# **EDGE ESTIMATION IN POPULATION OF PLANER GRAPHS USING SAMPLING**

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### **Abstract**

Consider a population which contains graphical relationship between two variables. There are two graphs of vertices and edges, each edge contains a length value and linked with two vertices (nodes). Mean length of all edges is unknown which is a problem to explore. This paper takes into account two planer graphs in particular, one of them is under main interest and other is an auxiliary graph. A sample of some nodes is drawn by simple random sampling (SRSWOR) along with a laid down node-sampling procedure and a class of estimators is proposed to estimate the mean length of an edge of planer graph using the structure of other planer graph as an auxiliary source of information. Optimal properties of estimators are derived and results are numerically supported with the calculation of length estimates and confidence intervals.

**Keywords :** Graph, Planer Graph, Edge, Vertices(nodes), Simple Random Sampling without replacement (SRSWOR), Class, Estimator, Bias, Mean Squared Error (MSE), Optimum Choice, Confidence intervals.

## **1. Introduction**

Consider a graph  $G_2 = (V, E, \psi)$  where set V consists of the five vertices  $V_1$ ,  $V_2$ ,  $V_3$ ,  $V_4$ , and  $V_5$ ; set E has eight edges (none of which is in V) like

 $V = \{V_1, V_2, V_3, V_4, V_5\}$ ;  $E = \{e_{12}, e_{13}, e_{14}, e_{23}, e_{24}, e_{25}, e_{35}, e_{45}\}$ 

The  $\psi$  is a set containing the relationship between V and E in the form of mapping.

Likewise, define another graph 
$$
G_{1} = (V', E', \psi')
$$
 where V' and E' consist of

$$
V = \{V_1, V_2, V_3, V_4, V_5\} \quad E = \{e_{12}, e_{14}, e_{23}, e_{35}, e_{45}\}
$$

and  $\psi$  has relationship of V and E,

**Note 1.1:** The graph  $G_2$  (or  $G_1$ ) is said to be a planer graph if there exists some geometric representation of  $G_2$  (or  $G_1$ ) which can be drawn on a plane such that no two of edges can intersect to each other [see Deo(2001)]. Detail description of planer graph is in Parson (1971). Some useful research contributions to planer graphs are due to Frederickson (1988), Gazot and Reif (1990), Shih et al. (1990), Grigni et al. (1995), Osthus et al. (2003), Aleksandrav et al.(2007), etc.

Fig 1 is showing a structure of two linked planer graphs  $G_1$  and  $G_2$  (with a common vertex  $V_2 = V_2$  ). Suppose  $G_1$  and  $G_2$  together constitute a population of vertices (nodes) (V, V ) and edges (E, E ). Overall average length of edges in  $G_1$  is assumed known but overall mean edge length is not known for  $G_2$ . We want to estimate this using mean edge information of graph  $G_1$  and with the help of a random sample of some nodes drawn according to following node-sampling procedure.



## **Fig. 1: A structure of two linked planer graphs G1 and G<sup>2</sup> 1.1 Node- Sampling Procedure**

Suppose  $G_1$  and  $G_2$  both individually have equal nodes M in form of  $V_i$  and  $V_i$  (i=1,2,3,.........M).

- **Step I:** Construct node-edge (NE) table for the population of M units. Common vertex represents both in  $G_1$  and  $G_2$  with the respective group edges (like  $V_2$ in  $G_2 = V_2$  in  $G_1$ ).
- **Step II :** Construct false-node-edge (FNE) matrix for  $G_1$  and  $G_2$  separately assuming that  $(i, j)$ <sup>th</sup> element of matrix is unity if the j<sup>th</sup> edge is associated (or linked) with i<sup>th</sup> vertex (node), otherwise zero. Some false edges are added in FNE matrix in order to maintain equal number of edges in both  $G_1$  and  $G_2$ , by the diagonal-repetition of edges of same group on priority basis. If main diagonal is full, the very next upper diagonal is taken into consideration for the false edge creation until equality of edges in  $G_1$  and  $G_2$  is met out. At the end, total number of edges in  $G_1$  and  $G_2$  are same, equal to N, shown below as an example for Fig. 1 **:**

	Graph G <sub>2</sub>	$Graph G_1$					
<b>Vertex</b>	Edge	<b>Vertex</b>	Edge				
$V_1$	$e_{12}$ , $e_{13}$ , $e_{14}$	$\rm V_{\rm i}$	$e_{12}$ , $e_{14}$				
V <sub>2</sub>	$e_{12}$ , $e_{23}$ , $e_{24}$ , $e_{25}$	$V_2$	$e_{12}$ , $e_{23}$				
$V_3$	$e_{13}$ , $e_{23}$ , $e_{35}$	$V_3$	$e_{23}$ , $e_{35}$				
$V_4$	$e_{14}$ , $e_{24}$ , $e_{45}$	$\rm V_4^{'}$	$e_{14}$ , $e_{45}$				
$V_5$	$e_{25}$ , $e_{35}$ , $e_{45}$	$V_{5}$	$e_{35}$ , $e_{45}$				

**Table 1: Node-Edge Table (NE Table) For Fig. 1**

								Edges $\rightarrow \leftarrow$ False edges -								Row	mean
						$e_1$ <sub>2</sub> $e_1$ <sub>3</sub> $e_1$ <sub>4</sub> $e_2$ <sub>3</sub> $e_2$ <sub>4</sub> $e_2$ <sub>5</sub> $e_3$ <sub>5</sub> $e_4$ <sub>5</sub> $e_1$ <sub>3</sub> $e_1$ <sub>4</sub> $e_2$ <sub>3</sub> $e_2$ <sub>4</sub> $e_2$ <sub>5</sub> $e_3$ <sub>5</sub> $e_4$ <sub>5</sub>										count	edge
						$1 \t0 \t0 \t0 \t0 \t0 \t0 \t0 \t0 \t0 \t0$							$0\quad 0$		$\theta$		$\epsilon_{\rm i}$
ස	$V_2$	1 0		- 0		$1 \t1 \t0 \t0 \t0 \t0$				$\overline{0}$	$\overline{0}$	-0	$\overline{0}$	-0	0 <sup>1</sup>	4	$\frac{e_2}{e_1}$
			$0 \quad 1 \quad 0$		$\overline{0}$	$\overline{0}$		$1\quad 0\quad 0\quad 0\quad 0\quad 0$				-0	$\overline{0}$	- 0	0 <sup>1</sup>	3	$\frac{e_3}{e_3}$
		$V_4   0 0$		1 0 1		$\overline{0}$	$\overline{0}$	$1 \quad 0 \quad 0$		$0\quad 0$		$\overline{0}$	- 0	- 0	$\sim 0$	3	$e_4$
						$\mathbf{1}$		$1 \quad 1 \quad 0 \quad 0$		$\overline{0}$	$\cup$	$\bf{0}$	- 0	$\theta$	$\theta$		$\ell$

 **Total 16 Table 2: FNE Matrix for Graph G2 (FNEM)**

			<b>Edges</b>					<b>False Edges</b>			Row	mean
	$e_{12}$	$e_{14}$	$e_{23}$	$e_{35}$	$e_{45}$	$e_{12}$	$e_{14}$	$e_{23}$	$e_{35}$	$e_{45}$		edge
											count	length
V.				$\theta$	$\theta$			0	0	$\theta$	4	$\mathfrak{e}_1$
${\cal V}_2$				0	$\boldsymbol{0}$	$\boldsymbol{0}$	1	$\boldsymbol{0}$	$\theta$	$\overline{0}$	3	e <sub>2</sub>
<b>Nodes</b> $V_{3}$	$\theta$				$\overline{0}$	$\overline{0}$	$\overline{0}$	1	$\theta$	$\overline{0}$	3	$-$ ' $e_3$
$V_4$	0			0		$\overline{0}$	$\overline{0}$	$\overline{0}$		$\overline{0}$	3	$-$ ' $e_4$
V.	$\overline{0}$		0		1	$\boldsymbol{0}$ ÷	$\boldsymbol{0}$	$\boldsymbol{0}$	0		3	$-$ ' e <sub>5</sub>
										<b>Total</b> $T_{\rm cell}$ , 2. FMF Metrin for $C_{\rm model}$ $C_{\rm C}$ (FMFM)	16	

**Table 3: FNE Matrix for Graph G<sup>1</sup> (FNEM)**

For the i<sup>th</sup> node of FNEM, row-wise mean-length edge is denoted by  $\overline{e_i}$  and  $e_i$  based on their counts n<sub>i</sub> and n<sub>i</sub> respectively for graph  $G_1$  and  $G_2$ . The overall population means are**:**

$$
\overline{e}^{(2)} = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^{N} n_i \overline{e_i}
$$
 for graph G<sub>2</sub>  
\n
$$
\overline{e}^{(1)} = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^{N} n_i \overline{e_i}
$$
 for graph G<sub>1</sub>  
\nwhere  $N = \sum_i n_i = \sum_i n_i$  in FNEM

- **Step III :** Draw a sample of n nodes  $(n < M)$  from graph  $G_2$  by SRSWOR and choose the corresponding similar number of nodes in  $G<sub>1</sub>$ . For example, if  $V<sub>3</sub>$  from  $G_2$  appears then  $V_3$  of  $G_1$  appears automatically, in the sample.
- **Step IV :** For any i<sup>th</sup> sampled node (vertex), pickup i<sup>th</sup> row of FNEM of  $G_2$  and  $G_1$ both. Select very first edge from left among all non-zero elements of the column, say j, of i<sup>th</sup> row separately for both  $G_1$  and  $G_2$ . This provides two edge-lengths  $e_{ij}$  and  $e_{ij}$  related to the i<sup>th</sup> node for sample.
- **Step V :** Continue the procedure laid down in step IV, for all nodes i  $(i=1,2,3,...n)$ , appeared in the sample using SRSWOR.

 The end of Node Sampling procedure provides a random sample of n edge lengths, drawn from N edges, in the form of  $e_{si}$  and  $e_{si}$  related to i<sup>th</sup> node.

The sample mean of edge lengths are **:**

$$
\vec{e}_s^{(2)} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n e_{si} \qquad \text{for graph } G_2
$$
\n
$$
\vec{e}_s^{(1)} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n e_{si} \qquad \text{for graph } G_1
$$
\n(1.2)

#### **2. A Class of Edge Estimators**

 Deriving a motivation from Singh and Shukla (1987, 1993), Shukla et al. (1991) and Shukla (2002), assume the mean length  $\overline{e}^{(1)}$  for G<sub>1</sub> is known;  $\overline{e}^{(2)}$  for G<sub>2</sub> is unknown and under target of estimation. The discussion over variable of main interest and use of auxiliary information, for estimation purpose, is in Sukhatme et al. (1984), Singh & Choudhary (1986), Cochran (2005) etc.

Define

$$
\overline{e}_s^{(*)} = \left[ \frac{N \overline{e}^{(1)} - n \overline{e}_s^{(1)}}{N - n} \right] ; \quad f = n/N ; \qquad (2.1)
$$

$$
\overline{e}_s^{(a)} = \left[ (1 - f) \overline{e}^{(1)} - f \overline{e}_s^{(1)} \right]
$$
 (2.2)

$$
\begin{bmatrix} -b \\ e_s \end{bmatrix} = \left[ f(\overline{e}_s^{(*)}) + (1-f)\overline{e}_s^{(a)} \right]
$$
 (2.3)

Using equations (2.1), (2.2), (2.3), the proposed class of edge-estimators  $M_e$  is

$$
M_e = \overline{e}_s^{(2)} \left[ \frac{A \overline{e}^{(1)} + C \overline{e}_s^{(b)} + f B \overline{e}_s^{(*)} + C \overline{e}_s^{(a)}}{A \overline{e}^{(1)} + C \overline{e}_s^{(b)} + C \overline{e}_s^{(*)} + f B \overline{e}_s^{(a)}} \right]
$$
(2.4)

where  $A = (k-1)(k-2)$ ;  $B = (k-1)(k-4)$ ;  $C = (k-2)(k-3)(k-4)$ 

The term *k* is a suitably chosen positive constant (  $0 < k < \infty$  ).

**Note 2.1:** The class  $(2.4)$  is close to the structure of factor-type estimator discussed by Singh and Shukla (1987), Shukla (2002). Different graphical structures which a population may contain, are described in Dev (2001).

**Note 2.2:** The (2.4) contains an unknown parameter *k*, whose different choices generate a series of mean-edge estimators. Therefore, it could be looked upon as a class of edgeestimators to estimate unknown  $e^{-(2)}$ .

#### **2.1 Special Estimators**

$$
\mathop{\mathrm{At}}\nolimits
$$

At 
$$
k = 1
$$
  $\left[\mathbf{M}_e\right]_1 = \mathbf{e}_s^{-2} \begin{bmatrix} -b & -a \\ e_s + e_s \\ \frac{-b}{-b} & -\frac{a}{c} \\ e_s + e_s \end{bmatrix}$  (2.5)

$$
k = 2 \qquad \left[\mathbf{M}_e\right]_2 = \overline{e}_s^{(2)} \begin{bmatrix} \overline{e}_s^* \\ \frac{\overline{e}_s}{\overline{e}_s} \\ \overline{e}_s \end{bmatrix} \tag{2.6}
$$

$$
k = 3 \qquad \left[ \mathbf{M}_e \right]_3 = \overline{e}_s^{(2)} \left[ \begin{array}{c} \overline{e}^{(1)} - \overline{f} \, \overline{e}_s^{(*)} \\ \overline{e}^{(1)} - \overline{f} \, \overline{e}_s^{(a)} \end{array} \right] \tag{2.7}
$$

$$
k = 4 \qquad [\mathbf{M}_e]_4 = e_s^{-(2)} \tag{2.8}
$$

#### **3. Setting Approximations**

Suppose large number of nodes and edges are linked in a population of two planer graphs  $G_1$  and  $G_2$ , a large sample of n vertices is drawn by node-sampling procedure described in section 1.1. For any two small positive numbers  $r_1$  and  $r_2$ , ( $|r_1|$  < 1,  $|r_2|$  < 1 ), the approximation is [see Cochran (2005)]

for graph 
$$
G_2
$$
  $e_s^{-(2)} = e^{-(2)}(1+r_2)$   
for graph  $G_1$   $e_s^{-(1)} = e^{-(1)}(1+r_1)$  with conditions (3.1)

with conditi

(i) 
$$
E(r_1) = E(r_2) = 0
$$
 (3.2)  
\n(ii)  $E(r_2^2) = \begin{bmatrix} -e^{(2)} \\ e^{(2)} \end{bmatrix}^{-2} \begin{Bmatrix} E\left(\frac{-e^{(2)}}{e_s} - \frac{-e^{(2)}}{e^{(2)}}\right)^2 \end{Bmatrix}$   
\n $= \begin{bmatrix} -e^{(2)} \\ e^{(2)} \end{bmatrix}^{-2} \begin{Bmatrix} V\left(\frac{-e^{(2)}}{e_s} \right) \end{Bmatrix}$   
\n $= (N - n)(Nn)^{-1} (C_e^{(2)})^2$  (3.3)

$$
\begin{aligned}\n\text{(iii)} \quad E(r_1^2) &= \left[ \begin{array}{c} -\frac{1}{2} \\ e \end{array} \right] \left[ \begin{array}{c} -\frac{1}{2} \\ \frac{1}{2} \end{array} \right] \left\{ E \left( \begin{array}{c} -\frac{1}{2} \\ e \end{array} - \frac{1}{e^2} \right) \right\} \\
&= \left[ \begin{array}{c} -\frac{1}{2} \\ e \end{array} \right] \left\{ V \left( \begin{array}{c} -\frac{1}{2} \\ e \end{array} \right) \right\} \\
&= (N - n)(Nn)^{-1} (C_e^{(1)})^2 \\
&= (N - n)(Nn)^{-1} (C_e^{(1)})^2 \left( 3.4 \right)\n\end{aligned}
$$
\n
$$
(3.4)
$$

$$
\begin{aligned} \textbf{(iv)} \quad E(r_1 r_2) &= \left(\begin{array}{c} -\frac{1}{2} & -\frac{1}{2} \\ e & e \end{array}\right)^{-1} \left\{ E\left(\begin{array}{c} -\frac{1}{2} & -\frac{1}{2} \\ e & e \end{array}\right) \left(\begin{array}{c} -\frac{1}{2} & -\frac{1}{2} \\ e & e \end{array}\right) \right\} \\ &= (N - n)(Nn)^{-1} (\rho \cdot C_e^{(1)} \cdot C_e^{(2)}) \end{aligned} \tag{3.5}
$$

**Note 3.1:** Symbols  $\{S_e^{(1)}\}^2$ ,  $\{S_e^{(2)}\}^2$  are population mean squares of N edges of graphs  $G_1$  and  $G_2$  as described in FNE matrices. The  $V(\cdot)$  denotes variance and *E*( $\cdot$ ) denotes expectation of the estimates based on sample n. Moreover,  ${C_e^{(1)}}^2 = {S_e^{(1)}}^2 \overline{e}^{(1)}$ ,  ${C_e^{(2)}}^2 = {S_e^{(2)}}^2 \overline{e}^{(2)}$ , are coefficients of variation of N edges in both the FNEM .Further, ρ denotes correlation coefficient between N edges in FNEM.

**Remark 3.1:** The (2.1), (2.2) and (2.3) could be expressed in the approximate form using  $(3.1)$  as  $S_s^{(*)} = e^{-1} [1 - \delta_1 r_1]$  ;  $\delta_1 = n(N-n)^{-1}$  $\mathcal{E}_s^{(*)} = e^{-1} \left[ 1 - \delta_1 r_1 \right] \quad ; \; \delta_1 = n(N-n)^{-1} \quad e_s^{(a)} = e^{-1} \left[ 1 + f r_1 \right];$  $e_{s}^{-}(a)} = e^{-1} [1 + fr]$  $\begin{bmatrix} -b \\ e_s \end{bmatrix} = e^{-1} [1 + \delta_2 r_1] ; \delta_2 = (1 - f - \delta_1) f$  $= e^{-1} [1 + \delta_2 r_1]$ ;  $\delta_2 = (1 - f - \delta_1)$ 

**Theorem 3.1:** Using (3.1**)** and remark 3.1 the class of estimators (2.4) could be expressed in the approximate form

$$
M_e = \frac{e^{(2)}}{[1 - (\beta^* - \alpha^*)r_1 + \beta^* (\beta^* - \alpha^*)r_1^2 + r_2 - (\beta^* - \alpha^*)r_1r_2 + \beta^* (\beta^* - \alpha^*)r_1^2r_2]}
$$
  
where  $\alpha^* = (C\delta_2 - fB\delta_1 + Cf)/\Delta$ ;  $\beta^* = (C\delta_2 - C\delta_1 + f^2B)/\Delta$ ;  
 $\Delta = (A + 2C + fB)$ 

**Proof :** Using (3.1) and remark 3.1, one can express class  $M_e$  of (2.4)

$$
M_e = \overline{e}^{(2)}(1+r_2)\left[\frac{\left\{Ae^{(1)} + Ce^{(1)}(1+\delta_2r_1) + fBe^{(1)}(1-\delta_1r_1) + Ce^{(1)}(1+f\ r_1)\right\}}{\left\{Ae^{(1)} + Ce^{(1)}(1+\delta_2r_1) + Ce^{(1)}(1-\delta_1r_1) + fBe^{(1)}(1+f\ r_1)\right\}}\right]
$$
  
\n
$$
= \overline{e}^{(2)}(1+r_2)\left[\frac{\left\{\Delta + (C\delta_2 - fB\delta_1 + Cf) r_1\right\}}{\left\{\Delta + (C\delta_2 - C\delta_1 + f^2B)r_1\right\}}\right]
$$
  
\n
$$
= \overline{e}^{(2)}(1+r_2)\left(1+\alpha^*r_1\right)\left(1+\beta^*r_1\right)^{-1}
$$
  
\n
$$
= \overline{e}^{(2)}(1+r_2)\left(1+\alpha^*r_1\right)\left(1-\beta^*r_1+(\beta^*r_1)^2-(\beta^*r_1)^3+\cdots\right)
$$

Assume the term  $(\beta^* r_i)^j$  very small when  $j > 2$ , therefore, ignore all terms in expansion  $(1 + \beta^* r_1)^{-1}$  for  $j > 2$ , we get [see Sukhatme et al. (1984), Singh and Choudhary (1986), Cochran (2005)]

$$
M_e = \frac{e^{(2)}}{e} (1 + r_2) (1 + \alpha^* r_1) (1 - \beta^* r_1 + (\beta^* r_1)^2)
$$
  
= 
$$
e^{(2)} \left[ 1 - (\beta^* - \alpha^*) r_1 + \beta^* (\beta^* - \alpha^*) r_1^2 + r_2 - (\beta^* - \alpha^*) r_1 r_2 + \beta^* (\beta^* - \alpha^*) r_1^2 r_2 \right]
$$

Hence the theorem .

**Theorem 3.2 :** Bias of the proposed class of estimators *M<sup>e</sup>* is

$$
B(M_e) = e^{-2} \left[ \frac{N-n}{Nn} \right] \left[ \left( \beta^* - \alpha^* \right) \left( \beta^* \left( C_e^{(1)} \right)^2 - \rho C_e^{(1)} C_e^{(2)} \right) \right]
$$

**Proof :** Let  $B(.)$  denotes the bias, then using theorem 3.1 **:** 

$$
E(M_e) = E\left[e^{(2)}\left\{\n\begin{array}{l}\n1 - (\beta^* - \alpha^*)r_1 + \beta^* (\beta^* - \alpha^*)r_1^2 + r_2 - (\beta^* - \alpha^*)r_1r_2 \\
+ \beta^* (\beta^* - \alpha^*)r_1^2r_2\n\end{array}\n\right]\n\right] \\
= e^{(2)}\left[\n1 - (\beta^* - \alpha^*)E(r_1) + \beta^* (\beta^* - \alpha^*)E(r_1^2) + E(r_2) - (\beta^* - \alpha^*)E(r_1r_2) \\
+ \beta^* (\beta^* - \alpha^*)E(r_1^2r_2)\n\end{array}\n\right]
$$

Using results in (3.2) to (3.5) and substituting

$$
E(r_1^i \cdot r_2^j) = 0 \quad \text{when } i + j \ge 3; \ i, j = 0, 1, 2, 3... \text{ [see Cochran (2005)]}
$$
 (3.6)

we get

$$
E(M_e) = e^{(2)} \left[ 1 + \beta^* (\beta^* - \alpha^*) \left( \frac{N - n}{Nn} \right) (C_e^{(1)})^2 - (\beta^* - \alpha^*) \left( \frac{N - n}{Nn} \right) C_e^{(1)} C_e^{(2)} \right]
$$
  
=  $e^{-(2)} + e^{-(2)} \left( \frac{N - n}{Nn} \right) [\beta^* (\beta^* - \alpha^*) (C_e^{(1)})^2 - (\beta^* - \alpha^*) \rho C_e^{(1)} C_e^{(2)}] \right]$ 

Therefore, the bias is

$$
B(M_e) = \left[ E(M_e) - e^{(2)} \right]
$$
  
=  $e^{-(2)} \left[ \frac{N - n}{Nn} \right] \left[ \left( \beta^* - \alpha^* \right) \left( \beta^* \left( C_e^{(1)} \right)^2 - \rho C_e^{(1)} C_e^{(2)} \right) \right]$ 

Hence the theorem.

**Remark 3.2 :** The class  $M_e$  contains a sub-class of unbiased estimators if

$$
\beta^* = \rho \frac{C_e^{(2)}}{C_e^{(1)}} = V \quad \text{(Let)}
$$

**Proof :** Substituting  $B(M_e)=0 \Rightarrow \beta^* (C_e^{(1)})^2 - \rho C_e^{(1)} C_e^{(2)} = 0$  and hence the result. **Remark 3.3 :** The remark 3.2 generates an equation in terms of *A, B, C, f* and *V*  $VA + f(V-f)B + (\delta_t - \delta_t + 2V)C = 0$  (3.7)

which provides a necessary condition for obtaining unbiased estimators in the class, up to the first order of approximation, by suitable choices of  $k$ . The  $(3.7)$  is a cubic equation in *k* which gives at most three values of *k* for which the bias is zero. One can chose the useful value of *k* related to lowest m.s.e.

**Theorem 3.3 :** Mean squared error of estimator *M <sup>e</sup>* is

$$
MSE(M_e) = M(M_e) = \left(\frac{e^{(2)}}{e}\right)^2 \left[\frac{N-n}{Nn}\right] \left[(C_e^{(2)})^2 + (P^*)^2 (C_e^{(1)})^2 + 2P^* \rho C_e^{(1)} C_e^{(2)}\right]
$$
  
where  $P^* = (\alpha^* - \beta^*)$ 

**Proof :** Define  $MSE(M_e) = M(M_e) = E(M_e - e^{-(2)})^2$  $MSE(M_e) = M(M_e) = E(M_e - \overline{e}^{(2)})^2$ . On replacing  $M_e$  using theorem 3.1 together with equation (3.6), we get

$$
M(M_e) = \left(\frac{e^{(2)}}{e}\right)^2 \left[E(r_2^2) + (\beta^* - \alpha^*)^2 E(r_1^2) - 2(\beta^* - \alpha^*) E(r_1r_2)\right]
$$

Using equation  $(3.2)$  to  $(3.5)$ ,

$$
M(M_e) = \left(\frac{e^{(2)}}{e}\right)^2 \left[\frac{N-n}{Nn}\right] \left[(C_e^{(2)})^2 + (\beta^* - \alpha^*)^2 (C_e^{(1)})^2 + 2\rho (\beta^* - \alpha^*) C_e^{(1)} C_e^{(2)}\right]
$$
  
= 
$$
\left(\frac{e^{(2)}}{e}\right)^2 \left[\frac{N-n}{Nn}\right] \left[(C_e^{(2)})^2 + (P^*)^2 (C_e^{(1)})^2 + 2P^* \rho C_e^{(1)} C_e^{(2)}\right]
$$

Hence the theorem.

**Remark 3.4 :** Some special cases related to bias and m.s.e. are

$$
At \ k = 1, \ B(M_e)_{1} = \frac{e^{(2)} \left[ \frac{N-n}{Nn} \right] \left[ \left( \frac{\delta_{1} + f}{2} \right) \left( \left( \frac{\delta_{1} - \delta_{2}}{2} \right) \left( C_e^{(1)} \right)^{2} + \rho \ C_e^{(1)} C_e^{(2)} \right) \right]
$$
\n
$$
M(M_e)_{1} = \left( \frac{e^{(2)}}{2} \right)^{2} \left[ \frac{N-n}{Nn} \right] \left[ \left( C_e^{(2)} \right)^{2} + \left( \frac{\delta_{1} + f}{2} \right)^{2} \left( C_e^{(1)} \right)^{2} + 2 \left( \frac{\delta_{1} + f}{2} \right) \rho \ C_e^{(1)} C_e^{(2)} \right]
$$
\n
$$
At \ k = 2, \ B(M_e)_{2} = \frac{e^{(2)}}{Nn} \left[ \frac{N-n}{Nn} \right] \left[ (f + \delta_{1}) \left( f \left( C_e^{(1)} \right)^{2} - \rho \ C_e^{(1)} C_e^{(2)} \right) \right]
$$
\n
$$
M(M_e)_{2} = \left( \frac{e^{(2)}}{e} \right)^{2} \left[ \frac{N-n}{Nn} \right] \left[ \left( C_e^{(2)} \right)^{2} + \left( f + \delta_{1} \right)^{2} \left( C_e^{(1)} \right)^{2} - 2 \left( f + \delta_{1} \right) \rho \ C_e^{(1)} C_e^{(2)} \right]
$$
\n
$$
At \ k = 3, \ B(M_e)_{3} = \frac{e^{(2)}}{Nn} \left[ \frac{N-n}{Nn} \right] \left[ \left( \frac{f(f + \delta_{1})}{f - 1} \right) \left( \left( \frac{f^{2}}{f - 1} \right) \left( C_e^{(1)} \right)^{2} - \rho \ C_e^{(1)} C_e^{(2)} \right) \right]
$$
\n
$$
M(M_e)_{3} = \left( \frac{e^{(2)}}{Nn} \right)^{2} \left[ \left( C_e^{(2)} \right)^{2} + \left( \frac{f(f + \delta_{1})}{f - 1} \right)^{2} \left( C_e^{(1)} \right)^{2} - 2 \left( \frac{f(f + \delta_{1
$$

#### **4. Optimum Choices of** *k*

Expression of mean square error of the class depends on parameter  $P^*$  which is a function of  $k$ . One can obtain the appropriate choice of  $P^*$  subject to condition the mean squared error is minimum.

**Theorem 4.1 :** The minimum mean squared error occurs when

$$
P^* = -V
$$

**Proof :** Differentiating  $MSE(M_e)$  of theorem 3.3 with respect to  $P^*$  and equating to zero,

$$
\frac{d}{dP^*} [M(M_e)] = 0 \implies P^* (C_e^{(1)})^2 + \rho (C_e^{(1)}) (C_e^{(2)}) = 0
$$
\n
$$
P^* = -\frac{\rho (C_e^{(2)})}{(C_e^{(1)})} = -V \tag{4.1}
$$

Hence the theorem.

**Remark 4.1** : The optimality condition (4,1) provides an equation,

$$
VA + f[V - f - \delta_1]B + [2V + f + \delta_1]C = 0
$$
\n(4.2)

which is cubic in term of parameter  $k$  and for known values of  $f$  and  $V$ , there are at most three values of  $k$  for which the m.s.e. could be optimized (minimized).

**Remark 4.2**: Let  $k_1$ ,  $k_2$  and  $k_3$  be three values for which  $MSE(M_e)$  is minimum using equation (4.2).The best choice among them is,

$$
k_{opt}^{'} = Min[B(M_e)_{k_1}, B(M_e)_{k_2}, B(M_e)_{k_3}]
$$
\n(4.3)

#### **5. Numerical Illustrations**

Consider graphical population, described in Fig. 2, containing  $G_1$  and  $G_2$  Both are planer graphs,  $G_2$  is of main interest,  $G_1$  an auxiliary source. Both are related to each other by a common vertex  $(V_1 = V_1)$ , therefore, it is worth to assume a correlation between them. Aim is to estimate an average edge length of  $G_2$  using the known information of edges in  $G<sub>1</sub>$ , with a sample drawn by node sampling procedure. The total edges in FNEM are *N*=32 for both graphs, total vertices are *M*=9 and sample size is *n*=4.

	Sample	For Graph $G_1$		For Graph $G_2$					
S. No.	<b>Vertices</b>	<b>Sample Edge</b>	$-(1)$ e <sub>s</sub>	<b>Sample Edge</b>	$-(2)$ $e_{s}$				
$\mathbf{1}$	$(V_1, V_2, V_3, V_4)$	$e_{12} = 15, e_{12} = 15,$	15.75	$e_{12} = 6, e_{12} = 6,$	7.00				
		$e_{13} = 14, e_{14} = 19$		$e_{13} = 8, e_{14} = 8$					
$\overline{2}$	$(V_1, V_2, V_4, V_5)$	$e_{12} = 15, e_{12} = 15,$	15.25	$e_{12} = 6, e_{12} = 6,$	7.25				
		$e_{14} = 19, e_{15} = 12$		$e_{14} = 8, e_{15} = 9$					
3	$(V_2, V_3, V_4, V_5)$	$e_{12} = 15, e_{13} = 14,$	15.00	$e_{12} = 6, e_{13} = 8,$	7.75				
		$e_{14} = 19, e_{15} = 12$		$e_{14} = 8, e_{15} = 9$					
4	$(V_2, V_3, V_5, V_6)$	$e_{12} = 15, e_{13} = 14,$	14.00	$e_{12} = 6, e_{13} = 8,$	7.75				
		$e_{15} = 12, e_{46} = 14$		$e_{15} = 9, e_{46} = 8$					
5	$(V_3, V_4, V_5, V_7)$	$e_{13} = 14, e_{14} = 19,$	15.75	$e_{13} = 8, e_{14} = 8,$	8.50				
		$e_{15} = 12, e_{47} = 18$		$e_{15} = 9, e_{47} = 9$					
6	$(V_4, V_5, V_6, V_8)$	$e_{14} = 19, e_{15} = 12,$	15.50	$e_{14} = 8, e_{15} = 9,$	7.75				
		$e_{46} = 14, e_{58} = 17$		$e_{46} = 8, e_{58} = 6$					
7	$(V_5, V_6, V_7, V_9)$	$e_{15} = 12, e_{46} = 14,$	15.50	$e_{15} = 9, e_{46} = 8,$	7.75				
		$e_{47} = 18, e_{59} = 16$		$e_{47} = 9, e_{59} = 5$					
8	$(V_6, V_7, V_8, V_9)$	$e_{46} = 14, e_{47} = 18,$	16.25	$e_{46} = 8, e_{47} = 9,$	7.00				
		$e_{58} = 17, e_{59} = 16$		$e_{58} = 6, e_{59} = 5$					

**Table 4: Sample Edge Description for N=4 Drawn as per Node Sampling Procedure**





The FNE matrices for  $G_1$  and  $G_2$ , as per Fig. 2, are given in the Tables 5 and 6 respectively.



							<b>False edges</b>								
															Mean
$e_{12}^{'}$	$e_{13}$	$e_{14}$	$e_{15}$	$e_{23}$	$e_{35}$	$e_{45}^{'}$	$\overset{\cdot}{e_{46}}$	$e_{47}^{^{\prime}}$	$e_{58}$	$e_{59}$	$e_{67}$	$e_{78}$	$e_{89}$	count	edge
															length
1	$\Omega$	$\Omega$	0	0	$\theta$	$\Omega$	$\theta$	$\Omega$		$\Omega$	$\mathbf{0}$	$\mathbf{0}$	$\overline{0}$	5	15.000
$\Omega$		$\theta$	$\Omega$	$\Omega$	$\Omega$	$\mathbf{0}$	$\mathbf{0}$	$\mathbf{0}$	$\mathbf{0}$	$\Omega$	$\boldsymbol{0}$	$\mathbf{0}$	$\overline{0}$	3	15.000
$\mathbf{0}$	$\Omega$	1	$\Omega$	$\Omega$	$\Omega$	$\mathbf{0}$	$\mathbf{0}$	$\mathbf{0}$	$\mathbf{0}$	$\Omega$	$\mathbf{0}$	$\mathbf{0}$	$\overline{0}$	3	16000
$\mathbf{0}$	$\Omega$	$\Omega$		$\Omega$	$\mathbf{0}$	$\boldsymbol{0}$	$\mathbf{0}$	$\mathbf{0}$	$\mathbf{0}$	$\Omega$	$\mathbf{0}$	$\mathbf{0}$	$\mathbf{0}$	6	15.333
$\mathbf{0}$	$\Omega$	$\Omega$	$\Omega$	$\theta$	$\Omega$	$\boldsymbol{0}$	$\mathbf{0}$	$\mathbf{0}$	$\mathbf{0}$	$\Omega$	$\mathbf{0}$	$\mathbf{0}$	$\overline{0}$	5	14.600
$\mathbf{0}$	$\Omega$	$\Omega$	$\Omega$	$\Omega$	$\Omega$	$\mathbf{0}$	$\mathbf{0}$	$\mathbf{0}$	$\mathbf{0}$	$\Omega$	$\mathbf{0}$	$\mathbf{0}$	$\overline{0}$	2	15.500
$\mathbf{0}$	$\Omega$	$\mathbf{0}$	$\mathbf{0}$	$\Omega$	$\mathbf{0}$	$\mathbf{0}$	$\mathbf{0}$	$\mathbf{0}$	$\mathbf{0}$	$\mathbf{0}$	$\mathbf{0}$	$\mathbf{0}$	$\mathbf{0}$	3	15.333
$\mathbf{0}$	$\Omega$	$\mathbf{0}$	$\Omega$	$\theta$	$\mathbf{0}$	$\boldsymbol{0}$	$\mathbf{0}$	$\mathbf{0}$	$\mathbf{0}$	$\mathbf{0}$	$\mathbf{0}$	$\mathbf{0}$	$\mathbf{0}$	3	13.333
$\overline{0}$	$\theta$	$\mathbf{0}$	$\mathbf{0}$	$\theta$	$\mathbf{0}$	$\mathbf{0}$	$\mathbf{0}$	$\mathbf{0}$	$\mathbf{0}$	$\mathbf{0}$	$\boldsymbol{0}$	$\mathbf{0}$	$\mathbf{0}$	$\overline{2}$	14.000
													<b>Total</b>	32	

**Table 5: FNE Matrix for G1**

								<b>Edges</b>										
	$e_{12}$	$e_{13}$	$e_{14}$	$e_{15}$	$e_{23}$	$e_{24}$	$e_{34}$	$e_{35}$	$e_{45}$	$e_{46}$	$e_{47}$	$e_{58}$	$e_{59}$	$e_{67}$		$e_{78}$	$e_{\rm 89}$	
${\cal V}_1$	$\mathbf{1}$	$\mathbf{1}$	$\mathbf{1}$	$\mathbf{1}$	$\overline{0}$	$\overline{0}$	$\overline{0}$	$\overline{0}$	$\overline{0}$	$\overline{0}$	$\overline{0}$	$\boldsymbol{0}$	$\overline{0}$	$\Omega$		$\overline{0}$	$\boldsymbol{0}$	
${\cal V}_2$	1	$\mathbf{0}$	$\boldsymbol{0}$	$\mathbf{0}$	1	1	$\boldsymbol{0}$	$\mathbf{0}$	$\mathbf{0}$	$\mathbf{0}$	$\mathbf{0}$	$\boldsymbol{0}$	$\mathbf{0}$	$\mathbf{0}$		$\boldsymbol{0}$	$\boldsymbol{0}$	
$V_3$	$\boldsymbol{0}$	$\mathbf{1}$	$\boldsymbol{0}$	$\boldsymbol{0}$	1	$\mathbf{0}$	$\mathbf{1}$	$\mathbf{1}$	$\mathbf{0}$	$\mathbf{0}$	$\mathbf{0}$	$\boldsymbol{0}$	$\mathbf{0}$	$\mathbf{0}$		$\mathbf{0}$	$\mathbf{0}$	
${\cal V}_4$	$\overline{0}$	$\boldsymbol{0}$	$\mathbf{1}$	$\mathbf{0}$	$\boldsymbol{0}$	$\mathbf{1}$	$\mathbf{1}$	$\boldsymbol{0}$	1	1	$\mathbf{1}$	$\mathbf{0}$	$\mathbf{0}$	$\overline{0}$		$\mathbf{0}$	$\boldsymbol{0}$	
$V_5$	$\overline{0}$	$\boldsymbol{0}$	$\boldsymbol{0}$	1	$\boldsymbol{0}$	$\boldsymbol{0}$	$\boldsymbol{0}$	$\mathbf{1}$	1	$\mathbf{0}$	$\mathbf{0}$	$\mathbf{1}$	$1\,$	$\boldsymbol{0}$		$\mathbf{0}$	$\boldsymbol{0}$	
$V_6$	$\overline{0}$	$\boldsymbol{0}$	$\boldsymbol{0}$	$\mathbf{0}$	$\boldsymbol{0}$	$\mathbf{0}$	$\boldsymbol{0}$	$\boldsymbol{0}$	$\mathbf{0}$	1	$\mathbf{0}$	$\mathbf{0}$	$\mathbf{0}$	1		$\boldsymbol{0}$	$\boldsymbol{0}$	
$V_7$	$\boldsymbol{0}$	$\boldsymbol{0}$	$\boldsymbol{0}$	$\boldsymbol{0}$	$\boldsymbol{0}$	$\boldsymbol{0}$	$\boldsymbol{0}$	$\boldsymbol{0}$	$\mathbf{0}$	$\mathbf{0}$	$\mathbf{1}$	$\boldsymbol{0}$	$\boldsymbol{0}$	$\mathbf{1}$		$\mathbf{1}$	$\boldsymbol{0}$	
$V_{\rm 8}$	$\boldsymbol{0}$	$\boldsymbol{0}$	$\boldsymbol{0}$	$\boldsymbol{0}$	$\boldsymbol{0}$	$\mathbf{0}$	$\boldsymbol{0}$	$\boldsymbol{0}$	$\mathbf{0}$	$\boldsymbol{0}$	$\boldsymbol{0}$	$\mathbf{1}$	$\boldsymbol{0}$	$\mathbf{0}$		$\mathbf{1}$	$\mathbf{1}$	
V <sub>9</sub>	$\boldsymbol{0}$	$\boldsymbol{0}$	$\boldsymbol{0}$	$\overline{0}$	$\boldsymbol{0}$	$\overline{0}$	$\boldsymbol{0}$	$\boldsymbol{0}$	$\overline{0}$	$\mathbf{0}$	$\overline{0}$	$\boldsymbol{0}$	$\mathbf{1}$	$\mathbf{0}$		$\mathbf{0}$	$\mathbf{1}$	
									<b>False edges</b>									Mean
			$e_{13}$ $e_{12}$	$e_{14}$	$e_{\rm 15}$	$e_{23}$	$e_{\rm 24}$	$e_{34}$	$e_{35}$ $e_{\scriptscriptstyle 45}$	$e_{46}$	$e_{47}$	$e_{50}$	$e_{59}$	$e_{67}$	$e_{78}$	$e_{89}$	count	edge
																		length
			$\overline{0}$ $\overline{0}$	$\overline{0}$	$\overline{0}$	$\overline{0}$	$\overline{0}$	$\overline{0}$	$\overline{0}$ $\overline{0}$	$\overline{0}$	$\overline{0}$	$\overline{0}$	$\overline{0}$	$\overline{0}$	$\overline{0}$	$\overline{0}$	$\overline{4}$	7.750
			$\boldsymbol{0}$ $\boldsymbol{0}$	$\boldsymbol{0}$	$\boldsymbol{0}$	$\boldsymbol{0}$	$\boldsymbol{0}$	$\boldsymbol{0}$	$\boldsymbol{0}$ $\boldsymbol{0}$	$\boldsymbol{0}$	$\boldsymbol{0}$	$\boldsymbol{0}$	$\boldsymbol{0}$	$\boldsymbol{0}$	$\boldsymbol{0}$	$\boldsymbol{0}$	3	6.333
			$\boldsymbol{0}$ $\boldsymbol{0}$	$\boldsymbol{0}$	$\boldsymbol{0}$	$\boldsymbol{0}$	$\boldsymbol{0}$	$\boldsymbol{0}$	$\boldsymbol{0}$ $\boldsymbol{0}$	$\boldsymbol{0}$	$\boldsymbol{0}$	$\boldsymbol{0}$	$\boldsymbol{0}$	$\boldsymbol{0}$	$\boldsymbol{0}$	0	$\overline{4}$	7.250
			$\boldsymbol{0}$ $\mathbf{0}$ $\boldsymbol{0}$ $\boldsymbol{0}$	$\boldsymbol{0}$ $\boldsymbol{0}$	$\mathbf{0}$ $\boldsymbol{0}$	$\boldsymbol{0}$ $\boldsymbol{0}$	$\boldsymbol{0}$ $\boldsymbol{0}$	$\boldsymbol{0}$ $\boldsymbol{0}$	$\boldsymbol{0}$ $\mathbf{0}$ $\boldsymbol{0}$ $\boldsymbol{0}$	$\boldsymbol{0}$ $\boldsymbol{0}$	$\boldsymbol{0}$ $\boldsymbol{0}$	$\boldsymbol{0}$ $\boldsymbol{0}$	$\mathbf{0}$ $\boldsymbol{0}$	$\boldsymbol{0}$ $\boldsymbol{0}$	$\boldsymbol{0}$ $\boldsymbol{0}$	$\boldsymbol{0}$ $\boldsymbol{0}$	6 5	6.167 6.000
			$\mathbf{0}$ $\boldsymbol{0}$	$\boldsymbol{0}$	$\boldsymbol{0}$	$\boldsymbol{0}$	$\boldsymbol{0}$	$\boldsymbol{0}$	$\boldsymbol{0}$ $\boldsymbol{0}$	$\boldsymbol{0}$	$\boldsymbol{0}$	$\boldsymbol{0}$	$\boldsymbol{0}$	$\boldsymbol{0}$	$\boldsymbol{0}$	$\boldsymbol{0}$	$\overline{c}$	6.500
			$\mathbf{0}$ $\overline{0}$	$\boldsymbol{0}$	$\overline{0}$	$\mathbf{0}$	$\mathbf{0}$	$\boldsymbol{0}$	$\overline{0}$ $\boldsymbol{0}$	$\mathbf{0}$	$\boldsymbol{0}$	$\mathbf{0}$	$\mathbf{0}$	$\mathbf{0}$	$\mathbf{0}$	$\mathbf{0}$	3	5.333
			$\boldsymbol{0}$ $\boldsymbol{0}$	$\boldsymbol{0}$	$\boldsymbol{0}$	$\boldsymbol{0}$	$\boldsymbol{0}$	$\boldsymbol{0}$	$\boldsymbol{0}$ $\boldsymbol{0}$	$\boldsymbol{0}$	$\boldsymbol{0}$	$\boldsymbol{0}$	$\boldsymbol{0}$	$\boldsymbol{0}$	$\boldsymbol{0}$	$\boldsymbol{0}$	3	5.000
			$\overline{0}$ $\mathbf{0}$	$\mathbf{0}$	$\mathbf{0}$	$\boldsymbol{0}$	$\mathbf{0}$	$\boldsymbol{0}$	$\boldsymbol{0}$ $\boldsymbol{0}$	$\boldsymbol{0}$	$\mathbf{0}$	$\mathbf{0}$	$\boldsymbol{0}$	$\mathbf{0}$	$\overline{0}$	$\mathbf{0}$	$\overline{c}$	6.000
															<b>Total</b>		32	

**Table 6: FNE Matrix for G2**



**Table 7: Edge Vertex Description of Population**







**Table 9: k-Value When Estimator is Unbiased (With** *MSE***)**

S.No	Value of $k$	<i>Bias</i> $\left[\right]_k$ at $k = k$	$MSE$ [ $\vert_{k}$ at $k = k$					
	$k_1 = 2.026643$	$B[M_e]_{k_1} = -0.000185$	$MSE[M_e]_{k_1} = 0.114661$					
2	$k_2 =$ $-$	$B[M_e]_{k2} =$	$MSE[M_e]_{k_2} =$ --					
	$k_{2} =$	$B[M_e]_{k_3} =$ $-$	$MSE[M_e]_{k_3} =$ --					

 Using (3.7), the unbiased estimator is achievable in the class when values of *k* are according to Table 9.

## Table 10: k -Value for Optimum MSE $(M_e)$

 Using (4.2), the optimum estimator could be obtained in the class when values of *k* are according to Table 10.



Table 11: Calculation of  $\mathit{MSE}\left(M_{_{e}}\right)$  for various values of  $\it{k}$ 

where variance is computed by  $V(.) = MSE(.) - [Bais(.)]^2$ .



**Table 12 : Sample Based Estimates of Mean Edge in G2 of Fig. 2 (Related to Table 4)**

Note that the computation of 99% confidence interval is according to formula  $[M_e - 3\sqrt{V(M_e)}, M_e + 3\sqrt{V(M_e)}]$  for values of  $k=1$  and 3.

### **6. Discussion**

Table 4 presents eight samples, each of four vertices along with the description of edge lengths. Table 5 and 6 are FNEM used to generate Table 4 using node sampling procedure of section 1.1. The Table 7 contains the population-wise details of vertices, linked edges, lengths and average length of each vertex. Table 8 presents the computation of population parameters. The class of estimators *M <sup>e</sup>* contains an unbiased estimator at the choice  $k = k_1 = 2.001256$  and there exist only one such real root to satisfy the cubic equation (3.7) [see Table 9]. Minimum mean squared error is found when  $k = k_1 = 2.026643$ , satisfying the cubic equation (4.2) with the existence of only one real root [see Table 10]. It is observed that at the optimum value  $k = 2.026643$ , the bias is very small which turns out to explore an almost unbiased minimum variance estimator in the class for estimating mean edge length [see Table 11]. Sample based estimate  $M_e$ , for  $k=1$  &  $k=3$ , is computed over eight random samples, drawn from population and shown in Table 12. This reveals that the estimate of true length  $e^{-(2)}$  lies in the 99% confidence intervals. There is high chance to get a best estimate of mean edge length of the planer graph population, because the unbiased estimator  $(k_1 =$ 2.001256) and optimal estimator ( $k_1 = 2.026643$ ) both, in the class, are obtainable in the range  $1 \le k \le 3$  which generates a sub-class of efficient estimators in the proposed  $M_e$ . The sample based estimates are very close to the true estimate  $e^{-2}$ , when  $k=1$  and 3, as shown in Table 12.

#### **7. Conclusions**

Sampling methodology under a graphical population is taken into account and a new sampling technique "Node Sampling Procedure" is designed. A class of estimation strategies is proposed which is found affective to estimate the average length of an edge of planer-graph population .Optimum estimator in the class is obtained and its properties are shown. There are atmost three possible values for which the unbiased estimator could be obtained in the class and one of them is shown. Moreover, the class may have atmost three optimum estimators also, the best would be that having the least bias. One such estimator is obtained on considered data. Node Sampling Procedure facilitates to estimate the mean edge length of planer graph population. The sample based estimates are found closed to the true values. Within range  $1 \leq k \leq 3$ , almost unbiased minimum variance estimators are available in the proposed class. Most of the sample estimates depict the true length  $e^{-(2)}$  within the 99% confidence interval specially when *k*=1 and *k*=3 are used.

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