

Statistics 2 - Notes

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1 Estimation

1.1 Introduction

Definition 1.1 - *Probabilty Space, $(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, \mathbb{P})$*

A mathematical construct for modelling the real world. A *Probabilty Space* has three elements

- i) Ω - Sample space.
- ii) \mathcal{F} - Set of events.
- iii) \mathbb{P} - Probability measure.

and must fulfil the following conditions

- i) $\Omega \in \mathcal{F}$;
- ii) $\forall A \in \mathcal{F} \implies A^c \in \mathcal{F}$;
- iii) $\forall A_0, \dots, A_n \in \mathcal{F} \implies \left(\bigcup_i A_i \right) \in \mathcal{F}$;
- iv) $\mathbb{P}(\Omega) = 1$; and,
- v) $\mathbb{P}\left(\bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} A_i\right) = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \mathbb{P}(A_i)$ for disjoint A_1, A_2, \dots (Countable Additivity).

Definition 1.2 - *Random Variable*

A function which maps an event in the sample space to a value *e.g.* $X : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$.

Remark 1.1 - *Probability Density Function for iid Random Variable Vector*

For $\mathbf{X} \sim f_n(\cdot; \theta)$ where each component of \mathbf{X} is independent and identically distribution the probability density function of \mathbf{X} is

$$f_n(\mathbf{x}; \theta) = \prod_{i=1}^n f(x_i; \theta)$$

Definition 1.3 - *Expectation*

The mean value for a random variable. For rv X

$$\mathbb{E}(X) := \sum_{x \in \mathcal{X}} x f_X(x) \quad \& \quad \mathbb{E}(X) := \int_{\mathbb{R}} x f_X(x) dx$$

Theorem 1.1 - *Expection of a Function*

For a function $g : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ and rv X with pmf f_X

$$\mathbb{E}(g(X)) := \sum_{g(x) \in \mathcal{X}} x f_X(x) \quad \& \quad \mathbb{E}(g(X)) := \int_{\mathbb{R}} g(x) f_X(x) dx$$

Theorem 1.2 - *Expectation of a Linear Operator*

For rv X with pmf f_X & $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$

$$\mathbb{E}(aX + b) = a\mathbb{E}(X) + b$$

Definition 1.4 - *Variance*

For rv X

$$\text{Var}(X) := \mathbb{E}[(X - \mathbb{E}(X))^2] = \mathbb{E}(X^2) - \mathbb{E}(X)^2$$

Theorem 1.3 - Variance of a Linear Operator

For rv X and $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$

$$\text{Var}(aX + b) = a^2 \text{Var}(X)$$

Definition 1.5 - Moment of a Random Variable

For rv X the n^{th} moment of X is defined as $\mathbb{E}(X^n)$.

N.B. - $\mathbb{E}(X^n) \neq \mathbb{E}(X)^n$.

Definition 1.6 - Covariance

For rv X & Y

$$\text{Cov}(X, Y) := \mathbb{E}[(X - \mathbb{E}(X))(Y - \mathbb{E}(Y))] = \mathbb{E}(XY) - \mathbb{E}(X)\mathbb{E}(Y)$$

Theorem 1.4 - Properties of Covariance

Let X & Y be independent random variables

i) $\text{Cov}(X, X) = \text{Var}(X)$;

ii) $\text{Cov}(X, Y) = 0$

Theorem 1.5 - Variance of two Random Variables with linear operators

$$\text{Var}(aX + bY) = a^2 \text{Var}(X) + b^2 \text{Var}(Y) + 2ab \text{Cov}(X, Y)$$

Theorem 1.6 - Independent Random Variables

Random variables X_1, \dots, X_n are independent iff

$$\mathbb{P}(X_1 \leq a_1, \dots, X_n \leq a_n) = \prod_{i=1}^n \mathbb{P}(X_i \leq a_i) \quad \forall a_1, \dots, a_n \in \mathbb{R}$$

1.2 The Likelihood Function**Definition 2.1 - Likelihood Function**

Define $\mathbf{X} \sim f_n(\cdot; \theta^*)$ for some unknown $\theta^* \in \Theta$ and let \mathbf{x} be an observation of \mathbf{X} .

A *Likelihood Function* is any function, $L(\cdot; \mathbf{x}) : \Theta \rightarrow [0, \infty)$, which is proportional to the PMF/PDF of the observed realisation \mathbf{x} .

$$L(\theta; \mathbf{x}) := C f_b(\mathbf{x}; \theta) \quad \forall C > 0$$

N.B. Sometimes this is called the *Observed Likelihood Function* since it is dependent on observed data.

Definition 2.2 - Log-Likelihood Function

Let $\mathbf{X} \sim f_n(\cdot; \theta^*)$ for some unknown $\theta^* \in \Theta$ and \mathbf{x} be an observation of \mathbf{X} .

The *Log-Likelihood Function* is the natural log of a *Likelihood Function*

$$\ell(\theta; \mathbf{x}) := \ln f_n(\mathbf{x}; \theta) + C, \quad C \in \mathbb{R}$$

Theorem 2.1 - Multidimensional Transforms

Let \mathbf{X} be a continuous random vector in \mathbb{R}^n with PDF $f_{\mathbf{X}}$; $g : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ be a continuous differentiable bijection; and, $h := g^{-1}$.

Then $\mathbf{Y} = g(\mathbf{X})$ is a continuous random vector and its PDF is

$$f_{\mathbf{Y}}(\mathbf{y}) = f_{\mathbf{X}}(h(\mathbf{y}))H_h(\mathbf{Y})$$

where

$$J_h := \left| \det \left(\frac{\partial h}{\partial \mathbf{y}} \right) \right|$$

Proposition 2.1 - *Invariance of Likelihood Function by bijective transformation of the observations independent of θ*

Let $g : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ be a bijective transformation which is independent of θ ; and $\mathbf{Y} := g(\mathbf{X})$.

Then \mathbf{Y} is a random variable with PDF/PMF

$$f_{\mathbf{Y}}(\mathbf{y}; \theta) \propto f_{\mathbf{X}}(g^{-1}(\mathbf{y}); \theta)$$

Hence, if $\mathbf{y} = g(\mathbf{x})$ then $L_{\mathbf{Y}}(\theta; \mathbf{y}) \propto L_{\mathbf{X}}(\theta; \mathbf{x})$

Proof 2.1 - *Proposition 2.1*

Let $g : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ be a bijective transformation which is independent of θ ; $h := g^{-1}$; \mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Y} be a rvs st $\mathbf{Y} := g(\mathbf{X})$.

i) *Discrete Case* - Consider the case when \mathbf{X} is a discrete rv. Then

$$\begin{aligned} f_{\mathbf{Y}}(\mathbf{y}; \theta) &= \mathbb{P}(\mathbf{Y} = \mathbf{y}; \theta) \\ &= \mathbb{P}(g^{-1}(\mathbf{Y}) = g^{-1}(\mathbf{y}); \theta) \\ &= \mathbb{P}(h(\mathbf{Y}) = h(\mathbf{y}); \theta) \\ &= \mathbb{P}(\mathbf{X} = h(\mathbf{y}); \theta) \\ &= f_{\mathbf{X}}(g^{-1}(\mathbf{y}); \theta) \end{aligned}$$

ii) *Continuous Case* - Consider the case when \mathbf{X} is a continuous rv.

Then, by **Theorem 2.1**

$$f_{\mathbf{Y}}(\mathbf{y}; \theta) = f_{\mathbf{X}}(g^{-1}(\mathbf{y}); \theta) J_{g^{-1}}(\mathbf{y})$$

Since $J_{g^{-1}}$ does not depend on θ this case is solved.

Thus in both cases $L_{\mathbf{Y}}(\theta; \mathbf{y}) = f_{\mathbf{Y}}(\mathbf{y}; \theta) \propto f_{\mathbf{X}}(g^{-1}(\mathbf{y}); \theta) = L_{\mathbf{X}}(\theta; \mathbf{x})$. □

1.3 Maximum Likelihood Estimates

Definition 3.1 - *Maximum Likelihood Estimate*

Let $\mathbf{X} \sim f_n(\cdot; \theta)$; and \mathbf{x} be a realisation of \mathbf{X} .

The *Maximum Likelihood Estimate* is the value $\hat{\theta} \in \Theta$ st

$$\forall \theta \in \Theta \quad f_n(\mathbf{x}; \hat{\theta}) \geq f_n(\mathbf{x}, \theta)$$

Equivalently

$$\forall \theta \in \Theta \quad L(\hat{\theta}; \mathbf{x}) \geq L(\theta; \mathbf{x}) \quad \text{or} \quad \ell(\hat{\theta}; \mathbf{x}) \geq \ell(\theta; \mathbf{x})$$

i.e. $\hat{\theta}(\mathbf{x}) := \operatorname{argmax}_{\theta} (L(\theta; \mathbf{x}))$.

Remark 3.1 - *The Maximum Likelihood Estimate may not be unique*

Example 3.1 - *MLE for Uniform Distribution*

Consider $\mathbf{X} \stackrel{\text{iid}}{\sim} U[0, \theta]$ for $\theta > 0$.

Then

$$\begin{aligned} L(\theta; \mathbf{x}) &\propto f_n(\mathbf{x}; \theta) \\ &= \prod_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{\theta} \mathbb{1}\{x_i \in [0, \theta]\} \\ &= \frac{1}{\theta^n} \prod_{i=1}^n \mathbb{1}\{x_i \in [0, \theta]\} \\ \implies \hat{\theta} &= \max\{x_i : x_i \in \mathbf{x}\} \end{aligned}$$

Remark 3.2 - MLE of Reparameterisation

Define $\tau(\theta) : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$. Then

$$\hat{\tau} = \tau(\hat{\theta})$$

N.B. We often write \tilde{f} to represent the pmf when τ is taken as a parameter rather than θ . *i.e.* $f(x; \theta) = \tilde{f}(x; \tau(\theta))$.

Theorem 3.1 - Invariance of MLE under bijective Reparameterisation

Let $g : \Theta \rightarrow G$ be a bijective transformation of the statistical parameter θ .

Let $\mathbf{X} \sim f(\cdot; \theta) = \tilde{f}(\cdot; g(\theta))$ for some θ , and let \mathbf{x} be a realisation of \mathbf{X} .

If $\hat{\theta}$ is an MLE of θ then $\hat{\tau} = g(\hat{\theta})$ is an MLE of τ .

Proof 3.1 - Theorem 3.1

This is a proof by contradiction.

Suppose $\exists \tau^* \in G$ st $\tilde{f}(x; \tau^*) > \tilde{f}(x; \hat{\tau})$. We know that $\forall \theta \in \Theta$, $f(x; \theta) = \tilde{f}(x; g(\theta))$ and $\forall \tau \in G$, $f(x; g^{-1}(\tau)) = \tilde{f}(x; \tau)$.

We deduce that

$$\begin{aligned} f(x; g^{-1}(\tau^*)) &= \tilde{f}(x; \tau^*) \\ &> \tilde{f}(x; \hat{\tau}) \text{ by assumption} \\ &= f(x; g^{-1}(\hat{\tau})) \\ &= f(x; \hat{\theta}) \end{aligned}$$

This contradicts the assumption that $\hat{\theta}$ is an maximum likelihood estimate of θ .

□

Remark 3.3 - Not all Reparameterisations are Bijective

When reparameterisations $g : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is not bijective it is helpful to consider the *induced likelihood*

$$L^*(\tau; \mathbf{x}) := \max_{\theta \in G_\tau} L(\theta; \mathbf{x}) \text{ where } G_\tau := \{\theta : g(\theta) = \tau\}$$

Since this reduces the domain to only where g is bijective.

1.4 Determining MLEs - The Tractable Case**Proposition 4.1 - Differentiable Likelihood in the continuous case - Multivariate**

When $L(\theta; \mathbf{x})$ is differentiable one can find MLEs by considering its extrema. This is done equating & solving the cases when the gradient is zero, *i.e.* $\nabla L(\theta; \mathbf{x}) = 0$, and then checking whether this is a maximum or minimum point.

A point is a local minimum if the Hessian at the point is *Negative Definite* *i.e.* $\mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{A} \mathbf{x} < 0 \forall \mathbf{x} \neq \mathbf{0}$.

Example 4.1 - MLE of Normal Distribution

Let $\mathbf{X} \stackrel{\text{iid}}{\sim} \mathcal{N}(\mu, \sigma^2)$

$$\begin{aligned}
 L(\mu, \sigma^2; \mathbf{x}) &= \prod_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}} e^{-\frac{(x_i - \mu)^2}{2\sigma^2}} \\
 \Rightarrow \ell(\mu, \sigma^2; \mathbf{x}) &= C - \frac{n}{2} \ln(\sigma^2) - \frac{1}{2\sigma^2} \sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \mu)^2 \\
 \Rightarrow \nabla \ell(\mu, \sigma^2; \mathbf{x}) &= \left(\frac{-1}{\sigma^2} \sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \mu), \quad -\frac{n}{2\sigma^2} + \frac{1}{2\sigma^4} \sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \mu)^2 \right) \\
 \text{Setting } \frac{-1}{\sigma^2} \sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \mu) &= 0 \\
 \Rightarrow \hat{\mu} &= \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n x_i = \bar{x} \\
 \text{Setting } -\frac{n}{2\sigma^2} + \frac{1}{2\sigma^4} \sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \mu)^2 &= 0 \\
 \Rightarrow \hat{\sigma}^2 &= \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n (x_i \hat{\mu})^2
 \end{aligned}$$

We now want to check whether $(\hat{\mu}, \hat{\sigma}^2)$ is a minimum.

$$\begin{aligned}
 \nabla^2 \ell(\mu, \sigma^2; \mathbf{x}) &= \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial^2 \ell(\mu, \sigma^2; \mathbf{x})}{\partial \mu^2} & \frac{\partial^2 \ell(\mu, \sigma^2; \mathbf{x})}{\partial \mu \partial \sigma^2} \\ \frac{\partial^2 \ell(\mu, \sigma^2; \mathbf{x})}{\partial \mu \partial \sigma^2} & \frac{\partial^2 \ell(\mu, \sigma^2; \mathbf{x})}{\partial (\sigma^2)^2} \end{pmatrix} \\
 &= \begin{pmatrix} -\frac{n}{\hat{\sigma}^2} & 0 \\ 0 & -\frac{n}{2\hat{\sigma}^4} \end{pmatrix}
 \end{aligned}$$

Since $\begin{pmatrix} z_1 & z_2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} -a & 0 \\ 0 & -b \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} z_1 \\ z_2 \end{pmatrix} = -az_1^2 - bz_2^2 < 0 \forall a, b > 0$ and we have $\frac{n}{\hat{\sigma}^2}, \frac{n}{2\hat{\sigma}^4} > 0$ then we can conclude that $\nabla^2 \ell$ is negative definite.

Thus $\hat{\mu} = \bar{x}$ & $\hat{\sigma}^2 = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n (x_i \hat{\mu})^2$ is an MLE for the normal distribution.

Example 4.2 - MLE for Capture-Recapture Model

Suppose you are wanting to calculate the unknown size of a population, n . The Capture-Recapture Model is one technique that can be used. You tag $t \leq n$ members of the population; wait for a while; then recapture $c \leq n$ members of which $x \leq \min\{t, c\} \leq n$ are tagged.

With t, c, x known produce a MLE for n .

We first work out the associated probability distribution for X , the population size. We have

- i) $\binom{t}{x}$ ways of choosing x members among the tagged ones;
- ii) $\binom{n-t}{c-x}$ ways of choosing the remaining members among the non-tagged ones;
- iii) $\binom{n}{c}$ ways of choosing c members in a population of n individuals.

Thus

$$f_X(x; n) = \frac{\binom{t}{x} \binom{n-t}{c-x}}{\binom{n}{c}}$$

This means that $X \sim \text{Hypergeometric}(t, n, c)$ with t & c known.

Now we calculate the MLE for X

$$\begin{aligned}
 L(n; x) &= f_X(x; n) \\
 &= \frac{\binom{t}{x} \binom{n-t}{c-x}}{\binom{n}{c}} \\
 &= \frac{t!}{x!(t-x)!} \frac{(n-t)!}{(c-x)!(n-t-c+x)!} \\
 &= \frac{n!}{c!(n-c)!}
 \end{aligned}$$

Now we consider $L(n; x) = 0$ when $x > \min\{t, c\}$. We want to identify values of n for which $L(n; x) \geq L(n-1; x)$.

Consider $n-1 \geq \min\{t, c\} \implies L(n-1; x) > 0$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{Let } r(n) &:= \frac{L(n; x)}{L(n-1; x)} \\
 &= \frac{n-t}{n-t-c+x} \frac{n-c}{n} \\
 \Rightarrow 1 &\leq r(n) \\
 \Leftrightarrow 1 &\leq \frac{n-t}{n-t-c+x} \frac{n-c}{n} \\
 \Leftrightarrow n(n-t-c+x) &\leq (n-t)(n-c) \\
 \Leftrightarrow n^2 - nt - cn + xn &\leq n^2 - nt - cn + ct \\
 \Leftrightarrow xn &\leq ct \\
 \Leftrightarrow x &\leq \frac{ct}{n}
 \end{aligned}$$

So $L(n; x)$ is increasing for $n \leq \lfloor \frac{ct}{x} \rfloor$ & decreasing for $n > \lfloor \frac{ct}{x} \rfloor$.

Consequently $\hat{n}_{\text{MLE}}(x) = \lfloor \frac{ct}{x} \rfloor$

1.5 Statistics and Estimators

Definition 5.1 - Statistic

Given some data \mathbf{x} a statistic is a function of the data $T(\mathbf{x})$.

N.B. A statistic cannot depend on an unknown statistical parameter.

Definition 5.2 - Estimate

Let $\mathbf{X} \sim f_n(\cdot; \theta^*)$ with $\theta^* \in \Theta$ and \mathbf{x} be a realisation of \mathbf{X} .

An *Estimate* θ^* is a statistic $\hat{\theta}(\mathbf{x}) = T(\mathbf{x})$ which is intended to approximate the real value of θ^* .

N.B. An *Estimate* is a real value & thus is hard to evaluate.

Definition 5.3 - Estimator

Let $\mathbf{X} \sim f_n(\cdot; \theta^*)$ with $\theta^* \in \Theta$ and \mathbf{x} be a realisation of \mathbf{X} .

An *Estimator* of θ^* is $\hat{\theta}$ where $\hat{\theta}(\mathbf{x})$ is an *estimate*.

N.B. We call $T(\mathbf{X})$ an estimator. This is a random variable.

Definition 5.4 - Distribution of an Estimator

Let $\mathbf{X} \sim f_n(\cdot; \theta^*)$ with $\theta^* \in \Theta \subseteq \mathbb{R}$.

If $\hat{\theta}(\mathbf{X})$ is a real-valued random variable, we can write its CDF as

$$\begin{aligned}
 F_{\hat{\theta}(\mathbf{X})}(t; \theta^*) &= \mathbb{P}(\hat{\theta}(\mathbf{X}) \leq t; \theta^*) \\
 &= \int_{\mathcal{X}^n} \mathbb{1}\{\hat{\theta}(\mathbf{x}) \leq t\} f_n(\mathbf{x}; \theta^*) d\mathbf{x}
 \end{aligned}$$

Remark 5.1 - Estimator depends upon true value

The distribution of $\hat{\theta}(\mathbf{X})$ depends on the distribution of \mathbf{X} which in turn depends upon the

distribution of θ^* .

Thus the distribution of an estimator depends on the true parameter of the variable it is estimating.

Remark 5.2 - Estimator Distribution & Sample Size

As sample size increases the distribution of an estimator may converge to a more standard distribution (e.g. Normal, Poisson).

Definition 5.5 - Bias

Bias is a measure of how much an estimator deviates from the true value, on average.

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Bias}(\hat{\theta}; \theta^*) &:= \mathbb{E}(\hat{\theta}(\mathbf{X}) - \theta^*; \theta^*) \\ &= \mathbb{E}(\hat{\theta}; \theta^*) - \mathbb{E}(\theta^*; \theta^*) \\ &= \mathbb{E}(\hat{\theta}; \theta^*) - \theta^*\end{aligned}$$

Definition 5.6 - Unbiased Estimator

An *Estimator*, $\hat{\theta}$, is said to be *Unbiased* if $\forall \theta \in \Theta$, $\text{Bias}(\hat{\theta}; \theta) = 0$.
Equivalently $\mathbb{E}(\hat{\theta}; \theta) = \theta$.

Definition 5.7 - Mean Square Error

The *Mean Square Error* of an estimator is the mean of the squared error associated with rv $\hat{\theta}$.

$$MSE(\hat{\theta}; \theta^*) := \mathbb{E} \left[(\hat{\theta}(\mathbf{X}) - \theta^*)^2; \theta^2 \right]$$

Proposition 5.1 - Simplification of MSE Formula

The MSE is a combination of variance & bias.

$$\begin{aligned}MSE(\hat{\theta}; \theta^*) &= \mathbb{E} \left[(\hat{\theta}(\mathbf{X}) - \theta^*)^2; \theta^2 \right] \\ &= \mathbb{E} \left[\left\{ \hat{\theta} - \mathbb{E}(\hat{\theta}; \theta^*) \right\}^2; \theta^* \right] + \left(\mathbb{E}(\hat{\theta} - \theta^*; \theta^*) \right)^2 \\ &= \text{Var}(\hat{\theta}; \theta^*) + \text{Bias}(\hat{\theta}; \theta^*)^2\end{aligned}$$

Example 5.1 - Sample mean as an Estimator

Let $\mathbf{X} \stackrel{\text{iid}}{\sim} \text{Poisson}(\lambda^*)$.

Suppose we are using the sample mean, $\hat{\lambda}(\mathbf{x}) := \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n x_i$, as an estimate of λ^* . We first want to show this estimator is *Unbiased*

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbb{E}(\hat{\lambda}; \lambda) &= \mathbb{E} \left(\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n X_i; \lambda \right) \\ &= d \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \mathbb{E}(X_i; \lambda) \\ &= \frac{1}{n} n \lambda \\ &= \lambda\end{aligned}$$

Thus $\hat{\lambda}$ is unbiased.

Now we consider the MSE of $\hat{\lambda}$

$$\begin{aligned}MSE(\hat{\lambda}; \lambda) &= \text{Var}(\hat{\lambda}; \lambda) \\ &= \text{Var} \left(\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n X_i; \lambda \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{n^2} \sum_{i=1}^n \text{Var}(X_i; \lambda) \\ &= \frac{1}{n^2} n \lambda \\ &= \frac{\lambda}{n}\end{aligned}$$

This shows that as the sample size increases the MSE of $\hat{\lambda}$ converges to 0.

1.6 Probabilistic Convergence

Remark 6.1 - Motivation

Here we consider the properties of a maximum likelihood estimators as the sample size increases.

Theorem 6.1 - Markov's Inequality

For a *non-negative* random variable X and a constant $a > 0$

$$\mathbb{P}(X \geq a) \leq \frac{\mathbb{E}(X)}{a}$$

Proof 6.1 - Markov's Inequality

Consider continuous X . We have

$$\begin{aligned} a\mathbb{P}(X \geq a) &= a \int_a^\infty f_X(x) dx \\ &\leq \int_a^\infty x f_X(x) dx \\ &\leq \int_0^\infty x f_X(x) dx \\ &= \mathbb{E}(X) \\ \implies a\mathbb{P}(X \geq a) &= \mathbb{E}(X) \\ \implies \mathbb{P}(X \geq a) &\leq \frac{\mathbb{E}(X)}{a} \end{aligned}$$

□

Theorem 6.2 - Chebyshev's Inequality

Let $\mu = \mathbb{E}(X)$ and $\sigma^2 = \text{Var}(X)$. Then

$$\forall a > 0, \mathbb{P}(|X - \mu| \geq a) \leq \frac{\sigma^2}{a^2}$$

Proof 6.2 - Chebyshev's Inequality

We have

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{P}(|X - \mu| \geq a) &= \mathbb{P}(|X - \mu|^2 \geq a^2) \\ &\leq \frac{\mathbb{E}((X - \mu)^2)}{a^2} \text{ By Markov's Inequality} \\ &= \frac{\sigma^2}{a^2} \end{aligned}$$

□

Definition 6.1 - Convergence in Probability

We say the sequence of random variables $\{Z_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ converges in probability to the random variable Z if

$$\forall \varepsilon > 0, \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{P}(|Z_n - Z| > \varepsilon) = 0$$

N.B. This is denoted $Z_n \rightarrow_{\mathbb{P}} Z$.

N.B. The random variables $\{Z_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ & Z must be in the same probability space.

Theorem 6.3 - Weak Law of Large Numbers

If $\{X_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ are independent & identically distributed and $\mathbb{E}(X_1) = \mu < \infty$ then

$$Z_n = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n X_i \rightarrow_{\mathbb{P}} \mu$$

N.B. This is an example of Convergence in Probability.

Definition 6.2 - Convergence in Distribution

We say the sequence of random variables $\{Z_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ converges in distribution to random variable Z if

$$\forall z \in \mathbb{R} \text{ where } \mathbb{P}(Z \leq z) \text{ is continuous, } \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{P}(Z_n \leq z) = \mathbb{P}(Z \leq z)$$

N.B. This is denoted $Z_n \rightarrow_{\mathcal{D}} Z$.

N.B. The random variables $\{Z_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ & Z need not be in the same probability space.

Remark 6.2 - Equivalent Statements to Convergence in Distribution

Saying that $Z_n \rightarrow_{\mathcal{D}} Z$ is equivalent to saying that

$$\forall z \in \mathbb{R} \text{ where } F_Z(z) \text{ is continuous, } \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} F_{Z_n}(z) = F_Z(z)$$

Theorem 6.4 - Central Limit Theorem

If $\{X_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ are independent & identically distributed, $\mathbb{E}(X_1) = \mu < \infty$ and $\text{Var}(X_1) = \sigma^2 < \infty$ then

$$\frac{\sqrt{n}}{\sigma}(Z_n - \mu) \rightarrow_{\mathcal{D}} Z \sim \text{Normal}(0, 1)$$

Theorem 6.5 - Convergence in Probability & Distribution

Convergence in probability \implies Convergence in distribution, **but** the opposite is not necessarily true.

Theorem 6.6 - Convergence in Probability & Distribution to a Constant

Convergence in distribution to a constant **and** convergence in probability to a constant are equivalent.

Example 6.1 -

Let $X \sim \text{Bernoulli}(\frac{1}{2})$ and $\{X_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ be a sequence of random variables where $X_i := (1 - X) + \frac{1}{n}$. We have

$$F_X(x) = \begin{cases} 0 & , x < 0 \\ \frac{1}{2} & , x \in [0, 1) \\ 1 & , x \geq 1 \end{cases} \quad F_{X_n}(x) = \begin{cases} 0 & , x < \frac{1}{n} \\ \frac{1}{2} & , x \in [\frac{1}{n}, 1 + \frac{1}{n}) \\ 1 & , x \geq 1 + \frac{1}{n} \end{cases}$$

Clearly $F_{X_n}(x) \rightarrow F_X(x)$ at all points at which F_X is continuous (i.e. $x \in \mathbb{R} \setminus \{0, 1\}$).

Thus $X_n \rightarrow_{\mathcal{D}} X$.

Theorem 6.7 - Continuous Mapping Theorem

Let $g : Z \rightarrow G$ be a *continuous* function. Then

- i) If $Z_n \rightarrow_{\mathbb{P}} Z$, then $g(Z_n) \rightarrow_{\mathbb{P}} g(Z)$;
- ii) If $Z_n \rightarrow_{\mathcal{D}} Z$, then $g(Z_n) \rightarrow_{\mathcal{D}} g(Z)$

Theorem 6.8 - Slutsky's Theorem

Let $\{Y_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ & $\{Z_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ be sequences of random variables, Y be a random variable & $c \in \mathbb{R} \setminus \{0\}$ be a constant.

If $Y_n \rightarrow_{\mathcal{D}} Y$ and $Z_n \rightarrow_{\mathcal{D}} c$, then

- i) $Y_n + Z_n \rightarrow_{\mathcal{D}} Y + c$;
- ii) $Y_n Z_n \rightarrow_{\mathcal{D}} Yc$; and,
- iii) $\frac{Y_n}{Z_n} \rightarrow_{\mathcal{D}} \frac{Y}{c}$.

Definition 6.3 - Convergence in Quadratic Mean

Let $\{Z_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ be a sequence of random variables & Z be a random variable.

We say that $\{Z_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ Converges in Quadratic Mean to the random variable Z if

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{E}[(Z_n - Z)^2] = 0$$

N.B. This is denoted $Z_n \rightarrow_{qm} Z$.

Theorem 6.9 - If $Z_n \rightarrow_{qm} Z$ then $Z_n \rightarrow_{\mathbb{P}} Z$

Proof 6.3 - Theorem 5.9

Fix any $\varepsilon > 0$. We have

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{P}(|Z_n - Z| > \varepsilon) &= \mathbb{P}(|Z_n - Z|^2 > \varepsilon^2) \\ &\leq \frac{1}{\varepsilon^2} \mathbb{E}[(Z_n - Z)^2] \text{ by Markov's Inequality} \\ &\rightarrow 0 \text{ since } Z_n \rightarrow_{qm} Z. \end{aligned}$$

Hence $Z_n \rightarrow_{\mathbb{P}} Z$. □

1.7 Probabilistic Convergence & Estimators**Definition 7.1 - Consistency of a Sequence of Estimators**

A sequence of estimators, $\{\hat{\theta}_n(\cdot) : \chi^n \rightarrow \Theta\}$, are said to be *Consistent* if

$$\forall \theta \in \Theta \text{ with } \mathbf{X}_n \sim f_n(\cdot; \theta), \hat{\theta}_n(\mathbf{X}_n) \rightarrow_{\mathbb{P}(\cdot; \theta)} \theta$$

Remark 7.1 - Consistency of a Sequence of Estimators

- i) In numerous situations one will talk about the consistency of *the* estimator, *e.g.* for the MLE, but also for the mean, etc. This implicitly refers to the corresponding sequence of MLEs, sequence of means, etc.
- ii) Note the $\mathbb{P}(\cdot; \theta)$ in the limit above, and in particular the dependence on θ . This is often omitted in practice, you should however not forget what the symbols actually mean.
- iii) Quadratic mean / Mean Square convergence \implies consistency.
That is, if the MSE of the estimator converges to 0, the estimator is consistent.

Example 7.1 - Consistency of Flipping Coins

Let $\mathbf{X} \stackrel{\text{iid}}{\sim} \text{Bernoulli}(\theta^*)$ for some $\theta^* \in [0, 1]$.

The maximum likelihood estimate and method of moments for $\hat{\theta}_n$ are the sample mean.

$$\hat{\theta}_n(X_1, \dots, X_n) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n X_i$$

By the *Weak Law of Large Numbers* we have that *consistency* of $\{\hat{\theta}_n\}$, since $\mathbb{E}(X_1) = \theta^*$.

Example 7.2 - Crude Confidence Interval when Flipping Coins

Let $\mathbf{X} \stackrel{\text{iid}}{\sim} \text{Bernoulli}(\theta^*)$ for some $\theta^* \in [0, 1]$ and define $\hat{\theta}_n := \hat{\theta}_n(X_1, \dots, X_n)$.

We shall produce a *confidence interval* for θ^* .

$$\mathbb{E}(\hat{\theta}_n; \theta^*) = \theta^* \quad \text{and} \quad \text{Var}(\hat{\theta}_n; \theta^*) = \frac{\theta^*(1 - \theta^*)}{n}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathbb{P}\left(|\hat{\theta}_n - \theta^*| \geq \varepsilon; \theta^*\right) &\leq \frac{\theta^*(1-\theta^*)}{n\varepsilon^2} \quad \text{by Chebyshev's Inequality} \\
\text{We don't know } \theta^*, \text{ but can deduce that } \theta^*(1-\theta^*) &\leq \frac{1}{4} \\
\implies \mathbb{P}\left(|\hat{\theta}_n - \theta^*| \geq \varepsilon; \theta^*\right) &\leq \frac{1}{4n\varepsilon^2} \\
&\text{Define } \alpha := \frac{1}{4n\varepsilon^2} \\
\implies \mathbb{P}\left(|\hat{\theta}_n - \theta^*| \geq \frac{1}{2\sqrt{n\alpha}}; \theta^*\right) &\leq \alpha \\
\implies \mathbb{P}\left(\hat{\theta}_n - \frac{1}{2\sqrt{n\alpha}} < \theta^* < \hat{\theta}_n + \frac{1}{2\sqrt{n\alpha}}; \theta^*\right) &\geq 1 - \alpha
\end{aligned}$$

This means the random interval $(\hat{\theta}_n - \frac{1}{2\sqrt{n\alpha}}, \hat{\theta}_n + \frac{1}{2\sqrt{n\alpha}}; \theta^*)$ contains θ^* with probability $1 - \alpha$. We can note that the interval decreases as n increases, and increases as α decreases. *N.B.* $\hat{\theta}_n$ is a random variable, while θ^* is not.

Example 7.3 - Asymptotically Exact Confidence Interval when Flipping Coins

This is an improvement on the bound produced in **Example 5.3**.

Let $\mathbf{X} \stackrel{\text{iid}}{\sim} \text{Bernoulli}(\theta^*)$ for some $\theta^* \in [0, 1]$, $W \sim \text{Normal}(0, 1)$ and define $\hat{\theta}_n := \hat{\theta}_n(X_1, \dots, X_n)$. We shall show that

$$\frac{\sqrt{n}(\hat{\theta}_n - \theta^*)}{\sqrt{\hat{\theta}_n(1 - \hat{\theta}_n)}} \rightarrow_D W$$

We know that $\text{Var}(X_1) = \theta^*(1 - \theta^*)$.

By the *Weak Law of Large Numbers* $\hat{\theta}_n \rightarrow_{\mathbb{P}} \theta^*$.

By the *Central Limit Theorem*

$$\frac{\sqrt{n}(\hat{\theta}_n - \theta^*)}{\sqrt{\hat{\theta}_n(1 - \hat{\theta}_n)}} \rightarrow_D W$$

$$\text{Define } Y_n = \frac{\sqrt{n}(\hat{\theta}_n - \theta^*)}{\sqrt{\theta^*(1 - \theta^*)}} \text{ and } Z_n = \frac{\sqrt{\theta^*(1 - \theta^*)}}{\sqrt{\hat{\theta}_n(1 - \hat{\theta}_n)}}.$$

By the *Continuous Mapping Theorem* tells us that $Z_n \rightarrow_D 1$ and $Z_n \rightarrow_{\mathbb{P}} 1$.

Hence, by *Slutsky's Theorem*

$$\frac{\sqrt{n}(\hat{\theta}_n - \theta^*)}{\sqrt{\hat{\theta}_n(1 - \hat{\theta}_n)}} = Y_n Z_n \rightarrow_D W$$

This gives us random interval

$$\left(\hat{\theta}_n - z_{\alpha/2} \sqrt{\frac{\hat{\theta}_n(1 - \hat{\theta}_n)}{n}}, \hat{\theta}_n + z_{\alpha/2} \sqrt{\frac{\hat{\theta}_n(1 - \hat{\theta}_n)}{n}} \right)$$

This interval captures θ^* asymptotically (in n) with probability $1 - \alpha$.

N.B. $z_{\alpha} = \Phi^{-1}(1 - \alpha)$ where Φ is the cumulative density function of a $\text{Normal}(0, 1)$.

1.8 The Fisher Information

Remark 8.1 - Motivation

In the next part of the content we shall show that given $\mathbf{X}_n \stackrel{\text{iid}}{\sim} f(\cdot; \theta^*)$ then for sufficiently regular models

- i) There exists a lower bound on the achievable performance of any estimate of θ^* .
- ii) A scaled & centered sequence of maximum likelihood estimators $\{\hat{\theta}_n(\mathbf{X}_n)\}$ become asymptotically normal as $n \rightarrow \infty$.

Remark 8.2 - Measuring Performance of Estimator

We measure the performance of an estimator $\hat{\theta}$ in terms of variance, since its mean should be θ^* . Lower variance indicates better performance.

Definition 8.1 - The Score Function

Let $\ell(\theta; x) := \ln f(x; \theta)$.

The *Score Function* is a measure of the sensitivity of the likelihood function wrt θ

$$\ell'(\theta; x) := \frac{d}{d\theta} \ell(\theta; x) = \frac{\frac{d}{d\theta} \ln f(x; \theta)}{\ln f(x; \theta)} = \frac{\ln L'(\theta; x)}{\ln L(\theta; x)}$$

Remark 8.3 - θ^* is a turning point of $\ell(\theta; x)$

Note that under the *Fisher Information Regularity Conditions* we have that $\forall \theta \in \Theta$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E}(\ell'(\theta; X); \theta) &= \int_S \frac{\frac{d}{d\theta} f(x; \theta)}{f(x; \theta)} f(x; \theta) dx \\ &= \int_S \frac{d}{d\theta} f(x; \theta) dx \\ &= \frac{d}{d\theta} \int_S f(x; \theta) dx \\ &= \frac{d}{d\theta} (1) \\ &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

This shows that we expect the derivative to equal 0 at θ^* . Further, this means θ^* is a turning point of the log-likelihood function (hopefully a maximum).

Example 8.1 - Application of Remark 6.3

Let $X \sim \text{Poisson}(\theta)$. Then $f_X(x; \theta) = \frac{\theta^x}{x!} e^{-\theta} \mathbf{1}\{x \in \mathbb{N}\}$.

$$\begin{aligned} \implies \ell(\theta; x) &= -\theta + x \ln \theta - \ln x! \\ \implies \ell'(\theta; x) &= -1 + \frac{x}{\theta} \\ \implies \mathbb{E}(\ell'(\theta; X); \theta) &= -1 + \frac{\theta}{\theta} \\ &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

Definition 8.2 - Fisher Information Regularity Conditions

Let Θ be an open interval in \mathbb{R} and $f(x; \theta)$ be a pmf/pdf.

Below are conditions which a model is required to meet in order to be considered sufficiently regular such that *Fisher Information* can be drawn from it.

- i) Both $L'(\theta; x) = \frac{d}{d\theta} f(x; \theta)$ and $L''(\theta; x) = \frac{d^2}{d\theta^2} f(x; \theta)$ exist for any $x \in \mathcal{X}$.
- ii) $\forall \theta \in \Theta$ the set $S := \{x \in \mathcal{X} : f(x; \theta) > 0\}$ does not depend on $\theta \in \Theta$.
- iii) The identity below exists

$$\int_S \frac{d}{d\theta} f(x; \theta) dx = \frac{d}{d\theta} \int_S f(x; \theta) dx = 0$$

Definition 8.3 - Fisher Information

Fisher Information is a technique for measuring the amount of information that an observable random variable X carries about an unknown parameter θ upon which the probability of X depends.

Let $X \sim f(\cdots; \theta)$. Then the *Fisher Information* for any $\theta \in \Theta$ is

$$I(\theta) := \mathbb{E}(\ell'(\theta; X)^2; \theta) \geq 0$$

N.B. This is the *Expectation of the score, squared* \equiv *Second moment of the score*.

Remark 8.4 - Fisher Information

- i) *Fisher Information* is a function of the parameter, θ , not the data, X .
- ii) $I(\theta)$ can be thought of as being the average *information* brought by a single observation X about θ , assuming $X \sim f(\cdot; \theta)$.
- iii) Since $\forall \theta \in \Theta$, $\mathbb{E}(\ell'(\theta; X); \theta) = 0$ then

$$I(\theta) = \text{Var}(\ell'(\theta; X); \theta)$$

The variance of the score.

Example 8.2 - Fisher Information of Poisson

Let $X \sim \text{Poisson}(\theta)$.

From **Example 6.1** we know that $\ell'(\theta; x) = -1 + \frac{x}{\theta}$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} I(\theta) &= \text{Var}(\ell'(\theta; X); \theta) \\ &= \text{Var}\left(-1 + \frac{X}{\theta}; \theta\right) \\ &= \text{Var}\left(\frac{X}{\theta}; \theta\right) \\ &= \frac{1}{\theta^2} \text{Var}(X; \theta) \\ &= \frac{1}{\theta^2} \cdot \theta \text{ since } X \sim \text{Poisson}(\theta) \\ &= \frac{1}{\theta} \end{aligned}$$

Theorem 8.1 - Alternative Expression of Fisher Information

Let $f(x; \theta)$ be a pmf/pdf which satisfies the conditions of **Definition 6.2**. If

$$\forall \theta \in \Theta \quad \int_{\mathcal{X}} \frac{d^2}{d\theta^2} f(x; \theta) dx = \frac{d}{d\theta} \int_{\mathcal{X}} \frac{d}{d\theta} f(x; \theta) dx$$

Then

$$I(\theta) = -\mathbb{E}\left(\frac{d^2}{d\theta^2} \ell(\theta; X); \theta\right)$$

N.B. $\frac{d}{d\theta} \int_{\mathcal{X}} \frac{d}{d\theta} f(x; \theta) dx = 0$ by the regularity conditions.

Proof 8.1 - Theorem 6.1

By the *Quotient Rule*

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d^2}{d\theta^2} \ell(\theta; x) &= \frac{d}{d\theta} \frac{\frac{d}{d\theta} f(x; \theta)}{f(x; \theta)} \\ &= \frac{\frac{d^2}{d\theta^2} f(x; \theta)}{f(x; \theta)} - \left(\frac{\frac{d}{d\theta} f(x; \theta)}{f(x; \theta)} \right)^2 \end{aligned}$$

Consequently

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E}\left(\frac{d^2}{d\theta^2} \ell(\theta; X); \theta\right) &= \int_S \frac{\frac{d^2}{d\theta^2} f(x; \theta)}{f(x; \theta)} f(x; \theta) dx - \int_S \left(\frac{\frac{d}{d\theta} f(x; \theta)}{f(x; \theta)} \right)^2 f(x; \theta) dx \\ &= \int_S \frac{d^2}{d\theta^2} f(x; \theta) dx - \int_S \ell'(\theta; x)^2 f(x; \theta) dx \\ &= 0 - \mathbb{E}(\ell'(\theta; X)^2; \theta) \\ &= -I(\theta) \\ \Rightarrow \quad I(\theta) &= -\mathbb{E}\left(\frac{d^2}{d\theta^2} \ell(\theta; X); \theta\right) \end{aligned}$$

□

1.9 Efficiency and The Cramer-Rao Bound

Definition 9.1 - IID Score Function

Let $\mathbf{X} \stackrel{\text{iid}}{\sim} f(\cdot; \theta)$ for some $\theta \in \Theta$. Then the *Score Function* is

$$\ell'_n(\theta; \mathbf{x}) := \frac{d}{d\theta} \ell_n(\theta; \mathbf{x}) \text{ where } \ell_n(\theta; \mathbf{x}) := \ln f_n(\mathbf{x}; \theta) = \sum_{i=1}^n \ell(\theta; x_i)$$

N.B. $\frac{d}{d\theta} \ell_n(\theta; \mathbf{x}) = \frac{d}{d\theta} \sum \ell(\theta; x_i) = \sum \ell'(\theta; x_i)$.

Definition 9.2 - IID Fisher Information

Let $\mathbf{X} \stackrel{\text{iid}}{\sim} f(\cdot; \theta)$ for some $\theta \in \Theta$. Then the *Fisher Information* is

$$I_n(\theta) := \mathbb{E}(\ell'_n(\theta; \mathbf{X})^2; \theta) = \text{Var}(\ell'_n(\theta; \mathbf{X}); \theta)$$

Theorem 9.1 - Relationship between IID Fisher Information & Fisher Information

Consider the situation where $\forall \theta \in \Theta$, $f_n(\mathbf{x}; \theta) = \prod_{i=1}^n f(x_i; \theta)$. Then

$$\forall \theta \in \Theta, I_n(\theta) = nI(\theta)$$

Proof 9.1 - Theorem 7.1

Let $\mathbf{X} \stackrel{\text{iid}}{\sim} f(\cdot; \theta)$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} I_n(\theta) &= \text{Var}(\ell'_n(\theta; \mathbf{X}); \theta) \\ &= \text{Var}\left(\sum_{i=1}^n \ell'(\theta; X_i); \theta\right) \\ &= n\text{Var}\left(\sum_{i=1}^n \ell'(\theta; X_1); \theta\right) \\ \implies I_n(\theta) &= nI(\theta) \end{aligned}$$

□

Theorem 9.2 - Cauchy-Schwarz Inequality for Expectation

Let X & Y be real-valued random variables in the same probability space. Then

$$\mathbb{E}(XY)^2 \leq \mathbb{E}(X^2)\mathbb{E}(Y^2)$$

Proof 9.2 - Theorem 7.2

If $\mathbb{E}(Y^2) = 0$ then $\mathbb{P}(Y = 0) = 1$ so $\mathbb{E}(XY) = 0$ and the statement holds.

Thus, assume $\mathbb{E}(Y^2) > 0$ and define $\lambda := \frac{\mathbb{E}(XY)}{\mathbb{E}(Y^2)}$. Then

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &\leq \mathbb{E}(X - \lambda Y)^2 \\ &= \mathbb{E}(X^2) - 2\lambda\mathbb{E}(XY) + \lambda^2\mathbb{E}(Y^2) \\ &= \mathbb{E}(X^2) - 2\frac{\mathbb{E}(XY)^2}{\mathbb{E}(Y^2)} + \frac{\mathbb{E}(XY)^2}{\mathbb{E}(Y^2)} \\ &= \mathbb{E}(X^2) - \frac{\mathbb{E}(XY)^2}{\mathbb{E}(Y^2)} \\ \implies \mathbb{E}(XY)^2 &\leq \mathbb{E}(X^2)\mathbb{E}(Y^2) \end{aligned}$$

□

Theorem 9.3 - Covariance Inequality

Let X and Y be real-valued random variables in the same probability space. Then

$$\text{Cov}(X, Y)^2 \leq \text{Var}(X)\text{Var}(Y)$$

Proof 9.3 - Theorem 7.3

Let $W = X - \mathbb{E}(X)$ and $Z = Y - \mathbb{E}(Y)$ giving $\mathbb{E}(WZ) = \text{Cov}(X, Y)$, $\mathbb{E}(W^2) = \text{Var}(X)$ and $\mathbb{E}(Z^2) = \text{Var}(Y)$.

By applying the *Cauchy-Schwarz inequality* we get

$$\text{Cov}(X, Y)^2 = \mathbb{E}(WZ)^2 \leq \mathbb{E}(W^2)\mathbb{E}(Z^2) = \text{Var}(X)\text{Var}(Y) \iff \text{Cov}(X, Y)^2 \leq \text{Var}(X)\text{Var}(Y)$$

Remark 9.1 - Correlation value

The result in **Theorem 7.3** is the reason why correlation is valued in $[-1, 1]$.

$$\text{Corr}(X, Y) = \frac{\text{Cov}(X, Y)}{\sqrt{\text{Var}(X)\text{Var}(Y)}}$$

Theorem 9.4 - Cramer-Rao Inequality - Scalar Parameter

Let $\mathbf{X}_n \stackrel{\text{iid}}{\sim} f(\cdot; \theta)$ and assume the *Fisher Information Regularity Conditions* hold.

Let $\hat{\theta}_n(\cdot)$ be an estimator of θ with expectation $m(\theta) := \mathbb{E}(\hat{\theta}_n(\mathbf{X}_n); \theta)$ which satisfies

$$\forall \theta \in \Theta, \underbrace{\frac{d}{d\theta} \int \hat{\theta}_n(\mathbf{x}) f_n(\mathbf{x}; \theta) d\mathbf{x}}_{\mathbb{E}(\hat{\theta}_n)} = \int \hat{\theta}_n(\mathbf{x}) \frac{d}{d\theta} f_n(\mathbf{x}; \theta) d\mathbf{x}$$

Then

$$\forall \theta \in \Theta, \quad \text{Var}(\hat{\theta}_n(\mathbf{X}_n); \theta) \geq \frac{m'(\theta)^2}{nI(\theta)}$$

Proof 9.4 - Theorem 7.4

We notice that

$$\begin{aligned} m'(\theta) &= \frac{d}{d\theta} \mathbb{E}(\hat{\theta}_n(\mathbf{X}_n); \theta) \\ &= \frac{d}{d\theta} \int_{S^n} \hat{\theta}_n(\mathbf{x}_n) f_n(\mathbf{x}_n; \theta) d\mathbf{x}_n \end{aligned}$$

The clever part of this proof is to observe that

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Var}(\hat{\theta}_n(\mathbf{X}_n); \theta) nI(\theta) &= \text{Var}(\hat{\theta}_n(\mathbf{X}_n); \theta) \text{Var}(\ell'_n(\theta; \mathbf{X}_n); \theta) \\ &\geq \text{Cov}(\hat{\theta}_n(\mathbf{X}_n), \ell'_n(\theta; \mathbf{X}_n); \theta)^2 \text{ by Covariance Inequality} \end{aligned}$$

Thus

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Cov}(\hat{\theta}_n(\mathbf{X}_n), \ell'_n(\theta; \mathbf{X}_n); \theta)^2 &= \mathbb{E}(\hat{\theta}_n(\mathbf{X}_n) \ell'_n(\theta; \mathbf{X}_n); \theta) - \mathbb{E}(\hat{\theta}_n(\mathbf{X}_n); \theta) \mathbb{E}(\ell'_n(\theta; \mathbf{X}_n); \theta) \\ &= \mathbb{E}(\hat{\theta}_n(\mathbf{X}_n) \ell'_n(\theta; \mathbf{X}_n); \theta) - \mathbb{E}(\hat{\theta}_n(\mathbf{X}_n); \theta) \times 0 \\ &= \mathbb{E}(\hat{\theta}_n(\mathbf{X}_n) \ell'_n(\theta; \mathbf{X}_n); \theta) \\ &= \int_{S^n} \hat{\theta}_n(\mathbf{x}_n) \ell'_n(\theta; \mathbf{x}_n) f_n(\mathbf{x}_n; \theta) d\mathbf{x}_n \\ &= \int_{S^n} \hat{\theta}_n(\mathbf{x}_n) \frac{\frac{d}{d\theta} f_n(\mathbf{x}_n; \theta)}{f_n(\mathbf{x}_n; \theta)} f_n(\mathbf{x}_n; \theta) d\mathbf{x}_n \\ &= \int_{S^n} \hat{\theta}_n(\mathbf{x}_n) \frac{d}{d\theta} f_n(\mathbf{x}_n; \theta) \\ &= \frac{d}{d\theta} \int_{S^n} \hat{\theta}_n(\mathbf{x}_n) f_n(\mathbf{x}_n; \theta) d\mathbf{x}_n \text{ by regularity assumption} \\ &= m'(\theta) \\ \implies \text{Var}(\hat{\theta}_n(\mathbf{X}_n); \theta) nI(\theta) &\geq m'(\theta)^2 \end{aligned}$$

Proposition 9.1 - Useful result from Cramer-Rao Inequality

If $\hat{\theta}_n(\mathbf{X}_n)$ is an unbiased estimator (i.e. $m(\theta) = \theta$) then

$$\text{Var}(\hat{\theta}_n(\mathbf{X}_n); \theta) = \text{MSE}(\hat{\theta}_n(\mathbf{X}_n); \theta) \geq \frac{1}{nI(\theta)}$$

This shows there is a lower bound on the possible performance of an estimator.

Definition 9.3 - Efficient Estimator

An *Estimator* is said to be *Efficient* when its variance is equal to the *Cramer-Rao lower bound* $\forall \theta^*$.

Example 9.1 - Efficient Coin Flipping

Let $\mathbf{X} \stackrel{\text{iid}}{\sim} \text{Bernoulli}(\theta)$ with $\theta \in [0, 1]$, this corresponds to flipping a coin n times and considering each flip the random variable $X : \{H, T\} \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$ such that $X(H) = 1$ and $X(T) = 0$ with probability distribution such that $\mathbb{P}(X = 1; \theta) = \theta$ and $\mathbb{P}(X = 0; \theta) = 1 - \theta$. We consider the intuitive estimator of θ

$$\hat{\theta}_n := \hat{\theta}_n(\mathbf{X}_n) := \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n X_i$$

The estimator is unbiased $\forall n \in \mathbb{N}$ and its variance is

$$\text{Var}(\hat{\theta}_n; \theta) = \frac{\text{Var}(X_1; \theta)}{n} = \frac{\mathbb{E}(X_1^2; \theta) - \mathbb{E}(X_1; \theta)^2}{n} = \frac{\theta - \theta^2}{n} = \frac{\theta(1 - \theta)}{n}$$

Now we consider the *Cramer-Rao bound*

$$\begin{aligned} \text{We find } L(\theta; x) &= \theta^x (1 - \theta)^{1-x} \\ \implies \ell(\theta; x) &= x \ln \theta + (1 - x) \ln(1 - \theta) \\ \implies \ell'(\theta; x) &= \frac{x}{\theta} - \frac{1-x}{1-\theta} \\ \implies \ell''(\theta; x) &= -\frac{x}{\theta^2} - \frac{1-x}{(1-\theta)^2} \end{aligned}$$

Thus we can use $I(\theta) = -\mathbb{E}(\ell''(\theta; X); \theta)$

$$\begin{aligned} \implies I(\theta) &= -\mathbb{E}\left(-\frac{X}{\theta^2} - \frac{1-X}{(1-\theta)^2}; \theta\right) \\ &= \mathbb{E}\left(\frac{X}{\theta^2} + \frac{1-X}{(1-\theta)^2}; \theta\right) \\ &= \frac{\theta}{\theta^2} + \frac{1-\theta}{(1-\theta)^2} \\ &= \frac{1}{\theta} + \frac{1}{1-\theta} \\ &= \frac{1}{\theta(1-\theta)} \\ I_n(\theta) &= nI(\theta) \text{ Since } X_1, X_2, \dots \text{ are iid} \end{aligned}$$

The *Cramer-Rao bound* for the variance is

$$\frac{1}{nI(\theta)} = \frac{\theta(1 - \theta)}{n}$$

Thus our estimator is efficient.

1.10 Asymptotic Distribution of the Maximum Likelihood Estimator

Theorem 10.1 -

Suppose that $\mathbf{X}_n \stackrel{\text{iid}}{\sim} f(\cdot; \theta^*)$ for some $\theta^* \in \Theta$ and assume that

- i) The sequence of maximum likelihood estimators $\{\hat{\theta}_n(\mathbf{X}_n)\}$ is consistent;
- ii) The *Fisher Information Regularity Conditions* (**Definition 6.2**) hold and $I(\theta^*) = -\mathbb{E}[\ell''(\theta; X); \theta] > 0$.
- iii) $\exists C(\cdot) : \mathcal{X} \rightarrow [0, \infty)$ such that $\mathbb{E}(C(X_1); \theta^*) < \infty$, $\Xi \subset \Theta$ an open set containing θ^* and $\Delta(\cdot) : \Xi \rightarrow [0, \infty)$ continuous at 0 st $\Delta(0) = 0$, st $\forall \theta, \theta', x \in \Xi \times \mathcal{X}$.

$$|\ell''(\theta; x) - \ell''(\theta'; x)| \leq C(x)\Delta(\theta - \theta')$$

Then $\forall \theta^* \in \Theta$

$$\sqrt{nI(\theta^*)}(\hat{\theta}_n(\mathbf{X}_n) - \theta^*) \rightarrow_{\mathcal{D}(\cdot; \theta^*)} Z \sim \text{Normal}(0, 1)$$

Theorem 10.2 -

Under the conditions of **Theorem 8.1**, with $\hat{\theta}_n := \hat{\theta}_n(\mathbf{X})$ the maximum likelihood estimator

$$\ell'_n(\hat{\theta}_n; \mathbf{X}) = \ell'_n(\theta^*; \mathbf{X}) + (\hat{\theta}_n - \theta^*)\{\ell''_n(\theta^*; \mathbf{X}) + R_n\}$$

where $\frac{1}{n}R_n \rightarrow_{\mathbb{P}(\cdot; \theta^*)} 0$.

Proof 10.1 - Theorem 8.1

By **Theorem 8.2** $\ell'_n(\hat{\theta}_n; \mathbf{X}) = \ell'_n(\theta^*; \mathbf{X}) + (\hat{\theta}_n - \theta^*)\{\ell''_n(\theta^*; \mathbf{X}) + R_n\}$ where $\frac{1}{n}R_n \rightarrow_{\mathbb{P}(\cdot; \theta^*)} 0$.

Since $\hat{\theta}_n$ is the maximum likelihood estimator & the *Fisher Information Regularity Conditions* hold, the score at $\ell'(\hat{\theta}_n; X) = 0$.

Hence, $0 = \ell''(\hat{\theta}_n; X) = \ell'_n(\theta; X) + (\hat{\theta}_n - \theta^*)\{\ell''(\theta; X) + R_n\}$.

Rearranging & rescaling by \sqrt{n} gives

$$\sqrt{n}(\hat{\theta}_n - \theta^*) = \frac{\frac{1}{\sqrt{n}}\ell'(\theta^*; X)}{-\frac{1}{\sqrt{n}}\{\ell''(\theta^*; X) + R_n\}} =: \frac{U_n}{V_n - \frac{R_n}{n}}$$

Recall that $\ell'_n(\theta^*; X) = \sum_{i=1}^n \ell'(\theta; X_i)$ and $\ell''_n(\theta^*; X) = \sum_{i=1}^n \ell''(\theta^*; X_i)$.

Since $\mathbb{E}(\ell'(\theta^*; X_i); \theta^*) = 0$ and $\text{Var}(\ell'(\theta^*; X_i); \theta^*) = I(\theta^*)$

$\Rightarrow U_n \rightarrow_{\mathcal{D}(\cdot; \theta^*)} U \sim \text{Normal}(0, I(\theta^*))$ by the *Central Limit Theorem*.

We observed that $V_n \rightarrow_{\mathbb{P}(\cdot; \theta^*)} I(\theta^*)$ by the *Weak Law of Large Numbers* since $\mathbb{E}(-\ell''(\theta^*; X_i); \theta^*) = I(\theta^*)$.

It follows that $V_n - \frac{1}{n}R_n \rightarrow_{\mathbb{P}(\cdot; \theta^*)} I(\theta^*)$ by *Slutsky's Theorem*.

Using *Slutsky's Theorem* again

$$\sqrt{n}(\hat{\theta}_n - \theta^*) = \frac{U_n}{V_n - \frac{1}{n}R_n} \rightarrow_{\mathcal{D}(\cdot; \theta^*)} \frac{\sqrt{I(\theta^*)}}{I(\theta^*)} Z \text{ where } Z \sim \text{Normal}(0, 1)$$

We can rewrite this as

$$\sqrt{nI(\theta^*)}(\hat{\theta}_n - \theta^*) \rightarrow_{\mathcal{D}(\cdot; \theta^*)} Z \sim \text{Normal}(0, 1)$$

Proof 10.2 - Theorem 8.2

This is a non-examinable, sketch proof of Theorem 8.2.

By the regularity conditions and the mean value theorem

$$\frac{\ell'_n(\theta; \mathbf{x}) - \ell'_n(\theta^*; \mathbf{x})}{\theta - \theta^*} = \ell''_n(\tilde{\theta}; \mathbf{x})$$

for some $\tilde{\theta} \in (\theta, \theta^*)$. Hence, we deduce that

$$\begin{aligned} \ell'_n(\theta; \mathbf{x}) - \ell'_n(\theta^*; \mathbf{x}) &= (\theta - \theta^*)\ell''_n(\tilde{\theta}; \mathbf{x}) \\ &= (\theta - \theta^*)\{\ell''_n(\theta^*; \mathbf{x}) + [\ell''_n(\tilde{\theta}; \mathbf{x}) - \ell''_n(\theta^*; \mathbf{x})]\} \\ &= (\theta - \theta^*)\{\ell''_n(\theta; \mathbf{x}) + R_n(\theta, \theta^*, \mathbf{x})\} \end{aligned}$$

Now we replace θ with the maximum likelihood estimator $\hat{\theta}_n := \hat{\theta}_n(\mathbf{X})$. We find

$$\ell'(\hat{\theta}_n; \mathbf{X}) = \ell'_n(\theta^*; \mathbf{X}) + (\hat{\theta}_n - \theta^*)\{\ell''_n(\theta^*; \mathbf{X}) + R_n(\hat{\theta}_n, \theta^*, \mathbf{x})\}$$

and we need to analyse R_n .

Since $\hat{\theta}_n \rightarrow_{\mathbb{P}(\cdot; \theta^*)} \theta^*$ we can take n large enough that $\mathbb{P}(\hat{\theta}_n \in \Xi; \theta^*)$ with arbitrarily high probability.

On the event $\{\hat{\theta} \in \Xi\}$ and we have $\{\tilde{\theta}_n \in \Xi\}$ since $\tilde{\theta}_n \in (\hat{\theta}_n, \theta^*)$ and

$$\begin{aligned} \left| \frac{1}{n} R_n \right| &= \frac{1}{n} \left| \ell''_n(\tilde{\theta}_n; \mathbf{X}) - \ell''_n(\theta^*; \mathbf{X}) \right| \\ &= \frac{1}{n} \left| \sum_{i=1}^n \ell''(\tilde{\theta}_n; X_i) - \ell''(\theta^*; X_i) \right| \\ &\leq \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \left| \ell''(\tilde{\theta}_n; X_i) - \ell''(\theta^*; X_i) \right| \\ &\leq \Delta(\tilde{\theta}_n - \theta^*) \left\{ \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n C(X_i) \right\} \end{aligned}$$

from the smoothness condition on ℓ'' .

From the *Weak Law of Large Numbers*

$$\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n C(X_i) \xrightarrow{\mathbb{P}(\cdot; \theta^*)} \mathbb{E}(C(X_1); \theta^*) < \infty$$

and from the consistency of $\{\hat{\theta}_n\}$ and $\{\tilde{\theta}_n\}$ and continuity of $\Delta(\cdot)$ we have by the *Continuous Mapping Theorem*

$$\Delta(\tilde{\theta}_n - \theta^*) \xrightarrow{\mathbb{P}(\cdot; \theta^*)} 0$$

Hence, $\frac{1}{n} R_n \xrightarrow{\mathbb{P}(\cdot; \theta^*)} 0$ □

Definition 10.1 - Asyptically Efficient

A sequence of estimators $\{\hat{\theta}_n(\mathbf{X})\}$ is *Asymptotically Efficient* if either its mean-squared error converges to the *Cramer-Rao Lower Bound*

$$\forall \theta \in \Theta, \text{ nMSE}(\hat{\theta}_n(\mathbf{X}_n); \theta) \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{I(\theta)}$$

or $\hat{\theta}_n$ is *Asumptotically Normally Distributed* in the sense of **Theorem 8.1**

$$\forall \theta \in \Theta, \sqrt{nI(\theta)}(\hat{\theta} - \theta) \xrightarrow{\mathcal{D}(\cdot; \theta)} Z$$

N.B. The variance of $\frac{Z}{\sqrt{(nI(\theta^*))}}$ is exactly $\frac{1}{nI(\theta)}$.

Theorem 10.3 -

Under the conditions of **Theorem 8.1** the maximum likelihood estimator is *asymptotically efficient*.

Definition 10.2 - Regular Statistical Model

Any *Statistical Model* which satisfies the condition of **Theorem 8.1** is a *Regular Statistical Model*.

Remark 10.1 - Why use MLE over others

Due to the *Asymptotic Efficiency* of maximum likelihood estimators it is beter to use them in *Regular Statistical Models*.

1.11 Confidence Sets Around the Maximum Likelihood Estimator

Definition 11.1 - Coverage of an Interval

Let $\mathbf{X} \sim f_n(\cdot; \theta)$, $\theta \in \Theta = \mathbb{R}$, $L(\cdot) : \mathcal{X}^n \rightarrow \Theta$ and $U(\cdot) : \mathcal{X}^n \rightarrow \Theta$ where $\forall \mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{X}^n$, $L(\mathbf{x}) < U(\mathbf{x})$. Then, $\forall \theta \in \Theta$ the coverage $C_{\mathcal{I}}(\theta)$ of the random interval $\mathcal{I}(\mathbf{X}) := [L(\mathbf{X}), U(\mathbf{X})]$ at θ is

$$C_{\mathcal{I}}(\theta) := \mathbb{P}(\theta \in [L(\mathbf{X}), U(\mathbf{X})]; \theta) = \mathbb{P}(L(\mathbf{X}) \leq \theta \leq U(\mathbf{X}); \theta)$$

Remark 11.1 - Coverage of an Interval in Words

$C_{\mathcal{I}}(\theta)$ is the probability that the deterministic quantity θ falls into the random interval $\mathcal{I}(\mathbf{X})$ under the probability distribution $\mathbb{P}(\cdot; \theta)$ where $\mathbf{X} \sim f_n(\cdot; \theta)$.

Remark 11.2 - Multi-Dimensional Coverage

We can extend *Coverage of an Interval* to the multi-dimensional case by considering confidence sets and then considering the probability $\mathbb{P}(\theta \in \mathcal{I}(\mathbf{X}); \theta)$.

Definition 11.2 - Confidence Interval

$\forall \alpha \in [0, 1]$ we say that an interval $\mathcal{I}(\mathbf{X}) := [L(\mathbf{X}), U(\mathbf{X})]$ is a $1 - \alpha$ confidence interval if $\forall \theta \in \Theta$ its coverage is at least $1 - \alpha$ or more formally $\inf_{\theta \in \Theta} C_{\mathcal{I}}(\theta) \geq 1 - \alpha$.

Remark 11.3 - Exact Confidence Interval

If $C_{\mathcal{I}}(\theta) = 1 - \alpha \forall \theta \in \Theta$ then \mathcal{I} is an exact $1 - \alpha$ confidence interval.

Definition 11.3 - Observed Confidence Interval

For an interval $\mathcal{I}(\cdot) = [L(\cdot), U(\cdot)]$ with $L : \mathcal{X}^n \rightarrow \Theta$ and $U : \mathcal{X}^n \rightarrow \Theta$, and a realisation \mathbf{x} , the corresponding *Observed Confidence Interval* is $\mathcal{I}(\mathbf{x})$.

N.B. Nothing interesting can be said about the probability that $\theta \in \mathcal{I}(\mathbf{x})$ since θ and $\mathcal{I}(\mathbf{x})$ are deterministic.

Notation 11.1 - Quantile of Normal(0, 1)

For any $\beta \in (0, 1)$ let $z_{\beta} \in \mathbb{R}$ be such that for $Z \sim \text{Normal}(0, 1)$, $1 - \Phi(z_{\beta}) = \mathbb{P}(Z > z_{\beta}) = \beta$.

Example 11.1 - Confidence interval for the mean of a Normal Distribution

Let $\mathbf{X} \stackrel{\text{iid}}{\sim} \text{Normal}(\mu, \sigma^2)$ for $\theta = (\mu, \sigma^2) \in \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}^{\geq 0}$ and where σ^2 is known.

Consider the estimator $\hat{\mu}_n = \hat{\mu}_n(\mathbf{X}) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n X_i$ of μ . Then we know that the following non-asymptotic result holds.

We have $\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n X_i \sim \text{Normal}(\mu, \frac{\sigma^2}{n})$. Thus

$$\frac{\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n X_i - \mu}{\sqrt{\sigma^2/n}} \sim \text{Normal}(0, 1)$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned} \forall \alpha \in (0, 1) \quad , \quad & \mathbb{P} \left(z_{1-\alpha/2} \leq \frac{\hat{\mu}_n(\mathbf{X}) - \mu}{\sqrt{\sigma^2/n}} \leq z_{\alpha/2}; \mu \right) \\ &= \mathbb{P} \left(\frac{\hat{\mu}_n(\mathbf{X}) - \mu}{\sqrt{\sigma^2/n}} \leq z_{\alpha/2} \right) - \mathbb{P} \left(\frac{\hat{\mu}_n(\mathbf{X}) - \mu}{\sqrt{\sigma^2/n}} \leq z_{1-\alpha/2} \right) \\ &= \left(1 - \frac{\alpha}{2} \right) - \left(1 - \left(1 - \frac{\alpha}{2} \right) \right) \\ &= 1 - \alpha \end{aligned}$$

By symmetry we notice that $z_{1-\frac{\alpha}{2}} = -z_{\alpha/2}$.

By rearranging we have the equivalence of events

$$\left\{ -z_{\alpha/2} \leq \frac{\hat{\mu}_n(\mathbf{X}) - \mu}{\sqrt{\sigma^2/n}} \leq z_{\alpha/2} \right\} = \left\{ \hat{\mu}_n(\mathbf{X}) - z_{\alpha/2} \frac{\sigma}{\sqrt{n}} \leq \mu \leq \hat{\mu}_n(\mathbf{X}) + z_{\alpha/2} \frac{\sigma}{\sqrt{n}} \right\}$$

To rearrange we separate into two events & treat them separately

$$\begin{aligned} \left\{ \frac{\hat{\mu}_n(\mathbf{X}) - \mu}{\sigma/\sqrt{n}} \leq z_{\alpha/2} \right\} &= \left\{ \frac{\hat{\mu}_n(\mathbf{X})}{\sigma/\sqrt{n}} - z_{\alpha/2} \leq \frac{\mu}{\sigma/\sqrt{n}} \right\} \\ &= \left\{ \mu \geq \hat{\mu}_n(\mathbf{X}) - \frac{\sigma}{\sqrt{n}} z_{\alpha/2} \right\} \end{aligned}$$

Similarly

$$\begin{aligned} \left\{ -z_{\alpha/2} \leq \frac{\hat{\mu}_n(X) - \mu}{\sqrt{\sigma^2/n}} \right\} &= \left\{ \frac{\mu}{\sigma/\sqrt{n}} \leq \frac{\hat{\mu}_n(X)}{\sigma/\sqrt{n}} + z_{\alpha/2} \right\} \\ &= \left\{ \mu \leq \hat{\mu}_n(X) + z_{\alpha/2} \frac{\sigma}{\sqrt{n}} \right\} \end{aligned}$$

So the interval $\mathcal{I}(X) = [L(X), U(X)]$ where $L(\mathbf{x}) = \bar{x} - z_{\alpha/2} \frac{\sigma}{\sqrt{n}}$ and $U(\mathbf{x}) = \bar{x} + z_{\alpha/2} \frac{\sigma}{\sqrt{n}}$ is an $1 - \alpha$ exact confidence interval.

Remark 11.4 - Confidence Intervals with unknown σ^2

When σ^2 is unknown we can define $\{\hat{\sigma}_n^2\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ to be a consistent sequence of estimators of σ^2 (e.g. the sample variance)

$$\hat{\sigma}_n^2 := \frac{1}{n-1} \sum_{i=1}^n (X_i - \hat{\mu}_n(\mathbf{X}))^2$$

1.12 Asymptotic Approximation of Confidence Intervals

Theorem 12.1 -

Assume $\mathbf{X} \sim f(\cdot; \theta^*)$. Let $\{\hat{\theta}_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ be a consistent sequence of estimators of θ^* and assume that $\{\hat{\theta}_n\}$ is asymptotically normal in the sense that

$$\exists \sigma^2 > 0 \text{ st } \frac{\hat{\theta}_n(\mathbf{X}) - \theta^*}{\sqrt{\sigma^2/n}} \rightarrow_{\mathcal{D}(\cdot; \theta^*)} Z \sim \text{Normal}(0, 1)$$

Then $\forall \alpha \in (0, 1)$, $\mathcal{I}_n(\mathbf{X}) = [L_n(\mathbf{X}), U_n(\mathbf{X})]$ is an asymptotically exact $1 - \alpha$ confidence interval, where $L_n(\mathbf{x}) := \hat{\theta}_n(\mathbf{x}) - z_{\alpha/2} \frac{\sigma}{\sqrt{n}}$ and $U_n(\mathbf{x}) := \hat{\theta}_n(\mathbf{x}) + z_{\alpha/2} \frac{\sigma}{\sqrt{n}}$.

Proof 12.1 - Theorem 10.1

Let $\{W_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ be defined by $W_n := \frac{\hat{\theta}_n(X) - \theta^*}{\sqrt{\sigma^2/n}}$.

Since $W_n \rightarrow_{\mathcal{D}(\cdot; \theta^*)} Z \sim \text{Normal}(0, 1)$ we have

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{P}(-z_{\alpha/2} \leq W_n \leq z_{\alpha/2}) &= F_{W_n}(z_{\alpha/2}) - F_{W_n}(-z_{\alpha/2}) \\ &\xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty} \Phi(z_{\alpha/2}) - \Phi(-z_{\alpha/2}) \\ &= 1 - \alpha \end{aligned}$$

Similary to before we have the equivalence of events

$$\{-z_{\alpha/2} \leq W_n \leq z_{\alpha/2}\} = \left\{ \hat{\theta}_n - z_{\alpha/2} \frac{\sigma}{\sqrt{n}} \leq \theta^* \leq \hat{\theta}_n + z_{\alpha/2} \frac{\sigma}{\sqrt{n}} \right\}$$

So $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{P} \left(\hat{\theta}_n(X) - z_{\alpha/2} \frac{\sigma}{\sqrt{n}} \leq \theta^* \leq \hat{\theta}_n(X) + z_{\alpha/2} \frac{\sigma}{\sqrt{n}}; \theta^* \right) = 1 - \alpha$

Remark 12.1 - Theorem 10.1

The confidence interval is only asymptotically exact. For finite n , the overage of the confidence interval will be different from $1 - \alpha$ but the difference will converge to 0 as n increases. In practice σ^2 may be unknown, in these cases substitute for a consistent sequence of estimators of σ^2 .

Theorem 12.2 -

Assum $\mathbf{X} \sim f(\cdot; \theta^*)$ let $\{\hat{\theta}_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ be a consistent sequence of estimators of θ^* and assume that $\{\hat{\theta}_n\}$ is asymptotically normal in the sense that

$$\exists \sigma^2 > 0 \text{ st } \frac{\hat{\theta}_n(\mathbf{X}) - \theta^*}{\sqrt{\sigma^2/n}} \rightarrow_{\text{mathcal{D}(\cdot; \theta^*)}} Z \sim \text{Normal}(0, 1)$$

Assume also that $\{\hat{\sigma}_n^2\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ is a consistent sequence of estimators of σ^2 . Then $\forall \alpha \in (0, 1)$, $\mathcal{I}_n(\mathbf{X}) = [L_n(\mathbf{X}), U_n(\mathbf{X})]$ is an asymptotically exact $1 - \alpha$ confidence interval, where $L_n(\mathbf{x}) := \hat{\theta}_n(\mathbf{x}) - z_{\alpha/2} \sqrt{\hat{\sigma}_n^2(\mathbf{x})/n}$ and $U_n(\mathbf{x}) := \hat{\theta}_n(\mathbf{x}) + z_{\alpha/2} \sqrt{\hat{\sigma}_n^2(\mathbf{x})/n}$.

Proof 12.2 - Theorem 10.2

Define $W_n := \frac{\hat{\theta}_n - \theta^*}{\sqrt{\hat{\sigma}_n^2(X)/n}} = \frac{\hat{\theta}_n(X) - \theta^*}{\sqrt{\sigma^2/n}} - \sqrt{\frac{\sigma^2}{\hat{\sigma}_n^2(X)}}$.

By consistency of $\{\hat{\sigma}_n^2\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ and the *Continuous Mapping Theorem*

$$\sqrt{\frac{\sigma^2}{\hat{\sigma}_n^2(X)}} \xrightarrow{\mathbb{P}(\cdot; \theta^*)} 1$$

By *Slutsky's Theorem*

$$W_n \rightarrow_{\mathcal{D}(\cdot; \theta^*)} Z \sim \text{Normal}(0, 1)$$

The rest of the proof is the same as for **Theorem 10.1**.

Remark 12.2 - Theorem 10.2

For a given n the quality of the normal approximation will be affected by this additional approximation. One may find that for less accurate estimators of σ^2 , the n required for the confidence interval to have almost the right coverage will be higher.

1.13 Estimating the Information for Maximum Likelihood Estimates

Remark 13.1 - Applying Theorem 10.2 to sequences of MLEs for regular statistical models

When dealing with *Maximum Likelihood Estimators* for regular statistical models we have that $\sigma^2 = 1/I(\theta^*)$ thus

$$\sqrt{nI(\theta^*)}(\hat{\theta}_n - \theta^*) \rightarrow_{\mathcal{D}(\cdot; \theta^*)} Z \sim \text{Normal}(0, 1)$$

However the *Fisher Information* is unknown so we consider two cases

- i) When the expectation, $I(\theta^*) = -\mathbb{E}(\ell''(\theta^*; X_1); \theta^*)$, can be calculated. In this case we replace θ^* with $\hat{\theta}_n$ in the equation.
- ii) When the expectation **cannot** be calculated we invoke the *Weak Law of Large Numbers* and consider the sequence of estimators, $J_n(\hat{\theta}_n) := -\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \ell''(\hat{\theta}_n; X_i)$.

Theorem 13.1 - Case i)

Assume $\{\hat{\theta}_n\}$ is a sequence of *Maximum Likelihood Estimators* st $\hat{\theta}_n \rightarrow_{\mathbb{P}(\cdot; \theta^*)} \theta^*$ and I is a continuous function of θ . Then $I(\hat{\theta}_n) \rightarrow_{\mathbb{P}(\cdot; \theta^*)} I(\theta^*)$.

N.B. The proof of this follows directly from the *Continuous Mapping Function*.

Remark 13.2 - Theorem 11.1

It is only necessary for I to be continuous in the neighbourhood of θ^* . This is due to an extension of the *Continuous Mapping Theorem* that states

$$\begin{aligned} \text{If } X_n \rightarrow_{\mathbb{P}} X \text{ and } g \text{ is a function with discontinuity set } D \text{ then} \\ \mathbb{P}(X \in D) = 0 \implies (X_n) \rightarrow_{\mathbb{P}} g(X). \end{aligned}$$

Theorem 13.2 - Case ii)

Assume that $\{\hat{\theta}_n\}$ is a sequence of *Maximum Likelihood Estimators* st

- i) $\hat{\theta}_n \rightarrow_{\mathbb{P}(\cdot; \theta^*)} \theta^*$;
- ii) $I(\theta) = -\mathbb{E}(\ell''(\theta; X); \theta) \forall \theta \in \Theta$

- iii) $\exists C : \mathcal{X} \rightarrow [0, \infty)$ st $\mathbb{E}(C(X_1); \theta^*) < \infty$, $\Xi \subset \Theta$ is an open set containing θ^* and $\Delta(\cdot) : \Xi \rightarrow [0, \infty)$ is continuous at 0 st $\Delta(0) = 0$, and st $\forall \theta, \theta^*, x \in \Xi^2 \times \mathcal{X} \quad |\ell''(\theta; x) - \ell''(\theta'; x)| \leq C(x)\Delta(\theta - \theta')$

Then

$$J_n(\hat{\theta}_n) \rightarrow_{\mathbb{P}(\cdot; \theta^*)} I(\theta^*)$$

Proof 13.1 - Theorem 11.2

Consider the following decomposition

$$\begin{aligned} J_n(\hat{\theta}) - I(\theta^*) &= -\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \ell''(\hat{\theta}_n; X_i) - I(\theta^*) \\ &= T_1 + T_2 \\ \text{Where } T_1 &= -\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \ell''(\hat{\theta}_n; X_i) + \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \ell''(\theta^*; X_i) \\ \text{and } T_2 &= -\left\{ \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \ell''(\theta^*; X_i) \right\} - I(\theta^*) \end{aligned}$$

Now the first term can be upper bounded as follows (for sufficiently large n , with arbitrary large probability the second inequality holds)

$$\begin{aligned} |T_1| &= \left| -\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \ell''(\hat{\theta}_n; X_i) + \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \ell''(\theta^*; X_i) \right| \\ &\leq \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \left| \ell''(\hat{\theta}_n; X_i) - \ell''(\theta^*; X_i) \right| \\ &\leq \Delta(\theta_n - \theta^*) \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n C(X_i) \end{aligned}$$

By the *Weak Law of Large Numbers*

$$\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n C(X_i) \rightarrow_{\mathbb{P}(\cdot; \theta^*)} \mathbb{E}(C(X_1); \theta^*)$$

by the assumed consistency of $\{\hat{\theta}_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ and continuity of Δ we have that

$$\Delta(\hat{\theta}_n - \theta^*) \rightarrow_{\mathbb{P}(\cdot; \theta^*)} 0$$

Consequently $T_1 \xrightarrow[n \rightarrow \infty]{\mathbb{P}(\cdot; \theta^*)} 0$.

By the *Weak Law of Large Numbers* we have

$$\begin{aligned} -\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \ell''(\theta^*; X_i) &\rightarrow_{\mathbb{P}(\cdot; \theta^*)} I(\theta^*) \\ \implies T_2 &= -\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \ell''(\theta^*; X_i) - I(\theta^*) \rightarrow_{\mathbb{P}(\cdot; \theta^*)} 0 \end{aligned}$$

Since $T_1 \xrightarrow[n \rightarrow \infty]{\mathbb{P}(\cdot; \theta^*)} 0$ and $T_2 \xrightarrow[n \rightarrow \infty]{\mathbb{P}(\cdot; \theta^*)} 0$ we deduce from the earlier decomposition that

$$J_n(\hat{\theta}_n) \rightarrow_{\mathbb{P}(\cdot; \theta^*)} I(\theta^*)$$

□

Remark 13.3 - Summary

Whenever **Theorem 8.1** holds for a sequence of *Maximum Likelihood Estimators*

$$\text{i.e. } \sqrt{nI(\theta^*)}(\hat{\theta}_n - \theta^*) \rightarrow_{\mathcal{D}(\cdot; \theta^*)} Z \sim \text{Normal}(0, 1)$$

we can replace $I(\theta^*)$ with one of two options

i) $I(\hat{\theta}_n)$ whenever

- (a) $I(\theta)$ is continuous in a neighbourhood of θ^* ; and,
- (b) The interval $[L(\mathbf{X}), U(\mathbf{X})]$ with $L(\mathbf{x}) := \hat{\theta}_n - z_{\alpha/2} \sqrt{nI(\hat{\theta})}$ and $U(\mathbf{x}) := \hat{\theta}_n + z_{\alpha/2} \sqrt{nI(\hat{\theta})}$ is an asymptotically exact $1 - \alpha$ confidence interval for θ^* .

ii) $J_n(\hat{\theta}_n) := -\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \ell''(\hat{\theta}_n; X_i)$ whenever

- (a) The assumptions of **Theorem 11.2** hold; and,
- (b) The interval $[L(\mathbf{X}), U(\mathbf{X})]$ with $L(\mathbf{x}) := \hat{\theta}_n - z_{\alpha/2} \sqrt{nJ_n(\hat{\theta}_n)}$ and $U(\mathbf{x}) := \hat{\theta}_n + z_{\alpha/2} \sqrt{nJ_n(\hat{\theta}_n)}$ is an asymptotically exact $1 - \alpha$ confidence interval for θ^* .

Example 13.1 - Coin Flipping

Here the new results for this chapter are applied in order to simplify methods used in previous examples when finding confidence intervals & upper bounds on θ^* .

The sequence of estimators $\hat{\theta}_n := \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n X_i$ is consistent by the *Weak Law of Large Numbers* and the conditions for asymptotic normality hold $\forall \theta \in \Theta$. Hence

$$\sqrt{nI(\theta^*)}(\hat{\theta}_n - \theta^*) \rightarrow_{\mathcal{D}(\cdot; \theta^*)} Z \sim \text{Normal}(0, 1)$$

We can compute the *Fisher Information* $\forall \theta \in \Theta$. We have

$$\begin{aligned} \ell'(\theta(x)) &= \frac{x}{\theta} - \frac{1-x}{1-\theta} \\ \text{and } \ell''(\theta; x) &= -\frac{x}{\theta^2} - \frac{1-x}{(1-\theta)^2} \\ \implies I(\theta) &= \frac{1}{\theta} + \frac{1}{1-\theta} \\ &= \frac{1}{\theta(1-\theta)} \end{aligned}$$

In practice θ^* is unknown so we replace $I(\theta^*)$ with $I(\hat{\theta}_n)$ to give the asymptotically exact confidence interval, $[L(\mathbf{X}), U(\mathbf{X})]$ where

$$L(\mathbf{X}) = \hat{\theta}_n - z_{\alpha/2} \sqrt{\frac{\hat{\theta}_n(1-\hat{\theta}_n)}{n}} \text{ and } U(\mathbf{X}) = \hat{\theta}_n + z_{\alpha/2} \sqrt{\frac{\hat{\theta}_n(1-\hat{\theta}_n)}{n}}$$

If we did not know how to compute $I(\theta)$ we could instead compute

$$\begin{aligned} J_n(\hat{\theta}_n) &= -\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \ell''(\hat{\theta}_n; X_i) \\ &= -\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \left\{ -\frac{X_i}{\hat{\theta}_n^2} - \frac{1-X_i}{(1-\hat{\theta}_n)^2} \right\} \\ &= \frac{1}{\hat{\theta}_n^2} \left(\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n X_i \right) + \frac{1}{(1-\hat{\theta}_n)^2} \left(1 - \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n X_i \right) \\ &= \frac{\hat{\theta}_n}{\hat{\theta}_n^2} + \frac{1-\hat{\theta}_n}{(1-\hat{\theta}_n)^2} \\ &= \frac{1}{\hat{\theta}_n(1-\hat{\theta}_n)} \end{aligned}$$

In this case $J_n(\hat{\theta}_n) = I(\hat{\theta}_n)$, this is not always true.

Definition 13.1 - Observed Fisher Information

Let $\mathbf{X} \stackrel{\text{iid}}{\sim} f(\cdot; \theta^*)$ be a vector of n random variables.

The *Observed Fisher Information* at θ is

$$nJ_n(\theta) = -\ell''(\theta; \mathbf{X}) = -\sum_{i=1}^n \ell''(\theta; X_i)$$

N.B. $\mathbb{E}(J_n(\theta^*); \theta^*) = I(\theta^*)$ and that it differs from the *Fisher Information* (under the *Fisher Information Regularity Conditions* by not being an expectation.

1.14 Transformations and Confidence Intervals

Definition 14.1 - Wald Approach

The confidence intervals seen so far fit the *Wald Approach*.

If $\mathbf{X} \stackrel{\text{iid}}{\sim} f(\cdot; \theta^*)$ where $\theta^* \in \Theta \subset \mathbb{R}$ then one can define a confidence interval for θ^* using the asymptotic distribution of the *Maximum Likelihood Estimator*

$$L(\mathbf{x}) = \hat{\theta}_n - z_{\alpha/2} \sqrt{nI(\theta^*)} \text{ and } U(\mathbf{x}) = \hat{\theta}_n + z_{\alpha/2} \sqrt{nI(\theta^*)}$$

which ensures that as $n \rightarrow \infty$, $\mathbb{P}(\theta^* \in [L(\mathbf{X}), U(\mathbf{X})]) \rightarrow 1 - \alpha$.

Proposition 14.1 - Transformed Confidence Interval - Increasing

Let $\tau := g(\theta)$ be a bijective, continuously differentiable & increasing function.

This gives a direct transformation of $[L(\mathbf{x}), U(\mathbf{x})]$ to $[g(L(\mathbf{x})), g(U(\mathbf{x}))]$.

$$\text{i.e. } \{\mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{X}^n : L(\mathbf{x}) \leq \theta^* \leq U(\mathbf{x})\} = \{\mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{X}^n : g(L(\mathbf{x})) \leq \tau^* \leq g(U(\mathbf{x}))\}$$

Consequently

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{P}(\theta^* \in [L(\mathbf{X}), U(\mathbf{X})]; \theta^*) &= \mathbb{P}(\tau^* \in [g(L(\mathbf{X})), g(U(\mathbf{X}))]) \\ &\rightarrow 1 - \alpha \text{ as } n \rightarrow \infty \end{aligned}$$

i.e. $[g(L(\mathbf{X})), g(U(\mathbf{X}))]$ is an asymptotically exact $1 - \alpha$ for τ^* .

Proposition 14.2 - Transformed Confidence Interval - Decreasing

Let $\tau := g(\theta)$ be a bijective, continuously differentiable & decreasing function.

This gives a direct transformation of $[L(\mathbf{X}), U(\mathbf{X})]$ to $[g(U(\mathbf{X})), g(L(\mathbf{X}))]$ which is an asymptotically exact $1 - \alpha$ confidence interval for τ^* .

Remark 14.1 - Deriving Reparameterised Confidence Intervals

We can obtain a reparameterised *Confidence Interval* by working with the reparameterised likelihood, $\tilde{f}(\mathbf{x}; \tau) := f(\mathbf{x}; g^{-1}(\tau))$. Now we can find $\tilde{L}(\mathbf{x})$ and $\tilde{U}(\mathbf{x})$ directly.

Theorem 14.1 -

Assume $X \in f(\cdot; \theta)$ for $\theta \in \Theta \subseteq \mathbb{R}$ and let $\tau := g(\theta)$ where g is bijective & continuously differentiable.

The *Fisher Information* for the parameterisation $\tilde{f}(x; \tau) := f(x; g^{-1}(\tau))$ is

$$\tilde{I}(\tau) = \frac{I(\theta)}{g'(\theta)^2}$$

Proof 14.1 - Theorem 12.1

Since $\tilde{f}(x; \tau) = f(x; g^{-1}(\tau))$ the log-likelihood for τ is

$$\tilde{\ell}(\tau; x) = \ln \tilde{f}(x; \tau) = \ln f(x; g^{-1}(\tau))$$

The score is therefore

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{\ell}'(\tau; x) &= \frac{d}{d\tau} \ln f(x; g^{-1}(\tau)) \\ &= \frac{d}{d\theta} \ln f(x; g^{-1}(\tau)) \times \frac{d}{d\tau} g^{-1}(\tau) \\ &= \ell'(g^{-1}(\tau); x) \times \frac{1}{g'(g^{-1}(\tau))} \\ &= \frac{\ell'(\theta; x)}{g'(\theta)} \end{aligned}$$

No we use the definition of *Fisher Information*

$$\begin{aligned}
 \tilde{I}(\tau) &= \mathbb{E}(\tilde{\ell}'(\tau; X)^2; \tau) \\
 &= \mathbb{E}\left(\frac{\ell'(\theta; X)^2}{g'(\theta)^2}; \theta\right) \\
 &= \frac{1}{g'(\theta)^2} \mathbb{E}(\ell'(\theta; X)^2; \theta) \\
 &= \frac{I(\theta)}{g'(\theta)^2}
 \end{aligned}$$

Remark 14.2 -

As a consequence, for regular statistical models

$$\sqrt{n\tilde{I}(\tau^*)}(\hat{\tau}_n - \tau^*) \rightarrow_{\mathcal{D}(\cdot; \tau^*)} Z \sim \text{Normal}(0, 1)$$

is equivalent to

$$\sqrt{\frac{nI(\theta^*)}{g'(\theta^*)^2}}(\hat{\tau}_n - \tau^*) \rightarrow_{\mathcal{D}(\cdot; \theta^*)} Z \sim \text{Normal}(0, 1)$$

which leads to

$$\begin{aligned}
 \tilde{L}(\mathbf{x}) &= \hat{\tau}_n - z_{\alpha/2} \sqrt{\frac{g'(\theta^*)^2}{nI(\theta^*)}} \\
 \tilde{U}(\mathbf{x}) &= \hat{\tau}_n + z_{\alpha/2} \sqrt{\frac{g'(\theta^*)^2}{nI(\theta^*)}}
 \end{aligned}$$

N.B. This is not necessarily the same *Confidence Interval* as obtained by transforming $[L(\mathbf{x}), U(\mathbf{x})]$ directly.

Example 14.1 -

Consider $\mathbf{X} \stackrel{\text{iid}}{\sim} \text{Normal}(\mu, 1)$.

We know that the *Maximum Likelihood Estimator* of μ is $\bar{X} \sim \text{Normal}(\mu, \frac{1}{n})$.

A $1 - \alpha$ *Confidence Interval* for μ is

$$\left[\bar{X} - \frac{z_{\alpha/2}}{\sqrt{n}}, \bar{X} + \frac{z_{\alpha/2}}{\sqrt{n}} \right]$$

Consider the parameterisation $\tau = \frac{1}{\mu}$. This corresponds to $g(x) = \frac{1}{x}$ which is bijective & continuously differentiable except at 0, and is decreasing.

Hence, a $1 - \alpha$ exact *Confidence Interval* for τ is

$$\left[\frac{1}{\bar{X} + z_{\alpha/2}/\sqrt{n}}, \frac{1}{\bar{X} - z_{\alpha/2}/\sqrt{n}} \right]$$

Consider the two ways to find an asymptotically $1 - \alpha$ *Exact Confidence Interval* for τ . After direct calculations we find that

$$\tilde{\ell}''(\tau; x) = -\frac{3}{\tau^4} + \frac{2x}{\tau^3}$$

So

$$\tilde{I}(\tau) := i\mathbb{E}(\tilde{\ell}''(\tau; X); \tau) = \frac{3}{\tau^3} - \frac{2}{\tau^4} = \frac{1}{\tau^4}$$

Noting that the *Maximum Likelihood Estimator* for τ is $1/\bar{X}$ we find that

$$\sqrt{\frac{n}{\tau^4}} \left(\frac{1}{\bar{X}} - \tau \right) \rightarrow_{\mathcal{D}(\cdot; \tau)} Z \sim \text{Normal}(0, 1)$$

so an asymptotically exact $1 - \alpha$ *Confidence Interval* is

$$\left[\frac{1}{\bar{X}} - z_{\alpha/2} \frac{\tau^2}{\sqrt{n}}, \frac{1}{\bar{X}} + z_{\alpha/2} \frac{\tau^2}{\sqrt{n}} \right]$$

Alternatively, instead of working out $\tilde{I}(\tau)$ as above, we could use **Theorem 12.1** to find that

$$\tilde{I}(\tau) = \frac{I(\theta)}{g'(\theta)^2}, \quad \theta = g^{-1}(\tau) = \frac{1}{\tau}$$

Since $I(\theta) = 1$ and $g(\theta) = 1/\theta \implies g'(\theta) = -1/\theta^2 = -\tau^2$, we have

$$\tilde{I}(\tau) = \frac{1}{(-1/\theta^2)^2} = \frac{1}{(-\tau^2)^2} = \frac{1}{\tau^4}$$

Remark 14.3 - Example 12.1

- i) The transformed *Confidence Interval* is exact, which the second *Confidence Interval* is not since $\sqrt{n/\tau^4} \left(\frac{1}{\bar{X}} - \tau \right)$ is not exactly normally distributed, but only asymptotically so.
- ii) The transformed *Confidence Interval* is not generally centred at $\hat{\tau}$.
- iii) This serves as an example that convergence in distribution says nothing about convergence of moments. In particular, you can derive that $\frac{1}{\bar{X}}$ does not have a mean for any $\mu \in \mathbb{R}$.

1.15 Likelihood Ratio Confidence Sets - Wilk's Approach

Remark 15.1 - Motivation

Consider a *Wald Confidence Interval* $\mathcal{I}(\theta^*)$.

It is possible for some $\theta \notin \mathcal{I}(\theta^*)$ to have a greater likelihood interval than some $\theta' \in \mathcal{I}(\theta^*)$. It is possible $\exists \theta \in \mathcal{I}(\theta^*)$ st $L(\theta; \mathbf{x}) = 0$.

Wald Confidence Intervals are not invariant under reparameterisation.

These features of *Wald Confidence Intervals* motivate why we may wish to consider a different type of *Confidence Interval*.

Definition 15.1 - Likelihood Ratio

Define $\mathbf{X} \stackrel{\text{iid}}{\sim} f(\cdot; \theta^*)$ for some $\theta^* \in \Theta$, let $\{\hat{\theta}_i\}$ be a sequence of consistent *Maximum Likelihood Estimators* of $\theta^* \in \Theta$.

Define $\forall \mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{X}^n$ the *Likelihood Ratio*

$$\Lambda_n(\mathbf{x}) := \frac{L(\theta^*; \mathbf{x})}{L(\hat{\theta}_n; \mathbf{x})} \in [0, 1]$$

Theorem 15.1 -

Define $\mathbf{X} \stackrel{\text{iid}}{\sim} f(\cdot; \theta^*)$ for some $\theta^* \in \Theta$, let $\{\hat{\theta}_i\}$ be a sequence of consistent *Maximum Likelihood Estimators* of $\theta^* \in \Theta$ and assume that the conditions of **Theorem 8.1** hold (implying asymptotic normality). Then

$$-2 \ln \Lambda_n(\mathbf{X}_n) \rightarrow_{\mathcal{D}(\cdot; \theta^*)} Z^2 \sim \chi_1^2$$

Remark 15.2 -

We observe that

$$-2 \ln \Lambda_n(\mathbf{x}) = -2 \left(\ell(\theta^*; \mathbf{x}) - \ell(\hat{\theta}_n; \mathbf{x}) \right) = 2 \left(\ell(\hat{\theta}_n; \mathbf{x}) - \ell(\theta^*; \mathbf{x}) \right)$$

i.e. This is twice the difference of the log-likelihoods for $\hat{\theta}_n$ and θ^* .

Definition 15.2 - Confidence Sets

Define $\chi_{1,\alpha}^2$ to be the number st $\mathbb{P}(W \leq \chi_{1,\alpha}^2) = 1 - \alpha$ for $W \sim \chi_1^2$. The *Confidence Sets*

$$C(\mathbf{X}_n) := \left\{ \theta \in \Theta : 2 \left[\ell(\hat{\theta}_n; \mathbf{X}_n) - \ell(\theta; \mathbf{X}_n) \right] \leq \chi_{1,\alpha}^2 \right\} \subseteq \Theta$$

are asymptotically exact $1 - \alpha$ *Confidence Sets* for θ^* since

$$\mathbb{P}(\theta^* \in C(\mathbf{X}_n; \theta^*)) = \mathbb{P}(-2 \ln \Lambda_n(\mathbf{X}_n) \leq \chi_{1,\alpha}^2; \theta^*) \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty} 1 - \alpha$$

Remark 15.3 - Interpreting Confidence Sets

$C(\mathbf{x}_n)$ contains the values θ st $\ell(\theta; \mathbf{x}_n)$ is not too much less than $\ell(\hat{\theta}_n; \mathbf{x}_n)$. Hence, these confidence intervals contain those values of θ with the greatest likelihood values.

Remark 15.4 -

The observed confidence set $C(\mathbf{x})$ is defined implicitly, and finding an explicit representation of such sets might not be easy. This difficulty explains why *Wald's Approach* has been historically popular, despite its shortcomings. However, with the help of a computer, it is often easy to determine $C(\mathbf{x})$ numerically.

Proof 15.1 - Theorem 13.1

Consider the second order *Taylor Expansion* of $\ell_n(\theta; x) = \ln f_n(x; \theta)$

$$\ell_n(\theta; x) = \ell_n(\theta_0; x) + (\theta - \theta_0)\ell'_n(\theta_0; x) + \frac{(\theta - \theta_0)^2}{2}\ell''_n(\bar{\theta}; x) \text{ for some } \bar{\theta} \in [\theta, \theta_0]$$

Rearranging we find

$$\ell_n(\theta; x) - \ell_n(\theta_0; x) = (\theta - \theta_0)\ell'_n(\theta_0; x) + \frac{(\theta - \theta_0)^2}{2}\ell''_n(\bar{\theta}; x)$$

Take $\theta = \theta^*$ and $\theta_0 = \hat{\theta}_n$.

Since $\ell'_n(\hat{\theta}_n; x) - \ell_n(\hat{\theta}_n; x)$ then

$$\begin{aligned} \ln \Lambda_n(x) &= \ell_n(\theta^*; x) - \ell_n(\hat{\theta}_n; x) \\ &= \frac{(\theta^* - \hat{\theta}_n)^2}{2}\ell''_n(\bar{\theta}_n; x) \text{ for some } \bar{\theta}_n \in [\theta^*, \hat{\theta}_n] \\ \implies -2 \ln \Lambda(x) &= -(\theta^* - \hat{\theta}_n)^2 \ell''_n(\bar{\theta}_n; x) \\ &= -\left[\sqrt{nI(\theta^*)}\right]^2 (\theta^* - \hat{\theta}_n)^2 \frac{1}{nI(\theta^*)} \ell''_n(\bar{\theta}_n; x) \end{aligned}$$

Consider the random variable $-2 \ln \Lambda(X)$. Then we have

$$\sqrt{nI(\theta^*)}(\hat{\theta}_n(X) - \theta^*) \rightarrow_{\mathcal{D}(\cdot; \theta^*)} Z \sim \text{Normal}(0, 1)$$

By the *Continuous Mapping Theorem*

$$\left[\sqrt{nI(\theta^*)}\right]^2 (\hat{\theta}_n - \theta^*)^2 \rightarrow_{\mathcal{D}(\cdot; \theta^*)} Z^2$$

Since $\bar{\theta}_n \in [\theta^*, \hat{\theta}_n]$

$$-\frac{1}{n}\ell''_n(\bar{\theta}_n; X) \rightarrow_{\mathbb{P}(\cdot; \theta^*)} I(\theta^*)$$

By *Slutsky's Theorem*

$$-2 \ln \Lambda_n(X) \rightarrow_{\mathcal{D}(\cdot; \theta^*)} Z^2 \sim \chi_1^2$$

□

Remark 15.5 - A Rule of Thumb

Under the assumptions of **Theorem 13.1**, the set

$$\left\{ \theta \in \Theta : \ell(\theta; \mathbf{x}) \geq \ell(\hat{\theta}_n; \mathbf{x}) - 2 \right\}$$

is an asymptotically approximate 95% confidence set for θ^* .

Proof 15.2 - Remark 13.1

We have $\chi_{0.05}^2 = 3.84$.

The result follows from the approximation $1.92 \approx 2$ □

1.16 Transformation Invariant Confidence Sets**Remark 16.1 - Motivation**

Here we investigate whether the likelihood ratio approach to determining confidence sets is invariant to transformations, in contrast to *Wald's Approach*.

Consider the reparameterisation of the likelihood in terms of $\tau := g(\theta)$ where $g : \Theta \rightarrow G$ is bijective. We have

$$\tilde{f}(\mathbf{x}; \tau) := f(\mathbf{x}; g^{-1}(\tau)) = f(\mathbf{x}; \theta)$$

We can now define

$$C(\mathbf{x}) := \left\{ \theta \in \Theta : -2 \left[\ell(\theta; \mathbf{x}) - \ell(\hat{\theta}_n; \mathbf{x}) \right] \leq \chi_{1,\alpha}^2 \right\} \text{ and } \tilde{C}(\mathbf{x}) := \left\{ \theta \in \Theta : -2 \left[\tilde{\ell}(\theta; \mathbf{x}) - \tilde{\ell}(\hat{\theta}_n; \mathbf{x}) \right] \leq \chi_{1,\alpha}^2 \right\}$$

We want to know whether $\theta \in C(\mathbf{x}) \iff g(\theta) \in \tilde{C}(\mathbf{x}) \forall \mathbf{x} \in \chi^n$.

i.e. $C(\mathbf{x})$ & $\tilde{C}(\mathbf{x})$ define the same sets up to reparameterisation.

Theorem 16.1 -

Let $\mathbf{X} \sim f(\cdot; \theta^*)$, C and \tilde{C} defined as in **Remark 14.1**.

Assume that $g : \Theta \rightarrow G$ is bijective. Then

$$\forall \mathbf{x} \in \chi^n \text{ and } \theta^* \in \Theta, \theta \in C(\mathbf{x}) \iff g(\theta) \in \tilde{C}(\mathbf{x})$$

Thus

$$\mathbb{P}(\theta^* \in C(\mathbf{X}); \theta^*) = \mathbb{P}(g(\theta^*) \in \tilde{C}(\mathbf{X}); \tau = g(\theta^*))$$

Proof 16.1 - Theorem 14.1

Let $\mathbf{x} \in \chi^n$ be arbitrary.

Everything rests on the observation that

$$\forall \theta \in \Theta, \ell(\theta; \mathbf{x}) = \ln f(\mathbf{x}; \theta) = \ln f(\mathbf{x}; g(\theta)) = \tilde{\ell}(g(\theta); \mathbf{x})$$

and similarly

$$\forall \tau \in G, \tilde{\ell}(\tau; \mathbf{x}) = \ln \tilde{f}(\mathbf{x}; \tau) = \ln f(\mathbf{x}; g^{-1}(\tau)) = \ell(g^{-1}(\tau); \mathbf{x})$$

Note that $g(\hat{\theta}_n)$ is the *Maximum Likelihood Estimate* of τ .

Assume $\theta \in C(\mathbf{x})$. Then

$$-2 \left[\ell(\theta; \mathbf{x}) - \ell(\hat{\theta}_n; \mathbf{x}) \right] \leq \chi_{1,\alpha}^2$$

Thus

$$-2 \left[\tilde{\ell}(g(\theta); \mathbf{x}) - \tilde{\ell}(g(\hat{\theta}_n); \mathbf{x}) \right] \leq \chi_{1,\alpha}^2$$

Thus $g(\theta) \in \tilde{C}(\mathbf{x})$.

So $\theta \in C(\mathbf{x}) \implies g(\theta) \in \tilde{C}(\mathbf{x})$.

Similarly, assume that $g(\theta) \in \tilde{C}(\mathbf{x})$. Thus

$$-2 \left[\ell(\theta; \mathbf{x}) - \ell(\hat{\theta}_n; \mathbf{x}) \right] \leq \chi_{1,\alpha}^2$$

Thus $\theta \in C(\mathbf{x})$.

So $\theta \in C(\mathbf{x}) \iff g(\theta) \in \tilde{X}(\mathbf{x})$.

For the last part, this correspondence implies that

$$\{\mathbf{x} \in \chi^n; \theta^* \in C(\mathbf{x})\} = \{\mathbf{x} \in \chi^2 : g(\theta^*) \in \tilde{C}(\mathbf{x})\}$$

Thus, we can conclude from the equivalence of the events

$$\{\theta^* \in C(\mathbf{X}) = \{g(\theta^*) \in \tilde{C}(\mathbf{X})\}$$

2 Testing

2.1 Introduction to Hypothesis Tests

Remark 1.1 - Motivation

Hypothesis testing allows us to make decisions about a parameter, rather than just estimating a range of values.

Definition 1.1 - Hypothesis Testing

Hypothesis Testing is a process for deciding which of two competing hypotheses, H_0 or H_1 , is more consistent with an observation $\mathbf{x} = (x_1, \dots, x_n)$ of $\mathbf{X} = (X_1, \dots, X_n) \sim f(\cdot; \theta)$.

Remark 1.2 - Difference to Statistics 1

In Statistics 1 we always had the null hypothesis be $H_0 = \mu$. Now we consider a more general case where

- i) $\mathbf{X} \sim f(\cdot; \theta)$ where $\theta \in \Theta$ is unknown.
- ii) We have an observation \mathbf{x} of \mathbf{X} ;
- iii) We have formulated a null hypothesis concerning possible values of θ (e.g. $H_0 : \theta \in \Theta_0$)
- iv) We have an alternative hypothesis, $H_1 : \theta \in \Theta_1 = \Theta \setminus \Theta_0$.

Definition 1.2 - Simple Hypothesis

A *Simple Hypothesis* is a hypothesis H_i of the form $H_i : \theta = \theta_i$ where θ_i is a specified value, equivalently $H_i : \theta \in \Theta_i = \{\theta_i\}$.

Definition 1.3 - Composite Hypothesis

A *Composite Hypothesis* is a hypothesis H_i of the form $H_i : \theta \in \Theta_i$ where Θ_i is not a singleton. (i.e. $|\Theta_i| > 1$).

Definition 1.4 - One-Sided Test

Let θ be a scalar & $\theta_0 \in \Theta$ be a specified value.

A *One-Sided Test* is a hypothesis test of the form

$$H_0 : \theta \leq \theta_0 \text{ and } H_1 : \theta > \theta_0$$

or

$$H_0 : \theta \geq \theta_0 \text{ and } H_1 : \theta < \theta_0$$

Definition 1.5 - Two-Sided Test

Let θ be a scalar & $\theta_0 \in \Theta$ be a specified value.

A *Two-Sided Test* is a hypothesis test of the form

$$H_0 : \theta = \theta_0 \text{ and } H_1 : \theta \neq \theta_0$$

Definition 1.6 - Test Statistic

A *Test Statistic* is an operation on an observation which we use to determine the outcome of a hypothesis test. Using the distribution of specified *Test Statistic* we can determine the likelihood of see a certain observation under the null-hypothesis & thus the likelihood of the null-hypothesis being true.

N.B. A test statistic has the signature $T : \chi^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$.

Definition 1.7 - Critical Value

The *Critical Value*, $c \in \mathbb{R}$, is an explicit value which if the value of a test statistic T exceeds it (*i.e.* $T(\mathbf{x}) \geq c$) we reject the null-hypothesis.

Definition 1.8 - Critical Region

The *Critical Region* is the sets of observations which cause us to reject the null hypothesis.

$$R := \{\mathbf{x} \in \chi^n : T(\mathbf{x}) \geq c\}$$

where T is a *Test Statistic* & c is a *Critical Value*.

N.B. $\chi^n = R \cup R^c$.

2.2 Hypothesis Testing - Significance and Power**Definition 2.1 - Type I & Type II Error**

Type I Error occurs when H_0 is rejected, when in fact it is true.

Type II Error occurs where H_0 is accepted, when in fact it is false.

Consider the table below

	Retain H_0	Reject H_0
H_0 is True	Correct	<i>Type I Error</i>
H_1 is True	<i>Type II Error</i>	Correct

Definition 2.2 - Significance Level

Significance Level is the rate at which we allow *Type I Errors* to occur

$$\alpha = \mathbb{P}(\text{Type I Error}) \in [0, 1]$$

Typically this is the level of improbability at which we reject the null hypothesis.

N.B. Common *Significance Levels* are $\alpha = 0.05, 0.01$.

Example 2.1 - Testing the mean of a normal sample

Suppose that $\mathbf{X} \stackrel{\text{iid}}{\sim} \text{Normal}(\mu, \sigma^2)$ and we want to test

$$H_0 : \mu \leq 0 \text{ and } H_1 : \mu > 0$$

We consider the test statistic $T(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n x_i = \bar{x}$ with critical region

$$R := \{\mathbf{x} \in \chi^n : \bar{x} \geq c\} \text{ for } c \in \mathbb{R}$$

We want to find $c \in \mathbb{R}$ st $\mathbb{P}(X \in R; \mu \in \Theta_0) \leq \alpha \implies \mathbb{P}(\bar{x} \geq c; \mu \in \Theta_0) \leq \alpha$.

We know that $\bar{X} \sim \text{Normal}(\mu, \sigma^2/n)$.

Hence $\frac{\bar{X} - \mu}{\sigma/\sqrt{n}} \sim \text{Normal}(0, 1)$.

We have

$$\mathbb{P}(\bar{X} \geq c; \mu) = \mathbb{P}\left(\frac{\sqrt{n}(\bar{X} - \mu)}{\sigma} \geq \frac{(c - \mu)\sqrt{n}}{\sigma}; \mu\right) = 1 - \Phi\left(\frac{\sqrt{n}(c - \mu)}{\sigma}\right)$$

We want to ensure that

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{P}(\bar{X} \geq c; \mu \in \Theta_0) &\leq \alpha \\ \iff 1 - \Phi\left(\frac{\sqrt{n}(c - \mu)}{\sigma}\right) &\leq \alpha \\ \iff \frac{\sqrt{n}(c - \mu)}{\sigma} &\geq \Phi^{-1}(1 - \alpha) \\ \iff c &\geq \mu + \frac{\sigma}{\sqrt{n}}\Phi^{-1}(1 - \alpha) \end{aligned}$$

Now observe that, for a fixed c and considering $\mu \leq 0$ and $\mu \in \Theta_0$

$$\mathbb{P}(\bar{X} \geq c; \mu \in \Theta_0) \leq \mathbb{P}(\bar{X} \geq c; \mu = 0)$$

Thus we can ensure that

$$\sup_{\mu \in \Theta_0} \mathbb{P}(\bar{X} \geq c; \mu) = \alpha$$

by taking $c = \frac{\sigma}{\sqrt{n}}\Phi^{-1}(1 - \alpha)$.

Remark 2.1 - Change in Critical Value

Critical Value, c , decreases as number of sample, n , increases.

Critical Value, c , increases as variance, σ , increases.

Remark 2.2 -

Significance Level, α , is directly related to the phrase "statistical significance". *Statistical Significance* relates only to the *Type I Error* rate.

2.2.1 Power

Definition 2.3 - Power Function

Let $\mathbf{X} \sim f(\cdot; \theta^*)$, $T(\cdot)$ be a test statistic & c be the critical value of T .

The power function, $\pi(\cdot; T, c) : \Theta \rightarrow [0, 1]$, is the probability of rejecting H_0 when the true value of the parameter is $\theta \in \Theta$.

$$\pi(\theta; T, c) := \mathbb{P}(\mathbf{X} \in R; \theta) = \mathbb{P}(T(\mathbf{X}) \geq c; \theta)$$

Remark 2.3 -

For a given $\theta \in \Theta_1$, the probability of a *Type II Error* occurring is $1 - \pi(\theta; T, c)$.

Remark 2.4 -

- i) The power is non-increasing in c , regardless of whether $\theta \in \Theta_0$ or $\theta \in \Theta_1$.
- ii) To make the probability of *Type I Error* tend to 0 we should make c very large so we rarely reject H_0 .
- iii) If c is really large, we will rarely reject H_0 even if $\theta \in \Theta_1$. Thus the *Power* is low and the probability of *Type II Error* is high.

Notation 2.1 -

When it is clear from context what test, $T(\cdot)$, and critical value, c , we are referring to then we may write $\pi(\theta)$ in place of $\pi(\theta; T, c)$.

Example 2.2 - Testing the Mean of a Normal Sample - Continued

Suppose that $\mathbf{X} \stackrel{\text{iid}}{\sim} \text{Normal}(\mu, \sigma^2)$ and we want to test

$$H_0 : \mu \leq 0 \text{ and } H_1 : \mu > 0$$

We consider the test statistic $T(\mathbf{x}) = \bar{x}$ with critical region $R = \{\mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{X}^n : \bar{x} \geq c\}$ for some $c \in \mathbb{R}$.

The *Power Function* of this test is

$$\pi(\mu; T, c) = \mathbb{P}(\bar{X} \geq c; \mu)$$

We have already derived that $\frac{\bar{X} - \mu}{\sigma/\sqrt{n}} \sim \text{Normal}(0, 1)$. Hence

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{P}(\bar{X} \geq c; \mu) &= \mathbb{P}\left(\frac{\bar{X} - \mu}{\sigma/\sqrt{n}} \geq \frac{c - \mu}{\sigma/\sqrt{n}}\right) \\ &= \mathbb{P}\left(Z \geq \frac{c - \mu}{\sigma/\sqrt{n}}; \mu\right) \\ &= 1 - \Phi\left(\frac{c - \mu}{\sigma/\sqrt{n}}\right) \\ &= \Phi\left(\frac{\mu - c}{\sigma/\sqrt{n}}\right) \end{aligned}$$

Definition 2.4 - Size of a Test

The size of a test is the greatest possible probability of making a *Type I Error*

$$\alpha = \sup_{\theta \in \Theta_0} \pi(\theta; T, c)$$

N.B. It is the maximum power under the null-hypothesis.

Remark 2.5 -

Generally we choose a critical value c so that the test has size α .

Definition 2.5 - Significance Level of a Test

A test has level α if its size is less than or equal to α . The corresponding test is called a *Level α Test*.

Definition 2.6 -

When $\Theta_0 = \{\theta_0\}$ (i.e. simple) then $\alpha = \pi(\theta_0; T, c)$ is the significance level.

Definition 2.7 -

When $\Theta_1 = \{\theta_1\}$ (i.e. simple) then $1 - \pi(\theta_1; T, c)$ is the probability of *Type II Error*.

Example 2.3 - Testing the mean of a normal sample - Continued

Suppose that $\mathbf{X} \stackrel{\text{iid}}{\sim} \text{Normal}(\mu, \sigma^2)$ and that we want to test

$$H_0 : \mu \leq 0 \text{ and } H_1 : \mu > 0$$

We consider the test statistic $T(\mathbf{x}) = \bar{x}$ with critical region R .

A test of size α is obtained by choosing

$$c = \frac{\sigma}{\sqrt{n}} \Phi^{-1}(1 - \alpha) = \frac{\sigma}{\sqrt{n}} z_\alpha$$

So we consider the fact that $c = \frac{\sigma}{\sqrt{n}}z_\alpha$ and we obtain

$$\mathbb{P}\left(\bar{X} \geq \frac{\sigma}{\sqrt{n}}z_\alpha; \mu\right) = 1 - \Phi\left(z_\alpha - \frac{\mu\sqrt{n}}{\sigma}\right)$$

This gives the power $\forall \mu \in \mathbb{R}$ and we are interested in particular in it for $\mu > 0$.

2.3 Designing Tests - Neyman-Pearson Approach

Remark 3.1 - *Plan for Testing at Significance Level, α*

- i) Define a model $f(\cdot; \theta)$ for $\theta \in \Theta$
- ii) Define a null hypothesis $H_0 : \theta \in \Theta_0$ and an alternative hypothesis $H_1 : \theta \in \Theta_1 = \Theta \setminus \Theta_0$
- iii) Define a test statistic $T(\mathbf{x})$.
- iv) Choose a critical value, c , st $\sup_{\theta \in \Theta_0} \mathbb{P}(T(\mathbf{X}) \geq c; \theta) \leq \alpha$.

N.B. The value of c is determined the value of α (which we set).

Theorem 3.1 - *Neyman-Pearson Lemma*

Suppose we test $H_0 : \theta = \theta_0$ against $H_1 : \theta = \theta_1$ and use the *Likelihood Ratio Test Statistic*

$$T_{NP}(\mathbf{x}) := \frac{f_n(\mathbf{x}; \theta_1)}{f_n(\mathbf{x}; \theta_0)} = \frac{L(\theta_1; \mathbf{x})}{L(\theta_0; \mathbf{x})}$$

Let the *Critical Value*, $c_{NP} \geq 0$, be st the test has size α

$$\mathbb{P}(T_{NP} \geq c_{NP}; \theta_0) = \alpha$$

Then, this test is the most powerful level α test.

i.e. Among all tests with level α , this test maximises the power function.

Proof 3.1 - *Theorem 2.1*

Consider for an arbitrary level α test (T, c) , the linear combination of *Type I Errors* and *Type II Errors*.

$$\phi(T, c) := c_{NP}\alpha(T, c) + \beta(T, c)$$

where $\alpha(T, c) = \mathbb{P}(T(\mathbf{X}) \geq c; \theta_0) = \mathbb{P}(\text{Type I Error})$ and $\beta(T, c) = \mathbb{P}(T(\mathbf{X}) < c; \theta_1) = 1 - \mathbb{P}(T(\mathbf{X}) \geq c; \theta_1) = \mathbb{P}(\text{Type II Error})$.

Then

$$\begin{aligned} \phi(T, c) &= c_{NP}\alpha(T, c) + \beta(T, c) \\ &= c_{NP}\mathbb{P}(T(\mathbf{X}) \geq c; \theta_0) + [1 - \mathbb{P}(T(\mathbf{X}) \geq c; \theta_1)] \\ &= \left[c_{NP} \int \mathbb{1}\{T(\mathbf{x}) \geq c\} f_n(\mathbf{x}; \theta_0) d\mathbf{x} \right] + \left[1 - \int \mathbb{1}\{T(\mathbf{x}) \geq c\} f_n(\mathbf{x}; \theta_1) d\mathbf{x} \right] \\ &= 1 + \int \mathbb{1}\{T(\mathbf{x}) \geq c\} [c_{NP}f_n(\mathbf{x}; \theta_0) - f_n(\mathbf{x}; \theta_1)] d\mathbf{x} \\ &= 1 + \int \mathbb{1}\{T(\mathbf{x}) \geq c\} \left[c_{NP} - \frac{f_n(\mathbf{x}; \theta_1)}{f_n(\mathbf{x}; \theta_0)} \right] f_n(\mathbf{x}; \theta_0) d\mathbf{x} \\ &= 1 + \int \mathbb{1}\{T(\mathbf{x}) \geq c\} (c_{NP} - T_{NP}(\mathbf{x})) f_n(\mathbf{x}; \theta_0) d\mathbf{x} \end{aligned}$$

Now consider the difference

$$\phi(T, c) - \phi(T_{NP}, c_{NP}) = \int (\mathbb{1}\{T(\mathbf{x}) \geq c\} - \mathbb{1}\{T_{NP}(\mathbf{x}) \geq c_{NP}\}) (c_{NP} - T_{NP}(\mathbf{x})) f_n(\mathbf{x}; \theta_0) d\mathbf{x}$$

We observe that

$$\mathbb{1}\{T_{NP}(\mathbf{x}) \geq c_{NP}\} = 1 \iff c_{NP} - T_{NP}(\mathbf{x}) \leq 0$$

and

$$\mathbb{1}\{T_{NP}(\mathbf{x}) \geq c_{NP}\} = 0 \iff c_{NP} - T_{NP}(\mathbf{x}) > 0$$

Thus

$$\forall \mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{X}^n, \quad [\mathbb{1}\{T(\mathbf{x}) \geq c\} - \mathbb{1}\{T_{NP}(\mathbf{x}) \geq c_{NP}\}](c_{NP} - T_{NP}(\mathbf{x})) \geq 0$$

and hence as the integral of a non-negative function

$$\phi(T, c) - \phi(T_{NP}, c_{NP}) \geq 0$$

We have established

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &\leq \phi(T, c) - \phi(T_{NP}, c_{NP}) \\ &= c_{NP}\alpha(T, c) + \beta(T, c) - c_{NP}\alpha(T_{NP}, c_{NP}) - \beta(T_{NP}, c_{NP}) \\ &= \underbrace{c_{NP}[\alpha(T, c) - \alpha(T_{NP}, c_{NP})]}_{\geq 0} + \underbrace{\beta(T, c) - \beta(T_{NP}, c_{NP})}_{\geq 0} \end{aligned}$$

Since (T, c) specifies an α level test, we know $\alpha(T, c) \geq c$ while (T_{NP}, c_{NP}) specifies a size α test so $\alpha(T_{NP}, c_{NP}) = \alpha$.

It follows that

$$\alpha(T, c) - \alpha(T_{NP}, c_{NP})$$

so we have

$$\beta(T, c) - \beta(T_{NP}, c_{NP}) \geq 0$$

which means (T_{NP}, c_{NP}) 's *Type II Error* rate is no higher than (T, c) .

Since (T, c) is an arbitrary α level test, we conclude that (T_{NP}, c_{NP}) is the most powerful test with level α . \square

Remark 3.2 - Neyman-Pearson with Non-Continuous Random Variable

If $T(\mathbf{X})$ is not a continuous random variable, then it is possible that no such c_{NP} exists. In this situation we perform an appropriate randomised test, and this will also be the most powerful size α test.

N.B. The details of this are not covered in this course.

Definition 3.1 - Neyman-Pearson Procedure

For **Theorem 2.1** we can deduce the *Neyman-Pearson Procedure* for testing two simple hypotheses

- i) Choose the *Likelihood Ratio* as the *Test Statistic*

$$T(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{f_n(\mathbf{x}; \theta_1)}{f_n(\mathbf{x}; \theta_0)} = \frac{L(\theta_1; \mathbf{x})}{L(\theta_0; \mathbf{x})}$$

- ii) Choose a critical value c in order to target a particular significance level, α , st

$$\alpha = \pi(\theta_0) = \mathbb{P}(T(\mathbf{X}) \geq c; \theta_0)$$

- iii) Compute the *Power*

$$\pi(\theta_1, T, c) = \mathbb{P}(T(\mathbf{X}) \geq c; \theta_1)$$

- iv) Compute $T(\mathbf{x})$ and report whether $T(\mathbf{x}) \geq c$ as well as the power $\pi(\theta_1, T, c)$ or the *Type II Error* rate $1 - \pi(\theta_1, T, c)$

Remark 3.3 - Limitations of Neyman-Pearson Approach

- i) Often just rejecting H_0 or retaining H_0 is not satisfactory, we may want more information.
- ii) It is not obvious how to calibrate a likelihood ratio test (*i.e.* TO find the critical value or compute the power function).

2.4 Testing - p-Values, Equivalent Test Statistics and Computing the Power Function**Remark 4.1 - Motivation for p-Value**

Many studies prefer not to select in advance just one significance level α , or they may wish to report something more informative than a binary decision. In such cases, they can report the p -value associated with the observed test statistic.

Definition 4.1 - p-Value

Let $\mathbf{X} \sim f_n(\cdot; \theta^*)$ for some $\theta^* \in \Theta$.

The p -Value for a test with test statistic $T(\mathbf{x})$ is the probability of seeing a test statistic $T(\mathbf{X})$ at least as extreme as $T(\mathbf{x})$.

$$p(\mathbf{x}) := \sup_{\theta_0 \in \Theta_0} \mathbb{P}(\underbrace{T(\mathbf{X})}_{\text{RV}} \geq \underbrace{T(\mathbf{x})}_{\text{Observed}}; \theta_0)$$

Equivalently, $p(\mathbf{x})$ is the smallest significance level at which we would reject H_0 .

Remark 4.2 - p-Value Intuition

Intuitively, p -value is a measure of the evidence against H_0 . The smaller it is, the less likely it is that \mathbf{x} is a realisation of $\mathbf{X} \sim f(\cdot; \theta_0)$, resulting in strong evidence against H_0 .

N.B. A large p -value is not evidence in favour of H_0 , nor is it necessarily evidence in favour of H_1 as H_1 is not involved at all when computing the p -value.

Remark 4.3 - Standard Caution

$p(\mathbf{x})$ is *not* the probability that H_0 is true. It is the probability to observe the data we observed if θ_0 is true.

Remark 4.4 - Distribution of p-Value

When using a simple null hypothesis $\Theta_0 = \{\theta_0\}$ and assuming $T(\mathbf{X})$ is a continuous random variable when $\mathbf{X} \sim f(\cdot; \theta_0)$, the distribution of $p(\mathbf{X})$ is in fact uniform under the null hypothesis.

Example 4.1 - Normal

The model is $\mathbf{X} \stackrel{\text{iid}}{\sim} \text{Normal}(\mu, 1)$ and we want to test $H_0 : \mu = \mu_0 < 0$ against $H_1 : \mu = \mu_1 > 0$. The p -value for $T(\mathbf{x}) = \bar{x} = \frac{1}{n} \sum x_i$ is

$$p(\mathbf{x}) := \sup_{\mu \in \Theta_0} \mathbb{P}\left(\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n X_i \geq T(\mathbf{x}) = \bar{x}; \mu\right) = \mathbb{P}\left(\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n X_i \geq T(\mathbf{x}) = \bar{x}; \mu\right)$$

A very large positive value of the empirical mean leads to a small p -value and is an indication of how unlikely it is to have observed \mathbf{x} if it was a realisation of $\mathbf{X} \stackrel{\text{iid}}{\sim} \text{Normal}(\mu_0, 1)$.

A large p -value is not an argument in favour of H_0 , in fact it could suggest that $T(\mathbf{x})$ is an unlikely realisation under H_0 .

We have already calculated this kind of expression under the null hypothesis $\bar{X} \sim \text{Normal}(\mu_0, \frac{1}{n})$ so

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{P}(\bar{X} \geq c; \mu) &= \mathbb{P}(\sqrt{n}(\bar{X} - \mu_0) \geq \sqrt{n}(c - \mu_0); \mu_0) \\ &= \mathbb{P}(Z \geq \sqrt{n}(c - \mu_0)) \\ &= 1 - \Phi(\sqrt{n}(c - \mu_0)) \end{aligned}$$

It follows that

$$p(\mathbf{x}) = 1 - \Phi(\sqrt{n}(\bar{x} - \mu_0))$$

Definition 4.2 - Equivalent Statistics

A statistic $T'(\mathbf{x})$ is equivalent to $T(\mathbf{x})$ if \forall critical values $c \in \mathbb{R}$ of $T(\cdot)$ we can find $c' \in \mathbb{R}$ we can find $c' \in \mathbb{R}$ st $\forall \mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{X}^n$

$$T(\mathbf{x}) \geq c \iff T'(\mathbf{x}) \geq c'$$

Equivalently, $\forall c \in \mathbb{R}$ there exist $c' \in \mathbb{R}$ such that the corresponding critical regions of $T(\cdot)$ and $T'(\cdot)$ respectively coincide

$$\{\mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{X}^n : T(\mathbf{x}) \geq c\} = \{\mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{X}^n : T'(\mathbf{x}) \geq c'\}$$

Proposition 4.1 - Proving Equivalence

To verify that $T'(\mathbf{x})$ is an *Equivalent Statistic* to $T(\mathbf{x})$ it is sufficient to factorise $T(\mathbf{x})$ as

$$T(\mathbf{x}) = Mf(T'(\mathbf{x}))$$

where M is independent of \mathbf{x} and f is increasing & bijective.

Proof 4.1 - Proposition 4.1

$$\begin{aligned} T(\mathbf{x}) \leq c &\iff Mf(T'(\mathbf{x})) \geq c \\ &\iff f(T'(\mathbf{x})) \geq \frac{c}{M} \\ &\iff T'(\mathbf{x}) \leq \underbrace{f^{-1}(c/M)}_{c'} \end{aligned}$$

Example 4.2 - Geometric Example

Let that $\mathbf{X} \stackrel{\text{iid}}{\sim} \text{Geometric}(p)$ so that $f(x; p) = (1-p)^{x-1}p \mathbb{1}\{x \in \mathbb{N} \setminus \{0\}\}$.

Suppose that we want to test $H_0 : p = p_0$ against $H_1 : p = p_1$ with $p_0 > p_1$.

$$T_{NP}(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{f_n(\mathbf{x}; p_1)}{f_n(\mathbf{x}; p_0)} = \frac{\prod_{i=1}^n f(x_i; p_1)}{\prod_{i=1}^n f(x_i; p_0)} = \prod_{i=1}^n \frac{f(\mathbf{x}_i; p_1)}{f(\mathbf{x}_i; p_0)}$$

So for $x \in X$

$$\frac{f(x; p_1)}{f(x; p_0)} = \frac{(1-p_1)^{x-1}p_1}{(1-p_0)^{x-1}p_0} = \left(\frac{1-p_1}{1-p_0}\right)^x \left(\frac{1-p_1}{1-p_0}\right)^{-1} \left(\frac{p_1}{p_0}\right)$$

So

$$T_{NP}(\mathbf{x}) = \left(\frac{1-p_1}{1-p_0}\right)^{\sum x_i} \left(\frac{1-p_1}{1-p_0}\right)^{-n} \left(\frac{p_1}{p_0}\right)^n = \left(\frac{1-p_1}{1-p_0}\right)^{n\bar{x}} \underbrace{\left(\frac{1-p_1}{1-p_0}\right)^{-n} \left(\frac{p_1}{p_0}\right)^n}_M$$

Note that

$$p_0 > p_1 \implies 1-p_0 < 1-p_1 \implies \frac{1-p_1}{1-p_0} > 1$$

So $\left(\frac{1-p_1}{1-p_0}\right)^{n\bar{x}}$ is increasing with \bar{x} .

It follows that $T'(\mathbf{x}) = \bar{x}$ is an equivalent test statistic to T_{NP} .

If $\mathbf{X} \stackrel{\text{iid}}{\sim} \text{Geometric}(p)$ then $n\bar{x} \sim \text{Negative-Binomial}(n, p)$.

Hence we can compute c_{NP} or compute the power function.

Example 4.3 - Normal Example

The model is $\mathbf{X} \stackrel{\text{iid}}{\sim} \text{Normal}(\mu, 1)$ and we want to test $H_0 : \mu = 0$ against $H_1 : \mu = 1$.
The *Neyman-Pearson Test Statistic* is

$$\begin{aligned} T_{NP}(\mathbf{x}) &= \frac{f_n(\mathbf{x}; \mu = 1)}{f_n(\mathbf{x}; \mu = 0)} \\ &= \frac{\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}}\right)^n e^{-\frac{1}{2} \sum (x_i - 1)^2}}{\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}}\right)^n e^{-\frac{1}{2} \sum (x_i - 0)^2}} \\ &= e^{-\frac{1}{2} (\sum x_i^2 - 2 \sum x_i + n - \sum x_i^2)} \\ &= e^{-\frac{1}{2} (-2n\bar{x} + n)} \\ &= \underbrace{e^{-\frac{n}{2}}}_M e^{n\bar{x}} \end{aligned}$$

Since T_{NP} is increasing in terms of \bar{x} , \bar{x} is an equivalent test statistic to T_{NP} .

To relate $T_{NP} \geq c_{NP}$ with $T(\mathbf{x}) = \bar{x} \geq c$.

We have

$$\begin{aligned} T_{NP}(\mathbf{x}) \geq c_{NP} &\iff e^{n\bar{x} - \frac{n}{2}} \geq c_{NP} \\ &\iff n\bar{x} - \frac{n}{2} \geq \ln c_{NP} \\ &\iff \bar{x} - \frac{1}{2} \geq \frac{1}{n} \ln c_{NP} \\ &\iff \bar{x} \geq \underbrace{\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{n} \ln c_{NP}}_c \end{aligned}$$

So $c_{NP} = e^{n(c - \frac{1}{2})}$.

Now we can compute the power function.

We know that $\bar{X} \sim \text{Normal}(\mu, \frac{1}{n})$ for $\alpha \in (0, 1)$.

We find c by solving

$$\begin{aligned} \pi(\mu_0; T, c) &= \alpha \\ \implies \mathbb{P}(\bar{X} \geq c; \mu_0) &= \alpha \\ \implies \mathbb{P}\left(Z \geq \frac{c - 0}{1/\sqrt{n}}\right) &= \alpha \\ \implies 1 - \Phi(c\sqrt{n}) &= \alpha \\ \implies \Phi(c\sqrt{n}) &= 1 - \alpha \\ \implies c\sqrt{n} &= \Phi^{-1}(1 - \alpha) \\ \implies c &= \frac{\Phi^{-1}(1 - \alpha)}{\sqrt{n}} \\ &= \frac{z_\alpha}{\sqrt{n}} \end{aligned}$$

Hence $c_{NP} = e^{n(\frac{z_\alpha}{\sqrt{n}} - \frac{1}{2})}$ We can also compute *Type II Error* probability

$$\begin{aligned} 1 - \pi(1) &= \mathbb{P}(\bar{X} < c; \mu = 1) \\ &= \mathbb{P}\left(Z < \frac{c - 1}{1/\sqrt{n}}\right) \\ &= \Phi(\sqrt{n}c - \sqrt{n}) \\ &= \Phi(z_\alpha - \sqrt{n}) \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty} 0 \end{aligned}$$

2.5 Uniformly Most Powerful Tests**Definition 5.1 - Uniformly Most Powerful Test**

Consider a test involving composite hypothesis $H_0 : \theta \leq \theta_0$ against $H_1 : \theta > \theta_0$.

A *Uniformly Most Powerful Test* is a test (T, c) which has the largest power $\pi(\theta; T, c)$ among all possible tests, uniformly in $\theta \in \Theta_1$. That is a (T, c) st $\forall \theta \in \Theta_1$ and any test statistic (T', c')

$$\pi(\theta; T, c) \geq \pi(\theta; T', c')$$

Remark 5.1 -

The *Type II Error Rate* depends on a specific value of $\theta \in \Theta_1$. Typically, the *Type II Error Rate* is close to $1 - \alpha$ for values of $\theta \in \Theta_1$ "very close to being in" Θ_0 . i.e. $\pi(\theta; T, c) \approx \alpha$ for $\theta = \theta_0 + \varepsilon$ for ε very small.

Theorem 5.1 -

Let $\Theta_1 = \{\theta : \theta > \theta_0\}$ for some $\theta_0 \in \Theta$.

Assume that for the simple hypotheses

$$H'_0 : \theta = \theta_1 \quad \text{against} \quad H'_1 : \theta = \theta_2$$

The *Neyman-Pearson Test Statistic*

$$T_{NP}(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{f_n(\mathbf{x}; \theta_2)}{f_n(\mathbf{x}; \theta_1)}$$

is equivalent to the same test statistic $T(\mathbf{x})$ for any $\theta_1 < \theta_2$ and $T(\mathbf{x})$ does not depend on θ_1 or θ_2 .

Then $T(\mathbf{x})$ is the uniformly most powerful test statistic for

$$H_0 : \theta \leq \theta_0 \quad \text{against} \quad H_1 : \theta > \theta_0$$

and the associated p -value is

$$p(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbb{P}(T(\mathbf{X}) \geq T(\mathbf{x}); \theta_0)$$

Example 5.1 - Poisson

Let $\mathbf{X} \stackrel{\text{iid}}{\sim} \text{Poisson}(\lambda)$ for some $\lambda > 0$ and we want to test $H_0 : \lambda \leq \lambda_0$ against $H_1 : \lambda > \lambda_0$.

Compute the p -value associated with this test.

Consider $H_0 : \lambda = \lambda_0$ & $H_1 : \lambda = \lambda_1$ where $\lambda_1 > \lambda_0$.

$$T_{NP}(\mathbf{x}) = \prod_{i=1}^n \left(\frac{e^{-\lambda_1} \lambda_1^{x_i} (x_i!)^{-1}}{e^{-\lambda_0} \lambda_0^{x_i} (x_i!)^{-1}} \right) = e^{-n(\lambda_1 - \lambda_0)} \left(\frac{\lambda_1}{\lambda_0} \right)^{\sum x_i}$$

Since $\lambda_1 > \lambda_0$ we have $T_{NP}(\mathbf{x})$ is an increasing function in terms of $\sum x_i$.

So $S_n := \sum x_i$ is an equivalent test statistic and does not depend on λ_0 or λ_1 .

Hence, S_n is a *Uniformly Most Powerful Test*. To find the p -value

$$p(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbb{P}(S_n(\mathbf{X}) \geq S_n(\mathbf{x}); \lambda_0)$$

We use λ_0 in this scenario since it is the value which is most likely to produce extreme values, in general, for $T(\mathbf{X})$.

We know that $S_n(\mathbf{X}) = \sum X_i \sim \text{Poisson}(n\lambda)$. So

$$p(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_{k \geq S_n(\mathbf{x})} e^{-\lambda_0 n} (n\lambda_0)^k \frac{1}{k!}$$

Alternatively

If n is large $S_n(\mathbf{X}) \simeq \text{Normal}(n\lambda, n\lambda)$.

So

$$p(\mathbf{x}) \simeq \mathbb{P}\left(Z \geq \frac{S_n(\mathbf{x}) - n\lambda_0}{\sqrt{n\lambda_0}}\right) = 1 - \Phi\left(\frac{S_n(\mathbf{x}) - n\lambda_0}{\sqrt{n\lambda_0}}\right)$$

where $Z \sim \text{Normal}(0, 1)$.

Example 5.2 - Geometric

Let $\mathbf{X} \stackrel{\text{iid}}{\sim} \text{Geometric}(p)$ we have already shown that for two simple hypotheses \bar{X} is equivalent

to the likelihood ratio test statistic when $p_0 > p_1$.

It follows that $T(\mathbf{x}) = S_n(\mathbf{x})$ is equivalent.

We have noticed that $S_n(\mathbf{X}) \sim \text{NegBinomial}(n, p)$.

We shall compute the p -value associated to hypotheses $H_0 : p \leq p_0$ against $H_1 : p > p_0$.

From **Example 2.4.2** we have that for $H'_0 : p = p_0$ against $H'_1 : p = p_1$

$$T_{NP}(\mathbf{x}) = \left(\frac{p_1}{p_0}\right)^n \left(\frac{1-p_1}{1-p_0}\right)^{-n} \left(\frac{1-p_1}{1-p_0}\right)^{n\bar{x}}$$

For $p_1 > p_0$ we see that T_{NP} is a decreasing function (since the last two terms are < 0) in terms of $\sum X_i =: S_n$.

Hence it is increasing in terms of $T(\mathbf{x}) := -S_n(\mathbf{x})$.

Since S_n is independent of p_0 & p_1 we have that $-S_n$ is a *Uniformly Most Powerful Test*.

$$p\text{-value} := p(\mathbf{x}) - \mathbb{P}(-S_n(\mathbf{X}) \geq -S_n(\mathbf{x}); p_0) = \mathbb{P}(S_n(\mathbf{X}) \leq S_n(\mathbf{x}); p_0)$$

where $S_n(\mathbf{X}) \sim \text{NegativeBinomial}(n, p_0)$.

Remark 5.2 - *Uniformly Most Powerful Tests need not exist*

In general, *Uniformly Most Powerful Tests* need not exist.

It might be the case that (T_1, c_1) is best for, say, $\theta_{1,1} \in \Theta_1$.

i.e. $\forall (T', c')$

$$\pi(\theta_{1,1}; T_1, c_1) \geq \pi(\theta_{1,1}; T', c')$$

but $\exists (T_2, c_2)$ st

$$\pi(\theta_{1,2}; T_2, c_2) > \pi(\theta_{1,2}; T_1, c_1) \quad \theta_{1,2} \in \Theta_1$$

i.e. (T_2, c_2) is better than (T_1, c_1) .

2.6 Generalised Likelihood Ratio Test

Remark 6.1 - *Generalised Tests*

In the most general case we would like to test $H_0 : \theta \in \Theta_0$ against $H_1 : \theta \in \Theta_1$.

There is no guarantee of the existence of an optimal test statistic.

Proposition 6.1 - *Generalised Likelihood Ratio Test*

We can generalise the likelihood ratio test for simple hypotheses from

$$T_{NP}(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{f_n(\mathbf{x}; \theta_1)}{f_n(\mathbf{x}; \theta_0)}$$

to

$$T_{\text{suggested}}(\mathbf{x}) := \frac{\sup_{\theta \in \Theta_1} (f_n(\mathbf{x}; \theta))}{\sup_{\theta \in \Theta_0} (f_n(\mathbf{x}; \theta))}$$

N.B. The generalised simple hypotheses are $\Theta_i = \{\theta_i\}$ for $\theta_i \in \Theta$.

Definition 6.1 - *Likelihood Ratio*

We define a *Likelihood Ratio*

$$\begin{aligned} \Lambda_n(\mathbf{x}) &:= \frac{\sup_{\theta \in \Theta_0} f_n(\mathbf{x}; \theta)}{\sup_{\theta \in \Theta} f_n(\mathbf{x}; \theta)} \\ &= \frac{\sup_{\theta \in \Theta_0} f_n(\mathbf{x}; \theta)}{f_n(\mathbf{x}; \underbrace{\hat{\theta}_n}_{\text{MLE}})} \\ &= \min \left\{ \underbrace{1}_{\hat{\theta}_n \in \Theta_0}, \underbrace{\frac{\sup_{\theta \in \Theta_0} f_n(\mathbf{x}; \theta)}{\sup_{\theta \in \Theta_1} f_n(\mathbf{x}; \theta)}}_{\hat{\theta}_n \notin \Theta_0} \right\} \end{aligned}$$

Remark 6.2 - Likelihood Ratio

- i) The denominator corresponds to plugging in the *Maximum Likelihood Estimate* in the likelihood (assuming it exists and is unique).
- ii) The last equality follows from the fact that $\sup_{\theta \in \Theta} f_n(\mathbf{x}; \theta) \geq \sup_{\theta \in \Theta_0} f_n(\mathbf{x}; \theta)$.
if the inequality is strict then

$$\sup_{\theta \in \Theta} f_n(\mathbf{x}; \theta) = \sup_{\theta \in \Theta_1} f_n(\mathbf{x}; \theta) > \sup_{\theta \in \Theta_0} f_n(\mathbf{x}; \theta)$$

and if it is an equality then $\Lambda_n(\mathbf{x}) = 1$.

Definition 6.2 - Nested Parameter Space

Let $\Theta \subseteq \mathbb{R}^d$ and define $\phi = (\phi_1, \phi_2) : \Theta \rightarrow \Phi_1 \times \Phi_2$ to a *continuously differentiable bijection* with $\Phi_1 \subseteq \mathbb{R}^r$ and $\Phi_2 \subseteq \mathbb{R}^{d-r}$.

Θ_0 is said to be *Nested* within Θ if for some $c \in \Phi_1 \subseteq \mathbb{R}^r$

$$\Theta_0 = \{\theta \in \Theta : \phi_1(\theta) = c\}$$

N.B. $\dim(\Theta_0) = d - r$.

Example 6.1 - Nested Parameter Space

Suppose $\mathbf{X} \stackrel{\text{iid}}{\sim} \text{Normal}(\mu, \sigma^2)$ then $\Theta = \{\mu, \sigma^2\}$.

Suppose $\phi_1(\mu, \sigma^2) = \mu$ & $\phi_2(\mu, \sigma^2) = \sigma^2$ then $\Phi_1 = \mathbb{R}$ & $\Phi_2 = \mathbb{R}^+ \subseteq \mathbb{R}$.

Then $\Theta_0 := \{(\mu, \sigma^2) : \phi_1(\mu, \sigma^2) = 0\}$ is *Nested* in Θ .

Theorem 6.1 - Distribution of Test Statistics in Nested Parameter Spaces

Let $\Theta \subset \mathbb{R}^d$ and $\mathbf{X} \stackrel{\text{iid}}{\sim} f(\cdot; \theta)$ for $\theta \in \Theta_0$ (i.e. H_0 is true) where Θ_0 is nested in Θ . Then

$$T_n(\mathbf{X}) = -2 \ln \Lambda_n(\mathbf{X}) \rightarrow_{\mathcal{D}(\cdot; \theta)} W \sim \chi_r^2$$

with $r = \dim(\Theta) - \dim(\Theta_0)$.

N.B. The proof is not covered in this course but relies on the Taylor expansion of the likelihood.

Remark 6.3 - If value of the null hypothesis is fixed, $H_0 : \theta = 0$, then $\dim(\Theta_0) = 0$

Example 6.2 -

Let $\mathbf{X} \stackrel{\text{iid}}{\sim} \text{Poisson}(\lambda^*)$ for some $\lambda^* > 0$.

Consider the test

$$H_0 : \lambda = \lambda_0 \quad \text{against} \quad H_1 : \lambda \neq \lambda_0$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned} T_n(\mathbf{x}) &= -2 \ln \left(\frac{f_n(\mathbf{x}; \lambda_0)}{f_n(\mathbf{x}; \hat{\lambda}_n)} \right) \quad \text{where } \hat{\lambda}_n \text{ is MLE of } \lambda \\ &= -2 \ln[\ell_n(\lambda; \mathbf{x}) - \ell_n(\hat{\lambda}_n; \mathbf{x})] \end{aligned}$$

We know

$$\begin{aligned} f_n(\mathbf{x}; \lambda) &= \prod_{i=1}^n \frac{e^{-\lambda} \lambda^{x_i}}{x_i!} \quad \text{by independence} \\ &\propto e^{-n\lambda} \lambda^{n\bar{x}} \\ \implies \ell_n(\lambda; \mathbf{x}) &= c - n\lambda + n\bar{x} \ln \lambda \\ \text{Taking } \ell'_n(\lambda; \mathbf{x}) &= 0 \\ \implies -n + \frac{\bar{x}n}{\lambda} &= 0 \\ \implies \frac{\bar{x}n}{\lambda} &= \bar{x} \end{aligned}$$

We confirm $\hat{\lambda}$ is a *Maximum Likelihood Estimate* by showing $\ell_n''(\bar{x}; x) < 0$.

So

$$\begin{aligned} T_n(\mathbf{x}) &= -2 \left[-n(\lambda_0 - \hat{\lambda}_n) + n\bar{x} \ln \frac{\lambda_0}{\hat{\lambda}_n} \right] \\ &= -2 \left[-n(\lambda_0 - \bar{x}) + n\bar{x} \ln \frac{\lambda_0}{\bar{x}} \right] \end{aligned}$$

We know that

$$T_n(\mathbf{X}) \sim \chi_{1-0}^2 = \chi_1^2 \text{ under } H_0$$

since $\dim(\Theta) = 1$ and $\dim(\Theta_0) = 0$.

Definition 6.3 - Two Sided Test

A *Two Sided Hypothesis Test* is a hypothesis test where the alternative hypothesis covers two separate regions of the parameter space. The general form is

$$H_0 : \theta = \theta_0 \quad \text{against} \quad H_1 : \theta \neq \theta_0$$

Remark 6.4 - Connection to Confidence Intervals

Recall that a test of size approximately α is obtained by retain H_0 if

$$T_n(\mathbf{x}) = -2 \left[\ell_n(\theta_0; \mathbf{x}) - \ell_n(\hat{\theta}_n; \mathbf{x}) \right] < \chi_{r,\alpha}^2$$

The values of θ_0 which lead to the retention of H_0 are

$$\begin{aligned} C(\mathbf{x}) &= \left\{ \theta : -2[\ell_n(\theta; \mathbf{x}) - \ell_n(\hat{\theta}_n; \mathbf{x})] < \chi_{r,\alpha}^2 \right\} \\ &= \left\{ \theta : \ell_n(\theta; \mathbf{x}) > \ell_n(\hat{\theta}_n; \mathbf{x}) - \frac{1}{2}\chi_{r,\alpha}^2 \right\} \end{aligned}$$

This is an asymptotically exact $1 - \alpha$ confidence set for θ .

2.7 Categorical Distributions and Pearson's χ^2 Test

Definition 7.1 - Categorical Distribution

Let Y be a random variable which takes one value from a finite set $\{1, \dots, m\}$ where each value represents a unique category.

Let $\mathbf{p} := (p_1, \dots, p_m)$ be a vector where $p_i = \mathbb{P}(Y = i)$ then

$$Y \sim \text{Categorical}(\mathbf{p})$$

N.B. $\sum_{i=1}^m p_i = 1$, $p_i \in [0, 1] \forall i \in [1, m]$ and \mathbf{p} is a vector of $m - 1$ free parameters.

Remark 7.1 - Bernoulli(p) \sim Categorical($1 - p, p$)

Definition 7.2 - Counts

Let $Y_1, \dots, Y_n \stackrel{\text{iid}}{\sim} \text{Categorical}(\mathbf{p})$.

We define the random variable N_k to model the number of times k occurs in a realisation of Y_1, \dots, Y_n .

$$N_k := \sum_{i=1}^n \mathbf{1}\{Y_i = k : i \in [1, n]\}$$

This definition gives rise to the random vector

$$\mathbf{X} := (N_1, \dots, N_m) \sim \text{Multinomial}(n, \mathbf{p})$$

with

$$\mathbb{P}(N_1 = n_1, \dots, N_m = n_m; \mathbf{p}) = \mathbf{1} \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^m n_i = n \right\} \left\{ \frac{n!}{\prod_{i=1}^m n_i!} \right\} \prod_{i=1}^m p_i^{n_i}$$

N.B. $\mathbb{E}(N_i) = np_i$ and $\text{Var}(N_i) = np_i(1 - p_i)$.

2.7.1 Generalised Likelihood Ratio Test Statistic

Definition 7.3 - Simplex

TODO Expand this

\mathcal{S}_m is a simplex of probability vectors of length m if

$$\mathcal{S}_m := \left\{ (p_1, \dots, p_m) \in [0, 1]^m : \sum_{i=1}^m p_i = 1 \right\}$$

Proposition 7.1 - Generalised Likelihood Ratio

$$\Lambda_n(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{f_n(\mathbf{x}; \mathbf{p}_0)}{\sup_{\mathbf{p} \in \mathcal{S}_m} f_n(\mathbf{x}; \mathbf{p})}$$

Theorem 7.1 - Maximum Likelihood Estimate for Multinomial \mathbf{p}

Let $\mathbf{X} = (N_1, \dots, N_m) \sim \text{Multinomial}(n, \mathbf{p}^*)$ for some $\mathbf{p}^* \in \mathcal{S}_m$ and $\mathbf{x} = (n_1, \dots, n_m)$ be a realisation of \mathbf{X} .

The maximum likelihood estimate of \mathbf{p}^* is

$$\hat{\mathbf{p}}(\mathbf{x}) = (\hat{p}_1(\mathbf{x}), \dots, \hat{p}_m(\mathbf{x})) = \left(\frac{n_1}{n}, \dots, \frac{n_m}{n} \right)$$

Proof 7.1 - Theorem 8.1

Note that

$$\sum_{i=1}^m p_i = 1 \implies p_m = 1 - \sum_{i=1}^{m-1} p_i$$

Hence there are only $m - 1$ independent variables and

$$\begin{aligned} L(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{x}) &= L(p_1, \dots, p_{m-1}; \mathbf{x}) \\ &\propto \prod_{j=1}^m p_j^{n_j} \\ &= \left(\prod_{j=1}^{m-1} p_j^{n_j} \right) \left(1 - \sum_{i=1}^{m-1} p_i \right)^{n_m} \end{aligned}$$

So

$$\ell(p_1, \dots, p_{m-1}; \mathbf{x}) = C + \left(\sum_{i=1}^{m-1} n_i \ln p_i \right) + n_m \ln \left(1 - \sum_{i=1}^{m-1} p_i \right)$$

Now for $k = 1, \dots, m - 1$.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Setting } \frac{\partial}{\partial p_k} \ell(p_1, \dots, p_{m-1}; \mathbf{x}) &= \frac{n_k}{p_k} - \frac{n_m}{1 - \sum_{i=1}^{m-1} p_i} \\ &= 0 \\ \implies \frac{n_k}{p_k} &= \frac{n_m}{p_m} \quad \forall k \in [1, m] \end{aligned}$$

So $\frac{n_1}{p_1} = \dots = \frac{n_m}{p_m} = c$ and $\sum_{i=1}^m p_i = 1$.

$$\implies \sum_{i=1}^m \frac{n_i}{c} = 1 \implies \sum_{i=1}^m n_i = c \implies n = c$$

Hence $\frac{n_k}{p_k} = n \implies \hat{p}_j = \frac{n_k}{n} \quad \forall k \in [1, m]$.

In order to confirm that this is a maximum we will show that $\ell(\mathbf{p}; \mathbf{x})$ is concave.

i.e. for $\lambda \in [0, 1]$ $\ell(\lambda \mathbf{p} + (1 - \lambda) \mathbf{p}'; \mathbf{x}) \geq \lambda \ell(\mathbf{p}; \mathbf{x}) + (1 - \lambda) \ell(\mathbf{p}'; \mathbf{x})$.

$$\begin{aligned} \ell(\lambda \mathbf{p} + (1 - \lambda) \mathbf{p}'; \mathbf{x}) &= \sum_{i=1}^m n_i \ln(\lambda p_i + (1 - \lambda) p'_i) \\ &\geq \sum_{i=1}^m n_i [\lambda \ln p_i + (1 - \lambda) \ln p'_i] \text{ since } \ln x \text{ is concave} \\ &= \lambda \sum_{i=1}^m n_i \ln p_i + n_i (1 - \lambda) \ln p'_i \\ &= \lambda \ell(\mathbf{p}; \mathbf{x}) + (1 - \lambda) \ell(\mathbf{p}'; \mathbf{x}) \end{aligned}$$

Thus concave.

It follows that

$$\Lambda_n(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{f_n(\mathbf{x}; \mathbf{p}_0)}{\sup_{\mathbf{p} \in \mathcal{S}_m} f_n(\mathbf{x}; \mathbf{p})} = \prod_{i=1}^m \frac{p_{0,i}^{n_i}}{\hat{p}_i^{n_i}} = \prod_{i=1}^m \frac{p_{0,i}^{n_i}}{(n_i/n)^{n_i}}$$

so that

$$T_n(\mathbf{x}) = -2 \ln \Lambda_n(\mathbf{x}) = -2 \sum_{i=1}^m n_i \{\ln p_{0,i} - \ln(n_i/n)\}$$

is the *Generalised Likelihood Ratio* test statistic. From the general theorem

$$T_n(\mathbf{x}) \rightarrow_{\mathcal{D}(\cdot; \mathbf{p}_0)} \chi_{m-1}^2$$

since $\dim(\mathcal{S}_m) = m - 1$.

Many people rewrite this statistic as

$$\begin{aligned} T_n(\mathbf{x}) &= 2 \sum_{j=1}^m o_j \ln \left(\frac{o_j}{e_j} \right) \\ &= 2 \sum_{j=1}^m n_j \ln \left(\frac{n_j/n}{p_{0,j}} \right) \\ &= -2 \sum_{j=1}^m n_j \ln \left(\frac{n_j}{np_{0,j}} \right) \end{aligned}$$

where $o_j = n_j$ is the observed number in category j and $e_j = np_{0,j}$ is the expected number in category j . \square

2.7.2 Pearson's χ^2 Test Statistic

0 Appendix

Definition 0.1 - Gradient

$$\nabla f(\boldsymbol{\theta}; \mathbf{x}) := \left(\frac{\partial f(\boldsymbol{\theta}; \mathbf{x})}{\partial \theta_1}, \dots, \frac{\partial f(\boldsymbol{\theta}; \mathbf{x})}{\partial \theta_n} \right)$$

Definition 0.2 - Hessian

$$\nabla^2 f(\boldsymbol{\theta}; \mathbf{x}) := \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial^2 f(\boldsymbol{\theta}; \mathbf{x})}{\partial \theta_1^2} & \frac{\partial^2 f(\boldsymbol{\theta}; \mathbf{x})}{\partial \theta_1 \partial \theta_2} & \cdots & \frac{\partial^2 f(\boldsymbol{\theta}; \mathbf{x})}{\partial \theta_1 \partial \theta_n} \\ \frac{\partial^2 f(\boldsymbol{\theta}; \mathbf{x})}{\partial \theta_1 \partial \theta_2} & \frac{\partial^2 f(\boldsymbol{\theta}; \mathbf{x})}{\partial \theta_2^2} & \cdots & \frac{\partial^2 f(\boldsymbol{\theta}; \mathbf{x})}{\partial \theta_2 \partial \theta_n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \frac{\partial^2 f(\boldsymbol{\theta}; \mathbf{x})}{\partial \theta_1 \partial \theta_n} & \frac{\partial^2 f(\boldsymbol{\theta}; \mathbf{x})}{\partial \theta_2 \partial \theta_n} & \cdots & \frac{\partial^2 f(\boldsymbol{\theta}; \mathbf{x})}{\partial \theta_n^2} \end{pmatrix}$$

0.1 Notation

Notation	Denotes
$Z_n \rightarrow_{\mathbb{P}} Z$	$\{Z_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ converges in <i>Probability</i> to random variable Z .
$Z_n \rightarrow_{\mathcal{D}} Z$	$\{Z_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ converges in <i>Distribution</i> to random variable Z .
$Z_n \rightarrow_{qm} Z$	$\{Z_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ converges in <i>Quadratic Mean</i> to random variable Z .
$\theta \in \Theta \subseteq \mathbb{R}^{d_\theta}$	Scalar or vector parameter characterising a probability distribution
$\hat{\theta}$	Estimation for the value of the parameter θ
θ^*	True value of the parameter θ
\mathbb{P}	Probability measure $\mathbb{P} : \mathcal{F} \rightarrow [0, 1]$
Ω	Sample space
X	Scalar random variable
\mathcal{F}	Sigma field (Set of events)
χ	Support of rv X . A set χ is definitely in it <i>i.e.</i> $\mathbb{P}(X \in \chi; \theta) = 1$
\mathbf{X}	Vector consisting of scalar random variables

0.2 R

Command	Result
<code>hist(a)</code>	Plots a histogram of the values in array a
<code>mean(a)</code>	Returns the mean value of array a
<code>rbinom(s, n, p)</code>	Samples n of $Bi(n, p)$ random variables
<code>rep(v, n)</code>	Produces an array of size n where each entry has value v
<code>x ← v</code>	Maps value v to variable x

0.3 Probability Distributions

Definition 3.1 - Binomial Distribution

Let X be a discrete random variable modelled by a *Binomial Distribution* with n events and rate of success p .

$$\begin{aligned} p_X(k) &= \binom{n}{k} p^k (1-p)^{n-k} \\ \mathbb{E}(X) &= np \quad \& \quad \text{Var}(X) = np(1-p) \end{aligned}$$

Definition 3.2 - Gamma Distribution

Let T be a continuous random variable modelled by a *Gamma Distribution* with shape parameter

α & scale parameter λ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} f_T(x) &= \frac{\lambda^\alpha x^{\alpha-1} e^{-\lambda x}}{\Gamma(\alpha)} \quad \text{for } x > 0 \\ \mathbb{E}(T) &= \frac{\alpha}{\lambda} \quad \& \quad \text{Var}(T) = \frac{\alpha}{\lambda^2} \end{aligned}$$

N.B. $\alpha, \lambda > 0$.

Definition 3.3 - Exponential Distribution

Let T be a continuous random variable modelled by a *Exponential Distribution* with parameter λ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} f_T(t) &= \mathbf{1}\{t \geq 0\} \cdot \lambda e^{-\lambda t} \\ F_T(t) &= \mathbf{1}\{t \geq 0\} \cdot (1 - e^{-\lambda t}) \\ \mathbb{E}(X) &= \frac{1}{\lambda} \quad \& \quad \text{Var}(X) = \frac{1}{\lambda^2} \end{aligned}$$

N.B. Exponential Distribution is used to model the wait time between decays of a radioactive source.

Definition 3.4 - Normal Distribution

Let X be a continuous random variable modelled by a *Normal Distribution* with mean μ & variance σ^2 .

Then

$$\begin{aligned} f_X(x) &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}} e^{-\frac{(x-\mu)^2}{2\sigma^2}} \\ F_X(x) &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}} \int_{-\infty}^x e^{-\frac{(y-\mu)^2}{2\sigma^2}} dy \\ M_X(\theta) &= e^{\mu\theta + \sigma^2\theta^2(1/2)} \\ \mathbb{E}(X) &= \mu \quad \& \quad \text{Var}(X) = \sigma^2 \end{aligned}$$

Definition 3.5 - Poisson Distribution

Let X be a discrete random variable modelled by a *Poisson Distribution* with parameter λ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} p_X(k) &= \frac{e^{-\lambda} \lambda^k}{k!} \quad \text{For } k \in \mathbb{N}_0 \\ \mathbb{E}(X) &= \lambda \quad \& \quad \text{Var}(X) = \lambda \end{aligned}$$

N.B. Poisson Distribution is used to model the number of radioactive decays in a time period.