



ASSIGNMENT 4

(due at 8:30 AM Thursday, Feb. 9 in class)

1. A certain data source produces messages that can be one of five possibilities selected from the set $\{A, B, C, D, E\}$. The random experiment consists of observing the value that the data source actually produces. The probability of the five possibilities being generated is

$$\mathcal{P}(\{A\}) = \frac{1}{2}, \quad \mathcal{P}(\{B\}) = \frac{1}{4}, \quad \mathcal{P}(\{C\}) = \frac{1}{8} \quad \text{and} \quad \mathcal{P}(\{D\}) = \mathcal{P}(\{E\}) = \frac{1}{16}.$$

The message produced is to be transmitted over a binary communication system, and to do so it is necessary to represent every message using codeword composed of a string of binary values. The code chosen is

$$A \rightarrow 1 \quad B \rightarrow 01 \quad C \rightarrow 001 \quad D \rightarrow 0001 \quad E \rightarrow 0000.$$

A random variable \mathbf{Y} is defined that corresponds to the length of the binary codeword produced in this situation.

- (a) The sample space for this experiment is $\mathcal{S} = \{A, B, C, D, E\}$. What is the mapping on \mathcal{S} that is the random variable \mathbf{Y} ?
 - (b) What is the event " $\mathbf{Y} \leq 2$ ", and what is the probability of this event?
2. A certain random experiment consists of picking a point (x, y) on the Cartesian plane from the square $[0, 1] \times [0, 1]$. The selection is made "entirely at random." A random variable \mathbf{Z} is defined for this experiment to be the mapping given by $\mathbf{Z}((x, y)) = x^2 + y^2$.
 - (a) What possible values can \mathbf{Z} be?
 - (b) Sketch the region on the plane corresponding to the event $\mathbf{Z} \leq z$ (for all $z \in \mathbb{R}$), and what is the probability of this event.
 - (c) Suppose $\mathcal{A} = \{(x, y) | \frac{1}{4} < x \leq \frac{1}{3}, \frac{1}{5} < y < \frac{3}{5}\}$. What value must the probability that the outcome is in \mathcal{A} be? Some intuitive reasoning may be used.
 3. From the text: 3.19, but make $p = 0.005$ and assume that each bit is repeated just three times.
 4. An information source produces a pair of binary symbols with four possible values: 00, 01, 10, and 11. A random variable \mathbf{X} is defined by mapping one binary pair value to 1, another to 2, a third to 3, and the last to 4. Let $p_k \triangleq \mathcal{P}(\mathbf{X} = k)$ for $k = 1, 2, 3, 4$.
 - (a) Sketch the cdf of \mathbf{X} , $F_{\mathbf{X}}(x)$, for each of the three cases
 - (i) $p_k = p_1/(k + 1)$ for $k = 2, 3, 4$,
 - (ii) $p_{k+1} = p_k/3$ for $k = 1, 2, 3$,
 - (iii) $p_{k+1} = p_k/2^k$ for $k = 1, 2, 3$.
 - (b) Use the cdf to find $\mathcal{P}(\mathbf{X} \leq -1)$, $\mathcal{P}(\mathbf{X} < \frac{3}{2})$, $\mathcal{P}(0.5 < \mathbf{X} \leq 2.999)$, $\mathcal{P}(1 < \mathbf{X} \leq 4)$.

. . . (over)

5. A dart is equally likely to land at any point inside a circular target of radius 3 units. A random variable \mathbf{R} is define to be the distance the point where the dart lands is away from the target centre.
- What is the sample space for this experiment and what is the mapping from the sample space to \mathbb{R} that \mathbf{R} represents
 - The “bull’s eye” is a central circular area on the target with radius 0.25 units. Let \mathcal{A} be the event corresponding to “dart hits the bull’s eye.” Express this event as $\{\mathbf{R} \in \mathcal{I}\}$ for a suitable set \mathcal{I} , and find the probability of this event.
 - Find and sketch the probability distribution function (the cumulative distribution function) of \mathbf{R} .
6. From the text: 4.14, 4.24
7. The random variable \mathbf{X} has the cdf

$$F_{\mathbf{X}}(x) = \begin{cases} 0, & x < 0; \\ 1 - \cos^2(\pi x/2), & 0 \leq x < 1; \\ 1, & x \geq 1. \end{cases}$$

- What is $\mathcal{P}(\mathbf{X} > \frac{1}{3})$?
- What is the probability density function of \mathbf{X} ?
- Classify \mathbf{X} as being discrete, continuous or of mixed type.



ASSIGNMENT 4

SOLUTIONS

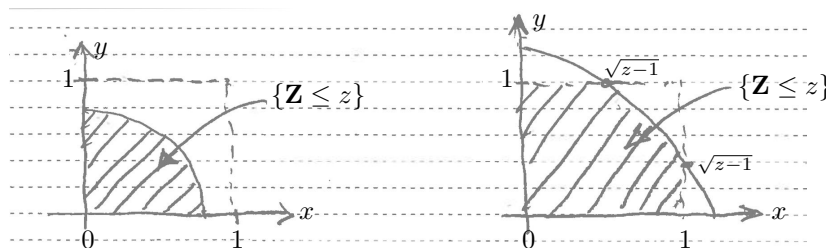
1/ (a) The random variable is defined on \mathcal{S} as $\mathbf{Y}(A) = 1$, $\mathbf{Y}(B) = 2$, $\mathbf{Y}(C) = 3$, $\mathbf{Y}(D) = 4$, $\mathbf{Y}(E) = 4$, Obviously \mathbf{Y} can have value 1, 2, 3 or 4, and nothing else.

(b) The event $\{\mathbf{Y} \leq 2\}$ is $\{A, B\}$, which has probability

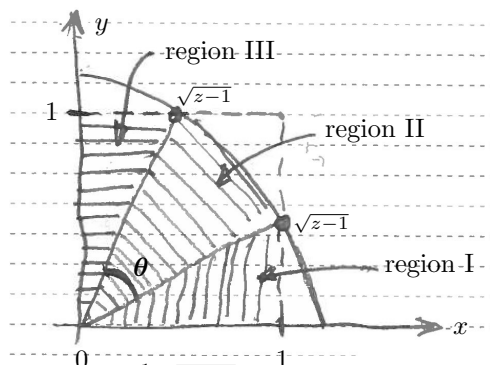
$$\mathcal{P}(\{A, B\}) = \mathcal{P}(\{A\}) + \mathcal{P}(\{B\}) = \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{4} = \frac{3}{4}.$$

2/ (a) Since $x, y \in [0, 1]$, the value of $x^2 + y^2$ can be any value from 0 to 2, i.e., the set of possible values for \mathbf{Z} is $[0, 2]$.

(b) The region on the Cartesian plane where $x^2 + y^2 \leq z$ is the set of points inside the disc of radius \sqrt{z} when $z \geq 0$ and is the empty set if $z < 0$. Thus the event $\{\mathbf{Z} \leq z\}$ is the overlap of this region and the $[0, 1] \times [0, 1]$ square. This is the null event is $z < 0$ is the entire $[0, 1] \times [0, 1]$ square if $z \geq 2$ and otherwise is otherwise one of the two regions shown below:



The probabilities of these events are just the areas of the regions which is 0 for $z \leq 0$, is 1 for $z \geq 2$, while for $z \in (0, 1]$ is $\frac{1}{4}\pi z$. For $z \in [1, 2)$ we have to work a bit harder to find the area:



The area of region I and of region III each $\frac{1}{2}\sqrt{z-1}$, while region II is a sector of a disc of radius \sqrt{z} subtended by the angle $\theta = \frac{1}{2}\pi - \tan^{-1}(\sqrt{z-1}) = \tan^{-1}(1/\sqrt{z-1})$ has area $\pi z \frac{\theta}{2\pi} = \frac{1}{2}z \tan^{-1}(1/\sqrt{z-1})$. The total area is then $\sqrt{z-1} + \frac{1}{2}z \tan^{-1}(1/\sqrt{z-1})$. This then gives us the overall result:

$$F_{\mathbf{Z}}(z) = \begin{cases} 1, & z \geq 2; \\ \sqrt{z-1} + \frac{1}{2}z \tan^{-1}(1/\sqrt{z-1}) & 1 < z < 2; \\ \frac{1}{4}\pi z & 0 < z \leq 1; \\ 0, & z \leq 0. \end{cases}$$

. . . (problem continued on the next page)

2/ (continued)

(c) The area of the set \mathcal{A} is $\frac{2}{5} \times \frac{1}{12} = \frac{1}{30}$ and \mathcal{A} is entirely within \mathcal{S} so $\mathcal{P}(\mathcal{A}) = \frac{1}{30}$.

3/ (3.19-modified) If a majority vote is taken, then an error after decoding occurs when there are two or three channel errors during transmission of the three bits, Thus

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{P}(\text{decoding error}) &= \sum_{k=2}^3 \mathcal{P}(k \text{ transmission errors}) = \sum_{k=2}^3 \binom{3}{k} p^k (1-p)^{3-k} \\ &= \binom{3}{2} (.005)^2 (.995)^1 + \binom{3}{3} (.005)^3 (.995)^0 = 7.475 \times 10^{-5}. \end{aligned}$$

4/ (a) The values of the probabilities arise from $p_1 + p_2 + p_3 + p_4 = 1$.

For (i), this gives $p_1 + \frac{1}{3}p_1 + \frac{1}{4}p_1 + \frac{1}{5}p_1 = 1$ or $\frac{107}{60}p_1 = 1$, giving us $p_1 = \frac{60}{107}, p_2 = \frac{20}{107}, p_3 = \frac{15}{107}, p_4 = \frac{12}{107}$.

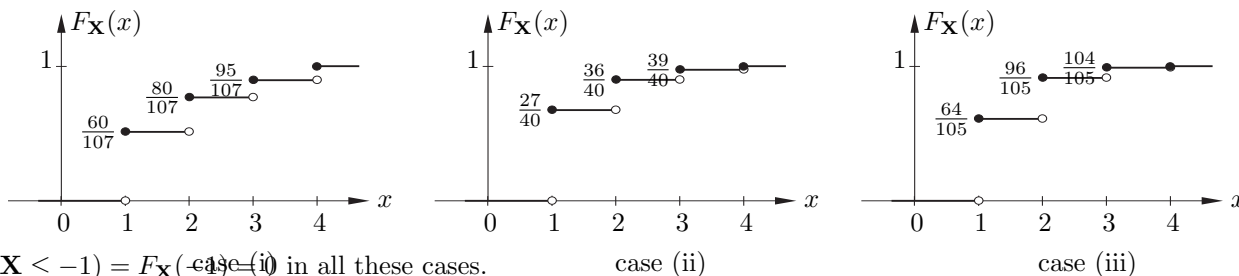
For (ii), we get $p_1 + \frac{1}{3}p_1 + \frac{1}{9}p_1 + \frac{1}{27}p_1 = 1$ or $\frac{40}{27}p_1 = 1$, giving us $p_1 = \frac{27}{40}, p_2 = \frac{9}{40}, p_3 = \frac{3}{40}, p_4 = \frac{1}{40}$.

For (iii), we get $p_1 + \frac{1}{2}p_1 + \frac{1}{8}p_1 + \frac{1}{64}p_1 = 1$ or $\frac{105}{64}p_1 = 1$, giving us $p_1 = \frac{64}{105}, p_2 = \frac{32}{105}, p_3 = \frac{8}{105}, p_4 = \frac{1}{105}$.

The cdf in all these cases is

$$F_{\mathbf{X}}(x) = \begin{cases} 0, & x < 1; \\ p_1, & 1 \leq x < 2; \\ p_1 + p_2, & 2 \leq x < 3; \\ p_1 + p_2 + p_3, & 3 \leq x < 4; \\ 1, & x \geq 4; \end{cases}$$

The sketches are thus



(b) $\mathcal{P}(\mathbf{X} \leq -1) = F_{\mathbf{X}}(-1) = 0$ in all these cases.

$\mathcal{P}(\mathbf{X} < 1.5) = F_{\mathbf{X}}(1.5 - 0) = p_1$ in all these, which has value $\frac{60}{107}$ for (i), value $\frac{27}{40}$ for (ii), and value $\frac{64}{105}$ for (iii).

$\mathcal{P}(0.5 < \mathbf{X} \leq 2.999) = F_{\mathbf{X}}(2.99) - F_{\mathbf{X}}(0.5) = p_1 + p_2$ in all these, which has value $\frac{80}{107}$ for (i), value $\frac{9}{40}$ for (ii), and value $\frac{32}{105}$ for (iii).

$\mathcal{P}(1 < \mathbf{X} \leq 4) = F_{\mathbf{X}}(4) - F_{\mathbf{X}}(1) = 1 - p_1$ in all these, which has value $\frac{47}{107}$ for (i), value $\frac{13}{40}$ for (ii), and value $\frac{41}{105}$ for (iii).

5/ (a) The outcomes may be described as the set of (x, y) coordinates for the place the dart lands, and so the sample space can be all points inside a disc of radius 3 centered at the origin: $\mathcal{S} = \{(x, y) \mid x^2 + y^2 \leq 9\}$. $\mathbf{R}((x, y)) = \sqrt{x^2 + y^2}$.

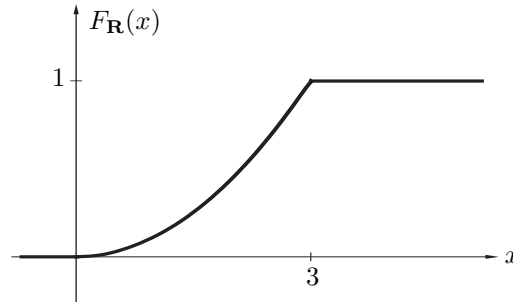
(b) The bull's eye corresponds to the event $\mathcal{A} = \{(x, y) \mid \sqrt{x^2 + y^2} \leq \frac{1}{4}\}$ which is thus $\{\mathbf{R} \leq \frac{1}{4}\}$, i.e., $\{\mathbf{R} \in [0, \frac{1}{4}]\}$ which makes the set \mathcal{I} mentioned in the question to be $\mathcal{I} = [0, \frac{1}{4}]$, but this is not unique as we could also say for example $\mathcal{A} = \{\mathbf{R} \in (-\infty, \frac{1}{4}]\}$ (since \mathbf{R} is always non-negative). The probability of the event is the fraction of the total area of the whole target that the bull's eye represents:

$$\mathcal{P}(\mathcal{A}) = \frac{\pi(\frac{1}{4})^2}{\pi(3)^2} = \frac{1}{144}.$$

. . . (problem continued on the next page)

5/ (continued)

$$(c) \quad F_{\mathbf{R}}(x) = \mathcal{P}(\mathbf{R} \leq x) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } x > 3; \\ \frac{\pi x^2}{\pi(3)^2} = \frac{1}{9}x^2, & \text{if } 0 \leq x \leq 3; \\ 0, & \text{if } x < 0. \end{cases}$$

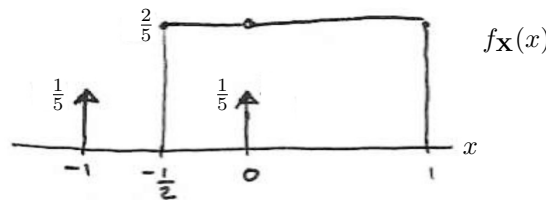


6/ (4.14), (4.24)

[4.14](a) As $F_{\mathbf{X}}(x)$ is neither a step function nor a continuous function everywhere (it has a jump at $x = -1$ and $x = 0$), \mathbf{X} is a random variable of mixed type.

- (b) (i) $\mathcal{P}(\mathbf{X} < -1) = F_{\mathbf{X}}(-1 - 0) = 0$;
- (ii) $\mathcal{P}(\mathbf{X} \leq -1) = F_{\mathbf{X}}(-1) = \frac{1}{5}$;
- (iii) $\mathcal{P}(-1 < \mathbf{X} < -\frac{3}{4}) = \mathcal{P}(\mathbf{X} < -\frac{3}{4}) - \mathcal{P}(\mathbf{X} \leq -1) = F_{\mathbf{X}}(-\frac{3}{4} - 0) - F_{\mathbf{X}}(-1) = \frac{1}{5} - \frac{1}{5} = 0$;
- (iv) $\mathcal{P}(-\frac{1}{2} \leq \mathbf{X} < 0) = \mathcal{P}(\mathbf{X} < 0) - \mathcal{P}(\mathbf{X} < -\frac{1}{2}) = F_{\mathbf{X}}(0 - 0) - F_{\mathbf{X}}(-\frac{1}{2} - 0) = \frac{2}{5} - \frac{1}{5} = \frac{1}{5}$;
- (v) $\mathcal{P}(-\frac{1}{2} \leq \mathbf{X} \leq \frac{1}{2}) = \mathcal{P}(\mathbf{X} \leq \frac{1}{2}) - \mathcal{P}(\mathbf{X} < -\frac{1}{2}) = F_{\mathbf{X}}(\frac{1}{2}) - F_{\mathbf{X}}(-\frac{1}{2} - 0) = \frac{4}{5} - \frac{1}{5} = \frac{3}{5}$;
- (vi) $\mathcal{P}(|\mathbf{X} - \frac{1}{2}| < \frac{1}{2}) = \mathcal{P}(0 < \mathbf{X} < 1) = \mathcal{P}(\mathbf{X} < 1) - \mathcal{P}(\mathbf{X} \leq 0) = F_{\mathbf{X}}(1 - 0) - F_{\mathbf{X}}(0) = 1 - \frac{3}{5} = \frac{2}{5}$.

[4.24](a) $f_{\mathbf{X}}(x) = \frac{1}{5}\delta(x + 1) + \frac{1}{5}\delta(x) + \frac{2}{5}[u(x + \frac{1}{2}) - u(x - 1)]$.



- (b) (i) $\mathcal{P}(-1 \leq \mathbf{X} < \frac{1}{2}) = \int_{-1}^{1/2} f_{\mathbf{X}}(x) dx = \int_0^{1/2} \frac{1}{2}e^{-2x} dx = 1 - \frac{1}{4}e^{-1}$.
- (i) $\mathcal{P}(\mathbf{X} < -1) = \int_{-\infty}^{-1-0} f_{\mathbf{X}}(x) dx = 0$ (the impulse at $x = -1$ is excluded);
- (ii) $\mathcal{P}(\mathbf{X} \leq -1) = \int_{-\infty}^{-1} f_{\mathbf{X}}(x) dx = \frac{1}{5}$ (the impulse at $x = -1$ is included ;
- (iii) $\mathcal{P}(-1 < \mathbf{X} < -\frac{3}{4}) = \int_{-1+0}^{-\frac{3}{4}-0} f_{\mathbf{X}}(x) dx = \int_{-1+0}^{-\frac{3}{4}-0} 0 dx = 0$;
- (iv) $\mathcal{P}(-\frac{1}{2} \leq \mathbf{X} < 0) = \int_{-\frac{1}{2}}^{0-0} f_{\mathbf{X}}(x) dx = \int_{-\frac{1}{2}}^{0-0} \frac{2}{5} dx = \frac{1}{5}$;
- (v) $\mathcal{P}(-\frac{1}{2} \leq \mathbf{X} \leq \frac{1}{2}) = \int_{-\frac{1}{2}}^{\frac{1}{2}} f_{\mathbf{X}}(x) dx = \frac{1}{5} + \int_{-\frac{1}{2}}^{\frac{1}{2}} \frac{2}{5} dx = \frac{1}{5} + \frac{2}{5} = \frac{3}{5}$;
- (vi) $\mathcal{P}(|\mathbf{X} - \frac{1}{2}| < \frac{1}{2}) = \mathcal{P}(0 < \mathbf{X} < 1) = \int_{0+0}^{1-0} f_{\mathbf{X}}(x) dx = \int_{0+0}^{1-0} \frac{2}{5} dx = \frac{2}{5}$.

. . . (continued on the next page)

7/ (a) $\mathcal{P}(\mathbf{X} > \frac{1}{3}) = 1 - \mathcal{P}(\mathbf{X} \leq \frac{1}{3}) = 1 - F_{\mathbf{X}}(\frac{1}{3}) = \cos^2(\pi/6) = (\frac{1}{2}\sqrt{3})^2 = \frac{3}{4}$.

(b) $f_{\mathbf{X}}(x) = \frac{d}{dx}F_{\mathbf{X}}(x) = \begin{cases} 0, & \text{if } x \leq 0 \text{ or } x \geq 1; \\ \pi \cos(\frac{1}{2}\pi x) \sin(\frac{1}{2}\pi x) = \frac{1}{2}\pi \sin(\pi x), & \text{if } 0 < x < 1. \end{cases}$

There are no impulses as $F_{\mathbf{X}}(x)$ has no jump points (and no corner points). The derivative of $F_{\mathbf{X}}(x)$ exists everywhere in a normal sense.

(c) $F_{\mathbf{X}}(x)$ is a continuous function, hence \mathbf{X} is a continuous random variable.