

1. Let X_1, \dots, X_n be i.i.d. $N(0, \sigma^2)$ and Y_1, \dots, Y_m be i.i.d. $N(0, \tau^2)$ and independent of the X_i . For each of the following give the distribution (including the name and values of any parameters) as well as justification.

(a)

$$\sum_{i=1}^n X_i$$

(b)

$$\bar{X} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n X_i$$

(c)

$$S^2 = \frac{1}{n-1} \sum_{i=1}^n (X_i - \bar{X})^2$$

(d)

$$\frac{\bar{X}}{S/\sqrt{n}}$$

(e)

$$\sum_{i=1}^m Y_i^2$$

(f)

$$\frac{\sum_{i=1}^n X_i^2}{\sum_{i=1}^m Y_i^2}$$

Solution:

(a) *Being a linear combination of independent normals, this is normal with mean*

$$E\left(\sum_{i=1}^n X_i\right) = \sum_{i=1}^n EX_i = \sum_{i=1}^n 0 = 0$$

and variance

$$\text{Var}\left(\sum_{i=1}^n X_i\right) = \sum_{i=1}^n \text{Var}(X_i) = \sum_{i=1}^n \sigma^2 = n\sigma^2.$$

(b) *By the same reasoning and similar calculations, $\bar{X} \sim N(0, \sigma^2/n)$.*

(c) *By Theorem 6.3.B,*

$$S^2 \sim \frac{\sigma^2}{n-1} \chi_{n-1}^2.$$

(d) Letting $Z \sim N(0, 1)$ and $U \sim \chi_{n-1}^2$ be independent,

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\bar{X}}{S/\sqrt{n}} &= \frac{(\sigma/\sqrt{n})Z}{\sqrt{\sigma^2 U/(n(n-1))}} \quad [\text{by parts (b) and (c)}] \\ &= \frac{Z}{\sqrt{U/(n-1)}} \\ &\sim t_{n-1},\end{aligned}$$

this last by the definition of the t distribution. Alternatively, Corollary 6.3.B in the book can be used.

(e) Writing $Y_i = \tau Z_i$ where the Z_i are independent standard normals,

$$\sum_{i=1}^m Y_i^2 = \sum_{i=1}^m (\tau Z_i)^2 = \tau^2 \sum_{i=1}^m Z_i^2 \sim \tau^2 \cdot \chi_m^2,$$

this last by the definition of the χ^2 distribution.

(f) By part (e), $\sum_{i=1}^n Z_i^2 \sim \sigma^2 \cdot \chi_n^2$, so letting U and V be independent χ^2 random variables with n and m d.f., respectively,

$$\frac{\sum_{i=1}^n X_i^2}{\sum_{i=1}^m Y_i^2} = \frac{\sigma^2 U}{\tau^2 V} = \frac{\sigma^2 n}{\tau^2 m} \cdot \frac{U/n}{V/m} \sim \frac{\sigma^2 n}{\tau^2 m} \cdot F_{n,m},$$

this last by the definition of the F distribution.

2. Let X_1, \dots, X_n be i.i.d. with the exponential distribution whose density function is

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} \theta e^{-\theta x}, & x \geq 0, \\ 0, & x < 0, \end{cases} \quad (1)$$

where $\theta > 0$ is unknown.

(a) Show that the moment generating function (MGF) of the distribution (1) is

$$M(t) = \frac{\theta}{\theta - t}. \quad (2)$$

(b) Name an open interval I containing 0 for which (2) is valid for all $t \in I$.

(c) Use the MGF to compute the first 2 moments of the exponential distribution (1).

(d) Find the Method of Moments estimator $\hat{\theta}$ of θ .

(e) Use the approximation

$$\frac{1}{\bar{X}} \approx \theta - \theta^2(\bar{X} - 1/\theta) \quad (3)$$

to approximate the variance of $\hat{\theta}$. Explain how you could use this to approximate the estimated standard error of $\hat{\theta}$. You can use (3) without justification and assume it is accurate enough for these approximations.

Solution:

(a)

$$M(t) = E(e^{tX_1}) = \int_0^\infty e^{tx} \theta e^{-\theta x} dx = \theta \int_0^\infty e^{-(\theta-t)x} dx = \frac{\theta}{\theta-t}.$$

(b) We need $\theta - t > 0$ so $|t| < \theta$ works.

(c)

$$M'(t) = \frac{\theta}{(\theta-t)^2} \Rightarrow \mu_1 = M'(0) = 1/\theta,$$

$$M''(t) = \frac{2\theta}{(\theta-t)^3} \Rightarrow \mu_2 = M''(0) = 2/\theta^2.$$

(d) Since $\theta = 1/\mu_1$ we have

$$\hat{\theta} = \frac{1}{\hat{\mu}_1} = \frac{1}{\bar{X}}.$$

(e) By part (c),

$$\text{Var}(X_1) = \mu_2 - \mu_1^2 = 2/\theta^2 - 1/\theta^2 = 1/\theta^2.$$

Now, using the approximation,

$$\text{Var}(\hat{\theta}) = \text{Var}(1/\bar{X}) \approx \theta^4 \text{Var}(\bar{X}) = \theta^4 \frac{\text{Var}(X_1)}{n} = \theta^4 \frac{1/\theta^2}{n} = \frac{\theta^2}{n}.$$

Thus the standard error is θ/\sqrt{n} and this can be estimated by

$$\frac{\hat{\theta}}{\sqrt{n}} = \frac{1}{\bar{X}\sqrt{n}}.$$