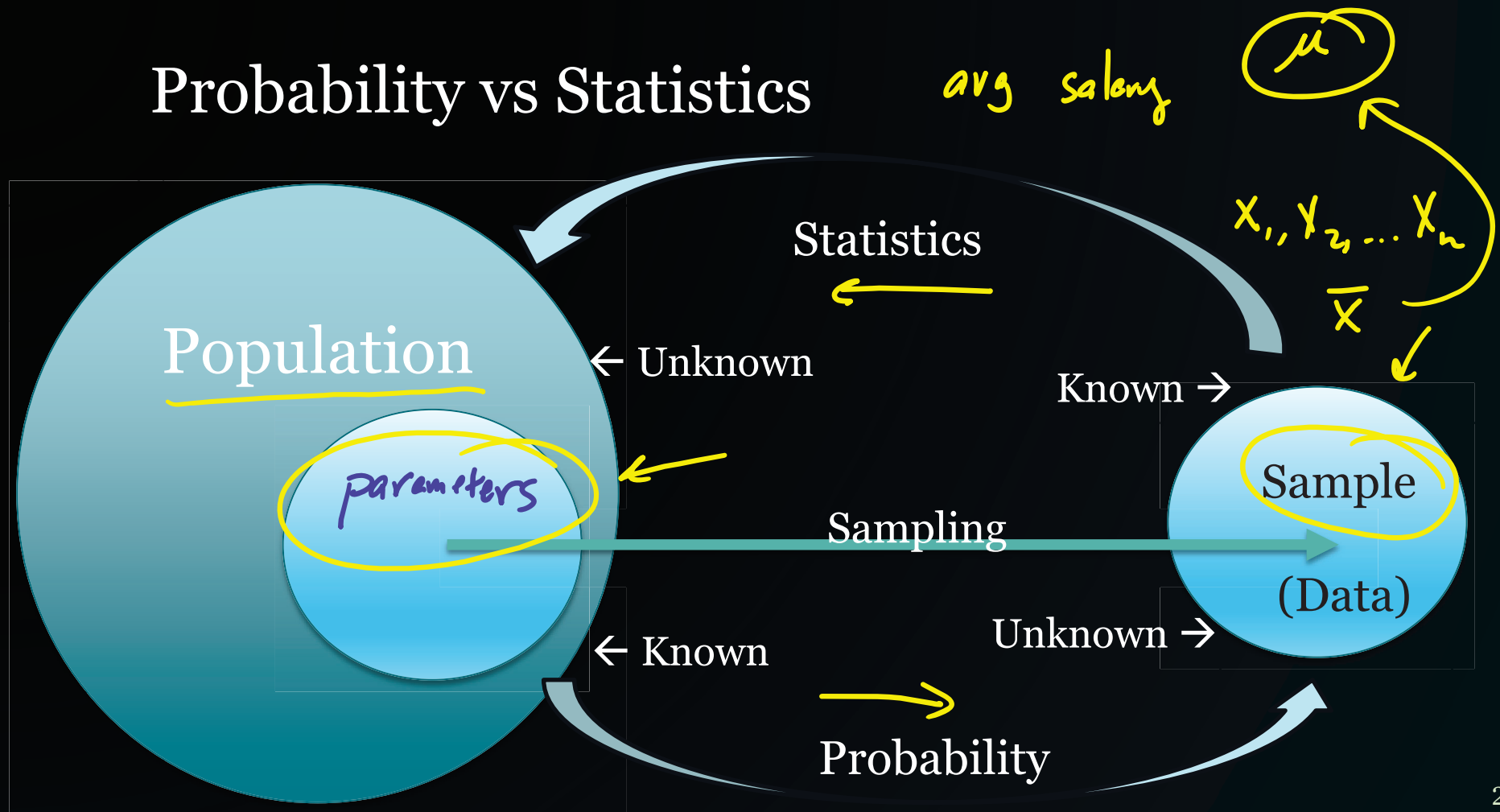


Point Estimation (MLE)

(6.4)

Notes

Probability vs Statistics



parameter $\rightarrow \boxed{\sigma^2} = E[(X - \mu)^2]$
 $\hookrightarrow \mu$

Some new terms

Statistic $\rightarrow \bar{X}$
 value of

Sample mean:

$$\bar{x} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n x_i$$

Sample variance:

$$\boxed{s^2} = \frac{1}{n-1} \sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \bar{x})^2$$

Sample standard deviation: $s = \sqrt{s^2}$

$$\sigma = \sqrt{\sigma^2}$$

notes

in
STATISTICS

Data

Statistics

Known

\bar{X}

\bar{x}

s^2

Population

Parameters

unknown

(want to estimate)

μ

σ^2



Point Estimation

Let's say we are given a distribution (family), and have random samples from this distribution, but don't know the value of the parameter, θ . ←

(often, we use θ as the generic term for an unknown parameter).

Definition: The **parameter space**, Ω , is the range of all possible values of θ . ←

\mathcal{X}

Ω : parameter space

p

$n=13$

E.g.

$X \sim \text{Exp}(\theta),$

→

$X \sim \text{Binom}(n, \theta)$

$X \sim \text{Geom}(\theta)$

$X \sim N(\theta, 1)$

$\Omega = \{\theta : \theta > 0\}$

$\Omega = \{\theta : 0 < \theta < 1\}$

$X \sim \text{Geom}(p)$

$\Omega = \{\theta : -\infty < \theta < \infty\}$

s^2

$X \sim N(\theta_1, \theta_2)$

Point Estimation

→ Goal: Estimate $\theta \in \Omega$

→ We will observe n samples, X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n , and estimate θ with n sample values, x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n .

e.g. The statistic, $u(X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n)$, is an estimator of θ .

$$\bar{x} = 4.3$$

Using the values from the observations, we can find an estimate of θ , $u(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$.

notes

median

use \bar{X} to estimate μ
estimator

Simple example of Point Estimate

What was the true mean score on Midterm 2? (μ)

→ ▫ Population: All students in Math 463/Stat 400

▫ Right now: only have 30 grades. ↵

▫ $\bar{x} = \frac{1}{30} \sum_{i=1}^{30} x_i = 85$
estimate of μ

This is a point estimate of μ .

Binomial example

Suppose that I perform an experiment 10 times and define success as 1. I don't know p . We would like to estimate the parameter, p .

- If I get a sample: 1,1,1,1,1,0,1,1,1,1. What is the best estimate for p ?

95

15

0.9

X Y

X_1, X_2

sample size n

Joint pmf/pdf

- Assuming that $\underline{X_1}, \underline{X_2}, \dots, \underline{X_n}$ are independent and identically distributed, we know that the joint pmf (or pdf) is equal to the product of the pmf/pdfs.

- Bivariate: if X and Y are independent,

$$\underbrace{f(x, y) = f(x)f(y)}_{\substack{\uparrow \quad \uparrow}}$$

Joint pmf/pdf

For multiple mutually independent observations from the same distribution (iid), the **joint distribution** (joint pdf or joint pmf) is the product of the individual pdf/pmf.

$$X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n \text{ iid} = \prod_{i=1}^n f(x_i)$$

$$\underline{f(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)} = \underline{f(x_1) \cdot f(x_2) \cdot \dots \cdot f(x_n)}$$

notes

adithya_r: = so for 10 flips, we got 9 successes, and got $p = 0.9$. If n is increased to say 1000 flips, p is likely to be 'more accurate'. But instead of increasing ' n ', what if we just used $n = 10$ flips but performed the trial of 10 flips multiple times, averaging the found p value for that?

~~20~~

Statistics

The Likelihood function

$$X \quad \boxed{f(x)}$$

The likelihood function looks exactly like the joint pdf (or pmf).

It is obtained through finding the joint distribution.

$$X \sim \text{Binom}(n, p) \quad f(x) = \boxed{\binom{n}{x} p^x (1-p)^{n-x}}$$

It is a function of θ , not of x_i .

$$L(\theta) = \prod_{i=1}^n \underbrace{f(x_i; \theta)}_{\text{semicolon}}$$

$$\begin{aligned} f(x) &= \text{Probability} \\ f(x; p) &= \text{Likelihood} \\ f(x, p) &= \text{Joint} \end{aligned}$$

$$f(x|p) = \text{ " " semicolon}$$

Probability: Know the value of parameters. Calculate probability of observing some data.

Statistics: Know what data look like. Come up with an estimate of parameters.

$$\prod_{i=1}^3 x_i = x_1 \cdot x_2 \cdot x_3$$

Binomial Example (MLE)

$$\binom{n}{x} \theta^x (1-\theta)^{n-x}$$

- Flipping a loaded coin 10 times. It shows heads on 9 of 10 flips.

Let $X \sim \text{Binom}(10, \theta)$

$$f(9; \theta) = \binom{10}{9} \theta^9 (1-\theta)^1 = L(\theta)$$

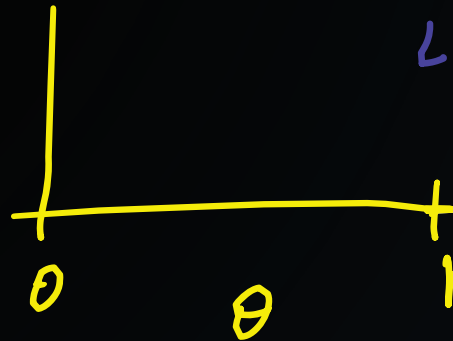
- Now, given that I have gotten 9 successes, what value of theta makes this expression the largest (most likely)? How can I find that value?

θ

\uparrow

```
x = seq(from = 0, to = 1, by = 0.01)
y = 10 * x^9 * (1 - x)
plot(x, y)
```

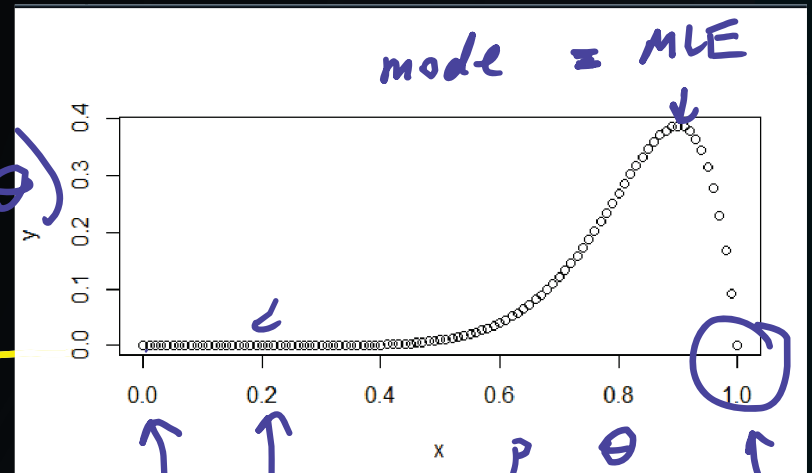
$$f(9; \theta) = \binom{10}{9} \theta^9 (1 - \theta)^1 = L(\theta)$$



$p = 0.5$

$p = 1$

$L(\theta)$

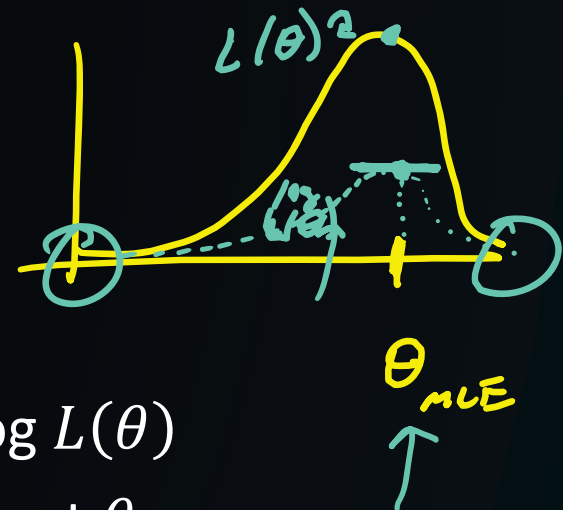


log means natural log

ln means natural log

Using Calculus to find MLE

$\frac{d}{d\theta}$



→ Step 1: Find $L(\theta)$

Step 2: Take the (natural) log of $L(\theta)$, $\log L(\theta)$

Step 3: Take first derivative of log $L(\theta)$ w.r.t θ .

Step 4: Set expression equal to 0

Step 5: Solve for θ

In case you forgot...

Suppose $f(x)$ is a function of x that is twice differentiable at a stationary point x_0 .

1. If $f''(x_0) > 0$, then f has a local minimum at x_0 .
2. If $f''(x_0) < 0$, then f has a local maximum at x_0 .

notes

$$\log(ab) = \log a + \log b$$

MLE Example

$f(x; \theta)$

pdf

cont

Let X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n be iid $\sim f(x; \theta) = \theta^{-2} x e^{-x/\theta}$, $x > 0$, $\theta > 0$

a) Find the MLE of θ , $\hat{\theta}$.

$$(1) \quad L(\theta) = \prod_{i=1}^n f(x_i; \theta) = \prod_{i=1}^n \theta^{-2} x_i e^{-x_i/\theta}$$

$$= \theta^{-2n} \prod_{i=1}^n x_i e^{-\frac{1}{\theta} \sum x_i}$$

(2)

$$\log L(\theta) = -2n \log \theta + \sum \log x_i - \frac{1}{\theta} \sum x_i$$

$$\frac{\partial \log L(\theta)}{\partial \theta} = -2n \left(\frac{1}{\theta} \right) + 0 + \frac{1}{\theta^2} \sum x_i$$

$$\log(\prod x_i) = \log(x_1 \cdot x_2 \cdot \dots \cdot x_n) = \log x_1 + \log x_2 + \dots + \log x_n$$

MLE Example continued

$$f(x; \theta) = \theta^{-2} x e^{-\frac{x}{\theta}}, \quad x > 0, \quad \theta > 0$$

(3,4)

$$\frac{\partial \log L(\theta)}{\partial \theta} = -2n \left(\frac{1}{\theta} \right) + \cancel{\theta} + \frac{1}{\theta^2} \sum_{i=1}^n X_i = 0$$
$$-2n \theta + \sum_{i=1}^n X_i = 0$$

(5)

$$\sum_{i=1}^n X_i = 2n \hat{\theta} \Rightarrow$$

$$\boxed{\bar{X}/2 = \hat{\theta}}$$

OR

$$\boxed{\frac{\sum_{i=1}^n X_i}{2n} = \hat{\theta}}$$

Rec. ass.

→ θ
unknown

pdf

MLE Example continued

$$f(x; \theta) = \theta^{-2} x e^{-x/\theta}$$

Find an estimate of θ when

$$X_1 = x_1 = 1$$

$$x_1 = 1, x_2 = 0.75, x_3 = 2, x_4 = 1.5, x_5 = 0.75$$

$$\frac{6}{5} = 1.2$$

$$\bar{X}/2 = \hat{\theta}$$

OR

Estimator

$$\frac{\bar{X}}{2} = \frac{1.2}{2} = 0.6$$

estimate

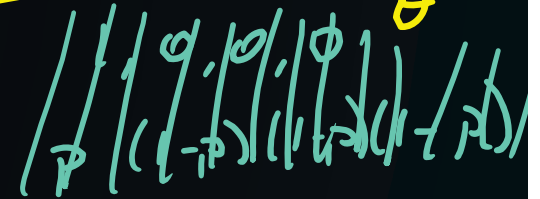
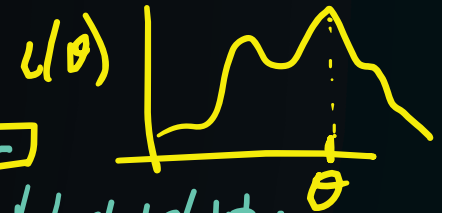
Theta = seq(from=0, to = 5, by = 0.01)
Y = theta^(-2)*

MLE Example (for you to practice at home)

Let $X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n \sim \text{Bern}(p)$. Find the MLE of p .

$$f(x_i; p) = p^{x_i} (1 - p)^{1-x_i}$$

estimator



pdf

$$(1) L(p) = \prod_{i=1}^n f(x_i; p)$$

joint pmf

$$L(p) = p^{x_1} (1-p)^{1-x_1} \cdot p^{x_2} (1-p)^{1-x_2} \cdot \dots \cdot p^{x_n} (1-p)^{1-x_n}$$

$$= p^{\sum_{i=1}^n x_i} \cdot (1-p)^{n - \sum_{i=1}^n x_i}$$

$$L(\theta) = f(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$$

$$\log L(p) = \sum x_i \cdot \log(p) + (n - \sum x_i) \log(1-p)$$

$$\frac{\log L(p)}{p}^{(2)} = \sum \underline{X_i} \cdot \underline{\log(p)} + (n - \sum X_i) \log(1-p)$$

$$\frac{\partial \log L(p)}{\partial p}^{(3,4)} = \sum_{i=1}^n X_i \cdot \left(\frac{1}{p}\right) + (n - \sum_{i=1}^n X_i) \left(\frac{-1}{1-p}\right) \stackrel{\text{set}}{=} 0$$

$$(5) \quad \frac{\sum X_i}{p} - \frac{n}{1-p} + \frac{\sum X_i}{1-p} = 0$$

$$p(1-p) \quad (1-p) \sum X_i - pn + p \sum X_i = 0$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^n X_i = np \quad \boxed{\hat{p} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n X_i = \bar{X}} \quad \hat{p}_{MLE} = \bar{X}$$

notes