STAT 600 - HW 2

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Question 1

(a)

First, consider the likelihood and the log-likelihood function.

$$L(\theta) = \prod_{i=1}^{n} \frac{1}{\pi \left(1 + (x_i - \theta)^2\right)}$$

$$l(\theta) = \log (L(\theta))$$

$$= \log \left(\prod_{i=1}^{n} \frac{1}{\pi \left(1 + (x_i - \theta)^2\right)}\right)$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^{n} \log \left(\frac{1}{\pi \left(1 + (x_i - \theta)^2\right)}\right)$$

$$= -\sum_{i=1}^{n} \log \left(\pi \left(1 + (x_i - \theta)^2\right)\right)$$

$$= -n \log (\pi) - \sum_{i=1}^{n} \log \left(1 + (x_i - \theta)^2\right)$$

Then, consider the derivative of the log-likelihood, $l'(\theta)$.

$$l'(\theta) = \frac{d}{d\theta}l(\theta)$$

$$= -\sum_{i=1}^{n} \frac{1}{1 + (x_i - \theta)^2} \left[\frac{d}{d\theta} (x_i - \theta)^2 \right]$$

$$= 2\sum_{i=1}^{n} \frac{x_i - \theta}{1 + (x_i - \theta)^2}$$

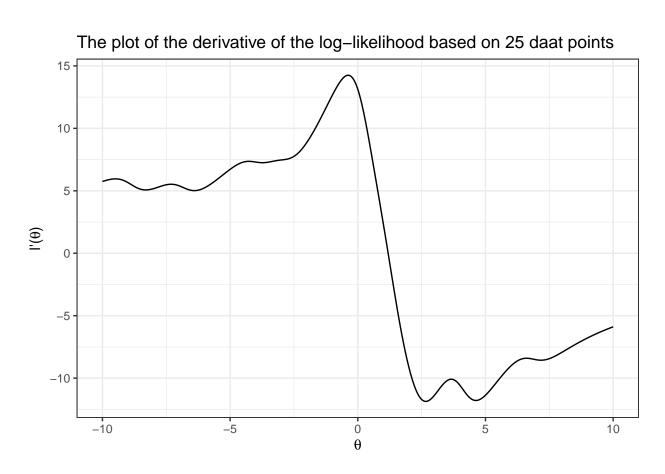


Figure 1: The plot of the derivative of the log-likelihood on the original dataset.

(b)

This is the second derivation for the log-likelihood function.

$$l''(\theta) = \frac{d}{d\theta}l'(\theta)$$

$$= \frac{d}{d\theta}2\sum_{i=1}^{n} \frac{x_i - \theta}{1 + (x_i - \theta)^2}$$

$$= 2\sum_{i=1}^{n} \frac{d}{d\theta} \frac{x_i - \theta}{1 + (x_i - \theta)^2}$$

$$= 2\sum_{i=1}^{n} \frac{-1 + (x_i - \theta)^2}{1 + (x_i - \theta)^2}$$

(d)

For the convergence criteria used in this problem, I decided to employ the absolute convergence criterion, as the $x^{(t)}$ might be close to 0 in some iterations, as indicated by the plot shown in part (a). Additionally, the value of x is neither too tiny nor too huge compared to ϵ .