

1. Let  $X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n$  be independent identically distributed random variables with density function

$$h(t; \theta) = \frac{1}{2\theta} e^{-|t|/\theta}, \quad -\infty < t < \infty.$$

Find the maximum likelihood estimator for  $\theta$  and compute the asymptotic variance of the maximum likelihood estimator.