

Exercise Sheet: Bayesian Statistics

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Part I

Matrix & vector calculus

The exercises about Matrix & vector calculus are optional and can be skipped.

Exercise 1. (*) Let A, B be $K \times K$ invertible matrices. Show that

$$(A + B)^{-1} = A^{-1}(A^{-1} + B^{-1})^{-1}B^{-1}$$

Exercise 2. (**) [Woodbury matrix identity] Verify that

$$(A + UCV)^{-1} = A^{-1} - A^{-1}U(C^{-1} + VA^{-1}U)^{-1}VA^{-1}$$

if A and C are non-singular.

Exercise 3. (**) [Sherman–Morrison formula] Let A be a $K \times K$ invertible matrix and u and v two $K \times 1$ column vectors. Verify that

$$(A + uv^T)^{-1} = A^{-1} - \frac{1}{1 + v^T A^{-1}u} A^{-1}uv^T A^{-1}$$

if $1 + v^T A^{-1}u \neq 0$, and if A is non-singular.

Exercise 4. (***) [Block partition matrix inversion] Let A be $K \times K$ invertible matrix, and let $B = A^{-1}$ its inverse. Consider Partition

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} A_{11} & A_{12} \\ A_{21} & A_{22} \end{bmatrix}; B = \begin{bmatrix} B_{11} & B_{12} \\ B_{21} & B_{22} \end{bmatrix}$$

Namely, $B_{11} = [A^{-1}]_{11}$ is the upper corner of the A^{-1} , etc...

Show that

$$\begin{aligned} A_{11}^{-1} &= B_{11} = B_{12}B_{22}^{-1}B_{21} \\ A_{11}^{-1}A_{12} &= -B_{12}B_{22}^{-1} \end{aligned}$$

27 **Hint:** Start by noticing that

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$$AB = I \iff \begin{bmatrix} A_{11} & A_{12} \\ A_{21} & A_{22} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} B_{11} & B_{12} \\ B_{21} & B_{22} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} I & 0 \\ 0 & I \end{bmatrix} \iff \begin{cases} A_{11}B_{11} + A_{12}B_{21} &= I \\ A_{11}B_{12} + A_{12}B_{22} &= 0 \end{cases}$$

Part II

Random variables

Exercise 5. (*) Let $y \in \mathcal{Y} \subseteq \mathbb{R}$ be a univariate random variable with CDF $F_y(\cdot)$. Consider a bijective function $h : \mathcal{Y} \rightarrow \mathcal{Z}$ with $z = h(y)$, and h^{-1} its inverse. The PDF of z is

$$F_z(z) = \begin{cases} F_Y(h^{-1}(z)) & \text{if } h \nearrow \\ 1 - F_Y(h^{-1}(z)) & \text{if } h \searrow \end{cases}$$

Exercise 6. (*) Let $y \in \mathcal{Y} \subseteq \mathbb{R}$ be a univariate random variable with PDF $f_y(\cdot)$. Consider a bijective function $h : \mathcal{Y} \rightarrow \mathcal{Z} \subseteq \mathbb{R}$ and let h^{-1} be the inverse function of h . Consider a univariate random variable such that $z = h(y)$. The PDF of z is

$$f_z(z) = f_y(y) \left| \det\left(\frac{dy}{dz}\right) \right| = f_y(h^{-1}(z)) \left| \det\left(\frac{d}{dz} h^{-1}(z)\right) \right|$$

Exercise 7. (*) Let $y \sim \text{Ex}(\lambda)$ r.v. with Exponential distribution with rate parameter $\lambda > 0$, and $f_{\text{Ex}(\lambda)}(y) = \lambda \exp(-\lambda y) 1(y \geq 0)$. Let $z = 1 - \exp(-\lambda y)$. Calculate the PDF of z , and recognize its distribution.

Exercise 8. (*) Prove the following properties

1. Let matrix $A \in \mathbb{R}^{q \times d}$, $c \in \mathbb{R}^q$, and $z = c + Ay$ then

$$\mathbb{E}(z) = \mathbb{E}(c + Ay) = c + A\mathbb{E}(y)$$

2. Let random variables $z \in \mathcal{Z}$ and $y \in \mathcal{Y}$, and let functions ψ_1 and ψ_2 defined on \mathcal{Z} and \mathcal{Y} , then

$$\mathbb{E}(\psi_1(z) + \psi_2(y)) = \mathbb{E}(\psi_1(z)) + \mathbb{E}(\psi_2(y))$$

3. If random variables $z \in \mathcal{Z}$ and $y \in \mathcal{Y}$ are independent then

$$\mathbb{E}(\psi_1(z)\psi_2(y)) = \mathbb{E}(\psi_1(z))\mathbb{E}(\psi_2(y))$$

for any functions ψ_1 and ψ_2 defined on \mathcal{Z} and \mathcal{Y} .

Exercise 9. (*) Prove the following properties of the covariance matrix

$$1. \text{Cov}(z, y) = \mathbb{E}(zy^\top) - \mathbb{E}(z)(\mathbb{E}(y))^\top$$

$$2. \text{Cov}(z, y) = (\text{Cov}(y, z))^\top$$

$$3. \text{Cov}_\pi(c_1 + A_1 z, c_2 + A_2 y) = A_1 \text{Cov}_\pi(z, y) A_2^\top, \text{ for fixed matrices } A_1, A_2, \text{ and vectors } c_1, c_2 \text{ with suitable dimensions.}$$

4. If z and y are independent random vectors then $\text{Cov}(z, y) = 0$

Exercise 10. (★) Prove that the (i, j) -th element of the covariance matrix between vector z and y is the covariance between their elements z_i and y_j :

$$[\text{Cov}(z, y)]_{i,j} = \text{Cov}(z_i, y_j)$$

Exercise 11. (★) Prove the following properties of $\text{Var}(Y)$ for a random vector $y \in \mathcal{Y} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^d$

1. $\text{Var}(y) = E(yy^\top) - E(y) E(y)^\top$
2. $\text{Var}(c + Ay) = A\text{Var}(y)A^\top$, for fixed matrix A , and vectors c with suitable dimensions.
3. $\text{Var}(y) \geq 0$; (semi-positive definite)

Exercise 12. (★) Prove the following properties of characteristic functions

1. $\varphi_{A+Bx}(t) = e^{it^\top A} \varphi_x(B^\top t)$ if $A \in \mathbb{R}^d$ and $B \in \mathbb{R}^{k \times d}$ are constants
2. $\varphi_{x+y}(t) = \varphi_x(t) \varphi_y(t)$ if and only if x and y are independent
3. if $M_x(t) = E(e^{t^\top x})$ is the moment generating function, then $M_x(t) = \varphi_x(-it)$

Exercise 13. (★) Show that if $X \sim \text{Ex}(\lambda)$ then $\varphi_X(t) = \frac{\lambda}{\lambda - it}$.

Exercise 14. (★)

1. Find $\varphi_X(t)$ if $X \sim \text{Br}(p)$.
2. Find $\varphi_Y(t)$ if $Y \sim \text{Bin}(n, p)$

Exercise 15. (★★) Prove the following statement related to the Bayesian theorem:

Assume a probability space (Ω, \mathcal{F}, P) . Let a random variable $y : \Omega \rightarrow \mathcal{Y}$ with distribution $F(\cdot)$. Consider a partition $y = (x, \theta)$ with $x \in \mathcal{X}$ and $\theta \in \Theta$. Then the probability density function (PDF), or the probability mass function (PMF) of $\theta|x$ is

$$f(\theta|x) = \frac{f(x|\theta)f(\theta)}{\int f(x|\theta)dF(\theta)} \quad (1)$$

Hint Consider cases where x is discrete and continuous. In the later case use the mean value theorem :

$$\int_A f(x)g(x)dx = f(\xi) \int_A g(x)dx$$

where $\xi \in A$ if A is connected, and $g(x) \geq 0$ for $x \in A$.

Exercise 16. (★) Prove that:

1. if $Z \sim N(0, I)$ then $\varphi_Z(t) = \exp(-\frac{1}{2}t^\top t)$, where $Z \in \mathbb{R}^d$

2. if $X \sim N(\mu, \Sigma)$ then $\varphi_X(t) = \exp(it^T \mu - \frac{1}{2}t^T \Sigma t)$, where $X \in \mathbb{R}^d$

Hint: Assume as known that if $Z \sim N(0, 1)$ then $\varphi_Z(t) = \exp(-\frac{1}{2}t^2)$, where $Z \in \mathbb{R}$

Exercise 17. (★) Show the following properties of the Characteristic Function

1. $\varphi_x(0) = 1$ and $|\varphi_x(t)| \leq 1$ for all $t \in \mathbb{R}^d$

2. $\varphi_{A+Bx}(t) = e^{it^T A} \varphi_x(B^T t)$ if $A \in \mathbb{R}^d$ and $B \in \mathbb{R}^{k \times d}$ are constants

3. x and y are independent then $\varphi_{x+y}(t) = \varphi_x(t) \varphi_y(t)$ (we do not prove the other way around)

4. if $M_x(t) = E(e^{t^T x})$ is the moment generating function, then $M_x(t) = \varphi_x(-it)$

Part III

Probability calculus

Exercise 18. (★) Let a random variable $x \sim \text{IG}(a, b)$, a fixed value $c > 0$, and $y = cx$ then $y \sim \text{IG}(a, cb)$.

Exercise 19. (★★) Consider that x given z is distributed according to $\text{Ga}(\frac{n}{2}, \frac{nz}{2})$, and that z is distributed according to $\text{Ga}(\frac{m}{2}, \frac{m}{2})$; i.e.

$$\begin{cases} x|z & \sim \text{Ga}(\frac{n}{2}, \frac{nz}{2}) \\ z & \sim \text{Ga}(\frac{m}{2}, \frac{m}{2}) \end{cases}$$

Here, $\text{Ga}(\alpha, \beta)$ is the Gamma distribution with shape and rate parameters α and β , and PDF

$$f_{\text{Ga}(\alpha, \beta)}(x) = \frac{\beta^\alpha}{\Gamma(\alpha)} x^{\alpha-1} e^{-\beta x} \mathbf{1}(x > 0)$$

1. Show that the compound distribution of x is F $x \sim F(n, m)$, where $F(n, m)$ is F distribution with numerator and denominator degrees of freedom n and m , and PDF

$$f_{F(n, m)}(x) = \frac{1}{x B(\frac{n}{2}, \frac{m}{2})} \sqrt{\frac{(nx)^n m^m}{(nx + m)^{n+m}}} \mathbf{1}(x > 0)$$

2. Show that

$$E_{F(n, m)}(x) = \frac{m}{m-2}$$

3. Show that

$$\text{Var}_{F(n, m)}(x) = \frac{2m^2(n+m-2)}{n(m-2)^2(m-4)}$$

Hint: If $\xi \sim \text{IG}(a, b)$ then $E_{\xi \sim \text{IG}(a, b)}(\xi) = \frac{b}{a-1}$, and $\text{Var}_{\xi \sim \text{IG}(a, b)}(\xi) = \frac{b^2}{(a-1)^2(a-2)}$

Exercise 20. (★★) Prove the following statement:

Let $x \sim N_d(\mu, \Sigma)$, $x \in \mathbb{R}^d$, and $y = (x - \mu)^\top \Sigma^{-1} (x - \mu)$. Then

$$y \sim \chi_d^2$$

Exercise 21. (★★) Let

$$\begin{cases} x|\xi & \sim N_d(\mu, \Sigma\xi) \\ \xi & \sim \text{IG}(a, b) \end{cases}$$

with PDF

$$f_{N_d(\mu, \Sigma\xi)}(x|\xi) = (2\pi)^{-\frac{d}{2}} \det(\Sigma)^{-\frac{1}{2}} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2}(x - \mu)^\top \Sigma^{-1} (x - \mu)\right)$$

$$f_{\text{IG}(a, b)}(\xi) = \frac{b^a}{\Gamma(a)} \xi^{-a-1} \exp\left(-\frac{b}{\xi}\right) \mathbf{1}_{(0, \infty)}(\xi)$$

Show that the marginal PDF of x is

$$\begin{aligned} f(x) &= \int f_{N_d(\mu, \Sigma\xi)}(x|\xi) f_{IG(a,b)}(\xi) d\xi \\ &= \frac{2a^{-\frac{d}{2}}}{\pi^{\frac{n}{2}} \sqrt{\det(\frac{b}{a}\Sigma)}} \frac{\Gamma(a + \frac{d}{2})}{\Gamma(a)} \left[1 + \frac{1}{2a} (x - \mu)^\top \left(\frac{b}{a}\Sigma \right)^{-1} (x - \mu) \right]^{-\frac{(2a+d)}{2}} \end{aligned} \quad (2)$$

FYI: For $a = b = \frac{v}{2}$, the marginal PDF is the PDF of the d -dimensional Student T distribution.

Exercise 22. (★★★)

Let $x \sim T_d(\mu, \Sigma, \nu)$. Recall that $x \sim T_d(\mu, \Sigma, \nu)$ is the marginal distribution $f_x(x) = \int f_{x|\xi}(x|\xi) f_\xi(\xi) d\xi$ of (x, ξ) where

$$\begin{aligned} x|\xi &\sim N_d(\mu, \Sigma\xi v) \\ \xi &\sim IG(\frac{v}{2}, \frac{1}{2}) \end{aligned}$$

Consider partition such that

$$x = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix}; \quad \mu = \begin{bmatrix} \mu_1 \\ \mu_2 \end{bmatrix}; \quad \Sigma = \begin{bmatrix} \Sigma_1 & \Sigma_{21}^\top \\ \Sigma_{21} & \Sigma_2 \end{bmatrix},$$

where $x_1 \in \mathbb{R}^{d_1}$ and $x_2 \in \mathbb{R}^{d_2}$.

Address the following:

1. Show that the marginal distribution of x_1 is such that

$$x_1 \sim T_{d_1}(\mu_1, \Sigma_1, \nu)$$

Hint: Try to use the form $f_x(x) = \int f_{x|\xi}(x|\xi) f_\xi(\xi) d\xi$.

2. Show that

$$\xi|x_1 \sim IG(\frac{1}{2}(d_1 + v), \frac{1}{2} \frac{Q + v}{v})$$

where $Q = (\mu_1 - x_1)^\top \Sigma_1^{-1} (\mu_1 - x_1)$.

Hint: The PDF of $y \sim N_d(\mu, \Sigma)$ is

$$f(y) = (2\pi)^{-\frac{d}{2}} \det(\Sigma)^{-\frac{1}{2}} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2}(y - \mu)^\top \Sigma^{-1} (y - \mu)\right)$$

Hint: The PDF of $y \sim IG(a, b)$ is

$$f_{IG(a,b)}(y) = \frac{b^a}{\Gamma(a)} y^{-a-1} \exp(-\frac{b}{y}) 1_{(0,+\infty)}(y)$$

3. Let $\xi' = \xi \frac{v}{Q+v}$, with $Q = (\mu_1 - x_1)^\top \Sigma_1^{-1} (\mu_1 - x_1)$, show that

$$\xi'|x_1 \sim IG(\frac{v + d_1}{2}, \frac{1}{2})$$

4. Show that the conditional distribution of $x_2|x_1$ is such that

$$x_2|x_1 \sim T_{d_2}(\mu_{2|1}, \Sigma_{2|1}, \nu_{2|1})$$

where

$$\begin{aligned}\mu_{2|1} &= \mu_2 + \Sigma_{21}\Sigma_{11}^{-1}(x_1 - \mu_1) \\ \Sigma_{2|1} &= \frac{\nu + (\mu_1 - x_1)^\top \Sigma_1^{-1}(\mu_1 - x_1)}{\nu + d_1} \Sigma_{2|1} \\ \Sigma_{2|1} &= \Sigma_{22} - \Sigma_{21}\Sigma_1^{-1}\Sigma_{21}^\top \\ \nu_{2|1} &= \nu + d_1\end{aligned}$$

Hint: You can use the Example [Marginalization & conditioning] from the Lecture Handout

Exercise 23. (★★) Show that

1. If $x_i \sim N_d(\mu_i, \Sigma_i)$ for $i = 1, \dots, n$ and $y = c + \sum_{i=1}^n B_i x_i$, then

$$y \sim N_d(c + \sum_{i=1}^n \mu_i, \sum_{i=1}^n B_i \Sigma_i B_i^\top)$$

2. If $x_i \sim T_d(\mu_i, \Sigma_i, \nu)$ for $i = 1, \dots, n$ and $z = c + \sum_{i=1}^n B_i x_i$, then

$$z \sim T_d(c + \sum_{i=1}^n \mu_i, \sum_{i=1}^n B_i \Sigma_i B_i^\top, \nu)$$

Part IV

Bayesian paradigm and calculations

Exercise 24. (★) Consider an i.i.d. sample y_1, \dots, y_n from the skew-logistic distribution with PDF

$$f(y_i|\theta) = \frac{\theta e^{-y_i}}{(1 + e^{-y_i})^{\theta+1}}$$

with parameter $\theta \in (0, \infty)$. To account for the uncertainty about θ we assign a Gamma prior distribution with PDF

$$\pi(\theta) = \frac{b^a}{\Gamma(a)} \theta^{a-1} e^{-b\theta} 1(\theta \in (0, \infty)),$$

and fixed hyper parameters a, b specified by the researcher's prior info.

1. Derive the posterior distribution of θ .
2. Derive the predictive PDF for a future $z = y_{n+1}$.

Exercise 25. (★★) (Nuisance parameters are involved)

<-story

Assume observable quantities $y = (y_1, \dots, y_n)$ forming the available data set of size n . Assume that the observations are drawn i.i.d. from a sampling distribution which is judged to be in the Normal parametric family of distributions $N(\mu, \sigma^2)$ with unknown mean μ and variance σ^2 . We are interested in learning μ and the next outcome $z = y_{n+1}$. We do not care about σ^2 .

Assume You specify a Bayesian model

<-set-up

$$\begin{cases} y_i | \mu, \sigma^2 \sim N(\mu, \sigma^2), \text{ for all } i = 1, \dots, n & , \text{Statistical model} \\ \mu | \sigma^2 \sim N(\mu_0, \sigma^2 \frac{1}{\tau_0}) & , \text{prior} \\ \sigma^2 \sim \text{IG}(a_0, k_0) & , \text{prior} \end{cases}$$

1. Show that

$$\sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - \theta)^2 = n(\bar{y} - \theta)^2 + ns^2,$$

$$\text{where } s^2 = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - \bar{y})^2.$$

2. Show that the joint posterior distribution $\Pi(\mu, \sigma^2 | y)$ is such as

$$\begin{aligned} \mu | y, \sigma^2 &\sim N(\mu_n, \sigma^2 \frac{1}{\tau_n}) \\ \sigma^2 | y &\sim \text{IG}(a_n, k_n) \end{aligned}$$

with

$$\mu_n = \frac{n\bar{y} + \tau_0\mu_0}{n + \tau_0}; \quad \tau_n = n + \tau_0; \quad a_n = a_0 + n$$

$$k_n = k_0 + \frac{1}{2} ns_n^2 + \frac{1}{2} \frac{\tau_0 n (\mu_0 - \bar{y})^2}{n + \tau_0}$$

Hint: It is

$$-\frac{1}{2} \frac{(\mu - \mu_1)^2}{v_1} - \frac{1}{2} \frac{(\mu - \mu_2)^2}{v_2} \dots - \frac{1}{2} \frac{(\mu - \mu_n)^2}{v_n} = -\frac{1}{2} \frac{(\mu - \hat{\mu})^2}{\hat{v}} + C$$

where

$$\hat{v} = \left(\sum_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{v_i} \right)^{-1}; \quad \hat{\mu} = \hat{v} \left(\sum_{i=1}^n \frac{\mu_i}{v_i} \right); \quad C = \frac{1}{2} \frac{\hat{\mu}^2}{\hat{v}} - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{\mu_i^2}{v_i}$$

3. Show that the marginal posterior distribution $\Pi(\mu|y)$ is such as

$$\mu|y \sim T_1 \left(\mu_n, \frac{k_n}{a_n} \frac{1}{\tau_n}, 2a_n \right)$$

Hint-1: If $x \sim \text{IG}(a, b)$, $y = cx$, then $y \sim \text{IG}(a, cb)$.

Hint-2: The definition of Student T is considered as known

4. Show that the predictive distribution $\Pi(z|y)$ is Student T such as

$$z|y \sim T_1 \left(\mu_n, \frac{k_n}{a_n} \left(\frac{1}{\tau_n} + 1 \right), 2a_n \right)$$

Hint-1: Consider that

$$N(x|\mu_1, \sigma_1^2) N(x|\mu_2, \sigma_2^2) = N(x|m, v^2) N(\mu_1|\mu_2, \sigma_1^2 + \sigma_2^2)$$

where

$$v^2 = \left(\frac{1}{\sigma_1^2} + \frac{1}{\sigma_2^2} \right)^{-1}; \quad m = v^2 \left(\frac{\mu_1}{\sigma_1^2} + \frac{\mu_2}{\sigma_2^2} \right)$$

Hint-2: The definition of Student T is considered as known

The following is about the Normal linear model of regression. ~~The calculations are too challenging; (not anymore...)~~

Exercise 26. (★★)(Normal linear regression model with unknown error variance)

<-story

Consider we are interested in recovering the mapping

$$x \xrightarrow{\eta(x)} y$$

in the sense that y is the response (output quantity) that depends on x which is the independent variable (input quantity) in a procedure; E.g.:

- y : precipitation in log scale
- x = (longitude, latitude): geographical coordinates.

It is believed that the mapping $\eta(x)$ can be represented as an expansion of d known polynomial functions $\{\phi_j(x)\}_{j=0}^{d-1}$ such as

$$\eta(x) = \sum_{j=0}^{d-1} \phi_j(x) \beta_j = \Phi(x)^\top \beta; \quad \text{with } \Phi(x) = (\phi_0(x), \dots, \phi_{d-1}(x))^\top$$

where $\beta \in \mathbb{R}^d$ is unknown.

Assume observable quantities (data) in pairs (x_i, y_i) for $i = 1, \dots, n$; (E.g. from the i -th station at location x_i I got the reading y_i). Assume that the response observations $y = (y_1, \dots, y_n)$ may be contaminated by noise with unknown

variance; such that

$$y_i = \eta(x_i) + \epsilon_i$$

where $\epsilon_i \sim N(0, \sigma^2)$ with unknown σ^2 .

You are interested in learning β , but you do not care about σ^2 . Also you want to learn the value of y_f at an untried x_f (i.e. the precipitation at any other location).

Consider the Bayesian model

<-set-up

$$y|\beta, \sigma^2 \sim N(\Phi\beta, I\sigma^2); \text{ the sampling distr}$$

$$\beta|\sigma^2 \sim N(\mu_0, V_0\sigma^2); \text{ prior distr}$$

$$\sigma^2 \sim \text{IG}(a_0, k_0) \text{ prior distr}$$

where Φ is the design matrix $[\Phi]_{i,j} = \Phi_j(x_i)$.

1. Show that the joint posterior distribution $d\Pi(\beta, \sigma^2|y)$ is such as

$$\beta|y, \sigma^2 \sim N(\mu_n, V_n\sigma^2); \quad \sigma^2|y \sim \text{IG}(a_n, k_n)$$

with

$$V_n^{-1} = \Phi^\top \Phi + V_0^{-1}; \quad \mu_n = V_n \left((\Phi^\top \Phi)^{-1} \Phi^\top y + V_0^{-1} \mu_0 \right); \quad a_n = \frac{n}{2} + a_0$$

$$k_n = \frac{1}{2} (y - \Phi \hat{\beta}_n)^\top (y - \Phi \hat{\beta}_n) - \frac{1}{2} \mu_n^\top V_n^{-1} \mu_n + \frac{1}{2} (\mu_0^\top V_0^{-1} \mu_0 + y^\top \Phi^\top (\Phi^\top \Phi)^{-1} \Phi y) + k_0$$

Hint-1:

$$(y - \Phi \beta)^\top (y - \Phi \beta) = (\beta - \hat{\beta}_n)^\top [\Phi^\top \Phi] (\beta - \hat{\beta}_n) + S_n; \quad S_n = (y - \Phi \hat{\beta}_n)^\top (y - \Phi \hat{\beta}_n); \quad \hat{\beta}_n = (\Phi^\top \Phi)^{-1} \Phi^\top y$$

Hint-2: If $\Sigma_1 > 0$ and $\Sigma_2 > 0$ symmetric

$$-\frac{1}{2} (x - \mu_1)^\top \Sigma_1^{-1} (x - \mu_1) - \frac{1}{2} (x - \mu_2)^\top \Sigma_2^{-1} (x - \mu_2) = -\frac{1}{2} (x - m)^\top V^{-1} (x - m) + C$$

where

$$V^{-1} = \Sigma_1^{-1} + \Sigma_2^{-1}; \quad m = V (\Sigma_1^{-1} \mu_1 + \Sigma_2^{-1} \mu_2); \quad C = \frac{1}{2} m^\top V^{-1} m - \frac{1}{2} (\mu_1^\top \Sigma_1^{-1} \mu_1 + \mu_2^\top \Sigma_2^{-1} \mu_2)$$

2. Show that the marginal posterior of β given y is

$$\beta|y \sim T_d(\mu_n, V_n \frac{k_n}{a_n}, 2a_n)$$

3. Show that the predictive distribution of an outcome $y_f = \Phi_f \beta + \epsilon$ with $\Phi_f = (\phi_0(x_f), \dots, \phi_{d-1}(x_f))$ and $\epsilon \sim N(0, \sigma^2)$ at untried location x_f is

$$y_f|y \sim T_d(\mu_n, [\Phi^\top \Phi + 1] \frac{k_n}{a_n}, 2a_n)$$

Consider that

$$N(x|\mu_1, \sigma_1^2) N(x|\mu_2, \sigma_2^2) = N(x|m, v^2) N(\mu_1|\mu_2, \sigma_1^2 + \sigma_2^2)$$

where

$$v^2 = \left(\frac{1}{\sigma_1^2} + \frac{1}{\sigma_2^2} \right)^{-1}; \quad m = v^2 \left(\frac{\mu_1}{\sigma_1^2} + \frac{\mu_2}{\sigma_2^2} \right)$$

Hint-2: The definition of Student T is considered as known

Exercise 27. (★★) Let $y = (y_1, \dots, y_n)$ be observables drawn iid from sampling distribution $y_i | \theta \stackrel{\text{iid}}{\sim} N(\theta, \theta^2)$ for all $i = 1, \dots, n$, where $\theta \in \mathbb{R}$ is unknown. Specify a conjugate prior density for θ up to an unknown normalizing constant.

Exercise 28. (★★) If the sampling distribution $F(\cdot | \theta)$ is discrete and the prior $\Pi(\theta)$ is proper, then the posterior $\Pi(\theta | y)$ is always proper.

Exercise 29. (★★) If the sampling distribution $F(\cdot | \theta)$ is continuous and the prior $\Pi(\theta)$ is proper, then the posterior $\Pi(\theta | y)$ is almost always proper.

The Limit Comparison Theorem for Improper Integrals

General: Let integrable functions $f(x)$, and $g(x)$ for $x \geq a$.

Let

$$0 \leq f(x) \leq g(x), \quad \text{for } x \geq a$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned} \int_a^\infty g(x) dx < \infty &\implies \int_a^\infty f(x) dx < \infty \\ \int_a^\infty f(x) dx = \infty &\implies \int_a^\infty g(x) dx = \infty \end{aligned}$$

Type I: Let integrable functions $f(x)$, and $g(x)$ for $x \geq a$, and let $g(x)$ be positive.

Let

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{f(x)}{g(x)} = c$$

Then

- If $c \in (0, \infty)$:

$$\int_a^\infty g(x) dx < \infty \iff \int_a^\infty f(x) dx < \infty$$

- If $c = 0$:

$$\int_a^\infty g(x) dx < \infty \implies \int_a^\infty f(x) dx < \infty$$

- If $c = \infty$:

$$\int_a^\infty f(x) dx = \infty \implies \int_a^\infty g(x) dx = \infty$$

Type II: Let integrable functions $f(x)$, and $g(x)$ for $a < x \leq b$, and let $g(x)$ be positive.

Let

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow a^+} \frac{f(x)}{g(x)} = c$$

Then

- If $c \in (0, \infty)$:

$$\int_a^\infty g(x) dx < \infty \iff \int_a^\infty f(x) dx < \infty$$

- If $c = 0$:

$$\int_a^\infty g(x)dx < \infty \implies \int_a^\infty f(x)dx < \infty$$

- If $c = \infty$:

$$\int_a^\infty f(x)dx = \infty \implies \int_a^\infty g(x)dx = \infty$$

Note: A useful test function is

$$\int_0^\infty \left(\frac{1}{x}\right)^p dx \begin{cases} < \infty & , \text{ when } p > 1 \\ = \infty & , \text{ when } p \leq 1 \end{cases}$$

Exercise 30. (**) Consider the Bayesian model

$$\begin{cases} x|\sigma & \sim N(0, \sigma^2) \\ \sigma & \sim \text{Ex}(\lambda) \end{cases}$$

where $\text{Ex}(\lambda)$ is the exponential distribution with mean $1/\lambda$. Show that the posterior distribution is not defined always.

- HINT: Precisely, show that the posterior is not defined in the case that you collect only one observation $x = 0$.

Exercise 31. (**) Consider the Bayesian model

$$\begin{cases} x|\sigma & \sim N(0, \sigma^2) \\ \sigma & \sim \Pi(\sigma) \end{cases}$$

where $\Pi(\sigma)$ is an improper prior distribution with density such as $\pi(\sigma) \propto \sigma^{-1} \exp(-a\sigma^{-2})$ for $a > 0$. Show that we can use this prior on Bayesian inference.

Exercise 32. (**) Let x be an observation. Consider the Bayesian model

$$\begin{cases} x|\theta & \sim \text{Pn}(\theta) \\ \theta & \sim \Pi(\theta) \end{cases}$$

where $\text{Pn}(\theta)$ is the Poisson distribution with expected value θ . Consider a prior $\Pi(\theta)$ with density such as $\pi(\theta) \propto \frac{1}{\theta}$. Show that the posterior distribution is not always defined.

Hint-1: It suffices to show that the posterior is not defined in the case that you collect only one observation $x = 0$.

Hint-2: Poisson distribution: $x \sim \text{Pn}(\theta)$ has PMF

$$\text{Pn}(x|\theta) = \frac{\theta^x \exp(-\theta)}{x!} 1(x \in \mathbb{N})$$

The next exercise is about the Sequential processing of data via Bayes theorem

Exercise 33. (**) Assume that observable quantities x_1, x_2, \dots are generated i.i.d by a process that can be modeled as a sampling distribution $N(\mu, \sigma^2)$ with known σ^2 and unknown μ .

1. Assume that you have collected an observation x_1 . Specify a prior $\Pi(\mu)$ on μ as $\mu \sim N(\mu_0, \sigma_0^2)$ where μ_0, σ_0^2 are known.

- Derive the posterior $\Pi(\theta|x_1)$.

Next assume that you additionally observe an additional observation x_2 after collecting x_1 . Consider the posterior $\Pi(\mu|x_1)$ as the current state of your knowledge about θ .

- Derive the posterior $\Pi(\mu|x_1, x_2)$ in the light of the new additional observation x_2 .

2. Assume that you have collected two observations (x_1, x_2) . Specify a prior $\Pi(\mu)$ on μ as $\mu \sim N(\mu_0, \sigma_0^2)$ where μ_0, σ_0^2 are known.

- Derive the posterior $\Pi(\theta|x_1, x_2)$ in the light of the observations (x_1, x_2) .

3. What do you observe:

Hint: We considered the identity

$$-\frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{(y - \mu_i)^2}{\sigma_i^2} = -\frac{1}{2} \frac{(y - \hat{\mu})^2}{\hat{\sigma}^2} + c(\hat{\mu}, \hat{\sigma}^2),$$

$$c(\hat{\mu}, \hat{\sigma}^2) = -\frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{\mu_i^2}{\sigma_i^2} + \frac{1}{2} \left(\sum_{i=1}^n \frac{\mu_i}{\sigma_i^2} \right)^2 \left(\sum_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{\sigma_i^2} \right)^{-1}; \quad \hat{\sigma}^2 = \left(\sum_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{\sigma_i^2} \right)^{-1}; \quad \hat{\mu} = \hat{\sigma}^2 \left(\sum_{i=1}^n \frac{\mu_i}{\sigma_i^2} \right)$$

where $c(\hat{\mu}, \hat{\sigma}^2)$ is constant w.r.t. y .

Part V

Exchangeability

We work on the proofs of the following theorems:

- Marginal distributions of finite exchangeable sequences y_1, y_2, \dots, y_k are invariant under permutations; i.e.:

$$dF(y_{p(1)}, y_{p(2)}, \dots, y_{p(k)}) = dF(y_1, y_2, \dots, y_k) \text{ for all } p \in \mathfrak{P}_n. \quad (3)$$

In particular, for $k = 1$, it follows that all y_i are identically distributed (but not necessarily independently, as stated in the Lecture notes)

- (Marginal) Expectations of finite exchangeable sequences y_1, y_2, \dots, y_k are all identical:

$$E(g(y_i)) = E(g(y_1)) \text{ for all } i = 1, \dots, k \text{ and all functions } g: \mathcal{Y} \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \quad (4)$$

- (Marginal) Variances of finite exchangeable sequences y_1, y_2, \dots, y_k are all identical:

$$\text{Var}(y_i) = \text{Var}(y_1). \quad (5)$$

- Covariances between elements of finite exchangeable sequences y_1, y_2, \dots, y_k are all identical:

$$\text{Cov}(y_i, y_j) = \text{Cov}(y_1, y_2) \text{ whenever } i \neq j. \quad (6)$$

Just for your information The properties above are implied by the following general theorem. However, you should not use this theorem, directly, to solve the exercises below...

Theorem. Consider an exchangeable sequence y_1, \dots, y_n . Let $g: \mathcal{Y}^k \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be any function of k of these, where $k \leq n$. Then, for any permutation $\pi \in \Pi_n$,

$$E(g(Y_{p(1)}, Y_{p(2)}, \dots, Y_{p(k)})) = E(g(Y_1, Y_2, \dots, Y_k)) \quad (7)$$

This is not an exercise to solve. Feel free to read the solution of this exercise, as it may help you understand the the Interpretation of the ‘representation Theorem with 0 – 1 quantities’.

Exercise 34. (★★★★)(Representation Theorem with 0 – 1 quantities). If y_1, y_2, \dots is an infinitely exchangeable sequence of 0 – 1 random quantities with probability measure P , there exists a distribution function Π such that the joint mass function $p(y_1, \dots, y_n)$ for y_1, \dots, y_n has the form

$$p(x_1, \dots, x_n) = \int_0^1 \prod_{i=1}^n \underbrace{\theta^{y_i} (1 - \theta)^{1-y_i}}_{f_{\text{Ber}(\theta)}(y_i | \theta)} d\Pi(\theta)$$

where

$$\Pi(t) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \Pr\left(\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n y_i \leq t\right) \quad \text{and} \quad \theta \stackrel{\text{as}}{=} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n y_i$$

aka θ is the limiting relative frequency of 1s, by SLLN

Hint: (Helly's theorem [modified]) Given a sequence of distribution functions $\{F_1, F_2, \dots\}$ that satisfy the tightness condition; [for each $\epsilon > 0$ there is a such that for all sufficiently large i it is $F_i(a) - F_i(-a) > 1 - \epsilon$], there exists a distribution F and a sub-sequence $\{F_{i_1}, F_{i_2}, \dots\}$ such that $F_{i_j} \rightarrow F$.

Exercise 35. (★★) Clearly a set of independent and identically distributed random variables form an exchangeable sequence. Thus sampling with replacement generates an exchangeable sequence. What about sampling without replacement? Prove that sampling n items from N distinct objects without replacement (where $n \leq N$) is exchangeable.

Exercise 36. (★★) Let Y_1, \dots, Y_n be an exchangeable sequence, and let g be any function on \mathcal{Y} . Show, directly from the definition of exchangeability in the summary notes) that $E(g(Y_i))$ does not depend on i :

$$E(g(Y_i)) = E(g(Y_1)) \text{ for all } i \in \{2, \dots, n\} \quad (8)$$

For ease of exposition, you may restrict your proof to the case $i = 2$.

Exercise 37. (★★) Let Y_1, \dots, Y_n be an exchangeable sequence. Use

$$E(g(Y_i)) = E(g(Y_1)) \text{ for all } i \in \{2, \dots, n\} \quad (9)$$

to show that $\text{Var}(Y_i)$ does not depend on i :

$$\text{Var}(Y_i) = \text{Var}(Y_1) \text{ for all } i \in \{2, \dots, n\} \quad (10)$$

Exercise 38. (★★) Let Y_1, \dots, Y_n be an exchangeable sequence. By expanding $\text{var}(\sum_{k=1}^n Y_k)$, show that when $i \neq j$,

$$\text{cov}(Y_i, Y_j) \geq -\frac{\text{var}(Y_1)}{n-1} \quad (11)$$

Exercise 39. (★) What does

$$\text{cov}(Y_i, Y_j) \geq -\frac{\text{var}(Y_1)}{n-1}$$

imply about the correlation of infinite exchangeable sequences?