

Actuarial Mathematics and Statistics
Statistics 6
Tutorial Sheet 1

1. Let \underline{X} be a random sample from an exponential distribution with parameter $\lambda > 0$. By first noting that $\sum_{i=1}^n X_i$ has a gamma $\Gamma(n, \lambda)$ distribution, show that $2n\lambda\bar{X} \sim \chi_{2n}^2$, and hence construct an equal tailed $100(1 - \alpha)\%$ CI for λ .

If $n = 15$ and $\bar{X} = 13.2$, calculate the 95% CI for λ .

Hint: Use moment generating functions to determine the distribution of $2n\lambda\bar{X}$.

2. Let \underline{X} be a random sample of size n from the uniform distribution $U(0, \theta)$. Recall that the MLE is given by $\hat{\theta} = X_{(n)}$ (i.e. the n^{th} order statistic). Show that $\frac{1}{\theta}X_{(n)} \sim \beta(n, 1)$. Hence construct the equal-tailed $100(1 - \alpha)\%$ CI for θ .

Note: You do not need tables of percentage points to do this. The density for $\beta(n, 1)$ is easy to work with, and the calculations can be done by hand.

If $n = 10$ and $X_{(10)} = 2.5$, calculate the 95% CI for θ .

3. Let \underline{X} be a random sample of size n from the normal distribution $N(\mu, \sigma^2)$. Develop 95% CI's for σ^2 using the *large sample normal approximation* for χ_{n-1}^2 and using the approximation given in the statistical tables.

For $n = 101$ and $S^2 = 1$, compute each CI and compare your answers with the 'exact' CI.

4. Let X be a single observation from a Poisson distribution with parameter $\lambda > 0$. If $X = 7$, compute the equal-tailed 95% CI for λ .

Note: You need to use tables or the function `ppois()` in R.

5. Let \underline{X} be a random sample of size n from a Poisson distribution with parameter $\lambda > 0$. By considering the distribution of $\sum_{i=1}^n X_i$, construct the equal-tailed 95% CI for λ . Construct approximate CI's using two (different) normal approximations.

If $n = 10$ and $\sum_{i=1}^n X_i = 20$, calculate each of these three CI's.

Note: You may need to use the function `ppois()` in R.

Selected Answers

1.

$$\left(\frac{\chi_{2n}^2(100(1 - \frac{\alpha}{2}))}{2n\bar{X}}, \frac{\chi_{2n}^2(100\frac{\alpha}{2})}{2n\bar{X}} \right), \quad \text{and} \quad (0.042, 0.119)$$

2.

$$\left(\frac{X_{(n)}}{(1 - \frac{\alpha}{2})^{1/n}}, \frac{X_{(n)}}{(\frac{\alpha}{2})^{1/n}} \right) \quad \text{and} \quad (2.51, 3.62)$$

3. Use $\chi_{n-1}^2 \sim N((n-1), 2(n-1))$ to obtain the (approximate) 95% CI:

$$\left(\frac{(n-1)S^2}{(n-1) + 1.96\sqrt{2(n-1)}}, \frac{(n-1)S^2}{(n-1) - 1.96\sqrt{2(n-1)}} \right) \quad \text{and} \quad (0.783, 1.384).$$

Use $\sqrt{2}\chi_{n-1}^2 \sim N(\sqrt{2n-3}, 1)$ to obtain the (approximate) 95% CI:

$$\left(\frac{2(n-1)S^2}{(\sqrt{2n-3} + 1.96)^2}, \frac{2(n-1)S^2}{(\sqrt{2n-3} - 1.96)^2} \right) \quad \text{and} \quad (0.775, 1.356).$$

Finally, the 'exact' 95% CI is given by:

$$\left(\frac{(n-1)S^2}{\chi_{n-1}^2(2.5)}, \frac{(n-1)S^2}{\chi_{n-1}^2(97.5)} \right) \quad \text{and} \quad (0.772, 1.347).$$

4. (2.8, 14.4)

5. Use $\sum_{i=1}^n X_i \sim N(n\lambda, n\lambda)$ to obtain the (approximate) 95% CI:

$$\left(\frac{1}{2} \left(2\bar{X} + \frac{(1.96)^2}{n} \right) - \sqrt{\left(2\bar{X} + \frac{(1.96)^2}{n} \right)^2 - 4\bar{X}^2}, \frac{1}{2} \left(2\bar{X} + \frac{(1.96)^2}{n} \right) + \sqrt{\left(2\bar{X} + \frac{(1.96)^2}{n} \right)^2 - 4\bar{X}^2} \right)$$

and (1.29, 3.09).

Use $\sum_{i=1}^n X_i \sim N(n\lambda, n\lambda)$ again, but this time use the estimate $n\bar{X}$ for the variance. The 95% (approximate) CI is then

$$\left(\bar{X} - 1.96\sqrt{\frac{\bar{X}}{n}}, \bar{X} + 1.96\sqrt{\frac{\bar{X}}{n}} \right) \quad \text{and} \quad (1.22, 2.88).$$

The 'exact' 95% CI for the data is given by (1.22, 3.09).