

Warm-Up Problems and Lecture Problems

Solutions
March 21, 2003

1. As you come in, please tell me your height in inches.
2. Consider the function $f(t) = Ae^{-ct}$ for $t \geq 0$ where A and c are constants.
 - (a) Suppose you want to ensure $\int_0^\infty f(t) dt = 1$. Find conditions on A and c to ensure this.

Solution: We just compute

$$\begin{aligned}\int_0^\infty Ae^{-ct} dt &= \lim_{u \rightarrow \infty} \int_0^u Ae^{-ct} dt = \lim_{u \rightarrow \infty} -\frac{A}{c} e^{-ct} \Big|_0^u = \lim_{u \rightarrow \infty} -\frac{A}{c} (e^{-cu} - e^{-0c}) \\ &= \lim_{u \rightarrow \infty} -\frac{A}{c} (e^{-cu} - 1) = \frac{A}{c}\end{aligned}$$

So, we need $\frac{A}{c} = 1$ or $A = c$.

- (b) Suppose, in addition, you know that $A = 0.01$, what is c ?

Solution: According to the previous work, $c = 0.01$.

- (c) Using your $A = 0.01$ and the c that you just found, find a nice expression for the function:

$$F(t) = \int_0^t f(u) du$$

Solution: Just do the integration:

$$F(t) = \int_0^t (0.01)e^{-(0.01)u} du = -e^{-(0.01)u} \Big|_0^t = 1 - e^{-(0.01)t}$$

- (d) What is $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} F(t)$?

Solution: Just take the limit:

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} F(t) = 1$$

- (e) Compute: $\int_0^\infty tf(t) dt$.

Solution: This is integration by parts:

$$\int_0^\infty t(0.01)e^{-0.01t} dt$$

Let $u = 0.01t$ and $dv = e^{-0.01t} dt$. This gives $du = 0.01 dt$ and $v = -100e^{-0.01t}$.

$$\begin{aligned}uv - \int v du &= -te^{-0.01t} + \int e^{-0.01t} dt \\ &= -te^{-0.01t} - 100e^{-0.01t} + C\end{aligned}$$

We can take limits and plug in our endpoints:

$$\begin{aligned}\int_0^\infty t(0.01)e^{-0.01t} dt &= \lim_{u \rightarrow \infty} \int_0^u t(0.01)e^{-0.01t} dt = \lim_{u \rightarrow \infty} -te^{-0.01t} - 100e^{-0.01t} \Big|_0^u \\ &= \lim_{u \rightarrow \infty} (-ue^{-0.01u} - 100e^{-0.01u}) - (-100) = 100\end{aligned}$$