

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

■ Bookmarks

Unit 0: Overview

- EntranceSurvey
- Unit 1: Probability models and axioms
- Unit 2: Conditioning and independence
- Unit 3: Counting
- Unit 4: Discrete random variables
- ▶ Exam 1
- Unit 5: Continuous random variables
- Unit 6: Further topics on random variables
- ▼ Unit 7: Bayesian inference

Unit 7: Bayesian inference > Lec. 15: Linear models with normal noise > Lec 15 Linear models with normal noise vertical5

■ Bookmark

Exercise: The effect of a stronger signal

(1/1 point)

For the model $X=\Theta+W$, and under the usual independence and normality assumptions for Θ and W, the mean squared error of the LMS estimator is

$$rac{1}{(1/\sigma_0^2)+(1/\sigma_1^2)},$$

where σ_0^2 and σ_1^2 are the variances of Θ and W, respectively.

Suppose now that we change the observation model to $Y=3\Theta+W$. In some sense the "signal" Θ has a stronger presence, relative to the noise term W, and we should expect to obtain a smaller mean squared error. Suppose $\sigma_0^2=\sigma_1^2=1$. The mean squared error of the original model $X=\Theta+W$ is then 1/2. In contrast, the mean squared error of the new model $Y=3\Theta+W$ is

Hint: Do not solve the problem from scratch. Think of an alternative observation model in which you observe $Y' = \Theta + (W/3)$.

Answer:

Since Y' is just Y scaled by a factor of 1/3, Y' carries the same information as Y, so that $\mathbf{E}[\Theta \mid Y] = \mathbf{E}[\Theta \mid Y']$. Thus, the alternative observation model $Y' = \Theta + (W/3)$ will lead to the same estimates and will have the same mean squared error as the unscaled model $Y = 3\Theta + W$. In the equivalent Y' model, we have a noise variance of 1/9 and therefore the mean squared error is

$$\frac{1}{\frac{1}{1} + \frac{1}{1/9}} = \frac{1}{10}.$$

Unit overview

Lec. 14: Introduction to Bayesian inference Exercises 14 due Apr 06, 2016 at 23:59 UT

Lec. 15: Linear models with normal noise

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

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 UT

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

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

Problem Set 7b

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

Solved problems

Additional theoretical material

Unit summary

You have used 1 of 3 submissions

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