

Problem 1.

Let the PDF of the random variable X be

$$f_X(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{2}{x^3}, & x \geq 1, \\ 0, & x < 1, \end{cases}$$

and the conditional PDF $f_{Y|X}(\cdot|x)$ of the random variable Y given X be

$$f_{Y|X}(y|x) = \begin{cases} \gamma(x)e^{-y/x}, & \text{if } y \geq x, \\ 0, & \text{else,} \end{cases}$$

for all $x \geq 1$, where $\gamma(x)$ is a function of x to be determined.

- Determine $\gamma(x)$ for all $x \geq 1$.
- Determine the conditional mean of Y given $X = x$, i.e. $E[Y|X = x]$, in terms of x .
- Determine the mean of Y , i.e. $E[Y]$.
- Determine conditional PDF of X given Y , i.e. $f_{X|Y}$.

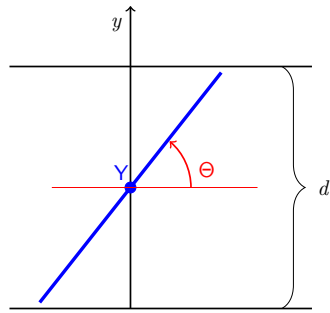
Problem 2.

Figure 1.

A length 2ℓ needle is dropped between two horizontal lines that are separated by a distance d in such a way that the joint probability density function of the distance of needle's midpoint from the lower line, i.e. the continuous random variable Y , and the angle needle makes with horizontal lines, i.e. the continuous random variable Θ , are uniformly distributed as follows

$$f_{Y,\Theta}(y, \theta) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{d\pi}, & \text{if } y \in [0, d], \text{ and } \theta \in [0, \pi], \\ 0, & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases}$$

where $\frac{d}{2} < \ell < d$. The needle may cross $y = 0$ and $y = d$ lines and the random variable N is equal to the total number of lines needle crosses.

- What is the conditional PMF $p_{N|Y}$ of N given Y ?
- What is the conditional CDF $f_{Y|N}$ of Y given N ?

Solution of Problem 1.

(a) The conditional PDF $f_{Y|X}(y|x)$ has to be a PDF for all $x \geq 1$:

$$1 = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f_{Y|X}(y|x) dy = \gamma(x) \int_x^{\infty} e^{-\frac{y}{x}} dy = x\gamma(x) \int_1^{\infty} e^{-\tau} d\tau = x\gamma(x)e^{-1}.$$

Hence $\gamma(x) = \frac{e}{x}$ and

$$f_{Y|X}(y|x) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{x} e^{-\frac{y-x}{x}}, & \text{if } y \geq x, \\ 0, & \text{if } y < x, \end{cases} \quad (1)$$

for all $x \geq 1$,

(b) Given $X = x$, the random variable Y is equal to the sum of x and an exponentially distributed random variable with mean x , see Problem 35-(a) and its solution in the textbook. Thus $E[Y|X=x] = 2x$. This can be confirmed using $E[Y|X=x] = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} y f_{Y|X}(y|x) dy$ and the expression we obtained for $f_{Y|X}(y|x)$, by applying integration by parts:

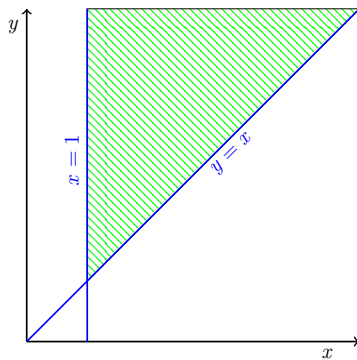
$$E[Y|X=x] = \int_x^{\infty} y \frac{e}{x} e^{-y/x} dy = ex \int_1^{\infty} \tau e^{-\tau} d\tau = ex \left[-\tau e^{-\tau} \Big|_1^{\infty} + \int_1^{\infty} e^{-\tau} d\tau \right] = ex [e^{-1} + (-e^{-\tau}) \Big|_1^{\infty}] = 2x$$

(c) We can use the law of iterated expectations, i.e. $E[Y] = E[E[Y|X]]$.

$$E[Y] = E[2X] = 2 \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x f_X(x) dx = 2 \int_1^{\infty} 2x^{-2} dx = 2 (-2x^{-1}) \Big|_1^{\infty} = 4.$$

Remark 1. We need not to calculate the PDF of Y , in order to calculate $E[Y]$.

(d) Since both f_X and $f_{Y|X}$ are given we can first calculate f_Y using f_X and $f_{Y|X}$ and then invoke Bayes' rule: $f_{X|Y} = \frac{f_{Y|X} f_X}{f_Y}$.



We calculate f_Y using $f_Y(y) = \int f_{X,Y}(x,y) dx$ where $f_{X,Y}(x,y) = f_{Y|X}(y|x) f_X(x)$. Note that $f_{X,Y}(x,y) > 0$ iff $x \geq 1$ and $x \leq y$, this is the shaded region in Figure 2. Thus

$$f_Y(y) = \begin{cases} 2e \int_1^y x^{-4} e^{-\frac{y}{x}} dx & y \geq 1 \\ 0 & y < 1 \end{cases}$$

$$\int_1^y x^{-4} e^{-\frac{y}{x}} dx = -y^{-3} \int_y^1 e^{-\tau} \tau^2 d\tau \quad \text{for } x = \frac{y}{\tau}$$

$$= y^{-3} [\tau^2 e^{-\tau} + 2\tau e^{-\tau} + 2e^{-\tau}] \Big|_y^1$$

$$= y^{-3} [5e^{-1} - (y^2 + 2y + 2)e^{-y}].$$

Figure 2.

Since $f_Y(y)$ is positive only for $y > 1$, the conditional PDF $f_{X|Y}(x|y)$ is defined only for $y > 1$.

$$f_{X|Y}(x|y) = \frac{f_{Y|X}(y|x) f_X(x)}{f_Y(y)} = \begin{cases} \frac{y^3 x^{-4}}{5e^{-1} - (y^2 + 2y + 2)e^{-y}} e^{-\frac{y}{x}}, & \text{if } x \in [1, y], \\ 0, & \text{if } x \notin [1, y], \end{cases}$$

□

Solution of Problem 2. [“iff”=“if and only if”]

(a) Note that the value of N can be calculate if Y and Θ are known. In particular,

- The needle crosses $y = 0$ line iff $Y \leq \ell \sin \Theta$.
- The needle crosses $y = d$ line iff $d - Y \leq \ell \sin \Theta$.

Since $\Theta \in [0, \pi]$ we can rewrite these conditions as

- The needle crosses $y = 0$ line iff $\Theta \in \left[\arcsin\left(\frac{Y}{\ell}\right), \pi - \arcsin\left(\frac{Y}{\ell}\right) \right]$.
- The needle crosses $y = d$ line iff $\Theta \in \left[\arcsin\left(\frac{d-Y}{\ell}\right), \pi - \arcsin\left(\frac{d-Y}{\ell}\right) \right]$.

Note that the problem has a symmetry with respect to $y = \frac{d}{2}$ line. We confine our discussion to $Y \in [0, \frac{d}{2}]$ case first. Depending on the region Y belongs there two different possibilities for the possible crossings as a function of Θ .

- If $Y \in [0, d - \ell)$ then needle cannot cross $y = d$ line but it cannot cross $y = 0$ line. Thus
 - $N = 0$ iff the needle does not cross $y = 0$ line:

$$N = 0 \text{ iff } \Theta \in \left\{ [0, \arcsin\left(\frac{Y}{\ell}\right)) \cup (\pi - \arcsin\left(\frac{Y}{\ell}\right), \pi] \right\}.$$

- $N = 1$ iff the needle crosses $y = 0$ line:

$$N = 1 \text{ iff } \Theta \in \left[\arcsin\left(\frac{Y}{\ell}\right), \pi - \arcsin\left(\frac{Y}{\ell}\right) \right].$$

Thus

$$p_{N|Y}(n|y) = \begin{cases} \frac{2}{\pi} \arcsin\left(\frac{y}{\ell}\right) & n = 0 \\ 1 - \frac{2}{\pi} \arcsin\left(\frac{y}{\ell}\right) & n = 1 \end{cases} \quad (2)$$

- If $Y \in [d - \ell, \frac{d}{2}]$, then the needle can cross both $y = 0$ and $y = d$ lines. However, $y = d$ line cannot be crossed without $y = 0$ line being crossed for $Y \in [d - \ell, \frac{d}{2}]$ case. This is also implied by $\arcsin\left(\frac{Y}{\ell}\right) \leq \arcsin\left(\frac{d-Y}{\ell}\right)$, which holds for $Y \in [d - \ell, \frac{d}{2}]$ case.
 - $N = 0$ iff the needle does not cross either $y = 0$ line or $y = d$ line. This is equivalent to needle not crossing $y = 0$:

$$N = 0 \text{ iff } \Theta \in \left\{ [0, \arcsin\left(\frac{Y}{\ell}\right)) \cup (\pi - \arcsin\left(\frac{Y}{\ell}\right), \pi] \right\}.$$

- $N = 1$ iff the needle crosses $y = 0$ line but not $y = d$ line:

$$N = 1 \text{ iff } \Theta \in \left\{ \left[\arcsin\left(\frac{Y}{\ell}\right), \arcsin\left(\frac{d-Y}{\ell}\right) \right) \cup \left(\pi - \arcsin\left(\frac{d-Y}{\ell}\right), \pi - \arcsin\left(\frac{Y}{\ell}\right) \right] \right\}.$$

- $N = 2$ iff the needle crosses both $y = 0$ and $y = d$ lines:

$$N = 2 \text{ iff } \Theta \in \left[\arcsin\left(\frac{d-Y}{\ell}\right), \pi - \arcsin\left(\frac{d-Y}{\ell}\right) \right].$$

Thus

$$p_{N|Y}(n|y) = \begin{cases} \frac{2}{\pi} \arcsin\left(\frac{y}{\ell}\right) & n = 0 \\ \frac{2}{\pi} \left[\arcsin\left(\frac{d-y}{\ell}\right) - \arcsin\left(\frac{y}{\ell}\right) \right] & n = 1 \\ 1 - \frac{2}{\pi} \arcsin\left(\frac{d-y}{\ell}\right) & n = 2 \end{cases} \quad (3)$$

Using (2) and (3) together with the symmetry of the problem we get the following conditional PMF:

- If $y \in [0, d - \ell) \cup (\ell, d]$

$$p_{N|Y}(n|y) = \begin{cases} \frac{2}{\pi} \arcsin\left(\frac{\min\{y, d-y\}}{\ell}\right) & n = 0 \\ 1 - \frac{2}{\pi} \arcsin\left(\frac{\min\{y, d-y\}}{\ell}\right) & n = 1 \end{cases} \quad (4)$$

- If $y \in [d - \ell, \ell]$

$$p_{N|Y}(n|y) = \begin{cases} \frac{2}{\pi} \arcsin\left(\frac{\min\{y, d-y\}}{\ell}\right) & n = 0 \\ \frac{2}{\pi} \left| \arcsin\left(\frac{d-y}{\ell}\right) - \arcsin\left(\frac{y}{\ell}\right) \right| & n = 1 \\ 1 - \frac{2}{\pi} \arcsin\left(\frac{\max\{y, d-y\}}{\ell}\right) & n = 2 \end{cases} \quad (5)$$

(b) We will calculate the conditional PDF $f_{Y|N}$ using the Baye's rule $f_{Y|N} = \frac{p_{N|Y} f_Y}{p_N}$. To do that we will first calculate p_N using $p_N(n) = \int p_{N|Y}(n|y) f_Y(y) dy$. Thus

$$\begin{aligned} p_N(0) &= 2 \int_0^{\frac{d}{2}} \frac{2}{\pi} \arcsin\left(\frac{y}{\ell}\right) \frac{1}{d} dy \\ &= \frac{4\ell}{d\pi} \int_0^{\frac{d}{2\ell}} \arcsin(\tau) d\tau \\ &= \frac{4\ell}{d\pi} \left[\tau \arcsin(\tau) + \sqrt{1-\tau^2} \right] \Big|_0^{\frac{d}{2\ell}} \\ &= \frac{4\ell}{d\pi} \left[\frac{d}{2\ell} \arcsin\left(\frac{d}{2\ell}\right) + \sqrt{1-\left(\frac{d}{2\ell}\right)^2} - 1 \right]. \end{aligned} \quad (6)$$

$$\begin{aligned} p_N(2) &= 2 \int_{d-\ell}^{\frac{d}{2}} \left[1 - \frac{2}{\pi} \arcsin\left(\frac{d-y}{\ell}\right) \right] \frac{1}{d} dy \\ &= \frac{2\ell-d}{d} + \frac{4\ell}{d\pi} \int_1^{\frac{d}{2\ell}} \arcsin(\tau) d\tau \\ &= \frac{2\ell-d}{d} + \frac{4\ell}{d\pi} \left[\tau \arcsin(\tau) + \sqrt{1-\tau^2} \right] \Big|_1^{\frac{d}{2\ell}} \\ &= -1 + \frac{4\ell}{d\pi} \left[\frac{d}{2\ell} \arcsin\left(\frac{d}{2\ell}\right) + \sqrt{1-\left(\frac{d}{2\ell}\right)^2} \right]. \end{aligned} \quad (7)$$

We can calculate $p_N(1)$ using $p_N(1) = 1 - p_N(0) - p_N(2)$ together with (6) and (7):

$$p_N(1) = 2 + \frac{4\ell}{d\pi} \left[1 - 2 \left(\frac{d}{2\ell} \arcsin\left(\frac{d}{2\ell}\right) + \sqrt{1-\left(\frac{d}{2\ell}\right)^2} \right) \right]. \quad (8)$$

Using (4), (5), and (6) we get

$$f_{Y|N}(y|0) = \begin{cases} \frac{\arcsin\left(\frac{\min\{y, d-y\}}{\ell}\right)}{\arcsin\left(\frac{d}{2\ell}\right) + \sqrt{\left(\frac{2\ell}{d}\right)^2 - 1} - \frac{2\ell}{d}} & y \in [0, d] \\ 0 & y \notin [0, d] \end{cases} \quad (9)$$

Using (4), (5), and (8) we get

$$f_{Y|N}(y|1) = \begin{cases} \frac{\frac{\pi}{2} - \arcsin\left(\frac{\min\{y, d-y\}}{\ell}\right)}{\pi + \left[\frac{2\ell}{d} - 2 \left(\arcsin\left(\frac{d}{2\ell}\right) + \sqrt{\left(\frac{2\ell}{d}\right)^2 - 1} \right) \right]} & y \in [0, d-\ell] \cup (\ell, d] \\ \frac{|\arcsin\left(\frac{d-y}{\ell}\right) - \arcsin\left(\frac{y}{\ell}\right)|}{\pi + \left[\frac{2\ell}{d} - 2 \left(\arcsin\left(\frac{d}{2\ell}\right) + \sqrt{\left(\frac{2\ell}{d}\right)^2 - 1} \right) \right]} & y \in [d-\ell, \ell] \\ 0 & y \notin [0, d] \end{cases}. \quad (10)$$

Using (4), (5), and (7) we get

$$f_{Y|N}(y|2) = \begin{cases} \frac{\frac{\pi}{2} - \arcsin\left(\frac{\max\{d-y, y\}}{\ell}\right)}{\arcsin\left(\frac{d}{2\ell}\right) + \sqrt{\left(\frac{2\ell}{d}\right)^2 - 1} - \frac{\pi}{2}} & y \in [d-\ell, \ell] \\ 0 & y \notin [d-\ell, \ell] \end{cases}. \quad (11)$$

□