

Part 1: Sum of two independent random variables / convolution

Theorem:

X_1, X_2 real-valued independent random variables with prob. densities $f_1(x), f_2(x)$

$$\Rightarrow X_1 + X_2 \text{ has prob. density } g(x) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f_1(y) f_2(y-x) dy \\ = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f_1(y-x) f_2(y) dy$$

Part 2: Bayesian Statistics

① Classical vs. Bayesian statistics

Determine parameter ϑ/θ
based on observations $x = (x_1, \dots, x_n)$

Classical statistics

- x is a realisation of a random variable X
- ϑ is an unknown but deterministic parameter
- Mathematical model:

$f_x(x)$ likelihood

Bayesian statistics

- x is a realisation of a random variable X
- ϑ is a realisation of a random variable θ
- Mathematical model:

$$f(\vartheta|x) \propto \underset{\substack{\uparrow \\ \text{a posteriori} \\ \text{density of } \vartheta}}{f(x|\vartheta)} \underset{\substack{\uparrow \\ \text{likelihood}}}{f(x|\vartheta)} \underset{\substack{\uparrow \\ \text{a priori} \\ \text{density of } \theta}}{f(\vartheta)}$$

proportional with const

$$\left(\int f(x|\vartheta) f(\vartheta) d\vartheta \right)^{-1} \text{ continuous case}$$
$$\left(\sum_{\vartheta} f(x|\vartheta) f(\vartheta) \right)^{-1} \text{ discrete case}$$

• Point estimators:

- Maximum likelihood of $f_x(x)$
- ...

• Point estimators:

- Mode
 - Median
 - Mean
 - ...
- } of $f(\vartheta|x)$

• Interval estimations:

$\vartheta \in [a(x), b(x)]$ with confidence level $1 - \alpha$

$$\Leftrightarrow P_{\vartheta} \left(\underset{\substack{\uparrow \\ \text{random variable}}}{a(X)} \leq \underset{\substack{\uparrow \\ \text{for all } \vartheta}}{\vartheta} \leq b(X) \right) \geq 1 - \alpha$$

• Interval estimations:

$\theta \in [a(x), b(x)]$ with probability $1 - \alpha$

$$\Leftrightarrow P(\theta \in [a(x), b(x)] | X=x) \geq 1 - \alpha$$

② Example 1: AIDS test

$$f(\text{pos} | \text{AIDS}) = 0.995 \quad (\text{accuracy of the test})$$

$$f(\text{pos} | \neg \text{AIDS}) = 0.05 \quad (\text{false positive rate})$$

$$f(\text{AIDS}) = 0.0035 \quad (\text{prior / prevalence of AIDS})$$

$$\Rightarrow f(\text{AIDS} | \text{pos}) = \frac{f(\text{pos} | \text{AIDS}) f(\text{AIDS})}{f(\text{pos} | \text{AIDS}) f(\text{AIDS}) + f(\text{pos} | \neg \text{AIDS}) f(\neg \text{AIDS})} \approx 0.065$$

③ Example 2: Toss a coin n times and estimate probability ϑ of 'head'

likelihood: Binomial (n, ϑ) distribution

$$\Rightarrow f(k | \vartheta) = \binom{n}{k} \vartheta^k (1 - \vartheta)^{n-k} \quad \text{for } k \in \{0, 1, \dots, n\}$$

Prior: depends on our beliefs, e.g. Beta (a, b) distribution

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow f(\vartheta) &= \frac{\Gamma(a+b)}{\Gamma(a)\Gamma(b)} \vartheta^{a-1} (1-\vartheta)^{b-1} \propto \vartheta^{a-1} (1-\vartheta)^{b-1} \\ &= \frac{1}{B(a, b)} \quad \text{Beta function} \end{aligned}$$

Posterior:

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow f(\vartheta | k) &\propto f(k | \vartheta) f(\vartheta) \\ &\propto \vartheta^k (1-\vartheta)^{n-k} \cdot \vartheta^{a-1} (1-\vartheta)^{b-1} \\ &= \vartheta^{k+a-1} (1-\vartheta)^{n-k+b-1} \end{aligned}$$

Beta $(k+a, n-k+b)$ distribution

\Rightarrow Prior and posterior distribution are from the same class of distributions ('conjugate prior')