

#### MITx: 6.041x Introduction to Probability - The Science of Uncertainty

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### Problem 3: Hypothesis test with a continuous observation

(5/5 points)

Let  $\Theta$  be a Bernoulli random variable that indicates which one of two hypotheses is true, and let  $\mathbf{P}(\Theta=1)=p$ . Under the hypothesis  $\Theta=0$ , the random variable X is uniformly distributed over the interval [0,1]. Under the alternative hypothesis  $\Theta=1$ , the PDF of X is given by

$$f_{X\mid\Theta}(x\mid 1) = egin{cases} 2x, & ext{if } 0 \leq x \leq 1, \ 0, & ext{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Consider the MAP rule for deciding between the two hypotheses, given that X=x.

1. Suppose for this part of the problem that p=3/5. The MAP rule can choose in favor of the hypothesis  $\Theta=1$  if and only if  $x\geq c_1$ . Find the value of  $c_1$ .

2. Assume now that p is general such that  $0 \le p \le 1$ . It turns out that there exists a constant c such that the MAP rule always decides in favor of the hypothesis  $\Theta = 0$  if and only if p < c. Find c.

on random variables

**▼** Unit 7: Bayesian inference

Unit overview

# Lec. 14: Introduction to Bayesian inference

Exercises 14 due Apr 06, 2016 at 23:59 UTC

### Lec. 15: Linear models with normal noise

Exercises 15 due Apr 06, 2016 at 23:59 UTC

#### **Problem Set 7a**

Problem Set 7a due Apr 06, 2016 at 23:59 UTC

## Lec. 16: Least mean squares (LMS) estimation

Exercises 16 due Apr 13, 2016 at 23:59 UTC

## Lec. 17: Linear least mean squares (LLMS) estimation

Exercises 17 due Apr 13, 2016 at 23:59 UTC

#### Problem Set 7b

Problem Set 7b due Apr 13, 2016 at 23:59 UTC

Solved problems

$$c = \boxed{1/3}$$

**✓ Answer:** 0.33333

3. For this part of the problem, assume again that p=3/5. Find the conditional probability of error for the MAP decision rule given that the hypothesis  $\Theta=0$  is true.

4. Find the probability of error associated with the MAP rule as a function of p. Express your answer in terms of p using standard notation .

Answer:

1. If  $0 , we can choose in favor of the hypothesis <math>\Theta = 1$  if and only if

$$egin{array}{ll} f_{X\mid\Theta}(x\mid 1)p_{\Theta}(1) & \geq & f_{X\mid\Theta}(x\mid 0)p_{\Theta}(0), \ & 2x\cdot p & \geq & 1\cdot (1-p), \ & & & x & \geq & rac{1-p}{2p}. \end{array}$$

If p=3/5, the rule above corresponds to  $x\geq 1/3$ .

#### **Unit summary**

- ▶ Exam 2
- Unit 8: Limit theorems and classical statistics
- Unit 9: Bernoulli and Poisson processes
- Unit 10: Markov chains
- Exit Survey
- ▶ Final Exam

Problem 3 Vertical: Hypothesis test with a continuous observation | Problem Set 7a | 6.041x Courseware | edX

- 2. We will be forced to choose in favor of the hypothesis  $\Theta=0$  if the condition  $x\geq (1-p)/(2p)$  can never hold. Since  $x\in [0,1]$ , this will be the case if and only if the threshold (1-p)/(2p) exceeds 1, that is, 1-p>2p, or p<1/3.
- 3. If the hypothesis  $\Theta=0$  is true, an error occurs when we decide in favor of the hypothesis  $\Theta=1$ . For p=3/5, this corresponds to the event  $\{X\geq 1/3\}$ . Therefore,

$$\mathbf{P}( ext{error} \mid \Theta = 0) = \mathbf{P}(X \geq 1/3 \mid \Theta = 0) = \int_{1/3}^1 f_{X \mid \Theta}(x \mid 0) \, dx = \int_{1/3}^1 1 \, dx = rac{2}{3}.$$

4. Similar to the computation above, we find that for  $p \geq 1/3$ ,

$$egin{align} \mathbf{P}(\mathrm{error}\mid\Theta=0) &= \mathbf{P}\left(X\geq rac{1-p}{2p}\mid\Theta=0
ight) \ &= \int_{rac{1-p}{2p}}^1 f_{X\mid\Theta}(x\mid0)\,dx \ &= \int_{rac{1-p}{2p}}^1 1\,dx \ &= 1 - rac{1-p}{2p} \ &= rac{3p-1}{2p}, \end{aligned}$$

$$egin{align} \mathbf{P}(\mathrm{error}\mid\Theta=1) &= \mathbf{P}\left(X < rac{1-p}{2p}\mid\Theta=1
ight) \ &= \int_0^{rac{1-p}{2p}} f_{X\mid\Theta}(x\mid1)\,dx \ &= \int_0^{rac{1-p}{2p}} 2x\,dx \ &= \left(rac{1-p}{2p}
ight)^2. \end{aligned}$$

Using the total probability theorem, we find

$$egin{aligned} \mathbf{P}( ext{error} \mid \Theta = 0) p_{\Theta}(0) + \mathbf{P}( ext{error} \mid \Theta = 1) p_{\Theta}(1) \ &= rac{(3p-1)(1-p)}{2p} + rac{(1-p)^2}{4p} = rac{(1-p)(5p-1)}{4p}, ext{ for } p \geq 1/3. \end{aligned}$$

For p < 1/3, we will always decide  $\Theta = 0$ , and the resulting probability of error is

$$\mathbf{P}( ext{error}) = \mathbf{P}( ext{error} \mid \Theta = 0)p_{\Theta}(0) + \mathbf{P}( ext{error} \mid \Theta = 1)p_{\Theta}(1) = 0 \cdot (1-p) + 1 \cdot p = p.$$

For the boundary case of p=1/3, both formulas yield  $\mathbf{P}(\mathbf{error})=1/3$ .

You have used 1 of 2 submissions

### **DISCUSSION**

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