



Entropy and Experimental Design

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Motivation

- •Measurement is expensive and time consuming
- •We want to optimize the amount of information from an experiment against the cost of performing the experiment



Information—Shannon Entropy

$$H(\mathbf{X}) = -\sum_{i \in X} p(x_i) \log_2 p(x_i)$$

 $H(X) = \log_2 n$ if p is a uniform distribution



Information—Differential Entropy





Bumps Example

Create a model for experiment and simulate data



Bumps Example

•Fit the data and calculate the entropy on the posterior distributions



Reflectivity and SANS Model



Reflectivity and SANS Entropy



Reflectivity with Nuisance Parameters

Entropy decreases linearly with number of contrasts



Future Work

- Improve entropy calculations for large numbers of parameters
- Investigate why the reflectivity model causes entropy to decrease linearly as the number of contrasts grows
- Investigate influence of number of parameters on entropy calculations
- Apply entropy to more interesting reflectivity problems and other experiment types

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