Hierarchical models

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STAT 544 - Iowa State University

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Outline

- Motivating example
 - Independent vs pooled estimates
- Hierarchical models
 - General structure
 - Posterior distribution
- Binomial hierarchial model
 - Posterior distribution
 - Prior distributions
- Stan analysis of binomial hierarchical model
 - informative prior
 - default prior
 - ullet integrating out heta
 - across seasons

Andre Dawkin's three-point percentage

Suppose Y_i are the number 3-pointers Andre Dawkin's makes in season i, and assume

$$Y_i \stackrel{ind}{\sim} Bin(n_i, \theta_i)$$

where

- n_i are the number of 3-pointers attempted and
- θ_i is the probability of making a 3-pointer in season i.

Do these models make sense?

- The 3-point percentage every season is the same, i.e. $\theta_i = \theta$.
- The 3-point percentage every season is independent of other seasons.
- The 3-point percentage every season should be similar to other seasons.

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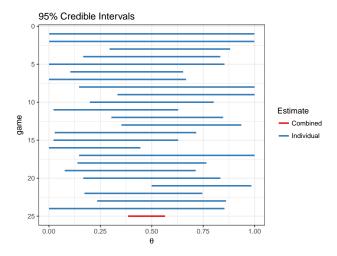
where

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- θ_i is the probability of making a 3-pointer in game i.

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Andre Dawkin's 3-point percentage



Andre Dawkin's 3-point percentage

	date	onnonent	made	attomate		b	Icl	ucl	Estimate	anno.
		opponent		attempts	a 0.50					game
1	11/8/13	davidson	0	0	0.50	0.50	0.00	1.00	Individual	1
2	11/12/13	kansas	0	0	0.50	0.50	0.00	1.00	Individual	2
3	11/15/13	florida atlantic	5	8	5.50	3.50	0.29	0.88	Individual	3
4	11/18/13	unc asheville	3	6	3.50	3.50	0.17	0.83	Individual	4
5	11/19/13	east carolina	0	1	0.50	1.50	0.00	0.85	Individual	5
6	11/24/13	vermont	3	9	3.50	6.50	0.10	0.65	Individual	6
7	11/27/13	alabama	0	2	0.50	2.50	0.00	0.67	Individual	7
8	11/29/13	arizona	1	1	1.50	0.50	0.15	1.00	Individual	8
9	12/3/13	michigan	2	2	2.50	0.50	0.33	1.00	Individual	9
10	12/16/13	gardner-webb	4	8	4.50	4.50	0.20	0.80	Individual	10
11	12/19/13	ucla	1	5	1.50	4.50	0.02	0.63	Individual	11
12	12/28/13	eastern michigan	6	10	6.50	4.50	0.30	0.85	Individual	12
13	12/31/13	elon	5	7	5.50	2.50	0.35	0.94	Individual	13
14	1/4/14	notre dame	1	4	1.50	3.50	0.03	0.72	Individual	14
15	1/7/14	georgia tech	1	5	1.50	4.50	0.02	0.63	Individual	15
16	1/11/14	clemson	0	4	0.50	4.50	0.00	0.44	Individual	16
17	1/13/14	virginia	1	1	1.50	0.50	0.15	1.00	Individual	17
18	1/18/14	nc state	3	7	3.50	4.50	0.14	0.77	Individual	18
19	1/22/14	miami	2	6	2.50	4.50	0.08	0.71	Individual	19
20	1/25/14	florida state	3	6	3.50	3.50	0.17	0.83	Individual	20
21	1/27/14	pitt	6	7	6.50	1.50	0.50	0.98	Individual	21
22	2/1/14	syracuse	4	9	4.50	5.50	0.17	0.75	Individual	22
23	2/4/14	wake forest	4	7	4.50	3.50	0.23	0.86	Individual	23
24	2/8/14	boston college	0	1	0.50	1.50	0.00	0.85	Individual	24
25	-, -,	Total	55	116	55.50	61.50	0.38	0.56	Combined	25
			- 33	110	55.50	02.50	0.50	0.50	Combined	

Hierarchical models

Consider the following model

$$y_i \overset{ind}{\sim} p(y|\theta_i)$$

$$\theta_i \overset{ind}{\sim} p(\theta|\phi)$$

$$\phi \sim p(\phi)$$

where

- y_i is observed,
- $\theta = (\theta_1, \dots, \theta_n)$ and ϕ are parameters, and
- ullet only ϕ has a prior that is set.

This is a hierarchical or multilevel model.

Posterior distribution for hierarchical models

The joint posterior distribution of interest in hierarchical models is

$$p(\theta,\phi|y) \propto p(y|\theta,\phi)p(\theta,\phi) = p(y|\theta)p(\theta|\phi)p(\phi) = \left[\prod_{i=1}^n p(y_i|\theta_i)p(\theta_i|\phi)\right]p(\phi).$$

The joint posterior distribution can be decomposed via

$$p(\theta, \phi|y) = p(\theta|\phi, y)p(\phi|y)$$

where

$$p(\theta|\phi, y) \propto p(y|\theta)p(\theta|\phi) = \prod_{i=1}^{n} p(y_{i}|\theta_{i})p(\theta_{i}|\phi) \propto \prod_{i=1}^{n} p(\theta_{i}|\phi, y_{i})$$

$$p(\phi|y) \propto p(y|\phi)p(\phi)$$

$$p(y|\phi) = \int p(y|\theta)p(\theta|\phi)d\theta$$

$$= \int \cdots \int \prod_{i=1}^{n} \left[p(y_{i}|\theta_{i})p(\theta_{i}|\phi)\right]d\theta_{1} \cdots d\theta_{n}$$

$$= \prod_{i=1}^{n} \int p(y_{i}|\theta_{i})p(\theta_{i}|\phi)d\theta_{i}$$

$$= \prod_{i=1}^{n} p(y_{i}|\phi)$$

Three-pointer example

Our statistical model

$$Y_i \stackrel{ind}{\sim} Bin(n_i, \theta_i)$$

 $\theta_i \stackrel{ind}{\sim} Be(\alpha, \beta)$
 $\alpha, \beta \sim p(\alpha, \beta)$

In this example,

- $\phi = (\alpha, \beta)$
- $Be(\alpha,\beta)$ describes the variability in 3-point percentage across games, and
- we are going to learn about this variability.

Decomposed posterior

$$Y_i \stackrel{ind}{\sim} Bin(n_i, \theta_i) \quad \theta_i \stackrel{ind}{\sim} Be(\alpha, \beta) \quad \alpha, \beta \sim p(\alpha, \beta)$$

Conditional posterior for θ :

$$p(\theta|\alpha,\beta,y) = \prod_{i=1}^{n} p(\theta_i|\alpha,\beta,y_i) = \prod_{i=1}^{n} Be(\theta_i|\alpha+y_i,\beta+n_i-y_i)$$

Marginal posterior for (α, β) :

$$\begin{array}{ll} p(\alpha,\beta|y) & \propto p(y|\alpha,\beta)p(\alpha,\beta) \\ p(y|\alpha,\beta) & = \prod_{i=1}^n p(y_i|\alpha,\beta) = \prod_{i=1}^n \int p(y_i|\theta_i)p(\theta_i|\alpha,\beta)d\theta_i \\ & = \prod_{i=1}^n \int Bin(y_i|n_i,\theta_i)Be(\theta_i|\alpha,\beta)d\theta_i \\ & = \prod_{i=1}^n \int_0^1 \binom{n_i}{y_i}\theta_i^{y_i}(1-\theta_i)^{n_i-y_i}\frac{\theta_i^{\alpha-1}(1-\theta_i)^{\beta-1}}{B(\alpha,\beta)}d\theta_i \\ & = \prod_{i=1}^n \binom{n_i}{y_i}\frac{1}{B(\alpha,\beta)}\int_0^1 \theta_i^{\alpha+y_i-1}(1-\theta_i)^{\beta+n_i-y_i-1}d\theta_i \\ & = \prod_{i=1}^n \binom{n_i}{y_i}\frac{1}{B(\alpha,\beta)}\frac{1}{B(\alpha,\beta)} \end{array}$$

Thus $y_i | \alpha, \beta \stackrel{ind}{\sim} \text{Beta-binomial}(n_i, \alpha, \beta)$.

A prior distribution for α and β

Recall the interpretation:

- ullet α : prior successes
- β : prior failures

A more natural parameterization is

- prior expectation: $\mu = \frac{\alpha}{\alpha + \beta}$
- prior sample size: $\eta = \alpha + \beta$

Place priors on these parameters or transformed to the real line:

- logit $\mu = \log(\mu/[1-\mu]) = \log(\alpha/\beta)$
- $\log \eta$

A prior distribution for α and β

It seems reasonable to assume the mean (μ) and size (η) are independent a priori:

$$p(\mu, \eta) = p(\mu)p(\eta)$$

Let's assume an informative prior for μ and η perhaps

- $\mu \sim Be(20,30)$
- $\eta \sim LN(0, 3^2)$

where LN(0,3) is a log-normal distribution, i.e. $\log(\eta) \sim N(0,3^2)$.

```
a = 20
```

b = 30

Prior draws

```
n = 1e4
prior_draws = data.frame(mu = rbeta(n, a, b),
                       eta = rlnorm(n, m, C)) \%
 mutate(alpha = eta*
        beta = eta*(1-min))
prior_draws %>%
 tidyr::gather(parameter, value) %>%
 group_by(parameter) %>%
 summarize(lower95 = quantile(value, prob = 0.025),
           median = quantile(value, prob = 0.5),
           upper95 = quantile(value, prob = 0.975))
# A tibble: 4 x 4
 parameter lower95 median upper95
 <chr>
           <dbl> <dbl> <dbl> <dbl>
1 alpha 0.00131 0.389 165
2 beta 0.00204 0.580 246
3 eta 0.00342 0.983 416
       0.270 0.398 0.539
4 m11
cor(prior_draws$alpha, prior_draws$beta)
Γ1] 0.9451046
```

```
model_informative_prior = "
data {
  int<lower=0> N: // data
  int<lower=0> n[N];
  int<lower=0> y[N];
  real<lower=0> a; // prior
  real<lower=0> b;
  real<lower=0> C;
  real m:
parameters {
  real<lower=0,upper=1> mu;
  real<lower=0> eta:
  real<lower=0,upper=1> theta[N];
transformed parameters {
  real<lower=0> alpha;
  real<lower=0> beta;
  alpha = eta* mu;
  beta = eta*(1-mu);
model {
        ~ beta(a,b);
  mu
        ~ lognormal(m,C);
  eta
 // implicit joint distributions
  theta ~ beta(alpha,beta);
        ~ binomial(n,theta);
```

Stan

stan

r

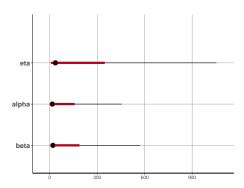
Inference for Stan model: 72a83403796ce21af93650393c8e2ae4.
4 chains, each with iter=10000; warmup=5000; thin=1;
post-warmup draws per chain=5000, total post-warmup draws=20000.

	monn	ao moon	sd	2.5%	25%	50%	75%	07 5%	n_eff	Dho+
		se_mean							_	
mu	0.45	0.00	0.04	0.36	0.42	0.45	0.47	0.53		1.00
eta	129.90		246.02	4.47	15.04	35.69		1053.19		1.03
alpha	58.55		111.50	1.90	6.61	16.03	49.53	455.05		1.03
beta	71.34	10.22	135.12	2.51	8.36	19.67	60.73	570.61	175	1.03
theta[1]	0.45	0.00	0.11	0.20	0.39	0.45	0.50	0.68	12075	1.00
theta[2]	0.45	0.00	0.11	0.21	0.39	0.45	0.50	0.69	20000	1.00
theta[3]	0.49	0.00	0.09	0.32	0.43	0.48	0.54	0.71	5228	1.00
theta[4]	0.46	0.00	0.09	0.27	0.40	0.46	0.51	0.66	20000	1.00
theta[5]	0.43	0.00	0.11	0.17	0.37	0.44	0.49	0.64	20000	1.00
theta[6]	0.42	0.00	0.09	0.22	0.37	0.43	0.48	0.58	20000	1.00
theta[7]	0.41	0.00	0.11	0.15	0.35	0.42	0.48	0.60	3457	1.00
theta[8]	0.47	0.00	0.11	0.26	0.41	0.46	0.52	0.73	20000	1.00
theta[9]	0.49	0.00	0.11	0.30	0.42	0.48	0.55	0.77	4549	1.00
theta[10]	0.46	0.00	0.09	0.28	0.40	0.46	0.51	0.65	20000	1.00
theta[11]	0.41	0.00	0.10	0.18	0.35	0.42	0.47	0.58	3041	1.00
theta[12]	0.49	0.00	0.09	0.33	0.43	0.48	0.54	0.69	20000	1.00
theta[13]	0.50	0.00	0.10	0.34	0.44	0.49	0.56	0.74	2402	1.00
theta[14]	0.42	0.00	0.10	0.20	0.37	0.43	0.48	0.60	5351	1.00
theta[15]	0.41	0.00	0.10	0.18	0.35	0.42	0.47	0.58	3279	1.00
theta[16]	0.38	0.00	0.11	0.12	0.32	0.40	0.46	0.56	1703	1.00
theta[17]	0.47	0.00	0.11	0.26	0.41	0.46	0.53	0.73	20000	1.00
theta[18]	0.44	0.00	0.09	0.26	0.39	0.45	0.50	0.63	20000	1.00
theta[19]	0.43	0.00	0.09	0.22	0.37	0.43	0.48	0.61	20000	1.00

stan

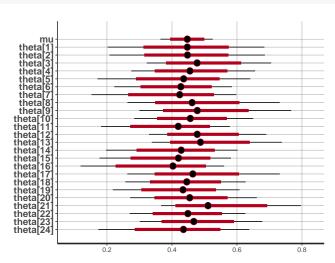
```
plot(r, pars=c('eta', 'alpha', 'beta'))

ci_level: 0.8 (80% intervals)
outer_level: 0.95 (95% intervals)
```

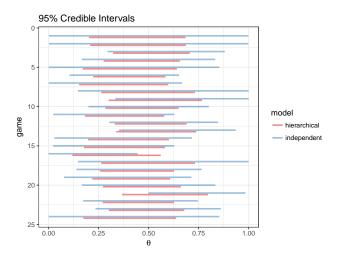


stan

```
plot(r, pars=c('mu', 'theta'))
```



Comparing independent and hierarchical models



A prior distribution for α and β

In Bayesian Data Analysis (3rd ed) page 110, several priors are discussed

- $(\log(\alpha/\beta), \log(\alpha+\beta)) \propto 1$ leads to an improper posterior.
- $(\log(\alpha/\beta), \log(\alpha+\beta)) \sim Unif([-10^{10}, 10^{10}] \times [-10^{10}, 10^{10}])$ while proper and seemingly vague is a very informative prior.
- $(\log(\alpha/\beta), \log(\alpha+\beta)) \propto \alpha\beta(\alpha+\beta)^{-5/2}$ which leads to a proper posterior and is equivalent to $p(\alpha, \beta) \propto (\alpha+\beta)^{-5/2}$.

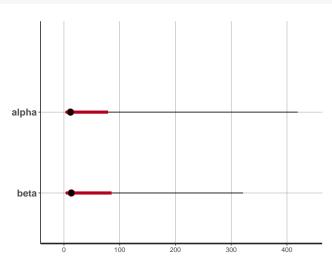
```
model_default_prior = "
data {
 int<lower=0> N:
 int<lower=0> n[N];
 int<lower=0> v[N]:
parameters {
 real<lower=0> alpha;
 real<lower=0> beta:
 real<lower=0,upper=1> theta[N];
model {
 // default prior
 target += -5*log(alpha+beta)/2;
 // implicit joint distributions
 theta ~ beta(alpha,beta):
        ~ binomial(n.theta):
m2 = stan_model(model_code=model_default_prior)
r2 = sampling(m2, dat, c("alpha", "beta", "theta"), iter=10000,
              control = list(adapt delta = 0.9))
Warning: There were 1991 divergent transitions after warmup. Increasing adapt_delta above 0.9 may help.
See
http://mc-stan.org/misc/warnings.html#divergent-transitions-after-warmup
Warning: There were 4 chains where the estimated Bayesian Fraction of Missing Information was low. See
```

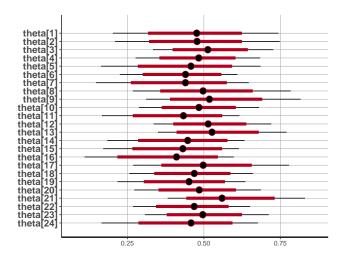
r2

Inference for Stan model: 5e03c866eb488d5c5da3d86e201810b1.
4 chains, each with iter=10000; warmup=5000; thin=1;
post-warmup draws per chain=5000, total post-warmup draws=20000.

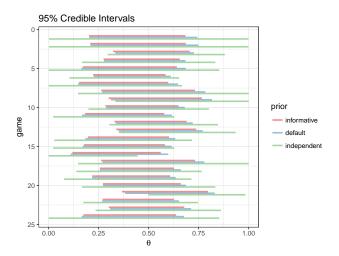
	mean	se_mean	sd	2.5%	25%	50%	75%	97.5%	n_eff	Rhat
alpha	38.81	16.99	83.51	1.78	5.44	11.79	30.86	419.30	24	1.16
beta	37.61	14.33	68.17	2.02	6.16	13.27	33.88	321.13	23	1.16
theta[1]	0.47	0.00	0.13	0.20	0.40	0.48	0.55	0.74	1817	1.00
theta[2]	0.48	0.00	0.13	0.21	0.40	0.48	0.55	0.75	2400	1.00
theta[3]	0.52	0.00	0.10	0.33	0.45	0.51	0.57	0.73	4191	1.00
theta[4]	0.48	0.00	0.10	0.28	0.42	0.48	0.55	0.68	1244	1.00
theta[5]	0.45	0.00	0.13	0.16	0.38	0.46	0.53	0.69	996	1.01
theta[6]	0.43	0.00	0.10	0.23	0.37	0.44	0.50	0.61	438	1.01
theta[7]	0.43	0.01	0.12	0.15	0.36	0.44	0.51	0.65	439	1.01
theta[8]	0.51	0.00	0.12	0.27	0.43	0.50	0.58	0.78	4911	1.00
theta[9]	0.53	0.00	0.12	0.31	0.45	0.52	0.59	0.82	3797	1.00
theta[10]	0.48	0.00	0.10	0.29	0.42	0.48	0.55	0.68	1232	1.00
theta[11]	0.42	0.01	0.11	0.17	0.35	0.43	0.50	0.62	380	1.01
theta[12]	0.52	0.00	0.10	0.34	0.45	0.51	0.57	0.72	2677	1.00
theta[13]	0.54	0.00	0.11	0.35	0.46	0.53	0.60	0.77	1719	1.00
theta[14]	0.44	0.01	0.11	0.18	0.37	0.45	0.52	0.63	494	1.01
theta[15]	0.42	0.01	0.11	0.17	0.35	0.43	0.50	0.62	360	1.01
theta[16]	0.39	0.01	0.13	0.11	0.32	0.41	0.48	0.60	251	1.02
theta[17]	0.50	0.00	0.12	0.27	0.43	0.50	0.58	0.78	3032	1.00
theta[18]	0.47	0.00	0.10	0.26	0.40	0.47	0.53	0.66	678	1.01
theta[19]	0.44	0.00	0.10	0.22	0.38	0.45	0.51	0.64	622	1.01
theta[20]	0.48	0.00	0.10	0.27	0.42	0.48	0.55	0.69	1254	1.00
theta[21]	0.57	0.00	0.11	0.38	0.49	0.56	0.64	0.83	1371	1.00

```
plot(r2, pars=c('alpha','beta'))
```





Comparing all models



Marginal posterior for α, β

An alternative to jointly sampling θ, α, β is to

- 1. sample $\alpha, \beta \sim p(\alpha, \beta|y)$, and then
- 2. sample $\theta_i \stackrel{ind}{\sim} p(\theta_i | \alpha, \beta, y_i) \stackrel{d}{=} Be(\alpha + y_i, \beta + n_i y_i)$.

The maginal posterior for α, β is

$$p(\alpha,\beta|y) \propto p(y|\alpha,\beta)p(\alpha,\beta) = \left[\prod_{i=1}^n \mathsf{Beta-binomial}(y_i|n_i,\alpha,\beta)\right]p(\alpha,\beta)$$

Stan - beta-binomial

```
# Marginalized (integrated) theta out of the model
model_marginalized = "
data {
  int<lower=0> N:
  int<lower=0> n[N];
  int<lower=0> v[N];
parameters {
  real<lower=0> alpha;
  real<lower=0> beta:
model {
  target += -5*log(alpha+beta)/2;
        ~ beta_binomial(n,alpha,beta);
m3 = stan_model(model_code=model_marginalized)
r3 = sampling(m3, dat, c("alpha", "beta"))
```

Stan - beta-binomial

```
Inference for Stan model: e43d005e5efc74fdcaa9b1ceb76cdc65.
4 chains, each with iter=2000; warmup=1000; thin=1;
post-warmup draws per chain=1000, total post-warmup draws=4000.
```

```
        mean
        se_mean
        sd
        2.5%
        25%
        50%
        75%
        97.5%
        n_eff
        Rhat

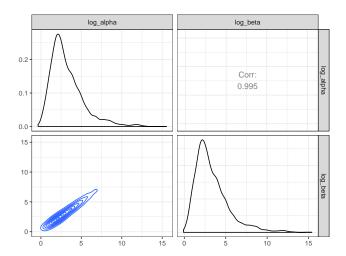
        alpha
        3894.94
        2310.00
        98697.42
        1.68
        6.11
        14.98
        63.17
        5789.49
        1826
        1

        beta
        3945.95
        2217.53
        89677.10
        2.05
        6.81
        16.98
        70.05
        6477.70
        1635
        1

        lp_
        -84.60
        0.04
        1.07
        -87.43
        -85.05
        -84.29
        -83.82
        -83.50
        603
        1
```

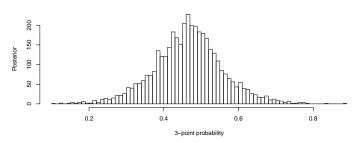
Samples were drawn using NUTS(diag_e) at Wed Feb 7 21:14:56 2018. For each parameter, n_eff is a crude measure of effective sample size, and Rhat is the potential scale reduction factor on split chains (at convergence, Rhat=1).

Posterior samples for α and β

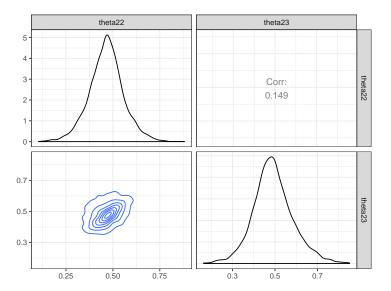


Posterior sample for θ_{22}

Posterior for game against syracuse on 2/1/14



θ s are not independent in the posterior



3-point percentage across seasons

An alternative to modeling game-specific 3-point percentage is to model 3-point percentage in a season. The model is exactly the same, but the data changes.

	season	У	n
1	1	36	95
2	2	64	150
3	3	67	171
4	4	64	152

Due to the low number of seasons (observations), we will use an informative prior for α and β .

Stan - beta-binomial

```
model_seasons = "
data {
  int<lower=0> N; int<lower=0> n[N]; int<lower=0> y[N];
  real<lower=0> a; real<lower=0> b; real<lower=0> C; real m;
parameters {
  real<lower=0,upper=1> mu;
  real<lower=0> eta;
transformed parameters {
  real<lower=0> alpha;
  real<lower=0> beta:
  alpha = eta * mu;
  beta = eta * (1-mu);
model {
     " beta(a,b);
  eta ~ lognormal(m,C):
     ~ beta binomial(n,alpha,beta);
generated quantities {
  real<lower=0.upper=1> theta[N]:
  for (i in 1:N) theta[i] = beta_rng(alpha+v[i], beta+n[i]-v[i]);
dat = list(N = nrow(d), y = d\$y, n = d\$n, a = 20, b = 30, m = 0, C = 2)
m4 = stan model(model code = model seasons)
r_seasons = sampling(m4, dat,
                     c("alpha", "beta", "mu", "eta", "theta"))
```

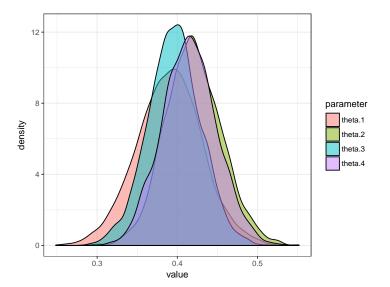
Stan - hierarchical model for seasons

Inference for Stan model: 24d4f28c4da8aec87d2181da8fb225b4.
4 chains, each with iter=2000; warmup=1000; thin=1;
post-warmup draws per chain=1000, total post-warmup draws=4000.

	mean	se_mean	sd	2.5%	25%	50%	75%	97.5%	n_eff	Rhat
alpha	58.84	3.16	134.65	1.83	10.73	25.01	57.00	327.58	1812	1
beta	86.14	4.58	196.86	2.80	15.80	36.72	83.56	463.47	1844	1
mu	0.41	0.00	0.04	0.34	0.38	0.41	0.43	0.48	1779	1
eta	144.97	7.74	331.11	4.73	26.99	61.66	140.79	793.69	1829	1
theta[1]	0.39	0.00	0.04	0.31	0.36	0.39	0.42	0.47	3670	1
theta[2]	0.42	0.00	0.04	0.35	0.40	0.42	0.44	0.49	3342	1
theta[3]	0.40	0.00	0.03	0.33	0.37	0.40	0.42	0.46	3912	1
theta[4]	0.42	0.00	0.03	0.35	0.39	0.41	0.44	0.48	3624	1
lp	-422.68	0.03	1.07	-425.58	-423.13	-422.35	-421.89	-421.61	1365	1

Samples were drawn using NUTS(diag_e) at Wed Feb 7 21:18:12 2018. For each parameter, n_eff is a crude measure of effective sample size, and Rhat is the potential scale reduction factor on split chains (at convergence, Rhat=1).

Stan - hierarchical model for seasons



Stan - hierarchical model for seasons

Probabilities that 3-point percentage is greater in season 4 than in the other seasons:

```
theta = extract(r_seasons, "theta")[[1]]
mean(theta[,4] > theta[,1])

[1] 0.68575

mean(theta[,4] > theta[,2])

[1] 0.45075

mean(theta[,4] > theta[,3])

[1] 0.66075
```

Summary - hierarchical models

Two-level hierarchical model:

$$y_i \stackrel{ind}{\sim} p(y|\theta) \qquad \theta_i \stackrel{ind}{\sim} p(\theta|\phi) \qquad \phi \sim p(\phi)$$

Conditional independencies:

- $y_i \perp y_i | \theta$ for $i \neq j$
- $\theta_i \perp \!\!\! \perp \theta_j | \phi$ for $i \neq j$
- $y \perp \!\!\! \perp \phi | \theta$
- $y_i \perp \!\!\! \perp y_j | \phi$ for $i \neq j$
- $\theta_i \perp \!\!\! \perp \theta_j | \phi, y$ for $i \neq j$

Summary - extension to more levels

Three-level hierarchical model:

$$y \sim p(y|\theta)$$
 $\theta \sim p(\theta|\phi)$ $\phi \sim p(\phi|\psi)$ $\psi \sim p(\psi)$

When deriving posteriors, remember the conditional independence structure, e.g.

$$p(\theta, \phi, \psi|y) \propto p(y|\theta)p(\theta|\phi)p(\phi|\psi)p(\psi)$$