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Student ID:

## GAUSSIAN PROCESSES PROBLEM SHEET

### 1 Performing integrals over normal distributes takes practice.

(a) Consider the integral

$$I_1 = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-x^2/2} dx.$$

Directly evaluating this is difficult, but there is a trick. Consider instead

$$I_1^2 = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-x^2/2} dx \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-y^2/2} dy = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-(x^2+y^2)/2} dx dy.$$

By making the change of variables to polar coordinates where  $r = \sqrt{x^2 + y^2}$  and  $\theta = \arctan(y/x)$  (so that  $x = r \cos(\theta)$ ,  $y = r \sin(\theta)$ ) then  $dx dy = r dr d\theta$ . Note that to integrate over all space we let  $\theta$  vary from 0 to  $2\pi$  and  $r$  to vary from 0 to  $\infty$ . Write down the integral in polar coordinate, make a further the change of variables  $u = r^2/2$  to evaluate  $I_1^2$  hence compute  $I_1$  [5 marks]


5

(b) By making a change of variables compute

$$I_2 = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-(x-\mu)^2/(2\sigma^2)} dx$$

[5 marks]


5

(c) By using the identity  $e^{a+b} = e^a e^b$ , or more generally

$$e^{\sum_i a_i} = \prod_i e^{a_i}$$

compute

$$I_3 = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \cdots \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-\frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{x}\|_2^2} dx_1 \cdots dx_n$$

where  $\mathbf{x} = (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)^T$ .

[3 marks]


3

(d) By using the fact that for a positive semi-definite matrix,  $\Xi$ , we can use the eigenvector decomposition  $\Xi^{-1} = \mathbf{V} \mathbf{\Lambda}^{-1} \mathbf{V}^T$  where  $\mathbf{V}$  is an orthogonal matrix with determinant  $\det(\mathbf{V}) = \pm 1$  and  $\mathbf{\Lambda}^{-1}$  is a diagonal matrix with elements  $\lambda_i^{-1}$  compute

$$I_4 = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \cdots \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-\frac{1}{2} (\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu})^T \Xi^{-1} (\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu})} dx_1 \cdots dx_n.$$

[6 marks]


6

- (e) Using the facts, that  $\Xi = \mathbf{V}\mathbf{\Lambda}\mathbf{V}^T$ , for any two square matrices  $\mathbf{A}$  and  $\mathbf{B}$  the determinants satisfy  $\det(\mathbf{AB}) = \det(\mathbf{A})\det(\mathbf{B})$ , and  $\det(\mathbf{V}) = \det(\mathbf{V}^T) = \pm 1$  show that  $\det(\Xi) = \prod_i \lambda_i$ . [1 mark]


1

End of question 1

(a)  $\frac{5}{5}$  (b)  $\frac{5}{5}$  (c)  $\frac{3}{3}$  (d)  $\frac{6}{6}$  (e)  $\frac{1}{1}$  Total  $\frac{20}{20}$

2 Consider a multivariate normal distribution

$$f_{\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Y}}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) = \mathcal{N}\left(\begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{x} \\ \mathbf{y} \end{pmatrix} \middle| \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbf{0} \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{A} & \mathbf{B} \\ \mathbf{B}^\top & \mathbf{C} \end{pmatrix}\right)$$

where  $\mathbf{A}$  and  $\mathbf{C}$  are symmetric (positive definite) matrices. The matrix

$$\Xi = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{A} & \mathbf{B} \\ \mathbf{B}^\top & \mathbf{C} \end{pmatrix}$$

is the covariance matrix.

We want to compute the conditional probability density function  $f_{\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Y}}(\mathbf{x} \mid \mathbf{y})$ . This is complicated because the normal distribution involve the inverse of the covariance matrix. Let

$$\mathbf{U} = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{I} & \mathbf{B}\mathbf{C}^{-1} \\ \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{I} \end{pmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{D} = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{A} - \mathbf{B}\mathbf{C}^{-1}\mathbf{B}^\top & \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbf{0}^\top & \mathbf{C} \end{pmatrix}$$

where  $\mathbf{I}$  is the identity matrix.

(a) Compute  $\mathbf{UD}$

[3 marks]


3

(b) Using the previous result compute  $(\mathbf{UD})\mathbf{U}^\top$ . Hence show  $\Xi = \mathbf{UDU}^\top$ .

[3 marks]


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(c) Given that  $\Xi = \mathbf{U}\mathbf{D}\mathbf{U}^T$  write down  $\Xi^{-1}$  in terms of  $\mathbf{U}$  and  $\mathbf{D}$  [1 mark]

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(d) Demonstrate by direct multiplication that

$$\mathbf{U}^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{I} & -\mathbf{B}\mathbf{C}^{-1} \\ \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{I} \end{pmatrix} \quad \mathbf{D}^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} (\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{B}\mathbf{C}^{-1}\mathbf{B}^T)^{-1} & \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbf{0}^T & \mathbf{C}^{-1} \end{pmatrix} \quad (\mathbf{U}^T)^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{I} & \mathbf{0} \\ -\mathbf{C}^{-1}\mathbf{B}^T & \mathbf{I} \end{pmatrix}$$

i.e. show  $\mathbf{U}^{-1}\mathbf{U} = \mathbf{I}$ ,  $\mathbf{D}^{-1}\mathbf{D} = \mathbf{I}$  and  $(\mathbf{U}^T)^{-1}\mathbf{U}^T = \mathbf{I}$ . [6 marks]

i 

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ii 

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iii 

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In the next question we use the short-hand notation

$$\int f(\mathbf{z})d\mathbf{z} = \int \cdots \int f(\mathbf{z})dz_1dz_2\ldots dz_n$$

(f) To compute  $f_{X|Y}(x | y) = f_{X,Y}(x,y)/f_Y(y)$  we need to find

$$\begin{aligned} f_Y(\mathbf{y}) &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) d\mathbf{x} \\ &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{1}{\sqrt{\det(2\pi\mathbf{\Xi})}} e^{-\frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{x}^\top - \mathbf{y}^\top \mathbf{C}^{-1} \mathbf{B}^\top)(\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{B} \mathbf{C}^{-1} \mathbf{B}^\top)^{-1}(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{B} \mathbf{C}^{-1} \mathbf{y}) - \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{y}^\top \mathbf{C}^{-1} \mathbf{y}} d\mathbf{x} \\ &= \frac{e^{-\frac{1}{2} \mathbf{y}^\top \mathbf{C}^{-1} \mathbf{y}}}{\sqrt{\det(2\pi\mathbf{\Xi})}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-\frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{x}^\top - \mathbf{y}^\top \mathbf{C}^{-1} \mathbf{B}^\top)(\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{B} \mathbf{C}^{-1} \mathbf{B}^\top)^{-1}(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{B} \mathbf{C}^{-1} \mathbf{y})} d\mathbf{x} \end{aligned}$$

By making a change of variable from  $x$  to  $u = x - \mathbf{B}\mathbf{C}^{-1}\mathbf{y}$  rewrite the integral

$$I = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-\frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{x}^T - \mathbf{y}^T \mathbf{C}^{-1} \mathbf{B}^T)(\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{B} \mathbf{C}^{-1} \mathbf{B}^T)^{-1}(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{B} \mathbf{C}^{-1} \mathbf{y})} d\mathbf{x}$$

then use

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-\frac{1}{2} \mathbf{u}^T \mathbf{M}^{-1} \mathbf{u}} d\mathbf{u} = \sqrt{\det(2\pi \mathbf{M})}$$

to evaluate  $f_Y(\mathbf{y})$ .

[5 marks]

[illegible]

(g) Using  $f_{X|Y}(x | y) = f_{X,Y}(x,y)/f_Y(y)$  write down  $f_{X|Y}(x | y)$ . [3 marks]


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End of question 2

(a) $\frac{1}{3}$	(b) $\frac{1}{3}$	(c) $\frac{1}{1}$	(d) $\frac{1}{6}$	(e) $\frac{1}{4}$	(f) $\frac{1}{5}$	(g) $\frac{1}{3}$	Total $\frac{1}{25}$
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