

Probability and Statistics, Sample Prelim III Questions, Fall 2021

1. For the Normal random variable with density

$$f(x; \theta) = \frac{1}{\sigma\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-\frac{(x-\mu)^2}{2\sigma^2}}$$

consider estimating the parameter $\theta = (\mu; \sigma)$.

- (a) Find the Fisher information matrix for
- (b) Using the multivariate Delta-method, find the approximate distribution for $\hat{\theta} =$

5. A single observation X is taken from a population with density function

$$f(x; \theta) = e^{-x}; \text{ for } x > 0 \text{ and } \theta > 0:$$

- (a) For $c > 0$ consider the test that rejects $H_0 : \theta = \theta_0$ in favor of $H_1 : \theta = \theta_1$ when $X > c$. Determine c so that this is a size α test where $0 < \alpha < 1$.
- (b) Invert the test in (a) to obtain a $1 - \alpha$ size confidence set for θ .

6. For a Markov Chain representing a random walk on the non-negative integers,

$$\begin{cases} X_{n+1} = X_n + 1; \text{ with probability } p \\ X_{n+1} = X_n - 1; \text{ with probability } q = 1 - p \end{cases}$$

unless $X_n = 0$, in which case

$$\begin{cases} X_{n+1} = 1; \text{ with probability } p \\ X_{n+1} = 0; \text{ with probability } q = 1 - p \end{cases}$$

- (a) Give the conditions (with proof) under which the stationary distribution exists, then calculate the stationary distribution.
- (b) Calculate the expected time, starting from 0, to reach the state 3.
7. For the Poisson process with the rate λ . Let W_k be the time when k th event occurs.
- (a) Find the correlation coefficient between W_3 and W_4 .
- (b) Find the correlation coefficient between W_3 and W_4 , under the condition that $W_5 = 10$.
8. The customers are coming to the system according to the Poisson process with the rate λ . Each customer is immediately being served, with the service time being Exponential with the rate parameter μ . Let $X(t)$ be the total number of customers in the system at the time t (currently being served).
- (a) Model $X(t)$ as a birth-and-death process (specify the birth and death rates).
- (b) Find the stationary distribution for $X(t)$, specify the conditions under which it exists.