

**BIRLA INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY, MESRA, RANCHI  
(END SEMESTER EXAMINATION)**

CLASS: IMSc  
BRANCH: QEDS

SEMESTER : IV  
SESSION : SP/2025

SUBJECT: ED217 STOCHASTIC PROCESSES

TIME: 3 Hours

FULL MARKS: 50

**INSTRUCTIONS:**

1. The question paper contains 5 questions each of 10 marks and total 50 marks.
  2. Attempt all questions.
  3. The missing data, if any, may be assumed suitably.
  4. Before attempting the question paper, be sure that you have got the correct question paper.
  5. Tables/Data hand book/Graph paper etc. to be supplied to the candidates in the examination hall.
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|--|------|-----------|----------|
| <p>Q.1 Let us suppose a gambler is playing a game and at each play, the probability of winning(losing) 1unit is <math>p(q)</math>. Deduce the expression of the probability that starting with "i" units, the gambler wins the game for (i) <math>p \neq q</math> and (ii) <math>p = q</math></p>  | [10] | CO<br>C01 | BL<br>II |
| <p>Q.2(a) University administrators have developed a Markov model to simulate graduation rates at their college. Students can be in 6 states i.e. first year, second year, third year, fourth year, drop out or graduate. Students might repeat a year or move on to the next year. Students have a 3% chance of repeating the year. First and second years have 6% chance of dropping out. For third and fourth year, the drop out rate is 4%. Find the probability that a student who starts as a first year eventually graduates.</p> | [5]  | C02       | III      |
| <p>Q.2(b) Let <math>P = \begin{matrix} 1 &amp; \begin{bmatrix} 0 &amp; 0.6 &amp; 0.4 &amp; 0 \\ 0.8 &amp; 0 &amp; 0 &amp; 0.2 \\ 0.5 &amp; 0.5 &amp; 0 &amp; 0 \\ 0 &amp; 0 &amp; 0 &amp; 1 \end{bmatrix} \end{matrix}</math> be a probability transition matrix. Find the expected number of transitions you need to reach state 4 starting from state 2.</p>   | [5]  | C02       | III      |
| <p>Q.3 Suppose a counting function <math>X(t)</math> represents the number of events occurring in time interval <math>(0,t)</math>. Derive the expression for the probability that there are 'k' events occurring in <math>(0,t)</math>.</p>   | [10] | C03       | II       |
| <p>Q.4(a) Define a martingale. Show that <math>X_n</math> is a martingale if <math>Z_i, i = 1,2,\dots</math> be a sequence of iid random variable with <math>E(Z_i) = 0</math> &amp; <math>\text{Var}(Z_i) = \sigma^2</math> and <math>X_n = \sum_{i=1}^n Z_i^2 - n\sigma^2</math>.</p>  | [5]  | C04       | V        |
| <p>Q.4(b) Let <math>Z_i, i = 1,2,\dots</math> be a sequence of iid random variable with exponential distribution defined as, <math>f(z) = \begin{cases} e^{-z}, &amp; z \geq 0 \\ 0, &amp; z &lt; 0 \end{cases}</math> and <math>S_n = Z_1 + Z_2 + \dots + Z_n, n \geq 1</math>. If <math>X_n = 2^n \exp(-S_n), n \geq 1</math> then prove that <math>X_n</math> is a martingale.</p>  | [5]  | C04       | V        |
| <p>Q.5 Describe birth and death process briefly. Deduce the differential equations in birth and death process and the subsequent steady state solution in case of constant birth and death rate.</p>   | [10] | C05       | III      |

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