

# Bayesian inference for partial orders

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This is a joint work with

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Biometrics in the Bay of Islands 2023

Regional Rankings	North America	Latin America	Western Europe	Eastern Europe	China	India	APAC Ex China, India	Middle East and Africa
1 <sup>st</sup>								
2 <sup>nd</sup>	<b>SAMSUNG</b>	<b>SAMSUNG</b>	<b>SAMSUNG</b>	<b>SAMSUNG</b>	 HUAWEI		<b>SAMSUNG</b>	<b>SAMSUNG</b>
3 <sup>rd</sup>					<b>oppo</b>	<b>SAMSUNG</b>		<b>ASUS</b>
4 <sup>th</sup>			<b>oppo</b>	<b>ASUS</b>	<b>vivo</b>	<b>vivo</b>	<b>vivo</b>	
5 <sup>th</sup>		 HUAWEI		<b>oppo</b>		<b>oppo</b>	<b>oppo</b>	 HUAWEI

 New entrant to top 5 in 2021 as compared to 2020

## Models for rank list data

$x = (x_1, \dots, x_n)$  is a permutation of  $[n] = \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$ , and think of  $x_1 \rightarrow x_2 \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow x_n$  as a simple DAG representing a “ranking”.

Ranking models for the central total order<sup>1</sup> to the list (data).  
i.e., Mallows model, Plackett-Luce model

We allow the centering order to be a partial order. Mannila et al. [1, 2, 3] treats subclasses (bucket orders & VSP's) of PO's. Beerenwinkel et al. [4, 5] includes Bayes/MCMC for PO's.

Similar but different to network models.

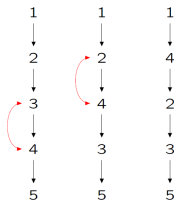
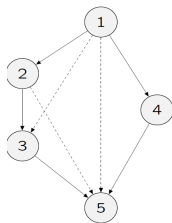
Bayesian inference for partial order.

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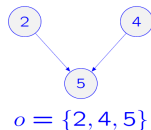
<sup>1</sup>totally ordered set

# Queues and partial orders (PO) [6, 7]

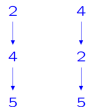
Queue of  $n$  actors  $[n] = \{1, \dots, n\}$  constrained by PO  $h \in \mathcal{H}_{[n]}$ .



Sub-order  $h[o]$



LE's  $\mathcal{L}(h[o])$



Partial order  $h$

Linear extensions  $\mathcal{L}(h)$

If just  $o \subseteq [n]$  are queuing then the constraining suborder is  $h[o]$ .  
For  $X = (X_1, \dots, X_n)$  a random queue,  $\Pr(X=x|h) = |\mathcal{L}(h)|^{-1}$ .

For  $i \in [N]$ , actors  $o_i = \{o_{i,1}, \dots, o_{i,n_i}\}$ , list data  $y_i = (y_{i,1}, \dots, y_{i,n_i})$ ,

$$p(y|h) = \prod_{i=1}^N |\mathcal{L}(h[o_i])|^{-1}.$$

**Noisy lists:** Realised lists not perfect LE's.

$$\begin{aligned} p(x|h) &= p(X_1 = x_1|h) \times \Pr(X_2 = x_2|h_{-x_1}) \dots \Pr(X_n = x_n|h_{-(1:n-1)}) \\ &= \frac{|\mathcal{L}(h[x_{2:n}])|}{|\mathcal{L}(h[x_{1:n}])|} \times \frac{|\mathcal{L}(h[x_{3:n}])|}{|\mathcal{L}(h[x_{2:n}])|} \times \dots \times \frac{|\mathcal{L}(h[x_n])|}{|\mathcal{L}(h[x_{n-1:n}])|} \end{aligned}$$

Queue jumping (QJ) up queue: with  $p$  select next one at random,

$$p(x|h, p) = \prod_{j=1}^{n-1} \left( \frac{p}{n-j+1} + (1-p) \frac{|\mathcal{L}(h[x_{j+1:n}])|}{|\mathcal{L}(h[x_{j:n}])|} \right)$$

**Posterior for  $h$**

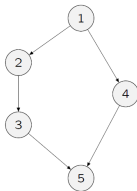
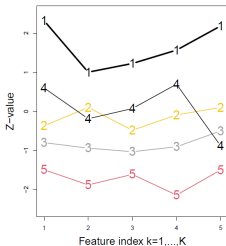
Give a prior over  $h \in \mathcal{H}_{[n]}$  then  $\pi_{[n]}(h, p|y) \propto \pi_{[n]}(h) \pi(p) p(y|h, p)$ .

## Marginally Consistent prior for $h$ [9]

Fix  $K \geq 1$  and  $0 < \rho < 1$ . Latent variables for actor  $j = 1, \dots, n$ ,

$$(Z_{j,1}, \dots, Z_{j,K}) \sim N(0_K, \Sigma^{(\rho)})$$

with  $\Sigma^{(\rho)}$  a  $K \times K$  covariance with  $\Sigma_{k,k}^{(\rho)} = 1$  and  $\Sigma_{k,k'}^{(\rho)} = \rho$ ,  $k \neq k'$ .



$$h(Z) = \{(i, j) : Z_{i,k} > Z_{j,k}, \text{ all } k\}$$

- $\Pr(h(Z) = h | \rho)$  is MC.
- Prior  $\pi_{[n]}(h | \rho)$  has parameter  $\rho$  controls depth  $d(h)$  distribution.
- If  $K \geq \lceil n/2 \rceil$  then  $\pi_{[n]}(h | \rho) > 0$  for all  $h \in \mathcal{H}_{[n]}$ .<sup>8</sup>

## Covariates[10]

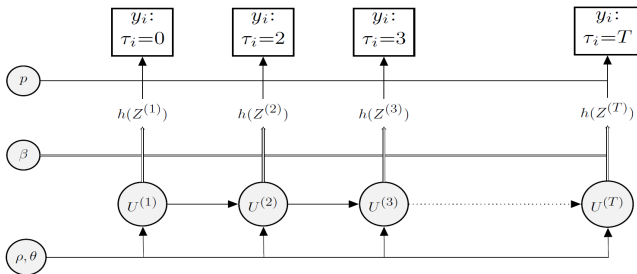
In list  $y_i$  actor  $j$  has covariates  $x_{i,j} \in R^p$  so take

$$(U_{j,1}, \dots, U_{j,K}) \sim N(0_K, \Sigma^{(\rho)})$$

and  $Z_{j,:}^{(l)} = U_{j,:} + x_{i,j}^T \beta 1_K$ . Effects  $\beta$  push path  $Z_{j,:}$  up or down.

## Timeseries[10]

List data  $y_i$  come with time stamp  $\tau_i \in \{1, \dots, T\}$ . Extend to HMM using  $U = (U^{(t)} \ t = 1, \dots, T)$  and  $U \sim \text{VAR}_{\rho, \theta}(1)$ .



**Posterior** (with  $Z = Z(U, \beta)$ )

$$\pi(U, \beta, \theta, \rho, p | y) \propto p(y | h(Z), \rho) \pi(U | \theta, \rho) \pi(\beta, \theta, \rho, p).$$

## Case study - Witness list

Witness lists of legal documents from 20 Anglo-Norman dioceses (yr 1080-1155)<sup>11</sup>

12th Century Acts: witness lists example (1127)

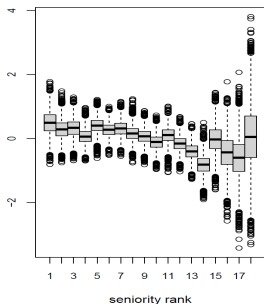
- [1] William, Archbishop of Canterbury
- [2] Roger, Bishop of Salisbury
- [3] William, Giffard, bishop of Winchester, 1100-1129
- [4] Bernard, Bishop of St David's
- [5] William, de Warelwast, bishop of Exeter
- [6] Urban, bishop of Llandaff
- [7] Geoffrey, Rufus, Bishop of Durham
- [8] Robert, de Sigillo, Bishop of London  
(Richard, de Belmeis I, bishop of London, 1108-1126)
- [9] Miles, of Gloucester, earl of Hereford 1141-1143
- [10] Henry, de Port
- [11] Walter, de Amfreville
- [12] William, de Folis
- [13] Roger, de Port
- [14] William, de Port

Historians want evolving status hierarchy of bishops: we have  $N = 371$  lists over  $T = 76$  years; estimate  $h = (h^{(1)}, \dots, h^{(T)})$ .

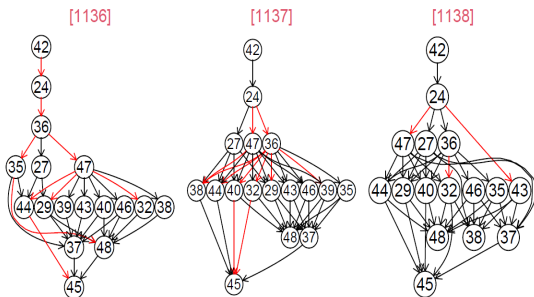


# Case study - Witness list

Some analysis result [10]



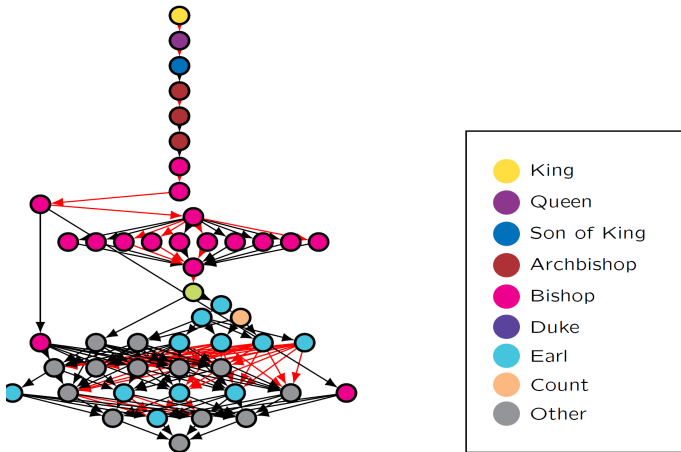
Seniority effect ( $\beta$ )



Consensus PO in 1136-1138  
(significant (black) and strong (red) orders.)

## Case study - Witness list

Social hierarchy of  $n = 49$  witnesses for 1134-1138 [12]



VSP<sup>2</sup>/QJ-U model. Consensus order. Significant/strong order relations are indicated by black/red edges respectively.

<sup>2</sup>Vertex-series-parallel partial orders (VSP)

# Conclusion

- PO offers the largest class of rank relationships, including the total order, bucket order, VSP.
- Marginal consistent prior and properties.
- Temporal PO model with covariate effects for noise-free/noisy data.
- Scalable VSP-PO for large PO's.

**Future work** - Less restrictive noise model, hierarchical PO, clustering, computation.

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Thank you.

Any question?