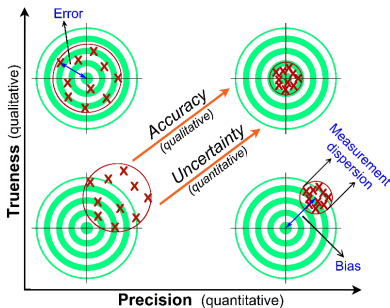



Error Propagation



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- 1 Error Propagation
 - **Some problems on Error propagation**
 - True Value

Error Propagation

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- The aim of this lecture is to know the uncertainty in function Q

Error Propagation

- Let us have measurements x and y
- if we know the uncertainty in the variable say x and y .
- if $Q(x, y)$ is the function of x and y
- The aim of this lecture is to know the uncertainty in function Q
- The technique used is known as *Propogation of Errors*.

Error Propagation

Error Propagation

- AIM:: Varaince σ_Q^2 as a function of Varainces say σ_x^2 and σ_y^2
- if X measures some quantity with varaince σ_x^2
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- then the total varaince is given as

$$\sigma_Q^2 = \sigma_x^2 \left(\frac{\partial Q}{\partial x} \right)^2 \Big|_{\mu_x} + \sigma_y^2 \left(\frac{\partial Q}{\partial y} \right)^2 \Big|_{\mu_y}$$

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$$x = \{x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4, x_1, x_5, x_{n-1}, x_n\}$$

- similarly for any other quantity say y

$$y = \{y_1, y_2, y_3, y_4, y_1, y_5, y_{n-1}, y_n\}$$

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- similarly for any other quantity say y

$$y = \{y_1, y_2, y_3, y_4, y_1, y_5, y_{n-1}, y_n\}$$

- then the best value is taken as average given as

$$\bar{x} = \mu_x = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n x_i$$

Error Propagation

Error Propagation



$$\bar{y} = \mu_y = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n y_i$$

As the measurements varied so is the variation or error propagated into the function say we have

$$f(x_1, y_1) \neq f(x_2, y_2) \neq \dots \neq f(x_n, y_n) \neq f(\mu_x, \mu_y)$$

Error Propagation



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- Therefore we define a parameter as

$$Q_i = f(x_i, y_i) = Q_1, Q_2, Q_3, \dots, Q_n$$

for $i = 1, 2, 3, \dots, n$

Error Propagation



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- And we also define measurement at mean

$$Q = f(\mu_x, \mu_y)$$

Error Propagation

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- Using Taylor series we expand a function Q_i about the mean μ assuming the measured values are close to the mean and *neglect higher order terms*, therefore

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$$Q_i = f(x_i, y_i) = f(\mu_x, \mu_y) + (x_i - \mu_x) \left(\frac{\partial Q}{\partial x} \right) \Big|_{\mu_x} + (y_i - \mu_y) \left(\frac{\partial Q}{\partial y} \right)$$

- From the definition of variance (considering variable here as Q instead of x) we know

$$\sigma_Q^2 = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n (Q_i - Q)^2$$

Error Propagation

Error Propagation



$$Q_i - Q = (x_i - \mu_x) \left(\frac{\partial Q}{\partial x} \right) \Big|_{\mu_x} + (y_i - \mu_y) \left(\frac{\partial Q}{\partial y} \right) \Big|_{\mu_y} + \text{higher order}$$

Error Propagation



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- in fact $i = 1, 2 \dots n$

Error Propagation



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- in fact $i = 1, 2 \dots n$



$$\sum_{i=1}^n (Q_i - Q) = (x_i - \mu_x) \left(\frac{\partial Q}{\partial x} \right) \Big|_{\mu_x} + (y_i - \mu_y) \left(\frac{\partial Q}{\partial y} \right) \Big|_{\mu_y} + \text{neglect}$$

Error Propagation

Error Propagation

- Squaring both sides

$$\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n (Q_i - Q)^2 = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \left((x_i - \mu_x) \left(\frac{\partial Q}{\partial x} \right) \Big|_{\mu_x} \right)^2 + \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{n} \left((y_i - \mu_y) \left(\frac{\partial Q}{\partial y} \right) \Big|_{\mu_y} \right)^2$$

Error Propagation

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- $$\sigma_Q^2 = \sigma_x^2 \left(\frac{\partial Q}{\partial x} \right)^2 \Big|_{\mu_x} + \sigma_y^2 \left(\frac{\partial Q}{\partial y} \right)^2 \Big|_{\mu_y} + \frac{2}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \mu_x)(y_i - \mu_y) \left(\frac{\partial Q}{\partial x} \right) \Big|_{\mu_x} \left(\frac{\partial Q}{\partial y} \right) \Big|_{\mu_y}$$

Error Propagation

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Error Propagation

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- **Some Cases**

Case (i)

If x and y are uncorrelated that is $\sigma_{xy} = 0$ we have

Error Propagation

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If x and y are uncorrelated that is $\sigma_{xy} = 0$ we have

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Error Propagation

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- OR

$$\sigma_Q^2 = \sigma_x^2 f'^2(\mu_x) + \sigma_y^2 f'^2(\mu_y)$$

Case (ii)

If x and y are correlated that is then we have

Error Propagation

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Error Propagation

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Error Propagation

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$$\sigma_x^2 = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \bar{x})^2$$

Error Propagation

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- spread in the function or error propagated in the function is

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$$\sigma_Q^2 = \sigma_x^2 \left(\frac{\partial Q}{\partial x} \right)^2 \Bigg|_{\mu_x} = \sigma_x^2 f'^2(\mu_x)$$

Some problems on Error propagation

Some problems on Error propagation

- Power in an electric circuit is given as $P = I^2R$ and $I = 1.0 \pm 0.1$ Ampere, $R = 10 \pm 1\text{Ohm}$. Calculate the variance in power using Propagation of error method.

Some problems on Error propagation

- Power in an electric circuit is given as $P = I^2R$ and $I = 1.0 \pm 0.1$ Ampere, $R = 10 \pm 1$ Ohm. Calculate the variance in power using Propagation of error method.

$$\sigma_P^2 = \sigma_I^2 \left(\frac{\partial P}{\partial I} \right)^2 \Bigg|_{\mu_I} + \sigma_R^2 \left(\frac{\partial P}{\partial R} \right)^2 \Bigg|_{\mu_R}$$

Some problems on Error propagation

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- $$\sigma_P^2 = \sigma_I^2 \left(\frac{\partial P}{\partial I} \right)^2 \Big|_{1.0} + \sigma_R^2 \left(\frac{\partial P}{\partial R} \right)^2 \Big|_{10}$$

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- $$\sigma_P^2 = \sigma_I^2 \left(\frac{\partial P}{\partial I} \right)^2 \Big|_{1.0} + \sigma_R^2 \left(\frac{\partial P}{\partial R} \right)^2 \Big|_{10}$$

- $$\sigma_P^2 = (0.1)^2 (2IR) + (1)^2 (I^2)^2$$

$$(0.1)^2 (2.1 \cdot 10)^2 + 1^2 (1^2)^2 = 5 \text{ watt}$$

Some problems on Error propagation

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- Therefore

$$P = 10 \pm \sigma_P = 10 \pm 2$$

True power $P = 10\text{watt}$

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- But on repeated measurements we get with uncertainty of σ_P as per Gaussian distribution
 - 68% measurement within (8, 12) watts due to $(P \pm 1\sigma_P)$
 - 95% measurement within (6, 14) watts due to $(P \pm 2\sigma_P)$

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True power $P = 10\text{watt}$

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 - 68% measurement within (8, 12) watts due to $(P \pm 1\sigma_P)$
 - 95% measurement within (6, 14) watts due to $(P \pm 2\sigma_P)$
- 99.7% measurement within (4, 16) watts due to $(P \pm 3\sigma_P)$

Some problems on Error propagation

Some problems on Error propagation

- *Relative Error*

$$\frac{\sigma_P^2}{P^2} = \frac{\sigma_I^2}{P^2} 4 \cdot I^2 R^2 + \frac{\sigma_R^2}{P^2} I^2 = (0.1)^2$$

Some problems on Error propagation

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- $$= 4 \frac{\sigma_I^2}{I^2} + \frac{\sigma_R^2}{R^2 I^2} = 4 \left(\frac{0.1}{1} \right)^2 + \left(\frac{1}{10 * 1} \right)^2 = (0.1)^2$$

Some problems on Error propagation

- *Relative Error*

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- uncertainty in power is dominated by uncertainty in current as it involved as square so current has to be measured very carefully in order to reduce errors.

Some problems on Error propagation

Some problems on Error propagation

- *Example*
Error in measuring area of a table
Let

Some problems on Error propagation

- *Example*

Error in measuring area of a table

Let



$$x = 95.0 \pm 0.5 \text{ cm}$$

$$y = 190.0 \pm 0.5 \text{ cm}$$

$$\sigma_x = 0.5 \text{ cm}$$

$$\sigma_y = 0.5 \text{ cm}$$

Some problems on Error propagation

Some problems on Error propagation

- so the error in area is

$$\sigma_A^2 = \sigma_x^2 \left(\frac{\partial A}{\partial x} \right)^2 \Big|_{\bar{x}} + \sigma_y^2 \left(\frac{\partial A}{\partial y} \right)^2 \Big|_{\bar{y}}$$

Area is given as

$$A = x * y$$

$$\left(\frac{\partial A}{\partial x} \right) \Big|_{\bar{x}} = y = 190$$

Some problems on Error propagation

- so the error in area is

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Area is given as

$$A = x * y$$

$$\left(\frac{\partial A}{\partial x} \right) \Big|_{\bar{x}} = y = 190$$

-

$$\left(\frac{\partial A}{\partial y} \right) \Big|_{\bar{y}} = x = 95$$

therefore error in area is

Some problems on Error propagation

Some problems on Error propagation



$$\begin{aligned}\sigma_A^2 &= \sigma_x^2 \left(\frac{\partial A}{\partial x} \right)^2 \Big|_{\bar{x}} + \sigma_y^2 \left(\frac{\partial A}{\partial y} \right)^2 \Big|_{\bar{y}} \\ &= (0.5)^2 [190^2 + 95^2] = 0.011 \text{ cm}\end{aligned}$$

Some problems on Error propagation

- $$\sigma_A^2 = \sigma_x^2 \left(\frac{\partial A}{\partial x} \right)^2 \Big|_{\bar{x}} + \sigma_y^2 \left(\frac{\partial A}{\partial y} \right)^2 \Big|_{\bar{y}}$$
$$= (0.5)^2 [190^2 + 95^2] = 0.011 \text{ cm}$$

- Example*

Uncertainty in simple pendulum

$$T = 2\pi \sqrt{\left(\frac{L}{g}\right)}$$

$$g = \frac{4 \cdot \pi^2 L}{T^2}$$

Therefore the error in g is given as a function of error in L and T as

Some problems on Error propagation

Some problems on Error propagation

- $$\sigma_g^2 = \sigma_L^2 \left(\frac{\partial g}{\partial L} \right)^2 \Big|_{\bar{L}} + \sigma_T^2 \left(\frac{\partial g}{\partial T} \right)^2 \Big|_{\bar{T}}$$

Some problems on Error propagation

- $$\sigma_g^2 = \sigma_L^2 \left(\frac{\partial g}{\partial L} \right)^2 \Big|_{\bar{L}} + \sigma_T^2 \left(\frac{\partial g}{\partial T} \right)^2 \Big|_{\bar{T}}$$
- substitute the value of a partial differentiation we have the Relative error as

$$\frac{\sigma_g}{g} = \sqrt{\left(\frac{\sigma_L}{L} \right)^2 + 4 \left(\frac{\sigma_T}{T} \right)^2}$$

a) If

$$a = b + c$$

show that

$$\sigma_a^2 = \sigma_b^2 + \sigma_c^2$$

Hint:

$$\sigma_a^2 = \sigma_b^2 \left(\frac{\partial a}{\partial b} \right)^2 + \sigma_c^2 \left(\frac{\partial a}{\partial c} \right)^2$$

Some problems on Error propagation

Some problems on Error propagation

- c) Show the error in m in the expression

$$m = -2.5 \ln_{10} \left(\frac{F}{F_0} \right)$$

is

$$\sigma_m^2 = (1.087)^2 \left(\frac{\sigma_F}{F} \right)^2$$

Some problems on Error propagation

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is

$$\sigma_m^2 = (1.087)^2 \left(\frac{\sigma_F}{F} \right)^2$$

- Hint:

$$\sigma_m^2 = \sigma_F^2 \left(\frac{\partial m}{\partial F} \right)_{\bar{F}}^2$$

Some problems on Error propagation

- c) Show the error in m in the expression

$$m = -2.5 \ln_{10} \left(\frac{F}{F_0} \right)$$

is

$$\sigma_m^2 = (1.087)^2 \left(\frac{\sigma_F}{F} \right)^2$$

- Hint:

$$\sigma_m^2 = \sigma_F^2 \left(\frac{\partial m}{\partial F} \right)_{\bar{F}}^2$$

- where

$$\left(\frac{\partial m}{\partial F} \right)_{\bar{F}} = -\frac{2.5}{F}$$

Some problems on Error propagation

Some problems on Error propagation

- d) If $F = x + k$ show

$$\sigma_F = \sigma_x$$

- e) If $F = x * y$ show

$$\left(\frac{\sigma_F}{F}\right)^2 = \left(\frac{\sigma_x}{x}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{\sigma_y}{y}\right)^2$$

- f) If $F = kx$ show

$$\left(\frac{\sigma_F}{F}\right) = \left(\frac{\sigma_x}{x}\right)$$

Some problems on Error propagation

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- f) If $F = kx$ show

$$\left(\frac{\sigma_F}{F}\right) = \left(\frac{\sigma_x}{x}\right)$$

- g) If $F = x^n$ show

$$\left(\frac{\sigma_F}{F}\right)^2 = n^2 \left(\frac{\sigma_x}{x}\right)^2$$

True Value

True Value

- Although the best value is considered and taken as mean of the observations. However even the mean value deviates from the true or exact value. That is mean value is not the final one and there is scope to improve even that.

Let us have measurements of a quantity X as

$$X = X_1, X_2, X_3, X_4, \dots, X_n$$

AND

True Value

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Let us have measurements of a quantity X as

$$X = X_1, X_2, X_3, X_4, \dots, X_n$$

AND

- $$\bar{X} = \mu = \frac{1}{n}(X_1 + X_2 + X_3 + \dots + X_n)$$

True Value

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- Deviation of each X_i from \bar{X} is given as

True Value

- Deviation of each X_i from \bar{X} is given as

$$\sigma_{X_i}^2 = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n (X_i - \bar{X})^2$$

for example

$$\sigma_{X_1}^2 = \frac{1}{n} (X_1 - \bar{X})^2$$

$$\sigma_{X_2}^2 = \frac{1}{n} (X_2 - \bar{X})^2$$

etc

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etc

- Now let us find the Deviation associated to mean value . we have seen mean is a function of X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n that is

$$\mu = \frac{1}{n} (X_1 + X_2 + X_3 + \dots + X_n)$$

True Value

True Value

- therefore

True Value

- therefore

$$\sigma_{\mu}^2 = \sigma_{X_1}^2 \left(\frac{\partial \mu}{\partial X_1} \right)^2 + \sigma_{X_2}^2 \left(\frac{\partial \mu}{\partial X_2} \right)^2 + \dots + \sigma_{X_n}^2 \left(\frac{\partial \mu}{\partial X_n} \right)^2$$

Assume

$$\sigma_{X_1}^2 = \sigma_{X_2}^2 = \sigma_{X_3}^2 \dots = \sigma_{X_n}^2 = \sigma^2$$

True Value

- therefore

$$\sigma_{\mu}^2 = \sigma_{X_1}^2 \left(\frac{\partial \mu}{\partial X_1} \right)^2 + \sigma_{X_2}^2 \left(\frac{\partial \mu}{\partial X_2} \right)^2 + \dots + \sigma_{X_n}^2 \left(\frac{\partial \mu}{\partial X_n} \right)^2$$

Assume

$$\sigma_{X_1}^2 = \sigma_{X_2}^2 = \sigma_{X_3}^2 \dots = \sigma_{X_n}^2 = \sigma^2$$

- therefore

$$\sigma_{\mu}^2 = \sigma^2 \left[\left(\frac{\partial \mu}{\partial X_1} \right)^2 + \left(\frac{\partial \mu}{\partial X_2} \right)^2 + \dots + \left(\frac{\partial \mu}{\partial X_n} \right)^2 \right]$$

True Value

True Value

- substitute the required value we get

$$\sigma_{\mu}^2 = \sigma^2 \left[\frac{1}{n^2} + \frac{1}{n^2} + \cdots + \frac{1}{n^2} \right] = n \frac{\sigma^2}{n^2} = \frac{\sigma^2}{n}$$

$$\sigma_{\mu} = \frac{\sigma}{\sqrt{n}}$$

True Value

- substitute the required value we get

$$\sigma_{\mu}^2 = \sigma^2 \left[\frac{1}{n^2} + \frac{1}{n^2} + \cdots + \frac{1}{n^2} \right] = n \frac{\sigma^2}{n^2} = \frac{\sigma^2}{n}$$

$$\sigma_{\mu} = \frac{\sigma}{\sqrt{n}}$$

- Hence from the above expression it is clear that there is Deviation or spread associated to the mean with an amount equal to $\sigma_{\mu} = \frac{\sigma}{\sqrt{n}}$, which can be improved upon if the number of observations n for the given quantity is increased. And clearly the spread or uncertainty $\sigma_{\mu} \rightarrow 0$ if $n \rightarrow \infty$.