

CS 5135/6035 Learning Probabilistic Models

Exercise Questions for Lecture 23: Hierarchical Modeling, Application of Gibbs Sampling

Gowtham Atluri

4/16/2020

Questions

1. Draw plate diagrams for the following models

a. Model 1

[2 points]

- $\theta \sim \text{Beta}(\alpha, \beta)$
- $y \sim \text{Binomial}(n, \theta)$

b. Model 2

[2 points]

- $\theta \sim \text{Beta}(\alpha, \beta)$
- $y_i \sim \text{Binomial}(n, \theta)$, where $i = 1, \dots, N$

c. Model 3

[3 points]

- $\theta_i \sim \text{Beta}(\alpha, \beta)$, where $i = 1, \dots, N$
- $y_{ij} \sim \text{Binomial}(n, \theta_i)$, where $j = 1, \dots, M$

2. Change-point Model

Suppose we are observing a sequence of counts y_1, y_2, \dots, y_n , where the average of the counts has some value for time steps 1 to $k-1$ and a different value for time steps k to n . Given the observed data, the goal is to estimate the timepoint k at which this change happened, and the mean of the counts before and after the change. For example, when the counts are 1, 2, 1, 3, 1, 8, 10, 7, 6, 9, $k = 6$.

- Assume that the counts y_i at each time step follow a Poisson distribution.

$$y_i \sim \begin{cases} \text{Poisson}(y_i; \lambda_1) & 1 \leq i \leq k-1 \\ \text{Poisson}(y_i; \lambda_2) & k \leq i \leq n \end{cases}$$

a. Write the expression for the likelihood.

[3 points]

b. Assume a Gamma prior over λ_1 and λ_2 .

[3 points]

$$\lambda \sim \text{Gamma}(\lambda; a, b) = \frac{1}{\Gamma(a)} b^a \lambda^{a-1} e^{-b\lambda}$$

Assume a Uniform prior over k : $k \sim \text{Uniform}(1, 2, \dots, n)$.

Write the expression for the posterior, assuming a default prior.

c. Write the full conditional for λ_1 .

[3 points]

[Hint: This will be a Gamma distribution.]

d. Write the full conditional for λ_2 .

[3 points]

[Hint: This will be a Gamma distribution.]

e. Write the full conditional for k .

[3 points]

[Hint: This will not be a distribution.]

f. Write Julia code to generate data from this above generative model and plot the resultant sequence of counts for 100 time steps.

[3 points]

Bonus question

1. Develop a strategy to estimate the parameters for the model in Question 2 (above). Specifically, what sampling algorithm will you use, what choices will you make in terms of proposal densities or how do

you intend to sample from full-conditionals? Your answers may vary depending upon the choice of your sampling algorithm.

2. Write Julia code to sample from the posterior distribution and determine point estimates for k , λ_1 , λ_2 .