

PGM - Homework 1



Question 1: Consider a cylindrical water well with a radius of 1 meter. We drop stones from the top-centre of the well. But due to air flow inside the well the stones will not exactly land on the centre at the bottom. The bottom of the well is a circular region represented as

$$C = \{(x, y) \mid x^2 + y^2 \leq 1\}. \quad (1)$$

Let the random variables X and Y represent the coordinates of where the stone lands, characterized by the probabilistic density function $f: C \mapsto \mathbb{R}$ with the following form:

$$f_{X,Y}(x, y) = \alpha \exp(x^2 + y^2) \quad (2)$$

1. What is the value of α ? (Hint: You may use polar coordinates.)
2. What is the probability of a stone landing in the region

$$S = \{(x, y) \mid \sqrt{x^2 + y^2} \leq \frac{1}{3}\}. \quad (3)$$

3. What is the probability of a stone landing inside

$$S = \{(x, y) \mid \frac{1}{3} \leq \sqrt{x^2 + y^2} \leq \frac{2}{3}\}. \quad (4)$$

Question 2: Consider the following joint probability mass function (PMF) $f_{I,N}: \{1, 2, 3, \dots\} \times \{0, 1, 2, 3, \dots\} \rightarrow [0, 1]$:

$$f_{I,N}(i, n) = P(I = i, N = n) = \frac{\alpha}{i^2 n!} \quad (5)$$

where $i \in \{1, 2, 3, \dots\}$ and $n \in \{0, 1, 2, \dots\}$.

1. Derive the value of α ?

Some of the well-known series listed here might help:

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Series_\(mathematics\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Series_(mathematics))

2. Obtain the formulae for the marginal distributions $f_I(i)$ and $f_N(n)$.
3. Obtain the formulae for the conditional distributions $f_I(i | N = n)$ and $f_N(n | I = i)$.
4. Are the random variables I and N independent? Why?

Question 3: Consider the following joint PMF $f_{M,N}: \{0, 1\} \times \{1, 2, 3\}$:

m	n	$f_{M,N}(m, n)$
0	1	0.10
0	2	0.18
0	3	0.12
1	1	0.14
1	2	0.28
1	3	0.18

1. Derive $f_M(m)$, $f_N(n)$, $f_M(m | N = n)$ and $f_N(n | M = m)$.
2. Are M and N independent? Why?

Question 4: Assume that the joint distribution

$$P(a, b, c) = \Pr(A = a, B = b, C = c)$$

can be written as

$$P(a, b, c) = \phi(a, b) \psi(a, c),$$

where $\phi(a, b) > 0$ and $\psi(a, c) > 0$ for all values of a, b, c .

1. Prove that B and C are conditionally independent given A .

Question 5: Consider the random variables A, B, C taking on values in sets $D_A = \{0, 1\}$, $D_B = \{-1, 0, 1\}$, $D_C = \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$, respectively. Derive the minimum number of *free* parameters to fully describe each of the following distributions

- $P(A, B, C)$
- $P(A | B)$
- $P(B | A)$
- $P(B | A)$
- $P(A | B, C)$
- $P(C | A, B)$
- $P(A, B, C)$ when we know that A, B , and C are mutually independent.
- $P(A, B, C)$ when we know that B is independent of C given A .
- $P(A, B, C)$ when we know that B is independent of C if $A = 0$.
- $P(A, B, C)$ when we know that $\Pr(A=a, B=x, C=y) = \Pr(A=a, B=y, C=x)$.
- $P(A, B, C)$ when we know that A, B , and C are mutually independent, and $\Pr(C=x) = \Pr(B=x)$ for all $x \in \{1, 2, 3\}$.