

ECE 203

Probability Theory and Statistics I

Tutorial 8

July 2025

Problem 1

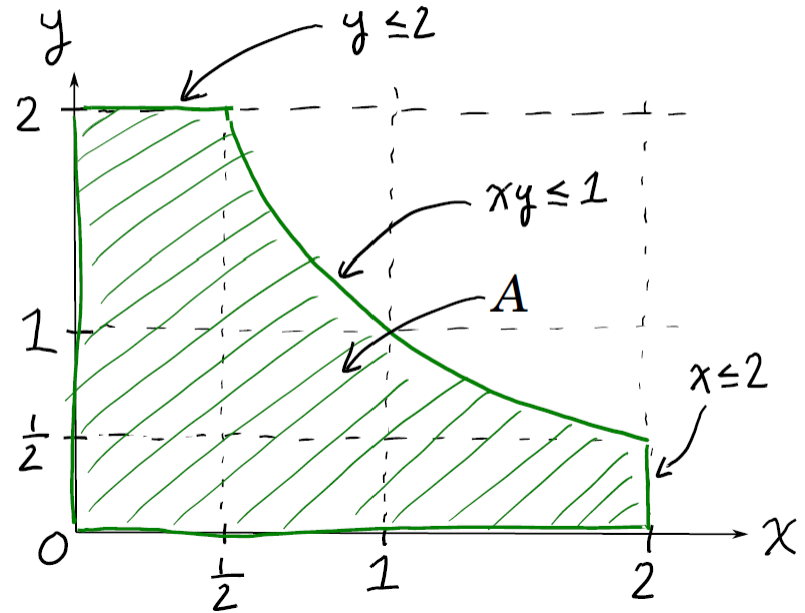
Let the joint pdf of X and Y be given by

$$f_{XY}(x, y) = \begin{cases} c(1 - xy) & 0 \leq x \leq 2, 0 \leq y \leq 2, xy \leq 1 \\ 0 & \text{else} \end{cases}$$

- a) What is c ?
- b) What is $P[X > 1]$?
- c) What is $P[X > Y]$?

Problem 1 - Solution

a) Sketching a figure is always a good idea:



$$\begin{aligned} 1 &= \iint_A f_{XY}(x, y) dx dy \\ &= c \int_0^{1/2} \int_0^2 (1 - xy) dy dx + c \int_{1/2}^2 \int_0^{1/x} (1 - xy) dy dx \\ &= c \int_0^{1/2} \left[y - \frac{xy^2}{2} \right]_{y=0}^{y=2} dx + c \int_{1/2}^2 \left[y - \frac{xy^2}{2} \right]_{y=0}^{y=1/x} dx \end{aligned}$$

Problem 1 - Solution

$$\begin{aligned} &= c \int_0^{1/2} [2 - 2x] dx + c \int_{1/2}^2 \left[\frac{1}{x} - \frac{1}{2x} \right] dx \\ &= c [2x - x^2]_0^{1/2} + \frac{c}{2} [\ln x]_{1/2}^2 \\ &= c \times \frac{3}{4} + c \ln 2 \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{So } c = (3/4 + \ln 2)^{-1}.$$

Problem 1 - Solution

b)

$$\begin{aligned} P[X > 1] &= \iint_{x>1} f_{XY}(x, y) dx dy \\ &= c \int_{x=1}^2 \int_{y=0}^{1/x} (1 - xy) dy dx \\ &= c \int_1^2 \left[y - \frac{xy^2}{2} \right]_{y=0}^{y=1/x} dx \\ &= c \int_1^2 \left[\frac{1}{x} - \frac{1}{2x} \right] dx \\ &= \frac{c}{2} [\ln x]_1^2 \\ &= \frac{c}{2} \ln 2 \end{aligned}$$

Problem 1 - Solution

c) Hard way:

$$\begin{aligned}P[X > Y] &= \iint_{x>y} f_{XY}(x, y) dx dy \\&= \int_0^{\infty} \int_0^x f_{XY}(x, y) dy dx \\&= c \int_0^1 \int_0^x (1 - xy) dy dx + c \int_1^2 \int_0^{1/x} (1 - xy) dy dx \\&= \dots\end{aligned}$$

Easy way:

$$\begin{aligned}1 &= P[X > Y] + P[X = Y] + P[Y > X] \\&= P[X > Y] + P[Y > X] \\&= P[X > Y] + P[X > Y]\end{aligned}$$

since $x = y$ has 0 area in $x - y$ plane
by symmetry of pdf w.r.t. $x = y$

So $P[X > Y] = 1/2$.

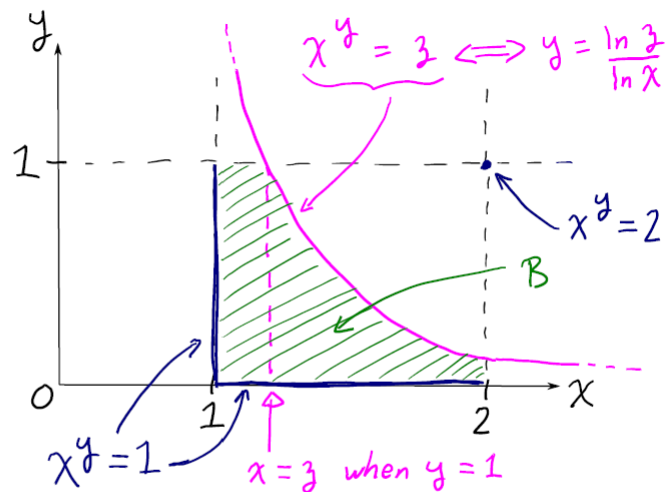
Problem 2

Let $X \sim U(1, 2)$ and $Y \sim U(0, 1)$ be independent rvs. Let

$$Z = X^Y$$

What is the pdf of Z ?

Problem 2 - Solution



The joint pdf of X and Y is

$$f_{XY}(x, y) = f_X(x) \cdot f_Y(y) = 1 \cdot 1 = 1 \quad \text{on } [1, 2] \times [0, 1] \quad \text{Since they are independent}$$

$$f_{XY}(x, y) = \begin{cases} 1 & 1 \leq x \leq 2, 0 \leq y \leq 1 \\ 0 & \text{else} \end{cases}$$

Problem 2 - Solution

Note that Z must be between 1 (when $Y = 0$ or $X = 1$) and 2 (when $X = 2, Y = 1$). So

$$F_Z(z) = \begin{cases} 0 & z \leq 1 \\ 1 & z \geq 2 \end{cases}$$

This leaves the case that $1 < z < 2$:

$$\begin{aligned} P[Z \leq z] &= P[X^Y \leq z] \\ &= P[Y \ln X \leq \ln z] \\ &= P\left[Y \leq \frac{\ln z}{\ln X}\right] \end{aligned}$$

Let

$$A = \{(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2 \mid 1 \leq x \leq 2, 0 \leq y \leq 1\}$$

$$B = \left\{ (x, y) \in A \mid y \leq \frac{\ln z}{\ln x} \right\}$$

$$\begin{aligned} P[Z \leq z] &= \iint_{(x,y) \in B} f_{XY}(x, y) dx dy \\ &= \int_1^z \int_0^1 1 dy dx + \int_z^2 \int_0^{\frac{\ln z}{\ln x}} 1 dy dx \\ &= z - 1 + \int_z^2 \frac{\ln z}{\ln x} dx \end{aligned}$$

This integral can't be simplified further. To get the pdf,

$$f_Z(z) = \frac{d}{dz} F_Z(z) = \begin{cases} 0 & z \leq 1 \\ 0 & z \geq 2 \end{cases}$$

Problem 2 - Solution

For $1 < z < 2$:

$$\begin{aligned}f_Z(z) &= \frac{d}{dz} F_Z(z) \\&= \frac{d}{dz} \left[z - 1 + \int_z^2 \frac{\ln z}{\ln x} dx \right] \\&= 1 + \frac{d}{dz} \int_z^2 \frac{\ln z}{\ln x} dx \\&= 1 - \frac{\ln z}{\ln z} \times \frac{d}{dz} z + \int_z^2 \frac{d}{dz} \frac{\ln z}{\ln x} dx \\&= \frac{1}{z} \int_z^2 \frac{1}{\ln x} dx\end{aligned}$$

by Leibniz's rule



$$\begin{aligned}&\frac{d}{dx} \left(\int_{a(x)}^{b(x)} f(x, t) dt \right) \\&= f(x, b(x)) \cdot \frac{d}{dx} b(x) - f(x, a(x)) \cdot \frac{d}{dx} a(x) + \int_{a(x)}^{b(x)} \frac{\partial}{\partial x} f(x, t) dt\end{aligned}$$

Problem 3

Let X and Y be the outcomes of rolling a fair 4-sided and a fair 6-sided die. The rolls are independent. Let $Z = X + Y$. What is the PMF of Z ?

Problem 3 - Solution

$$p_X(k) = \begin{cases} 1/4 & k = 1, \dots, 4 \\ 0 & \text{else} \end{cases}$$

$$p_Y(k) = \begin{cases} 1/6 & k = 1, \dots, 6 \\ 0 & \text{else} \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{aligned} P[Z = n] &= P[X + Y = n] \\ &= P[\cup_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} \{X = k, Y = n - k\}] \\ &= \sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} P[X = k, Y = n - k] \\ &= \sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} P[X = k]P[Y = n - k] \\ &= \sum_{k=1}^4 P[X = k]P[Y = n - k] \end{aligned}$$

[since $X \in \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$]

Problem 3 - Solution

$$\begin{aligned} &= P[X = 1]P[Y = n - 1] \\ &\quad + P[X = 2]P[Y = n - 2] \\ &\quad + P[X = 3]P[Y = n - 3] \\ &\quad + P[X = 4]P[Y = n - 4] \\ &= \frac{1}{4}P[Y = n - 1] + \frac{1}{4}P[Y = n - 2] \\ &\quad + \frac{1}{4}P[Y = n - 3] + \frac{1}{4}P[Y = n - 4] \end{aligned}$$

Problem 3 - Solution

If $n \leq 1$, then sum is 0.

If $n = 2$, then sum is $\frac{1}{4} \frac{1}{6} = \frac{1}{24}$

If $n = 3$, then sum is $\frac{2}{24}$

If $n = 4$, then sum is $\frac{3}{24}$

If $n = 5$, then sum is $\frac{4}{24}$

If $n = 6$, then sum is $\frac{4}{24}$

If $n = 7$, then sum is $\frac{4}{24}$

If $n = 8$, then sum is $\frac{3}{24}$

If $n = 9$, then sum is $\frac{2}{24}$

If $n = 10$, then sum is $\frac{1}{24}$

If $n \geq 11$, then sum is 0



Problem 4

Let X_1, \dots, X_n are independent with $X_k \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu_k, \sigma_k^2)$.

a) If $Z_1 = a_1X_1 + b_1, \dots, Z_n = a_nX_n + b_n$, show that Z_1, \dots, Z_n are independent. [Assume $a_1 > 0, \dots, a_n > 0$].

b) What is the pdf of $Z = (a_1X_1 + b_1) + \dots + (a_nX_n + b_n)$?

Problem 4 - Solution

a) Since X_1, \dots, X_n are independent:

$$F_{X_1, \dots, X_n}(x_1, \dots, x_n) = F_{X_1}(x_1) \times \dots \times F_{X_n}(x_n)$$

Let $Y \sim \mathcal{N}(0, 1)$. Since $X_k \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu_k, \sigma_k^2)$:

$$\begin{aligned} F_{X_k}(x_k) &= P[X_k \leq x_k] \\ &= P\left[\frac{X_k - \mu_k}{\sigma_k} \leq \frac{x_k - \mu_k}{\sigma_k}\right] \\ &= P\left[Y \leq \frac{x_k - \mu_k}{\sigma_k}\right] \\ &= \Phi\left(\frac{x_k - \mu_k}{\sigma_k}\right) \end{aligned}$$

So

$$F_{X_1, \dots, X_n}(x_1, \dots, x_n) = \Phi\left(\frac{x_1 - \mu_1}{\sigma_1}\right) \times \dots \times \Phi\left(\frac{x_n - \mu_n}{\sigma_n}\right)$$

Problem 4 - Solution

$$\begin{aligned}F_{Z_1, \dots, Z_n}(z_1, \dots, z_n) &= P[Z_1 \leq z_1, \dots, Z_n \leq z_n] \\&= P[a_1 X_1 + b_1 \leq z_1, \dots, a_n X_n + b_n \leq z_n] \\&= P\left[X_1 \leq \frac{z_1 - b_1}{a_1}, \dots, X_n \leq \frac{z_n - b_n}{a_n}\right] \\&= F_{X_1, \dots, X_n}\left(\frac{z_1 - b_1}{a_1}, \dots, \frac{z_n - b_n}{a_n}\right) \\&= \Phi\left(\frac{\frac{z_1 - b_1}{a_1} - \mu_1}{\sigma_1}\right) \times \dots \times \Phi\left(\frac{\frac{z_n - b_n}{a_n} - \mu_n}{\sigma_n}\right) \\&= \Phi\left(\frac{z_1 - b_1 - a_1 \mu_1}{a_1 \sigma_1}\right) \times \dots \times \Phi\left(\frac{z_n - b_n - a_n \mu_n}{a_n \sigma_n}\right)\end{aligned}$$

So Z_1, \dots, Z_n are independent with $Z_k \sim \mathcal{N}(b_k + a_k \mu_k, a_k^2 \sigma_k^2)$.

Problem 4 - Solution

b) Since $Z = Z_1 + \dots + Z_n$ and Z_k 's are Normal and independent, we apply Proposition 1.1: Z is Normal with

$$\mu_Z = E[Z_1] + \dots + E[Z_n] = \sum_{k=1}^n b_k + a_k \mu_k$$

$$\sigma_Z^2 = \text{Var}[Z_1] + \dots + \text{Var}[Z_n] = \sum_{k=1}^n a_k^2 \sigma_k^2$$

Recall that Proposition 1.1 states that if X_1, \dots, X_n be independent with $X_k \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu_k, \sigma_k^2)$, then:

$X = X_1 + \dots + X_n$ is $\sim \mathcal{N}(\mu_1 + \dots + \mu_n, \sigma_1^2 + \dots + \sigma_n^2)$.