

Bayesian Theory reading group

Exercise problems for Chapter 6

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1. Present examples related to your own work of model comparison/selection problems in \mathcal{M} -closed, \mathcal{M} -completed and \mathcal{M} -open settings.
2. Let us assume we have N samples of data from

$$p(\mathbf{x}) = \mathcal{N}\left(\mathbf{x}; \mathbf{0}, \begin{pmatrix} 1 & \rho \\ \rho & 1 \end{pmatrix}\right), \quad \rho \in (-1, 1).$$

We have two alternative Gaussian models with a *diagonal* covariance, $M_1 : p_1(\mathbf{x}) = \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{x}; \mathbf{0}, \Sigma_1)$ and $M_2 : p_2(\mathbf{x}) = \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{x}; \mathbf{0}, \Sigma_2)$. The covariance matrices are selected so that the Kullback–Leibler divergences $D_{KL}(p||p_1)$ and $D_{KL}(p_2||p)$ are minimal, i.e.

$$\Sigma_1 = \mathbf{I}, \quad \Sigma_2 = (1 - \rho^2)\mathbf{I}.$$

The prior probabilities are $p(M_1) = p(M_2) = \frac{1}{2}$.

- (a) Assume (incorrectly) an \mathcal{M} -closed setting. What is the optimal model for the data
 - i. for point predictions of future observations with respect to quadratic loss?
 - ii. with respect to a proper local score function for the predictive distribution?
- (b) Assume an \mathcal{M} -completed setting. What is now the optimal model for the data
 - i. for point predictions of future observations with respect to quadratic loss?
 - ii. with respect to a proper local score function for the predictive distribution?