

MCGILL UNIVERSITY

FACULTY OF SCIENCE

FINAL EXAMINATION

MATH 323

Probability

Examiner: Professor W.J. Anderson
Associate Examiner: Professor D. Stephens

Date: Wednesday, December 19, 2007
Time: 2 to 5pm

INSTRUCTIONS

This exam comprises the cover and four pages with 7 questions. Answer all questions. No aids other than pocket calculators are allowed. Tables of the normal distribution are given at the end of this exam paper.

[Marks]

- [7] (1) (a) By using only the definition of a probability, prove that $P(A \cup B) = P(A) + P(B) - P(A \cap B)$, where A and B are events in the same sample space.
- [7] (b) In a certain community, 10% of all adults have diabetes. A certain doctor correctly diagnoses 95 percent of all adults with diabetes as having the disease, and incorrectly diagnoses 2 percent of all adults without the disease as having the disease. An adult is chosen at random from the community.
- What is the probability the doctor will diagnose this person as having diabetes?
 - If the doctor diagnoses this person as having diabetes, what is the probability this person does not in fact have diabetes?
- [7] (2) (a) Eight tires of different brands are ranked from 1 to 8 (best to worst) according to mileage performance. If four of those tires are chosen at random by a customer, find the probability that the best tire among those selected by the customer is actually ranked third among the original eight.
- [7] (b) A certain machine discharges dye into paint cans. The amount in millilitres (ml) of dye discharged is normally distributed with mean μ and variance $\sigma^2 = .16$. If more than 6 ml of dye is discharged when making blue paint, the result is unacceptable. Determine the setting for μ so that only 1% of cans of blue paint will be unacceptable.
- [6] (3) (a) Suppose that a random variable N has range set $R_N = \{1, 2, \dots\}$, and that

$$P\{N > n\} = \frac{1}{n+1}, \quad n = 1, 2, \dots$$

Find the probability function of N and also $E(N)$.

- [9] (b) The density function of a random variable X is given by

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{8}(1+x) & \text{if } 2 < x < 4, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Find

- $P\{X > 3\}$,
 - $E(X)$,
 - the density function of $Y = X^3$.
- [4] (4) (a) Write down the density or probability function corresponding to the following moment generating functions.

$$(i) \quad M_1(t) = e^{-6t} \qquad (ii) \quad M_2(t) = \frac{e^{3(e^t)}}{e^3}$$

- [8] (b) It is known that of all McGill students who are eligible to vote in a federal election, 30% are Liberals, 25% are Conservatives, 15% are BQers, and the rest NDPers. A random sample of four such McGill students is drawn. What is the probability that the sample contains
- exactly two Liberals, one Conservative, and one BQer?
 - more Liberals than Conservatives?
 - exactly two NDPers?

- [15] (5) Random variables X and Y have joint probability function given by the following table:

		x		
		-2	0	3
y	-1	.10	.25	.10
	1	.05	.15	.05
	2	.20	.10	

Find:

- (a) $P\{X \leq Y\}$,
- (b) $\text{Cov}(X, Y)$,
- (c) $E(X|Y = 1)$,
- (d) the moment generating function of Y . Use it to find $E(Y)$.

[20] (6) Suppose that X and Y are random variables with joint density function

$$f(x, y) = \begin{cases} k(3x + y) & \text{if } 0 < x < 2, 0 < y < 1, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

- (a) Find k ,
- (b) Find the marginal density function of X ,
- (c) Find $E(Y^2|X = 1)$,
- (d) Find $P\{X/Y < 2\}$,
- (e) Are X and Y independent? Justify your answer.

[10] (7) The weight in grams of a type of paper clip manufactured by a certain company is a random variable with density function

$$f(x) = \frac{x^{\alpha-1}e^{-x/\beta}}{\Gamma(\alpha)\beta^\alpha}, \quad x > 0$$

where $\alpha = .25$ and $\beta = 2$. What is the probability that 100 of these paper clips will exceed the capacity of a standard packing carton, which is sixty grams?

