

02471 Machine Learning for Signal Processing

Solution

Exercise 9: Bayesian inference and the EM algorithm

9.1 Cost functions, Maximum Likelihood and Bayesian Inference

Exercise 9.1.1

The multivariate normal distribution (or multivariate Gaussian distribution) is

$$p(\mathbf{y}|\boldsymbol{\theta}; \boldsymbol{\mu}_{\mathbf{y}}, \Sigma_{\mathbf{y}}) = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^{N/2} |\Sigma_{\mathbf{y}}|^{1/2}} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{y} - \boldsymbol{\mu}_{\mathbf{y}})^T \Sigma_{\mathbf{y}}^{-1} (\mathbf{y} - \boldsymbol{\mu}_{\mathbf{y}})\right)$$

The log to this expression, using the rules $\ln ab = \ln a + \ln b$ and $\ln a^b = b \ln a$ becomes

$$\begin{aligned} \ln p(\mathbf{y}|\boldsymbol{\theta}; \boldsymbol{\mu}_{\mathbf{y}}, \Sigma_{\mathbf{y}}) &= \ln(2\pi)^{-N/2} + \ln |\Sigma_{\mathbf{y}}|^{-1/2} - \frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{y} - \boldsymbol{\mu}_{\mathbf{y}})^T \Sigma_{\mathbf{y}}^{-1} (\mathbf{y} - \boldsymbol{\mu}_{\mathbf{y}}) \\ &= -\frac{N}{2} \ln(2\pi) - \frac{1}{2} \ln |\Sigma_{\mathbf{y}}| - \frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{y} - \boldsymbol{\mu}_{\mathbf{y}})^T \Sigma_{\mathbf{y}}^{-1} (\mathbf{y} - \boldsymbol{\mu}_{\mathbf{y}}) \end{aligned}$$

We need to find the expression for $\boldsymbol{\mu}_{\mathbf{y}}$ which is

$$\begin{aligned} \boldsymbol{\mu}_{\mathbf{y}} &= \mathbb{E}[\mathbf{y}] \\ &= \mathbb{E}[f(X, \boldsymbol{\theta}) + \boldsymbol{\eta}] \\ &= f(X, \boldsymbol{\theta}) + \mathbb{E}[\boldsymbol{\eta}] \end{aligned}$$

If we assume zero-mean noise, $\mathbb{E}[\boldsymbol{\eta}] = 0$, we have $\mathbb{E}[\mathbf{y}] = f(X, \boldsymbol{\theta})$. Additionally we need to find the expression for $\Sigma_{\mathbf{y}}$:

$$\begin{aligned} \Sigma_{\mathbf{y}} &= \mathbb{E}\left[(\mathbf{y} - \mathbb{E}[\mathbf{y}])(\mathbf{y} - \mathbb{E}[\mathbf{y}])^T\right] \\ &= \mathbb{E}\left[(f(X, \boldsymbol{\theta}) + \boldsymbol{\eta} - f(X, \boldsymbol{\theta}))(f(X, \boldsymbol{\theta}) + \boldsymbol{\eta} - f(X, \boldsymbol{\theta}))^T\right] \\ &= \mathbb{E}[\boldsymbol{\eta}\boldsymbol{\eta}^T] \\ &= \Sigma_{\boldsymbol{\eta}} \end{aligned}$$

By substitution we now obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \ln p(\mathbf{y}|\boldsymbol{\theta}; \boldsymbol{\mu}_{\mathbf{y}}, \Sigma_{\mathbf{y}}) &= -\frac{N}{2} \ln(2\pi) - \frac{1}{2} \ln |\Sigma_{\mathbf{y}}| - \frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{y} - \boldsymbol{\mu}_{\mathbf{y}})^T \Sigma_{\mathbf{y}}^{-1} (\mathbf{y} - \boldsymbol{\mu}_{\mathbf{y}}) \\ &= -\frac{N}{2} \ln(2\pi) - \frac{1}{2} \ln |\Sigma_{\boldsymbol{\eta}}| - \frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{y} - f(X, \boldsymbol{\theta}))^T \Sigma_{\boldsymbol{\eta}}^{-1} (\mathbf{y} - f(X, \boldsymbol{\theta})) \end{aligned}$$

Exercise 9.1.2

If we assume that we have noise that is statistically independent sample to sample (e.g white noise), and assume $\Sigma_{\boldsymbol{\eta}} = \sigma^2 I$. In that case, we have $|\Sigma_{\boldsymbol{\eta}}| = |\sigma^2 I| = \sigma^{2N}$, and $\Sigma_{\boldsymbol{\eta}}^{-1} = (\sigma^2 I)^{-1} =$

$\frac{1}{\sigma^2}I$. Thus we can rewrite

$$\begin{aligned}
\ln p(\mathbf{y}|\boldsymbol{\theta}; \boldsymbol{\mu}_{\mathbf{y}}, \Sigma_{\mathbf{y}}) &= -\frac{N}{2} \ln(2\pi) - \frac{1}{2} \ln |\Sigma_{\eta}| - \frac{1}{2} (\mathbf{y} - f(X, \boldsymbol{\theta}))^T \Sigma_{\eta}^{-1} (\mathbf{y} - f(X, \boldsymbol{\theta})) \\
&= -\frac{N}{2} \ln(2\pi) - \frac{1}{2} \ln \sigma^{2N} - \frac{1}{2} (\mathbf{y} - f(X, \boldsymbol{\theta}))^T \frac{1}{\sigma^2} I (\mathbf{y} - f(X, \boldsymbol{\theta})) \\
&= -\frac{N}{2} \ln(2\pi) - \frac{N}{2} \ln \sigma^2 - \frac{1}{2\sigma^2} (\mathbf{y} - f(X, \boldsymbol{\theta}))^T (\mathbf{y} - f(X, \boldsymbol{\theta})) \\
&= -\frac{N}{2} \ln(2\pi) - \frac{N}{2} \ln \sigma^2 - \frac{1}{2\sigma^2} \|\mathbf{y} - f(X, \boldsymbol{\theta})\|^2
\end{aligned}$$

Exercise 9.1.3

If we consider this as an optimization problem we have

$$\begin{aligned}
\hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}} &= \arg \max_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} \ln p(\boldsymbol{\theta}|\mathbf{y}; \boldsymbol{\mu}_{\mathbf{y}}, \Sigma_{\mathbf{y}}) \\
&= \arg \max_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} \ln p(\mathbf{y}|\boldsymbol{\theta}; \boldsymbol{\mu}_{\mathbf{y}}, \Sigma_{\mathbf{y}}) + \ln p(\boldsymbol{\theta}) \\
&= \arg \max_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} -\frac{N}{2} \ln(2\pi) - \frac{N}{2} \ln \sigma^2 - \frac{1}{2\sigma^2} \|\mathbf{y} - f(X, \boldsymbol{\theta})\|^2 + \ln p(\boldsymbol{\theta}) \\
&= \arg \max_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} -\frac{1}{2\sigma^2} \|\mathbf{y} - f(X, \boldsymbol{\theta})\|^2 + \ln p(\boldsymbol{\theta})
\end{aligned}$$

If we consider the prior as constant we can remove that from the optimization problem, thus we get

$$\begin{aligned}
\hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}} &= \arg \max_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} -\frac{1}{2\sigma^2} \|\mathbf{y} - f(X, \boldsymbol{\theta})\|^2 \\
&= \arg \min_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} \|\mathbf{y} - f(X, \boldsymbol{\theta})\|^2
\end{aligned}$$

Exercise 9.1.4

Reusing the expression from the previous exercise we get

$$\begin{aligned}
\ln p(\boldsymbol{\theta}; \mathbf{0}, \sigma_{\theta}^2 I) &= -\frac{K}{2} \ln(2\pi) - \frac{K}{2} \ln \sigma_{\theta}^2 - \frac{1}{2\sigma_{\theta}^2} \|\boldsymbol{\theta} - \mathbf{0}\|^2 \\
&= -\frac{K}{2} \ln(2\pi) - \frac{K}{2} \ln \sigma_{\theta}^2 - \frac{1}{2\sigma_{\theta}^2} \|\boldsymbol{\theta}\|^2
\end{aligned}$$

Let us combine this result with the log-posterior we derived in the last exercise

$$\begin{aligned}
\hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}} &= \arg \max_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} -\frac{1}{2\sigma^2} \|\mathbf{y} - f(X, \boldsymbol{\theta})\|^2 - \frac{K}{2} \ln(2\pi) - \frac{K}{2} \ln \sigma_{\theta}^2 - \frac{1}{2\sigma_{\theta}^2} \|\boldsymbol{\theta}\|^2 \\
&= \arg \max_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} -\frac{1}{2\sigma^2} \|\mathbf{y} - f(X, \boldsymbol{\theta})\|^2 - \frac{1}{2\sigma_{\theta}^2} \|\boldsymbol{\theta}\|^2 \\
&= \arg \min_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} \frac{1}{2\sigma^2} \|\mathbf{y} - f(X, \boldsymbol{\theta})\|^2 + \frac{1}{2\sigma_{\theta}^2} \|\boldsymbol{\theta}\|^2
\end{aligned}$$

If we reparameterize with $\sigma_\theta^2 = \frac{\sigma^2}{\lambda} \Leftrightarrow \lambda = \frac{\sigma^2}{\sigma_\theta^2}$, we get

$$\begin{aligned}\hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}} &= \arg \min_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} \frac{1}{2\sigma^2} \|\mathbf{y} - f(X, \boldsymbol{\theta})\|^2 + \frac{1}{2\frac{\sigma^2}{\lambda}} \|\boldsymbol{\theta}\|^2 \\ &= \arg \min_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} \frac{1}{2\sigma^2} \|\mathbf{y} - f(X, \boldsymbol{\theta})\|^2 + \frac{\lambda}{2\sigma^2} \|\boldsymbol{\theta}\|^2 \\ &= \arg \min_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} \|\mathbf{y} - f(X, \boldsymbol{\theta})\|^2 + \lambda \|\boldsymbol{\theta}\|^2\end{aligned}$$

Exercise 9.1.5

We consider the log to the univariate Laplacian distribution

$$\begin{aligned}\ln p(x|\mu, b) &= \ln \left(\frac{1}{2b} \exp \left(-\frac{|x - \mu|}{b} \right) \right) \\ &= \ln(2b)^{-1} - \frac{1}{b} |x - \mu| \\ &= -\ln 2 - \ln b - \frac{1}{b} |x - \mu|\end{aligned}$$

Exercise 9.1.6

Let us now consider a weight vector $\boldsymbol{\theta}$ of length l . If we assume each θ_k follows a zero-mean Laplacian distribution, and the individual weights are statistically independent, we get

$$\begin{aligned}\ln p(\boldsymbol{\theta}|0, b) &= \sum_{i=1}^l -\ln 2 - \ln b - \frac{1}{b} |\theta_i| \\ &= -l \ln 2 - l \ln b - \frac{1}{b} \sum_{i=1}^l |\theta_i| \\ &= -l \ln 2 - l \ln b - \frac{1}{b} \|\boldsymbol{\theta}\|_1\end{aligned}$$

Exercise 9.1.7

Combine this with the previous results, and obtain the complete log-likelihood $\boldsymbol{\theta}$

$$\begin{aligned}\ln p(\boldsymbol{\theta}, \mathbf{y}|X) &= \ln p(\mathbf{y}|\boldsymbol{\theta}; f(X, \boldsymbol{\theta}), \sigma^2 I) + \ln p(\boldsymbol{\theta}|0, b) \\ &= -\frac{N}{2} \ln 2\pi - \frac{N}{2} \ln \sigma^2 - \frac{1}{2\sigma^2} \|\mathbf{y} - f(X, \boldsymbol{\theta})\|^2 - l \ln 2 - l \ln b - \frac{1}{b} \|\boldsymbol{\theta}\|_1\end{aligned}$$

Exercise 9.1.8

From Bayes formula, we know, given a dataset X , optimizing $\ln p(\boldsymbol{\theta}, \mathbf{y}|X)$ is the same as optimizing $\ln p(\boldsymbol{\theta}|\mathbf{y}|X)$. Disregarding all terms not related to $\boldsymbol{\theta}$ we get

$$\begin{aligned}\hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}} &= \arg \max_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} -\frac{1}{2\sigma^2} \|\mathbf{y} - f(X, \boldsymbol{\theta})\|^2 - \frac{1}{b} \|\boldsymbol{\theta}\|_1 \\ &= \arg \min_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} \frac{1}{2\sigma^2} \|\mathbf{y} - f(X, \boldsymbol{\theta})\|^2 + \frac{1}{b} \|\boldsymbol{\theta}\|_1\end{aligned}$$

If we reparameterize with $b = 2\sigma^2/\lambda$ we get the Lasso cost function and we can see that LASSO corresponds to having normal likelihood with i.i.d samples and univariate Laplace prior on $\boldsymbol{\theta}$.

9.2 Derive EM updates for Bayesian linear regression

Exercise 9.2.1

We have already derived expressions for these in the previous exercise. Using the previous results we get:

$$\begin{aligned}\ln p(\mathbf{y}, \boldsymbol{\theta} | \alpha, \beta) &= \ln p(\mathbf{y} | \boldsymbol{\theta}; \boldsymbol{\theta}, \beta) + \ln p(\boldsymbol{\theta}; \mathbf{0}, \alpha) \\ &= -\frac{N}{2} \ln(2\pi) + \frac{N}{2} \ln \beta - \frac{\beta}{2} \|\mathbf{y} - \Phi \boldsymbol{\theta}\|^2 - \frac{K}{2} \ln(2\pi) + \frac{K}{2} \ln \alpha - \frac{\alpha}{2} \|\boldsymbol{\theta}\|^2 \\ &= -\frac{1}{2}(N + K) \ln(2\pi) + \frac{N}{2} \ln \beta - \frac{\beta}{2} \|\mathbf{y} - \Phi \boldsymbol{\theta}\|^2 + \frac{K}{2} \ln \alpha - \frac{\alpha}{2} \|\boldsymbol{\theta}\|^2\end{aligned}$$

To compute the expectation we use the following rule $A^T A = \text{trace}(A A^T)$, and use that trace is a linear operator i.e. $\text{trace}(A + B) = \text{trace}(A) + \text{trace}(B)$, and $\mathbb{E}[\text{trace}(A)] = \text{trace}(\mathbb{E}[A])$:

$$\begin{aligned}A &:= \mathbb{E}[\boldsymbol{\theta} \boldsymbol{\theta}^T] = \mathbb{E}[\text{trace}(\boldsymbol{\theta} \boldsymbol{\theta}^T)] \\ &= \text{trace}(\mathbb{E}[\boldsymbol{\theta} \boldsymbol{\theta}^T])\end{aligned}$$

We recognize $\mathbb{E}[\boldsymbol{\theta} \boldsymbol{\theta}^T]$ as the structure of the correlation matrix eq (2.33), hence we have, at step j

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbb{E}[\boldsymbol{\theta} \boldsymbol{\theta}^T] &= \text{Cov}(\boldsymbol{\theta}) + \mathbb{E}[\boldsymbol{\theta}] \mathbb{E}[\boldsymbol{\theta}^T] \\ &= \Sigma_{\boldsymbol{\theta}|y}^{(j)} + \boldsymbol{\mu}_{\boldsymbol{\theta}|y}^{(j)} \boldsymbol{\mu}_{\boldsymbol{\theta}|y}^{(j)T}\end{aligned}$$

Inserting into the trace we get $\text{trace}(A + B) = \text{trace}(A) + \text{trace}(B)$, and $\mathbb{E}[\text{trace}(A)] = \text{trace}(\mathbb{E}[A])$, we get

$$\begin{aligned}A &= \text{trace}\left(\Sigma_{\boldsymbol{\theta}|y}^{(j)} + \boldsymbol{\mu}_{\boldsymbol{\theta}|y}^{(j)} \boldsymbol{\mu}_{\boldsymbol{\theta}|y}^{(j)T}\right) \\ &= \text{trace}\left(\Sigma_{\boldsymbol{\theta}|y}^{(j)}\right) + \text{trace}\left(\boldsymbol{\mu}_{\boldsymbol{\theta}|y}^{(j)} \boldsymbol{\mu}_{\boldsymbol{\theta}|y}^{(j)T}\right) \\ &= \text{trace}\left(\Sigma_{\boldsymbol{\theta}|y}^{(j)}\right) + \|\boldsymbol{\mu}_{\boldsymbol{\theta}|y}^{(j)}\|^2\end{aligned}$$

Exercise 9.2.2

The other term we need to evaluate is $\|\mathbf{y} - \Phi \boldsymbol{\theta}\|^2$. To evaluate, we again use the $\text{trace}(\cdot)$ function and perform the following rewrite

$$\begin{aligned}\|\mathbf{y} - \Phi \boldsymbol{\theta}\|^2 &= (\mathbf{y} - \Phi \boldsymbol{\theta})^T (\mathbf{y} - \Phi \boldsymbol{\theta}) \\ &= \mathbf{y}^T \mathbf{y} - (\Phi \boldsymbol{\theta})^T \mathbf{y} - \mathbf{y}^T \Phi \boldsymbol{\theta} + (\Phi \boldsymbol{\theta})^T \Phi \boldsymbol{\theta} \\ &= \mathbf{y}^T \mathbf{y} - (\Phi \boldsymbol{\theta})^T \mathbf{y} - \mathbf{y}^T \Phi \boldsymbol{\theta} + \text{trace}(\Phi \boldsymbol{\theta} (\Phi \boldsymbol{\theta})^T) \\ &= \mathbf{y}^T \mathbf{y} - \mathbf{y}^T \Phi \boldsymbol{\theta} - \mathbf{y}^T \Phi \boldsymbol{\theta} + \text{trace}(\Phi \boldsymbol{\theta} \boldsymbol{\theta}^T \Phi^T) \\ &= \mathbf{y}^T \mathbf{y} - 2\mathbf{y}^T \Phi \boldsymbol{\theta} + \text{trace}(\Phi \boldsymbol{\theta} \boldsymbol{\theta}^T \Phi^T)\end{aligned}$$

To proceed we now take the expectation to $\|\mathbf{y} - \Phi \boldsymbol{\theta}\|^2$, where $\boldsymbol{\theta}$ is the only random variable, and again using that $\text{trace}(\cdot)$ is a linear operator we get

$$\begin{aligned}B &:= \mathbb{E}[\|\mathbf{y} - \Phi \boldsymbol{\theta}\|^2] = \mathbb{E}[\mathbf{y}^T \mathbf{y} - 2\mathbf{y}^T \Phi \boldsymbol{\theta} + \text{trace}(\Phi \boldsymbol{\theta} \boldsymbol{\theta}^T \Phi^T)] \\ &= \mathbf{y}^T \mathbf{y} - 2\mathbf{y}^T \Phi \mathbb{E}[\boldsymbol{\theta}] + \text{trace}(\Phi \mathbb{E}[\boldsymbol{\theta} \boldsymbol{\theta}^T] \Phi^T)\end{aligned}$$

Exercise 9.2.3

We have already found the expressions for $\mathbb{E}[\theta]$ and $\mathbb{E}[\theta\theta^T]$ earlier, so by substitution, and again using that $\text{trace}(\cdot)$ is a linear operator we get

$$\begin{aligned} B &= \mathbf{y}^T \mathbf{y} - 2\mathbf{y}^T \Phi \boldsymbol{\mu}_{\theta|y}^{(j)} + \text{trace}\left(\Phi \left(\Sigma_{\theta|y}^{(j)} + \boldsymbol{\mu}_{\theta|y}^{(j)} \boldsymbol{\mu}_{\theta|y}^{(j)T}\right) \Phi^T\right) \\ &= \mathbf{y}^T \mathbf{y} - 2\mathbf{y}^T \Phi \boldsymbol{\mu}_{\theta|y}^{(j)} + \text{trace}\left(\Phi \Sigma_{\theta|y}^{(j)} \Phi^T\right) + \text{trace}\left(\Phi \boldsymbol{\mu}_{\theta|y}^{(j)} \boldsymbol{\mu}_{\theta|y}^{(j)T} \Phi^T\right) \\ &= \|\mathbf{y} - \Phi \boldsymbol{\mu}_{\theta|y}^{(j)}\|^2 + \text{trace}\left(\Phi \Sigma_{\theta|y}^{(j)} \Phi^T\right) \end{aligned}$$

Exercise 9.2.4

From the book, sec 12.9.4 we have expressions for how to specify the posterior. From eq. (12.135) and eq. (12.136) we have, if

$$\begin{aligned} p(\mathbf{z}) &= \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{z}; \boldsymbol{\mu}_z, \Sigma_z) \\ p(\mathbf{t}|\mathbf{z}) &= \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{t}|\mathbf{z}; A\mathbf{z}, \Sigma_{t|z}) \end{aligned}$$

then the posterior is

$$\begin{aligned} p(\mathbf{z}|\mathbf{t}) &= \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{z}|\mathbf{t}; \boldsymbol{\mu}_{z|t}, \Sigma_{z|t}) \\ \boldsymbol{\mu}_{z|t} &= \boldsymbol{\mu}_z + \Sigma_{z|t} A^T \Sigma_{t|z}^{-1} (\mathbf{t} - A\boldsymbol{\mu}_z) \\ \Sigma_{z|t} &= (\Sigma_z^{-1} + A^T \Sigma_{t|z}^{-1} A)^{-1} \end{aligned}$$

In our case, we have $\mathbf{z} := \boldsymbol{\theta}$, $\boldsymbol{\mu}_z := \mathbf{0}$, $\mathbf{t} := \mathbf{y}$, $\Sigma_z^{-1} := \alpha I$, $\mathbf{t} := \mathbf{y}$, $A := \Phi$, and $\Sigma_{t|z}^{-1} := \beta I$. Then we get the following expressions

$$\begin{aligned} \boldsymbol{\mu}_{\theta|y} &= \beta \Sigma_{\theta|y} \Phi^T \mathbf{y} \\ \Sigma_{\theta|y} &= (\alpha I + \beta \Phi^T \Phi)^{-1} \end{aligned}$$

Exercise 9.2.5

The derivative of $\mathcal{Q}(\alpha, \beta; \alpha^{(j)}, \beta^{(j)})$ follows the same structure, so we only show one of them.

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial}{\partial \alpha} \mathcal{Q}(\alpha, \beta; \alpha^{(j)}, \beta^{(j)}) &= \frac{K}{2} \frac{1}{\alpha} - \frac{1}{2} A = 0, \quad \Leftrightarrow \\ &\frac{1}{\alpha} = \frac{A}{K}, \quad \Leftrightarrow \\ &\alpha = \frac{K}{A} \end{aligned}$$

By symmetry, we get

$$\beta = \frac{N}{B}$$

Hence, the update equations will be $\alpha^{j+1} = K/B$ and $\beta^{j+1} = N/B$.