

## ECE 313: Problem Set 10

## Functions of Continuous Random Variables; and Hypothesis Testing

**This Problem Set contains 6 problems**

**Due:** Wednesday April 9 at the beginning of class.  
**Reading:** Ross, Chapter 5; Powerpoint Lectures 26, 27, and 29  
**Noncredit Exercises:** Ross, Chapter 5, Problems 10-19; 21, 22, 24, 31-41

1. The current  $I$  through a semiconductor diode is related to the voltage  $V$  across the diode as  $I = I_0(\exp(V) - 1)$  where  $I_0$  is the magnitude of the reverse current. Suppose that the voltage across the diode is modeled as a continuous random variable  $\mathcal{V}$  with pdf

$$f_{\mathcal{V}}(u) = 0.5 \exp(-|u|), -\infty < u < \infty.$$

Then, the current  $\mathcal{I}$  is also a continuous random variable.

- (a) What values can  $\mathcal{I}$  take on?
  - (b) Find the CDF of  $\mathcal{I}$ .
  - (c) Find the pdf of  $\mathcal{I}$ .
2.  $\mathcal{X}$  is uniformly distributed on  $[-1, +1]$ .
    - (a) Find the pdf of  $\mathcal{Y} = \mathcal{X}^2$ .
    - (b) Find the pdf of  $\mathcal{Z} = g(\mathcal{X})$  where  $g(u) = \begin{cases} u^2, & u \geq 0 \\ -u^2, & u < 0 \end{cases}$ .
  3. ["Give me an A! Give me a D! Give me a converter! What have we got? An A/D converter! Go Team!"] A signal  $\mathcal{X}$  is modeled as a unit Gaussian random variable. For some applications, however, only the quantized value  $\mathcal{Y}$  (where  $\mathcal{Y} = \alpha$  if  $\mathcal{X} > 0$  and  $\mathcal{Y} = -\alpha$  if  $\mathcal{X} \leq 0$ ) is used. Note that  $\mathcal{Y}$  is a *discrete* random variable.
    - (a) What is the pmf of  $\mathcal{Y}$ ?
    - (b) The *squared error* in representing  $\mathcal{X}$  by  $\mathcal{Y}$  is  $\mathcal{Z} = \begin{cases} (\mathcal{X} - \alpha)^2, & \text{if } \mathcal{X} > 0, \\ (\mathcal{X} + \alpha)^2, & \text{if } \mathcal{X} \leq 0, \end{cases}$  and varies as different trials of the experiment produce different values of  $\mathcal{X}$ . We would like to choose the value of  $\alpha$  so as to minimize the *mean* squared error  $E[\mathcal{Z}]$ . Use LOTUS to easily calculate  $E[\mathcal{Z}]$  (the answer will be a function of  $\alpha$ ), and then find the value of  $\alpha$  that minimizes  $E[\mathcal{Z}]$ .
    - (c) We now get more ambitious and use a 3-bit A/D converter which first quantizes  $\mathcal{X}$  to the nearest integer  $\mathcal{W}$  in the range  $-3$  to  $+3$ . Thus,  $\mathcal{W} = 3$  if  $\mathcal{X} \geq 2.5$ ,  $\mathcal{W} = 2$  if  $1.5 \leq \mathcal{X} < 2.5$ ,  $\mathcal{W} = 1$  if  $0.5 \leq \mathcal{X} < 1.5$ ,  $\dots$ ,  $\mathcal{W} = -3$  if  $\mathcal{X} < -2.5$ . Note that  $\mathcal{W}$  is also a discrete random variable. Find the pmf of  $\mathcal{W}$ .
    - (d) The output of the A/D converter is a 3-bit 2's complement representation of  $\mathcal{W}$ . Suppose that the output is  $(\mathcal{Z}_2, \mathcal{Z}_1, \mathcal{Z}_0)$ . What is the pmf of  $\mathcal{Z}_2$ ? the pmf of  $\mathcal{Z}_1$ ? the pmf of  $\mathcal{Z}_0$ ? Note that  $(1, 0, 0)$  which represents  $-4$  is not one of the possible outputs from this A/D converter.

4. [Read Example 3d (pp. 217-218) in Chapter 5 of Ross first] Let the straight line segment ACB be a diameter of a circle of unit radius and center C. Consider an *arc* AD of the circle where the length  $\mathcal{X}$  of the arc (measured clockwise around the circle) is a random variable uniformly distributed on  $[0, 2\pi)$ . Now consider the *random chord* AD whose length we denote by  $\mathcal{L}$ .
- Find the probability that  $\mathcal{L}$  is greater than the side of the equilateral triangle inscribed in the circle.
  - Express  $\mathcal{L}$  as a function of the random variable  $\mathcal{X}$ , and find the pdf for  $\mathcal{L}$ .
5. If hypothesis  $H_0$  is true, the pdf of  $\mathcal{X}$  is exponential with parameter 5 while if hypothesis  $H_1$  is true, the pdf of  $\mathcal{X}$  is exponential with parameter 10.
- Sketch the two pdfs.
  - State the *maximum-likelihood* decision rule in terms of a threshold test on the *observed value*  $u$  of the random variable  $\mathcal{X}$  instead of a test that involves comparing the likelihood ratio  $\Lambda(u) = f_1(u)/f_0(u)$  to 1.
  - What are the probabilities of false-alarm and missed detection for the maximum-likelihood decision rule of part (b)?
  - The Bayesian (minimum probability of error) decision rule compares  $\Lambda(u)$  to  $\pi_0/\pi_1$ . Show that this decision rule also can be stated in terms of a threshold test on the observed value  $u$  of the random variable  $\mathcal{X}$ .
  - If  $\pi_0 = 1/3$ , what is the *average* probability of error of the Bayesian decision rule?
  - What is the average error probability of a decision rule that always decides  $H_1$  is the true hypothesis, regardless of the value taken on by  $\mathcal{X}$ ?
  - Show that if  $\pi_0 > 2/3$ , the Bayesian decision rule always decides that  $H_0$  is the true hypothesis regardless of the value taken on by  $\mathcal{X}$ . What is the average probability of error for the maximum-likelihood rule when  $\pi_0 > 2/3$ ?
6. Consider the following hypothesis testing problem:

$$\begin{aligned} H_0 &: X \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma_0^2) \\ H_1 &: X \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma_1^2), \end{aligned}$$

where  $\sigma_0^2 < \sigma_1^2$ .

- Sketch the two pdfs.
- Show that both the ML decision rule and the Bayes decision rule simplify to comparing  $|X|$  to a threshold. Specify the threshold in both cases.  
(*Hint: consider the log likelihood ratio. The threshold is a function of  $\sigma_0^2$  and  $\sigma_1^2$ , (and of  $\pi_0$  and  $\pi_1$ )).*)
- Calculate the false alarm and missed detection probabilities for the ML decision rule for the case  $\sigma_0^2 = 1, \sigma_1^2 = 4$ .