



INDEX NUMBER:

UNIVERSITY OF COLOMBO, SRI LANKA  
FACULTY OF SCIENCE

LEVEL I EXAMINATION IN SCIENCE (SEMESTER I) – 2024

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.**

For Examiner's use only						
Question No.	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Total	%
Marks						

**Question Number 01.**

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

(Question No. 01. – 10 × 10 Marks)

**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

**For Examiner's use only**

Number of Correct Answers:..... Marks:.....

**Question Number 02.**

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

(Question No. 02. – 10 × 10 Marks)

**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

**For Examiner's use only**

Number of Correct Answers:..... Marks:.....

**Question Number 03.**

- (a) Events A and B are such that  $P(A) = \frac{1}{3}$ ,  $P(B) = \frac{2}{5}$ , and  $P(B|\bar{A}) = \frac{11}{20}$ .
- (i) Highlight the events  $(A \cap \bar{B})$ ,  $(B \cap \bar{A})$  and  $(A \cap B)$  in a Venn diagram? **(10 marks)**
  - (ii) Find  $P(A \cap B)$  **(10 marks)**
  - (iii) Find  $P(A \cup B)$ . **(10 marks)**
  - (iv) Find  $P(\bar{A}|B)$ . **(10 marks)**
  - (v) Find  $P(\bar{B}|A)$ . **(10 marks)**

- (b) The continuous random variable  $X$  has probability density function

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} cx, & 0 \leq x < 1 \\ c, & 1 \leq x < 2 \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

where  $c$  is a constant

- (i) Show that  $c = \frac{2}{3}$ . **(10 marks)**
- (ii) Find  $E(X)$ . **(10 marks)**
- (iii) Show that the median  $m$  of  $X$  is 1.25. **(10 marks)**
- (iv) Show that  $P\left(|X - m| < \frac{1}{2}\right) = 0.65$ . **(10 marks)**
- (v) Three independent observations of  $X$  are taken. Find the probability of one of the observations is satisfying the condition  $|X - m| < \frac{1}{2}$  and other two are not satisfying it. **(10 marks)**

**(Question No. 03 – 100 Marks)**

**Question Number 04.**

- (a) A darts player practices throwing a dart at the bull's eye on a dart board. Independently for each throw, her probability of hitting the bull's eye is 0.2. Let  $X$  be the number of failures before her first success hit on the bull's eye and  $X$  takes geometric distribution with the probability function

$$P(X = x) = 0.8^x 0.2, \quad x = 0, 1, 2, \dots$$

- (i) Find the probability that she is successful for the first time on her 3rd throw. **(05 marks)**
- (ii) Find the probability that she will have at least 3 failures before her first success. **(10 marks)**

- (iii) Show that the mean value of  $X$  is 4. **(15 marks)**

Hint:  $\sum_{x=1}^{\infty} r q^{r-1} = \frac{1}{(1-q)^2}$  when  $|q| < 1$

- (iv) On another occasion the player throws the dart at the bull's eye until she has 2 successes. Let  $Y$  be number of failures before her 2nd success hit on the bull's eye. Write down the probability distribution function of  $Y$ , and give the name of this distribution. **(10 marks)**

- (b) A machine is producing components whose lengths are normally distributed with a mean of 6.50 cm. As a policy to reject components an upper tolerance limit of 6.45 cm for the length of the components has been adopted and, when the machine is correctly set, 1 in 20 components is rejected as exceeding this limit. After servicing the machine, it is found that 1 in 15 components is rejected for exceeding this limit.

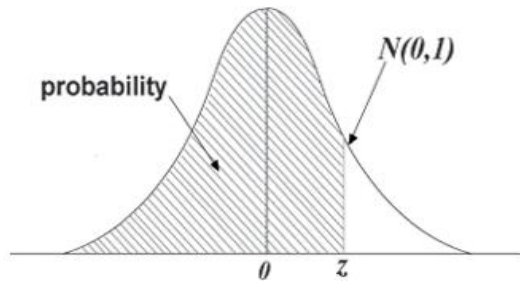
[Note: Use the interpolation technique to estimate the values of unknown data points that fall in between existing, known data points.]

- (i) Show that the standard deviation of the lengths when the machine is correctly set is 0.0243. **(15 marks)**
- (ii) Assuming that the mean has not changed but that the production has become more variable after the service, show that the new standard deviation is 0.0266. **(15 marks)**
- (iii) Assuming that the standard deviation has not changed but that the mean has moved after the service, estimate the new mean. **(15 marks)**
- (iv) If 1000 components are produced in a shift, how many of them may be expected to have lengths in the range 4.48 to 6.53 cm if the machine is set as in (ii). **(15 marks)**

Hint:  $P(Z < -0.752) = 0.2260$  and  $P(Z < 1.128) = 0.8703$  where  $Z$  is a standard normal random variable.

**(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