

CSC2506 Assignment 1

① 1) let $f = w^T x$, $p(w) \sim N(w | 0, \Sigma)$

Show $p(f|x)$ Gaussian.

pf: Using moment generating functions, $m_f(t) = m_{w^T x}(t) = E(e^{(w^T x)t}) = E(e^{(w^T t)x})$
 $= E(e^{w^T (xt)}) = m_w(xt) = \exp\left\{\frac{1}{2}(xt)^T \Sigma (xt)\right\} = \exp\left\{\frac{1}{2}t^T x^T \Sigma x\right\}$

$\Rightarrow f \sim N(0, x^T \Sigma x)$ by comparison of mgf to probability distribution functions.

2) $E(f) = E(w^T x) = E(x^T w) = x^T E(w) = 0$, $\text{Cov}(f) = \text{Cov}(x^T w) = x^T \text{Cov}(w) x = x^T \Sigma x$.

3) Using mgf again and that $E \perp f$, $m_{f+\epsilon}(t) = m_f(t) m_\epsilon(t) = \exp\left\{\frac{1}{2}t^T x^T \Sigma x\right\} \exp\left\{\frac{1}{2}t^2 0.001\right\}$
 $= \exp\left\{\frac{1}{2}t^2 (x^T \Sigma x + 0.001)\right\} \Rightarrow f \sim N(0, x^T \Sigma x + 0.001)$

② To find the conjugate prior of $x \sim N(\mu, \lambda^{-1})$ we seek to find a prior such that multiplication with the likelihood retains the same functional form.

We take $\lambda(\mu, \lambda | x) = P(x | \mu, \lambda) \propto \lambda^{1/2} \exp\left\{-\frac{\lambda}{2}(x - \mu)^2\right\}$,

and we note that our prior $P(\mu, \lambda) = P(\mu | \lambda) P(\lambda)$ must maintain the same functional form as $\lambda(\mu, \lambda | x)$.

We can see that for any α, β , $\lambda(\mu, \lambda | x)$ has the same functional form as $\lambda^\alpha \exp\left\{-\frac{\lambda}{\beta}\right\}$, so this would be a prior for the marginal distribution of λ

$\Rightarrow P(\lambda | \alpha, \beta) = \Gamma(\alpha, \beta)$

Also notice that, for a fixed λ , to retain conjugacy, $P(\mu | \lambda) \propto \lambda^{1/2} \exp\left\{-\frac{\lambda}{2}(x^2 - 2x\mu - \mu^2)\right\}$,

a quadratic exponential $\Rightarrow \mu | \lambda \propto N(\gamma, c)$, where $c \propto \lambda^{-1}$, (since λ^{-1} appears everywhere c would, and so λ^{-1} must be proportional to c to maintain conjugacy with the likelihood).

finally, we have that our prior $p(\mu, \lambda) = P(\mu | \lambda) P(\lambda) = N(\mu | \gamma, c) \Gamma(\lambda | \alpha, \beta)$
 and if we take $c = (\gamma \lambda)^{-1} \Rightarrow P(\mu, \lambda) = N(\mu | \gamma, (\gamma \lambda)^{-1}) \Gamma(\lambda | \alpha, \beta)$, as needed. ■