

## Estimation Theory.

Last time "detection theory": Unknown  $H \in \{H_0, H_1\}$ .  
Given  $Y$ , estimate  $H$ .

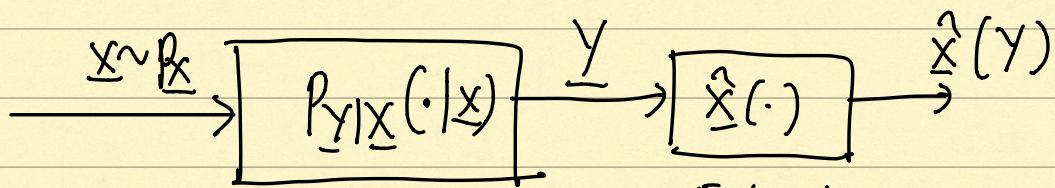
Modelled  $H$ : 1)  $H$  is random  $P(H=H_0) = p_0$   
(Bayesian)  $P(H=H_1) = p_1$

2) No priors on  $H$ ;  $H$  is non-random.  
 $P(\text{err} | H_0) \leq \varepsilon$  objective  $\min P(\text{err} | H_1)$ .

## Bayesian Parameter Estimation

Unknown continuous-valued  $\underline{x} \in \mathcal{X} \subset \mathbb{R}^d$

Observations  $\underline{y} \in \mathcal{Y}$



Estimator  
 $\hat{x}(\cdot) : \mathcal{Y} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d \text{ or } \mathcal{X}$ .

Bayesian case  $\underline{x}$  has a prior dist<sup>n</sup>  $P_x(\underline{x})$

belief about unknown  $\underline{x}$ .

Observation model / Likelihood  
 cts  $f_{y|x}(\cdot|\underline{x})$  or  $P_{y|x}(\cdot|\underline{x})$   
 discrete

Ex:  $Y$  is a noise-corrupted measurement of some  $f^2$  of  $X$

$$Y = h(X) + W. \quad W \sim f_w(w)$$

$$f_{Y|X}(y|x) = f_w(y - h(x))$$

$h(x) = Ax$  A matrix maps  $x \in \mathbb{R}^d$  to  $y$ .  
 $W \sim N(0, \Lambda)$

$$\begin{aligned} f_{Y|X}(y|x) &= f_w(y - Ax) \\ &= N(y; Ax, \Lambda) \end{aligned}$$

$$f_w(w) = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^{d/2} |\Lambda|^{1/2}} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2} w^\top \Lambda^{-1} w\right).$$

$$f_w(w) = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^{d/2} |\Lambda|^{1/2}} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2} (y - Ax)^\top \Lambda^{-1} (y - Ax)\right)$$

covariance matrix      mean      evaluation pt

$$N(y; Ax, \Lambda)$$

$X$  has prior dist<sup>2</sup>  $f_X(\cdot)$

$$\text{Joint dist}^2 \quad f_{X,Y}(x,y) = f_{Y|X}(y|x) f_X(x)$$

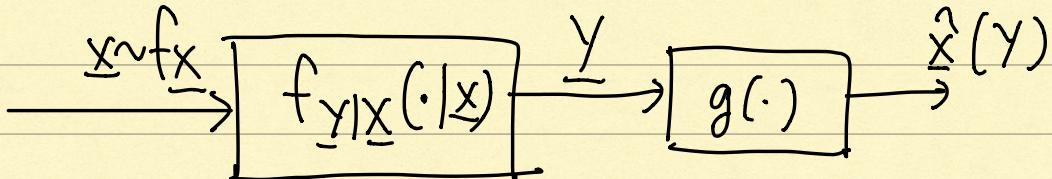
likelihood      prior

$$\text{Posterior dist}^2 \quad f_{X|Y}(x|y) = \frac{f_{Y|X}(y|x) f_X(x)}{\dots}$$

$$\int f_{Y|X}(y|x') f_X(x') dx.$$

Estimator: Cost function  $C: \mathcal{X} \times \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$   
 $C(x, \hat{x})$ : cost of estimating  $x$  as  $\hat{x}$ .

$$\hat{x}(\cdot) := \underset{g(\cdot)}{\operatorname{arg\,min}} \mathbb{E}[C(X, g(Y))] \quad - (*)$$



Rmk:  $\mathbb{E}$  is over  $(X, Y)$   $f_{X,Y}(x,y) f_Y(y)$

$$(*) \mathbb{E}[C(X, g(Y))] = \int_Y \int_X C(x, g(y)) f_{X,Y}(x,y) dx dy$$

$$= \int_Y \left[ \int_X C(x, g(y)) f_{X|Y}(x|y) dx \right] f_Y(y) dy$$

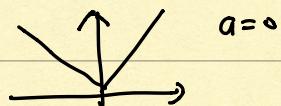
$$\mathbb{E}[C(X, g(Y)) | Y=y] \geq 0.$$

Because  $f_Y(y) \geq 0$ , we can perform a pointwise min to find  $\hat{x}(\cdot)$ .

$$\hat{x}(y) = \underset{a}{\operatorname{arg\,min}} \int_X C(x, a) f_{X|Y}(x|y) dx.$$

Minimum Absolute-Error Estimation (scalar)

$$C(a, \hat{a}) = |a - \hat{a}|$$



Thm: The MAE estimate is the median of  $f_{X|Y}(x|y)$ .

Pf:

$$\hat{x}_{MAE}(y) = \arg \min_{a \in \mathbb{R}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} |x-a| f_{X|Y}(x|y) dx$$

$$= \arg \min_a \left[ \int_{-\infty}^a (a-x) f_{X|Y}(x|y) dx + \int_a^{\infty} (x-a) f_{X|Y}(x|y) dx \right]$$

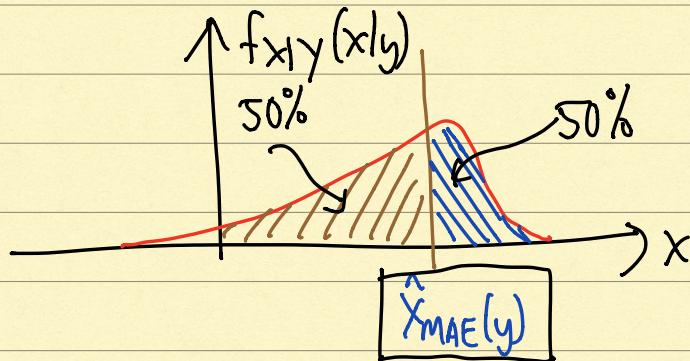
$$= \arg \min_a \left[ \int_{-\infty}^a (a-x) f_{X|Y}(x|y) dx + \int_a^{\infty} (x-a) f_{X|Y}(x|y) dx \right]$$

Differentiate  $\left[ \quad \right]$  using Leibniz's rule.

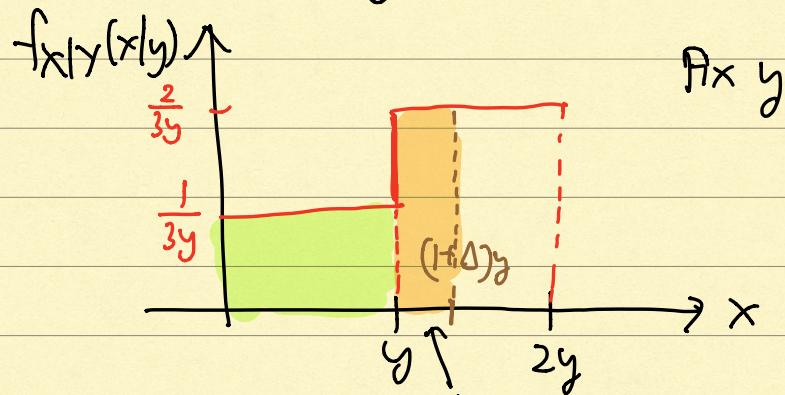
$$\frac{d}{da} \int_{b(a)}^{c(a)} g(a, x) dx$$

$$\frac{d}{da} [\dots] = \int_{-\infty}^{q^*} f_{X|Y}(x|y) dx - \int_{a^*}^{\infty} f_{X|Y}(x|y) da = 0$$

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\hat{x}_{MAE}(y)} f_{X|Y}(x|y) dx = \int_{\hat{x}_{MAE}(y)}^{\infty} f_{X|Y}(x|y) dx.$$



Ex 1:  $f_{X|Y}(x|y) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{3y} & 0 < x < y \\ \frac{2}{3y} & y < x < 2y \end{cases}$



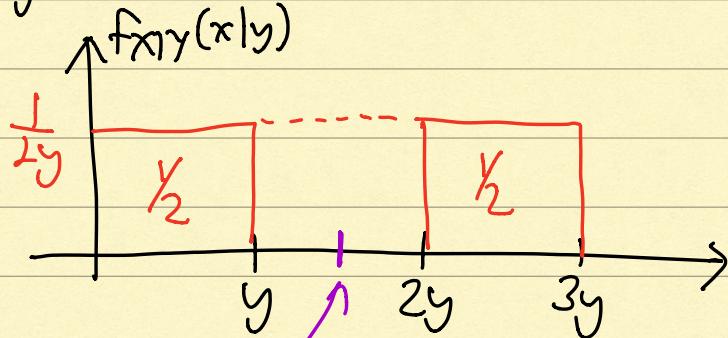
$$\hat{x}_{MAE}(y) = \text{median}(f_{X|Y}(\cdot|y)).$$

Let  $\Delta$  be s.t.  $\hat{x}_{MAE}(y) = (1 + \Delta)y$ .  $\Delta > 0$ .

$$\frac{1}{3y} \cdot y + \Delta y \cdot \frac{2}{3y} = \frac{1}{2} \Rightarrow \Delta = \frac{1}{4}.$$

$$\hat{x}_{MAE}(y) = \frac{5}{4}y. \text{ median is unique.}$$

Ex:  $y > 0$ .

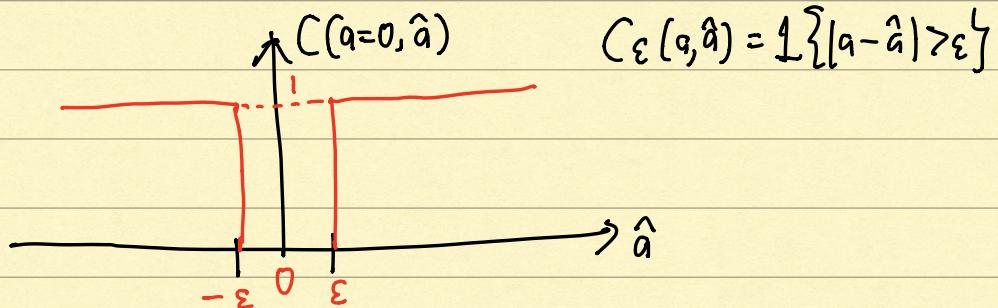


Any point in  $[y, 2y]$  can be taken as  $\hat{x}_{MAE}(y)$ .

## Maximum A Posterior Estimation

### Minimum Uniform Cost (MUC)

$$C_\varepsilon(a, \hat{a}) = \begin{cases} 1 & |a - \hat{a}| > \varepsilon \\ 0 & \text{else.} \end{cases}$$



Rmk: Uniformly penalizes all errors  $> \varepsilon$ .

Thm: In the limit  $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$ , MUC estimate returns the mode of the belief/posterior  $f_{X|Y}(\cdot|y)$ .

$$\hat{x}_{MAP}(y) = \arg \max_a f_{X|Y}(a|y).$$

Pf: Substitute the cost  $f^1$  into

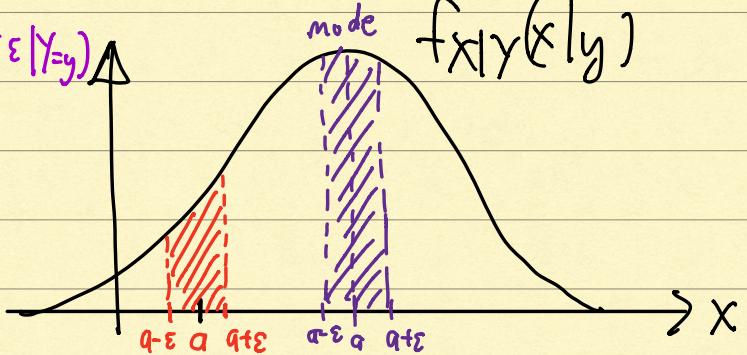
$$\hat{x}(y) = \arg \min_a \int_{\mathcal{X}} 1\{|a - x| > \varepsilon\} f_{X|Y}(x|y) dx.$$

$$= \arg \min_a \int_{\mathcal{X}} (1 - 1\{|x - a| \leq \varepsilon\}) f_{X|Y}(x|y) dx.$$

||

$$= \underset{a}{\operatorname{argmax}} \int_{a-\varepsilon}^{a+\varepsilon} f_{X|Y}(x|y) dx.$$

$$= \underset{a}{\operatorname{argmax}} P_r(|X-a|<\varepsilon | Y=y)$$



$$\lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0^+} \hat{X}_{\text{muc}, \varepsilon}(y) = \underset{a \in \mathbb{R}}{\operatorname{argmax}} f_{X|Y}(a|y)$$

mode of dist.

### Bayes Least Squares Estimation

$$C(a, \hat{a}) = \|a - \hat{a}\|^2 = (a - \hat{a})^\top (a - \hat{a}) = \sum_{i=1}^N (a_i - \hat{a}_i)^2$$

Mean-squared error (MSE)

Thm: The BLS estimate is the <sup>(conditional)</sup> mean of the belief/posterior  $f_{X|Y}(\cdot|y)$ .

$$C(x, a) = (x - a)^2$$

$$\text{i.e., } \hat{X}_{\text{BLS}}(y) = \mathbb{E}[X|Y=y].$$

$$\text{Pf: } \hat{X}_{\text{BLS}}(y) = \underset{a}{\operatorname{argmin}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} (x - a)^2 f_{X|Y}(x|y) dx.$$

Differentiating wrt a

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial a} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} (x-a)^2 f_{X|Y}(x|y) dx.$$

$$= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} -2(x-a) f_{X|Y}(x|y) dx = 0$$

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x f_{X|Y}(x|y) dx = a^* \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f_{X|Y}(x|y) dx$$

$\hat{x}_{BY}(y)$

$$\Rightarrow \hat{x}_{BY}(y) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x f_{X|Y}(x|y) dx = E[X|Y=y].$$

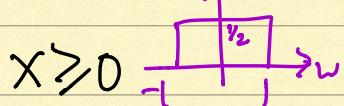
Ex:  $X \perp\!\!\!\perp W$   $X, W \sim \text{Unif}[-1, 1]$ ,

$$Y = \begin{cases} X & t \in [-1, 1] \\ 1, & x \geq 0 \end{cases}$$

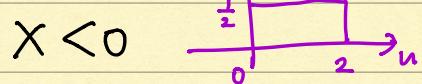
$$\text{sgn}(t) = \begin{cases} 1 & t \geq 0 \\ -1 & t < 0 \end{cases}$$

$f_w(w)$

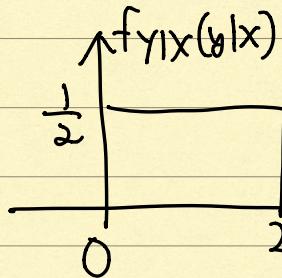
$$f_{Y|X}(\cdot|x) \sim \text{Unif}[0, 2]$$



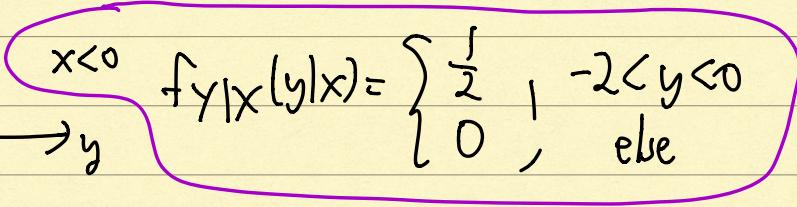
$$f_{Y|X}(\cdot|x) \sim \text{Unif}[-2, 0]$$

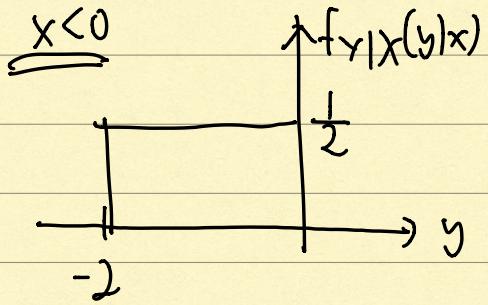


$$x \geq 0 \quad f_{Y|X}(y|x) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{2} & 0 < y < 2 \\ 0 & \text{else} \end{cases}$$



$$x < 0 \quad f_{Y|X}(y|x) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{2}, & -2 < y < 0 \\ 0, & \text{else} \end{cases}$$



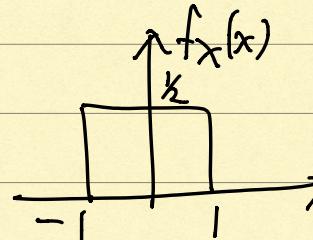
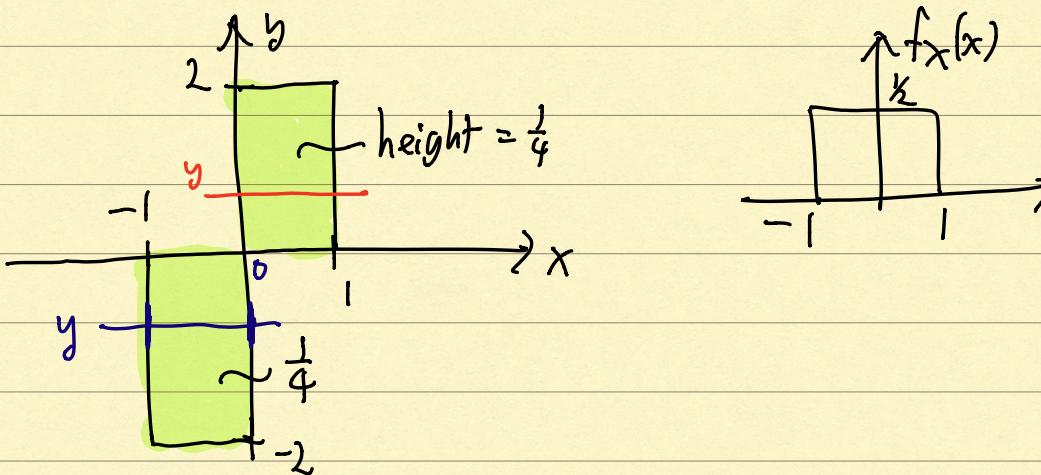


$$f_{XY}(x,y) = f_{Y|X}(y|x) \cdot f_X(x)$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{2}$$

Joint density  $f_{XY} = f_{Y|X} \cdot f_X$

$$f_{XY}(x,y) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{4} & 0 \leq x \leq 1, 0 < y < 2 \\ \frac{1}{4} & -1 \leq x < 0, -2 < y < 0 \\ 0 & \text{else} \end{cases}$$

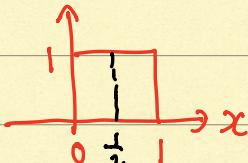


$$\hat{X}_{BLS}(y) = \mathbb{E}[X|Y=y]$$

Suppose  $y \in [0, 2]$ ,  $\underline{f_{X|Y}(x|y)} \sim \text{Unif}[0, 1]$

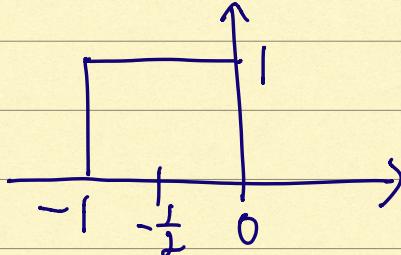
$$\hat{X}_{BLS}(y) = \int_0^1 x f_{X|Y}(x|y) dx$$

$$= \int_0^1 x \cdot dx = \frac{1}{2}$$



Suppose  $y \in [-2, 0]$ ,  $f_{X|Y}(x|y)$

$$\hat{X}_{BLS}(y) = -\frac{1}{2}$$



$$\hat{X}_{BLS}(y) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{2} & y \in [0, 2] \\ -\frac{1}{2} & y \in [-2, 0) \end{cases}$$

$$\text{Var}(X|Y=y) = \frac{1}{12}$$

$y \in [-2, 2]$

$$\frac{(b-a)^2}{12}$$

Non-Bayesian Parameter Estimation ( $X$  is non-random)

cf. Bayesian Parameter Est.  $X \sim f_X$

Observation model  $f_Y(y|x)$

$$\text{Eg: 1)} P_Y(y|x) = \frac{e^{-x} x^y}{y!}, y=0, 1, \dots$$

Poisson parameterized by  $x = E[Y]$ .

$$2) f_Y(y|x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}} \exp\left(-\frac{(y-x)^2}{2\sigma^2}\right)$$

Gaussian parameterized by  $x = E[Y]$ .

$$3) f_Y(y|x) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{x} & y \in [0, x] \\ 0 & \text{else} \end{cases}$$

Unif. dist. parameterized by right support point  $x$ .

$$f_Y(y|x)$$

$$\mu_Y(x) = E_x[Y] = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} y f_Y(y|x) dy$$

$$\Lambda_Y(x) = Cov_x(Y) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} (y - \mu_Y(x))(y - \mu_Y(x))^T f_Y(y|x) dy$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Scalar case } Cov_x(Y) &= Var_x(Y) \\ &= E_x[(Y - E_x[Y])^2]. \end{aligned}$$

$x$ : scalar.

$$\hat{x}(Y) = x$$

$$\hat{x}(\cdot) = \underset{g(\cdot)}{\operatorname{arg\min}} \underset{Y}{E}[(x - g(Y))^2].$$

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f_Y(y|x) (x - g(y))^2 dy$$

random

If  $\hat{x}(Y) = x$ , then the above cost = 0

But this is unreasonable  $\because x$  is precisely what we're trying to estimate.

Def: An estimator  $\hat{x}: Y \rightarrow X$  is valid if it does

not depend on the parameters estimated.

### Bias, Error Covariance

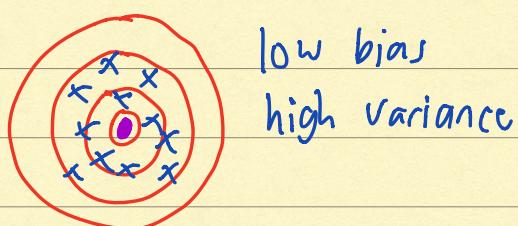
$$\text{Var}(X) = \mathbb{E}[(X - \mathbb{E}X)^2]$$

$$\hat{x}(\cdot) : Y \rightarrow \mathcal{X}$$

$$\text{Error } E = e(Y) = \hat{x}(Y) - x = \hat{X} - x$$

$$\text{Bias: } b_{\hat{x}}(x) = \mathbb{E}[e(Y)] = \mathbb{E}[\hat{x}(Y)] - x.$$

$$\text{Error Covariance: } \Lambda_E(x) = \mathbb{E}[(e(Y) - b_{\hat{x}}(x))(e(Y) - b_{\hat{x}}(x))^T].$$



Def: An estimator  $\hat{x}(\cdot) : Y \rightarrow \mathcal{X}$  for a non-random parameter  $x$  is unbiased if  $b_{\hat{x}}(x) = 0 \quad \forall x \in \mathcal{X}$ .

$$\text{Rmk: } \Lambda_E(x) = \Lambda_{\hat{x}}(x)$$

Error covariance "covariance of estimator".

$$\text{LHS} = \mathbb{E}[(e(Y) - b_{\hat{x}}(x))(e(Y) - b_{\hat{x}}(x))^T].$$

$$\begin{aligned} &= \text{Cov}(e(Y)) \\ &= \text{Cov}(\hat{x}(Y) - x) \underset{\text{deterministic}}{\approx} \text{Cov}(\hat{x}(Y)) = \Lambda_{\hat{x}}(x). \end{aligned}$$

Prop:  $\text{MSE} = \mathbb{E}[e(Y)e(Y)^T]$ .

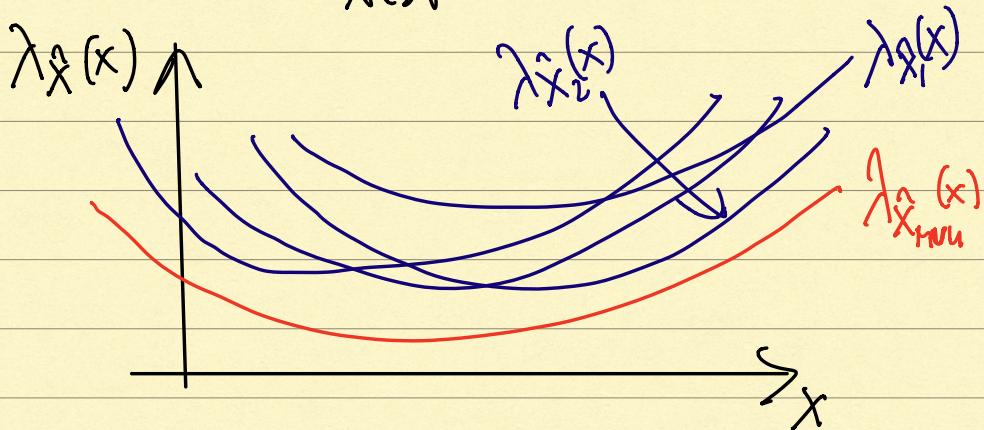
$$= \Lambda_{\hat{x}}(x) + \underbrace{b_{\hat{x}}(x)b_{\hat{x}}(x)^T}_{\text{variance}} + \underbrace{b_{\hat{x}}(x)b_{\hat{x}}(x)^T}_{\text{squared bias.}}$$

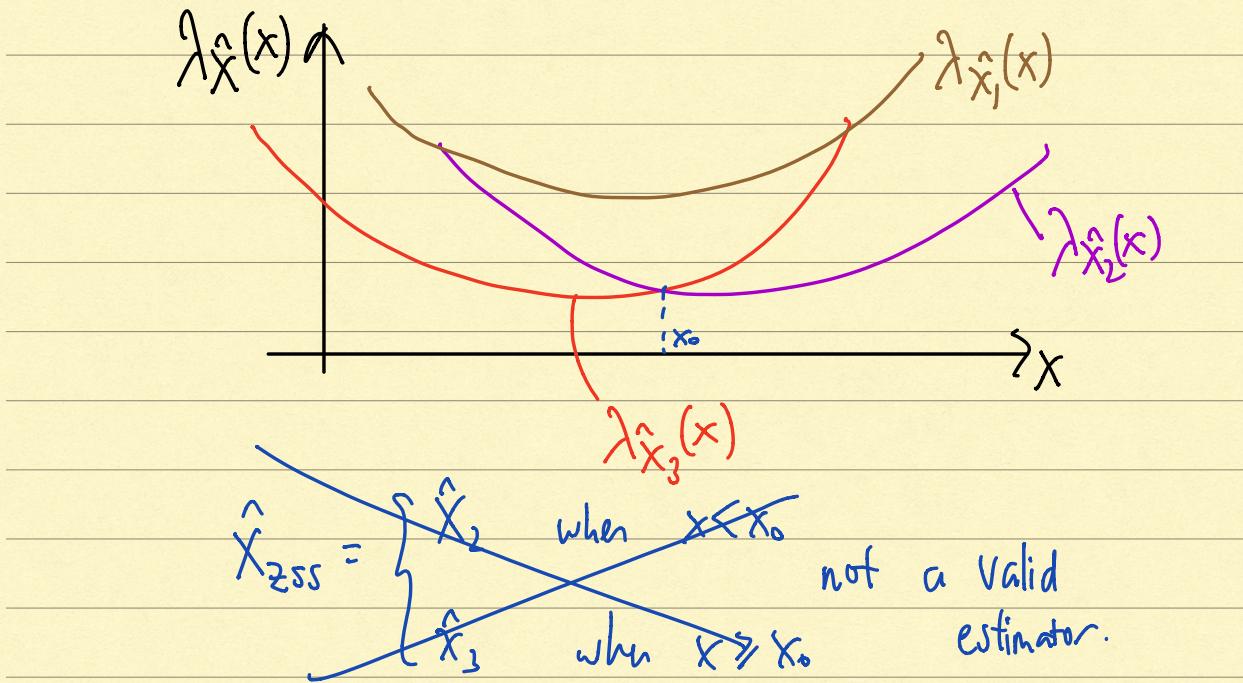
Def: An admissible estimator is one that is valid & unbiased.

$$\mathcal{A} = \left\{ \hat{x}(\cdot) : \hat{x}(\cdot) \text{ valid \&} b_{\hat{x}}(x) = 0 \forall x \right\}$$

Def: Minimum Variance Unbiased Estimators (MVUE)

$$\hat{x}_{\text{MVUE}}(\cdot) = \underset{\hat{x} \in \mathcal{A}}{\operatorname{argmin}} \Lambda_{\hat{x}}(x) \quad \forall x.$$





Rank: An MVU estimator may not exist.

Restrict ourselves to admissible estimators (unbiased)

MSE  $\downarrow$  min variance ( $\hat{x}(\cdot)$ ).

Thm: If  $f_Y(y|x)$  satisfies the reg. condition

$$E\left[\frac{\partial}{\partial x} \log f_Y(y|x)\right] = 0 \quad -(*)$$

then for any  $\hat{x} \in \mathcal{A}$ ,

$$\lambda_{\hat{x}}(x) = \text{Var}_x(\hat{x}(y)) \geq \frac{1}{f_Y(x)}$$

Where

$$J_Y(x) = E\left[\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial x} \log f_Y(y|x)\right)^2\right]$$

is the Fisher info. in  $Y$  about  $x$ .

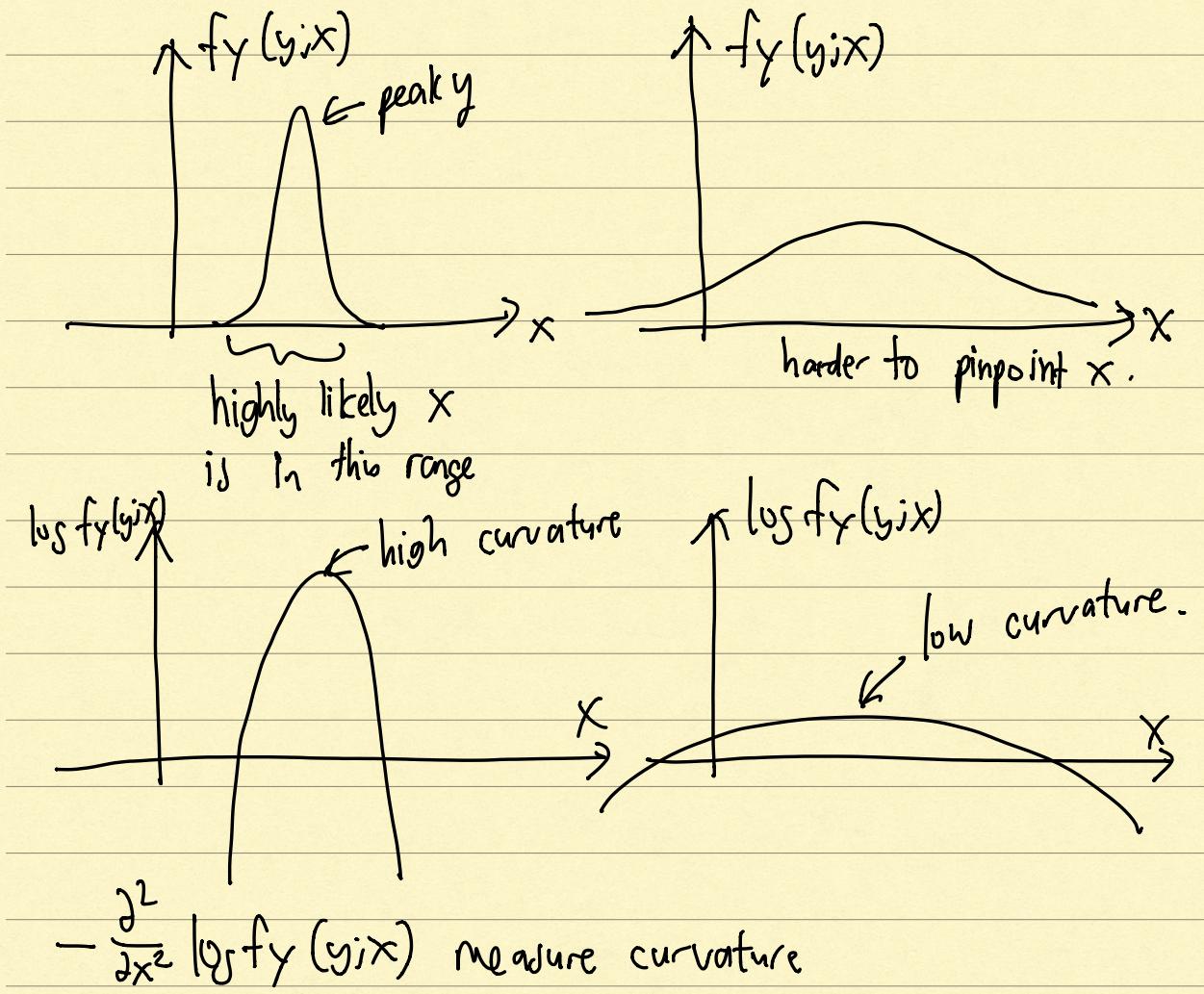
$$\begin{aligned} \text{Rmk: } (*) \quad & E\left[\frac{\partial}{\partial x} \log f_Y(y|x)\right] \\ &= E\left[\frac{1}{f_Y(y|x)} \frac{\partial}{\partial x} f_Y(y|x)\right] \\ &= \int f_Y(y|x) \left[ \frac{1}{f_Y(y|x)} \frac{\partial}{\partial x} f_Y(y|x) \right] dy \\ &= \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \int f_Y(y|x) dy = 0. \end{aligned}$$

$\text{Var}_x(\hat{x}(y)) \geq \frac{1}{J_Y(x)}$

Why?

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Prop: } J_Y(x) &= E\left[\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial x} \log f_Y(y|x)\right)^2\right] \\ &= E\left[-\frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} \log f_Y(y|x)\right] \end{aligned}$$

2 different scenarios



Fisher information large

$$\text{CRLB } \text{Var}(\hat{x}(y)) \geq \frac{1}{\text{large}}$$

small.

Fisher inf. small.

$$\text{Var}(\hat{x}(y)) \geq \frac{1}{\text{small}}$$

large