

MA 578 — Bayesian Statistics

Homework 2

(Due: Tuesday, 09/24/19)

1. BDA problem 2.10.
2. BDA problem 2.13.
3. Jeffreys prior for *canonical* parameterization of binomial likelihood:
 - (a) If $\theta \sim \text{Beta}(\alpha, \beta)$, show that $\lambda = \log(\theta/(1 - \theta)) = \text{logit}(\theta)$ has a “Beta-logit” distribution with density

$$\mathbb{P}(\lambda) \propto \frac{e^{\alpha\lambda}}{(1 + e^\lambda)^{\alpha+\beta}}.$$

- (b) Suppose now that $X \mid \lambda \sim \text{Binom}(n, \text{logit}^{-1}(\lambda))$, that is, that

$$\mathbb{P}(X \mid \lambda) \propto \exp \left\{ \lambda X - n \log(1 + e^\lambda) \right\}.$$

Show that Jeffreys prior for λ is Beta-logit($\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}$) and so conclude that Jeffreys prior for $\theta = \text{logit}^{-1}(\lambda) \sim \text{Beta}(\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2})$.