

4.24 From 4.145, we have:

$$\begin{aligned} p(\mathcal{C}_1|\phi, \mathbf{t}) &= \int p(\mathcal{C}_1|\phi, \mathbf{w}, \mathbf{t}) p(\mathbf{w}|\mathbf{t}) d\mathbf{w} \\ &\simeq \int \sigma(\mathbf{w}^T \phi) q(\mathbf{w}) d\mathbf{w} \end{aligned}$$

Using the Gaussian approximation for $q(\mathbf{w})$ from 4.144, this becomes:

$$R.H.S = \int \sigma(\mathbf{w}^T \phi) \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{w}|\mathbf{w}_{MAP}, \mathbf{S}_N) d\mathbf{w}$$

Substituting for $\sigma(\mathbf{w}^T \phi)$ using 4.146, we get:

$$\begin{aligned} &= \int \left(\int \delta(a - \mathbf{w}^T \phi) \sigma(a) da \right) \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{w}|\mathbf{w}_{MAP}, \mathbf{S}_N) d\mathbf{w} \\ &= \int \left(\int \delta(a - \mathbf{w}^T \phi) \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{w}|\mathbf{w}_{MAP}, \mathbf{S}_N) d\mathbf{w} \right) \sigma(a) da \end{aligned}$$

The Dirac delta function can be written as a Gaussian (source):

$$\delta(x) = \lim_{\sigma \rightarrow 0} \delta_\sigma(x) = \lim_{\sigma \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}} \exp\left(-\frac{x^2}{2\sigma^2}\right) = \lim_{\sigma \rightarrow 0} \mathcal{N}(x|0, \sigma^2)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \implies R.H.S &= \int \left(\int \lim_{\eta \rightarrow 0} \mathcal{N}((a - \mathbf{w}^T \phi)|0, \eta^2) \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{w}|\mathbf{w}_{MAP}, \mathbf{S}_N) d\mathbf{w} \right) \sigma(a) da \\ &= \int \left(\int \lim_{\eta \rightarrow 0} \mathcal{N}(a|\mathbf{w}^T \phi, \eta^2) \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{w}|\mathbf{w}_{MAP}, \mathbf{S}_N) d\mathbf{w} \right) \sigma(a) da \end{aligned}$$

Using this result from 2.3.3:

$$\int_x \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{y}|\mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{b}, \mathbf{L}^{-1}) \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{x}|\boldsymbol{\mu}, \boldsymbol{\Lambda}^{-1}) = \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{y}|\mathbf{A}\boldsymbol{\mu} + \mathbf{b}, \mathbf{L}^{-1} + \mathbf{A}\boldsymbol{\Lambda}^{-1}\mathbf{A})$$

where,

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{y} &= a \\ \mathbf{A} &= \boldsymbol{\phi}^T \\ \mathbf{x} &= \mathbf{w} \\ \mathbf{b} &= \mathbf{0} \\ \boldsymbol{\mu} &= \mathbf{w}_{MAP} \\ \mathbf{L}^{-1} &= \eta^2 \\ \boldsymbol{\Lambda}^{-1} &= \mathbf{S}_N\end{aligned}$$

we get the following marginal distribution:

$$\begin{aligned}&= \int \lim_{\eta \rightarrow 0} \mathcal{N}\left(a \mid (\mathbf{w}_{MAP}^T \boldsymbol{\phi}), \left(\eta^2 + \boldsymbol{\phi}^T \mathbf{S}_N \boldsymbol{\phi}\right)\right) \sigma(a) da \\&= \int \mathcal{N}\left(a \mid (\mathbf{w}_{MAP}^T \boldsymbol{\phi}), \left(\boldsymbol{\phi}^T \mathbf{S}_N \boldsymbol{\phi}\right)\right) \sigma(a) da \\&= \int \mathcal{N}(a \mid \mu_a, \sigma_a^2) \sigma(a) da\end{aligned}$$

where $\mu_a = \mathbf{w}_{MAP}^T \boldsymbol{\phi}$ and $\sigma_a^2 = \boldsymbol{\phi}^T \mathbf{S}_N \boldsymbol{\phi}$

which is the same as the result in 4.151.

PS : I have used results from Section 2.3.3 to derive this result. The book asked for Section 2.3.2 to be used. I am not sure how to do that, this section seemed more appropriate to me.