



Fundamentals of Inference and  
Learning  
Homework 1

# 1 Statistical Inference & Maximum Likelihood

$$p_\lambda(x_i) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{z(\lambda)} e^{-x_i/\lambda} & \text{if } 1 \leq x_i \leq 20 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$\lambda^*$ : true  $\lambda$

is in the range  $[0.05; 50]$

$$1) \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} p_\lambda(x_i) dx_i = 1$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \int_1^{20} \frac{1}{z(\lambda)} e^{-x_i/\lambda} dx_i =$$

$$-\frac{\lambda}{z(\lambda)} e^{-x_i/\lambda} \Big|_1^{20} = -\frac{\lambda}{z(\lambda)} (e^{-20/\lambda} - e^{-1/\lambda}) = 1$$

$$\Leftrightarrow z(\lambda) = -\lambda (e^{-20/\lambda} - e^{-1/\lambda})$$

$$\mathbb{E}\{X\} = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} x p_\lambda(x) dx = \int_1^{20} \frac{x}{z(\lambda)} e^{-x/\lambda} dx \quad \left. \frac{-\lambda e^{-x/\lambda}}{x} \right|_1^{20} e^{-x/\lambda}$$

$$= \frac{1}{z(\lambda)} \left\{ \left[ -\lambda e^{-x/\lambda} x \right]_1^{20} + \lambda \int_1^{20} e^{-x/\lambda} dx \right\}$$

$$= \frac{1}{z(\lambda)} \left\{ \left[ -\lambda e^{-x/\lambda} x \right]_1^{20} - \lambda^2 \left[ e^{-x/\lambda} \right]_1^{20} \right\}$$

$$= \frac{1}{z(\lambda)} \left\{ -\lambda^2 (e^{-20/\lambda} - e^{-1/\lambda}) - \lambda (20e^{-20/\lambda} - e^{-1/\lambda}) \right\}$$

$$= \frac{-\lambda}{z(\lambda)} [ \lambda (e^{-20/\lambda} - e^{-1/\lambda}) + (20e^{-20/\lambda} - e^{-1/\lambda}) ]$$

$$= \frac{\lambda}{z(\lambda)} [ z(\lambda) - (20e^{-20/\lambda} - e^{-1/\lambda}) ]$$

$$\begin{aligned}\partial_{\lambda} \log z(\lambda) &= \partial_{\lambda} \log (-\lambda(e^{-20/\lambda} - e^{-1/\lambda})) \\&= \frac{-1}{\lambda(e^{-20/\lambda} - e^{-1/\lambda})} \left[ -(e^{-20/\lambda} - e^{-1/\lambda}) - \lambda \left( \frac{-20e^{-20/\lambda}}{\lambda^2} - \frac{-e^{-1/\lambda}}{\lambda^2} \right) \right] \\&= \frac{1}{z(\lambda)} \left[ -(e^{-20/\lambda} - e^{-1/\lambda}) + \frac{20e^{-20/\lambda}}{\lambda} - \frac{e^{-1/\lambda}}{\lambda} \right]\end{aligned}$$

By multiplying by  $\lambda^2$

$$\begin{aligned}&= \frac{1}{z(\lambda)} \left[ \lambda^2(e^{-20/\lambda} - e^{-1/\lambda}) - \lambda(20e^{-20/\lambda} - e^{-1/\lambda}) \right] \\&= \frac{\lambda}{z(\lambda)} [z(\lambda) - (20e^{-20/\lambda} - e^{-1/\lambda})]\end{aligned}$$

Conversely one can compute  $z'(\lambda)$  &  $z''(\lambda)$ :

- $z(\lambda) = \lambda(e^{-1/\lambda} - e^{-20/\lambda}) = \lambda[e^{-x/\lambda}]^{\frac{1}{20}}$
- $z'(\lambda) = (e^{-1/\lambda} - e^{-20/\lambda}) + \cancel{\lambda} \left( \frac{e^{-1/\lambda}}{\lambda} - 20 \frac{e^{-20/\lambda}}{\lambda} \right)$
- $\lambda z'(\lambda) = z(\lambda) + [xe^{-x/\lambda}]^{\frac{1}{20}}$
- $\frac{\partial}{\partial \lambda} \lambda z'(\lambda) = \cancel{z'(\lambda)} + \lambda z''(\lambda) = z'(\lambda) + \left( \frac{e^{-1/\lambda}}{\lambda^2} - 400 \frac{e^{-20/\lambda}}{\lambda^2} \right)$   
 $\Leftrightarrow \lambda z''(\lambda) = \left( \frac{e^{-1/\lambda}}{\lambda^2} - 400 \frac{e^{-20/\lambda}}{\lambda^2} \right)$
- $\lambda^4 z''(\lambda) = \lambda [x^2 e^{-x/\lambda}]^{\frac{1}{20}}$

Now let's compute the variance:

$$\text{Var}[X] = \frac{\mathbb{E}[X^2]}{1} - \frac{(\mathbb{E}[X])^2}{2}$$

$$1) \quad \mathbb{E}[X]^2 = \left( \lambda^2 \frac{z'(\lambda)}{z(\lambda)} \right)^2 = \lambda^4 \cdot \frac{z'(\lambda) \cdot z'(\lambda)}{z(\lambda)^2}$$

$$2) \mathbb{E}[X^2] = \frac{1}{z(\lambda)} \int_1^{20} x^2 e^{-x/\lambda} dx = \frac{1}{z(\lambda)} \left( \underbrace{[-x^2 \lambda e^{-x/\lambda}]_1^{20}}_{= \lambda^4 z''(\lambda)} + 2\lambda \int_1^{20} x e^{-x/\lambda} dx \right)$$

$$= \frac{1}{z(\lambda)} (\lambda^4 z''(\lambda) + 2\lambda \mathbb{E}[\lambda])$$

$$= \frac{\lambda^4 z''(\lambda)}{z(\lambda)} + 2\lambda^3 \frac{z'(\lambda)}{z(\lambda)}$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{Var}[X] = \frac{\lambda^4 z''(\lambda)}{z(\lambda)} + 2\lambda^3 \frac{z'(\lambda)}{z(\lambda)} - \lambda^4 \cdot \frac{z'(\lambda) \cdot z'(\lambda)}{z(\lambda)^2}$$

$$= 2\lambda^3 \frac{z'(\lambda)}{z(\lambda)} + \lambda^4 \frac{z''(\lambda)z(\lambda) - z'(\lambda)z'(\lambda)}{z(\lambda)^2}$$

$$= \frac{\partial}{\partial \lambda} \left( \lambda^4 \cdot \frac{z'(\lambda)}{z(\lambda)} \right) = \frac{\partial}{\partial \lambda} (\lambda^2 \mathbb{E}[X]) \quad \square$$

$$2) p_\lambda(\{x_i\}_{i=1}^n) = \prod_{i=1}^n p_\lambda(x_i)$$

$$\log p_\lambda(\{x_i\}_{i=1}^n) = \log \prod_{i=1}^n p_\lambda(x_i) = \sum_{i=1}^n \log p_\lambda(x_i) = \sum_{i=1}^n \log \left( \frac{1}{z(\lambda)} e^{-x_i/\lambda} \right)$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^n -\frac{x_i}{\lambda} - \log z(\lambda) = \sum_{i=1}^n -\frac{x_i}{\lambda} - \log [-\lambda(e^{-20/\lambda} - e^{-1/\lambda})]$$

$$= -n \log [-\lambda(e^{-20/\lambda} - e^{-1/\lambda})] - \frac{1}{\lambda} \sum_{i=1}^n x_i$$

$$\mathcal{L}_\lambda(\{x_i\}_{i=1}^n) = -\log [-\lambda(e^{-20/\lambda} - e^{-1/\lambda})] - \frac{1}{n\lambda} \sum_{i=1}^n x_i$$

3) See Notebook

$$4) \hat{\lambda}_{ML}(\{x_i\}_{i=1}^n) = \operatorname{argmax}_\lambda \log(p_\lambda(\{x_i\}_{i=1}^n))$$

$$\cdot SE = (\hat{\lambda}_{ML}(\{x_i\}) - \lambda^*)^2$$

$$51 \quad \hat{\lambda}_j(\{x_i\}_{i=1}^n) = \operatorname{argmax}_{\lambda} \log(p_{\lambda}(\{x_i\}_{i=1}^n)) \sqrt{I(\lambda)} = \operatorname{argmax}_{\lambda} \log(p_{\lambda}(\{x_i\}_{i=1}^n)) + \log(\sqrt{I(\lambda)})$$
$$= \operatorname{argmax} \log(p_{\lambda}(\{x_i\}_{i=1}^n)) + \log\left(\frac{\sqrt{\operatorname{Var}(X)}}{\lambda^2}\right)$$

## 2 Probability bounds & a pooling problem

$$2) P\left(\frac{1}{m} \sum_i z_i \geq p + \varepsilon\right) \leq e^{-2m\varepsilon^2}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow P\left(\sum_i z_i \geq m(p+\varepsilon)\right) \leq e^{-2m\varepsilon^2}$$

Using the hint given in the problem set:

$$P(e^{\lambda \sum z_i} \geq e^{\lambda m(p+\varepsilon)}) \leq e^{-2m\varepsilon^2}$$

Now let's apply Markov's inequality

$$P(e^{\lambda \sum z_i} \geq e^{\lambda m(p+\varepsilon)}) \leq \frac{E[e^{\lambda \sum z_i}]}{e^{\lambda m(p+\varepsilon)}} = \frac{\prod_i E[e^{\lambda z_i}]}{(e^{\lambda(p+\varepsilon)})^m}$$

- for a Bernoulli variable,  $E[e^{\lambda z_i}] = \sum_i e^{\lambda z_i} P(z_i = z_i)$

$$= e^0 \cdot (1-p) + e^\lambda p = pe^\lambda + (1-p)$$

$$\Rightarrow P(e^{\lambda \sum z_i} \geq e^{\lambda m(p+\varepsilon)}) \leq \frac{(pe^\lambda + (1-p))^m}{(e^{\lambda(p+\varepsilon)})^m} = \left(\frac{pe^\lambda + (1-p)}{e^{\lambda(p+\varepsilon)}}\right)^m \quad \square$$

$$2) P\left(\frac{1}{m} \sum_i z_i \geq p + \varepsilon\right) \leq e^{-mf(p, \varepsilon)}$$

$$f(p, \varepsilon) = (p+\varepsilon) \log\left(\frac{p+\varepsilon}{p}\right) + (1-(p+\varepsilon)) \log\left(\frac{1-(p+\varepsilon)}{1-p}\right)$$

We have to differentiate

$$\log\left(\left(\frac{pe^\lambda + (1-p)}{e^{\lambda(p+\varepsilon)}}\right)^m\right) = m \log\left(\frac{pe^\lambda + (1-p)}{e^{\lambda(p+\varepsilon)}}\right) \quad \text{over } \lambda$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \lambda} \log\left(\left(\frac{pe^\lambda + (1-p)}{e^{\lambda(p+\varepsilon)}}\right)^m\right) = \frac{\partial}{\partial \lambda} [m (\log(pe^\lambda + (1-p)) - \log(e^{\lambda(p+\varepsilon)}))]$$

$$= m \frac{\partial}{\partial \lambda} (\log(pe^\lambda + (1-p)) - \log(e^{\lambda(p+\varepsilon)}))$$

$$= m \left[ \frac{pe^\lambda}{pe^\lambda + (1-p)} - \frac{(p+\varepsilon)e^{\lambda(p+\varepsilon)}}{e^{\lambda(p+\varepsilon)}} \right] = 0$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \frac{pe^\lambda}{pe^\lambda + (1-p)} = p + \varepsilon \Leftrightarrow pe^\lambda = (p+\varepsilon)(pe^\lambda + (1-p))$$

$$\Leftrightarrow pe^\lambda(1-(p+\varepsilon)) = (1-p)(p+\varepsilon) \Leftrightarrow e^\lambda = \frac{(1-p)(p+\varepsilon)}{p(1-(p+\varepsilon))}$$

$$\left( \frac{pe^\lambda + (1-p)}{e^{\lambda(p+\varepsilon)}} \right)^m = e^{-mf(p, \varepsilon)}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \log \left( \frac{pe^\lambda + (1-p)}{e^{\lambda(p+\varepsilon)}} \right)^m = -mf(p, \varepsilon)$$

$$f(p, \varepsilon) = -\log(pe^\lambda + (1-p)) + \log(e^\lambda(p+\varepsilon))$$

$$= -\underbrace{\log \left( p \frac{(1-p)(p+\varepsilon)}{p(1-(p+\varepsilon))} + (1-p) \right)}_{2)} + \underbrace{(p+\varepsilon) \log \left( \frac{(1-p)(p+\varepsilon)}{p(1-(p+\varepsilon))} \right)}_{1)}$$

$$1) (p+\varepsilon) \left[ \log(1-p) + \log \left( \frac{p+\varepsilon}{p} \right) - \log(1-(p+\varepsilon)) \right]$$

$$= (p+\varepsilon) \log \left( \frac{p+\varepsilon}{p} \right) - (p+\varepsilon) \log \left( \frac{1-p+\varepsilon}{1-p} \right)$$

$$2) -\log \left( (1-p) \left( \frac{p+\varepsilon}{1-(p+\varepsilon)} + 1 \right) \right) = -\log \left( \frac{1-p}{1-p+\varepsilon} \right) = \log \left( \frac{1-p+\varepsilon}{1-p} \right)$$

$$3) \frac{1 - (p+\varepsilon) + (p+\varepsilon)}{1 - p + \varepsilon} = \frac{1}{1 - p + \varepsilon}$$

By combining 1) & 2)

$$f(p, \varepsilon) = (p+\varepsilon) \log \left( \frac{p+\varepsilon}{p} \right) - (p+\varepsilon) \log \left( \frac{1-p+\varepsilon}{1-p} \right) + \log \left( \frac{1-p+\varepsilon}{1-p} \right)$$

$$= (p+\varepsilon) \log \left( \frac{p+\varepsilon}{p} \right) + (1 - (p+\varepsilon)) \log \left( \frac{1-p+\varepsilon}{1-p} \right)$$

Finally :

$$P\left(\frac{1}{m} \sum_i z_i \geq p+\varepsilon\right) \leq e^{-mf(p, \varepsilon)}$$

$$f(p, \varepsilon) = (p+\varepsilon) \log \left( \frac{p+\varepsilon}{p} \right) + (1 - (p+\varepsilon)) \log \left( \frac{1-p+\varepsilon}{1-p} \right)$$

$$3) f(p, \varepsilon=0) = p \log(\frac{p}{p}) + (1-p) \log(\frac{1-p}{1-p}) = 0$$

$$\frac{\partial f(p, \varepsilon)}{\partial \varepsilon} \Big|_{\varepsilon=0} = \log\left(\frac{p+\varepsilon}{p}\right) + (p+\varepsilon) \cdot \frac{1}{p+\varepsilon} - \log\left(\frac{1-(p+\varepsilon)}{1-p}\right) - (1-(p+\varepsilon)) \frac{1}{1-(p+\varepsilon)} \Big|_{\varepsilon=0}$$

$$= \log(\frac{p}{p}) + 1 - \log(\frac{1-p}{1-p}) - 1 = 0 + 1 - 0 - 1 = 0$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 f(p, \varepsilon)}{\partial \varepsilon^2} = \frac{\partial}{\partial \varepsilon} \left( \frac{\partial f(p, \varepsilon)}{\partial \varepsilon} \right) = \frac{1}{p+\varepsilon} + \frac{1}{1-(p+\varepsilon)} = \frac{1}{(p+\varepsilon)(1-(p+\varepsilon))} = \frac{1}{-(p+\varepsilon)^2 + (p+\varepsilon)} > 4$$

1)

1)  $h(x) \frac{1}{-x^2+x} > 4$

$$h'(x) = \frac{-2x+1}{(-x^2+x)^2} = 0 \Leftrightarrow x = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$h''(x) = \frac{2(1-2x)^2}{(x-x^2)^3} + \frac{2}{(x-x^2)^2}$$

	0	1/2	1
$f'(x)$	↓ 0 ↑		
$f(x)$	↓ 4 ↑		
$f''(x)$	↓ 0 ↑		

$\Rightarrow x = \frac{1}{2}$  is a global minimum. Therefore  $h(x) > 4$

$$4) f(p, \varepsilon) = f(p, 0) + \varepsilon f'(p, 0) + \varepsilon^2 \frac{f''(p, \tilde{\varepsilon})}{2} = \varepsilon^2 \frac{f''(p, \tilde{\varepsilon})}{2}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow f(p, \varepsilon) = \frac{f''(p, \tilde{\varepsilon})}{2} \varepsilon^2$$

Then using the previous result  $f''(p, \tilde{\varepsilon}) > 4$

$$f(p, \varepsilon) > 2\varepsilon^2$$

$$\text{Combining this result with } \left( \frac{pe^\lambda + (1-p)}{e^{\lambda}(p+\varepsilon)} \right)^m = e^{-mf(p, \varepsilon)}$$

leads to

$$\left( \frac{pe^\lambda + (1-p)}{e^{\lambda}(p+\varepsilon)} \right)^m \leq e^{-2m\varepsilon^2}$$

$$\text{And finally } P(e^{\lambda \sum z_i} > e^{\lambda m(p+\varepsilon)}) \leq \left( \frac{pe^\lambda + (1-p)}{e^{\lambda}(p+\varepsilon)} \right)^m \leq e^{-2m\varepsilon^2}$$

## Bonus 2

$$P\left(\left|\frac{1}{m} \sum_i z_i - p\right| > \varepsilon\right) = P\left(\frac{1}{m} \sum_i z_i - p > \varepsilon, \frac{1}{m} \sum_i z_i - p \leq \varepsilon\right)$$

$$= P\left(\frac{1}{m} \sum_i z_i > \varepsilon + p\right) + P\left(\frac{1}{m} \sum_i z_i > \varepsilon + p\right) \leq 2e^{-2m\varepsilon^2}$$

5/ Using  $P\left(\left|\frac{1}{m} \sum_i z_i - p\right| > \varepsilon\right) \leq 2e^{-2m\varepsilon^2}$

with  $\varepsilon = 0.01$  &  $2e^{-2m\varepsilon^2} = 0.05$  as we want that the probability to be outside the confidence interval to be smaller than 5%

$$P\left(\left|\frac{1}{m} \sum_i z_i - p\right| > 0.01\right) \leq 0.05$$

which leads to  $2e^{-2m\varepsilon^2} = 0.05$

$$m = -\frac{\log(0.05/2)}{2 \cdot 0.01^2} = 18.445 \text{ people}$$

6/ see notebook