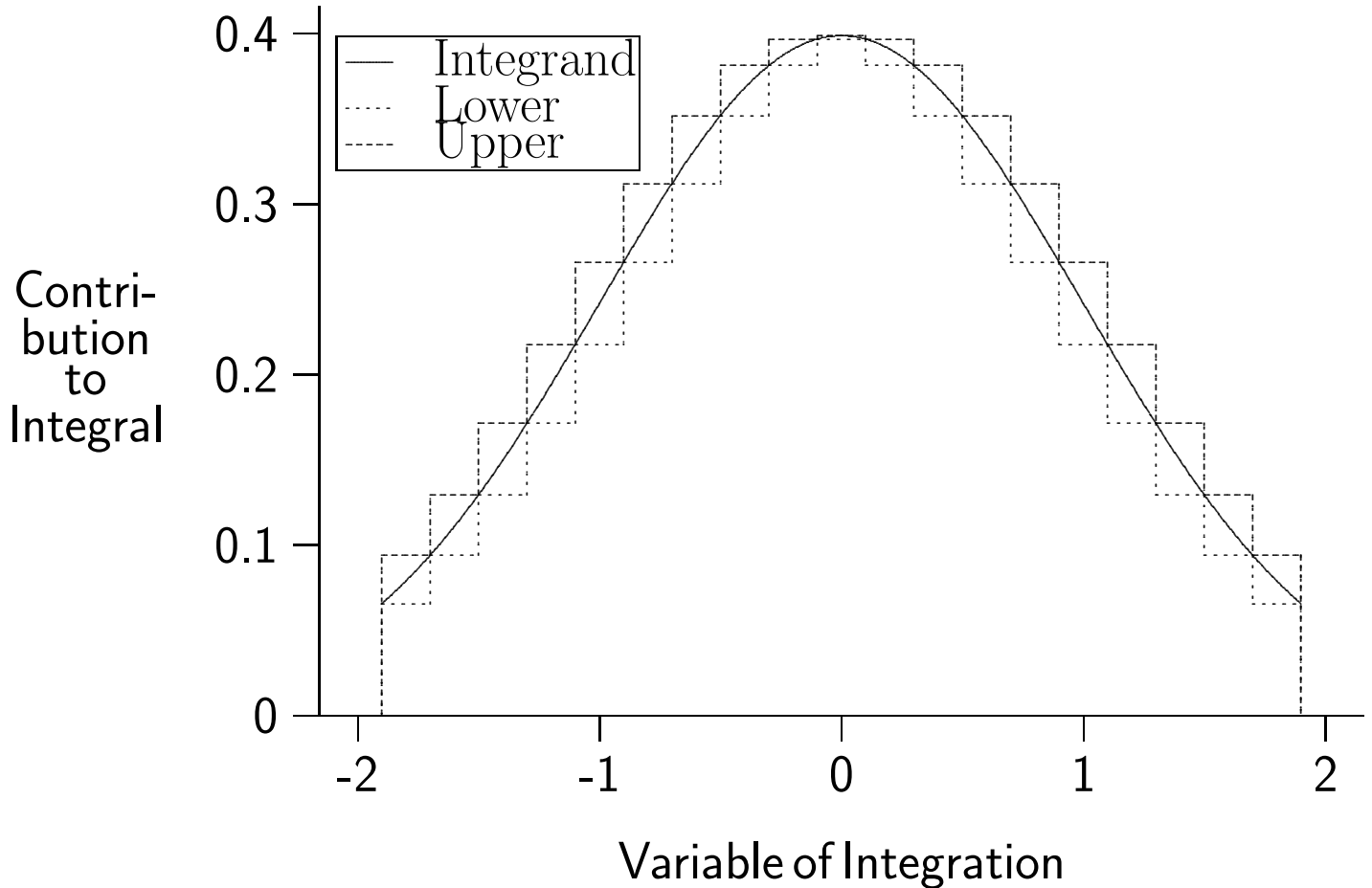


5. Can move $f_X(x)$ at some points without impacting $F_X(x)$.
- a. Recall probability density function is that function whose integral gives probabilities.
 - b. *Riemann* definition of $\int_a^b h(x) dx$
 - i. Finding sequences of partitions of $[a, b]$
 - as $[a_0, a_1], \dots, [a_{k-1}, a_k]$ with $a_0 = a, a_k = b$
 - so that $\sum_{j=1}^k (a_j - a_{j-1}) \max_{x \in [a_{j-1}, a_j]}$ is minimized,

 - so that $\sum_{j=1}^k (a_j - a_{j-1}) \min_{x \in [a_{j-1}, a_j]}$ is maximized.
 - ii. If upper, lower bounds converge, then common value is the integral. See Fig. 15.
 - c. Moving the probability density function at one point induces a change in only one interval.
 - i. If this interval shrinks, contribution converges to 0. See Fig. 16.
 - d. Hence may ignore values of probability density function at finite number of points.
 - e. Hence we will not distinguish between intergrals over ranges like $[a, b], (a, b], (a, b), [a, b)$.

Fig. 15: Lower and Upper Sums for Integration



- i. Square bracket indicates end point is included.
- ii. Round bracket indicates end point is excluded.

B. Quantile Function as a description of the distribution.

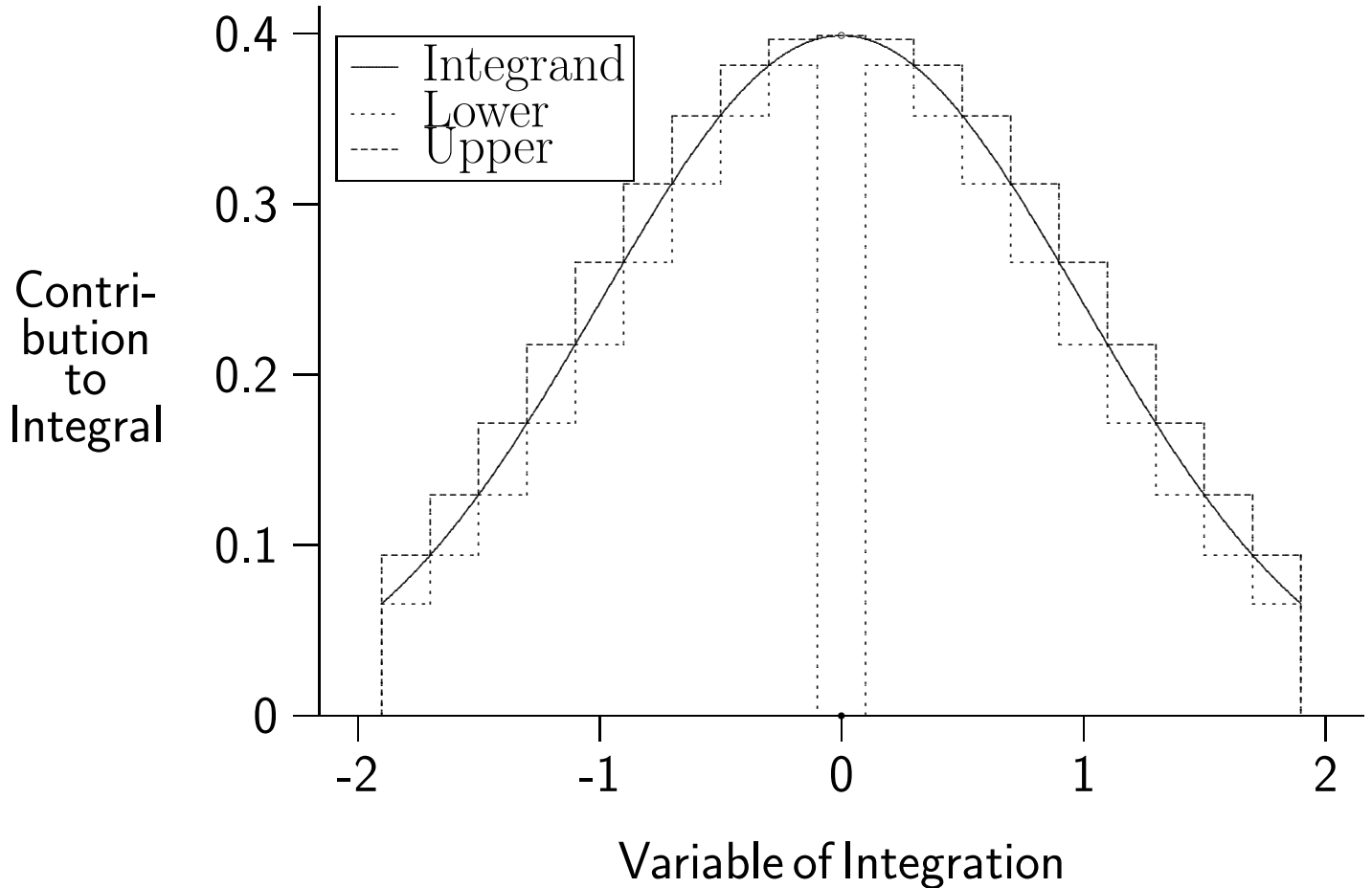
1. Quantile Definition:

a. Heuristically, inverse of $F_X(x)$.

i. See Fig. 17.

b. If unique inverse exists, it is this inverse. See Fig. 18.

Fig. 16: Lower and Upper Sums for Integration



Shows effect of moving integrand to zero at one point

- i. Denote the quantile p of random variable X by

$$\phi_p = F_X^{-1}(p).$$
- c. (At least one) solution to $F_X(\phi_p) = p$ exists if F_X continuous, by intermediate value theorem.
- d. Inverse is unique if $f_X(x) > 0$ except at isolated points.
 - i. Ambiguous if $F_X(x)$ has a flat spot so that various x satisfy $F_X(x) = p$. See Fig. 19.
 - ii. Then every x value in flat part satisfies quantile function. See

Fig. 17: Easy Distribution with Quantile Function

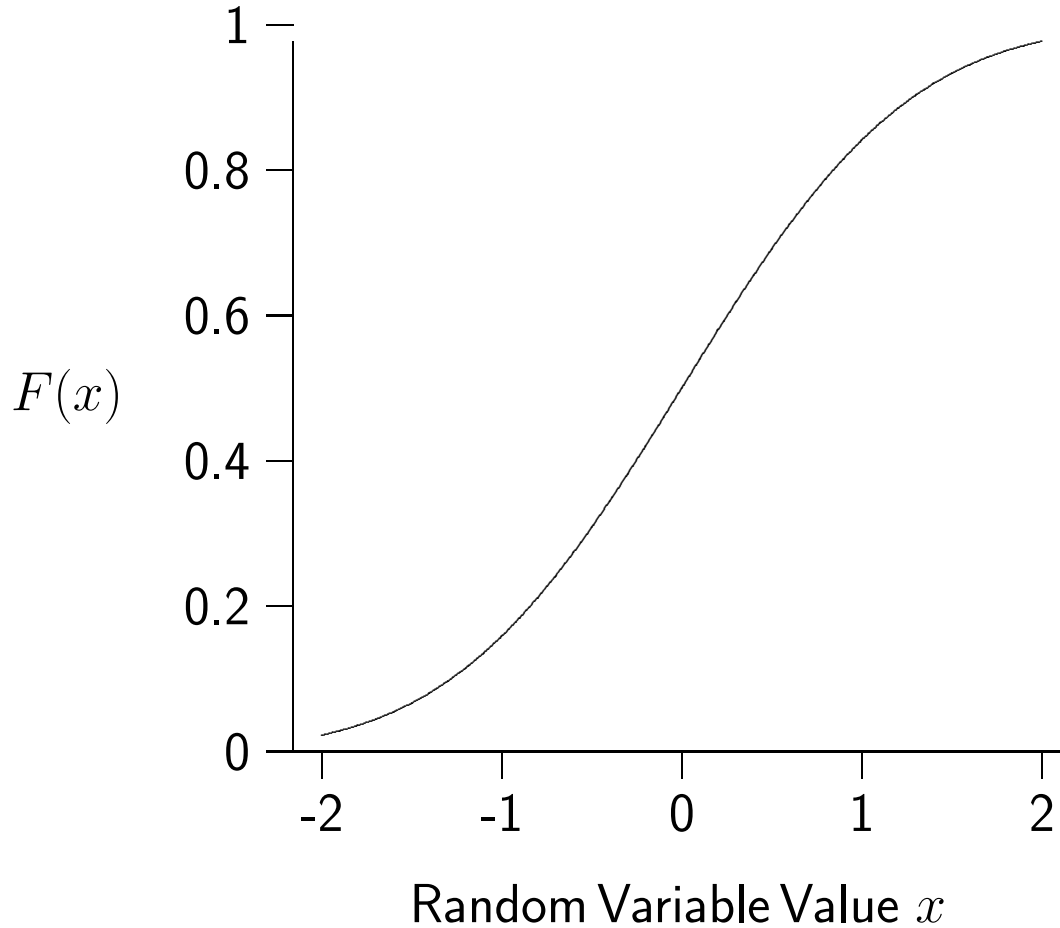


Fig. 20.

iii. Use $\phi_p = \inf\{x | F_X(x) \geq p\}$.

iv. Discrete cases might not have a solution to $p = F_X(\phi)$. See

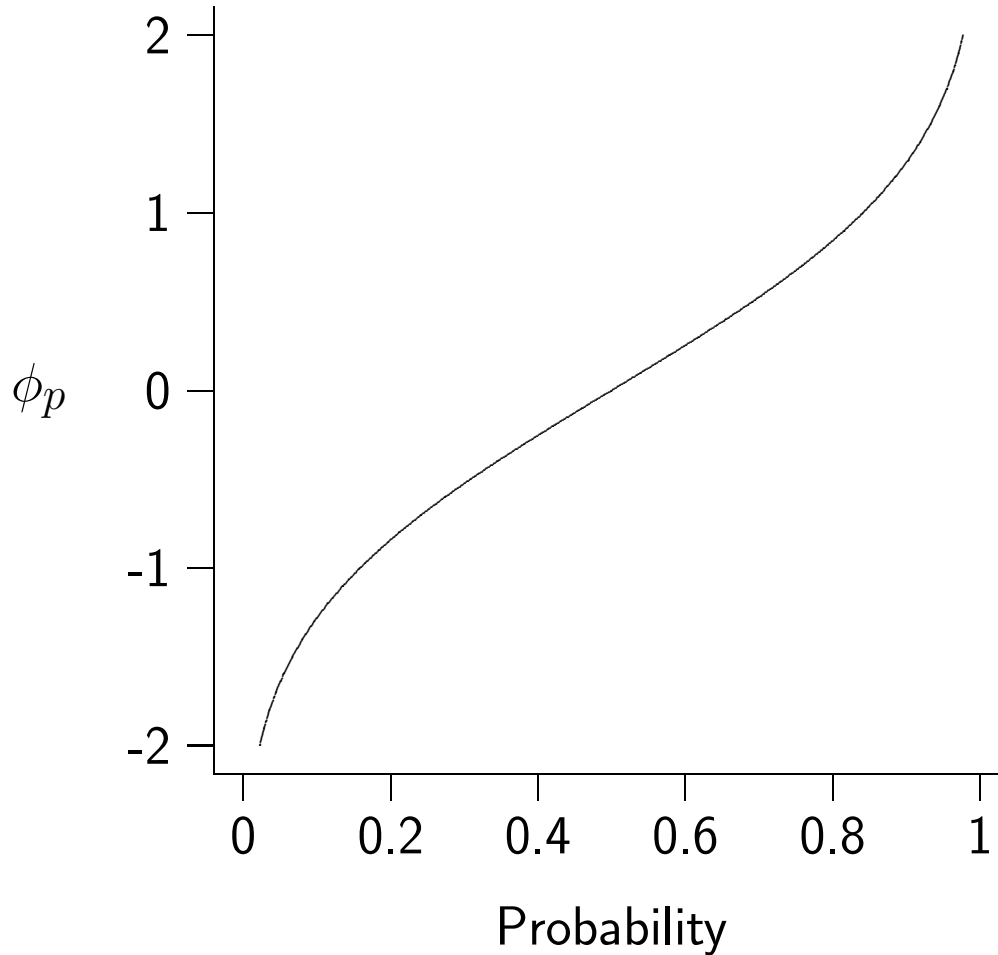
Fig. 21.

e. Since inverse need not exist, ϕ_p chosen so that

$$P(X \leq \phi_p) \geq p, P(X \geq \phi_p) \geq (1 - p).$$

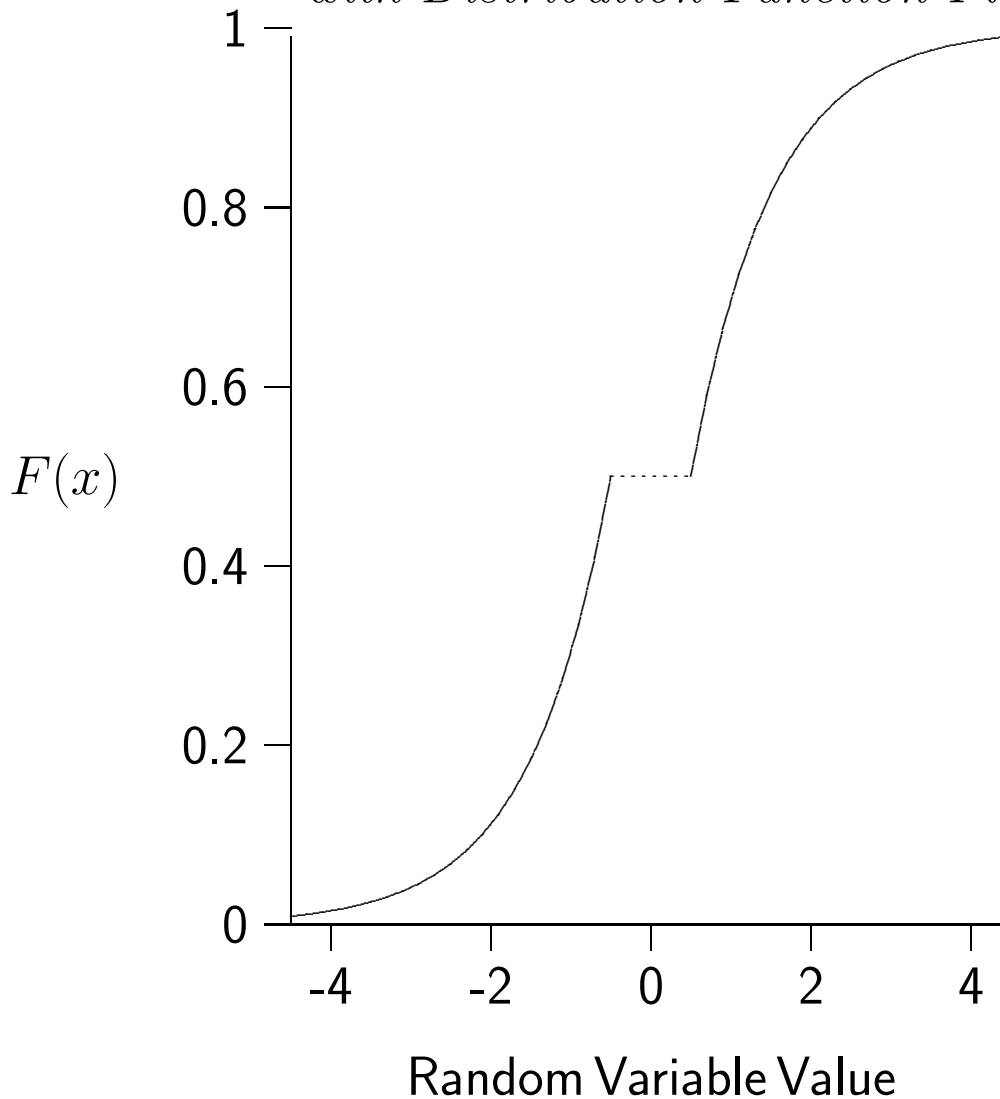
2. Some important quantiles

a. The *median* is the $1/2$ quantile.

Fig. 18: Easy Quantile Function

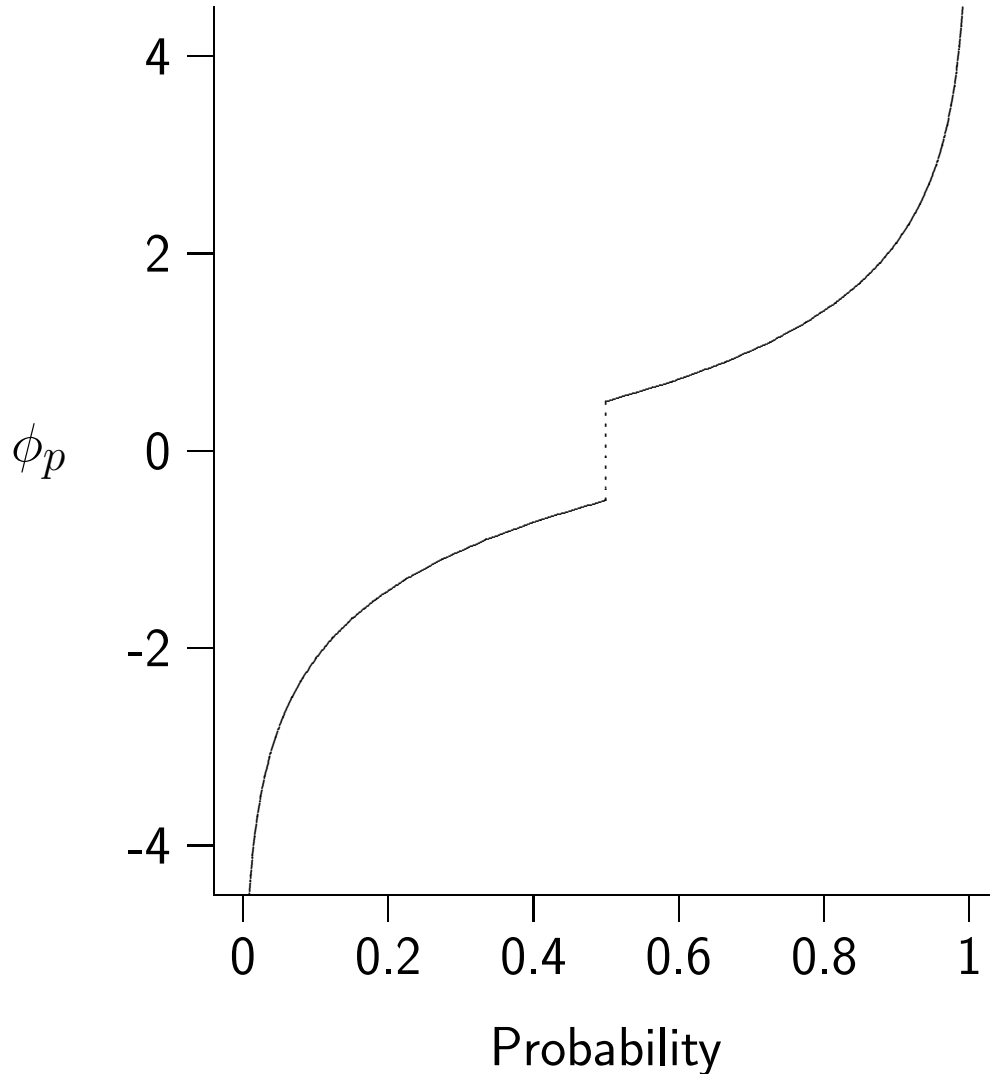
- i. Measures the center of a distribution.
- ii. The median corresponding to a random variable X with distribution function F_X is that value ν_X such that $P(X \leq \nu_X) \geq .5$ and $P(X \geq \nu_X) \geq .5$.
- iii. In terms of the distribution function, the median ν_X satisfies $F_X(\nu_X) \geq .5$, $1 - F_X(\nu_X^-) \geq .5$.
- iv. for a discrete distⁿ with probability function p_X it satisfies $\sum_{x \leq \nu_X} p_X(x) \geq .5$ and $\sum_{x \geq \nu_X} p_X(x) \geq .5$,

Fig. 19: Continuous Distribution with Distribution Function Plateau



- v. for a continuous distⁿ with probability density function f_X it satisfies $\int_{-\infty}^{\nu_X} f_X(x) dx = .5$.
- b. A *quartile* is a .25 or .75 quantile.
 - i. Distinguished by calling upper or lower.
- 3. Examples of quantiles:
 - a. Binomial variables with the probability function

Fig. 20: Quantile Function from CDF with Plateau



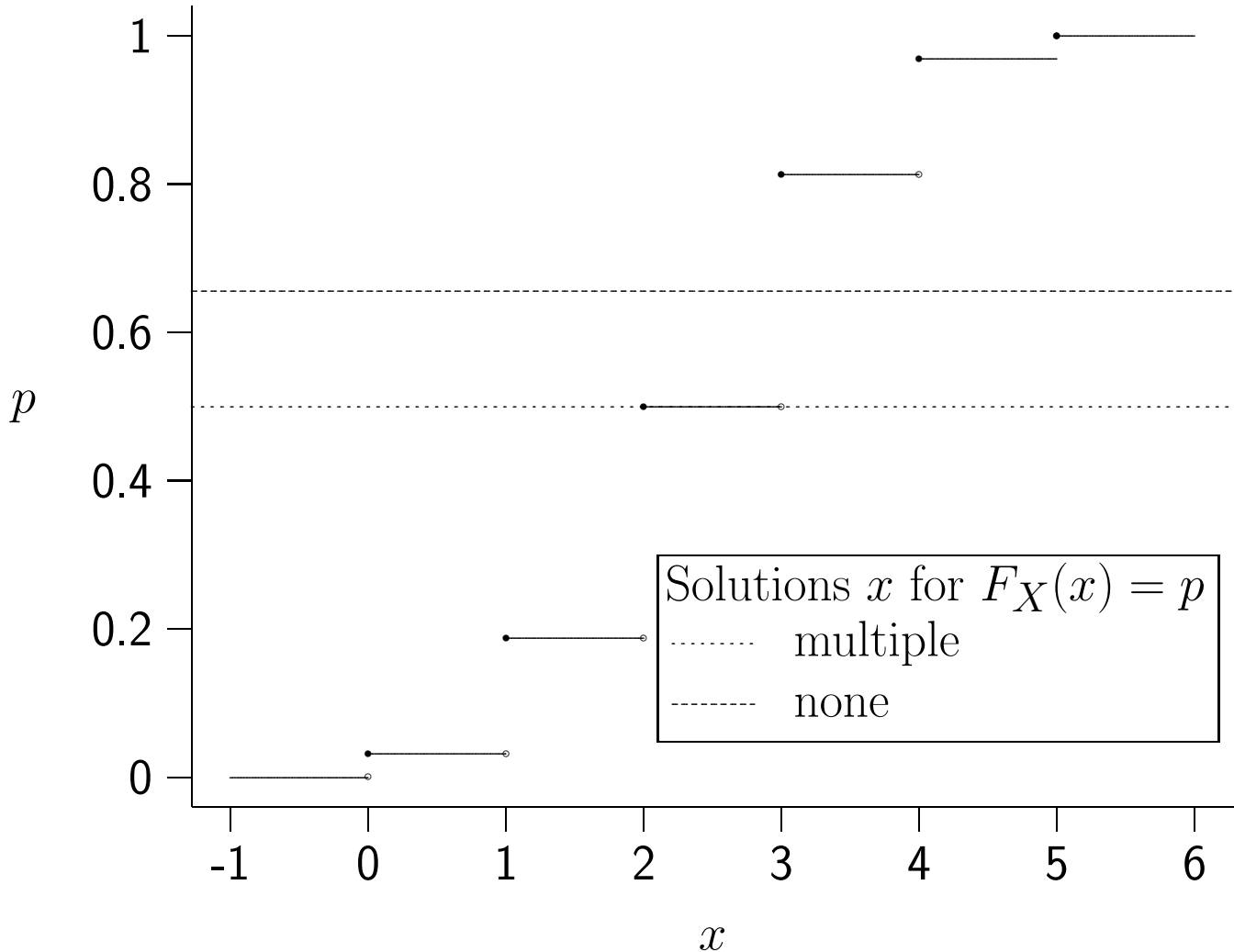
$$p(x; \pi, 1) = \binom{1}{1} \pi^x (1 - \pi)^{1-x} = \begin{cases} \pi & \text{if } x = 1 \\ 1 - \pi & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

b. Then the median is

$$\begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } \pi < .5 \\ 1 & \text{if } \pi > .5 \\ \text{anything} & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

i. Binomial variable, probability function $p(x; .5, 5)$: See Fig. 21.

4. Comparison of median and expectation

Fig. 14: Quantiles of Discrete Distribution

a. Disadvantages relative to expectation:

- i. The median can't be given explicitly, but only as the solution to an equation involving bounds on integrals or sums,
- ii. sometimes isn't unique,
- iii. sometimes doesn't give much information.

b. Advantage:

- i. always exists.

C. Transformations of random variables.

1. Univariate Transformations via the Definition

- a. X takes values in some set \mathcal{X}
- b. r is a function defined on \mathcal{X}
- c. Want to describe distribution of $Y = r(X)$.
 - i. Y takes values in $\mathcal{Y} = r(\mathcal{X})$.
 - ii. via the probability function or probability density function for Y .
 - iii. When X is discrete, this was easy.

- Sum over appropriate values of X :

$$\begin{aligned} p_Y(y) &= \mathbf{P}(Y = y) = \mathbf{P}(r(X) = y) \\ &= \sum_{r(x)=y} \mathbf{P}(X = x) = \sum_{r(x)=y} p_X(x). \end{aligned}$$

- iv. If r is one to one,

- an inverse for r exists on \mathcal{Y} ,
- sums above all have only one addend.

- v. If r is non-decreasing, then expression in terms of the distribution function is easy:

$$F_Y(y) = \mathbf{P}(Y \leq y) = \mathbf{P}(r(X) \leq y)$$

$$= \mathbf{P} \left(X \leq r^{-1}(y) \right) = F_X(r^{-1}(y)). \quad (1) \quad \text{“NA”}$$

d. Example:

- i. $r(x) = x^2$, distribution function for X is $1 - \exp(-x)$ for $x \geq 0$.
- ii. $r^{-1}(y) = \sqrt{y}$.
- iii. Then $\mathbf{P}(Y \leq y) = \mathbf{P}(X \leq \sqrt{x})$

WMS: 6.4a

2. probability density function of a transformed continuous variable

a. When X is continuous then generally (but not always) Y also has a probability density function.

i. Let f_X be the probability density function for X .

ii. Denote the transformation function by $r(x)$.

b. $f_Y(y)$ can generally be expressed in terms of the

original probability density function: $f_Y(y) = f_X(r^{-1}(y)) \left| \frac{d}{dy} r^{-1}(y) \right|$.

i. When r is non-decreasing and has inverse,

- Differentiate distribution function:

$$f_Y(y) = \frac{d}{dy} F_X(r^{-1}(y))$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= F'_X(r^{-1}(y)) \frac{d}{dy} r^{-1}(y) \\
 &= f_X(r^{-1}(y)) \frac{d}{dy} r^{-1}(y) \quad (2)
 \end{aligned}$$

ii. Requires transformation to have positive derivative.

c. Examples:

i. $r(x) = x^2$, probability density function for X is $\exp(-x)$ for $x \geq 0$.

- $r^{-1}(y) = \sqrt{y}$, $\frac{d}{dy} r^{-1}(y) = 1/(2\sqrt{y})$.

- $f_Y(y) = \exp(-\sqrt{y}) \frac{1}{2} y^{-2}$. See Fig. 22.

ii. $r(x) = \sqrt{x}$, probability density function for X is $c \exp(-x^2)$ for $x \geq 0$.

- $c = 2/\sqrt{\pi}$, but we don't need this.

- $r^{-1}(y) = y^2$, $\frac{d}{dy} r^{-1}(y) = 2y$.

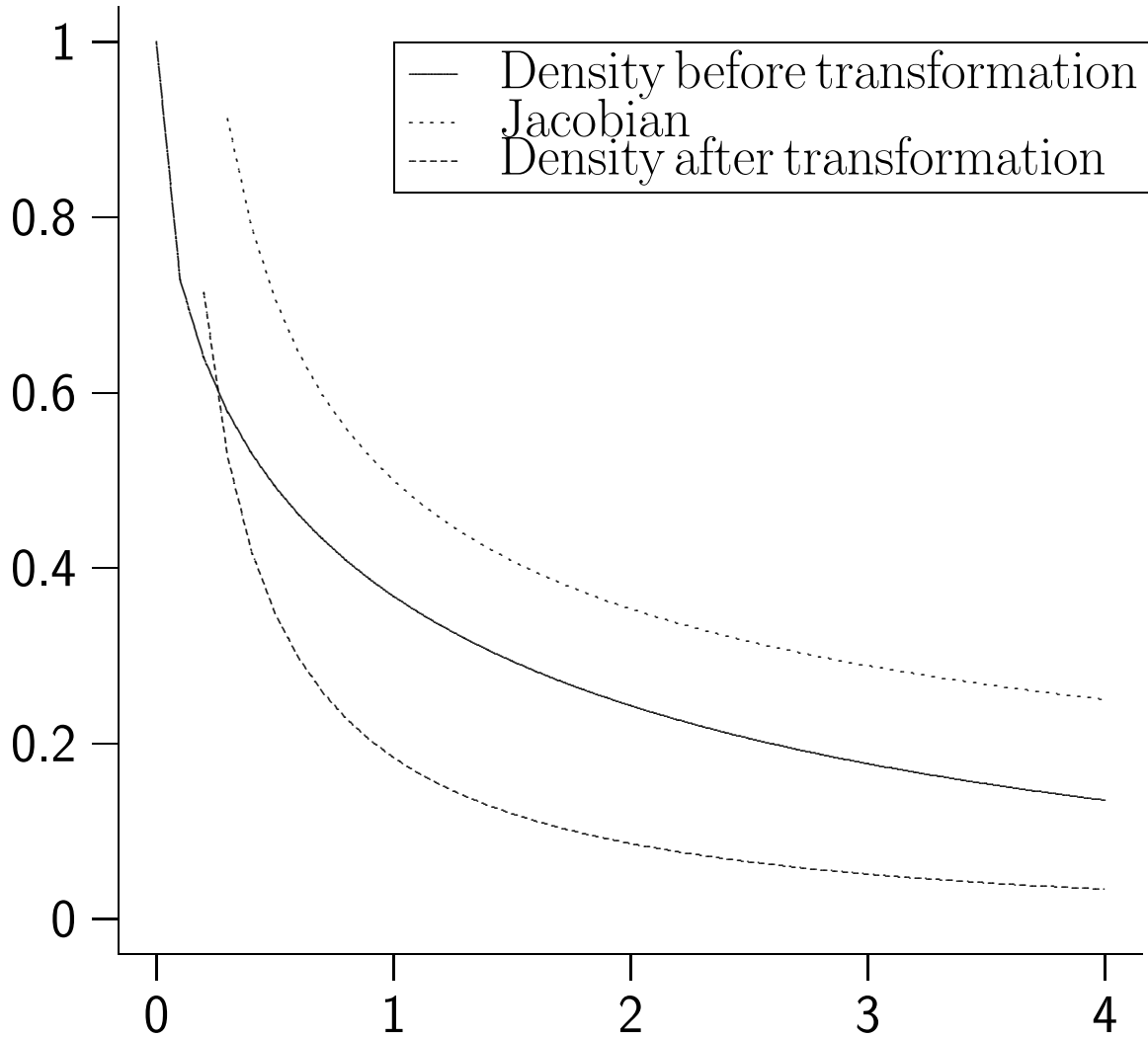
- $f_Y(y) = 2c \exp(-y^4) y$. See Fig. 23.

d. Can express using the integration change of variables formula:

i. $\int_A f_X dx = \int_B f_X \frac{dx}{dy} dy$;

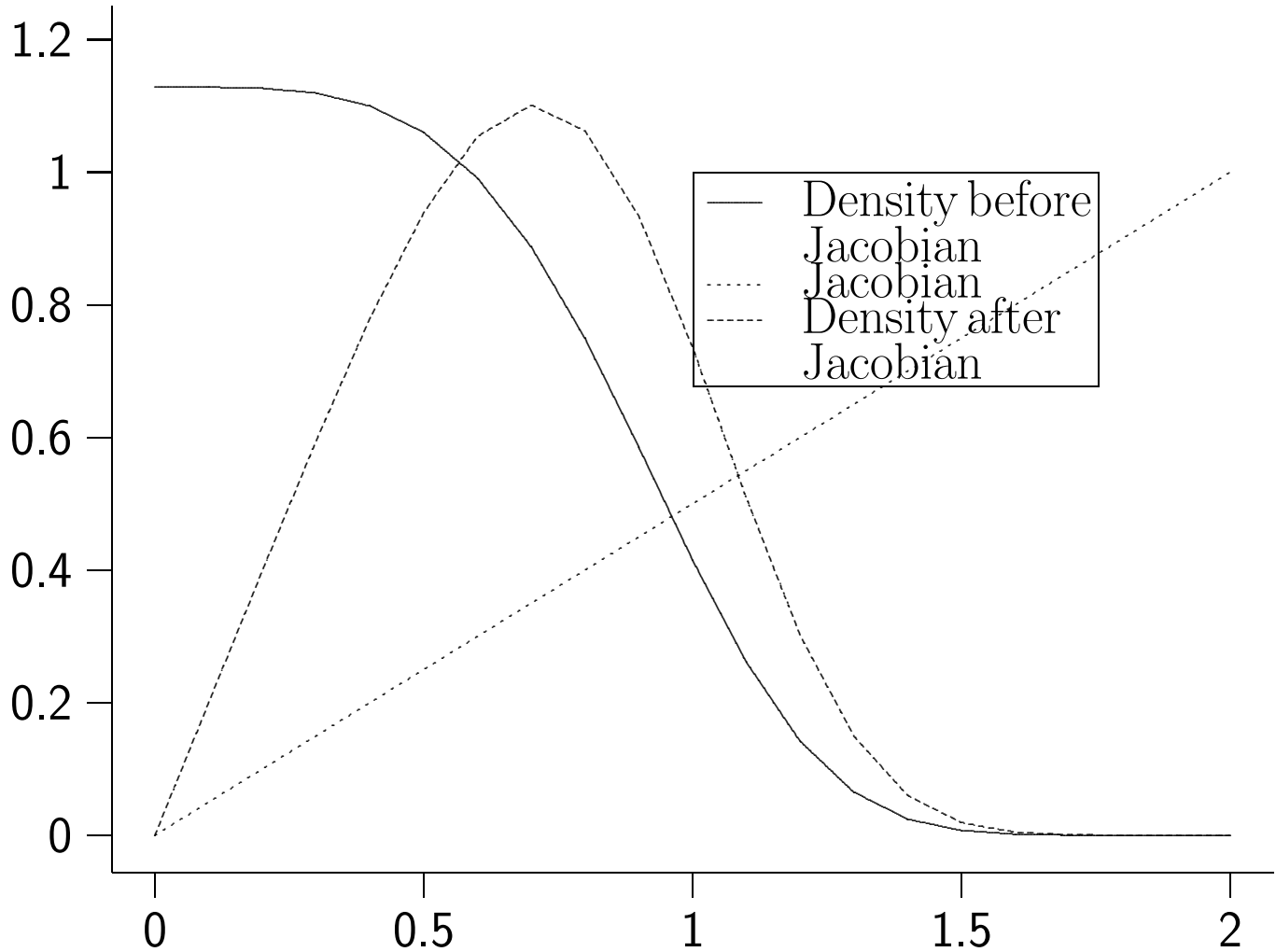
ii. as functions of y using r then the product $f_X \frac{dx}{dy}$ satisfies requirements for a probability density function.

e. Interpretation: probability density function of Y at y has two

Fig. 22: Transformation of Exponential

factors:

- i. part it inherits from the distribution for X ,
- ii. part that arises because of stretching or contracting the scale.
 - If r is moving very quickly as x moves, then probability arising from f_X is stretched over a wide range,
 - probability density function of Y should be lower than if r were moving more slowly.

Fig. 23: Transformation of Normal

f. Absolute values around derivative account for the case if r non-increasing instead of non-decreasing:

i. By the definition of the distribution function,

$$\begin{aligned} F_Y(y) &= \mathbf{P}(Y \leq y) = \mathbf{P}(r(X) \leq y) \\ &= \mathbf{P}(X \geq r^{-1}(y)) = 1 - F_X(r^{-1}(y)). \end{aligned} \quad (3)$$

ii. probability density function becomes

$$f_Y(y) = \frac{d}{dy}(1 - F_X(r^{-1}(y)))$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= -F'_X(r^{-1}(y)) \frac{d}{dy} r^{-1}(y) \\
&= f_X(r^{-1}(y)) \left(-\frac{d}{dy} r^{-1}(y)\right) \\
&= f_X(r^{-1}(y)) \left|\frac{d}{dy} r^{-1}(y)\right| \tag{4}
\end{aligned}$$

iii. if r is non-increasing, $\frac{d}{dy} r^{-1}(y) \leq 0$, and so in both non-increasing and non-decreasing cases, probability density function is

$$f_Y(y) = f_X(r^{-1}(y)) \left|\frac{d}{dy} r^{-1}(y)\right|$$

.