Bayesian Inference for the Gaussian Distribution

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1 Maximum likelihood estimation

Input vectors are given as $\mathbf{x} = (x_1, \dots, x_N)^T$ and the output/target variables as $\mathbf{t} = (t_1, \dots, t_N)^T$ and the polynomial coefficients as $\mathbf{w} = (w_1, \dots, w_M)^T$.

$$t_i = \sum_{i=1}^N y(x_i, \mathbf{w}) \tag{1}$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^{N} \sum_{k=1}^{M} y_k(x_i) w_k$$
 (2)

$$= (\boldsymbol{X}\boldsymbol{w})_i + n_i \tag{3}$$

Assumed distribution of n_i :

$$n_i \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma^2)$$
 (4)

The values of *t*, given the values of *x* follows a Gaussian distribution.

$$t_i \sim \mathcal{N}(y(x_i, \mathbf{w}), \sigma^2)$$
 (5)

The likelihood function is defined as follows.

$$p(t_i \mid \boldsymbol{X}, \boldsymbol{w}, \sigma^2) = \sqrt{\frac{1}{2\pi\sigma^2}} \exp\left[-\frac{1}{2\sigma^2} (t_i - (\boldsymbol{X}\boldsymbol{w})_i)^2\right]$$
 (6)

A precision parameter β is defined which is given as $\beta^{-1} = \sigma^2$. Thus, we have the following modified likelihood function as follows.

$$p(t_i \mid \boldsymbol{X}, \boldsymbol{w}, \beta) = \sqrt{\frac{\beta}{2\pi}} \exp\left[-\frac{\beta}{2} (t_i - (\boldsymbol{X}\boldsymbol{w})_i)^2\right]$$
 (7)

Assuming the data is drawn independently, the likelihood is the joint probability given as the product of individual marginal probabilities. It is also assumed the value of β is known or assumed.

$$\rho(t \mid \boldsymbol{X}, \boldsymbol{w}, \beta) = \prod_{i=1}^{N} \rho(t_i \mid \boldsymbol{X}, \boldsymbol{w}, \beta)$$
 (8)

The log likelihood of equation 8 is given as

$$\ln p(\boldsymbol{t} \mid \boldsymbol{X}, \boldsymbol{w}, \beta) = \sum_{i=1}^{N} \ln p(t_i \mid \boldsymbol{X}, \boldsymbol{w}, \beta)$$
 (9)

$$= \sum_{i=1}^{N} \ln \left\{ \sqrt{\frac{\beta}{2\pi}} \exp \left[\frac{-\beta}{2} \left(t_i - (\boldsymbol{X} \boldsymbol{w})_i \right)^2 \right] \right\}$$
 (10)

$$= \frac{N}{2} \ln \beta - \frac{N}{2} \ln 2\pi - \frac{\beta}{2} \sum_{i=1}^{N} (t_i - (X w)_i)^2$$
 (11)

$$= \frac{N}{2} \ln \beta - \frac{N}{2} \ln 2\pi - \frac{\beta}{2} \| \boldsymbol{t} - \boldsymbol{X} \boldsymbol{w} \|^2$$
 (12)

The posterior probability to determine the parameters is given as the product of likelihood function and prior.

$$p(\mathbf{w} \mid \mathbf{t}, \mathbf{X}, \beta) \propto p(\mathbf{t} \mid \mathbf{X}, \mathbf{w}, \beta)p(\mathbf{w}) \tag{13}$$

The value of the prior $p(\mathbf{w}) = 1$.

By maximizing the negative likelihood (or posterior distribution with prior as one) with respect to \mathbf{w} ,

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \mathbf{w}} \left\{ -\ln p(\mathbf{w} \mid \mathbf{t}, \mathbf{X}, \beta) \right\} \stackrel{!}{=} 0 \tag{14}$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \mathbf{w}} \left\{ -\ln p(\mathbf{t} \mid \mathbf{X}, \mathbf{w}, \beta) \right\} \stackrel{!}{=} 0 \tag{15}$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \boldsymbol{w}} \left\{ \frac{\beta}{2} \| \boldsymbol{t} - \boldsymbol{X} \boldsymbol{w} \|^2 \right\} \stackrel{!}{=} 0 \tag{16}$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \boldsymbol{w}} \left\{ \frac{\beta}{2} \left(\boldsymbol{t} - \boldsymbol{X} \boldsymbol{w} \right)^T \left(\boldsymbol{t} - \boldsymbol{X} \boldsymbol{w} \right) \right\} \stackrel{!}{=} 0 \tag{17}$$

$$\beta \left(\boldsymbol{X}^{T} \boldsymbol{X} \boldsymbol{w} - \boldsymbol{X}^{T} \boldsymbol{t} \right) \stackrel{!}{=} 0 \tag{18}$$

Therefore, \mathbf{w}_{ML} is evaluated.

$$\mathbf{w}_{\mathsf{ML}} = (\mathbf{X}^{\mathsf{T}} \mathbf{X})^{-1} \mathbf{X}^{\mathsf{T}} \mathbf{t} \tag{19}$$

It can be seen that the maximum likelihood results into least square estimator. We can similarly estimate β_{ML} by maximizing the posterior with respect to β . The known value of \mathbf{w}_{ML} can now be utilized here.

Taking the log likelihood in equation 9, the following could be shown.

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \beta} \left\{ -\ln p(\boldsymbol{w}_{ML} \mid \boldsymbol{t}, \boldsymbol{X}, \beta) \right\} \stackrel{!}{=} 0$$
 (20)

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \beta} \left\{ -\ln p(\boldsymbol{t} \mid \boldsymbol{X}, \boldsymbol{w}_{\text{ML}}, \beta) \right\} \stackrel{!}{=} 0$$
 (21)

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \beta} \left\{ -\frac{N}{2} \ln \beta + \frac{\beta}{2} \| \boldsymbol{t} - \boldsymbol{X} \boldsymbol{w}_{\text{ML}} \|^2 \right\} \stackrel{!}{=} 0$$
 (22)

$$\|\boldsymbol{t} - \boldsymbol{X}\boldsymbol{w}_{ML}\|^2 - \frac{N}{\beta} \stackrel{!}{=} 0 \tag{23}$$

Therefore, the value β_{ML} is determined to be

$$\beta_{\mathsf{ML}} = \frac{N}{\|\boldsymbol{t} - \boldsymbol{X}\boldsymbol{w}_{\mathsf{ML}}\|^2} \tag{24}$$

2 Maximum a posteriori estimation

In the case of maximum a posteriori (MAP) estimation, the distribution of prior over parameters is known.

2.1 Gaussian distribution of prior

The prior distribution is given as follows

$$p(\boldsymbol{w} \mid \alpha) = \mathcal{N}(0, \boldsymbol{I}/\alpha) = \left(\frac{\alpha}{2\pi}\right)^{M/2} \exp\left\{-\frac{\alpha}{2} \|\boldsymbol{w}\|^2\right\}$$
 (25)

The posterior distribution is shown as follows.

$$p(\mathbf{w} \mid \mathbf{t}, \mathbf{X}, \alpha, \beta) \propto p(\mathbf{t} \mid \mathbf{X}, \mathbf{w}, \beta) p(\mathbf{w} \mid \alpha)$$
 (26)

where β as defined earlier is the precision parameter of the likelihood, α is the hyperparameter (also a precision parameter of the prior distribution) which controls the distribution of model parameters. It is assumed that the value of α and β is known.

The log of the posterior is given as follows

$$\ln p(\boldsymbol{w} \mid \boldsymbol{t}, \boldsymbol{X}, \alpha, \beta) = \ln p(\boldsymbol{t} \mid \boldsymbol{X}, \boldsymbol{w}, \beta) + \ln p(\boldsymbol{w} \mid \alpha)$$
 (27)

The log likelihood is known from equation 9. Therefore,

$$\ln p(\boldsymbol{w} \mid \boldsymbol{t}, \boldsymbol{X}, \alpha, \beta) = \frac{N}{2} \ln \beta - \frac{N}{2} \ln 2\pi - \frac{\beta}{2} \|\boldsymbol{t} - \boldsymbol{X}\boldsymbol{w}\|^2 + \frac{M}{2} \ln \left(\frac{\alpha}{2\pi}\right) - \frac{\alpha}{2} \|\boldsymbol{w}\|^2$$
 (28)

Maximizing the negative log of posterior with respect to \boldsymbol{w} .

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \mathbf{w}} \left\{ -\ln p(\mathbf{w} \mid \mathbf{t}, \mathbf{X}, \alpha, \beta) \right\} \stackrel{!}{=} 0$$
 (29)

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \mathbf{w}} \left\{ \frac{\beta}{2} \left[(\mathbf{t} - \mathbf{X} \mathbf{w})^{\mathsf{T}} (\mathbf{t} - \mathbf{X} \mathbf{w}) \right] + \frac{\alpha}{2} \mathbf{w}^{\mathsf{T}} \mathbf{w} \right\} \stackrel{!}{=} 0$$
 (30)

$$\beta \left(\boldsymbol{X}^{T} \boldsymbol{X} \boldsymbol{w} - \boldsymbol{X}^{T} \boldsymbol{t} \right) + \alpha \boldsymbol{w} \stackrel{!}{=} 0$$
 (31)

Let us assign a regularization parameter $\lambda = \alpha/\beta$. Therefore, the value of parameter using maximum a posteriori estimation \mathbf{w}_{MAP} is given as

$$\boldsymbol{w}_{\text{MAP}} = \left(\boldsymbol{X}^{T}\boldsymbol{X} + \lambda \boldsymbol{I}\right)^{-1} \boldsymbol{X}^{T} \boldsymbol{t}$$
 (32)

2.2 Jeffreys prior

2.2.1 Evaluation for precision parameter β

Jeffreys prior is given as

$$p(\sigma) = \frac{1}{\sigma} \tag{33}$$

Parameter transformation: $\sigma \rightarrow \beta = 1/\sigma^2$

$$p_{\beta}(\beta) = p_{\sigma}(\sigma) \Big|_{\sigma=1/\sqrt{\beta}} \Big| \frac{d\sigma}{d\beta} \Big|$$

$$\propto \sqrt{\beta} \frac{1}{1/\sigma^3} \Big|_{\sigma=1/\sqrt{\beta}}$$

$$= \sqrt{\beta} \sigma^3 \Big|_{\sigma=1/\sqrt{\beta}}$$

$$= \sqrt{\beta} \beta^{-3/2} = 1/\beta$$

Therefore,

$$p(\beta) = \frac{1}{\beta} \tag{34}$$

The posterior distribution is given as

$$p(\mathbf{w} \mid \mathbf{t}, \mathbf{X}, \beta) \propto p(\mathbf{t} \mid \mathbf{X}, \mathbf{w}, \beta) p(\beta)$$
(35)

The log likelihood of the posterior distribution is given as

$$\ln p(\boldsymbol{w} \mid \boldsymbol{t}, \boldsymbol{X}, \beta) = \ln p(\boldsymbol{t} \mid \boldsymbol{X}, \boldsymbol{w}, \beta) + \ln p(\beta)$$
(36)

Using equation 9 to give the log likelihood, the above equation would be as follows

$$\ln p(\boldsymbol{w} \mid \boldsymbol{t}, \boldsymbol{X}, \beta) = \frac{N}{2} \ln \beta - \frac{N}{2} \ln 2\pi - \frac{\beta}{2} \|\boldsymbol{t} - \boldsymbol{X}\boldsymbol{w}\|^2 - \ln \beta$$
 (37)

Maximizing the log posterior with respect to \boldsymbol{w} ,

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \boldsymbol{w}} \left\{ -\ln p(\boldsymbol{w} \mid \boldsymbol{t}, \boldsymbol{X}, \beta) \right\} \stackrel{!}{=} 0 \tag{38}$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \boldsymbol{w}} \left\{ \frac{\beta}{2} \| \boldsymbol{t} - \boldsymbol{X} \boldsymbol{w} \|^2 \right\} \stackrel{!}{=} 0 \tag{39}$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \boldsymbol{w}} \left\{ \frac{\beta}{2} (\boldsymbol{t} - \boldsymbol{X} \boldsymbol{w})^T (\boldsymbol{t} - \boldsymbol{X} \boldsymbol{w}) \right\} \stackrel{!}{=} 0$$
 (40)

$$\beta \left(\boldsymbol{X}^{T} \boldsymbol{X} \boldsymbol{w} - \boldsymbol{X}^{T} \boldsymbol{t} \right) \stackrel{!}{=} 0 \tag{41}$$

Therefore, we find that, $\boldsymbol{w}_{\text{MAP}}$ is

$$\mathbf{w}_{\text{MAP}} = (\mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{X})^{-1} \mathbf{X}^T \mathbf{t} \tag{42}$$

We can see that $\mathbf{w}_{MAP} = \mathbf{w}_{ML}$ (refer equation 19).

Now, maximizing the log posterior with respect to β , equation 37 is used.

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \beta} \left\{ -\ln p(\boldsymbol{w}_{\text{MAP}} \mid \boldsymbol{t}, \boldsymbol{X}, \beta) \right\} \stackrel{!}{=} 0$$
 (43)

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \beta} \left\{ \frac{\beta}{2} \| \boldsymbol{t} - \boldsymbol{X} \boldsymbol{w}_{\text{MAP}} \|^{2} \right\} - \frac{\partial}{\partial \beta} \left\{ \frac{N}{2} \ln \beta \right\} + \frac{\partial}{\partial \beta} \left\{ \ln \beta \right\} \stackrel{!}{=} 0$$
 (44)

$$\frac{1}{2} \| \boldsymbol{t} - \boldsymbol{X} \boldsymbol{w}_{\text{MAP}} \|^2 - \frac{N}{2\beta} + \frac{1}{\beta} \stackrel{!}{=} 0$$
 (45)

Therefore,

$$\beta_{\text{MAP}} = \frac{N-2}{\|\boldsymbol{t} - \boldsymbol{X}\boldsymbol{w}_{\text{MAP}}\|^2} \tag{46}$$

2.2.2 Evaluation for hyperparameter α

Jeffreys prior for the hyperparameter α is given as follows,

$$p(\alpha) = \frac{1}{\alpha} \tag{47}$$

The joint distribution $p(w, \alpha)$ is given as follows

$$p(\mathbf{w}, \alpha) = p(\mathbf{w} \mid \alpha)p(\alpha) \tag{48}$$

The distribution $p(\mathbf{w} \mid \alpha)$ is known from equation 25. Therefore, the joint probability $p(\mathbf{w}, \alpha)$ is evaluated as follows.

$$p(\boldsymbol{w}, \alpha) = \left(\frac{\alpha}{2\pi}\right)^{M/2} \exp\left\{-\frac{\alpha}{2} \|\boldsymbol{w}\|^2\right\} \times \frac{1}{\alpha}$$
 (49)

$$p(\boldsymbol{w}, \alpha) = \left(\frac{\alpha}{2\pi}\right)^{(M-2)/2} \exp\left\{-\frac{\alpha}{2} \|\boldsymbol{w}\|^2\right\}$$
 (50)

The posterior distribution is given as follows.

$$p(\mathbf{w}, \alpha, \beta \mid \mathbf{t}, \mathbf{X}) \propto p(\mathbf{t} \mid \mathbf{X}, \mathbf{w}, \alpha, \beta) p(\mathbf{w}, \alpha) p(\beta)$$
 (51)

The distribution of $p(\beta)$ is known from equation 34 to be $p(\beta) = 1/\beta$. Therefore, the log of the posterior distribution is

$$\ln p(\boldsymbol{w}, \alpha, \beta \mid \boldsymbol{t}, \boldsymbol{X}) = \ln p(\boldsymbol{t} \mid \boldsymbol{X}, \boldsymbol{w}, \alpha, \beta) + \ln p(\boldsymbol{w}, \alpha) + \ln p(\beta)$$
 (52)

Evaluating the above equation results to the following:

$$\ln p(\boldsymbol{w}, \alpha, \beta \mid \boldsymbol{t}, \boldsymbol{X}) = \frac{N}{2} \ln \beta - \frac{\beta}{2} \|\boldsymbol{t} - \boldsymbol{X}\boldsymbol{w}\|^2 + \frac{(M-2)}{2} \ln \alpha - \frac{\alpha}{2} \|\boldsymbol{w}\|^2 - \ln \beta$$
 (53)

Initially, maximizing the posterior (refer equation 53) with respect to \boldsymbol{w} , we get

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \boldsymbol{w}} \left\{ -\ln p(\boldsymbol{w}, \alpha, \beta \mid \boldsymbol{t}, \boldsymbol{X}) \right\} \stackrel{!}{=} 0$$
 (54)

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \boldsymbol{w}} \left\{ \frac{\beta}{2} \left[(\boldsymbol{t} - \boldsymbol{X} \boldsymbol{w})^T (\boldsymbol{t} - \boldsymbol{X} \boldsymbol{w}) \right] + \frac{\alpha}{2} \boldsymbol{w}^T \boldsymbol{w} \right\} \stackrel{!}{=} 0$$
 (55)

$$\beta \left(\mathbf{X}^{T} \mathbf{X} \mathbf{w} - \mathbf{X}^{T} \mathbf{t} \right) + \alpha \mathbf{w} \stackrel{!}{=} 0$$
 (56)

Given the regularization parameter $\lambda = \alpha/\beta$, \mathbf{w}_{MAP} is the same as per the equation 32.

$$\boldsymbol{w}_{\text{MAP}} = \left(\boldsymbol{X}^{T}\boldsymbol{X} + \lambda \boldsymbol{I}\right)^{-1}\boldsymbol{X}^{T}\boldsymbol{t} \tag{57}$$

Finally, maximizing posterior(refer equation 53) with respect to β , we get the following

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \beta} \left\{ -\ln p(\boldsymbol{w}_{\text{MAP}}, \alpha, \beta \mid \boldsymbol{t}, \boldsymbol{X}) \right\} \stackrel{!}{=} 0$$
 (58)

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \beta} \left\{ \frac{\beta}{2} \| \boldsymbol{t} - \boldsymbol{X} \boldsymbol{w}_{\text{MAP}} \|^{2} \right\} - \frac{\partial}{\partial \beta} \left\{ \frac{N}{2} \ln \beta \right\} + \frac{\partial}{\partial \beta} \left\{ \ln \beta \right\} \stackrel{!}{=} 0$$
 (59)

$$\frac{1}{2} \| \boldsymbol{t} - \boldsymbol{X} \boldsymbol{w}_{\text{MAP}} \|^2 - \frac{N}{2\beta} + \frac{1}{\beta} \stackrel{!}{=} 0$$
 (60)

Therefore, β_{MAP} is as follows.

$$\beta_{\text{MAP}} = \frac{N-2}{\|\boldsymbol{t} - \boldsymbol{X}\boldsymbol{w}_{\text{MAP}}\|^2}$$
 (61)

It can also be seen that $\beta_{MAP} = \beta_{ML}$ (refer equation 24).

Maximizing the posterior (refer equation 53) with respect to α , we get the following.

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \alpha} \left\{ -\ln p(\boldsymbol{w}_{\text{MAP}}, \alpha, \beta_{\text{MAP}} \mid \boldsymbol{t}, \boldsymbol{X}) \right\} \stackrel{!}{=} 0$$
 (62)

$$\|\boldsymbol{w}_{\text{MAP}}\|^2 - \frac{M-2}{\alpha} \stackrel{!}{=} 0 \tag{63}$$

Therefore, α_{MAP} is given as follows.

$$\alpha_{\text{MAP}} = \frac{M - 2}{\|\mathbf{w}_{\text{MAP}}\|^2} \tag{64}$$

3 Gamma Distribution

The likelihood function for the target values given β (precision parameter) can be written as

$$p(t \mid \boldsymbol{X}, \boldsymbol{w}, \beta) = \prod_{i=1}^{N} \mathcal{N}(t_i \mid \boldsymbol{X}, \boldsymbol{w}, \beta^{-1})$$
(65)

$$\propto \beta^{\frac{N}{2}} \exp\left\{-\frac{\beta}{2} \sum_{i=1}^{N} (t_i - (\boldsymbol{X} \boldsymbol{w})_i)^2\right\}$$
 (66)

The corresponding conjugate prior¹ should be proportional to the product of the power of β and the exponential of the linear function of β .

This corresponds to the gamma distribution which is given as follows.

$$Gam(\beta \mid a, b) = \frac{b^a}{\Gamma(a)} \beta^{a-1} \exp(-b\beta)$$
 (67)

where, $\Gamma(a)$ is a gamma function that ensures the gamma distribution is properly normalized, a is called as the shape parameter and b is called as the rate parameter.

The expectation $\mathbb{E}[\beta]$ is given as follows.

$$\mathbb{E}\left[\beta\right] = \frac{a}{b} \tag{68}$$

¹posterior distribution is in the same probability distribution family as the prior distribution

The mode mode[β] which is equivalent to maximizing the posterior with respect to β is given as follows.

$$\mathsf{mode}[\beta] = \frac{a-1}{b} \tag{69}$$

Let us consider the posterior distribution considering the jeffreys prior for $p(\beta)$ as given in equation 34.

$$\rho(\mathbf{w} \mid \mathbf{t}, \mathbf{X}, \beta) \propto \rho(\mathbf{t} \mid \mathbf{X}, \mathbf{w}, \beta) \rho(\beta)$$
 (70)

$$\propto \beta^{\frac{N}{2}} \exp\left\{-\frac{\beta}{2} \sum_{i=1}^{N} (t_i - (\boldsymbol{X}\boldsymbol{w})_i)^2\right\} \times \frac{1}{\beta}$$
 (71)

$$\propto \beta^{\frac{N}{2}-1} \exp\left\{-\frac{\beta}{2} \sum_{i=1}^{N} (t_i - (\boldsymbol{X}\boldsymbol{w})_i)^2\right\}$$
 (72)

By comparing this to the gamma distribution in equation 67, $mode[\beta \mid \textbf{\textit{t}}, \textbf{\textit{X}}, \textbf{\textit{w}}]$ is as follows

$$\mathsf{mode}[\beta \mid \boldsymbol{t}, \boldsymbol{X}, \boldsymbol{w}] = \frac{N-2}{\|\boldsymbol{t} - \boldsymbol{X}\boldsymbol{w}\|^2}$$
 (73)

This is equivalent to β_{MAP} from the result in equation 46. Similarly, $\mathbb{E}[\beta \mid t, X, w]$ is given as follows.

$$\mathbb{E}\left[\beta \mid \boldsymbol{t}, \boldsymbol{X}, \boldsymbol{w}\right] = \frac{N}{\|\boldsymbol{t} - \boldsymbol{X}\boldsymbol{w}\|^2}$$
 (74)

This can also be shown to hold true for the joint distribution $p(\mathbf{w}, \alpha)$ in equation 48.

$$p(\mathbf{w}, \alpha) \propto \alpha^{\frac{M}{2} - 1} \exp\left\{-\frac{\alpha}{2} \|\mathbf{w}\|^2\right\}$$
 (75)

$$\mathsf{mode}[\alpha \mid \mathbf{w}] = \frac{M - 2}{\|\mathbf{w}_{\mathsf{MAP}}\|^2} \tag{76}$$

This is same as α_{MAP} in equation 64. Similarly $\mathbb{E}\left[\alpha \mid \boldsymbol{w}\right]$ is

$$\mathbb{E}\left[\alpha \mid \boldsymbol{w}\right] = \frac{M}{\|\boldsymbol{w}_{\text{MAP}}\|^2} \tag{77}$$

3.1 Priors on Jeffreys Prior (Hyperpriors) with Gamma Distribution

Jeffreys priors are given as $p(\alpha) = \alpha^{-1}$ and $p(\beta) = \beta^{-1}$ for hyperparameter α (refer equation 47) and precision parameter β (refer equation 34) respectively.

From the gamma distribution in equation 67, a prior distribution $p(\alpha \mid a_{\alpha}, b_{\alpha})$ can be given as follows.

$$p(\alpha \mid a_{\alpha}, b_{\alpha}) = \frac{b_{\alpha}^{a_{\alpha}}}{\Gamma(a_{\alpha})} \alpha^{a_{\alpha} - 1} \exp(-b_{\alpha}\alpha)$$
 (78)

Similarly for $p(\beta \mid a_{\beta}, b_{\beta})$ can be given as follows.

$$p(\beta \mid a_{\beta}, b_{\beta}) = \frac{b_{\beta}^{a_{\beta}}}{\Gamma(a_{\beta})} \beta^{a_{\beta}-1} \exp(-b_{\beta}\beta)$$
 (79)

In the special case when $a_{\alpha}=0$, $b_{\alpha}=0$, $a_{\beta}=0$, $b_{\beta}=0$. The gamma distribution above results to Jeffreys priors $p(\alpha)$ and $p(\beta)$.

The posterior distribution $p(\alpha \mid a_{\alpha}, b_{\alpha}, \mathbf{w})$ is therefore,

$$p(\alpha \mid a_{\alpha}, b_{\alpha}, \mathbf{w}) = p(\mathbf{w} \mid \alpha)p(\alpha \mid a_{\alpha}, b_{\alpha})$$
(80)

$$= \left(\frac{\alpha}{2\pi}\right)^{M/2} \exp\left\{-\frac{\alpha}{2} \|\boldsymbol{w}\|^2\right\} \frac{b_{\alpha}^{a_{\alpha}}}{\Gamma(a_{\alpha})} \alpha^{a_{\alpha}-1} \exp\left(-b_{\alpha}\alpha\right)$$
 (81)

Similarly, the posterior distribution $p(\beta \mid a_{\beta}, b_{\beta}, \mathbf{w})$

$$p(\beta \mid a_{\beta}, b_{\beta}, \mathbf{w}) = p(\mathbf{w} \mid \beta)p(\beta \mid a_{\beta}, b_{\beta})$$
(82)

$$= \left(\frac{\beta}{2\pi}\right)^{N/2} \exp\left\{-\frac{\beta}{2} \|\boldsymbol{t} - \boldsymbol{X}\boldsymbol{w}\|^2\right\} \frac{b_{\beta}^{a_{\beta}}}{\Gamma(a_{\beta})} \beta^{a_{\beta}-1} \exp\left(-b_{\beta}\beta\right) \tag{83}$$

Initially, maximizing log posterior from equation 80 with respect to alpha.

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \alpha} \left\{ -\ln p(\alpha \mid \boldsymbol{a}_{\alpha}, \boldsymbol{b}_{\alpha}, \boldsymbol{w}) \right\} \stackrel{!}{=} 0 \tag{84}$$

$$\frac{\alpha}{2} \| \boldsymbol{w} \|^2 - \frac{M}{2} \ln \alpha - (a_{\alpha} - 1) \ln \alpha + b_{\alpha} \alpha \stackrel{!}{=} 0$$
 (85)

Therefore, α_{MAP} is given as

$$\alpha_{MAP} = \frac{M - 2 + 2a_{\alpha}}{\|\mathbf{w}\|^2 + 2b_{\alpha}} \tag{86}$$

In the special case, when $a_{\alpha} = 0$ and $b_{\alpha} = 0$, the above equation is equal to 64. Similarly, maximizing log posterior from equation 82 with respect to beta,

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \beta} \left\{ -\ln p(\beta \mid a_{\beta}, b_{\beta}, \mathbf{w}) \right\} \stackrel{!}{=} 0 \tag{87}$$

$$\frac{\beta}{2} \| t - X w \|^2 - \frac{N}{2} \ln \beta - (a_{\beta} - 1) \ln \beta + b_{\beta} \beta \stackrel{!}{=} 0$$
 (88)

Therefore, β_{MAP} is given as follows

$$\beta_{MAP} = \frac{N - 2 + 2a_{\beta}}{\|\boldsymbol{t} - \boldsymbol{X}\boldsymbol{w}\|^2 + 2b_{\beta}}$$
(89)

In the special case, $a_{\beta} = 0$ and $b_{\beta} = 0$, the above equation is equal to 46.