

Assigned: Wednesday, April 28, 1999
Due: Wednesday, May 5, 1999
Reading: Chapter 7 (Sections 1-3 only), Chapter 8
Problems:

1. If \mathbf{X} is $N(0, \sigma^2)$, then \mathbf{X}^2 has gamma pdf with parameter $(1/2, 1/2\sigma^2)$. We did the case for $\sigma^2 = 1$ in class, and the general case is very similar. Now, suppose that \mathbf{X} , \mathbf{Y} , and \mathbf{Z} are independent $N(0, \sigma^2)$ random variables. Then \mathbf{X}^2 , \mathbf{Y}^2 , and \mathbf{Z}^2 are independent gamma random variables with parameter $(1/2, 1/2\sigma^2)$.
 - (a) Use the comment immediately following the proof of Proposition 3.1 (pp. 266-267) of Ross to *state* what the *type* of pdf of $\mathbf{W} = \mathbf{X}^2 + \mathbf{Y}^2 + \mathbf{Z}^2$, and write down *explicitly* the exact pdf. What is the numerical value of $f_{\mathbf{W}}(5)$ if $\sigma^2 = 4$?
 - (b) Use LOTUS to prove that $E[\mathbf{W}] = 3\sigma^2$. If you actually evaluated an integral to get this answer, shame on you!
 - (c) In a physical application, \mathbf{X} , \mathbf{Y} , and \mathbf{Z} represent the velocity (measured along three perpendicular axes) of a gas molecule of mass m as \mathbf{v} . Thus, $\mathbf{H} = (1/2)m\mathbf{W}$ is the kinetic energy of the particle, and an important axiom of statistical mechanics asserts that the average kinetic energy is $E[\mathbf{H}] = E[(1/2)m\mathbf{W}] = (1/2)mE[\mathbf{W}] = (3/2)m\sigma^2 = (3/2)kT$ where k is Boltzmann's constant and T is the absolute temperature of the gas in $^{\circ}\text{K}$. (Note that the average energy is $(1/2)kT$ per dimension.) Show that the kinetic energy \mathbf{H} has the Maxwell-Boltzmann pdf $f_{\mathbf{H}}(h) = \frac{2}{\sqrt{\pi}}(kT)^{-3/2} \exp(-h/kT)$, $h > 0$.
 - (d) $\mathbf{V} = \sqrt{\mathbf{W}} = \sqrt{\mathbf{X}^2 + \mathbf{Y}^2 + \mathbf{Z}^2}$ is the "speed" of the molecule. Show that the pdf of \mathbf{V} is $f_{\mathbf{V}}(v) = \frac{4}{\sqrt{\pi}} \left(\frac{m}{2kT}\right)^{3/2} v^2 \exp\left(-\frac{mv^2}{2kT}\right)$, $v > 0$ cf. Theoretical Exercise 1, p. 237 of the text.
 - (e) What is the average speed of the molecule?
2. Let (\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Y}) be uniformly distributed on the unit disc (radius = 1) centered at the origin. Find the expected value of the distance from the origin to the point (\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Y}) .
3. Except for the trivial case when all the probability mass is at $\mu = E[\mathbf{X}]$, there is probability mass both to the left and right of μ ; in particular, there is an $\epsilon > 0$ such that $\mathbf{X}(\omega) < \mu - \epsilon$. Is it also true that if $(E[\mathbf{X}], E[\mathbf{Y}]) = (\mu_1, \mu_2)$, then there is an $\epsilon > 0$ such that $\mathbf{X}(\omega) < \mu_1 - \epsilon$ and $\mathbf{Y}(\omega) < \mu_2 - \epsilon$? If you believe the result is true, prove it. Otherwise, give a counterexample to show that it is false.
4. Let the random variables \mathbf{X} and \mathbf{Y} be independent and uniformly distributed on $(0,1)$. Find $E(|\mathbf{X} - \mathbf{Y}|)$ and $\text{Var}(\mathbf{X} - \mathbf{Y})$.
5. Let $E[\mathbf{X}] = 1$, $E[\mathbf{Y}] = 4$, $\text{var}(\mathbf{X}) = 4$, $\text{var}(\mathbf{Y}) = 9$, and $\rho_{\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Y}} = 0.1$
 - (a) If $\mathbf{Z} = 2(\mathbf{X} + \mathbf{Y})(\mathbf{X} - \mathbf{Y})$, what is $E[\mathbf{Z}]$?
 - (b) If $\mathbf{T} = 2\mathbf{X} + \mathbf{Y}$ and $\mathbf{U} = 2\mathbf{X} - \mathbf{Y}$, what is $\text{cov}(\mathbf{T}, \mathbf{U})$?
 - (c) If $\mathbf{W} = 3\mathbf{X} + \mathbf{Y} + 2$, find $E[\mathbf{W}]$ and $\text{var}(\mathbf{W})$.
 - (d) If \mathbf{X} and \mathbf{Y} are jointly Gaussian random variables, and \mathbf{W} is as defined in (c), what is $P\{\mathbf{W} > 0\}$?
6. (a) If $\text{var}(\mathbf{X} + \mathbf{Y}) = 36$ and $\text{var}(\mathbf{X} - \mathbf{Y}) = 64$, what is $\text{cov}(\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Y})$? If you are also told that $\text{var}(\mathbf{X}) = 3 \cdot \text{var}(\mathbf{Y})$, what is $\rho_{\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Y}}$?
 - (b) If instead of having values 36 and 64, $\text{var}(\mathbf{X}) = \text{var}(\mathbf{Y})$, are \mathbf{X} and \mathbf{Y} uncorrelated?