

# Contents

|  |     |
|--|-----|
| 6 Density Estimation . . . . .                         | 141 |
| 6.1 Introduction . . . . .                             | 141 |
| 6.2 Polya Tree Priors . . . . .                        | 142 |
| 6.3 Mixtures of Kernels . . . . .                      | 143 |
| 6.4 Hierarchical Mixtures . . . . .                    | 147 |
| 6.5 Random Histograms . . . . .                        | 148 |
| 6.5.1 Weak Consistency . . . . .                       | 148 |
| 6.5.2 $L_1$ -Consistency . . . . .                     | 150 |
| 6.6 Mixtures of Normal Kernel . . . . .                | 151 |
| 6.6.1 Dirichlet Mixtures . . . . .                     | 151 |
| 6.6.2 Dirichlet Mixtures: $L_1$ -Consistency . . . . . | 152 |
| 6.6.3 Extensions . . . . .                             | 172 |
| 6.7 Gaussian Process Priors . . . . .                  | 173 |
| 6.8 Inference for Location Parameter . . . . .         | 181 |

## Introduction: Why Bayesian Nonparametrics—An Overview and Summary

|   |          |
|---|----------|
| <b>1 Preliminaries and the Finite Dimensional Case</b> . . . . .          | <b>9</b> |
| 1.1 Introduction . . . . .  | 9        |
| 1.2 Metric Spaces . . . . .   | 10       |
| 1.2.1 preliminaries . . . . .   | 10       |
| 1.2.2 Weak Convergence . . . . .  | 12       |
| 1.3 Posterior Distribution and Consistency . . . . .                      | 15       |
| 1.3.1 Preliminaries . . . . .   | 15       |
| 1.3.2 Posterior Consistency and Posterior Robustness . . . . .            | 18       |
| 1.3.3 Doob's Theorem . . . . .  | 22       |
| 1.3.4 Wald-Type Conditions . . . . .                                      | 24       |
| 1.4 Asymptotic Normality of MLE and Bernstein–von Mises Theorem . . . . . | 33       |
| 1.5 Ibragimov and Hasminskii Conditions . . . . .                         | 41       |
| 1.6 Nonsubjective Priors . . . . .  | 46       |
| 1.6.1 Fully Specified . . . . .   | 46       |
| 1.6.2 Discussion . . . . .  | 52       |
| 1.7 Conjugate and Hierarchical Priors . . . . .                           | 52       |

|          |  |            |
|----------|--|------------|
| 1.8      | Exchangeability, De Finetti's Theorem,<br>Exponential Families . . . . .     | 54         |
| <b>2</b> | <b><math>M(\mathcal{X})</math> and Priors on <math>M(\mathcal{X})</math></b> | <b>57</b>  |
| 2.1      | Introduction . . . . .   | 57         |
| 2.2      | The Space $M(\mathcal{X})$ . . . . .   | 58         |
| 2.3      | (Prior) Probability Measures on $M(\mathcal{X})$ . . . . .                   | 62         |
| 2.3.1    | $\mathcal{X}$ Finite . . . . .   | 62         |
| 2.3.2    | $\mathcal{X} = \mathbb{R}$ . . . . .   | 64         |
| 2.3.3    | Tail Free Priors . . . . .   | 70         |
| 2.4      | Tail Free Priors and 0-1 Laws . . . . .                                      | 75         |
| 2.5      | Space of Probability Measures on $M(\mathbb{R})$ . . . . .                   | 78         |
| 2.6      | De Finetti's Theorem . . . . .   | 83         |
| <b>3</b> | <b>Dirichlet and Polya tree process</b>                                      | <b>87</b>  |
| 3.1      | Dirichlet and Polya tree process . . . . .                                   | 87         |
| 3.1.1    | Finite Dimensional Dirichlet Distribution . . . . .                          | 87         |
| 3.1.2    | Dirichlet Distribution via Polya Urn Scheme . . . . .                        | 94         |
| 3.2      | Dirichlet Process on $M(\mathbb{R})$ . . . . .                               | 96         |
| 3.2.1    | Construction and Properties . . . . .  | 96         |
| 3.2.2    | The Sethuraman Construction . . . . .  | 103        |
| 3.2.3    | Support of $D_\alpha$ . . . . .  | 104        |
| 3.2.4    | Convergence Properties of $D_\alpha$ . . . . .                               | 105        |
| 3.2.5    | Elicitation and Some Applications . . . . .                                  | 107        |
| 3.2.6    | Mutual Singularity of Dirichlet Priors . . . . .                             | 110        |
| 3.2.7    | Mixtures of Dirichlet Process . . . . .                                      | 113        |
| 3.3      | Polya Tree Process . . . . .   | 114        |
| 3.3.1    | The Finite Case . . . . .  | 114        |
| 3.3.2    | $\mathcal{X} = \mathbb{R}$ . . . . .   | 116        |
| <b>4</b> | <b>Consistency Theorems</b>  | <b>121</b> |
| 4.1      | Introduction . . . . .   | 121        |
| 4.2      | Preliminaries . . . . .  | 122        |
| 4.3      | Finite and Tail free case . . . . .  | 124        |
| 4.4      | Posterior Consistency on Densities . . . . .                                 | 126        |
| 4.4.1    | Schwartz Theorem . . . . .   | 126        |
| 4.4.2    | $L_1$ -Consistency . . . . .   | 132        |

|          |   |            |
|----------|---|------------|
| 4.5      | Consistency via LeCam's inequality . . . . .                  | 137        |
| <b>5</b> | <b>Density Estimation</b>                                     | <b>141</b> |
| 5.1      | Introduction . . . . .  | 141        |
| 5.2      | Polya Tree Priors . . . . .                                   | 142        |
| 5.3      | Mixtures of Kernels . . . . .                                 | 143        |
| 5.4      | Hierarchical Mixtures . . . . .                               | 147        |
| 5.5      | Random Histograms . . . . .                                   | 148        |
| 5.5.1    | Weak Consistency . . . . .                                    | 150        |
| 5.5.2    | $L_1$ -Consistency . . . . .                                  | 156        |
| 5.6      | Mixtures of Normal Kernel . . . . .                           | 161        |
| 5.6.1    | Dirichlet Mixtures: Weak Consistency . . . . .                | 161        |
| 5.6.2    | Dirichlet Mixtures: $L_1$ -Consistency . . . . .              | 169        |
| 5.6.3    | Extensions . . . . .  | 172        |
| 5.7      | Gaussian Process Priors . . . . .                             | 174        |
| <b>6</b> | <b>Inference for Location Parameter</b>                       | <b>181</b> |
| 6.1      | Introduction . . . . .  | 181        |
| 6.2      | The Diaconis-Freedman Example . . . . .                       | 182        |
| 6.3      | Consistency of the Posterior . . . . .                        | 185        |
| 6.4      | Polya Tree Priors . . . . .                                   | 189        |
| <b>7</b> | <b>Regression Problems</b>                                    | <b>197</b> |
| 7.1      | Introduction . . . . .  | 197        |
| 7.2      | Schwartz Theorem . . . . .                                    | 198        |
| 7.3      | Exponentially Consistent Tests . . . . .                      | 201        |
| 7.4      | Prior Positivity of Neighborhoods . . . . .                   | 206        |
| 7.5      | Polya Tree Priors . . . . .                                   | 208        |
| 7.6      | Dirichlet Mixture of Normals . . . . .                        | 209        |
| 7.7      | Binary Response Regression with Unknown Link . . . . .        | 212        |
| 7.8      | Stochastic Regressor . . . . .                                | 215        |
| 7.9      | Simulations . . . . .   | 215        |
| <b>8</b> | <b>Uniform Distribution on Infinite-Dimensional Spaces</b>    | <b>221</b> |
| 8.1      | Introduction . . . . .  | 221        |
| 8.2      | Towards a Uniform Distribution . . . . .                      | 222        |
| 8.2.1    | The Jeffreys Prior . . . . .                                  | 222        |
| 8.2.2    | Uniform Distribution via Sieves and Packing Numbers . . . . . | 223        |

|           |   |            |
|-----------|---|------------|
| 8.3       | Technical Preliminaries . . . . .   | 224        |
| 8.4       | The Jeffreys Prior Revisited . . . . .  | 225        |
| 8.5       | Posterior Consistency for Noninformative Priors for Infinite-Dimensional Problems . . . . . | 229        |
| 8.6       | Convergence of Posterior at Optimal Rate . . . . .  | 231        |
| <b>9</b>  | <b>Survival Analysis—Dirichlet Priors</b>   | <b>237</b> |
| 9.1       | Introduction . . . . .  | 237        |
| 9.2       | Dirichlet Prior . . . . .   | 238        |
| 9.3       | Cumulative Hazard Function, Identifiability . . . . .                                       | 242        |
| 9.4       | Priors via Distributions of $(Z, \delta)$ . . . . .   | 247        |
| 9.5       | Interval Censored Data . . . . .  | 249        |
| <b>10</b> | <b>Neutral to the Right Priors</b>  | <b>253</b> |
| 10.1      | Introduction . . . . .  | 253        |
| 10.2      | Neutral to the Right Priors . . . . .   | 254        |
| 10.3      | Independent Increment Processes . . . . .   | 258        |
| 10.4      | Basic Properties . . . . .  | 262        |
| 10.5      | Beta Processes . . . . .  | 265        |
|           | 10.5.1 Definition and Construction . . . . .  | 265        |
|           | 10.5.2 Properties . . . . .   | 268        |
| 10.6      | Posterior Consistency . . . . .   | 271        |
| <b>11</b> | <b>Exercises</b>  | <b>281</b> |
|           | <b>References</b>   | <b>285</b> |
|           | <b>Index</b>  | <b>300</b> |