

Lab 7 Solution

1. Likelihood Ratio Test and Prior Probabilities

The i.i.d random variables X_1 and X_2 are $Poisson(\theta)$; that is, they have probability distribution $P(X_i = k) = e^{-\theta} \frac{\theta^k}{k!}$, $k = 0, 1, 2, \dots$. We consider the two (simple) hypotheses $H_0 : \theta = 1$ and $H_1 : \theta = 2$. Define: $f(k_1, k_2 | H_i) = P(X_1 = k_1, X_2 = k_2 | H_i)$ with $i = 0, 1$.

Suppose we accept H_0 if

$$\frac{f(X_1, X_2 | H_0)}{f(X_1, X_2 | H_1)} > 2$$

and reject H_0 otherwise.

(a) Show that the ratio above depends only on the statistic $S = X_1 + X_2$. What is the acceptance region R_0 of the above test? That is, for which values of S do we accept H_0 ?

(b) Find the significance level α of this test.

(c) Find the power β of this test.

Solution:

$$\begin{aligned} \Lambda &= \frac{f(X_1, X_2 | H_0)}{f(X_1, X_2 | H_1)} = \frac{f(X_1 | H_0) f(X_2 | H_0)}{f(X_1 | H_1) f(X_2 | H_1)} = \frac{e^{-1} \frac{1^{X_1}}{X_1!} e^{-1} \frac{1^{X_2}}{X_2!}}{e^{-2} \frac{2^{X_1}}{X_1!} e^{-2} \frac{2^{X_2}}{X_2!}} = e^2 \frac{1}{2^{X_1+X_2}} \\ \text{so: } \Lambda &= \frac{e^2}{2^S} \cdot \Lambda > 2 \Leftrightarrow \frac{e^2}{2^S} > 2 \Leftrightarrow 2^S < \frac{1}{2} e^2 \Leftrightarrow S < \log_2\left(\frac{e^2}{2}\right) \\ &\Leftrightarrow S < 2 \log_2 e - 1 \approx 1.88, \text{ so } R_0 = \{0, 1\} \end{aligned}$$

(b) $\alpha = P(\text{Type I error}) = P(\text{reject } H_0 | H_0)$
 $= P(S \geq 2 | H_0) :$

Remember: if $Y \sim \text{Poisson}(\lambda)$ and $Z \sim \text{Poisson}(\mu)$ are independent then $Y+Z \sim \text{Poisson}(\lambda+\mu)$

so, under the assumption H_0 , $S \sim \text{Poisson}(1+1) = \text{Poisson}(2)$.

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow \alpha &= P(S \geq 2 | H_0) = 1 - P(S = 0 \text{ or } 1 | H_0) = \\ &= 1 - e^{-2} \frac{2^0}{0!} - e^{-2} \frac{2^1}{1!} = \boxed{1 - 3e^{-2}} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{(c)} \quad \beta &= 1 - P(\text{accept } H_0 | H_1) = (\text{under } H_1, S \sim \text{Poisson}(4)) \\ &= 1 - P(S = 0 | H_1) - P(S = 1 | H_1) = 1 - e^{-4} \frac{4^0}{0!} - e^{-4} \frac{4^1}{1!} \\ &= \boxed{1 - 5e^{-4}} \end{aligned}$$

(d) Discuss with your neighbor in what sense are confidence intervals and hypothesis tests dual concepts. This refers to section 9.3 in Rice.

Solution: A 95% CI tell you whether you can reject the null hypothesis at a 5% level of significance depending whether or not the 95% CI contains the null parameter. Conversely whether you reject the null hypothesis or not in a hypothesis test tells you whether the corresponding 95% CI contains the null parameter. It goes both ways.

Put another way, you reject the null hypothesis at a 5% level of significance exactly when the your test statistic is outside of your 95% CI.

2. General Review (Short Answer Questions)

2.1. Give the precise definition of the p-value of a hypothesis test

Solution:

For a given sample X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n it is the smallest value of the significance level which makes us reject H_0 for such sample.

2.2. Is the p-value of a test a random variable? If so, why? If not, why not?

Solution: It depends on the sample X_1, \dots, X_n , so it is a random variable.

2.3. Suppose that the null hypothesis H_0 is simple, while the alternative hypothesis H_1 is composite. When is a hypothesis test "uniformly most powerful"?

Solution:

It is uniformly most powerful when it is the most powerful test for any simple alternative hypothesis that is contained in H_1 .

2.4. State the Neyman-Pearson Lemma as precisely as you can remember.

Solution:

For simple hypotheses, among all hypothesis tests with significance level α , the one that has maximum power is the likelihood ratio test.

2.5. **True or False** (Explain your answer precisely)

If the p-value is 0.03, the corresponding test will reject at the significance level 0.02.

Solution:

FALSE. The p-value is the smallest α at which H_0 is rejected, so it will not reject at $\alpha = 0.2$ when the p-value is 0.3.

2.6. Let λ be a generalized ratio statistic. Under smoothness conditions on the probability density functions involved, the null distribution of $-2 \log \lambda$ tends to what distribution?

Solution: It will tend to a chi-squared distribution with $df = \dim(\mathcal{H}) - \dim(\mathcal{H}_0)$, $n \rightarrow \infty$

2.7. **True or False** (Explain your answer precisely)

The likelihood ratio statistic is always less than or equal to 1.

Solution:

TRUE.

$$\lambda(\mathcal{X}_n) = \frac{\max_{\theta \in \mathcal{H}_0} L(\theta)}{\max_{\theta \in \mathcal{H}} L(\theta)}$$

and since $\mathcal{H}_0 \subset \mathcal{H}$, the numerator will be upper bounded by the denominator.