

Rat Tumor Data: Two Models in STAN

Model 1: Beta-Binomial Model

$$\begin{aligned}y_i | \theta_i &\sim \text{Binomial}(n_i, \theta_i), \quad i = 1, \dots, k \\ \theta_i &\sim \pi(\theta) = \text{Beta}(\alpha, \beta) \\ \alpha &\sim \text{Normal}(2.4, 5) \\ \beta &\sim \text{Normal}(14, 5)\end{aligned}$$

Using `rstan`, we successfully ran the model. The R code and data are attached in the script `RatTumorExample.R`.

Model 2: $\text{DS}(G, m)$, where $G = \text{Beta}(\alpha, \beta)$

Following Mukhopadhyay and Fletcher, 2018 (<https://www.nature.com/articles/s41598-018-28130-5>), we propose the following simple model that provides non-parametric inference with parametric computational cost. Let g be the density (pdf) of $\text{Beta}(\alpha, \beta)$, with G as its distribution function (cdf):

$$\begin{aligned}y_i | \theta_i &\sim \text{Binomial}(n_i, \theta_i), \quad i = 1, \dots, k \\ \theta_i &\sim \pi(\theta) \equiv \text{DS}(G, m) = g(\theta) \left[1 + \sum_{j=1}^m c_j \text{Leg}_j(G(\theta)) \right] \\ \alpha &\sim \text{Normal}(2.4, 5) \\ \beta &\sim \text{Normal}(14, 5) \\ c_1, c_2, \dots, c_m &\sim \text{Normal}(0, 5)\end{aligned}$$

where $\text{Leg}_j(u)$ is the j th orthonormalized shifted Legendre polynomial i.e.,

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Leg}_1(u) &= \sqrt{12}\left(u - \frac{1}{2}\right) \\ \text{Leg}_2(u) &= \sqrt{5}(6u^2 - 6u + 1) \\ &\vdots\end{aligned}$$

In R language, the density (pdf) of the $\text{DS}(G, m)$ prior distribution is:

$$\pi(\theta) = \text{dbeta}(\theta; \alpha, \beta) \left[1 + \sum_{j=1}^m c_j \underbrace{\text{Leg}_j(\text{pbeta}(\theta; \alpha, \beta))}_{\text{R script LPbasis.R is attached}} \right]$$

OBJECTIVE: Our goal is to implement the $\text{DS}(G, m)$ prior distribution as a custom prior in STAN. Once implemented, we can test $\text{DS}(G, m)$ under MCMC. We appreciate any assistance you can provide to convert the prior into STAN language.