

4. Bayesian Inference, Part IV: Least Mean Squares (LMS) estimation

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Purdue University, School of ECE

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An Estimate vs an Estimator

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- Y is observed, X is not observed.

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- An **estimate** of X based on $Y=y$ is a **number, the value of an estimator as determined by the observed value y of Y** .
- E.g., if $g(Y)$ is an estimator of X , then $g(y)$ is an estimate of X for any specific observation y .

Pros and Cons of MAP Estimators

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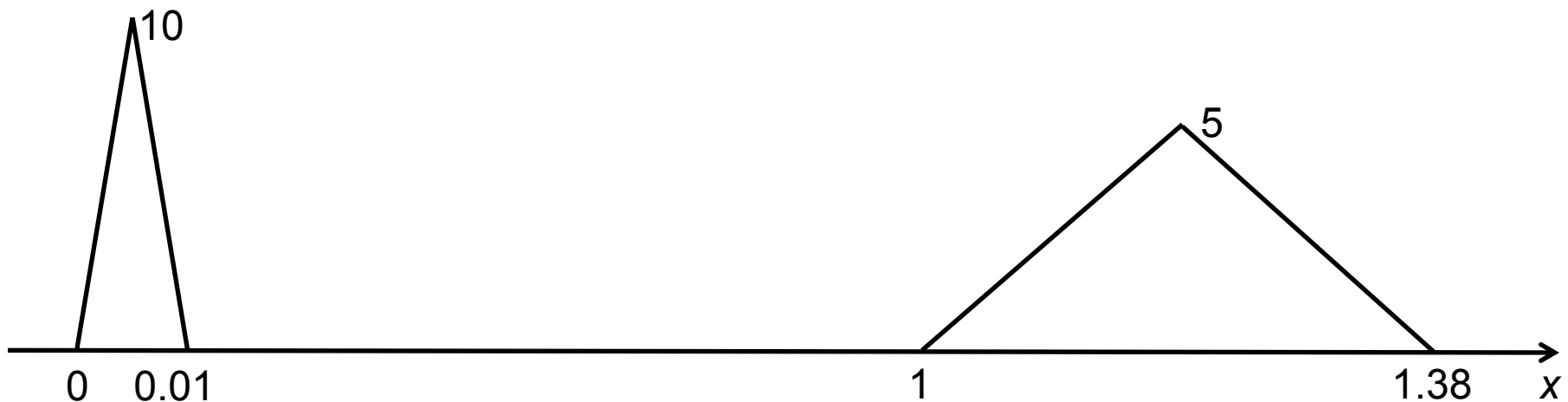
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- For some posterior distributions, may result in large probabilities of large errors.

An example when the MAP estimate is bad

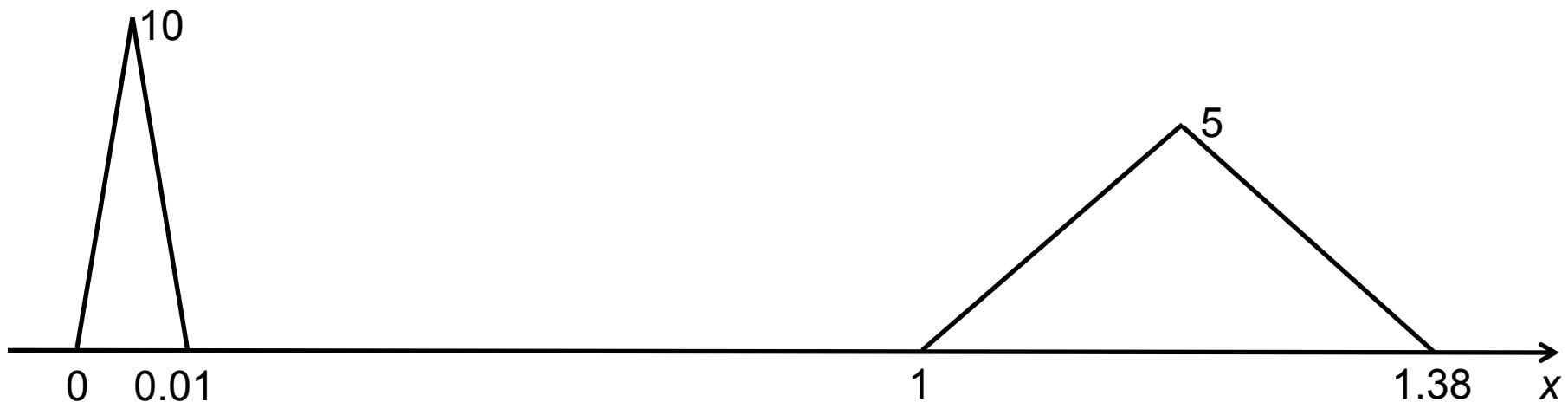
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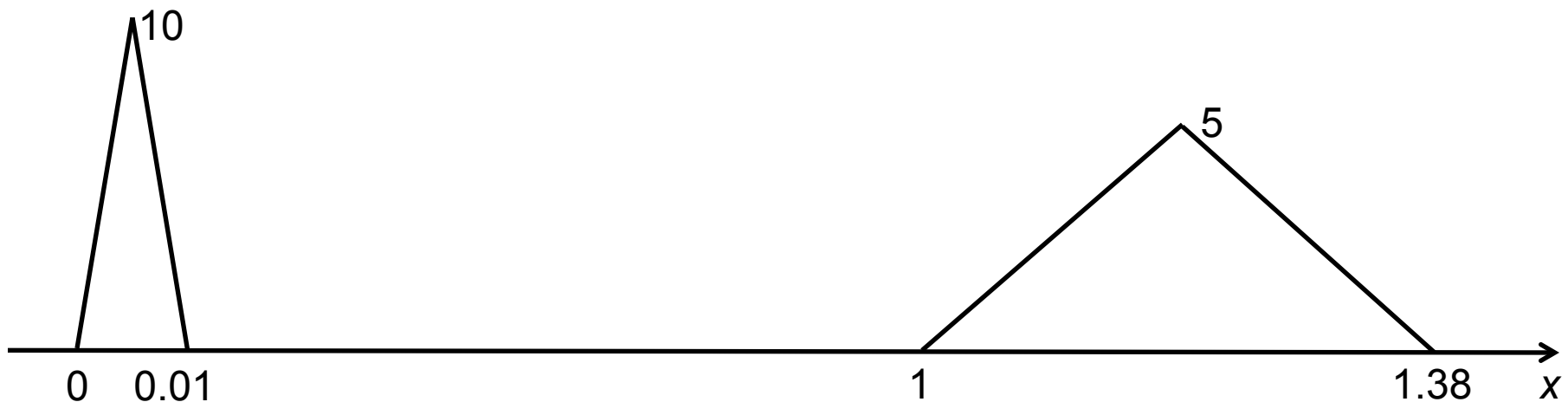
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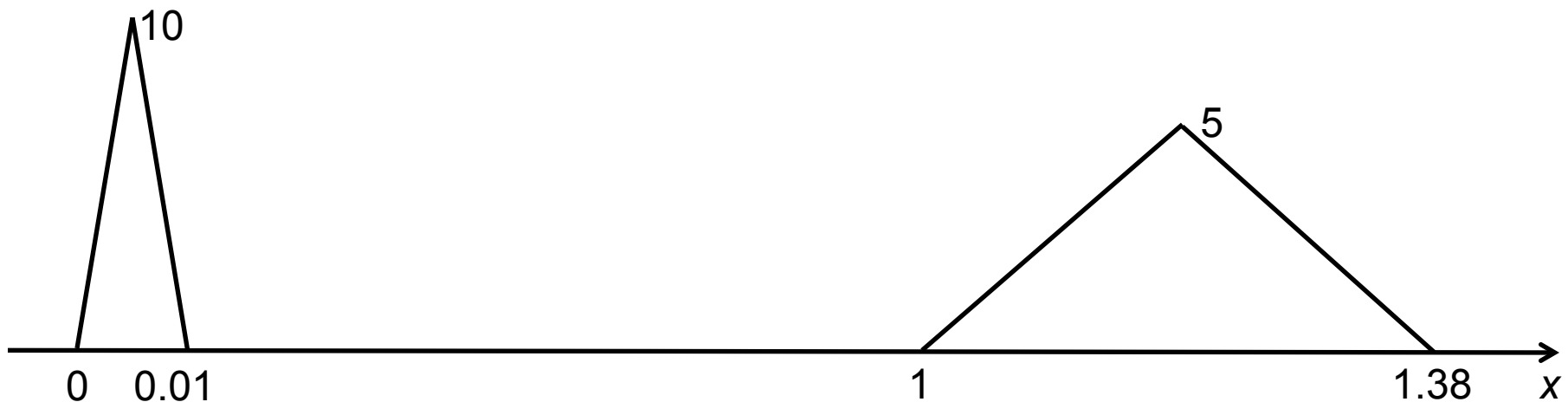
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- MAP makes errors of ≥ 0.995 with cond. prob. 0.95.
- Another estimate: conditional mean $E[X|Y=0] = 0.05 \cdot 0.005 + 0.95 \cdot 1.19 \approx 1.13$.

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- Makes large errors more costly than small ones.

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- **The LMS estimator of X based on Y is $E[X | Y]$.**
- For any observation y of Y , the LMS estimate of X is the mean of the posterior density, i.e., $E[X | Y=y]$.

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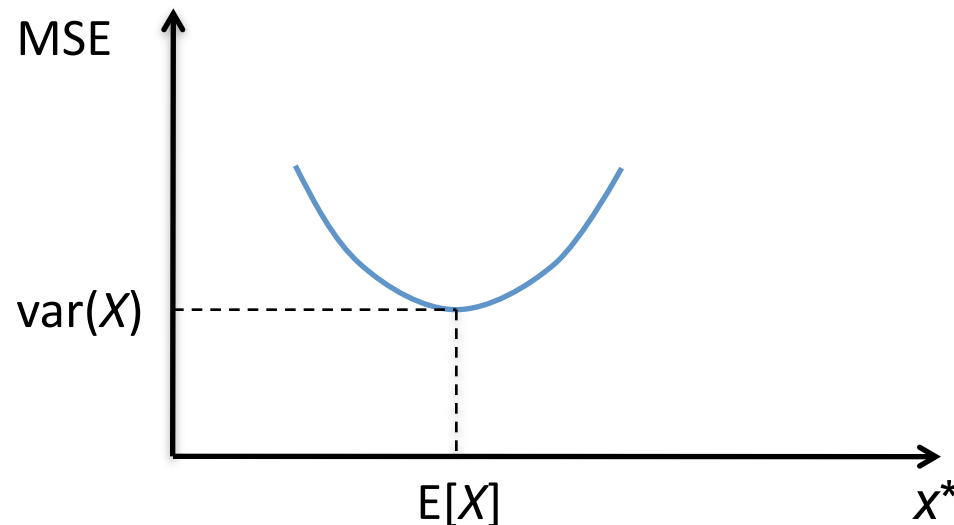
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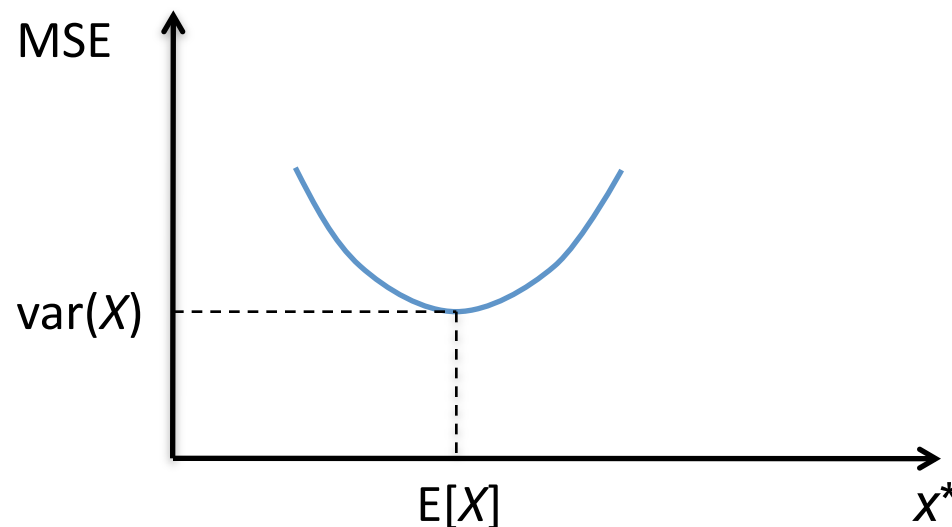
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- This is a quadratic function of x^* , minimized by $x^*=E[X]$.



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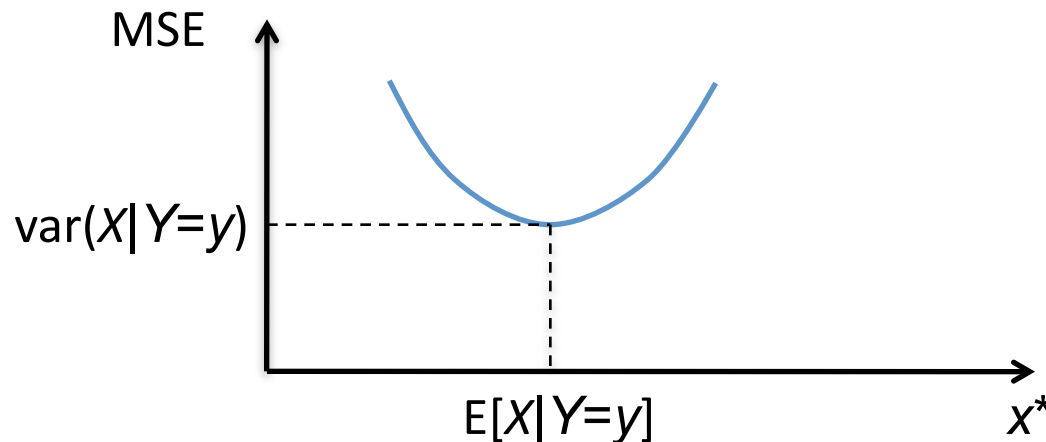
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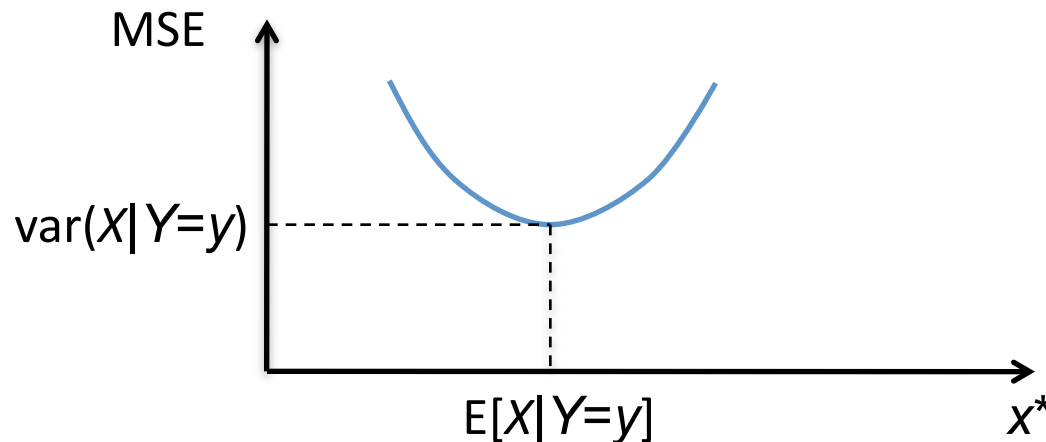
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 $= \text{var}(X | Y=y) + (E[X | Y=y] - x^*)^2$
- Quadratic function of x^* , minimized by $x^* = E[X | Y=y]$.



LMS estimator

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- Take expectations of both sides and use the iterated expectation formula:
$$E[(X-g(Y))^2] \leq E[(X-h(Y))^2]$$
- Therefore, the conditional expectation estimator achieves an MSE which is \leq to the MSE for any other estimator.

Other names that LMS estimate goes by in literature

- Least-squares estimate (LSE)
- Bayes least-squares estimate (BLSE)
- Minimum mean square error estimate (MMSE)

Ex 8.3: estimating the mean of a Gaussian r.v.

- Observe $Y_i = X + W_i$ for $i = 1, \dots, n$
- X, W_1, \dots, W_n independent Gaussian, with known means and variances
- W_i has mean 0 and variance σ_i^2
- X has mean x_0 and variance σ_0^2
- Previously, we found the MAP estimate of X based on observing $\mathbf{Y} = (Y_1, \dots, Y_n)$
- Now let's find the LMS estimate of X based on observing $\mathbf{Y} = (Y_1, \dots, Y_n)$

Prior model and measurement model

Prior model:

$$f_X(x) = \frac{1}{\sigma_0 \sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-\frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{x-x_0}{\sigma_0} \right)^2}$$

Measurement model:

$$\begin{aligned} f_{\mathbf{Y}|X}(\mathbf{y} | x) &= \prod_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{\sigma_i \sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-\frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{y_i - x}{\sigma_i} \right)^2} \\ &= (2\pi)^{-n/2} \left(\prod_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{\sigma_i} \right) \exp \left(-\sum_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{y_i - x}{\sigma_i} \right)^2 \right) \end{aligned}$$

Posterior PDF

$$f_{X|Y}(x | \mathbf{y}) = \frac{f_{Y|X}(\mathbf{y} | x) f_X(x)}{f_Y(\mathbf{y})}$$

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$$= \frac{1}{f_Y(\mathbf{y})} (2\pi)^{-n/2} \left(\prod_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{\sigma_i} \right) \exp \left(-\sum_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{y_i - x}{\sigma_i} \right)^2 \right) \frac{1}{\sigma_0 \sqrt{2\pi}} \exp \left(-\frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{x - x_0}{\sigma_0} \right)^2 \right)$$

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(Denoting $y_0 = x_0$ and $C =$ the factor that's not a function of x .)

Further massaging the posterior PDF...

$$f_{X|Y}(x | \mathbf{y}) = C \exp \left(- \sum_{i=0}^n \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{y_i - x}{\sigma_i} \right)^2 \right) = C \exp \left(- \frac{1}{2} \left[x^2 \sum_{i=0}^n \frac{1}{\sigma_i^2} - 2x \sum_{i=0}^n \frac{y_i}{\sigma_i^2} + \sum_{i=0}^n \frac{y_i^2}{\sigma_i^2} \right] \right)$$

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This is a Gaussian PDF with mean m and variance v ,

Further massaging the posterior PDF...

$$f_{X|Y}(x | \mathbf{y}) = C \exp \left(- \sum_{i=0}^n \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{y_i - x}{\sigma_i} \right)^2 \right) = C \exp \left(- \frac{1}{2} \left[x^2 \sum_{i=0}^n \frac{1}{\sigma_i^2} - 2x \sum_{i=0}^n \frac{y_i}{\sigma_i^2} + \sum_{i=0}^n \frac{y_i^2}{\sigma_i^2} \right] \right)$$

Denoting $v = \frac{1}{\sum_{i=0}^n \frac{1}{\sigma_i^2}}$ and $m = \frac{\sum_{i=0}^n \frac{y_i}{\sigma_i^2}}{\sum_{i=0}^n \frac{1}{\sigma_i^2}}$, we have:

$$\begin{aligned} f_{X|Y}(x | \mathbf{y}) &= C \exp \left(- \frac{1}{2v} \left[x^2 - 2xm + m^2 \right] + \frac{m^2}{2v} - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=0}^n \frac{y_i^2}{\sigma_i^2} \right) \\ &= C_1 \exp \left(- \frac{(x - m)^2}{2v} \right) \end{aligned}$$

This is a Gaussian PDF with mean m and variance v ,

and therefore we immediately have: $C_1 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi v}}$

Posterior PDF and LMS estimate

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Note that, in this example, LMS = MAP, because:

- the posterior density is Gaussian
- for a Gaussian density, the maximum is at the mean

Ex. 8.11

- X = continuous uniform over $[4, 10]$.
- W = continuous uniform over $[-1, 1]$.
- X and W are independent.

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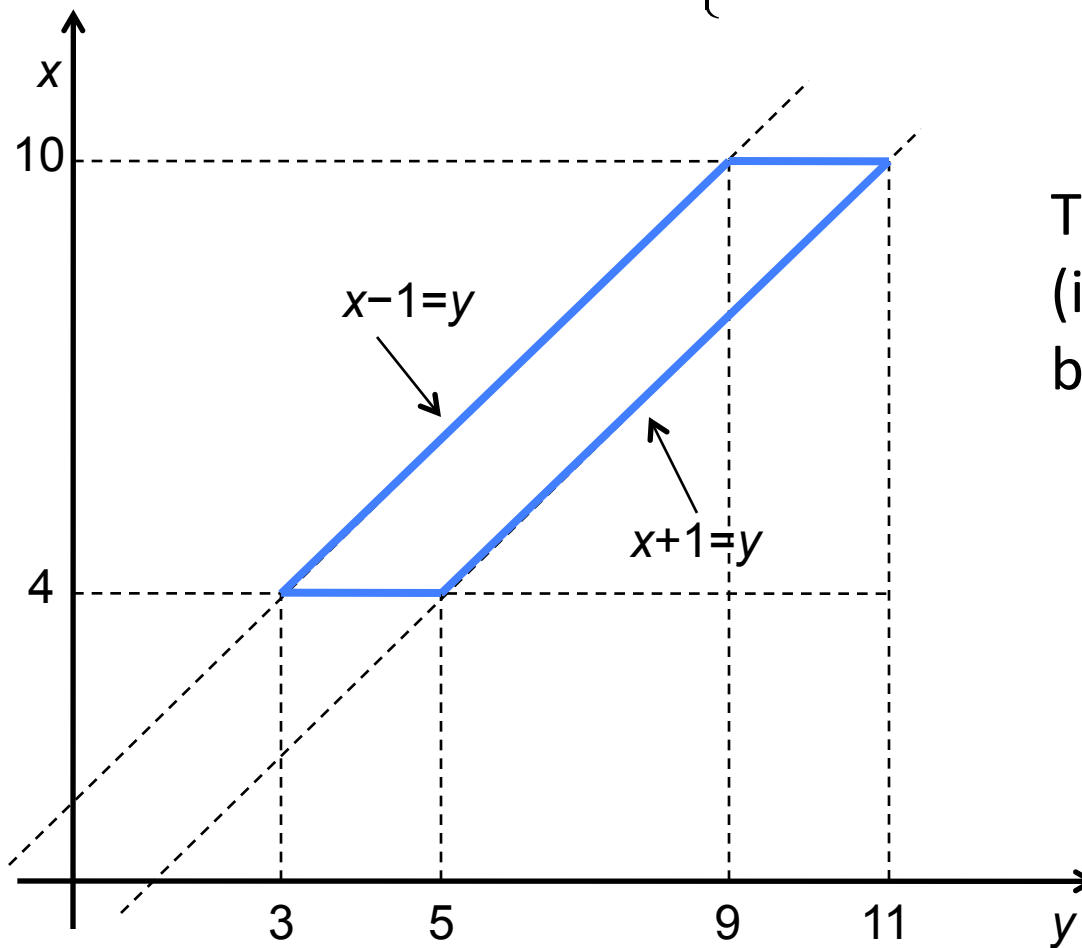
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$$f_{X,Y}(x,y) = f_X(x)f_{Y|X}(y|x) = \begin{cases} 1/12, & \text{if } 4 \leq x \leq 10 \text{ and } x-1 \leq y \leq x+1 \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Ex. 8.11: support of the joint PDF of X and Y

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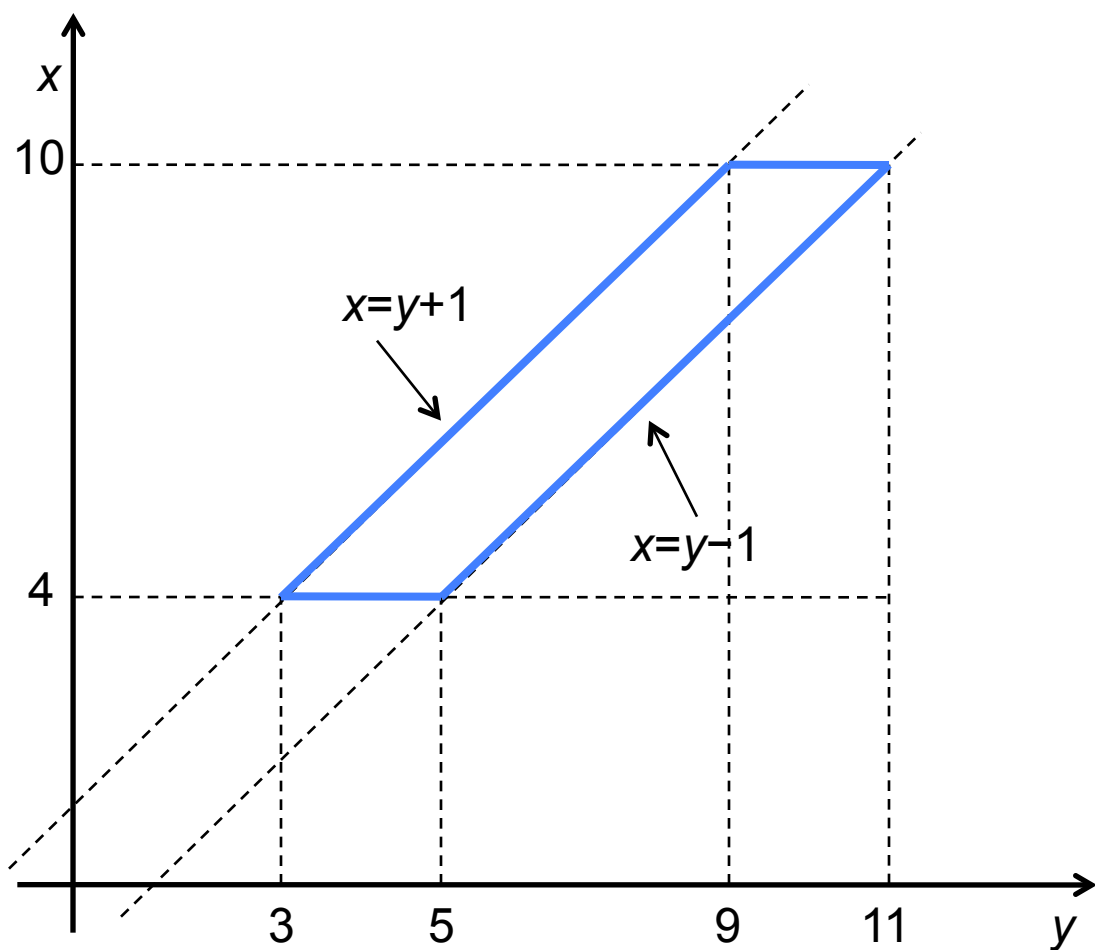
The joint PDF is supported (i.e., is nonzero) inside the blue parallelogram.

Ex. 8.11: the form of the posterior

$$f_{X|Y}(x|y) = \frac{f_{X,Y}(x,y)}{f_Y(y)}$$

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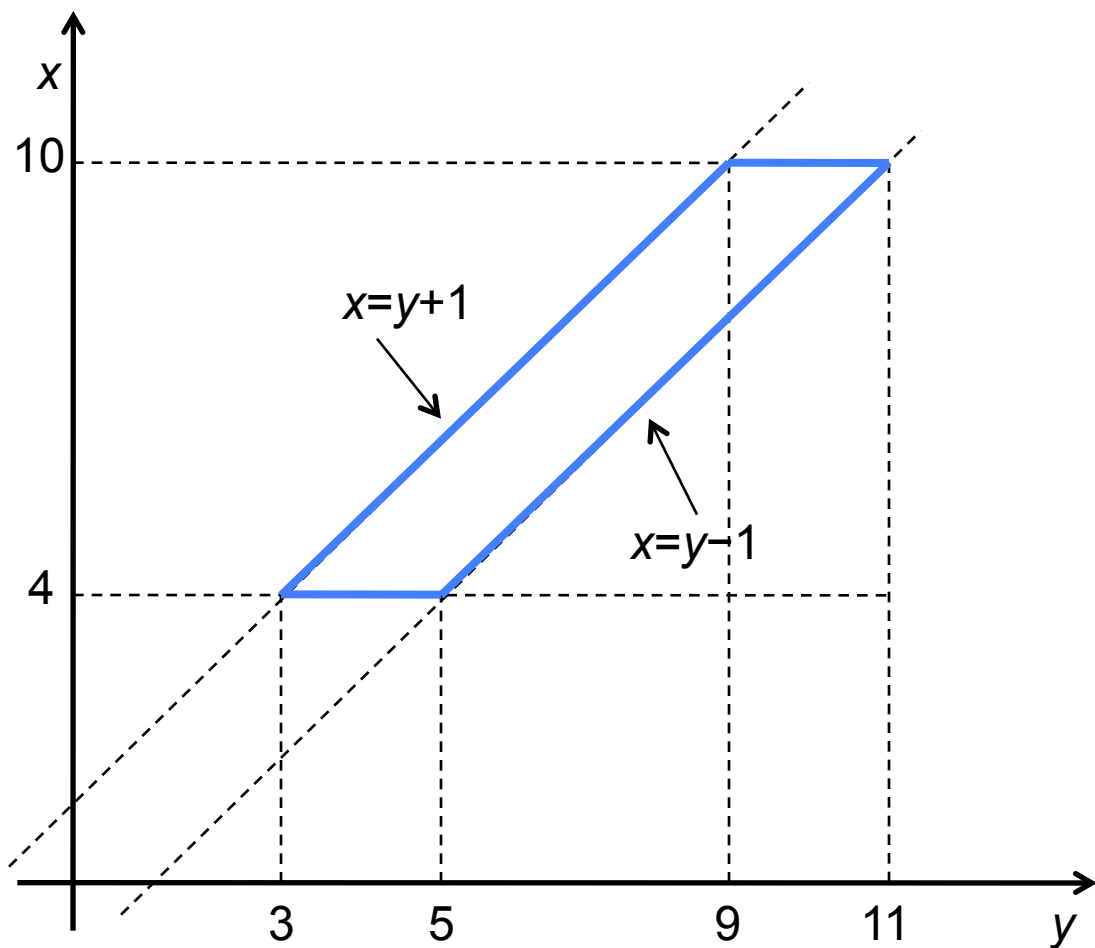
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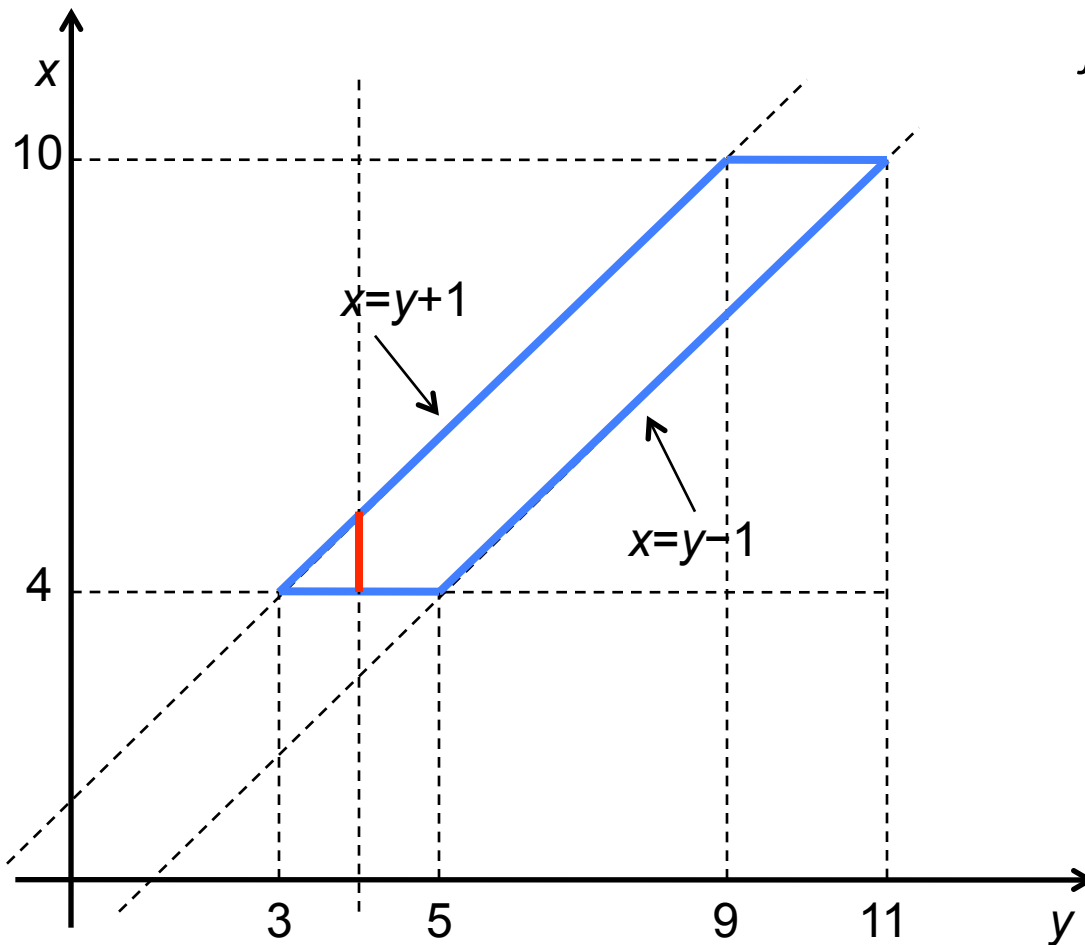


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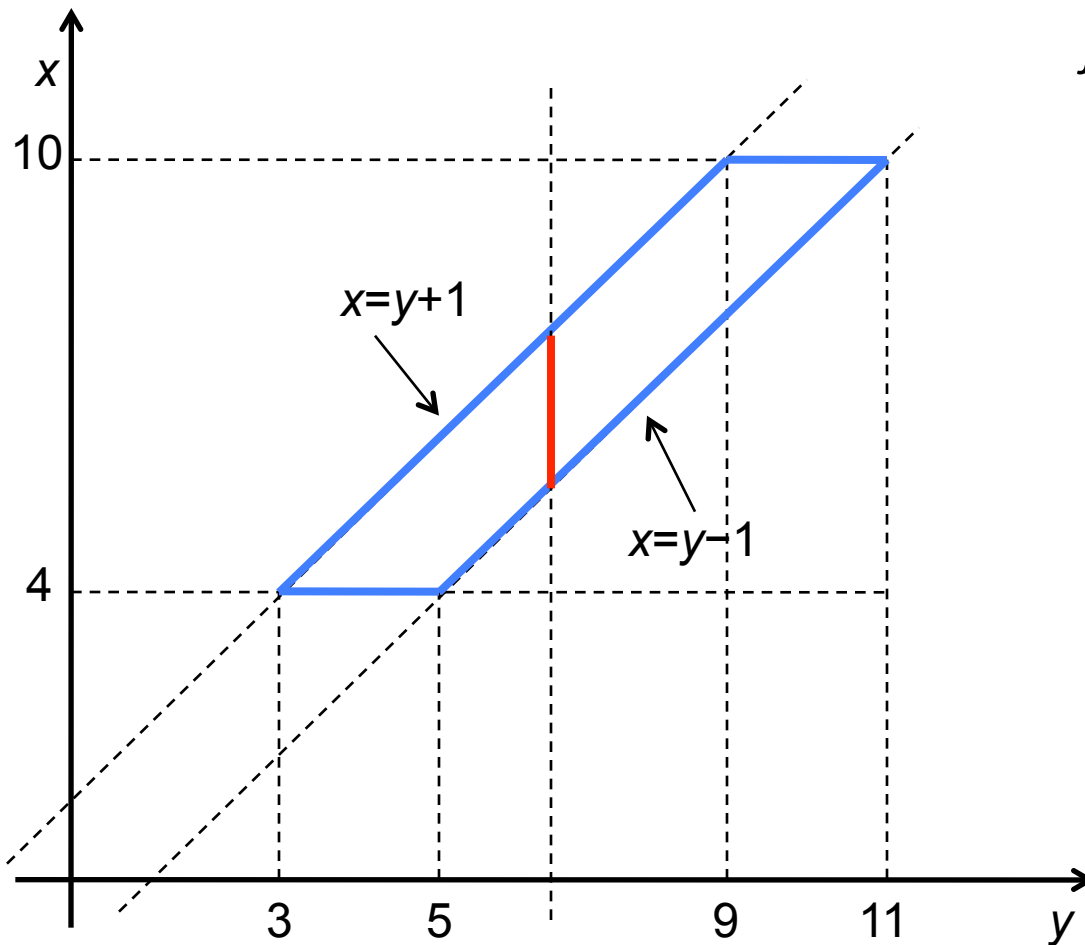


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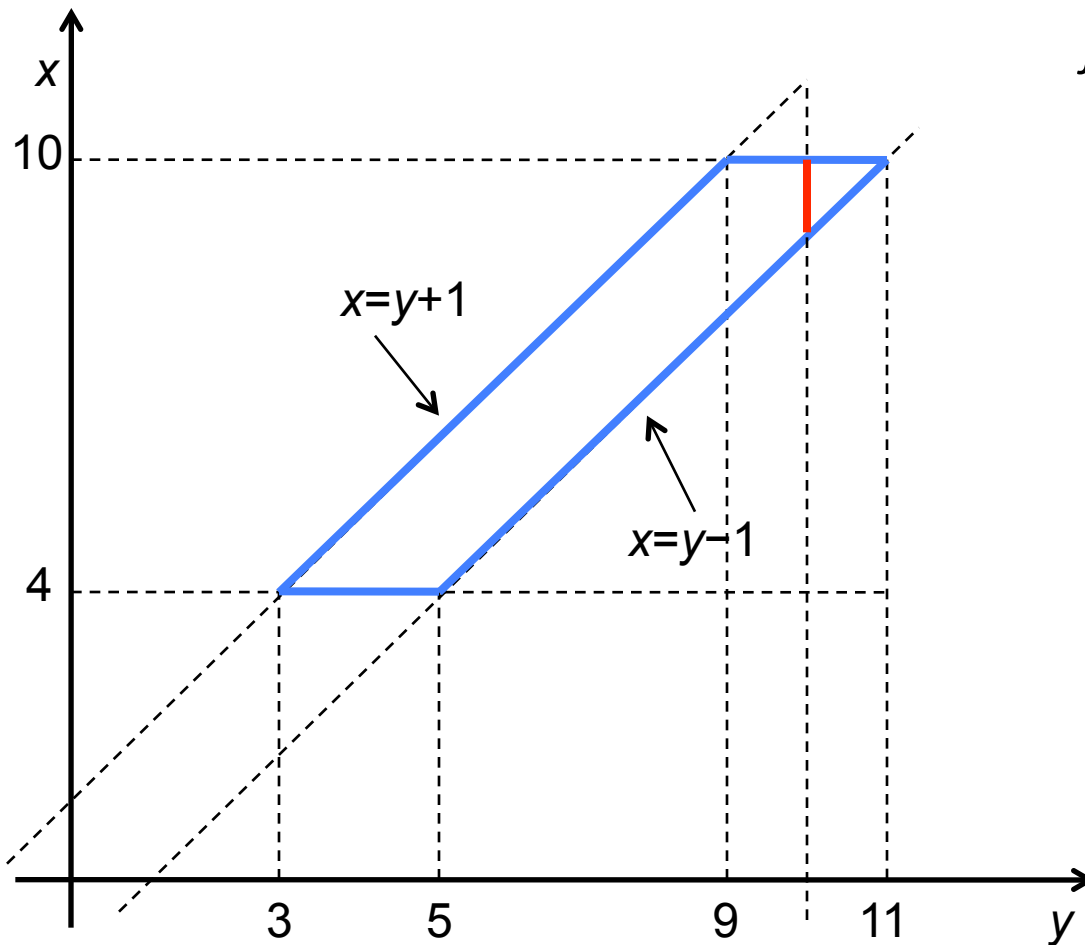


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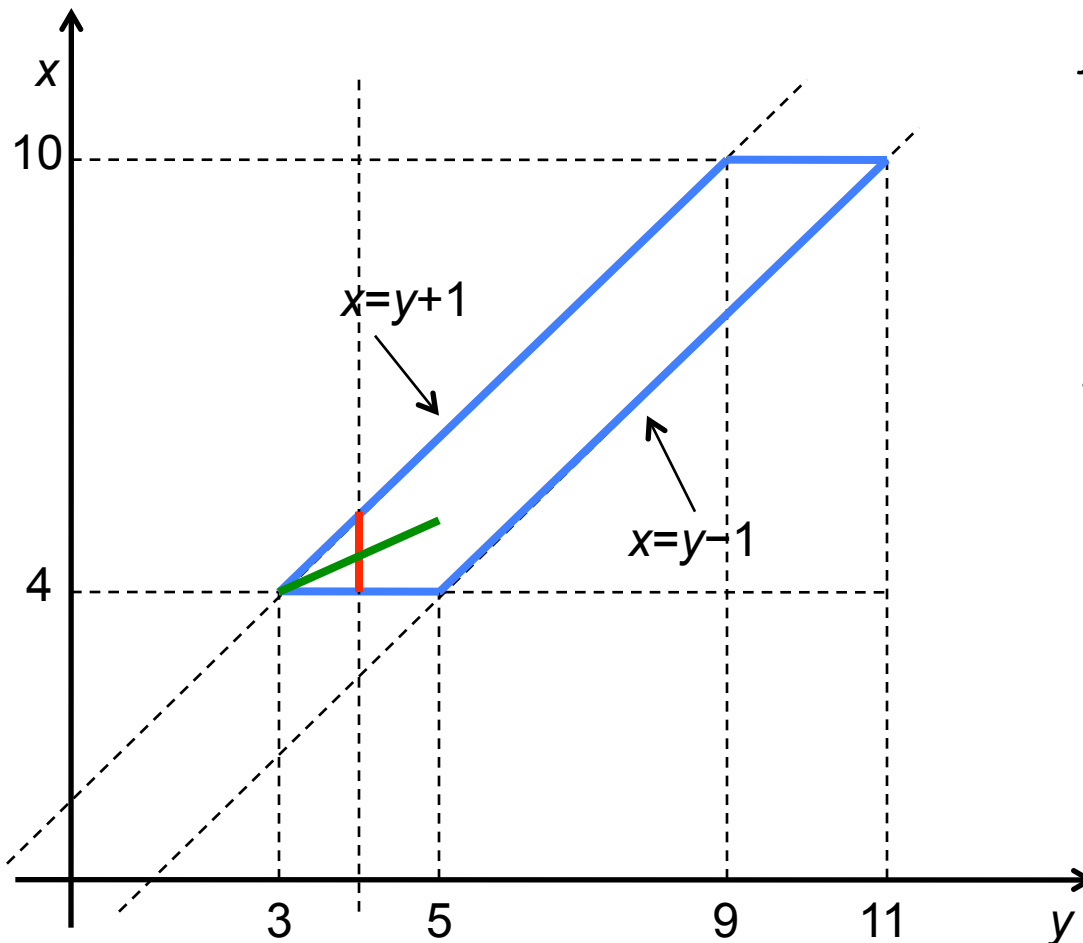
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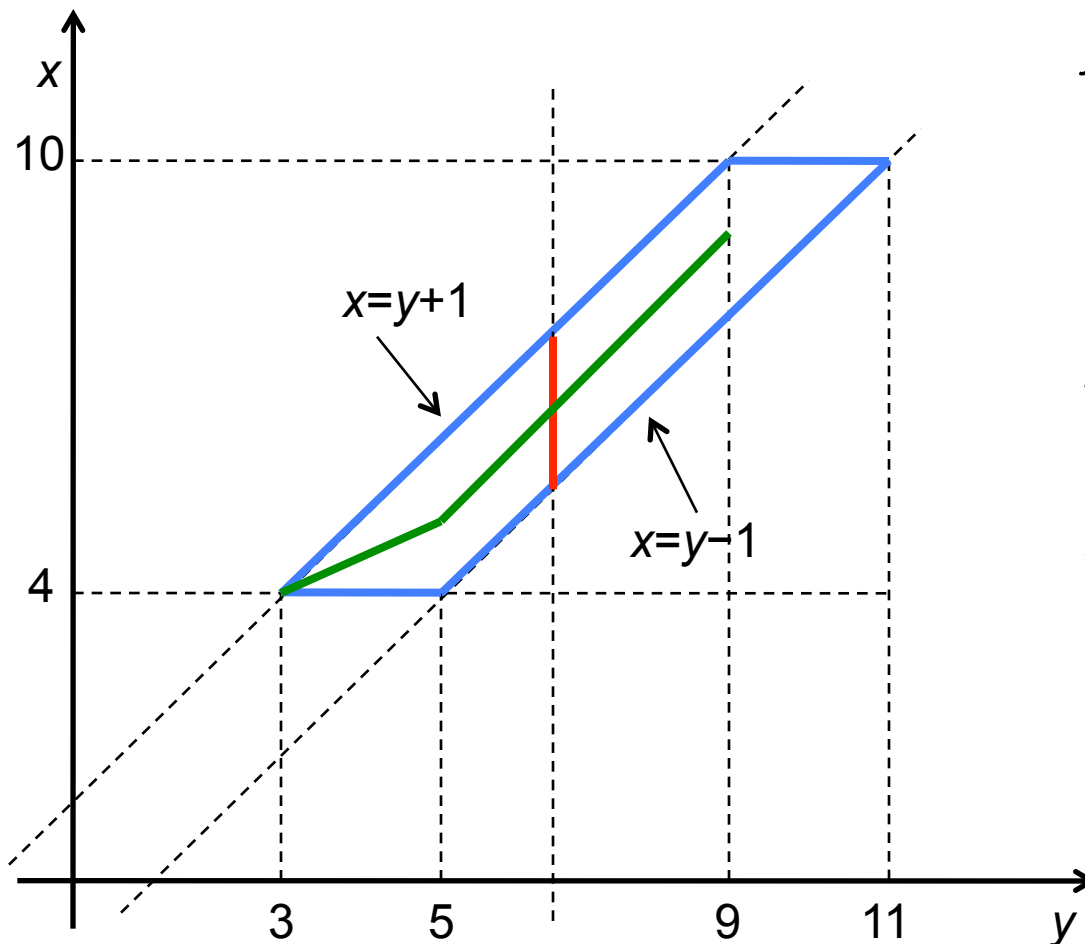
Therefore, $E[X|Y=y] = (y+5)/2$ for $3 \leq y \leq 5$



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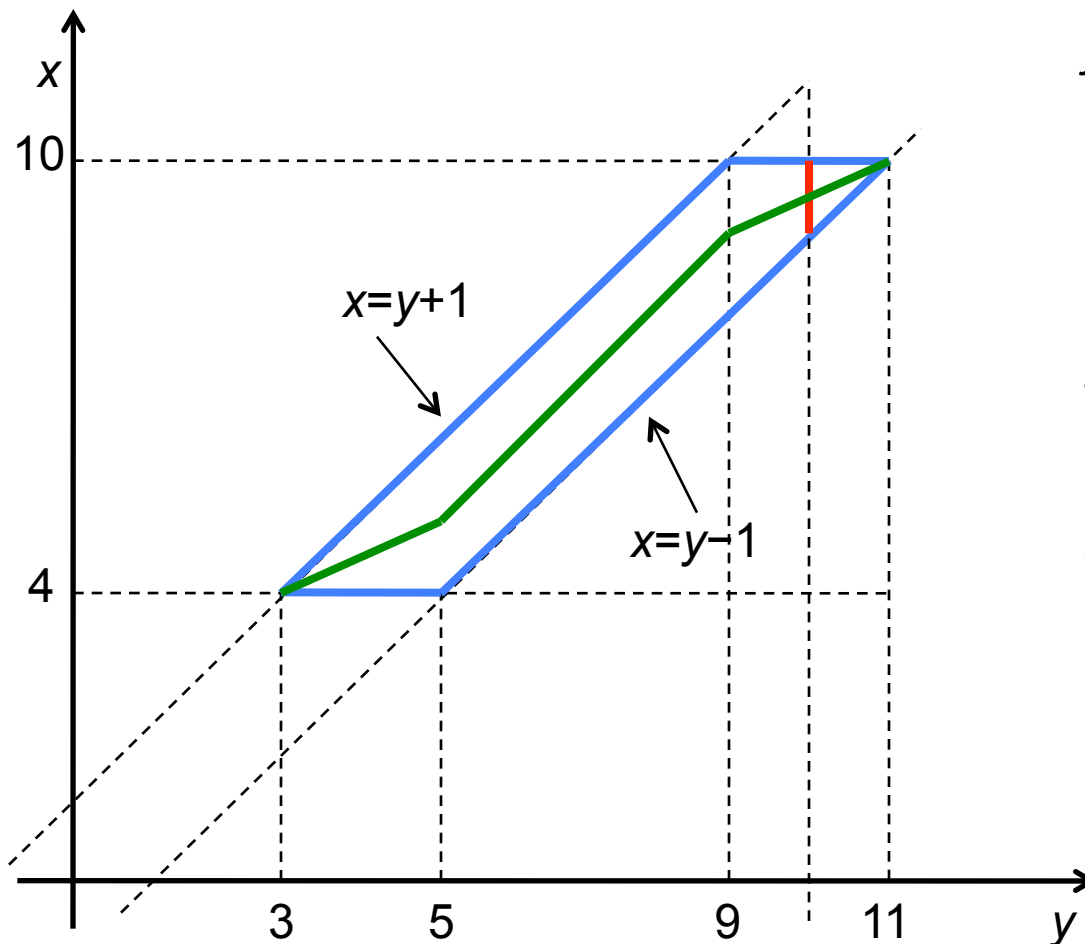
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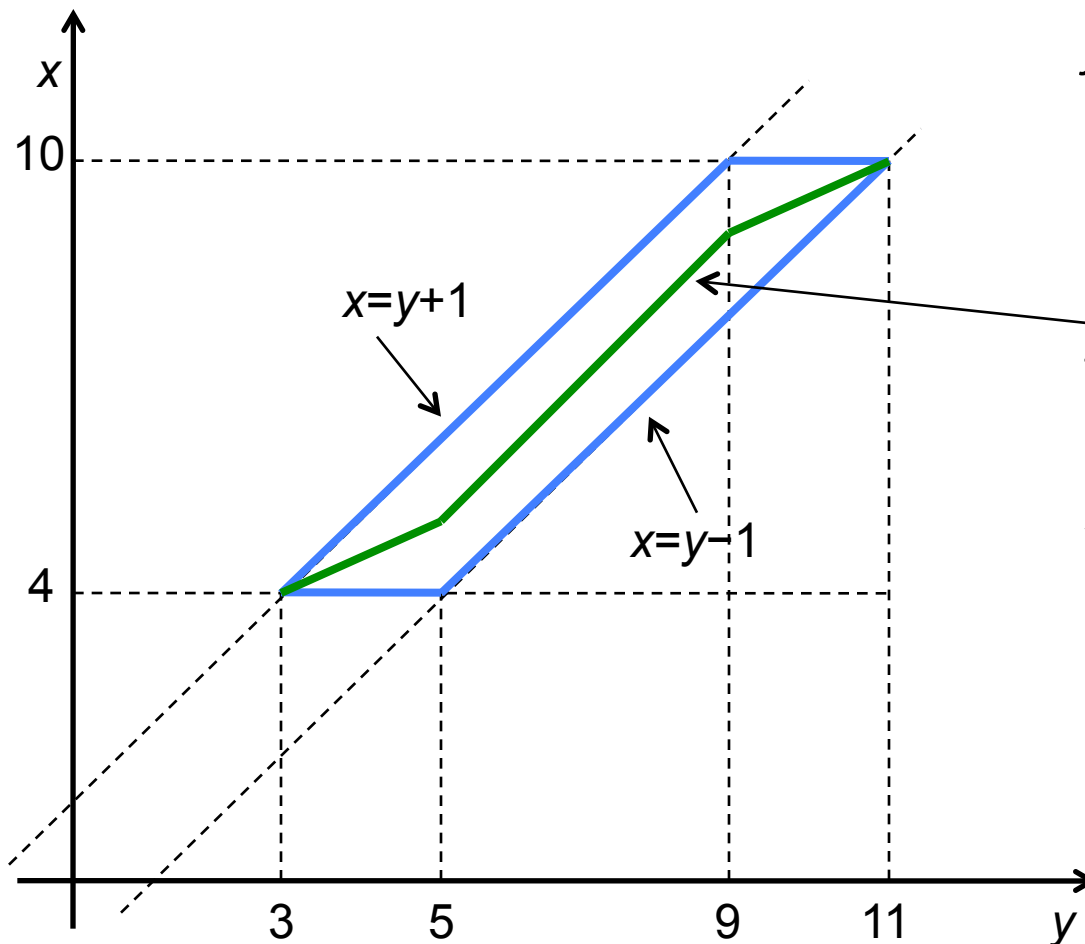
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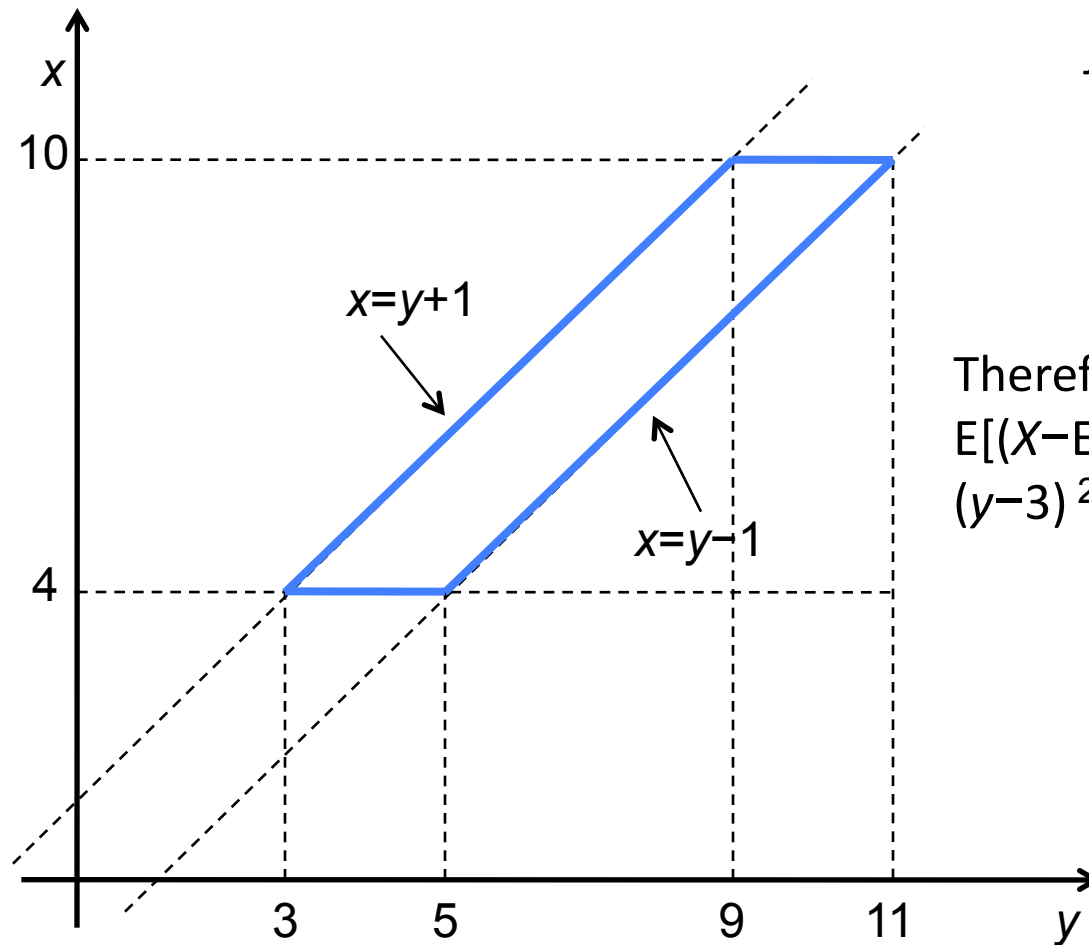
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Ex. 8.11: the conditional MSE

$$E[(X - E[X|Y=y])^2 | Y=y] = \text{var}(X|Y=y)$$

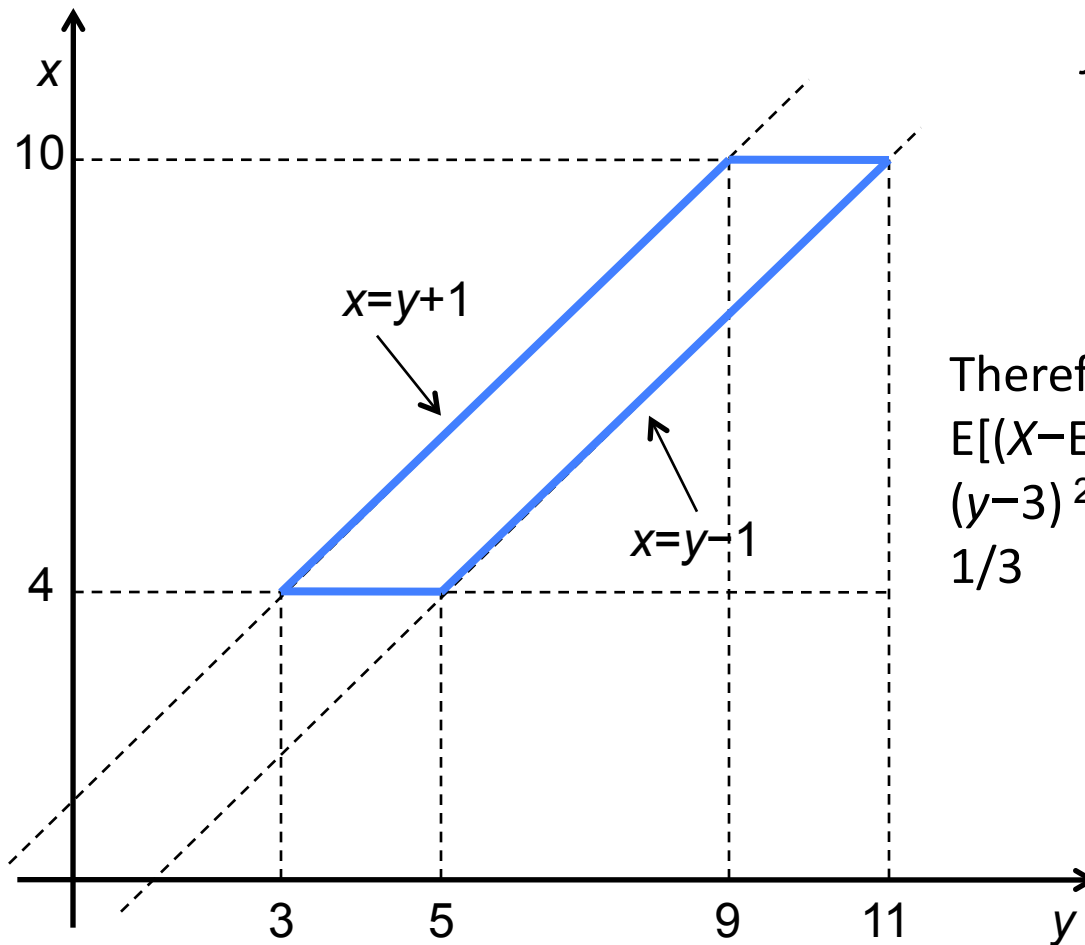
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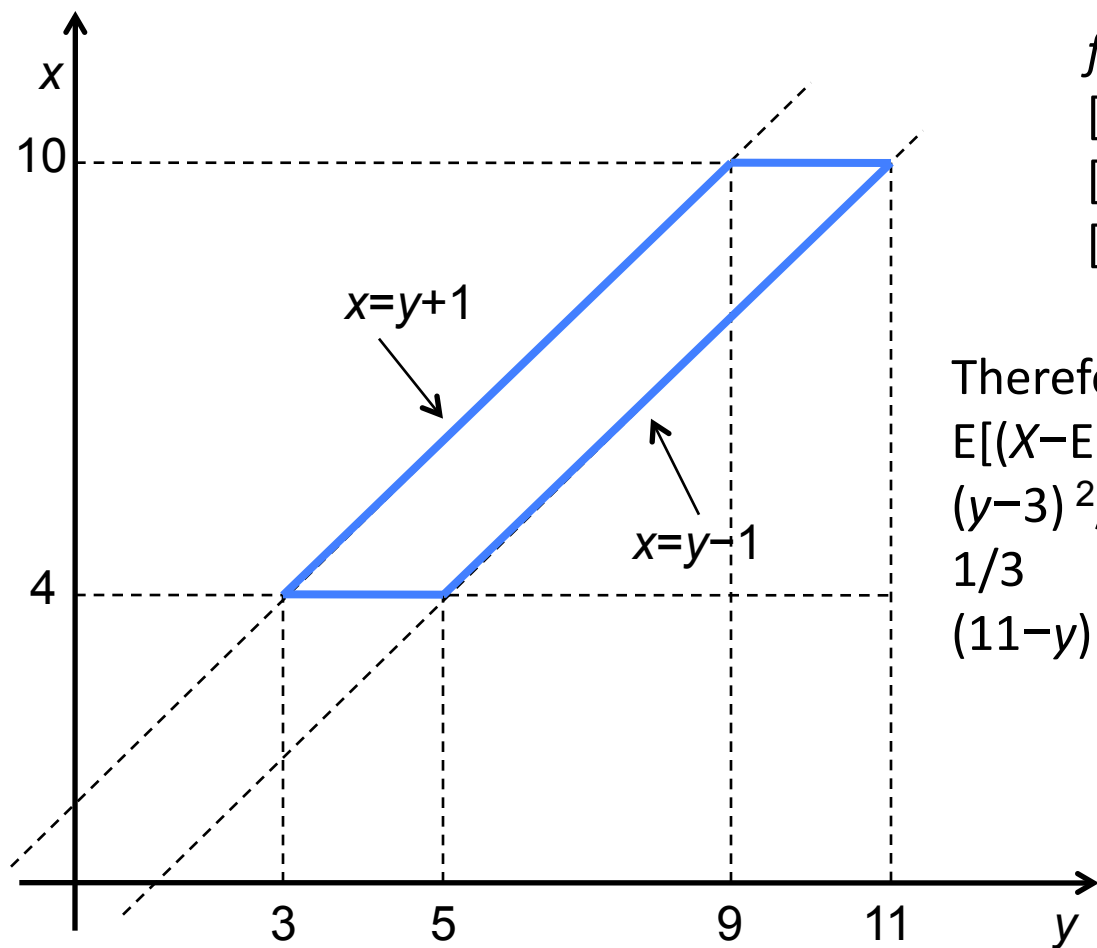
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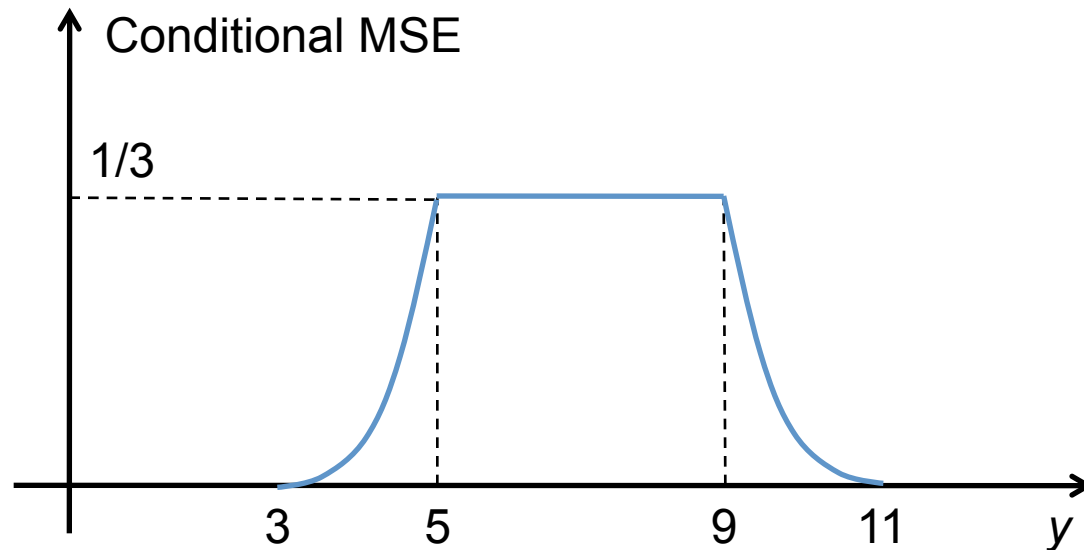
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Estimation error for LMS

We denote the LMS estimator of X based on Y by \hat{X}_{LMS} :

$$\hat{X}_{\text{LMS}} = E[X | Y]$$

The associated estimation error is denoted by \tilde{X}_{LMS} and is defined as:

$$\tilde{X}_{\text{LMS}} = \hat{X}_{\text{LMS}} - X = E[X | Y] - X$$

Properties of the estimation error for LMS

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Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned} \text{var}(X) &= \text{var}(\hat{X}_{\text{LMS}} - (\hat{X}_{\text{LMS}} - X)) = \text{var}(\hat{X}_{\text{LMS}} - \tilde{X}_{\text{LMS}}) = \text{var}(\hat{X}_{\text{LMS}}) + \text{var}(-\tilde{X}_{\text{LMS}}) \\ &= \text{var}(\hat{X}_{\text{LMS}}) + \text{var}(\tilde{X}_{\text{LMS}}) \end{aligned}$$