

HW 2

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1.

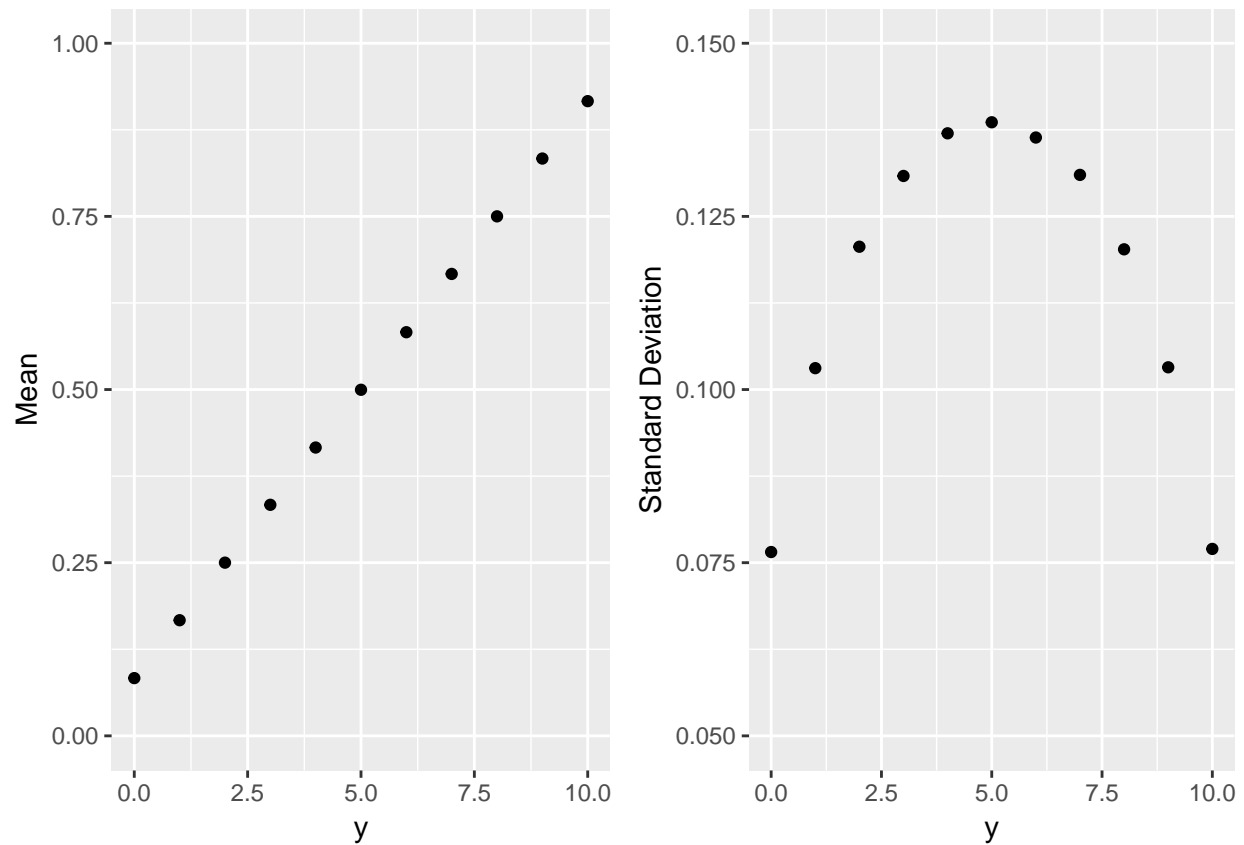
Assume the Bayesian model with likelihood $Y|\theta \sim \text{Binomial}(n, \theta)$ and prior $\theta \sim \text{Beta}(a, b)$. Write a function that uses Monte Carlo sampling to estimate the posterior mean and standard deviation of θ , given we observe $Y = y$. The function should take inputs y, n, a , and b . Given these inputs, the function should generate 1,000,000 samples of (θ, Y) (by first drawing θ from a beta distribution and then $Y|\theta$ from a binomial distribution), extract the samples with $Y = y$, and return the mean and standard deviation of θ for these samples. Include code for this function in your write-up.

```
montecarlo <- function(y, n, a, b) {
  theta <- rbeta(1e+06, a, b)
  like <- rbinom(1e+06, n, theta)
  post <- rbeta(1e+06, like + a, n - like + b) #posterior probability distribution
  post <- as.data.frame(cbind(post, like))
  avg <- as.data.frame(tapply(post$post, post$like, mean))
  sd <- as.data.frame(tapply(post$post, post$like, sd))
  values <- unique(post$like)
  values <- values[order(values)]
  dat <- cbind(values, avg, sd)
  colnames(dat) <- c("k", "mean", "sd")
  dat1 <- dat[dat$k %in% y, ]
  colnames(dat1) <- c("y", "Mean", "Standard Deviation")
  return(dat1)
}
```

2.

Use the code from (1) with $n = 10$ and $a = b = 1$ to compute the posterior mean and standard deviation for θ , for all $y = 0, 1, \dots, n$ and plot the posterior mean and standard deviation as a function of y .

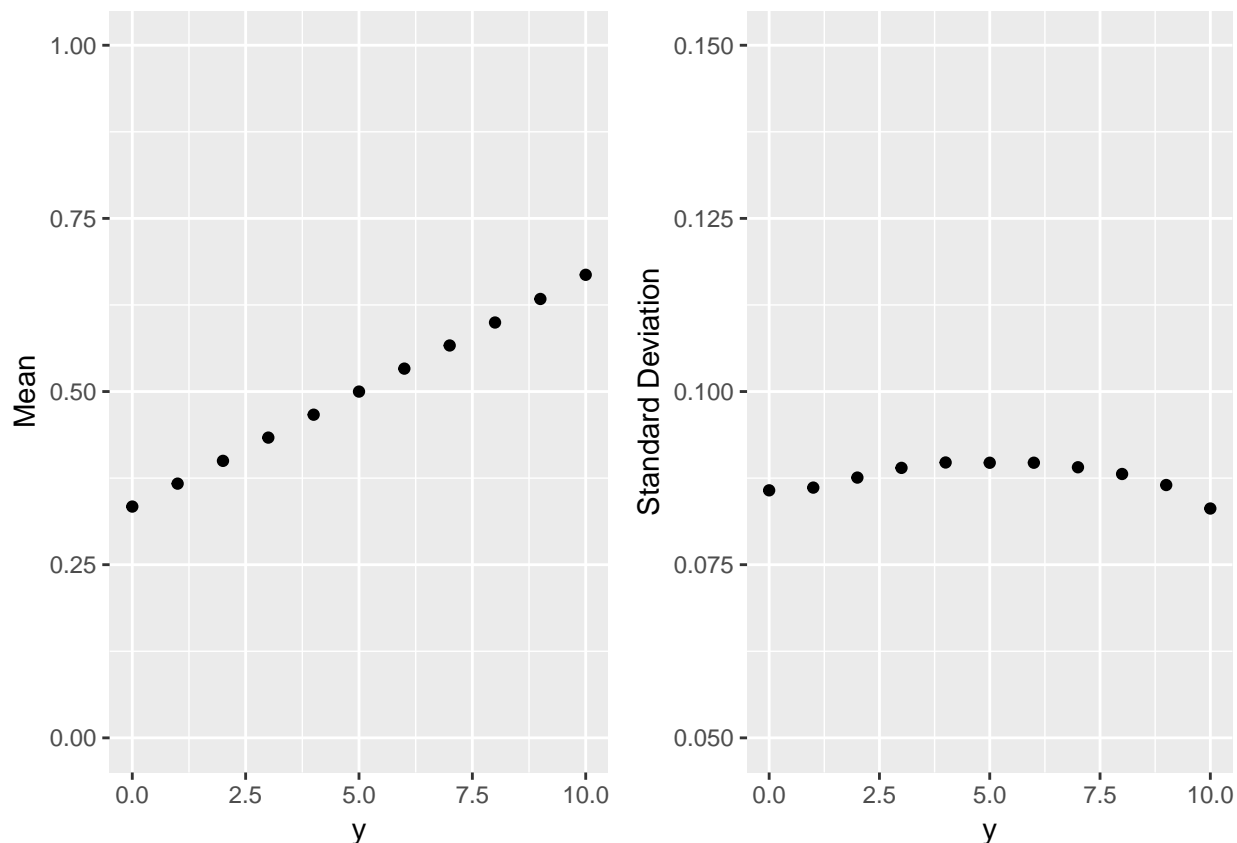
```
library(ggplot2)
library(gridExtra)
set.seed(1)
p2 <- montecarlo(0:10, 10, 1, 1)
plot1 <- ggplot(p2, aes(y, Mean)) + geom_point() + scale_y_continuous(limits = c(0,
1))
plot2 <- ggplot(p2, aes(y, `Standard Deviation`)) + geom_point() + scale_y_continuous(limits = c(0.05,
0.15))
grid.arrange(plot1, plot2, ncol = 2)
```



3.

Use the code from (1) with $n = 10$ and $a = b = 10$ to compute the posterior mean and standard deviation for θ for all $y = 0, 1, \dots, n$ and plot the posterior mean and standard deviation as a function of y .

```
set.seed(1)
p3 <- montecarlo(0:10, 10, 10, 10)
plot3 <- ggplot(p3, aes(y, Mean)) + geom_point() + scale_y_continuous(limits = c(0,
1))
plot4 <- ggplot(p3, aes(y, `Standard Deviation`)) + geom_point() + scale_y_continuous(limits = c(0.05,
0.15))
grid.arrange(plot3, plot4, ncol = 2)
```



4.

Comment on the differences between the plots with $a = b = 1$ versus $a = b = 10$.

When both a and b equal 1, the mean of θ varies greatly as y increases from 0 to 10. This can be seen in question two, where the mean of θ when y equals 0 is approximately 0.08, while the mean of θ when y equals 10 is approximately 0.92. Meanwhile, when a and b both equal 10, the mean of θ starts to flatten. When this situation is present, the mean of θ only varies between approximately 0.33 and 0.67.

Additionally, when a and b both equal 1, the standard deviation also varies greatly, with θ ranging from 0.077 to 0.139. When a and b both equal 10, the range for the standard deviation of θ has shrunk to between 0.0831 and 0.0897.

This means that as a and b increased from 1 to 10, the distribution took a much tighter form. When both a and b equaled 1, the values of θ were wider resulting in a greater standard deviation as compared to when a and b both equaled 10. When a and b both were 10, the posterior distribution had a higher peak and the values of θ do not vary that much. This results in smaller standard deviations for θ . Furthermore, not only did the standard deviations of θ tighten up as a and b increased, but so did the means of θ . As a and b increased to 10, the means of θ became closer to 0.5.