

4. LLMS estimation with random sums

Problem 4. LLMS estimation with random sums

4/4 points (graded)

Let N be a random variable with mean $\mathbf{E}[N] = m$, and $\mathbf{Var}(N) = v$; let A_1, A_2, \dots be a sequence of i.i.d random variables, all independent of N , with mean 1 and variance 1; let B_1, B_2, \dots be another sequence of i.i.d. random variables, all independent of N and of A_1, A_2, \dots , also with mean 1 and variance 1. Let $A = \sum_{i=1}^N A_i$ and $B = \sum_{i=1}^N B_i$.

- Find the following expectations using the law of iterated expectations. Express each answer in terms of m and v , using standard notation.

$$\mathbf{E}[AB] =$$

✓ Answer: m^2+v

$$\mathbf{E}[NA] =$$

✓ Answer: m^2+v

- Let $\hat{N} = c_1 A + c_2$ be the LLMS estimator of N given A . Find c_1 and c_2 in terms of m and v .

$$c_1 =$$

✓ Answer: $v/(m+v)$

$$c_2 =$$

✓ Answer: $m^2/(m+v)$

STANDARD NOTATION

Solution:

- We begin by finding $\mathbf{E}[AB]$.

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathbf{E}[AB] &= \mathbf{E}[(A_1 + \cdots + A_N)(B_1 + \cdots + B_N)] \\
&= \mathbf{E}[\mathbf{E}[(A_1 + \cdots + A_N)(B_1 + \cdots + B_N) \mid N]] \\
&= \mathbf{E}[\mathbf{E}[(A_1 + \cdots + A_N) \mid N] \mathbf{E}[(B_1 + \cdots + B_N) \mid N]] \\
&= \mathbf{E}[N \mathbf{E}[A_1] N \mathbf{E}[B_1]] \\
&= \mathbf{E}[N^2] \\
&= \text{Var}(N) + (\mathbf{E}[N])^2 \\
&= m^2 + v.
\end{aligned}$$

Similarly,

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathbf{E}[NA] &= \mathbf{E}[\mathbf{E}[N(A_1 + \cdots + A_N) \mid N]] \\
&= \mathbf{E}[N \mathbf{E}[A_1 + \cdots + A_N \mid N]] \\
&= \mathbf{E}[N(N \mathbf{E}[A_1])] \\
&= \mathbf{E}[N^2] \\
&= m^2 + v.
\end{aligned}$$

2. A is the sum of a random number, N , of independent and identically distributed random variables A_1, \dots, A_N . Therefore,

$$\mathbf{E}[A] = \mathbf{E}[\mathbf{E}[A \mid N]] = \mathbf{E}[\mathbf{E}[A_1] N] = m,$$

and

$$\text{Var}(A) = \text{Var}(A_i) \mathbf{E}[N] + (\mathbf{E}[A_i])^2 \text{Var}(N) = m + v.$$

Law of total variance: $\text{var}(X) = \mathbf{E}[\text{var}(X \mid Y)] + \text{var}(\mathbf{E}[X \mid Y])$

If X, Y are independent: $\text{var}(X + Y) = \text{var}(X) + \text{var}(Y)$

不适用！因为variance的来源还有A的数量

Similarly, $\mathbf{E}[B] = m$, and $\text{Var}(B) = m + v$. Furthermore,

$$\begin{aligned}
\text{cov}(N, A) &= \mathbf{E}[NA] - \mathbf{E}[N] \mathbf{E}[A] \\
&= (m^2 + v) - m^2 \\
&= v.
\end{aligned}$$

Finally,

$$\begin{aligned}
\hat{N} &= \mathbf{E}[N] + \frac{\text{cov}(N, A)}{\text{Var}(A)} (A - \mathbf{E}[A]) \\
&= m + \frac{v}{m + v} (A - m) \\
&= \frac{m^2}{m + v} + \frac{v}{m + v} A.
\end{aligned}$$