

## LECTURE 24

- **Reference:** Section 9.3
- Course Evaluations (until 12/16)  
<http://web.mit.edu/subjectevaluation>

### Outline

- Review
  - Maximum likelihood estimation
  - Confidence intervals
- Linear regression
- Binary hypothesis testing
  - Types of error
  - Likelihood ratio test (LRT)

## Review

- **Maximum likelihood estimation**
  - Have model with unknown parameters:  
 $X \sim p_X(x; \theta)$
  - Pick  $\theta$  that “makes data most likely”

$$\max_{\theta} p_X(x; \theta)$$

- Compare to Bayesian MAP estimation:

$$\max_{\theta} p_{\Theta|X}(\theta | x) \text{ or } \max_{\theta} \frac{p_{X|\Theta}(x|\theta)p_{\Theta}(\theta)}{p_Y(y)}$$

- **Sample mean estimate of  $\theta = E[X]$**

$$\hat{\Theta}_n = (X_1 + \dots + X_n)/n$$

- **$1 - \alpha$  confidence interval**

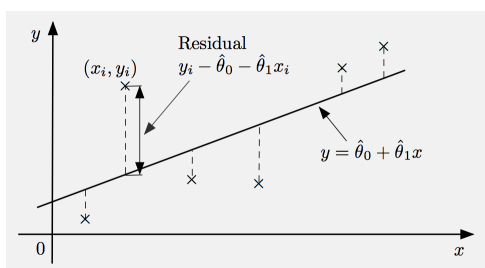
$$P(\hat{\Theta}_n^- \leq \theta \leq \hat{\Theta}_n^+) \geq 1 - \alpha, \quad \forall \theta$$

- confidence interval for sample mean

- let  $z$  be s.t.  $\Phi(z) = 1 - \alpha/2$

$$P\left(\hat{\Theta}_n - \frac{z\sigma}{\sqrt{n}} \leq \theta \leq \hat{\Theta}_n + \frac{z\sigma}{\sqrt{n}}\right) \approx 1 - \alpha$$

## Regression



- Data:  $(x_1, y_1), (x_2, y_2), \dots, (x_n, y_n)$
- Model:  $y \approx \theta_0 + \theta_1 x$

$$\min_{\theta_0, \theta_1} \sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - \theta_0 - \theta_1 x_i)^2 \quad (*)$$

- One interpretation:  
 $Y_i = \theta_0 + \theta_1 x_i + W_i, \quad W_i \sim N(0, \sigma^2), \text{ i.i.d.}$ 
  - Likelihood function  $f_{X,Y|\theta}(x, y; \theta)$  is:

$$c \cdot \exp \left\{ -\frac{1}{2\sigma^2} \sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - \theta_0 - \theta_1 x_i)^2 \right\}$$

- Take logs, same as (\*)
- Least sq.  $\leftrightarrow$  pretend  $W_i$  i.i.d. normal

## Linear regression

- **Model**  $y \approx \theta_0 + \theta_1 x$

$$\min_{\theta_0, \theta_1} \sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - \theta_0 - \theta_1 x_i)^2$$

- **Solution** (set derivatives to zero):

$$\bar{x} = \frac{x_1 + \dots + x_n}{n}, \quad \bar{y} = \frac{y_1 + \dots + y_n}{n}$$

$$\hat{\theta}_1 = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \bar{x})(y_i - \bar{y})}{\sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \bar{x})^2}$$

$$\hat{\theta}_0 = \bar{y} - \hat{\theta}_1 \bar{x}$$

- **Interpretation** of the form of the solution

- Assume a model  $Y = \theta_0 + \theta_1 X + W$   
 $W$  independent of  $X$ , with zero mean
- Check that

$$\theta_1 = \frac{\text{cov}(X, Y)}{\text{var}(X)} = \frac{E[(X - E[X])(Y - E[Y])]}{E[(X - E[X])^2]}$$

- Solution formula for  $\hat{\theta}_1$  uses natural estimates of the variance and covariance

## The world of linear regression

- **Multiple linear regression:**

- **data:**  $(x_i, x'_i, x''_i, y_i), i = 1, \dots, n$
- **model:**  $y \approx \theta_0 + \theta x + \theta' x' + \theta'' x''$
- **formulation:**

$$\min_{\theta, \theta', \theta''} \sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - \theta_0 - \theta x_i - \theta' x'_i - \theta'' x''_i)^2$$

- **Choosing the right variables**

- model  $y \approx \theta_0 + \theta_1 h(x)$   
e.g.,  $y \approx \theta_0 + \theta_1 x^2$
- work with data points  $(y_i, h(x_i))$
- formulation:

$$\min_{\theta} \sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - \theta_0 - \theta_1 h_1(x_i))^2$$

## The world of regression (ctd.)

- **In practice**, one also reports

- Confidence intervals for the  $\theta_i$
- “Standard error” (estimate of  $\sigma$ )
- $R^2$ , a measure of “explanatory power”

- **Some common concerns**

- Heteroskedasticity
- Multicollinearity
- Sometimes misused to conclude causal relations
- etc.

## Binary hypothesis testing

- Binary  $\theta$ ; new terminology:

- **null hypothesis**  $H_0$ :  
 $X \sim p_X(x; H_0)$  [or  $f_X(x; H_0)$ ]
- **alternative hypothesis**  $H_1$ :  
 $X \sim p_X(x; H_1)$  [or  $f_X(x; H_1)$ ]

- Partition the space of possible data vectors

**Rejection region  $R$ :**

reject  $H_0$  iff data  $\in R$

- Types of errors:

- **Type I (false rejection, false alarm):**  
 $H_0$  true, but rejected

$$\alpha(R) = \mathbf{P}(X \in R; H_0)$$

- **Type II (false acceptance, missed detection):**  
 $H_0$  false, but accepted

$$\beta(R) = \mathbf{P}(X \notin R; H_1)$$

## Likelihood ratio test (LRT)

- Bayesian case (MAP rule): choose  $H_1$  if:

$$\mathbf{P}(H_1 | X = x) > \mathbf{P}(H_0 | X = x)$$

or

$$\frac{\mathbf{P}(X = x | H_1) \mathbf{P}(H_1)}{\mathbf{P}(X = x)} > \frac{\mathbf{P}(X = x | H_0) \mathbf{P}(H_0)}{\mathbf{P}(X = x)}$$

or

$$\frac{\mathbf{P}(X = x | H_1)}{\mathbf{P}(X = x | H_0)} > \frac{\mathbf{P}(H_0)}{\mathbf{P}(H_1)}$$

(likelihood ratio test)

- Nonbayesian version: choose  $H_1$  if

$$\frac{\mathbf{P}(X = x; H_1)}{\mathbf{P}(X = x; H_0)} > \xi \quad (\text{discrete case})$$

$$\frac{f_X(x; H_1)}{f_X(x; H_0)} > \xi \quad (\text{continuous case})$$

- threshold  $\xi$  trades off the two types of error

- choose  $\xi$  so that  $\mathbf{P}(\text{reject } H_0; H_0) = \alpha$   
(e.g.,  $\alpha = 0.05$ )