

Problem 1

Review Gibbs Sampling

Suppose we have a model $y_i \sim \text{Pois}(\phi_i \lambda)$, with $\phi_i \sim \text{Ga}(\nu/2, \nu/2)$ & $\lambda \sim \text{Ga}(a, b)$. Derive the full conditional posterior distribution of each ϕ_i and of λ . Simulate data with $\nu = 0.5, \lambda = 5, n = 100$. Implement the Gibbs sampler and show a trace plot of samples of λ . Show an MCMC estimate of the posterior mean and 95% credible interval on the plot λ .

Problem 2

Sampling truncated distribution

Suppose we have $\theta \sim \text{Beta}(c, d)$, which has support on $[0, 1]$, we can modify the density of $f(\theta)$ to have support on a sub-interval $[a, b] \subset [0, 1]$. In other words, we start with pdf for an untruncated distribution such as $\theta \sim \text{Beta}(c, d)$ and we want to sample $\theta \sim \text{Beta}_{[a, b]}(c, d)$. Derive the form of the posterior density of θ updating the prior with a binomial (y, n, θ) likelihood. Compare posterior summaries including the mean, median and 95% credible interval with the posterior under an unconstrained beta prior, i.e., with support on $[0, 1]$. In comparing posteriors, use $y = 8, n = 10, a = 0.6, b = 0.9, c = 8, d = 2$

Problem 3

Bayesian Hypothesis Testing

In the fair coin example (Lecture 4 slides 12 to 17), derive the general form of Bayes Factor under prior distribution of $\text{Beta}(a, b)$ (recall that in the lecture notes, we looked at an example under $\text{Beta}(1, 1)$ prior). Based on the general form under $\text{Beta}(a, b)$ prior, comment on what will happen if we let a and b goes infinitely close to 0 (in that case, the prior sample size $a+b$ also goes to 0). Do we encounter Lindley's paradox? (if you are not familiar with how beta functions behave ($B(a, b)$ on slide 15) as you change a and b , experiment in R with `beta()` function).