Foundations of Bayesian NLP

MSc Artificial Intelligence

Lecturer: Wilker Aziz Institute for Logic, Language, and Computation

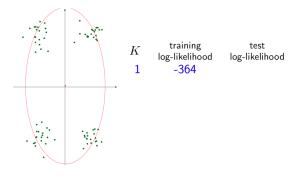
2018

Motivating example from Liang and Klein (2007)

mixture of Gaussians trained via EM

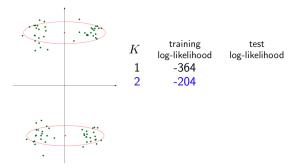
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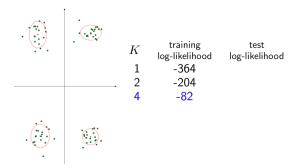
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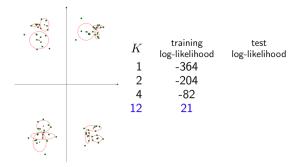
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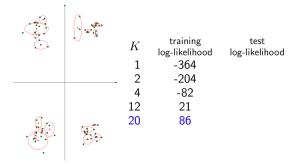


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Example from Liang and Klein (2007): ACL tutorial on Structured Bayesian Nonparametric Models

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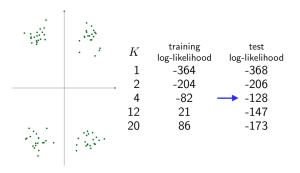


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- on heldout set
- preferably via cross-validation

Can you see limitations of this approach?

- availability of data
- representativeness of heldout set
- discrete optimisation: combinatorial search over models

NLP1

Preliminaries

Bayesian modelling

Applications

▶ N observations

$$\mathbf{x} = \langle x_1, \dots, x_N \rangle$$

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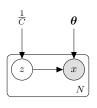
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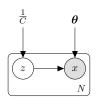
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- Collection of parameter vectors $\boldsymbol{\theta} = \langle \theta^{(1)}, \dots, \theta^{(C)} \rangle$



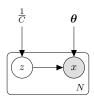
Let's assume x to be 1 of K, and z to be 1 of C

categorical likelihood



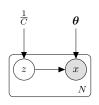
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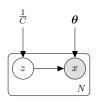


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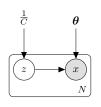
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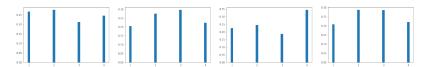
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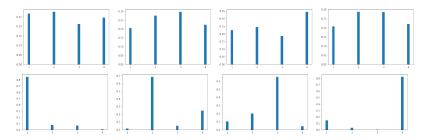
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What is a sensible conditional distribution $X|\theta^{(c)} \sim \operatorname{Cat}(\theta^{(c)})$?

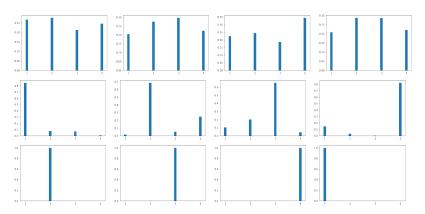
c=1 (the blue cluster), K=4



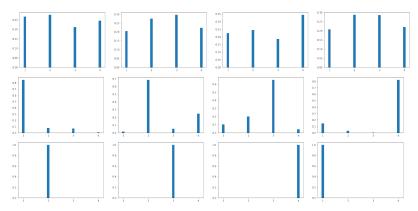
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Can you make any assumptions before observing data?

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- the posterior updates our beliefs about hypotheses in light of observed data.

An optimisation problem based on the (log-)likelihood function

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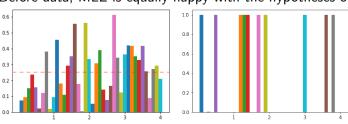
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- can be approached by coordinate ascent methods;
- local optimality guarantees;

All the same a priori

Before data, MLE is equally happy with the hypotheses on the left



Maximum a posteriori

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"I read before that Bayesian priors are just like regularisers, I even know that a Gaussian prior is just L_2 regularisation"

- that only covers the specification of a prior
- ► Bayesian modelling does not end at prior specification you need the crucial part: posterior inference

NLP1

Preliminaries

Bayesian modelling
Dirichlet-Multinomial model

Applications



In a Bayesian model, parameters are no different from data

▶ they are random variables much like data



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- they are random variables much like data
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We will study an example that illustrates important concepts

Dirichlet-Multinomial model

Dirichlet distribution

A distribution over the open simplex of K-dimensional vectors we denote the simplex by

$$\Delta_{K-1} = \left\{ \theta \in \mathbb{R}_{>0}^K : \sum_{k=1}^K \theta_k = 1 \right\} \subseteq \mathbb{R}_{>0}^K$$
 (5)





Use this notebook and this wikipage to learn more

Wilker Aziz NLP1 2018

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Count vector

For observations \mathbf{x} , where x_i is 1 of K define $n^{(\mathbf{x})}$ as the K-dimensional vector such that

$$n_k = \sum_{i=1}^{N} [x_i = k]$$
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Example: for K=3 and N=6

$$\mathbf{x} = \langle x_1 = 2, x_2 = 3, x_3 = 1, x_4 = 2, x_5 = 2, x_6 = 3 \rangle$$
 $n^{(\mathbf{x})} =$

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Gamma function

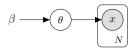
A generalisation of the factorial function to $\mathbb R$

$$\Gamma(z) = \int_0^\infty e^{z-1} \exp(-\epsilon) d\epsilon$$
 (7)

Properties

- $ightharpoonup \Gamma(n) = (n-1)!$ for positive integer n
- $\Gamma(z) = (z-1)\Gamma(z-1)$

Dirchlet-Multinomial

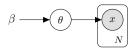


Model

$$\theta | \beta \sim \text{Dir}(\beta)$$

 $X_i | \theta \sim \text{Cat}(\theta) \quad \text{for } i = 1, \dots, N$ (8)

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Joint distribution

$$P(\mathbf{x}, \theta | \beta) = P(\theta)P(\mathbf{x} | \theta)$$

$$= \text{Dir}(\theta | \beta) \, \text{Mult}(n^{(\mathbf{x})} | \theta, N)$$
(9)

For $\theta \in \Delta_{K-1}$

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For $\theta \in \Delta_{K-1}$

$$\begin{split} P(\mathbf{x}|\theta) &= \mathrm{Mult}(n^{(\mathbf{x})}|\theta, N) \\ &= \frac{N!}{\prod_{k=1}^{K} n_k!} \prod_{k=1}^{K} \theta_k^{n_k} \\ &= \frac{\Gamma(\sum_{k=1}^{K} n_k + 1)}{\prod_{k=1}^{K} \Gamma(n_k + 1)} \prod_{k=1}^{K} \theta_k^{n_k} \end{split}$$

For $\theta \in \Delta_{K-1}$

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(10)

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Example: for K=3 and N=6

$$\theta = \langle \theta_1 = 0.2, \theta_2 = 0.3, \theta_3 = 0.5 \rangle$$

$$\mathbf{x} = \langle x_1 = \mathbf{2}, x_2 = 3, x_3 = 1, x_4 = \mathbf{2}, x_5 = \mathbf{2}, x_6 = 3 \rangle$$

$$n^{(\mathbf{x})} = \langle n_1 = 1, n_2 = 3, n_3 = 2 \rangle$$

$$P(\mathbf{x}|\theta) = \frac{\Gamma(\ldots)}{\prod \ldots} \theta_1^1 \times \theta_2^3 \times \theta_3^2$$

Dirichlet prior

For
$$\beta \in \mathbb{R}_{>0}^K$$

$$Dir(\theta|\beta) = \frac{\Gamma(\sum_{k=1}^{K} \beta_k)}{\prod_{k=1}^{K} \Gamma(\beta_k)} \prod_{k=1}^{K} \theta_k^{\beta_k - 1}$$

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$$\propto \prod_{k=1}^{K} \theta_k^{\beta_k - 1}$$
(11)

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We call

$$\int_{\Delta_{K-1}} \prod_{k=1}^K \theta_k^{\beta_k - 1} = \frac{\prod_{k=1}^K \Gamma(\beta_k)}{\Gamma(\sum_{k=1}^K \beta_k)}$$

the Dirichlet normaliser

Posterior

$$P(\theta|\mathbf{x},\beta) \propto$$

Posterior

$$P(\theta|\mathbf{x},\beta) \propto P(\mathbf{x}|\theta)P(\theta|\beta)$$

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$$\propto \underbrace{\frac{\Gamma(\sum_{k=1}^{K} n_k + 1)}{\prod_{k=1}^{K} \Gamma(n_k + 1)} \prod_{k=1}^{K} \theta_k^{n_k}}_{\text{Mult}(n^{(\mathbf{x})}|\theta)} \times$$

$$P(\theta|\mathbf{x},\beta) \propto P(\mathbf{x}|\theta)P(\theta|\beta)$$

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$$\begin{split} P(\theta|\mathbf{x},\beta) &\propto P(\mathbf{x}|\theta)P(\theta|\beta) \\ &\propto \underbrace{\frac{\Gamma(\sum_{k=1}^{K}n_k+1)}{\prod_{k=1}^{K}\Gamma(n_k+1)}\prod_{k=1}^{K}\theta_k^{n_k}}_{\text{Mult}(n^{(\mathbf{x})}|\theta)} \times \underbrace{\frac{\Gamma(\sum_{k=1}^{K}\beta_k)}{\prod_{k=1}^{K}\Gamma(\beta_k)}\prod_{k=1}^{K}\theta_k^{\beta_k-1}}_{\text{Dir}(\theta|\beta)} \\ &\propto \prod_{k=1}^{K}\theta_k^{n_k} \times \end{split}$$

$$P(\theta|\mathbf{x},\beta) \propto P(\mathbf{x}|\theta)P(\theta|\beta)$$

$$\propto \underbrace{\frac{\Gamma(\sum_{k=1}^{K} n_k + 1)}{\prod_{k=1}^{K} \Gamma(n_k + 1)} \prod_{k=1}^{K} \theta_k^{n_k}}_{\text{Mult}(n^{(\mathbf{x})}|\theta)} \times \underbrace{\frac{\Gamma(\sum_{k=1}^{K} \beta_k)}{\prod_{k=1}^{K} \Gamma(\beta_k)} \prod_{k=1}^{K} \theta_k^{\beta_k - 1}}_{\text{Dir}(\theta|\beta)}$$

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Thus

$$P(\theta|\mathbf{x},\beta) = \underbrace{\prod_{\substack{1 \text{ normaliser of } \text{Dir}(n^{(\mathbf{x})} + \beta)}}^{K} \prod_{k=1}^{K} \theta_k^{n_k + \beta_k - 1}$$
 (12)

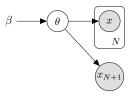
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Thus

$$P(\theta|\mathbf{x},\beta) = \underbrace{\frac{\Gamma(N + \sum_{k=1}^{K} \beta_k)}{\prod_{k=1}^{K} \Gamma(n_k + \beta_k)}}_{\text{normaliser of } \text{Dir}(n^{(\mathbf{x})} + \beta)} \prod_{k=1}^{K} \theta_k^{n_k + \beta_k - 1}$$
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Posterior predictive distribution

Suppose a new data point $x_{N+1} = j$ is available

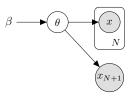


$$P(x_{N+1} = j | \mathbf{x}, \beta) = \int_{\Delta_{K-1}} P(\theta, x_{N+1} | \mathbf{x}, \beta) d\theta$$

 x_{N+1} is independent of ${\bf x}$ given θ

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$$\begin{split} P(x_{N+1} = j | \mathbf{x}, \beta) &= \int_{\Delta_{K-1}} \underbrace{\frac{P(x_{N+1} = j | \theta)}{\text{likelihood}} \underbrace{P(\theta | \mathbf{x}, \beta)}_{\text{posterior}} \, \mathrm{d}\theta}_{\text{posterior}} \\ &= \int_{\Delta_{K-1}} \theta_j \times \underbrace{\frac{\Gamma(N + \sum_{k=1}^K \beta_k)}{\prod_{k=1}^K \Gamma(n_k + \beta_k)} \prod_{k=1}^K \theta_k^{n_k + \beta_k - 1} \mathrm{d}\theta}_{\text{constant wrt } \theta} \end{split}$$

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Suppose a new data point $x_{N+1} = j$ is available

$$\begin{split} &P(x_{N+1}=j|\mathbf{x},\beta) = \int_{\Delta_{K-1}} \underbrace{\frac{P(x_{N+1}=j|\theta)}{\text{likelihood}}} \underbrace{P(\theta|\mathbf{x},\beta)}_{\text{posterior}} \, \mathrm{d}\theta \\ &= \int_{\Delta_{K-1}} \theta_j \times \underbrace{\frac{\Gamma(N+\sum_{k=1}^K \beta_k)}{\prod_{k=1}^K \Gamma(n_k+\beta_k)}}_{\text{constant wrt } \theta} \prod_{k=1}^K \theta_k^{n_k+\beta_k-1} \, \mathrm{d}\theta \\ &= \underbrace{\frac{\Gamma(N+\sum_{k=1}^K \beta_k)}{\prod_{k=1}^K \Gamma(n_k+\beta_k)}}_{\text{constant wrt } \theta} \int_{\Delta_{K-1}} \theta_j \times \underbrace{\theta_j^{n_j+\beta_j-1}}_{k\neq j} \prod_{k\neq j} \theta_k^{n_k+\beta_k-1} \, \mathrm{d}\theta \\ &= \underbrace{\frac{\Gamma(N+\sum_{k=1}^K \beta_k)}{\prod_{k=1}^K \Gamma(n_k+\beta_k)}}_{\prod_{k=1}^K \Gamma(n_k+\beta_k)} \int_{\Delta_{K-1}} \theta_j^{n_j+\beta_j} \prod_{k\neq j} \theta_k^{n_k+\beta_k-1} \, \mathrm{d}\theta \end{split}$$

$$\begin{split} &P(x_{N+1}=j|\mathbf{x},\beta) = \int_{\Delta_{K-1}} \underbrace{P(x_{N+1}=j|\theta)}_{\text{likelihood}} \underbrace{P(\theta|\mathbf{x},\beta)}_{\text{posterior}} \mathrm{d}\theta \\ &= \frac{\Gamma(N+\sum_{k=1}^K \beta_k)}{\prod_{k=1}^K \Gamma(n_k+\beta_k)} \int_{\Delta_{K-1}} \theta_j^{n_j+\beta_j} \prod_{k\neq j} \theta_k^{n_k+\beta_k-1} \mathrm{d}\theta \end{split}$$

$$\begin{split} P(x_{N+1} = j | \mathbf{x}, \beta) &= \int_{\Delta_{K-1}} \underbrace{\frac{P(x_{N+1} = j | \theta)}{\text{likelihood}} \underbrace{P(\theta | \mathbf{x}, \beta)}_{\text{posterior}} \, \mathrm{d}\theta} \\ &= \underbrace{\frac{\Gamma(N + \sum_{k=1}^{K} \beta_k)}{\prod_{k=1}^{K} \Gamma(n_k + \beta_k)}}_{\text{Dir normaliser}} \underbrace{\int_{\Delta_{K-1}} \theta_j^{n_j + \beta_j} \prod_{k \neq j} \theta_k^{n_k + \beta_k - 1} \, \mathrm{d}\theta}_{\text{Dir normaliser}} \end{split}$$

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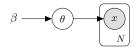
$$\begin{split} P(x_{N+1} = j | \mathbf{x}, \boldsymbol{\beta}) &= \int_{\Delta_{K-1}} \underbrace{P(x_{N+1} = j | \boldsymbol{\theta})}_{\text{likelihood}} \underbrace{P(\boldsymbol{\theta} | \mathbf{x}, \boldsymbol{\beta})}_{\text{posterior}} \mathrm{d}\boldsymbol{\theta} \\ &= \underbrace{\frac{\Gamma(N + \sum_{k=1}^K \beta_k)}{\prod_{k=1}^K \Gamma(n_k + \beta_k)}}_{\underbrace{Dir \; \text{normaliser}}} \underbrace{\int_{\Delta_{K-1}} \theta_j^{n_j + \beta_j} \prod_{k \neq j} \theta_k^{n_k + \beta_k - 1} \mathrm{d}\boldsymbol{\theta}}_{\text{Dir normaliser}} \\ &= \underbrace{\frac{\Gamma(N + \sum_{k=1}^K \beta_k)}{\prod_{k=1}^K \Gamma(n_k + \beta_k)}}_{\underbrace{\Gamma(n_j + \beta_j + 1) \prod_{k \neq j} \Gamma(n_k + \beta_k)}}_{\underbrace{\Gamma(N + \sum_{k=1}^K \beta_k + 1)}} \end{split}$$

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Dirchlet-Multinomial (overview)



Joint distribution

$$P(\mathbf{x}, \theta | \beta) = P(\theta)P(\mathbf{x} | \theta)$$

$$= \text{Dir}(\theta | \beta) \, \text{Mult}(n^{(\mathbf{x})} | \theta, N)$$
(13)

Posterior

$$P(\theta|\mathbf{x},\beta) = \text{Dir}(\theta|n^{(\mathbf{x})} + \beta)$$
 (14)

Predictive posterior

$$P(x_{N+1} = j | \mathbf{x}, \beta) = \frac{n_j + \beta_j}{N + \sum_{k=1}^{K} \beta_k}$$
 (15)

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$$P(\mathbf{x}_i = j | \mathbf{x}_{-i}, \beta) = \frac{1}{N-1 + \sum_{k=1}^{K} \beta_k}$$
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Random variables are called exchangeable under a model when all permutations of the set of outcomes have the same probability

▶ in our Dirichlet-Multinomial model any re-ordering of the observations is equally likely to occur

Combine that fact with the predictive posterior result

$$P(x_{N+1} = j | \mathbf{x}, \beta) = \frac{n_j + \beta_j}{N + \sum_{k=1}^{K} \beta_k}$$
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Summary

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- ▶ MLE is memoryless: there is one fixed θ , no matter how much more data you see, θ will never change

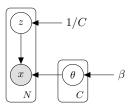
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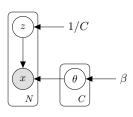
NLP1

Preliminaries

Bayesian modelling

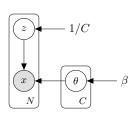
Applications





Define counts based on joint assignments to $\mathbf{x}_{-i}, \mathbf{z}_{-i}$

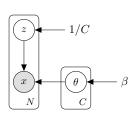
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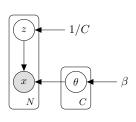


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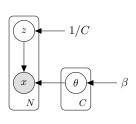


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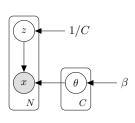
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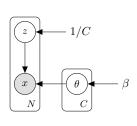
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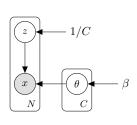
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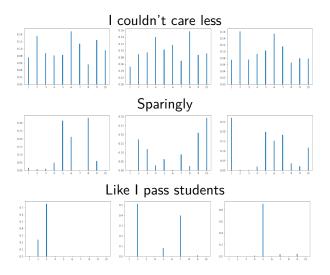
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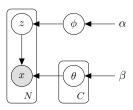
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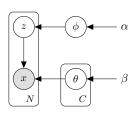
what about preferring to use fewer components?

Sparse prior over mixing weights

Say we have 10 components, how do you want to use them?

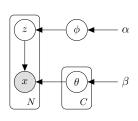






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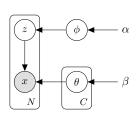
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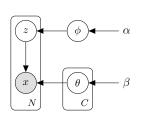


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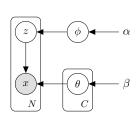


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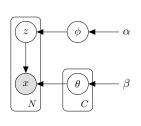
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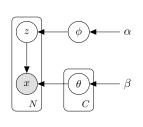
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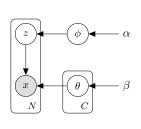
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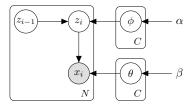
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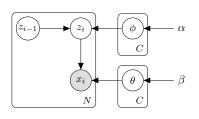
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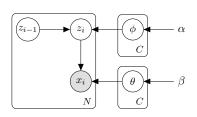
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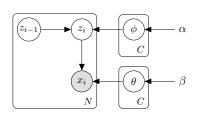


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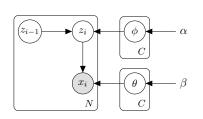
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We draw from the posterior $P(\mathbf{z}|\mathbf{x})$ via a Markov chain of random states Y_1,\ldots,Y_T where $P(y_t|y_{< t})=P(y_t|y_{t-1})$

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- ▶ applying each of P_k in turn or choosing P_k at random produces a \mathbf{P} that satisfies the necessary conditions

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When we have collected a large number T of samples

▶ we can summarise the distribution and/or make decisions

Wilker Aziz NLP1 2018

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For more, take ML4NLP;D

References I