

STAT 210A - Homework 5

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Problem 1. Bernoulli

Proof. We have:

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbb{P}[X_{n+1} = 1 \mid X_1 = k_1, X_2 = k_2, \dots, X_n = k_n] &= \frac{\mathbb{P}[X_{n+1} = 1, X_1 = k_1, X_2 = k_2, \dots, X_n = k_n]}{\mathbb{P}[X_1 = k_1, X_2 = k_2, \dots, X_n = k_n]} \\ &= \frac{\int_0^1 \mathbb{P}[X_{n+1} = 1, X_1 = k_1, X_2 = k_2, \dots, X_n = k_n \mid \theta] d\theta}{\int_0^1 \mathbb{P}[X_1 = k_1, X_2 = k_2, \dots, X_n = k_n \mid \theta] d\theta} \\ &= \frac{\int_0^1 \theta \prod_{i=1}^n (\theta^{k_i} (1-\theta)^{1-k_i}) d\theta}{\int_0^1 \prod_{i=1}^n (\theta^{k_i} (1-\theta)^{1-k_i}) d\theta} \\ &= \frac{\int_0^1 \theta^{(\sum k_i)+1} (1-\theta)^{n-\sum k_i} d\theta}{\int_0^1 \theta^{(\sum k_i)} (1-\theta)^{n-\sum k_i} d\theta}\end{aligned}$$

Now consider the sequence of integral $a_{m,l} = \int_0^1 \theta^m (1-\theta)^l d\theta$. Notice that first $a_{m,l} = a_{l,m}$, second $a_{m,0} = a_{0,m} = \frac{1}{m+1}$. Using integration by part we have:

$$\begin{aligned}a_{m,l} &= \int_0^1 \theta^m (1-\theta)^l d\theta \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \int_0^1 \theta^{m-1} (1-\theta)^l d\theta^2 \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \theta^{m+1} (1-\theta)^l \Big|_0^1 - \frac{1}{2} \int_0^1 \theta^2 d(\theta^{m-1} (1-\theta)^l) \\ &= -\frac{1}{2} \int_0^1 (m-1) \theta^m (1-\theta)^l - l \theta^{m+1} (1-\theta)^{l-1} d\theta \\ &= -\frac{m-1}{2} a_{m,l} + \frac{l}{2} a_{m+1,l-1} \\ \Rightarrow \frac{m+1}{2} a_{m,l} &= \frac{l}{2} a_{m+1,l-1} \\ \Rightarrow a_{m,l} &= \frac{l}{m+1} a_{m+1,l-1} \\ \Rightarrow a_{m,l} &= \frac{l}{m+1} \frac{l-1}{m+2} \cdots \frac{1}{m+l} a_{m+l,0} \\ &= \frac{l! m!}{(m+l+1)!}\end{aligned}$$

So we have the ratio:

$$\frac{a_{m+1,l}}{a_{m,l}} = \frac{l!(m+1)!}{(m+l+2)!} \frac{(m+l+1)!}{l!m!} = \frac{m+1}{m+l+2}$$

Thus our probability is:

$$\mathbb{P}[X_{n+1} = 1 \mid X_1 = k_1, X_2 = k_2, \dots, X_n = k_n] = \frac{1 + \sum k_i}{n + 2}$$

So the probability is quite close to the ratio of 1 from the Bernoulli trial, which is $\frac{\sum k_i}{n}$. \square

Problem 2. Gaussian setting

$$\begin{aligned} X_i \mid \mu, \sigma^2 &\stackrel{i.i.d}{\sim} \mathcal{N}(\mu, \sigma^2) \\ \Rightarrow p(X \mid \mu, \sigma^2) &\sim \frac{1}{(2\pi\sigma^2)^{n/2}} \exp \left\{ -\frac{1}{2\sigma^2} \sum (x - \mu)^2 \right\} \\ &\propto (\sigma^2)^{-n/2} \exp(-c/\sigma^2) \end{aligned}$$

Proof. (a) From the class, if we fix σ^2 , the conjugate prior for μ is Gaussian $\mathcal{N}(c, d^2) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}d} \exp \left\{ -\frac{1}{2d^2} (x - c)^2 \right\}$. If we fix μ , the conjugate prior for σ^2 is inverse Gamma $IG(a, b) \sim \frac{b^a}{\Gamma(a)} x^{-(a+1)} \exp(-\frac{b}{x})$.

Now if we assume σ^2 and μ independent, and taking the product of the priors, which is:

$$\begin{aligned} f_{\mu, \sigma^2}(y, z) &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}d} \exp \left\{ -\frac{1}{2d^2} (y - c)^2 \right\} \frac{b^a}{\Gamma(a)} z^{-(a+1)} \exp(-\frac{b}{z}) \\ &\propto z^{-(a+1)} \exp \left\{ -\frac{1}{2d^2} (y - c)^2 - \frac{b}{z} \right\} \end{aligned}$$

Thus the posterior distribution is:

$$\begin{aligned} f_{\mu, \sigma^2 \mid X}(y, z) &\propto z^{-n/2} \exp \left\{ -\frac{1}{2z} \left[ny^2 - 2y \sum x + \sum x^2 \right] \right\} z^{-(a+1)} \exp \left\{ -\frac{1}{2d^2} (y - c)^2 - \frac{b}{z} \right\} \\ &= z^{-(a+1+n/2)} \exp \left\{ \frac{Ay^2 + By + C}{z} + Dy^2 + Ey + F \right\} \end{aligned}$$

where A, B, C, D, E, F are constant with respect to y, z . The posterior distribution is different with the prior distribution, since in the posterior we have the term $y/z, y^2/z$, while the prior does not.

(b) A conjugate prior would be: $\sigma^2 \sim IG(a, b), \mu \mid \sigma^2 \sim \mathcal{N}(c, d^2\sigma^2)$. Indeed, the prior distribution for μ, σ^2 is:

$$\begin{aligned} f_{\mu, \sigma^2}(y, z) &= f_{\mu \mid \sigma^2}(y) g_{\sigma^2}(z) \\ &\propto \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}z} \exp \left\{ -\frac{1}{2d^2z} (y - c)^2 \right\} z^{-(a+1)} \exp \left(-\frac{b}{z} \right) \\ &\propto z^{-(a+1/2)} \exp \left\{ -\frac{1}{2d^2z} (y - c)^2 - \frac{b}{z} \right\} \end{aligned}$$

The posterior distribution is then:

$$\begin{aligned} f_{\mu, \sigma \mid X}(y, z) &\propto f_{X \mid \mu=y, \sigma^2=z}(X) f_{\mu, \sigma}(y, z) \\ &\propto z^{-n/2} \exp \left\{ -\frac{1}{2z} \left(\sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - y)^2 \right) \right\} z^{-(a+1/2)} \exp \left\{ -\frac{1}{2d^2z} (y - c)^2 - \frac{b}{z} \right\} \\ &\propto z^{-(a+1/2-n/2)} \exp \left\{ -\frac{1}{2} (y - A)^2 - \frac{B}{z} \right\} \end{aligned}$$

For some A, B not depending on y, z . Thus the posterior distribution has the same form as the prior distribution. The prior mentioned at the beginning of (b) is a conjugate prior.

Conjugate prior is nice computationally as we aggregate more data throughout time. For example, in estimating the mean return and risk of a stock, one can keep updating the estimator daily as one gather more data. On the other hand, conjugate prior is restrictive, if we have firm belief that μ and σ^2 do not have anything to do with eachother, and we have a lot of computation power at hand, we can use the non-conjugate product prior. \square

Problem 3. Constant Fisher information

Proof. Let g be the inverse of h or $\theta = g(\eta)$

(a) Binomial distribution $Bin(n, \theta)$.

The Fisher information for $\eta = h(\theta)$ is:

$$\begin{aligned}
\tilde{I}(\eta) &= I(\theta) [g'(\eta)]^2 \\
&= -[g'(\eta)]^2 \mathbb{E}_\theta \frac{\partial^2 \log p_\theta(X)}{\partial \theta^2} \\
&= -[g'(\eta)]^2 \mathbb{E}_\theta \frac{\partial^2 \log \left(\frac{n!}{k!(n-k)!} p^k (1-p)^{n-k} \right)}{\partial \theta^2} \\
&= -[g'(\eta)]^2 \mathbb{E}_\theta \frac{\partial^2 (\log n! - \log k! - \log(n-k)! + k \log \theta + (n-k) \log(1-\theta))}{\partial \theta^2} \\
&= -[g'(\eta)]^2 \mathbb{E}_\theta \left[\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \left(\frac{k}{\theta} - \frac{n-k}{1-\theta} \right) \right] \\
&= -[g'(\eta)]^2 \mathbb{E}_\theta \left[-\frac{k}{\theta^2} - \frac{n-k}{(1-\theta)^2} \right] \\
&= [g'(\eta)]^2 \left(\frac{n\theta}{\theta^2} + \frac{n-n\theta}{(1-\theta)^2} \right) \\
&= [g'(\eta)]^2 n \left(\frac{1}{\theta} + \frac{1}{1-\theta} \right) \\
&= [g'(\eta)]^2 n \frac{1}{\theta(1-\theta)}
\end{aligned}$$

We want $\tilde{I}(\eta) = a$. Thus:

$$\begin{aligned}
g'(\eta)^2 &= \frac{a}{n} \theta(1-\theta) \\
\Leftrightarrow g'(\eta)^2 &= \frac{a}{n} g(\eta)(1-g(\eta)) \\
\Rightarrow g(\eta) &= \frac{1}{2} (\cos \left[\sqrt{a/n}(\eta + c) \right] + \frac{1}{2})
\end{aligned}$$

So we can pick a function for example $g(\eta) = \frac{1}{2} \cos \eta + \frac{1}{2} \Rightarrow 2\theta = \cos \eta + 1 \Rightarrow \eta = \arccos(2\theta - 1)$. Thus $h(\theta) = \arccos(2\theta - 1), \theta \in (0, 1)$

(b) The Fisher information for $\eta = h(\theta)$ is:

$$\begin{aligned}
\tilde{I}(\eta) &= -[g'(\eta)]^2 \mathbb{E}_\theta \frac{\partial^2 \log p_\theta(X)}{\partial \theta^2} \\
&= -[g'(\eta)]^2 \mathbb{E}_\theta \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \theta^2} \left\{ -\log \Gamma(a) - a \log \theta + (a-1) \log x - \frac{x}{\theta} \right\} \\
&= -[g'(\eta)]^2 \mathbb{E}_\theta \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \left\{ -\frac{a}{\theta} + \frac{x}{\theta^2} \right\} \\
&= -[g'(\eta)]^2 \mathbb{E}_\theta \left\{ \frac{a}{\theta^2} - \frac{2x}{\theta^3} \right\} \\
&= [g'(\eta)]^2 \frac{a}{\theta^2} = \frac{[g'(\eta)]^2}{[g(\eta)]^2} a
\end{aligned}$$

We want $\tilde{I}(\eta) = c$ constant, we can choose $g(\eta) = \exp \frac{1}{\sqrt{a}} \eta \Rightarrow h(\theta) = \sqrt{a} \log \theta, \theta \in (0, \infty)$.

(c) The Fisher information for θ is:

$$\begin{aligned}
I(\theta) &= -\mathbb{E}_\theta \frac{\partial^2 \left(\frac{3}{2} \log \theta + 2 \log x - \frac{\theta x^2}{2} \right)}{\partial \theta^2} \\
&= -\mathbb{E}_\theta \frac{\partial \left(\frac{3}{2\theta} - \frac{x^2}{2} \right)}{\partial \theta} \\
&= -\mathbb{E}_\theta - \frac{3}{2\theta^2} = \frac{3}{2} \theta^2
\end{aligned}$$

Now $\tilde{I}(\eta) = [g'(\eta)]^2 I(\theta)$, and we want $\tilde{I}(\eta)$ to be constant, which mean $(g'(\eta))^2 g^2(\eta)$ constant. So we can pick $g(\eta) = \sqrt{\eta} \Rightarrow h(\theta) = \theta^2$. \square

Problem 4. Linear Regression Model

Proof. 1. The posterior distribution:

$$\begin{aligned}
p_{\beta|y} &\prec p_\beta p_{y|\beta} \\
&\prec \exp \left\{ -\frac{1}{2} \beta^T g X^T X \beta \right\} \exp \left\{ -\frac{1}{2} (y - X\beta)^T (y - X\beta) \right\} \\
&\prec \exp \left\{ -\frac{1}{2} [-2y^T X\beta + (1+g)\beta^T X^T X \beta] \right\}
\end{aligned}$$

We want the expression inside exp to have the form $(\beta - A)^T (1+g) X^T X (\beta - A)$. This means we need: $(1+g)A^T X^T X = y^T X \Leftrightarrow (1+g)A^T = y^T X (X^T X)^{-1} \Leftrightarrow A^T = \frac{1}{1+g} y^T X (X^T X)^{-1} \Rightarrow A = \frac{1}{1+g} (X^T X)^{-1} X^T y$. With this choice of A , we see that $\beta | y$ is normal with mean A , covariance matrix $\frac{1}{1+g} (X^T X)^{-1}$.

2. $\mathbb{E}(\beta | y) = \frac{1}{1+g} (X^T X)^{-1} X^T y = \frac{1}{1+g} \hat{\beta}$. For β is the usual MLE of β .

3. $\mathbb{E}[\mu | y] = \mathbb{E}[X\beta | y] = \frac{1}{1+g} X (X^T X)^{-1} X^T y$, which is the usual least square \hat{y} multiplied with $\frac{1}{1+g}$.

4. $\text{Var}[\mu | y] = \text{Var}[X\beta | y] = X (\text{Var} \beta | y) X^T = \frac{1}{1+g} X (X^T X)^{-1} X^T$.

5. First, since $\beta | y$ is normal, $\mu = X\beta | y$ is normal. So μ_i and μ_k are independent iff the covariance matrix is diagonal. But since $X^T X = I_p \Rightarrow \text{Var}[\mu | y] = \frac{1}{1+g} X X^T$ which is not guaranteed to be diagonal. For example let $X^T = u_i^T$ for u_i is a vector norm 1 in \mathbb{R}^n , then $X^T X = 1$, but $X X^T$ is in general not I_n . So the answer is no. \square

Problem 5. Bernoulli

Proof. 1. From question 5.1, we have the conditional distribution of X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n on θ is:

$$p_{X_1, \dots, X_n}(x_1, \dots, x_n) = \int \theta^{\sum x_i} (1 - \theta)^{n - \sum x_i} \mu(d\theta)$$

Since this distribution only depends on $\sum x_i$, and reordering X_i does not change the sum of them. We have that a permutation of X_i 's having the same distribution as X_i 's.

2. We have:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Cov}(X_i, X_j) &= \mathbb{E}[X_i X_j] - \mathbb{E}[X_i] \mathbb{E}[X_j] \\ &= \mathbb{E} \mathbb{E}[X_i X_j \mid \theta] - \mathbb{E}^2[X_i] \\ &= \mathbb{E}[\mathbb{E}[X_i \mid \theta] \mathbb{E}[X_j \mid \theta]] - \mathbb{E}^2 \mathbb{E}[X_i \mid \theta] \\ &= \mathbb{E} \theta^2 - \mathbb{E}^2 \theta = \text{Var} \theta \geq 0. \end{aligned}$$

This covariance is zero iff $\text{Var} \theta = 0$.

□