

## Solutions to Review Problems for Exam 2

1. Let  $X$  and  $Y$  be independent Normal(0, 1) random variables. Put  $Z = \frac{Y}{X}$ . Compute the distribution functions  $F_Z(z)$  and  $f_Z(z)$ .

**Solution:** Since  $X, Y \sim \text{Normal}(0, 1)$ , their pdfs are given by

$$f_X(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-x^2/2}, \quad \text{for } x \in \mathbb{R},$$

and

$$f_Y(y) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-y^2/2}, \quad \text{for } y \in \mathbb{R},$$

respectively. The joint pdf of  $(X, Y)$  is then

$$f_{(X,Y)}(x, y) = \frac{1}{2\pi} e^{-(x^2+y^2)/2}, \quad \text{for } (x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2. \quad (1)$$

We compute the cdf of  $Z$ ,

$$F_Z(z) = \Pr(Z \leq z) = \Pr\left(\frac{y}{x} \leq z\right),$$

or

$$F_Z(z) = \iint_{\frac{y}{x} \leq z} f_{(X,Y)}(x, y) \, dx dy, \quad (2)$$

where the integrand in (2) is given in (1) and the integration is done over the region

$$R = \left\{ (x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2 \mid \frac{y}{x} \leq z \right\}.$$

Make the change variables

$$\begin{aligned} u &= x \\ v &= \frac{y}{x}, \end{aligned}$$

so that

$$\begin{aligned} x &= u \\ y &= uv, \end{aligned} \quad (3)$$

in the integral in (2) to obtain

$$F_Z(z) = \int_{-\infty}^z \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f_{(X,Y)}(u, uv) \left| \frac{\partial(x, y)}{\partial(u, v)} \right| \, dudv, \quad (4)$$

where

$$\frac{\partial(x, y)}{\partial(u, v)} = \det \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ v & u \end{pmatrix} = u, \quad (5)$$

is the Jacobian determinant of the transformation in (3). It then follows from (4) and (5) that

$$F_Z(z) = \int_{-\infty}^z \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f_{(X,Y)}(u, uv) |u| \, dudv, \quad (6)$$

Differentiating with respect to  $z$  and using the definition of the joint pdf of  $(X, Y)$  in (1) we obtain from (6) that

$$f_Z(z) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} |u| e^{-(1+z^2)u^2/2} \, du, \quad (7)$$

where we have also used the Fundamental Theorem of Calculus.

Since the integrand in (7) is an even function of  $u$ , we can rewrite the expression for  $f_Z$  in (7) as

$$f_Z(z) = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^{\infty} u e^{-(1+z^2)u^2/2} \, du. \quad (8)$$

Integrating the right-hand side of equation in (8) we obtain

$$f_Z(z) = \frac{1}{\pi} \cdot \frac{1}{1+z^2}, \quad \text{for } z \in \mathbb{R}. \quad (9)$$

The cdf of  $Z$  is then obtained by integrating (9) to get

$$F_Z(z) = \int_{-\infty}^z f_Z(z) \, dz = \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{\pi} \arctan(z), \quad \text{for } z \in \mathbb{R}.$$

□

2. A random point  $(X, Y)$  is distributed uniformly on the square with vertices  $(-1, -1)$ ,  $(1, -1)$ ,  $(1, 1)$  and  $(-1, 1)$ .

- (a) Give the joint pdf for  $X$  and  $Y$ .
- (b) Compute the following probabilities:
  - (i)  $\Pr(X^2 + Y^2 < 1)$ ,
  - (ii)  $\Pr(2X - Y > 0)$ ,
  - (iii)  $\Pr(|X + Y| < 2)$ .

**Solution:** The square is pictured in Figure 1 and has area 4.

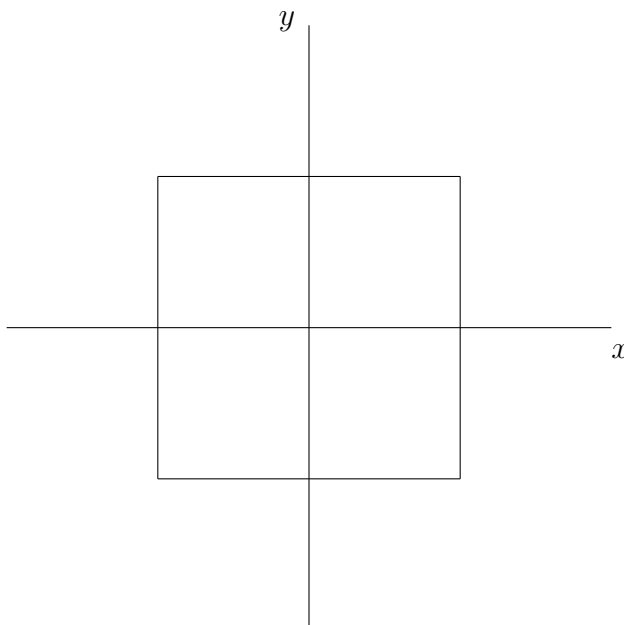


Figure 1: Sketch of square in Problem 2

(a) Consequently, the joint pdf of  $(X, Y)$  is given by

$$f_{(X,Y)}(x, y) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{4}, & \text{for } -1 < x < 1, -1 < y < 1; \\ 0 & \text{elsewhere.} \end{cases} \quad (10)$$

(b) Denoting the square in Figure 1 by  $R$ , it follows from (10) that, for any subset  $A$  of  $\mathbb{R}^2$ ,

$$\Pr[(x, y) \in A] = \iint_A f_{(X,Y)}(x, y) \, dx dy = \frac{1}{4} \cdot \text{area}(A \cap R); \quad (11)$$

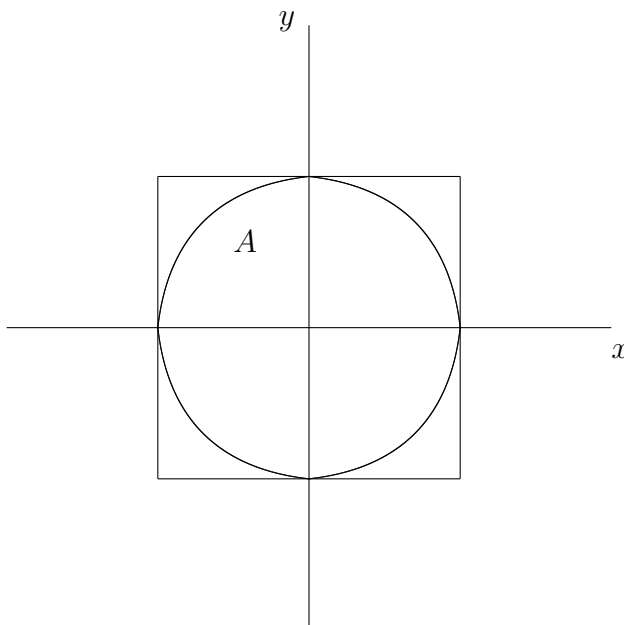
that is,  $\Pr[(x, y) \in A]$  is one-fourth the area of the portion of  $A$  in  $R$ .

We will use the formula in (11) to compute each of the probabilities in (i), (ii) and (iii).

(i) In this case,  $A$  is the circle of radius 1 around the origin in  $\mathbb{R}^2$  and pictured in Figure 2.

Note that the circle  $A$  in Figure 2 is entirely contained in the square  $R$  so that, by the formula in (11),

$$\Pr(X^2 + Y^2 < 1) = \frac{\text{area}(A)}{4} = \frac{\pi}{4}.$$

Figure 2: Sketch of  $A$  in Problem 2(i)

- (ii) The set  $A$  in this case is pictured in Figure 3 on page 5. Thus, in this case,  $A \cap R$  is a trapezoid of area  $2 \cdot \frac{\frac{1}{2} + \frac{3}{2}}{2} = 2$ , so that, by the formula in (11),

$$\Pr(2X - Y > 0) = \frac{1}{4} \cdot \text{area}(A \cap R) = \frac{1}{2}.$$

- (iii) In this case,  $A$  is the region in the  $xy$ -plane between the lines  $x+y = 2$  and  $x+y = -2$  (see Figure 4 on page 6). Thus,  $A \cap R$  is  $R$  so that, by the formula in (11),

$$\Pr(|X + Y| < 2) = \frac{\text{area}(R)}{4} = 1.$$

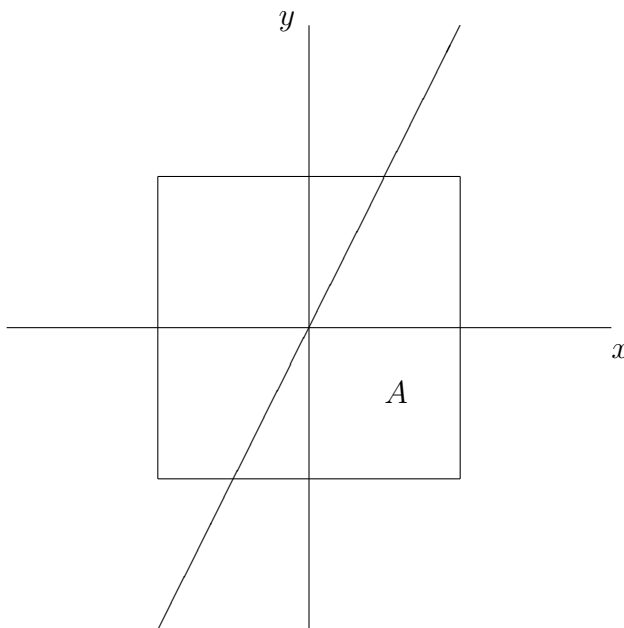
□

3. Prove that if the joint cdf of  $X$  and  $Y$  satisfies

$$F_{(X,Y)}(x,y) = F_X(x)F_Y(y),$$

then for any pair of intervals  $(a,b)$  and  $(c,d)$ ,

$$\Pr(a < X \leq b, c < Y \leq d) = \Pr(a < X \leq b)\Pr(c < Y \leq d).$$

Figure 3: Sketch of  $A$  in Problem 2(ii)

**Solution:** First show that

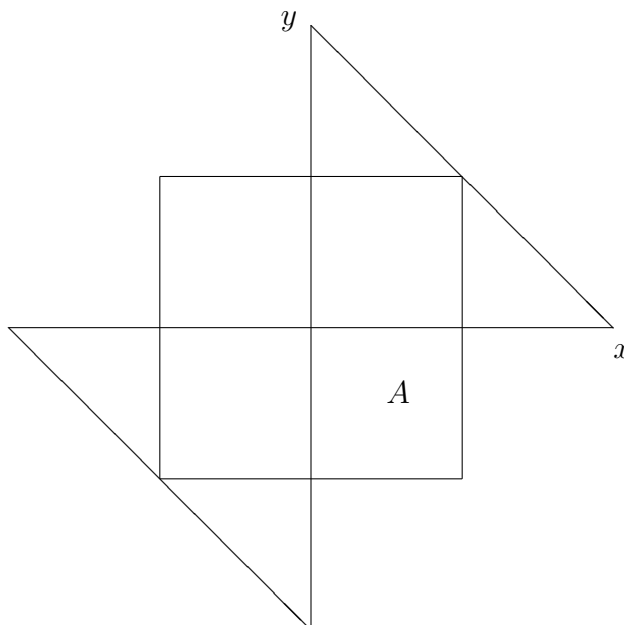
$$\Pr(a < X \leq b, c < Y \leq d) = F_{(X,Y)}(b, d) - F_{(X,Y)}(b, c) - F_{(X,Y)}(a, d) + F_{(X,Y)}(a, c)$$

(see Problem 1 in Assignment #15). Then,

$$\begin{aligned} \Pr(a < X \leq b, c < Y \leq d) &= F_X(b)F_Y(d) - F_X(b)F_Y(c) \\ &\quad - F_X(a)F_Y(d) + F_X(a)F_Y(c) \\ &= (F_X(b) - F_X(a))F_Y(d) \\ &\quad - (F_X(b) - F_X(a))F_Y(c) \\ &= (F_X(b) - F_X(a))(F_Y(d) - F_Y(c)) \\ &= \Pr(a < X \leq b)\Pr(c < Y \leq d), \end{aligned}$$

which was to be shown. □

4. The random pair  $(X, Y)$  has the joint distribution shown in Table 1 on page 6.

Figure 4: Sketch of  $A$  in Problem 2(iii)

$X \setminus Y$	2	3	4
1	$\frac{1}{12}$	$\frac{1}{6}$	0
2	$\frac{1}{6}$	0	$\frac{1}{3}$
3	$\frac{1}{12}$	$\frac{1}{6}$	0

Table 1: Joint Probability Distribution for  $X$  and  $Y$ ,  $p_{(X,Y)}$ 

(a) Show that  $X$  and  $Y$  are not independent.

**Solution:** Table 2 shows the marginal distributions of  $X$  and  $Y$  on the margins on page 7.

Observe from Table 2 that

$$p_{(X,Y)}(1,4) = 0,$$

while

$$p_X(1) = \frac{1}{4} \quad \text{and} \quad p_Y(4) = \frac{1}{3}.$$

Thus,

$$p_X(1) \cdot p_Y(4) = \frac{1}{12};$$

$X \setminus Y$	2	3	4	$p_X$
1	$\frac{1}{12}$	$\frac{1}{6}$	0	$\frac{1}{4}$
2	$\frac{1}{6}$	0	$\frac{1}{3}$	$\frac{1}{2}$
3	$\frac{1}{12}$	$\frac{1}{6}$	0	$\frac{1}{4}$
$p_Y$	$\frac{1}{3}$	$\frac{1}{3}$	$\frac{1}{3}$	1

Table 2: Joint pdf for  $X$  and  $Y$  and marginal distributions  $p_X$  and  $p_Y$ 

so that

$$p_{(X,Y)}(1,4) \neq p_X(1) \cdot p_Y(4),$$

and, therefore,  $X$  and  $Y$  are not independent.  $\square$

- (b) Give a probability table for random variables  $U$  and  $V$  that have the same marginal distributions as  $X$  and  $Y$ , respectively, but are independent.

**Solution:** Table 3 on page 7 shows the joint pmf of  $(U, V)$  and the marginal distributions,  $p_U$  and  $p_V$ .  $\square$

$U \setminus V$	2	3	4	$p_U$
1	$\frac{1}{12}$	$\frac{1}{12}$	$\frac{1}{12}$	$\frac{1}{4}$
2	$\frac{1}{6}$	$\frac{1}{6}$	$\frac{1}{6}$	$\frac{1}{2}$
3	$\frac{1}{12}$	$\frac{1}{12}$	$\frac{1}{12}$	$\frac{1}{4}$
$p_V$	$\frac{1}{3}$	$\frac{1}{3}$	$\frac{1}{3}$	1

Table 3: Joint pdf for  $U$  and  $V$  and their marginal distributions.

5. Let  $X$  denote the number of trials needed to obtain the first head, and let  $Y$  be the number of trials needed to get two heads in repeated tosses of a fair coin. Are  $X$  and  $Y$  independent random variables?

**Solution:**  $X$  has a geometric distribution with parameter  $p = \frac{1}{2}$ , so that

$$p_X(k) = \frac{1}{2^k}, \quad \text{for } k = 1, 2, 3, \dots \quad (12)$$

On the other hand,

$$\Pr[Y = 2] = \frac{1}{4}, \quad (13)$$

since, in two repeated tosses of a coin, the events are  $HH$ ,  $HT$ ,  $TH$  and  $TT$ , and these events are equally likely.

Next, consider the joint event  $(X = 2, Y = 2)$ . Note that

$$(X = 2, Y = 2) = [X = 2] \cap [Y = 2] = \emptyset,$$

since  $[X = 2]$  corresponds to the event  $TH$ , while  $[Y = 2]$  to the event  $HH$ .

Thus,

$$\Pr(X = 2, Y = 2) = 0,$$

while

$$p_X(2) \cdot p_Y(2) = \frac{1}{4} \cdot \frac{1}{4} = \frac{1}{16},$$

by (12) and (13). Thus,

$$p_{(X,Y)}(2,2) \neq p_X(2) \cdot p_Y(2).$$

Hence,  $X$  and  $Y$  are not independent. □

6. Let  $X \sim \text{Normal}(0, 1)$  and put  $Y = X^2$ . Find the pdf for  $Y$ .

**Solution:** The pdf of  $X$  is given by

$$f_X(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-x^2/2}, \quad \text{for } -\infty < x < \infty.$$

We compute the pdf for  $Y$  by first determining its cdf:

$$\begin{aligned} \Pr(Y \leq y) &= \Pr(X^2 \leq y) \quad \text{for } y \geq 0 \\ &= \Pr(-\sqrt{y} \leq X \leq \sqrt{y}) \\ &= \Pr(-\sqrt{y} < X \leq \sqrt{y}), \quad \text{since } X \text{ is continuous.} \end{aligned}$$

Thus,

$$\begin{aligned} \Pr(Y \leq y) &= \Pr(X \leq \sqrt{y}) - \Pr(X \leq -\sqrt{y}) \\ &= F_X(\sqrt{y}) - F_X(-\sqrt{y}) \quad \text{for } y > 0. \end{aligned}$$

We then have that the cdf of  $Y$  is

$$F_Y(y) = F_X(\sqrt{y}) - F_X(-\sqrt{y}) \quad \text{for } y > 0,$$

from which we get, after differentiation with respect to  $y$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} f_Y(y) &= F'_X(\sqrt{y}) \cdot \frac{1}{2\sqrt{y}} + F'_X(-\sqrt{y}) \cdot \frac{1}{2\sqrt{y}} \\ &= f_X(\sqrt{y}) \frac{1}{2\sqrt{y}} + f_X(-\sqrt{y}) \frac{1}{2\sqrt{y}} \\ &= \frac{1}{2\sqrt{y}} \left\{ \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-y/2} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-y/2} \right\} \\ &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \cdot \frac{1}{\sqrt{y}} e^{-y/2}, \end{aligned}$$



for  $y > 0$ , where we have applied the Chain Rule. Hence,

$$f_Y(y) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \cdot \frac{1}{\sqrt{y}} e^{-y/2}, & \text{for } y > 0; \\ 0 & \text{for } y \leq 0. \end{cases}$$

□

7. Let  $X$  and  $Y$  be independent Normal(0, 1) random variables. Compute

$$P(X^2 + Y^2 < 1).$$

**Solution:** Since  $X, Y \sim \text{Normal}(0, 1)$ , their pdfs are given by

$$f_X(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-x^2/2}, \quad \text{for } x \in \mathbb{R},$$

and

$$f_Y(y) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-y^2/2}, \quad \text{for } y \in \mathbb{R},$$

respectively. The joint pdf of  $(X, Y)$  is then

$$f_{(X,Y)}(x, y) = \frac{1}{2\pi} e^{-(x^2+y^2)/2}, \quad \text{for } (x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2. \quad (14)$$

Thus,

$$P(X^2 + Y^2 < 1) = \iint_{x^2+y^2 < 1} f_{(X,Y)}(x, y) \, dx dy, \quad (15)$$

where the integrand is given in (14) and the integral in (15) is evaluated over the disc of radius 1 centered around the origin in  $\mathbb{R}^2$ .

We evaluate the integral in (15) by changing to polar coordinates to get

$$\begin{aligned} P(X^2 + Y^2 < 1) &= \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} \int_0^1 e^{-r^2/2} r dr d\theta \\ &= \int_0^1 e^{-r^2/2} r dr \\ &= \left[ -e^{-r^2/2} \right]_0^1 \\ &= 1 - e^{-1/2}, \end{aligned}$$

or  $\Pr(X^2 + Y^2 < 1) = 1 - \frac{1}{\sqrt{e}}$ . □

8. Suppose that  $X$  and  $Y$  are independent random variables such that  $X \sim \text{Uniform}(0, 1)$  and  $Y \sim \text{Exponential}(1)$ .

(a) Let  $Z = X + Y$ . Find  $F_Z$  and  $f_Z$ .

**Solution:** Since  $X \sim \text{Uniform}(0, 1)$  and  $Y \sim \text{Exponential}(1)$ , their pdfs are given by

$$f_X(x) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } 0 < x < 1; \\ 0 & \text{elsewhere,} \end{cases}$$

and

$$f_Y(y) = \begin{cases} e^{-y} & \text{if } y > 0; \\ 0 & \text{if } y \leq 0, \end{cases}$$

respectively. The joint pdf of  $(X, Y)$  is then

$$f_{(X,Y)}(x, y) = \begin{cases} e^{-y} & \text{if } 0 < x < 1, y > 0; \\ 0 & \text{elsewhere.} \end{cases} \quad (16)$$

We compute the cdf of  $Z$ ,

$$F_Z(z) = \Pr(X \leq u) = \Pr(X + Y \leq z),$$

or

$$F_U(u) = \iint_{x+y \leq z} f_{(X,Y)}(x, y) \, dx dy, \quad (17)$$

where the integrand in (17) is given in (16) and the integration is done over the region

$$R = \{(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2 \mid x + y \leq z\}.$$

Make the change variables

$$\begin{aligned} u &= x \\ v &= x + y, \end{aligned}$$

so that

$$\begin{aligned} x &= u \\ y &= v - u, \end{aligned} \quad (18)$$

in the integral in (17) to obtain

$$F_Z(z) = \int_{-\infty}^z \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f_{(X,Y)}(u, v-u) \left| \frac{\partial(x,y)}{\partial(u,v)} \right| dudv, \quad (19)$$

where

$$\frac{\partial(x,y)}{\partial(u,v)} = \det \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ -1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} = 1, \quad (20)$$

is the Jacobian determinant of the transformation in (18). It then follows from (19) and (20) that

$$F_Z(z) = \int_{-\infty}^z \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f_{(X,Y)}(u, v-u) dudv. \quad (21)$$

Differentiating with respect to  $z$  and using the definition of the joint pdf of  $(X, Y)$  in (16) we obtain from (21) that

$$f_Z(z) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f_{(X,Y)}(u, z-u) du. \quad (22)$$

where we have also used the Fundamental Theorem of Calculus.

Next, use the definition of  $f_{(X,Y)}$  in (16) to rewrite (22) as

$$f_Z(z) = \int_0^1 f_{(X,Y)}(u, z-u) du, \quad \text{for } z > 0, \quad (23)$$

We consider two cases, (i)  $0 < z \leq 1$ , and (ii)  $z > 1$ .

(i) For  $0 < z \leq 1$ , use (16) to obtain from (23) that

$$\begin{aligned} f_Z(z) &= \int_0^z e^{u-z} du \\ &= e^{-z} \int_0^z e^u du \\ &= 1 - e^{-z}, \end{aligned}$$

so that

$$f_Z(z) = 1 - e^{-z}, \quad \text{for } 0 < z \leq 1. \quad (24)$$

(ii) For  $z > 0$ , use (16) to obtain from (23) that

$$\begin{aligned} f_Z(z) &= \int_0^1 e^{u-z} du \\ &= e^{-z} \int_0^1 e^u du \\ &= (e-1)e^{-z}, \end{aligned}$$

so that

$$f_Z(z) = (e-1)e^{-z}, \quad \text{for } z > 1. \quad (25)$$

Combining (24) and (25) we obtain the cdf

$$f_Z(z) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{for } z \leq 0; \\ 1 - e^{-z}, & \text{for } 0 < z \leq 1; \\ (e-1)e^{-z}, & \text{for } z > 1. \end{cases} \quad (26)$$

Finally, integrating (26) yields the cdf

$$F_Z(z) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{for } z \leq 0; \\ z + e^{-z} - 1, & \text{for } 0 < z \leq 1; \\ e^{-1} + (e-1)(e^{-1} - e^{-z}), & \text{for } z > 1. \end{cases}$$

□

(b) Let  $U = Y/X$ . Find  $F_U$  and  $f_U$ .

**Solution:** Since  $X \sim \text{Uniform}(0, 1)$  and  $Y \sim \text{Exponential}(1)$ , their pdfs are given by

$$f_X(x) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } 0 < x < 1; \\ 0 & \text{elsewhere,} \end{cases}$$

and

$$f_Y(y) = \begin{cases} e^{-y} & \text{if } y > 0; \\ 0 & \text{if } y \leq 0, \end{cases}$$

respectively. The joint pdf of  $(X, Y)$  is then

$$f_{(X,Y)}(x, y) = \begin{cases} e^{-y} & \text{if } 0 < x < 1, y > 0; \\ 0 & \text{elsewhere.} \end{cases} \quad (27)$$

We compute the cdf of  $U$ ,

$$F_U(u) = \Pr(U \leq u) = \Pr\left(\frac{Y}{X} \leq u\right),$$

or

$$F_U(u) = \iint_{\frac{y}{x} \leq u} f_{(X,Y)}(x,y) \, dx dy, \quad (28)$$

where the integrand in (28) is given in (27) and the integration is done over the region

$$R = \left\{ (x,y) \in \mathbb{R}^2 \mid \frac{y}{x} \leq u \right\}.$$

Make the change variables

$$\begin{aligned} w &= x \\ v &= \frac{y}{x}, \end{aligned}$$

so that

$$\begin{aligned} x &= w \\ y &= wv, \end{aligned} \quad (29)$$

in the integral in (28) to obtain

$$F_U(u) = \int_{-\infty}^u \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f_{(X,Y)}(w, wv) \left| \frac{\partial(x,y)}{\partial(w,v)} \right| \, dw dv, \quad (30)$$

where

$$\frac{\partial(x,y)}{\partial(w,v)} = \det \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ v & w \end{pmatrix} = w, \quad (31)$$

is the Jacobian determinant of the transformation in (29). It then follows from (30) and (31) that

$$F_U(u) = \int_{-\infty}^u \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f_{(X,Y)}(w, wv) |w| \, dw dv. \quad (32)$$

Differentiating with respect to  $u$  and using the definition of the joint pdf of  $(X, Y)$  in (27) we obtain from (32) that

$$f_U(u) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f_{(X,Y)}(w, wu) |w| \, dw. \quad (33)$$

where we have also used the Fundamental Theorem of Calculus.

Next, use the definition of  $f_{(X,Y)}$  in (27) to rewrite (33) as

$$f_U(u) = \int_0^1 e^{-uw} w \, dw, \quad \text{for } u > 1, \quad (34)$$

We evaluate the integral in (34) by integration by parts to get

$$\begin{aligned} f_V(u) &= \left[ -\frac{w}{u} e^{-uw} - \frac{1}{u^2} e^{-uw} \right]_0^1 \\ &= \frac{1}{u^2} - \frac{1}{u} e^{-u} - \frac{1}{u^2} e^{-u}, \quad \text{for } u > 0. \end{aligned} \tag{35}$$

In order to compute the cdf,  $F_V$ , we can integrate (28) in Cartesian coordinates to get

$$\begin{aligned} F_V(u) &= \int_0^1 \int_0^{ux} e^{-y} dy dx \\ &= \int_0^1 [1 - e^{-ux}] dx \\ &= 1 + \frac{1}{u}[e^{-u} - 1], \end{aligned}$$

so that

$$F_V(u) = \begin{cases} 1 + \frac{1}{u}[e^{-u} - 1], & \text{for } u > 0; \\ 0 & \text{for } u \leq 0. \end{cases} \tag{36}$$

Note that differentiating  $F_V(u)$  in (36) with respect to  $u$ , for  $u > 0$ , leads to (35). We then have that

$$f_V(u) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{u^2}(1 - e^{-u}) - \frac{1}{u} e^{-u}, & \text{for } u > 0; \\ 0 & \text{for } u \leq 0. \end{cases}$$

□

9. Let  $X \sim \text{Exponential}(1)$ , and define  $Y$  to be the integer part of  $X + 1$ ; that is,  $Y = i + 1$  if and only if  $i \leq X < i + 1$ , for  $i = 0, 1, 2, \dots$ . Find the pmf of  $Y$ , and deduce that  $Y \sim \text{Geometric}(p)$  for some  $0 < p < 1$ . What is the value of  $p$ ?

**Solution:** Compute

$$\Pr[Y = i + 1] = \Pr[i \leq X < i + 1] = \Pr[i < X \leq i + 1],$$

since  $X$  is continuous; so that

$$\Pr[Y = i + 1] = \int_i^{i+1} f_X(x) dx, \quad (37)$$

where

$$f_X(x) = \begin{cases} e^{-x} & \text{if } x > 0; \\ 0 & \text{if } x \leq 0, \end{cases} \quad (38)$$

since  $X \sim \text{Exponential}(1)$ .

Evaluating the integral in (37), for  $i \geq 0$  and  $f_X$  as given in (38), yields

$$\begin{aligned} \Pr[Y = i + 1] &= \int_i^{i+1} e^{-x} dx \\ &= [-e^{-x}]_i^{i+1} \\ &= e^{-i} - e^{-i-1}, \end{aligned}$$

so that

$$\Pr[Y = i + 1] = \left(\frac{1}{e}\right)^i \left(1 - \frac{1}{e}\right) \quad (39)$$

It follows from (39) that  $Y \sim \text{Geometric}(p)$  with  $p = 1 - \frac{1}{e}$ . □

10. The expected number of typographical errors on a page of a certain magazine is 0.20. What is the probability that an article of 10 pages contains (a) no typographical errors, and (b) two or more typographical errors. Explain your reasoning.

**Solution:** Let  $X$  denote the number of typographical errors in one page. Then,  $X$  may be modeled by a Poisson random variable with parameter  $\lambda$ , where  $E(X) = \lambda$ , and  $\lambda = 0.20$  in this problem. We then have that the pmf of  $X$  is

$$p_X(k) = \frac{\lambda^k}{k!} e^{-\lambda}, \quad \text{for } k = 0, 1, 2, 3, \dots \quad (40)$$

The moment generating function of  $X$  is

$$\psi_X(t) = e^{\lambda(e^t - 1)}, \quad \text{for } t \in \mathbb{R}. \quad (41)$$

Let  $X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n$ , where  $n = 10$ , denote the number of typographical errors in pages 1 through  $n$ , respectively. We may assume that  $X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n$  are independent and that they all have a Poisson( $\lambda$ ) distribution.

Put  $Y = X_1 + X_2 + \dots + X_n$ . Then  $Y$  gives the number of typographical errors in the  $n$  pages of the article. The moment generating function of  $Y$  is then

$$\psi_Y(t) = \psi_{X_1}(t) \cdot \psi_{X_2}(t) \cdots \psi_{X_n}(t), \quad \text{for } t \in \mathbb{R}, \quad (42)$$

by the independence of the  $X_i$ 's. It then follows from (42) and (41) that

$$\psi_Y(t) = [e^{\lambda(e^t-1)}]^n \quad \text{for } t \in \mathbb{R},$$

or

$$\psi_Y(t) = e^{n\lambda(e^t-1)} \quad \text{for } t \in \mathbb{R}. \quad (43)$$

Comparing (43) with (41), we see that  $Y$  has a Poisson distribution with parameter  $n\lambda$ ; that is,

$$Y \sim \text{Poisson}(n\lambda),$$

so that, in view of (40),

$$p_Y(k) = \frac{(n\lambda)^k}{k!} e^{-n\lambda}, \quad \text{for } k = 0, 1, 2, 3, \dots \quad (44)$$

In this problem  $n = 10$  and  $\lambda = 0.2$ .

(a) The probability that the article contains no typographical errors is

$$\Pr[Y = 0] = e^{-n\lambda} = e^{-2} \approx 13.53\%.$$

(b) The probability that the article contains two or more typographical errors is

$$\begin{aligned} \Pr[Y \geq 2] &= 1 - \Pr[Y \leq 1] \\ &= 1 - \Pr[Y = 0] - \Pr[Y = 1] \\ &= 1 - e^{-n\lambda} - n\lambda e^{-n\lambda} \\ &= 1 - e^{-2} - 2e^{-2} \\ &\approx 59.4\%. \end{aligned}$$

□