

11 Monte Carlo Simulations

VIDEO: `video08b_markov_ketten_r`

11.1 Markov Chains

Given; system with (a finite number of) states $\underline{y} = \underline{y}_1, \underline{y}_2, \dots, \underline{y}_K$ and probabilities $P(\underline{y})$.

Typical: K exponentially large in number N of particles and $P(\underline{y})$ significant only for an exponentially small fraction of states ($\sum_{\text{significant } \underline{y}} 1/K \rightarrow 0$ and $\sum_{\text{significant } \underline{y}} P(\underline{y}) \rightarrow 1$)

Example: Boltzmann distribution

Target: Estimation of expectation values of observables $A(\underline{y})$

$$\langle A \rangle := \sum_{\underline{y}} A(\underline{y}) P(\underline{y}) \quad (52)$$

Assumption: K very large \rightarrow impossible to enumerate all states.

Simple Sampling:

Generate M states $\{\underline{y}^i\}$ ($i = 1, \dots, M$) randomly, with uniform probability. Then:

$$\langle A \rangle \approx \overline{A}^{(1)} := \sum_{\underline{y}^i} A(\underline{y}^i) P(\underline{y}^i) / \sum_{\underline{y}^i} P(\underline{y}^i)$$

Drawback: for almost all states $P(\underline{y}^i)$ is exponentially small $\rightarrow \overline{A}^{(1)}$ not accurate.

Importance Sampling:

Better: generate M configurations \underline{y}^i according to $P(\underline{y}^i)$. (generate *most important states* more often), then:

$$\langle A \rangle \approx \overline{A}^{(2)} := \sum_{\underline{y}^i} A(\underline{y}^i) / M \quad (53)$$

But: usually no algorithm to generate y^i directly according to $P(\underline{y}^i)$ (distribution function cannot be obtained or inverted).

→

Basic idea: states \underline{y}^i are *not* generated independently but by a *probabilistic dynamics* of states $\underline{y}(t)$ at discrete times $t = 0, 1, 2, \dots$: $\underline{y}(0) \rightarrow \underline{y}(1) \rightarrow \underline{y}(2) \rightarrow \dots$

Assumption: states $\underline{y}(t+1)$ depend only on random numbers and on $\underline{y}(t)$. $\{\underline{y}(t) | t = 0, 1, 2, \dots\}$ is called a *Markov chain*.

Description of transitions $\underline{y}(t) \rightarrow \underline{y}(t+1)$ by $W_{\underline{y}\underline{z}} = W(\underline{y} \rightarrow \underline{z})$ = probability to move from state \underline{y} (at time t) to state \underline{z} (at time $t+1$), where $W_{\underline{y}\underline{z}}$ does not depend on time.

[Activator]

Which properties has $W_{\underline{y}\underline{z}}$?

The state space plus the transition probabilities is called a *Markov process*.

Example: Two state system

Two states A,B and transition probabilities $W_{AA} = 0.6$, $W_{AB} = 0.4$, $W_{BA} = 0.1$, $W_{BB} = 0.9$.

Assumption: One generates $N = 100$ Markov chains, which all start in A: $N(A/B, t)$ = number of chains which are in state A/B, at time step t . Let $N(A, 0) = 100$ and $N(B, 0) = 0$. How could the dynamics look like?

For (about) average values Mittelwerte: $N(A, 0)W_{AB} = 100 \times 0.4 = 40$ chains move from $A \rightarrow B$, while no transitions happen $B \rightarrow A$ at $t = 0$. And so on. Evolution:

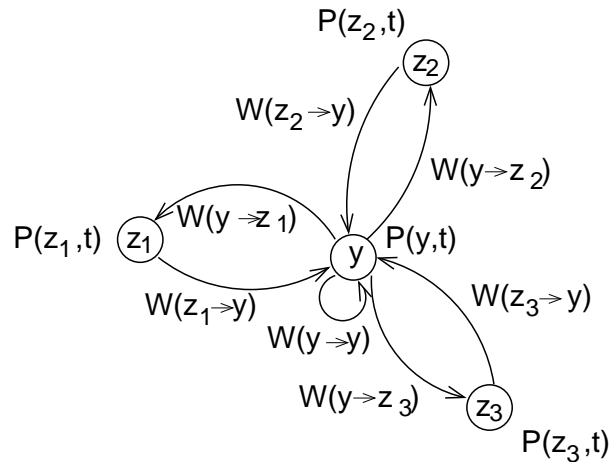
$$\begin{array}{lcl}
 t = 0 : & \boxed{N(A)=100} & \begin{array}{c} \xleftarrow{0} \\ \xrightarrow{40} \end{array} \boxed{N(B)=0} \\
 t = 1 : & \boxed{N(A)=60} & \begin{array}{c} \xleftarrow{4} \\ \xrightarrow{24} \end{array} \boxed{N(B)=40} \\
 t = 2 : & \boxed{N(A)=40} & \begin{array}{c} \xleftarrow{6} \\ \xrightarrow{16} \end{array} \boxed{N(B)=60}
 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
t = 3 : \quad & \boxed{N(A)=30} \begin{array}{c} \xleftarrow{7} \\ \xrightarrow{12} \end{array} \boxed{N(B)=70} \\
t = 4 : \quad & \boxed{N(A)=25} \begin{array}{c} \xleftarrow{8} \\ \xrightarrow{10} \end{array} \boxed{N(B)=75} \\
t = 5 : \quad & \boxed{N(A)=23} \begin{array}{c} \xleftarrow{8} \\ \xrightarrow{9} \end{array} \boxed{N(B)=77} \\
t = 6 : \quad & \boxed{N(A)=22} \begin{array}{c} \xleftarrow{8} \\ \xrightarrow{9} \end{array} \boxed{N(B)=78} \\
t = 7 : \quad & \boxed{N(A)=21} \begin{array}{c} \xleftarrow{8} \\ \xrightarrow{8} \end{array} \boxed{N(B)=79}
\end{aligned}$$

From now on about $N(A,t)W_{AB} = N(B,t)W_{BA}$. The transfer between states balances $\rightarrow N(A/B,t) = \text{const}$, *stationary state* \square

General:

Let $P(\underline{y}, t) = \langle N(\underline{y}, t)/N \rangle$ the probability that system at time t is in state $\underline{y}(t) = \underline{y}$. Balance for state \underline{y} :



Therefore (“Master Equation”):

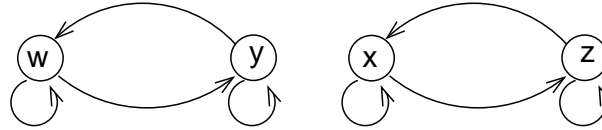
$$\Delta P(\underline{y}, t) := P(\underline{y}, t+1) - P(\underline{y}, t) = \sum_{\underline{z}} W_{\underline{zy}} P(\underline{z}, t) - \sum_{\underline{z}} W_{\underline{yz}} P(\underline{y}, t) \quad \forall \underline{y} \quad (54)$$

Under specific conditions (in particular if there is only one eigen value $\lambda = 1$ of matrix \hat{W} ($\hat{W}_{\underline{y}\underline{z}} = W_{\underline{y}\underline{z}} - \delta_{\underline{y}\underline{z}} \sum_{\underline{z}'} W_{\underline{y}\underline{z}'}$), see L. Reichel, 1998 [7]), the probability distribution \rightarrow *stationary* (time-independent) distribution.

$$P_{ST}(\underline{y}) := \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} P(\underline{y}, t)$$

Independent of given initial state $\underline{y}(0)$! System is called *ergodic*.

Example for non-ergodic system:



Target: Choose $W_{\underline{y}\underline{z}}$ such that $P_{ST} = P$

Since $P(\cdot)$ time-independent, from (54) with

$$0 = \Delta P(\underline{y}) = \sum_{\underline{z}} W_{\underline{z}\underline{y}} P(\underline{z}) - \sum_{\underline{z}} W_{\underline{y}\underline{z}} P(\underline{y}) \quad \forall \underline{y}$$

one has more conditions for transition probabilities.

Can be fulfilled, e.g. by

$$W_{\underline{z}\underline{y}} P(\underline{z}) - W_{\underline{y}\underline{z}} P(\underline{y}) = 0 \quad \forall \underline{y}, \underline{z} \quad (55)$$

(called *detailed balance*).

Thus: Markov process generates state distributed according to $P(\cdot)$.

Hence averages (53) can be obtained.

Attention: at beginning states depend on $\underline{y}(0)$

\Rightarrow states for $t < t_{equi}$ or omitted from average calculation (“equilibration”).

$\underline{y}(t+1)$ typically “similar” to $\underline{y}(t)$

\Rightarrow only distant states $\underline{y}(t), \underline{y}(t+\Delta t), \underline{y}(t+2\Delta t), \dots$ are almost independent.

Remark: $t_{equi}, \Delta t$ depend STRONGLY on model, algorithm and parameters

\Rightarrow have to be determined experimentally in simulations.

VIDEO: video08c_metropolis_r

11.2 Disordered (diluted) Ferromagnet

Model:

$$\mathcal{H} = -J \sum_{\langle i,j \rangle} e_i s_i e_j s_j \quad J > 0. \quad (56)$$

$\langle i, j \rangle$: sum over interacting neighbors (e.g. next neighbours)

$e_i = 0, 1$: site free/occupied

$s_i = \pm 1$: spin orientation “up” / “down”.

configuration: $\underline{x} = (s_1, s_2, \dots, s_N)$ (spins with $e_i = 0$ are effectively ignored)

Target: simulation in *canonical ensemble*:

$$P(\underline{x}) = \frac{1}{Z} \exp(-\mathcal{H}(\underline{x})/T), \quad (57)$$

with Z = partition function $Z = \sum_{\{\underline{x}\}} \exp(-\mathcal{H}(\underline{x})/T)$.

Method: use Markov chain.

Here:

Metropolis Algorithmus defined by transition probabilities $W_{\underline{y}\underline{z}} = W(\underline{y} \rightarrow \underline{z})$.

Basic idea: (given $\underline{y} = \underline{y}(t)$)

1. Create *test configuration* \underline{z} *randomly*, according to $A(\underline{y} \rightarrow \underline{z})$

2. With probability $\tilde{W}(\underline{y} \rightarrow \underline{z})$ \underline{z} is *accepted*, i.e. $\underline{y}(t+1) = \underline{z}$.

$\tilde{W}(\underline{y} \rightarrow \underline{z})$ is called *acceptance probability*

With probability $1 - \tilde{W}(\underline{y} \rightarrow \underline{z})$ \underline{z} is *rejected*, i.e. $\underline{y}(t+1) = \underline{y}$

→ Full probability:

$$W(\underline{y} \rightarrow \underline{z}) = A(\underline{y} \rightarrow \underline{z}) \tilde{W}(\underline{y} \rightarrow \underline{z}) \quad (\underline{y} \neq \underline{z}). \quad (58)$$

(probability that state \underline{y} remains: $W(\underline{y} \rightarrow \underline{y}) = 1 - \sum_{\underline{z} \neq \underline{y}} W(\underline{y} \rightarrow \underline{z})$).

Insert Eq. (58) into detailed balance condition

$$\frac{\tilde{W}(\underline{y} \rightarrow \underline{z})}{\tilde{W}(\underline{z} \rightarrow \underline{y})} = \frac{P(\underline{z})}{P(\underline{y})} \frac{A(\underline{z} \rightarrow \underline{y})}{A(\underline{y} \rightarrow \underline{z})}. \quad (59)$$

For Metropolis algorithmus [8], choice:

$$\tilde{W}(\underline{y} \rightarrow \underline{z}) = \min \left(1, \frac{P(\underline{z})}{P(\underline{y})} \frac{A(\underline{z} \rightarrow \underline{y})}{A(\underline{y} \rightarrow \underline{z})} \right), \quad (60)$$

One sees easily that Eq. (59) holds.

Most simple: single-spin flip dynamics:

Let $\underline{y} = (s_1, s_2, \dots, s_N)$. Choose a spin j randomly, then $\underline{z} = (s'_1, s'_2, \dots, s'_N)$ with

$$s'_i = \begin{cases} -s_i & \text{for } i = j \\ s_i & \text{else} \end{cases}$$

All spins equal likely: $A(\underline{y} \rightarrow \underline{z}) = 1/N$

(better: choose among spins $e_i \neq 0$: $A(\underline{y} \rightarrow \underline{z}) = 1/(\sum_i e_i)$)

[Activator]

What is the result for the Boltzmann distribution when inserting into (Metropolis Acceptance probability) ?

Acceptance probability depends only on *energy change* $\Delta\mathcal{H} = \mathcal{H}(\underline{z}) - \mathcal{H}(\underline{y})$
 \Rightarrow easy to compute, because only neighbors $N(j)$ of j contribute:

$$\Delta\mathcal{H} = \Delta\mathcal{H}(j) = 2J \sum_{i \in N(j)} e_i s_i e_j s_j$$

Obervation: at low temperatures, changes which increase energy are rarely accepted.

Since at most on spin flipped: algorithm is slow, configurations change globally only on large time scales.

Slowest: Close to phase transitions. (Solution here: cluster algorithms).

Summary:

algorithm MC Ferromagnet

begin

for(MC iterations)

begin

 select occupied site t randomly

$\Delta H = 0$

for(all neighbors of t)

 add contribution to ΔH

 flip spin with Metropolis probability(ΔH)

end

end

VIDEO: video08d_messgroessen_r.mkv

11.3 Ferromagnet: observables

Repetition:

Average magnetisation:

$$\langle m \rangle = \frac{1}{Z} \sum_{\{\underline{s}\}} m(\underline{s}) \exp(-\beta H(\underline{s})) \quad (61)$$

with $m = \sum_i s_i / N$, $Z = \sum_{\{\underline{s}\}} \exp(-\beta H(\underline{s}))$, $\beta = 1/k_B T$, $N = L^d$ spins.

Small magnetic field B : $H_B(\underline{s}) = -\sum_{\langle i,j \rangle} s_i s_j - B \sum_i s_i \rightarrow$

Calculate $\left. \frac{\partial Z}{\partial B} \right|_{B=0}$ [Activator]

For the susceptibility

$$\begin{aligned} \chi &\equiv \left. \frac{\partial \langle m \rangle}{\partial B} \right|_{B=0} \\ &= \left. \frac{\partial}{\partial B} \right|_{B=0} \frac{1}{Z} \sum_{\{\underline{s}\}} m \exp(-\beta H(\underline{s})) \\ &= -\frac{1}{Z^2} \left. \frac{\partial Z}{\partial B} \right|_{B=0} \sum_{\{\underline{s}\}} m \exp(-\beta H(\underline{s})) + \frac{1}{Z} \left. \frac{\partial}{\partial B} \right|_{B=0} \sum_{\{\underline{s}\}} m \exp(-\beta H(\underline{s})) \\ &= -\frac{1}{Z^2} \beta N \left(\sum_{\{\underline{s}\}} m \exp(-\beta H(\underline{s})) \right)^2 + \frac{1}{Z} \beta N \sum_{\{\underline{s}\}} m^2 \exp(-\beta H(\underline{s})) \\ &= \beta N (\langle m^2 \rangle - \langle m \rangle^2) = \beta N \sigma^2 \end{aligned} \quad (62)$$

Determination of phase transition: *Binder cumulant* of magnetization

$$b(L, T) = 0.5 \left(3 - \frac{\langle m^4 \rangle}{\langle m^2 \rangle^2} \right) \quad (63)$$

One can show:

- $b(L, T)$ curves for different L intersect (almost) at T_c .
- Average absolute magnetisation per spin $M \equiv \langle |m| \rangle$ behaves (theory of phase transitions):

$$M(T) \sim |T - T_c|^\beta \quad (T < T_c) \quad (64)$$

For finite systems

$$M(T, L) = L^{-\beta/\nu} \tilde{\xi}_1(L/\xi) = L^{-\beta/\nu} \hat{\xi}_1(L^{1/\nu}(T - T_c))$$

where ν describes the divergence of the correlation length at the critical point.