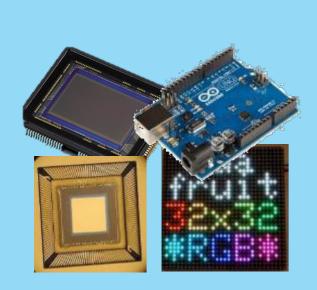


Optics



Sensors & devices



Signal processing & algorithms

COMPUTATIONAL METHODS FOR IMAGING (AND VISION)

LECTURE 22: STATISTICAL METHODS

PROF. JOHN MURRAY-BRUCE

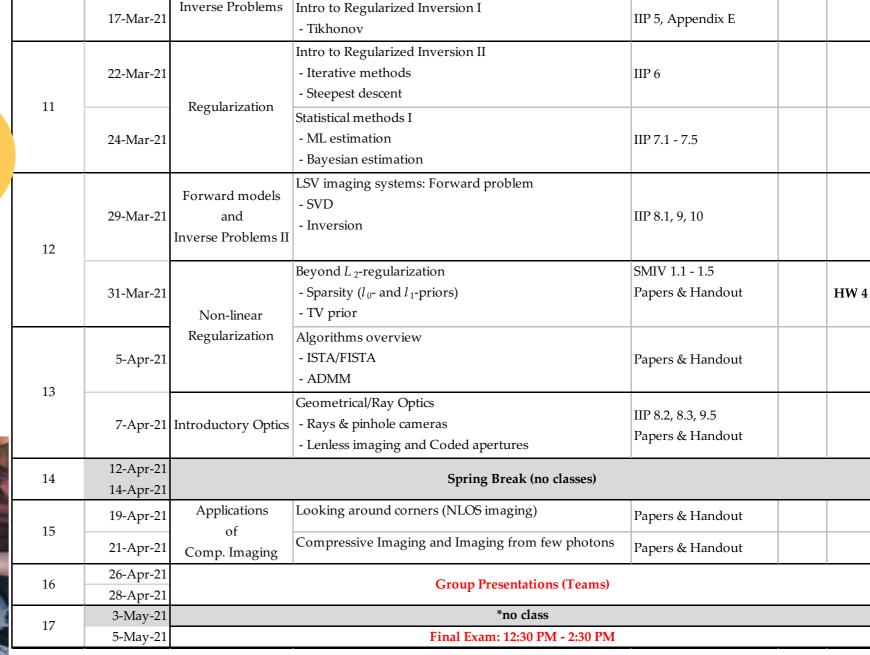
HW 4

IIP 4, Appendix E

WHERE ARE WE

WE ARE HERE!





Linear Inversion

- Inverse problems

- Deconvolution and Denoising

15-Mar-21

10

Forward Models

and



OUTLINE

- Maximum likelihood estimation (MLE)
- Bayesian methods (MAP)

LEARNING GOALS

- Understand MLE
- Be able to derive ML estimate under Gaussian noise
- Be able to define a prior
- Be able to interpret the role of prior as a regularizer

READING

IIP Chapter 7

STATISTICAL METHODS

- Statistical methods can account for the random nature of the noise introduced due to detector/sensor/measurement imperfections.
 - Such a description means that the recorded measurement/ image is the realization of a random process.
- There are two main methods:
 - Maximum likelihood estimation (MLE) method
 - Bayesian Method

UNKNOWN OBJECT IS DETERMINISTIC

MAXIMUM LIKELIHOOD (ML) METHODS

- The key distinguishing property of maximum likelihood method is that the unknown image is deterministic
- Thus can be treated as a set of deterministic parameters to be estimated
- Noise is still assumed to be a realization of a random process
 - This is useful when certain statistical properties of the noise is known, such as: the expectation value, the variance, the probability distribution
 - These can be leveraged for solving the inverse problem

HOW DOES IT WORK?

Start with our usual discrete model of image formation:

$$y = Ax + n$$

- where:
 - $n \in \mathbb{R}^M$ is unknown random noise process,
 - $\mathbf{y} \in \mathbb{R}^M$ is the measurement (measured image/signal)
 - $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^N$ is the discretization of the unknown object
 - $A \in \mathbb{R}^{M \times N}$ is the discrete forward model (for the imaging system)
- ▶ The noise $n \in \mathbb{R}^M$ is random, as such $y \in \mathbb{R}^M$ is also a random vector.
- A random vector simply means that each entry of the 1D array is random:
 - We will assume that they are independent but have the same distribution – independent and identically distributed (or i.i.d)

MAXIMUM LIKELIHOOD ESTIMATION HOW DOES IT WORK?

Discrete model of image formation:

$$y = Ax + n,$$

- $n \in \mathbb{R}^M$ is unknown random noise process,
- $\mathbf{y} \in \mathbb{R}^M$ is the measurement (measured image/signal)
- $x \in \mathbb{R}^N$ is the discretization of the unknown object
- $A \in \mathbb{R}^{M \times N}$ is the discrete forward model (for the imaging system)
- $lackbox{We assume that the expectation of the measurement }y\in\mathbb{R}^{M}$ is:

$$E\{y\} = Ax$$

- lacksquare Equivalent to saying the noise process $oldsymbol{n} \in \mathbb{R}^M$ has zero mean
- The distribution of $n \in \mathbb{R}^M$ is assumed to be known, which means the conditional distribution of y, denoted as $p_{y|x}(y\,|\,x) = p_n(y-Ax)$
- \triangleright Remember: x is unknown and we know measurement y:

$$\mathscr{L}(\mathbf{x}) = p_{\mathbf{y}|\mathbf{x}}(\mathbf{y}|\mathbf{x}) = p_{\mathbf{n}}(\mathbf{y} - A\mathbf{x})$$

The function $\mathcal{L}(x)$ is called the **likelihood function**.

MAXIMUM LIKELIHOOD ESTIMATION HOW DOES IT WORK?

Discrete model of image formation:

$$y = Ax + n,$$

Likelihood function:

$$\mathscr{L}(\mathbf{x}) = p_{\mathbf{y}|\mathbf{x}}(\mathbf{y}|\mathbf{x}) = p_{\mathbf{n}}(\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x})$$

- \triangleright Remember: x is known, thus one can pose the question:
 - Which x from the family of candidate/possible objects is most likely to have lead to the observed noisy measurement y?
 - This is the maximum likelihood (ML) estimate.
- Precisely, the **maximum likelihood estimate** of x is the object $x_{\rm ML}$ which maximizes the likelihood $\mathcal{L}(x)$ of obtaining the observed measurement/image.

HOW DOES IT WORK?

Discrete model of image formation:

$$y = Ax + n$$

Likelihood function:

$$\mathscr{L}(x) = p_{y|x}(y|x) = p_n(y - Ax)$$

Maximum likelihood estimate:

$$x_{\text{ML}} = \arg \max_{x} \mathcal{L}(x)$$

 $x_{\text{ML}} = \arg \min_{x} - \log(\mathcal{L}(x))$

- ▶ The second optimization (i.e., the minimization problem)
 - Dobtained by taking the natural logarithm and then multiplying by a minus sign (the multiplication by minus sign turns maximization into minimization).
 - It is often easier to solve (usually by using calculus) and so is the common approach.
 - \blacktriangleright Differentiating the negative log-likelihood w.r.t x and setting that to zero.

EXAMPLE 1: TOY ONE MEASUREMENT CASE

Consider the measurement model: y = ax + n, where the noise n is zero mean Gaussian random variable, i.e. $n \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma^2)$, y is the single measurement, the unknown is x, and a (our forward model) is a known scalar.

- 1. Write the noise density function: $p_n(n) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}} e^{-\frac{n^2}{2\sigma^2}}$ 2. Derive likelihood function: $\mathcal{L}(x) = p_n(y ax) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}} e^{-\frac{(y ax)^2}{2\sigma^2}}$
- Maximize $\mathcal{L}(x)$, or minimize its negative log-likelihood, i.e. minimize $-\log(\mathcal{L}(x))$
 - What is $\log(\mathcal{L}(x))$? $\log(\mathcal{L}(x)) = \log\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}}e^{-\frac{(y-ax)^2}{2\sigma^2}}\right) = -\log\left(\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}\right) + \log\left(e^{-\frac{(y-ax)^2}{2\sigma^2}}\right) = -\frac{1}{2}\log(2\pi\sigma^2) - \frac{1}{(2\sigma^2)(y-ax)^2}$
 - ii) Differentiate and set the negative log-likelihood to zero: $-\frac{\partial}{\partial x}\log(\mathcal{L}(x)) = -(y - ax)/\sigma^2 = 0$
 - iii) Solve the resulting equation: $-(y ax_{ML})/\sigma^2 = 0 \implies y ax_{ML} = 0$, and thus $x_{ML} = y/a$.

EXAMPLE 1: TOY ONE MEASUREMENT CASE

Consider the measurement model: y = ax + n, where the noise n is zero mean Gaussian random variable, i.e. $n \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma^2)$, y is the single measurement, the unknown is x, and a (our forward model) is a known scalar.

Solution steps:

- 1. Write the noise density function: $p_n(n) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}} e^{-\frac{n^2}{2\sigma^2}}$ 2. Derive likelihood function: $\mathcal{L}(x) = p_n(y ax) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}} e^{-\frac{(y ax)^2}{2\sigma^2}}$
- Maximize $\mathcal{L}(x)$, or minimize its negative log-likelihood, i.e. minimize $-\log(\mathcal{L}(x))$
 - In a handful of simple scenarios, one can simply read off the maximizer of the likelihood function. This is one of
 - ii) them!
 - iii) $\mathcal{L}(x)$ attains its maximum when $(y ax)^2 = 0$, which is

y/a.

v/a.

MAXIMUM LIKELIHOOD ESTIMATION **EXAMPLE 1: TOY ONE MEASUREMENT CASE IN GAUSSIAN NOISE**

Consider the measurement model: y = ax + n, where the noise n is zero mean Gaussian random variable, i.e. $n \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma^2)$, y is the single measurement, the unknown is x, and a (our forward model) is a known scalar.

- 1. Write the noise density function: $p_n(n) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}} e^{-\frac{n^2}{2\sigma^2}}$ 2. Derive likelihood function: $\mathcal{L}(x) = p_n(y ax) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}} e^{-\frac{(y ax)^2}{2\sigma^2}}$
- Maximize $\mathcal{L}(x)$, or minimize its negative log-likelihood, i.e. minimize $-\log(\mathcal{L}(x))$
 - More likely, in many realistic problems, is that we would need an iterative procedure to minimize the negative
 - ii) log-likelihood function, i.e. to solve:

$$x_{\text{ML}} = \arg\min_{x} - \log(\mathcal{L}(x))$$

EXAMPLE 2: VECTOR MEASUREMENT CASE IN GAUSSIAN NOISE

Consider the measurement model: y = Ax + n, where the noise vector $n \in \mathbb{R}^M$ has i.i.d entries, each a zero mean Gaussian random variable, i.e. $n \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma^2)$, $y \in \mathbb{R}^M$ is the measurement vector (measured image), the unknown object is $x \in \mathbb{R}^N$, and $A \in \mathbb{R}^{M \times N}$ is the model for the imaging system.

- 1. Write the noise density function: $p_n(n) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}} e^{-\frac{||n||^2}{2\sigma^2}}$
- 2. Derive likelihood function: $\mathcal{L}(\mathbf{x}) = p_n(\mathbf{y} A\mathbf{x}) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}} e^{-\frac{\|\mathbf{y} A\mathbf{x}\|^2}{2\sigma^2}}$
- 3. Minimize negative log-likelihood, i.e. minimize $-\log(\mathcal{L}(x))$
 - i) What is $\log(\mathcal{L}(x))$? $\log(\mathcal{L}(x)) = \log\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}}e^{-\frac{\|y-Ax\|^2}{2\sigma^2}}\right) = -\log\left(\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}\right) + \log\left(e^{-\frac{\|y-Ax\|^2}{2\sigma^2}}\right) = -1/2\log(2\pi\sigma^2) 1/(2\sigma^2)\|y-Ax\|^2$
 - ii) The minimization problem: $x_{\text{ML}} = \arg\min_{x} \frac{1}{2\sigma^2} ||y Ax||^2$ Problem can still be solved, in principle, by differentiating the objective function: $-\frac{\partial}{\partial x} \log(\mathcal{L}(x)) = -A^{\top}(y - Ax) / \sigma^2 = 0$
 - iii) Solve the resulting equation: $-A^{\top}(y Ax_{\text{ML}})/\sigma^2 = 0 \Rightarrow A^{\top}y A^{\top}Ax_{\text{ML}} = 0$.

Inverse

Iterative methods

AXIMUM LIKELIHOOD ESTIMATION

EXAMPLE 2: VECTOR MEASUREMENT CASE IN GAUSSIAN NOISE

Consider the measurement model: y = Ax + n, where the noise vector $n \in \mathbb{R}^M$ has i.i.d entries, each a zero mean Gaussian random variable, i.e. $n \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma^2)$, $y \in \mathbb{R}^M$ is the measurement vector (measured image), the unknown object is $x \in \mathbb{R}^N$, and $A \in \mathbb{R}^{M \times N}$ is the model for the imaging system.

- Write the noise density function: $p_n(n) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}} e^{-\frac{\|n\|^2}{2\sigma^2}}$ plethora of techniques to solve linear systems $\mathbf{\tilde{y}} = \tilde{A} \mathbf{x}_{\mathrm{ML}}$:
- Minimize negative log-likelihood, i.e. minimize $-\log(\mathcal{L}(x))$
 - What is $\log(\mathcal{L}(x))$?
 - $\log(\mathcal{L}(\mathbf{x})) = \log\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}}e^{-\frac{\|\mathbf{y} A\mathbf{x}\|^2}{2\sigma^2}}\right) = -\log\left(\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}\right) + \log\left(e^{-\frac{\|\mathbf{y} A\mathbf{x}\|^2}{2\sigma^2}}\right) = -1/2\log(2\pi\sigma^2) 1/(2\sigma^2)\|\mathbf{y} A\mathbf{x}\|^2$
 - ii) The minimization problem: $x_{\text{ML}} = \arg\min_{x} \frac{1}{2\sigma^2} ||y Ax||^2$ Problem can still be solved, in principle, by differentiating the objective function: $-\frac{\partial}{\partial x}\log(\mathcal{L}(x)) = -A^{\top}(y - Ax))/\sigma^2 = 0$
 - iii) Solve the resulting equation: $-A^{\top}(y Ax_{\text{ML}})/\sigma^2 = 0 \Rightarrow A^{\top}y A^{\top}Ax_{\text{ML}} = 0$.

EXAMPLE 3: VECTOR MEASUREMENT CASE IN GAUSSIAN NOISE 2

- Note that when the noise distribution is different, the ML estimate may also be different.
- ▶ For instance, if the distribution is Gaussian but the variances for each entry of the noise vector are different from each other

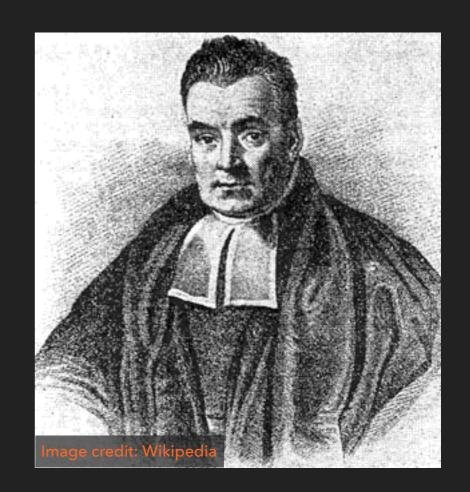
$$p_{\mathbf{n}}(\mathbf{n}) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}} e^{-\frac{\mathbf{n}^{\mathsf{T}}\boldsymbol{\Sigma}^{-1}\mathbf{n}^2}{2}},$$

where
$$\mathbf{\Sigma} = \begin{bmatrix} \sigma_1^2 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ 0 & \sigma_2^2 & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \cdots & \sigma_N^2 \end{bmatrix}$$
 is a diagonal matrix with entries.

In this case, the minimization of the negative log-likelihood function gives:

$$\mathbf{A}^{\mathsf{T}} \mathbf{\Sigma}^{-1} \mathbf{A} \mathbf{x}_{\mathrm{ML}} = \mathbf{A}^{\mathsf{T}} \mathbf{\Sigma}^{-1} \mathbf{y}$$

$$P(X|Y) = \frac{P(Y|X)P(X)}{P(Y)}$$



THE UNKNOWN OBJECT TO BE ESTIMATED IS ALSO A REALIZATION OF A RANDOM PROCESS

BAYESIAN METHODS

BAYESIAN METHODS

- The key distinguishing property of Bayesian methods is that the unknown object is assumed to be a realization of a random variable
 - A probability density/distribution can be used to encode any a priori information we we have about the unknown object
- Noise is still assumed to be a realization of a random process
- These can be leveraged for solving the inverse problem
- Need Bayes' rule

MAXIMUM A POSTERIORI (MAP) ESTIMATION

HOW DOES IT WORK?

Start with our usual discrete model of image formation:

$$y = Ax + n,$$

- where:
 - $n \in \mathbb{R}^M$ is unknown random noise process,
 - $\mathbf{y} \in \mathbb{R}^M$ is the measurement (measured image/signal)
 - $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^N$ is the discretization of the unknown object (random variable)
 - $A \in \mathbb{R}^{M \times N}$ is the discrete forward model (for the imaging system)
- The the object $x \in \mathbb{R}^N$ and noise term $n \in \mathbb{R}^M$ are random, as such $y \in \mathbb{R}^M$ is also a random vector.
- A random vector simply means that each entry of the 1D array is random:
 - We will assume that they are independent but have the same distribution – independent and identically distributed (or i.i.d)

MAXIMUM A POSTERIORI (MAP) ESTIMATION HOW DOES IT WORK?

Discrete model of image formation:

$$y = Ax + n$$

- lacksquare Assume noise process $oldsymbol{n} \in \mathbb{R}^M$ has zero mean
- The distribution of $n \in \mathbb{R}^M$ is assumed to be known, which means the conditional distribution of y, denoted as $p_{y|x}(y|x) = p_n(y Ax)$
- Assume a **prior** distribution for $x \in \mathbb{R}^N$ is known $p_x(x)$
- \blacktriangleright Then one can find a **conditional density** for x given the measurement y:

$$p_{x|y}(x|y) = \frac{p_{y|x}(y|x)p_{x}(x)}{p_{y}(y)} = \frac{p_{n}(y - Ax)p_{x}(x)}{p_{y}(y)}$$

- The function $p_{x|y}(x|y)$ is called the **posterior** (from 'a posteriori')
- The function $p_x(x)$ is called the **prior** (from 'a priori')
- The goal is to find the x the maximizes the posterior distribution this is called the **Maximum a posteriori (MAP) estimate** $x_{\rm MAP}$.

HOW DOES IT WORK?

Discrete model of image formation:

$$y = Ax + n$$

- The distribution of $n \in \mathbb{R}^M$ is assumed to be known, which means the conditional distribution of y, denoted as $p_{y|x}(y|x) = p_n(y Ax)$
- Write the **prior** distribution, $p_x(x)$, for $x \in \mathbb{R}^N$
- \blacktriangleright Derive the **posterior distribution** for x given the measurement y:

$$p_{x|y}(x|y) = \frac{p_n(y - Ax) p_x(x)}{p_v(y)}$$

Maximize (or minimize negative logarithm of) the posterior distribution, i.e.:

$$\mathbf{x}_{\text{MAP}} = \operatorname{arg\,min}_{\mathbf{x}} - \log\left(p_{\mathbf{n}}(\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x})\right) - \log\left(p_{\mathbf{x}}(\mathbf{x})\right) + \log\left(p_{\mathbf{y}}(\mathbf{y})\right)$$

ullet Note that we can simply ignore $\log\left(p_{y}(y)\right)$ because the minimization is over x:

$$x_{\text{MAP}} = \operatorname{arg\,min}_{x} - \log \left(p_{n} (y - Ax) \right) - \log \left(p_{x}(x) \right)$$

EXAMPLE 1: VECTOR MEASUREMENT CASE IN GAUSSIAN NOISE & GAUSSIAN PRIOR

- Consider the measurement model: y = Ax + n, where the noise vector $n \in \mathbb{R}^M$ has i.i.d entries, each a zero mean Gaussian random variable, i.e. $n \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \Sigma_n^2)$, $y \in \mathbb{R}^M$ is the measurement vector (measured image), the unknown object is $x \in \mathbb{R}^N$, and $A \in \mathbb{R}^{M \times N}$ is the model for the imaging system. Assume a Gaussian prior distribution for $x \in \mathbb{R}^N$, i.e $x \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \Sigma_x^2)$
- Σ_x and Σ_n are covariance matrices (they are symmetric and positive definite).

EXAMPLE 1: VECTOR MEASUREMENT CASE IN GAUSSIAN NOISE & GAUSSIAN PRIOR

Solution steps:

- 1. Write the noise density function: $p_n(n) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\Sigma_n}} e^{-\frac{n^{\top}\Sigma_n^{-1}n}{2}}$
- 2. Derive conditional density: $p_{y|x}(y|x) = p_n(y Ax) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\Sigma_n}} e^{-\frac{(y Ax)^T\Sigma_n^{-1}(y Ax)}{2}}$
- 3. Write down the prior distribution: $p_x(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\Sigma_x}} e^{-\frac{\mathbf{v}_{x^{\top}\Sigma_x^{-1}x}}{2}}$
- 4. Derive the posterior distribution:

$$p_{x|y}(x \mid y) = \frac{1}{p_{y}(y)} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi \Sigma_{n}}} e^{-\frac{(y - Ax)^{\mathsf{T}} \Sigma_{n}^{-1} (y - Ax)}{2}} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi \Sigma_{x}}} e^{-\frac{x^{\mathsf{T}} \Sigma_{x}^{-1} x}{2}}$$

i) Taking its negative natural logarithm?

$$-\log(p_{x|y}(x|x)) = \frac{1}{2}(y - Ax)^{\mathsf{T}} \mathbf{\Sigma}_n^{-1}(y - Ax) + \frac{1}{2}x^{\mathsf{T}} \mathbf{\Sigma}_x^{-1} x$$

ii) The minimization problem:

$$\mathbf{x}_{\text{MAP}} = \arg\min_{\mathbf{x}} \frac{1}{2} (\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x})^{\mathsf{T}} \mathbf{\Sigma}_{n}^{-1} (\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}) + \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{x}^{\mathsf{T}} \mathbf{\Sigma}_{x}^{-1} \mathbf{x}$$

EXAMPLE 1: VECTOR MEASUREMENT CASE IN GAUSSIAN NOISE & GAUSSIAN PRIOR

Solution steps:

1. Derive the posterior distribution:

$$p_{x|y}(x|y) = \frac{1}{p_{y}(y)} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\Sigma_{n}}} e^{-\frac{(y-Ax)^{T}\Sigma_{n}^{-1}(y-Ax)}{2}} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\Sigma_{x}}} e^{-\frac{x^{T}\Sigma_{x}^{-1}x}{2}}$$

i) Taking its negative natural logarithm?

$$-\log(p_{x|y}(x|x)) = \frac{1}{2}(y - Ax)^{\mathsf{T}} \mathbf{\Sigma}_n^{-1}(y - Ax) + \frac{1}{2}x^{\mathsf{T}} \mathbf{\Sigma}_x^{-1} x$$

ii) The minimization problem:

$$\boldsymbol{x}_{\text{MAP}} = \arg\min_{\boldsymbol{x}} \frac{1}{2} (\boldsymbol{y} - \boldsymbol{A}\boldsymbol{x})^{\top} \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{n}^{-1} (\boldsymbol{y} - \boldsymbol{A}\boldsymbol{x}) + \frac{1}{2} \boldsymbol{x}^{\top} \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{x}^{-1} \boldsymbol{x}$$

The minimization can be solved, in principle, by differentiating:

$$\mathbf{x}_{\text{MAP}} = \left(\mathbf{A}^{\mathsf{T}} \mathbf{\Sigma}_{n}^{-1} \mathbf{A} + \mathbf{\Sigma}_{x}^{-1}\right)^{-1} \mathbf{A}^{\mathsf{T}} \mathbf{\Sigma}_{n}^{-1} \mathbf{y}$$

 (Again if the distributions are different, the MAP estimate will also be different.)

EXAMPLE 1: VECTOR MEASUREMENT CASE IN GAUSSIAN NOISE & GAUSSIAN PRIOR

Consider the MAP estimate

$$\mathbf{x}_{\text{MAP}} = \left(\mathbf{A}^{\mathsf{T}} \mathbf{\Sigma}_{n}^{-1} \mathbf{A} + \mathbf{\Sigma}_{x}^{-1}\right)^{-1} \mathbf{A}^{\mathsf{T}} \mathbf{\Sigma}_{n}^{-1} \mathbf{y}$$

- When the noise elements have equal variance is equal, i.e. $\Sigma_n = \sigma_n^2 I$ is diagonal, and
- The prior distribution has equal variance $\Sigma_x = \sigma_x^2 I$, then the MAP estimate becomes:

$$\boldsymbol{x}_{\text{MAP}} = \left(\boldsymbol{A}^{\mathsf{T}}\boldsymbol{A} + \frac{\sigma_n^2}{\sigma_x^2}\boldsymbol{I}\right)^{-1} \boldsymbol{A}^{\mathsf{T}}\boldsymbol{y}$$

Notice that this coincides with the **Tikhonov regularized solution** with $\lambda = \sigma_n^2/\sigma_x^2$.

WHAT WE COVERED TODAY

- Statistical estimation methods
 - Maximum likelihood estimation
 - Maximum a posteriori estimation



TILL NEXT TIME

LINEAR SHIFT VARYING (LSV) IMAGING SYSTEMS