

1. Function associated with random variable  $\mathbf{X}$ 

$$F_{\mathbf{X}}(x) = \Pr\{\mathbf{X} \leq x\}$$

is called cumulative distribution function. Are the following statements correct? Why?

- (a)  $0 \leq F(x) \leq 1$
- (b)  $F(x)$  is monotonic
- (c)  $F(x)$  is a continuous function of  $x$

2. (a) Plot the cumulative distribution function for random variable  $\mathbf{X}$ 

$$F_{\mathbf{X}}(x) = \begin{cases} 0 & x \leq 0, \\ x^3 & 0 < x < 1, \\ 1 & x \geq 1. \end{cases}$$

- (b) Determine the corresponding probability density function  $f_{\mathbf{X}}(x)$  in the three regions (i)  $x \leq 0$ , (ii)  $0 < x < 1$ , and (iii)  $1 \leq x$ .
- (c) What is the mean of the distribution?
- (d) Evaluate  $\Pr\{\frac{1}{4} \leq \mathbf{X} \leq \frac{3}{4}\}$ .

3. Let  $\mathbf{X}$  be a Poisson random variable with mean  $\lambda$ :

$$P_{\mathbf{X}}(n) = \frac{\lambda^n}{n!} e^{-\lambda}, \quad (n \geq 0)$$

Determine  $\Pr\{\mathbf{X} = \text{odd}\}$ . What is the

$$E\left[\frac{1}{1 + \mathbf{X}}\right]?$$

4. Let  $F(x)$  be the cumulative distribution function of a continuous random variable  $\mathbf{X}$ . Assume that  $\mathbf{X}$  is positive and finite. Show that the expected value

$$E[\mathbf{X}] = \int_0^{\infty} [1 - F(x)] dx.$$

Be sure to note where to use the conditions  $\mathbf{X}$  being positive and finite.

5. Suppose that the random  $\mathbf{X}$  is exponentially distributed. Show that  $\mathbf{X}$  has the following property:

$$\Pr\{\mathbf{X} \geq t + \tau | \mathbf{X} \geq t\} = \Pr\{\mathbf{X} \geq \tau\}.$$

This property of the exponential distribution is known as the *memoryless property*.

6. The *characteristic function* of a continuous random variable  $\mathbf{X}$  is defined as

$$Q_{\mathbf{X}}(z) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{zs} f_{\mathbf{X}}(s) ds.$$

- (a) Show that the characteristic function of  $\mathbf{Y} = \mathbf{X} - \mu_{\mathbf{X}}$  is  $Q_{\mathbf{Y}}(z) = e^{-\mu_{\mathbf{X}} z} Q_{\mathbf{X}}(z)$ .
- (b) Show that  $Q_{\mathbf{Y}}^{(k)}(0) = E[\mathbf{Y}^k] = E[(\mathbf{X} - \mu_{\mathbf{X}})^k]$ .  $Q_{\mathbf{Y}}^{(k)}(z)$  is the  $k$ th derivative of function  $Q_{\mathbf{Y}}(z)$  with respect to  $z$ .  $E[(\mathbf{X} - \mu_{\mathbf{X}})^k]$  is called the  $k$ th moment of  $\mathbf{X}$  about its expected value.
- (c) Suppose that  $\mathbf{X}$  is a binomial random variable. Find  $Q_{\mathbf{Y}}(z)$ ; then find the first three moments of  $\mathbf{X}$  about its expected value.

7. Let  $\mathbf{X}$  and  $\mathbf{Y}$  be independent random variables having cumulative distribution functions  $F_{\mathbf{X}}$  and  $F_{\mathbf{Y}}$ , respectively. Define  $\mathbf{W} = \min\{\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Y}\}$  to be the smaller of the two. Show that  $F_{\mathbf{W}}(w) = 1 - [1 - F_{\mathbf{X}}(w)][1 - F_{\mathbf{Y}}(w)]$  for all  $w$ .