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Lecture 5: Delta Method and

8. The One-Dimensional Delta

Course > Unit 2 Foundation of Inference > Confidence Intervals

> Method

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## 8. The One-Dimensional Delta Method

Applying Linear Functions to a Random Sequence

3/3 points (graded)

Let  $\left(Z_{n}
ight)_{n\geq1}$  be a sequence of random variables such that

$$\sqrt{n}\left(Z_{n}- heta
ight) \xrightarrow[n o \infty]{(d)} Z$$

for some  $heta \in \mathbb{R}$  and some random variable Z.

Let  $g\left(x\right)=5x$  and define another sequence by  $Y_{n}=g\left(Z_{n}\right)$ .

The sequence  $\sqrt{n}\left(Y_{n}-g\left(\theta\right)\right)$  converges. In terms of Z, what random variable does it converge to?

$$\sqrt{n}\left(Y_{n}-g\left( heta
ight)
ight) \stackrel{(d)}{\displaystyle \stackrel{}{\underset{n 
ightarrow \infty}{\longrightarrow}}} Y.$$

(Answer in terms of Z)

What theorem did we invoke to compute Y? (There can be more than 1 acceptable answers.)

- Laws of large number
- Central Limit theorem
- Slutsky theorem 🗸
- Continuous mapping theorem



If  ${\sf Var}(Z)=\sigma^2$  , what is  ${\sf Var}(Y)$ ? This is the asymptotic variance of  $(Y_n)_{n\geq 1}$ . (Answer in terms of  $\sigma^2$  .)

STANDARD NOTATION

**Solution:** 

1. 
$$\sqrt{n}\left(Y_{n}-g\left(\theta\right)\right) = \sqrt{n}\left(g\left(Z_{n}\right)-g\left(\theta\right)\right) = \sqrt{n}\left(5Z_{n}-5\theta\right)$$

$$= 5\left(\sqrt{n}\left(Z_{n}-\theta\right)\right) \xrightarrow{(d)} 5Z$$

by the continuous mapping theorem because  $5\left(\sqrt{n}\left(Z_n-\theta\right)\right)$  is a linear and hence continuous function of  $Z_n$  in the last step. Alternatively, since we were given that  $\sqrt{n}\left(Z_n-\theta\right) \xrightarrow[n \to \infty]{(d)} Z$ , and 5 converges trivially in probability to itself, we can also use Slutsky theorem to conclude.

2. Since 
$$Y=5Z$$
,  $\mathsf{Var}(Y)=25\mathsf{Var}(Z)=25\sigma^2$ .

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You have used 1 of 2 attempts

**1** Answers are displayed within the problem

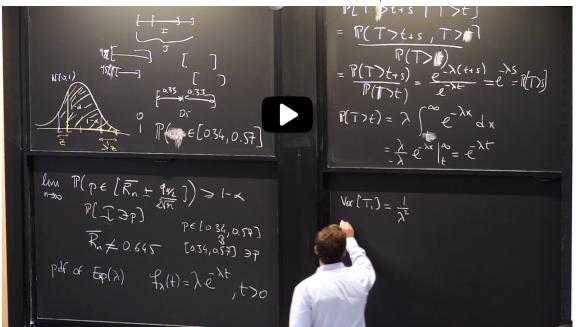
**Video note:** In the video below, there is an important misprint at roughly 1:26, which will be corrected in the video on the next page. The Central limit theorem applied to  $\overline{T}_n$  should read

$$\sqrt{n}\left(\overline{T}_n-rac{1}{\lambda}
ight) \stackrel{(d)}{\underset{n o\infty}{\longrightarrow}} \mathcal{N}\left(0,rac{1}{\lambda^2}
ight).$$

## the Delta Method

The problem is that this is not something of the form estimator

of lambda minus lambda.



Right?

What I would want to see is something that looks like square root of n one over T n bar, which is actually my lambda hat, minus lambda converges to some Gaussian as n goes to infinity in distribution.

Maybe zero and some sigma squared here. Right?

That's what I want to see.

Because once I know how to do this, then I can start unpacking my confidence intervals

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(Optional) Proof of the Delta Method

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