- (1) True
- (2) False
- (3) True
- (4) False
- (5) False
- (6) True
- (7) False
- (8) True
- (9) False
- (10) True
- (11) True

a) Posterior =
$$\frac{\text{Likelihood} \times \text{Prior}}{\text{Evidence}}$$

- b) The posterior probability for a parameter is the prior probability of the parameter updated with information of the observations that has been incorporated into the likelihood.
- c) Since my classifier performs poorly on the training set, I should first try to ensure that it performs well on the training set before trying to generalize to test sets. Thus, I should focus on improving the bias over the variance. Since boosting improves the bias and bagging does not, I should use boosting.
- d) Boosting reduces the bias and increases the variance. Bagging leaves the bias unchanged and reduces the variance.
- e) The assumption is given a class, the features in each pair of features are conditionally independent given the class.
- f) The objective is to be minimized across all \mathbf{m}_j and $r_j^{(i)}$ is

$$\sum_{i=1}^{N} \sum_{j=1}^{K} r_j^{(i)} ||\mathbf{m}_j - \mathbf{x}^{(i)}||^2$$

where N is the number of data points, K is the number of cluster centers, \mathbf{m}_j is the jth cluster center, $\mathbf{x}^{(i)}$ is the ith data point, and $r_j^{(i)}$ is 1 is data point i is assigned to center \mathbf{m}_j and 0 otherwise.

g)

$$Q^{\pi}(s, a) = r(s, a) + \gamma \int_{\mathcal{S}} \mathcal{P}(s'|s, a) Q^{\pi}(s', \pi(s')) ds'$$

- a) k, the number of neighbours of each point used when voting for the most common label.
- b) (i) number of layers in the network (ii) number of hidden units in any one of the layers.
- c) λ , the ℓ_2 regularizer coefficient.
- d) K, the number of dimensions of the subspace to project onto.
- e) K, the number of cluster centers.
- f) K, the number of weighted Gaussian distributions to include.
- g) (i) α , the learning rate (ii) ϵ , the exploration probability.

a) Let

 A_1 = the person has the disease

 A_2 = the person does not have the disease

 B_1 = the person tests positive

 B_2 = the person does not test positive

Since 0.1% of the population has the disease, $P(A_1) = 0.001$ so $P(A_2) = 1 - 0.001 = 0.999$. Since the test is 99% accurate, $P(B_1|A_1) = 0.99$ and $P(B_2|A_2) = 0.99$ so $P(B_1|A_2) = 1 - 0.99 = 0.01$. The probability to be computed is $P(A_1|B_1)$. Using Bayes rule and law of total probability,

$$P(A_1|B_1) = \frac{P(B_1|A_1)P(A_1)}{P(B_1|A_1)P(A_1) + P(B_1|A_2)P(A_2)}$$

$$= \frac{0.99 \times 0.001}{0.99 \times 0.001 + 0.01 \times 0.999}$$

$$= \frac{0.00099}{0.00099 + 0.00999}$$

$$= \frac{0.00099}{0.01098}$$

$$= \frac{99}{1098}$$

$$= \frac{11}{122}$$

b) Let

 A_1 = the person has the disease

 A_2 = the person does not have the disease

 B_1 = the person tests positive the first time

 B_2 = the person tests positive the second time

Since 0.1% of the population has the disease, $P(A_1) = 0.001$ so $P(A_2) = 1 - 0.001 = 0.999$. Since the test is 99% accurate and the two runs of the test are independent given whether or not the person has the disease,

$$P(B_{1}|A_{1}) = 0.99$$

$$P(B_{2}|A_{1}) = 0.99$$

$$\Rightarrow P(B_{1}, B_{2}|A_{1}) = P(B_{1}|A_{1}) \times P(B_{2}|A_{1})$$

$$= (0.99)^{2}$$

$$P(B_{1}^{C}|A_{2}) = 0.99$$

$$P(B_{2}^{C}|A_{2}) = 0.99$$

$$\Rightarrow P(B_{1}|A_{2}) = 1 - 0.99 = 0.01$$

$$\Rightarrow P(B_{2}|A_{2}) = 1 - 0.99 = 0.01$$

$$\Rightarrow P(B_{1}, B_{2}|A_{2}) = (0.01)^{2}$$
(2)

The probability to be computed is $P(A_1|B_1, B_2)$. Using Bayes rule, law of total probability, (1), and (2),

$$P(A_1|B_1, B_2) = \frac{P(B_1, B_2|A_1)P(A_1)}{P(B_1, B_2|A_1)P(A_1) + P(B_1, B_2|A_2)P(A_2)}$$

$$= \frac{(0.99)^2 \times 0.001}{(0.99)^2 \times 0.001 + (0.01)^2 \times 0.999}$$

$$= \frac{0.9801 \times 0.001}{0.9801 \times 0.001 + 0.0001 \times 0.999}$$

$$= \frac{0.0009801}{0.0009801}$$

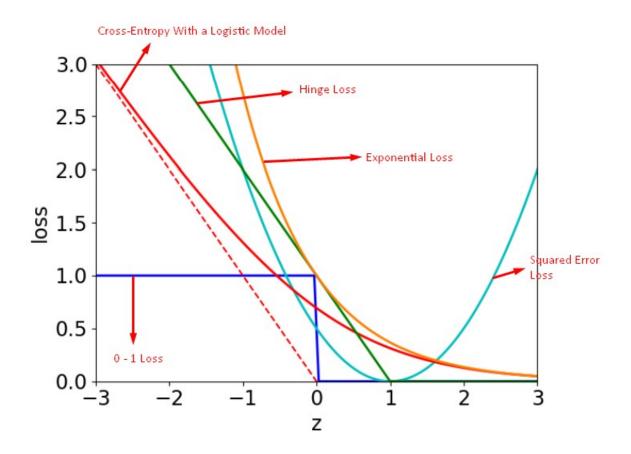
$$= \frac{0.0009801}{0.00108}$$

$$= \frac{9801}{10800}$$

$$= \frac{363}{400}$$

There will be 11 classes labels, which are $L_i = [0.1(i-1), 0.1i)$ for i = 1, 2, 3, ..., 10 and $L_{11} = \{1\}$. For a given data point $(\mathbf{x}, t) \in \mathcal{D}$, it will be transformed into $(\mathbf{x}, t') \in \mathcal{D}'$ where t' is the unique integer between 1 and 11 inclusively such that $t \in L_{t'}$. The multi-class classification problem is then to classify new data points with class labels L_i for $1 \le i \le 11$ given the data set \mathcal{D}' . If a point $(\mathbf{x}, t') \in \mathcal{D}'$ is classified using this new formulation, the prediction for the transformed point (\mathbf{x}, t) from \mathcal{D} is 0.1(t'-1).

a)



- b) The partial derivative of the 0-1 loss with any of the weights in the linear equation is 0 everywhere that it is defined. Thus, this loss function cannot be minimized using gradient descent because changing the weights by a small amount proportional to the gradient would not change the loss whenever the gradient is defined.
- c) Support vector machines uses hinge loss.
- d) Adaboost can be interpreted as using an exponential loss.

- a) Substituting $z = w_1 x$ into $y = w_2 z$ gives $y = w_2(w_1 x) \Rightarrow y = (w_1 w_2) x$, which is the relation of the y and x. The one-layer NN consists of an input x and and a layer that transforms x and outputs $y = (w_1 w_2) x$.
- b) Using the chain rule,

$$\frac{dl}{dw_2} = \frac{dl}{dy} \frac{dy}{w_2}$$
$$= \frac{1}{2} (2)(y - t)z$$
$$= (y - t)z$$

$$\frac{dl}{dw_1} = \frac{dl}{dy} \frac{dy}{dw_1}$$

$$= \frac{dl}{dy} \frac{dy}{dz} \frac{dz}{dw_1}$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} (2)(y - t)w_2 x$$

$$= (y - t)w_2 x$$

c) The loss function with respect to w_1 and w_2 is found by substituting $y = w_1w_2x$ and $y = w_2z$ into $\frac{1}{2}(y-t)^2$ to get $l_1(w_1) = \frac{1}{2}(w_1w_2x-t)^2$ and $l_2(w_2) = \frac{1}{2}(w_2z-t)^2$. To test if $l_1(w_1)$ is convex, it is sufficient to check if $\frac{d^2l_1}{dw_1^2} \geq 0$ for all w_1 .

$$\frac{d^2l_1}{dw_1^2} = \frac{d^2}{dw_1^2} \frac{1}{2} (w_1 w_2 x - t)^2$$

$$= \frac{d}{dw_1} \frac{1}{2} (2) (w_1 w_2 x - t) (w_2 x)$$

$$= (w_2 x) (w_2 x)$$

$$= (w_2 x)^2 \ge 0$$

Thus, the loss function with respect to w_1 is convex. To test if $l_2(w_2)$ is convex, it is sufficient to check if $\frac{d^2l_2}{dw_2^2} \ge 0$ for all w_2 .

$$\frac{d^2l_2}{dw_2^2} = \frac{d^2}{dw_2^2} \frac{1}{2} (w_2 z - t)^2$$

$$= \frac{d}{dw_2} \frac{1}{2} (2) (w_2 z - t) (z)$$

$$= (z)(z)$$

$$= z^2 > 0$$

Thus, the loss function with respect to w_2 is convex.

- a) Since t is sampled from $\{0,1\}$ with equal probability of t=0 or t=1, $P(t=0)=\frac{1}{2}$ and $P(t=1)=\frac{1}{2}$.
- If t = 0, then x is sampled uniformly from [0,1] so the density of x given t = 0 is $P(x|t = 0) = \frac{1}{1-0} = 1$ for all $x \in [0,1]$ and P(x|t = 0) = 0 for all $x \notin [0,1]$.
- If t=1, then x is sampled uniformly from [0,2] so the density of x given t=1 is $P(x|t=1)=\frac{1}{2-0}=\frac{1}{2}$ for all $x\in[0,2]$ and P(x|t=1)=0 for all $x\notin[0,2]$.

b) Using the formula for the posterior probability and (a),

$$P(t = 0|x) = \frac{P(x|t = 0)P(t = 0)}{P(x)}$$

$$= \frac{P(x|t = 0)}{2P(x)}$$
(3)

Using the law of total probability,

$$P(x) = P(x|t=0)P(t=0) + P(x|t=1)P(t=1)$$

$$\Rightarrow P(x) = \frac{1}{2}P(x|t=0) + \frac{1}{2}P(x|t=1)$$
(4)

If $x \in [0, 1]$, then using a), (3), and (4) gives

$$P(x) = \frac{1}{2}(1) + \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{4}$$

$$= \frac{3}{4}$$

$$\Rightarrow P(t = 0|x) = \frac{1}{2(3/4)}$$

$$= \frac{2}{3}$$

If $x \in [1, 2]$, then using a) and (4) gives

$$P(x) = \frac{1}{2}(0) + \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)$$
$$= 0 + \frac{1}{4}$$
$$= \frac{1}{4}$$
$$\Rightarrow P(t = 0|x) = \frac{0}{2(1/4)}$$
$$= 0$$

If $x \notin \in [0, 1]$, then using a) and (4) gives

$$P(x) = \frac{1}{2}(0) + \frac{1}{2}(0)$$

$$= 0 + 0$$

$$= 0$$

$$\Rightarrow P(t = 0|x) = \frac{0}{2(0)}$$

$$\Rightarrow P(t = 0|x) \text{ is undefined}$$

Thus, P(t = 0|x) is $\frac{2}{3}$ if $x \in [0, 1]$, is 0 if $x \in [1, 2]$, and is undefined if $x \notin [0, 2]$.

a) Let the two classes be t_1 associated with Σ_1 and t_2 associated with Σ_2 . Using the formula for $\log p(t_k|\mathbf{x})$ on slide 44/52 of the lecture 7 slides, the equation is

$$\log p(t_1|\mathbf{x}) = \log p(t_2|\mathbf{x})$$

$$\Rightarrow -\frac{d}{2}\log(2\pi) - \frac{1}{2}\log|\Sigma_1^{-1}| - \frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{x} - \mu_1)^T \Sigma_1^{-1}(\mathbf{x} - \mu_1) + \log p(t_1) - \log p(\mathbf{x}) =$$

$$-\frac{d}{2}\log(2\pi) - \frac{1}{2}\log|\Sigma_2^{-1}| - \frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{x} - \mu_2)^T \Sigma_2^{-1}(\mathbf{x} - \mu_2) + \log p(t_2) - \log p(\mathbf{x})$$

$$\Rightarrow -\frac{1}{2}\log|\Sigma_1^{-1}| - \frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{x} - \mu_1)^T \Sigma_1^{-1}(\mathbf{x} - \mu_1) + \log p(t_1) = -\frac{1}{2}\log|\Sigma_2^{-1}| - \frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{x} - \mu_2)^T \Sigma_2^{-1}(\mathbf{x} - \mu_2) + \log p(t_2)$$

b) Replacing Σ_1 and Σ_2 with Σ in the equation in a), the decision boundary is

$$\Rightarrow -\frac{1}{2}\log|\Sigma^{-1}| - \frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{x} - \mu_1)^T \Sigma^{-1}(\mathbf{x} - \mu_1) + \log p(t_1) = -\frac{1}{2}\log|\Sigma^{-1}| - \frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{x} - \mu_2)^T \Sigma^{-1}(\mathbf{x} - \mu_2) + \log p(t_2)$$

$$\Rightarrow -\frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{x} - \mu_1)^T \Sigma^{-1}(\mathbf{x} - \mu_1) + \log p(t_1) = -\frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{x} - \mu_2)^T \Sigma^{-1}(\mathbf{x} - \mu_2) + \log p(t_2)$$

Using the expansion of $(\mathbf{x} - \mu_1)^T \Sigma^{-1} (\mathbf{x} - \mu_1)$ on slide 44/52 of the lecture 7 slides, the decision boundary reduces to

$$-\frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{x}^{T}\Sigma^{-1}\mathbf{x} - 2\mu_{1}^{T}\Sigma^{-1}\mathbf{x}) + \log p(t_{1}) = -\frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{x}^{T}\Sigma^{-1}\mathbf{x} - 2\mu_{2}^{T}\Sigma^{-1}\mathbf{x}) + \log p(t_{2})$$

$$\Rightarrow -\frac{1}{2}(-2\mu_{1}^{T}\Sigma^{-1}\mathbf{x}) + \log p(t_{1}) = -\frac{1}{2}(-2\mu_{2}^{T}\Sigma^{-1}\mathbf{x}) + \log p(t_{2})$$

$$\Rightarrow \mu_{1}^{T}\Sigma^{-1}\mathbf{x} + \log p(t_{1}) = \mu_{2}^{T}\Sigma^{-1}\mathbf{x} + \log p(t_{2})$$

$$\Rightarrow (\mu_{1}^{T}\Sigma^{-1} - \mu_{2}^{T}\Sigma^{-1})\mathbf{x} + (\log p(t_{1}) - \log p(t_{2})) = 0$$

Since $(\mu_1^T \Sigma^{-1} - \mu_2^T \Sigma^{-1})$ is a dimension D vector and $(\log p(t_1) - \log p(t_2))$ is constant, the decision boundary is linear in \mathbf{x} .

a) Since the rounds are independent, the likelihood is the product of the individual round likelihoods.

$$P(\mathcal{D}_N|\theta) = \prod_{i=1}^N P(K = K_i|\theta)$$
$$= \prod_{i=1}^N \theta (1-\theta)^{K_i}$$
$$= \theta^N (1-\theta)^{\sum_{i=1}^N K_i}$$

b)

$$\log P(\mathcal{D}_N | \theta) = \log(\theta^N (1 - \theta)^{\sum_{i=1}^N K_i})$$

$$= \log(\theta^N) + \log((1 - \theta)^{\sum_{i=1}^N K_i})$$

$$= N \log(\theta) + \left(\sum_{i=1}^N K_i\right) \log(1 - \theta)$$

c) The MLE occurs at a point where derivative of the log-likelihood is 0. The derivative of the log-likelihood is

$$\frac{d}{d\theta} \log P(\mathcal{D}_N | \theta) = \frac{d}{d\theta} \left(N \log(\theta) + \left(\sum_{i=1}^N K_i \right) \log(1 - \theta) \right)$$

$$= N \left(\frac{d}{d\theta} \log(\theta) \right) + \left(\sum_{i=1}^N K_i \right) \left(\frac{d}{d\theta} \log(1 - \theta) \right)$$

$$= \frac{N}{\theta} + \left(\sum_{i=1}^N K_i \right) \frac{1}{1 - \theta} (-1)$$

$$= \frac{N}{\theta} - \left(\sum_{i=1}^N K_i \right) \frac{1}{1 - \theta}$$

Setting the derivative to 0 gives

$$\frac{N}{\theta} - \left(\sum_{i=1}^{N} K_i\right) \frac{1}{1 - \theta} = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{N}{\theta} = \left(\sum_{i=1}^{N} K_i\right) \frac{1}{1 - \theta}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1 - \theta}{\theta} = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{N} K_i}{N}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{\theta} - 1 = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{N} K_i}{N}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{\theta} = \frac{N + \sum_{i=1}^{N} K_i}{N}$$

$$\Rightarrow \theta = \frac{N}{N + \sum_{i=1}^{N} K_i}$$

To determine if this is a local maximum, the second derivative will be computed.

$$\frac{d^2}{d\theta^2} \log P(\mathcal{D}_N | \theta) = \frac{d}{d\theta} \left(\frac{N}{\theta} - \left(\sum_{i=1}^N K_i \right) \frac{1}{1 - \theta} \right)$$

$$= -\frac{N}{\theta^2} - \left(\sum_{i=1}^N K_i \right) \frac{1}{(1 - \theta)^2} (-1)(1 - \theta)'$$

$$= -\frac{N}{\theta^2} + \left(\sum_{i=1}^N K_i \right) \frac{1}{(1 - \theta)^2} (-1)$$

$$= -\frac{N}{\theta^2} - \left(\sum_{i=1}^N K_i \right) \frac{1}{(1 - \theta)^2} < 0$$

The θ computed is thus a local maximum. Since it is the only local maximum, it is a global maximum so the MLE is $\frac{N}{N+\sum_{i=1}^{N}K_{i}}$.

d) The prior belief can be rephrased as that the expected value of θ is less than $\frac{1}{1+r}$. Since θ follows a Beta(a,b) distribution, the expected value of θ is $\frac{a}{a+b}$. The condition then becomes

$$\frac{a}{a+b} < \frac{1}{1+r}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{a+b}{a} < 1+r$$

$$\Rightarrow 1 + \frac{b}{a} < 1+r$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{b}{a} < r$$

One possible choice is a = 1 and b = r/2.

e) Using 28/52 of the week 7 slides, the MAP estimator maximizes $\log p(\theta) + \log p(\mathcal{D}|\theta)$. Using the Beta(a,b) prior and the log-likelihood found in b), this can be written as

$$\log\left(\frac{\Gamma(a+b)}{\Gamma(a)\Gamma(b)}\theta^{a-1}(1-\theta)^{b-1}\right) + N\log(\theta) + \left(\sum_{i=1}^{N} K_i\right)\log(1-\theta)$$

$$= \log\left(\frac{\Gamma(a+b)}{\Gamma(a)\Gamma(b)}\right) + \log(\theta^{a-1}) + \log(\theta^{b-1}) + N\log(\theta) + \left(\sum_{i=1}^{N} K_i\right)\log(1-\theta)$$

$$= \log\left(\frac{\Gamma(a+b)}{\Gamma(a)\Gamma(b)}\right) + (N+a-1)\log\theta + \left(b-1+\sum_{i=1}^{N} K_i\right)\log(1-\theta)$$

The maximum of the above expression occurs when its derivative is 0. Taking the derivative of the above expression gives

$$\frac{d}{d\theta} \left(\log p(\theta) + \log p(\mathcal{D}|\theta) \right) = \frac{N+a-1}{\theta} + \left(b - 1 + \sum_{i=1}^{N} K_i \right) \frac{1}{1-\theta} (-1)$$
$$= \frac{N+a-1}{\theta} - \left(b - 1 + \sum_{i=1}^{N} K_i \right) \frac{1}{1-\theta}$$

Setting the above derivative to 0 gives

$$\frac{N+a-1}{\theta} - \left(b-1+\sum_{i=1}^{N} K_i\right) \frac{1}{1-\theta} = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{N+a-1}{\theta} = \left(b-1+\sum_{i=1}^{N} K_i\right) \frac{1}{1-\theta}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1-\theta}{\theta} = \frac{b-1+\sum_{i=1}^{N} K_i}{N+a-1}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{\theta} - 1 = \frac{b-1+\sum_{i=1}^{N} K_i}{N+a-1}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{\theta} = \frac{N+a-1+b-1+\sum_{i=1}^{N} K_i}{N+a-1}$$

$$\Rightarrow \theta = \frac{N+a-1}{N+a+b-2+\sum_{i=1}^{N} K_i}$$

To determine if this is a local maximum, the second derivative will be computed.

$$\frac{d^2}{d\theta^2} (\log p(\theta) + \log p(\mathcal{D}|\theta)) = \frac{d}{d\theta} \left(\frac{N+a-1}{\theta} - \left(b - 1 + \sum_{i=1}^N K_i \right) \frac{1}{1-\theta} \right)$$

$$= -\frac{N+a-1}{\theta^2} - \left(b - 1 + \sum_{i=1}^N K_i \right) \frac{1}{(1-\theta)^2} (-1)(1-\theta)'$$

$$= -\frac{N}{\theta^2} + \left(b - 1 + \sum_{i=1}^N K_i \right) \frac{1}{(1-\theta)^2} (-1)$$

$$= -\frac{N}{\theta^2} - \left(b - 1 + \sum_{i=1}^N K_i \right) \frac{1}{(1-\theta)^2} < 0$$

The θ computed is thus a local maximum. Since it is the only local maximum, it is a global maximum so the MAP estimate for θ is $\frac{N+a-1}{N+a+b-2+\sum_{i=1}^{N}K_{i}}.$

f) By the formula for the posterior,

$$P(\theta|\mathcal{D}) = \frac{P(\mathcal{D}|\theta)P(\theta)}{P(\mathcal{D})}$$
$$= \frac{P(\mathcal{D}|\theta)P(\theta)}{\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} P(\mathcal{D}|\theta')P(\theta')\theta'}$$

Substituting the expression for the likelihood $P(\mathcal{D}|\theta)$ and the expression for the Beta(a,b) prior for $P(\theta)$ gives

$$P(\theta|\mathcal{D}) = \frac{\left(\theta^{N}(1-\theta)^{\sum_{i=1}^{N}K_{i}}\right) \left(\frac{\Gamma(a+b)}{\Gamma(a)\Gamma(b)}\theta^{a-1}(1-\theta)^{b-1}\right)}{\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \left(\theta'^{N}(1-\theta')^{\sum_{i=1}^{N}K_{i}}\right) \left(\frac{\Gamma(a+b)}{\Gamma(a)\Gamma(b)}\theta'^{a-1}(1-\theta')^{b-1}\right) \theta'}$$

$$= \frac{\left(\frac{\Gamma(a+b)}{\Gamma(a)\Gamma(b)}\theta^{N+a-1}(1-\theta)^{b-1+\sum_{i=1}^{N}K_{i}}\right)}{\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \left(\theta'^{N}(1-\theta')^{\sum_{i=1}^{N}K_{i}}\right) \left(\frac{\Gamma(a+b)}{\Gamma(a)\Gamma(b)}\theta'^{a-1}(1-\theta')^{b-1}\right) \theta'}$$

Since the posterior distribution is a Beta distribution, the exponents on the θ and $1 - \theta$ indicate that the distribution is Beta $\left(N + a, b + \sum_{i=1}^{N} K_i\right)$ so

$$P(\theta|\mathcal{D}) = \frac{\Gamma(N+a+b+\sum_{i=1}^{N} K_i)}{\Gamma(N+a)\Gamma(b+\sum_{i=1}^{N} K_i)} \theta^{N+a-1} (1-\theta)^{b-1+\sum_{i=1}^{N} K_i}$$

g) The mean of a Beta(x,y) distribution is $\frac{x}{x+y}$ so the expected value of θ is found by substituting x=N+a-1 and $y=b-1+\sum_{i=1}^{N}K_i$ into the formula to get $\frac{N+a-1}{N+a-1+b-1+\sum_{i=1}^{N}K_i}=\frac{N+a-1}{N+a+b-2+\sum_{i=1}^{N}K_i}$.

h) MLE: An advantage is that it is an optimization problem so it can be solved easily using gradient descent and the gradient operation is implemented by many software packages. A disadvantage it can give inaccurate results when there is little data.

MAP: An advantage is that it enables belief about a parameter to be incorporated into the prior which can give a more accurate estimate of the parameter. A disadvantage is that the information required to get a prior distribution can be scarce or wrong, both of which will reduce the accuracy of the parameter estimate.

Bayesian Estimation: An advantage is it works well when there is little data. A disadvantage is that it requires integration to compute the posterior mean of the parameter and it is more difficult to perform this using software tools compared to the MLE.