

# **Institute of Actuaries of India**

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## **Subject CT3 – Probability & Mathematical Statistics**

### **May 2015 Examinations**

### **Indicative Solutions**

*The indicative solution has been written by the Examiners with the aim of helping candidates. The solutions given are only indicative. It is realized that there could be other approaches leading to a valid answer and examiners have given credit for any alternative approach or interpretation which they consider to be reasonable.*

**Solution 1:**

(i)

$$P[A \cup B] = P[A] + P[B] - P[A \cap B] \quad \dots \quad \text{I}$$

$$P[A \cup B^c] = P[A] + P[B^c] - P[A \cap B^c] \quad \dots \quad \text{II}$$

Adding I and II, we have

$$P[A \cup B] + P[A \cup B^c] = \{P[A] + P[B] - P[A \cap B]\} + \{P[A] + P[B^c] - P[A \cap B^c]\}$$

$$2P[A] + \{P[B] + P[B^c]\} - \{P[A \cap B] + P[A \cap B^c]\} = 0.6 + 0.8$$

$$2P[A] + 1 - P[A] = 1.4$$

$$\text{Thus } P[A] = 0.4$$

[3]

(ii)

Let X be number of people with 6 fingers in the sample of 400 persons

Assuming  $X \sim \text{Binomial}(400, 0.02)$ 

$$E(X) = 400(0.02) = 8; \text{Var}(X) = 400(0.02)(0.98) = 7.84$$

Using continuity correction:

$$P(X \geq 8) = P((X - E(X)) / \text{SD}(X)) > (7.5 - 8) / 2.8$$

$$= 1 - \Phi(-0.18) = \Phi(0.18) = 0.57142$$

Alternatively, assuming  $X \sim \text{Poisson}(400(0.02)) = \text{Poisson}(8)$ 

$$E(X) = 8; \text{Var}(X) = 8$$

Using continuity correction:

$$P(X \geq 8) = P((X - E(X)) / \text{SD}(X)) > (7.5 - 8) / 2.828$$

$$= 1 - \Phi(-0.18) = \Phi(0.18) = 0.57142$$

[3]

(iii)

Simulation from exponential distribution:

$$\text{Here } \lambda = (1/5) = 0.2;$$

$$F(x) = 1 - e^{-\lambda x} = U \Rightarrow x = (-1/\lambda) \text{Ln}(1-U),$$

where U is given as 0.0923, 0.8657 and 0.3494.

$$x_1 = -5 \text{Ln}(1 - 0.0923) = 0.4842$$

$$x_2 = -5 \text{Ln}(1 - 0.8657) = 10.038$$

$$x_3 = -5 \text{Ln}(1 - 0.3494) = 2.1493$$

[3]

(iv)

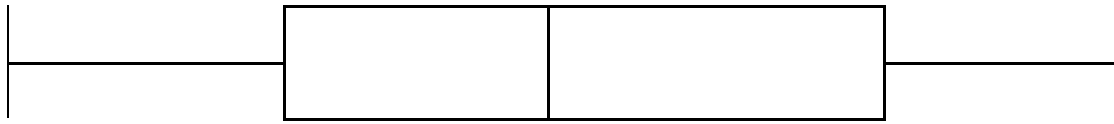
Data ordered (Rupees in Lakhs): 2,3,5,5,6,7,8,9,16

The median is the 5th observation = 6,00,000

Q1 = 2.5th observation = 4,00,000

Q3 = 7.5th observation = 8,50,000

The box plot is:



200,000 300,000 400,000 500,000 600,000 700,000 800,000 900,000 1,600,000

Here, Mean = 6,77,778;

Median = 6,00,000;

Mode = 5,00,000

Here mean > median > mode and hence the distribution is positively skewed.

[3]

[12 Marks]

### Solution 2:

(i)

Let T denote lifetime of the mobiles

$$f(t) = \frac{1}{2}e^{-t}/2, \quad 0 \leq t \leq \infty$$

$$P [T \leq 1] = \int_0^1 \frac{1}{2}e^{-t}/2 = 1 - e^{-1/2} = 0.393$$

$$P [1 \leq T \leq 2] = \int_1^2 \frac{1}{2}e^{-t}/2 = e^{-1/2} - e^{-1} = 0.239$$

$$P [T > 2] = \int_2^{\infty} \frac{1}{2}e^{-t}/2 = e^{-1} - 0 = 0.368$$

[3]

(ii)  $X_i$ : Refund for the  $i$ th mobile  $i = 1, 2, 3, \dots, 500$  where  $X_i$ 's are assumed to be independent identically distributed.

$$X_i = 10,000 \quad \text{with probability } 0.393$$

$$X_i = 5000 \quad \text{with probability } 0.239$$

$$X_i = 0 \quad \text{with probability } 0.368$$

$$E (X_i) = 10,000(0.393) + 5,000(0.239) + 0(0.368) = \text{Rs } 5,125$$

$$\text{Therefore expected refunds equal to } \sum_1^{500} E(X_i) = 500(5,125) = \text{Rs } 25,62,500$$

[3]

[6 Marks]

### Solution 3:

F: Event that laptops are faulty

$B_i$  ( $i = 1, 2, 3$  and  $4$ ): Event that the laptops come from manufacturer A if  $i=1$ ; manufacturer B if  $i=2$ ; manufacturer C if  $i=3$  and manufacturer D if  $i=4$ .

We have

$$\begin{aligned}
 P(B_2|F) &= \frac{P(F|B_2) P(B_2)}{P(F|B_1) P(B_1)+P(F|B_2) P(B_2)+P(F|B_3) P(B_3)+P(F|B_4) P(B_4)} \\
 &= \frac{10\%(30\%)}{15\%(40\%)+10\%(30\%)+5\%(20\%)+3\%(10\%)} \\
 &= 0.03/0.103 = 0.29126
 \end{aligned}$$

[4 Marks]

**Solution 4:**

(i)

$$P_{n+1} = 0.6 P_n ; n \geq 0$$

$$P_1 = 0.6 P_0$$

$$P_2 = 0.6 P_1 = 0.6^2 P_0$$

...

$$P_k = 0.6^k P_0 ; \text{where } k \geq 1$$

$$\text{We know that } P_0 + P_1 + P_2 + \dots = 1$$

$$P_0 + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} P_k = 1$$

$$P_0 + P_0(0.6^1 + 0.6^2 + 0.6^3 + \dots) = 1$$

$$P_0 + P_0(0.6/(1-0.6)) = P_0 + P_0(3/2) = 1$$

$$P_0 = 2/5 = 0.4$$

$$P_1 = 0.6 P_0$$

$$P_1 = 0.6(0.4) = 0.24$$

$$P_2 + P_3 + P_4 + \dots = (1 - 0.4 - 0.24) = 0.36$$

Number of Claims	0	1	2 and more
Probability	0.40	0.24	0.36
Claim Amount	0	5000	2500

[5]

(ii)

$$E(X) = 0.4(0) + 0.24(5000) + 0.36(2500) = 2100$$

$$V(X) = E(X^2) - [E(X)]^2$$

$$E(X^2) = 0.4(0)(0) + 0.24(5000)(5000) + 0.36(2500)(2500) = 82,50,000$$

$$V(X) = 8250000 - 2100^2 = 8250000 - 4410000 = 3840000$$

$$SD(X) = (3840000)^{0.5} = 1959.59$$

[3]

[8 Marks]

**Solution 5:**

$$(i) M_X(t) = E(e^{tx}) = \sum_{x=0}^{\infty} P(X=x) e^{tx}$$

$$= (2/3) \sum \left(\frac{e^t}{3}\right)^x \text{ for } e^t < 3$$

$$= (2/3) \left(1 / \left(1 - \left(\frac{e^t}{3}\right)\right)\right) = (2) (3 - e^t)^{-1} \text{ for } e^t < 3$$

[3]

(ii)

$$M'(t) = (2)(-1)(3-e^t)^{-2}(-e^t) = (2)e^t(3-e^t)^{-2}$$

$$M''(t) = (2)\{e^t(-2)(3-e^t)^{-3}(-e^t) + e^t(3-e^t)^{-2}\} = (2)\{2e^{2t}(3-e^t)^{-3} + e^t(3-e^t)^{-2}\}$$

$$\text{Mean} = E(X) = M'(0) = (2)e^0(3-e^0)^{-2} = (2)(1)(2)^{-2}$$

$$= (2/4) = 0.5$$

$$\text{Variance}(X) = E(X^2) - (E(X))^2 = M''(0) - (M'(0))^2$$

$$M''(0) = (2)\{2/8 + 1/4\} = (2)(4/8) = 1$$

$$\text{Variance}(X) = 1 - (0.5)^2$$

$$\text{Variance}(X) = 0.75$$

[3]

[6 Marks]

**Solution 6:**

(i)

Probability distribution of  $S_N$ :Here  $N = 0, 1,$  and  $2$ 

Number of Claims	Claim Amount (in Rs)
0	0
1	1000 or 2000
2	(1000,1000) or (1000,2000) or (2000,1000) or (2000,2000)

$$P(S_N=0) = 0.4$$

$$P(S_N=1000) = P(N=1) (P(\text{One claim of Rs 1000 given one claim})) \\ = (1/2)(0.7) = 0.35$$

$$P(S_N=2000) = P(N=1) (P(\text{One claim of Rs 2000 given one claim})) + P(N=2) (P(\text{Both claims of Rs 1000 each given 2 claims})) \\ = (1/2)(0.3) + (1/10)(0.7)(0.7) = 0.199$$

$$P(S_N=3000) = P(N=2) \{P(\text{First claim of Rs 1000 and second claim of Rs 2000 given two claims}) + P(\text{First claim of Rs 2000 and second claim of Rs 1000 given two claims})\} \\ = (1/10) [(0.7)(0.3) + (0.3)(0.7)] = 0.042$$

$$P(S_N=4000) = P(N=2) (P(\text{Both claims of Rs 2000 each given two claims})) \\ = (1/10)(0.3)(0.3) = 0.009$$

It can be checked that the total probability of the compound distribution is 1.

$$P(S_N=0) + P(S_N=1000) + P(S_N=2000) + P(S_N=3000) + P(S_N=4000) \\ = 0.40 + 0.35 + 0.199 + 0.042 + 0.009 = 1$$

[5]

(ii)  $E(S_N)$  using the probability distribution of  $S_N$ :

$$E(S_N) = (0)P(S_N=0) + (1000)P(S_N=1000) + (2000)P(S_N=2000) + (3000)P(S_N=3000) \\ + (4000)P(S_N=4000)$$

$$= (0) 0.40 + (1000) 0.35 + (2000) 0.199 + (3000) 0.042 + (4000) 0.009$$

$$= \text{Rs } 910 \quad [2]$$

(iii)

$$E(N) = (0) \frac{2}{5} + (1) \frac{1}{2} + (2) \frac{1}{10} = 0 + 0.5 + 0.2 = 0.7$$

[0.75]

$$E(X) = (1000) 0.7 + (2000) 0.3 = 700 + 600 = 1300$$

[0.75]

$$\text{Hence, } E(S_N) = E(N) E(X) = (0.7) (1300) = 910 \quad [\text{Verified (ii)}].$$

[0.5]

[2]

[9 Marks]

**Solution 7:**(i) Sample mean:  $\bar{X} = \frac{\sum X_i}{n}$ 

$$E[\sum X_i] = \sum E[X_i] = \sum \mu = n\mu ; \text{ since they are identically distributed}$$

$$\text{Var}[\sum X_i] = \sum \text{Var}[X_i] = n\sigma^2 ; \text{ since they are iid}$$

$$E[\bar{X}] = \mu.$$

$$\text{Var}[\bar{X}] = \frac{1}{n^2} n\sigma^2 = \frac{\sigma^2}{n} \quad [2]$$

(ii) Sample variance :  $S^2 = \frac{1}{n-1} [\sum X_i^2 - n\bar{X}^2]$ 

$$E[S^2] = \frac{1}{n-1} (\sum E[X_i^2] - n E[\bar{X}^2])$$

$$= \frac{1}{n-1} [\sum (\sigma^2 + \mu^2) - n (\frac{\sigma^2}{n} + \mu^2)]$$

$$= \frac{1}{n-1} [n(\sigma^2 + \mu^2) - \sigma^2 - n\mu^2] = \frac{1}{n-1} [(n-1)\sigma^2] = \sigma^2 \quad [2]$$

(iii) The sampling distribution of  $\frac{(n-1)S^2}{\sigma^2} \sim \chi_{n-1}^2$  when sampling from a normal population, with mean  $\mu$  and variance  $\sigma^2$ The variance of  $\chi_k^2$  is  $2k$ .

$$\text{Hence, } \text{Var} \left[ \frac{(n-1)S^2}{\sigma^2} \right] = 2(n-1) \Rightarrow \text{Var}[S^2] = \frac{\sigma^4}{(n-1)^2} 2(n-1) = \frac{2\sigma^4}{n-1} \quad [1]$$

(iv) It is given that  $\sigma^2 = 100$  and  $n = 10$ .We need to compute  $P(50 < S^2 < 150)$ We know that  $\frac{(n-1)S^2}{\sigma^2} \sim \chi_{n-1}^2$  and in this case it is  $\chi_9^2$

Let  $Y = 9 S^2 / 100$ . Then, for  $S^2 = 50$ :  $Y = 9 (50)/100 = 4.5$ ;

and for  $S^2 = 150$ :  $Y = 9 (150)/100 = 13.5$

Thus,  $P (50 < S^2 < 150) = P (4.5 < Y < 13.5)$

$$= P (Y < 13.5) - P (Y < 4.5) \quad [\text{from page 165 of Tables}]$$

$$= 0.8587 - 0.1245 = 0.7342$$

[3]

[8 Marks]

**Solution 8:**

(i)

From the Formulae and Tables for Actuarial Examinations this pdf corresponds to two parameter version of the distribution given by

$$f(x) = \frac{\alpha \lambda^\alpha}{(\lambda + x)^{\alpha+1}} ; x > 0, \lambda > 0 \text{ and } \alpha > 0$$

$$E[X] = \lambda / (\alpha - 1) \text{ and } \text{Var} [X] = \alpha \lambda^2 / ((\alpha - 1)^2 (\alpha - 2)); \quad \alpha > 2$$

Thus the pdf of X,  $f(x) = \frac{c \beta^3}{(x + \beta)^4}$ ;  $x > 0$  and  $\beta > 0$  can be identified with  $c=3$  ( $\alpha$  known)

$\lambda = \beta$  (unknown).

$$E[X] = \beta/2$$

[0.5]

$$\text{Var} [X] = 3/4 \beta^2$$

[0.5]

If the students obtain the results using the first principles full credit to be given

$$f(x) = \frac{\alpha \lambda^\alpha}{(\lambda + x)^{\alpha+1}} ; x > 0, \lambda > 0 \text{ and } \alpha > 0$$

$$\int_0^\infty \frac{c \beta^3}{(x + \beta)^4} dx = 1 \text{ implies } \left[ -\frac{c}{3} \frac{\beta^3}{(x + \beta)^3} \right]_0^\infty = 1 \text{ giving } c = 3$$

[3]

Mean and Variance

(ii)

The method of moments estimator:

Equating sample mean to  $E[X]$  from (i) gives:

$$\bar{X}_n = \beta / 2 \Rightarrow \text{The moments estimator } \hat{\beta} = 2 \bar{X}_n$$

The mean square error of  $\hat{\beta}$ :

$$\text{MSE} [\hat{\beta}] = \text{Var} [\hat{\beta}] + (\text{Bias} [\hat{\beta}])^2$$

$$E [\hat{\beta}] = E [2 \bar{X}_n] = 2 E [\bar{X}_n] = 2 E[X] = 2 (\beta / 2) = \beta \text{ and Bias} = E [\hat{\beta}] - \beta = 0$$

—This estimator is unbiased.

Using the fact that the individual values of  $X_i$  are independent:

$$\text{Var} [\hat{\beta}] = \text{Var} [2 \bar{X}_n] = 4 \text{Var} [\bar{X}_n] = 4 \text{Var}[X] / n = 4 (3/4 \beta^2) / n = 3 \beta^2 / n$$

$$\text{Hence, MSE} [\hat{\beta}] = 3 \beta^2 / n + 0 = 3 \beta^2 / n$$

This estimator is consistent since MSE tends to zero as  $n \rightarrow \infty$

[4]

(iii)

$$\text{MSE} [b \bar{X}_n] = \text{Var} [b \bar{X}_n] + (\text{Bias} [b \bar{X}_n])^2$$

$$= b^2 \frac{3}{4} \frac{\beta^2}{n} + (E[b \bar{X}_n] - \beta)^2$$

$$= b^2 \frac{3}{4} \frac{\beta^2}{n} + (\beta (\frac{b}{2} - 1))^2$$

$$= \frac{\beta^2}{n} (\frac{3}{4} b^2 + n (\frac{b}{2} - 1)^2)$$

Differentiating the MSE respect to b:

$$d(\text{MSE})/db = \frac{\beta^2}{n} (\frac{3}{2} b + n (\frac{b}{2} - 1))$$

$$\text{Setting this equal to 0 gives } b = 2n / (n + 3) = 2 / (1 + \frac{3}{n})$$

Differentiating the MSE a second time with respect to b, we obtain:

$$d^2(\text{MSE})/db^2 = \frac{\beta^2}{n} (\frac{3}{2} + \frac{n}{2}) \text{ which is positive}$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{a minimum value for the MSE is at } b = 2 / (1 + 3/n).$$

[5]

(iv)

It is seen in (ii) that  $\hat{\beta} = 2 \bar{X}_n$  is an unbiased estimator. The estimator  $b \bar{X}_n$  in (iii) when  $b = 2 / (1 + \frac{3}{n})$  is negatively biased estimator as  $b < 2$  for  $n \geq 1$ .

As  $n \rightarrow \infty$ , b tends to 2. So, the estimator in (iii) is also consistent, in view of (ii)

[2]

[14 Marks]

### Solution 9:

(i) The likelihood function is:

$$L(p) = C [(1-p)^4]^{86} [4p(1-p)^3]^{75} [6p^2(1-p)^2]^{16} [4p^3(1-p)]^2 [p^4]^1$$

$$= C [(1-p)^{344}] [p^{75}(1-p)^{225}] [p^{32}(1-p)^{32}] [p^6(1-p)^2] [p^4]$$

$$= C (1-p)^{603} p^{117}$$

C is a constant.

Taking logs and differentiating with respect to p and setting equal to zero gives:



$$d\ln L/dp = -603/(1-p) + 117/p = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow p = 117 / (603+117) = 117/720 = 0.1625$$

Checking for maximum:

$$d^2\ln L/dp^2 = -603/(1-p)^2 - 117/p^2 < 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{Maximum value for } \ln L \text{ is at } p = 0.1625$$

[4]

(ii)

Goodness of fit test:

We are testing the following hypotheses using a  $\chi^2$  goodness of fit test:

$H_0$ : the probabilities conform to a Bin (4, p) distribution

$H_1$ : the probabilities do not conform to a Bin (4, p) distribution

Using  $\hat{p} = 0.1625$  from part (a), the probabilities for this binomial distribution are:

$$P(X = 0) = (1 - p)^4 = 0.49197$$

$$P(X = 1) = 4p(1 - p)^3 = 0.38183$$

$$P(X = 2) = 6p^2(1 - p)^2 = 0.11113$$

$$P(X = 3) = 4p^3(1 - p) = 0.01437$$

$$P(X = 4) = p^4 = 0.00070$$

The expected values are 88.55, 68.73, 20.00, 2.59 and 0.13.

Combining the expected values less than 5 to third group, we get

No of Claims	0	1	2 or more
Observed $O_i$	86	75	19
Expected $E_i$	88.55	68.73	22.72

The degrees of freedom = 3-1-1=1.

$$\chi^2 = \sum(O_i - E_i)^2 / E_i$$

$$= (86 - 88.55)^2 / 88.55 + (75 - 68.73)^2 / 68.73 + (19 - 22.72)^2 / 22.72$$

$$= 0.074 + 0.572 + 0.608 = 1.254$$

This is less than the 5% critical value of 3.841. We have insufficient evidence at 5% level to reject  $H_0$ . Hence, the model is a good fit.

[4]

[8 Marks]

### **Solution 10:**

(i)

Probability of a Type I error is probability of rejecting the null hypothesis when it is true.

$$= P(X > 3 | \mu = 1)$$

$$= 1 - P(X \leq 3 | \mu = 1)$$

$$= 1 - 0.98101 \text{ (from tables page 175)} = 0.01899 \Rightarrow \text{approx } 2\%$$

[2]

(ii)

The power of a test is 1 minus the probability of a Type II error, i.e. the probability of rejecting the null hypothesis when it is false.

$$= P(X > 3 | \mu = 2)$$

$$= 1 - P(X \leq 3 | \mu = 2)$$

$$= 1 - 0.85712 \text{ (from tables page 175)} = 0.14288 \Rightarrow \text{approx } 14\%$$

[2]

[4 Marks]

**Solution 11:**

(i)

We know that  $\hat{\beta} = \frac{S_{xy}}{S_{xx}} = 9818.500 / 10,804.875 = 0.9087$

And  $\hat{\alpha} = \bar{Y} - \hat{\beta} \bar{X} = 126.5 - 0.9087 (75.125) = 58.2331$

Hence the prediction equation is  $\hat{y} = 58.2331 + 0.9087x$

[2]

(ii)

Total sum of squares =  $\sum(Y - \bar{Y})^2 = S_{yy} = 11,250.000$

Residual sum of squares =  $\sum(y - \hat{y})^2 = (S_{yy} - \frac{(S_{xy})^2}{S_{xx}})$   
 $= (11,250.000 - (9818.500)^2 / 10,804.875) = 2,327.829$

Reg. sum of squares = Total s.s - Residual s.s =  $11,250 - 2,327.829 = 8,922.171$

Source of variation	Degrees of Freedom	Sum of squares	Mean squares (MSS)
Regression	1	8,922.171	8,922.1710
Residuals	6	2,327.829	387.9715
Total	7	11,250.000	

The variance ratio is  $F = 8,922.1710 / 387.9715 = 22.997$

For testing  $H_0: \beta = 0$  at 5% level, we have the critical value  $F(1, 6)$  at 5.987.

Hence, we reject  $H_0$ .

[4]

(iii)

95% confidence limits for  $\beta$ 

$$\begin{aligned}\hat{\beta} \pm t_{0.025,6} \sqrt{\frac{MSS \text{ Residual}}{S_{xx}}} \\ = 0.9087 \pm 2.447 \sqrt{\frac{387.9715}{10,804.875}} \\ = 0.9087 \pm 0.4637 \Rightarrow \beta \in [0.445, 1.372]\end{aligned}\quad [2]$$

(iv)

 $H_0: \rho = 0$  Vs  $H_1: \rho \neq 0$ Sample correlation coefficient,  $r = \frac{S_{xy}}{\sqrt{S_{xx}S_{yy}}} = \frac{9818.500}{\sqrt{(10804.875)(11250.000)}} = 0.8906$ 

$$t_{n-2} = \frac{|r|\sqrt{n-2}}{\sqrt{1-r^2}} \Rightarrow t_6 = \frac{|0.8906|\sqrt{6}}{\sqrt{1-0.8906^2}} = 4.7955$$

Table value of  $t_6$  at 1% level is 3.707. Hence, reject  $H_0$ . [3]

(v)

Coefficient of Determination

 $R^2$  is estimated by sample correlation coefficient,

$$r^2 = 0.8906^2 = 79.31\%$$

Coefficient of determination ( $R^2$ ) is used to measure the goodness of fit of a linear regression model. It is, usually quoted as a percentage, the proportion of total variability of the responses "explained" by the model. [2]

[13 Marks]

**Solution 12:**

(i)

 $H_0$ : Each agent has the same mean number of policies per month $H_1$ : There are differences among the mean numbers of policies generated by different agents.

The given summary measures are:  $y_1. = 38$ ;  $y_2. = 27$ ;  $y_3. = 31$ ;  $y_4. = 21$ ;  $y_{..} = 117$   
 $\sum \sum y_{ij}^2 = 677$

$$SS T = 677 - 117^2/26 = 150.50$$

$$SS B = (38^2/8 + 27^2/7 + 31^2/6 + 21^2/5) - 117^2/26 = 6.51$$

$$SS R = 150.50 - 6.51 = 143.99$$

Source of variation	Degrees of Freedom	Sum of squares	Mean squares
Between treatments	3	6.51	2.170

Residuals	22	143.99	6.545
Total	25	150.50	

The variance ratio is  $F = 2.170 / 6.545 = 0.3315$

Under  $H_0$ , this has an  $F(3, 22)$  distribution. The 5% critical point is 3.049, so we cannot reject  $H_0$ , and we conclude that the average number of policies generated doesn't differ between agents.

The assumptions are: The underlying population distribution is normal with common variance. It is also assumed that the samples have been drawn randomly and independently of each other. [5]

- (ii) Sample sizes:  $n_1 = 8$ ;  $n_2 = 7$ ;  $n_3 = 6$ ;  $n_4 = 5$   
 Sample totals:  $y_1 = 38$ ;  $y_2 = 27$ ;  $y_3 = 31$ ;  $y_4 = 21$   
 Sample means:  $\bar{y}_1 = 4.75$ ,  $\bar{y}_2 = 3.86$ ,  $\bar{y}_3 = 5.17$ ,  $\bar{y}_4 = 4.20$

For agents with highest and lowest mean numbers, least significant difference at 5% level is

$$t_{(0.025, n-k)} \hat{\sigma} \left( \frac{1}{n_3} + \frac{1}{n_2} \right)^{0.5}$$

$$= (2.074) (6.545)^{0.5} (1/6 + 1/7)^{0.5} = 2.952$$

The least significant difference of 2.952 is greater than  $\bar{x}_3 - \bar{x}_2 = 1.310$ .  
 Hence, the difference is not significant.

[3]

[8 Marks]

\*\*\*\*\*