

Homeworks

SMDS-2-2020

<https://elearning2.uniroma1.it/course/view.php?id=8609>

deadline 22/06/2020 (23:55) 2019-2020

(write your answers and provide your R code for the numerical solutions)

Your Last+First Name ____LLLLLLLLL____FFFFFF____ Your Matricola 99999

1) Acceptance-Rejection algorithm

- a. Use the acceptance-rejection algorithm to provide 10000 i.i.d. simulations from a target standard normal distribution $\pi(\cdot)$ using a Cauchy distribution as auxiliary density $q(\cdot)$.
- b. How can you numerically evaluate the efficiency of this simulation strategy? Provide your numerical evaluation and explain how you can compute it exactly or approximately.

- 2) Infinitely exchangeable sequence of binary random variables X_1, \dots, X_n, \dots
- a. Provide the definition of an infinitely exchangeable binary sequence of random variables X_1, \dots, X_n, \dots . Consider the De Finetti representation theorem relying a suitable distribution $\pi(\theta)$ on $[0, 1]$ and show that
- $E[X_i] = E_\pi[\theta]$
 - $E[X_i X_j] = E_\pi[\theta^2]$
 - $Cov[X_i X_j] = Var_\pi[\theta]$
- b. Prove that any couple of random variables in that sequence must be non-negatively correlated.
- c. Find what are the conditions on the distribution $\pi(\cdot)$ so that $Cor[X_i X_j] = 1$.
- d. What do these conditions imply on the type and shape of $\pi(\cdot)$? (make an example)

- 3a) Illustrate the characteristics of the statistical model for dealing with the *Dugong*'s data. Lengths (Y_i) and ages (x_i) of 27 dugongs ([sea cows](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dugong)) captured off the coast of Queensland have been recorded and the following (non linear) regression model is considered in Carlin and Gelfand (1991)

$$\begin{aligned} Y_i &\sim N(\mu_i, \tau^2) \\ \mu_i = f(x_i) &= \alpha - \beta\gamma^{x_i} \end{aligned}$$

Model parameters are $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$, $\beta \in \mathbb{R}$, $\gamma \in (0, 1)$, $\tau^2 \in (0, \infty)$. Let us consider the following prior distributions:

$$\alpha \sim N(0, \sigma_\alpha^2) ; \beta \sim N(0, \sigma_\beta^2) ; \gamma \sim \text{Unif}(0, 1) ; \tau^2 \sim \text{IG}(a, b) (\text{InverseGamma})$$

- 3b) Derive the corresponding likelihood function
- 3c) Compute numerically the maximum likelihood estimate $\hat{\theta}_{ML}$ for the vector of parameters of interest $(\alpha, \beta, \gamma, \tau^2)$ and compare it with the Maximum-a-Posteriori estimate $\hat{\theta}_{MaP}$. (Suggestion: use the 'optim(...)' function or 'fitdistr(...)' in R)
- 3d) Write down the expression of the joint prior distribution of the parameters at stake and illustrate your suitable choice for the hyperparameters.
- 3e) Write down the expression of the posterior density up to a proportionality constant and derive all the expressions of the 4 full conditional distributions up to proportionality constants. For which components can you recognize some known parametric distributions?
- 3f) Implement an MCMC algorithm based on a Gibbs cycle in which

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha_{t+1} &\sim \pi(\alpha | \beta_t, \gamma_t, \tau_t^2) \\ \beta_{t+1} &\sim \pi(\beta_{t+1} | \alpha_{t+1}, \gamma_t, \tau_t^2) \\ \gamma_{t+1} &\sim \pi(\gamma_{t+1} | \alpha_{t+1}, \beta_{t+1}, \tau_t^2) \\ \tau_{t+1}^2 &\sim \pi(\tau_{t+1}^2 | \alpha_{t+1}, \beta_{t+1}, \gamma_{t+1}) \end{aligned}$$

replacing, when the full conditional distribution is not recognised as a known type of distribution with the simulation based on a Metropolis Hastings algorithm having as a univariate target density the full conditional density and as a proposal a fixed (independent) proposal in the appropriate univariate support (e.g Uniform if the component takes value in $(0, 1)$ or gaussian with fixed parameters if the component takes value in \mathbb{R}).

- 3g) Show the 4 univariate trace-plots of the simulations of each parameter
- 3h) Evaluate graphically the behaviour of the empirical averages \hat{I}_t with growing $t = 1, \dots, T$
- 3i) Provide estimates for each parameter together with the approximation error and explain how you have evaluated such error
- 3j) Which parameter has the largest posterior uncertainty? How did you measure it?
- 3k) Which couple of components of the parametr vector $(\alpha, \beta, \gamma, \tau^2)$ has the largest correlation (in absolute value)?
- 3l) Use the Markov chain to approximate the posterior predictive distribution of the length of a dugong with age of 20 years.
- 3m) Provide the prediction of another dugong with age 30
- 3n) Which prediction is less precise?

4) Suppose μ is a column vector with the following entries

```
mu
```

```
## [1] 0.19 0.53 0.28
```

representing the probability mass distribution over a suitable finite discrete state space $\mathcal{S} = \{1, 2, \dots, d\}$ of the random starting state of a Markov chain X_0 with transition probability matrix P

```
P
```

```
##      [,1] [,2] [,3]
## [1,] 0.47 0.28 0.25
## [2,] 0.34 0.32 0.34
## [3,] 0.04 0.53 0.43
```

Write the most compact R code to obtain the following distributions as R objects:

- m_0 – the marginal distribution of X_0 as a column vector
- m_1 – the marginal distribution of X_1 as a column vector
- J – the joint distribution of (X_0, X_1) as a matrix with generic entry at row r and column c equal to $Pr\{X_1 = r, X_0 = c\}$
- C_{1_0} – all conditional distributions of $X_1|X_0$ as a matrix with generic entry at row r and column c equal to $Pr\{X_1 = c|X_0 = r\}$
- C_{0_1} – all conditional distributions of $X_0|X_1$ as a matrix with generic entry at row r and column c equal to $Pr\{X_0 = c|X_1 = r\}$