

1) Finish motivation for Fisher information worksheet

$$\begin{aligned}l(\lambda | x_1, \dots, x_n) &= \log \{L(\lambda | x_1, \dots, x_n)\} \\&= \log \{f(x_1, \dots, x_n | \lambda)\} \\&= \log \left\{ \prod_{i=1}^n f(x_i | \lambda) \right\} \\&= \sum_{i=1}^n \log \{f_{x_i}(x_i | \lambda)\}\end{aligned}$$

Last thing from last class:

①  
 $\frac{d^2}{d\lambda^2} l(\lambda | x_1, \dots, x_n)$  large in magnitude  
 $\Rightarrow l(\lambda | x_1, \dots, x_n)$  very curved at  $\hat{\lambda}^{MLE}$   
 $\Rightarrow l(\lambda | x_1, \dots, x_n)$  changes quickly as we move away from  $\hat{\lambda}^{MLE}$   
 $\Rightarrow$  a lot of "information" that  $\hat{\lambda}^{MLE}$  is better than other alternatives.

There is an additive contribution to the log-likelihood from each of the  $n$  observations.

Consider the 2nd derivative:

$$\frac{d^2}{d\lambda^2} l(\lambda | x_1, \dots, x_n) = \dots = \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{d^2}{d\lambda^2} \log \{f_{x_i}(x_i | \lambda)\}$$

Again, for each observation the information about  $\lambda$  grows.  
(second derivative of log-likelihood larger in magnitude)

Subset 1 had a sample size of 56, more information about  $\lambda$   
Subset 2 had a sample size of 4, less information about  $\lambda$ .

Note:  $\frac{d^2}{d\lambda^2} l(\hat{\lambda}^{MLE} | x_1, \dots, x_n) < 0$  (we're at a maximum of  $l$ ).

$-\frac{d^2}{d\lambda^2} l(\hat{\lambda}^{MLE} | x_1, \dots, x_n) > 0$  has a more intuitively meaningful sign.  
(larger value  $\Leftrightarrow$  more information about  $\lambda$ ).

Def: The Observed Fisher Information about a parameter  $\theta$  is

$$J(\theta) = \frac{d^2}{d\theta^2} l(\theta | x_1, \dots, x_n) \Big|_{\theta = \theta^*}$$

Note: Usually evaluated at the MLE:  $J(\hat{\theta}^{MLE}) = \frac{d^2}{d\theta^2} l(\theta | x_1, \dots, x_n) \Big|_{\theta = \hat{\theta}^{MLE}}$

The observed Fisher information from one observation  $X_i = x_i$  is

$$J_i(\theta^*) = \frac{d^2}{d\theta^2} \ell(\theta | x_i) \Big|_{\theta=\theta^*} = \frac{d^2}{d\theta^2} f_{x_i}(x_i | \theta) \Big|_{\theta=\theta^*}$$

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The Fisher information is the expected value of the observed Fisher information.

$$I(\theta^*) = -E \left[ \frac{d^2}{d\theta^2} \ell(\theta | X_1, \dots, X_n) \Big|_{\theta=\theta^*} \right]$$

"On average, across all samples of size  $n$ , what is the curvature of the log-likelihood function at the parameter value  $\theta^*$ ?"

The Fisher information from one observation is

$$I_i(\theta^*) = -E \left[ \frac{d^2}{d\theta^2} \ell(\theta | X_i) \Big|_{\theta=\theta^*} \right]$$

↑ Our book doesn't explicitly define Fisher information, but if it did, it would define it as the Fisher information from one observation. (p. 276)

$$\text{Note: } I(\theta^*) = -E \left[ \frac{d^2}{d\theta^2} \ell(\theta | X_1, \dots, X_n) \Big|_{\theta=\theta^*} \right]$$

$$= -E \left[ \frac{d^2}{d\theta^2} \log \{ f_{X_1, \dots, X_n | \theta}(X_1, \dots, X_n | \theta) \} \Big|_{\theta=\theta^*} \right]$$

$$= -E \left[ \frac{d^2}{d\theta^2} \sum_{i=1}^n \log \{ f_{X_i}(X_i | \theta) \} \Big|_{\theta=\theta^*} \right]$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^n -E \left[ \frac{d^2}{d\theta^2} \log \{ f_{X_i}(X_i | \theta) \} \Big|_{\theta=\theta^*} \right]$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^n I_i(\theta^*)$$

$$= n \cdot I_i(\theta^*)$$

Theorem: If some conditions are satisfied ( $f$  is differentiable  
the true parameter  $\theta^*$  is not on the boundary of the parameter space...) <sup>③</sup>

$$\sqrt{n} I_1(\theta^*) (\hat{\theta}^{MLE} - \theta^*) \rightarrow \text{Normal}(0, 1) \text{ in distribution as } n \rightarrow \infty$$

Intuitive statement: If  $n$  is large, it is approximately true that

$$\sqrt{n} I_1(\theta^*) (\hat{\theta}^{MLE} - \theta^*) \sim \text{Normal}(0, 1)$$

... or ...

If  $n$  is large, it is approximately true that

$$\hat{\theta}^{MLE} \sim \text{Normal}\left(\theta^*, \frac{1}{n I_1(\theta^*)}\right)$$

... or ...

$$\hat{\theta}^{MLE} \sim \text{Normal}\left(\theta^*, \frac{1}{n \cdot -E\left[\frac{d^2}{d\theta^2} \ell(\theta | x_1, \dots, x_n) \Big|_{\theta=\theta^*}\right]}\right)$$

... or ...

$$\hat{\theta}^{MLE} \sim \text{Normal}\left(\theta^*, \frac{1}{-E\left[\frac{d^2}{d\theta^2} \ell(\theta | x_1, \dots, x_n) \Big|_{\theta=\theta^*}\right]}\right)$$

↑ Fisher information at the true  $\theta^*$

This result can also be stated in terms of the observed Fisher information at  $\hat{\theta}^{MLE}$

Approximately, for large  $n$ ,

$$\hat{\theta}^{MLE} \sim \text{Normal}\left(\theta^*, \frac{1}{-\frac{d^2}{d\theta^2} \ell(\theta | x_1, \dots, x_n) \Big|_{\theta=\hat{\theta}^{MLE}}}\right)$$

For Poisson example:

④

$$X_i \stackrel{iid}{\sim} \text{Poisson}(\lambda), i=1, \dots, n, E[X_i] = \lambda, \text{MLE is } \hat{\lambda}^{MLE} = \bar{X}$$

$$f_{X_i}(x_i | \lambda) = e^{-\lambda} \frac{\lambda^{x_i}}{x_i!}$$

$$\log \{f_{X_i}(x_i | \lambda)\} = x_i \log(\lambda) - \lambda - \log(x_i!)$$

$$\frac{d}{d\lambda} \log \{f_{X_i}(x_i | \lambda)\} = \frac{x_i}{\lambda} - 1$$

$$\frac{d^2}{d\lambda^2} \log \{f_{X_i}(x_i | \lambda)\} = -\frac{x_i}{\lambda^2}$$

Observed Fisher Information:

$$J(\lambda) = -\sum_{i=1}^n \frac{f_{X_i}}{\lambda^2}$$

$$\text{Evaluated at } \lambda = \hat{\lambda}^{MLE}: J(\hat{\lambda}^{MLE}) = \frac{1}{\bar{X}^2} \cdot \sum_{i=1}^n X_i$$

$$= \frac{1}{\bar{X}} \cdot \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n X_i$$

$$= \frac{n}{\bar{X}}$$

Fisher Information:

$$I(\lambda) = E\left[\sum_{i=1}^n \frac{X_i}{\lambda^2}\right]$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{\lambda^2} E[X_i]$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{\lambda^2} \cdot \lambda$$

$$= \frac{n}{\lambda}$$

Evaluated at  $\lambda = \hat{\lambda}^{MLE}$ :

$$I(\lambda) = \frac{n}{\bar{X}}$$

An approximate ~~(1-\alpha)~~  $(1-\alpha) \times 100\%$  CI is  $\bar{X} \pm Z\left(\frac{\alpha}{2}\right) \sqrt{\frac{\bar{X}}{n}}$