

(2) Cramér-Rao lower bound

Let  $X_1, \dots, X_n$  be a random sample with the pdf  $f(x|\theta) = \theta x^{\theta-1}$ , where  $0 < x < 1$  and  $\theta > 0$  is unknown. Is there a function of  $\theta$ , say  $g(\theta)$ , for which there exists an unbiased estimator whose variance attains the Cramér-Rao lower bound? If there is, find it. If not, show why not.

$$l_n(\theta) = \sum_{i=1}^n (\log(\theta) + (\theta-1) \log(x_i))$$

$$l_n'(\theta) = \sum_{i=1}^n \left( \frac{1}{\theta} + \log(x_i) \right) = \frac{n}{\theta} + \sum_{i=1}^n \log(x_i)$$

$$l_n''(\theta) = -\frac{n}{\theta^2} < 0$$

Since the MLE is the most efficient unbiased estimator, we want

$$0 = l_n'(\hat{\theta}) = \frac{n}{\hat{\theta}} + \sum_{i=1}^n \log(x_i) \Leftrightarrow g(\theta) := \frac{1}{\theta} = -\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \log(x_i) =: h(x)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E}(h(X)) &= -\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \mathbb{E}(\log(x_i)) = -\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \int_0^1 \log(x_i) \theta x_i^{\theta-1} dx_i \\ &= -\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \left( \log(x_i) x_i^{\theta} \Big|_{x_i=0}^1 - \int_0^1 x_i^{-1} x_i^{\theta} dx_i \right) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{\theta} = \frac{1}{\theta} = g(\theta) \end{aligned}$$

We have

$$\int_0^1 \int_0^1 \log(x_i) \log(x_j) \theta^2 x_i^{\theta-1} x_j^{\theta-1} dx_i dx_j = \left( -\frac{1}{\theta} \right)^2 = \frac{1}{\theta^2}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^1 (\log(x_i))^2 \theta x_i^{\theta-1} dx_i &= (\log(x_i))^2 x_i^{\theta} \Big|_{x_i=0}^1 - 2 \int_0^1 \log(x_i) x_i^{\theta-1} dx_i \\ &= -\frac{2}{\theta} \int_0^1 \log(x_i) \theta x_i^{\theta-1} dx_i = \frac{2}{\theta^2} = \frac{1}{\theta^2} + \frac{1}{\theta^2} \end{aligned}$$

Thus,

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E}((h(X))^2) &= \frac{1}{n^2} \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n \mathbb{E}(\log(x_i) \log(x_j)) = \frac{1}{n^2} \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n \frac{1}{\theta^2} + \frac{1}{n^2} \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{\theta^2} \\ &= \frac{1}{\theta^2} + \frac{1}{n\theta^2} \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Hence, } \text{Var}(h(X)) = \frac{1}{n\theta^2}$$

$$r := \frac{1}{\theta}, \quad l_n(r) = \sum_{i=1}^n (-\log(r) + (r^{-1}-1) \log(x_i))$$

$$l_n'(r) = \sum_{i=1}^n (-r^{-1} - r^{-2} \log(x_i))$$

$$l_n''(r) = \sum_{i=1}^n (r^{-2} + 2r^{-3} \log(x_i))$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E}(l_n''(r)) &= \frac{n}{r^2} + 2r^{-3} \sum_{i=1}^n \mathbb{E}(\log(x_i)) = \frac{n}{r^2} - 2r^{-3} n r = \frac{-n}{r^2} = n\theta^2 = I_n(\theta) \\ \Rightarrow \text{Var}(h(X)) &= -\frac{1}{I_n(\theta)} \end{aligned}$$