

# Problem Set 2

Clinton Tepper

Note: On the previous assignment you asked why I used the notation  $\int (\cdot) p(s) ds$ . Generally I find using a new variable as a dummy inside the integrand enhances clarity. If it makes the results less clear, let me know and I will stop using dummy variables.

## Problem 1

1.

- Write down the total likelihood:

$$L(\hat{\theta}|X) = \prod_{i \in 1:n} \iota(\hat{\theta} \geq x_i) \frac{1}{\hat{\theta}}$$

$$l(\hat{\theta}|X) = \begin{cases} \sum_{i \in 1:n} \frac{1}{\hat{\theta}} & \hat{\theta} \geq \max\{x_i\}_1^N \\ -\infty & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

- Since  $l$  is strictly decreasing for all  $\hat{\theta} \geq \max\{x_i\}_1^N$ , we have  $\hat{\theta}_{MLE} = \max\{x_i\}_1^N$

2.

- The likelihood interval is defined as  $LI = \{\kappa : L(\kappa) > cL(\hat{\theta})\}$
- Denote  $\hat{\theta} \equiv \max\{x_i\}_1^N$ . Then:

$$cL(\hat{\theta}) = L(\theta)$$

$$\frac{c}{\hat{\theta}^N} = \frac{1}{\kappa^N}$$

$$\kappa = \frac{\hat{\theta}}{c^{\frac{1}{N}}}$$

- Plugging in,  $\hat{\theta} = 2.85$  so  $\kappa = 5.19$

3.

- Begin with the definition:

$$p(cL(\hat{\theta}) < L(\theta)) = p\left(\frac{c}{\hat{\theta}^N} < \frac{1}{\theta^N}\right)$$

$$= 1 - P\left(c^{\frac{1}{N}}\theta > \max(X)\right)$$

- Then, appealing to the CDF of the maximum of a uniform distribution ( $P(\max(X) < \tau) = \left(\frac{\tau}{\theta}\right)^N$ ):

$$P\left(c^{\frac{1}{N}}\theta > \max(X)\right) = \left(\frac{c^{\frac{1}{N}}\theta}{\theta}\right)^N$$

$$\rightarrow p(cL(\hat{\theta}) < L(\theta)) = 1 - c$$

## Problem 2

1.

- This is an odds ratio of odds ratios.
- The numerator is the ratio of the probability of someone voting to the probability of someone not voting given that they had a high level of education and covariates  $w$ .
- The denominator is the ratio of the probability of someone voting to the probability of someone not voting given that they had low education and covariates  $w$ .
- The overall expression is the ratio of the odds ratio of voting given high education to the odds ratio given low education, all given covariates  $w$ .

2.

- This is simply plugging into the provided assumption  $p(Y_i = 1|X_i) = \frac{\exp(X_i'\beta)}{1+\exp(X_i'\beta)}$ :

$$p(Y_i = 1|T_i = 1, W_i = w) = \frac{\exp(\alpha + \gamma + \delta'w)}{1 + \exp(\alpha + \gamma + \delta'w)}$$

$$p(Y_i = 0|T_i = 1, W_i = w) = \frac{1}{1 + \exp(\alpha + \gamma + \delta'w)}$$

$$p(Y_i = 1|T_i = 0, W_i = w) = \frac{\exp(\alpha + \delta'w)}{1 + \exp(\alpha + \delta'w)}$$

$$p(Y_i = 0|T_i = 0, W_i = w) = \frac{1}{1 + \exp(\alpha + \delta'w)}$$

- Plugging in:

$$\begin{aligned} OR(w) &= \frac{p(Y_i = 1|T_i = 1, W_i = w) / p(Y_i = 0|T_i = 1, W_i = w)}{p(Y_i = 1|T_i = 0, W_i = w) / p(Y_i = 0|T_i = 0, W_i = w)} \\ &= \frac{\exp(\alpha + \gamma + \delta'w)}{\exp(\alpha + \delta'w)} \\ &= \exp(\gamma) \end{aligned}$$

- This allows us to interpret the estimated coefficient  $\hat{\gamma}$  as an estimate of the log of the odds ratio of interest.

3.

- By the continuous mapping theorem,  $\hat{\sigma}_n \xrightarrow{P} \sigma$  implies  $\hat{\sigma}_n^2 \xrightarrow{P} \sigma^2$
- As the standard error exists and  $\hat{\gamma}_n \xrightarrow{P} \gamma$  and  $\hat{\sigma}_n^2 \xrightarrow{P} \sigma^2$ , we can apply the central limit theorem:

$$\sqrt{n}(\hat{\gamma}_n - \gamma) \xrightarrow{d} N(0, \sigma^2)$$

- Hence the delta method provides the asymptotic distribution:

$$\sqrt{n}(g(\hat{\gamma}_n) - g(\gamma)) \xrightarrow{d} N(0, \sigma^2 g'(\gamma)^2)$$

$$\sqrt{n}(e^{\hat{\gamma}_n} - e^\gamma) \xrightarrow{d} N(0, \sigma^2 e^{2\gamma})$$

## Problem 2

4.

- We have  $X_i'\beta = \pi_i$ , so the link function is given by  $g(\mu) = \mu$ .

5.

- We have

$$\begin{aligned} E[\varepsilon_i^2|X_i] &= E[(Y_i - X_i'\beta)^2|X_i] \\ &= E[Y_i^2|X_i] - E[Y_i X_i'\beta|X_i] + (X_i'\beta)^2 \\ &= E[Y_i^2|X_i] - (X_i'\beta)^2 \end{aligned}$$

- Since  $p(Y_i|X_i) \sim B(\pi_i)$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} E[\varepsilon_i^2|X_i] &= V[Y_i|X_i] + \pi_i^2 - \pi_i^2 \\ &= \pi_i(1 - \pi_i) \end{aligned}$$

- Thus outside of some degenerate cases (e.g.  $\pi_i$  is a constant), the error terms are conditionally heteroskedastic.
- Per White 1980, if exogeneity holds such that  $E[\varepsilon|X_i] = 0$ , corrected estimators of the standard error are asymptotically consistent.

6.

- The likelihood is given by:

$$\begin{aligned} L(\theta|X) &= \prod_{i \in 1:P} \pi_i^{Y_i} (1 - \pi_i)^{1-Y_i} \\ &= \prod_{i \in 1:P} (X_i\beta)^{Y_i} (1 - X_i'\beta)^{1-Y_i} \end{aligned}$$

7.

- Let  $n_Y = \sum Y_i$ . Then the log likelihood is:

$$l(\theta|X) = \sum_{i \in 1:P} [Y_i \ln(X_i'\beta) + (1 - Y_i) \ln(1 - X_i'\beta)]$$

- The score is thus

$$\begin{aligned} S(\beta|X) &= \nabla l(\theta|X) = \sum_{i \in 1:P} \left[ \frac{Y_i}{X_i'\beta} X_i - \frac{1 - Y_i}{1 - X_i'\beta} X_i \right] \\ &= \sum_{i \in 1:P} \left[ \frac{Y_i(1 - X_i'\beta) - X_i'\beta(1 - Y_i)}{X_i'\beta(1 - X_i'\beta)} X_i \right] \\ &= \sum_{i \in 1:P} \left[ \frac{Y_i - X_i'\beta}{X_i'\beta(1 - X_i'\beta)} X_i \right] \checkmark \end{aligned}$$

8.

- Under correct specification,

$$\beta_{MLE} \sim N\left(\beta, -E[H]^{-1}\right)$$

- But under correct specifcaiton,

$$\begin{aligned} -E[H]^{-1} &= I_N(\beta|X)^{-1} \\ &= E[S(\beta|X_i)S(\beta|X_i)']^{-1} \end{aligned}$$

- Then

$$\begin{aligned}
S(\beta|X_i) S(\beta|X_i)' &= \left[ \frac{Y_i - X_i' \beta}{X_i' \beta (1 - X_i' \beta)} \right]^2 X_i X_i' \\
E[S(\beta|X_i) S(\beta|X_i)'] &= E \left[ \left[ \frac{Y_i - X_i' \beta}{X_i' \beta (1 - X_i' \beta)} \right]^2 X_i X_i' | X_i \right] \\
&= E \left[ \left[ \frac{Y_i - X_i' \beta}{X_i' \beta (1 - X_i' \beta)} \right]^2 | X_i \right] X_i X_i' \\
&= \frac{V(\varepsilon|X_i)}{[X_i' \beta (1 - X_i' \beta)]^2} X_i X_i' \\
&= \frac{X_i' \beta (1 - X_i' \beta)}{[X_i' \beta (1 - X_i' \beta)]^2} X_i X_i' \text{ (from Q5)} \\
&= \frac{X_i X_i'}{X_i' \beta (1 - X_i' \beta)}
\end{aligned}$$

- Plugging in, we thus have

$$\beta_{MLE} \sim N \left( \beta, \left[ \frac{X_i X_i'}{X_i' \beta (1 - X_i' \beta)} \right]^{-1} \right)$$

### Problem 3

9.

- The likelihood and log-likelihood are given by:

$$\begin{aligned}
L(\theta|X) &= \prod_{i \in 1:P} \Phi(X_i' \beta)^{Y_i} (1 - \Phi(X_i' \beta))^{1-Y_i} \\
l(\theta|X) &= \sum_{i \in 1:P} [Y_i \ln[\Phi(X_i' \beta)] + (1 - Y_i) \ln(1 - \Phi(X_i' \beta))]
\end{aligned}$$

10. and 11.

(Sorry for the wacky R code. Julia is my main language.)

- Need gradient for reliable optimization:

$$\nabla l(\theta|X) = \left[ \frac{Y_i}{\Phi(X_i' \beta)} - \frac{(1 - Y_i)}{1 - \Phi(X_i' \beta)} \right] \phi(X_i' \beta) \beta$$

```

require(ggplot2) #for graphs
require(parallel) #good for bootstrapping
require(data.table) #this and the below package are needed to work with data
require(knitr)
set.seed(11) #A seed for me

```

```

#holds constants and program parameters
CONST = list(
  NUM_ROWS = 200,
  NUM_COLS = 3,
  NUM_SAMPLES = 2000,

```

```

EPSILON = .Machine$double.eps, #machine precision
NUM_WORKERS = max(round(detectCores() * .5), 2) #just a heuristic for multi-threading
)

#This is the probit likelihood function
lllikelihoodProbit = function(b, Y, X) {
  epsilon = CONST$EPSILON
  argvec = X %*% b

  #avoid numerical issues with logs of small numbers
  pnorms = pmin(pmax(pnorm(argvec), epsilon), 1.0 - epsilon)

  #Use vectorized ifelse
  likes = ifelse(Y, log(pnorms), log(1 - pnorms))

  return(sum(likes))
}

#this is the gradient of the previous
lllikelihoodProbitGrad = function(b, Y, X) {
  epsilon = CONST$EPSILON
  argvec = X %*% b
  pnorms = pnorms = pmin(pmax(pnorm(argvec), epsilon), 1.0 - epsilon)
  dnorms = dnorm(argvec)

  #Use vectorized ifelse
  premults = ifelse(Y, (1 / pnorms), - (1 / (1 - pnorms))) * dnorms

  #R's equivalent to broadcast
  grads = apply(X, MARGIN = 2, function(x) x * premults)
  return(colSums(grads))
}

probitModel = function(Y, X, suppressIntercept = FALSE) {
  #make the intercept as needed
  if (!suppressIntercept) {
    if (min(X[, ncol(X)]) != 1 || max(X[, ncol(X)]) != 1) X = cbind(X, rep(1, nrow(X)))
  }

  # Get some convenience constants
  R = nrow(Y)
  C = ncol(X)

  #initial value of b
  b = rep(1, C)

  #make single argument versions for optim
  ll = function(x) - 1.0 * lllikelihoodProbit(x, Y, X)
  llgrad = function(x) - 1.0 * lllikelihoodProbitGrad(x, Y, X)

  #call the optimizer
  opt = optim(b, ll, gr = llgrad, method = "BFGS", hessian = TRUE)
}

```

```

if (opt$convergence != 0) print("WARNING! Optimizer did not converge")

#Efficient matrix inversion
U = chol(opt$hessian)
UInv = solve(chol(opt$hessian))
Sigma = t(UInv) %*% UInv

#form the info we want into a named list
prob = list(B = opt$par, llikelihood = opt$value, varB = diag(Sigma), seB = diag(Sigma) ^ 0.5)
return(prob)
}

#generates a test sample from the asymptotic distribution
testSample = function(R = CONST$NUM_ROWS, C = CONST$NUM_COLS, beta = 1 / (1:C)) {
  #pre-allocate
  X = matrix(rnorm(R * C), nrow = R, ncol = C)

  #create the Y vector
  Y = apply(X, 1, function(x) pnorm(x %*% beta))
  Y = rbinom(R, 1, Y)

  return(list(Y = Y, X = X))
}

#tests the model a single time and prints the results
testProbitModelOnce = function() {

  S = testSample()
  prob = probitModel(S$Y, S$X)
  print(prob)
}

testProbitModelOnce()

```

```

## $B
## [1] 1.294512138 0.429558179 0.302285828 -0.008555375
##
## $llikelihood
## [1] 85.56511
##
## $varB
## [1] 0.02820121 0.01650585 0.01472355 0.01217555
##
## $seB
## [1] 0.1679322 0.1284751 0.1213406 0.1103429

```

- Note that the true betas are 1.0, 0.5 and 0.33
- The results seem reasonably close to the true betas given the small sample size and binary nature of the dependent variable.
- From a frequentist standpoint, we cannot reject any of the true betas using the estimates.

12.

```
#this generates a multi-variate bootstrap sample
bootSample = function(Y, X) {
  R = nrow(X)

  #first pick the rows we will sample
  sampledRows = sample(1:R, R, replace = TRUE)

  #sample the rows
  Y = sapply(sampledRows, function(r) Y[r])
  X = matrix(sapply(sampledRows, function(r) X[r,]), nrow = R, byrow = TRUE)

  return(list(Y = Y, X = X))
}

examineProbitDistributions = function(N = CONST$NUM_SAMPLES) {
  #maybe this will take a while, so lets multi-thread (process)
  cl = makeCluster(CONST$NUM_WORKERS)
  clusterExport(cl = cl,
    varlist = c("llikelihoodProbit", "llikelihoodProbitGrad", "probitModel",
      "testSample", "CONST", "bootSample"))

  #get the primary sample and model
  S = testSample()
  prob = probitModel(S$Y, S$X)
  betasAsymp = data.table(method = "asymp", b1 = rnorm(N, mean = prob$B[1], sd = (prob$varB[1] ^ 0.5)),
    b2 = rnorm(N, mean = prob$B[2], sd = (prob$varB[2] ^ 0.5)),
    b3 = rnorm(N, mean = prob$B[3], sd = (prob$varB[3] ^ 0.5))
  )

  #Get the bootstrap samples and solve for the MLE
  bootSamples = parLapply(cl, 1:N, function(x) bootSample(S$Y, S$X))
  bootModels = parLapply(cl, bootSamples, function(s) probitModel(s$Y, s$X))
  betasBoot = data.table(method = "boot", b1 = sapply(bootModels, function(x) x$B[1]),
    b2 = sapply(bootModels, function(x) x$B[2]),
    b3 = sapply(bootModels, function(x) x$B[3]))

  #get the true samples
  trueSamples = parLapply(cl, 1:N, function(x) testSample())
  trueModels = parLapply(cl, trueSamples, function(s) probitModel(s$Y, s$X))
  betasTrue = data.table(method = "true", b1 = sapply(trueModels, function(x) x$B[1]),
    b2 = sapply(trueModels, function(x) x$B[2]),
    b3 = sapply(trueModels, function(x) x$B[3]))

  #combine into a ggplot2 friendly structure
  betas = rbind(betasAsymp, betasBoot, betasTrue)

  #plot the densities of the estimates
  p1 = ggplot(betas, aes(x = b1)) +
    geom_density(aes(group = method, color = method)) + theme_bw() +
    ggtitle("Distribution of asymptotic, bootstrap, and simulated true beta-1")
}
```

```

p2 = ggplot(betas, aes(x = b2)) +
  geom_density(aes(group = method, color = method)) + theme_bw() +
  ggtitle("b2 distribution of asymptotic, bootstrap, and simulated true beta-2")

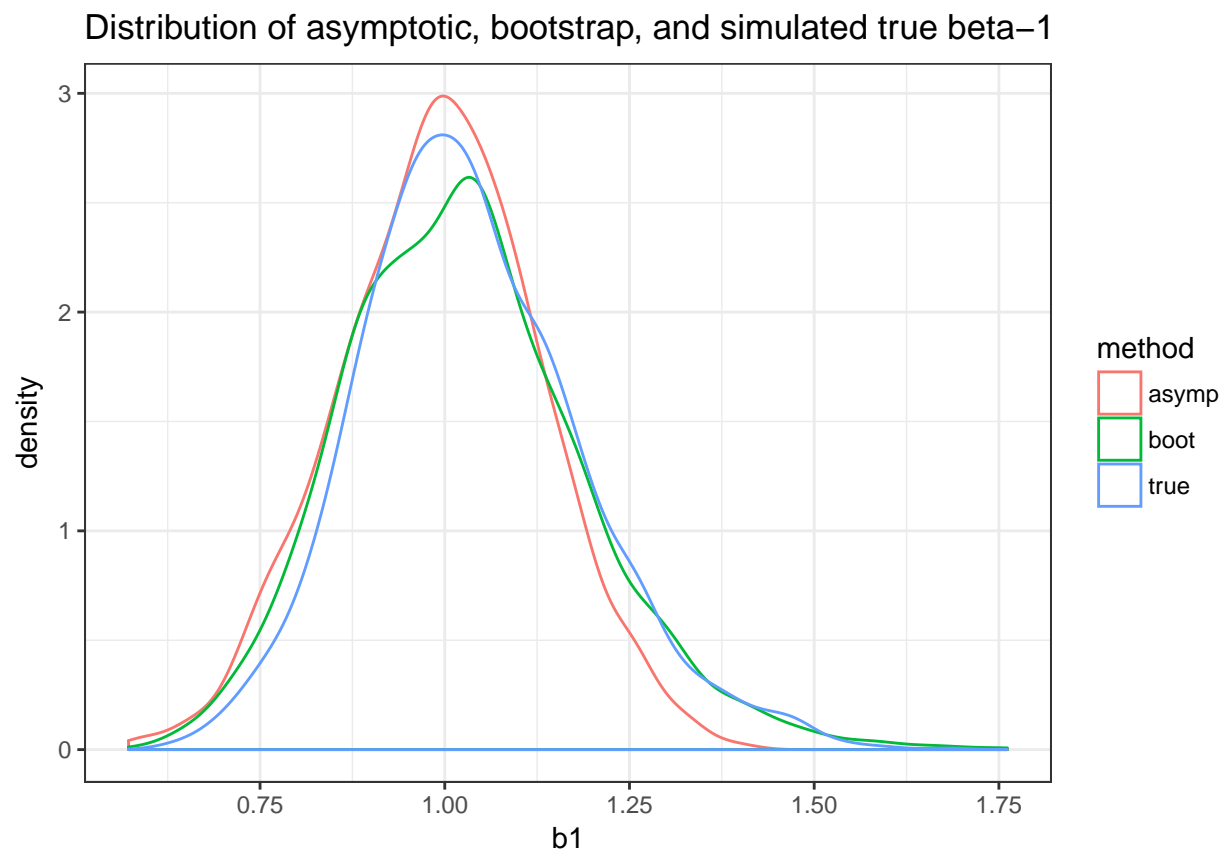
p3 = ggplot(betas, aes(x = b3)) +
  geom_density(aes(group = method, color = method)) + theme_bw() +
  ggtitle("Distribution of asymptotic, bootstrap, and simulated true beta-3")
print(p1)
print(p2)
print(p3)

#cleanup
stopCluster(c1)

}

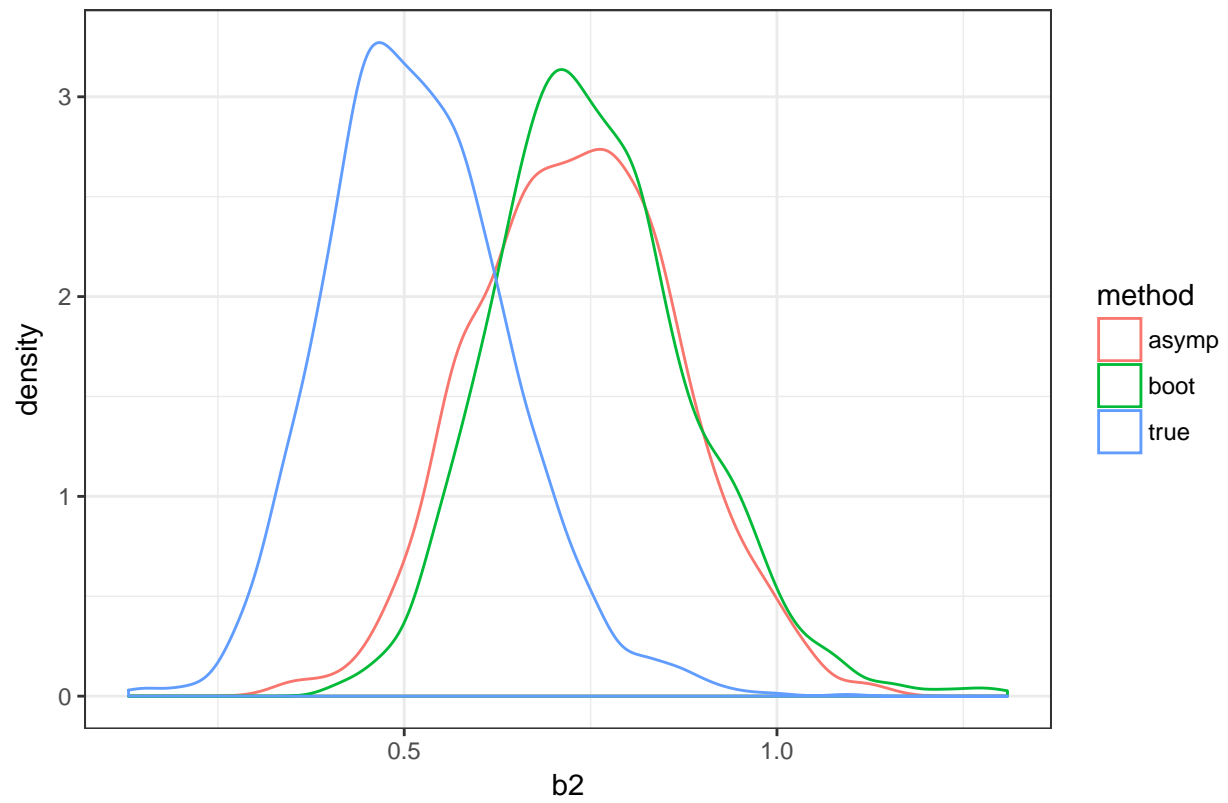
system.time(examineProbitDistributions())

```

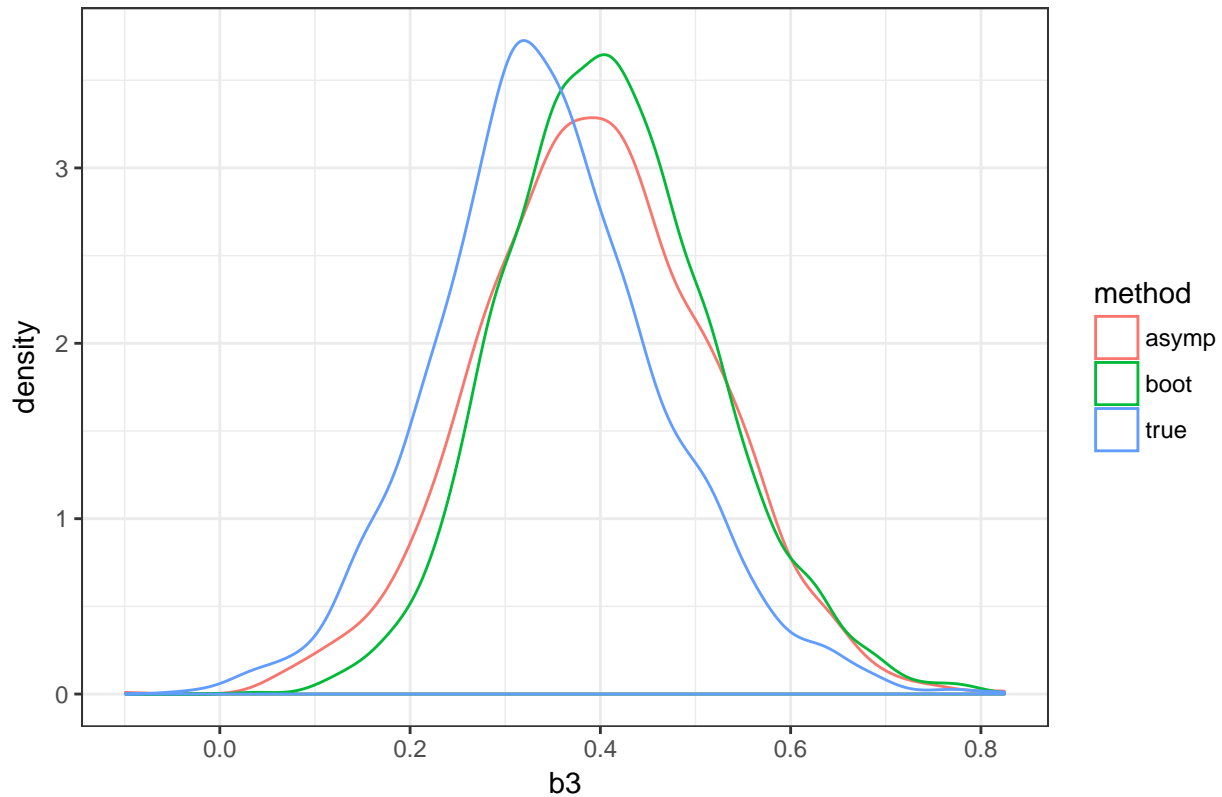




b2 distribution of asymptotic, bootstrap, and simulated true beta-2



### Distribution of asymptotic, bootstrap, and simulated true beta-3



```
## user system elapsed
## 1.28 2.50 13.96
```

- The distribution of the bootstrap and asymptotic error seem reasonably close.
- Qualitatively, the median of the asymptotic and bootstrap distribution at least occurs within a reasonable part of the true beta distribution.
- Because the true distribution seems leptokurtic, I generally trust the bootstrap more in this situation.

### Problem 4

13.

- Because the conditional mean of both specifications is the same, the MLE estimates of beta are consistent.

14.

- As discussed in the slides, the sandwich estimator does not simplify.
  - The estimator is thus distributed  $\hat{\theta} \sim N(\theta, E[H^{-1}] E[S(\theta) S(\theta)'] E[H^{-1}])$
- Only under correct specification does  $I(\theta|X_i) = E[S(\theta|X_i) S(\theta|X_i)']$
- PROOF (Univariate case, borrowing from MLE2\_handout.pdf slides 8 and 9):

- First write down the square of the score, but using the true probability distribution to compute the expectation:

$$\begin{aligned} E \left[ S(\theta|Y_i)^2 \right] &= \int S(\theta|Y_i)^2 q(Y_i|\theta) dY_i \\ &= \int \left[ \frac{\partial \ln p(Y_i|\theta)}{\partial \theta} \right]^2 q(Y_i|\theta) dY_i \\ &= \int \frac{1}{p(Y_i|\theta)^2} \left[ \frac{\partial p(Y_i|\theta)}{\partial \theta} \right]^2 q(Y_i|\theta) dY_i \end{aligned}$$

- Do the same for the Hessian (doesn't quite match up due to typo in bottom of slide 8):

$$\begin{aligned} -E[H(\theta|Y_i)] &= - \int \frac{\partial^2 \ln p(Y_i|\theta)}{\partial \theta^2} q(Y_i|\theta) dY_i \\ \frac{\partial^2 \ln p(Y_i|\theta)}{\partial \theta^2} &= \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \left[ \frac{1}{p(Y_i|\theta)} \frac{\partial p(Y_i|\theta)}{\partial \theta} \right] \\ &= \frac{-1}{p(Y_i|\theta)^2} \left( \frac{\partial p(Y_i|\theta)}{\partial \theta} \right)^2 + \frac{1}{p(Y_i|\theta)} \frac{\partial^2 p(Y_i|\theta)}{\partial^2 \theta} \\ -E[H(\theta|Y_i)] &= - \int \left[ \frac{-q(Y_i|\theta)}{p(Y_i|\theta)^2} \left( \frac{\partial p(Y_i|\theta)}{\partial \theta} \right)^2 + \frac{q(Y_i|\theta)}{p(Y_i|\theta)} \frac{\partial^2 p(Y_i|\theta)}{\partial^2 \theta} \right] dY_i \\ &= E \left[ S(\theta|Y_i)^2 \right] - \int \frac{q(Y_i|\theta)}{p(Y_i|\theta)} \frac{\partial^2 p(Y_i|\theta)}{\partial^2 \theta} dY_i \\ &= E \left[ S(\theta|Y_i)^2 \right] - \int \frac{q(Y_i|\theta)}{p(Y_i|\theta)} \frac{\partial^2 p(Y_i|\theta)}{\partial \theta^2} dY_i \checkmark \end{aligned}$$

- Note if  $q=p$  we achieve the desired simplification.

15 and 16

```
require(ggplot2) #for graphs
require(sandwich) #standard error
require(parallel) #good for bootstrapping
require(data.table) #this and the below package are needed to work with data

set.seed(11) #A seed for me

#holds constants and program parameters
CONST = list(
  NUM_ROWS = 1000,
  NUM_SAMPLES = 10000,
  EPSILON = .Machine$double.eps, #machine precision
  NUM_WORKERS = max(round(detectCores() * .5), 2), #just a heuristic for multi-threading
  NBSIZE = 1 / 3
)

#generates a test sample from the asymptotic distribution
binomSample = function(R = CONST$NUM_ROWS, nbsize = CONST$NBSIZE) {
```

```

#pre-allocate
X = rnorm(R)

#create the Y vector
Y = exp(X / 100)
Y = rbinom(R, size = CONST$NBSIZE, mu = Y)

return(list(Y = Y, X = X))
}

glmPoisson = function(Y, X) {
  pois = glm(Y ~ X, family = poisson())
  beta = pois$coefficients

  #Get the standard SE
  AInv = vcov(pois)
  SE = diag(AInv) ^ 0.5
  names(SE) = names(beta)

  #Get the robust SE
  score = estfun(pois)
  B = t(score) %*% score
  AInvBAInv = AInv %*% B %*% AInv
  SERobust = diag(AInvBAInv) ^ 0.5
  names(SERobust) = names(beta)

  return(list(beta = beta, SE = SE, SERobust = SERobust))
}

compareModelsOnce = function() {
  S = binomSample() #get the main sample
  pois = glmPoisson(S$Y, S$X) #get the model output
  print(pois) #print it
}

compareModelsOnce()

```

```

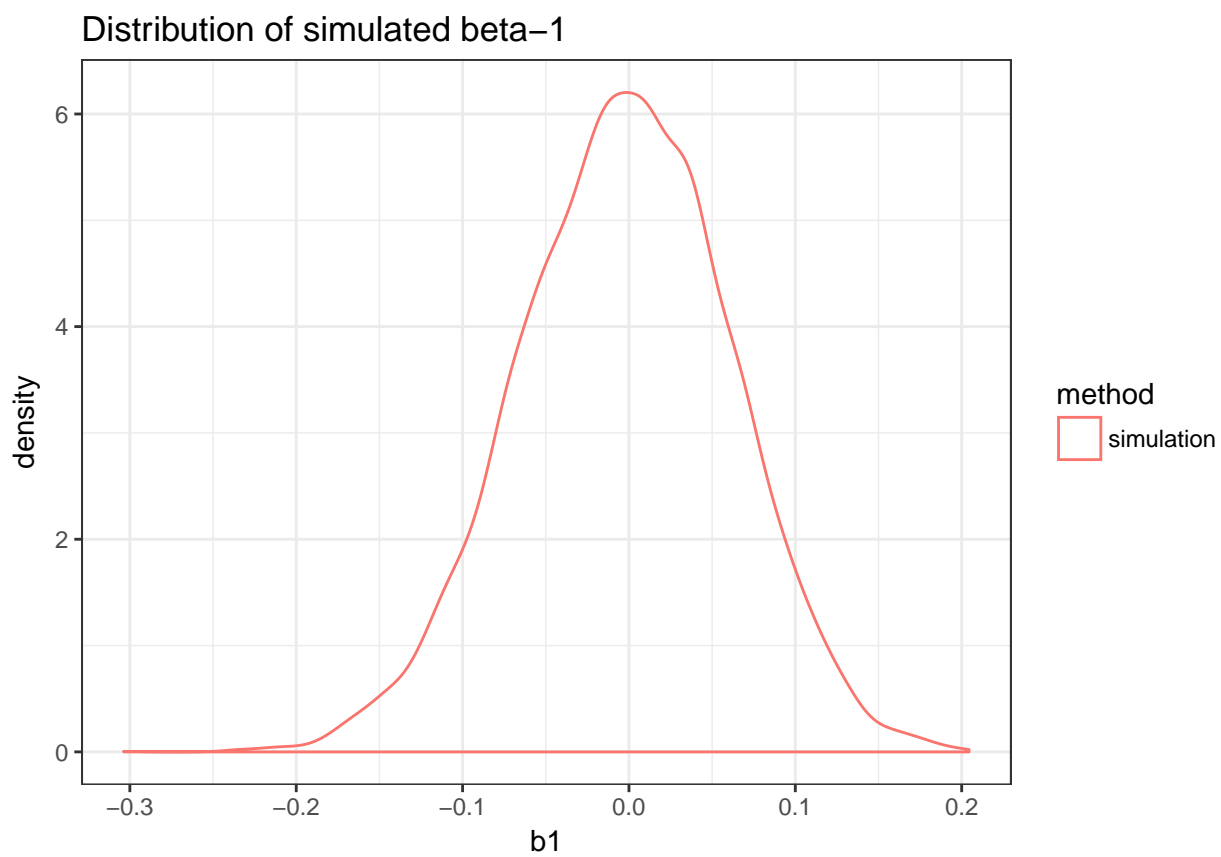
## $beta
## (Intercept)          X
## -0.01103343 -0.01367544
##
## $SE
## (Intercept)          X
##  0.03179847  0.03194003
##
## $SERobust
## (Intercept)          X
##  0.06358881  0.05710182

```

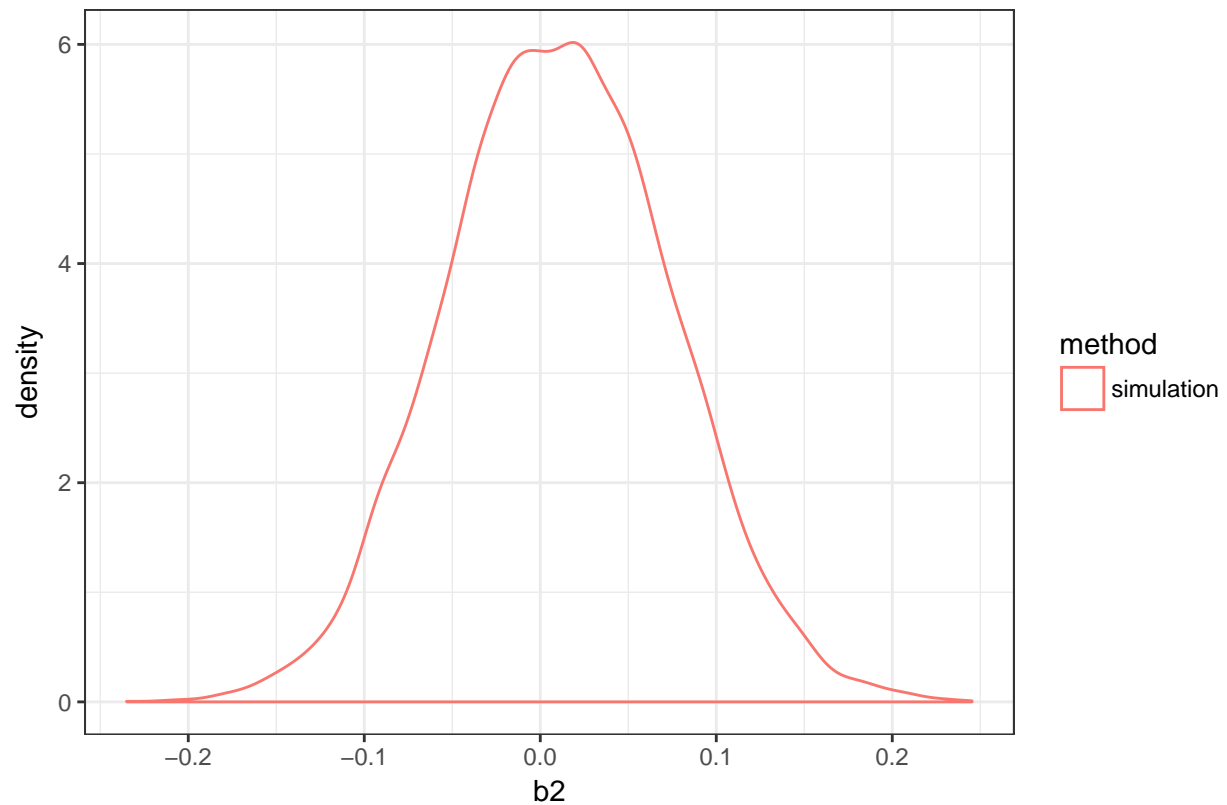
- As expected, the standard errors are higher using the more robust technique.

17.

```
simulateModel = function(K = CONST$NUM_SAMPLES) {  
  #prepare to parallelize  
  cl = makeCluster(CONST$NUM_WORKERS)  
  clusterExport(cl = cl, varlist = c("glmPoisson", "binomSample", "CONST"))  
  clusterEvalQ(cl, require(sandwich))  
  
  #first get the samples  
  samples = parLapply(cl, 1:K, function(x) binomSample())  
  simModels = parLapply(cl, samples, function(x) glmPoisson(x$Y, x$X))  
  betas = data.table(method = "simulation", b1 = sapply(simModels, function(x) x$beta[1]),  
    b2 = sapply(simModels, function(x) x$beta[2]))  
  
  #plot  
  p1 = ggplot(betas, aes(x = b1)) +  
    geom_density(aes(group = method, color = method)) + theme_bw() +  
    ggtitle("Distribution of simulated beta-1")  
  
  p2 = ggplot(betas, aes(x = b2)) +  
    geom_density(aes(group = method, color = method)) + theme_bw() +  
    ggtitle("Distribution of simulated beta-2")  
  
  print(p1)  
  print(p2)  
  
  cat("Cross-sectional standard deviation of b1: ", sd(betas[, b1]), "\n")  
  cat("Cross-sectional standard deviation of b2: ", sd(betas[, b2]), "\n")  
  
  #cleanup  
  stopCluster(cl)  
}  
  
system.time(simulateModel())
```



Distribution of simulated beta-2



```
## Cross-sectional standard deviation of b1: 0.06374631
## Cross-sectional standard deviation of b2: 0.06375208

## user system elapsed
## 2.35 7.45 26.61
```

- The true standard errors seem reasonably close to the standard errors from the robust estimation technique.
- They are substantially more than the standard errors computed assuming correct specification.