



# MERU UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

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## UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS 2023/2024

SECOND YEAR, SECOND SEMESTER EXAMINATION FOR THE DEGREE OF  
BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN ACTUARIAL SCIENCE, BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN  
MATHEMATICS AND COMPUTER SCIENCE, BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN  
STATISTICS, BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN MATHEMATICS, BACHELOR OF  
EDUCATION SCIENCE, BACHELOR OF EDUCATION ARTS

### SMS 3250: PROBABILITY AND STATISTICS III

DATE: APRIL 2024

TIME: 2 HOURS

INSTRUCTIONS: Answer Question ONE and any other TWO questions.

#### QUESTION ONE (30 MARKS)

a) Given that X and Y are jointly distributed random variables with pdf.

$$f(x, y) = \begin{cases} bxy & , 1 \leq x \leq 3 \text{ and } 2 \leq y \leq 4 \\ 0 & , \text{ otherwise} \end{cases}$$

- Find the value of b that makes  $f(x, y)$  a joint PDF (3 Marks)
- Find the marginal density functions of X and Y. (4 Marks)
- Determine whether X and Y are stochastically independent (2 Marks)
- Find  $P\left(X = \frac{x}{y} = 2\right)$  (3 Marks)

b) Sample is drawn from a Normal population with mean  $\mu$  and variance  $\sigma^2$ . Using the moment generating function of the sample  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$  find the distribution of the sample mean  $\bar{X} = \frac{1}{n} \sum x_i$  (8 Marks)



c) Two discrete random variables X and Y are jointly distributed as:

		X		
		0	1	2
Y	1	0.1	0.1	0.0
	2	0.1	0.1	0.2
	3	0.2	0.1	0.1

- i. Determine whether this is a joint PMF (2 Marks)
- ii. Find  $E[X]$ ,  $E[Y]$  and  $E[XY]$  (6 Marks)
- iii. Find the covariance of  $x$  and  $y$  (2 Marks)

### QUESTION TWO (20 MARKS)

a) Show that  $f(x, y) = \frac{9}{4^{x+y}}$ , where  $x = 1, 2, 3, \dots$  and  $y = 1, 2, 3, \dots$

is a joint probability mass function (4 Marks)

b) Ten points are randomly and independently selected from the interval  $[0, 1]$ . Find the probability that the value closest to 1 exceeds 0.9. (5 Marks)

c) Suppose that the joint pdf of two random variables X and Y is as follows:

$$f(x, y) = \begin{cases} k(x^2 + y) & , 0 \leq y \leq 1 - x^2 \\ 0 & , \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Determine:

- i. The value of constant k (3 Marks)
- ii.  $P(0 \leq x \leq 0.5)$  (4 Marks)
- iii.  $P(x = x/y = 0.5)$  (4 Marks)

### QUESTION THREE (20 MARKS)

a) Let  $X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n$  be n mutually stochastically independent random variables, each with PDF  $f_x(x) = 3(1 - x^2)$  for  $0 < x < 1$ . If y is the minimum value of these n variables, find the CDF and PDF of Y. (6 Marks)

b) Suppose that X and Y are Bernoulli random variables each with parameter p. Let  $Z = x + y$ . Find the distribution of z. (4 Marks)

c) Let x and y be jointly distributed with PDF



$$f(x, y) = \begin{cases} 6e^{-2x-3y}, & \text{for } x > 0; y > 0 \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Use the distribution function technique to find the density function of the random variable  $z = x + y$ . (10 Marks)

**QUESTION FOUR (20 MARKS)**

a) Suppose that  $y_1$  and  $y_2$  have the joint density.

$$f(y_1, y_2) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{2\pi\sqrt{0.75}} \exp\{-2/3 (y_1^2 + y_2^2 - y_1y_2)\}; & -\infty < y_1 < \infty \\ 0 & ; \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

- i. Find the marginal density of  $y_1$ . (7 Marks)
- ii. Find  $P(y_2 | y_1 = 1)$ . Is this a familiar distribution? (5 Marks)

b) Two discrete random variables X and Y have the following joint PDF.

	X			
Y	1	2	3	4
	0.2	0	0.05	0.15
	0	0.3	0.10	0.2

- i. Determine the correlation coefficient between X and Y. comment on your answer. (8 Marks)

**QUESTION FIVE (20 MARKS)**

a) Given that  $f(x, y) = 2/3 (x + 2y)$  for  $0 \leq x \leq 1$  and  $0 \leq y \leq 1$

- i. Find  $E[X/Y]$  (4 Marks)
- ii. Find  $\text{var}(X | Y = 0.4)$  (4 Marks)

b) Let  $x$  and  $Y$  be a two random variables with joint pdf  $f(x, y)$  prove that X and Y are stochastically independent iff  $f(x, y) \equiv g(x)h(y)$  where  $g(x)$  and  $h(y)$  are positive non-zero functions of X and Y respectively (6 Marks)

c) Given that  $X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n$  are n independent random variables with density  $N[0,1]$ , show that

$Y = \sum_{i=1}^n x_i^2$  has a chi-square distribution with n degree of freedom. (6 Marks)

