## Applied Bayesian Nonparametrics

Special Topics in Machine Learning Brown University CSCI 2950-P, Fall 2011

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## Nonparametric Clustering




- Large Support: All partitions of the data, from one giant cluster to N singletons, have positive probability under prior
- Exchangeable: Partition probabilities are invariant to permutations of the data
- Desirable: Good asymptotics, computational tractability, flexibility and ease of generalization...

Chinese Restaurant Process (CRP)


$$
p\left(z_{N+1}=z \mid z_{1}, \ldots, z_{N}, \alpha\right)=\frac{1}{\alpha+N}\left(\sum_{k=1}^{K} N_{k} \delta(z, k)+\alpha \delta(z, \bar{k})\right)
$$

## Distance Dependent CRP




- Good: Simple, computationally easy generalization which can make clustering depend on any feature: time, space, ...
- Tricky: Relationship between local distance and global clustering behavior hard to analyze (no marginal invariance)


## Finite Dirichlet Mixtures

$$
\begin{gathered}
p(\theta)=\frac{\prod_{k=1}^{K} \theta_{k}^{\alpha_{k}-1}}{D\left(\alpha_{1}, \alpha_{2}, \ldots, \alpha_{K}\right)} P(\mathbf{c} \mid \theta)=\prod_{i=1}^{N} P\left(c_{i} \mid \theta\right)=\prod_{i=1}^{N} \theta_{c_{i}} \\
D\left(\alpha_{1}, \alpha_{2}, \ldots, \alpha_{K}\right)=\int_{\Delta_{K}} \prod_{k=1}^{K} \theta_{k}^{\alpha_{k}-1} d \theta=\frac{\prod_{k=1}^{K} \Gamma\left(\alpha_{k}\right)}{\Gamma\left(\sum_{k=1}^{K} \alpha_{k}\right)} \\
D\left(\frac{\alpha}{K}, \frac{\alpha}{K}, \ldots, \frac{\alpha}{K}\right)=\frac{\Gamma\left(\frac{\alpha}{K}\right)^{K}}{\Gamma(\alpha)} \\
P(\mathbf{c})=\int_{\Delta_{K}} \prod_{i=1}^{n} P\left(c_{i} \mid \theta\right) p(\theta) d \theta=\frac{\prod_{k=1}^{K} \Gamma\left(m_{k}+\frac{\alpha}{K}\right)}{\Gamma\left(\frac{\alpha}{K}\right)^{K}} \frac{\Gamma(\alpha)}{\Gamma(N+\alpha)}
\end{gathered}
$$

Marginal likelihoods generally expressed as ratios of normalizers

## From Assignments to Partitions



$$
\begin{aligned}
P(\mathbf{c}) & =\int_{\Delta_{K}} \prod_{i=1}^{n} P\left(c_{i} \mid \theta\right) p(\theta) d \theta=\frac{\prod_{k=1}^{K} \Gamma\left(m_{k}+\frac{\alpha}{K}\right)}{\Gamma\left(\frac{\alpha}{K}\right)^{K}} \frac{\Gamma(\alpha)}{\Gamma(N+\alpha)} \\
& =\left(\frac{\alpha}{K}\right)^{K_{+}}\left(\prod_{k=1}^{K^{+}} \prod_{j=1}^{m_{k}-1}\left(j+\frac{\alpha}{K}\right)\right) \frac{\Gamma(\alpha)}{\Gamma(N+\alpha)}
\end{aligned}
$$

$K_{+}$is the number of classes for which $m_{k}>0$
There are $K^{N}$ possible values for $\mathbf{c}$
$P(\mathbf{c}) \rightarrow 0$ as $K \rightarrow \infty$
Instead look at label equivalence classes: $K=K_{0}+K_{+}$
$P([\mathbf{c}])=\sum_{\mathbf{c} \in[\mathbf{c}]} P(\mathbf{c})=\frac{K!}{K_{0}!}\left(\frac{\alpha}{K}\right)^{K_{+}}\left(\prod_{k=1}^{K^{+}} \prod_{j=1}^{m_{k}-1}\left(j+\frac{\alpha}{K}\right)\right) \frac{\Gamma(\alpha)}{\Gamma(N+\alpha)}$

## An Infinite Limit

$$
\begin{aligned}
& K=K_{0}+K_{+} \\
& P([\mathbf{c}])=\sum_{\mathbf{c} \in[\mathrm{c}]} P(\mathbf{c})=\frac{K!}{K_{0}!}\left(\frac{\alpha}{K}\right)^{K_{+}}\left(\prod_{k=1}^{K^{+}} \prod_{j=1}^{m_{k}-1}\left(j+\frac{\alpha}{K}\right)\right) \frac{\Gamma(\alpha)}{\Gamma(N+\alpha)} \\
& \lim _{K \rightarrow \infty} \alpha^{K_{+}} \cdot \frac{K!}{K_{0}!K^{K_{+}}} \cdot\left(\prod_{k=1}^{K_{+}} \prod_{j=1}^{m_{k}-1}\left(j+\frac{\alpha}{K}\right)\right) \cdot \frac{\Gamma(\alpha)}{\Gamma(N+\alpha)} \\
& \quad=\alpha^{K_{+}} \cdot 1
\end{aligned}
$$

- Good: Recover the CRP as an infinite limit of a standard, widely studied parametric model.
- Tricky: Dealing with equivalence classes in the infinite limit, which becomes harder for more complex models


## De Finetti's Theorem

- Finitely exchangeable random variables satisfy:

$$
p\left(x_{1}, \ldots, x_{N}\right)=p\left(x_{\tau(1)}, \ldots, x_{\tau(N)}\right) \quad \text { for any permutation } \tau(\cdot)
$$

- A sequence is infinitely exchangeable if every finite subsequence is exchangeable
- Exchangeable variables need not be independent, but always have a representation with conditional independencies:

Theorem 2.2.2 (De Finetti). For any infinitely exchangeable sequence of random variables $\left\{x_{i}\right\}_{i=1}^{\infty}, x_{i} \in \mathcal{X}$, there exists some space $\Theta$, and corresponding density $p(\theta)$, such that the joint probability of any $N$ observations has a mixture representation:

$$
\begin{equation*}
p\left(x_{1}, x_{2}, \ldots, x_{N}\right)=\int_{\Theta} p(\theta) \prod_{i=1}^{N} p\left(x_{i} \mid \theta\right) d \theta \tag{2.77}
\end{equation*}
$$

When $\mathcal{X}$ is a $K$-dimensional discrete space, $\Theta$ may be chosen as the $(K-1)$-simplex. For Euclidean $\mathcal{X}, \Theta$ is an infinite-dimensional space of probability measures.

An explicit construction is useful in hierarchical modeling...

## De Finetti's Directed Graph



What distribution underlies the infinitely exchangeable CRP?

## Dirichlet Processes


$\mathbb{E}[G(T)]=H(T)$


$$
G \sim \mathrm{DP}(\alpha, H)
$$

For any finite partition

$$
\bigcup_{k=1}^{K} T_{k}=\Theta \quad T_{k} \cap T_{\ell}=\emptyset \quad k \neq \ell
$$

the distribution of the measure of those cells is Dirichlet:

$$
\left(G\left(T_{1}\right), \ldots, G\left(T_{K}\right)\right) \sim \operatorname{Dir}\left(\alpha H\left(T_{1}\right), \ldots, \alpha H\left(T_{K}\right)\right)
$$

## DP Posteriors and Conjugacy

Proposition 2.5.1. Let $G \sim \operatorname{DP}(\alpha, H)$ be a random measure distributed according to a Dirichlet process. Given $N$ independent observations $\bar{\theta}_{i} \sim G$, the posterior measure also follows a Dirichlet process:

$$
\begin{equation*}
p\left(G \mid \bar{\theta}_{1}, \ldots, \bar{\theta}_{N}, \alpha, H\right)=\operatorname{DP}\left(\alpha+N, \frac{1}{\alpha+N}\left(\alpha H+\sum_{i=1}^{N} \delta_{\bar{\theta}_{i}}\right)\right) \tag{2.169}
\end{equation*}
$$

Proof Hint: For any finite partition, we have
$p\left(\left(G\left(T_{1}\right), \ldots, G\left(T_{K}\right)\right) \mid \bar{\theta} \in T_{k}\right)=\operatorname{Dir}\left(\alpha H\left(T_{1}\right), \ldots, \alpha H\left(T_{k}\right)+1, \ldots, \alpha H\left(T_{K}\right)\right)$
An observation must be of one of the countably infinite atoms which compose the random Dirichlet measure

## DPs and Polya Urns

Theorem 2.5.4. Let $G \sim \operatorname{DP}(\alpha, H)$ be distributed according to a Dirichlet process, where the base measure $H$ has corresponding density $h(\theta)$. Consider a set of $N$ observations $\bar{\theta}_{i} \sim G$ taking $K$ distinct values $\left\{\theta_{k}\right\}_{k=1}^{K}$. The predictive distribution of the next observation then equals

$$
\begin{equation*}
p\left(\bar{\theta}_{N+1}=\theta \mid \bar{\theta}_{1}, \ldots, \bar{\theta}_{N}, \alpha, H\right)=\frac{1}{\alpha+N}\left(\alpha h(\theta)+\sum_{k=1}^{K} N_{k} \delta\left(\theta, \theta_{k}\right)\right) \tag{2.180}
\end{equation*}
$$

where $N_{k}$ is the number of previous observations of $\theta_{k}$, as in eq. (2.179).
My variation on the classical balls in urns analogy:

- Consider an urn containing $\alpha$ pounds of very tiny, colored sand (the space of possible colors is $\Theta$ )
- Take out one grain of sand, record its color as
- Put that grain back, add 1 extra pound of that color $\bar{\theta}_{1}$
- Repeat this process...



## DPs are Neutral: "Almost" independent

The distribution of a random probability measure $G$ is neutral with respect to a finite partition $\left(T_{1}, \ldots, T_{K}\right)$ iff

$$
\begin{aligned}
& G\left(T_{k}\right) \quad \text { is independent of } \quad\left\{\left.\frac{G\left(T_{\ell}\right)}{1-G\left(T_{k}\right)} \right\rvert\, \ell \neq k\right\} \\
& \\
& \text { given that } G\left(T_{k}\right)<1 .
\end{aligned}
$$

Theorem 2.5.2. Consider a distribution $\mathcal{P}$ on probability measures $G$ for some space $\Theta$. Assume that $\mathcal{P}$ assigns positive probability to more than one measure $G$, and that with probability one samples $G \sim \mathcal{P}$ assign positive measure to at least three distinct points $\theta \in \Theta$. The following conditions are then equivalent:
(i) $\mathcal{P}=\mathrm{DP}(\alpha, H)$ is a Dirichlet process for some base measure $H$ on $\Theta$.
(ii) $\mathcal{P}$ is neutral with respect to every finite, measurable partition of $\Theta$.
(iii) For every measurable $T \subset \Theta$, and any $N$ observations $\bar{\theta}_{i} \sim G$, the posterior distribution $\left.p(G)(T) \mid \bar{\theta}_{1}, \ldots, \bar{\theta}_{N}\right)$ depends only on the number of observations that fall within $T$ (and not their particular locations).

## The Stick-Breaking Construction: DP Realizations are Discrete

Theorem 2.5.3. Let $\pi=\left\{\pi_{k}\right\}_{k=1}^{\infty}$ be an infinite sequence of mixture weights derived from the following stick-breaking process, with parameter $\alpha>0$ :

$$
\begin{array}{ll}
\beta_{k} \sim \operatorname{Beta}(1, \alpha) & k=1,2, \ldots \\
\pi_{k}=\beta_{k} \prod_{\ell=1}^{k-1}\left(1-\beta_{\ell}\right)=\beta_{k}\left(1-\sum_{\ell=1}^{k-1} \pi_{\ell}\right) &
\end{array}
$$

Given a base measure $H$ on $\Theta$, consider the following discrete random measure:

$$
\begin{equation*}
G(\theta)=\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \pi_{k} \delta\left(\theta, \theta_{k}\right) \quad \theta_{k} \sim H \tag{2.176}
\end{equation*}
$$

This construction guarantees that $G \sim \mathrm{DP}(\alpha, H)$. Conversely, samples from a Dirichlet process are discrete with probability one, and have a representation as in eq. (2.176).

## DP Stick-Breaking Construction <br> $$
p(x)=\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \pi_{k} f\left(x \mid \theta_{k}\right)
$$


$\beta_{k} \sim \operatorname{Beta}(1, \alpha)$

## Dirichlet Stick-Breaking

## $v_{k} \sim \operatorname{Beta}(1, \alpha)$

$$
E\left[v_{k}\right]=\frac{1}{1+\alpha}
$$



$$
\alpha=1
$$



$$
\alpha=10
$$

## DP Mixture Models



## Samples from DP Mixture Priors



## Samples from DP Mixture Priors



## Samples from DP Mixture Priors



## Views of the Dirichlet Process

- Implicit stochastic process: Finite Dirichlet marginals
- Implicit stochastic process: Neutrality
- Explicit stochastic process: Normalized gamma process
- Explicit stochastic process: Stick-breaking construction
- Marginalized predictions: Polya urn and the CRP
- Infinite limit of finite Dirichlet mixture model


## Pitman-Yor Processes

## Generalizing the Dirichlet Process

$>$ Distribution on partitions leads to a generalized Chinese restaurant process
$>$ Special cases arise as excursion lengths for Markov chains, Brownian motions, ...
Power Law Distributions
DP
PY

Number of unique clusters in N observations


Jim Pitman


## Hierarchical and Dependent DP Models

- Hierarchical DP and the Chinese restaurant franchise
- Nested DP and the nested Chinese restaurant process
- Hierarchical DP hidden Markov models, switching LDS
- Hierarchical DP hidden Markov trees
- Gaussian processes and correlated mixture models


## Hierarchical Dirichlet Process


$G_{0}(\theta)=\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \beta_{k} \delta\left(\theta, \theta_{k}\right)$
$\begin{aligned} \boldsymbol{\beta} & \sim \operatorname{GEM}(\gamma) \\ \theta_{k} & \sim H(\lambda) \quad k=1,2, \ldots\end{aligned}$
$G_{j}(\theta)=\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \pi_{j k} \delta\left(\theta, \theta_{k}\right)$

## Chinese Restaurant Franchise



## Nested Dirichlet Process



## Hierarchical LDA and the Nested CRP



- Good: Topics are arranged in a hierarchy of unknown structure, results tend to be more semantically interpretable
- Limiting: Each document is generated by a single path through the tree, cannot combine disparate topics


## Infinite Markov Models \& The Sequence Memoizer



- Good: Tractably learn and predict with Markov models of infinite depth: Only finite contexts observed in training
- Limiting: Structure of tree depends on assumption that modeling sequences of discrete characters


## HDP-HMM



Hierarchical Dirichlet Process HMM

- Dirichlet process (DP):
> Mode space of unbounded size
> Model complexity adapts to observations
- Hierarchical:
> Ties mode transition distributions
> Shared sparsity


## HDP-HMM



Hierarchical Dirichlet Process HMM


- Global transition distribution:

$$
\beta \sim \operatorname{Stick}(\gamma)
$$

- Mode-specific transition distributions:

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \pi_{j} \sim \mathrm{DP}(\alpha \beta) \quad j=1,2,3, \ldots \\
& \text { sparsity of } \beta \text { is shared } \longrightarrow \\
& E\left[\pi_{j k}\right]=\beta_{k}
\end{aligned}
$$

## Sticky HDP-HMM


$\beta \sim \operatorname{Stick}(\gamma)$
$\pi_{j} \sim \operatorname{DP}\left(\alpha \beta+\kappa \delta_{j}\right)$
mode-specific base measure



## HDP-AR-HMM and HDP-SLDS



## HDP Hidden Markov Trees


$z_{t i} \longrightarrow \quad$ indexes infinite set $\quad \pi_{k} \longrightarrow$ infinite set of state of hidden states $z_{t i} \in\{1,2,3, \ldots\}$ transition distributions

$$
z_{t i} \sim \pi_{z_{\mathrm{Pa}(\mathrm{ti})}}^{d_{t i}}
$$

HDP-HMM \& HDP-HMT cleanly deal with problem of choosing state space size, but retain other Markov model assumptions

## 1D Gaussian Processes



$$
\kappa\left(x, x^{\prime}\right)=\sigma_{f}^{2} \exp \left(-\frac{1}{2 \ell^{2}}\left(x-x^{\prime}\right)^{2}\right)
$$



Noise-Free Observations

Squared exponential kernel or radial basis function (RBF) kernel has a countably infinite set of underlying feature functions

## 2D Gaussian Processes



## Correlated Mixtures via GPs



Why the GP? Provides functions which are smooth, allow flexible correlation modeling, and computationally tractable

## Latent Feature Models



Distributions on binary matrices indicating feature presence/absence
(b)


Depending on application, features can be associated with any parameter value of interest

- Latent Feature model: Each group of observations is associated with a subset of the possible latent features
- Factorial power: There are $2^{\mathrm{K}}$ combinations of K features
- Question: What is the analog of the DP for feature modeling?


## From Clustering to Factorial Modeling

## Dirichlet Process \& Chinese Restaurant Process

- Implicit stochastic process: Finite Dirichlet marginals
- Implicit stochastic process: Neutrality
- Explicit stochastic process: Normalized gamma process
- Explicit stochastic process: Stick-breaking construction
- Marginalized predictions: Polya urn and the CRP
- Infinite limit of finite Dirichlet mixture model


## Beta Process \& Indian Buffet Process

- Implicit stochastic process: Poisson feature counts
- Implicit stochastic process: Completely random measure
- Explicit stochastic process: Un-normalized beta process
- Explicit stochastic process: Stick-breaking construction(s)
- Marginalized predictions: Indian buffet process
- Infinite limit of finite beta-Bernoulli feature model

Every temporal/spatial/hierarchical DP model should generalize...

## Big Challenge: Learning \& Inference

Collapsed or marginalize infinite model

- Chinese restaurant process and ddCRP
- Indian buffet process
- Powerful but limited applicability

Fixed truncation of true infinite model

- Truncated stick breaking
- Finite Dirichlet-multinomial
- Finite beta-Bernoulli
- Starting point for most variational methods

Dynamic truncations which avoid approximation

- Slice sampling
- Retrospective MCMC and reversible jump MCMC
- Local search for posterior modes

For the hardest problems, none are satisfactory...

