

Today:

- + signal detect. thry
- + decoding from mult. neurons
- + info. thry

Review of Bayes' Law:

$$P(\vec{r}, \vec{s}) = P(\vec{r} | \vec{s}) P(\vec{s}) = P(\vec{s} | \vec{r}) P(\vec{r})$$

posterior \rightarrow $P(\vec{s} | \vec{r}) = \frac{P(\vec{r} | \vec{s}) P(\vec{s})}{P(\vec{r})}$

likelihood \rightarrow $P(\vec{r} | \vec{s})$

joint \rightarrow $P(\vec{r}, \vec{s})$

conditional \rightarrow $P(\vec{s} | \vec{r})$

marginal \rightarrow $P(\vec{r})$

prior \rightarrow $P(\vec{s})$

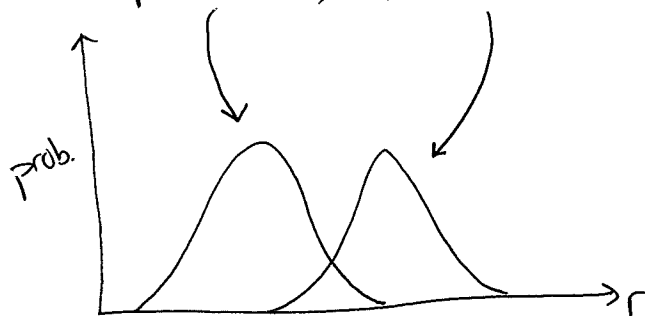
Signal Detection Theory

Goal: given a ~~neural response~~ neural response to a binary stim, determine if stim is 0 or 1

E.g., $s = 0$ no tiger
 $= 1$ tiger

$r \in [0, r_{\max}]$ firing rate

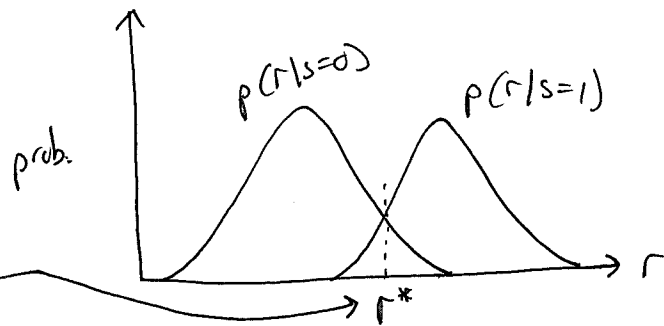
Relevant quantities: prior: $p(s=0), p(s=1) = 1 - p(s=0)$
 likelihood: $p(r | s=0), p(r | s=1)$



Specific goal: figure out rule for determining if $s=0$ or 1 given r , i.e., choose threshold r^* st. if $r > r^*$ guess 1
 if $r < r^*$ guess 0

①

Simplest s/h:



Max. likelihood (ML): choose 1 when $p(r|s=1) > p(r|s=0)$

0 otherwise $\rightarrow r^*$ is s/h to $p(r|s=1) = p(r|s=0)$

false pos. rate = ~~_____~~

$$p(s=0) p(\text{choose } 1 | s=0) = p(s=0) p(r > r^* | s=0)$$

$$= p(s=0) \int_{r^*}^{\infty} p(r|s=0) dr$$

$$\text{false neg. rate} = p(s=1) p(\text{choose } 0 | s=1) = p(s=1) p(r < r^* | s=1)$$

$$= p(s=1) \int_{-\infty}^{r^*} p(r|s=1) dr$$

problem: consider when ~~_____~~ $r = r^* \rightarrow$ most of the time $s=0$ (not true)

ML neglects prior

better s/h: choose 1 when $p(s=1|r) > p(s=0|r)$

Maximum a posteriori (MAP) i.e., $\frac{p(s=1)p(r|s=1)}{p(r)} > \frac{p(s=0)p(r|s=0)}{p(r)}$

this incorporates prior probability \rightarrow ~~_____~~ if $p(s=1)$ very small,

then $p(r|s=1)$ must be very large (rel. to $p(r|s=0)$) to choose 1

$\rightarrow r^*$ is s/h to:

$$p(s=1)p(r|s=1) = p(s=0)p(r|s=0)$$

i.e., $\frac{p(r|s=1)}{p(r|s=0)} = \frac{p(s=0)}{p(s=1)}$

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alternative $s|t$: consider cost of guessing incorrectly

$C(\text{choose } 1, s=0) \leftarrow$ guess tiger but no tiger (low cost)

$C(\text{choose } 0, s=1) \leftarrow$ guess no tiger but tiger! (high cost)

in this case:

given r , choose 1 when $E_s[C(\text{choose } 1, s)|r] < E_s[C(\text{choose } 0, s)|r]$
0 otherwise

$$E_s[C(\text{choose } 1, s)|r] = p(s=0|r)C(\text{choose } 1|s=0) + p(s=1|r)C(\text{choose } 1|s=1)$$

$$= p(s=0|r)C(\text{choose } 1|s=0)$$

$$= \frac{p(s=0)p(r|s=0)}{p(r)}C(\text{choose } 1|s=0)$$

$$E_s[C(\text{choose } 0, s)|r] = \frac{p(s=1)p(r|s=1)}{p(r)}C(\text{choose } 0|s=1)$$

0 (assuming no cost for correct guess)

i.e., choose 1 when $\frac{p(s=0)p(r|s=0)}{p(r)}C(\text{choose } 1|s=0)$

$$< \frac{p(s=1)p(r|s=1)}{p(r)}C(\text{choose } 0|s=1)$$

if $C(\text{choose } 0|s=1)$ very high, ~~more likely~~ more likely to choose 1
(and avoid tiger)

summary: 3 main things to consider:
likelihood, prior, cost

Decoding from multiple neurons

More general case: decode continuous stim from multiple neurons

→ same general idea:

- $p(\vec{s})$ prior
- $p(\vec{r}|\vec{s})$ likelihood
- $p(\vec{s}|\vec{r})$ ~~posterior~~ posterior

→
$$= \frac{p(\vec{r}|\vec{s})p(\vec{s})}{p(\vec{r})}$$

Max likelihood:

guess $\vec{s}^* = \operatorname{argmax}_{\vec{s}} p(\vec{r}|\vec{s})$

Max a posteriori:

guess $\vec{s}^* = \operatorname{argmax}_{\vec{s}} p(\vec{s}|\vec{r}) = \operatorname{argmax}_{\vec{s}} \frac{p(\vec{r}|\vec{s})p(\vec{s})}{p(\vec{r})}$

$$= \operatorname{argmax}_{\vec{s}} p(\vec{r}|\vec{s})p(\vec{s})$$

Example: see slides 1-6

Slide 1 notes: "Gaussian" refers only to shape (this is tuning curve, not distribution)

$f_a(s)$ gives mean firing rate
as function of stim.

Slide 3 notes: need $p(\vec{r}|\vec{s})$ for both ML + MAP

mean #spikes in $T = f_a(s)T$
observed #spks in $T = r_a T$

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slide 4 notes: $\arg\max_s p(\vec{r}|s) = \arg\max \ln(p(\vec{r}|s))$

~~$\ln(p(\vec{r}|s))$~~

$$\begin{aligned} \ln(p(\vec{r}|s)) &= \ln\left(\prod_{a=1}^N \frac{(f_a(s)T)^{r_a T}}{(r_a T)!} \exp(-f_a(s)T)\right) \\ &= \sum_{a=1}^N \ln((f_a(s)T)^{r_a T}) - \ln((r_a T)!) - f_a(s)T \\ &= \sum_{a=1}^N r_a T \ln(f_a(s)T) - \underbrace{\sum_{a=1}^N \ln((r_a T)!)}_{\text{no dep. on } s} - \underbrace{\sum_{a=1}^N f_a(s)T}_{\text{const.}} \\ &= \sum_{a=1}^N r_a T \ln(f_a(s)T) + C \\ &\quad \swarrow \text{const. w.r.t } s \end{aligned}$$

to find max likelihood:

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= \frac{d}{ds} \ln(p(\vec{r}|s)) = \sum_{a=1}^N r_a T \frac{d}{ds} \ln(f_a(s)T) \\ &= \sum_{a=1}^N r_a T \frac{\frac{d}{ds} f_a(s)T}{f_a(s)T} \longrightarrow \frac{d}{ds} f_a(s) = r_{\max} e^{\frac{-1}{2\sigma_a^2}(s-s_a)^2} \times \\ &\quad \left(\frac{-1}{\sigma_a^2} (s-s_a)\right) \\ &= -\frac{(s-s_a)}{\sigma_a^2} f_a(s) \\ &= -\sum_{a=1}^N r_a T \frac{(s-s_a)}{\sigma_a^2} \\ &\quad \longrightarrow s \sum_{a=1}^N \frac{r_a T}{\sigma_a^2} = \sum_{a=1}^N \frac{s_a r_a T}{\sigma_a^2} \rightarrow s^* = \frac{\sum_{a=1}^N s_a r_a / \sigma_a^2}{\sum_{a=1}^N r_a / \sigma_a^2} \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{MAP: } s^* = \underset{s}{\operatorname{argmax}} \ln(p(s|\vec{r}))$$

$$\ln(p(s|\vec{r})) = \cancel{\ln(p(s|\vec{r}))} \ln(p(s|\vec{r}))$$

$$\ln(p(\vec{r}|s)p(s)/p(\vec{r})) = \ln(p(\vec{r}|s)) + \ln(p(s)) - \ln(p(\vec{r}))$$

$$= \sum_{a=1}^N r_a^T \ln(f_a(s)^T) + C + \ln p(s) + D$$

can solve if $p(s)$ is Gaussian w/ mean s_{prior} + var σ_{prior}^2

(see slide 5 for $s|N$)

* often can't find analytical $s|N$ so do numerical optimization

slide 5 notes: ML + MAP are equivalent when prior is constant

can also use Bayesian inference:

instead of $s^* = \underset{s}{\operatorname{argmax}} p(s|\vec{r})$

$$\text{use } s^* = \int ds p(s|\vec{r}) s = E_{p(s|\vec{r})}[s]$$

↳ minimizes least squares loss

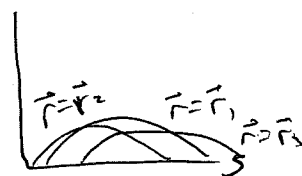
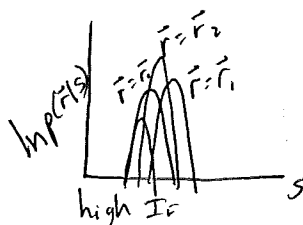
usually hard to compute

$$\downarrow$$

$$E_s [(s - s^*)^2 | \vec{r}]$$

slide 7 notes: averages are over $\vec{r}|s$

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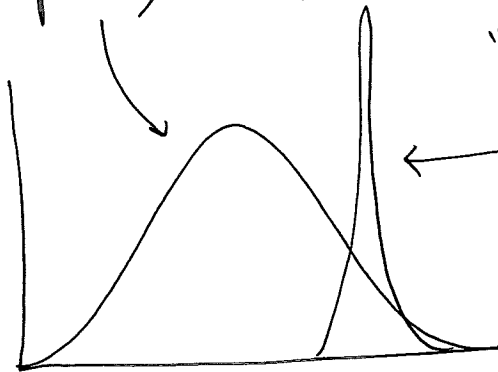
Information Theory

before: talked about estimating stim. from response

now: how much does response tell about stim

↳ info theory provides more general way of quantifying this

Q: given prior $p(x)$, how much ~~is~~ "narrower" is posterior $p(x|y=y)$?
or
"certain"



Entropy quantifies "uncertainty" of distribution

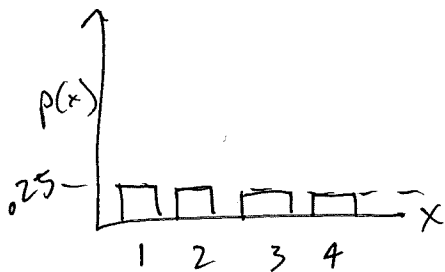
(more general than variance + has nice math. properties)

$$H(x) = - \sum_x p(x) \log(x)$$

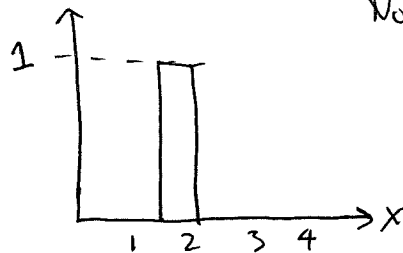
see "A mathematical theory of communication"

Shannon 1948

E.g.



$$H(x) = -4 \times .25 \times \log .25 \\ = \log 4$$



$$H(x) = -1 \times \log 1 = 0$$

Note: entropy is f^n of
entire distribution

(note: $0 \log 0 \approx 0$)

Mutual Info: $MI(R, S) = H[S] - E_r[H[S|R=r]] = H[R] - E_s[H[R|S=s]]$

Example:

$S = 0$ or 1 , $p(S=0) = .9$, $p(S=1) = .1$
(no tiger) (tiger)

$R = 0$ or 1 , $p(R=0) = .8$, $p(R=1) = .2$
(no spike) (spike)

$\underbrace{\hspace{1cm}}_{\text{response entropy}} \quad \underbrace{\hspace{1cm}}_{\text{noise entropy}}$

$p(R=1|S=0) = .1$, $p(R=1|S=1) = .9$
 $p(R=0|S=0) = .9$, $p(R=0|S=1) = .1$
no tiger tiger

How much info does spike/nonspike contain about S ?

$$H[R] = - \sum_r p(r) \log p(r) = - [.8 \log .8 + .2 \log .2] \approx .5$$

$$E_s[H[R|S=s]] = p(S=0)H[R|S=0] + p(S=1)H[R|S=1]$$

~~$$= .9 [-(.1 \log .1 + .9 \log .9)]$$~~

$$= .9 [- (p(R=0|S=0) \log p(R=0|S=0) + p(R=1|S=0) \log p(R=1|S=0))] \\ + .1 [- (p(R=0|S=1) \log p(R=0|S=1) + p(R=1|S=1) \log p(R=1|S=1))]$$

$$= .9 [.9 \log .9 + .1 \log .1] - .1 [.1 \log .1 + .9 \log .9]$$

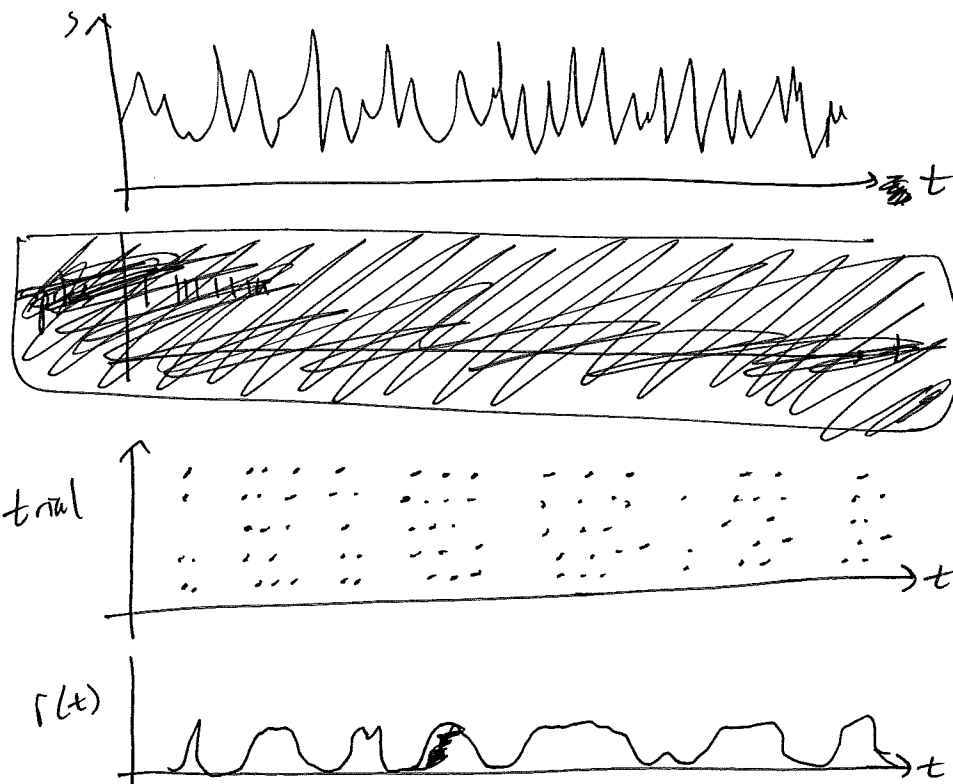
$$= -.9 \log .9 + .1 \log .1 \approx .325$$

$$MI(R, S) = H[R] - E_s[H[R|S=s]] \approx .5 - .325 = .175 \text{ bits}$$

What about arbitrary stimulus?

see slides 11-12

Context:



$$MI(R, S) = H(R) - E_{\vec{s}}[H(R|S=\vec{s})]$$

$$= -p \log p - (1-p) \log(1-p)$$

$$\rightarrow = \sum_{\vec{s}} p(\vec{s}) H(R|S=\vec{s}) \quad (\text{hard to calculate!})$$

$$\text{avg. rate} = \bar{r}$$

$$p(r=1) = \bar{r} \Delta t$$

$$p(r=0) = 1 - \bar{r} \Delta t$$

$$p(r=1|s) = r(t) \Delta t = p(t)$$

$$p(r=0|s) = 1 - r(t) \Delta t = 1 - p(t)$$

But... law of large #s says: $E_{\vec{s}}[H(R|S=\vec{s})] \approx \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n H(R|S=\vec{s}_i)$

where \vec{s}_i are sampled from $p(\vec{s})$

But $\vec{s}(t)$ are samples from $p(\vec{s})$, so $\rightarrow \frac{1}{n_t} \sum_{t=1}^{n_t} H(R|S=\vec{s}(t))$

$$= \frac{1}{n_t} \sum_{t=1}^{n_t} -p(r=0|\vec{s}(t)) \log p(r=0|\vec{s}(t)) - p(r=1|\vec{s}(t)) \log p(r=1|\vec{s}(t))$$

$$= \frac{1}{n_t} \sum_{t=1}^{n_t} -p(t) \log p(t) - (1-p(t)) \log(1-p(t)) \rightarrow \frac{1}{T} \int_0^T dt [p(t) \log p(t) + (1-p(t)) \log(1-p(t))]$$

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$$\therefore MI(R, S) = H(R) - E_{\vec{S}}[H(R|S=\vec{S})]$$

$$= -p \log p - (1-p) \log (1-p)$$

$$+ \frac{1}{T} \int_0^T dt [p(t) \log p(t) + (1-p(t)) \log (1-p(t))]$$

(note: $\bar{r} \Delta t$ is expected spikes in 1 time bin)

Important: doesn't require explicit reference to stimulus, just assumes that $\vec{S}(t)$ was sampled from its prior distribution $p(\vec{S})$

↓
more math

↓

$$MI(R, S) \approx \frac{1}{T} \int_0^T dt \frac{r(t)}{\bar{r}} \log \frac{r(t)}{\bar{r}}$$

slide 18 notes: dim reduction via STA, covariance analysis, etc.

slide 23 notes: spike trains might contain more info than single spikes treated independently

slide 18 notes: replace $\int_0^T dt$ w/ $\int d^k s P(s_1, s_2, \dots)$

slide 24 notes:

E.g., $\vec{s}(t_1)$

length-3 words:

$\vec{s}(t_2)$

010	trial 1
010	trial 2
011	trial 3
010	trial 4
001	trial 5
011	trial 6

000	trial 1
100	trial 2
000	:
100	:
000	:
000	trial 6

For each stim $s(t)$
get distr. of words
 $p(w|s(t))$

To calc. $MI(w, s) = H[w] - E_{\vec{s}}[H(w|s=\vec{s})]$

need $p(w)$ — estimate from all words of given length

need $p(w|\vec{s}(t))$ for all t — estimate across trials at time t

use law of large numbers again to go from

$$E_{\vec{s}}[H(w|s=\vec{s})] = \sum_{\vec{s}} p(\vec{s}) H(w|s=\vec{s}) \approx \frac{1}{N_t} \sum_t H(w|s=\vec{s}(t))$$

But as length of words gets longer, harder to estimate ~~$p(w|\vec{s}(t))$~~
 $p(w|\vec{s}(t))$.

~~length~~ ~~MI(w,s)~~

Therefore, extrapolate:

length	1	2	3	4	...	10
MI(w,s)	85	84	84	83	...	80...