

**Problem 1** Suppose that a realisation of a Poisson process  $\mathcal{P}$  on  $\mathcal{E}$  with intensity function  $\dot{\mu}(x)$  has been observed and its points are independently coloured red with probability  $\gamma(x)$  or green with probability  $1 - \gamma(x)$ , where  $0 \leq \gamma(x) \leq 1$ . This results in processes  $\mathcal{P}_1 = \sum_j \delta_{X_j} I_{X_j}$  and  $\mathcal{P}_2 = \sum_j \delta_{X_j} (1 - I_{X_j})$ , where the  $I_{X_j}$  are independent Bernoulli variables with probabilities  $\gamma(X_j)$  and  $\delta_x$  is a unit point mass at  $x$ .

Show that the joint Laplace functional for two compactly-supported non-negative continuous functions  $f_1$  and  $f_2$  is

$$\mathbb{E} \left\{ \exp \left( - \int f_1 d\mathcal{P}_1 - \int f_2 d\mathcal{P}_2 \right) \right\} = \exp \left[ - \int_{\mathcal{E}} \left\{ 1 - e^{-f_1(x)} \right\} \gamma(x) \dot{\mu}(x) dx - \int_{\mathcal{E}} \left\{ 1 - e^{-f_2(x)} \right\} \{1 - \gamma(x)\} \dot{\mu}(x) dx \right],$$

and hence deduce that  $\mathcal{P}_1$  and  $\mathcal{P}_2$  are independent Poisson processes. Deduce that thinning a Poisson process by independently erasing events results in another Poisson process.

Hint: first condition on  $\mathcal{P}$  and use independence of the  $I(x_j)$  at the resulting points  $\{x_1, \dots, x_n\}$ ; then condition on the number of events in a compact set  $\mathcal{A}$  containing the support  $f_1 + f_2$  and use the argument of Lemma 7.

**Problem 2** Let  $\mathcal{P}$  be a Poisson process on the compact set  $\mathcal{E} \subset \mathbb{R}^d$  with mean measure  $\mu$  and intensity  $\dot{\mu}$ . Consider a mapping  $g : \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^s$  that neglects coordinates of  $x$ , e.g.,  $g(x_1, \dots, x_d) = (x_1, \dots, x_s)$ , for  $s < d$ .

- Show that  $g(\mathcal{P})$  is a Poisson process and find its mean measure.
- Is a homogeneous Poisson process  $\mathcal{P}$  on  $\mathcal{E}' = \mathbb{R}_+$  also a Poisson process on  $\mathcal{E} = \mathbb{R}^2$ ? Does the mapping theorem apply? If not, which condition fails?
- Let  $\mathcal{P}$  consist of points  $\{(T_j, X_j)\}$  on  $\mathcal{X} = [0, 1] \times (0, \infty)$  and that  $\mu\{[t_1, t_2] \times [x, \infty)\} = (t_2 - t_1)(1 + \xi x)^{-1/\xi}$ , for  $0 \leq t_1 < t_2 \leq 1$  and  $x > 0$ . Are the processes  $\{T_j\}$  and  $\{X_j\}$  Poisson?

**Problem 3** Alice, Bob and Carol don't know much about statistics, but want to estimate the rate  $\lambda$  of a homogeneous Poisson process that started a long time ago and which they begin to watch at time  $t'$ . Alice decides to record the length  $W_A$  of the interval after the first event following  $t'$ . Bob decides to record the time  $W_B$  from  $t'$  to the next event. Carol decides to record the length of the interval  $W_C$  surrounding  $t'$  (i.e., she waits to the next event, but also checks when the last event before  $t'$  occurred).

- Show that  $\mathbb{E}(W_A) = \mathbb{E}(W_B)$  and these allow  $1/\lambda$  to be estimated, but that  $1/W_A$  and  $1/W_B$  are poor estimators of  $\lambda$ .
- Show that the waiting time  $T_n$  to the  $n$ th event in a homogeneous Poisson process satisfies  $T_n > t$  iff  $\mathbb{P}\{N(t) \leq n - 1\}$ , and deduce that

$$f_{T_n}(t) = \frac{\lambda^n t^{n-1}}{n!} e^{-\lambda t}, \quad t > 0.$$

- Show that  $\mathbb{E}(W_C) = 2/\lambda$ , but that  $1/W_C$  is an unbiased estimator of  $\lambda$ .

**Problem 4** Consider a homogeneous Poisson process of rate  $\lambda$  in  $\mathbb{R}^D$ .

- Show that the void probability of a ball  $B_r(x)$  of radius  $r$  around an event at  $x$  is  $\exp\{-\lambda|B_r(x)|\}$ , where  $|\cdot|$  denotes volume, and hence find the density function of the distance to the event nearest to  $x$ . Would this be the same if there was no event at  $x$ ?
- Ripley's  $K$ -function is defined as

$$K(r) = \lambda^{-1} \mathbb{E}(\#\{\text{number of events within distance } r \text{ of an arbitrary event}\}), \quad r > 0.$$

Find this function when  $D = 2$ , and explain why it might be preferable to plot  $L(r) = \{K(r)/\pi\}^{1/2}$ .

- (c) The following code obtains and plots some data on the positions of  $n = 138$  caveolae in a  $500 \times 500$  unit square of muscle fibre, and then computes the estimate of  $L(r)$ . In practice it is important to allow for edge effects, but although the estimate is modified to do so, we do not discuss this here.

```
library(boot)
library(spatial)
data(cav)
par(pty="s",mfrow=c(2,2)) # square panels for plots
plot(cav,pch=16)
ppregion(xl=0,xu=500,yl=0,yu=500)
plot(Kfn(cav, fs=100), type="s", xlab="Distance", ylab="L(r)",
      panel.first=abline(0,1,col="grey"))
```

Do you think that the data could be a realisation of a Poisson process? Explain your reasoning.

To compare the data with simulations from a homogeneous binomial process with  $n$  events, we use

```
sim <- cav
sim$x <- 500*runif(138)
sim$y <- 500*runif(138)
plot(sim,pch=16)
plot(Kfn(sim, fs=100), type="s", xlab="Distance", ylab="L(r)",
      panel.first=abline(0,1,col="grey"))
```

Explain why this generates from the stated process. Does the simulated  $L$ -function shed light on the data? Compute the  $K$ -functions for some more sets of simulated data, then briefly summarise your conclusions.