

DATA.ML.200, Exercise set 1.

Task 2.

$$p(x; \lambda) = \frac{1}{x!} e^{-\lambda} \lambda^x$$

a)

Likelihood function for λ based on independent samples $\mathbf{x} = \{x_0, \dots, x_{N-1}\}$

$$\begin{aligned} p(\mathbf{x}; \lambda) &= \prod_{n=0}^{N-1} p(x_n; \lambda) \\ &= \prod_{n=0}^{N-1} \frac{1}{x_n!} e^{-\lambda} \lambda^{x_n} \\ &= e^{-N\lambda} \prod_{n=0}^{N-1} \frac{1}{x_n!} \lambda^{x_n} \\ &= e^{-N\lambda} \lambda^{\sum_{n=0}^{N-1} x_n} \prod_{n=0}^{N-1} \frac{1}{x_n!} \end{aligned}$$

b)

$$\begin{aligned} l(\mathbf{x}; \lambda) &= \log(p(\mathbf{x}; \lambda)) \\ &= \log\left(e^{-N\lambda} \lambda^{\sum_{n=0}^{N-1} x_n} \prod_{n=0}^{N-1} \frac{1}{x_n!}\right) \\ &= \log(e^{-N\lambda}) + \log(\lambda^{\sum_{n=0}^{N-1} x_n}) + \log\left(\prod_{n=0}^{N-1} \frac{1}{x_n!}\right) \\ &= -N\lambda + \log(\lambda) \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} x_n - \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} \log(x_n!) \end{aligned}$$

c)

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial}{\partial \lambda} l(\mathbf{x}; \lambda) &= -N \frac{\partial}{\partial \lambda} \lambda + \frac{\partial}{\partial \lambda} \log(\lambda) \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} x_n - \frac{\partial}{\partial \lambda} \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} \log(x_n!) \\ &= -N + \frac{1}{\lambda} \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} x_n \end{aligned}$$

d)

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \lambda} l(\mathbf{x}; \lambda) = 0$$

$$-N + \frac{1}{\lambda} \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} x_n = 0$$

$$\frac{1}{\lambda} \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} x_n = N$$

$$\frac{1}{\lambda} = \frac{N}{\sum_{n=0}^{N-1} x_n}$$

$$\lambda = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} x_n$$

$$\therefore \lambda_{MLE} = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} x_n = \text{mean}(\mathbf{x})$$