

# Mathematical Statistics Assignment 3

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**Q3.1** Let  $X_1, \dots, X_n \stackrel{\text{iid}}{\sim} U[\theta_1, \theta_2]$ . Find the MLEs of  $\theta_1$  and  $\theta_2$ .

**Solve:** The joint density of  $\mathbf{x} = (X_1, \dots, X_n)^T$  is

$$f(\mathbf{x}; \theta_1, \theta_2) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{(\theta_2 - \theta_1)^n} & , \text{ if } \theta_1 \leq x_i \leq \theta_2, i = 1, \dots, n, \\ 0 & , \text{ elsewhere.} \end{cases}$$

Then the likelihood function is

$$L(\theta_1, \theta_2) = \prod_{i=1}^n f(x_i; \theta_1, \theta_2) = \begin{cases} \prod_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{(\theta_2 - \theta_1)} = \frac{1}{(\theta_2 - \theta_1)^n} & , \theta_1 \leq x_{(1)} \text{ and } \theta_2 \geq x_{(n)} \\ 0 & , \text{ elsewhere.} \end{cases}$$

Because  $\theta_2 - \theta_1 \geq x_{(n)} - x_{(1)}$ , and  $L(\theta_1, \theta_2)$  is a monotone and decreasing function of  $\theta_2 - \theta_1$  when  $\theta_2 - \theta_1 \in [x_{(n)} - x_{(1)}, \infty)$ . Thus  $\hat{\theta} = \widehat{(\theta_2 - \theta_1)} = x_{(n)} - x_{(1)}$  is the MLE of  $\theta_1$  and  $\theta_2$ .

**Q3.17.** Suppose that  $X$  follows a geometric distribution,

$$\Pr(X = k) = p(1 - p)^{k-1}, k = 1, 2, \dots$$

where  $0 \leq p \leq 1$ , and assume an i.i.d. sample of size  $n$ .

- Find the moment of estimator of  $p$
- Find the MLE of  $p$ .
- Let  $p$  have a uniform prior distribution on  $[0, 1]$ . What is the posterior distribution of  $p$ ? What is the posterior mean?

Q3.18.