

Example 2: Let  $X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n$  represent a random sample taken from a population of values that is modeled by the following probability distribution function:

$$f(x_i) = \frac{1}{\theta+2}, \quad 2 < x_i < \theta+4$$

a)  $E[X_i]$ ?

$$\begin{aligned} E[X_i] &= E[X] = \int_2^{\theta+4} \frac{x}{\theta+2} dx = \frac{1}{\theta+2} \left[ \frac{x^2}{2} \right]_{x=2}^{x=\theta+4} = \frac{1}{2(\theta+2)} [(\theta+4)^2 - 2^2] \\ &= \frac{1}{2(\theta+2)} (\theta+4)^2 - 4 = \dots = \frac{\theta}{2} + 3 \end{aligned}$$

b) What is the bias of  $\bar{X}$ , as an estimator of  $\theta$ ?

$$\begin{aligned} E[\hat{\theta}] &= E[\bar{X}] = \frac{E[\sum X_i]}{n} = \frac{\sum E[X_i]}{n} = \frac{n}{n} E[X_i] = E[X] \\ &= \frac{\theta}{2} + 3 = E[\hat{\theta}] \stackrel{?}{=} \frac{(\theta+6)}{2} \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{So } B[\hat{\theta}] = E[\hat{\theta}] - \theta = \left(\frac{\theta}{2} + 3\right) - \theta = 3 - \frac{\theta}{2}$$

c) Can you suggest an unbiased estimator that involves  $\bar{X}$ ?

$$E[\bar{X}] = E[\hat{\theta}] \stackrel{?}{=} \bar{X} \Rightarrow \bar{X} = \frac{\theta}{2} + 3 \text{ then let } \hat{\theta}_{un} = \theta \Rightarrow \bar{X} = \frac{\hat{\theta}_{un}}{2} + 3 \Rightarrow 2(\bar{X} - 3) = \hat{\theta}_{un}$$

this will give an unbiased suggestion

for an unbiased estimator involving  $\bar{X}$ ...

$$\text{Now } E[\hat{\theta}_{un}] = E[2\bar{X} - 6] = 2E[\bar{X}] - 6 = 2\left[\frac{\theta}{2} + 3\right] - 6$$

$$= \theta + 6 - 6 = \theta$$

So  $2\bar{X} - 6$  is an unbiased estimator