

Population size estimates

Stat 576

5-22-25

Method 4: Stacked quadrats

①

Divide the total area A into N equal sections

Select n of these by SRSWOR

Record $x_i = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{present} \\ 0 & \text{absent} \end{cases}$ for each quadrat

Assume that x_i actually has a Poisson distribution.

Its parameter $\mu = \frac{M}{N}$

$$P(x_i=0) = \frac{\mu^0 e^{-\mu}}{0!} = e^{-\mu}$$

②

$$\ln q = -\mu = -\frac{M}{N}$$

$$\text{so } M = -N \ln q$$

$$\text{Let } \hat{M} = -N \ln \hat{q},$$

$$\text{where } \hat{q} = \frac{\# \text{ unstacked quadrats}}{n}$$

(3)

$$\text{let } f(x) = -N \ln x$$

$$f'(x) = -\frac{N}{x} \quad f''(x) = \frac{N}{x^2}$$

$$f(x) \approx f(x_0) + f'(x_0)(x - x_0) + \frac{f''(x_0)}{2} (x - x_0)^2$$

$$-N \ln x \approx -N \ln x_0 - \frac{N}{x_0} (x - x_0) + \frac{N}{2x_0^2} (x - x_0)^2$$

$$\therefore \hat{M} = -N \ln \hat{q} \approx -N \ln q - \frac{N}{q} (\hat{q} - q) + \frac{N}{2q^2} (\hat{q} - q)^2$$

(4)

$$E[\hat{M}] \approx -N \ln q - 0 + \frac{N}{2q^2} V[\hat{q}]$$

$$= M + \frac{N}{2q^2} V[1 - \hat{p}]$$

$$= M + \frac{N}{2q^2} V[\hat{p}]$$

$$E[\hat{M}] \approx M + \underbrace{\frac{N}{2q^2} \frac{pq}{n} \left(1 - \frac{1}{n}\right) \frac{N}{N-1}}_{\text{Bias}}$$

(5)

$$\begin{aligned}
V[\hat{M}] &\approx V\left[-N \ln q - \frac{N}{q}(q-1)\right] \\
&= \frac{N^2}{q^2} V[\hat{q}] \\
&= \frac{N^2}{q^2} V[\hat{p}] = \frac{N^2}{q^2} \frac{pq}{n} \left(1 - \frac{1}{N}\right) \frac{N}{N-1} \\
&= \frac{N^3 p}{n q (N-1)} \left(1 - \frac{1}{N}\right) \\
\hat{V}[\hat{M}] &= \frac{N^3 \hat{p}}{n \hat{q} (N-1)} \left(1 - \frac{1}{N}\right)
\end{aligned}$$

(6)

Nonresponse

Think of the population as being stratified

Stratum	size	total	mean	variance
Respondents	N_R	t_R	\bar{Y}_R	S_R^2
Nonrespond.	N_M	t_M	\bar{Y}_M	S_M^2

We wish to estimate $\bar{Y} = \frac{t}{N} = \frac{t_R + t_M}{N}$

$$= \frac{N_R \bar{Y}_R + N_M \bar{Y}_M}{N} = W_R \bar{Y}_R + W_M \bar{Y}_M$$

If nonresponse is ignored, then

\bar{y} is estimating \bar{Y}_R and

s^2 is estimating s_{R}^2

⑦

Solution: Do a second round: call-back

Suppose that some proportion λ
of the nonrespondents now respond.

Summary: ① Randomly select n items from N

Find n_R respondents & n_M nonrespondents

$$n_R + n_M = n$$

② Do a callback on the n_M nonrespondents ⑧

And λn_M now respond

Final sample size is $n_R + \lambda n_M$

Construct the Horvitz-Thompson estimator

$$\hat{t}_{HT} = \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{y_i}{\pi_i}$$

For the respondents: $\pi_i = \frac{n_R}{N_R}$

For the nonrespondents captured in the 2nd wave, (9)

$$\begin{aligned}\pi_i &= P(\text{selected in 1st sample} \cap \text{responded in callback}) \\ &= \frac{n_m}{N_m} \cdot \lambda\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\hat{t}_{HT} &= \sum_{\text{resp}} \frac{y_i}{(n_R/N_R)} + \sum_{\text{non resp}} \frac{y_i}{\left(\frac{n_m}{N_m} \cdot \lambda\right)} \\ &= N_R \frac{1}{n_R} \sum_{\text{resp}} y_i + N_m \frac{1}{\lambda} \frac{1}{n_m} \sum_{\text{non resp}} y_i\end{aligned}$$

$$\hat{t}_{HT} = N_R \bar{y}_R + N_m \bar{y}_m$$

$$\bar{y}_{HT} = \frac{\hat{t}_{HT}}{N} = W_R \bar{y}_R + W_m \bar{y}_m$$

But N_R & N_m are unknown

$$\hat{N}_R = \frac{n_R}{n} N \quad \text{and} \quad \hat{N}_m = \frac{n_m}{n} N$$

$$\text{So } \hat{W}_R = \frac{n_R}{n} \quad \text{And} \quad \hat{W}_m = \frac{n_m}{n}$$

(11)

$$\bar{y}_{adj} = \frac{n_R}{n} \bar{y}_R + \frac{n_M}{n} \bar{y}_M$$

$$= \frac{n_R}{n} \frac{1}{n_R} \sum_{R \text{ resp}} y_i + \frac{n_M}{n} \frac{1}{\lambda n_M} \sum_{M \text{ non resp}} y_i$$

$$= \frac{1}{n} \left[\sum_{\text{resp}} y_i + \frac{1}{\lambda} \sum_{\text{non resp}} y_i \right]$$

- 10.4** A particular sportsmen's club is concerned about the number of brook trout in a certain stream. During a period of several days, $t = 100$ trout are caught, tagged, and then returned to the stream. Note that the sample represents 100 different fish; hence, any fish caught on these days that had already been tagged is immediately released. Several weeks later a second sample of $n = 120$ trout is caught and observed. Suppose 27 in the second sample are tagged ($s = 27$). Estimate N , the total size of the population, and place a bound on the error of estimation.
- 10.10** A zoologist wishes to estimate the size of the turtle population in a given geographical area. She believes that the turtle population size is between 500 and 1000; hence, an initial sample of 100 (10%) appears to be sufficient. The $t = 100$ turtles are caught, tagged, and released. A second sampling is begun one month later, and she decides to continue sampling until $s = 15$ tagged turtles are recaptured. She catches 160 turtles before obtaining 15 tagged turtles ($n = 160, s = 15$). Estimate N and place a bound on the error of estimation.
- 10.16** Cars passing through an intersection are counted during randomly selected ten-minute intervals throughout the working day. Twenty such samples show an average of 40 cars per interval. Estimate, with a bound on the error, the number of cars that you expect to go through the intersection in an eight-hour period.