

8. Normal distribution with unknown mean: a random sample of n students is drawn from a large population, and their weights are measured. The average weight of the n sampled students is $\bar{y} = 150$ pounds. Assume the weights in the population are normally distributed with unknown mean θ and known standard deviation 20 pounds. Suppose your prior distribution for θ is normal with mean 180 and standard deviation 40.

- Give your posterior distribution for θ . (Your answer will be a function of n .)
- A new student is sampled at random from the same population and has a weight of \tilde{y} pounds. Give a posterior predictive distribution for \tilde{y} . (Your answer will still be a function of n .)
- For $n = 10$, give a 95% posterior interval for θ and a 95% posterior predictive interval for \tilde{y} .
- Do the same for $n = 100$.

$$(a) \quad \bar{y} = 150, \quad y | \theta \sim N(\theta, 400), \quad \theta \sim N(180, 40^2)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \theta | y &\propto p(\theta) p(y | \theta) \\ &\propto \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2 \times 400} \sum (y_i - \theta)^2\right) \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2 \times 1600} (\theta - 180)^2\right) \\ &\propto \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{4n+1}{1600} \left(\theta - \frac{4 \sum y_i + 180}{4n+1} \right)^2\right)\right) \\ &\sim N\left(\frac{\frac{1}{1600} \times 180}{\frac{1}{1600} + \frac{n}{400}} + \frac{\frac{n}{400} \times 150}{\frac{1}{1600} + \frac{n}{400}}, \frac{1}{\frac{1}{1600} + \frac{n}{400}} \right) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} (b) \quad E(\tilde{y} | y) &= E[E(\tilde{y} | u_0) | y] = E(u_0 | y) = u = \frac{180 + 150n}{4n+1} \\ V(\tilde{y} | y) &= E[V(\tilde{y} | u) | y] + V(E(\tilde{y} | u) | y) = \sigma^2 + \tau_n^2 = \frac{1600}{4n+1} + 400 \\ \tilde{y} | y &\sim N\left(\frac{180 + 150n}{4n+1}, \frac{1600}{4n+1} + 400 \right) \end{aligned}$$

$$(c) \quad \theta | y \sim N\left(\frac{180 + 150n}{4n+1}, \frac{1600}{4n+1} \right)$$

$$\textcircled{1} \quad P(\text{Lower Bound} \leq \theta \leq \text{Upper bound} | y) \geq 0.95$$

$$: U = \text{top 2.5\% quantile of } N\left(\frac{180}{41}, \frac{1600}{41} \right)$$

$$L = \text{bottom 2.5\% quantile of } N\left(\frac{180}{41}, \frac{1600}{41} \right)$$

$$U = 162.97, \quad L = 138.48$$

$$\textcircled{2} \quad \tilde{y} | y \sim N\left(\frac{180}{41}, \frac{3240}{41} \right) \quad \text{in this case, } (L, U) = (109.19, 191.19)$$

(d) plug in $n = 100$ in the same formula.