

Lecture 1:

Statistical Models
 Exponential families
 Toric varieties

We describe discrete random variables in terms of its probability distributions and continuous random variables in terms of its density functions.

X a random variable. discrete \rightarrow probability distribution
 continuous \rightarrow density function

Example 1:

(1) Suppose $\theta \in (0,1)$. X is a binomial random variable

$$P(X=0) = \theta, \quad P(X=1) = (1-\theta)$$

"success" "failure"

(2) Suppose X is a univariate random variable with mean $= \mu$ and variance $= \sigma^2$
 X has density function

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

Def:

- A statistical model \mathcal{M} is a collection of probability distributions or density functions over a given space.
- A parametric statistical model \mathcal{M}_{Θ} is the image of a map from a finite dimensional parameter space $\Theta \subset \mathbb{R}^d$ to a space of probability distributions or density

functions. i.e. $\rho_\bullet : \Theta \rightarrow \mathcal{M}_\Theta$, $\theta \mapsto \rho_\theta$,

$$\mathcal{M}_\Theta := \{\rho_\theta : \theta \in \Theta\}$$

- For each parameter value in the model, we want each ρ_θ to be uniquely determined by θ .
 → If this is the case, we say the model is identifiable.

Example 2:

(1) The binomial random variable model.

Take $\Theta = (0, 1)$, $\rho_\bullet : \Theta \rightarrow \mathcal{M}_\Theta \subseteq \mathbb{R}^2$

$$\theta \mapsto (\theta, 1 - \theta)$$

(2) The normal random variable model

$$\Theta = \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}_{>0}$$

$$(\mu, \sigma) \mapsto f(x | \mu, \sigma)$$

(3) The probability simplex.

Consider a discrete random variable X with outcome space

$$\mathcal{X} = \{1, \dots, r\}, \text{ fix } p_i = P(X=i).$$

The set of all possible probability distributions for X is the probability simplex

$$\Delta_{r-1} = \{(p_1, \dots, p_r) \in \mathbb{R}^r : p_i \geq 0, p_1 + p_2 + \dots + p_r = 1\}$$

→ Discrete statistical models are subsets of the probability simplex

(4) The independence model. $X =$ discrete r.v. with outcome space $\{1, \dots, r\}$
 $Y =$ " _____ " $\{1, \dots, s\}$

Denote the joint distribution of X and Y by $p_{i,j} = P(X=i, Y=j)$

$$p_{\bullet} : \Theta = \Delta_{r-1} \times \Delta_{c-1} \rightarrow \Delta_{rc-1}$$

$$(a_1, \dots, a_r) \times (b_1, \dots, b_r) \mapsto (a_1 b_1, \dots, a_r b_r)$$

$$\mathcal{M}_{X \perp\!\!\!\perp Y} = \{ p_{\theta} : \theta \in \Delta_{r-1} \times \Delta_{c-1} \}.$$

$$\begin{array}{l} r=2 \\ c=2 \end{array} \quad (a_1 b_1, a_1 b_2, a_2 b_1, a_2 b_2)$$

$$p_{00} \quad p_{01} \quad p_{10} \quad p_{11}$$

$$\mathcal{M}_{X \perp\!\!\!\perp Y} = V(p_{11} p_{00} - p_{01} p_{10}) \cap \Delta_3$$

→ The independence model is the Segre-embedding
 $\mathbb{P}^{c-1} \times \mathbb{P}^{r-1} \rightarrow \mathbb{P}^{rc-1}$.

6.1. Regular exponential families

This definition is for discrete and continuous random variables.

\mathcal{X} = sample space with σ -algebra \mathcal{A} .

ν = σ -finite measure on \mathcal{A} , \mathcal{X} is countable union of measurable sets with finite measure.

$T = \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^k$ is a statistic. measure.

i.e. a measurable map.

$T^{-1}(\text{meas. set})$ is meas. in \mathcal{A} .

We define the natural parameter space

$$N = \left\{ \eta \in \mathbb{R}^k : \int_{\mathcal{X}} h(x) \cdot e^{\eta^t T(x)} d\nu(x) < \infty \right\}$$

For $\eta \in N$ we define a prob. density p_{η} on \mathcal{X} as

$$p_{\eta}(x) = h(x) e^{\eta^t T(x) - \phi(\eta)}$$

where $\phi(\eta) = \log\left(\int_{\mathcal{X}} h(x) e^{\eta^t T(x)} d\nu(x)\right) \rightarrow$ This is the normalizing constant

Let P_η be the probability measure on $(\mathcal{X}, \mathcal{A})$ that has ν -density P_η .

Def: Let K be a positive integer. The probability distributions $(P_\eta: \eta \in N)$ form a regular exponential family.

- To show a family is a regular exponential family, find $h(x)$, $T(x)$ and show the family has the desired form.

Example:

(1) Binomial random variable model

(2) Univariate Normal random variable.

More examples in Ch. 6.

Discrete Regular exponential families

Regular exponential families for discrete random variables.

- $\mathcal{X} = [r] = \{1, \dots, r\} \rightarrow$ discrete outcome space.
- $T: \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^k \Rightarrow T(x)$ is a vector for each $x \in [r]$.
- $h: \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \Rightarrow h$ is a vector $(h(1), \dots, h(r))$
- For $\eta \in \mathbb{R}^k$, the normalizing constant $\phi(\eta)$ is a sum

$$Z(\eta) = \sum_{x \in [r]} h(x) e^{\eta^t \cdot T(x)}$$

- If $x \in [r] \Rightarrow$ the exponential family is given by

$$P_{\eta}(x) = h(x) e^{\eta^t \cdot T(x) - \phi(\eta)}$$

look at $\eta^t \cdot T(x)$. Write $T(x) = a_x = \begin{pmatrix} a_{1x} \\ \vdots \\ a_{kx} \end{pmatrix}$, $\eta = \begin{pmatrix} \eta_1 \\ \vdots \\ \eta_k \end{pmatrix}$

$$\theta_i = \exp(\eta_i)$$

set $h = (h_1, \dots, h_r) \in \mathbb{R}_{>0}^r$

$$P_{\eta}(x) = h(x) e^{\eta^t T(x) - \phi(\eta)}$$

$$= \frac{h_x e^{(\eta_1, \dots, \eta_k) \cdot (a_{1x}, \dots, a_{kx})^t}}{\phi(\eta)}$$

$$= \frac{h_x e^{\eta_1 a_{1x}} \dots e^{\eta_k a_{kx}}}{\phi(\eta)}$$

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \\ \\ \end{array} \right\} = \frac{h_x \theta_1^{a_{1x}} \dots \theta_k^{a_{kx}}}{Z(\theta)}$$
$$Z(\theta) = \sum_{x \in [r]} h_x \theta_1^{a_{1x}} \dots \theta_k^{a_{kx}}$$

If a_{jx} are integers $\Rightarrow p_{\theta}(x)$ are rational functions on θ .

Another way to describe distributions in an exponential family.

$$\log(p_{\theta}(x)) = \log(h_x) + (\log(\theta_1), \dots, \log(\theta_k)) \begin{pmatrix} a_{1x} \\ \vdots \\ a_{kx} \end{pmatrix} - \log(z(\theta))$$

$$\log(p_{\theta}) = \log(h) + (\log(\theta_1), \dots, \log(\theta_k)) A - \mathbf{1} \log(z(\theta))$$

If $\mathbf{1} \in \text{rowspan}(A) \Rightarrow vA = \mathbf{1}$ for some $v \in \mathbb{R}^k$

$$\Rightarrow \log(p_{\theta}) = \log(h) + (\log(\theta)^t - \log(z(\theta))v^t)A$$

$p_{\theta} \in \Delta_{r-1}$ is a member of the family if

$$\log(p_{\theta}) \in \text{Span}\{\log(h) + \text{rowspan}(A)\}$$

Def: Let $A \in \mathbb{Z}^{k \times r}$ be a matrix of integers such that $\mathbf{1} \in \text{rowspan}(A)$ and let $h \in \mathbb{R}_{>0}^r$. The log-affine model associated to these data is the set of probability distributions

$$\mathcal{M}_{A,h} := \{p \in \text{int}(\Delta_{r-1}) : \log(p) \in \log(h) + \text{rowspan}(A)\}$$

If $h=1$, then $\mathcal{M}_A = \mathcal{M}_{A,1}$ is called a log-linear model.

These are toric varieties.

Def: h, A as before. The monomial map associated to this data is the rational map

$$\phi^{A,h}: \mathbb{R}^k \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^r, \quad \phi_j^{A,h}(\theta) = h_j \prod_{i=1}^k \theta_i^{a_{ij}}$$

we removed $z(\theta)$ to homogenize the map.

Def: h, A as before. The ideal $\mathcal{I}_{A,h} := \mathcal{I}(\phi^{A,h}(\mathbb{R}^k)) \subseteq \mathbb{R}[p]$ is the toric ideal associated to the pair A, h .
If $h=1$, we write $\mathcal{I}_A = \mathcal{I}_{A,1}$.

$$P_j \mapsto P_j/h_j$$

Prop: Let $A \in \mathbb{Z}^{k \times r}$ be a $k \times r$ matrix of integers. Then the toric ideal \mathcal{I}_A is a binomial ideal and

$$\mathcal{I}_A = \langle p^u - p^v : u, v \in \mathbb{N}^r \text{ and } Au = Av \rangle.$$

If $\mathbf{1} \in \text{rowspan}(A)$, then \mathcal{I}_A is homogeneous.

Example: The independence model. Ex. 6.2.6.