

Machine Learning I, Exercise 2, Group 3

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1. $p(x|\lambda) = \exp(-\lambda) \frac{\lambda^x}{x!}, x \in \mathbb{N}$

What is max. likelihood solution if N datapoints x_1, \dots, x_N are given ($x_n \in \mathbb{N}$)?

■ Data likelihood function:

$$L(\theta) = p(x^{(1)}, \dots, x^{(N)} | \theta) = \prod_{n=1}^N p(x^{(n)} | \theta)$$

■ Log likelihood function:

$$\mathcal{L}(x^{(1)}, \dots, x^{(N)}; \theta) = \sum_{n=1}^N \ln(p(x^{(n)} | \theta))$$

max of likelihood = max. of log likelihood

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L}(x_1, \dots, x_N; \lambda) &= \sum_{n=1}^N \ln(p(x_n | \lambda)) \\ &= \sum_{n=1}^N \ln\left(\exp(-\lambda) \frac{\lambda^{x_n}}{x_n!}\right) \\ &= \sum_{n=1}^N \left[\ln(\exp(-\lambda)) + \ln(\lambda^{x_n}) - \ln(x_n!) \right] \\ &= \sum_{n=1}^N \left[-\lambda + x_n \ln(\lambda) - \ln(x_n!) \right] \\ &= -N\lambda + \ln(\lambda) \sum_{n=1}^N x_n - \sum_{n=1}^N \ln(x_n!) \end{aligned}$$

$$\max \Rightarrow \frac{\partial}{\partial \lambda} \mathcal{L}(x_1, \dots, x_N; \lambda) \stackrel{!}{=} 0$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \lambda} \left[-N\lambda + \ln(\lambda) \sum_{n=1}^N x_n - \sum_{n=1}^N \ln(x_n!) \right] = 0$$

$$= -N + \frac{1}{\lambda} \sum_{n=1}^N x_n = 0$$

$$\div N \quad \downarrow \quad -1 + \frac{1}{N\lambda} \sum_{n=1}^N x_n = 0$$

$$\times \lambda \quad \downarrow \quad -\lambda + \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=1}^N x_n = 0$$

$$\therefore \hat{\lambda} = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=1}^N x_n$$

————— // Sample mean