

Example - Poisson Distⁿ

Prob. of certain number of events occurring in a fixed interval:

$$P(Y=y) = \frac{\lambda^y}{e^\lambda y!}$$

- y_i 's are "counts"
- y_i 's are independent
- $E(y) = \lambda$

Examples

- calls at call-centre
- deaths from horse kicks in Prussian army
- customers
- doctor visits / bank failures / insurance claims / patents

Why not OLS?

- y isn't continuous
- $y \geq 0$

Exercise

$y = \{2, 0, 1, 1, 5, 3\}$. estimate λ .

e.g. might want to know $Pr(Y > 6)$ or $E(y)$ or $Pr(Y=0)$.

$$1) L(\lambda | y) = \prod_{i=1}^n \left(\frac{\lambda^{y_i}}{e^\lambda y_i!} \right)$$

$$2) \log L = \sum_{i=1}^n (y_i \log \lambda - \lambda - \log y_i!) = \sum y_i \log \lambda - n\lambda - \log \sum y_i!$$

$$3) \text{ F.O.C.: } \frac{\partial \log L}{\partial \lambda} = \frac{\sum y_i}{\lambda} - n = 0$$

$$\hat{\lambda} = \frac{\sum y_i}{n} = \bar{y}$$

$$4) \frac{\partial^2 \log L}{\partial \lambda^2} = -\frac{\sum y_i}{\lambda^2} = (-) \quad \forall y_i \text{ and } \lambda. \text{ So, } \hat{\lambda} \text{ finds global max.}$$

$$5) \text{ var}(\hat{\lambda}) = [-E(H)]^{-1} = \frac{\lambda^2}{\sum E(y_i)} = \frac{\lambda^2}{n\lambda} = \frac{\lambda}{n}$$

$$\text{So, given the data, } \hat{\lambda} = \frac{\sum y_i}{n} = \frac{12}{6} = 2.$$

$$\bullet E(\hat{y}) = 2$$

$$\bullet \Pr(\hat{Y}=0) = \frac{\hat{\lambda}^0}{e^{\hat{\lambda}} 0!} = \frac{1}{e^2 \cdot 1} = 0.135$$

MLE - Example 1

The geometric distribution may be used to describe the probability of a number of failures occurring before the first success. The p.d.f. for a random variable, y_i , which follows a geometric distribution, is given by:

$$P_r(Y_i = y_i) = (1-p)^{y_i} p \quad (p = \text{prob. of success})$$

The mean of the distribution (the expected value of y_i) is given by:

$$E(y_i) = \frac{1-p}{p}$$

1) Specify the likelihood function.

$$L(p | y_1, \dots, y_n) = \prod_{i=1}^n (1-p)^{y_i} p = (1-p)^{\sum y_i} p^n$$

2) Take logs.

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

3) Solve the FOC.

$$\frac{\partial \log L}{\partial p} = -\frac{\sum y_i}{1-p} + \frac{n}{p} = 0$$

$$\hat{p} = \frac{1}{1 + \bar{y}}. \text{ This is the MLE for } p.$$

4) Get the Hessian.

In this case, there is only one parameter to estimate, so the Hessian is scalar:

$$\frac{\partial^2 \log L}{\partial p^2} = -\frac{\sum y_i}{(1-p)^2} - \frac{n}{p^2} = H$$

Since the Hessian is negative for all p , the MLE \tilde{p} solves for a global max.

5) Obtain the variance of \tilde{p} .

$$\text{var}(\tilde{p}) = -E[H]^{-1}$$

Let's obtain $E[H]$ first.

$$E[H] = E\left[\frac{\partial^2 \log L}{\partial p^2}\right] = -\frac{E[\sum y_i]}{(1-p)^2} - \frac{n}{p^2}$$

Using $E(y_i) = \frac{1-p}{p}$, we get:

$$\begin{aligned} E[H] &= \frac{-n \left(\frac{1-p}{p}\right)}{(1-p)^2} - \frac{n}{p^2} = \frac{-n}{(1-p)p} - \frac{n}{p^2} \\ &= \frac{-n}{p^2(1-p)} \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{So, } \text{var}(\tilde{p}) = -E[H]^{-1} = \frac{p^2(1-p)}{n}$$

Here is some data:

$$y = \{3, 0, 2, 1, 2, 1, 1, 0, 0, 3\}$$

This is real data which I obtained in my office. The y_i 's follow the geometric distribution. Test the null hypothesis that this data was generated using a fair coin.

$$\text{The MLE is: } \tilde{p} = \frac{1}{1+1.3} = 0.435$$

$$\text{and } \widetilde{\text{var}}(\tilde{p}) = \frac{0.435^2(0.565)}{10} = 0.011$$

$$H_0: p = 0.5 \quad \text{vs.} \quad H_1: p \neq 0.5$$

LRT

The LRT test statistic is: $-2 \log(L_0 - L_1)$, or:

$$\text{LRT} = 2 \log \left(\frac{L_1}{L_0} \right) = 2 \log \left[\frac{(1-0.435)^{13} 0.435^{10}}{(1-0.5)^{13} 0.5^{10}} \right]$$

$$= 2 \log \left[\frac{1.451 \times 10^{-7}}{1.192 \times 10^{-7}} \right] = 0.392$$

Using a 5% critical value of 3.85, we fail to reject the null.

Wald

$$W = (R\tilde{\theta}_1 - r)' [R I^*(\tilde{\theta}_1)^{-1} R']^{-1} (R\tilde{\theta}_1 - r)$$

Here, $R\tilde{\theta}_1 - r = 0.435 - 0.5 = -0.065$, and

$$I^*(\tilde{\theta}_1)^{-1} = \widetilde{\text{var}}(\tilde{p}) = 0.011$$

$$\text{So, } W = \frac{(-0.065)^2}{0.011} = 0.384 \sim \chi_{(1)}^2$$

Again, we fail to reject.

LM-test

$$LM = [D \log L_1(\tilde{\theta}_0)]' I^*(\tilde{\theta}_0)^{-1} [D \log L_1(\tilde{\theta}_0)]$$

Where $I^*(\tilde{\theta}_0)^{-1} = \text{var}(p_0) = 0.0125$. Since θ is scalar, the formula becomes:

$$\left(\frac{\partial \log L_1(p_0)}{\partial p} \right)^2 \times \text{var}(p_0) = \left(\frac{-13}{0.5} + \frac{10}{0.5} \right)^2 \times 0.0125 = 0.45$$

For a third time, we fail to reject.

(I sat in my office and flipped a coin.)

MLE-Example 2

Exponential distribution describes the time between events in a Poisson process,

$$\text{P.d.f. : } p(y_i | \lambda) = \lambda e^{-y_i \lambda}$$

$$E(y_i) = 1/\lambda$$

$$1) L(\lambda | y_1, \dots, y_n) = \prod_{i=1}^n p(y_i | \lambda) = \lambda^n e^{-\lambda \sum y_i}$$

$$2) \log L = n \log \lambda - \lambda \sum y_i$$

$$3) \frac{\partial \log L}{\partial \lambda} = \frac{n}{\lambda} - \sum y_i = 0$$

$$\hat{\lambda} = n / \sum y_i = 1/\bar{y}$$

$$4) \frac{\partial^2 \log L}{\partial \lambda^2} = -\frac{n}{\lambda^2} \quad (-)$$

$$5) \text{var}(\hat{\lambda}) = \frac{1}{-E[H]} = \frac{\lambda^2}{n}$$

Note that we don't have to worry about the expectation operator above since y_i does not enter the 2nd derivative.

Given a sample of data:

$$y = \{0.5, 1, 0.6, 0.2, 3\},$$

$$\hat{\lambda} = 0.9434, \quad \text{var}(\hat{\lambda}) = \hat{\lambda}^2/n = 0.178$$

Test: $H_0: \lambda = 1$ vs. $H_1: \lambda \neq 1$

$$\underline{LRT} = 2 [\log \tilde{L}_1 - \log \tilde{L}_0]$$

$$= 2 [n \log \tilde{\lambda}_1 - \tilde{\lambda}_1 \sum y_i - n b g \tilde{\lambda}_0 + \tilde{\lambda}_0 \sum y_i]$$

$$= 2 [5 \log 0.9434 - 0.9434 \times 5.3 - 0 + 5.3] = 0.0173$$

From a $\chi^2_{(1)}$ distribution, with $\alpha = 0.05$, we have a critical value of 3.84. We fail to reject,

Wald

The restriction is $\theta = 1$, so: $R = r = 1$; $\tilde{\theta}_1 = 0.9434$; $\tilde{\theta}_0 = 1$.

$$W = \frac{(0.9434 - 1)^2}{0.178} = 0.0180$$

Fail to reject.

$$\underline{LM} = \left(\frac{n}{\tilde{\lambda}_0} - \sum y_i \right)^2 \times \left(\frac{\tilde{\lambda}_0^2}{n} \right) = \left(\frac{5}{1} - 5.3 \right)^2 \times 0.2 = 0.0180$$

Fail to reject