

# MAP Estimation

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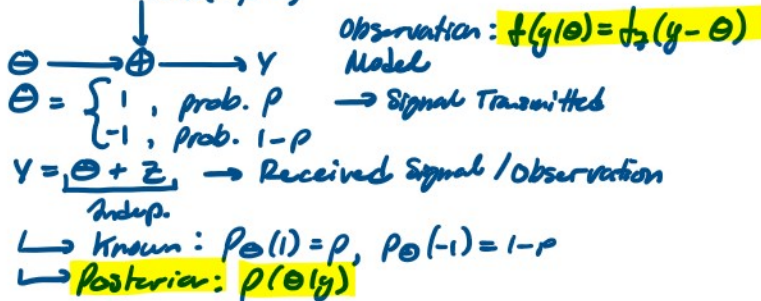
## Baye's Inference

- Unknown - Estimate RV  $\Theta$   
 $\hookrightarrow$  given distribution  $p(\Theta)$  or  $f(\Theta)$
- Observation - Data RV  $X$   
 $\hookrightarrow$  Observation model  $p(x|\Theta)$  or  $f(x|\Theta)$
- Given  $x$ , find best estimate  $\hat{\Theta}$  of  $\Theta$



## Additive Gaussian Noise Channel

$$Z \sim N(0, \sigma^2)$$



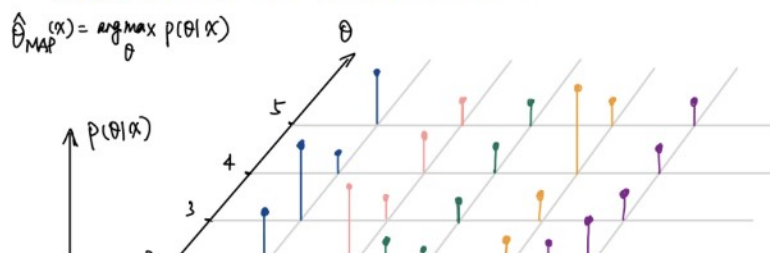
## Posterior

- Conditional prob.
- For fixed  $x$ , prob. dist. in  $\Theta$   
 $\hookrightarrow \int_{\Theta} p(\Theta|x) d\Theta = 1, \int f(\Theta|x) d\Theta = 1$   
 $\hookrightarrow p(\Theta|x) = g(\Theta)$
- For diff.  $x_1, x_2, \dots$ ,  $p(\Theta|x_1), p(\Theta|x_2)$  are diff. dist. in  $\Theta$   
 $\hookrightarrow p(\Theta|x_1) = g_1(\Theta), p(\Theta|x_2) = g_2(\Theta)$

## MAP (Maximum a Posteriori)

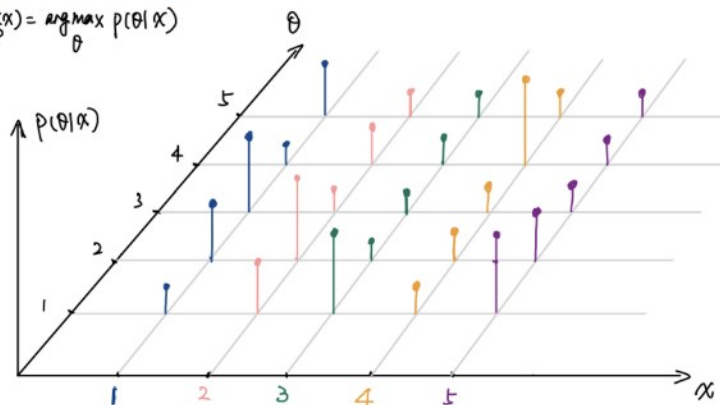
- Given data  $x = x$ , best estimate of  $\Theta = ?$
- Best  $\rightarrow$  Minimize prob. error  $P(\Theta \neq \hat{\Theta})$
- Optimal Estimator: MAP Estimator  
 $\hookrightarrow \hat{\Theta}_{\text{MAP}}(x) = \arg \max_{\Theta} p(\Theta|x)$   
 $\hookrightarrow$  fix  $x$ , treat  $p(\Theta|x)$  as  $g(\Theta)$   
 $\hookrightarrow$  find  $\Theta^*$  maximizing  $g(\Theta)$   
 $\hookrightarrow \Theta^* \rightarrow \hat{\Theta}_{\text{MAP}}(x)$   
 $\hookrightarrow$  Repeat for all  $x$

Illustration of the MAP estimator.



## Illustration of the MAP estimator.

$$\hat{\theta}_{\text{MAP}}(x) = \arg\max_{\theta} p(\theta|x)$$



$$\hat{\theta}_{\text{MAP}}(1)=3 \quad \hat{\theta}_{\text{MAP}}(2)=2 \quad \hat{\theta}_{\text{MAP}}(3)=1 \quad \hat{\theta}_{\text{MAP}}(4)=4 \quad \hat{\theta}_{\text{MAP}}(5)=1.$$

$\hat{\theta}_{\text{MAP}}(x)$  is a function in  $x$ !

## Maximum Likelihood (ML) estimation

- when dis. is uniform ( $p(\theta) = c$  for all  $\theta$ ):  

$$\hat{\theta}_{\text{MAP}}(x) = \arg\max_{\theta} p(\theta|x) = \arg\max_{\theta} \frac{p(\theta)p(x|\theta)}{p(x)} = \arg\max_{\theta} \frac{p(x|\theta)}{p(x)} = \hat{\theta}_{\text{ML}}(x)$$
- ML Estimate:  $\hat{\theta}_{\text{ML}}(x) = \arg\max_{\theta} p(x|\theta)$   $\hookrightarrow$  Likelihood

Example: Infer the unknown bias in choosing lab problems.

- $\theta$  is drawn uniform at random in the interval  $[0, 1]$ .
- Given  $\theta = \theta$ , each problem is chosen to be graded with probability  $\theta$  independent of each other.
- There are  $n$  problems in total (fixed).  $K$  were chosen to be graded.
- Find the MAP estimator  $\hat{\theta}_{\text{MAP}}(K)$ .

- Unknown  $\theta \sim \text{Unif}[0, 1]$ .
- Observation model: for  $i=1, 2, \dots, n$ , denote  $X_i = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if problem } i \text{ is graded.} \\ 0, & \text{o.w.} \end{cases}$

$$X_i | \theta = \theta \sim \text{Bern}(\theta). \quad K = X_1 + X_2 + \dots + X_n. \quad K | \theta = \theta \sim \text{Binom}(n, \theta)$$

- $\theta$  is uniform  $\Rightarrow \hat{\theta}_{\text{MAP}}(K) = \hat{\theta}_{\text{ML}}(K) = \arg\max_{\theta} p(K|\theta) = \arg\max_{\theta} \binom{n}{K} \theta^K (1-\theta)^{n-K} \rightarrow \arg\max_{\theta} \frac{p(K|\theta)f(\theta)}{p(K)} = \arg\max_{0 \leq \theta \leq 1} \frac{\binom{n}{K} \theta^K (1-\theta)^{n-K}}{p(K)}$
- Find maximum:  $g(\theta) = K\theta^{K-1}(1-\theta)^{n-K} - (n-K)\theta^K(1-\theta)^{n-K-1} \stackrel{!}{=} 0 \Rightarrow \hat{\theta}_{\text{MAP}}(K) = \frac{K}{n}$ .  
 $\hookrightarrow$  taken derivative

Example: Estimating Gaussian signal in Gaussian noise.

- Signal  $\theta \sim N(0, 1)$
- Observation  $X = \theta + W$ ,  $W \sim N(0, 1)$  indep. of  $\theta$ . Find  $\hat{\theta}_{\text{MAP}}(x)$ .

- Unknown:  $\theta \sim N(0, 1)$   $\rightarrow$  conditional pdf recall our trick in BSC example.

- Observation model:  $f(x|\theta) = f_W(x-\theta) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-\frac{(x-\theta)^2}{2}} \rightarrow$  density of std normal

- Posterior:  $f(\theta|x) = \frac{f(\theta)f(x|\theta)}{f(x)} = \frac{1}{f(x)} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-\frac{\theta^2}{2}} \cdot \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-\frac{(x-\theta)^2}{2}} \triangleq c(x) e^{-\frac{1}{2}(\theta^2 + (x-\theta)^2)}$

$\Rightarrow$  Want  $\min_{\theta} [\theta^2 + (x-\theta)^2]$  for fixed  $x$ .

$$\frac{\partial [\theta^2 + (x-\theta)^2]}{\partial \theta} \stackrel{!}{=} 0 \Rightarrow \theta^* = \frac{x}{2} \Rightarrow \hat{\theta}_{\text{MAP}}(x) = \frac{x}{2}.$$

$$\rightarrow \arg\max_{\theta} f(\theta|x) = \arg\max_{\theta} \dots = \arg\max_{\theta} \dots$$

## Computing $P(\hat{\theta} \neq \theta)$



$$\Theta \rightarrow \boxed{P(x|\Theta)} \xrightarrow{x} \boxed{\hat{\Theta}(x)} \xrightarrow{\hat{\Theta}} \hat{\Theta}$$

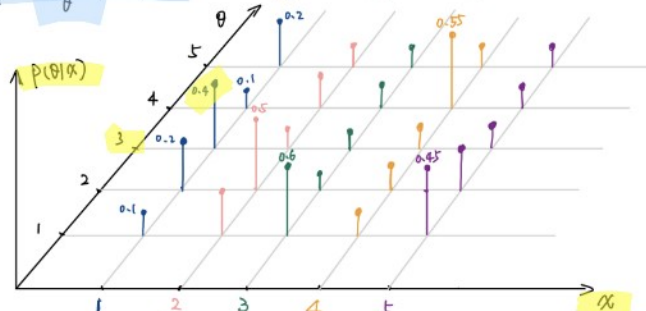
$\hat{\Theta} = \hat{\Theta}(x) \rightarrow \text{a number}$

$$P(\hat{\Theta} \neq \Theta) = \sum_x P_x(x) P(\hat{\Theta} \neq \Theta | x = x) = \sum_x P_x(x) P(\hat{\Theta}(x) \neq \Theta | x = x)$$

- Conditional prob. error given data  $x$ :  $P(\hat{\Theta} \neq \Theta | x = x)$

Illustration of the probability of error.

$$\hat{\Theta}_{\text{MAP}}(x) = \underset{\theta}{\operatorname{argmax}} P(\theta|x)$$



$$P(\hat{\Theta} \neq \Theta | x=1) = P(\hat{\Theta}_{\text{MAP}}(1) \neq \Theta | x=1) = P(3 \neq \Theta | x=1) = 1 - P(\Theta=3 | x=1) = 1 - 0.4 = 0.6$$

$$P(\hat{\Theta} \neq \Theta | x=2) = 1 - 0.5 = 0.5 \quad P(\hat{\Theta} \neq \Theta | x=3) = 1 - 0.6 = 0.4 \quad P(\hat{\Theta} \neq \Theta | x=4) = 1 - 0.55 = 0.45 \quad P(\hat{\Theta} \neq \Theta | x=5) = 1 - 0.45 = 0.55$$

$$P(\Theta \neq \hat{\Theta}) = 0.6 P_x(1) + 0.5 P_x(2) + 0.4 P_x(3) + 0.45 P_x(4) + 0.55 P_x(5)$$

- MAP Estimator minimizes  $P(\hat{\Theta} \neq \Theta)$

### Additive Gaussian Noise

$$z \sim N(0, \sigma^2)$$

$$\Theta \rightarrow \oplus \rightarrow Y \quad \begin{cases} 1, \text{prob } 1/2 \\ -1, \text{prob } 1/2 \end{cases}$$

- Binary RV  $\Theta = \begin{cases} 1, \text{prob } 1/2 \\ -1, \text{prob } 1/2 \end{cases}$

- Observation  $Y = \Theta + z \rightarrow \text{indep.}$

- Find  $\hat{\Theta}$  minimizing  $P(\hat{\Theta} \neq \Theta)$  &  $P(\hat{\Theta} \neq \Theta)$ :

→ Use MAP

→ Prior is uniform:  $P_{\Theta}(1) = P_{\Theta}(-1) = 1/2$

$$\therefore \hat{\Theta}_{\text{MAP}}(y) = \hat{\Theta}_{\text{ML}}(y)$$

$$\hat{\Theta}_{\text{ML}}(y) = \underset{\theta}{\operatorname{argmax}} f(y|\theta) = \underset{\theta}{\operatorname{argmax}} f_2(y-\theta) = \begin{cases} 1, & y > 0 \\ -1, & y \leq 0 \end{cases}$$

$$P(\hat{\Theta} \neq \Theta) = \sum_{\theta} P(\hat{\Theta} \neq \theta, \Theta = \theta) = P(\hat{\Theta} = -1, \Theta = 1) + P(\hat{\Theta} = 1, \Theta = -1) \rightarrow \text{Probability of Error}$$

$$= P(\Theta = 1, Y \leq 0) + P(\Theta = -1, Y > 0) = P(\Theta = 1) P(Y \leq 0 | \Theta = 1) + P(\Theta = -1) P(Y > 0 | \Theta = -1)$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \int_{-\infty}^0 f_{Y|\Theta}(y|1) dy + \frac{1}{2} \int_0^{\infty} f_{Y|\Theta}(y|-1) dy$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \Phi\left(-\frac{1}{\sigma}\right) + \frac{1}{2} \left(1 - \Phi\left(\frac{1}{\sigma}\right)\right)$$

$$= 1 - \Phi\left(\frac{1}{\sigma}\right)$$

$$\phi(z) \triangleq \int_0^z \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-\frac{t^2}{2}} dt$$

