

#### **Statistical Signal Processing**

#### Lecture 4

chapter 1: parameter estimation deterministic parameters

- some optimality properties
- Maximum Likelihood estimation
- Fischer Information Matrix
- Cramer-Rao lower bound on the MSE



deterministic parameters

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#### **Deterministic Parameter Estimation**

Two points of view:

- $\bullet$  the parameters  $\theta$  are unknown deterministic quantities
- ullet the parameters  $\theta$  are stochastic, but their prior distribution  $f(\theta)$  is unknown

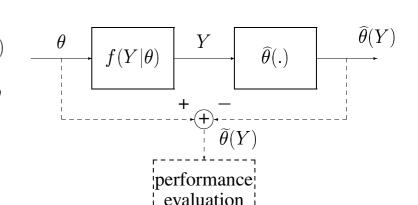
The only stochastic description available is the conditional density  $f(Y|\theta)$  describing the stochastic relation between the unknown parameters  $\theta$  and the observed measurements Y.

ullet since heta is not necessarily a random vector but just a set of parameters on which the distribution of Y depends, we often find the notations

$$f(Y|\theta) = f(Y;\theta) = f_{\theta}(Y)$$

but we shall continue to use  $f(Y|\theta)$ 

• expectation now means  $E = E_{Y|\theta}$ 





### **Deterministic Parameter Estimation (2)**

- an estimator  $\widehat{\theta}(Y)$  of  $\theta$  is again a function of Y (a statistic), with estimation error  $\widetilde{\theta} = \theta \widehat{\theta}(Y)$
- to evaluate the quality of an estimator, we shall again introduce the *risk* function MSE as the average value of the SE *cost* function

$$MSE = \mathcal{R}(\widehat{\theta}(.)|\theta) = E_{Y|\theta} \|\widetilde{\theta}\|^2 = \int f(Y|\theta) \|\theta - \widehat{\theta}(Y)\|^2 dY$$

the MSE is a function of  $\theta$  in general

- minimization of the risk function leads to  $\hat{\theta} = \theta$  (and  $\mathcal{R} = 0$ ): not an acceptable strategy since the resulting  $\hat{\theta}$  depends on the unknown  $\theta$
- ideally, would like  $\widehat{\theta}(.)$  such that  $\mathcal{R}(\widehat{\theta}(.)|\theta)$  is minimized  $\forall \theta \in \Theta$ : impossible! Consider  $\widehat{\theta}(Y) = \theta_0 \in \Theta$ : ignores the data Y but  $\mathcal{R}(\widehat{\theta}(.)|\theta_0) = 0$
- we shall still evaluate the performance via the MSE, but in the deterministic case, we shall not be able to derive estimators by minimizing the MSE.



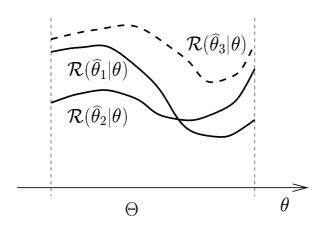
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### **Deterministic Parameter Estimation (3)**

- given two estimators  $\widehat{\theta}_1(Y)$  and  $\widehat{\theta}_2(Y)$ , one is usually not uniformly better than the other one (see figure)
- a uniformly minimum risk estimator does not exist in general
- consider some other desirable properties





## **Some Optimality Properties**

• estimator bias : average deviation from the true parameter

$$b_{\widehat{\theta}}(\theta) = -E_{Y|\theta}\widetilde{\theta} = E_{Y|\theta}\left(\widehat{\theta}(Y) - \theta\right) = E_{Y|\theta}\widehat{\theta}(Y) - \theta$$

unbiased estimator:  $b_{\hat{\theta}}(\theta) = 0, \forall \theta \in \Theta$ 

Unbiasedness is a weak property: estimator can be correct on the average, but with large deviations. Good estimators exist that are biased.

• Example: mean of Gaussian i.i.d. variables

i.i.d. 
$$y_i \sim \mathcal{N}(\theta, 1)$$
,  $i = 1, ..., n$ 

Consider  $\widehat{\theta}(Y) = \overline{y} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} y_i$ , the sample mean.

$$E_{Y|\theta}\widehat{\theta} = E_{Y|\theta}\overline{y} = E_{Y|\theta}\frac{1}{n}\sum_{i=1}^n y_i = \frac{1}{n}\sum_{i=1}^n E_{Y|\theta}y_i = \frac{1}{n}\sum_{i=1}^n \theta = \frac{n}{n}\theta = \theta$$
: unbiased!

•  $\widehat{\theta}(.)$  is *inadmissible* if another estimator  $\widehat{\theta}'(.)$  has uniformly lower risk:

$$\forall \theta \in \Theta : \mathcal{R}(\widehat{\theta}'|\theta) \leq \mathcal{R}(\widehat{\theta}|\theta) , \quad \exists \theta_0 \in \Theta : \mathcal{R}(\widehat{\theta}'|\theta_0) < \mathcal{R}(\widehat{\theta}|\theta_0)$$

 $\widehat{\theta}$  is *admissible* if no such  $\widehat{\theta}'$  exists. Example:  $\widehat{\theta}_3$  in figure above.



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## **Some Optimality Properties (2)**

• MSE =  $E_{Y\theta} \|\widetilde{\theta}\|^2 = E_{Y|\theta} \widetilde{\theta}^T \widetilde{\theta} = \operatorname{tr} \{ E_{Y|\theta} \widetilde{\theta} \widetilde{\theta}^T \} = \operatorname{tr} \{ R_{\widetilde{\theta}\widetilde{\theta}} \},$  $R_{\tilde{\theta}\tilde{\theta}} = E_{Y|\theta} \, \tilde{\theta} \, \tilde{\theta}^T$  = estimation error correlation matrix

$$\begin{split} R_{\tilde{\theta}\tilde{\theta}} &= E_{Y|\theta}(\hat{\theta}-\theta)(\hat{\theta}-\theta)^T = E_{Y|\theta}[\underline{\hat{\theta}} \left(-E_{Y|\theta}\widehat{\theta} + \underline{E_{Y|\theta}}\widehat{\theta}\right) - \underline{\theta}][\underline{\hat{\theta}} \left(-E_{Y|\theta}\widehat{\theta} + \underline{E_{Y|\theta}}\widehat{\theta}\right) - \underline{\theta}]^T \\ &= E_{Y|\theta}(\hat{\theta}-E_{Y|\theta}\widehat{\theta})(\hat{\theta}-E_{Y|\theta}\widehat{\theta})^T + (E_{Y|\theta}\widehat{\theta}-\theta)(E_{Y|\theta}\widehat{\theta}-\theta)^T \\ &= C_{\hat{\theta}\hat{\theta}} + b_{\hat{\theta}}(\theta)b_{\hat{\theta}}^T(\theta) = C_{\tilde{\theta}\tilde{\theta}} + (E_{Y|\theta}\tilde{\theta})(E_{Y|\theta}\tilde{\theta})^T \end{split}$$

where we used:  $C_{\hat{\theta}\hat{\theta}} = C_{\tilde{\theta}\tilde{\theta}}$ 



# **Some Optimality Properties (3)**

•  $\widehat{\theta}(Y)$  is said to be *minimax* if it satisfies

$$\sup_{\theta \in \Theta} \mathcal{R}(\widehat{\theta}|\theta) = \inf_{\widehat{\theta}'} \sup_{\theta \in \Theta} \mathcal{R}(\widehat{\theta}'|\theta)$$

(inf  $\approx$  min, sup  $\approx$  max).

A minimax estimator minimizes the maximum risk over  $\Theta$ .

A minimax  $\widehat{\theta}$  is difficult to obtain in general.

Uniformly minimum risk estimators may be found if we restrict the class of estimators.

•  $\widehat{\theta}$  is a uniformly minimum variance unbiased estimator (UMVUE) if it is unbiased and if for any other unbiased estimator  $\widehat{\theta}'$ :  $R_{\widetilde{\theta}\widetilde{\theta}} \leq R_{\widetilde{\theta}'\widetilde{\theta}'}$ ,  $\forall \theta \in \Theta$ , or

$$E_{Y|\theta}(\widehat{\theta}(Y) - \theta)(\widehat{\theta}(Y) - \theta)^T \le E_{Y|\theta}(\widehat{\theta}'(Y) - \theta)(\widehat{\theta}'(Y) - \theta)^T$$

note: variance = tr {covariance matrix},  $MSE_{\hat{\theta}} = tr \{R_{\hat{\theta}\hat{\theta}}\}$ 

• UMVUE are highly desirable but they may not exist or be difficult to compute. They can be computed if a *complete sufficient statistic* can be found.



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ML estimation

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### **Maximum Likelihood Estimation**

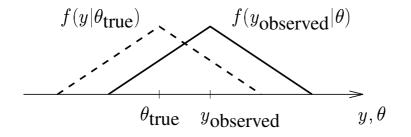
• the maximum likelihood (ML) estimation philosophy is to choose that value of the parameters that renders the observations most likely:

$$\widehat{\theta}_{ML}(Y) = \arg \max_{\theta \in \Theta} f(Y|\theta)$$

example:

• 
$$y = \theta + v$$
,  $f_{\mathbf{v}}(v) = \begin{cases} 1 - |v| & , |v| \le 1 \\ 0 & , |v| > 1 \end{cases}$   $f(y|\theta) = f_{\mathbf{v}}(y - \theta)$ 

$$\widehat{\theta}_{ML}(y) = y$$





#### **ML Estimation: Remarks**

•  $f(Y|\theta)$  is called the *likelihood function*. In order to emphasize the dependence on  $\theta$  and the fact that the observation Y is fixed, it is often denoted as

$$l(\theta; Y) = f(Y|\theta)$$
  $L(\theta; Y) = \ln f(Y|\theta)$ 

- since the logarithmic function is strictly monotone, the maximum point of  $f(Y|\theta)$  corresponds with the maximum point of  $\ln f(Y|\theta)$ , called the *log likelihood function*
- ullet Often f(Y| heta) satisfies certain regularity conditions so that  $\widehat{ heta}_{ML}$  is a solution of

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \ln f(Y|\theta) = 0.$$

The conditions for a maximum (rather than another form of extremum) need to be verified of course.

• The ML estimator is given by the *global* maximum of  $f(Y|\theta)$ . If there are several local maxima, all of them need to be examined and compared to find the global maximum.



#### EURECOM

ML estimation

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### **ML Estimation: Remarks (2)**

- Even if  $f(Y|\theta)$  satisfies regularity conditions, the maximum may occur at the boundary of the parameter space  $\Theta$  (which may not necessarily be  $(-\infty, \infty)$  for every  $\theta_i$ ). In that case, the maximum is not a local extremum.
- The ML estimator can be seen as a limiting case of the MAP estimator when the prior distribution  $f(\theta)$  becomes uninformative (uniform distribution). For those components  $\theta_i$  of  $\theta$  for which the support is unbounded, this means that  $\sigma_{\theta_i}^2 \to \infty$  (information  $\to 0$ ). Indeed

$$\widehat{\theta}_{MAP}(Y) = \arg \max_{\theta \in \Theta} f(\theta|Y) = \arg \max_{\theta \in \Theta} \frac{f(Y|\theta)f(\theta)}{f(Y)}$$

$$= \arg \max_{\theta \in \Theta} f(Y|\theta)f(\theta) \stackrel{f(\theta)=c^t}{=} \arg \max_{\theta \in \Theta} f(Y|\theta) = \widehat{\theta}_{ML}(Y)$$

But in the deterministic case,  $\theta$  is fixed, whereas in the Bayesian case  $\theta$  is random, hence e.g. the MSE is different for both formulations  $(MSE_{MAP} = \int_{\Theta} MSE_{ML}(\theta) \ f(\theta) \ d\theta$ , averaged with prior distribution for  $\theta$ ).

## **ML Estimation: Example 1**

• Given: 
$$y_i = \mu + \sigma v_i$$
,  $v_i \sim \mathcal{N}(0, 1)$  i.i.d. or  $y_i \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu, \sigma^2)$  i.i.d.  $\theta = \begin{bmatrix} \mu \\ \sigma^2 \end{bmatrix}$ 

• Q: 
$$\widehat{\theta}_1 = \widehat{\mu}_{ML}$$
,  $\widehat{\theta}_2 = \widehat{\sigma}_{ML}^2$ 

• A:

$$\begin{split} f(Y|\mu,\sigma^2) &= \prod_{i=1}^n f(y_i|\mu,\sigma^2) = \prod_{i=1}^n \frac{\exp[-\frac{(y_1-\mu)^2}{2\sigma^2}]}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma^2} = (2\pi)^{-\frac{n}{2}}(\sigma^2)^{-\frac{n}{2}} \exp[-\frac{1}{2\sigma^2}\sum_{i=1}^n (y_i-\mu)^2] \\ L(\theta;Y) &= \ln l(\theta;Y) = -\frac{n}{2}\ln(2\pi) - \frac{n}{2}\ln\sigma^2 - \frac{1}{2\sigma^2}\sum_{i=1}^n (y_i-\mu)^2 \\ \begin{cases} \frac{\partial}{\partial\mu}L(\theta;Y) &= 0 = \frac{1}{\sigma^2}\sum_{i=1}^n (y_i-\mu) \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial\sigma^2}L(\theta;Y) &= 0 = -\frac{n}{2\sigma^2} + \frac{1}{2\sigma^4}\sum_{i=1}^n (y_i-\mu)^2 \\ \end{cases} \end{split} \tag{1}$$
 
$$\begin{cases} (1) \Rightarrow \widehat{\mu}_{ML} = \frac{1}{n}\sum_{i=1}^n y_i = \overline{y} \quad \text{sample mean} \\ (2) \Rightarrow \widehat{\sigma^2}_{ML} &= \frac{1}{n}\sum_{i=1}^n (y_i-\overline{y})^2 = \overline{(y-\overline{y})^2} \quad \text{sample variance} \end{cases}$$



#### **ML Estimation: Example 1 (2)**

bias calculations

• 
$$E[\widehat{\mu}_{ML}|\mu,\sigma^2] = E[\overline{y}|\mu,\sigma^2] = \frac{1}{n}\sum_{i=1}^n E[y_i|\mu,\sigma^2] = \frac{1}{n}\sum_{i=1}^n \mu = \mu$$
 unbiased!

• note: with  $\overline{y} = \frac{1}{n} \mathbf{1}^T Y$ , we get

$$n \widehat{\sigma^2}_{ML} = \sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - \overline{y})^2 = \left\| \begin{bmatrix} y_1 - \overline{y} \\ \vdots \\ y_n - \overline{y} \end{bmatrix} \right\|^2 = \|Y - \overline{y}\mathbf{1}\|^2 = (Y - \overline{y}\mathbf{1})^T (Y - \overline{y}\mathbf{1})$$

$$= (Y - \mu \mathbf{1} + \mu \mathbf{1} - \overline{y}\mathbf{1})^T (Y - \mu \mathbf{1} + \mu \mathbf{1} - \overline{y}\mathbf{1}) = (Y - \mu \mathbf{1} - (\overline{y} - \mu)\mathbf{1})^T (\cdots) = (Y - \mu \mathbf{1})^T (Y - \mu \mathbf{1})$$

$$+ (\overline{y} - \mu)^2 \underbrace{\mathbf{1}^T \mathbf{1}}_{=n} - 2(\overline{y} - \mu) \underbrace{\mathbf{1}^T (Y - \mu \mathbf{1})}_{=n(\overline{y} - \mu)} = \underbrace{(Y - \mu \mathbf{1})^T (Y - \mu \mathbf{1})}_{i=1} - \frac{1}{n} (Y - \mu \mathbf{1})^T \mathbf{1}^T (Y - \mu \mathbf{1})$$
hence  $\widehat{\sigma^2}_{i=1}$  is biased:

hence  $\widehat{\sigma}^2_{ML}$  is biased:

$$\begin{split} E[\widehat{\sigma^2}_{ML}|\mu,\sigma^2] &= \frac{1}{n} E_{Y|\mu,\sigma^2} \sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - \mu)^2 - \frac{1}{n^2} \operatorname{tr} \{ \mathbf{1} \mathbf{1}^T \ \widetilde{E}_{Y|\mu,\sigma^2} (Y - \mu \mathbf{1}) (Y - \mu \mathbf{1})^T \} \\ &= \sigma^2 - \frac{1}{n^2} \operatorname{tr} \{ \mathbf{1} \mathbf{1}^T \sigma^2 I_n \} = \sigma^2 - \frac{1}{n^2} \sigma^2 \underbrace{\mathbf{1}^T I_n \mathbf{1}}_{=n} = (1 - \frac{1}{n}) \sigma^2 = \frac{n-1}{n} \sigma^2 \neq \sigma^2 \end{split}$$

• unbiased variance estimate:  $\widehat{\sigma}_{ub}^2 = \frac{n}{n-1} \widehat{\sigma}_{ML}^2 = \frac{1}{n-1} \sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - \overline{y})^2$ however, can show:  $Var\{\widehat{\sigma}_{ub}^2\} \ge Var\{\widehat{\sigma}_{ML}^2\}$ (and similarly for MSE).



# **ML Estimation: Example 2**

- given:  $y_i \sim \mathcal{U}[\theta \frac{1}{2}, \theta + \frac{1}{2}]$  i.i.d.  $f(y_i|\theta) = \begin{cases} 1, & y_i \in [\theta \frac{1}{2}, \theta + \frac{1}{2}] \\ 0, & \text{elsewhere} \end{cases}$
- Q:  $\widehat{\theta}_{ML}$
- A: use the indicator function  $I_A(x) = \begin{cases} 1, & x \in A \\ 0, & x \notin A \end{cases}$

$$f(y_i|\theta) = I_{[\theta-\frac{1}{2},\theta+\frac{1}{2}]}(y_i) = 1 \text{ if } \theta - \frac{1}{2} \leq y_i \leq \theta + \frac{1}{2} \Leftrightarrow y_i - \frac{1}{2} \leq \theta \leq y_i + \frac{1}{2} \Leftrightarrow y_i - \frac{1}{2} \leq \theta \leq y_i + \frac{1}{2} \Leftrightarrow y_i - \frac{1}{2} \leq \theta \leq y_i + \frac{1}{2} \Leftrightarrow y_i - \frac{1}{2} \leq \theta \leq y_i + \frac{1}{2} \Leftrightarrow y_i - \frac{1}{2} \leq \theta \leq y_i + \frac{1}{2} \Leftrightarrow y_i - \frac{1}{2} \leq \theta \leq y_i + \frac{1}{2} \Leftrightarrow y_i - \frac{1}{2} \leq \theta \leq y_i + \frac{1}{2} \Leftrightarrow y_i - \frac{1}{2} \leq \theta \leq y_i + \frac{1}{2} \Leftrightarrow y_i - \frac{1}{2} \leq \theta \leq y_i + \frac{1}{2} \Leftrightarrow y_i - \frac{1}{2} \leq \theta \leq y_i + \frac{1}{2} \Leftrightarrow y_i - \frac{1}{2} \leq \theta \leq y_i + \frac{1}{2} \Leftrightarrow y_i - \frac{1}{2} \leq \theta \leq y_i + \frac{1}{2} \Leftrightarrow y_i - \frac{1}{2} \leq \theta \leq y_i + \frac{1}{2} \Leftrightarrow y_i - \frac{1}{2} \leq \theta \leq y_i + \frac{1}{2} \Leftrightarrow y_i - \frac{1}{2} \leq \theta \leq y_i + \frac{1}{2} \Leftrightarrow y_i - \frac{1}{2} \leq \theta \leq y_i + \frac{1}{2} \Leftrightarrow y_i - \frac{1}{2} \leq \theta \leq y_i + \frac{1}{2} \Leftrightarrow y_i - \frac{1}{2} \leq \theta \leq y_i + \frac{1}{2} \Leftrightarrow y_i - \frac{1}{2} \leq \theta \leq y_i + \frac{1}{2} \Leftrightarrow y_i - \frac{1}{2} \leq \theta \leq y_i + \frac{1}{2} \Leftrightarrow y_i - \frac{1}{2} \leq \theta \leq y_i + \frac{1}{2} \Leftrightarrow y_i - \frac{1}{2} \leq \theta \leq y_i + \frac{1}{2} \Leftrightarrow y_i - \frac{1}{2} \leq \theta \leq y_i + \frac{1}{2} \Leftrightarrow y_i - \frac{1}{2} \leq \theta \leq y_i + \frac{1}{2} \Leftrightarrow y_i - \frac{1}{2} \leq \theta \leq y_i + \frac{1}{2} \Leftrightarrow y_i - \frac{1}{2} \leq \theta \leq y_i + \frac{1}{2} \Leftrightarrow y_i - \frac{1}{2} \leq \theta \leq y_i + \frac{1}{2} \Leftrightarrow y_i - \frac{1}{2} \Leftrightarrow y_i - \frac{1}{2} \leq y_i + \frac{1}{2} \Leftrightarrow y_i - \frac{$$

hence

$$\begin{split} f(Y|\theta) &= \prod_{i=1}^{n} f(y_i|\theta) = \prod_{i=1}^{n} I_{[\theta - \frac{1}{2}, \theta + \frac{1}{2}]}(y_i) = \prod_{i=1}^{n} I_{[y_i - \frac{1}{2}, y_i + \frac{1}{2}]}(\theta) \\ &= I_{n \atop i=1}^{n} [y_i - \frac{1}{2}, y_i + \frac{1}{2}]}(\theta) = I_{[y_{max} - \frac{1}{2}, y_{min} + \frac{1}{2}]}(\theta) \end{split}$$

hence  $\widehat{\theta} \in [y_{max} - \frac{1}{2}, y_{min} + \frac{1}{2}]$  a whole interval!

• choose  $\widehat{\theta}_{ML} = \frac{y_{min} + y_{max}}{2}$ 



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# **ML Estimation: Example 2 (2)**

$$f(y|\theta) \qquad \frac{1}{\theta - \frac{1}{2} y_i \quad \theta \qquad \theta + \frac{1}{2}} \qquad \frac{\theta}{\theta}$$

$$l(\theta; y_i) \qquad \qquad y_i - \frac{1}{2} \qquad y_i \qquad y_i + \frac{1}{2} \qquad \qquad \theta$$

$$\prod_{i=1}^{n} l(\theta; y_i) \longrightarrow_{\theta}$$

$$l(\theta;Y) = \prod_{i=1}^{n} l(\theta;y_i)$$
 
$$y_{max} - \frac{1}{2} \qquad y_{min} + \frac{1}{2}$$



### **Fisher Information Matrix**

• The information matrix for deterministic parameters is defined as

$$J(\theta) \ = \ R_{\frac{\partial L}{\partial \theta}, \frac{\partial L}{\partial \theta}} \ = \ E_{Y|\theta} \ \left( \frac{\partial \ \ln \ f(Y|\theta)}{\partial \theta} \right) \left( \frac{\partial \ \ln \ f(Y|\theta)}{\partial \theta} \right)^T \ = \ -E_{Y|\theta} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \left( \frac{\partial \ \ln \ f(Y|\theta)}{\partial \theta} \right)^T$$

It can again be shown to satisfy all the properties we specified for an information matrix. The second equality can be shown as before. Note that  $J(\theta)$  now depends on the true parameter value  $\theta$ .

- ullet unbiased estimators:  $b_{\widehat{ heta}}( heta) = E_{Y| heta}\widehat{ heta}(Y) heta = 0 \;\;,\; orall heta \in \Theta$
- Lemma 0.1 (Unit Cross Correlation) For any unbiased estimator  $\widehat{\theta}(Y)$

$$E_{Y|\theta} \frac{\partial \ln f(Y|\theta)}{\partial \theta} (\widehat{\theta} - \theta)^T = I.$$

In words, the cross correlation matrix between  $\frac{\partial \ln f(Y|\theta)}{\partial \theta}$  and the estimation error of any unbiased estimator is the identity matrix.



Cramer-Rao Bound

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#### **Cramer-Rao Bound**

• Theorem (CRB for Deterministic Parameters) If the estimator  $\widehat{\theta}(Y)$  of  $\theta$  is unbiased, then the covariance matrix of the parameter estimation errors  $\widetilde{\theta}$  is bounded below by the inverse of the information matrix:

$$C_{\tilde{\theta}\tilde{\theta}} = R_{\tilde{\theta}\tilde{\theta}} = E_{Y|\theta} (\hat{\theta} - \theta)(\hat{\theta} - \theta)^T \ge J^{-1}(\theta)$$

with equality iff

$$\widehat{\theta}(Y) - \theta = J^{-1}(\theta) \frac{\partial \ln f(Y|\theta)}{\partial \theta}$$
 a.e.  $(\theta)$ 

An estimator that achieves the lower bound  $(\forall \theta \in \Theta)$  is called *efficient*.

#### Remarks:

• when equality holds, we can integrate to get

$$f(Y|\theta) = h(Y) \exp[c_1^T(\theta)\widehat{\theta}(Y) - c_0(\theta)]$$

where  $\frac{\partial c_1^T(\theta)}{\partial \theta} = J(\theta)$  and  $\frac{\partial c_0(\theta)}{\partial \theta} = J(\theta)\theta$ . Hence  $\{f(Y|\theta), \theta \in \Theta\}$  forms an exponential family and  $\widehat{\theta}(Y)$  is a sufficient statistic.



## Cramer-Rao Bound: Remarks

- the CRB  $J^{-1}(\theta)$  only depends on  $f(Y|\theta)$ , not on  $\widehat{\theta}(Y)$
- the (deterministic) CRB has two uses:
  - (i) evaluate unbiased estimators:  $\hat{\theta}$  with  $b_{\hat{\theta}}(\theta) \equiv 0$ : if  $C_{\tilde{\theta}\tilde{\theta}} J^{-1}(\theta)$  small enough, then  $\hat{\theta}$  good enough
  - (ii) find UMVUE:  $\min_{\hat{\theta}: b_{\hat{\sigma}} \equiv 0} C_{\hat{\theta}\hat{\theta}} \geq J^{-1}(\theta)$ .

If  $\widehat{\theta}$  is efficient  $(\forall \theta \in \Theta)$ ,  $C_{\widetilde{\theta}\widetilde{\theta}} = J^{-1}(\theta)$ , then  $\widehat{\theta}$  is UMVUE!

• **Theorem** Suppose  $\widehat{\theta}_{ML}$  is obtained by  $\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} f(Y|\theta)|_{\theta = \widehat{\theta}_{ML}} = 0$ . Then if an efficient estimator exists, it is  $\widehat{\theta}_{ML}$ .

Proof:  $\hat{\theta}_{eff}$  satisfies

$$\frac{\partial \ln f(Y|\theta)}{\partial \theta} = \underbrace{J(\theta)}_{>0} [\widehat{\theta}_{eff} - \theta]$$

For  $\theta = \widehat{\theta}_{ML}$ , LHS = 0, hence RHS = 0 :  $\widehat{\theta}_{eff} = \widehat{\theta}_{ML}$ .

• If  $J(\theta)$  is singular  $\Rightarrow$  (local) unidentifiability. E.g. linear model with n < m.



### **Cramer-Rao Bound: Example**

- i.i.d.  $y_i \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu, \sigma^2)$ ,  $\sigma^2$  known,  $\theta = \mu$
- $f(Y|\mu) = \prod_{i=1}^{n} f(y_i|\mu) = (2\pi\sigma^2)^{-n/2} \exp\left[-\frac{1}{2\sigma^2} \sum_{i=1}^{n} (y_i \mu)^2\right]$
- $\bullet \frac{\partial \ln f(Y|\mu)}{\partial \mu} = \frac{1}{\sigma^2} \sum_{i=1}^n (y_i \mu) , \quad \frac{\partial^2 \ln f(Y|\mu)}{\partial \mu^2} = -\frac{n}{\sigma^2}$
- $J = -E_{Y|\mu} \frac{\partial^2 \ln f(Y|\mu)}{\partial \mu^2} = \frac{n}{\sigma^2}$ ,  $C_{\tilde{\mu}\tilde{\mu}} = E_{Y|\mu} (\tilde{\mu} \mu)^2 \ge J^{-1} = \frac{\sigma^2}{n}$
- $\widehat{\mu}_{ML} = \overline{y} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} y_i$ ,  $E_{Y|\mu} \widehat{\mu}_{ML} = \mu$ : unbiased
- $\bullet C_{\widetilde{\mu}\widetilde{\mu}} = E_{Y|\mu}(\widehat{\mu} \mu)^2 = E_{Y|\mu} \left( \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} (y_i \mu) \right)^2$  $= \frac{1}{n^2} \left( \sum_{i=1}^n \underbrace{E(y_i - \mu)^2}_{==2} + \sum_{i \neq j} \underbrace{E(y_i - \mu)(y_j - \mu)}_{==2} \right) = \frac{1}{n^2} n \sigma^2 = \frac{\sigma^2}{n} = J^{-1}$
- efficient:  $\frac{\partial \ln f(Y|\mu)}{\partial \mu} = \frac{1}{\sigma^2} \sum_{i=1}^n (y_i \mu) = \frac{n}{\sigma^2} (\overline{y} \mu) = J(\widehat{\mu}_{ML} \mu)$

## The Deterministic Linear Model

• 
$$Y = H\theta + V$$
,  $V \sim \mathcal{N}(0, C_{VV})$ 

• 
$$f_{\mathbf{Y}|\boldsymbol{\theta}}(Y|\theta) = f_{\mathbf{V}}(Y - H\theta) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{(2\pi)^n \det C_{VV}}} e^{-\frac{1}{2}(Y - H\theta)^T C_{VV}^{-1}(Y - H\theta)}$$

$$\bullet \frac{\partial \ln f_{\mathbf{V}}(Y - H\theta)}{\partial \theta} = H^T C_{VV}^{-1}(Y - H\theta) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \widehat{\theta}_{ML} = (H^T C_{VV}^{-1} H)^{-1} H^T C_{VV}^{-1} Y$$

$$\bullet \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \left( \frac{\partial \ln f_{\mathbf{V}}(Y - H\theta)}{\partial \theta} \right)^T = -\underbrace{H^T \underbrace{C_{VV}^{-1}}_{>0} H} = -J < 0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad \text{maximum!}$$
 assuming  $H$  full column rank

$$\bullet \ \widetilde{\theta} = \theta - \widehat{\theta} = -(H^T C_{VV}^{-1} H)^{-1} \ H^T C_{VV}^{-1} V \ , \quad E_{Y|\theta} \widetilde{\theta} = E_V \widetilde{\theta} = 0 \Rightarrow \ \text{unbiased!}$$

• 
$$C_{\tilde{\theta}\tilde{\theta}} = R_{\tilde{\theta}\tilde{\theta}} = E_{Y|\theta}\tilde{\theta}\tilde{\theta}^T = E_V\tilde{\theta}\tilde{\theta}^T = (H^TC_{VV}^{-1}H)^{-1} = J^{-1}$$
: efficient!

• 
$$\frac{\partial \ln f_{\mathbf{V}}(Y - H\theta)}{\partial \theta} = H^T C_{VV}^{-1} Y - H^T C_{VV}^{-1} H\theta = J(\widehat{\theta} - \theta)$$
: efficient