

# Estimation and Mean Squared Errors

Matthew Seguin

## Importing Libraries

```
library(tidyverse)
library(latex2exp)
```

1.

Let  $X_1, X_2, \dots \stackrel{\text{iid}}{\sim} Unif(0, \theta)$ .

Consider  $\hat{\theta}_n = \max\{X_1, \dots, X_n\}$  and  $\tilde{\theta}_n = 2\bar{X}_n$ .

Recall, for  $X \sim Unif(a, b)$  that:

$$F_X(x) = \mathbb{P}[X \leq x] = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{for } x < a \\ \frac{x-a}{b-a} & \text{for } a \leq x \leq b \\ 1 & \text{for } x > b \end{cases}$$

a.

We can easily find the CDF then use it to find the PDF:

Here  $a = 0$  and  $b = \theta$  so:

$$F_{X_1}(x) = \mathbb{P}[X_1 \leq x] = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{for } x < 0 \\ \frac{x}{\theta} & \text{for } 0 \leq x \leq \theta \\ 1 & \text{for } x > \theta \end{cases}$$

$$F_{\hat{\theta}_n}(x) = \mathbb{P}[\hat{\theta}_n \leq x] = \mathbb{P}[\max\{X_1, \dots, X_n\} \leq x] = \mathbb{P}[X_1 \leq x, X_2 \leq x, \dots, X_n \leq x]$$

$= \mathbb{P}[X_1 \leq x] \mathbb{P}[X_2 \leq x] \dots \mathbb{P}[X_n \leq x]$  by independence.

Then since the  $X_i$ 's are identically distributed

$$F_{\hat{\theta}_n}(x) = \mathbb{P}[\hat{\theta}_n \leq x] = \mathbb{P}[X_1 \leq x] \mathbb{P}[X_2 \leq x] \dots \mathbb{P}[X_n \leq x] = \left(\mathbb{P}[X_1 \leq x]\right)^n = \left(F_{X_1}(x)\right)^n$$

$$= \begin{cases} 0 & \text{for } x < 0 \\ \frac{x^n}{\theta^n} & \text{for } 0 \leq x \leq \theta \\ 1 & \text{for } x > \theta \end{cases}$$

First note that this piecewise function is differentiable in  $x$  since it is a polynomial of  $x$  for  $x \in [0, \theta]$  and the boundary limits are equal to the function value from both sides, that is:

$$\lim_{x \downarrow 0} F_{\hat{\theta}_n}(x) = \frac{x^n}{\theta^n} \Big|_{x=0} = 0 = F_{\hat{\theta}_n}(0) = 0 = 0 \Big|_{x=0} = \lim_{x \uparrow 0} F_{\hat{\theta}_n}(x)$$

and

$$\lim_{x \uparrow \theta} F_{\hat{\theta}_n}(x) = 1 \Big|_{x=\theta} = 1 = F_{\hat{\theta}_n}(\theta) = 1 = \frac{x^n}{\theta^n} \Big|_{x=\theta} = \lim_{x \uparrow \theta} F_{\hat{\theta}_n}(x)$$

So  $F_{\hat{\theta}_n}(x)$  is differentiable in  $x$  on  $(-\infty, 0)$  and  $(\theta, \infty)$  since it is constant there, differentiable in  $x$  on  $(0, \theta)$  since it is a polynomial there, and still differentiable in  $x$  at  $x = 0$  and  $x = \theta$  from the results above.

Therefore  $F_{\hat{\theta}_n}(x)$  is differentiable in  $x$  on  $\mathbb{R}$ .

That was the CDF of  $\hat{\theta}_n$  so to find the PDF we can take the derivative with respect to  $x$ .

$$f_{\hat{\theta}_n}(x) = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} F_{\hat{\theta}_n}(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{\partial}{\partial x} 0 & \text{for } x < 0 \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \frac{x^n}{\theta^n} & \text{for } 0 \leq x \leq \theta \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial x} 1 & \text{for } x > \theta \end{cases} = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{for } x < 0 \\ \frac{nx^{n-1}}{\theta^n} & \text{for } 0 \leq x \leq \theta \\ 0 & \text{for } x > \theta \end{cases}$$

b.

From the result of the previous problem we know  $\hat{\theta}_n$  has density  $f_{\hat{\theta}_n}(x) = \frac{nx^{n-1}}{\theta^n}$  when  $x \in [0, \theta]$ .

Finding bias:

$$\mathbb{E}[\hat{\theta}_n] = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x f_{\hat{\theta}_n}(x) dx = \int_0^{\theta} x \frac{nx^{n-1}}{\theta^n} dx = \frac{n}{\theta^n} \int_0^{\theta} x^n dx = \frac{n}{\theta^n} \left( \frac{x^{n+1}}{n+1} \Big|_0^{\theta} \right) = \frac{n}{\theta^n} \left( \frac{\theta^{n+1}}{n+1} \right) = \frac{n}{n+1} \theta$$

$$\text{Therefore } \mathbf{BIAS}[\hat{\theta}_n] = \mathbb{E}[\hat{\theta}_n] - \theta = \frac{n}{n+1} \theta - \theta = -\frac{\theta}{n+1} \quad \square$$

Finding standard error:

$$\mathbb{E}[(\hat{\theta}_n)^2] = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x^2 f_{\hat{\theta}_n}(x) dx = \int_0^{\theta} x^2 \frac{nx^{n-1}}{\theta^n} dx = \frac{n}{\theta^n} \int_0^{\theta} x^{n+1} dx = \frac{n}{\theta^n} \left( \frac{x^{n+2}}{n+2} \Big|_0^{\theta} \right) = \frac{n}{\theta^n} \left( \frac{\theta^{n+2}}{n+2} \right) = \frac{n}{n+2} \theta^2$$

Then we know

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{V}[\hat{\theta}_n] &= \mathbb{E}[(\hat{\theta}_n)^2] - (\mathbb{E}[\hat{\theta}_n])^2 = \frac{n}{n+2} \theta^2 - \left( \frac{n}{n+1} \theta \right)^2 = \theta^2 \left( \frac{n(n+1)^2}{(n+2)(n+1)^2} - \frac{n^2(n+2)}{(n+2)(n+1)^2} \right) \\ &= \theta^2 \left( \frac{n^3 + 2n^2 + n - n^3 - 2n^2}{(n+2)(n+1)^2} \right) = \theta^2 \frac{n}{(n+2)(n+1)^2} \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Therefore } \mathbf{SE}[\hat{\theta}_n] = \sqrt{\mathbb{V}[\hat{\theta}_n]} = \sqrt{\theta^2 \frac{n}{(n+2)(n+1)^2}} = \frac{\theta}{n+1} \sqrt{\frac{n}{n+2}} \quad \square$$

Finding mean squared error:

Note for any estimator  $\hat{X}$  of a parameter  $x$  that

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{MSE}[\hat{X}] &= \mathbb{E}[(\hat{X} - x)^2] = \mathbb{E}[(\hat{X} - \mathbb{E}[\hat{X}] + \mathbb{E}[\hat{X}] - x)^2] \\ &= \mathbb{E}[(\hat{X} - \mathbb{E}[\hat{X}])^2] + 2(\hat{X} - \mathbb{E}[\hat{X}])(\mathbb{E}[\hat{X}] - x) + (\mathbb{E}[\hat{X}] - x)^2 \\ &= \mathbb{E}[(\hat{X} - \mathbb{E}[\hat{X}])^2] + 2\mathbb{E}[(\hat{X} - \mathbb{E}[\hat{X}])(\mathbb{E}[\hat{X}] - x)] + \mathbb{E}[(\mathbb{E}[\hat{X}] - x)^2] \\ &= \mathbb{V}[\hat{X}] + 2(\mathbb{E}[\hat{X}] - x)(\mathbb{E}[\hat{X} - \mathbb{E}[\hat{X}]]) + (\mathbb{E}[\hat{X}] - x)^2 \\ &= \mathbb{V}[\hat{X}] + 2(\mathbb{E}[\hat{X}] - x)(\mathbb{E}[\hat{X}] - \mathbb{E}[\hat{X}]) + (\mathbf{BIAS}[\hat{X}])^2 \\ &= \mathbb{V}[\hat{X}] + 2(\mathbb{E}[\hat{X}] - x)(\mathbb{E}[\hat{X}] - \mathbb{E}[\hat{X}]) + (\mathbf{BIAS}[\hat{X}])^2 = \mathbb{V}[\hat{X}] + (\mathbf{BIAS}[\hat{X}])^2 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{MSE}[\hat{\theta}_n] &= \mathbb{V}[\hat{\theta}_n] + (\mathbf{BIAS}[\hat{\theta}_n])^2 = \theta^2 \frac{n}{(n+2)(n+1)^2} + \left( -\frac{\theta}{n+1} \right)^2 = \theta^2 \frac{n}{(n+2)(n+1)^2} + \theta^2 \frac{1}{(n+1)^2} \\ &= \theta^2 \left( \frac{n}{(n+2)(n+1)^2} + \frac{n+2}{(n+2)(n+1)^2} \right) = \theta^2 \left( \frac{n+n+2}{(n+2)(n+1)^2} \right) = \theta^2 \left( \frac{2n+2}{(n+2)(n+1)} \right) \\ &= \theta^2 \left( \frac{2(n+1)}{(n+2)(n+1)} \right) = \frac{2\theta^2}{(n+2)(n+1)} \quad \square \end{aligned}$$

**c.**

Finding bias:

$$\mathbb{E}[X_1] = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x f_{X_1}(x) dx = \int_0^{\theta} \frac{x}{\theta} dx = \frac{1}{\theta} \left( \frac{x^2}{2} \Big|_0^{\theta} \right) = \left( \frac{1}{\theta} \right) \left( \frac{\theta^2}{2} \right) = \frac{\theta}{2}$$

Recall the linearity of expectation and that  $X_1, X_2, \dots$  are iid.

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E}[\tilde{\theta}_n] &= \mathbb{E}[2\bar{X}_n] = 2\mathbb{E}\left[\frac{X_1 + \dots + X_n}{n}\right] = \frac{2}{n}\mathbb{E}[X_1 + \dots + X_n] = \frac{2}{n}\left(\mathbb{E}[X_1] + \dots + \mathbb{E}[X_n]\right) = \frac{2}{n}\left(n\mathbb{E}[X_1]\right) \\ &= 2\mathbb{E}[X_1] = 2\frac{\theta}{2} = \theta \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Therefore } \mathbf{BIAS}[\tilde{\theta}_n] = \mathbb{E}[\tilde{\theta}_n] - \theta = \theta - \theta = 0 \quad \square$$

Finding standard error:

$$\mathbb{E}[(X_1)^2] = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x^2 f_{X_1}(x) dx = \int_0^{\theta} \frac{x^2}{\theta} dx = \frac{1}{\theta} \left( \frac{x^3}{3} \Big|_0^{\theta} \right) = \left( \frac{1}{\theta} \right) \left( \frac{\theta^3}{3} \right) = \frac{\theta^2}{3}$$

Recall that for independent variables  $P$  and  $Q$  that  $\text{Var}(P + Q) = \text{Var}(P) + \text{Var}(Q)$  and that  $X_1, X_2, \dots$  are iid.

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{V}[\tilde{\theta}_n] &= \mathbb{V}[2\bar{X}_n] = 4\mathbb{V}\left[\frac{X_1 + \dots + X_n}{n}\right] = \frac{4}{n^2}\mathbb{V}[X_1 + \dots + X_n] = \frac{4}{n^2}\left(\mathbb{V}[X_1] + \dots + \mathbb{V}[X_n]\right) = \frac{4}{n^2}\left(n\mathbb{V}[X_1]\right) \\ &= \frac{4}{n}\mathbb{V}[X_1] = \frac{4}{n}\left(\mathbb{E}[(X_1)^2] - (\mathbb{E}[X_1])^2\right) = \frac{4}{n}\left(\frac{\theta^2}{3} - \frac{\theta^2}{4}\right) = \left(\frac{4}{n}\right)\left(\frac{\theta^2}{12}\right) = \frac{\theta^2}{3n} \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Therefore } \mathbf{SE}[\tilde{\theta}_n] = \sqrt{\mathbb{V}[\tilde{\theta}_n]} = \sqrt{\frac{\theta^2}{3n}} = \frac{\theta}{\sqrt{3n}} \quad \square$$

Finding mean squared error:

Note for any estimator  $\hat{X}$  of a parameter  $x$  that

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{MSE}[\hat{X}] &= \mathbb{E}[(\hat{X} - x)^2] = \mathbb{E}[(\hat{X} - \mathbb{E}[\hat{X}] + \mathbb{E}[\hat{X}] - x)^2] \\ &= \mathbb{E}[(\hat{X} - \mathbb{E}[\hat{X}])^2] + 2(\hat{X} - \mathbb{E}[\hat{X}])(\mathbb{E}[\hat{X}] - x) + (\mathbb{E}[\hat{X}] - x)^2 \\ &= \mathbb{E}[(\hat{X} - \mathbb{E}[\hat{X}])^2] + 2\mathbb{E}[(\hat{X} - \mathbb{E}[\hat{X}])(\mathbb{E}[\hat{X}] - x)] + \mathbb{E}[(\mathbb{E}[\hat{X}] - x)^2] \\ &= \mathbb{V}[\hat{X}] + 2(\mathbb{E}[\hat{X}] - x)(\mathbb{E}[\hat{X} - \mathbb{E}[\hat{X}]]) + (\mathbb{E}[\hat{X}] - x)^2 \\ &= \mathbb{V}[\hat{X}] + 2(\mathbb{E}[\hat{X}] - x)(\mathbb{E}[\hat{X}] - \mathbb{E}[\mathbb{E}[\hat{X}]]) + (\mathbf{BIAS}[\hat{X}])^2 \\ &= \mathbb{V}[\hat{X}] + 2(\mathbb{E}[\hat{X}] - x)(\mathbb{E}[\hat{X}] - \mathbb{E}[\hat{X}]) + (\mathbf{BIAS}[\hat{X}])^2 = \mathbb{V}[\hat{X}] + (\mathbf{BIAS}[\hat{X}])^2 \end{aligned}$$

$$\mathbf{MSE}[\tilde{\theta}_n] = \mathbb{V}[\tilde{\theta}_n] + (\mathbf{BIAS}[\tilde{\theta}_n])^2 = \frac{\theta^2}{3n} + 0^2 = \frac{\theta^2}{3n} \quad \square$$

d.

Here we will plot the mean squared error of both  $\hat{\theta}_n$  and  $\tilde{\theta}_n$  after fixing  $\theta = 1$ :

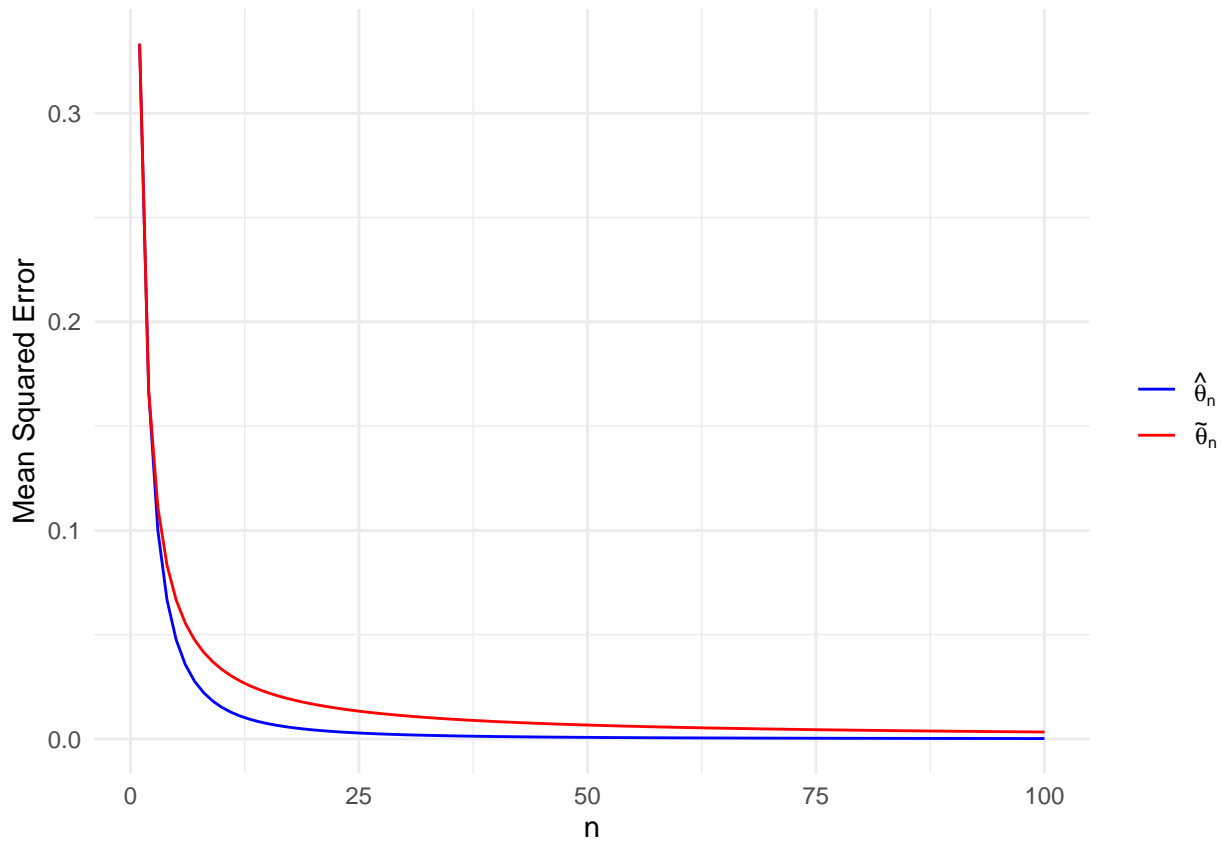
```
mse_theta_hat <- function(theta, n){
  return((2*theta^2)/((n+2)*(n+1)))
}
mse_theta_tilde <- function(theta, n){
  return((theta^2)/(3*n))
}

data <- data.frame(n = 1:100)

data <- data %>%
  mutate(mse_hat = mse_theta_hat(1, n),
         mse_tilde = mse_theta_tilde(1, n)
  ) %>%
  gather()

graph_df <- data.frame(n = c(filter(data, key == "n")$value,
                                filter(data, key == "n")$value),
                      mse = filter(data, key != "n")$value,
                      group = filter(data, key != "n")$key
  )

graph_df %>%
  ggplot(aes(x = n,
             y = mse,
             col = group)) +
  geom_line(aes(group = group),
            linewidth = 0.5
  ) +
  labs(x = "n",
       y = "Mean Squared Error",
       col = ""
  ) +
  scale_color_manual(values = c(mse_hat = "blue",
                                mse_tilde = "red"
  ),
                    labels = c(mse_hat = TeX("$\\hat{\\theta}_n$"),
                                mse_tilde = TeX("$\\tilde{\\theta}_n$")
  )
  ) +
  theme_minimal()
```



We can clearly see that  $\hat{\theta}_n$  has lower mean squared error over essentially all values of  $n$ . Although  $\tilde{\theta}_n$  is unbiased and  $\hat{\theta}_n$  is not, we would still prefer  $\hat{\theta}_n$  over  $\tilde{\theta}_n$  due to the lower mean squared error it provides.

2.

Recall that for disjoint events  $A$  and  $B$  that  $\mathbb{P}[A \cup B] = \mathbb{P}[A] + \mathbb{P}[B]$ .

We know  $(F \cap G) \cup (F \cap G)^C = \Omega$ . Clearly  $F \cap G$  and  $(F \cap G)^C$  are disjoint.

Therefore  $\mathbb{P}[(F \cap G) \cup (F \cap G)^C] = \mathbb{P}[F \cap G] + \mathbb{P}[(F \cap G)^C] = \mathbb{P}[F \cap G] + \mathbb{P}[F^C \cup G^C] = \mathbb{P}[\Omega] = 1$

Therefore  $\mathbb{P}[F \cap G] = 1 - \mathbb{P}[(F \cap G)^C] = 1 - \mathbb{P}[F^C \cup G^C]$

Let  $X_1, X_2, \dots \stackrel{\text{iid}}{\sim} \text{Unif}(0, \theta)$ .

Consider  $\hat{\theta}_n = \max\{X_1, \dots, X_n\}$  and the confidence interval for  $\theta$  given by  $C_n = [a\hat{\theta}_n, b\hat{\theta}_n]$ .

Recall that:

$$F_{\hat{\theta}_n}(x) = \mathbb{P}[\hat{\theta}_n \leq x] = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{for } x < 0 \\ \frac{x^n}{\theta^n} & \text{for } 0 \leq x \leq \theta \\ 1 & \text{for } x > \theta \end{cases}$$

Then:

$$\mathbb{P}[\theta \in C_n] = \mathbb{P}[\theta \in [a\hat{\theta}_n, b\hat{\theta}_n]] = \mathbb{P}[a\hat{\theta}_n \leq \theta \leq b\hat{\theta}_n] = \mathbb{P}[a\hat{\theta}_n \leq \theta, \theta \leq b\hat{\theta}_n]$$

$$= 1 - \mathbb{P}[a\hat{\theta}_n > \theta \text{ or } \theta > b\hat{\theta}_n] = 1 - \mathbb{P}[\hat{\theta}_n < \theta/b \text{ or } \hat{\theta}_n > \theta/a]$$

Since  $a < b$  (taking  $a > 0$ ) we know  $\frac{1}{a} > \frac{1}{b}$  so  $\frac{\theta}{b} < \frac{\theta}{a}$ . Hence the events  $\hat{\theta}_n < \frac{\theta}{b}$  and  $\hat{\theta}_n > \frac{\theta}{a}$  are disjoint as shown:

If  $\hat{\theta}_n < \frac{\theta}{b} < \frac{\theta}{a}$  then  $\hat{\theta}_n$  can not be greater than  $\frac{\theta}{a}$  as well.

If  $\hat{\theta}_n > \frac{\theta}{a} > \frac{\theta}{b}$  then  $\hat{\theta}_n$  can not be less than  $\frac{\theta}{b}$  as well.

Therefore we know:

$$\mathbb{P}[\theta \in C_n] = 1 - \mathbb{P}[\hat{\theta}_n < \theta/b \text{ or } \hat{\theta}_n > \theta/a] = 1 - \mathbb{P}[\hat{\theta}_n < \theta/b] - \mathbb{P}[\hat{\theta}_n > \theta/a] = 1 - \mathbb{P}[\hat{\theta}_n \leq \theta/b] - \mathbb{P}[\hat{\theta}_n > \theta/a]$$

$$\begin{aligned} &= 1 - \mathbb{P}[\hat{\theta}_n \leq \theta/b] - (1 - \mathbb{P}[\hat{\theta}_n \leq \theta/a]) = \mathbb{P}[\hat{\theta}_n \leq \theta/a] - \mathbb{P}[\hat{\theta}_n \leq \theta/b] = F_{\hat{\theta}_n}\left(\frac{\theta}{a}\right) - F_{\hat{\theta}_n}\left(\frac{\theta}{b}\right) \\ &= \frac{(\theta/a)^n}{\theta^n} - \frac{(\theta/b)^n}{\theta^n} = \frac{1}{a^n} - \frac{1}{b^n} \quad \square \end{aligned}$$

First note the coverage above depends only on  $a$ ,  $b$ , and  $n$  as desired.

If  $a = 1$  and we want  $\mathbb{P}[\theta \in C_n] = 0.95$  we need:

$$0.95 = \mathbb{P}[\theta \in C_n] = \frac{1}{a^n} - \frac{1}{b^n} = 1 - \frac{1}{b^n}. \text{ Which is equivalently } 0.05 = \frac{1}{b^n} \text{ and } b^n = \frac{1}{0.05} = 20 \text{ and finally } b = \sqrt[n]{20} \quad \square$$