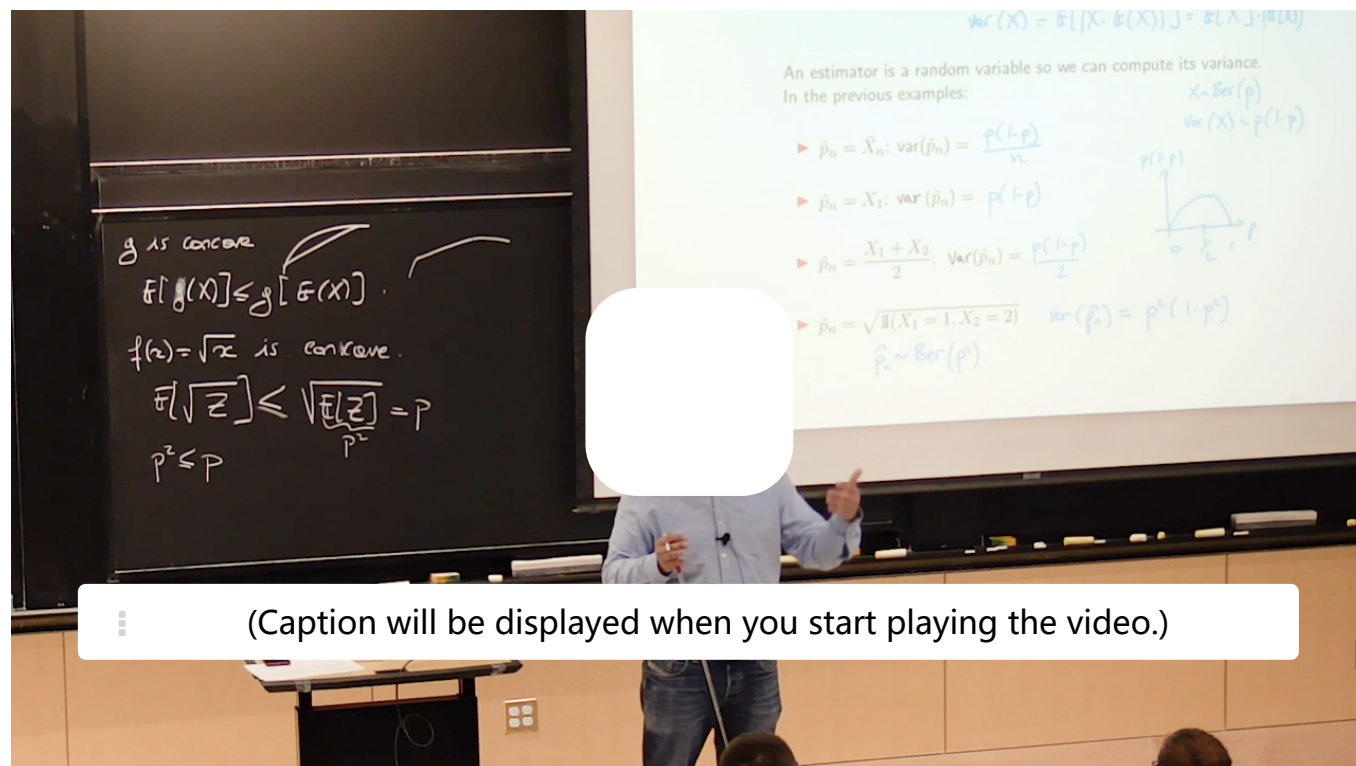


## 5. Quadratic Risk of Estimators

### Quadratic Risk of Estimators

[Start of transcript. Skip to the end.](#)



(Caption will be displayed when you start playing the video.)

OK.

So now I have two things.

I have the bias and I have the variance.

And I made things easy for you, because the bias was always

the same.

It was 0000 except for the last one, which is this [INAUDIBLE]..

But I had the bias 0.

So once you said that the bias is 0.

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### Find the Quadratic Risk

1/1 point (graded)

Let  $\hat{\theta}_n$  denote an estimator for a true parameter  $\theta$ . The **quadratic risk** of  $\hat{\theta}_n$  is defined to be

$$\mathbb{E}[(\hat{\theta}_n - \theta)^2].$$

As in the previous problem on variance, let  $X_1, \dots, X_n \stackrel{iid}{\sim} \mathcal{U}([a, a+1])$  where  $a$  is an unknown parameter. What is the quadratic risk of the estimator  $\bar{X}_n - \frac{1}{2}$ ?

Quadratic risk :

1/(12\*n)

✓ Answer: 1/(12\*n)

$\frac{1}{12 \cdot n}$

**Solution:**

Recall that

$$\text{quadratic risk} = \text{variance} + \text{bias}^2.$$

We showed in a previous question that this estimator is unbiased. Also note that  $\text{Var}(\bar{X}_n) = \text{Var}(\bar{X}_n - \frac{1}{2}) = \frac{1}{12n}$ . Hence, the quadratic risk is also  $\frac{1}{12n}$ .

Answers are displayed within the problem

Properties of Estimators

0/1 point (graded)  
Let  $\hat{\theta}_n$  denote an estimator for a true parameter  $\theta$ . Here  $n$  denotes the sample size. Which of the following properties of  $\hat{\theta}_n$  would ensure that  $\hat{\theta}_n$  converges in probability to  $\theta$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ ? (Choose all that apply.)

- ☐  $\hat{\theta}_n$  is consistent. ✓
- ☐  $\hat{\theta}_n$  is unbiased.
- ☒ The quadratic risk of  $\hat{\theta}_n$  goes to 0 as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ . ✓
- ☐ The variance of  $\hat{\theta}_n$  goes to 0 as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ .



Solution:

The first choice is correct, because by definition, consistency implies that the estimator  $\hat{\theta}_n \rightarrow \theta$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ . The third choice, "The quadratic risk of  $\hat{\theta}_n$  goes to 0 as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ .", is correct because if the quadratic risk  $\mathbb{E}[(\hat{\theta}_n - \theta)^2] \rightarrow 0$  then  $\hat{\theta}_n \rightarrow \theta$  in  $L^2$ . By the properties of convergence, this implies that  $\hat{\theta}_n \rightarrow \theta$  in probability.

**Recall:** Refer to Chapter 1 to review the relationship between the different types of convergence.

The second choice, " $\hat{\theta}_n$  is unbiased.", is incorrect. We give an example that shows that this choice is incorrect. Note that if  $X_1, \dots, X_n \stackrel{iid}{\sim} N(\mu, 1)$ , then  $\hat{\theta}_n := X_1$  is an unbiased estimator for  $\mu$  because  $\mathbb{E}[X_1] = \mu$ . However, it is not consistent:  $X_1 - \mu$  does not tend to 0 as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ .

Using this same example, we can also see that the fourth choice "The variance of  $\hat{\theta}_n$  goes to 0 as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ ." is incorrect. The estimator  $\hat{\theta}_n := 0$  has variance 0 for all  $n$ , but if  $\mu \neq 0$ , then  $\hat{\theta}_n - \theta = \mu$ , which is constant for all  $n$  and does not converge to 0.

Answers are displayed within the problem

讨论

显示讨论

认证证书是什么？