

Exercise 1.14 (Change of measure for an exponential random variable). Let X be a nonnegative random variable defined on a probability space (Ω, F, P) with the *exponential distribution*, which is

$$P\{X \leq a\} = 1 - e^{-\lambda a}, a \geq 0$$

where λ is a positive constant. Let $\tilde{\lambda}$ be another positive constant, and define

$$Z = \frac{\tilde{\lambda}}{\lambda} e^{-(\tilde{\lambda}-\lambda)X}$$

Define \tilde{P} by

$$\tilde{P}(A) = \int_A Z dP \quad \text{for all } A \in F$$

- (i) Show that $\tilde{P}(\Omega) = 1$.
- (ii) Compute the cumulative distribution function for the random variable X under the probability measure \tilde{P} .

※(Thm 1.6.7 Randon-Nikody'm)

\tilde{P} and P are equivalent probability measures defined on (Ω, F) .

X : exponential distribution (λ)

$$f(x) = \lambda e^{-\lambda x}, E[X] = \frac{1}{\lambda}$$

Z : almost surely positive (\because exponential function)

$$E[Z] = \int_0^{\infty} \frac{\tilde{\lambda}}{\lambda} e^{-(\tilde{\lambda}-\lambda)x} dP(x) = \int_0^{\infty} \frac{\tilde{\lambda}}{\lambda} e^{-(\tilde{\lambda}-\lambda)x} \lambda e^{-\lambda x} dx = \int_0^{\infty} \tilde{\lambda} e^{-\tilde{\lambda}x} dx \sim \exp(\tilde{\lambda})$$

$$\therefore E[Z] = 1$$

(i)

$$\tilde{P}(\Omega) = \int_{\Omega} Z dP = E[Z] = 1$$

(ii)

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{P}\{X \leq a\} &= \int_{x \leq a} \frac{\tilde{\lambda}}{\lambda} e^{-(\tilde{\lambda}-\lambda)x} dP(x) = \int_0^a \frac{\tilde{\lambda}}{\lambda} e^{-(\tilde{\lambda}-\lambda)x} \lambda e^{-\lambda x} dx \\ &= \int_0^a \tilde{\lambda} e^{-\tilde{\lambda}x} dx = -e^{-\tilde{\lambda}x} \Big|_0^a = 1 - e^{-\tilde{\lambda}a} \quad \forall a \geq 0 \end{aligned}$$