

Problem 1. Assume $\vec{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n$, $A \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$ and $\vec{b} \in \mathbb{R}^m$. Let $f(\vec{x}) = \vec{b}^T A \vec{x}$. Find ∇f .

Solution. We know that,

$$P(X = x, Y = y, Z = z) = P(Y = y) \cdot P(Z = z | Y = y) \cdot P(X = x | Z = z, Y = y)$$

Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{z \in \mathcal{Z}} P(X = x | Y = y, Z = z) \cdot P(Z = z | Y = y) &= \sum_{z \in \mathcal{Z}} \frac{P(X = x, Y = y, Z = z)}{P(Y = y)} \\ &= \frac{P(X = x, Y = y)}{P(Y = y)} \\ &= P(X = x | Y = y) \end{aligned}$$

□

Problem 2. Let X be a random variable on $\mathcal{X} = \{a, b, c\}$ with the probability mass function $p(x)$. Let $p(a) = 0.1$, $p(b) = 0.2$, and $p(c) = 0.7$ and some function $f(x)$ be

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} 10 & x = a \\ 5 & x = b \\ \frac{10}{7} & x = c \end{cases}$$

a) (5 points) What is $\mathbb{E}[f(X)]$?

b) (5 points) What is $\mathbb{E}[1/p(X)]$?

c) (5 points) For an arbitrary finite set \mathcal{X} with n elements and arbitrary $p(x)$ on \mathcal{X} , what is $\mathbb{E}[1/p(X)]$?

Solution.

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} 10 & x = a \\ 5 & x = b \\ \frac{10}{7} & x = c \end{cases}$$

a)

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E}[f(x)] &= \sum_{x \in \mathcal{X}} f(X = x) \times p(X = x) \\ &= 10 \times 0.1 + 5 \times 0.2 + \frac{10}{7} \times 0.7 \\ &= \boxed{3} \end{aligned}$$

b)

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E}\left[\frac{1}{p(X)}\right] &= \sum_{x \in \mathcal{X}} \frac{1}{p(X = x)} \times p(X = x) \\ &= 1 + 1 + 1 \\ &= \boxed{3} \end{aligned}$$

c) Let,

$$\mathcal{X} = \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n\}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathbb{E}\left[\frac{1}{p(x)}\right] &= \sum_{x \in \mathcal{X}} \frac{1}{p(X=x)} \times p(X=x) \\
&= \sum_{i=1}^n 1 \\
&= \boxed{n}
\end{aligned}$$

□

Problem 3. A biased four-sided die is rolled and the down face is a random variable X described by the following pmf

$$p(x) = \begin{cases} x/10 & x = 1, 2, 3, 4 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Given the random variable X a biased coin is flipped and the random variable Y is 1 or zero according to whether the coin shows heads or tails. The conditional pmf is

$$p(y | x) = \left(\frac{x+1}{2x}\right)^y \left(1 - \frac{x+1}{2x}\right)^{1-y}$$

where $y \in \{0, 1\}$.

a) (5 points) Find the expectation $\mathbb{E}[X]$ and variance $V[X]$.

b) (5 points) Find the conditional pmf $p(x | y)$.

c) (5 points) Find the conditional expectation $\mathbb{E}[X | Y = 1]$; i.e., the expectation with respect to the conditional pmf $p_{X|Y}(x | 1)$.

Solution. Given,

$$p(x) = \begin{cases} x/10 & x = 1, 2, 3, 4 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$$p(y | x) = \left(\frac{x+1}{2x}\right)^y \left(1 - \frac{x+1}{2x}\right)^{1-y}$$

where $y \in \{0, 1\}$.

a)

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbb{E}[X] &= \sum_{x \in \{1,2,3,4\}} x \cdot p(X = x) \\ &= 1 \times \frac{1}{10} + 2 \times \frac{2}{10} + 3 \times \frac{3}{10} + 4 \times \frac{4}{10} \\ &= \frac{30}{10} \\ &= \boxed{3}\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbb{E}[X^2] &= \sum_{x \in \mathcal{X}} x^2 p(X = x) \\ &= 1^2 \times \frac{1}{10} + 2^2 \times \frac{2}{10} + 3^2 \times \frac{3}{10} + 4^2 \times \frac{4}{10} \\ &= 10\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbb{V}[X] &= \mathbb{E}[X^2] - (\mathbb{E}[X])^2 \\ &= 10 - 9 \\ &= \boxed{1}\end{aligned}$$

b)

$$\begin{aligned}p(x | y) &= \frac{p(y | x)p(x)}{p(y)} \\ &= \frac{p(y | x) \times p(x)}{\sum_{x \in \mathcal{X}} p(y | x) \times p(x)} \\ &= \frac{\left(\frac{x+1}{2x}\right)^y \left(1 - \frac{x+1}{2x}\right)^{1-y} \times \frac{x}{10}}{\left(\frac{2}{2}\right)^y \times 0^{1-y} \times \frac{1}{10} + \left(\frac{3}{4}\right)^y \left(\frac{1}{4}\right)^{1-y} \times \frac{2}{10} + \left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^y \left(\frac{1}{3}\right)^{1-y} \times \frac{3}{10} + \left(\frac{5}{8}\right)^y \left(\frac{3}{8}\right)^{1-y} \times \frac{4}{10}} \\ &= \frac{2 \times \left(\frac{x+1}{2x}\right)^y \left(1 - \frac{x+1}{2x}\right)^{1-y} \times x}{(1^y \times 0^{1-y} \times 2 + 3^y \times 1^{1-y} \times 4 + 4^y \times 2^{1-y} \times 6 + 5^y \times 3^{1-y} \times 8)}\end{aligned}$$

Writing it in piecewise form,

$$p(x | y) = \begin{cases} \frac{x-1}{6} & y = 0 \\ \frac{x+1}{14} & y = 1 \end{cases}$$

c)

$$\mathbb{E}[X | Y = 1] = \sum_{x \in \mathcal{X}} x \cdot p_{X|Y}(x | 1)$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 p_{X|Y}(x | 1) &= \frac{\left(\frac{x+1}{2x}\right)^1 \times \left(1 - \frac{x+1}{2x}\right)^0 \times \frac{x}{10}}{1^1 \times 0^0 \times \frac{1}{10} + \left(\frac{3}{4}\right)^1 \times \left(\frac{1}{4}\right)^0 \times \frac{2}{10} + \left(\frac{4}{6}\right)^1 \times \left(\frac{2}{6}\right)^0 \times \frac{3}{10} + \left(\frac{5}{8}\right)^1 \times \left(\frac{3}{8}\right)^0 \times \frac{4}{10}} \\
 &= \frac{x+1}{14}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \mathbb{E}[X | Y = 1] &= \sum_{x \in \mathcal{X}} x \times \frac{x+1}{14} \\
 &= 1 \times \frac{2}{14} + 2 \times \frac{3}{14} + 3 \times \frac{4}{14} + 4 \times \frac{5}{14} \\
 &= \boxed{\frac{20}{7}}
 \end{aligned}$$

□

Problem 4. Suppose that the data set $\mathcal{D} = \{1, 0, 1, 1, 1, 0, 1, 1, 1, 0\}$ is an i.i.d. sample from a Bernoulli distribution

$$p(x | \alpha) = \alpha^x (1 - \alpha)^{1-x} \quad 0 < \alpha < 1$$

with an unknown parameter α .

a) (5 points) Calculate the log-likelihood of the data \mathcal{D} when $\alpha = \frac{1}{e}$; i.e., find $\log p(\mathcal{D} | \alpha = \frac{1}{e})$. The parameter e is the Euler number. Write the final expression as compactly as you can.

b) (10 points) Compute the maximum likelihood estimate of α . Show all your work.

c) (10 points) Suppose the prior distribution for α is the uniform distribution on $(0,1)$. Compute the Bayes estimator for α . Note that $\int_0^1 v^m (1-v)^r dv = \frac{m!r!}{(m+r+1)!}$

Solution. a)

$$\begin{aligned}
 p(\mathcal{D} | \alpha) &= p(\{x_i\}_{i=1}^n | \alpha) \\
 &= \prod_{i=1}^n p(x_i | \alpha) \\
 &= \alpha^{\sum_{i=1}^n x_i} \cdot (1 - \alpha)^{n - \sum_{i=1}^n x_i}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \ell(\mathcal{D}, \alpha) &= \ln \alpha \cdot \sum_{i=1}^n x_i + \ln(1 - \alpha) \cdot \left(n - \sum_{i=1}^n x_i\right) \\
 \ell\left(\mathcal{D}, \frac{1}{e}\right) &= 3 \ln(e - 1) - 10
 \end{aligned}$$

b)

$$\begin{aligned}
 \frac{\partial \ell(\mathcal{D}, \alpha)}{\partial \alpha} &= \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n x_i}{\alpha} - \frac{n - \sum_{i=1}^n x_i}{1 - \alpha} \\
 &= 0
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow (1 - \alpha_{ML}) \cdot \sum_{i=1}^n x_i - \left(n - \sum_{i=1}^n x_i \right) \cdot \alpha_{ML} &= 0 \\ \alpha_{ML} &= \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n x_i}{n} = \boxed{\frac{7}{10}} \end{aligned}$$

c)

$$\begin{aligned} p(\mathcal{D} \mid \alpha) &= \alpha^{\sum_{i=1}^n x_i} \cdot (1 - \alpha)^{n - \sum_{i=1}^n x_i} \\ p(\alpha) &= 1 \\ p(\alpha \mid \mathcal{D}) &= \frac{p(\mathcal{D} \mid \alpha) \cdot p(\alpha)}{p(\mathcal{D})} \\ p(\mathcal{D}) &= \int_0^1 p(\mathcal{D} \mid \alpha) p(\alpha) d\alpha \\ &= \int_0^1 \alpha^7 (1 - \alpha)^3 d\alpha \\ &= \frac{7! \cdot 3!}{11!} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha_B &= \int_0^1 \alpha p(\alpha \mid \mathcal{D}) d\alpha \\ &= \int_0^1 \frac{\alpha \times \alpha^7 \times (1 - \alpha)^3 \times 1}{p(\mathcal{D})} d\alpha \\ &= \frac{\int_0^1 \alpha^8 \times (1 - \alpha)^3 d\alpha}{\frac{7! \cdot 3!}{11!}} \\ &= \boxed{\frac{2}{3}} \end{aligned}$$

□

Problem 5. Let $\mathcal{D} = \{x_i\}_{i=1}^n$ be an i.i.d. sample from

$$p(x) = \begin{cases} e^{-(x-\theta_0)} & x \geq \theta_0 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Determine θ_{ML} - the maximum likelihood estimate of θ_0 .

Solution.

$$\begin{aligned} p(x) &= \begin{cases} e^{-(x-\theta_0)} & x \geq \theta_0 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \\ \mathcal{D} &= \{x_i\}_{i=1}^n \end{aligned}$$

For $\theta_0 \leq \min(\{x_i\}_{i=1}^n)$,

$$\begin{aligned} p(\mathcal{D} \mid \theta_0) &= p(\{x_i\}_{i=1}^n \mid \theta_0) \\ &= \prod_{i=1}^n p(x_i \mid \theta_0) \\ &= e^{-(\sum_{i=1}^n x_i - n \cdot \theta_0)} \end{aligned}$$

For $\theta_0 > \min(\{x_i\}_{i=1}^n)$,

$$p(\mathcal{D} \mid \theta_0) = 0$$

This is a strictly increasing function w.r.t. θ_0 until $\theta_0 = \min(\{x_i\}_{i=1}^n)$ and then falls to 0 after that.

Therefore, the maximum likelihood

$$\theta_{ML} = \min(\{x_i\}_{i=1}^n)$$

□