

Bayesian Computing

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Experiment no. 8

Aim - To implement a program for learning about a normal population from grouped data, using height and frequency data from student's dataset.

Theory :

Markov chain Monte Carlo (MCMC) Technique :

Markov chain Monte Carlo (MCMC) serves as a pivotal technique in Bayesian computing, offering a systematic approach to sample from intricate probability distributions. At its core, MCMC constructs a Markov chain, where each subsequent sample depends on the current state, allowing for a controlled exploration of parameter space. This iterative process proves invaluable in Bayesian analysis, particularly when dealing with high-dimensional or complex posterior distributions.

Metropolis Random walk Algorithm :

The Metropolis Random walk algorithm is a cornerstone in Bayesian computing, specifically within the realm of Markov chain Monte Carlo (MCMC) methods. It addresses the challenge of sampling from complex and high-dimensional probability distributions, a common scenario in Bayesian statistical inference.

1. Initialization : Commence the algorithm by providing an initial estimate for the parameters, denoted as θ .
2. Proposal distribution : Define a proposal distribution $q(\theta'|\theta)$ that suggests a new parameter value θ' given the current value θ .
3. Generate a proposed state : Draw a sample from the proposed distribution to get a proposed state θ' .

4. Acceptance Probability :-

Calculate the acceptance probability $\alpha = \min\left(1, \frac{P(\theta')}{P(\theta)}\right)$, where $P(\theta)$ is the posterior probability.

5. Accept or Reject :-

Accept the proposed state with probability α ; otherwise stay at the current state.

6. Repeat :-

Repeat steps 3-5 for a predefined no. of iterations or until convergence.

Conclusion :-

In this experiment, we used the LearnBayes library in R to perform Bayesian inference on a normal population from grouped data. We used both a normal approximation using Laplace method, and a MCMC algorithm using Metropolis Random walks to obtain posterior distribution of parameters.



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Batch: C2-1

Subject: Bayesian Computing Laboratory

Semester: VII

Experiment No. 8

Aim:

Implement a program for learning about a normal population from grouped data, using height and frequency data from student's dataset.

Code:

Import libraries:

```
Library(LearnBayes)
```

Observe normally distributed data in grouped form. Consider the posterior of (μ , $\log(\sigma)$):

```
d <- list(int.lo=c(-Inf, seq(66, 74, by=2)),  
int.hi=c(seq(66, 74, by=2), Inf),  
f=c(14, 30, 49, 70, 33, 15))  
  
y <- c(rep(65,14), rep(67,30), rep(69,49),  
rep(71,70), rep(73,33), rep(75,15))  
mean(y)  
  
log(sd(y))
```

Obtain normal approximation to posterior:

```
start <- c(70, 1) fit <-  
laplace(groupeddatapost, start, d)  
fit
```



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Use Metropolis (random walk) MCMC algorithm:

```
modal.sds <- sqrt(diag(fit$var))  
proposal <- list(var=fit$var, scale=2)  
fit2 <- rwmetrop(groupeddatapost,  
                 proposal,  
start,  
                 10000, d)  
  
fit2$accept  
  
post.means <- apply(fit2$par, 2, mean)  
post.sds <- apply(fit2$par, 2, sd)  
cbind(c(fit$mode), modal.sds)  
  
cbind(post.means, post.sds)  
  
mycontour(groupeddatapost,  
          c(69, 71, .6, 1.3), d,  
          xlab="mu", ylab="log sigma")  
points(fit2$par[5001:10000, 1],  
       fit2$par[5001:10000, 2])
```




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Output:

Observe normally distributed data in grouped form. Consider the posterior of $\mu, \log(\sigma)$:

```
[1] 70.16588
```

```
[1] 0.9504117
```

Obtain normal approximation to posterior:

```
$mode  
[1] 70.169880 0.973644  
  
$var  
      [,1]      [,2]  
[1,] 3.534713e-02 3.520776e-05  
[2,] 3.520776e-05 3.146470e-03  
  
$int  
[1] -350.6305  
  
$converge  
[1] TRUE
```

Use Metropolis (random walk) MCMC algorithm:

```
[1] 0.293
```

```
      modal.sds  
[1,] 70.169880 0.18800834  
[2,] 0.973644 0.05609341
```

```
      post.means  post.sds  
[1,] 70.1737319 0.19051458  
[2,] 0.9815361 0.05686768
```



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