

# Markov Melding Notes

Adam Howes

## 1. Logistic regression

Consider response  $Y \in \{0, 1\}$  modelled as  $Y \sim \text{Bern}(q)$  and covariates  $x \in \mathbb{R}^p$  with

$$\log \left( \frac{q(x)}{1 - q(x)} \right) = \beta_0 + \beta^T x,$$

where  $\beta \in \mathbb{R}^p$ . Then

$$q(x) = \frac{\exp(\beta_0 + \beta^T x)}{1 + \exp(\beta_0 + \beta^T x)}$$

```
# Classify to 1 with probability
q <- function(x, b) {
  exp(b %*% x) / (1 + exp(b %*% x))
}
```

Observe labelled data  $\{(x_1, y_1), \dots, (x_n, y_n)\}$ . The likelihood function is

$$\mathcal{L}(\beta_0, \beta) = \prod_{i=1}^n q(x_i)^{y_i} (1 - q(x_i))^{1-y_i}$$

Place Gaussian priors on  $\beta$  and  $\beta_0$  such that

$$\beta_0 \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu_0, \sigma_0^2)$$

$$\beta \sim \mathcal{N}_p(\mu, \text{diag}(\sigma_1^2, \dots, \sigma_p^2))$$

Then the posterior is proportional to

$$p(\beta|y_1, \dots, y_n) \propto \prod_{j=0}^p \exp \left( \frac{1}{2\sigma_j^2} (\beta_j - \mu_j)^2 \right) \prod_{i=1}^n q(x_i)^{y_i} (1 - q(x_i))^{1-y_i}.$$

Taking the logarithm gives

$$\log p(\beta|y_1, \dots, y_n) \propto \sum_{j=0}^p \frac{1}{2\sigma_j^2} (\beta_j - \mu_j)^2 + \sum_{i=1}^n y_i \log q(x_i) + (1 - y_i) \log (1 - q(x_i))$$

The log-likelihood can be rewritten as

$$\begin{aligned}
\sum_{i=1}^n y_i \log q(x_i) + (1 - y_i) \log(1 - q(x_i)) &= \sum_{i=1}^n y_i \log \left( \frac{q(x_i)}{1 - q(x_i)} \right) + \log(1 - q(x_i)) \\
&= \sum_{i=1}^n y_i \log \left( \frac{q(x_i)}{1 - q(x_i)} \right) + \log(1 - q(x_i)) \\
&= \sum_{i=1}^n y_i (\beta^T x) - \log(1 + \exp(\beta^T x))
\end{aligned}$$

```

# (proportional to) log posterior in the indep normals prior case
logpost <- function(b, X, mu, sigma) {
  logprior <- sum((b - mu)^2 / 2*sigma)
  nu <- apply(X, 1, function(x) b %*% x) # Vector of linear predictors
  loglike <- sum(nu[Y == 1]) + sum(-log(1 + exp(nu)))
  logprior + loglike
}

```

## 2. Monte Carlo

(Johansen 2018)

For the following samplers targeting density  $f$  and starting with  $x^{(0)} := (x_1^{(0)}, \dots, x_p^{(0)})$ , iterate for  $t = 1, 2, \dots$

### 2.1. Metropolis-Hastings sampler

1. Draw  $x \sim q(\cdot | x^{(t-1)})$
2. With probability  $\min \left\{ 1, \frac{f(x) \cdot q(x^{(t-1)} | x)}{f(x^{(t-1)}) \cdot q(x | x^{(t-1)})} \right\}$  set  $x^{(t)} = x$ , else set  $x^{(t)} = x^{(t-1)}$

Note that if the proposal  $q$  is symmetric (as in random-walk metropolis-hastings) then the acceptance probability simplifies to  $\min \left\{ 1, \frac{f(x)}{f(x^{(t-1)})} \right\}$ .

### 2.2. (Random scan) Gibbs sampler

1. Draw  $j \sim \text{Unif}\{1, \dots, p\}$
2. Draw  $x_j^{(t)} \sim f_{x_j | x_{-j}}(\cdot | x_1^{(t-1)}, \dots, x_{j-1}^{(t-1)}, x_{j+1}^{(t-1)}, \dots, x_p^{(t-1)})$ , and set  $x_i^{(t)} := x_i^{(t-1)}$  for all  $i \neq j$

### 2.3. (Random scan) Metropolis-within-Gibbs

1. Draw  $j \sim \text{Unif}\{1, \dots, p\}$
2. a) Draw  $x_j \sim q_j(\cdot | x^{(t-1)})$  and set  $x = (x_1^{(t-1)}, \dots, x_j, \dots, x_p^{(t-1)})$

b) With probability  $\min \left\{ 1, \frac{f(x) \cdot q(x^{(t-1)}|x)}{f(x^{(t-1)}) \cdot q(x|x^{(t-1)})} \right\}$  set  $x^{(t)} = x$ , else set  $x^{(t)} = x^{(t-1)}$

## 2.4. (Divide-and-Conquer with) Sequential Monte Carlo

- Bayesian network is a directed acyclic graph
- Factor graphs (Bishop 2016): “Factor graphs make this decomposition explicit by introducing additional nodes for the factors themselves in addition to the nodes representing the variables.”

## 3. Markov Melding

(Goudie 2018)

### 3.1. Introduction to Markov melding

- Aims of work:
  1. Join submodels  $p_m$  into a single joint model
    - Must implicitly handle two different priors for same quantity
    - Must handle non-invertible deterministic transformations
  2. Fit the submodels one at a time
    - Minimize burden on practitioners
  3. Understanding of reverse operation to joining - splitting
- Models  $m = 1, \dots, M$  each with joint density  $p_m(\phi, \psi_m, Y_m)$  where:
  - $\phi$  is the common parameter linking the models
  - $\psi_m$  are model specific unobserved parameters
  - $Y_m$  are model specific observed quantities
- Join together to create  $p(\phi, \psi_1, \dots, \psi_M, Y_1, \dots, Y_M)$

One can define the Markov combination  $p_{\text{comb}}$  of submodels  $p_1, \dots, p_M$  as

$$\begin{aligned}
 p_{\text{comb}}(\phi, \psi_1, \dots, \psi_M, Y_1, \dots, Y_M) &= p(\phi) \prod_{m=1}^M p_m(\psi_m, Y_m | \phi) \\
 &= p(\phi) \prod_{m=1}^M \frac{p_m(\phi, \psi_m, Y_m)}{p(\phi)} \\
 &= \frac{\prod_{m=1}^M p_m(\phi, \psi_m, Y_m)}{p(\phi)^{M-1}}
 \end{aligned}$$

### 3.2. Pooling marginal distributions

- $p_{\text{pool}}(\phi) = g(p_1(\phi), \dots, p_M(\phi))$
- Types of pooling include
  - Linear pooling  $p_{\text{pool}}(\phi) \propto \sum_{m=1}^M w_m p_m(\phi)$

- Logarithmic pooling  $p_{\text{pool}}(\phi) \propto \prod_{m=1}^M p_m(\phi)^{w_m}$
- Product of Experts (special case of logarithmic pooling)  $p_{\text{pool}}(\phi) \propto \prod_{m=1}^M p_m(\phi)$
- Dictatorial pooling  $p_{\text{pool}}(\phi) = p_m(\phi)$  for some  $m = 1, \dots, M$

### 3.3. Inference and computation

Joint posterior, given data  $Y_m = y_m$  for  $m = 1, \dots, M$ , under Melded model is

$$p_{\text{meld}}(\phi, \psi_1, \dots, \psi_M | y_1, \dots, y_M) \propto p_{\text{pool}}(\phi) \prod_{m=1}^M \frac{p_m(\phi, \psi_m, y_m)}{p_m(\phi)}$$

Metropolis-Hastings candidate values  $(\phi^*, \psi_1^*, \dots, \psi_M^*)$  drawn from a proposal  $q(\phi^*, \psi_1^*, \dots, \psi_M^* | \phi, \psi_1, \dots, \psi_M)$  and accepted with probability  $\min(1, r)$  where

$$r = \frac{R(\phi^*, \psi_1^*, \dots, \psi_M^*, \phi, \psi_1, \dots, \psi_M)}{R(\phi, \psi_1, \dots, \psi_M, \phi^*, \psi_1^*, \dots, \psi_M^*)}$$

where  $R(\phi^*, \psi_1^*, \dots, \psi_M^*, \phi, \psi_1, \dots, \psi_M)$  is the target-to-proposal density ratio

$$R(\phi^*, \psi_1^*, \dots, \psi_M^*, \phi, \psi_1, \dots, \psi_M) = p_{\text{pool}}(\phi^*) \prod_{m=1}^M \frac{p_m(\phi^*, \psi_m^*, y_m)}{p_m(\phi^*)} \times \frac{1}{q(\phi^*, \psi_1^*, \dots, \psi_M^* | \phi, \psi_1, \dots, \psi_M)}$$

#### 3.3.1. Metropolis-within-Gibbs

Sample from the full conditionals using Metropolis-Hastings.

For each of the latent parameter updates ( $\psi_m$  for  $m = 1, \dots, M$ ) we have

$$R(\phi, \psi_1, \dots, \psi_m^*, \dots, \psi_M, \phi, \psi_1, \dots, \psi_M) = p_{\text{pool}}(\phi) \prod_{j \neq m} \frac{p_j(\phi, \psi_j, y_j)}{p_j(\phi)} \times \frac{p_m(\phi, \psi_m^*, y_m)}{p_m(\phi)} \frac{1}{q(\psi_m^* | \psi_m)}$$

so that

$$r = \frac{p_m(\phi, \psi_m^*, y_m) \times \frac{1}{q(\psi_m^* | \psi_m)}}{p_m(\phi, \psi_m, y_m) \times \frac{1}{q(\psi_m | \psi_m^*)}}$$

and for the link parameter update

$$R(\phi, \psi_1, \dots, \psi_m^*, \dots, \psi_M, \phi, \psi_1, \dots, \psi_M) = p_{\text{pool}}(\phi^*) \prod_{m=1}^M \frac{p_m(\phi^*, \psi_m, y_m)}{p_m(\phi^*)} \times \frac{1}{q(\phi^* | \phi)}$$

#### 3.3.2. Multi-stage Metropolis-within-Gibbs

Factorise the pooled prior (can be done in many ways)

$$p_{\text{pool}}(\phi) = \prod_{m=1}^M p_{\text{pool},m}(\phi)$$

Define  $l$ th stage posterior as

$$p_{\text{meld},l}(\phi, \psi_1, \dots, \psi_\ell | y_1, \dots, y_\ell) \propto \prod_{m=1}^{\ell} \left( \frac{p_m(\phi, \psi_m, y_m)}{p_m(\phi)} p_{\text{pool},m}(\phi) \right)$$

**Basis** obtain samples  $(\phi^{(h,1)}, \psi_1^{(h,1)})$  for  $h = 1, \dots, H_1$  from  $p_{\text{meld},1}(\phi, \psi_1 | y_1)$  (by MCMC typically)

**Inductive** construct a Metropolis-within-Gibbs sampler for  $(\phi, \psi_1, \dots, \psi_\ell)$  given the data  $(y_1, \dots, y_\ell)$

## 4. Example: Gambia Malaria Data

The `gambia` dataset from the R package `geoR` contains observations of  $n = 2035$  Gambian children. The eight variables measured are:

- `x` the x-coordinate of the village (Universal Transverse Mercator)
- `y` the y-coordinate of the village (Universal Transverse Mercator)
- `pos` presence (1) or absence (0) of malaria in a blood sample taken from the child
- `age` age of the child, in days
- `netuse` indicator variable denoting whether (1) or not (0) the child regularly sleeps under a bed-net
- `treated` indicator variable denoting whether (1) or not (0) the bed-net is treated (coded 0 if `netuse` = 0)
- `green` satellite-derived measure of the green-ness of vegetation in the immediate vicinity of the village (arbitrary units)
- `phc` indicator variable denoting the presence (1) or absence (0) of a health center in the village

### 4.1. Submodels

Firstly, the full model  $\mathcal{M}$  is the logistic regression of response `pos` on the other variables including an intercept term but excluding the co-ordinates `x` and `y`.

$$\log \left( \frac{q(x)}{1 - q(x)} \right) = \eta$$

$$\eta = \beta_0 + \beta_1 \cdot \text{age} + \beta_2 \cdot \text{netuse} + \beta_3 \cdot \text{treated} + \beta_4 \cdot \text{green} + \beta_5 \cdot \text{phc}$$

Define submodels  $\mathcal{M}_1$  and  $\mathcal{M}_2$  with linear predictors

$$\eta_1 = \beta_{0,1} + \beta_1 \cdot \text{age} + \beta_4 \cdot \text{green} + \beta_5 \cdot \text{phc},$$

and

$$\eta_2 = \beta_{0,2} + \beta_2 \cdot \text{netuse} + \beta_3 \cdot \text{treated} + \beta_5 \cdot \text{phc}.$$

	Intercept	$\beta_1$	$\beta_2$	$\beta_3$	$\beta_4$	$\beta_5$
Submodel 1	✓	✓			✓	✓
Submodel 2	✓		✓	✓		✓

The link parameter is  $\phi = \beta_5$  and model specific parameters are  $\psi_1 = (\beta_{0,1}, \beta_1, \beta_6)$  and  $\psi_2 = (\beta_{0,2}, \beta_3, \beta_4)$ . Both submodels have the same observable random variables  $Y_1 = Y_2 = Y$ , the response variable **pos**.

Define  $q_k$  for  $k = 1, 2$  by

$$q_k(x) = \frac{\exp(\eta_k)}{1 + \exp(\eta_k)}$$

Take a normal prior as in Section 1 for  $\beta_{1:5}$ , and similarly take a normal prior for the intercepts

$$\beta_{0,k} \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu_{0,k}, \sigma_{0,k}^2).$$

Then the submodels have consistent prior marginals in the link parameter and Markov combination can be applied.

$$\begin{aligned} p_1(\phi, \psi_1, \mathbf{y}_1) &\propto p_1(\phi, \psi_1 | \mathbf{y}_1) \\ &= p_1(\beta_{0,1}, \beta_1, \beta_4, \beta_5 | \mathbf{y}) \\ &\propto \exp\left(\frac{1}{2\sigma_{0,1}^2}(\beta_{0,1} - \mu_{0,1})^2\right) \prod_{j=1,4,5} \exp\left(\frac{1}{2\sigma_j^2}(\beta_j - \mu_j)^2\right) \prod_{i=1}^{2035} q_1(x_i)^{y_i} (1 - q_1(x_i))^{1-y_i} \end{aligned}$$

and similarly

$$\begin{aligned} p_2(\phi, \psi_2, \mathbf{y}_2) &\propto p_2(\phi, \psi_2 | \mathbf{y}_2) \\ &= p_2(\beta_{0,2}, \beta_2, \beta_3, \beta_5 | \mathbf{y}) \\ &\propto \exp\left(\frac{1}{2\sigma_{0,2}^2}(\beta_{0,2} - \mu_{0,2})^2\right) \prod_{j=2,3,5} \exp\left(\frac{1}{2\sigma_j^2}(\beta_j - \mu_j)^2\right) \prod_{i=1}^{2035} q_2(x_i)^{y_i} (1 - q_2(x_i))^{1-y_i} \end{aligned}$$

Therefore the Markov combination in this case is

$$\begin{aligned} p_{\text{comb}}(\phi, \psi_1, \psi_2, \mathbf{y}_1, \mathbf{y}_2) &= \frac{p_1(\phi, \psi_1, \mathbf{y}_1) p_2(\phi, \psi_2, \mathbf{y}_2)}{p(\phi)} \\ &\propto \frac{p_1(\beta_{0,1}, \beta_1, \beta_4, \beta_5 | \mathbf{y}) p_2(\beta_{0,2}, \beta_2, \beta_3, \beta_5 | \mathbf{y})}{p(\beta_5)} \\ &\propto \prod_{k=1}^2 \exp\left(\frac{1}{2\sigma_{0,k}^2}(\beta_{0,k} - \mu_{0,k})^2\right) \prod_{j=1}^5 \exp\left(\frac{1}{2\sigma_j^2}(\beta_j - \mu_j)^2\right) \\ &\quad \times \prod_{i=1}^{2035} q_1(x_i)^{y_i} (1 - q_1(x_i))^{1-y_i} q_2(x_i)^{y_i} (1 - q_2(x_i))^{1-y_i} \end{aligned}$$

*Informal: almost like Bayesian inference for full model with likelihood squared (not quite)*

## 4.2. Monte Carlo scheme

Continue to use symmetric normal proposals.

For  $j \in \{1, 4\}$  such that  $\beta_j$  is one of the latent parameters in  $\psi_1$

## References

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