

# Bayes U4L13 Notes

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## 1 Bayesian Prediction

Recall  $m(x) = \int f(x|\theta)\pi(\theta)d\theta$  is the marginal distribution, which is sometimes called the **prior predictive distribution**.

$$f(x_{n+1}|x_1, \dots, x_n) = \int f(x_{n+1}|\theta)\pi(\theta|x_1, \dots, x_n)d\theta$$

The above is called the **posterior predictive distribution**.

$$\hat{X}_{n+1} = \int x_{n+1} \times f(x_{n+1}|x_1, \dots, x_n)dx_{n+1} = \mathbb{E}(X_{n+1}|X_1, \dots, X_n)$$

The above is called the **predictive mean** (prediction for  $X_{n+1}$  ).

$$\int \left(x_{n+1} - \hat{X}_{n+1}\right)^2 f(x_{n+1}|x_1, \dots, x_n)dx_{n+1}$$

The above is called the **predictive variance**.

## 2 Example 1

Observations from Exponential distribution with Gamma prior on  $\lambda$

$$x_1, \dots, x_n \sim \text{Exp}(\lambda), \quad f(x_i) = \lambda e^{-\lambda x_i}, \quad \pi(\lambda) = \frac{\beta^\alpha \lambda^{\alpha-1}}{\Gamma(\alpha)} e^{-\beta \lambda}, \quad \lambda \geq 0$$

**Likelihood:**

$$\begin{aligned} L(\lambda|x_1, \dots, x_n) &= \prod_{i=1}^n \lambda e^{-\lambda x_i} \\ &= \lambda^n e^{-\lambda \sum_{i=1}^n x_i} \end{aligned}$$

**Posterior:**

$$\begin{aligned} L(\lambda|x_1, \dots, x_n)\pi(\lambda) &= \lambda^n e^{-\lambda \sum_{i=1}^n x_i} \frac{\beta^\alpha \lambda^{\alpha-1}}{\Gamma(\alpha)} e^{-\beta \lambda} \\ &= \frac{\beta^\alpha}{\Gamma(\alpha)} \lambda^{\alpha-1} \lambda^n e^{-\lambda \sum_{i=1}^n x_i} e^{-\beta \lambda} \\ &= C \lambda^{\alpha+n-1} e^{-\lambda(\sum_{i=1}^n x_i + \beta)} \\ &\propto \text{Gamma}(\alpha + n, \sum_{i=1}^n x_i + \beta) \end{aligned}$$

The pdf of the posterior is then

$$\pi(\lambda|x_1, \dots, x_n) = \frac{(\sum_{i=1}^n x_i + \beta)^{\alpha+n}}{\Gamma(\alpha + n)} \lambda^{\alpha+n-1} e^{-\lambda(\sum_{i=1}^n x_i + \beta)} \quad \text{for } \lambda > 0$$

We also need the help of the Gamma function (not distribution) to help solve the next problem:

$$\Gamma(z) = \int_0^\infty x^{z-1} e^{-x} dx \quad \text{for } z > 0. \quad \text{We also have the result that } \Gamma(z+1) = z\Gamma(z)$$

**Posterior predictive distribution:**

$$\begin{aligned} f(x_{n+1}|x_1, \dots, x_n) &= \int_0^\infty \lambda e^{-\lambda x_{n+1}} \pi(\lambda|x_1, \dots, x_n) d\lambda \\ &= \int_0^\infty \lambda e^{-\lambda x_{n+1}} \frac{(\sum_{i=1}^n x_i + \beta)^{\alpha+n}}{\Gamma(\alpha+n)} \lambda^{\alpha+n-1} e^{-\lambda(\sum_{i=1}^n x_i + \beta)} d\lambda \\ &= \frac{(\sum_{i=1}^n x_i + \beta)^{\alpha+n}}{\Gamma(\alpha+n)} \int_0^\infty \lambda^{\alpha+n} e^{-\lambda(x_{n+1} + \sum_{i=1}^n x_i + \beta)} d\lambda \\ \text{Substituting } u &= \lambda(x_{n+1} + \sum_{i=1}^n x_i + \beta), \quad du = (x_{n+1} + \sum_{i=1}^n x_i + \beta) d\lambda \\ &= \frac{(\sum_{i=1}^n x_i + \beta)^{\alpha+n}}{\Gamma(\alpha+n)} \int_0^\infty \left( \frac{u}{x_{n+1} + \sum_{i=1}^n x_i + \beta} \right)^{\alpha+n} e^{-u} \frac{du}{(x_{n+1} + \sum_{i=1}^n x_i + \beta)} \\ &= \frac{(\sum_{i=1}^n x_i + \beta)^{\alpha+n}}{\Gamma(\alpha+n)(x_{n+1} + \sum_{i=1}^n x_i + \beta)^{\alpha+n+1}} \int_0^\infty u^{\alpha+n} e^{-u} du \\ &= \frac{(\sum_{i=1}^n x_i + \beta)^{\alpha+n} \Gamma(\alpha+n+1)}{\Gamma(\alpha+n)(x_{n+1} + \sum_{i=1}^n x_i + \beta)^{\alpha+n+1}} \\ &= \frac{(\sum_{i=1}^n x_i + \beta)^{\alpha+n} (\alpha+n) \Gamma(\alpha+n)}{\Gamma(\alpha+n)(x_{n+1} + \sum_{i=1}^n x_i + \beta)^{\alpha+n+1}} \\ &= \frac{(\alpha+n)(\sum_{i=1}^n x_i + \beta)^{\alpha+n}}{(x_{n+1} + \sum_{i=1}^n x_i + \beta)^{\alpha+n+1}} \end{aligned}$$

Thus  $x_{n+1} + \sum_{i=1}^n x_i + \beta$  has a Pareto distribution with parameters  $\sum_{i=1}^n x_i + \beta$  and  $\alpha + n$ .

### 3 Example 2

If  $X \sim Pa(c, \alpha)$ , then  $f(x) = \frac{\alpha}{c} (\frac{c}{x})^{\alpha+1}$ ,  $x \geq c$ . We have

$$E[X] = \frac{\alpha c}{\alpha - 1}, \quad \alpha > 1$$

and

$$Var(X) = \frac{\alpha c^2}{(\alpha - 1)^2 (\alpha - 2)}, \quad \alpha > 2$$

We have  $x_{n+1} + \sum_{i=1}^n x_i + \beta \sim Pa(\sum_{i=1}^n x_i + \beta, \alpha + n)$

Then

$$\begin{aligned} E\hat{X}_{n+1} &= EX_{n+1} \\ &= \frac{(\sum_{i=1}^n x_i + \beta)(\alpha + n)}{\alpha + n - 1} - \sum_{i=1}^n x_i - \beta \\ &= \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n x_i + \beta}{\alpha + n - 1} \end{aligned}$$

**Exercise for reader:** show

$$\hat{\sigma}_{x_{n+1}}^2 = \frac{(\sum_{i=1}^n x_i + \beta)^2(n + \alpha)}{(\alpha + n - 1)^2(\alpha + n - 2)}$$

For example if  $x_1 = 2.1$ ,  $x_2 = 5.5$ ,  $x_3 = 6.4$ ,  $x_4 = 8.7$ ,  $x_5 = 4.9$ ,  $x_6 = 5.1$ ,  $x_7 = 2.3$  and  $\lambda \sim Ga(2, 1)$ , then

$$\hat{X}_8 = \frac{9}{2}, \hat{\sigma}_{x_8}^2 = 26.0357$$

This is easier if only  $\hat{X}_{n+1}$  is wanted:

$$\hat{X}_{n+1} = \int_{\theta} \mu(\theta) \pi(\theta | x_1, \dots, x_n) d\theta$$

where  $\mu(\theta) = \int x f(x|\theta) d\theta$  is the mean of X.