

# Lecture 11: Bayesian Hypothesis Testing: Priors

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# Hypothesis Testing Setup Recap

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5. Report based on loss (optional)





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- Posterior probabilities

$$\pi(\mathcal{H}_1 | Y) = \frac{1}{\frac{\pi(\mathcal{H}_0)}{\pi(\mathcal{H}_1)} \frac{p(y^{(n)}|\mathcal{H}_0)}{p(y^{(n)}|\mathcal{H}_1)} + 1} = \frac{1}{\mathcal{O}_{01} \mathcal{BF}_{01} + 1}$$

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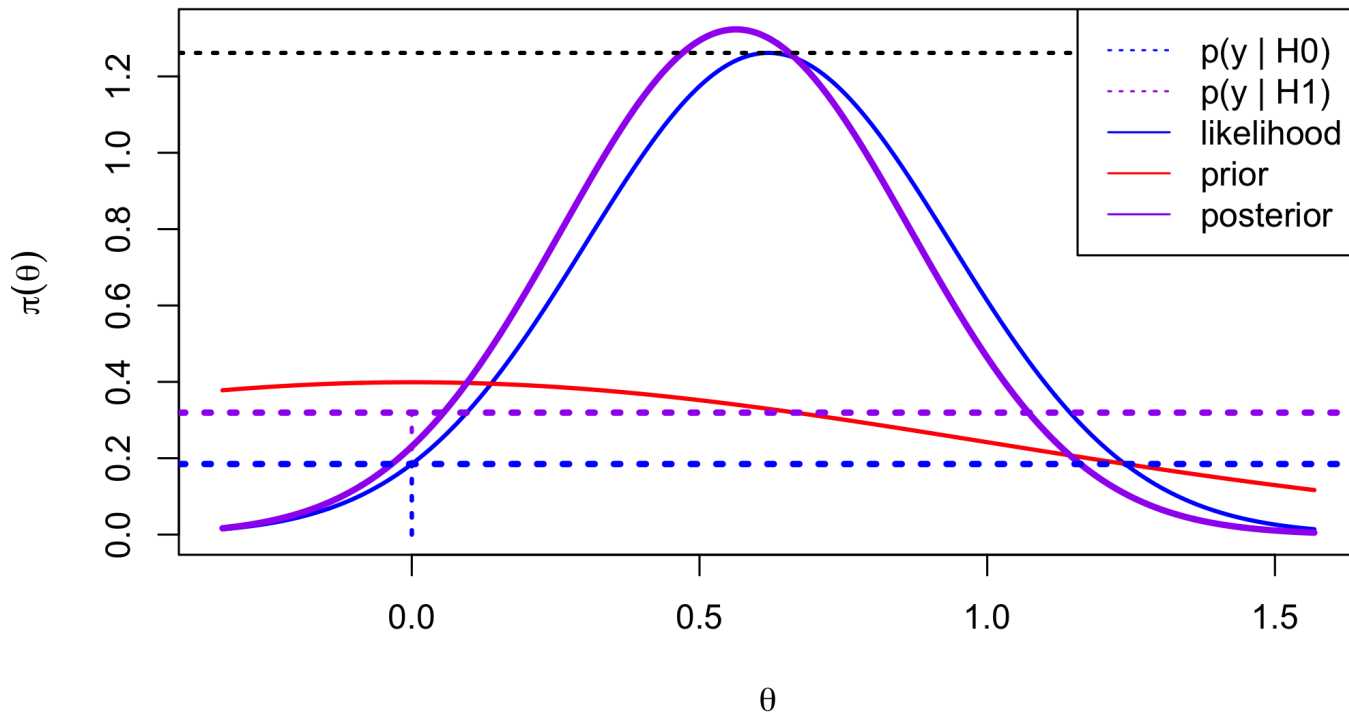
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Alternative expression for Bayes Factor (Candidate's Formula)

$$\mathcal{BF}_{10} = \frac{p(y^{(n)} | \mathcal{H}_1)}{p(y^{(n)} | \mathcal{H}_0)} = \frac{\pi_\theta(o | \mathcal{H}_1)}{\pi_\theta(o | y^{(n)}, \mathcal{H}_1)}$$



# Marginal Likelihoods & Evidence



$BF_{10} = 1.73$  Posterior Probability of  $\mathcal{H}_0 = 0.3665$  versus p-value of 0.05



# Decisions

- Selection 0-1 loss;
  - if  $\pi(\mathcal{H}_1 | y^{(n)}) > .5$  choose  $\mathcal{H}_1$ ,
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- report  $\hat{\theta}$  that minimizes Bayes expected loss

$$E_{\theta|y^{(n)}} \left[ (\theta - \hat{\theta})^2 \right]$$





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- no  $\mathcal{H}_i$ !
- marginal posterior distribution of  $\theta$



# Averaging over Hypotheses

Prior on  $\theta$  is a mixture model:

$$p(\theta) = \pi_0 \delta_0(\theta) + (1 - \pi_0) \pi(\theta \mid \mathcal{H}_1)$$



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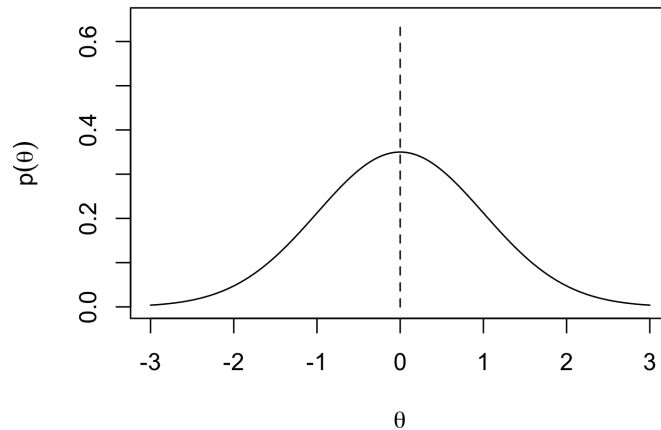


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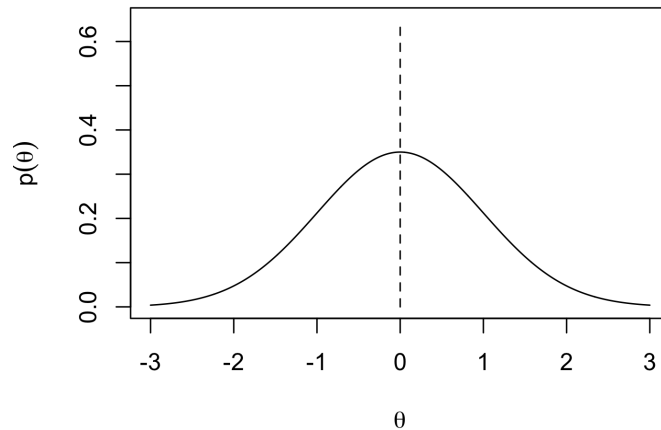


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- how to sample from prior?



# Posterior under Spike & Slab Prior

$$\pi(\theta \mid y^{(n)}) = \Pr(\mathcal{H}_0 \mid y^{(n)})\pi(\theta \mid \mathcal{H}_0, y^{(n)}) + \Pr(\mathcal{H}_1 \mid y^{(n)})\pi(\theta \mid \mathcal{H}_1, y^{(n)})$$





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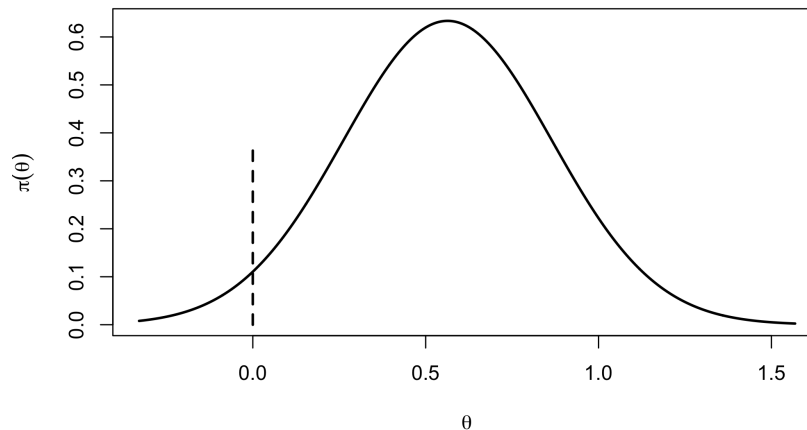


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- posterior also has a spike & slab
- mixture weights are updated
- updated "slab" hyperparameters



# Posterior Means and Other Summaries

Use Iterated Expectations to find

$$E[\theta \mid y^{(n)}]$$

Posterior Variance?

Credible Intervals ?



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- Bayes Factor and posterior probabilities of  $\mathcal{H}_i$  depend on  $\tau_0$  through  $p(y^{(n)} \mid \mathcal{H}_1)$
1. What is impact of  $\tau_0$  on  $\mathcal{BF}_{01}$  ?
  2. How do we choose  $\tau_0$ ?



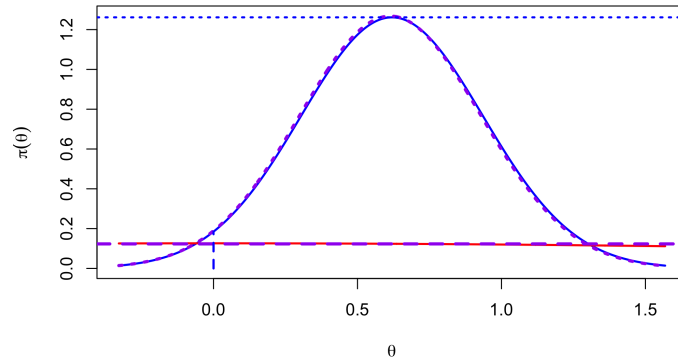


# Question 1.

$$\mathcal{BF}_{01} = \frac{\pi(o \mid \mathcal{H}_1, y^{(n)})}{\pi(o \mid \mathcal{H}_1)}$$



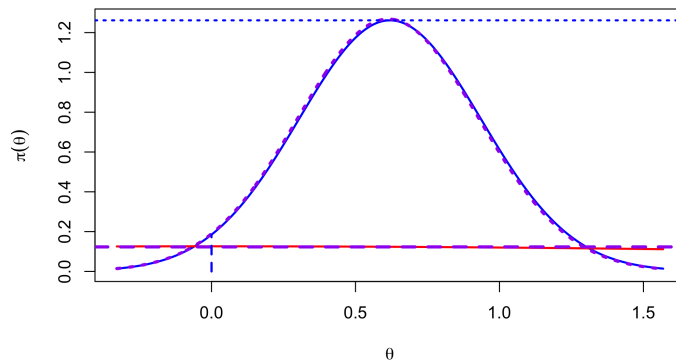
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■  $\tau_0 = 1/10$



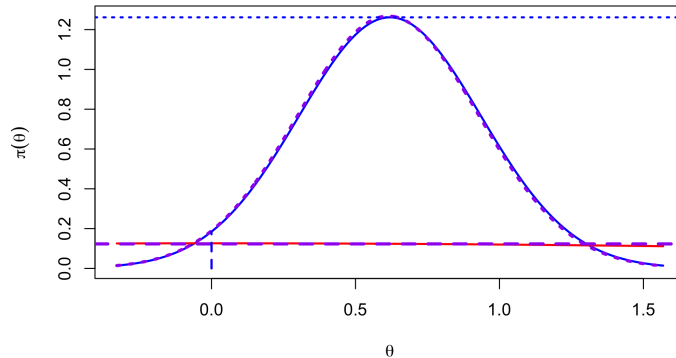
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- $\tau_0 = 1/10$
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- Bayes Factor for  $\mathcal{H}_0$  to  $\mathcal{H}_1$  is 1.5
- Posterior Probability of  $\mathcal{H}_0 = 0.6001$

What about even more vague priors?



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What then?



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Default UIP

$$\theta \mid \mathcal{H}_1 \sim N(0, 1)$$





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- Is a fixed  $\tau_0$  consistent as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ ?



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- no closed form expressions for marginal likelihood!



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- Berger & Pericchi (1996) propose "averaging" over training samples  
**intrinsic Bayes Factors**



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**intrinsic Bayes Factors**
- **intrinsic prior** on  $\theta$  that leads to the IBF

