

## Solutions to Exercises of Chapters 3, 4 and 5

### CHAPTER 3

**3.1** The  $\sigma$ -algebra  $\sigma(X)$  consists of all subsets of  $X(\Omega)$ . A set with  $n$  elements has precisely  $2^n$  subsets. Hence  $\sigma(X)$  consists of  $2^n$  sets. Each of these sets can be obtained as follows: Let  $x_1, \dots, x_n$  be the distinct values of  $X$ . Enumerate the binary strings of 0's and 1's of length  $n$  and to each of them assign a set from  $\sigma(X)$ . The way to do this should be clear from the following example with  $n = 3$ :

$$\begin{aligned} 000 &: \{X \neq x_1, X \neq x_2, X \neq x_3\} = \emptyset \\ 001 &: \{X \neq x_1, X \neq x_2, X = x_3\} = \{X = x_3\} \\ 010 &: \{X \neq x_1, X = x_2, X \neq x_3\} = \{X = x_2\} \\ 011 &: \{X \neq x_1, X = x_2, X = x_3\} = \{X = x_2 \text{ or } x_3\} \\ 100 &: \{X = x_1, X \neq x_2, X \neq x_3\} = \{X = x_1\} \\ 101 &: \{X = x_1, X \neq x_2, X = x_3\} = \{X = x_1 \text{ or } x_3\} \\ 110 &: \{X = x_1, X = x_2, X \neq x_3\} = \{X = x_1 \text{ or } x_2\} \\ 111 &: \{X = x_1, X = x_2, X = x_3\} = \Omega \end{aligned}$$

**3.2** (i) If  $x_1 < x_2$  then  $\{X \leq x_1\} \subset \{X \leq x_2\}$ .

(ii)  $\lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} F(x) = \lim_{n \rightarrow -\infty} F(n)$ , where  $n$  ranges over the integers. But  $F(n) = \mathbf{P}(X \leq n)$  decreases as  $n$  decreases, and so

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow -\infty} F(n) = \mathbf{P} \left( \bigcap_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} \{X \leq n\} \right) = \mathbf{P}(\emptyset) = 0.$$

(iii) Similarly,

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} F(n) = \mathbf{P} \left( \bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} \{X \leq n\} \right) = \mathbf{P}(\Omega) = 1.$$

(iv)

$$\bigcap_{n \in \mathbb{N}} (-\infty, x + 1/n] = (-\infty, x].$$

**3.3** For  $a \leq b$ : (i)

$$(a, b] = (-\infty, b] \setminus (-\infty, a]$$

and  $(-\infty, a] \subset (-\infty, b]$ .

(ii) Observe that

$$(a, b) = \bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} (a, b - 1/n]$$

and use (i) to get

$$\mathbf{P}(X \in (a, b)) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (F(b - 1/n) - F(a)) = F(b-) - F(a).$$

(iii) Observe that

$$[a, b] = \bigcap_{n \in \mathbb{N}} (a - 1/n, b]$$

and use (i) to get

$$\mathbf{P}(X \in [a, b]) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (F(b) - F(a - 1/n)) = F(b) - F(a-).$$

(iv) Apply (iii) with  $a = b$ .

**3.4** The way that  $F^{-1}$  is defined in the lecture notes is:

$$F^{-1}(t) := \inf A_t, \text{ where } A_t := \{x \in \mathbb{R} : F(x) \geq t\}.$$

By the definition of the infimum of a set of real numbers (the set  $A_t$ , in this case),  $F^{-1}(t)$  is the largest of all numbers  $c$  which are lower bounds to the set (the existence of which is guaranteed by the completeness property of the set of real numbers—a consequence of its construction):

$$F^{-1}(t) \geq c \iff x \geq c \text{ for all } x \in A_t.$$

Equivalently,

$$F^{-1}(t) \geq c \iff \text{for all } x < c, x \notin A_t \iff \text{for all } x < c, F(x) < t.$$

Instead of saying “for all  $x < c$ ” we can say “for all  $x = c - \varepsilon$  with  $\varepsilon > 0$ ”, and so

$$F^{-1}(t) \geq c \iff F(c - \varepsilon) < t \text{ for all } \varepsilon > 0 \iff F(c-) < t.$$

Therefore,

$$F^{-1}(t) < c \iff t \leq F(c-),$$

This holds for all  $t$  and  $c$  and so, by setting  $t = U$ , we obtain

$$\mathbf{P}(F^{-1}(U) < c) = \mathbf{P}(U \leq F(c-)) = F(c-),$$

the latter due to the assumption that  $U$  is uniformly distributed on the interval  $(0, 1)$ . Hence

$$\mathbf{P}(F^{-1}(U) \leq x) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbf{P}(F^{-1}(U) < x + 1/n) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} F((x + 1/n)-) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} F(x + 1/n) = F(x).$$

**3.5** The function  $V : \{0, 1\}^{\mathbb{N}} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is defined by

$$V(\omega) = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} 2\omega_k 3^{-k}, \quad \omega_1, \omega_2, \dots \in \{0, 1\},$$

and  $\mathbf{P}$  is a measure on the cylinder- $\sigma$ -algebra  $\mathcal{F}$  of  $\{0, 1\}^{\mathbb{N}}$  such that

$$\mathbf{P}(\omega_1 = \varepsilon_1, \dots, \omega_n = \varepsilon_n) = 2^{-n},$$

for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , and all  $\varepsilon_1, \dots, \varepsilon_n \in \{0, 1\}$ . We consider the distribution function

$$F(x) = \mathbf{P}(V \leq x)$$

of  $V$ . Define  $V'(\omega)$  by

$$V(\omega) = \frac{2\omega_1}{3} + \frac{1}{3}V'(\omega).$$

Observe that the  $\mathbf{P}$ -law of  $V'$  is the same as the  $\mathbf{P}$ -law of  $V$  (by considering finite-dimensional cylinder sets). Suppose  $x < 1/3$ . Then

$$F(x) = \mathbf{P}(V \leq x) = \mathbf{P}(\omega_1 = 0, \frac{1}{3}V' \leq x) = \frac{1}{2}F(3x).$$

Suppose  $x > 2/3$ . Then

$$F(x) = \mathbf{P}(V \leq x) = \mathbf{P}(\omega_1 = 1, \frac{2}{3} + \frac{1}{3}V' \leq x) = \frac{1}{2}F(3(x - \frac{2}{3})).$$

Observe that it is impossible for  $V(\omega)$  to be strictly between  $1/3$  and  $2/3$ . Indeed, if  $\omega_1 = 0$ , then the maximum value of  $V(\omega)$  is  $1/3$  (and this happens when  $V'(\omega) = 1$ ; if  $\omega_1 = 1$ , the least value of  $V(\omega)$  is  $2/3$ . So

$$\{1/3 < V < 2/3\} = \emptyset.$$

Since

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{P}(V = 1/3) &= \mathbf{P}(\omega_1 = 0, V' = 1) = \mathbf{P}(\omega_1 = 0, \omega_n = 1 \text{ for all } n \geq 1) = 0, \\ \mathbf{P}(V = 2/3) &= \mathbf{P}(\omega_1 = 1, V' = 0) = \mathbf{P}(\omega_1 = 1, \omega_n = 0 \text{ for all } n \geq 1) = 0,\end{aligned}$$

we have

$$\mathbf{P}(1/3 \leq V \leq 2/3) = 0$$

and so, for some constant  $c$ ,

$$F(x) = c, \quad \text{if } 1/3 \leq x \leq 2/3.$$

Since  $V$  and  $1 - V$  have the same law we have

$$c = 1/2.$$

In other words, if we define the operator  $\mathcal{Q}$  on  $[0, 1]^{[0,1]}$  by

$$\mathcal{Q}f(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{2}f(3x), & \text{if } 0 \leq x < 1/3 \\ 1/2, & \text{if } 1/3 \leq x \leq 2/3 \\ \frac{1}{2}f(3(x - 2/3)), & \text{if } 2/3 < x \leq 1, \end{cases}$$

we have just shown that  $F$  satisfies

$$F = \mathcal{Q}F.$$

Now restrict  $\mathcal{Q}$  onto  $C[0, 1]$ , the space of continuous functions on  $[0, 1]$ , equipped with the usual norm

$$\|f\| = \max_{0 \leq x \leq 1} |f(x)|.$$

Observe that

$$\begin{aligned}\|\mathcal{Q}f\| &= \max_{0 \leq x \leq 1} |f(x)| = \max_{0 \leq x < 1/3} |f(x)| \vee \max_{1/3 \leq x \leq 2/3} |f(x)| \vee \max_{2/3 < x \leq 1} |f(x)| \\ &= \max_{0 \leq x < 1/3} \left| \frac{1}{2}f(3x) \right| \vee (1/2) \vee \max_{2/3 < x \leq 1} \left| \frac{1}{2}f(3(x - 2/3)) \right| = \frac{1}{2}\|f\|.\end{aligned}$$

So  $\mathcal{Q}$  is a contraction, and so, by completeness of  $C[0, 1]$  (this is the analogous of the completeness as the completeness mentioned in Exercise 3.4), starting from any  $F_0 \in C[0, 1]$ , the sequence defined recursively through

$$F_{n+1} = \mathcal{Q}F_n$$

converges uniformly to an  $F^* \in C[0, 1]$  which satisfies

$$\mathcal{Q}F^* = F^*.$$

Note that  $\mathcal{Q}$  is an increasing operator, i.e. if  $f$  is increasing function, then so is  $\mathcal{Q}f$ . Therefore, the limit is also increasing. So  $F^*$  is an increasing continuous function. By observing

that  $\mathcal{Q}$  is a contraction also on the set  $D[0, 1]$  of functions on  $[0, 1]$  which have discontinuities of first kind, and using the fact that  $F \in D[0, 1]$ , we have

$$F = F^*$$

and so  $F$  is continuous.

To show that  $F$  is not absolutely continuous, we show that

$$\mathbf{P}(V \in C) = 1$$

for some set  $C \subset [0, 1]$  with Lebesgue measure 0. Let  $H$  be a nonempty open subset of  $[0, 1]$  such that

$$\mathbf{P}(V \in H) = 0.$$

(We already saw that  $H = (1/3, 2/3)$  is such a set.) Notice that

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{3}H &= \{x/3 : x \in H\} \subset (0, 1/3), \\ \frac{2}{3} + \frac{1}{3}H &= \{(2/3) + x/3 : x \in H\} \subset (2/3, 1). \end{aligned}$$

Hence

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{P}(V \in \frac{1}{3}H) &= \mathbf{P}(\omega_1 = 0, \frac{1}{3}V' \in \frac{1}{3}H) = \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{P}(V \in H) \\ \mathbf{P}(V \in \frac{2}{3} + \frac{1}{3}H) &= \mathbf{P}(\omega_1 = 1, \frac{2}{3} + \frac{1}{3}V' \in \frac{2}{3} + \frac{1}{3}H) = \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{P}(V \in H) \end{aligned}$$

So, starting with a set  $H_0 = H$  for which  $\mathbf{P}(V \in H) = 0$ , we can create a family of sets  $H_n$  for which  $\mathbf{P}(V \in H_n) = 0$ , recursively by

$$H_{n+1} = \frac{1}{3}H_n \cup \left(\frac{2}{3} + \frac{1}{3}H_n\right), \quad n = 1, 2, \dots$$

Since the sets  $\frac{1}{3}H_n$  and  $\frac{2}{3} + \frac{1}{3}H_n$  are disjoint nonempty open sets, we have that their lengths add up. But both sets have length equal to a third of the length of  $H_n$ . So

$$|H_{n+1}| = \frac{2}{3}|H_n|,$$

i.e.

$$|H_n| = (2/3)^n |H_0|.$$

Let

$$D = \cup_{n=0}^{\infty} H_n,$$

where  $H_0 = (1/3, 2/3)$ . We have

$$\mathbf{P}(V \in D) \leq \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \mathbf{P}(V \in H_n) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} 0 = 0.$$

We have  $|H_0| = 1/3$ ,  $|H_n| = 2^n/3^{n+1}$ . Observe that the  $H_n$  are here disjoint. So

$$|D| = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} |H_n| = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} 2^n/3^{n+1} = 1.$$

Finally, set

$$C = [0, 1] - D.$$

We have  $|C| = 1 - |D| = 0$ , and  $\mathbf{P}(V \in C) = 1 - \mathbf{P}(V \in D) = 1 - 0 = 1$ .

**3.6**  $Y = 1$  if and only if  $X$  divides 3, and the only possibility is  $X = 3$ . So  $\mathbf{P}(Y = 1) = 1/6$ ,  $\mathbf{P}(Y = 2) = 5/6$ .

**3.7**

$$\mathbf{P}(\varphi(X) \leq t) = \mathbf{P}(X \geq \psi(t)) = \int_{\psi(t)}^{\infty} f(x)dx.$$

Taking derivative with respect to  $t$ , we find that the density of  $\varphi(X)$  equals

$$\frac{d}{dt} \int_{\psi(t)}^{\infty} f(x)dx = -\psi'(t)f(\psi(t)).$$

But  $\psi$  is strictly decreasing, so  $\psi'(t) < 0$ , and so  $-\psi'(t) = |\psi'(t)|$ .

**3.8** Let  $a > 0$ . The inverse of the function  $\varphi(u) := u^{1/a}$  is  $\psi(y) = y^a$ . We have  $\psi'(y) = ay^{a-1}$ . So

$$f_Y(y) = f_U(\psi(y))\psi'(y) = ay^{a-1}.$$

Clearly,  $0 < y < 1$  is the range over which  $f$  is  $\neq 0$ , because  $\varphi$  maps the interval  $(0, 1)$  to itself. If  $a = -b < 0$ , then  $\varphi(u) := u^{-1/b}$  maps  $(0, 1)$  into  $(1, \infty)$ . So  $Y$  has nonzero density on  $(1, \infty)$  and, by the exercise above, the density is given by

$$f_Y(y) = f_U(\psi(y))|\psi'(y)| = by^{-b-1}.$$

You should sketch the functions  $\varphi$  and  $\psi$  in both cases, and see why, qualitatively, the results are sound, i.e. that the mass gets transferred to the correct places. E.g., the function  $Y = U^{30}$  has most of its density around 0, while  $Y = U^{1/30}$  has most of its density around 1.

**3.9** Let us write the solution in intuitive terms (using calculus), following, of course, a method which is totally equivalent to the theory. Let  $u$  be mapped to  $y$  via  $y = e^u$ . Then the mass assigned on an interval of tiny length  $|du|$  sitting around the point  $u$  is transferred to an interval of tiny length  $|dy|$  sitting around the point  $y$ :

$$f_Y(y)|dy| = f_U(u)|du|$$

and, since  $\frac{dy}{du} = e^u$ , we have

$$f_Y(y)e^u = f_U(u),$$

or

$$f_Y(y) = e^{-u} = e^{-\log y} = \frac{1}{y}.$$

The range of interest is the image of the interval  $(0, 1)$  under the map  $y = e^u$ , i.e.  $y$  ranges over  $(e^0, e^1) = (1, e)$ .

Let us now consider the case  $y = e^{au}$ , where  $a$  is a real number. The function is one-to-one for all values of  $a$ , so we need not worry about multiple pre-images of a point. Again,

$$f_Y(y)|dy| = f_U(u)|du|$$

Here,  $\frac{dy}{du} = ae^{au}$ , and so

$$f_Y(y)|ae^{au}| = f_U(u),$$

i.e.

$$f_Y(y) = \frac{1}{|a|e^{au}}.$$

Let us not forget that we need to express this is a function of  $y$ , through  $y = e^{au}$ , i.e.

$$f_Y(y) = \frac{1}{|a|y}.$$

The range of  $y$  is the image of  $(0, 1)$  under the map  $y = e^{au}$ . If  $a > 0$ , then  $y$  ranges over  $(1, e^a)$ . If  $a < 0$ , then  $y$  ranges over  $(e^{-|a|}, 1)$ . If  $a = 0$  we have a degenerate situation, because  $Y = 1$  with probability 1 (no density).

**3.10** (Note there are some typos in the statement of the exercise.) No sweat here: the method is as above:

$$f_Y(y)|dy| = f_X(x)|dx|$$

We have  $y = e^{x/a}$ , where  $a > 0$ , so  $\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{1}{a}e^{x/a}$ :

$$f_Y(y)\frac{1}{a}e^{x/a} = f_X(x),$$

$$f_Y(y) = e^{-x}ae^{-x/a} = ay^{-a-1}.$$

Here  $y$  ranges between 1 and  $\infty$  because  $y = e^{x/a}$  maps  $\{x > 0\}$  onto  $\{1 < y < \infty\}$ .

**3.11** If the function  $y = \varphi(x)$  is non-monotonic, then each  $y$  may have multiple pre-images. So an interval of tiny length  $|dy|$  located around the point  $y$  may be the image of many tiny intervals located at the points  $x_1, x_2, \dots$ , where the latter are all pre-images of  $y$  under the map  $y = \varphi(x)$ . Hence the “mass”  $f_Y(y)|dy|$  is the sum of the masses  $f_X(x_i)|dx|$ ,  $i = 1, 2, \dots$ :

$$f_Y(y)|dy| = \sum_i f_X(x_i)|dx|.$$

Let us consider the case  $Y = X^2$ , where  $X$  is uniform on  $[-1, 1]$ . Then  $\frac{dy}{dx} = 2x$ . There are 2 solutions of the equation  $y = x^2$ , namely,  $x_1 = +\sqrt{y}$ ,  $x_2 = -\sqrt{y}$ . So

$$f_Y(y) = f_X(\sqrt{y}) \left| \frac{dx}{dy} \right|_{x=\sqrt{y}} + f_X(-\sqrt{y}) \left| \frac{dx}{dy} \right|_{x=-\sqrt{y}}.$$

But  $f_X(x) = 1/2$ , for  $-1 \leq x \leq 1$  and  $\left| \frac{dx}{dy} \right|_{x=\sqrt{y}} = \left| \frac{dx}{dy} \right|_{x=-\sqrt{y}} = 1/(2\sqrt{y})$ , so

$$f_Y(y) = 1/(2\sqrt{y}), \quad 0 \leq y \leq 1.$$

Alternatively, we can argue directly as follows:

$$\mathbf{P}(X^2 \leq y) = \mathbf{P}(-\sqrt{y} \leq X \leq \sqrt{y}).$$

So

$$f_Y(y) = \frac{d}{dy} \mathbf{P}(X^2 \leq y) = \frac{d}{dy} \int_{-\sqrt{y}}^{\sqrt{y}} \frac{1}{2} dy' = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{y}}.$$

**3.11** In the second case,

$$Y = X^2, \quad \text{where } X \text{ is uniform on } [-1,2]$$

every  $y \in (0,1)$  has two pre-images,  $x = \pm\sqrt{y}$ , but every  $y \in (1,4)$  has one pre-image,  $x = +\sqrt{y}$ . So

$$f_Y(y) = \begin{cases} f_X(\sqrt{y}) \left| \frac{dx}{dy} \right|_{x=\sqrt{y}} + f_X(-\sqrt{y}) \left| \frac{dx}{dy} \right|_{x=-\sqrt{y}}, & 0 < y < 1, \\ f_X(\sqrt{y}) \left| \frac{dx}{dy} \right|_{x=\sqrt{y}}, & 1 < y < 4. \end{cases}$$

Here  $f_X(x) = 1/3$ ,  $-1 \leq x \leq 2$  and  $\left| \frac{dx}{dy} \right| = 1/(2\sqrt{y})$  in all cases, so

$$f_Y(y) = \begin{cases} 1/(3\sqrt{y}), & 0 < y < 1, \\ 1/(6\sqrt{y}), & 1 < y < 4. \end{cases}$$

The density has a jump at  $y = 1$ , and we don't bother to define its value there: it is irrelevant because the density is useful only as an object to be integrated. In other words, not defining the value of a density at finitely many points won't matter at all.

**3.12** Same story here:

$$f_Y(y)|dy| = (f_X(x_1) + f_X(x_2))|dx|,$$

where  $x_1, x_2$  are the two pre-images of  $y = \cosh(x)$ . Here  $y$  ranges over  $[1, \infty)$ , and  $\left| \frac{dy}{dx} \right| = |\sinh(x)| = \sqrt{y^2 - 1}$ . The latter follows from the identity  $\cosh^2(x) - \sinh^2(x) = 1$ . Notice that  $|x_1| = |x_2| = \cosh^{-1}(y)$  and the density of  $X$  is symmetric around zero. Hence

$$f_Y(y) = \frac{2c}{1 + \cosh^{-1}(y)^2} \frac{1}{\sqrt{y^2 - 1}} = \frac{c}{\sqrt{y^2 - 1}y^2 + y^3 - y}$$

**3.13** We have

$$\mathbf{P}(X = a^n) = 2^{-n}, \quad n \in \mathbb{N}.$$

Therefore,

$$\mathbf{E}X = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (a/2)^n$$

which is finite iff  $a/2 < 1$ . The sum equals  $a/(2 - a)$ .

**3.14** We have

$$\mathbf{P}(X = n^k) = cn^{-2}, \quad n \in \mathbb{N}.$$

Therefore,

$$\mathbf{E}X = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} cn^{-(2-k)},$$

and the sum is finite iff  $2 - k > 1$ . (Use, e.g., the ratio test.)

**3.15**

$$\mathbf{E}(X; A) = \sum_{\substack{n \in \mathbb{N} \\ n \text{ odd}}} (a/2)^n = \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} (a/2)^{2m+1} = \frac{2a}{a^2 - 4}.$$

Setting  $a = 1$  in the above we obtain

$$\mathbf{P}(A) = \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} (1/2)^{2m+1} = \frac{2}{3},$$

so  $\mathbf{E}(X|A) = \mathbf{E}(X; A) / \mathbf{P}(A) = 3a / (a^2 - 4)$ . The reason that  $\mathbf{E}(X|A^c) = a \mathbf{E}(X|A)$  is *obvious* is that  $X = a^\xi$ , where  $\mathbf{P}(\xi = n) = 2^{-n}$ ,  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , i.e.  $\xi$  is a geometric—and hence memoryless—random variable.

**3.16** *The solution depends on the way that theory was presented.*

**3.17**

$$\mathbf{E}N = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} n e^{-\lambda} \frac{\lambda^n}{n!} = e^{-\lambda} \lambda \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{\lambda^{n-1}}{(n-1)!} = e^{-\lambda} \lambda e^\lambda = \lambda,$$

where we used the Taylor expansion of the exponential function.

$$\mathbf{E}(N^2 - N) = \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} (n^2 - n) e^{-\lambda} \frac{\lambda^n}{n!} = e^{-\lambda} \lambda^2 \sum_{n=2}^{\infty} \frac{\lambda^{n-2}}{(n-2)!} = e^{-\lambda} \lambda^2 e^\lambda = \lambda^2.$$

Hence  $\mathbf{E}(N^2) = \mathbf{E}(N^2 - N) + \mathbf{E}N = \lambda^2 + \lambda$ .



## CHAPTER 4

**4.1** We use Chernoff's inequality as follows:

$$\mathbf{P}(X > na) \leq \frac{\mathbf{E} e^{\theta X}}{e^{\theta na}},$$

where  $\theta$  is a positive constant. Now,

$$\mathbf{E} e^{\theta X} = \sum_{k=0}^n e^{\theta k} \binom{n}{k} 2^{-k} = \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} (e^{\theta} 2^{-1})^k = (1 + e^{\theta} 2^{-1})^n.$$

Hence,

$$\mathbf{P}(X > na) \leq \left( \frac{1 + e^{\theta} 2^{-1}}{e^{a\theta}} \right)^n,$$

and the bound holds for any  $\theta > 0$ . We can get a value for the bound by choosing some specific  $\theta$ , e.g.  $\theta = \log 4$ , which gives  $(3 \times 4^{-a})^n$ , or we can be smart and find the best bound by choosing the value of  $\theta$  for which the bound is least. To find this  $\theta$ , take the logarithm of the expression inside the parenthesis, differentiate with respect to  $\theta$ , and set the derivative equal to zero:

$$0 = \frac{d}{d\theta} (\log(1 + e^{\theta} 2^{-1}) - a\theta) = \frac{e^{\theta} 2^{-1}}{1 + e^{\theta} 2^{-1}} - a,$$

whence,  $e^{\theta} = \frac{2a}{1-a}$ .

For this value, we have

$$\mathbf{P}(X > na) \leq \left( \frac{1 + \frac{a}{1-a}}{\left(\frac{2a}{1-a}\right)^a} \right)^n = 2^{-an} a^{-an} (1-a)^{-(1-a)n}$$

**4.2** This is an exercise about a nonnegative random variable  $Z$  for which we know that  $\mathbf{E} Z = 0$ . If  $Z$  is simple, then it is immediate that  $\mathbf{P}(Z > 0) = 0$ . For general  $Z$ , let  $Z_n$  be a sequence of simple random variables such that  $Z_n \uparrow Z$ . Then  $\{Z > 0\} = \cup_n \{Z_n > 0\}$  and since the latter events have  $\mathbf{P}$  equal to zero, it follows that  $\mathbf{P}(Z > 0) = 0$ .

Now apply this to the random variable  $Z = (X - \mathbf{E} X)^2$ . We learnt that  $\mathbf{P}(Z = 0) = 1$ , i.e.  $\mathbf{P}(X = \mathbf{E} X) = 1$ .

**4.3** Let  $Z = |X - \mathbf{E} X|^2$ . Markov's inequality says

$$\mathbf{P}(Z > t^2) \leq \frac{\mathbf{E} Z}{t^2},$$

for all  $t > 0$ . But

$$\mathbf{P}(Z > t^2) = \mathbf{P}(|X - \mathbf{E} X| > t).$$

**4.4** Just use the binomial theorem:

$$(a(X - \mathbf{E} X) + b(Y - \mathbf{E} Y))^2 = a^2(X - \mathbf{E} X)^2 + 2ab(X - \mathbf{E} X)(Y - \mathbf{E} Y) + b^2(Y - \mathbf{E} Y)^2$$

**4.5** Again, use the binomial theorem:

$$(\lambda X + Y)^2 = \lambda^2 X^2 + 2\lambda XY + Y^2.$$

Hence

$$Q(\lambda) := \lambda^2 \mathbf{E} X^2 + 2\lambda \mathbf{E} XY + \mathbf{E} Y^2 \geq 0$$

for all values of  $\lambda$ . The polynomial  $Q(\lambda)$  is minimised at the  $\lambda$  which solves

$$0 = Q'(\lambda) = 2\lambda \mathbf{E} X^2 + 2 \mathbf{E} XY,$$

i.e. for  $\lambda = -\mathbf{E} XY / \mathbf{E} X^2$ . Hence

$$0 \leq Q(-\mathbf{E} XY / \mathbf{E} X^2) = \frac{\mathbf{E} X^2 \mathbf{E} Y^2 - (\mathbf{E} XY)^2}{\mathbf{E} X^2},$$

which gives the inequality we need.

**4.6** Apply the previous inequality to  $X - \mathbf{E} X$ ,  $Y - \mathbf{E} Y$  in lieu of  $X$ ,  $Y$ , respectively.

**4.7** Just use the property  $e^{x+y} = e^x e^y$  of the exponential function.

$$\begin{aligned} e^{\theta(a+bX)} &= e^{\theta a} e^{\theta b X} \\ \mathbf{E} e^{\theta(a+bX)} &= e^{\theta a} \mathbf{E} e^{\theta b X} = e^{\theta a} M_X(\theta b). \end{aligned}$$

**4.8** If  $\lambda > \theta$ ,

$$M(\theta) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{\theta x} \lambda e^{-\lambda x} dx = \lambda \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-x(\lambda-\theta)} dx = \frac{\lambda}{\lambda-\theta}.$$

If  $\lambda \leq \theta$  the integral diverges. Now,

$$M'(\theta) = \frac{\lambda}{(\lambda-\theta)^2}, \quad M''(\theta) = \frac{2\lambda}{(\lambda-\theta)^3},$$

So,

$$\mathbf{E} X = M'(0) = \frac{1}{\lambda}, \quad \mathbf{E} X^2 = M''(0) = \frac{2}{\lambda^2}, \quad \text{var } X = \mathbf{E} X^2 - (\mathbf{E} X)^2 = \frac{1}{\lambda^2}.$$

**4.9** A necessary condition for the integral defining  $M(\theta)$ , for  $\theta > 0$ , to converge, is that the right tail of the density decays exponentially. This is not so for the Cauchy distribution and so  $M(\theta) = \infty$  for  $\theta > 0$ . By symmetry,  $M(\theta) = M(-\theta)$  for  $\theta < 0$ , and so  $M(\theta) = \infty$ , for all values of  $\theta \neq 0$ .

**4.10** Let  $Y_1, Y_2$  be real random variables. The modulus inequality is equivalent to

$$\sqrt{\mathbf{E} Y_1^2 + \mathbf{E} Y_2^2} \leq \mathbf{E} \sqrt{Y_1^2 + Y_2^2}.$$

But, by Jensen's inequality, the square of the right hand side is larger than or equal to  $\mathbf{E}(Y_1^2 + Y_2^2)$ , which proves the inequality.

**4.11** The exponential function satisfies  $e^{z+w} = e^z e^w$  for any two complex numbers  $z, w$ .

$$e^{it(a+bX)} = e^{ita} e^{itbX}$$

$$\mathbf{E} e^{it(a+bX)} = e^{ita} \mathbf{E} e^{itbX} = e^{ita} \varphi_X(tb).$$

**4.12**

$$\int_0^1 e^{itu} du = \frac{e^{it} - 1}{it}.$$

If  $X$  is uniform on  $(a, b)$  then  $X = (b - a)U + a$ , where  $U$  is uniform on  $(0, 1)$ .

**4.13** We need to show that

$$\int_0^\infty e^{i\theta x} \lambda e^{-\lambda x} dx = \frac{\lambda}{\lambda - i\theta}.$$

Note that the function  $f(z) = e^z$  is analytic for all  $z \in \mathbb{C}$ , and has itself as primitive. So

$$\int_\gamma e^z dz = e^b - e^a,$$

for any simple curve  $\gamma$  with endpoints  $a, b \in \mathbb{C}$ . Let  $\gamma$  be the curve  $z = -cx$ ,  $0 \leq x \leq x_0$ , where  $c$  is a fixed complex number. Then

$$\int_\gamma e^z dz = \int_0^{x_0} e^{-cx} (-c) dx.$$

Hence

$$\int_0^{x_0} e^{-cx} dx = \frac{1 - e^{-cx_0}}{c}.$$

If the real part of  $c$  is positive,  $\lim_{x_0 \rightarrow \infty} e^{-cx_0} = 0$ , and so

$$\int_0^\infty e^{-cx} dx = \frac{1}{c},$$

which gives what we need if we set  $c = \lambda - i\theta$ .

**4.14** For  $x \leq y$ , both ranging in  $\{1, \dots, 6\}$ ,

$$\mathbf{P}(X \geq x, Y \leq y) = \mathbf{P}(x \leq N_1 \leq y, x \leq N_2 \leq y) = \left(\frac{y-x}{6}\right)^2.$$

The marginals are as follows:

$$\mathbf{P}(X \geq x) = \left(\frac{6-x}{6}\right)^2$$

$$\mathbf{P}(Y \leq y) = \left(\frac{y}{6}\right)^2$$

We can work out  $\mathbf{P}(X = x, Y = y)$  by using the additivity of  $\mathbf{P}$ , or, simply, by

$$\mathbf{P}(X = x, Y = y) = 2\mathbf{P}(N_1 = x, N_2 = y) = 1/6, \quad x \leq y.$$

To find the conditional probabilities, just use division.

**4.15** Just do an integral using Fubini:

$$a^{-1} = \int_{\substack{0 \leq x \leq 1 \\ 0 \leq y \leq 1}} (x + y^2) d(x, y) = \int_{0 \leq x \leq 1} dx \int_{0 \leq y \leq 1} dy (x + y^2) = \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{3}.$$

$$F_{X,Y}(x, y) = a \int_{\substack{0 \leq x' \leq x \\ 0 \leq y' \leq y}} (x' + y'^2) d(x', y') = a \frac{x^2}{2} y + ax \frac{y^3}{3}.$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{P}(X > Y) &= \int_{\substack{0 \leq x \leq 1 \\ 0 \leq y \leq 1 \\ x > y}} a(x + y^2) = a \int_{0 \leq x \leq 1} dx \int_{0 \leq y \leq 1} dy \mathbf{1}(x > y)(x + y^2) \\ &= a \int_{0 \leq x \leq 1} x^2 dx + a \int_{0 \leq y \leq 1} (1 - y)y^2 dy = a\left(\frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{3} - \frac{1}{4}\right). \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{P}(X^2 > Y) &= \int_{\substack{0 \leq x \leq 1 \\ 0 \leq y \leq 1 \\ x^2 > y}} a(x + y^2) = a \int_{0 \leq x \leq 1} dx \int_{0 \leq y \leq 1} dy \mathbf{1}(x^2 > y)(x + y^2) \\ &= a \int_{0 \leq x \leq 1} x^3 dx + a \int_{0 \leq x \leq 1} \frac{(x^2)^3}{3} dx = a\left(\frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{3 \cdot 7}\right). \end{aligned}$$

**4.16** We have that  $X, W$  are independent exponentials with  $\mathbf{E}X = 2$ ,  $\mathbf{E}W = 1$ , and  $Y = \frac{1}{2}X - W$ . As noted,  $Y \geq \frac{1}{2}X$ , with probability 1. We compute the distribution function in the form

$$G(x, y) := \mathbf{P}(X > x, Y > y),$$

because it's easier to do the integrals. The variable  $y$  ranges from  $-\infty$  to  $+\infty$  because  $Y$  can take negative values.

$$\begin{aligned} G(x, y) &= \mathbf{P}(X > x, X > W + 2y) \\ &= \int_0^\infty dw e^{-w} \mathbf{P}(X > x, X > 2w + 2y) = \int_0^\infty dw e^{-w} \mathbf{P}(X > x \vee (2w + 2y)) \\ &= \int_0^\infty dw e^{-w} e^{-[(x/2) \vee (w+y)]} \end{aligned}$$

This is an easy integral in the variable  $w$ , as long as we split it into two integrals: one over  $w < (x/2) - y$  and one over  $w > (x/2) - y$ . We here assume (I) that  $x/2 > y$  (otherwise the first integral is vacuus.)

$$\begin{aligned} G(x, y) &= \int_0^{(x/2)-y} dw e^{-w} e^{-x/2} + \int_{(x/2)-y}^\infty dw e^{-w} e^{-w-y} \\ &= e^{-x/2} \int_0^{(x/2)-y} dw e^{-w} + e^{-y} \int_{(x/2)-y}^\infty dw e^{-2w} \\ &= e^{-x/2}(1 - e^{-\frac{x}{2}+y}) + \frac{1}{2}e^{-y}e^{-x+2y} = e^{-x/2} - \frac{1}{2}e^{-x+y}. \end{aligned}$$

If (II)  $x/2 < y$  then  $(x/2) \vee (w + y) = w + y$  for all  $w > 0$ , and so

$$G(x, y) = \int_0^\infty dw e^{-w} e^{-w-y} = \frac{1}{2}e^{-y}.$$

So the answer is:

$$\mathbf{P}(X > x, Y > y) = \begin{cases} e^{-x/2} - \frac{1}{2}e^{-x+y}, & \text{if } x \geq 2y \\ \frac{1}{2}e^{-y}, & \text{if } x \leq 2y. \end{cases}$$

We can also find  $F_{X,Y}(x, y)$  using additivity:

$$1 - G(x, y) = \mathbf{P}(X \leq x \text{ or } Y \leq y) = 1 - \mathbf{P}(X > x) + 1 - \mathbf{P}(Y > y) - F_{X,Y}(x, y).$$

**4.17**

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{E} e^{\eta X' + \theta Y'} &= \mathbf{E} e^{\eta(X+Y) + \theta(X-Y)} = \mathbf{E} e^{(\eta+\theta)X + (\eta-\theta)Y} \\ &= \mathbf{E} e^{(\eta+\theta)X} \mathbf{E} e^{(\eta-\theta)Y} \\ &= e^{(\eta+\theta)^2} e^{(\eta-\theta)^2} \\ &= e^{2\eta^2 + 2\theta^2}. \end{aligned}$$

Since

$$e^{2\eta^2 + 2\theta^2} = e^{2\eta^2} e^{2\theta^2},$$

$X', Y'$  are independent, both normal with zero mean and variance 2.

**4.18**

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} e^{-\lambda} \frac{\lambda^n}{n!} (e^{\theta} n) = e^{-\lambda} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(\lambda e^{\theta})^n}{n!} = e^{-\lambda} e^{\lambda e^{\theta}} = e^{\lambda(e^{\theta} - 1)}.$$

See Exercise 5.2 below.

## CHAPTER 5

**5.1** This is the same as Exercise 4.1, except that there  $p$  was equal to  $1/2$ . The method is precisely the same.

**5.2** We use generating functions:

$$\prod_{j=1}^n M_{X_j}(\theta) = \prod_{j=1}^n \exp(\lambda_j(e^\theta - 1)) = \exp\left(\sum_{j=1}^n \lambda_j(e^\theta - 1)\right),$$

and the latter is the generating function of a Poisson random variable with rate  $\sum_j \lambda_j$ .

**5.3** A brute-force proof is as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{P}(X_1 = n_1, \dots, X_d = n_d \mid X_1 + \dots + X_d = n) &= \frac{\mathbf{P}(X_1 = n_1, \dots, X_d = n_d)}{\mathbf{P}(X_1 + \dots + X_d = n)} \\ &= \frac{\prod_{k=1}^d \frac{\lambda_k^{n_k}}{n_k!} e^{-\lambda_k}}{\frac{\lambda^n}{n!} e^{-\lambda}} = \frac{n!}{\prod_{k=1}^d n_k!} \prod_{k=1}^d (\lambda_k/\lambda)^{n_k} = \binom{n}{n_1, \dots, n_d} \prod_{k=1}^d (\lambda_k/\lambda)^{n_k}. \end{aligned}$$

(A proof can also be devised by using Exercise 5.8 below.)

**5.4** Since

$$\mathbf{P}(X > k \mid X > k - 1) = q$$

we have

$$\mathbf{P}(X > k) = q \mathbf{P}(X > k - 1) = q^2 \mathbf{P}(X > k - 2) = \dots = q^k,$$

and so  $X$  is geometric. The values  $\mathbf{P}(X = 1)$  is called parameter. So the parameter is  $\mathbf{P}(X = 1) = \mathbf{P}(X > 0) - \mathbf{P}(X > 1) = q^0 - q^1 = 1 - q$ .

**5.5**

$$M(\theta) = \mathbf{E} e^{\theta X} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} e^{\theta n} (1-p)^{n-1} p = p e^{\theta} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} ((1-p)e^{\theta})^{n-1} = \frac{p e^{\theta}}{1 - (1-p)e^{\theta}}.$$

$$\mathbf{E} X = M'(0) = 1/p, \quad \mathbf{E} X^2 = M''(0) = (2-p)/p^2, \quad \text{var } X = (1-p)/p^2.$$

**5.6** We have

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{P}(X > Y + n, X > Y) &= \sum_k \mathbf{P}(X > k + n, X > k, Y = k) \\ &= \sum_k \mathbf{P}(X > k + n \mid X > k) \mathbf{P}(X > k) \mathbf{P}(Y = k) \\ &= \mathbf{P}(X > n) \sum_k \mathbf{P}(X > k) \mathbf{P}(Y = k) \\ &= \mathbf{P}(X > n) \mathbf{P}(X > Y). \end{aligned}$$

Dividing by  $\mathbf{P}(X > Y)$  we obtain the result. The result can be interpreted as follows: If  $X$  represents the duration of my sleep (which is geometrically distributed) then: given that I have not waken up by the unknown time  $Y$  that an explosion will occur in Australia, my remaining sleeping time  $X - Y$  will be distributed as  $X$ , i.e. as if the explosion occurred when I went to bed.

**5.7** From the formula of density transformation, it is obvious that  $cX + d$  has constant density. Since the function  $y = cx + d$  maps the interval  $[a, b]$  onto the interval with endpoints  $ca + d$  and  $cb + d$ , the result follows.

**5.8** We can get the answer easily if we think combinatorially. We want to compute

$$\mathbf{P}(A) \equiv \mathbf{P}(S_n^1 = m_1, \dots, S_n^d = m_n),$$

for all non-negative integers  $m_1, \dots, m_n$  adding up to  $n$ . The probability that the first  $m_1$  of the  $U_j$ 's fall in  $I_1$  and the next  $m_2$  of them in  $I_2$ , and so on, equals  $p_1^{m_1} \dots p_d^{m_d}$ . The event whose probability we just computed is one of the many events comprising  $A$ . Each of these events has exactly the same probability and there are  $\binom{n}{m_1, \dots, m_d}$  such events. Therefore,

$$\mathbf{P}(A) = \binom{n}{m_1, \dots, m_d} p_1^{m_1} \dots p_d^{m_d}.$$

For the analytically minded, we can *verify* (and prove) that the result is correct by checking that the generating functions of both sides are equal. First, for the multinomial, we have

$$\sum \binom{n}{m_1, \dots, m_d} p_1^{m_1} \dots p_d^{m_d} \theta_1^{m_1} \dots \theta_d^{m_d} = (p_1 \theta_1 + \dots + p_d \theta_d)^n,$$

where the sum extends over all non-negative integers  $m_1, \dots, m_n$  adding up to  $n$ , and where we have used the multinomial theorem. Second, for the probability we are seeking, we have

$$\sum \mathbf{P}(S_n^1 = m_1, \dots, S_n^d = m_n) \theta_1^{m_1} \dots \theta_d^{m_d} = \mathbf{E} [\theta_1^{S_n^1} \dots \theta_d^{S_n^d}],$$

where the sum extends over the same region as before. The latter further equals

$$\mathbf{E} \prod_{r=1}^d \prod_{j=1}^n \theta_r^{\mathbf{1}(U_j \in I_r)} = \mathbf{E} \prod_{j=1}^n \prod_{r=1}^d \theta_r^{\mathbf{1}(U_j \in I_r)} = \prod_{j=1}^n \mathbf{E} \prod_{r=1}^d \theta_r^{\mathbf{1}(U_j \in I_r)}$$

The function inside the expectation is a function of  $U_j$  only and is a simple function: it takes value  $\theta_r$  with probability  $p_r$ ; therefore it has expectation  $\sum_{r=1}^d p_r \theta_r$ . Hence the two generating functions agree.

**5.9** First note that, with probability 1, all random variables are distinct. There are  $d!$  ways to order  $U_1, \dots, U_d$ . Since the probabilities of each order are equal and since the probabilities add up to 1, it follows that the probability of a specific order is  $1/d!$ . So  $\mathbf{P}(U_1 < \dots < U_d) = 1/d!$ .

**5.10** If  $X, Y, Z$  are the lengths of the sticks then  $X + Y + Z = 1$ , and the sticks form a triangle<sup>1</sup> if (from Euclidean Geometry) each of the sticks has length smaller than the sum of the lengths of the other two:

$$\begin{aligned} X &\leq Y + Z \\ Y &\leq Z + X \\ Z &\leq X + Y. \end{aligned}$$

The model for stick breaking is, undoubtedly, as follows: Let the stick be the interval  $[0, 1] = \{x \in \mathbb{R} : 0 \leq x \leq 1\}$ . Pick two i.i.d. random variables  $B_1, B_2$ , uniformly distributed in this interval. These represent the break points. Let  $U = B_1 \wedge B_2$ ,  $V = B_1 \vee B_2$ . The intervals  $[0, U], [U, V], [V, 1]$  represent the three smaller sticks, and have lengths  $X = U$ ,  $Y = V - U$ ,  $Z = 1 - V$ . Therefore the above inequalities are written as

$$\begin{aligned} U &\leq 1/2 \\ V - U &\leq 1/2 \\ V &\geq 1/2. \end{aligned}$$

We thus need to compute the probability

$$p = \mathbf{P}(U \leq 1/2, V \geq 1/2, V - U \leq 1/2).$$

Since  $X_1, X_2$  are interchangeable,

$$p = 2\mathbf{P}(X_1 \leq X_2, X_1 \leq 1/2, X_2 \geq 1/2, X_2 - X_1 \leq 1/2).$$

Since  $(X_1, X_2)$  is uniformly distributed in the square  $[0, 1]^2$ , it's obvious that  $p/2$  is the area of the set

$$\{(x_1, x_2) \in [0, 1]^2 : x_1 \leq x_2, x_1 \leq 1/2, x_2 \geq 1/2, x_2 - x_1 \leq 1/2\},$$

which is a right isosceles triangle two sides of which have length  $1/2$  and thus its area is  $1/8$ . Hence  $p = 1/4$ .

**5.11** We give the intuition behind this identity in law. Imagine you have  $d$  alarms in your bedroom, each set to ring at an exponential time with rate 1 (hour<sup>-1</sup>, say). The alarms function independently of one another. (This ensures that you will, at some point, get out of bed.) The first alarm will ring at a time (the minimum of  $d$  i.i.d. exponential random variables) which is exponentially distributed with rate the sum of the rates, i.e. rate  $d$ . In other words, the first alarm rings at time  $X_1/d$ , where  $X_1$  is an exponential random variable with rate 1. After the first alarm rings, there are  $d - 1$  alarms remaining. Note two things: (i) by the memoryless property, the remaining times are independent of the first ring and (ii) they are independent of the first ring. Therefore, the second alarm will ring at a remaining time which is exponential with rate  $d - 1$ . In other words, the second alarm rings at a time  $X_2/d - 1$  (where  $X_2$  is an exponential random variable with rate 1) *after* the first ring. Thus, the second alarm rings at time distributed like

$$\frac{X_1}{d} + \frac{X_2}{d - 1}$$

---

<sup>1</sup>Euclid (ca. -300): *Elements*, Alexandria.



where  $X_1, X_2$  are i.i.d.  $\text{Exp}(1)$ . Continuing in this manner, we see that the  $d$ -th alarm will ring at time

$$\frac{X_1}{d} + \frac{X_2}{d-1} + \cdots + \frac{X_{d-1}}{2} + X_d,$$

where  $X_1, \dots, X_d$  are i.i.d.  $\text{Exp}(1)$ .

You *can* make the argument formal by first proving the analogue of Exercise 5.6, namely that if  $X, Y$  are independent positive random variables, with  $X$  being exponential, then

$$\mathbf{P}(X - Y > t | X > Y) = \mathbf{P}(X > t),$$

for all  $t > 0$ , and then by using induction.

**5.12** This follows immediately from Exercise 3.4. But let's prove it directly.

$$\mathbf{P}(-\ln U/\lambda > t) = \mathbf{P}(U < e^{-\lambda t}) = e^{-\lambda},$$

because  $U$  is uniform.

**5.13** This is called *regenerative property* of the Gamma function. We have

$$\begin{aligned} \Gamma(\beta) &= \int_0^\infty y^{\beta-1} (-e^{-y})' dy = [y^{\beta-1} e^{-y}]_0^\infty - \int_0^\infty (-e^{-y})(y^{\beta-1})' dy \\ &= \int_0^\infty e^{-y}(\beta-1)y^{\beta-2} dy = (\beta-1)\Gamma(\beta-1). \end{aligned}$$

A few remarks on rigour: We take  $\beta > 1$ , so that is why the value of  $y^{\beta-1}e^{-y}$  at  $y = 0$  equals 0. Second,  $y^{\beta-1}e^{-y} \rightarrow 0$ , as  $y \rightarrow \infty$ , that is why  $[y^{\beta-1}e^{-y}]_0^\infty = 0$ . Third, all integrals in the derivation above converge.

**5.14** We have

$$\Gamma(1/2) = \int_0^\infty y^{-1/2} e^{-y} dy.$$

Change variable by

$$y = x^2/2$$

so that

$$y^{-1/2} = \frac{\sqrt{2}}{x}, \quad e^{-y} = e^{-x^2/2}, \quad dy = x dx.$$

Then

$$\Gamma(1/2) = \sqrt{2} \int_0^\infty e^{-x^2/2} = \sqrt{2} \sqrt{2\pi} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_0^\infty e^{-x^2/2} = 2\sqrt{\pi} \mathbf{P}(N > 0),$$

where  $N$  is a standard normal random variable. So  $\mathbf{P}(N > 0) = 1/2$ , and the result follows.

**5.15** Here  $X$  has law  $\Gamma(\beta, \lambda)$ , where  $\beta, \lambda > 0$ . Picking  $\theta$  small enough so that the integral below converges (we will see later how small), we have

$$\begin{aligned} M_X(\theta) &= \int e^{\theta x} \frac{\lambda^\beta}{\Gamma(\beta)} x^{\beta-1} e^{-\lambda x} dx \\ &= \frac{\lambda^\beta}{\Gamma(\beta)} \int x^{\beta-1} e^{-(\lambda-\theta)x} dx \\ &= \frac{\lambda^\beta}{\Gamma(\beta)} \frac{1}{(\lambda-\theta)^\beta} \int y^{\beta-1} e^{-y} dy \\ &= \frac{\lambda^\beta}{\Gamma(\beta)} \frac{1}{(\lambda-\theta)^\beta} \Gamma(\beta) \\ &= \left( \frac{\lambda}{\lambda-\theta} \right)^\beta. \end{aligned}$$

Looking at the second line above, we see that the integral converges for all  $\theta \in (-\infty, \lambda)$ , and diverges if  $\theta \geq \lambda$ .

Compute a couple of derivatives:

$$\begin{aligned} M'(\theta) &= \beta \left( \frac{\lambda}{\lambda-\theta} \right)^{\beta-1} \frac{\lambda}{(\lambda-\theta)^2} \\ M''(\theta) &= \left( \frac{\lambda}{\lambda-\theta} \right)^\beta \beta^2 (\lambda-\theta)^{-2} + \left( \frac{\lambda}{\lambda-\theta} \right)^\beta \beta (\lambda-\theta)^{-2} \end{aligned}$$

Set  $\theta = 0$ :

$$\mathbf{E} X = M'(0) = \frac{\beta}{\lambda}, \quad \mathbf{E} X^2 = \frac{\beta^2}{\lambda^2} + \frac{\beta}{\lambda}.$$

**5.16** Let (see Exercise 5.15)

$$M_{\beta,\lambda}(\theta) = \left( \frac{\lambda}{\lambda-\theta} \right)^\beta$$

be the generating function of a  $\Gamma(\beta, \lambda)$  probability measure. Then

$$M_{\beta_1,\lambda}(\theta) M_{\beta_2,\lambda}(\theta) = \left( \frac{\lambda}{\lambda-\theta} \right)^{\beta_1+\beta_2} = M_{\beta_1+\beta_2,\lambda}(\theta),$$

and this proves the claim, because the generating function (being a Laplace transform) characterises the measure.

**5.17** By changing variable  $t = x/\sqrt{2}$ , it is enough to prove that

$$I := \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-t^2} dt = \sqrt{\pi},$$

But

$$I^2 = \left( \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-x^2} dx \right) \left( \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-y^2} dy \right)$$

and, by Fubini's theorem,

$$I^2 = \int_{\mathbb{R}^2} e^{-(x^2+y^2)} d(x, y).$$

Since the function to be integrated is rotationally invariant on the plane, we use polar coordinates, i.e.

$$x = r \cos \theta, \quad y = r \sin \theta, \quad r > 0, \quad 0 \leq \theta < 2\pi.$$

Since  $x^2 + y^2 = r^2$ , and since  $d(x, y) = rd(\rho, \theta)$ , we have

$$I^2 = \int_{\mathbb{R}^2} e^{-r^2} r d(r, \theta).$$

Using Fubini's theorem once more,

$$I^2 = \int_0^\infty dr \, r e^{-r^2} \int_0^{2\pi} d\theta = 2\pi \int_0^\infty \frac{1}{2} s e^{-s} ds = \pi.$$

So, clearly,<sup>2</sup>  $I = \sqrt{\pi}$ ,

**5.18** First, complete the square in the exponent:

$$\frac{1}{2}x^2 - \theta x = \frac{1}{2}(x^2 - 2\theta x + \theta^2 - \theta^2) = \frac{1}{2}(x - \theta)^2 - \frac{1}{2}\theta^2.$$

Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned} M_X(\theta) &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-\frac{1}{2}(x-\theta)^2 + \frac{1}{2}\theta^2} dx \\ &= e^{\frac{1}{2}\theta^2} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-\frac{1}{2}(x-\theta)^2} dx \\ &= e^{\frac{1}{2}\theta^2} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-\frac{1}{2}y^2} dy \\ &= e^{\frac{1}{2}}, \end{aligned}$$

because the last integral is the integral of a standard normal density, and hence it equals 1.

**5.19** Recall the “stability property” of the Gamma distribution, namely, if  $X_{\beta_j, \lambda}$ ,  $j = 1, 2$  are *independent* random variables with laws  $\Gamma(\beta_i, \lambda)$ , respectively, then  $X_{\beta_1, \lambda} + X_{\beta_2, \lambda}$  has law  $\Gamma(\beta_1 + \beta_2, \lambda)$ .

Here,  $Y_1^2, Y_2^2$  are independent, both with law  $\Gamma(1/2, 1/2)$ . Hence  $Y_1^2 + Y_2^2$  has law  $\Gamma(1, 1/2) = \text{Exp}(1/2)$ .

**5.20** This requires reviewing the material you learnt and just summarising in an artsy manner.

---

<sup>2</sup>Lord Kelvin (1824-1907) was an admirer of Joseph Liouville. It is said that, one day, while Kelvin was lecturing in *Glasgow*, he asked his class: ‘Do you know what a mathematician is?’ He then wrote the following equation on the blackboard

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-x^2} dx = \sqrt{\pi},$$

and said: ‘A mathematician is one to whom that is as obvious as that  $2 \times 2 = 4$  is to you; Liouville was a mathematician.’

**5.21** Let  $U = X + 2Y$ ,  $V = 3X - 4Y$ . We want to compute  $\mathbf{E}(U|V)$ . We know that

1)  $\mathbf{E}(U|V) = cV$ , for some constant  $c$ ,

2)  $U - \mathbf{E}(U|V)$  is independent of  $V$ .

Therefore  $U - cV$  and  $V$  are uncorrelated:

$$0 = \mathbf{E}((U - cV)V) = \mathbf{E}UV - c\mathbf{E}V^2,$$

whence

$$c = \frac{\mathbf{E}UV}{\mathbf{E}V^2}.$$

We have

$$\mathbf{E}UV = \mathbf{E}(X + 2Y)(3X - 4Y) = 3\mathbf{E}X^2 - 8\mathbf{E}Y^2 + 0 = 3 - 8 = -5,$$

$$\mathbf{E}V^2 = \mathbf{E}(3X - 4Y)^2 = 9\mathbf{E}X^2 + 16\mathbf{E}Y^2 + 0 = 25.$$

So  $c = -5/25 = -1/5$ , and so  $\mathbf{E}(U|V) = -V/5$ .