



point estimator: any function of X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n (i.e., any stats) is a point estimator (no mention of correspondence b/w estimator & param)
 • no mention of the range of W , usually support of W and support of param coincide but not always.

Methods of finding estimators



解① MOM (method of moment)

sample moment = population moment

$$\frac{1}{n} \sum X_i = EX$$

$$\frac{1}{n} \sum X_i^2 = EX^2$$

example: bivariate approximation.

Y_1, Y_2, \dots, Y_n iid $X^2_r \rightarrow \sum Y_i \sim \chi^2_{2r}$, then,

$$\sum a_i Y_i \sim \chi^2_{\sum a_i} \text{ (approximately)}$$

$$E\left[\frac{\sum Y_i}{r}\right] = 1$$

$$\frac{1}{n} \sum a_i Y_i$$



解② MLE $L(\theta | X) = \prod_{i=1}^n f(x_i | \theta) = \prod_{i=1}^n f(x_i | \theta_1, \theta_2, \dots, \theta_k)$

$\hat{\theta}(X)$: param value that maximize $L(\theta | X) \rightarrow$ a fun of θ

: mle estimator of the param θ based on a sample X

How to find the mle estimator?

① score = 0

step 2: second derivative < 0 (concave)

for multivariate:

• at least one second-order partial derivatives is negative.

• Jacobian of the second-order partial derivatives at $\hat{\theta}$ is positive

$$\begin{vmatrix} \frac{\partial^2 L(\theta)}{\partial \theta_1^2} & \frac{\partial^2 L(\theta)}{\partial \theta_1 \partial \theta_2} \\ \frac{\partial^2 L(\theta)}{\partial \theta_2 \partial \theta_1} & \frac{\partial^2 L(\theta)}{\partial \theta_2^2} \end{vmatrix}_{\theta_1=\hat{\theta}_1, \theta_2=\hat{\theta}_2} > 0$$

step 3: check the values at boundary of the support of X .

② $L(\theta | X)$ - global upper bound.

example: $X_i \sim N(\theta, 1)$

$$L(\theta | X) = \prod_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \exp\left\{-\frac{1}{2}(x_i - \theta)^2\right\}$$

we know that for any number a

$$\sum (x_i - a)^2 \geq \sum (x_i - \bar{x}_n)^2$$

$$\therefore \exp\left\{-\frac{1}{2} \sum (x_i - \theta)^2\right\} \leq \exp\left\{-\frac{1}{2} \sum (x_i - \bar{x}_n)^2\right\}$$

\therefore global upper bound \bar{x}_n . $\therefore \bar{x}_n$ is an MLE.

nice properties of MLE

(i) invariance: if $\hat{\theta}$ mle of θ , then for any function $\tau(\theta)$

the MLE of $\tau(\theta)$ is $\tau(\hat{\theta})$

$$X^2, \sqrt{X(1-X)}, \dots$$



解③ Bayes's estimator

$$f(\theta | X) = \frac{f(X | \theta) f(\theta)}{f(X)} \quad \begin{matrix} \text{sampling dist} \\ \text{prior} \end{matrix} \quad \theta \text{ is a RV.}$$

$f(X)$: marginal dist of the data

Example: $X | p \sim \text{Bin}(n, p)$ p with prior $p \sim \text{beta}(\alpha, \beta)$

① numerator: Joint PoF of X, p is $f(X | p) f(p)$

$$f(X | p) = \binom{n}{x} p^x (1-p)^{n-x} = \frac{\Gamma(n+1)}{\Gamma(x+1) \Gamma(n-x+1)} p^{x+1} (1-p)^{n-x+1}$$

$$= \frac{\Gamma(n+1)}{\Gamma(x+1) \Gamma(n-x+1)} p^{x+1} (1-p)^{n-x+1}$$

② denominator: marginal PDF of X .

$$f(x) = \int_0^1 f(x | p) dp = \int_0^1 \frac{\Gamma(n+1)}{\Gamma(x+1) \Gamma(n-x+1)} p^{x+1} (1-p)^{n-x+1} dp$$

$$= \frac{\Gamma(n+1)}{\Gamma(x+1) \Gamma(n-x+1)} \int_0^1 \frac{\Gamma(n+1)}{\Gamma(x+1) \Gamma(n-x+1)} p^{x+1} (1-p)^{n-x+1} dp$$

$$= \frac{\Gamma(n+1)}{\Gamma(x+1) \Gamma(n-x+1)} \frac{\Gamma(x+1) \Gamma(n-x+1)}{\Gamma(n+1)} = \frac{\Gamma(n+1)}{\Gamma(n+1)} = 1$$

\therefore posterior $f(p | x)$ dist of p given data (of interest is p , now p is on dist instead of a #.

$$f(p | x) = \frac{f(X | p) f(p)}{f(X)} = \binom{n}{x} p^x (1-p)^{n-x} \cdot \frac{\Gamma(\alpha+\beta)}{\Gamma(\alpha) \Gamma(\beta)} p^{\alpha-1} (1-p)^{\beta-1}$$

$$= \frac{\Gamma(n+1)}{\Gamma(x+1) \Gamma(n-x+1)} \cdot \frac{\Gamma(\alpha+\beta)}{\Gamma(\alpha) \Gamma(\beta)} \cdot \frac{\Gamma(x+1) \Gamma(n-x+1)}{\Gamma(n+1)} p^{x+\alpha} (1-p)^{n-x+\beta}$$

\therefore posterior is a beta $(x+\alpha, n-x+\beta)$

$$\hat{p}_{\text{Bayes}} = \frac{x+\alpha}{n+\alpha+\beta} \quad (\text{mean of } f(p | x))$$

$$= \left(\frac{x}{n}\right) \left(\frac{\alpha}{\alpha+\beta+n}\right) + \left(\frac{\alpha}{\alpha+\beta}\right) \left(\frac{n}{\alpha+\beta+n}\right) \quad \begin{matrix} \text{weight} \\ \text{sample mean} \end{matrix}$$

Bayes estimator \hat{p}_{Bayes} is a linear combination of the prior and sample means.



conjugate prior family: if the prior and posterior in the same pdf family.

\hookrightarrow beta family is conjugate for the binomial family $f(x | p)$



解④ EM algorithm. step for now.

Methods of evaluating estimators

Finite-sample measures



解① MSE mean squared error of an estimator

MSE of an estimator W of a param θ is a function of θ

$$E_{\theta}(W - \theta)^2$$

bias: $E(W - \theta) = E(W) - \theta$

unbiased estimator $E_{\theta}(W) = \theta$

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

$$= E_{\theta}\left\{(W - E_{\theta}(W))^2 + (E_{\theta}(W) - \theta)^2 - 2(W - E_{\theta}(W))(E_{\theta}(W) - \theta)\right\}$$

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

$$= \text{Var}_{\theta}(W) + [\text{bias}(W)]^2$$

Example: X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n iid $N(\mu, \sigma^2)$

解② estimator set 1: $\hat{\mu} = \bar{X}_n, \hat{\sigma}^2 = S_n^2$

$$\text{bias } E(\bar{X}_n) = \mu, E(S_n^2) = E\left(\frac{1}{n} \sum (X_i - \bar{X}_n)^2\right)$$

$$= \frac{1}{n} E\left(\sum X_i^2 - 2\sum X_i \bar{X}_n + n \bar{X}_n^2\right)$$

$$= \frac{1}{n} E\left(\sum X_i^2 - n E(\bar{X}_n^2)\right)$$

$$= \frac{1}{n} \left\{ n(E(X_1^2) + \text{Var}(X_1)) - n(E(\bar{X}_n)^2 + \text{Var}(\bar{X}_n)) \right\}$$

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

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

$\therefore \bar{X}_n, S_n^2$ unbiased (true without normal assumptions)

$$\text{Variance } E(\bar{X}_n - \mu)^2 = \text{Var} \bar{X} = \frac{\sigma^2}{n} \quad E(S_n^2 - \sigma^2)^2 = \text{Var} S_n^2 = \frac{2\sigma^4}{n-1}$$

$$\text{estimator set 2: MLE estimates. } \hat{\mu} = \bar{X}_n, \hat{\sigma}^2 = \frac{1}{n} \sum (X_i - \bar{X}_n)^2 = \frac{1}{n} \cdot \frac{n-1}{n} \sum (X_i - \bar{X}_n)^2 = \frac{n-1}{n} S_n^2$$

$$E\left(\frac{n-1}{n} S_n^2\right) = \frac{n-1}{n} \sigma^2 \neq \sigma^2 \text{ biased } \text{bias} = \frac{n-1}{n} \sigma^2 - \sigma^2 = -\frac{\sigma^2}{n}$$

$$\text{Var}\left(\frac{n-1}{n} S_n^2\right) = \left(\frac{n-1}{n}\right)^2 \cdot \text{Var} S_n^2 = \left(\frac{n-1}{n}\right)^2 \cdot \frac{2\sigma^4}{n-1} = \frac{2\sigma^4}{n}$$

$$\text{MSE of } \hat{\sigma}^2 = \left(\frac{n-1}{n}\right)^2 \sigma^4 + \frac{n-1}{n^2} \cdot 2\sigma^4 = \left(\frac{2n-1}{n^2}\right) \sigma^4$$

comparison of $\hat{\sigma}^2$ and $\hat{\sigma}_{\text{MLE}}^2$ MSE

$$\text{MSE } \hat{\sigma}_{\text{MLE}}^2 = \frac{2n-1}{n^2} \sigma^4 < \left(\frac{2}{n-1}\right) \sigma^4$$

$$\frac{2n-1}{n^2} - \frac{2}{(n-1)^2} = \frac{2n^2 - (n-1)^2}{n^2(n-1)^2} = \frac{2n^2 - n^2 + 2n - 1}{n^2(n-1)^2} = \frac{n^2 + 2n - 1}{n^2(n-1)^2} > 0$$

\therefore MLE gives smaller MSE, though MLE estimator for σ^2 is biased / underestimate

MSE reasonable for location param, but not for scale params.

Example: MSE of binomial p . X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n iid $\text{Bin}(p)$



解① MLE $\hat{p}_{\text{MLE}} = \frac{X}{n}$

$$\text{bias } \hat{p}_{\text{MLE}} = E(\hat{p}_{\text{MLE}} - p) = E\left(\frac{X}{n} - p\right) = \frac{1}{n} E(X) - p = \frac{np}{n} - p = 0$$

$$\text{Var}(\hat{p}_{\text{MLE}}) = E(\hat{p}_{\text{MLE}}^2) - (E(\hat{p}_{\text{MLE}}))^2$$

$$= E\left(\frac{X^2}{n^2}\right) - p^2$$

$$= \frac{1}{n^2} E(X^2) - p^2$$

$$= \frac{1}{n^2} \left\{ \text{Var} X + (E X)^2 \right\} - p^2$$

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

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

$$= \frac{np}{n^2} - \frac{np^2}{n^2} + \frac{p^2}{n^2} - p^2$$

$$= \frac{p(1-p)}{n}$$

$$\text{MSE}(\hat{p}_{\text{MLE}}) = \text{Var}(\hat{p}_{\text{MLE}}) = \frac{p(1-p)}{n} \quad (\text{bias} = 0)$$



Bayes estimator $\hat{p}_B = \frac{x+\alpha}{n+\alpha+\beta}$

$$E(\hat{p}_B) = E\left(\frac{X}{n} \cdot \frac{1}{\alpha+\beta+n} + \frac{\alpha}{\alpha+\beta+n}\right) = \frac{np}{\alpha+\beta+n} + \frac{\alpha}{\alpha+\beta+n}$$

$$\text{Var}(\hat{p}_B) = \text{Var}\left(\frac{X}{n} \cdot \frac{1}{\alpha+\beta+n} + \frac{\alpha}{\alpha+\beta+n}\right) = \frac{np(1-p)}{(\alpha+\beta+n)^2}$$



解② fixed bias (restrict to unbiased estimators), compare variance.

general setting: W_1, W_2 are two diff estimators.

$$E_{\theta}(W_1) = E_{\theta}(W_2) \rightarrow \text{bias}(W_1) = \text{bias}(W_2)$$

compare $\text{Var}_{\theta}(W_1)$ & $\text{Var}_{\theta}(W_2)$

usual case: find best unbiased estimators, and compare their variance.

if $\text{Var}_{\theta}(W_1) \leq \text{Var}_{\theta}(W_2)$ always hold.

then W_1 is called uniform / minimum variance unbiased estimator (UMVUE)



解③ Cramer-Rao Inequality

Rationale: there're many unbiased estimators, finding the variance of all unbiased estimators are difficult.

$$\text{e.g. pois. } E(X) = \lambda, E(X^2) = \lambda, W_1(\bar{X}, S^2) = \bar{X} + (1-\lambda)S^2, E(W_1(\bar{X}, S^2)) = \lambda$$

find $\text{Var}(W_1) = \frac{1}{n} \text{Var}_X(S^2)$. $\text{Var}_X(W_1(\bar{X}, S^2))$ hard.

so, find the lower bound on the variance of any unbiased estimators

general case:

Let X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n be a sample with pdf $f(x | \theta)$,

Let $W(X) = W(X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n)$ be any estimator satisfying

$$\frac{d}{d\theta} E_{\theta}(W(X)) = \frac{d}{d\theta} \int W(X) f(X | \theta) dX$$

$$= \int \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} W(X) f(X | \theta) dX = \int W(X) \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} f(X | \theta) \frac{f(X | \theta)}{f(X | \theta)} dX$$

and $\text{Var}(W(X)) < \infty$, then,

$$\text{Var}(W(X)) \geq \frac{\left(\frac{d}{d\theta} E_{\theta}(W(X))\right)^2}{E_{\theta}\left[\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \log f(X | \theta)\right)^2\right]}$$

proof.

Cauchy-Schwarz Inequality

$$| \langle U, V \rangle |^2 \leq \langle U, U \rangle \langle V, V \rangle \quad \text{follows from Holder's Inequality}$$

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

$$[E(X - E(X))(Y - E(Y))]^2 \leq E(X - E(X))^2 E(Y - E(Y))^2$$

$$\text{Cov}(X, Y)^2 \leq \text{Var} X \text{Var} Y$$

$$\text{Var} X \geq \frac{\text{Cov}(X, Y)^2}{\text{Var} Y}$$

Let X to be $W(X)$

Y : score function, i.e., $\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \log f(X | \theta)$

$$\frac{d}{d\theta} E_{\theta}(W(X)) = E_{\theta}\left(W(X) \cdot \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \log f(X | \theta)\right)$$

$$= E_{\theta}\left(W(X) \cdot \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \log f(X | \theta)\right) - E(W(X)) E\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \log f(X | \theta)\right)$$

$$= \text{Cov}(W(X), \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \log f(X | \theta))$$

$$\text{Var}(W(X)) \geq \frac{[\text{Cov}(W(X), \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \log f(X | \theta))]^2}{\text{Var}\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \log f(X | \theta)\right)}$$

$$\text{Var}(W(X)) \geq \frac{\left[\frac{d}{d\theta} E_{\theta}(W(X))\right]^2}{n E_{\theta}\left[\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \log f(X | \theta)\right)^2\right]}$$

proof. show $E_{\theta}\left[\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \log f(X | \theta)\right)^2\right] = n E_{\theta}\left[\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \log f(x | \theta)\right)^2\right]$

$$E_{\theta}\left[\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \log f(X | \theta)\right)^2\right] = E_{\theta}\left\{\left[\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \log f(x_1 | \theta) + \dots + \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \log f(x_n | \theta)\right]^2\right\}$$

$$= E_{\theta}\left\{\left[\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \log f(x_1 | \theta)\right]^2 + \dots + \left[\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \log f(x_n | \theta)\right]^2 + 2 \sum_{i < j} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \log f(x_i | \theta) \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \log f(x_j | \theta)\right\}$$

$$= E_{\theta}\left\{\left[\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \log f(x_1 | \theta)\right]^2 + \dots + \left[\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \log f(x_n | \theta)\right]^2 + 2 \sum_{i < j} E_{\theta}\left[\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \log f(x_i | \theta) \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \log f(x_j | \theta)\right]\right\}$$

$$= E_{\theta}\left\{\left[\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \log f(x_1 | \theta)\right]^2 + \dots + \left[\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \log f(x_n | \theta)\right]^2 + 2 \sum_{i < j} E_{\theta}\left[\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \log f(x_i | \theta) \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \log f(x_j | \theta)\right]\right\}$$

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



for unbiased estimator $E_{\theta}(W(X)) = \theta$, \therefore numerator $\frac{d}{d\theta} E_{\theta}(W(X)) = 1$



解④ Fisher information / information number of the sample:

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

FI gives a bound on the variance of the best unbiased estimator of θ

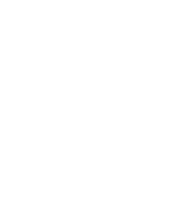
$$\text{Var}_{\theta}(W(X)) \geq \frac{1}{FI}$$

$$\frac{\min(\text{Var}_1)}{\frac{1}{FI_1}} \geq \frac{\min(\text{Var}_2)}{\frac{1}{FI_2}}$$

$$\therefore FI_1 > FI_2$$

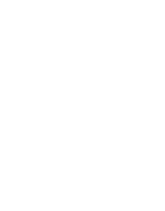
\Rightarrow larger FI generated smaller lower bound

$$\therefore \text{Var}_1 < \text{Var}_2$$



Var(score) = $\text{Var}_{\theta}\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \log f(X | \theta)\right) = E_{\theta}\left[\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \log f(X | \theta)\right)^2\right] - \left[E_{\theta}\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \log f(X | \theta)\right)\right]^2$

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



Rao-Blackwell