

The LRT is a *lot* more general than the LRT we saw in the previous lecture. E.g. assume DGP iid $f(x; \theta_1, \theta_2, \dots, \theta_K)$ and we want to test

$$H_A: \theta_1 \neq \theta_{1_0} \text{ and/or } \theta_2 \neq \theta_{2_0} \text{ and/or } \dots \text{ and/or } \theta_K \neq \theta_{K_0} \quad \text{vs.}$$

$$H_0: \theta_1 = \theta_{1_0} \text{ and } \theta_2 = \theta_{2_0} \text{ and } \dots \text{ and } \theta_K = \theta_{K_0} \text{ then}$$

$$\hat{\Lambda} := 2 \ln \left(\frac{\mathcal{L}(\hat{\theta}_1^{MLE}, \dots, \hat{\theta}_K^{MLE}; x_1, \dots, x_n)}{\mathcal{L}(\theta_{1_0}, \dots, \theta_{K_0}; x_1, \dots, x_n)} \right) \xrightarrow{d} \chi^2_K$$

For example, let H_0 : DGP is iid $N(0, 1)$ vs H_A : DGP iid $N(\theta_1, \theta_2)$ where $\theta_1 \neq 0$ and $\theta_2 \neq 1$.

$$\hat{\Lambda} = 2 \ln \left(\frac{\mathcal{L}(\hat{\theta}_1^{MLE}, \hat{\theta}_2^{MLE}; x_1, \dots, x_n)}{\mathcal{L}(0, 1; x_1, \dots, x_n)} \right) \xrightarrow{d} \chi^2_2$$

$$\hat{\theta}_1^{MLE} = \bar{X}, \quad \hat{\theta}_2^{MLE} = \frac{1}{n} \sum (x_i - \bar{X})^2$$

$$\text{numerator} = \prod_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi} \hat{\theta}_2^{MLE}} e^{-\frac{1}{2\hat{\theta}_2^{MLE}} (x_i - \hat{\theta}_1^{MLE})^2}$$

$$\text{denominator} = \prod_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-\frac{1}{2} x_i^2}$$

For example. Let's do the die roll. Let's test if a die is fair using n rolls and counts of the number of 1's, 2's, ..., 6's. You can show the MLE's for the probability of a certain face is

$$\hat{\theta}_j^{MLE} = \frac{n_j}{n} \quad \text{where } n_j \text{ is the number of rolls of face } j.$$

$$H_0: \theta_1 = \dots = \theta_6 = \frac{1}{6}$$

$$\hat{\Lambda} = 2 \ln \left(\frac{\mathcal{L}(\hat{\theta}_1^{MLE}, \dots, \hat{\theta}_6^{MLE}; x_1, \dots, x_n)}{\mathcal{L}(\frac{1}{6}, \dots, \frac{1}{6}; x_1, \dots, x_n)} \right) \rightarrow \chi^2_5$$

here's really 5 parameters here (not 6) since if you know 5, the 6th is fixed

$$= 2 \ln \left(\frac{\left(\frac{n_1}{n}\right)^{n_1} \left(\frac{n_2}{n}\right)^{n_2} \dots \left(\frac{n_6}{n}\right)^{n_6}}{\left(\frac{1}{6}\right)^{n_1} \left(\frac{1}{6}\right)^{n_2} \dots \left(\frac{1}{6}\right)^{n_6}} \right)$$

$$F_{\chi^2_5}(.15) = 11.07$$

$$= 2 \ln \left(6^n \left(\frac{n_1}{n}\right)^{n_1} \dots \left(\frac{n_6}{n}\right)^{n_6} \right) = 2 \left(n \ln(6) + n_1 \ln\left(\frac{n_1}{n}\right) + \dots + n_6 \ln\left(\frac{n_6}{n}\right) \right)$$

using the data from the class where we introduced the chi-sq goodness of fit test, we get

$$= 2 \left(15 \ln(6) + 7 \ln\left(\frac{4}{15}\right) + 1 \ln\left(\frac{1}{15}\right) + 3 \ln\left(\frac{3}{15}\right) + 2 \ln\left(\frac{2}{15}\right) + 1 \ln\left(\frac{1}{15}\right) + 1 \ln\left(\frac{2}{15}\right) \right)$$

$$= 4.056 \approx 3.8 \quad \text{from the chi-squared computation}$$

$$\neq 11.07 \Rightarrow \text{Reject } H_0$$

They're not equal because Pearson's chi-squared test is a different test than the generalized likelihood ratio test!

The generalized likelihood ratio test

In most general terms, if the DGP is iid $f(x; \theta_1, \theta_2, \dots, \theta_K)$ and you wish to test a subset of all K parameters, where the subset has $K_0 \leq K$ parameters e.g. $K = 17$ and $K_0 = 3$ and the null could be something like:

$$H_0: \theta_1 = \theta_{1_0} \text{ and } \theta_2 = \theta_{2_0} \text{ and } \theta_{11} = \theta_{11_0} \Rightarrow K_0 = 3$$

then...

$$\hat{\Lambda} = 2 \ln \left(\frac{\mathcal{L}(\hat{\theta}_1^{MLE}, \dots, \hat{\theta}_K^{MLE}; x_1, \dots, x_n)}{\mathcal{L}(\theta_{1_0}, \hat{\theta}_2^{MLE}, \dots, \theta_{2_0}, \dots, \theta_{11_0}, \dots, \hat{\theta}_K^{MLE}; x_1, \dots, x_n)} \right) \xrightarrow{d} \chi^2_{K-K_0}$$

where in the numerator there are K degrees of freedom (K free parameters) and the denominator has $K - K_0$ degrees of freedom since K_0 parameters are fixed by the null hypothesis. Then the LR statistic is asymptotically distributed as a chi-squared with numerator - denominator = $K - (K - K_0) = K_0$ degrees of freedom.

$$\hat{\theta}_j^{MLE} := \text{the MLE for parameter } j \text{ assuming the null hypothesis (i.e. assuming the } K_0 \text{ values of } K_0 \text{ parameters).}$$

Sometimes the top model with all K parameters free is called the "full model" and the bottom model with $< K$ parameters free is called the "reduced model". The generalized LRT is a test of the "full model" vs "reduced model" answering the question: is the extra complexity of the full model really required when compared to a simpler reduced model? Are the extra $K - K_0$ parameters justified? The reduced model is said to be "nested" within the full model as a subspace is nested within the entire space.

For example, let's assume the DGP is iid $N(\theta_1, \theta_2)$ and test against the null of $\theta_1 = 0 = \theta_{1_0}$. This is an alternative test to the 1-sample t-test.

$$\frac{\mathcal{L}(\hat{\theta}_1^{MLE}, \hat{\theta}_2^{MLE}; x_1, \dots, x_n)}{\mathcal{L}(0, \hat{\theta}_2^{MLE}; x_1, \dots, x_n)} \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \hat{\theta}_1^{MLE} = \bar{X} \\ \hat{\theta}_2^{MLE} = \frac{1}{n} \sum (x_i - \bar{X})^2 \\ \hat{\theta}_2^{MLE} = \frac{1}{n} \sum x_i^2 = \bar{X} \end{array} \right.$$

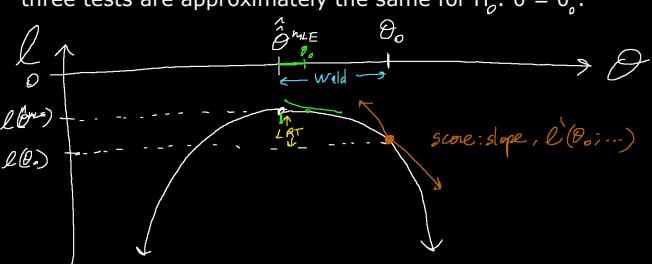
$$= \frac{\prod_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi(\bar{X} - \bar{X}^2)}} e^{-\frac{1}{2(\bar{X} - \bar{X}^2)} (x_i - \bar{X})^2}}{\prod_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi - \bar{X}}} e^{-\frac{1}{2\bar{X}} x_i^2}}$$

$$= \left(\frac{\bar{X}}{\bar{X} - \bar{X}^2} \right)^{n/2} e^{-\frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{1}{\bar{X} - \bar{X}^2} \sum (x_i - \bar{X})^2 - \frac{1}{\bar{X}} \sum x_i^2 \right)}$$

$$\Rightarrow \hat{\Lambda} = 2 \ln \left(\frac{\bar{X}}{\bar{X} - \bar{X}^2} \right) \quad \text{compare to } F_{\chi^2_1}(.15) = 3.84$$

Thm: Wald, Score and LRT are all asymptotically equivalent i.e. as n gets large, they will all give the same results i.e. the same decision in a hypothesis test and the same CI.

Here's an illustration for one parameter that shows how these three tests are approximately the same for $H_0: \theta = \theta_0$:



$$\hat{\Lambda} = 2 \ln \left(\frac{\mathcal{L}(\hat{\theta}_1^{MLE})}{\mathcal{L}(\theta_0)} \right) = 2 \left(\ell(\hat{\theta}_1^{MLE}) - \ell(\theta_0) \right)$$