

Math 494

Exam I

February 13, '09

1. A geometric random variable  $\mathbf{X}$  is one of a family of random variables depending on a parameter  $p$ ,  $0 < p < 1$ . It is defined by

$$P(\mathbf{X} = k) = \begin{cases} (1-p)p^k & \text{for } k = 0, 1, 2, \dots \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

It has mean  $p/(1-p)$  and variance  $p/(1-p)^2$ . Suppose you have a sample of size  $n$  with values  $k_1, \dots, k_n$ .

- (a) Find the formula for the method of moments estimate of  $p$  based on that sample.
- (b) Find the formula for the maximum likelihood estimate of the same parameter using the same data.
2. Suppose  $\mathbf{X}$  is a normal random variable with unknown mean  $\mu$  and with standard deviation  $\sigma = 4$ . A random sample of size 2 from  $\mathbf{X}$  produces the values  $x_1 = 2$ ,  $x_2 = 4$ .
- (a) What is the numerical value of the method of moments estimate of  $\mu$ ?
- (b) What is the numerical value of the maximum likelihood estimate of  $\mu$ ?
- (c) Construct a 95% confidence interval for  $\mu$ .
- (d) How large a sample would you need to be able to create a 95% confidence interval for  $\mu$  of total length .1?
3. Suppose  $\mathbf{X}$  is a normal random variable with unknown mean  $\mu$  and standard deviation  $\sigma = 5$ . Construct a hypothesis test of the null hypothesis  $H_0 : \mu = 2$  against the alternative hypothesis  $H_1 : \mu \neq 2$  based on a sample of size  $n = 25$  and having a significance level  $\alpha = .01$ .
4. Suppose that you have a sample of size  $n = 100$  from a Bernoulli random variable  $\mathbf{X}$ ;

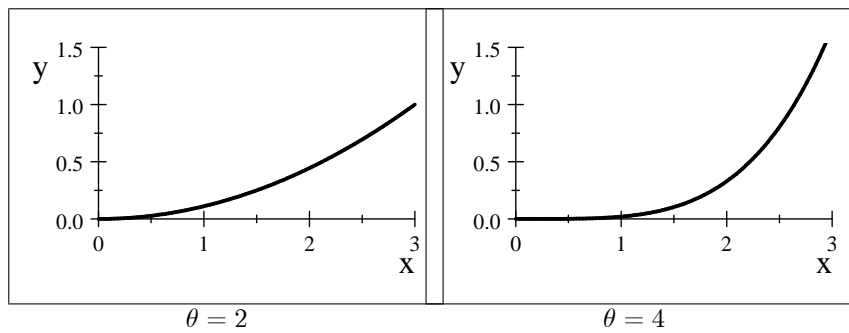
$$P(\mathbf{X} = k) = \begin{cases} p & \text{for } k = 1 \\ 1-p & \text{for } k = 0 \end{cases}$$

- (a) Describe a hypothesis test of the null hypothesis  $H_0 : p = .6$  against the alternative hypothesis  $H_1 : p \neq .6$  with  $\alpha = .05$ .
- (b) Suppose that 65 times your sample has  $\mathbf{X} = 1$  and 35 times and  $\mathbf{X} = 0$ . What would be a 95% confidence interval for estimating  $p$ ?

5. Consider the family of random variables  $\mathbf{X}$  which depend on a parameter  $\theta$  and are described by the density function

$$f_{\mathbf{X}}(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{\theta + 1}{3^{\theta+1}} x^{\theta} & \text{if } 0 < x < 3 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

The graphs for two values of  $\theta$  are shown.



Suppose you wish to test the null hypothesis  $H_0 : \theta = 2$  against the alternative  $H_1 : \theta = 4$  using a sample of size 1 and having  $\alpha = .05$ .

- Describe a reasonable test.
- What is the value of  $\beta$  for that test?

