

Problem Set 26 Answers

1a. Yes, the joint density of X and Y can be factored, namely, as $f_X(x) = 5e^{-5x}$ for $x > 0$, and $f_X(x) = 0$ otherwise, and also $f_Y(y) = 3e^{-3y}$ for $y > 0$, and $f_Y(y) = 0$ otherwise.

1b. For $a > 0$, we compute $P(a \leq Z) = P(a \leq \min(X, Y)) = \int_a^\infty \int_a^\infty 15e^{-5x-3y} dy dx = \int_a^\infty -5e^{-5x-3y} \Big|_{y=a}^\infty dx = \int_a^\infty 5e^{-5x-3a} dx = -e^{-5x-a} \Big|_{x=a}^\infty = e^{-8a}$. Thus, for $z > 0$, we have $F_Z(z) = P(Z \leq z) = 1 - P(z \leq Z) = 1 - e^{-8z}$, so we get $f_Z(z) = \frac{d}{dz}(1 - e^{-8z}) = 8e^{-8z}$ for $z > 0$, and $f_Z(z) = 0$ otherwise.

2a. The random variables X and Y are not independent. Perhaps the easiest way to observe this is to note that X and Y are defined in a triangular region of the plane, rather than in rectangular region(s).

2b. We have $P(Y > 2X) = \int_0^\infty \int_{2x}^\infty 24e^{-5x-3y} dy dx = \int_0^\infty -8e^{-5x-3y} \Big|_{y=2x}^\infty dx = \int_0^\infty 8e^{-11x} dx = -(8/11)e^{-11x} \Big|_{x=0}^\infty = 8/11$.

3. We compute $P(X > 1/10) = \int_{1/10}^\infty \int_x^\infty 24e^{-5x-3y} dy dx = \int_{1/10}^\infty -8e^{-5x-3y} \Big|_{y=x}^\infty dx = \int_{1/10}^\infty 8e^{-8x} dx = -e^{-8x} \Big|_{x=1/10}^\infty = e^{-8/10}$.

4a. The random variables X and Y are not independent because $f_{X,Y}(x, y)$ cannot be factored into an expression in x times an expression in y .

4b. We compute $f_X(x) = \int_0^2 \frac{1}{12}(4 - xy) dy = \frac{1}{12}(4y - xy^2/2) \Big|_{y=0}^2 = \frac{1}{12}(8 - 2x) = 2/3 - x/6$ for $0 < x < 2$, and $f_X(x) = 0$ otherwise.

4c. Yes, we have $f_X(x) \geq 0$ for all x , and also $\int_{-\infty}^\infty f_X(x) dx = \int_0^2 (2/3 - x/6) dx = 1$.