

Cramer-Rao in the multiparameter case

$$\boldsymbol{\theta} = (\theta_1, \dots, \theta_k)$$

Define the Score function $S(\mathbf{X}|\boldsymbol{\theta}) = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta_1} \log f(\mathbf{x}|\boldsymbol{\theta}) \\ \vdots \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta_i} \log f(\mathbf{x}|\boldsymbol{\theta}) \end{bmatrix} = \nabla \log f(\mathbf{x}|\boldsymbol{\theta})$

Define the Fisher information $I(\boldsymbol{\theta}) = \text{Cov}[S(\mathbf{X}|\boldsymbol{\theta})]$

We have as in the univariate case that $E[S(\mathbf{X}|\boldsymbol{\theta})] = \mathbf{0}$ and $I(\boldsymbol{\theta}) = E[S(\mathbf{X}|\boldsymbol{\theta})S(\mathbf{X}|\boldsymbol{\theta})^T] = -E[H(\mathbf{X}|\boldsymbol{\theta})]$ where $h_{ij} = \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta_i} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta_j} \log f(\mathbf{x}|\boldsymbol{\theta})$.

Let $\tau = \tau(\boldsymbol{\theta})$ be univariate and let $\nabla \tau(\boldsymbol{\theta}) = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta_1} \tau(\boldsymbol{\theta}) \\ \vdots \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta_k} \tau(\boldsymbol{\theta}) \end{bmatrix}$

Theorem. For an estimator $W(\mathbf{X})$ with $E[W(\mathbf{X})] = \tau$, we have under similar regularity conditions as in the univariate case that $\text{Var}[W(\mathbf{X})] \geq (\nabla \tau(\boldsymbol{\theta}))^T (I(\boldsymbol{\theta}))^{-1} (\nabla \tau(\boldsymbol{\theta}))$.

Proof

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta_i} \tau(\boldsymbol{\theta}) = \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta_i} \int W(\mathbf{x}) f(\mathbf{x}, \boldsymbol{\theta}) d\mathbf{x} = \int W(\mathbf{x}) \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta_i} f(\mathbf{x}, \boldsymbol{\theta}) d\mathbf{x} = \int W(\mathbf{x}) \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta_i} \log f(\mathbf{x}, \boldsymbol{\theta}) \right) f(\mathbf{x}, \boldsymbol{\theta}) d\mathbf{x} = E[W(\mathbf{X}) S_i(\mathbf{X}|\boldsymbol{\theta})]$$

where $S_i(\mathbf{X}|\boldsymbol{\theta}) = \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta_i} \log f(\mathbf{X}, \boldsymbol{\theta})$. This implies: $\nabla \tau(\boldsymbol{\theta}) = E[W(\mathbf{X}) S(\mathbf{X}|\boldsymbol{\theta})]$.

Since $S(\mathbf{X}|\boldsymbol{\theta})$ is a vector we know introduce a scalar $U(\mathbf{X}|\boldsymbol{\theta}) = (\nabla \tau(\boldsymbol{\theta}))^T (I(\boldsymbol{\theta}))^{-1} S(\mathbf{X}|\boldsymbol{\theta})$.

We obtain:

$$\text{Cov}[W(\mathbf{X}), U(\mathbf{X}|\boldsymbol{\theta})] = (\nabla \tau(\boldsymbol{\theta}))^T (I(\boldsymbol{\theta}))^{-1} E[S(\mathbf{X}|\boldsymbol{\theta})W(\mathbf{X})] = (\nabla \tau(\boldsymbol{\theta}))^T (I(\boldsymbol{\theta}))^{-1} (\nabla \tau(\boldsymbol{\theta}))$$

and using that $Var[\mathbf{a}^T \mathbf{X}] = \mathbf{a}^T Cov[\mathbf{X}] \mathbf{a}$ we get

$$Var[U(\mathbf{X}|\boldsymbol{\theta})] = (\nabla \tau(\boldsymbol{\theta}))^T (I(\boldsymbol{\theta}))^{-1} (I(\boldsymbol{\theta})) (I(\boldsymbol{\theta}))^{-1} (\nabla \tau(\boldsymbol{\theta})) = (\nabla \tau(\boldsymbol{\theta}))^T (I(\boldsymbol{\theta}))^{-1} (\nabla \tau(\boldsymbol{\theta}))$$

From Cauchy Schwartz we then have that :

$$\left(Cov[W(\mathbf{X}), U(\mathbf{X}|\boldsymbol{\theta})] \right)^2 \leq Var[W(\mathbf{X})] Var[U(\mathbf{X}|\boldsymbol{\theta})]$$

$$\text{or } \left[(\nabla \tau(\boldsymbol{\theta}))^T (I(\boldsymbol{\theta}))^{-1} (\nabla \tau(\boldsymbol{\theta})) \right]^2 \leq (\nabla \tau(\boldsymbol{\theta}))^T (I(\boldsymbol{\theta}))^{-1} (\nabla \tau(\boldsymbol{\theta})) Var[W(\mathbf{X})]$$