

Comments on Multiparameter Estimation in Truncated Power Series Distributions under the Stein's Loss

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ABSTRACT. This comment is to show that Theorem 3.3 of Dey and Chung (1991) (Multiparameter estimation in truncated power series distributions under the Stein's loss. *Commun. Statist.-Theory Meth.*, **20**, 309-326) may give us misleading results. Analytically and through simulation, we show that the Theorem does not improve the given estimator.

Keywords: Left-Truncated power series distributions, Stein loss function.

1. INTRODUCTION

Let $X = (X_1, \dots, X_p)$ where X_1, \dots, X_p are p independent random variables, X_i having the following left-truncated power series distribution

$$P_{\theta_i}(x_i) = \begin{cases} g_i(\theta_i)t_i(x_i)\theta_i^{x_i}, & x_i = a_i, a_i + 1, \dots; \\ 0, & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases}$$

where a_i is nonzero positive integer and $g_i(\theta_i)$ is a normalizing constant, given as

$$g_i^{-1}(\theta_i) = \sum_{x_i=a_i}^{\infty} t_i(x_i)\theta_i^{x_i}, \quad \theta_i > 0, i = 1, \dots, p.$$

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Consider the loss function (Stein loss) is given by

$$L(\theta, \delta) = \sum_{i=1}^p \left(\frac{\delta_i}{\theta_i} - \log \left(\frac{\delta_i}{\theta_i} \right) - 1 \right) \tag{1.1}$$

where $\delta = (\delta_1, \dots, \delta_p)$ is an estimate of $\theta = (\theta_1, \dots, \theta_p)$ and \log denotes the natural logarithm. For the loss function (1.1), the best multiple estimator of θ (which is also the best unbiased estimator) is given by $\delta^0(X) = (\delta_1^0(X), \dots, \delta_p^0(X))$ where

$$\delta_i^0(X) = \begin{cases} \frac{t_i(X_i - 1)}{t_i(X_i)}, & X_i = a_i + 1, a_i + 1, \dots; \\ 0, & \text{elsewhere.} \end{cases}$$

and $t_i(a_i - 1)$ is defined zero.

Suppose the rival estimator of θ as

$$\begin{aligned} \delta(X) &= \delta(X) + \phi(X) \\ &= (\delta_1^0(X) + \phi_1(X), \dots, \delta_p^0(X) + \phi_p(X)) \end{aligned}$$

where $\phi(X) = (\phi_1(X), \dots, \phi_p(X))$, $\phi_i(X) > 0$ and $\phi_i(X) = 0$ if $X_i < a_i + 1, i = 1, \dots, p$. Assume $\delta_i^0(X), i = 1, \dots, p$, be an increasing function of X .

The following theorem and corollary are from Dey and Chung (1991).

Theorem 1.1. *Suppose that $\delta(X) = \delta^0(X)(1 + \psi(X))$ where $\psi(X) = (\psi_1(X), \dots, \psi_p(X))$ and $\psi_i(X) = \phi_i(X)/\delta_i^0(X), i = 1, \dots, p$ with*

$$\psi_i(X) = \frac{d(X)e^{-X_i}}{b + s_2}, \quad s_2 = \sum_{j=1}^p e^{-2X_j}, \quad i = 1, \dots, p$$

and the following additional conditions hold

- (1) $b \geq 1/4$
- (2) $0 < d(X) < 1/2$
- (3) $d(X)$ is a decreasing function in each coordinate
- (4) $d(X + e_i) \leq e^{-2}d(X), i = 1, \dots, p$.

Then $\delta(X)$ will dominate $\delta^0(X)$ in terms of risk if $p \geq 2$.

Corollary 1.2. *Suppose that $\delta(X) = \delta^0(X)(1 + \psi(X))$ where $\psi(X) = (\psi_1(X), \dots, \psi_p(X))$ with*

$$\psi_i(X) = \frac{0.5e^{-2s}e^{-X_i}}{b + s_2}$$

where $s = \sum_{j=1}^p X_j, s_2 = \sum_{j=1}^p e^{-2X_j}$ and $b \geq 1/4$. Then for $p \geq 2$, $\delta(X)$ dominates $\delta^0(X)$ in terms of risk.

Now borrowing an idea of Liang (2009), we show that δ given in corollary

3.3.1 in fact is not better than δ^0 in terms of risk. For simplicity, consider $a_i = 1$ for all $i = 1, \dots, p$ and let $\alpha = \min(\delta_1^0(2), \dots, \delta_p^0(2))$. Suppose that the parameter space is given by $\Omega = \{\theta; \theta_i > 0, i = 1, \dots, p\}$ and define the subspace $\Omega_0 \subset \Omega$ such that $\Omega_0 = \{\theta; \theta_i < \alpha, i = 1, \dots, p\}$. The risk difference of $\delta(X)$ and $\delta^0(X)$ is given by

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta(\theta) &= R(\theta, \delta) - R(\theta, \delta^0) \\ &= R(\theta, \delta^0 + \phi) - R(\theta, \delta^0) \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^p E\left(\frac{\phi_i(X)}{\theta_i} - \log\left(1 + \frac{\phi_i(X)}{\delta_i^0(X)}\right)\right). \end{aligned}$$

Since $\phi_i > 0$ and $\theta_i < \alpha$ for $i = 1, \dots, p$ and $\theta \in \Omega_0$ and also for all x such that $x_i \geq 2, i = 1, \dots, p$ we have

$$\begin{aligned} \delta_i^0(X) &\geq \min(\delta_1^0(X), \dots, \delta_p^0(X)) \\ &\geq \min(\delta_1^0(2), \dots, \delta_p^0(2)) \\ &= \alpha, \end{aligned}$$

then we get

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta(\theta) &\geq \sum_{i=1}^p E\left(\frac{\phi_i(X)}{\alpha} - \log\left(1 + \frac{\phi_i(X)}{\alpha}\right)\right) \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^p E\left(\eta_i(X) - \log(1 + \eta_i(X))\right), \end{aligned}$$

where $\eta_i(X) = \phi_i(X)/\alpha$. It is known that $\eta_i(X) - \log(1 + \eta_i(X)) > 0$ for X such that $X_i \geq 2$ so that $\Delta(\theta) > 0$ for $\theta \in \Omega_0$.

Another way to show that the estimator δ is not better than δ^0 is by simulation. A Monte Carlo simulation is carried out to generate random variables from zero-truncated Poisson distribution using Matlab 7.4. For a particular set of parameters, the risks of the estimators δ^0 and δ are computed and reported in Table 1. From Table 1, we observe that the risk of δ is slightly higher than the risk of δ^0 for the a specific set of parameters and hence δ is not an improved estimator of δ^0 .

TABLE 1. R_1 is the risk of δ^0 and R_2 is the risk of δ .

p	Parameters										R_1	R_2
2	.01	.07									5.5768	5.5782
3	.01	.07	.003								5.6621	5.6634
4	.01	.07	.003	.05							5.4648	5.4662
5	.01	.07	.003	.05	.00001						5.6188	5.6202
10	.01	.07	.003	.05	.00001	.001	.000015	.002	.001	.04	5.0567	5.0580

2. MAIN RESULTS

The following is an example of a definition.

Definition 2.1. Let X be a real Banach space. A non-empty closed set $P \subset X$ is called a cone of X if it satisfies the following conditions:

- (1) $x \in P, \mu \geq 0$ implies $\mu x \in P$,
- (2) $x \in P, -x \in P$ implies $x = 0$.

Here is an example of a table.

TABLE 2.

1	2	3
$f(x)$	$g(x)$	$h(x)$
a	b	c

The following is an example of an example.

Example 2.2. Consider the following boundary value problem system:

$$\begin{cases} u^{(4)}(t) = f(t, u(t), u''(t)) & 0 \leq t \leq 1, \\ u(0) = u(1) = 0, & u''(0) - u'''(0) = 0, & u''(1) - \frac{1}{2}u''(\frac{1}{2}) = 0, \end{cases} \quad (2.1)$$

where $f(t, u(t), u''(t)) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1+u}} - (u'')^{-3} + \sin \pi t$. Clearly,

$$0 < \int_0^1 (s + \frac{1}{2})(1 - s)ds < +\infty, \quad \min f_0 = +\infty, \quad \max f_\infty = 0.$$

System (2.1) has at least one positive solution.

The following is an example of a theorem and a proof [?, ?].

Theorem 2.3. *If \mathbf{B} is an open ball of a real inner product space \mathcal{X} of dimension greater than ...*

Proof. First note that if f is a generalized Jensen mapping with parameters $t = s \geq r$, then

$$\begin{aligned} f(\lambda(x + y)) &= \lambda f(x) + \lambda f(y) \\ &\leq \lambda(f(x) + f(y)) \\ &= f(x) + f(y) \end{aligned} \quad (2.2)$$

for some $\lambda \geq 1$... in the proof of Theorem 2.3, one can show that $f(x) = f(y_0)$... □

The following is an example of a remark.

Remark 2.4. One can easily conclude that g is continuous by using Theorem 2.3.

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