

## W6: WEDNESDAY / FRIDAY

ESTIMATING PARAMETERS / MLE AND ITS PROPERTIES

Ch. 5.2. L & M, ch. 5.4

(~~using order stat ... , Method of moments~~)

let  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$  be a random sample of size n from a discrete pmf  $p_X(x; \theta)$ , where  $\theta$  is an unknown parameter of a distribution.

⇒ Then likelihood function  $L(\theta)$  is defined as product of the pdf, evaluated at the  $x_i$ 's

$$L(\theta) = \prod_{i=1}^n p_X(x_i; \theta)$$

If  $y_1, y_2, \dots, y_n$  is a sample of size n from a continuous pdf  $f_Y(y; \theta)$  then

$$L(\theta) = \prod_{i=1}^n f_Y(y_i; \theta)$$

Maximum Likelihood Estimator of  $\theta$  is

$\hat{\theta}$  THAT MAXIMIZES FUNCTION  $L$ , i.e.

$\hat{\theta}$  IS A SOLUTION TO EQUATION

$$\frac{d}{d\theta} L(\theta) = 0.$$