

$$(4) \quad \sum_{j=1}^k F_n(X_{j-1,k})I_{A_j} \leq F_n(x) \leq \sum_{j=1}^k F_n(X_{jk} - 0)I_{A_j}$$

Inequality (6) should be replaced by

$$(6) \quad \begin{aligned} F(x | \mathfrak{F}) - F_n(x) &\leq \sum_{j=1}^k (F(X_{jk} - 0 | \mathfrak{F}) - F_n(X_{j-1,k}))I_{A_j} \\ &= \sum_{j=1}^k (F(X_{jk} - 0 | \mathfrak{F}) - F(X_{j-1,k} | \mathfrak{F}))I_{A_j} \\ &\quad + \sum_{j=1}^k (F(X_{j-1,k} | \mathfrak{F}) - F_n(X_{j-1,k}))I_{A_j} \\ &\leq \max_{1 \leq j \leq k} |F_n(X_{jk}) - F(X_{jk} | \mathfrak{F})| + 1/k. \end{aligned}$$

Inequality (7) should be replaced by

$$(7) \quad F(x | \mathfrak{F}) - F_n(x) \geq -\max_{1 \leq j \leq k} |F_n(X_{jk} - 0) - F(X_{jk} - 0 | \mathfrak{F})| - 1/k.$$

Inequality (8) should be replaced by

$$(8) \quad |F_n(x) - F(x | \mathfrak{F})| \leq 1/k + \max_{1 \leq j \leq k} \{ |F_n(X_{jk} - 0) - F(X_{jk} - 0 | \mathfrak{F})|, |F_n(X_{jk}) - F(X_{jk} | \mathfrak{F})| \}.$$

Immediately after inequality (8) the following sentence should be added: In a way similar to the proof on the bottom of page 829 one may easily verify that $P[F_n(X_{jk} - 0) \xrightarrow{n} F(X_{jk} - 0 | \mathfrak{F})] = 1$.

CORRECTION TO

“ON THE THEORY OF BAN ESTIMATES”¹

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I am greatly indebted to Dr. Lucien LeCam for calling to my attention an error in the proof of Theorem 1 of the paper cited in the title (*Ann. Math. Stat.* Vol. 30 (1959), pp. 185–191). The transition from (12) to (13) is in general not justified. Worse, the theorem itself is false in general, as can be shown with a counter example. In order to remedy the situation, the assumptions have to be strengthened. This can be done either on the distributions of the Z_n , or on the estimator $\hat{\theta}$. As an example of the first, if the Z_n have densities which (when normalized) converge a.e. to the limiting normal density, then the transition

¹ Work supported by the National Science Foundation.

from (12) to (13) is valid [9] and with that the proof of Theorem 1 is correct. However, this seems too strong an assumption to be of much practical value, since so many examples deal with discrete random variables. Turning now to assumptions on $\hat{\theta}$, we could require (4) to be true for all sequences Z_n for which (1) holds. Taking then in particular $Z_n : N(\zeta(\theta), \Sigma(\theta)/n)$, the previous case (convergence of densities) applies, and the conclusion of Theorem 1 follows. A more attractive, even though slightly stronger, assumption on $\hat{\theta}$ is to require it to be differentiable in every point of U . This insures, of course, continuity in every point of U but not continuity in a neighborhood of U , leave alone differentiability in a neighborhood of U which would be the requirement for a regular (1) estimate. We are thus led to the following modification of Definition 2 and regular (2):

DEFINITION 3. $\hat{\theta}$ will be called regular (3) if (i) $\hat{\theta}(\zeta(\theta)) \equiv \theta$ identically in θ^2 ; (ii) $\hat{\theta}$ is differentiable in every point $\zeta(\theta)$ of U .

Let the matrix derivative of $\hat{\theta}$ in the point $\zeta(\theta)$ be denoted by $A(\theta)$. Theorem 1 now follows immediately by differentiation of (i) of Definition 3 (which is the same as equation (2)). A few remarks about $A(\theta)$ are in order. In the first place, the existence of this derivative in every point of U implies (4) for every sequence Z_n satisfying (1). Secondly, it is not necessary to require A to be continuous in θ . However, if $\hat{\theta}$ is constructed according to Theorem 2, then $A = (BV)^{-1}B$ (see eq. (6)) so that A is continuous due to the continuity assumptions on B and V . Under all circumstances, the A corresponding to any BAN estimate is continuous since it is given by $A = (V'\Sigma^{-1}V)^{-1}V'\Sigma^{-1}$.

It is somewhat remarkable that Theorem 2 remains true if, in the conclusion, regular (2) is replaced by the stronger regular (3). The surprise is that $\hat{\theta}$ turns out to be differentiable in each point of U , even though no differentiability assumptions are made on B . Therefore, a proof of Theorem 2, with regular (2) replaced by regular (3), seems to be in order. Before doing this, it may be of interest to point out that Ferguson's estimates [5] are also differentiable in each point of U since they are generated by (5) with $B(z, \theta)$ satisfying even stronger assumptions than in Theorem 2. Comparing now the various kinds of regular estimates, we have that regular (1) estimates are continuously differentiable in a neighborhood of U , Ferguson's estimates are continuous in a neighborhood of U and differentiable in every point of U , while regular (3) estimates are differentiable in every point of U .

PROOF OF THEOREM 2, with regular (2) replaced by regular (3). It suffices to show that in each point of U there is a neighborhood possessing the properties ascribed to the neighborhood N in the conclusion of Theorem 2. Then N can be taken as the union of the individual neighborhoods. Consider any point of U . We may take this as the origin of the coordinate system in Z . For the purpose of the proof we may make the same transformations as in Section 4 (observe

² The assumption (i) of Definition 3 is the same as equation (2). Instead, we could have made the same assumption as in Definition 1 (i). The two assumptions are equivalent since $\hat{\theta}$ is supposed to be continuous in each point of U .

that ζ^{-1} is differentiable due to Assumption 2 (iii) and (iv)). We may suppose then that U is a linear subspace of \mathbf{Z} , spanned by the first m coordinate axes, and that ζ is the identity function from U to U . Thus we have identified U with the parameter space Ω . A point u of U has its last $k - m$ components equal to 0; the m -vector formed by its first m components will be written θ . Let I_{km} be a $k \times m$ matrix whose elements are 1 on the "main diagonal" and 0 otherwise. We can write then $u = I_{km}\theta$. The transformations which we have employed replace in (5) $\zeta(\theta)$ by $I_{km}\theta$, and $B(z, \theta)$ by some other matrix, which, however, we shall again denote by $B(z, \theta)$. The matrix $V(0)$ is replaced by I_{km} . Put $B(z, \theta) I_{km} = C(z, \theta)$, then by assumption $C(0, 0)$ is non-singular. Furthermore, C is continuous in (z, θ) at $(0, 0)$. Put $C^{-1}B = D$, then $D(z, \theta)$ exists in a neighborhood of $(0, 0)$, is continuous in (z, θ) at $(0, 0)$ and is continuous in θ for each fixed z . Let $S_1 \times S_2$ be such a neighborhood, where S_1 is a solid k -sphere about $z = 0$ and S_2 a solid m -sphere about $\theta = 0$. In addition, we may choose the radii r_1 and r_2 of S_1 and S_2 so that for $(z, \theta) \in S_1 \times S_2$ we have $\|D(z, \theta)\| \leq r_2/r_1$. We now write (5) as

$$(25) \quad \theta = D(z, \theta)z.$$

For each $z \in S_1$, the right hand side of (25) is a continuous transformation of S_2 into itself. According to the Brouwer fixed point theorem [7] there is a fixed point of the transformation, therefore a solution $\hat{\theta}(z)$ to (25). Write

$$(26) \quad \hat{\theta}(z) = D(z, \hat{\theta}(z))z.$$

For $z \in S_1$, $\|D(z, \hat{\theta}(z))\|$ is bounded, so $\hat{\theta}(z) \rightarrow 0$ as $z \rightarrow 0$. Hence $\hat{\theta}$ is continuous at 0. From this we have $D(z, \hat{\theta}(z)) \rightarrow D(0, 0)$ as $z \rightarrow 0$, and from (26) it follows then that $\hat{\theta}$ is differentiable at $z = 0$, with matrix derivative $D(0, 0)$. This proves that on S_1 $\hat{\theta}$ is regular (3). In the original coordinate system the matrix $D(0, 0)$ takes the form $(BV)^{-1}B$, evaluated at some point $(\zeta(\theta), \theta)$. This leads immediately to (6). The last assertion in the conclusion of Theorem 2 is proved in [3].

REFERENCE

- [9] HENRY SCHEFFÉ, "A useful convergence theorem for probability distributions," *Ann. Math. Stat.*, Vol. 18 (1947), pp. 434-438.