

CHUKA



UNIVERSITY

## UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS

**SECOND YEAR EXAMINATION FOR THE AWARD OF DEGREE OF BACHELOR  
OF SCIENCE, ART AND EDUCATION**

**MATH 241: PROBABILITY AND STATISTICS I****STREAMS: BSC,BED,BA****TIME: 2 HOURS****DAY/DATE: THURSDAY 13/12/2018****2.30 P.M – 4.30 P.M****INSTRUCTIONS:**

- Answer Question ONE and any other TWO Questions.

**QUESTION ONE [30 MARKS]**

a) A random variable Y has cumulative distribution function given by:

$$F(y) = \begin{cases} 0, & y < 0 \\ \frac{13}{27}, & 0 \leq y < 3 \\ \frac{72}{81}, & 3 \leq y < 8 \\ 1, & y \geq 8 \end{cases}$$

i) Determine the p.d.f of Y

ii) Compute  $p(1 \leq y \leq 5)$

(5 marks)

b) If the moment generating function of a random variable X is given by

$$M(t) = (2 - 5t)^{-6}$$

Determine:

i) Mean of X (2 marks)

ii) Variance of X (3 marks)

iii)  $E[(X + 4)^2]$  (2 marks)

c) A fair coin is tossed 256 times. Using normal approximation to binomial probabilities, determine the probability of obtaining:

i) At least 115 heads

- ii) Between 113 and 145 heads  
(5 marks)
- d) The time taken for a car engine to cool as observed by a vehicle dealers firm has a distribution measured in hours given by

$$f(y) = \begin{cases} \frac{k}{10}(y-9), & 0 \leq y < 10 \\ 0, & \text{elsewhere} \end{cases}$$

- i) Find the value of  $k$  that makes the above distribution a varied p.d.f (2 marks)
- ii) Find the median time. (3 marks)
- iii) Find the variance of Y (3 marks)
- e) Let X be a continuous random variable with p.d.f given by

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{8}(x+1), & 2 \leq x < 4 \\ 0, & \text{elsewhere} \end{cases}$$

Given that  $Y = 2x + 1$ , find the

- i) Probability density function of Y, [g(y)] and  
ii) The cumulative distribution of Y, [G(y)]  
(5 marks)

**QUESTION TWO (20 Marks)**

- a) Let Y be a random variable with probability density function

$$f(y) = \begin{cases} \frac{3}{64}y^2(4-y), & 0 \leq y < 4 \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

- i) Verify that  $f(y)$  is a probability distribution of the random variable Y for the given values.
- ii) Find the first, second and third central moments of Y and hence its variance
- iii) Find the mode of Y. (16 marks)
- b) Let the variable X have the distribution  $P(X=0) = P(X=2) = p$ ,

$P(X=1) = 1 - 2p$ , for  $0 \leq p \leq \frac{1}{2}$ . For what value of  $p$  is the variance of X maximum? (4 marks)

**QUESTION THREE (20 Marks)**

a) A discrete random variable Y has a probability mass function given by

$$f(y) = \begin{cases} \left(\frac{1}{4}\right)^y \left(\frac{3}{4}\right), & y = 0, 1, 2, \dots \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

- i) Determine the factorial moment generating function of Y,
  - ii) Use the f.m.g.f in (i) above to compute the mean and variance of Y.
  - iii) Hence compute the first four probabilities.
- (10 marks)

b) A geometric random variable X with parameter  $\delta$  has the probability distribution given as

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} \delta(1-\delta)^{x-1}, & x = 1, 2, \dots \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

- i) Obtain the moment generating function of X. (5 marks)
- ii) Use the m.g.f obtained in (i) above to find the mean and variance of X. (5 marks)

**QUESTION FOUR (20 Marks)**

a) A random variable X has a probability density function below

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} ax^2 + b, & 0 \leq x < 1 \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

- i) Given that  $E(X) = \frac{2}{3}$ , determine the values of  $a$  and  $b$  hence the standard deviation of X. (10 marks)
- ii) Find  $E(2x+3)^2$  (3 marks)

b) On the basis of a part time experience, a car sales girl knows that the number of cars she sells per week is a random variable X with probability mass function below

X	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
$p(x)$	0.1	3m	0.25	0.15	m	0.04	0.03	0.02	0.01

- i) Find the values of m
  - ii) Find the mean number of cars sold per week
  - iii) Calculate the variance of X
- (7 marks)

**QUESTION FIVE (20 Marks)**

- a) The average length of super loaf bread distributed to local stores by a certain bakery is 30 cm and the standard deviation is 2 cm. Assuming the length is normally distributed, what is the probability of the loaf being:
- i) Longer than 32.5 cm
  - ii) Between 28.9 cm and 32.5 cm
  - iii) Shorter than 26.5 (6 marks)
  - iv) The value of  $r$  such that  $P[X < r] = 0.8686$  (3 marks)
  - v) Determine the number of loaves with length less than 27.8 cm in a crate of 25 loaves. (3 marks)
- b) Bulbs are manufactured by a machine and it is known that approximately 25% are outside certain tolerance limits. If a random sample of 450 bulbs is taken, find the probability that more than 75 bulbs will be outside the tolerance limits. (3 marks)
- c) Let  $F(x)$  be the C.D.F of a poisson distribution with parameter  $\lambda$ . If  $F(2) = 2F(1)$ . Find  $\lambda$ . (5 marks)
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