

Example 4: Consider a random sample of values taken from a population that follows a normal distribution with a mean of 0 and an unknown variance  $\sigma^2$ . Is  $\frac{\sum_{i=1}^n (X_i)^2}{n}$  a consistent estimator for  $\sigma^2$ ?

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} P\left(\left|\frac{\sum X_i^2}{n} - \sigma^2\right| < \varepsilon\right) = ?$$

Need dist of  $\sum X_i^2 \dots$  if Standard Normal  $\Rightarrow X^2$   
but it's Not standard normal ... could find it...

OR check if  $\frac{\sum X_i^2}{n}$  is unbiased then show  $V\left[\frac{\sum X_i^2}{n}\right] \rightarrow 0$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$

$$E\left[\frac{\sum X_i^2}{n}\right] = \frac{1}{n} n E[X_i^2] = E[X_i^2] \text{ 2nd moment}$$

$$V[X_i] = E[X_i^2] - E[X_i]^2 \Rightarrow \sigma^2 = E[X_i^2] - \mu^2 \Rightarrow \sigma^2 = E[X_i^2] - 0^2$$

$\Rightarrow E[X_i^2] = \sigma^2$  So  $E\left[\frac{\sum X_i^2}{n}\right] = \sigma^2$  So this is unbiased estimate

$$V\left[\frac{\sum X_i^2}{n}\right] = \frac{1}{n^2} n V[X_i^2] = \frac{1}{n} [E[X_i^4] - (E[X_i^2])^2] = \frac{1}{n} [E[X_i^4] - \sigma^4]$$

$$= \frac{1}{n} [E[X_i^4] - \sigma^4] = \frac{1}{n} [E[X_i^4] - \sigma^4]$$

we need  $E[X_i^4]$  4th moment

$$\text{Mgf of } X \Rightarrow \text{Norm}(\mu=0, \sigma^2) \Rightarrow \exp\left[\frac{\sigma^2}{2} t^2\right]$$

$$E[X_i^4] = \frac{d^4}{dt^4} \left( \exp\left[\frac{\sigma^2}{2} t^2\right] \right) \Big|_{t=0} = \dots = \left[ 3\sigma^4 e^{\frac{1}{2}\sigma^2 t^2} + 6\sigma^6 t^2 e^{\frac{1}{2}\sigma^2 t^2} + \sigma^8 t^4 e^{\frac{1}{2}\sigma^2 t^2} \right]_{t=0}$$

$$= 3\sigma^4 = E[X_i^4]$$

$$\text{So } V\left[\frac{\sum X_i^2}{n}\right] = \frac{1}{n} [3\sigma^4 - \sigma^4] = \frac{2\sigma^4}{n}$$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left(\frac{2\sigma^4}{n}\right) = 0 \quad \text{So } \frac{\sum X_i^2}{n} \xrightarrow{P} \sigma^2 \text{ (Consistent Estimator)}$$