

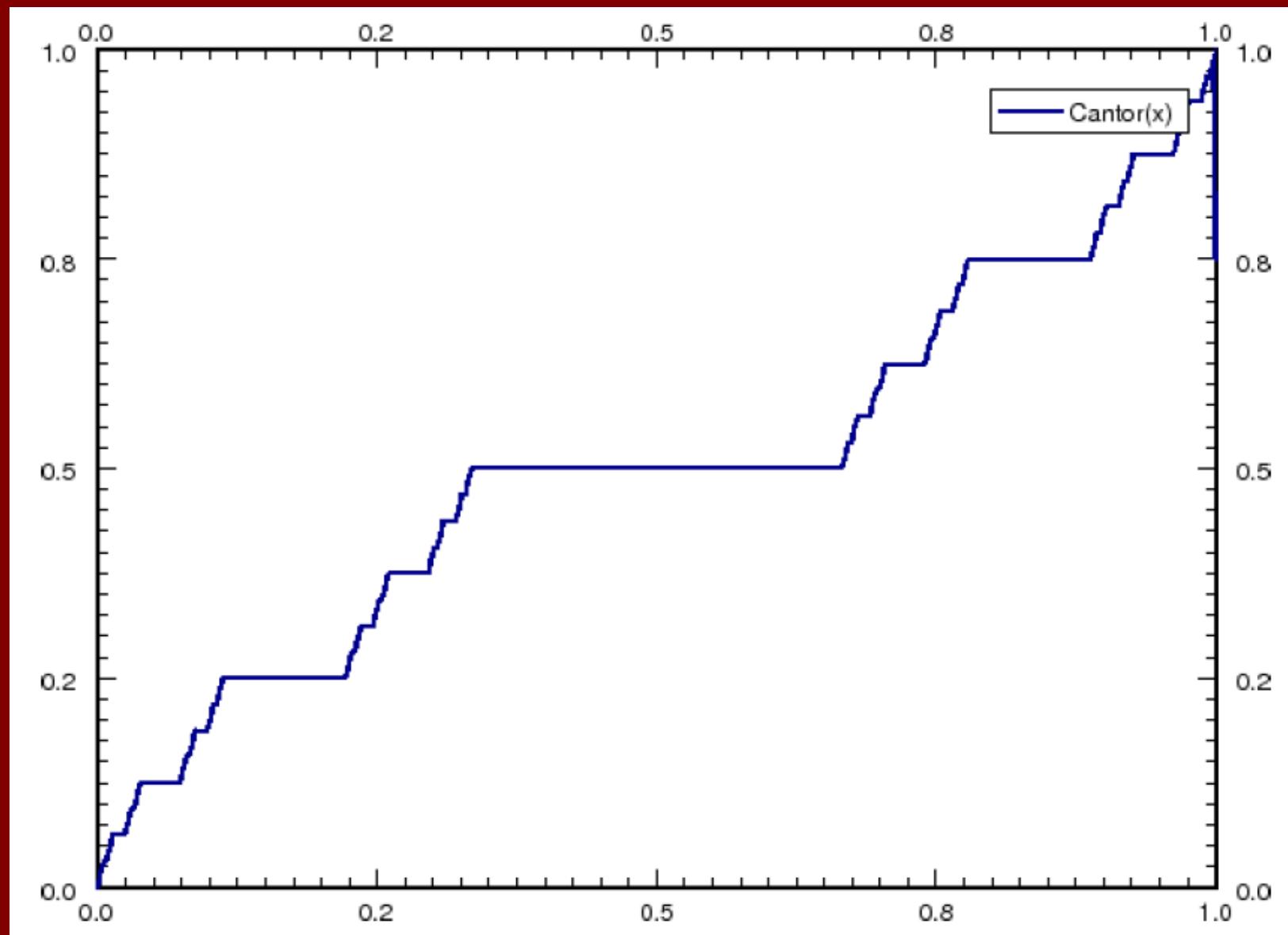
# Cantor order statistics: without applications.

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December 16-19, 2011





A classical Cantor r.v. admits the representation:

$$X = \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \frac{2B_j}{3^j}$$

in terms of i.i.d. Bernoulli(1/2) r.v.'s.

We consider the following generalized  
Cantor r.v.

$$X = \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} (1 - \phi) \phi^{j-1} B_j$$

In terms of i.i.d. Bernoulli ( $p$ ) r.v.'s  
Notation:

$$X \sim GC(\phi, p)$$

The case in which  $p=1/2$  was investigated by Lad and Taylor(1992) and subsequently by Hosking (1994).

The classical Cantor case corresponds to  $p=1/2$  and  $\phi = 1/3$ .

# The general model

$$X = \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} (1 - \phi) \phi^{j-1} B_j$$

$$0 < p < 1 \quad 0 < \phi < 1/2$$

The constraint  $0 < \phi < 1/2$  is needed to guarantee that we have a singular continuous r.v. , and thus a true analog of the classical Cantor r.v.

Since the generalized Cantor distribution has support in the interval  $[0, 1]$ , its right continuous inverse function (or quantile function) is also a valid distribution function.

A random variable  $Y$  with this quantile function  
as its distribution function will be said to have  
an inverse generalized Cantor distribution and  
we write:  $Y \sim IGC(\phi, p)$

Note this usage is not customary, but it seems reasonable

Compare:

Inverse gamma distribution

Inverse Gaussian distribution

- Properties of the generalized Cantor distr.
- A skewed version (idea:Hosking 1994).
- The corresponding inverse distribution.
- Bivariate and multivariate extensions.

# Properties of the generalized Cantor distribution.

$$X = \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} (1 - \phi) \phi^{j-1} B_j$$

$$= (1 - \phi) B_1 + \phi \tilde{X}$$

where  $B_1$  and  $\tilde{X}$  are independent

$$\text{and } X =^d \tilde{X}.$$

# Properties of the generalized Cantor distribution.

The corresponding moment generating function can be easily identified from either of these two representations of  $X$ . Thus:

$$M_X(t) = [1 - p + pe^{(1-\phi)t}]M_X(\phi t).$$

$$M_X(t) = \prod_{j=1}^{\infty} [1 - p + pe^{(1-\phi)\phi^{j-1}t}].$$

# Properties of the generalized Cantor distribution.

Using the recursive representation we can compute moments (as done by Lad and Taylor when  $p=1/2$ ):

$$E(X^k) = E[(1-\phi)B_1 + \phi\tilde{X}]^k$$

$$= \sum_{j=0}^{k-1} \binom{k}{j} p(1-\phi)^{k-j} \phi^j E(X^j) + \phi^k E(X^k)$$

since  $E(B_1^j) = p$  for  $j > 0$ .

# Properties of the generalized Cantor distribution.

Thus:

$$E(X^k) = \frac{p \sum_{j=0}^{k-1} \binom{k}{j} (1-\phi)^{k-j} \phi^j E(X^j)}{1-\phi^k}, \quad k = 1, 2, \dots$$

In particular:

$$E(X) = \frac{p(1-\phi)}{1-\phi} = p,$$

$$\text{var}(X) = \frac{p(1-p)(1-\phi)}{1+\phi}.$$

# Properties of the generalized Cantor distribution.

Though both the mean and variance can be more easily obtained using the series representation

$$X = \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} (1 - \phi) \phi^{j-1} B_j$$

# Properties of the generalized Cantor distribution.

Note:  $E(X) > \text{var}(X)$

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In fact  $X$  is more undersdispersed than a Bernoulli ( $p$ ) r.v.

Note that if  $X \sim GC(\phi, p)$

then  $1 - X \sim GC(\phi, 1 - p)$ .

# Properties of the generalized Cantor distribution.

Consistent asymptotically normal estimates  
of the parameters are available via the  
method of moments:

$$\hat{p} = M_1,$$

$$\hat{\phi} = \frac{M_1 - M_2}{M - 1 + M_2 - 2M_1^2},$$

in which  $M_1 = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n X_i$  and  $M_2 = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n X_i^2$ .

# Expected values of Order Statistics of the generalized Cantor distribution.

Here we follow Hosking (1994) who dealt  
with the case  $p=1/2$ .

We wish to evaluate

$$\mu_{i:n} = E(X_{i:n})$$

But it will suffice to evaluate

$$\mu_{1:n} = E(X_{1:n})$$

# Expected values of Order Statistics of the generalized Cantor distribution.

$$X = \begin{cases} \phi \tilde{X}, & \text{with probability } (1 - p) \\ (1 - \phi) + \phi \tilde{X}, & \text{with probability } p. \end{cases}$$

So

$$X < \phi \text{ with probability } (1 - p)$$

$$X > 1 - \phi \text{ with probability } p.$$

# Expected values of Order Statistics of the generalized Cantor distribution.

We then can condition on the number of  $X$ 's for which the corresponding  $B_1$ 's are equal to 0, to obtain:

$$E(X_{1:n}) = \sum_{j=1}^n \binom{n}{j} (1-p)^j p^{n-j} \phi E(X_{1:j}) \cdot$$

$$+ p^n [1 - \phi + \phi E(X_{1:n})].$$

# Expected values of Order Statistics of the generalized Cantor distribution.

$$E(X_{1:1}) = E(X) = p,$$

$$E(X_{1:2}) = \frac{p^2(1 + \phi - 2p\phi)}{1 - \phi + 2p(1 - p)\phi}.$$

$$E(X_{2:2}) = 2E(X_{1:1}) - E(X_{1:2}) +$$

$$= p \frac{2 - 2\phi + 3p\phi - 2p^2\phi - p}{1 - \phi + 2p(1 - p)\phi},$$

# Gini index of the generalized Cantor distribution

$$G(X) = \frac{E(X_{2:2}) - E(X_{1:2})}{E(X_{2:2}) + E(X_{1:2})}$$

$$= \frac{(1-p)(1-\phi)}{1-\phi+2p(1-p)\phi}.$$

# Gini index.of the generalized Cantor distribution

If  $p = 1/2,$

$$G(X) = \frac{1 - \phi}{2 - \phi}$$

# Gini index.of the generalized Cantor distribution

If  $p = 1/2$ ,

$$G(X) = \frac{1 - \phi}{2 - \phi}$$

If  $p = 1/2$ , and  $\phi = 1/3$ ,

$$G(X) = 2/5.$$

# The skew generalized Cantor distribution.

Hosking introduced an asymmetric version of the generalized Cantor distr. In the case  $p=1/2$ . The extension to  $0 < p < 1$  is as follows:

$$X = \begin{cases} \alpha \tilde{X} & \text{with probability } (1 - p), \\ (1 - \beta) + \beta \tilde{X} & \text{with probability } p. \end{cases}$$

$$\alpha > 0, \beta > 0, \alpha + \beta < 1 \text{ and } 0 < p < 1$$

# The skew generalized Cantor distribution.

Recursion for moments:

$$E(X^k) = \frac{p \sum_{j=0}^{k-1} \binom{k}{j} (1-\beta)^{k-j} \beta^j E(X^j)}{1 - (1-p)\alpha^k - p\beta^k}$$

$$E(X) = \frac{p(1-\beta)}{1 - (1-p)\alpha - p\beta},$$

$$\begin{aligned} var(X) &= p \frac{(\beta-1)^2 (\alpha(p-1) + p\beta + 1)}{((p-1)\alpha^2 - p\beta^2 + 1) (\alpha(p-1) - p\beta + 1)} \\ &\quad - \left( \frac{p(1-\beta)}{1 - (1-p)\alpha - p\beta} \right)^2. \end{aligned}$$

# The skew generalized Cantor distribution.

Recursion for expected sample minima:

$$E(X_{1:n}) = \sum_{j=1}^n \binom{n}{j} (1-p)^j p^{n-j} \alpha E(X_{1:j}) -$$

$$+ p^n [1 - \beta + \beta E(X_{1:n})]$$

# The skew generalized Cantor distribution.

Thus, for example

$$E(X_{1:2}) = \frac{2(1-p)p\alpha \frac{p(1-\beta)}{1-(1-p)\alpha-p\beta} + p^2(1-\beta)}{1 - (1-p)^2\alpha - p^2\beta}$$

Using which, we obtain the Gini index:

$$G(X) = \frac{(1-p)(1-\alpha)}{1 - (1-p)^2\alpha - p^2\beta}$$

Recall

For generalized Cantor distr.

$$G(X) = \frac{(1-p)(1-\phi)}{1-\phi+2p(1-p)\phi}.$$

While for skew generalized Cantor distr.

$$G(X) = \frac{(1-p)(1-\alpha)}{1-(1-p)^2\alpha-p^2\beta}$$

# The inverse distribution.

If  $X \sim SGC(\alpha, \beta, p)$  then we denote  
its distribution function by

$$F_{SGC}(x; \alpha, \beta, p)$$

Since  $0 \leq X \leq 1$ , the corresponding

right continuous quantile function

$F_{SGC}^{-1}(x; \alpha, \beta, p)$  is also a valid distr. fn.

# The inverse distribution.

If  $Y$  has  $F_{SGC}^{-1}(x; \alpha, \beta, p)$  as its distr.fn.

then we write  $Y \sim SGC^{-1}(\alpha, \beta, p)$  and

say that  $Y$  has an inverse-skew-generalized-Cantor distribution.

# The inverse distribution.

If  $Y \sim SGC^{-1}(\alpha, \beta, p)$  then  $Y$  is discrete with a countable number of possible values. Like the corresponding r.v.  $X$ , it has a fractal structure.

# The inverse distribution.

Thus  $Y$  can be described as follows:

$$Y = \begin{cases} (1 - p)\tilde{Y} & \text{with probability } \alpha \\ (1 - p) & \text{with probability } (1 - \alpha - \beta) \\ (1 - p) + p\tilde{Y} & \text{with probability } \beta \end{cases}$$

$$\alpha > 0, \beta > 0, \alpha + \beta < 1 \text{ and } 0 < p < 1$$

in which  $\tilde{Y} =^d Y$ .

# The inverse distribution.

Using this representation we find:

$$E(Y) = \frac{(1 - \alpha)(1 - p)}{1 - \alpha + \alpha p - \beta p},$$

and eventually

$$\begin{aligned} var(Y) &= \frac{(1 - p)^2(1 - \alpha)}{1 - \alpha + \alpha p - \beta p} \frac{1 - \alpha + \alpha p + \beta p}{1 - \alpha(1 - p)^2 - \beta p^2} \\ &\quad - \left( \frac{(1 - \alpha)(1 - p)}{1 - \alpha + \alpha p - \beta p} \right)^2. \end{aligned}$$

# The inverse distribution.

For the inverse classical Cantor distribution  
Corresponding to the choice

$$\alpha = \beta = 1/3 \text{ and } p = 1/2,$$

we have:

$$E(Y) = 1/2. \quad var(Y) = 1/20.$$

# On Moments of Inverse Distributions

Suppose that  $X$  satisfies  $0 \leq X \leq 1$  and has d.f.  $F$ . Let  $Y$  have the corresponding inverse distribution, i.e., its d.f. is  $F^{-1}$ . How are the moments of  $X$  related to those of  $Y$  ?

# On Moments of Inverse Distributions

Integrating by parts, one finds

$$\begin{aligned} E(Y^k) &= \int_0^1 y^k dF^{-1}(y) = \int_0^1 [F(x)]^k dx \\ &= x[F(x)]^k|_0^1 - \int_0^1 x d[F(x)]^k \\ &= 1 - E(X_{k:k}) = 1 - E[(1 - X)_{1:k}] \end{aligned}$$

# On Moments of Inverse Distributions

With  $k=1$ , we get

$$E(X) + E(Y) = 1$$

# On Moments of Inverse Distributions

In the case of SGC variables, then

$$\begin{aligned} E(Y^k) &= \int_0^1 y^k dF^{-1}(y; \alpha, \beta, p) = \int_0^1 [F(x; \alpha, \beta, p)]^k dx \\ &= x[F(x; \alpha, \beta, p)]^k|_0^1 - \int_0^1 x d[F(x; \alpha, \beta, p)]^k \\ &= 1 - E(X_{k:k}). \end{aligned}$$

$$= E((1 - X)_{1:k}) = E(Z_{1:k})$$

where the  $Z_i$ 's are i.i.d.  $SGC(\beta, \alpha, 1 - p)$  r.v.'s

# A bivariate SGC random variable

$$\begin{pmatrix} X \\ Y \end{pmatrix} = \begin{cases} \begin{pmatrix} \alpha_1 \tilde{X} \\ \alpha_2 \tilde{Y} \end{pmatrix} \text{ with probability } p_{00} \\ \begin{pmatrix} (1 - \beta_1) + \beta_1 \tilde{X} \\ \alpha_2 \tilde{Y} \end{pmatrix} \text{ with probability } p_{10} \\ \begin{pmatrix} \alpha_1 \tilde{X} \\ (1 - \beta_2) + \beta_2 \tilde{Y} \end{pmatrix} \text{ with probability } p_{01} \\ \begin{pmatrix} (1 - \beta_1) + \beta_1 \tilde{X} \\ (1 - \beta_1) + \beta_2 \tilde{Y} \end{pmatrix} \text{ with probability } p_{11} \end{cases} :$$

# Multivariate SGC random variables

SGC random variables are defined as follows:

Let  $\mathcal{G}$  be a graph with vertex set  $V$ . Let  $\mathbf{x} = (x_v)_{v \in V}$  be a vector of real numbers.

The  $\mathbf{x}$  is called a **SGC random variable** if it satisfies the following condition:

For every edge  $(u, v)$  in  $\mathcal{G}$ , the value  $x_u - x_v$  is a Gaussian random variable with mean zero and variance  $\sigma^2$ .

In other words, the difference between the values at adjacent vertices is a Gaussian random variable with mean zero and variance  $\sigma^2$ .

This condition is equivalent to saying that the vector  $\mathbf{x}$  is a Gaussian random variable with mean zero and covariance matrix  $\Sigma$ , where  $\Sigma_{uv} = \sigma^2$  if  $(u, v)$  is an edge and  $\Sigma_{uv} = 0$  otherwise.

SGC random variables have many interesting properties, such as being closed under linear combinations and being able to model spatial dependencies in a natural way.

SGC random variables are widely used in machine learning, particularly in the context of graph neural networks and reinforcement learning.

If you have any questions or comments, please feel free to ask!

# Multivariate SGC random variables

We'd need a bigger screen !!

# Thank you for your attention.

