

Bayesian Inference for Beginners

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助教:

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1 First Example

$P_{X,Y}(\cdot, \cdot)$	$P_{X,Y}(0, \cdot)$	$P_{X,Y}(1, \cdot)$
$P_{X,Y}(\cdot, 0)$	0.1	0.2
$P_{X,Y}(\cdot, 1)$	0.3	0.4

Table 1: a joint distribution

We start by a motivating example, a joint distribution as shown by table 1. We use marginal distribution $P_X(\cdot)$ as the prior, and conditional distribution $P_{Y|X}(\cdot|\cdot)$ as the likelihood, as derived in table 2.

$P_X(\cdot)$		$P_{Y X}(\cdot 0)$		$P_{Y X}(\cdot 1)$	
$P_X(0)$	0.4	$P_{Y X}(0 0)$	0.25	$P_{Y X}(0 1)$	1/3
$P_X(1)$	0.6	$P_{Y X}(1 0)$	0.75	$P_{Y X}(1 1)$	2/3

Table 2: prior and likelihood

The point of Bayesian inference is that the posterior is sampled and normalized in entire parameter space. Here, the parameter space is $\mathcal{X} = \{0, 1\}$. Suppose we see a datum $Y = 0$, we ask the conditional distribution, the posterior, $P_{X|Y}(\cdot|0)$.

Since "Posterior \propto Likelihood \times Prior", we sample entire parameter space, which is $\mathcal{X} = \{0, 1\}$. The empirical counts of X would be the posterior, see table 3.

$P_{Y X}(0 \cdot) \times P_X(\cdot)$	Normalized	$P_{X Y}(\cdot 0)$	
0.1	1/3	$P_{X Y}(0 0)$	1/3
0.2	2/3	$P_{X Y}(1 0)$	2/3

Table 3: prior and likelihood

2 Second Example

A coin has an unknown probability Θ of facing head, and our prior knowledge of such probability is $\text{Beta}_{(2,2)}(\cdot)$. Suppose we observed an i.i.d. sequence of tosses HHHTH, what is the posterior $p_{\Theta|Y_1^5}(\cdot|\text{HHHTH})$?

$$p_{\Theta|Y_1^5}(\theta|\text{HHHTH}) \propto p_{Y_1^5|\Theta}(\text{HHHTH}|\theta) \times \text{Beta}_{(2,2)}(\theta) = \underbrace{\theta^4(1-\theta) \times \text{Beta}_{(2,2)}(\theta)}_{\int_0^1 = 1/28}$$

normalized to:

$$p_{\Theta|Y_1^5}(\theta|\text{HHHTH}) = 28 \times \theta^4(1 - \theta) \times \text{Beta}_{(2,2)}(\theta)$$

The graphics of prior and posterior were shown by figure 1 and 2.

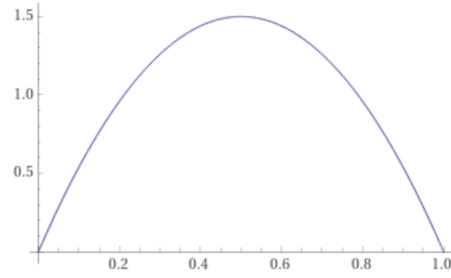


Figure 1: the prior $\text{Beta}_{(2,2)}(\cdot)$

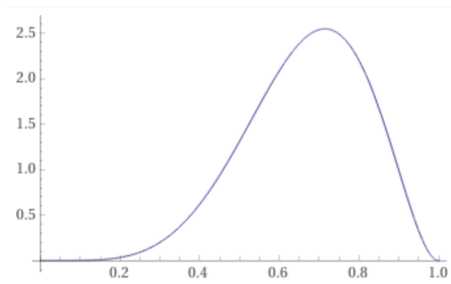


Figure 2: the posterior after observing HHHTH

Similarly, if observed 14 H in tosses, the posterior shown in figure 3.

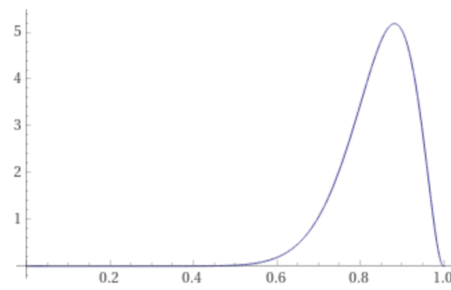


Figure 3: the posterior after observing 14H in 15 tosses, more spiky and skewed