UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND

SUPPLEMENTARY EXAMINATION PAPER 2013

TITLE OF PAPER : STATISTICAL INFERENCE II

COURSE CODE : ST 303

TIME ALLOWED : TWO (2) HOURS

REQUIREMENTS : CALCULATOR AND STATISTICAL TABLES

INSTRUCTIONS : ANSWER ANY THREE QUESTIONS

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Question 1

The times in seconds $T_1, T_2, \ldots, T_n$ between messages arriving at a node in a telecommunications system constitute a random sample from an exponential distribution with probability density function $f(t) = \mu^{-1}e^{-t/\mu}$ $(t > 0)$, where μ (> 0) is an unknown parameter.

(a) Show that $\sum_{i=1}^{n} T_i$ is a sufficient statistic for μ.

(3Marks)

(b) Show that $\hat{\mu}_n = (1/n)\sum_{i=1}^{n} T_i$ is an unbiased estimator of μ and find its variance.

(5Marks)

(c) Is $\hat{\mu}_n$ a consistent estimator of μ? Justify your answer.

(2Marks)

(d) Show that $E(\sqrt{T_i}) = \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{\pi\mu}$ and hence show that $\tilde{\mu} = \frac{4}{\pi}\sqrt{T_1 T_2}$ is an unbiased estimator of μ.

(6Marks)

(e) Find the relative efficiency of $\tilde{\mu}$ compared to $\hat{\mu}_2$.

(4Marks)

Solutions

Question 2

(a) Explain what is meant by *the likelihood function*, and why it may be useful in estimating the value of a parameter.

(5Marks)

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

$$f(x) = \frac{\theta^3 x^2 e^{-\theta x}}{2} \qquad (x > 0)$$

where $\theta > 0$ is an unknown parameter. A random sample of values $X_1, X_2, \ldots, X_n$ is available from this distribution.

i). Show that the maximum likelihood estimator of θ is $\hat{\theta} = \frac{3}{\bar{X}}$ where $\bar{X}$ is the sample mean of $X_1, X_2, \ldots, X_n$.

(5 Marks)

ii). Find the approximate distribution of $\hat{\theta}$ when n is large, and use this result to find an approximate 95% confidence interval for θ when $n = 200$ and $\bar{X} = 6.0$.

(5 Marks)

iii). Show that $\hat{\theta}$ is a biased estimator of θ when $n = 1$.

(5 Marks)

Question 3

(a) Explain what is meant by a *conjugate family of distributions* in Bayesian inference.

(2 Marks)

(b) The numbers of accidents in a mine for the last n years are $X_1, X_2, \ldots, X_n$, where accidents in different years are independent and X_i has the Poisson distribution, mean λ, for $i = 1, \ldots, n$. The prior distribution of λ is gamma, parameters k and ν, both known positive constants. This gamma distribution has probability density function of :

$$f(y) = \frac{\nu^k y^{k-1} e^{-\nu y}}{\Gamma(k)}$$

for $y > 0$, mean $\frac{k}{\nu}$ and variance $\frac{k}{\nu^2}$

i). Find the posterior distribution of λ.

(5 Marks)

ii). Show how a Normal approximation can be used to find an approximate 95% Bayesian interval estimate for λ.

(3 Marks)

iii). Let X_{n+1} be the number of accidents in the mine next year. Find the predictive distribution of X_{n+1}.

(6 Marks)

iv). Suppose now that a different prior distribution has been judged appropriate, and for this prior there is no simple formula for the posterior distribution of λ. However, a computer program is available to simulate values $L_1, L_2, L_3, \ldots$ which behave as if they are a random sample from the posterior distribution. Explain how these simulated values may be used to find an approximate 95% Bayesian interval for λ and the predictive distribution of X_{n+1}.

(4 Marks)

Question 4

(a) Explain what is meant by: the size of a statistical test, a test statistic and a confidence set.

(4 Marks)

(b) Observations $X_1, X_2, \ldots, X_n$ constitute a random sample from a distribution with unknown parameter θ, and it is required to test the hypothesis $H_0{:}\theta = \theta_0$ against $H_1{:}\theta \neq \theta_0$. A test statistic $h(X_1,\ldots,X_n;\, \theta_0)$ is available which can be used to find a test for any θ_0. Show how a 95% confidence interval for θ can be constructed based on this test statistic.

(3 Marks)

(c) Waiting times $Y_1, Y_2, \ldots, Y_n$ constitute a random sample from the gamma distribution with probability density function of :

$$f(y) = \frac{y^k e^{-y/\lambda}}{k!\,\lambda^{k+1}} \quad (y > 0),$$

where k is a known non-negative integer and $\lambda > 0$ is an unknown parameter. You are given that the moment generating function of this distribution is $(1-\lambda t)^{-k-1}$ and that the above distribution is χ^2_{2k+2} when $\lambda = 2$.

i). Show that $\frac{2W}{\lambda}$ is a pivotal quantity for λ.

(8 Marks)

ii). Use your answer to part (i) to find a 95% confidence interval for λ when $n = 5, \sum_{i=1}^{n} Y_i$ and $k = 1$.

(5 Marks)

Question 5

Let $X_1, X_2, \ldots, X_n$ be a random sample from a Normal distribution with unknown mean μ and known variance σ^2 (> 0).

(a) Use the Neyman-Pearson method to find the uniformly most powerful level α test of the null hypothesis $\mu = \mu_0$ against the alternative $\mu > \mu_0$, where μ_0 is known and $0 < \alpha < 1$.

(8 Marks)

(b) Draw a graph of the operating characteristic of the test for the hypotheses in part (a) in the case $\mu_0 = 50$, $\alpha = 0.05$, $\sigma^2 = 4.0$ and $n = 10$. You should show the calculation of at least three points on your graph.

(6 Marks)

(c) In the case $\mu_0 = 50$, $\alpha = 0.05$, $\sigma^2 = 4.0$, calculate the minimum sample size required for the power at $\mu = 50.5$ to be at least 0.90.

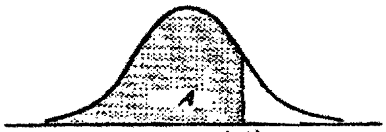
(6 Marks)

STATISTICAL TABLES

Normal Distribution

Table C-1. Cumulative Probabilities of the Standard Normal Distribution.

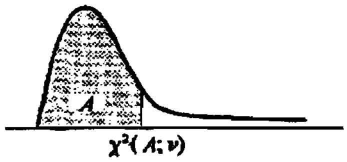
Entry is area A under the standard normal curve from $-\infty$ to $z(A)$



z	.00	.01	.02	.03	.04	.05	.06	.07	.08	.09
.0	.5000	.5040	.5080	.5120	.5160	.5199	.5239	.5279	.5319	.5359
.1	.5398	.5438	.5478	.5517	.5557	.5596	.5636	.5675	.5714	.5753
.2	.5793	.5832	.5871	.5910	.5948	.5987	.6026	.6064	.6103	.6141
.3	.6179	.6217	.6255	.6293	.6331	.6368	.6406	.6443	.6480	.6517
.4	.6554	.6591	.6628	.6664	.6700	.6736	.6772	.6808	.6844	.6879
.5	.6915	.6950	.6985	.7019	.7054	.7088	.7123	.7157	.7190	.7224
.6	.7257	.7291	.7324	.7357	.7389	.7422	.7454	.7486	.7517	.7549
.7	.7580	.7611	.7642	.7673	.7704	.7734	.7764	.7794	.7823	.7852
.8	.7881	.7910	.7939	.7967	.7995	.8023	.8051	.8078	.8106	.8133
.9	.8159	.8186	.8212	.8238	.8264	.8289	.8315	.8340	.8365	.8389
1.0	.8413	.8438	.8461	.8485	.8508	.8531	.8554	.8577	.8599	.8621
1.1	.8643	.8665	.8686	.8708	.8729	.8749	.8770	.8790	.8810	.8830
1.2	.8849	.8869	.8888	.8907	.8925	.8944	.8962	.8980	.8997	.9015
1.3	.9032	.9049	.9066	.9082	.9099	.9115	.9131	.9147	.9162	.9177
1.4	.9192	.9207	.9222	.9236	.9251	.9265	.9279	.9292	.9306	.9319
1.5	.9332	.9345	.9357	.9370	.9382	.9394	.9406	.9418	.9429	.9441
1.6	.9452	.9463	.9474	.9484	.9495	.9505	.9515	.9525	.9535	.9545
1.7	.9554	.9564	.9573	.9582	.9591	.9599	.9608	.9616	.9625	.9633
1.8	.9641	.9649	.9656	.9664	.9671	.9678	.9686	.9693	.9699	.9706
1.9	.9713	.9719	.9726	.9732	.9738	.9744	.9750	.9756	.9761	.9767
2.0	.9772	.9778	.9783	.9788	.9793	.9798	.9803	.9808	.9812	.9817
2.1	.9821	.9826	.9830	.9834	.9838	.9842	.9846	.9850	.9854	.9857
2.2	.9861	.9864	.9868	.9871	.9875	.9878	.9881	.9884	.9887	.9890
2.3	.9893	.9896	.9898	.9901	.9904	.9906	.9909	.9911	.9913	.9916
2.4	.9918	.9920	.9922	.9925	.9927	.9929	.9931	.9932	.9934	.9936
2.5	.9938	.9940	.9941	.9943	.9945	.9946	.9948	.9949	.9951	.9952
2.6	.9953	.9955	.9956	.9957	.9959	.9960	.9961	.9962	.9963	.9964
2.7	.9965	.9966	.9967	.9968	.9969	.9970	.9971	.9972	.9973	.9974
2.8	.9974	.9975	.9976	.9977	.9977	.9978	.9979	.9979	.9980	.9981
2.9	.9981	.9982	.9982	.9983	.9984	.9984	.9985	.9985	.9986	.9986
3.0	.9987	.9987	.9987	.9988	.9988	.9989	.9989	.9989	.9990	.9990
3.1	.9990	.9991	.9991	.9991	.9992	.9992	.9992	.9992	.9993	.9993
3.2	.9993	.9993	.9994	.9994	.9994	.9994	.9994	.9995	.9995	.9995
3.3	.9995	.9995	.9995	.9996	.9996	.9996	.9996	.9996	.9996	.9997
3.4	.9997	.9997	.9997	.9997	.9997	.9997	.9997	.9997	.9997	.9998

Table C-2. Percentiles of the χ^2 Distribution

Entry is $\chi^2(A;\ \nu)$ where $P\{\chi^2(\nu) \le \chi^2(A;\ \nu)\} = A$

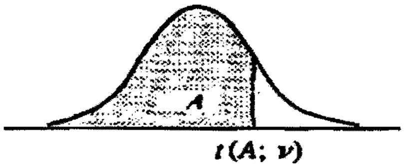


ν	A: .005	.010	.025	.050	.100	.900	.950	.975	.990	.995
1	0.0^4393	0.0^3157	0.0^3982	0.0^2393	0.0158	2.71	3.84	5.02	6.63	7.88
2	0.0100	0.0201	0.0506	0.103	0.211	4.61	5.99	7.38	9.21	10.60
3	0.072	0.115	0.216	0.352	0.584	6.25	7.81	9.35	11.34	12.84
4	0.207	0.297	0.484	0.711	1.064	7.78	9.49	11.14	13.28	14.86
5	0.412	0.554	0.831	1.145	1.61	9.24	11.07	12.83	15.09	16.75
6	0.676	0.872	1.24	1.64	2.20	10.64	12.59	14.45	16.81	18.55
7	0.989	1.24	1.69	2.17	2.83	12.02	14.07	16.01	18.48	20.28
8	1.34	1.65	2.18	2.73	3.49	13.36	15.51	17.53	20.09	21.96
9	1.73	2.09	2.70	3.33	4.17	14.68	16.92	19.02	21.67	23.59
10	2.16	2.56	3.25	3.94	4.87	15.99	18.31	20.48	23.21	25.19
11	2.60	3.05	3.82	4.57	5.58	17.28	19.68	21.92	24.73	26.76
12	3.07	3.57	4.40	5.23	6.30	18.55	21.03	23.34	26.22	28.30
13	3.57	4.11	5.01	5.89	7.04	19.81	22.36	24.74	27.69	29.82
14	4.07	4.66	5.63	6.57	7.79	21.06	23.68	26.12	29.14	31.32
15	4.60	5.23	6.26	7.26	8.55	22.31	25.00	27.49	30.58	32.80
16	5.14	5.81	6.91	7.96	9.31	23.54	26.30	28.85	32.00	34.27
17	5.70	6.41	7.56	8.67	10.09	24.77	27.59	30.19	33.41	35.72
18	6.26	7.01	8.23	9.39	10.86	25.99	28.87	31.53	34.81	37.16
19	6.84	7.63	8.91	10.12	11.65	27.20	30.14	32.85	36.19	38.58
20	7.43	8.26	9.59	10.85	12.44	28.41	31.41	34.17	37.57	40.00
21	8.03	8.90	10.28	11.59	13.24	29.62	32.67	35.48	38.93	41.40
22	8.64	9.54	10.98	12.34	14.04	30.81	33.92	36.78	40.29	42.80
23	9.26	10.20	11.69	13.09	14.85	32.01	35.17	38.08	41.64	44.18
24	9.89	10.86	12.40	13.85	15.66	33.20	36.42	39.36	42.98	45.56
25	10.52	11.52	13.12	14.61	16.47	34.38	37.65	40.65	44.31	46.93
26	11.16	12.20	13.84	15.38	17.29	35.56	38.89	41.92	45.64	48.29
27	11.81	12.88	14.57	16.15	18.11	36.74	40.11	43.19	46.96	49.64
28	12.46	13.56	15.31	16.93	18.94	37.92	41.34	44.46	48.28	50.99
29	13.12	14.26	16.05	17.71	19.77	39.09	42.56	45.72	49.59	52.34
30	13.79	14.95	16.79	18.49	20.60	40.26	43.77	46.98	50.89	53.67
40	20.71	22.16	24.43	26.51	29.05	51.81	55.76	59.34	63.69	66.77
50	27.99	29.71	32.36	34.76	37.69	63.17	67.50	71.42	76.15	79.49
60	35.53	37.48	40.48	43.19	46.46	74.40	79.08	83.30	88.38	91.95
70	43.28	45.44	48.76	51.74	55.33	85.53	90.53	95.02	100.4	104.2
80	51.17	53.54	57.15	60.39	64.28	96.58	101.9	106.6	112.3	116.3
90	59.20	61.75	65.65	69.13	73.29	107.6	113.1	118.1	124.1	128.3
100	67.33	70.06	74.22	77.93	82.36	118.5	124.3	129.6	135.8	140.2

Student's Distribution (*t* Distribution)

Table C-4 Percentiles of the *t* Distribution

Entry is $t(A;\nu)$ where $P\{t(\nu) \leq t(A;\nu)\} = A$



ν	A = .60	.70	.80	.85	.90	.95	.975
1	0.325	0.727	1.376	1.963	3.078	6.314	12.706
2	0.289	0.617	1.061	1.386	1.886	2.920	4.303
3	0.277	0.584	0.978	1.250	1.638	2.353	3.182
4	0.271	0.569	0.941	1.190	1.533	2.132	2.776
5	0.267	0.559	0.920	1.156	1.476	2.015	2.571
6	0.265	0.553	0.906	1.134	1.440	1.943	2.447
7	0.263	0.549	0.896	1.119	1.415	1.895	2.365
8	0.262	0.546	0.889	1.108	1.397	1.860	2.306
9	0.261	0.543	0.883	1.100	1.383	1.833	2.262
10	0.260	0.542	0.879	1.093	1.372	1.812	2.228
11	0.260	0.540	0.876	1.088	1.363	1.796	2.201
12	0.259	0.539	0.873	1.083	1.356	1.782	2.179
13	0.259	0.537	0.870	1.079	1.350	1.771	2.160
14	0.258	0.537	0.868	1.076	1.345	1.761	2.145
15	0.258	0.536	0.866	1.074	1.341	1.753	2.131
16	0.258	0.535	0.865	1.071	1.337	1.746	2.120
17	0.257	0.534	0.863	1.069	1.333	1.740	2.110
18	0.257	0.534	0.862	1.067	1.330	1.734	2.101
19	0.257	0.533	0.861	1.066	1.328	1.729	2.093
20	0.257	0.533	0.860	1.064	1.325	1.725	2.086
21	0.257	0.532	0.859	1.063	1.323	1.721	2.080
22	0.256	0.532	0.858	1.061	1.321	1.717	2.074
23	0.256	0.532	0.858	1.060	1.319	1.714	2.069
24	0.256	0.531	0.857	1.059	1.318	1.711	2.064
25	0.256	0.531	0.856	1.058	1.316	1.708	2.060
26	0.256	0.531	0.856	1.058	1.315	1.706	2.056
27	0.256	0.531	0.855	1.057	1.314	1.703	2.052
28	0.256	0.530	0.855	1.056	1.313	1.701	2.048
29	0.256	0.530	0.854	1.055	1.311	1.699	2.045
30	0.256	0.530	0.854	1.055	1.310	1.697	2.042
40	0.255	0.529	0.851	1.050	1.303	1.684	2.021
60	0.254	0.527	0.848	1.045	1.296	1.671	2.000
120	0.254	0.526	0.845	1.041	1.289	1.658	1.980
∞	0.253	0.524	0.842	1.036	1.282	1.645	1.960

Table C-4 (Continued) Percentiles of the t Distribution

	A						
ν	.98	.985	.99	.9925	.995	.9975	.9995
1	15.895	21.205	31.821	42.434	63.657	127.322	636.590
2	4.849	5.643	6.965	8.073	9.925	14.089	31.598
3	3.482	3.896	4.541	5.047	5.841	7.453	12.924
4	2.999	3.298	3.747	4.088	4.604	5.598	8.610
5	2.757	3.003	3.365	3.634	4.032	4.773	6.869
6	2.612	2.829	3.143	3.372	3.707	4.317	5.959
7	2.517	2.715	2.998	3.203	3.499	4.029	5.408
8	2.449	2.634	2.896	3.085	3.355	3.833	5.041
9	2.398	2.574	2.821	2.998	3.250	3.690	4.781
10	2.359	2.527	2.764	2.932	3.169	3.581	4.587
11	2.328	2.491	2.718	2.879	3.106	3.497	4.437
12	2.303	2.461	2.681	2.836	3.055	3.428	4.318
13	2.282	2.436	2.650	2.801	3.012	3.372	4.221
14	2.264	2.415	2.624	2.771	2.977	3.326	4.140
15	2.249	2.397	2.602	2.746	2.947	3.286	4.073
16	2.235	2.382	2.583	2.724	2.921	3.252	4.015
17	2.224	2.368	2.567	2.706	2.898	3.222	3.965
18	2.214	2.356	2.552	2.689	2.878	3.197	3.922
19	2.205	2.346	2.539	2.674	2.861	3.174	3.883
20	2.197	2.336	2.528	2.661	2.845	3.153	3.849
21	2.189	2.328	2.518	2.649	2.831	3.135	3.819
22	2.183	2.320	2.508	2.639	2.819	3.119	3.792
23	2.177	2.313	2.500	2.629	2.807	3.104	3.768
24	2.172	2.307	2.492	2.620	2.797	3.091	3.745
25	2.167	2.301	2.485	2.612	2.787	3.078	3.725
26	2.162	2.296	2.479	2.605	2.779	3.067	3.707
27	2.158	2.291	2.473	2.598	2.771	3.057	3.690
28	2.154	2.286	2.467	2.592	2.763	3.047	3.674
29	2.150	2.282	2.462	2.586	2.756	3.038	3.659
30	2.147	2.278	2.457	2.581	2.750	3.030	3.646
40	2.123	2.250	2.423	2.542	2.704	2.971	3.551
60	2.099	2.223	2.390	2.504	2.660	2.915	3.460
120	2.076	2.196	2.358	2.468	2.617	2.860	3.373
∞	2.054	2.170	2.326	2.432	2.576	2.807	3.291