



## Evidence in favor of a scientific theory With great complexity comes great honesty

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# Why Bayesian inference?

# Allows us to optimally update a priori beliefs given a model and data.

# Where comes from?

|                | Not infected | Infected |     |
|----------------|--------------|----------|-----|
| Not vaccinated | 4            | 2        | 6   |
| Vaccinated     | 76           | 18       | 94  |
|                | 80           | 20       | 100 |

From conditional probability

Bayesian inference

## Where comes from?

|                | Not infected | Infected |     |
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| Not vaccinated | 4            | 2        | 6   |
| Vaccinated     | 76           | 18       | 94  |
|                | 80           | 20       | 100 |

#### From conditional probability

 $P(\mathsf{Not infected}|\mathsf{Vaccinated}) = \frac{P(\mathsf{Vaccinated} \cap \mathsf{Not infected})}{P(\mathsf{Vaccinated})}$ 

# Where comes from?

|                | Not infected | Infected |     |
|----------------|--------------|----------|-----|
| Not vaccinated | 4            | 2        | 6   |
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#### From conditional probability

$$P(\mathsf{Not infected} | \mathsf{Vaccinated}) = \frac{P(\mathsf{Vaccinated} \cap \mathsf{Not infected})}{P(\mathsf{Vaccinated})}$$

Bayes theorem:

$$P(A_1|B_1) = \frac{P(B_1 \cap A_1)}{P(B_1)} = \frac{P(B_1|A_1)P(A_1)}{P(B_1)}$$
(1)

Scientific test example

## Scientific test example

There is a test that correctly detects zombies 95% of the time.

• P(positive|zombie) = 0.95

└─Scientific test example

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We know that zombies are only 0.1% of the population.

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Someone receive a positive test: She has **only 8.7% chance** to actually be a zombie!?

 $P(\mathsf{zombie}|\mathsf{positive}) = \frac{P(\mathsf{positive}|\mathsf{zombie})P(\mathsf{zombie})}{P(\mathsf{positive})}$ 

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$$P(\text{zombie}|\text{positive}) = \frac{P(\text{positive}|\text{zombie})P(\text{zombie})}{P(\text{positive})}$$

In this example all frequencies were observables

└─ The inferential jump

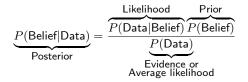
# The inferential jump

#### **Bayesian inference is about hidden variables** About our **belief distributions** of those hidden variables!

└─ The inferential jump

# The inferential jump

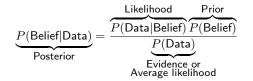
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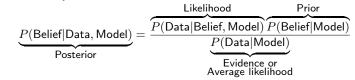
└─ The inferential jump

# The inferential jump

#### Bayesian inference is about hidden variables About our belief distributions of those hidden variables!



A model is always there!



—The inferential jump

• **Prior** belief (distribution):

$$P(B|M) = \frac{1}{\#\mathsf{Beliefs}} \qquad \forall B \in \mathsf{Beliefs}$$

└─ Conditional probability

└─ The inferential jump

• Prior belief (distribution):

$$P(B|M) = \frac{1}{\#\mathsf{Beliefs}} \qquad \forall B \in \mathsf{Beliefs}$$

• Likelihood or ways in which data may have been generated (distribution):

$$P(D|B,M) = \frac{\text{Ways to produce } D \text{ given } B \text{ and } M}{\text{Total ways given } B \text{ and } M} \qquad \forall B \in \text{Beliefs}$$

Conditional probability

└─ The inferential jump

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• Evidence or Average likelihood (scalar):

$$P(D|M) = \sum_{B \in \mathsf{Beliefs}} \underbrace{P(D|B,M)}_{\mathsf{likelihood}} \underbrace{P(B|M)}_{\mathsf{prior}}$$

Conditional probability

└─ The inferential jump

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• Evidence or Average likelihood (scalar):

$$P(D|M) = \sum_{B \in \text{Beliefs}} \underbrace{P(D|B, M)}_{\text{likelihood}} \underbrace{P(B|M)}_{\text{prior}}$$

• **Posterior** belief (distribution):

$$P(B|D,M) = \frac{P(D|B,M)P(B|M)}{P(D|M)} \quad \forall B \in \mathsf{Beliefs}$$

Conditional probability

└─ The garden of forking paths

## The garden of forking paths

To update our beliefs (posterior), we need to consider every possible path in the model that could have lead us to the observed data (likelihood).



└─ The garden of forking paths

## The garden of forking paths

Data (D):  $\bullet \circ \bullet$  Beliefs (B):  $\circ \circ \circ \circ$ ,  $\bullet \circ \circ \circ$ ,  $\bullet \bullet \circ \circ$ ,  $\bullet \bullet \bullet \circ$ ,  $\bullet \bullet \bullet \circ$ 

Model (M): Data  $\sim \text{Binomial}(n, p)$ 

Conditional probability

└─ The garden of forking paths

#### The garden of forking paths

Data (D):  $\bullet \circ \bullet$  Beliefs (B):  $\circ \circ \circ \circ \circ$ ,  $\bullet \circ \circ \circ \circ$ ,  $\bullet \bullet \circ \circ \circ$ ,  $\bullet \bullet \bullet \circ \circ$ ,  $\bullet \bullet \bullet \circ \circ$ 

Model (M): Data  $\sim \text{Binomial}(n, p)$ 



Ways given M and B = 0000

(First marbel)

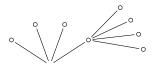
Conditional probability

└─ The garden of forking paths

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Model (M): Data  $\sim \text{Binomial}(n, p)$ 



Ways given M and B = 0000 (Section 1.1.1)

(Second marbel)

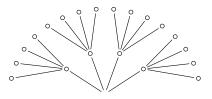
Conditional probability

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Model (M): Data  $\sim \text{Binomial}(n, p)$ 



Ways given M and B = 0000 (S

(Second marbel)

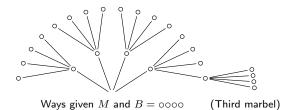
Conditional probability

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Model (M): Data  $\sim \text{Binomial}(n, p)$ 



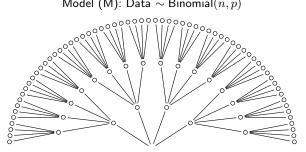
Conditional probability

└─ The garden of forking paths

## The garden of forking paths

Data (D):  $\bullet \bigcirc \bullet$ Beliefs (B): 0000, ●000, ●●00, ●●●0, ●●●

Model (M): Data ~ Binomial(n, p)



Ways given M and B = 0000

(Third marbel)

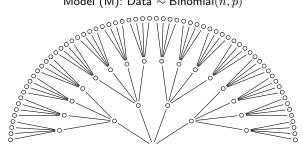


└─ The garden of forking paths

## The garden of forking paths

Data (D):  $\bullet \bigcirc \bullet$ Beliefs (B): 0000, ●000, ●●00, ●●●0, ●●●

Model (M): Data ~ Binomial(n, p)



Ways given M and B = 0000

| Belief | Ways to produce $\bullet \circ \bullet$ |
|--------|---|
|        |   |

0000

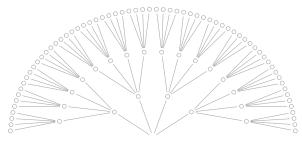
Conditional probability

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Ways given M and B = 0000

| Belief | Ways to produce $\bullet \circ \bullet$ |
|--------|---|
| 0000   | $0 \times 4 \times 0 = 0$               |

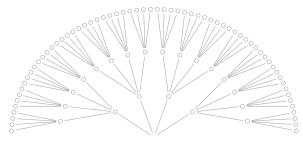
Conditional probability

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Model (M): Data  $\sim \text{Binomial}(n, p)$ 



#### Ways given M and B = 0000

| Belief | Ways to produce $\bullet \circ \bullet$ | Likelihood   | Prior | Posterior $\propto$       |
|--------|---|--|-------|---------------------------|
| 0000   | $0 \times 4 \times 0 = 0$               | $\frac{0 \times 4 \times 0}{4 \times 4 \times 4} = \frac{0}{64}$ | 1/5   | $\frac{0}{64}\frac{1}{5}$ |

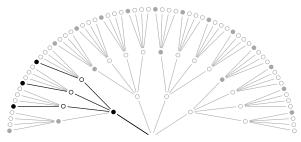
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| ●000   | $1 \times 3 \times 1 = 3$               | 3/64   | 1/5   | $\frac{3}{64}\frac{1}{5}$ |



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| ●●○○         | $2 \times 2 \times 2 = 8$               | 8/64   | 1/5   | $\frac{8}{64}\frac{1}{5}$ |

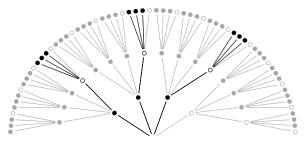


└─ The garden of forking paths

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Model (M): Data  $\sim \text{Binomial}(n, p)$ 



| Belief | Ways to produce $\bullet \circ \bullet$ | Likelihood   | Prior | Posterior $\propto$       |
|--------|---|--|-------|---------------------------|
| 0000   | $0 \times 4 \times 0 = 0$               | $\frac{0 \times 4 \times 0}{4 \times 4 \times 4} = \frac{0}{64}$ | 1/5   | $\frac{0}{64}\frac{1}{5}$ |
| •000   | $1 \times 3 \times 1 = 3$               | 3/64   | 1/5   | $\frac{3}{64}\frac{1}{5}$ |
| ••00   | $2 \times 2 \times 2 = 8$               | 8/64   | 1/5   | $\frac{8}{64}\frac{1}{5}$ |
| •••0   | $3 \times 1 \times 3 = 9$               | 9/64   | 1/5   | $\frac{9}{64}\frac{1}{5}$ |

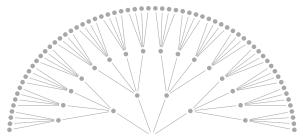
Conditional probability

└─ The garden of forking paths

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| ••••   | $4 \times 0 \times 4 = 0$               | 0/64   | 1/5   | $\frac{0}{64}\frac{1}{5}$ |

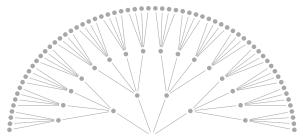
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| Belief       | Ways to produce $\bullet \circ \bullet$ | Likelihood   | Prior | Posterior $\propto$       |
|--------------|---|--|-------|---------------------------|
| 0000         | $0 \times 4 \times 0 = 0$               | $\frac{0 \times 4 \times 0}{4 \times 4 \times 4} = \frac{0}{64}$ | 1/5   | $\frac{0}{64}\frac{1}{5}$ |
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|              |   |  |       | P(D M)                    |

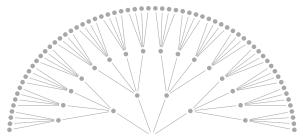
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| Belief                          | Ways to produce $\bullet \circ \bullet$ | Likelihood   | Prior | Posterior $\propto$       |
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| 0000                            | $0 \times 4 \times 0 = 0$               | $\frac{0 \times 4 \times 0}{4 \times 4 \times 4} = \frac{0}{64}$ | 1/5   | $\frac{0}{64}\frac{1}{5}$ |
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|                                 |   |  |       | $\frac{3+8+9}{64\cdot 5}$ |

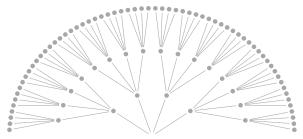
Conditional probability

└─ The garden of forking paths

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Model (M): Data  $\sim \text{Binomial}(n, p)$ 



| Belief       | Ways to produce $\bullet \circ \bullet$ | Likelihood   | Prior | Posterior $\propto$       | Posterior   |
|--------------|---|--|-------|---------------------------|---|
| 0000         | $0 \times 4 \times 0 = 0$               | $\frac{0 \times 4 \times 0}{4 \times 4 \times 4} = \frac{0}{64}$ | 1/5   | $\frac{0}{64}\frac{1}{5}$ | $\frac{0}{64}$ $\frac{1}{5}$ $\frac{64 \cdot 5}{3+8+9}$ |
| <b>●</b> 000 | $1 \times 3 \times 1 = 3$               | 3/64   | 1/5   | $\frac{3}{64}\frac{1}{5}$ |   |
| <b>●●</b> ○○ | $2\times 2\times 2=8$                   | 8/64   | 1/5   | $\frac{8}{64}\frac{1}{5}$ |   |
| •••0         | $3 \times 1 \times 3 = 9$               | 9/64   | 1/5   | $\frac{9}{64}\frac{1}{5}$ |   |
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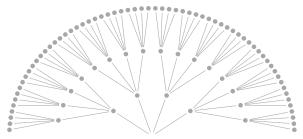
Conditional probability

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Model (M): Data  $\sim \text{Binomial}(n, p)$ 



| Belief                          | Ways to produce $\bullet \circ \bullet$ | Likelihood   | Prior | Posterior $\propto$       | Posterior                |
|---------------------------------|---|--|-------|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| 0000                            | $0 \times 4 \times 0 = 0$               | $\frac{0 \times 4 \times 0}{4 \times 4 \times 4} = \frac{0}{64}$ | 1/5   | $\frac{0}{64}\frac{1}{5}$ | $\frac{0}{3+8+9} = 0.00$ |
| ●000                            | $1 \times 3 \times 1 = 3$               | 3/64   | 1/5   | $\frac{3}{64}\frac{1}{5}$ |                          |
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| $\bullet \bullet \bullet \circ$ | $3 \times 1 \times 3 = 9$               | 9/64   | 1/5   | $\frac{9}{64}\frac{1}{5}$ |                          |
|                                 | $4 \times 0 \times 4 = 0$               | 0/64   | 1/5   | $\frac{0}{64}\frac{1}{5}$ |                          |
|                                 |   |  |       | $\frac{3+8+9}{64\cdot 5}$ |                          |

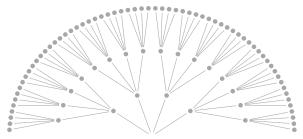
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Model (M): Data  $\sim \text{Binomial}(n, p)$ 



#### Ways given M and $B = \bullet \bullet \bullet \bullet$

| Belief                          | Ways to produce $\bullet \circ \bullet$ | Likelihood   | Prior | Posterior $\propto$       | Posterior                |
|---------------------------------|---|--|-------|---------------------------|--------------------------|
| 0000                            | $0 \times 4 \times 0 = 0$               | $\frac{0 \times 4 \times 0}{4 \times 4 \times 4} = \frac{0}{64}$ | 1/5   | $\frac{0}{64}\frac{1}{5}$ | $\frac{0}{3+8+9} = 0.00$ |
| ●000                            | $1 \times 3 \times 1 = 3$               | 3/64   | 1/5   | $\frac{3}{64}\frac{1}{5}$ | $\frac{3}{3+8+9} = 0.15$ |
| <b>●●</b> ○○                    | $2\times 2\times 2=8$                   | 8/64   | 1/5   | $\frac{8}{64}\frac{1}{5}$ | $\frac{8}{3+8+9} = 0.40$ |
| $\bullet \bullet \bullet \circ$ | $3 \times 1 \times 3 = 9$               | 9/64   | 1/5   | $\frac{9}{64}\frac{1}{5}$ | $\frac{9}{3+8+9} = 0.45$ |
| ••••                            | $4 \times 0 \times 4 = 0$               | 0/64   | 1/5   | $\frac{0}{64}\frac{1}{5}$ | $\frac{0}{3+8+9} = 0.00$ |
|                                 |   |  |       | $\frac{3+8+9}{64\cdot 5}$ |                          |

Conditional probability

└─ The garden of (continuous) forking paths

## Bayesian skill estimator

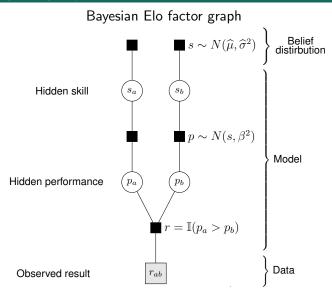
How to estimate skill of players?



## Arpad Elo

Bayesian inference

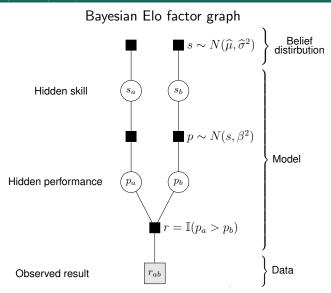
Conditional probability



Bayesian inference

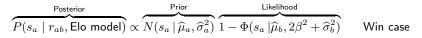
Conditional probability

└─ The garden of (continuous) forking paths

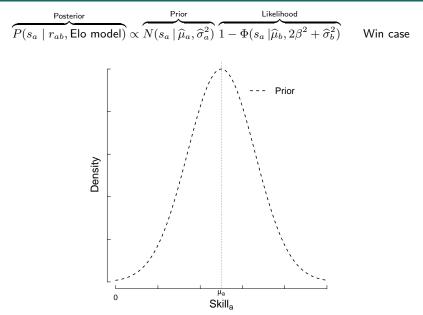


The factor graphs specifies the way to compute the posterior, likelihood, and evidence. Kschischang FR, Frey BJ, Loeliger HA. Factor graphs and the sum-product algorithm. 2001

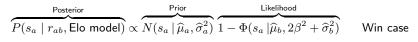
Conditional probability

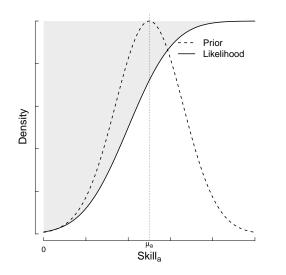


Conditional probability

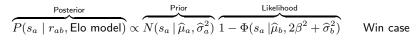


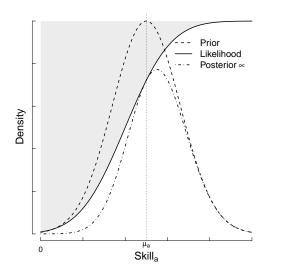
Conditional probability



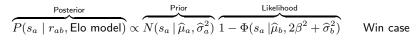


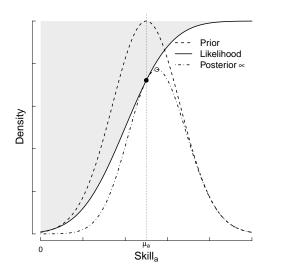
Conditional probability



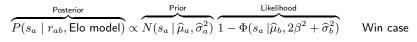


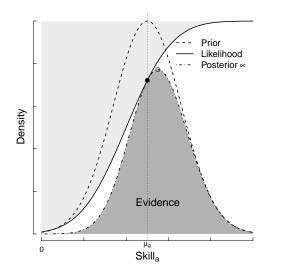
Conditional probability





Conditional probability

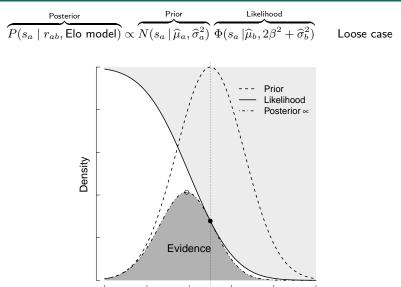




Conditional probability

The garden of (continuous) forking paths

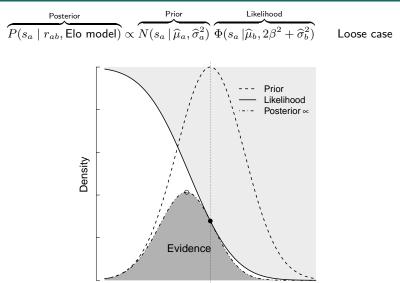
0



μ<sub>a</sub> Skill<sub>a</sub>

Conditional probability

└─ The garden of (continuous) forking paths



For a detailed demostration, see Landfried. TrueSkill: Technical Report. 2019

0

μ<sub>a</sub>

Skilla

# Bayesian model inference

• Which are our beliefs about different hidden models M?

# Bayesian model inference

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$$P(M_k|D) = \frac{P(D|M_k)P(M_k)}{\sum_{i=1}^{n} P(D|M_i)P(M_i)}$$

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$$\stackrel{*}{=} \frac{\frac{P(D|M_q)}{P(D|M_r)}}{\underbrace{\frac{P(D|M_q)}{P(D|M_r)}}_{\text{Evidence!}}} * \overset{\text{With no prior preferences}}{\overset{\text{With no prior preferences}$$

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 $P(M_q|D) > P(M_r|D) \iff P(D|M_q) > P(D|M_r)$ 

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All you need is evidence

## Bayesian model inference

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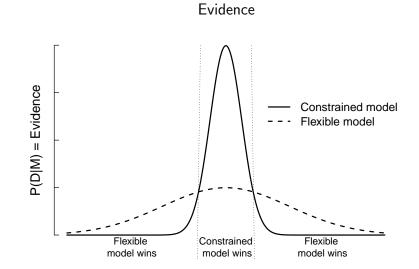
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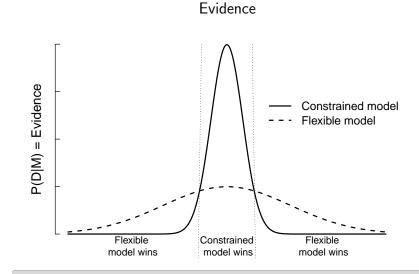
## All you need is evidence

For a dicussion of bayes factor see Kass & Raftery. Bayes factors. 1995.





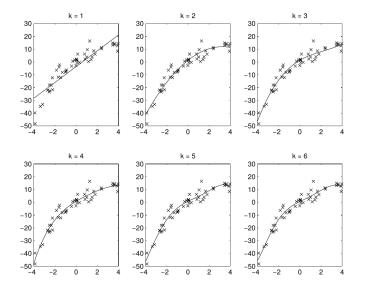




Evience encode a trade-off between complexity and prediction.

#### — Evidence

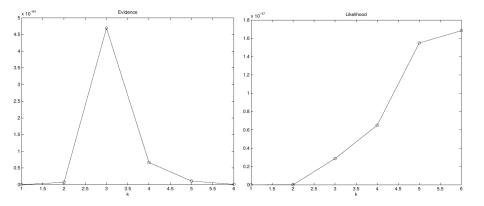
## Evidence vs maximum likelihood



Bayesian inference

Evidence

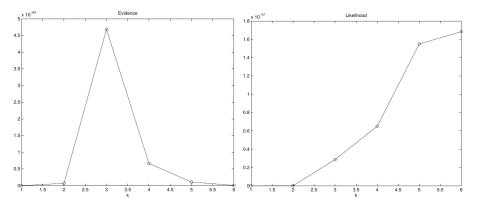
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Bayesian inference

Evidence

## Evidence vs maximum likelihood

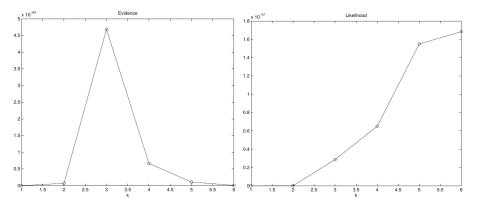


With evidence there is no need for regularization

Bayesian inference

Evidence

## Evidence vs maximum likelihood



#### With evidence there is no need for regularization

For more examples see Tom Minka

Evidence

# Why evidence is not widely used in machine learning?

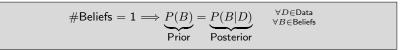
L Evidence

# Why evidence is not widely used in machine learning?

First let's take a look at Bayesian no-doubt case

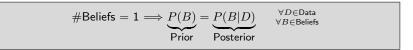
# Bayesian no-doubt case

#### Fixed beliefs, even with infinite new data



# Bayesian no-doubt case

#### Fixed beliefs, even with infinite new data



Likelihood is just the Evidence

#Beliefs = 1  $\iff$  Likelihood = Evidence

### Who has no doubt? Who has only one belief?

• God (if exists)

- God (if exists)
- Mathematicians (and other non-empricial sciences)

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- Maybe some extremists

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- Maybe some extremists
- All non-bayesian machine learning (the hacked-belief approach)

Bayesian inference

└─Bayesian no-doubt case

└─ The hacked-belief approach

#### The hacked-belief approach

# The best belief after seeing the data maximum likelihood estimator = $\operatorname*{argmax}_B P(D|B,M) = \widehat{B}$

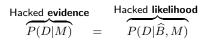
Bayesian inference

Bayesian no-doubt case

└─ The hacked-belief approach

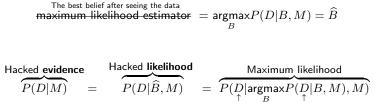
#### The hacked-belief approach

The best belief after seeing the data maximum likelihood estimator 
$$= \operatorname*{argmax}_B P(D|B,M) = \widehat{B}$$



└─ The hacked-belief approach

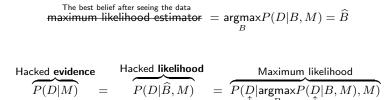
# The hacked-belief approach



Data appears back and forth!!

└─ The hacked-belief approach

### The hacked-belief approach

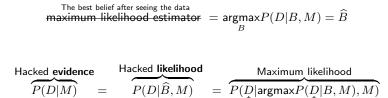


Data appears back and forth!!

# Hacked evidence (with MLE) = Maximum likelihood

└─ The hacked-belief approach

### The hacked-belief approach



Data appears back and forth!!

Hacked evidence (with MLE) = Maximum likelihood

With great hacked-belief approach comes great overfitting!

Bayesian inference

Bayesian no-doubt case

└─ The hacked-belief approach

With great overfitting comes great regularization!

The best belief after seeing the data maximum a posteriori (estimator) = 
$$\underset{B}{\operatorname{argmax}}P(D|B,M)P(B|M) = \widehat{B}$$

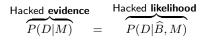
Bayesian inference

Bayesian no-doubt case

└─ The hacked-belief approach

With great overfitting comes great regularization!

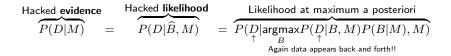
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└─ The hacked-belief approach

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The hacked-belief approach

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$$\underbrace{\begin{array}{l} \text{Hacked evidence} \\ \widehat{P(D|M)} \end{array}}_{P(D|M)} = \underbrace{\begin{array}{l} \text{Hacked likelihood} \\ \widehat{P(D|\widehat{B},M)} \end{array}}_{P(D|\widehat{B},M)} = \underbrace{\begin{array}{l} \text{Likelihood at maximum a posteriori} \\ \widehat{P(D|\text{argmax}P(D|B,M)P(B|M),M)} \\ \underset{Again data appears back and forth!! \end{array}}{} \\ \underbrace{\begin{array}{l} \text{Likelihood at maximum a posteriori} \\ \widehat{P(D|\widehat{B},M)} \end{array}}_{Again data appears back and forth!!} \\ \underbrace{\begin{array}{l} \text{Likelihood at maximum a posteriori} \\ \widehat{P(D|B,M)} \end{array}}_{Again data appears back and forth!!} \\ \underbrace{\begin{array}{l} \text{Likelihood at maximum a posteriori} \\ \widehat{P(D|B,M)} \end{array}}_{Again data appears back and forth!!} \\ \underbrace{\begin{array}{l} \text{Likelihood at maximum a posteriori} \\ \widehat{P(D|B,M)} \end{array}}_{Again data appears back and forth!} \\ \underbrace{\begin{array}{l} \text{Likelihood at maximum a posteriori} \\ \widehat{P(D|B,M)} \end{array}}_{Again data appears back and forth!} \\ \underbrace{\begin{array}{l} \text{Likelihood at maximum a posteriori} \\ \widehat{P(D|B,M)} \end{array}}_{Again data appears back and forth!} \\ \underbrace{\begin{array}{l} \text{Likelihood at maximum a posteriori} \\ \widehat{P(D|B,M)} \end{array}}_{Again data appears back and forth!} \\ \underbrace{\begin{array}{l} \text{Likelihood at maximum a posteriori} \\ \widehat{P(D|B,M)} \end{array}}_{Again data appears back and forth!} \\ \underbrace{\begin{array}{l} \text{Likelihood at maximum a posteriori} \\ \widehat{P(D|B,M)} \end{array}}_{Again data appears back and forth!} \\ \underbrace{\begin{array}{l} \text{Likelihood at maximum a posteriori} \\ \widehat{P(D|B,M)} \end{array}}_{Again data appears back and forth!} \\ \underbrace{\begin{array}{l} \text{Likelihood at maximum a posteriori} \\ \widehat{P(D|B,M)} \end{array}}_{Again data appears back and forth!} \\ \underbrace{\begin{array}{l} \text{Likelihood at maximum a posteriori} \\ \widehat{P(D|B,M)} \end{array}}_{Again data appears back and forth!} \\ \underbrace{\begin{array}{l} \text{Likelihood at maximum a posteriori} \\ \widehat{P(D|B,M)} \end{array}}_{Again data appears back and forth!} \\ \underbrace{\begin{array}{l} \text{Likelihood at maximum a posteriori} \\ \widehat{P(D|B,M)} \end{array}}_{Again data appears back and forth } \\ \underbrace{\begin{array}{l} \text{Likelihood at maximum a posteriori} \\ \widehat{P(D|B,M)} \end{array}}_{Again data appears back and forth } \\ \underbrace{\begin{array}{l} \text{Likelihood at maximum a posteriori} \\ \widehat{P(D|B,M)} \end{array}}_{Again data appears back and forth } \\ \underbrace{\begin{array}{l} \text{Likelihood at maximum a posteriori} \\ \\ \widehat{P(D|B,M)} \end{array}}_{Again data appears back and forth } \\ \underbrace{\begin{array}{l} \text{Likelihood at maximum a posteriori} \\ \\ \widehat{P(D|B,M)} \end{array}}_{Again data$$

Hacked evidence (with MAP) = L2 or L1 regularization

└─ The hacked-belief approach

With great overfitting comes great regularization!

The best belief after seeing the data  
maximum a posteriori (estimator) = 
$$\underset{B}{\operatorname{argmax}}P(D|B,M)P(B|M) = \widehat{B}$$

$$\overbrace{P(D|M)}^{\text{Hacked evidence}} = \overbrace{P(D|\widehat{B}, M)}^{\text{Hacked likelihood}} = \overbrace{P(D|\widehat{B}, M)}^{\text{Likelihood at maximum a posteriori}} = \overbrace{P(D| \operatorname{argmax}_B P(D|B, M) P(B|M), M)}^{\text{Likelihood at maximum a posteriori}}$$

Hacked evidence (with MAP) = L2 or L1 regularization

For more regularization techniques for hacked-belief approach see Zivik talk. With great complexity comes great regularization

└─ The hacked-belief approach

# Evidence and data science metrics

The hacked-belief approach

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Evidence P(D|M)

└─ The hacked-belief approach

# Evidence and data science metrics

$$\overbrace{P(D|M)}^{\text{Evidence}} \propto \log P(D|M)$$

└─ The hacked-belief approach

# Evidence and data science metrics

$$\overbrace{P(D|M)}^{\text{Evidence}} \propto \log P(D|M) = \log \left( \prod_{i=1}^{|D|} P(D_i|M) \right)$$

└─ The hacked-belief approach

# Evidence and data science metrics

$$\underbrace{\widetilde{P(D|M)}}_{P(D|M)} \propto \log P(D|M) = \log \left( \prod_{i=1}^{|D|} P(D_i|M) \right) \\ = \sum_{i=1}^{|D|} \log P(D_i|M)$$

└─ The hacked-belief approach

# Evidence and data science metrics

$$\begin{split} \overbrace{P(D|M)}^{\text{Evidence}} \propto \log P(D|M) &= \log \left( \prod_{i=1}^{|D|} P(D_i|M) \right) \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^{|D|} \log P(D_i|M) \\ &\propto \frac{1}{|D|} \sum_{i=1}^{|D|} \log P(D_i|M) \end{split}$$

└─ The hacked-belief approach

# Evidence and data science metrics

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└─ The hacked-belief approach

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└─ The hacked-belief approach

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The hacked-belief approach

# Evidence and data science metrics

Is there any data science metrics equivalent to evidence?

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Evidence  $\propto$  Cross entropy

└─ The hacked-belief approach

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Evidence  $\propto$  Cross entropy (at validation data set, if hacked-belief approach)