

# **Supplement 1 to the GUM and Bayesian Inference**

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Emerging Topics in Mathematics for Metrology – From Measurement  
Uncertainty to Metrology of Complex Systems

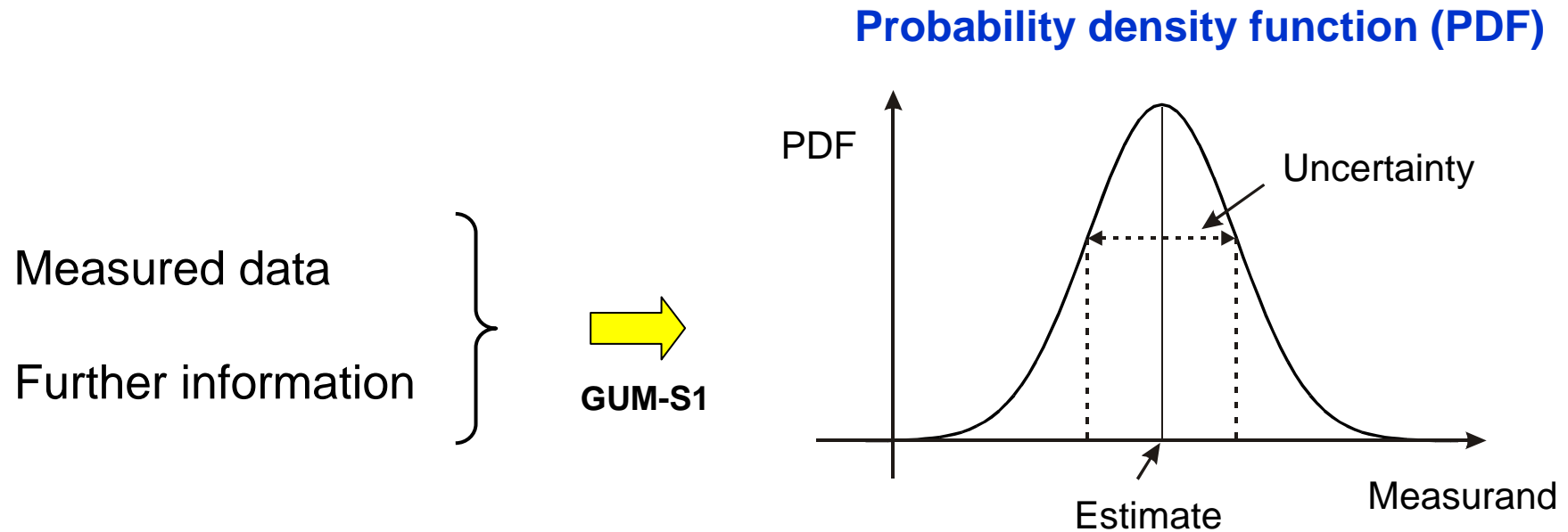
Physikalisch-Technische Bundesanstalt (PTB)

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# Content

- GUM-S1 and its relation to Bayesian inference
- Measurement model (GUM-S1) versus observation model
- GUM-S1 in the context of least-squares adjustment

# GUM-S1 and Bayesian Inference



- GUM-S1 intends the Bayesian point of view
- But are GUM-S1 results equivalent to a standard Bayesian analysis?

# GUM-S1

Input quantities

$$X_1, \dots, X_N$$

Information

Type A / B



$$p(x_1, \dots, x_N)$$

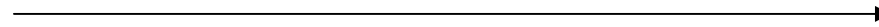
Measurement model

$$Y = f(X_1, \dots, X_N)$$

Measurand

$$Y$$

$$Y = f(X_1, \dots, X_N)$$



Probability calculus

$$p(y)$$



**Numerically:** Monte Carlo method

# GUM-S1

Input quantities

$$X_1, \dots, X_N$$

Measurement model

$$Y = f(X_1, \dots, X_N)$$

Measurand

$$Y$$

Information

Type **A** / B

**Inference**

$$p(x_1, \dots, x_N)$$

$$Y = f(X_1, \dots, X_N)$$

Probability calculus

$$p(y)$$

**Numerically:** Monte Carlo method

# Bayesian inference using observation model

Input quantities

$$X_1, \dots, X_N$$

Measurement model

$$Y = f(X_1, \dots, X_N)$$

Measurand

$$Y$$

Information

Type **A** / B

**Inference**

$$p(x_1, \dots, x_N)$$

**Bayes Theorem (type A info)  
via observation model<sup>1</sup>**

$$Y = f(X_1, \dots, X_N)$$

Probability calculus

$$p(y)$$

<sup>1</sup>Possolo and Toman 2007 **Metrologia** 44

# GUM-S1 and Bayesian Inference

Within its specifications GUM-S1 is in the presence of type A info  
equivalent to standard (objective) Bayesian inference<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Elster, Wöger and Cox 2007 **Metrologia** 44

## GUM-S1 and Bayesian Inference

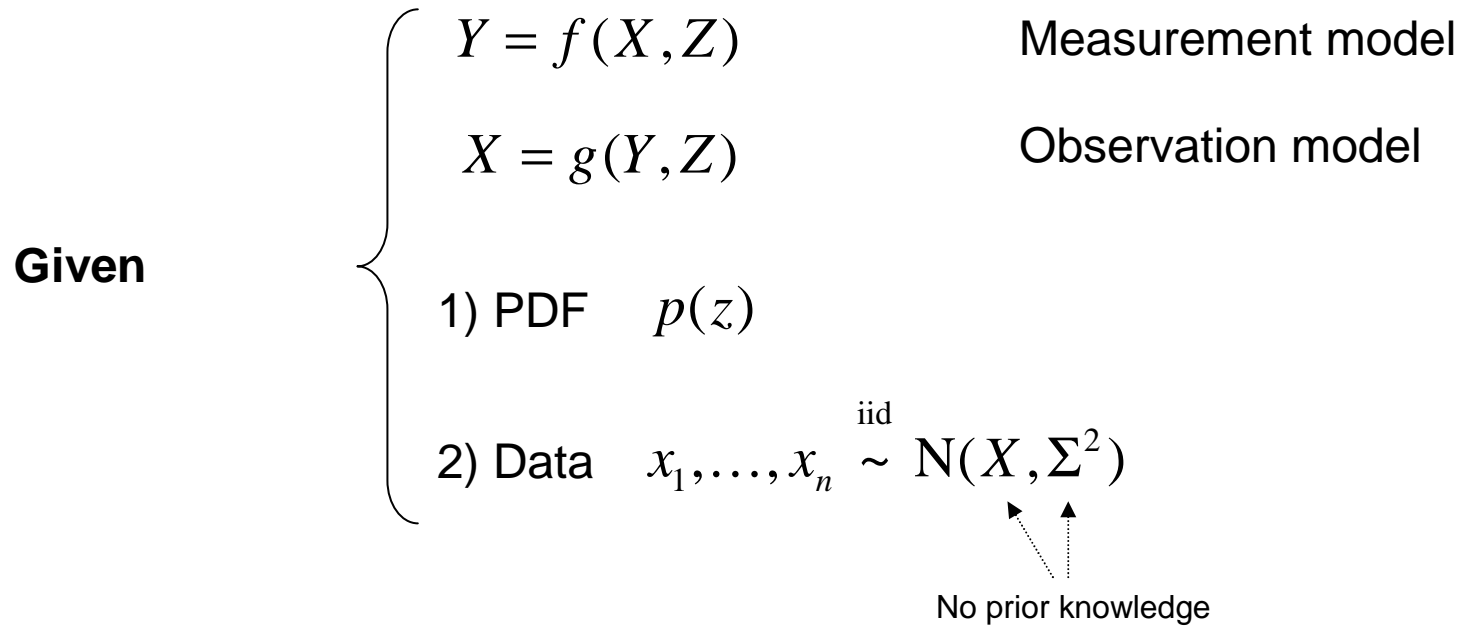
Within its specifications GUM-S1 is in the presence of type A info equivalent to standard (objective) Bayesian inference

But: Important features of Bayesian inference not addressed, e.g.

- Choice of prior, accounting for prior knowledge
- Sensitivity analysis w.r.t. (vague) prior
- Scenarios outside measurement model (e.g. least-squares)



## Measurement vs. observation model



**Goal** Inference on  $Y$

## Measurement vs. observation model

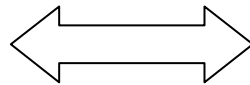
**Given**

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{ll} Y = f(X, Z) & \text{Measurement model} \\ X = g(Y, Z) & \text{Observation model} \\ 1) \text{ PDF } & p(z) \\ 2) \text{ Data } & x_1, \dots, x_n \stackrel{\text{iid}}{\sim} \mathbf{N}(X, \Sigma^2) \end{array} \right.$$

Measurement model

$$\tilde{\theta} = (X, Z, \Sigma)$$

$$p(\tilde{\theta}) = p_{\tilde{\theta}}(x, z, \sigma)$$



Observation model

$$\theta = (Y, Z, \Sigma)$$

$$p(\theta) = \left| \frac{\partial g}{\partial y} \right| p_{\tilde{\theta}}(g(y, z), z, \sigma)$$

## Measurement vs. observation model

**Given**

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{ll} Y = f(X, Z) & \text{Measurement model} \\ X = g(Y, Z) & \text{Observation model} \\ 1) \text{ PDF } & p(z) \\ 2) \text{ Data } & x_1, \dots, x_n \stackrel{\text{iid}}{\sim} \text{N}(X, \Sigma^2) \end{array} \right.$$

Prior  $p(x, z, \sigma) \propto p(z) / \sigma$

$\tilde{\theta} = (X, Z, \Sigma)$  appropriate

$p(x, \sigma) \propto 1 / \sigma$

Standard noninformative prior<sup>1,2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Elster and Toman 2009 **Metrologia** 46, <sup>2</sup>Lira and Grientschnig 2010 **Metrologia** 47

## Measurement vs. observation model

**Given**

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{ll} Y = f(X, Z) & \text{Measurement model} \\ X = g(Y, Z) & \text{Observation model} \\ 1) \text{ PDF } & p(z) \\ 2) \text{ Data } & x_1, \dots, x_n \stackrel{\text{iid}}{\sim} \mathbf{N}(X, \Sigma^2) \end{array} \right.$$

Prior  $p(x, z, \sigma) \propto p(z) / \sigma$

→  
Bayes theorem

Change-of-variables

$$p(y | x_1, \dots, x_n) = \int |\partial g / \partial y| p(z) \frac{t_{n-1}[(g(y, z) - \bar{x}) / (s / n^{1/2})]}{s / n^{1/2}} dz$$



**GUM-S1 PDF**

(Elster and Toman 2009 *Metrologia* 46)

## Measurement vs. observation model

**Given**

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{ll} Y = f(X, Z) & \text{Measurement model} \\ X = g(Y, Z) & \text{Observation model} \\ 1) \text{ PDF } p(z) & p_0(y) \\ 2) \text{ Data } x_1, \dots, x_n & \overset{\text{iid}}{\sim} \mathbf{N}(X, \Sigma^2) \end{array} \right.$$

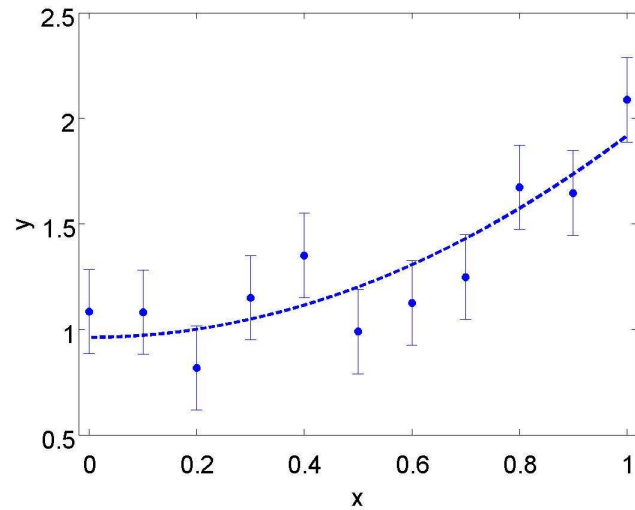
Prior  $p(y, z, \sigma) \propto p_0(y)p(z) / \sigma$   $(\theta = (Y, Z, \Sigma))$  appropriate

$\xrightarrow{\text{Bayes theorem}}$   $p(y | x_1, \dots, x_n) \neq p_{\text{GUM-S1}}(y)$

GUM-S1 choice of prior does not reflect prior knowledge

# Least-squares adjustment

Data and least-squares estimate (dashed)



Least-squares  
estimate

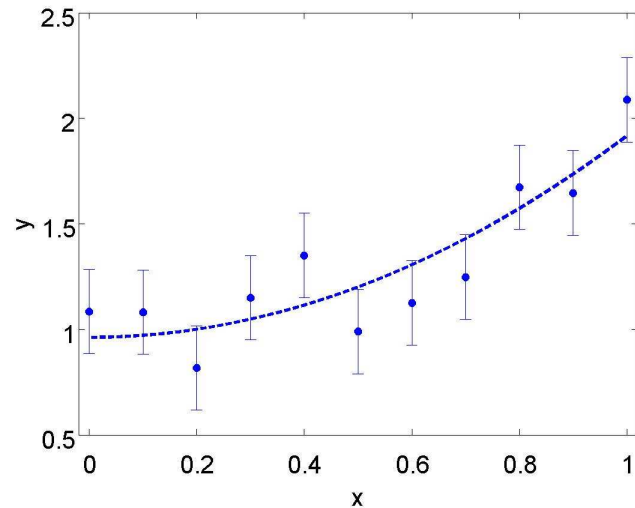
$$y_i = g_{\theta}(x_i) + \varepsilon_i \quad \varepsilon_i \stackrel{\text{iid}}{\sim} \mathbf{N}(0, \sigma^2) \quad (\sigma \text{ known})$$

Goal: Estimation of  $\theta$

$$\theta_{\text{LS}} = \arg \min_{\theta} \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{(y_i - g_{\theta}(x_i))^2}{\sigma^2}$$

# Least-squares adjustment

Data and least-squares estimate (dashed)



$$y_i = g_{\theta}(x_i) + \varepsilon_i \quad \varepsilon_i \stackrel{\text{iid}}{\sim} \mathbf{N}(0, \sigma^2) \quad (\sigma \text{ known})$$

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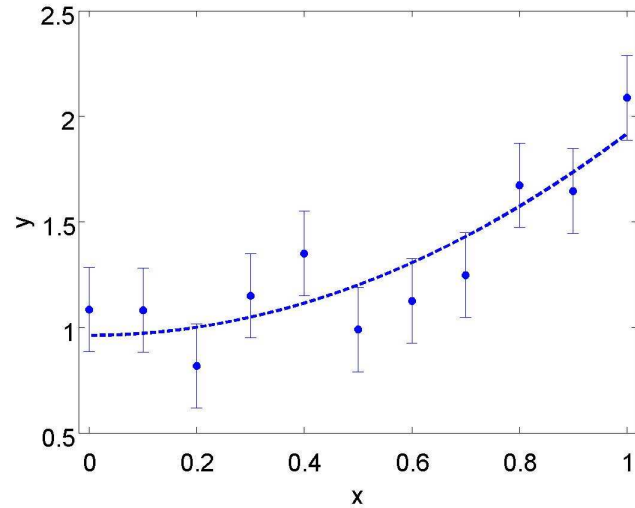
Least-squares  
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GUM-S1 ↔ Bayesian inference ?

# Least-squares adjustment

Data and least-squares estimate (dashed)



$$y_i = g_{\theta}(x_i) + \varepsilon_i \quad \varepsilon_i \stackrel{\text{iid}}{\sim} \mathbf{N}(0, \sigma^2) \quad (\sigma \text{ known})$$

Goal: Estimation of  $\theta$

Least-squares estimate

$$\theta_{\text{LS}} = \arg \min_{\theta} \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{(y_i - g_{\theta}(x_i))^2}{\sigma^2} \quad (1)$$

Actually, (1) is not a measurement model between quantities, and is hence beyond scope of GUM S1. (It is the ML estimate).  
Nonetheless, GUM S1 can (and is) applied in this context.



## Least-squares adjustment: GUM S1

Least-squares  
estimate

$$\boldsymbol{\theta}_{\text{LS}} = \arg \min_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} \chi^2(\boldsymbol{\theta}, \mathbf{y})$$

$$\chi^2(\boldsymbol{\theta}, \mathbf{y}) = \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{(y_i - g_{\boldsymbol{\theta}}(x_i))^2}{\sigma^2}$$

GUM-S1: repeatedly draw  $\tilde{\mathbf{y}} \sim \mathbf{N}(\mathbf{y}, \sigma^2 \mathbf{I})$

and determine  $\tilde{\boldsymbol{\theta}}_{\text{LS}} = \arg \min_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} \chi^2(\boldsymbol{\theta}, \tilde{\mathbf{y}})$

$$\longrightarrow p_{\text{GUM-S1}}(\boldsymbol{\theta})$$

## Least-squares adjustment: Linear case

Bayesian  
posterior

$$\underline{p(\boldsymbol{\theta} \mid \text{data}) \propto p(\boldsymbol{\theta}) e^{-\chi^2(\boldsymbol{\theta}, \mathbf{y})/2}}$$

GUM-S1  
PDF

$$\underline{p_{\text{GUM-S1}}(\boldsymbol{\theta}) \propto e^{-\chi^2(\boldsymbol{\theta}, \mathbf{y})/2}}$$

$$\underline{\mathbf{g}_{\boldsymbol{\theta}}(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{c}^T(\mathbf{x})\boldsymbol{\theta}}$$

- GUM-S1 PDF equals Bayesian posterior for constant prior<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Forbes (2009) **Advanced Mathematical & Computational Tools in Metrology VIII**, World Scientific

## Least-squares adjustment: **Nonlinear** case

Bayesian  
posterior

$$p(\boldsymbol{\theta} \mid \text{data}) \propto p(\boldsymbol{\theta}) e^{-\chi^2(\boldsymbol{\theta}, \mathbf{y})/2}$$

GUM-S1  
PDF

$$\underline{p_{\text{GUM-S1}}(\boldsymbol{\theta}) / p(\boldsymbol{\theta} \mid \text{data})} \neq g(\boldsymbol{\theta}) \quad \text{in general}$$

GUM-S1 PDF and Bayesian posterior differ not  
just by a different choice of prior in general

# Conclusions

- Within its specification GUM-S1 equivalent to (objective) Bayesian inference
- GUM-S1 prior corresponds to standard noninformative prior
- Observation model suitable for assignment of prior reflecting prior knowledge
- GUM-S1 for linear least-squares in the absence of prior knowledge is OK
- GUM-S1 for nonlinear least-squares does in general not yield a Bayesian posterior

## Some references on this topic

- Lira I and Grientschnig D 2010 Equivalence of alternative Bayesian procedures for evaluating measurement uncertainty **Metrologia** 47 334-336
- Cox M G, Forbes A B, Harris P M and Smith I M 2009 Measurement uncertainty evaluations associated with calibration functions XIX **IMEKO** world congress 2009, Lisbon, Portugal
- Elster C and Toman B 2009 Bayesian uncertainty analysis under prior ignorance of the measurand versus analysis using the Supplement 1 to the Guide: a comparison **Metrologia** 46 261-266
- Forbes 2009 **Advanced Mathematical & Computational Tools in Metrology VIII**, World Scientific, 104-112
- Kyriazis G A 2008 Comparison of GUM Supplement 1 and Bayesian analysis using a simple linear calibration model **Metrologia** 45 L9-L11
- Elster C, Wöger W and Cox M G 2007 Draft GUM Supplement 1 and Bayesian analysis **Metrologia** 44 L31-L32
- C. Elster 2007 Calculation of uncertainty in the presence of prior knowledge. **Metrologia** 44, 111-116
- Possolo A and Toman B 2007 Assessment of measurement uncertainty via observation equations **Metrologia** 44 464-475
- Kacker R, Toman B and Huang D 2006 Comparison of ISO-GUM, draft GUM supplement 1 and Bayesian statistics using simple linear calibration **Metrologia** 43 S167-S177
- Cox M G and Siebert B R L 2006 The use of a Monte Carlo method for evaluating uncertainty and expanded uncertainty **Metrologia** 43 S178-S188

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# Thanks for your attention

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