

Intuition about Bayes Risk

- All \mathcal{P}_θ are the same \implies Can't say anything about θ from x
 - Need to capture how different \mathcal{P}_θ are
- One way to capture:

$$I(\mathcal{P}, w) = \inf_Q E_{\theta \sim w} [d_{\text{KL}}(\mathcal{P}_\theta \parallel Q)]$$

- If all \mathcal{P}_θ are “close” to some Q , then $I(\mathcal{P}, w)$ is “small”

Bayes Risk Lower Bounds

- Decision rule $\mathfrak{d} : x \mapsto a$ and loss function $L : \theta \times a \mapsto \{0, 1\}$
 - Decision rule sees x and outputs some action a
 - Loss function evaluates how good a is on θ
- Risk = $E_{\theta \sim w}[E_{x \sim \mathcal{P}_\theta} L(\theta, \mathfrak{d}(x))]$
- Bayes risk is the minimum possible risk
- Null-risk is $\inf_a E_{\theta \sim w}[L(\theta, a)]$