

14.19 This exercise explores the stationary distribution for Gibbs sampling methods.

a. The convex composition $[\alpha, q_1; 1 - \alpha, q_2]$ of q_1 and q_2 is a transition probability distribution that first chooses one of q_1 and q_2 with probabilities α and $1 - \alpha$, respectively, and then applies whichever is chosen. Prove that if q_1 and q_2 are in detailed balance with π , then their convex composition is also in detailed balance with π . (Note: this result justifies a variant of GIBBS-ASK in which variables are chosen at random rather than sampled in a fixed sequence.)

b. Prove that if each of q_1 and q_2 has π as its stationary distribution, then the sequential composition $q = q_1 \circ q_2$ also has π as its stationary distribution.

a. The convex composition $[\alpha, q_1; 1 - \alpha, q_2]$ of q_1 and q_2 is a transition probability distribution that first chooses one of q_1 and q_2 with probabilities α and $1 - \alpha$, respectively, and then applies whichever is chosen. Prove that if q_1 and q_2 are in detailed balance with π , then their convex composition is also in detailed balance with π . (Note: this result justifies a variant of GIBBS-ASK in which variables are chosen at random rather than sampled in a fixed sequence.)

Being $\pi_t(x)$ the probability that the system is in state x at time t , then the STATIONARY DISTRIBUTION is reached when $\pi_t = \pi_{t+1}$. We call the stationary distribution: π

$$\pi(x') = \sum_x \pi(x) \times q(x \rightarrow x') \text{ for all } x'$$

We say that the transition $q(x \rightarrow x')$ is in DETAILED BALANCE with $\pi(x)$ when:

$$\pi(x).q(x \rightarrow x') = \pi(x').q(x' \rightarrow x) \text{ for all } x, x'$$

If q_1 and q_2 are in detailed balance, by definition we can say that:

$$\pi(x).q_1(x \rightarrow x') = \pi(x').q_1(x' \rightarrow x) \text{ for all } x, x'$$

$$\pi(x).q_2(x \rightarrow x') = \pi(x').q_2(x' \rightarrow x) \text{ for all } x, x'$$

Let call the transition probability distribution $q' = \alpha.q_1 + (1 - \alpha).q_2$ and then verify if we can prove that:

$$\pi(x).q'(x \rightarrow x') = \pi(x').q'(x' \rightarrow x)$$

Using our transition probability distribution q' :

$$\pi(x).q'(x \rightarrow x') = \pi(x).(\alpha.q_1(x \rightarrow x') + (1 - \alpha).q_2(x \rightarrow x'))$$

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$$\pi(x).q'(x \rightarrow x') = \alpha.(\pi(x).q_1(x \rightarrow x')) + (1 - \alpha).(\pi(x).q_2(x \rightarrow x'))$$

Replacing $\pi(x).q_1(x \rightarrow x')$ and $\pi(x).q_2(x \rightarrow x')$ because they are detailed balanced:

$$\pi(x).q'(x \rightarrow x') = \alpha.(\pi(x').q_1(x' \rightarrow x)) + (1 - \alpha).(\pi(x').q_2(x' \rightarrow x))$$

$$\pi(x).q'(x \rightarrow x') = \pi(x').(\alpha.q_1(x' \rightarrow x) + (1 - \alpha).q_2(x' \rightarrow x))$$

$$\pi(x).q'(x \rightarrow x') = \pi(x').q'(x' \rightarrow x)$$

Q.E.D.

b. Prove that if each of q_1 and q_2 has π as its stationary distribution, then the sequential composition $q = q_1 \circ q_2$ also has π as its stationary distribution.

Sequential composition q of q_1 and q_2 is:

$$l) q(x \rightarrow x') = q_1 \circ q_2(x \rightarrow x') = \sum_{x''} q_1(x \rightarrow x'') \times q_2(x'' \rightarrow x')$$

By hypothesis π is the stationary distribution for q_1 and q_2 . Then:

$$\text{II) } \pi(x'') = \sum_x \pi(x) \times q_1(x \rightarrow x'') \text{ for all } x''$$

$$\text{III) } \pi(x') = \sum_{x''} \pi(x'') \times q_2(x'' \rightarrow x') \text{ for all } x'$$

Let start by (II)

$$\pi(x') = \sum_{x''} \pi(x'') \times q_2(x'' \rightarrow x')$$

$$\pi(x') = \sum_{x''} q_2(x'' \rightarrow x') \times \pi(x'')$$

Replace $\pi(x'')$ with (III):

$$\pi(x') = \sum_{x''} q_2(x'' \rightarrow x') \times \sum_x \pi(x) \times q_1(x \rightarrow x'')$$

Reorder of factors:

$$\pi(x') = \sum_x \pi(x) \times \sum_{x''} q_1(x \rightarrow x'') \times q_2(x'' \rightarrow x')$$

Replace $\sum_{x''} q_1(x \rightarrow x'') \times q_2(x'' \rightarrow x')$ with (I)

$$\pi(x') = \sum_x \pi(x) \times (q_1 \circ q_2)(x \rightarrow x')$$

$$\pi(x') = \sum_x \pi(x) \times q(x \rightarrow x')$$

And this prove that π is the stationary distribution q (the sequential composition of q_1 and q_2).

Q.E.D.