

# Exercise

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TUM Department of Informatics

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## Optimizing Likelihoods: Monotonic Transforms

### Problem 1:

$$f_1(\theta) = \theta^t(1 - \theta)^h$$

$$f_2(\theta) = \log(\theta^t(1 - \theta)^h)$$

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} f_1(\theta) &= t\theta^{t-1}(1 - \theta)^h + \theta^t \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \left( (1 - \theta)^h \right) \\ &= t\theta^{t-1}(1 - \theta)^h - \theta^t h(1 - \theta)^{h-1} \\ \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \theta^2} f_1(\theta) &= t \cdot \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \left( \theta^{t-1}(1 - \theta)^h \right) - h \cdot \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \left( \theta^t(1 - \theta)^{h-1} \right) \\ &= t \cdot \left( (t-1)\theta^{t-2}(1 - \theta)^h - \theta^{t-1}h(1 - \theta)^{h-1} \right) \\ &\quad + h \cdot \left( t\theta^{t-1}(1 - \theta)^{h-1} - \theta^t(h-1)(1 - \theta)^{h-2} \right)\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} f_2(\theta) &= \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \left( \log(\theta^t) + \log((1 - \theta)^h) \right) \\ &= \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} (\log(\theta^t)) + \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} (\log((1 - \theta)^h)) \\ &= t \cdot \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} (\theta) + h \cdot \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} (\log(1 - \theta)) \\ &= \frac{t}{\theta} - \frac{h}{1 - \theta}\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\partial^2}{\partial \theta^2} f_2(\theta) &= \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \left( \frac{t}{\theta} \right) - \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \left( \frac{h}{1 - \theta} \right) \\ &= \frac{0 \cdot \theta - t \cdot 1}{\theta^2} - \frac{0 \cdot (1 - \theta) - h \cdot (-1)}{(1 - \theta)^2} \\ &= -\frac{t}{\theta^2} - \frac{h}{(1 - \theta)^2}\end{aligned}$$

**Problem 2:**

"Monotonic functions preserve critical points"

Since  $\log$  is a monotonic transformation, the function will yield the same values when plugged into

$\arg \max_{\theta}$ :

$$\arg \max_{\theta} f(\theta) = \arg \max_{\theta} \log f(\theta)$$

Considering problem 1 and the fact that  $\log$  converts exponents to factors (which also increases the numerical stability), computing the log-likelihood is faster and yields more compact functions which can then be maximized.

## Properties of MLE and MAP

### Problem 3:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Beta}(6, 4) &= \left( \frac{\Gamma(6+4)}{\Gamma(6)\Gamma(4)} \cdot \theta^{6-1} \cdot (1-\theta)^{4-1} \right) \\ &= \frac{9!}{5! \cdot 4!} \cdot \theta^5 \cdot (1-\theta)^3 \\ &= 126 \cdot \theta^5 \cdot (1-\theta)^3 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \theta_{\text{MAP}} &= \arg \max_{\theta} p(\theta|f) \\ &= \arg \max_{\theta} \frac{p(f|\theta) \cdot p(\theta)}{p(f)} \\ &= \arg \max_{\theta} p(f|\theta) \cdot p(\theta) \\ &= \arg \max_{\theta} \left( \theta^{\mathbb{I}[f=T]} \cdot (1-\theta)^{\mathbb{I}[f=H]} \right) \cdot (126 \cdot \theta^5 \cdot (1-\theta)^3) \\ &= \arg \max_{\theta} \theta^{M+5} \cdot (1-\theta)^{N+3} \\ &= \arg \max_{\theta} \log \left( \theta^{M+5} \cdot (1-\theta)^{N+3} \right) \\ &= \arg \max_{\theta} (M+5) \log(\theta) + (N+3) \log(1-\theta) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} (M+5) \log(\theta) + (N+3) \log(1-\theta) &= \frac{M+5}{\theta} - \frac{N+3}{1-\theta} \stackrel{!}{=} 0 \\ \Rightarrow \theta_{\text{MAP}} &= \frac{M+5}{M+N+8} \end{aligned}$$

$$\theta_{\text{MAP}} \stackrel{!}{=} 0.75 = \frac{3}{4} = \frac{30}{40}$$

$$\Rightarrow M = 25, N = 40 - 25 - 8 = 7$$

(In general, the solution is  $M = 3N + 1$ )

### Problem 4:

# Programming Task

## Problem 5:

# Appendix

We confirm that the submitted solution is original work and was written by us without further assistance.  
Appropriate credit has been given where reference has been made to the work of others.

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