

# ::: Solutions :::

ELEC 303 HW 8  
(Due 11/16/2010)

**Problem 1.** Bob moves to a new house and is "fifty-percent sure" that the phone number is 2537267. To verify this, he uses the house phone to dial 2537267, obtains a busy signal, and concludes that it is indeed the right number. Assuming that the probability of a typical seven-digit number being busy at any given time is 1%, what is the probability that Bob's conclusion was correct?

Hypotheses:

$H_0$ : The phone num is 2537267.

$H_1$ : The phone num is not " " .

Priors:  $P(H_0) = P(H_1) = 0.5$

Let B be the event that a busy signal is obtained. Then,

$$P(B|H_0) = 1 \quad \underline{\text{and}} \quad P(B|H_1) = 0.01.$$

Probability that Bob's conclusion is correct,

$$P(H_0|B) = \frac{P(B|H_0)P(H_0)}{P(B|H_0)P(H_0) + P(B|H_1)P(H_1)}$$

$$= \frac{(1)(0.5)}{0.5 + (0.01)(0.5)} \approx \boxed{0.99}$$

**Problem 2.** We have two boxes, each containing three balls: one black and two white in box 1; two black and 1 white in box 2. We choose one of the boxes at random, where the probability of choosing box 1 is equal to  $p$ , and then draw a ball.

(a) Describe the MAP rule for deciding the identity of the box based on whether the drawn ball is black or white.

(b) Assuming that  $p = \frac{1}{2}$ , find the probability of error if no ball had been drawn.

Hypotheses:  $H_1$ : Box 1,  $H_2$ : Box 2

Priors:  $P(\text{choose Box 1}) = p$ ,  
 $P(\text{choose Box 2}) = 1-p$ .

Let  $X=0$  be the event where ball is black AND  $X=1$  be the event where the ball is white.

MAP rule

If  $X=1$  (draw A white ball), declare  $H_1$  (box 1) when:

$$P(\text{choose box 1} | X=1) > P(\text{choose box 2} | X=1).$$

$$P(\text{box 1} | X=1) = \frac{P(X=1 | \text{box}=1) \cdot P(\text{box}=1)}{P(X=1 | b=1) P(b=1) + P(X=1 | b=0) P(b=0)}$$

$$= \frac{\frac{2}{3}p^2}{\frac{2}{3}p + \frac{1}{3}(1-p)} = \boxed{\frac{2p}{1+p}}.$$

$$P(\text{box 2} | x=1) = ?$$

$$= \frac{P(x=1 | b=2) P(b=2)}{\frac{2}{3}P + \frac{1}{3}(1-P)} = \boxed{\frac{1-P}{1+P}}$$

Thus for

$x=1$  (white ball),

choose box 1 if :

$$\frac{2P}{1+P} > \frac{1-P}{1+P} \Rightarrow \boxed{P > \frac{1}{3}},$$

else choose box 2.

---

For  $x=0$  (black ball),

choose box 1 if :

$$P(\text{box 1} | x=0) > P(\text{box 2} | x=0)$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{P > \frac{2}{3}},$$

else choose Box 2.

**Problem 3.** Assume the interarrival times (time between the last arrival and the subsequent arrival) for the Metro at the Rice/Herman stop is exponentially distributed with parameter  $\Theta$  and the prior PDF of  $\Theta$  is given by,

$$p_{\Theta}(\theta) = \begin{cases} 12\theta, & \text{if } 0 \leq \theta \leq 1/6, \\ 0, & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Scott has to take the metro and waits 20 minutes for it to come.

- (a) Find the posterior distribution, MAP estimate, and conditional expectation estimate of  $\Theta$ .
- (b) Scott decides to record the amount of time that he waits for the Metro for 4 more days in order to obtain a better estimate of  $\Theta$ . He records the following wait times for the next four days: 40, 15, 30, and 25. He assumes that all of the observed wait times are independent. Find the posterior PDF and the MAP estimate, along with the conditional expectation estimate of  $\Theta$  given the new data.

Let  $X$  denote the wait time.

Given AN OBSERVATION,  $X=20$ , we must compute:  $P_{\Theta|X}(\theta|20)$ , MAP estimate of  $\theta$ , and  $E[\theta|X=20]$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \text{(i) } P_{\Theta|X}(\theta|20) &= \frac{P_{\Theta}(\theta) \cdot P_{X|\Theta}(20|\theta)}{\int_0^{1/6} P_{\Theta}(\theta') P_{X|\Theta}(20|\theta') d\theta'} \\ &= \frac{12\theta \cdot P_{X|\Theta}(20|\theta)}{\int_0^{1/6} 12\theta' P_{X|\Theta}(20|\theta') d\theta'} \\ &= \frac{12\theta \cdot \theta e^{-20\theta}}{12 \int_0^{1/6} (\theta')^2 e^{-20\theta'} d\theta'} \quad \text{for } \theta \in [0, 1/6], \\ &\quad \text{0 otherwise.} \end{aligned}$$

again the posterior distribution is :

$$\text{Poix}(\theta|20) = \begin{cases} \frac{\theta^2 e^{-20\theta}}{\int_0^{1/6} (\theta')^2 e^{-20\theta'} d\theta'} & , \theta \in [0, 1/6] \\ 0 & , \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

The MAP estimate of  $\hat{\theta}$ , selects the value of  $\theta$  that maximizes the posterior. Thus (since the denominator is a constant) ~~we~~ must take a derivative of the numerator & set to zero.

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{d\theta} (\theta^2 e^{-20\theta}) &= 2\theta e^{-20\theta} + \theta^2 (-20) e^{-20\theta} \\ &= e^{-20\theta} (2\theta - 20\theta^2) = 0 \end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{\hat{\theta} = \frac{1}{10}} .$$

The conditional expectation estimate;

$$E[\theta|X=20] = \frac{\int_0^{1/6} \theta^3 e^{-20\theta} d\theta}{\int_0^{1/6} (\theta')^2 e^{-20\theta'} d\theta'} .$$

Let  $X_i$  denote the wait time for the  $i^{\text{th}}$  Day, we have observations :

3.3

$$X = [x_1, \dots, x_4] = [40, 15, 30, 25].$$

Because all  $X_i$ 's are assumed to be independent,

$$\begin{aligned} P_{X|\theta}(x|\theta) &= P_{X_1|\theta}(x_1|\theta) \cdots P_{X_4|\theta}(x_4|\theta) \\ &= \theta^4 e^{-(40+15+30+25)\theta} = \boxed{\theta^4 e^{-110\theta}}. \end{aligned}$$

Thus the posterior is given by :

$$P_{\theta|X}(\theta|X) = \begin{cases} \frac{\theta^4 e^{-110\theta} \cdot 12\theta}{12 \int_0^{1/6} (\theta')^5 e^{-110\theta'} d\theta'} & , \theta \in [0, 1/6] \\ 0 & , \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

MAP rule :

$$\frac{d}{d\theta} (\theta^5 e^{-110\theta}) = 5\theta^4 e^{-110\theta} + \theta^5 (-110) e^{-110\theta} = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow 5\theta^4 - 110\theta^5 = 0$$

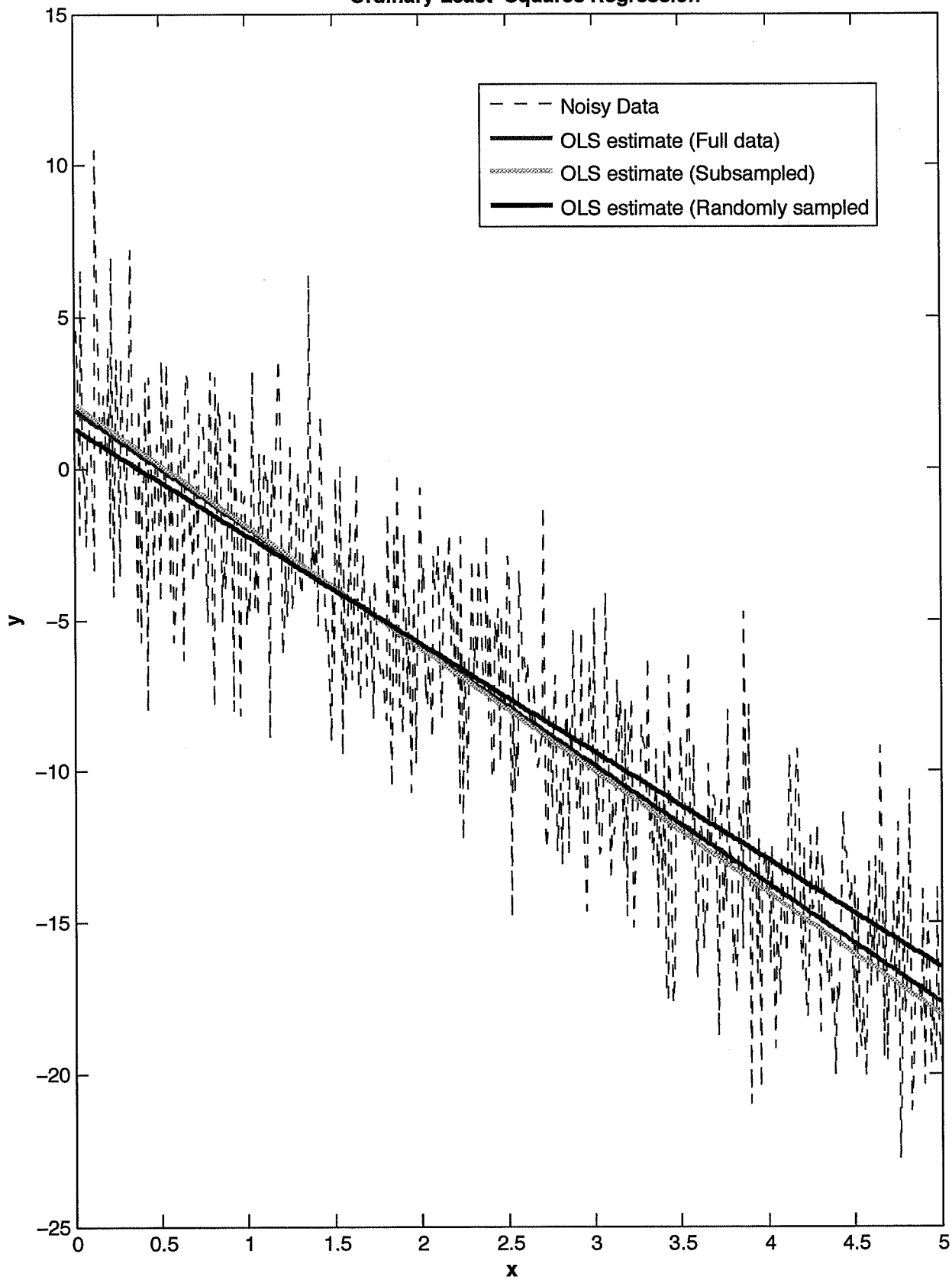
$$\Rightarrow \boxed{\hat{\theta} = \frac{1}{22}} \cdot \boxed{E[\theta|X = 40, 15, 30, 25] = \frac{\int_0^{1/6} \theta^6 e^{-110\theta} d\theta}{\int_0^{1/6} (\theta')^5 e^{-110\theta'} d\theta}}$$

**Problem 4 (MATLAB).** This problem deals with solving a linear regression problem for a set of observed data. You can find the observed data in the matfile, `hw7data.mat`, located on the course webpage. To load this data into MATLAB, type `load hw7data` into the command line. After loading the data, you should have two vectors  $x$  and  $y$  in your workspace, each of size  $500 \times 1$ .

Let  $x \in \mathbb{R}^{500}$  be defined as  $x = [0.01, .02, \dots, 5]$  and let  $y \in \mathbb{R}^{500}$  be a sequence of 500 real-valued observations, where the  $i^{\text{th}}$  observation can be expressed as  $y_i = a_1 + a_2x_i + \eta_i$ , and  $\eta_i$  is a realization of a zero mean Gaussian random variable  $N$  with  $E[N] = 0$  and  $\text{var}(N) = \sigma^2$ .

- (a) Compute the coefficients  $a_1$  and  $a_2$  for: (i) all 500 observations in  $Y$ , (ii) 50 uniform samples (downsample  $Y$  by a factor of 10), and (iii) 100 observations selected at random from  $Y$ .
- (b) With the coefficients computed in part (a), find the estimated signal component  $s$ , where  $s_i = a_1 + a_2x_i$ . Subtract this signal component from the observations  $y$  to obtain a residual component  $r = y - s$ . Compute the  $\ell_2$ -norm (sum of squares) and variance  $\sigma^2$  of the residual for each of the three cases.
- (c) Which estimate is the best and why? Comment on the results obtained in all three cases.

### Ordinary Least-Squares Regression





```
%% Load Data and Initialize Variables

Load HW8data

%% Estimate Slope and Intercept with Ordinary Least Squares

% (a) Using all 500 observations

N = length(y);

Dmat0 = [ones(N,1) x];

aest = pinv(Dmat0)*y;

yest = Dmat0*aest;

% (b) Using 50 uniform samples

newsamp = [1:10:500];

newy = y(newsamp);

Dmat = [ones(50,1) x(newsamp)];

subsamp_aest = pinv(Dmat)*newy;

subsamp_yest = Dmat0*subsamp_aest;

% (c) Using 100 samples selected at random

whichsamp = []; L = length(whichsamp);
while L<100
    tmp = [whichsamp; ceil(rand((100-L),1)*(N-1))];
    whichsamp = unique(tmp);
    L = length(whichsamp);
end

newy2 = y(whichsamp);

Dmat = [ones(100,1) x(whichsamp)];

random_aest = pinv(Dmat)*newy2;

random_yest = Dmat0*random_aest;

%% Plot Results

figure; plot(x,y,'--'); hold on;
plot(x,yest,'r','LineWidth',2);
```

```
plot(x,subsamp_yest,'g','LineWidth',2);  
plot(x,random_yest,'k','LineWidth',2);  
legend('Noisy Data', 'OLS estimate (Full data)', 'OLS estimate (Subsampled)', 'OLS  
estimate (Randomly sampled)')
```