

课程 ☐ Midterm Exam 1 ☐ Midterm Exam 1 ☐ Problem 2

## Problem 2

Setup :

Let  $X_1, \dots, X_n$  be i.i.d. random variable with pdf  $f_\theta$  defined as follows:

$$f_\theta(x) = \theta x^{\theta-1} \mathbf{1}(0 \leq x \leq 1)$$

偶函数一定没有反函数  
这个函数换一下，发现有反函数

where  $\theta$  is some positive number.

(a)

1/1 point (graded)

Is the parameter  $\theta$  identifiable?

☒ Yes ☐

☐ No

**Solution:**

Yes it is identifiable. If  $\theta_1 \neq \theta_2$ , then the pdfs  $f_{\theta_1}(x) \neq f_{\theta_2}(x)$ .

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你已经尝试了1次（总共可以尝试3次）

☐ Answers are displayed within the problem

(b)

2.0/2.0 points (graded)

Compute the maximum likelihood estimator  $\hat{\theta}$  of  $\theta$ .

(Enter **Sigma\_i(g(X\_i))** for the sum  $\sum_{i=1}^n g(X_i)$ , e.g. enter **Sigma\_i(X\_i^2)** for  $\sum_{i=1}^n X_i^2$ , enter **Sigma\_i(ln(X\_i))** for  $\sum_{i=1}^n \ln(X_i)$ . Do not forget any necessary **n** in your answer, e.g.  $\bar{X}_n$  will need to be entered as **Sigma\_i(X\_i)/n**. Do not worry about the parser not rendering correctly, as the grader will still work independently. If you would like proper rendering, enclose  $\Sigma_i(g(X_i))$  in parentheses i.e. use  $(\Sigma_i(g(X_i)))$ .)

Maximum likelihood estimator  $\hat{\theta} =$   ☐ Answer: -n/Sigma\_i(ln(X\_i))

STANDARD NOTATION

**Solution:**

The likelihood of  $X_1, \dots, X_n$  given a parameter  $\theta$  is

$$L(X_1, \dots, X_n; \theta) = \theta^n \prod_{i=1}^n X_i^{\theta-1}.$$

Taking the logarithm we find that log-likelihood

$$\ell_n(\theta) = n \ln(\theta) + (\theta - 1) \sum_{i=1}^n \ln(X_i).$$

Setting  $\ell'(\theta) = 0$  we find that

$$\hat{\theta} = \frac{-n}{\sum_{i=1}^n \ln X_i}.$$

This is the unique maximum as

$$\ell''_n(\theta) = \frac{-n}{\theta^2} < 0.$$

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(c)

2.0/2.0 points (graded)  
Compute the Fisher information.

$I(\theta) =$

1/theta^2

$\frac{1}{\theta^2}$

☐ Answer: 1/theta^2

STANDARD NOTATION

Solution:

By definition, the Fisher information is defined as

$$I(\theta) = -\mathbb{E}[\ell''(X; \theta)]$$

where  $\ell(\theta) = \ln L(X; \theta)$  is the log-likelihood defined using a sample of size 1.  
The likelihood of  $X$  given a parameter  $\theta$  is

$$L(X; \theta) = \theta(X^{\theta-1}).$$

Taking the logarithm we find that log-likelihood

$$\ell(\theta) = \ln(\theta) + (\theta - 1) \ln(X_i).$$

Taking the second derivative we find that

$$\ell''(\theta) = \frac{-1}{\theta^2}$$

and therefore we have that

$$I(\theta) = -\mathbb{E}[\ell''(X; \theta)] = \frac{1}{\theta^2}.$$

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☐ Answers are displayed within the problem

(d)

1/1 point (graded)

What kind of distribution does the distribution of  $\sqrt{n}\hat{\theta}$  approach as  $n$  grows large?

☐ Bernoulli

☐ Poisson

☒ Normal ☐

☐ Exponential

Solution:

The theorem for MLE applies in this example as the following conditions hold:

- $\theta$  is identifiable
- $I(\theta)$  is invertible
- Support of  $f_\theta$  does not depend on  $\theta$

Hence  $\hat{\theta}$  is asymptotically normal:

$$\sqrt{n}(\hat{\theta} - \theta) \xrightarrow[n \rightarrow \infty]{(d)} \mathcal{N}(0, I^{-1}(\theta)).$$

This means that as  $n$  grows large,

$$\hat{\theta} \overset{\text{approx}}{\sim} \mathcal{N}\left(\theta, \frac{I^{-1}(\theta)}{n}\right)$$

and hence  $\sqrt{n}\hat{\theta}$  is also approximately normal.

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你已经尝试了1次（总共可以尝试3次）

☐ Answers are displayed within the problem

(e)

1.0/1 point (graded)

What is the asymptotic variance  $V(\hat{\theta})$  of  $\hat{\theta}$  ?

To avoid double jeopardy, you may use  $I$  for the Fisher information  $I(\theta)$  evaluated at  $\theta$ , or you may enter your answer without using  $I$ .

$V(\hat{\theta}) =$

☐ Answer: theta^2

Solution:

By the theorem for the MLE the asymptotic variance of the estimator is  $I(\theta)^{-1} = \frac{1}{\theta^2}$ .

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Answers are displayed within the problem

(f)

2.0/2.0 points (graded)

Using the MLE  $\hat{\theta}$ , find the shortest confidence interval for  $\theta$  with asymptotic level 85% using the plug-in method.

To avoid double jeopardy, you may use  $V$  for the appropriate estimator of the asymptotic variance  $V(\hat{\theta})$ , and/or  $I$  for the Fisher information  $I(\hat{\theta})$  evaluated at  $\hat{\theta}$ , or you may enter your answer without using  $V$  or  $I$ .

(Enter **hattheta** for  $\hat{\theta}$ . If applicable, enter **Phi(z)** for the cdf  $\Phi(z)$  of a normal variable  $Z$ , **q(alpha)** for the quantile  $q_\alpha$  for any numerical value  $\alpha$ . Recall the convention in this course that  $P(Z \leq q_\alpha) = 1 - \alpha$  for  $Z \sim \mathcal{N}(0, 1)$ .)

$\mathcal{I}_{\text{plug-in}} = [A, B]$  where

A =

hattheta - (q((1-0.85)/2))/sqrt(n\*I)

Answer: hattheta-q(0.075)\*sqrt(V/n)

B =

hattheta + (q((1-0.85)/2))/sqrt(n\*I)

Answer: hattheta+q(0.075)\*sqrt(V/n)

STANDARD NOTATION

Solution:

Using the previous question on the asymptotic normality of the MLE it follows that

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} P\left[\hat{\theta} \in \left[\theta - 1.44 \frac{\theta}{\sqrt{n}}, \theta + 1.44 \frac{\theta}{\sqrt{n}}\right]\right] = .85.$$

Therefore it follows that

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} P\left[\theta \in \left[\hat{\theta} - 1.44 \frac{\theta}{\sqrt{n}}, \hat{\theta} + 1.44 \frac{\theta}{\sqrt{n}}\right]\right] = .85$$

and since  $\hat{\theta}$  approaches  $\theta$  almost surely we get the confidence interval

$$\left[\hat{\theta} - 1.44 \frac{\hat{\theta}}{\sqrt{n}}, \hat{\theta} + 1.44 \frac{\hat{\theta}}{\sqrt{n}}\right]$$

via the plug-in method.

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Answers are displayed within the problem

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