

# Project Paper Update

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**Estimating and Projecting Trends in HIV/AIDS  
Generalized Epidemics Using Incremental Mixture  
Importance Sampling**

Adrain E. Raftery and Le Bao

Biometrics 2010

# Method - IMIS

## **Incremental Mixture Importance Sampling**

- numerical algorithm for sampling from a posterior
- addresses limitations of current algorithm
  - Sampling Importance Resampling (SIR)
  - posteriors with multimodality & nonlinear ridges

# Bayesian framework in the context of modeling

- Model:  $\theta \xrightarrow{M} \rho$ 
  - $M$  deterministic scientific model  
population dynamics model for bowhead whales
  - $\theta$  input parameters for model (settings)  
birth and death rates, initial population size, ....
  - $\rho = M(\theta)$  model output  
population size by year
- Model Calibration (select  $\theta$ )
  - prior on input parameters:  $\pi(\theta)$
  - $X$  is observed real data  
for certain years: observed population counts
  - posterior on input parameters:  $\pi(\theta|X)$   
use  $\mathbb{E}[\theta|X]$  for point estimates of  $\rho$   
samples from  $\pi(\theta|X)$  for intervals around  $\hat{\rho}$
- Bayes Formula:  $\pi(\theta|X) = \frac{L(X|M(\theta))\pi(\theta)}{L(X)}$

# Sampling Importance Re-sampling

- sample from prior:  $\{\theta_1, \dots, \theta_N\} \sim \pi_0$
- run model to get output for each:  $\{M(\theta_1), \dots, M(\theta_N)\}$
- calculate likelihood of model output:  $L_i \equiv L(X|M(\theta_i))$
- calculate importance weight:  $\omega_i = \frac{L_i}{\sum_j L_j}$
- weighted re-sample of  $\theta_1, \dots, \theta_N$   
estimate of posterior:  $\pi(\theta|X)$

Note: unique points of posterior will always be a subset of the unique points sampled from prior.

# Incremental Mixture Importance Sampling

- Initial sample and weights:  $\left\{ \left( \theta_i, \omega_i = \frac{L_i}{\sum_j L_j} \right) \mid 1 \leq i \leq N_0 \right\}$   
resampling now gives SIR estimate of posterior
- 'fill-in' important regions:  $1 \leq k \leq K$   
identify underrepresented neighborhood  
add  $B$  points of Normal mass  
use mixture distribution as new prior:  $\pi_k$   
update weights:  $\omega_i^k$
- repeat until stopping criteria met:  $K$  times  
expected % unique points in resample  $\geq 1 - 1/e$
- weighted re-sample from  $\left\{ \left( \theta_i, \omega_i^k \right) \mid 1 \leq i \leq N_0 + KB \right\}$   
estimate of posterior:  $\pi(\theta|X)$

# IMIS - Add Normal Mass

Expand sample with  $B$  points sampled from  $q_k = N(\theta^k, \Sigma^k)$

- $\theta^k = \arg \max_{\theta_i} \{\omega^{k-1}(\theta_i)\}$   
center of important neighborhood
- $\Sigma^k$   
weighted covariance of  $B$  points of current sample  
in the neighborhood of  $\theta^k$   
Mahalanobis metric w.r.t.  $\pi_0$   
weights  $\propto \omega_i + 1/N_k$

$$S_k = S_{k-1} \cup \{\theta_{k,1} \dots \theta_{k,B}\}$$

$$N_k \equiv \#S_k = N_0 + kB$$

## Side Note - Mahalanobis Metric

$$d(\theta_i, \theta^k) = \sqrt{(\theta_i - \theta^k)^T \Sigma^{-1} (\theta_i - \theta^k)}$$

$\Sigma$  is covariance matrix for  $\pi_0$

Can be thought of as a dissimilarity measure between two points of the same distribution with covariance  $\Sigma$ .

Using this to grab all the B points of the sample that form the narrowest percentile range centered at  $\theta^k$ .



# IMIS -Update weights

At end of iteration  $k$ ,

mixing sampling distribution:

- $\pi_k(\theta) = N_k^{-1} \left( N_0 \pi_0(\theta) + B \sum_j^k q_k(\theta) \right)$

weights:

- $\omega_i^k \propto L_i(X|M(\theta_i)) \times \underbrace{\pi_0(\theta_i)\pi_k(\theta_i)^{-1}}_{adj}$

away from important spots:  $adj \approx L_i$

near  $\theta^k$ :  $adj \ll 1$

$\pi_k = \pi(\theta|X)$ , then  $\omega_i \propto 1$

# Replication Goal

Reproduce results for two methods of interest from simulation study.

Scenario	SIR	IMIS
Ridge-Like	2e-5	0.0675
Bimodal	0.0002	0.2063

Table :  $ESS/N_K$

- Prior, model, and likelihood of model output specified
- Evaluated in terms of efficiency:  $\frac{ESS}{\#evaluations}$

# Simulation - Set-up

Scenario: Ridge-Like

Model:

$$(\theta_1, \theta_2, \theta_3, \theta_4, \theta_5, \theta_6) \xrightarrow{M} \left( \prod_{i=1}^4 \theta_i, \theta_2\theta_4, \frac{\theta_1}{\theta_5}, \theta_3\theta_6 \right)$$

Prior:

$$\pi_0(\theta) \sim N(\mu_0, \text{Diag}(\sigma_0)) \quad \mu_0, \sigma_0 \text{ specified}$$

Likelihood:

$$L(X|M(\theta)) \sim N(\mu_L, \text{Diag}(\sigma_L)) \quad \mu_L, \sigma_L \text{ specified}$$

## Methods - Evaluation

Evaluated in terms of efficiency:  $\frac{ESS}{N_K} \leq 1$

- ESS = effective sample size of  $N_K$  indirect samples
- compared to  $N_K$  direct samples from  $\pi(\theta|X)$

Effective sample size [Kong JASA 1994]:

$$\begin{aligned} ESS &= \frac{N_K}{1 + CV} \\ &= \frac{N_K}{1 + \frac{VAR[\omega]}{\mathbb{E}^2[\omega]}} \\ &= \frac{N_K}{\frac{\mathbb{E}[\omega^2]}{\mathbb{E}^2[\omega]}} \\ \widehat{ESS} &= \frac{1}{\sum_i \omega_i^2} \quad \widehat{\mathbb{E}[\omega]} = 1/N_k \end{aligned}$$

# Next Steps

- stopping criteria - understand  
expected % of unique points  $\geq 1 - 1/e$   
value when weights all equal
- simulation  
numerical under/over-flow issues  
covariance estimates - not positive definite  
empirically approximate stopping criteria