

Bayesian Non-parametric Modeling for Marathon Age Grading

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Universidad Carlos III of Madrid

February 25, 2014

Interesting Fact: Runner's high

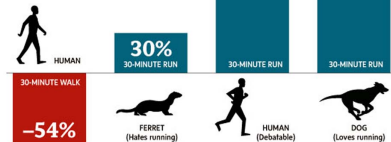


Interesting Fact: Runner's high



THE EVOLUTION OF RUNNER'S HIGH

University of Arizona anthropologists propose that runner's high – a feeling of elevated mood and reduced anxiety after prolonged aerobic exercise – evolved to encourage our ancestors to cover long distances while hunting and gathering. Here's how humans compare to other mammals when their change in levels of mood-boosting endocannabinoids were measured:



TRISH MULLASTER / THE GLOBE AND MAIL. SOURCE: RACHEN ET AL., JOURNAL OF EXPERIMENTAL BIOLOGY, 2012

Outline

- 1 Problem Overview
- 2 Gentle Approach to Bayesian Non-Parametric (BNP)
- 3 A BNP model for Marathon data
- 4 Results

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What is Age Grading?

Definition

System to normalize athlete's performance according to age and gender (since 1989)

$$\text{score} = \frac{\text{your time}}{\text{world class time}}$$

- Ill-defined metric, comparison against outlier
- Age Grading not really used in practice

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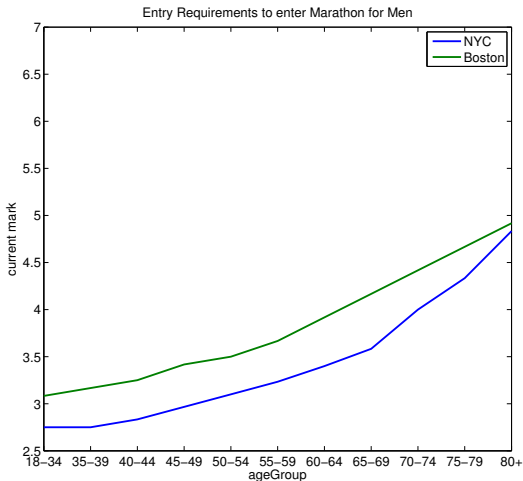
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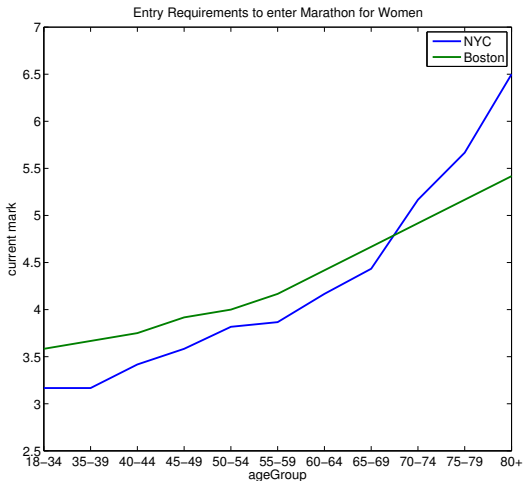
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Entry Requirements



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Objectives

Our Aim

- data exploration of marathon results
- propose a better Age Grading system to compare athletes
- analyze age impact on physical capabilities

How?

- BNP approach, generative model for $p(x)$
- Density Estimation using Gaussian Mixture Model

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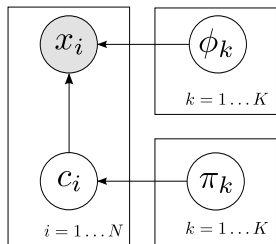
Bayesian Non-Parametric

- Bayesian: Combine Prior Knowledge with Data Evidence
- Non-parametric
 - infinite number of parameters
 - complexity depends on input data
 - model selection avoided

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Gaussian Mixture Model



π_k : mixture weights
 ϕ_k : mixture parameters

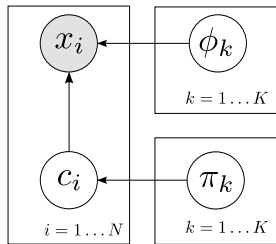
$$x_i | c_i, \pi_{1:K} \sim N(x_i | \mu_{c_i}, \Sigma_{c_i})$$

\vdots

$$\pi_{1:K} \sim \text{Dirichlet}\left(\frac{\alpha}{K}, \dots, \frac{\alpha}{K}\right)$$

$$p(x) = \sum_{k=1}^K \pi_k N(x | \mu_k, \Sigma_k)$$

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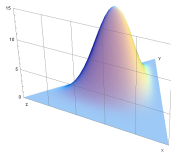
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Dirichlet Process

Dirichlet Process

- domain itself is a set of probability distributions

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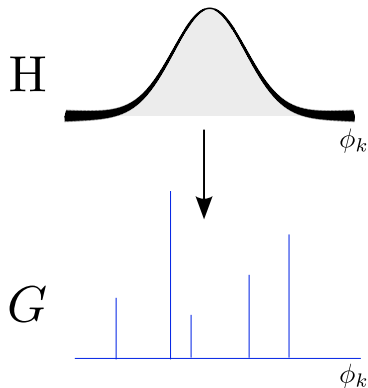
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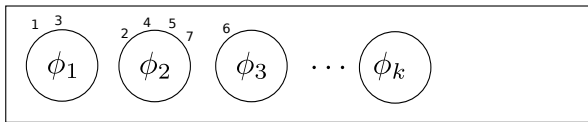
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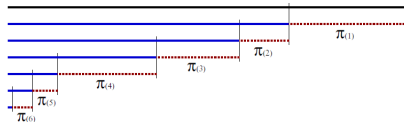
- Chinese Restaurant Process



- Stick Breaking Process

$$\pi_k = v_k \prod_{i=1}^{k-1} (1 - v_i)$$

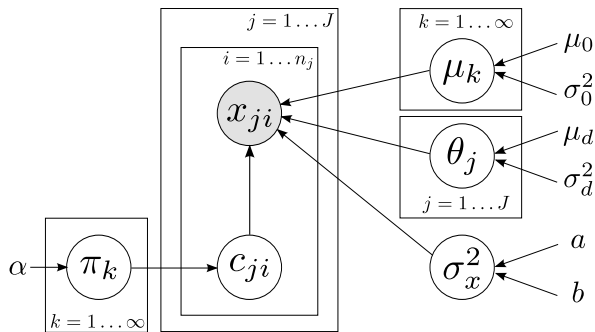
$$v_k \sim \text{Beta}(1, \alpha)$$



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Generative Model

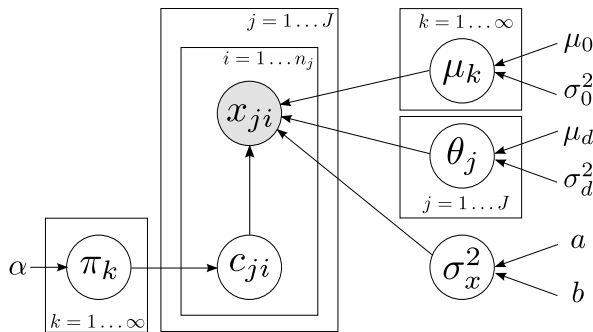


J : number of age groups

$$\begin{aligned} \mu_k &\sim N(\mu_0, \sigma_0^2) \\ \theta_j &\sim N(\mu_d, \sigma_d^2) \\ \sigma_x^2 &\sim \text{IG}(a, b) \\ \pi_k &\sim \text{GEM}(\alpha) \end{aligned}$$

$$x_{ji} | \text{other vars} \sim N(x_{ji} | \mu_{c_{ji}} + \theta_j, \sigma_x^2)$$

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Generative Model

- Model belongs to family of Dependent Dirichlet Process [MacEachern,2000]
- Prior for a set of mixture models (like the HDP)
- Weights π_k shared across groups
- Stick positions change: $\mu_{jk} = \mu_k + \theta_j$
- We call it: Atom-Dependent Dirichlet Process (ADDP)

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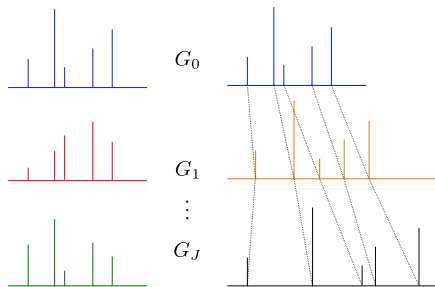
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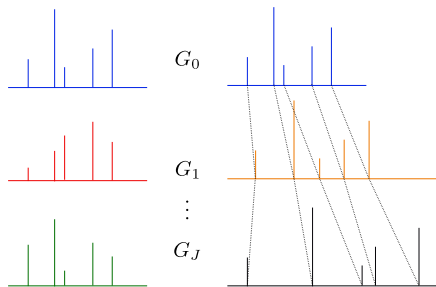
Comparison HDP Vs ADDP



Hierarchical DP
 $G_0 \sim \text{DP}(\alpha, H)$
 $G_j \sim \text{DP}(\gamma, G_0)$

Atom-Dependent DP
 $G_0 \sim \text{DP}(\alpha, H)$
 $G_j = T_j[G_0]$
 $T_j : [\mu_k] \rightarrow [\mu_k + \theta_j]$

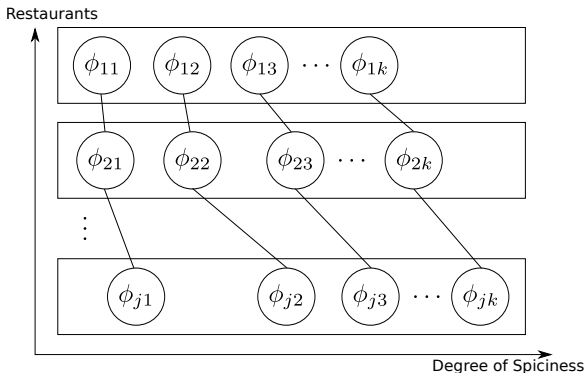
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Metaphor: Chinese Restaurant Franchise



Inference: Block Gibbs Sampling

- MCMC method: Gibbs Sampling to sample everything
- Slower convergence, but very fast computation

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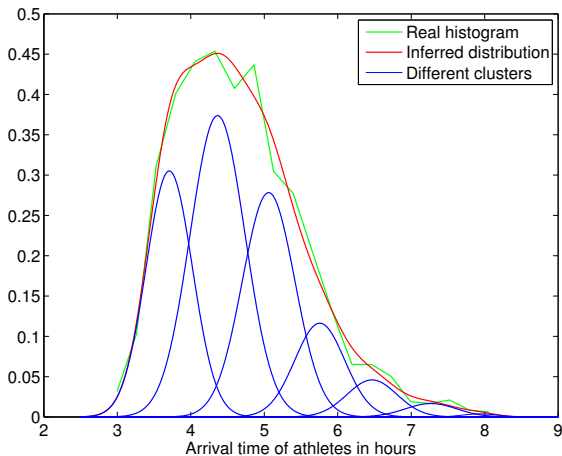
N	10.000 iterations
47.095	15 min
249.899	1h05 min

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Results

Model Fit



Results

Age Distribution per Cluster

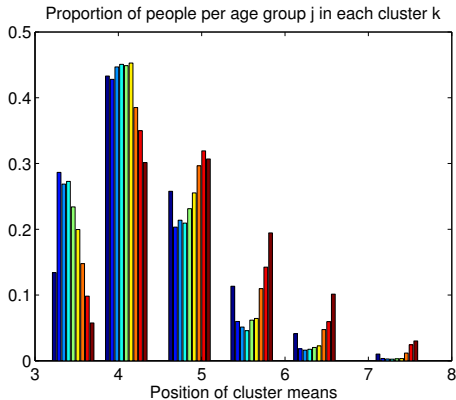


Figure : Dirichlet Process Prior

Results

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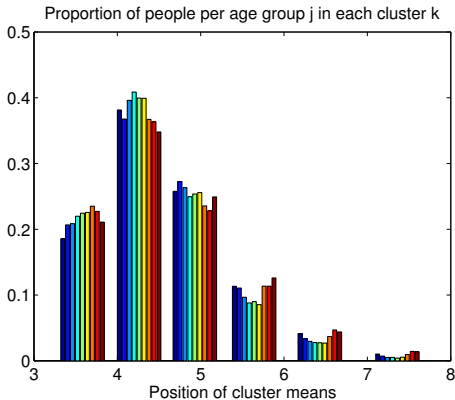
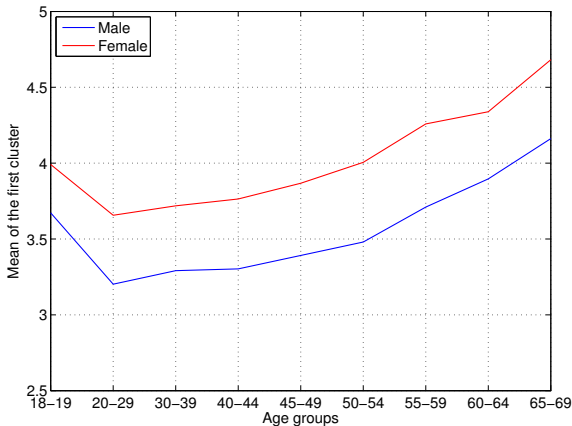


Figure : Atom Dependent Dirichlet Process Prior

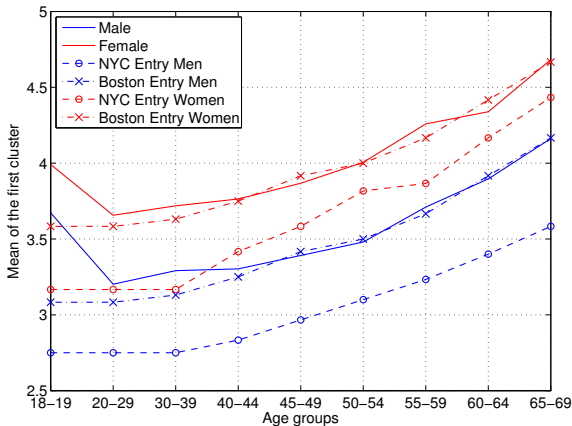
Basic Results

Age Grading Curves: θ_j



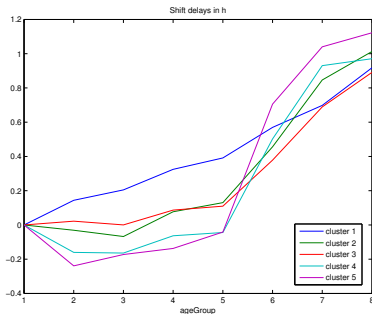
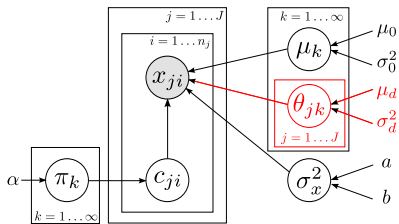
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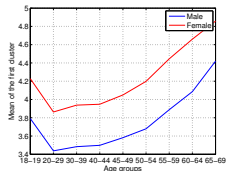
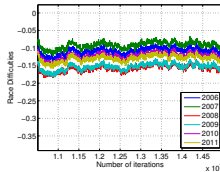
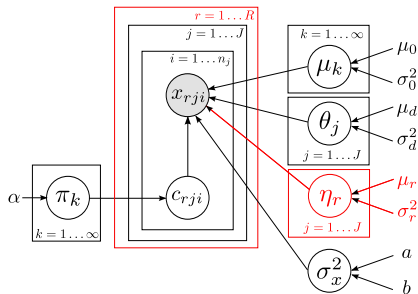
Model Improvements

Age Delays θ_{jk} dependent on cluster k



Model Improvements

Comparison of Multiple Races



Conclusion

Outlook

- Non-parametric model to compare different group distributions
- Modeling of the NYC Marathon
- Inference of robust age grading curves

Further research topics

- 1 Introduce correlation over age delays
- 2 Deal with temporal evolution: Inference of running patterns
- 3 Other applications
 - Pediatrics, Social Studies, Pharmaceuticals...

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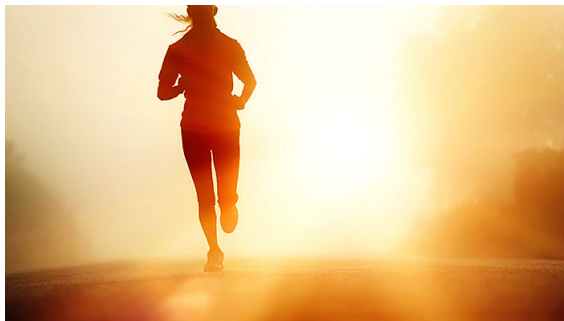
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Thank you!



Looking forward to your questions. . .