

# Maximum entropy

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Radio map of a region of sky. Phases have been measured but, because of receiver noise, regions of negative intensity appear.

Maximum entropy reconstruction of the above map in which amplitudes have been adjusted to fit the expected distribution of errors.

## Entropy

### Thermodynamics

- measures the state of order of a system

### Information theory

- measures the amount of information in a message

### Probability theory

- measures the change in probability upon altering the conditions under which the probability is estimated

### Image processing

- measures the amount of information in an image

An increase in entropy means going from a less likely to a more likely state.

### Thermodynamics

- temperature equalisation upon thermal contact

### Information

- message contains errors after transmission

### Probability

- probabilities move towards the mean as information becomes outdated

### Images

- loss of resolution, contrast and increase in noise as image is transmitted



## Maximum entropy in image processing

- Applied when data are inaccurate (experimental error) and / or incomplete (low resolution, missing phases, overlapped reflections)
- Entropy is maximised within the constraints imposed by the data
- The image contains no information other than that given directly by the data
- Makes no assumptions about missing information
- Produces an unbiased estimate of the true image

## Example of incomplete data

1. One third of all scientists are crystallographers.
2. One quarter of all scientists are left-handed.

**Question** What proportion of all scientists are left-handed crystallographers?

$$a + b + c + d = 1$$

$$a + b = \frac{1}{3}$$

$$a + c = \frac{1}{4}$$

eliminate  $b, c, d$  to give:

		cryst	
		$a$	$b$
		non-cryst	
		$c$	$d$
		lh	rh
		cryst	
		$a$	$\frac{1}{3} - a$
		non-cryst	
		$\frac{1}{4} - a$	$\frac{5}{12} + a$

## Two extreme solutions

$$a = 0$$

no left-handed crystallographers  
(smallest maximum)

		cryst	
		0	$\frac{4}{12}$
		non-cryst	
		$\frac{3}{12}$	$\frac{5}{12}$

$$a = \frac{1}{4}$$

no left-handed non-crystallographers  
(largest maximum)

		lh	rh
		cryst	
		$\frac{3}{12}$	$\frac{1}{12}$
		non-cryst	
		0	$\frac{8}{12}$

## Additional criterion

Minimum variance - gives probabilities as close together as possible

$$V = a^2 + \left(\frac{1}{3} - a\right)^2 + \left(\frac{1}{4} - a\right)^2 + \left(\frac{5}{12} + a\right)^2$$

$$\frac{dV}{da} = 0 \text{ for a minimum}$$

$$\text{solution gives } a = \frac{1}{24}$$

The result is biased:

$\frac{1}{8}$  of crystallographers are left-handed

$\frac{5}{16}$  of non-crystallographers are left-handed

		lh	rh
		cryst	
		$\frac{1}{24}$	$\frac{7}{24}$
		non-cryst	
		$\frac{5}{24}$	$\frac{11}{24}$

The biased result occurs because of the inappropriate criterion

- a minimum variance has nothing at all to do with being a crystallographer or being left-handed.

A sensible result would be that  $\frac{1}{4}$  of crystallographers are left-handed like the rest of scientists.

## Maximum entropy solution

- should give an unbiased estimate of the proportion of left-handed crystallographers.

entropy:

$$S = - \sum_{i=1}^m p_i \log(p_i)$$

$$S = -a \log(a) - \left(\frac{1}{3} - a\right) \log\left(\frac{1}{3} - a\right) - \left(\frac{1}{4} - a\right) \log\left(\frac{1}{4} - a\right) - \left(\frac{5}{12} + a\right) \log\left(\frac{5}{12} + a\right)$$

$$\frac{dS}{da} = 0 \text{ for a maximum}$$

$$\text{solution gives } a = \frac{1}{12}$$

		lh	rh
		cryst	
		$\frac{1}{12}$	$\frac{3}{12}$
		non-cryst	
		$\frac{2}{12}$	$\frac{6}{12}$

## Entropy and probability

The state of a system which is measured by entropy has a certain probability of occurring.

This may be written as  $S = f(P)$

where the function  $f$  has to be determined

entropy of a complicated system = sum of entropies of the separate parts

$$S = \log(P)$$

where  $q_i =$  expected value of  $\mathbf{r}_i$