

Last time

$$y|\theta \sim \text{binomial}(n, \theta)$$

fixed, unknown

$$\theta \sim \text{beta}(a, b)$$

Exercise: write $\mathbb{E}[\theta|y]$
"posterior mean"

$$\text{as } w\mathbb{E}[\theta] + (1-w)\bar{x}$$

where $y = \sum_{i=1}^n x_i$

Proof

$$\mathbb{E}[\theta|y] = \frac{a+y}{a+b+n} = \frac{a}{a+b+n} + \left(\frac{n}{a+b+n}\right)\bar{x}$$

idea: let $(1-w) = \frac{n}{a+b+n}$

$$\Rightarrow w = 1 - (1-w) = \frac{a+b+n}{a+b+n} - \frac{n}{a+b+n} = \frac{a+b}{a+b+n}$$

$\Rightarrow$

$$\mathbb{E}[\theta|y] = w\mathbb{E}[\theta] + (1-w)\bar{x}$$

$\swarrow \quad \searrow \quad \quad \quad \swarrow$

$$\frac{a+b}{a+b+n} \cdot \frac{a}{a+b} + \frac{n}{a+b+n} \cdot \bar{x}$$

□

Lecture 3

1. Poisson-gamma model
2. exp. families
3. 1 line formula

1. Let y_i be # of assists made by a particular player in a particular game.

• Support of y ? $y \in \{0, 1, 2, 3, 4, \dots\}$

• $y_i | \lambda \sim \text{Poisson}(\lambda)$

Let $\lambda = \theta x$

x : # minutes a particular player plays in a particular game.

θ : rate of assists per unit time

$$p(y_1, \dots, y_n | \theta) = \prod_{i=1}^n p(y_i | \theta)$$

$$= \prod_{i=1}^n \frac{(\theta x_i)^{y_i} e^{-\theta x_i}}{y_i!}$$

2. Prior of unknowns

How is this different from prior expectation?

• What is a unknown? answer: θ !

• What is its support? answer: $\theta > 0$

$\theta \sim \text{gamma}(a, b)$

We must choose a and b !

Ex 1: Choose $a = 9$, $b = 3$ s.t. $E(\theta) = 9/3 = 3$.

Is this reasonable? No!

Ex 2: Choose $a = 1$, $b = 10$ (better...)

3. Posterior: a member of the exp. family

$$p(\theta | y_1, \dots, y_n) \propto \underbrace{p(y_1, \dots, y_n | \theta)}_{\text{likelihood}} \underbrace{p(\theta)}_{\text{prior}}$$

$$\propto \left(\theta^{\sum y_i} e^{-\theta \sum x_i} \right) \cdot \left(\theta^{a-1} e^{-b\theta} \right)$$

$$\propto \underbrace{\theta^{\sum y_i + a - 1}}_{\text{kernel of gamma}(\alpha, \beta)} e^{-\theta(b + \sum x_i)}$$

kernel of $\text{gamma}(\alpha, \beta)$

$$\begin{cases} \alpha = \sum y_i + a \\ \beta = b + \sum x_i \end{cases}$$

sometimes posterior parameters written w/ subscript "n" (α_n, β_n) to emphasize dependence on n datapoints.

4. What is $E(\theta | y_1, \dots, y_n)$?
"posterior expectation of θ "

$$\frac{\alpha}{\beta} = \frac{\sum y_i + a}{b + \sum x_i}$$

How is this diff't from prior expectation?

$$E\theta = a/b$$

$\sum y_i$ = total assists $\rightarrow p(\lambda | n, \dots)$

$\sum x_i$ = total min / played $\rightarrow p(\lambda | n, \dots)$

prior says a = assists in b minutes.

$$\text{var}(\theta | y_1, \dots, y_n) = \alpha / \beta^2$$

(3)

Poisson as a member of the exp. family

$$p(y|\lambda) = \frac{1}{y!} \lambda^y e^{-\lambda}$$

$\underbrace{\quad}_{h(y)}$

Now λ^y needs to look like $e^{\phi t(y)}$

Let $\boxed{\phi = \log \lambda}$, then $e^{\phi} = \lambda$

$$p(y|\phi) = \underbrace{\frac{1}{y!}}_{h(y)} \underbrace{e^{\phi y}}_{e^{\phi t(y)}, t(y)=y} \underbrace{e^{-e^{\phi}}}_{c(\phi)}$$

therefore the conj. prior is

$$\begin{aligned} p(\phi | n_0, t_0) &\propto c(\phi)^{n_0} e^{n_0 t_0 \phi} \\ &= e^{-e^{\phi} \cdot n_0} e^{n_0 t_0 \phi} \end{aligned}$$

how to go from $p(\phi | n_0, t_0) \rightarrow p(\lambda | n_0, t_0)$?

one-line formula:

$$\frac{\hat{\phi}}{\hat{\lambda}} \left| \frac{d\phi}{d\lambda} \right| \rightarrow \frac{\hat{\phi}}{\hat{\lambda}} \left| \frac{d\phi}{d\lambda} \right|$$

$$p(\phi | n_0, t_0) d\phi = p(\lambda | n_0, t_0) d\lambda$$

$$p(\lambda | n_0, t_0) = p(\phi | n_0, t_0) \left| \frac{d\phi}{d\lambda} \right|$$

$$\frac{d}{d\lambda} \log \lambda = \frac{1}{\lambda}$$

$$\underbrace{e^{-e^{\log \lambda} \cdot n_0} e^{n_0 t_0 \log \lambda}} \cdot \left| \frac{d\phi}{d\lambda} \right|$$

$$= e^{-\lambda n_0} \lambda^{n_0 t_0} \cdot \left| \frac{1}{\lambda} \right|$$

$$= \underbrace{e^{-\lambda n_0} \lambda^{n_0 t_0 - 1}}_{\text{gamma}(n_0 t_0, n_0)}$$

[prior parameters are sometimes written w/ subscript "0"
e.g. n_0, t_0 to emphasize parameters depend on 0 data.]