

Statistical methods

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VI. Inverse Probability Distributions:

1. Direct probability distributions (a refresher),
2. Inverse probability distributions,
3. (Non-informative) Prior probability distributions,
4. Factorization Theorem and consistency factors,
5. Objectivity,
6. Consistency factors for location-scale families,
7. Consistency factors in the absence of symmetry.



1. Direct probability distributions:

Definition 21 (Parametric family). *The term parametric family stands for a collection $I = \{\Pr_{I,\theta} : \theta \in V_\Theta\}$ of probability distributions that differ only in the value θ of a parameter Θ .*

$$F_X(x) = F_{I,\theta}(x), f_X(x) = f_{I,\theta}(x), p_X(x) = p_{I,\theta}(x);$$

$$F_{I,\theta}(x) = F_I(x|\theta), f_{I,\theta}(x) = f_I(x|\theta), p_{I,\theta}(x) = p_I(x|\theta).$$

Example 1. $\Pr_X(B) = \Pr_{I,\theta}(B) = \Pr_I(B|\theta) = \int_B f_I(x|\theta) dx, B \in \mathcal{B}.$



Definitions extend without change to random vectors:

$$F_{\mathbf{X}}(\mathbf{x}) = F_I(\mathbf{x} | \boldsymbol{\theta}), f_{\mathbf{X}}(\mathbf{x}) = f_I(\mathbf{x} | \boldsymbol{\theta}), p_{\mathbf{X}}(\mathbf{x}) = p_I(\mathbf{x} | \boldsymbol{\theta});$$

$$\Pr_{\mathbf{X}}(B) = \Pr_{I, \boldsymbol{\theta}}(B) = \Pr_I(B | \boldsymbol{\theta}) = \int_B f_I(\mathbf{x} | \boldsymbol{\theta}) d^n \mathbf{x}; B \in \mathfrak{B}^n .$$

Conditional probability distributions:

$$\mathbf{X} = (Y, Z), f_{\mathbf{X}}(y, z) = f_I(y, z | \boldsymbol{\theta}), f_I(z | \boldsymbol{\theta}) \equiv \int_{\mathbb{R}} f_I(y, z | \boldsymbol{\theta}) dy > 0$$

$$\Rightarrow f_I(y | z, \boldsymbol{\theta}) \equiv \frac{f_I(y, z | \boldsymbol{\theta})}{f_I(z | \boldsymbol{\theta})} .$$

Example 2 (Reparametrization). Let a probability distribution for a continuous random vector \mathbf{X} belong to a family I , $f_{\mathbf{X}}(\mathbf{x}) = f_I(\mathbf{x} | \boldsymbol{\theta})$, and let $\mathbf{y} \equiv \mathbf{s}(\mathbf{x})$ and $\boldsymbol{\lambda} \equiv \bar{\mathbf{s}}(\boldsymbol{\theta})$ with $\partial_{\mathbf{x}} \mathbf{s}(\mathbf{x}), \partial_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} \bar{\mathbf{s}}(\boldsymbol{\theta}) \neq 0$. *Then,*

$$f_{I'}(\mathbf{y} | \boldsymbol{\lambda}) = f_I(\mathbf{s}^{-1}(\mathbf{y}) | \bar{\mathbf{s}}^{-1}(\boldsymbol{\lambda})) \left| \partial_{\mathbf{y}} \mathbf{s}^{-1}(\mathbf{y}) \right| .$$



2. Inverse probability distributions:

Definition 1 (Inverse probability distribution). Given a probability space (Ω, Σ, P) and a function $(\Theta, \mathbf{X}): \Omega \rightarrow (\mathbb{R}^m, \mathbf{x})$, $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n$, Θ is Σ -measurable, and $\mathbf{X} \sim f_I(\mathbf{x} | \theta)$, the inverse probability distribution is defined as the image measure of P by the random variable Θ , $\Pr_I(\bullet | \mathbf{x}) \equiv P \circ \Theta^{-1}$, such that

$$\Pr_I(B | \mathbf{x}) = P[\Theta^{-1}(B)], B \in \mathcal{B}^m.$$

Distribution and density functions:

$$F_I(\mathbf{x} | \theta) \leftrightarrow F_I(\theta | \mathbf{x}), f_I(\mathbf{x} | \theta) \leftrightarrow f_I(\theta | \mathbf{x}).$$

Also: probability distributions that are neither purely direct nor purely inverse. Distribution and density functions of such a distribution:

$$F_I(\theta, \mathbf{x}_1 | \mathbf{x}_2) \text{ and } f_I(\theta, \mathbf{x}_1 | \mathbf{x}_2).$$



From a mathematical perspective, all probability distributions, be they purely direct, purely inverse, or mixtures of the two, are equivalent.

Conditional inverse probability distributions:

$$\Theta = (\Theta_1, \Theta_2), \exists f_I(\theta_1, \theta_2 | \mathbf{x}), f_I(\theta_2 | \mathbf{x}) \equiv \int_{\mathbb{R}} f_I(\theta_1, \theta_2 | \mathbf{x}) d\theta_1 > 0$$
$$\Rightarrow f_I(\theta_1 | \theta_2, \mathbf{x}) \equiv \frac{f_I(\theta_1, \theta_2 | \mathbf{x})}{f_I(\theta_2 | \mathbf{x})}.$$

Example 2 (Reparametrization). Suppose there is $f_I(\boldsymbol{\theta} | \mathbf{x})$, and let $\mathbf{y} \equiv \mathbf{s}(\mathbf{x})$ and $\boldsymbol{\lambda} \equiv \bar{\mathbf{s}}(\boldsymbol{\theta})$ with $\partial_{\mathbf{x}} \mathbf{s}(\mathbf{x}), \partial_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} \bar{\mathbf{s}}(\boldsymbol{\theta}) \neq 0$. *Then,*

$$f_{I'}(\boldsymbol{\lambda} | \mathbf{y}) = f_I(\bar{\mathbf{s}}^{-1}(\boldsymbol{\lambda}) | \mathbf{s}^{-1}(\mathbf{y})) \left| \partial_{\boldsymbol{\lambda}} \bar{\mathbf{s}}^{-1}(\boldsymbol{\lambda}) \right|.$$



3. (Non-informative) Prior probability distributions:

Theorem 1 (Bayes). $f_I(\boldsymbol{\theta}, \mathbf{x}) = f_I(\boldsymbol{\theta} | \mathbf{x}) f_I(\mathbf{x}) = f_I(\mathbf{x} | \boldsymbol{\theta}) f_I(\boldsymbol{\theta})$

$$\Rightarrow f_I(\boldsymbol{\theta} | \mathbf{x}) = \frac{f_I(\boldsymbol{\theta}) f_I(\mathbf{x} | \boldsymbol{\theta})}{f_I(\mathbf{x})}, \quad f_I(\mathbf{x}) = \int_{\mathbb{R}^m} f_I(\boldsymbol{\theta}) f_I(\mathbf{x} | \boldsymbol{\theta}) d^m \boldsymbol{\theta}.$$

T. Bayes (1763). Phil. Trans. R. Soc., **53**, 370-418.

P. S. Laplace (1774). Mém. Acad. R. Sci., **6**, 621-656.

$f_I(\boldsymbol{\theta})$: (non - informative) prior probability distribution.

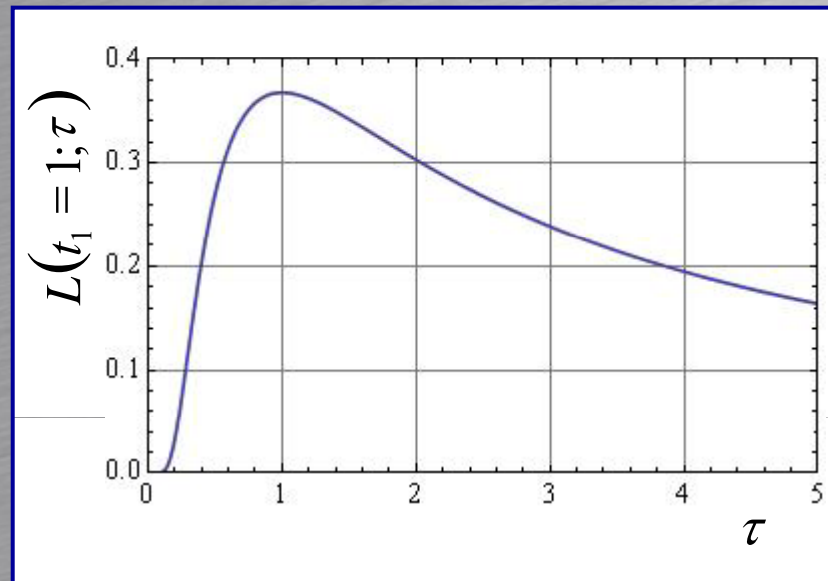
Uniform $f_I(\boldsymbol{\theta})$: (Bayes, Laplace).



Mathematical difficulties:

$$a) f_I(\tau) = \text{const.} \Rightarrow \int_0^{\infty} f_I(\tau) d\tau = \infty, \int_0^{\infty} f_I(\tau) f_I(t_1 | \tau) d\tau = \infty,$$

$$b) \mu = \ln \tau \Rightarrow f_{I'_{\sigma=1}}(\mu) = e^{\mu} \neq \text{const.}$$





Conceptual (interpretational) difficulties:

- a) We do not know anything about $\tau \leftrightarrow$ we know that τ is uniformly distributed,
- b) τ is unknown but fixed $\leftrightarrow \tau$ is distributed.



“ ...inverse probability is a mistake (perhaps the only mistake to which the mathematical world has so deeply committed itself),...”

(R. A. Fisher (1922). Phil. Trans. R. Soc., **A 222**, 309-368)



4. Factorization Theorem and consistency factors:

Theorem 2 (Bayes). $\exists f_I(\boldsymbol{\theta}, \mathbf{x}_1 | \mathbf{x}_2), f_I(\boldsymbol{\theta}, \mathbf{x}_2 | \mathbf{x}_1);$

$$f_I(\boldsymbol{\theta} | \mathbf{x}_{1,2}) = \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} f_I(\boldsymbol{\theta}, \mathbf{x}_2 | \mathbf{x}_1) d^n \mathbf{x}_{2,1} > 0;$$

$$f_I(\mathbf{x}_{1,2} | \mathbf{x}_{2,1}) = \int_{\mathbb{R}^m} f_I(\boldsymbol{\theta}, \mathbf{x}_2 | \mathbf{x}_1) d^m \boldsymbol{\theta} > 0;$$

$\mathbf{X}_1, \mathbf{X}_2$ i.i.d., $f_I(\mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{x}_2 | \boldsymbol{\theta}) = f_I(\mathbf{x}_1 | \boldsymbol{\theta}) f_I(\mathbf{x}_2 | \boldsymbol{\theta});$

$$\Rightarrow f_I(\boldsymbol{\theta} | \mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{x}_2) = \frac{f_I(\boldsymbol{\theta} | \mathbf{x}_1) f_I(\mathbf{x}_2 | \boldsymbol{\theta})}{f_I(\mathbf{x}_2 | \mathbf{x}_1)} = \frac{f_I(\boldsymbol{\theta} | \mathbf{x}_2) f_I(\mathbf{x}_1 | \boldsymbol{\theta})}{f_I(\mathbf{x}_1 | \mathbf{x}_2)}.$$

Under analogous conditions:

$$f_I(\boldsymbol{\theta}_1 | \boldsymbol{\theta}_2, \mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{x}_2) = \frac{f_I(\boldsymbol{\theta}_1 | \boldsymbol{\theta}_2, \mathbf{x}_1) f_I(\mathbf{x}_2 | \boldsymbol{\theta}_1, \boldsymbol{\theta}_2)}{f_I(\mathbf{x}_2 | \boldsymbol{\theta}_2, \mathbf{x}_1)} = \frac{f_I(\boldsymbol{\theta}_1 | \boldsymbol{\theta}_2, \mathbf{x}_2) f_I(\mathbf{x}_1 | \boldsymbol{\theta}_1, \boldsymbol{\theta}_2)}{f_I(\mathbf{x}_1 | \boldsymbol{\theta}_2, \mathbf{x}_2)}.$$

Proof. $f_I(\boldsymbol{\theta}, \mathbf{x}_{1,2} | \mathbf{x}_{2,1}) = f_I(\boldsymbol{\theta} | \mathbf{x}_{2,1}) f_I(\mathbf{x}_{1,2} | \boldsymbol{\theta}) = f_I(\mathbf{x}_{1,2} | \mathbf{x}_{2,1}) f_I(\boldsymbol{\theta} | \mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{x}_2). \quad \square$



Theorem 3 (Factorization).

$$f_I(\boldsymbol{\theta} | \mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{x}_2) = \frac{f_I(\boldsymbol{\theta} | \mathbf{x}_1) f_I(\mathbf{x}_2 | \boldsymbol{\theta})}{f_I(\mathbf{x}_2 | \mathbf{x}_1)} = \frac{f_I(\boldsymbol{\theta} | \mathbf{x}_2) f_I(\mathbf{x}_1 | \boldsymbol{\theta})}{f_I(\mathbf{x}_1 | \mathbf{x}_2)}$$

$$\Rightarrow f_I(\boldsymbol{\theta} | \mathbf{x}_{1,2}) = \frac{\zeta_I(\boldsymbol{\theta}) f_I(\mathbf{x}_{1,2} | \boldsymbol{\theta})}{\eta_I(\mathbf{x}_{1,2})}; \eta_I(\mathbf{x}_{1,2}) = \int \zeta_I(\boldsymbol{\theta}) f_I(\mathbf{x}_{1,2} | \boldsymbol{\theta}) d^m \boldsymbol{\theta}.$$

Similarly:

$$f_I(\boldsymbol{\theta}_1 | \boldsymbol{\theta}_2, \mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{x}_2) = \frac{f_I(\boldsymbol{\theta}_1 | \boldsymbol{\theta}_2, \mathbf{x}_1) f_I(\mathbf{x}_2 | \boldsymbol{\theta}_1, \boldsymbol{\theta}_2)}{f_I(\mathbf{x}_2 | \boldsymbol{\theta}_2, \mathbf{x}_1)} = \frac{f_I(\boldsymbol{\theta}_1 | \boldsymbol{\theta}_2, \mathbf{x}_2) f_I(\mathbf{x}_1 | \boldsymbol{\theta}_1, \boldsymbol{\theta}_2)}{f_I(\mathbf{x}_1 | \boldsymbol{\theta}_2, \mathbf{x}_2)}$$

$$\Rightarrow f_I(\boldsymbol{\theta}_1 | \boldsymbol{\theta}_2, \mathbf{x}_{1,2}) = \frac{\zeta_{I,\theta_2}(\boldsymbol{\theta}_1) f_I(\mathbf{x}_{1,2} | \boldsymbol{\theta}_1, \boldsymbol{\theta}_2)}{\eta_{I,\theta_2}(\mathbf{x}_{1,2})}; \eta_{I,\theta_2}(\mathbf{x}_{1,2}) = \int_{\mathbb{R}^{m_1}} \zeta_{I,\theta_2}(\boldsymbol{\theta}_1) f_I(\mathbf{x}_{1,2} | \boldsymbol{\theta}_1, \boldsymbol{\theta}_2) d^{m_1} \boldsymbol{\theta}_1.$$

Proof. $\frac{\kappa(\boldsymbol{\theta}, \mathbf{x}_1)}{\kappa(\boldsymbol{\theta}, \mathbf{x}_2)} = h(\mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{x}_2); \kappa(\boldsymbol{\theta}, \mathbf{x}_{1,2}) \equiv \frac{f_I(\boldsymbol{\theta} | \mathbf{x}_{1,2})}{f_I(\mathbf{x}_{1,2} | \boldsymbol{\theta})}, h(\mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{x}_2) \equiv \frac{f_I(\mathbf{x}_2 | \mathbf{x}_1)}{f_I(\mathbf{x}_1 | \mathbf{x}_2)}$

$$\Rightarrow h(\mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{x}_2) = \frac{\eta_I(\mathbf{x}_1)}{\eta_I(\mathbf{x}_2)} \Rightarrow \frac{\kappa(\boldsymbol{\theta}, \mathbf{x}_1)}{\eta_I(\mathbf{x}_1)} = \frac{\kappa(\boldsymbol{\theta}, \mathbf{x}_2)}{\eta_I(\mathbf{x}_2)} = \zeta_I(\boldsymbol{\theta}).$$





Theorem 1 (Bayes) vs. Theorem 3 (Factorization):

$$f_I(\boldsymbol{\theta} | \mathbf{x}) = \frac{f_I(\boldsymbol{\theta}) f_I(\mathbf{x} | \boldsymbol{\theta})}{f_I(\mathbf{x})} \leftrightarrow f_I(\boldsymbol{\theta} | \mathbf{x}) = \frac{\zeta_I(\boldsymbol{\theta}) f_I(\mathbf{x} | \boldsymbol{\theta})}{\eta_I(\mathbf{x})};$$
$$f_I(\boldsymbol{\theta}) \leftrightarrow \zeta_I(\boldsymbol{\theta});$$

Difference: $\zeta_I(\boldsymbol{\theta})$ not a pdf (need not be integrable).

$\zeta_I(\boldsymbol{\theta})$ unique only up to a multiplier $\chi(\mathbf{x})$:

$$\frac{\chi(\mathbf{x}) \zeta_I(\boldsymbol{\theta}) f_I(\mathbf{x} | \boldsymbol{\theta})}{\int_{\mathbb{R}^m} \chi(\mathbf{x}) \zeta_I(\boldsymbol{\theta}) f_I(\mathbf{x} | \boldsymbol{\theta}) d^m \boldsymbol{\theta}} = \frac{\zeta_I(\boldsymbol{\theta}) f_I(\mathbf{x} | \boldsymbol{\theta})}{\int_{\mathbb{R}^m} \zeta_I(\boldsymbol{\theta}) f_I(\mathbf{x} | \boldsymbol{\theta}) d^m \boldsymbol{\theta}}.$$

Transformation of $\zeta_I(\boldsymbol{\theta})$ under reparametrization:

$$\zeta_{I'}(\boldsymbol{\lambda}) = \zeta_I[\bar{\mathbf{s}}^{-1}(\boldsymbol{\lambda})] \left| \partial_{\boldsymbol{\lambda}} \bar{\mathbf{s}}^{-1}(\boldsymbol{\lambda}) \right|, \boldsymbol{\lambda} \equiv \bar{\mathbf{s}}(\boldsymbol{\theta}), \left| \partial_{\boldsymbol{\lambda}} \bar{\mathbf{s}}^{-1}(\boldsymbol{\lambda}) \right| \neq 0.$$



5. Objectivity:

Definition 2 (Objectivity). A probabilistic parametric inference is called objective if a particular likelihood function always leads to the same posterior density function.

Motivation: at the beginning of the inference only the parametric family is known, and inferences based on identical information should be the same.

Invariance: $\mathbf{y} \equiv l(a, \mathbf{x}), \boldsymbol{\lambda} \equiv \bar{l}(a, \boldsymbol{\theta}), a \in G;$

$$F_I(\mathbf{y} | \boldsymbol{\lambda}) = F_I(\mathbf{y} | \boldsymbol{\lambda});$$

$$f_I(\mathbf{y} | \boldsymbol{\lambda}) = f_I(l^{-1}(a, \mathbf{y}) | \bar{l}^{-1}(a, \boldsymbol{\lambda})) \left| \partial_{\mathbf{y}} l^{-1}(a, \mathbf{y}) \right|.$$

\Rightarrow **Relative invariance of $\zeta_I(\boldsymbol{\theta})$:**

$$\zeta_I(\boldsymbol{\theta}) = \chi(a) \zeta_I[\bar{l}^{-1}(a, \boldsymbol{\theta})] \left| \partial_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} \bar{l}^{-1}(a, \boldsymbol{\theta}) \right|.$$



6. Consistency factors for location-scale families:

$$f_I(\mu, \sigma | x_1, x_2) = \frac{\zeta_I(\mu, \sigma)}{\eta_I(x_1, x_2)} f_I(x_1, x_2 | \mu, \sigma); X_1, X_2 \text{ i.i.d.},$$

$$f_I(\mu | \sigma, x_1) = \frac{\zeta_{I,\sigma}(\mu)}{\eta_{I,\sigma}(x_1)} f_I(x_1 | \mu, \sigma),$$

$$f_I(\sigma | \mu, x_1) = \frac{\zeta_{I,\mu}(\sigma)}{\eta_{I,\mu}(x_1)} f_I(x_1 | \mu, \sigma).$$

Invariance of a location-scale family:

$$F_I(x | \mu, \sigma) = \Phi\left(\frac{x - \mu}{\sigma}\right),$$

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} l[(a, b), x] \equiv ax + b \\ \bar{l}[(a, b), (\mu, \sigma)] \equiv (a\mu + b, a\sigma) \end{array} \right\} (a, b) \in \mathbb{R}^+ \times \mathbb{R} = G,$$



$$\zeta_I(\mu, \sigma) = \frac{\chi(a, b)}{a^2} \chi(a, b) \zeta_I\left(\frac{\mu - b}{a}, \frac{\sigma}{a}\right); a \in \mathbb{R}^+, b \in \mathbb{R},$$

$$\zeta_{I, \sigma}(\mu) = \chi(b) \zeta_{I, \sigma}(\mu - b); b \in \mathbb{R},$$

$$\zeta_{I, \mu}(\sigma) = \frac{\chi(a)}{a} \zeta_{I, \mu}\left(\frac{\sigma}{a}\right); a \in \mathbb{R}^+.$$

Proposition 1. $f_I(\mu, \sigma | x_1, x_2)$, $f_I(\mu | \sigma, x_1)$, $f_I(\sigma | \mu, x_1)$ objective

$$\Rightarrow \zeta_I(\mu, \sigma) = \zeta_{I, \mu}(\sigma) = \sigma^{-1}, \zeta_{I, \sigma}(\mu) = 1.$$



Example 3 (Normal family).

$$f_I(\mu | \sigma, x_1) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma} \exp\left\{-\frac{(x_1 - \mu)^2}{2\sigma^2}\right\},$$

$$f_I(\sigma | \mu, x_1) = \sqrt{\frac{2}{\pi}} \frac{|x_1 - \mu|}{\sigma^2} \exp\left\{-\frac{(x_1 - \mu)^2}{2\sigma^2}\right\},$$

$$f_I(\mu, \sigma | x_1, x_2) = \frac{|x_1 - x_2|}{\pi \sigma^3} \exp\left\{-\frac{(x_1 - \mu)^2 + (x_2 - \mu)^2}{2\sigma^2}\right\},$$

$$f_I(\sigma | x_1, x_2) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f_I(\mu, \sigma | x_1, x_2) d\mu = \frac{|x_1 - x_2|}{\pi \sigma^2} \exp\left\{-\frac{(x_1 - x_2)^2}{4\sigma^2}\right\},$$

$$f_I(\mu | x_1, x_2) = \int_0^{\infty} f_I(\mu, \sigma | x_1, x_2) d\sigma = \frac{1}{\pi} \frac{|x_1 - x_2|}{x_1^2 + x_2^2 + 2\mu^2 - 2\mu(x_1 + x_2)}.$$



Example 3 (cont'd).

$$\begin{aligned} f_I(\mu | x_1, \dots, x_n) &= \int_0^\infty f_I(\mu, \sigma | x_1, \dots, x_n) d\sigma \\ &= \sqrt{\frac{1}{\pi}} \frac{(\frac{n}{2} - 1)!}{(\frac{n}{2} - \frac{3}{2})!} \frac{s_n'^{n-1}}{[s_n'^2 + (\bar{x}_n - \mu)^2]^{\frac{n}{2}}}, s_n'^2 \equiv \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \bar{x}_n)^2. \end{aligned}$$

(Student's distribution with $n - 1$ degrees of freedom).



Example 4 (Exponential family).

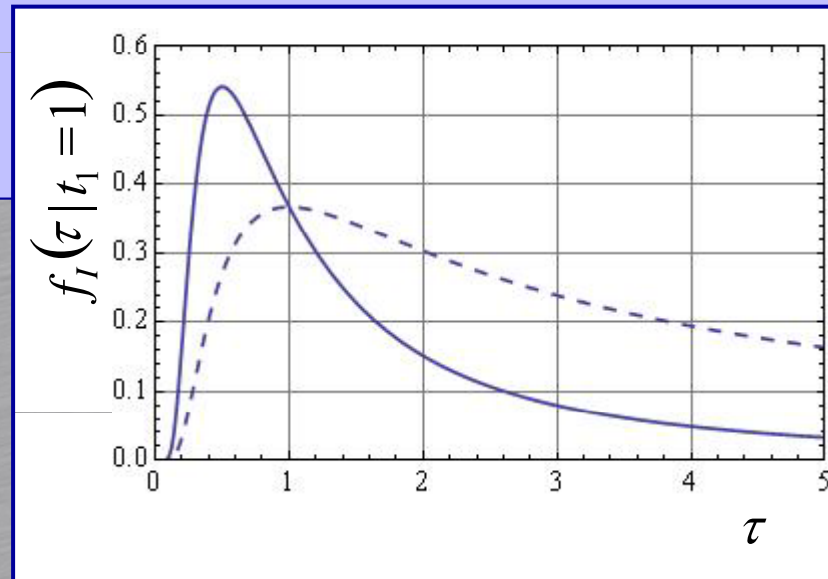
$$x_1 \equiv \ln t_1, \mu \equiv \ln \tau$$

$$\Rightarrow f_{I'_{\sigma=1}}(x_1 | \mu) = e^{x_1 - \mu} \exp\{-e^{x_1 - \mu}\}; \quad I' = \{f_{I'_{\sigma=1}}(x | \mu) = e^{x - \mu} \exp(-e^{x - \mu}); \mu \in \mathbb{R}\}$$

$$\Rightarrow \zeta_{I'_{\sigma=1}}(\mu) = 1$$

$$\Rightarrow \zeta_I(\tau) = \tau^{-1}$$

$$\Rightarrow f_I(\tau | t_1) = \frac{t_1}{\tau^2} \exp\left\{-\frac{t_1}{\tau}\right\}.$$





7. Consistency factors in the absence of symmetry:

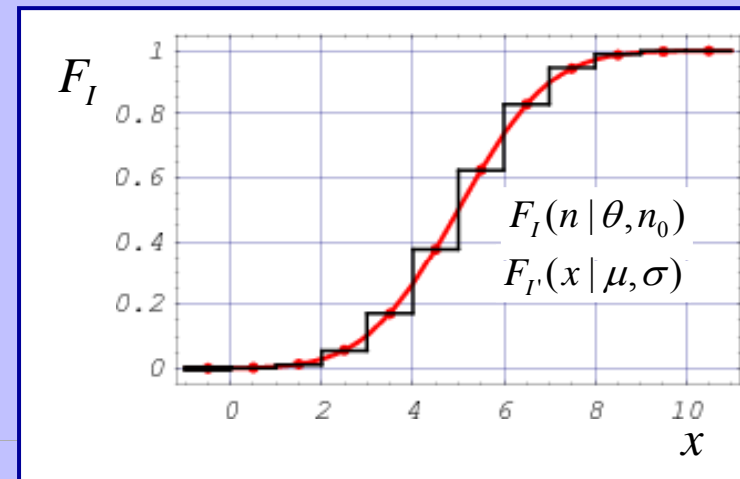
Example 5 (Binomial vs. Normal distribution).

$$p_I(n | \theta, n_0) = \binom{n_0}{n} \theta^n (1 - \theta)^{n_0 - n}; \quad \begin{array}{l} n_0 \in \mathbb{N} \\ n \in \mathbb{N}_0; n \leq n_0 \end{array}$$

$$n_0 \theta, n_0 (1 - \theta) \gg 1: \quad F_I(n | \theta, n_0) = \sum_{i=0}^n p(i | \theta, n_0) \approx \int_{-\infty}^{n+0.5} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma}} \exp\left\{-\frac{(x' - \mu)^2}{2\sigma^2}\right\} dx'$$

$$\mu = n_0 \theta, \quad \sigma = \sqrt{n_0 \theta (1 - \theta)} \approx \sqrt{n(n_0 - n) / n_0}$$

$$\Rightarrow f_I(\theta | \sigma, n) \approx \frac{n_0}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma}} \exp\left\{-\frac{(n - \mu)^2}{2\sigma^2}\right\}.$$





VII. Interpretation of Inverse Probability Distributions:

1. Credible intervals and regions,
2. Degrees of belief and calibration,
3. Fiducial argument,
4. Theorem of Stein, Chang and Villegas,
5. Calibration of marginal distributions.



1. Credible intervals and regions :

Definition 3.a (Credible interval): $\exists f_I(\theta | x); \theta, x \in \mathbb{R}$

\Rightarrow Credible interval $(\theta_a, \theta_b] \subseteq V_\Theta$ with (inverse-) probability content δ :

$$\int_{\theta_a}^{\theta_b} f_I(\theta | x) d\theta = \delta .$$

Definition 3.b (Credible region): $\exists f_I(\boldsymbol{\theta} | \mathbf{x}); \boldsymbol{\theta} \in \mathbb{R}^m, \mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n$

\Rightarrow Credible region $U(\mathbf{x}) \subseteq V_\Theta \subseteq \mathbb{R}^m$ with probability content δ :

$$\int_U f_I(\boldsymbol{\theta} | \mathbf{x}) d^m \boldsymbol{\theta} = \delta .$$



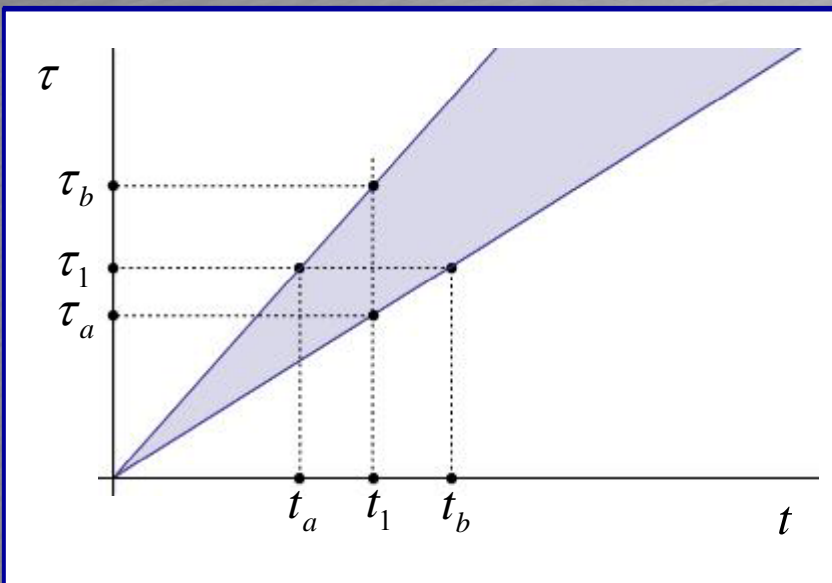
2. Degrees of belief and calibration :

The inferred parameter, although unknown, is usually fixed. What is distributed is *our degree of belief* that, given observed \mathbf{x} , the *true value* of the inferred parameter is in the credible region $U(\mathbf{x})$.

Definition 4 (Calibration): *The inverse probability density $f_I(\boldsymbol{\theta} | \mathbf{x})$ is called calibrated if there is at least one algorithm to construct credible regions whose (inverse-) probability content is equal to the long-term relative frequency, called coverage, of the regions that cover the true value(s) of the parameter, be the distribution of the true values in the ensemble what it may.*



3. Fiducial argument.



- 1) $\alpha \in [0, 1 - \gamma]$
 - 2) τ_1
 - 3) $t_a: F_I(t_a | \tau_1) = \alpha$
 - 4) $t_b: F_I(t_b | \tau_1) = \alpha + \gamma$
 - 5) $\tau \in (0, \infty)$
 - 6) $t_1; \tau_1$ true value
 - 7) $\tau_1 \in (\tau_a, \tau_b) \Leftrightarrow t_1 \in (t_a, t_b)$
- $$\Rightarrow \Pr_I(t_a < t \leq t_b | \tau_1)$$
- $$= F_I(t_b | \tau_1) - F_I(t_a | \tau_1)$$
- $$= \gamma$$

Remark 4.
$$\left. \begin{array}{l} F_I(t_1 | \tau_b) = \alpha \\ F_I(t_1 | \tau_a) = \alpha + \gamma \end{array} \right\} \Rightarrow \gamma = F_I(t_1 | \tau_a) - F_I(t_1 | \tau_b).$$

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} F_I(\tau_a | t_1) = \alpha \\ F_I(\tau_b | t_1) = \alpha + \delta \end{array} \right\} \Rightarrow \delta = F_I(\tau_b | t_1) - F_I(\tau_a | t_1) = \int_{\tau_a}^{\tau_b} f_I(\tau | t_1) d\tau.$$



Proposition 2 (Fiducial argument). $\delta = \gamma$ for all admissible α, γ
 $\Rightarrow f_I(\tau | t_1) = -\partial_\tau F_I(t_1 | \tau).$

Proof. For infinitesimal λ , $\delta = f_I(\tau_a | t_1) \Delta \tau$ and $\gamma = -\Delta \tau \partial_\tau F_I(t_1 | \tau) \Big|_{\tau=\tau_a}.$ □

Remark 1. General argument. .

Example 6. $\zeta_{I,\mu}(\sigma) = \sigma^{-1}$, $\zeta_{I,\sigma}(\mu) = 1$ satisfy the fiducial condition.



Proposition 3 (Lindley). $f_I(\theta | x) = \pm \partial_\theta F_I(x | \tau)$ and

$$f_I(\theta | x) = \frac{\zeta_I(\theta)}{\eta_I(x)} f_I(x | \theta) \Rightarrow \exists \mu(\theta), y(x) : f_{I'}(y | \mu) = \phi(y - \mu).$$

Proof. D.Lindley (1958), J. Roy. Statist Soc. Ser. **B 20**, pp. 102 - 107.





4. Theorem of Stein, Chang and Villegas:

Theorem 4 (Stein, Chang, Villegas). $f_I(\mathbf{x} | \boldsymbol{\theta})$ invariant under a topological (e.g., Lie) group G , $\zeta_I(\boldsymbol{\theta})$ coincides with the element of the right - invariant Haar measure on $G \Rightarrow f_I(\boldsymbol{\theta} | \mathbf{x})$ calibrated on equivariant credible regions, $U[l(a, \mathbf{x})] = \bar{l}[U(\mathbf{x})]$.

Proof. T.Chang, C.Villegas (1986), Canad. J. Statist. **14**, 289 - 296.



Example 7. $\zeta_I(\mu, \sigma) = \sigma^{-1}$ is the element of the right - invariant Haar measure on $G = \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}^+$.



Example 7 (Cont'd). Equivariant rectangles $U = [\mu_a, \mu_b] \times [\sigma_a, \sigma_b]$,

$$\Pr_I(U_1 | \mathbf{x}) = \alpha, \Pr_I(U_2 | \mathbf{x}) = \beta, \Pr_I(U_3 | \mathbf{x}) = \varepsilon, \Pr_I(U | \mathbf{x}) = \gamma,$$

$$U_1 \equiv (-\infty, \mu_a] \times \mathbb{R}^+, U_2 \equiv [\mu_a, \mu_b] \times \mathbb{R}^+, U_3 \equiv [\mu_a, \mu_b] \times (0, \sigma_a],$$

$$0 \leq \alpha, \beta, \gamma, \varepsilon \leq 1; 1 - \alpha \geq \beta \geq 1 - \varepsilon \geq \gamma,$$

$$\mathbf{x} \equiv (x_1, \dots, x_n), n \geq 2.$$



5. Calibration and marginal distributions:

Example 7 (Cont'd). Equivariant rectangles $U = [\mu_a, \mu_b] \times [\sigma_a, \sigma_b]$,

$$\Pr_I(U_1 | \mathbf{x}) = \alpha, \Pr_I(U_2 | \mathbf{x}) = \beta, \Pr_I(U_3 | \mathbf{x}) = \varepsilon, \Pr_I(U | \mathbf{x}) = \gamma,$$

$$U_1 \equiv (-\infty, \mu_a] \times \mathbb{R}^+, U_2 \equiv [\mu_a, \mu_b] \times \mathbb{R}^+, U_3 \equiv [\mu_a, \mu_b] \times (0, \sigma_a],$$

$$0 \leq \alpha, \beta, \gamma, \varepsilon \leq 1; 1 - \alpha \geq \beta \geq 1 - \varepsilon \geq \gamma.$$

$$\beta = \gamma \Rightarrow U = \mathbb{R} \times [\sigma_a, \sigma_b] \Rightarrow f_I(\sigma | \mathbf{x}) \text{ calibrated,}$$

$$\beta = 1 \Rightarrow U = [\mu_a, \mu_b] \times \mathbb{R}^+ \Rightarrow f_I(\mu | \mathbf{x}) \text{ calibrated.}$$

Remark 2. Not conserved under general one - to - one reparametrization.

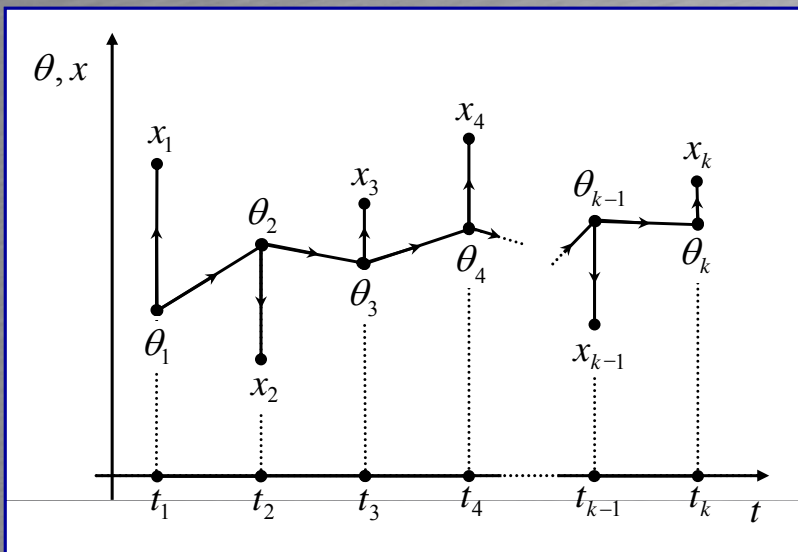


3.a Kalmanov filter – osnovne predpostavke

$$\Theta_k \equiv \{\theta_1, \dots, \theta_k\}; \quad \theta_j = \theta(t_j) \in \mathbb{R}^n$$
$$\mathbf{X}_k \equiv \{x_1, \dots, x_k\}; \quad x_j = x(t_j) \in \mathbb{R}^n$$

$$f(\theta_{j+1} | \Theta_j, \mathbf{X}_j) = f(\theta_{j+1} | \theta_j) \sim N(A_j \theta_j, Q_j)$$

$f(\theta_{j+1} | \theta_j)$: frekvenčna interpretacija



$$f(x_j | \Theta_j, \mathbf{X}_{j-1}) = f(x_j | \theta_j) \sim N(\theta_j, V_j)$$

$f(x_j | \theta_j)$: frekvenčna interpretacija

$$f(x_j | \theta_j) \sim N(H_j \theta_j, V_j)$$

H_j : obrnljiva

$$f(\theta_k | \mathbf{X}_k) = ?$$



$$\begin{aligned} & \text{?} \\ \exists f(\theta_1 | x_1) & \sim N(r_1, R_1); \quad r_1 = r_1(x_1) \in \mathbb{R}^n \\ \exists f(\Theta_j, x_j | \mathbf{X}_{j-1}); & \quad j = 2, \dots, k \end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow f(\Theta_k | \mathbf{X}_k) = f(\theta_1 | x_1) \prod_{j=2}^k \frac{f(x_j | \theta_j) f(\theta_j | \theta_{j-1})}{f(x_j | \mathbf{X}_{j-1})}$$

$$\Rightarrow f(\theta_k | \mathbf{X}_k) = \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \dots \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} f(\Theta_k | \mathbf{X}_k) d^n \theta_1 \dots d^n \theta_{k-1} \sim N(r_k, R_k)$$

$$\begin{aligned} r_j &= A_{j-1} r_{j-1} + R_j V_{j-1}^{-1} (x_j - A_{j-1} r_{j-1}); \quad r_j = r_j(\mathbf{X}_j) \in \mathbb{R}^n \\ R_j^{-1} &= V_j^{-1} + (A_{j-1} R_{j-1} A_{j-1}^T + Q_{j-1})^{-1} \end{aligned}$$

T. N. Thiele (1880). *Om Anvendelse af mindste Kvadraters Methode...*, § 2.

P. Swerling (1959). *J. Astronaut. Sci.* **6**, str. 46-52.

R. L. Stratonovich (1959). *Radiofizika* **2:6**, str. 892-901.

-- (1960). *Radio Eng. Electr. Phys.* **5:11**, str. 1-19.

R. E. Kalman (1960). *Trans. ASME J. Basic Eng.* **82**, str. 34-45.



3.b Inicializacija Kalmanovega filtra

$$\exists f(\theta_1) \Rightarrow f(\theta_1 | x_1) = \frac{\zeta(\theta_1) f(x_1 | \theta_1)}{\eta(x_1)}$$

Invarianca $f(x_1 | \theta_1)$ glede na translacije in inverzijo

+

objektivnost

↓

Rešitev funkcijskih enačb za $\zeta(\theta_1)$:

$$\begin{aligned} \zeta(\theta_1) = 1 &\Rightarrow f(\theta_1 | x_1) = f(x_1 | \theta_1) \\ &\Rightarrow f(\theta_1 | x_1) \sim N(r_1, R_1); \quad r_1 = x_1, R_1 = V_1 \end{aligned}$$



3.c Interpretacija $f(\theta_k | \mathbf{X}_k)$:

$f(\theta_1 | x_1) \neq$ porazdelitev θ_1
 $\Rightarrow f(\theta_k | \mathbf{X}_k) \neq$ porazdelitev θ_k

Merljive napovedi:

$f(\theta_k | \mathbf{X}_k) = f(r_k | \theta_k)$;
 $f(r_k | \theta_k) \sim N(\theta_k, R_k)$; invariantnost na translacije;
 $f(r_k | \theta_k)$: frekvenčna interpretacija.

$C(r_k)$ = ekvivariantno območje zaupanja:
 $C(r_k + a) = C(r_k) + a$: $a \in \mathbb{R}^n$.

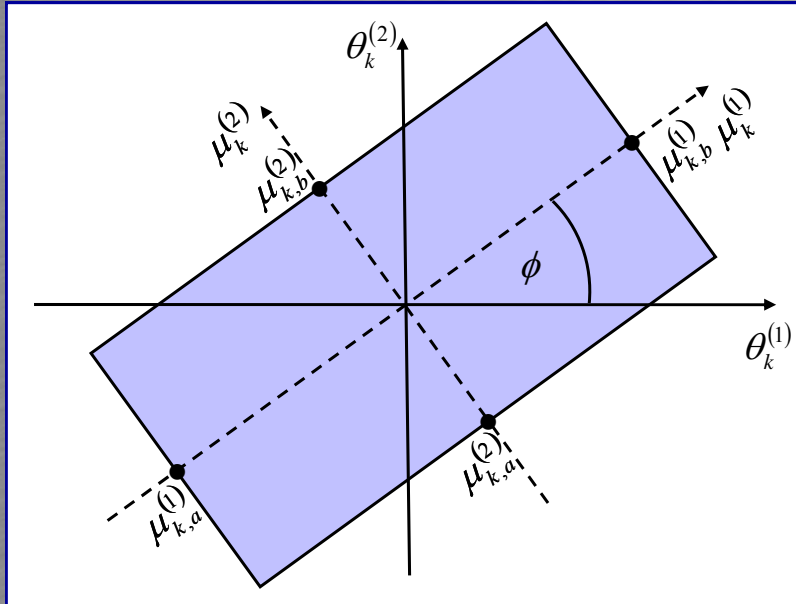
$\int_C f(\theta_k | \mathbf{X}_k) d^n \theta_k = \gamma$ = delež $C(r_k)$, ki vsebujejo resnične θ_k , ne glede na porazdelitev θ_k v ansamblu.

C. Stein (1965). Proc. Int. Research Seminar UC Berkeley, str. 217-240.

T. Chang, C. Villegas (1986). Canad. J. Statist. **14**, str. 289-296.



Ekvivariantni (n-dim.) pravokotniki



$$\theta_k = (\theta_k^{(1)}, \dots, \theta_k^{(n)}),$$

$$f(\theta_k^{(i)} | r_k) = \int_{\mathbb{R}} \dots \int_{\mathbb{R}} f(\theta_k | r_k) d\theta_k^{(1)} \dots d\theta_k^{(i-1)} d\theta_k^{(i+1)} \dots d\theta_k^{(n)},$$

$$A \equiv (\theta_{k,a}^{(i)}, \theta_{k,b}^{(i)}): \int_{-\infty}^{\theta_{k,a}^{(i)}} f(\theta_k^{(i)} | r_k) d\theta_k^{(i)} = \alpha,$$

$$\int_{\theta_{k,a}^{(i)}}^{\theta_{k,b}^{(i)}} f(\theta_k^{(i)} | r_k) d\theta_k^{(i)} = \gamma$$

$\Rightarrow \gamma = P(A | r_k) \neq$ delež $A(r_k)$, ki vsebujejo resnične $\theta_k^{(i)}$.

$\exists O_k : O_k^T = O_k^{-1}, O_k R_k O_k^T = D_k = \text{diagonalna};$

$$\mu_k \equiv O_k \theta_k, s_k \equiv O_k r_k;$$

$$\mu_k = (\mu_k^{(1)}, \dots, \mu_k^{(n)}), B \equiv (\mu_{k,a}^{(i)}, \mu_{k,b}^{(i)})$$

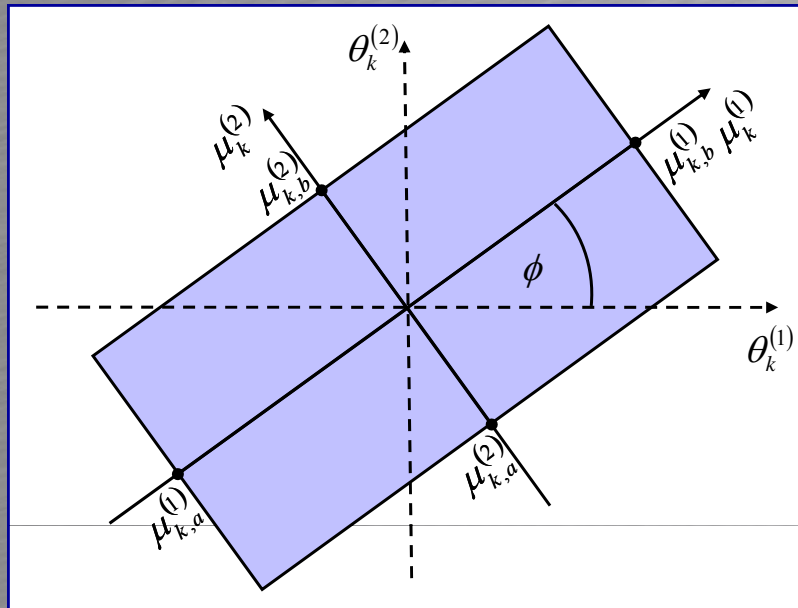
$\Rightarrow \gamma = P(B | s_k) =$ delež $B(s_k)$, ki vsebujejo resnične $\mu_k^{(i)}$.



$$\exists O_k : O_k^T = O_k^{-1}, O_k R_k O_k^T = D_k; \mu_k \equiv O_k \theta_k, s_k \equiv O_k r_k;$$

$$f(s_k | \mu_k) = N(\mu_k, D_k), f(\mu_k | s_k) = N(s_k, D_k).$$

Ekvivariantni (n-dim.) pravokotniki



$$\int_{-\infty}^{\mu_{k,a}^{(1)}} d\mu_k^{(1)} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} d\mu_k^{(2)} \dots \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} d\mu_k^{(n)} f(\mu_k | s_k) = \alpha_1,$$

$$\int_{\mu_{k,a}^{(1)}}^{\mu_{k,b}^{(1)}} d\mu_k^{(1)} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} d\mu_k^{(2)} \dots \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} d\mu_k^{(n)} f(\mu_k | s_k) = \beta_1,$$

$$\vdots$$

$$\int_{\mu_{k,a}^{(1)}}^{\mu_{k,b}^{(1)}} d\mu_k^{(1)} \int_{\mu_{k,a}^{(2)}}^{\mu_{k,b}^{(2)}} d\mu_k^{(2)} \dots \int_{\mu_{k,a}^{(n)}}^{\mu_{k,b}^{(n)}} d\mu_k^{(n)} f(\mu_k | s_k) = \beta_n = \gamma;$$

$$\theta_k = (\theta_k^{(1)}, \dots, \theta_k^{(n)}), \mu_k = (\mu_k^{(1)}, \dots, \mu_k^{(n)});$$

$$\alpha_j, \beta_j \in [0,1], 1 - \alpha_1 \geq \beta_1 \geq 1 - \alpha_2 \geq \beta_2 \geq \dots \geq \gamma.$$

$$\alpha_{j-1} = 0, \beta_{j-1} = 1, \beta_j = \gamma \Rightarrow f(\mu_k^{(j)} | s_k) = \int_{\mathbb{R}} \dots \int_{\mathbb{R}} f(\mu_k | s_k) d\mu_k^{(1)} \dots d\mu_k^{(j-1)} d\mu_k^{(j+1)} \dots d\mu_k^{(n)} \text{ kalibrirane}$$

$$f(\theta_k^{(j)} | s_k) = \int_{\mathbb{R}} \dots \int_{\mathbb{R}} f(\theta_k | s_k) d\theta_k^{(1)} \dots d\theta_k^{(j-1)} d\theta_k^{(j+1)} \dots d\theta_k^{(n)} \text{ niso kalibrirane}$$



3.b Inicializacija Kalmanovega filtra

$$\exists f(\theta_1) \Rightarrow f(\theta_1 | x_1) = \frac{\zeta(\theta_1) f(x_1 | \theta_1)}{\eta(x_1)}$$

Invarianca $f(x_1 | \theta_1)$:

$$l_1(a, x_1) = x_1 + a, \quad \bar{l}_1(a, \theta_1) = \theta_1 + a; \quad a \in \mathbb{R}$$
$$l_2(x_1) = -x_1, \quad \bar{l}_2(\theta_1) = -\theta_1$$

Rešitev funkcijskih enačb za $\zeta(\theta_1)$:

$$\zeta(\theta_1) = 1 \Rightarrow f(\theta_1 | x_1) = f(x_1 | \theta_1)$$
$$\Rightarrow f(\theta_1 | x_1) \sim N(r_1, R_1); \quad r_1 = x_1, \quad R_1 = V_1$$



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