

1. Consider a random sample of size n from a distribution with pdf $f(x; \theta) = \frac{1}{\theta}$ if $0 < x \leq \theta$, and zero otherwise; $0 < \theta$. Compute the MLE and MME for θ . Compare the bias and MSE of the two estimators.

$$L(\theta) = \frac{1}{\theta^n} \prod_{i=1}^n x_i. \quad X_{n:n} \text{ is the MLE for } \theta.$$

$$\text{Bias}(X_{n:n}) = E(X_{n:n} - \theta).$$

$$F_{X_{n:n}}(y) = P(X_{n:n} \leq y) = \left[F(y) \right]^n = \left(\frac{y}{\theta} \right)^n \text{ when } y \in (0, \theta].$$

$$f_{X_{n:n}}(y) = \frac{n y^{n-1}}{\theta^n} \mathbf{1}\{y \in (0, \theta]\}.$$

$$E(X_{n:n}) = \int_0^\theta \frac{y^n y^{n-1}}{\theta^n} dy = \left(\frac{n}{\theta^n} \right) \frac{y^{n+1}}{n+1} \Big|_0^\theta = \frac{n}{\theta^{n+1}} [\theta^{n+1}] = \frac{n\theta}{n+1}.$$

$$\text{So, } \text{bias}(X_{n:n}) = \theta \left[\frac{n}{n+1} - 1 \right] = \frac{-\theta}{n+1}.$$

$$\text{MSE}(X_{n:n}) = E(X_{n:n} - \theta)^2 = E(X_{n:n}^2) - 2\theta E(X_{n:n}) + \theta^2$$

$$E(X_{n:n}^2) = \int_0^\theta \frac{n y^{n+1}}{\theta^n} dy = \frac{n}{\theta^n} \frac{\theta^{n+2}}{n+2} = \frac{n\theta^2}{n+2}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{So, } \text{MSE}(X_{n:n}) &= \frac{n\theta^2}{n+2} - 2\theta \left(\frac{n\theta}{n+1} \right) + \theta^2 = \frac{(n+1)n\theta^2 - 2n(n+2)\theta^2 + (n+1)(n+2)\theta^2}{(n+1)(n+2)} \\ &= \frac{\theta^2 [n^2 + n - 2n^2 - 4n + n^2 + 2 + 3n]}{(n+1)(n+2)} = \frac{2\theta^2}{(n+1)(n+2)} \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{For MME: } \frac{\theta}{2} = \bar{X} \Rightarrow \hat{\theta} = 2\bar{X} \text{ is the MME.}$$

$$\text{Bias}(2\bar{X}) = E(2\bar{X} - \theta) = 0.$$

$$\text{MSE}(2\bar{X}) = \text{var}(2\bar{X}) + [\text{bias}(2\bar{X})]^2 = \text{var}(2\bar{X}) = 4\text{var}(\bar{X}) = \frac{4\text{var}(X)}{n}.$$

$$\text{var}(X) = E(X^2) - \left(\frac{\theta}{2} \right)^2. \quad E(X^2) = \int_0^\theta x^2 \frac{1}{\theta} dx = \frac{x^3}{3\theta} \Big|_0^\theta = \frac{\theta^2}{3}.$$

$$\text{Thus } \text{var}(X) = \frac{\theta^2}{3} - \frac{\theta^2}{4} = \frac{\theta^2}{12} \text{ and } \text{MSE}(2\bar{X}) = \frac{4\theta^2}{12n} = \frac{\theta^2}{3n}.$$

So, the MME is unbiased but has larger MSE than the biased MLE for reasonable n .