

HW: Bayesian Parameter Estimation

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Assumption:

- Univariate Case: The data $\mathbf{X}=\{x_t\}$, $t=1,\dots,n$ is the univariate data, with the i.i.d. samples.
- Gaussian (Normal) Distribution: The sample is drawn from the Gaussian (Normal) distribution, $p(\mu) \sim N(\mu, \sigma^2)$, with parameters μ and σ^2 .
- Parameters: Unknown mean, known variance
- Priors: The conjugate prior for μ is Gaussian, $p(\mu) \sim N(\mu_0, \sigma_0^2)$

Question 1 and Question 2:

Based on the assumption above, we can have the prior density and likelihood density as below:

$$\text{Prior: } p(\mu) \sim \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma_0^2}} \exp\left(\frac{-1}{2\sigma_0^2}(\mu - \mu_0)^2\right)$$

$$\text{Likelihood: } p(X|\mu) \sim \prod_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}} \exp\left(\frac{-1}{2\sigma^2}(x^i - \mu)^2\right)$$

$$\text{Posterior: } p(\mu|X) \sim p(X|\mu) p(\mu)$$

Since the variance is known, the constant can be removed, the Prior and Likelihood can be re-written as:

$$p(X|\mu) \sim \exp\left(\frac{-1}{2\sigma^2} \sum_i (x_i - \mu)^2\right)$$

$$p(\mu) \sim \exp\left(\frac{-1}{2\sigma_0^2}(\mu - \mu_0)^2\right)$$

And Posterior can be rewritten as:

$$p(\mu|X) \sim \exp\left(\frac{-1}{2\sigma^2} \sum_i (x_i - \mu)^2\right) \exp\left(\frac{-1}{2\sigma_0^2}(\mu - \mu_0)^2\right)$$

Extend the equation we can get

$$\begin{aligned} p(\mu|X) &\sim \exp\left(\frac{-1}{2\sigma^2}(\mu^2 - 2\mu\mu_0 + \mu_0^2) + \frac{-1}{2\sigma_0^2} \sum_i (x_i^2 - 2x_i\mu + \mu^2)\right) \\ p(\mu|X) &\sim \exp\left(\frac{-1}{2}\left(\mu^2\left(\frac{1}{\sigma_0^2} + \frac{n}{\sigma^2}\right) - 2\mu\left(\frac{\mu_0}{\sigma_0^2} + \frac{\sum_i x_i}{\sigma^2}\right) + \frac{\mu_0^2}{\sigma_0^2} + \frac{\sum_i x_i^2}{\sigma^2}\right)\right) \end{aligned}$$

Now, we need to get the format as Gaussian as below:

$$p(\mu|X) \sim \exp\left(\frac{-1}{2\sigma_n^2}(\mu^2 - 2\mu\mu_n + \mu_n^2)\right)$$

We can remove the constant again and comparing the terms of μ^2 and $-2\mu\mu_n$, then get:

$$\frac{-1}{2\sigma_n^2} = \frac{-1}{2} \left(\frac{1}{\sigma_0^2} + \frac{n}{\sigma^2} \right)$$

$$\sigma_n^2 = \frac{\sigma^2 \sigma_0^2}{\sigma^2 + n\sigma_0^2}$$

With the equations above, now we can get μ_n :

$$\mu_n = \sigma_n^2 \left(\frac{\mu_0}{\sigma_0^2} + \frac{n\bar{x}}{\sigma^2} \right) \text{ where } \bar{x} = \text{mean value of } X, \sum_i x_i \text{ rewritten as } n\bar{x}$$

Thus, the Gaussian Distribution can be derived from the equations above.

$$p(\mu|X) \sim \exp \left(\frac{-1}{2\sigma_n^2} (\mu^2 - 2\mu\mu_n + \mu_n^2) \right), \text{ where } \mu_n = \sigma_n^2 \left(\frac{\mu_0}{\sigma_0^2} + \frac{n}{\sigma^2} \right) \text{ and } \sigma_n^2 = \frac{\sigma^2 \sigma_0^2}{\sigma^2 + n\sigma_0^2}$$

Question 3:

From the previous equation, we can further extend μ_n :

$$\mu_n = \sigma_n^2 \left(\frac{\mu_0}{\sigma_0^2} + \frac{n\bar{x}}{\sigma^2} \right) = \left(\frac{\sigma^2 \mu_0 + n\bar{x} \sigma_0^2}{n\sigma_0^2 + \sigma^2} \right)$$

And $1/\sigma^2$ can be rewritten as:

$$\frac{1}{\sigma_n^2} = \left(\frac{1}{\sigma_0^2} + \frac{n}{\sigma^2} \right)$$

Question 4:

From the previous equations, we can identify the weights as below:

$$\mu_n = \left(\frac{n\sigma_0^2}{n\sigma_0^2 + \sigma^2} \right) \bar{x} + \left(\frac{\sigma^2}{n\sigma_0^2 + \sigma^2} \right) \mu_0$$

Question 5:

The weights are inversely proportional to the corresponding variances since \bar{x} directly proportional to σ_0^2 and μ_0 directly proportional to σ^2 . The ratio of the weights is σ_0^2/σ^2

Question 6:

We can simply justify by adding these two weights together:

$$\text{sum of weights} = \left(\frac{n\sigma_0^2 + \sigma^2}{n\sigma_0^2 + \sigma^2} \right) = 1$$

Thus, the sum is up to 1.

Question 7:

The weights will always between 0 to 1. Since the sum of weights is 1, when one goes close to 1 the other one will close to 0.

Question 8:

Because the two weights are between 0 to 1, the value of μ_n will be

$$\text{Min}(\bar{x}, \mu_0) \leq \mu_n \leq \text{Max}(\bar{x}, \mu_0)$$

Question 9:

If the σ^2 is known, then we can get the equation as follow:

$$p(x^{new}|X) = \int p(x^{new}|\mu)p(\mu|X)d\mu$$

$$p(x^{new}|X) = \int N(x^{new}|\mu, \sigma^2)N(\mu|\mu_n, \sigma_n^2)d\mu$$

$$p(x^{new}|X) = N(x^{new}|\mu_n, \sigma_n^2 + \sigma^2)d\mu$$

Thus, we can perform $p(x^{new}|X) \sim N(\mu_n, \sigma_n^2 + \sigma^2)$

Question 10:

From the previous equation, we can calculate μ_n, σ_n^2 with $n = 20$ as below:

$$\sigma_n^2 = \frac{\sigma^2 \sigma_0^2}{\sigma^2 + n\sigma_0^2} = \frac{1.5^2 0.8^2}{1.5^2 + 20(0.8)^2} = 0.095681$$

$$\mu_n = \left(\frac{\sigma^2 \mu_0 + n\bar{x}\sigma_0^2}{n\sigma_0^2 + \sigma^2} \right) = \frac{4(1.5)^2 + 20 \times 6(1.5)^2}{1.5^2 + 20(0.8)^2} = 5.70099$$

The plot as below:

