

7.3.2 Best unbiased Estimator's

if we find an unbiased Estimator with uniformly smallest variance - a Best unbiased Estimator - then our task is done.

The results are actually more general

Let w^* is an estimator of θ with

$$E_{\theta}[w^*] = T(\theta) \neq 0 ; \text{ and we}$$

are interested in investigating the worth of w^*

$$C_T = \{ w : E_{\theta}[w] = T(\theta) \}$$

Class of Estimator's

For any $w_1, w_2 \in C_T$, $\text{Bias}_{\theta} w_1 = \text{Bias}_{\theta} w_2$
so $E_{\theta}[(w_1 - \theta)^2] - E_{\theta}[(w_2 - \theta)^2] = \text{Var} w_1 - \text{Var} w_2$

and MSE Comparisons, within the class C_T , can be based on Variance alone.

Thus, although we speak about unbiased Estimators, we really are comparing Estimators that have the same expected value, $T(\theta)$.

Definition 7.2.7 :-

An Estimator W^* is a best unbiased Estimator of $T(\theta)$ if it satisfies $E_\theta[W^*] = T(\theta)$ $\forall \theta$ and, for any other Estimator W with $E_\theta(W) = T(\theta)$, we have $\text{Var}_\theta W^* \leq \text{Var}_\theta W$ for all θ . W^* is also called a Uniform minimum variance unbiased Estimator (UMVUE) of $T(\theta)$.

Finding a Best unbiased Estimator (if one exists) is not an easy task for a variety of reasons.

Ex: 7.3.8 (Poisson unbiased estimation)

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

$$E_\lambda[\bar{X}] = \lambda \quad \forall \lambda, \quad E_\lambda[S^2] = \lambda \quad \forall \lambda$$

$$\text{But} \quad \text{Var}_\lambda(\bar{X}) \leq \text{Var}_\lambda[S^2]$$

Consider a class of Estimator's

$$W_a(\bar{X}, S^2) = a\bar{X} + (1-a)S^2$$

$$\begin{aligned} E_\lambda[W_a(\bar{X}, S^2)] &= a E_\lambda[\bar{X}] + (1-a) E_\lambda[S^2] \\ &= a\lambda + (1-a)\lambda \\ &= \lambda \quad (\text{unbiased Estimator}) \end{aligned}$$

$$\forall a \quad E[W_a(\bar{X}, S^2)] = \lambda$$

\Rightarrow we have infinitely many unbiased Estimator's for λ .

Even if \bar{x} is better than s^2 , is it better than every $W_a(\bar{x}, s^2)$?

Furthermore how can we be sure that there are not other, better, unbiased estimators looking about?

Suppose that, for estimating a parameter $\gamma(\theta)$ of a distribution $f(x|\theta)$, we can specify a lower bound, say $R(\theta)$ on the variance of any unbiased estimator of $\gamma(\theta)$. If we can find an estimator

W^* satisfying $\text{Var}_\theta(W^*) = R(\theta)$, we have found a best unbiased estimator.

Score function is $\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \log L(\theta | x)$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \log L(\theta | x)$$

First identity:- $E\left[\frac{\partial \log L}{\partial \theta}\right] = 0$

2nd identity:- $E\left[\frac{\partial^2 \log L}{\partial \theta^2}\right] + E\left[\left(\frac{\partial \log L}{\partial \theta}\right)^2\right] = 0$

Obtained from $\int f_{\theta}(y) dy = 1$

Proof:

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \log f(x|\theta) = \frac{\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} f(x|\theta)}{f(x|\theta)}$$

$$\begin{aligned} E\left[\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \log f(x|\theta)\right] &= \int x \frac{\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} f(x|\theta)}{f(x|\theta)} f(x|\theta) dx \\ &= \int x \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} f(x|\theta) dx \\ &= \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \int x f(x|\theta) dx = \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} 1 = 0 \end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow \mathbb{E} \left[\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \log f(x|\theta) \right] = 0$$

2nd identity:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \theta^2} \log f(x|\theta) &= \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \left[\frac{\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} f(x|\theta)}{f(x|\theta)} \right] \\ &= \frac{f(x|\theta) \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \theta^2} f(x|\theta) - \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} f(x|\theta) \right)^2}{f(x|\theta)^2} \end{aligned}$$

$$\mathbb{E} \left[\frac{\partial^2}{\partial \theta^2} \log f(x|\theta) \right] = \int_x \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \theta^2} f(x|\theta) dx - \int_x \frac{\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} f(x|\theta) \right)^2}{f(x|\theta)^2} f(x|\theta) dx$$

$$\mathbb{E} \left[\frac{\partial^2}{\partial \theta^2} \log f(x|\theta) \right] = - \int_x \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \log f(x|\theta) \right)^2 f(x|\theta) dx$$

$$\Rightarrow \mathbb{E} \left[\frac{\partial^2}{\partial \theta^2} \log f(x|\theta) \right] = - \mathbb{E} \left[\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \log f(x|\theta) \right)^2 \right]$$

$$\Rightarrow \mathbb{E} \left[\frac{\partial^2}{\partial \theta^2} \log f(x|\theta) \right] + \mathbb{E} \left[\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \log f(x|\theta) \right)^2 \right] = 0$$

Theorem 7.3.9 (Cramer-Rao Inequality)

Let x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n be a sample with pdf $f(x|\theta)$, and let $W(x) = W(x_1, \dots, x_n)$ be any Estimator satisfying

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

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

then

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

Proof:

$$\text{Cov}(X, Y)^2 \leq \text{Var}(X) \text{Var}(Y)$$

take $x = w(x)$, $y = \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \log f(x|\theta)$

in above eqⁿ

we know $E[y] = 0$ $E[y^2] = 1$ $E\left[\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} y\right] = 0$

$$\frac{d}{d\theta} E[w(x)] = \int w(x) \left[\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} f(x|\theta) \right] dx$$

$$= \int w(x) \frac{\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} f(x|\theta)}{f(x|\theta)} f(x|\theta) dx$$

$$= \int w(x) \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \log f(x|\theta) f(x|\theta) dx$$

$$= E\left[w(x) \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \log f(x|\theta)\right]$$

$$\text{Since } E\left[\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \log f(x|\theta)\right] = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{Cov}\left(w(x), \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \log f(x|\theta)\right) = E\left[w(x) \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \log f(x|\theta)\right] - E[w(x)] E\left[\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \log f(x|\theta)\right]$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{cov}(w(x), \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \log f(x|\theta))$$

$$= \mathbb{E} \left[w(x) \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \log f(x|\theta) \right]$$

$$= \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \mathbb{E}_\theta [w(x)]$$

take $X = w(x)$ $Y = \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \log f(x|\theta)$ in the

$$\text{cov}(x, y)^2 \leq \text{var}(x) \text{var}(y)$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{var}(x) \geq \frac{\text{cov}(x, y)^2}{\text{var}(y)}$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{var}(w(x)) \geq \frac{\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \mathbb{E}[w(x)] \right)^2}{\mathbb{E} \left[\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \log f(x|\theta) \right)^2 \right]}$$

$$\geq \frac{\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \mathbb{E}[w(x)] \right)^2}{\mathbb{E} \left[\frac{\partial^2}{\partial \theta^2} \log f(x|\theta) \right]}$$

Corollary 7.3.10 (Cramér-Rao inequality, iid case)

if x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n iid $f(x|\theta)$

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

Proof:

$$E_\theta \left[\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \log f(x|\theta) \right)^2 \right]$$

$$= n E_\theta \left[\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \log f(x|\theta) \right)^2 \right]$$

Since x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n iid

$$E_\theta \left[\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \log f_n(x|\theta) \right)^2 \right] = E_\theta \left[\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \log \prod_{i=1}^n f(x_i|\theta) \right)^2 \right]$$

$$= \mathbb{E}_\theta \left[\left(\sum_{i=1}^n \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \log f(x_i | \theta) \right)^2 \right]$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^n \mathbb{E}_\theta \left[\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \log f(x_i | \theta) \right)^2 \right]$$

$$+ \sum_{i \neq j} \mathbb{E}_\theta \left[\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} f(x_i | \theta) \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} f(x_j | \theta) \right]$$

iid

$$= \sum_{i=1}^n \mathbb{E}_\theta \left[\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \log f(x_i | \theta) \right)^2 \right]$$

$$= n \mathbb{E}_\theta \left[\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \log f(x | \theta) \right)^2 \right]$$

Lemma 7.3.11 if $f(x|\theta)$ satisfies

$$\frac{d}{d\theta} \mathbb{E}_\theta \left[\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \log f(x|\theta) \right]$$

$$= \int \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \left[\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \log f(x|\theta) \right) f(x|\theta) \right] dx$$

(true for an exponential family)

then

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E}_0 \left[\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \log f(x|\theta) \right)^2 \right] \\ = -\mathbb{E}_0 \left(\frac{\partial^2}{\partial \theta^2} \log f(x|\theta) \right) \end{aligned}$$

Example 7.3.12

$$\tau(\lambda) = \lambda, \text{ so } \tau'(\lambda) = 1$$

$$\mathbb{E}_\lambda \left[\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial \lambda} \log \prod_{i=1}^n f(x_i|\lambda) \right)^2 \right]$$

$$= -n \mathbb{E}_\lambda \left(\frac{\partial^2}{\partial \lambda^2} \log f(x|\lambda) \right)$$

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

$$= -n \mathbb{E}_\lambda \left[\frac{\partial^2}{\partial \lambda^2} (-\lambda + x \log \lambda - \log x!) \right]$$

$$= -2 \mathbb{E}_\lambda \left[\frac{\partial}{\partial \lambda} \left(-1 + \frac{\lambda}{2} \right) \right]$$

$$= -2 \mathbb{E}_\lambda \left[-\frac{\lambda}{2} \right]$$

$$= \frac{2}{2} \cdot \lambda = \lambda$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{\text{Var}_\lambda W \geq \frac{\lambda}{2}}$$

we know that $\text{Var}_\lambda \bar{X} = \frac{\lambda}{2}$

$\Rightarrow \bar{X}$ is best unbiased estimator
of λ .

Example 7.3.14 (Normal Variance Bound)

Let $X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n \sim N(\mu, \sigma^2)$

$$\text{Var } W(X) \geq \frac{\left(\frac{d}{d\theta} E[W(X)] \right)^2}{E \left[\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \log f_n(X|\theta) \right)^2 \right]}$$

$$\geq \frac{\left(\frac{d}{d\theta} E[W(X)] \right)^2}{-n E \left[\frac{\partial^2}{\partial \theta^2} \log f(X|\theta) \right]}$$

$$\text{for } s^2 = \frac{1}{n-1} \sum (x_i - \bar{x})^2$$

$$f(x|\theta) = \frac{1}{(2\pi\sigma^2)^{1/2}} \exp \left\{ -\frac{1}{2\sigma^2} (x-\mu)^2 \right\}$$

$$\log f(x|\theta) = -\frac{1}{2} \log 2\pi - \log \sigma - \frac{1}{2\sigma^2} (x-\mu)^2$$

$$\frac{\partial^2}{\partial \theta^2} \log f(x|\theta) = \frac{1}{2\sigma^4} - \frac{(x-\mu)^2}{\sigma^6}$$

$$\begin{aligned} -n \mathbb{E} \left[\frac{\partial^2}{\partial \theta^2} \log f(x|\theta) \right] &= n \mathbb{E} \left[\frac{(x-\mu)^2}{\sigma^6} - \frac{1}{2\sigma^4} \right] \\ &= n \left[\frac{1}{\sigma^4} - \frac{1}{2\sigma^4} \right] \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Var } W(\bar{x}) \geq \frac{2\sigma^4}{n}$$

we know that

$$\text{Var } S^2 = \frac{2\sigma^4}{n-1}$$

$\Rightarrow S^2$ does not attain the Cramer - Rao lower Bound.

* The condition's to attain Cramer - Rao lower Bound are actually quite simple

in Cauchy-Schwarz inequality

$$\text{Cov}(X, Y)^2 \leq \text{Var}(X) \text{Var}(Y)$$

we need to attain equality sign.

$$\text{Cov}(X, Y) = \text{Var}(X) \text{Var}(Y)$$

$$\text{if } Y = aX + b ; a \neq 0$$

Corollary 7.2.15 (Attainment):

Let $X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n \stackrel{iid}{\sim} f(x|\theta)$, where $f(x|\theta)$ satisfies the conditions of the Cramer-Rao theorem. Let $L(\theta|x) = \prod_{i=1}^n f(x_i|\theta)$ denote the Likelihood function. If $w(x) = w(x_1, \dots, x_n)$ is any unbiased estimator of $\tau(\theta)$, then $w(x)$ attains the Cramer-Rao lower bound \iff

$$a(\theta) [w(x) - \tau(\theta)] = \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \log L(\theta|x)$$

for some function $a(\theta)$

Example 7.3.16

$$L(\mu, \sigma^2 | x) = \frac{1}{(2\pi\sigma^2)^{n/2}} \exp \left\{ -\frac{1}{2\sigma^2} \sum (x_i - \mu)^2 \right\}$$

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

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

$$\Rightarrow a(\theta) = \frac{n}{2\sigma^4}$$

$$w(x) = \frac{\sum (x_i - \mu)^2}{n} \quad \text{which}$$

depends on unknown $\mu \Rightarrow$

we cannot obtain Cramér-Rao lower bound.