

# MTH375: Mathematical Statistics - Homework #7

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March 17, 2022

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Key Concepts: Pivotal quantities, confidence intervals.

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1. Let  $X_1, \dots, X_{10}$  be a sample of  $iid \sim Normal(0, \theta)$  random variables.

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(a) Show that  $T = \frac{1}{\theta} \sum_{i=1}^n X_i^2$  is a pivotal quantity and find its distribution.

*Solution:*

A pivotal quantities distribution is does not depend on  $\theta$ .

- $\frac{1}{\sigma^2} \sum_{i=1}^n (X_i - \bar{X})^2 \sim \chi_{n-1}^2$ .
- $f_T(t) = \frac{1}{\theta} \sum_{i=1}^{10} (X_i - 0)^2 \sim \chi_9^2$ .

As the chi squared distribution depends only on the sample size  $n$ ,  $T$  is a pivotal quantity.

(b) Determine a 99% confidence interval for  $\theta$  based on  $T$ .

*Solution:*

- $\mathbb{P}\left(a \leq \frac{1}{\theta} \sum_{i=1}^{10} X_i^2 \leq b\right) = 0.99$ .
- $\mathbb{P}\left(\frac{1}{b} \sum_{i=1}^{10} X_i^2 \leq \theta \leq \frac{1}{a} \sum_{i=1}^{10} X_i^2\right) = 0.99$ .
- `qchisq(p = c(0.005, 0.995), df = 9) = (1.735, 23.589) = (a, b)`.
- $L(\vec{X}) = 0.042 \sum_{i=1}^{10} X_i^2$ .
- $U(\vec{X}) = 0.576 \sum_{i=1}^{10} X_i^2$ .

(c) Suppose that  $\sum_{i=1}^{10} X_i^2 = 27.3$ . What is the 99% confidence interval for  $\theta$ ?

*Solution:*

- $L(\vec{X}) = 0.042 \cdot 27.3 = 1.157$ .
- $U(\vec{X}) = 0.576 \cdot 27.3 = 15.735$ .

Our 99% confidence interval is thus  $(1.157, 15.735)$ .

(d) Determine a 99% confidence interval for  $\text{SD}(X) = \sqrt{\theta}$ .

*Solution:*

As we know the interval for the variance, the requested is the roots of the above bounds.

- $L^*(\vec{X}) = \sqrt{L(\vec{X})} = \sqrt{1.157} = 1.076$ .
- $U^*(\vec{X}) = \sqrt{U(\vec{X})} = \sqrt{15.735} = 3.967$ .

Our confidence interval is thus  $(1.076, 3.967)$ .

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2. Let  $X_1, \dots, X_6$  be a sample of  $iid \sim Uniform[\theta, 1]$  random variables.

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(a) Show that  $T = \frac{1 - X_{(1)}}{1 - \theta}$  is a pivotal quantity and find its cdf.

*Solution:*

A pivotal quantities distribution is does not depend on  $\theta$ .

- $\mathbb{P}(X_{(1)} > m) = [1 - F_{X_i}]^n = \left[1 - \frac{m - \theta}{1 - \theta}\right]^n$ .
- $\mathbb{P}\left(\frac{1 - X_{(1)}}{1 - \theta} \leq t\right) = \mathbb{P}(-X_{(1)} \leq t(1 - \theta) - 1) = \mathbb{P}(X_{(1)} > 1 - t(1 - \theta)) = \left[1 - \frac{t - \theta}{1 - \theta}\right]^n$ .
- Make the substitution  $t = \frac{1 + \theta}{t} + \theta$
- $\mathbb{P}(X_{(1)} > 1 - \left(\frac{1 + \theta}{t} - \theta\right)(1 - \theta)) = \left[1 - \frac{\frac{1 + \theta}{t} + \theta - \theta}{1 - \theta}\right]^n$ .
- $\mathbb{P}(X_{(1)} > 1 - \frac{1 + \theta}{t}) = \left[1 - \frac{1}{t}\right]^n$ .

We can see that  $T$  is independent of  $\theta$ .

(b) Determine a 85% confidence interval for  $\theta$  based on  $T$ .

*Solution:*

$$\bullet \mathbb{P}\left(\frac{1 - X_{(1)}}{1 - \theta} \leq a\right) = 0.075 = a^6 \Rightarrow a = 0.075^{1/6} = 0.649.$$

$$\bullet \mathbb{P}\left(\frac{1 - X_{(1)}}{1 - \theta} \leq b\right) = 0.925 = b^6 \Rightarrow b = 0.925^{1/6} = 0.987.$$

$$\bullet \mathbb{P}\left(0.649 \leq \frac{1 - X_{(1)}}{1 - \theta} \leq 0.987\right) = 0.85.$$

$$\bullet \mathbb{P}\left(1 - \frac{1 - X_{(1)}}{0.649} \leq \theta \leq 1 - \frac{1 - X_{(1)}}{0.987}\right) = 0.85.$$

$$\bullet L(\vec{X}) = 1 - \frac{1 - X_{(1)}}{0.649}.$$

$$\bullet U(\vec{X}) = 1 - \frac{1 - X_{(1)}}{0.987}.$$

(c) Suppose that  $\vec{X} = \langle 0.527, 0.803, 0.842, 0.880, 0.474, 0.558 \rangle$ . Find the 85% confidence interval for  $\theta$ .

*Solution:*

$$\bullet X_{(1)} = 0.474.$$

$$\bullet L(\vec{X}) = 1 - \frac{1 - 0.474}{0.649} = 0.190.$$

$$\bullet U(\vec{X}) = 1 - \frac{1 - 0.474}{0.987} = 0.467.$$

Our 85% confidence interval is thus  $(0.190, 0.467)$ .

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3. Let  $T = X_1, \dots, X_8$  be a sample of  $iid \sim \text{Gamma}(4, \theta)$  random variables.

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(a) Show that  $\frac{2}{\theta} \sum_{i=1}^n X_i$  is a pivotal quantity and find its distribution.

*Solution:*

A pivotal quantities distribution is does not depend on  $\theta$ .

- Let  $L = \sum_{i=1}^8 X_i \sim \text{Gamma}(32, \theta)$
- $F_L(l) = P\left(\frac{2L}{\theta} \leq l\right) = F_L(l) = P\left(L \leq \frac{\theta l}{2}\right) \sim \chi_{64}^2$ .

As the chi squared distribution depends only on the sample size  $n$ ,  $L$  is a pivotal quantity.

(b) Determine a 95% confidence interval for  $\theta$  based on  $T$ .

*Solution:*

- $\mathbb{P}\left(a \leq \sum_{i=1}^8 X_i \leq b\right) = 0.95$ .
- $\mathbb{P}\left(\frac{1}{b} \sum_{i=1}^8 X_i \leq \theta \leq \frac{1}{a} \sum_{i=1}^8 X_i\right) = 0.95$ .
- `qchisq(p = c(0.025, 0.975), df = 64) = (43.776, 88.004) = (a, b)`.
- $L(\vec{X}) = 0.0114 \sum_{i=1}^8 X_i$ .
- $U(\vec{X}) = 0.0228 \sum_{i=1}^8 X_i$ .

(c) Suppose that  $\vec{X} = \langle 17.40, 15.95, 15.17, 7.92, 11.54, 10.46, 8.47, 15.54 \rangle$ . Find a 95% confidence interval for  $\theta$ .

*Solution:*

- $\sum_{i=1}^8 X_i = 102.45$
- $L(\vec{X}) = 0.0114 \cdot 102.45 = 1.164$ .
- $U(\vec{X}) = 0.0228 \cdot 102.45 = 2.340$ .

Our 95% confidence interval is thus  $(1.164, 2.340)$ .

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4. Let  $X_1, \dots, X_6$  be a sample of  $iid \sim Normal(\mu, \theta)$  random variables.

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(a) Why is  $T = \frac{(n-1)S^2}{\theta}$  a pivotal quantity? What is the distribution of  $\frac{(n-1)S^2}{\theta}$ ?

*Solution:*

$T$  is a pivotal quantity as its distribution does not depend on  $\theta$ .

- $\frac{(n-1)S^2}{\sigma^2} = \frac{1}{\sigma^2} \sum_{i=1}^n (X_i - \bar{X})^2 \sim \chi_{n-1}^2$ .
- $f_T(t) = \frac{1}{\theta} \sum_{i=1}^6 (X_i - \bar{X})^2 \sim \chi_5^2$ .

Conclusion.

(b) Determine a 93% confidence interval for  $\theta$  based on  $T$ .

*Solution:*

Intro.

- $\mathbb{P}\left(a \leq \frac{5S^2}{\theta} \leq b\right) = 0.93$ .
- $\mathbb{P}\left(\frac{5S^2}{b} \leq \theta \leq \frac{5S^2}{a}\right) = 0.93$ .
- `qchisq(p = c(0.035, 0.965), df = 5) = (0.969, 11.985) = (a, b)`.
- $L(\vec{X}) = \frac{5S^2}{11.985}$ .
- $U(\vec{X}) = \frac{5S^2}{0.969}$ .



Conclusion.

(c) Suppose that  $\vec{X} = \langle 0.71, 0.62, 2.28, 1.01, 10.01, 7.64 \rangle$ . Find a 95% confidence interval for  $\theta$ .

*Solution:*

- $S(\vec{X}) = 4.075$
- $S^2(\vec{X}) = 16.604$
- $L(\vec{X}) = \frac{5(16.604)}{11.985} = 6.927$ .
- $U(\vec{X}) = \frac{5(16.604)}{0.969} = 85.643$ .

Our 93% confidence interval is thus  $(6.927, 85.643)$ .

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5. A pollster chooses 500 citizens at random, and asks whether each plans to vote ‘yes’ or ‘no’ on proposition  $X$ . In the sample, 375 indicate a ‘yes’ vote.

Find a 95% confidence interval for the proportion of the total population who plan to vote ‘yes.’

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*Solution:*

We will leverage the general form of symmetric confidence intervals ...

$$CI = \text{sample statistic} \pm (\text{critical value})(\text{standard error}).$$

Given our sample is sufficiently large our sampling distribution is approximately normally distributed, by the central limit theorem.

From our sample we can construct an estimate for the probability of a voter planning to vote ‘yes,’ our sample statistic ...

$$\hat{p} = 375/500 = 0.75.$$

For the normal distribution we can solve for values  $(a, b)$ , where  $a = -b$  and  $|a| = |b|$  is our critical value ...

$$\text{qnorm}(p = c(0.025, 0.975), \text{mean} = 0, \text{sd} = 1) = (-1.96, 1.96) = (a, b).$$

From our sample statistic we can construct our standard error ...

$$SE = \sqrt{\frac{\hat{p}(1 - \hat{p})}{n}} = \sqrt{\frac{(0.75)(0.25)}{500}} = 0.194$$

We now have the necessary information to construct our 95% confidence interval ...

$$CI: 0.75 \pm (1.96)(0.194) = 0.75 \pm 0.038.$$

Our 95% confidence interval is thus  $(0.712, 0.788)$ .