

# Lecture 19: Pareto Example

MATH 667-01  
Statistical Inference  
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November 28, 2017

Last modified: 11/29/2017

- We extend Example L16.4 and compare tests and confidence intervals based on various pivots.
- Some of the pivots are based on order statistics defined in Section 5.4 of Casella and Berger (2002)<sup>1</sup>.

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<sup>1</sup>Casella, G. and Berger, R. (2002). *Statistical Inference, Second Edition*. Duxbury Press, Belmont, CA.

- In *Example L16.4*, we saw that if  $X_1, \dots, X_n$  are iid random variables from a Pareto distribution with pdf

$$f(x|\theta) = \frac{\theta}{x^{\theta+1}} I_{(1,\infty)}(x)$$

where  $\theta > 0$ , then  $(0, -\ln(1 - \sqrt[n]{1 - \alpha}) / \ln X_{(n)})]$  is a  $100(1 - \alpha)\%$  confidence interval for  $\theta$ .

- So, if  $n = 3$ , then  $(0, -\ln(1 - \sqrt[3]{1 - \alpha}) / \ln X_{(3)})]$  is a  $100(1 - \alpha)\%$  confidence interval for  $\theta$ .

- *Example L19.1:* Suppose  $X_1, X_2$ , and  $X_3$  are iid random variables from a Pareto distribution with pdf

$$f(x|\theta) = \frac{\theta}{x^{\theta+1}} I_{(1,\infty)}(x)$$

where  $\theta > 0$ .

- (a) Let  $Y = X_{(1)}$ . Find the cdf  $F_Y(y) = P(Y \leq y)$  for  $y > 1$ .
- (b) Using (a) to obtain a pivot, find a  $100(1 - \alpha)\%$  confidence interval for  $\theta$  with the form  $(0, \theta_U]$ .

- *Answer to Example L19.1:* (a) If  $y \geq 1$ , then the cdf of  $Y$  is

$$\begin{aligned}F_Y(y) &= 1 - P(X_1 > y, X_2 > y, X_3 > y) \\&= 1 - \prod_{i=1}^3 P(X_i > y) \\&= 1 - \left( \int_y^{\infty} \theta x^{-\theta-1} dx \right)^3 \\&= 1 - \left( \left[ -x^{-\theta} \right]_y^{\infty} \right)^3 = 1 - (y^{-\theta})^3 = 1 - y^{-3\theta}.\end{aligned}$$

- *Answer to Example L19.1 continued:* (b) The  $100(1 - \alpha)\%$  confidence interval  $(0, -\ln \alpha / (3 \ln X_{(1)})]$  for  $\theta$  can be obtained as follows.

$$\begin{aligned} 1 - \alpha &= P(F_Y(Y) \leq 1 - \alpha) \\ &= P(1 - Y^{-3\theta} \leq 1 - \alpha) \\ &= P(Y^{-3\theta} \geq \alpha) \\ &= P(-3\theta \ln Y \geq \ln \alpha) \\ &= P\left(\theta \leq \frac{-\ln \alpha}{3 \ln Y}\right) \end{aligned}$$

- *Theorem L19.1 (Thm 5.4.4 on p.229)*: Let  $X_{(1)}, \dots, X_{(n)}$  denote the order statistics of a random sample,  $X_1, \dots, X_n$ , from a continuous population with cdf  $F_X(x)$  and pdf  $f_X(x)$ . Then the pdf of  $X_{(j)}$  is

$$f_{X_{(j)}}(x) = \frac{n!}{(j-1)!(n-j)!} f_X(x) [F_X(x)]^{j-1} [1 - F_X(x)]^{n-j}.$$

- The cdf of  $X_{(j)}$  is

$$F_{X_{(j)}}(x) = \sum_{k=j}^n \binom{n}{k} (F_X(x))^k (1 - F_X(x))^{n-k}.$$

- *Example L19.2:* Suppose  $X_1, X_2$ , and  $X_3$  are iid random variables from a Pareto distribution with pdf

$$f(x|\theta) = \frac{\theta}{x^{\theta+1}} I_{(1,\infty)}(x)$$

where  $\theta > 0$ .

- (a) Let  $Y = X_{(2)}$ . Find the cdf  $F_Y(y) = P(Y \leq y)$  for  $y > 1$ .
- (b) Using (a) to obtain a pivot, find a  $100(1 - \alpha)\%$  confidence interval for  $\theta$  with the form  $(0, \theta_U]$ .



- *Answer to Example L19.2:* (a) If  $y \geq 1$ , then

$$\begin{aligned}F_Y(y) &= \sum_{k=2}^3 \binom{3}{k} (1 - y^{-\theta})^k (y^{-\theta})^{n-k} \\&= 3(1 - y^{-\theta})^2 (y^{-\theta}) + (1 - y^{-\theta})^3 \\&= (1 - y^{-\theta})^2 (3y^{-\theta} + 1 - y^{-\theta}) \\&= (1 - y^{-\theta})^2 (2y^{-\theta} + 1) \\&= 2(y^{-\theta})^3 - 3(y^{-\theta})^2 + 1.\end{aligned}$$

- (b) For any  $v \in (0, 1)$ ,  $2u^3 - 3u^2 + v < 0$  if and only if  $u > \frac{1}{2} + \cos(\frac{1}{3} \arccos(1 - 2v) - \frac{2\pi}{3})$  for all  $u \in (0, 1)$ .

- *Answer to Example L19.2 continued:* (b) The  $100(1 - \alpha)\%$  confidence interval for  $\theta$  can be obtained as follows.

$$\begin{aligned}1 - \alpha &= P(F_Y(Y) \leq 1 - \alpha) \\&= P(2Y^{-3\theta} - 3Y^{-2\theta} + 1 \leq 1 - \alpha) \\&= P(2Y^{-3\theta} - 3Y^{-2\theta} + \alpha \leq 0) \\&= P\left(Y^{-\theta} \geq \frac{1}{2} + \cos\left(\frac{1}{3} \arccos(1 - 2\alpha) - \frac{2\pi}{3}\right)\right) \\&= P\left(-\theta \ln Y \geq \ln\left(\frac{1}{2} + \cos\left(\frac{1}{3} \arccos(1 - 2\alpha) - \frac{2\pi}{3}\right)\right)\right) \\&= P\left(\theta \leq \frac{-\ln\left(\frac{1}{2} + \cos\left(\frac{1}{3} \arccos(1 - 2\alpha) - \frac{2\pi}{3}\right)\right)}{\ln Y}\right).\end{aligned}$$

- *Example L19.3:* Suppose  $X_1, X_2$ , and  $X_3$  are iid random variables from a Pareto distribution with pdf

$$f(x|\theta) = \frac{\theta}{x^{\theta+1}} I_{(1,\infty)}(x)$$

where  $\theta > 0$ . Find a UMP level  $\alpha$  test for testing  $H_0 : \theta \leq \theta_0$  versus  $H_1 : \theta > \theta_0$ .

- *Answer to Example L19.3:* The joint pdf of  $X_1, X_2$ , and  $X_3$  is

$$f(x_1, x_2, x_3|\theta) = \theta^3 e^{-(\theta+1)\sum_{i=1}^3 \ln x_i} I_{(1,\infty)}(x_{(1)})$$

so  $\sum_{i=1}^3 \ln x_i$  is sufficient for  $\theta$  by *Theorem L10.2*.

- *Answer to Example L19.3 continued:* Since

$$\begin{aligned} P(\ln X_i \leq y) &= P(X_i \leq e^y) \\ &= \int_1^{e^y} \frac{\theta}{x^{\theta+1}} dx \\ &= \left[ -x^{-\theta} \right]_1^{e^y} = 1 - e^{-\theta y} \end{aligned}$$

is the cdf of an exponential random variable with mean  $1/\theta$ , it can be shown that  $T = \sum_{i=1}^3 \ln X_i \sim \text{Gamma}(3, \frac{1}{\theta})$ .

This family of pdfs has a MLR since, for  $\theta_1 < \theta_2$ ,

$$\frac{g(t|\theta_2)}{g(t|\theta_1)} = \frac{\frac{1}{2}\theta_2^3 t^2 e^{-\theta_2 t}}{\frac{1}{2}\theta_1^3 t^2 e^{-\theta_1 t}} = \frac{\theta_2^3}{\theta_1^3} e^{-(\theta_2 - \theta_1)t}$$

is a nonincreasing function of  $t$ .

So, by the Karlin-Rubin Theorem, the test that rejects  $H_0$  if and only if  $T < t_0$  is a UMP level  $\alpha$  test. (Note the change in direction from *Theorem L15.3*.)

- *Answer to Example L19.3 continued:* Now we find  $t_0$  so that  $P_{\theta_0}(T < t_0) = \alpha$ .

Using integration by parts we have

$$\begin{aligned}P_{\theta_0}(T < t_0) &= \int_0^{t_0} \frac{1}{2} \theta_0^3 t^2 e^{-\theta_0 t} dt \\&= \left[ \left( -\frac{1}{2} \theta_0^2 t^2 - \theta_0 t - 1 \right) e^{-\theta_0 t} \right]_0^{t_0} \\&= 1 - \left( \frac{1}{2} \theta_0^2 t_0^2 - \theta_0 t_0 - 1 \right) e^{-\theta_0 t_0}.\end{aligned}$$

So,  $t_0$  is the value that satisfies

$$1 - \left( \frac{1}{2} \theta_0^2 t_0^2 + \theta_0 t_0 + 1 \right) e^{-\theta_0 t_0} = \alpha$$

which can be computed using the R command  
`qgamma(.05, shape=3, rate=theta0)`.

- *Example L19.4:* Suppose  $X_1, X_2$ , and  $X_3$  are iid random variables from a Pareto distribution with pdf

$$f(x|\theta) = \frac{\theta}{x^{\theta+1}} I_{(1,\infty)}(x)$$

where  $\theta > 0$ . If the true value of the parameter is  $\theta = 5$ , compare the power of the UMP level .05 test for testing  $H_0 : \theta \leq 2$  versus  $H_1 : \theta > 2$  with the power of the following three tests:

- Test 1: Reject if  $X_{(1)} \leq .95^{-1/(3\theta_0)}$
- Test 2: Reject if  $X_{(2)} \leq \left(\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{3} \cos\left(\arccos(-.9) - \frac{2\pi}{3}\right)\right)^{-1/\theta_0}$
- Test 3: Reject if  $X_{(3)} \leq (1 - .05^{1/3})^{-1/\theta_0}$

- *Answer to Example L19.4:* Since  $\theta_0 = 2$ , the UMP test rejects  $H_0$  if  $\sum_{i=1}^3 \ln X_i \leq .4088457$  (computed in R using the command `qgamma(.05,shape=3,rate=2)`).
- Since  $\sum_{i=1}^3 \ln X_i \sim \text{Gamma}(3, \frac{1}{\theta})$  with  $\theta = 5$ , the power of the test under this alternative is

$$P\left(\sum_{i=1}^3 \ln X_i \leq .4088457\right) = \int_0^{.4088457} \frac{5^3}{\Gamma(3)} t^2 e^{-5t} dt \approx .335293$$

(computed in R using the command  
`pgamma(qgamma(.05,shape=3,rate=2),shape=3,rate=5)`).

# Comparison of Tests

- *Answer to Example L19.4 continued:* We can use the cdf of each order statistic to compute the power of each of the tests:

$$P\left(X_{(1)} \leq .95^{-1/6}\right) \approx P\left(X_{(1)} \leq .9914876\right) \\ \stackrel{19.5}{=} 1 - (.9914876)^{-15} \approx .1203518$$

$$P\left(X_{(2)} \leq \left(\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{3} \cos\left(\arccos(-.9) - \frac{2\pi}{3}\right)\right)^{-1/2}\right)$$

$$\approx P\left(X_{(2)} \leq 1.075424\right) \stackrel{19.9}{=} 2(1.075424)^{-15} - 3(1.075424)^{-10} + 1 \\ \approx .2220945$$

$$P\left(X_{(3)} \leq (1 - .05^{1/3})^{-1/2}\right) \approx P\left(X_{(3)} \leq 1.258288\right) \\ \stackrel{16.20}{=} (1 - 1.258288^{-5})^3 \\ \approx .3185705$$



Here is a simulation to check the size of the test:

```
> set.seed(345672)
> R=1000000;n=3
> theta0=2;theta=2
> X1=rep(0,R);X2=rep(0,R);X3=rep(0,R)
> sumlnX=rep(0,R)
> for (i in 1:R){
+   u=runif(3)
+   x=(1-u)^(-1/theta)
+   sx=sort(x)
+   X1[i]=sx[1];X2[i]=sx[2];X3[i]=sx[3]
+   sumlnX[i]=sum(log(x))
+ }
> mean(X1<.95^(-1/(3*theta0)))
[1] 0.049813
> mean(X2<(.5+cos(acos(-.9)/3-2*pi/3))^(-1/theta0))
[1] 0.050122
> mean(X3<(1-.05^(1/3))^(-1/theta0))
[1] 0.049606
> mean(sumlnX<qgamma(.05,shape=3,rate=theta0))
[1] 0.049739
```

Here is a simulation to check the power of the test:

```
> set.seed(453672)
> R=1000000;n=3
> theta0=2;theta=5
> X1=rep(0,R);X2=rep(0,R);X3=rep(0,R)
> sumlnX=rep(0,R)
> for (i in 1:R){
+   u=runif(3)
+   x=(1-u)^(-1/theta)
+   sx=sort(x)
+   X1[i]=sx[1];X2[i]=sx[2];X3[i]=sx[3]
+   sumlnX[i]=sum(log(x))
+ }
> mean(X1<.95^(-1/(3*theta0)))
[1] 0.120596
> mean(X2<(.5+cos(acos(-.9)/3-2*pi/3))^(-1/theta0))
[1] 0.222173
> mean(X3<(1-.05^(1/3))^(-1/theta0))
[1] 0.317824
> mean(sumlnX<qgamma(.05,shape=3,rate=theta0))
[1] 0.335018
```