

**30401 Mathematics and Statistics - Module 2 (Statistics) - BEMACS**  
**GENERAL EXAM - - - 105 minutes**

Surname		Name		Student Number	
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**I hereby confirm my attendance at the exam.**

**I declare I have read the Exam rules and I commit to respect them.**

**Signature:**

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Some exercises refer to the dataframe **Sleep** in the file **Sleep.Rdata**. The dataframe contains information on sleep habits, demographics, physical activity, stress levels, and symptoms of sleep disorders, collected on a sample of subjects with specific occupations. Explanations of the meaning of the variables are provided in the text when needed.

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**Exercise 1 (5 points)**

Now let  $X$  and  $Y$  be two independent random variables such that  $X \sim \text{Be}(p)$  is a Bernoulli r.v. with parameter  $p$  and  $Y \sim \text{Exp}(1)$  is an exponential distribution with parameter 1.

a) (2pt\*) For each of the following statements decide whether it is **TRUE** or **FALSE** in general.

- $P(XY = 0) = 0$  [TRUE] [FALSE]
- $E[XY] = p$  [TRUE] [FALSE]

b) (3pt\*\*) Calculate  $\text{Var}[XY]$ . Carefully report the proceedings.

### Exercise 2 (16 points, R Dataset)

Empirical studies on sleep patterns suggest that the nightly sleep duration  $X$  (in hours) of an individual can be modelled according to the probability density function  $P(x; k, \lambda)$  defined

$$P(x; k, \lambda) = \frac{k}{\lambda} \left(\frac{x}{\lambda}\right)^{k-1} e^{-(x/\lambda)^k}$$

for  $x \geq 0, k \geq 2, \lambda > 0$ . Throughout questions a)-e) take the parameter  $\lambda$  to be fixed at  $\lambda = 8$ , and treat the parameter  $k$  as the only unknown parameter that we want to **learn** from sample data.

- a) (3pt\*) Draw a qualitative sketch of the pdf  $P(x; k, \lambda)$  for  $\lambda = 8$  and  $k = 10$ . Briefly explain how increasing the value of  $k$  (with fixed  $\lambda$ ) affects the mode and the concentration of the distribution.

Let  $x_1, \dots, x_n$  be an independent sample of sleep-duration observations.

- b) (3pt\*) Write explicitly the likelihood function  $l(k)$  and the negative log-likelihood  $L(k)$  of the parameter  $k$  given the generic sample data.
- c) (3pt\*) Compute the derivative of  $L(k)$  with respect to  $k$ . State the condition that must be satisfied by the maximum-likelihood estimator  $\hat{k}$ .

(Hint: use the following result to differentiate  $L$  with respect to  $k$ .

$$\frac{d}{dk} \left( \frac{x_i}{\lambda} \right)^k = \left( \frac{x_i}{\lambda} \right)^k \cdot \log \left( \frac{x_i}{\lambda} \right)$$

As the condition in c) cannot be solved analytically, you proceed to find the maximum likelihood estimate numerically.

- d) (3pt\*\*) Using the sample contained in the variable **SleepDuration**, compute and report the value of  $L(k)$  for  $k = 8.5, 9.5, 10.5$ . Which of these values of  $k$  gives the best fit according to the negative log-likelihood criterion?
- e) (2pt\*\*) Proceed and obtain numerically the maximum likelihood estimate for  $k$  to two decimal places.
- f) (2pt\*\*\*) It is well known that the expectation of the distribution  $X$  is:

$$E[X] = \lambda \cdot \Gamma \left( 1 + \frac{1}{k} \right)$$

where  $\Gamma(\cdot)$  is the gamma function. You can evaluate in R the gamma function for any value with the command `gamma()`.

Assume now **both parameters**  $\lambda$  and  $k$  are **unknown**. Compute the sample mean  $\bar{x}$  of the variable **SleepDuration**.

Calculate and report the maximum likelihood estimates  $\hat{k}$  and  $\hat{\lambda}$  of  $k$  and  $\lambda$  respectively, subject to the following constraint:

$$\hat{\lambda} \cdot \Gamma \left( 1 + \frac{1}{\hat{k}} \right) = \bar{x}.$$

(Hint: minimise the negative log-likelihood numerically. For every possible value of  $k$ , the value of  $\lambda$  can be determined by the above constraint)



**Exercise 3 (10 points, R Dataset)**

- a) (5pt\*) We are interested in verifying the null hypothesis that in the population the proportion of individuals who suffer from any sleep disorders (**SleepDisorder** = Insomnia or Other) is not higher than 0.4 against the alternative hypothesis that it is higher than 0.4. Considering the sample data, answer the question through a suitable hypothesis test. Specify:
- i) (\*) the null and alternative hypothesis
  - ii) (\*) detailed derivation of the p-value
  - iii) (\*) a rigorous definition of the p-value
  - iv) (\*) your final conclusion
- b) (5pt\*\*) We are interested in the average duration of sleep (variable **SleepDuration**) and in the possible differences across subjects with different occupations (variable **Occupation**). In particular, do we have enough statistical evidence to state that the average duration of sleep among doctors (**Occupation** = Doctor) is lower than that among nurses (**Occupation** = Nurse)? Construct a suitable hypothesis test to answer. Specify:
- i) the null and alternative hypothesis
  - ii) detailed derivation of the p-value
  - iii) your final conclusion

