

Lee 6 2/11/19 Prob 34

From last one

$$B(\alpha, \beta) = \int_0^1 t^{\alpha-1} (1-t)^{\beta-1} dt$$

A moment's def. This resolves to 1 #

$$Y \sim \text{Beta}(\alpha, \beta) := \frac{1}{B(\alpha, \beta)} y^{\alpha-1} (1-y)^{\beta-1}$$

is a r.v.

$p(y)$ : PDF of de beta

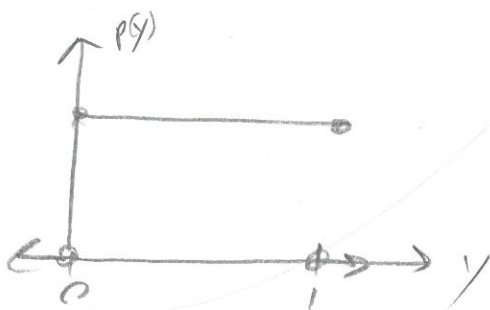
$\text{Supp}(Y) = [0, 1]$ , Param space:  $\alpha, \beta > 0$

$$E[Y] = \frac{\alpha}{\alpha+\beta}, \text{Mode}(Y) = \frac{\alpha-1}{\alpha+\beta-2}$$

no closed form  
for  $\alpha, \beta > 1$ ,  $\text{Med}(Y) = \text{qbeta}(0.5, \alpha, \beta)$

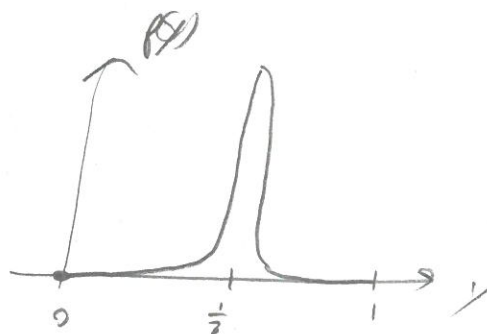
Common shapes

$$\alpha = \beta - 1$$



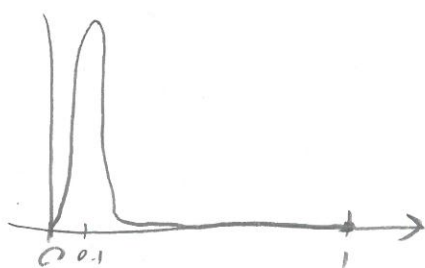
$$\text{Beta}(1, 1) = U(0, 1)$$

Std unif. special case of Beta

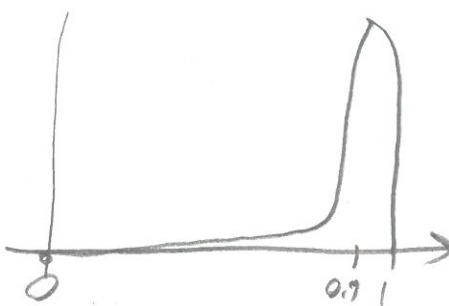


$$\alpha = \beta = 100$$

Concave, mode  $\frac{1}{2}$



$$\alpha = 10, \beta = 90 \quad E[Y] = 0.1$$

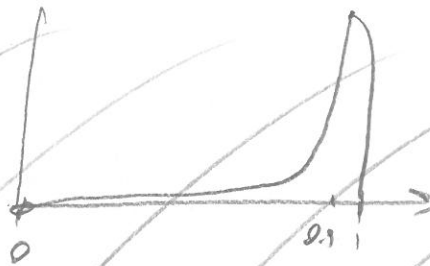


$$\alpha = 90, \beta = 10 \quad E[Y] = 0.9$$



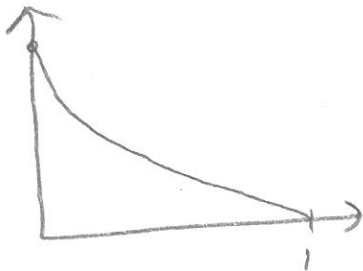
$$\alpha = 10, \beta = 90$$

concentrated about 0.1

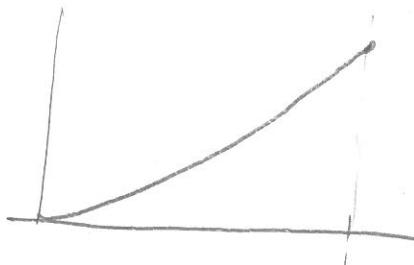


$$\alpha = 90, \beta = 10$$

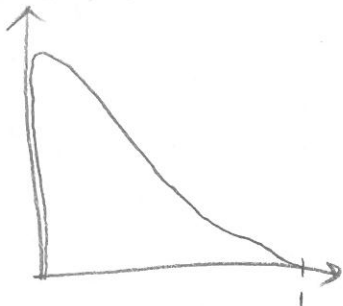
concentrated about 0.9



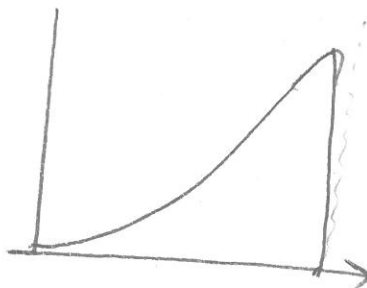
$$\alpha = 1, \beta = 4$$



$$\alpha = 4, \beta = 1$$

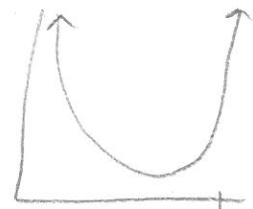


$$\alpha = 1.001, \beta = 4$$

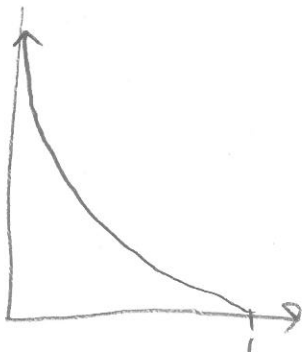


$$\alpha = 4, \beta = 1.001$$

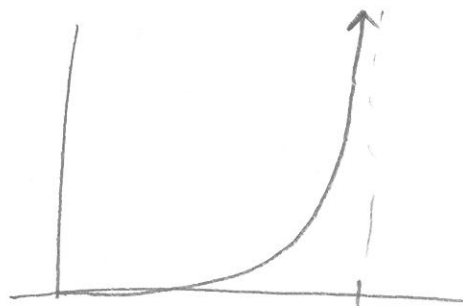
Arcsin distr.



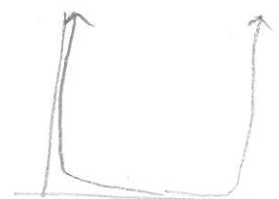
$$\alpha = \beta = \frac{1}{2}$$



$$\alpha = 0.999, \beta = 3$$



$$\alpha = 3, \beta = 0.999$$



$$\alpha = \beta = \frac{1}{100}$$

Recall problem #1 with frequent reference.

3

Let's return so  $X = \langle 0, 0, 0 \rangle$   $\hat{\theta}_{MLE}^{-X} = 0$  why not a good idea?

Let's see what happens with Bayesian pt. est.

$$P(\theta | x) = \text{Beta}(\sum x_i + 1, 4 - \sum x_i + 1) = \text{Beta}(1, 4)$$

$$\hat{\theta}_{MLE} = E[\theta | x] = \frac{1}{1+4} = 0.2 \quad \leftarrow \text{Very reasonable.}$$

$$\hat{\theta}_{MAP} = \text{Mode}[\theta | x] = 0 \quad (\text{see previous}) \quad \leftarrow \text{Why?}$$

$$\hat{\theta}_{MMSE} = \text{Med}[\theta | x] = \text{qbeta}(0.5, 1, 4) = .1591036 \quad \leftarrow \text{Leaves door open to the case } x=1.$$

In the book... talked about insurance policies for midsize trucks just when prices started to fly commercial ~1930's. Same case?

Recall

$$P(\theta | x_1) = \frac{P(x_1 | \theta) P(\theta)}{P(x_1)} = \text{Beta}(1, 2)$$

$$P(\theta | x_2) = \frac{P(x_2 | \theta) P(\theta | x_1)}{P(x_2)} = \frac{P(x_1, x_2 | \theta) P(\theta)}{P(x_1, x_2)} = \text{Beta}(1, 3)$$

$$P(\theta | x_3) = \frac{P(x_3 | \theta) P(\theta | x_2)}{P(x_3)} = \frac{P(x_1, x_2, x_3 | \theta) P(\theta)}{P(x_1, x_2, x_3)} = \text{Beta}(1, 4)$$

It seems that a beta prior yields a beta posterior for

$F = \text{iid Bernoulli}$ . Let's generalize this...

Let  $P(\theta) = \text{Beta}(\alpha, \beta)$ ,  $X_1, \dots, X_n$

$$P(\theta|x) = \frac{P(x|\theta)P(\theta)}{P(x)} = \frac{\theta^{\sum x_i} (1-\theta)^{n-\sum x_i} \frac{1}{B(\alpha, \beta)} \theta^{\alpha-1} (1-\theta)^{\beta-1}}{\int_0^1 \theta^{\sum x_i} (1-\theta)^{n-\sum x_i} \frac{1}{B(\alpha, \beta)} \theta^{\alpha-1} (1-\theta)^{\beta-1} d\theta} = \frac{\theta^{\sum x_i + \alpha - 1} (1-\theta)^{n - \sum x_i + \beta - 1}}{\int_0^1 \theta^{\sum x_i + \alpha - 1} (1-\theta)^{n - \sum x_i + \beta - 1} d\theta}$$

$$= \frac{1}{B(\sum x_i + \alpha, n - \sum x_i + \beta)} \theta^{\sum x_i + \alpha - 1} (1-\theta)^{n - \sum x_i + \beta - 1} = \text{Beta}(\sum x_i + \alpha, n - \sum x_i + \beta)$$

$$\underbrace{P(\theta)}_{\text{Beta}(\alpha, \beta)} \xrightarrow{x} \underbrace{P(\theta|x)}_{\text{Beta}(\sum x_i + \alpha, n - \sum x_i + \beta)}$$

"Beta" is the "conjugate prior" for the "iid Bernoulli likelihood model".

Conjugacy: prior and posterior share the same r.v.

Back to Book 2.11...

$\alpha, \beta$  are parameters of the prior distr.  
They are called hyperparameters.  
Who specifies them?

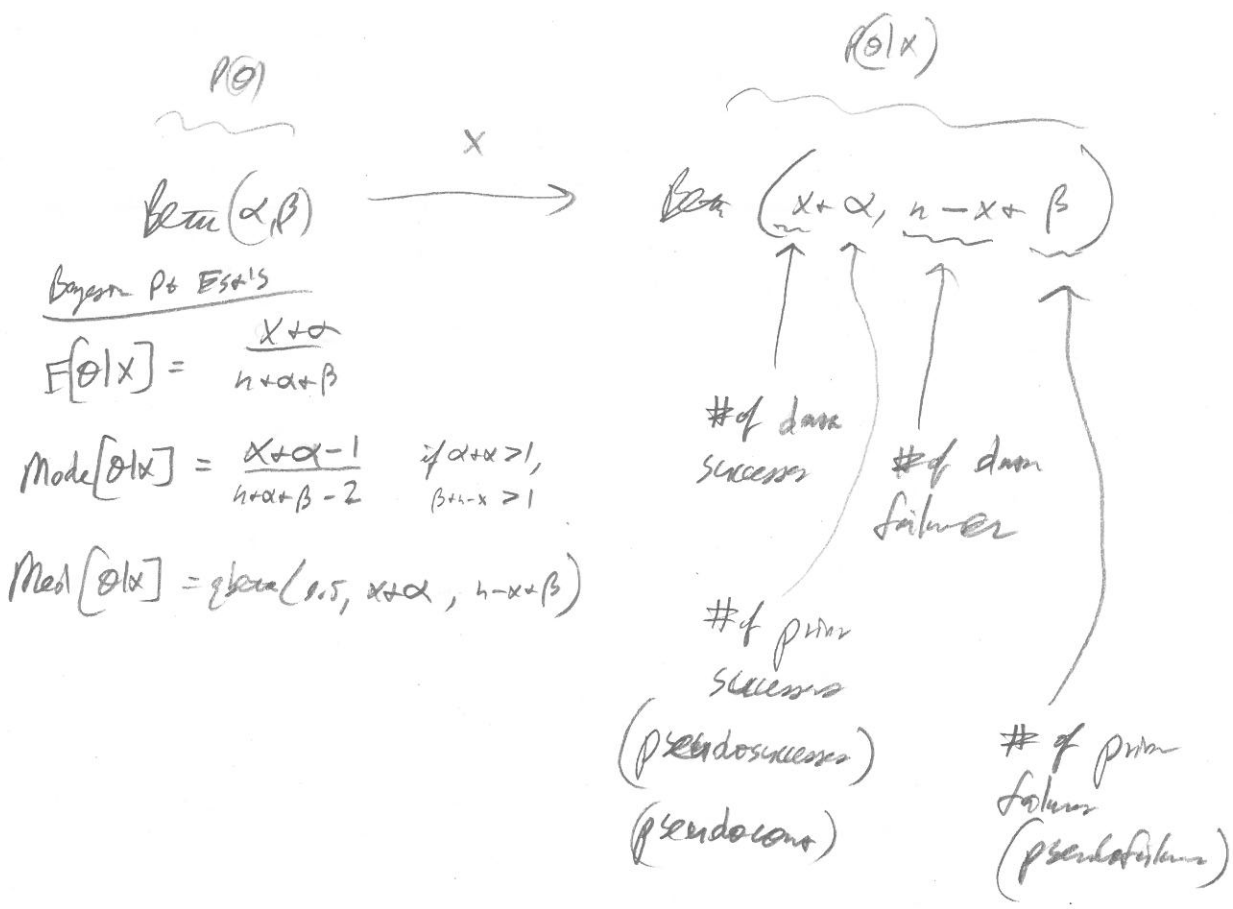
If  $X_1, \dots, X_n \sim \text{iid Bernoulli}(\theta) \Rightarrow X = \sum_{i=1}^n X_i \sim \text{Bin}(n, \theta)$

$P = \text{Binom}$   
w/ fixed  $n$

$$P(\theta) = \text{Beta}(\alpha, \beta) \quad \uparrow \quad \text{let "x" represent the sum}$$
$$= \binom{n}{x} \theta^x (1-\theta)^{n-x}$$

$$P(\theta|x) = \frac{P(x|\theta)P(\theta)}{P(x)} = \frac{\binom{n}{x} \theta^x (1-\theta)^{n-x} \frac{1}{B(\alpha, \beta)} \theta^{\alpha-1} (1-\theta)^{\beta-1}}{\int_0^1 \binom{n}{x} \theta^x (1-\theta)^{n-x} \frac{1}{B(\alpha, \beta)} \theta^{\alpha-1} (1-\theta)^{\beta-1} d\theta} = \frac{1}{B(x+\alpha, n-x+\beta)} \theta^{x+\alpha-1} (1-\theta)^{n-x+\beta-1} = \text{Beta}(x+\alpha, n-x+\beta)$$

"Beta is conjugate for the binomial likelihood"



Units?

Hypotheses for conjugate distributions have a special interpretation; they represent pseudodata

Bayesian Pt Est's

$$E[\theta|x] = \frac{x+\alpha}{n+\alpha+\beta}$$

$$\text{Mode}[\theta|x] = \frac{x+\alpha-1}{n+\alpha+\beta-2} \quad \begin{matrix} \text{if } \alpha+x > 1, \\ \beta+n-x > 1 \end{matrix}$$

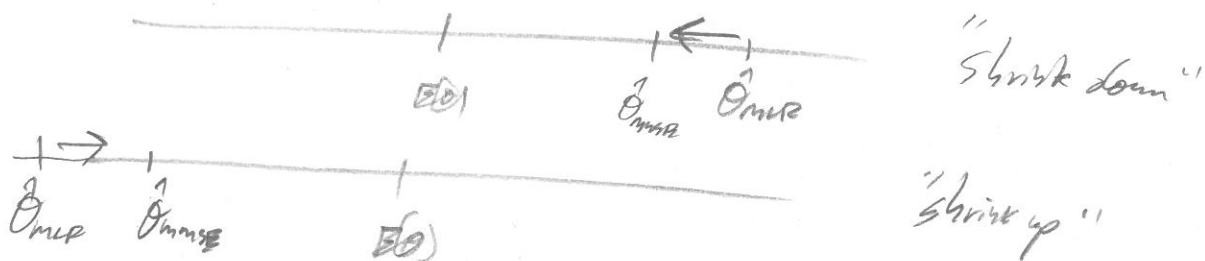
$$\text{Med}[\theta|x] = \text{qbeta}(0.5, x+\alpha, n-x+\beta)$$

$U(0,1) = \text{Beta}(1,1)$  we thought this was the prior for the principle of indifference. But how many pseudosuccesses does it represent? 1  
 ... pseudofailures does it represent? 1  
 How much pseudodata does it represent?  $n_0 = 2, E[\theta] = \frac{1}{2}$   
 It definitely contains information! The principle of indifference is not so indifferent.

Consider  $\hat{\theta}_{MMSE} = E[\theta|x] = \frac{x+\alpha}{n+\alpha+\beta} = \frac{x}{n+\alpha+\beta} \cdot \frac{n}{n} + \frac{\alpha}{n+\alpha+\beta} \cdot \frac{n+\alpha+\beta}{\alpha+\beta}$

$$= \underbrace{\frac{n}{n+\alpha+\beta}}_{1-p} \cdot \underbrace{\frac{x}{n}}_{\hat{\theta}_{MLE}} + \underbrace{\frac{\alpha+\beta}{n+\alpha+\beta}}_p \cdot \underbrace{\frac{\alpha}{\alpha+\beta}}_{E[\theta]} = (1-p) \hat{\theta}_{MLE} + p E[\theta]$$

$\hat{\theta}_{\text{James}}$  is known as a "shrinkage estimator". It takes the  $\hat{\theta}_{\text{MLE}}$  and shrinks towards  $E[\theta]$ , the prior idea.



" $\rho$ " is the shrinkage proportion. How does it behave?

If  $n$  large  $\rho \approx 0$ . Makes sense?  $\hat{\theta}_{\text{James}} \rightarrow \hat{\theta}_{\text{MLE}}$  if  $n$  large.

Data dominates our prior

If  $n$  small and  $\alpha, \beta$  small,  $\hat{\theta}_{\text{MLE}}$  still is strongly influenced

If  $n$  small and  $\alpha, \beta$  large, the estimate is shrunk hard towards  $E[\theta]$ .

$\alpha, \beta$  "small" means uninformative prior  $\rightarrow$  doesn't affect prior estimate

$\alpha, \beta$  "large" means informative prior  $\rightarrow$  affects prior estimate.

Why would you want an "informative prior"? We will see next class.