

Renewable Energy Engineering

Chapter 2, page 51

Simplification of variance.

Show that

$$\sigma^2 = \frac{1}{n-1} \sum_{i=1}^n (U_i - \bar{U})^2 = \frac{1}{n-1} \left[\sum_{i=1}^n U_i^2 - n\bar{U}^2 \right]$$

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{i=1}^n (U_i - \bar{U})^2 &= \sum_{i=1}^n (U_i^2 - 2U_i\bar{U} + \bar{U}^2) \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^n U_i^2 - 2\bar{U} \sum_{i=1}^n U_i + n\bar{U}^2 \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^n U_i^2 - 2\bar{U}n\bar{U} + n\bar{U}^2 \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^n U_i^2 - n\bar{U}^2 \end{aligned}$$

and so

$$\sigma^2 = \frac{1}{n-1} \sum_{i=1}^n U_i^2 - n\bar{U}^2$$