


STAT 703/J703
March 31st, 2005
-Lecture 22-


Instructor: Brian Habing
Department of Statistics
LeConte 203
Telephone: 803-777-3578
E-mail: habing@stat.sc.edu

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Today

Properties of Estimators cont.

- Sufficiency
- Factorization Theorem
- Rao-Blackwell
- And Beyond!

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8.7 Sufficiency One of the key concepts in advanced mathematical statistics is that of sufficiency. Does a statistic summarize all of the information in the data about a parameter, or do we lose something by summarizing.

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Defn A statistic $T(X_1, \dots, X_n)$ is sufficient for θ if the conditional distribution of X_1, \dots, X_n given $T=t$ does not depend on θ for any value of t .

Example 1: Poisson Distribution

Example 2: Normal Distribution

The Factorization Theorem

A necessary and sufficient condition for T to be sufficient for θ is that the joint p.d.f. factors in the form:

$$f(x_1, \dots, x_n | \theta) = g[T(x_1, \dots, x_n), \theta]h(x_1, \dots, x_n)$$

Rao-Blackwell Theorem

Let $\hat{\theta}$ be an estimator of θ with $E(\hat{\theta})^2 < \infty$ for all θ . If T is sufficient for θ then $\tilde{\theta} = E(\hat{\theta} | T)$ satisfies

$$E(\tilde{\theta} - \theta)^2 \leq E(\hat{\theta} - \theta)^2$$

for all θ .

Example 3: Consider trying to estimate λ for a Poisson distribution using only X_1 .

Lehmann-Scheffe Theorem

Let $\hat{\theta}$ be an unbiased estimator of θ with $E(\hat{\theta})^2 < \infty$ for all θ . If T is complete sufficient for θ then $\tilde{\theta} = E(\hat{\theta}|T)$ is the uniformly minimum variance unbiased estimate (UMVUE) of θ .

Complete? A statistic T is complete for θ if the zero function is the only function that satisfies:

$$E_{\theta}[g(T)] = 0 \text{ for all } \theta$$

However we have a result similar to the factorization theorem for “exponential families”.

$$f(\underline{x} | \underline{\theta}) = \exp\left[\sum_{i=1}^k T_i(\underline{x})c_i(\underline{\theta}) + d(\underline{\theta}) + S(\underline{x})\right]$$

where $\underline{\theta} = (\theta_1, \dots, \theta_k)$

Under appropriate regularity conditions the vector of T 's is complete sufficient.
