

Econometrics

Part I: Basic regression.

Session 3.

References on Bruce Hansen's textbook will be abbreviated with H. Say, H 1.1 means chapter 1.1 from Bruce Hansen's textbook.

Distribution of the OLS estimator. (H 5.8-5.11)

Tests of linear hypotheses. (H 5.12-5.16, 8.1-8.4, 9.1-9.7, 9.14)

Tests of inequalities. (These notes).

Preliminaries

Let Z be an n -dimensional random vector with the joint density of its elements given by $f_Z(z)$. Consider a transformed vector $W = g(Z)$. Suppose that g is a one-to-one transformation of \mathbb{R}^n to \mathbb{R}^n . Then the joint density of the elements of W , $f_W(w)$, is given by

$$f_W(w) = f_Z(g^{-1}(w)) |J|,$$

where J is the Jacobian of the inverse transformation. That is, the determinant of the matrix of partial derivatives of the elements of $g^{-1}(w)$ with respect to the elements of w . (For a derivation see Casella and Berger's (1990) textbook).

For example, if $W = AZ$ for some invertible matrix A , then

$$f_W(w) = f_Z(A^{-1}w) |\det(A^{-1})|.$$

In particular, let Z be an n -dimensional normal vector with distribution $N(0, \sigma^2 I)$. Consider $W = UZ$, where U (that is, such that $U'U = I$) is an orthogonal matrix. Then, because $|\det U| = 1$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} f_W(w) &= f_Z(U'w) = \frac{1}{(2\pi\sigma^2)^{n/2}} \exp \left\{ -\frac{1}{2\sigma^2} (U'w)' (U'w) \right\} \\ &= \frac{1}{(2\pi\sigma^2)^{n/2}} \exp \left\{ -\frac{1}{2\sigma^2} w'w \right\} \end{aligned}$$

Hence, W also has distribution $N(0, \sigma^2 I)$. We say that the normal distribution with covariance matrix proportional to identity is invariant with respect to rotations. More generally, if $Z \sim N(\mu, \Sigma)$ and $W = AZ$ with not necessarily

orthogonal A , then by following the same steps, we can show that

$$f_W(w) = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^{n/2} |A\Sigma A'|^{1/2}} \exp \left\{ -\frac{1}{2} (w - A\mu)' (A\Sigma A')^{-1} (w - A\mu) \right\}.$$

In other words, $W \sim N(A\mu, A\Sigma A')$.

Conditional distribution of the OLS estimator.

Theorem 1 *Under GM1-4, we have*

$$\hat{\beta}_{OLS}|X \sim N\left(\beta, \sigma^2 (X'X)^{-1}\right)$$

Indeed,

$$\hat{\beta}_{OLS} = (X'X)^{-1} X'Y \text{ and } Y|X \sim N(X\beta, \sigma^2 I).$$

Therefore,

$$\hat{\beta}_{OLS}|X \sim N(AX\beta, \sigma^2 AA'),$$

where $A = (X'X)^{-1} X'$. But $AA' = (X'X)^{-1} X'X (X'X)^{-1} = (X'X)^{-1}$, and $AX = (X'X)^{-1} X'X = I_k$. \square

Further, consider

$$\hat{\sigma}^2 = \frac{\hat{\varepsilon}'\hat{\varepsilon}}{n-k} = \frac{1}{n-k} Y' M_X Y = \frac{1}{n-k} Y' \left(I - X (X'X)^{-1} X' \right) Y$$

Denote $X (X'X)^{-1/2}$ as U_1 . Note that $U_1' U_1 = I_k$. Let U_2 be such that $U = [U_1, U_2]$ is an orthogonal matrix. In other words, let the columns of U_2 represent an orthonormal basis in the space orthogonal to that spanned by the columns of X . Then,

$$I - X (X'X)^{-1} X' = UU' - U_1 U_1' = U_1 U_1' + U_2 U_2' - U_1 U_1' = U_2 U_2'$$

so that

$$\hat{\sigma}^2 = \frac{1}{n-k} Y' U_2 U_2' Y.$$

On the other hand, $U_2' Y$ is the vector of last $n-k$ coordinates of $U' Y \sim N(U' X \beta, \sigma^2 I_n)$.

We have

$$U' X \beta = \begin{pmatrix} U_1' X \beta \\ U_2' X \beta \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} U_1' X \beta \\ 0 \end{pmatrix},$$

so

$$U_2'Y \sim N(0, \sigma^2 I_{n-k})$$

and

$$\frac{Y'U_2U_2'Y}{\sigma^2} \sim \chi^2(n-k).$$

Hence, we have.

Theorem 2 *Under GM1-4, we have*

$$\hat{\sigma}^2|X \sim \frac{\sigma^2}{n-k} \chi^2(n-k).$$

In particular, the variance of $\hat{\sigma}^2|X$ is

$$\left(\frac{\sigma^2}{n-k}\right)^2 \text{Var}(\chi^2(n-k)) = \frac{\sigma^4 2(n-k)}{(n-k)^2} = \frac{2\sigma^4}{n-k}$$

Hence the unbiased estimator $\hat{\sigma}^2$ does not attain the CRLB:

$$\frac{2\sigma^4}{n-k} > \frac{2\sigma^4}{n}.$$

Finally, note that $\hat{\beta}_{OLS}$ has form $(X'X)^{-1/2} U_1'Y$. Since, as follows from the above derivation, $U_1'Y$ and $U_2'Y$ are independent (uncorrelated variables that are jointly normal must be independent normals), we must have

Theorem 3 *Under GM1-4, $\hat{\beta}_{OLS}$ and $\hat{\sigma}^2$ are independent conditionally on X .*

Tests of linear hypotheses

To test linear hypotheses of form $R\beta = q$, assume GM1-4 hold.

Test: $H_0 : R\beta = q$ vs. $H_1 : R\beta \neq q$, where R is $p \times k$ and $\text{rank}(R) = p$.

$$\hat{\beta}|X \sim N(\beta, \sigma^2 (X'X)^{-1})$$

so

$$R\hat{\beta} - q|X \sim N(R\beta - q, \sigma^2 R(X'X)^{-1} R') \stackrel{H_0}{\sim} N(0, \sigma^2 R(X'X)^{-1} R')$$

Hence,

$$\begin{aligned} & \left(\sigma^2 R (X'X)^{-1} R' \right)^{-1/2} \left(R\hat{\beta} - q \right) |X \stackrel{H_0}{\sim} N(0, I_p) \text{ and} \\ & \left(R\hat{\beta} - q \right)' \left(\sigma^2 R (X'X)^{-1} R' \right)^{-1} \left(R\hat{\beta} - q \right) |X \stackrel{H_0}{\sim} \chi^2(p) \end{aligned}$$

Unfortunately, this test statistic contains σ^2 , which we generally do not know. We can consider replacing σ^2 with its estimator, $\hat{\sigma}^2$, to obtain the so-called Wald statistic

$$W = \left(R\hat{\beta} - q \right)' \left(\hat{\sigma}^2 R (X'X)^{-1} R' \right)^{-1} \left(R\hat{\beta} - q \right)$$

where we recall that

$$\frac{n-k}{\sigma^2} \hat{\sigma}^2 |X \sim \chi^2(n-k) \text{ and is independent from } \hat{\beta} |X.$$

Since the ratio of two independent chi-squares divided by their degrees of freedom is distributed as an F , we have

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{W}{p} &= \frac{1}{p} \frac{\sigma^2}{\hat{\sigma}^2} \left(R\hat{\beta} - q \right)' \left(\sigma^2 R (X'X)^{-1} R' \right)^{-1} \left(R\hat{\beta} - q \right) \\ &= \frac{\left(R\hat{\beta} - q \right)' \left(\sigma^2 R (X'X)^{-1} R' \right)^{-1} \left(R\hat{\beta} - q \right) / p}{\frac{n-k}{\sigma^2} \hat{\sigma}^2 / (n-k)} \end{aligned}$$

so

$$\frac{W}{p} |X \stackrel{H_0}{\sim} F(p, n-k)$$

Note the importance of the independence of the estimators $\hat{\beta}$ and $\hat{\sigma}^2$ in forming this test statistic.

Special case: Single Hypothesis restriction

In a special case, a single hypothesis is tested

$$\begin{aligned} R &= (0, \dots, 1, \dots, 0) \\ q &= \text{scalar} \end{aligned}$$

The null and the alternative hypotheses become

$$H_0 : \beta_j = q \text{ vs. } H_1 : \beta_j \neq q$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\hat{\beta}|X &\sim N\left(\beta, \sigma^2 (X'X)^{-1}\right) \\
\Rightarrow \hat{\beta}_j|X &\sim N\left(\beta_j, \sigma^2 (X'X)_{jj}^{-1}\right) \\
\Rightarrow \hat{\beta}_j|X &\stackrel{H_0}{\sim} N\left(q, \sigma^2 (X'X)_{jj}^{-1}\right)
\end{aligned}$$

and

$$\frac{\hat{\beta}_j - q}{\sqrt{\sigma^2 (X'X)_{jj}^{-1}}}|X \stackrel{H_0}{\sim} N(0, 1)$$

Again, we do not know σ^2 , and so substitute $\hat{\sigma}^2$ as above, denoting this new statistic t :

$$\begin{aligned}
t &= \frac{\hat{\beta}_j - q}{\sqrt{\hat{\sigma}^2 (X'X)_{jj}^{-1}}} \\
&= \frac{(\hat{\beta}_j - q) / \sqrt{\sigma^2 (X'X)_{jj}^{-1}}}{\sqrt{\frac{(n-k)\hat{\sigma}^2}{\sigma^2} / (n-k)}}
\end{aligned}$$

Conditional on X , the numerator is standard normal and the denominator is the square root of a chi-square. Further, the numerator and denominator are independent conditionally on X . Hence

$$t|X \stackrel{H_0}{\sim} t(n-k)$$

Note that for large n , the t distribution approaches a normal distribution.

Another form of the linear test statistic

Assume GM1-4 hold. We are testing the following hypothesis, where R is $p \times k$ and $\text{rank}(R) = p$:

$$H_0 : R\beta = q \text{ vs. } H_1 : R\beta \neq q$$

Previously, we showed that

$$W/p = \left(R\hat{\beta} - q\right)' \left(\hat{\sigma}^2 R (X'X)^{-1} R'\right)^{-1} \left(R\hat{\beta} - q\right) / p \stackrel{H_0}{\sim} F(p, n-k)$$

Suppose that we impose the null hypothesis restrictions when we minimize the sum of squared residuals. call the solution to this problem the “restricted least squares

estimator," $\tilde{\beta}$.

$$\min_{\beta} (Y - X\beta)'(Y - X\beta) \text{ s.t. } R\beta = q$$

The Lagrangian for this minimization is

$$L(\beta) = (Y - X\beta)'(Y - X\beta) + \lambda'(R\beta - q)$$

The first order conditions are:

$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial \beta} = -2X'(Y - X\tilde{\beta}) + R'\lambda = 0 \quad (1)$$

$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial \lambda} = R\tilde{\beta} - q = 0 \quad (2)$$

From FOC (1), we have

$$\tilde{\beta} = \hat{\beta} - (X'X)^{-1} R' \left(\frac{\lambda}{2} \right)$$

where $\hat{\beta}$ is the usual (unrestricted) OLS estimator. Now, by FOC (2) $R\tilde{\beta} = q$, so

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= R\hat{\beta} - q - R(X'X)^{-1} R' \left(\frac{\lambda}{2} \right) \\ \implies \frac{\lambda}{2} &= \left(R(X'X)^{-1} R' \right)^{-1} (R\hat{\beta} - q) \end{aligned}$$

Thus,

$$\tilde{\beta} = \hat{\beta} - (X'X)^{-1} R' \left(R(X'X)^{-1} R' \right)^{-1} (R\hat{\beta} - q)$$

Now from the corresponding restricted and unrestricted residuals,

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{\varepsilon} &= Y - X\hat{\beta} \\ \tilde{\varepsilon} &= Y - X\tilde{\beta} = X\hat{\beta} + \hat{\varepsilon} - X\tilde{\beta} = \hat{\varepsilon} + X(\hat{\beta} - \tilde{\beta}). \end{aligned}$$

Since $\tilde{\varepsilon}'X = 0$,

$$\tilde{\varepsilon}'\tilde{\varepsilon} = \hat{\varepsilon}'\hat{\varepsilon} + (\hat{\beta} - \tilde{\beta})' X'X (\hat{\beta} - \tilde{\beta})$$

and substituting $\hat{\beta} - \tilde{\beta} = (X'X)^{-1} R' \left(R(X'X)^{-1} R' \right)^{-1} (R\hat{\beta} - q)$,

$$\tilde{\varepsilon}'\tilde{\varepsilon} - \hat{\varepsilon}'\hat{\varepsilon} = (R\hat{\beta} - q)' \left(R(X'X)^{-1} R' \right)^{-1} (R\hat{\beta} - q)$$

Now,

$$\begin{aligned}
W/p &= \frac{\left(R\hat{\beta} - q\right)' \left(R(X'X)^{-1}R'\right)^{-1} \left(R\hat{\beta} - q\right)}{\hat{\sigma}^2 p} = \frac{\tilde{\varepsilon}'\tilde{\varepsilon} - \hat{\varepsilon}'\hat{\varepsilon}}{\frac{\tilde{\varepsilon}'\tilde{\varepsilon}}{n-k}p} \\
\Rightarrow \frac{W}{p} &= \frac{(\tilde{\varepsilon}'\tilde{\varepsilon} - \hat{\varepsilon}'\hat{\varepsilon})/p}{\hat{\varepsilon}'\hat{\varepsilon}/(n-k)} = \frac{(RSS_r - RSS_u)/p}{RSS_u/(n-k)} \stackrel{H_0}{\approx} F(p, n-k)
\end{aligned}$$

We see that in the context of testing linear restrictions under GM1-4, the W/p statistic is nothing else as the familiar F statistic.

Likelihood ratio test

Suppose that the likelihood function is in general given by $\mathcal{L}(Z, \theta) \equiv f(Z, \theta)$, where Z is a vector of data and θ is a vector of parameters. Consider testing

$$H_0 : \theta \in S_0 \text{ vs. } H_1 : \theta \in S_1.$$

The likelihood ratio test is defined by the following procedure:

Reject H_0 if

$$LR = -2 \log \frac{\max_{\theta \in S_0} f(Z, \theta)}{\max_{\theta \in S_0 \cup S_1} f(Z, \theta)} > c,$$

where c is chosen so as to satisfy $\max_{\theta \in S_0} \Pr(LR > c) = \alpha$ for a given significance level $\alpha < 1$ (probability of the type I error).

Neyman-Pearson Lemma. When $S_0 = \theta_0$ and $S_1 = \theta_1$ (so both null and alternative specify just one value of the parameter vector), the likelihood ratio test is the most powerful test at significance level α .

Proof (not examinable): Let $\phi_{LR}(Z)$ be the indicator function of the event that the likelihood ratio test rejects. Consider any other test, say T , with significance level α . Let $\phi_T(Z)$ be the indicator function that this test rejects. Let S^+ be the region of the sample space where $\phi_{LR}(Z) > \phi_T(Z)$ (LR rejects and T does not). Similarly, let S^- be the region where $\phi_{LR}(Z) < \phi_T(Z)$. We have

$$\begin{aligned}
&\int (\phi_{LR}(z) - \phi_T(z)) \left(f(z, \theta_1) - \exp\left\{\frac{c}{2}\right\} f(z, \theta_0) \right) dz \\
&= \int_{S^+ \cup S^-} (\phi_{LR}(z) - \phi_T(z)) \left(f(z, \theta_1) - \exp\left\{\frac{c}{2}\right\} f(z, \theta_0) \right) dz \geq 0
\end{aligned}$$

Therefore, the difference in power between LR and T satisfies

$$\int (\phi_{LR}(z) - \phi_T(z)) f(z, \theta_1) dz \geq \exp\left\{\frac{c}{2}\right\} \int (\phi_{LR}(z) - \phi_T(z)) f(z, \theta_0) dz \geq 0. \square$$

In addition to being most powerful under the Neyman-Pearson assumptions, the LR test has asymptotically optimal properties (e.g. Wald, 1943).

Likelihood ratio test of linear restrictions under GM1-4.

Consider a hypothesis $R\beta = r$ about coefficients of linear regression with normal errors

$$Y = X\beta + \varepsilon, \text{ where } \varepsilon|X \sim N(0, \sigma^2 I).$$

The unconstrained ML estimates of β and σ^2 in such a model are $\hat{\beta}_{OLS}$ and $\hat{\sigma}_{ML}^2 = RSS_u/n$. We have

$$\begin{aligned} & \log(\max \mathcal{L}(Y, \theta|X) \text{ without the restrictions}) \\ &= -\frac{n}{2} \log(2\pi) - \frac{n}{2} \log(\hat{\sigma}_{ML}^2) \\ & \quad - \frac{1}{2\hat{\sigma}_{ML}^2} (Y - X\hat{\beta}_{OLS})' (Y - X\hat{\beta}_{OLS}) \\ &= -\frac{n}{2} \log(2\pi) - \frac{n}{2} \log\left(\frac{RSS_u}{n}\right) - \frac{n}{2}. \end{aligned}$$

Similarly, we can show that

$$\begin{aligned} & \log(\max \mathcal{L}(Y, \theta|X) \text{ under the restrictions}) \\ &= -\frac{n}{2} \log(2\pi) - \frac{n}{2} \log\left(\frac{RSS_r}{n}\right) - \frac{n}{2} \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, the log likelihood ratio statistic for the test of $R\beta = r$ against $R\beta \neq r$ is

$$\begin{aligned} LR &= -2 \left[-\frac{n}{2} \log\left(\frac{RSS_r}{n}\right) + \frac{n}{2} \log\left(\frac{RSS_u}{n}\right) \right] \\ &= n [\log(RSS_r) - \log(RSS_u)] = n \left[\log\left(\frac{RSS_r}{RSS_u}\right) \right] \\ &= n \left[\log\left(\frac{p}{n-k} \frac{(RSS_r - RSS_u)/p}{RSS_u/(n-k)} + 1\right) \right] \\ &= n \left[\log\left(\frac{p}{n-k} \frac{W}{p} + 1\right) \right]. \end{aligned}$$

We see that the LR statistic is a monotone transformation of the F statistic, so the LR test and the F test must be equivalent in the context of testing the linear restrictions under GM1-4.

Testing inequality constraints

Sometimes, the interest lies in testing inequality rather than equality restrictions. There is a large literature on this. A couple of early important works are Chernoff (1954) and Wolak (1989). Here we would like to give a flavour of the techniques involved using a very stylized framework. Consider a model with two explanatory variables

$$Y = \beta_1 X_1 + \beta_2 X_2 + \varepsilon$$

where $E(\varepsilon|X_1, X_2) = 0$. Assume that GM1-4 hold. In addition, assume that $\sigma^2 = 1$ is known and that X_1 and X_2 are orthonormal, that is, $X'X = I_2$ where $X = [X_1, X_2]$. This will simplify formulae below.

Suppose that we would like to test

$$H_0 : \beta_1 \geq 0 \text{ and } \beta_2 \geq 0 \text{ vs. } H_1 : \beta_j < 0 \text{ for some } j.$$

Let us derive the LR statistic. Recall that we assumed that it is known that $\sigma^2 = 1$. We have

$$\begin{aligned} & \log(\max \mathcal{L}(Y, \theta|X) \text{ without the restrictions}) \\ &= -\frac{n}{2} \log(2\pi) - \frac{1}{2} \left(Y - X\hat{\beta}_{OLS} \right)' \left(Y - X\hat{\beta}_{OLS} \right). \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} & \log(\max \mathcal{L}(Y, \theta|X) \text{ under the restrictions}) \\ &= -\frac{n}{2} \log(2\pi) - \frac{1}{2} \min_{b_1, b_2 \geq 0} (Y - Xb)' (Y - Xb). \end{aligned}$$

Hence,

$$LR = \min_{b_1, b_2 \geq 0} \left\{ (Y - Xb)' (Y - Xb) - \left(Y - X\hat{\beta}_{OLS} \right)' \left(Y - X\hat{\beta}_{OLS} \right) \right\}.$$

Note that

$$\begin{aligned}
(Y - Xb)'(Y - Xb) &= Y'Y - 2b'X'Y + b'X'Xb \\
&= Y'Y - 2b'X'X\hat{\beta}_{OLS} + b'X'Xb \\
&= Y'Y - 2b'\hat{\beta}_{OLS} + b'b
\end{aligned}$$

and, similarly,

$$(Y - X\hat{\beta}_{OLS})'(Y - X\hat{\beta}_{OLS}) = Y'Y - \hat{\beta}_{OLS}'\hat{\beta}_{OLS}.$$

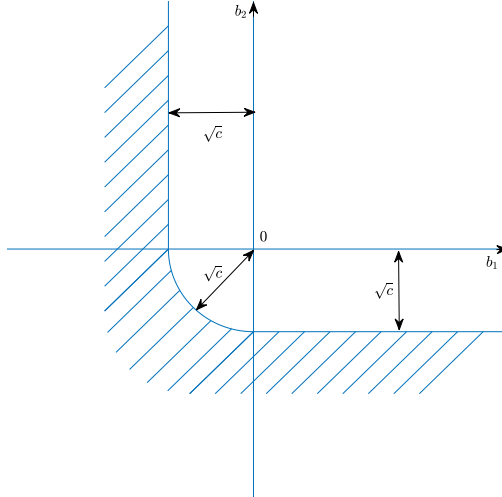
Thus, the LR simplifies

$$LR = \min_{b_1, b_2 \geq 0} \left\{ (\hat{\beta}_{OLS} - b)'(\hat{\beta}_{OLS} - b) \right\}$$

so that

$$LR = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } \hat{\beta}_{1,OLS} \geq 0 \text{ and } \hat{\beta}_{2,OLS} \geq 0 \\ \hat{\beta}_{1,OLS}^2 & \text{if } \hat{\beta}_{1,OLS} < 0 \text{ and } \hat{\beta}_{2,OLS} \geq 0 \\ \hat{\beta}_{2,OLS}^2 & \text{if } \hat{\beta}_{1,OLS} \geq 0 \text{ and } \hat{\beta}_{2,OLS} < 0 \\ \hat{\beta}_{1,OLS}^2 + \hat{\beta}_{2,OLS}^2 & \text{if } \hat{\beta}_{1,OLS} < 0 \text{ and } \hat{\beta}_{2,OLS} < 0 \end{cases} \quad (3)$$

In words, the LR statistic equals the squared distance from $\hat{\beta}_{OLS}$ to the positive quadrant in \mathbb{R}^2 . Here is the picture for a critical region of the LR test.



If $\hat{\beta}_{OLS}$ ends up in the striped region (call it Ω), LR test rejects. For the test

with 5% significance level, we need to choose the critical value c so that

$$\max_{\beta_1 \geq 0, \beta_2 \geq 0} \Pr(LR > c) = 0.05.$$

Recall that in the special case that we consider

$$\hat{\beta}_{OLS}|X \sim N\left(\beta, \sigma^2 (X'X)^{-1}\right) \sim N(\beta, I_2).$$

Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned} \Pr(LR > c) &= \int_{\Omega} \frac{1}{2\pi} \exp\left\{-\frac{(z - \beta)'(z - \beta)}{2}\right\} dz \\ &= \int_{\Omega - \beta} \frac{1}{2\pi} \exp\left\{-\frac{x'x}{2}\right\} dx, \end{aligned}$$

where $\Omega - \beta$ is the region obtained from Ω by a linear shift. Note that, for any β from the positive quadrant (consistent with H_0), $\Omega - \beta \subseteq \Omega$ with equality achieved only at $\beta = 0$. Therefore,

$$\max_{\beta_1 \geq 0, \beta_2 \geq 0} \Pr(LR > c) = \Pr(LR > c)|_{\beta_1=0, \beta_2=0}.$$

On the other hand, when $\beta_1 = 0, \beta_2 = 0$, we have $\hat{\beta}_{1,OLS}^2 \sim \chi^2(1)$, $\hat{\beta}_{2,OLS}^2 \sim \chi^2(1)$, and $\hat{\beta}_{1,OLS}^2 + \hat{\beta}_{2,OLS}^2 \sim \chi^2(2)$. So from (3),

$$LR = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{with probability } 1/4 \\ \chi^2(1) & \text{with probability } 1/2 \\ \chi^2(2) & \text{with probability } 1/4 \end{cases}$$

So c must be the 0.95 quantile of the mixture of chi-squared distributions. This can be found numerically.

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