



STRATHMORE UNIVERSITY
STRATHMORE INSTITUTE OF MATHEMATICAL SCIENCES
END OF SEM EXAMINATION
MASTER OF SCIENCE IN BIOMATHEMATICS
BMA 8203-STOCHASTIC MODELLING

Date: 30th August,2022

Time: 3 Hours

INSTRUCTIONS

Answer QUESTION ONE and ANY OTHER TWO questions

Question One (20 Marks)

(a) Give the definitions of a Gaussian white noise, standard white noise and the Wiener process. (3 marks)

(b) Let $W(t)$ be a standard Brownian motion. Define

$$X(t) = \exp\{W(t)\}, \text{ for all } t \in [0, \infty).$$

(i) Find $E[X(t)]$, for all $t \in [0, \infty)$. (3 marks)

(ii) Find $Var(X(t))$, for all $t \in [0, \infty)$. (3 marks)

(iii) Let $0 \leq s \leq t$. Find $Cov(X(s), X(t))$. (5 marks)

(c) Consider the SDE:

$$dX(t) = \mu X(t)dt + \sigma X(t)dB(t),$$

where $-\infty < \mu < \infty$, $\sigma > 0$. Using Coefficient Matching Method, find the solution of $X(t)$. (6 marks)

Question Two (20 Marks)

Consider the following Markov chain one-step transition matrix, where some elements are replaced by *:

$$P = \begin{pmatrix} 1/2 & 1/2 & ? & ? \\ 1/3 & 1/4 & ? & 1/4 \\ 1/4 & ? & 1/4 & 1/4 \\ ? & ? & 1/3 & 2/3 \end{pmatrix}$$

- (a) Explain why the missing elements of P can be determined from the available information, and find them. (4 marks)
- (b) Draw the transition diagram and use it to explain why this Markov chain possesses an equilibrium distribution. (4 marks)
- (c) Without performing any calculations, describe as best you can, the eigen-values of the matrix P . (4 marks)
- (d) Find the equilibrium distribution. (8 marks)

Question Three (20 Marks)

- (a) Find the mean, autocorrelation and autocovariance of the random process

$$X(t) = A \cos \omega(t),$$

where ω and A is $U(0, 1)$. (9 marks)

- (b) X is a Poisson distributed random variable with parameter λ . Calculate $\mathbb{E}[3^X]$ (4 marks)
- (c) Let $\{B(t), t > 0\}$ be a standard Brownian motion. Consider a stochastic process $\{V(t), t > 0\}$, with drift $\beta > 0$, diffusion σ^2 and initial condition $V(0) = \nu$, is given by

$$V(t) = \nu e^{-\beta t} + \frac{\sigma}{\sqrt{2\beta}} B(e^{-\beta t} - 1).$$

Find $\mathbb{E}[V(t)]$ and $Var(V(t))$ (7 marks)

Question Four (20 Marks)

- (a) Suppose the following table gives the initial distribution of people in the three blood groups

Group	State	Proportion
M	1	39%
N	2	127%
MN	3	34%

With transition matrix

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0.75 & 0.20 & 0.05 \\ 0.06 & 0.80 & 0.14 \\ 0.12 & 0.25 & 0.63 \end{bmatrix}$$

Write a program in R that finds the blood groups composition after 10 years.

(13 marks)

- (b) Let B_t be a Brownian motion. Show that the process $X_t = -B(T-t) - B(t)$, $t < T < \infty$ is Brownian motion on $[0, T]$

(7 marks)

Question Five (20 Marks)

- (a) Given a Legendre polynomial $P_n(x)$, with explicit representations

$$P_n(x) = \sum_{k=0}^n \binom{n}{k} \binom{n+k}{k} \left(\frac{x-1}{2}\right)^k.$$

Write an R code to plot line graphs of the given polynomial with $xlim = c(-1, 1)$ and $ylim = c(-1, 1)$ for $n = 0, 1, 2, \dots, 6$.

(12 marks)

- (b) Let Y_1, Y_2, \dots be a sequence of independent random variables with zero mean and common variance σ^2 . If $X_n = Y_1 + \dots + Y_n$, then show that $X_n - n\sigma^2$ is a martingale.

(8 marks)