

Random Algorithms for Random Things

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Abstract

This first homework covers the main concepts behind bayesian inference and some related issues. In the **first** and **second** exercises we focus on conjugate analysis, a classical approach to bayesian inference, used in the special occasion where the posterior distribution has the same distribution of the likelihood function. In the **third** and **fourth** exercise we introduce the Integral Transformation Formula, which will be the core, with uniform pseudo-random number generator of exercises **fifth** and **sixth**. Finally in the **seventh**, **eighth** and **ninth** exercises we introduce and use the acceptance and rejection algorithm and apply it in a variety of situations.

Contents

Conjugate Analysis on Bernulli Sample	2
Parametric Space of Interest	2
Ingredients for Bayesian Inference	2
Likelihood Function	2
Prior Distribution	2
Posterior Distribution	2
Conjugate Analysis on the Dugongs Sample	3
Likelihood	3
Maximum Likelihood Estimate	3
Vector of parameters of Interest	3
Maximum a Posteriori Estimates	3
Integral Transform Method	4
Parametric Space of Interest	4
Beta-Bernoulli Conjugate analysis	5
Parametric Space of Interest	5
Simulating a Pareto Distribution	6
First Moment in Closed Form	6
First Moment Computation using Monte Carlo	6
Approximate first moment up to precision 10^{-2}	6
Running Mean	6
Empirical Distribution vs Desired Target Distribution	6
Beta-Bernoulli Conjugate analysis	7
Parametric Space of Interest	7
Beta-Bernoulli Conjugate analysis	8
Parametric Space of Interest	8
Beta-Bernoulli Conjugate analysis	9
Parametric Space of Interest	9
Beta-Bernoulli Conjugate analysis	10
Parametric Space of Interest	10

Conjugate Analysis on Bernulli Sample

Parametric Space of Intrest

We define the Parametric Space of Intrest as:

Definition 1.1 A *parametric space* is the set of all possible combinations of values for all the different parameters contained in a particular mathematical model.

Given the previous definition the parametric space of interest, which is the probability of success of a single event, is $\Theta \in [0, 1]$

Ingredients for Bayesian Inference

Likelihood Function

The likelihood function for a series of Bernoulli experiment could be considered as a Binomial distribution, hence given the definition of likelihood:

Definition 1.2 The *likelihood function* of a set of parameter values, θ , given outcomes x , is equal to the probability of those observed outcomes given those parameter values. More specifically we define the likelihood for a iid sample in the following way:

$$\mathcal{L}_{x_1, \dots, x_n}(\theta|x) = P(x|\theta) = \prod_{i=1}^{10} f(x_i|\theta) \quad (1)$$

Since our iid sample is generated by $X_i \sim Ber(p)$ which $f(x|\theta) = p$, therefore our 10 Bernoulli Trials' likelihood is:

$$\mathcal{L}_{\mathbf{x}}(\theta) = \prod_{i=1}^{10} \theta^{x_i} (1 - \theta)^{1-x_i} = \theta^3 (1 - \theta)^7 \quad (2)$$

since in our case we have had 3 successes and 7 failures.

Prior Distribution

Since we have no particular information about the experiment we should use a non-informative prior, which ever distribution we use in the modelling.

Another important point to take into account before choosing the prior is that our process is generated by $X_i \sim Ber(p)$. This means that we are able to use conjugate analysis in order to choose a suitable prior.

Given those two elements we know that given a $X_i \sim Ber(p)$ likelihood function and $X_i \sim Beta(s_1, s_2)$ as a prior, our posterior distribution would be distributed as a prior. Moreover, taking into account the requirement of non-informativeness of the prior we should use a $Beta(0.5, 0.5)$.

Posterior Distribution

The core of Bayesian Inference is knowledge update via Bayes Theorem

Theorem 1.1 The *Bayes Theorem* states posterior probability of an event is the consequence of two antecedents, a prior probability and a "likelihood function" derived from a statistical model for the observed data.

Thanks to this theorem we are able to update knowledge about the parameter space θ .

$$\pi(\theta|x) \propto \theta^3 (1 - \theta)^7 \cdot \theta^{-0.5} (1 - \theta)^{-0.5} = \theta^{3.5} \theta^{7.5} \quad (3)$$

which is, as expected, $\pi(\theta|\mathbf{x}) \sim Beta(3.5, 7.5)$

\subsection{Bayesian Inference}

Now that we have computed our posterior distribution we are able to perform bayesian inference using $Beta(3.5, 7.5)$. Just to demonstrate the possibility we compute the following

Conjugate Analysis on the Dugongs Sample

Likelihood

First of all we to load the Dugongs into R:

```
## $x
## [1] 1.0 1.5 1.5 1.5 2.5 4.0 5.0 5.0 7.0 8.0 8.5 9.0 9.5 9.5
## [15] 10.0 12.0 12.0 13.0 13.0 14.5 15.5 15.5 16.5 17.0 22.5 29.0 31.5
##
## $Y
## [1] 1.80 1.85 1.87 1.77 2.02 2.27 2.15 2.26 2.47 2.19 2.26 2.40 2.39 2.41
## [15] 2.50 2.32 2.32 2.43 2.47 2.56 2.65 2.47 2.64 2.56 2.70 2.72 2.57
##
## $N
## [1] 27
```

As reported on dataset website $Y_i \sim N(m_i, t)$, with:

1. $i = 1, \dots, 27$
2. $m_i = a - bg^{X_i}$
3. $a, b > 0$
4. $0 < g < 1$

Hence, according to definition 1.1 the likelihood for the given dataset is:

$$\mathcal{L}_{\mathbf{x}}(\theta) = \prod_{i=1}^{27} \theta^{x_i} \frac{1}{\sigma\sqrt{2\pi}} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{x_i - \alpha - s\beta\gamma^{x_i}}{\tau}\right)^2\right) \quad (4)$$

Maximum Likelihood Estimate

Now that we have the maximum likelihood estimate, we are able to compute the MLE using opt

Vector of parameters of Interest

Maximum a Posteriori Estimates

Integral Transform Method

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Simulating a Pareto Distribution

First Moment in Closed Form

First Moment Computation using Monte Carlo

First of all we define our Pareto function:

```
a = 2.5
b = 1
x= 3
#f(x,a,b)= a*(b^a)/(x^(a+1))
```

Approximate first moment up to precision 10^{-2}

Running Mean

Empirical Distribution vs Desired Target Distribution

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