

Pseudo-Bayes Factors

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- **Proposed approach**: use a **pseudo-BF** based on a pseudo-likelihood $L^*(\psi)$, which is a function of ψ only.

- Test

$$H_0 : \psi \in \Psi_0 \text{ against } H_1 : \psi \in \Psi_1,$$

with the Bayes Factor

$$BF = \frac{\int_{\Psi_0} \int_{\Lambda} L(\psi, \lambda) \pi_0(\lambda|\psi) \pi_0(\psi) d\lambda d\psi}{\int_{\Psi_1} \int_{\Lambda} L(\psi, \lambda) \pi_1(\lambda|\psi) \pi_1(\psi) d\lambda d\psi},$$

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 - needs p dimensional integrations on (Ψ_k, Λ) .

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- In our approach we only need:
 - a pseudo-likelihood $L^*(\psi)$
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- We then define the Pseudo-Bayes Factor:

$$BF^* = \frac{\int_{\Psi_0} L^*(\psi)\pi_0(\psi) d\psi}{\int_{\Psi_1} L^*(\psi)\pi_1(\psi) d\psi} = \frac{\int_{\Psi_0} \pi_0^*(\psi|\mathbf{y}) d\psi}{\int_{\Psi_1} \pi_1^*(\psi|\mathbf{y}) d\psi},$$

which needs only 1 dimensional integrations over Ψ_k .

- The null model H_0 is favored when $BF^* > 1$ or $(BF > 1)$.

Comparison of BF^* versus BF

- The null model H_0 is favored when $BF^* > 1$ o ($BF > 1$).
- To evaluate the behavior of BF^* we compare it versus BF in terms of the corresponding the Frequentist Risks, $R^*(\psi, \lambda)$ and $R(\psi, \lambda)$, where

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- In the next examples we assume a favorable scenario for BF : $\pi_k(\lambda|\psi) = \pi(\lambda)$ for $k = 0, 1$, with $\pi(\lambda)$ concentrated on the true values.
- Both $R^*(\psi, \lambda)$ and $R(\psi, \lambda)$ are approximated by Monte Carlo simulations.

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 - 2 logistic regression.
- We mainly focus on the Modified Profile Likelihood (Severini, 2000)

$$L_{mp}(\psi) = L_p(\psi) \frac{|j_{\lambda\lambda}(\psi, \hat{\lambda}_\psi)|^{1/2}}{|I(\psi, \hat{\lambda}_\psi; \hat{\theta})|},$$

where $L_p(\psi) = L(\psi, \hat{\lambda}_\psi)$, $\hat{\theta}$ is the MLE for θ , $\hat{\lambda}_\psi$ is the conditional MLE of λ and

$$I(\psi, \lambda; \theta_0) = E_{\theta_0}(\ell_\lambda(\psi, \lambda)\ell_\lambda(\psi_0, \lambda_0)^T),$$

with $\theta_0 = (\psi_0, \lambda_0)$ and $\ell_\lambda(\psi, \lambda) = \partial\ell(\psi, \lambda)/\partial\lambda$.

Example 1. Stress-strength model (Kotz *et al.*, 2003)

- Let $X \sim \text{Exp}(\alpha)$ and $Y \sim \text{Exp}(\beta)$ be random variables. Interest is on

$$\psi = \Pr(X < Y) = \alpha/(\alpha + \beta)$$

with $\lambda = \alpha$.

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 - $\pi(\lambda) = \text{Gamma}(1, 1)$
- The MPL is $L_{mp}(\psi) = -(n + m - 2) \log \left(s_x + s_y \frac{1-\psi}{\psi} \right) + m \log \frac{1-\psi}{\psi}$, where $s_x = \sum x_i$ and $s_y = \sum y_j$.

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- Both BF^* and BF are evaluated numerically.

Example 1. Stress-strength model (Kotz *et al.*, 2003)

	R		R^*	
	$\lambda = 0.5$	$\lambda = 2.5$	$\lambda = 0.5$	$\lambda = 2.5$
$\psi = 0.4$	10%	33 %	21%	23 %
$\psi = 0.6$	29%	22 %	21%	26 %

Table: Values of risks (with $n = m = 5$).

- For some (ψ, λ) , $R < R^*$ just because prior $\pi(\lambda) = \text{Gamma}(1, 1)$ gives high probability to the “true” values of λ .

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- However, R is much more sensitive to λ than R^* .

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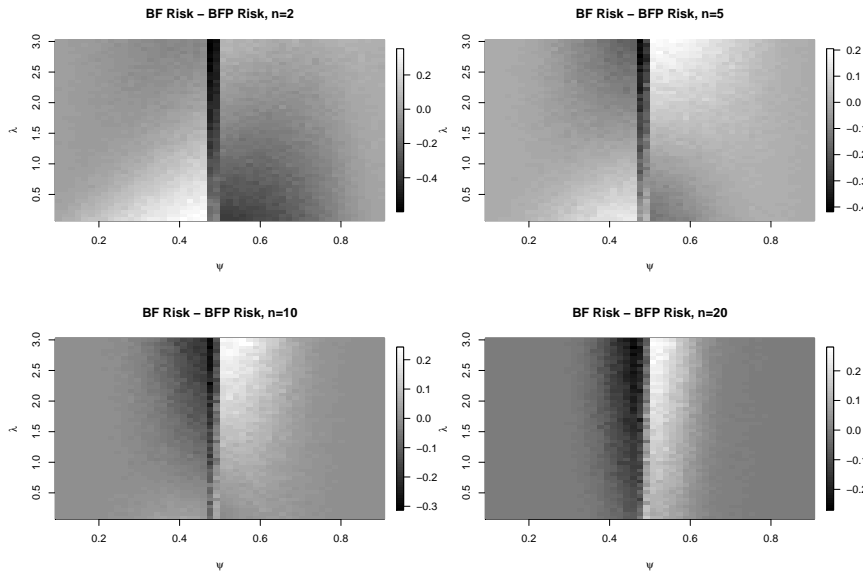


Figure: Values of $R(\psi, \lambda) - R^*(\psi, \lambda)$ for $n = m = 2, 5, 10, 20$.

Example 2. Logistic Regression

- The logistic regression model has likelihood function

$$L(\beta) = \exp \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^n y_i \sum_{j=1}^p \beta_j x_{ij} - \sum_{i=1}^n \log \left(1 + e^{\sum_{j=1}^p \beta_j x_{ij}} \right) \right\}$$

with $\beta = (\beta_1, \dots, \beta_p)$ unknown regression coefficient and x_{ij} fixed constants, $i = 1, \dots, n$ and $j = 1, \dots, p$.

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- Assume $\psi = \beta_p$ and let $\lambda = (\beta_1, \dots, \beta_{p-1})$ be the nuisance parameter.

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 - $\pi(\lambda) = \pi(\beta_1) \cdot \dots \cdot \pi(\beta_{p-1})$, $\pi(\beta_j) = N(0, 10^{12})$, $j = 1, 2, \dots, p-1$.

Example 2. Logistic Regression - Urine data (Davison, Hinkley, 1997).

- For illustration, we analyze the presence/absence of calcium oxalate crystals in urine samples Y together with the values of $p = 6$ quantitative covariates on $n = 77$ individuals.

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- Assume that ψ is the coefficient of the effect of the variable urea concentration.
- The weights of evidence (Good, 1985), $W = \log BF$ and $W^* = \log BF^*$, are

	W and W^*
BF based on $L(\beta)$	4.2
BF^* based on $L_{mp}(\psi)$	4.2

According to the Jeffreys' scale, the evidence is substantial in favor of positive effect of urea concentration.

Example 2. Logistic Regression - p large.

In order to assess the behaviour of BF^* , with respect to large p , we evaluate the corresponding W^* in 1000 data sets with $p = 20$ coefficients

Example 2. Logistic Regression - ρ large.

In order to assess the behaviour of BF^* , with respect to large ρ , we evaluate the corresponding W^* in 1000 data sets with $p = 20$ coefficients, with 5 positive, 5 negative and 10 zero coefficients.

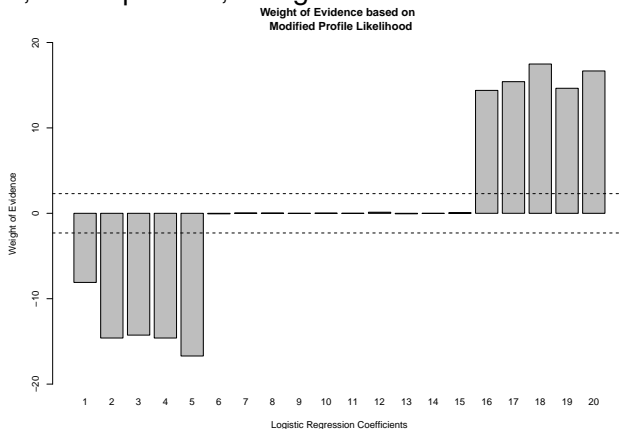


Figure: Empirical mean W^* for the sign of 20 coefficients.
(Horizontal dashed lines are the levels of strong evidence).

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- BF^* may be also obtained for semi-parametric models or complex models, when the $L(\psi, \lambda)$ is difficult or even impossible to compute, in fact, it is possible to resort to quasi-profile likelihoods (Ventura *et al.*, 2010), empirical likelihoods and composite likelihoods (Pauli *et al.*, 2010).

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