

# First easy examples with conjugate priors Beta-Binomial-Modell

analog: Billard Kugel Versuch -> Miete rechts der weißen Kugel

a) Lotterie: 10x gezogen, 9 Mieten und 1x Gewinn. Wie ist die Wahrscheinlichkeit, dass Verhältnis Mieten/Gewinn zwischen 8:1 und 10:1 liegt?

**Frequentistisch** Annahme unabhängige Ziehungen  $X_i \sim B(\pi)$ ,  $X = \sum X_i \sim B(10, \pi)$   $n$ : Anzahl Ziehungen  $f(x) = \binom{n}{x} \pi^x (1-\pi)^{n-x}$

Bereits Bayesianisch, weil Integr. über  $\pi$   

$$P(\frac{8}{11} < \pi < \frac{10}{11} | x=1, n=10) = \frac{\int_{8/11}^{10/11} \binom{10}{1} \pi^1 (1-\pi)^9 d\pi}{\int_0^1 \binom{10}{1} \pi^1 (1-\pi)^9 d\pi} \stackrel{\text{Rcalc.}}{=} \frac{0.0078}{0.00991} \approx 0.086$$

Marginal distribution  $f(k)$  discrete uniform

liegt an Beta-Prior, siehe unten

Was ist hier passiert? Implizit Integral über  $\binom{n}{k} \pi^k (1-\pi)^{n-k}$  und unterstellen Gleich-Wahrscheinlichkeit für alle  $k \Rightarrow \int_0^1 \binom{n}{k} \pi^k (1-\pi)^{n-k} d\pi = \frac{1}{n+1}$   $\forall k=0, \dots, n$

If we discretize  $\pi$  in  $0, 0.01, \dots, 0.99, 1$  then Prior  $p(\pi) = \frac{1}{101} \mathbb{1}(\pi)$

1. Probability model  $x \sim \text{Bin}(10, \pi) \rightarrow$  Likelihood  $f(x|\pi) = \binom{n}{x} \pi^x (1-\pi)^{n-x}$

2. Prior distr.  $\pi \sim \text{U}[0,1] = \text{Beta}(1,1)$   $p(\pi) = \mathbb{I}_{(0,1)}(\pi)$

No knowledge, completely flat max. uninformative Prior  $\uparrow$  Laplace-Prior

3. Posterior  $p(\pi|x) = \frac{f(x|\pi)p(\pi)}{\int_0^1 f(x|\pi)p(\pi)d\pi} = \frac{\binom{n}{x} \pi^x (1-\pi)^{n-x} \cdot \frac{1}{B(a,b)} \pi^{a-1} (1-\pi)^{b-1}}{\int_0^1 \binom{n}{x} \pi^{a+x-1} (1-\pi)^{b+n-x-1} d\pi}$   
 for general  $a, b, x$   

$$\propto \pi^{a+x-1} (1-\pi)^{b+n-x-1}$$
 (Posterior core density)

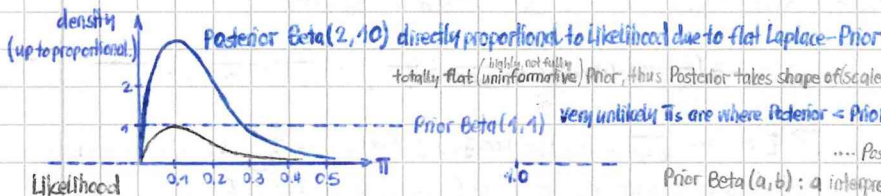
$p(\pi|a,b) = \frac{1}{B(a,b)} \pi^{a-1} (1-\pi)^{b-1}$  with Beta-Fct.  $B(a,b) = \frac{\Gamma(a)\Gamma(b)}{\Gamma(a+b)}$   
 as  $\int_0^1 t^{a-1} (1-t)^{b-1} dt$  "unabh. von  $\pi$ "

conjugate Prior Beta  $\Rightarrow$  Posterior also Beta-Distr.

Posterior distr.  $\pi|x \sim \text{Beta}(a+x, b+n-x)$

Here  $a=b=1, n=10, x=1 \Rightarrow$  of Beta(2,10)

Use Distr. Fct for question above:  $F(1/11) - F(1/10) \approx 0.086$



(highly, not fully) totally flat (uninformative) Prior, thus Posterior takes shape of (scaled) Likelihood

$p(\pi|x=1) = \frac{f(x=1|\pi) \cdot p(\pi)}{f(x)} = \frac{\binom{n}{1} \pi^1 (1-\pi)^{n-1} \cdot \frac{1}{B(a,b)}}{f(x)}$   
 for  $\pi \in [0,1]$

... Posterior Beta( $a+x, b+n-x$ )  $a \uparrow$  has same effect as  $x \uparrow$

Prior Beta( $a, b$ ):  $a$  interpretable as "prior N. of successes",  $b$  as "prior N. of failures"

$\Rightarrow a, b$  both small  $\Rightarrow$  yields U-shape "Beta-density" improper prior b.c.  $\int \pi d\pi = \infty$

By choosing constant flat prior  $\text{U}[0,1] = \text{Beta}(1,1)$  we see connection between Frequentism and Bayesian Approach

Here:  $\hat{\pi}_{MLE} = \frac{x}{n} = \hat{\pi}_{MAP}$  Max. Likelihood = Max/Mode of Posterior

MLE:  $f(\pi) = \log\left(\binom{n}{x}\right) + x \log \pi + (n-x) \log(1-\pi)$   $\frac{\partial f(\pi)}{\partial \pi} = 0 \Rightarrow \frac{x}{\pi} - \frac{n-x}{1-\pi} = 0 \Leftrightarrow \frac{x(1-\pi)}{\pi} = n-x \Leftrightarrow x-x\pi = (n-x)\pi \Leftrightarrow \frac{x}{\pi} = \frac{n}{1-\pi}$

also take log here  
 Maximum-a-Posteriori:  $\frac{\log(p(\pi|x))}{\partial \pi} = (a+x-1) \log \pi + (b+n-x-1) \log(1-\pi)$   $\frac{\partial \pi}{\partial \pi} = \frac{a+x-1}{\pi} - \frac{b+n-x-1}{1-\pi} = 0 \Leftrightarrow \hat{\pi}_{MAP} = \frac{a+x-1}{a+b+n-2} \stackrel{a=b=1}{=} \frac{x}{n}$

Posterior-EV:  $\hat{\pi}_{PE} = E(\pi|x) = \frac{a+x}{(a+x)+(b+n-x)} = \frac{a+x}{a+b+n} \stackrel{a=b=1}{=} \frac{x+1}{n+2}$  (1/6) Modus/MAP here < Posterior-EV  
 most probable value for  $\pi$  < expectation for  $\pi$  on average

Data Model prior belief

b) Let  $Y \sim \text{Poi}(\lambda)$  and  $\lambda \sim \text{Ga}(\alpha, \beta)$  i.e.  $p(\lambda; \alpha, \beta) = \frac{\beta^\alpha}{\Gamma(\alpha)} \cdot \lambda^{\alpha-1} \exp(-\lambda\beta) \propto \lambda^{\alpha-1} \exp(-\lambda\beta)$   $\text{Ga}(\cdot)$  as conjugate Prior

Likelihood:  $\prod_{i=1}^n \lambda^{y_i} \exp(-\lambda) = \frac{\lambda^{\sum y_i} \exp(-n\lambda)}{n!}$  as well as factor  $\beta^\alpha / \Gamma(\alpha)$  in our prior

For Posterior we get proportionally, ignoring Bayesian Denominator and  $n!$  as both independent of Param  $\lambda$ :  $p(\lambda|y) \propto \lambda^{\sum y_i + \alpha - 1} \exp(-\lambda(n + \beta))$

With the knowledge that  $\text{Ga}(\alpha, \beta)$  is a conjugate Prior for Poisson Distr, we conclude with posterior core that  $\lambda|y \sim \text{Ga}(\sum y_i + \alpha, n + \beta)$

Generalisation of Exp. Distr. For example as a sum of independent waiting-times. Gamma Conjugate Prior not surprising as Erlang is special case of Gamma

c) Let  $X$  be Erlang-distributed with unknown Param  $\lambda$  and known  $n$  Erlang density  $f(x) = \frac{\lambda^n}{(n-1)!} x^{n-1} \exp(-\lambda x)$ ,  $X \sim \text{Erlang}(n, \lambda)$

Conjugate Prior is  $\lambda \sim \text{Ga}(\alpha, \beta)$ , so  $p(\lambda; \alpha, \beta) \propto \lambda^{\alpha-1} \exp(-\lambda\beta) \Rightarrow p(\lambda|x) \propto \lambda^{n+\alpha-1} \exp(-\lambda x) \cdot \lambda^{\alpha-1} \exp(-\lambda\beta) \propto \lambda^{n+\alpha-1} \exp(-\lambda(x+\beta))$   
 indep. of  $\lambda$   $\lambda|x \sim \text{Ga}(n+\alpha, x+\beta)$

(\*) Interesting: If  $M_0 = 0$  and  $s \rightarrow \infty$  we get  $M|x \xrightarrow{s} N(\bar{x}, \frac{\sigma^2}{n})$  Exchanging  $\bar{x}$  and  $M$  and viewing  $M$  as fixed param. makes it look like frequentist CLT Note that for  $s \rightarrow \infty$  prior gets improper

d) Assume  $X \sim N(\mu, \sigma^2)$  with known  $\sigma^2$  Prior:  $\mu \sim N(M_0, s)$   $\Rightarrow p(\mu) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}s} \exp(-\frac{1}{2s}(\mu-M_0)^2) \propto \exp(-\frac{1}{2s}(\mu-M_0)^2)$  Jeffreys Prior:  $p(\mu) \propto \text{const.}$

Likelihood:  $f(x|\mu) = \prod_{i=1}^n f(x_i|\mu) = \prod_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma} \exp(-\frac{1}{2\sigma^2}(x_i-\mu)^2) = \frac{1}{(\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma)^n} \exp(-\frac{1}{2\sigma^2} \sum_{i=1}^n (x_i-\mu)^2) \propto \exp(-\frac{1}{2\sigma^2} \sum_{i=1}^n (x_i-\mu)^2)$   $s \rightarrow \infty$  on  $\mathbb{R}$  identical to Laplace

Posterior:  $p(\mu|x) \propto f(x|\mu) \cdot p(\mu) \propto \exp(-\frac{1}{2\sigma^2} \sum_{i=1}^n (x_i-\mu)^2) \exp(-\frac{1}{2s}(\mu-M_0)^2) = \exp(-\frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{\sigma^2} \sum_{i=1}^n (x_i-\mu)^2 - \frac{1}{2s}(\mu-M_0)^2)$

$\propto \exp(-\frac{1}{2}(\frac{n}{\sigma^2} + \frac{1}{s})\mu^2 + (\sum_{i=1}^n \frac{x_i}{\sigma^2} + \frac{M_0}{s})\mu) = \exp(-\frac{1}{2}[\frac{n}{\sigma^2} + \frac{1}{s}]\mu^2 - 2(\sum_{i=1}^n \frac{x_i}{\sigma^2} + \frac{M_0}{s})\mu)$   $\propto \exp(-\frac{1}{2}(\frac{n}{\sigma^2} + \frac{1}{s})(\mu - \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n x_i/\sigma^2 + M_0/s}{n/\sigma^2 + 1/s})^2)$

Overall  $M|x \sim N(\bar{\mu}, \frac{\sigma^2}{n})$   $\bar{\mu} = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n x_i/\sigma^2 + M_0/s}{n/\sigma^2 + 1/s}$  Reformulated  $\bar{\mu} = \frac{s}{s+1} \bar{x} + \frac{1}{s+1} M_0$   $\hat{M}$  as weighted mean of  $\bar{x}$  (data-avg, MLE for  $\mu$ ) and prior-EV for  $M$  core of  $N(\bar{\mu}, \bar{s})$  distribution  $\bar{s} = \frac{n}{n+1} \frac{\sigma^2}{s} + \frac{1}{n+1} \frac{\sigma^2}{s}$



Assume

e)  $X \sim \text{i.i.d. } N(\mu, \sigma^2)$  with known  $\mu$ . Show that conjugate Prior is  $\sigma^2 \sim \text{InvGa}(a, b)$

Let prior be  $\sigma^2 \sim \text{InvGa}(a, b)$  density:  $p(\sigma^2) = \frac{b^a}{\Gamma(a)} (\sigma^2)^{-(a+1)} \exp\left(-\frac{b}{\sigma^2}\right)$

Data Likelihood:  $L(\sigma^2 | x_1, \dots, x_n) = f(x | \sigma^2) = \prod_{i=1}^n (2\pi\sigma^2)^{-1/2} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2\sigma^2} (x_i - \mu)^2\right) = (2\pi\sigma^2)^{-n/2} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2\sigma^2} \sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \mu)^2\right)$

Posterior proportional to Likelihood  $\cdot$  Prior:  $p(\sigma^2 | x) \propto (\sigma^2)^{-n/2} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2\sigma^2} \sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \mu)^2\right) \cdot (\sigma^2)^{-(a+1)} \exp\left(-\frac{b}{\sigma^2}\right)$

$= (\sigma^2)^{-(n/2+a+1)} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{\sigma^2} \left(\frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \mu)^2 + b\right)\right)$  This is again an Inverse Gamma Distribution with updated parameters

$a' = a + n/2$ ,  $b' = b + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \mu)^2$

which is  $\frac{(b')^{a'}}{\Gamma(a')}$

$\Rightarrow \sigma^2 | x \sim \text{InvGa}\left(a + \frac{n}{2}, b + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \mu)^2\right)$  Posterior distribution, there was no need to derive specific form with Normalizingkonstante

Jeffreys Prior: For one observation it is  $f(x | \sigma^2) = (2\pi\sigma^2)^{-1/2} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2\sigma^2} (x - \mu)^2\right)$   $\log(f(x | \sigma^2)) = -\frac{1}{2} \log(2\pi) - \frac{1}{2} \log(\sigma^2) - \frac{1}{2\sigma^2} (x - \mu)^2$

same for  $f(x | \mu) = "$

If  $\mu$  was unknown and  $\sigma^2$  known (see page 9):  $\frac{\partial}{\partial \mu} \log(f(x | \mu)) = -\frac{2}{2\sigma^2} \cdot (-1) (x - \mu) = \frac{1}{\sigma^2} (x - \mu)$ ,  $\frac{\partial^2}{\partial \mu^2} = -\frac{1}{\sigma^2}$

Fisher-info:  $-E\left(\frac{\partial^2}{\partial \mu^2} \log(f(x | \mu))\right) = \frac{1}{\sigma^2} \Rightarrow p^*(\mu) \propto \frac{1}{\sigma^2} \Rightarrow p^*(\mu) \propto \frac{1}{\sigma^2}$  const. as  $\sigma^2$  fixed

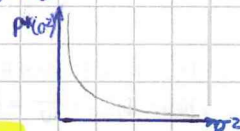
Now here for  $\sigma^2$  unknown:  $\frac{\partial}{\partial \sigma^2} \log(f(x | \sigma^2)) = -\frac{1}{2\sigma^2} + \frac{1}{2(\sigma^2)^2} (x - \mu)^2$ ,  $\frac{\partial^2}{\partial (\sigma^2)^2} = \frac{1}{2(\sigma^2)^3} - \frac{1}{(\sigma^2)^3} (x - \mu)^2$

Knowing that  $E[(x - \mu)^2] = \sigma^2$  we get Fisher-info:  $\mathcal{I}(\sigma^2) = -E\left(\frac{\partial^2}{\partial (\sigma^2)^2} \log(f(x | \sigma^2))\right) = -\left(\frac{1}{2(\sigma^2)^3} - \frac{1}{(\sigma^2)^3} \sigma^2\right) = -\left(\frac{1}{2(\sigma^2)^3} - \frac{1}{(\sigma^2)^2}\right) = \frac{1}{2(\sigma^2)^3} = \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{(\sigma^2)^3}$

$\hookrightarrow \mathcal{I}(\sigma^2) \propto \frac{1}{(\sigma^2)^3}$  and  $p^*(\sigma^2) \propto \mathcal{I}(\sigma^2)^{1/2} \propto \sqrt{\frac{1}{(\sigma^2)^3}} = \frac{1}{\sigma^2}$  NOT const. like above

edge case of conjugate Prior  $\sigma^2 \sim \text{InvGa}(a, b)$  with  $a \rightarrow 0$ ,  $b \rightarrow 0$

Unlike flat Jeffreys Prior form this Jeffreys Prior for  $\sigma^2$  weighs small variances stronger than huge ones



Note] It's often easier for notation to use inverse variance/precision as parameter  $\tau = (\sigma^2)^{-1} = \sigma^{-2} = \frac{1}{\sigma^2}$

This gives conjugate prior  $\tau \sim \text{Ga}(a, b)$ , Jeffreys Prior  $p^*(\tau) \propto 1/\tau^2$

$\downarrow$

With that we get  $p(\tau | x) \propto \tau^{n/2} \exp\left(-\frac{\tau}{2} \sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \mu)^2\right) \cdot \tau^{a-1} \exp(-b\tau)$ , so posterior  $\tau | x \sim \text{Ga}\left(a + \frac{n}{2}, b + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \mu)^2\right)$   
 $= \tau^{a+n/2-1} \exp(-\tau(b + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \mu)^2))$  is core of  $\text{Ga}(\dots, \dots)$  density