

# Stein's Paradox HW

## HW Overview

This hw will provide an opportunity to explore Stein's Paradox. Read the paper titled Stein's Paradox in Statistics.

The data from the paper is available at

```
library(readr)
stein <- read_csv('http://www.math.montana.edu/ahoegh/teaching/stat532/data/SteinData.csv')

## Rows: 18 Columns: 3

## -- Column specification -----
## Delimiter: ","
## chr (1): Name
## dbl (2): avg45, avgSeason

##
## i Use 'spec()' to retrieve the full column specification for this data.
## i Specify the column types or set 'show_col_types = FALSE' to quiet this message.
```

**1. Compute James-Stein Estimator** Using the variable `avg45` the batting average through 45 at bats, compute the James-Stein estimator. Recall the James-Stein estimator is

$$z = \bar{y} - c(y - \bar{y})$$

where  $c = 1 - \frac{(k-3)\sigma^2}{\sum (y - \bar{y})^2}$  and that the authors estimate  $\sigma^2 = \frac{\hat{p}(1-\hat{p})}{45}$ , where  $\hat{p} = \frac{1}{18} \sum y = \bar{y}$ . Note you might not perfectly recreate the results in the paper

- a. Describe what role  $c$  has in the final estimate.
- b. Compute the MSE between the season ending averages (`avgSeason`) for the James-Stein estimator as well as the estimate based on 45 at bats (`avg45`).
- c. Summarize your results.

**2. Create a simulation study to mimic this scenario.** Generate a set of 18 baseball players, each with some “true batting average” (typically between .150 and .350). For each batter, give them 45 at bats and record the batting average.

- a. Compute the MSE between the estimated and season ending averages for the James-Stein estimator and the observed average.
- b. Repeat this entire procedure 1000 times and record the proportion of simulations where the James-Stein estimator is better.
- c. Summarize your results.