

1. (a) Let  $X$  be binomially distributed with parameters  $(n, p)$ . By representing  $X$  as a sum of independent Bernoulli random variables, derive expressions for  $E[X]$  and  $\text{Var}[X]$ . [4 marks]
- (b) Suppose  $Y_1, Y_2, Y_3, \dots$  are independent Bernoulli random variables with respective success probabilities  $\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{4}, \frac{1}{8}, \dots$ . That is, for  $i = 1, 2, \dots$  the probability mass function of  $Y_i$  is given by

$$\begin{aligned} P(Y_i = 0) &= 1 - \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^i, \\ P(Y_i = 1) &= \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^i. \end{aligned}$$

Find  $E[Y_i]$  and  $\text{Var}[Y_i]$ . [2 marks]

- (c) For  $n = 1, 2, \dots$  define  $S_n = Y_1 + \dots + Y_n$ , where  $Y_1, Y_2, \dots$  are as in part (b) above.

- (i) For  $n = 3$ , show that the probability mass function of  $S_3$  is given by

$$\begin{aligned} P(S_3 = 0) &= 21/64, \\ P(S_3 = 1) &= 31/64, \\ P(S_3 = 2) &= 11/64, \\ P(S_3 = 3) &= 1/64. \end{aligned}$$

[6 marks]

- (ii) Find  $E[S_n]$  and  $\text{Var}[S_n]$ .

[ You may use without proof the result that

$$\left[ \sum_{i=0}^n x^i = \frac{1 - x^{n+1}}{1 - x}. \right]$$

[6 marks]

- (iii) Defining the sample mean  $\bar{Y}_n = S_n/n$ , show that  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} E[\bar{Y}_n] = 0$ .  
Comment on why this result is intuitively reasonable.

[2 marks]

2. (a) Suppose the random variable  $T$  is exponentially distributed with parameter  $\lambda$ , so that  $T$  has distribution function

$$F_T(t) = \begin{cases} 0 & t < 0, \\ 1 - e^{-\lambda t} & t \geq 0. \end{cases}$$

Define the *memoryless property*, explain the intuitive meaning of this property, and show that the distribution of  $T$  has the memoryless property. [4 marks]

- (b) The random variable  $X$  is said to follow the Weibull distribution with parameters  $\beta > 0$ ,  $\theta > 0$  if the distribution function of  $X$  is given by

$$F_X(x) = \begin{cases} 0 & x < 0, \\ 1 - \exp\left\{-\left(\frac{x}{\theta}\right)^\beta\right\} & x \geq 0. \end{cases}$$

Derive an expression for the probability density function  $f_X(x)$  of  $X$ . [3 marks]

Suppose the random variable  $X$  follows the Weibull distribution with parameters  $\beta, \theta$ . For  $a, b > 0$  find an expression for  $P(X > a + b \mid X > a)$ . [4 marks]

By considering the ratio

$$\frac{P(X > a + b \mid X > a)}{P(X > b)}$$

show that in the case  $\beta = 2$ , the distribution of  $X$  does not possess the memoryless property. [4 marks]

For which values of the parameters  $\beta, \theta$ , if any, does the Weibull distribution possess the memoryless property? [1 mark]

- (c) Suppose that the lifetime  $Y$  (in years) of a particular electrical component follows the Weibull distribution with parameters  $\beta = 2$ ,  $\theta = 1$ . Treating  $b$  as a fixed constant, sketch a graph of the function  $g(a)$  defined by

$$g(a) = P(Y > a + b \mid Y > a).$$

Give your interpretation of the shape of the graph of  $g(a)$ . [4 marks]

3. (a) Suppose that  $X$  is a continuous random variable with probability density function  $f_X(x)$ , and that the random variable  $Y$  is defined by  $Y = g(X)$  for some strictly monotonic function  $g(x)$ . Show that the probability density function of  $Y$  is given by

$$f_Y(y) = f_X(g^{-1}(y)) \left| \frac{d}{dy} g^{-1}(y) \right|.$$

[5 marks]

- (b) Suppose  $X$  is a continuous random variable with density

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} x^3/4 & 0 < x < 2, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

- (i) Find the cumulative distribution function  $F(x)$  of  $X$ . [3 marks]  
(ii) Find the cumulative distribution function and the probability density function of the random variable  $Y$  defined by  $Y = \sqrt{X/2}$ . What is the range of  $Y$ ?

[8 marks]

Find an expression for  $E[Y^n]$  where  $n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$ . Hence write down the values of  $E[Y]$  and  $\text{Var}[Y]$ . [4 marks]

4. Suppose that  $X, Y$  are continuous random variables with joint density function

$$f_{X,Y}(x, y) = \frac{e^{-y}}{2y}, \quad y > 0, \quad -y < x < y.$$

- (a) Draw the region of non-zero density. [3 marks]  
(b) Find the marginal density  $f_Y(y)$  of  $Y$  and the conditional density  $f_{X|Y}(x | y)$  of  $X$  given  $Y = y$  for  $y > 0$ . [6 marks]  
For each of these two distributions, give the standard name of the distribution, specifying any parameter values. [2 marks]  
(c) Find  $E[X]$  and  $E[Y]$ . [3 marks]  
(d) Find  $E[XY]$  and hence find the covariance  $\text{Cov}[X, Y]$ . [4 marks]  
(e) Are  $X$  and  $Y$  independent? Explain your answer. [2 marks]

5. Suppose that  $X, Y$  are continuous random variables with joint density function

$$f_{X,Y}(x, y) = \begin{cases} (2/\pi) \exp \{-(x^2 + y^2)/2\} & \text{for } x, y > 0, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Define the random variables  $U, V$  by

$$U = 2X + Y, \quad V = 3X/Y.$$

(a) Show that the Jacobian,  $J$ , is given by

$$J = \frac{\partial(x, y)}{\partial(u, v)} = \frac{-3u}{(2v + 3)^2}.$$

[6 marks]

(b) Find the joint density  $f_{U,V}(u, v)$ .

[7 marks]

(c) Find the marginal density of  $V$ .

[7 marks]

[ For part (c) you may use without proof the result that for  $A > 0$ ,

$$\int_0^\infty u e^{-Au^2} du = \frac{1}{2A}. \quad ]$$

6. (a) For any random variable  $X$  the moment generating function  $M_X(t)$  is defined by  $M_X(t) = E[e^{tX}]$ .

Show that (i)  $E[X] = M'_X(0)$  and (ii)  $\text{Var}[X] = M''_X(0) - (M'_X(0))^2$ , where  $M'_X(t)$  and  $M''_X(t)$  denote the first and second derivatives, respectively, of  $M_X(t)$  with respect to  $t$ . [3 marks]

Write down an expression for  $E[X^n]$ , where  $n = 1, 2, \dots$ , in terms of derivatives of the moment generating function  $M_X(t)$ . [1 mark]

Defining the random variable  $Y$  to be  $Y = a + bX$ , where  $a, b$  are non-random, show that the moment generating function of  $Y$  is given by

$$M_Y(t) = e^{at} M_X(bt).$$

[2 marks]

- (b) Suppose  $Z$  follows the standard normal distribution,  $Z \sim N(0, 1)$ , so that  $Z$  has probability density function

$$f_Z(z) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-z^2/2} \quad -\infty < z < \infty.$$

Show that the moment generating function of  $Z$  is given by  $M_Z(t) = e^{t^2/2}$ .

[8 marks]

Hence derive an expression for the moment generating function  $M_X(t)$  of the normal random variable  $X$  with mean  $\mu$  and variance  $\sigma^2$  given by  $X = \mu + \sigma Z$ , and show that the cumulant generating function  $K_X(t) = \ln(M_X(t))$  of  $X$  is given by

$$K_X(t) = \mu t + (\sigma^2/2) t^2.$$

[3 marks]

Based on this expression for  $K_X(t)$ , what can be said about the first, second, and higher cumulants of the  $N(\mu, \sigma^2)$  distribution? To what extent do these statements generalise to distributions other than the normal distribution?

[3 marks]

7. (a) Give a careful statement of the Central Limit Theorem. [5 marks]

When using the Central Limit Theorem to approximate the distribution of the sample mean  $\bar{X}$ , what factors affect the accuracy of the approximation in practice? [2 marks]

- (b) Suppose  $V_1, V_2, \dots, V_n$  are independent, identically distributed random variables, each being uniformly distributed on the interval  $[0, 1]$ , and define  $\bar{V} = (V_1 + \dots + V_n) / n$ .

(i) Show that  $E[\bar{V}] = 1/2$  and  $\text{Var}[\bar{V}] = \frac{1}{12n}$ . [3 marks]

(ii) For the case  $n = 12$ , use the Central Limit Theorem to approximate  $P(\bar{V} < 0.6)$ . [2 marks]

(iii) Comment on whether you would expect the Central Limit Theorem to provide a good approximation for the probability computed in part (ii). In your answer you should consider the range of  $\bar{V}$ , as well as any factors mentioned in your answer to part (a) above. [4 marks]

(iv) Use the Central Limit Theorem to find (approximately) the smallest  $n$  for which  $P(\bar{V} < 0.6) > 0.975$ . [4 marks]

