

# CHENNAI MATHEMATICAL INSTITUTE

## Probability Theory

Final Examination

Duration: 3hrs

Answer ALL questions in Part A and any three questions in Part B. Give brief answers.

### PART A

1. There are 5 red balls and 6 black balls. The balls are indistinguishable except for their colours. They have to be distributed among 8 boxes, subject to the constraint that no two balls of the *same* colour are allowed to occupy the same box. The boxes are numbered 1 to 8. Find the probability that boxes 1, 2, 3 receive two balls and the remaining boxes only one ball each.

2. In an experiment,  $n$  fair dice are rolled, where  $n \geq 3$ . Let  $A_{ij}$ ,  $1 \leq i < j \leq n$ , be the event that the  $i$ th and the  $j$ th roll yield the same number. Show that the collection of events  $\mathcal{A} := \{A_{ij} \mid 1 \leq i < j \leq n\}$  is not independent, but that any two members of  $\mathcal{A}$  are independent.

3. In a game,  $N$  fair dice are rolled. The sum  $S$  of the numbers that show up on the dice is the score of the game. Suppose that  $N$  is a random number taking values in positive integers where  $P(N = k) = (2/3)(1/3)^{k-1}$  for  $k \geq 1$ . (a) Find  $P(S = 4)$ .

(b) Find  $P(N = 2 \mid S = 4)$ .

4. (a) Show that  $\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-x^2/2} dx = \sqrt{2\pi}$ .

(b) Find the value of  $c$  so that  $f(x) = ce^x(1 + e^x)^{-4}$ ,  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ , is the density function of a random variable. Also find the corresponding distribution function.

5. Let  $X, Y$  be independent random variables each being uniformly distributed on  $[0, 1]$ . Let  $U = \min\{X, Y\}$ . Find the density function of  $U$  and also find  $E(U)$ .

6. (a) Give an example of a discrete random variable which has no mean.

(b) Suppose that  $0 < \lambda < 1$ . Show that the function  $\lambda f + (1 - \lambda)g$  is the density function of a random variable if  $f, g$  are density functions of some random variables.

(c) Find examples of density functions  $f, g$  so that the product  $h(x) = f(x).g(x) \forall x \in \mathbb{R}$  is *not* a density function.

7. (a) Find the moment generating function  $M_X(t) = E(e^{tX})$  of the Poisson random variable  $X$  with parameter  $\lambda$ .

(b) Let  $X_1, \dots, X_n$  be independent random variables where  $X_j$  is Poisson with parameter  $\lambda_j$ ,  $1 \leq j \leq n$ . Find the mean and variance of  $Y = X_1 + \dots + X_n$ .

9. Let

$$f_{X,Y}(x,y) = \begin{cases} 1/x, & 0 < y \leq x \leq 1, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Find  $f_X(x)$ ,  $f_Y(y)$ , and  $f_{Y|X}(y|x)$ .

10. Show that  $\Gamma(1/2, 1/2)$ -distribution is the same as the distribution of  $X^2$  where  $X$  has the standard normal distribution  $N(0, 1)$ .

### PART B

11. (a) Determine the characteristic function  $\phi_X(t)$  of the binomial random variable  $X = \text{Bin}(n, p)$ . Find a random variable  $Y$  such that  $\phi_Y(t) = |\phi_X(t)|^2$ .

(b) Let  $n$  be a positive integer. Show that  $\phi(t) = e^{-t^2/2}(1 + \cos t)^n/2^n$  is the characteristic function of a random variable  $Z$ .

12. Suppose that  $X, Y$  are independent random variables with  $\Gamma(\lambda, s), \Gamma(\lambda, t)$ -distributions respectively. Use characteristic functions to show that  $X + Y$  is a  $\Gamma(\lambda, s + t)$ -random variable.

13. Let  $X$  and  $Y$  be independent exponential random variables with parameter 1. Find the joint density function of  $U = X + Y$ ,  $V = X/(X + Y)$  and deduce that  $V$  is uniformly distributed on  $[0, 1]$ .

14. Find the value of  $c$  so that  $f_{X,Y}(x,y) = c \exp(-x^2 + xy - 8y^2), x, y \in \mathbb{R}$ , is the joint density function of the random variables  $X, Y$ . Also compute the density function  $f_{Y|X}(y|x)$  of  $Y|X = x$ . Determine the random variable  $E(Y|X)$ .

$= 1 + e^x$

$$z = 1 + e^x$$

*[Handwritten scribbles]*