

Clustering of spatial scRNA-seq data

Edward Zhao

January 15, 2020

1 Ising model

1.1 Description

Let the expression y of cell i be determined by $y_i = \mu I(z_i = 1) + \epsilon_i$ with priors

$$\begin{aligned}\mu|\mu_0, \lambda_0 &\sim \mathcal{N}(\mu_0, \lambda_0^{-1}) \\ \epsilon_i|\lambda &\sim \mathcal{N}(0, \lambda^{-1}) \\ \lambda|\alpha, \beta &\sim \text{Gamma}(\alpha, \beta),\end{aligned}$$

and known hyperparameters

$$\begin{aligned}\mu_0 &= \bar{y} \\ \lambda_0 &= \frac{1}{100} \\ \alpha &= 1 \\ \beta &= 0.01.\end{aligned}$$

Then

$$y_i|z_i, \mu, \lambda \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu I(z_i = 1), \lambda^{-1}).$$

The conditional posterior distributions are given by

$$\mu|\mathbf{y}, \mathbf{z}, \lambda \sim \mathcal{N}\left(\frac{\lambda_0\mu_0 + \lambda \sum_{i=1}^n y_i I(z_i = 1)}{\lambda_0 + \lambda \sum_{i=1}^n I(z_i = 1)}, \left(\lambda_0 + \lambda \sum_{i=1}^n I(z_i = 1)\right)^{-1}\right) \quad (1)$$

$$\lambda|\mathbf{y}, \mathbf{z}, \mu \sim \text{Gamma}\left(\alpha + \frac{n}{2}, \beta + \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n [y_i - \mu I(z_i = 1)]^2}{2}\right). \quad (2)$$

Let n be the total number of cells, arranged on a lattice. For every cell $i \in \{1, \dots, n\}$, the cell has state $z_i \in \{-1, 1\}$. Using the Ising model, the energy of the lattice system is given by

$$H(\mathbf{z}) = \frac{\gamma}{|\langle i \ j \rangle|} \sum_{\langle i \ j \rangle} z_i z_j,$$

and the probability of the system is given by

$$p(\mathbf{z}|\mathbf{y}) \propto \exp(H(\mathbf{z})) p(\mathbf{y}|\mathbf{z})$$

where $\langle i \ j \rangle$ denotes nearest neighbors on the lattice and γ controls the magnitude of the dependence between neighbors.

The Metropolis-Hastings algorithm can be used to explore the lattice space, updating the state for one cell at a time. For each new proposal \mathbf{z}' , the acceptance probability α is given by

$$\alpha(\mathbf{z}', \mathbf{z}) = \min \left\{ \frac{\exp(H(\mathbf{z}')) p(\mathbf{y}|\mathbf{z}')}{\exp(H(\mathbf{z})) p(\mathbf{y}|\mathbf{z})}, 1 \right\}. \quad (3)$$

The hyperparameters can be estimated using the following procedure:

1. Initialize $\mu = \bar{y}$, $\lambda = \frac{\alpha}{\beta} = 100$, $z_i = -1 \forall i \in \{1, \dots, n\}$.
2. Given $\mathbf{y}, \mathbf{z}, \lambda$, sample μ from the conditional distribution given in (1).
3. Given $\mathbf{y}, \mathbf{z}, \mu$, sample λ from the conditional distribution given in (2).
4. Given $\mathbf{y}, \{z_2, \dots, z_n\}, \mu, \lambda$, sample z_1 (transition from -1 to 1 or 1 to -1) with acceptance probability given by (3).
5. Repeat step 4 for all other indices of \mathbf{z} .
6. Repeat steps 2-5 for N iterations.

1.2 Simulation

All cells on a 100 by 100 lattice are set to have state -1, except for a radius 10 circle and side length 10 square that have state 1. For this simulation $\mu = 5$ and $\lambda = 0.5$.

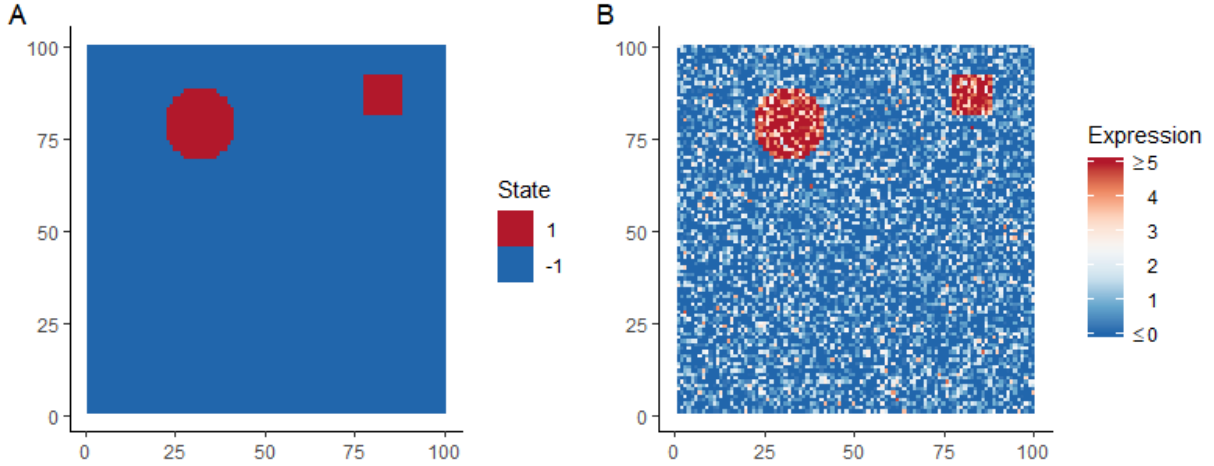


Figure 1: The ground truth (A) and simulated data (B).

One chain is generated for each of three values of γ : 2, 4, 6. 1000 iterations are generated, including a burn-in period of 100 iterations.

The bias is large when $\gamma = 2$, but negligible with a higher smoothing parameter.

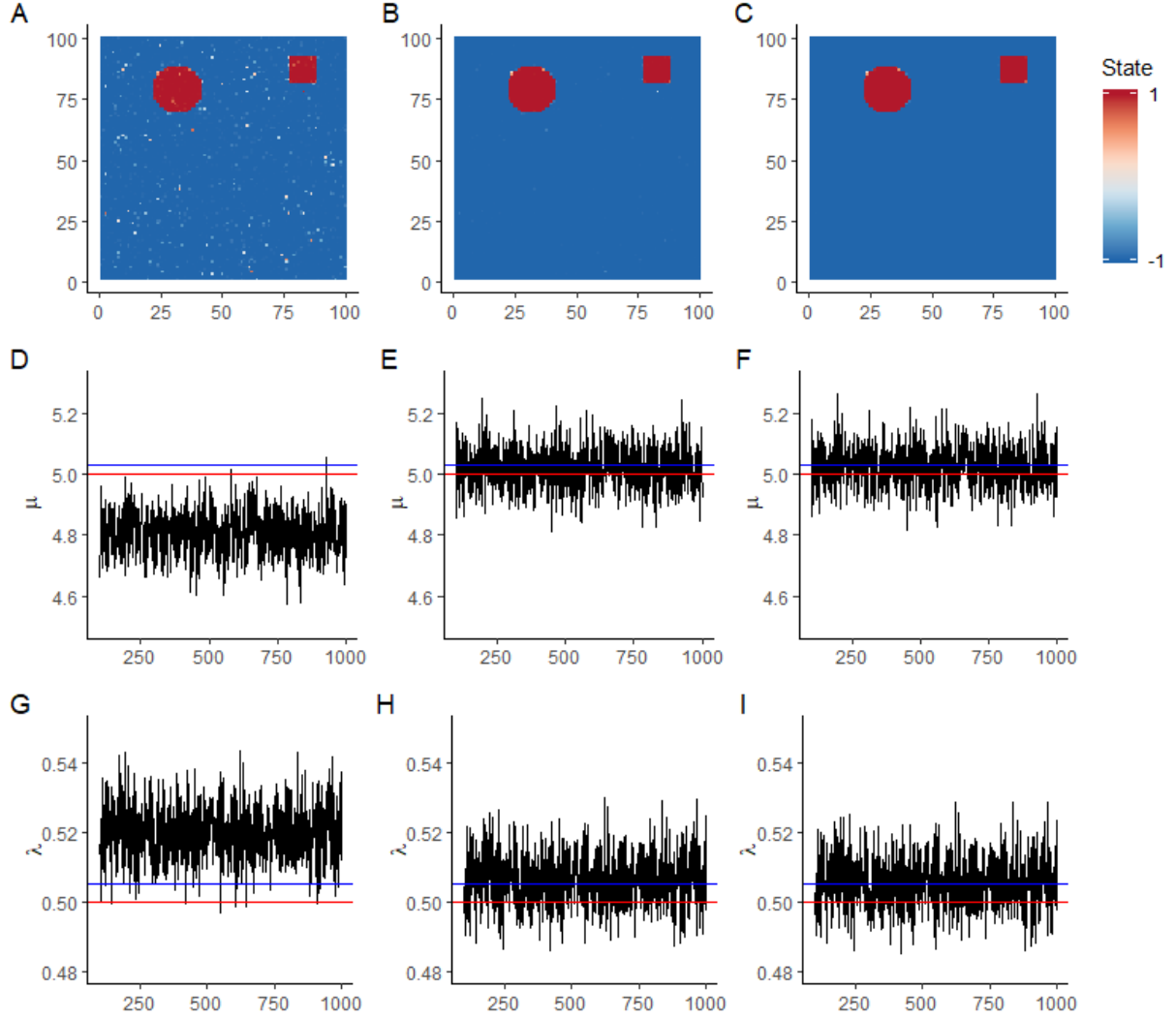


Figure 2: The left, middle, and right columns show the results for $\gamma = 2$, $\gamma = 4$, and $\gamma = 6$ respectively. A-C show the average state of each cell over 900 iterations. D-F are the trace plots for μ , with the horizontal red line denoting $\mu = 5$. G-I are the trace plots for λ , with the horizontal red line denoting $\lambda = 0.5$. The horizontal blue lines denote the maximum likelihood estimates.

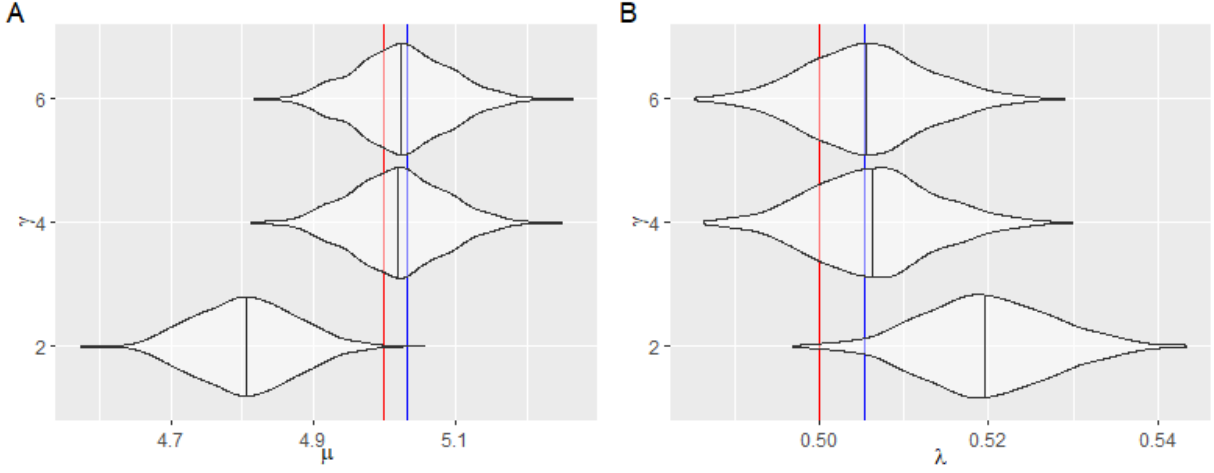


Figure 3: The posterior distributions of μ (A) and λ (B) are shown for each value of γ . The vertical red and blue lines indicate the true values and maximum likelihood estimates respectively of μ and λ .

2 Potts model

2.1 Description

The Potts model is a generalization of the Ising model that allows for more than two states. A cell's state can take values $z_i \in \{1, \dots, q\}$. The expression is determined by

$$y_i = \sum_{k=1}^q \mu_k I(z_i = k) + \epsilon_i,$$

with priors

$$\begin{aligned} \mu_k | \mu_0, \lambda_0 &\sim \mathcal{N}(\mu_0, \lambda_0^{-1}) \quad \forall k \in \{1, \dots, q\} \\ \epsilon_i | \lambda &\sim \mathcal{N}(0, \lambda^{-1}) \\ \lambda | \alpha, \beta &\sim \text{Gamma}(\alpha, \beta), \end{aligned}$$

and known hyperparameters

$$\begin{aligned} \mu_0 &= \bar{y} \\ \lambda_0 &= \frac{1}{100} \\ \alpha &= 1 \\ \beta &= 0.01. \end{aligned}$$

Then

$$y_i | z_i, \boldsymbol{\mu}, \lambda \sim \mathcal{N}\left(\sum_{k=1}^q \mu_k I(z_i = k), \lambda^{-1}\right).$$

The conditional posterior distributions are given by

$$\mu_k | \mathbf{y}, \mathbf{z}, \lambda \sim \mathcal{N}\left(\frac{\lambda_0 \mu_0 + \lambda \sum_{i=1}^n y_i I(z_i = k)}{\lambda_0 + \lambda \sum_{i=1}^n I(z_i = k)}, \left(\lambda_0 + \lambda \sum_{i=1}^n I(z_i = k)\right)^{-1}\right) \quad (4)$$

$$\lambda | \mathbf{y}, \mathbf{z}, \boldsymbol{\mu} \sim \text{Gamma}\left(\alpha + \frac{n}{2}, \beta + \frac{\sum_{k=1}^q \sum_{i=1}^n I(z_i = k) [y_i - \mu_k]^2}{2}\right). \quad (5)$$

Using the Potts model, the energy of the lattice system is given by

$$H(\mathbf{z}) = \frac{\gamma}{|\langle i j \rangle|} \times 2 \sum_{\langle i j \rangle} I(z_i = z_j) - 0.5,$$

and the probability of the system is given by

$$p(\mathbf{z}|\mathbf{y}) \propto \exp(H(\mathbf{z})) p(\mathbf{y}|\mathbf{z}).$$

For each proposal \mathbf{z}' , the Metropolis-Hastings acceptance probability is given by

$$\alpha(\mathbf{z}', \mathbf{z}) = \min \left\{ \frac{\exp(H(\mathbf{z}')) p(\mathbf{y}|\mathbf{z}')}{\exp(H(\mathbf{z})) p(\mathbf{y}|\mathbf{z})}, 1 \right\}. \quad (6)$$

The hyperparameters can be estimated using the following procedure:

1. Initialize $\mu_k = \bar{y} \forall k$, $\lambda = \left[\frac{\sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - \bar{y})^2}{n} \right]^{-1}$, $z_i = 1 \forall i \in \{1, \dots, n\}$.
2. For each k , given $\mathbf{y}, \mathbf{z}, \lambda$, sample μ_k from the conditional distribution given in (4).
3. Given $\mathbf{y}, \mathbf{z}, \boldsymbol{\mu}$, sample λ from the conditional distribution given in (5).
4. Given $\mathbf{y}, \{z_2, \dots, z_n\}, \boldsymbol{\mu}, \lambda$, sample z_1 (transition from state k to state $k' \in \{1, \dots, q\} \setminus \{k\}$) with acceptance probability given by (6).
5. Repeat step 4 for all other indices of \mathbf{z} .
6. Repeat steps 2-5 for N iterations.

2.2 Simulation

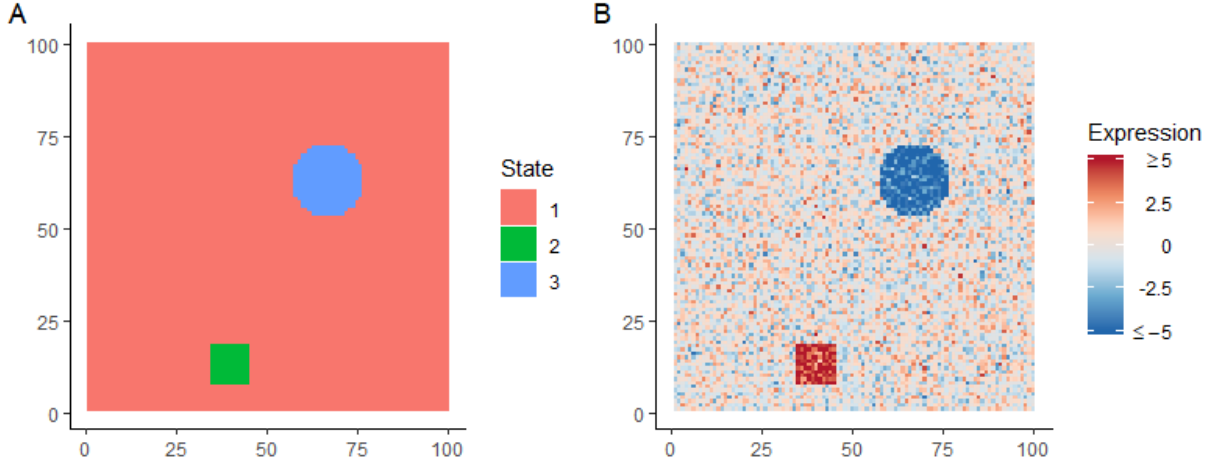


Figure 4: The ground truth (A) and simulated data (B).

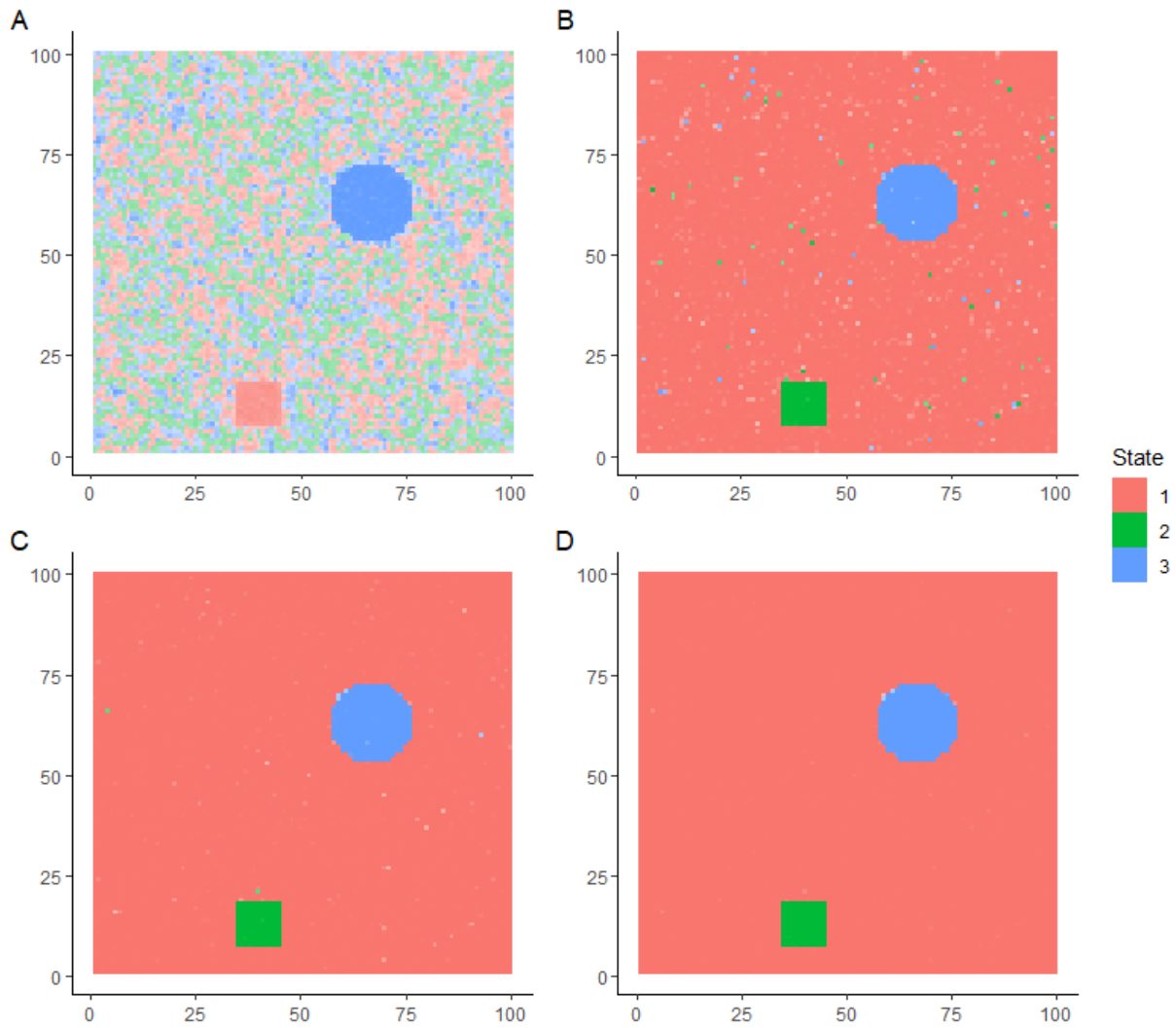


Figure 5: The average state of each cell over 900 iterations are shown for $\gamma = 1$ (A), $\gamma = 2$ (B), $\gamma = 3$ (C), and $\gamma = 4$ (D). The cell's color is determined by the most frequent state for the cell and the saturation is determined by the percentage of iterations the cell was in its most frequent state.

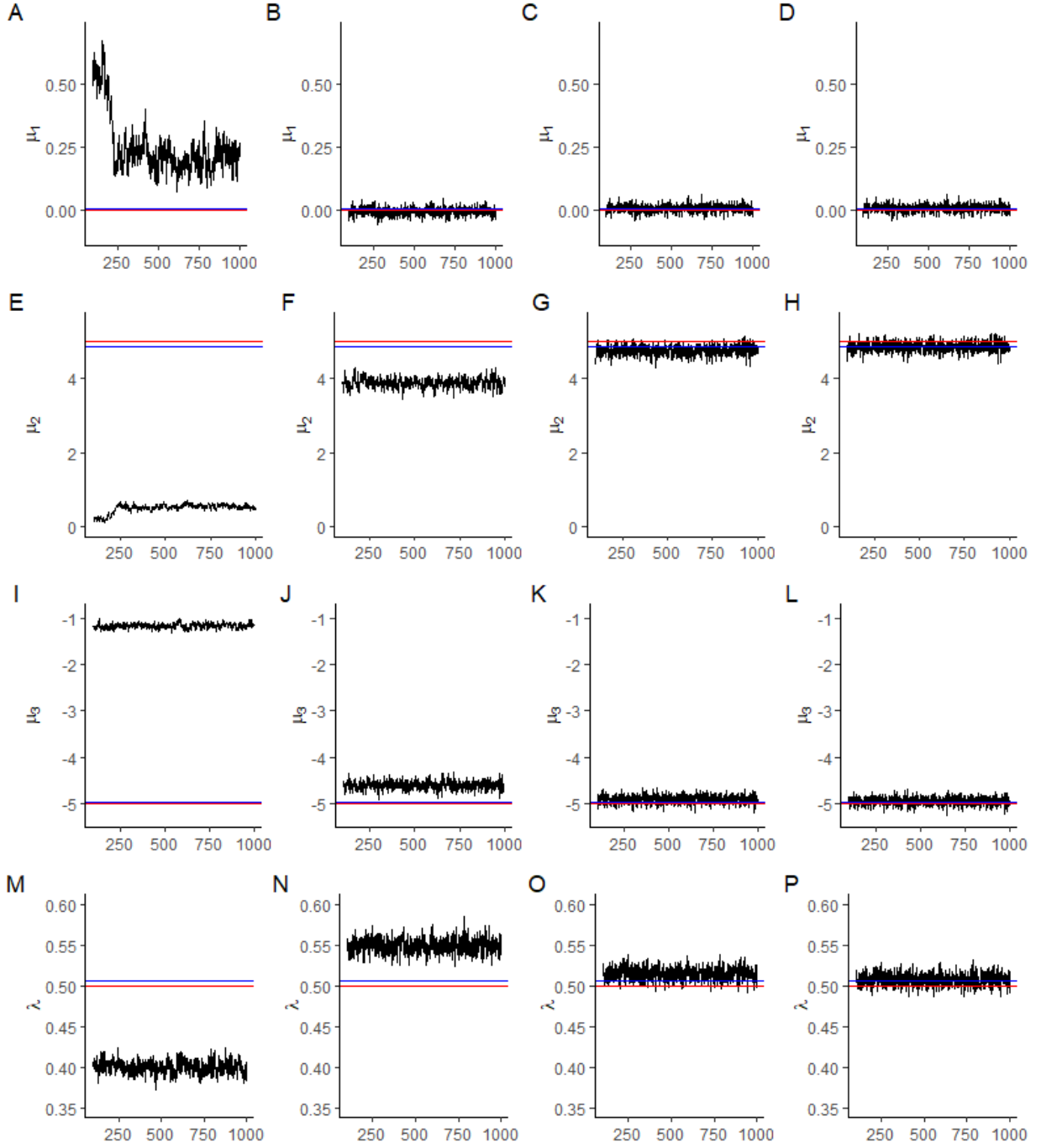


Figure 6: From left to right, the columns show the results for $\gamma = 1$, $\gamma = 2$, $\gamma = 3$, and $\gamma = 4$ respectively. A-D are the trace plots for μ_1 , with the horizontal red line denoting $\mu_1 = 0$. E-H are the trace plots for μ_2 , with the horizontal red line denoting $\mu_2 = 5$. I-L are the trace plots for μ_3 , with the horizontal red line denoting $\mu_3 = -5$. M-P are the trace plots for λ , with the horizontal red line denoting $\lambda = 0.5$. The horizontal blue lines denote the maximum likelihood estimates.