

ST 793 : Solution of Homework-2

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1.1 Problem 2.34

(a) We have given that

$$\mathbf{I}(\mu, \sigma) = \frac{1}{\sigma^2} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -0.423 \\ -0.423 & 1.824 \end{bmatrix}$$

We know that the asymptotic covariance matrix of MLE based on a random sample of size n is given by

$$\text{Cov}(\hat{\mu}, \hat{\sigma}) = \frac{1}{n} [\mathbf{I}(\mu, \sigma)]^{-1} = \frac{\sigma^2}{n} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -0.423 \\ -0.423 & 1.824 \end{bmatrix}^{-1} = \frac{\sigma^2}{n} \begin{bmatrix} 1.1088 & 0.2571 \\ 0.2571 & 0.6079 \end{bmatrix}$$

In homework-1, we obtained the estimate of (μ, σ) as $\hat{\mu} = 4395.145, \hat{\sigma} = 1882.495$. So, an estimate of the asymptotic covariance of $(\hat{\mu}, \hat{\sigma})$ is given by

$$\hat{\text{Cov}}(\hat{\mu}, \hat{\sigma}) = \frac{\hat{\sigma}^2}{35} \begin{bmatrix} 1.1088 & 0.2571 \\ 0.2571 & 0.6079 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 112, 263.82 & 26, 034.87 \\ 26, 034.87 & 61, 548.15 \end{bmatrix}$$

(b) Estimate of the median of largest flow rate in 100 years is

$$\hat{Q} = 1882.495 [-\log_e (-\log_e (0.993))] + 4395.145 = 13, 729.19$$

Because,

$$\hat{Q} = (1 \quad -\log_e (-\log_e (0.993))) \begin{pmatrix} \hat{\mu} \\ \hat{\sigma} \end{pmatrix} = (1 \quad 4.9583) \begin{pmatrix} \hat{\mu} \\ \hat{\sigma} \end{pmatrix}$$

(c) An estimate for the asymptotic variance of \hat{Q} is

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Var}(\hat{Q}) &= (1 \quad 4.9583) \hat{\text{Cov}}(\hat{\mu}, \hat{\sigma}) (1 \quad 4.9583)^\top \\ &= (1 \quad 4.9583) \begin{bmatrix} 112, 263.82 & 26, 034.87 \\ 26, 034.87 & 61, 548.15 \end{bmatrix} (1 \quad 4.9583)^\top \\ &= 1, 883, 609 \end{aligned}$$

1.2 Problem 2.49

(a) Noticing that $(Y_i, Z_i)_{i=1}^n$ is the complete data in this situation, the complete data likelihood function is given by

$$\begin{aligned} L_c(\lambda, p | (Y_i, Z_i)_{i=1}^n) &= \prod_{i=1}^n f(Y_i, Z_i | \lambda, p) \\ &= \prod_{i=1}^n [p f_1(Y_i)]^{Z_i} [(1-p) f_2(Y_i; \lambda)]^{1-Z_i} \\ &= p^{\sum_{i=1}^n Z_i} (1-p)^{n-\sum_{i=1}^n Z_i} e^{-\lambda \sum_{i=1}^n (1-Z_i)} \lambda^{\sum_{i=1}^n Y_i (1-Z_i)} \frac{1}{\prod_{i=1}^n Y_i!^{1-Z_i}} \end{aligned}$$

So, the complete data log-likelihood function is given by

$$\begin{aligned}\ell_c(\lambda, p | (Y_i, Z_i)_{i=1}^n) &= \left(\sum_{i=1}^n Z_i \right) \log_e p + \left(n - \sum_{i=1}^n Z_i \right) \log_e (1 - p) - \left(n - \sum_{i=1}^n Z_i \right) \lambda \\ &\quad + \left(\sum_{i=1}^n Y_i (1 - Z_i) \right) \log_e \lambda - \sum_{i=1}^n \log_e (Y_i!) (1 - Z_i)\end{aligned}$$

Taking conditional expectation of $\ell_c(\lambda, p | (Y_i, Z_i)_{i=1}^n)$ given $(Y_i)_{i=1}^n, \lambda^\nu, p^\nu$, we get

$$\begin{aligned}Q(\lambda, p | \lambda^\nu, p^\nu) &= E[\ell_c(\lambda, p) | (Y_i)_{i=1}^n, \lambda^\nu, p^\nu] \\ &= \left(\sum_{i=1}^n E(Z_i | Y_i) \right) \log_e p + \left(n - \sum_{i=1}^n E(Z_i | Y_i) \right) \log_e (1 - p) - \left(n - \sum_{i=1}^n E(Z_i | Y_i) \right) \lambda \\ &\quad + \left(\sum_{i=1}^n Y_i (1 - E(Z_i | Y_i)) \right) \log_e \lambda - \sum_{i=1}^n \log_e (Y_i!) (1 - E(Z_i | Y_i)) \\ &= \left(\sum_{i=1}^n w_i^\nu \right) \log_e p + \left(n - \sum_{i=1}^n w_i^\nu \right) \log_e (1 - p) - \left(n - \sum_{i=1}^n w_i^\nu \right) \lambda \\ &\quad + \left(\sum_{i=1}^n Y_i (1 - w_i^\nu) \right) \log_e \lambda - \sum_{i=1}^n \log_e (Y_i!) (1 - w_i^\nu)\end{aligned}$$

(b) Differentiating $Q(\lambda, p | \lambda^\nu, p^\nu)$ with respect to λ and p we get,

$$0 = \frac{\partial Q}{\partial p} = \left(\sum_{i=1}^n w_i^\nu \right) \frac{1}{p} - \left(n - \sum_{i=1}^n w_i^\nu \right) \frac{1}{1 - p} \implies p^{\nu+1} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n w_i^\nu \quad (1)$$

and

$$0 = \frac{\partial Q}{\partial \lambda} = - \left(n - \sum_{i=1}^n w_i^\nu \right) + \left(\sum_{i=1}^n Y_i (1 - w_i^\nu) \right) \frac{1}{\lambda} \implies \lambda^{\nu+1} = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n Y_i (1 - w_i^\nu)}{\sum_{i=1}^n (1 - w_i^\nu)} \quad (2)$$

To make sure the maximization, we need to compute the Hessian and check whether it is negative definite at $(p, \lambda) = (p^{\nu+1}, \lambda^{\nu+1})$.

Notice that,

$$\frac{\partial^2 Q}{\partial p^2} \Big|_{p=p^{\nu+1}} = - \left(\sum_{i=1}^n w_i^\nu \right) \frac{1}{(p^{\nu+1})^2} - \left(n - \sum_{i=1}^n w_i^\nu \right) \frac{1}{(1 - p^{\nu+1})^2} = - \frac{n^2}{(\sum_{i=1}^n w_i^\nu)(n - \sum_{i=1}^n w_i^\nu)} < 0$$

because, w_i^ν is conditional expectation of a random variable (Z_i) that lies between 0 and 1, which implies, $0 \leq w_i^\nu \leq 1$ for all $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$. and

$$\frac{\partial^2 Q}{\partial \lambda^2} \Big|_{\lambda=\lambda^{\nu+1}} = - \left(\sum_{i=1}^n Y_i (1 - w_i^\nu) \right) \frac{1}{(\lambda^{\nu+1})^2} \leq 0 \quad \text{as } Y_i \geq 0 \text{ and } 0 \leq w_i^\nu \leq 1$$

and as the likelihood is completely separable with respect to λ and p ,

$$\frac{\partial^2 Q}{\partial p \partial \lambda} = 0$$

This implies that the Hessian is negative definite and the update of $p^{\nu+1}$ and $\lambda^{\nu+1}$ are as in (1) and (2) respectively.

1.3 Problem 2.51

- (a) Since we only observed $|Y_i|, i = q+1, \dots, n$, to obtain the observed data likelihood, we need to find the distribution of $|Y|$ when $Y \sim \text{Normal}(\mu, \sigma^2)$

$$\begin{aligned} P(|Y| \leq y) &= P(-y \leq Y \leq y) \\ &= P(Y \leq y) - P(Y \leq -y) \\ &= \Phi\left(\frac{y-\mu}{\sigma}\right) - \Phi\left(\frac{-y-\mu}{\sigma}\right) \quad y > 0 \end{aligned}$$

After differentiating with respect to y , we get the density of $|Y|$ is given by

$$f_{|Y|}(y|\mu, \sigma^2) = \frac{1}{\sigma} \phi\left(\frac{y-\mu}{\sigma}\right) + \frac{1}{\sigma} \phi\left(\frac{y+\mu}{\sigma}\right) \quad [\text{because } \phi(x) = \phi(-x) \quad \forall x]$$

where $\phi(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \exp\left(-\frac{x^2}{2}\right)$ is the density of standard normal distribution. If Y_i and Y_j are independently distributed as Y_i and $|Y_j|$. So, the observed data likelihood is given by

$$\begin{aligned} L(\mu, \sigma^2 | Y_1, Y_2, \dots, Y_q, |Y_{q+1}|, \dots, |Y_n|) &= \Pi_{i=1}^q f_{Y_i}(y_i) \Pi_{i=q+1}^n f_{|Y_i|}(y_i) \\ &= \Pi_{i=1}^q \left(\frac{1}{\sigma} \phi\left(\frac{y_i - \mu}{\sigma}\right) \right) I(y_i \in \mathbb{R}) \times \\ &\quad \Pi_{i=q+1}^n \left(\frac{1}{\sigma} \phi\left(\frac{y_i - \mu}{\sigma}\right) + \frac{1}{\sigma} \phi\left(\frac{y_i + \mu}{\sigma}\right) \right) I(y_i > 0) \end{aligned}$$

- (b) If $Z_i = 2I(Y_i > 0) - 1$, then

$$Z_i = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } Y_i > 0 \\ -1 & \text{if } Y_i \leq 0 \end{cases}$$

This implies that Z_i carries the sign of Y_i and $P(Z_i^2 = 1) = 1$ for all $i = (q+1), \dots, n$. Thus,

$$Y_i = |Y_i| Z_i \quad \forall i = q+1, \dots, n$$

Thus, if we would have the information on $Z_i, i = q+1, \dots, n$, then the complete data would have been available to us. So, considering $Y_1, Y_2, \dots, Y_q, |Y_{q+1}|, \dots, |Y_n|, Z_{q+1}, Z_{q+2}, \dots, Z_n$ as our complete data, the complete data likelihood is given by

$$\begin{aligned} L_c(\mu, \sigma^2 | \{Y_i\}_{i=1}^n, \{|Y_i|\}_{i=q+1}^n, \{Z_i\}_{i=q+1}^n) &= \Pi_{i=1}^n f_{Y_i}(y_i | \mu, \sigma^2) \\ &= (2\pi\sigma^2)^{-\frac{n}{2}} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2\sigma^2} \sum_{i=1}^q (Y_i - \mu)^2\right) \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2\sigma^2} \sum_{i=q+1}^n (|Y_i| Z_i - \mu)^2\right) \end{aligned}$$

Complete data log-likelihood is given by

$$\begin{aligned} \ell_c(\mu, \sigma^2) &= -\frac{n}{2} (\log_e 2\pi\sigma^2) - \frac{1}{2\sigma^2} \left(\sum_{i=1}^q (Y_i - \mu)^2 + \sum_{i=q+1}^n (|Y_i| Z_i - \mu)^2 \right) \\ &= -\frac{n}{2} (\log_e 2\pi\sigma^2) - \frac{1}{2\sigma^2} \left[\left(\sum_{i=1}^q Y_i^2 - 2\mu \sum_{i=1}^q Y_i + q\mu^2 \right) + \left(\sum_{i=q+1}^n |Y_i|^2 Z_i^2 - 2\mu \sum_{i=q+1}^n |Y_i| Z_i + (n-q)\mu^2 \right) \right] \\ &= -\frac{n}{2} (\log_e 2\pi\sigma^2) - \frac{1}{2\sigma^2} \left(\sum_{i=1}^n Y_i^2 - 2\mu \sum_{i=1}^q Y_i + n\mu^2 - 2\mu \sum_{i=q+1}^n |Y_i| Z_i \right) \quad [\text{because } P(Z_i^2 = 1) = 1] \end{aligned}$$

(c) Because, $Z_i = 2I(Y_i > 0) - 1$, $E(Z_i | Y_i, \mu, \sigma) = 2w_i(\mu, \sigma) - 1$. Then the E-step is given by

$$\begin{aligned} Q(\mu, \sigma^2 | \mu^\nu, \sigma^\nu) &= E(\ell_c(\mu, \sigma^2) | \{Y_i\}_{i=1}^n, \{|Y_i|\}_{i=q+1}^n, \mu^\nu, \sigma^\nu) \\ &= -\frac{n}{2}(\log_e \sigma^2 + \log_e 2\pi) - \frac{1}{2\sigma^2} \left(\sum_{i=1}^n Y_i^2 - 2\mu \sum_{i=1}^q Y_i + n\mu^2 - 2\mu \sum_{i=q+1}^n |Y_i| E(Z_i | |Y_i|, \mu^\nu, \sigma^\nu) \right) \\ &= -\frac{n}{2}(\log_e \sigma^2 + \log_e 2\pi) - \frac{1}{2\sigma^2} \left(\sum_{i=1}^n Y_i^2 - 2\mu \sum_{i=1}^q Y_i + n\mu^2 - 2\mu \sum_{i=q+1}^n |Y_i| (2w_i(\mu^\nu, \sigma^\nu) - 1) \right) \end{aligned}$$

(d) Differentiating $Q(\mu, \sigma^2 | \mu^\nu, \sigma^\nu)$ with respect to μ we get,

$$\frac{\partial Q(\mu, \sigma^2 | \mu^\nu, \sigma^\nu)}{\partial \mu} = -\frac{1}{2\sigma^2} \left(-2 \sum_{i=1}^q Y_i + 2n\mu - 2 \sum_{i=q+1}^n |Y_i| (2w_i(\mu^\nu, \sigma^\nu) - 1) \right) = 0$$

This gives the update formula for μ as

$$\mu^{\nu+1} = \frac{1}{n} \left(\sum_{i=1}^q Y_i + \sum_{i=q+1}^n |Y_i| (2w_i(\mu^\nu, \sigma^\nu) - 1) \right) \quad (3)$$

To make sure that we reach towards the maximizer, the second derivative,

$$\frac{\partial^2 Q(\mu, \sigma^2 | \mu^\nu, \sigma^\nu)}{\partial^2 \mu} = -\frac{n}{2\sigma^2} < 0$$

So, the update formula for μ is as in (3).

(e) Note that, by Bayes theorem,

$$\begin{aligned} w_i(\mu, \sigma) &= P(Y_i > 0 | |Y_i| = y_i) = \frac{f_{|Y_i|}(y_i | Y_i > 0) P(Y_i > 0)}{f_{|Y_i|}(y_i | Y_i > 0) P(Y_i > 0) + f_{|Y_i|}(y_i | Y_i \leq 0) P(Y_i \leq 0)} \\ &= \frac{f_{|Y_i|}(y_i | Y_i > 0) \Phi\left(\frac{\mu}{\sigma}\right)}{f_{|Y_i|}(y_i | Y_i > 0) \Phi\left(\frac{\mu}{\sigma}\right) + f_{|Y_i|}(y_i | Y_i \leq 0) \Phi\left(-\frac{\mu}{\sigma}\right)} \end{aligned} \quad (4)$$

Now, CDF of $|Y_i| | Y_i > 0$ is

$$F_{|Y_i|}(y | Y_i > 0) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } y < 0 \\ \frac{P(0 < Y_i \leq y)}{P(Y_i > 0)} = \frac{\Phi\left(\frac{y-\mu}{\sigma}\right) - \Phi\left(-\frac{\mu}{\sigma}\right)}{\Phi\left(\frac{\mu}{\sigma}\right)} & \text{if } y \geq 0 \end{cases}$$

So, the density of $|Y_i| | Y_i > 0$ is

$$f_{|Y_i|}(y | Y_i > 0) = \frac{\frac{1}{\sigma} \phi\left(\frac{y-\mu}{\sigma}\right)}{\Phi\left(\frac{\mu}{\sigma}\right)} I(y \geq 0) \quad (5)$$

Similarly, we can show that the density of $|Y_i| | Y_i \leq 0$ is

$$f_{|Y_i|}(y | Y_i \leq 0) = \frac{\frac{1}{\sigma} \phi\left(\frac{y+\mu}{\sigma}\right)}{\Phi\left(-\frac{\mu}{\sigma}\right)} I(y \geq 0) \quad (6)$$

Putting (5) and (6) in (4) we get,

$$\begin{aligned} w_i(\mu, \sigma) &= \frac{\frac{1}{\sigma} \phi\left(\frac{y_i-\mu}{\sigma}\right)}{\frac{1}{\sigma} \phi\left(\frac{y_i-\mu}{\sigma}\right) + \frac{1}{\sigma} \phi\left(\frac{y_i+\mu}{\sigma}\right)} \\ &= \left(1 + \exp\left(-\frac{2\mu y_i}{\sigma^2}\right) \right)^{-1} \end{aligned}$$

which is the simplified expression for $w_i(\mu, \sigma)$.

1.4 Problem 2.54

- (a) Since, Y_i 's are iid, then the chance of Y_i lying in any of the intervals is same for all Y_i and they are independent. So, this fits an appropriate set-up of multinomial distribution with

$$p_i = P(Y_1 \in [a_{i-1}, a_i)) = F(a_i) - F(a_{i-1}) \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, k$$

Assuming that the support of the distribution of Y_i is $[a_0, a_k)$, note that, $\sum_{i=1}^k p_i = 1$. Then, N_1, N_2, \dots, N_k follows multinomial $(n, p_1, p_2, \dots, p_k)$. As our only observed data is N_1, N_2, \dots, N_k , the observed data likelihood is given by

$$L(p_1, p_2, \dots, p_k | N_1, N_2, \dots, N_k) = \begin{cases} \frac{n!}{N_1! N_2! \dots N_k!} p_1^{N_1} p_2^{N_2} \dots p_k^{N_k} & \text{if } \sum_{i=1}^k N_i = n \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

- (b) Our complete data here is Y_1, Y_2, \dots, Y_n and they are iid with density $f(y|\theta)$. So, the complete data log-likelihood is given by

$$\ell_c(\theta | y_1, y_2, \dots, y_n) = \log_e L_c(\theta | Y_1, Y_2, \dots, Y_n) = \log_e \prod_{i=1}^n f_{Y_i}(y_i | \theta) = \sum_{i=1}^n \log_e f_{Y_i}(y_i | \theta)$$

$$\begin{aligned} P(Y_1 \leq y | Y_1 \in [a_{i-1}, a_i)) &= \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } y < a_{i-1} \\ \frac{P(a_{i-1} \leq Y_1 \leq y)}{P(a_{i-1} \leq Y_1 \leq a_i)} & \text{if } a_{i-1} \leq y < a_i \\ 1 & \text{if } y \geq a_i \end{cases} \\ &= \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } y < a_{i-1} \\ \frac{F_\theta(y) - F_\theta(a_{i-1})}{F_\theta(a_i) - F_\theta(a_{i-1})} & \text{if } a_{i-1} \leq y < a_i \\ 1 & \text{if } y \geq a_i \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

where $F_\theta(x) = \int_{-\infty}^x f(y; \theta) dy$ is the CDF of Y_1 . Differentiating the above CDF with respect to y , we get the density of Y_1 given $Y_1 \in [a_{i-1}, a_i)$ as

$$f_{Y_1}(y | Y_1 \in [a_{i-1}, a_i)) = \frac{f_\theta(y)}{F_\theta(a_i) - F_\theta(a_{i-1})} I(a_{i-1} \leq y < a_i)$$

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The log-likelihood function of this location-scale family based on a single observation is given by

$$\ell(\mu, \sigma; y) = -\log_e \sigma + \log_e f_0\left(\frac{y - \mu}{\sigma}\right)$$

This implies,

$$\frac{\partial \ell}{\partial \mu} = -\frac{1}{\sigma} \frac{f'_0\left(\frac{y - \mu}{\sigma}\right)}{f_0\left(\frac{y - \mu}{\sigma}\right)} \quad \frac{\partial \ell}{\partial \sigma} = -\frac{1}{\sigma} \left[1 + \frac{f'_0\left(\frac{y - \mu}{\sigma}\right)}{f_0\left(\frac{y - \mu}{\sigma}\right)} \left(\frac{y - \mu}{\sigma}\right) \right]$$

This implies,

$$\begin{aligned} E\left(\frac{\partial \ell}{\partial \mu}\right)^2 &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{1}{\sigma^2} \left(\frac{f'_0\left(\frac{y - \mu}{\sigma}\right)}{f_0\left(\frac{y - \mu}{\sigma}\right)} \right)^2 \frac{1}{\sigma} f_0\left(\frac{y - \mu}{\sigma}\right) dy \\ &= \frac{1}{\sigma^2} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \left[\frac{f'_0(x)}{f_0(x)} \right]^2 f_0(x) dx \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E} \left(\frac{\partial \ell}{\partial \sigma} \right)^2 &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{1}{\sigma^2} \left[1 + \frac{f'_0 \left(\frac{y-\mu}{\sigma} \right)}{f_0 \left(\frac{y-\mu}{\sigma} \right)} \left(\frac{y-\mu}{\sigma} \right) \right]^2 \frac{1}{\sigma} f_0 \left(\frac{y-\mu}{\sigma} \right) dy \\ &= \frac{1}{\sigma^2} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \left[1 + x \frac{f'_0(x)}{f_0(x)} \right]^2 f_0(x) dx \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E} \left[\left(\frac{\partial \ell}{\partial \mu} \right) \left(\frac{\partial \ell}{\partial \sigma} \right) \right] &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{1}{\sigma^2} \left(\frac{f'_0 \left(\frac{y-\mu}{\sigma} \right)}{f_0 \left(\frac{y-\mu}{\sigma} \right)} \right)^2 \left(\frac{y-\mu}{\sigma} \right) \frac{1}{\sigma} f_0 \left(\frac{y-\mu}{\sigma} \right) dy + \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{1}{\sigma^2} \left[\frac{f'_0 \left(\frac{y-\mu}{\sigma} \right)}{f_0 \left(\frac{y-\mu}{\sigma} \right)} \right] \frac{1}{\sigma} f_0 \left(\frac{y-\mu}{\sigma} \right) dy \\ &= \frac{1}{\sigma^2} \left[\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x \left[\frac{f'_0(x)}{f_0(x)} \right]^2 f_0(x) dx + \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f'_0(x) dx \right] \\ &= \frac{1}{\sigma^2} \left[\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x \left[\frac{f'_0(x)}{f_0(x)} \right]^2 f_0(x) dx + \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{d}{dx} f_0(x) dx \right] \\ &= \frac{1}{\sigma^2} \left[\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x \left[\frac{f'_0(x)}{f_0(x)} \right]^2 f_0(x) dx + \frac{d}{dx} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f_0(x) dx \right] \quad [\text{provided this interchange is valid for } f_0] \\ &= \frac{1}{\sigma^2} \left[\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x \left[\frac{f'_0(x)}{f_0(x)} \right]^2 f_0(x) dx + \frac{d}{dx} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} 1 \right] \\ &= \frac{1}{\sigma^2} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x \left[\frac{f'_0(x)}{f_0(x)} \right]^2 f_0(x) dx \end{aligned}$$

The information matrix is given by

$$\mathbf{I}(\mu, \sigma) = \frac{1}{\sigma^2} \begin{bmatrix} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \left[\frac{f'_0(x)}{f_0(x)} \right]^2 f_0(x) dx & \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x \left[\frac{f'_0(x)}{f_0(x)} \right]^2 f_0(x) dx \\ \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x \left[\frac{f'_0(x)}{f_0(x)} \right]^2 f_0(x) dx & \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \left[1 + x \frac{f'_0(x)}{f_0(x)} \right]^2 f_0(x) dx \end{bmatrix}$$

Notice, that, if the base density $f_0(x)$ is symmetric about 0, then $f_0(x) = f_0(-x)$, then f_0 is an even function, which means f'_0 is an odd function. This implies, the integrand in the off-diagonal element of $\mathbf{I}(\mu, \sigma)$, $g(x) = x \left[\frac{f'_0(x)}{f_0(x)} \right]^2 f_0(x)$ is an odd function in x , resulting $\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} g(x) dx = 0$. Then, the information matrix would be diagonal. Otherwise, for general function f_0 , the information matrix is a dense matrix.

Thus, we can say that if the base density is symmetric then there is no asymptotic variance inflation for estimating μ when σ is unknown. Otherwise, the variance would be inflated if we want to estimate μ assuming σ unknown compared to the case when σ is known.