Stochastic Process Model with Basketball Data

A Thesis
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Acknowledgements

I want to thank a few people.

Preface

This is an example of a thesis setup to use the reed thesis document class (for LaTeX) and the R bookdown package, in general.

Table of Contents

List of Tables

List of Figures

Abstract

The preface pretty much says it all.

Second paragraph of abstract starts here.

Dedication

You can have a dedication here if you wish.

Chapter 1

thesisdowndss::thesis_word: default

Chapter 2

Boxscore

In basketball, a boxscore provides the statistical summary of the game via defensive, offensive, and overall success metrics. Popular metrics include rebounds per game (RBG), player efficiency rating (PER), free throw attempts (FTA), and 3 field goals made (3FGM). However, these metrics cannot capture the entirety of the game because they do not take into account the opposing team's defense/offense, nor previous plays that significantly influenced the flow of the game.

Chapter 3

Literature Review

Previous work conducted by Daniel Cervone, Alex, D'Amour, Luke Bornn, and Kirk Goldsberry attempt to capture the game wholelistically via a new measure called Expected Possession Value (EPV). This new metric uses three models–a microtransition model, macrotransition entrance model, and a macrotransition exit model–to capture the spatial biases of each player and the in-game effects of pressure, so that it can measure the likelihood of a successful play (made shot) given the previous sequence of events. To compare players against the league-average scores, they also calculated Expected Possession Value -Adjusted as an application for teams. Below is a brief overview of each model.

3.1 Microtransition Model

$x^l(t+\epsilon) = x^l(t) + \alpha_x^l[x^l(t) - x^l(t-\epsilon)] + \eta_x^l(t)$ where $\eta_x^l(t) \sim N(\mu_x^l(z^l(t)), (\sigma_x^l)^2)$

The microtransition model models the defensive conditions of the game based on the (x, y) coordinates of a player and their acceleration effects $(\alpha_x^l(t))$. It is also assumed that a player's spatial location is normally distributed. Since players play differently, each microtransition model is specifically fitted to the player.

Chapter 4

Macrotransition Entrance Model

equation

The macro model has two parts, depending on the the given transition states. The first part is a binomial .... the second a poisson... This model performs well, although the computation time prevents any real-time analyses of the game.

Chapter 5

Macrotransition Exit Model

equation

Chapter 6

Implementation of this Model

6.1 Next Steps

Both metrics calculated via a semi-Markov process, EPV fails to capture the full nature of the possession because it only uses the last posession as a prior. The model would be more robust if it captured the entirety of the posession in its prior–however, the computational time of such an ordeal would prevent any real-time analyses. Thus, this paper proposes that a simpler model may perform more quickly and potentially just as robustly to allow for game-time analyses.

Here is a brief introduction into using *R Markdown*. *Markdown* is a simple formatting syntax for authoring HTML, PDF, and MS Word documents. *R Markdown* provides the flexibility of *Markdown* with the implementation of **R** input and output. For more details on using *R Markdown* see `http://rmarkdown.rstudio.com`.

Be careful with your spacing in *Markdown* documents. While whitespace largely is ignored, it does at times give *Markdown* signals as to how to proceed. As a habit, try to keep everything left aligned whenever possible, especially as you type a new paragraph. In other words, there is no need to indent basic text in the Rmd document (in fact, it might cause your text to do funny things if you do).

6.2 Exploratory Data Analysis

-eda, write up literature

It's easy to create a list. It can be unordered like

- Item 1
- Item 2

or it can be ordered like

1. Item 1
2. Item 2

Notice that I intentionally mislabeled Item 2 as number 4. *Markdown* automatically figures this out! You can put any numbers in the list and it will create the list. Check it out below.

To create a sublist, just indent the values a bit (at least four spaces or a tab). (Here's one case where indentation is key!)

1. Item 1
2. Item 2
3. Item 3
    - Item 3a
    - Item 3b

6.3 Line breaks

Make sure to add white space between lines if you'd like to start a new paragraph. Look at what happens below in the outputted document if you don't:

Here is the first sentence. Here is another sentence. Here is the last sentence to end the paragraph. This should be a new paragraph.

Now for the correct way:

Here is the first sentence. Here is another sentence. Here is the last sentence to end the paragraph.

This should be a new paragraph.

6.4 R chunks

When you click the **Knit** button above a document will be generated that includes both content as well as the output of any embedded **R** code chunks within the document. You can embed an **R** code chunk like this (`cars` is a built-in **R** dataset):

```r
summary(cars)
```

```
    speed           dist       
 Min.   : 4.0   Min.   :  2.00  
 1st Qu.:12.0   1st Qu.: 26.00  
 Median :15.0   Median : 36.00  
 Mean   :15.4   Mean   : 42.98  
 3rd Qu.:19.0   3rd Qu.: 56.00  
 Max.   :25.0   Max.   :120.00  
```

6.5 Inline code

If you'd like to put the results of your analysis directly into your discussion, add inline code like this:

> The `cos` of 2π is 1.

Another example would be the direct calculation of the standard deviation:

> The standard deviation of `speed` in `cars` is 5.2876444.

One last neat feature is the use of the `ifelse` conditional statement which can be used to output text depending on the result of an **R** calculation:

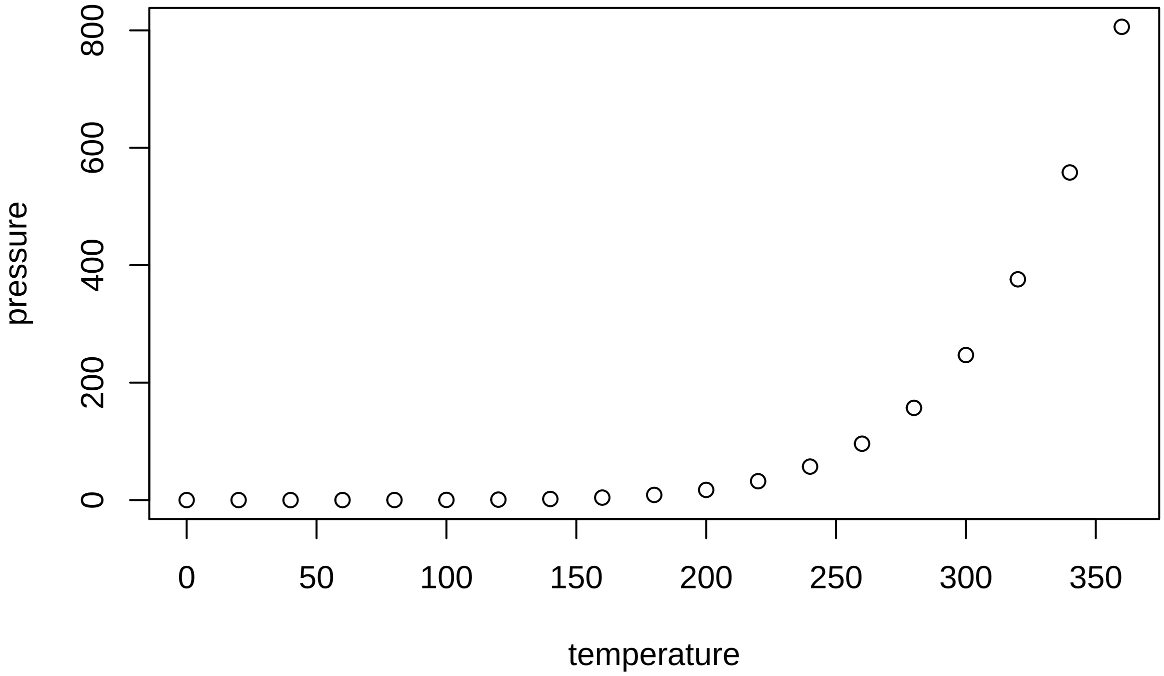
> The standard deviation is less than 6.

Note the use of `>` here, which signifies a quotation environment that will be indented.

As you see with `$2 \pi$` above, mathematics can be added by surrounding the mathematical text with dollar signs. More examples of this are in [Mathematics and Science] if you uncomment the code in Math.

6.6 Including plots

You can also embed plots. For example, here is a way to use the base **R** graphics package to produce a plot using the built-in `pressure` dataset:



Note that the `echo=FALSE` parameter was added to the code chunk to prevent printing of the **R** code that generated the plot. There are plenty of other ways to add chunk options. More information is available at `http://yihui.name/knitr/options/`.

Another useful chunk option is the setting of `cache=TRUE` as you see here. If document rendering becomes time consuming due to long computations or plots that are expensive to generate you can use knitr caching to improve performance. Later in this file, you'll see a way to reference plots created in **R** or external figures.

6.7 Loading and exploring data

Included in this template is a file called `flights.csv`. This file includes a subset of the larger dataset of information about all flights that departed from Seattle and Portland in 2014. More information about this dataset and its **R** package is available at `http://github.com/ismayc/pnwflights14`. This subset includes only Portland flights and only rows that were complete with no missing values. Merges were also done with the `airports` and `airlines` data sets in the `pnwflights14` package to get more descriptive airport and airline names.

We can load in this data set using the following command:

```
flights <- read.csv("data/flights.csv")
```

The data is now stored in the data frame called `flights` in **R**. To get a better feel for the variables included in this dataset we can use a variety of functions. Here we can see the dimensions (rows by columns) and also the names of the columns.

```
dim(flights)
```

```
[1] 52808    16
```

```
names(flights)
```

```
 [1] "month"        "day"          "dep_time"     "dep_delay"
 [5] "arr_time"     "arr_delay"    "carrier"      "tailnum"
 [9] "flight"       "dest"         "air_time"     "distance"
[13] "hour"         "minute"       "carrier_name" "dest_name"
```

Another good idea is to take a look at the dataset in table form. With this dataset having more than 50,000 rows, we won't explicitly show the results of the command here. I recommend you enter the command into the Console ***after*** you have run the **R** chunks above to load the data into **R**.

```
View(flights)
```

While not required, it is highly recommended you use the `dplyr` package to manipulate and summarize your data set as needed. It uses a syntax that is easy to understand using chaining operations. Below I've created a few examples of using `dplyr` to get information about the Portland flights in 2014. You will also see the use of the `ggplot2` package, which produces beautiful, high-quality academic visuals.

We begin by checking to ensure that needed packages are installed and then we load them into our current working environment:

```r
# List of packages required for this analysis
pkg <- c("dplyr", "ggplot2", "knitr", "bookdown", "devtools")
# Check if packages are not installed and assign the
# names of the packages not installed to the variable new.pkg
new.pkg <- pkg[!(pkg %in% installed.packages())]
# If there are any packages in the list that aren't installed,
# install them
if (length(new.pkg))
  install.packages(new.pkg, repos = "http://cran.rstudio.com")
# Load packages (thesisdowndss will load all of the packages as well)
library(thesisdowndss)
```

The example we show here does the following:

- Selects only the carrier_name and arr_delay from the flights dataset and then assigns this subset to a new variable called flights2.
- Using flights2, we determine the largest arrival delay for each of the carriers.

```
flights2 <- flights %>%
  select(carrier_name, arr_delay)
max_delays <- flights2 %>%
  group_by(carrier_name) %>%
  summarize(max_arr_delay = max(arr_delay, na.rm = TRUE))
```

A useful function in the knitr package for making nice tables in *R Markdown* is called kable. It is much easier to use than manually entering values into a table by copying and pasting values into Excel or LaTeX. This again goes to show how nice reproducible documents can be! (Note the use of results="asis", which will produce the table instead of the code to create the table.) The caption.short argument is used to include a shorter title to appear in the List of Tables.

```
kable(max_delays,
      col.names = c("Airline", "Max Arrival Delay"),
      caption = "Maximum Delays by Airline",
      caption.short = "Max Delays by Airline",
      longtable = TRUE,
      booktabs = TRUE)
```

Table 6.1: Maximum Delays by Airline

Airline	Max Arrival Delay
Alaska Airlines Inc.	338
American Airlines Inc.	1539
Delta Air Lines Inc.	651
Frontier Airlines Inc.	575
Hawaiian Airlines Inc.	407
JetBlue Airways	273
SkyWest Airlines Inc.	421
Southwest Airlines Co.	694
United Air Lines Inc.	472
US Airways Inc.	347
Virgin America	366

The last two options make the table a little easier-to-read.

We can further look into the properties of the largest value here for American

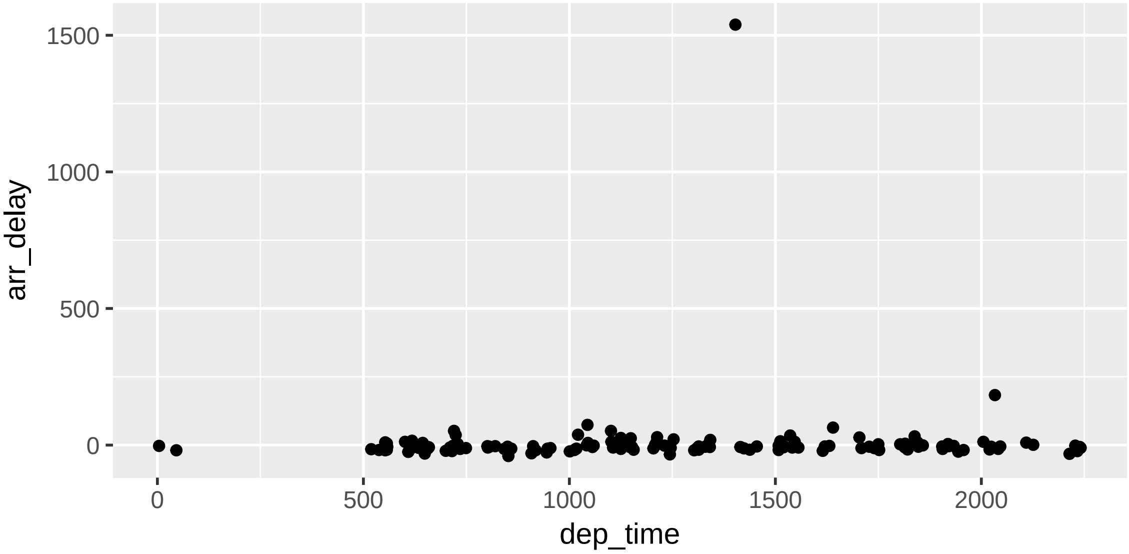
Airlines Inc. To do so, we can isolate the row corresponding to the arrival delay of 1539 minutes for American in our original `flights` dataset.

```
flights %>% filter(arr_delay == 1539,
                  carrier_name == "American Airlines Inc.") %>%
  select(-c(month, day, carrier, dest_name, hour,
            minute, carrier_name, arr_delay))
```

```
  dep_time dep_delay arr_time tailnum flight dest air_time distance
1     1403      1553     1934  N595AA   1568  DFW      182     1616
```

We see that the flight occurred on March 3rd and departed a little after 2 PM on its way to Dallas/Fort Worth. Lastly, we show how we can visualize the arrival delay of all departing flights from Portland on March 3rd against time of departure.

```
flights %>% filter(month == 3, day == 3) %>%
  ggplot(aes(x = dep_time, y = arr_delay)) + geom_point()
```



6.8 Additional resources

- *Markdown* Cheatsheet - `https://github.com/adam-p/markdown-here/wiki/Markdown-Cheatsheet`
- *R Markdown* Reference Guide - `https://www.rstudio.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/03/rmarkdown-reference.pdf`
- `dplyr` Documentation - `http://dplyr.tidyverse.org/`
- `ggplot2` Documentation - `http://ggplot2.tidyverse.org/`

Chapter 7

Math typesetting

7.1 Math

Chapter 8

This chunk ensures that the thesisdowndss package is

8.1 Tables

8.2 Figures

8.3 Footnotes and Endnotes

8.4 Bibliographies

8.5 Anything else?

Chapter 9

Organization

Conclusion

Chapter 10

The First Appendix

References