18.05 Lecture 29 April 25, 2005

Score distribution for Test 2: 70-100 A, 40-70 B, 20-40 C, 10-20 D Average = 45

## Hypotheses Testing.

$$\begin{split} X_1, & \dots, X_n \text{ with unknown distribution } \mathbb{P} \\ \text{Hypothesis possibilities:} \\ H_1 : \mathbb{P} = \mathbb{P}_1 \\ H_2 : \mathbb{P} = \mathbb{P}_2 \\ & \dots \\ H_k : \mathbb{P} = \mathbb{P}_k \\ \text{There are k simple hypotheses.} \end{split}$$

A simple hypothesis states that the distribution is equal to a particular probability distribution.

Consider two normal distributions: N(0, 1), and N(1, 1).



There is only 1 point of data:  $X_1$ 

Depending on where the point is, it is more likely to come from either N(0, 1) or N(1, 1). Hypothesis testing is similar to maximum likelihood testing  $\rightarrow$ 

Within your k choices, pick the most likely distribution given the data.

However, hypothesis testing is NOT like estimation theory, as there is a different goal:

Definition: Error of type i  $\mathbb{P}(\text{make a mistake } | H_i \text{ is true}) = \alpha_i$ Decision Rule:  $\delta : \mathcal{X}^n \to (H_1, H_2, ..., H_k)$ Given a sample  $(X_1, ..., X_n), \delta(X_1, ..., X_n) \in \{H_1, ..., H_k\}$   $\alpha_i = \mathbb{P}(\delta \neq H_i | H_i)$  - error of type i "The decision rule picks the wrong hypothesis" = error.

Example: Medical test,  $H_1$  - positive,  $H_2$  - negative. Error of Type 1:  $\alpha_1 = \mathbb{P}(\delta \neq H_1|H_1) = \mathbb{P}(negative|positive)$ Error of Type 2:  $\alpha_2 = \mathbb{P}(\delta \neq H_2|H_2) = \mathbb{P}(positive|negative)$ These are very different errors, have different severity based on the particular situation.

Example: Missile Detection vs. Airplane Type  $1 \to \mathbb{P}(airplane|missile)$ , Type  $2 \to \mathbb{P}(missile|airplane)$ Very different consequences based on the error made.

## **Bayes Decision Rules**

Choose a prior distribution on the hypothesis.

Assign a weight to each hypothesis, based upon the importance of the different errors.  $\xi(1), ..., \xi(k) \ge 0, \sum \xi(i) = 1$ Bayes error  $\alpha(\xi) = \xi(1)\alpha_1 + \xi(2)\alpha_2 + ... + \xi(k)\alpha_k$ Minimize the Bayes error, choose the appropriate decision rule. Simple solution to finding the decision rule:  $\mathbf{X} = (X_1, ..., X_n)$ , let  $f_i(x)$  be a p.f. or p.d.f. of  $\mathbb{P}_i$  $f_i(\mathbf{x}) = f_i(x_1) \times ... \times f_i(x_n)$  - joint p.f./p.d.f.

Theorem: Bayes Decision Rule:

$$\delta = \{H_i : \xi(i)f_i(\mathbf{x}) = \max_{i < j < k} \xi(j)f_j(\mathbf{x})\}$$

Similar to max. likelihood.

Find the largest of joint densities, but weighted in this case.

 $\begin{array}{l} \alpha(\xi) = \sum \xi(i) \mathbb{P}_i(\delta \neq H_i) = \sum \xi(i)(1 - \mathbb{P}_i(\delta = H_i)) = \\ = 1 - \sum \xi(i) \mathbb{P}_i(\delta = H_i) = 1 - \sum \xi(i) \int I(\delta(\mathbf{x}) = H_i) f_i(\mathbf{x}) d\mathbf{x} = \\ = 1 - \int (\sum \xi(i) I(\delta(\mathbf{x}) = H_i) f_i(\mathbf{x})) d\mathbf{x} - \text{minimize, so maximize the integral:} \\ \text{Function within the integral:} \end{array}$ 

$$I(\delta = H_1)\xi(1)f_1(\mathbf{x}) + \dots + I(\delta = H_k)\xi(k)f_k(\mathbf{x})$$

The indicators pick the term  $\rightarrow \delta = H_1 : 1\xi(1)f_1(\mathbf{x}) + 0 + 0 + \dots + 0$ So, just choose the largest term to maximize the integral. Let  $\delta$  pick the largest term in the sum.

Most of the time, we will consider 2 simple hypotheses:

$$\delta = \{H_1 : \xi(1)f_1(\mathbf{x}) > \xi(2)f_2(\mathbf{x}), \frac{f_1(\mathbf{x})}{f_2(\mathbf{x})} > \frac{\xi(2)}{\xi(1)}; H_2 \text{ if } <; H_1 \text{ or } H_2 \text{ if } = \}$$

Example:

 $\begin{array}{l} H_1: N(0,1), H_2: N(1,1) \\ \xi(1)f_1(\mathbf{x}) + \xi(2)f_2(\mathbf{x}) \to \text{minimize} \end{array}$ 

$$f_1(\mathbf{x}) = \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}}\right)^n e^{-\frac{1}{2}\sum x_i^2}; f_2(\mathbf{x}) = \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}}\right)^n e^{-\frac{1}{2}\sum (x_i-1)^2}$$
$$\frac{f_1(\mathbf{x})}{f_2(\mathbf{x})} = e^{-\frac{1}{2}\sum x_i^2 + \frac{1}{2}\sum (x_i-1)^2} = e^{\frac{n}{2}-\sum x_i} > \frac{\xi(2)}{\xi(1)}$$
$$\delta = \{H_1 : \sum x_i < \frac{n}{2} - \log \frac{\xi(2)}{\xi(1)}; H_2 \text{ if } >; H_1 \text{ or } H_2 \text{ if } =\}$$

Considering the earlier example, N(0, 1) and N(1, 1)



 $X_1, n = 1, \xi(1) = \xi(2) = \frac{1}{2}$ 

$$\delta = \{H_1 : x_1 < \frac{1}{2}; H_2 x_1 > \frac{1}{2}; H_1 \text{ or } H_2 \text{ if } =\}$$

However, if 1 distribution were more important, it would be weighted.



If N(0, 1) were more important, you would choose it more of the time, even on some occasions when  $x_i > \frac{1}{2}$ 

Definition:  $H_1, H_2$  - two simple hypotheses, then:  $\alpha_1(\delta) = \mathbb{P}(\delta \neq H_1|H_2)$  - level of significance.  $\beta(\delta) = 1 - \alpha_2(\delta) = \mathbb{P}(\delta = H_2|H_2)$  - power. For more than 2 hypotheses,  $\alpha_1(\delta)$  is always the level of significance, because  $H_1$  is always the Most Important hypothesis.  $\beta(\delta)$  becomes a power function, with respect to each extra hypothesis.

Definition:  $H_0$  - null hypothesis Example, when a drug company evaluates a new drug, the null hypothesis is that it doesn't work.  $H_0$  is what you want to disprove first and foremost, you don't want to make that error!

Next time: consider class of decision rules.  $K_{\alpha} = \{\delta : \alpha_1(\delta) \leq \alpha\}, \alpha \in [0, 1]$ Minimize  $\alpha_2(\delta)$  within the class  $K_{\alpha}$ 

 $\ast\ast$  End of Lecture 29