Foundations of Machine Learning Al2000 and Al5000

FoML-04 Maximum Likelihood Principle

> <u>Dr. Konda Reddy Mopuri</u> Department of AI, IIT Hyderabad July-Nov 2025





So far in FoML

- What is ML and the learning paradigms
- Probability refresher
 - o Random variables, Bayes Theorem, Independence, Expectation, Variance









• Widely used technique for optimizing model parameters





• Given - Dataset of N independent observations D = 27.72..73





 Goal: recover the probability distribution that may have generated this dataset



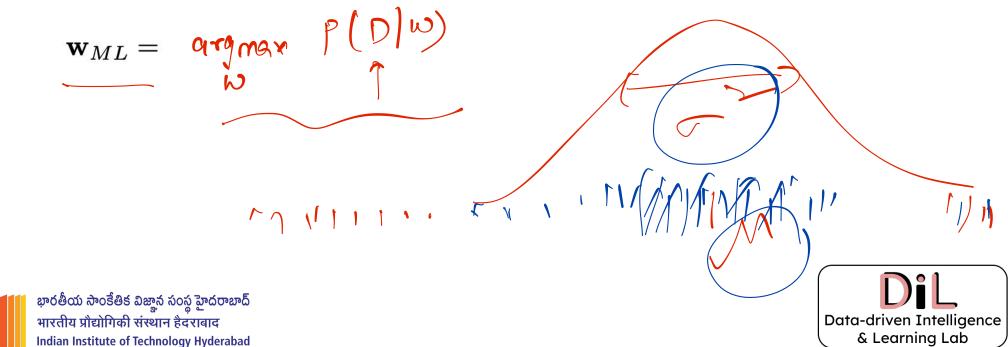


- Goal: recover the probability distribution that may have generated this dataset
- Likelihood of the dataset ρ(D|w)





• The most likely 'explanation' of D is given by w_{ML} that maximizes the likelihood function



• The iid assumption - each $x_i \in D$ is independently distributed according to the same distribution conditioned on w





• The iid assumption - each $x_i \in D$ is independently distributed according to the same distribution conditioned on w

The joint distribution

$$P(D|\omega) = P(n, n_2 - n_1|\omega) = \prod_{i=1}^{n} P(n_i|\omega)$$





$$\underline{\mathbf{w}_{ML}} = \underset{\mathbf{w}}{\operatorname{arg\,max}} \ \underline{p(D|\mathbf{w})} = \underset{\mathbf{w}}{\operatorname{arg\,max}} \ \prod_{i=1}^{N} \underline{p(x_i|\mathbf{w})}$$





$$\mathbf{w}_{ML} = \underset{\mathbf{w}}{\operatorname{arg max}} \ p(D|\mathbf{w}) = \underset{\mathbf{w}}{\operatorname{arg max}} \ \prod_{i=1}^{N} p(x_i|\mathbf{w})$$

Numerical underflow





$$\mathbf{w}_{ML} = \underset{\mathbf{w}}{\operatorname{arg max}} \ p(D|\mathbf{w}) = \underset{\mathbf{w}}{\operatorname{arg max}} \ \prod_{i=1}^{N} p(x_i|\mathbf{w})$$







$$\mathbf{w}_{ML} = \operatorname*{arg\,max}_{\mathbf{w}} \ p(D|\mathbf{w}) = \operatorname*{arg\,max}_{\mathbf{w}} \ \prod_{i=1}^{N} p(x_i|\mathbf{w})$$

- Numerical underflow
- Maximize the log-likelihood

$$\mathbf{w}_{ML} = rg \max_{\mathbf{w}} \ \log \prod_{i=1}^{N} p(x_i|\mathbf{w})$$

Error function:

$$E(D; \mathbf{w}) = -\log p(D|\mathbf{w}) = -\sum_{i=1}^{N} \log p(x_i|\mathbf{w})$$







iid Gaussian distributed real variables D =

$$\frac{p(x|\mathbf{w}) = \mathcal{N}(x|\mu, \sigma^2)}{}$$

buted real variables
$$D=$$

$$p(D|\mathbf{w})=p(D|\mu,\sigma^2)=\frac{1}{2\sigma^2}\sqrt{2\sigma^2}$$





MLE for Gaussian Distributions

• iid Gaussian distributed real variables
$$D = p(x|\mathbf{w}) = \mathcal{N}(x|\mu,\sigma^2)$$
 $p(x|\mathbf{w}) = \mathcal{N}(x|\mu,\sigma^2)$
 $p(D|\mathbf{w}) = p(D|\mu,\sigma^2) = p(D|\mu,\sigma^2) = p(D|\mu,\sigma^2) = p(D|\mu,\sigma^2)$

log likelihood = $-\frac{N}{2}\log 2\pi\sigma^2 - \frac{1}{2\sigma^2}\sum_{j=1}^{N}|2\pi j - \mu_j|^2$

$$\log \text{likelihood} = -\frac{N}{2} \log 2\pi \sigma^2 - \frac{1}{2\sigma^2} \sum_{i=1}^{N} (2i - \mu)^2$$





Estimate the model parameters

$$\mu_{ML}, \sigma_{ML}^2 = \underset{\mu, \sigma^2}{\operatorname{arg\,max}} \log p(D|\mu, \sigma^2)$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \mu} \left(\begin{array}{c} = 0 \\ = 0 \end{array} \right) = \frac{1}{2} \frac$$





Estimate the model parameters

$$\mu_{ML}, \sigma_{ML}^2 = \underset{\mu, \sigma^2}{\operatorname{arg\,max}} \log p(D|\mu, \sigma^2)$$



भारतीय प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान हैदराबाद Indian Institute of Technology Hyderabad Data-driven Intelligence & Learning Lab

$$\mu_{ML}, \sigma_{ML}^2 = \underset{\mu, \sigma^2}{\operatorname{arg\,max}} \log p(D|\mu, \sigma^2)$$

• (How well do these estimates represent the true parameters?



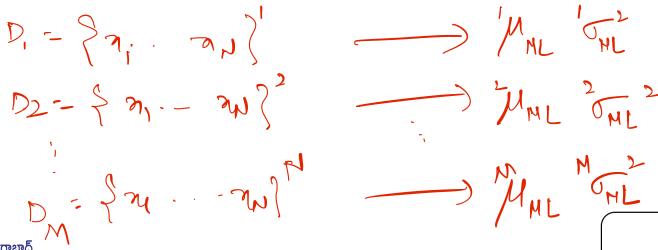


$$\mu_{ML}, \sigma_{ML}^2 = \underset{\mu, \sigma^2}{\operatorname{arg\,max}} \log p(D|\mu, \sigma^2)$$

Data-driven Intelligence

& Learning Lab

- How well do these estimates represent the true parameters?
- Note that these are functions of the data sample

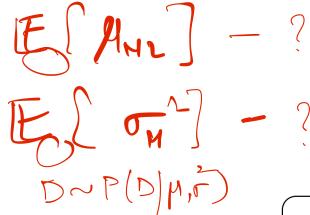




భారతీయ సాంకేతిక విజ్ఞాన సంస్థ హైదరాబాద్ भारतीय प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान हैदराबाद Indian Institute of Technology Hyderabad

$$\mu_{ML}, \sigma_{ML}^2 = \underset{\mu, \sigma^2}{\operatorname{arg\,max}} \log p(D|\mu, \sigma^2)$$

- How well do these estimates represent the true parameters?
- Note that these are functions of the data sample
 - \circ \rightarrow expected values of these estimates







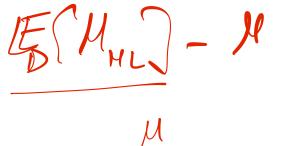
ML estimate of the mean

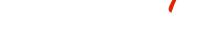
$$E \left[\frac{1}{N} \frac{2}{12} \frac{3}{12} \right] = \frac{1}{N} \frac{2}{12} \frac{1}{N} \frac{1}{N}$$





Bias of the "ML estimate of the mean"









Indian Institute of Technology Hyderabad





ML estimate of the variance
$$\begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{N} & \frac{2}{N} & \frac{1}{N} & \frac{2}{N} & \frac{2}{N} \\ \frac{1}{N} & \frac{2}{N} & \frac{2}$$

$$= \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^{N} \left(N^{2} + \sigma^{2} - \frac{2}{N} \left(\sigma^{2} + M^{2} + (N-1)M^{2} \right) + \frac{1}{N^{2}} \left(N(\sigma^{2} + M^{2}) + N(N-1)M^{2} \right) \right)$$

$$= \frac{1}{N} \left[\frac{2}{N+\sigma} - \frac{2}{N} \left(\frac{2}{\sigma} + N \frac{2}{N} \right) + \frac{1}{N^{2}} \left(N \frac{2}{\sigma} + N \frac{2}{N} \right) \right]$$

$$= \frac{1}{N} \left[\frac{2}{N+\sigma} - \frac{2}{N} \left(\frac{2}{\sigma} + N \frac{2}{N} \right) + \frac{1}{N^{2}} \left(N \frac{2}{\sigma} + N \frac{2}{N} \right) \right]$$

$$= \frac{1}{N^{2}} \left[\frac{2}{N-\sigma} + \frac{2}{N} + \frac{1}{N^{2}} \right] = \frac{N-1}{N} \frac{2}{\sigma^{2}}$$



భారతీయ సాంకేతిక విజ్జాన సంస్థ హైదరాబాద్ भारतीय प्रौद्योगिकी संस्थान हैदराबाद Indian Institute of Technology Hyderabad



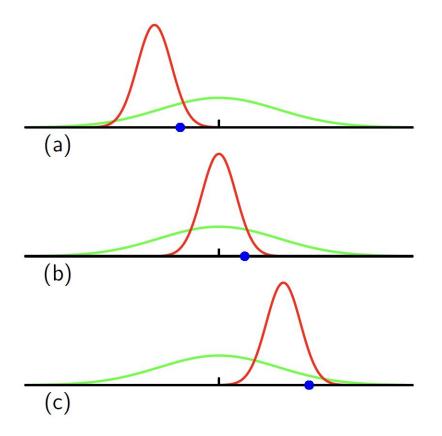
Bias of the "ML estimate of the variance"

$$\frac{1}{1} = \frac{1}{1} = \frac{1}$$





Bias in variance estimate







Regression example





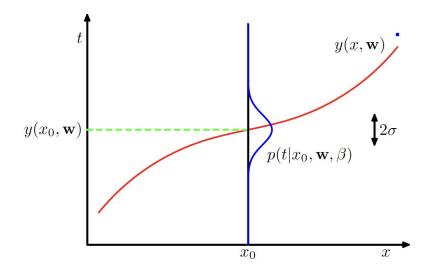
• Given data D $D = \{(x_1, t_1), (x_2, t_2), \dots (x_N, t_N)\} = \{\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{t}\}$





- Given data D $D = \{(x_1, t_1), (x_2, t_2), \dots (x_N, t_N)\} = \{\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{t}\}$
- Assume the data is generated by

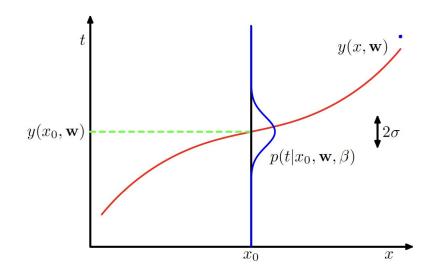
$$t = y(x, \mathbf{w}) + \sigma \cdot \epsilon, \quad \epsilon \in \mathcal{N}(0, 1)$$







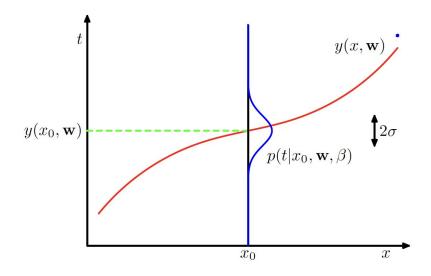
• Target distribution $p(t|x,\mathbf{w},\beta) = \mathcal{N}(t|y(x,\mathbf{w}),\beta^{-1})$







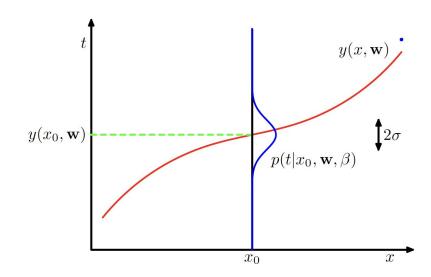
- Target distribution $p(t|x,\mathbf{w},eta) = \mathcal{N}(t|y(x,\mathbf{w}),eta^{-1})$
- log likelihood $\log p(\mathbf{t}|\mathbf{x},\mathbf{w},eta^{-1})$







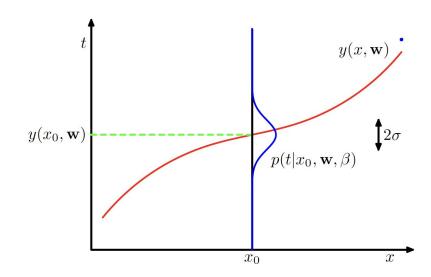
• Minimize the NLL w.r.t the parameters w and β







The predictive distribution







Rough work





Next MAP



