

# STA 601: Bayesian Model Choice in Linear Regression

STA 601 Fall 2021

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4. Put a prior on the parameters in each model, that is, each  $\pi(\theta_\gamma)$ .
5. Compute marginal posterior probabilities  $\Pr[\gamma|Y]$  for each model, and select a model based on the posterior probabilities or use the full posterior over all models!



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$$\begin{aligned}\hat{\Pi}_\gamma = \Pr[\gamma|Y] &= \frac{p[Y|\gamma] \cdot p[\gamma]}{\sum_{\gamma^* \in \Gamma} p[Y|\gamma^*] \cdot p[\gamma^*]} = \frac{p_\gamma(Y) \Pi_\gamma}{\sum_{\gamma^* \in \Gamma} p_{\gamma^*}(Y) \Pi_{\gamma^*}} \\ &= \frac{\Pi_\gamma \cdot \left[ \int_{\Theta_\gamma} p_\gamma(Y|\theta_\gamma) \cdot \pi(\theta_\gamma) d\theta_\gamma \right]}{\sum_{\gamma^* \in \Gamma} \Pi_{\gamma^*} \cdot \left[ \int_{\Theta_{\gamma^*}} p_{\gamma^*}(Y|\theta_{\gamma^*}) \cdot \pi(\theta_{\gamma^*}) d\theta_{\gamma^*} \right]}.\end{aligned}$$





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- If we assume a uniform prior on  $\Gamma$ , that is,  $\Pi_\gamma = \frac{1}{\#\Gamma}$ , for all  $\gamma \in \Gamma$ , then

$$\hat{\Pi}_\gamma = \frac{p_\gamma(Y)}{\sum_{\gamma^* \in \Gamma} p_{\gamma^*}(Y)} = \frac{\left[ \int_{\Theta_\gamma} p_\gamma(Y|\theta_\gamma) \cdot \pi(\theta_\gamma) d\theta_\gamma \right]}{\sum_{\gamma^* \in \Gamma} \left[ \int_{\Theta_{\gamma^*}} p_{\gamma^*}(Y|\theta_{\gamma^*}) \cdot \pi(\theta_{\gamma^*}) d\theta_{\gamma^*} \right]}$$



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- To minimize  $R(\hat{\gamma})$ , choose  $\hat{\gamma}$  such that  $\hat{\Pi}_{\hat{\gamma}}$  is the largest! That is, select the model with the largest posterior probability.



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- What if the goal is prediction? Then maybe we should care more about predictive accuracy, rather than selecting specific variables.
- For predictions, we care about the posterior predictive distribution, that is

$$\begin{aligned} p(y_{n+1}|Y = (y_1, \dots, y_n)) &= \int_{\Gamma} \int_{\Theta_{\gamma}} p(y_{n+1}|\gamma, \theta_{\gamma}) \cdot \pi(\gamma, \theta_{\gamma}|Y) \, d\theta_{\gamma} d\gamma \\ &= \int_{\Gamma} \int_{\Theta_{\gamma}} p(y_{n+1}|\gamma, \theta_{\gamma}) \cdot \pi(\theta_{\gamma}|Y, \gamma) \cdot \Pr[\gamma|Y] \, d\theta_{\gamma} d\gamma \\ &= \sum_{\gamma \in \Gamma} \int_{\Theta_{\gamma}} p(y_{n+1}|\gamma, \theta_{\gamma}) \cdot \pi(\theta_{\gamma}|Y, \gamma) \cdot \hat{\Pi}_{\gamma} \, d\theta_{\gamma} \\ &= \sum_{\gamma \in \Gamma} \hat{\Pi}_{\gamma} \cdot \int_{\Theta_{\gamma}} p(y_{n+1}|\gamma, \theta_{\gamma}) \cdot \pi(\theta_{\gamma}|Y, \gamma) \, d\theta_{\gamma} \\ &= \sum_{\gamma \in \Gamma} \hat{\Pi}_{\gamma} \cdot p(y_{n+1}|Y, \gamma), \end{aligned}$$

which is just averaging out the predictions from each model, over all possible models in  $\Gamma$ , with the posterior probability of each model, and this is known as Bayesian model averaging (BMA).



# Bayesian Linear Regression

**Practical Issues:** the posterior probability that the model is true

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- Can put priors on hyperparameters cases and integrate or use numerical approximations!
- May not be able to enumerate! Gibbs or MCMC for more flexibility!



# Bayesian Variable Selection (BVS)

- Rewrite each model  $\gamma \in \Gamma$  as

$$\mathbf{Y} \mid \alpha, \beta_\gamma, \gamma, \phi \sim \mathcal{N}_n(\mathbf{1}_n \alpha + \mathbf{X}_\gamma \beta_\gamma, \phi^{-1} \mathbf{I}_{n \times n})$$



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- $\gamma = (\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_p) \in \{0, 1\}^p$ , so that the cardinality of  $\Gamma$  is  $2^p$ , the number of models in  $\Gamma$ .





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$$\gamma_j = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if the } j\text{'th predictor is included in the model} \\ 0 & \text{if it is not} \end{cases}$$

- $p_\gamma \equiv \sum_{j=1}^p \gamma_j$ , so that  $p_\gamma$  is the number of predictors included in model  $\gamma$
- $\mathbf{X}_\gamma$  ( $n \times p_\gamma$ ) is the matrix of predictors with  $\gamma_j = 1$  (wolg design matrix with centered columns)
- $\beta_\gamma$  ( $p_\gamma \times 1$ ) is the corresponding vector of predictors with  $\gamma_j = 1$



# BVS

- Recall that we can also write each model as

$$Y_i = 1\alpha + \beta_\gamma^T \mathbf{x}_{i\gamma} + \epsilon_i; \quad \epsilon_i \stackrel{iid}{\sim} \mathcal{N}(0, \phi^{-1}).$$



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- As an example, suppose we had data with 5 potential predictors including the intercept, so that each  $\mathbf{x}_i = (x_{i1}, x_{i2}, x_{i3}, x_{i4}, x_{i5})$ , and  $\boldsymbol{\beta} = (\beta_1, \beta_2, \beta_3, \beta_4, \beta_5)$ .



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- Then for model with  $\gamma = (1, 0, 0, 0, 0)$ ,  $Y_i = \beta_\gamma^T \mathbf{x}_{i\gamma} + \epsilon_i$

$$\implies Y_i = \alpha + \beta_1 x_{i1} + \epsilon_i; \quad \epsilon_i \stackrel{iid}{\sim} \mathcal{N}(0, 1/\phi),$$

with  $p_\gamma = 1$ .

- Whereas for model with  $\gamma = (0, 0, 1, 1, 0)$ ,  $Y_i = \alpha + \beta_\gamma^T \mathbf{x}_{i\gamma} + \epsilon_i$

$$\implies Y_i = \alpha + \beta_3 x_{i3} + \beta_4 x_{i4} + \epsilon_i; \quad \epsilon_i \stackrel{iid}{\sim} \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma^2 1/\phi),$$

with  $p_\gamma = 2$ .



# Steps

The outline for variable selection would be as follows:

1) Write down likelihood under model  $\gamma$ . That is,

$$p(\mathbf{y}|\mathbf{X}, \gamma, \alpha, \boldsymbol{\beta}_\gamma, \phi) \propto (\sigma^2)^{-\frac{n}{2}} \exp \left\{ -\frac{\phi}{2} (\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{1}\alpha - \mathbf{X}_\gamma \boldsymbol{\beta}_\gamma)^T (\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{1}\alpha - \mathbf{X}_\gamma \boldsymbol{\beta}_\gamma) \right\}$$



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2) Define a prior for  $\gamma$ ,  $\Pi_\gamma = \Pr[\gamma]$ .

- $p(\gamma_j = 1) = .5 \Rightarrow p(\gamma) = .5^p$  Uniform on space of models and  $p_\gamma \sim \text{Bin}(p, .5)$
- $\gamma_j \mid \pi \stackrel{iid}{\sim} \text{Ber}(\pi)$  and  $\pi \sim \text{Beta}(a, b)$  then  $p_\gamma \sim \text{Beta-Binomial}(a, b)$

$$p(p_\gamma \mid p, a, b) = \frac{\Gamma(p+1)\Gamma(p_\gamma+a)\Gamma(p-p_\gamma+b)\Gamma(a+b)}{\Gamma(p_\gamma+1)\Gamma(p-p_\gamma+1)\Gamma(p+a+b)\Gamma(a)\Gamma(b)}$$

$$p_\gamma \sim \text{Beta-Binomial}(1, 1) \sim \text{Unif}(0, p)$$



# Prior on model specific parameters

3) Using independent Jeffrey's priors on common parameters and the g-prior we have

$$\pi(\alpha, \phi) = \phi^{-1}$$
$$\pi(\beta_\gamma | \phi) = N_p \left( \beta_{0\gamma} = \mathbf{0}, \Sigma_{0\gamma} = \frac{g}{\phi} [\mathbf{X}_\gamma^T \mathbf{X}_\gamma]^{-1} \right)$$



# Posteriors

- With those pieces, the conditional posteriors are straightforward

$$\alpha \mid \phi, y \sim \text{N} \left( \bar{y}, \frac{1}{n\phi} \right)$$

$$\beta_\gamma \mid \gamma, \phi, g, y \sim \text{N} \left( \frac{g}{1+g} \hat{\beta}_\gamma, \frac{g}{1+g} \frac{1}{\phi} [\mathbf{X}_\gamma^T \mathbf{X}_\gamma]^{-1} \right)$$

$$\phi \mid \gamma, y \sim \text{Gamma}(\cdot, \cdot)$$

$$p(\gamma \mid y) \propto p(y \mid \gamma)p(\gamma)$$





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- due to conjugacy, the marginal likelihood of  $\gamma$  is proportional to

$$p(Y \mid \gamma) = C(1+g)^{\frac{n-p_\gamma-1}{2}}(1+g(1-R_\gamma^2))^{-\frac{(n-1)}{2}}$$

- $R_\gamma^2$  is the usual coefficient of determination for model  $\gamma$ ,

$$R_\gamma^2 = 1 - \frac{(y - \hat{y}_\gamma)^T (y - \hat{y}_\gamma)}{(y - \mathbf{1}\bar{y})^T (y - \mathbf{1}\bar{y})}$$



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- we can run a collapsed Gibbs or MH sampler over just  $\gamma$ !



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- we will focus on using R packages for implementing





# Examples with BAS

```
library(BAS)
data(usair, package="HH")
poll.bma = bas.lm(log(SO2) ~ temp + log(mfgfirms) +
                  log(popn) + wind +
                  precip + raindays,
                  data=usair,
                  prior="g-prior",
                  alpha=nrow(usair), #  $g = n$ 
                  n.models=2^6,
                  modelprior = uniform(),
                  method="deterministic")
```



# Summaries

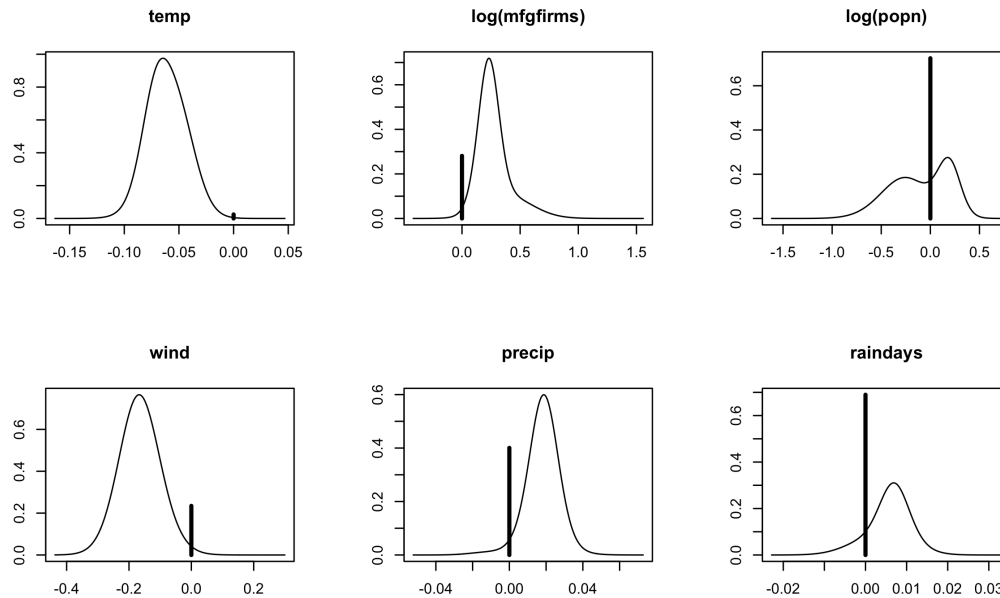
```
poll.bma
```

```
##
## Call:
## bas.lm(formula = log(SO2) ~ temp + log(mfgfirms) + log(popn) +
##       wind + precip + rainedays, data = usair, n.models = 2^6, prior = "g-p
##       alpha = nrow(usair), modelprior = uniform(), method = "deterministic
##
##
## Marginal Posterior Inclusion Probabilities:
##      Intercept           temp  log(mfgfirms)      log(popn)           wind
##      1.0000          0.9755          0.7190          0.2757          0.765
##      precip      rainedays
##      0.5994          0.3104
```



# Plots of Coefficients

```
beta = coef(poll.bma)  
par(mfrow=c(2,3)); plot(beta, subset=2:7,ask=F)
```



# Summary of Coefficients

beta

```
##
## Marginal Posterior Summaries of Coefficients:
##
## Using BMA
##
## Based on the top 64 models
##
##           post mean   post SD   post p(B != 0)
## Intercept      3.153004    0.082872    1.000000
## temp          -0.059724    0.020675    0.975504
## log(mfgfirms)   0.195716    0.177190    0.719031
## log(popn)      -0.026093    0.164277    0.275681
## wind           -0.126379    0.090777    0.765449
## precip         0.010821    0.011497    0.599380
## raindays      0.001803    0.004023    0.310357
```

Iterated Expectations!



# Model Space Visualization

```
image(poll.bma, rotate=FALSE)
```

