

COS 513, *Scribe Notes*, November 8, 2010

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Continuation from previous lecture on **Exponential families**

$$p(x|\xi) = h(x)\exp\{\eta^\top t(x) - a(\eta)\}$$

where $X_n \sim p(x|\eta)$. Take *Log*, resulting in

$$\log \{p(X_{1:N}|\xi)\} = \sum_{n=1}^N \left[\log\{h(X_n)\} + \eta^\top \left(\sum_n t(X_n) \right) - Na(\eta) \right].$$

Take derivative of both sides and set equal to zero,

$$\frac{\partial l}{\partial \eta} = \sum_n t(X_n) - N\nabla_\eta a(\eta) = 0,$$

so

$$\nabla_\eta a(\eta) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_n t(X_n),$$

which is the empirical average of the sufficient statistics, which is equivalent to

$$\mathbb{E}_{\hat{\eta}}\{t(X)\} = \frac{1}{N} \sum_n t(X_n).$$

Bayesian setting

- place a prior on the natural parameter
- compute the posterior given data $X_{1:N}$

Conjugate Prior: a prior for which the posterior is in the same family. We previously saw Gaussian/Gaussian (*prior/likelihood*) case.

Beta-Bernoulli Conjugacy:

Bernoulli Distribution: $p(x|\pi) = \pi^x(1 - \pi)^{1-x}$, where $x \in \{0, 1\}$

Beta Distribution: $p(\pi|\alpha, \beta) = \frac{\Gamma(\alpha+\beta)}{\Gamma(\alpha)\Gamma(\beta)}\pi^{\alpha-1}(1 - \pi)^{\beta-1}$, where $\alpha > 0, \beta > 0, \pi \in (0, 1)$.

Note the Gamma function $\Gamma\{\}$ is the real-valued extension of the factorial function.

Some properties of the Beta distribution:

- $\mathbb{E}\{\pi|\alpha, \beta\} = \frac{\alpha}{\alpha+\beta}$
- can assume uniform, symmetric, and skewed distributions

So, defining our model via

$$\begin{aligned}\pi &\sim \text{Beta}(\alpha, \beta) \\ X_n &\sim \text{Bernoulli}(\pi),\end{aligned}$$

The *Posterior* distribution is:

$$\begin{aligned}p(\pi|X_{1:N}) &\propto p(\pi)p(X_{1:N}|\pi) \\ &= p(\pi) \prod_{n=1}^N p(X_n|\pi) \\ &= \left(\frac{\Gamma(\alpha + \beta)}{\Gamma(\alpha)\Gamma(\beta)} \pi^{\alpha-1} (1 - \pi)^{\beta-1} \right) \prod_{n=1}^N \pi^{X_n} (1 - \pi)^{1-X_n} \\ &\propto \pi^{(\alpha + \sum_n X_n - 1)} (1 - \pi)^{(\beta + N - \sum_n X_n - 1)} \\ &= \text{Beta} \left(\alpha + \sum_n X_n, \beta + N - \sum_n X_n \right)\end{aligned}$$

Note that

$$\mathbb{E}(\pi|X_{1:N}) = \frac{\alpha + \sum_n X_n}{\alpha + \beta + \sum_n X_n + N - \sum_n X_n} = \frac{\alpha + \sum_n X_n}{\alpha + \beta + N}$$

Conjugate Prior for Exponential Family

$\eta \sim \text{Conj.}(\lambda)$

$X_n \sim \text{Exponential family}(\eta), n = 1, \dots, N$

$$p(X_n|\eta) = h(x)\exp\left\{\eta^\top t(x) - a(\eta)\right\}$$

- $p(\eta|\lambda) = h(\eta)\exp\left\{\lambda_1^\top \eta + \lambda_2(-a(\eta)) - a_c(\lambda)\right\}$

(•) is the conjugate prior for the Exponential family. λ_1 is a vector with the same dimension as η , $\lambda_2 \in \mathbb{R}$, and a_c is log-normalized.

In the conjugate prior, natural parameter: $\langle \lambda_1, \lambda_2 \rangle$, where λ_1 is $\dim(\eta)$ and $\lambda_2 \in \mathbb{R}$.

sufficient statistics are $\langle \eta, -a(\eta) \rangle$

To confirm this,

$$\begin{aligned} p(\eta|X_{1:N}) &\propto p(\eta|\lambda) * \prod_n^N p(X_n|\eta) \\ &= h(\eta) * \exp\left\{\lambda_1^\top \eta + \lambda_2(-a(\eta)) - a_c(\lambda)\right\} * Nh(x)\exp\left\{\eta^\top \left(\sum_n t(X_n)\right) - Na(\eta)\right\} \\ &\propto h(\eta) * \exp\left\{\left(\lambda_1 + \sum_n t(X_n)\right)^\top \eta + (\lambda_2 + N)(-a(\eta))\right\} \end{aligned}$$

This is the same form as the prior. So, the posterior is in the same family with

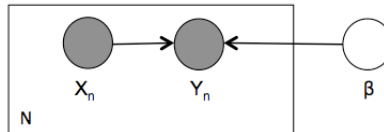
$$\begin{aligned} \hat{\lambda}_1 &= \lambda_1 + \sum_n t(X_n) \\ \hat{\lambda}_2 &= \lambda_2 + N \end{aligned}$$

other conjugates: (*prior/likelihood*)

Normal (on μ)-Inverse Wishart (on Σ) / Normal

Dirichlet/Multinomial
 Gamma/Poisson
 Beta/Bernoulli

Generalized Linear Models



-Observed input X enters the model through a linear function:

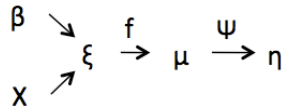
$$\xi = \beta^T X$$

-Conditional mean of the response y is a function of ξ

$$\mathbb{E}(Y|X) \triangleq \mu = f(\beta^T X)$$

-Response Y is drawn from an exponential family with mean μ .

Diagram:



Ψ maps the mean to the natural parameter.

Usually, we work with an over-dispersed exponential family

$$p(y|\eta) = h(y, \delta) \exp\left\{ \frac{\eta^T y - a(\eta)}{\delta} \right\}$$

Linear Regression:

$$\begin{aligned} p(Y|X) &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}} \exp\left\{ -\frac{1}{2\sigma^2} (Y - \beta^T X)^2 \right\} \\ &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}} \exp\left\{ \frac{-Y}{2\sigma^2} \right\} * \exp\left\{ \frac{Y(\beta^T X) - \frac{1}{2}(\beta^T X)^2}{\sigma^2} \right\} \end{aligned}$$

where

$$\delta = \sigma^2$$

$$h(\delta, Y) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}} \exp\left\{\frac{-Y}{2\sigma^2}\right\}$$

$$\eta = \beta^\top X$$

$$a(\eta) = \eta^2/2$$

Ψ : Identity

f : Identity

2 decisions to make to define model:

1. Choose the exponential family distribution of Y (this determines Ψ).
2. Choose the response function f ("link function")

Canonical Response Function: $f = \Psi^{-1}$.

Here, the linear function of X is the natural parameter. $\eta = X^\top \beta$. The only "choice" we now have is 1.