Introduction to statistical inference 2

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April 16, 2018

Contents

Chapter 1

Recap from “Introduction to statistical inference 1”

1.1 Random variable

- Random variable is a function from sample space $\mathcal{S}$ of an experiment to sample space of the random variable $\mathcal{X}$, which is set of real numbers.

$$X : \mathcal{S} \to \mathcal{X}$$

- The sample space is a set of all possible values random variable can get.
- $\mathcal{X}$ can be
  - an interval of real axis (continuous random variable).

$$\mathcal{X} = [0, 10),\ \mathcal{X} = [0, 10],\ \mathcal{X} = (0, 10)$$

  - An uncountable set of integers (discrete random variable)

$$\mathcal{X} = \{0, 1, 2, \ldots\}$$

  - A countable set of integers or real numbers (discrete random variable)

$$\mathcal{X} = \{0, 1\},\ \mathcal{X} = \{0, 0.5, 1\},\ \mathcal{X} = \{0, 1, \ldots, 10\}$$

- Probabilities associated with each value of X are defined by the cumulative distribution function (cdf for short).

$$F_X(x) = P(X \leq x),\ \text{where } -\infty < x < \infty$$

Note: $F_X(x)$ is a step function if X is discrete.

Note: $F_X(x)$ is a continuous function if X is continuous.

- $F_X(x)$ or $F(x)$ is cdf, if

  1) $\lim_{x\to-\infty} F(x) = 0$ and $\lim_{x\to\infty} F(x) = 1$
  2) $F(x)$ is non-decreasing
  3) $F(x)$ is right-continuous

- Cdf is useful in calculation of any probabilities; for example

$$P(a < X \leq b) = F(b) - F(a)$$

Note: Be careful with $<$ and $\leq$ when working with discreate random variables.

- The probability density function (pdf for short) is defined for continuous random variable as

$$f_X(x) = F'(x) = \frac{\mathrm{d}F_X(x)}{\mathrm{d}x}, \quad -\infty < x < \infty$$

  and

$$\int_{-\infty}^{x} f_X(t)\,\mathrm{d}t = F_X(x)$$

- The probability mass function (pmf for short) is defined for discrete random variables as

$$f_X(x) = P(X = x)$$
$$F_X(x) = \sum_{k=1}^{x} f_X(k)$$

1.2 Transformations of random variable

- Consider a monotonic function $g : \mathcal{X} \to \mathcal{Y}$
- $Y = g(X)$ is also a random variable; function g is called an transformation (muunnos).
- If $g(x)$ is a increasing function of x, then

$$F_Y(y) = F_X(g^{-1}(y))$$

- If $g(x)$ is a decreasing function of x, then

$$F_Y(y) = 1 - F_X(g^{-1}(y))$$

- The pdf of continuous Y is

$$f_Y(y) = F'_Y(y)$$

1.3 Expected values

$$E(X) = \mu_X = \begin{cases} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x f(x)\,\mathrm{d}x & \text{if } X \text{ is continuous} \\ \sum_{x\in\mathcal{X}} x f(x) & \text{if } X \text{ is discrete} \end{cases}$$

$$E(g(X)) = \begin{cases} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} g(x) f(x)\,\mathrm{d}x & \text{if } X \text{ is continuous} \\ \sum_{x\in\mathcal{X}} g(x) f(x) & \text{if } X \text{ is discrete} \end{cases}$$

1.4 Variance

$$\begin{aligned} \sigma_X^2 = Var(X) &= E(X-\mu_X)^2 \\ &= E(X^2 - 2X\mu_X + \mu_X^2) \\ &= E(X^2) - E(2X\mu_X) + E(\mu_X^2) \\ &= E(X^2) - \underbrace{2\mu_X \underbrace{E(X)}_{\mu_X}}_{2\mu_X^2} + E(\mu_X^2) \\ &= E(X^2) - \mu_X^2 \end{aligned}$$

$$sd(X) = \sqrt{Var(X)} = \sigma_X$$

1.5 Bivariate random variables