

Exercise 5. Due Monday Feb 27, 2017. Weight 4 points.

As explained in lecture 4, the exercise is to create a Chebyshev function evaluation of the pdf of detected energy in a scintillator. Assumed is that the scintillator is traversed by minimum-ionizing particles that leave energy according to a Landau-distribution. Assumed is that this distribution can be described by the function

$$pdf_{loss}(E) = N \int_0^{\infty} e^{-x(E-E_p + \ln(x))} \sin(\pi x) dx$$

with $E_p = 2.4$. This integral is difficult to calculate. It could be approximated with a Chebyshev function calculation.

Also, the scintillator measures noise, according to a Normal distribution with $\sigma = 0.25$ (thus $pdf_{noise}(E_n) = \sqrt{\frac{1}{2\pi\sigma^2}} e^{-E_n^2/2\sigma^2}$).

The detected signal follows the pdf for the noise when there is no particle traversing the scintillator, and the sum of the noise plus energy loss in case of a passing particle. The pdf of this combination is obtained by folding the 2 distributions:

$$pdf_{detect}(E_{det}) = \int_0^{\infty} pdf_{loss}(E) pdf_{noise}(E_{det} - E) dE = \int_0^{\infty} pdf_{loss}(E) \frac{e^{-(E-E_{det})^2/2\sigma^2}}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}} dE$$

(If you already have a Chebyshev approximation for pdf_{loss} then you can quickly calculate this second pdf of the detected signal).

The probability density distribution for the detected signal in case of 2 particles traversing the detector is again obtained by folding the pdf of the loss of 1 particle (the second particle) and the detected signal of the first particle (i.e. include the noise just once) :

$$pdf_{2part} = \int_0^{E_{det}} [pdf_{detect,1}(E) pdf_{loss}(E_{det} - E)] dE$$

The exercise is described in lecture 4. Apart from the pdfs, you have to be able to determine how often a false alarm is triggered (that is, how often the noise exceeds E_{noise} ; the integral of the noise pdf from E_{noise} to $+\infty$) and how often a particle leaves less detected energy than a certain threshold. For this, you also need the cumulative pdfs, the integral of the pdf from $-\infty$ to E . This integral is the joint probability that an event generated less energy than E . For the Normal distribution, the cumulative integral is given by the error function (see lecture). For the Landau pdfs, you can calculate the integrals by making a new chebyshev approximation with Chebyshev $cpdf = pdf.integral()$ assuming that pdf is the Chebyshev structure describing your pdf.