Chapter 3

Inference from posterior distribution

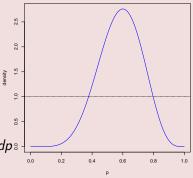
The posterior distribution

$$p(p|n,y) \propto p^{y}(1-p)^{n-y}\mathbb{I}_{[0,1]}(p)$$

.

 What is the probability that p is less then 0.5:

$$\mathbb{P}(p < 0.5 | n, y) = \int_0^{0.5} p(p|n, y) dp$$
s



Sampling from the posterior

• Grid approximation of the posterior:

```
y = 6

n = 10

p_grid <- seq(from = 0, to = 1, length.out = 1000)

prior <- rep(1, 1000)

likelihood <- dbinom(x = y, size = n, prob = p_grid)

posterior <- likelihood * prior

posterior <- posterior / sum(posterior)
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Sampling:

Posterior distribution

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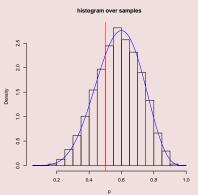


Figure: Histogram of draws from the posterior. Blue line is the posterior distribution

Calculating $\mathbb{P}(p < 0.5)$

•
$$\mathbb{P}(p|n=10, y=6) = \int_0^{0.5} p(p|n=10, y=6) dp = 0.274$$

Calculating $\mathbb{P}(p < 0.5)$

- $\mathbb{P}(p|n=10, y=6) = \int_0^{0.5} p(p|n=10, y=6) dp = 0.274$
- Approximation by sampling $(p_1, p_2, ..., p_s)$:

$$P_{est} = \frac{1}{10^4} \sum_{i=1}^{10^4} \mathbb{I}_{[0,0.5)}(p_i) = 0.281$$

In code:

```
samples <- sample(p_grid ,
prob = posterior ,
size = s,
replace = T)
P_est <- mean(samples < 0.5)</pre>
```

• What is the effect of the code s (the number of samples) on the approximation?

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• $s = 10^5$ three runs of the code

$$P_{est}^1 = 0.272, P_{est}^2 = 0.274, P_{est}^3 = 0.274.$$



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• The predictive distribution after observing the data (y, n)

$$p(y^*|n^*, n, y) = \int p(y^*|n^*, p)p(p|n, y)dp.$$

Sampling from the posterior

Prior predictive distribution

Sampling from the posterior

Prior predictive distribution

```
\begin{array}{lll} \text{samples} & < & runif (n = 10000, \ \text{min} = 0, \ \text{max} \ = 1) \\ \text{ystar} & < & rbinom (n = 10000, \\ & \text{size} \ = \ 16, \\ & \text{prob} \ = \ \text{samples}) \end{array}
```

Posterior predictive distribution

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- An approximation of the percentile interval (PI) is obtained by taking quantiles from samples.
- Highest posterior interval (HPDI) is the smallest possible interval.

