

## Lab 2 Practice problems

### 1. SD of combined list

A population consists of  $n$  men and  $n$  women. The heights of the men have an average of  $\mu_m$  and an SD of  $\sigma_m$ . The heights of the women have an average of  $\mu_w$  and an SD of  $\sigma_w$ . Find a formula for the SD of the heights of all  $2n$  people, in terms of  $\mu_m, \mu_w, \sigma_m$ , and  $\sigma_w$ .

**Solution:** Let  $X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n$  be the heights of men, and  $X_{n+1}, \dots, X_{2n}$  be the heights of women.  $\therefore \mu_{M+W} = \frac{n\mu_M + n\mu_W}{2n}$ . Let  $\sigma_{M+W}$  be the SD of the combined list of men and women. Then,

$$\begin{aligned}\sigma_{M+W}^2 &= E(X^2) - E(X)^2 = \frac{1}{2n} \sum_{i=1}^{2n} X_i^2 - \mu_{M+W}^2 \\ &= \frac{1}{2n} \left( \sum_{i=1}^n X_i^2 + \sum_{i=n+1}^{2n} X_i^2 \right) - \mu_{M+W}^2 \text{ where} \\ \sum_{i=1}^n X_i^2 &= n\sigma_M^2 + n\mu_M^2 \text{ and } \sum_{i=n+1}^{2n} X_i^2 = n\sigma_W^2 + n\mu_W^2 \\ \therefore \sigma_{M+W}^2 &= \frac{1}{2n} (n(\sigma_M^2 + \mu_M^2) + n(\sigma_W^2 + \mu_W^2)) - \left( \frac{1}{2} (\mu_M + \mu_W) \right)^2 \\ &= \frac{\sigma_M^2 + \mu_M^2}{2} + \frac{\sigma_W^2 + \mu_W^2}{2} - \frac{(\mu_M + \mu_W)^2}{4}\end{aligned}$$

Two populations are surveyed with simple random samples. A sample of size  $n_1$  is used for population I, which has a population standard deviation  $\sigma_1$ ; a sample of size  $n_2 = 2n_1$  is used for population II, which has a population standard deviation  $\sigma_2 = 2\sigma_1$ . Ignoring finite population corrections, in which of the two samples would you expect the estimate of the population mean to be more accurate?

**Solution:** Since we are ignoring finite population corrections, we have

$$\begin{aligned}Var(\bar{X}_1) &\approx \frac{\sigma_1^2}{n_1} \quad \text{and} \quad Var(\bar{X}_2) \approx \frac{\sigma_2^2}{n_2} = \frac{4\sigma_1^2}{2n_1} = 2Var(\bar{X}_1) \\ \therefore SD(\bar{X}_2) &= \sqrt{2}SD(\bar{X}_1) > SD(\bar{X}_1).\end{aligned}$$

Therefore we expect the estimate of Population I to be more accurate because it has a smaller standard deviation.

## 2. Method of Moments (MoM)

Consider the i.i.d. random variables  $X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n \sim N(\mu, \sigma^2)$  with both  $\mu$  and  $\sigma^2$  unknown. Find  $\hat{\mu}_{MM}$  and  $\hat{\sigma}_{MM}^2$ , i.e. the MoM estimators of the mean and the variance.

**Solution:**

$$\begin{cases} \mu_1 = \mu \\ \mu_2 = E(X_i^2) = \sigma^2 + \mu^2 \end{cases} \xrightarrow{\text{Rearrange}} \begin{cases} \mu = \mu_1 \\ \sigma^2 = \mu_2 - \mu_1^2 \end{cases}$$

The estimators of  $\mu_1$  and  $\mu_2$ :

$$\hat{\mu}_1 = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n X_i = \bar{X}, \quad \hat{\mu}_2 = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n X_i^2$$

Plug in and get

$$\hat{\mu}_{MM} = \bar{X}, \quad \hat{\sigma}_{MM}^2 = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n X_i^2 - \bar{X}^2 \text{ (which in class is proved to be a biased estimator)}$$

## 3. Expectation and p.d.f of a *function* of a random variable, $Y = g(X)$

Consider a random variable  $X \sim \text{Uniform}(e, e^2)$  and define the new random variable  $Y = \ln X$

(a): Compute  $E(Y) = E(g(X))$

**Solution:** By uniform distribution we get

$$f_X(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{e^2 - e} & x \in (e, e^2) \\ 0 & x \notin (e, e^2) \end{cases}$$

Then we have

$$\begin{aligned} E(g(X)) &= \int g(x) f_X(x) dx = \int_e^{e^2} \ln x * \frac{1}{e^2 - e} dx \\ &\stackrel{\text{by parts}}{=} \frac{1}{e^2 - e} [x \ln x - x]_{x=e}^{x=e^2} \\ &= \frac{[(2e^2 - e^2) - (e - e)]}{e^2 - e} = \frac{e^2}{e^2 - e} \end{aligned}$$

(b): Calculate  $E(Y)$  by computing the p.d.f of  $Y$ . To do so, the initial step is to figure out the c.d.f of  $Y$ , by noticing that:

$$F_Y(y) = P(Y \leq y) = P(\ln X \leq y) \stackrel{(*)}{=} P(X \leq e^y) = F_X(e^y). \quad (1)$$

(\*) By applying the exponential function, which is *monotone increasing*.

**Solution:** by (1), using chain rule, we take the derivative of  $F_X(e^y)$

$$f_Y(y) = \frac{d}{dy} [F_X(e^y)] = F'_X(e^y) * e^y = f_X(e^y) * e^y \quad \text{where}$$

$$f_X(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{e^2-e} & x \in (e, e^2) \\ 0 & x \notin (e, e^2) \end{cases} \Rightarrow f_X(e^y) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{e^2-e} & e^y \in (e, e^2) \\ 0 & e^y \notin (e, e^2) \end{cases} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} \frac{1}{e^2-e} & y \in (1, 2) \\ 0 & y \notin (1, 2) \end{cases}$$

$$\therefore f_Y(y) \begin{cases} \frac{e^y}{e^2-e} & y \in (1, 2) \\ 0 & y \notin (1, 2) \end{cases}$$

$$E(Y) = \frac{1}{e^2-e} \int_1^2 ye^y dy \text{ and by chain rule this is equal to } \frac{1}{e^2-e} (2e^2 - e - (e^2 - e)) = \frac{e^2}{e^2-e}$$