

Metropolis Hastings in Statistical Data analysis

from "Bayesian Stat
Analysis

See also: EMCMCE
Python package

The Problem: Bayesian Inference

D: given Data set

I: prior information (Jeffrey Priors)

H_i : Model to describe data / more frequent Model parameters θ
of model M .

Bayesian Inference:

$$P(H_i | D, I) = \frac{P(H_i | I) \overset{\text{Prior}}{P(D | H_i, I)}}{P(D | I)}$$

Hypothesis in absence of D: prior prob. $P(H_i | I)$

Hypothesis with Data (D): posterior or likelihood

$P(D | I)$: "prior predictive prob" GLOBAL LIKELIHOOD.

Bayesian solution to parameter estimation.

Posterior PDF: $p(\theta | D, M)$ Full distribution.

this leads to "best fit" & "error bars":

$$\begin{aligned} \langle \theta \rangle &= \int p(\theta) \theta p(\theta | D, M) \\ C &= \int d\theta p(\theta | D, M) = C \quad \text{CREDIBLE REGION.} \end{aligned}$$

Nuisance parameters: another parameter ϕ : ~~data~~

$$p(\theta | D, M) = \int d\phi p(\theta, \phi | D, M)$$

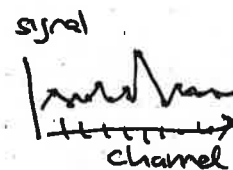
→ Marginalization MARGINAL POSTERIOR PDF θ .

→ Note: this also leads to OCCAM'S RAZOR

Example Problem: Spectral line estimation

Theory: existing lineshape:

$$\underset{\text{Data}}{d} = T \cdot f_i + \underset{\text{error}}{e}$$



Theory predicts: $T \exp(\frac{V_1 - V_2}{2\sigma^2}) \hat{=} T f_i$ Model

Note that

$$P(D, M) = \int d\theta p(\theta | M) p(D | \theta, M) = \alpha(M)$$

is the GLOBAL LIKELIHOOD FUNCTION

where all fitting parameters θ are integrated over

For Model verification we consider multiple (K_i).

For Global likelihood:

integration over all possible values.

$$p(D|H_1, I) = \int dT \underbrace{p(T|H_1, I)}_{\text{Prior knowledge}} p(D|H_1, T, I)$$

Choice of

Prior: $p(T|H, I)$

In this case it refers to possible values of T . Key part in BAYSIAN STAT. ANALYSIS.

Uniform prior: T_{min}, T_{max} $\Delta T = T_{max} - T_{min}$

$$p(T|H_1, I) = \frac{1}{\Delta T} \wedge \int dT p(T|H_1, I) dT = 1$$

Jeffrey Priors: Equal probability.

$$\int_{0.1}^1 p(T|H, I) dT = \int_{0.1}^{1.0} p(T|H, I) dT$$

$$\text{for } p(T|H_1, I) = \frac{k}{T} \wedge k: \text{norm const.}$$

Probability, global likelihood function.

For the case that all errors are independent (e_i) then:

$$p(D_i|H_1, T, I) \cong p(E_i|H_1, T, I) \leftarrow \text{Prob density fctn of error}$$

$$\Rightarrow p(D|H_1, T, I) = p(D_1 \dots D_N|H_1, T, I) \\ = \prod_{i=1}^N p(D_i|H_1, T, I) = \prod_{i=1}^N p(E_i|H_1, T, I)$$

Thus:

$$\boxed{p(D|H_1, T, I) = \prod_{i=1}^N \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \exp\left(-\frac{(d_i - T f_i)^2}{2\sigma^2}\right)} \quad \leftarrow \text{substituted Model}$$

$$= (2\pi)^{-N/2} \sigma^{-N} \exp\left\{-\sum \frac{(d_i - T f_i)^2}{2\sigma^2}\right\}$$

here we assume the errors are distributed:

$$p(E_i|H_1, T, I) = \frac{1}{\sigma \sqrt{2\pi}} \exp\left(-\frac{e_i^2}{2\sigma^2}\right) \quad (\text{Gaussian error})$$

Note: in principle a very high dimensional integral, evaluated for all possible model parameters

We need $P(D|M,I)$ the global likelihood function.

$P(T|D,M,I)$: posterior PDF of signal strength, given Model (M), Data (D) and prior information (I).

$$\boxed{\underbrace{P(T|D,M,I)}_{\text{POSTERIOR PDF}} = \frac{P(T|M,I) \cdot P(D|M,T,I)}{P(D|M,I)}}$$

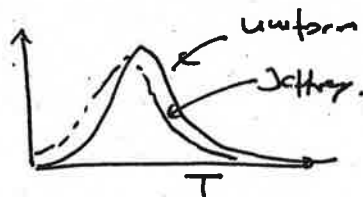
BAYES THEOREM

$P(T|M,I)$: Prior

$P(D|M,T,I)$: ^{global Likelihood} ~~global Likelihood~~ (probability of entire data set)

$P(D|M,I)$: GLOBAL LIKELIHOOD FUNCTION
 $= \int dT P(D|M,I,T)$

Note: $P(T|D,M,I)$



MARKOV CHAIN MONTE CARLO: MCMC

(1953). Metropolis, Teller et al).

Metropolis-Hastings:

MCMC algorithm generates a random walk in the parameter (estimation) space such that the probability for being in the region is proportional to the POSTERIOR PDF

Problem: large number of parameters $P(\underline{X}|D,M,I)$
 parameters (e.g. fit para.)

Step 1 Initialize X_0 (e.g. $\{T_0, v_0\}$ for model parameters)

Step 2 Obtain sample $Y = \{T_0', v_0'\}$
 e.g. $\{T_0', v_0'\} \in \{N(T_0, \sigma_T^2); N(v_0, \sigma_v^2)\}$.
 Gaussian distributions.

Step 3 METROPOLIS RATIO

$$\boxed{r \equiv \frac{P(Y|D,I)}{P(X_t|D,I)}}$$

Acceptance probability.

$$\underbrace{W_{x_t, y}}_{\text{Transition rate}} = \min(1, r)$$

Step 3 Choose random number (if $r > 1$) called u
and accept y if : $u \leq r$ otherwise $x_{t+1} = x_t$

↑ Step 4 → return to step 2.

Relation to MCMC to computational physics: define

$$\Delta(x) = -\ln(p(x|D, I) / p(D|x, I)) \text{ then posterior is}$$

$$p(x|D, I) = e^{-\Delta(x)} / Z \text{ and } Z = \int dx e^{-\Delta(x)}$$

→ evaluate at Boltzmann factors and partition fun.
(cf Broda '99)

Why Metropolis's algorithm works. (Chapter 12 Bayesian Stat. Analysis)

$$\text{proof: } \underbrace{P(x_t, x_{t+1})}_{\text{joint prob. distribution}} = \underbrace{p(x_t | D, I)}_{\text{joint prob. distribution}} \underbrace{p(x_{t+1} | x_t)}_{\text{transition prob.}}$$

$$= p(x_t | D, I) W_{x_t, x_{t+1}} = p(x_t | D, I) \cdot \min(1, \frac{p(x_{t+1} | D, I)}{p(x_t | D, I)})$$

$$= \min(p(x_t | D, I), p(x_{t+1} | D, I))$$

$$= p(x_{t+1} | D, I) W_{x_{t+1}, x_t} \leftarrow \text{ie reversed.} = p(x_{t+1} | D, I) p(x_t | x_{t+1})$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \left| \frac{p(x_t | D, I)}{p(x_{t+1} | D, I)} = \frac{W_{x_t, x_{t+1}}}{W_{x_{t+1}, x_t}} \right| \quad \text{DETAILED BALANCE}$$

Next: marginalize over x_t : to show we obtain $PDF(x_t)$ use detailed balance *

$$\int dx_t \underbrace{p(x_t | D, I) p(x_{t+1} | x_t)}_{\text{joint prob. distn}} \stackrel{*}{=} \int p(x_{t+1} | D, I) p(x_t | x_{t+1}) dx_t$$

$$= p(x_{t+1} | D, I) \cdot \underbrace{\int p(x_t | x_{t+1}) dx_t}_{=1}$$

$$= p(x_{t+1} | D, I) = \pi(x_{t+1} | D, I) \text{ posterior}$$

Thus joint prob. distribution converges to actual one.

Occam's Razor

Odds ratio of two models M_1, M_2 : (e.g. with different parameters)

$$O_{ij} = \underbrace{\frac{p(M_i|I)}{p(M_j|I)}}_{\text{Prior odds}} \underbrace{B_{ij}}_{\text{BAYES FACTOR}}$$

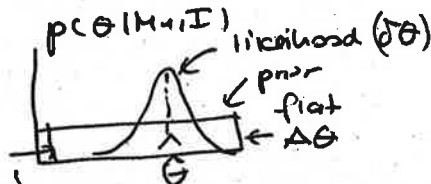
First Note that $\sum_{i=1}^N p(M_i|I) = 1$ (N , models)

Example: two models. M_1 with single parameter θ
 M_0 : parameter θ fixed at θ_0
 (no. free param).

We need $p(D|M_1, I)$ the global likelihood of M_1 .

e.g. assume that $p(\theta|M_1, I)$ is Gaussian centered at $\hat{\theta}$
 the max. likelihood.

$\Rightarrow p(\theta|M_1, I) = \frac{1}{\Delta\theta}$: PROR $\xrightarrow{\text{NO DATA}}$ (note: $\uparrow$ model likelihood of θ)



global likelihood:

$$p(D|M_1, I) = \int d\theta p(\theta|M_1, I) p(D|\theta, M_1, I)$$

$$\approx \frac{1}{\Delta\theta} \int d\theta p(D|\theta, M_1, I) \quad \left. \begin{array}{l} \text{peaked around } \hat{\theta} \end{array} \right\}$$

$$\approx p(D|\hat{\theta}, M_1, I) \left(\frac{\Delta\theta}{\Delta\theta} \right)$$

2nd Model No free parameters

$$p(\theta|M_0, I) = p(D|\theta_0, M_1, I)$$

$\uparrow$
fixed

important! special case of M_1 !

Bayes factor

$$B_{10} = \frac{p(D|\hat{\theta}, I, M_1)}{p(D|\theta_0, I, M_1)} \cdot \underbrace{\left(\frac{\Delta\theta}{\Delta\theta} \right)}_{\text{PENALTY!}} \rightarrow \text{OCCAM'S RAZOR}$$

can never favor the simpler model as M_0 is contained as a special case in M_1