

Project work

- Choose a data set and make all the steps of Bayesian data analysis workflow listed below
- Project outcome is a R or Python notebook similar to notebooks in (many of these notebooks don't have all the required parts)
 - BDA R demos https://github.com/avehtari/BDA_R_demos/tree/master/demos_rstan
 - BDA Python demos https://github.com/avehtari/BDA_py_demos/tree/master/demos_pystan
 - Stan case studies <http://mc-stan.org/users/documentation/case-studies.html>
 - StanCon case studies <http://mc-stan.org/users/documentation/case-studies.html>
(some of these notebooks are for a bigger projects, but reflect still the basic idea of a notebook presentation)
- The submitted notebooks need to illustrate the knowledge of the Bayesian workflow.

Project work

- The notebooks have to include, see https://avehtari.github.io/BDA_course_Aalto/project.html
 - Description of the data, and the analysis problem
 - Description of at least two models, for example:
 - non-hierarchical and hierarchical
 - linear and non-linear
 - variable selection with many models
 - Informative or weakly informative priors, and description of the prior choices
 - Stan, rstanarm, or brms code
 - How Stan model is run
 - Convergence diagnostics (Rhat, divergences, neff)
 - Posterior predictive checking
 - Model comparison (e.g. with loo)
 - Predictive performance assessment if applicable
 - Sensitivity analysis with respect to prior choices
 - Discussion of problems, and potential improvements
 - It is possible that your model or inference is not perfect, but a better model would require substantial work. Then it's ok that you report the problems found (using the various diagnostics discussed in the course) and describe possible

Project work

- You can re-use of code and text from existing case studies
 - Just report what did you re-use
 - Acknowledge the original authors
 - Include the original copyright licence
 - CC-BY or CC-BY-NC is common for text
<https://creativecommons.org/licenses/>
 - BSD-3 is common for code
<https://opensource.org/licenses/BSD-3-Clause>
 - Don't use improper priors even if some case study has improper priors
- You can use rstanarm and brms, but do not limit yourself to rstanarm or brms models if changes would make a better model

Oral presentation

- During evaluation week 13-17.12.2021
- Each project needs to be presented in addition to submitting the notebook
- The presentation should be high level but sufficiently detailed information should be readily available to facilitate answering questions from the audience
- Within each session, about four groups will be presenting
- For 1-2 person groups, the presentation should be 10 minutes
- For 3 person groups, the presentation should be 15 minutes
- Afterwards, questions will be asked first by other students and then by two attending TAs for about 5 to 10 minutes
- Grading of the presentation will be done by the two TAs using standardized grading instructions

Some special topics

- Improve R demos
- Dynamic HMC demo in R or Python

Some ideas for data sets

- Laptop multitasking hinders classroom learning for both users and nearby peers <http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0360131512002254>
- Arctic sea ice shrinking <https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2017/09/22/climate/arctic-sea-ice-shrinking-trend-watch.html>
- Finnish weather statistics <https://en.ilmatieteenlaitos.fi/statistics-from-1961-onwards>
- R datasets <https://vincentarelbundock.github.io/Rdatasets/datasets.html>
- Vanderbilt Biostatistics <http://biostat.mc.vanderbilt.edu/wiki/Main/DataSets>
- Probably better to *not* have a data set
 - with number of observation in millions
 - machine vision task

Schedule

- Register project group and topic by 8th November
 - 2-3 person groups preferred, 1 person groups allowed
 - 3 person groups are expected to choose a slightly more difficult projects
 - 2-3 person groups are highly recommended over 1 person groups. 2-3 person groups have priority when reserving presentation slots
- During the week starting 8th November, start working on the project and if necessary talk with TAs (no new assignment on that week)
- Deadline 6th December, 2021
- Oral presentations during the evaluation week
13-17.12.2021