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Learning Bayesian Networks  
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## COMPSCI 688: Probabilistic Graphical Models

### Lecture 5: Learning in Directed Graphical Models

Dan Sheldon

Manning College of Information and Computer Sciences  
University of Massachusetts Amherst

Partially based on materials by Benjamin M. Marlin (marlin@cs.umass.edu) and Justin Domke (domke@cs.umass.edu)

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## Learning Intro

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### Example: Bayesian Network Graph

$P(G)$      $P(C)$      $P(BP)$      $P(I)$

$P(HD|G,C,BP)$  ( $HeartDisease$ )

$P(A|I)$

$P(CP|HD,A)$  ( $ChestPain$ )     $P(SB|A)$  ( $Shortness\ of\ Breath$ )

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### Example: Conditional Probability Table

HD	G	BP	C	$P(HD G,BP,C)$
No	M	Low	Low	0.95
Yes	M	Low	Low	0.05
No	F	Low	Low	0.99
Yes	F	Low	Low	0.01
:	:	:	:	:

— sum to one

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## Bayesian Networks: Parameters

The default parameterization in a discrete Bayesian network simply uses a separate parameter for each element of each CPT:

$$P_{\theta}(X=x|X_{pa(X)}=y) = \theta_{x|y}^X$$

↑ name of RV  
 ↑ values of parents  
 ↑ value of target

$$\theta = (\dots \dots)$$

$$\theta_{1/0,0}$$

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## Bayesian Networks: Parameters

HD	G	BP	C	$P(HD G, BP, C)$
No	M	Low	Low	$\theta_{N M,L,L}^{HD}$
Yes	M	Low	Low	$\theta_{Y M,L,L}^{HD}$
No	F	Low	Low	$\theta_{N F,L,L}^{HD}$
Yes	F	Low	Low	$\theta_{Y F,L,L}^{HD}$
⋮	⋮	⋮	⋮	⋮

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## Today's Problem

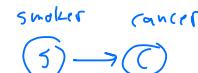
- ▶ How do we choose the parameter values for a Bayesian network given a data set?
- ▶ The *maximum likelihood estimate* for  $\theta_{x|y}^X$  is just the number of times  $X$  takes value  $x$  when its parents take value  $y$ , divided by the number of times its parents take the value  $y$ :

$$P_{\theta}(X=x|Y=y) = \theta_{x|y}^X = \frac{\#(X=x, Y=y)}{\#(Y=y)}$$

How can we derive this result?

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## Example: Smoker and Cancer



smoker	cancer
1	0
0	1 *
1	1
0	0
0	0
1	0
1	1

error  
order  $\frac{1}{n}$

$$P(S=1) = \theta_1^S = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$\theta_0^S = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$P(C|S=0) \Rightarrow \theta_{0|0}^C = \frac{3}{4}$$

$$\theta_{1|0}^C = \frac{1}{4}$$

$$P(C|S=1) \Rightarrow \theta_{0|1}^C = \frac{2}{4}$$

$$\theta_{1|1}^C = \frac{2}{4}$$

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**Estimation**

**MLE Examples**

**Learning Bayesian Networks**

**Estimation Theory**

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**Maximum-Likelihood Estimation (MLE)**

$\textcircled{S} \rightarrow \textcircled{O}$   $M =$

A parametric model  $\{p_\theta | \theta \in \Theta\}$  is a family of probability distributions indexed by parameters  $\theta$

Given data  $x^{(1)}, \dots, x^{(N)}$ , how do we choose  $p_\theta$ ? (Notation:  $x^{(n)} = (x_1^{(n)}, \dots, x_d^{(n)})$ )

**Principle of maximum likelihood:** choose the distribution that assigns the highest probability to the data

For an observed value  $x$ , the **log-likelihood** is  $\log p_\theta(x)$

$\mathcal{L}(\theta|x) = \log p_\theta(x)$

$\uparrow$   
*function of  $\theta$*

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$\frac{1}{N} \log p_\theta(x^{(1)}, \dots, x^{(N)}) = \frac{1}{N} \log \prod_n p_\theta(x^{(n)}) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_n \log p_\theta(x^{(n)})$

For a data set  $x^{(1:N)} = (x^{(1)}, \dots, x^{(N)})$ , the log-likelihood is

$$\mathcal{L}(\theta|x^{(1:N)}) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=1}^N \log p_\theta(x^{(n)})$$

*(assumes independence)*

**Goal:** find  $\theta$  to maximize  $\mathcal{L}(\theta|x^{(1:N)})$

$p_\theta(x) : \text{Val}(x) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+$

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**Example: Bernoulli Model**

Suppose  $x^{(1)}, x^{(2)}, \dots, x^{(N)}$  are drawn from a Bernoulli distribution:

$$p_\theta(x) = \begin{cases} 1-\theta, & x=0 \\ \theta, & x=1 \end{cases}$$

$$\log p_\theta(x) = \begin{cases} \log(1-\theta) & x=0 \\ \log \theta & x=1 \end{cases}$$

The log-likelihood is

$$\mathcal{L}(\theta|x^{(1:N)}) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=1}^N \log p_\theta(x^{(n)})$$

*indicator*

$$= \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=1}^N (\mathbb{I}[x^{(n)}=0] \log(1-\theta) + \mathbb{I}[x^{(n)}=1] \log \theta)$$

$$= \frac{\#(X=0)}{N} \log(1-\theta) + \frac{\#(X=1)}{N} \log \theta.$$

What does this likelihood function look like?

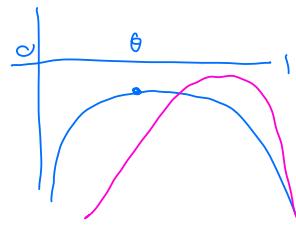
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## Example: Bernoulli Likelihood



### Demo: Likelihood Function

$$\begin{aligned} N &= 100 \\ \#(X=0) &= 66 \\ \#(X=1) &= 34 \\ N &= 10000 \end{aligned}$$



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## Learning as Likelihood Maximization

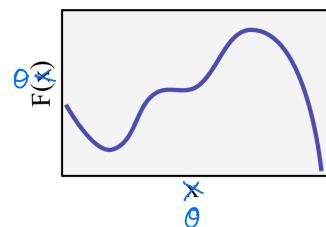
How can we find the model parameters  $\theta$  that maximize the likelihood?

- ▶ The derivative of a function is zero at every local maximum

## Learning as Likelihood Maximization

How can we find the model parameters  $\theta$  that maximize the likelihood?

- ▶ The derivative of a function is zero at every local maximum

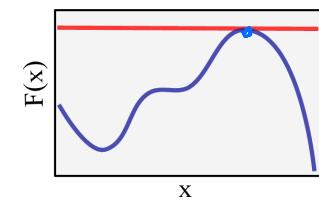


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## Learning as Likelihood Maximization

How can we find the model parameters  $\theta$  that maximize the likelihood?

- ▶ The derivative of a function is zero at every local maximum

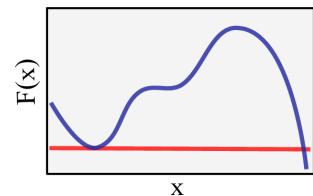


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## Learning as Likelihood Maximization

How can we find the model parameters  $\theta$  that maximize the likelihood?

- ▶ The derivative of a function is zero at every local maximum
- ▶ Zero derivative points are not local maxima in general.

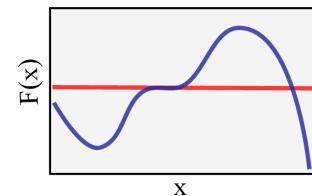


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## Learning as Likelihood Maximization

How can we find the model parameters  $\theta$  that maximize the likelihood?

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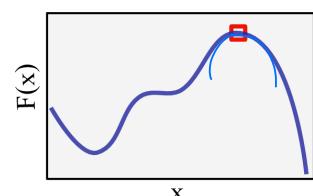
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## Learning as Likelihood Maximization

How can we find the model parameters  $\theta$  that maximize the likelihood?

- ▶ The derivative of a function is zero at every local maximum
- ▶ Zero derivative points are not local maxima in general.
- ▶ To be a local maximum, the curvature must be negative

*neg 2<sup>nd</sup> derivative  
negative definite Hessian matrix*



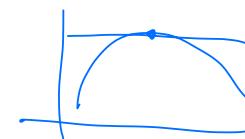
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## Maximum Likelihood and Optimization

How can we find the model parameters  $\theta$  that maximize the likelihood?

- ▶ Compute the (partial) derivatives of the log likelihood
- ▶ Set them equal to zero
- ▶ Solve derivative equations for the parameters
- ▶ (Determine which solutions are local maxima by checking second derivatives)

*concavity  $\Rightarrow$  (zero gradient  $\Rightarrow$  global maximum)*



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## MLE Examples

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## Example: Bernoulli Likelihood



**Demo:**  
**Likelihood Function**

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## Example: Bernoulli Parameter Learning

The maximum likelihood estimates for the simple Bernoulli model are easy to derive:

- ▶  $\mathcal{L}(\theta|x^{(1:N)}) = \frac{\#(X=0)}{N} \log(1-\theta) + \frac{\#(X=1)}{N} \log \theta$
- ▶  $\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \mathcal{L}(\theta|x^{(1:N)}) = -\frac{\#(X=0)}{N} \frac{1}{1-\theta} + \frac{\#(X=1)}{N} \frac{1}{\theta} = 0$
- ▶ Setting the derivative equation equal to zero and solving yields the maximum likelihood estimate:

$$\theta = \frac{\#(X=1)}{N}$$

$$\hat{\theta} - \frac{1-\hat{\theta}}{1-\theta} = 0 \Leftrightarrow \hat{\theta} = \frac{1-\hat{\theta}}{1-\theta} \Leftrightarrow \theta = \hat{\theta}$$

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## Example: Multinomial Model

$\theta_1, \dots, \theta_{V-1}$

Consider a Multinomial model for a discrete random variable  $X$  that takes  $V$  values  $\{1, \dots, V\}$ .

$$p_\theta(x) = \begin{cases} \theta_1 & x=1 \\ \theta_2 & x=2 \\ \vdots & \\ \theta_{V-1} & x=V-1 \\ 1 - \sum_{v=1}^{V-1} \theta_v & x=V \end{cases}$$

$$\mathcal{L}(\theta|x^{(1:N)}) = \log p_\theta(x)$$

$$= \sum_{v=1}^{V-1} I[x=v] \cdot \log \theta_v$$

$$+ I[x=V] \cdot \log (1 - \sum_{v=1}^{V-1} \theta_v)$$

$$\mathcal{L}(\theta|x^{(1:N)}) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=1}^N \left( \sum_{v=1}^{V-1} \frac{\#(X=v)}{N} \log \theta_v + \frac{\#(X=V)}{N} \cdot \log \left(1 - \sum_{v=1}^{V-1} \theta_v\right) \right)$$

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## Example: Multinomial Parameter Learning

$$\nabla \mathcal{L}(\theta|x^{(1:N)}) = \sum_{v=1}^{V-1} \frac{\#(X=v)}{N} \log(\theta_v) + \frac{\#(X=V)}{N} \log\left(1 - \sum_{v=1}^{V-1} \theta_v\right)$$

Setting the partial derivatives to zero, we require, for each  $i < V$ :

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta_i} \mathcal{L}(\theta|x^{(1:N)}) = \frac{\#(X=i)}{N\theta_i} - \frac{\#(X=V)}{N(1 - \sum_{v=1}^{V-1} \theta_v)} = 0$$

It's easy to check that this is solved by setting

$$\theta_i = \frac{\#(X=i)}{N}$$

- Quiz 2 → Fri

- HWI → next Wed

- no class Thu

## Learning Bayesian Networks

## Bayesian Network Parameters $\theta = (\dots)$

In a Bayesian network, each CPT is a *collection* of multinomial distributions with distinct parameters. There is one multinomial distribution for each joint setting of the parents of each variable.

HD	G	BP	C	$P(HD G, BP, C)$
No	M	Low	Low	$\theta_{N M, L, L}^{HD}$
Yes	M	Low	Low	$\theta_{Y M, L, L}^{HD}$
No	F	Low	Low	$\theta_{N F, L, L}^{HD}$
Yes	F	Low	Low	$\theta_{Y F, L, L}^{HD}$
⋮	⋮	⋮	⋮	⋮

sum-to-one ≈ multinomial

$$\log P(HD = h|G = g, BP = b, C = c) = \log \theta_{h|g, b, c}^{HD}$$

## Joint Probability in Terms of Parameters

The joint probability in a Bayesian network is a product of conditional multinomial distribution for each node:

$$p_\theta(\mathbf{x}) = \prod_{d=1}^D p_\theta(x_d|\mathbf{x}_{\text{pa}(d)}) = \prod_{d=1}^D \theta_{x_d|\mathbf{x}_{\text{pa}(d)}}^{X_d}$$

⇒ log-likelihood is a sum of terms:

$$\log p_\theta(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_{d=1}^D \log \theta_{x_d|\mathbf{x}_{\text{pa}(d)}}^{X_d}$$

## Log Likelihood Decomposition

The log likelihood of a dataset  $\mathbf{x}^{(1:N)}$  for a Bayesian network decomposes into a sum of terms that depend only on the parameters for one conditional distribution:

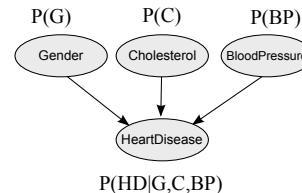
$$(\log p(a) + \log p(b|a))$$

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{L}(\theta|\mathbf{x}^{(1:N)}) &= \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=1}^N \left( \sum_{d=1}^D \log \theta_{x_d^{(n)}|\mathbf{x}_{\text{pa}(d)}^{(n)}}^{X_d} \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=1}^N \sum_{d=1}^D \sum_{x_d} \sum_{\mathbf{x}_{\text{pa}(d)}} \mathbb{I}[x_d^{(n)} = x_d, \mathbf{x}_{\text{pa}(d)} = \mathbf{x}_{\text{pa}(d)}] \log \theta_{x_d|\mathbf{x}_{\text{pa}(d)}}^{X_d} \\ &= \sum_{d=1}^D \sum_{x_d} \sum_{\mathbf{x}_{\text{pa}(d)}} \frac{\#(X_d = x_d, \mathbf{X}_{\text{pa}(d)} = \mathbf{x}_{\text{pa}(d)})}{N} \log \theta_{x_d|\mathbf{x}_{\text{pa}(d)}}^{X_d}\end{aligned}$$

$$\max_{\theta} \mathcal{L}(\theta|\mathbf{x}^{(1:N)})$$

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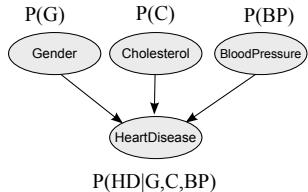
## Example: Heart Disease Joint Distribution



$$p_\theta(g, c, b, h) = p_\theta(g)p_\theta(b)p_\theta(c)p_\theta(h|g, b, c)$$

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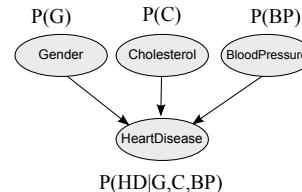
## Example: Heart Disease Log Likelihood



$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{L}(\theta|\mathbf{x}^{(1:N)}) &= \sum_g \frac{\#(G = g)}{N} \log \theta_g^G + \sum_b \frac{\#(BP = b)}{N} \log \theta_b^{BP} + \sum_c \frac{\#(C = c)}{N} \log \theta_c^C \\ &\quad + \sum_{g,b,c} \sum_h \frac{\#(HD = h, G = g, BP = b, C = c)}{N} \log \theta_{h|g,b,c}^{HD}\end{aligned}$$

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## Example: Heart Disease Parameter Learning



$$\max_{\theta \in \Theta} \mathcal{L}(\theta|\mathbf{x}^{(1:N)})$$

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<p>Learning Intro oooooooo</p> <p>Estimation ooooooo</p> <p>MLE Examples ooooo</p> <p>Learning Bayesian Networks oooooooo●oooo</p> <p>Estimation Theory oooooooooo</p> <h3>Bayesian Network Learning Summary</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ The only parameters that must be jointly optimized in a Bayesian network are those in the same sum-to-one constraint with the same setting of the parent variables.</li> <li>▶ For any random variable <math>X</math>, consider a specific setting of its parent variables <math>\mathbf{Y} = \mathbf{y}</math>. We just need to jointly optimize the parameters <math>\theta_{x \mathbf{y}}^X</math> for each value <math>x \in \text{Val}(X)</math>.</li> <li>▶ This is just multinomial parameter estimation applied to each variable <math>X</math> for each setting <math>\mathbf{y}</math> of it's parents:</li> </ul> $P_\theta(X = x   \mathbf{Y} = \mathbf{y}) = \theta_{x \mathbf{y}}^X = \frac{\#(X = x, \mathbf{Y} = \mathbf{y})}{\#(\mathbf{Y} = \mathbf{y})}$	<p>Learning Intro oooooooo</p> <p>Estimation ooooooo</p> <p>MLE Examples ooooo</p> <p>Learning Bayesian Networks oooooooo●oooo</p> <p>Estimation Theory oooooooooo</p> <h3>Bayesian Network Learning Algorithm</h3> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ For each random variable <math>X_d</math>:       <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ For each joint configuration <math>\mathbf{x}_{\text{pa}(d)} \in \text{Val}(\mathbf{X}_{\text{pa}(d)})</math>:           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ For each value <math>x_d \in \text{Val}(X_d)</math>. Set</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul> $\theta_{x_d \mathbf{x}_{\text{pa}(d)}}^X \leftarrow \frac{\#(X_d = x_d, \mathbf{X}_{\text{pa}(d)} = \mathbf{x}_{\text{pa}(d)})}{\#(\mathbf{X}_{\text{pa}(d)} = \mathbf{x}_{\text{pa}(d)})}$	<p>Learning Intro oooooooo</p> <p>Estimation ooooooo</p> <p>MLE Examples ooooo</p> <p>Learning Bayesian Networks oooooooo●oooo</p> <p>Estimation Theory oooooooooo</p>
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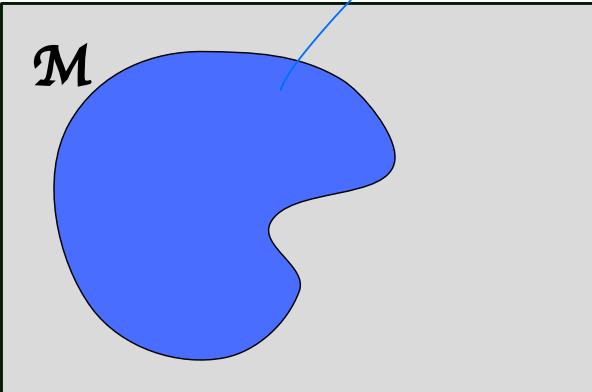
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Here is a more general problem: suppose we have an arbitrary target distribution  $p_*$  and a parametric model  $M = \{p_\theta | \theta \in \Theta\}$ .

How can we select  $p_{\theta^*} \in M$  that is as close as possible to  $p_*$ ?

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Parametric Probability Model				
				
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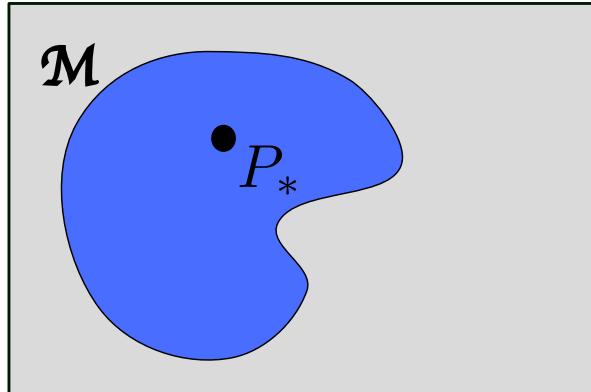
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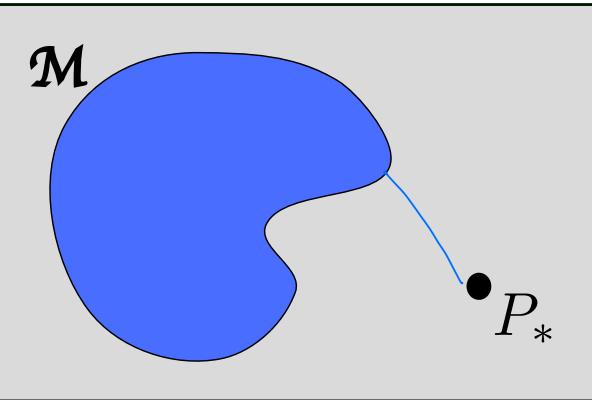
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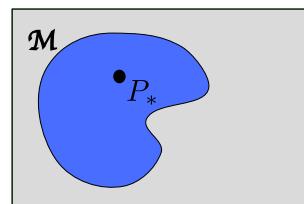
## Parameter Selection: Case 2



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## KL Divergence Minimization

- If  $p_* \in M$  then there exists a  $\theta^*$  such that  $p_* = p_{\theta^*}$ .



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Kullback-Leibler Divergence *KL-divergence*

One of the most used divergence criteria is the Kullback-Leibler divergence.

$$KL(p||q) = \sum_{x \in Val(\mathbf{x})} p(x) \log \left( \frac{p(x)}{q(x)} \right)$$

*"distance-like"*

The KL divergence is a pre-metric. It satisfies:

- $KL(p||q) \geq 0$  for all  $p$  and  $q$
- $KL(p||q) = 0$  if and only if  $p = q$

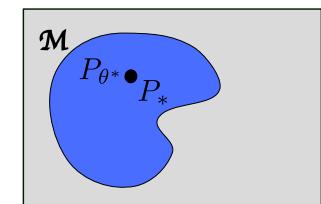
It does **not** satisfy:

- $KL(p||q) = KL(q||p)$  for all  $p, q$
- $KL(p||q) \leq KL(p||s) + KL(s||q)$  for all  $p, q, s$

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## KL Divergence Minimization

- If  $p_* \in M$  then there exists a  $\theta^*$  such that  $p_* = p_{\theta^*}$ .



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KL Divergence Minimization
KL Divergence Minimization  $p_f(a,b) = \text{generic}$

$\textcircled{a}$ 
 $\textcircled{b}$ 
 $A \nparallel B$

$p_\theta(a,b) = p_\theta(a) \cdot p_\theta(b)$ 
 $A \perp B$

$\mathcal{M}$

If  $p_* \in M$  then there exists a  $\theta^*$  such that  $p_* = p_{\theta^*}$ .
If  $p_*$  is not in  $M$  then we select the  $\theta^*$  that minimizes  $KL(p_* || p_{\theta^*})$  over the parameter space  $\Theta$ .

$p_0 \xrightarrow{\text{data}} x^{(1)}, \dots, x^{(N)} \xrightarrow{\text{MLE}} p_* \xrightarrow{\text{ML}} p_{\theta^*}$

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KL Divergence Minimization Simplification
Maximum Likelihood = KL Minimization  $p_*(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{N} & \text{if } x = x^{(n)} \text{ for some } n \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$

Suppose  $p_*$  is the empirical distribution of a data set  $x^{(1)}, \dots, x^{(N)}$ , meaning it places  $\frac{1}{N}$  probability on each data point. Then

$\mathcal{L}(\theta | p_*) = \sum_{\mathbf{x} \in \text{Val}(\mathbf{X})} p_*(\mathbf{x}) \log p_\theta(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=1}^N \log p_\theta(x^{(n)}) = \mathcal{L}(\theta | \mathbf{x}^{(1:N)})$

$\Rightarrow$  maximum-likelihood estimation minimizes the KL-divergence from the empirical data distribution to  $p_\theta$ .

This is a reasonable behavior even when the data comes from a distribution that does not belong to the parametric model.

$KL(p_* || p_\theta)$  is the same as maximizing "log-likelihood"  $\rightarrow \mathcal{L}(\theta | p_*) = \sum_{\mathbf{x} \in \text{Val}(\mathbf{X})} p_*(\mathbf{x}) \log p_\theta(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{x} \sim p_*} [\log p_\theta(\mathbf{x})]$

$\mathcal{L}(\theta | \mathbf{x}^{(1:N)})$

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