STAT201B Lecture 8 Properties of MLE

Logic

我们将分别介绍 MLE 的几个重要性质 (更多论述见 STA3020 Lecture 7):

1. Equivariance (invariance)
2. Consistency
3. Asymptotic normality
4. Asymptotic efficiency

对于后三个性质, 我们主要考虑 $\theta \in \Theta \subset \mathbb{R}$ 的情况

1 MLE 的 Equivariance

1.1 Definition: $g(\theta)$ 的 log-likelihood

若 θ 的 log-likelihood function 为 $l_n(\theta)$
则对于任意 function $g(\theta)$, $g(\theta)$ 的 log-likelihood function 被定义为:

$$l_g(\phi) := \sup_{\theta \in \Theta,\, g(\theta)=\phi} l(\theta)$$

Remark

1. 换言之, $g(\theta) = \phi$ 时的 log-likelihood = 先限定 θ 满足 $g(\theta) = \phi$, 再 maximize $l(\theta)$
2. 这么定义是为了满足 MLE 的 equivariance (invariance) property

1.2 Theorem: MLE 的 equivariance

令:

1. $\tau = g(\theta)$ 为关于 θ 的函数
2. $\hat{\theta}_n$ 为 θ 的 MLE

则 $\hat{\tau}_n = g(\hat{\theta}_n)$ 为 τ 的 MLE

Proof: g 为 one-to-one mapping 时的证明

若 g 为 one-to-one, 则存在 inverse g^{-1}, 因此关于 τ 的 (induced) likelihood 可以被定义为 $\mathcal{L}^*(\tau) = \mathcal{L}(g^{-1}(\tau))$.

注意到对于任意 τ, 有

$$\mathcal{L}^*(\tau) = \mathcal{L}(g^{-1}(\tau)) \leq \mathcal{L}(\hat{\theta}_n) = \mathcal{L}^*(g(\hat{\theta}_n))$$

因此 $\hat{\tau} = g(\hat{\theta})$ maximizes $\mathcal{L}^*$

Proof: 更 general 的证明

Proof of Theorem.1.7. We proof by contradiction. If there exist some other $\theta_0 \neq \hat{\theta}_{MLE}$ such that $\phi_0 = g(\theta_0) \neq g(\hat{\theta}_{MLE})$, and $\phi_0 = g(\theta_0)$ is the MLE of $g(\theta)$. Then

$$\ell_g(\phi_0) = \max_{\theta \in \Theta, g(\theta)=\phi_0} \ell(\theta) > \ell_g(g(\hat{\theta}_{MLE})) = \max_{\theta \in \Theta, g(\theta)=g(\hat{\theta}_{MLE})} \ell(\theta) = \ell(\hat{\theta}_{MLE}),$$

which contradict with the fact that $\hat{\theta}_{MLE}$ being the MLE of $\ell(\theta)$. Hence $g(\hat{\theta}_{MLE})$ is the MLE of $g(\theta)$. □

2 MLE 的 Consistency

2.1 Definition: MLE 的 consistency condition

1. **independent distributed:** $X_1, \dots, X_n \overset{i.i.d.}{\sim} f(x;\theta)$
2. **identifiability:** 若 $\theta \neq \theta'$, 则 $f(x;\theta) \neq f(x;\theta')$
3. **common support:** Support $\{x : f(x;\theta) > 0\}$ 与 θ 的取值无关
4. **interior:** parameter space Θ 包含一个 open set ω, true parameter value θ^* 为其 interior point
5. **differentiable:** function $f(x;\theta)$ 在 ω 内部关于 θ differentiable

> ⚠ **Remark**
>
> Exponential family 中的 distributions 满足该 condition

> ⚠ **Remark: 和 STA3020 中的 condition 的联系**
>
> 在 STA3020 Lecture 7 中, consistency condition 为:
>
> 1. **Separation condition:** Θ 为 compact 或 Θ 满足 $\sup_{\theta\in\Theta, |\theta-\theta^*|\geq\epsilon} \mathbb{E}[l(\theta)] < \mathbb{E}[l(\theta^*)], \quad \forall \epsilon > 0$ ($\mathbb{E}[l(\theta_0)]$ 严格大于其他 $\mathbb{E}[l(\theta)]$ 的 supremum)
> 2. **Convergence condition:** $\frac{1}{n} l_n(\theta)$ convergences uniformly to $\frac{1}{n}\mathbb{E}[l_n(\theta)]$ in probability, 即
>
> $$\sup_{\theta\in\Theta} \frac{1}{n} |l_n(\theta) - \mathbb{E}[l_n(\theta)]| \xrightarrow{p} 0$$
>
> 事实上, STAT201B 中给出的 consistency condition 和 STA3020 Lecture 7 中的 consistency condition 几乎等价:
>
> ***Convergence condition 的证明:***
> 令 θ^* 表示 θ 的 true value, 则有
>
> $$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{n} l_n(\theta) &= \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} log\, f(X_i;\theta) \\ &\xrightarrow{p} \mathbb{E}_{\theta^*}[log\, f(X_1;\theta)] \quad \text{for any fixed } \theta \text{ by WLLN} \end{aligned}$$
>
> ***Separation condition 的证明:***
> 此处我们证明 $\mathbb{E}_{\theta^*}[log\, f(X_1;\theta)]$ is (uniquely) maximized at $\theta = \theta^*$,
> 对于任意 $\theta \in \Theta$, 有:
>
> $$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E}_{\theta^*}[log\, f(X_1;\theta)] - \mathbb{E}_{\theta^*}[log\, f(X_1;\theta^*)] &= \mathbb{E}_{\theta^*}\left[log \frac{f(X_1;\theta)}{f(X_1;\theta^*)}\right] \\ &\leq log\left[\mathbb{E}_{\theta^*}\left[\frac{f(X_1;\theta)}{f(X_1;\theta^*)}\right]\right] \quad \text{(Jensen's inequality)} \\ &= log\left[\int \frac{f(X_1;\theta)}{f(X_1;\theta^*)} \cdot f(X_1;\theta^*) dX_1\right] \\ &= log\left[\int f(X_1;\theta) dX_1\right] \\ &= log[1] \\ &= 0 \end{aligned}$$
>
> 结合 condition 中的 identifiability 和 interior, θ^* 为 unique maximizer

2.2 Theorem: MLE 的 consistency

若 MLE 的 consistency condition 满足,
则 $\hat{\theta}_{MLE}$ 为 true value θ^* 的一个 consistent estimator, 即 $\hat{\theta}_{MLE} \xrightarrow{p} \theta^*$

> 🗲 **Proof: STAT201B 的证明思路**
>
> 由于

$$\frac{l_n(\theta)}{n} \xrightarrow{p} \mathbb{E}_{\theta^*}[log\ f(X_1;\theta)]$$

同时有

$$\hat{\theta}_n := \underset{\theta\in\Theta}{arg\,max}\ \frac{l_n(\theta)}{n} \quad \text{and} \quad \theta^* = \underset{\theta\in\Theta}{arg\,max}\ \mathbb{E}_{\theta^*}[log\ f(X_1;\theta)]$$

且 $\hat{\theta}_n$ 和 θ^* 在 consistency condition 下均为 unique, 则

$$\hat{\theta}_n \xrightarrow{p} \theta^*$$

Proof: STA3020 Lecture 7 中的证明

Proof of Theorem.1.3. Notice that,

$$\hat{\theta}_{MLE} = \arg\max_{\theta\in\Theta} \ell(\theta) = \arg\max_{\theta\in\Theta} \left[\frac{1}{n}\sum_{i=1}^{n} \log\frac{f(X_i|\theta)}{f(X_i|\theta_0)}\right] \triangleq \arg\max_{\theta\in\Theta} M(\theta)$$

Since we have

$$M(\theta) = \frac{1}{n}\sum_{i=1}^{n} \log\frac{f(X_i|\theta)}{f(X_i|\theta_0)} \to \mathbb{E}\left[\log\frac{f(X_i|\theta)}{f(X_i|\theta_0)}\right] = -KL(f_{\theta_0}\|f_\theta) < 0,$$

where the last inequality sign changes to the equal sign iff $f(x|\theta) \equiv f(x|\theta_0), a.s.$, i.e., $\theta = \theta_0$. Therefore, if Θ is compact, then for $\forall\epsilon > 0$, we have

$$\sup_{\theta\in\Theta, |\theta-\theta_0|\geq\epsilon} \mathbb{E}M(\theta) < \mathbb{E}M(\theta_0) = -KL(f_{\theta_0}\|f_{\theta_0}) = 0. \tag{4.1}$$

Similarly we can also conclude (4.1) under the separation condition (1.1). Now, if we denote

$$\delta = \mathbb{E}M(\theta_0) - \sup_{\theta\in\Theta, |\theta-\theta_0|\geq\epsilon} \mathbb{E}M(\theta) > 0,$$

Since $M(\theta)$ converges uniformly to $\mathbb{E}M(\theta)$ in probability according to (ii) of Condition.1.2. Therefore, there exists $N \in \mathbb{N}^+$ s.t. when $n \geq N$,

$$\begin{aligned}
&\mathbb{P}\left(|\hat{\theta}_{MLE} - \theta_0| \geq \epsilon\right) = \mathbb{P}\left(\sup_{\theta\in\Theta, |\theta-\theta_0|\geq\epsilon} M(\theta) > M(\theta_0)\right) \\
\leq &\mathbb{P}\left(\sup_{\theta\in\Theta, |\theta-\theta_0|\geq\epsilon} \left[M(\theta) - \mathbb{E}M(\theta)\right] > \left[M(\theta_0) - \mathbb{E}M(\theta_0)\right] + \delta\right) \\
\leq &\mathbb{P}\left(\sup_{\theta\in\Theta, |\theta-\theta_0|\geq\epsilon} \left[M(\theta) - \mathbb{E}M(\theta)\right] > \frac{\delta}{2}\right) + \mathbb{P}\left(\left[M(\theta_0) - \mathbb{E}M(\theta_0)\right] > -\frac{\delta}{2}\right) \\
\leq &2\mathbb{P}\left(\sup_{\theta\in\Theta} |M(\theta) - \mathbb{E}M(\theta)| > \frac{\delta}{2}\right) \to 0.
\end{aligned}$$

Hence $\hat{\theta}_{MLE} \xrightarrow{p} \theta_0$. □

3 MLE 的 Asymptotic Normality 和 Asymptotic Efficiency

Logic

关于 score function, fisher information, second Bartlett's identity 的更多论述, 见 STA3020 Lecture 3

3.1 Definition: Score function

Score function被定义为 likelihood function 的一阶导数:

$$s(X;\theta) = \frac{\partial}{\partial\theta} log\ f(X;\theta)$$

Remark

1. 若 likelihood function 的 derivative 不存在, 则 score function 不存在
2. Score function 的实际意义是: log-likelihood 的 rate of changes at different values of θ

3.2 Definition: Fisher information

令:

1. observations 的数量为 n
2. log-likelihood function 为 $l_n(\theta)$
   则 (n 个 observations 的) **Fisher information** 被定义为:

$$I_n(\theta) = V_\theta(s(X;\theta)) = V_\theta\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial\theta} l_n(\theta)\right)$$

若 $X_1, \dots, X_n$ 为 independent 和 identically distributed, 则

$$\begin{aligned} I_n(\theta) &= V_\theta\left(\sum_{i=1}^{n} s(X_i;\theta)\right) \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^{n} V_\theta(s(X_i;\theta)) \\ &= nV_\theta(s(X_1;\theta)) \\ &= nI_1(\theta) \\ &:= nI(\theta) \end{aligned}$$

> ⚠ **Remark: Fisher information 的实际意义**
>
> Fisher information 的实际意义是:
>
> Variation of $\frac{\partial l_n(\theta)}{\partial\theta}$ when we observe different samples (对 $X_1, \dots, X_n$ 求 variance)
>
> 若 fisher information 较小, 则表示 log-likelihood 在 θ 处的 rate of change 不会随着 $X_1, \dots, X_n$ 的变化而变化很大, 因此就估计 MLE 而言, $X_1, \dots, X_n$ 带来的信息量并不大

> ⚠ **Remark**
>
> 在特定的 Fisher information regularity condition 下 (见 STA3020 Lecture 3, exponential family 满足该 condition), 有:
>
> 1. score function $s(X;\theta)$ 是一个 unbiased estimator of 0, 即
>
> $$\mathbb{E}[s(X;\theta)] = 0$$
>
> 此时, 有
>
> $$I_n(\theta) = \mathbb{E}[s(X;\theta)^2]$$
>
> 2. Second Bartlett's identity

3.3 Theorem: Second Bartlett's identity

若 Fisher information regularity condition 成立,
则 (单个 observation 的) Fisher information 满足:

$$I(\theta) = -\mathbb{E}_\theta\left[\frac{\partial^2}{\partial\theta^2} log\ f(X;\theta)\right]$$

> ⚡ **Proof**
>
> 注意到:
>
> $$\begin{aligned} LHS &= V_\theta\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial\theta} log f(X;\theta)\right) \\ &= V_\theta\left[\frac{\frac{\partial f(X;\theta)}{\partial\theta}}{f(X;\theta)}\right] \\ &= \mathbb{E}_\theta\left[\left(\frac{\frac{\partial f(X;\theta)}{\partial\theta}}{f(X;\theta)}\right)^2\right] - \left(\mathbb{E}_\theta\left[\frac{\frac{\partial f(X;\theta)}{\partial\theta}}{f(X;\theta)}\right]\right)^2 \\ &= \mathbb{E}_\theta\left[\left(\frac{\frac{\partial f(X;\theta)}{\partial\theta}}{f(X;\theta)}\right)^2\right] \quad \left(\mathbb{E}_\theta\left[\frac{\frac{\partial f(X;\theta)}{\partial\theta}}{f(X;\theta)}\right] = \int \frac{\partial f(X;\theta)}{\partial\theta} dx = \frac{\partial}{\partial\theta}\left(\int f(X;\theta)\right) = 0\right) \end{aligned}$$
>
> 且:

$$
\begin{aligned}
RHS &= -\mathbb{E}_\theta\left[\frac{\partial^2}{\partial\theta^2} log\ f(X;\theta)\right] \\
&= -\mathbb{E}_\theta\left[\frac{\partial}{\partial\theta}\left(\frac{\frac{\partial}{\partial\theta}f(X;\theta)}{f(X;\theta)}\right)\right] \\
&= -\mathbb{E}_\theta\left[\frac{\frac{\partial^2 f(X;\theta)}{\partial\theta^2}\cdot f(X;\theta) - \left(\frac{\partial f(X;\theta)}{\partial\theta}\right)^2}{f(X;\theta)^2}\right] \\
&= -\mathbb{E}_\theta\left[\frac{\frac{\partial^2 f(X;\theta)}{\partial\theta^2}}{f(X;\theta)}\right] + \mathbb{E}\left[\left(\frac{\frac{\partial f(X;\theta)}{\partial\theta}}{f(X;\theta)}\right)^2\right] \\
&= \mathbb{E}\left[\left(\frac{\frac{\partial f(X;\theta)}{\partial\theta}}{f(X;\theta)}\right)^2\right] \quad (\text{理由同上})
\end{aligned}
$$

因此,

$$LHS = RHS$$

Example

问题:

令 $X_1, \dots, X_n \overset{i.i.d.}{\sim} Pois(\lambda)$, 求 $I_n(\lambda)$

解答:

$$
\begin{aligned}
& f(x) = \frac{\lambda^x \cdot e^{-\lambda}}{x!} \\
\Rightarrow\quad & log\ f(x) = x \cdot log\ \lambda - \lambda - log(x!) \\
\Rightarrow\quad & \frac{\partial log\ f(x;\lambda)}{\partial\lambda} = \frac{x}{\lambda} - 1 \\
\Rightarrow\quad & \frac{\partial^2 log\ f(x;\lambda)}{\partial\lambda^2} = -\frac{x}{\lambda^2} \\
\Rightarrow\quad & I(\lambda) = -\mathbb{E}_\lambda\left[-\frac{x}{\lambda^2}\right] = \frac{1}{\lambda} \\
\Rightarrow\quad & I_n(\lambda) = nI(\lambda) = \frac{n}{\lambda}
\end{aligned}
$$

3.4 Definition: Observed Fisher information

令 $X_1, \dots, X_n$ 为 observed samples,
则

1. (1 个 samples 的) **observed Fisher information** 被定义为:

$$I^{obs}(\theta) = -\frac{1}{n}\frac{\partial^2}{\partial\theta^2}\sum_{i=1}^{n} log\ f(X_i;\theta)$$

2. (n 个 samples 的) **observed Fisher information** 被定义为:

$$I_n^{obs}(\theta) = -\frac{\partial^2}{\partial\theta^2}\sum_{i=1}^{n} log\ f(X_i;\theta) = n \cdot I^{obs}(\theta)$$

Remark: Observed Fisher information 的实际意义

- Observed Fisher information $I_n^{obs}(\theta)$ 衡量了 log-likelihood $l_n(\theta)$ 在 θ 处的 curvature
- 特别的, $I_n^{obs}(\hat{\theta})$ 衡量了 MLE 处的 curvature: $l_n(\theta)$ 在 $\hat{\theta}$ 处越 peaked, likelihood 提供的 information 就越多
- $I(\theta)$ 衡量了该 quantity 的 average value

3.5 Theorem: MLE 的 asymptotic normality

若特定 conditions (MLE 的 CAN conditions, 见 STA3020 Lecture 7) 满足,
则 MLE $\hat{\theta}_n$ 满足 asymptotic normality:

$$\sqrt{n}(\hat{\theta}_n - \theta) \xrightarrow{d} \mathcal{N}\left(0, \frac{1}{I(\theta)}\right)$$

若将 $I(\theta)$ 替换为 $I(\hat{\theta})$, 则 asymptotic normality 仍然成立:

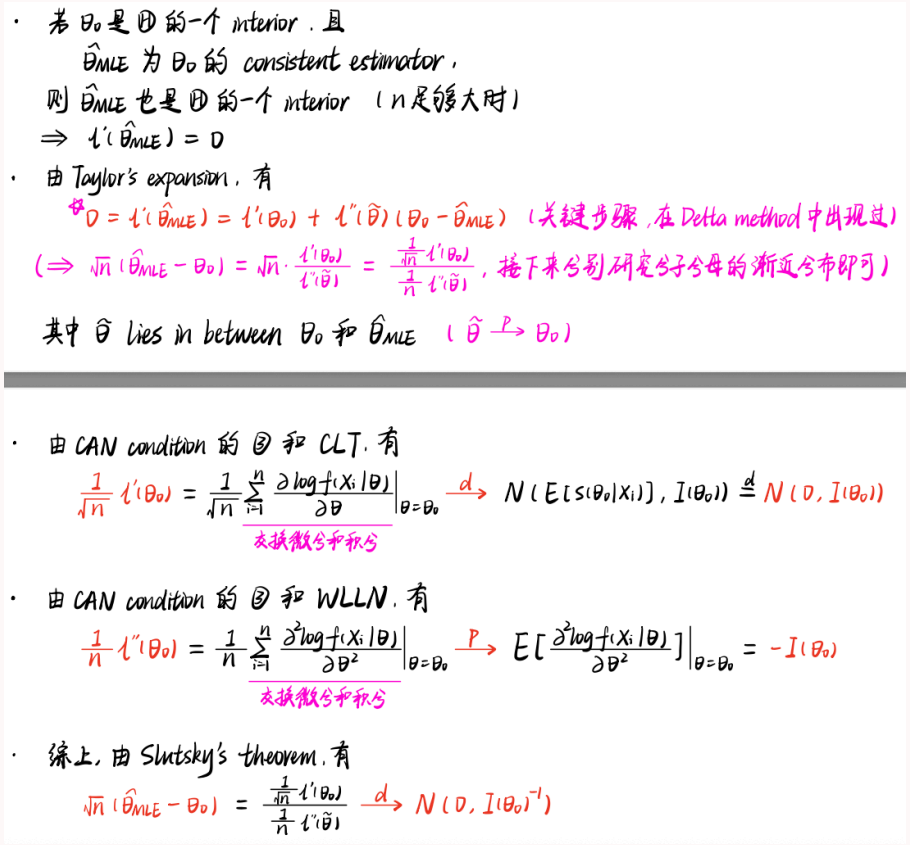
$$\frac{\sqrt{n}(\hat{\theta}_n - \theta)}{\sqrt{\frac{1}{I(\hat{\theta}_n)}}} \xrightarrow{d} \mathcal{N}(0,1)$$

可以由此构建 θ 的 approximate $1-\alpha$ confidence interval

Remark

1. 对于来自 exponential family models 的 $i.i.d$ observations, 其满足上述 conditions
2. 上述 asymptotic normality 中的 $I(\theta)$ 表示单个 sample 时的 Fisher Information (我们不希望 asymptotic distribution 中包含 n)

Proof



Example

问题:

若 $X_1, \ldots, X_n \overset{i.i.d.}{\sim} Exp(\theta)$, 求 θ 的 MLE 和 approximate 95% confidence interval

解答:

$$
\begin{aligned}
& f(X_1,\dots,X_n;\theta)=\prod_{i=1}^{n}(\theta\cdot e^{-\theta X_i})=\theta^n\cdot exp\left\{-\left(\sum_{i=1}^{n}X_i\right)\theta\right\} \\
\Rightarrow\quad & l_n(\theta)=n\cdot log(\theta)-\left(\sum_{i=1}^{n}X_i\right)\theta \\
\Rightarrow\quad & \frac{\partial}{\partial\theta}l_n(\theta)=\frac{n}{\theta}-\sum_{i=1}^{n}X_i \\
\Rightarrow\quad & \frac{\partial^2}{\partial\theta^2}l_n(\theta)=-\frac{n}{\theta^2}<0 \\
\Rightarrow\quad & \begin{cases} \hat{\theta}_{MLE}=\frac{n}{\sum_{i=1}^{n}X_i} \\ I_n(\theta)=\mathbb{E}\left[-\frac{\partial^2}{\partial\theta^2}l_n(\theta)\right]=\frac{n}{\theta^2} \end{cases} \\
\Rightarrow\quad & \sqrt{n}(\hat{\theta}_n-\theta)\sim\mathcal{N}\left(0,\frac{1}{I(\theta)}\right) \\
\Rightarrow\quad & \hat{\theta}_n\sim\mathcal{N}\left(\theta,\frac{1}{I_n(\hat{\theta})}\right),\text{ where } I_n(\hat{\theta})=\frac{n}{\hat{\theta}_n^2}=n\bar{X}^2 \\
\Rightarrow\quad & CI:\frac{n}{\sum_{i=1}^{n}X_i}\pm z_{0.025}\cdot\frac{1}{\sqrt{n}\bar{X}}
\end{aligned}
$$

3.6 Theorem: MLE 的 asymptotic efficiency

若:

1. 特定 conditions 满足
2. $\tilde{\theta}_n$ 为其他某个 estimator, 满足 $\sqrt{n}(\tilde{\theta}_n-\theta)\xrightarrow{d}\mathcal{N}(0,v(\theta))$

则:

$$
v(\theta)\geq\frac{1}{I(\theta)},\quad\forall\theta
$$

4 Fisher Information Matrix 和 Delta Method

Logic

关于 Fisher information matrix 的详细论述, 见 STA3020 Lecture 5

4.1 Definition: Fisher information matrix

若:

1. Parameter of interest 为 $\theta=(\theta_1,\dots,\theta_k)$
2. log-likelihood 的 Hessian matrix 为:

$$
H_{jj}=\frac{\partial^2}{\partial\theta_j^2}l_n(\theta);\quad H_{jk}=\frac{\partial^2}{\partial\theta_j\partial\theta_k}l_n(\theta)
$$

则 **Fisher information matrix** 被定义为:

$$
I_n(\theta)=-\begin{bmatrix} E_\theta(H_{11}) & \cdots & E_\theta(H_{1k}) \\ E_\theta(H_{21}) & \cdots & E_\theta(H_{2k}) \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ E_\theta(H_{k1}) & \cdots & E_\theta(H_{kk}) \end{bmatrix}
$$

Example

问题:

若 $X_1,\dots,X_n\overset{i.i.d.}{\sim}\mathcal{N}(\mu,\sigma^2)$, 求 $I_n(\mu,\sigma)$

解答:

$$\mathcal{L}_n(\mu,\sigma)=\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma}\right)^n\cdot exp\left\{-\frac{\sum_{i=1}^n(X_i-\mu)^2}{2\sigma^2}\right\}$$

$$\Rightarrow\quad l_n(\mu,\sigma)=\log\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}}\right)^n-n\log\sigma-\frac{\sum_{i=1}^n(X_i-\mu)^2}{2\sigma^2}$$

$$\Rightarrow\quad\begin{cases}\frac{\partial}{\partial\mu}l_n(\mu,\sigma)=\frac{\sum_{i=1}^n(X_i-\mu)}{\sigma^2}\\ \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial\sigma}l_n(\mu,\sigma)=-\frac{n}{\sigma}+\frac{\sum_{i=1}^n(X_i-\mu)^2}{\sigma^3}\end{cases}$$

$$\Rightarrow\quad\begin{cases}\frac{\partial^2}{\partial\mu^2}l_n(\mu,\sigma)=-\frac{n}{\sigma^2}\\ \frac{\partial^2}{\partial\mu\partial\sigma}l_n(\mu,\sigma)=-\frac{2\sum_{i=1}^n(X_i-\mu)}{\sigma^3}\\ \frac{\partial^2}{\partial\sigma\partial\mu}l_n(\mu,\sigma)=-\frac{2\sum_{i=1}^n(X_i-\mu)}{\sigma^3}\\ \frac{\partial^2}{\partial\sigma^2}l_n(\mu,\sigma)=\frac{n}{\sigma^2}-\frac{3\sum_{i=1}^n(X_i-\mu)^2}{\sigma^4}\end{cases}$$

$$\Rightarrow\quad\begin{cases}\mathbb{E}\left[\frac{\partial^2}{\partial\mu^2}l_n(\mu,\sigma)\right]=-\frac{n}{\sigma^2}\\ \mathbb{E}\left[\frac{\partial^2}{\partial\mu\partial\sigma}l_n(\mu,\sigma)\right]=0\\ \mathbb{E}\left[\frac{\partial^2}{\partial\sigma\partial\mu}l_n(\mu,\sigma)\right]=0\\ \mathbb{E}\left[\frac{\partial^2}{\partial\sigma^2}l_n(\mu,\sigma)\right]=-\frac{2n}{\sigma^2}\end{cases}$$

$$\Rightarrow\quad I_n(\mu,\sigma)=\begin{bmatrix}\frac{n}{\sigma^2}&0\\0&\frac{2n}{\sigma^2}\end{bmatrix}$$

Remark

Fisher Information 会受到 reparametrization 的影响, 例如

$$I_n(\mu,\sigma^2)=\begin{bmatrix}\frac{n}{\sigma^2}&0\\0&\frac{n}{2\sigma^4}\end{bmatrix}$$

更多论述见 STA3020 Lecture 5

4.2 Multiparameter Delta Method

Logic

关于单变量 Delta Method 的更多论述, 见 STA3020 Lecture 2, 内容包括:

- First order delta method
- Second order delta method

关于多变量 Delta Method 的更多论述, 见 STA3020 Lecture 5

令 $\tau=g(\theta_1,\dots,\theta_k)$ 为一个 differentiable function
若:

- $\nabla g=\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial\theta_1}g(\theta),\dots,\frac{\partial}{\partial\theta_k}g(\theta)\right)^T$ 为 g 的 gradient
- $\hat{\theta}_n$ 处的 ∇g 为 $\hat{\nabla}g$, 且不为 0
- $J_n(\hat{\theta}_n)=I_n(\hat{\theta}_n)^{-1}$
  则:

$$\frac{\hat{\tau}_n-\tau}{\hat{se}(\hat{\tau}_n)}\xrightarrow{d}\mathcal{N}(0,1)$$

其中

$$\hat{se}(\hat{\tau}_n)=\sqrt{(\hat{\nabla}g)^TJ_n(\hat{\theta}_n)(\hat{\nabla}g)}$$

Remark

若考虑从 $\mathbb{R}^n$ 到 $\mathbb{R}^m$ 的 mapping, 则需要将 gradient 替换为 Jacobian Matrix

Example

问题:

若 $X_1, \dots, X_n \overset{i.i.d.}{\sim} \mathcal{N}(\mu, \sigma^2)$, 求 $\tau = g(\mu, \sigma) = \mu/\sigma$ 的 MLE 和 limiting normal distribution

解答:

在之前的例子中, 我们已经得到了:

$$\begin{cases} \frac{\partial}{\partial \mu} l_n(\mu, \sigma) = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n (X_i - \mu)}{\sigma^2} \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial \sigma} l_n(\mu, \sigma) = -\frac{n}{\sigma} + \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n (X_i - \mu)^2}{\sigma^3} \end{cases}$$

令其等于 0, 有

$$\begin{cases} \hat{\mu} = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n X_i}{n} = \bar{X}_n \\ \hat{\sigma} = \sqrt{\frac{\sum_{i=1}^n (X_i - \bar{X}_n)^2}{n}} \end{cases}$$

根据 MLE 的 equivariance property, 有

$$\hat{\tau} = \frac{\hat{\mu}}{\hat{\sigma}} = \frac{\bar{X}_n}{\sqrt{\frac{\sum_{i=1}^n (X_i - \bar{X}_n)^2}{n}}}$$

在之前的例子中, 我们已经得到了:

$$I_n(\mu, \sigma) = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{n}{\sigma^2} & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{2n}{\sigma^2} \end{bmatrix}$$

因此,

$$J_n(\mu, \sigma) = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\sigma^2}{n} & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{\sigma^2}{2n} \end{bmatrix}$$

由于

$$\nabla g = \left(\frac{\partial g}{\partial \mu}, \frac{\partial g}{\partial \sigma} \right) = \left(\frac{1}{\sigma}, -\frac{\mu}{\sigma^2} \right)$$

因此,

$$\begin{aligned} se(\hat{\tau}_n) &= \sqrt{(\nabla g)^T J_n(\hat{\theta}_n)(\nabla g)} \\ &= \sqrt{\left(\frac{1}{\sigma}, -\frac{\mu}{\sigma^2} \right) \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\sigma^2}{n} & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{\sigma^2}{2n} \end{bmatrix} \left(\frac{1}{\sigma}, -\frac{\mu}{\sigma^2} \right)^T} \\ &= \sqrt{\frac{1}{n} + \frac{\mu^2}{2n\sigma^2}} \\ &= \sqrt{\frac{1}{n} + \frac{\tau^2}{2n}} \end{aligned}$$

因此,

$$\sqrt{n}(\hat{\tau} - \tau) \to \mathcal{N}(0, 1 + \frac{\tau^2}{2})$$