

Chapter 2 Single-parameter Models

Hendra Bunyamin

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Let's import ggplot2 for plotting.

```
library(ggplot2)
theme_set(theme_minimal())
```

Probability of a girl birth given placenta previa

437 girls and 543 boys have been observed. Calculate and plot the posterior distribution of the proportion of girls θ , using uniform prior on θ .

Analysis using a uniform prior distribution

Under a uniform prior distribution for the probability of a girl birth, the posterior distribution is Beta(438, 544).

seq creates evenly spaced values as follows:

```
df1 <- data.frame(theta = seq(0.375, 0.525, 0.001))
a <- 438
b <- 544
head(df1)
```

```
##   theta
## 1 0.375
## 2 0.376
## 3 0.377
## 4 0.378
## 5 0.379
## 6 0.380
```

As we read page 35 from the book, the posterior density for θ is

$$\begin{aligned}\Pr(\theta \mid y) &\propto \theta^y (1 - \theta)^{n-y} \theta^{\alpha-1} (1 - \theta)^{\beta-1} \\ &= \theta^{y+\alpha-1} (1 - \theta)^{n-y+\beta-1} \\ &= \text{Beta}(\theta \mid \alpha + y, \beta + n - y).\end{aligned}$$

Specifically, dbeta computes the posterior density.

```
df1$p <- dbeta(df1$theta, a, b)
head(df1)
```

```
##   theta          p
## 1 0.375 0.0008507679
## 2 0.376 0.0011418738
## 3 0.377 0.0015257278
## 4 0.378 0.0020295190
```

```
## 5 0.379 0.0026876416
## 6 0.380 0.0035433725
```

Next, we compute 95% **central interval**.

The `seq` creates evenly spaced values from 2.5% quantile to 97.5% quantile (i.e., 95% central interval). The `qbeta` computes the value for a given quantile given parameters `a` and `b`.

```
df2 <- data.frame(theta = seq(qbeta(0.025, a, b), qbeta(0.975, a, b), length.out = 100))
```

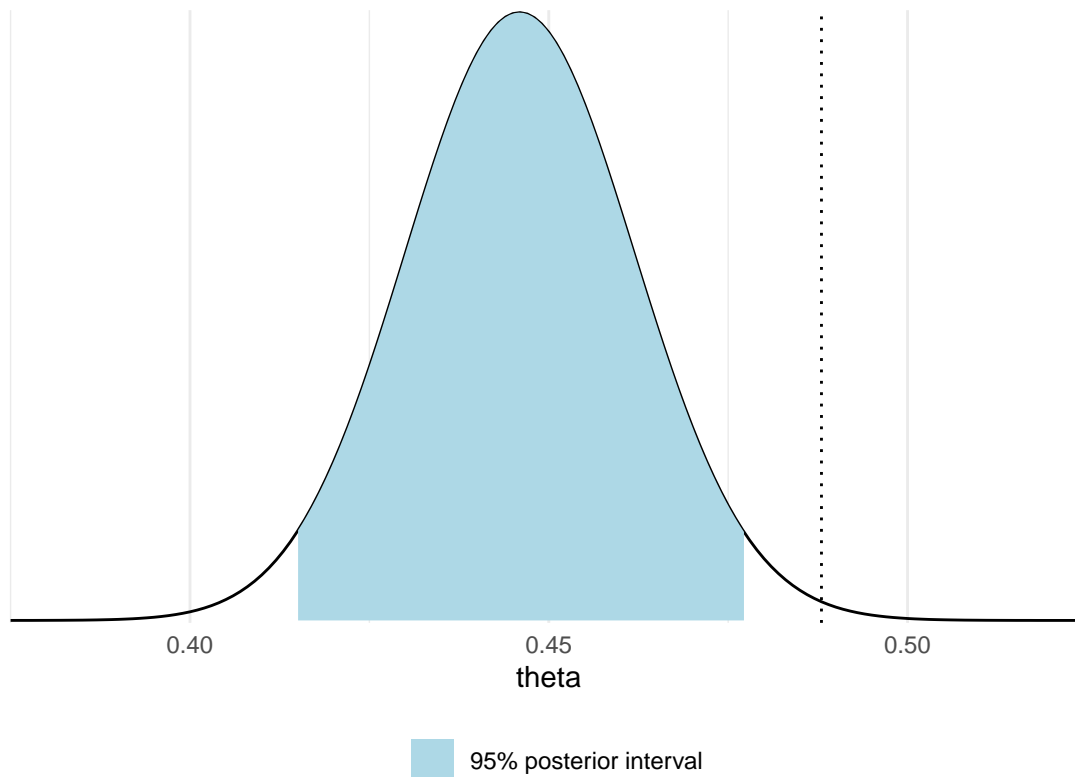
Subsequently, we compute the *posterior density*.

```
df2$p <- dbeta(df2$theta, a, b)
```

We also plot the posterior ($\text{Beta}(438, 544)$) and 48.8% line for population average.

```
ggplot(mapping = aes(theta, p)) +
  geom_line(data = df1) +
  # Add a layer of colorized 95% posterior interval
  geom_area(data = df2, aes(fill='1')) +
  # Add the proportion of girl babies in general population
  geom_vline(xintercept = 0.488, linetype='dotted') +
  # Decorate the plot a little
  labs(title='Uniform prior -> Posterior is Beta(438,544)', y = '') +
  scale_y_continuous(expand = c(0, 0.1), breaks = NULL) +
  scale_fill_manual(values = 'lightblue', labels = '95% posterior interval') +
  theme(legend.position = 'bottom', legend.title = element_blank())
```

Uniform prior \rightarrow Posterior is $\text{Beta}(438, 544)$



The End