Bayesian inference with black-box + cosmological models

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Imperial College London

Imperial Centre for Inference & Cosmology

The big picture: the Universe is highly structured

You are here. Make the best of it...



What we want to know from the large-scale structure

The LSS is a vast source of knowledge:

- Cosmology:
 - ACDM : cosmological parameters and tests against alternatives,
 - Physical nature of the dark components,
 - Neutrinos : number and masses,
 - Geometry of the Universe,
 - Tests of General Relativity,
 - Initial conditions and link to high energy physics
- Astrophysics: galaxy formation and evolution as a function of their environment
 - Galaxy properties (colours, chemical composition, shapes),
 - Intrinsic alignments, intrinsic size-magnitude correlations

Bayesian forward modelling: the ideal scenario





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Likelihood-based solution: BORG

Bayesian Origin Reconstruction from Galaxies

Likelihood-based solution:

Exact statistical analysis Approximate data model

Data assimilation





Likelihood-based solution: BORG at work

www.aquila-consortium.org/



Initial conditions

Final conditions

Observations

334,074 galaxies, ≈ 17 million parameters, 3 TB of primary data products,
 12,000 samples, ≈ 250,000 data model evaluations, 10 months on 32 cores
 All data products are publicly available:

Jasche, FL & Wandelt 2015, arXiv:1409.6308 Florent Leclercq https://github.com/florent-leclercq/borg_sdss_data_release, doi: 10.5281/zenodo.1455729

Likelihood-free solution: BOLFI & SELFI

Bayesian Optimisation for Likelihood-Free Inference Simulator Expansion for Likelihood-Free Inference

Likelihood-based solution: Exact statistical analysis Approximate data model

Data assimilation

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Likelihood-free solution: Approximate statistical analysis Arbitrary data model

Generative inference

Likelihood-free rejection sampling (LFRS)

- Iterate many times:
 - Sample θ from a proposal distribution $q(\theta)$
 - Simulate $\tilde{d}(\theta)$ according to the data model
 - Compute distance $d(\tilde{d}(\theta), d)$ between simulated and observed data
 - Retain θ if $\mathrm{d}(\tilde{d}(\theta),d) \leq \epsilon$, otherwise reject
- Effective likelihood approximation:

$$L(\boldsymbol{\theta}) \approx \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^{N} \mathbb{I}\left(\mathrm{d}(\tilde{d}(\boldsymbol{\theta}), d) \leq \epsilon \right)$$



 ϵ can be adaptively reduced (Population Monte Carlo)

Beyond LFRS: two scenarios

The "number of simulations" route:

- Specific cosmological models ($d \lesssim 10$), general exploration of parameter space
- Density Estimation for Likelihood-Free Inference (DELFI)

Papamakarios & Murray 2016, arXiv:1605.06376 Alsing, Feeney & Wandelt 2018, arXiv:1801.01497

 Bayesian Optimisation for Likelihood-Free Inference (BOLFI)

Gutmann & Corander 2016, arXiv:1501.03291 FL 2018, arXiv:1805.07152

The "number of parameters" route:

- Model-independent theoretical parametrisation (d ≥ 100), strong existing constraints in parameter space
- Simulator Expansion for Likelihood-Free Inference (SELFI)

FL, Enzi, Jasche & Heavens 2019, arXiv:1902.10149



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The "number of simulations" route: BOLFI

Bayesian Optimisation for Likelihood-Free Inference

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BOLFI: Regression of the effective likelihood



- 1. "LFRS rejects most samples when ϵ is small"
- Keep all values (θ_i, d_i) $d_i = d(\tilde{d}(\theta_i), d)$
- 2. "LFRS does not make assumptions about the shape of $L(\theta)$ "
- Model the conditional distribution of distances given this training set

Gutmann & Corander JMLR 2016, arXiv:1501.03291

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Gaussian process regression (a.k.a. kriging)



• Why?

- It is a general purpose regressor: it will be able to deal with a large variety of complex/non-linear features of likelihood functions.
- It provides not only a prediction, but also the uncertainty of the regression.
- It allows to extrapolate in regions where we have no data points.

$$p(\mathbf{f}|\mathbf{X}) \propto \exp\left[-\frac{1}{2}\sum_{mn}(f(\mathbf{x}_m) - \mu(\mathbf{x}_m))^{\mathsf{T}}K(\mathbf{x}_m, \mathbf{x}_n)(f(\mathbf{x}_n) - \mu(\mathbf{x}_n))\right]$$
$$K(\mathbf{x}_m, \mathbf{x}_n) = C_1 \times \exp\left[-\frac{1}{2}\left(\frac{\mathbf{x}_m - \mathbf{x}_n}{C_2}\right)^2\right] + C_3\delta_{\mathrm{K}}^{mn}$$
$$K_{\mathrm{GN}}(C_1) = K_{\mathrm{GN}}(C_2) = K_{\mathrm{GN}}(C_3)$$

$$p(f_{\star}|\mathbf{x}_{\star}, \mathbf{X}, \mathbf{f}) \propto \exp\left[-\frac{1}{2}\left(\frac{f_{\star} - \alpha(\mathbf{x}_{\star})}{\sigma(\mathbf{x}_{\star})}\right)^{2}\right]$$
$$\alpha(\mathbf{x}_{\star}) = \mu(\mathbf{x}_{\star}) + K(\mathbf{x}_{\star}, \mathbf{x}_{m})^{\mathsf{T}}K^{-1}(\mathbf{x}_{m}, \mathbf{x}_{n})(\mathbf{f} - \mu(\mathbf{X}))_{n}$$
$$\sigma(\mathbf{x}_{\star})^{2} = K(\mathbf{x}_{\star}, \mathbf{x}_{\star}) - K(\mathbf{x}_{\star}, \mathbf{x}_{m})^{\mathsf{T}}K^{-1}(\mathbf{x}_{m}, \mathbf{x}_{n})K(\mathbf{x}_{\star}, \mathbf{x}_{n})$$

Hyperparameters C_1 , C_2 , C_3 are automatically adjusted during the regression.

e.g. Rasmussen & Williams 2006

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BOLFI: Data acquisition

- 3. "LFRS uses only a fixed proposal distribution, not all information available"
- Samples are obtained from sampling an adaptively-constructed proposal distribution, using the regressed effective likelihood
- 4. "LFRS aims at equal accuracy for all regions in parameter space"
- The acquisition function finds a compromise between exploration (trying to find new high-likelihood regions)
 & exploitation (giving priority to regions where the distance to the observed data is already known to be small)
- Bayesian optimisation (decision making Acquisition under uncertainty) can then be used



Gutmann & Corander JMLR 2016, arXiv:1501.03291

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BOLFI: Data acquisition



Bayesian Optimization in Action

F. Nogueira, https://github.com/fmfn/BayesianOptimization

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FL 2018, arXiv:1805.07152

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BOLFI: Re-analysis of the JLA supernova sample



- The number of required simulations is reduced by:
 - 2 orders of magnitude with respect to likelihood-free rejection sampling (for a much better approximation of the posterior)
 - 3 orders of magnitude with respect to exact Markov Chain Monte Carlo sampling

FL 2018, arXiv:1805.07152

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Standard acquisition functions are suboptimal

- Goal for Bayesian optimisation: find the optimum (assumed unique) of a function
- Example of acquisition function : the Expected Improvement



- Drawbacks:
 - Do not take into account prior information
 - Local evaluation rules
 - Too greedy for ABC



0.0

-0.53 -1.0-1.5-2.00.0 0.2 0.4 0.6 0.8

Expected Improvement

The optimal acquisition function for ABC

- Goal for ABC: minimise the expected uncertainty in the estimate of the approximate posterior over the future evaluation of the simulator
- The optimal acquisition function : the **Expected Integrated Variance**

$$\operatorname{EIV}(\boldsymbol{\theta}_{\star}) = \int \frac{\mathcal{P}(\boldsymbol{\theta})^{2}}{\sqrt{4}} \exp\left[-\mu(\boldsymbol{\theta})\right] \left[\sigma^{2}(\boldsymbol{\theta}) - \tau^{2}(\boldsymbol{\theta}, \boldsymbol{\theta}_{\star})\right] \, \mathrm{d}\boldsymbol{\theta}$$

Integral Prior Exploitation Exploration

Prior

au

$$^{2}(\boldsymbol{\theta}, \boldsymbol{\theta}_{\star}) \equiv rac{\mathrm{cov}^{2}(\boldsymbol{\theta}, \boldsymbol{\theta}_{\star})}{\sigma^{2}(\boldsymbol{\theta}_{\star})}$$

- Advantages:
 - Takes into account the prior
 - Non-local (integral over parameter space): more expensive... but much more informative
 - Exploration of the posterior tails is favoured when necessary
 - Analytic gradient

Järvenpää et al. 2017, arXiv:1704.00520 (expression of the EIV in the non-parametric approach) FL 2018, arXiv:1805.07152 (expression of the EIV in the parametric approach)

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0.0

-0.5

3 - 1.0

-1.5

-2.00.0

0.2



Expected Integrated Variance

The "number of parameters" route: SELFI

Simulator Expansion for Likelihood-Free Inference

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SELFI: Method





SELFI + Simbelmynë: Proof-of-concept



100 parameters are simultaneously inferred from a black-box data model $N_{
m modes} \propto k^3$: 5 times more modes are used in the analysis

FL, Enzi, Jasche & Heavens 2019, arXiv:1902.10149

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SELFI + Simbelmynë: Proof-of-concept



Robust inference of cosmological parameters can be easily performed a posteriori once the linearised data model is learned

 pyselfi will be made publicly available soon

FL, Enzi, Jasche & Heavens 2019, arXiv:1902.10149

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Concluding thoughts

- Goal: developing and using algorithms for targeted questions, allowing the use of simulators including all relevant physical and observational effects.
- Bayesian analyses of galaxy surveys with fully non-linear numerical black-box models is not an impossible task!
- The "number of simulations route" (BOLFI):
 - The number of simulations is reduced by several orders of magnitude.
 - The optimal acquisition function can be derived: the Expected Integrated Variance.
- The "number of parameters route" (SELFI):
 - High-dimensional likelihood-free problems can be addressed.
 - The computational workload is fixed a priori and perfectly parallel.