

Final - Probability II (2024-25)

Time: 3 hours.

Attempt all questions. The total marks is 50.

1. The joint density X and Y is given by

$$f(x, y) = \frac{e^{-y}}{y}, \quad 0 < x < y, \quad 0 < y < \infty.$$

(a) Compute $E[X^3|Y = y]$. [4 marks]

(b) Compute $E[X^3]$. [2 marks]

2. Let X_1 and X_2 be independent exponential random variables, each having parameter λ .

(a) Find the joint density function of $Y_1 = X_1 + X_2$ and $Y_2 = e^{X_1}$. [4 marks]

(b) Are Y_1 and Y_2 independent? [1 mark]

3. Consider a simple random walk S_n on \mathbf{Z} starting at 0 with equal probability of going one unit to the right or to the left at each step. That is, $S_0 = 0$ and $S_n = X_1 + \cdots + X_n$ for $n \geq 1$, where the X_i 's are independent random variables taking the values $+1$ or -1 with probability $\frac{1}{2}$ each. What is the probability that the random walk does not hit -10 up to and including time 100? You can leave your answer as a finite sum. [5 marks]

4. Let $X_n, n \geq 1$ and X be random variables on a probability space. Say that X_n converges to X in L^p for some $p \geq 1$ if $E[|X_n - X|^p] \rightarrow 0$.

(a) Show that $X_n \xrightarrow{L^p} X$ implies $X_n \xrightarrow{P} X$. [3 marks]

(b) Give an example to show that $X_n \xrightarrow{L^p} X$ does not imply $X_n \xrightarrow{a.s.} X$. [3 marks]

5. Let X_1, X_2, X_3 be independent $U(0, 1)$ random variables. Let $Z = \max(X_1, X_2, X_3)$. Find $E(Z)$. [5 marks]

6. (a) State the Strong Law of Large Numbers. [2 marks]

(b) Let X_1, X_2, \dots be i.i.d. ± 1 valued random variables with $P(X_i = 1) = p > \frac{1}{2}$. Consider the partial sums $S_k = X_1 + \cdots + X_k$, $k \geq 1$. Let $T_n = \inf\{k : S_k = n\}$ be the first time that the random walk hits n . Show that [5 marks]

$$\frac{T_n}{n} \xrightarrow{a.s.} \frac{1}{2p-1} \text{ as } n \rightarrow \infty.$$

7. (a) State the Central Limit Theorem. [2 marks]

(b) Let X_1, X_2, \dots, X_{100} be i.i.d. random variables with $\mathbf{P}(X_1 = 1) = 0.6$, $\mathbf{P}(X_1 = -1) = 0.4$. Give an approximate value of the probability $P(X_1 + X_2 + \cdots + X_{100} > 10)$ in terms of $\Phi(x)$ (the CDF of the $N(0, 1)$ distribution) using the Central Limit Theorem. [4 marks]

8. {**Note:** In the following question, you might use the following fact without proof: Let $f : \mathbf{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$ and $g : \mathbf{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$ be functions and X, Y, Z, W be mutually independent random variables. Then the random variables $f(X, Y)$ and $g(Z, W)$ are independent. }

Let X_1, X_2, Y_1, Y_2 be mutually independent random variables defined on a probability space. Assume that X_1 has the same distribution as Y_1 , and X_2 has the same distribution as Y_2 . Let $f : \mathbf{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$, and let $Z = f(X_1, X_2)$ be a random variable such that $E(Z^2) < \infty$.

(a) Show that [1 mark]

$$\text{Var}(Z) = \mathbf{E} \left[f(X_1, X_2) \cdot \left(f(X_1, X_2) - f(Y_1, X_2) \right) \right] + \mathbf{E} \left[f(X_1, X_2) \cdot \left(f(Y_1, X_2) - f(Y_1, Y_2) \right) \right].$$

(b) Show that [2 marks]

$$\mathbf{E} \left[f(X_1, X_2) \cdot \left(f(X_1, X_2) - f(Y_1, X_2) \right) \right] = \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{E} \left[\left(f(X_1, X_2) - f(Y_1, X_2) \right)^2 \right]. \quad (\#)$$

(c) Show that [2 marks]

$$\mathbf{E} \left[f(X_1, X_2) \cdot \left(f(Y_1, X_2) - f(Y_1, Y_2) \right) \right] = -\mathbf{E} \left[f(X_1, Y_2) \left(f(Y_1, X_2) - f(Y_1, Y_2) \right) \right].$$

(d) Conclude that [3 marks]

$$\mathbf{E} \left[f(X_1, X_2) \cdot \left(f(Y_1, X_2) - f(Y_1, Y_2) \right) \right] \leq \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{E} \left[\left(f(X_1, X_2) - f(X_1, Y_2) \right)^2 \right],$$

(HINT: Use above part and Cauchy-Schwarz), and therefore

$$\text{Var}(Z) \leq \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{E} \left[\left(f(X_1, X_2) - f(Y_1, X_2) \right)^2 \right] + \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{E} \left[\left(f(X_1, X_2) - f(X_1, Y_2) \right)^2 \right].$$

(e) Use (#) with the function $f(x_1, x_2) = x_1$ to conclude that [2 marks]

$$\text{Var}(X_1) = \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{E}[(X_1 - Y_1)^2].$$