

Bayesian estimation using interval analysis

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Calcul ensembliste

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1 Motivations

Model : $\phi(\mathbf{p}, t) = p_1 e^{-p_2 t}$.

Parameters : p_1, p_2 .

Sampling times : t_1, t_2, \dots, t_m

Data bars : $[y_1^-, y_1^+], [y_2^-, y_2^+], \dots, [y_m^-, y_m^+]$

Feasible set :

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{S} &= \left\{ \mathbf{p} \in \mathbb{R}^2, \forall i \in \{1, \dots, m\}, \phi(\mathbf{p}, t_i) \in [y_i^-, y_i^+] \right\}. \\ &= \phi^{-1}([\mathbf{y}]). \end{aligned}$$

SetDemo (Guillaume Baffet)

2 Problem

Consider a function $f(\mathbf{p})$ positive for all $\mathbf{p} \in \mathbb{R}^n$, such as $\int_{\mathbb{R}^n} f(\mathbf{p})d\mathbf{p}$ is finite and a real number $\alpha \in [0, 1]$. Characterize the set S_α defined by

$$\begin{aligned} \text{(i)} \quad S_\alpha &= f^{-1}([s_\alpha, +\infty[), \\ \text{(ii)} \quad \frac{\int_{S_\alpha} f(\mathbf{p})d\mathbf{p}}{\int_{\mathbb{R}^n} f(\mathbf{p})d\mathbf{p}} &= \alpha. \end{aligned}$$

The set S_α is the confidence region associated with the unnormalized pdf f .

It corresponds to the smallest set which contains \mathbf{p} with a probability equal to α .

Example : Consider a random variable p , described by the unnormalized pdf:

$$f(p) = \exp\left(-\frac{p^2}{2}\right).$$

Let us compute its confidence region $\mathbb{S}_{0.95}$. Since,

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \exp\left(-\frac{p^2}{2}\right) dp = \sqrt{2\pi},$$

we should solve

- (i) $\mathbb{S}_{0.95} = f^{-1}([s_\alpha, +\infty[),$
- (ii) $\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{\mathbb{S}_\alpha} f(\mathbf{p}) d\mathbf{p} = 0.95.$

For this example, $\mathbb{S}_{0.95} = [-b, b]$. Thus

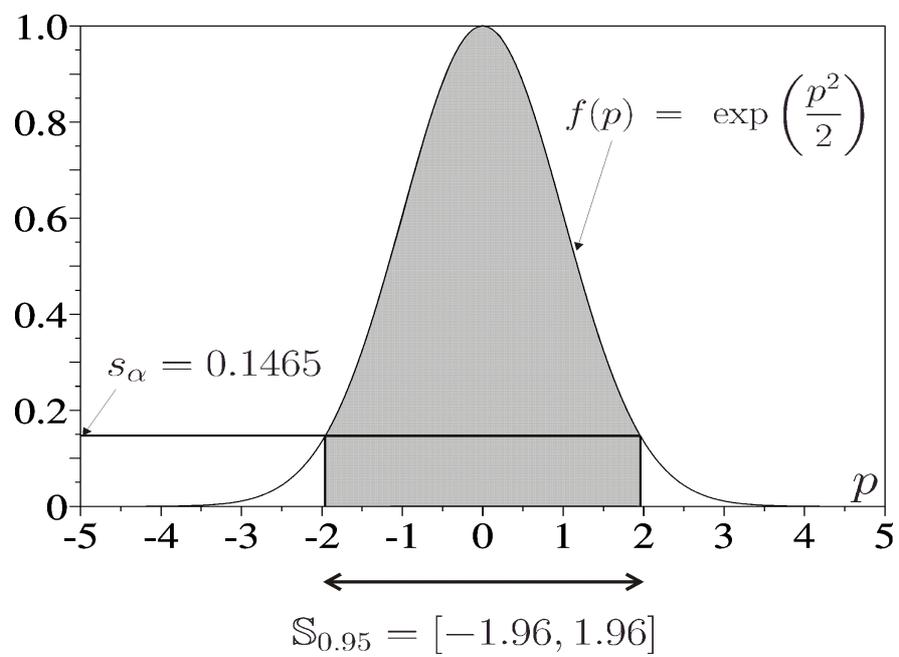
$$\begin{aligned} \text{(i)} \quad & [-b, b] = f^{-1}([s_\alpha, +\infty[), \\ \text{(ii)} \quad & \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-b}^b \exp\left(-\frac{p^2}{2}\right) dp = 0.95. \end{aligned}$$

After integration

$$\begin{aligned} \text{(i)} \quad & [-b, b] = f^{-1}([s_\alpha, +\infty[), \\ \text{(ii)} \quad & \operatorname{erf}\left(\frac{1}{2}b\sqrt{2}\right) = 0.95. \end{aligned}$$

We get $b = 1.96$. Finally,

$$\begin{aligned} S_{0.95} &= [-1.96, 1.96]. \\ s_\alpha &= f(b) = \exp\left(-\frac{1.96^2}{2}\right) = 0.1465. \end{aligned}$$



3 Lattices and intervals

A *lattice* (\mathcal{E}, \leq) is a partially ordered set, closed under least upper and greatest lower bounds.

The least upper bound (*join*) of x and y is written $x \vee y$.

The greatest lower bound (*meet*) is written $x \wedge y$.

A lattice \mathcal{E} is *complete* if for all subsets \mathcal{A} of \mathcal{E} , $\vee \mathcal{A}$ and $\wedge \mathcal{A}$ belong to \mathcal{E} .

Example 1 : The set \mathbb{R} is not a complete lattice whereas $\overline{\mathbb{R}} = \mathbb{R} \cup \{-\infty, \infty\}$ is.

Example 2 : The set \mathbb{R}^n is a lattice with respect to the partial order relation given by

$$\mathbf{x} \leq \mathbf{y} \Leftrightarrow \forall i \in \{1, \dots, n\}, x_i \leq y_i.$$

We have

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{x} \wedge \mathbf{y} &= (\min(x_1, y_1), \dots, \min(x_n, y_n)) \text{ and} \\ \mathbf{x} \vee \mathbf{y} &= (\max(x_1, y_1), \dots, \max(x_n, y_n)). \end{aligned}$$

An *interval* $[x]$ of a complete lattice \mathcal{E} is a subset of \mathcal{E} which satisfies

$$[x] = \{x \in \mathcal{E} \mid \wedge [x] \leq x \leq \vee [x]\} .$$

Both \emptyset and \mathcal{E} are intervals of \mathcal{E} .

The sets $[0, 1]_{\bar{\mathbb{R}}}$ and $[0, \infty]_{\bar{\mathbb{R}}}$ are intervals of $\bar{\mathbb{R}}$.

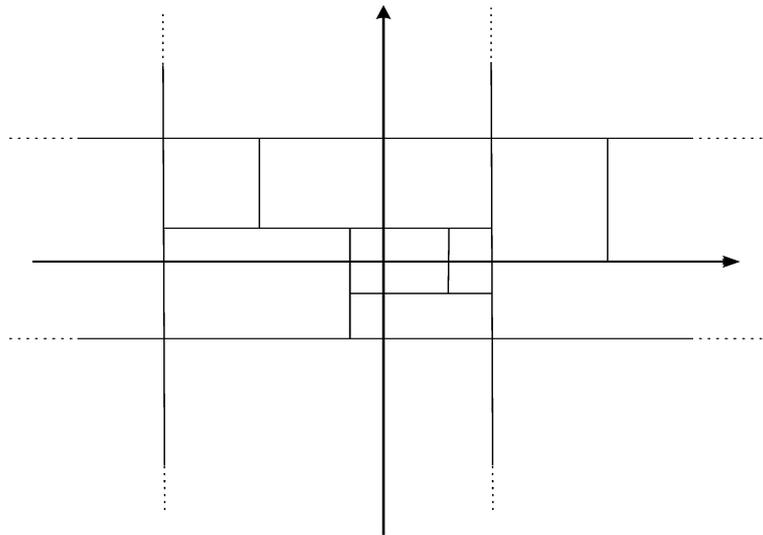
The set $\{2, 3, 4, 5\} = [2, 5]_{\bar{\mathbb{N}}}$ is an interval of $\bar{\mathbb{N}}$.

The set $\{4, 6, 8, 10\} = [4, 10]_{2\bar{\mathbb{N}}}$ is an interval of $2\bar{\mathbb{N}}$.

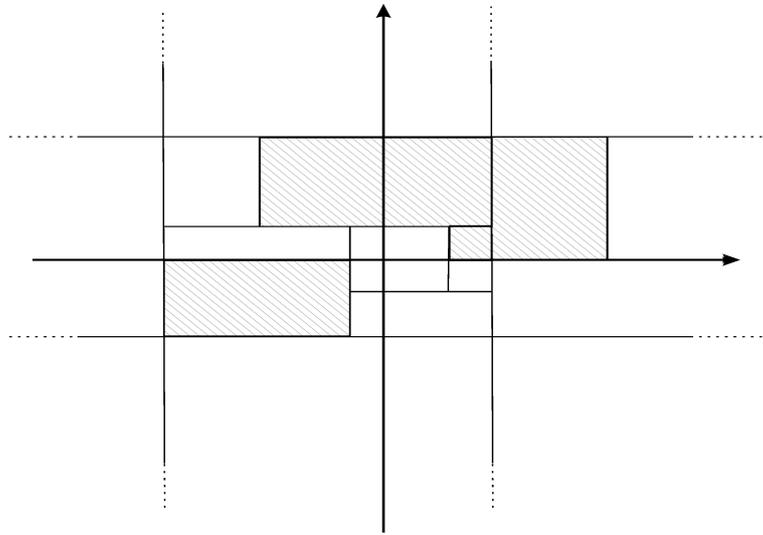
The set $[1, 2] \times [3, 4) = [(1, 3), (2, 4)]_{\bar{\mathbb{R}}^2}$ is an interval of $\bar{\mathbb{R}}^2$.

4 Interval subpavings

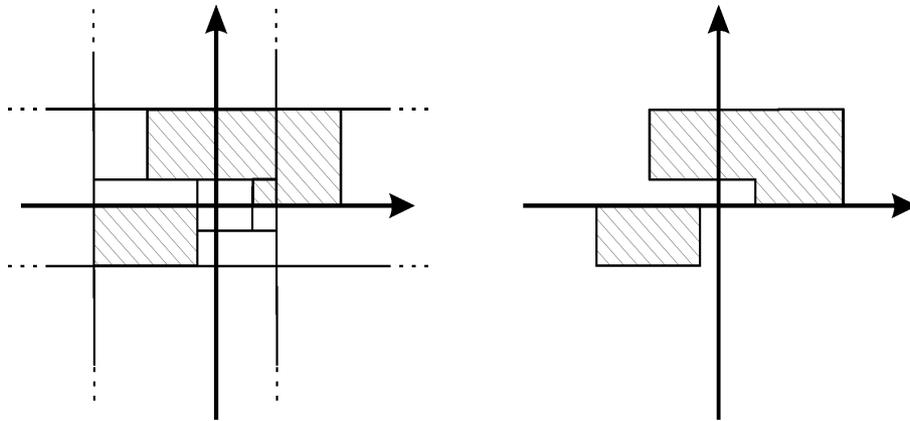
A *paving* \mathcal{Q} of \mathbb{R}^n is a set of nonoverlapping boxes covering \mathbb{R}^n .



A *subpaving* of \mathcal{Q} is a subset of \mathcal{Q} .



The *support* $\{\mathcal{K}\} \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ of a subpaving \mathcal{K} is the union of all boxes of \mathcal{K} .



If $\mathcal{P}(\mathcal{Q})$ denotes the set of all subpavings of \mathcal{Q} then $(\mathcal{P}(\mathcal{Q}), \subset)$ is a complete lattice.

- The least upper bound (*join*) is the union:

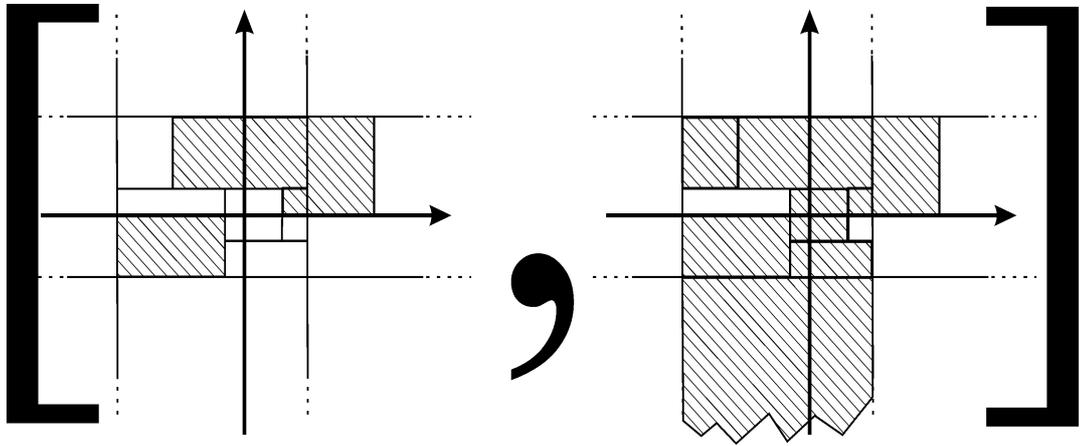
$$\mathcal{K}_1 \vee \mathcal{K}_2 = \mathcal{K}_1 \cup \mathcal{K}_2.$$

- The greatest lower bound (*meet*) is the intersection

$$\mathcal{K}_1 \wedge \mathcal{K}_2 = \mathcal{K}_1 \cap \mathcal{K}_2.$$

As a consequence intervals of $(\mathcal{P}(\mathcal{Q}), \subset)$ can be defined.

An interval subpaving $[\mathcal{K}^-, \mathcal{K}^+]$ of \mathcal{Q} can be represented by pair of subpavings of \mathcal{Q} such that $\mathcal{K}^- \subset \mathcal{K}^+$.



Example : Consider the paving of \mathbb{R} defined by

$$\mathcal{Q} = \{] - \infty, 0], [0, 1], [1, 2], [2, 3], [3, \infty[\} .$$

Three possible interval subpavings of \mathcal{Q} are

$$[\mathcal{K}_1^-; \mathcal{K}_1^+] = [\{] - \infty, 0], [1, 2] \} ; \{] - \infty, 0], [1, 2], [2, 3] \}] ,$$

$$[\mathcal{K}_2^-; \mathcal{K}_2^+] = [\{ [1, 2] \} ; \{ [1, 2] \}] ,$$

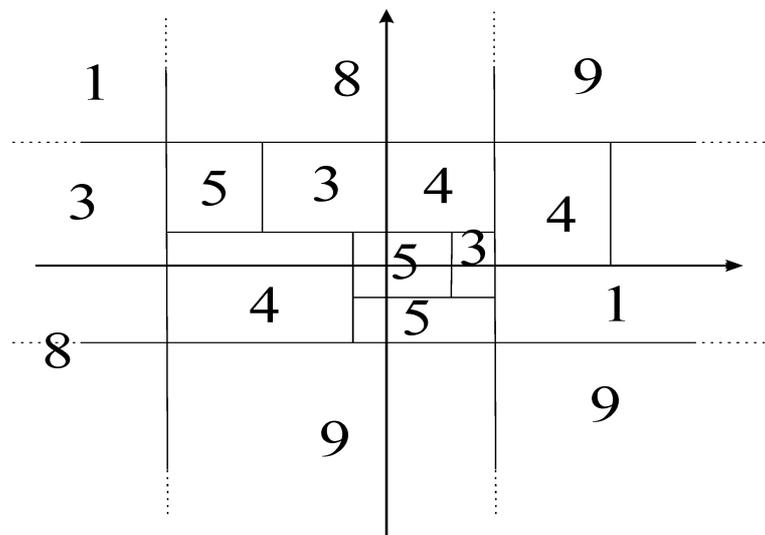
$$[\mathcal{K}_3^-; \mathcal{K}_3^+] = [\{ \} ; \{ \}] .$$

Definition:

$$\mathcal{S} \in [\mathcal{K}^-, \mathcal{K}^+] \Leftrightarrow \{\mathcal{K}^-\} \subset \mathcal{S} \subset \{\mathcal{K}^+\}.$$

5 Interval staircase functions

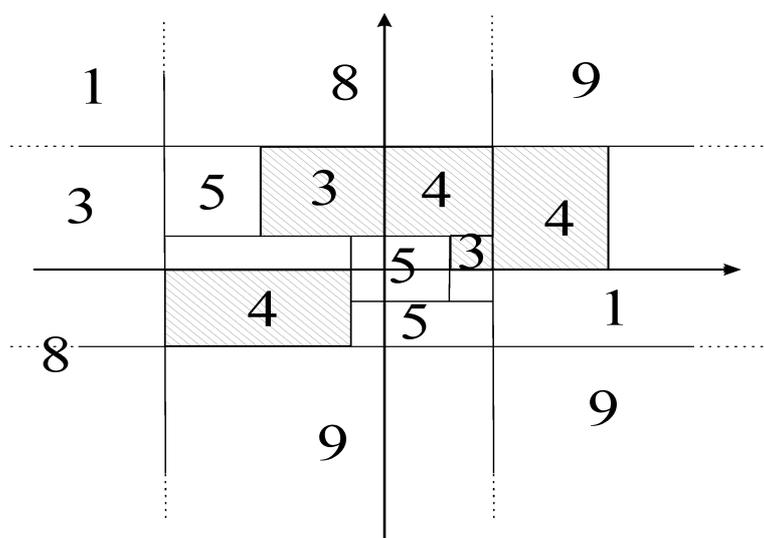
A staircase function \hat{f} associated with a paving \mathcal{Q} is a function from \mathcal{Q} to $\bar{\mathbb{R}}$.



If $[s] = [s^-, s^+] \in \mathbb{I}\mathbb{R}$, the *reciprocal image* of $[s]$ by \hat{f} is the subpaving of \mathcal{Q} defined by

$$\hat{f}^{-1}([s]) \triangleq \{[p] \in \mathcal{Q} \mid \hat{f}([p]) \in [s^-, s^+]\}.$$

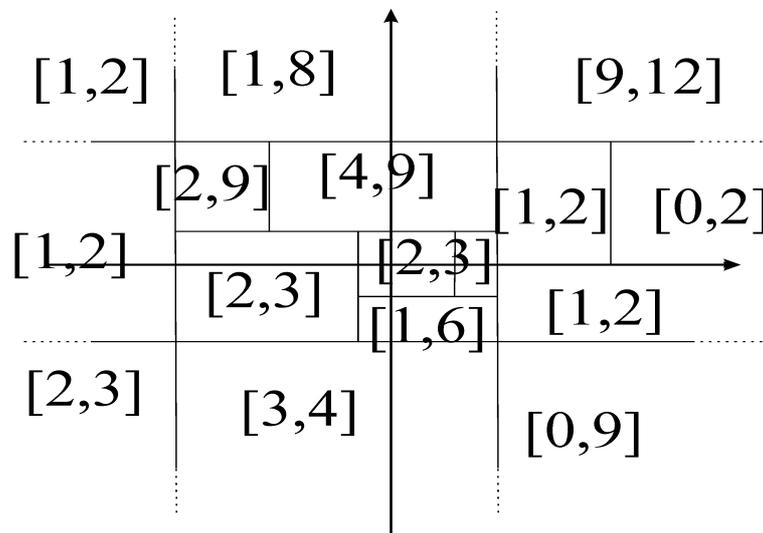
For instance, $\hat{f}^{-1}([2, 4])$ is represented as



The set of all staircase functions $(\hat{\mathcal{F}}, \leq)$ is a complete lattice. Interval staircase functions can thus be defined

An interval staircase function $[\hat{f}] = [\hat{f}^-, \hat{f}^+]$ can be represented a pair of two staircase functions such that

$$\forall [p] \in \mathcal{Q}, \hat{f}^-([p]) \leq \hat{f}^+([p]).$$



A function f from $\mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is said to belong to the interval staircase function $[\hat{f}]$ if

$$\forall [\mathbf{p}] \in \mathcal{Q}, \forall \mathbf{p} \in [\mathbf{p}], f(\mathbf{p}) \in [\hat{f}^-([\mathbf{p}]), \hat{f}^+([\mathbf{p}])].$$

An interval staircase function for a function $f : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ can easily be obtained by using interval techniques.

The *reciprocal image* of the interval $[s^-, s^+] \in \mathbb{IR}$ by the interval staircase function $[\hat{f}] = [\hat{f}^-, \hat{f}^+]$ is the interval subpaving of \mathcal{Q} defined by

$$[\hat{f}]^{-1}([s^-, s^+]) \triangleq \left[\begin{array}{l} \{[\mathbf{p}] \in \mathcal{Q} \mid [\hat{f}]([\mathbf{p}]) \subset [s^-, s^+]\} . \\ \{[\mathbf{p}] \in \mathcal{Q} \mid [\hat{f}]([\mathbf{p}]) \cap [s^-, s^+] \neq \emptyset\} \end{array} \right]$$

Theorem

If f belongs to $[\hat{f}]$, then for all $[s^-, s^+] \in \mathbb{IR}$,

$$f^{-1}([s^-, s^+]) \in [\hat{f}]^{-1}([s^-, s^+]).$$

Example: If $[s^-, s^+] = [16, \infty[$ and $\mathcal{Q} = \{[i, i + 1], i \in \mathbb{N}\}$, then

$$\{[p] \in \mathcal{Q} \mid [\hat{f}]([p]) \subset [s^-, s^+] \}$$

$$= \{[-1, 0], [0, 1]\} \equiv [-1, 1],$$

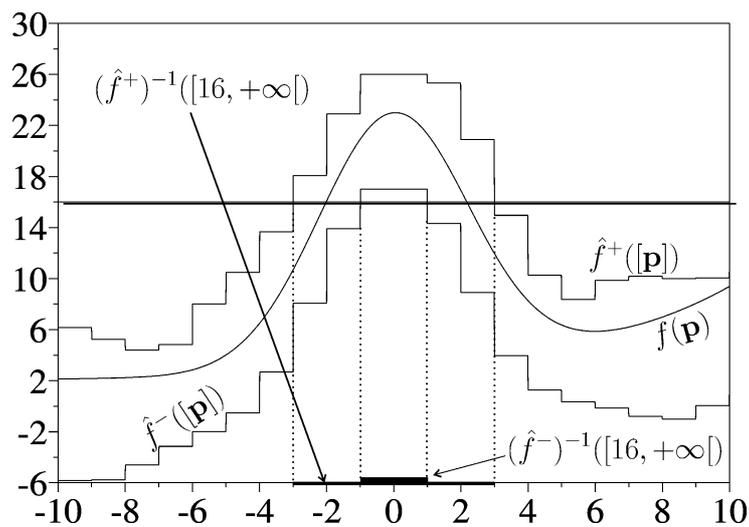
$$\{[p] \in \mathcal{Q} \mid [\hat{f}]([p]) \cap [s^-, s^+] \neq \emptyset\}$$

$$= \{[-3, -2], [-2, -1], [-1, 0], [0, 1], [1, 2], [2, 3]\}$$

$$\equiv [-3, 3].$$

We have

$$[-1, 1] \subset f^{-1}([16, \infty[) \subset [-3, 3].$$



If $[\mathcal{K}^-, \mathcal{K}^+]$ is an interval subpaving of \mathcal{Q} and if $[\hat{f}]$ is a positive interval staircase function, the *integral* of $[\hat{f}]$ over $[\mathcal{K}^-, \mathcal{K}^+]$ is

$$\int_{[\mathcal{K}^-, \mathcal{K}^+]} [\hat{f}](\mathbf{p}) d\mathbf{p} \triangleq \left[\begin{array}{l} \sum_{[\mathbf{p}] \in \mathcal{K}^-} \hat{f}^-([\mathbf{p}]) \cdot \text{volume}([\mathbf{p}]) \cdot \\ \sum_{[\mathbf{p}] \in \mathcal{K}^+} \hat{f}^+([\mathbf{p}]) \cdot \text{volume}([\mathbf{p}]) \end{array} \right]$$

Theorem

If $f \in [\hat{f}]$ and if $S \in [\mathcal{K}^-, \mathcal{K}^+]$, then

$$\int_S f(\mathbf{p}) d\mathbf{p} \in \int_{[\mathcal{K}^-, \mathcal{K}^+]} [\hat{f}](\mathbf{p}) d\mathbf{p}.$$

6 Algorithm

Equation in s_α to be solved

$$\alpha = h(s_\alpha) \triangleq \frac{\int_{f^{-1}([s_\alpha, \infty[)} f(\mathbf{p}) d\mathbf{p}}{\int_{\mathbb{R}^n} f(\mathbf{p}) d\mathbf{p}}$$

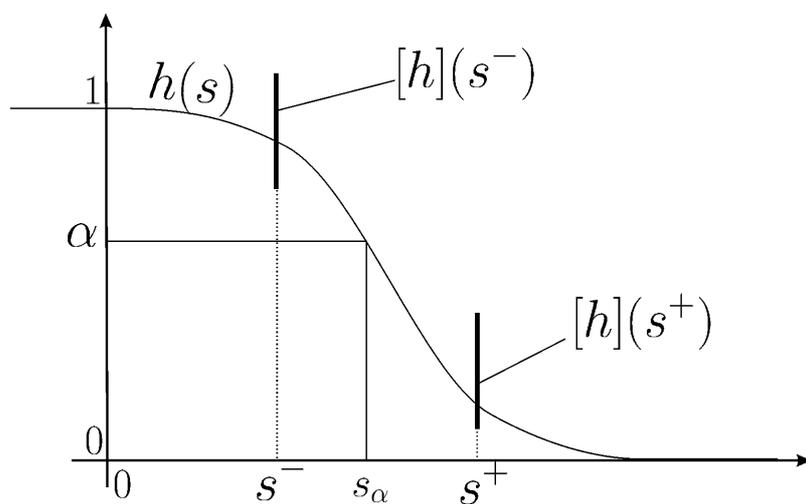
The function $h(s)$ is decreasing. Moreover,

$$h(s) \in [h](s) \triangleq \frac{\int_{[\hat{f}]^{-1}([s, \infty[)} [f](\mathbf{p}) d\mathbf{p}}{\int_{\mathbb{R}^n} [\hat{f}](\mathbf{p}) d\mathbf{p}}.$$

Thus

$$(a) \quad \alpha < lb([h](s^-)) \Rightarrow s^- < s_\alpha$$

$$(b) \quad \alpha > ub([h](s^+)) \Rightarrow s^+ > s_\alpha$$



1. Take a paving \mathcal{Q} of \mathbb{R}^n ; $s^- := +\infty$; $s^+ := 0$;
2. Compute an interval staircase function $[\hat{f}]$ enclosing f ;
3. Decrease s^- until $\alpha < lb([h](s^-))$
4. Increase s^+ until $\alpha > ub([h](s^+))$;
5. $[\mathcal{K}_\alpha^-, \mathcal{K}_\alpha^+] := ([\hat{f}] - [s^-, s^+])^{-1}([0, \infty[)$.

Theorem : After completion of this algorithm, we have

$$S_\alpha \in [\mathcal{K}_\alpha^-, \mathcal{K}_\alpha^+] \text{ and } s_\alpha \in [s^-, s^+].$$

7 Application to Bayesian estimation

Model: $\mathbf{y} = \phi(\mathbf{p}) + \mathbf{n}$, where \mathbf{n} is the noise vector, \mathbf{y} is the data vector and ϕ is the model function.

Bayes rule:

$$\pi_{\text{post}}(\mathbf{p}) = \frac{\pi_n(\mathbf{y} - \phi(\mathbf{p})) \cdot \pi_{\text{prior}}(\mathbf{p})}{\int_{\mathbf{p} \in \mathbb{R}^n} \pi_n(\mathbf{y} - \phi(\mathbf{p})) \cdot \pi_{\text{prior}}(\mathbf{p}) d\mathbf{p}}.$$

Unnormalized pdf:

$$f(\mathbf{p}) = \pi_n(\mathbf{y} - \phi(\mathbf{p})) \cdot \pi_{\text{prior}}(\mathbf{p}).$$

Model:

$$y(t) = p_1 \sin(p_2 t) + n(t)$$

where $n(t)$ is a white normal random signal with:

$$\pi_n(n) = \frac{1}{\sigma\sqrt{2\pi}} \exp\left(-\frac{n^2}{2\sigma^2}\right),$$

where the standard deviation is $\sigma = \frac{1}{2}$.

Sampling times and data:

$$\mathbf{t} = (1, 2, 3),$$
$$\mathbf{y} = (0.8, 1.0, 0.2)^\top.$$

Therefore

$$\underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} y_1 \\ y_2 \\ y_3 \end{pmatrix}}_{\mathbf{y}} = \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} p_1 \sin(p_2) \\ p_1 \sin(2p_2) \\ p_1 \sin(3p_2) \end{pmatrix}}_{\phi(\mathbf{p})} + \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} n_1 \\ n_2 \\ n_3 \end{pmatrix}}_{\mathbf{n}}$$

Since $n(t)$ is white,

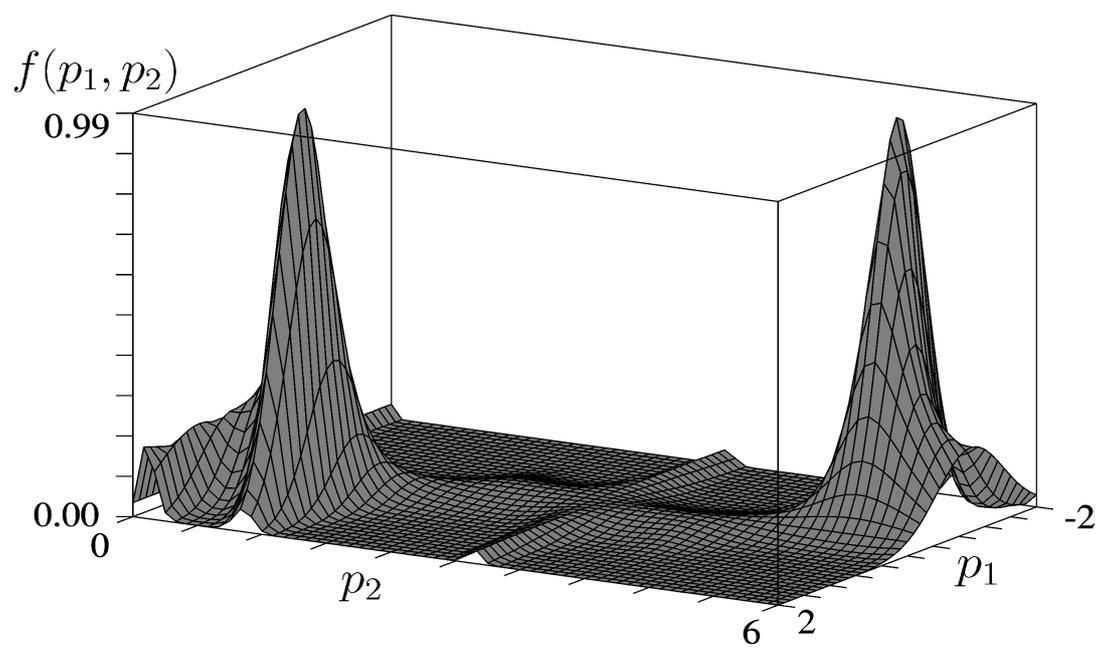
$$\begin{aligned}\pi_n(\mathbf{n}) &= \pi_n(n_1) \cdot \pi_n(n_2) \cdot \pi_n(n_3) \\ &= \frac{1}{(\sqrt{2\pi})^3} \exp(-2n_1^2) \exp(-2n_2^2) \exp(-2n_3^2).\end{aligned}$$

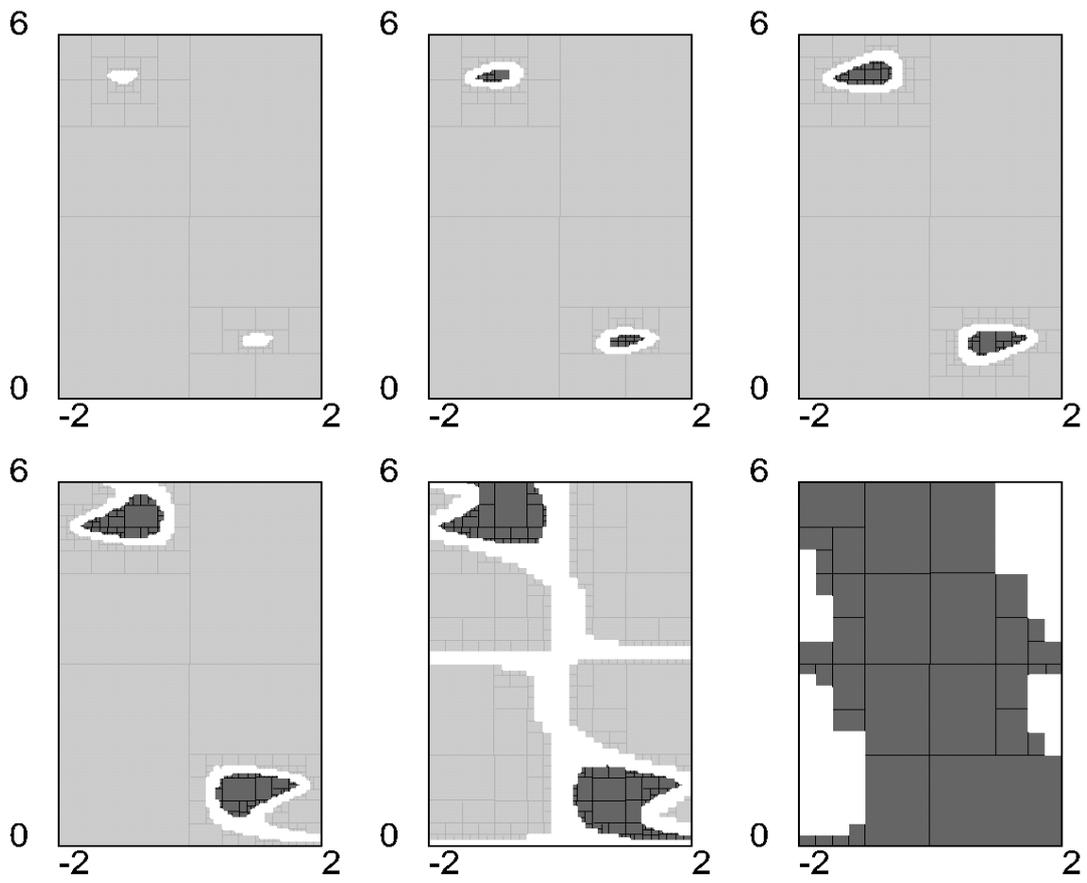
If

$$\pi_{\text{prior}}(\mathbf{p}) = \frac{\text{door}_{[-2,2]}(p_1) \cdot \text{door}_{[0,6]}(p_2)}{24},$$

The posterior unnormalized pdf for \mathbf{p} :

$$f(\mathbf{p}) = \left(\prod_{k=1}^3 \exp(-2 (y_k - p_1 \sin(kp_2))^2) \right) \cdot \text{door}_{[-2,2]}(p_1) \cdot \text{door}_{[0,6]}(p_2).$$





$[\mathcal{K}_\alpha^-, \mathcal{K}_\alpha^+]$ for $\alpha \in \{0, 0.2, 0.4, 0.6, 0.8, 1\}$;

