

Question 1:

(a) The MAP estimate of the parameter θ is:

$$\theta_{\text{map}} = \arg \max_{\theta} \{P(D|\theta)P(\theta)\}$$

 θ itself follows a normal distribution $N(\mu, \sigma^2)$,

$$P(\theta) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma^2} e^{-\frac{1}{2\sigma^2}(\theta-\mu)^2}$$

$$\log P(\theta) = -\log \sqrt{2\pi}\sigma^2 - \frac{1}{2\sigma^2}(\theta-\mu)^2$$

$$\frac{d}{d\theta} \log P(\theta) = -\frac{1}{\sigma^2}(\theta-\mu)$$

$$P(D|\theta) = \prod_{i=1}^n P(x_i|\theta)$$

$$= \prod_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma_0^2} e^{-\frac{1}{2\sigma_0^2}(x_i-\theta)^2}$$

$$\log P(D|\theta) = \sum_{i=1}^n \left[-\log \sqrt{2\pi}\sigma_0^2 - \frac{1}{2\sigma_0^2}(x_i-\theta)^2 \right]$$

$$= -\sum_{i=1}^n \log \sqrt{2\pi}\sigma_0^2 - \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{2\sigma_0^2}(x_i-\theta)^2$$

Take the logarithm of θ_{map} .

$$\log \theta_{\text{map}} = \log P(D|\theta) + \log P(\theta)$$

$$= -\sum_{i=1}^n \log \sqrt{2\pi}\sigma_0^2 - \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{2\sigma_0^2}(x_i-\theta)^2 + \log P(\theta)$$

$$\frac{d}{d\theta} \log \theta_{\text{map}} = \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{\sigma_0^2}(x_i-\theta) + \frac{d}{d\theta} \log P(\theta)$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{\sigma_0^2}(x_i-\theta) - \frac{1}{\sigma^2}(\theta-\mu)$$

$$\text{let } \frac{d}{d\theta} \log \theta_{\text{map}} = 0 \Rightarrow \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n (x_i-\theta)}{\sigma_0^2} = \frac{\theta-\mu}{\sigma^2}$$

$$\frac{\sum_{i=1}^n x_i - n\theta}{\sigma_0^2} = \frac{\theta-\mu}{\sigma^2}$$

$$\sigma^2 \sum_{i=1}^n x_i - \sigma^2 n\theta = \sigma_0^2 \theta - \sigma_0^2 \mu$$

$$\theta(-\sigma_0^2 - \sigma^2 n) = -\sigma_0^2 \mu - \sigma^2 \sum_{i=1}^n x_i$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{\theta = \frac{\sigma_0^2 \mu + \sigma^2 \sum_{i=1}^n x_i}{\sigma_0^2 + \sigma^2 n}} \quad (*)$$

Further calculation for $\frac{d^2}{d^2\theta} \log \theta_{\text{MAP}} = -\frac{1}{\sigma_0^2} - \frac{1}{\sigma^2} < 0$

Therefore, $(*)$ is a local maximum point.
ie the MAP estimate of θ .

(b) Assume $\mu=0$, we have, $p(\theta) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{b}} e^{-\frac{|\theta|}{b}}$

For $\theta > 0$, $p(\theta) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{b}} e^{-\frac{\theta}{b}}$

$$\theta_{\text{MAP}} = \arg\max_{\theta} \{P(D|\theta)P(\theta)\}$$

$$\log \theta_{\text{MAP}} = \log P(D|\theta) + \log P(\theta)$$

$$= -\frac{n}{2} \log \sqrt{2\pi\sigma_0^2} - \frac{n}{2} \frac{1}{2\sigma_0^2} (x_i - \theta)^2 - \log \sqrt{b} - \frac{\theta}{b}$$

$$\frac{d}{d\theta} \theta_{\text{MAP}} = \frac{n}{2} \frac{1}{\sigma_0^2} (x_i - \theta) - \frac{1}{b} = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n x_i - n\theta}{\sigma_0^2} = \frac{1}{b}$$

$$\Rightarrow \theta = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n x_i}{n} - \frac{\sigma_0^2}{nb}$$

For $\theta < 0$, $p(\theta) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{b}} e^{\frac{\theta}{b}}$

$$\log \theta_{\text{MAP}} = \log P(D|\theta) + \log P(\theta)$$

$$= -\frac{n}{2} \log \sqrt{2\pi\sigma_0^2} - \frac{n}{2} \frac{1}{2\sigma_0^2} (x_i - \theta)^2 - \frac{1}{\sqrt{b}} + \frac{\theta}{b}$$

$$\frac{d}{d\theta} \theta_{\text{MAP}} = \frac{n}{2} \frac{1}{\sigma_0^2} (x_i - \theta) + \frac{1}{b} = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \theta = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n x_i}{n} + \frac{\sigma_0^2}{nb}$$

Therefore, we do not have a closed form solution for θ_{MAP}

This objective is continuous but not smooth, i.e. is not differentiable when $\theta=0$, making the expression of $\theta = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n x_i}{n} + \left| \frac{\sigma_0^2}{nb} \right|$ non-differentiable

We can use alternative methods; for smooth component ($\theta \neq 0$) use gradient descent, and for values in θ that are close to zero, use subgradient descent.

In this case, the derivative of θ should be between the derivative of left and right side of θ , in this question, the absolute value term will be 0

$$\text{Prox}_{n\lambda}(\theta) = \begin{cases} \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n x_i}{n} - \frac{\sigma_0^2}{nb} - g\lambda & \text{if } \theta > g\lambda \\ \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n x_i}{n} & \text{if } |\theta| < g\lambda \\ \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n x_i}{n} + \frac{\sigma_0^2}{nb} + g\lambda & \text{if } \theta < -g\lambda \end{cases}$$

for some g and λ .

$$(c) \quad \theta_{\text{MAP}} = \underset{\theta}{\operatorname{argmax}} \{ P(D|\theta) P(\theta) \}$$

$$P(D|\theta) = \prod_{i=1}^n P(x_i | \theta)$$

$$= \prod_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}\Sigma_0} e^{-\frac{1}{2\Sigma_0^2} (x_i - \theta)^2}$$

$$\log P(D|\theta) = \sum_{i=1}^n -\log \sqrt{2\pi}\Sigma_0 - \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{2\Sigma_0^2} (x_i - \theta)^2$$

$$P(\theta) = \prod_{j=1}^d P(\theta_j)$$

$$= \prod_{j=1}^d \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma^4} e^{-\frac{1}{2\sigma^4} \theta_j^2}$$

$$\log P(\theta) = \sum_{j=1}^d \log \sqrt{2\pi}\sigma^4 - \sum_{j=1}^d \frac{1}{2\sigma^4} \theta_j^2$$

$$\log \theta_{\text{MAP}} = \log P(D|\theta) + \log P(\theta)$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^n -\log \sqrt{2\pi}\Sigma_0 - \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{2\Sigma_0^2} (x_i - \theta)^2 - \sum_{j=1}^d \log \sqrt{2\pi}\sigma^4 - \sum_{j=1}^d \frac{1}{2\sigma^4} \theta_j^2$$

since $\theta \in \mathbb{R}^d$

$$\frac{d}{d\theta_j} \log \theta_{\text{MAP}} = \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{\Sigma_0^2} (x_i - \theta_j) - \frac{1}{\sigma^4} \theta_j = 0$$

Also, $\Sigma_0 = I \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times d}$, thus $\Sigma_0^2 = I$

$$\sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \theta_j) - \frac{1}{\sigma^4} \theta_j = 0$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^n x_i - n\theta_j - \frac{1}{\sigma^4} \theta_j = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \sum_{i=1}^n x_i = (n + \frac{1}{\sigma^4}) \theta_j = \frac{n\sigma^4 + 1}{\sigma^4} \theta_j$$

$$\Rightarrow \theta_j = \frac{\sigma^4 \sum_{i=1}^n x_i}{n\sigma^4 + 1} = \theta_{\text{MAP}}$$

The MAP for estimate of θ is

$$\theta_{\text{MAP}} = \frac{\sigma^4 \sum_{i=1}^n x_i}{n\sigma^4 + 1}$$