## STAT6201: Theoretical Statistics I

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## Midterm exam

1. The proof claims that  $\eta(T) = \mathbb{E}[\delta \mid T]$  is an estimator that outperforms  $\delta$ . For this, we require that  $\eta$  is indeed an estimator, i.e.  $\mathbb{E}[\delta \mid T]$  should not be a function of  $\theta$ . We can guarantee this by demanding that the conditional distribution  $\delta \mid T = t$  be independent of  $\theta$ , which is achieved when T is sufficient for  $\theta$ .

Remark: T is sufficient for  $\theta$  when the distribution  $X \mid T = t$  is free of  $\theta$  for all t.

For a generic statistic T, we may not have  $\mathbb{E}[\delta \mid T]$  calculable without knowledge of  $\theta$ . For instance, consider  $X_1, X_2 \stackrel{iid}{\sim} N(\theta, 1)$ , whence  $\mathbb{E}[X_1 \mid X_2] = \mathbb{E}[X_1] = \theta$ , which is not a statistic.

- 2. Let  $X_1, \ldots, X_n \stackrel{iid}{\sim} N(\theta, \theta^2)$  for  $\theta \in \Theta = (0, \infty)$ .
  - (a) We have the likelihood

$$\mathcal{L}(\theta \mid X) = \prod_{i=1}^{n} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\theta^2}} e^{-(X_i - \theta)^2/2\theta^2} = (2\pi)^{-n/2} \theta^{-n} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2\theta^2} \sum_{i=1}^{n} (X_i - \theta)^2\right).$$

Thus, the log likelihood is given by

$$\ell(\theta \mid X) = -\frac{n}{2}\log(2\pi) - n\log(\theta) - \frac{1}{2\theta^2} \sum_{i=1}^{n} (X_i - \theta)^2.$$

Maximizing this is equivalent to minimizing

$$n\log\theta + \frac{1}{2\theta^2} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \left[ X_i^2 - 2X_i\theta + \theta^2 \right] = n\log\theta - \frac{1}{\theta} \sum_{i=1}^{n} X_i + \frac{1}{2\theta^2} \sum_{i=1}^{n} X_i^2 + \frac{n}{2},$$

hence we need only minimize

$$g(\theta) = n \log \theta - \frac{S_1}{\theta} + \frac{S_2}{2\theta^2}$$

where we abbreviate  $S_1 = \sum_i X_i$ ,  $S_2 = \sum_i X_i^2$ . Compute

$$g'(\theta) = \frac{n}{\theta} + \frac{S_1}{\theta^2} - \frac{S_2}{\theta^3}.$$

This vanishes when  $p(\theta) = n\theta^2 + S_1\theta - S_2 = 0$ . The positive value of  $\theta$  for which this is true is

$$\theta_0 = -\frac{S_1}{2n} + \frac{\sqrt{S_1^2 + 4nS_2}}{2n} = -\frac{S_1}{2n} + \sqrt{\frac{S_1^2}{4n^2} + \frac{S_2}{n^2}}$$

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This is indeed positive since  $\sqrt{S_1^2 + 4nS_2} \ge S_1$ . To check when this is the minimizer of g, we compute

$$g''(\theta_0) = -\frac{n}{\theta_0^2} - \frac{2S_1}{\theta_0^3} + \frac{3S_2}{\theta_0^4}$$

$$= -\frac{1}{\theta_0^4} \left[ n\theta_0^2 + 2S_1\theta_0 - 3S_2 \right]$$

$$= -\frac{1}{\theta_0^4} \left[ \underbrace{(n\theta_0^2 + S_1\theta_0 - S_2) + S_1\theta_0 - 2S_2}_{0} \right]$$

$$= -\frac{1}{\theta_0^4} \left[ S_1\theta_0 - 2S_2 \right]$$

$$= \frac{1}{2n\theta_0^4} \left[ S_1^2 - S_1\sqrt{S_1^2 + 4nS_2} + 4nS_2 \right].$$

This is non-negative when  $\sqrt{S_1^2 + 4nS_2} \ge S_1$ , which always holds. Also, note that as  $\theta \to \infty$  or as  $\theta \to 0$ , we have  $g(\theta) \to \infty$ . Thus, we have

$$\hat{\theta}_{\text{MLE}} = -\frac{S_1}{2n} + \sqrt{\frac{S_1^2}{4n^2} + \frac{S_2}{n^2}}.$$

(b) From our earlier computation of the likelihood, note that

$$\mathcal{L}(\theta \mid X) = (2\pi)^{-n/2} \theta^{-n} \exp\left(-\frac{S_2}{2\theta^2} + \frac{S_1}{\theta}\right) \exp\left(-\frac{n}{2}\right).$$

By the Neyman-Fisher factorization theorem, we see that  $(S_1, S_2)$  is sufficient for  $\theta \in \Theta$ . Furthermore, this is minimal sufficient for  $\theta$ . To see this, note that the natural parameter space  $\{(-1/2\theta^2, 1/\theta)\}_{\theta \in (0,\infty)}$  contains three affinely independent vectors; say for  $\theta = 1, 2, 3$ , we have natural parameters (-1/2, 1), (-1/8, 1/2), (-1/18, 1/3) which are not collinear.

With this, for  $\hat{\theta}_{\text{MLE}}$  to be sufficient for  $\theta$ , we would have to be able to write  $(S_1, S_2)$  as a (measurable) function of  $\hat{\theta}_{\text{MLE}}$ , which is not possible. Thus,  $\hat{\theta}_{\text{MLE}}$  is not sufficient for  $\theta$ .

- 3. Let  $X_1, \ldots, X_n \stackrel{iid}{\sim} p_{\theta}$ , with  $\theta \sim \pi$ . Further assume that the variables and parameters are real valued.
  - (a) Set

$$R_n = \inf_{\delta \in \mathcal{D}_n} \mathbb{E} \left| \delta(X_1, \dots, X_n) - \theta \right|,$$

where  $\mathfrak{D}_n$  is the class of estimators of the form  $\delta \colon \mathcal{X}^n \to \Theta$ . Then, for each  $\delta \in \mathfrak{D}_n$ , we may define  $\delta_0 \in \mathfrak{D}_{n+1}$  where  $\delta_0(X_1, \ldots, X_n, X_{n+1}) = \delta(X_1, \ldots, X_n)$ . Thus, we have

$$\mathbb{E}\left|\delta(X_1,\ldots,X_n)-\theta\right|=\mathbb{E}\left|\delta_0(X_1,\ldots,X_n,X_{n+1})-\theta\right|\geq R_{n+1}.$$

Taking infimums,

$$R_n = \inf_{\delta \in \mathcal{D}_n} \mathbb{E} |\delta(X_1, \dots, X_n) - \theta| \ge R_{n+1}.$$

This shows that  $\{R_n\}_{n\in\mathbb{N}}$  is a non-increasing sequence.

(b) Set

$$B_n = \mathbb{E} |\mathbb{E}(\theta \mid X_1, \dots, X_n) - \theta|$$
.

Also denote  $\delta_n(X) = \mathbb{E}[\theta \mid X_1, \dots, X_n].$ 

Remark: Note that

$$\mathbb{E}\left[\left(\delta_n(X) - \theta\right)^2\right] = \inf_{\delta \in \mathcal{D}_n} \mathbb{E}\left[\left(\delta(X) - \theta\right)^2\right].$$

The right minimizer for the absolute error loss is the posterior *median*, not the posterior *mean*.

Remark: Note that  $\{B_n\}$  is indeed decreasing in settings such as  $X_i \stackrel{iid}{\sim} N(\theta, 1)$ ,  $\pi(\theta) = 1$ .

Remark: We have

$$R_n^2 \le B_n^2 \le \mathbb{E}\left[(\delta_n(X) - \theta)^2\right] = \inf_{\delta \in \mathfrak{D}_n} \mathbb{E}\left[(\delta(X) - \theta)^2\right] := S_n^2,$$

with  $\{S_n\}$  non-increasing via the same argument as before.

*Remark:* For  $\{B_n\}$  to be non-increasing, we need each

$$\mathbb{E}\left[\left|\delta_n(X) - \theta\right| - \left|\delta_{n+1}(X) - \theta\right|\right] \ge 0.$$

4. Let  $X_1, \ldots, X_n \stackrel{iid}{\sim} \frac{1}{2}N(\theta, 1) + \frac{1}{2}N(-\theta, 1)$ , for  $\theta \in [0, \infty)$ . Then, the likelihood is of the form

$$\mathcal{L}(\theta \mid X) = \prod_{i=1}^{n} \frac{1}{2\sqrt{2\pi}} \left[ e^{-(X_i - \theta)^2/2} + e^{-(X_i + \theta)^2/2} \right]$$
$$= \prod_{i=1}^{n} \frac{1}{2\sqrt{2\pi}} \left[ 2e^{-X_i^2/2} e^{-\theta^2/2} \cosh(X_i \theta) \right].$$

Note that this is unchanged by replacing  $(X_1, \ldots, X_n)$  with  $T(X) = (|X|_{(1)}, \ldots, |X|_{(n)})$ , the ordered absolute values of the sample. It is clear that this is sufficient for  $\theta \in [0, \infty)$ . We further claim that this is minimal sufficient for  $\theta$ .

Examine

$$\frac{\mathcal{L}(\theta \mid X)}{\mathcal{L}(\theta \mid Y)} = \prod_{i=1}^{n} \frac{e^{-X_{i}^{2}/2} \cosh(X_{i}\theta)}{e^{-Y_{i}^{2}/2} \cosh(Y_{i}\theta)}.$$

It is clear that T(X) = T(Y) makes this ratio identically 1, hence independent of  $\theta$ . On the other hand, suppose that this ratio is free of  $\theta$  for all  $\theta \in [0, \infty)$ . Then, so is

$$r(X,Y) = \prod_{i=1}^{n} \frac{\cosh(X_i \theta)}{\cosh(Y_i \theta)} > 0.$$

Putting  $\theta = 0$  tells us that r(X, Y) = 1. Write

$$\prod_{i=1}^{n} \cosh(X_{i}\theta) = \prod_{i=1}^{n} \cosh(Y_{i}\theta), \quad \text{for all } \theta \in [0, \infty).$$
 (\*)

We will turn these products into sums, by brute force. Note that  $2\cosh(W_1)\cosh(W_2) = \cosh(W_1 + W_2) + \cosh(W_1 - W_2)$ . Applying this repeatedly, for  $0 \le W_1 \le \cdots \le W_n$ , we may write

$$2^{n-1} \prod_{i=1}^{n} \cosh(W_i) = \sum_{J \subset \{0,1\}^{n-1}} \cosh\left(\sum_{j=1}^{n-1} (-1)^{J_j} W_j + W_n\right) := \sum_{J \subset \{0,1\}^{n-1}} \cosh(W^J).$$

The sum on the right has  $2^{n-1}$  terms. Importantly, the two largest terms in the sum are those corresponding to  $W^0 := W_1 + (W_2 + \cdots + W_n)$  and  $W^1 := -W_1 + (W_2 + \cdots + W_n)$  inside the hyperbolic cosines.

Next, observe that for  $W, Z \geq 0$ ,

$$2e^{-Z\theta}\cosh(W\theta) = e^{-Z\theta}\left(e^{W\theta} + e^{-W\theta}\right) = e^{(-Z+W)\theta} + e^{(-Z-W)\theta}.$$

Taking limits as  $\theta \to \infty$ ,

$$\lim_{\theta \to \infty} 2e^{-Z\theta} \cosh(W\theta) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } W = Z, \\ 0, & \text{if } W < Z, \\ \infty, & \text{if } W > Z. \end{cases}$$

With this, define for multi-indices  $J \subseteq \{0,1\}^{n-1}$  the terms

$$X^{J} = \sum_{j=1}^{n} (-1)^{J_{j}} |X|_{(j)} + |X|_{(n)}, \qquad Y^{J} = \sum_{j=1}^{n} (-1)^{J_{j}} |Y|_{(j)} + |Y|_{(n)},$$

These are merely sums involving the elements of T(X) and T(Y), with signs inserted according to J. Specifically denote  $X^0 := X^{(0,\dots,0)}, X^1 := X^{(1,0,\dots,0)}$ , and similarly for  $Y^0$ ,  $Y^1$ . Then,  $(\star)$  says that for all  $\theta \in [0,\infty)$ ,

$$\sum_{J \subseteq \{0,1\}^{n-1}} \cosh(X^J \theta) = \sum_{J \subseteq \{0,1\}^{n-1}} \cosh(Y^J \theta). \tag{**}$$

Suppose without loss of generality that  $X^0 \geq Y^0$ . Then,

$$2e^{-X^{0}\theta}\cosh(X^{0}\theta) + \sum_{\substack{J\subseteq\{0,1\}^{n-1}\\J\neq(0,\dots,0)}} 2e^{-X^{0}\theta}\cosh(X^{J}\theta)$$
$$= 2e^{-X^{0}\theta}\cosh(Y^{0}\theta) + \sum_{\substack{J\subseteq\{0,1\}^{n-1}\\J\neq(0,\dots,0)}} 2e^{-X^{0}\theta}\cosh(Y^{J}\theta).$$

If we had  $X^0 > Y^0$ , taking limits as  $\theta \to \infty$ , the left hand side gives 1 while the right hand side gives 0, a contradiction. Thus, we must have  $X^0 = Y^0$ . We can now cancel the first term from  $(\star\star)$ . Again, without loss of generality, suppose that  $X^1 \geq Y^1$ . Multiplying by  $2e^{-X^1\theta}$ , we obtain

$$\begin{split} 2e^{-X^1\theta}\cosh(X^1\theta) + \sum_{\substack{J\subseteq\{0,1\}^{n-1}\\J\neq(0,\dots,0)\\J\neq(1,0,\dots,0)}} 2e^{-X^1\theta}\cosh(X^J\theta) \\ &= 2e^{-X^1\theta}\cosh(Y^1\theta) + \sum_{\substack{J\subseteq\{0,1\}^{n-1}\\J\neq(0,\dots,0)\\J\neq(1,0,\dots,0)}} 2e^{-X^1\theta}\cosh(Y^J\theta). \end{split}$$

Like before, if we had  $X^1 > Y^1$ , taking limits as  $\theta \to \infty$  would give 1 on the left side, 0 on the right, a contradiction. Thus, we must have  $X^1 = Y^1$ .

Subtracting  $X^0 = Y^0$  and  $X^1 = Y^1$  yields  $|X|_{(1)} = |Y|_{(1)}$ . Canceling these terms in  $(\star)$ , we have one fewer term; repeating the same argument as above will successively yield each  $|X|_{(i)} = |Y|_{(i)}$ , hence T(X) = T(Y).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>If not, interchange the roles of X and Y.

This proves that T is indeed minimal sufficient for  $\theta \in [0, \infty)$ , via the result in HW1, Problem 2(a).

*Remark:* Since zero sample values, ties, etc in the sample occur with probability zero, we ignore such cases.

Remark: Alternatively, we can check that the left and right hand sides of  $(\star)$  are analytic functions of  $\theta$ , hence must be equal for all  $\theta \in \mathbb{C}$ . Since  $\cosh(z) = 0$  precisely when  $z = (n + \frac{1}{2})\pi i$ ,  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , we can compare roots on both sides of  $(\star)$ , perhaps in order of magnitude of  $X_i, Y_i$ , and reach the same conclusion.

- 5. Let  $X_1, \ldots, X_n \stackrel{iid}{\sim} U(0, \theta)$  for  $\theta \in (0, \infty)$ . Set  $\delta_1(X) = X_1$ , and  $\delta_2(X) = \mathbb{E}_{\theta}[X_1 \mid X_{(n)}]$ .
  - (a) Note that  $X_{(n)}$  is a complete sufficient statistic for  $\theta > 0$ . Indeed, the likelihood

$$\mathcal{L}(\theta \mid X) = \prod_{i=1}^{n} \frac{1}{\theta} \mathbf{1}_{(0,\theta)}(X_i) = \frac{1}{\theta^n} \mathbf{1}_{(0,\theta)}(X_{(n)}),$$

shows that  $X_{(n)}$  is sufficient for  $\theta$  via Neyman-Fisher factorization. Furthermore, we have for  $0 \le x \le 1$ ,

$$P(X_{(n)} \le x) = P(X_1 \le x, \dots, X_n \le x) = \frac{x^n}{\theta^n},$$

so  $f_{X_{(n)}}(x) = nx^{n-1}\theta^{-n}\mathbf{1}_{(0,\theta)}(x)$ . It follows that

$$\mathbb{E}[X_{(n)}] = \int_0^\theta \frac{nx^n}{\theta^n} dx = \frac{n\theta}{n+1},$$

so  $(n+1)X_{(n)}/n$  is unbiased for  $\theta$ . Now suppose that for measurable  $h: \mathbb{R}_+ \to \mathbb{R}$ , we have  $\mathbb{E}_{\theta}[h(X_{(n)})] = 0$  for all  $\theta > 0$ . This would imply that

$$\int_0^\theta h(x) x^{n-1} dx = 0, \quad \text{for all } \theta > 0.$$

By a similar argument as in HW2, Problem 3(a), we can conclude that h = 0 almost everywhere on  $(0, \infty)$ , whence  $X_{(n)}$  is complete.

Remark: Alternatively, note that the map

$$\theta \mapsto \int_0^\theta h(x) \, x^{n-1} \, dx$$

is differentiable by the Fundamental Theorem of Calculus, and has derivative  $h(\theta) \theta^{n-1}$  at each  $\theta \in (0, \infty)$ . Since this is a zero map, its derivative is also zero, and the claim follows.

Now, note that

$$\mathbb{E}[X_1] = \int_0^\theta \frac{x}{\theta} \, dx = \frac{\theta}{2},$$

so  $2X_1$  is unbiased for  $\theta$ . The Lehmann-Scheffe Theorem<sup>2</sup> now guarantees that  $2\delta_2(X) = \mathbb{E}[2X_1 \mid X_{(n)}]$  is the *unique* UMVUE for  $\theta$ . On the other hand,  $(n+1)X_{(n)}/n$  is an unbiased function of the complete sufficient statistic  $X_{(n)}$ , and hence must be UMVUE too. This means that we must have equality, hence

$$\delta_2(X) = \mathbb{E}_{\theta}[X_1 \mid X_{(n)}] = \left(\frac{n+1}{2n}\right) X_{(n)}.$$

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>See HW2, Problem 5.

(b) We have  $L(\theta, \delta) = \sqrt{|\theta - \delta|}$ . First we claim that L is concave in  $\delta$  for each  $\theta$  (note that we need only look at  $\delta$  such that  $\delta \leq \theta$  almost surely, since our estimators fall within this category), from which the result in Problem 1 immediately tells us that

$$R(\theta, \delta_1) \leq R(\theta, \delta_2), \quad \text{for all } \theta \in (0, \infty).$$

This is because  $T = X_{(n)}$  is sufficient for  $\theta \in (0, \infty)$ , and  $\ell = -L$  is convex; the proof supplied in Problem 1 proceeds exactly as given, with  $\delta = \delta_1, \eta = \delta_2$ . We will then show that for  $\theta = 1$ , we have  $R(1, \delta_1) < R(1, \delta_2)$ , rendering  $\delta_2$  inadmissible.

Remark: Since  $L(\theta, \delta) = \sqrt{\theta}L(1, \delta/\theta)$ , we see that  $\delta_1$  has uniformly strictly lower risk than  $\delta_2$ .

Indeed, for fixed  $\theta > 0$ , we need only show that the map  $x \mapsto \sqrt{x}$  is concave for  $x \ge 0$ , which is clear by the differentiability criterion; we have the second derivative  $-x^{-3/2}/4 < 0$ . This further tells us that our loss is *strictly* concave in  $\delta$ , so Jensen's inequality gives

$$\mathbb{E}[L(1, \delta_1) \mid X_{(n)}] < L(1, \delta_2).$$

Thus, taking expectations gives us a strict inequality, whence  $R(1, \delta_1) < R(1, \delta_2)$ .

6. Let  $S_2$  be the unit ball in  $\mathbb{R}^2$ , and let  $(x_0, y_0) \in S_2$ . The process described is equivalent to the following: generate for  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ,

(i) 
$$y_n \sim U(-\sqrt{1-x_{n-1}^2}, \sqrt{1-x_{n-1}^2})$$

(ii) 
$$x_n \sim U(-\sqrt{1-y_n^2}, \sqrt{1-y_n^2}).$$

Remark: Drawing  $x \sim U(-a,a)$  is equivalent to independently drawing  $x' \sim U(0,a)$ ,  $r \sim \frac{1}{2}\delta_{-1} + \frac{1}{2}\delta_1$  and setting x = rx'. Also,  $x^2 = x'^2$ .

We claim that the stationary distribution  $\pi$  of this chain is uniform on  $S_2$ , with density

$$f(x,y) = \frac{1}{\pi} \mathbf{1}_{S_2}(x,y) = \frac{1}{\pi} \mathbf{1} (x_0^2 + y_0^2 \le 1).$$

We can describe the transition kernels (conditional densities)

$$K((x_0, y_0), (x_0, y_1)) = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{1 - x_0^2}} \mathbf{1} \left( -\sqrt{1 - x_0^2} \le y_1 \le \sqrt{1 - x_0^2} \right)$$

$$= \frac{1}{2\sqrt{1 - x_0^2}} \mathbf{1} \left( x_0^2 + y_1^2 \le 1 \right),$$

$$K((x_0, y_1), (x_1, y_1)) = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{1 - y_1^2}} \mathbf{1} \left( -\sqrt{1 - y_1^2} \le x_1 \le \sqrt{1 - y_1^2} \right)$$

$$= \frac{1}{2\sqrt{1 - y_1^2}} \mathbf{1} \left( x_1^2 + y_1^2 \le 1 \right).$$

With this, we have the transition kernel for the chain

$$K((x_0, y_0), (x_1, y_1)) = K((x_0, y_0), (x_0, y_1)) \cdot K((x_0, y_1), (x_1, y_1)).$$

Compute

$$\int f(x_0, y_0) K((x_0, y_0), (x_0, y_1)) dy_0$$

$$= \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\sqrt{1 - x_0^2}}^{\sqrt{1 - x_0^2}} \frac{1}{2\sqrt{1 - x_0^2}} \mathbf{1} \left( x_0^2 + y_1^2 \le 1 \right) dy_0$$

$$= \frac{1}{\pi} \mathbf{1} \left( x_0^2 + y_1^2 \le 1 \right),$$

so the density of  $(x_1, y_1)$  is given by

$$\begin{split} \tilde{f}(x_1, y_1) &= \int f(x_0, y_0) K((x_0, y_0), (x_1, y_1)) \, dy_0 \, dx_0 \\ &= \int \left[ \int f(x_0, y_0) K((x_0, y_0), (x_0, y_1)) \, dy_0 \right] K((x_0, y_1), (x_1, y_1)) \, dx_0 \\ &= \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\sqrt{1 - y_1^2}}^{\sqrt{1 - y_1^2}} \frac{1}{2\sqrt{1 - y_1^2}} \mathbf{1} \left( x_1^2 + y_1^2 \le 1 \right) \, dx_0 \\ &= \frac{1}{\pi} \mathbf{1} \left( x_1^2 + y_1^2 \le 1 \right). \end{split}$$

Thus,  $\tilde{f} = f$ , whence f is the stationary distribution of this chain.

Remark: This is a Gibbs sampling procedure!

- 7. Let  $\Theta \subseteq \mathbb{R}^k$  be open, and let  $R(\theta, \delta)$  be continuous in  $\theta$  for every estimator  $\delta(X)$ . Suppose that  $\pi_n$  is a sequence of priors on  $\Theta$ , and let  $\delta^*$  satisfy
  - (i)  $r(\pi_n, \delta^*) < \infty$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .
  - (ii) For any open  $\Theta_0 \subseteq \Theta$ ,

$$\liminf_{n \to \infty} \int_{\Theta_0} \pi_n(\theta) \, d\theta > 0.$$

(iii) If  $\delta_{\pi_n}$  are Bayes estimators with respect to each prior  $\pi_n$ , then

$$\lim_{n\to\infty} r(\pi_n, \delta^*) - r(\pi_n, \delta_{\pi_n}) = 0.$$

Suppose that  $\delta$  is an estimator such that

$$R(\theta, \delta) \leq R(\theta, \delta^*), \quad \text{for all } \theta \in \Theta.$$

Further suppose that there exists  $\theta_0 \in \Theta$  such that  $R(\theta_0, \delta) < R(\theta_0, \delta^*)$ . Set  $2\epsilon = R(\theta_0, \delta^*) - R(\theta_0, \delta) > 0$ . Then, by continuity of  $R(\cdot, \delta^*) - R(\cdot, \delta)$ , there exists an open neighborhood of  $\Theta_0 \subseteq \Theta$  of  $\theta_0$  such that

$$R(\theta, \delta^*) - R(\theta, \delta) \ge \epsilon$$
, for all  $\theta \in \Theta_0$ .

Using (ii), we can descend to a subsequence of priors  $\pi_{n_k}$  for which  $\lim_{n\to\infty}\int_{\Theta_0}\pi_{n_k}=2C>0$ , hence to a further sub-subsequence  $\pi_{m_{n_k}}$  where each  $\int_{\Theta_0}\pi_{m_{n_k}}>C>0$ . Without loss of generality, let this sub-subsequence of priors be simply  $\pi_n$  (by relabeling). Then, for all  $n\in\mathbb{N}$ , we have

$$r(\pi_{n}, \delta^{*}) - r(\pi_{n}, \delta) = \mathbb{E}_{\theta \sim \pi_{n}} \left[ R(\theta, \delta^{*}) - R(\theta, \delta) \right]$$

$$\geq \mathbb{E}_{\theta \sim \pi_{n}} \left[ \left( R(\theta, \delta^{*}) - R(\theta, \delta) \right) \mathbf{1}_{\Theta_{0}}(\theta) \right]$$

$$\geq \mathbb{E}_{\theta \sim \pi_{n}} \left[ \epsilon \mathbf{1}_{\Theta_{0}}(\theta) \right]$$

$$\geq C\epsilon$$

$$> 0.$$

But each  $r(\pi_n, \delta_{\pi_n}) \leq r(\pi_n, \delta)$  by construction of the (potentially generalized) Bayes estimators<sup>3</sup>. Thus, for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , we have

$$r(\pi_n, \delta^*) - r(\pi_n, \delta_{\pi_n}) \ge r(\pi_n, \delta^*) - r(\pi_n, \delta) \ge C\epsilon > 0.$$

Taking limits,

$$\lim_{n \to \infty} r(\pi_n, \delta^*) - r(\pi_n, \delta_{\pi_n}) \ge C\epsilon > 0.$$

This contradicts (iii). Thus, no such  $\delta$  can exist, whence  $\delta^*$  is admissible.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup>These exist with finite Bayes risk using (i) and the construction in HW3, Problem 6.