BRIEF INFO

Brief Information
on Current Unpublished Statistical Research
in Scandinavia

Volume 1   Number 1   February 1994

Contents:

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FROM THE EDITOR

Dear Reader,

You have just opened the first issue of

BRIEF INFO
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I am sure that you have noticed that a section which bore the name "Brief Information on Current Unpublished Research in Scandinavia" was suppressed from Scandinavian Journal of Statistics when the publisher of SJS was changed in the beginning of 1992. I discussed this matter with professor Elja Arjas, the editor of SJS, several times during 1992. We were unanimous as to the importance of going on publishing "Brief Information ..." in one form or another. As a result of these discussions I made in the autumn of 1992 a tentative proposal to the four Nordic statistical societies (Denmark, Finland, Norway, Sweden) under the auspices of which SJS is published. The proposition comprised starting a newsletter to replace the suppressed Brief Informationsection in SJS, a newsletter to be distributed through the information channels of the four Nordic statistical societies. The response was positive, and so it seemed really worthwhile to start the newsletter. Because the idea was partly mine it felt natural to volunteer to be the first editor. I decided to call the newsletter BRIEF INFO. For various reasons I could not start the project right away, but now, at last, you have the first issue of BRIEF INFO in your hands. I do hope that you can accept the insufficiencies of this first issue.

Just like in the suppressed section in SJS the usual form of the information to be published is a short abstract. This first issue includes information from 1992 and 1993. As to 1992, only the titles of the research reports are published.

In the same way as in SJS the material for BRIEF INFO was collected by using a network of people working at the departments of statistics at the universities or within other statistical research organizations. Without the help of this network this first issue would not have been possible.

All the material was reproduced by photocopying directly from the originals sent to me by the network. In the tentative Decree of BRIEF INFO I promise that two issues will come out every year. My plan is that the first issue of the year will always be given out in February and the second issue will be given out in September. This means that the material for our next issue will be collected in August 1994.

Since this first issue can also be considered as a test, there are still problems to be solved. As you will see from the tentative Decree, the responsibility for circulating BRIEF INFO is in the hands of the four Nordic statistical societies. There are two ways of distributing BRIEF INFO, either
(1) in paper form, or
(2) in electronic form.
Because the present form of BRIEF INFO is based on photocopied originals it is perhaps most convenient to distribute BRIEF INFO by enclosing it in the newsletters of the national societies. How this works in practice remains to be seen. The other choice would mean collecting, editing and distributing the material for BRIEF INFO electronically via computer networks. I am rather sceptical about this alternative, because the actual coverage might be much narrower that way.

Last, but not least, I would like to thank those who have helped me to realize this first issue of BRIEF INFO. Without mentioning any names, all the members of the network who have contributed deserve my warmest thanks. I am also grateful to the Department of Statistics, University of Helsinki, for letting me use its resources during the editing process, and to the secretary of the Department, Ms. Leila Ollikainen, who helped me with the practical matters.

Any comments and ideas will be wellcome.

February, 1994

Ilkka Mellin
Editor

THE DECREE OF BRIEF INFO

Brief Information
on Current Unpublished Statistical Research
in Scandinavia

(1)   BRIEF INFO is a newsletter published by the Nordic statistical societies:
Danish Society for Theoretical Statistics
Finnish Statistical Society
Norwegian Statistical Society
Swedish Statistical Association

(2)   BRIEF INFO shall publish information on current unpublished statistical research in the Nordic Countries. BRIEF INFO welcomes abstracts of the research reports written at the departments of statistics at the universities or within other statistical research organizations.

(3)   BRIEF INFO shall be published twice a year.

(4)   The responsibility for the editing process shall circulate from one Nordic Country to another. The term shall last two years (4 issues). The order shall be: Finland, Denmark, Norway, Sweden. The first term (Finland) will last from 1994 to 1995.

(5)   The editor of BRIEF INFO shall be selected by the national statistical society, which is responsible for the editing process.

(6)   The editor shall collect and edit the material to BRIEF INFO. The material shall be delivered in a ready-to-print form to the editor. A Network based on the former SJS-network shall be used in the collection process.

(7)   One copy of BRIEF INFO and copies from the print-original shall be delivered in a ready-to-print form to the national societies. Each society shall take the responsibility for distributing BRIEF INFO to its members.

(8)   The editor shall send one copy of BRIEF INFO to the members of the Network.

INSTRUCTIONS TO THE CONTRIBUTORS

The material for BRIEF INFO shall be delivered to the editor

either

(1)   in a ready-to-print form on A4-sheets,

or

(2)   in an ASCII-file on an 1.4 MB PC-readable disk.
In this case no mathematical formulae should be included
in the text.

How to Produce a Ready-to-Print Form?

(a)   Print abstracts by using a good-quality printer (laser or ink-jet)
on A4-sheets.

(b)   Leave proper margins (at least 3 cm on top and bottom and on each
side), but fill each sheet as tightly as you can. Use single-line
or one-and-a-half-line spacing in typing.

(c)   Remember that text should be legible after reduction to size A5 by
photocopying.

(d)   Each contribution should include
1. The name and address of the institute on every sheet.
2. The name(s) of the author(s).
3. The name of the research report.

EXAMPLE

Uppsala University, Department of Mathematics, Box 480, S-75106 Uppsala

ALON, N., BOLLOBÁS, B., BRIGTHWELL, G. & JANSON, S. (September 1992): Linear
extensions of a random partial order, 14 pp.

BOLLOBÁS. B. & JANSON, S. (October 1993): On the Length of the Longest Increasing
Subsequence in a Random Permutation, 7 pp.

Abstract. Complementing the results claiming that the maximal length L_n of an
increasing subsequence in a random partition of $\{1,2,...,n\}$ is highly concentrated, we show
that L_n is not concentrated in a short interval: $\sup_l P(l \leq L_n \leq l + n^{\frac{1}{6}} \log^{-\frac{1}{3}} n) \to 0$ as
$n \to \infty$.

FLEISCHMANN, K. & KAJ, I. (September 1992): Large deviation probabilities for some
rescaled superprocesses. To appear: Annales de l'Institut Henri Poincaré, 36 pp.

DENMARK

*Aalborg University, Institute of Electronic Systems, Department of Mathematics and
Computer Science, Frederik Bajers vej 7, DK-9220 Aalborg Ø*

R-Rapporter 1992

R-92-2001   Søren Højsgaard, Flemming Skjødt & Bo Thiesson:
User's guide to BIFROST version 1.0

R-92-2002   Søren Asmussen, Peter W. Glynn & Hermann Thorisson:
Stationarity Detection in the Initial Trasient Problem

R-92-2004   Søren Asmussen & Mogens Bladt:
*Renewal theory and queueing algorithms for matrix-exponential
distributions*

R-92-2006   David J. Spielgelhalter, A. Philip Dawid, Steffen L. Lauritzen &
Robert G. Cowell:
Bayesian Analysis in Expert Systems

R-92-2010   Søren Højsgaard & Bo Thiesson:
*BIFROST - Block Recursive Models Induced From Relevant Knowlegde,
Observations & Statistical Techniques*

R-92-2011   Søren Asmussen & Chia-Li Wang:
Spitzer's identity and the simulation of transient G1/G/1 behaviour

R-92-2014   Søren Asmussen, Reuven Y. Rubinstein & Chia-Li Wang:
*Estimating Rare Events via the Likelihood Ratio Method from M/M/1
Queues to Bottleneck*

R-92-2015   Søren Asmussen:
*Stationary distributions for fluid flow models and Markov-modulated
reflected Brownian motion*

R-92-2016   Søren Asmussen & Benjamin Melamed:
Regeneration and Likelihood Ratios in Tes processes

R-92-2018   S.L. Lauritzen, B Thiesson & D.J. Spiegelhalter:
*Diagnoctic Systems Created by Model Selection Methods - A Case
Study*

R-92-2020   Søren Asmussen, Lotte Fløe Henriksen & Claudia Klüppelberg:
Large claims approximations for risk processes in Markovian enviroment

R-92-2022   Søren Asmussen & Mogens Bladt:
*Phase-type distributions and risk processes with state-dependent
premiums*

R-Rapporter 1993

R-93-07

Christensen, Susanne E., Lundbye-Christensen, Søren & Winkel, Per (February 1993).
An Application of a Gaussian Model with Population Variation in Baseline Values and Precision

Abstract

Models for consecutive measurements from a group of individuals are considered. For each individual we assume the observations to be scattered at random over time around a baseline value. The variance and the baseline value are constants characterising each individual, but varying at random over the population.

The estimation of population parameters is discussed and we present a method for prediction of future observations based on observations allready obtained form a particular individual.

Finally the model and the method for prediction are applied to a data set consisting of Carcino Embryonic Antigen (CEA) measurements from 15 postoperative breast cancer patients with no metastatic recurrence of the disease and on a patient with recurrence.

R-93-10

Andersen, Heidi H., Højbjerre, Malene, Sørensen, Dorte & Eriksen, Poul Svante
Linear and Graphical Models for the Multivariate Complex Normal Distribution (March 1993).

Abstract:

The book contains a theoretical study of the linear and graphical models for the multivariate complex normal distribution. Multivariate linear complex normal models are treated, including definition of the model, maximum likelihood estimation of the parameters and hypothesis testing concerning mean and independence. The complex normal graphical models are investigated. This includes definition of the model, maximum likelihood estimation of the concentration matrix and hypothesis testing concerning conditional independence. Additionally decomposable models are considered. Furthermore the book also contains important results on the distribution, the complex Wishart undirected graphs, conditional independence and Markov properties are also treated. Finally the book contains appendices on complex matrix algebra and orthogonal projections.

R-93-15

Eriksen, Poul Svante (August 1993).
Exact tests in Covariance Selection Models

Abstract:

Consider the likelihood ratio test between two nested covariance selection models. When the models are decomposable, it is known that the distribution of the test statistic raised to the power $2/n$ is described by a product of independent beta distributions. In this paper it is shown that the result also holds for a wider class of testing problems, and that the test statistic is independent of the maximum likelihood estimator under the null hypothesis.

R-93-18

Kjærulff, Uffe (June 1993).
A computational scheme for dynamic Bayesian networks

Abstract:

A computational scheme for reasoning about dynamic systems using Bayesian networks is presented. The scheme is based on message passing in junction trees, and may be viewed as a generalization of the inference methods of classical time-series analysis in the sense that it allows description of non-linear, multivariate dynamic systems with complex conditional independence structures. Further, the scheme provides a method for efficient backward smoothing, and an efficient Monte-Carlo algorithm for forecasting is presented. The scheme has been implemented on top of the HUGIN shell.

R-93-21

Asmussen, Søren (June 1993).
Busy period analysis, rare events and transient behaviour in fluid flow models

Abstract:

We consider a process $\{(J_t, V_t)\}_{t \geq 0}$ on $E \times [0,\infty)$, such that $\{J_t\}$ is a Markov process with finite state space E, and $\{V_t\}$ has a linear drift r_i on intervals where $J_t = i$ and refletion at 0. Such a process arises as a fluid flow model of current interest in telecommunications engineering for the purpose of modeling ATM technology. We compute the mean of the busy period and related first passage times, show that the probability of buffer overflow within a busy cycle is approximately exponential, and give conditioned limit theorems for the busy cycle with implications for quick simulation. Further, various inequalities and approximations for transient behaviour are given. Also explicit expressions for the Laplace transform of the busy period are found. Mathematically, the key tool is first passage probabilities and exponential change of measure for Markov additive processes.

R-93-23

Eriksen, Poul Svante (August 1993).
Approximation of tests in Covariance Selection Models

Abstract:

Consider the likelihood ratio test between two nested covariance selection models. Then it is shown that the distribution of the test statistic raised to the power $2/n$ can be approximated by a product of independent beta distributions. Furthermore, conditions ensuring exactness of the aproximation are given. A simulation study reveals that the approximation is much superior to the usual chisquare approximation for small and moderate sample sizes.

R-93-28

Dawid, Philip A., Kjærulff, Uffe & Lauritzen, Steffen L. (September 1993)
Hybrid Propagation in Junction Trees

Abstract:

We introduce a methodology for performing approximate computations in complex probabilistic expert systems, when some components can be handled exactly and others require approximation or simulation. This is illustrated by means of a modified version of the familiar `chest-clinic´ problem.

R-93-31

Jensen, Claus Skaanning, Kong, Agustine & Kjærulff, Uffe (October 1993).
Blocking Gibbs Sampling in Very Large Probabilistic Expert Systems

Abstract:

We introduce a methodology for performing approximate computations in very complex probabilistic systems (e.g. huge pedigrees). Our approach, called *blocking Gibbs*, combines exact local computations with Gibbs sampling in a way that complements the strengths of both. The methodology is illustrated on a real-world problem involving a heavily inbred pedigree containing 20,000 individuals. We present results showing that blocking-Gibbs sampling converges much faster than plain Gibbs sampling for very complex problems.

R-93-32

Bladt, Mogens (October 1993)
Computational Methods in Applied Probability

R-93-33

Perry, David & Asmussen, Søren (October 1993).
Rejection rules in the M/G/1 queue

Abstract:

We consider a M/G/1 queue modified such that an arriving customer may be totally or partially rejected depending on a.r.v. (the barricade) describing his impatience and on the state of the system. Three main variants of this scheme are studied. The steady-state distribution is expressed in terms of Volterra equations and the relation to storage processes, dams and queues with state-dependent Poisson arrival rate is discussed. For exponential service times, we further find the busy period Laplace transform in the case of a deterministic barricade, whereas for exponential barricade it is shown by a coupling argument that the busy period can be identified with a first passage time in an associated birth-death process.

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RESEARCH REPORTS published in 1992

O.E. Barndorff-Nielsen: Information carriers, extended likelihood and adjusted versions of profile likelihood and likelihood roots. 226.

O.E. Barndorff-Nielsen: Multivariate variance functions and inference. 237.

M. Bøgsted Hansen: The behaviour of the correlation integral in the non-linear time series case. 240.

O.E. Barndorff-Nielsen, J.L. Jensen and M. Sørensen: A statistical turbulence model. 242.

J.L. Jensen: Comments on nonparametric predictions of sunspot numbers. 243.

J.L. Jensen: Chaotic dynamical systems with a view towards statistics - a review. 245.

J. Møller: Extensions of the Swendsen-Wang algorithm for simulating spatial point processes. 246.

E.B. Vedel Jensen and H.J.G. Gundersen: The rotator. 247.

P. Blæsild and M.K. Sørensen: 'hyp' - a computer program for analyzing data by means of the hyperbolic distribution. 248.

P.E. Kloeden, H. Schurz, E. Platen and M. Sørensen: On effects of discretization on estimators of drift parameters for diffusion processes. 249.

P. Blæsild: Maximum likelihood estimation in exponential ortho-geodesic models. 250.

U. Küchler and M. Sørensen: Exponential families of stochastic processes with time-continuous likelihood functions. 251.

O.E. Barndorff-Nielsen: Diversity of evidence, and Birnbaum's theorem. 252.

O.E. Barndorff-Nielsen: Adjusted likelihood inference about interest parameter. 255.

E.B. Vedel Jensen and K. Kiêu: Unbiased stereological estimation of d-dimensional volume in $\mathbb{R}^n$ from an isotropic random slice through a fixed point. 257.

J. Hoffmann-Jørgensen: Stable densities. 258.

O.E. Barndorff-Nielsen and S.R. Chamberlin: Stable and invariant adjusted likelihood roots. 259.

Department of Theoretical Statistics, Institute of Mathematics,
University of Aarhus, 8000   Aarhus C

RESEARCH REPORTS

Küchler, U. & Sørensen, M. (January 1993): Curved exponential families of stochastic processes and their envelope families, 52 pp.

Barndorff-Nielsen, O.E. (February 1993): River networks: A brief guide to the literature, for statisticians and probabilists, 18 pp.

Abstract.   The developments in the stochastic analysis of river networks, from the pioneering work of Horton till the many recent and diverse advances, is traced and reviewed. Empirical findings concerning river networks are indicated and various probabilistic models of such networks, inspired by those findings, are outlined. There are, inter alia, intriguing connections to branching processes, extreme values, Brownian excursion, statistical mechanics, and fractality.

Barndorff-Nielsen, O.E. & Koudou, A.E. (February 1993): Cuts in natural exponential families, 27 pp.

Abstract.   A simplified and extended theory of cuts in natural exponential families is established. Further, an open question in this subject area is solved, in the negative, by a counter-example, and a link to the recent theory of variance functions for natural exponential families is pointed out.

Jensen, J.L. & Künsch, H.R. (March 1993): On asymptotic normality of pseudo likelihood estimates for pairwise interaction processes, 23 pp.

Geyer, C.J. & Møller, J. (March 1993): Simulation procedures and likelihood inference for spatial point processes, 34 pp.

Abstract.   An alternative algorithm to the usual birth-death procedure for simulating spatial point processes is introduced. The algorithm is used in a discussion of unconditional versus conditional likelihood inference for parametric models of spatial point processes.

Hoffmann-Jørgensen, J. (April 1993): The Borel-Tanner distribution, 11 pp.

Högmander, H. & Møller, J. (April 1993): Estimating distribution maps from atlas data using statistical methods of image analysis, 24 pp.

Abstract.   Bayesian image classification methods, namely maximum marginal posterior estimation and iterated conditional modes algorithm are applied in the estimation of biogeographical ranges. The presented procedures are developed to utilize atlas map data, i.e. observations recorded in a grid of cells, by interpreting these maps as incompletely observed binary pixel images. Modelling of breeding bird atlases with a complex presentation of observations and inhomogeneous research activity is especially considered. Empirical examples are provided.

Pedersen, A.R. (June 1993): A new approach to maximum likelihood estimation for stochastic differential equations based on discrete observations, 21 pp.

Abstract.   We consider maximum likelihood estimation for stochastic differential equations based on discrete observations, when the likelihood function is unknown. A sequence of approximations to the likelihood function is derived, and convergence results for the sequence are proven. Estimation by means of the approximate likelihood functions is easy and very generally applicable. The performance of the suggested estimators is studied in two examples, and they are compared with other estimators.

Sazonov, V.V. & Ulyanov, V.V. (June 1993): Asymptotic expansions in Hilbert space, 38 pp.

Abstract. New estimates of the remainder terms and terms of asymptotic expansions for probabilities $P(|S-a|<r)$, where $a \in H$, $r > 0$ and S is a normed sum of n independent identically distributed H-value random elements. The main features of our estimates are: they are non-uniform with a "natural" dependence on a, the moment requirements are minimal and the dependence of estimates on the (truncated) moments and a covariance operator of summands is given in an explicit form. The number of non-zero eigenvalues of the covariance operator in our estimates is the same as in earlier papers if $a = 0$, and it is less than in previous results if $a \neq 0$.

Barndorff-Nielsen, O.E. (September 1993): Modified directed likelihood and an asymptotic analogue of Basu's theorem, 8 pp.

Abstract. When the partial maximum likelihood estimator for the nuisance parameter is sufficient then this estimator and the modified directed likelihood for the interest parameter are independent to third order.

Labouriau, R. (September 1993): A note on pointwise expansions in Hermite polynomials of real functions, 7 pp.

Abstract. The paper presents a sufficient condition alternative to the classical Cramér conditions for representing a real function in pointwise Hermite polynomial series.

Darling, R.W.R. (October 1993): Martingales on noncompact manifolds: Maximal inequalities and prescribed limits, 20 pp.

Abstract. A version of the Burkholder-Davis-Gundy inequalities is presented for Γ-martingales, with respect to an arbitrary connection Γ on a Riemannian manifold (M,g). Under convexity assumptions on the manifold, some limit results are derived for "H^p Γ-martingales", i.e. those whose total Riemannian quadratic variation is in $L^{p/2}$. These are applied to the extension to noncompact manifolds on Kendall's theorem on existence and uniqueness of Γ-martingales with a prescribed limit, which is related to the Dirichlet problem for harmonic maps.

Sørensen, M. (October 1993): The natural exponential family generated by a semimartingale, 19 pp.

Abstract. A method of embedding a semimartingale model in an exponential family of semimartingales is presented. The construction generalizes the natural exponential family generated by a Lévy process and the natural exponential family generated by a probability distribution on the real line. A direct application in the stochastic process setting of the full exponential family generated by a statistic and a probability measure usually leads to inconsistent probability measures. Therefore our construction is via local characteristics and Doléan-Dade exponentials. The theory is illustrated by several examples.

Barndorff-Nielsen, O.E. (November 1993): A note on electrical networks and the inverse Gaussian distribution, 9 pp.

Abstract. When a random electrical network has the structure of a rooted tree and the edge resistances are either inverse Gaussian or reciprocal inverse Gaussian random variables then, subject to some restrictions, the overall resistance of the network is shown to follow a reciprocal inverse Gaussian distribution.

Graversen, S.E. (December 1993): A note on Asian options, 5 pp.

Abstract. Moments of certain exponential Wiener functionals connected to the evaluation of Asian options are computed. The techniques used are very simple compared to former proofs of the same results and furthermore they can be applied in more general situations.

Pedersen, A.R. (December 1993): **Maximum** likelihood estimation based on incomplete observations for a class of discrete time stochastic processes by means of the **Kalman** filter, 20 pp.

Abstract. We consider maximum likelihood estimation based on incomplete observations by means of the Kalman filter for a class of discrete time stochastic processes, in particular discretely observed diffusion processes given as solutions to linear stochastic differential equations in the narrow sense. The usual Kalman filter for Gaussian autoregressive processes of order one is generalized to autoregressive processes of higher order, and methods for model evaluation are given.

Pedersen, **A.R.** (December 1993): Consistency and asymptotic **normality** of an approximate maximum likelihood estimator for discretely observed diffusion processes, 30 pp.

Abstract. Most often the likelihood function based on discrete observations of a diffusion process is unknown, and estimators alternative to the well-behaved maximum likelihood estimator must be found. Traditionally, such estimators are defined with origin in the theory for continuous observation of the diffusion process, and are as a consequence strongly biased unless the discrete observation time-points are close. In contrast to these estimators an estimator based on an approximation to the (unknown) likelihood function was proposed in Pedersen (1993). We prove consistency and asymptotic normality of this estimator with no assumptions on the distance between the discrete observation time-points.

University of Aarhus, Institute of Economics, Building 350, DK-8000 Aarhus C.

Franses, P.H. and Haldrup, N. (July 1993): The effects of additive outliters on tests for unit roots and cointegration, 16 pp.

Abstract. This paper discusses the properties of the univariate Dickey-Fuller test and the Johansen test for the cointegrating rank when there exist additive outlying observations in the time series. We provide analytical as well as numerical evidence that additive outliers may produce spurious stationarity. Hence the Dickey-Fuller test will reject a unit root too frequently and the Johansen test will indicate too many cointegrating vectors. The results easily generalize to models with 'temporary change' outliers. Through an empirical example we discuss how additive and temporary change outliers can be detected in practice and we show how dummy variables can be used to remove the influence of such extreme observations.

Haldrup, N. and Salmon, N. (November 1993): Polynomially Cointegrated Systems and their Representations; A Synthesis, 28 pp.

Abstract. This paper presents a discussion of polynomial cointegration and a synthesis of various ways generalised cointegrated systems for a multivariate time series process may be represented. Using the Smith-McMillan canonical form of a rational polynomial matrix we describe the null-space structure of higher order - and in particular I(2) - cointegrated systems and we show how different representations such as the error correction model, the common stochastic trends model and various triangular array decompositions, can be derived within this unifying framework. Hence we extend the results of Hylleberg and Mizon (1989) to more general systems. The different representations provide different insights into distinct features of multivariate systems that may simultaneously contain several types of equilibrium behaviour. One obvious case arises when a model contains both higher order integrated and possibly seasonally integrated time series and can be represented in a lower dimensional space implying that the cointegrating equilibria may be expressed as polynomials in the lag operator. The implied long run equilibria may not then seem to be contemporanous in the underlying economic variables. Such non-contemporaneous equilibrium relationships may often have little appeal in terms of economic intuition and we briefly discuss how the specification of appropriately defined "state" variables may provide a more straightforward representation of economic equilibria for cointegrated systems.

Hylleberg, S. (April 1993): Tests for Seasonal Unit Roots. General to Specific or Specific to General ?

Abstract. In this paper the small sample properties of tests for seasonal unit roots in quarterly time series are evaluated and compared. The basic difference between the two tests is that the HEGY test adopts the general to specific strategy and tests the null of a unit root, while the CH test adopts the specific to general principle and tests the null of a stationary process around a deterministic seasonal pattern. The main result of the Monte Carlo experiments is that the two tests complement each other.

Andersen, T.M. and Hylleberg, S. (September 1993): Testing for Insider-Outsider Effects.

Abstract. This paper develops a new test strategy for evaluating the insider-outsider model explicitly building on the implications of the model for the adjustment to shocks. The basic conclusion of the insider-outsider model is that anticipated changes in variables relevant for labour demand are reflected in wages while unanticipated changes are reflected in employment. An error correction model of wage and employment formation is set up based on this distinction between the types of shocks. By applying this test method to the manufacturing sector in Denmark, it is found that employment changes react to unanticipated changes in the state variables as predicted by the theory. The wage equation, however, contains both anticipated changes and unanticipated changes in the state variables. In addition, lagged employment seems to have a negative effect on wages in accordance with the prediction of insider models.

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Lisbeth la Cour: "A note on parametric representation of integrated vector autoregressive (VAR) processes"

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Johansen, S. (January 1992): The Role of the Constant Term in Cointegration Analysis of Non-Stationary Variables, 26 pp.

Johansen, S. (August 1992): Identifying Restrictions of Linear Equations, 18 pp.

Johansen, S. & Juselius, K. (May 1992): Identification of the Long-Run and the Short-Run Structure. An Application to the ISHL Model, 35 pp.

Paruolo, P. (May 1992): Asymptotic Inference on the Moving Avarage Impact Matrix in Cointegrated I(1) VAR Systems, 27 pp.

Hansen, H. & Johansen, S. (January 1993): Recursive Estimation in Cointegration VAR-Models, 20 pp.

Abstract

Some methods for the evaluation of parameter constancy in cointegrated VAR-models are discussed. Two different representations of the VAR-model are suggested; one in which all parameters in the model are estimated recursively, and another in which the short-run parameters are considered fixed and only the long-run parameters are estimated recursively. We suggest a procedure to evaluate the constancy of the estimated cointegration rank, and give a test of the constancy of the long-run parameters in the model for a given cointegration rank. Finally, the asymptotic distribution of the non-zero eigenvalues is given, and the time paths of these eigenvalues are graphed with pointwise asymptotic confidence bounds.

Johansen, S. (October 1993): Likelihood Based Inference for Cointegration of Non-Stationary Time Series, 30 pp.

Abstract

This paper presents a survey of the statistical analysis of the cointegration model for vector autoregressive processes. The focus is on likelihood based inference, but for comparison the regression approach is briefly discussed. It is not the intention to give a complete survey of all results obtained in cointegration, but rather to present in an informal way the basic problems and some results, in the hope that those who catch an interest in the problem area, will be able to find the relevant references for a deeper study.

Nishio, A. (March 1993): Testing for a Unit Root against Local Alternatives, 38 pp.

Abstract

This paper deals with the problem of testing for a unit root in the framework of the near-integrated process proposed by Phillips (1987b). The convergence of the near-integrated process to the Ornstein-Uhlenbeck process is a key to this paper. A sequence of Fourier type transformations $\tilde{Z}_k, k = 1, \ldots$ associated with the Karhunen-Loève expansion of the Brownian motion is considered. The likelihood functions of the family of the Ornstein-Uhlenbeck processes based on $\tilde{Z}^{(K)} = (\tilde{Z}_1, \ldots, \tilde{Z}_K), K = 1, \ldots$ and their approximations are derived. Two tests for a unit root against local alternatives are given as the discrete analogues of those for the Brownian motion against the Ornstein-Uhlenbeck process. Our tests are shown to be locally efficient in the sense that the asymptotic distribution under either of the null and the local alternative hypotheses is the same as that of the exact loglikelihood ratio statistic of the Gaussian AR(1) models. The consistency of the tests are also given.

Stockmarr, A. & Jacobsen, M. (February 1993): Gaussian Diffusions and Autoregressive Processes: Weak Convergence and Statistical Inference, 23 pp.

Abstract
                      The statistical analysis of some hypothesis in models for d-dimensional homogeneous Gausian diffusions (HGD's) is discussed, and expressions for the MLE's and LR test statistics are derived. Regarded as distributions, the HGD's themselves are derived as weak limits of autoregressive processes, and the connection between the continous time (diffusion) and the discrete time (autoregressive) case is analysed. MLE's and LR test statistics in the two cases are connected by weak convergence.

Tjur, T. (September 1993): StatUnit - An Alternative to Statistical Packages? 14 pp.

Abstract
                    Some aspects of the author's Turbo Pascal unit StatUnit are discussed. The ability of this or a similar procedure library as an alternative to a conventional statistical package is advocated.

University of Copenhagen, Laboratory of Actuarial Mathematics, Universitetsparken 5, DK-2100 Copenhagen Ø

Nielsen, J. P. & Jewell, N. P. (January 1992): A framework for consistent prediction rules based on markers, 18 pp.
Published in Biometrika, 1993.

Kleffe, J. (February 1992): Statistical analysis of missing data with the help of generalized replicated models, 13 pp.

Hesselager, O. (February 1992): Rates of risk convergence of empirical linear Bayes estimators, 11 pp.
Published in Scand. Actuarial J., 1992.

Hesselager, O. (March 1992): A class of conjugate priors with applications to excess-of-loss reinsurance, 17 pp.
Published in ASTIN Bulletin, 1993.

Nielsen, J. P. (April 1992): Marker dependent hazard estimation, 21 pp.

Nielsen, J. P. (June 1992): Double integrals with respect to counting process martingales and the predictability issue in survival analysis, 17 pp.

Nielsen, J. P. (June 1992): A transformation approach to bias correction in kernel hazard estimation, 18 pp.

Hesselager, O. (September 1992): Extensions of Ohlin's lemma with applications to optimal reinsurance structures, 26 pp.
Published in Insurance Math. & Econ., 1993.

Nielsen, J. P. (November 1992): Abramson's square root law formulated for kernel hazard estimation, 11 pp.

Hesselager, O. (November 1992): A recursive procedure for calculation of some compound distributions, 14 pp.

Nielsen, J. P. & Linton, O. (November 1992): A multiplicative bias reduction method for nonparametric regression, 10 pp.

Møller, C. M. (January 1993): Martingale results in risk theory with a view to ruin probabilities and diffusions, 16 pp.
Published in Scand. Actuarial J., 1992.

Abstract. In modern risk theory martingales are mainly used to evaluate or construct upper bounds for the probability of ruin. Primarily, the present paper introduces the mathematics and assumptions that yield generalized versions of well-known martingales used today in risk theory. Also, an exponential upper bound for infinite time ruin is shown when the claims number process is a Cox process and the premium is chosen stochastic. Furthermore, some diffusion results in the mixed Poisson case is shown using convergence in probability of characteristic functions. The key tool is the theory of marked point processes together with Itô's formula for bounded variation processes.

Møller, C. M. (January 1993): A stochastic version of Thiele's differential equation, 16 pp.
Published in Scand. Actuarial J., 1993.

Abstract. Thiele's differential equation for the statewise reserves of a life insurance policy is viewed as a stochastic differential equation in a point process set-up. Special attention is given to the traditional Markov model and to a more general semi-Markov model. Finally, a numerical example with qualifying period for disabled lives is considered.

Møller, C. M. (August 1993): Integral equations for compound distribution functions, 13 pp.

Abstract. The present paper introduces a method based on the martingale representation theorem for point processes to obtain differential and integral equations for evaluating compound distribution functions. The results are formulated in a general point process set-up, with an application to insurance mathematics. Attention is mainly given to cases where a Markov structure is obtainable for the risk processes involved, but the martingale representation theorem is also applicable when a Markov structure is infeasible. Numerical illustrations are given and compared with the Panjer recursion formula.

Møller, C. M. (August 1993): Stochastic differential equations for ruin probabilities, 17 pp.

Abstract. The present paper proposes a general approach for finding differential equations to evaluate probabilities of ruin in finite and infinite time. Attention is given to real valued non-diffusion processes where a Markov structure is obtainable. Ruin is allowed to occur upon a jump or between the jumps. The results are applicable to life and non-life insurance models. The key tool is the theory of marked point processes together with the change of variable formula and the martingale representation theorem for point processes. Numerical illustrations are given by solving a partial differential equation numerically to obtain the probability of ruin over a finite time horizon.

Norberg, R. (August 1993): Identities for present values of life insurance benefits, 9 pp.

Abstract. The rule of integration by parts produces useful formulas for the present value of a payment stream. Applied to life insurance, utilizing the counting process nature of the development of the policy, the rule induces three classes of identities, some generalizing certain classical relationships between life annuities and assurances and some not hitherto encountered in the literature.

Hesselager, O. (September 1993): A recursive procedure for calculation of some mixed compound Poisson distributions, 15 pp.

Abstract. We derive a simple recursive procedure for calculation of mixed compound Poisson distributions, when the logarithm of the mixing density can be written as the ratio of two polynomials. This class of mixing densities is shown to be closed under sampling from the Poisson distribution, such that also the conditional compound distribution given the observed data can be calculated recursively.

Hesselager, O. (September 1993): A Markov model for loss reserving, 14 pp.

Abstract. The claims generating process for a non-life insurance portfolio is modelled as a marked Poisson process, where the mark associated with an incurred claim describes the development of that claim until final settlement. An unsettled claim is at any point in time assigned to a state in some state-space, and the transitions between different states are assumed to be governed by a Markovian law. All claims payments are assumed to occur at the times of transition between states. We develop separate expressions for the IBNR and RBNS reserves, and the corresponding prediction errors.

Norberg, R. & Møller, C. M. (October 1993): Thiele's differential equation by stochastic interest of diffusion type, 16 pp.

Abstract. The classical Thiele's differential equation for the prospective reserve of an insurance policy has been generalized to models with counting process driven payments and deterministic interest. Here the result is extended to situations with diffusion driven stochastic interest. The technique of proof consists in identifying the null part of the martingale associated with the initial present value of the payments. The presentation centers on life insurance, but the theory can be adapted to more general stochastic payment streams.

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Brief Information on Current Unpublished Research in Scandinavia

Titles of reports made in 1992.

92/1   Andersen, P.K. Repeated assessment of risk factors in survival analysis.

92/2   Klein, J.P., Keiding, N. & Kreiner, S. Graphical models for panel studies, illustrated on data from the Framingham heart study.

92/3   Frydman, H. Semiparametric estimation in a three–state semi–Markov model from interval censored observations with application to AIDS data.

92/4   Klein, J.P., Andersen, P.K. Estimating the survival function in the proportional hazards regression model: A study of the small sample size properties.

92/5   Klein, J.P., Keiding, N., Copelan, E.A. Plotting summary predictions in multi-state survival models: Probabilities of relapse and death in remission for bone marrow transplantation patients.

93/1   Nielsen, B. Expected survival in the Cox model.

Abstract

When a Cox analysis has been performed it may be of interest to test the applicability of the results on another set of data. One method is to compare the usual Kaplan–Meier estimator for the new data with a survival curve predicted from the old analysis. Three survival curves, the "direct adjusted survival curve", the "expected survival curve" and "Bonsel's curve", are presented and consistency properties are discussed. Based on counting process theory a test statistic is constructed. Finally an example from the liver transplant literature is presented.

93/2   Liestøl, K., Andersen, P.K. and Andersen, U. Survival analysis and neural nets.

Abstract

We consider feed–forward neural nets and their relation to regression models for survival data. It is shown how the back–propagation algorithm may be used to obtain maximum likelihood estimates in certain standard regression models for survival data as well as in various generalisations of these. Examples concerning malignant melanoma and post–partum amenorrhoea during lactation are used as illustration. We conclude that although problems with the substantial number of parameters and their interpretation remain, the feed–forward neural network models are flexible extension to the standard regression models and thereby candidates for use in prediction and exploratory analyses in larger data sets.

93/3   Andersen, P.K. A non–parametric test for comparing two samples where all observations are either left– or right–censored.

Abstract

The situation is considered where the status of the individuals under study is assessed only once during their life time, and as a consequence the observed time to an event of interest is either left– og right–censored. Non–parametric estimation of the time to event distribution is reviewed and a non–parametric two-sample test is proposed. The performance of the test is illustrated by simulations and by a numerical example.

93/4   Keiding, N. Delayed entry, the prevalent cohort study and survival synthesis.

Abstract

Modern survival analysis is concerned with statistical inference for *censored data*, that is, for some individuals the exact lifetime is unknown, it is only known, that the life time exceeds some time, the *censoring* time. Survival analysis allows estimation, hypothesis testing, and regression analysis and is used in medical statistics (including applications in epidemiology) and reliability.

The modern development of nonparametric survival analysis has been greatly improved and facilitated by the use of such modern probabilistic tools as counting processes, continuous–time martingales, and stochastic integrals.

The paper will focus on three current developments:

In many contexts individuals only come under observation some time after the beginning of the relevant time scale. There is now a complete theory available for such *delayed entry* situations.

A second topic is the theory of the *prevalent cohort study* of patients suffering from some chronic disease, where study entry is from a cross–sectional sample of prevalent cases.

My third topic may be termed *survival synthesis*, integrating the results of the specific analyses of transitions into various state in a multistate survival analysis model.

93/5   Commenges D. and Andersen, P.K. Score test of homogeneity for survival data.

Abstract

If follow–up is made for subjects which are grouped into units, such as familial or spatial units then it may be interesting to test whether the groups are homogeneous (or independent for given explanatory variables). The effect of the groups is modelled as random and we consider a frailty proportional hazards model which allows to adjust for explanatory variables. We derive the score test of homogeneity from the marginal partial likelihood which turns out to be the sum of a pairwise correlation term of martingale residuals and an overdispersion term. In the particular case where the sizes of the groups are equal to one, this statistic can be used for testing overdispersion. The asymptotic variance of this statistic is derived using counting process arguments. An extension to the case of several strata is given. The resulting test is computationally simple; its use is illustrated using both simulated and real data.

FINLAND

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Erkki P. Liski and Tapio Nummi (March 1993): PREDICTION IN REPEATED-MEASURES MODELS WITH ENGINEERING APPLICATIONS, 25 pp.

ABSTRACT: This paper focuses on the problem of predicting future measurements on a statistical unit given past measurements on the same and other similar units. We introduce a conditional predictor which utilises the information contained in previous measurements. The prediction technique is based on the iterative EM algorithm, but a non-iterative variant of it is also provided. We use the sample reuse methology to select an appropriate predictor. The technique is tested in three engineering applications. The first considers prediction in the context of the marking for bucking in automatic forest harvesters. In fatigue crack growth data the interest is in predicting the future crack growth development of the test unit, and the third application concerns evaluation of pulp from the point of view of its paper-making potential.

Erkki P. Liski and Tapio Nummi (August 1993): PREDICTION AND INVERSE ESTIMATION IN RE-PEATED MEASURES MODELS, 10 pp.

ABSTRACT: The prediction problem is considered here using the repeated measures modelling. Usually the main emphasis is on modelling the mean responses profile, but it turned out that modelling the within-individual covariance structure appropriately is also an important aspect in the prediction of future measurements under repeated measures data. In this paper we consider predicting in the context of paper making potential of pulp. Before paper is manufactured in a paper mill, the pulp fibres are treated in some kind of beating apparatus. Beating is one of the most essential operations in the paper-making process: it affects almost all characteristics of the paper. In prediction we utilise our knowledge about earlier pulp samples similar to the current one. We consider the situation where previously recorded data on $n - 1$ experimental units and measurements $y_{n1}, \ldots, y_{n,q_n-r}$, $1 \leq r < q_n$, on the nth unit (the current unit) at the points $t_1, t_2, \ldots, t_{q_n-r}$ are available. We are interested in the prediction of the values of y for this current unit over the values of $t \in (t_{q_n-r}, t_{q_n}]$. Basically two different prediction problems are investigated: (1) prediction at the prespecified points $t_{q_n-r+1}, t_{q_n-r+2}, \ldots, t_{q_n}$ (or in certain subset of these points) and (2) prediction at an arbitrary point lying in the interval $(t_{q_n-r}, t_{q_n}]$. In the second type of problem certain structure on the within-individual covariance structure is needed to predict y in a reasonable manner.

Nurhonen, Markku, Puntanen, Simo & Styan, George P. H. (December 1993):

Simplified matrix proofs related to the deletion of an observation in the general linear model, 10 pp.

ABSTRACT:
Consider the linear model, where the model matrix has full column rank and the covariance or dispersion matrix of the error term is positive definite. When estimating the parameters of the model, it is natural to consider the influence on the estimates of some changes or perturbations in the data: regression diagnostics measure such influence. A fundamental perturbation is the omission of at least one of the observations from the model. In this paper we present some helpful matrix results while studying such regression diagnostics.

Baksalary, J.K., Puntanen, S. & Scott, A.J. (November 1993):

Some remarks on the weakly singular linear model, 8 pp.

ABSTRACT:
In this article we consider such a special case of the general linear model when the column space of the model matrix is contained in that of the dispersion matrix of the error vector. The article from Encyclopedia of Statistical Sciences (Vol. 9) attributes the term "Zyskind-Martin model" to the subclass of the general linear models specified by this column space condition. We review some important properties of this model and provide some arguments that the term "weakly singular model" reflects better the specificity of the model in this situation.

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Mika Mannermaa & Keijo Mäkelä (February 1994): **Future Prospects of the Societal Development and Education. Futures Barometer of the Year 1993,** 50 + 50 pages.

Key words: Futures Research, society, education, delfoi technique, cross-impact analysis

Abstract: The study is made in cooperation with the Ministry of Education and the Futures Research Centre at the Turku School of Economics led by Dr. Mika Mannermaa. The aim of the study was to produce some expert-based evaluations of the future development (until the year 2017) of some social and educational key variables. Both trends and events were studied using delfoi technique and cross-impact analysis.

Pentti Malaska & Sun JiWu (1993): **Qualitative and Quantitative Efficiency of Energy Use. A Model Study on the Energy Ratio of Finnish Economy 1970 - 1990.**

Abstract: Energy efficiency has become a crucial issue of economic development in worldwide. The report aims at developing a series of econometric methods for assessing and measuring qualitatively and quantitatively the energy efficiency. The main structure of the model is decomposing the energy ratio into components of growth, sectorial structure and sectorial efficiency. The authors analyse Finnish energy consumption during 1970 and 1990 including total energy, oil, electricity and domestic energy use.

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Unpublished research 1992; titles.

Helland, I.S.: A population approach to the analysis of variance, 36 pp.

Helland, I.S.: Chisquare tests from clusters of observations, 11 pp. [To appear in Biometrical Journal]

Helland, I.S. and Almøy, T.: Comparison of prediction methods when only a few components are relevant, 27pp. [To appear in JASA 1994]

Unpublished research in 1993.

Almøy, T.: A simulation study on comparison of prediction methods when only a few components are relevant, 28 pp.
Abstract.: An unconditional expected squared error criterion is used for an overall comparison of 5 different prediction methods: Principal Component Regression by the size of the eigenvalues (PCR1) and by the size of the t-value (PCR2), Partial Least Squares Regression (PLS), Restricted Principal Component Regression (RPCR), and Modified Maximum Likelihood Regression (MML). Because the distributions of the estimated regression coefficients (looking at the calibration set as random) are unknown or only known asymptotically, a large simulation study is performed. By means of a model based on relevant components and by reducing the number of parameters in the model using the symmetries in the situation, the simulations are designed to cover the major part of the parameter space. The main result is that PCR1, PLS and RPCR are the best prediction methods, the three methods being quite similar, with PLS somewhat better when the irrelevant eigenvalues are large, and PCR1 somewhat better when the irrelevant eigenvalues are small.

Almøy, T.: When does it pay to assume equal specific variances in the factor analysis model? 19 pp.

Abstract.: The lack of an analytical solution to maximum likelihood estimation in factor analysis is known to imply numerical problems. In addition estimating many parameters can lead to inaccurate estimators or poor predictors. These problems could be avoided by assuming what is called a narrow factor analysis model, that is, assuming equal specific variances. Using asymptotic maximum likelihood theory makes it is shown that if this assumption is not to far from the correct model, it leads to better estimators or predictors than the correct one. The region, depending on the parameter values, where it pays to use narrow factor analysis models is presented, and applied to simple , but relevant examples.

Almøy, T.: Prediction and factor analysis, 29 pp.

Abstract.: In a multiple regression situation we assume a factor analysis model either for the independent variables or for the independent variables and the dependent variable jointly. By also assuming equal specific variances either for the independent variables or for the independent variables and the dependent variable we obtain what we call narrow models. Three possible models are sources for three different maximum likelihood estimators of the regression vectors, which are leading to three different linear predictors. These predictors are investigated by simulations covering a wide range of parameter values including cases where some of the assumptions are false. The predictors, called narrow predictors, are compared according to their minimum mean square error, and they are also compared to two different types of principal component regression (PCR) predictors. The conclusion is that no predictor is uniformly best, but even with relatively large deviations from the model at least two of the narrow predictors can be regarded as serious competitors to the PCR predictors.

Almøy, T. and Haugland, E.: Calibration methods for NIRS instruments - a theoretical evaluation and comparisons by data splitting and simulations. [To appear in Appl. Spectroscopy.]

Abstract.: The properties of the recently proposed calibration method, restricted principal component regression (RPCR) were evaluated and compared with partial least square regression (PLSR) and two types of principal component regression (PCR1 selected according to the size of the eigenvalues and PCR2 according to the t-value). RPCR can be considered a compromise between PCR and PLSR, as the first component of RPCR

is equivalent to the first component of PLSR, while the rest can be regarded as principal components on a space orthogonal to the first. The methods showed almost the same properties when the irrelevant components had small eigenvalues. The prediction error of RPCR selected according to the size of the eigenvalues was intermediate to those of PCR1 and PLSR when the number of components were low, while RPCR and PCR1 nearly coincided when the number of components exceeded the number of relevant ones. The prediction error minimum was about the same for RPCR, PCR1 and PLSR, but the minimum of PLSR was obtained when a lower number of components were included in the calibration model.

Helland, I.S.: Simple counterexamples against the Conditionality Principle, 26 pp.

Abstract. The famous Theorem of Birnbaum (1962) stating that the Likelihood Principle follows from the Conditionality Principle together with the Sufficiency Principle, has caused much discussion among statisticians. Briefly, many writers dislike the consequences of the Likelihood Principle (among other things, confidence coefficients and levels of tests are dismissed as meaningless), but at the same time they feel that both the Conditionality Principle and the Sufficiency Principle are intuitively obvious. In the present paper we give examples to show that the Conditionality Principle should not be taken to be of universal validity, and we discuss some consequences of these examples.

Helland, I.S.: Partial least squares regression and latent variables, 10 pp.

Abstract. In a recent paper Frank and Friedman (1993) give a thorough discussion and comparison of ridge regression, principal component regression and partial least squares regression focusing mainly upon prediction performance. In the discussion of that paper, S. Wold argues that the understanding of latent structure is often more important in chemometrics than prediction. We give a precise formulation of how latent structure can be interpreted from the point of view of principal components and partial least squares. Also, we formulate a natural situation where partial least squares regression has better prediction properties than ridge regression.

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The Values of Insurance Companies under different Uncertain Portfolios

by

Knut K. Aase[1] and Isaac Meilijson[2]

Abstract.

The value of an insurance company mainly depends upon the premiums received in each underwriting period, the probability distribution of the accumulated claims against the company, the equity capital and the risk-adjusted rate of return determined by the market. Under the assumption that the objective is to maximize the profits to the shareholders, we analyze what factors determine the optimal equity capital and how the value of the company is affected by marginal changes in the underlying determinants. One such factor is the claims against the company in each period, which we represent by a stationary stochastic process. The existing orders for partially ranking risks do not suffice for our purpose, and new sufficient conditions are found on the risks facing the companies, for the successful ranking of the company values.
Finally the effects of reinsurance in the present model are discussed, and it is demonstrated that proportional reinsurance is not an optimal form of reinsurance, at least when seen from the point of view of the owners of an insurance corporation.

A model for loss of profits insurance

by

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Abstract
We consider a model for loss of profits insurance where we use the principle of equivalence in the actuarial sciences. Here we demonstrate a computationally efficient method for calculating expected discounted values when the underlying technological uncertainty is modeled by a time-continuous and homogeneous Markov process with a finite or possibly countable state space E. Such quantities may be interpreted as insurance premiums under certain assumptions, and an economic model is formulated where this is the case.

Statistical Research Report
Institute of Mathematics
University of Oslo 1992

Eggen, S., Natvig, B. & Gåsemyr, J. (1992, No 1): Periodical conditions among two norwegian patient groups. A statistical analysis of the relation of probing pocket depth to sex, age, plague, residence and torus mandibularis.

Natvig, B. & Gåsemyr, J. (1992, No 2): Expert opinions in bayesian estimation of system reliability in a shock model - the MTP_S connection.

Hjort, N. and Omre, H. (1992, No 3): Topics in Spatial Statistics.

Käresen, K. (1992. No 4): Parametric estimation: Choosing between narrow and wide models.

Langholz, B. & Borgan, Ø. (1992, No 5): Nonparametric estimation of relative mortality from nested case-control studies.

Langholz, B. & Borgan, Ø. (1992, No 6): Stratified Nested Case-Control Sampling in the Cox Regression model.

Borgan, Ø., Goldstein, L. & Langholz, B. (1992, No 7): Methods for the analysis of sampled cohort data in the Cox proportional hazards model.

Eggen, S., Natvig, B. & Gåsemyr, J. (1992, No 8): Variation in torus palatinus prevalence in Norway.

Eggen, S. & Natvig, B. (1992, No 9): Concurrence of torus mandibularis and torus palatinus.

Fenstad, G. U. & Skovlund, E. (1992, No 10): The Behrens-Fisher problem; a comparison of test properties when observations are not necessarily normal.

Gåsemyr, J. (1992): Reliability analysis in shock models. **1993**

Huseby, A. B & Gåsemyr, J. (1993, No 1): Optimal project acceleration policies, a Bayesian approach.

Samuelsen. S. O. & Kongrud. J. (1993, No 2): Evaluation of applying interval censoring on longitudinal data on asthmatic symptoms.

Abstract: In a longitudinal study of workers in 7 Norwegian aluminum plant the time to development of asthematic symptoms could only be determined to lie in the interval between two consecutive health examinations. in a previous paper we analyzed the data by survival techniques for interval censored data. In the present paper the data are reanalysed in two ways and compared to the previous analysis. First it is assumed that occurrence of symptoms concurred with reporting, in which case the data can be analysed as right censored. Secondly the follow-up times are completely disregarded and the effects of covariates are analysed on the binary outcomes of symptoms. comparing the estimated effects of the covariates between the three approaches only minor difference were found. However the estimates were analysed as right censored or interval censored.

Langholz, B. & Borgan, Ø. (1993, No 3): Counter-Matching: A Stratified Nested Case-Control Sampling Method

Abstract: A new type of nested case-control sampling is presented in which the sampled risk sets include the failure and random samples from "sampling strata" defined by covariate information available for all cohort subjects. This sampling may be non-representative in that the proportion sampled from each stratum need not be representative of the entire risk set. Asymptotic relative efficiency comparisons indicate that this type of sampling has superior efficiency to simple nested case-control sampling in situations of practical interest. A simple extension of the method is given which allows for non-representative sampling of failures. Analysis of stratified sampled data may be performed using standard conditional logistic likelihood software which allows for an "offset" in the model.

Hjort. N. L. (1993. No 4): Dynamic Likelihood Hazard Rate Estimation.

Abstract: The best known methods for estimating hazard rate functions in survival analysis models are either purely parametric or purely nonparametric. The parametric ones are sometimes too biased while the nonparametric ones are sometimes too variable. In the present paper a certain semiparametric approach to hazard rate estimation. proposed in Hjort (1991), is developed further, aiming to combine parametric and nonparametric features. It uses a dynamic local likelihood approach to fit the locally most suitable member in a given parametric class of hazard rates. and amounts to a version of nonparametric parameter smoothing within the parametric class. Thus the parametric hazard rate estimate at time s inserts a parameter estimate that also depends on s. We study bias and variance properties of the resulting estimator and methods for choosing the local smoothing parameter. It is shown that dynamic likelihood estimation often leads to better performance than the purely nonparametric methods, while also having capacity for not losing much to the parametric methods in cases where the model being smoothed is adequate.

Hjort, N. L. & Pollard, D. (1993, No 5): Asymptotics for Minimisers of convex Processes.

Abstract: By means of two simple convexity arguments we are able to develop a general method for proving consistency and asymptotic normality of estimators that are defined by minimisation of convex criterion functions. This method is then applied to a fair range of different statistical estimation problems, including Cox regression. logistic and Poisson regression, least absolute deviation regression outside model conditions. and pseudo-likelihood estimation for Markov chains. Our paper has two aims. The first is to exposit the method itself, which in many cases. under reasonable regularity conditions, leads to new proofs that are simpler than the traditional proofs. Our second aim is to exploit the method to its limits for logistic regression and Cox regression, where we seek asymptotic results under as weak regularity conditions as possible. For Cox regression in particular we are able to weaken previously published regularity conditions substantially.

Hjort, N. L. & Lumley, T. (1993, No 6): Normalised Local Hazard Plots
Abstract: The purpose of this paper is to develop and illustrate certain classes of graphical plots that can be used for model verification in quite general survival data and life history data models. By suitably comparing nonparametric and parametric estimates of hazard rate functions over time a hazard comparison function can be constructed which under parametric model assumptions is approximately a zero-mean normal process.

The test curves we propose are locally normalised versions of such hazard comparison functions. Under model conditions the test function is approximately a standard normal for each time point. This makes the normalised local hazard curves easy to interpret. We give explicit constructions for the most commonly used models of survival analysis, including the exponential, the Weibull, the Gompertz. the gamma. and for parametric Cox regression. Algorithms carrying this out have been developed in Splus. Various theoretical and practical issues are discussed. including detection power and extensions to time-discrete models. Illustrations are given on simulated and real data.

Eyland. A. (1993. No 7): Classification of Cars in a Multiplicative Rating Model using Recursive Credibility Estimation - Theory and Application.

University of Oslo, Department of Economics, Box 1095 Blindern. 0317 Oslo
Heldal, J. (February 1993): *Reduced rank regression and decomposition of regressions in multiresponse generalized linear models. 206 pp.* Thesis for Dr. of Politics in statistics.

Abstract. The thesis first gives an introduction to the concept canonical regression developed by Tore Schweder in a context of least squares regression. This concept is developed further for generalized linear models estimated by maximum likelihood. Various methods for specifying low rank restrictions on a regression parameter matrix B in an estimation context are discussed. Let $rank(B) = r$. B can be decomposed into a sum of r rank one matrices $\gamma_k \alpha'_k, k = 1, \ldots, r$ where γ_k and α_k are vectors. A technique called *Forward canonical regression* that takes advantage of this decomposition is developed for computing a maximum likelihood estimate of B with a given rank without Lagrange restrictions. Asymptotic properties of the estimator are developed. These results extend to the case when the estimate of B has restriced rank but the true rank is full.

The thesis also developes a decomposition of an estimated matrix B in sum of rank one matrices which is optimal in a likelihood sense. This method is called *Backwards canonical regression*. The decomposition shows up latent structures in the regression and is subject to interpretation. The methods have been applied to datasets involving multinomial and several binomial responses.

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On phase type distributions in survival analysis [1]

Abbreviated title: Phase type distributions

Odd O. Aalen

Summary

Consider a homogeneous, time-continuous Markov chain with a single absorbing state. For a given initial distribution on the transient state space, the time till absorption is said to have a phase type distribution. These distributions are much applied in queuing theory, but it is suggested here that they should also find greater application in biostatistics. A survey is given of various kinds of phase type models, connecting them to problems in survival analysis. A distinction is introduced between progressive and nonprogressive models. It is shown how a phase type model may be fitted to data on intervals between first and second birth.

ON THE USE OF HIV DIAGNOSIS INFORMATION IN MONITORING OF THE AIDS EPIDEMIC

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§PHLS AIDS Centre at CDSC, London

Summary

For AIDS patients, information may be available on the time of HIV diagnosis (first positive HIV antibody test) in addition to the time of AIDS diagnosis. This extra information may be incorporated into backcalculation of HIV infection curves. This also allows the estimation of the rate of HIV diagnosis among HIV infected individuals, a measure which is of obvious public health importance. A framework for this is described and then applied to data from England and Wales. Different exposure categories are compared. The incorporation of information on the total number of HIV diagnoses in specific exposure groups is also examined.

Phase-type distributions: computer algebra and a simple mixing model [1]

Abbreviated title: Phase type distributions

Odd O. Aalen

Summary

The concept of a phase type distribution is well known from queuing theory, meaning the distribution of time till absorption in a finite state, homogeneous, time-continuous Markov chain with one absorbing state. The computation of distribution functions and hazard rates by means of the symbolic programming system Mathematica is discussed. A mixing (frailty) model is studied, where the speed with which an individual moves on the chain is randomized. The potential application of this idea in medical statistics is discussed. The Laplace transform of the mixing variable plays an important role in the development and various possibilities for classes of Laplace transforms are presented.

Counting processes and dynamic modelling

authors O.O. Aalen[1]

1.1 Summary

I give some historical comments concerning the introduction of counting process theory into survival analysis. The concept of dynamic modelling of counting processes is discussed, focussing on the advantage of models that are *not* of proportional hazards type. The connection with a statistical definition of causality is pointed out. Finally, the concept of martingale residual processes is discussed briefly.

REGRESSION MODELLING FOR LONG TERM SURVIVAL OF CANCER

PART II

A Linear Non-parametric Regression Model

Author: P.H. Zahl

Abstract

A linear non-parametric regression model for the excess intensity is presented which allows the excess intensity to be non-positive as well as varying with time. A test method for the effect of covariates in specific intervals or for the complete observation period is given together with a Kolmogorov-Smirnov type test. The method is illustrated by long term survival analysis of all Norwegian males with Cancer Coli registered in a period of 10 years.

A Method for Calibration of Weights in Sample Surveys.

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October 29, 1992

Abstract

Sometimes statistics based on sample surveys are published for population totals for which the true values are known in advance from other sources, such as registers. This paper describes a method to calibrate the weights of persons and households in such a way that the estimates from the sample are forced to fit the true values exactly. The external information which is thereby incorporated in the weights may also help improving the estimation of other quantities. Applications are given.

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Bølviken, Erik and Egeland, Thore (1992). "Simulation of spatially linked curves", 9 p.

Storvik, Geir (1992). "A Bayesian Approach to Dynamic Contours" Part of Phd. thesis, 83 p.

Storvik, Geir (1992). "Data-reduction by projections for multivariate spatial images". Part of Phd. thesis, 23 p.

Aldrin, Magne. (1993). "Reduced rank regression for multivariate time series with missing observations; applied to traffic data". 25 p.

Reduced rank regression is extended to handle multivariate data with missing observations in the response variables. The method is used to estimate the effect of introducing a toll cordon around Oslo. Several methodological issues are discussed from the perspective of this problem, the most important being 1) selection of model rank, 2) the modelling of serial correlations in the errors and 3) uncertainty assessment by resampling.

Andersen, Tove, (1993). "The Little Bootstrap - A method for dimensionality selection in regression". 31 p.

Abstract. In a regression problem with many input variables, it is seldom a good idea to fit the data by means of least square regression on all of the input variables. A regression equation based on a few variables is in addition to being simpler, often more accurate. Therefore methods for dimension selecting are needed. A common method is Mallows C_p but since one uses the same data to evaluate the model as to select it, it often gives models that are too large. Thus alternative approaches are required. Here we discuss a method called the Little Bootstrap suggested by Breiman (1992). In comparison to Mallows C_p the Little Bootstrap does well as documented by analytic examples and simulations.

Bølviken, Erik and Egeland, Thore,(1993). "Arson and statistics: Can the defendant's proximity to a large number of fires be explained by chance?". 8 p.

Abstract. During ten days of June 93 a fireman stood trial, accused of arson in a community in the southern part of Norway. The statistical expert evidence playing a major part in court is presented as a case study. The fireman was known to have been present at the scenes of fire in the hours prior to onset in no less than 24 out of 37 cases of forest fire. Was this so strikingly often that he had to be the arsonist? The study attempts to answer the question through probabilistic analysis, carefully taking into account and integrating special features that could explain the peculiar behavior of the defendant. The conclusion hinges on certain input parameters to the calculation, and the principal aim of the work is organize, structure and reduce the material to a few quantities that are easier to comprehend than the problem in its original form. The court ac-

cepted the relevance of the calculations, and used it against the defendant, but he was still acquitted. A number of issues related to probabilistic interpretation of evidence is discussed.

Egeland. Thore; Georgsen, Frode; Skare, Øivind og Alabert Francois, (1993). "Analytical calculations related to facies simulation". 9 p.

Abstract. The paper present calculations related to the volumes of different facies types. In general statistical terms we are concerned with coverage processes. The calculations are typically performed prior to simulations of reservoir facies and may add substantially to the understanding of the model. Analytical formulae are vital when sensitivity studies are called for. The practitioner will typically want to single out the most important parameters of the model. Examples are shown based on a study of a turbiditic reservoir.

Storvik, Geir; Egeland, Thore; Holden, Lars and Tjelme- land, Håkon, (1993). "Markov Chain simulations for analysis of marked point processes". 34 p.

Abstract. Use of Markov chains and more general Markov processes for simulation from complex distributions has in the recent years got increasing interest. This report review the use of such processes for simulation of marked point processes.

The report review the basic theory for Markov chains Further, it is shown how this theory may be used for constructing simulation algorithms such as the Gibbs sampler and the Metropolis algorithm, which both can be seen as special cases of the more general class of algorithms due to Hastings.

In some cases, use of continuous time Markov processes is necessary for constructing efficient algorithms. The report considers one such process, the birth and death process, which has been of special interest for simulation of marked point processes.

On some properties of De Pril transforms of counting distributions

by

Bjørn Sundt

The Wyatt Company

Oslo

Abstract

In this paper we study a transform introduced by De Pril (1989) for recursive evaluation of convolutions of counting distributions with a positive probability in zero. We discuss some cases where the evaluation of this transform is simplified and relate the transform to infinitely divisible distributions. Finally we discuss an algorithm presented by Dhaene & Vandebroek (1993) for recursive evaluation of convolutions.

University of Tromsø, Institute of mathematical and physical sciences, N-9037 Tromsø.

Bredrup, E. and Zhang, L. (October 1993): On Models of Imperfectly Shuffled Decks in Bridge. 32 pp.

Abstract. In the present report, the authors have tried to model man-dealt decks which have been used in Bridge games and have been found to be unsatisfactory. two models were considered, one of which was shown to be admissible. A simple test on the randomness of hand-shuffled decks based on this model has been developed. Tables containing the distributions of the suits in one hand, given the model under distinct values of the parameter, are provided through simulation.

University of Trondheim, Norwegian Institute of Technology, Department of Mathematical Sciences, N-7034 Trondheim

1992:

Blaker, H. & Spjøtvoll, E.: Preference functions and acceptability in statistical inference.

1993:

Sebastiani, G. & Godtliebsen, F.: Image smoothing based on discontinuity patterns, 32 pp.

Abstract. In this paper, we describe a new method to improve the quality of images degraded by additive white Gaussian noise. The true grey level is estimated by using weighted local averages of the measured values. The presence of different local patterns of discontinuities and their likelihood given the local measured grey levels are taken into account during the averaging. Results for both simulated and real Magnetic Resonance (MR) images are presented and compared to those obtained by some related methods.

University of Trondheim, Department of Mathematics and Statistics, N-7055 Dragvoll

1992:

Bjørnstad, J.: On the generalization of the likelihood function and the likelihood principle, 38 pp.

Bjørnstad, J. & Skjold, F.: Interval estimation in the presence of nonresponse, 6 pp.

Nonresponse models for panel surveys

by

Jan F. Bjørnstad and Dag Einar Sommervoll

University of Trondheim and Central Bureau of Statistics of Norway

SWEDEN

University of Göteborg, Department of Statistics, Viktoriagatan 13, S-411 25 Göteborg

Teräsvirta, T., Tjöstheim, D. & Granger C.W.J. (1992): Aspects of Modelling Nonlinear Time Series. 44 pp.

Guilbaud, O. (1992): Exact Semiparametric Inference About the Within-Subject Variability in 2 x 2 Crossover Trails. 27 pp.

Svensson, E. & Holm, S. (1992): Separation of systematic and random errors in ordinal rating scales. 25 pp.

Frisén, M. & Åkermo, G. (May 1993): Comparison between two methods of surveillance: exponentially weighted moving average vs cusum. 23 pp.

Abstract. The probability of a false alarm, the probability of sucessful detection and the predictive value are three measures (besides the usual ARL) used for comparing the performance of two methods often used in surveillance systems. One is the "Exponentially weighted moving average" method, EWMA, and the other one is the CUSUM method (V-mask). Illustrations are presented to explain the observed differences.

Jonsson, R. (Aug 1993): Exact properties of McNemar's test in small samples. 19 pp.

Abstract. The exact distribution of McNemar's test statistic is used to determine critical points for two-sided tests of equality of marginal proportions in the correlated 2x2 table. The result is a conservative unconditional test which reduces to the conditional binomial test as a special case. Exact critical points are given for the significance levels 0.05, 0.01 and 0.001 with the sample sizes $n=6(1)50$. A computer program for tail probabilities makes the calculation of power easy. It is concluded that McNemar's test is never inferior to the conditional binomial test and the much can be gained by using the McNemar test if the main purpose is to detect differences between the marginal proportions in small samples. A further conclusion is that the chi-square approximation of McNemar's test statistic may be inadequate when $n \leq 50$. Especially the 5% critical points are constantly too small.

Gellerstedt, M. (Oct 1993): Resampling procedures in linear models. 35 pp.

Abstract. We will study here different resampling procedures for creating conficence sets in linear models. A special technique called abstract resampling makes it possible to use the true residuals and the true model for resampling. This may seem to be peculiar since the true residuals contains unknown parameters and thus are non observable; but for each specified parameter value the residuals are observable and can be used for resampling. Furthermore simulating the null distribution of some appropriate statistic gives the possiblity to test the accuracy of a hypothetic parameter value. Finally a conficence set can be created by finding the parameter values which can not be rejected.

Bootstrapping the true residuals will be called abstract bootstrapping. We will show that the abstract bootstrap method is closely related to a permutation method.

A balanced abstract boostrap method will also be presented, a method which treats the grand mean in linear models and can be applied in ordinary boostrapping as well.

The resampling methods; bootstrap, abstract bootstrap and the permutation method are all closely related. Which method to use is discussed from a practical point of view.

Linköping University, Department of Mathematics, S-581 83 Linköping

Afsarinejad, K. (December 1992): Repeated measurements designs with unequal period sizes, 10 pp.

Arnér, M. (January 1992): Några drag ur den statistiska hypotesprövningens historia. 15 pp.

Danielsson, S. (October 1992): Estimation of the Multiplicative Effects on Countermeasures of Road Accidents in the Presence of Regression, 21 pp.

Danielsson, S. (November 1992): Sampling Individuals from Households: Estimation Problems in Situations with or without Nonresponse, 9 pp.

Forsman, G., Danielsson, S. (October 1992): Telephone Interviewing and Data Quality, an Overview and Empirical Study, 21 pp.

Hjorth, U. (January 1992): Några stokastiska modeller på trafikområdet, 25 pp.

Nordgaard, A., Hjorth, U. (June 1992): Statistical extrapolation and estimation of nutrient concentrations in the Baltic Sea, 61 pp.

Danielsson, S. (September 1993): Statistical Models for Analyzing the Number of Traffic Accidents and Injuries, 15 pp.

Abstract. Most often the traffic safety is measured by the number of accidents, sometimes divided in different types of accidents. However, in many situations it is more convenient to study the consequences of the accidents, e.g. the number of injured (and killed) persons. Models for the number of accidents are extensively studied in the literature, but very little is written about models for the number of injuries.

In this paper we claim that in many cases it is almost necessary to study both the number of accidents and the number of injuries. Therefore, we describe the principal model structure concerning the number of accidents, the number of injuries per accident and the total number of injuries. We adopt the traditional models for the number of accidents and discuss different models for the number of injuries. With this background we sketch the possibilities to develop statistical methods for analyzing injury data.

University of Lund, Department of Statistics, Box 7008, S-220 07 Lund, Sweden

Füle, E. (May 1992): Multivariate regression models based on prior information, with applications to ecological inference, 38 pp.

Berg, S. & Lepelley, D. (October 1992): On probability models in voting theory, 11 pp.

de Figueiredo, E. (December 1992): Spatial differentiation with multivariate statistical metods: two case studies with Swedish data, 49 pp.

Lanke, J. (December 1992): A note on mortality estimation, 9 pp.

Ljungquist, B. (December 1992): Seasonal variations in the mortality of the extremely aged, 20 pp.

University of Lund, Department of Statistics, Box 7008, S-220 07 Lund, Sweden

Hagnell, M. (June 1993): A case-study of the regression of a latent variable on another latent variable for time series data, 25 pp.

Abstract. In an economical-historical application with Swedish data from the years 1751-1850 we are interested in the dependence of the latent variable adult mortality, measured by the death rates for six different age groups, on the latent variable real income, measured by three indicators. A first simple LISREL model, composed of the regression of adult mortality on real income combined with a one-factor model for adult mortality and a one-factor model for real income, ignores that the data are time series which are auto- och crosscorrelated. Two different LISREL models, models M_1 and M_2, with increasing complexity are presented to account for the autocorrelation in the data. Model M_1 accounts for autocorrelation of the first order while the more complex model M_2, accounts for autocorrelation of the second order. Model comparisons show that model M_1 fits the data reasonably well.

Royal Institute of Technology, Department of Mathematics, S-10044 Stockholm

Grandell, J. (October 1993): The mixed Poisson process in a modern setting, 68 pp.

Abstract. With Ove Lundberg's thesis from 1940 as a starting-point, we consider mixed Poisson processes. Special emphasis is given to characterizing properties and to relations with other classes of point processes.

Grigelionis, B. and Yannaros, N (March 1992): A generalized transfer theorem. 9 pp.

Holst L. (September 1993): The general birthday problem. 8 pp.

Abstract The general birthday problem with unlike birth probabilities and the waiting time N until c people with the same birthday have been obtained is studied in this paper. It is shown that N is stochastically largest when the birth probabilities are equal. By embedding in Poisson processes it is shown how the moments of N can be expressed in moments of the minimum of gamma random variables.

Stockholm School of economics, Department of Economic Statistics, Box 6501, S-113 83 Stockholm

Edlund, P-O. & Karlsson, S. (March 1992): Forecasting the Swedish Unemployment Rate: VAR vs. Transfer Function Modelling, 38 pp. (EFI Research Report)

Stockholm University, Institute of Actuarial Mathematics and Mathematical Statistics, S-106 91 Stockholm

Ahlman, Ulla (November 1992): Statistisk analys av data från subjektiva lyssningsprov, 25 pp.

Andersson, Christer (May 1992): En simuleringsstudie av olika estimatorer i GSAM, den generaliserade standardadditionsmetoden (kemisk analysmetod), 35 pp.

Andersson, Håkan (January 1992): A threshold limit theorem for a multitype epidemic model, 16 pp.

Andersson, Håkan & Djehiche, Boualem (June 1992): Multitype epidemics and Brownian sheets, 14 pp.

Andersson, Håkan (January 1993): A threshold limit theorem for an epidemic with fatal risk, 16 pp.
  Abstract. We study an epidemic model proposed by Lefèvre & Picard and derive a threshold limit theorem for the total cost, i.e. the total area under the trajectory of infectives, using a random time-scale transformation.

Björkholm, Anders & Vågerö, Mårten (May 1992): En simuleringsstudie av ett produktions-system, utförd vid Ericsson Telecom, 43 pp.

Britton, Tom (May 1992): The asymptotic distribution of a clustering index, 15 pp.

Brännstam, Gunnar (May 1992): Driftskostnadsersättning från stationär livförsäkringsrörelse, 23 pp.

Guilbaud, Olivier (October 1992): Exact inference about the within-subject variability in 2x2 crossover-trials, 24 pp.

Hannerz, Harald (December 1993): Orthognatic surgery, from the patient's viewpoint, 44 pp.
  Abstract. In this work is studied what factors influence the patient's grade of satisfaction, based on data from a follow-up of patients having undergone orthognatic surgery.

Johansson, Björn (December 1992): A simplified proof of the central limit theorem for continuous time martingales, 10 pp.

Klintberg, Louise af (May 1992): Asymptotic normality of consistent estimators from independent observations under nonstandard conditions, 5 pp.

Lagarde, Frédéric (May 1992): Statistical aspects of the influence of indoor radon exposure and smoking on the risk of lung cancer, 38 pp.

Larsson, Rolf (December 1992): Asymptotic distribution theory for some test statistics in autoregressive and Galton-Watson processes (doctoral thesis), 162 pp.

Linder, Marie (May 1992): Några statistiska metoder för analys av tidsberoende bakgrunds-variabler, tillstånd efter viss tid, och tid till viss förändring, tillämpade på data från nedlägg-ning av skolöverstyrelsen, 25 pp.

Lundholm, Lotta (May 1992): Arbetsskadeanmälningar av belastningskaraktär – vem får reducerad risk efter gjord anmälan? 35 pp.

Pettersson, Magnus (November 1992): Statistisk analys av dämpning vid skarvning av optiska fibrer, 44 pp.

Sundberg, Rolf (March 1993): Interpretation of unreplicated two-level factorial experiments, by examples. 23 pp
  Abstract. This tutorial invites the reader to acquire experience in the analysis of data from unreplicated two-level factorial experiments, in particular 2^4 and similar experiments, by a guided tour through a set of examples illustrating the many patterns possible in this type of data.

Westin, Helén (May 1992): Stoploss-premie i motorförsäkring, 18 pp.

Stockholm University, Department of Statistics, S-106 91 Stockholm

Cenner, S. (March 1992): Classification Based on Entropies, 40pp.

Cenner, S. (August 1992): Entropy and Redundancy in Discrete Multivariate Distributions, 30pp.

Cano, R. (June 1992): On the Efficiency of the Bayesian Bootstrap, 154pp. (Doctoral dissertation).

Dalén, J. (December 1992): Hedonic Indexes in Official Price Index Programs, 17pp.

Dalenius, T. (January 1992): A Possible Means of Encouraging Cooperation in Iterview Surveys, 9pp.

Dalenius, T. (January 1992): Disclosure Control of a Vector of Magnitudes, 6pp.

Frank, O. & Snijders, T. (August 1992): Estimating Hidden Populations Using Snowball Sampling, 33pp.

Hägglund, G. (May 1992): Jämförelse av estimatorer för skattning av trafikflöden (A Comparison of Estimators of Traffic Flow), 32pp.

Jäntti, M. (November 1992): Poverty Dominance and Statistical Inference, 17pp.

Svensson, Å. (March 1992): When Will the Rumour Stop - On the Duration of a Maki-Thompson Epidemic, 8pp.

Changli, H. (January 1993): On Random Price Index Numbers, 33pp.

  Abstract. Price index numbers involve prices and quantities at two occasions for a number of commodities, and it is generally assumed that survey data are available for making the appropriate estimates. Here the problem of uncertainty in the estimates is approached by considering the prices and quantities as random variables. As a consequence, the price index is a random variable with a probability distribution reflecting the combined effects of uncertainty in commodity prices and quantities.
  Various random models and their implications for the price index distribution are discussed. In particular, exact or approximate expected values and standard deviations of the price index are given in a number of cases.

Dahmström, K. (June 1993): In Swedish: Kvantitativa metoder för utvärdering (Quantitative Methods for Evaluation, 67pp.

Abstract. In this report a survey of different statistical methods to evaluate the effects of a new program/treatment or a modified one is given. The prerequisites of a successful evaluation are discussed, for instance the design of the study, but also the problems about the deviations in practice from an ideal situation. It is suggested that evaluations of labour market programs should be of high priority for applications.

Dahmström, P. & Dahmström, K. (February 1993): ML-Estimation of the Clustering Parameter in a Markov Graph Model, 29pp.

Abstract. We consider a special case of Markov graph models with a clustering parameter σ. ML-estimation of this parameter is performed by using simulation of Markov graphs. More specifically an expansion of the expected number of two-stars is done and a starting solution with the exact values of the first three cumulants when $\sigma = 0$ is used. Furthermore, the cumulants up to the 4:th order are estimated for successively better estimates of σ. A special computer program is written to perform the whole stepwise estimation procedure. The previously suggested method of pseudolikelihood estimation by the use of logistic regression is shown to be unsatisfactory in many situations. All methods considered are compared with the exact ML-estimates for complete enumerations.

Frank, O. & Öhrvik, J. (January 1993): Exploring Multimodality Using Information Divergence, 32pp.

Abstract. Several tests of unimodality versus multimodality are here developed from the information theoretic notion of divergence. It is shown that for specific parametric and non-parametric families of distributions, some of the tests obtained are related to tests based on entropy and excess mass considered by other authors. Simulation results are reported that illustrate power properties of the tests.

Hägglund, G. (September 1993): Factor Analysis by Instrumental Variables Methods: On the Reference Variables and a Comparison with Related Methods, 38pp.

Abstract. The estimation methods FABIN (Factor Analysis By INstrumental Variables) are viewed against a variety of more or less related methods. It is pointed out that the FABIN-methods possess several good properties compared with other methods. Here, the concept "formal simplicity" is discussed. The so called "reference variables" are considered from different points of view. Distinctions and relations to other methods are also discussed. Particularly, the aspect "exploratory versus confirmatory factor analysis" is considered. Moreover, the specific scaling of the FABIN-model is compared to the "traditional" methods, both theoretically and empirically.

Pärna, K. (December 1993): Correspondence Analysis: An Overview and Some Applications, 38pp.

Abstract. Correspondence analysis is an exploratory method for analyzing 2-dimensional data tables that results in displaying the rows and columns as points in a low-dimensional vector space. This report is an introduction to correspondence analysis covering historical overview, essentials of the mathematical theory that stands behind the method, relationships with other statistical methods, an also some applications of correspondence analysis in social sciences.

Svensson, Å. (January 1993): On the Asymptotic Size and Duration of a Class of Epidemic Models, 23pp.

Abstract. Models for epidemic spread of infections are formulated by defining intensities for relevant counting processes. It is assumed that an infected individual passes through k stages of infectivity. The times spent in the different stages are random. Many well-known models for the spread of infections can be described in this way. The models can also be applied to describe other processes of epidemic character (e.g. models for rumour spreading). Asymptotic results are derived both for the size and for the duration of the epidemic.

Svensson, Å. (September 1993): On the Simultaneous Distribution of Size and Costs of an Epidemic in a Closed Multi-Group Population, 15pp.

Abstract. A multiple stochastic epidemic model in which the infectivities and susceptibilities differ between subgroups is considered. To each infected are associated random effects of the infection, such the development of a subsequent disease and the length of the infectivity period. Sums of the corresponding random variables are called costs of the epidemic. The asymptotic simultaneous distribution of the size and costs of large epidemics is derived.

Thorburn, D. (June 1993): The treatment of Outliers in Economic Statistics, 16pp.

Abstract. Outliers in economic statistics are true values, which have large impact on the estimates. We use skew superpopulation models and find an almost unbiased efficient estimator for a lognormal distribution. The method is tested on real data from the Swedish Register of Business Enterprises. A Bayesian bootstrap approach is used to find not only the estimates and their variances but also the full posterior distributions. These give information on the precision, which can not be obtained from the MSE or the standard error. Finally we treat the case with knowm supplementary information.

University of Umeå, Department of Mathematical Statistics,
S-901 87 Umeå

Nordahl, Gunnar (January 1992): A comparison of different maximum spacing estimators, 25pp.

Wiklund, Fredrik (February 1992): Exact inference with matched data in survival analysis, 10pp.

Broström, Göran (February 1992): Exact inference and resampling methods in Cox's regression model, 9pp.

Silvestrov, Dmitrii (May 1992): Recurrent upper bounds for moments of hitting times for semi-Markov processes.I, 21pp.

Wiklund, Fredrik (May 1992): Exact inference with matched data in survival analysis, 28pp.

Nilsson, Leif (January 1993): On the efficiency of Cox's regression in small samples, 44pp.

Abstract. One advantage of using Cox's regression model, Cox (1972), instead of a fully parametric model is that one does not have to specify the baseline hazard function. A natural question is then what the loss of efficiency will be. In this paper we investigate the loss of efficiency by using Cox's regression model instead of a Weibull regression model, when the latter is true. The two-sample case is investigated and three situations are considered, one without censoring, one with noninformative and independent censoring, and one with informative and independent censoring. A simulation study for the small sample performance is done and the estimated loss of efficiency is compared with the asymptotic relative efficiency. Also a simulation study on how the efficiency is affected if the true model is different from Weibull, is done.

Brännberg, Kenny (January 1993): Observed score linear equating using background variables, 16pp.

Abstract. Standard test score equating procedures usally require samples of examinees to respond to both new items and items already linked to an established scale (anchor-items), and/or the assumption that the examineegroups taking different testforms are random samples from the same population. In this paper a model is proposed for observed score linear equating when neither of these requirements are met. Maximum likelihood estimators of the equating parameters are derived, and data from two administrations of the Swedish Scholastic Aptitude Test are used to illustrate the use of the model.

Sjöstedt, Sara (January 1993): Forecasting multiple time series using minimum/maximum autocorrelation factors, 69pp.

Abstract. A forecasting method for multivariate time series is proposed. The method is based on multivariate ideas previously applied in remote sensing. The approach has the purpose of splitting the information inherent in the time series into important and unimportant information. This is achieved by linearly transforming the original time series to so called minimum/maximum autocorrelation factors (MAFs). The important information, the highly correlated MAFs, is used to forecast the time series. The unimportant information, the low correlated MAFs, is thrown away. The forecasting method is illustrated with six economic time series.

Šadurskis, Kārlis & Tsarkov, Yevgenij (March 1993): Stability of linear differential systems with diffusion coefficients, 15pp.

Abstract. This report studies the exponential mean square stability of a trivial solution of linear differential equations with diffusion coefficients. An analytical algorithm has been applied to investigate the stability of the equilibrium of a predator-prey ecosystem in a random environment.

Flygare, Ann-Marie (April 1993): Contextual classification using multi-temporal Landsat TM data, 76pp.

Abstract. Contextual methods for classification of satellite images are considered. The models are based on a Bayesian approach, where the posterior distribution of the classes is maximized. A model for the class distribution assuming the classes of neighbour pixels to be conditionally independent, given the class of the central pixel, is utilized. Further, two models for the distribution of the spectral signatures are considered: conditionally independent spectral signatures and autocorrelated spectral signatures. The models above are extended to include images from two occasions. Usually the assumption of isotropy is made in classification models. A study of a Landsat TM image indicates that an anisotropic assumption may be more suitable. The models are therefore modified to fit the anisotropic case. One noncontextual method utilizing one image and two contextual methods, an one-image method and a two-image method are tested on Landsat TM data. As expected, the contextual methods perform better than the noncontextual. Using two images instead of one gave a small improvement.

Yu, Jun (November 1993): Consistency of an alternative nearest neighbor probability density function estimator, 18pp.

Abstract. This paper presents an alternative nearest neighbor estimator of a probability density function, which differs from that proposed by Loftsgaarden and Quesenberry (1965). Some asymptotic properties of this new estimator, such as pointwise consistency, uniform consistency and L_1-norm strong consistency on the bounded interval, are studied.

Yu, Jun (November 1993): Almost sure L_p-norm convergence for a nearest neighbor probability density estimator, 14pp.

Abstract. The main result of this paper is on almost sure L_p-norm convergence for an alternative probability density nearest neighbor estimator. The main theorem in this paper states that when certain conditions of a general nature are satisfied, the new nearest neighbor estimator is strongly consistent in the sense of L_p-norm, and these conditions are necessary.

Yu, Jun (November 1993): On the rate of strong convergence for a nearest neighbor probability density estimator, 20pp.

Abstract. The rate of strong pointwise convergence for an alternative probability density nearest neighbor estimator f_n is studied here. The main theorem in this paper states that if the real density function f is positive and has nonzero rth derivative ($r \geq 2$), then when m_n/n tends to zero, the strong convergence rate of $f_n(x)$ to $f(x)$ is arbitrarily close to $O(n^{r/(2r+1)})$ for properly chosen m_n.

Lindkvist, Håkan (December 1993): Modified least-squares cross-validation procedures in kernel hazard estimation, 39pp.

Abstract. When using a kernel hazard function estimator, one of the most important problems is the choise of bandwidth, because it has strong influence on the quality of the estimate. A promising method for choosing the bandwidth in density estimation is least-squares cross-validation. In this paper, we propose and investigate the performance of some modified least-squares cross-validation procedures adapted to kernel hazard function estimation. This is done by studying seven different hazard functions and three cases, one without censoring, one with 20% censoring and one with 50% censoring. A simulation study is done for two different numbers of bins and the estimation of expectation and variance for integrated square error and integrated absolute error is compared.

Yu, Jun (December 1993): On the rate of strong uniform convergence for a nearest neighbor probability density estimator, 20pp.

Abstract. The rate of strong uniform convergence for an alternative probability density nearest neighbor estimator f_n is studied here. The main theorems in this paper state that if the real density function f satisfies a Lipschitz condition of order δ on R with $\delta \in (0, 1]$, then for properly chosen m_n, the strong uniform convergence rate of f_n can be arbitrarily close to $O(n^{-\delta/(1+3\delta)})$, but it can not reach $O(n^{-\delta/(1+3\delta)})$ for whatever m_n we choose, and moreover, no convergence rate can be established without some further restrictions imposed on f except that of being uniformly continuous.

Yu, Jun (December 1993): Uniform convergence rates of a nearest neighbor estimator for a class of probability density functions, 16pp.

Abstract. This paper deals with the uniform convergence rates of an alternative probability density nearest neighbor estimator f_n and concludes that if the real density f is positive, uniformly continuous on R, and $f''(x)$ bounded and continuous on R, then the strong uniform convergence rate of f_n can be arbitrarily close to $O(n^{-2/7})$, but it can not reach $O(n^{-2/7})$ for whatever m_n we choose.

University of Umeå, Department of Statistics, S-90187 Umeå

Laitila, T. (1992): Informal misspecification tests of the censored regression model.

Laitila, T. (1992): Slope coefficient estimation in truncated regressions.

Arnoldsson, G. (1994): Optimal design measures for linear combinations of linear predictors in generalized linear models.

Abstract

The problem of allocation of experimental units to experimental groups is studied within the context of generalized linear models. Optimal designs for estimation of linear combinations of linear predictors are characterised, using concepts from the theory of optimal design. If there is only one linear combination of interest, then the D-optimal allocation is equivalent to the well-known Neyman allocation of sub-samples in stratified random sampling. On the other hand, if the number of linear combinations equals the number of design points, then equal replication of all design points is D-optimal. For cases in between there are no easily accessible general solutions to the problem although some particular cases are solved including: (i) estimation of the $n - 1$ possible comparisons with a control group in an n-point one-factor design and (ii) estimation of one or two of the four natural parameters of a 2^2-factorial design. The L-optimal allocation is determined in general.

Wiklund, S. J. (1992). Estimating the Process Mean When Using Control Charts. Economic Quality Control, Vol. 7, 105-120.

Wiklund, S. J. (1993). Adjustment Strategies When Using Shewhart Charts. Economic Quality Control, Vol. 8, 3-21.

Abstract

The adjustment of a process, brought about by an alarm signal from a control chart, would often require an estimate of current process mean. Based upon the ML-estimator of the process mean, some adjustment strategies are defined. Applying a Markov chain approach, the performance of these strategies are compared and in particular a comparison is made with the strategy of using the observed sample mean as an estimate. Numerical evaluations show large differences in some performance measures between the studied strategies. Results further indicate that the use of the ML-estimator provides a comparatively good strategy when shifts in the process mean are rare, whereas modifications of the ML-estimator might provide superior adjustment strategies when shifts occur frequently.

Wiklund, S. J. Process Adjustment When Using EWMA Charts. International Journal of Quality and Reliability Management. To appear.

Abstract

Following an alarm signal from a control chart it may be necessary to conduct an adjustment to bring the process mean towards a target value. This study addresses the problem of how such an adjustment should be made, based upon the use of an EWMA control chart, including the special case in which the EWMA is equivalent to the Shewhart chart. The distribution of the EWMA statistic, at the occurrence of an alarm signal, is approximated by applying a Markov chain approach. This distribution is used to obtain a maximum likelihood estimator of the process mean. Adjustment strategies are defined based on the EWMA statistic, the ML-estimator and a modification of the ML-estimator. The performance of these adjustment strategies is compared in a simulation study, although the Shewhart case allowed for a simplified treatment requiring no simulation. The results indicate that adjustment based on the ML-estimator provides substantial improvement over the EWMA statistic when the smoothing constant of the control chart is moderate or high. When the smoothing constant is given a very low value the EWMA statistic provides the preferable adjustment strategy. Differences between control chart designs were less substantial than the differences between adjustment strategies for a given control chart.

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ALON, N., BOLLOBÁS, B., BRIGTHWELL, G. & JANSON, S. (September 1992): Linear extensions of a random partial order, 14 pp.

BOLLOBÁS, B. & JANSON, S. (October 1993): On the Length of the Longest Increasing Subsequence in a Random Permutation, 7 pp.

Abstract. Complementing the results claiming that the maximal length L_n of an increasing subsequence in a random partition of $\{1,2,...,n\}$ is highly concentrated, we show that L_n is not concentrated in a short interval: $\sup_l P(l \leq L_n \leq l + n^{\frac{1}{6}} \log^{-\frac{3}{8}} n) \to 0$ as $n \to \infty$.

FLEISCHMANN, K. & KAJ, I. (September 1992): Large deviation probabilities for some rescaled superprocesses. To appear: Annales de l'Institut Henri Poincaré, 36 pp.

FLEISCHMANN, K., GÄRTNER, J. & KAJ, I. (August 1993): A Schilder type theorem for super-Brownian motion, 20 pp.

Abstract. Let X be a continuous super-Brownian motion on R^d with branching rate ρ which might be described symbolically by the stochastic equation $dX_t = \Delta X_t dt + \sqrt{2\rho X_t} dW_t$ with dW_t/dt a space-time white noise. A version of Schilder's Theorem is established concerning large deviation probabilities of X on path space as $\rho \to 0$. The main result is a representation formula for the rate functional via an L^2-norm on a generalized Cameron-Martin space of measure-valued paths.

GUT, A. (April 1992): Complete Convergence and Cesàro Summation, 12 pp.

GUT, A. (June 1993): Stopped Random Processes with Application to First Passage Times, 8 pp.

Abstract. Much of this authors work has been devoted to stopped random walks with application to renewal theory etc. Some results have earlier been generalized to separable random processes with independent, stationary increments. The purpose of the present paper is to present some further generalizations of this kind.

HÖSSJER, O., ROUSSEEUW, P.J. & CROUX, C. (April 1992): Influence Function and Asymptotic Normality of the Repeated Median Slope Estimator, 35 pp.

HÖSSJER, O., ROUSSEEUW, P.J. & RUTS, I. (June 1992): The repeated median intercept estimator: influence function and asymptotic normality, 26 pp.

JANSON, S. (April 1992): Ortogonal Decompositions and Functional Limit Theorems for Random Graph Statistics, 70 pp.

JANSON, S. & LUCZAK, T. (April 1992): Uncorrelated Associated Variables are Independent, 7 pp.

JANSON, S. (January 1993): The Number of Spanning Trees, Hamilton Cycles and Perfect Matchings in a Random Graph, 26 pp.

Abstract. The numbers of spanning trees, Hamilton cycles and perfect matchings in a random graph G_{nm} are shown to be asymptotically normal if m is neither too large nor too small. At the lower limit $m \asymp n^{3/2}$, these numbers are asymptotically lognormal for a wide range of p, including p constant. The same results are obtained for random directed graphs and bipartite graphs. The results are proved using decomposition and projection methods.

JANSON, S. (October 1993): Hamilton Cycles in a Random Tournament, 6 pp.

Abstract. The number of Hamilton cycles in a random tournament is asymptotically normally distributed.

KOLLO, T. & VON ROSEN, D. (May 1993): Moments and Cumulants of Symmetric Matrices with Application to the Wishart Distribution, 15 pp.

Abstract. An algoritm is proposed and notions defined to determine the set of all possible higher order moments and cumulants of a random vector, a random matrix or a symmetric random matrix. The main attention has been paid to the case of symmetric matrices. Among others, a general relation between moments and cumulants has been established. Furthermore, using the introduced notions, cumulants of arbitrary order for the Wishart distribution have been obtained.

VON ROSEN, D. (October 1992): PLS, Linear Models & Invariant spaces, 9 pp.

VON ROSEN, D. (October 1992): Homogenous Matrix Equation and Multivariable Linear Models, 12 pp.

VON ROSEN, D. (May 1993): Moments for the Inverted Wishart Distribution with Application to the Growth Curve Model, 8 pp.

Abstract. Moments of arbitrary order for the inverted Wishart distribution are obtained with the help of a factorization theorem and inverse moments for chi-squared variables. Expressions are given in a recursive as well as non-recursive manner. The results are applied to the maximum likelihood estimator for the mean structure in the Growth Curve model and moments of arbitrary order are established.

VON ROSEN, D. (May 1993): Influential Observations in Multivariate Linear Models, 25 pp.

Abstract. A general approach of identifying influential observations is considered. The idea is to discuss neighbourhoods which are described with the help of Taylor expansions of perturbed models. In particular the growth curve model (Pothoff & Roy 1964) and an extension are discussed. However, some results appear also to be relevant for the univariate linear model. A selection of four different perturbations, all giving various aspects of influence, are treated. As another example the derivation of some results presented by de Gruttola et al. (1988) are simplified and extended.

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