

ch 5 Estimation

Probability

Assume model $Y \sim N(0,1)$ \rightarrow calculate $P(|Y| \leq 3) = 0.997$

Statistics

is it plausible
that $Y \sim N(0,1)$

observe Y data point
 $Y = 4.5$

Data

X_1, \dots, X_n iid from some cdf F
data model

cases

① Parametric model \Rightarrow we know F except for possibly a finite-dimensional parameter θ

F is $\exp(\theta)$

F is $N(\mu, \sigma^2) \rightarrow \theta = (\mu, \sigma^2)$

F is $\text{Binomial}(p) \quad \theta = p$

② Nonparametric model \Rightarrow can only make qualitative assumptions about F
e.g. F has smooth density.

Data X_1, \dots, X_n iid from F

unknown parameter of interest θ

Def An Estimator (or a statistic) is a function of the data, i.e. $g(X_1, \dots, X_n)$, that is used to estimate/approximate the unknown parameter θ .

$$\hat{\theta}_n = g(X_1, \dots, X_n)$$

\uparrow
r.v. has a distribution

statistics display their variability across samples.

example X_1, \dots, X_n iid from F with finite variance.

$$\theta = EX_i$$

$$\hat{\theta}_n = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n X_i \quad (\text{motivated by LLN \& CLT})$$

ex. 2

$$\theta = EX_i^2$$

Define $Y_i = X_i^2$ so look at Y_1, \dots, Y_n

$$\hat{\theta}_n = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n Y_i = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n X_i^2$$

example $\theta = EX_1$

$$\hat{\theta}_n = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n X_i$$

using data $X_1 = 3$

$$X_2 = -4$$

$$X_3 = 5$$

$$\vdots$$

$$X_{10} = -1$$

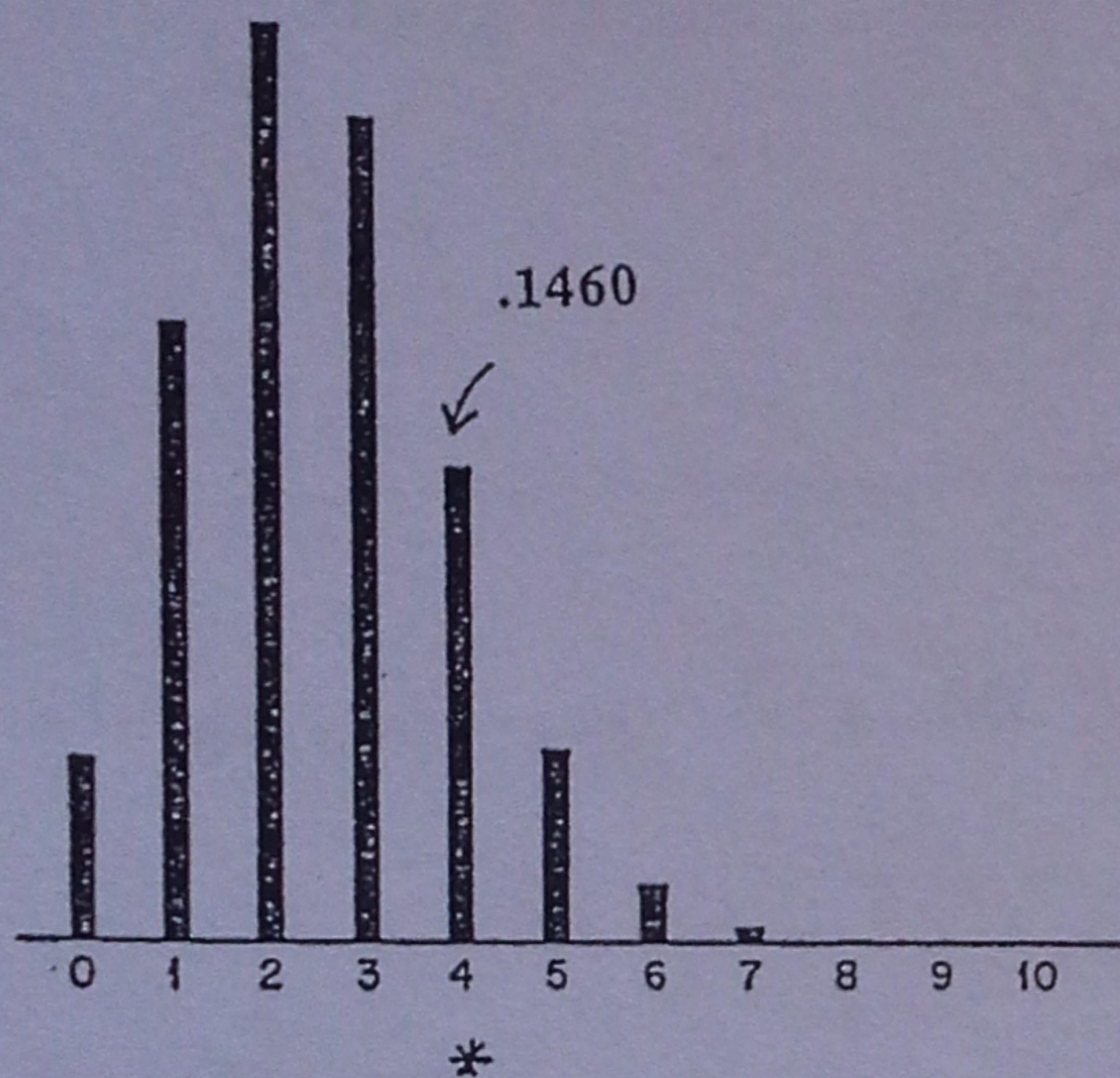
$$\Rightarrow \hat{\theta}_{10} = -0.57$$

an estimate of θ

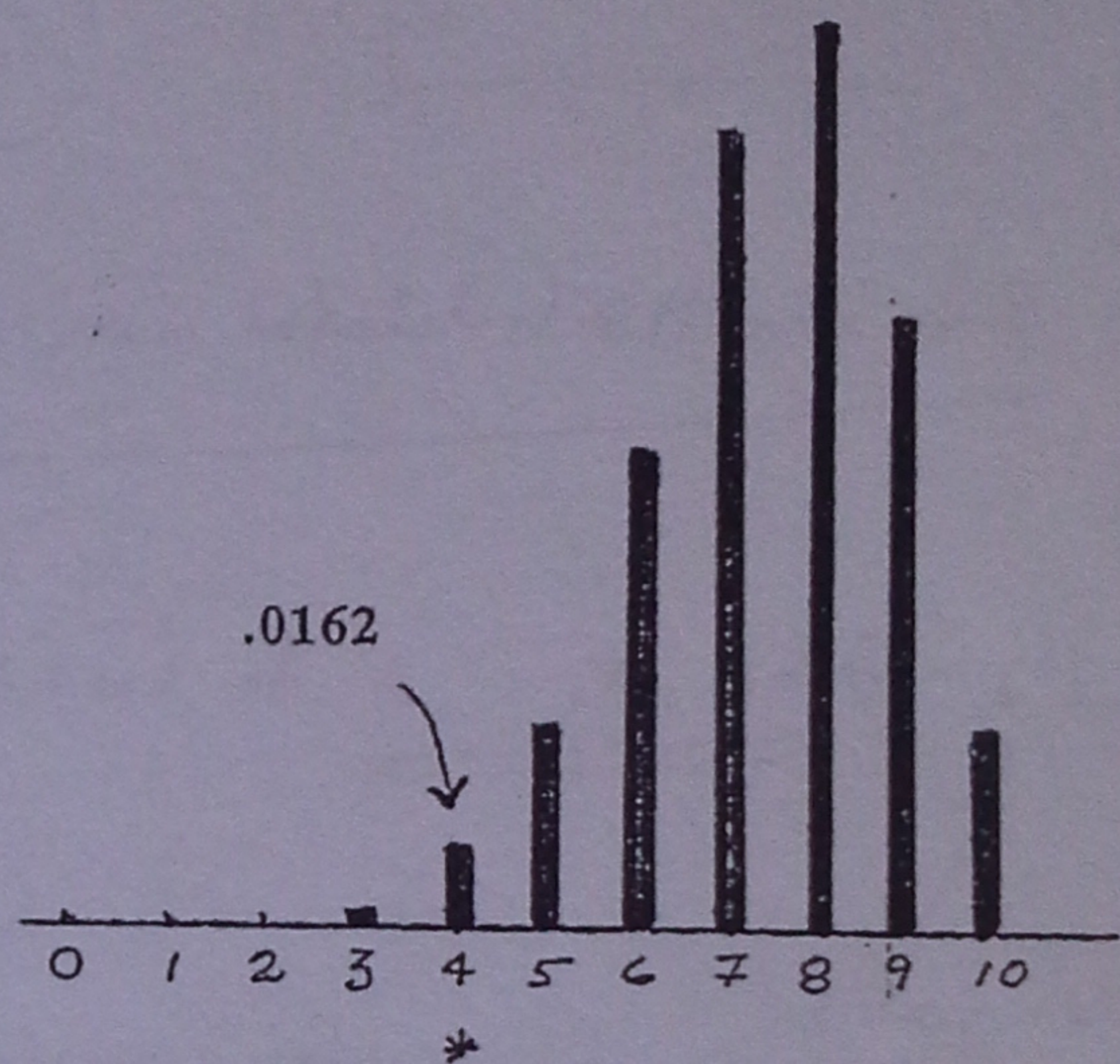
METHOD OF MOMENTS ESTIMATION

Binomial Distributions

(θ = Probability of "heads"; $\theta = .25$ or $\theta = .75$;
with probabilities depicted by bar lengths)



$n = 10$; $\theta = .25$



$n = 10$; $\theta = .75$

Data : # of Heads = 4

The maximum likelihood idea: Suppose we know that $\theta = .25$ or $\theta = .75$; but the value of θ is unknown, otherwise. If we observe exactly 4 "heads", and then we are required to choose a value of θ , which choice is reasonable ?

$$P(\text{\# of Heads} = 4) = \underbrace{\binom{10}{4}}_{L(\theta)} \theta^4 (1-\theta)^6$$

← Likelihood function
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Choose θ that maximizes $L(\theta)$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} L(\theta) = 0 \Rightarrow \dots \Rightarrow \theta = \frac{4}{10}$$

MLE) Maximum Likelihood Estimate of θ

Prob. of your data
with data fixed to what you
observed & viewed as a
function of θ .

In general you form the likelihood of X_1, \dots, X_n iid from pdf $f_{\theta}(\cdot)$

$$L(\theta) = \prod_{i=1}^n f_{\theta}(X_i)$$

↑ observed values

either discrete
or continuous
density.

|| View it as a function of θ with X_i
fixed to observed values.

$$n=1 \quad X_1 \sim \text{Bin}(n, \theta)$$

↑ unknown

$$X_1, \dots, X_{10} \sim \text{iid Bernoulli}(\theta)$$

observed: 0010011100

$$L(\theta) = (1-\theta)(1-\theta)\theta(1-\theta)\dots = \theta^4 (1-\theta)^6$$

$$P(X_i = 1) = \theta$$

$$P(X_i = 0) = (1-\theta)$$

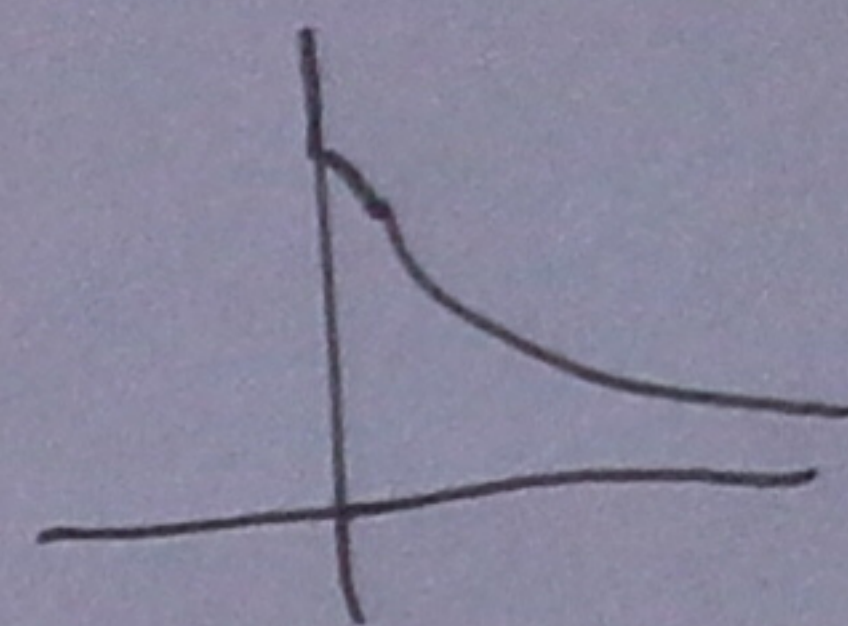
admits a
sufficient
statistic
 $g(X_1, \dots, X_n)$
 $= \sum_{i=1}^n X_i$

$$\frac{d}{d\theta} L(\theta) = 0 \iff \frac{d}{d\theta} \log L(\theta) = 0$$

$$L(\theta) = \prod_{i=1}^n f_{\theta}(x_i)$$

$$\log L(\theta) = \sum_{i=1}^n \log f_{\theta}(x_i)$$

EX 5.2.2 $X_1, \dots, X_n \sim \text{iid } f_{\theta}(x) = \frac{1}{\theta} \exp\{-x/\theta\}$ for $x \geq 0$
& $\theta \geq 0$



MOM estimator of θ is $\bar{X} = \frac{1}{n} \sum X_i$

$$L(\theta) = \prod_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{\theta} \exp\left\{-\frac{X_i}{\theta}\right\} = \frac{1}{\theta^n} \exp\left\{-\frac{\sum X_i}{\theta}\right\}$$

$$\log L(\theta) = -n \log \theta - \frac{\sum X_i}{\theta}$$

$$\frac{d}{d\theta} \log L(\theta) = 0 \implies \dots \implies \hat{\theta}_{MLE} = \frac{1}{n} \sum X_i$$

↑ Range of X_i does not depend on θ .