

1 Excercise 5.12.30

Let X and Y be independent with a standard normal distribution. Show that X/Y has a Cauchy distribution.

First we find a joint distribution function of both X and Y . We know that both have a standard normal distribution:

$$f_X(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-1/2x^2}, \text{ en}$$

$$f_Y(y) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-1/2y^2}.$$

Also we know that:

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f_X(x) dx = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f_Y(y) dy = 1.$$

So a joint distribution can be given by:

$$f(x, y) = f_X(x)f_Y(y) = \frac{1}{2\pi} e^{-1/2(x^2+y^2)}.$$

We can check that this is indeed a joint distribution of X and Y :

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f_{X,Y}(x, y) dx = f_X(x) \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f_Y(y) dy = f_X(x)$$

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f_{X,Y}(x, y) dy = f_Y(y) \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f_X(x) dx = f_Y(y)$$

We can now apply theorem 5.6.5 using this joint distribution function, and

$g(x, y) = (x, x/y)$. We get

$g^{-1}(x, y) = (x, x/y)$, and

$$J(g(x, y)) = \frac{dg_1}{dx} \frac{dg_2}{dy} - \frac{dg_2}{dx} \frac{dg_1}{dy} = 1 \cdot \frac{x}{y^2} - \frac{1}{y} \cdot 0 = \frac{x}{y^2}.$$

Then we get:

$$\begin{aligned} f_{X,Y}(x, y) &= f(g^{-1}(x, y)) |J(g(x, y))|, \\ &= f(x, x/y) \left| \frac{x}{y^2} \right| \\ &= f(x, x/y) \frac{1}{y^2} |x| \\ &= \frac{1}{2\pi} e^{-1/2(x^2+(x/y)^2)} \frac{1}{y^2} |x| \\ &= \frac{1}{2\pi y^2} e^{-1/2x^2(1+\frac{1}{y^2})} |x| \end{aligned}$$

Now we calculate the marginal distribution function $f_U(u)$, where $U = X/Y$:

$$\begin{aligned} f_U(u) &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f_{X,Y}(x, u) dx \\ &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{1}{2\pi y^2} e^{-1/2x^2(1+\frac{1}{u^2})} |x| dx \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= \frac{1}{2\pi u^2} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-1/2x^2(1+\frac{1}{u^2})} |x| dx \\
&= \frac{1}{2\pi u^2} \left(\int_{-\infty}^0 -x e^{-1/2x^2(1+\frac{1}{u^2})} dx + \int_0^{\infty} x e^{-1/2x^2(1+\frac{1}{u^2})} dx \right) \\
&= \frac{1}{2\pi u^2} \left(\left| \frac{1}{1+\frac{1}{u^2}} e^{-1/2x^2(1+\frac{1}{u^2})} \right|_{u=-\infty}^0 + \left| -\frac{1}{1+\frac{1}{u^2}} e^{-1/2x^2(1+\frac{1}{u^2})} \right|_{u=0}^{\infty} \right) \\
&= \frac{1}{2\pi u^2} \left(2 \frac{1}{1+\frac{1}{u^2}} \right) \\
&= \frac{1}{\pi u^2 (1+\frac{1}{u^2})} \\
&= \frac{1}{\pi u^2 - \pi} \\
&= \frac{1}{\pi} \cdot \frac{1}{u^2 + 1}
\end{aligned}$$

So, $f_U(u) = \frac{1}{\pi} \frac{1}{u^2+1}$ and we can conclude that $U = X/Y$ has a Cauchy distribution.