



# Data Analysis & Pattern Recognition

Statistical inference and parameter estimation. Maximum likelihood estimation, Bayesian inference, bootstrapping

---

Francesc Pozo

Escola d'Enginyeria de Barcelona Est (EEBE)  
Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya (UPC)

Master's Degree in Chemical Engineering  
Master's Degree in Interdisciplinary and Innovative Engineering

# MOTIVATING EXAMPLE: MLE VS BI

## Example

- We begin by considering a single binary random variable  $X$  where  $X(\Omega) = \{0, 1\}$ . For example,  $X$  might describe the outcome of flipping a coin, with  $X = 1$  representing 'heads' and  $X = 0$  representing 'tails'.
- We can imagine that this is a **damaged** coin so that the probability of landing heads is not necessarily the same as that of landing tails.
- The probability of  $X = 1$  will be denoted by the parameter  $\mu$  so that

$$p(X = 1 \mid \mu) = \mu,$$

where  $0 \leq \mu \leq 1$ , from which it follows that

$$p(X = 0 \mid \mu) = 1 - \mu.$$



## Example

- The probability distribution function (pdf) over  $x$  can therefore be written in the form

$$f(x | \mu) = p(X = x | \mu) = \mu^x (1 - \mu)^{1-x}$$

which is known as the Bernoulli distribution:

$$X \hookrightarrow b(\mu)$$

- It is easily verified that

$$E(X) = \mu$$
$$\text{var}(X) = \mu(1 - \mu)$$



## Example

- Now suppose we have a data set  $\mathcal{D} = \{x_1, \dots, x_N\}$  of observed values of  $X$ .
- We can construct the **likelihood function**, which is a function of  $\mu$ , on the assumption that the observations are drawn independently, so that

$$p(\mathcal{D} \mid \mu) = \prod_{i=1}^N p(X = x_i \mid \mu) = \prod_{i=1}^N \mu^{x_i} (1 - \mu)^{1-x_i}$$

- In a **frequentist** setting, we can estimate a value for  $\mu$  by maximizing the likelihood function. The maximum likelihood estimator is

$$\mu_{\text{ML}} = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N x_i$$

which is also known as the **sample mean**.



## Example

- If we denote the number of heads within this data set by  $m$ , then we can write

$$\mu_{\text{ML}} = \frac{m}{N}$$

*“The probability of landing heads is given, in this maximum likelihood framework, by the fraction of observations of heads in the data set.”*

## Example

- Now suppose we flip a coin, say, 3 times and happen to observe 3 heads. Then

$$N = m = 3$$

and

$$\mu_{\text{ML}} = 1$$

- In this case, the maximum likelihood result would predict that all future observations should give heads.
- Common sense tells us that this is unreasonable, and in fact this is an extreme example of the over-fitting associated with the maximum likelihood.
- We shall see (BI) how to arrive at more sensible conclusions through the introduction of a prior distribution over  $\mu$ .

# MAXIMUM LIKELIHOOD ESTIMATORS (MLE)<sup>1</sup>

## MLE

When sampling from a population described by a pdf  $f(x|\theta)$ , knowledge of  $\theta$  provides knowledge of the entire population. The idea behind maximum likelihood is to select the value for  $\theta$  that makes the observed data most likely under the assumed probability model.

## Likelihood function

When  $\mathbf{x} = \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_N\}$  are the observed values of a random variable  $X$  from a population with parameter  $\theta$ , the **likelihood function** of  $\theta$  for  $\mathbf{x}$  is denoted by

$$L(\theta|\mathbf{x}) = f(\mathbf{x}|\theta) = \prod_{i=1}^N f(x_i|\theta) = f(x_1, \theta) \cdot f(x_2|\theta) \cdots f(x_N|\theta)$$

<sup>1</sup>Based on Ugarte, M.D., Militino, A.F. and Arnholt, A.T., 2015. *Probability and Statistics with R*. Chapman and Hall/CRC.

## Log-likelihood function

In general, the likelihood function may be difficult to manipulate, and it is usually more convenient to work with the natural logarithm of  $L(\theta|\mathbf{x})$ , called the **log-likelihood function**, since it converts products into sums.

$$\ln(L(\theta|\mathbf{x})) = \ln\left(\prod_{i=1}^N f(x_i|\theta)\right) = \sum_{i=1}^N \ln(f(x_i|\theta))$$



## Maximum Likelihood Estimate

Finding the value  $\theta$  that maximizes the log-likelihood function is equivalent to finding the value of  $\theta$  that maximizes  $L(\theta|\mathbf{x})$  since the natural logarithm is a monotonically increasing function.

A possible MLE solution is

$$\frac{\partial (\ln (L(\theta|\mathbf{x})))}{\partial \theta} = 0$$

## Example

Suppose  $\{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_N\}$  are the observed values of a random variable  $X \hookrightarrow N(\mu, \sigma^2)$ , where  $\sigma$  is assumed to be known. Find the maximum likelihood estimator of  $\mu$ .

---

The likelihood function is

$$\begin{aligned} L(\mu|\mathbf{x}) &= \prod_{i=1}^N f(x_i|\mu) = \prod_{i=1}^N \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}} \exp\left\{\frac{-(x_i - \mu)^2}{2\sigma^2}\right\} \\ &= \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}}\right)^N \exp\left\{\sum_{i=1}^N \frac{-(x_i - \mu)^2}{2\sigma^2}\right\} \end{aligned}$$



## Example

The log-likelihood function is

$$\ln(L(\mu|\mathbf{x})) = -\frac{N}{2} \ln(2\pi) - \frac{N}{2} \ln(\sigma^2) - \frac{1}{2\sigma^2} \sum_{i=1}^N (x_i - \mu)^2$$

To find the value of  $\mu$  that maximizes  $\ln(L(\mu|\mathbf{x}))$ , take the first-order partial derivative with respect to  $\mu$ , set the answer equal to zero, and solve.

$$\frac{\partial (\ln(L(\mu|\mathbf{x})))}{\partial \mu} = \frac{1}{\sigma^2} \sum_{i=1}^N (x_i - \mu) = 0 \implies \hat{\mu}_{ML} = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N x_i = \bar{x}$$



## Example

Suppose  $\{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_N\}$  are the observed values of a random variable  $X \hookrightarrow N(\mu, \sigma^2)$ , where  $\mu$  is assumed to be known. Find the maximum likelihood estimator of  $\sigma^2$ .

---

The likelihood function is

$$\begin{aligned} L(\sigma^2|\mathbf{x}) &= \prod_{i=1}^N f(x_i|\sigma^2) = \prod_{i=1}^N \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}} \exp\left\{\frac{-(x_i - \mu)^2}{2\sigma^2}\right\} \\ &= \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}}\right)^N \exp\left\{\sum_{i=1}^N \frac{-(x_i - \mu)^2}{2\sigma^2}\right\} \end{aligned}$$



## Example

The log-likelihood function is

$$\ln(L(\sigma^2|\mathbf{x})) = -\frac{N}{2} \ln(2\pi) - \frac{N}{2} \ln(\sigma^2) - \frac{1}{2\sigma^2} \sum_{i=1}^N (x_i - \mu)^2$$

To find the value of  $\sigma^2$  that maximizes  $\ln(L(\sigma^2|\mathbf{x}))$ , take the first-order partial derivative with respect to  $\sigma^2$ , set the answer equal to zero, and solve.

$$\frac{\partial (\ln(L(\sigma^2|\mathbf{x})))}{\partial \sigma^2} = -\frac{N}{2\sigma^2} + \frac{1}{2\sigma^4} \sum_{i=1}^N (x_i - \mu)^2 = 0$$

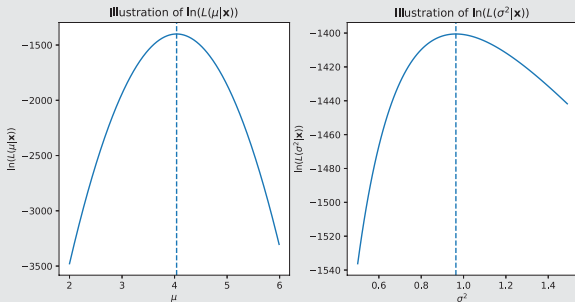
$$\implies \hat{\sigma}_{ML}^2 = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N (x_i - \mu)^2 = S_N^2$$



# MAXIMUM LIKELIHOOD ESTIMATORS (MLE)

## Example

Generate 1000  $N(4, 1)$  random variables. Write log-likelihood functions for the simulated random variables and verify that the simulated maximum likelihood estimates for  $\mu$  and  $\sigma^2$  are reasonably close to the true parameters. Produce side-by-side graphs of  $\ln(L(\mu|\mathbf{x}))$  and  $\ln(L(\sigma^2|\mathbf{x}))$  indicating where the simulated maximum occurs in each graph.



# MAXIMUM LIKELIHOOD ESTIMATORS (MLE)

## Python code

```
1 %matplotlib inline
2 import numpy as np
3 import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
4 N = 1000
5 mu = 4
6 sigma2 = 1
7 np.random.seed(1)
8 x = np.random.normal(mu, np.sqrt(sigma2), N)
9 def negloglikemu(muv):
10     return N/2*np.log(2*np.pi)+N/2*np.log(sigma2)\
11         +(np.sum(np.square(x))-2*muv*np.sum(x)+N*muv**2)/(2*sigma2)
12 def negloglike(sv):
13     return N/2*np.log(2*np.pi)+N/2*np.log(sv)\
14         +(np.sum(np.square(x))-2*mu*np.sum(x)+N*mu**2)/(2*sv)
15 rr = np.arange(2, 6, 0.01)
16 rr2 = np.arange(0.5, 1.5, 0.01)
17 f, axes = plt.subplots(1, 2, figsize=(10, 5), sharex=False)
18 plt.subplots_adjust(wspace=.25,hspace=0)
```



# MAXIMUM LIKELIHOOD ESTIMATORS (MLE)

## Python code

```
1 axes[0].plot(rr, -negloglikemu(rr))
2 axes[0].set_xlabel('$\mu$')
3 axes[0].set_ylabel('$\ln(L(\mu|\mathbf{x}))$')
4 from scipy.optimize import fmin
5 import math
6 mumin = fmin(negloglikemu,np.array([2]))
7 sigma2min = fmin(negloglike,np.array([2]))
8 axes[0].axvline(x=mumin,linestyle='--')
9 axes[1].plot(rr2, -negloglike(rr2))
10 axes[0].set_title('Illustration of $\ln(L(\mu|\mathbf{x}))$')
11 axes[1].set_xlabel('$\sigma^2$')
12 axes[1].set_ylabel('$\ln(L(\sigma^2|\mathbf{x}))$')
13 axes[1].set_title('Illustration of $\ln(L(\sigma^2|\mathbf{x}))$')
14 axes[1].axvline(x=sigma2min,linestyle='--')
15 plt.savefig('loglike.eps', dpi=300, bbox_inches='tight')
16 plt.show()
```





## Example

Given the density function

$$f(x) = (\theta + 1)(1 - x)^\theta, \quad 0 \leq x \leq 1, \quad \theta > 0,$$

- (a) Find the maximum likelihood estimator of  $\theta$  for a random sample of size  $N$ .

## Example

Given the density function

$$f(x) = \theta e^{-\theta x}, \quad x \geq 0, \quad \theta > 0,$$

- (a) Find the maximum likelihood estimator of  $\theta$  for a random sample of size  $N$ .
- (b) Set the seed equal to 88, and generate 1000 values from  $f(x)$  when  $\theta = 2$ . Calculate the maximum likelihood estimate of  $\theta$  from the generated values.
- (c) How close is the maximum likelihood estimate in (b) to  $\theta = 2$ ?



## Posterior distribution with a sample size of one

Let us begin with a simple example in which we consider a single Gaussian random variable  $X$ . We shall suppose that the variance  $\sigma^2$  is known, and we consider the task of inferring the mean  $\mu$  given a set of  $N = 1$  observation  $\mathbf{x} = \{x_1\}$ . According to Bayes' theorem:

$$p(\mu|\mathbf{x}) = \frac{p(\mathbf{x}|\mu)p(\mu)}{p(\mathbf{x})}$$

where  $p(\mu|\mathbf{x})$  is the **posterior probability distribution**,  $p(\mathbf{x}|\mu)$  is the **likelihood** and  $p(\mu)$  is the **prior probability distribution**.  $p(\mathbf{x})$  is the normalization constant and it can be expressed as:

$$p(\mathbf{x}) = \int p(\mathbf{x}|\mu)p(\mu)d\mu \in \mathbb{R}$$

<sup>2</sup>Based on Bishop, C.M., 2006. *Pattern recognition and machine learning*. Springer.

## Posterior distribution with a sample size of one

Since  $X \hookrightarrow N(\mu, \sigma^2)$ , then

$$p(x|\mu) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}} \exp \left\{ \frac{-(x_1 - \mu)^2}{2\sigma^2} \right\}$$

If we choose a prior  $p(\mu)$  given by a Gaussian

$$\mu \hookrightarrow N(\mu_0, \sigma_0^2)$$

where  $\mu_0$  and  $\sigma_0^2$  are known, then

$$p(\mu) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma_0^2}} \exp \left\{ \frac{-(\mu - \mu_0)^2}{2\sigma_0^2} \right\}$$



## Posterior distribution with a sample size of one

The posterior distribution of  $\mu$  given that we have one observation  $\mathbf{x} = \{x_1\}$  is

$$\begin{aligned}
 p(\mu|\mathbf{x}) &= \frac{p(\mathbf{x}|\mu)p(\mu)}{p(\mathbf{x})} = \frac{p(\mathbf{x}|\mu)p(\mu)}{\int p(\mathbf{x}|\mu)p(\mu)d\mu} \propto p(\mathbf{x}|\mu)p(\mu) \\
 &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}} \exp\left\{-\frac{(x_1 - \mu)^2}{2\sigma^2}\right\} \cdot \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma_0^2}} \exp\left\{-\frac{(\mu - \mu_0)^2}{2\sigma_0^2}\right\} \\
 &= \frac{1}{\underbrace{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2\sigma_0^2}}_{\text{constant}}} \exp\left\{\frac{-x_1^2 + 2x_1\mu - \mu^2}{2\sigma^2} + \frac{-\mu^2 + 2\mu\mu_0 - \mu_0^2}{2\sigma_0^2}\right\} \\
 &\propto \exp\left\{\frac{-x_1^2\sigma_0^2 + 2x_1\mu\sigma_0^2 - \mu^2\sigma_0^2 - \mu^2\sigma^2 + 2\mu\mu_0\sigma^2 - \mu_0^2\sigma^2}{2\sigma^2\sigma_0^2}\right\}
 \end{aligned}$$

## Posterior distribution with a sample size of one

$$\begin{aligned}
 p(\mu|x) &\propto \exp \left\{ \frac{-x_1^2 \sigma_0^2 + 2x_1 \mu \sigma_0^2 - \mu^2 \sigma_0^2 - \mu^2 \sigma^2 + 2\mu \mu_0 \sigma^2 - \mu_0^2 \sigma^2}{2\sigma^2 \sigma_0^2} \right\} \\
 &= \exp \left\{ \frac{-\mu^2 (\sigma^2 + \sigma_0^2) + 2\mu (\mu_0 \sigma^2 + \sigma_0^2 x_1) - (\mu_0^2 \sigma^2 + \sigma_0^2 x_1^2)}{2\sigma_0^2 \sigma^2} \right\} \\
 &= \exp \left\{ \frac{-\mu^2 + 2\mu \frac{\mu_0 \sigma^2 + \sigma_0^2 x_1}{\sigma^2 + \sigma_0^2} - \frac{\mu_0^2 \sigma^2 + \sigma_0^2 x_1^2}{\sigma^2 + \sigma_0^2}}{\frac{2\sigma_0^2 \sigma^2}{\sigma^2 + \sigma_0^2}} \right\}
 \end{aligned}$$

Posterior distribution with a sample size of one

But,

$$\frac{\mu_0^2 \sigma^2 + \sigma_0^2 x_1^2}{\sigma^2 + \sigma_0^2} = \left( \frac{\mu_0 \sigma^2 + x_1 \sigma_0^2}{\sigma^2 + \sigma_0^2} \right)^2 + \frac{\sigma^2 \sigma_0^2 (x - \mu_0)^2}{(\sigma^2 + \sigma_0^2)^2}$$

and, therefore

$$p(\mu|\mathbf{x}) \propto \exp \left\{ \frac{-\mu^2 + 2\mu \frac{\mu_0 \sigma^2 + \sigma_0^2 x_1}{\sigma^2 + \sigma_0^2} - \left( \frac{\mu_0 \sigma^2 + x_1 \sigma_0^2}{\sigma^2 + \sigma_0^2} \right)^2}{\frac{2\sigma_0^2 \sigma^2}{\sigma^2 + \sigma_0^2}} \right\}$$

$$\times \underbrace{\exp \left\{ \frac{\sigma^2 \sigma_0^2 (x - \mu_0)^2}{(\sigma^2 + \sigma_0^2)^2} \right\}}_{\text{constant}}$$

## Posterior distribution with a sample size of one

$$p(\mu|\mathbf{x}) \propto \exp \left\{ \frac{-\mu^2 + 2\mu \frac{\mu_0\sigma^2 + \sigma_0^2 x_1}{\sigma^2 + \sigma_0^2} - \left( \frac{\mu_0\sigma^2 + x_1\sigma_0^2}{\sigma^2 + \sigma_0^2} \right)^2}{\frac{2\sigma_0^2\sigma^2}{\sigma^2 + \sigma_0^2}} \right\}$$

Let us define

$$\sigma_1^2 = \frac{\sigma_0^2\sigma^2}{\sigma^2 + \sigma_0^2} = \frac{1}{\sigma^{-2} + \sigma_0^{-2}}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mu_1 &= \frac{\mu_0\sigma^2 + x_1\sigma_0^2}{\sigma^2 + \sigma_0^2} = \frac{\mu_0\sigma^2 + x_1\sigma_0^2}{\sigma^2 + \sigma_0^2} = \frac{1}{\sigma^{-2} + \sigma_0^{-2}} (\mu_0\sigma_0^{-2} + x_1\sigma^{-2}) \\ &= \sigma_1^2 (\mu_0\sigma_0^{-2} + x_1\sigma^{-2}) \end{aligned}$$





Posterior distribution with a sample size of one

And hence,

$$p(\mu|\mathbf{x}) \propto \exp \left\{ \frac{-(\mu - \mu_1)^2}{2\sigma_1^2} \right\},$$

from which it follows that as density, must integrate to unity,

$$p(\mu|\mathbf{x}) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma_1^2}} \exp \left\{ \frac{-(\mu - \mu_1)^2}{2\sigma_1^2} \right\}$$

The posterior distribution is given by

$$\mu|\mathbf{x} \hookrightarrow N(\mu_1, \sigma_1^2)$$

## Posterior distribution with a sample of size $N$

We consider a single Gaussian random variable  $X$ . We shall suppose that the variance  $\sigma^2$  is known, and we consider the task of inferring the mean  $\mu$  given a set of  $N$  observations

$\mathbf{x} = \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_N\}$ . If we choose a prior  $p(\mu)$  given by a Gaussian

$$\mu \hookrightarrow N(\mu_0, \sigma_0^2)$$

where  $\mu_0$  and  $\sigma_0^2$  are known, then the **posterior distribution** is given by

$$\mu|\mathbf{x} \hookrightarrow N(\mu_N, \sigma_N^2)$$

$$\mu_N = \frac{\sigma^2}{N\sigma_0^2 + \sigma^2} \mu_0 + \frac{N\sigma_0^2}{N\sigma_0^2 + \sigma^2} \left( \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N x_i \right)$$

$$\frac{1}{\sigma_N^2} = \frac{1}{\sigma_0^2} + \frac{N}{\sigma^2}$$

**Example**

Consider a single Gaussian random variable  $X$  with variance  $\sigma^2 = 1$ . Infer the mean  $\mu = \mu_N$  given the set of  $N = 10$  observations

2.16698806, 1.52581308, 0.72238059, 2.44863382, 2.20167179,  
0.44891844, 1.13245188, 0.36254031, 0.17785248, 3.27225828,

if we choose a prior  $p(\mu)$  given by a Gaussian

$$\mu \hookrightarrow N(\mu_0 = 1, \sigma_0^2 = 1.5)$$



## The bootstrap

- The **bootstrap** is a flexible and powerful statistical tool that can be used to **quantify the uncertainty** associated with a given estimator or statistical learning method.
- For example, it can provide an estimate of the standard error of a coefficient, or a confidence interval for that coefficient.

---

<sup>3</sup>Based on James, G., Witten, D., Hastie, T. and Tibshirani, R., 2013. *An introduction to statistical learning* (Vol. 112, p. 18). New York: Springer.

## Example

- Suppose that we wish to invest a fixed sum of money in two financial assets that yield returns of  $X$  and  $Y$ , respectively, where  $X$  and  $Y$  are random quantities.
- We will invest a fraction  $\alpha$  of our money in  $X$ , and will invest the remaining  $1 - \alpha$  in  $Y$ .
- We wish to choose  $\alpha$  to minimize the total risk –or variance– of our investment. In other words, we want to minimize

$$\text{var}(\alpha X + (1 - \alpha)Y)$$

- One can show that the value that minimizes the risk is given by

$$\alpha = \frac{\sigma_Y^2 - \sigma_{XY}}{\sigma_X^2 + \sigma_Y^2 - 2\sigma_{XY}}$$

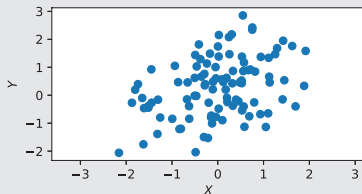
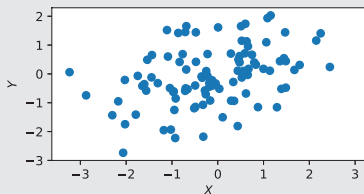
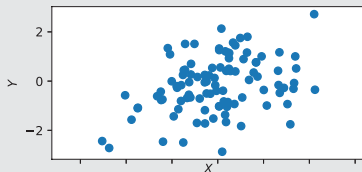
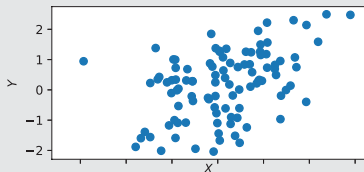
## Example

- However, the values of  $\sigma_X^2$ ,  $\sigma_Y^2$  and  $\sigma_{XY}$  are **unknown**.
- We can compute **estimates** for these quantities,  $\hat{\sigma}_X^2$ ,  $\hat{\sigma}_Y^2$  and  $\hat{\sigma}_{XY}$ , using a **data set** that contains measurements for X and Y.
- We can then estimate the value of  $\alpha$  that minimizes the variance of our investment using

$$\hat{\alpha} = \frac{\hat{\sigma}_Y^2 - \hat{\sigma}_{XY}}{\hat{\sigma}_X^2 + \hat{\sigma}_Y^2 - 2\hat{\sigma}_{XY}}$$

## Example

- Each panel displays 100 simulated returns for investments  $X$  and  $Y$ . From left to right and top to bottom, the resulting estimates for  $\alpha$  are 0.704, 0.614, 0.698, and 0.486.



## Python code

```
1 import numpy as np
2 import seaborn as sns
3 import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
4 meanx = 0
5 meany = 0
6 mean = (meanx, meany)
7 sigmaX2 = 1
8 sigmaY2 = 1.25
9 sigmaXY = 0.5
10 cov = [[sigmaX2, sigmaXY], [sigmaXY, sigmaY2]]
11 np.random.seed(3)
12 x = np.random.multivariate_normal(mean, cov, size=(100,4))
13 f, axes = plt.subplots(2, 2, figsize=(10, 5), sharex=True)
14 axes[0,0].scatter(x[:,0,0], x[:,0,1])
15 axes[0,0].set_xlabel('$X$')
16 axes[0,0].set_ylabel('$Y$')
```





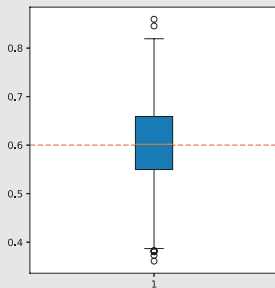
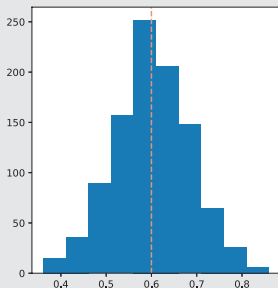
## Python code

```
1 axes[0,1].scatter(x[:,1,0], x[:,1,1])
2 axes[0,1].set_xlabel('$X$')
3 axes[0,1].set_ylabel('$Y$')
4 axes[1,0].scatter(x[:,2,0], x[:,2,1])
5 axes[1,0].set_xlabel('$X$')
6 axes[1,0].set_ylabel('$Y$')
7 axes[1,1].scatter(x[:,3,0], x[:,3,1])
8 axes[1,1].set_xlabel('$X$')
9 axes[1,1].set_ylabel('$Y$')
10 plt.savefig('randomXY.eps', dpi=300, bbox_inches='tight')
11 plt.show()
```

## Example

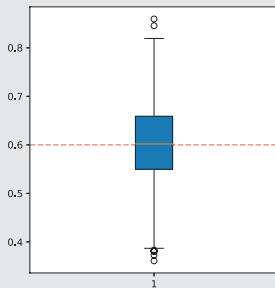
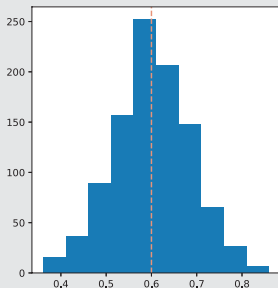
- To estimate the standard deviation of  $\hat{\alpha}$ , we repeat the process of simulating 100 paired observations of  $X$  and  $Y$ , and estimating  $\alpha$  1000 times.
- We thereby obtained 1000 estimates for  $\alpha$ , which we can call

$$\hat{\alpha}_1, \hat{\alpha}_2, \dots, \hat{\alpha}_{1000}$$



## Example

- For these simulations the parameters were set to  $\sigma_X^2 = 1$ ,  $\sigma_Y^2 = 1.25$  and  $\sigma_{XY} = 0.5$ , and so we know that the true value of  $\alpha$  is 0.6. We indicated this value using a dashed vertical line on the histogram.



## Python code

```
1 import numpy as np
2 import seaborn as sns
3 import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
4 meanx = 0
5 meany = 0
6 mean = (meanx, meany)
7 sigmaX2 = 1
8 sigmaY2 = 1.25
9 sigmaXY = 0.5
10 cov = [[sigmaX2, sigmaXY], [sigmaXY, sigmaY2]]
11 np.random.seed(3)
12 x = np.random.multivariate_normal(mean, cov, size=(100,1000))
13 alpha_list = list()
14 for k in range(0, 1000):
15     sigmaY2hat = np.var(x[:,k,1], ddof=0)
16     sigmaX2hat = np.var(x[:,k,0], ddof=0)
17     sigmaXYhat = np.cov([x[:,k,0], x[:,k,1]], ddof=0)[0,1]
18     alphahat = (sigmaY2hat - sigmaXYhat) / (sigmaY2hat + sigmaX2hat
19     - 2 * sigmaXYhat)
20     alpha_list.append(alphahat)
```



## Python code

```
1 %matplotlib inline
2 import numpy as np
3 import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
4 f, axes = plt.subplots(1, 2, figsize=(10, 5), sharex=False)
5 axes[0].hist(alpha_list)
6 axes[0].axvline(x=0.6, linestyle='--', color='darksalmon')
7 axes[1].boxplot(alpha_list, patch_artist=True)
8 axes[1].axhline(y=0.6, linestyle='--', color='darksalmon')
9 plt.savefig('histobox.eps', dpi=300, bbox_inches='tight')
10 plt.show()
```



## Example

- The mean over all 1000 estimates for  $\alpha$  is

$$\bar{\alpha} = \frac{1}{1000} \sum_{i=1}^{1000} \hat{\alpha}_i = 0.6030,$$

very close to  $\alpha = 0.6$ .

- The standard deviation of the estimates is

$$\sqrt{\frac{1}{1000 - 1} \sum_{i=1}^{1000} (\hat{\alpha}_i - \bar{\alpha})^2} = 0.084$$

- This gives us a very good idea of the accuracy of  $\hat{\alpha}$ . Roughly speaking, for a random sample from the population, we would expect  $\hat{\alpha}$  to differ from  $\alpha$  by approximately 0.08, on average.



## Python code

```
1 >>np.mean(alpha_list)
2   0.6030401995913561
3 >>np.std(alpha_list,ddof=1)
4   0.08399535702038463
```

## The Bootstrap: Back to the Real World!

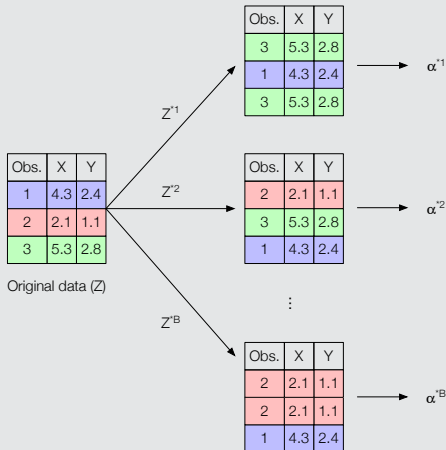
- The procedure outlined above **cannot be applied**, because for real data we cannot generate new samples from the original population.
- However, the bootstrap approach allows us to use a computer to **mimic** the process of obtaining new data sets, so that we can estimate the variability of our estimate without generating additional samples.
- Rather than repeatedly obtaining independent data sets from the population, we instead obtain distinct data sets by repeatedly sampling observations from the original data set **with replacement**.
- Each of these “bootstrap data sets” is created by sampling **with replacement**, and is the same size as our original dataset. As a result some observations may appear more than once and some not at all.





## Example

- A graphical illustration of the bootstrap approach on a small sample containing  $n = 3$  observations.



## The bootstrap

- Consider an original data set  $Z$  with  $n$  observations.
- We **randomly** select  $n$  observations (**with replacement**) from the data set in order to produce a **bootstrap data set**,  $Z^{*1}$ .
- We can use  $Z^{*1}$  to produce a new **bootstrap estimate** for  $\alpha$ , which we call  $\hat{\alpha}^{*1}$ .
- This procedure is repeated  $B$  times in order to produce  $B$  different bootstrap data sets

$$Z^{*1}, Z^{*2}, \dots, Z^{*B},$$

and  $B$  corresponding  $\alpha$  estimates

$$\hat{\alpha}^{*1}, \hat{\alpha}^{*2}, \dots, \hat{\alpha}^{*B}.$$



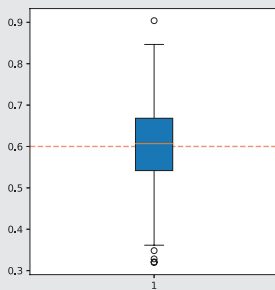
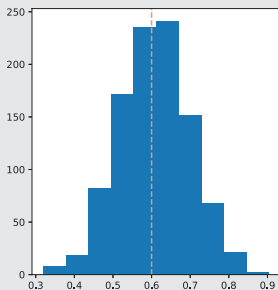
## The bootstrap

- We can compute the standard deviation of these bootstrap estimates —aka standard error— using the formula

$$SE(\hat{\alpha}) = \sqrt{\frac{1}{B-1} \sum_{i=1}^B \left( \hat{\alpha}^{*i} - \frac{1}{B} \sum_{j=1}^B \hat{\alpha}^{*j} \right)^2}$$

## Example

- *Left:* A histogram of the estimates of  $\alpha$  obtained from 1000 bootstrap samples from a single data set. *Right:* The estimates of  $\alpha$  displayed in the left panel are shown as a boxplot. In each panel, the dark salmon dashed line indicates the true value of  $\alpha$ .



## Python code

```
1 import numpy as np
2 meanx = 0
3 meany = 0
4 mean = (meanx, meany)
5 sigmaX2 = 1
6 sigmaY2 = 1.25
7 sigmaXY = 0.5
8 cov = [[sigmaX2, sigmaXY], [sigmaXY, sigmaY2]]
9 np.random.seed(3)
10 x = np.random.multivariate_normal(mean, cov, size=(100,1000))
11 bootM = np.zeros((100,2,1000))
12 alpha_list2 = list()
```

## Python code

```
1 for i in range(0,1000):
2     nprc = np.random.choice(100,100) # array with 100 random
      integers between 0 and 99
3     for k in range(0,100):
4         bootM[k,:,i]=x[nprc[k],0,:] #first bootstrap sample
5         sigmaY2hat = np.var(bootM[:,1,i],ddof=0)
6         sigmaX2hat = np.var(bootM[:,0,i],ddof=0)
7         sigmaXYhat = np.cov([bootM[:,0,i],bootM[:,1,i]],ddof=0)[0,1]
8         alphahat = (sigmaY2hat-sigmaXYhat)/(sigmaY2hat+sigmaX2hat
          -2*sigmaXYhat)
9     alpha_list2.append(alphahat) # 1000 estimates of alpha
```

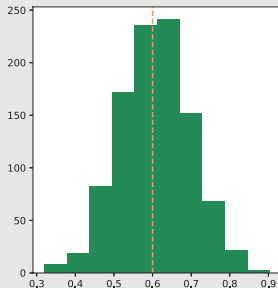
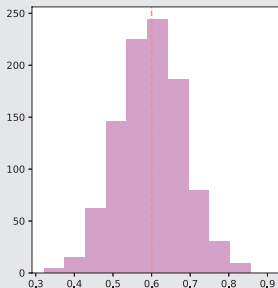


## Python code

```
1 %matplotlib inline
2 import numpy as np
3 import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
4 f, axes = plt.subplots(1, 2, figsize=(10, 5), sharex=False)
5 axes[0].hist(alpha_list2)
6 axes[0].axvline(x=0.6, linestyle='--', color='darksalmon')
7 axes[1].boxplot(alpha_list2, patch_artist=True)
8 axes[1].axhline(y=0.6, linestyle='--', color='darksalmon')
9 plt.savefig('histobox2.eps', dpi=300, bbox_inches='tight')
10 plt.show()
```

## Example

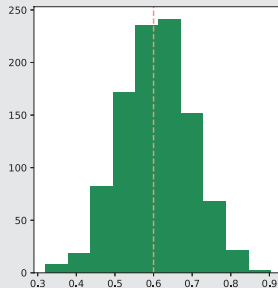
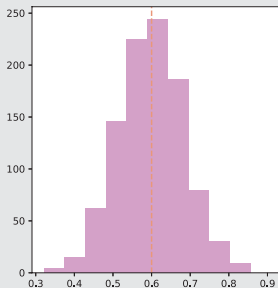
- *Left:* A histogram of the estimates of  $\alpha$  obtained by generating 1000 simulated data sets from the true population. *Right:* A histogram of the estimates of  $\alpha$  obtained from 1000 bootstrap samples from a single data set. In each panel, the dark salmon dashed line indicates the true value of  $\alpha$ .
- Note that both histograms look very similar!





## Example

- The standard deviation of these bootstrap estimates is 0.090, very close to the estimate of 0.084 obtained using 1000 simulated data sets.



## Python code

```
1 >>np.std(alpha_list2,ddof=1)
2 0.08970390965071548
```

# ESTIMATING THE ACCURACY OF A LINEAR REGRESSION MODEL:

## LABWORK

### Simple linear regression

- **Simple linear regression** is a very straightforward approach for predicting a quantitative response  $Y$  on the basis of a single predictor variable  $X$ . It assumes that there is approximately a linear relationship between  $X$  and  $Y$ . Mathematically, we can write this linear relationship as

$$Y \approx \beta_0 + \beta_1 X.$$

### Example

For example,  $X$  may represent **horsepower** and  $Y$  may represent **mpg** (miles per gallon) (with respect to the **Auto** data set). Then we can regress **mpg** onto **horsepower** by fitting the model

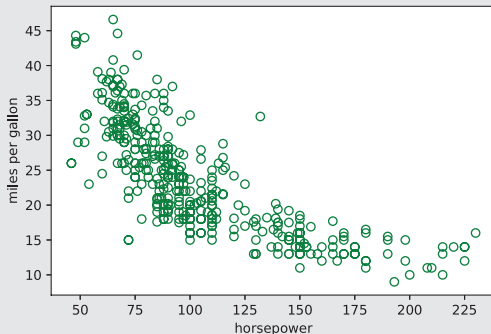
$$\text{mpg} \approx \beta_0 + \beta_1 \times \text{horsepower}.$$



# ESTIMATING THE ACCURACY OF A LINEAR REGRESSION MODEL:

## LABWORK

### Example



The **Auto** data set. For a number of cars, **mpg** and **horsepower** are shown. There is a pronounced relationship between **mpg** and **horsepower**.

# ESTIMATING THE ACCURACY OF A LINEAR REGRESSION MODEL:

## LABWORK

### Example

- The bootstrap approach can be used to assess the variability of the coefficient estimates and predictions from a statistical learning method.
- We will use the bootstrap approach to assess the variability of the estimates for  $\beta_0$  and  $\beta_1$ , the intercept and slope terms for the linear regression model that uses **horsepower** to predict **mpg** in the **Auto** data set.
- We first import the following Python packages:

```
1 >>import numpy as np
2 >>import csv
3 >>import pandas as pd
4 >>from sklearn.linear_model import LinearRegression
5 >>from sklearn.preprocessing import PolynomialFeatures
```



# ESTIMATING THE ACCURACY OF A LINEAR REGRESSION MODEL:

## LABWORK

### Example

- We then load the **Auto** data set and remove the missing values.

```
1 >>filename = "Auto.csv"
2 >>df = pd.read_csv(filename)
3 >>moddf = df.dropna()
4 >>v = moddf.values
```

- The following Python code can be used to compute the intercept and slope estimates for the linear regression model:

```
1 >>xtrain = v[:,3].reshape((-1,1))
2 >>ytrain = v[:,0]
3 >>xtrain_ = PolynomialFeatures(degree=1, include_bias=False).
    fit_transform(xtrain)
4 >>model = LinearRegression().fit(xtrain_, ytrain)
5 >>beta0 = model.intercept_
6 >>beta1 = model.coef_[0]
```



# ESTIMATING THE ACCURACY OF A LINEAR REGRESSION MODEL: LABWORK

## Example

- Set this seed so that we all have the exact same result.

```
1 >>np.random.seed(3)
```

- Create  $B = 1000$  bootstrap data sets of  $n = N = 392$  observations.
- Create a list `beta0` with the  $B = 1000$  corresponding  $\beta_0$  estimates:

$$\hat{\beta}_0^{*1}, \hat{\beta}_0^{*2}, \dots, \hat{\beta}_0^{*1000}$$

- Create a list `beta1` with the  $B = 1000$  corresponding  $\beta_1$  estimates:

$$\hat{\beta}_1^{*1}, \hat{\beta}_1^{*2}, \dots, \hat{\beta}_1^{*1000}$$



### Example

- Compute the standard deviation –standard error–  $SE(\hat{\beta}_0)$  and  $SE(\hat{\beta}_1)$  of these bootstrap estimates. You can use `np.std` with `ddof=1`. In your Python code, denote these two values as `std_beta01` and `std_beta11`, respectively.
- Compare the intercept  $\beta_0$  with the linear regression in the full set of 392 observations with  $\frac{1}{1000} \sum_{i=1}^{1000} \hat{\beta}_0^{*i}$ . Compare the slope  $\beta_1$  too.
- Compare the slope  $\beta_1$  with the linear regression in the full set of 392 observations with  $\frac{1}{1000} \sum_{i=1}^{1000} \hat{\beta}_1^{*i}$ .



# ESTIMATING THE ACCURACY OF A LINEAR REGRESSION MODEL:

## LABWORK

### Example

- Import the following Python packages and plot a histogram of the estimates of  $\beta_0$  and  $\beta_1$ , respectively, from the  $B = 1000$  bootstrap samples.

```
1 >>%matplotlib inline
2 >>import numpy as np
3 >>import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
```

- **Repeat** this labwork to compute the bootstrap standard error estimates and the standard linear regression estimates that result from fitting a quadratic model

$$\text{mpg} \approx \beta_0 + \beta_1 \times \text{horsepower} + \beta_2 \times \text{horsepower}^2$$

to the data. In your Python code, denote the standard errors as `std_beta02`, `std_beta12` and `std_beta22`, respectively.





### Example

- Send the Jupyter Notebook to `francesc.pozo@upc.edu`. Add comments to the code to make it easier to understand.
- You can work in pairs or in threes.
- **Deadline:** January 7th, 2019.

