

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

PU ID: \_\_\_\_\_

**ECE 302: Probabilistic Methods in Electrical and Computer Engineering**  
**Fall 2021**  
**Instructor: Prof. A. R. Reibman**



## Homework 8

Fall 2021

(Due Thursday October 28, 11:59pm)

Homework is due on **Thursday October 28 at 11:59pm** on Gradescope. No late homework will be accepted, and no homework will be accepted without a statement. Include a brief description of all sources of information you used (including other people), not counting the text, handouts, or material posted on the web page, **or** state “I did not receive help on this homework”. You do not need to reference any material presented in class or on the course web-site, in the textbook, nor Prof. Reibman nor TA Haoyu Chen.

**Statement:**

**Topics: Hypothesis testing (lecture notes Topic 2.7); Joint PDF and CDF and PMF, Marginal PDF and CDF and PMF (Ch 5.1-5.4); Independence (Ch 5.5)**

**Exercise 1.** (THIS PROBLEM IS WORTH 2 POINTS)

A constant signal  $S$  may (or may not) be sent over a channel with additive noise,  $N$ . Let  $H_1$  denote the event that the signal was sent, and  $H_0$  denote the event that no signal is sent. The goal at the receiver is to decide which event occurred, either  $H_1$  or  $H_0$ . If the signal is sent (event  $H_1$ ), the random variable  $X$  at the receiver is  $X = S + N$ , but if the signal is not sent (event  $H_0$ ), then  $X = N$ .

Let the constant signal be  $S = 1$ , and let  $N$  be a random variable with a triangular PDF, between  $-1$  and  $1$ . Specifically,

$$f_N(y) = \begin{cases} y + 1 & \text{for } -1 \leq y < 0 \\ (1 - y) & \text{for } 0 \leq y \leq 1 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

and the corresponding CDF is

$$F_N(y) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{for } y < -1 \\ (1 + 2y + y^2)/2 & \text{for } -1 \leq y < 0 \\ (1 + 2y - y^2)/2 & \text{for } 0 \leq y < 1 \\ 1 & \text{for } y \geq 1 \end{cases}$$

(a) Sketch the conditional PDFs *and* CDFs:  $f_X(x|H_0)$ ,  $f_X(x|H_1)$ ,  $F_X(x|H_0)$ , and  $F_X(x|H_1)$ .

(more space)

- (b) Because the PDFs of these two situations overlap, it is not possible to design an error-free detector; any actual system will always have a non-zero probability of error. In radar systems, two quantities are of interest. The first is the *probability of false alarm*, where the receiver detects a signal is present (i.e., decides  $H_1$ ) when in fact no signal was present. The second is the *probability of detection*, where the receiver correctly detects a signal is present (i.e., decides  $H_1$  when  $H_1$  is true).

Suppose the detector is designed to decide  $H_1$  when the received value of  $X$  is greater than a constant threshold  $t$ . Express the probabilities of false alarm and detection as a function of either the conditional PDF or conditional CDF of  $X$  given the associated event (i.e.,  $H_1$  or  $H_0$ ). Your answers will depend on the threshold  $t$ .

- (c) Consider the area where the PDFs overlap, namely  $0 \leq x \leq 1$ . And suppose that the prior probabilities  $P(H_0) = 1/4$  and  $P(H_1) = 3/4$ . Find the threshold  $t$  which will minimize the *probability of error* (Hint: be sure to account for the two types of errors: (a) deciding  $H_0$  when  $H_1$  is true, and (b) deciding  $H_1$  when  $H_0$  is true.)

**Exercise 2.** (NOT QUITE TEXTBOOK, PROBLEMS 5.1)

Let  $X$  be the maximum and  $Y$  be the minimum of the number of heads obtained when Carlos and Mihaela each flip a biased coin twice;  $P(\text{heads})=3/4$ .

- (a) Describe the sample space  $S$  of two sets of coin tosses, and the sample space  $S_{X,Y}$  of these two random variables, showing how  $S$  is related to  $S_{X,Y}$ .
- (b) Find the probabilities for all values of  $(X,Y)$ .
- (c) Find  $P(X = Y)$ .

**Exercise 3.** (FROM TEXTBOOK, PROBLEMS 5.17)

A point  $(X, Y)$  is selected at random inside a triangle defined by  $\{(x, y) : 0 \leq y \leq x \leq 1\}$ . Assume the point is equally likely to fall anywhere in the triangle.

It is possible to show that the joint CDF for these RVs is

$$F_{XY}(x, y) = \begin{cases} 0 & x \leq 0 \text{ or } y \leq 0 \\ 2xy - y^2 & 0 \leq x \leq 1 \text{ and } 0 \leq y \leq x \\ x^2 & 0 \leq x \leq 1 \text{ and } x \leq y \\ 2y - y^2 & 1 \leq x \text{ and } 0 \leq y \leq 1 \\ 1 & 1 \leq x \text{ and } 1 \leq y \end{cases}$$

- (a) Find the marginal CDF of  $X$  and of  $Y$ .
- (b) Use the joint CDF to find the probabilities of the following events:  
 $A = \{X \leq 2, Y \leq 3/4\}$ ,  $B = \{1/4 < X \leq 3/4, 1/4 < Y \leq 3/4\}$
- (c) Apply double integration to compute these same probabilities using the joint PDF.

**Exercise 4.** (FROM TEXTBOOK, COMBINING PROBLEMS 5.26, 5.65, AND 5.80)  
Let  $X$  and  $Y$  have the joint PDF

$$f_{X,Y}(x,y) = k(x+y), \text{ for } 0 \leq x \leq 1, 0 \leq y \leq 1$$

- (a) Find  $k$ .
- (b) Find the marginal PDF of  $X$  and of  $Y$ .