

Question 3: Assume you have a prior believe that the value of λ in a Poisson process is uniformly distributed between 5 and 10 arrivals per minute. You then observe the process and count 7 arrivals in the first minute and 9 arrivals in the second minute. Use Bayes theorem to determine the posterior distribution of values of λ .

Prior believe $\rightarrow \lambda = \text{uniform}(5, 10) \text{ arrivals/minute}$
 $t = \text{minute}$
~~rate λ~~
 ~~$\mu = \lambda/t = \text{arrivals}$~~

Observation \rightarrow 7 arrivals in the first minute
 9 arrivals in the second minute

Bayes Theorem $\rightarrow \underbrace{\text{Pr}(B|A)}_{\text{posterior}} = \frac{\overbrace{\text{Pr}(A|B)}^{\text{Likelihood}} \cdot \overbrace{\text{Pr}(B)}^{\text{Prior}}}{\text{Pr}(A)}$

$$\text{Pr}(\lambda | \text{Observation}) = \frac{\text{Pr}(\text{Observation} | \lambda) \text{Pr}(\lambda)}{\text{Pr}(\text{Observation})}$$

$$\text{Pr}(\text{Observation}) = \underbrace{\frac{1}{\lambda}}_{\text{probability of getting 7 in the 1st min}} \cdot \underbrace{\frac{1}{\lambda}}_{\text{probability of getting 9 in the second min}} = \frac{1}{\lambda^2}$$

$$pr(\lambda) = \text{Prior belief} = \text{uniform}(5, 10)$$

$$\begin{aligned} pr(\text{Observation} | \lambda) &= pr(7 | \text{uniform}(5, 10)) \cdot pr(9 | \text{uniform}(5, 10)) \\ &= \frac{1}{5} \cdot \frac{1}{5} = \frac{1}{25} \end{aligned}$$

$$pr(\lambda | \text{observation}) = \frac{\frac{1}{25} \cdot \text{uniform}(5, 10)}{\frac{1}{\lambda^2}}$$

$$pr(\lambda | \text{observation}) = \frac{\lambda^2 \text{uniform}(5, 10)}{25}$$