

MITx: 14.310x Data Analysis for Social Scientists

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Bookmarks

- Module 1: The Basics of R and Introduction to the Course
- ▶ Entrance Survey
- Module 2: Fundamentals of Probability, Random Variables, Distributions, and Joint Distributions
- Module 3: Gathering and Collecting Data, Ethics, and Kernel Density Estimates
- Module 4: Joint,
 Marginal, and
 Conditional
 Distributions &
 Functions of Random
 Variable

Module 7: Assessing and Deriving Estimators - Confidence Intervals, and Hypothesis Testing > Assessing and Deriving Estimators > Robust Estimators - Quiz

Robust Estimators - Quiz

☐ Bookmark this page

Question 1

1.0/1.0 point (graded)

Which of the following criteria might one take into account when choosing an estimator? (Select all that apply.)

- a. Ease of computing the estimator
- ✓ b. Robustness
- c. Bias
- d. Efficiency



Explanation

All of these criteria are perfectly valid to take into consideration when choosing an estimator. Some estimators are far easier to compute than others, which will matter more or less depending on the application. We learnt about robustness, whether the estimator will still do a good job even if our

- Module 5: Moments of a Random Variable,
 Applications to Auctions,
 Intro to Regression
- Module 6: Special
 <u>Distributions, the</u>
 <u>Sample Mean, the</u>
 <u>Central Limit Theorem,</u>
 and Estimation
- Module 7: Assessing and Deriving Estimators - Confidence Intervals, and Hypothesis Testing

<u>Assessing and Deriving</u> Estimators

Finger Exercises due Nov 14, 2016 at 05:00 IST

<u>Confidence Intervals and</u> Hypothesis Testing

Finger Exercises due Nov 14, 2016 at 05:00 IST

Module 7: Homework

<u>Homework due Nov 07, 2016 at 05:00 IST</u>

assumptions about the underlying distribution are wrong, in this lecture segment. We learnt about bias and efficiency in the previous lecture segments.

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You have used 1 of 2 attempts

Question 2

1.0/1.0 point (graded)

Which of the following are examples of a given estimator $\hat{\theta_1}$ being more robust than some other estimator $\hat{\theta_2}$? (Select all that apply.)

- a. $\hat{ heta_1}$ is more biased than $\hat{ heta_2}$ if we've misspecified the tail probabilities of the underlying distribution.
- $m{\mathscr{E}}$ b. $\hat{m{ heta_1}}$ is less biased than $\hat{m{ heta_2}}$ if we've misspecified the tail probabilities of the underlying distribution.
- lacksquare c. $\hat{m{ heta_1}}$ is more biased than $\hat{m{ heta_2}}$ if our assumed underlying distribution is shifted from the true distribution.
- d. $\hat{m{ heta_1}}$ is less biased than $\hat{m{ heta_2}}$ if our assumed underlying distribution is shifted from the true distribution.



Exit Survey

Explanation

An estimator is robust if it does a good job of estimator the parameter even if we've made a mistake in our assumptions about the underlying distribution. It is possible that an estimator is robust to one type of mistaken assumption but not another.

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Discussion

Topic: Module 7 / Robust Estimators - Quiz

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