

Probability Theory Exam, January 14, 2025

Working time: 100 min. Only simple, non-programmable calculators are allowed, standard normal distribution table on the other side. The achievable maximum score (with the Bonus exercise) is 110 points, but we consider 100 points as 100%.

- T. 1.** Let (X, Y) be jointly absolutely continuous random variables with joint density function $f(x, y)$.
- (a) (1+1+1 points) Define the marginal density function $f_X(x)$, the conditional density function $f_{Y|X}(y|x)$, and the conditional expectation $\mathbb{E}(Y|X = x)$ using formulas.
- (b) (1+4 points) State and prove the tower property of conditional expectation.
- (c) (2 points) State the formula for the conditional variance ($\text{Var}(Y) = \dots$).
- (d) (3+4 points) Let $X \sim \text{EXP}(\lambda)$ and given a fixed $X = x$, let Y have the distribution $\text{UNI}[0, x]$. Compute the expected value and variance of Y . *Hint:* The variance of $\text{UNI}[0, x]$ is $x^2/12$.
- T. 2.** (a) (3+2+2 points) Let (X_1, \dots, X_n) be a general n -dimensional jointly normal random vector. Write down the joint density function of (X_1, \dots, X_n) , explaining the dimensions of the vectors or matrices in the formula, the covariance matrix, and the relationship between the matrix in the density function and the covariance matrix.
- (b) (5 points) Let (X, Y) be jointly normal with $\text{Cov}(X, Y) = 0$. Prove that X and Y are independent.
- (c) (5 points) Give an example of a pair of random variables (X, Y) that are not independent but satisfy $\text{Cov}(X, Y) = 0$.
- T. 3.** (a) (2+1+4 points) Define the (optimistic) geometric distribution with parameter p (both with a formula and an intuitive explanation) and compute its expected value.
- (b) (2+2 points) Define the memoryless property and prove that the geometric distribution has this property.
- (c) (5 points) Let X and Y be independent random variables with $\text{GEO}(p)$ distribution. Compute the conditional probability $\mathbb{P}(X = 6 | X + Y = 15)$.
- P. 1.** After the holiday sales, Thomas bought 1000 light bulbs because they were on sale. The lifetime of each bulb follows an exponential distribution with an expected value of 3 months. If a bulb burns out, Thomas (or his descendants) immediately replace it with a new one.
- (a) (3 points) What is the expected number and variance of bulb replacements in the first year?
- (b) (5 points) Compute the distribution function of the time of the second bulb replacement. *Hint:* The time of the second bulb replacement is greater than t if and only if there are fewer than two replacements in the interval $[0, t]$.
- (c) (9 points) Approximate the largest T such that the bulb supply lasts for T years with a 90% probability. (A standard normal distribution table is on the back.)
- P. 2.** Determine the density functions of X and Y if
- (a) (8 points) ξ is uniformly distributed on the interval $[-3, 2]$, and $X = \xi^2$,
- (b) (8 points) ϑ follows an $\text{EXP}(\lambda)$ distribution, and $Y = \sqrt{\vartheta}$.
- Bonus (10 points)** Let $X \sim \text{EXP}(\lambda_1)$ and $Y \sim \text{EXP}(\lambda_2)$ be two independent random variables. Compute the density function of $Z = X + Y$.
- P. 3.** Let X and Y be independent normally distributed random variables. X has mean 0 and variance 4, and Y has mean 0 and variance 9. Compute the probability $\mathbb{P}((X, Y) \in H)$ where
- (a) (8 points) $H = \{(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2 : x \leq -y, -1 \leq y \leq 1, x \geq -3\}$,
- (b) (9 points) $H = \{(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2 : (\frac{x}{4})^2 + (\frac{y}{9})^2 \leq 2\}$.

