

5. The Weibull distribution has many applications in reliability engineering, survival analysis, and general insurance. Let $\beta > 0, \delta > 0$. Consider the probability density function

$$f(x; \beta, \delta) = \beta \delta x^{\delta-1} e^{-\beta x^\delta}, \quad x > 0, \quad \text{zero otherwise.}$$

Recall: $W = X^\delta$ has an Exponential($\theta = \frac{1}{\beta}$) = Gamma($\alpha = 1, \theta = \frac{1}{\beta}$) distribution.

Let X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n be a random sample from the above probability distribution.

$$\Rightarrow Y = \sum_{i=1}^n X_i^\delta = \sum_{i=1}^n W_i \text{ has a Gamma}(\alpha = n, \theta = \frac{1}{\beta}) \text{ distribution.} \quad !!!$$

Suppose δ is known.

- k) Suggest a confidence interval for β with $(1 - \alpha) 100\%$ confidence level.
- l) Suppose $\delta = 3$, $n = 5$, and $x_1 = 0.2$, $x_2 = 1.2$, $x_3 = 0.2$, $x_4 = 0.9$, $x_5 = 0.3$.
Use part (k) to construct a 90% confidence interval for β .
- m) Find a sufficient statistic $Y = u(X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n)$ for β .
- n) Find the Fisher information $I(\beta)$.
- o) Recall that $\hat{\beta} = \frac{n-1}{\sum_{i=1}^n X_i^\delta}$ is an unbiased estimator of β .

Is $\hat{\beta}$ an efficient estimator of β ? If $\hat{\beta}$ is not an efficient estimator of β ,

find its efficiency.

“Hint”: Recall Examples for 10/19/2020 (3) 2(g).

Answers:

5. The Weibull distribution has many applications in reliability engineering, survival analysis, and general insurance. Let $\beta > 0, \delta > 0$. Consider the probability density function

$$f(x; \beta, \delta) = \beta \delta x^{\delta-1} e^{-\beta x^\delta}, \quad x > 0, \quad \text{zero otherwise.}$$

Recall: $W = X^\delta$ has an Exponential($\theta = \frac{1}{\beta}$) = Gamma($\alpha = 1, \theta = \frac{1}{\beta}$) distribution.

Let X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n be a random sample from the above probability distribution.

$$\Rightarrow Y = \sum_{i=1}^n X_i^\delta = \sum_{i=1}^n W_i \text{ has a Gamma } (\alpha = n, \theta = \frac{1}{\beta}) \text{ distribution.} \quad !!!$$

Suppose δ is known.

- k) Suggest a confidence interval for β with $(1 - \alpha) 100\%$ confidence level.

$$Y = \sum_{i=1}^n X_i^\delta = \sum_{i=1}^n W_i \text{ has a Gamma distribution with } \alpha = n \text{ and } \theta = \frac{1}{\beta} \text{ } (\lambda = \beta).$$

If T_α has a Gamma($\alpha, \theta = 1/\lambda$) distribution, where α is an integer, then $2T_\alpha/\theta = 2\lambda T_\alpha$ has a $\chi^2(2\alpha)$ distribution (a chi-square distribution with 2α degrees of freedom).

$$2Y/\theta = 2\beta \sum_{i=1}^n X_i^\delta \text{ has a chi-square distribution with } r = 2\alpha = 2n \text{ d.f.}$$

$$\Rightarrow P(\chi^2_{1-\alpha/2}(2n) < 2\beta \sum_{i=1}^n X_i^\delta < \chi^2_{\alpha/2}(2n)) = 1 - \alpha.$$

$$\Rightarrow P\left(\frac{\chi^2_{1-\alpha/2}(2n)}{2 \sum_{i=1}^n X_i^\delta} < \beta < \frac{\chi^2_{\alpha/2}(2n)}{2 \sum_{i=1}^n X_i^\delta}\right) = 1 - \alpha.$$

A $(1 - \alpha) 100\%$ confidence interval for β :

$$\left(\frac{\chi^2_{1-\alpha/2}(2n)}{2 \sum_{i=1}^n X_i^\delta}, \frac{\chi^2_{\alpha/2}(2n)}{2 \sum_{i=1}^n X_i^\delta} \right).$$

- l) Suppose $\delta = 3$, $n = 5$, and $x_1 = 0.2$, $x_2 = 1.2$, $x_3 = 0.2$, $x_4 = 0.9$, $x_5 = 0.3$.
Use part (k) to construct a 90% confidence interval for β .

$$\sum_{i=1}^n x_i^3 = 2.5.$$

$$\chi^2_{0.95}(10) = 3.940, \quad \chi^2_{0.05}(10) = 18.31.$$

$$\left(\frac{3.940}{2 \cdot 2.5}, \frac{18.31}{2 \cdot 2.5} \right) \quad \quad \quad \mathbf{(0.788, 3.662)}$$

- m) Find a sufficient statistic $Y = u(X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n)$ for β .

$$\begin{aligned} f(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n; \beta) &= f(x_1; \beta) f(x_2; \beta) \dots f(x_n; \beta) \\ &= \prod_{i=1}^n \left(\beta \delta x_i^{\delta-1} e^{-\beta x_i^\delta} \right) = \left[\beta^n e^{-\beta \sum x_i^\delta} \right] \left(\delta^n \prod_{i=1}^n x_i^{\delta-1} \right). \end{aligned}$$

By Factorization Theorem, $Y = \sum_{i=1}^n X_i^\delta$ is a sufficient statistic for β .

OR

$$f(x; \beta) = \exp \{ -\beta x^\delta + \ln \beta + \ln \delta + (\delta - 1) \ln x \}. \quad \Rightarrow \quad K(x) = x^\delta.$$

$$\Rightarrow \quad Y = \sum_{i=1}^n X_i^\delta \text{ is a sufficient statistic for } \beta.$$

- n) Find the Fisher information $I(\beta)$.

$$\ln f(x; \beta) = -\beta x^\delta + \ln \beta + \ln \delta + (\delta - 1) \ln x.$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \beta} \ln f(x; \beta) = -x^\delta + \frac{1}{\beta}.$$

$$\frac{\partial^2}{\partial \beta^2} \ln f(x; \beta) = -\frac{1}{\beta^2}.$$

$$I(\beta) = \text{Var} \left[\frac{\partial}{\partial \beta} \ln f(X; \beta) \right]$$

$$= \text{Var} \left[-X^\delta + \frac{1}{\beta} \right]$$

$$= \text{Var}(W)$$

$$= \alpha \theta^2 = \frac{1}{\beta^2}.$$

$$I(\beta) = -E \left[\frac{\partial^2}{\partial \beta^2} \ln f(X; \beta) \right]$$

$$= -E \left[-\frac{1}{\beta^2} \right]$$

$$= \frac{1}{\beta^2}.$$

o) Recall that $\hat{\beta} = \frac{n-1}{\sum_{i=1}^n X_i^\delta}$ is an unbiased estimator of β .

Is $\hat{\beta}$ an efficient estimator of β ? If $\hat{\beta}$ is not an efficient estimator of β ,

find its efficiency.

“Hint”: Recall Examples for 10/19/2020 (3) **2**(g).

$$\text{Recall: } \text{Var}\left(\frac{1}{Y}\right) = \frac{\beta^2}{(n-1)(n-2)} - \left(\frac{\beta}{n-1}\right)^2 = \frac{\beta^2}{(n-1)^2(n-2)}.$$

$$\text{Var}(\hat{\beta}) = \text{Var}\left(\frac{n-1}{Y}\right) = (n-1)^2 \text{Var}\left(\frac{1}{Y}\right) = \frac{\beta^2}{n-2}.$$

$$\text{Rao-Cramer lower bound} = \frac{1}{n \cdot I(\beta)} = \frac{\beta^2}{n}.$$

$$\text{Var}(\hat{\beta}) = \frac{\beta^2}{n-2} > \frac{\beta^2}{n}.$$

$\text{Var}(\hat{\beta})$ does NOT attain its Rao-Cramer lower bound.

$\Rightarrow \hat{\beta}$ is NOT an efficient estimator of β ,

$$\text{its efficiency} = \frac{n-2}{n} \rightarrow 1 \text{ as } n \rightarrow \infty.$$