

# Proofs

Construction of Nonparametric Bayesian Models from Parametric Bayes Equations  
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## 1 Proof of Theorem 2

*Construction of the projective limit:* In the following, we have to explicitly treat the conditional  $P_X^I(X^I|\Theta^I)$  as the function  $P_X^I(A|\Theta^I)(\omega)$  for  $A \in \mathcal{B}_x^I$  and  $\omega \in \Omega$ . As a function of  $\omega$ , the conditional is measurable w.r.t. the  $\sigma$ -algebra  $\sigma(\Theta^I)$ . As a regular conditional probability, the function  $A \mapsto P_X^I(A|\Theta^I)(\omega)$  is a probability measure for  $\mathbb{P}$ -almost all  $\omega \in \Omega$ . The null set of exceptions will be denoted  $N^I \subset \Omega$ . Since the conditional probabilities are conditionally projective, we have  $P_X^I(\cdot|\Theta^I)(\omega) = P_X^I(\pi_{\mathbb{I}}^{-1} \cdot |\Theta^I)(\omega)$  for almost all  $\omega$ . Again there is a null set of exceptions, which we will denote  $N^{\mathbb{I}}$ . Denote the union of all exceptions a  $N := (\cup_I N^I) \cup (\cup_{I \subset J} N^{\mathbb{I}})$ . As a countable union of null sets,  $N$  is itself a null set. Now for any fixed  $\omega \notin N$ , the probability measures  $P_X^I(\cdot|\Theta^I)(\omega)$  form a projective family of measures in the sense of the Kolmogorov theorem. Application of the theorem yields a unique probability measure  $\nu_\omega$  on  $(\Omega_x^E, \mathcal{B}_x^E)$  for each  $\omega \notin N$ . Treat this collection of measures as a function  $\nu(A, \omega) := \nu_\omega(A)$  for  $\omega \notin N$ , and set  $\nu(A, \omega) := \delta_{X^E(\omega)}$  for  $\omega \in N$ , where  $\delta_x$  denotes the Dirac measure concentrated at  $x$ . (The only purpose of the latter is to ensure that  $\nu$  is a probability measure for every  $\omega$ ; the choice of the Dirac measure is arbitrary.)  
 *$\mathcal{C}^E$ -measurability:* The function  $\nu(\cdot, \cdot)$  so obtained describes a conditional distribution of  $X^E$  w.r.t. a  $\sigma$ -algebra  $\mathcal{C}^E$  if we can show that  $\omega \mapsto \nu(A, \omega)$  is  $\mathcal{C}^E$ -measurable for every  $A \in \mathcal{B}_x^E$ . This can be shown by means of the  $\pi$ - $\lambda$  theorem (also called the Dynkin lemma, [2]): First show that  $\nu(A, \omega)$  is measurable for all  $A$  in a generator of  $\mathcal{B}_x^E$ , and then deduce that this implies measurability for all  $A$  by means of the  $\pi$ - $\lambda$  theorem. As a generator, we choose the ‘‘cylinder sets’’  $\mathcal{Z}^E = \{A \in \mathcal{B}_x^E | A = \pi_{\mathbb{E}^I}^{-1} A^I\}$ , i.e. the set of all sets which are preimages under projection of some finite-dimensional event. Then  $\mathcal{B}_x^E = \sigma(\mathcal{Z}^E)$ , a fact used for example in the proof of the Kolmogorov theorem (cf [1]). For any  $A \in \mathcal{Z}^E$ , the function  $\nu(A, \cdot)$  is measurable: Since  $\nu(\pi_{\mathbb{E}^I}^{-1} A^I, \omega) = P_X^I(A^I|\Theta^I)(\omega)$ , the function  $\omega \mapsto \nu(\pi_{\mathbb{E}^I}^{-1} A^I, \omega)$  is  $\sigma(\Theta^I)$ -measurable, and therefore  $\mathcal{C}^E$ -measurable as  $\sigma(\Theta^I) \subset \mathcal{C}^E$ . Let  $\mathcal{L} \subset \mathcal{B}_x^E$  denote the system of all  $A$  for which  $\nu(A, \cdot)$  is  $\mathcal{C}^E$ -measurable. In the sense of the  $\pi$ - $\lambda$  theorem,  $\mathcal{L}$  is a  $\lambda$ -system: For  $A = \Omega_x^E$ ,  $\nu$  is constant hence measurable. Let  $A \in \mathcal{L}$ . Then  $\nu(\mathbb{C}A, \cdot) = 1 - \nu(A, \cdot)$ , which is measurable. If  $A_n \in \mathcal{L}$  is a pairwise disjoint sequence and  $A' = \cup_n^\infty A_n$ , then  $\nu(A', \cdot) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{i=1}^n \nu(A_n, \cdot)$ , which as a limit of measurable functions is measurable. It is well known that the cylinder sets  $\mathcal{Z}^E$  form an algebra [1], so  $\mathcal{Z}^E$  is in particular a  $\pi$ -system. Then by the  $\pi$ - $\lambda$  theorem,

$$\mathcal{B}_x^E = \sigma(\mathcal{Z}^E) = \mathcal{L} \subset \mathcal{B}_x^E. \quad (1)$$

In other words, the set of all sets  $A$  for which  $\omega \mapsto \nu(A, \omega)$  is  $\mathcal{C}^E$ -measurable is just  $\mathcal{B}_x^E$ . Therefore,  $\nu(A, \omega)$  is a regular version of the conditional probability  $P_X^E(A|\mathcal{C}^E)(\omega)$ . By construction, its marginals are  $\pi_{\mathbb{E}^I} P_X^E(\cdot|\mathcal{C}^E)(\omega) = P_X^I(\cdot|\sigma(\Theta^I))(\omega)$  almost everywhere.

*Interpreting  $P_X^E(X^E|\mathcal{C}^E)$  as  $P_X^E(X^E|\Theta^E)$ :* Under the additional assumption  $\pi_{\mathbb{I}}\Theta^J = \Theta^I$ , define the variable  $\Theta^E$  as  $\Theta^E := \otimes_{i \in E} \Theta^{\{i\}}$ . Then any conditional distribution given  $\mathcal{C}^E$  can serve as a conditional given  $\Theta^E$ , since the  $\sigma$ -algebra  $\sigma(\Theta^E)$  generated by  $\Theta^E$  is just  $\mathcal{C}^E$ :

$$\begin{aligned} \sigma(\Theta^E) &= \Theta^{E-1}(\mathcal{B}_\theta^E) = \Theta^{E-1}(\cup_{I \in \mathcal{F}(E)} \sigma(\pi_{\mathbb{E}^I}^{-1} \mathcal{B}_\theta^I)) = \sigma(\cup_{I \in \mathcal{F}(E)} \Theta^{E-1} \pi_{\mathbb{E}^I}^{-1} \mathcal{B}_\theta^I) \\ &= \sigma(\cup_{I \in \mathcal{F}(E)} \Theta^{I-1} \mathcal{B}_\theta^I) = \sigma(\cup_{I \in \mathcal{F}(E)} \sigma(\Theta^{I-1})) = \mathcal{C}^E. \end{aligned} \quad (2)$$

## 2 Proof of Theorem 3

*Proof of (1).* We have to construct a candidate for the probability kernel  $k^E$ , and show that  $T$  is a posterior index for the projective limit posterior with kernel  $k^E$ . To this end we will show that the conditionals  $P_\Theta^I(\Theta^I|T^I)$  are conditionally projective and define  $k^E$  in terms of their projective limit. For each  $I \in \mathcal{F}(E)$  and  $A^I \in \mathcal{B}_\theta^I$ , the function  $\omega \mapsto k^I(A^I, \cdot) \circ T^I \circ X^I(\omega)$  is  $\sigma(T^I \circ X^I)$ -measurable, and  $k^I(A^I, \cdot) \circ T^I \circ X^I(\omega) = P_\Theta^I(A^I|T^I)(\omega)$  a.e. Therefore,  $k^I(A^I, \cdot) \circ T^I \circ X^I$  is a version of  $P_\Theta^I(A^I|T^I)$ . The conditional probabilities  $P_\Theta^I(\Theta^I|T^I)$  are conditionally projective:

$$\begin{aligned} P_\Theta^I(A^I|T^I = t^I) &= P_\Theta^I(A^I|X^I \in T^{I-1}(t^I)) = P_\Theta^I(\pi_{\mathbb{I}}^{-1} A^I | X^J \in \pi_{\mathbb{I}}^{-1} T^{I-1}(t^I)) \\ &= P_\Theta^I(\pi_{\mathbb{I}}^{-1} A^I | X^J \in T^{J-1} \pi_{\mathbb{I}}^{-1}(t^I)) = P_\Theta^I(\pi_{\mathbb{I}}^{-1} A^I | T^J \in \pi_{\mathbb{I}}^{-1}(t^I)) \end{aligned} \quad (3)$$

Hence  $P_{\Theta}^I(\pi_{\mathbb{I}}^{-1}A^I|T^I) = P_{\Theta}^I(A^I|T^I)$ , which is just the definition of conditional projectiveness. By Theorem 2 there is an a.e.-unique projective limit of the form  $P_{\Theta}^E(\Theta^E|\mathcal{C}^E)$ , where  $\mathcal{C}^E$  is the  $\sigma$ -algebra

$$\mathcal{C}^E := \sigma\left(\bigcup_{I \in \mathcal{F}(E)} \sigma(T^I)\right). \quad (4)$$

It is straightforward to check that  $\sigma(T) = \mathcal{C}^E$ , because  $T$  satisfies Eq. (4). Therefore, the projective limit  $P_{\Theta}^E(\Theta^E|\mathcal{C}^E)$  can serve as the conditional distribution  $P_{\Theta}^E(\Theta^E|T)$ . Now define a candidate for the kernel  $k^E$  as

$$k^E(A, t) := P_{\Theta}^E(A|T = t) \quad \text{for all } A \in \mathcal{B}_{\theta}^E, t \in \Omega_t^E. \quad (5)$$

What remains to be shown is that  $k^E(A, T(x)) = P_{\Theta}^E(A|X^E = x)$  a.e. for all  $A \in \mathcal{F}(E)$ . If this identity can be shown to hold for  $A \in \mathcal{Z}^E$ , then it holds for all  $A$ : Since  $\sigma(\mathcal{Z}^E) = \mathcal{B}_{\theta}^E$ , and since  $\mathcal{Z}^E$  is an algebra, the Carathéodory extension theorem is applicable to extend measures from  $\mathcal{Z}^E$  to  $\mathcal{B}_{\theta}^E$ . Since the conditional probability  $k^E$  is a Markov kernel, the Carathéodory theorem can be applied pointwise in  $x$ . (For a conditional that is not a Markov kernel, the subset of exceptional points  $x \in \Omega_x^E$  on which the conditional is not unique depends on  $A$ . Over all  $A$ , these could then aggregate into a non-null set.) To show that the identity holds on  $\mathcal{Z}^E$ , consider any  $A \in \mathcal{Z}^E$ , i.e. there is some  $I \in \mathcal{F}(E)$  such that  $A = \pi_{\mathbb{E}I}^{-1}A^I$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} k^E(\pi_{\mathbb{E}I}^{-1}A^I, t \in \pi_{\mathbb{E}I}^{-1}t^I) &= P_{\Theta}^E(\pi_{\mathbb{E}I}^{-1}A^I|T \in \pi_{\mathbb{E}I}^{-1}t^I) = P_{\Theta}^I(A^I|T^I = t^I) = P_{\Theta}^I(A^I|X^I \in T^{I-1}t^I) \\ &= P_{\Theta}^E(\pi_{\mathbb{E}I}^{-1}A^I|X^E \in \pi_{\mathbb{E}I}^{-1}T^{I-1}t^I) = P_{\Theta}^E(\pi_{\mathbb{E}I}^{-1}A^I|X^E \in T^{I-1}\pi_{\mathbb{E}I}^{-1}t^I), \end{aligned} \quad (6)$$

such that  $k^E(\pi_{\mathbb{E}I}^{-1}A^I, T(x)) = P_{\Theta}^E(\pi_{\mathbb{E}I}^{-1}A^I|X^E = x)$ . By the Carathéodory theorem, this implies that  $k^E(\pi_{\mathbb{E}I}^{-1}A^I, T(x)) = P_{\Theta}^E(\pi_{\mathbb{E}I}^{-1}A^I|X^E = x)$ , and hence  $T$  is a posterior index for the projective limit posterior  $P_{\Theta}^E(\Theta^E|X^E)$ , and  $k^E$  is the probability kernel corresponding to  $T$ .

*Proof of (2).* To proof part (2), we have to show that the posterior index  $T^I$  and corresponding probability kernel  $k^I$  as specified in the theorem make each of the marginal Bayesian systems on the finite-dimensional subspaces  $\Omega_x^I$  conjugate. That is, we have to verify  $k^I(A^I, T^I(x^I)) = P_{\Theta}^I(A^I|X^I = x^I)$ . To this end, write

$$\begin{aligned} k^I(A^I, t^I) &= k(\pi_{\mathbb{E}I}^{-1}A^I, t \in \pi_{\mathbb{E}I}^{-1}t^I) = P_{\Theta}^E(\pi_{\mathbb{E}I}^{-1}A^I|X^E \in T^{I-1}\pi_{\mathbb{E}I}^{-1}t^I) = P_{\Theta}^I(A^I|X^I \in \pi_{\mathbb{E}I}T^{I-1}\pi_{\mathbb{E}I}^{-1}t^I) \\ &= P_{\Theta}^I(A^I|X^I \in \pi_{\mathbb{E}I}T^{I-1}t^I) \end{aligned} \quad (7)$$

Since, for each  $x^I$ , there is some  $t^I$  such that  $T^I(x^I) = t^I$ , this means:

$$k^I(A^I, t^I) = P_{\Theta}^I(A^I|X^I = x^I) \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad x^I \in T^{I-1}(t^I), \quad (8)$$

and thus  $P_{\Theta}^I(A^I|X^I = x^I) = k^I(A^I, T^I(x^I))$  as we had to show. In other words, the posterior  $P_{\Theta}^I(A^I|X^I)$  is conjugate with posterior index  $T^I$  and probability kernel  $k^I$ .

[1] H. Bauer. *Probability Theory*. W. de Gruyter, 1996.

[2] M. J. Schervish. *Theory of Statistics*. Springer, 1995.