

Probabilistic Modelling and Reasoning

— Exam Info —

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Probabilistic Modelling and Reasoning (INFR11134)
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Spring Semester 2023

Exam: when and where

- ▶ Exam timetable information is here:

<https://www.ed.ac.uk/timetabling-examinations/exams/exam-diets>

- ▶ For PMR, the info (as on April 3) is as follows:

INFR11134 - Probabilistic Modelling and Reasoning

Informatics

Venue

Appleton Tower Concourse

Date: Tuesday, 2nd May 2023

Time: 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Duration: 2:00

Examinable material

See course website:

- ▶ the material on the slides
- ▶ the material in the tutorials
- ▶ the material in the computer labs (concepts, practical aspects, but exam does not involve coding)
- ▶ the reading material listed under “required”

unless marked as not examinable

Examinable material

- ▶ I will not ask you to code.
- ▶ I will not ask Python or PyTorch questions.
- ▶ You won't need to understand Python technicalities.
- ▶ But you will need to understand the derivation of the algorithms, what they are doing and when you can use them.

Format

- ▶ The exam is on campus.
- ▶ All questions will be compulsory.
- ▶ It is a closed book exam.
- ▶ Calculators will not be allowed.
- ▶ Different questions will have different numbers of total marks. Take note of this when allocating time to questions.
- ▶ Remember the Common Marking Scheme

<https://web.inf.ed.ac.uk/infweb/student-services/ito/students/common-marking-scheme>

≥ 70 is excellent \Rightarrow You do not need to be able to solve everything for an A.

How much to memorise?

- ▶ I am interested in assessing how well you understand the material and not how well you can memorise formulae.
- ▶ But I expect you to know the core material by heart.
- ▶ Make sure that you know and understand the material in the “Notes” handed out with each tutorial.

Past exams

- ▶ Past exam copies are available at <https://exampapers.ed.ac.uk/>
- ▶ Search for *probabilistic modelling and reasoning*
- ▶ Collection goes back to 2004/2005
- ▶ I have only been teaching PMR since academic year 2017/18. Lecture slides and tutorials were almost all newly developed. There are thus differences to the course from previous years.
- ▶ Questions in past papers that are on topics not covered in this year's PMR are not relevant. Compared to last year, we did not cover
 - ▶ (minimal, perfect) I-maps and I-equivalences
 - ▶ score matching
 - ▶ sampling and Monte Carlo integration
- ▶ Notation may be different in past exams.

How to prepare

- ▶ Reserve a sufficient amount of time. Make a plan; plan for rest periods too.
- ▶ Prioritise if you have to (you do not need to get everything right for an A).
- ▶ Be honest with yourself about whether you understand something or not.
- ▶ Don't overfit (on the exercises or slides).
- ▶ Work through the lecture slides; rewatch some recordings; work through the exercises; repeat.
- ▶ Do you understand everything in the “Notes”?
- ▶ Can you explain the material to someone else?
- ▶ T-approach: – Can you explain the big picture? | Can you take deep dives and explain details?

How to answer exam questions

- ▶ Read the questions carefully.
- ▶ If in doubt, better give more detailed answers.
- ▶ Don't provide several conflicting answers and expect the marker to choose the correct one.
- ▶ For math formulae and diagrams, make sure that all quantities are well defined (if not already defined in the question, or standard notation that we used in the lecture)
- ▶ Write legibly—we can only give marks for things we can read.