

~~Single Change Point Poisson~~ - Laplace Approximation Proof

We claim that the curvature around the MAP/MLE is related to the variance/uncertainty of the estimated parameters.

Let $f(\theta) = \ln p(\theta|X)$ and $\hat{\theta} = \text{MAP/MLE vector}$

Taylor expansion of $f(\theta)$ @ $\hat{\theta}$

$$f(x)_a = f(a) + \frac{f'(a)(x-a)}{1!} + \frac{f''(a)(x-a)^2}{2} + \dots$$

$$f(\theta)_{\hat{\theta}} = f(\hat{\theta}) + f'(\hat{\theta})(\theta - \hat{\theta}) + \frac{f''(\hat{\theta})(\theta - \hat{\theta})^2}{2!} + \dots$$
$$= f(\hat{\theta}) + \nabla f(\hat{\theta})^T (\theta - \hat{\theta}) + \frac{\nabla^2 f(\hat{\theta}) (\theta - \hat{\theta})^2}{2} + \dots$$

$$\Rightarrow f(\hat{\theta}) + \nabla f(\hat{\theta})^T (\theta - \hat{\theta}) + \frac{1}{2} (\theta - \hat{\theta})^T \underbrace{H(\hat{\theta})}_{\text{Hessian} = \nabla^2 f(\hat{\theta})} (\theta - \hat{\theta})$$

but since $\hat{\theta}$ is a peak $\nabla f(\hat{\theta}) = 0$

$$\therefore \text{for } \mathcal{O}(2) \quad f(\theta)_{\hat{\theta}} = f(\hat{\theta}) + \frac{1}{2} (\theta - \hat{\theta})^T H(\hat{\theta}) (\theta - \hat{\theta})$$

~~since $f(\theta) = \ln p(\theta|X)$, $p(\theta|X) = \exp(f(\theta))$~~

Also note that $f(\hat{\theta})$ [log-likelihood posterior @ $\hat{\theta}$] is just a constant

$$\therefore f(\theta)_{\hat{\theta}} = \frac{1}{2} (\theta - \hat{\theta})^T H(\hat{\theta}) (\theta - \hat{\theta}) + \text{constant}$$

(2)

$$\text{Recall log MV Gaussian} = \ln \left[\underbrace{\frac{1}{(2\pi)^{d/2} |\Sigma|^{1/2}}}_{\text{constant}} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{x}-\boldsymbol{\mu})^T \Sigma^{-1} (\mathbf{x}-\boldsymbol{\mu})\right) \right] = -\frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{x}-\boldsymbol{\mu})^T \Sigma^{-1} (\mathbf{x}-\boldsymbol{\mu}) + \text{constant}.$$

By matching forms, log-posterior @ MLE/MAP, that is $p(\theta)_{\hat{\theta}}$ is a multivariate gaussian

$$w/ \quad \mathbf{x} = \theta, \quad \boldsymbol{\mu} = \hat{\theta}, \quad \boxed{\Sigma = -H(\hat{\theta})^{-1}}$$