

---

# Supplementary Material:

## Slice sampling normalized kernel-weighted completely random measure mixture models

---

**Nicholas J. Foti**  
 Department of Computer Science  
 Dartmouth College  
 Hanover, NH 03755  
 nfoti@cs.dartmouth.edu

**Sinead A. Williamson**  
 Department of Machine Learning  
 Carnegie Mellon University  
 Pittsburgh, PA 15213  
 sinead@cs.cmu.edu

### 1 Slice sampler

In this section we provide an unabridged derivation of the slice sampler for normalized kernel CRMs. We also present the Rao-Blackwellized estimator for the predictive density.

#### 1.1 Derivation

Analogously to [1] we introduce a set of auxiliary slice variables – one for each data point. Each data point can only belong to clusters corresponding to atoms larger than its slice variable. The set of slice variables thus defines a minimum atom size that need be represented, ensuring a finite number of instantiated atoms.

We extend this idea to the KNRM framework. Note that, in this case, an atom will exhibit different sizes at different covariate locations. We refer to these sizes as the *kernelized atom sizes*,  $K(x_g^*, \mu)\pi$ , obtained by applying a kernel  $K$ , evaluated at location  $x_g^*$ , to the raw atom  $\pi$ . Following [1], we introduce a local slice variable  $u_{g,i}$ . This allows us to write the joint distribution over a single data point  $y_{g,i}$ , its cluster allocation  $s_{g,i}$  and its slice variable  $u_{g,i}$  as

$$f(y_{g,i}, u_{g,i}, s_{g,i} | \pi, \mu, \theta, \phi) = B_{Tg}^{-1} \mathbf{1}(u_{g,i} < K(x_g^*, \mu_{s_{g,i}})\pi_{s_{g,i}}) q(y_{g,i} | \theta_{s_{g,i}}, \phi_{s_{g,i}}) \quad (1)$$

where we have introduced the notation  $B_{Tg} = B_{x_g^*}(\Theta)$ . From Eq. 1 we write the density of all points with covariate  $x_g^*$  as

$$f(\mathbf{y}_g, \mathbf{u}_g, \mathbf{s}_g | \pi, \mu, \theta, \phi) = B_{Tg}^{-n_g} \prod_{i=1}^{n_g} \mathbf{1}(u_{g,i} < K(x_g^*, \mu_{s_{g,i}})\pi_{s_{g,i}}) q(y_{g,i} | \theta_{s_{g,i}}, \phi_{s_{g,i}}). \quad (2)$$

Following [1, 2, 3] we can replace  $B_{Tg}^{-n_g}$ , which involves an infinite sum, by relating it to the gamma distribution yielding

$$f(\mathbf{y}_g, \mathbf{u}_g, \mathbf{s}_g | \pi, \mu, \theta, \phi) = V_g^{n_g-1} \exp(-V_g B_{Tg}) \prod_{i=1}^{n_g} \mathbf{1}(u_{g,i} < K(x_g^*, \mu_{s_{g,i}})\pi_{s_{g,i}}) q(y_{g,i} | \theta_{s_{g,i}}, \phi_{s_{g,i}}) \quad (3)$$

where  $V_g \sim \text{Ga}(n_g, B_{Tg})$ . The joint distribution for all data,  $f(\mathbf{y}, \mathbf{u}, \mathbf{s} | \pi, \mu, \theta, \phi)$ , is then the product of Eq. 3 for each unique covariate  $x_g^*$

$$f(\mathbf{y}, \mathbf{u}, \mathbf{s} | \pi, \mu, \theta, \phi) = \prod_{g=1}^G V_g^{n_g-1} \exp(-V_g B_{Tg}) \prod_{i=1}^{n_g} \mathbf{1}(u_{g,i} < K(x_g^*, \mu_{s_{g,i}})\pi_{s_{g,i}}) q(y_{g,i} | \theta_{s_{g,i}}, \phi_{s_{g,i}}). \quad (4)$$

A MCMC sampler is still hard to construct for Eq. 3, since the infinite sum  $B_{T_g}$  still makes an appearance. To alleviate this difficulty we define a truncation level according to the auxiliary  $u_{g,i}$  variables introduced earlier [4]. Specifically, let  $0 < L = \min \{u_{s_{g,i}}\}$  and assume that there are  $M_g$  atoms such that  $K(x_g^*, \mu_m)\pi_m \geq L$  for some  $g$ , and  $M = \sum_{g=1}^G M_g$ . We can then rewrite  $B_{T_g} = B_{+g} + B_{*g}$ , where  $B_{+g} = \sum_{m=1}^{M_g} K(x_g^*, \mu_m)\pi_m$  and  $B_{*g} = \sum_{m=M_g+1}^{\infty} K(x_g^*, \mu_m)\pi_m$ .  $B_{*g}$  is therefore the portion of the total mass of  $B_g$  from kernelized atoms with mass less than  $L$ . With this new notation we rewrite Eq. 4 as

$$f(\mathbf{y}, \mathbf{u}, \mathbf{s} | \pi, \mu, \theta, \phi) = \prod_{g=1}^G V_g^{n_g-1} \prod_{i=1}^{n_g} \mathbf{1}(u_{g,i} < K(x_g^*, \mu_{s_{g,i}})\pi_{s_{g,i}}) q(y_{g,i} | \theta_{s_{g,i}}, \phi_{s_{g,i}}) \times \exp(-V^T B_+) \exp(-V^T B_*) \quad (5)$$

where  $V = [V_1, \dots, V_G]^T$ ,  $B_+ = [B_{+1}, \dots, B_{+G}]^T$ , and  $B_* = [B_{*1}, \dots, B_{*G}]^T$ . We then marginalize out all kernelized atoms with mass less than  $L$  which allows us to write the joint distribution of the model as

$$p(\mathbf{y}, \mathbf{u}, \mathbf{s}, V, M, \pi, \mu, \theta, \phi, \alpha) = p(\alpha) p(M | \alpha) p(\theta_{1:M}) p(\pi_{1:M}) p(\mu_{1:M}) \times \prod_{g=1}^G V_g^{n_g-1} \prod_{i=1}^{n_g} \mathbf{1}(u_{g,i} < K(x_g^*, \mu_{s_{g,i}})\pi_{s_{g,i}}) q(y_{g,i} | \theta_{s_{g,i}}, \phi_{s_{g,i}}) \times \exp(-V^T B_+) \mathbb{E}[\exp(-V^T B_*)] \quad (6)$$

We recognize the expectation in Eq. 6 as the characteristic function of the Lévy process underlying the kernel-weighted CRM (see Section 2.1 of the main text). We can use the Lévy-Khintchine representation [5] of a Lévy process to simplify the expectation as

$$\mathbb{E}[\exp(-V^T B_*)] = \exp\left(-\alpha \int_A (1 - \exp(-V^T \mathcal{K}_\mu \pi)) \nu_0(d\pi) R_0(d\mu)\right) \quad (7)$$

where  $\mathcal{K}_\mu = [K(x_1^*, \mu), \dots, K(x_G^*, \mu)]^T$  and  $A = \{(\mu, \pi) : K(x_g^*, \mu)\pi < L\}$ . Since we have a fixed kernel function ( $K(\cdot, \cdot) \in [0, 1]$ ) and have assumed a finite dictionary of atom locations  $\{\mu^*\}$ , the integral in Eq. 7 decomposes into two parts. The first part corresponds to atoms  $(\pi, \mu)$  where  $\pi < L$  which can be written as

$$\sum_{\mu^* \in \mathcal{X}} \left( R_0(\mu^*) \int_0^L (1 - \exp(-V^T \mathcal{K}_{\mu^*} \pi)) \nu_0(d\pi) \right) \quad (8)$$

and can be evaluated numerically for many CRMs including gamma and generalized gamma processes [1] by using the identity

$$\int_0^L (1 - \exp(-V^T \mathcal{K}_{\mu^*} \pi)) \nu_0(d\pi) = \psi(V^T \mathcal{K}_{\mu^*}) / \alpha - \int_L^\infty (1 - \exp(-V^T \mathcal{K}_{\mu^*} \pi)) \nu_0(d\pi). \quad (9)$$

For the first term in Eq. 9,  $\psi(\cdot)$  is given by the exponent on the right side of Eq. 7. Both terms of Eq. 9 can be evaluated by numerical methods since they are one-dimensional integrals.

The second part of the integral in Eq. 7 consists of realized atoms  $\{(\pi_m, \mu_m)\}$  such that  $K(x_g^*, \mu_m)\pi_m < L$  at covariate  $x_g^*$ . We evaluate this term with a Monte Carlo estimate

$$\frac{1}{Z} \sum_{g=1}^G \sum_{m=1}^M \mathbf{1}(K(x_g^*, \mu_m)\pi_m < L) \exp(-V_g K(x_g^*, \mu_m)\pi_m) \quad (10)$$

where  $Z = \sum_{g=1}^G \sum_{m=1}^M \mathbf{1}(K(x_g^*, \mu_m)\pi_m < L)$ . Recall that  $M$  is the number of instantiated atoms. In very simple cases the term in Eq. 10 can be solved for analytically; in the case of a box kernel, it doesn't arise at all. In our experiments we consider both a box kernel and a square exponential kernel and we have found that the term contributes little to the accuracy of the sampler and very good results can be obtained by simply ignoring this term. However, for kernels that decay more slowly than the square exponential kernels we use this term will likely be more significant.

## 1.2 Prediction

For a new observation  $y^*$  with covariate  $x^*$ , using the slice sampler described above we can simulate from the predictive distribution  $p(y^*|y)$  and propose a Rao-Blackwellized estimate of it without any truncation error. Analogously to [1], we introduce a new auxiliary variable  $u_*$  and allocation variable  $s_*$  for the new observation which we describe how to sample below. Then, the predictive density estimate is defined as

$$\hat{f}(y^*) = \frac{1}{T} \sum_{i=1}^T \frac{\sum_{m=1}^{M^{(i)}} \mathbf{1} \left( K(x^*, \mu_m^{(i)}) \pi_m^{(i)} > u_*^{(i)} \right) q \left( y^* | \theta_m^{(i)}, \phi_m^{(i)} \right)}{\sum_{m=1}^{M^{(i)}} \mathbf{1} \left( K(x^*, \mu_m^{(i)}) \pi_m^{(i)} > u_*^{(i)} \right)} \quad (11)$$

where  $M^{(i)}$  is the number of used clusters in sample  $i$  and  $u_*^{(i)}$  and  $s_*^{(i)}$  are the  $i$ 'th sample of  $u_*$  and  $s_*$  respectively. We sample  $s_*$  from a discrete distribution with

$$p(s_* = m) \propto \mathbf{1} (u_* < K(x^*, \mu_m) \pi_m) \quad (12)$$

The only other changes to the sampler is that when sampling  $V_g$ ,  $\{u_{g,i}\}$ ,  $M$  and  $\{\pi_m\}$  with data allocated to them, a sample size of  $n_g$  is used, rather than  $n_g - 1$ . The same sampling methods can be used for each of these variables. We use this estimator in the experiments to estimate the predictive density on a fine grid of values.

## 2 Finite normalized KGaP

In this section, we describe the finite normalized KGaP model used in the Experiments section of the main paper.

A gamma process (GaP) on a measurable space  $\Theta$ , denoted  $\text{GaP}(H_0, \beta)$ , is a CRM with Lévy measure  $\nu(d\theta, d\pi) = \pi^{-1} e^{-\beta\pi} B_0(d\theta)$ , where we have included the scale parameter for generality. Considered as a Poisson process on  $\Theta \times \mathbb{R}^+$ , a random measure drawn from a GaP,  $X \sim \text{GaP}(H_0, \beta)$ , is a discrete measure with an infinite number of atoms [6] where

$$X = \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} \pi_m \delta_{\theta_m^*} \quad (13)$$

We can approximate the countably infinite random measure  $X$  with a finite version  $X_M$ , where we restrict the measure to only have  $M$  atoms. We introduce the finite measure

$$\nu_\delta(d\theta, d\pi) = \pi^{\delta-1} e^{-\beta\pi} H_0(d\theta) \quad (14)$$

for  $\delta > 0$ . As  $\delta$  gets smaller more mass is placed on smaller values  $\pi$  and so  $M$  will need to be large to obtain atoms with significant mass. Since  $\nu_\delta$  is proportional to the density of a  $\text{Ga}(\delta, \beta)$  random variable it is easy to compute  $\nu_\delta(\Theta \times \mathbb{R}^+)$  as

$$\int_{\Theta \times \mathbb{R}^+} \pi^{\delta-1} e^{-\beta\pi} H_0(d\theta) = H_0(\Theta) \frac{\Gamma(\delta)}{\beta^\delta} \quad (15)$$

which for  $\delta > 0$  is finite. In fact, using 14 as the rate measure of a finite Poisson process on  $\Theta \times \mathbb{R}^+$  and defining  $X_M$  as in Eq. 13 one has that  $\mathbb{E}[M] = \nu_\delta(\Theta \times \mathbb{R}^+)$  [6].

It is easy to see that as  $\delta \rightarrow 0$  the finite rate measure converges to that of a GaP

$$\frac{\nu_\delta(d\theta, d\pi)}{\nu(d\theta, d\pi)} = \frac{\pi^{\delta-1} e^{-\beta\pi} H_0(d\theta)}{\pi^{-1} e^{-\beta\pi} H_0(d\theta)} = \pi^\delta \rightarrow 1 \quad (16)$$

In practice we choose the number of desired atoms,  $M$ , and then set  $\delta = 1/M$ . In what follows we only consider the case  $\beta = 1$  and so we drop it from our notation.

With a finite approximation to a gamma process, we construct a finite version of a kernel GaP and then normalize it. Let  $A$  be measurable on  $\Theta$  and define similarly as the infinite version

$$B_x^M(A) = \sum_{m=1}^M K(x, \mu_m) \pi_m \delta_{\theta_m^*}(A) \quad (17)$$

where  $\pi_m \sim \text{Ga}(1/M, 1)$  and  $\theta_m^* \sim H_0(d\theta)$ . We can then define the finite KNRM

$$P_x^M(A) = \sum_{m=1}^M \frac{K(x, \mu_m) \pi_m}{\sum_{l=1}^M K(x, \mu_l) \pi_l} \delta_{\theta_m^*}(A) \quad (18)$$

We can use then use  $P_x^M$  as a prior for the mixture model described in the main text.

## 2.1 Gibbs sampler

Since there are only a finite number of atoms in the approximation described in Section 2, there is no need to perform the marginalization of small atoms required for the slice sampler. This allows a simple Gibbs sampler to be derived when using the finite approximation. We describe the sampling equations for the normalized KGaP below, the model parameters are sampled the same as with the slice sampler. Note that one could also design reversible-jump moves [7] using the finite approximation presented here.

- **Cluster allocations**  $s_{g,i}$ : The conditional distribution for  $s_{g,i}$  is given by (up to a constant)

$$p(s_{g,i} = m | y_{g,i}, \pi_m, \mu_m, \theta_m, \phi_m) \propto K(x_g^*, \mu_m) \pi_m q(y_{g,i} | \theta_m, \phi_m) \quad (19)$$

for  $1 \leq m \leq M$ . This is a finite discrete distribution and is easily sampled.

- **Raw atom sizes**  $\pi_m$ : The conditional distributions for the atoms sizes up to a constant is given by

$$p(\pi_m | \{s\}, \{\mu\}, \{\pi_{-m}\}) \propto \text{Ga}(1/M, 1) \prod_{g=1}^G \prod_{i=1}^{n_g} \frac{K(x_g^*, \mu_{s_{g,i}}) \pi_{s_{g,i}}}{\sum_{l=1}^M K(x_g^*, \mu_l) \pi_l} \quad (20)$$

This distribution could be sampled with Metropolis-Hastings, however we have found slice sampling [8] to be effective.

- **Raw atom covariate locations**  $\mu_m$ : Since we assume a finite set of covariate locations, the conditional distribution is give by

$$p(\mu_m = \mu_p^* | \{s\}, \{\pi\}, \{\mu_{-m}\}) \propto R_0(\mu_p^*) \prod_{g=1}^G \prod_{i=1}^{n_g} \frac{K(x_g^*, \mu_{s_{g,i}})^{\mathbf{1}(s_{g,i} \neq m)} K(x_g^*, \mu_p^*)^{\mathbf{1}(s_{g,i} = m)} \pi_{s_{g,i}}}{\sum_{l \neq m} K(x_g^*, \mu_l) \pi_l + K(x_g^*, \mu_p^*) \pi_m}. \quad (21)$$

This is a finite discrete distribution and is easily sampled.

## 3 Extra experimental results

In Table 1 we show the held-out predictive log-likelihoods obtained with the Rao-Blackwellized estimator for the slice sampler using both the box and square exponential (SE) kernels. The Rao-Blackwellized estimator results in substantially larger predictive log-likelihoods than the estimator in the main paper.

Table 1: Rao-Blackwellized estimates of held-out predictive log-likelihood.

	Synthetic	CMB	Motorcycle
Box	-2.58 (0.66)	-0.06 (0.04)	-0.40 (0.11)
SE	NA	-0.14 (0.03)	-0.42 (0.12)

## References

- [1] J. E. Griffin and S. G. Walker. Posterior simulation of normalized random measure mixtures. *Journal of Computational and Graphical Statistics*, 20(1):241–259, 2011.
- [2] L.F. James, A. Lijoi, and I. Prünster. Posterior analysis for normalized random measures with independent increments. *Scandinavian Journal of Statistics*, 36(1):76–97, 2009.

- [3] S. Favaro and Y.W. Teh. MCMC for normalized random measure mixture models. *Submitted*, 2012.
- [4] M. Kalli, J.E. Griffin, and S.G. Walker. Slice sampling mixture models. *Statistics and Computing*, 21(1):93–105, 2011.
- [5] B. Fristedt and L.F. Gray. *A Modern Approach to Probability Theory*. Probability and Its Applications. Birkhäuser, 1997.
- [6] J.F.C. Kingman. *Poisson processes*. OUP, 1993.
- [7] P.J. Green. Reversible jump Markov chain Monte Carlo computation and Bayesian model determination. *Biometrika*, 82(4):711–732, 1995.
- [8] P. Damlén, J. Wakefield, and S. Walker. Gibbs sampling for bayesian non-conjugate and hierarchical models by using auxiliary variables. *Journal of the Royal Statistical Society Series B*, 61(2):331–344, 1999.