

Exchanging random variables

**detailed balance in
time-reversible Markov chains**

$$\pi(z)K(\tilde{z}|z)=\pi(\tilde{z})K(z|\tilde{z})$$

- q is any proposal distribution

- **only need to know π up to a normalizing constant**

Metropolis—Hastings kernel from x to y :

propose x^* from $q(\cdot | x)$, then set

$$y = \begin{cases} x^* & \text{with prob. } \alpha, \\ x & \text{with prob. } 1 - \alpha, \end{cases}$$

$$\alpha = \min \left(1, \frac{\pi(x^*)q(x | x^*)}{\pi(x)q(x^* | x)} \right)$$

$Z \sim \pi$, find conditional distribution kernel $\kappa(\cdot | z)$ such that if $\tilde{Z} | Z \sim \kappa(\cdot | Z)$, $(Z, \tilde{Z}) \stackrel{d}{=} (\tilde{Z}, Z)$

Equivalently, find conditional density $\kappa(\cdot | z)$ such that

(only worry about conditional exchangeability, because the other condition, knockoff symmetry, is easy to satisfy)

$$(X_j, \tilde{X}_j) = (\tilde{X}_j, X_j) \mid X_{-j}, \tilde{X}_{1:(j-1)}, 1 \leq j \leq p$$



Exchangeable random variables

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$$(X_j, \tilde{X}_j) \stackrel{d}{=} (\tilde{X}_j, X_j) \mid X_{-j}, \tilde{X}_{1:(j-1)}, 1 \leq j \leq p$$

$Z \sim \pi$, find conditional distribution kernel $\kappa(\cdot \mid z)$ such that if $\tilde{Z} \mid Z \sim \kappa(\cdot \mid Z)$, $(Z, \tilde{Z}) \stackrel{d}{=} (\tilde{Z}, Z)$

Equivalently, find conditional density $\kappa(\cdot \mid z)$ such that $\pi(z)\kappa(\tilde{z} \mid z) = \pi(\tilde{z})\kappa(z \mid \tilde{z})$

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1. Introduction

- Variable selection and model-X knockoffs
- Knockoff sampling is difficult

2. Characterizing knockoff distributions

- The characterization theorem
- Connection to Markov chain Monte Carlo (MCMC)

3. **Metropolized knockoff sampling (Metro)**

- How it works
- Time complexity and graphical structure

4. Good proposals inspired by the MCMC literature

- Covariance-guided proposal
- Multiple-try Metropolis (MTM)

5. Simulation results

6. Discussion