



INDEX NUMBER:

UNIVERSITY OF COLOMBO, SRI LANKA  
FACULTY OF SCIENCE

LEVEL I EXAMINATION IN SCIENCE (SEMESTER I) – 2023

ST 1008 – PROBABILITY AND DISTRIBUTIONS

(Two Hours)

Answer all questions

No. of questions: 04

No. of pages: 08

**Important Instructions to the Candidates:**

- If a page or a part of this question paper is not printed, please inform the supervisor immediately.
- Enter your index number on all pages of the answer script/question paper.
- MULTIPLE CHOICE QUESTIONS: Question (1) and (2) consist of 10 Multiple Choice Questions (MCQ) of each. Each of the MCQs will have 5 choices with only one correct answer. **Encircle the correct choice** in the tables given on the question paper.
- SEMI-STRUCTURED TYPE: Write the answers to questions (3) and (4) on the papers provided.
- Electronic devices capable of storing and retrieving text, including electronic dictionaries and mobile phones are not allowed.
- **Attach the exam paper to the answer sheets.**
- Statistical tables are attached to the paper.
- **You are not permitted to remove any part of the question paper except the page that the statistical tables are given from the Examination Hall.**

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| Question No. | Q1 | Q2 | Q3 | Q4 | Total | % |
|--------------|----|----|----|----|-------|---|
| Marks        |    |    |    |    |       |   |

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**Question Number 01.**

This question consists of 10 multiple choice questions. Select the most suitable answer and encircle the correct choice in Table 01.

**Table 01: Answer Table of Question Number 01.**

| Question Number | Answers |   |   |   |   | Question Number | Answers |   |   |   |   |
|-----------------|---------|---|---|---|---|-----------------|---------|---|---|---|---|
| 1.              | a       | b | c | d | e | 6.              | a       | b | c | d | e |
| 2.              | a       | b | c | d | e | 7.              | a       | b | c | d | e |
| 3.              | a       | b | c | d | e | 8.              | a       | b | c | d | e |
| 4.              | a       | b | c | d | e | 9.              | a       | b | c | d | e |
| 5.              | a       | b | c | d | e | 10.             | a       | b | c | d | e |

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| <b>Number of Correct Answers:..... Marks:.....</b> |
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**Question Number 02.**

This question consists of 10 multiple choice questions. Select the most suitable answer and encircle the correct choice in Table 2.

**Table 2: Answer Table of Question Number 02.**

| Question Number | Answers |   |   |   |   | Question Number | Answers |   |   |   |   |
|-----------------|---------|---|---|---|---|-----------------|---------|---|---|---|---|
| 1.              | a       | b | c | d | e | 6.              | a       | b | c | d | e |
| 2.              | a       | b | c | d | e | 7.              | a       | b | c | d | e |
| 3.              | a       | b | c | d | e | 8.              | a       | b | c | d | e |
| 4.              | a       | b | c | d | e | 9.              | a       | b | c | d | e |
| 5.              | a       | b | c | d | e | 10.             | a       | b | c | d | e |

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| <b>Number of Correct Answers:..... Marks:.....</b> |
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**Question Number 03.**

- (a) A standard pack of playing cards consists of 4 suits (Clubs, Diamonds, Hearts and Spades), each of 13 cards numbered in ascending order as 2, 3, 4, ..., 10, Jack, Queen, King, Ace. A player receives 13 cards from a well shuffled pack.

When answering the following questions, you may leave your answers in terms of factorials unless you are asked to indicate any other value.

- (i) In how many ways can 13 cards be selected from the pack of playing cards? **(05 marks)**
  - (ii) How many possible combinations of cards are there in which the player receives no Spades? **(05 marks)**
  - (iii) Show the probability that the player receives no Spades is 0.01279. **(05 marks)**
  - (v) Find the probability that the player receives exactly 6 Hearts among the 13 cards. **(15 marks)**
- (b) The discrete random variable  $X$  can take only the values 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5. The probability distribution of  $X$  is given by the following:  
 $P(X = 0) = P(X = 1) = P(X = 2) = a$   
 $P(X = 3) = P(X = 4) = P(X = 5) = b$   
 $P(X \geq 2) = 3P(X < 2)$   
where  $a$  and  $b$  are constants.
- (i) Show that  $a = \frac{1}{8}$  and  $b = \frac{5}{24}$ . **(10 marks)**
  - (ii) Show that expectation of  $X$  is  $\frac{23}{8}$  and hence find the expectation of  $(2X - 5)$ . **(10 marks)**
  - (iii) Determine the variance of  $X$ . **(10 marks)**
  - (iv) Determine the mode and the median of  $X$ . **(15 marks)**
  - (v) Let  $X_1$  and  $X_2$  be two independent observations from this distribution. List down all the possible pairs of  $(X_1, X_2)$  which satisfy the condition that the sum of  $X_1$  and  $X_2$  exceeds 7. **(10 marks)**
  - (vi) Determine the probability that the sum of  $X_1$  and  $X_2$  exceeds 7. **(15 marks)**

**(Question No. 03 – 100 Marks)**

**Question Number 04.**

- (a) The random variable  $X$  has the binomial distribution with probability mass function

$$P(X = x) = \frac{n!}{x!(n-x)!} p^x q^{n-x}, \quad x = 0, 1, 2, \dots, n.$$

- (i) Show that the Moment Generating Function of  $X$  is

$$M_X(t) = (pe^t + q)^n. \quad (\mathbf{15 \ marks})$$

Hint:  $\sum_{x=0}^n {}^n C_x a^x b^{n-x} = (a+b)^n$

- (ii) Hence, derive  $E(X)$  and  $Var(X)$ . **(20 marks)**

- (b) A manufacturer produces components of two quality grades:

High quality components, with lifetimes( $H$ ) distributed as  $N(2500, 15625)$ , i.e. Normally with mean 2500 hours and standard deviation  $\sqrt{15625} = 125$  hours.

Standard quality components, with lifetimes( $S$ ) distributed as  $N(2000, 90000)$ .

- (i) Show that the probability of a randomly chosen high quality component lasts at least 2300 hours is 0.9452 and find the corresponding probability for a standard component. **(20 marks)**

- (ii) Suppose a box contains randomly packed 10 high quality components. Suggesting a distribution for the number of components( $Y$ ) in the box that has a lifetime of at least 2300 hours, find the probability that all 10 components in the box have lifetime of at least 2300 hours. **(15 marks)**

- (iii) Find the probability that a randomly chosen standard component has a lifetime longer than a randomly chosen high quality component. **(15 marks)**

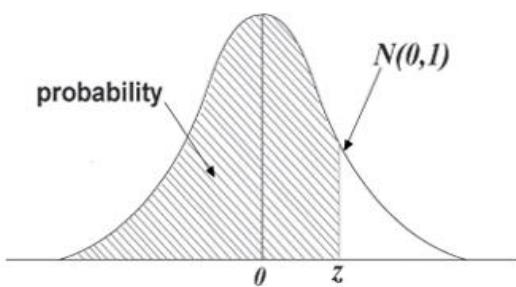
- (c) Consider the scenario given in (b) above. A large batch of components is produced, of which 40% are high quality and 60% are standard. However, due to a machine malfunction, these components are unlabelled and indistinguishable in appearance. A single component is chosen at random from this batch.

Find the probability that it has a lifetime of at least 2300 hours. **(15 marks)**

[Hint: Use the concept behind total probability theorem to answer this question.]

**(Question No. 04 – 100 Marks)**

\*\*\*\*\* END \*\*\*\*\*

**Table 3. The Standardized Normal Distribution Probabilities**

The distribution tabulated is that of the normal distribution with mean **zero** and standard deviation **1**. For each value of **Z**, the standardized normal deviate, (the proportion **P**, of the distribution less than **Z**) is given. For a normal distribution with mean  $\mu$  and variance  $\sigma^2$  the proportion of the distribution less than some particular value  $X$  is obtained by calculating  $Z = (X - \mu)/\sigma$  and reading the proportion corresponding to this value of **Z**.

| <b>Z</b> | <b>P</b> | <b>Z</b> | <b>P</b> | <b>Z</b> | <b>P</b> |
|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| -4.00    | 0.00003  | -1.00    | 0.1587   | 1.05     | 0.8531   |
| -3.50    | 0.00023  | -0.95    | 0.1711   | 1.10     | 0.8643   |
| -3.00    | 0.0014   | -0.90    | 0.1841   | 1.15     | 0.8749   |
| -2.95    | 0.0016   | -0.85    | 0.1977   | 1.20     | 0.8849   |
| -2.90    | 0.0019   | -0.80    | 0.2119   | 1.25     | 0.8944   |
| -2.85    | 0.0022   | -0.75    | 0.2266   | 1.30     | 0.9032   |
| -2.80    | 0.0026   | -0.70    | 0.2420   | 1.35     | 0.9115   |
| -2.75    | 0.0030   | -0.65    | 0.2578   | 1.40     | 0.9192   |
| -2.70    | 0.0035   | -0.60    | 0.2743   | 1.45     | 0.9265   |
| -2.65    | 0.0040   | -0.55    | 0.2912   | 1.50     | 0.9332   |
| -2.60    | 0.0047   | -0.50    | 0.3085   | 1.55     | 0.9394   |
| -2.55    | 0.0054   | -0.45    | 0.3264   | 1.60     | 0.9452   |
| -2.50    | 0.0062   | -0.40    | 0.3446   | 1.65     | 0.9505   |
| -2.45    | 0.0071   | -0.35    | 0.3632   | 1.70     | 0.9554   |
| -2.40    | 0.0082   | -0.30    | 0.3821   | 1.75     | 0.9599   |
| -2.35    | 0.0094   | -0.25    | 0.4013   | 1.80     | 0.9641   |
| -2.30    | 0.0107   | -0.20    | 0.4207   | 1.85     | 0.9678   |
| -2.25    | 0.0122   | -0.15    | 0.4404   | 1.90     | 0.9713   |
| -2.20    | 0.0139   | -0.10    | 0.4602   | 1.95     | 0.9744   |
| -2.15    | 0.0158   | -0.05    | 0.4801   | 2.00     | 0.9772   |
| -2.10    | 0.0179   | 0.00     | 0.5000   | 2.05     | 0.9798   |
| -2.05    | 0.0202   | 0.05     | 0.5199   | 2.10     | 0.9821   |
| -2.00    | 0.0228   | 0.10     | 0.5398   | 2.15     | 0.9842   |
| -1.95    | 0.0256   | 0.15     | 0.5596   | 2.20     | 0.9861   |
| -1.90    | 0.0287   | 0.20     | 0.5793   | 2.25     | 0.9878   |
| -1.85    | 0.0322   | 0.25     | 0.5987   | 2.30     | 0.9893   |
| -1.80    | 0.0359   | 0.30     | 0.6179   | 2.35     | 0.9906   |
| -1.75    | 0.0401   | 0.35     | 0.6368   | 2.40     | 0.9918   |
| -1.70    | 0.0446   | 0.40     | 0.6554   | 2.45     | 0.9929   |
| -1.65    | 0.0495   | 0.45     | 0.6736   | 2.50     | 0.9938   |
| -1.60    | 0.0548   | 0.50     | 0.6915   | 2.55     | 0.9946   |
| -1.55    | 0.0606   | 0.55     | 0.7088   | 2.60     | 0.9953   |
| -1.50    | 0.0668   | 0.60     | 0.7257   | 2.65     | 0.9960   |
| -1.45    | 0.0735   | 0.65     | 0.7422   | 2.70     | 0.9965   |
| -1.40    | 0.0808   | 0.70     | 0.7580   | 2.75     | 0.9970   |
| -1.35    | 0.0885   | 0.75     | 0.7734   | 2.80     | 0.9974   |
| -1.30    | 0.0968   | 0.80     | 0.7881   | 2.85     | 0.9978   |
| -1.25    | 0.1056   | 0.85     | 0.8023   | 2.90     | 0.9981   |
| -1.20    | 0.1151   | 0.90     | 0.8159   | 2.95     | 0.9984   |
| -1.15    | 0.1251   | 0.95     | 0.8289   | 3.00     | 0.9986   |
| -1.10    | 0.1357   | 1.00     | 0.8413   | 3.50     | 0.99977  |
| -1.05    | 0.1469   |          |          | 4.00     | 0.99997  |