

Solution for exercise 4.4.1 in Pitman

We apply boxed results page 304. First we introduce $Y = g(X) = cX$ and note that $g(\cdot)$ is strictly increasing. We have

$$f_X(x) = \lambda e^{-\lambda x} \text{ for } 0 < x, \quad y = g(x) = c \cdot x, \quad x = \frac{y}{c}, \quad \frac{dy}{dx} = c$$

Inserting in the formula

$$f_Y(y) = \frac{\lambda e^{-\lambda \frac{y}{c}}}{c} = \frac{\lambda}{c} e^{-\frac{\lambda}{c} y} \quad 0 < y < 1$$

such that Y follows an exponential distribution with parameter (intensity) $\frac{\lambda}{c}$.

Alternative solution using cumulative distribution - section 4.5

We define a new random variable $Y = cX$. The distribution of Y

$$P(Y \leq y) = P(cX \leq y) = P\left(X \leq \frac{y}{c}\right) = 1 - e^{-\lambda \frac{y}{c}} = 1 - e^{-\frac{\lambda}{c} y}$$