

# Posterior Inference

index of posterior samples after burn

$$(1) E[\theta | x] \approx \frac{1}{N_T} \sum_{i=1}^{N_T} \theta_i$$

$$(2) \text{Accurate}[\theta | x, p] = \{p \cdot N_T^{\text{th}} \text{ value after sorting}\} \quad \text{Covered in Lecture 2}$$

$$(3) 95\% \text{ CR} = \text{interval}$$

(4) Hypothesis tests, etc ... same as before

Gibbs sampling offers inference for previously intractable models!

## Gibbs Sampling algorithm (systematic sweep)

Lecture START

$$p(\theta_1, \dots, \theta_k | x) \propto p(x | \theta_1, \dots, \theta_k) p(\theta_1, \dots, \theta_k) \propto L(x | \theta_1, \dots, \theta_k)$$

Assume

$$p(\theta_i | \theta_{-i}, x) \text{ can be sampled from } \forall i$$

Then Gibbs sampler is:

$$\text{Step 1: Initialize } \vec{\theta}_0 = [\theta_{1,0}, \dots, \theta_{k,0}]$$

$$\text{Step 2: Draw } \theta_{1,1} \text{ from } p(\theta_1 | \theta_{2,0}, \dots, \theta_{k,0}, x)$$

$$\text{Draw } \theta_{1,2} \text{ from } p(\theta_2 | \theta_{1,1}, \theta_{3,0}, \dots, \theta_{k,0}, x)$$

$$\vdots$$

$$\theta_{1,k} \text{ from } p(\theta_k | \theta_{1,k-1}, \dots, \theta_{k-1,k-1}, x)$$

Step 3: Repeat Step 2 as a cycle Step 4: Repeat 2-3 until "converged"

## Proof of convergence

Def: Markov Chain on space  $\mathcal{X}$  is a seq. of r.v's  $X_0, X_1, \dots$  s.t.

$$P(X_{t+1} \in A | X_0, X_1, \dots, X_t) = P(X_{t+1} \in A | X_t) \quad \forall A \subseteq \mathcal{X}$$

once you're at a certain state, you lose memory of all previous states.

Further ... 
$$= \int_A P(X_{t+1} | X_t) f(X_t) dx$$
 where  $P(X_{t+1} | X_t)$  is called the "transition kernel"

If  $\mathcal{X}$  is ctd, it's called the "transition measure".

$f$  is the chain's

Ref: invariant distribution if:

$$f(X_{t+1}) = \int_{\mathcal{X}} f(X_t) P(X_{t+1} | X_t) dx$$

Thm:  $\forall g(X_0)$  (ie strong positive),  $f(x) = \lim_{T \rightarrow \infty} \int \prod_{t=0}^T P(X_{t+1} | X_t) g(X_0) dx$  w/ reg. cond's.  
 $\mathcal{X} \leftarrow$  arg. our sequence  $X_t$  could be!

$\Rightarrow$  No matter where the Markov chain begins, it converges to the same limit.

jdf

Ref:  $f(x_1, \dots, x_k)$  satisfies the positivity condition if  $f(x_i) > 0 \quad \forall i=1 \dots k$

$$\Rightarrow f(x_1, \dots, x_k) > 0 \iff \text{Supp}[X_1, \dots, X_k] = \text{Supp}[X_1] \times \dots \times \text{Supp}[X_k]$$

Thm If  $f(x_1, \dots, x_k)$  satisfies the pos. cond., then  $\forall (a_1, \dots, a_k) \in \text{Supp}[X_1, \dots, X_k]$

$$\Rightarrow f(x_1, \dots, x_k) \propto \prod_{i=1}^k \frac{f(x_i | x_1, \dots, x_{i-1}, x_{i+1}=a_{i+1}, \dots, x_k=a_k)}{f(x_i=a_i | \dots)}$$

If jdf has pos,

Con: all conditional densities are non-zero. If not, then  $\perp$ .

$\Rightarrow$  before using Gibbs sampler, ask... is the mcs ergodic or rk suggest???

Thm: the kernel of a Gibbs sampler can be expanded as

Recall the Gibbs sampler in  $k$  dimensions... the transition kernel would be:

$$\begin{aligned}
 & P(\overset{\text{future iteration}}{\theta_{t+1,1}, \dots, \theta_{t+1,K}} \mid \overset{\text{previous iteration}}{\theta_{t,1}, \dots, \theta_{t,K}}, X) \\
 &= P(\theta_{t+1,K} \mid \theta_{t+1,1}, \dots, \theta_{t+1,K-1}, X) \cdot \\
 & P(\theta_{t+1,K-1} \mid \theta_{t+1,1}, \dots, \theta_{t+1,K-2}, \theta_{t+1,K}, X) \cdot \\
 & P(\theta_{t+1,K-2} \mid \theta_{t+1,1}, \dots, \theta_{t+1,K-3}, \theta_{t+1,K-1}, \theta_{t+1,K}, X) \cdot \dots \cdot \\
 & P(\theta_{t+1,2} \mid \theta_{t+1,1}, \theta_{t+1,2}, \dots, \theta_{t+1,K}, X) \cdot \\
 & P(\theta_{t+1,1} \mid \theta_{t+1,2}, \dots, \theta_{t+1,K}, X)
 \end{aligned}$$

$\theta_{1,0}, \theta_{2,0}, \dots, \theta_{K,0} \quad t=0$   
 $\theta_{1,1}, \theta_{2,1}, \dots, \theta_{K,1} \quad t=1.1$

}  $k$  steps

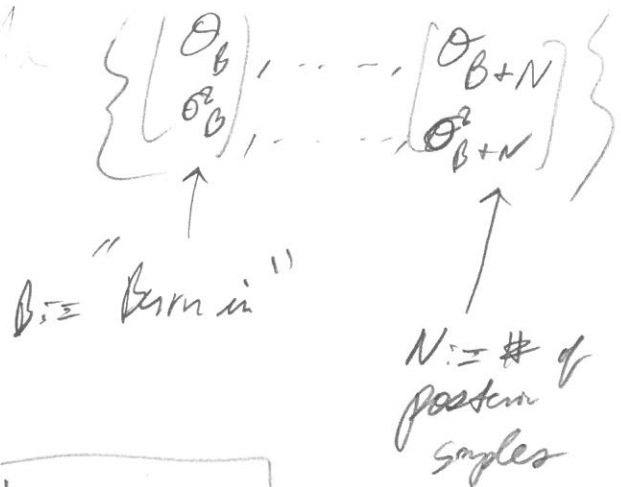
$\Rightarrow$  a Gibbs sampler is a Markov chain

Thm: The Gibbs sampler converges to the posterior if  $f(\theta_1, \dots, \theta_K \mid X)$  is the "irreducible" distrib. Proof:

$$\begin{aligned}
 P(\theta_1 = \theta_{t+1,1}, \dots, \theta_K = \theta_{t+1,K} \mid X) &= \int \dots \int f(\theta_1 = \theta_{t+1,1}, \dots, \theta_K = \theta_{t+1,K} \mid X) \text{kernel} d\theta_{t+1,1} \dots d\theta_{t+1,K} \\
 &= \int \dots \int \int f(\theta_1 = \theta_{t+1,1}, \theta_2 = \theta_{t+1,2}, \dots, \theta_K = \theta_{t+1,K} \mid X) d\theta_{t+1,2} \dots d\theta_{t+1,K} \\
 &= \int \dots \int \int f(\theta_1 = \theta_{t+1,1}, \theta_2 = \theta_{t+1,2}, \dots, \theta_K = \theta_{t+1,K} \mid X) P(\theta_{t+1,1} \mid \theta_{t+1,2}, \dots, \theta_{t+1,K}, X) d\theta_{t+1,2} \dots d\theta_{t+1,K} \\
 &= \int \dots \int \int f(\theta_1 = \theta_{t+1,1}, \theta_2 = \theta_{t+1,2}, \theta_3 = \theta_{t+1,3}, \dots, \theta_K = \theta_{t+1,K} \mid X) P(\theta_{t+1,2} \mid \theta_{t+1,1}, \theta_{t+1,3}, \dots, \theta_{t+1,K}, X) d\theta_{t+1,3} \dots d\theta_{t+1,K} \\
 &= \int \dots \int \int f(\theta_1 = \theta_{t+1,1}, \theta_2 = \theta_{t+1,2}, \theta_3 = \theta_{t+1,3}, \theta_4 = \theta_{t+1,4}, \dots, \theta_K = \theta_{t+1,K} \mid X) d\theta_{t+1,4} \dots d\theta_{t+1,K} \\
 &\vdots \\
 &= f(\theta_1 = \theta_{t+1,1}, \dots, \theta_K = \theta_{t+1,K} \mid X)
 \end{aligned}$$

So it converges to normal dist which is all we seek.  
 Let  $B$  be the iteration of convergence, then...

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Construct samples from  $P(\theta, \sigma^2 | X)$ , the density which previously defined simulation

**Gibbs Problem 3**  $\theta_{t+1}$  is dependent on  $\theta_t$  which is dep on  $\theta_{t-1}$ , etc.

At what point are they independent?

Recall the  $\text{Corr}[X, Y] := \frac{\text{Cov}[X, Y]}{\text{SE}[X] \text{SE}[Y]} := \frac{E(X - \mu_X)(Y - \mu_Y)}{\sqrt{\text{Var}[X] \text{Var}[Y]}}$

and estimated by  $r := \frac{s_{xy}}{s_x s_y} = \frac{\sum (x_i - \bar{x})(y_i - \bar{y})}{\sqrt{\sum (x_i - \bar{x})^2 \sum (y_i - \bar{y})^2}}$

Here we care about "autocorrelation"  
 auto-self (greek prefix)  
 autocorrelation  
 ↑ ↑  
 self more

or  $\theta$ , Autocorrelation for lag 1 is:

where  $\bar{\theta} := \frac{1}{N} \sum_{t=B}^{B+N} \theta_t$

$$r_{\theta 1} := \frac{\sum_{t=B}^{B+N-1} (\theta_t - \bar{\theta})(\theta_{t+1} - \bar{\theta})}{\sum_{t=B}^{B+N} (\theta_t - \bar{\theta})^2}$$

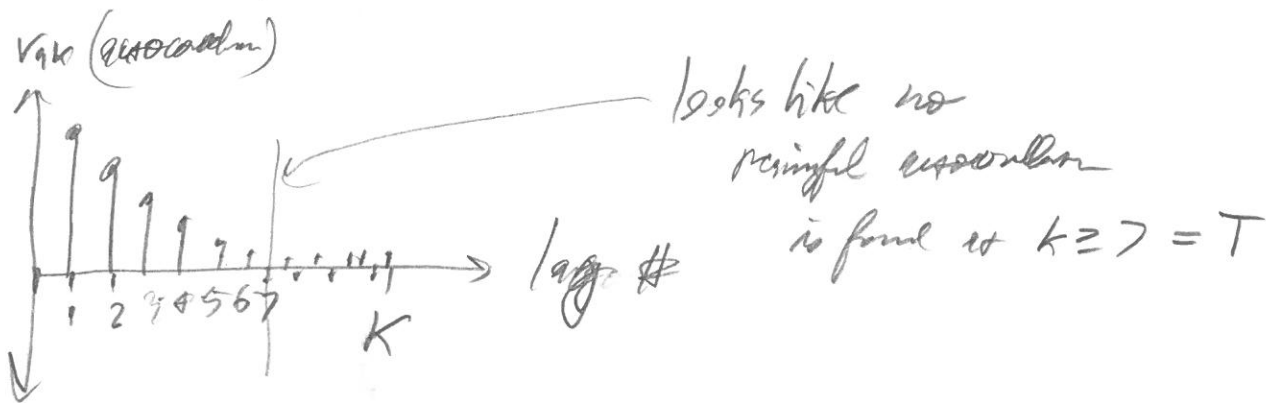
and autocorrelation for lag 2 is:

$$r_{\theta 2} := \frac{\sum_{t=B}^{B+N-2} (\theta_t - \bar{\theta})(\theta_{t+2} - \bar{\theta})}{\sum_{t=B}^{B+N} (\theta_t - \bar{\theta})^2}$$

And for the  $k^{th}$  lag:

$$V_{qk} := \frac{\sum_{t=b}^{b+N-k} (\theta_t - \bar{\theta})(\theta_{t+k} - \bar{\theta})}{\sum_{t=b}^{b+N} (\theta_t - \bar{\theta})^2}$$

Pick a max  $k$ , and look at



⇒ "Thin" the chains by throwing out all non-multiples of 7:

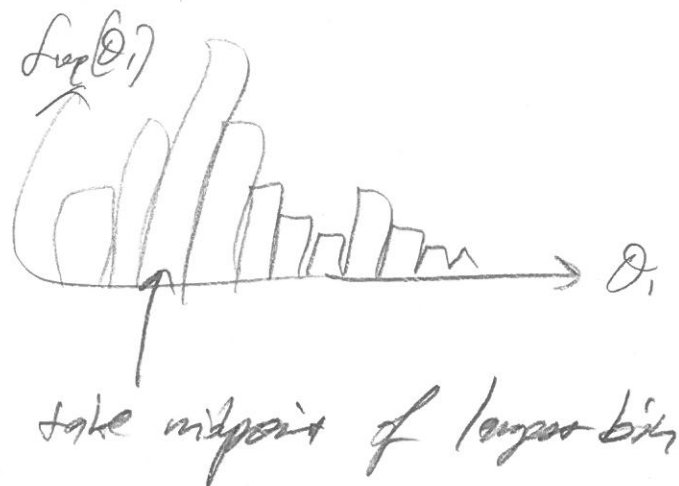
$$\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} \theta_b \\ \sigma_b^2 \end{bmatrix}, \dots, \begin{bmatrix} \theta_{b+7} \\ \sigma_{b+7}^2 \end{bmatrix}, \dots, \begin{bmatrix} \theta_{b+14} \\ \sigma_{b+14}^2 \end{bmatrix}, \dots \right\}$$

$$\left\{ \begin{bmatrix} \theta_b \\ \sigma_b^2 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} \theta_{b+7} \\ \sigma_{b+7}^2 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} \theta_{b+14} \\ \sigma_{b+14}^2 \end{bmatrix}, \dots \right\}$$

↑  
Our "burned and thinned" chains

which can be used as draws from joint or marginal densities.

$\hat{\theta}_{MOP}$  ? Bis :



$$P(X^* | X) = \int P(X^* | \theta_1, \dots, \theta_k) P(\theta_1, \dots, \theta_k | X) d\theta_1 \dots d\theta_k$$

### Procedure

- ① Run Gibbs sampler until convergence and get "burned-in" chain
  - ② Sample  $\vec{\theta}$  from chain  $\vec{\theta}_i$
  - ③ Sample  $X^*$  from Lik. model,  $X^*$ , (Note for this is possible)
  - ④ Repeat the above  $N$  times,  $X^*_1, \dots, X^*_N$
- What if you can't do this...

$$P(X^* = c | X) \approx \frac{1}{N} \sum \mathbb{I}_{X^* = c}$$

First example was

$$X | \theta, \sigma^2 \sim N(\theta, \sigma^2)$$

$$\theta \sim N(\mu_0, \tau_0^2), \sigma^2 \sim \text{InverseGamma}\left(\frac{\nu_0}{2}, \frac{\nu_0 s_0^2}{2}\right)$$