

# STA 131A Introduction to Probability Theory

## (Practice Midterm 2 – Version B)

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**Instructions.** This practice midterm is designed to resemble a 50-minute in-class exam. However, the actual Midterm 2 may differ in content or style from this practice exam. Assume you may use one *handwritten*, two-sided, letter-sized cheat sheet and a simple non-graphing calculator. A standard normal table is included on the last page. The **total score is 120 points**.

- Make sure to clearly write your name and ID above.
- Present your answers clearly and show enough work to justify your conclusions for full credit.
- Partial credit is possible only if your reasoning is clearly shown and easy to trace.
- If you use a theorem, formula, or table value, make it clear.

| Problem      | Score |
|--------------|-------|
| Problem 1    |       |
| Problem 2    |       |
| Problem 3    |       |
| Problem 4    |       |
| <b>Total</b> |       |

**Problem 1 (30 points total). CDF, PDF, and moments**

Let  $X$  be a continuous random variable with CDF

$$F_X(x) = \begin{cases} 0, & x < 0, \\ x^2, & 0 \leq x \leq 1, \\ 1, & x > 1. \end{cases}$$

(a) (10 points) Find the PDF  $f_X(x)$ .

(b) (8 points) Compute

$$P\left(\frac{1}{4} < X \leq \frac{3}{4}\right).$$

(c) (12 points) Compute  $\mathbb{E}[X]$  and  $\text{Var}(X)$ .

**Problem 2 (25 points total). Normal random variables and expected counts**

Suppose product lifetimes, measured in hours, satisfy

$$X \sim N(40, 6^2).$$

(a) (8 points) Find the 10-th percentile  $q$ , i.e., find  $q$  such that

$$P(X \leq q) = 0.10.$$

You may use the normal table attached.

(b) (9 points) A product is called acceptable if its lifetime exceeds the cutoff  $q$  from part (a). Among 50 independent products, let

$$N = \text{the number of acceptable products.}$$

Identify the distribution of  $N$ , and compute  $\mathbb{E}[N]$  and  $\text{Var}(N)$ .

(c) (8 points) Suppose lifetime is instead recorded in minutes:

$$Y = 60X.$$

Find the distribution of  $Y$ , including its mean and standard deviation.

**Problem 3 (35 points total). Joint PDF with nonconstant density**

Let  $(X, Y)$  be jointly continuous with joint density

$$f_{X,Y}(x, y) = \begin{cases} cy, & 0 \leq y \leq x \leq 1, \\ 0, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

(a) (12 points) Find the value of  $c$ . Then find the marginal densities  $f_X(x)$  and  $f_Y(y)$ .

(b) (10 points) Find the conditional density  $f_{Y|X}(y | x)$ , and compute

$$\mathbb{E}[Y | X = x].$$

(c) (8 points) Compute

$$P(Y \leq X/2).$$

(d) (5 points) Determine whether  $X$  and  $Y$  are independent. Justify your answer.

**Problem 4 (30 points total). Derived distributions and conditional expectation**

(a) (10 points) Let  $X \sim \text{Uniform}(0, 1)$ , and let

$$Y = \sqrt{X}.$$

Find the CDF and PDF of  $Y$ .

(b) (10 points) Let  $\Lambda \sim \text{Uniform}(1, 2)$ . Conditional on  $\Lambda = \lambda$ , suppose

$$T \mid \Lambda = \lambda \sim \text{Exponential}(\lambda).$$

Compute

$$\mathbb{E}[T \mid \Lambda = \lambda], \quad \mathbb{E}[T \mid \Lambda], \quad \mathbb{E}[T].$$

(c) (10 points) In the setting of part (b), write the posterior density

$$f_{\Lambda|T}(\lambda \mid t)$$

for  $1 \leq \lambda \leq 2$ , up to the appropriate normalizing constant. Then write the fully normalized expression.

## Standard Normal Table

| z   | .00    | .01    | .02    | .03    | .04    | .05    | .06    | .07    | .08    | .09    |
|-----|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| 0.0 | 0.5000 | 0.5040 | 0.5080 | 0.5120 | 0.5160 | 0.5199 | 0.5239 | 0.5279 | 0.5319 | 0.5359 |
| 0.1 | 0.5398 | 0.5438 | 0.5478 | 0.5517 | 0.5557 | 0.5596 | 0.5636 | 0.5675 | 0.5714 | 0.5753 |
| 0.2 | 0.5793 | 0.5832 | 0.5871 | 0.5910 | 0.5948 | 0.5987 | 0.6026 | 0.6064 | 0.6103 | 0.6141 |
| 0.3 | 0.6179 | 0.6217 | 0.6255 | 0.6293 | 0.6331 | 0.6368 | 0.6406 | 0.6443 | 0.6480 | 0.6517 |
| 0.4 | 0.6554 | 0.6591 | 0.6628 | 0.6664 | 0.6700 | 0.6736 | 0.6772 | 0.6808 | 0.6844 | 0.6879 |
| 0.5 | 0.6915 | 0.6950 | 0.6985 | 0.7019 | 0.7054 | 0.7088 | 0.7123 | 0.7157 | 0.7190 | 0.7224 |
| 0.6 | 0.7257 | 0.7291 | 0.7324 | 0.7357 | 0.7389 | 0.7422 | 0.7454 | 0.7486 | 0.7517 | 0.7549 |
| 0.7 | 0.7580 | 0.7611 | 0.7642 | 0.7673 | 0.7704 | 0.7734 | 0.7764 | 0.7794 | 0.7823 | 0.7852 |
| 0.8 | 0.7881 | 0.7910 | 0.7939 | 0.7967 | 0.7995 | 0.8023 | 0.8051 | 0.8078 | 0.8106 | 0.8133 |
| 0.9 | 0.8159 | 0.8186 | 0.8212 | 0.8238 | 0.8264 | 0.8289 | 0.8315 | 0.8340 | 0.8365 | 0.8389 |
| 1.0 | 0.8413 | 0.8438 | 0.8461 | 0.8485 | 0.8508 | 0.8531 | 0.8554 | 0.8577 | 0.8599 | 0.8621 |
| 1.1 | 0.8643 | 0.8665 | 0.8686 | 0.8708 | 0.8729 | 0.8749 | 0.8770 | 0.8790 | 0.8810 | 0.8830 |
| 1.2 | 0.8849 | 0.8869 | 0.8888 | 0.8907 | 0.8925 | 0.8944 | 0.8962 | 0.8980 | 0.8997 | 0.9015 |
| 1.3 | 0.9032 | 0.9049 | 0.9066 | 0.9082 | 0.9099 | 0.9115 | 0.9131 | 0.9147 | 0.9162 | 0.9177 |
| 1.4 | 0.9192 | 0.9207 | 0.9222 | 0.9236 | 0.9251 | 0.9265 | 0.9279 | 0.9292 | 0.9306 | 0.9319 |
| 1.5 | 0.9332 | 0.9345 | 0.9357 | 0.9370 | 0.9382 | 0.9394 | 0.9406 | 0.9418 | 0.9429 | 0.9441 |
| 1.6 | 0.9452 | 0.9463 | 0.9474 | 0.9484 | 0.9495 | 0.9505 | 0.9515 | 0.9525 | 0.9535 | 0.9545 |
| 1.7 | 0.9554 | 0.9564 | 0.9573 | 0.9582 | 0.9591 | 0.9599 | 0.9608 | 0.9616 | 0.9625 | 0.9633 |
| 1.8 | 0.9641 | 0.9649 | 0.9656 | 0.9664 | 0.9671 | 0.9678 | 0.9686 | 0.9693 | 0.9699 | 0.9706 |
| 1.9 | 0.9713 | 0.9719 | 0.9726 | 0.9732 | 0.9738 | 0.9744 | 0.9750 | 0.9756 | 0.9761 | 0.9767 |
| 2.0 | 0.9772 | 0.9778 | 0.9783 | 0.9788 | 0.9793 | 0.9798 | 0.9803 | 0.9808 | 0.9812 | 0.9817 |
| 2.1 | 0.9821 | 0.9826 | 0.9830 | 0.9834 | 0.9838 | 0.9842 | 0.9846 | 0.9850 | 0.9854 | 0.9857 |
| 2.2 | 0.9861 | 0.9864 | 0.9868 | 0.9871 | 0.9875 | 0.9878 | 0.9881 | 0.9884 | 0.9887 | 0.9890 |
| 2.3 | 0.9893 | 0.9896 | 0.9898 | 0.9901 | 0.9904 | 0.9906 | 0.9909 | 0.9911 | 0.9913 | 0.9916 |
| 2.4 | 0.9918 | 0.9920 | 0.9922 | 0.9925 | 0.9927 | 0.9929 | 0.9931 | 0.9932 | 0.9934 | 0.9936 |
| 2.5 | 0.9938 | 0.9940 | 0.9941 | 0.9943 | 0.9945 | 0.9946 | 0.9948 | 0.9949 | 0.9951 | 0.9952 |
| 2.6 | 0.9953 | 0.9955 | 0.9956 | 0.9957 | 0.9959 | 0.9960 | 0.9961 | 0.9962 | 0.9963 | 0.9964 |
| 2.7 | 0.9965 | 0.9966 | 0.9967 | 0.9968 | 0.9969 | 0.9970 | 0.9971 | 0.9972 | 0.9973 | 0.9974 |
| 2.8 | 0.9974 | 0.9975 | 0.9976 | 0.9977 | 0.9977 | 0.9978 | 0.9979 | 0.9979 | 0.9980 | 0.9981 |
| 2.9 | 0.9981 | 0.9982 | 0.9982 | 0.9983 | 0.9984 | 0.9984 | 0.9985 | 0.9985 | 0.9986 | 0.9986 |
| 3.0 | 0.9987 | 0.9987 | 0.9987 | 0.9988 | 0.9988 | 0.9989 | 0.9989 | 0.9989 | 0.9990 | 0.9990 |