Hierarchical models

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Outline

- Motivating example
 - Independent vs pooled estimates
- Hierarchical models
 - General structure
 - Posterior distribution
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 - Posterior distribution
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 - default prior
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 - 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.

Andre Dawkin's three-point percentage

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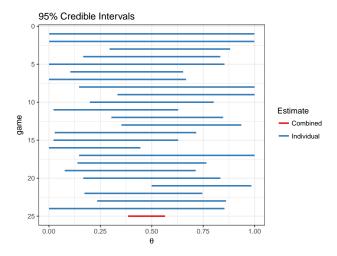
where

- n_i are the number of 3-pointers attempted in game i and
- 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	opponent	made	attempts	a	b	lcl	ucl	Estimate	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

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:

- 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. $\log(\eta) \sim N(0,3)$.

```
a = 20
```

$$m = 0$$

C = 3

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

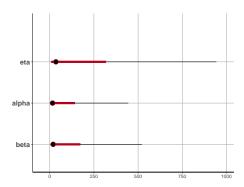
Inference for Stan model: 72a83403796ce21af93650393c8e2ae4.
4 chains, each with iter=10000; warmup=5000; thin=1;
post-warmup draws per chain=5000, total post-warmup draws=20000.

		se_mean	sd	2.5%	25%	50%	75%		n_eff	
mu	0.45	0.00	0.04	0.36	0.42	0.45	0.48	0.53	2354	1.00
eta	119.12	20.16	223.16	4.54	14.76	34.95	103.52	943.15	122	1.03
alpha	54.59	9.71	105.70	1.93	6.49	15.66	46.69	444.64	118	1.03
beta	64.53	10.45	118.12	2.54	8.19	19.15	56.98	521.39	128	1.03
theta[1]	0.45	0.00	0.11	0.20	0.38	0.45	0.51	0.69	20000	1.00
theta[2]	0.45	0.00	0.11	0.20	0.39	0.45	0.51	0.69	20000	1.00
theta[3]	0.49	0.00	0.09	0.32	0.43	0.48	0.54	0.70	4541	1.00
theta[4]	0.46	0.00	0.09	0.27	0.40	0.46	0.51	0.65	20000	1.00
theta[5]	0.43	0.00	0.11	0.18	0.37	0.44	0.49	0.64	20000	1.00
theta[6]	0.42	0.00	0.09	0.23	0.37	0.43	0.48	0.58	5025	1.00
theta[7]	0.41	0.00	0.11	0.16	0.35	0.42	0.48	0.60	3328	1.00
theta[8]	0.47	0.00	0.11	0.26	0.41	0.47	0.53	0.73	20000	1.00
theta[9]	0.49	0.00	0.11	0.30	0.42	0.48	0.55	0.77	4997	1.00
theta[10]	0.46	0.00	0.09	0.29	0.41	0.46	0.51	0.65	20000	1.00
theta[11]	0.41	0.00	0.10	0.17	0.35	0.42	0.48	0.58	2861	1.00
theta[12]	0.49	0.00	0.09	0.33	0.43	0.48	0.54	0.69	4793	1.00
theta[13]	0.50	0.00	0.10	0.34	0.44	0.49	0.56	0.74	3145	1.00
theta[14]	0.42	0.00	0.10	0.19	0.36	0.43	0.48	0.61	3812	1.00
theta[15]	0.41	0.00	0.10	0.18	0.35	0.42	0.47	0.58	2884	1.00
theta[16]	0.38	0.00	0.11	0.13	0.32	0.40	0.46	0.56	1685	1.00
theta[17]	0.47	0.00	0.11	0.26	0.41	0.47	0.52	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	0.60	20000	1.00

stan

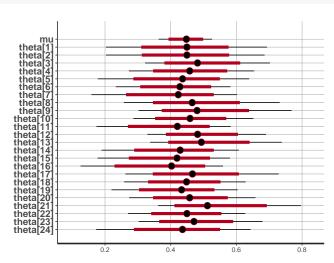
```
plot(r, pars=c('eta', 'alpha', 'beta'))

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

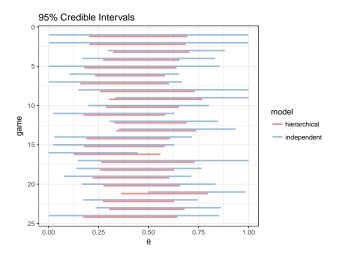


stan

```
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 $p(\alpha, \beta) \propto (\alpha+\beta)^{-5/2}$.

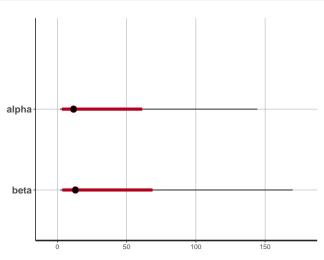
```
model_default_prior = "
data {
 int<lower=0> N:
 int<lower=0> n[N];
 int<lower=0> v[N]:
parameters {
 real<lower=0> alpha;
 real<lower=0> beta:
 real<lower=0,upper=1> theta[N];
model {
 // default prior
 target += -5*log(alpha+beta)/2;
 // implicit joint distributions
 theta ~ beta(alpha,beta):
        ~ 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 1031 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
```

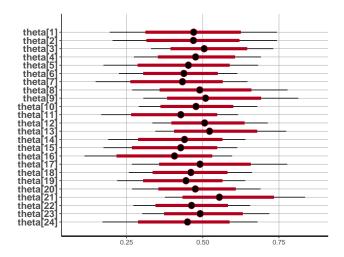
r2

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.

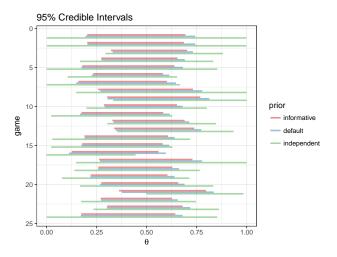
	mean	se_mean	sd	2.5%	25%	50%	75%	97.5%	n_eff	Rhat
alpha	26.63	2.91	42.51	1.78	5.44	11.61	29.94	144.43	213	1.04
beta	30.15	3.36	49.41	2.08	6.18	12.97	32.92	169.93	216	1.04
theta[1]	0.47	0.00	0.13	0.19	0.40	0.47	0.54	0.74	20000	1.00
theta[2]	0.47	0.00	0.13	0.20	0.40	0.47	0.54	0.74	20000	1.00
theta[3]	0.51	0.00	0.10	0.33	0.45	0.50	0.57	0.73	4606	1.00
theta[4]	0.48	0.00	0.10	0.27	0.42	0.48	0.54	0.69	8447	1.00
theta[5]	0.44	0.00	0.12	0.17	0.37	0.45	0.52	0.68	7753	1.00
theta[6]	0.43	0.00	0.10	0.22	0.37	0.44	0.49	0.61	5171	1.00
theta[7]	0.42	0.00	0.12	0.15	0.36	0.43	0.50	0.65	5053	1.00
theta[8]	0.50	0.00	0.12	0.27	0.42	0.49	0.57	0.78	6425	1.00
theta[9]	0.52	0.00	0.12	0.30	0.44	0.51	0.59	0.81	4829	1.00
theta[10]	0.48	0.00	0.10	0.29	0.42	0.48	0.54	0.68	7990	1.00
theta[11]	0.42	0.00	0.11	0.17	0.35	0.43	0.49	0.62	3696	1.00
theta[12]	0.51	0.00	0.10	0.33	0.45	0.51	0.57	0.71	5179	1.00
theta[13]	0.53	0.00	0.11	0.34	0.46	0.52	0.60	0.77	3194	1.00
theta[14]	0.43	0.00	0.11	0.19	0.37	0.44	0.50	0.64	5792	1.00
theta[15]	0.42	0.00	0.11	0.17	0.35	0.43	0.49	0.61	3788	1.00
theta[16]	0.39	0.00	0.12	0.11	0.32	0.41	0.47	0.60	2510	1.00
theta[17]	0.50	0.00	0.12	0.27	0.42	0.49	0.57	0.78	6302	1.00
theta[18]	0.46	0.00	0.10	0.26	0.40	0.46	0.52	0.66	8750	1.00
theta[19]	0.44	0.00	0.10	0.22	0.38	0.44	0.51	0.64	5386	1.00
theta[20]	0.48	0.00	0.10	0.27	0.42	0.48	0.54	0.69	8642	1.00
theta[21]	0.57	0.00	0.12	0.38	0.48	0.55	0.64	0.84	1940	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

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

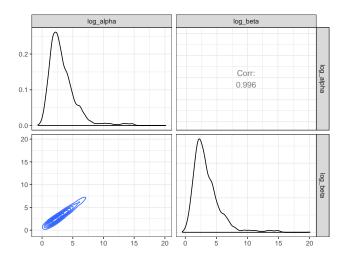
Stan - beta-binomial

Stan - beta-binomial

```
Inference for Stan model: e43d085e5efc74fdcaa9b1ceb76cdc65.
4 chains, each with iter=2000; warmup=1000; thin=1;
post-warmup draws per chain=1000, total post-warmup draws=4000.
```

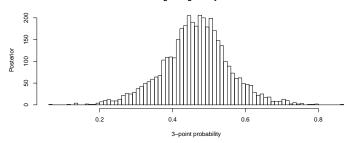
Samples were drawn using NUTS(diag_e) at Tue Feb 13 09:41:45 2018. For each parameter, n_eff is a crude measure of effective sample size, and Rhat is the potential scale reduction factor on split chains (at convergence, Rhat=1).

Posterior samples for α and β

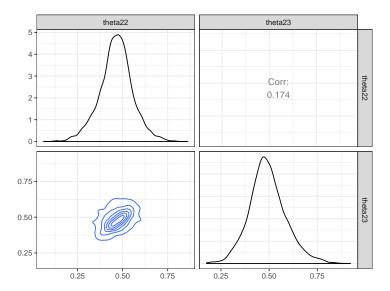


Posterior sample for θ_{22}

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"))
```

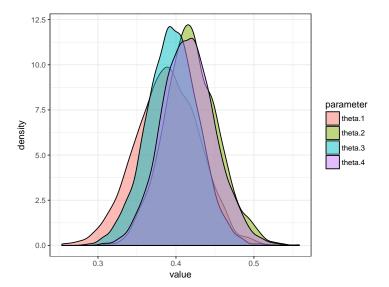
Stan - hierarchical model for seasons

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	55.36	2.92	137.85	1.97	10.79	23.83	53.62	301.81	2235	1
beta	81.51	4.42	208.59	2.88	16.02	35.15	78.88	438.61	2230	1
mu	0.41	0.00	0.04	0.34	0.38	0.40	0.43	0.48	1609	1
eta	136.87	7.33	346.11	4.93	27.04	59.23	132.64	736.55	2230	1
theta[1]	0.39	0.00	0.04	0.31	0.36	0.39	0.42	0.47	3932	1
theta[2]	0.42	0.00	0.03	0.35	0.40	0.42	0.44	0.49	3687	1
theta[3]	0.40	0.00	0.03	0.33	0.37	0.40	0.42	0.46	4000	1
theta[4]	0.42	0.00	0.03	0.35	0.39	0.42	0.44	0.49	3626	1
lp	-422.68	0.04	1.12	-425.65	-423.09	-422.34	-421.90	-421.61	1031	1

Samples were drawn using NUTS(diag_e) at Tue Feb 13 09:42:17 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] 0.69825

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

[1] 0.47575

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

[1] 0.67325
```

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:

- $y_i \perp \!\!\! \perp y_i | \theta$ 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.

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