

P3:

The time taken by a person while speaking over a telephone is exponentially distributed with mean 4 *minutes*.

- i) Find the probability that he speaks for more than 6 *minutes* but less than 7 *minutes*.
- ii) Out of 6 calls that he makes, what is the probability that exactly 2 calls take him more than 3 minutes each.
- iii) How many calls out of 100 are expected to take more than 3 minutes each?

Solution:

Let X be the time taken (in minutes) per call. We are given that X is exponentially distributed with mean 4 *minutes*.

$$\therefore f(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{4}e^{-\frac{x}{4}} & , \quad x > 0 \\ 0 & , \quad \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$$(i) \quad P(6 < X < 7) = \frac{1}{4} \int_6^7 e^{-\frac{x}{4}} dx = \frac{1}{4} \left[\frac{e^{-\frac{x}{4}}}{-\frac{1}{4}} \right]_6^7 = e^{-\frac{6}{4}} - e^{-\frac{7}{4}} (= 0.04936)$$

$$(ii) \quad P(X > 3) = \frac{1}{4} \int_3^{\infty} e^{-\frac{x}{4}} dx = \frac{1}{4} \left[\frac{e^{-\frac{x}{4}}}{-\frac{1}{4}} \right]_3^{\infty} = e^{-\frac{3}{4}} (= 0.4724)$$

Let Y denote the number of calls each with more than 3 minutes out of 6 calls. Then

$$Y \sim B(6, P) \text{ where } P = 0.4724$$

$$\therefore P(Y = 2) = \binom{6}{2} (0.4724)^2 (0.5276)^4 = 0.2594$$

- (iii) Expected number of calls out of 100 that will be longer than 3 minutes each
= $100 \times P(X > 3)$
= $100 \times 0.4724 = 47.24 = 47$ (approximately)