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# Suppose we are giving two students a multiple-choice exam with 40 questions,
# where each question has four choices. We don't know how much the students
# have studied for this exam, but we think that they will do better than just
# guessing randomly.
# 1) What are the parameters of interest?
# 2) What is our likelihood?
# 3) What prior should we use?
# 4) What is the prior probability  $P(\theta > .25)$ ?  $P(\theta > .5)$ ?  $P(\theta > .8)$ ?
# 5) Suppose the first student gets 33 questions right. What is the posterior
# distribution for  $\theta_1$ ?  $P(\theta_1 > .25)$ ?  $P(\theta_1 > .5)$ ?  $P(\theta_1 > .8)$ ?
# What is a 95% posterior credible interval for  $\theta_1$ ?
# 6) Suppose the second student gets 24 questions right. What is the posterior
# distribution for  $\theta_2$ ?  $P(\theta_2 > .25)$ ?  $P(\theta_2 > .5)$ ?  $P(\theta_2 > .8)$ ?
# What is a 95% posterior credible interval for  $\theta_2$ ?
# 7) What is the posterior probability that  $\theta_1 > \theta_2$ , i.e., that the
# first student has a better chance of getting a question right than
# the second student?
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# Solutions:
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# 1) Parameters of interest are  $\theta_1$ =true probability the first student
# will answer a question correctly, and  $\theta_2$ =true probability the second
# student will answer a question correctly.
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```
# 2) Likelihood is  $\text{Binomial}(40, \theta)$ , if we assume that each question is
# independent and that the probability a student gets each question right
# is the same for all questions for that student.
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# 3) The conjugate prior is a beta prior. Plot the density with dbeta.
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```
theta=seq(from=0,to=1,by=.01)
plot(theta,dbeta(theta,1,1),type="l")
plot(theta,dbeta(theta,4,2),type="l")
plot(theta,dbeta(theta,8,4),type="l")
```

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# 4) Find probabilities using the pbeta function.
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```
1-pbeta(.25,8,4)
1-pbeta(.5,8,4)
1-pbeta(.8,8,4)
```

```
# 5) Posterior is  $\text{Beta}(8+33, 4+40-33) = \text{Beta}(41, 11)$ 
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```
41/(41+11) # posterior mean
33/40      # MLE
```

```
lines(theta,dbeta(theta,41,11))
```

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# plot posterior first to get the right scale on the y-axis
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```
plot(theta,dbeta(theta,41,11),type="l")
lines(theta,dbeta(theta,8,4),lty=2)
# plot likelihood
lines(theta,dbinom(33,size=40,p=theta),lty=3)
# plot scaled likelihood
lines(theta,44*dbinom(33,size=40,p=theta),lty=3)
```

```
# posterior probabilities
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```
1-pbeta(.25,41,11)
1-pbeta(.5,41,11)
1-pbeta(.8,41,11)
```

```
# equal-tailed 95% credible interval
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```
qbeta(.025,41,11)
qbeta(.975,41,11)
```

```
# 6) Posterior is  $\text{Beta}(8+24, 4+40-24) = \text{Beta}(32, 20)$ 
```

```
32/(32+20) # posterior mean
24/40      # MLE
```

```
plot(theta,dbeta(theta,32,20),type="l")
lines(theta,dbeta(theta,8,4),lty=2)
lines(theta,44*dbinom(24,size=40,p=theta),lty=3)
```

```
1-pbeta(.25,32,20)
1-pbeta(.5,32,20)
1-pbeta(.8,32,20)
```

```
qbeta(.025,32,20)
qbeta(.975,32,20)
```

```
# 7) Estimate by simulation: draw 1,000 samples from each and see how often
# we observe theta1>theta2
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```
theta1=rbeta(1000,41,11)
theta2=rbeta(1000,32,20)
mean(theta1>theta2)
```

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# Note for other distributions:
# dgamma,pgamma,qgamma,rgamma
# dnorm,pnorm,qnorm,rnorm
```