

## 11. Identifiability exercises

### Identifiability of Statistical Models 2

1/1 point (graded)

Let  $\mathbf{X}_i = Y_i^2$  where  $Y_1, \dots, Y_n \stackrel{iid}{\sim} \mathcal{U}([0, a])$  for some unknown parameter  $a$ . We observe the i.i.d. samples  $\mathbf{X}_1, \dots, \mathbf{X}_n$ , but not the  $Y_i$ 's themselves.

*Hint:* Compute the cdf of  $\mathbf{X}_i$ .

Is the parameter  $a$  identifiable from the common distribution the  $\mathbf{X}_i$ 's?

☒ Yes ✓

☐ No

#### Solution:

Write  $\mathbf{X}_i \sim \mathbf{X}$  and note that  $\mathbf{X}$  is supported on the interval  $[0, a^2]$ . Let us compute the CDF of  $\mathbf{X}$  in terms of  $a$ .

$$\mathbf{P}(\mathbf{X} \leq t) = \mathbf{P}(Y \leq \sqrt{t}) = \min\left(\int_0^{\sqrt{t}} \frac{1}{a} dy, 1\right) = \min\left(\frac{\sqrt{t}}{a}, 1\right).$$

For different values of  $a$ , the CDF of  $\mathbf{X}$  are different; hence  $a$  is identifiable.

提交

你已经尝试了1次 (总共可以尝试1次)

❗ Answers are displayed within the problem

### Identifiability of Statistical Models 3

1/1 point (graded)

Let  $\mathbf{X}_i = \mathcal{I}(Y_i \geq a/2)$  where  $Y_1, \dots, Y_n \stackrel{iid}{\sim} \mathcal{U}([0, a])$  for some unknown parameter  $a$ . We observe the independent samples  $\mathbf{X}_1, \dots, \mathbf{X}_n$  but not the  $Y_i$ 's themselves.

Is the parameter  $a$  identifiable from the common distribution of the  $\mathbf{X}_i$ 's?

☐ Yes

☒ No ✓

#### Solution:

Note that  $\mathbf{X}$  is a Bernoulli random variable with parameter  $p := P\left(\mathcal{I}\left(Y_i \geq \frac{a}{2}\right) = 1\right) = P\left(Y_i \geq \frac{a}{2}\right)$ .

For any choice of  $a$ , we have by the distribution of  $Y_i$  that  $p = P(Y_i \geq a/2) = 1/2$ . Hence, for any choice of  $a$ , the random variable  $\mathbf{X}$  is distributed as **Ber**(1/2). The parameter  $a$  is not identifiable.

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你已经尝试了1次 (总共可以尝试1次)

# Review of terminology

0/1 point (graded)

You have access to samples  $X_1, \dots, X_n \overset{iid}{\sim} P_{\theta^*}$  where  $\theta^* \in \mathbb{R}$  is a true, unknown parameter specifying the distribution. You construct a statistical model  $((-\infty, \infty), \{P_{\theta}\}_{\theta \in \mathbb{R}})$  for this statistical experiment. Your goal is to uncover the true parameter  $\theta^*$ .

Imagine that somehow you are able to figure out the true distribution  $P_{\theta^*}$ . Which assumption below implies that it is possible to recover the true parameter  $\theta^*$ ? from the distribution?  
(Choose all that apply.)

- ☐ There is another value  $\theta' \in \mathbb{R}$  such that  $\theta' \neq \theta^*$  but  $P_{\theta^*}$  and  $P_{\theta'}$  are the same distribution.
- ☒ The given statistical model  $((-\infty, \infty), \{P_{\theta}\}_{\theta \in \mathbb{R}})$  is well-specified.
- ☒ The parameter  $\theta$  is identifiable for the given statistical model. 



## Solution:

The third choice, "The parameter  $\theta$  is identified for the given statistical model.", is correct. If  $\theta$  is identified, then the map  $\theta \mapsto P_{\theta}$  is injective. Hence, given the output  $P_{\theta^*}$ , which is the true distribution, we can uniquely recover the true parameter  $\theta^*$ .

The first choice, "There is another value  $\theta' \in \mathbb{R}$  such that  $\theta' \neq \theta^*$  but  $P_{\theta^*}$  and  $P_{\theta'}$  are the same distribution.", is incorrect because this implies that the parameter  $\theta$  is *not* identified. This implies that by only knowing the distribution  $P_{\theta^*}$ , we have no way of saying if  $\theta'$  or  $\theta^*$  is the true parameter.

Recall that a statistical model  $(E, \{P_{\theta}\}_{\theta \in \Theta})$  associated to a statistical experiment  $X_1, \dots, X_n$  is **well-specified** if there exists  $\theta^*$  such that  $X_1, \dots, X_n \overset{iid}{\sim} P_{\theta^*}$ . Note that the problem statement implies that our model is well-specified. However, this assumption is not enough to be able to recover the true parameter  $\theta^*$  from the distribution  $P_{\theta^*}$  because the parameter  $\theta$  may not be identified.

提交

你已经尝试了1次（总共可以尝试1次）

## 讨论

显示讨论

主题: Unit 2 Foundation of Inference:Lecture 3: Parametric Statistical Models / 11. Identifiability exercises

认证证书是什么?