

7] POINT ESTIMATION

POINT ESTIMATOR - any function $W(X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n)$ of a sample, that is, any statistic is a point estimate

- NOTE: 1) No correspondence between estimator and parameter
2) No mention of range

Estimate vs. Estimator

- Estimator - is a function of the sample
- Estimate - is the realized value of an estimator, a number, obtained when a sample is taken

§7.2

- Estimating a parameter with its sample analog is usually reasonable
- The sample mean is a good estimate for the population mean

Method of moments Usually yields an estimate, however this estimate can usually be improved upon.

- Let X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n be a sample from a population w/ pdf or pmf $f(x | \theta_1, \theta_2, \dots, \theta_k)$. Method of moments estimators are found by equating the first k sample moments to the corresponding k population moments, and solving the resulting system of simultaneous equations.

$$m_1 = \frac{1}{n} \sum x_i \quad \mu_1' = E(X')$$

$$m_2 = \frac{1}{n} \sum x_i^2 \quad \mu_2' = E(X^2)$$

⋮

$$m_k = \frac{1}{n} \sum x_i^k \quad \mu_k' = E(X^k)$$

NOTE: μ_i' will typically be a function of $\theta_1, \dots, \theta_k$ say $\mu_i'(\theta_1, \dots, \theta_k)$
the estimator $(\hat{\theta}_1, \hat{\theta}_2, \dots, \hat{\theta}_k)$ of $(\theta_1, \theta_2, \dots, \theta_k)$ is obtained by solving the following system of equations for $(\theta_1, \theta_2, \dots, \theta_k)$ in terms of (m_1, m_2, \dots)

$$m_1 = \mu_1'(\theta_1, \theta_2, \dots, \theta_k)$$

$$m_2 = \mu_2'(\theta_1, \theta_2, \dots, \theta_k)$$

⋮

$$m_k = \mu_k'(\theta_1, \theta_2, \dots, \theta_k)$$

Example 7.2.1: $X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n \stackrel{iid}{\sim} N(\theta, \sigma^2)$ $\theta_1 = \theta, \theta_2 = \sigma^2$

$$m_1 = \bar{X} \qquad M_1 = \theta$$

$$m_2 = \frac{1}{n} \sum x_i^2 \qquad M_2 = \theta^2 + \sigma^2$$

Solve: $\bar{X} = \theta$
 $\frac{1}{n} \sum x_i^2 = \theta^2 + \sigma^2$

To get: $\begin{cases} \tilde{\theta} = \bar{X} \\ \tilde{\sigma}^2 = \frac{1}{n} \sum x_i^2 - \bar{X}^2 = \frac{1}{n} \sum (x_i - \bar{X})^2 \end{cases}$ Note: this equals S^2

→ These are method of moment estimators

Cool
crime
rate
application

→ Example 7.2.2: $X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n \stackrel{iid}{\sim} \text{binomial}(k, p)$, that is,
 $P(X_i = x | k, p) = \binom{k}{x} p^x (1-p)^{k-x}, \quad x = 0, 1, \dots, k$

NOTE: here we assume k and p are unknown point estimators

$$m_1 = \bar{X} \qquad M_1 = kp$$

$$m_2 = \frac{1}{n} \sum x_i^2 \qquad M_2 = kp(1-p) + k^2 p^2$$

Solve: $\bar{X} = kp$
 $\frac{1}{n} \sum x_i^2 = kp(1-p) + k^2 p^2$

To get: $\tilde{k} = \frac{\bar{X}^2}{\bar{X} - (1/n) \sum (x_i - \bar{X})^2}$ } Method of moments estimator

$\tilde{p} = \bar{X} / \tilde{k}$

Example 7.2.3 • $Y_i, i=1, 2, \dots, k$ are independent $\chi_{r_i}^2$ random variables

• Note: $\sum Y_i \sim \chi_{(\sum r_i)}^2$

• Note: $\sum a_i Y_i \sim ?$ for a_i , known constants

→ we can assume χ_{ν}^2 will be a good approximation for some value of ν

• This is almost Satterthwaite's problem of approximating the denominator of a t stat: $\sum a_i Y_i$ represents the square of the denominator of his stat,

• So he wanted to find $\nu \exists$

$$\sum a_i Y_i \sim \chi_{\nu}^2 / \nu$$

• Since $E(\chi_{\nu}^2 / \nu) = 1$ to match first moments we need

$$E(\sum a_i Y_i) = \sum a_i E(Y_i) = \sum a_i r_i = 1$$

Note: this gives us constraints on a_i but no information on how to estimate ν

• second moments

$$E(\sum a_i Y_i)^2 = E\left(\frac{\chi_{\nu}^2}{\nu}\right)^2 = \frac{2}{\nu} + 1$$

• Applying the method of moments

$$\hat{\nu} = \frac{2}{\left(\sum a_i Y_i\right)^2 - 1}$$

Note: This can obtain negative values

• Satterthwaite's customization

$$E(\sum a_i Y_i)^2 = \text{Var}(\sum a_i Y_i) + (E \sum a_i Y_i)^2$$

$$= (E(\sum a_i Y_i)^2) \left[\frac{\text{Var}(\sum a_i Y_i)}{(E(\sum a_i Y_i)^2)} + 1 \right]$$

NOTE: $E(\sum a_i Y_i) = 1$

$$\text{Now, } \hat{\nu} = \frac{\sum (a_i Y_i)^2}{\sum \frac{a_i^2}{r_i} Y_i}$$

← Better

Maximum Likelihood Estimators - The most popular technique

Recall: $X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n \stackrel{iid}{\sim} f(x|\theta_1, \dots, \theta_k)$

$$L(\theta|x) = f_x(x|\theta) = \prod f(x_i|\theta_1, \dots, \theta_k)$$

Def 7.2.4

For sample point x , let $\hat{\theta}(x)$ be a parameter value at which $L(\theta|x)$ attains its maximum as a function of θ with x held fixed. A maximum likelihood estimator (MLE) of the parameter θ based on a sample x is $\hat{\theta}(x)$

NOTE: MLE coincides w/ range of the MLE

Note: Pros: usually a good estimate

Cons: finding max of functions and ensuring they are global

How sensitive the estimates are to small changes in data

Example 7.2.5 $X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n \stackrel{iid}{\sim} N(\theta, 1)$ then

$$L(\theta|x) = \prod \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-\frac{(x_i - \theta)^2}{2}} = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^{n/2}} e^{-\frac{\sum (x_i - \theta)^2}{2}}$$

Consider $\frac{d}{d\theta} L(\theta|x) = 0$

$$\sum (x_i - \theta) = 0$$

Solution: $\hat{\theta} = \bar{x}$ Thus \bar{x} is a candidate for the MLE

* To verify that \bar{x} is the global max we use the following arguments

1) $\hat{\theta} = \bar{x}$ is the only solution for $\frac{d}{d\theta} L(\theta|x) = 0$

2) Verify $\frac{d^2}{d\theta^2} L(\theta|x)|_{\theta=\bar{x}} < 0$ (concave down \rightarrow max)

3) Check boundaries at $\pm \infty$

Direct maximization

Example 7.2.6

For number a $\sum (x_i - a)^2 \geq \sum (x_i - \bar{x})^2$ w/ equality at $a = \bar{x}$
 this implies that $\forall \theta$ $e^{-\sum (x_i - \theta)^2/2} \leq e^{-\sum (x_i - \bar{x})^2/2}$ w/
 equality iff $\theta = \bar{x}$ hence \bar{x} is the MLE

* In most cases, especially when differentiating is to be used it is easier to work w/ the natural logarithm of $L(\theta|x)$, $\ln(L(\theta|x))$ known as the log likelihood. This is possible because the log function is strictly increasing on $(0, \infty)$ which implies the extrema of $L(\theta|x)$ and $\log(L(\theta|x))$

Example 7.2.7 $X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n \stackrel{iid}{\sim} \text{Bernoulli}(p)$

• $L(p|x) = \prod p^{x_i} (1-p)^{1-x_i} = p^y (1-p)^{n-y} \quad y = \sum x_i$

• Note this isn't hard to differentiate but the log is much easier

$\ln(L(p|x)) = y \log(p) + (n-y) \ln(1-p) \quad \text{if } 0 < y < n$

• Solve $\frac{d}{dp} \ln(L(p|x)) = 0$

• to get $\hat{p} = y/n$

• It is easy to show this is the global max, thus the MLE of p is $\sum x_i / n$

NOTE: The maximization takes place only over the range of parameter values

EXAMPLE 7.2.8 $X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n \stackrel{iid}{\sim} N(\theta, 1)$ where it is known that θ must be nonnegative. Earlier, with no restrictions on θ , we found the MLE of θ is \bar{x} . With this restriction if \bar{x} is negative we have big problems

If \bar{x} is negative, the likelihood function $L(\theta|x)$ is decreasing in θ for $\theta \geq 0$ and is maximized at $\hat{\theta} = 0$. Thus the MLE is

$$\hat{\theta} = \begin{cases} \bar{x} & \bar{x} \geq 0 \\ 0 & \bar{x} < 0 \end{cases}$$

* An important feature of an MLE is that it is possible to use a computer to maximize $L(\theta|x)$

Example 7.2.9 X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n be a random sample from binomial(k, p) when p is known and k is unknown.

- For example, we flip a coin we know to be fair and observe x_i heads but we do not know how many times the coin was flipped

$$L(k|x, p) = \prod \binom{k}{x_i} p^{x_i} (1-p)^{k-x_i}$$

- Maximizing this by differentiation is difficult because of the factorials and because k must be an integer
- Let's try a different approach

$L(k|x, p) = 0$ if $k < \max x_i$; thus the MLE is an integer $k \geq \max x_i$ that satisfies

$$\frac{L(k, x, p)}{L(k-1, x, p)} \geq 1 \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{L(k+1, x, p)}{L(k, x, p)} < 1$$

- We will show that \exists only one such value k
- The ratio of likelihoods is $\frac{L(k|x, p)}{L(k-1|x, p)} = \frac{(k(1-p))^n}{\prod (k-x_i)}$

Thus the condition for a maximum is

$$(k(1-p))^n \geq \prod (k-x_i) \quad \text{and} \quad ((k+1)(1-p))^n < \prod (k+1-x_i)$$

- Let $z = 1/k$ and divide through by k^n
Solve $(1-p)^n = \prod (1-x_i z)$ for $0 \leq z \leq 1/\max x_i$

As the RHS is a decreasing function of z with a value of 1 at $z=0$ and a value of 0 at $z=1/\max x_i$

Thus \exists a unique z, \hat{z} that solves the equation
 \hat{z} is the MLE and the largest integer $\leq 1/\hat{z}$

$\therefore \exists$ a unique max for the loglikelihood

The invariance property of MLEs

Suppose that a distribution is indexed by a parameter θ but the interest is in finding an estimator for some function of θ say $\tau(\theta)$. The idea is that if $\hat{\theta}$ is the MLE of θ then $\tau(\hat{\theta})$ is the MLE of $\tau(\theta)$.

For example, if θ is the mean of a normal dist the MLE of $\sin(\theta)$ is $\sin(\bar{x})$.

* If the mapping $\theta \rightarrow \tau(\theta)$ is 1:1 then there is no problem

If we let $\mathcal{N} = \tau(\theta)$ then the inverse function $\tau^{-1}(\mathcal{N}) = \theta$ is well defined and

$$L^*(\mathcal{N}|x) = \prod f(x_i | \tau^{-1}(\mathcal{N})) = L(\tau^{-1}(\mathcal{N})|x)$$

and

$$\sup_{\mathcal{N}} L^*(\mathcal{N}|x) = \sup_{\theta} L(\theta|x)$$

Thus the maximum of $L^*(\mathcal{N}|x)$ is attained at $\mathcal{N} = \tau(\hat{\theta}) = \tau(\hat{\theta})$ showing that the MLE of $\tau(\theta)$ is $\tau(\hat{\theta})$.

Note: there are many scenarios which we desire this for functions that aren't 1:1 such as θ^2 where there may be more than one value of θ α

$$\tau(\theta) = \mathcal{N}$$

Define for $\tau(\theta)$ the induced likelihood function L^* given by

$$L^*(\mathcal{N}|x) = \sup_{\{\theta | \tau(\theta) = \mathcal{N}\}} L(\theta|x)$$

The value $\hat{\mathcal{N}}$ that maximizes $L^*(\mathcal{N}|x)$ will be the MLE of $\mathcal{N} = \tau(\theta)$ and the maxima of L^* and L coincide.

Theorem 7.2.10 If $\hat{\theta}$ is the MLE of θ , then \forall function $\tau(\theta)$ the MLE of $\tau(\theta)$ is $\tau(\hat{\theta})$

Proof page 320

- Using this theorem, we now see that MLE of θ^2 , the square of a normal mean, is \bar{x}^2 .
- Another example: the MLE of $\sqrt{p(1-p)}$ where p is binomial is given by $\sqrt{\hat{p}(1-\hat{p})}$.
- This also holds in the multivariate case, letting θ be a vector.

Example 7.2.11 Let $X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n \stackrel{iid}{\sim} N(\theta, \sigma^2)$ with both θ and σ^2 unknown

$$L(\theta, \sigma^2 | x) = \frac{1}{(2\pi\sigma^2)^{n/2}} e^{-\frac{1}{2} \sum (x_i - \theta)^2 / \sigma^2}$$

and

$$\log(L(\theta, \sigma^2 | x)) = -\frac{n}{2} \log(2\pi) - \frac{n}{2} \log(\sigma^2) - \frac{1}{2} \sum (x_i - \theta)^2 / \sigma^2$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \log(L(\theta, \sigma^2 | x)) = \frac{1}{\sigma^2} \sum (x_i - \theta)$$

and

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \sigma^2} \log(L(\theta, \sigma^2 | x)) = -\frac{n}{2\sigma^2} + \frac{1}{2\sigma^4} \sum (x_i - \theta)^2$$

Set equal to 0 and solve to get:

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

$$\hat{\sigma}^2 = n^{-1} \sum (x_i - \bar{x})^2$$

• Now if $\theta = \bar{x}$ then $\sum (x_i - \theta)^2 = \sum (x_i - \bar{x})^2$ $\forall \sigma^2$

$$\frac{1}{(2\pi\sigma^2)^{n/2}} e^{-\frac{1}{2} \sum (x_i - \bar{x})^2 / \sigma^2} \geq \frac{1}{(2\pi\sigma^2)^{n/2}} e^{-\frac{1}{2} \sum (x_i - \theta)^2 / \sigma^2}$$

• We made this a one-dimensional problem, verify $(\sigma^2)^{-n/2} e^{-\frac{1}{2} \sum (x_i - \theta)^2 / \sigma^2}$ achieves a max at $\sigma^2 = n^{-1} \sum (x_i - \bar{x})^2$

$(\bar{x}, n^{-1} \sum (x_i - \bar{x})^2)$ are the MLEs

Another example 7.2.12 is omitted

Bayes Estimators

- θ , the parameter, is considered to be a quantity whose variation can be described as a probability distribution. We call this the prior distribution.
- A sample is then taken from the population so we can update the prior to get the posterior distribution.

We denote: 1) $\pi(\theta)$ as the prior

2) $f(x|\theta)$ as the sampling distribution

3) Posterior: $\frac{f(x|\theta) \pi(\theta)}{\int f(x|\theta) \pi(\theta) d\theta} = \pi(\theta|x)$

Eg 7.2.4 • $X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n \overset{i.i.d.}{\sim}$ Bernoulli (p)

• $Y = \sum X_i \sim \text{bin}(n, p)$

• Assume the prior is: $p \sim \text{beta}(\alpha, \beta)$

• Find $f_{y,p}(y,p) = f(y|p) \times \pi(p) = \left[\binom{n}{y} p^y (1-p)^{n-y} \right] \times \left[\frac{\Gamma(\alpha+\beta)}{\Gamma(\alpha)\Gamma(\beta)} p^{\alpha-1} (1-p)^{\beta-1} \right]$

$$= \binom{n}{y} \frac{\Gamma(\alpha+\beta)}{\Gamma(\alpha)\Gamma(\beta)} p^{y+\alpha-1} (1-p)^{(n-y+\beta)-1}$$

• Find the distribution of y : $\int_0^1 \binom{n}{y} \frac{\Gamma(\alpha+\beta)}{\Gamma(\alpha)\Gamma(\beta)} p^{y+\alpha-1} (1-p)^{n-y+\beta-1} dp$

$$= \binom{n}{y} \frac{\Gamma(\alpha+\beta)}{\Gamma(\alpha)\Gamma(\beta)} \frac{\Gamma(y+\alpha) \Gamma(n-y+\beta)}{\Gamma(n+\alpha+\beta)}$$

$y \sim$ beta binomial

• Find the prior $\pi(p|y) = \frac{f_{y,p}(y,p)}{f(y)} = \frac{\Gamma(n+\alpha+\beta)}{\Gamma(y+\alpha)\Gamma(n-y+\beta)} p^{y+\alpha-1} (1-p)^{n-y+\beta-1}$

$n \sim$ beta($y+\alpha, n-y+\beta$)

• Bayes estimate = $\hat{p} = \frac{y+\alpha}{\alpha+\beta+n}$ as it is the mean of above

Def 7.2.15

Let \mathcal{F} denote the class of pdfs or pmfs $f(x|\theta)$. A class Π of prior distributions is a conjugate family for \mathcal{F} if the posterior distribution is in the class Π for all $f \in \mathcal{F}$, all priors in Π and all $x \in X$

ie The beta family is a conjugate of the binomial family. Thus if we start w/ a beta prior our posterior will also be beta

Example 7.2.16: Let $X \sim N(\theta, \sigma^2)$ and suppose that the prior distribution on θ is $N(\mu, \tau^2)$. Assume σ^2 , μ , and τ^2 are known. The posterior distribution of θ is also normal, w/ mean and variance

$$E(\theta|x) = \frac{\tau^2}{\tau^2 + \sigma^2} x + \frac{\sigma^2}{\sigma^2 + \tau^2} \mu$$

$$\text{var}(\theta|x) = \frac{\sigma^2 \tau^2}{\sigma^2 + \tau^2}$$

SKIPPED EM Algorithm

§ 7.3

Def 7.3.1 The mean square error (MSE) of an estimator, W , of a parameter θ is the function of θ defined by $E_{\theta}[(W - \theta)^2]$

• The MSE measures the average squared difference between the estimator w and parameter θ

• Notice: $E_{\theta}[(W - \theta)^2] = \text{Var}_{\theta}(W) + (E(W) - \theta)^2 = \text{var}_{\theta}(W) + (\text{Bias}_{\theta}(W))^2$

Def 7.3.2 The bias of a point estimator W of a parameter θ is the difference between the expected value of w and θ ; that is,

$$\text{Bias}_{\theta}(w) = E_{\theta}(w) - \theta$$

• $\text{Bias}_{\theta}(w) = 0 \rightarrow$ unbiased estimator

$\text{Var}_{\theta}(w) \rightarrow$ precision

$E(w) - \theta \rightarrow$ accuracy

Example 7.3.3 $X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n \stackrel{iid}{\sim} N(\mu, \sigma^2)$, the stats \bar{X} and

S^2 are both unbiased estimators since

$$E(\bar{X}) = \mu$$

$$E(S^2) = \sigma^2$$

• MSEs

$$E[(\bar{X} - \mu)^2] = \text{var}(\bar{X}) = \frac{\sigma^2}{n}$$

$$E[(S^2 - \sigma^2)^2] = \text{var}(S^2) = \frac{2\sigma^4}{n-1} \leftarrow \text{Requires normality}$$

Example 7.3.4 $\hat{\sigma}^2 = \frac{1}{n} \sum (X_i - \bar{X})^2 = \frac{n-1}{n} S^2$

$$1) E(\hat{\sigma}^2) = E\left(\frac{n-1}{n} S^2\right) = \frac{n-1}{n} E(S^2) = \frac{n-1}{n} \sigma^2$$

∴ $\hat{\sigma}^2$ is a biased estimator

$$2) \text{var}(\hat{\sigma}^2) = \text{var}\left(\frac{n-1}{n} S^2\right) = \left(\frac{n-1}{n}\right)^2 \text{var}(S^2) = \left(\frac{n-1}{n}\right)^2 \frac{2\sigma^4}{n-1} = \frac{2(n-1)\sigma^4}{n^2}$$

$$3) \text{MSE: } E(\hat{\sigma}^2 - \sigma^2)^2 = \underbrace{\frac{2(n-1)\sigma^4}{n^2}}_{\text{var}(\hat{\sigma}^2)} + \underbrace{\left(\frac{n-1}{n}\sigma^2 - \sigma^2\right)^2}_{\text{Bias}_0(\hat{\sigma}^2)} = \left(\frac{2n-1}{n^2}\right)\sigma^4$$

NOTE: $\underbrace{\left(\frac{2n-1}{n^2}\right)\sigma^4}_{\text{MSE}(\hat{\sigma}^2)} < \underbrace{\left(\frac{2}{n-1}\right)\sigma^4}_{\text{MSE}(S^2)}$

$\hat{\sigma}^2$ is biased but has a better MSE than S^2

• Our allowing bias had a big decrease in variance

Example 7.3.5 • $X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n \stackrel{iid}{\sim} \text{Bernoulli}(p)$. The MSE of \hat{p} , the MLE, as an estimator of p is

$$E_p(\hat{p} - p)^2 = \text{Var}_p(\bar{X}) = \frac{p(1-p)}{n}$$

• Let $Y = \sum X_i$, recall earlier $\hat{p}_\alpha = \frac{Y + \alpha}{\alpha + \beta + n}$

$$\begin{aligned} \bullet \text{MSE}_0(\hat{p}_\alpha) &= E_p(\hat{p}_\alpha - p)^2 = \text{Var}_p(\hat{p}_\alpha) + (\text{Bias}_p(\hat{p}_\alpha))^2 = \text{Var}(\hat{p}_\alpha) + (E(\hat{p}_\alpha) - p)^2 \\ &= \frac{np(1-p)}{(\alpha + \beta + n)^2} + \left(\frac{np + \alpha}{\alpha + \beta + n} - p\right)^2 \end{aligned}$$

• We might want to choose α, β to make MSE constant: $\alpha = \beta = \sqrt{\frac{1}{4}}$

$$\hat{p}_\alpha = \frac{Y + \sqrt{1/4}}{n + \sqrt{1/4}} \quad E(\hat{p}_\alpha - p)^2 = \frac{n}{4(n + \sqrt{1/4})^2}$$

* Choosing between estimators! One may be better for smaller values than the other.

- For a fixed g in the group G , denote the function that takes $\theta \rightarrow \theta'$ by $\bar{g}(\theta) = \theta'$. Then if $W(\underline{x})$ estimates θ we have
 - Measurement Equivariance: $W(\underline{x})$ estimates $\theta \rightarrow \bar{g}(W(\underline{x}))$ estimates $\bar{g}(\theta) = \theta'$
 - Formal Invariance: $W(\underline{x})$ estimates $\theta \rightarrow W(g(\underline{x}))$ estimates $\bar{g}(\theta) = \theta'$

Example 7.36 X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n be iid $f(x - \theta)$. For an estimator $W(\underline{x})$ to satisfy $W(g_a(\underline{x})) = g_a(W(\underline{x}))$ we must have

$$W(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) + a = W(x_1 + a, x_2 + a, \dots, x_n + a)$$

which specifies the equivariant estimators w respect to the group of transformations defined by $G = \{g_a(\underline{x}) \mid -\infty < a < \infty\}$ where $g_a(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) = (x_1 + a, \dots, x_n + a)$

For these estimators we have

$$\begin{aligned} & E(W(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) - \theta)^2 \\ &= E_0((W(x_1 + a, \dots, x_n + a) - a - \theta)^2) \\ &= E_0((W(x_1 - \theta, \dots, x_n - \theta))^2) \quad (a = -\theta) \\ &= \int \dots \int (W(x_1 - \theta, \dots, x_n - \theta))^2 \prod f(x_i - \theta) dx_i \\ &= \int \dots \int (W(u_1, u_2, \dots, u_n))^2 \prod f(u_i) du_i \end{aligned}$$

↑ this doesn't depend on θ so the MSEs of these equivariant estimators are not functions of θ . The MSE can therefore be used to order the equivariant estimators and an equivariant estimator w the smallest MSE can be found

Definition 7.3.7 An estimator W^* is a best unbiased estimator of $\tau(\theta)$ if it satisfies $E_{\theta}(W^*) = \tau(\theta) \forall \theta$ and for any other estimator W' w/ $E_{\theta}(W') = \tau(\theta)$ we have $\text{Var}_{\theta}(W^*) \leq \text{Var}_{\theta}(W') \forall \theta$

(UMVUE)

* Best Unbiased Estimator = Uniform minimum variance unbiased estimator

Example 7.3.8 Let $X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n \stackrel{iid}{\sim} \text{Poisson}(\lambda)$

Let \bar{x} be the sample mean

Let S^2 be the sample variance

$E(\bar{x}) = \lambda$
 $E(S^2) = \lambda$ } Both are unbiased estimators of λ , which is "best"?

Recall $\text{Var}(\bar{x}) = \lambda/n$

$\text{Var}(S^2) = ?$ Omitted

but we will find $\text{Var}_n(\bar{x}) \leq \text{Var}_n(S^2) \forall \lambda$

thus \bar{x} is a "better" estimator

Theorem 7.3.9 X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n be a sample w/ pdf $f(x|\theta)$ and let $W(X) = W(X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n)$ be an estimator satisfying

$$\frac{d}{d\theta} E_{\theta}(W(X)) = \int \frac{d}{d\theta} [W(x) f(x|\theta)] dx$$

and

$$\text{Var}_{\theta}(W(X)) < \infty$$

Then:

$$\text{Var}_{\theta}(W(X)) \geq \frac{\left(\frac{d}{d\theta} E_{\theta}(W(X))\right)^2}{E_{\theta}\left(\left(\frac{d}{d\theta} \log f(X|\theta)\right)^2\right)}$$

Proof on page 336 using Cauchy-Schwarz

Corollary 7.3.10 If X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n are iid theorem 7.3.9 becomes

$$\text{Var}_{\theta}(W(X)) \geq \frac{\left(\frac{d}{d\theta} E_{\theta}(W(X))\right)^2}{n E_{\theta}\left(\left(\frac{d}{d\theta} \log f(x|\theta)\right)^2\right)}$$

Information number (Fisher information) = $E\left(\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \log f(X|\theta)\right)^2\right)$

* As the information number gets larger we have more information about θ and we have a smaller bound on the variance of the UMVUE

Lemma 7.3.11 If $f(x|\theta)$ satisfies $\frac{d}{d\theta} E_{\theta} \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \log f(x|\theta) \right) = \int \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \theta^2} \log f(x|\theta) f(x|\theta) dx$

Note: this is true for exponential families

then $E_{\theta} \left(\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \log f(x|\theta) \right)^2 \right) = -E_{\theta} \left(\frac{\partial^2}{\partial \theta^2} \log f(x|\theta) \right)$

Example 7.3.12 $X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n \sim \text{Poisson}(\lambda)$

• Consider $T(\lambda) = \lambda \rightarrow T'(\lambda) = 1$

• As the poisson is an exponential family Lemma 7.3.11

$$\rightarrow E_{\lambda} \left(\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial \lambda} \log \left(\prod_{i=1}^n f(x_i|\lambda) \right) \right)^2 \right) = -n E_{\lambda} \left(\frac{\partial^2}{\partial \lambda^2} \log f(x|\lambda) \right)$$

$$= -n E_{\lambda} \left(\frac{\partial^2}{\partial \lambda^2} \log \left(\frac{e^{-\lambda} \lambda^x}{x!} \right) \right)$$

$$= -n E_{\lambda} \left(-x/\lambda^2 \right) = -n (1/\lambda) = n/\lambda$$

So for any unbiased estimator W , of λ , $\text{var}(W) \geq \lambda/n$

Example 7.3.13 $X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n \stackrel{iid}{\sim} f(x|\theta) = \frac{1}{\theta} I(0 < x < \theta)$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \log f(x|\theta) = \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \log(1/\theta) = \frac{1}{\theta} \cdot \frac{-1}{\theta^2} = -1/\theta$$

$$E_{\theta} \left(\frac{1}{\theta^2} \right) = 1/\theta^2$$

$$E(W) = \theta$$

$$\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \theta \right)^2 = 1$$

$$\text{Var}(W(X)) \geq \frac{\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} E_{\theta}(W(X)) \right)^2}{E_{\theta} \left(\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \log f(x|\theta) \right)^2 \right)} = \frac{\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \theta \right)^2}{n E_{\theta} \left(\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \log f(x|\theta) \right)^2 \right)} = \frac{1}{\theta^2} = \frac{\sigma^2}{n}$$

We note that CR isn't applicable to this pdf as the interchange of integral and derivative operators doesn't hold.

Example 7.3.14 $X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n \stackrel{iid}{\sim} N(\mu, \sigma^2)$ Normal satisfies CR assumptions

Let μ be known and σ^2 be unknown $\tau = \sigma^2$

$$\text{var}(W(X)) \geq \frac{\left(\frac{d}{d\sigma^2} E_{\sigma^2}(W(X))\right)^2}{E_{\sigma^2}\left(\left(\frac{d}{d\sigma^2} \log f(X|\sigma^2)\right)^2\right)} \stackrel{7.3.10}{=} \frac{\left(\frac{d}{d\sigma^2} \sigma^2\right)^2}{n E_{\sigma^2}\left(\frac{d}{d\sigma^2} \log(f(X|\sigma^2))\right)^2} = \frac{1}{n/2\sigma^4} = \frac{2\sigma^4}{n}$$

∴ Any unbiased estimator of σ^2 must have variance $\geq \frac{2\sigma^4}{n}$

* Recall, earlier, we found $\text{Var}(S^2 | \mu, \sigma^2) = \frac{2\sigma^4}{n-1}$ so S^2 does not

attain the Cramer Rao lower bound - the obvious question now is - can we find a statistic that attains the Cramer-Rao lower bound?

Corollary 7.3.15 - Let $X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n \stackrel{iid}{\sim} f(x|\theta)$, where $f(x|\theta)$ satisfies the assumptions of the Cramer Rao Theorem. Let $L(\theta|X) = \prod f(x|\theta)$ denote the likelihood function.

If $W(X) = W(X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n)$ is an unbiased estimator of $\tau(\theta)$ then $W(X)$ attains the Cramer Rao lower bound

iff $a(\theta)[W(X) - \tau(\theta)] = \frac{d}{d\theta} \log(L(\theta|X))$ for some $a(\theta)$

Example 7.3.14 continued.

$$L(\mu, \sigma^2 | X) = \frac{1}{(2\pi\sigma^2)^{n/2}} e^{-\frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{(x_i - \mu)^2}{\sigma^2}}$$

$$\frac{d}{d\sigma^2} \log(L(\mu, \sigma^2 | X)) = \frac{n}{2\sigma^4} \left(\sum_{i=1}^n \frac{(x_i - \mu)^2}{n} - \sigma^2 \right)$$

if μ is known $a(\sigma^2) = \frac{n}{2\sigma^4}$, $W(X) = \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{(x_i - \mu)^2}{n}$, $\tau(\sigma^2) = \sigma^2$

if μ is unknown we cannot attain the CRLB

Theorem 7.3.17 - Rao-Blackwell - Let W be any unbiased estimator of $\tau(\theta)$ and let T be a sufficient statistic for θ .

• Define $\phi(T) = E(W|T)$. Then $E_{\theta}(\phi(T)) = \tau(\theta)$ and $\text{Var}_{\theta}(\phi(T)) \leq \text{Var}_{\theta}(W) \forall \theta \rightarrow \phi(T)$ is a uniformly better unbiased estimator of $\tau(\theta)$

Proof 342

Theorem 7.3.19 If W is a UMVUE of $\tau(\theta)$ then W is unique

proof 344

Theorem 7.3.20 If $E_{\theta}(W) = \tau(\theta)$, W is the best unbiased estimator of $\tau(\theta)$ iff W is uncorrelated with all unbiased estimators of 0.

proof 345

Example 7.3.21 Let X be an observation from a uniform $(\theta, \theta+1)$ distribution. Then $E_{\theta}(X) = \int_{\theta}^{\theta+1} x dx = \theta + \frac{1}{2} \rightarrow X - \frac{1}{2}$ is an unbiased estimator of θ . w/ $\text{var}(X) = \frac{1}{12}$

find unbiased estimates of 0

$$\int_{\theta}^{\theta+1} h(x) dx = 0 \quad \forall \theta$$

then $\int_{\theta}^{\theta+1} h(x) dx = h(\theta+1) - h(\theta) = 0 \quad \forall \theta$ *Note: we're looking for a periodic function period = 1 ie $\sin(2\pi X)$

$$\text{Cov}_{\theta}(X - \frac{1}{2}, \sin(2\pi X)) = \frac{-\cos(2\pi\theta)}{2\pi}$$

∴ $X - \frac{1}{2}$ is not UMVUE

Theorem 7.3.23 Let T be a complete sufficient statistic for a parameter θ and let $\phi(T)$ be any estimator based only on T . Then $\phi(T)$ is the UMVUE of its expected value.

*Skipped 7.3.4

Example 7.3.24 $X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n \stackrel{iid}{\sim} \text{binomial}(k, \theta)$

$$T(\theta) = P_\theta(X=1) = k\theta(1-\theta)^{k-1}$$

Note: $\sum X_i \sim \text{binomial}(kn, \theta)$ is a complete sufficient statistic

Consider $h(X_i) = \begin{cases} 1 & X_i = 1 \\ 0 & \text{ow} \end{cases}$

$$E(h(X_i)) = \sum_{x_i} h(x_i) \binom{k}{x_i} \theta^{x_i} (1-\theta)^{k-x_i} = k\theta(1-\theta)^{k-1}$$

$\circ \circ$ $\phi(\sum X_i) = E(h(X_i) | \sum X_i)$ is the UMVUE of $k\theta(1-\theta)^{k-1}$

$$= k \frac{\binom{kn-1}{\sum X_i - 1}}{\binom{kn}{\sum X_i}}$$

Theorem 7.5.1 Lehmann-Scheffé Unbiased estimators based on complete sufficient statistics are unique