

Qualifying Exam
Department of Mathematics and Statistics
Probability and Statistics
1/8/2026
Time Limit: 3 hours

Name: _____

Notification of this test:

1. You have 3 hours to complete the exam. You are required to show all the work for all the problems. There are two parts in the exam: (1) Elementary part and (2) Challenging Part. Please budget your time wisely for all two parts. Problems 1 - 5 are elementary part and problems 6 - 10 are challenging part including proof questions. The suggested passing grade for the elementary part is 80% (40+), and challenging part is 70% (35+).
2. Partial credits for some questions (or some sub-questions) will be given, so please try your best and include your answer even you do not finish.

Grade Table (for teacher use only)

Question	Points	Score
1	10	
2	10	
3	10	
4	10	
5	10	
6	10	
7	10	
8	10	
9	10	
10	10	
Total:	100	

1. (10 points) An insurance company pays hospital claims. The number of claims that include emergency room or operating room charges is 85% of the total number of claims. The number of claims that do not include emergency room charges is 25% of the total number of claims. The occurrence of emergency room charges is independent of the occurrence of operating room charges on hospital claims.

Calculate the probability that a claim submitted to the insurance company includes operating room charges.

2. (10 points) The lifetime of a printer costing 200 is exponentially distributed with mean 2 years (the pdf of exponential distribution is $f(x) = \frac{1}{\theta}e^{-\frac{x}{\theta}}$, $0 < x < \infty$, $\theta > 0$). The manufacturer agrees to pay a full refund to a buyer if the printer fails during the first year following its purchase, a one-half refund if it fails during the second year, and no refund for failure after the second year.

Calculate the expected total amount of refunds from the sale of 100 printers.

3. (10 points) A health study tracked a group of persons for five years. At the beginning of the study, 20% were classified as heavy smokers, 30% as light smokers, and 50% as nonsmokers. Results of the study showed that light smokers were twice as likely as nonsmokers to die during the five-year study, but only half as likely as heavy smokers. A randomly selected participant from the study died during the five-year period. Calculate the probability that the participant was a heavy smoker.

4. (10 points) A certain brand of refrigerator has a useful life that is normally distributed with mean 10 years and standard deviation 3 years. The useful lives of these refrigerators are independent. Calculate the probability that the total useful life of two randomly selected refrigerators will exceed 1.9 times the useful life of a third randomly selected refrigerator.

5. (10 points) Employees of a large company all choose one of three levels of health insurance coverage, for which premiums, denoted by X , are 1, 2, and 3, respectively. Premiums are subject to a discount, denoted by Y , of 0 for smokers and 1 for non-smokers. The joint probability function of X and Y is given by

$$p(x, y) = \begin{cases} \frac{x^2+y^2}{31}, & \text{for } x = 1, 2, 3 \text{ and } y = 0, 1 \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Calculate the variance of $X - Y$, the total premium paid by a randomly chosen employee.

6. (10 points) Let X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n be a random sample from a population. Prove that if $E(X_i^2) < \infty$ for each $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$, then

$$\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n X_i \rightarrow E(X_1)$$

in probability.

7. (10 points) Prove that if $X_n \rightarrow X$ in probability and $|X_n| \leq M < \infty$ for all n , then $E[|X_n - X|] \rightarrow 0$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$.

8. (10 points) Let X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n be i.i.d random variables and set $S_n = \sum_{i=1}^n X_i$.

(a) (5 points) Show that if X_1 has mean zero and finite fourth moment, then $E(S_n^4) = nE(X_1^4) + 3n(n-1)\sigma^4$, where $\sigma^2 = \text{Var}(X_1)$. Conclude that

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} E \left(\frac{S_n}{\sigma\sqrt{n}} \right)^4 = 3.$$

(b) (5 points) Show that if X_1 is a Bernoulli random variable with parameter p , $0 < p < 1$ (its probability mass function is $f(x) = p^x(1-p)^{1-x}$, $x = 0, 1$), then

$$P \left(\left| \frac{S_n}{n} - p \right| > \varepsilon \right) \leq \frac{1}{4\varepsilon^4 n^2}$$

for all n and $\varepsilon > 0$.

9. (10 points) Let $\mathbf{X} = (X_1, \dots, X_n)$ be a random sample from distribution with density function $f(x, \theta) = \theta x^{\theta-1}$, $0 < x < 1$, $0 < \theta < \infty$.

(a) (5 points) Find the Fisher information

$$I(\theta) = E_{\theta} \left[\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \log f(\mathbf{X}|\theta) \right)^2 \right]$$

(b) (5 points) Show that $\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \log X_i$ is a uniformly minimum variance unbiased estimator (UMVUE) of $-\frac{1}{\theta}$.

10. (10 points) Let $\mathbf{X} = (X_1, \dots, X_n)$ be a random sample from distribution with probability density function

$$f(x, \theta) = \frac{2x}{\theta} \exp\left\{-\frac{x^2}{\theta}\right\}, \quad x > 0, \quad \theta > 0.$$

(a) (5 points) Find the maximum likelihood estimator (MLE) of θ .

(b) (5 points) Find the likelihood ratio test (LRT) for $H_0 : \theta = \theta_0$ versus $H_1 : \theta \neq \theta_0$.

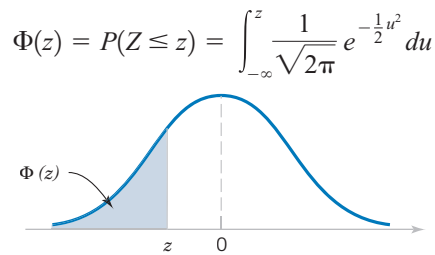


Table II Cumulative Standard Normal Distribution

<i>z</i>	-0.09	-0.08	-0.07	-0.06	-0.05	-0.04	-0.03	-0.02	-0.01	-0.00
-3.9	0.000033	0.000034	0.000036	0.000037	0.000039	0.000041	0.000042	0.000044	0.000046	0.000048
-3.8	0.000050	0.000052	0.000054	0.000057	0.000059	0.000062	0.000064	0.000067	0.000069	0.000072
-3.7	0.000075	0.000078	0.000082	0.000085	0.000088	0.000092	0.000096	0.000100	0.000104	0.000108
-3.6	0.000112	0.000117	0.000121	0.000126	0.000131	0.000136	0.000142	0.000147	0.000153	0.000159
-3.5	0.000165	0.000172	0.000179	0.000185	0.000193	0.000200	0.000208	0.000216	0.000224	0.000233
-3.4	0.000242	0.000251	0.000260	0.000270	0.000280	0.000291	0.000302	0.000313	0.000325	0.000337
-3.3	0.000350	0.000362	0.000376	0.000390	0.000404	0.000419	0.000434	0.000450	0.000467	0.000483
-3.2	0.000501	0.000519	0.000538	0.000557	0.000577	0.000598	0.000619	0.000641	0.000664	0.000687
-3.1	0.000711	0.000736	0.000762	0.000789	0.000816	0.000845	0.000874	0.000904	0.000935	0.000968
-3.0	0.001001	0.001035	0.001070	0.001107	0.001144	0.001183	0.001223	0.001264	0.001306	0.001350
-2.9	0.001395	0.001441	0.001489	0.001538	0.001589	0.001641	0.001695	0.001750	0.001807	0.001866
-2.8	0.001926	0.001988	0.002052	0.002118	0.002186	0.002256	0.002327	0.002401	0.002477	0.002555
-2.7	0.002635	0.002718	0.002803	0.002890	0.002980	0.003072	0.003167	0.003264	0.003364	0.003467
-2.6	0.003573	0.003681	0.003793	0.003907	0.004025	0.004145	0.004269	0.004396	0.004527	0.004661
-2.5	0.004799	0.004940	0.005085	0.005234	0.005386	0.005543	0.005703	0.005868	0.006037	0.006210
-2.4	0.006387	0.006569	0.006756	0.006947	0.007143	0.007344	0.007549	0.007760	0.007976	0.008198
-2.3	0.008424	0.008656	0.008894	0.009137	0.009387	0.009642	0.009903	0.010170	0.010444	0.010724
-2.2	0.011011	0.011304	0.011604	0.011911	0.012224	0.012545	0.012874	0.013209	0.013553	0.013903
-2.1	0.014262	0.014629	0.015003	0.015386	0.015778	0.016177	0.016586	0.017003	0.017429	0.017864
-2.0	0.018309	0.018763	0.019226	0.019699	0.020182	0.020675	0.021178	0.021692	0.022216	0.022750
-1.9	0.023295	0.023852	0.024419	0.024998	0.025588	0.026190	0.026803	0.027429	0.028067	0.028717
-1.8	0.029379	0.030054	0.030742	0.031443	0.032157	0.032884	0.033625	0.034379	0.035148	0.035930
-1.7	0.036727	0.037538	0.038364	0.039204	0.040059	0.040929	0.041815	0.042716	0.043633	0.044565
-1.6	0.045514	0.046479	0.047460	0.048457	0.049471	0.050503	0.051551	0.052616	0.053699	0.054799
-1.5	0.055917	0.057053	0.058208	0.059380	0.060571	0.061780	0.063008	0.064256	0.065522	0.066807
-1.4	0.068112	0.069437	0.070781	0.072145	0.073529	0.074934	0.076359	0.077804	0.079270	0.080757
-1.3	0.082264	0.083793	0.085343	0.086915	0.088508	0.090123	0.091759	0.093418	0.095098	0.096801
-1.2	0.098525	0.100273	0.102042	0.103835	0.105650	0.107488	0.109349	0.111233	0.113140	0.115070
-1.1	0.117023	0.119000	0.121001	0.123024	0.125072	0.127143	0.129238	0.131357	0.133500	0.135666
-1.0	0.137857	0.140071	0.142310	0.144572	0.146859	0.149170	0.151505	0.153864	0.156248	0.158655
-0.9	0.161087	0.163543	0.166023	0.168528	0.171056	0.173609	0.176185	0.178786	0.181411	0.184060
-0.8	0.186733	0.189430	0.192150	0.194894	0.197662	0.200454	0.203269	0.206108	0.208970	0.211855
-0.7	0.214764	0.217695	0.220650	0.223627	0.226627	0.229650	0.232695	0.235762	0.238852	0.241964
-0.6	0.245097	0.248252	0.251429	0.254627	0.257846	0.261086	0.264347	0.267629	0.270931	0.274253
-0.5	0.277595	0.280957	0.284339	0.287740	0.291160	0.294599	0.298056	0.301532	0.305026	0.308538
-0.4	0.312067	0.315614	0.319178	0.322758	0.326355	0.329969	0.333598	0.337243	0.340903	0.344578
-0.3	0.348268	0.351973	0.355691	0.359424	0.363169	0.366928	0.370700	0.374484	0.378281	0.382089
-0.2	0.385908	0.389739	0.393580	0.397432	0.401294	0.405165	0.409046	0.412936	0.416834	0.420740
-0.1	0.424655	0.428576	0.432505	0.436441	0.440382	0.444330	0.448283	0.452242	0.456205	0.460172
0.0	0.464144	0.468119	0.472097	0.476078	0.480061	0.484047	0.488033	0.492022	0.496011	0.500000

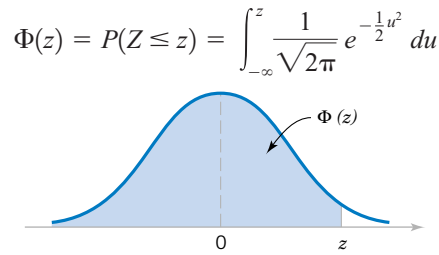


Table II Cumulative Standard Normal Distribution (continued)

z	0.00	0.01	0.02	0.03	0.04	0.05	0.06	0.07	0.08	0.09
0.0	0.500000	0.503989	0.507978	0.511967	0.515953	0.519939	0.523922	0.527903	0.531881	0.535856
0.1	0.539828	0.543795	0.547758	0.551717	0.555676	0.559618	0.563559	0.567495	0.571424	0.575345
0.2	0.579260	0.583166	0.587064	0.590954	0.594835	0.598706	0.602568	0.606420	0.610261	0.614092
0.3	0.617911	0.621719	0.625516	0.629300	0.633072	0.636831	0.640576	0.644309	0.648027	0.651732
0.4	0.655422	0.659097	0.662757	0.666402	0.670031	0.673645	0.677242	0.680822	0.684386	0.687933
0.5	0.691462	0.694974	0.698468	0.701944	0.705401	0.708840	0.712260	0.715661	0.719043	0.722405
0.6	0.725747	0.729069	0.732371	0.735653	0.738914	0.742154	0.745373	0.748571	0.751748	0.754903
0.7	0.758036	0.761148	0.764238	0.767305	0.770350	0.773373	0.776373	0.779350	0.782305	0.785236
0.8	0.788145	0.791030	0.793892	0.796731	0.799546	0.802338	0.805106	0.807850	0.810570	0.813267
0.9	0.815940	0.818589	0.821214	0.823815	0.826391	0.828944	0.831472	0.833977	0.836457	0.838913
1.0	0.841345	0.843752	0.846136	0.848495	0.850830	0.853141	0.855428	0.857690	0.859929	0.862143
1.1	0.864334	0.866500	0.868643	0.870762	0.872857	0.874928	0.876976	0.878999	0.881000	0.882977
1.2	0.884930	0.886860	0.888767	0.890651	0.892512	0.894350	0.896165	0.897958	0.899727	0.901475
1.3	0.903199	0.904902	0.906582	0.908241	0.909877	0.911492	0.913085	0.914657	0.916207	0.917736
1.4	0.919243	0.920730	0.922196	0.923641	0.925066	0.926471	0.927855	0.929219	0.930563	0.931888
1.5	0.933193	0.934478	0.935744	0.936992	0.938220	0.939429	0.940620	0.941792	0.942947	0.944083
1.6	0.945201	0.946301	0.947384	0.948449	0.949497	0.950529	0.951543	0.952540	0.953521	0.954486
1.7	0.955435	0.956367	0.957284	0.958185	0.959071	0.959941	0.960796	0.961636	0.962462	0.963273
1.8	0.964070	0.964852	0.965621	0.966375	0.967116	0.967843	0.968557	0.969258	0.969946	0.970621
1.9	0.971283	0.971933	0.972571	0.973197	0.973810	0.974412	0.975002	0.975581	0.976148	0.976705
2.0	0.977250	0.977784	0.978308	0.978822	0.979325	0.979818	0.980301	0.980774	0.981237	0.981691
2.1	0.982136	0.982571	0.982997	0.983414	0.983823	0.984222	0.984614	0.984997	0.985371	0.985738
2.2	0.986097	0.986447	0.986791	0.987126	0.987455	0.987776	0.988089	0.988396	0.988696	0.988989
2.3	0.989276	0.989556	0.989830	0.990097	0.990358	0.990613	0.990863	0.991106	0.991344	0.991576
2.4	0.991802	0.992024	0.992240	0.992451	0.992656	0.992857	0.993053	0.993244	0.993431	0.993613
2.5	0.993790	0.993963	0.994132	0.994297	0.994457	0.994614	0.994766	0.994915	0.995060	0.995201
2.6	0.995339	0.995473	0.995604	0.995731	0.995855	0.995975	0.996093	0.996207	0.996319	0.996427
2.7	0.996533	0.996636	0.996736	0.996833	0.996928	0.997020	0.997110	0.997197	0.997282	0.997365
2.8	0.997445	0.997523	0.997599	0.997673	0.997744	0.997814	0.997882	0.997948	0.998012	0.998074
2.9	0.998134	0.998193	0.998250	0.998305	0.998359	0.998411	0.998462	0.998511	0.998559	0.998605
3.0	0.998650	0.998694	0.998736	0.998777	0.998817	0.998856	0.998893	0.998930	0.998965	0.998999
3.1	0.999032	0.999065	0.999096	0.999126	0.999155	0.999184	0.999211	0.999238	0.999264	0.999289
3.2	0.999313	0.999336	0.999359	0.999381	0.999402	0.999423	0.999443	0.999462	0.999481	0.999499
3.3	0.999517	0.999533	0.999550	0.999566	0.999581	0.999596	0.999610	0.999624	0.999638	0.999650
3.4	0.999663	0.999675	0.999687	0.999698	0.999709	0.999720	0.999730	0.999740	0.999749	0.999758
3.5	0.999767	0.999776	0.999784	0.999792	0.999800	0.999807	0.999815	0.999821	0.999828	0.999835
3.6	0.999841	0.999847	0.999853	0.999858	0.999864	0.999869	0.999874	0.999879	0.999883	0.999888
3.7	0.999892	0.999896	0.999900	0.999904	0.999908	0.999912	0.999915	0.999918	0.999922	0.999925
3.8	0.999928	0.999931	0.999933	0.999936	0.999938	0.999941	0.999943	0.999946	0.999948	0.999950
3.9	0.999952	0.999954	0.999956	0.999958	0.999959	0.999961	0.999963	0.999964	0.999966	0.999967