Package: Rmodule (via r-universe)

November 2, 2026

Type Package

Title Automated Markov Chain Monte Carlo for Arbitrarily Structured Correlation Matrices

Version 1.0

Date 2023-08-18

Description Supports automated Markov chain Monte Carlo for arbitrarily structured correlation matrices. The user supplies data, a correlation matrix in symbolic form, the current state of the chain, a function that computes the log likelihood, and a list of prior distributions. The package's flagship function then carries out a parameter-at-a-time update of all correlation parameters, and returns the new state. The method is presented in Hughes (2023), in preparation.

License GPL (>= 2)

Imports Rcpp (>= 1.0.9), utils, Matrix

LinkingTo Rcpp, RcppArmadillo

RoxygenNote 7.2.3

Encoding UTF-8

NeedsCompilation yes

Author John Hughes [aut, cre]

Maintainer John Hughes <drjphughesjr@gmail.com>

Repository https://cran.r-universe.dev

Date/Publication 2023-08-18 19:30:53 UTC

RemoteUrl https://github.com/cran/Rmodule

RemoteRef HEAD

RemoteSha 6f7d962ff9792f88a2ab9b0d5f2dfdfd0a142514

Contents

update_R 2

Index **6**

update_R *Update the state vector of the correlation parameters.*

Description

Update the state vector of the correlation parameters.

Usage

```
update_R(
  r,
  data,
  R,
  log.f,
  log.f.args,
  log.priors,
  log.priors.args,
  sigma,
  n = 100
)
```

Arguments

r	a p-vector of correlations, the current state of the Markov chain.
data	an n x d matrix such that the rows are iid outcomes for the study in question.
R	a d x d correlation matrix in symbolic form. The off-diagonal elements should be numbered from 2 to $p + 1$.
log.f	the log objective function, which must take the dataset, a correlation matrix, and perhaps additional arguments.
log.f.args	additional arguments for `log.f`.
log.priors	a list of log prior densities for the correlation parameters, each of which should accept a correlation and perhaps additional arguments.
log.priors.args	a list of additional arguments for the functions in `log.priors`.
sigma	a vector, the standard deviations of the Gaussian proposals for the p correlation parameters. This argument must have length 1 or length p. In the former case, all of the random-walk proposals have the same variance. In the latter case, the proposals have distinct variances.
n	a positive integer, the number of grid points to employ in root finding. The default value is 100, but in some cases a larger value may be required to avoid missing roots of the determinant function.

Details

This function takes the current state of the chain and returns the next state. The correlation parameters are updated one at a time by way of a Metropolis-Hastings Gaussian random walk for each parameter. When the set of valid values for the proposal comprises a disconnected subset, i.e., two or more disjoint subintervals, of $(-1, 1)$, the Apes of Wrath algorithm is used to update the parameter in question.

Value

a p-vector, the new state of the chain.

Examples

```
# The following function computes HPD intervals.

hpd = function(x, alpha = 0.05)
{
    n = length(x)
    m = round(n * alpha)
    x = sort(x)
    y = x[(n - m + 1):n] - x[1:m]
    z = min(y)
    k = which(y == z)[1]
    c(x[k], x[n - m + k])
}

# The following function computes the log likelihood.

logL = function(data, R, args)
{
    n = nrow(data)
    Rinv = solve(R)
    detR = -0.5 * n * determinant(R, log = TRUE)$modulus
    qforms = -0.5 * sum(diag(data %*% Rinv %*% t(data)))
    f = detR + qforms
    if (f > 0)
        return(-1e6)
    f
}

# Use a Uniform(-1, 1) prior for each correlation.

logP = function(r, args) dunif(r, -1, 1, log = TRUE)

# Build the list of priors and their arguments.

log.priors = list(logP, logP, logP, logP, logP)
log.priors.args = list(0, 0, 0, 0, 0)

# Simulate a dataset to work with. The dataset will have 32 observations,
# each of length 4. The outcomes will be generated from a Gaussian copula
# model having t-distributed marginal distributions. Then we Gaussianize
```

```
# the ranks for analysis.

n = 16
R = diag(1, 4, 4)
R[1, 2] = R[2, 1] = 2
R[3, 4] = R[4, 3] = 3
R[1, 3] = R[3, 1] = R[2, 4] = R[4, 2] = 4
R[1, 4] = R[4, 1] = 5
R[2, 3] = R[3, 2] = 6
r = c(-0.2, -0.2, -0.4, -0.7, 0.9)
block = R
for (j in 1:5)
    block[block == j + 1] = r[j]
blist = vector("list", n)
for (j in 1:n)
    blist[[j]] = block
C = t(chol(as.matrix(Matrix::bdiag(blist))))
set.seed(42)
z = as.vector(C %*% rnorm(n * 4))
u = pnorm(z)
y = qt(u, df = 3)
data = matrix(y, n, 4, byrow = TRUE)
data = matrix(qnorm(rank(data) / (n * 4 + 1)), n, 4)

# Simulate a sample path of length 1,000.

m = 1000
r.chain = matrix(0, m, 5)
r.chain[1, ] = 0
sigma = c(1, 1, 0.25, 2, 5)   # proposal standard deviations
start = proc.time()
for (i in 2:m)
    r.chain[i, ] = update_R(r.chain[i - 1, ], data, R,
                            log.f = logL,
                            log.priors = log.priors,
                            log.priors.args = log.priors.args,
                            sigma = sigma,
                            n = 400)
stop = proc.time() - start
stop
stop[3] / m   # 0.001 seconds per iteration on a 3.6 GHz 10-Core Intel Core i9

# Now show trace plots along with the truth and the 95% HPD interval.

dev.new()
plot(r.chain[, 1], type = "l")
abline(h = r[1], col = "orange", lwd = 3)
abline(h = hpd(r.chain[, 1]), col = "blue", lwd = 3)

dev.new()
plot(r.chain[, 2], type = "l")
abline(h = r[2], col = "orange", lwd = 3)
abline(h = hpd(r.chain[, 2]), col = "blue", lwd = 3)
```

```
dev.new()
plot(r.chain[, 3], type = "l")
abline(h = r[3], col = "orange", lwd = 3)
abline(h = hpd(r.chain[, 3]), col = "blue", lwd = 3)

dev.new()
plot(r.chain[, 4], type = "l")
abline(h = r[4], col = "orange", lwd = 3)
abline(h = hpd(r.chain[, 4]), col = "blue", lwd = 3)

dev.new()
plot(r.chain[, 5], type = "l")
abline(h = r[5], col = "orange", lwd = 3)
abline(h = hpd(r.chain[, 5]), col = "blue", lwd = 3)
```

Index

update_R, 2