

Homework 6

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Question 1

A random point (X, Y) is distributed uniformly on the square with vertices $(1, 1)$, $(1, -1)$, $(-1, 1)$, and $(-1, -1)$. That is, the joint pdf is $f(x, y) = \frac{1}{4}$ on the square.

Determine the probabilities of the following events.

- $X^2 + Y^2 < 1$
- $2X - Y > 0$
- $|X + Y| < 2$

Solution:

Since the distribution is uniform, the easiest way to calculate these probabilities is as the ratio of areas, the total area being 4.

- The circle $X^2 + Y^2 \leq 1$ has area π , so $P(X^2 + Y^2 \leq 1) = \frac{\pi}{4}$. (Fig. 1)
- The area below the line $Y = 2X$ is half of the area of the square, so $P(2X - Y > 0) = \frac{2}{4}$. (Fig. 2)
- Clearly $P(|X + Y| < 2) = 1$. (Fig. 3)

Question 2

A pdf is defined by

$$f(x, y) = \begin{cases} C(x + 2y) & \text{if } 0 < y < 1 \text{ and } 0 < x < 2 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

- Find the value of C .

Solution:

Based on the pdf definition:

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x, y) dx dy = 1$$

So

$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^1 \int_0^2 C(x + 2y) dx dy &= \int_0^1 C\left(\frac{x^2}{2} + 2yx\right) \Big|_0^2 \\ &= \int_0^1 C(2 + 4y) dy = C\left(2y + 4\frac{y^2}{2}\right) \Big|_0^1 = 4C = 1 \end{aligned}$$

thus $C = \frac{1}{4}$

Question 3

The random pair (X, Y) has the distribution

		X		
		1	2	3
Y	2	$\frac{1}{12}$	$\frac{1}{6}$	$\frac{1}{12}$
	3	$\frac{1}{6}$	0	$\frac{1}{6}$
	4	0	$\frac{1}{3}$	0

- Show that X and Y are dependent.
- Give a probability table of random variables U and V that have the same marginals as X and Y but are independent.

Solution:

- The marginal distribution of X is

$$P(X = 1) = P(X = 3) = \frac{1}{12} + \frac{1}{6} + 0 = \frac{1}{4}$$

$$P(X = 2) = \frac{1}{6} + 0 + \frac{1}{3} = \frac{1}{2}$$

The marginal distribution of Y is

$$P(Y = 2) = \frac{1}{12} + \frac{1}{6} + \frac{1}{12} = \frac{1}{3}$$

$$P(Y = 3) = \frac{1}{6} + 0 + \frac{1}{6} = \frac{1}{3}$$

$$P(Y = 4) = 0 + \frac{1}{3} + 0 = \frac{1}{3}$$

But

$$P(X = 2, Y = 3) = 0 \neq \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)\left(\frac{1}{3}\right) = P(X = 2)P(Y = 3).$$

Therefore the random variables are not independent.

- The distribution that satisfies $P(U = x, V = y) = P(U = x)P(V = y)$ where $U \sim X$ and $V \sim Y$ is

		U		
		1	2	3
V	2	$\frac{1}{12}$	$\frac{1}{12}$	$\frac{1}{12}$
	3	$\frac{1}{12}$	$\frac{1}{6}$	$\frac{1}{12}$
	4	$\frac{1}{12}$	$\frac{1}{6}$	$\frac{1}{12}$

Question 4

A student from an elementary school in Kansas City is randomly selected and X = the number of living parents of the student is recorded. Suppose the marginal distribution of X is

$$f_X(0) = 0.01 \quad f_X(1) = 0.09 \quad f_X(2) = 0.9$$

A retiree from Sun City is randomly selected and Y = the number of living parents of the retiree is recorded. Suppose the marginal distribution of Y is

$$f_Y(0) = 0.7 \quad f_Y(1) = 0.25 \quad f_Y(2) = 0.05$$

Assume that these two random variables are independent and calculate:

- $f(0, 2)$
- $f(1, 0)$
- $P(X \geq Y)$

Solution:

Since these two variables are independent:

$$f(0, 2) = f_X(0)f_Y(2) = 0.01 \times 0.05 = 0.0005 \quad \text{and} \quad f(1, 0) = f_X(1)f_Y(0) = 0.09 \times 0.7 = 0.063$$

And for the last part:

$$\begin{aligned} P(X \geq Y) &= f(2, 0) + f(2, 1) + f(2, 2) + f(1, 0) + f(1, 1) + f(0, 0) \\ &= 0.9 \times 0.7 + 0.9 \times 0.25 + 0.9 \times 0.05 + 0.09 \times 0.7 + 0.09 \times 0.25 + 0.01 \times 0.7 = 0.9925 \end{aligned}$$

Figures

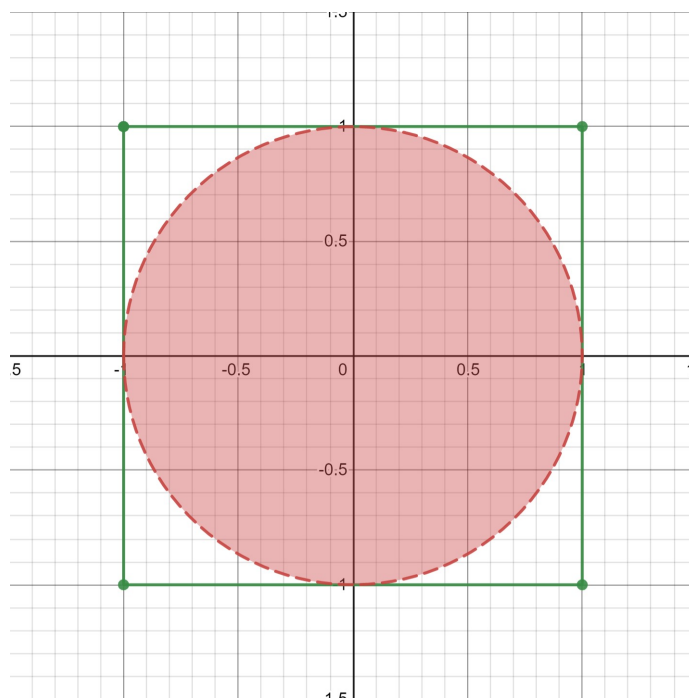


Figure 1: Diagram of $P(X^2 + Y^2 \leq 1) = \frac{\pi}{4}$.

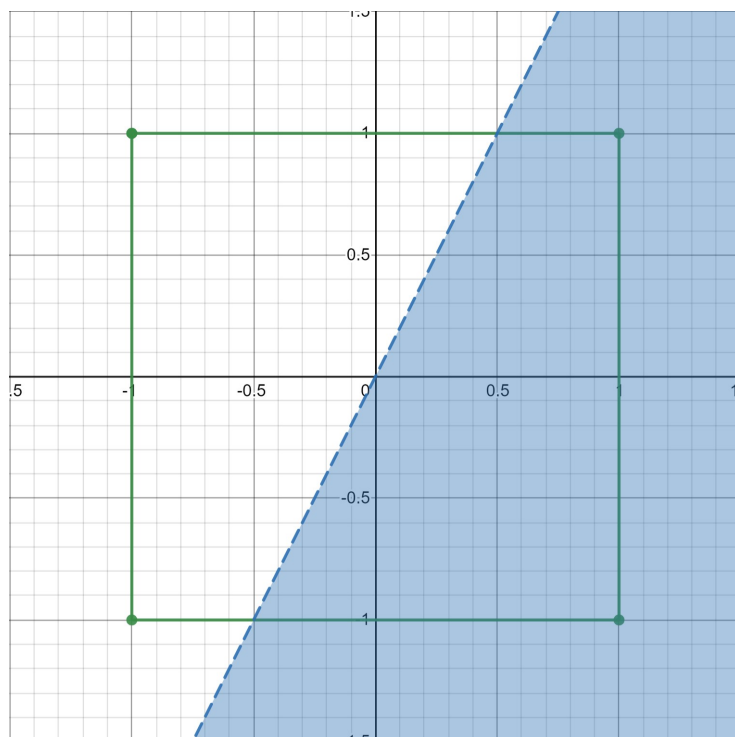


Figure 2: Diagram of $P(2X - Y > 0) = \frac{2}{4}$.

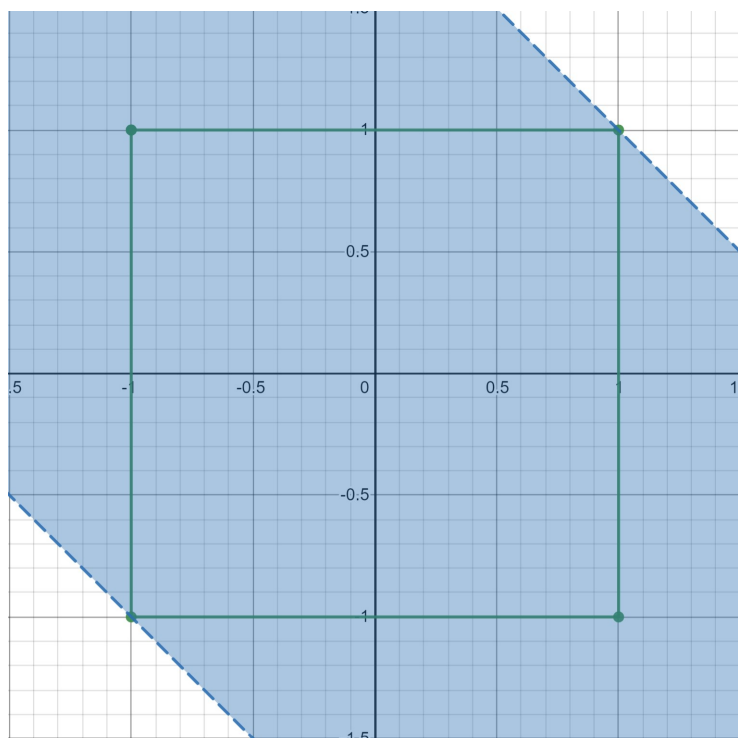


Figure 3: Diagram of $P(|X + Y| < 2) = 1$.