

**MSO201A: PROBABILITY & STATISTICS**  
**Problem Set #13**

[1] Let  $X_1, \dots, X_n$  be a random sample from each of the following distributions having the following density or mass functions. Find the maximum likelihood estimator (MLE) of  $\theta$  in each case.

$$(a) f(x; \theta) = \begin{cases} \frac{e^{-\theta} \theta^x}{x!} & x = 0, 1, 2, \dots \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

$$(b) f(x; \theta) = \begin{cases} \theta x^{\theta-1} & 0 < x < 1 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

$$(c) f(x; \theta) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{\theta} e^{-x/\theta} & x > 0 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

$$(d) f(x; \theta) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{2} e^{-|x-\theta|} & -\infty < x < \infty \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

[2] Let  $X_1, \dots, X_n$  be a random sample from the distribution having p.d.f.

$$f(x; \theta_1, \theta_2) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{\theta_2} e^{-(x-\theta_1)/\theta_2} & x \geq \theta_1 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Find the MLEs of  $\theta_1$  and  $\theta_2$ .

[3] Let  $X_1, \dots, X_n$  be a random sample from the distribution having p.d.f.

$$f(x; \alpha, \lambda) = \begin{cases} \frac{\lambda^\alpha}{\Gamma(\alpha)} e^{-\lambda x} x^{\alpha-1} & x \geq 0 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Find the MLEs of  $\alpha$  and  $\lambda$ .

[4] Let  $X_1, \dots, X_n$  be a random sample from the function having p.d.f.

$$f(x; \mu, \sigma) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{2\sqrt{3}\sigma} & \mu - \sqrt{3}\sigma < x < \mu + \sqrt{3}\sigma \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Find the MLEs of  $\mu$  and  $\sigma$ .

- [5] Let  $X_1, \dots, X_n$  be a random sample from  $U(\theta - 1/2, \theta + 1/2)$ ,  $\theta \in \mathfrak{R}$ . Show that any statistic  $u(X_1, \dots, X_n)$  such that it satisfies

$$X_{(n)} - \frac{1}{2} \leq u(X_1, \dots, X_n) \leq X_{(1)} + \frac{1}{2}$$

is a maximum likelihood estimator of  $\theta$ . In particular  $(X_{(1)} + X_{(n)})/2$  and

$$\frac{3}{4}\left(X_{(1)} + \frac{1}{2}\right) + \frac{1}{4}\left(X_{(n)} - \frac{1}{2}\right) \text{ are MLEs of } \theta.$$

- [6] The lifetimes of a component are assumed to be exponential with parameter  $\lambda$ . Ten of these components were placed on a test independently. The only data recorded were the number of components that had failed (out of 10 put to test) in less than 100 hours, which was recorded to be 3. Find the maximum likelihood estimate of  $\lambda$ .
- [7] A salesman of used cars is willing to assume that the number of sales he makes per day is a Poisson random variable with parameter  $\mu$ . Over the past 30 days he made no sales on 20 days and one or more sales on each of the remaining 10 days. Find the maximum likelihood estimate of  $\mu$ .