

AQA S2 Continuous Random Variables

- 7 Engineering work on the railway network causes an increase in the journey time of commuters travelling into work each morning.

The increase in journey time,  $T$  hours, is modelled by a continuous random variable with probability density function

$$f(t) = \begin{cases} 4t(1 - t^2) & 0 \leq t \leq 1 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

(a) Show that  $E(T) = \frac{8}{15}$ . (3 marks)

(b) (i) Find the cumulative distribution function,  $F(t)$ , for  $0 \leq t \leq 1$ . (2 marks)

- (ii) Hence, or otherwise, for a commuter selected at random, find

$P(\text{mean} < T < \text{median})$  (5 marks)

(a)

$$\begin{aligned} E(T) &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} t f(t) dt = \int_0^1 t \times 4t(1 - t^2) dt \\ &= \int_0^1 (4t^2 - 4t^4) dt = \left[ \frac{4t^3}{3} - \frac{4t^5}{5} \right]_0^1 \\ &= \frac{4}{3} - \frac{4}{5} = \frac{8}{15} \end{aligned}$$

(b) (i)

$$\begin{aligned} F(\tau) &= \int_{-\infty}^{\tau} f(t) dt = \int_0^{\tau} (4t - 4t^3) dt = 2\tau^2 - \tau^4 \\ F(t) &= 2t^2 - t^4 \quad 0 \leq t \leq 1 \end{aligned}$$

$$F(t) = P(T \leq t)$$

(ii)

$$\begin{aligned} P(\text{mean} < T < \text{median}) &= P(T < \text{median}) - P(T < \text{mean}) \\ &= F(\text{median}) - F(\text{mean}) \\ &= 0.5 - F\left(\frac{8}{15}\right) = 0.5 - \left(2\left(\frac{8}{15}\right)^2 - \left(\frac{8}{15}\right)^4\right) = 0.012 \end{aligned}$$