

#1

$$a) E[Y_i] = E[E[Y_i | \theta]] = E[\theta] = \frac{\eta}{\eta + 1} = \frac{1}{2}$$

(Tower Rule)

$$V[Y_i] = E[E[Y_i | \theta]] + V[E[Y_i | \theta]] \quad (\text{Law of Total Variance})$$

$$= E[\theta(1-\theta)] + V[\theta]$$

$$= \int_0^1 \theta(1-\theta) p(\theta) d\theta + V[\theta]$$

$$= \int_0^1 \theta(1-\theta) \frac{\Gamma(\eta+1)}{\Gamma(\eta)\Gamma(\eta)} \theta^{\eta-1} (1-\theta)^{\eta-1} d\theta + V[\theta]$$

$$= \frac{\Gamma(2\eta)}{\Gamma(\eta)\Gamma(\eta)} \int_0^1 \theta^\eta (1-\theta)^\eta d\theta + V[\theta]$$

$$= \frac{\Gamma(2\eta)}{\Gamma(\eta)\Gamma(\eta)} \frac{\Gamma(\eta+1)\Gamma(\eta+1)}{\Gamma(2\eta+2)} \underbrace{\int_0^1 \frac{\Gamma(2\eta+2)}{\Gamma(\eta+1)\Gamma(\eta+1)} \theta^\eta (1-\theta)^\eta d\theta}_{=1} + V[\theta]$$

$$= \frac{\cancel{\Gamma(2\eta)} \cancel{\pi} \cancel{\Gamma(\eta)} \cancel{\eta} \cancel{\Gamma(\eta)}}{\cancel{\Gamma(\eta)} \cancel{\Gamma(\eta)} (2\eta+1) \cancel{\pi} \cancel{\Gamma(\eta)}} + V[\theta]$$

$$= \frac{\eta}{2(2\eta+1)} + \frac{\eta\eta}{(\eta+\eta)(\eta+\eta+1)}$$

$$= \frac{\eta}{2(2\eta+1)} + \frac{\cancel{\pi}}{4\cancel{\pi}(2\eta+1)}$$

$$= \frac{2\eta+1}{4(2\eta+1)}$$

$$= \frac{1}{4}$$

$$b) E[Y_1, Y_2] = Pr(Y_1=1 \wedge Y_2=1)$$

$$= P(Y_1, Y_2)$$

$$= \int_0^1 P(Y_1, Y_2 | \theta) p(\theta) d\theta$$

$$= \int_0^1 \theta^{y_1+y_2} (1-\theta)^{2-y_1-y_2} \frac{\Gamma(2\eta)}{\Gamma(\eta)\Gamma(\eta)} \theta^{\eta-1} (1-\theta)^{\eta-1} d\theta$$

$$= \frac{\Gamma(2\eta)}{\Gamma(\eta)\Gamma(\eta)} \int_0^1 \theta^{\eta+1} (1-\theta)^{\eta-1} d\theta$$

$$= \frac{\Gamma(2\eta)}{\Gamma(\eta)\Gamma(\eta)} \frac{\Gamma(a)\Gamma(b)}{\Gamma(a+b)}, \text{ where } a=\eta+1, b=\eta.$$

$$= \frac{\Gamma(2\eta)}{\Gamma(\eta)\Gamma(\eta)} \frac{\Gamma(\eta+1)\Gamma(\eta)}{\Gamma(2\eta+1)}$$

$$= \frac{\Gamma(\eta+1)\Gamma(\eta)}{\Gamma(2\eta+1)\Gamma(\eta)\Gamma(\eta)}$$

$$= \frac{\eta+1}{4\eta+2}$$

$$c) \text{Corr}[Y_1, Y_2] = \frac{\text{Cov}[Y_1, Y_2]}{\sqrt{E[Y_1]} \sqrt{E[Y_2]}}$$

$$= \frac{E[Y_1, Y_2] - E[Y_1]E[Y_2]}{\sqrt{E[Y_1]} \sqrt{E[Y_2]}}$$

$$= \frac{\frac{\eta+1}{4\eta+2} - \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^2}{\left(\sqrt{\frac{1}{4}}\right)^2}$$

$$= 4\left(\frac{\eta+1}{4\eta+2} - \frac{1}{4}\right)$$

$$= \frac{4\eta+4}{4\eta+2} - 1$$

$$= \frac{2}{4\eta+2} = \frac{1}{2\eta+1}$$

(graph attached)



d) According to the graph, as  $\eta$  increases from 0 to 1,  $\text{corr}[Y_1, Y_2]$  decreases, which can be interpreted as that the more confident we are that  $\theta$  is near  $\frac{1}{2}$ , the less info  $Y_1$  and  $Y_2$  provide about each other. This makes sense because when we are more certain about  $\theta$ , we can infer about  $Y_i$  from  $P(Y_i|\theta)$  more confidently. Since the observation of  $Y_i$  changes our belief about  $\theta$  less.

# 2

a)  $E[Y_i|\theta] = \theta x_i$ , where  $\theta$  is the  $\frac{1}{\text{average}}$  # of birds counted by a volunteer in 1 hour.

b)  $P(y_1, \dots, y_n | \theta) = P(y_1 | \theta) P(y_2, \dots, y_n | \theta, y_1)$   
 $\rightarrow Y_1, \dots, Y_n$  independent given  $\theta$

$$= P(y_1 | \theta) P(y_2, \dots, y_n | \theta)$$

$$= P(y_1 | \theta) P(y_2 | \theta) \dots P(y_n | \theta)$$

$$= \prod_{i=1}^n P(y_i | \theta)$$

$$= \prod_{i=1}^n \frac{(\theta x_i)^{y_i} e^{-\theta x_i}}{y_i!}$$

$$\propto \theta^{\sum y_i} e^{-\theta \sum x_i}$$

$$L(\theta) \triangleq \ln(\theta^{\sum y_i} e^{-\theta \sum x_i})$$

$$= \sum y_i \ln(\theta) - \sum x_i \theta$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} (\sum y_i \ln(\theta) - \sum x_i \theta) = \frac{\sum y_i}{\theta} - \sum x_i$$

$$= 0 \text{ when } \theta = \frac{\sum y_i}{\sum x_i} \leftarrow \text{MLE}$$

This MLE makes sense because  $\sum y_i$  is the total # of birds counted, and  $\sum x_i$  is the total # of hours.  $\sum y_i$  divided by  $\sum x_i$  would give us the # of birds counted/hr on average, so it makes sense that  $\theta = \sum y_i / \sum x_i$ , which is the sample mean.

$$\begin{aligned}
 c) \quad P(\theta | \underline{y}) &= \frac{P(\theta) P(\underline{y} | \theta)}{P(\underline{y})} \\
 &\propto P(\theta) P(\underline{y} | \theta) \\
 &\propto \theta^{a-1} e^{-b\theta} \theta^{\sum y_i} e^{-\theta \sum x_i} \\
 &= \theta^{\sum y_i + a - 1} e^{-(\sum x_i + b)\theta} \rightarrow \text{Let } a = \sum y_i + a, \quad b = \sum x_i + b \\
 &= \theta^{a-1} e^{-b\theta} \\
 &\propto \text{gamma}(a, b) \\
 &= \text{gamma}(a + \sum y_i, b + \sum x_i) \quad (\text{substitute back})
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\left( \begin{array}{l} \theta \sim \text{gamma}(a, b) ; P(\theta) = \frac{b^a}{\Gamma(a)} \theta^{a-1} e^{-b\theta} \\ \underline{y} | \theta \sim \text{pois}(\theta x_i) ; P(\underline{y} | \theta) = \prod_{i=1}^n \frac{(\theta x_i)^{y_i} e^{-\theta x_i}}{y_i!} \end{array} \right)$$

$$\text{mode}[\theta | \underline{y}] = \frac{a + \sum y_i - 1}{b + \sum x_i} = \underbrace{\left[ \frac{a}{b} \right]}_{\text{prior}} \frac{b}{b + \sum x_i} + \underbrace{\left[ \frac{\sum y_i}{\sum x_i} \right]}_{\text{sample mean}} \frac{\sum x_i}{b + \sum x_i} = \frac{1}{b + \sum x_i}$$

Different from  $\text{MLE}[\theta] = \frac{\sum y_i}{\sum x_i}$ , which is the equivalent of the sample mean, the posterior  $\text{mode}[\theta | \underline{y}]$  not only looks at the sample data (i.e.  $\sum y_i$  and  $\sum x_i$  in the formula) but also  $a$  and  $b$ , which represents the prior belief. When sample size increases,  $\sum x_i$  increases, and the "weight"  $\left( \frac{\sum x_i}{b + \sum x_i} \right)$  on sample mean  $\frac{\sum y_i}{\sum x_i}$  increases, so sample mean plays a larger role in determining the posterior  $\text{mode}[\theta | \underline{y}]$  than the prior belief  $\frac{a}{b}$ .



#3

$$a) \quad \theta_1 | Y_1 \sim \text{Beta}(2+1, 30+13) \Rightarrow \theta_1 | Y_1 \sim \text{Beta}(3, 43)$$

$$\theta_2 | Y_2 \sim \text{Beta}(2+16, 30+16) \Rightarrow \theta_2 | Y_2 \sim \text{Beta}(18, 46)$$

(graph attached)

According to the graph, we can tell that the prior  $\theta$  distribution (color blue) has the lowest peak / smallest mode and is the most spread-out, which indicates its high variance. This makes sense because we are not very certain about  $\theta$  prior to the study.

Posterior  $\theta_1$  distribution (color red) has the second highest peak / mode and is less spread-out than prior  $\theta$ , which is due to the fact that the study gives more information helping to consolidate the belief. The mode of posterior  $\theta_1$  is not far from that of prior  $\theta$ , though it's slightly higher.

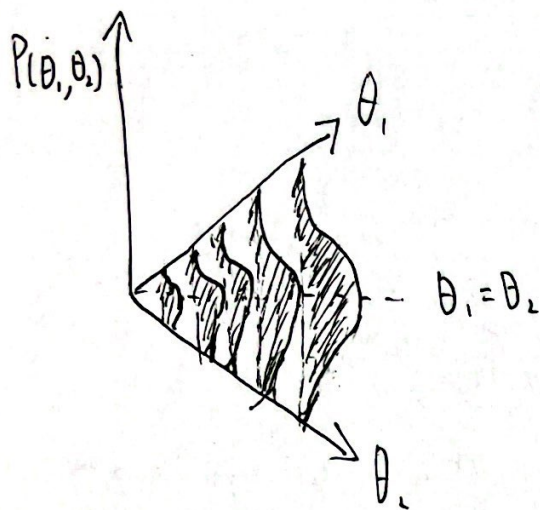
Posterior  $\theta_2$  distribution's mode is higher than both prior  $\theta$  and posterior  $\theta_1$ , and it has the highest peak and least spread-out distribution, indication of low variance. This makes sense because the robust sample size ( $n=46$ ) helps update the belief, and now we are more confident in it due to the additional info.

$$b) \quad \text{Mean}[\theta_1 | Y_1] = 0.05883, \quad 95\% \text{ C.I.} = [0.01255, 0.13714]$$

$$\text{Mean}[\theta_2 | Y_2] = 0.08654, \quad 95\% \text{ C.I.} = [0.0523, 0.12824]$$

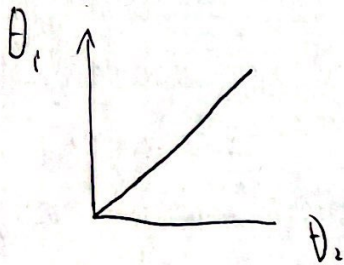
(code attached)

c)



← supposed to be 3D, limited artistic talent :)

e.g. bivariate normal



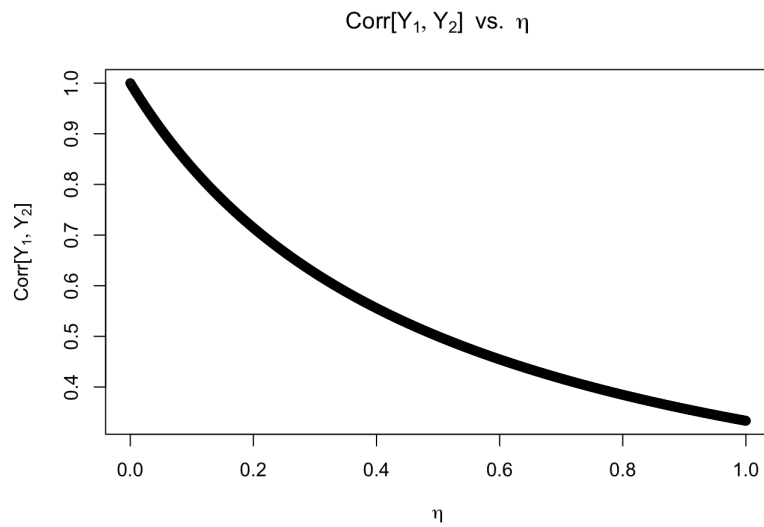
In the joint prior distribution  $P(\theta_1, \theta_2)$  drawn above, the mode is always on the line  $\theta_1 = \theta_2$ , representing the belief that  $\theta_1$  and  $\theta_2$  are close to each other. The large variance (revealed by the spread-out shape of the joint distribution) tells us that we are highly uncertain about the belief.

```
library(latex2exp)
```

#1

c.

```
eta <- seq(0, 1, length.out = 1000)
corr <- 1/(2*eta+1)
plot(eta, corr,
     main = TeX('$Corr[Y_1, Y_2] \\ vs. \\ \\eta$'),
     xlab = TeX('$\\eta$'),
     ylab = TeX('$Corr[Y_1, Y_2]$'))
```



#3

a.

```

theta <- seq(0, 1, length.out = 1000)

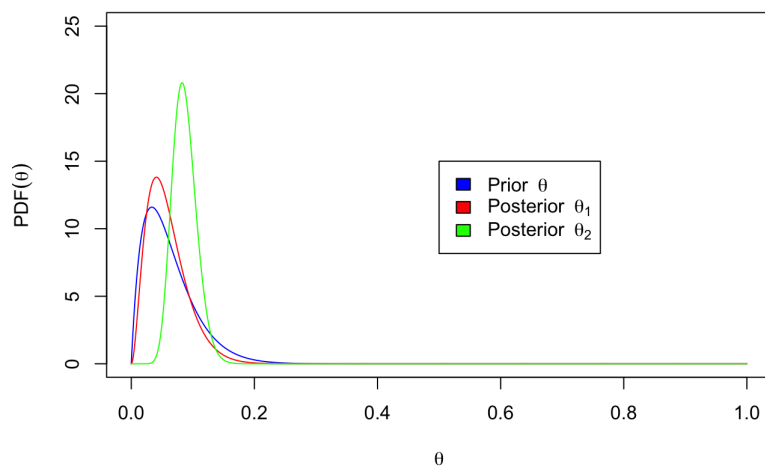
# prior theta
plot(theta, dbeta(theta, 2, 30),
     col = 'blue',
     type = 'l',
     main = TeX('$Distribution \\ of \\ \\theta$'),
     xlab = TeX('$\\theta$'),
     ylab = TeX('$PDF(\\theta)$'),
     ylim = c(0, 25))

# posterior theta_1
lines(theta, dbeta(theta, 3, 48),
      col = 'red')

# posterior theta_2
lines(theta, dbeta(theta, 18, 190),
      col = 'green')

legend(0.5, 15,
      legend = c(TeX('$Prior \\ \\theta$'), TeX('$Posterior \\ \\theta_1$'), TeX('$Posterior \\ \\theta_2$')),
      fill = c('blue', 'red', 'green'))

```

Distribution of  $\theta$ 



#3

b.

```
# posterior theta_1
a1 <- 3
b1 <- 48
mean1 <- a1/(a1+b1)
CI1 <- qbeta(c(0.025, 0.975), a1, b1)
print(mean1)
```

```
## [1] 0.05882353
```

```
print(CI1)
```

```
## [1] 0.01254859 0.13713763
```

```
# posterior theta_2
a2 <- 18
b2 <- 190
mean2 <- a2/(a2+b2)
CI2 <- qbeta(c(0.025, 0.975), a2, b2)
print(mean2)
```

```
## [1] 0.08653846
```

```
print(CI2)
```

```
## [1] 0.05235135 0.12823530
```