

# PROCESOS ESTOCÁSTICOS - CADENA DE MARKOV

V. Arunachalam (Arun)  
varunachalam@unal.edu.co

Universidad Nacional de Colombia

Septiembre 2022

## ESTIMACIÓN

Consideremos una cadena de Markov  $\{X_n; n = 0, 1, \dots\}$

*Maximum-likelihood estimation:* Consider a time-homogeneous Markov chain with a finite number,  $m$ , of states  $(1, 2, \dots, m)$  and having transition probability matrix  $P = (p_{jk})$ ,  $j, k = 1, 2, \dots, m$ . Suppose that the number of observed direct transitions from the state  $j$  to the state  $k$  is  $n_{jk}$ , and that the total number of observations is  $(N + 1)$ . Put

$$\sum_{k=1}^m n_{jk} = n_j \quad \text{and} \quad \sum_{j=1}^m n_{jk} = n_k, \quad j, k = 1, 2, \dots, m.$$

$$f(n_{jk}) = T(n_{jk}) \frac{\prod_j (n_{j\cdot})!}{\prod_j \prod_k (n_{jk})!} \prod_j \prod_k p_{jk}^{n_{jk}};$$

the factor  $T(n_{jk})$  which involves the joint distribution of the  $n_j$ 's is independent of the  $p_{jk}$ 's.

The logarithm of the likelihood function can be put as

$$L(p_{jk}) = C + \sum_{j=1}^m \sum_{k=1}^m n_{jk} \log p_{jk}$$

where  $C$  contains all terms independent of  $p_{jk}$ .

The logarithm of the likelihood function can be put as

$$L(p_{jk}) = C + \sum_{j=1}^m \sum_{k=1}^m n_{jk} \log p_{jk}$$

where  $C$  contains all terms independent of  $p_{jk}$ .

Since  $\sum_k p_{jk} = 1$ , (10.2) can be written as

$$L(p_{jk}) = C + \sum_{j=1}^m \sum_{k=1}^{m-1} n_{jk} \log p_{jk} + \sum_{j=1}^m n_{jm} \log \left( 1 - \sum_{k=1}^{m-1} p_{jk} \right).$$

Let  $r$  be a specific value of  $j$ . The maximum-likelihood estimates  $\hat{p}_{rk}$  are given by the equations

$$\frac{\partial L(p_{rk})}{\partial p_{rk}} = 0, \quad k = 1, 2, \dots, (m-1).$$

These equations give

$$\frac{n_{rk}}{p_{rk}} - \frac{n_{rm}}{1 - \sum_{k=1}^{m-1} p_{rk}} = 0, \quad k = 1, 2, \dots, (m-1).$$

To fix our ideas, let us take a specified value,  $s$ , of  $k$ . Then

$$\frac{n_{rs}}{p_{rs}} = \frac{n_{rk}}{p_{rk}} = \frac{n_{rm}}{1 - \sum_{k=1}^{m-1} p_{rk}}, \quad k = 1, 2, \dots, s, \dots, (m-1).$$

Thus

$$1 - \sum_{k=1}^{m-1} p_{rk} = \frac{n_{rm}}{n_{rs}} p_{rs}$$

and 
$$p_{rk} = \frac{n_{rk}}{n_{rs}} p_{rs}, \quad k = 1, 2, \dots, s, \dots, (m-1).$$

Summing (10.6) overall  $k$  and adding (10.5), we get

$$1 = \frac{\sum_{k=1}^{m-1} n_{rk}}{n_{rs}} p_{rs}$$

and hence the estimate  $\hat{p}_{rs}$  is given by

$$\hat{p}_{rs} = \frac{n_{rs}}{\sum_{k=1}^m n_{jk}}$$

Now  $r, s$  are two arbitrary values of  $j, k$  respectively. Hence, for

$$j, k = 1, 2, \dots, (m-1)$$

$$\hat{p}_{jk} = \frac{n_{jk}}{\sum_{k=1}^m n_{jk}} = \frac{n_{jk}}{n_{j\cdot}}.$$

Consideremos las siguientes observaciones de una cadena de Markov con estados 0 y 1:

0 1 0 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 0 1 1 1 0 0 0 1 1 1 0 0

La tabla de contingencia para las transiciones es

3	4	7
4	19	23
7	23	30

y usando el estimador dado por (3.46) obtenemos los valores estimados para la matriz de transición

$$\hat{P} = \begin{pmatrix} 3/7 & 4/7 \\ 4/23 & 19/23 \end{pmatrix}.$$

- (i) Suppose that one wishes to test the null hypothesis that the observed realisation comes from a Markov chain with a given transition, *i.e.* matrix  $P^0 = (p_{jk}^0)$ ; suppose that the null hypothesis is

$$H_0: P = P^0.$$



Then, for large  $N$ , and for  $\hat{p}_{jk}$  given by (10.8), the statistic

$$\sum_{k=1}^m \frac{n_{j\cdot} (\hat{p}_{jk} - p_{jk}^0)^2}{p_{jk}^0}, \quad j = 1, 2, \dots, m,$$

is distributed as  $\chi^2$  with  $m - 1$  d.f. (degrees of freedom). Here  $p_{jk}^0$ 's which are equal to zero are excluded and the d.f. is reduced by the number of  $p_{jk}^0$ 's equal to 0. Alternatively, a test for

$\hat{p}_{jk}$  can be obtained by adding overall  $j$ , and the statistic

$$\sum_{j=1}^m \sum_{k=1}^m \frac{n_{j\cdot} (\hat{p}_{jk} - p_{jk}^0)^2}{p_{jk}^0} \quad (1)$$

$$\sum_{j=1}^m \sum_{k=1}^m \frac{n_{j\cdot} (\hat{p}_{jk} - p_{jk}^0)^2}{p_{jk}^0}$$

has an asymptotic  $\chi^2$ -distribution with  $m(m-1)$  d.f.

(the number of d.f. being reduced by the number of  $p_{jk}^0$ 's equal to zero, if any, for  $j, k$ ).

The likelihood ratio criterion for  $H_0$  is given by

$$\lambda = \prod_j \prod_k \left( \frac{\hat{p}_{jk}}{p_{jk}^0} \right)^{n_{jk}}.$$

Thus, under the null hypothesis, the statistic

$$-2 \log \lambda = 2 \sum_j \sum_k n_{jk} \log \frac{n_{jk}}{(n_{j\cdot}) p_{jk}^0}$$

has an asymptotic  $\chi^2$ -distribution with  $m(m-1)$  d.f.

- (ii) The maximum-likelihood estimates could also be used to test the order of a Markov chain. For testing the null hypothesis that the chain is of order zero, *i.e.*  $H_0: p_{jk} = p_k$  for all  $j$ , against the alternative that the chain is of order 1, the test criterion is

$$\lambda = \prod_j \prod_k \left( \frac{\hat{p}_k}{\hat{p}_{jk}} \right)^{n_{jk}}$$

where

$$\hat{p}_k = n_{\cdot k} / \left( \sum_j \sum_k n_{jk} \right), \quad \hat{p}_{jk} = n_{jk} / n_j.$$

Under the null hypothesis, the statistic

$$-2 \log \lambda = 2 \sum_j \sum_k n_{jk} \log \frac{n_{kj} (\sum \sum n_{jk})}{(n_{\cdot k}) (n_{j \cdot})}$$

has an asymptotic  $\chi^2$ -distribution with  $(m-1)^2$  d.f. Similar test can be constructed for testing the null hypothesis that the chain is of order one against the alternative that it is of order two.