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Relative efficiency:

- define “Relative efficiency” (RE) as the ratio of variances:\
- $RE = \frac{\text{Var}[\hat{\theta}^{mm}]}{\text{Var}[\hat{\theta}^{MLE}]} = \frac{\frac{1}{3n}}{\frac{1}{(n+1)^2(n+2)}} = \frac{(n+1)^2(n+2)}{3n^2} > 1 \Rightarrow \text{MLE is better as measured by variance.}$
- Maybe we should be comparing the ration of MSE’s? But in this case the tiny amount of bias in the MLE won’t matter if n is large.

Important questions:

- Is there an theoretical minimum MSE (best) when estimating theta for a given DGP?
- if 1 is true then, for any DGP/theta is there a procedure of locating that estimator with the best MSE?
- No for both (334, C&B) because the class of all estimators is too big.

For example:

- Let $X_1, \dots, X_n \stackrel{iid}{\sim} \text{Bernoulli}(\theta)$
- $\hat{\theta}_{Bad} = \frac{1}{2}, MSE[\hat{\theta}_{Bad}](\theta = \frac{1}{2}) = \mathbb{E}[(\hat{\theta}_{Bad} - \theta)^2] = \mathbb{E}[(\frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{2})^2] = 0$
- Means : $\hat{\theta}_{Bad}$ does amazing well at $\theta = \frac{1}{2}$
- There will be a “counterexample” estimator that does amazingly well for some values of θ and very badly for other values.

For only unbiased estimators:

- Define: minimum variance unbiased estimator (UMVUE) is the estimator is the estimator that $\hat{\theta}^*$ s.t. $\forall \hat{\theta}$ and all other unbiased estimators $\hat{\theta}$:

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$$\text{Var}[\hat{\theta}^*] \leq \text{Var}[\hat{\theta}]$$

- Is there an theoretical minimum MSE (best) when estimating theta for a given DGP? Yes. Cramer-Rao Lower Bound (CRLB)
- Is there a procedure for locating the UMVUE? Sometimes

Camer-Rao Lower Bound proof:

Statement

- Let $X_1, \dots, X_n \stackrel{iid}{\sim} DGP[\theta]$ continuous
- $DGP \stackrel{iid}{\sim}$ normal: $\text{Var}[\bar{X}] = \frac{\sigma^2}{n}$
- For any unbiased estimator $\hat{\theta}$, $\text{Var}[\hat{\theta}] \geq \frac{I(\theta)^{-1}}{n}$
- Numerator is an irreducible core quantity based on DGP and θ
- $I(\theta) := \mathbb{E} \left[\frac{d}{dx} \ell(\theta : x)^2 \right]$ “Expectation of the squared log-likelihood” called “Fisher Information” defined by Fisher in 1922

Proof

- Cauchy-Schwartz Inequality for any two r.v.'s Q and S $\text{Cov}[Q, S]^2 \leq \text{Var}[Q] \text{Var}[S]$
- $\Rightarrow \text{Var}[Q] \geq \frac{\text{Cov}[Q, S]^2}{\text{Var}[S]}$
- $\text{Cov}[Q, S] = \frac{(\mathbb{E}[RS] - \mathbb{E}[Q]\mathbb{E}[S])^2}{\mathbb{E}[S^2] - \mathbb{E}[S]^2}$
- Let $Q = \hat{\theta} \Rightarrow \mathbb{E}[\hat{\theta}] = \theta$ due to unbiasedness
- Define the “score function”
- Def 1: $S := \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} [\ln(f(X_1, \dots, X_n : \theta))]$
- Def2 $\frac{\partial [f(X_1, \dots, X_n : \theta)]}{f(X_1, \dots, X_n : \theta)}$
- Def 3, 4, 5: $\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} [\ln(\prod f(X_i : \theta))] = \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} [\sum \ln(f(X_i : \theta))] = \sum \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} [\ln(f(X_i : \theta))]$
- $\mathcal{L} = f, l := \ln(\mathcal{L}) = \ln(f)$
- $\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} [l(\theta : X_1, \dots, X_n)] = l'(\theta : X_1, \dots, X_n) = \sum l'(\theta : X_i)$
- S and X_i 's is a r.v (capital)
- Need to find: $\mathbb{E}[\hat{\theta}], \mathbb{E}[S^2], \mathbb{E}[S]$
- $\mathbb{E}[S] = \mathbb{E} \left[\frac{\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} [f(X_1, \dots, X_n : \theta)]}{f(X_1, \dots, X_n : \theta)} \right] = \int \dots \int \frac{\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} [f(X_1, \dots, X_n : \theta)]}{f(X_1, \dots, X_n : \theta)} f(X_1, \dots, X_n : \theta) dx_{1n}$
- $\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} [\int \dots \int f(X_1, \dots, X_n : \theta) dx_{1n}] = \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} [1] = 0$
- $\mathbb{E}[S] = \mathbb{E}[l'(\theta : X_1, \dots, X_n)] = 0$
- $\mathbb{E}[S] = \mathbb{E}[\sum l'(\theta : X_i)] \stackrel{iid}{\sim} n \mathbb{E}[l'(\theta : X_i)] = 0 = 0 \Rightarrow l'(\theta : X_i) = 0$
- $\text{Var}[S] = \mathbb{E}[S^2] - \mathbb{E}[S]_{=0} = \mathbb{E}[(\sum l'(\theta : X_i))^2]_{=(\sum_1^n (a_i))^2 = \sum_i^n a_i^2 + \sum_{i \neq j} a_i a_j}$
- $\sum \mathbb{E}[l'(\theta : X_i)]^2 + \sum \mathbb{E}[l'(\theta : X_i) l'(\theta : X_j)]$