# **Derivations for the CSM model**

#### 1 Definition of the model

A gestalt, a perceptual object, is characterised by a covariance component for the joint distribution of visual neural activity.

$$p(v \mid g) = \mathcal{N}(v; 0, C_v) \tag{1}$$

$$C_v = \sum_{k=1}^K g_k C_k \tag{2}$$

where K is the fixed number of possible gestalts in the visual scene and  $g_k$  is the strength of the gestalt number k, coming from a K-dimensional Gamma prior distribution with shape and scale parameters  $\alpha_g$  and  $\theta_g$  controlling the sparsity of the prior.

$$p(g) = \operatorname{Gam}(g; \alpha_g, \theta_g) \tag{3}$$

The global contrast of the image patch is encoded by a scalar variable z, also coming from a Gamma prior

$$p(z) = \operatorname{Gam}(z; \alpha_z, \theta_z) \tag{4}$$

The pixel intensities are generated from the neural activity through a set of linear projective field models, possibly Gabor filters, A, scaled by the contrast and adding some independent observational noise.

$$p(x \mid v, z) = \mathcal{N}(x; zAv, \sigma_x I) \tag{5}$$

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# 2 Likelihoods

### 2.1 Likelihood of q and z

$$p(x \mid z, g) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} p(x, v \mid z, g) dv = \mathcal{N}(x; 0, \sigma_x I + z^2 A \left(\sum_{k=1}^{K} g_k U_k^T U_k\right) A^T) =$$

$$= \frac{1}{z^{D_v} \sqrt{\det(A^T A)}} \mathcal{N}(\frac{1}{z} A^+ x; 0, \frac{\sigma_x}{z^2} (A^T A)^{-1} + \sum_{k=1}^{K} g_k U_k^T U_k)$$

$$f(x, z) \equiv \frac{1}{z} A^+ x, \ h(z) \equiv \frac{1}{z^{D_v}}$$

$$C(z, g) \equiv \frac{\sigma_x}{z^2} (A^T A)^{-1} + \sum_{k=1}^{K} g_k U_k^T U_k$$

$$(8)$$

$$p(x \mid z, g) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\det(A^T A)}} h(z) \mathcal{N}(f(x, z); 0, C(z, g))$$

$$(9)$$

## 2.2 Log-likelihood of the parameters

$$p(X \mid C_{1..K}) = \prod_{n=1}^{N} p(x_n \mid C_{1..K})$$
(10)

$$p(X \mid C_{1..K}) = \prod_{n=1}^{N} \iint_{-\infty}^{\infty} p(x_n \mid z, g) p(g) p(z) dg dz$$
(11)

(12)

approximation of the integrals by samples from the priors  $p(g_n)$  and  $p(z_n)$ 

$$p(X \mid C_{1..K}) \approx \prod_{n=1}^{N} \sum_{l=1}^{L} p(x_n \mid z^l, g^l)$$
 (13)

$$p(X \mid C_{1..K}) \approx \det(A^T A)^{-\frac{N}{2}} \prod_{n=1}^{N} \sum_{l=1}^{L} h(z^l) \mathcal{N}(f(x_n, z^l); 0, C(z^l, g^l))$$
 (14)

$$\log p(X \mid C_{1..K}) \approx -\frac{N}{2} \log(\det(A^T A)) + \sum_{n=1}^{N} \log \left[ \sum_{l=1}^{L} h(z^l) \mathcal{N}(f(x_n, z^l); 0, C(z^l, g^l)) \right]$$
(15)

$$h^l \equiv h(z^l), \ f^l_n \equiv f(x_n, z^l), \ C^l \equiv C(z^l, g^l) \ (16)$$

$$\mathcal{L}_n^l \equiv h^l \mathcal{N}(f_n^l; 0, C^l), \ \mathcal{L}_n \equiv \sum_{l=1}^L \mathcal{L}_n^l \ (17)$$

$$\log p(X \mid C_{1..K}) \approx \sum_{n=1}^{N} \log \mathcal{L}_n$$
 (18)

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#### **2.2.1** Derivative w.r.t. $C_{1...K}$

$$\frac{\partial \log p(X \mid C_{1..K})}{\partial [U_k]_{i,j}} \approx \sum_{n=1}^{N} \frac{\partial \log \mathcal{L}_n}{\partial [U_k]_{i,j}} = \sum_{n=1}^{N} \frac{1}{\mathcal{L}_n} \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}_n}{\partial [U_k]_{i,j}} = \sum_{n=1}^{N} \frac{1}{\mathcal{L}_n} \sum_{l=1}^{L} \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}_n^l}{\partial [U_k]_{i,j}} = \sum_{n=1}^{N} \frac{1}{\mathcal{L}_n} \sum_{l=1}^{L} \operatorname{Tr} \left[ \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}_n^l}{\partial C^l} \frac{\partial C^l}{\partial [U_k]_{i,j}} \right] \tag{19}$$

the derivatives in this formula are the following

$$\frac{\partial \mathcal{L}_n^l}{\partial C^l} = h^l \frac{\partial}{\partial C^l} \mathcal{N}(f_n^l; 0, C^l) = h^l \mathcal{N}(f_n^l; 0, C^l) \frac{\partial}{\partial C^l} \log \mathcal{N}(f_n^l; 0, C^l) = 
= -\frac{h^l}{2} \mathcal{N}(f_n^l; 0, C^l) \left[ (C^l)^{-1} - (C^l)^{-1} f_n^l (f_n^l)^T (C^l)^{-1} \right] 
\frac{\partial C(z, g)}{\partial \left[ U_k \right]_{i,j}} = g_k \frac{\partial \left( U_k^T U_k \right)}{\partial \left[ U_k \right]_{i,j}} = g_k \left( U_k^T J^{ij} + J^{ji} U_k \right) \equiv g_k \hat{U}_k^{ij}$$
(21)

substituting back to the derivative

$$\frac{\partial \log p(X \mid C_{1..K})}{\partial \left[U_{k}\right]_{i,j}} \approx \frac{1}{2} \sum_{n=1}^{N} \frac{1}{\mathcal{L}_{n}} \sum_{l=1}^{L} h^{l} g_{k}^{l} \mathcal{N}(f_{n}^{l}; 0, C^{l}) \operatorname{Tr}\left[\left[(C^{l})^{-1} - (C^{l})^{-1} f_{n}^{l} (f_{n}^{l})^{T} (C^{l})^{-1}\right] \hat{U}_{k}^{ij}\right] = \frac{1}{2} \operatorname{Tr}\left[\sum_{n=1}^{N} \left(\frac{1}{\mathcal{L}_{n}} \sum_{l=1}^{L} h^{l} g_{k}^{l} \mathcal{N}(f_{n}^{l}; 0, C^{l}) \left[(C^{l})^{-1} - (C^{l})^{-1} f_{n}^{l} (f_{n}^{l})^{T} (C^{l})^{-1}\right]\right) \hat{U}_{k}^{ij}\right]$$

$$(22)$$

The regularities of the  $\hat{U}_k$  matrices allow us to replace the trace with a much more efficient computation:

$$M_{k} = -\frac{1}{2} \sum_{n=1}^{N} \left( \frac{1}{\mathcal{L}_{n}} \sum_{l=1}^{L} h^{l} g_{k}^{l} \mathcal{N}(f_{n}^{l}; 0, C^{l}) \left[ (C^{l})^{-1} - (C^{l})^{-1} f_{n}^{l} (f_{n}^{l})^{T} (C^{l})^{-1} \right] \right)$$
(23)  
$$\frac{\partial \log p(X \mid C_{1..K})}{\partial \left[ U_{k} \right]_{i,j}} \approx \operatorname{Tr} \left[ M_{k} \hat{U}_{k}^{ij} \right] = \sum_{a=1}^{Dv} \left[ M_{k} \right]_{j,a} \left[ U_{k} \right]_{i,a} + \left[ M_{k} \right]_{a,j} \left[ U_{k} \right]_{i,a}$$
(24)

### 2.3 Complete-data log-likelihood

- 2.3.1 Expectation w.r.t. the posterior
- **2.3.2** Derivative w.r.t.  $C_{1...K}$

#### 3 Posteriors

#### 3.1 Full posterior

$$p(v, g, z \mid x) = p(x \mid v, g, z)p(v \mid g)p(g)p(z)\frac{1}{p(x)} \sim p(x \mid v, z)p(v \mid g)p(g)p(z)$$
(25)

so the log-posterior will be the following, up to an additive constant, using Gamma priors over g and z defined by shape and scale parameters:

$$\log p(v, g, z \mid x) \sim \log p(x \mid v, z) + \log p(v \mid g) + \log p(g) + \log p(z) =$$

$$= \log \mathcal{N}(x; zAv, \sigma_x I) + \log \mathcal{N}(v; 0, C_v) + \log \operatorname{Gam}(g; sh_g, sc_g) + \log \operatorname{Gam}(z; sh_z, sc_z)$$
(26)

logarithms of the used pdfs look as follows:

$$\log \mathcal{N}(y; \mu, C) = -\frac{1}{2} \left[ \log(2\pi) + \log \det(C) + (y - \mu)^T C^{-1} (y - \mu) \right]$$
(27)
$$\log \operatorname{Gam}(y; sh, sc) = \log(1) - \log(\Gamma(sh)) - sh \log(sc) + (sh - 1) \log(y) - \frac{y}{sc}$$
(28)

- 3.1.1 Derivative w.r.t. v
- 3.1.2 Derivative w.r.t. g
- 3.1.3 Derivative w.r.t. z
- 3.2 Marginal posterior of q
- 3.2.1 MAP estimate of g

$$g_{MAP} = \underset{g}{\operatorname{arg \, max}} p(g \mid x) = \underset{g}{\operatorname{arg \, max}} \frac{p(x \mid g)p(g)}{p(x)} = \underset{g}{\operatorname{arg \, max}} p(x \mid g)p(g) \quad (29)$$
$$p(x \mid g) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} p(x \mid z, g)p(z)dz \approx \frac{1}{L} \sum_{l=1}^{L} p(x \mid g, z^{l}) \quad (30)$$

# **Appendix**

#### 3.3 Merging two Gaussian distributions

We want to merge two Gaussians over x and v into one over v

$$p(x \mid v, z)p(v \mid g) = \mathcal{N}(x; zAv, \sigma_x I)\mathcal{N}(v; 0, C_v)$$
(31)

The Gaussian over x spelled out is

$$\mathcal{N}(x; zAv, \sigma_x I) = \sqrt{\frac{1}{(2\pi)^{Dx} \sigma_x^{Dx}}} e^{-\frac{1}{2\sigma_x} (x - zAv)^T (x - zAv)}$$
(32)

$$-\frac{1}{2}(x - zAv)^{T}(x - zAv) = -\frac{1}{2}(x^{T}x - zv^{T}A^{T}x - zx^{T}Av + z^{2}v^{T}A^{T}Av)$$
(33)

as  $v^TA^Tx=(x^TAv)^T$ , and both are scalars, thus equal to their transposes, it's also true that  $v^TA^Tx=x^TAv$ 

$$-\frac{1}{2}(x - zAv)^{T}(x - zAv) = -\frac{1}{2}(x^{T}x - 2zx^{T}Av + z^{2}v^{T}A^{T}Av) =$$

$$= -\frac{x^{T}x}{2} + zx^{T}Av - \frac{z^{2}}{2}v^{T}A^{T}Av$$
(34)

we have the identity for any symmetric matrix M and vector b that

$$-\frac{1}{2}v^{T}Mv + b^{T}v = -\frac{1}{2}(v - M^{-1}b)^{T}M(v - M^{-1}b) + \frac{1}{2}b^{T}M^{-1}b$$
 (35)

making the substitution  $M=z^2A^TA$  and  $b=(zx^TA)^T=zA^Tx$ , yielding  $M^{-1}=\frac{1}{z^2}(A^TA)^{-1}$  and  $M^{-1}b=\frac{1}{z}(A^TA)^{-1}A^Tx=\frac{1}{z}A^+x$ , where  $A^+$  is the Moore-Penrose pseudoinverse of A. Thus we get

$$-\frac{1}{2}(x-zAv)^{T}(x-zAv) =$$

$$= -\frac{x^{T}x}{2} - \frac{1}{2}(v - \frac{1}{z}A^{+}x)^{T}z^{2}A^{T}A(v - \frac{1}{z}A^{+}x) + \frac{1}{2}(A^{T}x)^{T}(A^{T}A)^{-1}A^{T}x =$$

$$= -\frac{x^{T}x}{2} - \frac{1}{2}(v - \frac{1}{z}A^{+}x)^{T}z^{2}A^{T}A(v - \frac{1}{z}A^{+}x) + \frac{1}{2}x^{T}AA^{-1}A^{-T}A^{T}x =$$

$$= -\frac{x^{T}x}{2} - \frac{1}{2}(v - \frac{1}{z}A^{+}x)^{T}z^{2}A^{T}A(v - \frac{1}{z}A^{+}x) + \frac{x^{T}x}{2} =$$

$$= -\frac{1}{2}(v - \frac{1}{z}A^{+}x)^{T}z^{2}A^{T}A(v - \frac{1}{z}A^{+}x)$$
(36)

which implies

$$e^{-\frac{1}{2\sigma_x}(x-zAv)^T(x-zAv)} = e^{-\frac{1}{2}(v-\frac{1}{z}A^+x^T)^T\frac{z^2}{\sigma_x}A^TA(v-\frac{1}{z}A^+x)}$$
(37)

meaning that

$$\mathcal{N}(x; zAv, \sigma_x I) = \alpha \mathcal{N}(v; \frac{1}{z} A^+ x, \frac{\sigma_x}{z^2} (A^T A)^{-1})$$
(38)

and as the formulas in the exponents are equal, the constant  $\alpha$  is given by the ratio of the normalisation terms

$$\sqrt{\frac{1}{(2\pi)^{Dx}\sigma_x^{Dx}}} = \alpha \sqrt{\frac{1}{(2\pi)^{Dv}\det(\frac{\sigma_x}{z^2}(A^TA)^{-1})}}$$
 (39)

$$\alpha = \sqrt{\frac{(2\pi)^{Dv} \frac{\sigma_x^{Dv}}{z^{2Dv}} \det((A^T A)^{-1})}{(2\pi)^{Dx} \sigma_x^{Dx}}}$$

$$\alpha = \sqrt{\frac{(2\pi)^{Dv} \sigma_x^{Dv}}{(2\pi)^{Dx} \sigma_x^{Dx} \cot(A^T A)}}$$
(40)

$$\alpha = \sqrt{\frac{(2\pi)^{Dv} \sigma_x^{D_v}}{(2\pi)^{Dx} \sigma_x^{Dx} z^{2D_v} \det(A^T A)}}$$
(41)

making the simplifying assumption  $D_x = D_v$  we arrive to

$$\mathcal{N}(x; zAv, \sigma_x I) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\det(A^T A)}} \frac{1}{z^{D_v}} \mathcal{N}(v; \frac{1}{z} A^+ x, \frac{\sigma_x}{z^2} (A^T A)^{-1})$$
(42)

we can merge two Gaussian distributions over v into one by using the following formula

$$\mathcal{N}(v; \mu_1, C_1)\mathcal{N}(v; \mu_2, C_2) = \mathcal{N}(\mu_1; \mu_2, C_1 + C_2)\mathcal{N}(v; \mu_c, C_c)$$
(43)

where  $C_c = (C_1^{-1} + C_2^{-1})^{-1}$  and  $\mu_c = C_c(C_1^{-1}\mu_1 + C_2^{-1}\mu_2)$ . Substitution to these formulas yields

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{\det(A^{T}A)}} \frac{1}{z^{D_{v}}} \mathcal{N}(v; \frac{1}{z}A^{+}x, \frac{\sigma_{x}}{z^{2}}(A^{T}A)^{-1}) \mathcal{N}(v; 0, C_{v}) = 
\frac{1}{\sqrt{\det(A^{T}A)}} \frac{1}{z^{D_{v}}} \mathcal{N}(\frac{1}{z}A^{+}x; 0, \frac{\sigma_{x}}{z^{2}}(A^{T}A)^{-1} + C_{v}) \mathcal{N}(v; \mu_{c}, C_{c})$$
(44)

$$C_c = (\frac{z^2}{\sigma_x}(A^T A) + C_v^{-1})^{-1}$$
 (45)

$$\mu_c = C_c \frac{z}{\sigma_x} (A^T A) A^+ x = \frac{z}{\sigma_x} C_c A^T x \tag{46}$$

#### Rules of differentiation 3.4

Assuming that y and a are vectors and M is a symmetric matrix of appropriate dimension, and f is a scalar function, and s is a scalar variable.

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial y} y^T M y = 2M y \tag{47}$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial y}a^T y = a \tag{48}$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial M} y^T M^{-1} y = -M^{-1} y y^T M^{-1} \tag{49}$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial M} \log \det M = M^{-1} \tag{50}$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial s} f(M(s)) = \text{Tr} \left[ \frac{\partial f}{\partial M} \frac{\partial M}{\partial s} \right]$$
 (51)

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial s}sM = M \tag{52}$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial s}sM = M \qquad (52)$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial s}f(s) = f(s)\frac{\partial}{\partial s}\log f(s) \qquad (53)$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial M} \log \mathcal{N}(y; a, M) = M^{-1} - M^{-1} (y - a)(y - a)^T M^{-1}$$
 (54)