

## Online Appendix

Figure 16 shows the estimates for count data with constant slopes and varying discrimination parameters for  $I = 5$ ,  $P = 200$  and  $\sigma_\theta = 1$ . The dots show the true values of the parameters. Note that there is no variation in the last discrimination parameter since it is fixed ( $\alpha_5 = 1$ ). Figure 17 shows the estimates for data with varying slopes and fixed discrimination parameters ( $I = 5$ ,  $P = 200$ ,  $\sigma_\theta = 1$ ). For illustration Figure 18 shows the estimates for the latter scenario if the number of persons is increased to  $P = 400$ , which means estimates are closer to the true values.

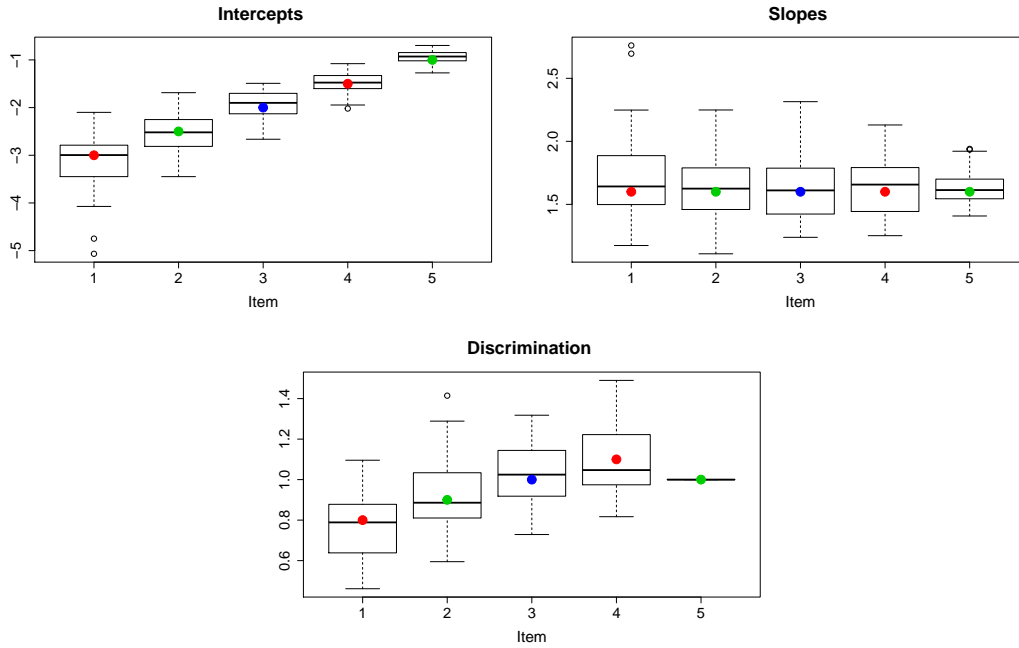


FIGURE 16: Estimates for simulated count data with  $I = 5$ ,  $P = 200$  and  $\sigma_\theta = 1$ . The dots show the true values of the parameters.

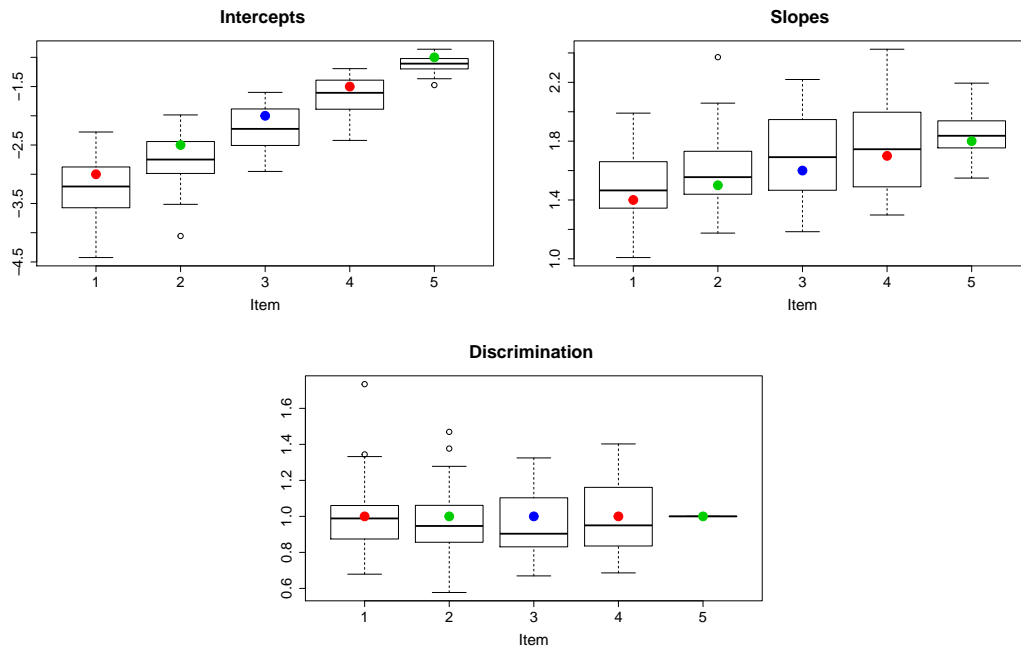


FIGURE 17: Estimates for simulated count data with  $I = 5$ ,  $P = 200$  and  $\sigma_\theta = 1$ . The dots show the true values of the parameters.

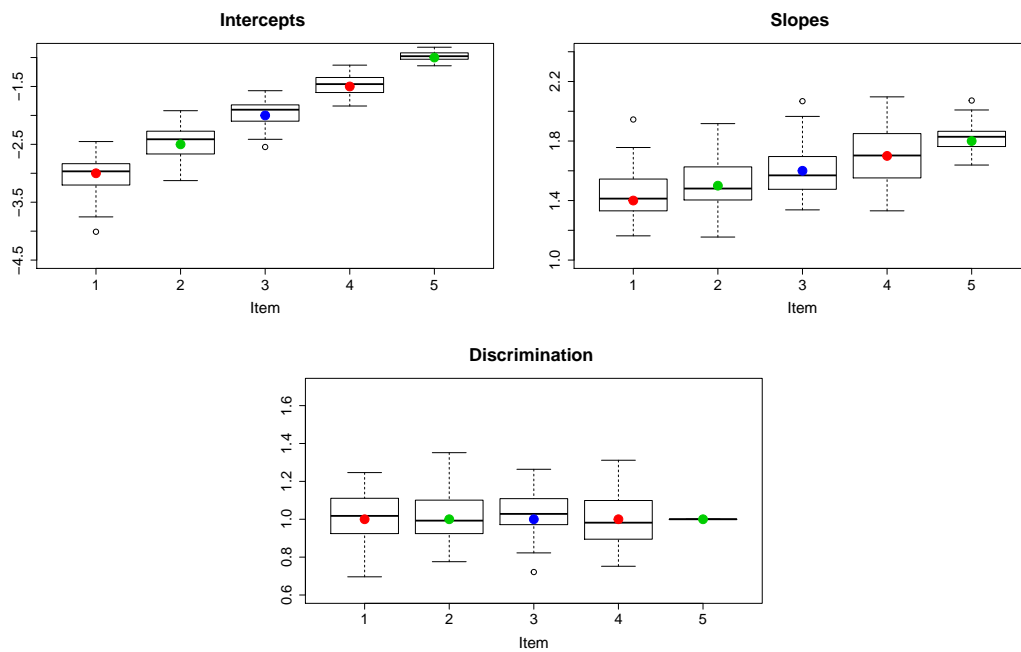


FIGURE 18: Estimates for simulated count data with  $I = 5$ ,  $P = 400$  and  $\sigma_\theta = 1$ . The dots show the true values of the parameters.