



MITx: 6.041x Introduction to Probability - The Science of Uncertainty



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Exercise: Erlang r.v.'s

(1/1 point)

Let \mathbf{X} and \mathbf{Y} be independent Erlang random variables with common parameter λ and of order \mathbf{m} and \mathbf{n} , respectively. Is the random variable $\mathbf{X} + \mathbf{Y}$ Erlang? If yes, enter below its order in terms of \mathbf{m} and \mathbf{n} using standard notation . If not, enter 0.



Answer: m+n


Answer:

The random variable \mathbf{X} can be viewed as the sum of \mathbf{m} i.i.d. exponential random variables. Similarly, \mathbf{Y} can be viewed as the sum of \mathbf{n} i.i.d. exponential random variables. Furthermore, since \mathbf{X} and \mathbf{Y} are independent, we take these two collections of random variables to be independent. Thus, $\mathbf{X} + \mathbf{Y}$ can be interpreted as the sum of $\mathbf{m} + \mathbf{n}$ i.i.d. exponentials, and is Erlang of order $\mathbf{m} + \mathbf{n}$.


- ▶ Unit 6: Further topics on random variables
- ▶ Unit 7: Bayesian inference
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- ▼ **Unit 9: Bernoulli and Poisson processes**

Unit overview

Lec. 21: The Bernoulli process


Exercises 21 due May 11, 2016 at 23:59 UTC 

Lec. 22: The Poisson process

Exercises 22 due May 11, 2016 at 23:59 UTC 

Lec. 23: More on the Poisson process


You have used 1 of 1 submissions

Exercises 23 due May 11, 2016
at 23:59 UTC 

Solved problems

**Additional theoretical
material**

Problem Set 9

Problem Set 9 due May 11,
2016 at 23:59 UTC 

Unit summary

► Unit 10: Markov
chains

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