\\ &= \text{Amoroso}(x|0,\sqrt{2\sigma^2},\tfrac{k}{2},2)\end{aligned}$$

The root-mean-square of k independent and identically distributed normal variables with zero mean and variance σ^2.

Rayleigh (circular normal) distribution [3, 63]:

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Rayleigh}(x|\sigma) &= \frac{1}{\sigma^2}\, x \exp\left\{-\left(\frac{x^2}{2\sigma^2}\right)\right\} \quad (13.10)\\ &= \text{ScaledChi}(x|\sigma,2)\\ &= \text{Stacy}(x|\sqrt{2\sigma^2},1,2)\\ &= \text{Amoroso}(x|0,\sqrt{2\sigma^2},1,2)\end{aligned}$$

The root-mean-square of two independent and identically distributed normal variables with zero mean and variance σ^2. For instance, wind speeds are approximately Rayleigh distributed, since the horizontal components of the velocity are approximately normal, and the vertical component is typically small [64].

Maxwell (Maxwell-Boltzmann, Maxwell speed, spherical normal) distribution [65, 66]:

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathrm{Maxwell}(x|\sigma) &= \frac{\sqrt{2}}{\sqrt{\pi}\sigma^3}\, x^2 \exp\left\{-\left(\frac{x^2}{2\sigma^2}\right)\right\} \qquad (13.11)\\
&= \mathrm{ScaledChi}(x|\sigma, 3)\\
&= \mathrm{Stacy}(x|\sqrt{2\sigma^2}, \tfrac{3}{2}, 2)\\
&= \mathrm{Amoroso}(x|0, \sqrt{2\sigma^2}, \tfrac{3}{2}, 2)
\end{aligned}$$

The speed distribution of molecules in thermal equilibrium. The root-mean-square of three independent and identically distributed normal variables with zero mean and variance σ^2.

Wilson-Hilferty distribution [3, 67]:

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathrm{WilsonHilferty}(x|\theta, \alpha) &= \frac{3}{\Gamma(\alpha)|\theta|}\left(\frac{x}{\theta}\right)^{3\alpha-1} \exp\left\{-\left(\frac{x}{\theta}\right)^3\right\} \qquad (13.12)\\
&= \mathrm{Stacy}(x|\theta, \alpha, 3)\\
&= \mathrm{Amoroso}(x|0, \theta, \alpha, 3)
\end{aligned}$$

The cube root of a gamma variable follows the Wilson-Hilferty distribution [67], which has been used to approximate a normal distribution if α is not too small. A related approximation using quartic roots of gamma variables [68] leads to $\mathrm{Amoroso}(x|0, \theta, \alpha, 4)$.

Special cases: Negative integer β

Pearson type V distribution [47]:

$$\begin{aligned}
&\mathrm{PearsonV}(x|a, \theta, \alpha) \qquad (13.13)\\
&= \frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha)\,|\theta|}\left(\frac{\theta}{x-a}\right)^{\alpha+1} \exp\left\{-\left(\frac{\theta}{x-a}\right)\right\}\\
&= \mathrm{Amoroso}(x|a, \theta, \alpha, -1)
\end{aligned}$$

With negative β we obtain various "inverse" distributions related to distributions with positive β by the reciprocal transformation $(\frac{x-a}{\theta}) \mapsto (\frac{\theta}{x-a})$. Pearson's type V is the inverse of Pearson's type III distribution.

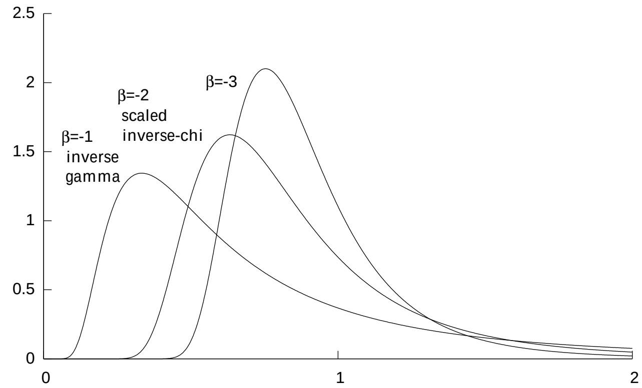


Figure 20: Inverse gamma and scaled inverse-chi distributions, $\mathrm{Amoroso}(x|0, 1, 2, \beta)$, negative β.

Inverse gamma (Vinci) distribution [3]:

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathrm{InvGamma}(x|\theta, \alpha) &= \frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha)|\theta|}\left(\frac{\theta}{x}\right)^{\alpha+1} \exp\left\{-\left(\frac{\theta}{x}\right)\right\} \qquad (13.14)\\
&= \mathrm{Stacy}(x|\theta, \alpha, -1)\\
&= \mathrm{PearsonV}(x|0, \theta, \alpha)\\
&= \mathrm{Amoroso}(x|0, \theta, \alpha, -1)
\end{aligned}$$

Occurs as the conjugate prior for an exponential distribution's scale parameter [3], or the prior for variance of a normal distribution with known mean [45].

Inverse exponential distribution [51]:

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathrm{InvExp}(x|\theta) &= \frac{|\theta|}{x^2} \exp\left\{-\left(\frac{\theta}{x}\right)\right\} \qquad (13.15)\\
&= \mathrm{InvGamma}(x|\theta, 1)\\
&= \mathrm{Stacy}(x|\theta, 1, -1)\\
&= \mathrm{Amoroso}(x|0, \theta, 1, -1)
\end{aligned}$$

Note that the name "inverse exponential" is occasionally used for the ordinary exponential distribution (2.1).

Lévy distribution (van der Waals profile) [69]:

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathrm{Lévy}(x|a, c) &= \sqrt{\frac{c}{2\pi}}\frac{1}{(x-a)^{3/2}} \exp\left\{-\frac{c}{2(x-a)}\right\} \qquad (13.16)\\
&= \mathrm{PearsonV}(x|a, \tfrac{c}{2}, \tfrac{1}{2})\\
&= \mathrm{Amoroso}(x|a, \tfrac{c}{2}, \tfrac{1}{2}, -1)
\end{aligned}$$

The Lévy distribution is notable for being stable: a linear combination of identically distributed Lévy distributions is again a Lévy distribution. The other stable distributions with analytic forms are the normal distribution (4.1), which is also a limit of the Amoroso distribution, and the Cauchy distribution (9.5), which is not. Lévy distributions describe first passage times in one dimension [69]. See also the inverse Gaussian distribution (20.2), the Brownian diffusion first passage time distribution with drift.

Scaled inverse chi-square distribution [45]:

$$\begin{aligned} &\mathrm{ScaledInvChiSqr}(x|\sigma,k) \qquad (13.17)\\ &=\frac{2\sigma^2}{\Gamma(\frac{k}{2})}\left(\frac{1}{2\sigma^2 x}\right)^{\frac{k}{2}+1}\exp\left\{-\left(\frac{1}{2\sigma^2 x}\right)\right\}\\ &\quad\text{for positive integer } k\\ &= \mathrm{InvGamma}(x|\tfrac{1}{2\sigma^2},\tfrac{k}{2})\\ &= \mathrm{PearsonV}(x|0,\tfrac{1}{2\sigma^2},\tfrac{k}{2})\\ &= \mathrm{Stacy}(x|\tfrac{1}{2\sigma^2},\tfrac{k}{2},-1)\\ &= \mathrm{Amoroso}(x|0,\tfrac{1}{2\sigma^2},\tfrac{k}{2},-1) \end{aligned}$$

A special case of the inverse gamma distribution with half-integer α. Used as a prior for variance parameters in normal models [45].

Inverse chi-square distribution [45]:

$$\mathrm{InvChiSqr}(x|k) = \frac{2}{\Gamma(\frac{k}{2})}\left(\frac{1}{2x}\right)^{\frac{k}{2}+1}\exp\left\{-\left(\frac{1}{2x}\right)\right\} \qquad (13.18)$$

$$\begin{aligned} &\quad\text{for positive integer } k\\ &= \mathrm{ScaledInvChiSqr}(x|1,k)\\ &= \mathrm{InvGamma}(x|\tfrac{1}{2},\tfrac{k}{2})\\ &= \mathrm{PearsonV}(x|0,\tfrac{1}{2},\tfrac{k}{2})\\ &= \mathrm{Stacy}(x|\tfrac{1}{2},\tfrac{k}{2},-1)\\ &= \mathrm{Amoroso}(x|0,\tfrac{1}{2},\tfrac{k}{2},-1) \end{aligned}$$

A standard scaled inverse chi-square distribution.

Scaled inverse chi distribution [18]:

$$\begin{aligned} &\mathrm{ScaledInvChi}(x|\sigma,k) \qquad (13.19)\\ &=\frac{2\sqrt{2\sigma^2}}{\Gamma(\frac{k}{2})}\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\sigma^2}x}\right)^{k+1}\exp\left\{-\left(\frac{1}{2\sigma^2 x^2}\right)\right\}\\ &= \mathrm{Stacy}(x|\tfrac{1}{\sqrt{2\sigma^2}},\tfrac{k}{2},-2)\\ &= \mathrm{Amoroso}(x|0,\tfrac{1}{\sqrt{2\sigma^2}},\tfrac{k}{2},-2) \end{aligned}$$

Used as a prior for the standard deviation of a normal distribution.

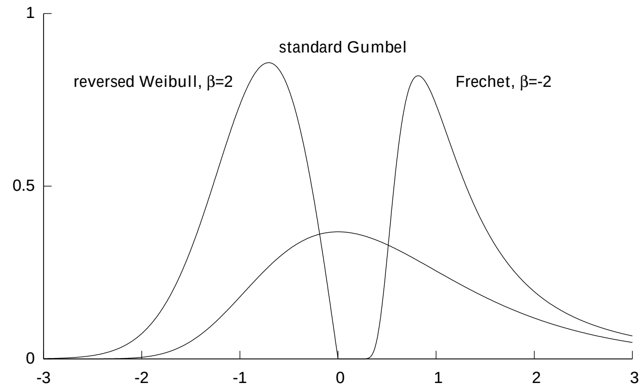


Figure 21: Extreme value distributions

Inverse chi distribution [18]:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathrm{InvChi}(x|k) &= \frac{2\sqrt{2}}{\Gamma(\frac{k}{2})}\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}x}\right)^{k+1}\exp\left\{-\left(\frac{1}{2x^2}\right)\right\} \qquad (13.20)\\ &= \mathrm{Stacy}(x|\tfrac{1}{\sqrt{2}},\tfrac{k}{2},-2)\\ &= \mathrm{Amoroso}(x|0,\tfrac{1}{\sqrt{2}},\tfrac{k}{2},-2) \end{aligned}$$

The standard inverse chi distribution.

Inverse Rayleigh distribution [70]:

$$\mathrm{InvRayleigh}(x|\sigma) = 2\sqrt{2\sigma^2}\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\sigma^2}x}\right)^{3}\exp\left\{-\left(\frac{1}{2\sigma^2 x^2}\right)\right\} \qquad (13.21)$$

$$\begin{aligned} &= \mathrm{Stacy}(x|\tfrac{1}{\sqrt{2\sigma^2}},1,-2)\\ &= \mathrm{Amoroso}(x|0,\tfrac{1}{\sqrt{2\sigma^2}},1,-2) \end{aligned}$$

The inverse Rayleigh distribution has been used to model failure time [71].

Special cases: Extreme order statistics

Generalized Fisher-Tippett distribution [72, 73]:

$$\begin{aligned} &\mathrm{GenFisherTippett}(x|a,\omega,n,\beta)\\ &= \frac{n^n}{\Gamma(n)}\left|\frac{\beta}{\omega}\right|\left(\frac{x-a}{\omega}\right)^{n\beta-1}\exp\left\{-n\left(\frac{x-a}{\omega}\right)^{\beta}\right\}\\ &\quad\text{for positive integer } n \qquad (13.22)\\ &= \mathrm{Amoroso}(x|a,\omega/n^{\frac{1}{\beta}},n,\beta) \end{aligned}$$

If we take N samples from a probability distribution, then asymptotically for large N and $n \ll N$, the distribution of the nth largest (or smallest) sample follows a generalized Fisher-Tippett distribution. The parameter β depends on the tail behavior of the sampled distribution. Roughly speaking, if the tail is unbounded and decays exponentially then β limits to ∞, if the tail scales as a power law then $\beta < 0$, and if the tail is finite $\beta > 0$ [21]. In these three limits we obtain the Gumbel (7.6, 7.4), Fréchet (13.28, 13.26) and Weibull (13.25,13.24) families of extreme value distribution (Extreme value distributions types I, II and III) respectively. If β/ω is negative we obtain distributions for the nth maxima, if positive then the nth minima.

Fisher-Tippett (Generalized extreme value, GEV, von Mises-Jenkinson, von Mises extreme value) distribution [4, 21, 22, 74]:

$$\begin{aligned}
&\mathrm{FisherTippett}(x|a,\omega,\beta) && (13.23)\\
&= \left|\frac{\beta}{\omega}\right| \left(\frac{x-a}{\omega}\right)^{\beta-1} \exp\left\{-\left(\frac{x-a}{\omega}\right)^{\beta}\right\}\\
&= \mathrm{GenFisherTippett}(x|a,\omega,1,\beta)\\
&= \mathrm{Amoroso}(x|a,\omega,1,\beta)
\end{aligned}$$

The asymptotic distribution of the extreme value from a large sample. The superclass of type I, II and III (Gumbel, Fréchet, Weibull) extreme value distributions [74]. This is the distribution for maximum values with $\beta/\omega < 0$ and minimum values for $\beta/\omega > 0$.

The maximum of two Fisher-Tippett random variables (minimum if $\beta/\omega > 0$) is again a Fisher-Tippett random variable.

$$\begin{aligned}
\max\Big[\mathrm{FisherTippett}(a,\omega_1,\beta),\mathrm{FisherTippett}(a,\omega_2,\beta)\Big]&\\
\sim \mathrm{FisherTippett}\big(a, \frac{(\omega_1^{\beta}+\omega_2^{\beta})^{1/\beta}}{\omega_1\omega_2},\beta\big)&
\end{aligned}$$

This follows because taking the maximum of two random variables is equivalent to multiplying their cumulative distribution functions, and the Fisher-Tippett cumulative distribution function is $\exp\left\{-\left(\frac{x-a}{\omega}\right)^{\beta}\right\}$.

Generalized Weibull distribution [72, 73]:

$$\begin{aligned}
&\mathrm{GenWeibull}(x|a,\omega,n,\beta) && (13.24)\\
&= \frac{n^n}{\Gamma(n)}\frac{\beta}{|\omega|}\left(\frac{x-a}{\omega}\right)^{n\beta-1}\exp\left\{-n\left(\frac{x-a}{\omega}\right)^{\beta}\right\}\\
&\quad \text{for } \beta>0\\
&= \mathrm{GenFisherTippett}(x|a,\omega,n,\beta)\\
&= \mathrm{Amoroso}(x|a,\omega/n^{\frac{1}{\beta}},n,\beta)
\end{aligned}$$

The limiting distribution of the nth smallest value of a large number of identically distributed random variables that are at least a. If ω is negative we obtain the distribution of the nth largest value.

Weibull (Fisher-Tippett type III, Gumbel type III, Rosin-Rammler, Rosin-Rammler-Weibull, extreme value type III, Weibull-Gnedenko) distribution [4, 75]:

$$\mathrm{Weibull}(x|a,\omega,\beta) = \frac{\beta}{|\omega|}\left(\frac{x-a}{\omega}\right)^{\beta-1}\exp\left\{-\left(\frac{x-a}{\omega}\right)^{\beta}\right\} \tag{13.25}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&\text{for } \beta>0\\
&= \mathrm{FisherTippett}(x|a,\omega,\beta)\\
&= \mathrm{Amoroso}(x|a,\omega,1,\beta)
\end{aligned}$$

This is the limiting distribution of the minimum of a large number of identically distributed random variables that are at least a. If ω is negative we obtain a **reversed Weibull** (extreme value type III) distribution for maxima. Special cases of the Weibull distribution include the exponential ($\beta = 1$) and Rayleigh ($\beta = 2$) distributions.

Generalized Fréchet distribution [72, 73]:

$$\begin{aligned}
&\mathrm{GenFréchet}(x|a,\omega,n,\bar\beta) && (13.26)\\
&= \frac{n^n}{\Gamma(n)}\frac{\bar\beta}{|\omega|}\left(\frac{x-a}{\omega}\right)^{-n\bar\beta-1}\exp\left\{-n\left(\frac{x-a}{\omega}\right)^{-\bar\beta}\right\}\\
&\quad \text{for } \bar\beta>0 && (13.27)\\
&= \mathrm{GenFisherTippett}(x|a,\omega,n,-\bar\beta)\\
&= \mathrm{Amoroso}(x|a,\omega/n^{\frac{1}{\beta}},n,-\bar\beta),
\end{aligned}$$

The limiting distribution of the nth largest value of a large number identically distributed random variables whose moments are not all finite and are bounded from below by a. (If the shape parameter ω is negative then minimum rather than maxima.)

Fréchet (extreme value type II , Fisher-Tippett type II, Gumbel type II, inverse Weibull) distribution [21, 76]:

$$\mathrm{Fréchet}(x|a,\omega,\bar\beta) = \frac{\bar\beta}{|\omega|}\left(\frac{x-a}{\omega}\right)^{-\bar\beta-1}\exp\left\{-\left(\frac{x-a}{\omega}\right)^{-\bar\beta}\right\} \tag{13.28}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&\text{for } \bar\beta>0\\
&= \mathrm{FisherTippett}(x|a,\omega,-\bar\beta)\\
&= \mathrm{Amoroso}(x|a,\omega,1,-\bar\beta)
\end{aligned}$$

The limiting distribution of the largest of a large number identically distributed random variables whose moments are not all finite and are bounded from below by a. (If the shape parameter ω is negative then minimum rather than maxima.) Special cases of the Fréchet distribution include the inverse exponential ($\bar\beta = 1$) and inverse Rayleigh ($\bar\beta = 2$) distributions.

Interrelations

The Amoroso distribution is a limiting form of the generalized beta (17.1) and generalized beta prime (18.1) distributions [55].

Table 13.2: Properties of the Amoroso distribution

Properties		
notation	$\mathrm{Amoroso}(x \mid a, \theta, \alpha, \beta)$	
pdf	$\dfrac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha)} \left\lvert \dfrac{\beta}{\theta} \right\rvert \left(\dfrac{x-a}{\theta} \right)^{\alpha\beta-1} \exp\left\{ -\left(\dfrac{x-a}{\theta} \right)^{\beta} \right\}$	
cdf / ccdf	$1 - Q\left(\alpha, \left(\frac{x-a}{\theta}\right)^{\beta}\right)$	$\frac{\theta}{\beta} > 0 \,/\, \frac{\theta}{\beta} < 0$
parameters	$a,\ \theta,\ \alpha,\ \beta$ in $\mathbb{R},\ \alpha > 0$	
range	$x \geqslant a$	$\theta > 0$
	$x \leqslant a$	$\theta < 0$
mode	$a + \theta(\alpha - \frac{1}{\beta})^{\frac{1}{\beta}}$	$\alpha\beta \geqslant 1$
	a	$\alpha\beta \leqslant 1$
mean	$a + \theta \dfrac{\Gamma(\alpha + \frac{1}{\beta})}{\Gamma(\alpha)}$	$\alpha + \frac{1}{\beta} \geqslant 0$
variance	$\theta^2 \left[\dfrac{\Gamma(\alpha + \frac{2}{\beta})}{\Gamma(\alpha)} - \dfrac{\Gamma(\alpha + \frac{1}{\beta})^2}{\Gamma(\alpha)^2} \right]$	$\alpha + \frac{2}{\beta} \geqslant 0$
skew	not simple	
kurtosis	not simple	
entropy	$\ln \dfrac{\theta\Gamma(\alpha)}{\lvert\beta\rvert} + \alpha + \left(\dfrac{1}{\beta} - \alpha \right) \psi(\alpha)$	[57]
mgf	$\cdots$	
cf	$\cdots$	

Limits of the Amoroso distribution include gamma-exponential (7.1), log-normal (8.1), normal (4.1) [3] and power function (5.1) distributions.

The log-normal limit is particularly subtle [77].

$$\lim_{\beta\to 0} \mathrm{Amoroso}(x \mid a, \vartheta(\beta\sigma)^{\frac{2}{\beta}}, \tfrac{1}{(\beta\sigma)^2}, \beta)$$

Ignore normalization constants and rearrange,

$$\propto \left(\tfrac{x-a}{\theta}\right)^{-1} \exp\left\{ \alpha \ln(\tfrac{x-a}{\theta})^{\beta} - e^{\ln(\frac{x-a}{\theta})^{\beta}} \right\}$$

make the requisite substitutions,

$$\propto \left(\tfrac{x-a}{\vartheta}\right)^{-1} \exp\left\{ \tfrac{1}{(\beta\sigma)^2} \beta \ln(\tfrac{x-a}{\vartheta}) - \tfrac{1}{(\beta\sigma)^2} e^{\beta \ln(\frac{x-a}{\vartheta})} \right\}$$

expand second exponential to second order in β,

$$\propto \left(\tfrac{x-a}{\vartheta}\right)^{-1} \exp\left\{ -\tfrac{1}{2\sigma^2} \left(\ln \tfrac{x-a}{\vartheta}\right)^2 \right\}$$

and reconstitute the normalization constant.

$$= \mathrm{LogNormal}(x \mid a, \vartheta, \sigma)$$

$$\mathrm{GammaExp}(x \mid \nu, \lambda, \alpha) = \lim_{\beta\to\infty} \mathrm{Amoroso}(\nu - \beta\lambda, \beta\lambda, \alpha, \beta)$$

$$\mathrm{LogNormal}(x \mid a, \vartheta, \sigma) = \lim_{\beta\to 0} \mathrm{Amoroso}(x \mid a, \vartheta(\beta\sigma)^{\frac{2}{\beta}}, \tfrac{1}{(\beta\sigma)^2}, \beta)$$

$$\mathrm{Normal}(x \mid \mu, \sigma) = \lim_{\alpha\to\infty} \mathrm{Amoroso}(x \mid \mu - \sigma\sqrt{\alpha}, \tfrac{\sigma}{\sqrt{\alpha}}, \alpha, 1)$$

14 Beta-exponential

The **beta-exponential** (Gompertz-Verhulst, generalized Gompertz-Verhulst type III, log-beta[78], exponential generalized beta type I[79]) distribution [80, 81] is a four parameter, continuous, univariate, unimodal probability density, with semi-infinite range. The functional form in the most straightforward parameterizaton is

$$\mathrm{BetaExp}(x|\zeta,\lambda,\alpha,\gamma) = \frac{1}{\mathrm{B}(\alpha,\gamma)}\frac{1}{|\lambda|}e^{-\alpha\frac{x-\zeta}{\lambda}}\left(1-e^{-\frac{x-\zeta}{\lambda}}\right)^{\gamma-1} \tag{14.1}$$

$$\text{for } x,\ \zeta,\ \lambda,\ \alpha,\ \gamma \text{ in } \mathbb{R},$$
$$\alpha,\ \gamma > 0, \quad \tfrac{x-\zeta}{\lambda} > 0$$

The four real parameters of the beta-exponential distribution consist of a location parameter ζ, a scale parameter λ, and two positive shape parameters α and γ. The **standard beta-exponential** distribution has zero location $\zeta = 0$ and unit scale $\lambda = 1$.

This distribution has a similar shape to the gamma (6.1) (or with non-zero location, Pearson type III (6.2)) distribution. Near the boundary the density scales like $x^{\gamma-1}$, but decays exponentially in the wing.

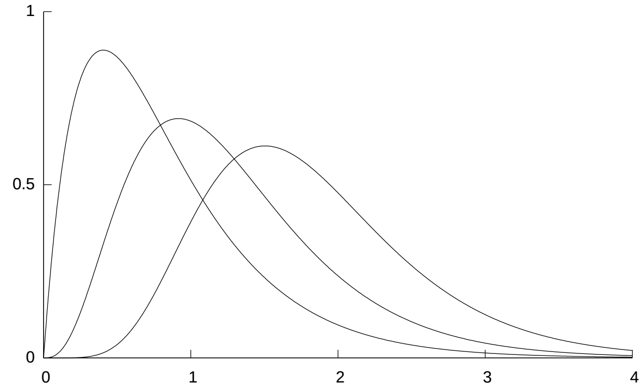


Figure 22: Beta-exponential distributions, (a) BetaExp$(x|0,1,2,2)$, (b) BetaExp$(x|0,1,2,4)$, (c) BetaExp$(x|0,1,2,8)$.

Special cases

Exponentiated exponential (generalized exponential) distribution [82]:

$$\begin{aligned}\mathrm{ExpExp}(x|\zeta,\lambda,\gamma) &= \frac{\gamma}{|\lambda|}e^{-\frac{x-\zeta}{\lambda}}\left(1-e^{-\frac{x-\zeta}{\lambda}}\right)^{\gamma-1} \\ &= \mathrm{BetaExp}(x|\zeta,\lambda,1,\gamma)\end{aligned} \tag{14.2}$$

A special case similar in shape to the gamma or Weibull (13.25) distribution. So named because the cumulative distribution function is equal to the exponential distribution function raise to a power.

$$\mathrm{ExpExpCDF}(x|\zeta,\lambda,\gamma) = \left[\mathrm{ExpCDF}(x|\zeta,\lambda)\right]^{\gamma}$$

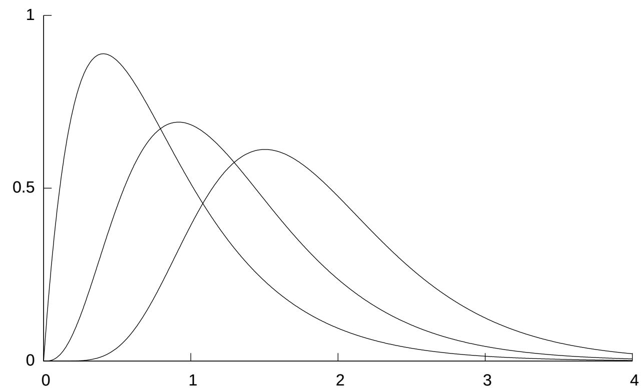


Figure 23: Exponentiated exponential distribution, ExpExp$(x|0,1,2)$.

Hyperbolic sine distribution [2]:

$$\begin{aligned}\mathrm{HyperbolicSine}(x|\gamma) &= \frac{2}{\mathrm{B}(\frac{1-\gamma}{2},\gamma)}\left(e^{x}-e^{-x}\right)^{\gamma-1} \\ &= \frac{2^{\gamma}}{\mathrm{B}(\frac{1-\gamma}{2},\gamma)}\left(\sinh(x)\right)^{\gamma-1} \\ &= \mathrm{BetaExp}(x|0,\tfrac{1}{2},\tfrac{1-\gamma}{2},\gamma), \quad 0<\gamma<1\end{aligned} \tag{14.3}$$

Compare to the hyperbolic secant distribution (15.6).

Nadarajah-Kotz distribution [2, 81] :

$$\begin{aligned}\mathrm{NadarajahKotz}(x) &= \frac{1}{\pi|\lambda|}\frac{1}{\sqrt{e^{\frac{x-\zeta}{\lambda}}-1}} \\ &= \mathrm{BetaExp}(x|\zeta,\lambda,\tfrac{1}{2},\tfrac{1}{2})\end{aligned} \tag{14.4}$$

A notable special case when $\alpha = \gamma = \frac{1}{2}$.

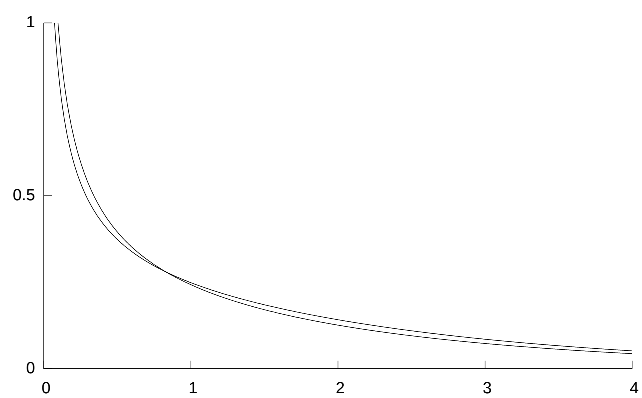


Figure 24: Hyperbolic sine and Nadarajah-Kotz distributions, HyperbolicSine$(x|\frac{1}{2})$, NadarajahKotz(x).

Table 14.1: Specializations of the beta-exponential family

		ζ	λ	α	γ	
(14.1)	beta-exponential	ζ	λ	α	γ	
	std. beta-exponential	0	1	.	.	
(14.2)	exponentiated exponential	.	.	1	.	
(14.3)	hyperbolic sine	0	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}(1\text{-}\gamma)$	γ	$0 < \gamma < 1$
(14.4)	Nadarajah-Kotz	.	.	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	
(2.1)	Exponential	.	.	.	1	
(7.1)	gamma exponential					

Table 14.2: Properties of the beta-exponential distribution

Properties		
notation	$\mathrm{BetaExp}(x \mid \zeta, \lambda, \alpha, \gamma)$	
pdf	$\frac{1}{B(\alpha,\gamma)} \frac{1}{\lvert\lambda\rvert} e^{-\alpha \frac{x-\zeta}{\lambda}} \left(1 - e^{-\frac{x-\zeta}{\lambda}}\right)^{\gamma-1}$	
cdf/ccdf	$I\left(\alpha, \gamma; e^{-\frac{x-\zeta}{\lambda}}\right)$	$\lambda > 0 \,/\, \lambda < 0$
parameters	$\zeta,\ \lambda,\ \alpha,\ \gamma$ in $\mathbb{R}$	
	$\alpha,\ \gamma > 0$	
range	$x \geqslant \zeta$	$\lambda > 0$
	$x \leqslant \zeta$	$\lambda < 0$
mode	not simple	[81]
mean	$\zeta + \lambda[\psi(\alpha+\gamma) - \psi(\gamma)]$	[81]
variance	$\lambda^2[\psi_1(\gamma) - \psi_1(\alpha+\gamma)]$	[81]
skew	$\frac{\psi_2(\gamma) - \psi_2(\alpha+\gamma)}{[\psi_1(\gamma) - \psi_1(\alpha+\gamma)]^{\frac{3}{2}}}$	[81]
kurtosis	not simple	[81]
entropy	$\ln \lambda B(\alpha,\gamma) + (\alpha+\gamma-1)\psi(\alpha+\gamma)$	
	$- (a-1)\psi(\alpha) - \gamma\psi(\gamma)$	[81]
mgf	$e^{\zeta t} \frac{B(\alpha, \gamma - \lambda t)}{B(\alpha,\gamma)}$	[81]
cf	$e^{i\zeta t} \frac{B(\alpha, \gamma - i\lambda t)}{B(\alpha,\gamma)}$	[81]

Interrelations

The beta-exponential distribution is a limit of the generalized beta distribution (§11). The analogous limit of the generalized beta prime distribution (§12) results in the Prentice family of distributions (§15).

The beta-exponential distribution is the log transform of the beta distribution (11.1).

$$\mathrm{StdBetaExp}(\alpha,\gamma) \sim \ln\left(\mathrm{StdBeta}(\alpha,\gamma)\right)$$

It follows that beta-exponential variates are related to ratios of gamma variates.

$$\mathrm{StdBetaExp}(\alpha,\gamma) \sim \ln \frac{\mathrm{StdGamma}_1(\gamma)}{\mathrm{StdGamma}_1(\gamma) + \mathrm{StdGamma}_2(\alpha)}$$

The beta-exponential distribution describes the order statistics (§C) of the exponential distribution (2.1).

$$\mathrm{OrderStatistic}_{\mathrm{Exp}(\zeta,\lambda)}(x \mid \alpha, \gamma) = \mathrm{BetaExp}(x \mid \zeta, \lambda, \alpha, \gamma)$$

With $\gamma = 1$ we recover the exponential distribution.

$$\mathrm{BetaExp}(x \mid \zeta, \lambda, \alpha, 1) = \mathrm{Exp}(x \mid \zeta, \tfrac{\lambda}{\alpha})$$

15 Prentice

The **Prentice** (beta prime exponential, generalized logistic type IV, exponential generalized beta prime, exponential generalized beta type II[79], log-F, generalized F, Fisher-Z, beta-logistic[2]) distribution [4, 83, 84, 85] is a four parameter, continuous, univariate, unimodal probability density, with infinite range. The functional form in the most straightforward parameterization is

$$
\begin{aligned}
\mathrm{Prentice}(x|\zeta,\lambda,\alpha,\gamma) &= \frac{1}{\mathrm{B}(\alpha,\gamma)\,|\lambda|} \frac{e^{-\alpha\frac{x-\zeta}{\lambda}}}{\left(1+e^{-\frac{x-\zeta}{\lambda}}\right)^{\alpha+\gamma}} \\
& x,\zeta,\lambda,\alpha,\gamma \text{ in } \mathbb{R} \qquad (15.1)\\
& \alpha,\gamma > 0
\end{aligned}
$$

The four real parameters consist of a location parameter ζ, a scale parameter λ, and two positive shape parameters α and γ. The The **standard beta prime exponential** distribution has zero location $\zeta = 0$ and unit scale $\lambda = 1$.

Special cases

Burr type II (generalized logistic type I, exponential-Burr, skew-logistic) distribution [3, 86]:

$$
\begin{aligned}
\mathrm{BurrII}(x|\alpha) &= \gamma \frac{e^{-x}}{(1+e^{-x})^{\gamma+1}} \qquad (15.2)\\
&= \mathrm{Prentice}(x|0,1,1,\gamma)
\end{aligned}
$$

Reversed Burr type II (generalized logistic type II) distribution [3]:

$$
\begin{aligned}
\mathrm{RevBurrII}(x|\alpha) &= \gamma \frac{e^{+x}}{(1+e^{+x})^{\gamma+1}} \qquad (15.3)\\
&= \mathrm{Prentice}(x|0,-1,1,\gamma)
\end{aligned}
$$

Symmetric Prentice (generalized logistic type III) distribution [1, 1, 1]:

$$
\begin{aligned}
\mathrm{SymPrentice}(x|0,\lambda,\alpha) &= \frac{e^{-\alpha\frac{x}{\lambda}}}{\left(1+e^{-\frac{x}{\lambda}}\right)^{2\alpha}} \qquad (15.4)\\
&= \mathrm{Prentice}(x|0,\lambda,\alpha,\alpha)
\end{aligned}
$$

Logistic (sech-square, hyperbolic secant square) distribution [4, 87, 88]:

$$
\begin{aligned}
\mathrm{Logistic}(x|\zeta,\lambda) &= \frac{1}{|\lambda|} \frac{e^{-\frac{x-\zeta}{\lambda}}}{\left(1+e^{-\frac{x-\zeta}{\lambda}}\right)^{2}} \qquad (15.5)\\
&= \frac{1}{4\lambda}\mathrm{sech}^2\left(\frac{x-\zeta}{\lambda}\right)\\
&= \mathrm{Prentice}(x|\zeta,\lambda,1,1)
\end{aligned}
$$

Hyperbolic secant (Perks, inverse hyperbolic cosine) distribution [4, 89, 90]:

$$
\begin{aligned}
\mathrm{HyperbolicSecant}(x|\zeta,\lambda) &= \frac{2}{\pi} \frac{1}{e^{(x-\zeta)} + e^{-(x-\zeta)}} \qquad (15.6)\\
&= \frac{1}{\pi}\mathrm{sech}(x-\zeta)\\
&= \mathrm{Prentice}(x|\zeta,\tfrac{1}{2},\tfrac{1}{2},\tfrac{1}{2})
\end{aligned}
$$

The hyperbolic secant cumulative distribution function features the Gudermannian sigmoidal function, $\mathrm{gd}(z)$.

$$
\begin{aligned}
\mathrm{HyperbolicSecantCDF}(x|\zeta,\lambda) &= \frac{1}{\pi}\,\mathrm{gd}(x-\zeta)\\
&= \tfrac{2}{\pi}\arctan(e^x) - \tfrac{\pi}{2}
\end{aligned}
$$

Interrelations

The Prentice distribution arises as a limit of the generalized beta prime distribution (§12). The analogous limit of the generalized beta distribution leads to the beta-exponential family (§14).

The Prentice distribution is the log transform of the beta prime distribution.

$$
\mathrm{Prentice}(0,1,\alpha,\gamma) \sim \ln \mathrm{BetaPrime}(0,1,\alpha,\gamma)
$$

It follows that Prentice variates are related to ratios of gamma variates.

$$
\mathrm{Prentice}(\zeta,\lambda,\alpha,\gamma) \sim \zeta + \lambda \ln \frac{\mathrm{StdGamma}_1(\gamma)}{\mathrm{StdGamma}_2(\alpha)}
$$

Negating the scale parameter is equivalent to interchanging the two shape parameters.

$$
\mathrm{Prentice}(x|\zeta,\lambda,\alpha,\gamma) = \mathrm{Prentice}(x|\zeta,-\lambda,\gamma,\alpha)
$$

Limits of the Prentice distribution include the normal (4.1) and gamma-exponential (7.1) distributions (Of which the exponential (2.1), and Laplace (3.1) distributions are notable special cases.

The Prentice distribution, with integer α and γ is the logistic order statistics distribution [78, 91].

$$
\mathrm{OrderStatistic}_{\mathrm{Logistic}(a,s)}(x|\gamma,\alpha) = \mathrm{Prentice}(x|a,s,\alpha,\gamma)
$$

Table 15.1: Specializations of the Prentice distribution

(15.1)	Beta prime exp.	ζ	λ	α	γ
(15.2)	Burr type II	0	1	1	.
(15.3)	Reversed Burr type II	0	-1	1	.
(15.4)	Symmetric prentice	0	.	.	α
(15.5)	Logistic	.	.	1	1
(15.6)	Hyperbolic secant	.	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$

Table 15.2: Properties of the Prentice distribution

Properties		
notation	$\mathrm{Prentice}(x \mid \zeta, \lambda, \alpha, \gamma)$	
pdf	$\dfrac{1}{\mathrm{B}(\alpha,\gamma)\,\lvert\lambda\rvert} \dfrac{e^{-\alpha\frac{x-\zeta}{\lambda}}}{\left(1+e^{-\frac{x-\zeta}{\lambda}}\right)^{\alpha+\gamma}}$	
cdf / ccdf	$\dfrac{\mathrm{B}\big(\alpha,\gamma;(1+e^{-\frac{x-\zeta}{\lambda}})^{-1}\big)}{\mathrm{B}(\alpha,\gamma)}$	$\lambda > 0 \,/\, \lambda < 0$ [2]
	$= \mathrm{I}\big(\alpha,\gamma;(1+e^{-\frac{x-\zeta}{\lambda}})^{-1}\big)$	
parameters	$\zeta,\ \lambda,\ \alpha, \gamma$ in $\mathbb{R}$	
	$\alpha,\ \gamma > 0$	
range	$x \in [-\infty, +\infty]$	
mode	$\cdots$	
mean	$\zeta + \lambda[\psi(\alpha) - \psi(\gamma)]$	
variance	$\lambda^2[\psi_1(\alpha) + \psi_1(\gamma)]$	
skew	$\dfrac{\psi_2(\alpha) - \psi_2(\gamma)}{[\psi_1(\alpha) + \psi_1(\gamma)]^{3/2}}$	
kurtosis	$\dfrac{\psi_3(\alpha) + \psi_3(\gamma)}{[\psi_1(\alpha) + \psi_1(\gamma)]^2}$	
entropy	$\cdots$	
mgf	$e^{\zeta t}\dfrac{\Gamma(\alpha+\lambda t)\Gamma(\gamma-\lambda t)}{\Gamma(\alpha)\Gamma(\gamma)}$	[4]
cf	$e^{i\zeta t}\dfrac{\Gamma(\alpha+i\lambda t)\Gamma(\gamma-i\lambda t)}{\Gamma(\alpha)\Gamma(\gamma)}$	

16 Pearson IV distribution

Pearson IV (skew-t) distribution [15, 92] is a four parameter, continuous, univariate, unimodal probability density, with infinite range. The functional form is

$$
\begin{aligned}
&\mathrm{PearsonIV}(x|a,s,m,\nu) \qquad (16.1)\\
&= \frac{{}_2F_1(-i\nu, i\nu, m; 1)}{|s|B(m-\frac{1}{2},\frac{1}{2})}\times\\
&\qquad \left(1+\left(\frac{x-a}{s}\right)^2\right)^{-m} \exp\left\{-2\nu\arctan\left(\frac{x-a}{s}\right)\right\}\\
&= \frac{{}_2F_1(-i\nu, i\nu, m; 1)}{|s|B(m-\frac{1}{2},\frac{1}{2})}\times\\
&\qquad \left(1+i\frac{x-a}{s}\right)^{-m+i\nu}\left(1-i\frac{x-a}{s}\right)^{-m-i\nu}\\
&\quad x, a, s, m, \nu \in \mathbb{R}\\
&\quad m > \tfrac{1}{2}
\end{aligned}
$$

Note that the two forms are equivalent, since $\arctan(z) = \frac{1}{2} i \ln \frac{1-iz}{1+iz}$. The first form is more conventional, but the second form displays the essential simplicity of this distribution. The density is an analytic function with two singularities, located at conjugate points in the complex plain, with conjugate, complex order. This is the one member of the Pearson distribution family that has not found significant utility.

Interrelations

The distribution parameters obey the symmetry $\mathrm{PearsonIV}(x|a,s,m,\nu) = \mathrm{PearsonIV}(x|a,-s,m,-\nu)$.

Setting the complex part of the exponents to zero, $\nu = 0$, gives the Pearson VII family (9.1), which includes the Cauchy and Student's t distributions.

$$\mathrm{PearsonIV}(x|a,s,m,0) = \mathrm{PearsonVII}(x|a,s,m)$$

Suitable rescaled, the exponentiated arctan limits to an exponential of the reciprocal argument.

$$\lim_{\nu\to\infty} \exp(-2\nu\arctan(-2\nu x) - \pi\nu) = e^{-\frac{1}{x}}$$

Consequently, the high ν limit of the Pearson IV distribution is an inverse gamma (Pearson V) distribution (13.14), which acts an intermediate distribution between the beta prime (Pearson VI) and Pearson IV distributions.

$$\lim_{\nu\to\infty} \mathrm{PearsonIV}(x|0,-\tfrac{\theta}{2\nu},\tfrac{\alpha+1}{2},\nu) = \mathrm{InvGamma}(x|\theta,\alpha)$$

The inverse exponential distribution (13.15) is therefore also a special case when $\alpha = 1$ ($m = 1$).

Table 16.1: Properties of the Pearson IV distribution

Properties	
notation	$\text{PearsonIV}(x \mid a, s, m, \nu)$
pdf	$\dfrac{{}_2F_1(-i\frac{\nu}{2}, i\frac{\nu}{2}; m; 1)}{sB(m-\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2})}\left(1+\left(\dfrac{x-a}{s}\right)^2\right)^{-m} \times \exp\left\{-\nu \arctan\left(\dfrac{x-a}{s}\right)\right\}$
cdf	$\text{PearsonIV}(x \mid a, s, m, \nu) \times \dfrac{s}{2m-1}\left(i-\dfrac{x-a}{s}\right) {}_2F_1\left(1, m+i\nu; 2m; \frac{2}{i-i\frac{x-a}{s}}\right)$
parameters	$a,\ s,\ m,\ \nu$ in $\mathbb{R}$ $m > \frac{1}{2}$
range	$x \in [-\infty, +\infty]$
mode	$a - \dfrac{s\nu}{m}$
mean	$a - \dfrac{s\nu}{(m-1)} \qquad (m > 1)$
variance	$\dfrac{s^2}{m-2}(1+\dfrac{\nu^2}{(m-1)^2})$
skew	$\cdots$
kurtosis	$\cdots$
entropy	$\cdots$
mgf	$\cdots$
cf	$\cdots$

17 Generalized beta

The **Generalized beta** (Wiebullized beta, beta-power) distribution [55] is a five parameter, continuous, univariate, unimodal probability density, with finite or semi-infinite range. The functional form in the most straightforward parameterizaton is

$$\mathrm{GenBeta}(x|a, s, \alpha, \gamma, \beta) \tag{17.1}$$
$$= \frac{1}{B(\alpha,\gamma)} \left|\frac{\beta}{s}\right| \left(\frac{x-a}{s}\right)^{\alpha\beta-1} \left(1-\left(\frac{x-a}{s}\right)^{\beta}\right)^{\gamma-1}$$

for $x,\ a,\ \theta,\ \alpha,\ \gamma,\ \beta$ in $\mathbb{R}$,

$\alpha > 0,\ \gamma > 0$

range $x \in [a, a+s], s > 0,\ \beta > 0$

$x \in [a+s, a], s < 0,\ \beta > 0$

$x \in [a+s, +\infty], s > 0,\ \beta < 0$

$x \in [-\infty, a+s], s < 0,\ \beta < 0$

The generalized beta distribution arises as the Weibullization of the standard beta distribution, $x \to (\frac{x-a}{s})^{\beta}$, and as the order statistics of the power function distribution (5.1). The parameters consist of a location parameter a, shape parameter s and Weibull power parameter β, and two shape parameters α and γ.

Special Cases

Kumaraswamy (minimax) distribution [93, 94, 95]:

$$\begin{aligned}\mathrm{Kumaraswamy}(x|\gamma, \beta) &= \gamma\beta\, x^{\beta-1}(1-x^{\beta})^{\gamma-1} \\ &= \mathrm{GenBeta}(x|0, 1, 1, \gamma, \beta)\end{aligned} \tag{17.2}$$

Proposed as an alternative to the beta distribution for modeling bounded variables, since the cumulative distribution function has a simple closed form, $\mathrm{KumaraswamyCDF}(x|\gamma, \beta) = 1-(1-x^{\beta})^{\gamma}$.

Interrelations

The generalized beta distribution describes the order statistics of a power function distribution (5.1).

$$\mathrm{OrderStatistic}_{\mathrm{PowerFn}(a,s,\beta)}(x|\alpha, \gamma) = \mathrm{GenBeta}(x|a, s, \alpha, \gamma, \beta)$$

Conversely, the power function (5.1) distribution is a special case of the generalized beta distribution.

$$\mathrm{GenBeta}(x|a, s, 1, 1, \beta) = \mathrm{PowerFn}(x|a, s, \beta)$$

Setting $\beta = 1$ yields the beta distribution (11.1),

$$\mathrm{GenBeta}(x|a, s, \alpha, \gamma, 1) = \mathrm{Beta}(x|a, s, \alpha, \gamma)\ ,$$

and setting $\beta = -1$ yields the beta prime (or inverse beta) distribution (12.1),

$$\mathrm{GenBeta}(x|a, s, \alpha, \gamma, -1) = \mathrm{BetaPrime}(x|a+s, s, \gamma, \alpha)\ .$$

The beta (§11) and beta prime (§12) distributions have many named special cases, see tables 17 and 18.1.

The unit gamma distribution (10.1) arises in the limit $\lim_{\beta\to 0}$ with $\alpha\beta = \text{constant}$

$$\lim_{\beta\to 0} \mathrm{GenBeta}(x|a, s, \tfrac{\delta}{\beta}, \gamma, \beta) = \mathrm{UnitGamma}(x|a, s, \gamma, \delta)\ .$$

In the limit $\gamma \to \infty$ (or equivalently $\alpha \to \infty$) we obtain the Amoroso distribution (13.1) with semi-infinite range, the parent of the gamma distribution family [55],

$$\lim_{\gamma\to\infty} \mathrm{GenBeta}(x|a, \theta\gamma^{\frac{1}{\beta}}, \alpha, \gamma, \beta) = \mathrm{Amoroso}(x|a, \theta, \alpha, \beta)\ .$$

The limit $\lim_{\beta\to+\infty}$ yields the beta-exponential distribution (14.1)

$$\lim_{\beta\to+\infty} \mathrm{GenBeta}(x|\zeta{+}\beta\lambda, \beta\lambda, \alpha, \gamma, \beta) = \mathrm{BetaExp}(x|\zeta, \lambda, \alpha, \gamma)\ .$$

Table 17.1: Specializations of generalized beta

(17.1)	generalized beta	a	s	α	γ	β	
(17.2)	Kumaraswamy	0	1	1	.	.	
(11.1)	beta	.	.	.	.	1	
(11.2)	standard beta	0	1	.	.	1	
(11.1)	beta, U shaped	.	.	<1	<1	1	
(11.1)	beta, J shaped	.	.	.	.	1	$(\alpha\text{-}1)(\gamma\text{-}1) \leqslant 0$
(11.4)	Pearson II	$-\frac{s}{2}$	.	.	α	1	
(11.7)	arcsine	.	.	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	1	
(11.8)	central arcsine	-b	2b	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	1	
(11.9)	semicircle	-b	2b	$1\frac{1}{2}$	$1\frac{1}{2}$	1	
(11.5)	Pearson XII	.	.	.	$2\text{-}\alpha$	1	$\alpha < 2$
(12.1)	beta prime	.	.	.	.	-1	
(5.1)	power function	.	.	1	1	.	
(1.1)	uniform	.	.	1	1	1	
(1.1)	standard uniform	0	1	1	1	1	
	Limits						
(10.1)	unit gamma	0	.	α	.	$\frac{\delta}{\alpha}$	$\lim_{\alpha\to\infty}$
(13.1)	Amoroso	.	$\theta\gamma^{\frac{1}{\beta}}$	.	γ	.	$\lim_{\gamma\to\infty}$
(14.1)	beta exp.	$\zeta\text{-}\beta\lambda$	$\beta\lambda$	.	.	β	$\lim_{\beta\to\infty}$

Table 17.2: Properties of the generalized beta distribution

Properties		
name	$\mathrm{GenBeta}(x \mid a, s, \alpha, \gamma, \beta)$	
pdf	$\frac{1}{B(\alpha,\gamma)} \left\lvert \frac{\beta}{s} \right\rvert \left(\frac{x-a}{s}\right)^{\alpha\beta-1} \left(1-\left(\frac{x-a}{s}\right)^{\beta}\right)^{\gamma-1}$	
cdf / ccdf	$\frac{B\left(\alpha,\gamma;(\frac{x-a}{s})^{\beta}\right)}{B(\alpha,\gamma)}$	$\frac{\beta}{s} > 0 \,/\, \frac{\beta}{s} < 0$
	$= I\left(\alpha,\gamma;(\frac{x-a}{s})^{\beta}\right)$	
parameters	$a,\ s,\ \alpha,\ \gamma,\ \beta,\ \text{in}\ \mathbb{R},$	
	$\alpha, \gamma \geqslant 0$	
range	$x \in [a, a+s],$	$0 < s,\ 0 < \beta$
	$x \in [a+s, a],$	$s < 0,\ 0 < \beta$
	$x \in [a+s, +\infty],$	$0 > s,\ \beta < 0$
	$x \in [-\infty, a+s],$	$s < 0,\ \beta < 0$
mode	$\cdots$	
mean	$a + \frac{sB(\alpha+\frac{1}{\beta},\gamma)}{B(\alpha,\gamma)}$	$\alpha + \frac{1}{\beta} > 0$
variance	$\frac{s^2B(\alpha+\frac{2}{\beta},\gamma)}{B(\alpha,\gamma)} - \frac{s^2B(\alpha+\frac{1}{\beta},\gamma)^2}{B(\alpha,\gamma)^2}$	
skew	not simple	
kurtosis	not simple	
entropy	$\cdots$	
mgf	$\cdots$	
cf	$\cdots$	
$E(X^h)$	$\frac{s^hB(\alpha+\frac{h}{\beta},\gamma)}{B(\alpha,\gamma)}$	$a = 0,\ \alpha + \frac{h}{\beta} > 0$ [55]

18 Generalized beta prime

The **Generalized beta prime** (Feller-Pareto, beta-log-logistic[2], Wiebullized beta prime, generalized gamma ratio, Majumder-Chakravart[79, 96]) distribution [52, 55, 69] is a five parameter, continuous, univariate, unimodal probability density, with semi-infinite range. The functional form in the most straightforward parameterizaton is

$$\begin{aligned} &\mathrm{GenBetaPrime}(x|a, s, \alpha, \gamma, \beta) \qquad (18.1)\\ &= \frac{1}{B(\alpha,\gamma)}\left|\frac{\beta}{s}\right|\left(\frac{x-a}{s}\right)^{\alpha\beta-1}\left(1+\left(\frac{x-a}{s}\right)^{\beta}\right)^{-\alpha-\gamma}\\ &\quad a,\ s,\ \alpha,\ \gamma,\ \beta \text{ in } \mathbb{R}, \quad \alpha,\ \gamma > 0 \end{aligned}$$

The five real parameters of the gen. beta prime distribution consist of a location parameter a, a scale parameter s, two shape parameters, α and γ, and the Weibull power parameter β. The shape parameters, α and γ, are positive.

The generalized beta prime arrises as the Weibull transform of the standard beta prime distribution (12.2), and as order statics of the log-logistic distribution. The Amoroso distribution is a limiting form, and a variety of other distributions occur as special cases. (See Table 18.1). These distributions are most often encountered as parametric models for survival statistics developed by economists and actuaries.

Special cases

Transformed beta distribution [55, 97]:

$$\begin{aligned} &\mathrm{TransformedBeta}(x|s, \alpha, \gamma, \beta) \qquad (18.2)\\ &= \frac{1}{B(\alpha,\gamma)}\left|\frac{\beta}{s}\right|\left(\frac{x}{s}\right)^{\alpha\beta-1}\left(1+\left(\frac{x}{s}\right)^{\beta}\right)^{-\alpha-\gamma}\\ &= \mathrm{GenBetaPrime}(x|0, s, \alpha, \gamma, \beta) \end{aligned}$$

A generalized beta prime distribution without a location parameter, $a = 0$.

Burr (Burr type XII, Pareto type IV, beta-P, Singh-Maddala, generalized log-logistic, exponential-gamma) distribution [51, 86, 98]:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathrm{Burr}(x|\gamma, \beta) &= \gamma\beta\frac{x^{\beta-1}}{(1+x^{\beta})^{\gamma+1}} \qquad (18.3)\\ &= \mathrm{GenBurr}(x|0, 1, \gamma, \beta)\\ &= \mathrm{GenBetaPrime}(x|0, 1, 1, \gamma, \beta) \end{aligned}$$

Most commonly encountered a model of income distribution.

Generalized Burr (generalized Burr type XII, Weibull-gamma) distribution [98]:

$$\begin{aligned} &\mathrm{GenBurr}(x|a, s, \gamma, \beta) \qquad (18.4)\\ &= \frac{\beta\gamma}{s}\left(\frac{x-a}{s}\right)^{\beta-1}\left(1+\left(\frac{x-a}{s}\right)^{\beta}\right)^{-\gamma-1}\\ &= \mathrm{GenBetaPrime}(x|a, s, 1, \gamma, \beta) \end{aligned}$$

A Burr distribution with location and scale.

Inverse Burr (Burr type III, Dagum type I, Dagum, beta-kappa, beta-k kappa, Mielke) distribution [86, 98]:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathrm{InvBurr}(x|\gamma, \beta) &= \gamma\beta\frac{x^{\gamma\beta-1}}{(1+x^{\beta})^{\gamma+1}} \qquad (18.5)\\ &= \mathrm{Burr}(x|\gamma, -\beta)\\ &= \mathrm{GenBetaPrime}(x|0, 1, 1, \gamma, -\beta)\\ &= \mathrm{GenBetaPrime}(x|0, 1, \gamma, 1, \beta) \end{aligned}$$

Paralogistic distribution [51]:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathrm{Paralogistic}(x|\beta) &= \beta^2\frac{x^{\beta-1}}{(1+x^{\beta})^{\beta+1}} \qquad (18.6)\\ &= \mathrm{GenBetaPrime}(x|0, 1, 1, \beta, \beta) \end{aligned}$$

Inverse paralogistic distribution [97]:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathrm{InvParalogistic}(x|\beta) &= \beta^2\frac{x^{\beta^2-1}}{(1+x^{\beta})^{\beta+1}} \qquad (18.7)\\ &= \mathrm{GenBetaPrime}(x|0, 1, \beta, 1, \beta) \end{aligned}$$

Table 18.1: Specializations of generalized beta prime

(18.1)	generalized beta prime	a	s	α	γ	β	
(18.4)	gen. Burr	.	.	1	.	.	
(18.3)	Burr	0	1	1	.	.	
(18.5)	inverse Burr	0	1	.	1	.	
(18.6)	paralogistic	0	1	1	β	.	
(18.7)	inverse paralogistic	0	1	β	1	.	
(18.8)	log-logistic	0	.	1	1	.	
(18.1)	transformed beta	0	.	.	.	.	
(18.12)	half gen. Pearson VII	.	.	$\frac{1}{\beta}$	m-$\frac{1}{\beta}$	.	
(12.1)	beta prime	.	.	.	.	1	
(12.5)	Lomax	0	.	1	.	1	
(12.6)	inverse Lomax	0	.	.	1	1	
(12.2)	std. beta prime	0	1	.	.	1	
(12.3)	F	0	$\frac{k_2}{k_1}$	$\frac{k_1}{2}$	$\frac{k_2}{2}$	1	
(12.8)	uniform-prime	.	.	1	1	1	
(12.7)	exponential ratio	0	.	1	1	1	
(18.9)	half-Pearson VII	.	.	$\frac{1}{2}$	.	2	
(18.10)	half-Cauchy	.	.	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	2	
(18.11)	Moffat	0	.	1	.	2	
	<u>Limits</u>						
(13.1)	Amoroso	.	$\theta\gamma^{\frac{1}{\beta}}$	.	γ	.	$\lim_{\gamma\to+\infty}$
(15.1)	Prentice	ζ-$\beta\lambda$	$\beta\lambda$	.	.	β	$\lim_{\beta\to-\infty}$

Log-logistic (Fisk, Weibull-exponential, Pareto type III) distribution [4, 99]:

$$\mathrm{LogLogistic}(x|a,s,\beta) = \left|\frac{\beta}{s}\right| \frac{\left(\frac{x-a}{s}\right)^{\beta-1}}{\left(1+\left(\frac{x-a}{s}\right)^{\beta}\right)^2} \qquad (18.8)$$
$$= \mathrm{GenBurr}(x|0,s,1,\beta)$$
$$= \mathrm{GenBetaPrime}(x|0,s,1,1,\beta)$$

Used as a parametric model for survival analysis and, in economics, as a model for the distribution of wealth or income.

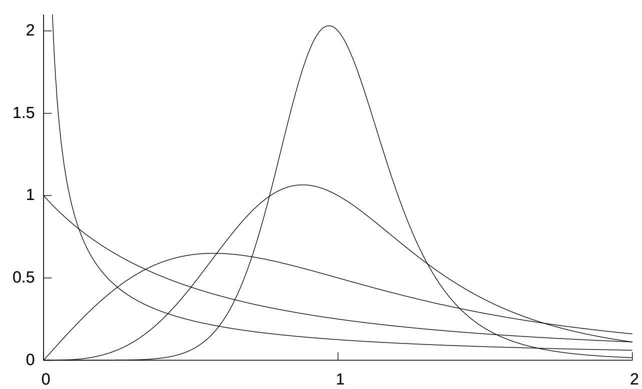


Figure 25: Log-logistic distributions, $\mathrm{LogLogistic}(x|0,1,\beta)$.

Half-Pearson VII (half-t) distribution [100]:

$$\mathrm{HalfPearsonVII}(x|a,s,m) \qquad (18.9)$$
$$= \frac{1}{B(\frac{1}{2}, m-\frac{1}{2})} \frac{2}{|s|} \left(1+\left(\frac{x-a}{s}\right)^2\right)^{-m}$$
$$= \mathrm{GenBetaPrime}(x|a,s,\tfrac{1}{2},m-\tfrac{1}{2},2)$$

The Pearson type VII (9.1) distribution truncated at the center of symmetry. Investigated as a prior for variance parameters in hierarchal models [100].

Half-Cauchy distribution [100]:

$$\mathrm{HalfCauchy}(x|a,s) = \frac{2}{\pi|s|}\left(1+\left(\frac{x-a}{s}\right)^2\right)^{-1} \qquad (18.10)$$
$$= \mathrm{HalfPearsonVII}(x|a,s,1)$$
$$= \mathrm{GenBetaPrime}(x|a,s,\tfrac{1}{2},\tfrac{1}{2},2)$$

A notable subclass of the Half-Pearson type VII, the Cauchy distribution (9.5) truncated at the center of symmetry.

Table 18.2: Properties of the generalized beta prime distribution

Properties		
notation	$\mathrm{GenBetaPrime}(x \mid a, s, \alpha, \gamma, \beta)$	
pdf	$\frac{1}{B(\alpha,\gamma)} \left\lvert \frac{\beta}{s} \right\rvert \left(\frac{x-a}{s}\right)^{\alpha\beta-1} \left(1 + \left(\frac{x-a}{s}\right)^{\beta}\right)^{-\alpha-\gamma}$	
cdf / ccdf	$\frac{B\big(\alpha,\gamma;(1+(\frac{x-a}{s})^{-\beta})^{-1}\big)}{B(\alpha,\gamma)}$	$\frac{\beta}{s}>0 \,/\, \frac{\beta}{s}<0$
	$= I\left(\alpha,\gamma;(1+(\frac{x-a}{s})^{-\beta})^{-1}\right)$	
parameters	$a,\ s,\ \alpha,\ \gamma,\ \beta$ in $\mathbb{R}$	
	$\alpha>0, \gamma>0$	
range	$x \geqslant a$	$s>0$
	$x \leqslant a$	$s<0$
mode	$\cdots$	
mean	$a + \frac{sB(\alpha+\frac{1}{\beta},\gamma-\frac{1}{\beta})}{B(\alpha,\gamma)}$	$-\alpha<\frac{1}{\beta}<\gamma$
variance	$s^2\left[\frac{B(\alpha+\frac{2}{\beta},\gamma-\frac{2}{\beta})}{B(\alpha,\gamma)} - \left(\frac{B(\alpha+\frac{1}{\beta},\gamma-\frac{1}{\beta})}{B(\alpha,\gamma)}\right)^2\right]$	$-\alpha<\frac{2}{\beta}<\gamma$
skew	not simple	
kurtosis	not simple	
entropy	$\ln\frac{1}{B(\alpha,\gamma)}\left\lvert\frac{\beta}{s}\right\rvert + (\frac{1}{\beta}-\alpha)\big[\psi(\alpha)-\psi(\gamma)\big]$	
	$+(\alpha+\gamma)\big[\psi(\alpha+\gamma)-\psi(\gamma)\big]$	[52]
mgf	$\cdots$	
cf	$\cdots$	
$E[X^h]$	$\frac{s^h B(\alpha+\frac{h}{\beta},\gamma-\frac{h}{\beta})}{B(\alpha,\gamma)}$	$a=0,\ -\alpha<\frac{h}{\beta}<\gamma$ [55]

Moffat distribution [1, 101]:

$$\mathrm{Moffat}(x \mid s,\gamma) = \frac{2\gamma}{|s|}\frac{x}{s}\left(1+\left(\frac{x}{s}\right)^2\right)^{-\gamma-1} \tag{18.11}$$
$$= \mathrm{GenBetaPrime}(x \mid 0, s, 1, \gamma, 2)$$

Distribution of radii of an uncorrelated bivariatant Student distribution. Used to model point spread functions (The spread in an image of light from a point source) in astrophysics [1, 101].

Half generalized Pearson VII distribution [2]:

$$\mathrm{HalfGenPearsonVII}(x \mid a, s, m, \beta) \tag{18.12}$$
$$= \frac{\beta}{|s| B(m-\frac{1}{\beta},\frac{1}{\beta})}\left(1+\left(\frac{x-a}{s}\right)^{\beta}\right)^{-m}$$
$$= \mathrm{GenBetaPrime}(x \mid a, s, \tfrac{1}{\beta}, m-\tfrac{1}{\beta}, \beta)$$

One half of a Generalized Pearson VII distribution (21.5). Special cases include half Pearson VII (18.9), half Cauchy (18.10), **half-Laha** (See (21.7)), and uniform prime (12.8) distributions.

$$\mathrm{HalfGenPearsonVII}(x \mid a, s, m, 2) = \mathrm{HalfPearsonVII}(x \mid a, s, m)$$
$$\mathrm{HalfGenPearsonVII}(x \mid a, s, 1, 2) = \mathrm{HalfCauchy}(x \mid a, s)$$
$$\mathrm{HalfGenPearsonVII}(x \mid a, s, 1, 4) = \mathrm{HalfLaha}(x \mid a, s)$$
$$\mathrm{HalfGenPearsonVII}(x \mid a, s, 2, 1) = \mathrm{UniPrime}(x \mid a, s)$$

The half exponential power (13.5) distribution occurs in the large m limit.

$$\lim_{m\to\infty} \mathrm{HalfGenPearsonVII}(x \mid a, m\theta, m, \beta)$$
$$= \mathrm{HalfExpPower}(x \mid, a, \theta, \beta)$$

Interrelations

Negating the Weibull parameter of the gen. beta prime distribution is equivalent to exchanging the shape parameters α and γ.

$$\begin{aligned}&\mathrm{GenBetaPrime}(x|a, s, \alpha, \gamma, \beta)\\&\qquad=\mathrm{GenBetaPrime}(x|a, s, \gamma, \alpha, -\beta)\end{aligned}$$

The distribution is related to ratios of gamma distributions.

$$\mathrm{GenBetaPrime}(a, s, \alpha, \gamma, \beta) \sim a + s\left(\frac{\mathrm{StdGamma}_1(\gamma)}{\mathrm{StdGamma}_2(\alpha)}\right)^{\frac{1}{\beta}} .$$

Limit of the generalized beta prime distribution include the Amoroso (13.1) [55] and Prentice (15.1) distributions.

$$\begin{aligned}&\lim_{\gamma\to\infty} \mathrm{GenBetaPrime}(x|a, \theta\gamma^{\frac{1}{\beta}}, \alpha, \gamma, \beta)\\&\qquad = \mathrm{Amoroso}(x|a, \theta, \alpha, \beta)\\&\lim_{\beta\to\infty} \mathrm{GenBetaPrime}(x|\zeta - \beta\lambda, \beta\lambda, \alpha, \gamma, \beta)\\&\qquad = \mathrm{Prentice}(x|\zeta, \lambda, \gamma, \alpha)\end{aligned}$$

Therefore, the gen. beta prime also indirectly limits to the normal (4.1), log-normal (8.1), gamma-exponential (7.1), Laplace (3.1) and power-function (5.1) distributions, among others.

Generalized beta prime describes the order statistics (§C) of the log-logistic distribution (18.8)).

$$\begin{aligned}&\mathrm{OrderStatistic}_{\mathrm{LogLogistic}(a,s,\beta)}(x|\gamma, \alpha)\\&\qquad = \mathrm{GenBetaPrime}(x|a, s, \alpha, \gamma, \beta)\end{aligned}$$

Despite occasional claims to the contrary [1, 1, 1], the log-Cauchy distribution is not a special case of the generalized beta prime distribution (gen. beta prime is mono-modal, log-Cauchy is not).

19 Pearson

The **Pearson** distributions [3, 5, 15, 47, 102] are a family of continuous, univariate, unimodal probability densities with distribution function

$$\begin{aligned} &\mathrm{Pearson}(x|a, s, a_0, a_1, b_0, b_1, b_2) \qquad (19.1)\\ &\quad = \frac{1}{N_{\mathrm{Pearson}}}\left(1 - \frac{1}{r_0}\frac{x-a}{s}\right)^{e_0}\left(1 - \frac{1}{r_1}\frac{x-a}{s}\right)^{e_1} \\ &\quad a,\ s,\ a_0,\ a_1,\ b_0,\ b_1,\ b_2,\ x \text{ in } \mathbb{R} \\ &\quad r_0 = \frac{-b_1+\sqrt{b_1^2-4b_2b_0}}{2b_2} \qquad e_0 = \frac{-a_0-a_1r_0}{r_1-r_0} \\ &\quad r_1 = \frac{-b_1-\sqrt{b_1^2-4b_2b_0}}{2b_2} \qquad e_1 = \frac{a_0+a_1r_1}{r_1-r_0} \end{aligned}$$

Pearson constructed his family of distributions by requiring that they satisfy the differential equation

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dx}\ln \mathrm{Pearson}(x|0, 1, a_0, 1, b_0, b_1) &= \frac{a_0 + x}{b_0 + b_1x + b_2x^2} \\ &= \frac{e_0}{x - r_0} + \frac{e_1}{x - r_1} \end{aligned}$$

Pearson's original motivation was that the discrete hypergeometric distribution obeys an analogous finite difference relation [102], and that at the time very few continuous, univariate, unimodal probability distributions had been described.

The Pearson distribution has three main subtypes determined by the roots of the quadratic denominator, r_0 and r_1. First, we can have two roots located on the real line, at the minimum and maximum of the distribution. This is commonly known as the beta distribution (11.1). (The parameterization is based on standard conventions)

$$p(x) \propto x^{\alpha-1}(1-x)^{\gamma-1}, \qquad 0 < x < 1$$

The second possibility is that the distribution has semi infinite range, with one root at the boundary, and the other located outside the distribution's range. This is the beta prime distribution. (12.1) (Again, the parameterization is based on standard conventions.)

$$p(x) \propto x^{\alpha-1}(1+x)^{-\alpha-\beta}, \qquad 0 < x < +\infty$$

The third possibility is that the distribution has an infinite range with both roots located off the real axis in the complex plain. To ensure that the distribution remains real, the roots must be complex conjugates of one another. In this case, the root order can also be complex conjugates of one another. This is Pearson's type IV distribution (16.1). (The complex roots and powers can be disguised with trigonometric functions and some algebra, at the cost of making the distribution look more complex than it actually is.)

$$p(x) \propto (i-x)^{m+i\nu}(i+x)^{m-i\nu}, \qquad -\infty < x < \infty$$

The Cauchy distribution, for instance, is a special case of Pearson's type IV distribution.

Table 19.1: Pearson's categorization

Type			Ref.
	normal	(4.1)	[15]
I	beta	(11.1)	[15]
II	symmetric beta	(11.4)	[15]
III	shifted gamma	(6.2)	[14]
IV	Includes Pearson VII	(16.1)	[15]
V	shifted inverse gamma	(13.13)	[47]
VI	beta prime	(12.1)	[47]
VII	Includes Cauchy and Student's t	(9.1)	[5]
VIII	Special case of power function	(5.1)	[5]
IX	Special case of power function	(5.1)	[5]
X	exponential	(2.1)	[5]
XI	Pareto	(5.6)	[5]
XII	J-shaped beta	(11.5)	[5]

Special cases

A large number of useful distributions are members of Pearson's family (See Fig.). Pearson identified 13 principle subtypes, the normal distribution and types I through XII (See table 19). In Fig. and table 19.2 we consider 12 principle subtypes. (We include the uniform, inverse exponential and Cauchy as distributions important in their own right, and give less prominence to Pearson's types VIII, IX, XI and XII.) All of the Pearson distributions have great utility and are widely applied, with the exception of Pearson IV (infinite range, complex roots with complex powers) (16.1), which appears rarely (if at all) in practical applications.

q-Gaussian (symmetric Pearson[2]) distribution [1, 1] distribution:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathrm{QGaussian}(x|a, \sigma, q) &\propto \exp_q\left(-\left(\tfrac{x-a}{\sigma}\right)^2\right) \qquad (19.2)\\ &\propto \left(1-(1-q)\left(\tfrac{x-a}{\sigma}\right)^2\right)^{\frac{1}{1-q}} \end{aligned}$$

Here $\exp_q$ is the q-generalized exponential function.

$$\mathrm{QGaussian}(x|a, \sigma, q) \begin{cases} \mathrm{Beta}(x|a - \frac{2\sigma}{\sqrt{1-q}}, \frac{2\sigma}{\sqrt{1-q}}, \frac{-q}{1-q}, \frac{-q}{1-q}) & -2 < q < 1 \\ \mathrm{Normal}(x|a, \sigma) & q = 1 \\ \mathrm{PearsonVII}(x|a, \frac{\sigma}{(q-1)^2}, \frac{1}{q-1})) & 1 < q < 3 \end{cases}$$

A special case of the Pearson family that interpolates between all of the symmetric Pearson distributions: Pearson II (11.4), normal (4.1) and Pearson VII (9.1) families. See also Fig. .

Table 19.2: Specializations of the Pearson distribution

(19.1)	Pearson	a	s	a_0	a_1	b_0	b_1	b_2
(1.1)	uniform	a	s	0	0	0	1	-1
(11.4)	Pearson II	?	?	$\alpha-1$	$2\alpha-2$	0	1	-1
(11.1)	beta	a	s	$\alpha-1$	$\alpha+\gamma-2$	0	1	-1
(2.1)	exponential	a	θ	0	-1	0	1	0
(6.1)	gamma	a	θ	$\alpha-1$	-1	0	1	0
(12.1)	beta prime	a	s	$\alpha-1$	$2\alpha+\gamma-1$	0	1	1
(13.14)	inv. gamma	a	θ	1	$-\alpha-1$	0	0	1
(13.15)	inv. exponential	a	θ	1	-2	0	0	1
(16.1)	Pearson IV	a	s	2ν	$-2m$	1	0	1
(9.1)	Pearson VII	a	s	0	$-2m$	1	0	1
(9.5)	Cauchy	a	s	0	-2	1	0	1
(4.1)	normal	μ	σ	0	-2	1	0	0

20 Grand Unified Distribution

The Grand Unified Distribution of order n is required to satisfy the following differential equation.

$$\frac{d}{dx}\ln \mathrm{GUD}^n(x|a,s;a_0,a_1,\ldots,a_n;b_0,b_1,\ldots,b_n;\beta)$$
$$= \left|\frac{\beta}{s}\right| \frac{1}{\left(\frac{x-a}{s}\right)} \frac{a_0 + a_1\left(\frac{x-a}{s}\right)^{\beta} + \cdots + a_n\left(\frac{x-a}{s}\right)^{n\beta}}{b_0 + b_1\left(\frac{x-a}{s}\right)^{\beta} + \cdots + b_2\left(\frac{x-a}{s}\right)^{n\beta}}$$
$$a,\ s,\ a_0,\ a_1,\ b_0,\ b_1,\ b_2,\ \beta,\ x\ \text{in}\ \mathbb{R}$$
$$\beta = 1 \text{ when } a_0 = 0$$

In principle, any analytic probability distribution can satisfy this relation. The central hypothesis of this compendium is that most interesting univariate continuous probability distributions satisfy this relation with low order polynomials in the denominator and numeration. If fact, there seems be little need to consider beyond $n = 2$, which we take as the default order, in the absence of further qualification.

$$\mathrm{GUD}(x|a,s;a_0,a_1,a_2;b_0,b_1,b_2;\beta) \tag{20.1}$$
$$= \tfrac{1}{G}\left(\tfrac{x-a}{s}\right)^{e_0\beta+\beta-1}\left(1-\tfrac{1}{r_1}\left(\tfrac{x-a}{s}\right)^{\beta}\right)^{e_1}\left(1-\tfrac{1}{r_2}\left(\tfrac{x-a}{s}\right)^{\beta}\right)^{e_2}$$
$$a,\ s,\ a_0,\ a_1,\ b_0,\ b_1,\ b_2,\ \beta,\ x\ \text{in}\ \mathbb{R}$$
$$\beta = 1 \text{ when } a_0 = 0$$
$$r_1 = \tfrac{-b_1+\sqrt{b_1^2-4b_0b_2}}{2b_0}$$
$$r_2 = \tfrac{-b_1-\sqrt{b_1^2-4b_0b_2}}{2b_0}$$
$$e_0 = \tfrac{a_0}{r_1r_2}$$
$$e_1 = \tfrac{a_0r_2+a_1r_1r_2+a_2r_1^2r_2}{(r_1-r_2)(r_1r_2)}$$
$$e_2 = \tfrac{a_0r_1+a_1r_1r_2+a_2r_1r_2^2}{(r_1-r_2)(r_1r_2)}$$

Special cases

Inverse Gaussian (Wald, inverse normal) distribution [3, 103, 104, 105, 106]:

$$\mathrm{InvGaussian}(x|\mu,\lambda) = \sqrt{\frac{\lambda}{2\pi x^3}}\exp\left(\frac{-\lambda(x-\mu)^2}{2\mu^2 x}\right) \tag{20.2}$$

with range $x > 0$, mean $\mu > 0$, and shape $\lambda > 0$. The name 'inverse Gaussian' is misleading, since this is not in any direct sense the inverse of a Gaussian distribution.

The inverse Gaussian distribution describes first passage time in one dimensional Brownian diffusion with drift [106]. The displacement x of a diffusing particle after a time t, with diffusion constant D and drift velocity v, is $\mathrm{Normal}(vt, \sqrt{2Dt})$. The 'inverse' problem is to ask for the first passage time, the time taken to first reach a particular position $y > 0$, which is distributed as $\mathrm{InvGaussian}(\frac{y}{v}, \frac{y^2}{2D})$.

In the limit that μ goes to infinity we recover the Lévy distribution (13.16), the first passage time distribution for Brownian diffusion without drift.

$$\lim_{\mu\to\infty}\mathrm{InvGaussian}(x|\mu,\lambda) = \text{Lévy}(x|0,\lambda)$$

The sum of independent inverse Gaussian random variables is also inverse Gaussian, provided that μ^2/λ is a constant.

$$\sum_i \mathrm{InvGaussian}_i(x|\mu' w_i, \lambda' w_i^2) \sim \mathrm{InvGaussian}\left(x \,\middle|\, \mu'\sum_i w_i, \lambda'\big(\sum_i w_i\big)^2\right)$$

Scaling an inverse Gaussian scales both μ and λ.

$$c\ \mathrm{InvGaussian}(x|\mu,\lambda) \sim \mathrm{InvGaussian}(x|c\mu, c\lambda)$$

It follows from the previous two relations the sample mean of an inverse Gaussian is inverse Gaussian.

$$\frac{1}{N}\sum_{i=1}^{N}\mathrm{InvGaussian}_i(x|\mu,\lambda) \sim \mathrm{InvGaussian}(x|\mu, N\lambda)$$

21 Miscellaneous related distributions

In this section we detail various related distributions that do not fall into the previously discussed families; either because they are not continuous, not univariate, not unimodal, or simply not simple. The notation is less uniform in this section and we do not provide detailed properties for each distribution, but instead list a few pertinent citations.

Bates distribution [4, 107]:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathrm{Bates}(n) &\sim \frac{1}{n}\sum_{i=1}^{n} \mathrm{Uniform}_i(0,1) \\ &\sim \frac{1}{n}\mathrm{IrwinHall}(n) \end{aligned} \tag{21.1}$$

The mean of n independent standard uniform variates.

Beta-Fisher-Tippett (generalized beta-exponential) distribution [2]:

$$\begin{aligned} &\mathrm{BetaFisherTippett}(x|\zeta,\lambda,\alpha,\gamma,\beta) \\ &= \frac{1}{B(\alpha,\gamma)}\left|\frac{\beta}{\lambda}\right|\left(\frac{x-\zeta}{\lambda}\right)^{\beta-1} e^{-\alpha(\frac{x-\zeta}{\lambda})^{\beta}}\left(1-e^{-(\frac{x-\zeta}{\lambda})^{\beta}}\right)^{\gamma-1} \\ &\text{for } x,\ \zeta,\ \lambda,\ \alpha,\ \gamma,\ \beta \text{ in } \mathbb{R}, \\ &\alpha,\ \gamma > 0, \quad \tfrac{x-\zeta}{\lambda} > 0 \end{aligned} \tag{21.2}$$

A five parameter, continuous, univariate , unimodal probability density, with semi-infinite range. The Beta-Fisher-Tippett occurs as the weibullization of the beta-exponential distribution (14.1), and as the order statistics of the Fisher-Tippett distribution (13.23).

$$\begin{aligned} &\mathrm{OrderStatistic}_{\mathrm{FisherTippett}\ (a,s,\beta)}(x|\alpha,\gamma) \\ &\qquad = \mathrm{BetaFisherTippett}(x|a,s,\alpha,\gamma,\beta) \end{aligned}$$

The order statistics of the Weibull (13.25) and Fréchet (13.28) distributions are therefore also Beta-Fisher-Tippett.

With $\beta = 1$ we recover the beta-exponential distribution (14.1). Other special cases include the **inverse beta-exponential**, $\beta = -1$ [2] (The order statistics of the inverse exponential distribution, (13.15)), and the **exponentiated Weibull** (Weibull-exponential) distribution, $\alpha = 1$ [108, 109].

Champernowne distribution [51, 110]:

$$\begin{aligned} &\mathrm{Champernowne}(x|\zeta,\lambda,\alpha,c) \\ &\quad\propto \frac{1}{\cosh\left(\alpha\frac{x-\zeta}{\lambda}\right)+c} \\ &\quad\propto \frac{1}{\frac{1}{2}e^{+\alpha\frac{x-\zeta}{\lambda}}+\frac{1}{2}e^{-\alpha\frac{x-\zeta}{\lambda}}+c} \\ &\quad x,\zeta,\lambda,\alpha,\ c \text{ in } \mathbb{R}, \quad \alpha, c > 0 \end{aligned} \tag{21.3}$$

A symmetric generalization of the logistic distribution (15.5) which we recover with $c = 1$. Confusion arrises because Champernowne also studied the exponential transform of this distribution, a generalization of the log-logistic (18.8).

Exponential power (Box-Tiao, generalized normal, generalized error, Subbotin) distribution [111, 112]:

$$\mathrm{ExpPower}(x|\zeta,\theta,\beta) = \frac{\beta}{2\theta\Gamma(\frac{1}{\beta})}e^{-\left|\frac{x-\zeta}{\theta}\right|^{\beta}} \tag{21.4}$$

A generalization of the normal distribution. Special cases include the normal, Laplace and uniform distributions.

$$\begin{aligned} \mathrm{ExpPower}(x|\zeta,\theta,1) &= \mathrm{Laplace}(x|\zeta,\theta) \\ \mathrm{ExpPower}(x|\zeta,\theta,2) &= \mathrm{Normal}(x|\zeta,\theta/\sqrt{2}) \\ \lim_{\beta\to\infty}\mathrm{ExpPower}(x|\zeta,\theta,\beta) &= \mathrm{Uniform}(x|\zeta-\theta,2\theta) \end{aligned}$$

Generalized Pearson VII (generalized Cauchy, generalized-t) distribution [46, 84, 113, 114, 115, 116]:

$$\begin{aligned} &\mathrm{GenPearsonVII}(x|a,s,m,\beta) \\ &\quad= \frac{\beta}{2|s|B(m-\frac{1}{\beta},\frac{1}{\beta})}\left(1+\left|\frac{x-a}{s}\right|^{\beta}\right)^{-m} \\ &\quad x,a,s,m,\beta \text{ in } \mathbb{R} \\ &\quad \beta > 0,\ m > 0,\ \beta m > 1 \end{aligned} \tag{21.5}$$

A generalization of the Pearson type VII distribution (9.1). Special cases include Pearson VII (9.1), Cauchy (9.5), Laha (21.7), Meridian (21.8) and exponential power (21.4) distributions,

$$\begin{aligned} \mathrm{GenPearsonVII}(x|a,s,m,2) &= \mathrm{PearsonVII}(x|a,s,m) \\ \mathrm{GenPearsonVII}(x|a,s,1,2) &= \mathrm{Cauchy}(x|a,s) \\ \mathrm{GenPearsonVII}(x|a,s,1,4) &= \mathrm{Laha}(x|a,s) \\ \mathrm{GenPearsonVII}(x|a,s,2,1) &= \mathrm{Meridian}(x|a,s) \\ \lim_{m\to\infty}\mathrm{GenPearsonVII}(x|a,m\theta,m,\beta) &= \mathrm{ExpPower}(x|,a,\theta,\beta) \end{aligned}$$

A related distribution is the **half generalized Pearson VII** (18.12), a special case of generalized beta prime (18.1).

Irwin-Hall (uniform sum) distribution [4, 117, 118]:

$$\mathrm{IrwinHall}(x|n) \tag{21.6}$$
$$= \frac{1}{2\,(n-1)!}\sum_{k=0}^{n}(-1)^k\binom{n}{k}(x-k)^{n-1}\,\mathrm{sgn}(x-k)$$

The sum of n independent standard uniform variates.

$$\mathrm{IrwinHall}(n) \sim \sum_{i=1}^{n}\mathrm{Uniform}_i(0,1)$$

Laha distribution [113, 119, 120]:

$$\mathrm{Laha}(x|a,s) = \frac{\sqrt{2}}{|s|\pi}\frac{1}{\left(1+(\frac{x-a}{s})^4\right)} \tag{21.7}$$

Introduced to disprove the belief that the ratio of two independent and identically distributed random variables is distributed as Cauchy (9.5) if, and only if, the distribution is normal. A special case of the generalized Pearson VII distribution (21.5).

In contradiction to the literature [120], Laha random variates can be easily generated by noting that the distribution is symmetric, and that the half-Laha distribution (18.12) is a special case of the generalized beta prime distribution, which can itself be generated as the ratio of two gamma distributions [2].

Meridian distribution [116] :

$$\mathrm{Meridian}(x|a,s) = \frac{1}{2|s|}\frac{1}{\left(1+|\frac{x-a}{s}|\right)^2} \tag{21.8}$$

A special case of the generalized Pearson VII distribution (21.5). The Laplace ratio distribution [116].

$$\mathrm{Meridian}(x|0,\tfrac{s_1}{s_2}) \sim \frac{\mathrm{Laplace}_1(0,s_1)}{\mathrm{Laplace}_2(0,s_2)}$$

Noncentral chi-square (Noncentral χ^2, χ'^2) distribution [4, 22]:

$$\mathrm{NoncentralChiSqr}(x|k,\lambda) \tag{21.9}$$
$$= \frac{1}{2}e^{-(x+\lambda)/2}\left(\frac{x}{\lambda}\right)^{\frac{k}{4}-\frac{1}{2}} I_{\frac{k}{2}-1}(\sqrt{\lambda x})$$
$$k,\lambda,x \text{ in } \mathbb{R}, > 0$$

Here, $I_\nu(z)$ is a modified Bessel function of the first kind. A generalization of the chi-square distribution. The distribution of the sum of k squared, independent, normal random variables with means μ_i and standard deviations σ_i,

$$\mathrm{NoncentralChiSqr}(k,\lambda) \sim \sum_{i=1}^{k}\left(\frac{1}{\sigma_i}\mathrm{Normal}_i(\mu_i,\sigma_i)\right)^2$$

where the non-centrality parameter $\lambda = \sum_{i=1}^{k}(\mu_i/\sigma_i)^2$.

The noncentral chi-square is also a Poisson mixture of gamma distributions (6.1).

$$\mathrm{NoncentralChiSqr}(x|k,\lambda) \sim \mathrm{Gamma}\Big(0,2,k{+}2\,\mathrm{Poisson}(\tfrac{\lambda}{2})\Big)$$

Noncentral F distribution [4, 22] :

$$\mathrm{NoncentralF}(k_1,k_2,\lambda_1,\lambda_2) \sim \frac{\mathrm{NoncentralChiSqr}_1(k_1,\lambda)/k_1}{\mathrm{NoncentralChiSqr}_2(k_2,\lambda)/k_2}$$
$$\text{for } k_1,k_2,\lambda_1,\lambda_2 > 0$$
$$\text{range } x > 0 \tag{21.10}$$

The ratio distribution of noncentral chi square distributions.

Rice (Rician, Rayleigh-Rice, generalized Rayleigh, noncentral-chi) distribution [121, 122]:

$$\mathrm{Rice}(x|\nu,\sigma) = \frac{x}{\sigma^2}\exp\left(-\frac{x^2+\nu^2}{2\sigma^2}\right) I_0\left(\frac{x|\nu|}{\sigma^2}\right) \tag{21.11}$$
$$x > 0$$

Here, $I_0(z)$ is a modified Bessel function of the first kind.

The absolute value of a circular bivariate normal distribution, with non-zero mean.

$$\mathrm{Rice}(\nu,\sigma) \sim \sqrt{\mathrm{Normal}_1^2(\nu\cos\theta,\sigma)+\mathrm{Normal}_2^2(\nu\sin\theta,\sigma)}$$

$$\mathrm{Rice}(\nu,1)^2 \sim \mathrm{NoncentralChiSqr}(2,\nu^2)$$

$$\mathrm{Rice}(0,\sigma) \sim \mathrm{Rayleigh}(\sigma)$$

Slash distribution [3, 123]:

$$\mathrm{Slash}(x) = \frac{\mathrm{StdNormal}(x) - \mathrm{StdNormal}(x)}{x^2} \tag{21.12}$$

The standard normal – standard uniform ratio distribution,

$$\mathrm{Slash}() \sim \frac{\mathrm{StdNormal}()}{\mathrm{StdUniform}()}$$

Note that $\lim_{x\to 0}\mathrm{Slash}(x) = 1/\sqrt{8\pi}$.

Stable (Lévy skew alpha-stable, L'evy stable) distribution [1, 1]: The PDF of the stable distribution does not have a closed form in general. Instead, the stable distribution can be defined via the characteristic function

$$\mathrm{StableCF}(t|\mu, c, \alpha, \beta) = \exp\left(it\mu - |ct|^\alpha(1 - i\beta \operatorname{sgn}(t)\Phi(\alpha)\right) \tag{21.13}$$

where $\Phi = \tan(\pi\alpha/2)$ if $\alpha \neq 1$, else $\Phi = -(2/\pi)\log|t|$. Location parameter μ, scale c, and two shape parameters, the index of stability or characteristic exponent $\alpha \in (0, 2]$ and a skewness parameter $\beta \in [-1, 1]$. This distribution is continuous and unimodal [124], symmetric if $\beta = 0$ (**Lévy symmetric alpha-stable**), and indefinite range, unless $\beta = \pm 1$ and $0 < \alpha \leqslant 1$, in which case the range is semi-infinite. If c or α is zero, the distribution limits to the degenerate distribution, §1.

A distribution X is stable if it is closed under scaling and addition,

$$\begin{aligned} a_1 \,\mathrm{Stable}(\mu, c, \alpha, \beta)_1 + & a_2 \,\mathrm{Stable}(\mu, c, \alpha, \beta)_2 \\ & \sim a_3 \,\mathrm{Stable}(\mu, c, \alpha, \beta)_3 + b \end{aligned}$$

for constants a_1, a_2, a_3, b.

There are three special cases of the stable distribution where the probability density functions can be expressed with elementary functions, the normal (4.1), Cauchy (9.5), and Lévy (13.16) distributions, all of which are simple.

$$\begin{aligned} \mathrm{Stable}(x|\mu, c, 2, \beta) &= \mathrm{Normal}(x|\mu, \sqrt{2}c) \\ \mathrm{Stable}(x|\mu, c, 1, 0) &= \mathrm{Cauchy}(x|\mu, c) \\ \mathrm{Stable}(x|\mu, c, \tfrac{1}{2}, 1) &= \mathrm{Lévy}(x|\mu, c) \end{aligned}$$

Non-normal stable distributions ($\alpha < 2$) are called **stable Paretian distributions**, since they all have long, Pareto tails.

Other special cases include the **Landau** distribution [125],

$$\mathrm{Landau}(x|\mu, c) = \mathrm{Stable}(x|\mu, c, 1, 1) \tag{21.14}$$

and the **Holtsmark** distribution [126],

$$\mathrm{Holtsmark}(x|\mu, c) = \mathrm{Stable}(x|\mu, c, \tfrac{3}{2}, 1)\ . \tag{21.15}$$

Suzuki distribution [1, 127]. A mixture of Rayleigh and log-normal distributions

$$\mathrm{Suzuki}(\vartheta, \sigma) \sim \mathrm{Rayleigh}(\sigma') \underset{\sigma'}{\bigwedge} \mathrm{LogNormal}(0, \vartheta, \sigma) \tag{21.16}$$

Introduced to model radio propagation in cluttered urban environments [127].

Triangular (tine) distribution [70]:

$$\mathrm{Triangular}(x|a, b, c) = \begin{cases} \frac{2(x-a)}{(b-a)(c-a)} & a \geqslant x \geqslant c \\ \frac{2(b-x)}{(b-a)(b-c)} & c \geqslant x \geqslant b \end{cases} \tag{21.17}$$

Range $x \in [a, b]$ and mode c. The wedge distribution (5.5) is a special case.

Uniform difference distribution [38]:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathrm{UniformDiff} &= \begin{cases} (1 + x) & -1 \geqslant x \geqslant 0 \\ (1 - x) & 0 \geqslant x \geqslant 1 \end{cases} \\ &= \mathrm{Triangular}(x| - 1, 1, 0) \end{aligned} \tag{21.18}$$

The difference of two independent standard uniform distributions (1.2).

Voigt (Voigt profile, Voigtian) distribution [128]:

$$\mathrm{Voigt}(a, \sigma, s) = \mathrm{Normal}(0, \sigma) + \mathrm{Cauchy}(a, s) \tag{21.19}$$

The convolution of a Cauchy (Lorentzian) distribution with a normal distribution. Models the broadening of spectral lines in spectroscopy [128].

Apocrypha

The following univariate continuous distributions are neither simple nor sufficiently interesting to be included in this compendium: alpha; alpha-Laplace (Linnik); alpha-semi-Laplace; anglit; Bates; Benini; beta warning time; Birnbaum-Saunders; Bradford; Burr types IV, V, VI, VII, VIII, IX, X and XI; double gamma; double Weibull; Champernowne; Chernoff; chi-bar-square; Dagum types II and III; entropic; Erlang-B; Erlang-C; fatigue lifetime; Gaussian tail; Hoyt (Nakagami-q); hyperbolic; inbe; Kummer; Johnson B; Johnson U; Leipnik; log-Laplace; normal-inverse Gaussian; McLeish; Muth; raised cosine (cosine); rectangular mean; Sargan; Schuhl;

Sichel (generalized inverse Gaussian); skew Laplace; skew normal; Stoppa; Tweedie distributions; U-quadratic; variance gamma; Von Mises (circular normal); Wakeby; Wiebull-exponential.

A Notes on notation and nomenclature

Throughout, I have endeavored to use consistent parameterization, both within families, and between subfamilies and superfamilies. For instance, β is always the Weibull parameter. Location (or translation) parameters: a, b, ν, μ. Scale parameters: s, θ, σ. Shape parameters: α, γ, u, ν. All parameters are real and the shape parameters α, γ and u are positive. The negation of a standard parameter is indicated by a bar, e.g. $\beta = -\bar{\beta}$.

parameter	type	notes
a	location	power-function
b	location	arcsine, $b = a + s$
ζ	location	exponential
μ	location	normal
ν	location	gamma-exponential
s	scale	power function
λ	scale	exponential
σ	scale	normal
ϑ	scale	log-normal
θ	scale	Amoroso
ω	scale	gen. Fisher Tippett
β	power	power function
α	shape	> 0, beta and beta prime families
γ	shape	> 0, beta and beta prime families
n	shape	integer > 0, number of samples or events
k	shape	integer > 0, degrees of freedom
m	shape	$> \frac{1}{2}$, Pearson IV
u	shape	> 0, Pearson IV

Nomenclature

interesting Informally, an "interesting distribution" is one that has acquired a name, which generally indicates that the distribution is the solution to one or more interesting problems.

generalized-X The only consistent meaning is that distribution "X" is a special case of the distribution "generalized-X". In practice, often means "add another parameter". We use alternative nomenclature whenever practical, and generally reserve "generalized" for the power (Weibull) transformed distribution.

standard-X The distribution "X" with the location parameter set to 0 and scale to 1. Not to be confused with *standardized* which generally indicates zero mean and unit variance.

shifted-X (or translated-X) A distribution with an additional location parameter.

scaled-X (or scale-X) A distribution with an additional scale parameter.

inverse-X (Occasionally inverted-X, reciprocal-X, or negative-X) Generally labels the transformed distribution with $x \mapsto \frac{1}{x}$, or more generally the distribution with the Weibull shape parameter negated, $\beta \to -\beta$. An exception is the inverse Gaussian distribution (20.2) [3].

log-X Either the exponential or logarithmic transform of the distribution X, i.e. either $\exp X() \sim \text{log-X}()$ (e.g. log-normal) or $\ln X() \sim \text{log-X}()$. This ambiguity arrises because although the second convention may be more logical, the log-normal convention has historical precedence. Herein, we follow the log-normal convention. See also X-exponential.

X-exponential The logarithmic transform of distribution X, i.e. $\ln X() \sim \text{X-exponential}()$. This naming convention, which arrises from the beta-exponential distribution (14.1), sidesteps the confusion surrounding the log-X naming convention.

reversed-X (Occasionally negative-X) The scale is negated.

X of the Nth kind See "X type N".

folded-X The distribution of the absolute value of random variable X.

beta-X A distribution formed by inserting the cumulative distribution function of X into the cdf of the standard beta distribution (11.2). Distributions of this form arise naturally in the study of order statistics (§C).

B Properties of distributions

notation The multi-letter, camel-cased function name, arguments and parameters used for the probability density of the family in this text. The bar, which we verbalize as "given", separates the arguments from the parameters. We write Amoroso$(x|a, \theta, \alpha, \beta)$ for a density function, Amoroso$(a, \theta, \alpha, \beta)$ for the corresponding random variable, and $X \sim$ Amoroso$(a, \theta, \alpha, \beta)$ to indicate that two random variables have the same probability distribution [45]. Recall that a "random variable" is an unbound function from events to values, whereas the probability density function maps from values to probabilities.

probability density function (pdf) The probability density $f_X(x)$ of a continuous random variable is the relative likelihood that the random variable will occur at a particular point. The probability to occur within a particular interval is given by the integral

$$P[a \leqslant X \leqslant b] = \int_a^b f_X(x)dx \ .$$

cumulative density function (cdf) The probability that a random variable has a value equal or less than x, typically denoted by $F_X(x)$, and also called the distribution function for short.

$$F_X(x) = \int_0^x f_X(z)dz$$

The probability density is equal to the derivative of the distribution function, assuming that the distribution function is continuous.

$$f_X(x) = \frac{d}{dx}F_X(x)$$

complimentary cumulative density function (ccdf) (survival function, reliability function) One minus the cumulative distribution function, $1 - F_X(x)$. The probability that a random variable has a value greater than x.

range The range of a random variable is the set of values that can be generated. The range of the random variables is also called the support of the probability density function. The compliment of the support has zero probability.

mode The point where the distribution reaches its maximum value. An anti-mode is the point where the distribution reaches its minimum value. A distribution is called unimodal if there is only one local extremum away from the boundaries of the distribution. In other words, the distribution can have one mode $\frown$ or one anti-mode $\smile$ or be monotonically increasing / or decreasing \.

mean The expectation value of the random variable.

$$E(X) = \int x \ f_X(x) \ dx$$

Not all interesting distributions have finite means, notable the Cauchy family (9.5).

variance The variance measures the spread of a distribution.

$$\text{var}(X) = E\left[(X - E(X))^2\right] = E\big[X^2\big] - E\big[X\big]^2$$

The variance is also know as the second central moment, or second cumulant. The standard deviation is the square root of the variance.

skew A distribution is skewed if it is not symmetric. A positively skewed distribution tends to have a majority of the probability density above the mean; a negatively skewed distribution tends to have a majority of density below the mean.

The standard measure of skew is the third cumulant (third central moment) normalized by the $\frac{3}{2}$ power of the second cumulant.

$$\text{skew}(X) = \frac{\kappa_3}{{\kappa_2}^{\frac{3}{2}}} = \frac{E\left[(X - E[X])^3\right]}{\left(E\left[(X - E[X])^2\right]\right)^{\frac{3}{2}}}$$

kurtosis Kurtosis measures the peakedness of a distribution. The normal distribution has zero kurtosis. A positive kurtosis distribution has a sharper peak and longer tails, while a negative kurtosis distribution has a more rounded peak and shorter tails.

The standard measure of kurtosis is the forth cumulant normalized by the square of the second cumulant.

$$\text{kurtosis}(X) = \frac{\kappa_4}{{\kappa_2}^2}$$

This measure is also called the excess kurtosis, to distinguish it from an older definition of kurtosis that used the forth central moment μ_4 instead of the forth cumulant. (Note that $\frac{\kappa_4}{{\kappa_2}^2} = \frac{\mu_4}{{\kappa_2}^2} - 3$).

entropy The differential (or continuous) entropy of a continuous probability distribution is

$$\text{entropy}(X) = -\int f(x) \ln f(x) \ dx$$

Note that unlike the entropy of a discrete variable, the differential entropy is not invariant under a change of variables, and can be negative.

moment generating function (mgf) The expectation

$$\text{mgf}_X(t) = E[e^{tX}] \ .$$

The nth derivative of the moment generating function, evaluated at 0, is equal to the nth moment of the distribution.

$$\frac{d^n}{dt^n}\text{mgf}_X(t)\Big|_0 = E[X^n]$$

If two random variables have identical moment generating functions, then they have identical probability densities.

cumulant generating function (cgf) The logarithm of the moment generating function.

$$\mathrm{cgf}_X(t) = \ln \mathrm{E}[e^{tX}]$$

The nth derivative of the cumulant generating function, evaluated at 0, is equal to the nth cumulant of the distribution.

$$\frac{d^n}{dt^n}\mathrm{cgf}_X(t)\Big|_0 = \kappa_n(X)$$

The nth cumulant is a function of the first n moments of the distribution, and the second and third are equal to the second and third central moments, $\mathrm{E}\left[(X - \mathrm{E}[X])^n\right]$.

$$\begin{aligned}
\kappa_1 &= \mathrm{E}[X] \\
\kappa_2 &= \mathrm{E}\left[(X - \mathrm{E}[X])^2\right] \\
\kappa_3 &= \mathrm{E}\left[(X - \mathrm{E}[X])^3\right] \\
\kappa_4 &= \mathrm{E}\left[(X - \mathrm{E}[X])^4\right] - 3\mathrm{E}\left[(X - \mathrm{E}[X])^2\right]
\end{aligned}$$

Cumulants are more useful than central moments, since cumulants are additive under summation of independent random variables.

$$\mathrm{cgf}_{X+Y}(t) = \mathrm{cgf}_X(t) + \mathrm{cgf}_Y(t)$$

characteristic function (cf) Neither the moment nor cumulant generating functions need exist for a given distribution. An alternative that always exists is the characteristic function

$$\mathrm{cf}_X(t) = \mathrm{E}(e^{itX}) \ ,$$

essentially the Fourier transform of the probability density function. The characteristic function for a sum of independent random variables is the product of the respective characteristic functions.

$$\mathrm{cf}_{X+Y}(t) = \mathrm{cf}_X(t)\ \mathrm{cf}_Y(t)$$

quantile function The inverse of the cumulative distribution function, typically denoted $F^{-1}(p)$ (or occasionally $Q(p)$). The median is the middle value of the inverse cumulative distribution function.

$$\mathrm{median}(X) = F_X^{-1}(\tfrac{1}{2})$$

Half the probability density is above the median, half below. The quantile and median rarely have simple forms.

hazard function The ration of the probability density function to the complimentary cumulative distribution function

$$h(x) = \frac{f_X(x)}{1 - F_X(x)}$$

C Order statistics

Order statistics [1, 1]: If we draw $m + n - 1$ independent samples from a distribution, then the distribution of the nth smallest value (or equivalently the mth largest) is

$$\begin{aligned} &\mathrm{OrderStatistic}_X(x|n,m) \\ &\quad = \frac{(n+m-1)!}{(n-1)!(m-1)!} F(x)^{n-1} f(x) (1-F(x))^{m-1} \end{aligned}$$

Here X is a random variable, $f(x)$ is the corresponding probability density and $F(x)$ is the cumulative distribution function. The first term is the number of ways to separate $n + m - 1$ things into three groups containing $1, n-1$ and $m-1$ things, the second is the probability of drawing the $n-1$ samples smaller than the sample of interest, the third term is the distribution of the nth sample, and the fourth term is the probability of drawing $m-1$ larger samples. Note that the smallest value is obtained if $n = 1$, the largest value if $m = 1$, and the median value if $n = m$.

The cumulative distribution function for order statistics can be expressed in terms of the regularized beta function, $I(p, q; z)$.

$$\mathrm{OrderStatisticCDF}_X(x|n,m) = I\big(n, m; F(x)\big)$$

Conversely, if a CDF for a distribution has the form $I\big(n, m; F(x)\big)$, then $F(x)$ is the cumulative distribution function of the corresponding ordering distribution. Since $I\big(\alpha, \gamma; x\big)$ is the CDF of the beta distribution (11.1), distributions of the form $I\big(\alpha, \gamma; F_X(x)\big)$ (with arbitrary positive α and γ) can be referred to as 'beta-X' [1, 129], e.g. the beta-exponential distribution (14.1).

The order statistic of the uniform distribution (1.1) is the beta distribution (11.1), that of the exponential distribution (2.1) is the beta-exponential distribution (14.1), and that of the power function distribution (5.1) is the generalized beta distribution (17.1).

$$\begin{aligned} &\mathrm{OrderStatistic}_{\mathrm{Uniform}(a,s)}(x|\alpha,\gamma) \\ &\qquad = \mathrm{Beta}(x|a,s,\alpha,\gamma) \\ &\mathrm{OrderStatistic}_{\mathrm{Exp}(\zeta,\lambda)}(x|\alpha,\gamma) \\ &\qquad = \mathrm{BetaExp}(x|\zeta,\lambda,\alpha,\gamma) \\ &\mathrm{OrderStatistic}_{\mathrm{PowerFn}(a,s,\beta)}(x|\alpha,\gamma) \\ &\qquad = \mathrm{GenBeta}(x|a,s,\alpha,\gamma,\beta) \\ &\mathrm{OrderStatistic}_{\mathrm{UniPrime}(a,s)}(x|\alpha,\gamma) \\ &\qquad = \mathrm{BetaPrime}(x|a,s,\alpha,\gamma) \\ &\mathrm{OrderStatistic}_{\mathrm{Logistic}(a,s)}(x|\gamma,\alpha) \\ &\qquad = \mathrm{Prentice}(x|a,s,\alpha,\gamma) \\ &\mathrm{OrderStatistic}_{\mathrm{LogLogistic}(a,s,\beta)}(x|\gamma,\alpha) \\ &\qquad = \mathrm{GenBetaPrime}(x|a,s,\alpha,\gamma,\beta) \end{aligned}$$

Extreme order statistics [1, 1] In the limit that $n \gg m$ (or equivalently $m \gg n$) we obtain the distributions of *extreme order statistics*. Extreme order statistics depends only on the tail behavior of the sampled distribution; whether the tail is finite, exponential or power-law. This explains the central importance of the generalized beta distribution (17.1) to order statistics, since the power function distribution (5.1) displays all three classes of tail behavior, depending on the parameter β. Consequentially, the generalized beta distribution limits to the generalized Fisher-Tippett distribution (13.22), which is the parent of the other, specialized extreme order statistics. See also extreme order statistics, (§**??**).

Median statistics [1, 1]: If we draw N independent samples from a distribution (Where N is odd), then the distribution of the median value is

$$\mathrm{MedianStatistic}_X(x|N) = \mathrm{OrderStatistic}_X(x|\tfrac{N-1}{2}, \tfrac{N-1}{2})$$

Notable examples of median statistic distributions include

$$\begin{aligned} &\mathrm{MedianStatistics}_{\mathrm{Uniform}(a,s)}(x|2\alpha+1) \\ &\qquad = \mathrm{PearsonII}(x|??, ??, \alpha) \\ &\mathrm{MedianStatistics}_{\mathrm{Logistic}(a,s)}(x|2\alpha+1) \\ &\qquad = \mathrm{SymPrentice}(x|a, s, \alpha) \end{aligned}$$

The median statistics of symmetric distributions are also symmetric.

D Miscellaneous mathematics

Special functions

Gamma function [66]:

$$\begin{aligned}\Gamma(z) &= \int_0^\infty t^{z-1} e^{-t} dt \\ &= (z-1)! \\ &= (z-1)\Gamma(z-1)\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\Gamma(\tfrac{1}{2}) &= \sqrt{\pi} \\ \Gamma(1) &= 1 \\ \Gamma(\tfrac{3}{2}) &= \frac{\sqrt{\pi}}{2} \\ \Gamma(2) &= 1\end{aligned}$$

Incomplete gamma function [66]:

$$\Gamma(a, z) = \int_z^\infty t^{a-1} e^{-t} dt$$

$$\begin{aligned}\Gamma(a, 0) &= \Gamma(a) \\ \Gamma(1, z) &= \exp(-x) \\ \Gamma(\tfrac{1}{2}, z) &= \sqrt{\pi}\,\mathrm{erfc}(\sqrt{z})\end{aligned}$$

Regularized gamma function [66]:

$$Q(a; z) = \frac{\Gamma(a; z)}{\Gamma(a)}$$

$$\begin{aligned}Q(\tfrac{1}{2}; z) &= \mathrm{erfc}(\sqrt{z}) \\ Q(1; z) &= \exp(-z) \\ \tfrac{d}{dz} Q(a; z) &= -\tfrac{1}{\Gamma(a)} z^{a-1} e^{-z}\end{aligned}$$

Beta function [66]:

$$\begin{aligned}B(p, q) &= \int_0^1 t^{p-1}(1-t)^{q-1} dt \\ &= \frac{\Gamma(p)\Gamma(q)}{\Gamma(p+q)}\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}B(p, q) &= B(q, p) \\ B(1, q) &= \tfrac{1}{q} \\ B(\tfrac{1}{2}, \tfrac{1}{2}) &= \pi\end{aligned}$$

Incomplete beta function [66]:

$$B(p, q; z) = \int_0^z t^{p-1}(1-t)^{q-1} dt$$

$$\begin{aligned}\tfrac{d}{dz} B(p, q; z) &= z^{p-1}(1-z)^{q-1} \\ B(1, 1; z) &= z\end{aligned}$$

Regularized beta function [1]:

$$I(p, q; z) = \frac{B(p, q; z)}{B(p, q)}$$

$$\begin{aligned}I(p, q; 0) &= 0 \\ I(p, q; 1) &= 1 \\ I(p, q; z) &= 1 - I(q, p; 1-z)\end{aligned}$$

Error function [66]:

$$\mathrm{erf}(z) = \frac{2}{\sqrt{\pi}} \int_0^z e^{-t^2} dt$$

Complimentary error function [66]:

$$\begin{aligned}\mathrm{erfc}(z) &= 1 - \mathrm{erf}(z) \\ &= \frac{2}{\sqrt{\pi}} \int_z^\infty e^{-t^2} dt.\end{aligned}$$

Gudermannian function [1, 66]:

$$\begin{aligned}\mathrm{gd}(z) &= \int_0^z \mathrm{sech}(t) dt \\ &= 2\arctan(e^x) - \tfrac{\pi}{2}\end{aligned}$$

Hypergeometric function [66, 130]: All of the preceding functions can be expressed in terms of the hypergeometric function:

$${}_pF_q(a_1, \ldots, a_p; b_1, \ldots, b_q; z) = \sum_{n=0}^\infty \frac{a_1^{\bar{n}}, \ldots, a_p^{\bar{n}}}{b_1^{\bar{n}}, \ldots, b_q^{\bar{n}}} \frac{z^n}{n!}$$

where $x^{\bar{n}}$ are rising factorial powers [66, 130]

$$x^{\bar{n}} = x(x+1)\cdots(x+n-1) = \frac{(x+n-1)!}{(x-1)!}\,.$$

The most common variant is the Gauss hypergeometric function ${}_2F_1(a, b; c; z)$, which can also be defined using an integral formula due to Euler,

$${}_2F_1(a, b; c; z) = \frac{1}{B(b, c-b)} \int_0^1 \frac{t^{b-1}(1-t)^{c-b-1}}{(1-zt)^a} dt \qquad |z| \leqslant 1\,.$$

Special cases include,

$$\begin{aligned}
B(a,b;z) &= \frac{z^a}{a}\,{}_2F_1(a,1-b;a+1;z)\\
B(a,b) &= \frac{1}{a}\,{}_2F_1(a,1-b;a+1;1)\\
\Gamma(a;z) &= \Gamma(a) - \frac{z^a}{a}\,{}_1F_1(a;a+1;-z)\\
\operatorname{erfc}(z) &= \frac{2z}{\sqrt{\pi}}\,{}_1F_1(\tfrac{1}{2};\tfrac{3}{2};-z^2)\\
\sinh(z) &= {}_0F_1(;\tfrac{3}{2};\tfrac{z^2}{4})\\
\cosh(z) &= {}_0F_1(;\tfrac{1}{2};\tfrac{z^2}{4})\\
\arctan(z) &= z\,{}_2F_1(\tfrac{1}{2},1;\tfrac{3}{2};-z^2)\\
\arcsin(z) &= z\,{}_2F_1(\tfrac{1}{2},\tfrac{1}{2};\tfrac{3}{2};z^2)
\end{aligned}$$

Sign function : The sign of the argument. For real arguments, the sign function is defined as

$$\operatorname{sgn}(x) = \begin{cases} -1 & \text{if } x < 0\\ 0 & \text{if } x = 0\\ 1 & \text{if } x > 0 \end{cases},$$

and for complex arguments the sign function can be defined as

$$\operatorname{sgn}(z) = \begin{cases} \frac{z}{|z|} & \text{if } z \neq 0\\ 0 & \text{if } z = 0 \end{cases}.$$

Polygamma function [66]:

$$\begin{aligned}
\psi_n(z) &= \tfrac{d^{n+1}}{dz^{n+1}} \ln\Gamma(z)\\
&= \tfrac{d^{n+1}}{dz^{n+1}} \psi(z)
\end{aligned}$$

The $(n+1)$th logarithmic derivative of the gamma function. The first derivative is called the the **digamma function** (or psi function) $\psi(z) \equiv \psi_0(z)$, and the second the **trigamma function** $\psi_1(z)$.

Limits

Two common and important limits are

$$\lim_{c\to 0} \frac{x^c - 1}{c} = \ln x$$

and

$$\lim_{c\to\infty} \left(1 + \frac{x}{c}\right)^c = e^x \quad .$$

It is sometimes useful to introduce 'q-deformed' exponential and logarithmic functions that extrapolate across these limits [1, 1, 1].

$$\exp_q(x) = \begin{cases} \exp(x) & q = 1\\ \big(1+(1-q)x\big)^{\frac{1}{1-q}} & q \neq 1, \quad 1+(1-q)x > 0\\ 0 & q < 1, \quad 1+(1-q)x \leqslant 0\\ +\infty & q > 1, \quad 1+(1-q)x \leqslant 0 \end{cases}$$

$$\ln_q(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{x^{1-q}-1}{1-q} & q \neq 1\\ \ln(x) & q = 1 \end{cases}$$

Note that these q-functions are unrelated to the q-exponential function defined in combinatorial mathematics.

E Random variate generation

For an introduction to uniform random generation see Knuth [131], and for generating non-uniform variates from uniform random numbers see Devroye (1986) [34]. Fast, high quality algorithms are widely available for uniform random variables (e.g. the Mersenne Twister [132]), for the gamma distribution (e.g. the Marsaglia-Tsang fast gamma method [133]) and normal distributions (e.g. the ziggurat algorithm of Marsaglia and Tsang (2000) [134]). The remaining simple distributions can be obtained from transforms of 1 or 2 gamma random variables [34] (listed below), with the exception of the Pearson IV distribution, which can be sampled with a rejection method [34, 92].

$$\mathrm{Uniform}(a, s) \sim a + s\ \mathrm{StdUniform}()$$

$$\mathrm{Exp}(a, s) \sim a + s\ \exp\big(\mathrm{StdUniform}()\big)$$

$$\mathrm{Laplace}(a, s) \sim a + s\ \mathrm{Sgn}()\ \exp\big(\mathrm{StdUniform}()\big)$$

$$\mathrm{Normal}(\mu, \sigma) \sim \mu + \sigma\ \mathrm{StdNormal}()$$

$$\begin{aligned}&\mathrm{Cauchy}(a, s)\\ &\quad\sim a + s\ \mathrm{Sgn}()\sqrt{\frac{\mathrm{StdGamma}_1(\frac{1}{2})}{\mathrm{StdGamma}_2(\frac{1}{2})}}\end{aligned}$$

$$\mathrm{PowerFn}(a, s, \beta) \sim a + s\ \mathrm{StdUniform}()^{\frac{1}{\beta}}$$

$$\mathrm{GammaExp}(a, s, \alpha) \sim a + s \ln\big(\mathrm{StdGamma}(\alpha)\big)$$

$$\mathrm{Gamma}(a, \theta, \alpha) \sim a + \theta\ \mathrm{StdGamma}(\alpha)$$

$$\begin{aligned}&\mathrm{PearsonVII}(a, s, m)\\ &\quad\sim a + s\ \mathrm{Sgn}()\sqrt{\frac{\mathrm{StdGamma}_1(m-\frac{1}{2})}{\mathrm{StdGamma}_2(\frac{1}{2})}}\end{aligned}$$

$$\mathrm{UnitGamma}(a, s, \alpha, \beta) \sim a + s \exp\big(\tfrac{1}{\beta}\mathrm{StdGamma}(\alpha)\big)$$

$$\begin{aligned}&\mathrm{Beta}(a, s, \alpha, \gamma)\\ &\quad\sim a + s\ \frac{\mathrm{StdGamma}_1(\gamma)}{\mathrm{StdGamma}_1(\gamma) + \mathrm{StdGamma}_2(\alpha)}\end{aligned}$$

$$\mathrm{BetaPrime}(a, s, \alpha, \gamma) \sim a + s\frac{\mathrm{StdGamma}_1(\gamma)}{\mathrm{StdGamma}_2(\alpha)}$$

$$\mathrm{Amoroso}(a, \theta, \alpha, \beta) \sim a + \theta\ \mathrm{StdGamma}(\alpha)^{\frac{1}{\beta}}$$

$$\begin{aligned}&\mathrm{BetaExp}(a, s, \alpha, \gamma)\\ &\quad\sim a + s\ \ln\frac{\mathrm{StdGamma}_1(\gamma)}{\mathrm{StdGamma}_1(\gamma) + \mathrm{StdGamma}_2(\alpha)}\end{aligned}$$

$$\mathrm{Prentice}(a, s, \alpha, \gamma) \sim a + s \ln\left(\frac{\mathrm{StdGamma}_1(\gamma)}{\mathrm{StdGamma}_2(\alpha)}\right)$$

$$\begin{aligned}&\mathrm{GenBeta}(a, s, \alpha, \gamma, \beta)\\ &\quad\sim a + s\ \left(\frac{\mathrm{StdGamma}_1(\gamma)}{\mathrm{StdGamma}_1(\gamma) + \mathrm{StdGamma}_2(\alpha)}\right)^{\frac{1}{\beta}}\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}&\mathrm{GenBetaPrime}(a, s, \alpha, \gamma, \beta)\\ &\quad\sim a + s\ \left(\frac{\mathrm{StdGamma}_1(\gamma)}{\mathrm{StdGamma}_2(\alpha)}\right)^{\frac{1}{\beta}}\end{aligned}$$

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Index of distributions

Subject Index

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Version History

0.5 (2013-07-01) Added uniform product, half generalized Pearson VII, half exponential power distributions, GUD and q-Type distributions; ; Moved Pearson IV to own section; Fixed errors in Inverse Gaussian; Added random variate generation appendix. Fixed typos. Thanks to David Sivak, Dieter Grientschnig, Srividya Iyer-Biswas and Shervin Fatehi.

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0.3 (2011-06-40) : Fixed many typos; Added tree of distributions. Improved formatting.

0.2 (2011-03-01) : Fixed many typos; expanded families. Thanks to David Sivak.

0.1 (2011-01-16): Initial release. Organize over 100 simple, continuous, univariate probability distributions into 14 families. Greatly expands on previous paper that discussed the Amoroso and log-gamma families. Thanks to David Sivak, Edward E. Ayoub, Francis J. O'Brien.