Exact posterior distributions and model selection for multiple change-point detection problems

G. Rigaill, E. Lebarbier, S. Robin

March, 2012



An example

- Dynamic Programming (DP, Bellman and Dreyfus 1962)
 - to recover the best segmentation in K = 1 to K = 10 segments
- Choice of K (model selection)
- Likelihood of the best segmentation having its k-th change at t (Guédon 2009)



Change-point model

Notations:

- *K* = number of segments
- r = region (or segment) $[\tau_r, \tau_{r+1}]$ (n_r = length of r)
- m = segmentation: $m = \{r_1, \ldots, r_K\}$
- $Y_t = \text{signal at position } t \ (t \in [[1, n]])$

Model:

- $\{Y_t\}$ independent
- *t* ∈ *r*:

 $Y_t \sim p(\cdot | \theta_r)$

e.g.

$$p(\cdot|\theta_r) = \mathcal{N}(\mu_r, \sigma^2), \qquad \mathcal{N}(\mu_r, \sigma_r^2), \qquad \mathcal{P}(\lambda_r)$$

Inference on the position and number of changes

- Change-points are discrete
- There is a large collection of possible models $(|\mathcal{M}_{\mathcal{K}}| = {n-1 \choose \mathcal{K}-1})$

Some difficulties:

- Standard model selection criteria (BIC...) are not theoretically justified
- Confidence on change-points, segments: standard MLE properties do not hold

Idea:

- We would like to select a *K* such that the confidence on the change-points is high/good
- This should ease the interpretation of the result

Outline



- 2 Selection of the position of the changes
- 3 Confidence on the change-points, segments ...
- 4 Back to the selection of the number of segments

Model selection: BIC

The standard Laplace approximation used to derive the BIC criteria

$$\log p(M|\mathbf{Y}) = \log \int p(M, \theta | \mathbf{Y}) d\theta \approx \log p(M|\mathbf{Y}, \widehat{\theta}) - \frac{\log n}{2} \dim(M)$$

is not valid

because the likelihood is not differentiable with respect to the parameters.

Zhang and Siegmund 2007, based on a continuous-version of the segmentation problem derived a modified BIC criteria.

$$\mathsf{pen}(\mathcal{K}) = f(|\mathcal{M}_{\mathcal{K}}|) + g\left(\sum_{r \in \widehat{m}(\mathcal{K})} \log n_r\right)$$

Model selection: penalized contrasts

• Best dimension K:

$$\widehat{\mathcal{K}} = rg\min_{\mathcal{K}} \ell(\mathbf{Y}, \widehat{m}(\mathcal{K})) + extsf{pen}(\mathcal{K})$$

$$\widehat{m}(K) = \arg\min_{m \in \mathcal{M}_K} \ell(\mathbf{Y}, m)$$

- Lebarbier 2005: $pen(K) = \beta f(|\mathcal{M}_K|)$
- Constant penalty within each dimension $\mathcal{M}_{\mathcal{K}}$.
- Estimation of β .

Outline



2 Selection of the position of the changes

- 3 Confidence on the change-points, segments ...
- Back to the selection of the number of segments

Exploring the segmentation space (best segmentation)

For a given dimension K, the optimal segmentation has to be found within

$$\mathcal{M}_{K} = \{m : |m| = K\}, \qquad |\mathcal{M}_{K}| = \binom{n-1}{K-1}$$

• An exhaustive search cannot be achieved.

Under a summation assumption ($m = \{r_1, \ldots, r_K\}$)

$$p(\mathbf{Y}|m,\theta) = \sum_{r \in m} f(Y^r,\theta_r)$$

• Dynamic programming provides the solution $(\hat{m}, \hat{\theta})$ with complexity $\mathcal{O}(Kn^2)$.

Dynamic programming algorithm

Cost matrix and cost of a segment r = [[i, j]]

$$\begin{array}{ll} \text{if } j > i \quad \mathbf{C}_{ij} = & f(Y^r, \theta_r) = -\log P(Y^r | \widehat{\theta}^r) \\ \text{if } j \leq i \quad \mathbf{C}_{ij} = & +\infty \end{array}$$

Optimal cost/likelihood in *K* of [1, n + 1[]:

$$s(K)_{1,n+1} = \min_{m \in \mathcal{M}_K} \sum_k \mathbf{C}_{\tau_k, \tau_{k+1}}$$

Update rule for K = 2:

$$s(2)_{1,n+1} = \min_{1 < t < n} \{ \mathbf{C}_{1,t+1} + \mathbf{C}_{t+1,n+1} \}$$

Dynamic programming as matrix-vector products

Let's define: $\mathbf{u} * \mathbf{v} = min_i \{u_i + v_i\}$

The update rule for K = 2 can be rewritten as:

$$\begin{aligned} s(2)_{1,n+1} &= \min_{1 < t < n} \quad \{ \mathbf{C}_{1,t+1} + \mathbf{C}_{t+1,n+1} \} \\ s(2)_{1,n+1} &= \min_{1 \le t \le n+1} \quad \{ s(1)_{1,t+1} + \mathbf{C}_{t+1,n+1} \} \\ s(2)_{1,n+1} &= \quad \mathbf{s}(1) * \mathbf{C}_{.,n+1} \end{aligned}$$

Then the line vector $\mathbf{s}(\mathbf{2})$ is obtained as

$$\boldsymbol{s(2)=s(1)*C}$$

More generally:

$$s(k+1) = s(k) * C$$

Exploring the segmentation space

• Best segmentation in K with its k-th change at t

$$s(k)_{1,t+1} + s(K-k)_{t+1,n+1}$$

• Best segmentation in K with a change at t:

$$min_k \{s(k)_{1,t+1} + s(K-k)_{t+1,n+1}\}$$

• Best segmentation in K with its k-th segment $r = [t_1, t_2]$

$$s(k-1)_{1,t_1} + C_{t_1,t_2} + s(K-k-1)_{t_2,n+1}$$

Ο...

Outline



2 Selection of the position of the changes

- Confidence on the change-points, segments ...
- 4 Back to the selection of the number of segments

Assessing the confidence on those changes

- Discrete nature of breakpoints
- Asymptotic results (*Feder (1975), Bai and Perron (2003); Muggeo (2003))*
- Bootstrapping (Husková and Kirch (2008))
- Exact exploration of the segmentation space (*Guédon (2009*), *Fearnhead (2006*))

Exploring the segmentation space (posterior probabilities)

For a given dimension K,

$$\mathcal{M}_{K} = \{m : |m| = K\}, \qquad |\mathcal{M}_{K}| = \binom{n-1}{K-1}$$

• Exhaustive exploration cannot be achieved.

Under a factorisation assumption ($m = \{r_1, \ldots, r_K\}$)

$$p(\mathbf{Y}|m,\theta) = \prod_{r \in m} f(Y^r,\theta_r)$$

• A DP-like algorithm provides the solution with complexity $\mathcal{O}(Kn^2)$.

DP-like algorithm

Probability matrix and probability of a segment r = [i, j]

Posterior probability of *K* for [1, n + 1]:

$$\rho(K)_{1,n+1} = \sum_{m \in \mathcal{M}_K} \prod_k \mathbf{A}_{\tau_k,\tau_{k+1}}$$

Update rule for K = 2:

$$p(2)_{1,n+1} = \sum_{1 < t < n} \mathbf{A}_{1,t+1} \mathbf{A}_{t+1,n+1}$$

Matrix-vector products

As for the optimization problem this can be seen as a matrix-vector product:

 $\mathbf{uv} = min_i\{u_iv_i\}$

The line vector $\mathbf{p}(2)$ is obtained as

p(2)=p(1)~A

More generally:

p(k+1) = p(k) A

and

$$p(k + 1) = p(1) A^{k}$$

Exploring the segmentation space

• Localisation of the *k*-th change

$$\Pr\{\tau_k = t | K\} = p(k)_{1,t+1} p(K-k)_{t+1,n+1}$$

• The probability that there is a breakpoint at position *t*:

$$\mathsf{Pr}\{\exists k: \tau_k = t | \mathbf{Y}, \mathcal{K}\} = \sum_{k=1}^{\mathcal{K}} \mathsf{Pr}\{\tau_k = t | \mathcal{K}\}$$

- The probability of segment $r = [t_1, t_2]$ for a given K
- The posterior entropy of *m* within a dimension:

$$\mathcal{H}(\mathcal{K}) = -\sum_{m \in \mathcal{M}_{\mathcal{K}}} p(m | \mathbf{Y}, \mathcal{K}) \log p(m | \mathbf{Y}, \mathcal{K})$$

An example, K=3 and K=4

Best segmentation



An example, K=3 and K=4

Segment probability



Outline

- Selection of the number of segments
- 2 Selection of the position of the changes
- 3 Confidence on the change-points, segments ...
- Back to the selection of the number of segments

Back to model selection

• Posterior probability of a segmentation

P(m|Y), or "exact" BIC $-\log(P(m|Y))$

• "Exact" Deviance Information Criteria (Spiegelhalter et al. (2002))

- f(Y) is the likelihood of the saturated model.
- Deviance: $D(\Theta) = -2 \log P(Y|\Theta) + 2 \log f(Y)$

 $DIC(K) = -D(\mathbb{E}[\Theta|Y,K]) + 2\mathbb{E}[D(\Theta)|Y,K]$

• "Exact" Integrated Completed Likelihood (Biernacki et al. (2000))

 $\mathsf{ICL}(K) = -\log P(K|Y) + \mathcal{H}(K)$

It favors a K where the best segmentation is by far the most probable

Selection of the number of breakpoints

Simulations

- Comparison of P(m|Y), DIC(K) and ICL(K)
- 150 observations with 6 breakpoints
- Increasing signal to noise ratio



Back to the example



Conclusion and perspectives

- DP as a matrix-vector product ($\mathcal{O}(Kn^2)$ runtime)
 - Best segmentation
 - Best segmentation with a change at t
 - Posterior probability of a change at t
 - Posterior probability of a segment
 - Posterior entropy
- Model selection
 - "Exact" BIC for segmentation
 - "Exact" DIC for segmentation
 - "Exact" ICL for segmentation (using the entropy)
 - Priors
- More details in our paper
- Runtime for large *n*? (see The Minh Luong and Alice Cleynen's presentations)

Acknowledgements

- Emilie Lebarbier, Stéphane Robin
- Alice Cleynen, Michel Koskas
- Lodewyk Wessels

Thank you

An example, K=3 and K=4

Best segmentation in K with its k-th change at t



An example, K=3 and K=4

Change-point probability

