

Problem for Day 1. (optional) Consider the statistical inverse problem

$$Y = f(X) + E, \quad (1)$$

where $X \in \mathcal{N}(0, I_n)$, $E \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma^2 I_m)$ where I_n and I_m are an $n \times n$ and $m \times m$ identity matrices, $\sigma > 0$ is the standard deviation of noise, and $f : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$ is the forward operator. Furthermore, we can write the probability density function of X and E as

$$\begin{aligned} \pi_X(\mathbf{x}) &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{(2\pi)^n}} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2}\|\mathbf{x}\|_2^2\right), \\ \pi_E(\mathbf{e}) &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{(2\pi)^m \sigma^2}} \exp\left(-\frac{\|\mathbf{e}\|^2}{2\sigma^2}\right). \end{aligned}$$

1. Use Bayes' theorem to write the density function of the posterior distribution $\pi_{X|Y=\mathbf{y}}(\mathbf{x})$ up to a proportionality constant:

$$\pi_{X|Y=\mathbf{y}} \propto \dots$$

Assume that f is smooth but not necessarily linear. Only express it in terms of f , \mathbf{x} , \mathbf{y} , and σ .

2. Show that the maximum a posteriori (MAP) estimate

$$\mathbf{x}_{MAP} := \arg \max_{\mathbf{x}} \pi_{X|Y=\mathbf{y}}(\mathbf{x})$$

is equivalent to the solution of a Tikhonov regularized optimization problem:

$$\mathbf{x}_{Tik} := \arg \min_{\mathbf{x}} \|f(\mathbf{x}) - \mathbf{y}\|_2^2 + \lambda \|\mathbf{x}\|^2,$$

for some $\lambda > 0$. Express λ in terms of σ .