The Multiple-Try Metropolis and its Variations

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Abstract

Markov chain Monte Carlo (MCMC) has been extensively applied in many complicated computational problems to sample from an arbitrary distribution. The fundamental idea is to generate a Markov chain whose invariant distribution is the target distribution. The traditional Metropolis-Hastings algorithm (MH) based on local search may suffer from slow converging problem since the sampler may get stuck in a local mode especially for multimodal parameter spaces. Multiple-try Metropolis (MTM) was proposed to overcome this difficulty by proposing multiple trial points and then sampling based on their importance. The numerical experiments illustrate that the sampler can efficiently explore the parameter space. This project will prove the validity of MTM and implement the algorithm and its variations including Conjugate-Gradient Monte Carlo (CGMC) and Langevinwithin-MTM on artificial data and real dataset. Comparisons are made to show the superiority of the algorithm over traditional MH algorithms.

- 1 Introduction
- 1.1
- 1.2
- 2 The algorithm and its variations
- 3 Implementation
- 4 Optimization and high performance computing
- 5 Experimental results and comparisons
- 6 Conclusions

References

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