

STAT743 FOUNDATIONS OF STATISTICS

Fall 2019

Assignment 1

Solutions

Q. 1 a) $A = (A \cap B) \cup (A \cap B^c)$ and the sets on the right are mutually exclusive. Therefore by the third axiom we have $P(A) = P(A \cap B) + P(A \cap B^c)$. From the first axiom, we have that $P(A \cap B^c) \geq 0$ and so $P(A) \geq P(A \cap B)$. [2 marks]

Similarly we can write $A \cup B = A \cup (B \cap A^c)$ where the two sets on the right are mutually exclusive and so $P(A \cup B) = P(A) + P(B \cap A^c)$. The first axiom gives us $P(B \cap A^c) \geq 0$ and so $P(A \cup B) \geq P(A)$. Also the first part of this question gives us $P(B \cap A^c) \leq P(B)$ and so we have $P(A \cup B) \leq P(A) + P(B)$. [4 marks]

b) First we note that, for any two events, A and B we have

$$A \cup B = A \cup (A^c \cap B)$$

and that these two events on the right are mutually exclusive. so we have

$$P(A \cup B) = P(A) + P(A^c \cap B)$$

Furthermore we have that

$$B = (A \cap B) \cup (A^c \cap B)$$

and the two events on the right are mutually exclusive so

$$P(B) = P(A \cap B) + P(A^c \cap B) \Rightarrow P(A^c \cap B) = P(B) - P(A \cap B)$$

and so, for any two events A and B we have

$$P(A \cup B) = P(A) + P(B) - P(A \cap B)$$

[4 marks]

We can extend this to three events as follows

$$\begin{aligned}
P(A \cup B \cup C) &= P((A \cup B) \cup C) \\
&= P(A \cup B) + P(C) - P((A \cup B) \cap C) \\
&= P(A) + P(B) - P(A \cap B) + P(C) - P((A \cap C) \cup (B \cap C)) \\
&= P(A) + P(B) + P(C) - P(A \cap B) \\
&\quad - \left[P(A \cap C) + P(B \cap C) - P((A \cap C) \cap (B \cap C)) \right].
\end{aligned}$$

Finally we note that $(A \cap C) \cap (B \cap C) = A \cap B \cap C$ and hence

$$P(A \cup B \cup C) = P(A) + P(B) + P(C) - P(A \cap B) - P(A \cap C) - P(B \cap C) + P(A \cap B \cap C)$$

[5 marks]

c) Casella and Berger 1.24

- (i) Let E_i be the event that the game terminates (with a head) on the i^{th} toss. Clearly the E_i is a sequence of mutually exclusive events and we have

$$P(E_i) = P((i-1) \text{ tails followed by 1 head}) = \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^i$$

A wins the game if the first head lands on a odd-numbered toss so

$$\begin{aligned}
P(\text{A wins}) &= P(E_1 \cup E_3 \cup E_5 \cup \dots) \\
&= P(E_1) + P(E_3) + P(E_5) + \dots \\
&= \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} P(E_{2i+1}) \\
&= \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^{2i+1} \\
&= \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{1}{4}\right)^i \\
&= \frac{0.5}{1 - 0.25} = \frac{2}{3}
\end{aligned}$$

[5 marks]

The final result comes from the result for geometric series that

$$S = \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} ar^i = \frac{a}{1-r} \quad \text{provided } |r| < 1$$

(ii) The only thing that changes when $p \neq 0.5$ is that

$$P(E_i) = (1 - p)^{i-1}p$$

and so we get

$$P(\text{A wins}) = \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} (1 - p)^{2i}p = \frac{p}{1 - (1 - p)^2} = \frac{1}{2 - p}$$

[3 marks]

(iii) Since $P(\text{A wins}) = \frac{1}{2 - p}$ which is an increasing function of p for $p \in [0, 1]$ we have

$$P(\text{A wins}) \geq \lim_{p \downarrow 0} \frac{1}{2 - p} = \frac{1}{2}$$

[2 marks]

Q. 2 a) First we must show that

$$\frac{d^n}{dt^n} K_X(t) = \kappa_n(X) + \sum_{r=1}^{\infty} \frac{t^r}{r!} \kappa_{r+n}(X)$$

We will do this by induction. Consider $n = 1$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dt} K_X(t) &= \sum_{r=1}^{\infty} \frac{d}{dt} \left(\frac{t^r}{r!} \right) \kappa_r(X) \\ &= \sum_{r=1}^{\infty} \frac{t^{r-1}}{(r-1)!} \kappa_r(X) \\ &= \kappa_1(X) + \sum_{r=1}^{\infty} \frac{t^r}{r!} \kappa_{r+1}(X) \end{aligned}$$

[3 marks]

Now suppose that

$$\frac{d^{n-1}}{dt^{n-1}} K_X(t) = \kappa_{n-1}(X) + \sum_{r=1}^{\infty} \frac{t^r}{r!} \kappa_{r+n-1}(X)$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d^n}{dt^n} K_X(t) &= \sum_{r=1}^{\infty} \frac{d}{dt} \left(\frac{t^r}{r!} \right) \kappa_{r+n-1}(X) \\ &= \sum_{r=1}^{\infty} \frac{t^{r-1}}{(r-1)!} \kappa_{r+n-1}(X) \\ &= \kappa_n(X) + \sum_{r=1}^{\infty} \frac{t^r}{r!} \kappa_{r+n}(X) \end{aligned}$$

[3 marks]

Hence our assertion is true and so setting $t = 0$ we see that

$$\left. \frac{d^r}{dt^r} K_X(t) \right|_{t=0} = \kappa_r(t) + \sum_{r=1}^{\infty} \frac{0^r}{r!} \kappa_{r+n}(X) = \kappa_r(t)$$

[1 mark]

- b) It is easiest to use the original definition of $K_X(t)$ and the result of part a). To ease notation I will use $g'(t)$, $g''(t)$ and $g'''(t)$ to denote the first three derivatives of any function $g(t)$ with respect to t

The first three derivatives of $K_x(t)$ are

$$\begin{aligned}
 K'_x(t) &= \frac{d}{dt} \log(M_x(t)) \\
 &= \frac{M'_x(t)}{M_x(t)} \\
 K''_x(t) &= \frac{M''_x(t)}{M_x(t)} - \frac{(M'_x(t))^2}{(M_x(t))^2} \\
 &= \frac{M''_x(t)}{M_x(t)} - (K'_x(t))^2 \\
 K'''_x(t) &= \frac{M'''_x(t)}{M_x(t)} - \frac{M'_x(t)M''_x(t)}{(M_x(t))^2} - 2K'_x(t)K''_x(t)
 \end{aligned}$$

[4 marks]

Now recall that $M_x(0) = 1$ and that derivatives of $M_x(t)$ evaluated at $t = 0$ give the moments of X we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 K'_x(0) &= \frac{M'_x(0)}{M_x(0)} = \mu \\
 K''_x(0) &= \frac{M''_x(0)}{M_x(0)} - (K'_x(0))^2 \\
 &= E(X^2) - (\mu)^2 \\
 &= E(X^2 - 2\mu X + \mu^2) \\
 &= E((X - \mu)^2) \\
 &= \mu_2 \\
 K'''_x(0) &= \frac{M'''_x(0)}{M_x(0)} - \frac{M'_x(0)M''_x(0)}{(M_x(0))^2} - 2K'_x(0)K''_x(0) \\
 &= E(X^3) - E(X)E(X^2) - 2\mu\mu_2 \\
 &= E(X^3) - E(X)E(X^2) - 2\mu(E(X^2) - \mu^2) \\
 &= E(X^3) - 3\mu E(X^2) + 2\mu^3 \\
 &= E(X^3 - 3\mu X^2 + 3\mu^2 X - \mu^3) \\
 &= E((X - \mu)^3) \\
 &= \mu_3
 \end{aligned}$$

[6 marks]

c) If $X \sim \text{normal}(\mu, \sigma^2)$ then we know from the textbook (Page 625) that

$$M_X = \exp \left\{ \mu t + \frac{1}{2} t^2 \sigma^2 \right\}$$

and so the cumulant generating function is

$$K_X(t) = \mu t + \frac{1}{2} t^2 \sigma^2$$

[1 mark]

From this we see that the derivatives of the cumulant generating function are

$$\frac{d^r}{dt^r} K_X(t) = \begin{cases} \mu + t\sigma^2 & r = 1 \\ \sigma^2 & r = 2 \\ 0 & r = 3, 4, \dots \end{cases}$$

[2 marks]

Hence we see that

$$\kappa_r(X) = \begin{cases} \mu & r = 1 \\ \sigma^2 & r = 2 \\ 0 & r = 3, 4, \dots \end{cases}$$

[1 mark]

d) By Theorem 4.5 in my notes (Theorem 4.2.12 in the textbook) we know that

$$M_{X+Y}(t) = M_X(t)M_Y(t)$$

because X and Y are independent random variables.

Hence we have

$$\begin{aligned} \kappa_r(X + Y) &= \left. \frac{d^r}{dt^r} K_{X+Y}(t) \right|_{t=0} \\ &= \left. \frac{d^r}{dt^r} \log \{ M_{X+Y}(t) \} \right|_{t=0} \\ &= \left. \frac{d^r}{dt^r} \log \{ M_X(t) M_Y(t) \} \right|_{t=0} \\ &= \left. \frac{d^r}{dt^r} \{ K_X(t) + K_Y(t) \} \right|_{t=0} \\ &= \left. \frac{d^r}{dt^r} K_X(t) \right|_{t=0} + \left. \frac{d^r}{dt^r} K_Y(t) \right|_{t=0} \\ &= \kappa_r(X) + \kappa_r(Y) \end{aligned}$$

[4 marks]

Q. 3 a)

$$\begin{aligned}
M_Y(t) &= E(e^{tY}) \\
&= \sum_{y=0}^{\infty} e^{ty} \binom{y+r-1}{r-1} p^r (1-p)^y \\
&= \sum_{y=0}^{\infty} \binom{y+r-1}{r-1} p^r ((1-p)e^t)^y \\
&= \left(\frac{p}{1-(1-p)e^t} \right)^r \sum_{y=0}^{\infty} \binom{y+r-1}{r-1} (1-(1-p)e^t)^r ((1-p)e^t)^y
\end{aligned}$$

The summand in the above expression is the negative binomial pmf with parameters r and $1-(1-p)e^t$ provided that $0 < 1-(1-p)e^t < 1$. and so for, provided this is true, the infinite sum equals 1. [6 marks]

Now

$$0 < 1-(1-p)e^t < 1 \iff 0 < (1-p)e^t < 1 \iff \log(1-p)+t < 0 \iff t < -\log(1-p)$$

and we note that, since $1-p < 1$, $-\log(1-p) > 0$.

Hence,

$$M_Y(t) = \left(\frac{p}{1-(1-p)e^t} \right)^r \quad \text{for } t < -\log(1-p)$$

[2 marks]

b)

$$\begin{aligned}
M_Y(t) &= p^r (1-(1-p)e^t)^{-r} \\
\Rightarrow M'_Y(t) &= rp^r (1-(1-p)e^t)^{-r-1} (1-p)e^t \\
\Rightarrow M''_Y(t) &= r(r+1)p^r (1-(1-p)e^t)^{-r-2} (1-p)^2 e^{2t} \\
&\quad + rp^r (1-(1-p)e^t)^{-r-1} (1-p)e^t
\end{aligned}$$

[2 marks]

Hence we can get the moments

$$E(Y) = M'_Y(0) = rp^r (1-(1-p))^{-r-1} (1-p) = \frac{r(1-p)}{p}$$

[2 marks]

$$\begin{aligned}
E(Y^2) = M_Y''(0) &= r(r+1)p^r(1-(1-p))^{-r-2}(1-p)^2 + \frac{r(1-p)}{p} \\
&= \frac{r(r+1)(1-p)^2}{p^2} + \frac{r(1-p)}{p} \\
&= \frac{r(1-p)}{p^2}((r+1)(1-p) + p) \\
&= \frac{r(1-p)(1+r-pr)}{p^2} \\
\Rightarrow \text{Var}(Y) &= \frac{r(1-p)(1+r-pr)}{p^2} - \left(\frac{r(1-p)}{p}\right)^2 \\
&= \frac{r(1-p)}{p^2}(1+r-pr-r(1-p)) \\
&= \frac{r(1-p)}{p^2}
\end{aligned}$$

[4 marks]

- c) To show that the distribution of $Z = pY$ converges as $p \rightarrow 0$ all we need to verify is convergence of moment generating functions because of Theorem 2.11 in my notes (Theorem 2.3.12 in the textbook).

The moment generating function of Z is

$$\begin{aligned}
M_Z(t) &= E(e^{tZ}) \\
&= E(e^{tpY}) \\
&= M_Y(tp) \\
&= \left(\frac{p}{1-(1-p)e^{pt}}\right)^r
\end{aligned}$$

[3 marks]

Hence taking limits as $p \rightarrow 0$ we have

$$\begin{aligned}
\lim_{p \rightarrow 0} M_Z(t) &= \lim_{p \rightarrow 0} \left(\frac{p}{1-(1-p)e^{pt}}\right)^r \\
&= \left(\lim_{p \rightarrow 0} \frac{p}{1-(1-p)e^{pt}}\right)^r \\
&= \left(\lim_{p \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{e^{pt} - t(1-p)e^{pt}}\right)^r \\
&= (1-t)^{-r}
\end{aligned}$$

[3 marks]

Now if $X \sim \text{gamma}(\alpha, \beta)$ then

$$\begin{aligned}
 M_X(t) &= \int_0^\infty e^{tx} \frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha)\beta^\alpha} x^{\alpha-1} e^{-x/\beta} dx \\
 &= \int_0^\infty \frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha)\beta^\alpha} x^{\alpha-1} e^{-(1/\beta-t)x} dx \\
 &= \left(\frac{1}{\beta(1/\beta-t)} \right)^\alpha \int_0^\infty \frac{(1/\beta-t)^\alpha}{\Gamma(\alpha)} x^{\alpha-1} e^{-(1/\beta-t)x} dx
 \end{aligned}$$

Now for $t < 1/\beta$, the integrand is the pdf of a gamma random variable with parameters α and $(1/\beta - t)^{-1}$ and so integrates to 1. Thus the moment generating function of a gamma random variable is

$$M_X(t) = (1 - \beta t)^{-\alpha}$$

Comparing this to the limit of moment generating functions found above we see that the limit is a moment generating function of a gamma random variable with parameters $\alpha = r$ and $\beta = 1$. Since the moment generating functions converge, so do the cumulative distribution functions and so we can say that Z converges in distribution to a $\text{gamma}(\alpha = r, \beta = 1)$ random variable as $p \rightarrow 0$. [3 marks]

- Q. 4** a) Suppose that Y has a log-normal distribution then from the definition we see that we can write

$$Y = e^X \quad \text{where} \quad X \sim \text{Normal}(\mu, \sigma^2)$$

The easy way to get the moments of Y is from the moment generating function of X because

$$E(Y^r) = E(e^{rX}) = M_X(r) = \exp \left\{ r\mu + \frac{1}{2}r^2\sigma^2 \right\}$$

[2 marks]

Hence we have

$$E(Y) = \exp \left\{ \mu + \frac{\sigma^2}{2} \right\}$$

$$E(Y^2) = \exp \{2\mu + 2\sigma^2\}$$

$$\text{Var}(Y) = \exp \{2\mu + 2\sigma^2\} - \exp \left\{ 2 \left(\mu + \frac{\sigma^2}{2} \right) \right\} = e^{2\mu} (e^{2\sigma^2} - e^{\sigma^2})$$

[3 marks]

- b) For convenience, I will assume that X is a continuous random variable although that is not necessary and the proof is identical in the discrete case.

First we note that, as for all pdfs,

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} h(x)c^*(\boldsymbol{\eta}) \exp \left\{ \sum \eta_i t_i(x) \right\} dx = 1$$

Since this is a constant for all $\boldsymbol{\eta}$ its partial derivatives must be 0 and so we have

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \eta_j} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} h(x)c^*(\boldsymbol{\eta}) \exp \left\{ \sum \eta_i t_i(x) \right\} dx = 0$$

For the exponential family we can always interchange integration and differentiation and so let us do this (also using the chain rule inside the integrand) to get

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} h(x) \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial \eta_j} c^*(\boldsymbol{\eta}) \right) \exp \left\{ \sum \eta_i t_i(x) \right\} dx + \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} t_j(x) h(x) c^*(\boldsymbol{\eta}) \exp \left\{ \sum \eta_i t_i(x) \right\} dx = 0$$

[3 marks]

The second term in the sum on the left of the above expression is $E(t_j(X))$ by definition of expectation so we have

$$E(t_j(X)) = - \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} h(x) \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial \eta_j} c^*(\boldsymbol{\eta}) \right) \exp \left\{ \sum \eta_i t_i(x) \right\} dx$$

[1 mark]

Now recall that

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \eta_j} \log c^*(\boldsymbol{\eta}) = \frac{\frac{\partial}{\partial \eta_j} c^*(\boldsymbol{\eta})}{c^*(\boldsymbol{\eta})} \Rightarrow \frac{\partial}{\partial \eta_j} c^*(\boldsymbol{\eta}) = c^*(\boldsymbol{\eta}) \frac{\partial}{\partial \eta_j} \log c^*(\boldsymbol{\eta})$$

Applying this in the above integrand we have

$$\begin{aligned} E(t_j(X)) &= - \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} h(x) \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial \eta_j} \log c^*(\boldsymbol{\eta}) \right) c^*(\boldsymbol{\eta}) \exp \left\{ \sum \eta_i t_i(x) \right\} dx \\ &= - \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial \eta_j} \log c^*(\boldsymbol{\eta}) \right) \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} h(x) c^*(\boldsymbol{\eta}) \exp \left\{ \sum \eta_i t_i(x) \right\} dx \\ &= - \frac{\partial}{\partial \eta_j} \log c^*(\boldsymbol{\eta}) \end{aligned}$$

since the integrand is now that of the original pdf.

[4 marks]

To prove the second part we only need to show that

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \eta_j} E(t_j(X)) = \text{Var}(t_j(X))$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial}{\partial \eta_j} E(t_j(X)) &= \frac{\partial}{\partial \eta_j} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} t_j(x) h(x) c^*(\boldsymbol{\eta}) \exp \left\{ \sum \eta_i t_i(x) \right\} dx \\ &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} t_j(x) h(x) \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial \eta_j} c^*(\boldsymbol{\eta}) \right) \exp \left\{ \sum \eta_i t_i(x) \right\} dx \\ &\quad + \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} t_j^2(x) h(x) c^*(\boldsymbol{\eta}) \exp \left\{ \sum \eta_i t_i(x) \right\} dx \\ &= \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial \eta_j} \log c^*(\boldsymbol{\eta}) \right) \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} t_j(x) h(x) c^*(\boldsymbol{\eta}) \exp \left\{ \sum \eta_i t_i(x) \right\} dx + E(t_j^2(X)) \\ &= [-E(t_j(X))] E(t_j(X)) + E(t_j^2(X)) \end{aligned}$$

Where the first expectation is a consequence of the result proved above and the other two are from the definition of expectation.

[3 marks]

Hence we have

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \eta_j} E(t_j(X)) = - [E(t_j(X))]^2 + E(t_j^2(X)) = \text{Var}(t_j(X))$$

[1 mark]

The other part of the result is simply that following from our first result

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \eta_j} E(t_j(X)) = \frac{\partial}{\partial \eta_j} \left(- \frac{\partial}{\partial \eta_j} \log c^*(\boldsymbol{\eta}) \right) = - \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \eta_j^2} \log c^*(\boldsymbol{\eta})$$

[1 mark]

c) I will do the Poisson first as it is a little easier. In that case we have the probability mass function

$$f(x | \lambda) = \frac{\lambda^x e^{-\lambda} I(x \in \{0, 1, 2, \dots\})}{x!} = \frac{I(x \in \{0, 1, 2, \dots\})}{x!} e^{-\lambda} e^{x \log \lambda}$$

Hence we can take the natural parameter $\eta = \log \lambda$ and corresponding $t_1(x) = x$.

[2 marks]

Clearly we have

$$h(x) = \frac{I(x \in \{0, 1, 2, \dots\})}{x!}$$

so all that is left is to find $c^*(\eta)$. We note that $\eta = \log \lambda$ so we have $\lambda = e^\eta$ and since $c(\lambda) = e^{-\lambda}$ we get

$$c^*(\eta) = \exp \{-e^\eta\}$$

[2 marks]

And so we can write $f(x | \eta) = h(x)c^*(\eta) \exp \{t(x)\eta\}$ as required

For the normal we can proceed in a similar way except that there is now a vector parameter $\theta = (\mu, \sigma^2)$. We can write the density function as

$$\begin{aligned} f(x | \mu, \sigma^2) &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma} \exp \left\{ -\frac{(x - \mu)^2}{2\sigma^2} \right\} \\ &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma} \exp \left\{ -\frac{x^2}{2\sigma^2} + \frac{\mu x}{\sigma^2} - \frac{\mu^2}{2\sigma^2} \right\} \\ &= \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \right) \left(\frac{e^{-\mu^2/2\sigma^2}}{\sigma} \right) \exp \left\{ x \frac{\mu}{\sigma^2} - \frac{x^2}{2} \left(\frac{1}{\sigma^2} \right) \right\} \end{aligned}$$

Hence we get the natural parameters

$$\eta_1 = \frac{\mu}{\sigma^2} \quad \eta_2 = \frac{1}{\sigma^2}$$

with corresponding $t_1(x) = x$, $t_2(x) = -x^2/2$.

[2 marks]

Outside of the exponent we have $h(x) = 1/\sqrt{2\pi}$ and

$$c(\theta) = \frac{e^{-\mu^2/2\sigma^2}}{\sigma}$$

We can express this in terms of the natural parameters by

$$c^*(\eta_1, \eta_2) = \sqrt{\eta_2} e^{-\eta_1^2/\eta_2}$$

[2 marks]

Hence we can write the normal pdf in the canonical exponential family form

$$f(x | \eta_1, \eta_2) = h(x)c^*(\eta_1, \eta_2) \exp \{t_1(x)\eta_1 + t_2(x)\eta_2\}$$