



NATIONAL OPEN UNIVERSITY OF NIGERIA
Plot 91, Cadastral Zone, Nnamdi Azikiwe Expressway, Jabi, Abuja.

FACULTY OF SCIENCES
January\February Examination 2018

Course Code: STT311
Course Title: Probability Distribution II
Credit Unit: 3
Time Allowed: 3 HOURS
Instruction: ATTEMPT NUMBER ONE (1) AND ANY OTHER FOUR (4) QUESTIONS

1. (a) What is probability space? **(2 Marks)**

(b) A Statistics student who does not believe in hard work wants to make money and achieve success in life by playing lottery. This addicted gambler spins a wheel of fortune for several years and discovered that the experiment can be modelled in terms of a random variable X with density function

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} x, & 0 < x < 1 \\ 2 - kx, & 1 \leq x < 2 \\ 0, & \text{elsewhere} \end{cases}$$

i. Find the value of k that makes it a valid density function. **(4 Marks)**

ii. What is the mean of the random variable X ? **(4 Marks)**

(c) In a statistical experiment, n people throw their hats in a box then each picks up one hat at random. What is the expected value of X , the number of people that get back their own hat? **(6 Marks)**

(d) If there are 2 people that threw their hats in that box, find the approximate value for the expected number of people that get their hats back. **(6 Marks)**

2. (a) State any two axioms of probability. **(2 Marks)**

(b) Given that the a continuous random variable X has the following probability density

$$\text{function: } f(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{x^2}{3}, & -1 < x < 2 \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Find $F(x)$ and use it to evaluate $P(0 < x \leq 1)$ **(5 Marks)**

(c) The length of life measure in hours of a certain rate type of insect is a random variable X with probability density function:

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{3}{4}(2x - x^2), & 0 < x < 2 \\ 0, & \text{elsewhere} \end{cases}$$

If the amount of food measured in milligrams consumed in a lifetime by such an inset is defined by the function $g(x) = x^2$, where x is the length of life measured in hours, find the expected amount of food that will be consumed by an insect of this type. **(5 Marks)**

3. (a) The joint density for the random variables X and Y where is

$$f(x, y) = \begin{cases} 10xy^2, & 0 < x < y < 1 \\ 0, & \text{elsewhere} \end{cases}$$

Find the:

(i) marginal densities $g(x)$ and $h(y)$ **(3 Marks)**

(ii) conditional density $f(y/x)$ **(3 Marks)**

(b) (i) In a gambling game, a man paid ₦5 if he gets all heads or tails when three coins are tossed and he will pay ₦3 if either one or two heads show. **(2 Marks)**

(ii) What is his expected gain? **(1 Mark)**

(iii) Do you think the game is fair according to your expected gain? Give reasons? **(3 Marks)**

4. (a) Define the moment generating function of a random variable X . **(2 Marks)**

(b) Does moment generating function always exist? Give reason. **(4 Marks)**

(c) The P.M.F of a distribution is given as $p(X = x) = \frac{m!}{x!(m-x)!} p^x q^{m-x}, \forall x = 0, 1, 2, 3, \dots, m$.

Find the moment generating function of the distribution and use it to obtain the mean.

(6 Marks)

5. (a) (i) Define a random variable and state the types of random variables that we have. **(2 Marks)**

(ii) Given that X has the moment generating function $M_{x(t)} = \frac{1}{6}e^{-2t} + \frac{1}{3}e^{-t} + \frac{1}{4}e^t + \frac{1}{4}e^{2t}$.

Find $P(|X| \leq 1)$.

(3 Marks)

(b) (i) Define characteristic function of a random variable Y .

(ii) Mention one advantage of characteristic function over moment generating function.

(iii) If X is a random variable with an exponential ∂f with parameter λ .

Find the characteristic function.

(7 Marks)

6. (a) (i) State Chebyshev's inequality theorem

(2 Marks)

(ii) Proof the Chebyshev's inequality

(3 Marks)

(b) (i) Define the term conditional probability.

(2 Marks)

(ii) The joint density function of X and Y is given as

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

Find the $p(X < a)$

(5 Marks)