MCMC

March 27, 2014

Introduction acknowledgement and thanks

This is a work that is developed from Dave Giles excellent and very helpful overview of Markov Chain Monte Carlo (MCMC) methods. The first of four fantastic posts begins here.

1 Bayesian Methods

There is a blog post from Dave Giles that runs through the Bayesian method. The example looks at a consumption function (data as consump.dat.txt in the Data folder)

2 Markov Chain and Gibbs sampler

. Dave Giles code is in the R folder and is called Consumption.R. Dave Giles blog post on Bayesian method.

3 Markov Chain

A Markov chain is a stochasic process where the current value depends only on the immeditely preceding case. It does not depend on anything before that. The Gibbs sampler. With two parameters Θ_1 and Θ_2 , $p(\Theta_1, \Theta_2)$ is the prior pdf and $L(\Theta_1, \Theta_2|y) = p(y|\Theta_1, \Theta_2)$ is the likelihood function. By Bayes Theory, the posterior pdf is

$$p(\Theta_1, \Theta_2|y) \propto p(\Theta_1, \Theta_2) L(\Theta_1, \Theta_2|y)$$
 (1)