

### 2.3 Cont

Find the median of  $F(x) = 1 - e^{-\left(\frac{x}{3}\right)^2}$ ,  $x > 0$ .

Median is where  $F(x_{.5}) = .5$

$$1 - e^{-\left(\frac{x_{.5}}{3}\right)^2} = .5$$

$$1 - .5 = e^{-\left(\frac{x_{.5}}{3}\right)^2}$$

$$.5 = e^{-\left(\frac{x_{.5}}{3}\right)^2}$$

$$\ln(.5) = -\left(\frac{x_{.5}}{3}\right)^2$$

$$3\sqrt{-\ln(.5)} = x_{.5} \quad (\text{since } x_{.5} > 0)$$

$$x_{.5} = 3\sqrt{\ln 2} \approx 974 \text{ months}$$

**Def:**

If the pdf has a unique max at  $x = m_0$ ,

(e.g.  $\max_{\text{all } x} f(x) = f(m_0)$ ), then  $m_0$  is called the mode of  $x$ .

Ex: The pdf of the previous example is

$$f(x) = \left(\frac{2}{9}\right) x e^{-\left(\frac{x}{3}\right)^2}, \quad x > 0$$

$$f'(x) = 0 = \frac{2}{9} \left[ x e^{-\left(\frac{x}{3}\right)^2} \left(-\frac{2}{9}x\right) + e^{-\left(\frac{x}{3}\right)^2} \right]$$

$$= \frac{2}{9} e^{-\left(\frac{x}{3}\right)^2} \left[ -\frac{2}{9}x^2 + 1 \right] = 0$$

$$-\frac{2}{9}x^2 + 1 = 0 \Rightarrow x^2 = \frac{9}{2}$$

$$x = \frac{3}{\sqrt{2}} = 2.121 \text{ months}$$

In general, the mean, median, and mode are all different, but there are cases when they agree.

## 2.4 Some properties of Expected Values

Random Variable  $X$ . Consider  $Y = u(X)$   
(A function of a Random Variable  
is another random variable.)

Thm 2.4.1 If  $X$  is a Random variable with  
pdf  $f(x)$  and  $u(x)$  is a real valued function  
whose domain includes all the possible values of  $X$ ,  
then

$$E[u(X)] = \begin{cases} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} u(x) f(x) dx & , \text{ if } X \text{ is continuous} \\ \sum_x u(x) f(x) & , \text{ if } X \text{ is discrete.} \end{cases}$$

## Thm 2.4.2 Linearity of the Expectation Operator

If  $X$  is a R.V. with pdf  $f(x)$ ,  $a, b$  are  
constants, and  $g(x)$  &  $h(x)$  are real-  
valued functions whose domains include  
all the possible values of  $X$ , then

$$\begin{aligned} E[ag(x) + bh(x)] &= aEg(x) + bEh(x) \\ &= aE[g(x)] + bE[h(x)] \end{aligned}$$

## DEF 2.4.1

The variance of a R.V.  $X$  is given by

$$\text{Var}(X) = E(X - \mu)^2 = E[(X - \mu)^2]$$

Note:  $\sigma^2$ ,  $\sigma_x^2$ , and  $V(X)$  are all common  
notations for  $\text{var}(X)$ . Further  $\sigma = \sqrt{\text{var}(X)}$   
 $= \sigma_x$  is called the standard deviation.

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DEF A dist with pdf  $f(x)$  is said to be symmetric about  $c$  if

$$f(c-x) = f(c+x) \text{ for all } x.$$

Asymmetric distributions are called skewed dist.

### Mixed Distribution

It is possible to have a random variable whose dist. is neither purely discrete nor continuous. A prob. dist. for a R.V.  $X$  is of mixed type if the CDF has the form

$$F(x) = aF_d(x) + (1-a)F_c(x)$$

$F_d$  is the CDF of a discrete R.V. and  $F_c$  is the CDF of a continuous R.V. and  $0 < a < 1$

### Corollary

$$\text{Var}(X) = E(X^2) - \mu^2, \text{ where } \mu = E(X).$$

Proof:  $\text{Var}(X) = E(X - \mu)^2$  (by def)

$$= E[X^2 - 2X\mu + \mu^2]$$

$$= E(X^2) - 2\mu \frac{E(X)}{\mu} + \mu^2$$

$$= E(X^2) - 2\mu^2 + \mu^2$$

$$= E(X^2) - \mu^2$$

$$= E(X^2) - [E(X)]^2$$

Note: The variance (or std. dev) provides a measure of the "spread."

DEF: The  $k^{\text{th}}$  moment about the origin of a R.V.  $X$  is

$$\mu'_k = E(X^k)$$

and the  $k^{\text{th}}$  moment about the mean is

$$\mu_k = E[(X - \mu)^k] = E(X - \mu)^k$$

Note: The mean  $\mu$  is the first moment about the origin  $\mu = \mu'_1$

The variance  $\sigma^2$  is the second moment about the mean  $\sigma^2 = E(X - \mu)^2 = \mu_2$

**Thm 2.4.4** If  $X$  is a R.V. and  $a, b$  are const.

then

$$\text{Var}(aX + b) = a^2 \text{Var}(X)$$

Note: The mean absolute deviation is defined as

$$E|X-\mu| \quad (\text{MAD})$$

Thm 2.4.5 If a dist is symmetric about mean  $\mu$ , then the third moment about the mean is 0. (e.g.  $\mu_3=0$ )

Thm. 2.4.6 If  $X$  is a R.V.

$u(x)$  is a non-neg. real valued function, then for any positive constant  $c > 0$ ,

$$P\{u(x) \geq c\} \leq \frac{E[u(x)]}{c}$$

Markov inequality set  $u(x) = |x|^r, r > 0$

then thm 2.4.6 gives

$$P\{|x| \geq c\} \leq \frac{E[|x|^r]}{c^r}$$

Thm 2.4.7 Chebychev's Inequality  
If  $X$  is R.V. with mean  $\mu$  and variance  $\sigma^2$ , then for any  $k > 0$ ,

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

proof:  $u(x) = (x-\mu)^2$

An alternative form is  
 $P\{|X-\mu| < k\sigma\} \geq 1 - \frac{1}{k^2}$