

Homework assignment 1 – Mathematical Statistics 2020 (Probability Theory and estimation)

Hand in your own solutions at the start of the tutorial on September 11.

Suppose that X, X_1, \dots, X_n are i.i.d. (independent and identically distributed) with probability density function

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{4\theta^4}{x^5}, & \text{if } x \geq \theta \\ 0, & \text{if } x < \theta \end{cases}$$

- Determine the first three moments $E(X)$, $E(X^2)$, $E(X^3)$ and $\text{var}(X)$.
- Express $E(X - \mu)^3$ in the first three moments in order to determine the skewness coefficient γ_1 : Is the skewness visible in the graph of f (to the left or to the right)?
- Derive the density function of $Y = \sqrt{X}$ (define in parts!) and compute $E(Y)$.
- Recall that $\bar{X} = \frac{X_1 + \dots + X_n}{n}$. Show that $\frac{3}{4}\bar{X}$ is an unbiased and consistent estimator of θ .
- Consider all estimators $T = a \cdot \bar{X}$, with real constant $a \in \mathbb{R}$. For which value of a is the mean squared error for θ minimized?

To simplify computations we will consider a small sample of only $n = 2$ observations.

- Determine the density function of $M = \min(X_1, X_2)$ and express $E(M)$ and $\text{var}(M)$ in θ .
- Which of the estimators of θ , $\frac{3}{4}\bar{X}$ in part d. or M in part f., has the smaller mean squared error?

Grading:	a	b	c	d	e	f	g	Total
	$4 \times \frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2} + 1$	$1 + \frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2} + 1$	$1 \frac{1}{2}$	1	1	10