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Also  $\text{var}(\log \hat{\gamma}_u) \rightarrow \frac{1}{\alpha^2}$  as  $u \rightarrow \infty$

hence  $\text{var}(\hat{\alpha}) \sim \frac{1}{k\alpha^2}$

But  $k \sim ncu^{-\alpha}$  so

$$\text{var}\left(\frac{1}{\hat{\alpha}}\right) \approx \frac{1}{\alpha ncu}$$

Overall:

$$\text{MSE} \approx \frac{Au^\alpha}{n} + B^2 u^{-2\beta}$$

$$\text{where } A = \frac{1}{\alpha^2 c}, \quad B = \frac{\alpha \cdot \beta}{\alpha(\alpha + \beta)}$$

$$\text{Minimize when } u = \left( \frac{2\beta B^2 n}{\alpha A} \right)^{\frac{1}{\alpha + 2\beta}}$$

and then

$$\text{MSE} = \frac{B^2 (\alpha + 2\beta)}{\alpha} \left( \frac{2\beta B^2 n}{\alpha A} \right)^{-2\beta / (\alpha + 2\beta)}$$

$$\text{Key result } \text{MSE} = \mathcal{O}\left(n^{-2\beta / (\alpha + 2\beta)}\right)$$

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Hill's estimator: fix  $u$ , assume  $1-F(x) = cx^{-\alpha}$ ,  $x > u$

$$\text{MLE: } \hat{\alpha} = \left\{ \frac{1}{k} \sum_{i=1}^k \log\left(\frac{X_i}{u}\right) \right\}^{-1}, \quad \hat{c} = \frac{k}{n} u^{\hat{\alpha}}$$

Here  $X_1 > X_2 > \dots > X_k > u > X_{k+1} > \dots > X_n$  are ordered sample from  $F$ .

Alternative (Weissman) - same but fix  $k$  first, set  $u = X_{k+1}$ .

Usual focus is on  $\alpha$  but we could also consider

$$1 - \hat{F}(x) = \hat{c} x^{-\hat{\alpha}}, \text{ any } x > u$$

$$\text{or fix } 1-F(x) = p, \quad \hat{x}_p = \left( \frac{\hat{c}}{p} \right)^{1/\hat{\alpha}}$$

Alternative representation: let  $Y_u = \frac{X}{u}$  conditioned on  $X > u$ .

$$\text{For } y > 1, \quad P(Y_u > y) = \frac{1-F(uy)}{1-F(u)}$$

$$\text{Assume } 1-F(x) = cx^{-\alpha} \{1 + dx^{-\beta} + o(x^{-\beta})\} \quad x \rightarrow \infty$$

$$\text{Then } \frac{1-F(uy)}{1-F(u)} = y^{-\alpha} \{1 + du^{-\beta} (y^{\beta} - 1) + o(u^{-\beta})\}$$

$u \rightarrow \infty$ , Fixed  $y > 1$

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$$\text{Density } \alpha y^{-\alpha-1} + du^{-\beta} \left\{ (\alpha+\beta) y^{-\alpha-\beta-1} - \alpha y^{\alpha-1} \right\} + o(u^{-\beta})$$

$$\text{Note integral } \int_1^{\infty} (\log y)^k y^{-\alpha-1} dy = \alpha^{-k-1} \Gamma(k+1)$$

$\downarrow$   
 $= |k|$   
if  $k$  integer

$$\text{So } E \log Y_u = \frac{1}{\alpha} + du^{-\beta} \left( \frac{1}{\alpha+\beta} - \frac{1}{\alpha} \right) + o(u^{-\beta})$$

$$E \log^2 Y_u = \frac{2}{\alpha^2} \text{ etc.}$$

$$\text{So } E \left( \frac{1}{\hat{\alpha}} \right) = \frac{1}{\alpha} - du^{-\beta} \cdot \frac{\beta}{\alpha(\alpha+\beta)} + o(u^{-\beta})$$

$$\text{var} \left( \frac{1}{\hat{\alpha}} \right) \approx \frac{1}{k\alpha^2}$$

But  $k \approx ncu^{-\alpha}$  so

$$\text{Bias of } \frac{1}{\hat{\alpha}} \approx - \frac{d\beta}{\alpha(\alpha+\beta)} u^{-\beta}, \quad \text{var} \approx \frac{1}{\alpha^2 ncu^{-\alpha}}$$

$$\text{MSE} \approx \frac{A u^{\alpha}}{n} + B^2 u^{-2\beta} \quad \text{where } A = \frac{1}{d^2 c}, \quad B = \frac{d \cdot \beta}{\alpha(\alpha+\beta)}$$

Minimize the MSE:

$$u = \left( \frac{2\beta B^2 n}{\alpha A} \right)^{1/(\alpha+2\beta)}, \quad \text{MSE} = \frac{B^2(\alpha+2\beta)}{\alpha} \left( \frac{2\beta B^2 n}{\alpha A} \right)^{-2\beta/(\alpha+2\beta)}$$

$$\text{Key point: } \text{MSE} \propto n^{-2\beta/(\alpha+2\beta)}$$

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Alternative approach: use GPD

If  $1-F(x) = cx^{-\alpha}$  is exact, then

$$\frac{1-F(u+y)}{1-F(u)} = \left(\frac{u+y}{u}\right)^{-\alpha} = \left(1 + \frac{y}{u}\right)^{-\alpha}$$

identical if  $\sigma = \frac{y}{u}$ ,  $\xi = \frac{1}{\alpha}$  } Treat as "true" parameters for GPD

Fisher info matrix  $J$ ,  $J^{-1} = (1+\xi) \begin{pmatrix} 2\sigma^2 & -\sigma \\ -\sigma & 1+\xi \end{pmatrix}$

$$\text{so } \text{var}\left(\hat{\xi}\right) \approx \frac{(1+\xi)^2}{k} = \left(\frac{\alpha+1}{\alpha}\right)^2 \cdot \frac{1}{k} > \frac{1}{\alpha^2 k}$$

worse than Hill est<sup>r</sup>.

But what about the bias?

Side calculation: bias in MLE and related estimators

Suppose we have a model  $X_{ni} \sim f_n(x; \theta_n)$

and an estimator  $\hat{\theta}_n$  defined by

$$\sum_{i=1}^{k_n} T(X_{ni}; \hat{\theta}_n) = 0, \text{ some function } T,$$

where  $E_{f_n} T = 0$ ,  $J = (T_1, \dots, T_p)$

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Suppose model  $X_i \sim f(X_i; \theta)$ ,  $\theta \in \Theta$

↑  
some  
par. space

"True value"  $\theta = \theta_0$   
( $p$ -dimensional)

Suppose estimating equation

$$\sum_{i=1}^k \tilde{T}(X_i; \hat{\theta}_k) = 0$$

where  $\int \tilde{T}(x; \theta_0) = 0$

Also define a  $p \times p$  matrix  $W(X; \theta)$  by

$$w_{rs}(X; \theta) = \frac{\partial \tilde{T}_r(X; \theta)}{\partial \theta_s}$$

$1 \leq r \leq p, 1 \leq s \leq p.$

In case  $\tilde{T}(x; \theta) = -\nabla_{\theta} \log f(x; \theta)$  this is

standard MLE and  $W$  is observed info matrix  
(for a single obs.)

Under regularity conditions

$$0 = \sum_{i=1}^k \tilde{T}(X_i; \hat{\theta}_k) = \sum_{i=1}^k \left\{ \tilde{T}(X_i; \theta_0) + W(X_i; \theta_0) (\hat{\theta}_k - \theta_0) \right\}$$

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$$\hat{\theta}_n - \theta_0 \approx - \left\{ \sum_i W(X_i; \theta_0) \right\}^{-1} \left\{ \sum_i T(X_i; \theta_0) \right\}$$

If  $E W(X_i; \theta_0) = J_0$ ,  $\text{cov } T(X_i; \theta_0) = C_0$  then

$$\sqrt{k_n} (\hat{\theta}_n - \theta_0) \approx N[0, J_0^{-1} C_0 J_0^{-1}]$$

"information sandwich formula"

In MLE case,  $J_0 = C_0$  and RHS is  $N[0, J_0^{-1}]$

Now suppose model is not exact but  $n \rightarrow \infty$   
 $\frac{1}{k_n} \sum_{i=1}^{k_n} T(X_i; \theta_0) \approx b_n$  where  $b_n$  is small as  $k_n \rightarrow \infty$   
then

$$\sqrt{k_n} (\hat{\theta}_n - \theta_0) \approx N[\sqrt{k_n}^{-1} b_n, C_0]$$

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{k_n}} \sum_{i=1}^{k_n} T(X_i; \theta_0) \approx N\left[\frac{1}{\sqrt{k_n}} b_n, C_0(\theta_0)\right] \text{ (approx)}$$

$$\text{hence } \sqrt{k_n} (\hat{\theta}_n - \theta_0) + k_n^{-1/2} J_0^{-1} b_n \rightarrow N[0, J_0^{-1} C_0 J_0^{-1}]$$

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If  $k_n^{-1/2} \underline{b}_n \rightarrow \underline{c}$  for some vector  $\underline{c}$ ,

$$\sqrt{k_n} \begin{pmatrix} \hat{\theta}_n \\ \hat{\alpha}_n \end{pmatrix} \rightarrow N \left[ -\underline{J}_0^{-1} \underline{c}, \underline{J}_0^{-1} \underline{C}_0 \underline{J}_0^{-1} \right].$$

Application to GPD:

$$l(\sigma, \xi) = \log \sigma + \left( \frac{1}{\xi} + 1 \right) \log \left( 1 + \frac{\xi y}{\sigma} \right)$$

$$\sigma \frac{\partial l}{\partial \sigma} = -\frac{1}{\xi} + \left( \frac{1}{\xi} + 1 \right) \left( 1 + \frac{\xi y}{\sigma} \right)^{-1}$$

$$\frac{\partial l}{\partial \xi} = -\frac{1}{\xi^2} \log \left( 1 + \frac{\xi y}{\sigma} \right) + \frac{1}{\xi} \left( \frac{1}{\xi} + 1 \right) \left\{ 1 - \left( 1 + \frac{\xi y}{\sigma} \right)^{-1} \right\}$$

set  $y = u(Y_u - 1)$

$$E Y_u^{-1} = \int_1^{\infty} \left\{ \alpha y^{-\alpha-2} + du^{-\beta} \left\{ (\alpha+\beta) y^{-\alpha-\beta-1} - \alpha y^{-\alpha-1} \right\} \right\} dy$$

$$E Y_u^{-1} = \int_1^{\infty} \left[ \alpha y^{-\alpha-2} + du^{-\beta} \left\{ (\alpha+\beta) y^{-\alpha-\beta-2} - \alpha y^{-\alpha-2} \right\} \right] dy + o(u^{-\beta})$$

$$\text{But } \int_1^{\infty} y^{-\alpha-2} dy = \left[ -\frac{y^{-\alpha-1}}{\alpha+1} \right]_1^{\infty} = \frac{1}{\alpha+1} \text{ etc.}$$

$$E Y_u^{-1} = \frac{\alpha}{\alpha+1} + du^{-\beta} \left( \frac{\alpha+\beta}{\alpha+\beta+1} - \frac{\alpha}{\alpha+1} \right) + o(u^{-\beta}) \text{ etc.}$$

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Ultimately, bias of  $\hat{\xi}$   $\approx du^{-\beta} \frac{(\alpha+1)\beta(1-\beta)}{\alpha(\alpha+\beta)(\alpha+\beta+1)}$

and var  $\sim \frac{(\alpha+1)^2}{\alpha^2 n u^{-\alpha}}$

Calculate optimal threshold for GPD and Hill estimators separately

Ratio of optimal MSE is

$$\left| \frac{(1-\beta)(\alpha+1)}{\alpha(\alpha+\beta)(\alpha+\beta+1)} \right|^{2\alpha/(\alpha+2\beta)} \cdot |\alpha+1|^{4\beta/(\alpha+2\beta)}$$

Fig 5.1 p.63 : shows this curve as a fn. of  $\beta$  for various  $\alpha$ .

Conclusion: in every case MSE favors GPD for small  $\beta$  (critical case)



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Hall & Weissman (1997)

Distribution function  $F$ , ~~in~~  $\bar{F} = 1 - F$

Some model leads to  $\bar{F}_{\theta}(x)$  in terms of parameters  $\theta$ .

Estimate  $\hat{\theta}(t)$ , tuning parameter  $t$ .

"Pulling back": replace  $(n, x)$  by  $(m, y)$

Approximate  $\bar{F}$  by  $\hat{\bar{F}}$  empirical cdf

Then estimate  $t$

$$\text{Criteria: } D_1(t; n, x) = E \left[ \bar{F}_{\hat{\theta}(t)}(x) - \bar{F}(x) \right]^2$$

$$\begin{aligned} D_2(t; n, p) &= D_1(t; n, \bar{F}^{-1}(p)) \\ &= E \left[ \bar{F}_{\hat{\theta}(t)} \left[ \bar{F}^{-1}(p) \right] - p \right]^2 \end{aligned}$$

Restrict to  $\bar{F}_{\theta}(x) = \theta_1 x^{-\theta_2}$ ,  $\theta_1 > 0$ ,  $\theta_2 > 0$

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Relabel so  $\bar{F}_{\alpha, c} = cx^{-\alpha}$

$\hat{\alpha}, \hat{c}$ : Hill's est, tuning parameter  $k$ .

They argue: preserve  $\frac{\log x}{\log n} = \frac{\log y}{\log m}$

Assume  $\bar{F}(x) = cx^{-\alpha} (1 + dx^{-\beta} + o(x^{-\beta}))$

Assume  $n \rightarrow \infty, m \rightarrow \infty$  st.  $\frac{\log x}{\log n}$  is bounded away from 0 and  $\infty$ .

Thm!  $E \left[ \left( \bar{F}_{\hat{\alpha}, \hat{c}}(x) - \bar{F}(x) \right)^2 \left( \bar{F}_{\alpha, c}(x) \right)^{-2} \right]$   
 $= D_1(k; n, m) \left( \bar{F}_{\alpha, c}(x) \right)^{-2}$

$= E \left[ \delta_1 \left( \frac{k}{n} \right) - \delta_2(x) + \frac{1}{\sqrt{k}} Y_1 + \alpha f \left( \frac{k}{n}, m \right) \left\{ \frac{Y_2}{\sqrt{k}} - a \left( \frac{k}{n} \right)^{\beta/\alpha} \right\} \right]^2$   
+ smaller order terms.

$\delta_1 \left( \frac{k}{n} \right) \sim dc^{-\beta/\alpha} \left( \frac{k}{n} \right)^{\beta/\alpha}$      $\delta_2(x) \sim dx^{-\beta}$

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Bootstrap Choose  $m \ll n$ .

Resample  $X^* = (X$

$$X^* = (X_1^*, \dots, X_m^*)$$

$\hat{\alpha}^*$ ,  $\hat{c}^*$  Hill est<sup>n</sup> based on  
 $(X_1^*, \dots, X_m^*)$

$$\hat{D}_1 = E \left\{ \bar{F}_{\hat{\alpha}^*(k)}(y) - \hat{F}(y) \right\}^2$$

$E$ : expectation consistent cond.-invariant data

Let  $k(m, y)$  minimize  $D_1(k; m, y)$

$\hat{k}(m, y)$  minimize  $\hat{D}_1(k; m, y)$

Assume  $y = O\left(n^{\frac{1}{\alpha + 2\beta}} \varepsilon\right)$

Theorem 3.1: for any  $\varepsilon > 0$ ,  $\lambda > 0$ ,

$$P \left\{ \frac{\hat{k}(m, y) - k_0(m, y)}{k_0(m, y)} > \varepsilon \right\} = O(n^{-\lambda})$$

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Objective is to find  $\hat{k}$  so that

$$P \left[ \underbrace{\hat{k} - k_0}_{k_0} > \varepsilon \right] = o(\eta) \quad (\ddagger)$$

where  $\eta = n^{-2\beta/(2\alpha+2\beta)} (\log n)^2 x^{-2\alpha}$

They argue:

$$\log \hat{k}(m, y) = \log C_1 + \gamma \log m + \underbrace{\zeta(m, y)}_{\text{smaller order}}$$

Regress  $\log \hat{k}(m, y)$  on  $\log m$ , get estimates  $\hat{C}_1, \hat{\gamma}$ , set

$$\hat{k}(n, x) = \hat{C}_1 n^{\hat{\gamma}}$$

Then,  $\hat{k}$  satisfies  $(\ddagger)$ .