

Chapter from Handbook of Econometrics to be posted soon. (Horowitz)

Bootstrap

$\{\bar{X}_i, i \leq n\}$ data

$F_0 \in \mathcal{F}$ is dgp

$\mathcal{F} = \{F(x; \theta), \theta \in \Theta\}$ if parametric

$\mathcal{F} = \{F \text{ is a cdf}\}$ if nonparametric

$T_n = T_n(\bar{X}_1, \dots, \bar{X}_n)$ statistic of interest

eg. $T_n = t_j$, t -statistic based on $\hat{\beta}_j$ in linear regression

$G_n(t, F_0) = P_{F_0}(T_n \leq t)$ under true distr. fcn. F_0
 • would like to work with this

$G_n(t, F) = P_F(T_n \leq t)$ under distr. fcn F

We want distributions so we can estimate the α -quantiles of $G_n(t, F_0)$: $G_n^{-1}(\alpha, F_0)$ for hypothesis testing.

p-values: $1 - G_n(t, F_0) |_{t=T_n}$

Defn: $G_\infty(t, F_0) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} G_n(t, F_0)$ asymptotic df

$G_\infty(t, F) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} G_n(t, F)$

We will estimate $G_n(\cdot, F_0)$ by $G_\infty(\cdot, F_0)$

- asymptotic principle.

Bootstrap principle: approximate $G_n(\cdot, F_0)$ by $G_n(\cdot, \hat{F})$

- Let $\hat{F}_n(x) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \mathbb{1}\{X_i \leq x\}$ nonparametric bootstrap

- Let $\hat{F}_0(x) = F(x, \hat{\theta})$ parametric bootstrap

Monte Carlo algorithm to tabulate $G_n(t, \hat{F})$

1] $\forall j = 1, \dots, B$, generate $\{X_{ij}^*, i = 1, \dots, n\}$ by sampling from \hat{F} randomly. (with replacement)

◦ Practically we have $B \approx 200$

2] Compute $T_{nj}^* = T_n(X_{1j}^*, \dots, X_{nj}^*) \quad j \leq B$

3] Use $\{T_{nj}^*, j \leq B\}$ to compute empirical probability of $\{T_n^* \leq t\}$

e.g. $\{X_1, X_2, X_3\}$ observations

Draw randomly from this set. Get samples

$\{X_{21}^*, X_{31}^*, X_{21}^*\} \quad j=1$

$\{X_{12}^*, X_{12}^*, X_{12}^*\} \quad j=2$

⋮

- Idealistically, if we knew F_0 , we would just tabulate the distribution function $G_n(\cdot, F_0)$.
- sometimes, $G_n(t, F_0) = G_n(t, F) \quad \forall F \in \mathcal{F}$ for our statistic. Such a statistic is referred to as pivotal. We can use any $F \in \mathcal{F}$

e.g. GM:

$$\text{I] } Y = X\beta + \varepsilon, \quad \beta \in \mathbb{R}^k$$

$$\text{II] } \varepsilon | X \sim N(0, \sigma^2 I)$$

$$\text{III] } \text{rank}(X) = k$$

$$\text{Then } t_j = \frac{\hat{\beta}_j - \beta_j}{\text{se}(\hat{\beta}_j)} \sim t(n-k)$$

irrespective of β and σ^2 .

• t_j is pivotal.

- If we don't know F_0 , and T is not pivotal, we can put bounds on $G_n(t, F_0)$ using

$$B_n = \left[\inf_{F \in \mathcal{F}} G_n(t, F), \sup_{F \in \mathcal{F}} G_n(t, F) \right]$$



For example, we can set (in the parametric case)

$$\hat{\mathcal{F}} = \{ F(\cdot, \theta) : \theta \in CI_{1-\beta_n}(\theta_0) \}, \beta_n \rightarrow 0$$

e.g. $CI = \{ \hat{\theta} \pm se(\hat{\theta}) \log \cdot n \}$

Asymptotically, this approach becomes equivalent to bootstrap

- 1] Start with $\theta_1 = \hat{\theta} \in CI_{1-\beta_n}(\theta_0)$. Tabulate critical value $G_n^{-1}(\alpha, F(\cdot, \theta_1))$
- 2] Draw nearby value $\theta_2 = \theta_1 + \eta \in CI_{1-\beta_n}(\theta_0)$, η random. Tabulate $G_n^{-1}(\alpha, F(\cdot, \theta_2))$
- 3] Repeat until convergence.