Department of Statistics and Actuarial Science University of Hong Kong

Tutorial 10: Optimization in practice and Numerical Integration

Xuran Meng

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Logistic Regression

► Consider the logistic model

$$\mathbb{P}(Z=1|\mathbf{x}) = \operatorname{expit}(\mathbf{x}^T \boldsymbol{\theta}), \operatorname{expit}(x) = \frac{\exp(x)}{1 + \exp(x)}.$$

In other word,

$$\operatorname{logit}(\mathbb{P}(Z=1|\mathbf{x})) = \mathbf{x}^T \theta, \operatorname{logit}(p) = \operatorname{log}(\frac{p}{1-p}).$$

▶ If you compare it to the probit model

$$\mathbb{P}(Z=1|\boldsymbol{x})=\Phi(\boldsymbol{x}^T\boldsymbol{\theta}),$$

where Φ is the cdf of the standard normal distribution.

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- Given data $\{(z_1, \mathbf{x}_1'), \dots, (z_n, \mathbf{x}_n')\}$, if there are some same \mathbf{x}_i' , data can be summarized as $\{(y_1, n_1, \mathbf{x}_1), \dots, (y_m, n_m, \mathbf{x}_m)\}$.
- ▶ The log-likelihood of θ is

$$I(\theta) = \log(\prod_{i=1}^{n} \mathbb{P}(Z = z_i | \mathbf{x}_i'))$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^{n} \log(\mathbb{P}(Z = 1 | \mathbf{x}_i')^{z_i} \mathbb{P}(Z = 0 | \mathbf{x}_i')^{1-z_i})$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^{n} z_i \log(\frac{\exp(\mathbf{x}_i'^T \theta)}{1 + \exp(\mathbf{x}_i'^T \theta)}) + (1 - z_i) \log(\frac{1}{1 + \exp(\mathbf{x}_i'^T \theta)})$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^{n} z_i (\mathbf{x}_i'^T \theta) - \log(1 + \exp(\mathbf{x}_i'^T \theta))$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^{m} y_j (\mathbf{x}_j^T \theta) - n_j \log(1 + \exp(\mathbf{x}_j^T \theta)).$$



► Take the gradient of the log-likelihood

$$\nabla I(\theta) = \sum_{j=1}^{m} \nabla y_j(\mathbf{x}_j^T \theta) - n_j \nabla \log(1 + \exp(\mathbf{x}_j^T \theta))$$

$$= \sum_{j=1}^{m} y_j \mathbf{x}_j - n_j \frac{\exp(\mathbf{x}_j^T \theta) \mathbf{x}_j}{1 + \exp(\mathbf{x}_j^T \theta)}$$

$$= \sum_{j=1}^{m} \mathbf{x}_j (y_j - n_j \frac{\exp(\mathbf{x}_j^T \theta)}{1 + \exp(\mathbf{x}_j^T \theta)})$$

$$= \sum_{j=1}^{m} \mathbf{x}_j (y_j - n_j p_j), p_j = \frac{\exp(\mathbf{x}_j^T \theta)}{1 + \exp(\mathbf{x}_j^T \theta)}.$$



► Take the negative Hessian of the log-likelihood

$$-\nabla^{2}I(\theta) = -\nabla \sum_{j=1}^{m} \mathbf{x}_{j}(\mathbf{y}_{j} - n_{j} \frac{\exp(\mathbf{x}_{j}^{T}\theta)}{1 + \exp(\mathbf{x}_{j}^{T}\theta)})$$

$$= \sum_{j=1}^{m} \mathbf{x}_{j} n_{j} \nabla \frac{\exp(\mathbf{x}_{j}^{T}\theta)}{1 + \exp(\mathbf{x}_{j}^{T}\theta)}$$

$$= \sum_{j=1}^{m} \mathbf{x}_{j} n_{j} \frac{\exp(\mathbf{x}_{j}^{T}\theta)(1 + \exp(\mathbf{x}_{j}^{T}\theta)) - \exp(\mathbf{x}_{j}^{T}\theta)^{2}}{(1 + \exp(\mathbf{x}_{j}^{T}\theta))^{2}} \mathbf{x}_{j}^{T}$$

$$= \sum_{j=1}^{m} \mathbf{x}_{j} \mathbf{x}_{j}^{T} n_{j} \frac{\exp(\mathbf{x}_{j}^{T}\theta)}{(1 + \exp(\mathbf{x}_{j}^{T}\theta))^{2}}$$

$$= \sum_{j=1}^{m} \mathbf{x}_{j} \mathbf{x}_{j}^{T} n_{j} \rho_{j} (1 - \rho_{j}).$$



► The Newton-Raphson method is

$$\theta^{(t+1)} = \theta^{(t)} - (\nabla^2 I(\theta^{(t)}))^{-1} \nabla I(\theta^{(t)})$$

$$= \theta^{(t)} + (\sum_{j=1}^m \mathbf{x}_j \mathbf{x}_j^T n_j p_j^{(t)} (1 - p_j^{(t)}))^{-1} \sum_{j=1}^m \mathbf{x}_j (y_j - n_j p_j^{(t)}).$$

► The Gradient method is

$$\boldsymbol{\theta}^{(t+1)} = \boldsymbol{\theta}^{(t)} + \alpha \nabla I(\boldsymbol{\theta}^{(t)})$$

$$= \boldsymbol{\theta}^{(t)} + \alpha \sum_{j=1}^{m} \mathbf{x}_{j} (\mathbf{y}_{j} - \mathbf{n}_{j} \mathbf{p}_{j}^{(t)}),$$

where α is called the learning rate.



- In practice, we may not be able to derive the closed from for the score and the observed information. But you can always derive they numerically!
- ightharpoonup A typical example of the numerical derivative of f(x) is

$$f'(x) \approx \frac{f(x + \Delta x) - f(x - \Delta x)}{2\Delta x}$$

which is called the central difference approximation. Here the spacing Δx is an important hyper-parameter.

- ➤ You can use the python package 'numdifftools'. It conveniently gives us the gradient vector and the Hessian matrix.
- ► The numerical differentiation can also be used to check that the score or the observed information were derived correctly.
- ► The problems are that it may be too slow compared to the closed form and that it may sometimes be numerically unstable.

- ▶ Draw $\mathbf{x}_j \sim N(\mathbf{0}, I_2)$, set $n_j = 10$, j = 1, ..., 20, and obtain $y_{1:20}$ from the logistic model with $\theta_0 = [-1, 2]^T$. Try to do optimization of the log-likelihood given $\{(y_1, n_1, \mathbf{x}_1), ..., (y_{20}, n_{20}, \mathbf{x}_{20})\}$.
- ▶ Compare the convergence speeds of the Newton–Raphson method and the Gradient method. Try different α .



MLE Estimator



- ▶ Remember that, in the Importance Sampling, to estimate the integration $\mu = \mathbb{E}_{\pi}[f(X)] = \int \pi(\mathbf{x})f(\mathbf{x})\mathrm{d}\mathbf{x}$, we propose the weighted samples $\{(\mathbf{x}_1, w_1), \dots, (\mathbf{x}_n, w_n)\}$ where $\mathbf{x}_i \sim q(\mathbf{x})$ and $\mathbf{w}_i = \pi(\mathbf{x}_i)/q(\mathbf{x}_i)$, and construct the estimator $\hat{\mu}_{\mathrm{IS}}(f) = \sum_{i=1}^n w_i f(\mathbf{x}_i)/n$.
- Suppose that we know the values of m integration $\int g_j(\mathbf{x}) d\mathbf{x} = b_j$, or equivalently $\int \mathbf{g}(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{0}$, where $\mathbf{g}(\mathbf{x}) = (g_1(\mathbf{x}) b_1 q(\mathbf{x}), \dots, g_m(\mathbf{x}) b_m q(\mathbf{x}))^T$.
- ▶ The MLE estimator aims to solve the problem that how to use the information $\int g(x) = 0$ to improve the performance of the estimator $\hat{\mu}_{\rm IS}$.



► The core of this approach is to solve the nonparametric maximum likelihood problem

$$\hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}} = \underset{\zeta}{\operatorname{argmax}} l(\boldsymbol{\theta}) = \underset{\zeta}{\operatorname{argmax}} \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \log(q(\boldsymbol{x}_i) + \boldsymbol{\theta}^T \boldsymbol{g}(\boldsymbol{x}_i)),$$

► The MLE estimator is defined as

$$\hat{\mu}_{\mathrm{MLE}}(f) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \frac{\pi(\mathbf{x}_{i})}{q(\mathbf{x}_{i}) + \hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}^{T} \mathbf{g}(\mathbf{x}_{i})} f(\mathbf{x}_{i}).$$

It's equivalent to do the IS estimation with new weights $w'_i = \pi(\mathbf{x}_i)/(q(\mathbf{x}_i) + \hat{\theta}^T \mathbf{g}(\mathbf{x}_i)).$



► Take the gradient of the log-likelihood

$$\nabla l(\theta) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \nabla \log(q(\mathbf{x}_i) + \theta^T \mathbf{g}(\mathbf{x}_i))$$
$$= \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \frac{\mathbf{g}(\mathbf{x}_i)}{q(\mathbf{x}_i) + \theta^T \mathbf{g}(\mathbf{x}_i)}.$$

Notice that at the MLE point, we have $\nabla l(\hat{\theta}) = \mathbf{0}$, which essentially means that $\mathbf{g}(\mathbf{x})$ has measure $\mathbf{0}$ with the discrete measure $\hat{\nu}$ defined by

$$\int h(\mathbf{x}) \mathrm{d}\hat{\nu} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \frac{h(\mathbf{x}_i)}{q(\mathbf{x}_i) + \hat{\theta}^T \mathbf{g}(\mathbf{x}_i)},$$

for arbitrary $h(\mathbf{x})$. And also $\hat{\mu}_{\mathrm{MLE}}(f) = \int \pi(\mathbf{x}) f(\mathbf{x}) \mathrm{d}\hat{\nu}$.



► Take the negative Hessian of the log-likelihood

$$-\nabla^{2}I(\theta) = -\nabla \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \frac{g(\mathbf{x}_{i})}{q(\mathbf{x}_{i}) + \theta^{T} g(\mathbf{x}_{i})}$$

$$= -\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} g(\mathbf{x}_{i}) \nabla \frac{1}{q(\mathbf{x}_{i}) + \theta^{T} g(\mathbf{x}_{i})}$$

$$= \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \frac{g(\mathbf{x}_{i}) g(\mathbf{x}_{i})^{T}}{(q(\mathbf{x}_{i}) + \theta^{T} g(\mathbf{x}_{i}))^{2}}.$$



► The Newton-Raphson method is

$$\theta^{(t+1)} = \theta^{(t)} - (\nabla^2 I(\theta^{(t)}))^{-1} \nabla I(\theta^{(t)})$$

$$= \theta^{(t)} + (\sum_{i=1}^n \frac{\mathbf{g}(\mathbf{x}_i) \mathbf{g}(\mathbf{x}_i)^T}{(q(\mathbf{x}_i) + \theta^{(t)T} \mathbf{g}(\mathbf{x}_i))^2})^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{\mathbf{g}(\mathbf{x}_i)}{q(\mathbf{x}_i) + \theta^{(t)T} \mathbf{g}(\mathbf{x}_i)}.$$

If we directly consider the original question

$$\hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}} = \underset{\boldsymbol{\zeta}}{\operatorname{argmax}} l(\boldsymbol{\theta}) = \underset{\boldsymbol{\zeta}}{\operatorname{argmax}} \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \log(q(\boldsymbol{x}_i) + \boldsymbol{\theta}^T \boldsymbol{g}(\boldsymbol{x}_i)),$$

It is actually a constrained optimization problem $(q(\mathbf{x}_i) + \theta^T \mathbf{q}(\mathbf{x}_i) > 0, i = 1, ..., n).$

► It is recommended to use the Sequential Least SQuares Programming (SLSQP) Algorithm to solve the constrained optimization.



- Consider $\pi(\mathbf{x})$ to be $N(\mathbf{0}, I_2)$, $q(\mathbf{x})$ to be $N(\mathbf{0}, 4I_2)$, and $f(\mathbf{x}) = x_1^2 + x_2^2$. Draw 100 samples from $q(\mathbf{x})$ and build normal kernels $K_j(\mathbf{x})$ with covariance matrix 0.8^2I_2 centered at the 100 samples. Define $g(\mathbf{x}) = (K_1(\mathbf{x}) q(\mathbf{x}), \dots, K_{100}(\mathbf{x}) q(\mathbf{x}))^T$.
- ▶ Draw 10000 new samples from $q(\mathbf{x})$ and use the MLE estimator to estimate $\mu = \mathbb{E}_{\pi}[f(X)] = \int \pi(\mathbf{x})f(\mathbf{x})\mathrm{d}\mathbf{x}$. Do 100 repetitions to compare the variance of $\hat{\mu}_{\mathrm{MLE}}(f)$ with that of the original Importance Sampling estimator $\hat{\mu}_{\mathrm{IS}}(f)$.



Gaussian Quadrature



- ▶ To approximate the integration $\mu = \mathbb{E}_{\pi}[f(X)] = \int \pi(x)f(x)dx$, a methodology called Gaussian Quadrature (GQ) deterministically proposes weighted points $\{(x_1, w_1), \dots, (x_n, w_n)\}$ so that $\hat{\mu}_{GQ}(f) = \sum_{i=1}^n w_i f(x_i) \approx \mu$.
- The locations of the points are derived by the equation set $\{\mathbb{E}_{\pi}[p_n(X)X^k] = 0; k = 0, \dots, n-1\}$, where the $p_n(x) = \prod_{i=1}^n (x x_i)$.
- Given the points, the weights are obtain by another equation set $\{\mathbb{E}_{\pi}[X^k] = \sum_{i=1}^n w_i x_i^k; k = 0, \dots, n-1\}.$
- ▶ The weighted points are uniquely determined by $\pi(x)$.

The basics - an intuitive justification

▶ The GQ estimator $\hat{\mu}_{GQ}$ has the advantage that for any polynomial $h_{2n-1}(x)$ of order less or equal to 2n-1. $\hat{\mu}_{GO}(h_{2n-1}) = \mathbb{E}_{\pi}[h_{2n-1}(X)]$ exactly. This is because of that we can decompose $h_{2n-1}(x)$ to be

$$h_{2n-1}(x) = t_{n-1}(x)p_n(x) + r_{n-1}(x).$$

An so,

$$\begin{split} \hat{\mu}_{\mathrm{GQ}}(h_{2n-1}) &= \sum_{i=1}^{n} w_{i} h_{2n-1}(x_{i}) = \sum_{i=1}^{n} w_{i}(t_{n-1}(x_{i}) p_{n}(x_{i}) + r_{n-1}(x_{i})) \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^{n} w_{i} r_{n-1}(x_{i}) = \mathbb{E}_{\pi}[r_{n-1}(X)] \\ &= \mathbb{E}_{\pi}[t_{n-1}(X) p_{n}(X)] + \mathbb{E}_{\pi}[r_{n-1}(X)] = \mathbb{E}_{\pi}[h_{2n-1}(X)]. \end{split}$$

► The Stone—Weierstrass theorem states that every continuous function defined on a closed interval can be uniformly approximated by a polynomial function.



▶ The classic GQ with weight funtion $\omega(x)$ includes

Interval	$\omega(x)$	Orthogonal polynomials
[-1, 1]	1	Legendre polynomials
(-1, 1)	$(1-x)^\alpha(1+x)^\beta, \alpha,\beta>-1$	Jacobi polynomials
(-1, 1)	$\frac{1}{\sqrt{1-x^2}}$	Chebyshev polynomials (first kind)
[-1, 1]	$\sqrt{1-x^2}$	Chebyshev polynomials (second kind)
[0, ∞)	e^{-x}	Laguerre polynomials
[0, ∞)	$x^{\alpha}e^{-x}, \alpha > -1$	Generalized Laguerre polynomials
$(-\infty, \infty)$	e^{-x^2}	Hermite polynomials

- If we consider $\pi(x) \propto \omega(x)$, there are only three types, the Beta distribution, the Gamma distribution and the Normal distribution.
- ► They are defined respectively on the finite interval, half infinite interval and infinite interval.

Gaussian Quadrature

Connections with the Importance Sampling - the three phenomena



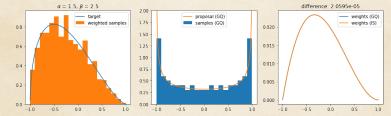
We can actually view GQ as one kind of deterministic Importance Sampling, which is based on the three phenomena:

- ► The weighted empirical cdf of the GQ samples $\hat{\Pi}_n = \sum_{i=1}^n w_i \mathbf{1}(x_i \leq x)$ approximate Π which is the cdf of the target distribution $\pi(x)$ (note that by construction $\sum_{i=1}^n w_i = 1$);
- The unweighted empirical cdf of the GQ samples $\hat{P}_n = \sum_{i=1}^n \mathbf{1}(x_i \le x)/n$ approximate a fixed distribution P (assume p(x) to be the corresponding pdf) determined by $\pi(x)$, and we term p(x) as the GQ proposal;
- ► The GQ weights have $w_i \approx w_i^{\text{IS}}$, where w_i^{IS} is the normalized weight at point x_i for Importance Sampling, that is $w_i^{\text{IS}} = \frac{\pi(x_i)}{\rho(x_i)} / \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{\pi(x_i)}{\rho(x_i)}$.

These phenomena are not trivial. Remember the MCMC points.



For the Beta distribution $\pi(x) \propto (1+x)^{\alpha-1}(1-x)^{\beta-1}$ defined on the interval [-1,1], P is invariant against α , β . To be more specific, $p(x) \propto 1/\sqrt{1-x^2}$, the Arcsine distribution.



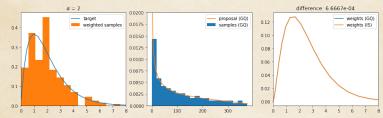
Actually, this GQ proposal is true for all $\pi(x)$ that is positive and satisfies some regularity conditions, a.e., on a compact interval.

Gaussian Quadrature

Connections with the Importance Sampling - the Gamma case

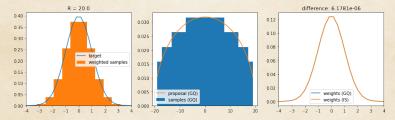


Consider the Gamma distribution with pdf $\pi(x) \propto x^{\alpha-1}e^{-x}$. There would be $p(x) \propto \sqrt{(4n-x)/x}$, which has an expanding support [0,4n], and this GQ proposal is also invariant against α . It is called the Marchenko–Pastur distribution.





▶ If $\pi(x) \propto e^{-x^2/2}$ (the Normal case), the support of P also expands as n increases, but keeps the same shape: $p(x) \propto \sqrt{R_n^2 - x^2}$, $R_n = 2\sqrt{n}$, the Wigner Semicircle distribution.



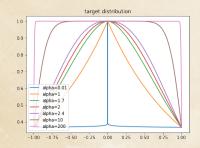
Given the finite interval case, you may wonder if the P is also invariant against different $\pi(\mathbf{x})$ on the half infinite or infinite intervals, but this is actually not true.

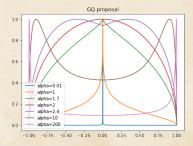
Gaussian Quadrature

Connections with the Importance Sampling - the Ullman distribution

- ► The Ullman distribution is a strange distribution, you can't even find it on Wikipedia!
- ▶ Given the target distribution $\pi(x) \propto e^{-|x|^{\alpha}}$, the support of its GQ proposal expands at the speed of $n^{1/\alpha}$ and has the shape of the Ullman distribution

$$p(x) = \frac{\alpha}{\pi} \int_{|x|}^{1} \frac{y^{\alpha-1}}{\sqrt{y^2 - x^2}} dy.$$





Gaussian Quadrature

Practice - a question



► Try to find out the counterpart of the Ullman distribution on the half infinite interval, where the Marchenko-Pastur distribution should be its special case and the Arcsine distribution should be its limit.



Quasi Monte Carlo

Quasi Monte Carlo

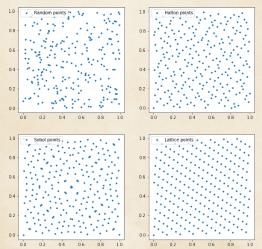
Problem formulation - the curse of dimensionality



- ▶ In the numerical integration, the deterministic methods reach an accuracy of order $n^{-k/d}$, where k stands for the regularity of the integrand and d is the dimension of the integration domain, whereas the classic Monte Carlo is subjected to an error bound of order $n^{-1/2}$.
- ► The Quasi Monte Carlo (QMC) aims to achieve n^{-1} for integration on the hypercube $[0,1]^d$. It is sometimes accurate even when d > 100.

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► The QMC points are just more uniformly distributed than the random points.



Theories - the discrepancy measure



- ▶ To establish the LLN and CLT for the QMC, people use the discrepancy theory that measures the uniformness of points.
- ▶ The local discrepancy of $\{x_1, ..., x_n\}$ at $a \in [0, 1]^d$ is

$$\delta(\mathbf{a}|\mathbf{x}_1,\ldots,\mathbf{x}_n) = \frac{1}{n}\sum_{i=1}^n \mathbf{1}(\mathbf{x}_i \in [\mathbf{0},\mathbf{a})) - \text{vol}([\mathbf{0},\mathbf{a})).$$

ightharpoonup The star discrepancy of $\{x_1, \ldots, x_n\}$ is

$$D^*(\mathbf{x}_1,\ldots,\mathbf{x}_n) = \sup_{\mathbf{a}\in[0,1]^d} |\delta(\mathbf{a}|\mathbf{x}_1,\ldots,\mathbf{x}_n)|.$$

Theories - the LLN



For the infinite sequence $\{x_1, x_2, \dots\}$, if $\lim_{n\to\infty} D^*(x_1, \dots, x_n) = 0$, then for Riemann integrable function f(x), we have the LLN

$$\left|\frac{1}{n}\sum_{i=1}^n f(\boldsymbol{x}_i) - \int_{[0,1]^d} f(\boldsymbol{x}) \mathrm{d}x\right| \to 0.$$

▶ QMC points can typically achieve $D^*(\mathbf{x}_1,...,\mathbf{x}_n) = \mathcal{O}(\log(n)^d/n)$ and thus satisfy the LLN.



► The Koksma-Hlawka inequality (CLT for QMC) states that for the points $\{x_1, \ldots, x_n\}$,

$$\left|\frac{1}{n}\sum_{i=1}^n f(\boldsymbol{x}_i) - \int_{[0,1]^d} f(\boldsymbol{x}) dx\right| \leq D^*(\boldsymbol{x}_1, \dots, \boldsymbol{x}_n) V_{\mathrm{HK}}(f),$$

where $V_{\rm KH}(f)$ denotes the total variation of $f(\mathbf{x})$ in the sense of Hardy and Krause.

- ▶ Remember that $D^*(\mathbf{x}_1,...,\mathbf{x}_n) = \mathcal{O}(\log(n)^d/n)$, so the QMC can converge at the speed $n^{\varepsilon-1}$ for any small $\varepsilon > 0$.
- ▶ If you compare it with the classic CLT

$$\frac{1}{n}\sum_{i=1}^{n}f(\mathbf{x}_{i})-\int_{[0,1]^{d}}f(\mathbf{x})\mathrm{d}x=n^{-1/2}N(0,\sigma^{2}(f)),$$

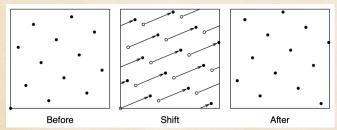
where
$$\sigma^2(f) = \text{var}(f(X)), X \sim \mathcal{U}([0, 1]^d).$$



- Practice the python package
 - Install and learn how to use the python package 'qmcpy'.
 - In the package, the QMC points can be randomized based on methods like the Cranley-Patterson rotation

$$\mathbf{x}'_{i} = \mathbf{x}_{i} + \mathbf{U} \mod 1, i = 1, ..., n$$

where $\boldsymbol{U} \sim \mathcal{U}([0,1]^d)$. The Randomized QMC is more robust can sometimes achieve even faster convergence rate.



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Thanks!