

## ECE 313: Problem Set 9

### Functions of a Random Variable, Failure Rate Functions, Hypothesis Testing

**Due:** Wednesday, November 6 at 6 p.m.

**Reading:** *ECE 313 Course Notes*, Sections 3.8-3.10, 4.1.

**1. [Function of a RV]**

Consider a sphere whose radius is a random variable  $\mathcal{R}$  with pdf  $f_{\mathcal{R}}(u) = 2u$ ,  $0 < u < 1$ , and 0 otherwise.

- (a) What is the average radius of the sphere?
- (b) What is the average volume?
- (c) What is the average surface area?
- (d) If a sphere of average radius is called an *average sphere*, then does an average sphere have more than, less than or equal the average volume? Does it have the average surface area?

**2. [Function of a RV]**

$\mathbb{X}$  denotes a *uniform* random variable with mean 1 and variance 3. Find the pdf of  $\mathbb{Y} = |\mathbb{X}|$ .

**3. [Failure Rate Function]**

Problem 3.36 of the course notes.

**4. [Hypothesis Testing]**

Consider the following binary hypothesis testing problem. If hypothesis  $H_0$  is true, the continuous random variable  $\mathbb{X}$  is uniformly distributed on  $(-1, 1)$ , while if hypothesis  $H_1$  is true, the pdf of  $\mathbb{X}$  is

$$f_1(u) = \begin{cases} C(1 - |u|), & |u| < 1, \\ 0, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

- (a) Find the value of  $C$ .
- (b) Find the decision region  $\Gamma_0$  for the *maximum-likelihood* decision rule.  
Remember that  $\Gamma_0$  is the set of all real numbers such that if  $\mathbb{X} \in \Gamma_0$ , the decision is that  $H_0$  is the true hypothesis.
- (c) Find the probabilities of false alarm and missed detection for the ML rule.
- (d) Suppose the prior probabilities of the two hypotheses  $H_0$  and  $H_1$  are  $\pi_0$  and  $\pi_1$ , respectively. Find the decision rule  $\Gamma_0$  for the MAP rule. Your answer should be in terms of the prior probabilities.  
*Hint:* First do this calculation for some numerical values of prior probabilities, say  $\pi_0 = \frac{2}{3}, \pi_0 = \frac{3}{5}$ , etc.
- (e) Calculate the probabilities of false alarm and missed detections for the MAP rule. Your answer should be in terms of the prior probabilities. *Hint:* First do this calculation for the same numerical values of prior probabilities you tried out in the previous part, say  $\pi_0 = \frac{2}{3}, \pi_0 = \frac{3}{5}$ , etc.
- (f) A student gets tired of all these decision rules and decides to use the “RAND” rule: toss a fair coin and decide  $H_0$  if the outcome is heads and  $H_1$  otherwise. What are the probabilities of the false alarm and missed detection with the RAND rule? For what values of  $\pi_0$ , if any, is the probability of false alarm with the RAND rule no larger than with the MAP rule?

**5. [Hypothesis Testing Concepts]**

Consider a binary hypothesis testing problem where the prior probability of hypothesis  $H_0$  is  $\pi_0$  and the prior probability of hypothesis  $H_1$  is  $\pi_1$ . Denote the probabilities of false alarm and missed detection for the ML decision rule by  $P_{FA}^{ML}$  and  $P_{MD}^{ML}$ , respectively. Similarly, denote the probabilities of false alarm

and missed detection for the MAP decision rule by  $P_{FA}^{MAP}$  and  $P_{MD}^{MAP}$ , respectively. State whether the following statements are TRUE or FALSE. Include a short explanation.

- (a)  $P_{FA}^{ML} + P_{MD}^{ML} = 1$ .
- (b)  $P_{FA}^{MAP} \leq P_{FA}^{ML}$ .
- (c)  $P_{FA}^{ML}\pi_0 + P_{MD}^{ML}\pi_1 = 1$ .
- (d)  $\pi_0 + \pi_1 = 1$ .
- (e)  $P_{FA}^{ML} \cdot \pi_0 + P_{MD}^{ML} \cdot \pi_1 \geq P_{FA}^{MAP} \cdot \pi_0 + P_{MD}^{MAP} \cdot \pi_1$ .
- (f) If  $P_{FA}^{ML} \cdot \pi_0 + P_{MD}^{ML} \cdot \pi_1 = P_{FA}^{MAP} \cdot \pi_0 + P_{MD}^{MAP} \cdot \pi_1$  then  $\pi_0 = \pi_1$ .
- (g) If  $\pi_0 = 0.5$  then  $P_{MD}^{ML} = P_{MD}^{MAP}$ .