

8.2 Simultaneous confidence interval

Bonferroni method

$$\alpha = P(X_c \geq 1 | H_0), X_c \stackrel{H_0}{\sim} \text{Bin}(c, \alpha_c),$$

where X_c is the number of positive results among these c tests.

$$P(X \geq 1 | H_0) = 1 - (1 - \alpha_c)^c.$$

$$\alpha = 1 - (1 - \alpha_c)^c \approx c\alpha_c.$$

each individual test should be performed at the level α/c .

current setting of $c = \binom{I}{2}$ pairwise differences $(\mu_i - \mu_j)$.

100(1 - α)% simultaneous confidence interval:

$$B_{\mu_i - \mu_j} = \bar{y}_i - \bar{y}_j \pm t_{I(n-1)} \left(\frac{\alpha}{I(I-1)} \right) \cdot s_p \sqrt{\frac{2}{n}},$$

Tukey method

normality assumption with equal variances,

$$X_i = \bar{Y}_i - \mu_i \sim N(0, \frac{\sigma}{\sqrt{n}}), \quad i = 1, \dots, I,$$

are independent normal variables.

$$\frac{\max\{X_1, \dots, X_I\} - \min\{X_1, \dots, X_I\}}{S_p/\sqrt{n}} \sim \text{SR}_{k_1, k_2}, \quad k_1 = I, \quad k_2 = I(n-1).$$

studentised range distribution SR_{k_1, k_2}

number of independent samples k_1

degrees of freedom k_2 used in the variance estimate s_p^2 .

Tukey's 100(1 - α)% simultaneous confidence interval

$$T_{\mu_i - \mu_j} = \bar{y}_i - \bar{y}_j \pm q_{I, I(n-1)}(\alpha) \cdot \frac{s_p}{\sqrt{n}}$$

$P(Q > q_{k_1, k_2}(\alpha)) = \alpha$, where $Q \sim \text{SR}_{k_1, k_2}$.

Tukey takes into account the dependencies

$$I_{\mu_i - \mu_j} = \bar{y}_i - \bar{y}_j \pm t_{I(n-1)} \left(\frac{\alpha}{2} \right) \cdot s_p \sqrt{\frac{2}{n}}, \quad 1 \leq i, j \leq I$$

$$\alpha \rightarrow \frac{\alpha}{c} = \frac{2\alpha}{I(I-1)}.$$

pairwise differences $\mu_i - \mu_j$ are not independent as required by Bonferroni

each individual test should be performed at the level α/c .

9.2 Chi-squared test of independence

contrast to the previous setting of J independent samples,

the total counts (n_1, n_2, \dots, n_J) are random outcomes

$$(C_{11}, \dots, C_{IJ}) \sim \text{Mn}(n; \pi_{11}, \dots, \pi_{IJ}),$$

characterised by $IJ - 1$ degrees of freedom,

$$H_0 : \pi_{ij} = \pi_{i.} \pi_{.j} \quad \text{for all pairs } (i, j).$$

maximum likelihood estimates of π_i and π_j

null hypothesis of independence the expected cell counts

$$e_{ij} = n \hat{\pi}_{ij} = n \hat{\pi}_{i.} \hat{\pi}_{.j} \quad \text{df} = (IJ - 1) - (I - 1 + J - 1) = (I - 1)(J - 1)$$

$$\hat{\pi}_i = \frac{c_{i.}}{n}, \quad \hat{\pi}_{.j} = \frac{c_{.j}}{n}$$

The chi-squared tests of homogeneity and independence have the same test rejection rule.

10.1 Simple linear regression model

$$Y = \beta_0 + \beta_1 x + \sigma Z, \quad Z \sim N(0, 1),$$

$$y_i = \beta_0 + \beta_1 x_i + e_i, \quad i = 1, \dots, n, \text{ where } C = (2\pi)^{-n/2}.$$

$$L(\theta) = \prod_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma} \exp \left\{ -\frac{(y_i - \beta_0 - \beta_1 x_i)^2}{2\sigma^2} \right\} = C \sigma^{-n} \exp \left\{ -\frac{1}{2\sigma^2} \sum_{i=1}^n e_i^2 \right\},$$

$$l(\theta) = \ln C - (n/2) \ln \sigma^2 - \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n e_i^2}{2\sigma^2}, \quad \bar{x} = \frac{x_1 + \dots + x_n}{n}, \quad \bar{y} = \frac{y_1 + \dots + y_n}{n},$$

$$e_i = y_i - \beta_0 - \beta_1 x_i, \quad \bar{x}^2 = \frac{x_1^2 + \dots + x_n^2}{n}, \quad \bar{y}^2 = \frac{y_1^2 + \dots + y_n^2}{n},$$

$$n^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^n e_i^2 = \beta_0^2 + 2\beta_0\bar{\beta}_1\bar{x} - 2\beta_0\bar{y} - 2\beta_1\bar{x}\bar{y} + \beta_1^2\bar{x}^2 + \bar{y}^2,$$

$$\bar{x}\bar{y} = \frac{x_1 y_1 + \dots + x_n y_n}{n}, \quad \frac{\partial l}{\partial \beta_0} = -\frac{n}{\sigma^2} (\beta_0 + \beta_1 \bar{x} - \bar{y}),$$

$$\frac{\partial l}{\partial \beta_1} = -\frac{n}{\sigma^2} (\beta_0 \bar{x} - \bar{x}\bar{y} + \beta_1 \bar{x}^2),$$

$$\hat{e}_i = y_i - b_0 - b_1 x_i, \quad \frac{\partial l}{\partial \sigma^2} = -\frac{n}{2\sigma^2} + \frac{1}{2\sigma^4} \sum_{i=1}^n e_i^2,$$

$$b_0 + b_1 \bar{x} = \bar{y}, \quad b_0 \bar{x} + b_1 \bar{x}^2 = \bar{x}\bar{y}, \quad \hat{\sigma}^2 = \frac{\text{SSE}}{n},$$

$$b_1 = \frac{\bar{x}\bar{y} - \bar{x}\bar{y}}{\bar{x}^2 - \bar{x}^2}, \quad b_0 = \bar{y} - b_1 \bar{x}.$$

$$\text{SSE} = \min_{\beta_0, \beta_1} \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - \beta_0 - \beta_1 x_i)^2 \right\},$$

The maximum likelihood estimate of $\hat{\sigma}^2 = \frac{\text{SSE}}{n}$ is biased but asymptotically unbiased estimate of σ^2 .

unbiased estimate of σ^2 $s^2 = \frac{\text{SSE}}{n-2}$.

10.3 Multiple linear regression

$$y_1 = \beta_0 + \beta_1 x_{1,1} + \dots + \beta_{p-1} x_{1,p-1} + e_1,$$

...

$$y_n = \beta_0 + \beta_1 x_{n,1} + \dots + \beta_{p-1} x_{n,p-1} + e_n,$$

$$\mathbf{y} = (y_1, \dots, y_n)^T, \quad \boldsymbol{\beta} = (\beta_0, \dots, \beta_{p-1})^T, \quad \mathbf{e} = (e_1, \dots, e_n)^T,$$

$$\mathbb{X} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & x_{1,1} & \dots & x_{1,p-1} \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ 1 & x_{n,1} & \dots & x_{n,p-1} \end{pmatrix}.$$

$$\mathbf{b} = (\mathbb{X}^T \mathbb{X})^{-1} \mathbb{X}^T \mathbf{y},$$

predicted responses $\hat{\mathbf{y}} = \mathbb{X} \mathbf{b}$:

$$\hat{\mathbf{y}} = \mathbb{P} \mathbf{y}, \quad \text{where } \mathbb{P} = \mathbb{X} (\mathbb{X}^T \mathbb{X})^{-1} \mathbb{X}^T$$

$p \times p$ matrix with elements $\text{Cov}(B_i, B_j)$.

$$\text{E}\{(\mathbf{B} - \boldsymbol{\beta})(\mathbf{B} - \boldsymbol{\beta})^T\} = \sigma^2 (\mathbb{X}^T \mathbb{X})^{-1}.$$

$$\hat{\mathbf{e}} = \mathbf{y} - \hat{\mathbf{y}} = (\mathbf{I} - \mathbb{P}) \mathbf{y}$$

a zero mean vector and a covariance matrix $\sigma^2 (\mathbf{I} - \mathbb{P})$.

Denote by $d_{00}^2, \dots, d_{p-1}^2$ the diagonal elements of the matrix $(\mathbb{X}^T \mathbb{X})^{-1}$.

standard error of b_i $sd_{b_j} = sd_j$,

$$\frac{B_j - \beta_j}{sd_{B_j}} \sim t_{n-p}, \quad j = 0, 1, \dots, p-1.$$

8.3 Kruskal-Wallis test

non-parametric I independent random samples

overall mean rank is

H_0 : the underlying I population distributions are equal.

pooled sample of size $N = I \cdot n$. $\sum_{i=1}^I \sum_{k=1}^n r_{ik} = 1 + 2 + \dots + N = \frac{N(N+1)}{2}$

Let r_{ik} be the pooled ranks

measures the discrepancy between the sample means of the ranks

$$w = \frac{12n}{N(N+1)} \sum_{i=1}^I \left(\bar{r}_i - \frac{N+1}{2} \right)^2 \quad \bar{r}_i = \frac{r_{i1} + \dots + r_{in}}{n}, \quad i = 1, \dots, I.$$

A large value of w would indicate a deviation from the null distribution.

For $I = 3$, $n \geq 5$ or $I \geq 4$, $n \geq 4$, one can use the approximate null distribution

$$W \stackrel{H_0}{\approx} \chi_{I-1}^2.$$

Categorical data analysis

$$(C_1, \dots, C_k) \sim \text{Mn}(n, \pi_1, \dots, \pi_k).$$

$$H_0 : \pi_{ij} = \pi_{i.} \pi_{.j} \quad \text{for all pairs } (i, j).$$

$$\pi_{i|j} = P(A = a_i | B = b_j) = \frac{\pi_{ij}}{\pi_{.j}}$$

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9.1 Chi-squared test of homogeneity

$$\begin{array}{c|cccc|c} \text{category } a_1 & \text{sample 1} & \text{sample 2} & \dots & \text{sample } J & \text{total counts} \\ \hline \text{category } a_1 & c_{11} & c_{12} & \dots & c_{1J} & c_{1.} \\ \text{category } a_2 & c_{21} & c_{22} & \dots & c_{2J} & c_{2.} \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ \text{category } a_I & c_{I1} & c_{I2} & \dots & c_{IJ} & c_{I.} \\ \hline \text{sample sizes} & n_1 & n_2 & \dots & n_J & n \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c|cccc|c} \text{category } a_1 & \text{sample 1} & \text{sample 2} & \dots & \text{sample } J & \text{total counts} \\ \hline \text{category } a_1 & c_{11} & c_{12} & \dots & c_{1J} & c_{1.} \\ \text{category } a_2 & c_{21} & c_{22} & \dots & c_{2J} & c_{2.} \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ \text{category } a_I & c_{I1} & c_{I2} & \dots & c_{IJ} & c_{I.} \\ \hline \text{sample sizes} & n_1 & n_2 & \dots & n_J & n \end{array}$$

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$$\begin{array}{c|cccc|$$

Parametric models

$\mu = E(X), \quad \sigma^2 = \text{Var}(X). \quad \text{Var}(X) = E((X - \mu)^2).$

$E(X) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x f(x) dx \quad \text{or} \quad E(X) = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} x_i p_i,$

$z\text{-score}, \quad \text{Cov}(X_1, X_2) = E((X_1 - \mu_1)(X_2 - \mu_2)).$

$Z = \frac{X - \mu}{\sigma}, \quad E(X) = \mu, \quad \text{variance } \text{Var}(X) = \sigma^2,$

$X \sim N(\mu, \sigma) \quad f(x) = \frac{1}{\sigma \sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-\frac{(x-\mu)^2}{2\sigma^2}}, \quad -\infty < x < \infty. \quad \Gamma(k) = (k-1)!, \quad k = 1, 2, \dots$

$\Phi(x) = P(Z \leq x), \quad -\infty < x < \infty.$ if Z, Z_1, \dots, Z_k are independent random variables with $N(0, 1)$ -distribution,

$P(X \leq x) = P(\frac{X-\mu}{\sigma} \leq \frac{x-\mu}{\sigma}) = P(Z \leq \frac{x-\mu}{\sigma}) = \Phi(\frac{x-\mu}{\sigma}).$

$\bar{X} = \frac{X_1 + \dots + X_n}{n} \quad \bar{X} \approx N(\mu, \frac{\sigma}{\sqrt{n}}), \quad 1.5 \quad \text{Bernoulli, binomial, and multinomial distributions}$

Mixtures of normal distribution

$\sigma^2 = \sum_{j=1}^k w_j (\mu_j - \mu)^2 + \sum_{j=1}^k w_j \sigma_j^2.$

\hookrightarrow law of total variance,

variation between the strata $\sum_{j=1}^k w_j (\mu_j - \mu)^2,$

variation within the strata $\sum_{j=1}^k w_j \sigma_j^2.$

Poisson, $X \sim \text{Pois}(\mu)$ is a discrete distribution

$P(X = x) = \frac{\mu^x}{x!} e^{-\mu}, \quad x = 0, 1, \dots,$

$E(X) = \mu, \quad \text{Var}(X) = \mu.$

Poisson distribution is obtained as an approximation for the $\text{Bin}(n, p)$ distribution i

$n \rightarrow \infty, \quad p \rightarrow 0, \quad \text{and } np \rightarrow \mu.$

\hookrightarrow describe the number of rear events (like accidents) observed during a given time interval.

Geometric distribution

sequence of independent Bernoulli trials with probability p of success.

the distribution of the number X of trials needed to get one success,

the distribution of the number $Y = X - 1$ of failures before the first success.

$X \sim \text{Geom}(p) \quad P(X = x) = (1 - p)^{x-1} p, \quad x = 1, 2, \dots, \quad \mu = \frac{1}{p}, \quad \sigma^2 = \frac{1-p}{p^2}.$

Beta distribution

Beta distribution $\text{Beta}(a, b)$ is determined by two parameters $a > 0, b > 0$ which are called pseudo-counts. It is defined by the probability density function

$$g(p) = \frac{\Gamma(a+b)}{\Gamma(a)\Gamma(b)} p^{a-1} (1-p)^{b-1}, \quad 0 < p < 1,$$

its mean and variance are given by

$$\mu = \frac{a}{a+b}, \quad \sigma^2 = \frac{\mu(1-\mu)}{a+b+1}.$$

2.1 Point estimation

mean square error $E((\hat{\theta} - \theta)^2) = \text{Var}(\hat{\theta}) + (E(\hat{\theta}) - \theta)^2$

the bias size $E(\hat{\theta}) - \theta$, measuring the lack of accuracy (systematic error),

$\text{Var}(\hat{\theta})$, measuring the lack of precision (random error).

mean square error vanishes $E((\hat{\theta} - \theta)^2) \rightarrow 0$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$, the point estimate $\hat{\theta}$ is called *consistent*.

$I_{\mu} \approx \bar{x} \pm z \left(\frac{\alpha}{2} \right) \cdot \frac{s}{\sqrt{n}}.$

2.6 Exact confidence intervals

$I_{\mu} = \bar{x} \pm t_{n-1} \left(\frac{\alpha}{2} \right) \cdot s_{\bar{x}},$

$I_{\sigma^2} = \left(\frac{(n-1)s^2}{x_{n-1}(\frac{\alpha}{2})}, \frac{(n-1)s^2}{x_{n-1}(1-\frac{\alpha}{2})} \right).$

$E(\bar{X}) = \mu, \quad \text{Var}(\bar{X}) = \frac{\sigma^2}{n}, \quad E(S^2) = \sigma^2, \quad \text{Var}(S^2) = \frac{\sigma^4}{n} \left(E\left(\frac{X-\mu}{\sigma} \right)^4 - \frac{n-3}{n-1} \right).$

Gamma, $\text{Gam}(\alpha, \lambda) \quad \mu = \frac{\alpha}{\lambda}, \quad \sigma^2 = \frac{\alpha}{\lambda^2}.$

shape parameter $\alpha > 0$; inverse scale (or the rate) parameter $\lambda > 0$.

restricted to positive values,

if $\alpha = 1, \quad \text{Gam}(1, \lambda) = \text{Exp}(\lambda).$ **exponential,**

if $X_i \sim \text{Exp}(\lambda), \quad i = 1, \dots, k$ are independent, \hookrightarrow

$X_1 + \dots + X_k \sim \text{Gam}(k, \lambda), \quad k = 1, 2, \dots$

large values of the shape parameter

$\text{Gam}(\alpha, \lambda) \approx N\left(\frac{\alpha}{\lambda}, \frac{\sqrt{\alpha}}{\lambda}\right), \quad \alpha \gg 1$ **chi-squared** \hookrightarrow

chi-squared distribution with k degrees of freedom is

\hookrightarrow the gamma distribution with $\alpha = \frac{k}{2}, \lambda = \frac{1}{2}.$

if Z_1, \dots, Z_k are independent random variables with $N(0, 1)$ -distribution

$Z_1^2 + \dots + Z_k^2 \sim \chi_k^2.$

if (X_1, \dots, X_n) are independent and random variables each having the $N(\mu, \sigma)$

$\frac{\sum_{i=1}^n (X_i - \bar{X})^2}{\sigma^2} \sim \chi_{n-1}^2.$

\hookrightarrow **multinomial distribution** $(X_1, \dots, X_r) \sim \text{Mn}(n; p_1, \dots, p_r)$

$P(X_1 = x_1, \dots, X_r = x_r) = \binom{n}{x_1, \dots, x_r} p_1^{x_1} \dots p_r^{x_r}, \quad x_i = 0, \dots, n, \quad i = 1, \dots, r,$

$p_1 + \dots + p_r = 1.$ marginal distribution of X_i is binomial $X_i \sim \text{Bin}(n, p_i)$

$\text{Cov}(X_i, X_j) = -np_i p_j, \quad i \neq j.$

Hypergeometric distribution $X \sim \text{Hg}(N, n, p)$

number x of black balls among n balls drawn without replacement from a box with N balls, of which

$B = Np$ balls are black and

$W = N(1 - p)$ balls are white.

X is the number of successes in n Bernoulli trials which depend on each other.

$P(X = x) = \frac{\binom{B}{x} \binom{W}{n-x}}{\binom{N}{n}}, \quad \max(0, n - W) \leq x \leq \min(n, B).$

$\mu = np, \quad \sigma^2 = np(1 - p) \frac{N-n}{N-1}.$

Compared to the variance of the $\text{Bin}(n, p)$ distribution, the last formula contains the factor

$\frac{N-n}{N-1} = 1 - \frac{n-1}{N-1},$ *finite population correction* factor.

$\text{Hg}(N, n, p) \approx N(\mu, \sigma), \quad \mu = np, \quad \sigma = \sqrt{np(1 - p)} \sqrt{1 - \frac{n-1}{N-1}},$

applied provided $np \geq 5$ and $n(1 - p) \geq 5.$

2.4 Dichotomous data

The estimated standard error for the sample proportion \hat{p} is $s_{\hat{p}} = \sqrt{\frac{\hat{p}(1-\hat{p})}{n-1}}.$

Simple random sample $s_{\alpha} = \sqrt{\frac{\hat{p}(1-\hat{p})}{1 - \frac{n}{N}}}.$

An approximate 100(1- α)% two-sided confidence interval for p is given by $I_p \approx \hat{p} \pm z(\frac{\alpha}{2}) \cdot s_{\hat{p}}$

valid both for sampling with replacement and for sampling without

2.5 Stratified random sampling

$\mu = w_1 \mu_1 + \dots + w_k \mu_k,$

$\sigma^2 = \overline{\sigma^2} + \sum_{j=1}^k w_j (\mu_j - \mu)^2.$

$\overline{\sigma^2} = w_1 \sigma_1^2 + \dots + w_k \sigma_k^2$

$\text{Var}(\bar{X}_s) = w_1^2 \text{Var}(\bar{X}_1) + \dots + w_k^2 \text{Var}(\bar{X}_k) = \frac{w_1^2 \sigma_1^2}{n_1} + \dots + \frac{w_k^2 \sigma_k^2}{n_k}.$

$s_{\bar{x}_s}^2 = w_1^2 s_{\bar{x}_1}^2 + \dots + w_k^2 s_{\bar{x}_k}^2 = \frac{w_1^2 s_1^2}{n_1} + \dots + \frac{w_k^2 s_k^2}{n_k},$

A confidence interval for the mean based on a stratified sample: $I_{\mu} \approx \bar{x}_s \pm z(\frac{\alpha}{2}) \cdot s_{\bar{x}_s}$

$\bar{\sigma} = w_1 \sigma_1 + \dots + w_k \sigma_k.$

The stratified sample mean \bar{X}_{so} with the optimal allocation $n_j = n \frac{w_j \sigma_j}{\bar{\sigma}}$ has the smallest variance $\text{Var}(\bar{X}_{so}) = \frac{\bar{\sigma}^2}{n}$ among all allocations of n observations.

The stratified sample mean \bar{X}_{sp} for the proportional allocation $n_j = n w_j$ has the variance $\text{Var}(\bar{X}_{sp}) = \frac{\bar{\sigma}^2}{n}.$

$\text{Var}(\bar{X}_{so}) \leq \text{Var}(\bar{X}_{sp}) \leq \text{Var}(\bar{X}),$

$\frac{(\bar{\sigma})^2}{n} \leq \frac{\bar{\sigma}^2}{n} \leq \frac{\sigma^2}{n}.$

The statistical tools introduced in this course so far are based on the so called *frequentist approach*. In the parametric case, the frequentist treats the data x as randomly generated by a distribution $f(x|\theta)$ involving the unknown true population parameter value θ , which may be estimated using the method of maximum likelihood. This section presents basic concepts of the *Bayesian approach* relying on the following model for the observed data x :

$$\text{Apriori distribution} \xrightarrow{g(\theta)} \text{generates a value } \theta \xrightarrow{f(x|\theta)} \text{data } x.$$

The model assumes that before the data is collected the parameter of interest θ is randomly generated by a prior distribution $g(\theta)$. The computational power of the Bayesian approach stems from the possibility to treat θ as a realisation of a random variable Θ .

The prior distribution $g(\theta)$ brings into the statistical model our knowledge (or lack of knowledge) on θ before the data x is generated using a conditional distribution $f(x|\theta)$, which in this section is called the likelihood function. After the data x is generated by such a two-step procedure involving the pair $g(\theta)$ and $f(x|\theta)$, we may update our knowledge on θ and compute a posterior distribution $h(\theta|x)$ using the Bayes formula

$$h(\theta|x) = \frac{f(x|\theta)g(\theta)}{\phi(x)}.$$

The denominator, depending on whether the distribution is continuous or discrete,

$$\phi(x) = \int f(x|\theta)g(\theta)d\theta \quad \text{or} \quad \phi(x) = \sum_{\theta} f(x|\theta)g(\theta)$$

gives the marginal distribution of the random data X . For a fixed realization x , treating the denominator $\phi(x)$ as a constant which does not explicitly involve θ , the Bayes formula can be summarized as

$$\boxed{\text{posterior} \propto \text{likelihood} \times \text{prior}}$$

where the sign \propto means proportional.

If we have no prior knowledge on θ , the prior distribution is often modelled by the uniform distribution. In this case of uninformative prior, with $g(\theta)$ being a constant over a certain interval, we have $h(\theta|x) \propto f(x|\theta)$, implying that the posterior knowledge comes solely from the likelihood function.

Multinomial-Dirichlet model

The multinomial-Dirichlet model is a multivariate version of the binomial-beta model. For both the binomial-beta and multinomial-Dirichlet models, the updating rule has the form

$$\boxed{\text{the posterior pseudo-counts} = \text{the prior pseudo-counts plus the sample counts}}$$

Dirichlet distribution

The Dirichlet distribution $\text{Dir}(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_r)$ is a multivariate extension of the beta distribution. It is a probability distribution over the vectors (p_1, \dots, p_r) with non-negative components such that

$$p_1 + \dots + p_r = 1.$$

The positive parameters $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_r$ of the Dirichlet distribution are often called the pseudo-counts. The probability density function of $\text{Dir}(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_r)$ is given by

$$g(p_1, \dots, p_r) = \frac{\Gamma(\alpha_0)}{\Gamma(\alpha_1) \dots \Gamma(\alpha_r)} p_1^{\alpha_1-1} \dots p_r^{\alpha_r-1}, \quad \alpha_0 = \alpha_1 + \dots + \alpha_r.$$

The marginal distributions of the random vector $(X_1, \dots, X_r) \sim \text{Dir}(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_r)$ are the beta distributions

$$X_j \sim \text{Beta}(\alpha_j, \alpha_0 - \alpha_j), \quad j = 1, \dots, r.$$

Different components of the vector have negative covariances

$$\text{Cov}(X_i, X_j) = -\frac{\alpha_i \alpha_j}{\alpha_0^2 (\alpha_0 + 1)} \text{ for } i \neq j.$$

The figure below illustrates four examples of $\text{Dir}(\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \alpha_3)$ distribution. Each triangle contains $n = 300$ points generated using different sets of parameters $(\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \alpha_3)$:

upper left (0.3, 0.3, 0.1), upper right (13, 16, 15), lower left (1, 1, 1), lower right (3, 0.1, 1).

A dot in a triangle gives a realisation (x_1, x_2, x_3) of the vector $(X_1, X_2, X_3) \sim \text{Dir}(\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \alpha_3)$ as the distances to the bottom edge of the triangle (x_1), to the right edge of the triangle (x_2), and to the left edge of the triangle (x_3).

5.3 Credibility interval

Given data x coming from a parametric model with the likelihood function $f(x|\theta)$, a $100(1 - \alpha)\%$ confidence interval for the parameter θ ,

$$I_{\theta} = (a_1(x), a_2(x)),$$

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is viewed as a realisation of a random interval $(a_1(X), a_2(X))$ such that

$$\text{P}(a_1(X) < \theta < a_2(X)) = 1 - \alpha.$$

This frequentist interpretation of the confidence level $100(1 - \alpha)\%$ is rather cumbersome as it requires mentioning other samples and potential confidence intervals which as a group cover the true unknown value of θ with probability $1 - \alpha$.

In the framework of Bayesian inference we can refer to θ as a realisation of a random variable Θ with a certain posterior distribution $h(\theta|x)$. This allows us to define a $100(1 - \alpha)\%$ credibility interval (or credible interval)

$$J_{\theta} = (b_1(x), b_2(x))$$

by the relation based on the posterior distribution

$$\text{P}(b_1(x) < \Theta < b_2(x)|x) = 1 - \alpha.$$

The interpretation of the credibility interval is more intuitive as it does not refer to some potential, never observed data values.

5.1 Conjugate priors

Suppose the data x is generated by a parametric model having the likelihood function $f(x|\theta)$. Consider a parametric family of the prior distributions \mathcal{G} .

$$\boxed{\mathcal{G} \text{ is called a family of conjugate priors for the likelihood function } f(x|\theta) \text{ if for any prior } g(\theta) \in \mathcal{G}, \text{ the corresponding posterior distribution } h(\theta|x) \in \mathcal{G}}$$

The next table presents five Bayesian models involving conjugate priors. The details of the first three models come next. Notice that the posterior variance is always smaller than the prior variance. This list also illustrates that the contribution of the prior distribution to the posterior distribution becomes smaller as the sample size n increases.

Parametric model for the data	Unknown θ	Prior	Posterior distribution
$X_1, \dots, X_n \sim N(\mu, \sigma)$	$\theta = \mu$	$N(\mu_0, \sigma_0)$	$N(\gamma_n \mu_0 + (1 - \gamma_n)\bar{x}; \sigma_0 \sqrt{\gamma_n})$
$X \sim \text{Bin}(n, p)$	$\theta = p$	$\text{Beta}(a, b)$	$\text{Beta}(a + x, b + n - x)$
$(X_1, \dots, X_r) \sim \text{Mult}(n; p_1, \dots, p_r)$	$\theta = (p_1, \dots, p_r)$	$\text{Dir}(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_r)$	$\text{Dir}(\alpha_1 + x_1, \dots, \alpha_r + x_r)$
$X_1, \dots, X_n \sim \text{Geom}(p)$	$\theta = p$	$\text{Beta}(a, b)$	$\text{Beta}(a + n, b + n\bar{x} - n)$
$X_1, \dots, X_n \sim \text{Pois}(\mu)$	$\theta = \mu$	$\text{Gam}(\alpha_0, \lambda_0)$	$\text{Gam}(\alpha_0 + n\bar{x}, \lambda_0 + n)$
$X_1, \dots, X_n \sim \text{Gam}(\alpha, \lambda)$	$\theta = \lambda$	$\text{Gam}(\alpha_0, \lambda_0)$	$\text{Gam}(\alpha_0 + \alpha n, \lambda_0 + n\bar{x})$

Normal-normal model

Suppose a random sample (x_1, \dots, x_n) is drawn from the normal distribution $N(\mu, \sigma)$ with a known standard deviation σ and the unknown mean $\theta = \mu$. Taking the normal prior $\Theta \sim N(\mu_0, \sigma_0)$ with known (μ_0, σ_0) results in the normal posterior $N(\mu_1, \sigma_1)$ with

$$\mu_1 = \gamma_n \mu_0 + (1 - \gamma_n)\bar{x}, \quad \sigma_1^2 = \sigma_0^2 \gamma_n,$$

where

$$\gamma_n = \frac{\sigma^2}{\sigma^2 + n\sigma_0^2} = \frac{\frac{\sigma^2}{n}}{\frac{\sigma^2}{n} + \sigma_0^2}$$

is the shrinkage factor which becomes smaller for the larger sample sizes n . As a result for the large samples, the posterior mean μ_1 gets close to the maximum likelihood estimate and the input $\gamma_n \mu_0$ involving the prior mean becomes negligible.

Binomial-beta model

Next, we introduce the beta distribution which serves as a convenient family of conjugate priors for Bayesian inference for p , in the case when the data x is generated by the $\text{Bin}(n, p)$.

5.2 Bayesian estimation

In the language of decision theory, finding a point estimate a for the unknown population parameter θ is an action of assigning the value a to the unknown parameter θ . In the frequentist setting, the optimal a is found by maximising the likelihood function. In the Bayesian setting, the optimal choice of a is determined by the so-called loss function $l(\theta, a)$. The so-called Bayes action minimises the posterior risk

$$R(a|x) = \text{E}(l(\Theta, a)|x),$$

computed using the posterior distribution

$$R(a|x) = \int l(\theta, a)h(\theta|x)d\theta \quad \text{or} \quad R(a|x) = \sum_{\theta} l(\theta, a)h(\theta|x).$$

We consider two loss functions leading to two different Bayesian estimators. These two loss functions called the zero-one loss and the squared error loss

$$\boxed{\text{Zero-one loss function: } l(\theta, a) = 1_{(\theta \neq a)}} \quad \boxed{\text{Squared error loss: } l(\theta, a) = (\theta - a)^2}$$

are schematically depicted on the figure below.

Zero-one loss function and maximum a posteriori probability

With the zero-one loss function, the posterior risk is equal to the probability of misclassification

$$R(a|x) = \sum_{\theta \neq a} h(\theta|x) = 1 - h(a|x).$$

In this case, to minimise the risk we have to maximise the posterior probability $h(a|x)$. We define θ of θ that maximises $h(\theta|x)$. Observe that with the uninformative prior, $\hat{\theta}_{\text{map}} = \hat{\theta}_{\text{mle}}$. define $\hat{\theta}_{\text{map}}$ as the value

Squared error loss function and posterior mean estimate

Using the squared error loss function we find that the posterior risk is a sum of two components

$$R(a|x) = \text{E}((\Theta - a)^2|x) = \text{Var}(\Theta|x) + (\text{E}(\Theta|x) - a)^2.$$

Since the first component is independent of a , we minimise the posterior risk by putting

$$\hat{\theta}_{\text{pme}} = \text{E}(\Theta|x),$$

resulting in the posterior mean value as the Bayesian point estimate of θ .