

1. (a) We will quote some results from Question 1 of HW5. Firstly, the maximum likelihood over the entire parameter space is

$$\sup_{(a,\theta) \in \Theta} L(a, \theta | \mathbf{x}) = \left( \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi a \hat{\theta}}} \right)^n \exp \left\{ -\frac{\sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \hat{\theta})^2}{2a \hat{\theta}} \right\} = \left( \frac{e^{-\frac{1}{2}}}{\sqrt{2\pi s_n^2}} \right)^n.$$

Under  $H_0 : a = a_0$ , the MLE for  $\theta$  satisfies

$$-\frac{n}{2\theta} + \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n x_i^2}{2a_0\theta^2} - \frac{n}{2a_0} = 0 \implies \hat{\theta}_0 = \frac{-a_0 + \sqrt{a_0 + 4n^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^n x_i^2}}{2},$$

indicating that

$$\sup_{(a,\theta) \in \Theta_0} L(a, \theta | \mathbf{x}) = \left( \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi a_0 \hat{\theta}_0}} \right)^n \exp \left\{ -\frac{\sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \hat{\theta}_0)^2}{2a_0 \hat{\theta}_0} \right\}.$$

Since the LRT rejects  $H_0$  at level  $\alpha$  when

$$\begin{aligned} \lambda(\mathbf{x}) &= \frac{\sup_{(a,\theta) \in \Theta_0} L(a, \theta | \mathbf{x})}{\sup_{(a,\theta) \in \Theta} L(a, \theta | \mathbf{x})} \\ &= \left( \frac{s_n^2}{a_0 \hat{\theta}_0} \right)^{\frac{n}{2}} \exp \left\{ \frac{n}{2} - \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \hat{\theta}_0)^2}{2a_0 \hat{\theta}_0} \right\} < c, \end{aligned}$$

where the threshold  $c$  depends on  $\alpha$ , by inverting the rejection region, we conclude that a  $1 - \alpha$  confidence set for  $a$  is the set  $\{a_0 : \lambda(\mathbf{x}) \geq c\}$ .

- (b) We have

$$\frac{\bar{X} - \theta}{\sqrt{\theta/n}} \sim N(0, 1),$$

whose distribution does not depend on  $\theta$ . Therefore, it is a pivotal quantity satisfying

$$\begin{aligned} 1 - \alpha &= \mathbb{P} \left( -z(1 - \alpha/2) \leq \frac{\bar{X} - \theta}{\sqrt{\theta/n}} \leq z(1 - \alpha/2) \right) \\ &= \mathbb{P} \left( \frac{(\bar{X} - \theta)^2}{\theta/n} \leq z(1 - \alpha/2)^2 \right) \\ &= \mathbb{P} \left( \theta^2 - \left( 2\bar{X} + \frac{z(1 - \alpha/2)^2}{n} \right) \theta + \bar{X}^2 \leq 0 \right) \end{aligned}$$

Hence, a  $1 - \alpha$  confidence set for  $\theta$  is  $\left\{ \theta : \theta^2 - \left( 2\bar{X} + \frac{z(1 - \alpha/2)^2}{n} \right) \theta + \bar{X}^2 \leq 0 \right\}$ .

- (c) We have

$$\frac{\bar{X} - \theta}{\sqrt{S^2/n}} = \frac{\frac{\bar{X} - \theta}{\sqrt{\theta/n}}}{\sqrt{\frac{(n-1)S^2}{\theta}/(n-1)}} \sim t_{n-1}$$

since it is in the form of  $Z/\sqrt{V/(n-1)}$ , where  $Z \sim N(0, 1)$  and  $V \sim \chi_{n-1}^2$  are independent. Therefore, it is a pivotal quantity satisfying

$$\begin{aligned} 1 - \alpha &= \mathbb{P} \left( -t_{n-1}(1 - \alpha/2) \leq \frac{\bar{X} - \theta}{\sqrt{S^2/n}} \leq t_{n-1}(1 - \alpha/2) \right) \\ &= \mathbb{P} \left( \bar{X} - t_{n-1}(1 - \alpha/2)\sqrt{\frac{S^2}{n}} \leq \theta \leq \bar{X} + t_{n-1}(1 - \alpha/2)\sqrt{\frac{S^2}{n}} \right), \end{aligned}$$

so a  $1 - \alpha$  C.I. for  $\theta$  is  $\bar{X} \mp t_{n-1} \left( 1 - \frac{\alpha}{2} \right) \sqrt{\frac{S^2}{n}}$ .

(d) We have

$$\frac{(n-1)S^2}{\theta} \sim \chi_{n-1}^2.$$

Therefore, it is a pivotal quantity satisfying

$$\begin{aligned} 1 - \alpha &= \mathbb{P} \left( \chi_{n-1}^2(\alpha/2) \leq \frac{(n-1)S^2}{\theta} \leq \chi_{n-1}^2(1 - \alpha/2) \right) \\ &= \mathbb{P} \left( \frac{(n-1)S^2}{\chi_{n-1}^2(1 - \alpha/2)} \leq \theta \leq \frac{(n-1)S^2}{\chi_{n-1}^2(\alpha/2)} \right), \end{aligned}$$

so a  $1 - \alpha$  C.I. for  $\theta$  is  $\left[ \frac{(n-1)S^2}{\chi_{n-1}^2(1 - \alpha/2)}, \frac{(n-1)S^2}{\chi_{n-1}^2(\alpha/2)} \right]$ .

2. It is clear that  $\theta > 0$  and the cdf of  $X$  is  $\mathbb{P}(X \leq x) = x^\theta \mathbb{1}\{0 \leq x \leq 1\} + \mathbb{1}\{x > 1\}$ .

(a) From formulation  $Y$  is non-negative. For  $y > 0$ , we have

$$\mathbb{P}(Y \leq y) = \mathbb{P} \left( -\frac{1}{\log(X)} \leq y \right) = \mathbb{P}(X \leq e^{-\frac{1}{y}}) = e^{-\frac{\theta}{y}}.$$

Hence,

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{P} \left( \frac{Y}{2} \leq \theta \leq Y \right) &= \mathbb{P}(\theta \leq Y \leq 2\theta) \\ &= \mathbb{P}(Y \leq 2\theta) - \mathbb{P}(Y \leq \theta) = e^{-\frac{1}{2}} - e^{-1} \end{aligned}$$

for all  $\theta > 0$ , so it is the desired confidence coefficient.

(b) Let  $U := X^\theta$ . Then

$$\mathbb{P}(U \leq u) = \mathbb{P}(X^\theta \leq u) = u \mathbb{1}\{0 \leq u \leq 1\} + \mathbb{1}\{u > 1\},$$

indicating that  $U \sim \text{Unif}(0, 1)$  is a pivotal quantity, and we can use it to construct a C.I. For instance, since we have

$$\begin{aligned} e^{-\frac{1}{2}} - e^{-1} &= \mathbb{P}(1 - e^{-\frac{1}{2}} + e^{-1} \leq U \leq 1) \\ &= \mathbb{P}(1 - e^{-\frac{1}{2}} + e^{-1} \leq X^\theta \leq 1) \\ &= \mathbb{P} \left( \frac{\log(1 - e^{-\frac{1}{2}} + e^{-1})}{\log(X)} \geq \theta \geq 0 \right), \end{aligned}$$

a required C.I. for  $\theta$  would be given by  $\left[ 0, \frac{\log(1 - e^{-\frac{1}{2}} + e^{-1})}{\log(X)} \right]$ .

(c) Note that  $\theta \in [Y/2, Y] \iff \theta \in \left[ -\frac{1}{2\log(X)}, -\frac{1}{\log(X)} \right]$ , and hence the length of C.I. in part (a) is

$$-\frac{1}{\log(X)} + \frac{1}{2\log(X)} = -\frac{1}{2\log(X)}.$$

Since

$$\begin{aligned} (1 - e^{-\frac{1}{2}})^2 > 0 &\iff 1 - e^{-\frac{1}{2}} + e^{-1} > e^{-\frac{1}{2}} \\ &\iff \log(1 - e^{-\frac{1}{2}} + e^{-1}) > -\frac{1}{2} \\ &\iff \frac{\log(1 - e^{-\frac{1}{2}} + e^{-1})}{\log(X)} < -\frac{1}{2\log(X)}, \end{aligned}$$

we conclude that the length of C.I. that we proposed in (b) is shorter than that in (a).

3. (a) We know that  $\frac{\bar{X} - \mu}{\sqrt{\sigma^2/n}} \sim N(0, 1)$  so a  $1 - \alpha$  C.I. for  $\mu$  is

$$\left[ \bar{X} - z \left(1 - \frac{\alpha}{2}\right) \sqrt{\frac{\sigma^2}{n}}, \bar{X} + z \left(1 - \frac{\alpha}{2}\right) \sqrt{\frac{\sigma^2}{n}} \right],$$

whose length is  $2z \left(1 - \frac{\alpha}{2}\right) \sqrt{\frac{\sigma^2}{n}}$ . Hence,  $2z \left(1 - \frac{\alpha}{2}\right) \sqrt{\frac{\sigma^2}{n}} \leq \delta \iff n \geq \frac{4z \left(1 - \frac{\alpha}{2}\right)^2 \sigma^2}{\delta^2}$  so we pick  $n = \left\lceil \frac{4z \left(1 - \frac{\alpha}{2}\right)^2 \sigma^2}{\delta^2} \right\rceil$ .

- (b) We know that  $\frac{\bar{X} - \mu}{\sqrt{S^2/n}} \sim t_{n-1}$  so a  $1 - \alpha$  C.I. for  $\mu$  is

$$\left[ \bar{X} - t_{n-1} \left(1 - \frac{\alpha}{2}\right) \sqrt{\frac{S^2}{n}}, \bar{X} + t_{n-1} \left(1 - \frac{\alpha}{2}\right) \sqrt{\frac{S^2}{n}} \right],$$

whose expected length is

$$\begin{aligned} 2t_{n-1} \left(1 - \frac{\alpha}{2}\right) \mathbb{E} \left[ \sqrt{\frac{S^2}{n}} \right] &= 2t_{n-1} \left(1 - \frac{\alpha}{2}\right) \frac{\sigma}{\sqrt{n(n-1)}} \mathbb{E} \left[ \sqrt{\frac{(n-1)S^2}{\sigma^2}} \right] \\ &= 2t_{n-1} \left(1 - \frac{\alpha}{2}\right) \frac{\sqrt{2}\Gamma(n/2)}{\Gamma((n-1)/2)\sqrt{n-1}} \sqrt{\frac{\sigma^2}{n}}, \end{aligned}$$

where we used the moment properties for the  $\chi$ -distribution with  $n - 1$  DoF. Hence, we choose  $n$  as the least integer satisfying

$$2t_{n-1} \left(1 - \frac{\alpha}{2}\right) \frac{\sqrt{2}\Gamma(n/2)}{\Gamma((n-1)/2)\sqrt{n-1}} \sqrt{\frac{\sigma^2}{n}} \leq \delta.$$

The close form is not easy to obtain, though.

- (c) We compare their expected lengths, and it remains to compare the  $z$ -score  $z \left(1 - \frac{\alpha}{2}\right)$  and the “adjusted”  $t$ -score  $t_{n-1} \left(1 - \frac{\alpha}{2}\right) \frac{\sqrt{2}\Gamma(n/2)}{\Gamma((n-1)/2)\sqrt{n-1}}$ . It is observed that the  $t$ -score is always larger for a small  $\alpha$  and  $n \geq 2$ , indicating that the expected length in (b) is larger than that in (a). Moreover, their difference gets closer to 0 when  $n$  becomes larger (which can be proved by  $t_{n-1}(1 - \alpha/2) \rightarrow z(1 - \alpha/2)$  and  $\frac{\sqrt{2}\Gamma(n/2)}{\Gamma((n-1)/2)\sqrt{n-1}} \rightarrow 1$  when  $n \rightarrow \infty$ ). For demonstration, we plot the case for  $\alpha = 0.05$  as follows.

```
library(ggplot2)
```

```
alpha <- 0.05
```

```
n <- 2:200
```

```
z <- rep(qnorm(1-alpha/2), length(n))
```

```
t <- qt(1-alpha/2, df=n) * sqrt(2/(n-1)) * gamma(n/2) / gamma((n-1)/2)
```

```
colors <- c("z-score"="blue", "scaled t-score"="red")
```

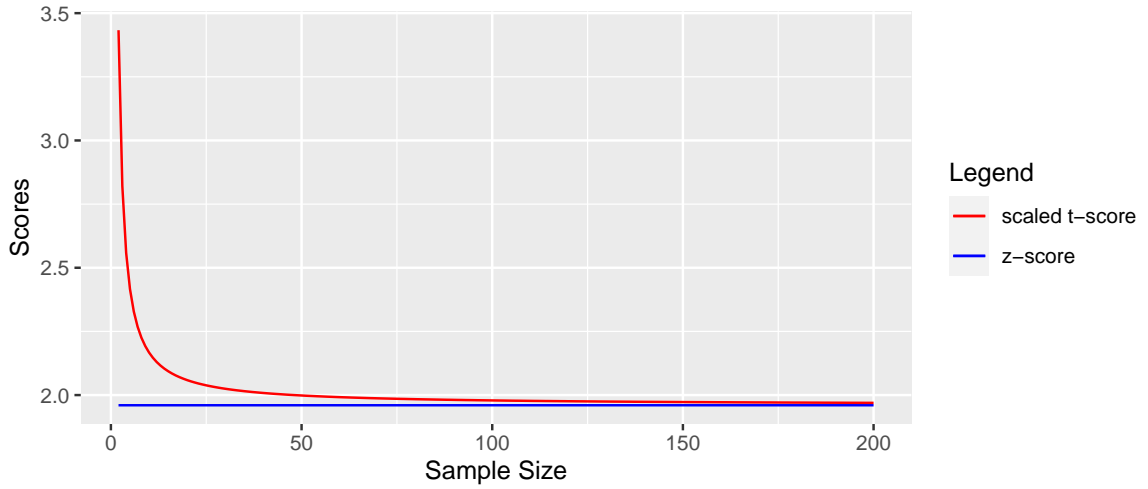
```
data <- data.frame(n, z, t)
```

```
ggplot(data, aes(x=n)) +
```

```
geom_line(aes(y=z, color="z-score")) +
```

```
geom_line(aes(y=t, color="scaled t-score")) +
```

```
labs(x="Sample Size",
     y="Scores",
     color="Legend") +
scale_colour_manual(values=colors)
```



4. Assume  $\theta > 0$  as we need the Fisher Information to be continuous. Our first direction of finding asymptotic C.I. is to consider the MLE of  $\theta$ ,  $\hat{\theta}_n$ . As we have derived  $l'(\theta)$  in Question 1 of HW5, we have

$$l''(\theta|\mathbf{X}) = \frac{n}{\theta^2} - \frac{3 \sum_{i=1}^n X_i^2}{\theta^4} + \frac{2 \sum_{i=1}^n X_i}{\theta^3}$$

and hence the expected and observed Fisher Information are, respectively,

$$\begin{aligned} nI(\theta) &= -\frac{n}{\theta^2} + \frac{3n\mathbb{E}[X_1^2]}{\theta^4} + \frac{2n\mathbb{E}[X_1]}{\theta^3} = \frac{3n}{\theta^2}, \\ -l''(\hat{\theta}_n|\mathbf{x}) &= -\frac{n}{\hat{\theta}_n^2} + \frac{3 \sum_{i=1}^n X_i^2}{\hat{\theta}_n^4} - \frac{2 \sum_{i=1}^n X_i}{\hat{\theta}_n^3}, \end{aligned}$$

where the explicit form of  $\hat{\theta}_n$  is also provided in HW5.

Now, the asymptotic normality of MLE under regular families indicates  $\sqrt{nI(\theta)}(\hat{\theta}_n - \theta) \Rightarrow N(0, 1)$ , where  $nI(\theta)$  could be replaced by  $nI(\hat{\theta}_n)$  or  $-l''(\hat{\theta}_n|\mathbf{x})$  by Continuous Mapping Theorem and Slutsky's Theorem. Hence, we have a  $1 - \alpha$  asymptotic C.I. for  $\theta$  being

$$\left[ \hat{\theta}_n - \frac{z \left(1 - \frac{\alpha}{2}\right)}{\sqrt{nI(\hat{\theta}_n)}}, \hat{\theta}_n + \frac{z \left(1 - \frac{\alpha}{2}\right)}{\sqrt{nI(\hat{\theta}_n)}} \right],$$

another one being

$$\left[ \hat{\theta}_n - \frac{z \left(1 - \frac{\alpha}{2}\right)}{\sqrt{-l''(\hat{\theta}_n|\mathbf{x})}}, \hat{\theta}_n + \frac{z \left(1 - \frac{\alpha}{2}\right)}{\sqrt{-l''(\hat{\theta}_n|\mathbf{x})}} \right].$$

Alternatively, we may find the asymptotic C.I. based on  $\bar{X}$  as the estimator for  $\theta$ . Then we have  $\frac{\bar{X} - \theta}{\sqrt{S^2/n}} \Rightarrow N(0, 1)$  (since  $t_{n-1} \Rightarrow N(0, 1)$ ). Hence a  $1 - \alpha$  asymptotic C.I. for  $\theta$  is

$$\left[ \bar{X} - z \left(1 - \frac{\alpha}{2}\right) \sqrt{\frac{S^2}{n}}, \bar{X} + z \left(1 - \frac{\alpha}{2}\right) \sqrt{\frac{S^2}{n}} \right].$$

By Slutsky's Theorem, we can maintain its asymptotic normality when we replace  $S^2$  with any estimator that converges to  $\theta^2$  in probability, say  $\bar{X}^2$  (or  $\bar{X}^4/S^2$  or whatever). Then another  $1 - \alpha$  asymptotic C.I. for  $\theta$  is

$$\left[ \bar{X} - z \left( 1 - \frac{\alpha}{2} \right) \sqrt{\frac{\bar{X}^2}{n}}, \bar{X} + z \left( 1 - \frac{\alpha}{2} \right) \sqrt{\frac{\bar{X}^2}{n}} \right].$$

*Remark.* The answers are not unique. One can construct other asymptotic C.I.s (for instance, profile confidence intervals, apply Delta Method to  $\sqrt{n}(\bar{X} - \theta)$ , etc.) provided that they can establish the correct asymptotic distributions and can show that the answers are indeed intervals.

5. (a) From Central Limit Theorem, we have

$$\sqrt{n}(\bar{X}_n - \theta) \Rightarrow N(0, \theta).$$

Furthermore, we know from Delta Method that

$$\sqrt{n}(g(\bar{X}_n) - g(\theta)) \Rightarrow N(0, \theta[g'(\theta)]^2)$$

if  $g$  is differentiable with  $g'(\theta) \neq 0$ . Therefore we want  $\theta[g'(\theta)]^2 = 1$ , which can be achieved if  $g(\theta) = 2\sqrt{\theta}$ .

- (b) From (a) we have

$$\begin{aligned} 1 - \alpha &\leftarrow \mathbb{P} \left( -z \left( 1 - \frac{\alpha}{2} \right) \leq \sqrt{n}(2\sqrt{\bar{X}_n} - 2\sqrt{\theta}) \leq z \left( 1 - \frac{\alpha}{2} \right) \right) \\ &= \mathbb{P} \left( \sqrt{\bar{X}_n} - \frac{z \left( 1 - \frac{\alpha}{2} \right)}{2\sqrt{n}} \leq \sqrt{\theta} \leq \sqrt{\bar{X}_n} + \frac{z \left( 1 - \frac{\alpha}{2} \right)}{2\sqrt{n}} \right) \\ &= \mathbb{P} \left( \left( \max \left\{ 0, \sqrt{\bar{X}_n} - \frac{z \left( 1 - \frac{\alpha}{2} \right)}{2\sqrt{n}} \right\} \right)^2 \leq \theta \leq \left( \sqrt{\bar{X}_n} + \frac{z \left( 1 - \frac{\alpha}{2} \right)}{2\sqrt{n}} \right)^2 \right). \end{aligned}$$

Hence, a  $1 - \alpha$  asymptotic C.I. for  $\theta$  is

$$\left[ \left( \max \left\{ 0, \sqrt{\bar{X}_n} - \frac{z \left( 1 - \frac{\alpha}{2} \right)}{2\sqrt{n}} \right\} \right)^2, \left( \sqrt{\bar{X}_n} + \frac{z \left( 1 - \frac{\alpha}{2} \right)}{2\sqrt{n}} \right)^2 \right].$$