

CS208: Applied Privacy for Data Science The Local Model: Foundations

School of Engineering & Applied Sciences Harvard University

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History of RR

Figure 1: An Example Warner Randomized Response Item

Please spin the following spinner in private and observe if it lands in section "A" or "B." Do not tell me where it lands.

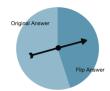
If the arrow landed in section "A," respond True or False *only* with respect to statement **A**. If the arrow landed in section "**B**," respond True or False *only* with respect to statement **B**.

A: I would be willing to pay a bribe to a police officer in order to avoid a traffic ticket. (True = I would be willing..., False = I would NOT be willing...)

B: I would NOT be willing to pay a bribe to a police officer in order to avoid a traffic ticket. (True = I would NOT be willing..., False = I would be willing...)

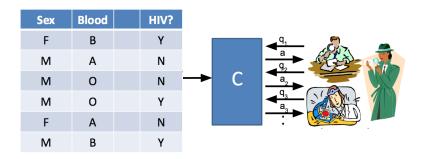
Please respond TRUE or FALSE now

<u>Remember</u>: Your answers are completely confidential. Since only you know if the spinner landed in section A or B, no one else can know to which statement your answer corresponds.



See on NB: Gingerich 2015 "Randomized Response: Foundations and New Developments"

Central Model

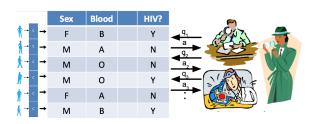


Data Repository

Curator

Analysts

Local Model



Subjects Repository

Analysts

Example: Randomized response

- Each person has data $x_i \in \mathcal{X}$
 - ightharpoonup Analyst wants to know average of $f: \mathcal{X} \to \{-1,1\}$ over x
 - E.g. "what is the fraction of diabetics"?
- Randomization operator takes $y \in \{-1,1\}$:

$$Q(y) = \begin{cases} +y & w.p. \frac{e^{\epsilon}}{e^{\epsilon}+1} \\ -y & w.p. \frac{1}{e^{\epsilon}+1} \end{cases}$$
 ratio is e^{ϵ}



Contrast with $\frac{1}{n\epsilon}$

in central model

(via Laplace noise)

Observe:

$$ightharpoonup$$
 If $c_{\epsilon} = \frac{e^{\epsilon} + 1}{e^{\epsilon} - 1}$, then $E(c_{\epsilon} \cdot Q(y)) = y$

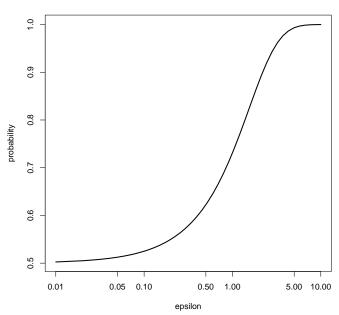
• How can we estimate a proportion?

$$ightharpoonup A(x_1, \dots, x_n) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_i c_{\epsilon} \cdot Q(f(x_i))$$

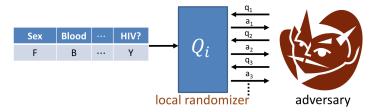
• Proposition:
$$E\left|A(x) - \frac{1}{n}\sum_{i} f(x_i)\right| \le \frac{c_{\epsilon}}{2\sqrt{n}} \approx \frac{1}{\epsilon\sqrt{n}}$$
.

Slide from Adam Smith

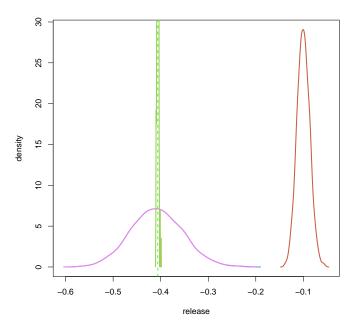
Probability Truth Revealed in Local Model



Local DP



Require: for all i, x_i, x_i' differing on one row, all strategies A $\Pr[A \text{ outputs YES after interacting } w/Q_i(x_i)] \le e^{\varepsilon} \cdot \Pr[A \text{ outputs YES after interacting } w/Q_i(x_i')] + \delta$



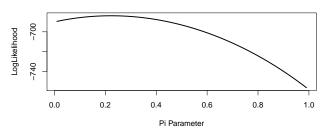
Likelihood Based Correction

$$L(\theta|Y) \propto Pr(Y|\theta)$$

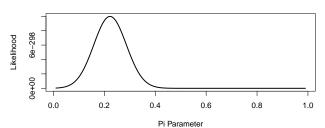
For $Y \sim \text{Bernoulli}(\pi)$:

$$L(\pi|Y) \propto \prod_{i=1}^{N} \pi^{y_i} (1-\pi)^{1-y_i}$$

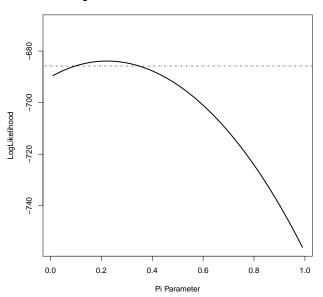
LogLikelihood Surface



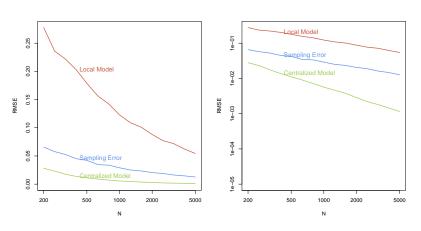
Likelihood Surface



LogLikelihood Surface with Likelihood Ratio Test

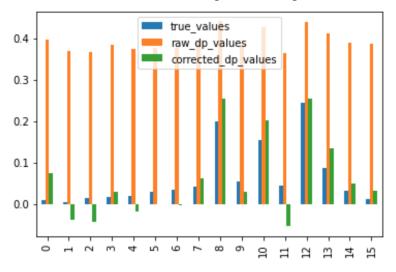


Asymptotics of Error



$$\epsilon = 0.5$$

Local Model for Integers/Histograms



$$\epsilon = 1, N = 2,000$$