

L07 Efficiency and relative efficiency

1. Efficiency and relative efficiency

(1) Efficiency

For statistic $T \sim (E_\theta(T), \text{var}_\theta(T))$, $\text{eff}_\theta(T) = \frac{\text{CRLB}_\theta(E_\theta(T))}{\text{var}_\theta(T)}$ is the efficiency.

Comments: T is a statistic, but not a vector of statistics. $\text{eff}_\theta(T)$ is a function of θ and $0 \leq \text{eff}_\theta(T) \leq 1$.

(2) Property

$\text{eff}_\theta(T) \equiv 1 \iff \text{var}_\theta(T) \equiv \text{CRLB}_\theta(E_\theta(T)) \iff T$ is efficient $\implies T$ is MVUE for $E_\theta(T)$.

(3) Relative efficiency

For estimators T_1 and T_2 for $\eta_1(\theta)$ and $\eta_2(\theta)$, $e(T_1, T_2) = \frac{\text{MSE}_\theta(T_2)}{\text{MSE}_\theta(T_1)}$ is the relative efficiency of T_1 to T_2 .

Comments: T_1 and T_2 could be of different dimensions. $e_\theta(T_1, T_2)$ is a function of θ and $e_\theta(T_1, T_2) \geq 0$.

$$\begin{aligned} e_\theta(T_1, T_2) < 1 &\iff \text{MSE}_\theta(T_1) > \text{MSE}_\theta(T_2), \\ e_\theta(T_1, T_2) = 1 &\iff \text{MSE}_\theta(T_1) = \text{MSE}_\theta(T_2), \\ e_\theta(T_1, T_2) > 1 &\iff \text{MSE}_\theta(T_1) < \text{MSE}_\theta(T_2). \end{aligned}$$

These comparisons make sense only if T_1 and T_2 are for the same $\eta(\theta)$.

(4) Properties

If both T_1 and T_2 are unbiased estimators for their targeted parameters $\eta_1(\theta)$ and $\eta_2(\theta)$, then $e_\theta(T_1, T_2) = \frac{\text{Total-variance}(T_2)}{\text{Total-variance}(T_1)}$.

If both T_1 and T_2 are unbiased estimators for their targeted parameters in R , then $e_\theta(T_1, T_2) = \frac{\text{var}_\theta(T_2)}{\text{var}_\theta(T_1)}$.

If both T_1 and T_2 are unbiased estimators for the same parameter in R , then $e_\theta(T_1, T_2) = \frac{[\text{CRLB}_\theta(E_\theta(T_1))/\text{var}_\theta(T_1)]}{[\text{CRLB}_\theta(E_\theta(T_1))/\text{var}_\theta(T_2)]} = \frac{\text{eff}_\theta(T_1)}{\text{eff}_\theta(T_2)}$.

Ex1: Let $X_1, \dots, X_n$ be random sample of size $n > 2$ from $\text{Poisson}(\lambda)$ with mean λ and variance λ . By HW03, $\text{CRLB}(\lambda) = \frac{\lambda}{n}$.

For $\frac{X_1+X_2}{2} \sim (\lambda, \frac{\lambda}{2})$, $\text{eff}(\frac{X_1+X_2}{2}) = \frac{\text{CRLB}(\lambda)}{\text{var}(\frac{X_1+X_2}{2})} = \frac{\lambda/n}{\lambda/2} = \frac{2}{n} < 1$.

$\bar{X} \sim (\lambda, \frac{\lambda}{n})$, $\text{eff}(\bar{X}) = \frac{\text{CRLB}(\lambda)}{\text{var}(\bar{X})} = \frac{\lambda/n}{\lambda/n} = 1$. Hence $\bar{X}$ is efficient and is MVUE for λ .

$$e(\frac{X_1+X_2}{2}, \bar{X}) = \frac{\text{eff}(\frac{X_1+X_2}{2})}{\text{eff}(\bar{X})} = \frac{\text{var}(\bar{X})}{\text{var}(\frac{X_1+X_2}{2})} = \frac{2}{n}.$$

2. More on information

(1) Same information

If $Y = g(X)$ is a 1-1 mapping, then $I_X(\theta) = I_Y(\theta)$.

Proof: Consider continuous case only. Suppose $X \in A \iff Y \in g(A) = B$.

By the substitution of $x = g^{-1}(y)$ in the integration,

$$P(X \in A) = \iint_A f(x; \theta) dx = \iint_B f(g^{-1}(y), \theta) \text{abs}|J| dy = P(Y \in B).$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{So } f_Y(y; \theta) &= f_X(x; \theta) \text{abs}|J| \implies \ln f_Y(y; \theta) = \ln f_X(x; \theta) + \ln \text{abs}|J| \\ \implies \nabla \ln f_Y(y; \theta) &= \nabla \ln f_X(x; \theta) \implies V(Y; \theta) = V(X; \theta) \\ \implies I_X(\theta) &= I_Y(\theta). \end{aligned}$$

Ex2: $X \sim N(\mu, I)$ and $Y = AX + b \sim N(A\mu + b, AA^T)$ where A is non-singular, verify that $I_X(\mu) = I_Y(\mu)$.

$$f_X(x; \mu) = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^{p/2}} \exp \left[-\frac{1}{2}(x - \mu)^T(x - \mu) \right].$$

So $V(X; \mu) = \frac{\partial}{\partial \mu} \frac{1}{2}(X - \mu)^T(X - \mu) \stackrel{*}{=} X - \mu \sim N(0, I)$. Thus $I_X(\mu) = I$.

$$f_Y(y; \theta) = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^{p/2} |AA^T|^{1/2}} \exp \left[-\frac{1}{2}(Y - A\mu - b)^T(AA^T)^{-1}(Y - A\mu - b) \right].$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{So } V(Y; \mu) &= \nabla \ln f_Y(Y; \mu) = \frac{\partial}{\partial \mu} \frac{1}{2}(Y - A\mu - b)^T(AA^T)^{-1}(Y - A\mu - b) \\ &\stackrel{*}{=} A^T(AA^T)^{-1}(Y - A\mu - b) \sim A^{-1}N(0, AA^T) = N(0, I). \end{aligned}$$

Thus $I_Y(\mu) = I = I_X(\mu)$.

Comment: *: Because $\frac{\partial Ax}{\partial x^T} = A$, $\frac{\partial x^T Ax}{\partial x^T} = x^T(A^T + A)$ and $\frac{\partial z}{\partial x^T} = \frac{\partial z}{\partial y^T} \frac{\partial y}{\partial x^T}$,

$$\frac{\partial (x-B\mu)^T A(x-B\mu)}{\partial \mu^T} = \frac{\partial (x-B\mu)^T A(x-B\mu)}{\partial (x-B\mu)^T} \frac{\partial (x-B\mu)}{\partial \mu^T} = (x-B\mu)^T(A^T + A)(-B).$$

$$\text{Thus } \frac{\partial (x-B\mu)^T A(x-B\mu)}{\partial \mu} = -B(A^T + A)(X - B\mu).$$

(2) If $\eta = \eta(\theta)$ is a 1-1 mapping, then $I(\eta) = \left(\frac{\partial \theta}{\partial \eta^T} \right)^T I(\theta) \left(\frac{\partial \theta}{\partial \eta^T} \right)$.

Proof: By chain rule, $\frac{\partial \ln f}{\partial \eta^T} = \left(\frac{\partial \ln f}{\partial \theta^T} \right) \left(\frac{\partial \theta}{\partial \eta^T} \right)$. By transposing both sides

$$\frac{\partial \ln f}{\partial \eta} = \left(\frac{\partial \theta}{\partial \eta^T} \right)^T \left(\frac{\partial \ln f}{\partial \theta} \right), \text{ i.e., } V(X; \eta) = \left(\frac{\partial \theta}{\partial \eta^T} \right)^T V(X; \theta).$$

$$\text{Thus } I(\eta) = \left(\frac{\partial \theta}{\partial \eta^T} \right)^T I(\theta) \left(\frac{\partial \theta}{\partial \eta^T} \right).$$

Ex3: By definition, $\text{CRLB}(\eta) = \left(\frac{\partial \eta}{\partial \theta^T} \right) [I(\theta)]^{-1} \left(\frac{\partial \eta}{\partial \theta^T} \right)^T$. By definition and (2)

$$\text{CRLB}(\eta) = [I(\eta)]^{-1} = \left[\left(\frac{\partial \theta}{\partial \eta^T} \right)^T I(\theta) \left(\frac{\partial \theta}{\partial \eta^T} \right) \right]^{-1} = \left(\frac{\partial \theta}{\partial \eta^T} \right)^{-1} [I(\theta)]^{-1} \left[\left(\frac{\partial \theta}{\partial \eta^T} \right)^T \right]^{-1}.$$

$$\text{By comparison, } \left(\frac{\partial \theta}{\partial \eta^T} \right)^{-1} = \frac{\partial \eta}{\partial \theta^T} \text{ which is true since } I = \frac{\partial \theta}{\partial \theta^T} = \left(\frac{\partial \theta}{\partial \eta^T} \right) \left(\frac{\partial \eta}{\partial \theta^T} \right).$$