

Q.3) Find the maximum likelihood estimation (MLE) for the following distribution

(i) Binomial

Let  $x$  takes  $n$  no. of observation (i.i.d) from binomial distribution

$$X \sim \text{binom}(n, p)$$

where,

$n \rightarrow$  known

$p \rightarrow$  unknown (estimate)

Likelihood function is,

$$L(x; \theta) = \prod_{i=1}^N f(x_i; \theta)$$

$$= \prod_{i=1}^n {}^n C_{x_i} p^{x_i} (1-p)^{n-x_i}$$

$$= \prod_{i=1}^n \frac{n!}{n-x_i! x_i!} p^{x_i} (1-p)^{n-x_i}$$

Log likelihood,

$$\log(L(x; \theta)) = k + \sum_{i=1}^n x_i \log p + \sum_{i=1}^n (n-x_i) \log(1-p)$$

$k$  - constant (does not have parameter  $p$ ) ①

For maximizing likelihood,

differentiate eqn ① w.r.t  $p$ ,

$$\text{set } \frac{\partial \log(L)}{\partial p} = 0$$



$$0 = 0 + \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{x_i}{p} + \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{(n-x_i)}{(1-p)} (-1)$$

$$\sum \frac{x_i}{p} = \sum \frac{(n-x_i)}{1-p}$$

$$(1-p) \sum x_i = p \sum (n-x_i)$$

$$\sum x_i - p \sum x_i = pn - p \sum x_i$$

$$\boxed{p_{ML} = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n x_i}{n}}$$

(ii) Poisson

Lets take  $x = \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n\}$  are i.i.d. observation from poisson distribution

unknown  $n \rightarrow \lambda$

$$L(x; \lambda) = \prod_{i=1}^n \frac{\lambda^{x_i} e^{-\lambda}}{x_i!}$$

$$= \frac{\lambda^{\sum x_i} e^{-n\lambda}}{x_1! x_2! \dots x_n!}$$

log likelihood,

$$\log(L(x; \lambda)) = \sum_{i=1}^n x_i \log \lambda - n\lambda - K \quad \text{--- (2)}$$

$$K = x_1! x_2! x_3! \dots x_n!$$

differentiate eqn (2) w.r.t  $\lambda$ ,

$$\frac{\partial \log(L)}{\partial \lambda} = 0$$

~~210~~

$$0 = \frac{1}{\lambda} \sum_{i=1}^n x_i - n$$

$$\frac{1}{\lambda} \sum_{i=1}^n x_i = n$$

$$\boxed{\lambda_{ML} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n x_i}$$

(iii) Exponential

$$f(x; \lambda) = \begin{cases} \lambda e^{-\lambda x} & , \text{ if } x \geq 0 \\ 0 & , \text{ otherwise} \end{cases}$$

likelihood function is,

$$L[\lambda, x_1, \dots, x_n] = \prod_{i=1}^n f(x_i, \lambda)$$

$$= \prod_{i=1}^n \lambda e^{-\lambda x_i}$$

$$= \lambda^n e^{-\lambda \sum_{i=1}^n x_i}$$

The log likelihood,

$$\log [L(\lambda; x_i)] = n \log \lambda - \lambda \sum_{i=1}^n x_i \quad \text{--- (3)}$$

differentiate eqn (3) w.r.t  $\lambda$ ,

$$\frac{\partial \log [L(\lambda; x_i)]}{\partial \lambda} = 0$$



$$0 = \frac{n}{\lambda} - \sum_{i=1}^n x_i$$

$$\frac{n}{\lambda} = \sum_{i=1}^n x_i$$

$$\boxed{\lambda_{ML} = \frac{n}{\sum_{i=1}^n x_i}}$$

#### (iv) Gaussian Distribution

unknown parameters  $\rightarrow \mu, \sigma^2$ .

$$f(x; \theta) = \frac{1}{\sigma\sqrt{2\pi}} \exp\left(-\frac{(x-\mu)^2}{2\sigma^2}\right)$$

likelihood function,

$$\begin{aligned} L[x; \theta] &= \prod_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{\sigma\sqrt{2\pi}} \exp\left(-\frac{(x_i-\mu)^2}{2\sigma^2}\right) \\ &= \left(\frac{1}{\sigma\sqrt{2\pi}}\right)^n \prod_{i=1}^n \exp\left(-\frac{(x_i-\mu)^2}{2\sigma^2}\right) \end{aligned}$$

log likelihood function,

$$\log[L(x; \theta)] = n \log\left(\frac{1}{\sigma\sqrt{2\pi}}\right) - \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{(x_i-\mu)^2}{2\sigma^2} \quad (4)$$

differentiate eqn (4) to maximize  $\mu$ ,

$$\frac{\partial \log[L(x; \theta)]}{\partial \mu} = 0$$

$$0 = -2 \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{(x_i - \mu)}{2\sigma^2} (-1)$$

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$$\boxed{\mu_{MLE} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n x_i}$$

differentiate w.r.t  $\sigma$  to maximize variance,

$$\frac{\partial \log[L(x; \theta)]}{\partial \sigma} = 0$$

$$0 = -\frac{n}{\sigma} + 2 \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{(x_i - \mu)^2}{2\sigma^3} = 0$$

$$\frac{n}{\sigma} = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \mu)^2}{\sigma^3}$$

$$\boxed{\sigma_{MLE}^2 = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \mu)^2}$$

(v) Laplacian

$$f_x(x; \theta) = \frac{1}{2b} \exp\left(-\frac{|x - \mu|}{b}\right)$$

unknown  $\rightarrow b, \mu$



likelihood function,

$$L(x; \theta) = \prod_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{2b} \exp\left(-\frac{|x_i - \mu|}{b}\right)$$

$$= \left(\frac{1}{2b}\right)^n \prod_{i=1}^n \exp\left(-\frac{|x_i - \mu|}{b}\right)$$

log likelihood,

$$\log[L(x; \mu, b)] = -n \log(2b) - \frac{1}{b} \sum_{i=1}^n |x_i - \mu| \quad \text{--- (5)}$$

differentiate eqn (5) w.r.t.  $b$ ,

$$\frac{\partial \log[L(x; \mu, b)]}{\partial b} = 0$$

$$0 = -\frac{n}{b} + \frac{1}{b^2} \sum_{i=1}^n |x_i - \mu|$$

$$\frac{n}{b} = \frac{1}{b^2} \sum_{i=1}^n |x_i - \mu|$$

$$\boxed{b_{MLE} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n |x_i - \mu|}$$

differentiate ~~w.r.t~~ eqn (5) w.r.t.  $\mu$ ,

$$\frac{\partial \log[L(x; \mu, b)]}{\partial \mu} = 0$$

$$0 = -\frac{1}{b} \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{\partial |x_i - \mu|}{\partial \mu}$$

using identity,

$$\frac{\partial |x|}{\partial x} = \frac{\partial \sqrt{x^2}}{\partial x} = x(x^2)^{-1/2} = \frac{x}{|x|} = \text{sgn}(x)$$



$$0 = \frac{1}{b} \sum_{i=1}^n \text{sgn}(x_i - \mu)$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^n \text{sgn}(x_i - \mu) = 0$$

We have two cases for  $N$

if  $N$  is odd,

we choose  $\mu_{MLE} = \text{median}\{x_1, \dots, x_n\}$ .

$\therefore$  there are  $\frac{N-1}{2}$  cases where  $x_i < \mu$

and  $\frac{N-1}{2}$  cases where  $x_i > \mu$

if  $N$  is even,

we choose  $\mu$  to be between  $\frac{x_n}{2}$  &  $\frac{x_{n+1}}{2}$ .

In general,  $\hat{\mu}_{MLE} = \text{median}\{x_1, \dots, x_n\}$