

# Package ‘Ultimixt’

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**Type** Package

**Title** Bayesian Analysis of Location-Scale Mixture Models using a Weakly Informative Prior

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**Depends** coda, gtools, graphics, grDevices, stats

## Description

A generic reference Bayesian analysis of unidimensional mixture distributions obtained by a location-scale parameterisation of the model is implemented. The including functions simulate and summarize posterior samples for location-scale mixture models using a weakly informative prior. There is no need to define priors for scale-location parameters except two hyperparameters in which are associated with a Dirichlet prior for weights and a simplex.

**License** GPL (>= 2.0)

**NeedsCompilation** no

**Repository** CRAN

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## R topics documented:

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Ultimixt-package	<i>set of R functions for estimating the parameters of mixture distribution with a Bayesian non-informative prior</i>
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## Description

Despite a comprehensive literature on estimating mixtures of Gaussian distributions, there does not exist a well-accepted reference Bayesian approach to such models. One reason for the difficulty is the general prohibition against using improper priors (Fruhworth-Schnatter, 2006) due to the ill-posed nature of such statistical objects. Kamary, Lee and Robert (2017) took advantage of a mean-variance reparametrisation of a Gaussian mixture model to propose improper but valid reference priors in this setting. This R package implements the proposal and computes posterior estimates of the parameters of a Gaussian mixture distribution. The approach applies with an arbitrary number of components. The Ultimixt R package contains an MCMC algorithm function and further functions for summarizing and plotting posterior estimates of the model parameters for any number of components.

## Details

Package: Ultimixt  
 Type: Package  
 Version: 2.1  
 Date: 2017-03-07  
 License: GPL (>=2.0)

Beyond simulating MCMC samples from the posterior distribution of the Gaussian mixture model, this package also produces summaries of the MCMC outputs through numerical and graphical methods.

Note: The proposed parameterisation of the Gaussian mixture distribution is given by

$$f(x|\mu, \sigma, \mathbf{p}, \varphi, \varpi, \xi) = \sum_{i=1}^k p_i f(x|\mu + \sigma\gamma_i/\sqrt{p_i}, \sigma\eta_i/\sqrt{p_i})$$

under the non-informative prior  $\pi(\mu, \sigma) = 1/\sigma$ . Here, the vector of the  $\gamma_i = \varphi\Psi_i(\varpi, \mathbf{p})_i$ 's belongs to an hypersphere of radius  $\varphi$  intersecting with an hyperplane. It is thus expressed in terms of spherical coordinates within that hyperplane that depend on  $k - 2$  angular coordinates  $\varpi_i$ . Similarly, the vector of  $\eta_i = \sqrt{1 - \varphi^2}\Psi_i(\xi)_i$ 's can be turned into a spherical coordinate in a  $k$ -dimensional Euclidean space, involving a radial coordinate  $\sqrt{1 - \varphi^2}$  and  $k - 1$  angular coordinates  $\xi_i$ . A natural prior for  $\varpi$  is made of uniforms,  $\varpi_1, \dots, \varpi_{k-3} \sim U[0, \pi]$  and  $\varpi_{k-2} \sim U[0, 2\pi]$ , and for  $\varphi$ , we consider a beta prior  $Beta(\alpha, \alpha)$ . A reference prior on the angles  $\xi$  is  $(\xi_1, \dots, \xi_{k-1}) \sim U[0, \pi/2]^{k-1}$  and a Dirichlet prior  $Dir(\alpha_0, \dots, \alpha_0)$  is assigned to the weights  $p_1, \dots, p_k$ .

For a Poisson mixture, we consider

$$f(x|\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_k) = \frac{1}{x!} \sum_{i=1}^k p_i \lambda_i^x e^{-\lambda_i}$$

with a reparameterisation as  $\lambda = \mathbf{E}[\mathbf{X}]$  and  $\lambda_i = \lambda \gamma_i / p_i$ . In this case, we can use the equivalent to the Jeffreys prior for the Poisson distribution, namely,  $\pi(\lambda) = 1/\lambda$ , since it leads to a well-defined posterior with a single positive observation.

### Author(s)

Kaniav Kamary

Maintainer: <kamary@ceremade.dauphine.fr>

### References

- Fruhwirth-Schnatter, S. (2006). Finite Mixture and Markov Switching Models. Springer-Verlag, New York, New York.
- Kamary, K., Lee, J.Y., and Robert, C.P. (2017) Weakly informative reparameterisation for location-scale mixtures. arXiv.

### See Also

[Ultimixt](#)

### Examples

```
#K.MixReparametrized(faithful[,2], k=2, alpha0=.5, alpha=.5, Nsim=10000)
```

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K.MixPois

*Sample from a Poisson mixture posterior associated with a noninformative prior and obtained by Metropolis-within-Gibbs sampling*

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### Description

After having reparameterized the Poisson mixture based on the global mean of the mixture distribution (Kamary et al. (2017)), a Jeffreys prior can be used since it leads a well-defined posterior with a single positive observation. This function returns a sample from the posterior distribution of the parameters of the Poisson mixture. To do so, a Metropolis-within-Gibbs algorithm is applied with an adaptive calibration of the proposal distribution scales. Adaptation is driven by the formally optimal acceptance rates of 0.44 and 0.234 in one and larger dimensions, respectively (Roberts et al.,1997). This algorithm monitors the convergence of the MCMC sequences via Gelman's and Rubin's (1992) criterion.

### Usage

```
K.MixPois(xobs, k, alpha0, alpha, Nsim)
```

**Arguments**

xobs	vector of the observations or dataset
k	number of components in the mixture model
alpha0	hyperparameter of Dirichlet prior distribution of the mixture model weights which is .5 by default
alpha	hyperparameter of beta prior distribution of the component mean hyperparameter (noted by $\gamma_i$ . See Kamary et al. (2017)) which is .5 by default
Nsim	number of MCMC iterations after calibration step of proposal scales

**Details**

The output of this function contains a simulated sample for each parameter of the mixture distribution, the evolution of the proposal scales and acceptance rates over the number of iterations during the calibration stage, and their final values after calibration.

**Value**

The output of this function contains a list of the following variables, where the dimension of the vectors is the number of simulations:

mean global	vector of simulated draws from the conditional posterior of the mixture model mean
weights	matrix of simulated draws from the conditional posterior of the mixture model weights with a number of columns equal to the number of components $k$
gammas	matrix of simulated draws from the conditional posterior of the component mean hyperparameters
accept rat	vector of resulting acceptance rates of the proposal distributions without calibration step of the proposal scales
optimal para	vector of resulting proposal scales after optimisation obtained by adaptive MCMC
adapt rat	list of acceptance rates of batch of 50 iterations obtained when calibrating the proposal scales by adaptive MCMC. The number of columns depends on the number of proposal distributions.
adapt scale	list of proposal scales calibrated by adaptive MCMC for each batch of 50 iterations with respect to the optimal acceptance rate. The number of columns depends on the number of proposal distribution scales.
component means	matrix of MCMC samples of the component means of the mixture model with a number of columns equal to $k$

**Note**

If the number of MCMC iterations specified in the input of this function exceeds 15,000, after each 1000 supplementary iterations the convergence of simulated chains is checked using the convergence monitoring technique by Gelman and Rubin (1992).

**Author(s)**

Kaniav Kamary

**References**

- Kamary, K., Lee, J.Y., and Robert, C.P. (2017) Weakly informative reparameterisation of location-scale mixtures. arXiv.
- Robert, C. and Casella, G. (2009). Introducing Monte Carlo Methods with R. Springer-Verlag.
- Roberts, G. O., Gelman, A. and Gilks, W. R. (1997). Weak convergence and optimal scaling of random walk Metropolis algorithms. *Ann. Applied Probability*, 7, 110–120.
- Gelman, A. and Rubin, D. (1992). Inference from iterative simulation using multiple sequences (with discussion). *Statistical Science*, 457–472.

**See Also**[Ultimixt](#)**Examples**

```
#N=500
#U =runif(N)
#xobs = rep(NA,N)
#for(i in 1:N){
#   if(U[i]<.6){
#       xobs[i] = rpois(1,lambda=1)
#   }else{
#       xobs[i] = rpois(1,lambda=5)
#   }
#}
#estimate=K.MixPois(xobs, k=2, alpha0=.5, alpha=.5, Nsim=10000)
```

---

K.MixReparametrized     *Sample from a Gaussian mixture posterior associated with a noninformative prior and obtained by Metropolis-within-Gibbs sampling*

---

**Description**

This function returns a sample simulated from the posterior distribution of the parameters of a Gaussian mixture under a non-informative prior. This prior is derived from a mean-variance reparameterisation of the mixture distribution, as proposed by Kamary et al. (2017). The algorithm is a Metropolis-within-Gibbs scheme with an adaptive calibration of the proposal distribution scales. Adaptation is driven by the formally optimal acceptance rates of 0.44 and 0.234 in one and larger dimensions, respectively (Roberts et al.,1997). This algorithm monitors the convergence of the MCMC sequences via Gelman’s and Rubin’s (1992) criterion.

**Usage**

```
K.MixReparametrized(xobs, k, alpha0, alpha, Nsim)
```

**Arguments**

xobs	vector of the observations or dataset
k	number of components in the mixture model
alpha0	hyperparameter of Dirichlet prior distribution of the mixture model weights which is .5 by default
alpha	hyperparameter of beta prior distribution of the radial coordinate which is .5 by default
Nsim	number of MCMC iterations after calibration step of proposal scales

**Details**

The output of this function contains a simulated sample for each parameter of the mixture distribution, the evolution of the proposal scales and acceptance rates over the number of iterations during the calibration stage, and their final values after calibration.

**Value**

The output of this function is a list of the following variables, where the dimension of the vectors is the number of simulations:

mean global	vector of simulated draws from the conditional posterior of the mixture model mean
sigma global	vector of simulated draws from the conditional posterior of the mixture model standard deviation
weights	matrix of simulated draws from the conditional posterior of the mixture model weights with a number of columns equal to the number of components $k$
angles xi	matrix of simulated draws from the conditional posterior of the angular coordinates of the component standard deviations with a number of columns equal to $k - 1$
phi	vector of simulated draws from the conditional posterior of the radian coordinate
angles varpi	matrix of simulated draws from the conditional posterior of the angular coordinates of the component means with a number of columns equal to $k - 2$
accept rat	vector of resulting acceptance rates of the proposal distributions without calibration step of the proposal scales
optimal para	vector of resulting proposal scales after optimisation obtained by adaptive MCMC
adapt rat	list of acceptance rates of batch of 50 iterations obtained when calibrating the proposal scales by adaptive MCMC. The number of columns depends on the number of proposal distributions.
adapt scale	list of proposal scales calibrated by adaptive MCMC for each batch of 50 iterations with respect to the optimal acceptance rate. The number of columns depends on the number of proposal distribution scales.
component means	matrix of MCMC samples of the component means of the mixture model with a number of columns equal to $k$
component sigmas	matrix of MCMC samples of the component standard deviations of the mixture model with a number of columns equal to $k$

**Note**

If the number of MCMC iterations specified in the input of this function exceeds 15,000, after each 1000 supplementary iterations the convergence of simulated chains is checked using the convergence monitoring technique by Gelman and Rubin (1992).

**Author(s)**

Kaniav Kamary

**References**

- Kamary, K., Lee, J.Y., and Robert, C.P. (2017) Weakly informative reparameterisation of location-scale mixtures. arXiv.
- Robert, C. and Casella, G. (2009). Introducing Monte Carlo Methods with R. Springer-Verlag.
- Roberts, G. O., Gelman, A. and Gilks, W. R. (1997). Weak convergence and optimal scaling of random walk Metropolis algorithms. Ann. Applied Probability, 7, 110–120.
- Gelman, A. and Rubin, D. (1992). Inference from iterative simulation using multiple sequences (with discussion). Statistical Science, 457–472.

**See Also**

[Ultimixt](#)

**Examples**

```
#data(faithful)
#xobs=faithful[,1]
#estimate=K.MixReparametrized(xobs, k=2, alpha0=.5, alpha=.5, Nsim=10000)
```

---

Plot.MixReparametrized

*plot of the MCMC output produced by K.MixReparametrized*

---

**Description**

This is a generic function for a graphical rendering of the MCMC samples produced by K.MixReparametrized function. The function draws boxplots for unimodal variables and for multimodal arguments after clustering them by applying a k-means algorithm. It also plots line charts for other variables.

**Usage**

```
Plot.MixReparametrized(xobs, estimate)
```

**Arguments**

xobs	vector of the observations
estimate	output of the K. MixReparametrized function

**Details**

Boxplots are produced using the `boxplot.default` method.

**Value**

The output of this function consists of

boxplot	three boxplots for the radial coordinates, the mean and the standard deviation of the mixture distribution, $k$ boxplots for each of the mixture model weights, component means and component standard deviations.
histogram	an histogram of the observations against an overlaid curve of the density estimate, obtained by averaging over all mixtures corresponding to the MCMC draws,
line chart	line charts that report the evolution of the proposal scales and of the acceptance rates over the number of batch of 50 iterations.

**Note**

The mixture density estimate is based on the draws simulated of the parameters obtained by `K.MixReparametrized` function.

**Author(s)**

Kaniav Kamary

**References**

Kamary, K., Lee, J.Y., and Robert, C.P. (2017) Weakly informative reparameterisation of location-scale mixtures. arXiv.

**See Also**

[K.MixReparametrized](#)

**Examples**

```
#data(faithful)
#xobs=faithful[,1]
#estimate=K.MixReparametrized(xobs, k=2, alpha0=.5, alpha=.5, Nsim=20000)
#plo=Plot.MixReparametrized(xobs, estimate)
```



---

SM.MAP.MixReparametrized

*summary of the output produced by K.MixReparametrized*


---

## Description

Label switching in a simulated Markov chain produced by K.MixReparametrized is removed by the technique of Marin et al. (2004). Namely, component labels are reordered by the shortest Euclidian distance between a posterior sample and the maximum a posteriori (MAP) estimate. Let  $\theta_i$  be the  $i$ -th vector of computed component means, standard deviations and weights. The MAP estimate is derived from the MCMC sequence and denoted by  $\theta_{MAP}$ . For a permutation  $\tau \in \mathfrak{S}_k$  the labelling of  $\theta_i$  is reordered by

$$\tilde{\theta}_i = \tau_i(\theta_i)$$

where  $\tau_i = \arg \min_{\tau \in \mathfrak{S}_k} \|\tau(\theta_i) - \theta_{MAP}\|$ .

Angular parameters  $\xi_1^{(i)}, \dots, \xi_{k-1}^{(i)}$  and  $\varpi_1^{(i)}, \dots, \varpi_{k-2}^{(i)}$ s are derived from  $\tilde{\theta}_i$ . There exists a unique solution in  $\varpi_1^{(i)}, \dots, \varpi_{k-2}^{(i)}$  while there are multiple solutions in  $\xi^{(i)}$  due to the symmetry of  $|\cos(\xi)|$  and  $|\sin(\xi)|$ . The output of  $\xi_1^{(i)}, \dots, \xi_{k-1}^{(i)}$  only includes angles on  $[-\pi, \pi]$ .

The label of components of  $\theta_i$  (before the above transform) is defined by

$$\tau_i^* = \arg \min_{\tau \in \mathfrak{S}_k} \|\theta_i - \tau(\theta_{MAP})\|.$$

The number of label switching occurrences is defined by the number of changes in  $\tau^*$ .

## Usage

SM.MAP.MixReparametrized(estimate, xobs, alpha0, alpha)

## Arguments

estimate	Output of K.MixReparametrized
xobs	Data set
alpha0	Hyperparameter of Dirichlet prior distribution of the mixture model weights
alpha	Hyperparameter of beta prior distribution of the radial coordinate

## Details

Details.

## Value

MU	Matrix of MCMC samples of the component means of the mixture model
SIGMA	Matrix of MCMC samples of the component standard deviations of the mixture model

P	Matrix of MCMC samples of the component weights of the mixture model
Ang_SIGMA	Matrix of computed $\xi$ 's corresponding to SIGMA
Ang_MU	Matrix of computed $\varpi$ 's corresponding to MU. This output only appears when $k > 2$ .
Global_Mean	Mean, median and 95% credible interval for the global mean parameter
Global_Std	Mean, median and 95% credible interval for the global standard deviation parameter
Phi	Mean, median and 95% credible interval for the radius parameter
component_mu	Mean, median and 95% credible interval of MU
component_sigma	Mean, median and 95% credible interval of SIGMA
component_p	Mean, median and 95% credible interval of P
l_stay	Number of MCMC iterations between changes in labelling
n_switch	Number of label switching occurrences

**Note**

Note.

**Author(s)**

Kate Lee

**References**

Marin, J.-M., Mengersen, K. and Robert, C. P. (2004) Bayesian Modelling and Inference on Mixtures of Distributions, Handbook of Statistics, Elsevier, Volume 25, Pages 459–507.

**See Also**

[K.MixReparametrized](#)

**Examples**

```
#data(faithful)
#xobs=faithful[,1]
#estimate=K.MixReparametrized(xobs,k=2,alpha0=0.5,alpha=0.5,Nsim=1e4)
#result=SM.MAP.MixReparametrized(estimate,xobs,alpha0=0.5,alpha=0.5)
```

---

SM.MixPois	<i>summary of the output produced by K.MixPois</i>
------------	--

---

### Description

This generic function summarizes the MCMC samples produced by K.MixPois when several estimation methods have been invoked depending on the unimodality or multimodality of the argument.

### Usage

```
SM.MixPois(estimate, xobs)
```

### Arguments

estimate	output of K.MixPois
xobs	vector of observations

### Details

The output of this function contains posterior point estimates for all parameters of the reparameterized Poisson mixture model. It summarizes unimodal MCMC samples by computing measures of centrality, including mean and median, while multimodal outputs require a preprocessing, due to the label switching phenomenon (Jasra et al., 2005). The summary measures are then computed after performing a multi-dimensional k-means clustering (Hartigan and Wong, 1979) following the suggestion of Fruhwirth-Schnatter (2006).

### Value

lambda	vector of mean and median of simulated draws from the conditional posterior of the mixture model mean
gamma.i	vector of mean and median of simulated draws from the conditional posterior of the component mean hyperparameters; $i = 1, \dots, k$
weight.i	vector of mean and median of simulated draws from the conditional posterior of the component weights of the mixture distribution; $i = 1, \dots, k$
lambda.i	vector of mean and median of simulated draws from the conditional posterior of the component means of the mixture distribution; $i = 1, \dots, k$
Acc rat	vector of final acceptance rate of the proposal distributions of the algorithm with no calibration stage for the proposal scales
Opt scale	vector of optimal proposal scales obtained the by calibration stage

**Note**

For multimodal outputs such as the mixture model weights, component means, and component mean hyperparameters, for each MCMC draw, first the labels of the weights  $p_i, i = 1, \dots, k$  and corresponding component means are permuted in such a way that  $p_1 \leq \dots \leq p_k$ . Then the posterior component means are partitioned into  $k$  clusters by applying a standard k-means algorithm with  $k$  clusters, following Fruhwirth-Schnatter (2006) method. The obtained classification sequence was then used to reorder and identify the other component-specific parameters, namely component mean hyperparameters and weights. For each group, cluster centers are considered as parameter estimates.

**Author(s)**

Kaniav Kamary

**References**

Jasra, A., Holmes, C. and Stephens, D. (2005). Markov Chain Monte Carlo methods and the label switching problem in Bayesian mixture modeling. *Statistical Science*, 20, 50–67.

Hartigan, J. A. and Wong, M. A. (1979). A K-means clustering algorithm. *Applied Statistics* 28, 100–108.

Fruhwirth-Schnatter, S. (2006). *Finite mixture and Markov switching models*. Springer-Verlag.

**See Also**

[K.MixPois](#)

**Examples**

```
N=500
U =runif(N)
xobs = rep(NA,N)
for(i in 1:N){
  if(U[i]<.6){
    xobs[i] = rpois(1,lambda=1)
  }else{
    xobs[i] = rpois(1,lambda=5)
  }
}
#estimate=K.MixPois(xobs, k=2, alpha0=.5, alpha=.5, Nsim=10000)
#SM.MixPois(estimate, xobs)
#plot(estimate[[8]][,1],estimate[[2]][,1],pch=19,col="skyblue",cex=0.5,xlab="lambda",ylab="p")
#points(estimate[[8]][,2], estimate[[2]][,2], pch=19, col="gold", cex=0.5)
#points(c(1,5), c(0.6,0.4), pch=19, cex=1)
```

---

SM.MixReparametrized *summary of the output produced by K.MixReparametrized*

---

### Description

This is a generic function that summarizes the MCMC samples produced by K.MixReparametrized. The function invokes several estimation methods which choice depends on the unimodality or multimodality of the argument.

### Usage

```
SM.MixReparametrized(xobs, estimate)
```

### Arguments

xobs	vector of observations
estimate	output of K.MixReparametrized

### Details

This function outputs posterior point estimates for all parameters of the mixture model. They mostly differ from the generally useless posterior means. The output summarizes unimodal MCMC samples by computing measures of centrality, including mean and median, while multimodal outputs require a pre-processing, due to the label switching phenomenon (Jasra et al., 2005). The summary measures are then computed after performing a multi-dimensional k-means clustering (Hartigan and Wong, 1979) following the suggestion of Fruhwirth-Schnatter (2006).

### Value

Mean	vector of mean and median of simulated draws from the conditional posterior of the mixture model mean
Sd	vector of mean and median of simulated draws from the conditional posterior of the mixture model standard deviation
Phi	vector of mean and median of simulated draws from the conditional posterior of the radial coordinate
Angles. 1.	vector of means of the angular coordinates used for the component means in the mixture distribution
Angles. 2.	vector of means of the angular coordinates used for the component standard deviations in the mixture distribution
weight.i	vector of mean and median of simulated draws from the conditional posterior of the component weights of the mixture distribution; $i = 1, \dots, k$
mean.i	vector of mean and median of simulated draws from the conditional posterior of the component means of the mixture distribution; $i = 1, \dots, k$
sd.i	vector of mean and median of simulated draws from the conditional posterior of the component standard deviations of the mixture distribution; $i = 1, \dots, k$

Acc rat	vector of final acceptance rate of the proposal distributions of the algorithm with no calibration stage for the proposal scales
Opt scale	vector of optimal proposal scales obtained the by calibration stage

**Note**

For multimodal outputs such as the mixture model weights, component means, and component variances, for each MCMC draw, first the labels of the weights  $p_i, i = 1, \dots, k$  and corresponding component means and standard deviations are permuted in such a way that  $p_1 \leq \dots \leq p_k$ . Then the component means and standard deviations are jointly partitioned into  $k$  clusters by applying a standard k-means algorithm with  $k$  clusters, following Fruhwirth-Schnatter (2006) method. The obtained classification sequence was then used to reorder and identify the other component-specific parameters, namely component mean hyperparameters and weights. For each group, cluster centers are considered as parameter estimates.

**Author(s)**

Kaniav Kamary

**References**

Jasra, A., Holmes, C. and Stephens, D. (2005). Markov Chain Monte Carlo methods and the label switching problem in Bayesian mixture modeling. *Statistical Science*, 20, 50–67.

Hartigan, J. A. and Wong, M. A. (1979). A K-means clustering algorithm. *Applied Statistics* 28, 100–108.

Fruhwirth-Schnatter, S. (2006). *Finite mixture and Markov switching models*. Springer-Verlag.

**See Also**

[K.MixReparametrized](#)

**Examples**

```
#data(faithful)
#xobs=faithful[,1]
#estimate=K.MixReparametrized(xobs, k=2, alpha0=.5, alpha=.5, Nsim=20000)
#summarize=SM.MixReparametrized(xobs,estimate)
```

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