
TNM Exercise 5: Variational Bayes

Saurabh Vaishampayan (svaishampaya@student.ethz.ch)

Linus Rüttimann (rlinus@student.ethz.ch)

Elia Torre (etorre@student.ethz.ch)

Timothy Kurer (tkurer@student.ethz.ch)

Group H

24.04.2023

Ex 5.1

We include the scans for handwritten solutions to all problems of Ex5.1 below

Σ

TNU Ex 5

1. $y = \mu + \varepsilon$, $\varepsilon \sim N(\varepsilon; \frac{1}{\tau})$

$y \sim N(\mu; \frac{1}{\tau})$

$$p(y|\mu, \tau) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi} \cdot \frac{1}{\tau}} e^{-\frac{(\mu-y)^2 \tau}{2}}$$
$$\log p(y|\mu, \tau) = -\frac{\tau}{2} \frac{(y-\mu)^2}{2} + \log \sqrt{\frac{\tau}{2\pi}}$$
$$= \frac{1}{2} \log \tau - \frac{\tau}{2} \frac{(y-\mu)^2}{2} - \frac{1}{2} \log 2\pi$$
$$\underline{y} = (y_1, y_2, \dots, y_N)^T$$
$$\log p(\underline{y}|\mu, \tau) = \sum_{i=1}^N \log \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi} \cdot \frac{1}{\tau}} p(y_i|\mu, \tau) = \sum_{i=1}^N \log p(y_i|\mu, \tau)$$
$$= \sum_{i=1}^N \left(\frac{1}{2} \log \tau - \frac{\tau}{2} \frac{(y_i - \mu)^2}{2} - \frac{1}{2} \log 2\pi \right)$$
$$= \frac{N}{2} \log \tau - \frac{N}{2} \log 2\pi - \frac{\tau}{2} \sum_{i=1}^N (y_i - \mu)^2$$

$$b) \quad p(\theta) = \sqrt{\frac{\lambda_0 \tau}{2\pi}} e^{-\frac{\lambda_0 \tau}{2} (\mu - \mu_0)^2} \frac{b_0^{a_0} \tau^{a_0-1}}{\Gamma(a_0)} e^{-b_0 \tau}$$

$$\log p(\theta) = -\frac{\lambda_0 \tau}{2} (\mu - \mu_0)^2 - b_0 \tau + \frac{1}{2} \log \frac{\tau}{2\pi} + \frac{1}{2} \log \lambda_0 \\ + a_0 \log b_0 + (a_0 - 1) \log \tau - \log \Gamma(a_0)$$

$$\log p(y, \theta) = \log p(\theta) p(y|\theta) = \log p(\theta) + \log p(y|\theta) \\ = -\frac{\lambda_0 \tau}{2} (\mu - \mu_0)^2 - \frac{\tau}{2} \sum_{i=1}^n (\mu - y_i)^2 + \frac{(N+1)}{2} \log \frac{\tau}{2\pi} \\ + (a_0 - 1) \log \tau - b_0 \tau + \underbrace{\frac{1}{2} \log \lambda_0 + a_0 \log b_0 - \log \Gamma(a_0)}_{\text{const}}$$

$$c) \quad q(\theta) = q(\mu) q(\tau)$$

We know that under mean field approximation,
optimal approximate posterior for k^{th} subset of param.

$$\ln q_k^*(\theta_k) = E[\ln p(\theta, y)]_{q_1, \dots, q_{k-1}, q_{k+1}, \dots, q_M} + \text{const}$$

To find $q^*(\mu)$

$$\ln q^*(\mu) = E[\ln p(\theta, y)]_{\tau} + \text{const}$$

$$E_{\tau}[\ln p(\theta, y)] = E_{\tau} \left[-\frac{\lambda_0 \tau}{2} (\mu - \mu_0)^2 - \frac{\tau}{2} \sum_{i=1}^n (\mu - y_i)^2 + \frac{(N+1)}{2} \log \frac{\tau}{2\pi} \right. \\ \left. + (a_0 - 1) \log \tau - b_0 \tau + \frac{1}{2} \log \lambda_0 + a_0 \log b_0 - \log \Gamma(a_0) \right]$$

$$= E_{\tau} \left[\underbrace{-\frac{\lambda_0 \tau}{2} (\mu - \mu_0)^2 - \frac{\tau}{2} \sum_{i=1}^n (\mu - y_i)^2}_{\text{I}} + \underbrace{\frac{(N+1) \log \tau}{2} + (a_0-1) \log \tau}_{\text{II}} - b_0 \tau + \text{const} \right]$$

$E_{\tau} [\text{I}]$ will yield a function of μ .

$E_{\tau} [\text{II}]$ is a constant function w.r.t μ .

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore E_{\tau} [\ln p(\theta, y)] &= E_{\tau} \left[-\frac{\lambda_0 \tau}{2} (\mu - \mu_0)^2 - \frac{\tau}{2} \sum_{i=1}^n (\mu - y_i)^2 \right] + \text{const} \\ &= -\frac{1}{2} E_{\tau} [\tau] \left(\sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - \mu)^2 + \lambda_0 (\mu - \mu_0)^2 \right) + \text{const} \end{aligned}$$

$$\ln q^*(\mu) = E_{\tau} [\ln p(\theta, y)] + \text{const}$$

$$= -\frac{1}{2} E_{\tau} [\tau] \left(\sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - \mu)^2 + \lambda_0 (\mu - \mu_0)^2 \right) + \text{const}$$

$$d) \quad \ln q^*(\mu) = -\frac{1}{2} \underbrace{E_{\tau} [\tau]}_{\bar{\tau}} \left(\sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - \mu)^2 + \lambda_0 (\mu - \mu_0)^2 \right) + \text{const}$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - \mu)^2 = N\mu^2 - 2\mu \sum_{i=1}^n y_i + \sum_{i=1}^n y_i^2$$

$$= N\mu^2 -$$

$$\lambda_0 (\mu - \mu_0)^2 = \lambda_0 \mu^2 - 2\lambda_0 \mu_0 \mu + \lambda_0 \mu_0^2$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\therefore \ln q^*(\mu) &= -\frac{\bar{c}}{2} \left[N\mu^2 + \lambda_0 \mu^2 - 2\lambda_0 \mu_0 \mu - 2\mu \sum_{i=1}^N y_i + \sum_{i=1}^N y_i^2 + \lambda_0^* \mu_0^2 \right] + \text{const} \\
&= -\frac{\bar{c}}{2} \left[(N + \lambda_0) \mu^2 - 2\mu (\lambda_0 \mu_0 + N \bar{y}) \right] + \text{const} \\
&= -\frac{\bar{c}}{2} (N + \lambda_0) \mu^2 + \bar{c} \mu (\lambda_0 \mu_0 + N \bar{y})
\end{aligned}$$

e) To check if $\ln q^*(\mu)$ corresponds to $q^*(\mu)$ Gaussian

We assume $q^*(\mu) \sim N(m, s^2)$.

If $\ln \mathcal{N}(m, s^2)$ indeed matches the above ~~then~~ for some m, s^2 , then $q^*(\mu)$ is gaussian with $\mathcal{N}(m, s^2)$

$$\begin{aligned}
\ln \mathcal{N}(\mu; m, s^2) &= \ln \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi} s} e^{-\frac{(\mu-m)^2}{2s^2}} \\
&= -\frac{(\mu-m)^2}{2s^2} - \ln s - \frac{1}{2} \ln 2\pi.
\end{aligned}$$

$$\text{In eq (7)} \quad = -\frac{1}{2s^2} \mu^2 + \frac{m}{s^2} \mu.$$

Matching coefficients with eq 7 from exercise sheet.

$$\begin{aligned}
\frac{1}{s^2} &= \bar{c} (N + \lambda_0) & \Rightarrow & s^2 = \frac{1}{\bar{c} (N + \lambda_0)} \\
\frac{m}{s^2} &= \bar{c} (\lambda_0 \mu_0 + N \bar{y}) & m &= \frac{\lambda_0 \mu_0 + N \bar{y}}{N + \lambda_0}
\end{aligned}$$

f) As before, under mean-field approx we have

$$\ln q^*(\tau) = E_{\mu} [\ln p(\theta, y)] + \text{const}$$

$$= E_{\mu} \left[-\frac{\lambda_0 \tau}{2} (\mu - \mu_0)^2 - \frac{\tau}{2} \sum_{i=1}^N (\mu - y_i)^2 + \frac{(N+1) \log \tau}{2} + (a_0 - 1) \log \tau - b_0 \tau + \text{const} \right] + \text{const}$$

$$= -\frac{\tau}{2} E_{\mu} \left[\sum_{i=1}^N (y_i - \mu)^2 + \lambda_0 (\mu - \mu_0)^2 \right]$$

$$+ E_{\mu} \left[\frac{(N+1) \log \tau}{2} + (a_0 - 1) \log \tau - b_0 \tau \right] + \text{const}$$

independent of μ

$$\boxed{\ln q^*(\tau) = -\frac{\tau}{2} E_{\mu} \left[\sum_{i=1}^N (y_i - \mu)^2 + \lambda_0 (\mu - \mu_0)^2 \right] + \left[\frac{(N+1)}{2} + (a_0 - 1) \right] \log \tau - b_0 \tau + \text{const}}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{g) } E_{\mu} \left[\sum_{i=1}^N (y_i - \mu)^2 \right] &= \sum_{i=1}^N E[(y_i - \mu)^2] \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^N [(y_i - m)^2 + s^2] = \sum_{i=1}^N (y_i - m)^2 + N s^2 \end{aligned}$$

$$E_{\mu} [\lambda_0 (\mu - \mu_0)^2] = \lambda_0 [(\mu_0 - m)^2 + s^2]$$

$$\begin{aligned} \therefore \ln q^*(\tau) &= -\frac{\tau}{2} \left[\sum_{i=1}^N (y_i - m)^2 + \lambda_0 (\mu_0 - m)^2 + (N + \lambda_0) s^2 \right] \\ &\quad - b_0 \tau + \left(a_0 + \frac{N+1}{2} - 1 \right) \log \tau + \text{const.} \end{aligned}$$

$$h) \text{ Gam}(\tau|a, b) = \frac{b^a \tau^{a-1}}{\Gamma(a)} e^{-b\tau}$$

As before we compare $\log \text{Gam}(\tau|a, b)$ to $\log q^*(\tau)$ and see if they match for some a, b .

$$\log \text{Gam}(\tau|a, b) = a \log b + (a-1) \log \tau - b\tau - \log \Gamma(a).$$

$$\log q^*(\tau) = -\tau \left[b_0 + \frac{1}{2} \left(\sum_{n=1}^N (y_n - m)^2 + \lambda_0 (\mu_0 - m)^2 + (N + \lambda_0) s^2 \right) \right] \\ + \left(a_0 + \frac{N+1}{2} - 1 \right) \log \tau + \text{const.}$$

Matching coeff for τ and $\log \tau$

$$-b = - \left(b_0 + \frac{1}{2} \left(\sum_{n=1}^N (y_n - m)^2 + \lambda_0 (\mu_0 - m)^2 + (N + \lambda_0) s^2 \right) \right)$$

$$a-1 = a_0 + \frac{N+1}{2} - 1 \Rightarrow a = a_0 + \frac{N+1}{2}.$$

$$b = b_0 + \frac{1}{2} \left(\sum_{n=1}^N (y_n - m)^2 + \lambda_0 (\mu_0 - m)^2 + (N + \lambda_0) s^2 \right)$$

$$i) \quad \mathcal{F} = \mathbb{E}_q[\ln p(y|\theta)] - \text{KL}(q(\theta) \| p(\theta))$$

$$\mathbb{E}_q[\ln p(y|\theta)] = \int q(\mu)q(\tau) \ln p(y|\theta) d\mu d\tau$$

$$= \int q(\mu)q(\tau) \log p(y|\mu, \tau) d\mu d\tau$$

$$= \int q(\mu)q(\tau) \left[\frac{N}{2} \log \tau - \frac{\tau}{2} \sum_{n=1}^N (y_n - \mu)^2 - \frac{N}{2} \log 2\pi \right] d\mu d\tau$$

$$= \frac{N}{2} \int q(\tau) \log \tau d\tau - \frac{N}{2} \log 2\pi - \int \left(\int q(\tau) \tau d\tau \right) \frac{1}{2} \left(\sum_{n=1}^N (y_n - \mu)^2 \right) d\mu$$

$$= \frac{N}{2} \mathbb{E}_\tau[\log \tau] - \frac{N}{2} \log 2\pi - \mathbb{E}_\tau[\tau] \mathbb{E}_\mu \left[\frac{1}{2} \sum_{n=1}^N (y_n - \mu)^2 \right]$$

$$\text{KL}(q(\theta) \| p(\theta)) = \int q(\mu)q(\tau) \ln \frac{q(\mu)q(\tau)}{p(\theta|\mu, \tau)} d\mu d\tau$$

$$= \int q(\mu)q(\tau) \ln q(\tau) q(\mu) d\mu d\tau$$

$$+ \int q(\mu)q(\tau) \ln p(\tau, \mu) d\mu d\tau$$

$$= \mathbb{E}_\mu[\log q(\mu)] + \mathbb{E}_\tau[\log q(\tau)]$$

$$+ \int q(\mu)q(\tau) \ln p(\tau, \mu) d\mu d\tau$$

$$\int q(\theta) \ln p(\theta) d\theta$$

$$= \int q(\mu) q(\tau) \left[-\frac{\lambda_0 \tau}{2} (\mu - \mu_0)^2 - b_0 \tau + \frac{1}{2} \log \frac{\tau}{2\pi} + \frac{1}{2} \log \lambda_0 \right. \\ \left. + a_0 \log b_0 + (a_0 - 1) \log \tau - \log \Gamma(a_0) \right] d\mu d\tau$$

$$= \int q(\mu) q(\tau) \left[-\frac{\lambda_0 \tau}{2} (\mu - \mu_0)^2 - b_0 \tau + (a_0 - 1 + \frac{1}{2}) \log \tau - \frac{1}{2} \log 2\pi \right. \\ \left. + a_0 \log b_0 + \frac{1}{2} \log \lambda_0 - \log \Gamma(a_0) \right] d\mu d\tau$$

$$= E_\mu E_\tau \left[-\frac{\lambda_0 \tau}{2} (\mu - \mu_0)^2 \right] + E_\tau \left[-b_0 \tau + (a_0 - 1 + \frac{1}{2}) \log \tau \right] \\ - \frac{1}{2} \log 2\pi + a_0 \log b_0 + \frac{1}{2} \log \lambda_0 - \log \Gamma(a_0)$$

$$\therefore \mathcal{F} = E_q [\log p(y|\theta)] - KL(q||p)$$

$$= E_q [\log p(y|\theta)] + \cancel{E_q [\log q]} + E_q [\log p(\theta)]$$

$$= \frac{N}{2} E_\tau [\log \tau] - \frac{N}{2} \log 2\pi - E_\tau [\tau] E_\mu \left[\frac{1}{2} \sum_{n=1}^N (y_n - \mu)^2 \right]$$

$$- E_\tau [\log q(\tau)] - E_\mu [\log q(\mu)] + E_\mu \left[-\frac{\lambda_0}{2} E_\tau [\tau] (\mu - \mu_0)^2 \right]$$

$$+ E_\tau [-b_0 \tau] + E_\tau [\log \tau] (a_0 - 1 + \frac{1}{2}) - \frac{1}{2} \log 2\pi + a_0 \log b_0 \\ + \frac{1}{2} \log \lambda_0 - \log \Gamma(a_0)$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \mathcal{F} = & \left(\frac{N+1}{2} + a_0 - 1 \right) E_{\tau}[\log \tau] - E_{\tau}[\tau] \left(2b_0 + E_{\mu} \left[\sum_{n=1}^N (y_n - \mu)^2 \right] \right) \\
 & - \left(\frac{N+1}{2} \right) \log 2\pi - \log \Gamma(a_0) + a_0 \log b_0 + \frac{1}{2} \log \lambda_0 \\
 & - E_{\mu}[\log q(\mu)] - E_{\tau}[\log q(\tau)]
 \end{aligned}$$

Ex 5.2

a)

```
%Exercise (a)

mu = 1;
tau = 1;
N = 10;
epsilon = randn(N, 1);
y = mu + epsilon;
disp(y);
```

b) c) d) and e) with parameters initialization to the prior.

```
%Exercise (b) (c) (d) (e) (prior initial values)

% Prior hyperparameters
mu0 = 0;
lambda0 = 3;
a0 = 2;
b0 = 2;
N = length(y);
ybar = mean(y);

% Initial values
m = mu0;
s2 = b0/(a0*lambda0);
a = a0;
b = b0;

% Define log-gamma function for numerical stability
lgamma = @(x) gammaLn(x);

% Iterate until convergence
maxiter = 1000;
threshold = 10e-3;
free_energy = zeros(maxiter, 1);
for iter = 1:maxiter
    s2 = 1 / ((a/b) * (N + lambda0));
    m = ((lambda0 * mu0) + N*ybar) / (lambda0 + N);
    mu = normrnd(m, sqrt(s2));
    a = a0 + (N + 1) / 2;
    b = b0 + (1/2) * (sum((y - m).^2) + lambda0 * (mu0 - m)^2 + (N + lambda0) * s2);
    tau = gamrnd(a, 1 / b);
    s = sqrt(s2);
    free_energy(iter) = -a*log(b) + lgamma(a) - lgamma(a0) + a0*log(b0) + 0.5*log(lambda0) + log(s) - (N/2)*log(2*pi) + 0.5;
    if iter > 1 && abs(free_energy(iter) - free_energy(iter-1)) < threshold
        break;
    end
end

fprintf('Final estimate of m: %f\n', m);
fprintf('Final estimate of s2: %f\n', s2);
fprintf('Final estimate of mu: %f\n', mu);
fprintf('Final estimate of a: %f\n', a);
fprintf('Final estimate of b: %f\n', b);
fprintf('Final estimate of tau: %f\n', tau);
fprintf('Final estimate of tau_mean: %f\n', (a/b));
fprintf('Free energy: %f\n', free_energy(iter));
```

```
Final estimate of m: 0.309630
Final estimate of s2: 0.037901
Final estimate of mu: 0.442003
Final estimate of a: 7.500000
Final estimate of b: 3.679477
Final estimate of tau: 2.063539
Final estimate of tau_mean: 2.038333
Free energy: -10.626591
```

Parameters initialization at random and results.

```
% Initial values
n = 4;
x = 1;
y = 10;
z = x + (y-x)*rand(n,1);
m = z(1);
s2 = z(2);
a = z(3);
b = z(4);
```

```
Final estimate of m: 2.500000
Final estimate of s2: 3.845781
Final estimate of mu: 0.700218
Final estimate of a: 3.000000
Final estimate of b: 47.191563
Final estimate of tau: 0.031926
Final estimate of tau_mean: 0.063571
Free energy: -8.679348
```

If I could only report the results from one run, I would choose the one with the largest free energy as it provides a more accurate explanation of the data.