STATISTICS Part IB

Example Sheet 1 (of 3) RJS/Lent 2018

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1. Ask your supervisor to test you on the sheet of common distributions handed out in lectures.

2. (Probability review) If $X \sim \text{Exp}(\lambda)$ and $Y \sim \text{Exp}(\mu)$ are independent, derive the distribution of $\min(X, Y)$. If $X \sim \Gamma(\alpha, \lambda)$ and $Y \sim \Gamma(\beta, \lambda)$ are independent, derive the distributions of $X + Y$ and $X/(X + Y)$.

3. Suppose that X and T have probability density functions $f_X(x; \theta)$ and $f_T(u; \theta)$ respectively. Prove the factorisation criterion for the sufficiency of T.

4. (a) Let $X_1, \ldots, X_n$ be independent Poisson random variables, with X_i having parameter $i\theta$ for some $\theta > 0$. Find a real-valued sufficient statistic T, and compute its distribution. Show that the maximum likelihood estimator $\hat{\theta}$ of θ is a function of T, and show that it is unbiased.

(b) For some $n > 2$, let $X_1, \ldots, X_n \overset{\text{iid}}{\sim} \text{Exp}(\theta)$. Find a minimal sufficient statistic T, and compute its distribution. Show that the maximum likelihood estimator $\hat{\theta}$ of θ is a function of T, and is biased but asymptotically unbiased. Find an injective function h on $(0, \infty)$ such that, writing $\psi = h(\theta)$, the maximum likelihood estimator $\hat{\psi}$ of the new parameter ψ is unbiased.

5. For some $n \geq 2$ let $X_1, \ldots, X_n \overset{\text{iid}}{\sim} U[\theta, 2\theta]$, for some $\theta > 0$. Show that $\tilde{\theta} = \frac{2}{3}X_1$ is an unbiased estimator of θ. Use the Rao–Blackwell theorem to find an unbiased estimator $\hat{\theta}$ which is a function of a minimal sufficient statistic and which satisfies $\text{Var}_\theta(\hat{\theta}) < \text{Var}_\theta(\tilde{\theta})$ for all $\theta > 0$.

6. Let $X_1, \ldots, X_n \overset{\text{iid}}{\sim} U[0, \theta]$. Find the maximum likelihood estimator $\hat{\theta}$ of θ. By considering the distribution of $\hat{\theta}/\theta$ and for $\alpha \in (0, 1)$, find an appropriate, one-sided $100(1 - \alpha)\%$ confidence interval for θ based on $\hat{\theta}$.

7. Suppose that $X_1 \sim N(\theta_1, 1)$ and $X_2 \sim N(\theta_2, 1)$ independently, where θ_1 and θ_2 are unknown. Show that both the square S and circle C in $\mathbb{R}^2$, given by

$$S = \{(\theta_1, \theta_2) : |\theta_1 - X_1| \leq 2.236, |\theta_2 - X_2| \leq 2.236\}$$
$$C = \{(\theta_1, \theta_2) : (\theta_1 - X_1)^2 + (\theta_2 - X_2)^2 \leq 5.991\}$$

are 95% confidence sets for (θ_1, θ_2). *Hint:* $\Phi(2.236) = (1 + \sqrt{0.95})/2$*, where* Φ *is the distribution function of the* $N(0, 1)$ *distribution.* What might be a sensible criterion for choosing between S and C?

8. Suppose that the number of defects on a roll of magnetic recording tape can be modelled with Poisson distribution for which the parameter λ is known to be either 1 or 1.5. Suppose the prior mass function for λ is

$$\pi_\lambda(1) = 0.4, \quad \pi_\lambda(1.5) = 0.6.$$

A random sample of five rolls of tape finds $x = (3, 1, 4, 6, 2)$ defects respectively. Show that the posterior distribution for λ given x is

$$\pi_{\lambda|X}(1|x) = 0.012, \quad \pi_{\lambda|X}(1.5|x) = 0.988.$$

9. Let $X_1, \ldots, X_n$ be independent and identically distributed with conditional probability density function $f(x|\theta) = \theta x^{\theta-1}\mathbb{1}_{\{x\in(0,1)\}}$ for some $\theta > 0$. Suppose the prior distribution for θ is $\Gamma(\alpha, \lambda)$. Find the posterior distribution of θ given $X = (X_1, \ldots, X_n)$ and the Bayesian point estimator of θ under the quadratic loss function.

10. (Law of small numbers) For each $n \in \mathbb{N}$, let $X_{n1}, \ldots, X_{nn} \overset{\text{iid}}{\sim} \text{Bernoulli}(p_n)$ and let $S_n = \sum_{i=1}^n X_{ni}$. Prove that if $np_n \to \lambda \in (0, \infty)$ as $n \to \infty$, then for each $x \in \{0, 1, \ldots\}$,

$$\mathbb{P}(S_n = x) \to \mathbb{P}(Y = x)$$

as $n \to \infty$, where $Y \sim \text{Poi}(\lambda)$.

11. For some $n \geq 3$, let $\epsilon_1, \ldots, \epsilon_n \overset{\text{iid}}{\sim} N(0, 1)$, set $X_1 = \epsilon_1$ and $X_i = \theta X_{i-1} + (1 - \theta^2)^{1/2}\epsilon_i$ for $i = 2, \ldots, n$ and some $\theta \in (-1, 1)$. Find a sufficient statistic for θ that takes values in a subset of $\mathbb{R}^3$.

$^+$**12.** Let $\hat{\theta}$ be an unbiased estimator of $\theta \in \Theta = \mathbb{R}$ satisfying $\mathbb{E}_\theta(\hat{\theta}^2) < \infty$ for all $\theta \in \Theta$. We say $\hat{\theta}$ is a *uniform minimum variance unbiased* (UMVU) estimator if $\text{Var}_\theta\,\hat{\theta} \leq \text{Var}_\theta\,\tilde{\theta}$ for all $\theta \in \Theta$ and any other unbiased estimator $\tilde{\theta}$. Prove that a necessary and sufficient condition for $\hat{\theta}$ to be a UMVU estimator is that $\mathbb{E}_\theta(\hat{\theta}U) = 0$ for all $\theta \in \Theta$ and all estimators U with $\mathbb{E}_\theta(U) = 0$ and $\mathbb{E}_\theta(U^2) < \infty$ (i.e. '$\hat{\theta}$ is uncorrelated with every unbiased estimator of 0'). Is the estimator $\hat{\theta}$ in **5.** a UMVU estimator?