



# CHAPTER 3

## PARAMETRIC POINT ESTIMATION

## §3.1 METHODS OF FINDING ESTIMATORS

Let  $X_1, \dots, X_n$  be a random sample from a density  $f(\cdot; \theta)$ , where the form of  $f$  is known and the parameter  $\theta$  is unknown. Assume that  $\theta = (\theta_1, \dots, \theta_k)$ . Our goal in this section is to find statistics to estimate some functions, say,  $\tau_1(\theta), \dots, \tau_r(\theta)$  of  $\theta = (\theta_1, \dots, \theta_k)$ .

**Def 3.1** : Any statistic whose values are used to estimate some function of  $\theta$ , say  $\tau(\theta)$ , is defined to be an **estimator** of  $\tau(\theta)$ .



- Note that an estimator is a statistic which is both a random variable and a function.
- Let  $T = \mathcal{T}(X_1, \dots, X_n)$  be an estimator of  $\tau(\theta)$ .  
A value of the function  $t = \mathcal{T}(x_1, \dots, x_n)$  is always called an **estimate** of  $\tau(\theta)$ .

**EX 3.1** : Estimators :  $\bar{X}, S^2$  ; Estimates :  $\bar{x}, s^2$

- The notation  $\hat{\theta} = (\hat{\theta}_1, \dots, \hat{\theta}_k)$  is used to denote the estimate of  $\theta = (\theta_1, \dots, \theta_k)$ , where  $\hat{\theta}_j$  estimate  $\theta_j$ ,  $j = 1, \dots, k$ .  $\hat{\Theta} = \hat{\mathcal{G}}(X_1, \dots, X_n)$  is the corresponding estimator.
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### §3.1.1 METHODS OF MOMENTS

Let  $X$  be a random variable with density  $f(\cdot; \theta_1, \dots, \theta_k)$ . Recall that  $\mu'_r$  is the  $r$ th moment about 0; i.e.,  $\mu'_r = E(X^r)$ . Usually,  $\mu'_r$  is a function of  $\theta_1, \dots, \theta_k$ ; i.e.,  $\mu'_r = \mu'_r(\theta_1, \dots, \theta_k)$ . Let  $x_1, \dots, x_n$  be the observations of a random sample  $X_1, \dots, X_n$  from

$f(\cdot; \theta_1, \dots, \theta_k)$ , and let  $m'_j = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n x_i^j$  denote the  $j$ th sample

moment of  $x_1, \dots, x_n$ . Set

$$m'_1 = \mu'_1(\theta_1, \dots, \theta_k),$$

$$m'_2 = \mu'_2(\theta_1, \dots, \theta_k),$$

$\vdots$

$$m'_k = \mu'_k(\theta_1, \dots, \theta_k).$$



Let  $\hat{\theta}_1, \dots, \hat{\theta}_k$  be the solution of the  $k$  equations. Then the estimator  $(\hat{\Theta}_1, \dots, \hat{\Theta}_k)$  is called the method-of-moment estimator (MME) of  $(\theta_1, \dots, \theta_k)$ .

**EX3.2** :  $X_1, \dots, X_n \sim iid N(\mu; \sigma^2)$

Recall that  $\mu'_1 = \mu = E(X)$ ,  $\sigma^2 = E(X^2) - \mu^2$

$$\Rightarrow \mu'_2 = E(X^2) = \sigma^2 + \mu^2$$

$$\text{Set } \begin{cases} m'_1 = \mu'_1 = \mu \\ m'_2 = \mu'_2 = \sigma^2 + \mu^2 \end{cases}$$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{cases} \mu = \bar{X} \\ \sigma^2 + \mu^2 = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n X_i^2 \end{cases} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} \hat{\mu} = \bar{X} \\ \hat{\sigma}^2 = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n X_i^2 - \bar{X}^2 = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n (X_i - \bar{X})^2 \end{cases}$$

So the MMEs for  $\mu$  and  $\sigma^2$  are  $\bar{X}$  and  $\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n (X_i - \bar{X})^2$ .



**EX3.3** :  $X_1, \dots, X_n \sim iid \text{Exp}(\theta)$

$$f(x; \theta) = \frac{1}{\theta} e^{-\frac{x}{\theta}}, 0 \leq x < \infty.$$

Set  $m'_1 = \mu'_1 \Rightarrow \bar{X} = \theta$ , So  $\hat{\theta} = \bar{X}$  is an MME of  $\theta$ .

Note that if we set  $m'_2 = \mu'_2 \left( \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n X_i^2 = 2\theta^2 \right)$

$\Rightarrow \hat{\theta} = \sqrt{\frac{1}{2n} \sum_{i=1}^n X_i^2}$  We notice that the MMEs are not uniquely defined.



## §3.1.2 METHODS OF MAXIMUM LIKELIHOOD

**Def 3.2** : The **likelihood function** of  $n$  random variables

$X_1, \dots, X_n$  is defined by  $L(\theta ; x_1, \dots, x_n) = f_{X_1, \dots, X_n}(x_1, \dots, x_n ; \theta)$ ,

which is considered to be a function of  $\theta$ . Particularly, if

$X_1, \dots, X_n$  is a random sample from a density  $f(x ; \theta)$ , then

$$L(\theta ; x_1, \dots, x_n) = f(x_1; \theta) \cdots f(x_n; \theta) = \prod_{i=1}^n f(x_i; \theta).$$

**Def 3.3** : Let  $L(\theta) = L(\theta ; x_1, \dots, x_n)$  be the likelihood function

for the random variables  $X_1, \dots, X_n$ . If  $\hat{\theta} (= \hat{\mathcal{G}}(x_1, \dots, x_n))$  is the

value of  $\theta$  in  $\Omega$  which maximizes  $L(\theta)$ , then  $\hat{\Theta} = \hat{\mathcal{G}}(X_1, \dots, X_n)$

is called the **maximum likelihood estimator(MLE)** of  $\theta$ . 

• Let  $X_1, \dots, X_n$  be a random sample from a density  $f(x; \theta)$ . Assume that  $\theta = (\theta_1, \dots, \theta_k)$ . If the likelihood function  $L(\theta) = L(\theta_1, \dots, \theta_k) = \prod_{i=1}^n f(x_i; \theta_1, \dots, \theta_k)$  is differentiable (in  $\theta_i$ ), then possible maximum likelihood estimate of  $(\theta_1, \dots, \theta_k)$  is

the solution of the k equations  $\frac{\partial L(\theta_1, \dots, \theta_k)}{\partial \theta_i} = 0, i = 1, \dots, k.$

Note that  $L(\theta)$  and  $\log L(\theta)$  have their maxima at the same value of  $\theta$  (since the log function is strictly increasing on  $(0, \infty)$ ), it is sometimes easier to find the solution of the

equations  $\frac{\partial \log L(\theta_1, \dots, \theta_k)}{\partial \theta_i} = 0, i = 1, \dots, k.$



**EX3.4** :  $X_1, \dots, X_n \sim iid N(\mu, \sigma^2)$ , where  $\mu$  and  $\sigma^2$  are unknown and  $\theta = (\mu, \sigma^2)$ .

$$\text{Then } L(\mu, \sigma^2) = \prod_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma}} e^{-\frac{1}{2\sigma^2}(x_i - \mu)^2} = \frac{1}{(2\pi\sigma^2)^{n/2}} e^{-\frac{1}{2\sigma^2} \sum_{i=1}^n (X_i - \mu)^2}$$

$$\text{Log}L(\mu, \sigma^2) = \frac{-n}{2} \log 2\pi - \frac{n}{2} \log \sigma^2 - \frac{1}{2\sigma^2} \sum_{i=1}^n (X_i - \mu)^2$$

$$\text{Set } \begin{cases} \frac{\partial}{\partial \mu} \log L(\mu, \sigma^2) = \frac{1}{\sigma^2} \sum_{i=1}^n (X_i - \mu) = 0 \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial \sigma^2} \log L(\mu, \sigma^2) = -\frac{n}{2\sigma^2} + \frac{1}{2\sigma^4} \sum_{i=1}^n (X_i - \mu)^2 = 0 \end{cases}$$



We get  $\hat{\mu} = \bar{X}$  and  $\hat{\sigma}^2 = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n (X_i - \bar{X})^2$ .

Since  $\sum_{i=1}^n (X_i - \mu)^2 > \sum_{i=1}^n (X_i - \bar{X})^2$  for  $\mu \neq \bar{X}$ , for any value of  $\sigma^2$ .

$$\frac{1}{(2\pi\sigma^2)^{n/2}} e^{-\frac{1}{2\sigma^2} \sum_{i=1}^n (X_i - \bar{X})^2} \geq \frac{1}{(2\pi\sigma^2)^{n/2}} e^{-\frac{1}{2\sigma^2} \sum_{i=1}^n (X_i - \mu)^2}$$

Thus, the likelihood function achieves its global max. at  $(\hat{\mu}, \hat{\sigma}^2)$ .

So  $\bar{X}$  and  $\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n (X_i - \bar{X})^2$  are the MLEs.



**EX3.5** :  $X_1, \dots, X_n \sim iid U\left(\theta - \frac{1}{2}, \theta + \frac{1}{2}\right), \theta \in \mathbb{R}$

$$f(x; \theta) = \begin{cases} 1, & x \in \left[\theta - \frac{1}{2}, \theta + \frac{1}{2}\right] \\ 0, & \text{o.w} \end{cases} = I_{\left[\theta - \frac{1}{2}, \theta + \frac{1}{2}\right]}(x)$$

$$\text{Then } L(\theta) = \prod_{i=1}^n f(x_i; \theta) = \prod_{i=1}^n I_{\left[\theta - \frac{1}{2}, \theta + \frac{1}{2}\right]}(x_i) = I_{\left[y_n - \frac{1}{2}, y_n + \frac{1}{2}\right]}(\theta)$$

So any statistic with value  $\hat{\theta}$  satisfying

$$y_n - \frac{1}{2} \leq \hat{\theta} \leq y_n + \frac{1}{2} \text{ is a MLE.}$$



**EX3.6** :  $X_1, \dots, X_n \sim iid U(0, \theta), 0 < \theta < \infty.$

$$f(x; \theta) = \frac{1}{\theta} I_{[0, \theta]}(x)$$

$$\text{Then } L(\theta) = \prod_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{\theta} I_{[0, \theta]}(x_i) = \frac{1}{\theta^n} I_{[-\infty, y_n]}(\theta).$$

Note that  $L(\theta)$  is a decreasing function of  $\theta$ .

Since  $\theta \geq y_n$ ,  $L(\theta)$  is maximized at  $\hat{\theta} = y_n$ .

Thus,  $Y_n$  is the unique MLE of  $\theta$ .



**EX 3.7** :  $X_1, \dots, X_n \sim iid \text{ Cauchy}(\theta, 1), \theta \in \mathbb{R}$

$$f(\theta; x) = \frac{1}{\pi \left[ 1 + (x - \theta)^2 \right]}, \theta \in \mathbb{R}$$

$$L(\theta) = \prod_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{\pi \left[ 1 + (x_i - \theta)^2 \right]}, \theta \in \mathbb{R} = \pi^{-n} \prod_{i=1}^n \left[ 1 + (x_i - \theta)^2 \right]^{-1}$$

$$\log L(\theta) = -n \log \pi - \sum_{i=1}^n \log \left[ 1 + (x_i - \theta)^2 \right]$$

Set  $\frac{d}{d\theta} \log L(\theta) = 0$ , we get  $\sum_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{\left[ 1 + (x_i - \theta)^2 \right]} \cdot 2(x_i - \theta) = 0$

There are  $(2n - 1)$  solutions for  $\theta$ , which are not easy to solve!

Numerical methods are necessary!

**EX3.8** :  $X_1, \dots, X_n \sim iid N(\theta, 1), -\infty < \theta < \infty$

$$\text{Then } L(\theta) = \prod_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-1/2(x_i - \theta)^2} = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^{n/2}} e^{-1/2 \sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \theta)^2}.$$

$$\ln L(\theta) = \ln(2\pi)^{-n/2} - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \theta)^2$$

$$\text{Set } \frac{d}{d\theta} \ln L(\theta) = \sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \theta) = 0 \Rightarrow \hat{\theta} = \bar{X}.$$

To verify that  $\bar{X}$  is a global max. of the likelihood function,

recall that  $\sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - a)^2 > \sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \bar{x})^2$  for any number  $a \neq \bar{x}$ .



This implies that  $e^{-\frac{1}{2}\sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \theta)^2} < e^{-\frac{1}{2}\sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \bar{x})^2}$  for any  $\theta \neq \bar{x}$ .

Hence  $\bar{X}$  is the MLE. If  $\theta \geq 0$ , then  $L(\theta) = \prod_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-\frac{1}{2}(x_i - \theta)^2}$

$= (2\pi)^{-n/2} e^{\left\{ \frac{-n}{2}(\bar{x} - \theta)^2 - \frac{1}{2}\sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \bar{x})^2 \right\}}$ . If  $\bar{X} < 0$ , then  $L(\theta)$  is a

decreasing function for  $\theta \geq 0$ , and is maximized at  $\theta = 0$ .

Hence the MLE of  $\theta$  is  $\hat{\Theta} = \begin{cases} \bar{X}, & \bar{X} \geq 0 \\ 0, & \bar{X} < 0 \end{cases}$



### **Thm 3.1** : (Invariance property of MLE)

If  $\hat{\Theta} = \hat{\mathcal{J}}(X_1, \dots, X_n)$  is the MLE of  $\theta$ , then for any function  $\tau(\cdot)$ , the MLE of  $\tau(\theta)$  is  $\tau(\hat{\Theta})$ .

**Remark 3.1** : The invariance property of MLE also holds in the multivariate case. That is, if the MLE of  $(\theta_1, \dots, \theta_k)$  is  $(\hat{\Theta}_1, \dots, \hat{\Theta}_k)$ , then the MLE of any function  $\tau(\theta_1, \dots, \theta_k)$  is  $\tau(\hat{\Theta}_1, \dots, \hat{\Theta}_k)$ .

**EX 3.9** :  $X_1, \dots, X_n \sim iid N(\mu, \sigma^2)$

Let  $\tau(\theta) = \mu + Z_q \sigma$ , where  $Z_q$  is given by  $\Phi(Z_q) = q$ .

The MLE of  $\tau(\theta)$  is  $\bar{X} + Z_q \sqrt{\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n (X_i - \bar{X})^2}$ .



**Thm 3.2** : Let  $X_1, \dots, X_n$  be a random sample from a density  $f(x; \theta)$ . If a sufficient statistic  $T = \mathcal{L}(X_1, \dots, X_n)$  for  $\theta$  exists and if a MLE  $\hat{\Theta}$  of  $\theta$  also exists uniquely, then  $\hat{\Theta}$  is a function of  $T = \mathcal{L}(X_1, \dots, X_n)$ .

**Remark 3.2** : If the MLE  $\hat{\Theta}$  in Thm3.2 is also sufficient, then by definition, it must be a minimal sufficient statistic.

**EX 3.10** : The MLE  $\hat{\Theta} = Y_n$  of  $\theta$  in  $U(0, \theta)$  is a minimal sufficient statistic for  $\theta$ .



**EX 3.11** :  $X_1, \dots, X_n \sim iid U\left(\theta - \frac{1}{2}, \theta + \frac{1}{2}\right)$ . In EX3.5,

we have shown that any statistic with value  $\hat{\theta}$  satisfying

$y_n - \frac{1}{2} \leq \hat{\theta} \leq y_1 + \frac{1}{2}$  is a MLE .It is easy to show that

$\hat{\Theta} = \left(Y_n - \frac{1}{2}\right) + \cos^2 x \left(Y_1 - Y_n + 1\right)$  is a MLE of  $\theta$ , but  $\hat{\Theta}$

is not a function of  $Y_1$  and  $Y_n$ . Also note that the MLE

$\frac{Y_1 + Y_n}{2}$  is a function of the sufficient statistics  $Y_1$  and  $Y_n$ ,

however, it is not sufficient.



## §3.2 METHODS OF EVALUATING ESTIMATORS

In this section, we will introduce some basic criteria, which an estimator may or may not possess, that will help us in evaluating estimators.

### §3.1.1 MEAN SQUARED ERROR

**Def 3.4** : Let  $T = \mathcal{T}(X_1, \dots, X_n)$  be an estimator of  $\tau(\theta)$ . The **mean squared error (MSE)** of  $T$ , denoted by  $MSE_{\theta}(T)$ , is defined to be

$$MSE_{\theta}(T) = E_{\theta} \left[ (T - \tau(\theta))^2 \right].$$



### **Remark 3.3** :

(i) If  $f(x; \theta)$  is the pdf from which the sample was

selected, then  $E_{\theta} \left[ \left( T - \tau(\theta) \right)^2 \right]$

$$= \int \cdots \int \left[ \mathcal{T}(x_1, \dots, x_n) - \tau(\theta) \right]^2 \prod_{i=1}^n f(x_i; \theta) dx_1 \cdots dx_n.$$

(ii) Since MSE is a function of  $\theta$ , there will not be one "best" estimator. Often, the MSEs of two estimators will cross each other.

**Def 3.5** : An estimator  $T = \mathcal{T}(X_1, \dots, X_n)$  is defined to be an unbiased estimator of  $\tau(\theta)$  if  $E_{\theta}(T) = \tau(\theta)$ , for all  $\theta \in \Omega$ .



**Remark 3.4** : MSE incorporates two components, one measuring the variability of the estimator (precision) and the other measuring its bias (accuracy). More precisely,

$$MSE_{\hat{\tau}}(\theta) = \text{Var}(T) + [E_{\theta}(T) - \tau(\theta)]^2 = \text{Var}(T) + b_{\hat{\tau}}^2(\theta),$$

where  $b_{\hat{\tau}}(\theta) = E_{\theta}(T) - \tau(\theta)$  is the bias of the estimator  $T$ .

If  $T$  is an unbiased estimator, then  $MSE_{\hat{\tau}}(\theta) = \text{Var}(T)$ .



**EX 3.12** :  $X_1, \dots, X_n \sim N(\mu, \sigma^2)$ . Recall that the MLEs of

$\mu$  and  $\sigma^2$  are  $\bar{X}$  and  $\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n (X_i - \bar{X})^2$ , respectively.

$\therefore E(\bar{X}) = \mu$ .  $\therefore \bar{X}$  is an unbiased estimator of  $\mu$ .

$MSE_{\bar{X}}(\mu) = E\left[(\bar{X} - \mu)^2\right] = Var(\bar{X}) = \frac{\sigma^2}{n}$ . Since  $E_{\theta}(S^2) = \sigma^2$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} E_{\theta}\left(\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n (X_i - \bar{X})^2\right) &= E_{\theta}\left(\frac{1}{n} \cdot n - 1 \cdot \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n (X_i - \bar{X})^2\right) = E_{\theta}\left(\frac{n-1}{n} S^2\right) \\ &= \frac{n-1}{n} E_{\theta}(S^2) = \frac{n-1}{n} \sigma^2 < \sigma^2. \end{aligned}$$



So the MLE of  $\sigma^2$  is not unbiased

$$\begin{aligned}MSE_{\hat{\sigma}^2}(\sigma^2) &= E_{\theta} \left\{ \left[ \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n (X_i - \bar{X})^2 - \sigma^2 \right] \right\} \\&= \text{Var} \left( \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n (X_i - \bar{X})^2 \right) + \left\{ E_{\theta} \left( \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n (X_i - \bar{X})^2 \right) - \sigma^2 \right\}^2 \\&= \text{Var} \left( \frac{n-1}{n} S^2 \right) + \left( \frac{n-1}{n} \sigma^2 - \sigma^2 \right)^2 = \left( \frac{n-1}{n} \right)^2 \text{Var}(S^2) + \frac{\sigma^4}{n^2} \\&= \frac{(n-1)^2}{n^2} \cdot \frac{2\sigma^4}{n-1} + \frac{\sigma^4}{n^2} = \frac{(2n-1)\sigma^4}{n^2}.\end{aligned}$$



## §3.2.2 LOSS AND RISK FUNCTION

**Def 3.2** : Let  $t$  denote an estimate of  $\tau(\theta)$ . The **loss function**, denoted by  $\ell(t; \theta)$ , is defined to be a real-valued function satisfying, (i)  $\ell(t; \theta) \geq 0$  for all possible estimates  $t$  and all  $\theta \in \Omega$ , and (ii)  $\ell(t; \theta) = 0$  for  $t = \tau(\theta)$ .

**EX 3.13** : Some possible loss-functions:

(i)  $\ell_1(t; \theta) = [t - \tau(\theta)]^2 \Rightarrow$  square error

(ii)  $\ell_2(t; \theta) = [t - \tau(\theta)] \Rightarrow$  absolute error

(iii)  $\ell_3(t; \theta) = \begin{cases} A, & \text{if } |t - \tau(\theta)| > \varepsilon \\ 0, & \text{if } |t - \tau(\theta)| < \varepsilon \end{cases} \quad (A > 0)$

(iv)  $\ell_4(t; \theta) = p(\theta) |t - \tau(\theta)|^r, p(\theta) \geq 0$  and  $r > 0$ .



- Note that the loss function depends on the estimate  $t = \mathcal{L}(x_1, \dots, x_n)$  and hence the samples  $X_1, \dots, X_n$ .

Thus, we hope to select an estimator that makes the loss small. However, it is impossible to make the loss small for every possible sample. So we may try to pick an estimator that makes the average loss small.

**Def 3.2** : Give a loss function  $\mathcal{L}(\cdot; \cdot)$ . The **risk function**, denoted by  $R_{\mathcal{L}}(t; \theta)$ , of an estimator  $T = \mathcal{L}(X_1, \dots, X_n)$  is defined by  $R_{\mathcal{L}}(\theta) = E_{\theta}[\mathcal{L}(T; \theta)]$ .



**Remark 3.5** : Suppose  $X_1, \dots, X_n$  is a random sample from a continuous distribution having pdf  $f(x; \theta)$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} E_{\theta} \left[ \ell (T; \theta) \right] &= E_{\theta} \left[ \ell \left( \iota (X_1, \dots, X_n); \theta \right) \right] \\ &= \int \cdots \int \ell \left( \iota (X_1, \dots, X_n); \theta \right) \prod_{i=1}^n f(x_i; \theta) dx_1 \cdots dx_n. \end{aligned}$$

If we know the density of  $T$ , then  $E_{\theta} \left[ \ell (T; \theta) \right] = \int \ell (t; \theta) f_T (t) dt$ .

**EX 3.14** : The corresponding risks in EX3.13 are :

(i)  $E_{\theta} \left[ \left( T - \tau(\theta) \right)^2 \right] \Rightarrow$  mean-squared loss

(ii)  $E_{\theta} \left[ \left| T - \tau(\theta) \right| \right] \Rightarrow$  mean-absolute loss

(iii)  $A : p(\theta) \left[ \left| T - \tau(\theta) \right| > \varepsilon \right]$

(iv)  $\rho(\theta) : E_{\theta} \left[ \left| T - \tau(\theta) \right|^r \right]$



**Def 3.8** : Let  $T_1 = \mathcal{L}_1(X_1, \dots, X_n)$  and  $T_2 = \mathcal{L}_2(X_1, \dots, X_n)$  be two estimators of  $\theta$ . Then,  $T_1$  is defined to be a **better estimator** than  $T_2$  iff  $R_{\mathcal{L}_1}(\theta) \leq R_{\mathcal{L}_2}(\theta)$  for all  $\theta \in \Omega$  and  $R_{\mathcal{L}_1}(\theta) < R_{\mathcal{L}_2}(\theta)$  for at least one  $\theta \in \Omega$ . An estimator  $T = \mathcal{L}(X_1, \dots, X_n)$  is defined to be **admissible** if there is no better estimator.

**Def 3.9** :  $T^* = \mathcal{L}^*(X_1, \dots, X_n)$  is said to be a **minimax estimator** iff  $\sup_{\theta} R_{\mathcal{L}^*}(\theta) \leq \sup_{\theta} R_{\mathcal{L}}(\theta)$ , for every estimator  $T = \mathcal{L}(X_1, \dots, X_n)$ .



**EX 3.15** :  $X_1, \dots, X_n \sim U(0, \theta), \theta > 0$ .

$Y_1, \dots, Y_n$  : order statistics corresponding to  $X_1, \dots, X_n$ .

Let  $T_1 = Y_n$ ,  $T_2 = \frac{n+1}{n}Y_n$ ,  $T_3 = Y_1 + Y_n$ ,  $T_4 = (n+1)Y_1$ ,  $T_5 = 2\bar{X}$  be estimators of  $\theta$ . We assume that  $n \geq 2$ ,  $R_i(\theta) = MSE_i(\theta)$ .

(1)  $\because T_1 = Y_n < \theta$ ,  $\therefore T_1$  is unbiased.

The p.d.f of  $T_1$  is  $f_{T_1}(y) = n \left( \frac{y}{\theta} \right)^{n-1} \frac{1}{\theta} = \frac{ny^{n-1}}{\theta^n}, 0 \leq y \leq \theta$ .

So  $E(T_1) = \int_0^\theta y \frac{ny^{n-1}}{\theta^n} dy = \frac{n}{\theta^n} \cdot \frac{y^{n+1}}{n+1} \Big|_0^\theta = \frac{n}{n+1} \theta \neq \theta$ .

$\therefore$  The bias of  $T_1$  is  $b_{T_1}(\theta) = E(T_1) - \theta = \frac{-1}{n+1} \theta < 0$ .

Now  $E(T_1^2) = \int_0^\theta y^2 \frac{ny^{n-1}}{\theta} dy = \frac{n}{n+2} \theta^2$ ;



$$\text{Var}(T_1) = E(T_1^2) - [E(T_1)]^2 = \frac{n}{n+2} \theta^2 - \left( \frac{n\theta}{n+1} \right)^2 = \frac{n\theta^2}{(n+1)^2 (n+2)}$$

$$\therefore R_{T_1}(\theta) = \text{MSE}_{T_1}(\theta) = \text{Var}(T_1) + b_{T_1}^2(\theta) = \frac{n\theta^2}{(n+1)^2 (n+2)} = \left( \frac{-1}{n+1} \theta \right)^2$$

$$= \frac{2\theta^2}{(n+1)(n+2)}.$$



$$(2) T_2 = \frac{n+1}{n} Y_n$$

$$\therefore E(T_2) = E\left(\frac{n+1}{n} Y_n\right) = \frac{n+1}{n} E(Y_n) = \frac{n+1}{n} \cdot \frac{n}{n+1} \theta = \theta.$$

$\therefore T_2$  is unbiased and hence  $b_{T_2}(\theta) = 0$ . Thus,  $R_{T_2}(\theta) = \text{Var}(T_2)$

$$= \text{Var}\left(\frac{n+1}{n} Y_n\right) = \left(\frac{n+1}{n}\right)^2 \text{Var}(Y_n) = \left(\frac{n+1}{n}\right)^2 \frac{n\theta^2}{(n+1)^2 (n+2)}$$

$$= \frac{\theta^2}{n(n+2)} \cdot \frac{R_{T_2}(\theta)}{R_{T_1}(\theta)} = \frac{\theta^2}{n(n+2)} \bigg/ \frac{2\theta^2}{(n+1)(n+2)} = \frac{n+1}{2n} < 1, n \geq 2.$$

$\therefore R_{T_2}(\theta) < R_{T_1}(\theta) \quad \forall \theta > 0. \Rightarrow T_2$  is better than  $T_1$ .

$\Rightarrow T_1$  is not admissible. Also note that  $R_{T_2}(\theta) \approx \frac{1}{2} R_{T_1}(\theta)$  

when  $n$  is large.

$$(3) T_3 = Y_1 + Y_n$$

$$E(T_3) = E(Y_1 + Y_n) = E(Y_1) + E(Y_n) = \frac{\theta}{n+1} + \frac{n\theta}{n+1} = \theta$$

$\Rightarrow T_3$  is unbiased and  $b_{T_3}(\theta) = 0$ .

It's easy to show that  $Var(Y_1) = Var(Y_n) = \frac{n\theta^2}{(n+1)^2(n+2)}$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \text{So } R_{T_3}(\theta) &= Var(T_3) = Var(Y_1 + Y_n) \\ &= Var(Y_1) + Var(Y_n) + 2cov(Y_1, Y_n) = 2Var(Y_1) + 2cov(Y_1, Y_n). \end{aligned}$$

Note that the joint pdf of  $Y_1$  and  $Y_n$  is

$$f_{Y_1, Y_n}(y_1, y_n) = \frac{n(n-1)}{\theta^n} (y_n - y_1)^{n-2}, 0 \leq y_1 < y_n < \theta.$$



$$\text{So } \text{cov}(Y_1, Y_n) = E(Y_1 Y_n) - E(Y_1)E(Y_n)$$

$$= \int_0^\theta \int_0^{y_n} y_1 y_n f_{Y_1, Y_n}(y_1, y_n) dy_1 dy_n$$

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

$$\therefore R_{T_3}(\theta) = 2 \frac{n\theta^2}{(n+1)^2(n+2)} + \frac{2\theta^2}{(n+1)^2(n+2)}$$

$$= \frac{2\theta^2}{(n+1)(n+2)} = R_{T_1}(\theta) > R_{T_2}(\theta), n \geq 2.$$

$\therefore T_3$  is inadmissible.



$$(4) T_4 = (n + 1)Y_1$$

$$E(T_4) = (n + 1)E(Y_1) = (n + 1)\frac{\theta}{n + 1} = \theta \Rightarrow T_4 \text{ is unbiased.}$$

$$\therefore R_{T_4}(\theta) = \text{Var}(T_4) = \text{Var}((n + 1)Y_1) = (n + 1)^2 \text{Var}(Y_1)$$

$$= (n + 1)^2 \frac{n\theta^2}{(n + 1)^2 (n + 2)} = \frac{n\theta^2}{n + 2} \dots \frac{R_{T_4}(\theta)}{R_{T_2}(\theta)} = \frac{n\theta^2}{n + 2} \Bigg/ \frac{\theta^2}{n(n + 2)}$$

$= n^2 > 1, n \geq 2. \Rightarrow T_4$  is inadmissible.

Note that  $n^2$  grows very fast when  $n$  is large.

So  $T_4$  is not a good estimator.



$$(5) T_5 = 2\bar{X} \Rightarrow E(T_5) = 2E(\bar{X}) = 2 \cdot \frac{\theta}{2} = \theta \Rightarrow T_5 \text{ is unbiased.}$$

$$\therefore R_{T_5}(\theta) = \text{Var}(T_5) = \text{Var}(2\bar{X}) = 4\text{Var}(\bar{X}) = 4 \cdot \frac{\theta^2/12}{n} = \frac{\theta^2}{3n}.$$

$$\therefore \frac{R_{T_5}(\theta)}{R_{T_2}(\theta)} = \frac{\theta^2/3n}{\theta^2/n(n+2)} = \frac{n+2}{3} > 1, n \geq 2 \Rightarrow T_5 \text{ is inadmissible.}$$

Summary :  $R_{T_2}(\theta) < R_{T_1}(\theta) = R_{T_3}(\theta) < R_{T_5}(\theta) < R_{T_4}(\theta), n \geq 2.$

Finally, if  $n = 1$ , then  $Y_n = Y_1 = \bar{X} = X_1.$

So  $T_1 = X_1, T_2 = T_3 = T_4 = T_5 = 2X_1.$  So  $R_{T_1}(\theta) = \dots = R_{T_5}(\theta) = \frac{\theta^2}{3}.$

$$T_2 = \frac{n+1}{n} Y_n = \left(1 + \frac{1}{n}\right) Y_n.$$



## §3.3 UNBIASED ESTIMATION AND EFFICIENCY

**Def 3.10** : Let  $X_1, \dots, X_n$  be a random sample from a density  $f(x; \theta)$ . An estimator  $T^* = \mathcal{L}^*(X_1, \dots, X_n)$  of  $\tau(\theta)$  is defined to be a **uniformly minimum-variance unbiased estimator (UMVUE)** of  $\tau(\theta)$  iff (i)  $T^*$  is unbiased; i.e.,  $E_\theta(T^*) = \tau(\theta)$ , and (ii)  $Var_\theta(T^*) \leq Var_\theta(T)$  for any other unbiased estimator  $T = \mathcal{L}(X_1, \dots, X_n)$  of  $\tau(\theta)$ .

- Consider a random sample  $X_1, \dots, X_n$  from a pdf  $f(x; \theta)$ ,  $\theta \in \Omega$ . Assume that  $\Omega$  is a subset of real line. Let  $T = \mathcal{L}(X_1, \dots, X_n)$  be an unbiased estimator of  $\tau(\theta)$ . We assume that



(i)  $f(x; \theta)$  is positive on a set  $S$  independent of  $\theta$ ;

(ii)  $\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \log f(x; \theta)$  exists for all  $x$  and all  $\theta$ ;

(iii) the integral  $\int \cdots \int \prod_{i=1}^n f(x_i; \theta) dx_1 \cdots dx_n$  can be differentiated with respect to  $\theta$  under the integral sign;

(iv) the integral  $\int \cdots \int \mathcal{L}(x_1, \dots, x_n) \prod_{i=1}^n f(x_i; \theta) dx_1 \cdots dx_n$  can be differentiated with respect to  $\theta$  under the integral sign;

(v)  $0 < E_{\theta} \left[ \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \log f(X; \theta) \right)^2 \right] < \infty$  for all  $\theta \in \Omega$ .

The above assumptions are called **regularity conditions**.



### **Thm 3.3** : (Cramér-Rao inequality)

Under the regularity conditions, if  $T = \mathcal{L}(X_1, \dots, X_n)$  is an unbiased

estimator of  $\tau(\theta)$ , then we have  $Var_{\theta}(T) \geq \frac{[\tau'(\theta)]^2}{nI(\theta)}$ , where  $I(\theta) =$

$E_{\theta} \left( \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \log f(X; \theta) \right)^2 \right)$  for all  $\theta \in \Omega$ . Equality in Equation (3.4) holds

iff there exists a function, say  $k(\theta; n)$ , such that  $\sum_{i=1}^n \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \log f(x_i; \theta)$   
 $= k(\theta; n) \left[ \mathcal{L}(x_1, \dots, x_n) - \tau(\theta) \right]$ .

**Remark 3.6** : The regularity conditions can be modified for discrete density functions, leaving the results of Theorem 3.3 unchanged.

- Theorem 3.3 states that if an unbiased estimator whose variance coincides with the Cramér-Rao lower bound (CRLB), then this estimator is an UMVUE.
- The quantity  $I(\theta)$  is called **information number or Fisher information**

of the sample. In continuous case, 
$$I(\theta) = E_{\theta} \left[ \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \log f(X; \theta) \right)^2 \right]$$

$$= \int \left[ \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \log f(x; \theta) \right)^2 \right] f(x; \theta) dx.$$

The information number gives a bound on the variance of the best unbiased estimator of  $\tau(\theta)$ . As the information number gets larger, we have a smaller bound on the variance of the best unbiased estimator of  $\tau(\theta)$ .



**Lemma 3.1** : If  $f(x; \theta)$  satisfies the condition

$$\frac{d}{d\theta} E_{\theta} \left[ \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \log f(X; \theta) \right] = \int \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \left[ \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \log f(x; \theta) \right) f(x; \theta) \right] dx, \text{ then}$$

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



**EX 3.16** :  $X_1, \dots, X_n \sim f(x; \theta) = \theta e^{-\theta x}$ ,  $x \in (0, \infty)$ .

Let  $\tau(\theta) = \theta$ . Then  $\tau'(\theta) = 1$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \because \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \log f(x; \theta) &= \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \log(\theta e^{-\theta x}) = \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} (\log \theta - \theta x) = \frac{1}{\theta} - x \quad \therefore I(\theta) \\ &= E_{\theta} \left[ \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \log f(X; \theta) \right)^2 \right] = E_{\theta} \left[ \left( \frac{1}{\theta} - x \right)^2 \right] = E_{\theta} \left[ \left( x - \frac{1}{\theta} \right)^2 \right] = \text{Var}(x) = \frac{1}{\theta^2}. \end{aligned}$$

So the CRLB for the variance of an unbiased

estimator  $T$  of  $\theta$  is  $\text{Var}_{\theta}(T) \geq \frac{1}{n \cdot \frac{1}{\theta^2}} = \frac{\theta^2}{n}$ . Similarly, if  $\tau(\theta) = \frac{1}{\theta}$ ,

then  $\tau'(\theta) = \frac{-1}{\theta^2}$ , and  $\text{Var}_{\theta}(T) \geq \frac{\left( \frac{-1}{\theta^2} \right)^2}{n \cdot \frac{1}{\theta^2}} = \frac{1}{n\theta^2}$ .



Note that 
$$\sum_{i=1}^n \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \log f(x; \theta) = \sum_{i=1}^n \left( \frac{1}{\theta} - x_i \right) = \frac{n}{\theta} - \sum_{i=1}^n x_i = -n \left( \bar{x} - \frac{1}{\theta} \right).$$

We see that  $\bar{X}$  is an UMVUE of  $\frac{1}{\theta}$ . Note :  $Var(\bar{X}) = \frac{1}{\theta^2} / n$

$= \frac{1}{n\theta^2}$  coincides with the CRLB.

**EX 3.17** :  $X_1, \dots, X_n \sim f(x; \theta) = f(x; \lambda) = \frac{e^{-\lambda} \lambda^x}{x!}, x = 0, 1, \dots$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \lambda} \log f(x; \lambda) = \frac{\partial}{\partial \lambda} \log \frac{e^{-\lambda} \lambda^x}{x!} = \frac{\partial}{\partial \lambda} (-\lambda + x \log \lambda - \log x!)$$

$$= -1 + \frac{x}{\lambda} \quad \therefore I(\lambda) = E_{\theta} \left[ \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial \lambda} \log f(X; \theta) \right)^2 \right]$$

$$= E \left[ \left( \frac{x}{\lambda} - 1 \right)^2 \right] = \frac{1}{\lambda^2} E \left[ (x - \lambda)^2 \right] = \frac{1}{\lambda^2} Var(x) = \frac{1}{\lambda^2} \cdot \lambda = \frac{1}{\lambda}.$$

Take  $\tau(\lambda) = e^{-\lambda} = P(X = 0)$ . Then the CRLB for the variance

of an unbiased estimator  $T$  of  $e^{-\lambda}$  is  $Var(T) \geq \frac{(-e^{-\lambda})^2}{n \cdot \frac{1}{\lambda}}$

$= \frac{\lambda e^{-2\lambda}}{n}$ . Note that  $T = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n I_{\{0\}}(x_i)$  is an unbiased estimator

of  $e^{-\lambda}$ . Since  $E(T) = E\left(\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n I_{\{0\}}(x_i)\right) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n E\left(I_{\{0\}}(x_i)\right)$

$= \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n [1 \cdot P(x_i = 0) + 0 \cdot P(x_i \neq 0)] = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n e^{-\lambda} = e^{-\lambda}$ .  $T$  is the

proportion of observations in the sample that are equal to 0.



$$\begin{aligned} \text{Now, } \text{Var}(T) &= \text{Var}\left(\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n I_{\{0\}}(x_i)\right) = \frac{1}{n^2} \sum_{i=1}^n \text{Var}\left(I_{\{0\}}(x_i)\right) \\ &= \frac{1}{n^2} \sum_{i=1}^n (e^{-\lambda} - e^{-2\lambda}) = \frac{1}{n} e^{-\lambda} (1 - e^{-\lambda}) \text{ and } \frac{1}{n} e^{-\lambda} (1 - e^{-\lambda}) \geq \frac{\lambda e^{-2\lambda}}{n} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow T \text{ may not be an UMVUE!! Note that } \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{\partial}{\partial \lambda} \log f(x_i; \lambda) \\ = \sum_{i=1}^n \left(-1 + \frac{x_i}{\lambda}\right) = -n + \frac{\sum x_i}{\lambda} = \frac{n}{\lambda} (\bar{X} - \lambda). \therefore \bar{X} \text{ is an UMVUE of } \lambda. \end{aligned}$$

**EX 3.18** :  $X_1, \dots, X_n \sim U(0, \theta)$ .  $f(x; \theta) = \frac{1}{\theta}, 0 < x < \theta$ .

$$\text{Since } \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \log f(x; \theta) = \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \log\left(\frac{1}{\theta}\right) = \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} (-\log \theta) = \frac{-1}{\theta},$$

$$\text{we have } I(\theta) = E_{\theta} \left[ \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \log f(X; \theta) \right)^2 \right] = E_{\theta} \left( \frac{1}{\theta^2} \right) = \frac{1}{\theta^2}.$$

If  $T$  is an unbiased estimator of  $\theta$ , then  $Var_{\theta}(T) \geq \frac{1}{\frac{n}{\theta^2}}$

$= \frac{\theta^2}{n} = \text{CRLB}$ . Consider the sufficient statistic  $Y_n = \max[X_1, \dots, X_n]$ .

The pdf of  $Y_n$  is  $n[F(y)]^{n-1}f(y)$ .  $f_{Y_n}(y) = n \cdot \left(\frac{y}{\theta}\right)^{n-1} \frac{1}{\theta}$  and  $E_{\theta}(Y_n)$

$= \int_0^{\theta} y \cdot \frac{y^{n-1}n}{\theta^n} dy = \frac{n\theta}{n+1}$ . So,  $E_{\theta}\left(\frac{n+1}{n}Y_n\right) = \theta$ , i.e.  $\frac{n+1}{n}Y_n$  is an

unbiased estimator of  $\theta$ . Now,  $Var_{\theta}\left(\frac{n+1}{n}Y_n\right) = \left(\frac{n+1}{n}\right)^2 Var(Y_n)$

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



Clearly,  $Var_{\theta} \left( \frac{n+1}{n} Y_n \right) < \text{CRLB}$ . Thus, the Cramér-Rao inequality is not applicable to this pdf. To see that this is so,

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \int_0^{\theta} \ell(x) f(x; \theta) dx &= \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \int_0^{\theta} \ell(x) \frac{1}{\theta} dx = \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \left[ \frac{1}{\theta} \int_0^{\theta} \ell(x) dx \right] \\ &= \left( \frac{-1}{\theta^2} \right) \int_0^{\theta} \ell(x) dx + \frac{1}{\theta} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \int_0^{\theta} \ell(x) dx = \left( \frac{-1}{\theta^2} \right) \int_0^{\theta} \ell(x) dx + \frac{\ell(x)}{\theta} \\ &\neq \int_0^{\theta} \ell(x) \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} f(x; \theta) dx. \end{aligned}$$

In general, if the range of the pdf depend on  $\theta$ , the Cramér-Rao inequality will not be applicable.

**Thm 3.4** : If  $\hat{\theta} = \hat{\mathcal{G}}(x_1, \dots, x_n)$  is the maximum likelihood estimate of  $\theta$ ,

and if  $T^* = \ell^*(X_1, \dots, X_n)$  is an unbiased estimator of  $\tau^*(\theta)$  whose

variance coincides with the CRLB, then  $\ell^*(x_1, \dots, x_n) = \tau^*(\hat{\mathcal{G}}(x_1, \dots, x_n))$ .

**EX 3.19** :  $X_1, \dots, X_n \sim N(\mu, \sigma^2)$ ,  $\mu \in \mathbb{R}$ ,  $\sigma > 0$ ,  $n \geq 2$ .

(1)  $\sigma^2$  is known :  $\tau(\theta) = \mu$ .

$$f(x; \theta) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma}} e^{-\frac{1}{2\sigma^2}(x-\mu)^2}, x \in \mathbb{R}.$$

$$\therefore \frac{\partial}{\partial \mu} \log f(x; \theta) = \frac{\partial}{\partial \mu} \left[ \log \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma}} - \frac{1}{2\sigma^2} (x - \mu)^2 \right] = \frac{x - \mu}{\sigma^2}$$

$$\therefore I(\theta) = E_{\theta} \left[ \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \log f(X; \theta) \right)^2 \right] = E_{\theta} \left[ \left( \frac{x - \mu}{\sigma^2} \right)^2 \right] = \frac{1}{\sigma^4} E_{\theta} \left[ (x - \mu)^2 \right]$$

$$= \frac{1}{\sigma^4} \text{Var}_{\theta}(X) = \frac{1}{\sigma^4} \sigma^2 = \frac{1}{\sigma^2}.$$

So, CRLB =  $\frac{[\tau'(\theta)]^2}{n \cdot I(\theta)} = \frac{1}{n \left( \frac{1}{\sigma^2} \right)} = \frac{\sigma^2}{n} = \text{Var}(\bar{X}) \Rightarrow \bar{X}$  is an UMVUE of  $\mu$ .



(2)  $\mu$  is known :  $\tau(\theta) = \sigma^2$ .

$$L(\sigma^2; x_1, \dots, x_n) = \prod_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma}} e^{\frac{-1}{2\sigma^2}(x_i - \mu)^2} = \frac{1}{(2\pi\sigma^2)^{n/2}} e^{\frac{-1}{2\sigma^2} \sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \mu)^2}$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \sigma^2} \log L(\sigma^2; x_1, \dots, x_n) = \frac{n}{2\sigma^4} \left( \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{(x_i - \mu)^2}{n} - \sigma^2 \right) = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \hat{\sigma}^2 = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \mu)^2 \text{ is the MLE of } \sigma^2.$$

$$\Rightarrow \hat{\sigma}^2 \text{ is an UMVUE of } \sigma^2 \text{ (Thm 3.4).}$$

(3)  $\mu, \sigma^2$  : unknown : Consider estimation of  $\sigma^2$ .

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial (\sigma^2)^2} \left[ \log(2\pi\sigma^2)^{-1/2} - \frac{1}{2\sigma^2} \sum_{i=1}^n (x - \mu)^2 \right] = \frac{1}{2\sigma^4} - \frac{(x - \mu)^2}{\sigma^6}$$


$$\begin{aligned} \therefore I(\theta) &= -E_{\theta} \left[ \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial (\sigma^2)} \log f(X; \theta) \right)^2 \right] = -E_{\theta} \left[ \frac{1}{2\sigma^4} - \frac{(x - \mu)^2}{\sigma^6} \right] \\ &= -\frac{1}{2\sigma^4} + \frac{1}{\sigma^6} E_{\theta} \left[ (x - \mu)^2 \right] = -\frac{1}{2\sigma^4} + \frac{1}{\sigma^6} \cdot \sigma^2 = \frac{1}{2\sigma^4}. \end{aligned}$$

$$\therefore \text{CRLB} = \frac{1}{n \left( \frac{1}{2\sigma^4} \right)} = \frac{2\sigma^4}{n} \left( \tau(\theta) = \sigma^2, \therefore \tau'(\theta) = 1 \right)$$

Thus, any unbiased estimator  $T$  of  $\sigma^2$  must satisfy  $\text{Var}(T) \geq \frac{2\sigma^4}{n}$

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore \frac{(n-1)S^2}{\sigma^2} &\sim \chi^2(n-1) \quad \therefore \text{Var}(S^2) = \text{Var} \left( \frac{\sigma^2}{n-1} \frac{n-1}{\sigma^2} S^2 \right) \\ &= \left( \frac{\sigma^2}{n-1} \right)^2 \text{Var} \left( \frac{(n-1)S^2}{\sigma^2} \right) = \frac{\sigma^4}{(n-1)^2} \cdot 2(n-1) = \frac{2\sigma^4}{n-1} > \frac{2\sigma^4}{n} = \text{CRLB.} \end{aligned}$$


**Thm3.5** : If  $T^* = \mathcal{L}^*(X_1, \dots, X_n)$  is an unbiased estimator of some  $\tau^*(\theta)$  whose variance coincides with the CRLB, then  $f(\cdot; \theta)$  is a member of exponential class. Conversely, if  $f(\cdot; \theta)$  is a member of exponential class, then there exists an unbiased estimator, say  $T^*$ , of some function of  $\tau^*(\theta)$ , whose variance coincides with the CRLB (i.e.,  $T^*$  is an UMVUE of  $\tau^*(\theta)$ ).

**Def 3.11** : The **relative efficiency** of an unbiased estimator  $T$  of  $\tau(\theta)$

to another unbiased estimator  $T^*$  of  $\tau(\theta)$  is given by  $re(T, T^*) = \frac{Var(T^*)}{Var(T)}$ .

An unbiased estimator  $T^*$  of  $\tau(\theta)$  is said to be efficient if  $re(T, T^*) \leq 1$  for all unbiased estimators  $T$  of  $\tau(\theta)$  and for all  $\theta \in \Omega$ . The efficiency of an unbiased estimator  $T$  of  $\tau(\theta)$  is  $e(T) = re(T, T^*)$ , if  $T^*$  an unbiased estimator of  $\tau(\theta)$ .



**EX 3.20** :  $X_1, \dots, X_n \sim f(x; \theta) = \theta e^{-\theta x}$ ,  $x \in (0, \infty)$ .

In EX3.16, we have shown that  $\bar{X}$  is an UMVUE of  $\frac{1}{\theta}$ .

Let  $Y_1 = \min[X_1, \dots, X_n]$ . Then  $f_{Y_1}(y)$

$$= n \left[ 1 - (1 - e^{-\theta y}) \right]^{n-1} (\theta e^{-\theta y}) = (n\theta) e^{-(n\theta)y}. \text{ So, } Y_1 \sim \text{Exp}(n\theta),$$

and have  $E(Y_1) = \frac{1}{n\theta}$  (or  $E(nY_1) = \frac{1}{\theta}$ ). Thus,  $nY_1$  is

unbiased for  $\frac{1}{\theta}$  and  $\text{Var}(nY_1) = n^2 \text{Var}(Y_1) = n^2 \frac{1}{(n\theta)^2} = \frac{1}{\theta^2}$ .

Recall that  $\text{Var}(\bar{X}) = \frac{1}{\theta^2} / n = \frac{1}{n\theta^2}$ .



We have 
$$e(nY_1) = re(nY_1, \bar{X}) = \frac{\text{Var}(\bar{X})}{\text{Var}(nY_1)} = \frac{1/n\theta^2}{1/\theta^2} = \frac{1}{n}$$

(efficiency of  $nY_1$ ).  $\therefore \bar{X}$  is efficient and  $nY_1$  is a very poor estimator of  $\frac{1}{\theta}$  since its efficiency is small for large  $n$ .



## §3.4 SUFFICIENCY AND UNBIASEDNESS

In this section, the concept of sufficiency will be used in our search for UMVUEs. Recall that if  $X$  and  $Y$  are any two random variables, then we

$$\text{have } E(X) = E[E(X|Y)], \quad \text{Var}(X) = \text{Var}[E(X|Y)] + E[\text{Var}(X|Y)]$$

These tools are used to prove the following theorem.

### **Thm 3.6** : (Rao-Blackwell)

Let  $X_1, \dots, X_n$  be a random sample from a density  $f(\cdot; \theta)$ , and let  $T = \mathcal{T}(X_1, \dots, X_n)$  be an unbiased estimator of  $\tau(\theta)$ . Let  $S = s(X_1, \dots, X_n)$

be a sufficient statistic. Define  $T' = E(T|S)$ . Then

- (a)  $T'$  is a statistic, and it is a function of the sufficient statistic  $S$ ;
- (b)  $T'$  is an unbiased estimator of  $\tau(\theta)$ ; that is,  $E_\theta(T') = \tau(\theta)$ ;
- (c)  $\text{Var}_\theta(T') \leq \text{Var}_\theta(T)$  for every  $\theta$ .



- The Rao-Blackwell theorem says that, given an unbiased estimator, another unbiased estimator that is a function of sufficient statistic is a uniformly better unbiased estimator of  $\tau(\theta)$ .

**Thm 3.7 : (Lemmann-Scheffè)**

Let  $X_1, \dots, X_n$  be a random sample from a density  $f(\cdot; \theta)$ , and let  $S = s(X_1, \dots, X_n)$  be a complete sufficient statistic. If  $T^* = \mathcal{L}^*(S)$ , a function of  $S$ , is an unbiased estimator of  $\tau(\theta)$ , then  $T^*$  is an UMVUE of  $\tau(\theta)$ .

- The Lemmann-Scheffè theorem says that if a complete sufficient statistic  $S$  exists, then there is an UMVUE of  $\tau(\theta)$ , and the UMVUE is the unique unbiased estimator of  $\tau(\theta)$  which is a function of  $S$ .



## §3.5 LARGE SAMPLE PROPERTIES

### §3.5.1 CONSISTENCY

**Def 3.12** : A sequence of estimators  $T_n = \mathcal{L}_n(X_1, \dots, X_n)$  is defined to be a **consistent sequence of estimators** of  $\tau(\theta)$  if for every  $\varepsilon > 0$  and every  $\theta \in \Omega$ ,  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} P_\theta \left[ |T_n - \tau(\theta)| < \varepsilon \right] = 1$ . It is equivalent to  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} P_\theta \left[ |T_n - \tau(\theta)| \geq \varepsilon \right] = 0$ .

**Thm 3.8** : If  $T_n = \mathcal{L}_n(X_1, \dots, X_n)$  is a sequence of estimators of  $\tau(\theta)$  satisfying  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} E_\theta \left[ (T_n - \tau(\theta))^2 \right] = 0$ , for every  $\theta \in \Omega$ , then  $T_n$  is a consistent sequence of estimators of  $\tau(\theta)$ .



- Recall that the MSE of  $T_n$  is given by

$$\begin{aligned}MSE_{\hat{\theta}_n}(\theta) &= E_{\theta} \left[ \left( T_n - \tau(\theta) \right)^2 \right] \\ &= \text{Var}(T_n) + \left[ E_{\theta}(T_n) - \tau(\theta) \right]^2 \\ &= \text{Var}(T_n) + b^2_{\hat{\theta}_n}(\theta).\end{aligned}$$

An equivalent statement is this: For every  $\theta \in \Omega$ , if  $T_n$  satisfies

(i)  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \text{Var}(T_n) = 0$ , and

(ii)  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} b^2_{\hat{\theta}_n}(\theta) = 0$ ,

then  $T_n$  is a consistent sequence of estimators of  $\tau(\theta)$ .



**Thm 3.9** : Let  $T_n = \mathcal{L}_n(X_1, \dots, X_n)$  be a consistent sequence of estimators of  $\tau(\theta)$ . Let  $a_1, a_2, \dots$  and  $b_1, b_2, \dots$  be sequences of constants satisfying

(i)  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} a_n = 1,$

(ii)  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} b_n = 0,$

then the sequence  $U_n = a_n T_n + b_n$  is a consistent sequence of estimators of  $\tau(\theta)$ .

**Def 3.13** : A sequence of estimators  $T_n = \mathcal{L}_n(X_1, \dots, X_n)$  is said to be **asymptotically unbiased** for  $\tau(\theta)$  if  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} E(T_n) = \tau(\theta)$ , for each  $\theta \in \Omega$ .



### §3.5.1 EFFICIENCY

**Def 3.14** : Let  $T_n$  and  $T_n^*$  be asymptotically unbiased sequences of estimators for  $\tau(\theta)$ . The **asymptotically relative efficiency** of  $T_n$  relative to

$T_n^*$  is defined to be  $are(T_n, T_n^*) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{Var(T_n^*)}{Var(T_n)}$ . The sequence  $T_n^*$  is said to

be **asymptotically efficient** if  $are(T_n, T_n^*) \leq 1$ , for all other asymptotically unbiased sequences  $T_n$ , and for all  $\theta \in \Omega$ . The **asymptotically efficiency** of  $T_n$  is defined to be  $ae(T_n) = are(T_n, T_n^*)$ .

**Def 3.15** : A sequence of estimators  $T_n$  of  $\tau(\theta)$  is said to be asymptotically

normal if  $\frac{\sqrt{n}[T_n - \tau(\theta)]}{\sigma(\theta)} \xrightarrow{d} N[0,1]$ , as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ , where  $\sigma(\theta)$  is a function of  $\theta$ .



**Def 3.16** : A sequence of estimators  $T_n$  of  $\tau(\theta)$  is said to be best asymptotically normal (BAN) if it is asymptotically normal and

$$\sigma^2(\theta) = \frac{[\tau'(\theta)]^2}{I(\theta)}, \text{ for all } \theta \in \Omega, \text{ where } I(\theta) \text{ is the Fisher information.}$$

**Remark 3.7** : Under certain regularity conditions, the MLE of  $\tau(\theta)$  is BAN.

