

ECE368: Probabilistic Reasoning  
Lab 2: Bayesian Linear Regression

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You should hand in: 1) A scanned .pdf version of this sheet with your answers (file size should be under 2 MB); 2) four figures for Question 2 and three figures for Question 4 in the .pdf format; and 3) one Python file regression.py that contains your code. All these files should be uploaded to Quercus.

1. Express the posterior distribution  $p(\mathbf{a} | x_1, z_1, \dots, x_N, z_N)$  using  $\sigma^2, \beta, x_1, z_1, x_2, z_2, \dots, x_N, z_N$ . (1 pt)

$$X = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & x_1 \\ \vdots & \vdots \\ 1 & x_N \end{bmatrix} \quad Z = \begin{bmatrix} z_1 \\ \vdots \\ z_N \end{bmatrix} \quad \Sigma_a^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} 1/\beta & 0 \\ 0 & 1/\beta \end{bmatrix} \quad \Sigma_w^{-1} = 1/\sigma^2$$

$$\underline{\mu}_{\mathbf{a} | x_1, z_1, \dots, x_N, z_N} = (\Sigma_a^{-1} + X^T \Sigma_w^{-1} X)^{-1} \cdot (A^T \Sigma_w^{-1} Z)$$

$$\Sigma_{\mathbf{a} | x_1, z_1, \dots, x_N, z_N} = (\Sigma_a^{-1} + X^T \Sigma_w^{-1} X)^{-1}$$

$$p(\mathbf{a} | x_1, z_1, \dots, x_N, z_N) \sim N(\underline{\mu}_{\mathbf{a} | x_1, \dots, z_N}, \Sigma_{\mathbf{a} | x_1, \dots, z_N})$$

2. Let  $\sigma^2 = 0.1$  and  $\beta = 1$ . Draw four contour plots corresponding to the distributions  $p(\mathbf{a})$ ,  $p(\mathbf{a} | x_1, z_1)$ ,  $p(\mathbf{a} | x_1, z_1, \dots, x_5, z_5)$ , and  $p(\mathbf{a} | x_1, z_1, \dots, x_{100}, z_{100})$ . In all contour plots, the x-axis represents  $a_0$ , and the y-axis represents  $a_1$ . Please save the figures with names **prior.pdf**, **posterior1.pdf**, **posterior5.pdf**, **posterior100.pdf**, respectively. (1.5 pt)
3. Suppose that there is a new input  $x$ , for which we want to predict the corresponding target value  $z$ . Write down the distribution of the prediction  $z$ , i.e.  $p(z | x, x_1, z_1, \dots, x_N, z_N)$ . (1 pt)

$$X' = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & x \end{bmatrix} \quad \underline{\mu}_{z | x, x_1, \dots, z_N} = X' \cdot \underline{\mu}_{\mathbf{a} | x_1, \dots, z_N} \quad \text{from part 1}$$

$$\Sigma_{z | x, x_1, \dots, z_N} = \sigma^2 + X' \cdot \Sigma_{\mathbf{a} | x_1, \dots, z_N} \cdot X'^T$$

$$p(z | x, x_1, z_1, \dots, x_N, z_N) \sim N(\underline{\mu}_{z | x, x_1, \dots, z_N}, \Sigma_{z | x, x_1, \dots, z_N})$$

4. Let  $\sigma^2 = 0.1$  and  $\beta = 1$ . Given a set of new inputs  $\{-4, -3.8, \dots, 3.8, 4\}$ , plot three figures, whose x-axis is the input and y-axis is the prediction, corresponding to three cases:
- (a) The predictions are based on one training sample, i.e., based on  $p(z | x, x_1, z_1)$ .
  - (b) The predictions are based on 5 training samples, i.e., based on  $p(z | x, x_1, z_1, \dots, x_5, z_5)$ .
  - (c) The predictions are based on 100 training samples, i.e., based on  $p(z | x, x_1, z_1, \dots, x_{100}, z_{100})$ .

The range of each figure is set as  $[-4, 4] \times [-4, 4]$ . Each figure should contain the following three components: 1) the new inputs and the corresponding predicted targets; 2) a vertical interval at each predicted target, indicating the range within one standard deviation; 3) the training sample(s) that are used for the prediction. Use `plt.errorbar` for 1) and 2); use `plt.scatter` for 3). Please save the figures with names **predict1.pdf**, **predict5.pdf**, **predict100.pdf**, respectively. (1.5 pt)