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UCS654

Predictive Analysis using Statistics

Assignment : Parameter Estimation

1.) Let (X_1, X_2, \dots) be a random sample of size n taken from a Normal Population with parameters : mean = θ_1 and variance = θ_2 . Find the Maximum Likelihood Estimates of these two parameters.

→ In finding the estimators, write the pdf as a function of θ_1 and θ_2 .

$$f(x_i; \theta_1, \theta_2) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\theta_2} \sqrt{2\pi}} \exp \left[-\frac{(x_i - \theta_1)^2}{2\theta_2} \right]$$

for

$$-\infty < \theta_1 < \infty$$

$$-\infty < \theta_2 < \infty$$

that makes the likelihood function as :

$$L(\theta_1, \theta_2) = \prod_{i=1}^n f(x_i; \theta_1, \theta_2) = \theta_2^{-n/2} (2\pi)^{-n/2} \exp \left[-\frac{1}{2\theta_2} \sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \theta_1)^2 \right]$$

and

therefore the log of the likelihood function:

$$\log L(\theta_1, \theta_2) = -\frac{n}{2} \log \theta_2 - \frac{n}{2} \log(2\pi) - \frac{\sum (x_i - \theta_1)^2}{2\theta_2}$$

Upon taking the partial derivative of the log likelihood with respect to θ_1 , and setting to 0, we have:

$$\frac{\partial \log L(\theta_1, \theta_2)}{\partial \theta_1} = -\frac{\sum (x_i - \theta_1)}{\theta_2}$$

$$\frac{\partial \log L(\theta_1, \theta_2)}{\partial \theta_1} = \frac{\sum (x_i - \theta_1)}{\theta_2} \stackrel{\text{set}}{=} 0$$

Now, multiplying through by θ_2 and distributing the summation, we get:

$$\sum x_i - n\theta_1 = 0$$

On solving,

$$\hat{\theta}_1 = \frac{\sum x_i}{n} = \bar{x}$$

Now for θ_2

Taking the partial derivatives of the log likelihood with respect to θ_2 , and setting to 0, we get:

$$\frac{\partial \log L(\theta_1, \theta_2)}{\partial \theta_2} = -\frac{n}{2\theta_2} + \frac{\sum (x_i - \theta_1)^2}{2\theta_2^2} \stackrel{\text{set}}{=} 0$$

Multiplying through by $2\theta_2^2$

$$\frac{\partial \log L(\theta_1, \theta_2)}{\partial \theta_2} = \left[\frac{-n}{2\theta_2} + \frac{\sum (x_i - \theta_1)^2}{2\theta_2^3} \right] \times 2\theta_2^2 \stackrel{\text{set } 0}$$

we get :

$$-n\theta_2 + \sum (x_i - \theta_1)^2 = 0$$

On solving

$$\hat{\theta}_2 = \frac{\sum (x_i - \bar{x})^2}{n}$$

Thus,

Maximum Likelihood Estimate for mean $= \theta_1$ is :

$$\hat{\theta}_1 = \frac{\sum x_i}{n} = \bar{x}.$$

Maximum Likelihood Estimate for variance $= \theta_2$ is :

$$\hat{\theta}_2 = \frac{\sum (x_i - \bar{x})^2}{n}.$$

2.) Let X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n be a random sample from $B(m, \theta)$ distribution, where $\theta \in \Theta = (0, 1)$ is unknown and 'm' is a known positive integer. Compute value of θ using the M.L.E.

→ Let X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n be a random sample from $B(m, \theta)$ and we have observed $X_1 = x_1, X_2 = x_2, \dots, X_n = x_n$.

The maximum likelihood estimate of θ is the value that maximizes the likelihood function

$$L(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n; \theta).$$

Remember that when we have a random sample, we can obtain the joint PMF and PDF by multiplying the marginal (individual) PMFs and PDFs.

Thus,

$$\begin{aligned} L(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n; \theta) &= P_{X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n}(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n; \theta) \\ &= \prod_{i=1}^n P_{X_i}(x_i; \theta) \\ &= \prod_{i=1}^n \binom{m}{x_i} \theta^{x_i} (1-\theta)^{m-x_i} \\ &= \left[\prod_{i=1}^n \binom{m}{x_i} \right] \theta^{\sum_{i=1}^n x_i} (1-\theta)^{mn - \sum_{i=1}^n x_i} \end{aligned}$$

Note that the first term does not depend on θ

so we can write $L(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n; \theta)$ as

$$L(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n; \theta) = c \theta^s (1-\theta)^{mn-s}$$

where,

c does not depend on θ , and

$$s = \sum_{k=1}^n x_k$$

By differentiating and setting the derivative to 0 we obtain

$$\hat{\theta}_{ML} = \frac{1}{mn} \sum_{k=1}^n x_k.$$

Thus, M.L.E. can be written as

$$\hat{\theta}_{ML} = \frac{1}{mn} \sum_{k=1}^n x_k.$$