

Feel free to work with other students, but make sure you write up the homework and code on your own (no copying homework or code; no pair programming). Feel free to ask students or instructors for help debugging code or whatever else, though.

1 (Murphy 2.16) Suppose $\theta \sim \text{Beta}(a, b)$ such that

$$\mathbb{P}(\theta; a, b) = \frac{1}{B(a, b)} \theta^{a-1} (1-\theta)^{b-1} = \frac{\Gamma(a+b)}{\Gamma(a)\Gamma(b)} \theta^{a-1} (1-\theta)^{b-1}$$

where $B(a, b) = \Gamma(a)\Gamma(b)/\Gamma(a+b)$ is the Beta function and $\Gamma(x)$ is the Gamma function. Derive the mean, mode, and variance of θ .

According to the definition of Beta Function and Gamma function:

$$B(a, b) = \int_0^1 \theta^{a-1} (1-\theta)^{b-1} d\theta = \frac{\Gamma(a)\Gamma(b)}{\Gamma(a+b)}, \quad \Gamma(x+1) = x\Gamma(x).$$

Then, let's compute the mean of θ .

$$\begin{aligned} E(\theta) &= \int_0^1 \theta P(\theta; a, b) d\theta = \int_0^1 \theta \left(\frac{1}{B(a, b)} \theta^{a-1} (1-\theta)^{b-1} \right) d\theta \\ &= \frac{1}{B(a, b)} \int_0^1 \theta^a (1-\theta)^{b-1} d\theta = \frac{B(a+1, b)}{B(a, b)} \\ &= \left[\frac{\Gamma(a+1)\Gamma(b)}{\Gamma(a+b+1)} \right] \left[\frac{\Gamma(a+b)}{\Gamma(a)\Gamma(b)} \right] = \left[\frac{a\Gamma(a)\Gamma(b)}{(a+b)\Gamma(a+b)} \right] \left[\frac{\Gamma(a+b)}{\Gamma(a)\Gamma(b)} \right] \\ &= \frac{a}{a+b}. \end{aligned}$$

Then, by property of variance, $\text{Var}[\theta] = E[(\theta - E[\theta])^2] = E[\theta^2] - E[\theta]^2$.

Thus, let's compute $E[\theta^2]$.

$$\begin{aligned} E[\theta^2] &= \int_0^1 \theta^2 \left(\frac{1}{B(a, b)} \theta^{a-1} (1-\theta)^{b-1} \right) d\theta \\ &= \frac{1}{B(a, b)} \int_0^1 \theta^{a+1} (1-\theta)^{b-1} d\theta = \frac{B(a+2, b)}{B(a, b)} \\ &= \left[\frac{\Gamma(a+2)\Gamma(b)}{\Gamma(a+b+2)} \right] \left[\frac{\Gamma(a+b)}{\Gamma(a)\Gamma(b)} \right] = \left[\frac{a(a+1)\Gamma(a)\Gamma(b)}{(a+b)(a+b+1)\Gamma(a+b)} \right] \left[\frac{\Gamma(a+b)}{\Gamma(a)\Gamma(b)} \right] \\ &= \frac{a(a+1)}{(a+b)(a+b+1)} \end{aligned}$$

Thus, $\text{Var}[\theta] = E[\theta^2] - E[\theta]^2$

$$= \frac{a(a+1)}{(a+b)(a+b+1)} - \frac{a^2}{(a+b)^2} = \frac{a(a+1)(a+b) - a^2(a+b+1)}{(a+b)^2(a+b+1)} = \frac{a^3 + a^2b + a^2 + ab - a^3 - a^2b - a^2}{(a+b)^2(a+b+1)} = \frac{ab}{(a+b)^2(a+b+1)}.$$

At last, let's compute the mode.

We need to find when $\nabla_{\theta} P(\theta; a, b) = 0$. As $\frac{1}{B(a, b)}$ is constant and won't affect the optimizing value, let's ignore the term.

$$\text{Thus, } \nabla_{\theta} P(\theta; a, b) = \nabla_{\theta} [\theta^{a-1} (1-\theta)^{b-1}] = 0 = (a-1)\theta^{a-2} (1-\theta)^{b-1} - (b-1)\theta^{a-1} (1-\theta)^{b-2} = 0.$$

$$\text{So } (a-1)\theta^{a-2} (1-\theta)^{b-1} = (b-1)\theta^{a-1} (1-\theta)^{b-2}, (a-1)(1-\theta) = (b-1)\theta, (a+b-2)\theta = a-1, \theta^* = \frac{a-1}{a+b-2}.$$

2 (Murphy 9) Show that the multinomial distribution

$$\text{Cat}(\mathbf{x}|\boldsymbol{\mu}) = \prod_{i=1}^K \mu_i^{x_i}$$

is in the exponential family and show that the generalized linear model corresponding to this distribution is the same as multinomial logistic regression (softmax regression).

The exponential family has the form $P(y;\eta) = b(y) \exp(\eta^T T(y) - a(\eta))$.

Thus, we just need to rewrite the distribution with exponential and logarithm.

$$\text{Cat}(\mathbf{x}|\boldsymbol{\mu}) = \prod_{i=1}^K \mu_i^{x_i} = \exp\left[\log\left(\prod_{i=1}^K \mu_i^{x_i}\right)\right] = \exp\left(\sum_{i=1}^K x_i \log(\mu_i)\right) = \exp\left(\sum_{i=1}^K x_i \log(\mu_i)\right).$$

As $\sum_{i=1}^K \mu_i = 1$ and $\sum_{i=1}^K x_i = 1$, we just need to specify the first $K-1$ terms, since $\mu_K = 1 - \sum_{i=1}^{K-1} \mu_i$, $x_K = 1 - \sum_{i=1}^{K-1} x_i$.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Therefore, } \text{Cat}(\mathbf{x}|\boldsymbol{\mu}) &= \exp\left(\sum_{i=1}^K x_i \log(\mu_i)\right) = \exp\left(\sum_{i=1}^{K-1} x_i \log(\mu_i) + x_K \log(\mu_K)\right) \\ &= \exp\left[\sum_{i=1}^{K-1} x_i \log(\mu_i) + \left(1 - \sum_{i=1}^{K-1} x_i\right) \log(\mu_K)\right] = \exp\left[\sum_{i=1}^{K-1} x_i (\log(\mu_i) - \log(\mu_K)) + \log(\mu_K)\right] \\ &= \exp\left[\sum_{i=1}^{K-1} x_i \log\left(\frac{\mu_i}{\mu_K}\right) + \log(\mu_K)\right]. \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Thus, let } \boldsymbol{\eta} = \begin{bmatrix} \log\left(\frac{\mu_1}{\mu_K}\right) \\ \vdots \\ \log\left(\frac{\mu_{K-1}}{\mu_K}\right) \end{bmatrix}.$$

$$\text{Then, } \mu_i = \mu_K e^{\eta_i}, \text{ so } \mu_K = 1 - \sum_{i=1}^{K-1} \mu_i = 1 - \sum_{i=1}^{K-1} \mu_K e^{\eta_i} = 1 - \mu_K \sum_{i=1}^{K-1} e^{\eta_i} = \frac{1}{1 + \sum_{i=1}^{K-1} e^{\eta_i}}.$$

$$\text{Thus, } \mu_i = \mu_K e^{\eta_i} = \frac{e^{\eta_i}}{1 + \sum_{i=1}^{K-1} e^{\eta_i}}.$$

To write $\text{Cat}(\mathbf{x}|\boldsymbol{\mu}) = \exp(\boldsymbol{\eta}^T \mathbf{x} - a(\boldsymbol{\eta}))$, we have $b(\boldsymbol{\eta}) = 1$, $T(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{x}$, $a(\boldsymbol{\eta}) = -\log(\mu_K) = \log\left(1 + \sum_{i=1}^{K-1} e^{\eta_i}\right)$,

so $\text{Cat}(\mathbf{x}|\boldsymbol{\mu})$ is in the exponential family.

Also, $\boldsymbol{\mu} = S(\boldsymbol{\eta})$, where $S(\boldsymbol{\eta})$ is the softmax function, which implies the generalized linear model of this distribution is the same as softmax regression.