

**Practice on MLE (sec 7.2), Evaluating Point Estimators (sec 7.7), and Bayesian Estimator (sec 7.8)**

## 1 Questions

1. Consider the task of performing line fitting to a set of points  $(x_i, y_i)$ . For this question, model  $y_i$  as having the equation  $mx_i + c$  (we do NOT know  $m$  and  $c$ ) but with Gaussian Noise added to it in the form  $\mathcal{N}(0, \sigma^2)$ . Use the concept of MLE to find the estimate for  $m$ ,  $c$  and  $\sigma$ .

We model our data as

$$y_i = mx_i + c + \epsilon$$

where  $\epsilon$  is the noise sampled from a Gaussian.

Thus,  $y_i \sim \mathcal{N}(mx_i + c, \sigma^2)$

$$P = \sum p(y_i | x_i, m, c) = \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{\exp\left(\frac{-(y_i - mx_i - c)^2}{2\sigma^2}\right)}{\sigma\sqrt{2\pi}}$$

Set partial derivative of  $\log P$  to 0 with respect to both  $m$  and  $c$  to obtain,

$$\begin{aligned} c' &= \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n y_i - m'x_i}{n} \\ m' &= \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \mu_x)(y_i - \mu_y)}{\sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \mu_x)^2} \end{aligned}$$

where  $\mu_x = (\sum x_i)/n$  and  $\mu_y = (\sum y_i)/n$ . use the MLE Gaussian estimation on  $y_i - m'x_i - c'$  to get the variance,

$$\sigma'^2 = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - m'x_i - c')^2$$

2. Find a MLE estimate for the Geometric Distribution probability  $p$ , where  $P(x, p) = (1 - p)^{x-1}p$ .

Solution -  $p' = \frac{n}{\sum x_i} = \frac{1}{\mu_x}$

3. Find a MLE estimator for  $\theta$  for a sample size of  $n$  in the two sided exponential family with the pdf

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{2}e^{-|x-\theta|} \quad \forall x \in \mathcal{R}$$

Is this unbiased?

Solution- Use basic MLE derivation to obtain that  $x'$ , the Median of the sample, is a MLE estimator of  $\theta$ .

Reason using symmetry of the distribution and that we can take another sample mirrored around the true  $\theta$  that the final bias will be 0.

4. Use MLE for normal distribution to estimate  $\sigma^2$  while  $\mu$  is known. What is the expected value of estimator?

Derive a)  $\sigma^2 = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N (x_i - \mu)^2$

## 2 Textbook Problems

Chapter 7, Problems 62, 63, 65 and Examples 7.8b, 7.8c, 7.8d