

Quant III

Lab 5: Bayesian: Basics

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Outline

- Homework Question
- Bayes Basics
- Estimates and Inference

Homework Question:

- Uniform distribution $U(0, \theta)$
- If θ is known:

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- Therefore: $f(y) = \frac{1}{\theta} \mathbb{I}(y \leq \theta)$
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- $\hat{\theta}_{MLE}$ is the smallest possible value, i.e. $\max\{y_i\}$

Negative Binomial Model

- Remind me later.

Basic Bayes

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Basic Bayes

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- Frequentist v.s. Bayesian
 - Natural, fixed, unknown parameter θ v.s. distribution of θ
 - Infinite sampling (hypothetical)/ Asymptotics v.s. Limited observations
- Take-away: different way of thinking.

Bayesian Estimation: Setup

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- Kernel: $P(Y|\theta)P(\theta)$. Once you know this, you know the distribution.

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- Choose prior is important
 - Conjugate prior: get an analytic solution
 - Otherwise: Numerically approximate the posterior (MCMC, VI).
 - Computational convenience, and/or subjective knowledge
 - Sometimes: uninformative prior

Conjugate prior

- Beta is conjugate prior for Bernoulli distribution.
- What does that mean?
- Prior Beta, likelihood derived from Bernoulli \rightarrow Posterior Beta.

Conjugate prior ctd.

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- Consider $\theta \sim N(\mu_0, \sigma_0^2)$
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$$\theta|Y \sim N\left(\frac{\frac{\mu_0}{\sigma_0^2} + \frac{n\bar{y}}{\sigma^2}}{\frac{1}{\sigma_0^2} + \frac{n}{\sigma^2}}, \left(\frac{1}{\sigma_0^2} + \frac{n}{\sigma^2}\right)^{-1}\right)$$

Point Estimation ctd.

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- We know the whole posterior distribution.
 - Expected value of θ ?
 - What is the most likely value of θ ? (MAP)
 - The probability of $\theta > 0$?

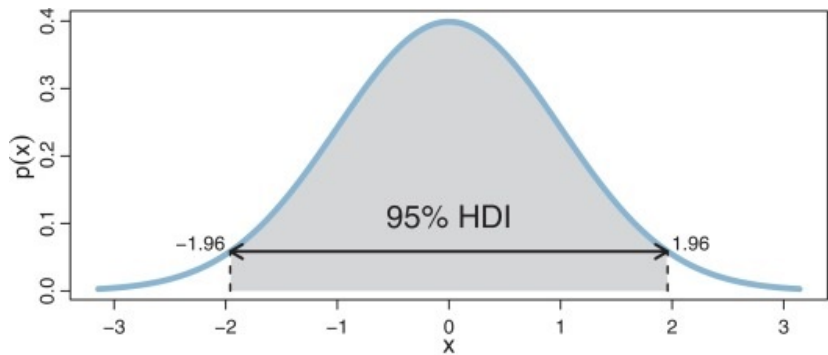
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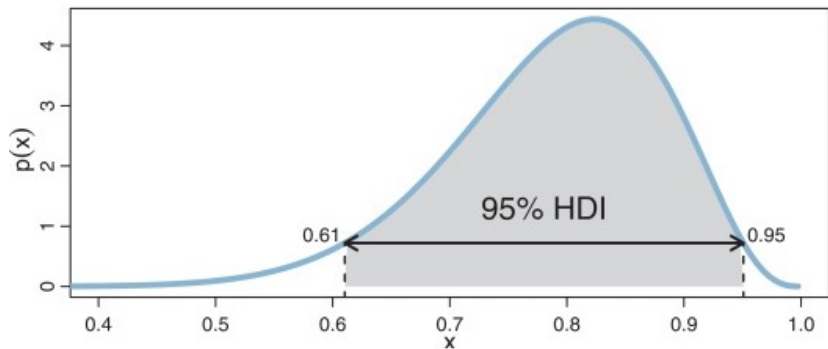
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- Bayesian: We know the whole posterior distribution, and therefore:
 - Credible Interval
 - We call set A is 95% Credible interval of θ if
$$Pr(\theta \in A) = \int_A P(\theta|y) d\theta = 0.95$$
- Difference?

- Symmetric credible interval: bounded by α and $1 - \alpha$ quantile.
- Highest posterior density interval (HPD): the density inside the region has to be higher than at any point outside the interval.

HDI



HDI



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