

Bayesian calibration

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Outline

- 1 What is Bayesian statistic ?
- 2 Inference technique
 - Sampling from the posterior distribution
 - Metropolis-Hastings algorithm
 - Gibbs sampler
- 3 Bayesian calibration
 - Principle
 - Expensive black-box simulator
 - Model discrepancy
 - Related topics

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1 What is Bayesian statistic ?

2 Inference technique

- Sampling from the posterior distribution
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- Gibbs sampler

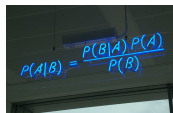
3 Bayesian calibration

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History



- Thomas Bayes (1702-1761)

A photograph of a whiteboard with the Bayes' theorem formula written in blue marker:
$$P(A|B) = \frac{P(B|A)P(A)}{P(B)}$$

Posthumous publication of the formula in 1763

- Pierre Simon Laplace (1749-1827) in 1771 independently from Bayes, discovered the formula and used it for inference.
All causes assumed to be **equally likely**.
- Only possible for **conjugate prior** until computers !
- 1990's : **Monte Carlo Markov Chain** samplers for posterior distribution.

Bayes' formula

A and E two events such that $\mathbb{P}(E) > 0$:

$$\mathbb{P}(A|E) = \frac{\mathbb{P}(E|A) \cdot \mathbb{P}(A)}{\mathbb{P}(E|A) \cdot \mathbb{P}(A) + \mathbb{P}(E|A^c) \cdot \mathbb{P}(A^c)} = \frac{\mathbb{P}(E|A) \cdot \mathbb{P}(A)}{\mathbb{P}(E)}$$

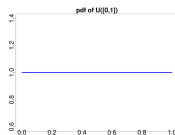
Symmetric formula but seen as an inversion of cause and consequence

- A cause **unobserved**, E consequence **observed**.
- $\mathbb{P}(E|A)$ and $\mathbb{P}(E|A^c)$ assumed by the **stochastic model**.
- $\mathbb{P}(A)$ and $\mathbb{P}(A^c)$ prior belief on the cause (equally probable ?)
- Inference on $\mathbb{P}(A|E)$ posterior: update on our knowledge on A given the observations/data.

An example from Laplace 1786

Proportion of male births in Paris ? Is it $p = 1/2$?

Data: $N_m = 251,527$ male births and $N_f = 241,945$ female births



Prior: $p \sim \pi(p) = \mathcal{U}([0, 1])$

Stochastic Model: $N_m \sim \mathcal{B}(N_m + N_f = N_T, p) = \pi(N_m|p)$

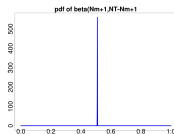
Posterior:

$$\begin{aligned}\pi(p|N_m) &= \frac{\pi(N_m|p) \cdot \pi(p)}{\pi(N_m)} \propto \pi(N_m|p) \cdot \pi(p) \\ &\propto C_{N_T}^{N_m} p^{N_m} (1-p)^{N_T-N_m} \cdot \mathbb{I}_{[0,1]}(p)\end{aligned}$$

An example from Laplace 1786

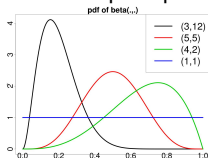
Posterior:

$$\pi(p|N_m) \propto p^{N_m}(1-p)^{N_T-N_m}\mathbb{I}_{[0,1]}(p)$$



Loi $\text{beta}(N_m + 1, N_T - N_m + 1)$

- More than an point-estimate a distribution.
A possible choice: $\mathbb{E}(p|N_m) = \frac{N_m+1}{N_T+2} = 50.97\%$.
But also, $\mathbb{P}(p < 1/2) = 1.1 \cdot 10^{-42}$.
- Weight of prior information: 2 compare with weight of data N_T !
- Explicit posterior distribution \rightarrow Conjugate prior Beta-Binomial model !



$$\begin{aligned}\pi(p) &= \text{beta}(\alpha, \beta) \\ \pi(p|N_m) &= \text{beta}(N_m + \alpha, N_T - N_m + \beta)\end{aligned}$$

Likelihood function

Data:

$\mathbf{x} = (x_1, \dots, x_n)$ observed

Stochastic model:

\mathbf{x} is assumed to be a realisation of a random variable \mathbf{X} with distribution \mathbb{P}_θ where $\theta \in \Theta \subset \mathbb{R}^d$ is unknown.

$f(\mathbf{x}|\theta)$ is “the probability of the data for a given θ ”:

- If \mathbb{P}_θ is discrete, $f(\mathbf{x}|\theta) = \mathbb{P}_\theta(\mathbf{X} = \mathbf{x})$,
- If \mathbb{P}_θ is continuous, $f(\mathbf{x}|\theta)$ is the density function with respect to the Lebesgue measure.

Likelihood:

Information on θ brought by \mathbf{x} :

$$l(\theta|\mathbf{x}) = f(\mathbf{x}|\theta).$$

Remark: If $\mathbf{x} = (x_1, \dots, x_n)$ i.i.d. with model $f(\cdot|\theta)$ then:

$$l(\theta|\mathbf{x}) = \prod_{i=1}^n f(x_i|\theta).$$

Formalism

- **Data:** $\mathbf{x} = (x_1, \dots, x_n)$.
- **Stochastic Model:** $f(\mathbf{x}|\theta)$ where $\theta \in \Theta \subset \mathbb{R}^d$ (parametric statistic).
likelihood function seen as a function of θ .

$$l(\theta|\mathbf{x}) = f(\mathbf{x}|\theta)$$

- **Prior:** $\theta \sim \pi(\cdot)$.
- **Posterior:** by application of Bayes Formula:

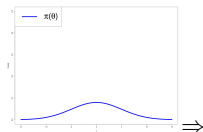
$$\pi(\theta|\mathbf{x}) = \frac{f(\mathbf{x}|\theta) \cdot \pi(\theta)}{\int_{\Theta} l(\theta|\mathbf{x})\pi(\theta)d\mathbb{P}(\theta)} = \frac{l(\theta|\mathbf{x}) \cdot \pi(\theta)}{\int_{\Theta} l(\theta|\mathbf{x})\pi(\theta)d\mathbb{P}(\theta)}.$$

Normalizing constant: $\int_{\Theta} l(\theta|\mathbf{x})\pi(\theta)d\mathbb{P}(\theta)$

- hard to compute in non-conjugate models,
- depends only on \mathbf{x} .

An illustration of the Bayes machine

Prior
Expert judgment
previous knowledge



Modelisation
 $f(\mathbf{x}|\theta) = l(\theta|\mathbf{x})$



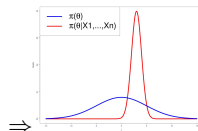
Bayes Formula

$$\pi(\theta|\mathbf{x}) = \frac{l(\theta|\mathbf{x}) \cdot \pi(\theta)}{\int_{\Theta} l(\theta|\mathbf{x}) \pi(\theta) d\mathbb{P}(\theta)} \cdot$$



$\mathbf{x} = (x_1, \dots, x_n)$
data

posterior



Remark: Can be used sequentially.

Main features of Bayesian statistic

- Allows to incorporate in prior distribution:
 - knowledge from previous experiments or experiments in different conditions,
 - experts' knowledge.
- Provides a distribution on the unknown parameters given the data and prior information \Rightarrow Take naturally into account uncertainty on estimation in a non-asymptotic context.
Credible interval can be obtained from the posterior distribution.

Topics in Bayesian statistic

- Choice of a prior
 - Elicitation Subjective Bayes
 - Non informative Prior Objective Bayes
 - Sensitivity to the prior
- Decision theory: choose of a cost / utility function ?
Obtaining a point-estimate.
- Non parametric Bayesian statistic.
- Inference concerns
Next section !

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- Gibbs sampler

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If no conjugate prior ?

Solution: Simulate according to the posterior distribution: $\pi(\theta|\mathbf{x})$ and using Monte Carlo techniques.

⇒ posterior distribution only known through a sample (as big as you want/need).

Main difficulties: Normalizing constant: $\int_{\Theta} l(\theta|\mathbf{x})\pi(\theta)d\mathbb{P}(\theta)$ is not tractable
Posterior distribution is known up to a constant:

$$\pi(\theta|\mathbf{x}) \propto l(\theta|\mathbf{x}) \cdot \pi(\theta)$$

Monte Carlo Markov Chain (MCMC)

Principle

Generate a Markov Chain $(\theta^t)_{t \in \mathbb{N}}$ with stationary distribution $\pi(\theta|\mathbf{x})$.

If enough iterations of the chain, the chain

- forgets its initial state,
- is distributed according to $\pi(\cdot|\mathbf{x})$
- Estimation: for any h measurable $\frac{1}{T} \sum_t h(\theta^t) \xrightarrow{P.S.} \mathbb{E}_{\pi(\cdot|\mathbf{x})}(h(\theta))$ (Ergodic Theorem)

2 well-known algorithms

- Metropolis-Hastings algorithm
- Gibbs sampler

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Metropolis-Hastings algorithm

Initialisation: Generate θ^0 from a starting distribution (prior for example)

Algorithm : iterations $t = 1, \dots$:

- propose $\tilde{\theta}^{t+1}$ according to $q(\theta^t, \cdot)$,
- Compute $\alpha(\theta^t, \tilde{\theta}^{t+1}) = \begin{cases} \min \left(\frac{\pi(\tilde{\theta}^{t+1}|\mathbf{x})}{\pi(\theta^t|\mathbf{x})} \frac{q(\theta^t, \tilde{\theta}^{t+1})}{q(\tilde{\theta}^{t+1}, \theta^t)}, 1 \right), & \pi(\theta^t|\mathbf{x}) > 0 \\ 1 & \pi(\theta^t|\mathbf{x}) = 0 \end{cases}$,
- $\theta^{t+1} = \begin{cases} \tilde{\theta}^{t+1} & \text{with probability } \alpha(\theta^t, \tilde{\theta}^{t+1}) \\ \theta^t & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$.

Remark : Note that

$$\frac{\pi(\tilde{\theta}^{t+1}|\mathbf{x})}{\pi(\theta^t|\mathbf{x})} = \frac{l(\tilde{\theta}^{t+1}|\mathbf{x}) \cdot \pi(\theta)}{l(\theta^t|\mathbf{x}) \cdot \pi(\theta)}$$

simplification of the normalising constant.

If $q(\theta, \tilde{\theta}) = q(\tilde{\theta}, \theta)$ (symmetric distribution),

$$\alpha(\theta, \tilde{\theta}) = \begin{cases} \min \left(\frac{\pi(\tilde{\theta}^{t+1}|\mathbf{x})}{\pi(\theta^t|\mathbf{x})}, 1 \right), & \pi(\theta^t|\mathbf{x}) > 0 \\ 1 & \pi(\theta^t|\mathbf{x}) = 0 \end{cases}.$$

Metropolis-Hastings algorithm

Choice of the kernel $q(\cdot, \cdot)$: often a random walk

- $\tilde{\theta}^{t+1} \sim \theta^t + \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma^2 Id)$,
- $\tilde{\theta}^{t+1} \sim \theta^t + \mathcal{U}[-\gamma, \gamma]$.

Produce a sample $(\theta_M, \dots, \theta_N)$:

- $M - 1$ first iterations not used: burnin of the chain,
- Not independent (autocorrelation),
- distribution of $(\theta_M, \dots, \theta_N)$ should be close to $\pi(\cdot | \mathbf{x})$.

Efficiency of the algorithm:

- Fast convergence toward the stationary distribution ?
- Small autocorrelation ?
- Good choice of $q(\cdot, \cdot)$?

Link with the acceptance rate: proportion of accepted transition

$$\theta^{t+1} = \tilde{\theta}^{t+1}.$$

An example

Metropolis-Hastings with random walk $\tilde{\theta}^{t+1} \sim \theta^t \mathcal{U}[-\gamma, \gamma]$ for $\pi = \mathcal{N}(0, 1)$.

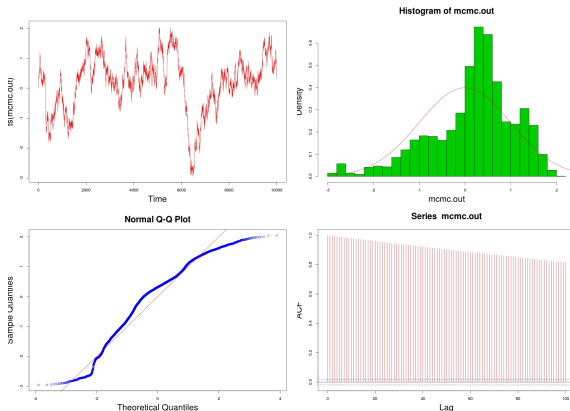


Figure: $\gamma = 0.1$, high acceptance rate (97%), bad mixing

An example

Metropolis-Hastings with random walk $\theta^{t+1} \sim \mathcal{U}[-\gamma, \gamma]$ for $\pi = \mathcal{N}(0, 1)$.

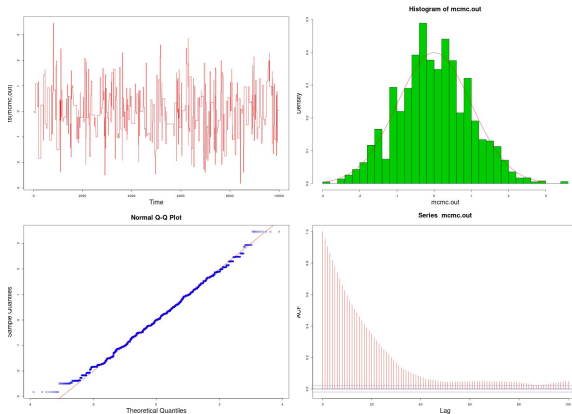


Figure: $\gamma = 40$, low acceptance rate (3.7%), bad mixing

An example

Metropolis-Hastings with random walk $\theta^{t+1} \sim \mathcal{U}[-\gamma, \gamma]$ for $\pi = \mathcal{N}(0, 1)$.

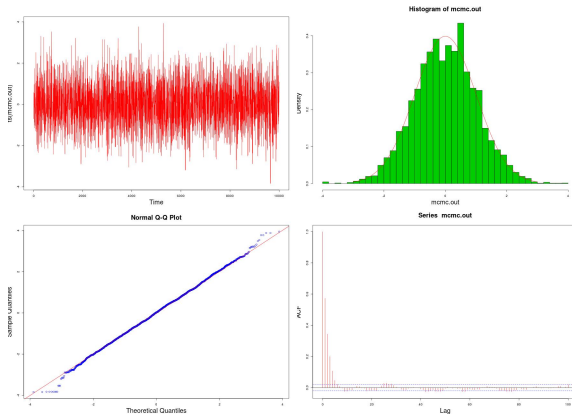


Figure: $\gamma = 5$, medium acceptance rate (38%), *good* mixing

Morality: Goldilocks' principle

Acceptation rate should be:

- not too big (small γ),
- not too small (large γ)....

Optimality: In particular situation theoretical works (Roberts et al., 1997) show optimal acceptance rate is **0.234**.
Often ok if in $[0.1; 0.6]$.

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Gibbs sampler: conditional simulations

Generate $\boldsymbol{\theta} = (\theta_1, \dots, \theta_d)$ according to $\pi(\cdot|\mathbf{x})$ by using conditional distributions: $\pi(\cdot|\mathbf{x}, \boldsymbol{\theta}_{-j})$ where $\boldsymbol{\theta}_{-j} = (\theta_1, \dots, \theta_{j-1}, \theta_{j+1}, \dots, \theta_d)$.

Initialisation: Generate $\boldsymbol{\theta}^0$ from a starting distribution (prior for example).

Algorithm: Iterations $t = 1, \dots$, for $j = 1, \dots, d$
sample θ_j^{t+1} from:

$$\pi(\cdot|\mathbf{x}, \theta_1^{t+1}, \dots, \theta_{j-1}^{t+1}, \theta_{j+1}^t, \dots, \theta_d^t)$$

Gibbs sampler: an example

Gaussian model:

$X_i \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu, \sigma^2)$, $i = 1, \dots, n$, i.i.d.
 $(\theta = (\mu, \sigma^2))$:

$$f(\mathbf{x}|\mu, \sigma^2) = 1/(2\pi\sigma^2)^{n/2} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2\sigma^2} \sum (x_i - \mu)^2\right)$$

Prior:

Mean $\mu \sim \mathcal{N}(m_0, \sigma_0^2)$

Variance $\sigma^2 \sim \mathcal{IG}(\alpha, \beta)$ (inverse Gamma)

Posterior:

$\mu|\sigma^2, \mathbf{x} \sim \mathcal{N}(M, \Sigma^2)$ where

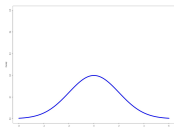
$$M = \frac{n\sigma_0^2}{n\sigma_0^2 + \sigma^2} \frac{1}{n} (\sum_i x_i) + \frac{\sigma^2}{n\sigma_0^2 + \sigma^2} m_0 \text{ and } \Sigma^2 = \frac{\sigma^2 \sigma_0^2}{\sigma^2 + n\sigma_0^2}$$

$$\sigma^2|\mu, \mathbf{x} \sim \mathcal{IG}\left(\frac{n}{2} + \alpha, \frac{1}{2} \sum (x_i - \mu)^2 + \beta\right)$$

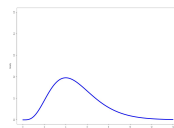
Gibbs sampler: an example

Prior:

$$\mu \sim \mathcal{N}(0, 4)$$



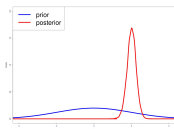
$$\sigma^2 \sim \text{IG}(5, 1)$$



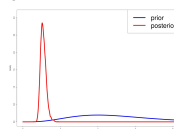
Data: 20 i.i.d. $x_i \sim \mathcal{N}(2, 1)$.

Gibbs sampling \Rightarrow Posterior

μ



σ^2



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Calibration of a computer code

Computer experiments:

Evaluations of the computer model (simulator) $f(\mathbf{x}, \boldsymbol{\theta}) \in \mathbb{R}^s$ where

- **physical parameters:** $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^m$ observable and often controllable inputs
- **simulator parameters** $\boldsymbol{\theta} \in \mathbb{R}^d$ non-observable parameters, required to run the simulator.
2 types:
 - “calibration parameters”: physical meaning but unknown, necessary to make the code mimic the reality,
 - “tuning parameters”: no physical interpretation.

Goal:

Calibrate the code: finding “best” or “true” $\boldsymbol{\theta}$ from real observations.

Observations / Data: For different inputs: $\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_n$

Noisy (measurement error) observations of reality: $y_1 = y(\mathbf{x}_1), \dots, y_n = y(\mathbf{x}_n)$

Usual framework

Hypotheses:

- Observations are noisy realisations of a physical system:

$$y_i = \zeta(\mathbf{x}_i) + \epsilon_i, \quad i = 1, \dots, n.$$

- physical system does not depend on θ ,
 - sometimes, distribution of the measurement errors ϵ_i is treated as known.
-
- Relationship between the simulator and the data

$$y(\mathbf{x}_i) = f(\mathbf{x}_i, \theta^*) + \delta(\mathbf{x}_i) + \epsilon_i, \quad i = 1, \dots, n.$$

- θ^* denotes the true parameter,
- $\delta(\cdot)$ is the discrepancy between the simulator and reality: sometimes negligible.

A calibration example

Hypotheses:

- The simulator represents sufficiently well the physical system:

$$y(\mathbf{x}_i) = f(\mathbf{x}_i, \theta^*) + \epsilon_i, \quad i = 1, \dots, n.$$

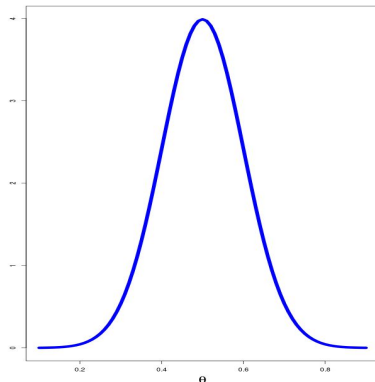
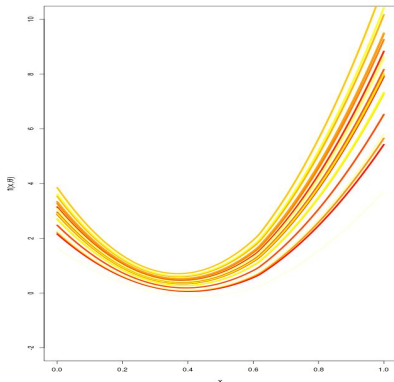
- But unknown θ^* .
- $\epsilon_i \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma^2)$ i.i.d. with known σ^2 .

A calibration example

Prior:

prior distribution on unknown θ : $\pi(\cdot)$
from expert judgment, past experiments...

Possible choice $\pi(\theta) = \mathcal{N}(\theta_0, \sigma_0^2)$.



A calibration example

Data:

Couples $(\mathbf{x}_1, y_1), \dots, (\mathbf{x}_n, y_n)$ from physical experiments.

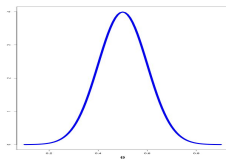
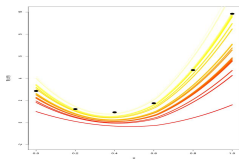
Posterior distribution:

$$\begin{aligned}\pi(\theta|\mathbf{y}) &\propto l(\theta|\mathbf{y}) \cdot \pi(\theta) \\ &\propto \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2\sigma^2} \sum_{i=1}^n (y(\mathbf{x}_i) - f(\mathbf{x}_i, \theta))^2 - \frac{1}{2\sigma_0^2} (\theta - \theta_0)^2\right)\end{aligned}$$

- Analytical posterior if $\theta \mapsto f(\mathbf{x}, \theta)$ is a linear map,
- Otherwise MCMC sampling to simulate according to the posterior distribution.

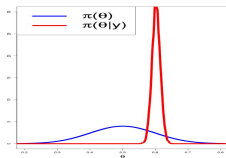
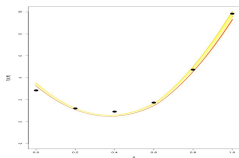
A calibration example

Prior with data:
($\theta^* = 0.6$)



↓ Metropolis-Hastings algorithm ↓

Posterior on θ :



More details on the MH algorithm

Initialisation:

θ^0 chosen.

Update:

iterations $t = 1, \dots,$

1 Proposal: $\tilde{\theta}^{t+1} = \theta^t + \mathcal{N}(0, \tau^2)$.

2 Compute

$$\alpha(\theta^t, \tilde{\theta}^{t+1}) = \frac{\pi(\tilde{\theta}^{t+1}|\mathbf{y})}{\pi(\theta^t|\mathbf{y})}$$

3 Acceptation:

$$\theta^{t+1} = \begin{cases} \tilde{\theta}^{t+1} & \text{with probability } \alpha(\theta^t, \tilde{\theta}^{t+1}) \\ \theta^t & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Note that the ratio $\alpha(\theta^t, \tilde{\theta}^{t+1})$ needs several computations of $f(\mathbf{x}, \theta)$ at each step since

$$\pi(\theta|\mathbf{y}) \propto \exp \left(-\frac{1}{2\sigma^2} \sum_{i=1}^n (y(\mathbf{x}_i) - f(\mathbf{x}_i, \theta))^2 - \frac{1}{2\sigma_0^2} (\theta - \theta_0)^2 \right).$$

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Expensive black-box computer code

- Run the simulator for a given (\mathbf{x}, θ) is time-consuming / expensive.
- The simulator is a black-box, no intrusive methods are possible.

⇒ Only few runs of the simulator are possible then we cannot apply the MH algorithm.

Using an emulator / metamodel / coarse model / approximation of the simulator which is fast to compute, but:

- loss on precision of prediction,
- new uncertainty source: accuracy of the model approximation ?
- how to take it into account ?

Emulator using Gaussian Process:

- Very popular in computer experiments.
- integrated in a Bayesian framework: appears in the likelihood function and a prior on the parameters of the Gaussian process are chosen.
- model uncertainty coming from approximation of f .

Prior distribution on f :

- Gaussian process F with given mean and covariance function (a priori on the regularity of the function).
- Prior distribution on ϕ hyperparameters of the Gaussian process.

Posterior distribution on f :

Given some evaluations of f : \mathbf{y}^c .

⇒ Gaussian process F conditioned to interpolate these evaluations (and conditioned to ϕ), still a Gaussian process.

- Mean of the conditioned process approximates $f(\mathbf{x})$,
- Variance of the conditioned process provides a measure of uncertainty on this approximation.

Gaussian process emulator: illustration

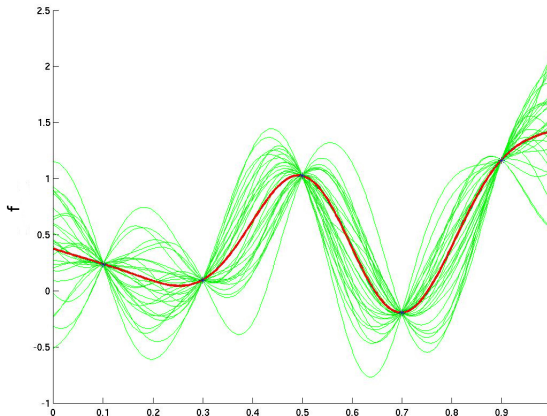


Figure: Posterior mean and realisations of the conditioned process

Calibration of $f(\cdot, \cdot)$

Uncertainty on f due to emulation integrated in likelihood $l(\theta|\mathbf{y}, \mathbf{y}^c, \phi)$:
(\mathbf{y}^c evaluations of the simulator, ϕ hyperparameters of the Gaussian process)

posterior distribution

$$\pi(\theta|\mathbf{y}, \mathbf{y}^c) \propto \int_{\Phi} l(\theta|\mathbf{y}, \mathbf{y}^c, \phi) p(\theta) p(\phi) d\phi,$$

or

$$\pi(\theta|\mathbf{y}, \mathbf{y}^c) \propto l(\theta|\mathbf{y}, \mathbf{y}^c, \hat{\phi}) p(\theta),$$

where $\hat{\phi}$ is an estimation regarded as fixed.

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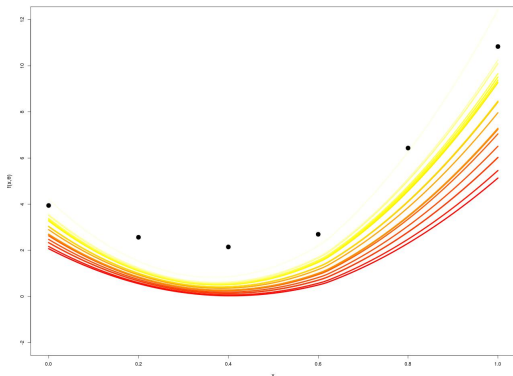
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Model discrepancy

The model cannot capture the entire physical phenomenon:

$$y(\mathbf{x}_i) = f(\mathbf{x}_i, \theta^*) + \delta(\mathbf{x}_i) + \epsilon_i, \quad i = 1, \dots, n,$$

where $\delta(\mathbf{x}_i) = \zeta(\mathbf{x}_i) - f(\mathbf{x}_i, \theta^*)$ (recall $\zeta(\cdot)$ is the unobserved physical phenomenon) accounts for the model discrepancy.



Modelisation of δ :

Sensible to assume: $\delta(\mathbf{x}) \approx \delta(\mathbf{x} + d\mathbf{x})$

Gaussian Process hypothesis on δ with possible:

- zero mean,
- smooth a priori on covariance function,
- combining with Gaussian process hypothesis on f .

Meaning of θ :

- few information on θ if there is a systematic discrepancy ?
- the model $f(\mathbf{x}, \theta)$ is informative through θ on the shape of the physical phenomenon $\zeta(\cdot)$?

Plan

1 What is Bayesian statistic ?

2 Inference technique

- Sampling from the posterior distribution
- Metropolis-Hastings algorithm
- Gibbs sampler

3 Bayesian calibration

- Principle
- Expensive black-box simulator
- Model discrepancy
- **Related topics**

Prediction with a calibrated simulator:

Once the model is calibrated (in a Bayesian way):

Posterior distribution on θ : $\pi(\cdot|\mathbf{y}, \dots)$

Prediction of the physical phenomenon $\zeta(\cdot)$, for \mathbf{x}^{new} ?

- If no discrepancy, no emulator, $\zeta(\mathbf{x}^{new})$ can be estimated through

$$\hat{\zeta}(\mathbf{x}^{new}) = \int_{\Theta} f(\mathbf{x}^{new}, \theta) \pi(\theta|\mathbf{y}) d\theta.$$

- otherwise $\zeta(\mathbf{x}^{new})$ has a Gaussian process as posterior distribution with mean and covariance depending on θ .
⇒ combining this distribution with $\pi(\cdot|\mathbf{y}, \mathbf{y}^c)$
integration of the posterior mean of $\zeta(\mathbf{x}^{new})$:

$$\int_{\Theta} \mathbb{E}(\zeta(\mathbf{x}^{new})|\mathbf{y}, \mathbf{y}^c, \theta) \pi(\theta|\mathbf{y}, \mathbf{y}^c) d\theta.$$

Difficulties and questions

Identifiability concerns

- If there is discrepancy, very little information on θ and meaning of “best” or “true” θ ?
- If measurement error distribution ($\epsilon_i \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma^2)$) unknown \Rightarrow lack of identifiability.
- Prediction can be accurate in a non-identifiable model...

Next step validation ?

- Validate a code is different from checking.
- Validation is a confrontation with the physical phenomenon.
- Validate with a model discrepancy ?

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