



# University of Glasgow

XXXX 2018

xx.xx – x.xx

EXAMINATION FOR THE DEGREES OF M.Sci., M.Sc. and M.Res.

## Bayesian Statistics (Level M) Solutions

*“Hand calculators with simple basic functions (log, exp, square root, etc.) may be used in examinations. No calculator which can store or display text or graphics may be used, and any student found using such will be reported to the Clerk of Senate”.*

**NOTE:** Candidates should attempt ALL questions.

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1. Let  $y$  be a number of draws required until the first success in a series of independent Bernoulli trials. Consider the geometric model with parameter  $\theta$ :

$$p(y|\theta) = (1 - \theta)^{y-1}\theta, \quad 0 < \theta < 1, \quad y = 1, 2, \dots$$

- (a) Write down the likelihood function appropriate for  $n$  i.i.d. observations  $y_1, \dots, y_n$ .  
[2 MARKS]

*Solution*

$$\begin{aligned} L(\theta) &= p(y_1, \dots, y_n|\theta) = \prod_{i=1}^n p(y_i|\theta) = \prod_{i=1}^n (1 - \theta)^{y_i-1}\theta \\ &= (1 - \theta)^{\sum_{i=1}^n (y_i-1)} \theta^n = (1 - \theta)^{\sum_{i=1}^n y_i - n} \theta^n \end{aligned}$$

- (b) Explain the Bayesian concept of a conjugate prior. Show that the  $\text{Be}(\alpha, \beta)$  distribution is conjugate for i.i.d. geometric data  $y_1, \dots, y_n$  using the likelihood derived in the previous question.  
[2,3 MARKS]

*Solution*

Suppose the prior distribution comes from a particular family of distributions, e.g. the beta distributions. If the posterior distribution (obtained via Bayes' theorem) is from the same family of distributions (with parameters modified by the data), then the prior is conjugate to the likelihood. (2 marks)

$$p(\theta) \propto \theta^{\alpha-1}(1 - \theta)^{\beta-1}$$

$$\begin{aligned} p(\theta|y) &\propto p(\theta)p(y|\theta) \\ &\propto \theta^{\alpha-1}(1 - \theta)^{\beta-1} (1 - \theta)^{\sum_{i=1}^n (y_i-1)} \theta^n \\ &= \theta^{\alpha+n-1}(1 - \theta)^{\beta+\sum_{i=1}^n y_i - n-1} \end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow \theta|y \sim \text{Be} \left( \alpha + n, \beta + \sum_{i=1}^n y_i - n \right)$$

i.e. the posterior is also beta, therefore this prior is conjugate. (3 marks)

- (c) Derive the Jeffreys' prior  $p(\theta)$  for the parameter  $\theta$  in this geometric model.  
[7 MARKS]

*Solution*

Jeffreys' prior  $p(\theta) = \sqrt{J(\theta)}$ , where  $J(\theta)$  is the Fisher information.

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$$J(\theta) = -\mathbb{E} \left[ \frac{\partial^2 \ln L(\theta)}{\partial \theta^2} \middle| \theta \right]$$

$$\ln L(\theta) = \left( \sum y_i - n \right) \ln(1 - \theta) + n \ln \theta = (n\bar{y} - n) \ln(1 - \theta) + n \ln \theta$$

$$\frac{\partial \ln L(\theta)}{\partial \theta} = -\frac{n\bar{y} - n}{(1 - \theta)} + \frac{n}{\theta} = \frac{n - \theta n - \theta n\bar{y} + \theta n}{(1 - \theta)\theta} = \frac{n - \theta n\bar{y}}{(1 - \theta)\theta}$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 \ln L(\theta)}{\partial \theta^2} = \frac{n - n\bar{y}}{(\theta - 1)^2} - \frac{n}{\theta^2} = \frac{n}{(\theta - 1)^2} - \frac{n\bar{y}}{(\theta - 1)^2} - \frac{n}{\theta^2}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E} \left[ \frac{\partial^2 \ln L(\theta)}{\partial \theta^2} \middle| \theta \right] &= \frac{n}{(\theta - 1)^2} - \frac{n}{(\theta - 1)^2} \mathbb{E}[\bar{y}] - \frac{n}{\theta^2} = \frac{n\theta^2 - n\theta - n(\theta - 1)^2}{(\theta - 1)^2\theta^2} \\ &= \frac{n(\theta^2 - \theta - \theta^2 + 2\theta - 1)}{(\theta - 1)^2\theta^2} = \frac{n(\theta - 1)}{(\theta - 1)^2\theta^2} = \frac{n}{(\theta - 1)\theta^2} \end{aligned}$$

$$J(\theta) = \frac{n}{(1 - \theta)\theta^2}$$

$$p(\theta) = \sqrt{\frac{n}{(1 - \theta)\theta^2}} \propto \frac{1}{\theta\sqrt{1 - \theta}} = \theta^{-1}(1 - \theta)^{-1/2}$$

(d) Is the Jeffreys' prior for  $\theta$  a proper prior distribution? Explain. **[2 MARKS]**

*Solution*

$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^1 \theta^{-1}(1 - \theta)^{-1/2} d\theta &= \left[ \log \left( 1 - \sqrt{1 - \theta} \right) - \log \left( \sqrt{1 - \theta} + 1 \right) \right]_{\theta=0}^1 = \\ &= \ln(1) - \ln(1) - \ln(0) + \ln(2) = 0 - 0 + \infty + \log 2 = \infty \end{aligned}$$

i.e. the normalisation constant does not exist. Therefore the prior is improper.

(e) Is the posterior distribution that results from using the Jeffreys' prior in this problem a proper distribution? Explain. **[4 MARKS]**

*Solution*

The Jeffreys' prior is equivalent to  $Be(0, 1/2)$ , as

$$Be\left(0, \frac{1}{2}\right) \propto \theta^{-1}(1 - \theta)^{1/2-1} = \theta^{-1}(1 - \theta)^{-1/2}$$

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and therefore the posterior is

$$Be \left( n, 1/2 + \sum_{i=1}^n y_i - n \right)$$

and as long as  $n \geq 1$ , it is a proper (normalised) probability distribution. So, the posterior is proper.

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2. Consider the hierarchical model

$$\begin{aligned} y_{ij} | \boldsymbol{\lambda}, \beta &\sim \text{Poi}(\lambda_j), & i = 1, \dots, n_j; j = 1, \dots, J, \text{ independently;} \\ \lambda_j | \beta &\sim \text{Ga}(\alpha, \beta), & j = 1, \dots, J, \text{ independently;} \\ \beta &\sim \text{Exp}(\psi), \end{aligned}$$

where  $\boldsymbol{\lambda} = (\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_J)$  is a vector of unknown rates, and  $\alpha$  and  $\psi$  are fixed positive real numbers.

(a) Derive the joint probability density function of all the random quantities in the model  $p(\beta, \boldsymbol{\lambda}, y)$ . [4 MARKS]

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*Solution*

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$$\begin{aligned} p(\beta, \boldsymbol{\lambda}, y) &= p(y | \boldsymbol{\lambda}, \beta) p(\boldsymbol{\lambda} | \beta) p(\beta) \\ &= \left[ \prod_{j=1}^J \prod_{i=1}^{n_j} p(y_{ij} | \lambda_j) \right] \left[ \prod_{j=1}^J p(\lambda_j | \beta) \right] p(\beta) \\ &= \left[ \prod_{j=1}^J \prod_{i=1}^{n_j} \frac{\lambda_j^{y_{ij}} e^{-\lambda_j}}{y_{ij}!} \right] \left[ \prod_{j=1}^J \frac{\beta^\alpha}{\Gamma(\alpha)} \lambda_j^{\alpha-1} e^{-\beta \lambda_j} \right] \psi e^{-\psi \beta} \\ &= \frac{1}{\prod_{ij} y_{ij}!} \left[ \prod_{j=1}^J e^{-\lambda_j n_j} \right] \left[ \prod_{j=1}^J \lambda_j^{\sum_{i=1}^{n_j} y_{ij}} \right] \frac{\beta^{\alpha J}}{(\Gamma(\alpha))^J} \times \\ &\quad \times \left[ \prod_{j=1}^J \lambda_j^{\alpha-1} \right] \psi \exp \left\{ -\beta \left( \sum_{j=1}^J \lambda_j + \psi \right) \right\} \\ &= \psi \frac{\beta^{\alpha J}}{(\Gamma(\alpha))^J} e^{-\beta \psi} \left( \prod_{ij} y_{ij}! \right)^{-1} \left[ \prod_{j=1}^J \lambda_j^{n_j \bar{y}_j + \alpha - 1} \right] \exp \left\{ -\sum_{i=1}^J \lambda_j (n_j + \beta) \right\} \end{aligned}$$


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(b) Find the full conditional distributions of  $\beta$  and  $\boldsymbol{\lambda}$ . [5 MARKS]

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*Solution*

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Dropping irrelevant parts of the joint distribution, we obtain:

$$p(\beta|\mathbf{\lambda}, y) \propto p(\beta, \mathbf{\lambda}, y) \propto \beta^{\alpha J} e^{-\psi\beta} \exp\left\{-\beta \sum_{j=1}^J \lambda_j\right\} \propto \beta^{\alpha J} \exp\left\{-\left(\psi + \sum_{j=1}^J \lambda_j\right)\beta\right\}$$

So,

$$\beta|\mathbf{\lambda}, y \sim Ga\left(\alpha J + 1, \sum_{j=1}^J \lambda_j + \psi\right)$$

$$p(\lambda_j|\beta, y) \propto p(\beta, \mathbf{\lambda}, y) \propto \left[\lambda_j^{n_j \bar{y}_j + \alpha - 1}\right] e^{-(n_j + \beta)\lambda_j}$$

So,

$$\lambda_j|\beta, y, \mathbf{\lambda}_{-j} \sim Ga(\alpha + n_j \bar{y}_j, \beta + n_j),$$

where  $\mathbf{\lambda}_{-j} = (\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_{j-1}, \lambda_{j+1}, \dots, \lambda_J)$ .

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- (c) Explain how the full conditional distributions could be used to implement a Gibbs sampler to draw from  $p(\beta, \mathbf{\lambda}|y)$ . **[4 MARKS]**
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*Solution*

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Initialise  $\beta = \beta^{(0)}$  and  $\mathbf{\lambda} = \mathbf{\lambda}^{(0)}$

for  $k = 1, \dots, K$

Draw  $\beta^{(k)}$  from  $Ga\left(\alpha J + 1, \sum_{j=1}^J \lambda_j^{(k-1)} + \psi\right)$ ,

Draw  $\lambda_j^{(k)}$  from  $Ga(\alpha + n_j \bar{y}_j, \beta^{(k)} + n_j)$  (note  $\beta^{(k)}$ )

Discard burn-in and optionally thin-out.

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- (d) In an Empirical Bayes approach, one would drop from the model the higher-level prior on  $\beta$  (third line) and instead estimate  $\beta$  from the data. Explain how you would do that. [Hint: recall that the expected value of a  $Ga(\alpha, \beta)$  random variable is  $\alpha/\beta$ .] **[4 MARKS]**
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*Solution*

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Estimate rates  $\lambda$  from sample means:

$$\hat{\lambda}_j = \bar{y}_j = \frac{1}{n_j} \sum_{i=1}^{n_j} y_{ij}$$

Since  $\mathbb{E}[Ga(\alpha, \beta)] = \alpha/\beta$ , estimate  $\beta$  as

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$$\hat{\beta} = \frac{\alpha}{\text{average of } \hat{\lambda}_j} = \frac{\alpha}{\frac{1}{J} \sum_{j=1}^J \bar{y}_{\cdot j}}$$

- (e) Suppose that a sample  $(\boldsymbol{\lambda}^{(t)}, \beta^{(t)})$ ,  $t = 1, \dots, T$ , from the joint posterior distribution of  $\boldsymbol{\lambda}$  and  $\beta$  is available. Explain how you can use it to compute an estimate of the posterior predictive distribution of  $\tilde{y}_j$ , a future observation from the  $j$ th group of observations. **[3 MARKS]**

*Solution*

For each sample from the joint posterior distribution of  $\lambda$  and  $\beta$ , take a draw of

$$\tilde{y}_j^{(t)} \sim \text{Poi}(\lambda_j^{(t)})$$

we can use `rpois` in R.

The set  $\{\tilde{y}_j^{(t)} : t = 1, \dots, T\}$  are samples from the posterior predictive distribution of  $\tilde{y}_j$ .

3. (a) Suppose you perform ten independent Bernoulli trials and observe eight successes. Let  $\theta$  denote the probability of success on each trial.
- Compute the MAP estimate and posterior expectation of  $\theta$  using  $Be(0.5, 0.5)$  prior distribution. Note that the mode of the Beta distribution is  $(\alpha - 1)/(\alpha + \beta - 1)$  when  $\alpha, \beta > 1$ . **[2 MARKS]**

*Solution*

The model is:

$$\begin{aligned} y &\sim \text{Bin}(\theta, n) \\ \theta &\sim \text{Be}(0.5, 0.5) \end{aligned}$$

We know that the prior is conjugate, and the posterior must be:

$$\theta|y \sim \text{Be}(0.5 + y, 0.5 + n - y) = \text{Be}(0.5 + 8, 0.5 + 10 - 8) = \text{Be}(8.5, 2.5)$$

The MAP estimate of  $\theta$  is the mode of the posterior distribution, which is

$$\frac{\alpha_n - 1}{\alpha_n + \beta_n - 2} = \frac{7.5}{9} = \frac{5}{6} \approx 0.8333$$

And the posterior expectation of  $\theta$  is the mean of the posterior:

$$\mathbb{E}[\theta|y] = \frac{\alpha_n}{\alpha_n + \beta_n} = \frac{8.5}{11} = \frac{17}{22} \approx 0.7727$$

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- ii. Consider that we are using a mixture of Beta priors for this example:

$$p(\theta) = \frac{1}{2}Be(6, 4) + \frac{1}{2}Be(4, 6)$$

Derive the posterior using the same data  $y = 8, n = 10$ . Make sure that your posterior is properly normalised. **[9 MARKS]**

*Solution*

$$\begin{aligned} p(\theta|y) &\propto p(\theta)p(y|\theta) \\ &\propto \theta^8(1-\theta)^2 \left[ \frac{1}{2}Be(6, 4) + \frac{1}{2}Be(4, 6) \right] \\ &\propto \theta^8(1-\theta)^2 \left[ \frac{\Gamma(10)}{2\Gamma(6)\Gamma(4)}\theta^5(1-\theta)^3 + \frac{\Gamma(10)}{2\Gamma(6)\Gamma(4)}\theta^3(1-\theta)^5 \right] \\ &\propto \theta^{13}(1-\theta)^5 + \theta^{11}(1-\theta)^7 = B(14, 6)Be(14, 6) + B(12, 8)Be(12, 8) \end{aligned}$$

To normalise it with some constant  $Z$  we need to solve:

$$\int_0^1 ZB(14, 6)Be(\theta; 14, 6) + ZB(12, 8)Be(\theta; 12, 8)d\theta = 1$$

therefore

$$\begin{aligned} Z(B(14, 6) + B(12, 8)) &= 1 \\ Z &= \frac{1}{B(14, 6) + B(12, 8)} \end{aligned}$$

and finally

$$\begin{aligned} p(\theta|y) &= \frac{B(14, 6)}{B(14, 6) + B(12, 8)}Be(14, 6) + \frac{B(12, 8)}{B(14, 6) + B(12, 8)}Be(12, 8) \\ &= \frac{13!5!}{13!5! + 11!7!}Be(14, 6) + \frac{11!7!}{13!5! + 11!7!}Be(12, 8) \\ &= \frac{12 \cdot 13}{12 \cdot 13 + 6 \cdot 7}Be(14, 6) + \frac{6 \cdot 7}{12 \cdot 13 + 6 \cdot 7}Be(12, 8) \\ &= \frac{26}{33}Be(14, 6) + \frac{7}{33}Be(12, 8) \\ &\approx 0.787879Be(14, 6) + 0.212121Be(12, 8) \end{aligned}$$

- iii. Using the  $Be(0.5, 0.5)$  prior, and after observing the data, what probability would you attach to the event that the eleventh trial will result in a success? **[4 MARKS]**

*Solution*

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The posterior predictive distribution for  $\tilde{y}$  given the results of the previous question is

$$\begin{aligned} Pr(\tilde{y} = \text{success}|y) &= \int_0^1 Pr(\tilde{y} = \text{success}|\theta)p(\theta|y)d\theta \\ &= \int_0^1 \theta \frac{1}{B(8.5, 2.5)} \theta^{7.5}(1-\theta)^{1.5} d\theta \\ &= \mathbb{E}[\theta|y] = \frac{17}{22} \approx 0.7727 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} Pr(\tilde{y} = \text{failure}|y) &= 1 - Pr(\tilde{y} = \text{success}|y) \\ &= 1 - \frac{17}{22} = \frac{5}{22} \approx 0.2273 \end{aligned}$$

- iv. You may believe that Beta priors are not flexible enough and prefer to specify a prior on  $\theta$  by means of a normal prior on the logits:

$$\phi = \text{logit}(\theta) = \log \frac{\theta}{1-\theta} \quad \phi \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu, \sigma^2)$$

You want the induced prior on  $\theta$  to satisfy the following conditions:

$$Pr[\theta > 0.7] = 1/2 \quad \text{and} \quad Pr[\theta < 0.9] = 0.975$$

Determine the values of  $\mu$  and  $\sigma^2$  required.

[5 MARKS]

*Solution*

$$\phi = \text{logit}(\theta) = \log \frac{\theta}{1-\theta} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \theta = \frac{e^\phi}{1+e^\phi}$$

$$\theta > 0.7 \Rightarrow \phi > \log \frac{0.7}{0.3} \approx 0.847$$

$$\theta < 0.9 \Rightarrow \phi < \log \frac{0.9}{0.1} \approx 2.197$$

We defined a normal prior on  $\phi$ :

$$\phi \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu, \sigma^2)$$

Now we need to find  $\mu$  and  $\sigma^2$  to match the required constraints.

$$\begin{aligned} Pr[\theta > 0.7] = 1/2 &\Rightarrow Pr[\phi > 0.847] = 1/2 \\ &\Rightarrow 1 - \Phi\left(\frac{0.847 - \mu}{\sigma}\right) = 0.5 \\ &\Rightarrow \frac{0.847 - \mu}{\sigma} = \Phi^{-1}(0.5) = 0 \\ &\Rightarrow \mu = 0.847 \end{aligned}$$

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$$\begin{aligned}
Pr[\theta < 0.9] = 0.975 &\Rightarrow Pr[\phi < 2.197] = 0.975 \\
&\Rightarrow \Phi\left(\frac{2.197 - 0.847}{\sigma}\right) = 0.975 \\
&\Rightarrow \frac{1.35}{\sigma} = \Phi^{-1}(0.975) = 1.96 \\
&\Rightarrow \sigma = \frac{1.35}{1.96} = 0.689 \\
&\Rightarrow \sigma^2 = 0.474721
\end{aligned}$$


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4. (a) Consider the following model:

$$\begin{aligned}
y &\sim \text{Bin}(n, \theta) \\
\theta &\sim \text{Be}(\alpha, \beta)
\end{aligned}$$

Using the following loss function:

$$L(\theta, a) = \frac{(\theta - a)^2}{\theta(1 - \theta)}$$

i. Derive the expression for the Bayes action.

[8 MARKS]

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*Solution*

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Expected loss:

$$\begin{aligned}
\rho(\pi, a) &= \int_0^1 \frac{(\theta - a)^2}{\theta(1 - \theta)} \times \frac{1}{B(\alpha + y, \beta + n - y)} \times \theta^{\alpha+y-1} (1 - \theta)^{\beta+n-y-1} d\theta \\
&= \mathbb{E} \left[ \frac{(\theta - a)^2}{\theta(1 - \theta)} \middle| y \right] \\
&= \mathbb{E} \left[ \frac{\theta^2}{\theta(1 - \theta)} \middle| y \right] - 2a \mathbb{E} \left[ \frac{\theta}{\theta(1 - \theta)} \middle| y \right] + a^2 \mathbb{E} \left[ \frac{1}{\theta(1 - \theta)} \middle| y \right]
\end{aligned}$$

When expected loss is minimised, its derivative is 0, therefore to find the

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Bayes action, we need to solve the equation:

$$\begin{aligned}
\frac{\partial \rho}{\partial a} &= 0 \\
\frac{\partial \rho}{\partial a} &= -2\mathbb{E}\left[\frac{1}{1-\theta}\middle|y\right] + 2a\mathbb{E}\left[\frac{1}{\theta(1-\theta)}\middle|y\right] \\
&= -2\frac{\Gamma(\alpha+\beta+n)}{\Gamma(\alpha+y)\Gamma(\beta+n-y)}\int_0^1\theta^{\alpha+y-1}(1-\theta)^{\beta+n-y-2}d\theta \\
&\quad + 2a\frac{\Gamma(\alpha+\beta+n)}{\Gamma(\alpha+y)\Gamma(\beta+n-y)}\int_0^1\theta^{\alpha+y-2}(1-\theta)^{\beta+n-y-2}d\theta \\
&= -2\frac{\Gamma(\alpha+\beta+n)}{\Gamma(\alpha+y)\Gamma(\beta+n-y)}\times\frac{\Gamma(\alpha+y)\Gamma(\beta+n-y-1)}{\Gamma(\alpha+\beta+n-1)} \\
&\quad + 2a\frac{\Gamma(\alpha+\beta+n)}{\Gamma(\alpha+y)\Gamma(\beta+n-y)}\times\frac{\Gamma(\alpha+y-1)\Gamma(\beta+n-y-1)}{\Gamma(\alpha+\beta+n-2)} \\
&= -2\frac{\alpha+\beta+n-1}{\beta+n-y-1} + 2a\frac{(\alpha+\beta+n-2)(\alpha+\beta+n-1)}{(\alpha+y-1)(\beta+n-y-1)} = 0 \\
a &= \frac{2(\alpha+\beta+n-1)}{\beta+n-y-1}\times\frac{(\alpha+y-1)(\beta+n-y-1)}{2(\alpha+\beta+n-2)(\alpha+\beta+n-1)} \\
a &= \frac{\alpha+y-1}{\alpha+\beta+n-2}
\end{aligned}$$

This is our resulting Bayes action.

- ii. Evaluate this Bayes action when  $\alpha = \beta = 1$ , and comment on your result. **[2 MARKS]**

*Solution*

When  $\alpha = \beta = 1$ , the Bayes action is

$$\frac{y}{n}$$

This demonstrates that when using loss function of the form

$$L(\theta, a) = \frac{(\theta - a)^2}{\theta(1 - \theta)}$$

under uniform prior, the Bayes action is the maximum likelihood estimator of  $\theta$ .

- (b) Six batteries are put on test for 200 hours. Four fail after 96, 130, 160, and 180 hours. The other two batteries are still working after 200 hours. Assume the lifetime of these batteries has an exponential distribution with mean  $\theta^{-1}$ . Assume that the battery lifetimes are independent of each other.

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i. Derive the likelihood for this problem.

[3 MARKS]

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*Solution*

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The overall likelihood is the product of individual likelihoods:

$$y_i \sim \exp(\theta), \quad i = 1, \dots, 6$$

$$\begin{aligned} p(y|\theta) &= p(96|\theta)p(130|\theta)p(160|\theta)p(180|\theta) \cdot \\ &\quad \cdot p(y > 200|\theta)p(y > 200|\theta) \\ &= \theta e^{-96\theta} \cdot \theta e^{-130\theta} \cdot \theta e^{-160\theta} \cdot \theta e^{-180\theta} \cdot \int_{200}^{\infty} \theta e^{-y\theta} dy \cdot \int_{200}^{\infty} \theta e^{-y\theta} dy \\ &= \theta^4 e^{-566\theta} \cdot [-e^{-\theta y}]_{y=200}^{\infty} \cdot [-e^{-\theta y}]_{y=200}^{\infty} \\ &= \theta^4 e^{-566\theta} \cdot [0 + e^{-200\theta}] \cdot [0 + e^{-200\theta}] = \theta^4 e^{-966\theta} \end{aligned}$$

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ii. Assuming the gamma prior

$$p(\theta) = \frac{\beta^\alpha \theta^{\alpha-1} \exp(-\beta\theta)}{\Gamma(\alpha)}$$

with parameters  $\alpha = 10, \beta = 1800$ . Find the posterior mean and variance.

[3 MARKS]

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*Solution*

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$$p(\theta|y) \propto p(\theta)p(y|\theta) \propto \theta^9 e^{-1800\theta} \cdot \theta^4 e^{-966\theta} = \theta^{13} e^{-2766\theta} \propto \text{Gam}(\theta; 14, 2766)$$

Mean of the posterior is  $\alpha/\beta = 14/2766 = 7/1383 \approx 0.00506$ .

The variance of the posterior is  $\alpha/\beta^2 = 14/7650756 = 7/3825378 \approx 1.830 \times 10^{-6}$ .

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iii. Find the density of the predictive distribution of another independent battery lifetime and find the probability it is more than 200 hours. [4 MARKS]

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*Solution*

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$$\begin{aligned} p(\tilde{y}|y) &= \int_0^\infty p(\tilde{y}|\theta)p(\theta|y)d\theta = \int_0^\infty \frac{2766^{14}}{\Gamma(14)} \theta e^{-\tilde{y}\theta} \theta^{13} e^{-2766\theta} d\theta \\ &= \frac{2766^{14}}{\Gamma(14)} \int_0^\infty \theta^{14} e^{-\theta(2766+\tilde{y})} d\theta = \frac{2766^{14}}{\Gamma(14)} \times \frac{\Gamma(15)}{(2766 + \tilde{y})^{15}} \\ &= \frac{14 \cdot 2766^{14}}{(2766 + \tilde{y})^{15}} \end{aligned}$$

which is Lomax distribution with  $\lambda = 2766$ , and  $\alpha = 14$  (but the students don't have to know the name of this distribution).

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$$\begin{aligned}
p(\tilde{y} > 200|y) &= \int_{200}^{\infty} \frac{14 \cdot 2766^{14}}{(2766 + \tilde{y})^{15}} d\tilde{y} = 14 \cdot 2766^{14} \cdot \left[ -\frac{1}{14(2766 + \tilde{y})^{14}} \right]_{\tilde{y}=200}^{\infty} \\
&= 14 \cdot 2766^{14} \cdot \left[ 0 + \frac{1}{14 \cdot 2966^{14}} \right] = \frac{2766^{14}}{2966^{14}} \approx 0.3763
\end{aligned}$$

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**Total: 80**

**END OF QUESTION PAPER.**