

Remark:  $E \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \log f_{\theta}(x) \right)^2 = I(\theta)$  is called the Fisher information  
 $\nwarrow V \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \log f_{\theta}(x) \right) \text{ as } E \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \log f_{\theta}(x) \right) = 0$

Alt form:  $I(\theta) = - E \left( \frac{\partial^2 \log f_{\theta}(x)}{\partial \theta^2} \right)$

Remark: If  $\exists$  an unbiased estimator whose variance equals CRLB, then it is UMVUE.

Remark: There can be situations wherein UMVUE has variance higher than CRLB. In such cases, CRLB is not achievable.

Examples:

(i)  $X_1, \dots, X_n$  i.i.d.  $B(1, \theta)$

$$f_{\theta}(x) = \theta^x (1-\theta)^{1-x}$$

$$\log f_{\theta}(x) = x \log \theta + (1-x) \log(1-\theta)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial \log f_{\theta}(x)}{\partial \theta} &= \frac{x}{\theta} + (1-x) \frac{1}{1-\theta} (-1) \\ &= \frac{x}{\theta} - (1-x) \frac{1}{1-\theta} \end{aligned}$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 \log f_{\theta}(x)}{\partial \theta^2} = -\frac{x}{\theta^2} - (1-x) \frac{1}{(1-\theta)^2}$$

$$E \left( \frac{\partial^2 \log f_{\theta}(x)}{\partial \theta^2} \right) = -\frac{\theta}{\theta^2} - \frac{1-\theta}{(1-\theta)^2} = -\frac{1}{\theta(1-\theta)}$$

$$I(\theta) = - E \left( \frac{\partial^2 \log f_{\theta}(x)}{\partial \theta^2} \right) = \frac{1}{\theta(1-\theta)}$$

Estimator:  $g(\theta) = \theta$

$$CRLB = \frac{(g'(\theta))^2}{n I(\theta)} = \frac{\theta(1-\theta)}{n}$$

$$g(x) = \frac{\sum X_i}{n} \quad \text{u.e. for } g(\theta)$$

$$V\left(\frac{\sum x_i}{n}\right) = \frac{1}{n^2} \sum V(x_i)$$

$$= \frac{1}{n^2} n \theta(1-\theta) = \frac{\theta(1-\theta)}{n} = \text{CRLB}$$

$\Rightarrow \bar{X}$  is UMVUE for  $\theta$ .

Example (ii)

$X_1, \dots, X_n$  r.s.  $N(\theta, 1)$

$$f_{\theta}(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-\frac{1}{2}(x-\theta)^2}$$

$$\log f_{\theta}(x) = c - \frac{1}{2}(x-\theta)^2$$

$$\frac{\partial \log f_{\theta}(x)}{\partial \theta} = -\frac{1}{2} \times (x-\theta)(-1) = x-\theta$$

$$E\left(\frac{\partial \log f_{\theta}(x)}{\partial \theta}\right)^2 = E(x-\theta)^2 = 1 = I(\theta)$$

or  $\frac{\partial^2 \log f_{\theta}(x)}{\partial \theta^2} = -1 \Rightarrow -E\left(\frac{\partial^2 \log f_{\theta}(x)}{\partial \theta^2}\right) = I(\theta) = 1$

$g(\theta) = \theta$  say

$$\text{CRLB} = \frac{(g'(\theta))^2}{n I(\theta)} = \frac{1}{n}$$

$$V(\bar{X}) = \frac{1}{n} = \text{CRLB}$$

$\Rightarrow \bar{X}$  is UMVUE for  $\theta$

If  $g(\theta) = \theta^2$

$$\text{CRLB} = \frac{(g'(\theta))^2}{n I(\theta)} = \frac{4\theta^2}{n}$$

## Maximum Likelihood Estimator (MLE)

Let  $X_1, \dots, X_n$  be an i.i.d. random sample from  $f_\theta(x)$  (p.d.f. or p.m.f),  $\theta \in \Theta$

is p.d.f. (or p.m.f)

$$f_{X_1, \dots, X_n} = \prod_{i=1}^n f_\theta(x_i)$$

Likelihood  $f^n$ :

$$L(\theta) = \prod_{i=1}^n f_\theta(x_i) \text{ viewed as a function of } \theta$$

given the observations  $x_1, \dots, x_n$

Note that for a discrete dist<sup>n</sup> setup  $L(\theta)$  is probability of observing  $(x_1, \dots, x_n)$  and for a continuous dist<sup>n</sup> setup  $L(\theta)$  is proportional to a probability statement.

MLE approach: Find  $\theta$  which maximises the likelihood (linked with the above prob statement interpretation)

Def<sup>n</sup>:  $\hat{\theta}$  is an MLE of  $\theta$  if

$$\hat{\theta} = \arg \max_{\theta \in \Theta} L(\theta)$$

Remark: MLE is a function of sufficient statistic

$T$  is suff  $\Rightarrow$  by NFFT

$$f_\theta(\underline{x}) = h(\underline{x}) g_\theta(t(\underline{x})) = L(\theta)$$

Thus, maximisation of  $L$  w.r.t  $\theta$

$(\Rightarrow)$  maximisation of  $g_\theta(t(\underline{x}))$  w.r.t  $\theta$

Hence, MLE is a  $f^n$  of suff stat  $T(\underline{x})$

Remark: Note that (as  $\log$  is a monotone  $f^n$ ),

$$\hat{\theta} = \arg \max_{\theta \in (H)} \log L(\theta)$$

It is often convenient to work with  $\log L(\theta)$  to find MLE

$$l(\theta) = \log L(\theta) = \log \text{likelihood } f^n.$$

Remark: Invariance property of MLE

$$\theta \in (H) \subseteq \mathbb{R}^k, \text{ say}$$

Let  $\hat{\theta}$  be MLE of  $\theta$  and  $g(\cdot)$  be a  $f^n$  from  $(H)$  to a subset of  $\mathbb{R}^m$  (say). Then  $g(\hat{\theta})$  is MLE of  $g(\theta)$ .

Remark: Suppose  $L(\theta)$  (or  $l(\theta)$ ) is differentiable

w.r.t.  $\theta$  and the maximum of  $L(\theta)$  ( $l(\theta)$ ) is an interior point  $\theta \in (H)$  and not a point on the boundary

then  $\hat{\theta}$  satisfies

$$\left. \frac{\partial l(\theta)}{\partial \theta} \right|_{\theta = \hat{\theta}} = 0$$

$$\text{and } \left. \frac{\partial^2 l(\theta)}{\partial \theta} \right|_{\theta = \hat{\theta}} < 0$$

Similar conditions for multiparameter setup.

In such a situation, MLE can be obtained by solving

$$\frac{\partial \ell(\theta)}{\partial \theta} = 0$$

and verifying that  $\frac{\partial^2 \ell(\theta)}{\partial \theta^2} \Big|_{\theta = \hat{\theta}} < 0$ .