

**A. Starting from the “standard” form of each PDF/PMF, show that the following distributions are in an exponential family, and find the corresponding  $b, c, \theta$ , and  $a(\phi)$ .**

**(i)  $Y \sim \mathbf{N}(\mu, \sigma^2)$  for known  $\sigma^2$**

Let's begin by writing the PDF for the normal distribution:

$$\begin{aligned} f(y|\mu, \sigma^2) &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma}} \exp \left\{ -\frac{1}{2\sigma^2} (y - \mu)^2 \right\} \\ &= \exp \left\{ -\frac{1}{2\sigma^2} (y^2 - 2y\mu + \mu^2) \right\} \cdot \exp \left\{ \log \left( (2\pi\sigma)^{-1/2} \right) \right\} \\ &= \exp \left\{ \frac{y^2}{-2\sigma^2} + y \frac{\mu}{\sigma^2} - \frac{\mu^2}{2\sigma^2} - \frac{1}{2} \log(2\pi\sigma) \right\} \\ &= \exp \left\{ \frac{y\mu - \frac{1}{2}\mu^2}{\sigma^2} + \left( -\frac{y^2}{2\sigma^2} - \frac{1}{2} \log(2\pi\sigma) \right) \right\} \end{aligned}$$

By letting  $\theta = \mu$ ,  $a(\phi) = \sigma^2$ ,  $b(\theta) = \frac{1}{2}\mu^2$ , and  $c(y|\phi) = -\frac{y^2}{2\sigma^2} - \frac{1}{2} \log(2\pi\sigma)$ , we can write the normal distribution with fixed variance in the form of an exponential family:

$$f(y|\theta, \phi) = \exp \left\{ \frac{y\theta - b(\theta)}{a(\phi)} + c(y|\phi) \right\}$$

**(ii)  $Y = Z/N$ , where  $Z \sim \mathbf{Binom}(N, P)$  for known  $N$**

We can easily obtain the PMF of  $Y$  through a transformation of random variables:

$$\begin{aligned} P\left(Y = \frac{Z}{N}\right) &= P(Z = NY) \\ &= \binom{N}{NY} P^{NY} (1-P)^{N-NY} \\ &= \exp \left\{ \log \left[ \binom{N}{NY} P^{NY} (1-P)^{N-NY} \right] \right\} \\ &= \exp \left\{ \log \left[ \binom{N}{NY} \right] + NY \log(P) + N \log(1-P) - NY \log(1-P) \right\} \\ &= \exp \left\{ Y \left[ N \log \left( \frac{P}{1-P} \right) \right] - N \log \left( \frac{1}{1-P} \right) + \log \left[ \binom{N}{NY} \right] \right\} \end{aligned}$$

Let  $\theta = N \log \left( \frac{P}{1-P} \right)$ ,  $b(\theta) = N \log \left( \frac{1}{1-P} \right)$ ,  $a(\phi) = 1$ , and  $c(y|\phi) = \log \left[ \binom{N}{NY} \right]$  to get the form of an exponential family.

(iii)  $\sim \mathbf{Pois}(\lambda)$

You know the drill!

$$\begin{aligned} f(y|\lambda) &= \frac{e^{-\lambda} \lambda^y}{y!} \\ &= \exp \left\{ \log \left[ \frac{e^{-\lambda} \lambda^y}{y!} \right] \right\} \\ &= \exp \{ -\lambda + y \log(\lambda) - \log(y!) \} \\ &= \exp \{ y \log(\lambda) - \lambda + (-\log(y!)) \} \end{aligned}$$

The above is in the desired exponential family form since we can let  $\theta = \log(\lambda)$ ,  $a(\phi) = 1$ ,  $b(\theta) = \lambda$ , and  $c(y|\phi) = -\log(y!)$ .

- B. We want to characterize the mean and variance of a distribution in the exponential family. To do this, we'll take an unfamiliar route, involving a preliminary lemma. Define the score  $s(\theta)$  as the gradient of the log-likelihood with respect to  $\theta$ :**

$$s(\theta) = \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \log L(\theta).$$

While we think of the score as a function of  $\theta$ , clearly the score also depends on the data. So a natural question is: what can we say about the distribution of the score over different random realizations of the data under the true data-generating process, i.e., at the true  $\theta$ ? It turns out we can say the following, sometimes referred to as the score equations:

$$\begin{aligned} E[s(\theta)] &= 0 \\ \mathcal{I}(\theta) \equiv \text{var}(s(\theta)) &= -E[H(\theta)], \end{aligned}$$

where the mean and variance are taken under the true  $\theta$ . Prove these score equations.

First, we prove  $E[s(\theta)] = 0$ . Note that while the score is a function of  $\theta$ , it's also dependent on the data  $y$ . Therefore, we can take the expected value of the score over the sample space  $\mathcal{Y}$ . Let's write out the form of  $E[s(\theta)]$ :

$$\begin{aligned} E[s(\theta)] &= \int_{\mathcal{Y}} s(\theta) f(y|\theta) dy \\ &= \int_{\mathcal{Y}} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \log L(\theta) \cdot f(y|\theta) dy \end{aligned}$$

Now, we use the statistical trick that we can rewrite the likelihood function as a PDF, since we integrate over  $\mathcal{Y}$  with PDF  $f(y|\theta)$ :

$$\begin{aligned} E[s(\theta)] &= \int_{\mathcal{Y}} \frac{\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} f(y|\theta)}{f(y|\theta)} \cdot f(y|\theta) dy \\ &= \int_{\mathcal{Y}} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} f(y|\theta) dy \\ &= \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \int_{\mathcal{Y}} f(y|\theta) dy \\ &= \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} (1) = 0, \end{aligned}$$

where we assume that any necessary technical conditions are met to switch the order of integration and differentiation.

Now, we prove that  $\text{var}(s(\theta)) = -E[H(\theta)]$ . Using the provided hint, suppose we differentiate the first equation with respect to  $\theta^T$ :

$$\begin{aligned}
 \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta^T} E(s(\theta)) &= \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta^T} \int_{\mathcal{Y}} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \log L(\theta) f(y|\theta) dy \\
 &= \int_{\mathcal{Y}} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta^T} \left[ \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \log L(\theta) f(y|\theta) \right] dy \\
 &= \int_{\mathcal{Y}} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \log L(\theta) \cdot \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta^T} f(y|\theta) + f(y|\theta) \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \theta^T \partial \theta} \log L(\theta) dy \\
 &= \int_{\mathcal{Y}} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \log L(\theta) \cdot \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta^T} L(\theta) dy + \int_{\mathcal{Y}} f(y|\theta) \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \theta^T \partial \theta} \log L(\theta) dy \\
 &= \int_{\mathcal{Y}} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \log L(\theta) \cdot \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta^T} \log L(\theta) \cdot f(y|\theta) dy + E[H(\theta)] \\
 &= E \left[ \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \log L(\theta) \cdot \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta^T} \log L(\theta) \right] + E[H(\theta)] \\
 &= E[s(\theta)s(\theta)^T] + E[H(\theta)] \\
 &\stackrel{\text{set}}{=} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta^T} (0) = 0
 \end{aligned}$$

Before we get to the big reveal, let's acknowledge the nice property that we used to obtain the fifth equality:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \log L(\theta) &= \frac{\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} L(\theta)}{f(y|\theta)} \\
 \implies \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} L(\theta) &= \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \log L(\theta) \cdot f(y|\theta)
 \end{aligned}$$

Now, we see from the above that

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{var}[s(\theta)] &= E[s(\theta)s(\theta)^T] - (E[s(\theta)])^2 \\
 &= E[s(\theta)s(\theta)^T] \\
 &= -E[H(\theta)]
 \end{aligned}$$

- C. Use the score equations you just proved to show that, if  $Y \sim f(y|\theta, \phi)$  is an exponential family, then

$$E(Y) = b'(\theta)$$

$$\text{var}(Y) = a(\phi)b''(\theta)$$

Thus, the variance of  $Y$  is a product of two terms:  $b''(\theta)$  depends only on the canonical parameter  $\theta$ , and hence on the mean, since we showed that  $E(Y) = b'(\theta)$ ;  $a(\phi)$  is independent of  $\theta$ . Note that the most common form of  $a$  is  $a(\phi) = \phi/w$  where  $\phi$  is called a dispersion parameter and  $w$  is a known prior weight that can vary from one observation to another.

Recall that  $E[s(\theta)] = E\left[\frac{\partial}{\partial\theta} \log L(\theta)\right] = 0$ . For exponential families, we know that the log-likelihood is

$$\begin{aligned} \log L(\theta) &= \log \left[ \prod_{i=1}^n \exp \left\{ \frac{y_i \theta - b(\theta)}{a(\phi)} + c(y_i|\phi) \right\} \right] \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^n \left[ \frac{y_i \theta - b(\theta)}{a(\phi)} + c(y_i|\phi) \right] \\ &= \frac{\theta}{a(\phi)} \sum_{i=1}^n y_i - \frac{nb(\theta)}{a(\phi)} + \sum_{i=1}^n c(y_i|\phi) \end{aligned}$$

By taking the expectation of the gradient of the log-likelihood with respect to  $\theta$ , we obtain the following:

$$\begin{aligned} E[s(\theta)] &= \int_{\mathcal{Y}} \frac{\partial}{\partial\theta} \left[ \frac{\theta}{a(\phi)} \sum_{i=1}^n y_i - \frac{nb(\theta)}{a(\phi)} + \sum_{i=1}^n c(y_i|\phi) \right] f(y|\theta) dy \\ &= \int_{\mathcal{Y}} \left[ \frac{1}{a(\phi)} \sum_{i=1}^n y_i - \frac{nb'(\theta)}{a(\phi)} \right] f(y|\theta) dy \\ &= E \left[ \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n y_i}{a(\phi)} - \frac{nb'(\theta)}{a(\phi)} \right] \\ &= \frac{1}{a(\phi)} \sum_{i=1}^n E(Y) - \frac{nb'(\theta)}{a(\phi)} \\ &\stackrel{set}{=} 0 \end{aligned}$$

By manipulating the above equations, we get

$$E(Y) = b'(\theta)$$

Now, let's obtain the variance of  $Y$ :

$$\begin{aligned}\text{var}(s(\theta)) &= \text{var} \left[ \frac{1}{a(\phi)} \sum_{i=1}^n y_i - \frac{nb'(\theta)}{a(\phi)} \right] \\ &= \frac{1}{a(\phi)^2} \sum_{i=1}^n \text{var}(Y) \\ &\stackrel{\text{set}}{=} -E[H(\theta)]\end{aligned}$$

Note that

$$\begin{aligned}-E[H(\theta)] &= -E \left[ \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta^T} \left( \frac{1}{a(\phi)} \sum_{i=1}^n y_i - \frac{nb'(\theta)}{a(\phi)} \right) \right] \\ &= - \int_{\mathcal{Y}} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta^T} \left( \frac{1}{a(\phi)} \sum_{i=1}^n y_i - \frac{nb'(\theta)}{a(\phi)} \right) f(y|\theta) dy \\ &= \int_{\mathcal{Y}} \frac{nb''(\theta)}{a(\phi)} f(y|\theta) dy \\ &= E \left[ \frac{nb''(\theta)}{a(\phi)} \right] \\ &= \frac{nb''(\theta)}{a(\phi)}\end{aligned}$$

By combining the two above derivations, we see that

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{1}{a(\phi)^2} \sum_{i=1}^n \text{var}(Y) &= \frac{nb''(\theta)}{a(\phi)} \\ \implies \text{var}(Y) &= a(\phi)b''(\theta)\end{aligned}$$

- D. To convince yourself that your result in (C) is correct, use these results to compute the mean and variance of the  $N(\mu, \sigma^2)$  distribution.**

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# Solving for Beta

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January 27, 2022

The results below are generated from an R script.

```
library(matlib) # for inv() function
library(matrixcalc) # for LU decomposition
library(microbenchmark) # for comparing the two methods

###
### Inversion Method
###

invertFun <- function(X, y, W){
  beta <- inv(t(X)%*%W%*%X)%*%t(X)%*%W%*%y
  return(beta)
}

###
### Using LU Decomposition
###

solveFun <- function(X, y, W){

  ## Pseudo-code step 1
  decomp <- lu.decomposition(t(X)%*%W%*%X)
  L <- decomp$L
  U <- decomp$U

  ## Pseudo-code step 2
  y <- forwardsolve(L, t(X)%*%W%*%y)

  ## Pseudo-code step 3
  beta <- backsolve(U, y)
  return(beta)
}

###
### Simulate Data and Implement
###

N <- c(800)
P <- c(200)
```

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\*This report is automatically generated with the R package **knitr** (version 1.37).

```

for(i in 1:length(N)){

  ## Initialize variables
  n <- N[i]
  p <- P[i]
  W <- diag(n) # identity matrix for W for
  X <- matrix(rnorm(n*p), n, p) # design matrix
  y <- rnorm(n, 0.3*X[,1]+0.5*X[,2], 1)

  ## Implementation
  assign(paste0("benchmark",i),microbenchmark(invertFun(X, y, W), solveFun(X, y, W), times=10)) # save i
}

###
### Print Results
###

for(i in 1:length(N)){
  print(paste0("Benchmark when N=",N[i]," and P=",P[i]))
  print(get(paste0("benchmark",i)))
}

## [1] "Benchmark when N=800 and P=200"
## Unit: milliseconds
##      expr      min      lq      mean      median      uq      max
## invertFun(X, y, W) 30428.7280 31680.0271 31664.8722 31772.3117 31918.7712 32158.4157
## solveFun(X, y, W)   793.4299   797.2425   800.1262   800.1762   803.7212   805.5329
## neval
##      10
##      10

```

The R session information (including the OS info, R version and all packages used):

```

sessionInfo()

## R version 4.1.2 (2021-11-01)
## Platform: x86_64-pc-linux-gnu (64-bit)
## Running under: Ubuntu 20.04.3 LTS
##
## Matrix products: default
## BLAS:   /usr/lib/x86_64-linux-gnu/blas/libblas.so.3.9.0
## LAPACK: /usr/lib/x86_64-linux-gnu/lapack/liblapack.so.3.9.0
##
## locale:
##  [1] LC_CTYPE=en_US.UTF-8      LC_NUMERIC=C              LC_TIME=en_US.UTF-8
##  [4] LC_COLLATE=en_US.UTF-8   LC_MONETARY=en_US.UTF-8  LC_MESSAGES=en_US.UTF-8
##  [7] LC_PAPER=en_US.UTF-8     LC_NAME=C                 LC_ADDRESS=C
## [10] LC_TELEPHONE=C           LC_MEASUREMENT=en_US.UTF-8 LC_IDENTIFICATION=C
##
## attached base packages:
## [1] stats      graphics  grDevices  utils      datasets  methods    base
##
## other attached packages:
## [1] microbenchmark_1.4.9 matrixcalc_1.0-5      matlib_0.9.5

```

```
##
## loaded via a namespace (and not attached):
## [1] rgl_0.108.3      digest_0.6.29    MASS_7.3-55      R6_2.5.1
## [5] xtable_1.8-4     jsonlite_1.7.3   magrittr_2.0.1    evaluate_0.14
## [9] highr_0.9        stringi_1.7.6    rlang_0.4.12      carData_3.0-5
## [13] car_3.0-12       tools_4.1.2      stringr_1.4.0     htmlwidgets_1.5.4
## [17] xfun_0.29        abind_1.4-5      fastmap_1.1.0     compiler_4.1.2
## [21] htmltools_0.5.2  knitr_1.37

Sys.time()

## [1] "2022-01-27 18:14:39 CST"
```