

# EXAMPLES / EXERCISES

## • Religious belief / Dogma

Take a set of possible events  $\{A_i\}$  constituting a non-intersecting partition of  $\Omega$ .  
Imagine we have the following prior probability for each  $A_i$ :

$$\pi(A_i) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } i=0 \\ 0 & \text{if } i \neq 0 \end{cases}$$

which means we believe  $A_0$  is absolutely true, and  $A_i \neq 0$  are absolutely false.

Assume we acquire more information through the observation of some event  $B$ .

From Bayes Theorem: 
$$P(A_i | B) = \frac{P(B | A_i) \pi(A_i)}{P(B)}$$

If  $i \neq 0$ : 
$$P(A_i | B) = 0 = P(A_i)$$

If  $i=0$ : 
$$P(A_0 | B) = \frac{P(B | A_0) \pi(A_0)}{\sum_i P(B | A_i) \pi(A_i)} = \frac{P(B | A_0) \cdot 1}{P(B | A_0) \cdot 1} = 1 = P(A_0)$$

This is what we call a dogma or religious belief, i.e. a belief that we cannot change, no matter how much new knowledge we accumulate.

The scientific method has allowed to improve our knowledge of Nature by progressively accumulating new experimental evidences.

On the other hand, scientific progress is not possible in the presence of religious beliefs about observable facts.



## • Binomial

~~Plot them on the same~~

Compute the distribution of Binomial variables with  $n = 150$  and

$$p = 0.1, 0.3, 0.5, 0.7, 0.9$$

Plot them all together (overlay them). Do not use any predefined method for the binomial or factorial!

Repeat for  $n = 500$ .

Tricks: 1) Binomial coefficient with  $\exp(\log)$

$$\begin{aligned} \binom{n}{k} &= \frac{n!}{k!(n-k)!} = \frac{n \cdot (n-1) \cdot (n-2) \cdots 2 \cdot 1}{k \cdot (k-1) \cdots 3 \cdot 2 \cdot (n-k)(n-k-1) \cdots 3 \cdot 2} \\ &= \frac{n(n-1) \cdots (n-k+1)}{k(k-1) \cdots 3 \cdot 2} \quad \rightarrow \text{works numerically up to } k \approx 170 \\ &= \exp \left[ \ln(n(n-1) \cdots (n-k+1)) - \ln(k(k-1) \cdots 3 \cdot 2) \right] \\ &= \exp \left[ \sum_{i=n-k+1}^n \ln(i) - \sum_{i=2}^k \ln(i) \right] \end{aligned}$$

2) Bernoulli Term with  $\exp(\log)$  to solve situation with small  $p$  and large  $(1-p)$

$$\begin{aligned} p^k (1-p)^{n-k} &= \exp \left[ \ln(p^k (1-p)^{n-k}) \right] \\ &= \exp \left[ k \ln(p) + (n-k) \ln(1-p) \right] \end{aligned}$$

## • Poisson

~~Populate histograms with  $10^5$  random generated values~~

• Poinson

~~Populate histograms with ~~no~~ random generated events~~

- ~~1) Generate <sup>10<sup>5</sup></sup> uniformly distributed values of  $t$  between 0 and  $\Delta t = 10^3$~~
- ~~2) Test whether  $t$  happens within a window  $\delta t = p \cdot \Delta t$  with  $p = 0.01$~~

• Poinson

- 1) Generate  $n = 10$  uniformly distributed values of  $t$  in interval  $[0, \Delta t = 10^3]$
- 2) Compute number of accepted events  $k$  that happen in interval  $[0, \delta t]$  with  $\delta t = p \cdot \Delta t$  and  $p = 0.01$
- 3) Repeat  $10^5$  times, and populate histogram of  $k$
- 4) Plot histogram of  $k$  and compare with ~~the~~ theoretical Binomial and Poinson distribution. Do not use any predefined method!
- 5) Repeat for all combinations of:  $n = 10, 100, 1000$   
 $p = 0.01, 0.05, 0.1, 0.5$

• Exponential from uniform

- 1) Generate  $10^6$  values of variable  $t$ , uniformly distributed in  $[0, \Delta t = 10^3]$
- 2) Sort the list of generated values
- 3) Compute the interval  ~~$\Delta t_i$~~   $\Delta t_i = t_i - t_{i-1}$  between subsequent events
- 4) Plot the distribution of  $\Delta t_i$  (as a histogram)
- 5) Fit it with an exponential. Does it work? Do you get back the input parameter?

~~$$f(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \exp\left(-\frac{x^2}{2}\right)$$~~

## • $\chi^2$ distribution

~~1) Populate a histogram with  $10^5$  randomly generated~~

1) Generate  $10^5$  sets of ~~from~~  $n$  standard-normal random numbers  $x_i$ , and populate a histogram with  $\chi^2 = \sum_{i=1}^n x_i^2$

2) Repeat point (1) for  $n = 1, 2, 3, 5, 10, 20$

3) Overlap the histograms with the theoretical  $\chi^2$  distribution with the corresponding number of DOF, properly scaled to the number of generated values.

Do not use any predefined  $\chi^2$  method.

## • Central Limit Theorem for Gaussian random number generator

1) Generate  $10^8$  sets of  $n$  uniformly distributed random numbers ~~for~~ in  $[0, 1[$ , with  $n = 1, 2, \dots, 10$

~~2) For every  $n$ , populate a histogram~~

2) For every  $n$ , populate a histogram with the  $10^8$  sums of ~~the~~  $n$  generated random numbers

3) Plot the histogram in linear and log-scale (on the y-axis)

Do you notice anything?

## • Acceptance-rejection method

1) Generate  $10^6$  points uniformly distributed in  $x \in [-1, 1]$  and  $y \in [-1, 1]$

2) Compute the fraction of points falling inside a circle of radius 1

3) Repeat for  $\text{dim} = 2, 3, 4, \dots, 15$

4) Plot fraction of accepted points as a function of dimension

5) Assign uncertainty to your estimate of accepted points

6) Compare (overlap plots) with theoretical expectation of number of accepted points.

**Ex 5**

## • Random number correlation

- 1) Generate  $(10^5 + 1)$  random numbers distributed as a Gaussian with  $\mu = 3$  and  $\sigma = 2$
- 2) Plot the distribution of  $x_i$  and of  $(x_i - x_{i-1})$
- 3) Do the same, but ~~populate the~~ This time generate the numbers  $x_i$  using Metropolis-Hastings, until you accept  $(10^5 + 1)$  points.  
As a proposal function, use a Gaussian with  $\mu = x_i$  and  $\sigma = 0.3$

How do the distributions look like?

Can you explain the STD of the  $(x_i - x_{i-1})$  distributions in the two cases?

## • Extended vs binned likelihood

- 1) Generate data distributed with the following signal and background PDFs:

$$f_s(E) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma} \exp\left(-\frac{(E-\mu)^2}{2\sigma^2}\right) \quad \text{with} \quad \begin{array}{l} \mu = 2039 \text{ keV} \\ \sigma = 1.5 \text{ keV} \end{array}$$

$$f_b(E) = \frac{1}{E_{\max} - E_{\min}} \quad \text{with} \quad \begin{array}{l} E_{\min} = 2000 \text{ keV} \\ E_{\max} = 2080 \text{ keV} \end{array} \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{This is our} \\ \text{fit range} \end{array} \right.$$

Generate ~~data~~  $10^4$  Toy-TC ~~spectra~~ <sup>data</sup> using all combinations of the following number of ~~or~~ signal and background counts:

$$S = \{5, 20, 50, 100\}$$

$$B = \{10, 30, 100, 200\}$$

- 2) Fit each Toy-TC ~~spectra~~ data with the extended likelihood (Poisson)
- 3) Bin the Toy-TC data with 1 keV binning, and fit the spectra with the binned  $\chi^2$  (Poisson term for each bin)
- 4) Extract the ~~average~~ CPU time required for each ~~combination~~ fit.
- 5) Plot the average of  $\frac{t_{\text{extended}}}{t_{\text{binned}}}$  vs  $\frac{N_{\text{events}}}{N_{\text{bins}}}$

Ex 6

## • Scatter plot ( $\chi^2$ fit)

1) Generate  $N=11$  points with the following coordinates:

$$x_i = 0, 100, 200, \dots, 1000$$

$$y_i = m x_i + q + \delta y_i \quad \text{where} \quad m = 1.5$$

$$q = 3$$

$$\delta y_i = \text{random Gauss}(\mu=0, \sigma_i)$$

$$\sigma_i = \text{random uniform in } [10, 100]$$

To each point, assign the uncertainties:

$$\sigma_{x_i} = 0$$

$$\sigma_{y_i} = \sigma_i$$

2) Fit the scatterplot with the  $\chi^2$  fit, and retrieve the minimum  $\chi^2$  from the fitter.

↳ In ROOT:  $\text{TFitResultPtr} \text{ resPtr} = \text{scatterplot} \rightarrow \text{Fit}(\dots);$   
 $\text{TFitResult}^* \text{ res} = \text{resPtr} \rightarrow \text{Get}();$   
 $\text{double chi2} = \text{res} \rightarrow \text{Chi2}();$

3) Repeat for  $10^4$  Toy-FC data, and plot the histogram of min- $\chi^2$ .

4) Overlay with the theoretical  $\chi^2$  distribution with the same number of DOF

$$\hookrightarrow \text{nDOF} = n - 2 \quad (\text{because we have 2 parameters})$$

## • Scatter plot $\chi^2$ fit with overestimated uncertainty

Repeat the previous exercise, ~~but~~ artificially enlarging the uncertainty assigned to  $y_i$  with respect to the one used to generate  $\delta y_i$ .

Use the following:  $\sigma_{y_i} = k \sigma_i$  with  $k = \{1, 1.1, 1.2, 1.3, 1.4\}$

- Scatter plot  $\chi^2$  fit with unaccounted systematic

Repeat The scatter plot exercise but generate the data with a 2-nd order polynomial:

$$y_i = q + mx_i + cx_i^2 \quad c = \{0, 10^{-4}, 2 \cdot 10^{-4}, 3 \cdot 10^{-4}, 4 \cdot 10^{-4}, 5 \cdot 10^{-4}\}$$

However, keep fitting the data with the linear function

$$y = mx + q$$

752

- Likelihood vs  $\chi^2$  for binned Poisson data

1) Generate data distributed with the following signal and background PDFs:

$$f_s(E) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma} \exp\left(-\frac{(E-\mu)^2}{2\sigma^2}\right) \quad \text{with } \mu = 2039 \text{ keV} \\ \sigma = 1.5 \text{ keV}$$

$$f_b(E) = \frac{1}{E_{\max} - E_{\min}} \quad \text{with } E_{\min} = 2000 \text{ keV} \\ E_{\max} = 2080 \text{ keV}$$

Generate 300 ToyMC data using all combinations of the following number of signal and background counts:

$$s = \{10, 100, 1000, 10000\}$$

$$b = \{10, 100, 1000, 10000\}$$

Bin the data with 0.1 keV binning

2) Fit each histogram with  $L$ ,  $\chi_N^2$ , and  $\chi_P^2$

3) Produce the following plots:

a) Distribution of best fit of  $s$  for all combinations of  $s$  and  $b$ ,

b) ~~Distributions~~ with the distributions obtained from the 3 methods overlapped together

b) Same, but for  $b$

c) 2-dim distribution of  $\hat{s}$  vs  $\hat{b}$  for all combinations of  $s$  and  $b$ .

This time, do 3 separate plots for  $L$ ,  $\chi_N^2$ ,  $\chi_P^2$  otherwise it's a mess.



- Efficiency curve fit with ~~binomial, Poisson and  $\chi^2$~~   
binomial  $\mathcal{L}$ , Poisson  $\mathcal{L}$  and Gaussian  $\chi^2$

1) Generate 20 points with coordinates  $(E_i, K_i)$

$$E_i = 1, 2, 3, \dots, 20 \text{ keV}$$

$$E_i = \frac{p}{2} \left[ 1 + \operatorname{erf} \left( \frac{E - \mu}{\sigma} \right) \right] \quad \text{with } p = 0.9, 0.95, 0.99$$

$$\mu = 3 \text{ keV}$$

$$\sigma = 1 \text{ keV}$$

$\forall E_i$ , generate  $n$  random  $\mathcal{R}$  values uniformly distributed in  $[0, 1[$   
and ~~count the set~~  $K_i = \#$  set  $K_i$  to the number of values  $< E_i$ .

Consider the following values for  $n$ : 100, 1000, 10 000

2) Fit the data ~~assuming~~ assuming the following distributions for  $K_i$ :

a) Binomial

b) Poisson

c)  $\chi^2$  (Neyman or Pearson, your choice)

3) ~~Plot the data Repeat for all~~

3) Repeat for  $10^3$  toys for all combinations of  $n$  and  $p$

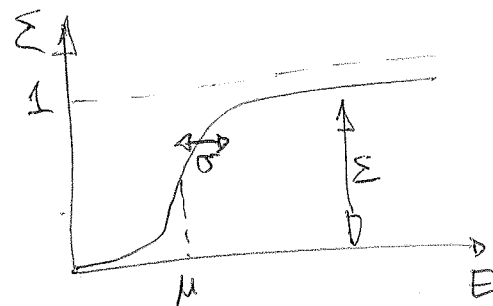
4) Plot the best fit distribution of  $\hat{\Sigma}$  obtained with the 3 methods,  
for all combinations of  $p$  and  $n$ .

This ~~example~~ is the case of a pulse generator injecting  $n$  artificial  
pulses into a detector, with 20 different energy values between  
1 and 20 keV.

$p$  is the overall trigger efficiency

$\mu$  is the trigger threshold

$\sigma$  describes the rise of the efficiency curve.



Ex. 9

## • Ordering rules

Suppose to have a variable  $\lambda$  with PDF  $f(\lambda) = \text{Poisson}(n, \lambda) = \frac{e^{-\lambda} \lambda^n}{n!}$

with  $n = 3$ .

Notice that we are looking at the Poisson as a function of the expectation value, not of the number of measured counts!

1) Compute (and plot) the 68% intervals with the following methods:

a) central interval

b) equal areas

c) shortest interval

2) As a cross check, print the coverage of each method.

## • Neyman belt for Gaussian

Assume  $t(n) = n$  and  $f(n) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma} \exp\left(-\frac{(n-\theta)^2}{2\sigma^2}\right)$  with  $\theta$  unknown  
 $\sigma = 1$

1) Create a 2-dim histogram of  $(n, \theta)$  with  $0 \leq n \leq 10$  and  $0 \leq \theta \leq 20$ .

2) For each value of  $\theta$ , populate the corresponding  $n$  with  $10^5$  values of  $n$  randomly sampled from  $f(n|\theta)$ .

3) Invert the belt for  $n = 5$ , and plot ~~plot of  $n$~~  the corresponding  $f(n)$

4) Fit ~~the~~  $f(\theta)$  with a Gaussian

## • Neyman belt for Binomial

Assume ~~again~~ we have a detector injected with  $n$  pulser events, and that we want to measure the trigger efficiency  $p$ .

Take:  $n = \# \text{ of injected events} = \{0, 1, 2, \dots, 10\}$   
 $p = \text{input trigger probability} = 0, 10^{-3}, 2 \cdot 10^{-3}, \dots, 1$

1) Create a 2-dim histogram for  $(k, p)$ .

Notice that  $0 \leq k \leq n$ , so  $k$  must go from 0 to 10.

2) For each value of  $p$ , populate the corresponding distribution of  $k$  with a Binomial  $(k|n, p)$

3) For each value of  $p$ , extract the shortest 68% interval

4) Plot the Neyman confidence belt

5) Compute the coverage of  $p$ .

## • Flip-flopping

Take a variable  $x$  with PDF:  $f(x|\mu) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \exp\left(-\frac{(x-\mu)^2}{2}\right)$

Assume  $x$  can be negative, but  $\mu \geq 0$ .

Assume we decide to quote a central 90% interval if  $x \geq 3$ , or an upper 90% limit if  $x < 3$ .

1) Prepare a 2-dim histogram for  $(x, \mu)$

2) Populate the Neyman belt

3) Construct the 90% central confidence belt for  $x \geq 3$

4) Construct the 90% lower confidence belt for  $x < 3$

5) Join the two belts and plot them.

6) Compute and plot the coverage of  $\mu$ .

• Feldman - Cousins for Gaussian case

Take a variable  $x$  with range  $[-3, 1]$  and PDF  $f(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \exp\left(-\frac{(x-\mu)^2}{2}\right)$

- 1) Prepare a 2-dim histogram for  $(x, \mu)$  with  $\mu \in [0, 7]$
- 2) Populate the Neyman belt
- 3) Find  $\max(f(x|\mu))$  for each value of  $x$  and ~~then~~ plot it as a function of  $x$ . Compare it with the analytical calculation.
- 4) Populate a 2-dim histogram (same ranges as before) with the likelihood ratios
- 5) Construct and plot the FC confidence belt.
- 6) Compute the coverage as a function of  $\mu$  and plot it using the values of the Neyman belt.
- 7) Compute the coverage using Toy-FC:
  - 7.a) Generate  $10^4$  values of  $x$  for a fixed value of  $\mu$
  - 7.b) Compute the fraction of  $x$  that fall inside the FC belt for that specific value of  $\mu$
  - 7.c) ~~Iterate~~ <sup>Repeat</sup> for all values of  $\mu$

## • Feldman - Cousins for electron neutrino mass

In this example, we try to reproduce the ~~max~~ limit on electron  $\nu$  mass reported by KATRAN in Phys. Rev. Lett. 123 (2019) 221802.

Their limit is:  $m_\nu < 1.1 \text{ eV}$

obtained from:  $m_\nu^2 = -1.0^{+0.9}_{-1.1} \text{ eV}^2$

~~1) Prepare~~ ~~hint~~ Our variables are  $m_\nu$  (the parameter of the model) and  $m_\nu^2$  (the observable). Notice that  $m_\nu$  can't be negative, but the observable  $m_\nu^2$  can.

Let's approximate the PDF of  $m_\nu^2$  with:  $f(m_\nu^2 | m_\nu) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma} \exp\left(-\frac{(m_\nu^2 - m_\nu^2)^2}{2\sigma^2}\right)$

Let's assume  $\sigma = 1$ , which is close to the asymmetric uncertainties quoted above.

- 1) Populate the Neyman belt, using  $m_\nu^2 \in [-5, 20]$  and  $m_\nu \in [0, 4]$
- 2) Extract  $\max f(m_\nu^2 | m_\nu)$  for each value of  $m_\nu$
- 3) Populate the likelihood ratio 2-dim histogram
- 4) Extract the FC confidence belt
- 5) Compute the coverage (using the Neyman belt)
- 6) Extract the central interval or limit ~~corresponding~~ on  $m_\nu$  corresponding to a measured value  $m_\nu^2 = -1.0$

How does it compare with the published one?

• Example: Poisson posterior for rate

Suppose we have a random variable  $K$  with Poisson PDF

$$f(k|\lambda) = \frac{e^{-\lambda} \lambda^k}{k!} \quad \text{with } \lambda=5 \rightarrow \text{this is the true value of } \lambda.$$

~~Suppose we measure  $K$  once, obtaining  $K=5$ .~~

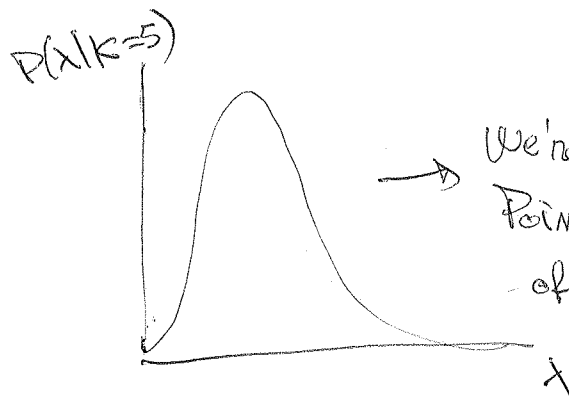
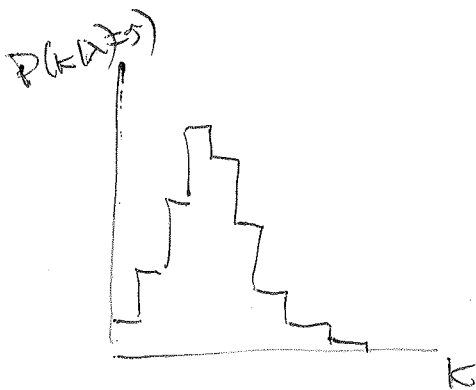
Suppose our prior knowledge on  $k$  is flat between 0 and 20.

Suppose we measure  $K$  once, obtaining  $K=5$ .

~~What is our~~

- 1) Compute the posterior PDF for  $\lambda$
- 2) What's the best for most probable value for  $\lambda$ ?
- 3) What's the 68% shortest C.I.?
- 4) Why is the best fit  $\hat{\lambda} \neq 5$  (as we would expect)?

You expect something like



→ We're looking at the Poisson as a function of  $\lambda$ , now!!!

## • Bayesian efficiency fit

1) Generate 20 points with coordinates  $(E_i, k_i)$

$$E_i = 1, 2, 3, \dots, 20 \text{ keV}$$

$$E_i = \frac{p}{2} \left[ 1 + \operatorname{erf} \left( \frac{E - \mu}{\sigma} \right) \right] \quad \text{with} \quad \begin{aligned} p &= 0.99 \\ \mu &= 3 \text{ keV} \\ \sigma &= 1 \text{ keV} \end{aligned}$$

For  $E_i$ , generate 1000 random values uniformly distributed in  $[0, 1]$  and set  $k_i$  to the number of values  $< E_i$ .

2) Run a Bayesian fit with Metropolis-Hastings using the following distributions for  $k_i$ :

a) Binomial

b) Poisson

c)  $\chi^2$

3) Plot the posterior of  $p$  for the three fits.

~~• Radioactive decay fit~~

## • Simultaneous fit

Perform a combined fit of 2 data sets:

a) Fiber-injected data produced in the same way as in the "efficiency" example.

b) Physics data, recorded between 10 and 20 keV, and featuring:

→ a Gaussian signal with  $\mu = 15$  keV and  $\sigma = 1.2$  keV

→ a flat background

1) Generate physics data as in the previous example

2) Generate 20 signal and 20 background events, and apply the efficiency curve to them

3) Perform a simultaneous fit, with  $E_0$  as a common parameter.

## • Evidence

1) Generate the real data with a flat ~~bg~~ and Gaussian signal.

Use:  $s = 5$

$b = 25$

Unbinned PDF, just one toy dataset.

2) Run ~~the fit~~ a Bayesian fit twice:

a) Using  $H_0 = \text{bg}$  only

b) Using  $H_1 = \text{signal} + \text{bg}$

Use flat priors for both  $s$  and  $b$

3) Compute the evidence of  $H_0$  and  $H_1$  using the acceptance-rejection method

4) Compute the Bayes factor,  $P(H_0|\vec{E})$  and  $P(H_1|\vec{E})$