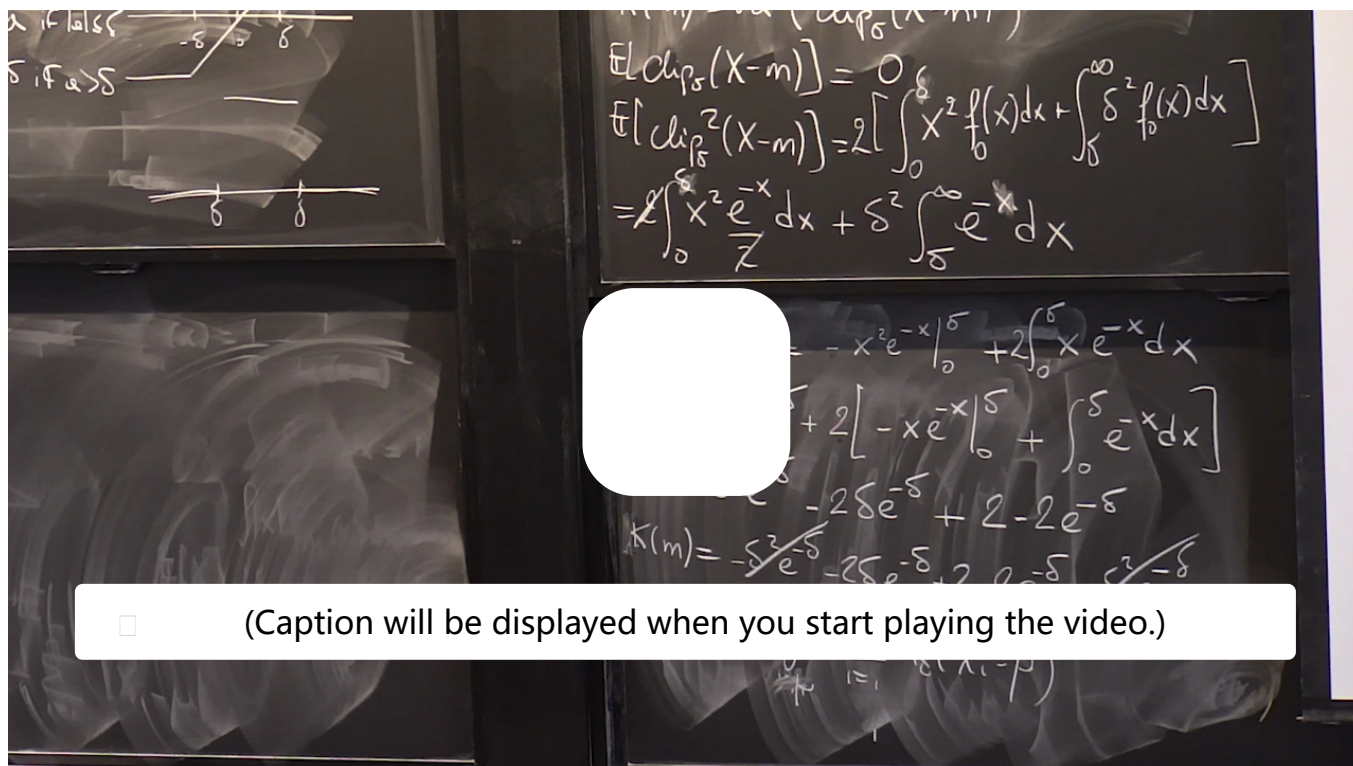


## 9. Applying Huber's loss to the Laplace distribution (Continued)

### Applying Huber's Loss to the Laplace distribution (Continued)

[Start of transcript. Skip to the end.](#)



(Caption will be displayed when you start playing the video.)

All right, so if I start multiplying those two things, what I'm getting is that square root of n and M hat

delta minus m, which is my quantity of interest,

convergence, and distribution, as N goes to infinity to N0.

And now, I just have to apply my theorem, which

tells me that I'm going to get K divided by J squared

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## Asymptotic Variance of the M-estimator for a Laplace distribution

2/2 points (graded)

We use the same statistical set-up from the previous three questions. As before,  $m^*$  denotes the location parameter for a Laplace distribution, and  $X_1, \dots, X_n \stackrel{iid}{\sim} \text{Lap}(m^*)$ . Recall the M-estimator

$$\widehat{m}(\delta) = \operatorname{argmin}_{m \in \mathbb{R}} \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n h_{\delta}(X_i - m),$$

where now we emphasize the dependence on the parameter  $\delta \in (0, \infty)$ .

In lecture, we showed that

$$\sqrt{n}(\widehat{m}(\delta) - m^*) \xrightarrow[n \rightarrow \infty]{(d)} N(0, g(\delta)).$$

where

$$g(\delta) = \frac{2(1 - \delta e^{-\delta} - e^{-\delta})}{(1 - e^{-\delta})^2}.$$

We can extend  $g$  to be a continuous function with domain  $[0, \infty]$  by setting  $g(0) = 1$  and  $g(\infty) = 2$ .

Where is the minimum of  $g$  attained on  $[0, \infty]$ ? (You may use computational software.)

(If applicable type **inf** for  $\infty$ .)

0

Answer: 0

0

Where is the maximum of  $g$  attained on  $[0, \infty]$ ? (You may use computational software.)

(If applicable type **inf** for  $\infty$ .)

inf

Answer: inf

inf

STANDARD NOTATION

Solution:

One can see by graphing that  $g(\delta)$  is an increasing function on  $[0, \infty]$ . Hence, the minimum is attained at  $\delta = 0$ , and the maximum is attained at  $\delta = \infty$ . Therefore, the correct response to the first question is "0", and the correct response to the second question is "I". Below we justify this rigorously.

If we are able to show that

$$g'(\delta) \geq 0,$$

for  $\delta \in [0, \infty)$ , then the result follows. By the quotient rule for derivatives,

$$g'(\delta) = 2 \cdot \left( \frac{\delta e^{-\delta}}{(1 - e^{-\delta})^2} - \frac{2(1 - \delta e^{-\delta} - e^{-\delta})e^{-\delta}}{(1 - e^{-\delta})^3} \right) = 2 \cdot \frac{\delta e^{-\delta} - 2e^{-\delta} + \delta e^{-2\delta} + 2e^{-2\delta}}{(1 - e^{-\delta})^3}.$$

The denominator is positive for  $\delta \in [0, \infty]$ , so it suffices to show that the numerator is nonnegative. Let  $\tilde{g}(\delta) = \delta - 2 + \delta e^{-\delta} + 2e^{-\delta}$  denote the numerator of the above divided by  $e^{-\delta}$ . Observe that  $\tilde{g}(\delta) \geq 0$  if and only if

$$h(\delta) := e^{\delta}(\delta - 2) + \delta + 2 \geq 0.$$

Since  $h(0) = 0$ , if we can show that  $h'(\delta) \geq 0$  for  $\delta \in [0, \infty)$ , then this implies  $h(\delta)$  is increasing, and hence,  $h(\delta) \geq 0$  for  $\delta \in [0, \infty)$ . Therefore  $\tilde{g} \geq 0$  as well, which would suffice to prove what we want.

Observe that

$$h'(\delta) = e^x(x - 2) + e^x + 1 = xe^x - e^x + 1.$$

Since  $h'(0) = 0$ , we would be done if we can show that  $h''(\delta) \geq 0$  because

$$h''(\delta) \geq 0 \Rightarrow$$
$$h'(\delta) \geq 0 \Rightarrow$$
$$h(\delta) \geq 0 \Rightarrow$$
$$\tilde{g}(\delta) \geq 0 \Rightarrow$$
$$g'(\delta) \geq 0$$

on the interval  $[0, \infty)$ . Finally,  $h''(\delta) = \delta e^{-\delta} \geq 0$ , so we have shown analytically that  $g(\delta)$  is an increasing function on  $[0, \infty)$ , as desired.

□ Answers are displayed within the problem

## Extreme Values of Huber's loss I

0/1 point (graded)  
If  $\delta = \infty$ , it makes sense to extend the definition of Huber's loss to be

$$h_{\infty}(x) = \frac{x^2}{2}.$$

Setting  $\delta = \infty$ , we have

$$\widehat{m}(\infty) = \operatorname{argmin}_{m \in \mathbb{R}} \frac{1}{2n} \sum_{i=1}^n (X_i - m)^2.$$

本来方程里面就有一个2

What is another name for  $\widehat{m}(\infty)$ ?  
*Hint:* You may use the fact that the objective function is strictly convex.

☐ The sample average. □

☐ The sample median.

☐ The sample average divided by 2.

☒ The sample median divided by 2. □

### Solution:

The correct response is "The sample average.". We will show this analytically. Let us differentiate and find the value of  $m$  that is a critical point of the function

$$F(m) := \frac{1}{2n} \sum_{i=1}^n (X_i - m)^2.$$

Observe that

$$F'(m) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n (X_i - m).$$

Setting  $m = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n X_i$ , we see that  $F'(m) = 0$ . By strict convexity, this implies that the sample average is the unique global minimizer of  $F(m)$ .

□ Answers are displayed within the problem

## Extreme values of Huber's loss II

1/1 point (graded)

Note that for all  $\delta > 0$ ,

$$\begin{aligned}\widehat{m}(\delta) &= \operatorname{argmin}_{m \in \mathbb{R}} \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n h_{\delta}(X_i - m) \\ &= \operatorname{argmin}_{m \in \mathbb{R}} \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{h_{\delta}(X_i - m)}{\delta}\end{aligned}$$

Moreover, for all  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ ,

$$\lim_{\delta \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{h_{\delta}(x)}{\delta} = |x|.$$

Therefore, it makes sense to define

$$\widehat{m}(0) = \operatorname{argmin}_{m \in \mathbb{R}} \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n |X_i - m|.$$

What is another name for  $\widehat{m}(0)$ ?

- ☐ The sample average.
- ☒ The sample median. ☐
- ☐ The true mean.
- ☐ The true median.

**Solution:**

The correct response is "The sample median." This is a direct consequence of the definition of the sample median from the problem "The Sample Median" on the page "Applying Huber's Loss to the Laplace Distribution."

提交

你已经尝试了1次（总共可以尝试2次）

☐ Answers are displayed within the problem

讨论

显示讨论

主题： Unit 3 Methods of Estimation:Lecture 12: M-Estimation / 9. Applying Huber's loss to the Laplace distribution (Continued)