

(5)

1 Oct 01

Example Two normals

$$f: N(\mu_0, \sigma_0^2) \quad g: N(\mu, \sigma^2)$$

$$\theta = (\mu, \sigma)$$

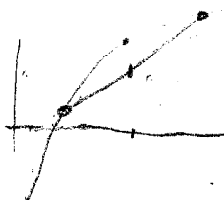
$$K(\theta_0; \theta) =$$

$$\frac{1}{2} \log \frac{\sigma_0^2}{\sigma^2} + \frac{1}{2} \left[ \frac{\sigma^2}{\sigma_0^2} - 1 + \frac{(\mu_0 - \mu)^2}{\sigma^2} \right]$$

Note: 0 iff equality

Proof.  $E \log X \leq \log EX$  (6)

log concave



$$\frac{\log a + \log b}{2} \leq \log \left( \frac{a+b}{2} \right)$$

Geo mean vs Arith

Jensen

For equality  $p=g$  as

$$E_p \log \frac{g}{p} \leq \log E_p \frac{g}{p} = 0$$

$$\int p \log \frac{g}{p} dy \leq 0$$

$$\int p \log \frac{p}{g} dy \geq 0$$

So the estimate  $\hat{\theta}$  is looking for the member of the family  $\{f_i(y|\theta)\}$  closest to  $P$  measuring distance by discrimination information.

If  $P$  is in the family, i.e.  $f_i(y|\theta_*)$

then

$$\int f_i(y|\theta_*) \log \frac{f_i(y|\theta)}{f_i(y|\theta_*)} dy$$

maximized at  $\theta = \theta_*$

$$\int f_i(y|\theta_*) \log f_i(y|\theta) dy \leq \int f_i(y|\theta_*) \log f_i(y|\theta_*) dy$$

(7)

1 Oct 01.

Example,  $n$  i.i.d.

$$\text{Suppose: } f(y|\theta) = \frac{\theta^y e^{-\theta}}{y!}$$

$$y = 0, 1, \dots$$

Poisson

True

$$P: \binom{N}{y} \pi^y (1-\pi)^{N-y}$$

Binomial

$$-\log f(y|\theta) = - (y \log \theta - \theta)$$

$$\psi(y|\theta) = - \left( \frac{y}{\theta} - 1 \right)$$

$$E_p \psi(y|\theta) = - \left( \frac{N\pi}{\theta} - 1 \right)$$

$$\text{Equals 0 at } \theta_* = N\pi$$

$$\text{So } \hat{\theta} \xrightarrow{p} \frac{1}{N} \sum y_i$$

$$\text{var } \hat{\theta} \xrightarrow{p} \frac{N\pi(1-\pi)}{N}$$

(8)

10/10/01

$$\text{var } \hat{\theta} = \frac{N\pi(1-\pi)}{n}$$

would have thought  $\frac{\theta}{n}$

OK for  $\pi$  small

Will return to K-L when developing AZC etc.

①

3 Oct, 2001

## Maximum Likelihood Estimation

$f(y|\theta)$  p.m.f. or p.d.f. for a r.v.  $Y$   
⊕ unknown parameter

Data:  $y_1, \dots, y_n$

### Likelihood function

$$L(\theta) = f(y_1|\theta) \dots f(y_n|\theta) \quad \text{independent}$$

It is a stochastic process.

### MLE

$\hat{\theta}$  provides  $\max_{\theta} L(\theta)$

same as  $\max_{\theta} \log L(\theta)$

Under conditions it is: asymptotically consistent, normal and efficient.

(2)

3 Oct, 2001

Examples

1. Poisson. Consider the birth data for a specific day of the week

$$f(y|\theta) = \text{Pr}\{Y=y\}$$

$$= \frac{1}{y!} \theta^y e^{-\theta}, \quad y=0, 1, 2, \dots$$

$$EY = \theta$$

$$L(\theta) = \prod_i \frac{1}{y_i!} \theta^{y_i} e^{-\theta}$$

$$\log L(\theta) = \sum_i (y_i \log \theta - \theta - \log y_i!)$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} : \left( \sum_i y_i \right) \frac{1}{\theta} - n \quad \text{Note } E = 0$$

$$\hat{\theta} = \bar{y}$$

$$\frac{\partial^2}{\partial \theta^2} : - \left( \sum_i y_i \right) \frac{1}{\theta^2} \quad \text{maximum}$$

$$nI(\theta) = -nE\left(\frac{\partial^2 \log L}{\partial \theta^2}\right) = n/\theta, \quad \text{var } \hat{\theta} \sim \theta/n$$

typescript

Wed Oct 03 12:47:45 2001

1

SUNDAY

N = 103 Median = 15

Quartiles = 12, 18

Decimal point is at the colon

4 : 0  
5 :  
6 :  
7 : 0  
8 : 00  
9 : 0000  
10 : 0000000  
11 : 000000000  
12 : 000000000  
13 : 0000000000  
14 : 00000  
15 : 0000000000  
16 : 0000000000  
17 : 00000  
18 : 000000000  
19 : 00000000  
20 : 00000  
21 : 0  
22 : 000  
23 :  
24 : 0  
25 : 00  
26 : 0

MONDAY

N = 103 Median = 18

Quartiles = 15, 20

Decimal point is at the colon

6 : 0  
7 :  
8 : 0  
9 :  
10 : 000  
11 : 0000  
12 : 00000  
13 : 00000  
14 : 00000  
15 : 0000000  
16 : 00000000  
17 : 00000000000  
18 : 00000000000  
19 : 00000000000  
20 : 0000000000  
21 : 000000  
22 : 0  
23 : 000  
24 : 0  
25 : 00000  
26 : 00  
27 : 0  
28 :  
29 : 0

High: 31

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3

3 Oct 2001

## 2. Normal regression.

$$f(y|\alpha, \beta, \sigma) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma} \exp\left\{-\frac{(y - \alpha - \beta x)^2}{2\sigma^2}\right\} \quad -\infty < y < \infty$$

$$\log L(\alpha, \beta, \sigma) = \sum_i (-\log \sigma - \frac{1}{2\sigma^2} (y_i - \alpha - \beta x_i)^2 - \log \sqrt{2\pi})$$

$$= -n \log \sigma - \frac{1}{2\sigma^2} \sum_i (y_i - \alpha - \beta x_i)^2 - n \log \sqrt{2\pi}$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \alpha}, \frac{\partial}{\partial \beta} : \text{ OLS!}$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \sigma} : -\frac{n}{\sigma} + \frac{1}{\sigma^3} \sum_i (y_i - \alpha - \beta x_i)^2$$

$$\hat{\sigma}^2 = \frac{1}{n} \sum_i (y_i - \hat{\alpha} - \hat{\beta} x_i)^2$$

Reparametrize  $y_i - \alpha^* - \beta(x_i - \bar{x})$

$$\hat{\alpha}^* = \bar{y} \quad \hat{\beta} = \frac{\sum_i (x_i - \bar{x}) y_i}{\sum_i (x_i - \bar{x})^2}$$



(4)

3 Oct 2001

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \alpha^*} : \quad \frac{1}{\sigma^2} \sum_i (y_i - \alpha^* - \beta(x_i - \bar{x}))$$

$$= \frac{1}{\sigma^2} n(\bar{y} - \alpha^*)$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \beta} : \quad \frac{1}{\sigma^2} \sum_i (y_i - \alpha^* - \beta(x_i - \bar{x}))(x_i - \bar{x})$$

$$= \frac{1}{\sigma^2} \left( \sum_i (x_i - \bar{x}) y_i - \sum_i (x_i - \bar{x})^2 \beta \right)$$

$$\frac{\partial^2}{\partial \alpha^{*2}} : \quad - \frac{n}{\sigma^2}$$

$$\frac{\partial^2}{\partial \alpha^* \partial \beta} : \quad 0$$

$$\frac{\partial^2}{\partial \alpha^* \partial \sigma} : \quad - \frac{2}{\sigma^3} n(\bar{y} - \alpha^*) \quad E_0 = 0$$

$$\frac{\partial^2}{\partial \beta^2} : \quad - \frac{1}{\sigma^2} \sum_i (x_i - \bar{x})^2$$

$$\frac{\partial^2}{\partial \beta \partial \sigma} : \quad - \frac{2}{\sigma^2} \left( \sum_i (x_i - \bar{x}) y_i - \sum_i (x_i - \bar{x})^2 \beta \right) \quad E_0 = 0$$

$$\frac{\partial^2}{\partial \sigma^2} : \quad \frac{n}{\sigma^2} - \frac{3}{\sigma^4} \sum_i (y_i - \alpha - \beta x_i)^2 \quad E_0 = - \frac{2n}{\sigma^2}$$

(5)

3 Oct. 2001

$$I(\alpha, \beta, \sigma) = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{n}{\sigma^2} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{\sum (x_i - \bar{x})^2}{\sigma^2} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{2n}{\sigma^2} \end{bmatrix}$$

The limiting conditions.

$$\gamma_i(\alpha^*, \beta, \sigma) = E \rho_i(\gamma_i | \alpha^*, \beta, \sigma)$$

$$\tilde{\gamma}_i(\theta) = E \tilde{\psi}_i(\gamma_i | \theta)$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} -\frac{n}{\sigma^2} (\alpha_0^* - \alpha^*) \\ -\frac{(\beta_0 - \beta) \sum (x_i - \bar{x})^2}{\sigma^2} \\ -\frac{n}{\sigma^2} (\alpha_0^* - \alpha^*)^2 - \frac{(\beta_0 - \beta)^2 \sum (x_i - \bar{x})^2}{\sigma^3} \end{bmatrix}$$

want  $\frac{1}{n} \sum_i (x_i - \bar{x})^2 \rightarrow \sigma_x^2$

⑥

3 Oct. 01

### 3. Example from seismology

#### Fault plane estimation from signs of first motion

Fault plane is described by angles  $\Theta_T, \Phi_T, \Theta_P$

$i = 1, \dots, I$  indexes events

$j = 1, \dots, J_i$  indexes stations within events

$A_{ij}(\Theta_T, \Phi_T, \Theta_P)$ : theoretical signed amplitude.

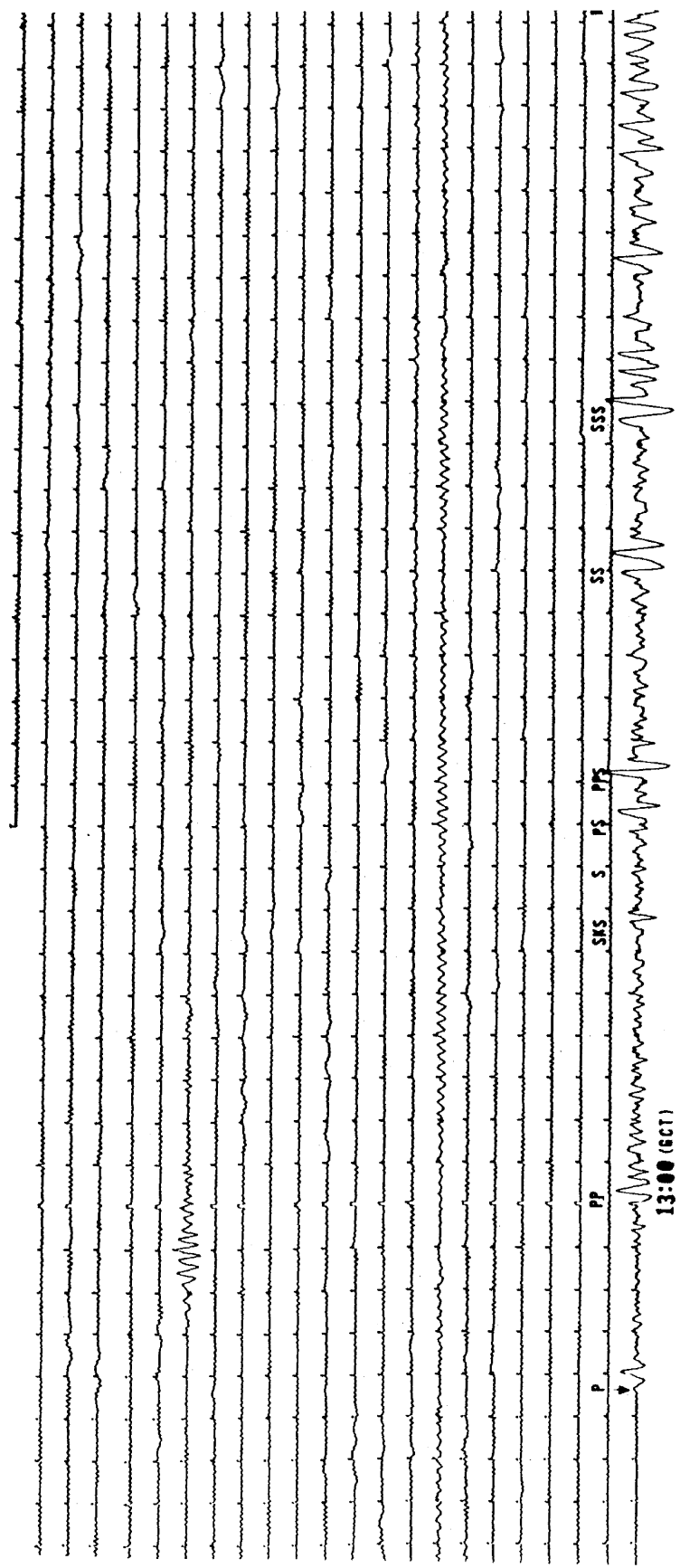
Data:  $y_{ij} = \begin{matrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{matrix}$

Signal:  $s(t)$

Seismogram:  $z(t) = s(t) + \epsilon(t)$

" $y$ " = +1       $z(t_0) > 0$

-1       $z(t_0) < 0$



**Figure 3.4** An elegant earthquake record (bottom line of the seismogram) made at the Berkeley Observatory on a standard modern seismograph. The record gives the vertical motion of the ground surface. The interval between the tick marks on the record corresponds to 1 minute, and time increases from left to right. This earthquake occurred near Borneo at a distance of 11,000 km from Berkeley. The onset of *P* waves is clearly seen, together with the *PP* reflection. This is followed by the onset of *SKS* and *S* waves and the reflections *PS*, *PPS*, *SS*, and *SSS*. At the end of the bottom trace can be seen the Rayleigh wave train, starting with long but decreasing periods (an example of wave dispersion). The record is not complete because the wave motion was interrupted by the operator inadvertently changing the seismogram.

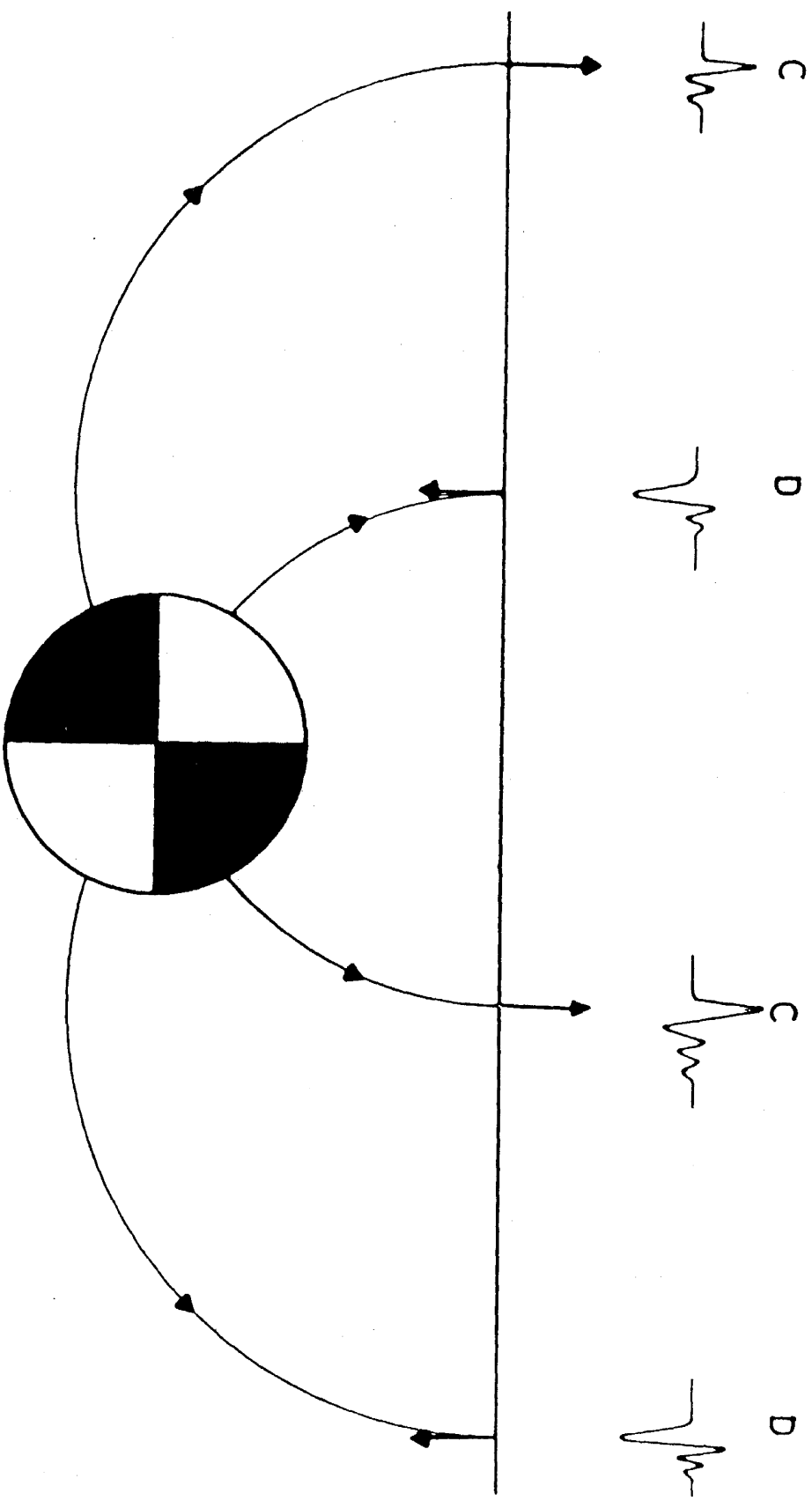
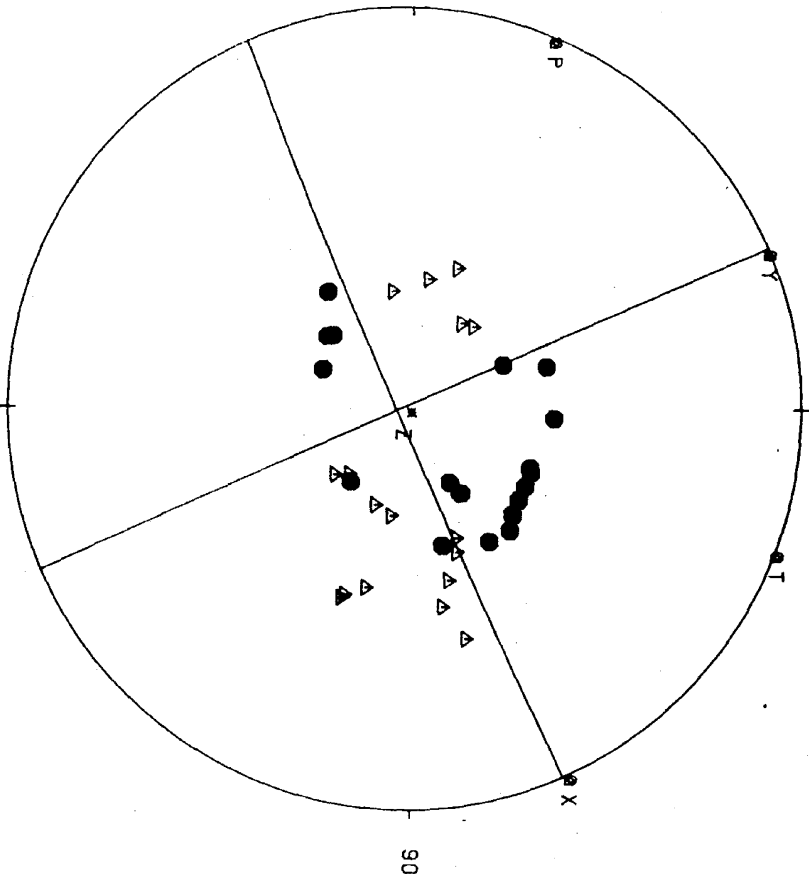


Figura 7.—Distribución de compresiones (cuadrantes en negro) y dilataciones (en blanco) sobre la esfera focal v desplazamientos de la onda P en la superficie de la Tierra

E. Buforn

1 JANUARY 1980 164242. 38.8N 17.00W 10 7.1 . E. BUFORN, 1983



TREND

COPPLUNGE

T: 21+-5  
P: 291+-19

T: 88+-4  
P: 89+-3

OBSERVATIONS:

36

STRIKE

DIP

SLIP

A: 156+-5

89+-4 2+-3

SMRF.

PO

regional stress pattern.

As starting values for our program, we adopted for the three independent angles ( $\theta_T$ ,  $\Phi_T$ ,  $\Phi_P = 45^\circ$ ,  $315^\circ$ ,  $135^\circ$ ) and  $\rho_i = 5$  for all events. The initial value of the logarithm of the likelihood function, given by (11), is  $-L = 1322$ . After 30 iterations the program yielded  $39^\circ:0$ ,  $318^\circ:3$ ,  $138^\circ:9$  for the axes angles and  $-L = 407$ . The final solution is

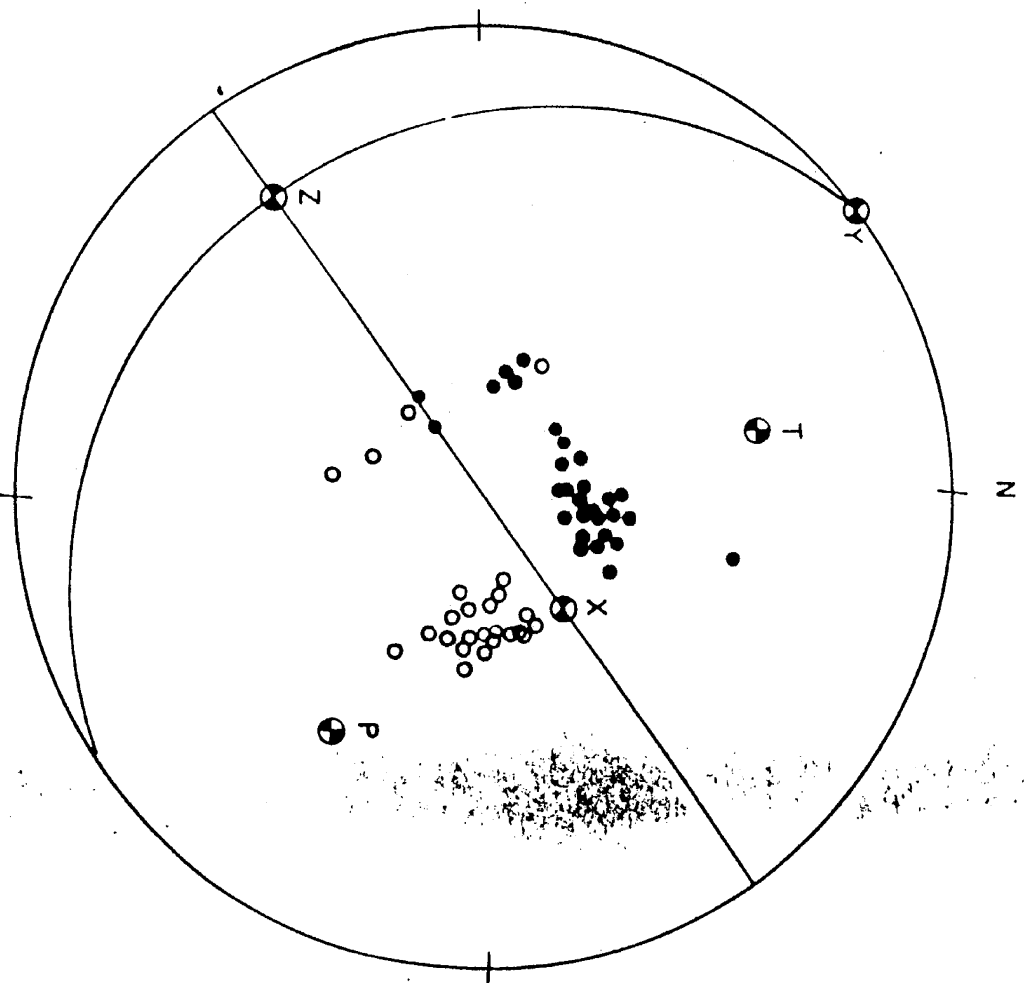


FIG. 4. *P* first-motion data for earthquake number 4 of the Alaska sequence, March 30, 1964, 2h.

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3 Oct. 01

Probability of reader/recorder error:  $\gamma$

$$\text{Pr}\{Y=1\} = \gamma + (1-2\gamma) \text{Pr}\{Z(t_0) > 0\}$$

$$\text{Pr}\{Z(t_0) > 0\} = \text{Pr}\{s(t_0) > -\alpha A\}$$

$$= \Phi(\rho A) \quad \rho = \alpha/\sigma$$

where  $s(t_0) = \alpha A$

$$\pi_{ij} = \text{Pr}\{Y_{ij} = 1\}$$

Likelihood,

$$L(\Theta_T, \Phi_T, \Theta_P, \rho, \gamma)$$

$$= \prod_{i,j} \pi_{ij}^{(1+Y_{ij})/2} (1-\pi_{ij})^{(1-Y_{ij})/2}$$



①

4 Oct. 2001

For the mle

$$\sqrt{n}(\hat{\theta} - \theta) \xrightarrow{d} N(0, \underline{I}(\theta)^{-1})$$

What about efficiency?

Cramér-Rao Inequality

Statistic  $\underline{T} = \underline{T}(\underline{y})$   $\underline{I}_m$

Bias  $\underline{b}(\theta) = E \underline{T} - \theta = \underline{b}_m(\theta)$

$$E_{\theta} \left\{ (\underline{T} - \theta)(\underline{T} - \theta)^{\top} \right\} \geq \frac{1}{m} \left( \underline{I} + \frac{\partial \underline{b}(\theta)}{\partial \theta} \right) \underline{I}(\theta)^{-1} \left( \underline{I} + \frac{\partial \underline{b}(\theta)}{\partial \theta} \right)^{\top}$$

$$+ \underline{b}(\theta) \underline{b}(\theta)^{\top}$$

$$\underline{I}(\theta) = \sum_i \underline{I}_i / m$$

If  $\underline{T}$  is unbiased

$$E_{\theta} \left\{ (\underline{T} - \theta)(\underline{T} - \theta)^{\top} \right\} \geq \frac{1}{m} \underline{I}(\theta)^{-1}$$

(2)

4 Oct 2001

Proof.

$$\int_{\tilde{y}} (\mathbf{I} - \tilde{\theta} - \tilde{b}_n(\tilde{\theta})) f_n(\tilde{y}|\tilde{\theta}) d\tilde{y} = \tilde{\mathbf{0}}$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \tilde{\theta}} \int_{\tilde{y}} (\mathbf{I} - \frac{\partial}{\partial \tilde{\theta}} \tilde{b}_n(\tilde{\theta})) f_n(\tilde{y}|\tilde{\theta}) d\tilde{y} + \int_{\tilde{y}} (\mathbf{I} - \tilde{\theta} - \tilde{b}_n(\tilde{\theta})) \frac{\partial \log f_n(\tilde{y}|\tilde{\theta})}{\partial \tilde{\theta}} f_n(\tilde{y}|\tilde{\theta}) d\tilde{y} = \tilde{\mathbf{0}}$$

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_{\tilde{y}} (\mathbf{I} - \tilde{\theta} - \tilde{b}_n(\tilde{\theta})) \frac{\partial \log f_n(\tilde{y}|\tilde{\theta})}{\partial \tilde{\theta}} f_n(\tilde{y}|\tilde{\theta}) d\tilde{y} \\ &= E \left\{ (\mathbf{I} - \tilde{\theta} - \tilde{b}_n(\tilde{\theta})) \frac{\partial \log f_n(\tilde{y}|\tilde{\theta})}{\partial \tilde{\theta}} \right\} \\ &= \mathbf{I} + \frac{\partial}{\partial \tilde{\theta}} \tilde{b}_n(\tilde{\theta}) \quad (*) \end{aligned}$$

$$E X^2 E Y^2 \geq |E X Y|^2$$

Vector case

$$E \tilde{Y} \tilde{Y}^T \geq E \tilde{Y} \tilde{X}^T (E \tilde{X} \tilde{X}^T)^{-1} E \tilde{X} \tilde{Y}^T$$

(From conditional dist<sup>n</sup> of normal) works generalized inverse too

(3)

4 Oct 2001

So, from (\*),

$$\text{var } \underline{T} \geq \left( \underline{I} + \frac{\partial}{\partial \underline{\theta}} \underline{b}(\underline{\theta}) \right) \left( \text{var } \frac{\partial \log f_n}{\partial \underline{\theta}} \right)^{-1} \left( \underline{I} + \frac{\partial}{\partial \underline{\theta}} \underline{b}(\underline{\theta}) \right)^{\top}$$

$$\text{var } \frac{\partial \log f_n}{\partial \underline{\theta}} = \sum_i \underline{I}_i(\underline{\theta}) = n \bar{\underline{I}}(\underline{\theta})$$

Final step:  $E\{(\underline{T} - \underline{\theta})(\underline{T} - \underline{\theta})^{\top}\} = \text{var } \underline{T} + \underline{b}(\underline{\theta}) \underline{b}(\underline{\theta})^{\top}$

Comments.

When  $n \rightarrow \infty$ , see mle asymptotically efficient in a sense. [There are various senses, eg Hajek]

①

## Review

5 Mar 04

### Nonlinear estimator

M-estimates (Huber, ...)

e.g. nonlinear regression  
maximum likelihood  
robust/resistant

...

Stochastic model, parameter  $\theta$ ,  $\dim(\theta) < \infty$

Data  $y_i$

Loss function  $p_i(y_i | \theta)$

Estimate,  $\hat{\theta}$   
 $\min_{\theta} \sum_{i=1}^n p_i(y_i | \theta)$

OR

$\sum_{i=1}^n \psi_i(y_i | \hat{\theta}) = 0$  estimating eq<sup>n</sup>

"True" value  $\theta_0$

Theorem

$\sqrt{n}(\hat{\theta} - \theta_0) \xrightarrow{d} N(0, \mathcal{L}^{-1}(\mathcal{L}))$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$

$\hat{\theta}_n \xrightarrow{P} \theta_0$  consistent

(2)

5 March 04

Conditions/definitions.

$$\gamma_i(\theta) = E\{\rho_i(y_i|\theta)\}$$

$$\psi_i(y_i|\theta) = \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \rho_i(y_i|\theta)$$

$$\tilde{\lambda}_i(\theta) = E\{\tilde{\psi}_i(y_i|\theta)\}$$

$$\frac{1}{n} \sum_i \gamma_i(\theta) \rightarrow \gamma(\theta)$$

$$\frac{1}{n} \sum_i \tilde{\lambda}_i(\theta) \rightarrow \tilde{\lambda}(\theta)$$

$$\gamma(\theta) > \gamma(\theta_0) \quad \forall \theta \neq \theta_0$$

$$\tilde{\lambda}(\theta_0) = 0, \quad |\tilde{\lambda}(\theta)| > 0 \quad \forall \theta \neq \theta_0$$

$$C_{\tilde{\psi}_i} = \text{var}\{\tilde{\psi}_i(y_i|\theta)\}$$

$$\tilde{\Lambda}_{\tilde{\psi}_i} = \left. \frac{\partial \tilde{\lambda}_i(\theta)}{\partial \theta} \right|_{\theta_0}$$

$$\frac{1}{n} \sum_i C_{\tilde{\psi}_i} \rightarrow C_{\tilde{\psi}}$$

$$\frac{1}{n} \sum_i \tilde{\Lambda}_{\tilde{\psi}_i} \rightarrow \tilde{\Lambda}_{\tilde{\psi}}$$

(3)

5 March 04

Nonlinear regression.

Assumed model

$$y_i = \mu_i(\theta) + \epsilon_i$$

$\epsilon_i \sim$  indep, mean 0, variance  $\sigma^2$

$$p_i(y|\theta) = [y - \mu_i(\theta)]^2 \quad \text{LS}$$

$$\psi_i(y|\theta) = -2[y - \mu_i(\theta)] \frac{\partial \mu_i(\theta)}{\partial \theta}$$

Suppose:

data  $(y_i, x_i)$

$$\mu_i(\theta) = \mu(x_i, \theta)$$

$$E\{y_i | x_i\} = g(x_i)$$

$$\frac{1}{n} \sum_i p_i(y_i|\theta) \xrightarrow{P} \gamma(\theta) = \sigma^2 + \int [g(x) - \mu(x, \theta)]^2 dF_x(x)$$

$$\theta_0 = \arg \min_{\theta} \int [g(x) - \mu(x, \theta)]^2 dF_x(x)$$

Model true,  $g(x) = \mu(x, \theta_0)$

(4)

5 March 04

$$\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n y_i (y_i | \theta) \xrightarrow{P} \lambda(\theta) = \mu$$

$$= -2 \int [g(x) - \mu(x, \theta)] \frac{\partial \mu(x, \theta)}{\partial \theta} dF_X(x)$$

$$\int [g(x) - \mu(x, \theta_0)] \frac{\partial \mu(x, \theta)}{\partial \theta} \Big|_{\theta_0} dF_X(x) = 0$$

$$C_i = \text{var} \{ y_i (y_i | \theta_0) \}$$

$$= 4 \sigma^2 \frac{\partial \mu(x_i, \theta_0)}{\partial \theta_0} \frac{\partial \mu(x_i, \theta_0)}{\partial \theta_0}$$

$$\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n C_i \xrightarrow{P} C = 4 \sigma^2 \int \frac{\partial \mu(x, \theta_0)}{\partial \theta_0} \frac{\partial \mu(x, \theta_0)}{\partial \theta_0} dF_X(x)$$

$$\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{y_i} \xrightarrow{P} \frac{1}{\mu} = \frac{\partial \lambda(\theta_0)}{\partial \theta_0}$$

$$= 2 \int \frac{\partial \mu(x, \theta_0)}{\partial \theta_0} \frac{\partial \mu(x, \theta_0)}{\partial \theta_0} dF_X(x)$$

$$-2 \int [g(x) - \mu(x, \theta_0)] \frac{\partial^2 \mu(x, \theta_0)}{\partial \theta_0 \partial \theta_0} dF_X(x)$$

$$= \frac{C}{2\sigma^2}$$

$$y \quad g(x) = \mu(x, \theta_0)$$

(5)

5 March 04

## Maximum likelihood

Assumed model

$Y_i$  has pdf (or pmf)  $f_i(y|\theta)$

$$\rho(y|\theta) = -\log f_i(y|\theta)$$

$$\psi_i(y|\theta) = -\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \log f_i(y|\theta)$$

$$= -\frac{1}{f_i(y|\theta)} \frac{\partial f_i(y|\theta)}{\partial \theta}$$

True distribution  $P$

$$\frac{1}{n} \sum_i \rho_i(y_i|\theta) \xrightarrow{P} -\lim \frac{1}{n} \sum_i E_P \{ \log f_i(Y_i|\theta) \}$$
$$= \gamma(\theta)$$

$$\theta_0 = \arg \max_{\theta} \int \log f_i(y|\theta) dP(y)$$

$$\frac{1}{n} \sum_i \psi_i(y_i|\theta) \xrightarrow{P} -\lim \frac{1}{n} \sum_i E_P \left\{ \frac{\partial \log f_i(Y_i|\theta)}{\partial \theta} \right\}$$
$$= \lambda(\theta)$$

$$\theta_0: E_P \left\{ \frac{\partial \log f_i(Y_i|\theta_0)}{\partial \theta} \right\} = 0$$



(6)

5 March 04

$$C_i = \text{var}_P t_i(y_i | \theta)$$

$$= E_P \left\{ \frac{\partial \log f_i(y|\theta)}{\partial \theta} \frac{\partial \log f_i(y|\theta)}{\partial \theta} \right\}$$

$$C = \lim_n \frac{1}{n} \sum_i E_P \left\{ \frac{\partial \log f_i(y|\theta)}{\partial \theta} \frac{\partial \log f_i(y|\theta)}{\partial \theta} \right\}$$

$$\lambda_i(\theta) = - E_P \left\{ \frac{\partial^2 \log f_i(y|\theta)}{\partial \theta \partial \theta^T} \right\}$$

$$\Lambda = - \lim_n \frac{1}{n} \sum_i E_P \left\{ \frac{\partial^2 \log f_i(y|\theta)}{\partial \theta \partial \theta^T} \right\}$$

If  $p(y) = f_i(y|\theta_0)$

$$E_P \left\{ \frac{\partial \log f_i(y|\theta)}{\partial \theta} \right\} = \int \frac{\partial \log f_i(y|\theta)}{\partial \theta} f_i(y|\theta_0) dy$$

$$= 0 \quad \text{at } \theta = \theta_0$$

⑦

5 March 04

K-L "distance"

$$K(p; q) = \int p(y) \log \frac{p(y)}{q(y)} dy$$

$$K(p; q) > 0$$

$$= 0 \iff p \equiv q \quad \text{a.e.}$$

A measure of closeness of  $q$  to  $p$ .

Consider

$$K(p; f_i) = \int p(y) \log \frac{p(y)}{f_i(y|\theta)} dy$$

$$= \int p(y) \log p(y) dy - \int p(y) \log f_i(y|\theta) dy$$

$$\theta_0 = \arg \max_{\theta} \int p(y) \log f_i(y|\theta) dy$$

$$\int f_i(y|\theta_0) \log f_i(y|\theta) dy$$

maximized at  $\theta = \theta_0$

(8)

5 Mar 04

Conclusion

Estimate,  $\hat{\theta}$ , useful if model "close enough"  
in one of these "distances".