

Desirable Properties of Estimator

parameter : θ estimator : $\hat{\theta}$

$E(\hat{\theta}) = \theta$ for any θ — $\hat{\theta}$ is unbiased

Example : VSRS

$E(\bar{X}) = \mu$ — \bar{X} is unbiased for μ

$E(S^2) = \sigma^2$ — S^2 is unbiased for σ^2

$E(SD^2) = E\left\{\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n (X_i - \bar{X})^2\right\} = \frac{n-1}{n} \sigma^2 < \sigma^2$ — SD^2 is biased for σ^2

underestimate

Bias

$bias(\hat{\theta}) = E(\hat{\theta}) - \theta$

$bias(\hat{\theta}) > 0$ — overestimate

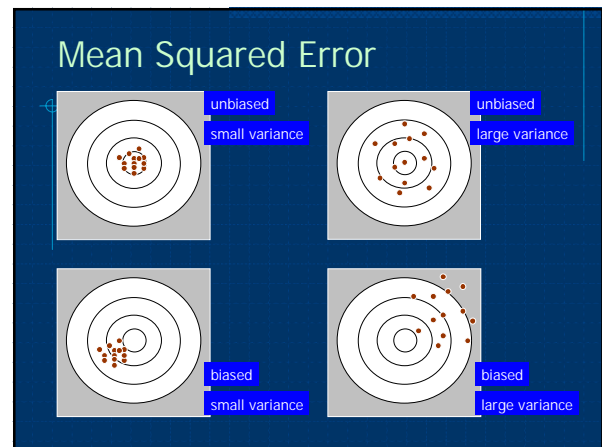
$bias(\hat{\theta}) < 0$ — underestimate

$bias(\hat{\theta}) = 0$ — unbiased

Example : VSRS

$SD^2 = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n (X_i - \bar{X})^2$

$bias(SD^2) = E(SD^2) - \sigma^2 = -\frac{\sigma^2}{n}$ — underestimate



Mean Squared Error

$\hat{\theta}_1$ is unbiased

$\hat{\theta}_2$ is biased

But $\hat{\theta}_2$ is better than $\hat{\theta}_1$

$MSE(\hat{\theta}_2) < MSE(\hat{\theta}_1)$

target

$MSE(\hat{\theta}) = E\{(\hat{\theta} - \theta)^2\} = Var(\hat{\theta}) + bias(\hat{\theta})^2$

Efficiency

efficiency of $\hat{\theta}_1$ compared to $\hat{\theta}_2$ — $eff(\hat{\theta}_1, \hat{\theta}_2) = \frac{MSE(\hat{\theta}_2)}{MSE(\hat{\theta}_1)}$

$\hat{\theta}_1$ is more efficient than $\hat{\theta}_2$ if $eff(\hat{\theta}_1, \hat{\theta}_2) > 1$

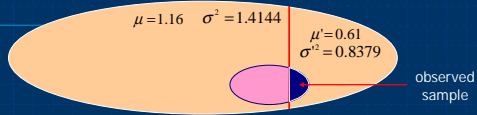
Example : VSRS $\{X_1, X_2\}$ $\hat{\mu}_1 = \frac{1}{2}X_1 + \frac{1}{2}X_2$ $\hat{\mu}_2 = \frac{2}{3}X_1 + \frac{1}{3}X_2$

$bias(\hat{\mu}_1) = bias(\hat{\mu}_2) = 0$

$MSE(\hat{\mu}_1) = Var(\hat{\mu}_1) = \frac{\sigma^2}{2}$ $MSE(\hat{\mu}_2) = Var(\hat{\mu}_2) = \frac{5\sigma^2}{9}$

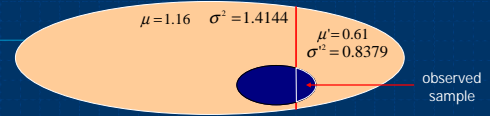
$eff(\hat{\mu}_1, \hat{\mu}_2) = \frac{MSE(\hat{\mu}_2)}{MSE(\hat{\mu}_1)} = \frac{10}{9} = 111\%$ $\hat{\mu}_1$ is 11% more efficient than $\hat{\mu}_2$

Efficiency



| X = number of children over 5 years old | Total population (Target) | | Subpopulation who would respond | |
|---|---------------------------|----------------|---------------------------------|----------------|
| | Frequency | Rel. frequency | Frequency | Rel. frequency |
| 0 | 20,000 | 0.40 | 6,200 | 0.62 |
| 1 | 12,000 | 0.24 | 2,100 | 0.21 |
| 2 | 10,000 | 0.20 | 1,200 | 0.12 |
| 3 | 6,000 | 0.12 | 400 | 0.04 |
| 4 | 2,000 | 0.04 | 100 | 0.01 |
| Total | 50,000 | 1.00 | 10,000 | 1.00 |

Efficiency



High volume sample : ask 1000 individuals without follow-up

Sample size = 200

$$E(\bar{X}) = \mu' = 0.61$$

$$Var(\bar{X}) = \frac{\sigma'^2}{n} = \frac{0.8379}{200}$$

$$bias(\bar{X}) = 0.61 - 1.16 = -0.55$$

$$MSE(\bar{X}) = (-0.55)^2 + 0.0041895 = 0.3067$$

High quality sample : ask 25 individuals with follow-up

Sample size = 25

$$E(\bar{X}) = \mu = 1.16$$

$$Var(\bar{X}) = \frac{\sigma^2}{n} = \frac{1.4144}{25}$$

$$bias(\bar{X}) = 0$$

$$MSE(\bar{X}) = Var(\bar{X}) = 0.05658$$

$$eff(\bar{X}, \bar{X}') = \frac{0.3067}{0.05658} = 5.42$$