

# Shrinkage Estimator of the Parameters of Normal Distribution Based On K- Record Values

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**Abstract**—In this paper, we discuss the problem of estimating the parameters of normal distribution based on k-record values in presence of guessed value (or apriori) of the parameters under investigation. We have suggested shrinkage estimators for estimating the parameters  $\mu$  and  $\sigma$  based on best linear unbiased estimator (BLUE). The expressions of biases and mean squared errors (MSEs) of the suggested estimators are obtained. Under some realistic conditions it is shown that the proposed shrinkage estimators are better than [15] estimators.

**AMS Subject Classification:** 62G30; 62H12.

**Keywords-** Best linear unbiased estimation; K- record values; Minimum mean square estimator; Normal distribution; Shrinkage estimator

## I. INTRODUCTION

Let  $X_1, X_2, \dots$  be an infinite sequence of independent and identically distributed random variables having the same absolutely continuous cumulative distribution function (cdf)  $F(x)$ . An observation  $X_j$  will be called an upper record (or simply a record) if its value exceeds that of all previous observations. Thus  $X_j$  is a record if  $X_j > X_i$  for every  $i < j$ . An analogous definition deals with lower record values. For a positive integer  $k$ , the upper K- record times  $T_{n(k)}$  and the upper k- record value  $R_{n(k)}$  are introduced by [24] as

$$T_{0(k)} = k, \text{ with probability one}$$

and, for  $n \geq 1$

$$T_{n(k)} = \min \left\{ j : j > T_{n-1(k)}, X_j > X_{T_{n-1(k)}-k+1:T_{n-1(k)}} \right\}, \quad (1.1)$$

where  $X_{i:m}$  denote the  $i$ -th order statistics of sample size  $m$ . The sequence of upper k- records are then defined by

$$R_{n(k)} = X_{T_{n(k)}-k+1:T_{n-1(k)}} \text{ for } n = 0, 1, \dots, k \geq 1. \quad (1.2)$$

In a similar manner, we can define the  $k$ th lower record times and the  $k$ th lower record values. For  $k = 1$ , the usual records are recovered. The probability density function (pdf)

of  $R_{n(k)}$  is given by see [1],

$$f_{n(k)}(x) = \frac{k^{n+1}}{n!} [-\log\{1 - F(x)\}]^n [1 - F(x)]^{k-1} f(x),$$

$$-\infty < x < \infty, \quad (1.3)$$

and the joint pdf of  $m$ th and  $n$ th k- record values for  $m < n$  is given by,

$$f_{m,n(k)}(x, y) = \frac{k^{n+1}}{m!(n-m-1)!} [-\log\{1 - F(x)\}]^m$$

$$\times [-\log\{1 - F(y)\} + \log\{1 - F(x)\}]^{n-m-1}$$

$$\times \frac{[1 - F(y)]^{k-1}}{1 - F(x)} f(x) f(y), \quad x < y. \quad (1.4)$$

Let  $R_{0(k)}^*, R_{1(k)}^*, \dots, R_{n(k)}^*$  be the first  $(n+1)$  upper k-record values arising from a sequence of iid standard normal random variables. If we denote  $\Phi(\cdot)$  as the cdf and  $\phi(\cdot)$  as the pdf of a standard normal random variable, then by using (1.3), the pdf of  $n$ th upper k-record value of  $R_{n(k)}^*$  is given See, [15]

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$$f_{n(k)}^*(x) = \frac{k^{n+1}}{n!} [-\log(1 - \Phi(x))]^n [1 - \Phi(x)]^{k-1} \varphi(x),$$

$$-\infty < x < \infty, n \geq 0. \tag{1.5}$$

From (1.4), the joint pdf of  $m$ th and  $n$ th upper  $k$ - record values,  $R_{m(k)}^*$  and  $R_{n(k)}^*$  for  $m < n$  is given by

$$f_{m,n(k)}^*(x, y) = \frac{k^{n+1}}{m!(n-m-1)!} [-\log\{1 - \Phi(x)\}]^m$$

$$\times [-\log\{1 - \Phi(y)\} + \log\{1 - \Phi(x)\}]^{n-m-1}$$

$$\times \frac{[1 - \Phi(y)]^{k-1}}{1 - \Phi(x)} \varphi(x)\varphi(y), \infty < x < y < \infty. \tag{1.6}$$

We used same notations of [15] as  $E(R_{n(k)}^*)$  by  $\alpha_{n(k)}$ ,  $Var(R_{n(k)}^*)$  by  $\beta_{n,n(k)}$ ,  $E(R_{m(k)}^*, R_{n(k)}^*)$  by  $\alpha_{m,n(k)}$  and  $Cov(R_{m(k)}^*, R_{n(k)}^*)$  by  $\beta_{m,n(k)}$ . Then, the single moments of the  $n$ th upper  $k$ -record value for  $n \geq 0$  is given by

$$\alpha_{n(k)} = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x f_{n(k)}^*(x) dx,$$

and the product moments of the  $m$ th and  $n$ th upper  $k$ -record values for  $m < n$  is given by

$$\alpha_{m,n(k)} = \iint_{-\infty}^{\infty} xy f_{m,n(k)}^*(x, y) dy dx.$$

By using above notations [15] obtained BLUEs of mean  $\mu$  and standard deviation  $\sigma$  respectively as

$$\mu^* = \frac{\mathbf{a}^T \mathbf{B}^{-1} \mathbf{a} \mathbf{1}^T \mathbf{B}^{-1} - \mathbf{a}^T \mathbf{B}^{-1} \mathbf{1} \mathbf{a}^T \mathbf{B}^{-1}}{(\mathbf{a}^T \mathbf{B}^{-1} \mathbf{a})(\mathbf{1}^T \mathbf{B}^{-1} \mathbf{1}) - (\mathbf{a}^T \mathbf{B}^{-1} \mathbf{1})^2} \mathbf{R}_{n(k)} = \sum_{i=0}^n a_i R_{i(k)} \tag{1.7}$$

and

$$\sigma^* = \frac{\mathbf{1}^T \mathbf{B}^{-1} \mathbf{1} \mathbf{a}^T \mathbf{B}^{-1} - \mathbf{1}^T \mathbf{B}^{-1} \mathbf{a} \mathbf{1}^T \mathbf{B}^{-1}}{(\mathbf{a}^T \mathbf{B}^{-1} \mathbf{a})(\mathbf{1}^T \mathbf{B}^{-1} \mathbf{1}) - (\mathbf{a}^T \mathbf{B}^{-1} \mathbf{1})^2} \mathbf{R}_{n(k)} = \sum_{i=0}^n b_i R_{i(k)}. \tag{1.8}$$

Furthermore, the variance and covariance of the above estimators are respectively given by (see, [16], pp. 80-81)

$$Var(\mu^*) = \sigma^2 \frac{\mathbf{a}^T \mathbf{B}^{-1} \mathbf{a}}{(\mathbf{a}^T \mathbf{B}^{-1} \mathbf{a})(\mathbf{1}^T \mathbf{B}^{-1} \mathbf{1}) - (\mathbf{a}^T \mathbf{B}^{-1} \mathbf{1})^2} = \sigma^2 A_1(\text{say}) \tag{1.9}$$

$$Var(\sigma^*) = \sigma^2 \frac{\mathbf{1}^T \mathbf{B}^{-1} \mathbf{1}}{(\mathbf{a}^T \mathbf{B}^{-1} \mathbf{a})(\mathbf{1}^T \mathbf{B}^{-1} \mathbf{1}) - (\mathbf{a}^T \mathbf{B}^{-1} \mathbf{1})^2} = \sigma^2 A_2(\text{say}) \tag{1.10}$$

and

$$Cov(\mu^*, \sigma^*) = -\sigma^2 \frac{\mathbf{a}^T \mathbf{B}^{-1} \mathbf{1}}{(\mathbf{a}^T \mathbf{B}^{-1} \mathbf{a})(\mathbf{1}^T \mathbf{B}^{-1} \mathbf{1}) - (\mathbf{a}^T \mathbf{B}^{-1} \mathbf{1})^2} = -\sigma^2 A_3(\text{say}) \tag{1.11}$$

There are some situations in which only records are observed, such as in destructive stress testing, meteorological analysis, hydrology, seismology, sporting and athletic events and oil and mining surveys. For a more specific example, consider the situation of testing the breaking strength of wooden beams as described in [17]. Interest in records has increased steadily over the years since [13] formulation. Useful reviews of literature are given in the books of [1], [18], [14] and the references cited therein. For current reference in this context the reader is referred to [2]-[9] and [19]-[23].

The prior point information (or guessed values) regarding parameters  $\mu$  and  $\sigma$  can be obtained from the past data or experience gathered in due course of time for instance see, [2], [11] and [12]. The principle objective of this paper is to use the prior information  $\mu_0$  and  $\sigma_0$  of the parameters  $\mu$  and  $\sigma$  respectively in addition to sample observations in order to get better estimators than the usual estimators available in the literature.

The organization of the remaining part of the paper is as follows. In section 2, we have derived some improved shrinkage estimators of parameters  $\mu$  of normal distribution based on BLUE while in section 3, some improved shrinkage estimators of  $\sigma$  are obtained based on BLUE using  $K$ -record values in presence guessed values  $\mu_0$  (for  $\mu$ ) and  $\sigma_0$  (for  $\sigma$ ). We have also obtained the biases and mean squared errors (MSEs) of the suggested estimators. Theoretically, it has been shown that the proposed shrinkage estimators are always superior to the one suggested by [15]. Section 4, concludes the paper with final remarks.

**II. SHRINKAGE ESTIMATOR FOR MEAN  $\mu$**

When the prior point estimate  $\mu_0$  of  $\mu$  is available, we suggest the following class of estimators for the parameter  $\mu$  as

$$\hat{\mu}_1 = P_1\mu_0 + (1 - P_1)\mu^*, \tag{2.1}$$

where  $P_1$  being a suitably chosen constant.

The bias and MSE of  $\hat{\mu}_1$  are respectively, given by

$$B(\hat{\mu}_1) = \sigma \left( \frac{\phi P_1}{C} \right), \tag{2.2}$$

and

$$MSE(\hat{\mu}_1) = \sigma^2 \left[ P_1^2 \left( A_1 + \frac{\phi^2}{C^2} \right) - 2P_1A_1 + A_1 \right], \tag{2.3}$$

where  $C = \frac{\sigma}{\mu}$ ,  $\phi = \left( \frac{\mu_0}{\mu} - 1 \right) = (\beta - 1)$  (say).

**A. Efficiency Comparison**

It is observed from (1.9) and (2.3) that

$$MSE(\hat{\mu}_1) < Var(\mu^*)$$

if

$$P_1 \in \left( 0, \left( \frac{2A_1C^2}{A_1C^2 + \phi^2} \right) \right). \tag{2.4}$$

It is known that the optimum estimator (OE) of  $\mu$  is given as

$$\hat{\mu}_{1(opt)}^* = \mu^* + \frac{A_3}{(1 + A_2)} \sigma^*, \tag{2.5}$$

in the class of estimators  $\hat{\mu}_1^* = \mu^* + P\sigma^*$ ,  $P$  being a suitably chosen constant such that mean squared error (MSE) of  $\hat{\mu}_{1(opt)}^*$  is minimum.

The bias and MSE of  $\hat{\mu}_{1(opt)}^*$  are, respectively given by

$$B(\hat{\mu}_{1(opt)}^*) = \sigma \frac{A_3}{(1 + A_2)}, \tag{2.6}$$

$$MSE(\hat{\mu}_{1(opt)}^*) = \sigma^2 \left[ A_1 - \frac{A_3^2}{(1 + A_2)} \right]. \tag{2.7}$$

From (2.3) and (2.7) it follows that the suggested shrinkage estimator  $\hat{\mu}_1$  is more efficient than the OE  $\hat{\mu}_{1(opt)}^*$  if

$$MSE(\hat{\mu}_1) < MSE(\mu_{1(opt)}^*)$$

if

$$P_1 \in \left( 0, \left( \frac{(2A_1 + 2A_1A_2 - A_3^2)C^2}{(A_1C^2 + \phi^2)(1 + A_2)} \right) \right). \tag{2.8}$$

The proposed shrinkage estimator  $\hat{\mu}_1$  is better than the BLUE  $\mu^*$  and the OE  $\hat{\mu}_{1(opt)}^*$  if the conditions (2.4) and (2.8) are respectively satisfied. From (2.4) and (2.8) one can also calculate the ranges  $P_1$  in which the suggested shrinkage estimator  $\hat{\mu}_1$  is more efficient than the [15] BLUE  $\mu^*$  and OE  $\hat{\mu}_{1(opt)}^*$ .

**III. SUGGESTED ESTIMATORS FOR  $\sigma$**

Based on prior estimate  $\sigma_0$  of  $\sigma$  and the BLUE  $\sigma^*$ , we define a class of estimators of  $\sigma$  as

$$\hat{\sigma}_1 = \sigma_0 + P_2\sigma^*, \tag{3.1}$$

where  $P_2$  is a constant to be determined such that the MSE of  $\hat{\sigma}_1$  is minimum.

The bias and MSE of  $\hat{\sigma}_1$  are respectively given by

$$B(\hat{\sigma}_1) = \sigma(\psi + P_2), \tag{3.2}$$

$$MSE(\hat{\sigma}_1) = \sigma^2 [\psi^2 + P_2^2(1 + A_2) + 2\psi P_2], \tag{3.3}$$

where

$$\psi = \left( \frac{\sigma_0}{\sigma} - 1 \right) = (\beta^* - 1) \text{ (say).}$$

The  $MSE(\hat{\sigma}_1)$  at (3.3) is minimized for

$$P_2 = -\frac{\psi}{(1 + A_2)}. \tag{3.4}$$

The value of  $P_2$  at (3.4) depends on the unknown parameter  $\sigma$ , so an estimate of  $P_2$  based on sample data is given by

$$P_2^* = -\frac{\psi^*}{(1+A_2)} = -\left(\frac{\sigma_0 - \sigma^*}{\sigma^*(1+A_2)}\right). \quad (3.5)$$

Putting  $P_2^*$  in (3.1), we get a shrinkage estimator of  $\sigma$  as

$$\sigma_1^* = \sigma_0 - (1+A_2)^{-1}(\sigma_0 - \sigma^*). \quad (3.6)$$

The bias and MSE of  $\sigma_1^*$  are respectively given by

$$B(\sigma_1^*) = \sigma \frac{\psi A_2}{1+A_2}, \quad (3.7)$$

$$MSE(\sigma_1^*) = \sigma^2 \frac{A_2(\psi^2 A_2 + 1)}{(1+A_2)^2}. \quad (3.8)$$

It is observed from (1.10) and (3.8) that

$$MSE(\sigma_1^*) < Var(\sigma^*)$$

if

$$\sigma \in \left( \frac{\sigma_0}{1 + \sqrt{(2+A_2)}}, \infty \right). \quad (3.9)$$

or

$$\sigma_0 \in \left( 0, \sigma \left( 1 + \sqrt{(2+A_2)} \right) \right). \quad (3.10)$$

It is interesting to note from (3.9) that the proposed shrinkage estimator  $\sigma_1^*$  is more efficient than the BLUE  $\sigma^*$  envisaged by [15] for a wider range of  $\sigma$ . It also suggests that the proposed shrinkage estimator  $\sigma_1^*$  is more efficient than the BLUE  $\sigma^*$  due to [15] even if the guessed value  $\sigma_0$  of  $\sigma$  slides far away from the true value  $\sigma$ .

#### IV. CONCLUSION

In this paper we have suggested better estimators of parameters  $\mu$  and  $\sigma$  of normal distribution based on k-record values in presence of guessed (or apriori) information  $\mu_0$  (for  $\mu$ ) and  $\sigma_0$  (for  $\sigma$ ). The expressions of biases and MSEs of the estimators  $\hat{\mu}_1$  and  $\sigma_1^*$  of the parameters  $\mu$  and  $\sigma$  respectively are obtained. Superiority of the proposed shrinkage estimators  $(\hat{\mu}_1, \sigma_1^*)$  of the parameters  $(\mu, \sigma)$  respectively are also comprehensively discussed.

Thus the use of prior information regarding the parameters  $(\mu, \sigma)$  under investigation may be highly rewarding in terms of precision of the proposed shrinkage estimators  $(\hat{\mu}_1, \sigma_1^*)$  over the usual estimators  $(\mu^*, \sigma^*)$  envisaged by [15] of the parameters  $(\mu, \sigma)$  respectively.

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