

## ECE 313: Problem Set 8

## Linear Scaling, Gaussian Distribution, ML Parameter Estimation

**Due:** Wednesday October 24 at 4 p.m.

**Reading:** *313 Course Notes* Sections 3.6–3.7

1. **[Random Number Generator]**

Assume that you have a random number generator that generates uniformly distributed random variables over the interval  $[-3, 5]$ . How would you obtain random variables that are uniformly distributed over  $[0, 1]$  from the random variables that are uniform over  $[-3, 5]$ ?

2. **[IQ]**

The intelligence quotient (IQ) of a randomly selected individual is often supposed to follow a Gaussian distribution with mean 100 and standard deviation 15.

- (a) Find the probability that an individual has an IQ above 140.
- (b) Find the probability that an individual has an IQ between 120 and 130.
- (c) Find a value  $u$  such that 99% of the population has IQ at least  $u$ .

3. **[Random Fluctuations in a Power Source]**

A power source gives an output voltage of 12 volts. Because of random fluctuations, the true voltage at any given time is  $V = 12 + 2X$ , where  $X \sim \mathcal{N}(0, 0.1)$ . The voltage is measured once an hour (assuming independence), and if it is outside the interval  $[11, 13]$  the power source needs to be adjusted. What is the probability that no adjustment is needed during a 24-hour period?

4. **[Approximations to a Binomial Distribution]**

A communication receiver recovers a block of  $n = 10^5$  bits. It is known that each bit in the block can be in error with probability  $10^{-4}$ , independently of whether other bits are in error.

- (a) Write down an exact expression for the probability of observing  $k = 15$  errors in the block. A numerical value isn't required to be calculated.
- (b) Determine an approximate value of  $P\{X = 15\}$  via the Gaussian approximation with continuity correction.
- (c) Solve part (b) using the Poisson approximation of a binomial distribution.

5. **[Gaussian Noise]**

Suppose a wireless communication system consists of a transmitter and a receiver. If the transmitter emits a radio signal with transmission amplitude  $\nu$ , this signal is attenuated by the air and is received by the receiver together with noise, denoted by  $N$ . Let  $Y = \alpha\nu + N$  be the received signal amplitude, where  $\alpha = 0.01$  is the attenuation factor and  $N$  is a Gaussian random variable with mean  $\mu = 0$  and variance  $\sigma^2 = 4$ .

- (a) Find the pdf  $f_Y(u)$  of the received signal amplitude  $Y$  for  $\nu = 10$ .
- (b) (Only for this part) Suppose that  $\sigma$  is unknown, and  $\nu$  and  $\alpha$  are known to be 10 and 0.01, respectively. If the received signal amplitude  $Y$  is 0.03, find the ML estimator  $\hat{\sigma}_{ML}$  of  $\sigma$ .
- (c) Suppose the receiver output is zero if  $Y < 0$  and one if  $Y \geq 0$ . An error is said to occur if the receiver output is not equal to the transmitted bit. Find the probability of error, given the transmitted bit is one.