

# Project 2

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## 1 Problem 1

In this problem we will look at a portion from the Tokyo rainfall dataset, which contains daily rainfall from 1951 to 1989. We consider a response to be whether the amount of rainfall exceeded 1mm over the given time period:

$$y_t|x_t \sim \text{Bin}(n_t, \pi(x_t)), \pi(x_t) = \frac{\exp(x_t)}{1 + \exp(x_t)} = \frac{1}{1 + \exp(-x_t)}, \quad (1)$$

for  $n_t$  being 10 for  $t = 60$  (February 29th) and 39 for all other days.  $\pi(x_t)$  is the probability of rainfall exceeding 1mm of days  $t = 1, \dots, T$  and  $T = 366$ . Note that  $x_t$  is the logit probability of exceedence and can be obtained from  $\pi(x_t)$  via  $x_t = \log(\pi(x_t)/(1 - \pi(x_t)))$ . We assume conditional independence among the  $y_t|x_t$  for all  $t = 1, \dots, 366$ .

### 1.1 a)

As we can see in Figure 1 the rain in Tokyo seems to show seasonal trend. There are few occurrences of rain more than 1mm in the period December-January, the peak of rainfall is in June-July, with a following drier period in August-September.

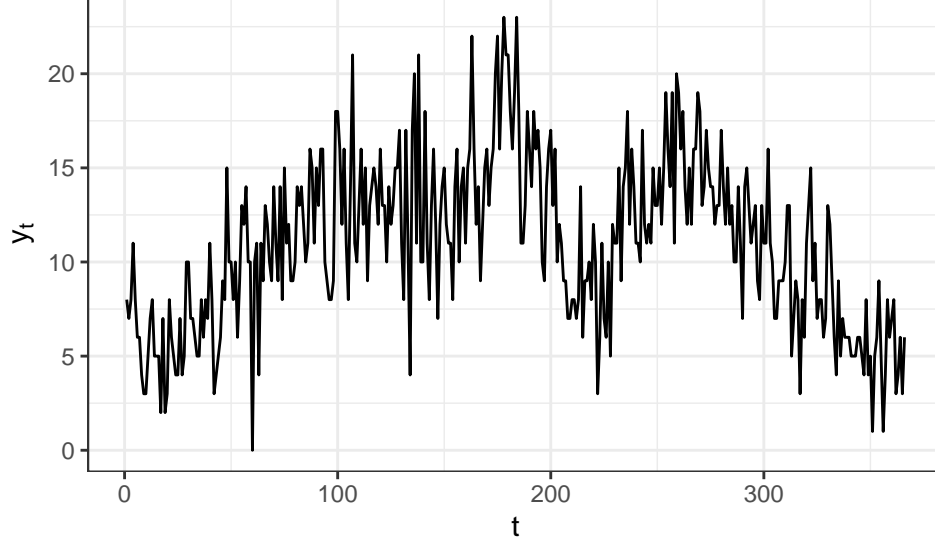


Figure 1: Tokyo rain data

## 1.2 b)

Next we want to obtain an expression for the likelihood of  $y_t$  depending on the parameters  $\pi(x_t)$  for  $t = 1, \dots, 366$ . This gives the likelihood for the data  $\mathbf{y}$  given the probabilities  $\pi(\mathbf{x})$ , where we will later update  $\mathbf{x}$  using our a MCMC algorithm. Since we assume conditional independence for  $y_t|x_t$  we can write the likelihood, using the expression for  $\pi(x_t)$  given in Equation (1):

$$\begin{aligned}
 L(\pi(\mathbf{x})|\mathbf{y}) &= \prod_{t=1}^T \binom{n_t}{y_t} \left( \frac{\exp(x_t)}{1 + \exp(x_t)} \right)^{y_t} \left( 1 - \frac{\exp(x_t)}{1 + \exp(x_t)} \right)^{n_t - y_t} \\
 &= \prod_{t=1}^T \binom{n_t}{y_t} \left( \frac{\exp(x_t)}{1 + \exp(x_t)} \right)^{y_t} \left( \frac{1}{1 + \exp(x_t)} \right)^{n_t - y_t} \\
 &= \prod_{t=1}^T \binom{n_t}{y_t} \frac{\exp(x_t y_t)}{(1 + \exp(x_t))^{n_t}}
 \end{aligned} \tag{2}$$

## 1.3 c)

Now we want to apply a Bayesian hierarchical model to the dataset, where we use a random walk of order 1 (RW(1)) to model the trend on a logit scale,

$$x_t = x_{t-1} + u_t,$$

for  $u_t \stackrel{iid}{\sim} \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma_u^2)$  so that,

$$p(\mathbf{x}|\sigma_u^2) \propto \prod_{t=2}^T \frac{1}{\sigma_u} \exp \left\{ -\frac{1}{2\sigma_u^2} (x_t - x_{t-1})^2 \right\}. \tag{3}$$

Then we place a inverse gamma prior on  $\sigma_u^2$  such that,

$$p(\sigma_u^2) = \frac{\beta^\alpha}{\Gamma(\alpha)} (1/\sigma_u^2)^{\alpha+1} \exp(-\beta/\sigma_u^2)$$

for shape and scale  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$ . We let  $\mathbf{y} = (y_1, y_2, \dots, y_T)^T$ ,  $\mathbf{x} = (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_T)^T$  and  $\boldsymbol{\pi} = (\pi(x_1), \pi(x_2), \dots, \pi(x_T))^T$ .

Now we will derive the posteriori distribution for  $\sigma_u^2 | \mathbf{x}$ , which is used in Gibbs sampling in the hybrid sampler in Section 1.6. If we draw a directed acyclical graph for the hierarchical Bayesian model, we see that  $\mathbf{y}$  is independent of  $\sigma_u^2$ , as all information from  $\mathbf{y}$  is stored in  $\mathbf{x}$ . From Bayes theorem we know that

$$p(\sigma_u^2 | \mathbf{y}, \mathbf{x}) \propto p(\sigma_u^2) p(\mathbf{x} | \sigma_u^2).$$

We then have that

$$\begin{aligned} p(\sigma_u^2 | \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) &\propto \frac{\beta^\alpha}{\Gamma(\alpha)} (1/\sigma_u^2)^{\alpha+1} \exp(-\beta/\sigma_u^2) \prod_{t=2}^T \frac{1}{\sigma_u} \exp\left\{-\frac{1}{2\sigma_u^2} (x_t - x_{t-1})^2\right\} \\ &= \frac{\beta^\alpha}{\Gamma(\alpha)} (1/\sigma_u^2)^{\alpha+1} \exp(-\beta/\sigma_u^2) \cdot (\sigma_u^2)^{-\frac{T-1}{2}} \exp\left\{-\frac{1}{2\sigma_u^2} \sum_{t=2}^T (x_t - x_{t-1})^2\right\} \\ &\propto (\sigma_u^2)^{-(\alpha + \frac{T-1}{2} + 1)} \exp\left\{-\frac{1}{\sigma_u^2} \left(\beta + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{t=2}^T (x_t - x_{t-1})^2\right)\right\} \end{aligned} \quad (4)$$

which follows an inverse gamma distribution with parameters

$$\alpha^* = \alpha + \frac{T-1}{2} \text{ and } \beta^* = \beta + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{t=2}^T (x_t - x_{t-1})^2.$$

## 1.4 d)

In the Metropolis-Hastings algorithm, which we will implement, we need to find an expression for the acceptance probability  $\alpha$ , which in general is given as

$$\alpha(y|x) = \min\left\{1, \frac{\pi(y)Q(x|y)}{\pi(x)Q(y|x)}\right\}$$

where  $Q(x|y)$  is a proposed conditional probability mass function (pmf),  $\pi(x)$  is the probability of being in state  $x$ , and the transition probability is given as

$$p(y|x) = \begin{cases} Q(y|x)\alpha(y|x) & \text{for } y \neq x \\ 1 - \sum_{y \neq x} Q(y|x)\alpha(y|x) & \text{for } y = x \end{cases}$$

which is the probability of transitioning to state  $y$  given that the current state is  $x$ . The expression for  $\alpha$  can be derived from the detailed balance equation,  $\pi(x)p(y|x) = \pi(y)p(x|y)$  which is true for a time reversible Markov chain.

We will now consider the conditional prior proposal distribution,  $Q(\mathbf{x}'_{\mathcal{I}} | \mathbf{x}_{-\mathcal{I}}, \sigma_u^2, \mathbf{y}) = p(\mathbf{x}'_{\mathcal{I}} | \mathbf{x}_{-\mathcal{I}}, \sigma_u^2)$ , where  $\mathbf{x}'_{\mathcal{I}}$  is the proposed values for  $\mathbf{x}_{\mathcal{I}}$ ,  $\mathcal{I} \subseteq \{1, \dots, 366\}$  is a set of time indices, and  $\mathbf{x}_{-\mathcal{I}} = \mathbf{x}_{\{1, \dots, 366\} \setminus \mathcal{I}}$  is a subset of  $\mathbf{x}$  that includes all other indices than those in  $\mathcal{I}$ . Our expression for the acceptance probability is then

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha(\mathbf{x}'_{\mathcal{I}} | \mathbf{x}_{-\mathcal{I}}, \sigma_u^2, \mathbf{y}) &= \min\left\{1, \frac{\pi(\mathbf{x}'_{\mathcal{I}} | \mathbf{x}_{-\mathcal{I}}, \sigma_u^2, \mathbf{y}) Q(\mathbf{x}_{\mathcal{I}} | \mathbf{x}'_{\mathcal{I}}, \mathbf{x}_{-\mathcal{I}}, \sigma_u^2, \mathbf{y})}{\pi(\mathbf{x}_{\mathcal{I}} | \mathbf{x}_{-\mathcal{I}}, \sigma_u^2, \mathbf{y}) Q(\mathbf{x}'_{\mathcal{I}} | \mathbf{x}_{\mathcal{I}}, \mathbf{x}_{-\mathcal{I}}, \sigma_u^2, \mathbf{y})}\right\} \\ &= \min\left\{1, \frac{p(\mathbf{x}'_{\mathcal{I}} | \mathbf{x}_{-\mathcal{I}}, \sigma_u^2, \mathbf{y}) p(\mathbf{x}_{\mathcal{I}} | \mathbf{x}_{-\mathcal{I}}, \sigma_u^2)}{p(\mathbf{x}_{\mathcal{I}} | \mathbf{x}_{-\mathcal{I}}, \sigma_u^2, \mathbf{y}) p(\mathbf{x}'_{\mathcal{I}} | \mathbf{x}_{-\mathcal{I}}, \sigma_u^2)}\right\}. \end{aligned}$$

We can simplify this expression by looking at  $p(\mathbf{x}_{\mathcal{I}}|\mathbf{x}_{-\mathcal{I}}, \sigma_u^2, \mathbf{y})$  and  $p(\mathbf{x}'_{\mathcal{I}}|\mathbf{x}_{-\mathcal{I}}, \sigma_u^2, \mathbf{y})$ . From probability theory we know that  $P(A|B) = \frac{P(A \cap B)}{P(B)}$ , such that we can divide the expression of  $p(\mathbf{x}'_{\mathcal{I}}|\mathbf{x}_{-\mathcal{I}}, \sigma_u^2, \mathbf{y})$  as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} p(\mathbf{x}'_{\mathcal{I}}|\mathbf{x}_{-\mathcal{I}}, \sigma_u^2, \mathbf{y}) &= \frac{p(\mathbf{x}'_{\mathcal{I}}, \mathbf{y}|\mathbf{x}_{-\mathcal{I}}, \sigma_u^2)}{p(\mathbf{y}|\mathbf{x}_{-\mathcal{I}}, \sigma_u^2)} = \frac{p(\mathbf{y}|\mathbf{x}'_{\mathcal{I}}, \mathbf{x}_{-\mathcal{I}}, \sigma_u^2) \cdot p(\mathbf{x}'_{\mathcal{I}}|\mathbf{x}_{-\mathcal{I}}, \sigma_u^2)}{p(\mathbf{y}|\mathbf{x}_{-\mathcal{I}}, \sigma_u^2)} \\ &= \frac{p(\mathbf{y}_{\mathcal{I}}|\mathbf{x}'_{\mathcal{I}}) \cdot p(\mathbf{y}_{-\mathcal{I}}|\mathbf{x}_{-\mathcal{I}}) \cdot p(\mathbf{x}'_{\mathcal{I}}|\mathbf{x}_{-\mathcal{I}}, \sigma_u^2)}{p(\mathbf{y}|\mathbf{x}_{-\mathcal{I}})} \end{aligned}$$

where we have used that  $\mathbf{y}$  is independent of  $\sigma_u^2$  and that  $\mathbf{x}_{\mathcal{I}}$  and  $\mathbf{x}_{-\mathcal{I}}$  are disjoint sets, and  $y_t|x_t$  are conditionally independent. We perform a similar calculation for  $p(\mathbf{x}_{\mathcal{I}}|\mathbf{x}_{-\mathcal{I}}, \sigma_u^2, \mathbf{y})$  and obtain

$$p(\mathbf{x}_{\mathcal{I}}|\mathbf{x}_{-\mathcal{I}}, \sigma_u^2, \mathbf{y}) = \frac{p(\mathbf{y}_{\mathcal{I}}|\mathbf{x}_{\mathcal{I}}) \cdot p(\mathbf{y}_{-\mathcal{I}}|\mathbf{x}_{-\mathcal{I}}) \cdot p(\mathbf{x}_{\mathcal{I}}|\mathbf{x}_{-\mathcal{I}}, \sigma_u^2)}{p(\mathbf{y}|\mathbf{x}_{-\mathcal{I}})}.$$

We can then simplify  $\alpha(\mathbf{x}'_{\mathcal{I}}|\mathbf{x}_{-\mathcal{I}}, \sigma_u^2, \mathbf{y})$ , which becomes

$$\alpha(\mathbf{x}'_{\mathcal{I}}|\mathbf{x}_{-\mathcal{I}}, \sigma_u^2, \mathbf{y}) = \min \left\{ 1, \frac{p(\mathbf{x}'_{\mathcal{I}}|\mathbf{x}_{-\mathcal{I}}, \sigma_u^2, \mathbf{y})p(\mathbf{x}_{\mathcal{I}}|\mathbf{x}_{-\mathcal{I}}, \sigma_u^2)}{p(\mathbf{x}_{\mathcal{I}}|\mathbf{x}_{-\mathcal{I}}, \sigma_u^2, \mathbf{y})p(\mathbf{x}'_{\mathcal{I}}|\mathbf{x}_{-\mathcal{I}}, \sigma_u^2)} \right\} = \min \left\{ 1, \frac{p(\mathbf{y}_{\mathcal{I}}|\mathbf{x}'_{\mathcal{I}})}{p(\mathbf{y}_{\mathcal{I}}|\mathbf{x}_{\mathcal{I}})} \right\}. \quad (5)$$

We can then see that  $\alpha(\mathbf{x}'_{\mathcal{I}}|\mathbf{x}_{-\mathcal{I}}, \sigma_u^2, \mathbf{y})$  becomes a ratio of likelihoods for the proposed values  $\mathbf{x}'_{\mathcal{I}}$  against the existing values  $\mathbf{x}_{\mathcal{I}}$ .

## 1.5 e)

We note that the density specified by (3) is improper, for example for  $T = 2$ , density takes the shape of an infinite ‘Gaussian ridge’ centered around the line given by  $x_1 = x_2$ . Equation (3) can be rewritten as

$$p(\mathbf{x}|\sigma_u^2) \propto \exp \left\{ -\frac{1}{2} \mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{Q} \mathbf{x} \right\} \quad (6)$$

which resembles a multivariate normal density but where the impropriety of the density translates into the precision matrix

$$\mathbf{Q} = \frac{1}{\sigma_u^2} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -1 & & & \\ -1 & 2 & -1 & & \\ & & \ddots & & \\ & & & -1 & 2 & -1 \\ & & & & -1 & 1 \end{pmatrix},$$

having one zero eigenvalue. We partition the components of  $\mathbf{x}$  into two subvectors writing

$$\mathbf{x} = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{x}_A \\ \mathbf{x}_B \end{pmatrix},$$

and partitioning the precision matrix in the same way as

$$\mathbf{Q} = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{Q}_{AA} & \mathbf{Q}_{AB} \\ \mathbf{Q}_{BA} & \mathbf{Q}_{BB} \end{pmatrix}.$$

We then want to derive the conditional distribution of  $\mathbf{x}_A$  conditional on  $\mathbf{x}_B$ . We know from before that the conditional density is always proportional to the joint (improper) density. We assume without loss of

generality that  $\boldsymbol{\mu} = \mathbf{0}$  and find that

$$\begin{aligned}
f_{\mathbf{x}_A|\mathbf{x}_B}(\mathbf{x}_A) &\propto \exp \left\{ -\frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{x}_A^T, \mathbf{x}_B^T) \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{Q}_{AA} & \mathbf{Q}_{AB} \\ \mathbf{Q}_{BA} & \mathbf{Q}_{BB} \end{bmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{x}_A \\ \mathbf{x}_B \end{pmatrix} \right\} \\
&= \exp \left\{ -\frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{x}_A^T \mathbf{Q}_{AA} \mathbf{x}_A + \mathbf{x}_B^T \mathbf{Q}_{BA} \mathbf{x}_A + \mathbf{x}_A^T \mathbf{Q}_{AB} \mathbf{x}_B + \mathbf{x}_B^T \mathbf{Q}_{BB} \mathbf{x}_B) \right\} \\
&\propto \exp \left\{ -\frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{x}_A - \boldsymbol{\mu}_{A|B})^T \mathbf{Q}_{AA} (\mathbf{x}_A - \boldsymbol{\mu}_{A|B}) \right\} \\
&\propto \exp \left\{ -\frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{x}_A^T \mathbf{Q}_{AA} \mathbf{x}_A - \boldsymbol{\mu}_{A|B}^T \mathbf{Q}_{AA} \mathbf{x}_A - \mathbf{x}_A^T \mathbf{Q}_{AA} \boldsymbol{\mu}_{A|B}) \right\}
\end{aligned}$$

where we only consider terms involving  $\mathbf{x}_A$ , which is random in this case, and we use the fact that we can write the terms involving  $\mathbf{x}_A$  in the second line in quadratic form, completing the square. We then equate the coefficients in the last line to the terms in the second line to find our expressions for  $\boldsymbol{\mu}_{A|B}$  and  $\mathbf{Q}_{A|B}$ . We have

$$-\mathbf{Q}_{AA} \boldsymbol{\mu}_{A|B} = \mathbf{Q}_{AB} \mathbf{x}_B \implies \boldsymbol{\mu}_{A|B} = -\mathbf{Q}_{AA}^{-1} \mathbf{Q}_{AB} \mathbf{x}_B \quad (7)$$

$$\mathbf{Q}_{A|B} = \mathbf{Q}_{AA}. \quad (8)$$

These results are used to simulate from  $\mathbf{x}'_{\mathcal{I}}|\mathbf{x}_{-\mathcal{I}}$  later on when we generate realizations from the random walk.

## 1.6 f)

In this section we want to implement an MCMC sampler from the posterior distribution  $p(\boldsymbol{\pi}, \sigma_u^2 | \mathbf{y})$  using Metropolis-Hastings steps for individual  $x_t$  parameters using the conditional prior,  $p(x_t | \mathbf{x}_{-t}, \sigma_u^2)$ , and Gibbs steps for  $\sigma_u^2$ .

We will begin by deriving the conditional prior distribution using the results from Equations (7) and (8) as the conditional mean and precision (inverse variance) of  $\mathbf{x}'_{\mathcal{I}}|\mathbf{x}_{-\mathcal{I}}$ . We need to derive the conditional prior distribution for three cases,  $t = 1$ ,  $2 \leq t \leq 365$  and  $t = 366$ . For the case  $t = 1$ ,  $\mathcal{I} = \{1\}$ , we have for the conditional mean that  $-\mathbf{Q}_{\mathcal{I}\mathcal{I}}^{-1} = -\sigma_u^2$ ,  $\mathbf{Q}_{\mathcal{I}-\mathcal{I}} = \frac{1}{\sigma_u^2}(-1, 0, \dots, 0)$  with dimension  $1 \times (T - 1)$ . Thus the conditional expectation is given as

$$x_{\mathcal{I}}|\mathbf{x}_{-\mathcal{I}} = -\mathbf{Q}_{\mathcal{I}\mathcal{I}}^{-1} \mathbf{Q}_{\mathcal{I}-\mathcal{I}} \mathbf{x}_{-\mathcal{I}} = -\sigma_u^2 \cdot \frac{1}{\sigma_u^2}(-1, 0, \dots, 0)(x_2, x_3, \dots, x_T)^T = x_2. \quad (9)$$

Similarly we have for  $t = 366$ ,  $\mathcal{I} = \{366\}$ , we have

$$x_{\mathcal{I}}|\mathbf{x}_{-\mathcal{I}} = -\sigma_u^2 \cdot \frac{1}{\sigma_u^2}(0, \dots, 0, -1)(x_1, \dots, x_{364}, x_{365})^T = x_{365}. \quad (10)$$

Then finally for the interior points,  $2 \leq t \leq 365$ ,  $\mathcal{I} = \{2\}, \{3\}, \dots, \{365\}$ , we have  $-\mathbf{Q}_{\mathcal{I}\mathcal{I}}^{-1} = -\frac{\sigma_u^2}{2}$  and  $\mathbf{Q}_{\mathcal{I}-\mathcal{I}} = \frac{1}{\sigma_u^2}(0, \dots, 0, -1, -1, 0, \dots, 0)$  with dimension  $1 \times (T - 1)$ . We then calculate the conditional expectation as

$$x_{\mathcal{I}}|\mathbf{x}_{-\mathcal{I}} = -\frac{\sigma_u^2}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{\sigma_u^2}(0, \dots, 0, -1, -1, 0, \dots, 0)(x_1, \dots, x_{t-1}, x_{t+1}, \dots, x_{366})^T = \frac{1}{2}(x_{t-1} + x_{t+1}). \quad (11)$$

We perform a similar calculation to calculate the conditional variance. We have that the conditional variance  $\boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{\mathcal{I}|\mathcal{I}} = \mathbf{Q}_{\mathcal{I}|\mathcal{I}}^{-1}$ . For  $t = 1$  and  $t = 366$  we have that  $\mathbf{Q}_{\mathcal{I}\mathcal{I}}^{-1} = \sigma_u^2$  and for  $2 \leq t \leq 365$  we have  $\mathbf{Q}_{\mathcal{I}\mathcal{I}}^{-1} = \frac{\sigma_u^2}{2}$ . Thus we can summarize the conditional distribution of  $x_{\mathcal{I}}|\mathbf{x}_{-\mathcal{I}}$  as

$$x_{\mathcal{I}}|\mathbf{x}_{-\mathcal{I}} \sim \begin{cases} \mathcal{N}(x_2, \sigma_u^2) & \text{for } t = 1 \\ \mathcal{N}(\frac{1}{2}(x_{t-1} + x_{t+1}), \frac{\sigma_u^2}{2}) & \text{for } t = 2, \dots, 365 \\ \mathcal{N}(x_{365}, \sigma_u^2) & \text{for } t = 366. \end{cases} \quad (12)$$