

MATH 556 - PRACTICE EXAM QUESTIONS: SOLUTIONS

1. Due to the symmetry of form, this joint pdf factorizes simply as

$$f_{X,Y}(x,y) = \left\{ \sqrt{c_1} \exp\left\{-\frac{x}{2}\right\} \right\} \left\{ \sqrt{c_1} \exp\left\{-\frac{y}{2}\right\} \right\} = f_X(x)f_Y(y) \quad x, y > 0$$

and hence the variables are independent. Now

$$\int_0^\infty \exp\left\{-\frac{x}{2}\right\} dx = 2$$

so therefore $\sqrt{c_1} = \frac{1}{2}$, and hence $c_1 = \frac{1}{4}$.
Now random variable U , defined by

$$U = \frac{1}{2}(X - Y).$$

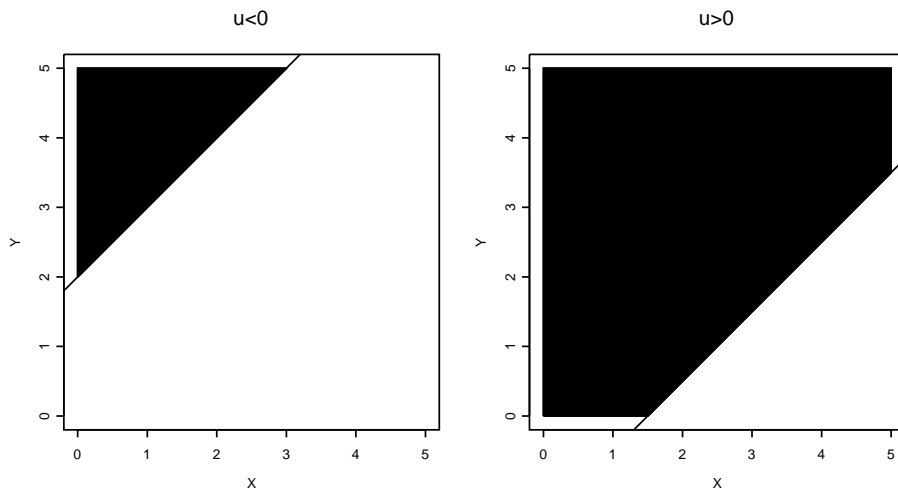
has range $\mathbb{U} \equiv \mathbb{R}$ (X and Y are positive but unbounded random variables). Hence, for $u \in \mathbb{R}$, the cdf of U , F_U , is given by

$$F_U(u) = P[U \leq u] = P\left[\frac{1}{2}(X - Y) \leq u\right] = \iint_{A_u} f_{X,Y}(x,y) dx dy$$

where $A_u \equiv \{(x,y) \in \mathbb{R}^+ \times \mathbb{R}^+ : (x - y)/2 \leq u\}$. The boundary of the region A_u is determined by the three lines

$$x = 0, y = 0 \text{ and } y = x - 2u$$

This region is shaded in black in the figures below in the two cases $u < 0$ and $u \geq 0$ respectively; in these pictures the shaded region extends over all x and y above and to the left of the line $y = x - 2u$.



Integrating first dx for a fixed y , we see that the integral is always $x = 0$ to $x = y + 2u$, irrespective of whether $u < 0$ or $u \geq 0$. However, the lower limit of the outer dy integral is $y = -2u$ if $u < 0$, and is zero if $u \geq 0$. Combining these together we have the lower limit of

$$l(u) = \max \{0, -2u\}$$

and hence

$$\begin{aligned} F_U(u) &= \int_{l(u)}^{\infty} \left\{ \int_0^{y+2u} \frac{1}{4} \exp \left\{ -\frac{1}{2} (x+y) \right\} dx \right\} dy \\ &= \int_{l(u)}^{\infty} \frac{1}{2} \exp \left\{ -\frac{y}{2} \right\} \left\{ \int_0^{y+2u} \frac{1}{2} \exp \left\{ -\frac{x}{2} \right\} dx \right\} dy \\ &= \int_{l(u)}^{\infty} \frac{1}{2} \exp \left\{ -\frac{y}{2} \right\} \left[-\exp \left\{ -\frac{x}{2} \right\} \right]_0^{y+2u} dy \\ &= \int_{l(u)}^{\infty} \frac{1}{2} \exp \left\{ -\frac{y}{2} \right\} \left(1 - \exp \left\{ -\frac{(y+2u)}{2} \right\} \right) dy \\ &= \int_{l(u)}^{\infty} \frac{1}{2} \exp \left\{ -\frac{y}{2} \right\} dy - \int_{l(u)}^{\infty} \frac{1}{2} \exp \left\{ -\frac{2(y+u)}{2} \right\} dy \\ &= \exp \left\{ -\frac{l(u)}{2} \right\} - \frac{1}{2} \exp \{-u\} \int_{l(u)}^{\infty} \exp \{-y\} dy \\ &= \exp \left\{ -\frac{l(u)}{2} \right\} - \frac{1}{2} \exp \{-(u+l(u))\} \end{aligned}$$

If $u < 0$, $l(u) = -2u$, and hence

$$F_U(u) = e^u - \frac{1}{2}e^u = \frac{1}{2}e^u$$

and if $u \geq 0$, $l(u) = 0$, and hence

$$F_U(u) = 1 - \frac{1}{2}e^{-u}$$

Thus

$$f_U(u) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{2}e^u & u < 0 \\ \frac{1}{2}e^{-u} & u \geq 0 \end{cases} = \frac{1}{2} \exp \{-|u|\} \quad u \in \mathbb{R}$$

2. Joint pdf is constant on the ellipse \mathcal{E} , thus the normalizing constant is the reciprocal of the area of the ellipse, that is $1/(\pi ab)$. The range of the random variables can be re-written

$$\mathbb{X}^{(2)} \equiv \left\{ (x, y) : -a < x < a, -b(1 - x^2/a^2)^{1/2} < y < b(1 - x^2/a^2)^{1/2} \right\}$$

and hence, by double integration,

$$\begin{aligned} \iint_{\mathcal{E}} f_{X,Y}(x, y) \, dx dy &= \int_{-a}^a \left\{ \int_{-b(1-x^2/a^2)^{1/2}}^{b(1-x^2/a^2)^{1/2}} c_2 dy \right\} dx \\ &= \int_{-a}^a 2c_2 b (1 - x^2/a^2)^{1/2} dx \\ &= abc_2 \int_{-\pi/2}^{\pi/2} 2 \cos^2 t \, dt \quad (\text{setting } x = a \sin t) \\ &= abc_2 \int_{-\pi/2}^{\pi/2} (\cos 2t + 1) \, dt \\ &= abc_2 \left[\frac{1}{2} \sin 2t + t \right]_{-\pi/2}^{\pi/2} = \pi abc_2 \end{aligned}$$

and hence $c_2 = 1/(\pi ab)$.

- (a) For the marginal pdf of X , f_X , for fixed x ,

$$f_X(x) = \int_{-b(1-x^2/a^2)^{1/2}}^{b(1-x^2/a^2)^{1/2}} \frac{1}{\pi ab} dy = \frac{2}{\pi a} (1 - x^2/a^2)^{1/2} \quad -a < x < a,$$

- (b) By symmetry of form, we must have for the marginal for Y

$$f_Y(y) = \frac{2}{\pi b} (1 - y^2/b^2)^{1/2} \quad -b < y < b,$$

and because the two functions

$$(1 - x^2/a^2)^{1/2} \quad (1 - y^2/b^2)^{1/2}$$

are symmetric about zero, we must have that

$$E_{f_X}[X] = E_{f_Y}[Y] = 0.$$

Finally for the covariance, we have that

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Cov}_{f_{X,Y}} [X, Y] &= E_{f_{X,Y}} [XY] - E_{f_X} [X] E_{f_Y} [Y] = E_{f_{X,Y}} [XY] \\ &= \int_{-a}^a \left\{ \int_{-b(1-x^2/a^2)^{1/2}}^{b(1-x^2/a^2)^{1/2}} xy f_{X,Y}(x, y) dy \right\} dx \\ &= \int_{-a}^a \left\{ \int_{-b(1-x^2/a^2)^{1/2}}^{b(1-x^2/a^2)^{1/2}} y dy \right\} \frac{x}{\pi ab} dx \\ &= \int_{-a}^a \left[\frac{y^2}{2} \right]_{-b(1-x^2/a^2)^{1/2}}^{b(1-x^2/a^2)^{1/2}} \frac{x}{\pi ab} dx \\ &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

Hence X and Y are uncorrelated.

(c) X and Y **not** independent as there exists at least one pair $(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2$ such that

$$f_{X,Y}(x, y) \neq f_X(x)f_Y(y)$$

(for example, any point within the rectangle $(-a, a) \times (-b, b)$ that is outside the ellipse has joint probability density zero, but $f_X(x) > 0$ and $f_Y(y) > 0$).

3. (a) Need expectations, variances and covariance. We have for X

$$E_{f_X} [X] = 0 \quad E_{f_X} [X^2] = 1 \quad \text{Var}_{f_X} [X] = 1$$

and for Y

$$E_{f_Y} [Y] = E_{f_X} [X^2] = 1 \quad E_{f_Y} [Y^2] = E_{f_X} [X^4] = 3 \quad \text{Var}_{f_Y} [Y] = 2$$

and for the covariance

$$E_{f_{X,Y}} [XY] = E_{f_X} [X^3] = 0 \therefore \text{Cov}_{f_{X,Y}} [X, Y] = 0 - 0 \times 1 = 0$$

and hence the correlation is also zero.

X and Y are not independent (merely uncorrelated); we have the joint distribution non-zero only on the line $y = x^2$, whereas f_X and f_Y are positive on the whole of $\mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}^+$.

(b) (i) By elementary properties of independent standard normal random variables (using mgfs for example)

$$X_1 - X_2 \sim \text{Normal}(0, 2)$$

and thus

$$Y_1 = X_1 - X_2 + 1 \sim \text{Normal}(1, 2)$$

(ii) By properties of the multivariate normal distribution, using multivariate transformation results

$$Y \sim N(b, \Sigma)$$

where

$$\Sigma = AA^T = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ -1 & 2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & -2 \\ -2 & 4 \end{bmatrix}$$

and hence the covariance is

$$\Sigma_{12} = -2$$

and the correlation is

$$\frac{\Sigma_{12}}{\sqrt{\Sigma_{11} \times \Sigma_{22}}} = \frac{-2}{\sqrt{2 \times 4}} = -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$$

4. (a) Note first that

$$f_X(x) = \frac{1}{(1+x)^2} \quad x > 0$$

and zero otherwise. Then

$$\begin{aligned} P[X_1 X_2 < 1] &= \int_0^\infty \int_0^{1/x_1} f_{X_1, X_2}(x_1, x_2) dx_2 dx_1 \\ &= \int_0^\infty \int_0^{1/x_1} \frac{1}{(1+x_1)^2} \frac{1}{(1+x_2)^2} dx_2 dx_1 = \int_0^\infty \left[\frac{x_2}{1+x_2} \right]_0^{1/x_1} \frac{1}{(1+x_1)^2} dx_1 \\ &= \int_0^\infty \frac{1/x_1}{1+1/x_1} \frac{1}{(1+x_1)^2} dx_1 = \int_0^\infty \frac{x_1}{(1+x_1)^3} dx_1 \\ &= \left[-\frac{1}{2} \frac{x_1}{(1+x_1)^2} \right]_0^\infty + \int_0^\infty \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{(1+x_1)^2} dx_1 = 0 + \frac{1}{2} = \frac{1}{2} \end{aligned}$$

(b) Using the multivariate transformation theorem

(a) We have that $\mathbb{Y}^{(2)} \equiv \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}^+$, and

$$g_1(t_1, t_2) = \frac{t_1}{\sqrt{t_1^2 + t_2^2}} \quad g_2(t_1, t_2) = \sqrt{t_1^2 + t_2^2}$$

(b) Inverse transformations:

$$\left. \begin{aligned} Y_1 &= \frac{Z_1}{\sqrt{Z_1^2 + Z_2^2}} \\ Y_2 &= \sqrt{Z_1^2 + Z_2^2} \end{aligned} \right\} \Leftrightarrow \begin{cases} Z_1 = Y_1 Y_2 \\ Z_2 = \sqrt{1 - Y_1^2} Y_2 \end{cases}$$

and thus

$$g_1^{-1}(t_1, t_2) = t_1 t_2 \quad g_2^{-1}(t_1, t_2) = \sqrt{1 - t_1^2} t_2$$

(c) Range: we have that $-1 < Y_1 < 1$ and $Y_2 > 0$, so $\mathbb{Y}^{(2)} = (-1, 1) \times \mathbb{R}^+$

(d) The Jacobian for points $(y_1, y_2) \in \mathbb{Y}^{(2)}$ is

$$D_{y_1, y_2} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial z_1}{\partial y_1} & \frac{\partial z_1}{\partial y_2} \\ \frac{\partial z_2}{\partial y_1} & \frac{\partial z_2}{\partial y_2} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} y_2 & y_1 \\ \frac{-y_1 y_2}{\sqrt{1 - y_1^2}} & \sqrt{1 - y_1^2} \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow |J(y_1, y_2)| = \frac{y_2}{\sqrt{1 - y_1^2}}$$

(e) For the joint pdf we have for $(y_1, y_2) \in \mathbb{Y}^{(2)}$, by independence of Z_1 and Z_2

$$\begin{aligned} f_{Y_1, Y_2}(y_1, y_2) &= f_{Z_1, Z_2}(y_1 y_2, \sqrt{1 - y_1^2} y_2) \times \frac{y_2}{\sqrt{1 - y_1^2}} \\ &= \frac{1}{\pi} \frac{y_2 \exp\{-y_2^2/2\}}{\sqrt{1 - y_1^2}} \end{aligned}$$

and zero otherwise, where, by inspection,

$$f_{Y_1}(y_1) = \frac{1}{\pi \sqrt{1 - y_1^2}} \quad -1 < y_1 < 1 \quad f_{Y_2}(y_2) = y_2 \exp\{-y_2^2/2\} \quad y_2 > 0$$

Note that Y_1 and Y_2 are independent, as their joint pdf factorizes into the respective marginal pdfs at all points of \mathbb{R}^2 .

5. (a) Given a f_X , we construct a tilted version with tilt given parameter θ as follows; we consider

$$f_{X|\theta}(x|\theta) \propto f_X(x) \exp\{\theta X\}$$

in such a way so that the resulting function $f_{X|\theta}(x|\theta)$ is a valid pdf. Clearly this function is non-negative, and integrable if

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f_X(x) \exp\{\theta x\} dx < \infty$$

If this holds, then

$$f_{X|\theta}(x|\theta) = \frac{f_X(x) \exp\{\theta X\}}{\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f_X(x) \exp\{\theta x\} dx} = \frac{f_X(x) \exp\{\theta X\}}{M_X(\theta)}$$

where M_X is the mgf corresponding to the original f_X . Finally, if $K_X(t) = \log M_X(t)$ is the corresponding cumulant generating function, then

$$f_{X|\theta}(x|\theta) = f_X(x) \exp\{\theta X - K_X(\theta)\}$$

This is a natural exponential family distribution in its canonical parameterization, that is,

$$f_{X|\theta}(x|\theta) = h(x)c(\theta) \exp\{\theta X\}$$

where $h(x) = f_X(x)$ and $c(\theta) = M_X(\theta)$. This computation can be generalized by considering the derivation with random variable $S = s(X)$ replacing X in the exponent, and M_S replacing M_X .

- (b) If \mathcal{N} is given by

$$\mathcal{N} \equiv \left\{ \theta \in \mathbb{R} : K_S(\theta) = \log \left[\int e^{s(y)\theta} f_Y(y) dy \right] < \infty \right\}$$

- (i) $0 \in \mathcal{N}$ as f_Y is a valid pdf and hence integrable. Note that as $\text{Var}_{f_S}[s(Y)] > 0$, the distribution of $s(Y)$ is not degenerate, and hence \mathcal{N} contains elements other than zero.

- (ii) For $0 \leq \alpha \leq 1$, we consider $\theta = \alpha\theta_1 + (1 - \alpha)\theta_2$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} \int e^{s(y)\theta} f_Y(y) dy &= \int \exp\{s(y)(\alpha\theta_1 + (1 - \alpha)\theta_2)\} f_Y(y) dy \\ &= \int \exp\{s(y)\alpha\theta_1\} \exp\{s(y)(1 - \alpha)\theta_2\} f_Y(y) dy \\ &= E_{f_Y} [g_1(Y; \theta_1)^\alpha g_2(Y; \theta_2)^{1-\alpha}] \end{aligned}$$

say, where $g_i(y; \theta) = \exp\{s(y)\theta_i\}$ for $i = 1, 2$. Now using Hölder's Inequality with $p = 1/\alpha, q = 1/(1 - \alpha)$, we can deduce that

$$E_{f_Y} [g_1(Y; \theta_1)^\alpha g_2(Y; \theta_2)^{1-\alpha}] \leq E_{f_Y} [g_1(Y; \theta_1)^\alpha] E_{f_Y} [g_2(Y; \theta_2)^{1-\alpha}]$$

$$\int e^{s(y)\theta} f_Y(y) dy \leq E_{f_Y} [g_1(Y; \theta_1)^\alpha] E_{f_Y} [g_2(Y; \theta_2)^{1-\alpha}] < \infty$$

as

$$E_{f_Y} [g_i(Y; \theta_i)] = \int \exp\{s(y)\theta_i\} f_Y(y) dy < \infty \quad i = 1, 2$$

Hence $\theta \in \mathcal{N}$, and the set \mathcal{N} is convex.

(iii) We need to show that

$$K_S(\alpha\theta_1 + (1 - \alpha)\theta_2) \leq \alpha K_S(\theta_1) + (1 - \alpha)K_S(\theta_2)$$

Now, let $\theta = \alpha\theta_1 + (1 - \alpha)\theta_2$. Then, using the notation from part (ii),

$$\begin{aligned} K_S(\theta) &= \log E_{f_Y} [g_1(Y; \theta_1)^\alpha g_2(Y; \theta_2)^{1-\alpha}] \\ &\leq \log \left\{ E_{f_Y} [g_1(Y; \theta_1)]^\alpha E_{f_Y} [g_2(Y; \theta_2)]^{1-\alpha} \right\} \end{aligned}$$

using Hölder's Inequality again. Thus

$$\begin{aligned} K_S(\theta) &\leq \alpha \log E_{f_Y} [g_1(Y; \theta_1)] + (1 - \alpha) \log E_{f_Y} [g_2(Y; \theta_2)] \\ &= \alpha K_S(\theta_1) + (1 - \alpha) K_S(\theta_2) \end{aligned}$$

and the result follows.

6. (a) (i) As $n \rightarrow \infty$, for $x \in \mathbb{R}$

$$\left(\frac{1}{1+e^{-x}}\right) < 1 \quad \therefore \quad F_{X_n}(x) \rightarrow 0$$

and so the limiting function is not a cdf, and no limiting distribution exists.

(ii) If $U_n = X_n - \log n$. Then $\mathbb{U} \equiv (-\infty, \infty)$ and the cdf of U_n is

$$F_{U_n}(u) = P[U_n \leq u] = P[X_n - \log n \leq u] = P[X_n \leq u + \log n] = F_{X_n}(u + \log n)$$

and so

$$F_{U_n}(u) = \left(\frac{1}{1+e^{-u-\log n}}\right)^n = \left(\frac{1}{1+e^{-u}/n}\right)^n = \left(1 - \frac{e^{-u}}{n+e^{-u}}\right)^n$$

Thus as $n \rightarrow \infty$, for all u

$$F_{U_n}(u) \rightarrow \exp\{-e^{-u}\} \quad \therefore \quad F_{U_n}(u) \rightarrow F_U(u) = \exp\{-e^{-u}\}$$

and the limiting distribution of U_n does exist, and is continuous on \mathbb{R} .

Thus, for large n ,

$$P[X_n > k] = P[U_n > k + \log n] = 1 - F_{U_n}(k + \log n) \approx 1 - F_U(k + \log n) = 1 - \exp\{-e^{-k-\log n}\}$$

(b) Let X_i denote the score on roll i . Then

$$E_{f_{X_i}}[X_i] = \frac{-2 + (4 \times -1) + 6}{6} = 0 \quad \text{Var}_{f_{X_i}}[X_i] = E_{f_{X_i}}[X_i^2] = \frac{4 + (4 \times 1) + 36}{6} = \frac{22}{3}$$

and denote these quantities μ and σ^2 respectively.

(i) The expectation and variance of T_{100} are $100\mu = 0$ and $100\sigma^2 = 2200/3$.

(ii) The Central Limit Theorem gives that for the iid $\{X_i\}$ collection

$$\frac{\sum_{i=1}^n X_i - n\mu}{\sqrt{n\sigma^2}} \sim AN(0, 1)$$

where AN denotes Asymptotically Normal (as $n \rightarrow \infty$). Thus

$$T_n = \sum_{i=1}^n X_i \sim AN\left(0, \frac{22n}{3}\right)$$

and

(iii) Using the Weak Law of Large numbers, we can deduce that

$$M_n \xrightarrow{p} \mu = 0$$

as $n \rightarrow \infty$, that is, the sample mean random quantity converges in probability to zero, that is, the probability distribution of M_n becomes degenerate at zero.

7. (a) (i) The Poisson distribution mgf is

$$M_X(t) = \exp \{ \lambda(e^t - 1) \}.$$

Now, if $Z_\lambda = (X - \lambda)/\sqrt{\lambda}$, we use the mgf result for linear functions, that is if

$$Y = aX + b \implies M_Y(t) = e^{bt} M_X(at).$$

Here, $a = 1/\sqrt{\lambda}$ and $b = -\sqrt{\lambda}$, so

$$\begin{aligned} M_{Z_\lambda}(t) &= e^{-\sqrt{\lambda}t} \exp \left\{ \lambda(e^{t/\sqrt{\lambda}} - 1) \right\} = \exp \left\{ -\lambda^{1/2}t + \lambda \left[\frac{t}{\lambda^{1/2}} + \frac{t^2}{2\lambda} + \frac{t^3}{6\lambda^{3/2}} + \dots \right] \right\} \\ &= \exp \left\{ \frac{t^2}{2} + \frac{t^3}{6\sqrt{\lambda}} + \dots \right\} \rightarrow \exp \left\{ \frac{t^2}{2} \right\} \quad \text{as } \lambda \rightarrow \infty \end{aligned}$$

so therefore

$$Z_\lambda \xrightarrow{d} Z \sim \text{Normal}(0, 1)$$

as $\lambda \rightarrow \infty$.

(ii) Let $T_i = X_i + Y_i$. Then, by properties of Poisson random variables, we have that $T_i \sim \text{Poisson}(\lambda_X + \lambda_Y)$. Hence

$$T = \sum_{i=1}^n (X_i + Y_i) \sim \text{Poisson}(n(\lambda_X + \lambda_Y)).$$

so that

$$E_{f_T}[T] = n(\lambda_X + \lambda_Y) \quad \text{Var}_{f_T}[T] = n(\lambda_X + \lambda_Y)$$

But $M = \frac{T}{n}$, so

$$E_{f_M}[M] = \frac{n(\lambda_X + \lambda_Y)}{n} = \lambda_X + \lambda_Y \quad \text{Var}_{f_M}[M] = \frac{n(\lambda_X + \lambda_Y)}{n^2}$$

which are both finite. Hence, by the *Weak Law of Large Numbers*

$$M \xrightarrow{p} E_{f_M}[M] = \lambda_X + \lambda_Y = \mu$$

(b) (i) $T_n = \max \{X_1, \dots, X_n\}$ so

$$F_{T_n}(t) = \{F_X(t)\}^n = (1 - e^{-\lambda t})^n \quad t \in \mathbb{R}^+$$

(ii) In the limit as $n \rightarrow \infty$ we have the limit for *fixed* t as

$$F_{T_n}(t) \rightarrow 0 \quad \text{for all } t$$

Hence there is *no limiting distribution*.

(iii) If $U_n = \lambda T_n - \log n$, we have from first principles that for $u > -\log n$

$$\begin{aligned}F_{U_n}(u) &= P[U_n \leq u] = P[\lambda T_n - \log n \leq u] \\&= P\left[T_n \leq \frac{1}{\lambda}(u + \log n)\right] \\&= F_{T_n}\left(\frac{1}{\lambda}(u + \log n)\right) \\&= \left(1 - e^{-(u + \log n)}\right)^n \\&= \left(1 - \frac{e^{-u}}{n}\right)^n\end{aligned}$$

so that

$$F_{U_n}(u) \rightarrow \exp\{-e^{-u}\} \quad \text{as } n \rightarrow \infty$$

which is a valid cdf. Hence the limiting distribution is

$$F_U(u) = \exp\{-e^{-u}\} \quad u \in \mathbb{R}$$

8. (a) Using properties of cfs, we have

$$C_{T_n}(t) = \left\{ e^{-|t|} \right\}^n = e^{-|nt|}$$

Now using the scale transformation result for mgfs/cfs (given on Formula Sheet), we have that if $V = \lambda U$, then

$$C_V(t) = C_U(\lambda t)$$

we deduce that, in distribution, $T_n = nX$, where $X \sim \text{Cauchy}$, so that, by the univariate transformation theorem,

$$f_{T_n}(x) = f_X(x/n)|J(x)| = \frac{1}{\pi} \frac{1}{1 + (x/n)^2} \frac{1}{n} = \frac{1}{\pi} \frac{n}{n^2 + x^2}$$

- (b) From (a), we can deduce immediately that $\bar{X}_n \sim \text{Cauchy}$ **for all** n . Hence, using the Cauchy cdf,

$$P[|\bar{X}_n| > \epsilon] = 1 - \frac{2}{\pi} \arctan(\epsilon) \rightarrow 0 \quad \text{as} \quad n \rightarrow \infty.$$

and hence $\bar{X}_n \xrightarrow{p} 0$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$.

- (c) Many possible methods of solution; recall that the scale mixture formulation specifies a three level hierarchy in this case

LEVEL 3 : $\alpha, \beta > 0$ Fixed parameters

LEVEL 2 : $V \sim \text{Gamma}(\alpha, \beta)$

LEVEL 1 : $X|V = v \sim \text{Normal}(0, g(v))$

for some non-negative function $g(\cdot)$. The marginal for X is thus

$$f_X(x) = \int_0^\infty f_{X|V}(x|v)f_V(v) dv = \int_0^\infty \left(\frac{1}{2\pi g(v)} \right)^{1/2} \exp \left\{ -\frac{x^2}{2g(v)} \right\} \frac{\beta^\alpha}{\Gamma(\alpha)} v^{\alpha-1} e^{-\beta v} dv.$$

We require the result of this calculation to be the Cauchy pdf. In order to integrate out v , it appears that we must make the integrand proportional to a Gamma pdf, and choosing $g(v) = v^{-1}$ makes this possible; ignoring constants, the integrand becomes

$$v^{\alpha+1/2-1} \exp \left\{ -\frac{v(2\beta + x^2)}{2} \right\}$$

which, on integration, yields a term proportional to

$$\frac{\Gamma(\alpha + 1/2)}{(2\beta + x^2)^{\alpha+1/2}}.$$

Hence choosing $\alpha = 1/2$, $\beta = 1/2$ yields a term proportional to the Cauchy pdf. Thus the Cauchy distribution is a scale mixture of a Normal density by a $\text{Gamma}(1/2, 1/2) \equiv \chi_1^2$ distribution, with "link" function $g(v) = v^{-1}$.