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# Bayesian Nonparametric Estimation of Switching Linear Dynamic System

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## 1 Problem Formulation

In this report we consider the estimation of switching linear dynamics system (SLDS)

## 2 Methods

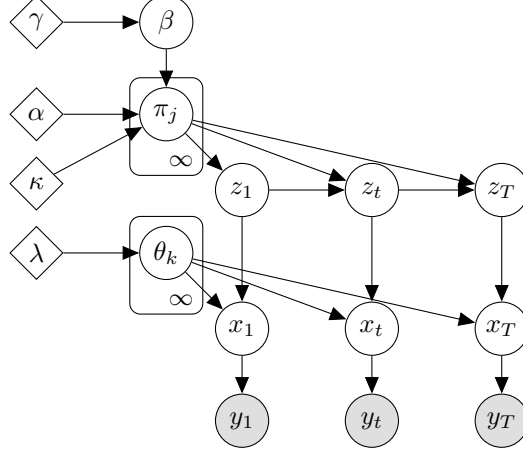


Figure 1: Hidden Markov Model

### 2.1 HDP in Hidden Markov Model

## 3 Results

### 3.1 HDP-HMM

### 3.2 SLDS

### 3.3 HDP-SLDS

## 4 Conclusion and Future Direction

### 4.1 Sampling Hyperparameters

### 4.2 Automatic Relevance Determination

## A Hierarchical Dirichlet Process

### A.1 Model

Classic view:

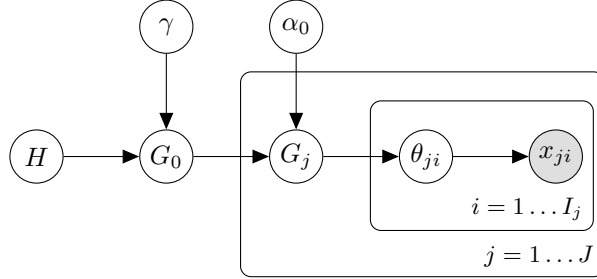
$$\begin{aligned} G_0 | \gamma, H &\sim DP(\gamma, H) \\ G_j | \alpha_0, G_0 &\sim DP(\alpha_0, G_0) \\ \theta_{ji} | G_j &\sim G_j \\ x_{ji} | \theta_{ji} &\sim F(\theta_{ji}) \end{aligned}$$

where  $P \sim DP(\alpha, G)$  adopts the stick breaking representation w.p. 1:

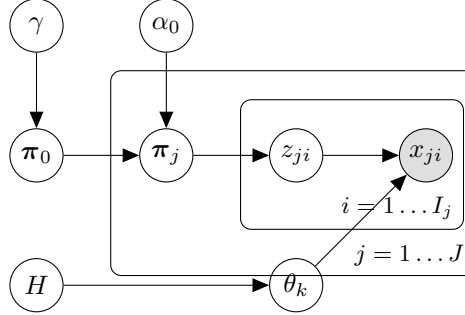
$$P = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \pi_k \delta_{\phi_k} \quad \text{where:} \quad \pi_k \sim GEM(\alpha), \quad \phi_k \sim G$$

Alternatively, one may describe the generative processes of  $\pi_k$  and  $\theta_k$  separately as:

$$\begin{aligned}
\pi_0 | \gamma &\sim GEM(\gamma) & \theta_k | H &\sim H \\
\pi_j | \alpha_0, \pi_0 &\sim DP(\alpha_0, \pi_0) \\
z_{ji} | \pi_j &\sim \pi_j \\
x_{ji} | z_{ji}, (\theta_k)_{k=1}^\infty &\sim F(\theta_{z_{ji}})
\end{aligned}$$



(a) Hierarchical Dirichlet Process



(b) Hierarchical Dirichlet Process

Figure 2: Hierarchical Dirichlet Process

## A.2 Inference

Assuming conjugacy between  $H$  and  $F$ <sup>1</sup> and holding  $(\gamma, \alpha_0)$  fixed,

we now describe a simplified Gibbs approach to sample parameters  $(z_{ji}, m_{jk}, \pi_0)$  from the Chinese Restaurant Franchise (see Appendix C) representation of the posterior, where the parameter  $z_{ji}$  are referred to respectively as customer-specific dish assignment,  $m_{jk}$  as dish-specific table count, and  $\pi_0$  as global dish distribution. This particular method is referred to as "direct assignment" in Teh et al. [2006] since it circumvented the issue of bookkeeping for every  $t_{ij}$  (customer-specific table assignment) and  $k_{jt}$  (table-specific dish assignment) variables.

In each Gibbs iteration, denote  $f_k^{-x_{ji}}(x_{ji}) = \frac{\int f(\mathbf{x}|\theta_k)h(\theta_k)d\theta_k}{\int f(\mathbf{x}_{-(ji)}|\theta_k)h(\theta_k)d\theta_k}$  the conditional distribution  $x_{ji}|\mathbf{x}_{-(ji)}$  under  $\theta = \theta_k$ , and assume there are currently  $K$  dishes and  $T$  tables, we sample  $(z_{ji}, m_{jk}, \pi_0)$  iteratively as:

1. Sample  $z_{ji} = k|\mathbf{z}_{-(ji)}, \mathbf{m}, \pi_0$  from the distribution:

$$z_{ji} = k|\mathbf{z}_{-(ji)}, \mathbf{m}, \pi_0 \propto \begin{cases} f_k^{-x_{ji}}(x_{ji}) * (n_{jk}^{-(ji)} + \alpha_0 \pi_{0,k}) & k \leq K \\ f_{K+1}^{-x_{ji}}(x_{ji}) * \alpha_0 \pi_{0,u} & k = K + 1 \end{cases}$$

2. Sample  $m_{jk} = m|\mathbf{z}, \mathbf{m}_{-(jk)}, \pi_0$ , by setting  $m_{jk} = \sum_i I(t_{ji} = t_{new} | k_{jt_{new}} = k)$ , we can sample  $t_{ji}$  from:

$$t_{ji} = t|k_{jt} = k, \mathbf{t}_{-(ji)}, \pi_0 \propto \begin{cases} n_{jt}^{-(ji)} & t \leq T \\ \alpha_0 \pi_{0,k} & t = T + 1 \end{cases}$$

and as in Fox [2009], sample  $I(t_{ji} = t_{new} | k_{jt_{new}} = k)$  directly from:

$$Bern\left(\frac{\alpha_0 \pi_{0,k}}{n_{jk} + \alpha_0 \pi_{0,k}}\right)$$

<sup>1</sup>so we can integrate out the mixture component parameters

3. Sample  $\pi_0$  from distribution:

$$\pi_0 \sim \text{Dir}(m_1, \dots, m_K, \gamma)$$

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**Algorithm 1** HDP, Gibbs Sampler through Direct Assignment

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1: procedure hdp_gibbs_ds( $\mathbf{K}, \mathbf{y}, (\tau, \mu, \sigma)$ )
2:    $\alpha^0 = \mathbf{0}$ 
3:   for  $p = 1$  to MAX_ITER do
4:      $\alpha_0^p = (1 - \frac{\mu}{\sigma})\alpha^{p-1} - \frac{1}{\sigma n}(\mathbf{K}\alpha^{p-1} - \mathbf{y})$ 
5:      $\alpha^p = \mathbf{S}_{\frac{\tau}{\sigma}}(K, \alpha_0^p)$ 
6:   end for
7:   return  $f^{\text{MAX\_ITER}} = (\alpha^{\text{MAX\_ITER}})^T \mathbf{k}$ 
8: end procedure

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### A.3 Application: Clustering Hierarchical Gaussian Data

Consider mixture of Gaussian data  $\mathbf{x} = \{\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_K\}$  with  $\mathbf{x}_k \stackrel{iid}{\sim} MVN(\boldsymbol{\theta}_{k, 2 \times 1}, \mathbf{I}_{2 \times 2})$  with unknown mean  $\boldsymbol{\theta}$ . Assuming diffused Gaussian prior  $\boldsymbol{\theta} \sim N(\mathbf{0}, \sigma^2 \mathbf{I})$ , the form of likelihood  $F$  and base measure  $H$  are:

$$f(x_{ji} | \boldsymbol{\theta}_k) \propto \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2\sigma^2}(x_{ji} - \boldsymbol{\theta}_k)^T(x_{ji} - \boldsymbol{\theta}_k)\right)$$

$$h(\boldsymbol{\theta}_k) \propto \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2\sigma_0^2}\boldsymbol{\theta}_k^T \boldsymbol{\theta}_k\right)$$

Then  $f_k^{-x_{ji}}(x_{ji})$  should be:

$$f_k^{-x_{ji}}(x_{ji}) \sim N\left(\frac{n_k^{-(ji)} \sigma_0^2}{n_k^{-(ji)} \sigma_0^2 + \sigma^2} \bar{\mathbf{x}}_k^{-(ji)}, \left(1 + \frac{\sigma_0^2}{n_k^{-(ji)} \sigma_0^2 + \sigma^2}\right) \mathbf{I}\right)$$

## B HDP for Hidden Markov Model

### B.1 Hidden Markov Model

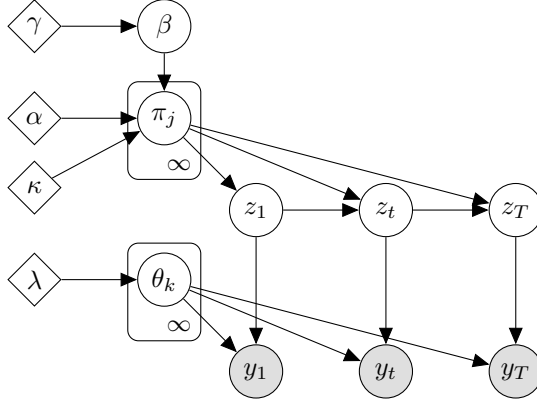


Figure 3: Hidden Markov Model

$$\begin{aligned}\beta|\gamma &\sim GEM(\gamma) \\ \pi_j|\beta, \alpha &\sim DP(\alpha, \beta) \\ \theta_k|\beta, \lambda &\sim H(\lambda)\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}z_t|z_{t-1}, \boldsymbol{\pi} &\sim \pi_{z_{t-1}} \\ y_t|z_t, \boldsymbol{\theta} &\sim F(\theta_{z_t})\end{aligned}$$

$$f_k(y_t) = p(y_t|\boldsymbol{\theta}_{z_t})p(z_t|z_{t-1})$$

### B.2 Sticky HDP

Though flexible, the fact that HDP-HMM is deploying  $\pi_k \sim DP(\alpha, \beta)$  leads to:

1. large posterior probability for unrealistically transition dynamics
2. once instantiated, the unrealistically transition dynamics will be reinforced by CRF

Sticky HDP address above issues by encouraging self-transition. More specifically, the base measure for  $\pi_k$  is augmented *a priori* from  $\beta$  to:

$$\pi_j \sim DP(\alpha + \kappa, \frac{\alpha\beta + \kappa\delta_j}{\alpha + \kappa})$$

### B.3 Inference

Inference for HMM with Sticky HDP prior follows the sticky extension of CRF. For a observation  $y_t$  at time  $t$ , "restaurant" corresponds to the state  $z_t$  that  $y_t$  is at, and dishes at restaurant  $z_t$  indicates the potential states that  $y_{t+1}$  can transit to. To improve mixing rate of state sequence  $\mathbf{z}$ , we deploy the blocked sampler which uses a weak limit approximation of the infinite-dimension DP prior. More specifically, we assume there are  $L$  states, and  $\beta$  and  $\pi$  follows:

$$\begin{aligned}\beta|\gamma &\sim Dir(\frac{\gamma}{L}, \dots, \frac{\gamma}{L}) \\ \pi_j|\alpha, \beta, \kappa &\sim Dir(\alpha\beta_1, \dots, \alpha\beta_j + \kappa, \dots, \alpha\beta_L)\end{aligned}$$

Define  $\theta_k$  as emission parameter for state  $k$ , we sample  $(\mathbf{z}, \mathbf{m}, \boldsymbol{\pi}_0, \boldsymbol{\theta})$  as follows:

1. Sample  $z_t$  from the distribution:

$$z_t | \mathbf{z}_{-(ji)}, \mathbf{m}, \boldsymbol{\pi}_0, \boldsymbol{\theta} \sim f(z_t = k | \mathbf{y}, \mathbf{m}, \boldsymbol{\pi}_0, \boldsymbol{\theta})$$

where  $f(z_t = k | \mathbf{y})$  is calculated using the forward-backward message passing algorithm in B.3.1).

2. Sample  $m_{jk}$  through override correction:

- (a) Sample  $m'_{jk} = \sum_i I(t_{ji} = t_{new} | k_{jt_{new}} = k)$ , where:

$$I(t_{ji} = t_{new} | k_{jt_{new}} = k) \sim \text{Bern}\left(\frac{\alpha\pi_{0,k} + \kappa\delta_j(k)}{n_{jk} + \alpha\pi_{0,k} + \kappa\delta_j(k)}\right)$$

- (b) Sample override variable:

$$w_j \sim \text{Binom}\left(m'_{jj}, \frac{\kappa}{\kappa + \alpha\pi_{0,j}}\right)$$

- (c) Finally calculate  $m_{jk}$  as:

$$m_{jk} = \begin{cases} m'_{ij} & j \neq k \\ m'_{jj} - w_j & j = k \end{cases}$$

3. Sample  $\boldsymbol{\pi}_0$  from distribution:

$$\boldsymbol{\pi}_0 \sim \text{Dir}\left(\frac{\gamma}{L} + m_1, \dots, \frac{\gamma}{L} + m_K\right)$$

4. Sample  $\boldsymbol{\theta}$  from distribution:

$$\boldsymbol{\theta} \sim p(\boldsymbol{\theta} | \lambda, \mathbf{y})$$

### B.3.1 Forward-backward Message Passing

The forward-backward algorithm provide an efficient method for computing node marginals  $p(y_t)$ . Define:

$$\text{Backward Message : } \beta_t(z_t) = p(\mathbf{y}_{T>t} | z_t)$$

$$\text{Forward Message : } \alpha_t(z_t) = p(\mathbf{y}_{T\leq t}, z_t)$$

$$\text{Joint Message : } \alpha_t(z_t)\beta_t(z_t) = p(\mathbf{y}, z_t)$$

which can be alternatively defined using message  $m_{t_1, t_2}$

$$\text{Backward Message : } \beta_t(z_t) = p(\mathbf{y}_{T>t} | z_t) = m_{t+1, t}(z_t)$$

$$\text{Forward Message : } \alpha_t(z_t) = p(y_t | z_t)p(\mathbf{y}_{T< t}, z_t) = p(y_t | z_t)m_{t-1, t}(z_t)$$

.

These two types of messages can be computed  $\beta_t$  backward and  $\alpha_t$  forward in time as:

$$\beta_{t-1} = \sum_{z_t} p(y_t | z_t) p(z_t | z_{t-1}) \beta_t(z_t) \quad \text{with} \quad \beta_T(z_T) = 1$$

$$\alpha_{t+1} = \sum_{z_t} p(y_{t+1} | z_{t+1}) p(z_{t+1} | z_t) \alpha_t(z_t) \quad \text{with} \quad \alpha_1(z_1) = p(y_1, z_1) = p(y_1 | z_1) \pi^0(z_1)$$

Using the forward and backward messages, we can compute state assignment posterior as:

$$p(z_t | \mathbf{y}) = \frac{p(z_t, \mathbf{y})}{\sum_{z_t} p(z_t, \mathbf{y})} = \frac{\alpha_t(z_t)\beta_t(z_t) = p(\mathbf{y}, z_t)}{\sum_{z_t} \alpha_t(z_t)\beta_t(z_t) = p(\mathbf{y}, z_t)}$$

## C Chinese Restaurant Franchise

A hierarchical analogy of Chinese Restaurant Process, the Chinese Restaurant Franchise offers a convenient scheme to sample from the posterior of cluster-specific  $\theta$ 's in HDP. This process draw below analogy:

- $H$  as the dish distribution for all possible dishes in the world, with the types of possible dishes being  $(\theta_k)_{k=1}^{\infty}$ .
- $G_0 \sim DP(\gamma, H)$  as the dish distribution for the franchise
- $G_j \sim DP(\alpha_0, G_0)$  as the dish distribution for restaurant  $j$  in the franchise
- $\psi_{jt} \sim G_0$  as the dish served at table  $t$  in restaurant  $j$ .  
 $k_{jt} \sim \pi_0$  as the index of dish choice for this table.
- $\theta_{ji} \sim G_j$  as the dish will be enjoyed by customer  $i$  in restaurant  $j$ .  
 $t_{ji} \sim \pi_j$  as the index of table choice for this customer.

Integrating over  $G_j$ , the sampling scheme for subject-specific dish  $\theta_{ji} \sim G_j$  is:

$$\theta_{ji} | \boldsymbol{\theta}_{j(-i)}, \alpha_0, G_0 \sim \sum_{k=1}^K \frac{n_{jt.}}{\alpha_0 + n_{j..}} \delta_{\psi_{jt}} + \frac{\gamma}{n_{j..} + \gamma} G_0$$

Integrating over  $G_0$ , the sampling scheme for table-specific dish  $\psi_{jt} \sim G_0$  is:

$$\psi_{jk} | \Psi_{j(-k)}, \gamma, H \sim \sum_{k=1}^K \frac{m_{.k}}{\gamma + m_{..}} \delta_{\theta_k} + \frac{\gamma}{m_{..} + \gamma} H$$

## D References

### References

- Yee Whye Teh, Michael I. Jordan, Matthew J. Beal, and David M. Blei. Hierarchical Dirichlet Processes. *Journal of the American Statistical Association*, 101(476):1566–1581, 2006. ISSN 0162-1459. URL <http://www.jstor.org/stable/27639773>.
- Emily Beth Fox. *Bayesian nonparametric learning of complex dynamical phenomena*. Thesis, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, 2009. URL <http://dspace.mit.edu/handle/1721.1/55111>.