

Problem 1

Inverted pendulum with equations of motion:

$$\begin{aligned}(M + m)\ddot{z} - ml\ddot{\theta} \cos \theta + ml\dot{\theta}^2 \sin \theta &= P \\ l\ddot{\theta} - g \sin \theta &= \ddot{z} \cos \theta\end{aligned}$$

Part (a)

The system's state equations can be expressed as follows:

$$\dot{x} = \begin{bmatrix} \dot{x}_1 \\ \dot{x}_2 \\ \dot{x}_3 \\ \dot{x}_4 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} x_2 \\ \frac{P - g \sin x_3 \cos x_3 - mlx_4^2 \sin x_3}{M + m \sin^2 x_3} \cos x_3 \\ x_4 \\ \frac{P \cos x_3 + (M + m)g \sin x_3 + mlx_4^2 \sin x_3 \cos x_3}{Ml + ml \sin^2 x_3} \end{bmatrix}$$

To demonstrate the system is in equilibrium at $\dot{z} = 0$, $\theta = 0$, $\dot{\theta} = 0$, and $P(t) = 0$ we note first that at the given conditions the equations of motion become

$$\begin{aligned}(M + m)\ddot{z} - ml\ddot{\theta} &= 0 \\ l\ddot{\theta} &= \ddot{z}\end{aligned}$$

If we plug the second equation back into the first we get

$$(M + m)\ddot{z} - m\ddot{z} = M\ddot{z} = 0$$

Because we know M is not equal to zero, this means \ddot{z} must be equal to zero. Additionally, because $\ddot{z} = l\ddot{\theta}$ and $l \neq 0$ we can also conclude that $\ddot{\theta} = 0$. This means $\dot{x} = 0$ under the given conditions and the system is therefore in equilibrium.

Part (b)

Part (c)

Part (d)

Part (e)

Part (f)

Part (g)

Problem 2

Two 6-sided dice rolls with R_1 and R_2 denoting the outcome of the first and second die, respectively.

Part (a)

$P(R_1) = P(R_2) = \frac{1}{6}$ for all R_1 and R_2 . Because the outcomes R_1 and R_2 are independent, $P(R_1, R_2) = P(R_1) * P(R_2)$. So

$$P(R_1, R_2) = \frac{1}{36}, \forall R_1, R_2$$

Part (b)

The joint probabilities for X and Y are shown in table 1 below

Table 1: Joint Probabilities

X	Y=1	Y=2	Y=3	Y=4	Y=5	Y=6
1	1/36	2/36	2/36	2/36	2/36	2/36
2	0	1/36	2/36	2/36	2/36	2/36
3	0	0	1/36	2/36	2/36	2/36
4	0	0	0	1/36	2/36	2/36
5	0	0	0	0	1/36	2/36
6	0	0	0	0	0	1/36

Part (c)

The marginal probabilities of X obtained from the sum $\sum_y P(X = x, Y = y)$ and the marginal probabilities of Y obtained from the sum $\sum_x P(X = x, Y = y)$ are shown below in table 2.

Table 2: Marginal Probabilities

	X	Y
1	11/36	1/36
2	9/36	3/36
3	7/36	5/36
4	5/36	7/36
5	3/36	9/36
6	1/36	11/36

Part (d)

X and Y are not independent. Two variables are considered independent if the realization of one variable does not affect the probability of the other. This is not the case for X and Y . By the definitions of X and Y , the value of Y cannot be less than the value of X , since the maximum of R_1 and R_2 cannot be less than the minimum. So the $P(Y = 3, X = 5) = 0$, while $P(Y = 3, X = 1) = 2/36$.

Problem 3

A random variable X has the pdf $p(x) = k(1 - x^4)$ for $-1 \leq x \leq 1$ and $p(x) = 0$ elsewhere.

Part (a)

Because $\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} p(x)dx = 1$ we can find k as follows:

$$\begin{aligned}\int_{-1}^1 k(1 - x^4)dx &= 1 \\ k \int_{-1}^1 (1 - x^4)dx &= \\ k \left[x - \frac{1}{5}x^5 \right]_{-1}^1 &= \\ k \left(1 - \frac{1}{5} + 1 - \frac{1}{5} \right) &= \\ \frac{8k}{5} &= 1 \\ k &= \frac{5}{8}\end{aligned}$$

Now we can calculate $E[x] = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} xp(x)dx$ as follows:

$$\begin{aligned}\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} xp(x)dx &= \frac{5}{8} \int_{-1}^1 x(1 - x^4)dx \\ &= \frac{5}{8} \int_{-1}^1 (x - x^5)dx \\ &= \frac{5}{8} \left[\frac{1}{2}x^2 - \frac{1}{6}x^6 \right]_{-1}^1 \\ &= \frac{5}{8} \left(\frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{6} - \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{6} \right) \\ &= 0\end{aligned}$$

Next we find $E[x^2] = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x^2p(x)dx$ as

$$\begin{aligned}\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x^2p(x)dx &= \frac{5}{8} \int_{-1}^1 x^2(1 - x^4)dx \\ &= \frac{5}{8} \int_{-1}^1 (x^2 - x^6)dx \\ &= \frac{5}{8} \left[\frac{1}{3}x^3 - \frac{1}{7}x^7 \right]_{-1}^1 \\ &= \frac{5}{8} \left(\frac{1}{3} - \frac{1}{7} + \frac{1}{3} - \frac{1}{7} \right) \\ &= \frac{5}{21}\end{aligned}$$

Finally we can find $\text{var}(x) = E[x^2] - (E[x])^2 = \frac{5}{21} - 0 = \frac{5}{21}$.

Part (b)

The cumulative distribution function is defined as $P_X(\zeta) = \int_{-\infty}^{\zeta} p(x)dx$. So the cdf is:

$$\begin{aligned} P_X(\zeta) &= \int_{-\infty}^{\zeta} p(x)dx \\ &= \frac{5}{8} \int_{-1}^{\zeta} (1 - x^4)dx \\ &= \frac{5}{8} \left[x - \frac{1}{5}x^5 \right]_{-1}^{\zeta} \\ &= \frac{5}{8} \left(\zeta - \frac{1}{5}\zeta^5 + \frac{4}{5} \right) \end{aligned}$$

Part (c)

Because the pdf is symmetric about zero, $P(|X| < 0.5)$ is equivalent to $P(-0.5 < X < 0.5)$, which can be found as

$$P(-0.5 < X < 0.5) = P_X(0.5) - P_X(-0.5) = 0.7895$$

Problem 4

Blood alcohol tests on drivers given the conditional probabilities given in table 3:

Table 3: Conditional Probabilities		
$P(T A)$	$A = \text{drunk}$	$A = \text{sober}$
$T = \text{positive}$	0.99	0.001
$T = \text{negative}$	0.01	0.999

Part (a)

We can find $P(A = \text{drunk}|T = \text{positive})$ through a straightforward application of Bayes' rule:

$$P(A = \text{drunk}|T = \text{positive}) = \frac{P(T = \text{positive}|A = \text{drunk}) * P(A = \text{drunk})}{P(T = \text{positive})}$$

Since we aren't given a number for $P(T = \text{positive})$ we can find it as $P(T = \text{positive}) = P(T = \text{positive}|A = \text{drunk})P(A = \text{drunk}) + P(T = \text{positive}|A = \text{sober})P(A = \text{sober}) = 0.99 * 0.2 + 0.001 * 0.8 = 0.1988$. So the conditional probability is:

$$P(A = \text{drunk}|T = \text{positive}) = \frac{0.99 * 0.2}{0.1988} = 0.996$$

Part (b)

If $P(A = \text{drunk}) = 0.001$ the probability $P(T = \text{positive}) = 0.99 * 0.001 + .001 * 0.999 = 0.002$. So the conditional probability becomes

$$P(A = \text{drunk}|T = \text{positive}) = \frac{0.99 * 0.001}{0.002} = 0.495$$

Problem AQ1

Probability of abiogenesis occurring on an Earth-like planet is given by

$$P(\lambda, n, t) = \text{Poisson}[\lambda, n, t] = e^{-\lambda(t-t_{\min})} \frac{\{\lambda(t-t_{\min})\}^n}{n!}$$

Part (a)

The probability of life arising at least once ($n \geq 1$) could be calculated from the infinite sum

$$P(\lambda, n \geq 1, t) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} P[\lambda, n, t]$$

This sum would be difficult to evaluate, however, and we can make things easier for ourselves by noting that the probability life arises at least once is equivalent to the probability that it doesn't arise zero times. Because $\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} P(\lambda, n, t) = 1$, we can calculate the probability life arises at least once as:

$$P(\lambda, n \geq 1, t) = 1 - P(\lambda, 0, t) = 1 - e^{-\lambda(t-t_{\min})} \frac{\{\lambda(t-t_{\min})\}^0}{0!} = 1 - e^{-\lambda(t-t_{\min})}$$

Part (b)

The probability life arises at least once within t_{emerge} is

$$P(E = 1) = 1 - e^{-\lambda(t_{\text{emerge}}-t_{\min})}$$

Similarly, the probability life arises at least once within t_{req} is

$$P(R = 1) = 1 - e^{-\lambda(t_{\text{req}}-t_{\min})}$$

Lastly, because $t_{\min} < t_{\text{emerge}} < t_{\text{req}}$, we know that if life has arisen within t_{emerge} then it definitely has also arisen within t_{required} , so $P(R = 1|E = 1) = 1$. Using these probabilities we can apply Bayes rule to get

$$P(E = 1|R = 1) = \frac{P(R = 1|E = 1)P(E = 1)}{P(R = 1)} = \frac{1 - e^{-\lambda(t_{\text{emerge}}-t_{\min})}}{1 - e^{-\lambda(t_{\text{req}}-t_{\min})}}$$

Part (c)

The conditional probability $P(E = 1|R = 1, \lambda, t_{\min})$ can be expressed as the following likelihood function given $y = \log_{10} \lambda$:

$$P(E = 1|R = 1, y, t_{\min}) = \frac{1 - e^{-(10^y)(t_{\text{emerge}}-t_{\min})}}{1 - e^{-(10^y)(t_{\text{req}}-t_{\min})}}$$

Given this likelihood function, we can find the posterior for y via Bayes' rule

$$P(y|E = 1, R = 1, t_{\min}) = \frac{P(y)P(E = 1|R = 1, y, t_{\min})}{\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} P(y)P(E = 1|R = 1, y, t_{\min})dy}$$

For the given cases, $P(y)$ was replaced with the appropriate density function, $P(E = 1|R = 1, y, t_{\min})$ was replaced with the likelihood function given above and $P(y)P(E = 1|R = 1, y, t_{\min})$ was evaluated at 10^4 points in the range $[-3, 3]$. These samples were normalized with the integral $\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} P(y)P(E = 1|R = 1, y, t_{\min})dy$, numerically evaluated using a right Reimann sum over the same range of y values. The posteriors $P(y|R = 1, E = 1, t_{\min})$ for cases 1, 2, and 3 are plotted in figures 1, 2, and 3, respectively. On each figure the posterior is plotted in blue, while the likelihood function is plotted in red and the prior is plotted in yellow.

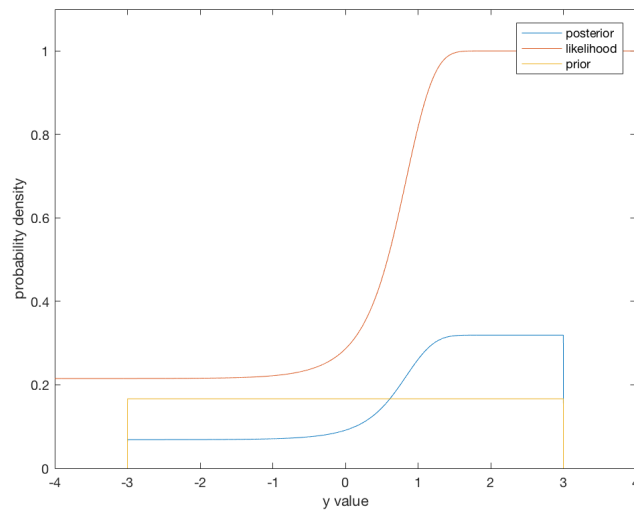


Figure 1: pdfs for case 1

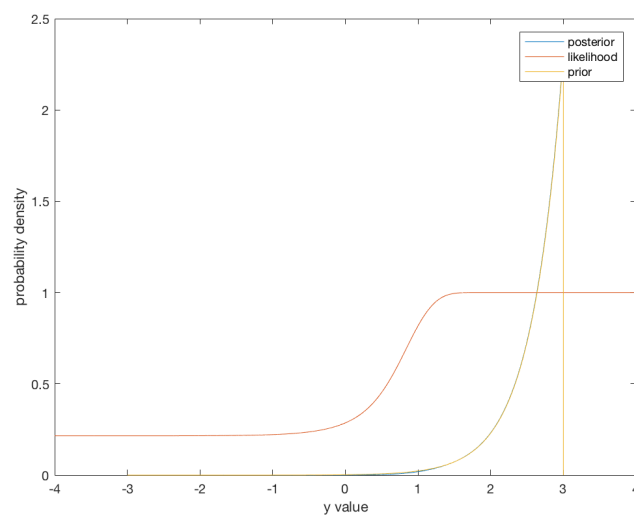


Figure 2: pdfs for case 2

Part (d)

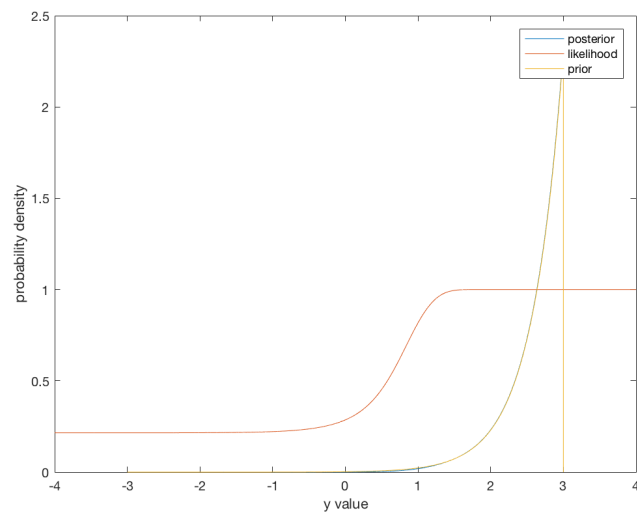


Figure 3: pdfs for case 2