

Theorem:

Let f be a non negative integrable function, then the distribution function $F(x) = \int_{-\infty}^x f$ is continuous.

Proof. To begin, define $\langle F_n \rangle_{n=1}^{\infty}$ and $\langle G_n \rangle_{n=1}^{\infty}$ as:

$$F_n(x) = \int_{-\infty}^{x - \frac{1}{n}} f \text{ and } G_n(x) = \int_{-\infty}^{x + \frac{1}{n}} f$$

then, clearly $\langle F_n \rangle_{n=1}^{\infty}$ is monotone increasing and it follows that $F_n \rightarrow \int_{-\infty}^x f$. Next, the sequence $\langle G_n \rangle_{n=1}^{\infty}$ is monotone decreasing and bounded below by $\int_{-\infty}^x f$. Then given this and because $\int_{\mathbb{R}} f < \infty$ by assumption, we know that $G_n \rightarrow \int_{-\infty}^x f$. Letting $\epsilon > 0$ be given, we know that $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} F_n = F$ implies that there exists N_1 such that for all $n \geq N_1$ $|F(p) - F_n(p)| = |\int_{-\infty}^p f - \int_{-\infty}^{p - \frac{1}{n}} f| < \epsilon$. In addition, we know that $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} G_n = F$ implies that there exists N_2 such that for all $n \geq N_2$ $|F(p) - G_n(p)| = |\int_{-\infty}^p f - \int_{-\infty}^{p + \frac{1}{n}} f| < \epsilon$. Then, letting $N_0 = \max\{N_1, N_2\}$ we know that for all $n > N_0$, both $|\int_{-\infty}^p f - \int_{-\infty}^{p - \frac{1}{n}} f|$ and $|\int_{-\infty}^p f - \int_{-\infty}^{p + \frac{1}{n}} f|$ are less than ϵ . Letting $\delta < \frac{1}{N_0}$ we have:

$$|\int_{-\infty}^p f - \int_{-\infty}^x f| = |F(p) - F(x)| < \epsilon$$

whenever $|x - p| < \delta$. Then F is continuous at p . Since p was arbitrarily chosen, it follows that F is continuous. \square