

7 Foundations of Data Science (djw1005)

Consider the probability model

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 X_0 & \rightarrow & X_1 & \rightarrow & X_2 & \rightarrow & X_3 & \rightarrow & \dots \\
 & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \\
 & & Y_1 & & Y_2 & & Y_3 & &
 \end{array}$$

where (X_0, X_1, \dots) is a Markov chain on state space $\{0, 1\}$ with transition probabilities $P_{01} = p$, $P_{10} = q$; and where each Y_i is normally distributed with mean X_i and variance σ^2 .

We are given a sequence of observations (y_1, y_2, \dots, y_n) , and we wish to make an inference about the unobserved values (X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n) . We will take $0 < p < 1$, $0 < q < 1$, and $\sigma > 0$ to be known, and we will assume that X_0 is sampled from the Markov chain's stationary distribution.

(a) Write out the transition matrix for the Markov chain (X_0, X_1, \dots) . Calculate its stationary distribution. [4 marks]

(b) Writing \vec{X} for (X_0, X_1, \dots, X_n) , and writing \vec{Y} for (Y_1, \dots, Y_n) , and similarly \vec{x} and \vec{y} , find expressions for

$$\mathbb{P}(\vec{X} = \vec{x}) \quad \text{and for} \quad \mathbb{P}(\vec{Y} = \vec{y} \mid \vec{X} = \vec{x}).$$

[4 marks]

(c) Give pseudocode for a function `rx(n)` that generates a random \vec{X} . Give pseudocode to generate a weighted sample from the posterior distribution of \vec{X} conditional on the observed data $\vec{Y} = \vec{y}$. [8 marks]

(d) Let $Z = n^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^n X_i$. Give pseudocode to find a 95% confidence interval for Z , conditional on the observed data $\vec{Y} = \vec{y}$. [4 marks]