Chi distribution (from http://www.math.wm.edu/~leemis/chart/UDR/UDR.html) The shorthand $X \sim \chi(n)$ is used to indicate that the random variable X has the χ (chi) distribution with *n* degrees of freedom, where *n* is a positive integer. A χ random variable X with *n* degrees of freedom has probability density function

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{2^{n/2 - 1} \Gamma(n/2)} x^{n-1} e^{-x^2/2} \qquad x > 0.$$

The probability density function, where n = 1, 2, and 8 is illustrated below.



The cumulative distribution function of X can be written as an integral that can't be evaluated in closed form. The expected value of X^k is

$$E\left[X^{k}\right] = \frac{2^{k/2}\Gamma(k/2 + n/2)}{\Gamma(n/2)}$$

for $k = 1, 2, \dots$ Using this result, the mean and variance are

$$E[X] = \frac{\sqrt{2\Gamma(1/2 + n/2)}}{\Gamma(n/2)} \qquad V[X] = n - \mu^2$$

because

$$E\left[X^{2}\right] = \frac{2\Gamma(n/2+1)}{\Gamma(n/2)} = n.$$

The skewness and kurtosis are also written in terms of the gamma function. The mode is $\sqrt{n-1}$.

APPL verification: The APPL statements

X := ChiRV(n); Mean(X); Variance(X); Skewness(X); Kurtosis(X);

verify the population mean, variance, skewness, kurtosis, and moment generating function.