

# Hierarchical Bayes:

$x \sim f(x|\theta), \theta \sim \pi_1(\theta|\theta_1), \dots, \theta_n \sim \pi_n(\theta_n)$

Prior:  $\pi(\theta) = \int \theta_1, \theta_2, \dots, \theta_n \pi_1(\theta_1|\theta_2) \pi_2(\theta_2|\theta_3) \dots \pi_n(\theta_n) d\theta_1 d\theta_2 \dots d\theta_n$

Example: Normal Hierarchical

$\mu, \tau^2 \leftarrow \pi(\mu, \tau^2) = \pi_{\mu}(\mu|\tau^2) \cdot \pi_{\tau^2}(\tau^2) = N(\mu_0, k\tau^2) \text{IG}(a, b)$

$\theta_1, \theta_2, \dots, \theta_p \leftarrow \theta_i \text{ iid } N(\mu, \tau^2)$

$x_1, x_2, \dots, x_p \leftarrow x_i | \theta_i \sim N(\theta_i, \sigma^2), \sigma^2 \text{ known}$

Joint Posterior:

$$\pi(\theta_1, \dots, \theta_p, \mu, \tau^2 | x) \propto \prod_{i=1}^p f(x_i | \theta_i) \cdot \prod_{i=1}^p \pi(\theta_i | \mu, \tau^2) \cdot \pi_{\mu}(\mu | \mu_0, k\tau^2) \cdot \pi_{\tau^2}(\tau^2 | a, b)$$

$$= \prod_{i=1}^p (2\pi\sigma^2)^{-\frac{1}{2}} \exp(-\frac{\sum_{i=1}^p (x_i - \theta_i)^2}{2\sigma^2}) (2\pi\tau^2)^{-\frac{p}{2}} \exp(-\frac{\sum_{i=1}^p (\theta_i - \mu)^2}{2\tau^2}) (2\pi k\tau^2)^{-\frac{1}{2}} \exp(-\frac{(\mu - \mu_0)^2}{2k\tau^2}) \cdot (\tau^2)^{-a-1} \exp(-\frac{b}{\tau^2}) \cdot \frac{b^a}{\Gamma(a)}$$

$$\pi(\mu | \theta_1, \dots, \theta_p, \tau^2, x) \propto \exp(-\frac{\sum_{i=1}^p (\theta_i - \mu)^2}{2\tau^2} - \frac{(\mu - \mu_0)^2}{2k\tau^2}) \propto \exp(-\frac{1}{2} (\frac{p}{\tau^2} + \frac{1}{k\tau^2}) \mu^2 - 2\mu (\frac{\sum \theta_i}{\tau^2} + \frac{\mu_0}{k\tau^2}))$$

$$\Rightarrow \pi(\mu | \theta_1, \dots, \theta_p, \tau^2, x) \sim N(\frac{\frac{\sum \theta_i}{\tau^2} + \frac{\mu_0}{k\tau^2}}{\frac{p}{\tau^2} + \frac{1}{k\tau^2}}, (\frac{p}{\tau^2} + \frac{1}{k\tau^2})^{-1})$$

$$\pi(\tau^2 | \mu, \theta_1, \dots, \theta_p, x) \propto (\tau^2)^{-\frac{p}{2} - \frac{1}{2} - a - 1} \exp(-\frac{1}{2\tau^2} (\frac{\sum_{i=1}^p (\theta_i - \mu)^2}{2} + \frac{(\mu - \mu_0)^2}{2k})) \sim \text{IG}$$

$$\pi(\theta_i | \mu, \text{other } \theta, x) \propto \exp(-\frac{(x_i - \theta_i)^2}{2\sigma^2} - \frac{(\theta_i - \mu)^2}{2\tau^2}) \sim N(\frac{\frac{x_i/\sigma^2 + \mu/\tau^2}{1/\sigma^2 + 1/\tau^2}, (1/\sigma^2 + 1/\tau^2)^{-1})$$

Ps: Mixture of Conjugate priors are still conjugate.

## Non-Informative Priors:

1. Laplace's Priors (Uniform Priors or Flat Priors): Assign the equiprobability to elementary events.  
When  $\theta$  is a finite set, consisting of  $n$  elements, the obvious non-informative prior is to give each element of  $\theta$  probability  $1/n$ .

2. Invariance under reparameterization: Consider  $y = g(\theta)$ ,  $g(\cdot)$  is monotone over the domain of  $\theta$ .  
Find the induced prior for  $y$ :  $\pi_y(y) = \pi_{\theta}(g^{-1}(y)) |dg^{-1}(y)/d\theta|$ . A more intrinsic and more acceptable notion of noninformative prior should satisfy invariance under reparameterization, i.e.  $\pi_y(y)$  is also a flat prior.

Invariant Priors: for a location parameter  $\theta$ :  $\pi(\theta) = 1$ , for a scale parameter  $\sigma$ :  $\pi(\sigma) = 1/\sigma$

## Fisher Information:

$$I(\theta) = E_{\theta}[(\frac{\partial \log f(x|\theta)}{\partial \theta})^2] = -E_{\theta}(\frac{\partial^2 \log f(x|\theta)}{\partial \theta^2}) \rightarrow \text{under regular condition (True for exponential family)}$$

## Jeffrey's Prior:

It's non-informative priors in general settings based on fisher information.  $\pi^*(\theta) \propto [I(\theta)]^{1/2}$

Jeffrey's is invariant,  $\pi^*(\theta) = I(h(\theta)) \cdot [h'(\theta)]^2$  for  $\theta \rightarrow h(\theta)$

for multi dimensional  $\theta$ ,  $\pi^*(\theta) \propto [\det(I(\theta))]^{1/2}$

\*: Jeffrey's Prior doesn't satisfy likelihood principle.



**Reference Prior:**  
 For Multidimensional  $\theta = (\theta_1, \theta_2)$ , distinguish between  $\theta_1$  (Parameters of Primary Interest) and  $\theta_2$  (Nuisance Parameters).  
 Conditional on  $\theta_1$ , define prior  $\pi(\theta_2|\theta_1)$  as the Jeffrey's Prior associated with  $f(x|\theta_1, \theta_2)$ .  
 Then,  $p(x|\theta_1) = \int_{\theta_2} p(x|\theta_1, \theta_2) \pi(\theta_2|\theta_1) d\theta_2 \Rightarrow$  we get a  $f(x|\theta_1)$  about only  $\theta_1$ .  
 Then, find Jeffrey's prior based on  $p(x|\theta_1) \Rightarrow$  Then set  $\pi(\theta_1, \theta_2) = \pi(\theta_1) \pi(\theta_2|\theta_1)$ .  
**Robust Prior Distributions:** Parameterized distributions as insensitive as possible to small variation in prior.  
 Ps: We can robustify the conjugate priors by hierarchical modeling.

**Exchangeability:**  
 Finite exchangeability: Let  $P(y_1, \dots, y_n)$  be the joint density of  $Y_1, \dots, Y_n$ , if  $P(y_1, \dots, y_n) = P(y_{\pi(1)}, \dots, y_{\pi(n)})$  for all permutations  $\pi$  of  $\{1, \dots, n\}$ , then  $Y_1, \dots, Y_n$  are exchangeable.  
 Ps: If  $\theta \sim \pi(\theta)$  and  $Y_1, \dots, Y_n$  are conditionally iid, given  $\theta$ , then marginally (unconditioned on  $\theta$ )  $Y_1, Y_2, \dots, Y_n$  are exchangeable.  
 De Finetti's Theorem: Let  $Y_i \in \mathcal{Y}$ . for any  $n$ , our belief model for  $y_1, \dots, y_n$  is exchangeable:  
 $P(y_1, \dots, y_n) = P(y_{\pi(1)}, \dots, y_{\pi(n)})$  for all permutations  $\pi$  of  $(1, 2, \dots, n)$ . Then our model can be written as:  $P(y_1, \dots, y_n) = \int P(y_1, \dots, y_n | \theta) \pi(\theta) d\theta$  for some parameter  $\theta$ , some prior distribution on  $\theta$  and some sampling model  $P(y|\theta)$ .

**Laplace Approximation:** First, we need the posterior distribution.  
 $\theta_0$ : The mode of  $\pi(\theta|x)$ , i.e. find  $\theta_0$ , s.t.  $\frac{d \log(q(\theta))}{d\theta} = 0$ ,  $q(\theta)$  is the posterior distribution.  
 $A = - \left( \frac{d^2 \log(q(\theta))}{d\theta^2} \right) \Big|_{\theta=\theta_0} \Rightarrow \pi(\theta|x) \approx N(\theta_0, 1/A)$ .  
 Ps: If it's MVN case:  
 $\theta_0 = (\theta_{0j}, j=1, \dots, p)$ , such that  $\frac{\partial q(\theta)}{\partial \theta_{0j}} = 0$   
 $A$  is Hessian matrix evaluated at  $\theta_0$ ,  $A_{ij} = - \frac{\partial^2 \log(q(\theta))}{\partial \theta_i \partial \theta_j} \Big|_{\theta=\theta_0}$ .

**Monte Carlo Method:**  
 Suppose that we have  $\theta^{(1)}, \dots, \theta^{(M)}$  iid samples from  $\pi(\theta|x)$ , by LLN: as  $M \rightarrow \infty$   
 $\bar{\theta} = \frac{1}{M} \sum_{i=1}^M \theta^{(i)} \rightarrow E(\theta|x)$ .  $\frac{1}{M-1} \sum_{i=1}^M (\theta^{(i)} - \bar{\theta})^2 \rightarrow \text{Var}(\theta|x)$   
 $\frac{1}{M} \#(\theta^{(i)} \in C) \rightarrow P(\theta \in C|x)$ . And empirical distribution of  $(\theta^{(1)}, \dots, \theta^{(M)}) \rightarrow \pi(\theta|x)$

**Importance Sampling:**  
 $E(g(\theta)|x) = \frac{\int g(\theta) \pi(\theta|x) d\theta}{\int f(x|\theta) \pi(\theta) d\theta} = \frac{\int g(\theta) f(x|\theta) \pi(\theta) d\theta}{\int f(x|\theta) \pi(\theta) d\theta}$  Use  $h(x)$  as importance function  
 $= \frac{1}{M} \sum_{i=1}^M g(\theta^{(i)}) \cdot \frac{f(x|\theta^{(i)}) \pi(\theta^{(i)})}{h(\theta^{(i)})}$   
 $\hookrightarrow$  A special case when  $g(\theta) = 1$

**Metropolis-Hasting algorithms:**  
 Step 1: Start with an arbitrary initial value  $\theta^{(0)}$ .  
 Step 2: Update from  $\theta^{(t-1)}$  to  $\theta^{(t)}$  by:  
 2.1: Generate  $z \sim q(z|\theta^{(t-1)})$   
 2.2:  $\rho(\theta^{(t-1)}, z) = \min \left\{ \frac{\pi(z) q(\theta^{(t-1)}|z)}{\pi(\theta^{(t-1)}) q(z|\theta^{(t-1)})}, 1 \right\}$ .  
 2.3.  $\theta^{(t)} = \begin{cases} z & \text{with } p = \rho \\ \theta^{(t-1)} & \text{o.w.} \end{cases}$



Gibbs Sampler:

Step 1: Start with an arbitrary value  $\pi^{(0)}$ .

Step 2: Given  $\pi^{(t-1)}$ , generate

2.1:  $\theta^{(t)}$  from  $\pi_1(\theta | x, \pi^{(t-1)})$

2.2:  $\pi^{(t)}$  from  $\pi_2(\pi | x, \theta^{(t)})$

Then:  $(\theta^{(t)}, \pi^{(t)})$  is from the joint posterior distribution and  $\theta$  is from marginal, same for  $\pi$ .

Bayes Point Estimation:

Report a point estimation for  $h(\theta)$  with associated measure of accuracy.

$\Rightarrow$  Find  $\pi(h(\theta) | x)$  and use the Bayes rule: i.e. a solution of  $\min_{d \in D} E^\pi(L(\theta, d) | x)$  for  $d \in D$  and  $\theta \in \Theta$ .

We can use quadratic loss, absolute error loss, and 0-1 loss.

$\uparrow$   
Posterior Mean

$\uparrow$   
Posterior Median

$\uparrow$   
Posterior Mode.

$$PS: MSZ(\delta) = \text{Var}(\delta) + (E[\delta - \theta])^2 = \text{Bias}^2 + \text{Var}(\delta) \quad | x$$

Bayes Hypothesis Testing:

$H_0: \theta \in \Theta_0$ ,  $H_1: \theta \in \Theta_1$ , with a loss function:  $L(\theta, \varphi) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } \varphi \neq I(\theta \in \Theta_0) \\ 0 & \text{o.w.} \end{cases}$

$\Rightarrow$  The Bayes decision is:  $\varphi^\pi(x) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } p^\pi(\theta \in \Theta_0 | x) > p^\pi(\theta \in \Theta_0^c | x) \\ 0 & \text{o.w.} \end{cases}$

Bayes Factor:

$$B_{01}^\pi = \frac{\text{Posterior Odds}}{\text{Prior Odds}} = \frac{\frac{P(\theta \in \Theta_0 | x)}{P(\theta \in \Theta_1 | x)}}{\frac{\pi(\theta \in \Theta_0)}{\pi(\theta \in \Theta_1)}}$$

$\log_{10}(B_{01}^\pi) \in \begin{cases} (0, 0.5) & \text{okay} \\ (0.5, 1) & \text{Substantial to reject } H_0 \\ (1, 2) & \text{strong} \\ > 2 & \text{Decisive} \end{cases}$