

# ST210A - Homework 4

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## Problem 1. Geometric Distribution

*Proof.* Let  $g(X)$  be an unbiased estimator of  $\theta$ . We need:

$$\begin{aligned}\forall \theta \in (0, 1), \mathbb{E}g(X) &= \theta \\ \Leftrightarrow \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} g(k)\theta(1-\theta)^k &= \theta \\ \Leftrightarrow \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} g(k)(1-\theta)^k &= 1, \forall \theta \in (0, 1) \\ \Leftrightarrow \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} g(k)\lambda^k &= 1, \forall \lambda = 1-\theta \in (0, 1)\end{aligned}$$

Thus  $g(0) = 1, g(k) = 0, \forall k \geq 1$ . So  $g(X) = \mathbb{I}[X = 0]$ .

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Var}(g(X)) &= \mathbb{E}g^2(X) - (\mathbb{E}g(X))^2 \\ &= \theta - \theta^2\end{aligned}$$

The Fisher information for  $\theta$  is:

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

Thus the error bound for an unbiased estimator according to Theorem 4.9 in Keener is:  $\theta^2(1-\theta)$ . This error bound is strictly smaller than the variance of  $g(X)$  for  $0 < \theta < 1$ . ( $g(X)$  is the only unbiased estimator).  $\square$

## Problem 2. Poisson with Gamma Prior

*Proof.* (a) We have the posterior density of  $\theta$  is:

$$\begin{aligned} p(\theta | x) &= \frac{p(x | \theta)p(\theta)}{p(x)} \\ &= \frac{1}{p(x)} \frac{\theta^x e^{-\theta}}{x!} \frac{1}{b^a \Gamma(a)} \theta^{a-1} e^{-\theta/b} \end{aligned}$$

Thus we have for any estimator  $d(X)$  of  $\Theta$ :

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E}[L(\Theta, d(X)) | X = x] &= \int_0^\infty \frac{(\theta - d(X))^2}{\theta} p(\theta | x) d\theta \\ &= \int_0^\infty \frac{(\theta - d(X))^2}{\theta} \frac{1}{p(x)} \frac{\theta^x e^{-\theta}}{x!} \frac{1}{b^a \Gamma(a)} \theta^{a-1} e^{-\theta/b} d\theta \\ &= \frac{1}{p(x) b^a \Gamma(a)} \int_0^\infty (\theta - d(X))^2 \theta^{x+a-2} e^{-\theta-\theta/b} \frac{\left(\frac{b}{b+1}\right)^{x+a-1} \Gamma(x+a-1)}{\left(\frac{b}{b+1}\right)^{x+a-1} \Gamma(x+a-1)} d\theta \\ &= h(x, b, a) \int_0^\infty (\theta - d(X))^2 \frac{1}{\left(\frac{b}{b+1}\right)^{x+a-1} \Gamma(x+a-1)} \theta^{x+a-2} e^{-\frac{\theta}{(b/(b+1))}} d\theta \end{aligned}$$

We can see that the above integral is  $\mathbb{E}(\lambda - d(X))^2$  for  $\lambda$  follows  $\text{Gamma}(x+a-1, \frac{b}{b+1})$ . This expectation can be rewritten as:  $\mathbb{E}(\lambda - \mu(\lambda) + \mu(\lambda) - d(X)) = \text{Var}(\lambda) + \mathbb{E}(d(X) - \mu(\lambda))^2$ , and is minimized when  $d(X) = \mu(\lambda) = (x+a-1)\frac{b}{b+1}$ .

According to Theorem 7.1 from Keener,  $d(X) = (x+a-1)\frac{b}{b+1}$  is the Bayes estimator w.r.t the family of  $\text{Gamma}(a, b)$  prior.

(b) The estimator  $\delta(X) = X$  can be obtained as  $a = 1, b \rightarrow \infty$ . This is exponential distribution with mean parameter  $\lambda$  approaching zero.  $\square$

**Problem 3.** Uniform with log-normal prior

*Proof.* (a) First the conditional density of  $X = (X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n)^T$  is:

$$\begin{aligned} p(X_i = x_i, \forall 1 \leq i \leq n | \Theta = \theta) &= \frac{1}{\theta^n} \mathbb{I}[0 < x_i < \theta, \forall 1 \leq i \leq n] \\ &= \frac{1}{\theta^n} \mathbb{I}[\min x_i > 0] \mathbb{I}[\max x_i < \theta] \end{aligned}$$

Since  $\log \theta$  is a bijective function on  $\mathbb{R}^+$ , conditioning on  $\theta$  is the same as conditioning on  $\log \theta$ . Thus:

$$\begin{aligned} p(\theta | X) &= \frac{1}{p(X)} p(X | \theta) p(\theta) \\ &= \frac{1}{p(X)} \frac{\mathbb{I}[\min x_i > 0] \mathbb{I}[\max x_i < \theta]}{\theta^n} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}\theta\sigma_0} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2\sigma_0^2} (\ln \theta - \mu_0)^2\right) \end{aligned}$$

Applying the change of variable density for  $\lambda = g(\theta) = \log \theta$ , we have:

$$\begin{aligned} p_\lambda(\lambda | X) &= \frac{1}{p(X)} \frac{\mathbb{I}[\min x_i > 0] \mathbb{I}[\max x_i < \exp \lambda]}{\exp(n\lambda)} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi} \exp(\lambda) \sigma_0} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2\sigma_0^2} (\lambda - \mu_0)^2\right) \\ &= \frac{\mathbb{I}[\min x_i > 0] \mathbb{I}[\max x_i < \exp \lambda]}{\sqrt{2\pi} \sigma_0 p(X) \exp(n\lambda + \lambda)} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2\sigma_0^2} (\lambda - \mu_0)^2\right) \\ &= \frac{\mathbb{I}[\min x_i > 0] \mathbb{I}[\max x_i < \exp \lambda]}{\sqrt{2\pi} \sigma_0 p(X)} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2\sigma_0^2} (\lambda - \mu_0)^2 + (n+1)\lambda\right) \end{aligned}$$

(b) Under the specified loss function, we need to find  $\delta(X)$  that minimizes:

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbb{E}[L(\Theta, \delta(X) \mid X = x)] &= \mathbb{P}[\Theta \neq \delta(X) \mid X = x] \\ &= 1 - \mathbb{P}[\Theta = \delta(X) \mid X = x]\end{aligned}$$

We can minimize the expectation by maximize the a posterior probability  $\mathbb{P}[\Theta = \delta(X) \mid X = x] = \mathbb{P}[\log \Theta = \log(\delta(X))]$ , but this doesn't make sense because this probability is always zero. Instead we will attempt to maximize the density function  $p_{\log \Theta}$ . From part (a), we have the density is maximized iff  $\frac{1}{2\sigma_0^2}(\lambda - \mu_0)^2 + (n+1)\lambda$  is minimized and  $\lambda \geq \log \max x_i$ . The quadratic expression is minimized at either  $\frac{1}{\sigma_0^2}(\lambda - \mu_0) + n + 1 = 0$ , the point that make derivative equal to zero, or at the critical point  $\log \max x_i$ . The linear equation has solution  $\lambda = \mu_0 - (n+1)\sigma_0^2$ . Thus the minimum is attained at  $\lambda = \max(\log \max x_i, \mu_0 - (n+1)\sigma_0^2)$  by the nature of quadratic function left-half truncated. This is equivalent to  $\theta = \max(\max x_i, \exp(\mu_0 - (n+1)\sigma_0^2))$ .

In conclusion the Bayes estimator is  $\delta(X) = \max(\max x_i, \exp(\mu_0 - (n+1)\sigma_0^2))$ .  $\square$

**Problem 4.** Bayes Estimator vs. Unbiased Estimator

*Proof.* Assuming that  $\exists \delta(X)$  that is both unbiased and Bayes estimator. As a Bayes estimator, it minimizes:

$$\mathbb{E}[L(g(\Theta), \delta(X)) \mid X = x] = \mathbb{E}[(g(\Theta) - \delta(X))^2 \mid X = x], \forall x$$

As shown before any random variable  $X$ ,  $\mathbb{E}(X - a)^2$  is minimized w.r.t  $a$  when  $a = \mathbb{E}X$ . Thus the above expectation is minimized when  $\delta(x) = \mathbb{E}[g(\Theta) \mid X = x]$  (a.e). But as an unbiased estimator of  $g(\Theta)$ ,  $\mathbb{E}[\delta(X) \mid \Theta = \theta] = g(\theta)$ .

Thus the Bayes risk:

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbb{E}[g(\Theta)\delta(X)] &= \mathbb{E}[\mathbb{E}[g(\Theta)\delta(X) \mid X]] \\ &= \mathbb{E}[\delta(X)\mathbb{E}[g(\Theta) \mid X]] \\ &= \mathbb{E}[\delta^2(X)] \\ \mathbb{E}[g(\Theta)\delta(X)] &= \mathbb{E}[\mathbb{E}[g(\Theta)\delta(X) \mid \Theta]] \\ &= \mathbb{E}[g(\Theta)\mathbb{E}[\delta(X) \mid X]] \\ &= \mathbb{E}[g^2(\Theta)] \\ \Rightarrow \mathbb{E}[(g(\theta) - \delta(X))^2] &= \mathbb{E}[g^2(\Theta)] + \mathbb{E}[\delta^2(X)] - 2\mathbb{E}[g(\Theta)\delta(X)] \\ &= 0\end{aligned}$$

Thus under quadratic loss, unbiased estimator agree with Bayes estimator implies Bayes risk is zero. On the other hand, if Bayes Risk is zero, then  $g(\theta) = \delta(X)$  almost everywhere. Thus  $\delta(X)$  is an unbiased estimator and also a Bayes estimator. So it is a two way relation.  $\square$

**Problem 5.** Moment of Normal Distribution

*Proof.* (a) We have:

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathbb{E}g'(X) &= - \int \exp \left( \sum_{i=1}^d \theta_i T_i(x) - A(\theta) \right) h(x) g'(x) dx \\
&= - \int \exp \left( \sum_{i=1}^d \theta_i T_i(x) - A(\theta) \right) h(x) dg(x) \\
&= - \exp \left( \sum_{i=1}^d \theta_i T_i(x) - A(\theta) \right) h(x) g(x) \Big|_{-\infty}^{\infty} + \int g(x) d \exp \left( \sum_{i=1}^d \theta_i T_i(x) - A(\theta) \right) h(x) \\
&= 0 + \int g(x) \left\{ h'(x) \exp \left( \sum_{i=1}^d \theta_i T_i(x) - A(\theta) \right) + \right. \\
&\quad \left. + h(x) \exp \left( \sum_{i=1}^d \theta_i T_i(x) - A(\theta) \right) \left( \sum_{i=1}^d \theta_i T_i'(x) \right) \right\} \\
&= \int g(x) \left[ \frac{h'(x)}{h(x)} + \sum_{i=1}^d \theta_i T_i'(x) \right] \exp \left( \sum_{i=1}^d \theta_i T_i(x) - A(\theta) \right) h(x) dx \\
&= \mathbb{E} \left\{ \left[ \frac{h'(X)}{h(X)} + \sum_{i=1}^d \theta_i T_i'(X) \right] g(X) \right\}
\end{aligned}$$

(b) For normal, the density is:

$$\begin{aligned}
f(x) &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma} \exp \left\{ -\frac{(x-\mu)^2}{2\sigma^2} \right\} \\
&= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \exp \left\{ -\frac{1}{2\sigma^2} x^2 + \frac{\mu}{\sigma^2} x - \frac{\mu^2}{2\sigma^2} - \log \sigma \right\}
\end{aligned}$$

So from (a), we have:

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathbb{E}[g'(X)] &= - \mathbb{E} \left\{ \left[ \frac{h'(X)}{h(X)} + \sum_{i=1}^d \theta_i T_i'(X) \right] g(X) \right\} \\
&= - \mathbb{E} \left[ \left( -\frac{1}{2\sigma^2} 2X + \frac{\mu}{\sigma^2} \right) g(X) \right] \\
&= \frac{1}{\sigma^2} \mathbb{E}[(X - \mu) g(X)] \\
&= \frac{1}{\sigma^2} (\mathbb{E}[X g(X)] - \mathbb{E}[X] \mathbb{E}[g(X)]) \\
&= \frac{1}{\sigma^2} \text{Cov}(X, g(X))
\end{aligned}$$

(c) We have:

$$\begin{aligned}
\text{Cov}(X^2, X) &= \sigma^2 \mathbb{E}[2X] \\
\Leftrightarrow \mathbb{E}X^3 - \mathbb{E}X^2 \mathbb{E}X &= \sigma^2 2\mu \\
&\Leftrightarrow \mathbb{E}X^3 = 2\mu\sigma^2 + (\sigma^2 + \mu^2)\mu \\
&\quad = 3\mu\sigma^2 + \mu^3 \\
\text{Cov}(X^3, X) &= \sigma^2 \mathbb{E}[3X^2] \\
\Leftrightarrow \mathbb{E}X^4 - \mathbb{E}X^3 \mathbb{E}X &= \sigma^2 3(\sigma^2 + \mu^2) \\
&\Leftrightarrow \mathbb{E}X^4 = (3\mu\sigma^2 + \mu^3)\mu + 3\sigma^4 + 3\sigma^2\mu^2 \\
&\quad = 6\mu^2\sigma^2 + \mu^4 + 3\sigma^4
\end{aligned}$$

□