

1. True or False:

- a. To generate S independent random draws from some posterior predictive distribution $X_{new}|x_1, \dots, x_n$, we first simulate a single draw from the posterior, $\theta_0 \sim f(\theta|x_1, \dots, x_n)$, and then use it to generate iid $X_{new}^{(1)}, \dots, X_{new}^{(S)} \sim f(x|\theta_0)$.
F
- b. For any two events $P(A \cup B) \leq \max\{P(A), P(B)\}$. F
- c. When analyzing a posterior distribution by computing a grid approximation of the posterior density, it is important that the grid region includes almost all of the support of the posterior probability. T
- d. In the multivariate Normal model with multivariate normal prior on θ and known covariance matrix Σ , the posterior predictive distribution of $x_{new}|x$ is also multivariate normal. T
- e. In the Binomial model with Beta(a, b) prior, the posterior variance is always smaller than the prior variance, regardless of the values of n, x, a and b . F
- f. The variance of the prior predictive distribution for the Binomial model with Beta(a, b) prior is given by $\frac{(a+x)(b+n-x)}{(a+b+n)^2}$. F
- g. If $X \sim N_p(\mu, \Sigma)$, then $X_i \sim N(\mu_i, \sigma_{ii})$, $i = 1, \dots, p$. T
- h. If $X_1, \dots, X_n|\theta \sim \text{iid Poisson}(\theta)$, then $\Gamma(a, b)$ is a conjugate prior. T
- i. For sampling from $f(x_1, x_2, x_3)$ the Gibbs sampler will iterate between $f(x_1|x_2)$, $f(x_2|x_3)$ and $f(x_3|x_1)$. F
- j. A finite state space Markov chain X_0, X_2, \dots satisfies the following equation:
 $P(X_n = s_n | X_{n-1} = s_{n-1}, \dots, X_0 = s_0) = P(X_n = s_n | X_{n-1} = s_{n-1}), \forall n$ T
- k. *Bonus:* Let X, Y, Z be random variables with joint density $f(x, y, z)$. If there exist functions g and h such that $f(x, y, z) \propto g(x, y)h(x, z)$, then Y and Z are conditionally independent given X . T

2. Let $X_1, X_2 | \theta, \sigma^2$ be iid $N(\theta, \sigma^2)$, where $\theta | \sigma^2 \sim N(0, 1)$ and $\sigma^2 \sim \text{IG}(1, 1/2)$.

Note that if $Y \sim \text{IG}(a, b)$, then $f(y) = \frac{b^a}{\Gamma(a)} y^{-a-1} e^{-\frac{b}{y}}$, $y > 0$.

a. Derive (up to a normalizing constant) the posterior density $f(\theta | \sigma^2, x_1, x_2)$ of $\theta | \sigma^2, x_1, x_2$

$$\begin{aligned} f(x_1, x_2, \theta, \sigma^2) &\propto (\sigma^2)^{-1} e^{-\frac{1}{2} \left[\frac{(x_1 - \theta)^2}{\sigma^2} + \frac{(x_2 - \theta)^2}{\sigma^2} \right]} e^{-\frac{1}{2} \theta^2} (\sigma^2)^{-2} e^{-\frac{1}{2\sigma^2}} \\ &= (\sigma^2)^{-3} e^{-\frac{1}{2} \left[\frac{2}{\sigma^2} \theta^2 + \theta^2 - \frac{2(x_1 + x_2)}{\sigma^2} \theta + \frac{x_1^2 + x_2^2}{\sigma^2} \right]} \\ &= (\sigma^2)^{-3} e^{-\frac{1}{2\sigma^2} (x_1^2 + x_2^2)} e^{\frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{2 + \sigma^2}{\sigma^2} \right) \left(\frac{x_1 + x_2}{2 + \sigma^2} \right)^2} e^{-\frac{1}{2} \left[\frac{2 + \sigma^2}{\sigma^2} \left(\theta - \frac{x_1 + x_2}{2 + \sigma^2} \right)^2 \right]} \\ &\Rightarrow f(\theta | \sigma^2, x_1, x_2) \propto e^{-\frac{1}{2} \left[\frac{2 + \sigma^2}{\sigma^2} \left(\theta - \frac{x_1 + x_2}{2 + \sigma^2} \right)^2 \right]} \\ &\Rightarrow \theta | \sigma^2, x_1, x_2 \sim N \left(\frac{x_1 + x_2}{2 + \sigma^2}, \frac{\sigma^2}{2 + \sigma^2} \right) \end{aligned}$$

b. Derive (up to a normalizing constant) the posterior density $f(\sigma^2 | x_1, x_2)$ of $\sigma^2 | x_1, x_2$

$$\begin{aligned} f(\sigma^2 | x_1, x_2) &\propto (\sigma^2)^{-3} e^{-\frac{1}{2\sigma^2} (x_1^2 + x_2^2)} e^{\frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{2 + \sigma^2}{\sigma^2} \right) \left(\frac{x_1 + x_2}{2 + \sigma^2} \right)^2} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-\frac{1}{2} \left[\frac{2 + \sigma^2}{\sigma^2} \left(\theta - \frac{x_1 + x_2}{2 + \sigma^2} \right)^2 \right]} d\theta \\ &= (\sigma^2)^{-3} e^{-\frac{1}{2\sigma^2} (x_1^2 + x_2^2)} e^{\frac{1}{2\sigma^2} \frac{(x_1 + x_2)^2}{2 + \sigma^2}} \sqrt{2\pi \frac{\sigma^2}{2 + \sigma^2}} \\ &\propto \frac{(\sigma^2)^{-2}}{\sqrt{2 + \sigma^2}} e^{-\frac{1}{2\sigma^2} \left[x_1^2 + x_2^2 - \frac{(x_1 + x_2)^2}{2 + \sigma^2} \right]} \end{aligned}$$

Note this is not a standard distribution.

c. If you could simulate both densities in a) and b), explain briefly how you would use them to estimate $E(\theta | x_1, x_2)$.

1. Generate σ^2 from $f(\sigma^2 | x_1, x_2)$ in part b.
2. Use the generated σ^2 from step 1 to generate θ from $f(\theta | \sigma^2, x_1, x_2)$ in part a.
3. Repeat steps 1 and 2 S times to obtain a sequence $(\theta, \sigma^2)^{(1)}, \dots, (\theta, \sigma^2)^{(S)}$
4. Calculate $\frac{1}{S} \sum_{i=1}^S \theta^{(i)} \approx E(\theta | x_1, x_2)$.

3. In a sample of 100 adults, 21 of them have a travel credit card. Let θ represent the proportion of the entire population that has a travel credit card and assume $\text{Beta}(a, b)$ prior on it. Use without proof the fact that the posterior distribution is:

$$\theta | x \sim \text{Beta}(a + x, b + n - x), \text{ where } x = \sum_{i=1}^n x_i.$$

a) If we strongly believe that $\theta < 0.5$, which of the following priors is the most appropriate to use?

- i. $\text{Beta}(1, 1)$
- ii. $\text{Beta}(5, 3)$
- iii. $\text{Beta}(3, 5)$
- iv. $\text{Beta}(\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2})$

b) Regardless of your answer to part a), suppose we want to use $\text{Beta}(1, 1)$ prior. Find the posterior:

i. Mean

$$E(\theta | x) = \frac{a+x}{a+b+n} = \frac{1+21}{1+1+100} = 0.22$$

ii. Mode

$$\frac{a+x-1}{a+b+n-2} = \frac{1+21-1}{1+1+100-2} = 0.21$$

iii. Standard deviation

$$\text{Var}(\theta | x) = \frac{(a+x)(b+n-x)}{(a+b+n)^2 (a+b+n+1)} = \frac{(1+21)(1+100-21)}{(1+1+100)^2 (1+1+100+1)} = 0.000016$$

$$\sigma(\theta | x) = 0.004$$

c) Suppose you want to calculate a 95% posterior quantile-based confidence interval using statistical software. Write down the exact command you would use.

~~quantile~~ $q\text{beta}(22, 80, c(0.025, 0.975))$

d) Explain briefly how you can approximate the posterior median.

$$\text{median}(r\text{beta}(10000, 22, 80))$$

4. A hospital receives 70% of its flu vaccine from Company A, 20% from Company B and the remainder from Company C. Each shipment contains a large vial of vaccine. It is known that from Company A, 10% of the vials are ineffective; from Company B, 86% are ineffective, and from Company C 47% are ineffective. The hospital received one shipment and randomly selected without replacement to test for effectiveness 10 of the vials.

a) Find the probability that exactly 2 of the selected vials are ineffective.

$$\begin{aligned}
 P(X=2) &= P(A) \cdot P(X=2|A) + P(B) \cdot P(X=2|B) + P(C) \cdot P(X=2|C) \\
 &= 0.7 \left[\binom{10}{2} (0.1)^2 (0.9)^8 \right] + 0.2 \left[\binom{10}{2} (0.86)^2 (0.14)^8 \right] \\
 &\quad + 0.1 \left[\binom{10}{2} (0.47)^2 (0.53)^8 \right] \\
 &= 0.7(0.194) + 0.2(0) + 0.1(0.062) \\
 &= 0.142
 \end{aligned}$$

b) Given that exactly 2 of the selected vials are ineffective, compute each of the probabilities that it came from Company A, B or C.

$$\begin{aligned}
 P(A|X=2) &= \frac{P(A) \cdot P(X=2|A)}{P(X=2)} = \frac{0.7(0.194)}{0.142} \\
 &= 0.956
 \end{aligned}$$

$$P(B|X=2) \approx 0$$

$$P(C|X=2) = \frac{0.1(0.062)}{0.142} = 0.044$$