Statistical Modeling 2
Exercise 2

February 3, 2017

1 A simple Gaussian location model

A

The joint prior over the mean parameter θ and precision parameter ω is:

$$p(\theta, \omega) \approx \omega^{(d+1)/2-1} \exp\left\{-\omega \frac{\kappa(\theta-\mu)^2}{2}\right\} \exp\left\{-\omega \frac{\eta}{2}\right\}$$

To get the marginal prior, we integrate out the parameter ω:

$$\begin{aligned}
p(\theta) &\propto \int_0^\infty \omega^{(d+1)/2-1} \exp\left\{-\omega \frac{\kappa(\theta-\mu)^2+\eta}{2}\right\} \\
&\propto \left(\frac{\kappa(\theta-\mu)^2+\eta}{2}\right)^{-(d+1)/2} \\
&= \left(\frac{\eta}{2} + \frac{\kappa(\theta-\mu)^2}{2}\right)^{-(d+1)/2} \\
&= \left(1 + \frac{\kappa(\theta-\mu)^2}{\eta}\right)^{-(d+1)/2} \left(\frac{\eta}{2}\right)^{-(d+1)/2} \\
&\propto \left(1 + \frac{\kappa(\theta-\mu)^2}{\eta}\right)^{-(d+1)/2} \\
&= \left(1 + \frac{1}{d}\frac{\kappa(\theta-\mu)^2}{\eta}\right)^{-(d+1)/2}
\end{aligned}$$

Let $\nu = d, m = \mu$ and $s = \sqrt{\eta/\kappa}$, we have a Student t distribution with ν degrees of freedom and scale s:

$$p(\theta) \propto \left(1 + \frac{1}{\nu}\frac{(\theta-m)^2}{s^2}\right)^{-(\nu+1)/2}$$

B

The sampling model is:

$$(y_i \mid \theta, \omega) \sim N(\theta, 1/\omega)$$

where $y_1, \ldots, y_n$ are the datapoints, θ is the mean and ω is the precision. We have that the likelihood for all the datapoints can be written as:

$$\begin{aligned}
p(\mathbf{y} \mid \theta, \omega) &\propto \prod_{i=1}^{n} \omega^{1/2} \exp\left\{-\frac{1}{2}\omega(y_i - \theta)^2\right\} \\
&= \omega^{n/2} \exp\left\{-\frac{1}{2}\omega \sum_{i=1}^{n}(y_i - \theta)^2\right\} \\
&= \omega^{n/2} \exp\left\{-\frac{1}{2}\omega \left(\sum_{i=1}^{n} y_i^2 + \sum_{i=1}^{n}\theta^2 - 2\sum_{i=1}^{n} y_i\theta\right)\right\} \\
&= \omega^{n/2} \exp\left\{-\frac{1}{2}\omega \left(\sum_{i=1}^{n} y_i^2 + n\theta^2 - 2n\overline{y}\theta + n\overline{y}^2 - n\overline{y}^2\right)\right\}
\end{aligned}$$

where $\overline{y} = \left(\sum_{i=1}^{n} y_i\right)/n$. Let $S_y = \sum_{i=1}^{n}(y_i - \overline{y})^2$, we have:

$$\begin{aligned}
S_y &= \sum_{i=1}^{n} y_i^2 + n\overline{y}^2 - 2\sum_{i=1}^{n} y_i\overline{y} \\
&= \sum_{i=1}^{n} y_i^2 - n\overline{y}^2
\end{aligned}$$

Therefore, the likelihood is:

$$\begin{aligned}
p(\mathbf{y} \mid \theta, \omega) &= \omega^{n/2} \exp\left\{-\frac{1}{2}\omega \left[S_y + n(\theta^2 - 2\overline{y}\theta + \overline{y}^2)\right]\right\} \\
&= \omega^{n/2} \exp\left\{-\frac{1}{2}\omega \left[S_y + n(\overline{y} - \theta)^2\right]\right\}
\end{aligned}$$

The posterior is proportional to the product of the likelihood and the prior:

$$p(\theta, \omega \mid \mathbf{y}) \propto \omega^{(d+1)/2-1} \exp\left\{-\omega\frac{\kappa(\theta - \mu)^2}{2}\right\} \exp\left\{-\omega\frac{\eta}{2}\right\}$$