

3. [11 points] In the late 30th century, Mom's Friendly Robot Company is the main global robot manufacturing company. The Bending Unit 22 model is designed to contain a backup unit, effectively rendering it immortal. However, a small percentage of the robots suffer a manufacturing defect, in which the backup unit is malfunctioning or not present. The function

$$p(t) = \begin{cases} 0, & \text{if } t < 0 \\ 0.004e^{-t/c}, & \text{if } t \geq 0 \end{cases}$$

gives the probability density for the lifetime of these defective Bending Units 22, where  $c$  is a positive constant and  $t$  is measured in years since the robots are activated. Show all your work to receive full credit.

- a. [2 points] Interpret the quantity  $\int_{100}^{140} p(t) dt$ .

*Solution:*  $\int_{100}^{140} p(t) dt$  gives the fraction of defective Bending Units 22 that have a lifespan between 100 and 140 years.

OR

$\int_{100}^{140} p(t) dt$  gives the probability that a defective Bending Unit 22 will have a lifetime between 100 and 140 years.

- b. [4 points] Find the value of  $c$ .

*Solution:* Since  $p(t)$  is a probability density function, we know that  $\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} p(t) dt = 1$ . Thus,

$$\begin{aligned} 1 &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} p(t) dt = \int_{-\infty}^0 p(t) dt + \int_0^{\infty} p(t) dt = 0 + \int_0^{\infty} 0.004e^{-t/c} dt \\ &= \lim_{b \rightarrow \infty} \int_0^b 0.004e^{-t/c} dt = \lim_{b \rightarrow \infty} \left[ -c \cdot 0.004e^{-t/c} \right]_0^b \\ &= \lim_{b \rightarrow \infty} \left( -0.004ce^{-b/c} + 0.004ce^0 \right) = 0 + 0.004c \\ 1 &= 0.004c \\ c &= 250 \end{aligned}$$

What is the mean (average) lifespan of a defective Bending Unit 22?

*Solution:* Using  $c = 250$  from above and that  $p(t) = 0$  for  $t < 0$ ,

$$\begin{aligned}\bar{t} &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} tp(t) dt = \int_{-\infty}^0 tp(t) dt + \int_0^{\infty} tp(t) dt \\ &= 0 + \int_0^{\infty} 0.004te^{-t/250} dt = \lim_{b \rightarrow \infty} \int_0^b 0.004te^{-t/250} dt.\end{aligned}$$

Integration by parts with  $u = t$ ,  $dv = 0.004e^{-t/250}$  (and  $du = dt$ ,  $v = -e^{-t/250}$ ) gives

$$\begin{aligned}\bar{t} &= \lim_{b \rightarrow \infty} \left[ -te^{-t/250} \Big|_0^b + \int_0^b e^{-t/250} dt \right] = \lim_{b \rightarrow \infty} \left[ -be^{-b/250} + 0 - 250e^{-t/250} \Big|_0^b \right] \\ &= \lim_{b \rightarrow \infty} \left[ -be^{-b/250} - 250e^{-b/250} + 250e^0 \right] = 0 - 0 + 250 \\ &= 250.\end{aligned}$$

Thus, the mean lifespan of a defective Bending Unit 22 is 250 years.