

Solution 1

- (a) We have $P(a + bU \leq x) = P\{U \leq (x - a)/b\} = (x - a)/b$, provided that $(x - a)/b \in (0, 1)$, i.e., $a < x < a + b$. The corresponding density in this interval is $1/b$, so $a + bU \sim U(a, a + b)$ as required. It follows that $T_j \sim U(0, t_0)$ and $MU_j^* \sim U(0, M)$.
- (b) Let R_j denote the event that T_j is retained. This occurs if $MU_j^* < \dot{\mu}(T_j)$, so $P(R_j)$ equals

$$\int_0^{t_0} P(MU_j^* < \dot{\mu}(t) \mid T_j = t) t_0^{-1} dt = \int_0^{t_0} P(U_j^* < \dot{\mu}(t)/M) t_0^{-1} dt = \frac{1}{t_0} \int_0^{t_0} \frac{\dot{\mu}(t)}{M} dt = \frac{\mu(t_0)}{Mt_0}.$$

Hence the conditional density for T_j , given that it is retained, is

$$f_{T_j}(t \mid R_j) = \frac{\dot{\mu}(t)/(Mt_0)}{\mu(t_0)/(Mt_0)} = \frac{\dot{\mu}(t)}{\mu(t_0)}, \quad 0 < t < t_0.$$

We saw in the lectures (Theorem 6, slide 52) that the T_j are therefore a realisation of a Poisson process on $(0, t_0]$ with measure μ . Alternatively we can argue that the T_j are independent, conditional on N , so their joint density is

$$\prod_{j=1}^n \frac{\dot{\mu}(t_j)}{\mu(t_0)} \times \frac{\mu(t_0)^n}{n!} e^{-\mu(t_0)} = \frac{1}{n!} \prod_{j=1}^n \dot{\mu}(t_j) e^{-\mu(t_0)}, \quad 0 < t_1, \dots, t_n < t_0,$$

and if we now note that $n!$ permutations of t_1, \dots, t_n would give the same density, we end up with the density of the Poisson process with points at t_1, \dots, t_n , as hoped.

- (c) The efficiency of the algorithm is clearly $\mu(t_0)/(2Mt_0)$, because the expected number of uniform variables needed to generate the T 's is $2E(N) = 2Mt_0$ and the expected number of T 's retained is $\mu(t_0)$. Clearly this is minimised if M is as small as possible but always greater than $\dot{\mu}(t)$.

The algorithm could be improved by finding another function $g(t)$ that satisfies $\dot{\mu}(t) < g(t) < M$ and from which it is easy to simulate, then retaining T_j in the rejection step if $U_j^* g(T_j) \leq \dot{\mu}(T_j)$.

Solution 2

- (a) The likelihood

$$\exp\{-\mu(t_0)\} \prod_{j=1}^n \dot{\mu}(t_j) = \exp\left\{-\int_0^{t_0} \exp\left\{\sum_{r=1}^p \beta_r b_r(t)\right\} dt\right\} \prod_{j=1}^n \exp\left\{\sum_{r=1}^p \beta_r b_r(t_j)\right\}$$

has logarithm

$$\ell(\beta) = \sum_{r=1}^p \beta_r \sum_{j=1}^n b_r(t_j) - \int_0^{t_0} \exp\left\{\sum_{r=1}^p \beta_r b_r(t)\right\} dt,$$

which is of the given form with $s_r = \sum_{j=1}^n b_r(t_j)$ and $k(\beta) = \int_0^{t_0} \exp\{\sum_{r=1}^p \beta_r b_r(t)\} dt$. This is a linear exponential family with canonical parameters β_1, \dots, β_p and cumulant generator $k(\beta)$, so the maximum likelihood estimate satisfies the equations $s_r = \partial k(\beta)/\partial \beta_r$, for $r = 1, \dots, p$ and the observed and expected information matrices are equal and have (r, s) element $\partial^2 k(\beta)/\partial \beta_r \partial \beta_s$.

- (b) The counts in the successive disjoint intervals $I_k = [(k-1)\Delta, k\Delta)$ ($k = 1, \dots, K$) are independent Poisson variables, with means $\mu_k = \int_{(k-1)\Delta}^{k\Delta} \dot{\mu}(t) dt$ that can be approximated by $\Delta \dot{\mu}\{(k-1/2)\Delta\}$ when Δ is small. The corresponding log likelihood is

$$\sum_{k=1}^K (y_k \log \mu_k - \mu_k - \log y_k!) \equiv \sum_{k=1}^K (y_k \log \mu_k - \mu_k),$$

because additive constants can be dropped from a log likelihood. The approximation arises because $\mu_k \neq \Delta \dot{\mu}\{(k-1/2)\Delta\}$, but provided $\dot{\mu}$ is continuous we can hope that the approximation will be reasonable for K not too large.

- (c) If $\dot{\mu}$ is bounded and continuous, the Riemann sum $\sum_{k=1}^K \Delta \dot{\mu}\{(k-1/2)\Delta\}$ has limit $k(\beta)$ as $K \rightarrow \infty$. Since $y_k = \sum_{j=1}^n I(t_j \in I_k)$ counts how many of t_1, \dots, t_n lie in I_k and no two t_j are equal, for large enough K each of the I_k contains at most one event. If so, then $y_k \log \mu_k$ equals zero if $y_k = 0$ and if $y_k = 1$ then $y_k \log \mu_k = \log \Delta + \log \dot{\mu}\{(k-1/2)\Delta\}$, where $(k-1/2)\Delta$ is the mid-point of the interval that contains t_j . As $K \rightarrow \infty$ the series of these midpoints will converge to t_j , and since $\dot{\mu}$ is continuous, this means that $\dot{\mu}\{(k-1/2)\Delta\} \rightarrow \dot{\mu}(t_j)$. Putting the pieces together yields the result.

Solution 3

- (a) The results here imply that $\hat{\lambda} = \exp(-0.110184) \doteq 0.896$ and $\hat{\beta} = 0.00829$, to be compared with 0.881 and 0.00857 on slide 38, so the agreement is not so good.
- (b) Setting $K = 101$ gives $\hat{\lambda} = \exp(-0.118448) \doteq 0.888$ and $\hat{\beta} = 0.00837$, better but not yet great. Setting $K = 202$ improves matters further, and taking $K = 12 \times 101$ (one-month intervals) gives results that are quite close to the ‘exact’ results on slide 38 (don’t forget that the minimisation giving those might not be perfect).
- (c) The code in the question gives

Call:

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glm(formula = y ~ t + offset(log.Delta) + s + c, family = poisson)
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Coefficients:

	Estimate	Std. Error	z value	Pr(> z)
(Intercept)	-1.613e-01	1.929e-01	-0.836	0.40289
t	8.028e-03	2.979e-03	2.695	0.00704 **
s	-3.164e-01	1.075e-01	-2.943	0.00325 **
c	-2.965e+12	3.984e+12	-0.744	0.45679

Signif. codes: 0 ‘***’ 0.001 ‘**’ 0.01 ‘*’ 0.05 ‘.’ 0.1 ‘ ’ 1

(Dispersion parameter for poisson family taken to be 1)

Null deviance: 235.20 on 201 degrees of freedom
 Residual deviance: 209.01 on 198 degrees of freedom
 AIC: 435.45

Number of Fisher Scoring iterations: 5

and as the change in residual deviance from the model without the extra two terms is $226.75 - 209.01 = 17.74$, which would be a realisation of a χ_2^2 variable if there was no need for the sine and cosine terms, the significance probability is $P(\chi_2^2 > 17.74) = 0.00014$, the data strongly suggest that there is an annual cycle in the cyclone arrival times — which of course we would expect.