

Statistical Modelling and Inference: Week 3 Prior Modelling

Prior Modelling ** 1. Extend your program to also learn q from the data. Work with the Normal.Gamma prior with specification**

$$a = -\frac{1}{2}, b = 0, \mu = 0, D = \delta I$$

- Produce a figure that includes posterior draws of the linear predictor for this model

2.1 Priors that penalize the L norm of the mean of a Gaussian and MAP estimation

1. Suppose for simplicity that $a > 0$ ($a < 0$ can be handled in the same way), assume also that $\lambda > 0$ and consider the function

$$f(\mu) = (\mu - a)^2 + \lambda|\mu|$$

Show that μ is minimised at $(a - \lambda/2)^+$ where x^+ denotes the positive part of x .

We take the derivative and equate to zero to find the λ that maximizes the L norm

$$\frac{\partial f(\mu)}{\partial \mu} = 2(\mu - a) + \lambda|\mu| = 0$$

$$\lambda = -2(\mu - a)$$

$$\mu = a - \frac{\lambda}{2}$$

And we can check that it is indeed a minimum as the second derivative is > 0 :

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \mu} \left(\frac{\partial f(\mu)}{\partial \mu} \right) = 2 > 0$$

2. Find w_{MAP} under this model in closed form

$$w_{MAP} = \arg \max \log p(w|t) = \arg \max \log p(t|w) + \log p(w)$$

$$\begin{aligned} &= \arg \max \log \prod_{i=1}^N p(t_n|w) + \log e^{-\frac{\delta}{2} \sum_{i=1}^{M+1} |w_i|} \\ &= \arg \max \sum_{i=1}^N \log N(w_n, q^{-1}I) + \log e^{-\frac{\delta}{2} \sum_{i=1}^{M+1} |w_i|} \\ &= \arg \max \sum_{i=1}^N c \log e^{-\frac{1}{2} q(t_n - w)^T (t - w)} + \log e^{-\frac{\delta}{2} \sum_{i=1}^{M+1} |w_i|} \\ &= \arg \max \sum_{i=1}^N -\frac{c}{2} q(t_n - w)^T (t - w) - \frac{\delta}{2} \sum_{i=1}^{M+1} |w_i| \\ &\propto \min \sum_{i=1}^N q(t_n - w)^T (t - w) + \delta \sum_{i=1}^{M+1} |w_i| \end{aligned}$$

$$= \min q \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{i=1}^{M+1} (t_n - w)^T (t - w) + \delta \sum_{i=1}^{M+1} |w_i|$$

Taking the derivative and equating to 0,

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial w_i} = 0$$

$$-2q \sum_{i=1}^N (t_{ni} - w_i) + \delta = 0$$

$$-Nw_i + \sum_{i=1}^N t_{ni} = \frac{\delta}{2} q^{-1}$$

$$w_i = \frac{1}{N} \left(\sum_{i=1}^N t_{ni} - \frac{\delta}{2} q^{-1} \right)$$