

# 2014 Qualifying Exam Section 1

February 21, 2019

## 1 Question 1

We consider two groups of independent observations:  $X_1, \dots, X_n$  are i.i.d from  $\text{Unif}(0, \alpha)$  and  $Y_1, \dots, Y_n$  are i.i.d from  $\text{Unif}(0, \beta)$ , where both  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  are unknown parameters assumed to be positive. For comparison, we are interested in inference on  $\theta = \beta/\alpha$

### 1.a

Derive the UMVUEs for  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  and calculate their respective variances. Note that

$$f(x, y) = \alpha^{-n} \mathbf{1}_{\{x_{(n)} \leq \alpha\}} \mathbf{1}_{\{x_{(1)} \geq 0\}} \beta^{-n} \mathbf{1}_{\{y_{(n)} \leq \beta\}} \mathbf{1}_{\{y_{(1)} \geq 0\}}$$

By the factorization theorem, we see that  $(x_{(n)}, y_{(n)})$  is sufficient for  $(\alpha, \beta)$ .

Note that for  $x \in (0, \alpha), y \in (0, \beta)$

$$\begin{aligned} F(x, y) &= P(X_{(n)} \leq x, Y_{(n)} \leq y) \\ &= P(X_{(n)} \leq x) P(Y_{(n)} \leq y) \\ &= P(X_1 \leq x)^n P(Y_1 \leq y)^n \\ &= \alpha^{-n} x^n \beta^{-n} y^n \end{aligned}$$

So that

$$f(x, y) = n^2 \alpha^{-n} \beta^{-n} x^{n-1} y^{n-1}$$

Suppose there is a measurable function  $g$  such that  $\mathbb{E}g(X_{(n)}, Y_{(n)}) = 0$ . Then we have

$$\begin{aligned}
0 &= \mathbb{E}g(X_{(n)}, Y_{(n)}) \\
\implies 0 &= \int_0^\alpha \int_0^\beta g(x, y) n^2 \alpha^{-n} \beta^{-n} x^{n-1} y^{n-1} dy \, dx \\
\implies 0 &= \int_0^\alpha \int_0^\beta g(x, y) x^{n-1} y^{n-1} dy \, dx \\
\implies \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \alpha \partial \beta} 0 &= \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \alpha \partial \beta} \int_0^\alpha \int_0^\beta g(x, y) x^{n-1} y^{n-1} dy \, dx \\
\implies g(\alpha, \beta) \alpha^{n-1} \beta^{n-1} &= 0 \text{ a.e.} \\
\implies g(\alpha, \beta) &= 0 \text{ a. e.}
\end{aligned}$$

Hence,  $P(g(X_{(n)}, Y_{(n)}) = 0) = 1$ , so  $(X_{(n)}, Y_{(n)})$  are complete for  $(\alpha, \beta)$ , and they are also sufficient for  $(\alpha, \beta)$  by the above.

We need to find a function  $h$  such that  $\mathbb{E}h(X_{(n)}) = \alpha$ . We have

$$\begin{aligned}
\alpha &= \mathbb{E}h(X_{(n)}) \\
&= \int_0^\alpha h(x) \alpha^{-n} n x^{n-1} dx \\
\iff \frac{\alpha^{n+1}}{n} &= \int_0^\alpha h(x) x^{n-1} dx
\end{aligned}$$

We see that in order to get the integral to come out with  $\alpha^{n+1}$ ,  $h(x)$  must be some multiple of  $x$ . Since the integral if  $h(x) = x$  gives us  $\frac{1}{n+1} \alpha^{n+1}$ , we see that  $h(x) = \frac{n+1}{n} x$ . Thus, by the Lehmann-Scheffe theorem, the UMVUE is  $h(X_{(n)}) = \frac{n+1}{n} X_{(n)}$  since it is unbiased for  $\alpha$  and a function of the complete sufficient statistic. Similarly, we have that the UMVUE for  $\beta$  is  $\frac{n+1}{n} Y_{(n)}$

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathbb{E} \left( \frac{n+1}{n} X_{(n)} \right)^2 &= \frac{(n+1)^2}{n^2} \int_0^\alpha x^2 n \alpha^{-n} x^{n-1} dx \\
&= \frac{(n+1)^2}{n \alpha^n} \int_0^\alpha x^{n+1} dx \\
&= \frac{(n+1)^2}{n(n+2) \alpha^n} \alpha^{n+2} \\
&= \frac{(n+1)^2}{n(n+2)} \alpha^2
\end{aligned}$$

Hence,

$$\begin{aligned}\mathrm{Var}\left(\frac{n+1}{n}X_{(n)}\right) &= \frac{(n+1)^2}{n(n+2)}\alpha^2 - \alpha^2 \\ &= \alpha^2 \frac{n^2 + 2n + 1 - n^2 - 2n}{n(n+2)} \\ &= \frac{\alpha^2}{n(n+2)}\end{aligned}$$

## 1.b

Calculate the MLEs for  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$ , denoted as  $\hat{\alpha}$  and  $\hat{\beta}$  respectively. Derive the asymptotic distributions for  $\hat{\alpha}$  and  $\hat{\beta}$  after some normalization.

Solution:

Note that  $f(x, y)$  is 0 if  $y_{(n)} > \beta$  or if  $x_{(n)} > \alpha$ . If  $y_{(n)} \leq \beta$  and  $x_{(n)} \leq \alpha$ , then  $f$  is strictly decreasing in  $\alpha$  and in  $\beta$ . It follows that the MLEs are  $\hat{\alpha} = X_{(n)}$  and  $\hat{\beta} = Y_{(n)}$ .

To find the asymptotic distribution, we want to find a sequence of constants  $k_n$  and  $c_n$  such that the cdf of  $k_n(\hat{\alpha} - c_n)$  converges to a non-degenerate function. We have

$$\begin{aligned} P(k_n(X_{(n)} - c_n) \leq x) &= P(X_{(n)} \leq c_n + x/k_n) \\ &= \left( \frac{c_n + x/k_n}{\alpha} \right)^n \end{aligned}$$

If we take  $c_n = \alpha$  and  $k_n = -n$ , then the probability above converges to  $e^{-x/\alpha}$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ . Note that

$$\begin{aligned} P(-n(X_{(n)} - \alpha) \leq x) &= P(n(\alpha - X_{(n)}) \leq x) \\ &= P(X_{(n)} \geq \alpha - x/n) \\ &\rightarrow 1 - e^{-x/\alpha} \end{aligned}$$

And hence  $n(\alpha - X_{(n)})$  converges in distribution to a  $\text{Exp}(\alpha)$  random variable as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ . Similarly, we have  $n(\beta - Y_{(n)})$  converges in distribution to an  $\text{Exp}(\beta)$  random variable.

## 1.c

The MLE for  $\theta$  is then  $\hat{\theta} = \hat{\beta}/\hat{\alpha}$ . Derive the asymptotic distribution of  $\hat{\theta}$  after normalization. Construct an asymptotic 95% confidence interval for  $\theta$  based on the observations.

Solution:

We need to find a sequence of constants  $k_n$  and  $c_n$  such that the cdf of  $k_n(c_n - \hat{\theta})$  converges to some non-degenerate function.

$$\begin{aligned}
 P(k_n(c_n - \hat{\theta}) \leq z) &= P(X_{(n)}/Y_{(n)} \geq c_n - z/k_n) \\
 &= 1 - P(X_{(n)} \leq Y_{(n)}(c_n - z/k_n)) \\
 &= 1 - \int_0^\beta \left( \frac{y(c_n - z/k_n)}{\alpha} \right)^n n\beta^{-n} y^{n-1} dy \\
 &= 1 - n\alpha^{-n}\beta^{-n}(c_n - z/k_n)^n \int_0^\beta \beta y^{2n-1} dy \\
 &= 1 - n\alpha^{-n}\beta^{-n}(c_n - z/k_n)^n \frac{1}{2n} \beta^{2n} \\
 &= 1 - \frac{1}{2} \theta^{-n} (c_n - z/k_n)^n \\
 &= 1 - \frac{1}{2} \left[ \frac{1}{\theta} \left( c_n - \frac{z}{k_n} \right) \right]^n
 \end{aligned}$$

We want the probability to converge to the CDF of some random variable. To get rid of the  $1/2$ , we need to be able to factor out a  $2^{1/n}$  from what is inside the square brackets. Clearly,  $c_n$  should be proportional to  $\theta$  in order to make the limit converge to some exponential function. Thus, if  $c_n = 2^{1/n}\theta$  and  $k_n = 2^{-1/n}n$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 1 - \frac{1}{2} \left[ \frac{1}{\theta} \left( c_n - \frac{z}{k_n} \right) \right]^n &= 1 - \frac{1}{2} \left[ \frac{1}{\theta} \left( 2^{1/n}\theta - \frac{z2^{1/n}}{n} \right) \right]^n \\
 &= 1 - \left( 1 - \frac{z/\theta}{n} \right)^n \\
 &\rightarrow 1 - e^{z/\theta}
 \end{aligned}$$

as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ , which is the CDF of an  $\text{Exp}(\theta)$  random variable. Thus, we have that the random variable

$$n2^{-1/n}(2^{1/n}\theta - \hat{\theta}) = n(\theta - 2^{-1/n}\hat{\theta}) \xrightarrow{d} \text{Exp}(\theta)$$

as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ .

To construct a 95% asymptotic confidence interval, the simplest way is to just consider one-side confidence intervals. Let  $Z \sim \text{Exp}(\theta)$ . Then

$$.05 = P(Z > c) = e^{-c/\theta} \implies c = -\theta \log(.05)$$

And hence

$$P(n(\theta - 2^{-1/n}\hat{\theta}) \leq -\theta \log(.05)) \rightarrow .95$$

Removing the probability, we have that a 95% asymptotic confidence interval is

$$\begin{aligned} \left\{ \theta : n\theta - n2^{-1/n}\hat{\theta} \leq -\theta \log(.05) \right\} &= \left\{ \theta : (n + \log(.05))\theta \leq n2^{-1/n}\hat{\theta} \right\} \\ &= \left\{ \theta : \theta \leq \frac{2^{-1/n}n\hat{\theta}}{n + \log(.05)} \right\} \end{aligned}$$

## 1.d

We wish to test the hypothesis  $H_0 : \alpha = \beta$  versus  $H_a : \alpha \neq \beta$ . What is the likelihood ratio test static. Derive the exact distribution of this test statistic.

Solution:

We have already found the MLEs for the unrestricted model  $(\hat{\alpha}, \hat{\beta}) = (X_{(n)}, Y_{(n)})$ . In the restricted model  $\alpha = \beta \equiv \theta$  and the likelihood can be written as

$$\prod_{i=1}^n (\theta^{-1} \mathbf{1}_{0 \leq x_i \leq \theta}) \prod_{i=1}^n (\theta^{-1} \mathbf{1}_{0 \leq y_i \leq \theta}) = \theta^{-2n} \mathbf{1}_{\min(x_{(1)}, y_{(1)}) \geq \theta} \mathbf{1}_{\max(x_{(n)}, y_{(n)}) \leq \theta}$$

The likelihood is 0 if  $\max(x_{(n)}, y_{(n)}) \geq \theta$  and it is decreasing in  $\theta$  otherwise. Thus, the MLE under the null hypothesis is  $\tilde{\theta} = \max\{x_{(n)}, y_{(n)}\}$

The likelihood ratio statistic is

$$\begin{aligned} \Lambda &= \frac{L(\tilde{\theta}, \tilde{\theta})}{L(\hat{\alpha}, \hat{\beta})} \\ &= \frac{(X_{(n)})^{-2n} \mathbf{1}_{\{X_{(n)} > Y_{(n)}\}} + (Y_{(n)})^{-2n} \mathbf{1}_{\{X_{(n)} < Y_{(n)}\}}}{(X_{(n)})^{-n} (Y_{(n)})^{-n}} \\ &= \left( \frac{Y_{(n)}}{X_{(n)}} \right)^n \mathbf{1}_{\{X_{(n)} > Y_{(n)}\}} + \left( \frac{X_{(n)}}{Y_{(n)}} \right)^n \mathbf{1}_{\{X_{(n)} \leq Y_{(n)}\}} \end{aligned}$$

$$P(\Lambda \leq z) = P(\Lambda \leq z | X_{(n)} \leq Y_{(n)}) P(X_{(n)} \leq Y_{(n)}) + P(\Lambda \leq z | X_{(n)} > Y_{(n)}) P(X_{(n)} > Y_{(n)})$$

$$\begin{aligned} P(X_{(n)} \leq Y_{(n)}) &= \int_0^\beta P(X_{(n)} \leq y) f_{Y_{(n)}}(y) dy \\ &= \alpha^{-n} \beta^{-n} n \int_0^\beta y^{2n-1} dy \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \alpha^{-n} \beta^{-n} \beta^{2n} \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{\beta}{\alpha} \right)^n \end{aligned}$$

And analogously,

$$P(X_{(n)} > Y_{(n)}) = P(Y_{(n)} \leq X_{(n)}) = \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{\alpha}{\beta} \right)^n$$

$$\begin{aligned}
P(\Lambda \leq z | X_{(n)} \leq Y_{(n)}) &= P((X_{(n)}/Y_{(n)})^n \leq z) \\
&= P(X_{(n)} \leq z^{1/n} Y_{(n)}) \\
&= \int_0^\beta \left( \frac{z^{1/n} y}{\alpha} \right)^n n \beta^{-n} y^{n-1} dy \\
&= n z \alpha^{-n} \beta^{-n} \int_0^\beta y^{2n-1} dy \\
&= n z \alpha^{-n} \beta^{-n} \frac{1}{2n} \beta^{2n} \\
&= \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{\beta}{\alpha} \right)^n z
\end{aligned}$$

and analogously,

$$P(\Lambda \leq z | X_{(n)} > Y_{(n)}) = \frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{\alpha}{\beta} \right)^n z$$

Putting it all together,

$$P(\Lambda \leq z) = \frac{z}{4} \left[ \left( \frac{\alpha}{\beta} \right)^{2n} + \left( \frac{\beta}{\alpha} \right)^{2n} \right]$$

And hence

$$\Lambda \sim \text{Unif} \left( 0, \frac{4}{(\alpha/\beta)^{2n} + (\beta/\alpha)^{2n}} \right)$$

Under  $H_0$ ,  $\alpha = \beta$  and we have

$$\Lambda \sim \text{Unif}(0, 2)$$



## 1.e

Note that  $\text{Cov}(\bar{X}_n, \bar{Y}_n) = 0$  since  $X$  and  $Y$  are independent. Thus, we have

$$\sqrt{n} \begin{pmatrix} \bar{X}_n - \alpha/2 \\ \bar{Y}_n - \alpha/2 \end{pmatrix} \xrightarrow{d} N(0, \Sigma)$$

where

$$\Sigma = \begin{pmatrix} \alpha^2/12 & 0 \\ 0 & \beta^2/12 \end{pmatrix}$$

Let  $g(a, b) = a/b$ . Then

$$\frac{\partial g}{\partial a} = -b/a^2|_{\mu} = -4\beta/\alpha^2$$

$$\frac{\partial g}{\partial \beta} = 1/a|_{\mu} = 2/\alpha$$

Let  $\nabla g = \left( \frac{\partial g}{\partial \alpha}, \frac{\partial g}{\partial \beta} \right)'$ . By the Delta Method,

$$\sqrt{n}(\bar{Y}_n/\bar{X}_n - \theta) \xrightarrow{d} N(0, \tau^2)$$

where

$$\tau^2 = \nabla g^T \Sigma \nabla g = \frac{2\theta^2}{3}$$

$$ARE(\hat{\theta}, \bar{Y}_n/\bar{X}_n) = \frac{\frac{1}{n}(\theta^2/6)}{\frac{1}{n^2}(\theta^2)} = \frac{n}{6}$$

We need to compute the other two asymptotic distributions. Let  $k_n$  be a sequence of constants. We have

$$\begin{aligned} k_n \left\{ \frac{2\bar{Y}_n}{X_{(n)}} - \frac{\beta}{\alpha} \right\} &= \frac{1}{X_{(n)}} k_n \left\{ 2\bar{Y}_n - \beta \frac{X_{(n)}}{\alpha} \right\} \\ &= \frac{1}{X_{(n)}} k_n \left\{ 2\bar{Y}_n - \beta + \beta - \beta \frac{X_{(n)}}{\alpha} \right\} \\ &= \frac{2}{\bar{X}_n} k_n \left\{ \bar{Y}_n - \frac{\beta}{2} \right\} + \beta k_n \left\{ \frac{1}{X_{(n)}} - \frac{1}{\alpha} \right\} \end{aligned}$$

Now, by part (b),  $n(\alpha - X_{(n)}) = O_p(1)$ . By the Delta Method,  $n(1/\alpha - 1/X_{(n)}) = O_p(1)$ . Thus,  $\sqrt{n}(\alpha - X_{(n)}) = O_p(n^{-1/2}) = o_p(1)$ . Since  $X_{(n)}$  is consistent for  $\alpha$ , by the continuous

mapping theorem, we have  $\frac{2}{\bar{X}_{(n)}} \xrightarrow{P} \frac{2}{\alpha}$ . Thus, by Slutsky's Theorem and the Central Limit Theorem,

$$\sqrt{n} \left\{ \frac{2\bar{Y}_n}{\bar{X}_{(n)}} - \theta \right\} \xrightarrow{d} \frac{2}{\alpha} N(0, \beta^2/12) \stackrel{d}{=} N(0, \theta^2/3)$$

Hence,

$$ARE \left( \frac{\bar{Y}_n}{\bar{X}_n}, \frac{2\bar{Y}_n}{\hat{\alpha}} \right) = \frac{\frac{1}{n}\theta^2/3}{\frac{1}{n}\theta^2/6} = 2$$

Finally, let  $k_n$  be another arbitrary sequence of constants. Then

$$\begin{aligned} k_n \left\{ \frac{Y_{(n)}}{2\bar{X}_n} - \frac{\beta}{\alpha} \right\} &= \frac{k_n}{2\bar{X}_n} \left\{ Y_{(n)} - \beta \frac{2\bar{X}_n}{\alpha} \right\} \\ &= \frac{k_n}{2\bar{X}_n} \left\{ Y_{(n)} - \beta + \beta \left( 1 - \frac{2\bar{X}_n}{\alpha} \right) \right\} \\ &= \frac{k_n}{2\bar{X}_n} (Y_{(n)} - \beta) + \frac{\beta}{2} k_n \left( \frac{1}{\bar{X}_n} - \frac{1}{\alpha/2} \right) \end{aligned}$$

By part (b),  $Y_{(n)} - \beta = O_p(1/n)$  and by the CLT and the Delta Method,  $1/\bar{X}_n - 1/(\alpha/2) = O_p(1/\sqrt{n})$ . Thus, if we choose  $k_n = \sqrt{n}$ , the LHS goes to 0. We need to find the asymptotic distribution of the RHS.

By the CLT, we have

$$\sqrt{n}(\bar{X}_n - \alpha/2) \xrightarrow{d} N(0, \alpha^2/12)$$

By the Delta Method,

$$\sqrt{n}(1/\bar{X}_n - 1/(\alpha/2)) \xrightarrow{d} N(0, 1/3)$$

Thus, by the continuous mapping theorem,

$$\sqrt{n} \left\{ \frac{Y_{(n)}}{2\bar{X}_n} - \frac{\beta}{\alpha} \right\} \xrightarrow{d} N(0, \beta^2/12)$$

## 2 Problem 2

Consider a decision problem with a parameter space  $\Theta$  having a finite number of values,  $\theta_1, \dots, \theta_l$ ,  $l < \infty$ .

### 2.a

Show that a Bayes rule  $d_B$  with respect to a prior distribution  $\Lambda$  on  $\Theta$  having positive probabilities  $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_l > 0$  is admissible.

Proof:

Suppose that  $d_B$  is inadmissible. Then there exists some rule  $d^*$  such that  $R(\theta, d^*) \leq R(\theta, d_B)$  for all  $\theta$  with strict equality holding for at least one  $\theta$ .

We have

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{R}(\Lambda, d_B) &= \mathbb{E}_\Lambda R(\theta, d_B) \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^l \lambda_i R(\theta_i, d_B) \\ &> \sum_{i=1}^l \lambda_i R(\theta_i, d^*) && \text{(since } d_B \text{ is inadmissible)} \\ &\equiv \mathcal{R}(\Lambda, d^*)\end{aligned}$$

But this contradicts the definition of  $d_B$  as a Bayes rule, which minimizes Bayes Risk. Thus, we must have that  $d_B$  is admissible.

## 2.b

The result in part (a) conflicts with other results for continuous parameter spaces where Bayes rules may not be admissible, eg, James-Stein estimation. In the discrete case described above, show that if  $\lambda_i = 0$ , some  $i = 1, \dots, l$ , then the resulting Bayes rule  $d_B$  may not be admissible.

Proof:

Suppose  $\lambda_i = 0$  and  $d_B$  is a Bayes rule with respect to  $\Lambda$ . We want to show that  $d_B$  may be inadmissible. Suppose  $d_B$  were always admissible. Then for any  $d$  and for some  $\theta$

$$R(\theta, d_B) < R(\theta, d)$$

Suppose the inequality holds for  $\theta_i$  and  $\lambda_i = 0$ . We have

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{R}(\Lambda, d_B) &= \sum_{j=1}^l \lambda_j R(\theta_j, d_B) \\ &= \sum_{j=1}^{i-1} \lambda_j R(\theta_j, d_B) + \lambda_i R(\theta_i, d_B) + \sum_{j=i+1}^l \lambda_j R(\theta_j, d_B) \\ &= \sum_{j=1}^{i-1} \lambda_j R(\theta_j, d_B) + \sum_{j=i+1}^l \lambda_j R(\theta_j, d_B) \end{aligned}$$

Thus if  $R(\theta_i, d_B) < R(\theta_i, d)$  for all  $d$ , and  $\lambda_i = 0$  we can see that it is possible for  $R(\Lambda, d_B)$  not to minimize Bayes risk, a contradiction. Thus,  $d_B$  may not be admissible.

## 2.c

Suppose that the frequentist risk of  $d_B$  in part (b) is finite and constant on those  $\theta_i$ 's having  $\lambda_i > 0$ . Show that this decision rule is minimax, that is, minimizes the maximum risk, on those  $\theta_i$ 's with  $\lambda_i > 0$ .

Proof:

Suppose that the first  $k$  elements of  $\Theta$  have nonzero prior probabilities, (i.e., that  $\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_k > 0$  and  $\lambda_{k+1} = \lambda_{k+2} = \dots = \lambda_l = 0$ ). Since the frequentist risk is constant over the nonzero prior indices, we have

$$R(\theta_i, d_B) = c < \infty$$

for all  $i = 1, 2, \dots, k$  where  $c$  is a constant.

Suppose  $d_B$  is not minimax over  $\theta_1, \dots, \theta_k$ . Then there exists some rule  $d^*$  such that

$$\sup_{\theta \in \{\theta_1, \dots, \theta_k\}} R(\theta, d^*) < \sup_{\theta \in \{\theta_1, \dots, \theta_k\}} R(\theta, d_B) = c$$

and hence,  $R(\theta_i, d^*) < c$  for every  $i = 1, \dots, k$ .

We have

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{R}(\Lambda, d^*) &= \sum_{i=1}^l \lambda_i R(\theta_i, d^*) \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^k \lambda_i R(\theta_i, d^*) && \text{(since } \lambda_i = 0 \text{ for all } i > k.) \\ &< \sum_{i=1}^k \lambda_i R(\theta_i, d_B) && \text{(since } d^* \text{ is minimax and } d_B \text{ has constant risk over these } \theta_i \text{'s)} \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^l \lambda_i R(\theta_i, d_B) && \text{(since } \lambda_i = 0 \text{ for all } i > k) \\ &= R(\Lambda, d_B) \end{aligned}$$

This contradicts the fact that  $d_B$  is bayes with respect to  $\Lambda$ . Hence,  $d_B$  is minimax.

## 2.d

Can anything be said about whether or not  $d_B$  in part (b) is minimax on  $\theta_i, i = 1, \dots, l$   
Discuss.

Solution:

In (e), (f), and (g), consider the following classification problem. Suppose that  $X$  is an observation from the density

$$p(x|\theta) = \theta^1 I(0 < x < \theta)$$

where  $I(\cdot)$  denotes the indicator function and the parameter space is  $\Theta = 1, 2, 3$ . It is desired to classify  $X$  as arising from  $p(x|1)$ ,  $p(x|2)$ , or  $p(x|3)$ , under a 0-1 loss function (zero loss for a correct decision, a loss of one for an incorrect decision).

## 2.e

Find the form of the Bayes rule for this problem.

Solution:

The Bayes rule minimizes the posterior expected loss function. Let  $a_i$  denote the choice that we take action  $i$ ,  $i = 1, 2, 3$ . We have

$$\begin{aligned} E_{\theta|X} L(\theta, a_1) &= \mathbb{E}_{\theta|X} \{I(\theta = 2) + I(\theta = 3)\} \\ &= P(\theta = 2|X) + P(\theta = 3|X) \\ &= \frac{p(x|2)\lambda_2}{p(x)} + \frac{p(x|3)\lambda_3}{p(x)} \\ &= \frac{1}{p(x)} \left\{ \frac{\lambda_2}{2} I(0 < x < 2) + \frac{\lambda_3}{3} I(0 < x < 3) \right\} \end{aligned}$$

And similarly, we have

$$\begin{aligned} E_{\theta|X} L(\theta, a_2) &= \frac{1}{p(x)} \left\{ \lambda_1 I(0 < x < 1) + \frac{\lambda_3}{3} I(0 < x < 3) \right\} \\ E_{\theta|X} L(\theta, a_3) &= \frac{1}{p(x)} \left\{ \lambda_1 I(0 < x < 1) + \frac{\lambda_2}{2} I(0 < x < 2) \right\} \end{aligned}$$

Let  $\phi_i(x) = P(d(x) = i)$ .

Case 1:  $0 < x < 1$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E}_{\theta|X} L(\theta, a_1) &= \frac{1}{p(x)} \left\{ \frac{\lambda_2}{2} + \frac{\lambda_3}{3} \right\} \\ \mathbb{E}_{\theta|X} L(\theta, a_2) &= \frac{1}{p(x)} \left\{ \lambda_1 + \frac{\lambda_3}{3} \right\} \\ \mathbb{E}_{\theta|X} L(\theta, a_3) &= \frac{1}{p(x)} \left\{ \lambda_1 + \frac{\lambda_2}{2} \right\} \end{aligned}$$

Thus, for  $0 < x < 1$ ,

$$\begin{aligned}\phi_1(x) = 1 &\iff \lambda_2/2 + \lambda_3/3 < \lambda_1 + \lambda_3/3 \text{ and } \lambda_2/2 + \lambda_3/3 < \lambda_1 + \lambda_2/2 \\ &\iff \lambda_1 > \lambda_2/2 \text{ and } \lambda_1 > \lambda_3/3\end{aligned}$$

$$\phi_1(x) = \gamma_1 = 1 - \phi_2(x) \iff \lambda_1 = \lambda_2/2, \lambda_1 > \lambda_3/3$$

$$\phi_1(x) = \gamma_2 = 1 - \phi_3(x) \iff \lambda_1 = \lambda_3/3, \lambda_1 > \lambda_2/2$$

$$\phi_1(x) = \gamma_3 \iff \lambda_1 = \lambda_2/2 = \lambda_3/3$$

$$\phi_2(x) = 1 \iff \lambda_1 < \lambda_2/2 \text{ and } \lambda_2 > 2\lambda_3/3$$

$$\phi_2(x) = \gamma_4 \iff \lambda_1 < \lambda_2/2 \text{ and } \lambda_2 = 2\lambda_3/3$$

$$\phi_2(x) = \gamma_5 \iff \lambda_1 = \lambda_2/2 = \lambda_3/3$$

$$\phi_3(x) = 1 \iff \lambda_1 < \lambda_3/3 \text{ and } \lambda_2 < 2\lambda_3/3$$

$$\phi_3(x) = 1 - \gamma_3 - \gamma_5 \iff \lambda_1 = \lambda_2/2 = \lambda_3/3$$

Case 2:  $1 \leq x < 2$

$$\mathbb{E}_{\theta|X} L(\theta, a_1) = \frac{\lambda_2}{2} + \frac{\lambda_3}{3}$$

$$\mathbb{E}_{\theta|X} L(\theta, a_2) = \frac{\lambda_3}{3}$$

$$\mathbb{E}_{\theta|X} L(\theta, a_3) = \frac{\lambda_2}{2}$$

Thus, for  $1 \leq x < 2$

$$\phi_1(x) = 0$$

$$\phi_2(x) = 1 \iff \lambda_2 > 2\lambda_3/3$$

$$\phi_2(x) = \gamma_6 = 1 - \phi_3(x) \iff \lambda_2 = 2\lambda_3/3$$

$$\phi_3(x) = 1 \iff \lambda_2 < 2\lambda_3/3$$

Case 3:  $2 \leq x < 3$

$$\mathbb{E}_{\theta|X} L(\theta, a_1) = \frac{\lambda_3}{3}$$

$$\mathbb{E}_{\theta|X} L(\theta, a_2) = \frac{\lambda_3}{3}$$

$$\mathbb{E}_{\theta|X} L(\theta, a_3) = 0$$

Thus, for  $2 \leq x < 3$   $\phi_1(x) = \phi_2(x) = 0$ ,  $\phi_3(x) = 1$



Let  $\phi_i(x) = P(d(x) = i)$ . Then the Bayes rule is given by

$$\begin{aligned}\phi_1(x) = I(0 < x < 1) [I(\lambda_1 > \lambda_2/2)I(\lambda_1 > \lambda_3/3) + \gamma_1 I(\lambda_1 = \lambda_2/2)I(\lambda_1 > \lambda_3/3) \\ + \gamma_2 I(\lambda_1 > \lambda_2/2)I(\lambda_1 = \lambda_3/3) + \gamma_3 I(\lambda_1 = \lambda_2/2)I(\lambda_1 = \lambda_3/3)]\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\phi_2(x) = I(0 \leq x < 1) [I(\lambda_1 < \lambda_2/2)I(\lambda_2 > 2\lambda_3/3) + (1 - \gamma_1)I(\lambda_1 = \lambda_2/2)I(\lambda_1 > \lambda_3/3) \\ + \gamma_4 I(\lambda_1 < \lambda_2/2)I(\lambda_2 = 2\lambda_3/3) + \gamma_5 I(\lambda_1 = \lambda_2/2)I(\lambda_1 = \lambda_3/3)] \\ + I(1 \leq x < 2) [I(\lambda_2 > 2\lambda_3/3) + \gamma_6 I(\lambda_2 = 2\lambda_3/3)]\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\phi_3(x) = I(0 \leq x < 1) [I(\lambda_1 < \lambda_3/3)I(\lambda_2 < 2\lambda_3/3) + (1 - \gamma_2)I(\lambda_1 > \lambda_2/2)I(\lambda_1 = \lambda_3/3) \\ + (1 - \gamma_4)I(\lambda_1 < \lambda_3/3)I(\lambda_2 = 2\lambda_3/3) + (1 - \gamma_3 - \gamma_5)I(\lambda_1 = \lambda_2/2)I(\lambda_1 = \lambda_3/3)] \\ + I(1 \leq x < 2) [I(\lambda_2 > 2\lambda_3/3) + (1 - \gamma_6)I(\lambda_2 = 2\lambda_3/3) + I(2 \leq x < 3)]\end{aligned}$$

## 2.f

Find the decision rule which minimizes the maximum risk over  $\Theta$  and the corresponding least favorable prior distribution.

Solution: To find the minimax rule, we seek a Bayes rule with constant risk. Note that

$$R(\theta_i, \phi) = \sum_{j=1}^3 L(\theta_i, a_j) \mathbb{E} \phi_j(x) = 1 - \mathbb{E}_{\theta_i} \phi_i(x)$$

$R(\theta_i, \phi)$  is constant if and only if  $\mathbb{E}_{\theta_i} \phi_i(x)$  is constant. Note that  $\mathbb{E}_{\theta_3} \phi_3(x) \geq P(2 \leq x < 3) > 0$ , so we must have  $E_{\theta_1} \phi_1(x) > 0$  and thus  $\phi_1(x) \neq 0$  when  $0 \leq x < 1$

Looking at  $\phi_1(x)$ , the only case where  $E_{\theta_1} \phi_1(x)$  is constant can be the case  $\lambda_1 = \lambda_2/2 = \lambda_3/3$ . Thus, the least favorable prior satisfies  $\lambda_1 = \lambda_2/2 = \lambda_3/3$ . Since the priors add up to 1, we have

$$1 = \lambda_1 + 2\lambda_1 + 3\lambda_1 = 6\lambda_1 \iff \lambda_1 = 1/6$$

and hence  $\lambda_2 = 2/6 = 1/3$  and  $\lambda_3 = 3/6 = 1/2$ . Hence the least favorable prior is  $(\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \lambda_3) = (1/6, 1/3, 1/2)$ .

In order for the risk to be constant, we need

$$\begin{aligned}\gamma_3 = \frac{1}{2}(\gamma_5 + \gamma_6) = \frac{1}{3}(1 - \gamma_3 - \gamma_5 + 1 - \gamma_6) \\ \iff 2\gamma_3 = \gamma_5 + \gamma_6, 3\gamma_3 = (2 - \gamma_3 - \gamma_5 - \gamma_6)\end{aligned}$$

Hence, the minimax rule is any rule satisfying the least favorable prior above as well as the constraints on the  $\gamma$ 's.

## 2.g

Looking at the posterior expected losses above, we can find the Bayes rule

Case 1:  $0 < x < 1$

$$\begin{aligned}\phi_1(x) = 1 &\iff \lambda_1 > \lambda_2/2 \\ \phi_1(x) = \gamma_1 = 1 - \phi_2(x) &\iff \lambda_1 = \lambda_2/2 \\ \phi_2(x) = 1 &\iff \lambda_1 < \lambda_2/2\end{aligned}$$

Case 2:  $1 \leq x < 2$

$\phi_2(x) = 1$  and  $\phi_1(x) = 0$ .

Case 3  $2 \leq x < 3$

$\phi_1(x) = \gamma_2 = 1 - \phi_2(x)$

And thus, we have

$$\phi_1(x) = I(0 < x < 1)[I(\lambda_1 > \lambda_2/2) + \gamma_1 I(\lambda_1 = \lambda_2/2)] + I(2 \leq x < 3)\gamma_2$$

$$\phi_2(x) = I(0 < x < 1)[I(\lambda_1 < \lambda_2/2) + (1 - \gamma_1)I(\lambda_1 = \lambda_2/2)] + I(1 \leq x < 2) + (1 - \gamma_2)I(2 < x \leq 3)$$

In order for the Bayes rule to be constant risk, we need  $E_{\theta_i}\phi_i$  to be constant for all  $i$ . Thus, this happens iff  $\lambda_1 = \lambda_2/2$ . So the least favorable prior is  $(1/3, 2/3, 0)$ .

$$\gamma_1 = 1/2(1 - \gamma_1) + 1 \implies \frac{3}{2}\gamma_1 = 3/2 \implies \gamma_1 = 1$$

### 3 Question 3

Suppose that  $(X, Y)$  are two random variables with joint distribution

$$f(x, y|\alpha, \beta) = c(\alpha, \beta) \exp(-\alpha x - \beta y) \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} \frac{x^j y^j}{(j!)^2}$$

for  $x > 0, y > 0$ . Also, let  $(X_1, Y_1), \dots, (X_n, Y_n)$  be a random sample from  $(X, Y)$ , and let  $\bar{X} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n X_i, \bar{Y} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n Y_i$ .

#### 3.a

Show that the joint distribution of  $(X, Y)$  in (1) is in the multiparameter exponential family and identify the rank, show that  $c(\alpha, \beta) = \alpha\beta - 1$ , and find the parameter space of  $(\alpha, \beta)$ .

Solution:

We can write

$$\begin{aligned} f(x, y|\alpha, \beta) &= \exp \left\{ -\alpha x - \beta y - \log 1/c(\alpha, \beta) + \log \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} \frac{x^j y^j}{(j!)^2} \right\} \\ &= \exp \{T(x, y)' \theta - b(\theta) - d(x, y)\} \end{aligned}$$

where  $T(x, y) = (-x, -y)'$ ,  $\theta = (\alpha, \beta)'$ ,  $b(\theta) = \log 1/c(\alpha, \beta)$ , and  $d(x, y) = -\log \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} \frac{x^j y^j}{(j!)^2}$ . Thus,  $f$  is in the multiparameter exponential family. The rank is 2 since  $x, y$  are linearly independent and so are  $\alpha, \beta$ .

We need to find the normalizing constant. Let  $k(x, y)$  denote the kernel of the joint distri-

bution. We have

$$\begin{aligned}
\int_{\mathcal{X}} \int_{\mathcal{Y}} k(x, y) dy dx &= \int_0^\infty \int_0^\infty e^{-\alpha x} e^{-\beta y} \sum_{j=0}^\infty \frac{x^j y^j}{(j!)^2} dy dx \\
&= \int_0^\infty \int_0^\infty e^{-\alpha x} e^{-\beta y} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{j=0}^n \frac{x^j y^j}{(j!)^2} dy dx \\
&= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \int_0^\infty \int_0^\infty e^{-\alpha x} e^{-\beta y} \sum_{j=0}^n \frac{x^j y^j}{(j!)^2} dy dx \quad (\text{MCT}) \\
&= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{j=0}^n \int_0^\infty \int_0^\infty e^{-\alpha x} e^{-\beta y} \sum_{j=0}^n \frac{x^j y^j}{(j!)^2} dy dx \\
&= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{j=0}^n \frac{1}{(j!)^2} \int_0^\infty x^j e^{-\alpha x} \int_0^\infty y^j e^{-\beta y} dy dx \\
&= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{j=0}^n \frac{1}{(j!)^2} [\Gamma(j+1)]^2 \alpha^{-(j+1)} \beta^{-(j+1)} \quad (\text{provided } \alpha > 0 \text{ and } \beta > 0) \\
&= \sum_{j=0}^\infty \left( \frac{1}{\alpha\beta} \right)^{j+1} \\
&= \frac{1}{\alpha\beta} \sum_{j=0}^\infty \left( \frac{1}{\alpha\beta} \right)^j \quad (\text{provided } |\frac{1}{\alpha\beta}| < 1) \\
&= \frac{1}{\alpha\beta} \left( \frac{1}{1 - 1/(\alpha\beta)} \right) \\
&= \frac{1}{\alpha\beta - 1}
\end{aligned}$$

Hence, we must have  $c(\alpha, \beta) = \alpha\beta - 1$  since the PDF must integrate to 1. The MCT result holds because each term in the series is non-negative so the series itself is non-negative and nondecreasing. Moreover, the series is convergent because factorials dominate powers. Thus, the MCT conditions are satisfied.

In order to derive the result, we made two assumptions about  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$ . In particular, we assumed  $\alpha, \beta > 0$  and  $\left| \frac{1}{\alpha\beta} \right| < 1$ . Combining these together, we must have  $\alpha\beta > 1$ , i.e., we must have  $\alpha > 1/\beta$

Thus, the parameter space is

$$\Theta = \{(\alpha, \beta) : \alpha\beta > 1\}$$

So clearly  $\alpha, \beta$  are linearly independent and hence the exponential family is full rank.

### 3.b

Derive the marginal distribution of  $X$  from (1) and show that  $E(X) = \frac{\beta}{\alpha\beta-1}$

$$\begin{aligned}
f_X(x) &= \int_0^\infty f(x, y) \, dy \\
&= \int_0^\infty (\alpha\beta - 1)e^{-\alpha x} e^{-\beta y} \sum_{j=0}^\infty \frac{x^j y^j}{(j!)^2} \, dy \\
&= (\alpha\beta - 1)e^{-\alpha x} \int_0^\infty e^{-\beta y} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{j=0}^n \frac{x^j y^j}{(j!)^2} \, dy \\
&= (\alpha\beta - 1)e^{-\alpha x} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{j=0}^n \frac{x^j}{(j!)^2} \int_0^\infty y^j e^{-\beta y} \, dy \quad (\text{MCT}) \\
&= (\alpha\beta - 1)e^{-\alpha x} \sum_{j=0}^\infty \frac{x^j}{(j!)^2} \frac{\Gamma(j+1)}{\beta^{j+1}} \\
&= \frac{\alpha\beta - 1}{\beta} e^{-\alpha x} \sum_{j=0}^\infty \frac{x^j}{\beta^j j!} \\
&= \frac{\alpha\beta - 1}{\beta} e^{-\alpha x} e^{x/\beta} \\
&= (\alpha - 1/\beta) e^{-x(\alpha - 1/\beta)}
\end{aligned}$$

Hence,  $X \sim \text{Exp}(\alpha - 1/\beta)$ , where we are using the rate parameterization. Thus,  $E(X) = \frac{1}{\alpha - 1/\beta} = \frac{\beta}{\alpha\beta - 1}$ .

### 3.c

From part (a), since the canonical parameter is  $\theta = (\theta_1, \theta_2), = (\alpha, \beta)$  the cumulant function is given by

$$b(\theta) = b(\alpha, \beta) = \log(1/c(\alpha, \beta)) = \log S(\alpha, \beta)$$

Let  $t = (t_1, t_2)'$ . Then the moment generating function (mgf) is

$$\begin{aligned} M(t) &= \exp\{b(\theta + t) - b(\theta)\} \\ &= \exp\{\log S(\alpha + t_1, \beta + t_2) - \log(S)\} \\ &= S^{-1}S(\alpha + t_1, \beta + t_2) \end{aligned}$$

Thus,

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E}X^jY^k &= \left. \frac{\partial^2 M^{j+k}}{\partial t_1^j \partial t_2^k} \right|_{t=0} \\ &= S^{-1} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial t_1^j \partial t_2^k} [(\alpha + t_1)(\beta + t_2) - 1]^{-1} \Big|_{t=0} \\ &= S^{-1}(-1)^{j+k} [(\alpha + t_1)(\beta + t_2) - 1]^{-(j+k+1)} (\beta + t_2)^j (\alpha + t_1)^k \Big|_{t=0} \\ &= S^{-1}(-1)^{j+k} \alpha^k \beta^j [\alpha\beta - 1]^{-(j+k+1)} \end{aligned}$$

Now,

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial S^{j+k}}{\partial \alpha^j \beta^k} &= \frac{\partial}{\partial \alpha^j \beta^k} (\alpha\beta - 1)^{-1} \\ &= (-1)^{j+k} (\alpha\beta - 1)^{-(j+k+1)} \alpha^k \beta^j \end{aligned}$$

The result follows except the  $-1$  term is included in the partial of  $S$ .