

## Class Activity [7 minute]: Most Basic Bayesian Interview Question

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What's the chance you have the disease if you tested positive?

- What do you need to know to answer this?

$$Pr(D|+) = ?$$

## Class Activity [10 minutes]: Most Basic Bayesian Interview Question

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What's the chance you have the disease if you tested positive?

- What do you need to know to answer this?

$$\begin{array}{lll} Pr(D) = p & \implies & Pr(\text{not } D) = 1 - p \\ Pr(+|D) = q & \implies & Pr(-|D) = 1 - q \\ Pr(+|\text{not } D) = q' & \implies & Pr(-|\text{not } D) = 1 - q' \end{array}$$

$$Pr(D|+) = ?$$

## Answer Review [4 minutes] Most Basic Bayesian Interview Question

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Law of Total Probability

$$Pr(+) = \sum_{x \in \mathcal{X}} Pr(+, x) =$$

## Answer Review [4 minutes]

### Most Basic Bayesian Interview Question

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#### Law of Total Probability

$$\begin{aligned} Pr(+) &= \sum_{x \in \mathcal{X}} Pr(+, x) = Pr(+, D) + Pr(+, \text{not } D) \\ &= Pr(+|D)Pr(D) + Pr(+|\text{not } D)Pr(\text{not } D) = qp + q'(1 - p) \end{aligned}$$

## Answer Review [4 minutes]

### Most Basic Bayesian Interview Question

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#### Law of Total Probability

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#### Bayes Theorem

$$Pr(D|+) =$$



## Answer Review [4 minutes]

### Most Basic Bayesian Interview Question

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#### Law of Total Probability

$$\begin{aligned}
 Pr(+) &= \sum_{x \in \mathcal{X}} Pr(+, x) = Pr(+, D) + Pr(+, \text{not } D) \\
 &= Pr(+|D)Pr(D) + Pr(+|\text{not } D)Pr(\text{not } D) = qp + q'(1 - p)
 \end{aligned}$$

## Bayes Theorem

$$Pr(D|+) = \frac{Pr(+|D)Pr(D)}{Pr(+)} = \frac{Pr(+|D)Pr(D)}{Pr(+|D)Pr(D) + Pr(+|\text{not } D)Pr(\text{not } D)} = \frac{qp}{qp + q'(1 - p)}$$

## Bayesian Versus Frequentist Philosophy [2 minutes]

- **FREQUENTIST:**

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- **BAYESIAN:**

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## Bayesian Versus Frequentist Philosophy [5 minutes]

- **FREQUENTIST:**

**Parameter**  $\theta$  in a **likelihood**  $f_{\theta}(x)$  is a fixed value to be estimated

- No interesting probability statements to be made about **parameters**

- **BAYESIAN:**

The **uncertainty** in  $\theta$  can be modeled as (**posterior**) **distribution**  $p(\theta|x)$

- All statements about **parameters** are probability statements

- **Bayes theorem** coherently assess **parameter uncertainty** as a **posterior**  $p(\theta|x)$  given **likelihood**  $f_\theta(x) = p(x|\theta)$  and **prior**  $p(\theta)$

## Bayesian Terminology [10 minutes]

Likelihood	$p(x \theta)$	often written as $f_\theta(x)$
Prior	$p(\theta)$	
Posterior	$p(\theta x) = \frac{p(x \theta)p(\theta)}{p(x)} = \frac{p(x, \theta)}{p(x)}$	Bayes Theorem
Marginal Likelihood	$p(x) = \int p(x \theta)p(\theta)d\theta$	Law of Total Probability
Join Distribution	$p(\theta, x)$	
The Posterior is always	$p(\theta x) \propto p(\theta, x)$	proportional to the joint

## Bayesian/Sequential Learning [9 minutes]

Conditional Independence  $p(x_2|\theta) = p(x_2|x_1, \theta)$  or  $(x_2 \perp\!\!\!\perp x_1|\theta)$

$$\begin{aligned}
 p(\theta|x_2, x_1) &\propto p(x_2, x_1, \theta) \\
 &= \underbrace{p(x_2|\theta, x_1) p(x_1|\theta) p(\theta)}_{(x_2 \perp\!\!\!\perp x_1|\theta)} \leftarrow \text{chain rule} \\
 &= \underbrace{p(x_2|\theta)}_{\propto p(\theta|x_1)} \underbrace{p(x_1|\theta) p(\theta)}_{\propto p(\theta|x_1)} \\
 &\propto p(x_2|\theta) \underbrace{p(\theta|x_1)}_{\text{new prior}} \leftarrow \text{previous posterior}
 \end{aligned}$$

A prior is updated to a posterior which becomes the new prior for the next data

## Bayesian/Sequential Learning [2 minutes]

A prior is updated to a posterior which becomes the new prior for the next data

1.  $p(\theta|x_1) \propto f(x_1|\theta)p(\theta)$
2.  $p(\theta|x_1, x_2) \propto f(x_2|\theta)p(\theta|x_1)$
3.  $p(\theta|x_1, x_2, x_3) \propto f(x_3|\theta)p(\theta|x_1, x_2)$
- $\vdots$

## Bayesian/Sequential Learning

A prior is updated to a posterior which becomes the new prior for the next data

1.  $p(\theta|x_1) \propto f(x_1|\theta)p(\theta)$
2.  $p(\theta|x_1, x_2) \propto f(x_2|\theta)p(\theta|x_1)$
3.  $p(\theta|x_1, x_2, x_3) \propto f(x_3|\theta)p(\theta|x_1, x_2)$
- $\vdots$

Is this different from Batch Updates? [5 minutes]

$$p(\theta|x_1, x_2, x_3) \propto f(x_1, x_2, x_3|\theta)p(\theta) \stackrel{(x_i \perp\!\!\!\perp x_j|\theta)}{=} \underbrace{f(x_1|\theta)f(x_2|\theta)f(x_3|\theta)}_{\left[\prod_{i=1}^3 f(x_i|\theta)\right]}p(\theta)$$

## Criticisms of Bayesian Analysis [3 minutes]

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## Criticisms of Bayesian Analysis [6 minutes]

- "Your prior is subjective"
  - Response: "Your likelihood is subjective",  
"Your model selection is subjective", etc. Where does this stop...?
    - Affects **Frequentists** as well...  
"All models are wrong, some are useful."
- "Bayesian analysis is computationally expensive"
  - Response: In the end, a method is or is not computationally tractable. Faster methods may always be preferred...
    - There will be things you **can't** do unless you're **Bayesian**

## A first (toy) model: beta-binomial [15 minutes]

$$p(x|\theta, n) = \binom{n}{x} \theta^x (1 - \theta)^{n-x} \quad [n \text{ given}]$$

$$p(\theta|\alpha, \beta) = \frac{\Gamma(\alpha + \beta)}{\Gamma(\alpha)\Gamma(\beta)} \theta^{\alpha-1} (1 - \theta)^{\beta-1} \quad \alpha \text{ and } \beta \text{ are called hyperparameters}$$

$$p(\theta|x) = ?$$

Hint:  $p(\theta|x) \propto p(\theta, x)$

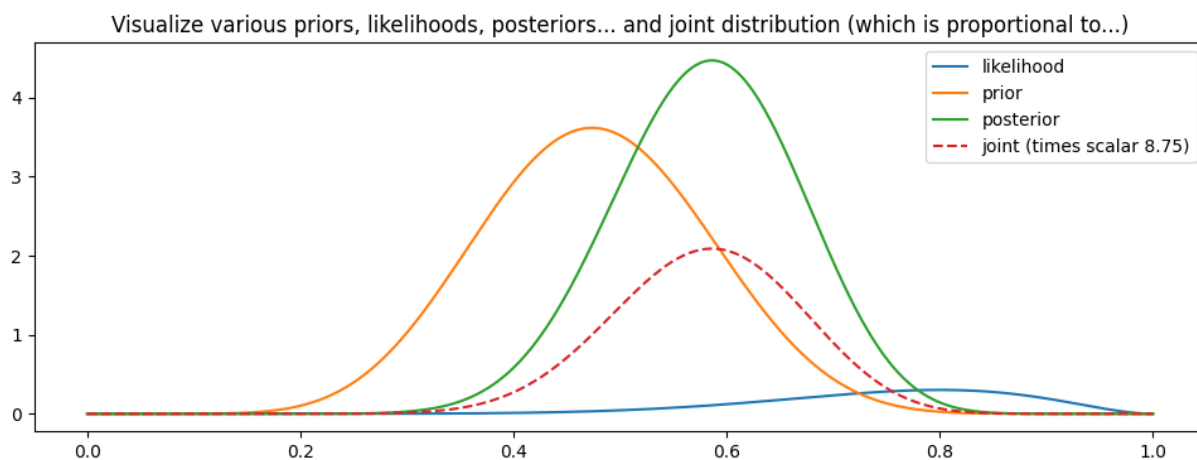
$$\begin{aligned}
 &= p(x|\theta)p(\theta) \\
 &= \binom{n}{k} \theta^x (1 - \theta)^{n-x} \frac{\Gamma(\alpha + \beta)}{\Gamma(\alpha)\Gamma(\beta)} \theta^{\alpha-1} (1 - \theta)^{\beta-1} \\
 &\propto \theta^x (1 - \theta)^{n-x} \theta^{\alpha-1} (1 - \theta)^{\beta-1} \\
 &= \theta^{x+\alpha-1} (1 - \theta)^{n-x+\beta-1} \Rightarrow \text{What distribution?}
 \end{aligned}$$

## # The "Classic Bayes" Figure [10 minutes]

```

In [ ]: import numpy as np; from scipy import stats; import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
n,x=10,8; alpha,beta=10,11; parameter_domain = np.linspace(0,1,1001)
likelihood = stats.binom.pmf(n=n, k=x, p=parameter_domain)
prior = stats.beta(a=alpha,b=beta).pdf(parameter_domain)
c = 8.75; joint = c*likelihood*prior # elementwise multiplication
posterior = stats.beta(a=x+alpha,b=n-x+beta).pdf(parameter_domain)
plt.figure(figsize=(12,4)); plt.plot(parameter_domain, likelihood, label="likelihood

```



## Homework #1: AB-testing and the Multi-Armed Bayesian Bandit

You have three choices... choose wisely, my friends...

Option	The "Red" one	The "Blue" one	The "Other" one
Unknown Probability of Success	$\theta_A$	$\theta_B$	$\theta_C$

$$p(\theta_j | x_j, n_j) \propto \theta^{x_j + \alpha_j - 1} (1 - \theta)^{n - x + \beta_j - 1} \Rightarrow \text{What distribution?}$$

- Try one out, and collect that data update...
  - What's the data?
  - What's the update for the posterior in question?
- Which one of the three choices will you try out? How will you choose?
- Hints: You can use *simulation* to find out the *relative belief* (i.e., probability) that each of the choices is the best. Posterior distributions characterize your beliefs about the parameters  $\theta_A$ ,  $\theta_B$  and  $\theta_C$ . What can you learn by repeatedly sampling values from the posterior distribution while comparing the values of each triplet? If you know the chances that A, B, and C are the best choice, how could you balance **exploration versus exploitation** when choosing which of the possible options to collect the next data point on next?