

Problem 1

- Consider a nonlinear amplifier whose input X and the output Y are related by its transfer characteristic:

$$Y = \begin{cases} X^{1/2}, & X \geq 0, \\ -|X|^{1/2}, & X < 0. \end{cases}$$

- Assuming that $X \sim N(0, 1)$ compute the pdf of Y .

Problem 1 - Solution

- X is a standard normal distribution.
- To find the pdf of a function of a random variable, we first find the CDF (here $F_Y(y) = P(Y \leq y)$), then differentiate it to get the pdf.
- For $y \geq 0$,
$$P(Y \leq y) = P(\sqrt{X} \leq y) = P(X \leq y^2) = F_z(y^2)$$

where $F_z(x)$ is the standard normal CDF.

- For $y < 0$,
$$\begin{aligned} P(Y \leq y) &= P(-\sqrt{|X|} \leq y) = P(|X| \leq y^2) \\ &= P(X \geq -y^2) \\ &= 1 - F_z(-y^2) = F_z(y^2). \end{aligned}$$

Problem 1 – Solution, Cont'd

- By differentiating $F_Y(y) = F_Z(y^2)$, we get the pdf of Y :

$$f_Y(y) = 2|y|f_Z(y^2) = \frac{2|y|}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-y^4/2}$$

- Remember that $f_Z(z) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-\frac{1}{2}z^2}$ is the pdf of the standard normal distribution $N(0,1)$.

Problem 2

- The joint density of X and Y is given by:

$$f(x, y) = C(y - x)e^{-y} \quad -y < x < y, 0 < y < \infty$$

- a) Find C .
- b) Find the density function of X
- c) Find the density function of X
- d) Find $E[X]$.
- e) Find $E[Y]$.
- f) Find $P(X+Y < 3)$, for $X > 0$.

Problem 2 - Solution

- In this solution, we will make use of the identity

$$\int_0^{\infty} e^{-x} x^n dx = n!$$

Which follows because $e^{-x} x^n / n!$, $x > 0$, is the density function of a gamma random variable with parameters $n+1$ and λ and must thus integrate to 1.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{a) } 1 &= C \int_0^{\infty} e^{-y} \int_{-y}^y (y-x) dx dy \\ &= C \int_0^{\infty} e^{-y} 2y^2 dy = 4C \end{aligned}$$

hence $C=1/4$

Problem 2 – Solution, Cont'd

- b) Since the joint density is nonzero only when $y > x$ and $y > -x$, we have, for $x > 0$,

$$\begin{aligned} f_X(x) &= \frac{1}{4} \int_x^{\infty} (y - x) e^{-y} dy \\ &= \frac{1}{4} \int_0^{\infty} u e^{-(x+u)} du \\ &= \frac{1}{4} e^{-x} \end{aligned}$$

for $x < 0$

$$\begin{aligned} f_X(x) &= \frac{1}{4} \int_{-x}^{\infty} (y - x) e^{-y} dy \\ &= \frac{1}{4} \left[-ye^{-y} - e^{-y} + xe^{-y} \right]_{-x}^{\infty} \\ &= (-2xe^x + e^x) / 4 \end{aligned}$$

Problem 2 – Solution, Cont'd

$$\text{c) } f_Y(y) = \frac{1}{4} e^{-y} \int_{-y}^y (y-x) dx = \frac{1}{2} y^2 e^{-y}$$

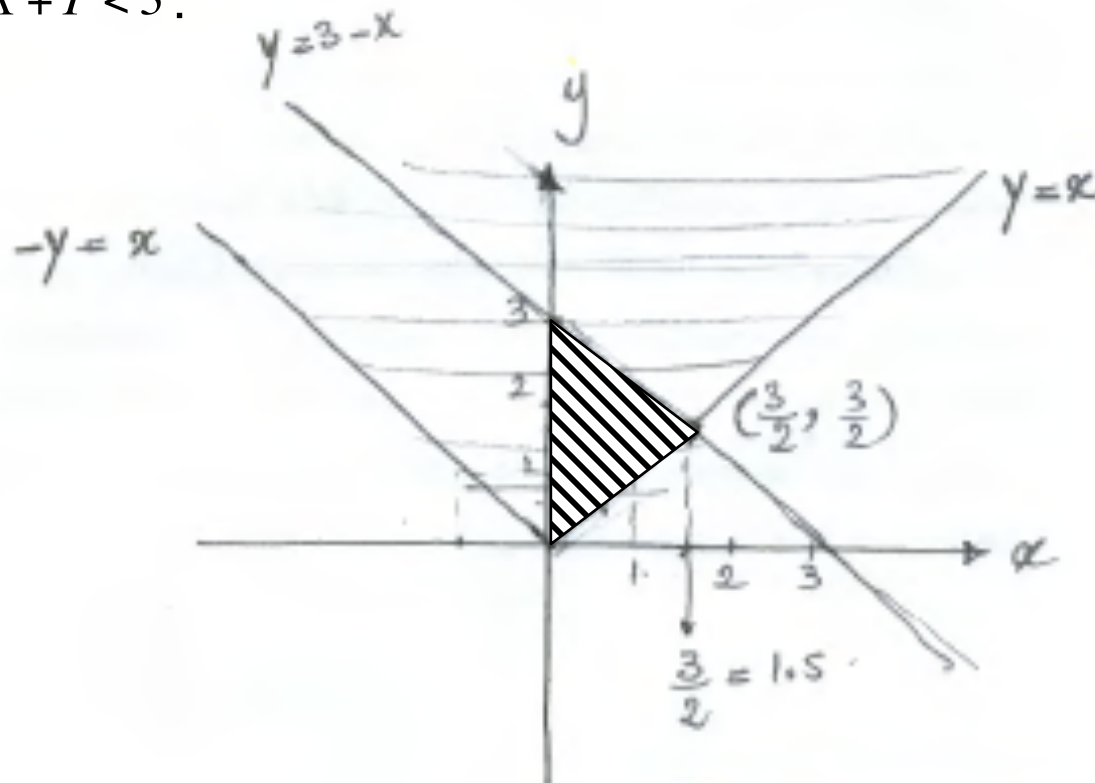
$$\begin{aligned} \text{d) } E[X] &= \frac{1}{4} \left[\int_0^{\infty} x e^{-x} dx + \int_{-\infty}^0 (-2x^2 e^x + x e^x) dx \right] \\ &= \frac{1}{4} \left[1 - \int_0^{\infty} (2x^2 e^{-x} + x e^{-x}) dx \right] \\ &= \frac{1}{4} [1 - 4 - 1] = -1 \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{e) } E[Y] = \frac{1}{2} \int_0^{\infty} y^3 e^{-y} dy = 3$$

Problem 2 – Solution, Cont'd

f. To find $P(X + Y < 3)$, we first draw the line $X + Y = 3$.

For $X > 0$: The region of integral is the triangle highlighted below, which is the intersection of regions $0 < x < y$, $0 < y < \infty$ and $X + Y < 3$:



Problem 2 – Solution, Cont'd

$$\begin{aligned} \text{f. } P(X + Y < 3) &= \int_0^{1.5} \int_x^{3-x} f_{XY}(x, y) dy dx \\ &= \int_0^{1.5} \int_x^{3-x} \frac{1}{4} e^{-y} (y - x) dy dx \\ &= \frac{1}{4} \int_0^{1.5} \left[\int_x^{3-x} y e^{-y} - x e^{-y} dy \right] dx \\ &= \frac{1}{4} \int_0^{1.5} e^{-x} + 2e^{(x-3)}(x-2) dx = 0.10155 \end{aligned}$$

Problem 2 – Solution, Cont'd

- f. **For $X < 0$** : The region of integral would be the intersection of regions $-y < x < 0$, $0 < y < \infty$ and $X + Y < 3$:

