

Example 5.39

Suppose that $X \sim \text{Uniform}(0, 1)$ and let $\bar{X}_n = \frac{s_1}{n}$ where $s_1 = \sum_{i=1}^n X_i$. Then by the property of expected value:

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbb{E}(s_1) &= \mathbb{E}\left(\sum_{i=1}^n X_i\right) = n\mu'_1 \\ \mathbb{E}(s_1^2) &= \mathbb{E}\left(\left(\sum_{i=1}^n X_i\right)^2\right) \\ &= \mathbb{E}\left(\sum_{i=1}^n X_i^2 + \sum_{i \neq j} X_i X_j\right) \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^n \mathbb{E}(X_i^2) + \sum_{i \neq j} \mathbb{E}(X_i) \mathbb{E}(X_j) \\ &= n\mu'_2 + n(n-1)(\mu'_1)^2\end{aligned}$$

where $\mu'_1 = \mathbb{E}(X)$ and $\mu'_2 = \mathbb{E}(X^2)$.

Therefore, the mean square error is:

$$\begin{aligned}\text{MSE}_\theta(\bar{X}_n) &= \mathbb{E}\left[\left(\frac{s_1}{n} - \theta\right)^2\right] \\ &= \mathbb{E}\left[\frac{s_1^2}{n^2} - 2\frac{s_1}{n}\theta + \theta^2\right] \\ &= \frac{n\mu'_2 + n(n-1)(\mu'_1)^2}{n^2} - \frac{2\theta}{n\mu'_1}n + \theta^2 \\ &= \theta^2 - 2\theta\mu'_1 + \frac{n-1}{n}(\mu'_1)^2 + \frac{\mu'_2}{n}\end{aligned}$$

For the specific case when $X \sim \text{Uniform}(0, 1)$ we have $\mu'_1 = \frac{1}{2}$ and

$$\mu'_2 = \mathbb{E}(X^2) = \int_0^1 x^2 \cdot 1 dx = \frac{x^3}{3} \Big|_0^1 = \frac{1}{3}.$$

Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned}\text{MSE}_\theta(\bar{X}_n) &= \theta^2 - \theta + \left(1 - \frac{1}{n}\right)\frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{3n} \\ &= \theta^2 - \theta + \frac{1}{12n} + \frac{1}{4}\end{aligned}$$

Example 5.43

Here $h(\mu_X, \mu_Y) = \frac{\mu_X}{\mu_Y}$ with

$$\frac{d}{d\mu_X} h(\mu_X, \mu_Y) = \frac{1}{\mu_Y} \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{d}{d\mu_Y} h(\mu_X, \mu_Y) = -\frac{\mu_X}{\mu_Y^2}$$

Recall the first order Taylor approximation:

(1)

$$\mathbb{E}_\theta h(T) \approx h(\theta) + \sum h'_i(\theta) \mathbb{E}_\theta(T_i - \theta_i) \approx h(\theta)$$

since T_i has mean θ_i .

(2)

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Var}_\theta h(T) &\approx \mathbb{E}_\theta \left([h(T) - h(\theta)]^2 \right) && \text{using above approximation} \\ &\approx \mathbb{E}_\theta \left(\left(\sum_{i=1}^k h'_i(\theta) (T_i - \theta_i) \right)^2 \right) && \text{Taylor series expansion} \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^k [h'_i(\theta)]^2 \text{Var}(T_i) + 2 \sum_{i>j} h'_i(\theta) h'_j(\theta) \text{Cov}(T_i, T_j) \end{aligned}$$

Approximation (2) is very useful since it provides us with a variance formula for a general function. By (1) and (2) we get

$$\mathbb{E} \left(\frac{X}{Y} \right) = \frac{\mu_X}{\mu_Y}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Var} \left(\frac{X}{Y} \right) &\approx \left(\frac{1}{\mu_Y} \right)^2 \text{Var}(X) + \left(-\frac{\mu_X}{\mu_Y^2} \right)^2 \text{Var}(Y) + 2 \left(\frac{1}{\mu_Y} \right) \left(-\frac{\mu_X}{\mu_Y^2} \right) \text{Cov}(X, Y) \\ &= \left(\frac{\mu_X}{\mu_Y} \right)^2 \left(\frac{\text{Var}(X)}{\mu_X^2} + \frac{\text{Var}(Y)}{\mu_Y^2} - 2 \frac{\text{Cov}(X, Y)}{\mu_X \mu_Y} \right) \end{aligned}$$

We now have an approximation for the mean and variance of the ratio estimator and this approximation involved the means, variances and covariance of X and Y .

Note: Exact calculation would be quite hopeless with closed form expression being unattainable.

Now we will find the asymptotic distribution. The inverse of the information matrix is:

$$I_n^{-1}(\mu_X, \mu_Y) = \frac{1}{n} \begin{pmatrix} \sigma_{11} & \sigma_{12} \\ \sigma_{21} & \sigma_{22} \end{pmatrix}$$

Applying the delta method gives:

$$\sqrt{n} \left(\frac{\bar{X}}{\bar{Y}} - \frac{\mu_X}{\mu_Y} \right) \xrightarrow{d} N \left(0, \left(\frac{1}{\mu_Y}, -\frac{\mu_X}{\mu_Y^2} \right) \begin{pmatrix} \sigma_{11} & \sigma_{12} \\ \sigma_{21} & \sigma_{22} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{\mu_Y} \\ -\frac{\mu_X}{\mu_Y^2} \end{pmatrix} \right)$$

Now just focusing on the asymptotic variance:

$$\begin{aligned} \left(\frac{1}{\mu_Y} \sigma_{11} - \frac{\mu_X}{\mu_Y} \sigma_{21}, \frac{\sigma_{12}}{\mu_Y} - \frac{\mu_X}{\mu_Y} \sigma_{22} \right) \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{\mu_Y} \\ -\frac{\mu_X}{\mu_Y^2} \end{pmatrix} &= \frac{\sigma_{11}}{\mu_Y^2} - \frac{\mu_X}{\mu_Y^3} \sigma_{21} + \frac{\sigma_{12}}{\mu_Y^2} - \frac{\mu_X^2}{\mu_Y^4} \sigma_{22} \\ &= \frac{\mu_X^2}{\mu_Y^2} \left[\frac{\sigma_{11}}{\mu_X^2} + \frac{\sigma_{22}}{\mu_Y^2} - 2 \frac{\sigma_{12}}{\mu_X \mu_Y} \right] \end{aligned}$$

In other words,

$$\frac{\bar{X}}{\bar{Y}} \approx N \left(\frac{\mu_X}{\mu_Y}, \frac{1}{n} \frac{\mu_X^2}{\mu_Y^2} \left[\frac{\sigma_{11}}{\mu_X^2} + \frac{\sigma_{22}}{\mu_Y^2} - 2 \frac{\sigma_{12}}{\mu_X \mu_Y} \right] \right)$$