

MAP 531 : Statistics

26 septembre 2017

1 Method of moments

■ Exemples

2 Maximum Likelihood estimator (MLE)

3 M- and Z-estimators

Poisson process and exponential distribution

- **Poisson process** : is the basic model for systems that have discrete outputs (number of people standing in line, break occurrences, survival, etc..)
- Between-arrival model : X_1, \dots, X_n i.i.d. with an exponential distribution of parameter $\theta \in \Theta = \mathbb{R}_+^*$:

$$p(\theta, x) = \theta e^{-\theta x} \mathbb{1}_{\{x > 0\}} .$$

- **Properties** : for all $a, b > 0$ and $\theta \in \mathbb{R}_+^*$,

$$\mathbb{P}_\theta (X_1 \geq a + b \mid X_1 \geq a) = \frac{e^{-(a+b)\theta}}{e^{-a\theta}} = \mathbb{P}_\theta(X_1 \geq b)$$

Computation of the moments

- Generative function of moments : for $s < \theta$,

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbb{E}_{\theta}[e^{sX}] &= \int e^{sx} \theta e^{-\theta x} dx \\ &= \frac{\theta}{s - \theta} = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{s^k}{\theta^k}\end{aligned}$$

- Development of the exponential

$$\mathbb{E}_{\theta}[e^{sX}] = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{s^k}{k!} \mathbb{E}_{\theta}[X^k]$$

- By identification

$$\mathbb{E}_{\theta}[X^k] = \frac{k!}{\theta^k} .$$

Estimator using moments

Let $T(x) = x$ and $\tilde{T}(x) = x^2$.

$$e(\theta) = \mathbb{E}_{\theta} [T(X_1)] = \int_0^{+\infty} x\theta \exp(-\theta x) dx = \frac{1}{\theta}$$

$$\tilde{e}(\theta) = \mathbb{E}_{\theta} [\tilde{T}(X_1)] = \int_0^{+\infty} x^2\theta \exp(-\theta x) dx = \frac{2}{\theta^2}.$$

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- The associated estimators using these moments are solutions of

$$e(\theta) = \frac{1}{\theta} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n X_i \quad \text{et} \quad \tilde{e}(\theta) = \frac{2}{\theta^2} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n X_i^2.$$

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- These eqations have unique solutions :

$$\hat{\theta}_{n,1} = \frac{1}{\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n X_i} \quad \text{et} \quad \hat{\theta}_{n,2} = \left(\frac{2}{\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n X_i^2} \right)^{1/2}.$$

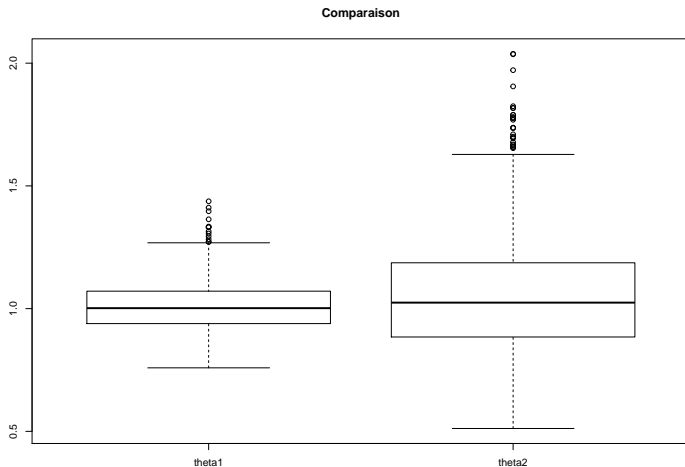


FIGURE – Performance comparison of these estimators $\hat{\theta}_1 = 1/(n^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^n X_i)$ et $\hat{\theta}_2 = 2/(n^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^n X_i^2)$

Translation and scaling model

Let X_1, \dots, X_n be a n -sample drawn with the following density :

$$p(\theta, x) = \frac{1}{\sigma} p\left(\frac{x - \mu}{\sigma}\right), \quad \theta = (\mu, \sigma^2) \in \Theta = \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}_+^*,$$

where p is a density on \mathbb{R} satisfying

$$\int xp(x)dx = 0, \quad \int x^2p(x)dx = m_2 > 0 \quad \int x^4p(x)dx = m_4 < \infty.$$

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Examples :

- The standard normal distribution, $p(x) = (2\pi)^{-1/2} \exp(-x^2/2)$: in this case, $m_2 = 1$ and $m_4 = 3$.
- The Laplace distribution $p(x) = (1/2) \exp(-|x|)$ such that $m_2 = 2$ and $m_4 = 4!$.

Estimator of moments

Let $T_1(x) = x$ and $T_2(x) = x^2$ and we identify the estimator of moments as the solution of the following system :

$$\begin{cases} e_1(\mu, \sigma^2) = \mu = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n X_i , \\ e_2(\mu, \sigma^2) = m_2 \sigma^2 + \mu^2 = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n X_i^2 . \end{cases}$$

Estimator of moments

$$\begin{cases} \hat{\mu}_n = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n X_i , \\ \hat{\sigma}_n^2 = \frac{1}{nm_2} \sum_{i=1}^n (X_i - \hat{\mu}_n)^2 . \end{cases}$$

- 1 Method of moments
- 2 Maximum Likelihood estimator (MLE)
 - Examples
 - Some properties of the MLE
- 3 M- and Z-estimators

Poisson distribution

In this setting $\mathcal{X} = \mathbb{N}$, and the measure is the discrete measure on \mathbb{N} . For $\theta \in \Theta = \mathbb{R}_+^*$, the Poisson distribution of parameter θ , is given by the following density w.r.t the counting measure

$$f_\theta(x) = e^{-\theta} \frac{\theta^x}{x!}, \quad x \in \mathbb{N}, \theta \in \mathbb{R}_+^*.$$

Let X_1, \dots, X_n be a n -sample from a Poisson distribution of parameter θ . The likelihood writes, for all $\theta > 0$,

$$L_n(\theta, X_1, \dots, X_n) = \prod_{i=1}^n e^{-\theta} \frac{\theta^{X_i}}{X_i!} = \frac{1}{\prod_{i=1}^n X_i!} \exp(-n\theta + n \log(\theta) \bar{X}_n).$$

This likelihood has a unique maximum given by

$$\bar{X}_n = n^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^n X_i.$$

Translation parameter for a Cauchy distribution

- Let (X_1, \dots, X_n) be a n -sample from a Cauchy distribution with translation parameter θ (and scaling parameter 1)

$$f(\theta, x) = \frac{1}{\pi(1 + (x - \theta)^2)}, \quad \theta \in \Theta = \mathbb{R}$$

- The log-likelihood is given by

$$\ell_n(\theta, X_1, \dots, X_n) = -\log \pi - \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \log(1 + (X_i - \theta)^2),$$

The likelihood equation is therefore :

$$\dot{\ell}_n(\theta, X_1, \dots, X_n) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{X_i - \theta}{1 + (X_i - \theta)^2} = 0.$$

- This equation does not have explicit solutions.

Numerical method to approximate the MLE

One can use a gradient ascent method which is summarised by the following equation : let $\theta^{(k)}$ be the value of the parameter estimate at the k -th iteration of the algorithm. Then,

$$\theta^{(k+1)} = \theta^{(k)} + \gamma \dot{\ell}_n(\theta^{(k)}) ,$$

where γ has to be chosen (with care).

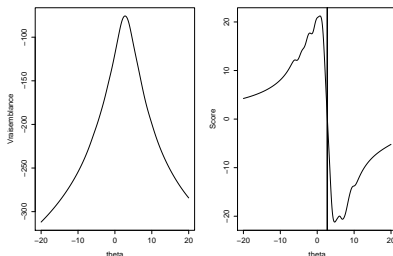


FIGURE – Likelihood and derivative form $n = 50$ observations from a Cauchy model with $\theta = 2$

MLE is not always defined

- Let (X_1, \dots, X_n) be a n -sample of random variables following $\{f_0(x - \theta), \theta \in \Theta = \mathbb{R}\}$ w.r.t the Lebesgue measure where

$$f_0(x) = \frac{e^{-\frac{|x|}{2}}}{2\sqrt{2\pi|x|}}, \quad x \in \mathbb{R},$$

- The likelihood writes

$$L_n(\theta, X_1, \dots, X_n) = \prod_{i=1}^n f_0(X_i - \theta).$$

- For all $i = 1, \dots, n$, we have

$$\lim_{\theta \rightarrow X_i} L_n(\theta, X_1, \dots, X_n) = +\infty.$$

- For this statistical experiment, the MLE is not defined.

MLE may not be unique

- Let (X_1, \dots, X_n) be a n -sample from the Laplace distribution with parameter $\theta \in \Theta = \mathbb{R}$; the pdf w.r.t the Lebesgue measure is

$$f(\theta, x) = \frac{1}{2} \exp(-|x - \theta|),$$

- The log-likelihood writes

$$\ell_n(\theta, X_1, \dots, X_n) = -\log(2) - \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n |X_i - \theta|.$$

- Maximizing $\theta \mapsto \ell_n(\theta, X_1, \dots, X_n)$ is equivalent to minimizing the following function

$$\theta \rightarrow \sum_{i=1}^n |X_i - \theta|.$$

MLE may not be unique

- This function is differentiable almost everywhere with differential equal to

$$-\sum_{i=1}^n \text{sign}(X_i - \theta) .$$

This differential (defined almost everywhere) is piecewise constant.

- If n is odd, there is a unique zero $X_{1:(n+1)/2}$, where $X_{1:n} \leq \dots \leq X_{n:n}$ is the ordering statistic associated to the sample
- If n is even, there exists an infinite number of solutions : any point in $(X_{1:n/2}, X_{1:n/2+1})$ is a MLE.

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Translation and scaling model

- Let X_1, \dots, X_n be a n -sample with the following pdf

$$p(\theta, x) = \frac{1}{\sigma} p\left(\frac{x - \mu}{\sigma}\right), \quad \theta = (\mu, \sigma^2) \in \Theta = \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}_+^*,$$

where p is a pdf on \mathbb{R} such that p is even.

- Let us consider the following functions

$$\psi_1(\mu, \sigma, x) = \text{signe}(x - \mu) \quad \text{et} \quad \psi_2(\mu, x) = -m + \frac{|x - \mu|}{\sigma}$$

where $m = \int |x|p(x)dx$. Then :

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \text{signe}(x - \mu) \sigma^{-1} p(\sigma^{-1}(x - \mu)) dx = 0$$

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \{m - \sigma^{-1}|x - \mu|\} p(\sigma^{-1}(x - \mu)) dx = 0$$

Translation and scaling model

- The *empirical median* of the sample is a Z -estimator of the translation parameter

$$\hat{\mu}_n = \begin{cases} X_{m:n} & \text{si } n = 2m - 1 \\ (1/2)(X_{m:n} + X_{m+1:n}) & \text{si } m = 2n \end{cases}$$

where $X_{1:n} \leq X_{2:n} \leq \dots \leq X_{n:n}$ is the **ordering statistic** associated to the sample X_1, \dots, X_n

- The Z -estimator of the scaling parameter is given by

$$\hat{\sigma}_n = \frac{1}{mn} \sum_{i=1}^n |X_i - \hat{\mu}_n|.$$