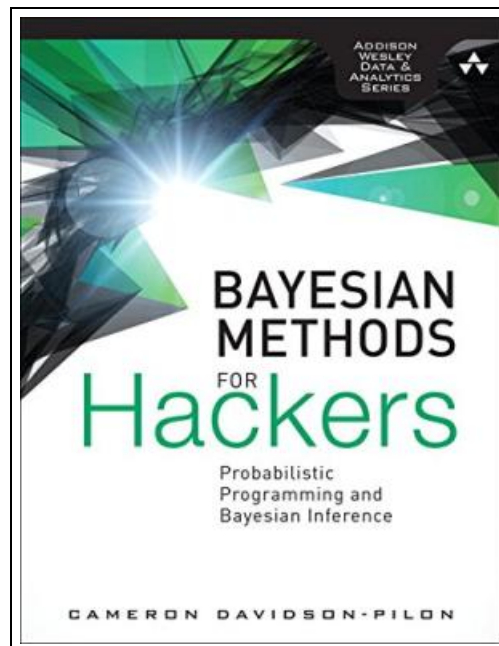# Bayesian Methods for Hackers: Probabilistic Programming and Bayesian Inference

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Reviews

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(Eileen Kling I)

BAYESIAN METHODS FOR HACKERS: PROBABILISTIC PROGRAMMING AND BAYESIAN INFERENCE

Pearson Education (US). Paperback. Book Condition: new. BRAND NEW, Bayesian Methods for Hackers: Probabilistic Programming and Bayesian Inference, Cameron Davidson-Pilon, Master Bayesian Inference through Practical Examples and Computation-Without Advanced Mathematical Analysis Bayesian methods of inference are deeply natural and extremely powerful. However, most discussions of Bayesian inference rely on intensely complex mathematical analyses and artificial examples, making it inaccessible to anyone without a strong mathematical background. Now, though, Cameron Davidson-Pilon introduces Bayesian inference from a computational perspective, bridging theory to practice-freeing you to get results using computing power. Bayesian Methods for Hackers illuminates Bayesian inference through probabilistic programming with the powerful PyMC language and the closely related Python tools NumPy, SciPy, and Matplotlib. Using this approach, you can reach effective solutions in small increments, without extensive mathematical intervention. Davidson-Pilon begins by introducing the concepts underlying Bayesian inference, comparing it with other techniques and guiding you through building and training your first Bayesian model. Next, he introduces PyMC through a series of detailed examples and intuitive explanations that have been refined after extensive user feedback. You'll learn how to use the Markov Chain Monte Carlo algorithm, choose appropriate sample sizes and priors, work with loss functions, and apply Bayesian inference in domains ranging from finance to marketing. Once you've mastered these techniques, you'll constantly turn to this guide for the working PyMC code you need to jumpstart future projects. Coverage includes * Learning the Bayesian "state of mind" and its practical implications * Understanding how computers perform Bayesian inference * Using the PyMC Python library to program Bayesian analyses * Building and debugging models with PyMC * Testing your model's "goodness of fit" * Opening the "black box" of the Markov Chain Monte Carlo algorithm to see how and why it works * Leveraging the power of the "Law of Large...

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