第3-4章 点估计估计计

《统计推断》第7章

感谢清华大学自动化系江瑞教授提供PPT

内容

- Mean Square Error (MSE)
- CR不等式
- 最佳无偏估计

Point Estimation as a Decision Procedure

- A decision about the true value of the parameter
- Action space
 - All possible estimates of the parameter, all θ in Θ
- What we gain by determining a particular estimate
 - Reduced Θ to a particular θ , say θ^* , in Θ
- What we loss by determining a particular estimate
 - $-\theta^*$ may not reflect the true θ
- The loss reflects the risk of the decision
 - We want to minimize the risk

Loss Function

- A certain form of distance of the estimate to the true value of the parameter
- Absolute error loss

$$L(\theta, \hat{\theta}) = \mid \hat{\theta} - \theta \mid$$

Squared error loss

$$L(\theta, \hat{\theta}) = (\hat{\theta} - \theta)^2$$

Other losses

Expected Loss of an Estimator

An estimator

$$\delta = \delta(\mathbf{X})$$

$$\delta = \delta(\mathbf{x}), \mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{X}$$

Loss of an estimator at a particular x

$$L(\theta, \delta(\mathbf{x}))$$

Expected loss of an estimator with respect to the joint distribution of X

$$EL(\theta, \delta(\mathbf{X}))$$

Empirical loss

$$\frac{1}{N} \sum_{\text{for some } \mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{X}} L(\theta, \delta(\mathbf{x}))$$

• When θ changes, the expected loss is a function of θ

$$E_{\theta}L(\theta,\delta(\mathbf{X}))$$

Risk Function

Risk function

$$R(\theta, \delta) = E_{\theta} L(\theta, \delta(\mathbf{X}))$$

• At a certain θ

The value of the risk function is the expected loss of the estimator

$$R(\theta_0, \delta_1) < R(\theta_0, \delta_2) \Rightarrow \delta_1 \text{ is better}$$

$$R(\theta, \delta_1) < R(\theta, \delta_2) \text{ for all } \theta \Rightarrow \delta_1 \text{ is better}$$

• When θ is unknown: we like the risk function has small values for all possible θ

Loss Function Optimality

 We like to find an estimator that can minimize the risk function, the expected loss, at all possible values of the parameter

$$R(\theta, \delta^*) \leq R(\theta, \delta)$$
 for all θ

Squared Error Loss

Squared error loss

$$L(\theta, \hat{\theta}) = (\hat{\theta} - \theta)^2$$

Expected squared error loss

$$\begin{split} \mathbf{E}_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} L(\boldsymbol{\theta}, \boldsymbol{\delta}(\mathbf{X})) &= \mathbf{E}_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} (\boldsymbol{\delta}(\mathbf{X}) - \boldsymbol{\theta})^2 \\ &= \mathbf{E}_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} \left[(\boldsymbol{\delta}(\mathbf{X}) - \mathbf{E}_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} \boldsymbol{\delta}(\mathbf{X})) + (\mathbf{E}_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} \boldsymbol{\delta}(\mathbf{X}) - \boldsymbol{\theta}) \right]^2 \\ &= \underbrace{\mathbf{E}_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} \left[\boldsymbol{\delta}(\mathbf{X}) - \mathbf{E}_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} \boldsymbol{\delta}(\mathbf{X}) \right]^2}_{\mathrm{Var}_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} \boldsymbol{\delta}(\mathbf{X})} + \underbrace{\left[\mathbf{E}_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} \boldsymbol{\delta}(\mathbf{X}) - \boldsymbol{\theta} \right]^2}_{\mathrm{Bias}_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} \boldsymbol{\delta}(\mathbf{X})} \\ &= \mathrm{Var}_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} \boldsymbol{\delta}(\mathbf{X}) + \left[\mathrm{Bias}_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} \boldsymbol{\delta}(\mathbf{X}) \right]^2 \end{split}$$

Mean Squared Error (MSE)

The **mean squared error** (MSE) of a point estimator W of

a parameter θ is the function of θ defined by

$$E_{\theta}(W - \theta)^2 = Var_{\theta}W + (Bias_{\theta}W)^2.$$

The bias of W is defined by

$$\operatorname{Bias}_{\theta} W = \operatorname{E}_{\theta} W - \theta.$$

An estimator is called unbiased if

$$E_{\theta}W = \theta$$

for all θ .

Bernoulli Estimators

- Let $X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n \sim \text{Bernoulli}(p)$.
- MLE estimator of p:

$$\hat{p}_M = \frac{Y}{n}, Y = \sum_i X_i$$

• Bayes estimator of p (with hyper parameters α and β):

$$\hat{p}_B = \frac{Y + \alpha}{n + \alpha + \beta}$$

MSE of Bernoulli Estimators

Therefore the MSE of the MLE estimator

$$MSE(\hat{p}_M) = Var_p(\hat{p}_M) + (Bias_p \hat{p}_M)^2 = \frac{p(1-p)}{n}$$

MSE of the Bayes estimator

$$MSE(\hat{p}_B) = Var_p(\hat{p}_B) + (Bias_p\hat{p}_B)^2$$

$$= \frac{np(1-p)}{(n+\alpha+\beta)^2} + \left(\frac{np+\alpha}{n+\alpha+\beta} - p\right)^2$$

$$= \frac{[(\alpha+\beta)^2 - n]p^2 - [2\alpha(\alpha+\beta) - n]p + \alpha^2}{(\alpha+\beta+n)^2}$$

MSE of Bernoulli Estimators

$$\begin{split} \text{MSE}(\hat{p}_{\scriptscriptstyle M}) = & \frac{p(1-p)}{n} \\ \text{MSE}(\hat{p}_{\scriptscriptstyle B}) = & \frac{[(\alpha+\beta)^2-n]p^2-[2\alpha(\alpha+\beta)-n]p+\alpha^2}{(\alpha+\beta+n)^2} \end{split}$$

Let

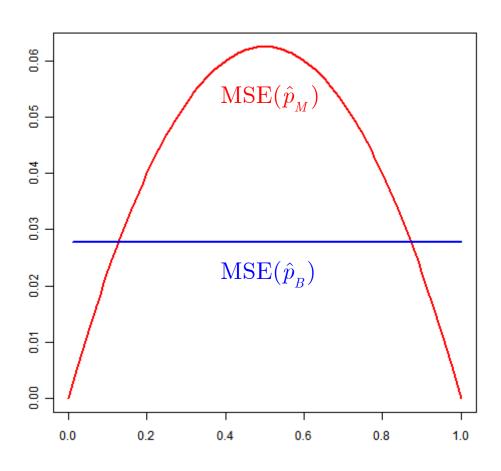
$$\begin{cases} (\alpha + \beta)^2 - n = 0 \\ 2\alpha(\alpha + \beta) - n = 0 \end{cases} \Rightarrow \alpha = \beta = \frac{\sqrt{n}}{2}$$

Consequently,

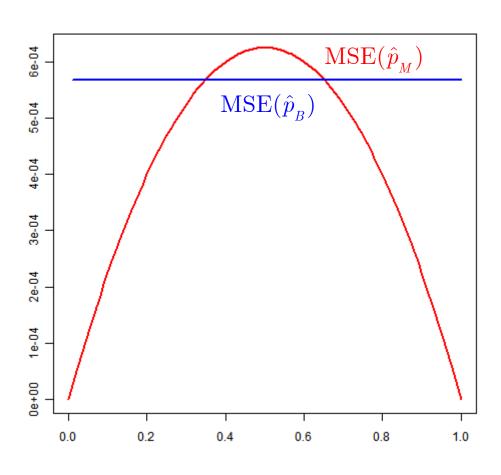
$$\hat{p}_{B} = \frac{Y + \sqrt{n} / 2}{n + \sqrt{n}}$$

$$MSE(\hat{p}_B) = \frac{n}{4(n+\sqrt{n})^2}$$

$$n = 4$$



n = 400



Which Estimator is Preferred

• 此时

$$MSE(\hat{p}_M) = \frac{p(1-p)}{n}, MSE(\hat{p}_B) = \frac{n}{4(n+\sqrt{n})^2}$$

• 💠

$$MSE(\hat{p}_M) = MSE(\hat{p}_B)$$

• 得方程

$$p^2 - p + \frac{n^2}{4(n+\sqrt{n})^2} = 0$$

Which Estimator is Preferred

- 设p₁, p₂是上面方程的解
- 那么

$$|p_1 - p_2| < \frac{1}{2}$$
, MLE estimator is preferred $|p_1 - p_2| > \frac{1}{2}$, Bayes estimator is preferred

• 利用韦达定理,可以给出

$$|p_1 - p_2|^2 = (p_1 + p_2)^2 - 4p_1 p_2$$

$$= 1 - \frac{n^2}{(n + \sqrt{n})^2} = \frac{2\sqrt{n} + 1}{n + 2\sqrt{n} + 1}$$

Which Estimator is Preferred

• 则当下面不等式满足时,MLE Preferred

$$\frac{2\sqrt{n}+1}{n+2\sqrt{n}+1} < \frac{1}{4}$$

● 等价于考虑 √n 的不等式

$$x^2 - 6x - 3 > 0$$

解得

$$\sqrt{n} > 3 + 2\sqrt{3}$$

 $n > 21 + 12\sqrt{3} \approx 41.8$ i.e. $n \ge 42$

Normal MSE

- Consider the estimators for a normal population $N(\mu, \sigma^2)$
 - Mean μ : \overline{X} is unbiased since $E(\overline{X}) = \mu$
 - Variance σ^2 : S^2 is unbiased since $E(S^2) = \sigma^2$
 - Variance σ^2 : $\hat{\sigma}^2 = \frac{n-1}{n}S^2$ is biased.
- Furthermore

$$\operatorname{Var}(\overline{X}) = \frac{\sigma^2}{n}, \quad \to MSE(\overline{X}) = \frac{\sigma^2}{n}$$

$$\operatorname{Var}(S^2) = \frac{2\sigma^4}{n-1}, \quad \to MSE(S^2) = \frac{2\sigma^4}{n-1}$$

$$\operatorname{Var}(\hat{\sigma}^2) = \frac{2(n-1)\sigma^4}{n^2},$$

$$\to MSE(\hat{\sigma}^2) = \operatorname{Var}(\hat{\sigma}^2) + (Bias(\hat{\sigma}^2))^2 = \frac{(2n-1)\sigma^4}{n^2}$$

Normal MSE

 S^2 is unbiased; $\hat{\sigma}^2 = \frac{n-1}{n}S^2$ is biased.

However,

$$\operatorname{Var}\hat{\sigma}^{2} = \frac{2(n-1)\sigma^{4}}{n^{2}} < \frac{2(n-1)\sigma^{4}}{(n-1)^{2}} = \frac{2\sigma^{4}}{n-1} = \operatorname{Var}S^{2}$$

$$MSE\hat{\sigma}^{2} = \frac{(2n-1)\sigma^{4}}{n^{2}} = \frac{2(n-1/2)\sigma^{4}}{n^{2}}$$

$$< \frac{2(n-1/2)\sigma^{4}}{(n-1/2)^{2}} = \frac{2\sigma^{4}}{(n-1/2)}$$

$$< \frac{2\sigma^{4}}{n-1}$$

$$= MSES^{2}$$

The biased estimator $\hat{\sigma}^2$ has a smaller MSE than the unbiased S^2

Our Priority

- MSE includes two items of an estimator
 - Variance of the estimator
 - Bias of the estimator
 - These two components achieve a tradeoff in MSE
- When the mixed criterion is not clear
 We need to set up a priority
- First priority
 - Unbiasedness
- Second priority
 - Small variance (effectiveness)

Infinite Number of Unbiased Estimators

Poisson (λ) distribution

$$P(X = x \mid \lambda) = \frac{\lambda^{x}}{x!} e^{-\lambda}; \ \lambda \ge 0, \ x = 0, 1, 2, \dots$$

$$EX = VarX = \lambda$$

Let X_1, \ldots, X_n be iid Poisson (λ) random variables. Then,

$$\mathrm{E}_{\lambda} \overline{X} = \lambda$$
, for all λ

$$E_{\lambda}S^2 = \lambda$$
, for all λ

So both \overline{X} and S^2 are unbiased estimators of λ .

Even worse, any

$$W = a\overline{X} + (1 - a)S^2$$

for any constant $0 \le a \le 1$ is also an unbiased estimator of λ .

Best Unbiased Estimator

An estimator W^* is a **best unbiased estimator** (BUE) of $\tau(\theta)$ if

- (1) It satisfies $E_{\theta}W^{\star} = \tau(\theta)$ for all θ and,
- (2) for any other estimator W with $E_{\theta}W = \tau(\theta)$,

$$\operatorname{Var}_{\theta} W^{\star} \leq \operatorname{Var}_{\theta} W$$

for all θ .

 W^* is also called a **uniform minimum variance unbiased** estimator (UMVUE) of $\tau(\theta)$.

The Idea

- Because a best unbiased estimator has the smallest possible variance, we can
- Determine a lower bound of the variance, and see whether this lower bound can be attained
- If an estimator can attain this lower bound, it must be the best unbiased estimator
- If an estimator cannot attain this lower bound, we shall continue our search for the best unbiased estimator

The Cramér-Rao Inequality

Let $X_1, ..., X_n$ be a sample with pdf $f(\mathbf{x} \mid \theta)$, and let

 $W(\mathbf{X}) = W(X_1, \dots, X_n)$ be any estimator satisfying

$$\frac{d}{d\theta} E_{\theta} W(\mathbf{X}) = \int_{\mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{X}} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} [W(\mathbf{x}) f(\mathbf{x} \mid \theta)] d\mathbf{x}$$

and

$$\operatorname{Var}_{\theta}W(\mathbf{X}) < \infty$$

Then

$$\mathrm{Var}_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} W(\mathbf{X}) \geq \frac{\left(\frac{d}{d\boldsymbol{\theta}} \operatorname{E}_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} W(\mathbf{X})\right)^2}{\operatorname{E}_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} \left(\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial \boldsymbol{\theta}} \log f(\mathbf{X} \mid \boldsymbol{\theta})\right)^2\right)} \cdot \longrightarrow \begin{array}{c} \text{Information} \\ \text{number} \end{array}$$

Cauchy-Schwarz Inequality

• 对于任意随机变量X, Y, 有

$$Cov(X, Y)^2 \le Var(X)Var(Y)$$

• 证明思路: 考虑

$$Var(X - \lambda Y) \ge 0, \quad \forall \lambda$$

· 作为λ的二次多项式恒大于等于0,则判别式

$$\Delta = [2Cov(X,Y)]^2 - 4Var(X)Var(Y) \le 0$$

• 等号成立等价于 X = λY

另一种证明思路

• 引理:

Let a and b be any positive numbers, and let p and q be any positive numbers (necessarily greater than 1) satisfying

$$\frac{1}{p} + \frac{1}{q} = 1$$

Then

$$\frac{1}{p}a^p + \frac{1}{q}b^q \ge ab$$

with equality if and only if $a^p = b^q$.

Proof

Fix b, and consider the function

$$g(a) = \frac{1}{p}a^{p} + \frac{1}{q}b^{q} - ab$$

To minimize g(a), differentiate and set equal to 0:

$$\frac{d}{da}g(a) = 0 \Rightarrow a^{p-1} - b = 0 \Rightarrow b = a^{p-1}$$

A check of the second derivative will establish that this is indeed a minimum. The value of the function at the minimum is

$$\frac{1}{p}a^p + \frac{1}{q}(a^{p-1})^q - aa^{p-1} = 0$$

Since the minimum is unique, equality holds only if $a^{p-1} = b$, which is equavalent to $a^p = b^q$

Hölder's Inequality

Let X and Y be any two random variables, and let p and q be any positive numbers (necessarily greater than 1) satisfying

$$\frac{1}{p} + \frac{1}{q} = 1$$

Then

$$|EXY| \le E|XY| \le (E|X|^p)^{1/p} (E|Y|^q)^{1/q}$$

Proof

$$-|XY| \le XY \le |XY|$$

$$\Rightarrow -E|XY| \le EXY \le E|XY|$$

$$\Rightarrow |EXY| \le |E|XY| = E|XY|$$

Define

$$a = \frac{|X|}{(E|X|^p)^{1/p}}$$
 and $b = \frac{|Y|}{(E|Y|^q)^{1/q}}$

Then

$$\frac{1}{p} \frac{|X|^p}{E|X|^p} + \frac{1}{q} \frac{|Y|^q}{E|Y|^q} \ge \frac{|XY|}{(E|X|^p)^{1/p} (E|Y|^q)^{1/q}}$$

Furthermore

$$1 = \frac{1}{p} \frac{E|X|^{p}}{E|X|^{p}} + \frac{1}{q} \frac{E|Y|^{q}}{E|Y|^{q}} \ge \frac{E|XY|}{(E|X|^{p})^{1/p}(E|Y|^{q})^{1/q}}$$

Cauchy-Schwarz Inequality

Let X and Y be any two random variables, then
$$|EXY| \le E|XY| \le (E|X|^2)^{1/2}(E|Y|^2)^{1/2}$$

$$-|XY| \le XY \le |XY| \Rightarrow -\operatorname{E}|XY| \le \operatorname{E}XY \le \operatorname{E}|XY| \Rightarrow |\operatorname{E}XY| \le |\operatorname{E}|XY| = \operatorname{E}|XY|$$

Because
$$ab \le \frac{a^2 + b^2}{2}$$
 for any positive a and b

Define
$$a = \frac{|X|}{(E|X|^2)^{1/2}}$$
 and $b = \frac{|Y|}{(E|Y|^2)^{1/2}}$

Then
$$\frac{|XY|}{(E|X|^2)^{1/2}(E|Y|^2)^{1/2}} \le \frac{1}{2} \frac{|X|^2}{E|X|^2} + \frac{1}{2} \frac{|Y|^2}{E|Y|^2}$$

Furthermore
$$\frac{E|XY|}{(E|X|^2)^{1/2}(E|Y|^2)^{1/2}} \le \frac{1}{2} \frac{E|X|^2}{E|X|^2} + \frac{1}{2} \frac{E|Y|^2}{E|Y|^2} = 1$$

Hence
$$E|XY| \le (E|X|^2)^{1/2} (E|Y|^2)^{1/2}$$

Covariance Inequality

Let X and Y be any two random variables, then

$$\begin{aligned} & | E(X - EX)(Y - EY) | \\ & \le | E(X - EX)(Y - EY) | \\ & \le (E(X - EX)^2)^{1/2} (E(Y - EY)^2)^{1/2} \end{aligned}$$

Furthermore

$$(\operatorname{Cov}(X,Y))^2 \le (\operatorname{Var} X)(\operatorname{Var} Y) = \sigma_X^2 \sigma_Y^2$$

Equivalently,

$$\operatorname{Var} X \ge \frac{(\operatorname{Cov}(X,Y))^2}{\operatorname{Var} Y}$$

Cramér-Rao Inequality

$$\begin{split} \frac{d}{d\theta} & \mathbf{E}_{\theta} W(\mathbf{X}) = \int_{\mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{X}} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} [W(\mathbf{x}) f(\mathbf{x} \mid \theta)] d\mathbf{x} \\ & = \int_{\mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{X}} \left[W(\mathbf{x}) \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} [f(\mathbf{x} \mid \theta)] / f(\mathbf{x} \mid \theta) \right) \right] f(\mathbf{x} \mid \theta) d\mathbf{x} \\ & = \int_{\mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{X}} \left[W(\mathbf{x}) \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \log f(\mathbf{x} \mid \theta) \right] f(\mathbf{x} \mid \theta) d\mathbf{x} \\ & = \mathbf{E}_{\theta} \left[W(\mathbf{X}) \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \log f(\mathbf{X} \mid \theta) \right] \end{split}$$

When $W(\mathbf{X}) = 1$, then

$$\mathbf{E}_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} \bigg[\frac{\partial}{\partial \boldsymbol{\theta}} \log f(\mathbf{X} \mid \boldsymbol{\theta}) \bigg] = \mathbf{E}_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} \bigg[W(\mathbf{X}) \frac{\partial}{\partial \boldsymbol{\theta}} \log f(\mathbf{X} \mid \boldsymbol{\theta}) \bigg] = \frac{d}{d\boldsymbol{\theta}} \mathbf{E}_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} (1) = 0$$

Therefore

$$\begin{aligned} & \operatorname{Var}_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial \boldsymbol{\theta}} \log f(\mathbf{X} \mid \boldsymbol{\theta}) \right) = \operatorname{E}_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} \left(\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial \boldsymbol{\theta}} \log f(\mathbf{X} \mid \boldsymbol{\theta}) \right)^2 \right) - \left(\operatorname{E}_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial \boldsymbol{\theta}} \log f(\mathbf{X} \mid \boldsymbol{\theta}) \right) \right)^2 = \operatorname{E}_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} \left(\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial \boldsymbol{\theta}} \log f(\mathbf{X} \mid \boldsymbol{\theta}) \right)^2 \right) \\ & \operatorname{Cov} \left(W(\mathbf{X}), \frac{\partial}{\partial \boldsymbol{\theta}} \log f(\mathbf{X} \mid \boldsymbol{\theta}) \right) = \operatorname{E}_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} \left(W(\mathbf{X}) \frac{\partial}{\partial \boldsymbol{\theta}} \log f(\mathbf{X} \mid \boldsymbol{\theta}) \right) - \operatorname{E}_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} \left(W(\mathbf{X}) \right) \operatorname{E}_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial \boldsymbol{\theta}} \log f(\mathbf{X} \mid \boldsymbol{\theta}) \right) = \frac{d}{d\boldsymbol{\theta}} \operatorname{E}_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} W(\mathbf{X}) \end{aligned}$$

Apply the Cauchy-Schwarz Inequality, we have $\operatorname{Var}_{\theta}W(\mathbf{X}) \geq \frac{\left(\frac{d}{d\theta}\operatorname{E}_{\theta}W(\mathbf{X})\right)^{2}}{\operatorname{E}_{\theta}\left[\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial\theta}\log f(\mathbf{X}\mid\theta)\right)^{2}\right]}$

The Cramér-Rao Inequality, iid case

Let $X_1, ..., X_n$ be iid random variables with pdf $f(x \mid \theta)$, and

let $W(\mathbf{X}) = W(X_1, ..., X_n)$ be any estimator satisfying

$$\frac{d}{d\theta} E_{\theta} W(\mathbf{X}) = \int_{\mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{X}} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} [W(\mathbf{x}) f(\mathbf{x} \mid \theta)] d\mathbf{x}$$

and

$$\operatorname{Var}_{\theta}W(\mathbf{X}) < \infty$$

Then

$$\operatorname{Var}_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} \mathbf{W}(\mathbf{X}) \geq \frac{\left(\frac{d}{d\boldsymbol{\theta}} \operatorname{E}_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} W(\mathbf{X})\right)^{2}}{n \operatorname{E}_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} \left(\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial \boldsymbol{\theta}} \log f(\boldsymbol{X} \mid \boldsymbol{\theta})\right)^{2}\right)}.$$

Proof

$$\begin{split} \mathbf{E}_{\theta} \Bigg[& \Big(\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \log f(\mathbf{X} \mid \theta) \Big)^{2} \Bigg] = \mathbf{E}_{\theta} \Bigg[\Big(\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \log \prod_{i=1}^{n} f(X_{i} \mid \theta) \Big)^{2} \Big) \\ & = \mathbf{E}_{\theta} \Bigg[\Big(\sum_{i=1}^{n} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \log f(X_{i} \mid \theta) \Big)^{2} \Big) \\ & = \sum_{i=1}^{n} \mathbf{E}_{\theta} \Bigg[\Big(\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \log f(X_{i} \mid \theta) \Big)^{2} \Bigg] + \sum_{i \neq j} \mathbf{E}_{\theta} \Bigg(\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \log f(X_{i} \mid \theta) \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \log f(X_{j} \mid \theta) \Big) \end{split}$$

 $\operatorname{However}$

$$\mathbf{E}_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} \bigg[\frac{\partial}{\partial \boldsymbol{\theta}} \log f(\boldsymbol{X}_{i} \mid \boldsymbol{\theta}) \frac{\partial}{\partial \boldsymbol{\theta}} \log f(\boldsymbol{X}_{j} \mid \boldsymbol{\theta}) \bigg] = \mathbf{E}_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} \bigg[\frac{\partial}{\partial \boldsymbol{\theta}} \log f(\boldsymbol{X}_{i} \mid \boldsymbol{\theta}) \bigg] \mathbf{E}_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} \bigg[\frac{\partial}{\partial \boldsymbol{\theta}} \log f(\boldsymbol{X}_{j} \mid \boldsymbol{\theta}) \bigg] = 0$$

Therefore

$$\mathbf{E}_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} \left[\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial \boldsymbol{\theta}} \log f(\mathbf{X} \mid \boldsymbol{\theta}) \right)^{2} \right] = \sum_{i=1}^{n} \mathbf{E}_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} \left[\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial \boldsymbol{\theta}} \log f(X_{i} \mid \boldsymbol{\theta}) \right)^{2} \right] = n \mathbf{E}_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} \left[\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial \boldsymbol{\theta}} \log f(X \mid \boldsymbol{\theta}) \right)^{2} \right]$$

无偏估计的CR下界

If $f(x \mid \theta)$ satisfies

$$\frac{d}{d\theta} \operatorname{E}_{\theta} \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \log f(X \mid \theta) \right) = \int \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \left(\left(\log f(X \mid \theta) \right) f(x \mid \theta) \right) dx$$

then

$$0 = \mathbf{E}_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} \left[\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial \boldsymbol{\theta}} \log f(\boldsymbol{X} \mid \boldsymbol{\theta}) \right)^{2} \right] + \mathbf{E}_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} \left(\frac{\partial^{2}}{\partial \boldsymbol{\theta}^{2}} \log f(\boldsymbol{X} \mid \boldsymbol{\theta}) \right)$$

and thus for any unbiased estimator $(\frac{d}{d\theta} \mathbf{E}_{\theta} W(\mathbf{X}) = 1)$,

$$\operatorname{Var}_{\theta} \mathbf{W}(\mathbf{X}) \ge \frac{1}{-n \operatorname{E}_{\theta} \left(\frac{\partial^{2}}{\partial \theta^{2}} \log f(X \mid \theta) \right)}.$$

Fisher 信息量

• 称CR下界中的分母

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

为Fisher 信息量或者Fisher 信息数

正态分布Fisher信息量

• 设 $X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n \sim N(\theta, \sigma^2)$, 其中 σ^2 已知

$$f(x|\theta) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma} \exp\{-\frac{1}{2\sigma^2} \sum_{i=1}^{n} (x_i - \theta)^2\}$$

• 于是

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \log f(x|\theta) = \frac{1}{\sigma^2} \sum_{i=1}^{n} (x_i - \theta)$$

$$E_{\theta} \left[\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \log f(x|\theta) \right)^{2} \right] = \frac{1}{\sigma^{4}} E_{\theta} \left[\sum_{i=1}^{n} (X_{i} - \theta)^{2} \right] = \frac{n}{\sigma^{2}}$$

Poisson Intensity

Consider only unbiased estimators. Since Poisson belongs to the exponential family

$$-nE_{\lambda} \left[\frac{\partial^{2}}{\partial \lambda^{2}} \log f(X \mid \theta) \right] = -nE_{\lambda} \left[\frac{\partial^{2}}{\partial \lambda^{2}} \log \left(\frac{\lambda^{X} e^{-\lambda}}{X!} \right) \right]$$
$$= -nE_{\lambda} \left(-\frac{X}{\lambda^{2}} \right)$$
$$= \frac{n}{\lambda}$$

Thus the lower bound is λ / n .

Because $\operatorname{Var}_{\lambda} \overline{X} = \lambda / n$, the lower bound is attained.

Therefore,

 \overline{X} is the best unbiased estimator of Possion intensity.

Bernoulli Probability

Consider only unbiased estimators. Since Bernoulli belongs to the exponential family

$$\begin{split} -n\mathbf{E}_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} \left[\frac{\partial^2}{\partial \boldsymbol{\theta}^2} \log f(\boldsymbol{X} \mid \boldsymbol{\theta}) \right] &= -n\mathbf{E}_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} \left[\frac{\partial^2}{\partial \boldsymbol{\theta}^2} \log \left(\boldsymbol{\theta}^{\boldsymbol{X}} (1 - \boldsymbol{\theta})^{1 - \boldsymbol{X}} \right) \right] \\ &= -n\mathbf{E}_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} \left(-\frac{\boldsymbol{X}}{\boldsymbol{\theta}^2} - \frac{1 - \boldsymbol{X}}{(1 - \boldsymbol{\theta})^2} \right) \\ &= \frac{n}{\boldsymbol{\theta} (1 - \boldsymbol{\theta})} \end{split}$$

The lower bound is $\theta(1-\theta)/n$.

Because $\operatorname{Var}_{\lambda} \overline{X} = \theta(1-\theta) / n$, the lower bound is attained.

Therefore,

 \overline{X} is the best unbiased estimator for Bernoulli success rate.

Normal Mean

Consider only unbiased estimators. Since Normal belongs to the exponential family

$$-nE_{\lambda} \left[\frac{\partial^{2}}{\partial \mu^{2}} \log f(X \mid \mu, \sigma^{2}) \right] = -nE_{\mu} \left[\frac{\partial^{2}}{\partial \mu^{2}} \log \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma}} e^{-\frac{(X-\mu)^{2}}{2\sigma^{2}}} \right) \right]$$
$$= -nE_{\mu} \left(-\frac{1}{\sigma^{2}} \right)$$
$$= \frac{n}{\sigma^{2}}$$

Thus the lower bound is σ^2 / n .

Because $\operatorname{Var}_{\mu} \overline{X} = \sigma^2 / n$, the lower bound is attained.

Therefore,

 \bar{X} is the best unbiased estimator of normal mean.

How about the Normal Variance?

$$-nE_{\sigma^2} \left[\frac{\partial^2}{\partial (\sigma^2)^2} \log f(X \mid \mu, \sigma^2) \right] = -nE_{\sigma^2} \left[\frac{\partial^2}{\partial (\sigma^2)^2} \log \left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma}} e^{-\frac{(X-\mu)^2}{2\sigma^2}} \right) \right]$$
$$= -nE_{\sigma^2} \left(\frac{1}{2\sigma^4} - \frac{(X-\mu)^2}{\sigma^6} \right)$$
$$= \frac{n}{2\sigma^4}$$

Thus the lower bound is $2\sigma^4 / n$.

Because $\operatorname{Var}_{\sigma^2} S^2 = 2\sigma^4 / (n-1)$, the lower bound is NOT attained.

Therefore,

 S^2 is not the best unbiased estimator for normal variance. :-(

CR定理的条件说明(I)

• $\chi X_1, \cdots, X_n \sim U[0, \theta],$

$$f(x|\theta) = \frac{1}{\theta}, \quad 0 < x < \theta; \quad \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \log f(x|\theta) = -\frac{1}{\theta}$$
$$E_{\theta} \left[\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \log f(x|\theta) \right)^{2} \right] = E_{\theta} \left[\frac{1}{\theta^{2}} \right] = \frac{1}{\theta^{2}}$$

• 此时对应的CR定理为

$$Var(W) \ge \frac{\theta^2}{n}$$

CR定理的条件说明(II)

• 考虑充分统计量 $Y = \max\{X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n\}$

$$f_Y(y|\theta) = ny^{n-1}/\theta^n$$

$$E_{\theta}Y = \int_0^{\theta} \frac{ny^n}{\theta^n} = \frac{n}{n+1}\theta$$

$$E_{\theta}Y^2 = \int_0^{\theta} \frac{ny^{n+1}}{\theta^n} dy = \frac{n}{n+2}\theta^2$$

• 表明 $\frac{n+1}{n}$ Y 是 θ 的无偏估计

CR定理的条件说明 (III)

• 于是

$$Var(\frac{n+1}{n}Y) = \frac{(n+1)^2}{n^2} Var_{\theta}Y$$

$$= \frac{(n+1)^2}{n^2} \left[E_{\theta}Y^2 - \left(\frac{n}{n+1}\theta\right)^2 \right]$$

$$= \frac{\theta^2}{n(n+2)} < \frac{\theta^2}{n}$$

• 表明CR定理的结论不满足

CR定理的条件说明 (IV)

• 原因是什么?

$$\frac{d}{d\theta} \int_0^{\theta} h(x) f(x|\theta) dx = \frac{d}{d\theta} \int_0^{\theta} \frac{h(x)}{\theta} dx$$
$$= \frac{h(\theta)}{\theta} + \int_0^{\theta} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} (\frac{1}{\theta}) dx$$
$$\neq \int_0^{\theta} h(x) \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} [f(x|\theta)] dx$$

• 这个例子说明,如果密度函数的支撑依赖于参数的话,一般来说CR定理都不适用。

Attainment of the Cramér-Rao bound

Let $X_1, ..., X_n$ be iid random variables with pdf $f(x \mid \theta)$, where $f(x \mid \theta)$ satisfies the conditions of the Cramer-Rao theorem. Let $L(\theta \mid \mathbf{x}) = \prod_{i=1}^n f(x_i \mid \theta)$ be the likelihood function of θ . If $W(\mathbf{X}) = (\mathbf{X}_1, ..., \mathbf{X}_n)$ is any unbiased estimator of $\tau(\theta)$, then $W(\mathbf{X})$ attains the Cramer-Rao lower bound if and only if

$$a(\theta)[W(\mathbf{x}) - \tau(\theta)] = \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \log L(\theta \mid \mathbf{x})$$

for some function $a(\theta)$.

Proof

The Cramer-Rao inequality can be written as

$$\left(\operatorname{Cov}\left(W(\mathbf{X}), \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \log f(\mathbf{X} \mid \theta)\right)\right)^{2} \leq \left(\operatorname{Var}_{\theta} W(\mathbf{X})\right) \left(\operatorname{Var}_{\theta} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \log f(\mathbf{X} \mid \theta)\right)$$

and

$$E_{\theta}W(\mathbf{X}) = \tau(\theta)$$
 (unbiasedness of the estimator)

$$\mathbf{E}_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial \boldsymbol{\theta}} \log f(\mathbf{X} \mid \boldsymbol{\theta}) \right) = 0 \quad \text{(From the proof of Cramer-Rao)}$$

Furthermore,

$$(\text{Cov}(X,Y))^2 = \sigma_X^2 \sigma_Y^2$$
 if and only if Y and X have a linear relationship $Y - \mu_V = a(\theta)(X - \mu_T)$

That is to say

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \log L(\theta \mid \mathbf{x}) = a(\theta)(W(\mathbf{x}) - \tau(\theta))$$

When will the lower bound be attained

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

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial(\sigma^2)}\log L(\mu, \sigma^2 \mid \mathbf{x}) = \frac{n}{2\sigma^4} \left(\sum_{i=1}^n \frac{(x_i - \mu)^2}{n} - \sigma^2 \right)$$

The best unbiased estimator for σ^2 is

$$(\sigma^{\star})^2 = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{n=1}^{n} (x_i - \mu)^2,$$

which can only be obtained in the case that μ is known.

If μ is unknown, the lowe bound cannot be attained.

条件期望和方差

$$Var(X) = Var\left[E(X|Y)\right] + E[Var(X|Y)]$$

• 证明:

$$Var(X) = E[(X - EX)^{2}]$$

$$= E[(X - E(X|Y)) + (E(X|Y) - E(X))]^{2}$$

$$= E[(X - E(X|Y))^{2} + (E(X|Y) - E(X))^{2}]$$

$$+ 2E[(X - E(X|Y))(E(X|Y) - E(X))]$$

• 由条件期望公式 EX = E[E(X|Y)]

$$E\left[\left(E(X|Y) - E(X)\right)^{2}\right] = Var(E(X|Y))$$

$$E\left[\left(X - E(X|Y)\right)^{2}\right] = E\left[E\left\{\left(X - E(X|Y)\right)^{2}\right\}|Y\right]$$

$$= EVar(X|Y)$$

条件期望和方差

• 交叉项

$$E[(X - E(X|Y))(E(X|Y) - E(X))]$$

= $E[E\{(X - E(X|Y))(E(X|Y) - E(X))|Y\}]$

• 当Y给定时, E(X|Y)-E(X)均为常数

$$E[(X - E(X|Y))(E(X|Y) - E(X))]$$

$$= E[E\{(X - E(X|Y))(E(X|Y) - E(X))|Y\}]$$

$$= E[(E(X|Y) - E(X))E(X) - E(E(X|Y))] = 0$$

Rao-Balckwell定理

• 设W是 $\tau(\theta)$ 的任一无偏统计量。T是 θ 的一个充分统计量,定义

$$\phi(T) = E(W|T)$$

则

$$E_{\theta}(\phi(T)) = \tau(\theta) \text{ and } Var\phi(T) \leq Var(W) \quad \forall \theta$$

即 $\phi(T)$ 是 $\tau(\theta)$ 的一致最优无偏估计

注

- 如果以以非充分的统计量为条件,可能导致一个非统计量。尽管方差得到改善。
- 例子: 设 $X_1, X_2 \sim N(\theta, 1)$, 于是 $E(\overline{X}) = \theta, Var(\overline{X}) = \frac{1}{2}, \overline{X} = \frac{1}{2}(X_1 + X_2)$
- 以 X_1 为条件,定义 $\phi(X_1) = E_{\theta}(\overline{X}|X_1)$

$$\phi(X_1) = E_{\theta}(\overline{X}|X_1)$$

$$= \frac{1}{2}E_{\theta}(X_1|X_1) + \frac{1}{2}E_{\theta}(X_2|X_1)$$

$$= \frac{1}{2}X_1 + \frac{1}{2}\theta$$

最优无偏估计量的唯一性(I)

- 定理: 如果W是τ(θ)的一个最优无偏估计量, 则W唯一。
- 证明: 令W'是另一个最优无偏估计量,考虑 $W^* = \frac{1}{2}(W + W'), E_{\theta}(W^*) = \tau(\theta).$

$$Var(W^*) = \frac{1}{4}Var_{\theta}W + \frac{1}{4}Var_{\theta}W + \frac{1}{2}Cov_{\theta}(W, W')$$

$$\leq \frac{1}{4}Var_{\theta}W + \frac{1}{4}Var_{\theta}W + \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{Var_{\theta}(W)Var_{\theta}(W')}$$

$$= Var_{\theta}(W)$$

最佳无偏估计量的唯一性(II)

• 如果上式中不等式严格成立,则与最佳无偏性矛盾。于是等式必须成立,所以

$$W' = a(\theta)W + b(\theta)$$

$$Cov_{\theta}(W, W') = a(\theta)Var_{\theta}(W) = Var_{\theta}(W) \implies a(\theta) = 1$$

$$E_{\theta}(W') = b(\theta) + a(\theta)E_{\theta}(W) = \tau(\theta) \implies b(\theta) = 0$$

$$W' = W$$

• 即W唯一

最佳无偏估计的判断

- 定理: 如果 $E_{\theta}(W) = \tau(\theta)$,W是 $\tau(\theta)$ 的最佳无偏估计量的充分必要条件是W与0的所有无偏估计量不相关。
- 证明: 定义 $\phi_{\alpha} = W + \alpha U, E_{\theta}U = 0.$

$$Var_{\theta}\phi_{\alpha} = Var_{\theta}W + 2\alpha Cov_{\theta}(W, U) + \alpha^{2}Var_{\theta}U$$

如果 $\exists \theta = \theta_0, Cov_\theta(W, U) \neq 0.$

则取
$$\alpha \in (0, -2Cov_{\theta_0}(W, U)/Var_{\theta_0}W),$$
 $2\alpha Cov_{\theta_0}(W, U)\alpha^2 Var_{\theta_0}(U) < 0$

从而 ϕ_{α} 在 $\theta = \theta_0$ 处优于W.

最佳无偏估计的判断

• 反之: 设W与0的所有无偏估计不相关,

$$\forall W', \quad E_{\theta}W' = E_{\theta}(W) = \tau(\theta)$$
$$W' = W + (W' - W)$$

$$Var_{\theta}(W') = Var_{\theta}(W) + Var_{\theta}(W' - W) + 2Cov_{\theta}(W, W' - W)$$
$$= Var_{\theta}(W) + Var_{\theta}(W' - W) \ge Var_{\theta}(W)$$

• 由W'的任意性可得, W是 τ(θ) 的最佳无偏估 计

定理的理解

- 0的无偏估计相当于随机噪声
- 于是上述定理直观上可以这么理解:如果 一个估计量可以通过加上随机噪声使其方 差得到改善,那么这个估计量是有缺陷的

上述定理用来验证最优无偏性实际上也不 好操作,但可以用来说明某个估计量不是 最优无偏估计。

例子 (I)

• $\c \mathcal{U}(\theta, \theta + 1),$

$$E_{\theta}(X) = \int_{\theta}^{\theta+1} x dx = \theta + \frac{1}{2}$$

• 所以: $X - \frac{1}{2}$ 是的无偏估计

$$Var(X - \frac{1}{2}) = \frac{1}{12}$$

例子 (II)

• 对这个概率密度函数, 0的无偏估计量是以 1位周期的周期函数.

$$\int_{\theta}^{\theta+1} h(x)dx = 0, \forall \theta > 0$$

$$\frac{d}{d\theta} \int_{\theta}^{\theta+1} h(x)dx = 0 = h(\theta+1) - h(\theta), \forall \theta > 0$$

• 上式验证了h(x)是周期为1的周期函数

例子 (III)

$$Cov_{\theta}(X - \frac{1}{2}, \sin(2\pi X)) = Cov_{\theta}(X, \sin(2\pi X))$$

$$= \int_{\theta}^{\theta+1} x \sin(2\pi x) dx = -\frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{\theta}^{\theta+1} x d \cos(2\pi x) dx$$

$$= -\frac{x \cos(2\pi x)}{2\pi} \Big|_{\theta}^{\theta+1} + \int_{\theta}^{\theta+1} \frac{\cos(2\pi x)}{2\pi} dx$$

$$= -\frac{\cos(2\pi \theta)}{2\pi}$$

• 因此, X-1/2与0的一个无偏估计相关, 故X-1/2不是最佳无偏估计

例子(IV)

• 实际上

$$Var_{\theta}(X - \frac{1}{2} + \sin(2\pi X))$$

$$= \int_{\theta}^{\theta+1} \left[x - \frac{1}{2} - \theta + \sin(2\pi X) \right]^{2} dx$$

$$= \int_{\theta}^{\theta+1} (x - \frac{1}{2} - \theta)^{2} dx + 2 \int_{\theta}^{\theta+1} (x - \theta - \frac{1}{2}) \sin(2\pi x) dx + \int_{\theta}^{\theta+1} \sin^{2}(2\pi x) dx$$

$$= \frac{1}{12} - \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{\theta}^{\theta+1} (x - \theta - \frac{1}{2}) d\cos(2\pi x) + \frac{1}{2} \int_{\theta}^{\theta+1} (1 - \cos(4\pi x)) dx$$

$$= \frac{1}{12} - \frac{1}{\pi} (x - \theta - \frac{1}{2}) \cos(2\pi x) |_{\theta}^{\theta+1} + \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{\theta}^{\theta+1} \cos(2\pi x) dx + \frac{1}{2} \int_{\theta}^{\theta+1} (1 - \cos(4\pi x)) dx$$

$$= \frac{1}{12} + \left(\frac{1}{2} - \frac{\cos(2\pi \theta)}{\pi} \right)$$

基于完全充分统计量的 最佳无偏估计

• 定理:设T是参数 θ 的完全充分统计量。 $\phi(T)$ 是任意一个仅基于T的统计量.则 $\phi(T)$ 是其期望的唯一最佳无偏统计量。

完全性:

If
$$E_{\theta}g(T) = 0, \forall \theta$$

$$P_{\theta}(g(T) = 0) = 1$$

完全性表明:不存在0的非零无偏统计量

例子

• \cite{X} $X_1, X_2, \cdots, X_n \sim U[0, \theta]$, \cite{A}

$$Y = \max\{X_1, X_2, \cdots, X_n\}$$

- 前面我们证明过 ½½γ 是 θ 的无偏统计量,但它不满足CR定理的条件, 无法确认这个估计量是否是最佳无偏估计
- 但在前一章中证明了Y是完全充分统计量,不存在Y的0无偏统计量,因此也不可能有该统计量与任一0无偏统计量相关,因此得到 $\frac{n+1}{n}$ 是 θ 的最佳无偏估计。

二项分布最佳无偏估计量

• 设 $X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n \sim Binomial[k, \theta], \tau(\theta)$ 是二项实验中恰好成功一次的概率

$$\tau(\theta) = Pr_{\theta}(X = 1) = k\theta(1 - \theta)^{k-1}$$

• 完全充分统计量

$$T = \sum_{i=1}^{n} \sim Binomial(nk, \theta)$$

• \Rightarrow $h(X_1) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{When } X_1 = 1 \\ 0 & \text{Others} \end{cases}$

二项分布最佳无偏估计量

$$E_{\theta}h(X_1) = \sum_{x_1=0}^k C_k^{x_1} \theta^{x_1} (1-\theta)^{1-x_1} = k\theta (1-\theta)^{k-1}$$

- $h(X_1)$ 是 $\tau(\theta) = k\theta(1-k)^{k-1}$ 的无偏估计
- 于是 $\phi(T) = E(h(X_1)|T = \sum_{i=1}^{n} X_i)$ 是 $\tau(\theta) = k\theta(1-k)^{k-1}$ 的 最佳无偏估计

$$\phi(t) = E\left(h(X_1)|\sum_{i=1}^n X_i = t\right)$$
$$= Pr\left(X_1 = 1|\sum_{i=1}^n X_i = t\right)$$

二项分布最佳无偏估计量

$$\phi(t) = \frac{Pr(X_1 = 1, \sum_{i=1}^n X_i = t)}{Pr(\sum_{i=1}^n X_i = t)}$$

$$= \frac{Pr(X_1 = 1) Pr(\sum_{i=2}^n X_i = t - 1)}{Pr(\sum_{i=1}^n X_i = t)}$$

$$= \frac{k\theta(1 - \theta)^{k-1} C_{k(n-1)}^{t-1} \theta^{t-1} (1 - \theta)^{k(n-1) - (t-1)}}{C_{kn}^t \theta^t (1 - \theta)^{kn-t}}$$

$$= k \frac{C_{k(n-1)}^{t-1}}{C_{kn}^t}$$

$$\phi(T) = k \frac{C_{k(n-1)}^{T-1}}{C_{kn}^{T}}$$

Steins' loss for the normal variance

Consider another loss function for the normal variance estimators

$$L(\sigma^2, \delta) = \frac{\delta}{\sigma^2} - 1 - \log \frac{\delta}{\sigma^2}$$

 $L(\sigma^2, \delta) = 0$ if and only if $\delta = \sigma^2$.

$$L(\sigma^2, \delta) \to \infty$$
 when $\delta \to 0$, or ∞ .

Consider the class of estimator $\delta = bS^2$ for normal variance

$$R(\sigma^2, \delta \mid b) = E\left(\frac{bS^2}{\sigma^2} - 1 - \log\frac{bS^2}{\sigma^2}\right) = b - \log b - \left(1 + E\log\frac{S^2}{\sigma^2}\right)$$

Solve the optimization problem of

min
$$R(\sigma^2, \delta \mid b)$$

yields b = 1. Thus S^2 is the best estimator for σ^2 under this risk function.

Jackknife

Jackknife is a general technique for reducing bias in an estimator.

Let

$$T_n = T_n(X_1, \dots, X_n)$$

be some estimator for a parameter θ .

Define

$$T_{n-1}^k = T_{n-1}(X_1, \dots, X_{k-1}, X_{k+1}, \dots X_n)$$

be the Jackknife estimator with X_k removed from the sample.

The jackknife estimator of θ is then given by

$$JK(T_n) = nT_n - \frac{n-1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n T_{n-1}^k.$$

An Example

• For a random sample X_1, \dots, X_n from a Bernoulli(θ) population, the MLE estimator is the best unbiased estimator, as it attains the Cramer-Rao low bound.

$$\hat{\theta} = \overline{X} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} X_i, \quad E(\hat{\theta}) = \theta, Var(\hat{\theta}) = \frac{\theta(1-\theta)}{n}$$

• However, $\hat{\theta}^2$ is the biased estimator of θ^2

$$E(\hat{\theta}^2) = \text{Var}(\theta) + E(\hat{\theta})^2$$
$$= \frac{\theta(1-\theta)}{n} + \theta^2 \neq \theta^2$$

The Jackknife Estimator

The k-th jackknife estimator of θ^2 is

$$T_{n-1}^{k} = \left(\frac{\sum_{i=1}^{n} X_{i} - X_{k}}{n-1}\right)^{2} = \left(\frac{U - X_{k}}{n-1}\right)^{2},$$
 which is $T_{n-1}^{k} = \frac{(U-1)^{2}}{(n-1)^{2}}$ when $X_{k} = 1$ and $T_{n-1}^{k} = \frac{U^{2}}{(n-1)^{2}}$ when $X_{k} = 0$. So
$$\operatorname{JK}(T_{n}) = nT_{n} - \frac{n-1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} T_{n-1}^{k}$$

$$= n\frac{U^{2}}{n^{2}} - \frac{n-1}{n} \left(U\frac{(U-1)^{2}}{(n-1)^{2}} + (n-U)\frac{U^{2}}{(n-1)^{2}}\right)$$

$$= \frac{U^{2} - U}{n(n-1)}$$

We can check that

$$E[JK(T_n)] = \frac{1}{n(n-1)}E(U^2 - U) = \frac{1}{n(n-1)}[n\theta(1-\theta) + (n\theta)^2 - n\theta] = \theta^2$$

So $JK(T_n)$ is an unbiased estimator of θ^2 .