



Department of Applied Mathematics  
and Theoretical Physics

Hanne Kekkonen & Yury Korolev

**Inverse Problems**

Example sheet 4

Presentation **20 Jan. 2020, 2-3:30pm, MR15.**

**Exercise 1 (Gaussian model)**

Assume that we observe measurement  $F = AU + N$ , where  $A : \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^k$  is a known matrix,  $N \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \Sigma_n)$  and  $U \sim \pi = \mathcal{N}(\theta_u, \Sigma_u)$ , where  $\Sigma_n$  and  $\Sigma_u$  are both invertible.

i) Show that the posterior covariance  $\Sigma$  and mean  $\bar{u}$  can be written as

$$\Sigma = (A^\top \Sigma_n^{-1} A + \Sigma_u^{-1})^{-1}$$

and

$$\bar{u} = \Sigma(A^\top \Sigma_n^{-1} f + \Sigma_u^{-1} \theta_u).$$

ii) What happens on the small noise limit  $\delta \rightarrow 0$ ,  $\Sigma_n = \delta^2 \Sigma_0$ , if we assume that  $k = n$  and  $A$  invertible?

iii) What happens if we only assume that  $\text{null}(A) = \{0\}$ ?

**Exercise 2 (Underdetermined Gaussian model\*)**

Assume the same model as in 1. but this time  $F \in \mathbb{R}^k$  and  $U \in \mathbb{R}^d$  with  $k < d$ , and  $\text{rank}(A) = k$ . We can then write

$$A = (A_0 \ 0)Q^\top,$$

with  $Q \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times d}$  being an orthonormal matrix,  $Q^\top Q = I$ , and  $A_0 \in \mathbb{R}^{k \times k}$  an invertible matrix. We denote  $L_u = \Sigma_u^{-1}$  and write

$$Q^\top L_u Q = \begin{bmatrix} L_{11} & L_{12} \\ L_{12}^\top & L_{22} \end{bmatrix}, \quad L_{11} \in \mathbb{R}^{k \times k}, \quad L_{22} \in \mathbb{R}^{(d-k) \times (d-k)}.$$

We also write  $Q = (Q_1 \ Q_2)$  with  $Q_1 \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times k}$  and  $Q_2 \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times (d-k)}$ . Define  $z \in \mathbb{R}^k$  to be the unique solution of  $A_0 z = f$ . Let  $w \in \mathbb{R}^k$  and  $w' \in \mathbb{R}^{d-k}$  be defined via  $\Sigma_u^{-1} \theta_u = Q(w \ w')^\top$ . Show that on the small noise limit  $\delta \rightarrow 0$ ,  $\Sigma_n = \delta^2 \Sigma_0$ ,

$$\Pi^f \rightarrow \mathcal{N}(\bar{\theta}_f, \bar{\Sigma}_f)$$

where

$$\bar{\theta}_f = Q(z \ z')^\top \quad \text{and} \quad \bar{\Sigma}_f = Q_2 L_{22}^{-1} Q_2^\top.$$

Above  $z' = -L_{22}^{-1} L_{12}^\top z + L_{22}^{-1} w' \in \mathbb{R}^{d-k}$ .

---

**Exercise 3 (Estimators)**

Let  $U \in \mathbb{R}$  and assume that the posterior distribution is given by

$$\pi^f(u) = \frac{c}{\sigma_1} \varphi\left(\frac{u}{\sigma_1}\right) + \frac{1-c}{\sigma_2} \varphi\left(\frac{u-1}{\sigma_2}\right),$$

where  $0 < c < 1$ ,  $\sigma_1, \sigma_2 > 0$  and  $\varphi$  is density function of standard normal distribution  $\varphi(u) = (2\pi)^{-1/2} \exp(-u^2/2)$ . Calculate the conditional mean (CM) and maximum a posterior (MAP) estimates, and the posterior variance. Does MAP or CM always give a better estimator for  $u$ ?

**Exercise 4 (Sampling)**

Let  $V$  be a real valued random variable with probability density  $\pi(v)$ , such that  $\pi(v) = 0$  only at isolated points. We define the cumulative distribution function

$$\Phi(t) = \int_{-\infty}^t \pi(v) dv.$$

Define a new random variable  $T = \Phi(V)$ . Show that  $T \sim \mathcal{U}([0, 1])$ .

**Exercise 5 (Hyperpriors)**

Assume that we observe a measurement  $F + AU + N$  and the null space of  $A$  is zero. We model  $U \sim \mathcal{U}$ , where  $\mathcal{U}$  is uninformative and improper prior with constant density on  $\mathbb{R}^d$ , that is,  $\pi(u) = c > 0$ . Furthermore, assume that  $N | \delta \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \delta^2 I)$ , where  $\delta > 0$  is unknown. The noise amplitude is modelled by assuming  $1/\delta^2 = \gamma \sim \Gamma(\alpha, \beta)$ , where  $\alpha, \beta > 0$ , and  $\Gamma(\alpha, \beta)$  is the Gamma distribution, with the density

$$\pi_h(\gamma) \propto \gamma^{\alpha-1} \exp(-\beta\gamma).$$

Write down the posterior distribution  $\pi^f(u, \gamma)$  and the densities of  $u | \gamma, f$  and  $\gamma | u, f$ . Give the MAP estimators for  $u$  and  $\gamma$ .

**Exercise 6 (Towards continuous models 1)**

The Lebesgue measure  $\nu_n$  on Euclidean space  $\mathbb{R}^n$  is countably additive and translation invariant. Show that there is no analogue of Lebesgue measure on infinite-dimensional Banach space  $X$ .

**Exercise 7 (Towards continuous models 2)**

Let  $U \sim \mathcal{N}(0, I)$ , where  $0 \in \mathbb{R}^d$  and  $I \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times d}$  is identity matrix. Where does most of the probability mass lie when  $d$  is large? Hint: What happens to the volume of  $d$ -dimensional unit ball  $B_d(0, 1)$  when  $d \rightarrow \infty$ ?

**Exercise 8 (Hellinger distance 1)**

Let  $\mu$  and  $\mu'$  be two probability measures on a separable Banach space  $X$ . Let  $(Y, \|\cdot\|)$  be a separable Banach space and assume that  $g : X \rightarrow Y$  is measurable and has second moments with respect to both  $\mu$  and  $\mu'$ . Show that

$$\|\mathbb{E}^\mu(g) - \mathbb{E}^{\mu'}(g)\| \leq 2 \left( \mathbb{E}^\mu \|g\|^2 + \mathbb{E}^{\mu'} \|g\|^2 \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} d_{Hell}(\mu, \mu'),$$

---

**Exercise 9 (Hellinger distance 2)**

Assume that the measures  $\mu'$  and  $\mu$  are equivalent, that is,  $\mu' \ll \mu$  and  $\mu \ll \mu'$ . The Kullback–Leibler divergence between  $\mu'$  and  $\mu$  is defined as

$$D_{KL}(\mu' || \mu) = \int \log \left( \frac{d\mu'}{d\mu} \right) d\mu'.$$

Is  $D_{KL}$  a metric? Assume that the measures  $\mu'$  and  $\mu$  are equivalent. Show that

$$d_{Hel}(\mu, \mu')^2 \leq \frac{1}{2} D_{KL}(\mu || \mu').$$

**Exercise 10 (Matlab exercises)**

1. Sample from  $\ell^1$ , Cauchy and Gaussian priors using Matlab. Plot the samples as a 2D image.
2. Assume that we have a posterior distribution with density

$$\pi(x, y) = \exp \left( -10(x^2 - y)^2 - (y - 1/4)^4 \right).$$

Write a Metropolis–Hastings algorithm to sample from  $\pi$  using the pseudocode given in Example 6.5.3. Try your code with different choices of  $\gamma$  and plot the first co-ordinates of the samples. What do you notice? What percentage of the suggested moves is accepted?