Math 102

Krishanu Sankar

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Announcements

Review Sessions for Thursday 10/25 Midterm

- Monday 10/22 in Buchanan A201, 3-7pm
- Tuesday 10/23 in CHBE 101, 3-7pm

Reminder: OSH deadlines are at 9pm.

If you have an issue with submission, send me a message with your OSH by before 12 midnight.

Goals Today

 Optimal Foraging - optimizing long-term average rate of gain subject to constraints.

Least Squares - using optimization to fit a set of data points with a best-fit trend line Tradeoff between Math and Chemistry depends on difficulty of math exam, k. https://www.desmos.com/calculator/73d5om1uwo

Recall: from OSH 2

Bears search for berries in patches that grow in patches that can be spread out across a large area. A bear will spend time in one patch gathering food before moving to another patch. The number of berries collected in a patch depends on the amount of time spent in the patch:

$$f(t) = \frac{At}{k+t}$$

https://www.desmos.com/calculator/cwkxvbdpj2

f(t) = Total food collected

Question: For each graph, give a verbal description of how the **food collection rate** behaves over time.



How long should I spend per food patch?

- Stay too long in one patch diminishing returns as the patch gets depleted.
- Leave a patch too early spend unnecessary time traveling.



Optimal Foraging

Maximize average rate of **food collected per unit** time

$$R(t) = \frac{\text{food collected per patch}}{\text{travel time} + \text{time in patch}} = \frac{f(t)}{\tau + t}$$

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- Bear can't control \(\tau = \text{ travel time per patch.}\) Treat this as a constant. Same with A and k.
- Bear can control t = time spent per patch. Treat this as a variable.



$$R(t) = \frac{At}{(\tau+t)(k+t)}$$

'If the bear chooses to spend t minutes in each patch, the overall **average rate** of food collection will be $\frac{At}{(\tau+t)(k+t)}$.'

Goal: Maximize R(t), i.e. maximize efficiency.

• For small $t: R \approx \frac{A}{\tau k} t$ (linear)

For small t: R ≈ A/(τk)t (linear)
For large t: R ≈ At/(t⋅t) = A/t

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To figure out which sketch is accurate, let's find the **critical points.**

Maximize
$$R(t) = \frac{At}{(\tau+t)(k+t)}$$

Find the critical points

$$R'(t) = A \frac{k\tau - t^2}{(k+t)^2(\tau+t)^2} = 0$$

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Keep the positive root: $t = \sqrt{k\tau}$.

CP at $t = \sqrt{k\tau}$

Question: Give an airtight argument that $t = \sqrt{k\tau}$ is the global maximum of R(t). (Hint: Think about sketching the derivative R'(t))



Bear eating berries

Question: The graph on the left shows f(t) in summer, while the graph on the right shows f(t) in autumn.



Should the bear spend more time per patch in summer, or in autumn?

Bear eating berries

Question: The graph on the left shows f(t) in summer, while the graph on the right shows f(t) in autumn.



Should the bear spend more time per patch in summer, or in autumn? Autumn - larger $k \implies \sqrt{k\tau}$ is larger.

Another application - Optimal studying

- As you study a subject, you get tired. Your efficiency decreases. Knowledge gained after t minutes of study: f(t).
- Length of study break: τ .

Long-term average rate of knowledge gained if you spend t minutes before taking breaks:

$$R(t) = \frac{f(t)}{\tau + t}$$

Data-fitting

Question: Given a collection of observed data points, how to find the best-fit line?



Data-fitting

Approach: Consider all possible lines, and pick the one which minimizes error.





Points: $(x_1, y_1), (x_2, y_2), \dots, (x_n, y_n)$ Line: y = ax for some a



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Approach: Minimize the sum of squared residuals

$$r_1^2 + \ldots + r_n^2 = (ax_1 - y_1)^2 + \ldots + (ax_n - y_n)^2$$



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Approach: Minimize the sum of squared residuals

$$r_1^2 + \ldots + r_n^2 = (ax_1 - y_1)^2 + \ldots + (ax_n - y_n)^2$$

Question: What is the variable here? Answer: a

$$SSR(a) = (ax_1 - y_1)^2 + \ldots + (ax_n - y_n)^2$$

Find the critical points:

$$SSR'(a) = 2(ax_1 - y_1)x_1 + \ldots + 2(ax_n - y_n)x_n = 0$$

$$(ax_1 - y_1)x_1 + \ldots + (ax_n - y_n)x_n = 0$$
$$ax_1^2 + ax_2^2 + \ldots + ax_n^2 = x_1y_1 + x_2y_2 + \ldots + x_ny_n$$

$$a = \frac{x_1 y_1 + x_2 y_2 + \ldots + x_n y_n}{x_1^2 + x_2^2 + \ldots + x_n^2}$$

Exercise: Calculate the second derivative, SSR''(a), to show that this is a minimum!

i	1	2	3	4
x_i	2	3	5	6
y_i	1.5	2	3	4.5









i1 2 3 4 x_i 2 3 5 6 1.5 2 3 4.5 $y_i \parallel$



Recap

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