Statistics 5444: Homework 0

For each homework assignment, turn in at the beginning of class on the indicated due date. Late assignments will only be accepted with special permission. Write each problem up *very* neatly (ETEX is preferred). Show all of your work.

Problem 1

Read When Did Bayesian Inference Become "Bayesian"? (See webpage).

Part a

Who originally coined the term Bayesian?

Part b

Who was the founder of Bayesian statistics? Justify why you think so.

Problem 2

Consider observing data X. Assume you have a parametric model (i.e. sampling function, density/mass function, probability model, etc) which depends on the parameter θ . The likelihood function (Recall that $p(X|\theta) \propto L(\theta|X)$) is defined over the values of $\theta \in \{-3, -2, -1, 0, 1, 2, 3, 4\}$. Likelihood and prior distribution values are given in Table 1.

| θ | -3 | -2 | -1 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
|-----------------|-----|-----|------|------|------|-----|-----|------|
| $L(\theta X)$: | 0.5 | 2 | 1 | 3 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 0.5 |
| $p(\theta)$: | 0.1 | 0.3 | 0.05 | 0.15 | 0.05 | 0.1 | 0.2 | 0.05 |

Table 1: Likelihood and prior values

Part a

Compute the posterior distribution over the valid range of θ and plot the likelihood, prior and posterior in a single graph.

Part b

Compute $E[\theta|X]$.