

Exercise 5: Probability and Random Processes for Signals and Systems

Prof. Ashish Ranjan Hota  
Department of Electrical Engineering, IIT Kharagpur

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**Q 5.1: Estimation Task**

Let  $X$  be a random variable with Exponential distribution with parameter  $\Lambda$ , and  $\Lambda$  itself is a discrete random variable with  $\mathbb{P}(\Lambda = 1) = \mathbb{P}(\Lambda = 2) = 0.5$ . Find  $\mathbb{E}[X]$ . Suppose you observe that  $X = 1$ . Find the maximum likelihood and maximum a-posteriori estimates of  $\Lambda$ .

Recall: the density of an exponential random variable  $X$  with parameter  $\Lambda$  is  $f_X(x) = \Lambda e^{-\Lambda x}$ ,  $x \geq 0$ .

**Q 5.2: ML Estimation Task**

Suppose  $\hat{x}_1, \hat{x}_2, \dots, \hat{x}_N$  be  $N$  i.i.d. realizations of a random variable with density given by

$$f(x, \theta) = \begin{cases} \theta x^{\theta-1}, & x \in (0, 1), \\ 0, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Find the maximum likelihood estimator of  $\theta$ .

**Q 5.3: Simple Estimation Task**

Let  $X$  and  $Y$  be a random variables with joint pdf:

$$f_{X,Y}(x, y) = \begin{cases} x + y, & 0 \leq x \leq 1, 0 \leq y \leq 1, \\ 0, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

1. Find the MAP estimator of  $X$  given  $Y = y$ .
2. Find the ML estimator of  $X$  given  $Y = y$ .
3. Find the MMSE estimator of  $X$  given  $Y = y$ .
4. Find the LMSE estimator of  $X$  given  $Y = y$ .

**Q 5.4: Another Simple Estimation Task**

Let  $X$  be a random variable (r.v.) that denotes the temperature of a room.  $X$  is a discrete r.v. that can take values in the finite set  $\{30, 32, 34\}$  where the value corresponds to the temperature in degree Celsius. Let  $Y$  be a random variable that indicates the comfort level of an occupant.  $Y = 1$  if the occupant is comfortable,  $Y = -1$  otherwise. The following is known about the conditional probability of  $Y$  for different values of  $X$ .

$$\begin{aligned} p_{Y|X}(Y = 1|X = 30) &= 0.8, & p_{Y|X}(Y = -1|X = 30) &= 1 - 0.8 = 0.2, \\ p_{Y|X}(Y = 1|X = 32) &= 0.6, & p_{Y|X}(Y = -1|X = 32) &= 1 - 0.6 = 0.4, \\ p_{Y|X}(Y = 1|X = 34) &= 0.2, & p_{Y|X}(Y = -1|X = 34) &= 1 - 0.2 = 0.8. \end{aligned}$$

1. Suppose an occupant feels comfortable ( $Y = 1$ ). Then, what is the maximum likelihood estimate of the room temperature  $X$ ?

Suppose  $X$  has a prior distribution (p.m.f.) given by  $p_X(X = 30) = p_X(X = 32) = 0.5$ , and  $p_X(X = 34) = 0$ . Then,

2. What is the posterior distribution of  $X$  if  $Y = 1$ ?
3. What is the MAP estimate of  $X$  if  $Y = 1$ ?
4. What is the MMSE estimate of  $X$  if  $Y = 1$ ?
5. Repeat the above questions when  $Y = -1$ .

**Q 5.5: Yet Another Simple Estimation Task**

Consider a variant of the above problem where the level of comfort  $Y$  is a continuous r.v. with conditional distributions are given by

$$\begin{aligned} f_{Y|X}(y|X = 30) &\sim U[-1, 0], \\ f_{Y|X}(y|X = 32) &\sim U[-0.5, 0.5], \\ f_{Y|X}(y|X = 34) &\sim U[0, 1], \end{aligned}$$

where  $U[a, b]$  denotes the uniform distribution between  $a$  and  $b$ .

1. Suppose we observe that  $Y = 0.2$ . Then, what is the maximum likelihood estimate of the room temperature  $X$ ?

Suppose  $X$  has a prior distribution (p.m.f.) given by  $p_X(X = 30) = p_X(X = 32) = 0.5$ , and  $p_X(X = 34) = 0$  as before. Then,

2. What is the posterior distribution of  $X$  if  $Y = 0.2$ ?
3. What is the MAP estimate of  $X$  if  $Y = 0.2$ ?
4. What is the MMSE estimate of  $X$  if  $Y = 0.2$ ?
5. Repeat the above questions when the prior distribution of  $X$  is given by  $p_X(X = 30) = p_X(X = 32) = 0.4$ , and  $p_X(X = 34) = 0.2$ .

**Q 5.6: Mean Square Estimation**

Let  $Y_i = X + V_i$ , where  $X$  is a random variable we want to estimate,  $Y_i$  is the  $i$ -th observation, and  $V_i$  is a random variable which acts as measurement noise. Let  $X$  and  $V_i$ 's be zero-mean and independent random variables with variance of  $X$  being  $\sigma_X^2 = 1$  and variance of  $V_i$  be  $\sigma_V^2 = 1$ .

- (a) Suppose we make two noisy observations  $Y_1$  and  $Y_2$ . Find the linear mean-square estimator for  $X$  in terms of  $Y_1$  and  $Y_2$ .
- (b) (**Bonus**) Suppose we make  $N$  noisy measurements  $Y_1, Y_2, \dots, Y_N$ . Find the linear mean-square estimator for  $X$  in terms of  $Y_1, Y_2, \dots, Y_N$ . Use the fact that  $(I + aa^T)^{-1} = I - \frac{1}{N+1}aa^T$ , where  $I$  is the identity matrix of dimension  $N$  and  $a = [1 \ 1 \ \dots \ 1]^T$  is the column vector of length  $N$  with all entries 1.

**Q 5.7: Linear Mean Square Estimation**

Assume that a zero-mean random variable  $X = X_c + Z$  where  $Z$  is uncorrelated with the observation  $Y$ . Show that the LMSE of  $X$  given  $Y$  equals the LMSE of  $X_c$  given  $Y$ . In other words,  $\hat{\mathbb{E}}(X|Y) = \hat{\mathbb{E}}(X_c|Y)$ . This shows that LMSE does not give us any information about the component  $Z$  that is uncorrelated with the observation  $Y$ .

**Q 5.8: Linear Mean Square Estimation**

Let  $Y = X + V$ , where  $X$  and  $V$  are independent zero-mean Gaussian random variables with variances  $\sigma_X^2$  and  $\sigma_V^2$ , respectively. Show that the LMSE estimator of  $X^2$  given  $Y$  and  $Y^2$  is

$$\hat{X}^2 = \sigma_X^2 + \frac{\sigma_X^4}{\sigma_X^4 + 2\sigma_X^2\sigma_V^2 + \sigma_V^4}(Y^2 - \sigma_X^2 - \sigma_V^2).$$

Hint: Use the fact that if  $Z$  is a zero-mean Gaussian r.v. with variance  $\sigma_Z^2$ , then  $\mathbb{E}[Z^3] = 0$  and  $\mathbb{E}[Z^4] = 3\sigma_Z^4$ .

**Q 5.9: Linear Mean Square Estimation**

Let  $Y_1 = (X + W_1)^2, Y_2 = W_2X$ . Find the LMSE estimator of  $X$  in terms of  $Y_1$  and  $Y_2$  (treat  $Y = [Y_1 \ Y_2]^T$  as a random vector and use the appropriate formula for  $\hat{\mathbb{E}}[X|Y]$ ). Use the following information:  $\mathbb{E}[W_1] = 0, \mathbb{E}[W_1^2] = 1, \mathbb{E}[W_2] = 2, \mathbb{E}[W_2^2] = 1, \mathbb{E}[X] = 1, \mathbb{E}[X^2] = 2, \mathbb{E}[X^3] = 3, \mathbb{E}[X^4] = 4$ .

**Q 5.10: Linear Mean Square Estimation**

Let  $y_k = v_k + v_{k-1}, k \geq 0$ , where  $v_j, j \geq -1$  is a zero-mean stationary white noise scalar process with unit variance. Show that

$$\hat{y}_{k+1|k} = \frac{k+1}{k+2}(y_k - \hat{y}_{k|k-1}),$$

where  $\hat{y}_{k|m} = \widehat{\mathbb{E}}[y_k|Y_M]$  is the LMSE estimator of  $y_k$  given  $Y_M = (y_1, y_2, \dots, y_m)$ .

### Q 5.11: Prediction and Interpolation

Consider a series of observations  $y(0), y(1), \dots$  where

$$y(k) = a_0w(k) + a_1w(k-1) + \dots + a_Nw(k-N),$$

where  $w(-N), w(-N+1), \dots$  are independent with  $\mathbb{E}[w(l)] = 0$  and  $\mathbb{E}[w^2(l)] = \sigma_w$ . The coefficients  $a_0, \dots, a_N$  are known. Solve the following problems.

1. Prediction: Find the LMSE predictor of  $y(k+1)$  based on  $y(k)$  (based only on  $y(k)$ , not  $y(k-1)$ , etc).
2. Interpolation: Find the LMSE predictor of  $y(k)$  based (only) on  $y(k-1)$  and  $y(k+1)$  for  $k > 1$ .

### Q 5.12: Mean Square Estimation

Let  $s[n]$  be a discrete-time zero-mean wide sense stationary (WSS) signal with auto-covariance function given by

$$C_{ss}[m] = \begin{cases} 15, & \text{for } m = 0, \\ -4, & \text{for } m = 1, -1, \\ 5, & \text{for } m = 2, -2, \\ 0, & \text{for } m \geq 3. \end{cases}$$

Suppose we observe this signal with a time-delay and with some measurement noise  $w[n]$ .  $w[n]$  is a zero-mean WSS signal uncorrelated with  $s[n]$  and  $C_{ww}[m] = 3$  if  $m = 0$  and  $C_{ww}[m] = 0$  for  $m \neq 0$ . The received signal is given by

$$r[n] = s[n-1] + w[n].$$

We would like to estimate  $\hat{s}[n]$  that minimizes the mean square error (MSE)  $\mathbb{E}[(s[n] - \hat{s}[n])^2]$ .

1. Find the covariance functions  $C_{rs}[m]$  and  $C_{rr}[m]$  (in terms of  $C_{ss}[m]$  and  $C_{ww}[m]$ ).
2. If the estimator is to be of the form  $\hat{s}[n] = ar[n]$ , then find the value of  $a$  that minimizes the MSE.
3. If the estimator is to be of the form  $\hat{s}[n] = a_0r[n] + a_1r[n-1]$ , then find the values of  $a_0$  and  $a_1$  that minimizes the MSE.
4. If the estimator is to be of the form  $\hat{s}[n] = \frac{1}{2}r[n - n_0]$  with the integer  $n_0 \geq 0$ , then find the value of  $n_0$  that minimizes the MSE.

### Q 5.13: Past End-Sem Exam Question

$X$  is a three-dimensional random vector with  $E[X] = 0$  and autocorrelation matrix  $R_X$  with elements  $r_{ij} = (-0.80)^{|i-j|}$ . Use  $X_1$  and  $X_2$  to form a linear estimate of  $X_3$ :  $\hat{X}_3 = a_1X_1 + a_2X_2$ , i.e., determine  $a_1$  and  $a_2$  that minimizes mean-square error.