

# A problem from Final Spring 20

**Problem 5.** Consider two independent random variables  $(X_1, X_2)$  such that  $X_1$  follows an exponential distribution with mean 2, and  $X_2$  follows a uniform distribution on  $[0, 2\pi]$ . Let  $Y_1 = \sqrt{X_1} \cos(X_2)$  and  $Y_2 = \sqrt{X_1} \sin(X_2)$ . Show that  $Y_1$  and  $Y_2$  are independent standard normal variables.

Density of  $X = (X_1, X_2)$

$$\begin{aligned} f_X(x_1, x_2) &= \frac{1}{2} e^{-\frac{x_1}{2}} \mathbb{1}_{(0, \infty)}(x_1) \times \frac{1}{2\pi} \mathbb{1}_{(0, 2\pi)}(x_2) \\ &= \frac{1}{4\pi} \exp\left(-\frac{x_1}{2}\right) \mathbb{1}_{(0, \infty)}(x_1) \mathbb{1}_{(0, 2\pi)}(x_2) \end{aligned}$$

Function  $g$  we set

$$g(x_1, x_2) = \left( \underbrace{\sqrt{x_1} \cos(x_2)}_{y_1}, \underbrace{\sqrt{x_1} \sin(x_2)}_{y_2} \right)$$

Inverting  $g$  we have

$$x_1 = y_1^2 + y_2^2$$

$$x_2 = \tan^{-1}(y_2/y_1)$$

$$(y_1, y_2) \in \mathbb{R}^2$$

computing  $f_x(g^{-1}(y))$  Recall

$$f_x(x) = \frac{1}{4\pi} \exp\left(-\frac{x_1^2}{2}\right) \mathbb{1}_{(0,\infty)}(x_1) \mathbb{1}_{(0,2\pi)}(x_2)$$

Thus

$$f_x(g^{-1}(y)) = \frac{1}{4\pi} \exp\left(-\frac{(y_1^2 + y_2^2)}{2}\right)$$

Computing  $J(y)$  we have

$$x_1 = y_1^2 + y_2^2$$

$$x_2 = \tan^{-1}(y_2/y_1)$$

Thus

$$J(y) = \left| \det \begin{pmatrix} 2y_1 & \frac{-y_2}{y_1^2 + y_2^2} \\ 2y_2 & \frac{y_1}{y_1^2 + y_2^2} \end{pmatrix} \right|$$

$$= 2$$

Conclusion

$$f_y(y) = f_x(g^{-1}(y)) J(y)$$

$$= \frac{1}{2\pi} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2}(y_1^2 + y_2^2)\right)$$

$$= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \exp\left(-\frac{y_1^2}{2}\right) \times \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \exp\left(-\frac{y_2^2}{2}\right)$$