

Statistics 200  
Winter 2009  
Homework 5 Solutions

**Problem 1 (8.16)**

$X_1, \dots, X_n$  i.i.d. with density function  $f(x|\sigma) = \frac{1}{2\sigma} \exp\left(-\frac{|x|}{\sigma}\right)$

(a) – (c) (See HW 4 Solutions)

(d) According to Corollary A on page 309 of the text, the maximum likelihood estimate is a function of a sufficient statistic  $T$ . In part (b), the maximum likelihood estimate was found to be

$$\hat{\sigma}_{MLE} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n |x_i|$$

Therefore, a sufficient statistic  $T(X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n)$  is given by:

$$T(X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n) = \sum_{i=1}^n |X_i|$$

**Problem 2 (8.52)**

$X_1, \dots, X_n$  i.i.d. with density function  $f(x|\theta) = (\theta + 1)x^\theta$ ,  $0 \leq x \leq 1$

(a)

$$\begin{aligned} E[X] &= \int_0^1 x f(x|\theta) dx \\ &= \int_0^1 x^{(\theta+1)} (\theta + 1) dx \\ &= \frac{\theta + 1}{\theta + 2} x^{(\theta+2)} \Big|_0^1 \\ &= \frac{\theta + 1}{\theta + 2} \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, a method of moments estimate of  $\theta$  is given by:

$$\begin{aligned}
\hat{\mu}_1 &= \frac{\hat{\theta}_{MM} + 1}{\hat{\theta}_{MM} + 2} \\
\Rightarrow \hat{\mu}_1 (\hat{\theta}_{MM} + 2) &= \hat{\theta}_{MM} + 1 \\
\Rightarrow (\hat{\mu}_1 - 1) \hat{\theta}_{MM} &= 1 - 2\hat{\mu}_1 \\
\Rightarrow \hat{\theta}_{MM} &= \frac{1 - 2\hat{\mu}_1}{\hat{\mu}_1 - 1}
\end{aligned}$$

where  $\hat{\mu}_1 = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n X_i = \bar{X}_n$ .

(b)

$$\begin{aligned}
l(\theta) &= \sum_{i=1}^n [\log(\theta + 1) + \theta \log(x_i)] \\
\Rightarrow \frac{d}{d\theta} l(\theta) &= \frac{n}{\theta + 1} + \sum_{i=1}^n \log(x_i) \\
\Rightarrow 0 &= \frac{n}{\hat{\theta}_{MLE} + 1} + \sum_{i=1}^n \log(x_i) \\
\Rightarrow \hat{\theta}_{MLE} &= -\frac{n}{\sum_{i=1}^n \log(x_i)} - 1
\end{aligned}$$

(c)

$$\begin{aligned}
I(\theta) &= -E \left[ \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \theta^2} \log f(X|\theta) \right] \\
&= -E \left[ \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \theta^2} (\log(\theta + 1) + \theta \log X) \right] \\
&= -E \left[ \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \left( \frac{1}{\theta + 1} + \log X \right) \right] \\
&= -E \left[ -\frac{1}{(\theta + 1)^2} \right] \\
&= -\frac{1}{(\theta + 1)^2}
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\text{Var} [\hat{\theta}_{MLE}] &\approx \frac{1}{nI(\theta)} \\
&= \frac{(\theta + 1)^2}{n}
\end{aligned}$$

(d) According to Corollary A on page 309 of the text, the maximum likelihood estimate is a function of a sufficient statistic  $T$ . In part (b), the maximum likelihood estimate was found to be

$$\hat{\theta}_{MLE} = -\frac{n}{\sum_{i=1}^n \log(x_i)} - 1$$

Therefore, a sufficient statistic  $T(X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n)$  is given by:

$$T(X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n) = \sum_{i=1}^n \log(X_i)$$

**Problem 3 (8.59)**

Let  $I$  denote the event that a pair of twins is identical, so  $P(I) = \alpha$ .

(a)

$$\begin{aligned} P(MM) &= P(MM|I)P(I) + P(MM|I^C)P(I^C) \\ &= \frac{1}{2}\alpha + \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)(1-\alpha) \\ &= \frac{1+\alpha}{4} \\ P(FF) &= P(FF|I)P(I) + P(FF|I^C)P(I^C) \\ &= \frac{1}{2}\alpha + \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)(1-\alpha) \\ &= \frac{1+\alpha}{4} \\ P(MF) &= 1 - (P(MM) + P(FF)) \\ &= 1 - \frac{1+\alpha}{2} \\ &= \frac{1-\alpha}{2} \end{aligned}$$

(b) We will assume that  $n$  sets of twins are sampled, so  $n_1 + n_2 + n_3 = n$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \text{lik}(\alpha) &= \left(\frac{1+\alpha}{4}\right)^{n_1} + \left(\frac{1+\alpha}{4}\right)^{n_2} + \left(\frac{1-\alpha}{2}\right)^{n_3} \\ \Rightarrow l(\alpha) &= (n_1 + n_2) \log\left(\frac{1+\alpha}{4}\right) + n_3 \log\left(\frac{1-\alpha}{2}\right) \\ \Rightarrow \frac{d}{d\alpha} l(\alpha) &= \frac{n_1 + n_2}{1+\alpha} - \frac{n_3}{1-\alpha} \\ \Rightarrow 0 &= \frac{n_1 + n_2}{1 + \hat{\alpha}_{MLE}} - \frac{n_3}{1 - \hat{\alpha}_{MLE}} \\ \Rightarrow \hat{\alpha}_{MLE} &= \frac{n_1 + n_2 - n_3}{n} \end{aligned}$$

Now to compute the variance of  $\hat{\alpha}_{MLE}$ , we will rewrite  $\hat{\alpha}_{MLE}$  as

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{\alpha}_{MLE} &= \frac{n_1 + n_2 - n_3}{n} \\ &= \frac{n_1 + n_2 - (n - n_1 - n_2)}{n} \\ &= \frac{2(n_1 + n_2) - n}{n} \end{aligned}$$

Then the variance of the MLE can be computed as

$$\begin{aligned}
\text{Var}[\hat{\alpha}_{MLE}] &= \text{Var}\left[\frac{2(n_1 + n_2) - n}{n}\right] \\
&= \frac{4}{n^2} \text{Var}[n_1 + n_2] \\
&= \frac{4}{n^2} (\text{Var}[n_1] + \text{Var}[n_2] + 2\text{Cov}(n_1, n_2))
\end{aligned}$$

We note that  $n_1$  and  $n_2$  are both Binomial random variables with  $n$  trials and success probability  $\frac{1+\alpha}{4}$ , so

$$\text{Var}[n_1] = \text{Var}[n_2] = n \left(\frac{1+\alpha}{4}\right) \left(\frac{3-\alpha}{4}\right)$$

Now we define  $Y_i = \mathbf{1}\{\text{i}^{th} \text{ set of twins is } MM\}$  and  $X_i = \mathbf{1}\{\text{i}^{th} \text{ set of twins is } FF\}$ . Clearly  $n_1 = \sum_{i=1}^n Y_i$  and  $n_2 = \sum_{i=1}^n X_i$ , and also  $Y_i X_i = 0$  since a given set of twins cannot be both two males and two females. Using these definitions, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
\text{Cov}(n_1, n_2) &= \text{E}[n_1 n_2] - \text{E}[n_1] \text{E}[n_2] \\
&= \text{E}\left[\left(\sum_{i=1}^n Y_i\right) \left(\sum_{j=1}^n X_j\right)\right] - \frac{n(1+\alpha)}{4} \frac{n(1+\alpha)}{4} \\
&= \text{E}\left[\sum_{i=1}^n Y_i X_i + \sum_{i \neq j} Y_i X_j\right] - n^2 \left(\frac{1+\alpha}{4}\right)^2 \\
&= \text{E}\left[\sum_{i=1}^n 0\right] + \text{E}\left[\sum_{i \neq j} Y_i X_j\right] - n^2 \left(\frac{1+\alpha}{4}\right)^2 \\
&= 0 + (n^2 - n) \text{E}[Y_i] \text{E}[X_j] - n^2 \left(\frac{1+\alpha}{4}\right)^2 \\
&= (n^2 - n) \left(\frac{1+\alpha}{4}\right)^2 - n^2 \left(\frac{1+\alpha}{4}\right)^2 \\
&= -n \left(\frac{1+\alpha}{4}\right)^2
\end{aligned}$$

Substituting these results back into the expression for  $\text{Var}[\hat{\alpha}_{MLE}]$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned}
\text{Var}[\hat{\alpha}_{MLE}] &= \frac{4}{n^2} \left[ n \left(\frac{1+\alpha}{4}\right) \left(\frac{3-\alpha}{4}\right) + n \left(\frac{1+\alpha}{4}\right) \left(\frac{3-\alpha}{4}\right) + 2 \left(-n \left(\frac{1+\alpha}{4}\right)^2\right) \right] \\
&= \frac{1}{n} \left[ \frac{(1+\alpha)(3-\alpha)}{2} + \frac{(1+\alpha)^2}{2} \right] \\
&= \frac{(1+\alpha)4}{2n} \\
&= \frac{2(1+\alpha)}{n}
\end{aligned}$$

**Problem 4 (8.68)**

$X_1, \dots, X_n$  i.i.d. with probability mass function  $p(x|\lambda) = \frac{1}{x!} \lambda^x e^{-\lambda}$

- (a) To show that  $T = \sum_{i=1}^n X_i$  is sufficient for  $\lambda$ , we first note that  $T$  has a Poisson distribution with parameter  $n\lambda$ , so we have:

$$\begin{aligned}
 & P(X_1 = x_1, X_2 = x_2, \dots, X_n = x_n | T = t) \\
 &= \frac{P(X_1 = x_1, X_2 = x_2, \dots, X_n = x_n, T = t)}{P(T = t)} \\
 &= \frac{P\left(X_1 = x_1, X_2 = x_2, \dots, X_n = t - \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} x_i\right)}{P(T = t)} \\
 &= \frac{\left[\prod_{i=1}^{n-1} \lambda^{x_i} e^{-\lambda} / x_i!\right] \left[\lambda^{(t - \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} x_i)} e^{-\lambda} / \left(t - \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} x_i\right)!\right]}{(n\lambda)^t e^{-n\lambda} / t!} \\
 &= \frac{e^{-(n-1)\lambda} \lambda^{\sum_{i=1}^{n-1} x_i} \left(\prod_{i=1}^{n-1} 1/x_i!\right) \lambda^{(t - \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} x_i)} e^{-\lambda} / \left(t - \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} x_i\right)!}{(n\lambda)^t e^{-n\lambda} / t!} \\
 &= \frac{e^{-n\lambda} \lambda^t \left(\prod_{i=1}^{n-1} 1/x_i!\right) \left[1 / \left(t - \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} x_i\right)!\right]}{(n\lambda)^t e^{-n\lambda} / t!} \\
 &= \frac{\left(\prod_{i=1}^{n-1} 1/x_i!\right) \left[1 / \left(t - \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} x_i\right)!\right]}{n^t / t!}
 \end{aligned}$$

Since the distribution of  $X_1, \dots, X_n$  given  $T$  does not depend on  $\lambda$ ,  $T = \sum_{i=1}^n X_i$  is sufficient.

- (b) To show that  $X_1$  is not sufficient, we again compute the distribution of  $X_1, \dots, X_n$  given  $X_1$ :

$$\begin{aligned}
 & P(X_1 = x_1, X_2 = x_2, \dots, X_n = x_n | X_1 = x_1) \\
 &= \frac{P(X_1 = x_1, X_2 = x_2, \dots, X_n = x_n, X_1 = x_1)}{P(X_1 = x_1)} \\
 &= \frac{P(X_1 = x_1, X_2 = x_2, \dots, X_n = x_n)}{P(X_1 = x_1)} \\
 &= \frac{\prod_{i=1}^n \lambda^{x_i} e^{-\lambda} / x_i!}{\lambda^t e^{-\lambda} / x_1!} \\
 &= \prod_{i=2}^n \lambda^{x_i} e^{-\lambda} / x_i!
 \end{aligned}$$

Since this distribution still depends on  $\lambda$ ,  $X_1$  is not sufficient.

- (c) According to Theorem A of Section 8.8.1, the statistic  $T$  is sufficient if and only if the density  $f(x_1, \dots, x_n | \lambda)$  can be factored as

$$f(x_1, \dots, x_n | \lambda) = g(T(x_1, \dots, x_n), \lambda)h(x_1, \dots, x_n)$$

For the Poisson density and the statistic  $T = \sum_{i=1}^n X_i$ , we can write

$$\begin{aligned} f(x_1, \dots, x_n | \lambda) &= \prod_{i=1}^n \frac{\lambda^{x_i} e^{-\lambda}}{x_i!} \\ &= \left[ \lambda^{\sum_{i=1}^n x_i} e^{-n\lambda} \right] \left[ \prod_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{x_i!} \right] \\ &= [\lambda^T e^{-n\lambda}] \left[ \prod_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{x_i!} \right] \\ &= g(T(x_1, \dots, x_n), \lambda)h(x_1, \dots, x_n) \end{aligned}$$

where

$$g(T, \lambda) = \lambda^T e^{-n\lambda}$$

$$h(x_1, \dots, x_n) = \prod_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{x_i!}$$

### Problem 5

$X_1, \dots, X_n$  i.i.d. with density function  $f(x | \mu, \tau^2, p) = pf_1(x | \mu) + (1 - p)f_2(x | \mu, \tau^2)$ , where

$$f_1(x | \mu) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \exp \left\{ -\frac{(x - \mu)^2}{2} \right\}$$

is the  $\mathcal{N}(\mu, 1)$  density, and

$$f_2(x | \mu, \tau) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\tau^2}} \exp \left\{ -\frac{(x - \mu)^2}{2\tau^2} \right\}$$

is the  $\mathcal{N}(\mu, \tau^2)$  density. Then the expectation of a random variable with this mixture density is given by:

$$\begin{aligned} E[X_i] &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} xf(x | \mu, \tau^2, p) dx \\ &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x (pf_1(x | \mu) + (1 - p)f_2(x | \mu, \tau^2)) dx \\ &= p \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} xf_1(x | \mu) dx + (1 - p) \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} xf_2(x | \mu, \tau^2) dx \\ &= p\mu + (1 - p)\mu \\ &= \mu \end{aligned}$$

To calculate the variance of a random variable with this mixture density, we use the fact that  $\text{Var}[X_i] = E[X_i^2] - (E[X_i])^2$ , where  $E[X_i^2]$  is given by:

$$\begin{aligned}
E[X_i^2] &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x^2 f(x|\mu, \tau^2, p) dx \\
&= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x^2 (p f_1(x|\mu) + (1-p) f_2(x|\mu, \tau^2)) dx \\
&= p \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x^2 f_1(x|\mu) dx + (1-p) \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x^2 f_2(x|\mu, \tau^2) dx \\
&= p(1 + \mu^2) + (1-p)(\tau^2 + \mu^2) \\
&= \mu^2 + p + (1-p)\tau^2
\end{aligned}$$

So we have

$$\begin{aligned}
\text{Var}[X_i] &= E[X_i^2] - (E[X_i])^2 \\
&= \mu^2 + p + (1-p)\tau^2 - \mu^2 \\
&= p + (1-p)\tau^2
\end{aligned}$$

### Problem 6

For the mixture density of problem 5, the variance of the sample mean is given by

$$\begin{aligned}
\text{Var}[\bar{X}_n] &= \frac{\text{Var}[X_i]}{n} \\
&= \frac{p + (1-p)\tau^2}{n}
\end{aligned}$$

And for large  $n$ , we have that

$$\sqrt{n}(M_n - M) \rightarrow_d \mathcal{N}\left(0, \frac{1}{4f^2(M)}\right)$$

where  $M$  is the true median of the distribution. Since this distribution is symmetric about  $\mu$ , we have that  $M = \mu$ , and therefore

$$\begin{aligned}
f^2(M) &= f^2(\mu) \\
&= \left(p \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} + (1-p) \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}\tau}\right)^2 \\
&= p^2 \frac{1}{2\pi} + p(1-p) 2 \frac{1}{2\pi\tau} + (1-p)^2 \frac{1}{2\pi\tau^2}
\end{aligned}$$

Thus we have

$$\begin{aligned}
& \text{Var}[\sqrt{(n)}(M_n - M)] \approx \frac{1}{4f^2(M)} \\
\Rightarrow & \text{Var}[\sqrt{(n)}M_n] \approx \frac{1}{4f^2(M)} \\
\Rightarrow & n\text{Var}[M_n] \approx \frac{1}{4f^2(M)} \\
\Rightarrow & \text{Var}[M_n] \approx \frac{1}{4nf^2(M)} \\
\Rightarrow & \text{Var}[M_n] \approx \frac{1}{4n(p^2\frac{1}{2\pi} + p(1-p)2\frac{1}{2\pi\tau} + (1-p)^2\frac{1}{2\pi\tau^2})}
\end{aligned}$$

When  $p = 0.9$  and  $\tau = 5$ ,

$$\begin{aligned}
\text{Var}[\bar{X}_n] &= \frac{0.9 + 0.1(25)}{n} \\
&= \frac{1}{n}3.4 \\
\text{Var}[M_n] &\approx \frac{1}{4n(0.9^2\frac{1}{2\pi} + 0.9(0.1)2\frac{1}{10\pi} + 0.1^2\frac{1}{50\pi})} \\
&= \frac{1}{n}1.8559
\end{aligned}$$

So the ratio of the asymptotic variances for  $p = 0.9$  and  $\tau = 5$  is

$$\begin{aligned}
\frac{\text{Var}[\bar{X}_n]}{\text{Var}[M_n]} &= \frac{3.4/n}{1.8559/n} \\
&= 1.8320
\end{aligned}$$

A confidence interval for  $\mu$  based on  $\bar{X}_n$  is given by

$$\bar{X}_n \pm z_{1-\alpha/2}\sqrt{\text{Var}[\bar{X}_n]}$$

In order for a 95% confidence interval to have length 0.1, we must have

$$\begin{aligned}
& z_{1-0.05/2}\sqrt{\text{Var}[\bar{X}_n]} = 0.05 \\
\Rightarrow & 1.96\sqrt{\frac{3.4}{n}} = 0.05 \\
\Rightarrow & 39.2 = \sqrt{\frac{n}{3.4}} \\
\Rightarrow & 1536.64 = \frac{n}{3.4} \\
\Rightarrow & n = 5224.576
\end{aligned}$$

Thus a sample of size 5225 is needed to give a 95% confidence interval based on  $\bar{X}_n$  with length  $\leq 0.1$ .

Similarly, a confidence interval for  $\mu$  based on  $M_n$  is given by

$$M_n \pm z_{1-\alpha/2}\sqrt{\text{Var}[M_n]}$$



In order for this 95% confidence interval to have length 0.1, we must have

$$\begin{aligned}
& z_{1-0.05/2} \sqrt{\text{Var}[M_n]} = 0.05 \\
\Rightarrow & 1.96 \sqrt{\frac{1.8559}{n}} = 0.05 \\
\Rightarrow & 39.2 = \sqrt{\frac{n}{1.8559}} \\
\Rightarrow & 1536.64 = \frac{n}{1.8559} \\
\Rightarrow & n = 2851.85
\end{aligned}$$

So a sample of size 2852 is needed to give a 95% confidence interval based on  $M_n$  with length  $\leq 0.1$ .

### Problem 7

$X_1, \dots, X_n$  i.i.d. according to the Cauchy distribution with density function

$$f(x|\theta) = \frac{1}{\pi} \cdot \frac{1}{1 + (x - \theta)^2}$$

If  $\tilde{\theta}_n$  is the sample median, we have for large  $n$  that

$$\sqrt{n}(\tilde{\theta}_n - M) \rightarrow_d \mathcal{N}\left(0, \frac{1}{4f^2(M)}\right)$$

where  $M$  is the true median of the distribution. Since this distribution is symmetric about  $\theta$ , we have that  $M = \theta$ , and therefore  $f^2(M) = f^2(\theta) = \left(\frac{1}{\pi}\right)^2$ . This gives

$$\begin{aligned}
& \sqrt{n}(\tilde{\theta}_n - \theta) \rightarrow_d \mathcal{N}\left(0, \frac{\pi^2}{4}\right) \\
\Rightarrow & \frac{\sqrt{n}(\tilde{\theta}_n - \theta)}{\pi/2} \rightarrow_d \mathcal{N}(0, 1)
\end{aligned}$$

Using this limiting distribution, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
P\left(|\tilde{\theta}_n - \theta| \leq \frac{1}{5}\right) &= P\left(-\frac{1}{5} \leq \tilde{\theta}_n - \theta \leq \frac{1}{5}\right) \\
&= P\left(-\frac{\sqrt{n}}{5} \leq \sqrt{n}(\tilde{\theta}_n - \theta) \leq \frac{\sqrt{n}}{5}\right) \\
&= P\left(-\frac{\sqrt{n}}{5} \frac{2}{\pi} \leq \frac{\sqrt{n}(\tilde{\theta}_n - \theta)}{\pi/2} \leq \frac{\sqrt{n}}{5} \frac{2}{\pi}\right) \\
&= \Phi\left(\frac{2\sqrt{n}}{5\pi}\right) - \Phi\left(-\frac{2\sqrt{n}}{5\pi}\right) \\
&= \Phi\left(\frac{2\sqrt{101}}{5\pi}\right) - \Phi\left(-\frac{2\sqrt{101}}{5\pi}\right) \\
&= 0.7993
\end{aligned}$$

If instead we use an efficient estimator  $\hat{\theta}_n$  that satisfies

$$\begin{aligned} \sqrt{n}(\hat{\theta}_n - \theta) &\rightarrow_d \mathcal{N}\left(0, \frac{1}{I(\theta)}\right) \\ \Rightarrow \sqrt{n}(\hat{\theta}_n - \theta) &\rightarrow_d \mathcal{N}(0, 2) \\ \Rightarrow \frac{\sqrt{n}(\hat{\theta}_n - \theta)}{\sqrt{2}} &\rightarrow_d \mathcal{N}(0, 1) \end{aligned}$$

then we have

$$\begin{aligned} P\left(\left|\hat{\theta}_n - \theta\right| \leq \frac{1}{5}\right) &= P\left(-\frac{1}{5} \leq \hat{\theta}_n - \theta \leq \frac{1}{5}\right) \\ &= P\left(-\frac{\sqrt{n}}{5} \leq \sqrt{n}(\hat{\theta}_n - \theta) \leq \frac{\sqrt{n}}{5}\right) \\ &= P\left(-\frac{\sqrt{n}}{5} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \leq \frac{\sqrt{n}(\hat{\theta}_n - \theta)}{\sqrt{2}} \leq \frac{\sqrt{n}}{5} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\right) \\ &= \Phi\left(\frac{\sqrt{n}}{5\sqrt{2}}\right) - \Phi\left(-\frac{\sqrt{n}}{5\sqrt{2}}\right) \\ &= \Phi\left(\frac{\sqrt{101}}{5\sqrt{2}}\right) - \Phi\left(-\frac{\sqrt{101}}{5\sqrt{2}}\right) \\ &= 0.8448 \end{aligned}$$

Thus the efficient estimator  $\hat{\theta}_n$  has a higher probability of being within 0.2 of the true value  $\theta$ , as expected.