

Session 5: Solutions for Exercises and Practical

Exercise 5.2.1

Suppose $K \sim \text{Bin}(n, \pi)$. Show that $S = \sqrt{p(1-p)/n}$ where $p = k/n$, and derive an approximate supported range for π .

$$\Pr(K = k) = \pi^k (1 - \pi)^{n-k} \binom{n}{k} \Rightarrow L(\pi | k) = \pi^k (1 - \pi)^{n-k} \binom{n}{k}$$

$$\Rightarrow \ell(\pi) = k \log \pi + (n - k) \log(1 - \pi) \text{ ignoring terms not in } \pi.$$

We will obtain $S^2 = -\frac{1}{\ell''(\pi)} \Big|_{\pi=\hat{\pi}}$. Recall $\hat{\pi} = k/n$. Substitute after deriving ℓ'' .

$$\ell'(\pi) = \frac{k}{\pi} - \frac{n-k}{1-\pi} \Rightarrow \ell''(\pi) = \frac{-k}{\pi^2} - \frac{n-k}{(1-\pi)^2}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{S^2} = -\ell''(\pi) \Big|_{\pi=\hat{\pi}} = \frac{k}{\pi^2} + \frac{n-k}{(1-\pi)^2} \Big|_{\pi=\hat{\pi}} = \frac{k}{p^2} + \frac{n-k}{(1-p)^2}$$

$$k=np$$

$$\Rightarrow -\ell''(\hat{\pi}) = \frac{np}{p^2} + \frac{n-np}{(1-p)^2} = \frac{n}{p} + \frac{n(1-p)}{(1-p)^2} = \frac{n}{p} + \frac{n}{1-p} = \frac{n(1-p) + np}{p(1-p)}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{S^2} = -\ell''(\hat{\pi}) = \frac{n}{p(1-p)} \Rightarrow S^2 = \frac{1}{-\ell''(\hat{\pi})} = \frac{p(1-p)}{n} \Rightarrow S = \sqrt{\frac{p(1-p)}{n}}$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{approximate 95\% CI for } \pi = p \pm 1.96 \sqrt{\frac{p(1-p)}{n}}$$

Exercise 5.3.1

1. Range π is $[0,1]$
2. Range $\log \pi$ is $(-\infty, 0]$
3. Range $\pi/(1-\pi)$ is $[0, \infty)$
4. Range $\log\{\pi/(1-\pi)\}$ is $(-\infty, \infty)$

Exercise 5.3.2

Show that based on observing k events out of n subjects, and a binomial likelihood, the standard error of the MLE of the log risk parameter $\log(\pi)$ is given by $S = \sqrt{\frac{1}{k} - \frac{1}{n}}$.

S will be given by: $S^2 = \frac{1}{-\ell''(\beta)} \Big|_{\beta=\hat{\beta}}$ where β is log transformation of binomial

proportion π

Parameter transformation:

$$\beta = \log(\pi) \Rightarrow \pi = e^\beta.$$

Binomial log-likelihood: $\ell(\pi) = k \log \pi + (n - k) \log(1 - \pi)$

$$\Rightarrow \ell(\beta) = k\beta + (n - k) \log(1 - e^\beta)$$

$$\Rightarrow \ell'(\beta) = k + \frac{(n - k)(-e^\beta)}{1 - e^\beta} = k - \frac{(n - k)e^\beta}{1 - e^\beta}$$

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$$\begin{aligned}
 \Rightarrow \ell''(\beta) &= -\frac{(1-e^\beta)(n-k)e^\beta - e^\beta(n-k)(-e^\beta)}{(1-e^\beta)^2} \\
 &= -\frac{(1-e^\beta)(n-k)e^\beta + e^{2\beta}(n-k)}{(1-e^\beta)^2} \\
 &= -(n-k)\frac{(1-e^\beta)e^\beta + e^{2\beta}}{(1-e^\beta)^2} = -(n-k)\frac{e^\beta - e^{2\beta} + e^{2\beta}}{(1-e^\beta)^2} = -(n-k)\frac{e^\beta}{(1-e^\beta)^2} \\
 \Rightarrow S^2 &= \frac{1}{-\ell''(\beta)} \Big|_{\beta=\hat{\beta}} = \frac{(1-e^{\hat{\beta}})^2}{(n-k)e^{\hat{\beta}}}.
 \end{aligned}$$

Now, by transformation invariance of MLE, $\hat{\beta} = \log(\hat{\pi}) = \log\left(\frac{k}{n}\right)$, so $e^{\hat{\beta}} = k/n$,

$$\Rightarrow S^2 = \frac{(1-k/n)^2}{(n-k)k/n} = \frac{\left(\frac{n-k}{n}\right)^2}{\frac{n-k}{n} \frac{k}{n}} = \frac{n-k}{nk} = \frac{1}{k} - \frac{1}{n} \Rightarrow S = \sqrt{\frac{1}{k} - \frac{1}{n}} \text{ as required.}$$

Computer based exercises

Question 1

Part (a)

```
. clear
. range pi 0.2 0.6 41
obs was 0, now 41
. gen logL=40*log(pi)+60*log(1-pi)
```

By the way, Stata log() is the same as ln()

```
. egen logLmax=max( logL)
. gen llr= logL- logLmax
. twoway (line llr pi)
```

Part (b)

$M = \hat{\pi} = 0.4$

```
. gen quad=-(0.4-pi)^2/(2*0.1^2)
```

By trial and error, $S \approx 0.05$. Theoretically, $S = \sqrt{\frac{\hat{\pi}(1-\hat{\pi})}{100}} = 0.049$.

```
. twoway (line llr quad pi)
. drop quad
. gen quad=-(0.4-pi)^2/(2*0.049^2)
. twoway (line llr quad pi)
. twoway (line llr quad pi, yline(-1.92))
```

Likelihood ratio confidence intervals from true log-likelihood and from quadratic approximation are very similar.

Question 2

Part (a)

```
. bloglik 40 60
Most likely value for param      0.40000

cut-point -1.921
Likelihood based limits for param  0.30741  0.49766
Approx quadratic limits for param  0.30398  0.49602
```

Part (b)

```
. bloglik 4 6
Most likely value for param      0.40000

cut-point -1.921
Likelihood based limits for param  0.14562  0.70004
Approx quadratic limits for param  0.09634  0.70366
*****
```

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```
. bloglik 400 600
Most likely value for param      0.40000

cut-point -1.921
Likelihood based limits for param 0.36992 0.43059
Approx quadratic limits for param 0.36963 0.43037
*****
. bloglik 4000 6000
Most likely value for param      0.40000

cut-point -1.921
Likelihood based limits for param 0.39042 0.40963
Approx quadratic limits for param 0.39040 0.40960
*****
```

Quadratic approximation improves as k and n increase.

Part (c)

```
. bloglik 1 99
Most likely value for param      0.01000

cut-point -1.921
Likelihood based limits for param 0.00057 0.04329
Approx quadratic limits for param -0.00950 0.02950
```

Note problem of negative confidence interval limits for π because the quadratic approximation is inappropriate when $k = 1$.

```
. bloglik 10 990
Most likely value for param      0.01000

cut-point -1.921
Likelihood based limits for param 0.00502 0.01747
Approx quadratic limits for param 0.00383 0.01617
```

Improvement in quadratic approximation depends more on k than on n .

```
. bloglik 100 9900
Most likely value for param      0.01000

cut-point -1.921
Likelihood based limits for param 0.00817 0.01208
Approx quadratic limits for param 0.00805 0.01195
*****
```

```
. bloglik 99 1
Most likely value for param      0.99000

cut-point -1.921
Likelihood based limits for param 0.95671 0.99943
Approx quadratic limits for param 0.97050 1.00950
```

Here the inappropriate quadratic approximation gives values of $\pi > 1$.

For 99 out of 100 subjects the log-likelihood is a reflection (around $\pi = 0.5$) of that for 1 out of 100.

Question 3

Part (a)

From Example 5.3.1, MLE of $\log \lambda = \log(8/160) = -2.996$; and SE of this MLE is $1/\sqrt{8} = 0.3536$.

Part (b)

```
. clear
. range lambda 0.02 0.1 81
obs was 0, now 81
. gen logL=8*log(lambda)-160*lambda
. egen logLmax=max(logL)
. gen llr=logL-logLmax
. gen log_lambda=log(lambda)
. twoway (line llr log_lambda)
```

Plotting vs $\log(\lambda)$ corresponds just to change in the x-axis scale.

```
. gen quad=(-2.996-log_lambda)^2/(2*0.3536^2)
```

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```
. twoway (line llr quad log_lambda, yline(-1.92))
```

The quadratic approximation is reasonable.

Part (c)

95% likelihood ratio confidence interval for $\log(\lambda)$ is approximately (ie using the quadratic approximation) $-2.996 \pm 1.96 \times 0.3536$, which gives $(-3.69, -2.30)$; so the approximate likelihood ratio confidence interval for λ is $(0.025, 0.10)$. Note that this is not symmetric about $\hat{\lambda} = 8/160 = 0.05$.