

# Homework 5

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## Description

- Course: STAT638, 2022 Fall

Read Chapter 5 in the Hoff book.

Then, do the following exercises in Hoff: 5.1, 5.2, 5.5.

For 5.2,  $\bar{y}_A$  denotes the mean exam score for students assigned to method A, and  $\bar{y}_B$  denotes the mean exam score for students assigned to method B.

Be careful: Some of the notation differs between the lecture slides and the Hoff book.

- Deadline: Oct 12 by 12:01pm
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## Computational Environment Setup

### Third-party libraries

```
%matplotlib inline
import sys # system information
import matplotlib # plotting
import scipy # scientific computing
import random
import pandas as pd # data managing
from scipy.special import comb
from scipy import stats as st
from scipy.special import gamma
import numpy as np
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
# Matplotlib setting
plt.rcParams['text.use_tex'] = True
matplotlib.rcParams['figure.dpi'] = 300
np.random.seed(20220928) # Consistent random effect
```

### Version

```
print(sys.version)
print(matplotlib.__version__)
print(scipy.__version__)
print(np.__version__)
print(pd.__version__)
```

```
3.8.12 (default, Oct 22 2021, 18:39:35)
[Clang 13.0.0 (clang-1300.0.29.3)]
3.3.1
1.5.2
1.19.1
1.1.1
```

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## Problem 5.1

Studying: The files `school1.dat`, `school2.dat` and `school3.dat` contain data on the amount of time students from 3 high schools spent on studying or homework during an exam period. Analyze data from each of these schools separately, using the normal model with a conjugate prior distribution, in which  $\{\mu_0 = 5, \sigma_0^2 = 4, \kappa_0 = 1, \nu = 2\}$  and compute or approximate following:

(a)

Posterior means and 95% confidence intervals for the mean  $\theta$  and standard deviation  $\sigma$  for each school;

(b)

The posterior probability that  $\theta_i < \theta_j < \theta_k$  for all six permutations  $\{i, j, k\}$  of  $\{1, 2, 3\}$ ;

(c)

The posterior probability that  $\tilde{Y}_i < \tilde{Y}_j < \tilde{Y}_k$  for all six permutations  $\{i, j, k\}$  of  $\{1, 2, 3\}$ , where  $\tilde{Y}_i$  is a sample from the posterior predictive distribution of school  $i$ .

(d)

Compute the posterior probability that  $\theta_1$  is bigger than both  $\theta_2$  and  $\theta_3$ , and the posterior probability that  $\tilde{Y}_1$  is bigger than both  $\tilde{Y}_2$  and  $\tilde{Y}_3$ .

## Problem 5.2

Sensitivity analysis: Thirty-two students in a science classroom were randomly assigned to one of two study methods,  $A$  and  $B$ , so that  $n_A = n_B = 16$  students were assigned to each method. After several weeks of study, students were examined on the course material with an exam designed to give an average score of 75 with a standard deviation of 10. The scores for the two groups are summarized by  $\{\bar{y}_A = 75.2, s_A = 7.3\}$  and  $\{\bar{y}_B = 77.5, s_b = 8.1\}$ . Consider independent, conjugate normal prior distributions for each of  $\theta_A$  and  $\theta_B$ , with  $\mu_0 = 75$  and  $\sigma_0^2 = 100$  for both groups. For each  $(\kappa_0, \nu_0) \in \{(1, 1), (2, 2), (4, 4), (8, 8), (16, 16), (32, 32)\}$  (or more values), obtain  $Pr(\theta_A < \theta_B | y_A, y_B)$  via Monte Carlo Sampling. Plot this probability as a function of  $\kappa_0 = \nu_0$ . Describe how you might use this plot to convey the evidence that  $\theta_A < \theta_B$  to people of a variety of prior opinions.

## Problem 5.5

Unit information prior: Obtain a unit information prior for the normal model as follows:

(a)

Reparameterize the normal model as  $p(y|\theta, \psi)$ , where  $\psi = \frac{1}{\sigma^2}$ . Write out the log likelihood  $l(\theta, \psi|y) = \sum \log p(y_i|\theta, \psi)$  in terms of  $\theta$  and  $\psi$ .

(b)

Find a probability density  $p_U(\theta, \psi)$  so that  $\log p_U(\theta, \psi) = \frac{l(\theta, \psi|y)}{n} + c$ , where  $c$  is a constant that does not depend on  $\theta$  or  $\psi$ .

Hint: Write  $\sum (y_i - \theta)^2$  as  $\sum (y_i - \bar{y} + \bar{y} - \theta)^2 = \sum (y_i - \bar{y})^2 + n(\theta - \bar{y})^2$ , and recall that  $\log p_U(\theta, \psi) = \log p_U(\theta|\psi) + \log p_U(\psi)$ .

(c)

Find a probability density  $p_U(\theta, \psi|y)$  that is proportional to  $p_U(\theta, \psi) \times p(y_1, \dots, y_n|\theta, \psi)$ . It may be convenient to write this joint density as  $p_U(\theta|\psi, y) \times p_U(\psi|y)$ . Can this joint density be considered a posterior density?

## References