

# ORIE 4742 - Info Theory and Bayesian ML

Bayesian ML: Revision of Basics

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# Bayesian basics

given model  $\mathcal{M}$  with parameters  $\Theta$ , and data  $D$ , we define:

*unknown* ← *represented as random variable*

$\Theta \rightarrow D \rightarrow \Theta$   
prior → posterior

- the **prior**  $p(\Theta|\mathcal{M})$ : what you believe before you see data
- the **posterior**  $p(\Theta|D, \mathcal{M})$ : what you believe after you see data
- the **marginal likelihood** or **evidence**  $p(D|\mathcal{M})$ : how probable is the data under our prior and model
- the **likelihood**:  $\mathcal{L}(\Theta) \triangleq p(D|\mathcal{M}, \theta)$ : function of  $\Theta$  summarizing the data

**the fundamental formula of Bayesian statistics** (Bayes rule)

$$\text{posterior} = \frac{\text{likelihood} \times \text{prior}}{\text{evidence}} \propto \text{likelihood} \times \text{prior}$$

normalization

# Bayesian statistics: three 'laws'

## likelihood principle

given model  $\mathcal{M}$ , all evidence in data  $D$  relevant to parameters  $\Theta$  is contained in the likelihood function  $\mathcal{L}(\Theta)$

• Eg - 2 expts (want to learn a Ber( $p_i$ ) dist)

Binomial  $\left[ \begin{array}{l} \text{Bin}(9, p_i) \\ \text{Geom}(p_i) \end{array} \right. \left. \begin{array}{l} \text{Expt 1 - Generate } \underline{9} \text{ iid samples } X_1, X_2, \dots, X_9, \text{ observe } \# \text{ success} \\ \text{Expt 2 - Wait till 1st success, need } \underline{9} \text{ trials} \end{array} \right.$

Both have the same likelihood

$\Rightarrow$  Both have same posterior (for any prior on  $p_i$ )

# Bayesian statistics: three 'laws'

## likelihood principle

given model  $\mathcal{M}$ , all evidence in data  $D$  relevant to parameters  $\Theta$  is contained in the likelihood function  $\mathcal{L}(\Theta)$

## Cromwell's rule

never set  $p(\theta|\mathcal{M}) = 0$  or  $p(\theta|\mathcal{M}) = 1$  for any  $\theta$

How to choose prior ↗

# Bayesian statistics: three 'laws'


## likelihood principle

given model  $\mathcal{M}$ , all evidence in data  $D$  relevant to parameters  $\Theta$  is contained in the likelihood function  $\mathcal{L}(\Theta)$

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## choosing priors

- 'principled' choice: maximum entropy, 'objective' priors (Jeffreys prior)
- 'computational' choice: conjugate priors
  - prior  $p(\theta)$  is conjugate to likelihood  $p(D|\theta)$  if corresponding posterior  $p(\theta|D)$  has same functional form as  $p(\theta)$
  - natural conjugate prior:  $p(\theta)$  has same functional form as  $p(D|\theta)$   


## marginal likelihood (model evidence)

- data  $D = \{X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n\} \in \{0, 1\}^n$ , contains  $N_1$  ones and  $N_0$  zeros
- model  $\mathcal{M}$ :  $X_i$  are generated i.i.d. from a  $Ber(\theta)$  distribution

### marginal likelihood

$$p(D|\mathcal{M}) = \frac{p(\theta)p(D|\theta)}{p(\theta|D)} = \frac{\text{prior} \times \text{likelihood}}{\text{posterior}}$$

- $p(D|\mathcal{M}) \equiv$  probability of seeing  $D$  under model  $\mathcal{M}$  (under the prior)

## summarizing the posterior

model  $\mathcal{M}$  + prior  $p(\Theta)$  + data  $D \Rightarrow$  posterior  $p(\Theta|D)$

### summarizing $p(\Theta|D)$

- posterior mean  $\hat{\theta}_{mean} = \mathbb{E}[\Theta|D]$
- posterior mode (or MAP estimate)  $\hat{\theta}_{MAP} = \arg \max_{\Theta} p(\Theta|D)$
- posterior median  $\hat{\theta}_{median} = \min\{\Theta : p(\Theta|D) \geq 0.5\}$
- Bayesian credible intervals: given  $\delta > 0$ , want  $(\ell_{\Theta}, u_{\Theta})$  s.t.

$$\mathbb{P}[\ell_{\Theta} \leq \Theta \leq u_{\Theta}|D] > 1 - \delta$$

- Ideal - Report posterior
- Marginalization, i.e., sample from posterior

# decision theory

given posterior  $p(\Theta|D)$  and loss function  $L(\Theta, a)$

**decision theoretic estimate**  $\Theta^*$

choose 'action/estimate'  $\Theta^*$  to minimize expected loss under posterior

$$\hat{\theta}^* = \arg \min_a \mathbb{E}_{\Theta \sim p(\Theta|D)} [L(\Theta, a)]$$

## example loss functions

- $L_0$  loss:  $L(\Theta, a) = \mathbb{1}_{\{\Theta \neq a\}} \Rightarrow \Theta^* = \hat{\theta}_{mode}$
- $L_1$  loss:  $L(\Theta, a) = |\Theta - a| \Rightarrow \Theta^* = \hat{\theta}_{median}$
- $L_2$  loss:  $L(\Theta, a) = (\Theta - a)^2 \Rightarrow \Theta^* = \hat{\theta}_{mean}$

Important point - Bayesian update does not care about loss fn



# binary data and Beta-Bernoulli prior

- data  $D = \{X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n\} \in \{0, 1\}^n$ , contains  $N_1$  ones and  $N_0$  zeros
- model  $\mathcal{M}$ :  $X_i$  are generated i.i.d. from a  $Ber(\theta)$  distribution

## Beta-Bernoulli model

- prior parameters:  $\Theta_0 = (\alpha, \beta) \in \mathbb{R}^+$  (hyperparameters)
- Beta-Bernoulli prior:  $Beta(\alpha, \beta) \sim p(\theta) \propto \theta^{\alpha-1}(1-\theta)^{\beta-1}$
- likelihood:  $p(D|\theta) = \frac{x^{N_1}(1-x)^{N_0}}$
- posterior:  $p(\theta|D) \sim Beta(\alpha + N_1, \beta + N_0)$
- marginal likelihood: let  $m = \alpha + \beta$



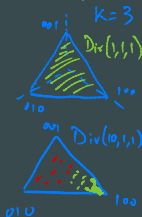
$$p(D) = \frac{\Gamma(m)}{\Gamma(n+m)} \frac{\Gamma(N_1 + \alpha)}{\Gamma(\alpha)} \frac{\Gamma(N_0 + \beta)}{\Gamma(\beta)}$$

# multiclass data and Dirichlet priors

- for  $i \in [K]$ , data  $D$  contains  $N_i$  copies of type  $i$
- model  $\mathcal{M}$ :  $X_i$  generated i.i.d. from  $Multinomial(\theta_1, \theta_2, \dots, \theta_K)$  distn

## Dirichlet-Multinomial model

- prior parameters:  $\Theta_0 = (\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_K) \in \mathbb{R}_+^K$  (hyperparameters)
- Dirichlet prior:  $Dir(\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_K) \sim p(\theta) \propto \prod_{i=1}^K \theta_i^{\alpha_i - 1}$
- likelihood:  $p(D|\theta) = \prod_{i=1}^K \theta_i^{N_i}$
- posterior:  $p(\theta|D) \sim Dir(\alpha_1 + N_1, \alpha_2 + N_2, \dots, \alpha_K + N_K)$
- marginal likelihood: let  $m = \sum_{i=1}^K \alpha_i$



$$p(D) = \frac{\Gamma(m)}{\Gamma(n+m)} \prod_{i=1}^K \frac{\Gamma(N_i + \alpha_i)}{\Gamma(\alpha_i)}$$

# normal-normal model for unknown $\mu$

- data  $D = \{X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n\} \in \mathbb{R}^n$
- model  $\mathcal{M}$ :  $X_i$  i.i.d. from  $\mathcal{N}(\mu, \tau)$ , with unknown  $\mu$ , **known  $\tau = 1/\sigma^2$**  Precision

## normal-normal model

- likelihood:  $p(D|\mu, \bullet) \propto \exp\left(-\tau \sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \mu)^2 / 2\right)$   $\left( \prod_{i=1}^n \sqrt{\frac{\tau}{2\pi}} e^{-\frac{\tau}{2}(x_i - \mu)^2} \right)$
  - prior:  $\mu \sim \mathcal{N}(m_\mu, 1/\tau_\mu)$  (hyperparameters:  $m_\mu, \tau_\mu$ )  $\tau_\mu \rightarrow \tau_\mu + \frac{n}{2} \tau$
  - posterior: let  $\bar{x} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n x_i$ ,  $m_D = \frac{n\tau \cdot \bar{x} + \tau_\mu \cdot m_\mu}{n\tau + \tau_\mu}$  and  $\tau_D = n\tau + \tau_\mu$   $\tau_\mu + n\tau$
- $p(\mu|D) \sim \mathcal{N}(m_D, 1/\tau_D)$
- $\frac{\tau_\mu}{\tau_\mu + n\tau} \cdot m_\mu + \frac{n\tau}{\tau_\mu + n\tau} \bar{x}$
- $m_\mu \xrightarrow{n\tau} \bar{x}$
- posterior predictive distribution:

$$p(x|D) \sim \mathcal{N}(m_D, 1/\tau + 1/\tau_D)$$

## normal-gamma model for unknown $\tau$

- data  $D = \{X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n\} \in \mathbb{R}^n$
- model  $\mathcal{M}$ :  $X_i$  i.i.d. from  $\mathcal{N}(\mu, \sigma^2)$ , with **unknown**  $\tau = 1/\sigma^2$ , **known**  $\mu$

### normal-gamma model

- **likelihood**:  $p(D|\mu, \tau) \propto \left[ \exp\left(-\tau \sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \mu)^2 / 2\right) \right] \cdot \tau^{n/2}$
- **prior** for  $\tau$ :  $\tau \sim \text{gamma}(\alpha, \beta)$       hyper parameters  $(\alpha, \beta)$
- **posterior**: let  $\alpha_D = \alpha + \frac{n}{2}$  and  $\beta_D = \beta + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \mu)^2$

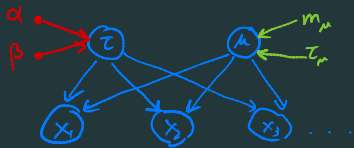
$$p(\tau|D) \sim \text{gamma}(\alpha_D, \beta_D)$$

- **posterior predictive distribution**:

$$p(x|D) \sim \text{student-t}$$

- $\mu$  and  $\tau$  unknown

- Idea 1 - Prior  $P(\mu, \tau) = P_1(\mu) \cdot P_2(\tau)$

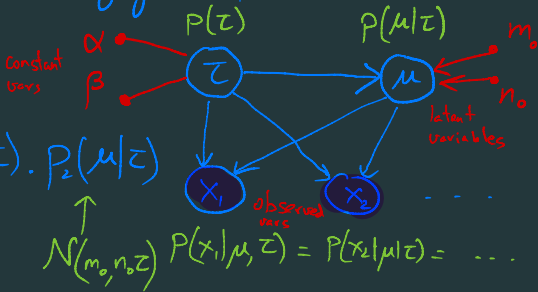


Problem - Conditioned on  $X_1$ ,  $\mu$  and  $\tau$  are not independent

$\Rightarrow$  Prior is not a conjugate prior

- Idea 2

Prior -  $p(\mu, \tau) = p_1(\tau) \cdot p_2(\mu/\tau)$



## normal-(normal-gamma) model for unknown $(\mu, \tau)$

- data  $D = \{X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n\} \in \mathbb{R}^n$
- model  $\mathcal{M}$ :  $X_i$  i.i.d. from  $\mathcal{N}(\mu, 1/\tau)$ , unknown  $\tau = 1/\sigma^2$ , unknown  $\mu$

### normal-(normal-gamma) model

likelihood      prior on  $\mu$       prior on  $\tau$

- likelihood:  $D|\mu, \tau \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu, 1/\tau)$
- prior for  $(\mu, \tau)$ :  $\tau \sim \text{gamma}(\alpha, \beta)$  and  $\mu|\tau \sim \mathcal{N}(m_0, 1/n_0\tau)$
- posterior: let  $\bar{x} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n x_i$ ,  $m_D = \frac{n\tau \cdot \bar{x} + n_0\tau \cdot m_0}{n\tau + n_0\tau}$  and  $\tau_D = n\tau + n_0\tau$

$$p(\mu|\tau, D) \sim \mathcal{N}(m_D, \tau_D)$$

also let  $\alpha_D = \alpha + \frac{n}{2}$ ,  $\beta_D = \beta + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \bar{x})^2 + \frac{nn_0}{2(n+n_0)} (\bar{x} - m_0)^2$

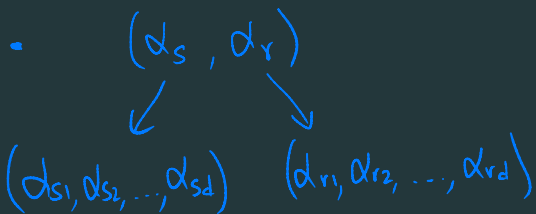
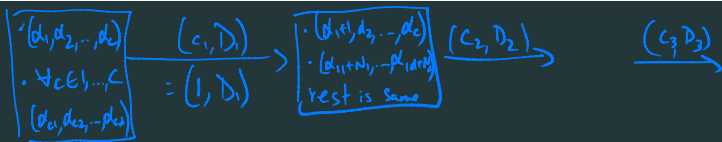
$$p(\tau|D) \sim \text{gamma}(\alpha_D, \beta_D)$$

- posterior predictive distribution:  $p(x|D) \sim \text{student-t}$

## naive Bayes classifier

- Collection of 'datasets' with 'class labels'  $(c, D)$
- class label  $c \in \{1, 2, \dots, c\}$  (Eg-  $\{\text{spam, regular, imp}\}$ )
- $D \sim P(\cdot | \theta_c)$
- Eg-  $D \equiv$  bag of words (dictionary  $\{1, \dots, d\}$ )
  - DNA, dict =  $\{A, T, C, G\}$ , dict =  $\{\text{triplets of bases}\}$
  - document, dict =  $\{\text{words in language}\}$
- Assumption  $D \sim \text{Dir}(d_{c1}, d_{c2}, \dots, d_{cd})$

## naive Bayes classifier



- Inference -  $P(D \in \text{spam}) = P(s) P(D|s)$   
 $P(D \in \text{veg}) = P(r) P(D|r)$   
pick larger of the two



## plan for remaining semester

- Bayesian networks (Graphical models) — directed Bayes nets  
— Markov random fields
  - Causal inference
- Approximate Bayesian update — use simulation to get approx posterior
  - Markov Chain Monte Carlo
- Gaussian processes — regression
- Mixture models — clustering, EM algorithm
- <sup>Sequential</sup> Decision theory — Bandits, MDP