

QUESTION A continuous random variable X is uniformly distributed in the interval $-1 \leq x \leq 1$. Find $E(X)$ and $\text{Var}(X)$. The random variable Y is defined by $Y = X^2$, Use the cdf of X to show that $P(Y \leq y) = \sqrt{y}$, $0 \leq y \leq 1$ and obtain the pdf of Y . Hence or otherwise evaluate $E(Y)$ and $\text{Var}(Y)$.

ANSWER $f(x) = \frac{1}{2} \quad -1 \leq x \leq 1$
 $E(X) = 0$ (by symmetry) $= \int_{-1}^1 \frac{1}{2}x dx$
 $E(X^2) = \text{Var}(X) = \int_{-1}^1 \frac{1}{2}x^2 dx = [\frac{1}{6}x^3]_{-1}^1 = \frac{1}{3}$

$$\begin{aligned} F(x) &= \int_{-1}^x \frac{1}{2} ds \\ &= \frac{1}{2}(x + 1) \\ &= P(-\sqrt{y} \leq X \leq \sqrt{y}) \\ &= F(\sqrt{y}) - F(-\sqrt{y}) = \sqrt{y}, \quad 0 \leq y \leq 1 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} g(y) &= \frac{d}{dy}P(Y \leq y) = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{y}}, \quad 0 \leq y \leq 1 \\ E(Y) &= E(X^2) = \frac{1}{3} = \int_0^1 \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{y} dy \\ E(Y^2) &= E(X^4) = \frac{1}{5} = \int_0^1 \frac{1}{2}y^{\frac{3}{2}} dy \quad \text{Therefore } \text{Var}(Y) = \frac{1}{5} - \frac{1}{9} = \frac{4}{45} \end{aligned}$$