UCLA Biostatistics 285: Homework 2

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1 Problem 1

1.1 Part 1

The function `Sethu_jump` generates the jumps given a truncation option and a α. The `generate_DPH` uses a jump function (here we use the `Sethu_jump`) and takes input a base measure and its parameters along with α, truncation parameter K and number of samples to be generated. The final output is realizations of $\text{DP}(\alpha, \mathcal{N}(0,1))$ approximated by finite truncation with 20 terms as described in Ishwaran and Zarepour (2002).

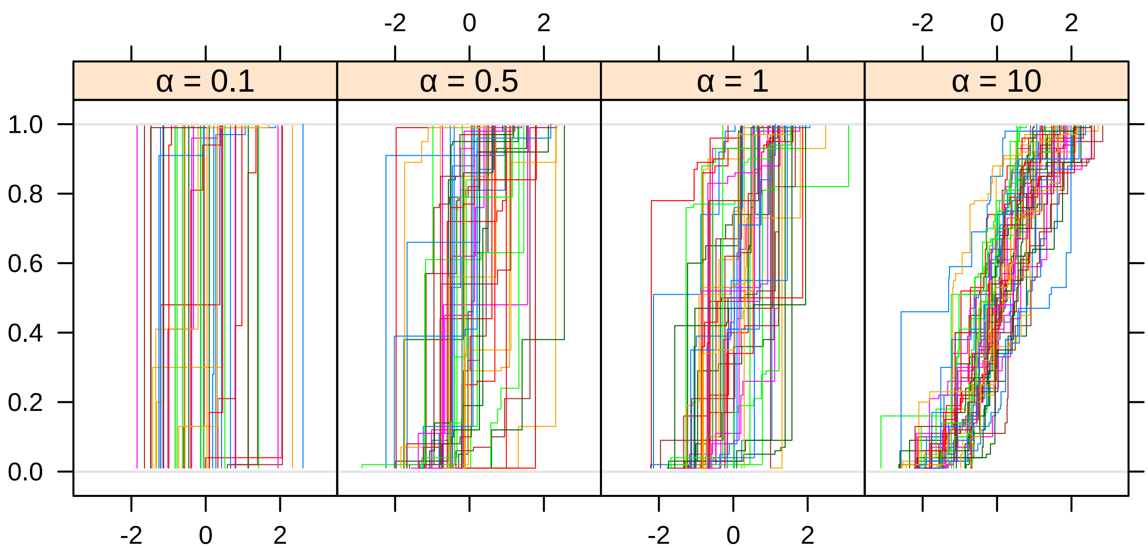

Figure 1: Prior c.d.f realizations of Dirichlet process with different base measures.

We can also get Monte Carlo estimates of the mean functional $\mu(G)$ and the variance functional $\sigma^2(G)$ from the prior realizations of G, drawn by assuming a truncation upto $K = 20$ terms.

We see in Figure 2, that naturally the mean functional $\mu(G)$ is centered around 0 since the base measure is centered around 0 but higher the value of α, more is the concentration of the mean functional around 0. In other words, the mean functional has higher kurtosis for higher α. On the other hand, the variance functional indicates that lower value of α indicates the lower dispersion of atoms in G, whereas, higher value of α indicates higher dispersion of atoms in G.

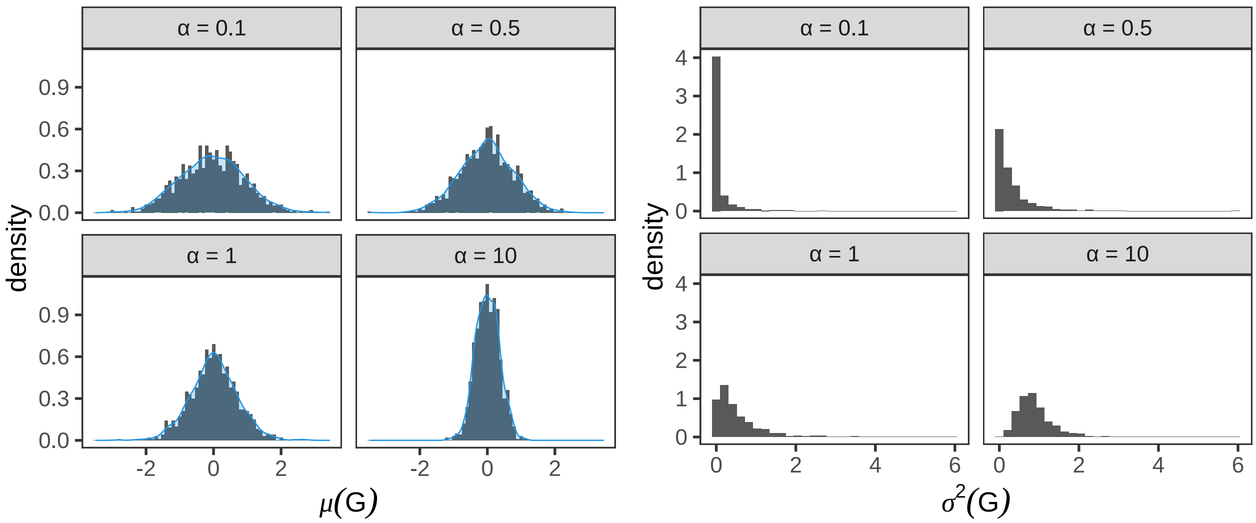

Figure 2: Prior distributions of mean and variance functionals from 1000 prior samples

1.2 Part 2

Following Weak Law of large Numbers (WLLN), we can estimate the expected number of nonempty clusters $E(M)$ by the mean number of unique atoms from each realization of c.d.f. sampled from the prior DP$(\alpha, \mathcal{N}(0,1))$ with different values of α. Here, we have considered $\alpha = 0.1, 0.5, 1, 10$. Note that the sampled prior realizations are generated from a approximate prior achieved by truncation the infinite mixture to a mixture of 20 atoms. The red line in Figure 3 denotes the theoretical expected number of nonempty clusters as shown by Antoniak (1974) given by $E(M) = \alpha \log((\alpha + n)/\alpha)$. We see for smaller values of α, the approximation may have given reasonable estimates of number of non-empty clusters but I suspect that for a large value of α, the truncation approximation might not be reasonable.

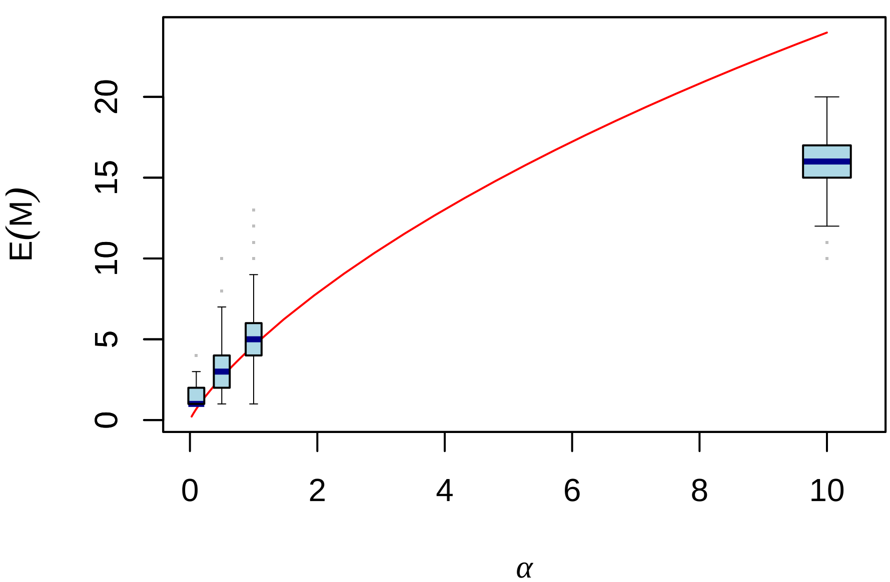

Figure 3: Comparison of theoretical expected number of non-empty clusters and estimated with finite truncation approximation based on 1000 samples

References

Ishwaran, Hemant, and Mahmoud Zarepour. 2002. "Exact and Approximate Sum Representations for the Dirichlet Process." *Canadian Journal of Statistics* 30 (2): 269–83. https://doi.org/https://doi.org/10.2307/3315951.