

Analysis 2 (Assignment / My Notes)

We measured $y_1, y_2 \dots y_N$ at known $x_1, x_2 \dots x_N$.

We believe the true relationship to be $y = ax^2$

but our measurement is noisy so we measure $y = ax^2 + \text{noise}$

- Task:
- 1) Find the best value of a
- 2) Quantify the uncertainty in value, given noise.

Assumptions:

- * Each measurement error is random (not systematic)
- * Errors are Gaussian (normal) with standard deviation (σ)
- * Errors on different points are independent

Mathematically

$$E_k = y_k - ax_k^2 \sim N(0, \sigma^2)$$

Likelihood is, if the true coefficient was a , how probable is that we would measure the data we saw.

For one data point: $\text{Prob}(y_k | a) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi} \sigma} e^{-\frac{(y_k - ax_k^2)^2}{2\sigma^2}}$

Because measurements are independent,

$$L(a) = \prod_{k=1}^N \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi} \sigma} e^{-\frac{(y_k - ax_k^2)^2}{2\sigma^2}}$$

↑
Product

Likelyhood function

Because product of many small/large numbers is numerically messy.

- * Taking log turns products into sums
- * does not change where maximum is.

$$\text{So we, } \ln(L(\alpha)) = -N \ln(\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma) - \frac{1}{2\sigma^2} \sum_{k=1}^N (y_k - \alpha x_k^2)^2$$

$$\text{or, } -\ln(L(\alpha)) = +N \ln(\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma) + \frac{1}{2\sigma^2} \sum_{k=1}^N (y_k - \alpha x_k^2)^2$$

Since first term does not depend on α , maximizing $\ln(L)$ is same as minimizing $\sum_{k=1}^N (y_k - \alpha x_k^2)^2$

∴ Gaussian maximum likelihood is "least square fitting"
not approx. exact

⇒ Now, to find the best $\hat{\alpha}$, we differentiate & set to zero

$$\frac{d(-\ln L)}{d\alpha} = \frac{1}{\sigma^2} \sum_{k=1}^N (\alpha x_k^4 - y_k x_k^2) = 0$$

$$\begin{aligned} \hookrightarrow \frac{d}{d\alpha} \sum_{k=1}^N (y_k - \alpha x_k^2)^2 &= 0 \rightarrow \sum_{k=1}^N 2(y_k - \alpha x_k^2) \times (-x_k^2) = 0 \\ &= \sum_{k=1}^N -y_k x_k^2 + \alpha x_k^4 = 0 \end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow \sum_{k=1}^N \alpha x_k^4 = \sum_{k=1}^N y_k x_k^2$$

$$\therefore \hat{\alpha} = \frac{\sum_{k=1}^N y_k x_k^2}{\sum_{k=1}^N x_k^4}$$

* Width of parabola is uncertainty

* σ , second derivative:

$$\frac{d^2}{d\alpha^2} (-\ln(L)) = \frac{1}{\sigma^2} \sum_{k=1}^N x_k^4$$

For 1 parameter Variance is inverse of Curvature, $\hat{\alpha}$

$$\sigma_\alpha^2 = \left(\frac{d^2}{d\alpha^2} -\ln(L) \right)^{-1} = \frac{\sigma^2}{\sum_{k=1}^N x_k^4}$$

$$\therefore \sigma_\alpha = \sqrt{\sigma_\alpha^2} = \frac{\sigma}{\sqrt{\sum_{k=1}^N x_k^4}}$$

Remember to upload to code!