

1. Let X_1, \dots, X_n be a random sample from an exponential distribution with probability density function (pdf)

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{\beta} e^{-x/\beta}$$

and cumulative density function (cdf)

$$F(x) = 1 - e^{-x/\beta}, \quad 0 < x < \infty, \quad 0 < \beta < \infty.$$

- (a) Show that $F(X_1), \dots, F(X_n)$ can be considered as a random sample from a uniform distribution between 0 and 1 by showing that

$$P(F(X_i) \leq x) = x,$$

for $i = 1, \dots, n$.

- (b) Let $X_{(i)}$ be the order statistics from the random sample X_1, \dots, X_n and let $Z_i = F(X_{(i)})$. Show that the joint distribution of Z_i and Z_j is

$$f_{Z_i, Z_j}(z_i, z_j) = \frac{n!}{(i-1)!(j-i-1)!(n-j)!} z_i^{i-1} (z_j - z_i)^{j-i-1} (1 - z_j)^{n-j},$$

where $i < j$ and $0 < z_i < z_j < 1$.

- (c) Let $U = Z_j - Z_i$ and $V = Z_i$. Show that the joint distribution of (U, V) is

$$f_{U,V}(u, v) = \frac{n!}{(i-1)!(j-i-1)!(n-j)!} v^{i-1} u^{j-i-1} (1 - u - v)^{n-j}.$$

You need to demonstrate the domain of U and V is $u, v > 0$ and $0 < u + v < 1$.

- (d) Show that the marginal distribution of U is

$$f_U(u) = \frac{\Gamma(n+1)}{\Gamma(j-i)\Gamma(n-j+i+1)} u^{j-i-1} (1-u)^{n-j+i},$$

which is pdf of Beta distribution with $\alpha = j - i$ and $\beta = n - j + i + 1$. [Hint: letting $y = v/(1-u)$ will help on solving the complicated integral.]

- (e) A researcher is eager to find a so-called “tolerance interval” $(X_{(i)}, X_{(j)})$ that covers at least $(100 \times p)$ percent of the distribution at $(100 \times \gamma)$ level. That is, the interval $(X_{(i)}, X_{(j)})$ satisfies

$$P(F(X_{(j)}) - F(X_{(i)}) \geq p) = \gamma.$$

Given that $i = 1$ and $j = n$, comment on how one can find the probability γ to show the tolerance level of using range $X_{(n)} - X_{(1)}$ to cover at least 80 percent of the distribution.

2. For a women in a certain high-risk population, suppose that the number of lifetime events of domestic violence involving emergency room treatment is assumed to have the Poisson distribution

$$f_X(x|\lambda) = \lambda^x e^{-\lambda} / x!, \quad x = 0, 1, \dots, \quad \lambda > 0.$$

Let X_1, \dots, X_n be iid sample randomly chosen for the high-risk population, and each woman in the random sample is asked to recall the number of lifetime events of domestic violence involving emergency room treatment that she has experienced.

- (a) Show that the distribution belongs to an exponential family by identifying $h(x)$, $c(\lambda)$, $w(\lambda)$ and $t(x)$, and show that $Y = \sum_{i=1}^n X_i$ is a complete sufficient statistic for λ
- (b) Let θ be the probability of a woman ever suffering domestic violence in the past, i.e., $\theta = P(X > 0)$. Show that $\theta = 1 - e^{-\lambda}$ and that $\hat{\theta} = 1 - (1 - 1/n)^Y$ is an unbiased estimator of θ using the fact that Y follows $\text{Poisson}(n\lambda)$.
- (c) Due to possible recall bias, a researcher decide to dichotomize X_i into

$$Z_i = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } X_i > 0 \\ 0 & \text{if } X_i = 0. \end{cases}$$

Let $\bar{Z} = n^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^n Z_i$. Show that \bar{Z} converges in probability to θ and that

$$\sqrt{n}(\bar{Z} - \theta) \rightarrow_d N(0, \theta(1 - \theta)).$$

- (d) In order to estimate λ , the researcher suggests transformation on \bar{Z} . Find a function g such that $g(\bar{Z})$ converges in probability to λ and show that

$$\sqrt{n}(g(\bar{Z}) - \lambda) \rightarrow_d N(0, e^\lambda - 1).$$

- (e) If one would be able to use the original sample X_1, \dots, X_n to estimate λ , one can show that $\bar{X} = n^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^n X_i$ also converges in probability to λ and that

$$\sqrt{n}(\bar{X} - \lambda) \rightarrow_d N(0, \lambda).$$

We now have two consistent estimators $g(\bar{Z})$ and \bar{X} for λ . Which one is preferable? That is, which one has a smaller variance when the sample size is large? Give a heuristic reason why the estimator has a smaller variance.