ASDS Statistics, YSU, Fall 2020 Lecture 24

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Methods to find (good) Estimators

The Problem

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We are given a Random Sample from a Parametric Family of Distributions,

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Problem: The Problem is to find/construct a good Estimator for θ , using our Random Sample.

The Method of Moments

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Note: Note that, in general, the Theoretical Moments of \mathcal{F}_{θ} are functions of θ .

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Note: The Empirical Moment is independent of the Parameter θ , it is just a Statistics, it is a function of $X_1, X_2, ..., X_n$.

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Solution: OTB

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from the following Model:

$$\begin{array}{c|c|c} X & 0 & 1 & 2 \\ \hline \mathbb{P}(X=x) & \frac{\theta}{10} & \frac{\theta}{5} & 1 - \frac{3\theta}{10}, \end{array}$$

where $\theta \in [0, \frac{10}{3}]$.

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So assume $\theta = (\theta_1, \theta_2)$. Then we need 2 Equations to find θ_1 and θ_2 . The MoM says: first try to solve the following system:

$$\begin{cases} \mbox{ 1-st order Theoretical Moment} = \mbox{ 1-st order Empirical Moment} \\ \mbox{ 2-nd order Theoretical Moment} = \mbox{ 2-nd order Empirical Moment} \end{cases}$$

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Example: Find the MoM Estimator for (a, b) in the Unif[a, b]

Model.

Solution: OTB

Example: Let us do an experiment in **R**, concerning the last example:

```
a <- 2.5; b <- 3.24
x <- runif(10, min = a, max = b)
x.bar <- mean(x)
z <- sqrt(3* (mean(x^2) - x.bar^2))
a.hat.MoM<- x.bar - z
b.hat.MoM <- x.bar + z
c(a.hat.MoM, b.hat.MoM)</pre>
```

```
## [1] 2.410272 3.052920
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a < -2.5; b < -3.24
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z \leftarrow sqrt(3* (mean(x^2) - x.bar^2))
a.hat.MoM < -x.bar - z
b.hat.MoM <- x.bar + z
c(a.hat.MoM, b.hat.MoM)
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Of course, we can just take \hat{a} = X_{(1)} and \hat{b} = X_{(n)}:
c(min(x), max(x))
```

[1] 2.515333 3.020296

Note: If you do not want to obtain the *MoM Estimator*, but just the *MoM Estimate*, just plug the Observations into the Empirical Moments, and then solve the Moments Equality Equations.

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Note: Sometimes we are interested not in the Estimate of the Parameter itself, but in the Estimate for some function of that Parameter. Say, we want to Estimate $h(\theta)$, where θ is our unknown Parameter. Then one of the approaches is the Plug-in Principle: find an Estimator $\hat{\theta}$ for θ , say, using the MoM, and then plug that in h, to obtain $h(\hat{\theta})$ as an Estimator for $h(\theta)$.

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Now, by the WLLN, $\overline{X}_n \stackrel{\mathbb{P}}{\longrightarrow} \mathbb{E}(X_1) = e(\theta)$, so

$$\hat{\theta}_n = e^{-1}(\overline{X}_n) \stackrel{\mathbb{P}}{\longrightarrow} e^{-1}(e(\theta)) = \theta.$$