

Biostatistics 602 - Statistical Inference Lecture 19 Likelihood Ratio Test

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March 26th, 2013

Last Lecture

Describe the following concepts in your own words

- Hypothesis
- Null Hypothesis
- Alternative Hypothesis
- Hypothesis Testing Procedure
- Rejection Region
- Type I error
- Type II error
- Power function
- Size α test
- Level α test
- Likelihood Ratio Test

Power function

Definition - The power function

The power function of a hypothesis test with rejection region R is the function of θ defined by

$$\beta(\theta) = \Pr(\mathbf{X} \in R | \theta) = \Pr(\text{reject } H_0 | \theta)$$

If $\theta \in \Omega_0^c$ (alternative is true), the probability of rejecting H_0 is called the power of test for this particular value of θ .

- Probability of type I error = $\beta(\theta)$ if $\theta \in \Omega_0$.

Sizes and Levels of Tests

Size α test

A test with power function $\beta(\theta)$ is a size α test if

$$\sup_{\theta \in \Omega_0} \beta(\theta) = \alpha$$

In other words, the maximum probability of making a type I error is α .

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Any size α test is also a level α test

MLE of θ over $\Omega_0 = (-\infty, \theta_0]$

- $L(\theta|\mathbf{x})$ is maximized at $\theta = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n x_i}{n} = \bar{x}$ if $\bar{x} \leq \theta_0$.

Likelihood ratio test

$$\begin{aligned} \lambda(\mathbf{x}) &= \frac{L(\hat{\theta}_0|\mathbf{x})}{L(\hat{\theta}|\mathbf{x})} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } \bar{X} \leq \theta_0 \\ \frac{\exp\left[-\frac{\sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \theta_0)^2}{2\sigma^2}\right]}{\exp\left[-\frac{\sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \bar{x})^2}{2\sigma^2}\right]} & \text{if } \bar{X} > \theta_0 \end{cases} \\ &= \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } \bar{X} \leq \theta_0 \\ \exp\left[-\frac{n(\bar{x} - \theta_0)^2}{2\sigma^2}\right] & \text{if } \bar{X} > \theta_0 \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, the likelihood test rejects the null hypothesis if and only if

$$\exp\left[-\frac{n(\bar{x} - \theta_0)^2}{2\sigma^2}\right] \leq c$$

and $\bar{x} \geq \theta_0$.

Specifying c (cont'd)

So, LRT rejects H_0 if and only if

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{x} - \theta_0 &\geq \sqrt{\frac{2\sigma^2 \log c}{n}} \\ \iff \frac{\bar{x} - \theta_0}{\sigma/\sqrt{n}} &\geq \frac{\sqrt{\frac{2\sigma^2 \log c}{n}}}{\sigma/\sqrt{n}} = c^* \end{aligned}$$

Power function

$$\begin{aligned} \beta(\theta) &= \Pr(\text{reject } H_0) = \Pr\left(\frac{\bar{X} - \theta_0}{\sigma/\sqrt{n}} \geq c^*\right) \\ &= \Pr\left(\frac{\bar{X} - \theta + \theta - \theta_0}{\sigma/\sqrt{n}} \geq c^*\right) \\ &= \Pr\left(\frac{\bar{X} - \theta}{\sigma/\sqrt{n}} \geq \frac{\theta_0 - \theta}{\sigma/\sqrt{n}} + c^*\right) \end{aligned}$$

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Since $X_1, \dots, X_n \overset{\text{i.i.d.}}{\sim} \mathcal{N}(\theta, \sigma^2)$, $\bar{X} \sim \mathcal{N}\left(\theta, \frac{\sigma^2}{n}\right)$. Therefore,

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$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\bar{X} - \theta}{\sigma/\sqrt{n}} &\sim \mathcal{N}(0, 1) \\ \implies \beta(\theta) &= \Pr\left(Z \geq \frac{\theta_0 - \theta}{\sigma/\sqrt{n}} + c^*\right)\end{aligned}$$

where $Z \sim \mathcal{N}(0, 1)$.

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Note that $\Pr \left(Z \geq \frac{\theta_0 - \theta}{\sigma/\sqrt{n}} + c^* \right)$ is maximized when θ is maximum (i.e. $\theta = \theta_0$).

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Note that $\Pr \left(Z \geq \frac{\theta_0 - \theta}{\sigma/\sqrt{n}} + c^* \right)$ is maximized when θ is maximum (i.e. $\theta = \theta_0$).

Therefore, size α LRT test rejects H_0 if and only if $\frac{\bar{x} - \theta_0}{\sigma/\sqrt{n}} \geq z_\alpha$.

Another Example of LRT

Problem

X_1, \dots, X_n i.i.d. $f(x|\theta) = e^{-(x-\theta)}$ where $x \geq \theta$ and $-\infty < \theta < \infty$. Find a LRT testing the following one-sided hypothesis.

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Solution

$$\begin{aligned} L(\theta|\mathbf{x}) &= \prod_{i=1}^n e^{-(x_i-\theta)} I(x_i \geq \theta) \\ &= e^{-\sum x_i + n\theta} I(\theta \leq x_{(1)}) \end{aligned}$$

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The likelihood function is a increasing function of θ , bounded by $\theta \leq x_{(1)}$. Therefore, when $\theta \in \Omega = \mathbb{R}$, $L(\theta|\mathbf{x})$ is maximized when $\theta = \hat{\theta} = x_{(1)}$.

Solution (cont'd)

When $\theta \in \Omega_0^c$, the likelihood is still an increasing function, but bounded by $\theta \leq \min(x_{(1)}, \theta_0)$. Therefore, the likelihood is maximized when $\theta = \hat{\theta}_0 = \min(x_{(1)}, \theta_0)$.

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When $\theta \in \Omega_0^c$, the likelihood is still an increasing function, but bounded by $\theta \leq \min(x_{(1)}, \theta_0)$. Therefore, the likelihood is maximized when $\theta = \hat{\theta}_0 = \min(x_{(1)}, \theta_0)$. The likelihood ratio test statistic is

$$\lambda(\mathbf{x}) = \begin{cases} \frac{e^{-\sum x_i + n\theta_0}}{e^{-\sum x_i + nx_{(1)}}} & \text{if } \theta_0 < x_{(1)} \\ 1 & \text{if } \theta_0 \geq x_{(1)} \end{cases}$$

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To find size α test, we need to find c satisfying the condition

$$\sup_{\theta \leq \theta_0} \beta(\theta) = \alpha$$

LRT based on sufficient statistics

Theorem 8.2.4

If $T(\mathbf{X})$ is a sufficient statistic for θ , $\lambda^*(t)$ is the LRT statistic based on T , and $\lambda(\mathbf{x})$ is the LRT statistic based on \mathbf{x} then

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for every \mathbf{x} in the sample space.

Proof

By Factorization Theorem, the joint pdf of \mathbf{x} can be written as

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and we can choose $g(t|\theta)$ to be the pdf or pmf of $T(\mathbf{x})$.

Then, the LRT statistic based on $T(\mathbf{X})$ is defined as

$$\lambda^*(t) = \frac{\sup_{\theta \in \Omega_0} L(\theta | T(\mathbf{x}) = t)}{\sup_{\theta \in \Omega} L(\theta | T(\mathbf{x}) = t)} = \frac{\sup_{\theta \in \Omega_0} g(t|\theta)}{\sup_{\theta \in \Omega} g(t|\theta)}$$

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The simplified expression of $\lambda(\mathbf{x})$ should depend on \mathbf{x} only through $T(\mathbf{x})$, where $T(\mathbf{x})$ is a sufficient statistic for θ .

Example

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$$\lambda(t) = \frac{\sup_{\theta \in \Omega_0} L(\theta|t)}{\sup_{\theta \in \Omega} L(\theta|t)} = \frac{\frac{1}{2\pi\sigma^2/n} \exp\left[-\frac{(t-\theta_0)^2}{2\sigma^2/n}\right]}{\sup_{\theta \in \Omega} \frac{1}{2\pi\sigma^2/n} \exp\left[-\frac{(t-\theta)^2}{2\sigma^2/n}\right]}$$

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$$\begin{aligned} \lambda(t) = \exp \left[-\frac{n(t - \theta_0)^2}{2\sigma^2} \right] &\leq c \\ \Rightarrow \left| \frac{t - \theta_0}{\sigma/\sqrt{n}} \right| &\geq \sqrt{-2 \log c} = c^* \end{aligned}$$

Solution (cont'd)

Note that

$$T = \bar{X} \sim \mathcal{N}\left(\theta, \frac{\sigma^2}{n}\right)$$

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$$\Pr(Z \geq c^*) + \Pr(Z \leq -c^*) = \alpha$$
$$|Z| = \left|\frac{T - \theta}{\sigma/\sqrt{n}}\right| \geq z_{\alpha/2}$$

LRT with nuisance parameters

Problem

$X_1, \dots, X_n \stackrel{\text{i.i.d.}}{\sim} \mathcal{N}(\theta, \sigma^2)$ where both θ and σ^2 unknown. Between $H_0 : \theta \leq \theta_0$ and $H_1 : \theta > \theta_0$.

- 1 Specify Ω and Ω_0
- 2 Find size α LRT.

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Solution - Ω and Ω_0

$$\Omega = \{(\theta, \sigma^2) : \theta \in \mathbb{R}, \sigma^2 > 0\}$$

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$X_1, \dots, X_n \stackrel{\text{i.i.d.}}{\sim} \mathcal{N}(\theta, \sigma^2)$ where both θ and σ^2 unknown. Between $H_0 : \theta \leq \theta_0$ and $H_1 : \theta > \theta_0$.

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Solution - Ω and Ω_0

$$\begin{aligned}\Omega &= \{(\theta, \sigma^2) : \theta \in \mathbb{R}, \sigma^2 > 0\} \\ \Omega_0 &= \{(\theta, \sigma^2) : \theta \leq \theta_0, \sigma^2 > 0\}\end{aligned}$$

Solution - Size α LRT

$$\lambda(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{\sup_{\{(\theta, \sigma^2): \theta \leq \theta_0, \sigma^2 > 0\}} L(\theta, \sigma^2 | \mathbf{x})}{\sup_{\{(\theta, \sigma^2): \theta \in \mathbb{R}, \sigma^2 > 0\}} L(\theta, \sigma^2 | \mathbf{x})}$$

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$$L(\theta, \sigma^2 | \mathbf{x}) = \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}} \right)^n \exp \left[-\frac{\sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \theta)^2}{2\sigma^2} \right]$$

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Step 1, fix σ^2 , likelihood is maximized when $\sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \theta)^2$ is minimized over $\theta \leq \theta_0$.

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Solution - Maximizing Numerator (cont'd)

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Combining the results together

$$\lambda(\mathbf{x}) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } \bar{x} \leq \theta_0 \\ \left(\frac{\hat{\sigma}^2}{\hat{\sigma}_0^2}\right)^{n/2} & \text{if } \bar{x} > \theta_0 \end{cases}$$

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Solution - Constructing LRT (cont'd)

$$\frac{n(\bar{x} - \theta_0)^2}{\sum (x_i - \bar{x})^2} \geq c^{**}$$

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LRT test reject if $\frac{\bar{x} - \theta_0}{s_{\mathbf{X}}/\sqrt{n}} \geq c^{***}$

The next step is specify c to get size α test (omitted).

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Recall that $\beta(\theta) = \Pr(\text{reject } H_0)$. A test is unbiased if

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for every $\theta' \in \Omega_0^c$ and $\theta \in \Omega_0$.

Example

$X_1, \dots, X_n \stackrel{\text{i.i.d.}}{\sim} \mathcal{N}(\theta, \sigma^2)$ where σ^2 is known, testing $H_0 : \theta \leq \theta_0$ vs $H_1 : \theta > \theta_0$.

LRT test rejects H_0 if $\frac{\bar{x} - \theta_0}{\sigma/\sqrt{n}} > c$.

$$\begin{aligned} \beta(\theta) &= \Pr\left(\frac{\bar{X} - \theta_0}{\sigma/\sqrt{n}} > c\right) \\ &= \Pr\left(\frac{\bar{X} - \theta + \theta - \theta_0}{\sigma/\sqrt{n}} > c\right) \\ &= \Pr\left(\frac{\bar{X} - \theta}{\sigma/\sqrt{n}} + \frac{\theta - \theta_0}{\sigma/\sqrt{n}} > c\right) \end{aligned}$$

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Example (cont'd)

Therefore, for $Z \sim \mathcal{N}(0, 1)$

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Because the power function is increasing function of θ ,

$$\beta(\theta') \geq \beta(\theta)$$

