

Bayesian sequential design in pharmacokinetics

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Acknowledgements: Australian Research Council Discovery
Grant

20th June, 2016



Bayesian design problem

- Usually quantify experimental goals via a **utility function** $u(d)$
- Optimal design can be expressed as

$$d^* = \arg \max_{d \in \mathcal{D}} \int u(d, z) p(z|d) dz,$$

$$d^* = \arg \max_{d \in \mathcal{D}} \sum_{m=1}^K p(m) \int u(d, z, m) p(z|m, d) dz$$

Why do this to ourselves?

- Why make a difficult problem more difficult?
- What is FO, FOCE, nonlinearity?
- Appropriate to design under the planned estimation framework
- Model and parameter uncertainty are most rigorously handled within Bayesian framework
- Inference framework more appropriate for complex models
- Wider variety of useful criteria/utility functions, for example, for model choice (mutual information)

Bayesian sequential design

- **Adaptive decisions** as new data are collected
- More **robust** to parameter and model uncertainty
- Natural to use **Bayesian framework**. Posterior becomes new prior
- Next decision obtained by looking forward to all future decisions (backward induction)
- Simplified by **myopic design** (one-at-a-time)
- Next design point $d_{t+1} = \arg \max U(d|y_{1:t}, d_{1:t})$. $y_{1:t}$ collected data at design $d_{1:t}$. U is utility function

Computational difficulties

- In sequential design, one needs to evaluate $u(d|y_{1:t}, d_{1:t})$

$$\int_{\mathbf{z}} u(d, \mathbf{z}|y_{1:t}, d_{1:t}) p(\mathbf{z}|d, y_{1:t}, d_{1:t}) d\mathbf{z}$$

$$\sum_{m=1}^K p(m|y_{1:t}, d_{1:t}) \int_{\mathbf{z}} u(d, \mathbf{z}, m|y_{1:t}, d_{1:t}) p(\mathbf{z}|d, m, y_{1:t}, d_{1:t}) d\mathbf{z}$$

- Then, need to find d that maximises $u(d|y_{1:t}, d_{1:t})$
- Hence, need to approximate or sample from a large number of posterior distributions for different priors, designs and data
- How can this be done efficiently?

SMC for one static model m

- Sample from sequence of targets
- **Data annealing** here

$$p_t(\theta_m | m, y_{1:t}, d_{1:t}) = f(y_{1:t} | m, \theta_m, d_{1:t}) p(\theta_m | m) / Z_{m,t}, \text{ for } t = 1, \dots, T.$$

$y_{1:t}$ (independent) data up to t , $d_{1:t}$ design points up to t , θ_m parameter for model $m = 1, \dots, K$.

$$p(y_{1:t} | m, d_{1:t}) = Z_{m,t} = \int f(y_{1:t} | m, \theta_m, d_{1:t}) p(\theta_m | m) d\theta_m.$$

- SMC: Generate a weighted sample (particles) for each target in the sequence via steps
 - **Reweight**: particles as data comes in (efficient)
 - **Resample**: when ESS small
 - **Mutation**: diversify duplicated particles (can be efficient)

SMC for one static model m (algorithm) Chopin (2002)

- Have current particles $\{W_t^i, \theta_t^i\}_{i=1}^N$ based on data $y_{1:t}$
- **Re-weight** step to included y_{t+1}

$$W_{t+1}^i \propto W_t^i f(y_{t+1} | \theta_t^i, d_{t+1}).$$

- Check effective sample size: $ESS = 1 / \sum_{i=1}^N (W_{t+1}^i)^2$
- If $ESS > E$ (e.g. $E = N/2$) go back to re-weight step for next observation
- If $ESS < E$ do the following
- **Resample** proportional to weights. Duplicates good particles
- **Mutation**: Move all particles via MCMC kernel say R times (adaptive proposal)

SMC for multiple models

- Effectively run an SMC algorithm for each model $m = 1, \dots, K$
- Have set of N particles for each model $\{W_{m,t}^i, \theta_{m,t}^i\}_{i=1}^N$.
- ESS for each model m
- resampling and within-model updates when required
- **Design part:** use data up to t , $y_{1:t}$, and particles of all models to compute the next design d_{t+1}

SMC Estimate of Evidence Del Moral et al (2006)

- It can be shown

$$Z_{t+1}/Z_t = f(y_{t+1}|y_{1:t}, d_{t+1}) = \int_{\theta} f(y_{t+1}|\theta, d_{t+1})p(\theta|y_{1:t}, d_{1:t})d\theta.$$

- Using SMC particles to approximate posterior at t gives estimator

$$Z_{t+1}/Z_t \approx \sum_{i=1}^N W_t^i f(y_{t+1}|\theta_t^i, d_{t+1}).$$

- Can then obtain approximation of Z_{t+1} through

$$\frac{Z_{t+1}}{Z_0} = \frac{Z_{t+1}}{Z_t} \frac{Z_t}{Z_{t-1}} \dots \frac{Z_1}{Z_0}.$$

- Also gives estimate of posterior predictive probability of y_{t+1}

But what about random effects models?

- SMC requires the likelihood to be computed a large number of times
- However, computing the likelihood can be difficult for random effect models as, for example

$$f(y|\theta, d) = \int f(y|\theta, \beta, d)p(\beta|\mu, \Omega)d\beta$$

- If model is nonlinear then generally analytically intractable
- Can be approximated
- Needs to be computationally efficient and unbiased
- SMC for random effects models?
- Efficient approximates of model evidence and predictive probabilities of random effect models....

Exact-Approximate SMC

- The (observed data) likelihood

$$f(y|\theta^{(i)}, d) = \int f(y|\beta, \theta^{(i)}, d) p(\beta|\mu^{(i)}, \Omega^{(i)}) d\beta$$

- Can be estimated unbiasedly. For example, from McGree et al (2015), for each particle $\theta^{(i)}$

$$f(y|\theta^{(i)}, d) = \frac{1}{Q} \sum_{j=1}^Q f(y|\beta^{(j)}, \theta^{(i)}, d) \quad (1)$$

where $\beta^{(j)} \sim p(\mu^{(i)}, \Omega^{(i)})$, $j = 1, \dots, Q$.

- SMC with unbiased estimate of likelihood \rightarrow an exact-approximate algorithm! (Duan and Fulop 2013)
- Andrieu and Roberts (2009) for MCMC and Tran et al. (2014) for importance sampling.

Bayesian A-optimality

For a **single model**, this can be achieved by maximising the following:

$$u(d|y_{1:t}, d_{1:t}) = 1/\text{trace VAR}[\theta|d, y_{1:t}, d_{1:t}].$$

This is extended to the case of **K models** by maximising the inverse of the sum of the traces of the posterior variances for all K models. That is,

$$u(d|y_{1:t}, d_{1:t}) = 1/ \sum_{l=1}^K \log \text{trace VAR}[\theta_l|d, y_{1:t}, d_{1:t}, M = l].$$

Other utilities are also available for parameter estimation (KLD, Bayesian D-optimality, etc).



Utility estimation in sequential design

Expected utility of d is given by $u(d|y_{1:t}, d_{1:t}) =$

$$\sum_{m=1}^K p(m|y_{1:t}, d_{1:t}) \int_z u(d, z, m|y_{1:t}, d_{1:t}) p(z|m, d, y_{1:t}, d_{1:t}) dz$$

For each $\theta_{m,t}^i$, simulate $z_{m,t}^i$. Then, MC integration yields:

$$u(d|y_{1:t}, d_{1:t}) \approx \sum_{m=1}^K p(m|y_{1:t}, d_{1:t}) \sum_{i=1}^N W_{m,t}^i u(d, z_{m,t}^i, m|y_{1:t}, d_{1:t}).$$

The $u(d, z_{m,t}^i, m|y_{1:t}, d_{1:t})$ is evaluated via importance sampling where $z_{m,t}^i$ (and d) are supposed observed data.

Application - Pharmacokinetics

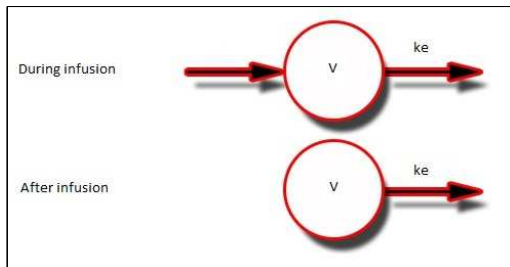


Figure: One compartment infusion model

One compartment infusion - Pharmacokinetics

- For subject t with design $d_t = (d_{1t}, d_{2t})$, define

$$y_t \sim MVN(g(\beta_t, d_t), \delta I),$$

$$\beta_t \sim MVN(\mu, \Omega),$$

- Here β_t is random effect for t th subject

$$g(\beta_t, d_t) = \begin{cases} \frac{D}{Tinf} \frac{1}{k_t v_t} (1 - \exp(-k d_t)), & \text{for } d_t \leq Tinf \\ \frac{D}{Tinf} \frac{1}{k_t v_t} (1 - \exp(-k Tinf)) \exp(-k(t - Tinf)), & \text{else} \end{cases}$$

where $(k_t, v_t) = \exp(\beta_t + \mu)$

Priors: $\mu \sim MVN(0, \Sigma)$, for Σ known.

$\Omega \sim InvWish(\Psi, \nu)$, for Ψ and ν known

$\log \delta \sim N(a, b)$, for a and b known,

- Design objective is to learn about parameters: $\theta = (\mu, \Omega, \delta)$.

One compartment infusion - Pharmacokinetics

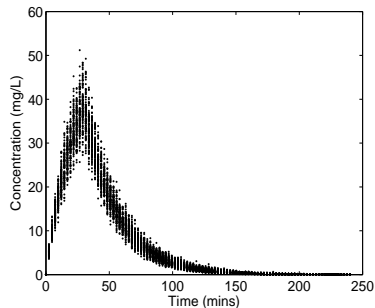


Figure: Prior predictive plot for one-compartment infusion model

One compartment infusion - Pharmacokinetics

- Computationally expensive to implement search algorithm.
- Consider discretised design space (mins since start of infusion of length $T_{inf} = 30$ mins):

$$\begin{bmatrix} 6 & 15 \\ 15 & 30 \\ 30 & 45 \\ 45 & 60 \\ 60 & 120 \\ 120 & 180 \\ 180 & 240 \\ 240 & 300 \\ 300 & 360 \end{bmatrix}$$

- Design is found via Bayesian A-optimality and random design.

One compartment infusion - Pharmacokinetics

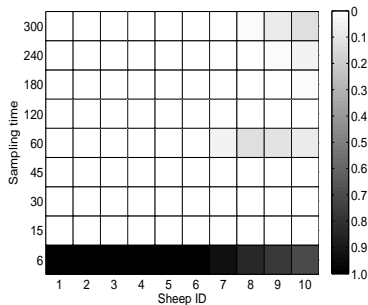


Figure: Selected A-optimal designs for one-compartment infusion model in simulation study.

One compartment infusion - Pharmacokinetics

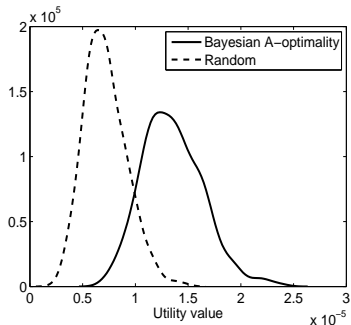


Figure: Utility values for the 500 simulated trials for the A-optimality and random utility.

Discussion

- Developed a framework to efficiently undertake Bayesian design in PK settings
- Framework is highly computational - GPU made this work possible in a reasonable amount of time
- Also considered design for 1cpt and 2cpt models (not shown here)
- Framework should be useful in general sequential setting (GLMMs)?

Related Bayesian design work

MCMC framework

- The so called 'Mueller algorithm' (Mueller, 1999) with extensions (Amzal et al., 2006)
- GLMs (Weir, et al., 2007 and McGree et al., 2012)
- Accelerated life test (Weaver et al., 2016)

SMC framework

- Estimation for GLMs (Drovandi, McGree and Pettitt, 2013, Azadi et al., 2014)
- Model discrimination for GLMs and GNLMs (Drovandi, McGree and Pettitt, 2014)
- Model discrimination and estimation for GLMs and GNLMs (McGree, 2016)

ABC framework

- Intractable likelihoods (Drovandi and Pettitt, 2014, Price et al., 2016)



Future Bayesian design

Further extensions to mixed effects settings

- Model discrimination?
- Dual purpose designs - model discrimination and estimation?

Static designs (high dimensional problems)

- Need fast search algorithms - ACE (Overstall and Woods, 2015)?
- Need fast posterior approximations - Expectation propagation (Minka, 2005), Variational approximations (Nott et al. , 2013)?



Key References

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