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Confidence Interval for Parameters

We have mainly 3 ways of give a confidence interval for parameters.

1. Fisher Information: If we have the estimator $\hat{\theta_{MLE}}$ we can use that:

$$(\hat{\theta} - \theta) \sim N(0, I(\theta)^{-1}), \quad n \to +\infty$$

Deduction:

$$z_{\frac{\alpha}{2}} \le \frac{\hat{\theta} - \theta}{\sqrt{I(\theta)^{-1}}} \le z_{1 - \frac{\alpha}{2}}$$

 \Rightarrow

$$\frac{z_{\frac{\alpha}{2}}}{\sqrt{I(\theta)}} \le \hat{\theta} - \theta \le \frac{z_{1-\frac{\alpha}{2}}}{\sqrt{I(\theta)}}$$

 \Rightarrow

$$\frac{z_{\frac{\alpha}{2}}}{\sqrt{I(\theta)}} - \hat{\theta} \leq -\theta \leq \frac{z_{1-\frac{\alpha}{2}}}{\sqrt{I(\theta)}} - \hat{\theta}$$

 \Rightarrow

$$\hat{\theta} - \frac{z_{1-\frac{\alpha}{2}}}{\sqrt{I(\theta)}} \le \theta \le \hat{\theta} - \frac{z_{\frac{\alpha}{2}}}{\sqrt{I(\theta)}}$$

 \Rightarrow

$$\left| \hat{\theta} + \frac{z_{\frac{\alpha}{2}}}{\sqrt{I(\theta)}} \le \theta \le \hat{\theta} + \frac{z_{1-\frac{\alpha}{2}}}{\sqrt{I(\theta)}} \right|$$

Regulary we use $I(\theta)$ evaluated on $\theta = \hat{\theta}$.

2. Notable case: For example when we have the estimator:

$$S^{2} = \frac{1}{(n-1)} \cdot \sum_{i=1}^{n} (x_{i} - \bar{x})^{2}$$

We now that:

$$T = \frac{(n-1) \cdot S^2}{\sigma^2} \sim \chi_{n-1}^2$$

Deduction:

$$t_{\frac{\alpha}{2},(n-1)} \le T \le t_{\left(1-\frac{\alpha}{2}\right),(n-1)}$$

 \Rightarrow

$$t_{\frac{\alpha}{2},(n-1)} \leq \frac{(n-1) \cdot S^2}{\sigma^2} \leq t_{\left(1-\frac{\alpha}{2}\right),(n-1)}$$

 \Rightarrow

$$\frac{1}{t_{\left(1-\frac{\alpha}{2}\right),(n-1)}} \le \frac{\sigma^2}{(n-1)\cdot S^2} \le \frac{1}{t_{\frac{\alpha}{2},(n-1)}}$$

 \Rightarrow

$$\frac{(n-1)}{t_{\left(1-\frac{\alpha}{2}\right),(n-1)}} \le \frac{\sigma^2}{S^2} \le \frac{(n-1)}{t_{\frac{\alpha}{2},(n-1)}}$$

 \Rightarrow

$$\boxed{\frac{(n-1)}{t_{\left(1-\frac{\alpha}{2}\right),(n-1)}} \cdot S^2 \le \sigma^2 \le \frac{(n-1)}{t_{\frac{\alpha}{2},(n-1)}} \cdot S^2}$$

3. Analyze particular case: Given a estimator $\hat{\theta}$ we have to analyze the distribution of the estimator and then we create a confidence interval.