

My implementation of Fearnhead and Meligkotsidou.

This is from their 2004 paper “Exact filtering for partially observed continuous time models”.

Our goal is to sample $X_0, \dots, X_{K-1} | T = t$ according to the density

$$f(x_0, \dots, x_{K-1} | t) = 1_{\{\sum_{k=0}^{K-1} x_k = t\}} \prod_{k=0}^{K-1} f_{\Gamma(a_k, b_k)}(x_k)$$

where $f_{\Gamma(a,b)}(x) \propto x^{a-1} \exp(-bx)$ is a gamma density.

We do this in several steps.

0.1 Compute $P(N_k = n)$

First, we define the independent random variables $N_k, k = 0, \dots, K-1$, by (Cor. 2)

$$P(N_k = n) = \frac{\Gamma(a_k + n)}{\Gamma(a_k)\Gamma(n+1)} \left(\frac{b_k}{b_{K-1}}\right)^{a_k} \left(1 - \frac{b_k}{b_{K-1}}\right)^n$$

for $n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$. Note that

$$\log P(N_k = n) = \log(\Gamma(a_k + n)) - \log(\Gamma(a_k)) - \log(\Gamma(n+1)) + a_k \log(b_k) + n \log(b_{K-1} - b_k) - (a_k + n) \log(b_{K-1})$$

If $b_k = b_{K-1}$, the above formula includes a term $n \log 0$ which we define as 0 if $n = 0$ and $-\infty$ if $n > 0$. In other words, we define $0^0 = 1$ and $0^n = 0$ for $n > 0$. We treat this as a special case in the code below.

Recall that we require $b_{K-1} \geq b_{K-2} \geq \dots \geq b_1 \geq b_0 \geq 0$.

Altogether, we have

$$P(N_k = n) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } b_k = b_{K-1} \text{ and } n > 0 \\ \exp(\log(\Gamma(a_k + n)) - \log(\Gamma(a_k)) - \log(\Gamma(n+1)) \\ \quad + a_k \log(b_k) - (a_k + n) \log(b_{K-1})) & \text{if } b_k = b_{K-1} \text{ and } n = 0 \\ \exp(\log(\Gamma(a_k + n)) - \log(\Gamma(a_k)) - \log(\Gamma(n+1)) \\ \quad + a_k \log(b_k) + n \log(b_{K-1} - b_k) - (a_k + n) \log(b_{K-1})) & \text{if } b_k \neq b_{K-1} \end{cases}$$

In code:

(Function to compute the distribution of N_k)≡

```
double dist_N_compute(dist_N *d, size_t k, size_t n)
{
    size_t K = d->K;
    double *a = d->a;
    double *b = d->b;

    if (approx_eq(b[k], b[K-1]) && n > 0) {
        return 0.0;
    } else if (approx_eq(b[k], b[K-1]) && n == 0) {
        return exp(
            lgamma(a[k]+n) - lgamma(a[k]) - lgamma(n+1)
            + a[k]*log(b[k]) - (a[k]+n)*log(b[K-1]));
    } else {
        return exp(
            lgamma(a[k]+n) - lgamma(a[k]) - lgamma(n+1)
            + a[k]*log(b[k]) + n*log(b[K-1]-b[k]) - (a[k]+n)*log(b[K-1]));
    }
}
```

We would like to memoize our computation of the $P(N_k = n)$, since we will need to use these quantities repeatedly later on.

⟨Function to memoize the distribution of N_k ⟩≡

```
double dist_N_get(dist_N *d, size_t k, size_t n)
{
    assert(k < d->K);
    if (n >= d->max_n) {
        if (!d->is_truncated) {
            d->is_truncated = 1;
            fprintf(stderr, "dist_N_get: warning: at least one n is too big for our table, "
                "expect a slowdown\n");
        }
        return dist_N_compute(d, k, n);
    } else {
        if (gsl_matrix_get(d->table, k, n) == -1.0)
            gsl_matrix_set(d->table, k, n, dist_N_compute(d, k, n));
        return gsl_matrix_get(d->table, k, n);
    }
}
```

We also need some auxiliary definitions:

⟨Auxiliary definitions for the distribution of N_k ⟩≡

```
typedef struct {
    size_t K;
    size_t max_n;
    char is_truncated;
    double *a;
    double *b;
    gsl_matrix *table;
} dist_N;
dist_N *dist_N_alloc(size_t K, size_t max_n, double *a, double *b)
{
    dist_N *d = malloc(sizeof(dist_N));
    d->K = K;
    d->max_n = max_n;
    d->is_truncated = 0;
    d->a = a;
    d->b = b;
    d->table = gsl_matrix_alloc(K, max_n);
    gsl_matrix_set_all(d->table, -1.0);
    return d;
}
void dist_N_free(dist_N *d)
{
    gsl_matrix_free(d->table);
    free(d);
}
```

⟨All functions to compute the distribution of N_k ⟩≡

⟨Auxiliary definitions for the distribution of N_k ⟩

⟨Function to compute the distribution of N_k ⟩

⟨Function to memoize the distribution of N_k ⟩

⟨Function to test our computation of the distribution of N_k ⟩

Finally, we run two sanity checks. (i) We check that (i) $\sum_{n=0}^{n_0} P(N_k = n) \approx 1$. (ii) Note that

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{d}{dn} (n \mapsto \log P(N_k = n)) \\ &= \frac{d}{dn} \log(\Gamma(a_k + n)) - \frac{d}{dn} \log(\Gamma(n + 1)) + \frac{d}{dn} n \log(b_{K-1} - b_k) - \frac{d}{dn} (a_k + n) \log(b_{K-1}) \\ &\approx \log(a_k + n) - \log(n + 1) + \log(b_{K-1} - b_k) - \log(b_{K-1}) \end{aligned}$$

which is 0 iff

$$n = \frac{a_k(b_{K-1} - b_k) - b_k}{b_k}$$

One also can see that $(n \mapsto P(N_k = n))$ is monotone on each side of its maximum. Therefore we check that (a) $P(N_k = n)$ is maximized near the above value of n , (b) it is increasing to the left of this value, and (c) it is decreasing to the right of this value.

(Function to test our computation of the distribution of N_k) \equiv

```
void dist_N_test(gsl_rng *rng)
{
    size_t K = 3;
    //size_t K = gsl_ran_flat(rng, 3, 10);
    printf("K=%d\n", K);
    size_t max_n = 100000;

    double a[K], b[K];
    for (size_t k = 0; k < K; k++) {
        a[k] = gsl_ran_flat(rng, 0.1, 10.0);
        b[k] = gsl_ran_flat(rng, 0.1, 10.0);
    }
    qsort(b, K, sizeof(double), compare_doubles);
    printf("a: "); dprint(K, a, 1); printf("\n");
    printf("b: "); dprint(K, b, 1); printf("\n");

    dist_N *d = dist_N_alloc(K, max_n, a, b);

    // print
    /*
    for (size_t k = 0; k < K; k++) {
        for (size_t n = 0; n < max_n + 2; n++)
            printf("%f ", dist_N_get(d, k, n));
        printf("\n");
    }
    */

    // (i) check that sum approx 1
    for (size_t k = 0; k < K; k++) {
        double sum = 0.0;
        for (size_t n = 0; n < max_n + 2; n++)
            sum += dist_N_get(d, k, n);
        if (!(sum >= 0.95)) {
            fprintf(stderr, "for k=%zu, sum=%f, sum >= 0.95 fails\n", k, sum);
            exit(1);
        }
    }
}

// (ii) check the behavior of P(N_k = n) around its maximum
```

```

size_t fudge = 2;

// (a) check that the maximum is approximately at n_star
for (size_t k = 0; k < K; k++) {
    double max = -INFINITY;
    size_t maximizer;
    for (size_t n = 0; n < max_n + 2; n++) {
        if (dist_N_get(d, k, n) > max) {
            max = dist_N_get(d, k, n);
            maximizer = n;
        }
    }
    double n_star = GSL_MAX(0, (a[k]*(b[K-1] - b[k]) - b[K-1])/b[k]);
    if (!(abs(maximizer - n_star) <= fudge)) {
        fprintf(stderr, "for k=%zu, n_star=%f, maximizer=%zu, fudge=%zu, n_star is close to maximizer\n",
            k, n_star, maximizer, fudge);
        exit(1);
    }
}

// (b) check that the function is monotone increasing below n_star
for (size_t k = 0; k < K; k++) {
    double prev = -INFINITY;
    double n_star = GSL_MAX(0, (a[k]*(b[K-1] - b[k]) - b[K-1])/b[k]);
    for (size_t n = 0; n < n_star - fudge; n++) {
        if (!(prev <= dist_N_get(d, k, n))) {
            fprintf(stderr, "for k=%zu, n=%zu, prev=%f, cur=%f, prev <= cur fails\n",
                k, n, prev, dist_N_get(d, k, n));
            exit(1);
        }
    }
}

// (c) check that the function is monotone decreasing below n_star
for (size_t k = 0; k < K; k++) {
    double prev = INFINITY;
    double n_star = GSL_MAX(0, (a[k]*(b[K-1] - b[k]) - b[K-1])/b[k]);
    for (size_t n = n_star + fudge; n < max_n + 2; n++) {
        if (!(prev >= dist_N_get(d, k, n))) {
            fprintf(stderr, "for k=%zu, n=%zu, prev=%f, cur=%f, prev >= cur fails\n",
                k, n, prev, dist_N_get(d, k, n));
            exit(1);
        }
    }
}

dist_N_free(d);
}

```

1 Main

Finally, we put it all together:

```
(*)≡
#include <stdio.h>
#include <time.h>
#include <assert.h>
#include <string.h>
#include <math.h>
#include <gsl/gsl_rng.h>
#include <gsl/gsl_randist.h>
#include <gsl/gsl_sf.h>
#include <gsl/gsl_monte_plain.h>
#include <gsl/gsl_matrix.h>
#include <gsl/gsl_math.h>

#define MAX_K 50
#define MAX_N 10000
#define EPSILON 0.01

⟨Auxiliary functions⟩
⟨All functions to compute the distribution of  $N_k$ ⟩

int main()
{
    gsl_rng *rng;
    init_rng(&rng);

    for (int iter = 0; iter < 100; iter++)
        dist_N_test(rng);
    printf("passed dist_N_test 100 times\n");

    gsl_rng_free(rng);
}
```

2 Auxiliary functions

(Auxiliary functions)≡

```
void die(char *msg)
{
    fprintf(stderr, "fm: fatal error: %s\n", msg);
    exit(1);
}
double dsum(size_t N, double *x, size_t incx) // sum a vector of doubles
{
    double s = 0.0;
    for (size_t i = 0; i < N; i += incx)
        s += x[i];
    return s;
}
void dprint(size_t N, double *x, size_t incx) // print a vector of doubles
{
    size_t i;
    for (i = 0; i+incx < N; i += incx)
        printf("%f ", x[i]);
    printf("%f", x[i]);
}
void init_rng(gsl_rng **rng)
{
    gsl_rng_env_setup();
    const gsl_rng_type *rng_type = gsl_rng_default;
    *rng = gsl_rng_alloc(rng_type);
    gsl_rng_set(*rng, time(0));
}
size_t sample_discrete(gsl_rng *rng, size_t n, double *v)
{
    gsl_ran_discrete_t *dt = gsl_ran_discrete_preproc(n, v);
    size_t sample = gsl_ran_discrete(rng, dt);
    gsl_ran_discrete_free(dt);
    return sample;
}
#define lgamma gsl_sf_lngamma
#define approx_eq(x, y) (abs((x) - (y)) < 1e-5)
int compare_doubles(const void *a, const void *b)
{
    double temp = *((double *)a) - *((double *)b);
    if (temp > 0)
        return 1;
    else if (temp < 0)
        return -1;
    else
        return 0;
}
```