

HW6 Part II

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Show that for $\delta = 1$ and hyperparameters $b_i = 0$
 the log posterior distributions for β using either normal or Laplace
 prior distributions have analogous forms to the above expressions

Recall:

$$\beta_i \sim \text{Normal}(\mu_i, s_i) \text{ and } y_i \sim \text{Normal}(x_i^\top \beta, \delta)$$

$$\text{Normal: } f(\beta_i | \mu_i, s_i) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi s_i^2}} e^{-\frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{\beta_i - \mu_i}{s_i} \right)^2}$$

$$\text{Laplace: } f(\beta_i | \mu_i, s_i) = \frac{1}{2s_i} \exp \left(- \frac{|\beta_i - \mu_i|}{s_i} \right)$$

With $\delta = 1$ and $\mu_i = 0$:

$$f(\beta_i | s_i) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi s_i^2}} e^{-\frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{\beta_i}{s_i} \right)^2}$$

$$\text{and } f(\beta_i | s_i) = \frac{1}{2s_i} \left(- \frac{|\beta_i|}{s_i} \right)$$

We know the posterior or prior likelihood

so $\log \text{posterior} \propto \log \text{prior} + \log \text{likelihood}$

$$\text{i.e. } \log p(\beta | x) \propto \log p(x | \beta) + \log p(\beta)$$

$$\text{We know } \log p(x | \beta) = -\frac{1}{2\delta^2} \sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - x_i^\top \beta)^2$$

and for the normal distribution:

$$\begin{aligned} \log p(\beta) &= -\frac{1}{2s^2} \sum_{j=1}^p (\beta_j - b_j)^2 \\ &= -\frac{1}{2s^2} \sum_{j=1}^p \beta_j^2 \end{aligned}$$

whereas for the Laplace:

$$\log p(\beta) = -\frac{1}{s} \sum_{j=1}^p |\beta_j - b_j| = -\frac{1}{s} \sum_{j=1}^p |\beta_j|$$

So for the normal diss:

$$\log p(\beta | x) \propto -\frac{1}{2\delta^2} \sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - x_i^\top \beta)^2 - \frac{1}{2s^2} \sum_{j=1}^p \beta_j^2$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= -\frac{1}{2s^2} (y - x\beta)^T (y - x\beta) - \frac{1}{2s^2} \sum_{j=1}^n |\beta_j|^2 \\
&= -\frac{1}{s^2} \left(\frac{1}{2} (y - x\beta)^T (y - x\beta) + \frac{s^2}{2s^2} \sum_{j=1}^n |\beta_j|^2 \right) \\
&= -\frac{1}{2s^2} \left(\|y - x\beta\|_2^2 + \frac{s^2}{2s^2} \|\beta\|_1 \right)
\end{aligned}$$

and for the Laplace:

$$\begin{aligned}
\log p(\beta | x) &\propto -\frac{1}{2s^2} \sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - x_i^\top \beta)^2 - \frac{1}{2s^2} \sum_{j=1}^n |\beta_j| \\
&= -\frac{1}{s^2} \left(\frac{1}{2} (y - x\beta)^T (y - x\beta) + \frac{s^2}{2s^2} \sum_{j=1}^n |\beta_j| \right) \\
&= -\frac{1}{s^2} \left(\|y - x\beta\|_2^2 + \frac{s^2}{2s^2} \|\beta\|_1 \right)
\end{aligned}$$

Hence these are analogous to the lasso and ridge regularizations respectively.

Bayesians do not optimize posterior distributions, they sample from them; but, the posterior distributions are nonetheless 'regularizations' of the likelihood through the prior.