



Lisbon School  
of Economics  
& Management  
Universidade de Lisboa

A decorative background graphic consisting of a teal-to-green gradient. Overlaid on this are several data visualization elements: a blue line graph with circular markers, a light blue area chart, and a light green area chart. Vertical dashed lines are spaced across the background.

# STATISTICS I

## Bachelor's degrees in Economics and Finance

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Year/2<sup>nd</sup> Semester

### 2025/2026

# Practical Class 3

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<https://doity.com.br/estatistica-aplicada-a-nutricao>



<https://basiccode.com.br/produto/informatica-basica/>

# Discrete vs Continuous Data

## Discrete Data

Probability Function or PF

$$f(x) = P(X = x)$$

**Example:**

$x$	0	1	2
$f(x) = P(X=x)$	0.3	0.2	0.5

- $0 \leq f_X(x_j) \leq 1, j = 1, 2, 3, \dots$
- $\sum_{j=1}^{\infty} f_X(x_j) = 1.$

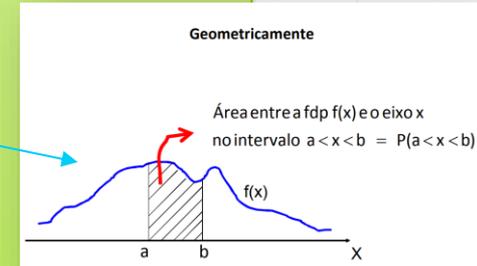
## Continuous Data

Probability Density Function or PDF

$$f(x)$$

**Example:**

$$f(x) = 1/2, x \in D = (0,2)$$



- $f_X(x) \geq 0$  for  $-\infty < x < +\infty$
- $\int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} f_X(x) dx = 1.$

# Discrete vs Continuous Data

## Discrete Data

Cumulative Distribution Function or CDF

$$F_X(x) = P(X \leq x) = \sum_{x_j \leq x} f_X(x_j).$$

**Example:**

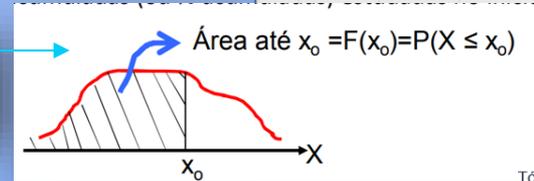
$x$	0	1	2
$f(x) = P(X=x)$	0.3	0.2	0.5

$$F(x) = \begin{cases} 0, & x < 0 \\ 0.3, & 0 \leq x < 1 \\ 0.5, & 1 \leq x < 2 \\ 1, & x \geq 2 \end{cases}$$

## Continuous Data

Cumulative Distribution Function or CDF

$$F_X(x) = \int_{-\infty}^x f_X(s) ds.$$



**Example:**

$$f(x) = 1/2, x \in D = (0,2)$$

$$F(x) = \begin{cases} 0, & x < 0 \\ x/2, & 0 \leq x < 2 \\ 1, & x \geq 2 \end{cases}$$

$$f_X(x) = \frac{dF_X(x)}{dx}$$

# Discrete vs Continuous Data

## Properties of CDFs:

- 1)  $0 \leq F_X(x) \leq 1$ ;
- 2)  $F_X(x)$  is non-decreasing:  $\forall \Delta_x > 0 : F_X(x) \leq F_X(x + \Delta_x)$ .
- 3)  $\lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} F_X(x) = 0$  and  $\lim_{x \rightarrow +\infty} F_X(x) = 1$ .
- 4)  $P(a < X \leq b) = F_X(b) - F_X(a)$ , for  $b > a$
- 5)  $\lim_{x \rightarrow a^+} F_X(x) = F_X(a)$ ; therefore  $X$  is **right continuous**
- 6)  $P(X = a) = F_X(a) - \lim_{x \rightarrow a^-} F_X(x)$  for any real finite number.

# Cumulative Distribution Function: Notes

1.  $P(X \in B) = \sum_{x_i \in B} f_X(x_i);$

2.  $F_X(x) = \sum_{x_i \leq x} f_X(x_i);$

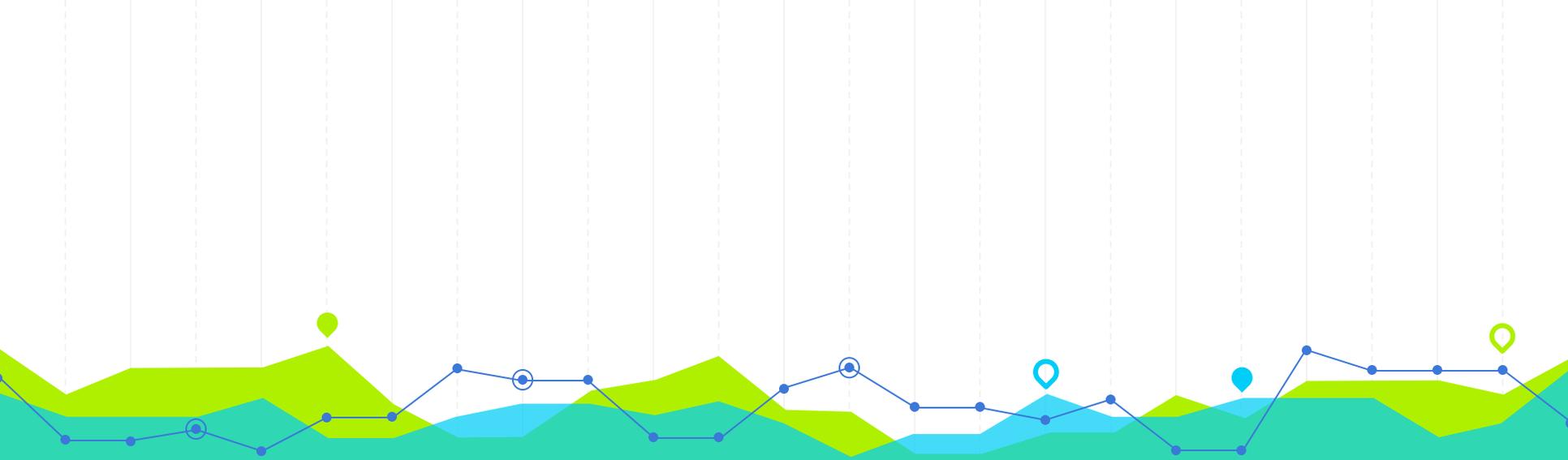
3.  $f_X(x) = F_X(x) - F_X(x^-)$ , onde  $F_X(x^-) \equiv P(X < x);$

4.  $P(a \leq X \leq b) = F_X(b) - F_X(a) + f_X(a);$

5.  $P(a < X < b) = F_X(b) - F_X(a) - f_X(b);$

6.  $P(a \leq X < b) = F_X(b) - F_X(a) - f_X(b) + f_X(a);$

7.  $P(a < X \leq b) = F_X(b) - F_X(a).$



# Discrete Random Variable: Exercises

Probability Function (PF) and Cumulative Distribution Function (CDF)

1

# Remarks: PF and CDF

Exercises: 1, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 12

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} 1) f_x(x) \geq 0 \quad \forall x \in D_x \\ 2) \sum_{x \in D_x} f_x(x) = 1 \end{array} \right.$$

**Answer:**  $F$  can be a cumulative distribution function because it seems that  $F$  is non-decreasing,  $0 \leq F \leq 1$  and  $F$  is right continuous.

1. For each of the following, determine whether the given values can serve as the values of a probability function of a random variable with the range  $x = 1, 2, 3,$  and  $4$ :
- a)  $f(1) = 0.25, f(2) = 0.75, f(3) = 0.25,$  and  $f(4) = -0.25$ ;
  - b)  $f(1) = 0.15, f(2) = 0.27, f(3) = 0.29,$  and  $f(4) = 0.29$ ;
  - c)  $f(1) = 1/19, f(2) = 10/19, f(3) = 2/19,$  and  $f(4) = 5/19$ .



## Exercise 1 a), b) and c)

$$D_x = \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$$

a) No, because  $f_x(4) < 0$

b) Yes, because  $\sum_{x \in D_x} f_x(x) = 1$  and  $f_x(x) \geq 0 \quad \forall x \in D_x$

c) No, because  $\sum_{x \in D_x} f_x(x) = \frac{18}{19} \neq 1$

2. Verify that  $f(x) = 2x/[k(k + 1)]$  for  $x = 1, 2, 3, \dots, k$  can serve as the probability function of a random variable with the given range.



## Exercise 2

$$f_x(x) = \frac{2x}{K(K+1)} \quad (x = 1, 2, 3, \dots, K)$$

$$f_x(x) > 0 \quad \forall K \in \mathbb{N}, \forall x \in D_x$$

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{x \in D_x} f_x(x) &= \sum_{x=1}^K \frac{2x}{K(K+1)} = \frac{2}{K(K+1)} \sum_{x=1}^K x = \\ &= \frac{2}{K(K+1)} \frac{1}{2} K(K+1) = 1 \end{aligned}$$

*K is fixed*  
*arithmetic series*

Conclusion: Since  $f_x(x) > 0 \quad \forall x \in D_x$  and  $\sum_{x \in D_x} f_x(x) = 1$  it is confirmed that  $f_x(x)$  is a valid probability function.

Note (arithmetic series):

$$\sum_{k=1}^n k = \frac{1}{2} n(n+1)$$

3. For what values of  $k$  can  $f(x) = (1-k)k^x$  serve as the values of the probability function of a random variable with the countably infinite range  $x = 0, 1, 2, \dots$ ?



## Exercise 3

$$f_x(x) = (1-k)k^x \quad (x = 0, 1, 2, \dots)$$

$$\text{We need: } \begin{cases} 1) f_x(x) \geq 0 \quad \forall x \in D_x \\ 2) \sum_{x \in D_x} f_x(x) = 1 \end{cases}$$

*Infinite geometric series  
(ratio  $k$ )*

$$\sum_{x \in D_x} f_x(x) = \sum_{x=0}^{+\infty} (1-k)k^x = (1-k) \sum_{x=0}^{+\infty} k^x =$$

$$\text{If } |k| < 1 \rightarrow = (1-k) \frac{1}{1-k} = 1$$

## Exercise 3

$$f_x(x) = (1-K)K^x \geq 0 \quad \forall K \in (0, 1)$$

Conclusion:  $f_x(x) = (1-K)K^x$  serves as a probability function if  $0 < K < 1$

Note (geometric series):

For  $-1 < r < 1$ , the sum converges as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ , in which case

$$S \equiv S_\infty = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} r^k = \frac{1}{1-r}$$

4. Show that  $f(x) = 1/x$  cannot serve as the values of the probability function of a random variable with the countably infinite range  $x = 1, 2, 3, \dots$



## Exercise 4

$$f_x(x) = \frac{1}{x} \quad (x = 1, 2, 3, \dots)$$

$$\sum_{x \in D_x} f_x(x) = \underbrace{\sum_{x=1}^{+\infty} \frac{1}{x}} = 1 + \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{4} + \dots > 1$$

Harmonic series (known to diverge)

Since  $\sum_{x \in D_x} f_x(x)$  diverges,  $f_x(x)$  is not a valid probability function.

5. For each of the following, determine whether the given values can serve as the values of a cumulative distribution function of a random variable with the range  $x = 1, 2, 3,$  and 4:

(a)  $F(1) = 0.3, F(2) = 0.5, F(3) = 0.8,$  and  $F(4) = 1.2;$

(b)  $F(1) = 0.5, F(2) = 0.4, F(3) = 0.7,$  and  $F(4) = 1.0;$

(c)  $F(1) = 0.25, F(2) = 0.61, F(3) = 0.83,$  and  $F(4) = 1.0.$



## Exercise 5 a), b) and c)

(a)  $F(1) = 0.3$ ,  $F(2) = 0.5$ ,  $F(3) = 0.8$ , and  $F(4) = 1.2$ ;

**Answer:**  $F$  is not a cumulative distribution function because  $F(4) > 1$ , which is not allowed because a CDF has to verify  $0 \leq F \leq 1$ .

(b)  $F(1) = 0.5$ ,  $F(2) = 0.4$ ,  $F(3) = 0.7$ , and  $F(4) = 1.0$ ;

**Answer:**  $F$  is not a cumulative distribution function because  $F(2) < F(1)$ , which means that  $F$  decreases, which is not allowed.

(c)  $F(1) = 0.25$ ,  $F(2) = 0.61$ ,  $F(3) = 0.83$ , and  $F(4) = 1.0$ .

**Answer:**  $F$  can be a cumulative distribution function because it seems that  $F$  is non-decreasing,  $0 \leq F \leq 1$  and  $F$  is right continuous.

We can't know for sure  
with the information  
that we have

6. If  $X$  has the cumulative distribution function

$$F_X(x) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{for } x < 1 \\ 1/3 & \text{for } 1 \leq x < 4 \\ 1/2 & \text{for } 4 \leq x < 6 \\ 5/6 & \text{for } 6 \leq x < 10 \\ 1 & \text{for } x \geq 10 \end{cases}$$

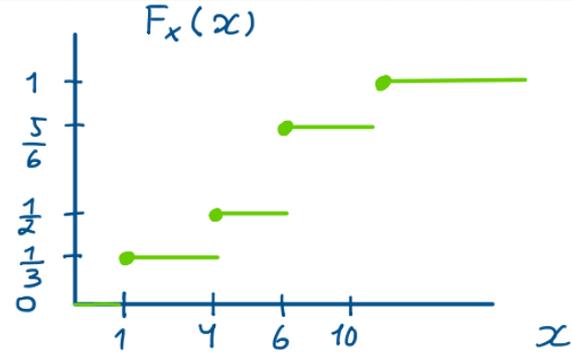
find

- (a)  $P(2 < X \leq 6)$ ;
- (b)  $P(X = 4)$ ;
- (c) the probability function of  $X$ .



## Exercise 6 a) and b)

$$P(X \leq x) = F_X(x) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{for } x < 1 \\ 1/3 & \text{for } 1 \leq x < 4 \\ 1/2 & \text{for } 4 \leq x < 6 \\ 5/6 & \text{for } 6 \leq x < 10 \\ 1 & \text{for } x \geq 10 \end{cases}$$



a)

$$P(2 < X \leq 6) = F_X(6) - F_X(2) = \frac{5}{6} - \frac{1}{3} = \frac{5}{6} - \frac{2}{6} = \frac{3}{6} = \frac{1}{2}$$

b)

$$P(X=4) = F_X(4) - F_X(4^-) = \frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{3} = \frac{3}{6} - \frac{2}{6} = \frac{1}{6}$$

$f_X(4)$

## Exercise 6 c)

c)

$$D_x = \{1, 4, 6, 10\}$$

$$f_x(x) = P(X=x) = F_x(x) - F_x(x^-)$$

$$f_x(1) = \frac{1}{3} - 0 = \frac{1}{3}$$

$$f_x(6) = \frac{5}{6} - \frac{1}{2} = \frac{5}{6} - \frac{3}{6} = \frac{2}{6} = \frac{1}{3}$$

$$f_x(4) = \frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{3} = \frac{1}{6}$$

$$f_x(10) = 1 - \frac{5}{6} = \frac{1}{6}$$

$$\text{Conclusion: } f_x(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{3} & (x = 1, 6) \\ \frac{1}{6} & (x = 4, 10) \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

7. Find the cumulative distribution function of the random variable that has the probability function  $f(x) = x/15$  for  $x = 1, 2, 3, 4, 5$ .



## Exercise 7

$$f_x(x) = \frac{x}{15} \quad (x = 1, 2, 3, 4, 5)$$

$$F_x(1) = f_x(1) = \frac{1}{15}$$

$$F_x(2) = f_x(1) + f_x(2) = \frac{1}{15} + \frac{2}{15} = \frac{3}{15}$$

$$F_x(3) = f_x(1) + f_x(2) + f_x(3) = \frac{1}{15} + \frac{2}{15} + \frac{3}{15} = \frac{6}{15}$$

$$F_x(4) = f_x(1) + f_x(2) + f_x(3) + f_x(4) = \frac{1}{15} + \frac{2}{15} + \frac{3}{15} + \frac{4}{15} = \frac{10}{15}$$

$$F_x(5) = f_x(1) + f_x(2) + f_x(3) + f_x(4) + f_x(5) = \frac{1}{15} + \frac{2}{15} + \frac{3}{15} + \frac{4}{15} + \frac{5}{15} = 1$$

# Exercise 7

Conclusion:

$$F_x(x) = \begin{cases} 0 & (x < 1) \\ \frac{1}{15} & (1 \leq x < 2) \\ \frac{3}{15} & (2 \leq x < 3) \\ \frac{6}{15} & (3 \leq x < 4) \\ \frac{10}{15} & (4 \leq x < 5) \\ 1 & (x \geq 5) \end{cases}$$

Note: In the solutions, the intervals are wrong

8. To make a study about the quality of public transports in a certain city, the Mayor wants to know how many people arrive at a bus stop to catch a bus between two consecutive bus arrivals. Let  $X$  be a random variable that provides this information, with the following probability function:

$x$	0	1	2	3	4	5	6 or more
$P(X = x)$	0.1	0.15	0.20	0.25	$a$	$b$	0.05

Find  $a$  and  $b$  such that

- a)  $P(X \geq 5) = 0.15$ ;
- b)  $P(X \in \{1, 4\}) = 0.35$ ;
- c)  $F_X(4) = 0.8$ .



## Exercise 8 a) and b)

a)

$$P(X \geq 5) = b + 0.05 = 0.15 \Rightarrow b = 0.1$$

$$\sum_{x \in D_X} f_X(x) = 1 \Rightarrow 0.1 + 0.15 + 0.2 + 0.25 + a + 0.1 + 0.05 = 1 \Rightarrow$$

$$\Rightarrow a + 0.85 = 1 \Rightarrow a = 0.15$$

b)

$$P(X \in \{1, 4\}) = f_X(1) + f_X(4) = 0.15 + a = 0.35 \Rightarrow$$

$$\Rightarrow a = 0.2$$

$$\sum_{x \in D_X} f_X(x) = 1 \Rightarrow 0.1 + 0.15 + 0.2 + 0.25 + 0.2 + b + 0.05 = 1 \Rightarrow$$

$$\Rightarrow 0.95 + b = 1 \Rightarrow b = 0.05$$

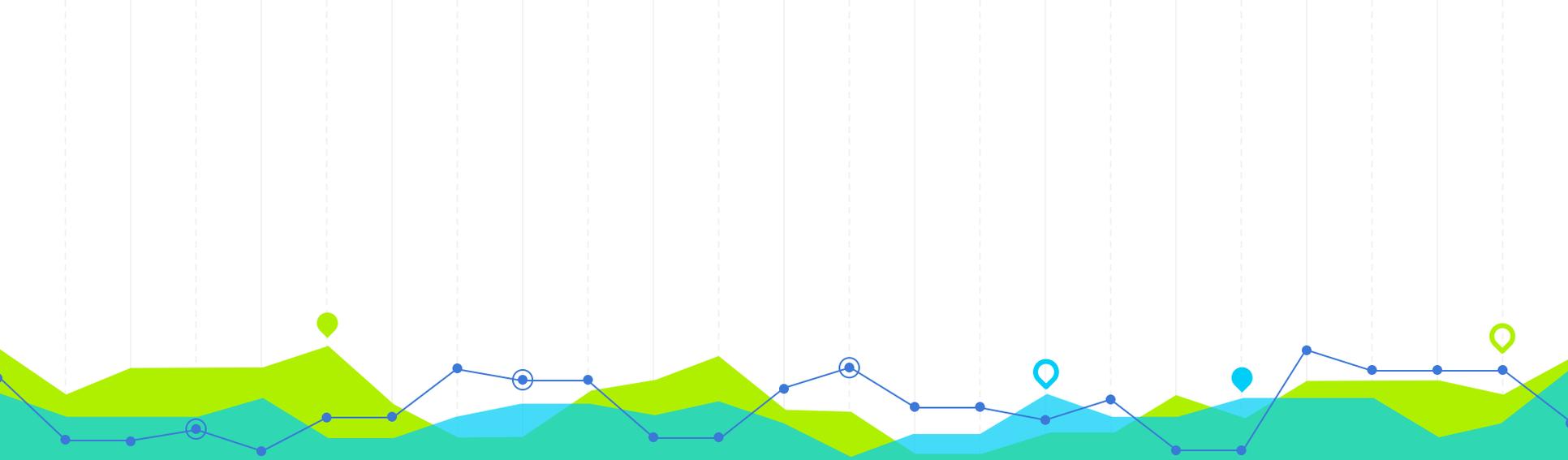
## Exercise 8 c)

e)

$$F_x(4) = 0.1 + 0.15 + 0.2 + 0.25 + a = 0.8 \Leftrightarrow$$

$$\Leftrightarrow a + 0.7 = 0.8 \Leftrightarrow a = 0.1$$

$$1 - F_x(4) = P(X > 4) = b + 0.05 = 0.2 \Leftrightarrow b = 0.15$$



# Continuous Random Variable: Exercises

Probability Density Function (PDF) and Cumulative Distribution Function (CDF)

# 2

# Integral: Formules

(a) Temos que  $f(x) \geq 0$  e  $\int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} f(x) dx = \int_1^4 \frac{1}{3} dx = \frac{1}{3} x \Big|_1^4 = \frac{1}{3} (4-1) = 1$   
portanto  $f(x)$  é uma fdp.

(b) Temos:  $P(2 < x < 3) = \int_2^3 \frac{1}{3} dx = \frac{1}{3} x \Big|_2^3 = \frac{1}{3} (3-2) = \frac{1}{3}$

Tabela 1.1: Tabela de Primitivas Elementares

$f$	$Pf=F$
$c, c \in \mathbb{R}$	$c x$
$x^\alpha (\alpha \neq -1)$	$\frac{x^{\alpha+1}}{\alpha+1}$
$\frac{1}{x}$	$\log x $
$e^x$	$e^x$
$\cos x$	$\sin x$
$\sin x$	$-\cos x$
$\sec^2 x$	$\operatorname{tg} x$
$\operatorname{cosec}^2 x$	$-\operatorname{cotg} x$
$\frac{1}{1+x^2}$	$\operatorname{arctg} x$
$\frac{1}{\sqrt{1-x^2}}$	$\operatorname{arcsin} x$
$\cosh x$	$\sinh x$
$\sinh x$	$\cosh x$

## Remarks: PDF and CDF

Since  $f_x(x) \geq 0 \quad \forall x \in D_x$  and  $\int_{D_x} f_x(x) = 1$

**Answer:**  $F$  can be a cumulative distribution function because it seems that  $F$  is non-decreasing,  $0 \leq F \leq 1$  and  $F$  is right continuous.

9. The probability density of the continuous random variable  $X$  is given by

$$f_X(x) = \begin{cases} 1/5 & 2 < x < 7 \\ 0 & \text{elsewhere} \end{cases}$$

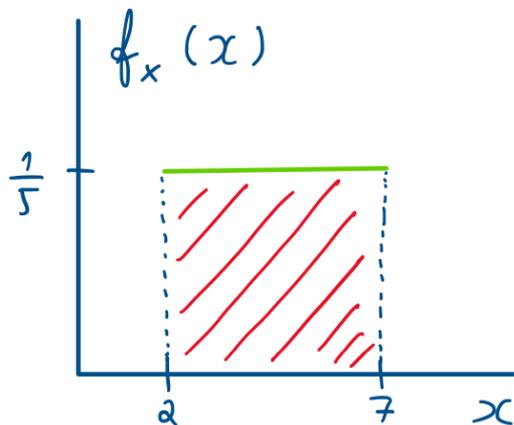
- (a) Draw its graph and verify that the total area under the curve (above the x-axis) is equal to 1.
- (b) Find  $P(3 < X < 5)$ .



## Exercise 9 a)

$$f_x(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{5} & (2 < x < 7) \\ 0 & (\text{elsewhere}) \end{cases}$$

a)

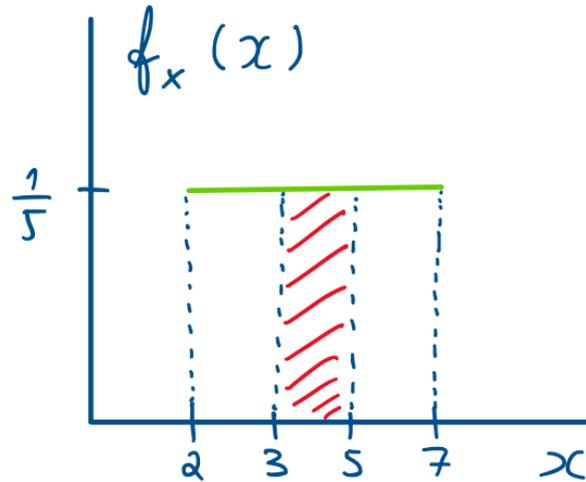


—  $f_x(x)$

$$\boxed{\text{hatched}} = \frac{1}{5} \times (7 - 2) = 1$$

## Exercise 9 b)

b)



$$P(3 < X < 5) = \frac{1}{5} \times (5 - 3) = \frac{2}{5}$$

10. Let  $f_X(x) = e^{-x}$  for  $0 < x < +\infty$ .

- (a) Show that  $f_X(x)$  represents a probability density function.
- (b) Sketch a graph of this function and indicate the area associated with the probability that  $X > 1$ .
- (c) Calculate the probability that  $X > 1$ .



## Exercise 10 a)

$$f_x(x) = e^{-x} \quad (x > 0)$$

a)

$$D_x = (0, +\infty)$$

$$f_x(x) > 0 \quad \forall x \in D_x$$

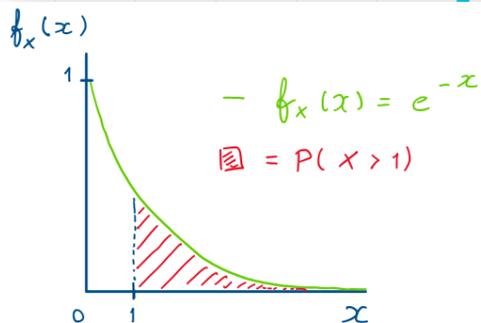
$$\begin{aligned} \int_{x \in D_x} f_x(x) dx &= \int_0^{+\infty} e^{-x} dx = \lim_{b \rightarrow +\infty} [-e^{-x}]_0^b = \\ &= \lim_{b \rightarrow +\infty} (-e^{-b} - (-e^0)) = \\ &= \lim_{b \rightarrow +\infty} (1 - e^{-b}) = 1 - \lim_{b \rightarrow +\infty} e^{-b} = 1 \end{aligned}$$

Note:  $e^{-b} = (e^b)^{-1} = \frac{1}{e^b}$

Conclusion:

Since  $f_x(x) \geq 0 \quad \forall x \in D_x$  and  $\int_{x \in D_x} f_x(x) = 1$   
we conclude that  $f_x(x)$  is a valid

## Exercise 10 b) and c)



c)

$$\begin{aligned} P(x > 1) &= \int_1^{+\infty} e^{-x} dx = \lim_{b \rightarrow +\infty} [-e^{-x}]_1^b = \\ &= \lim_{b \rightarrow +\infty} (-e^{-b} - (-e^{-1})) = \\ &= \lim_{b \rightarrow +\infty} (e^{-1} - e^{-b}) = \\ &= e^{-1} - \underbrace{\lim_{b \rightarrow +\infty} e^{-b}}_0 = e^{-1} \end{aligned}$$

11. Let  $f_X(x) = 3x^2$  for  $0 < x < 1$ .

- (a) Show that  $f_X(x)$  represents a density function.
- (b) Sketch a graph of this function, and indicate the area associated with the probability that  $0.1 < X < 0.5$ .
- (c) Calculate the probability that  $0.1 < X < 0.5$ .



## Exercise 11 a)

$$f_x(x) = 3x^2 \quad (0 < x < 1)$$

(a)

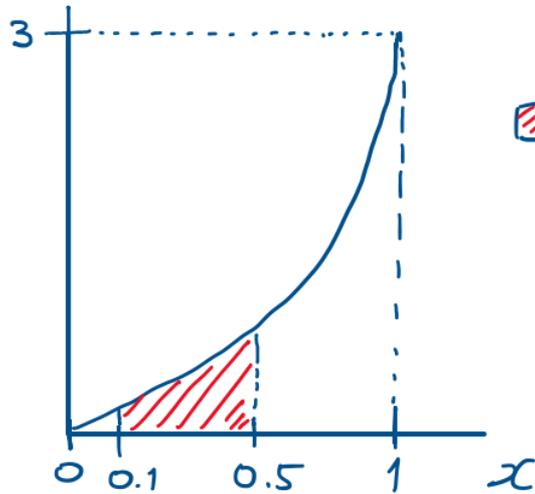
$$f_x(x) = 3x^2 > 0 \quad \forall x \in D_x = (0, 1)$$

$$\int_{x \in D} f_x(x) dx = \int_0^1 3x^2 dx = [x^3]_0^1 = 1^3 - 0^3 = 1$$

## Exercise 11 b)

b)

$f_x(x)$



  $P(0.1 < X < 0.5)$

## Exercise 11 c)

c)

$$\begin{aligned} P(0.1 < X < 0.5) &= \int_{0.1}^{0.5} f_X(x) dx = \int_{0.1}^{0.5} 3x^2 dx \\ &= [x^3]_{0.1}^{0.5} = 0.5^3 - 0.1^3 = 0.124 \end{aligned}$$

12. The probability density function of the random variable  $X$  is given by

$$f_X(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{c}{\sqrt{x}} & 0 < x < 4 \\ 0 & \text{elsewhere} \end{cases}$$

Find

- (a) the value of  $c$ ;
- (b)  $P(X < 14)$  and  $P(X > 1)$ .



## Exercise 12 a)

a)

$f_x(x)$  is a probability density function, so it satisfies  $\int_{x \in D_x} f_x(x) dx = 1$ .

$$\int_{x \in D_x} f_x(x) dx = \int_0^4 \frac{c}{\sqrt{x}} dx = 1 \quad (=)$$

$$(\Rightarrow) \quad c [2\sqrt{x}]_0^4 = 2c(\sqrt{4} - \sqrt{0}) = 4c = 1 \quad (=)$$

$$(\Rightarrow) \quad c = \frac{1}{4}$$

Auxiliary calculations:

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{x}} = x^{-\frac{1}{2}}$$

$$\int x^{-\frac{1}{2}} = 2x^{\frac{1}{2}} = 2\sqrt{x}$$

## Exercise 12 b)

b)

$$P(X < 14) = \int_0^{14} f_x(x) dx = \int_0^4 f_x(x) dx = 1$$

*= 1 because  $0 < x < 4$*

$$P(X > 1) = \int_0^1 f_x(x) dx = \int_0^1 \frac{1}{4\sqrt{x}} dx =$$

$$= \frac{1}{4} [2\sqrt{x}]_0^1 = \frac{2}{4} (\sqrt{1} - \sqrt{0}) = \frac{1}{2}$$

# Thanks!

## Questions?

