

$$\xi(\theta)$$

If θ is a discrete parameter

$$0 \leq \xi(\theta) \leq 1, \quad \sum_{\theta \in \Omega} \xi(\theta) = 1, \quad \xi(\theta) \text{ is a p.f. prior}$$

If θ is a continuous parameter

$$0 \leq \xi(\theta) \leq 1, \quad \int_{\Omega} \xi(\theta) d\theta = 1, \quad \xi(\theta) \text{ is a p.d.f. prior}$$

Example: tossing a coin

a) statistical model:

X is a r.v that describes the result of tossing a coin.

$$X \in \{0, 1\}$$

$$\text{p.f. } f(x|\theta) = \theta^x (1-\theta)^{1-x}$$

$$\Omega = [0, 1]$$

b) let's assume that $\theta \sim \text{Beta}(a, b)$

$$\xi(\theta) = \frac{\Gamma(a+b)}{\Gamma(a)\Gamma(b)} \theta^{a-1} (1-\theta)^{b-1}, \quad 0 \leq \theta \leq 1, \quad a, b > 0.$$

$$\text{if } a=b=1, \quad \text{Beta}(1, 1) = U(0, 1)$$

$$c) \quad \xi(\theta=0.5) = 0.8$$

$$\theta \in \{0.5, 1\}$$

$$\xi(\theta=1) = 0.2$$

Bayes Theorem (in sets)

A, B two sets, ~~z~~

$$P(A|B) = \frac{P(B|A)P(A)}{P(B)} = \frac{P(B|A)P(A)}{\sum_A P(B|A)P(A)}$$

$$P(A|B) = \frac{P(A \cap B)}{P(B)} = \frac{P(A \cap B)}{\sum_A P(A \cap B)}$$

Bayes Theorem

$$\xi(\theta | x_1, \dots, x_n) = \frac{\prod_{i=1}^n f(x_i | \theta) \xi(\theta)}{g_n(x_1, \dots, x_n)}$$

We have that $X_i | \theta \stackrel{iid}{\sim} F(\cdot | \theta)$ and the p.d.f of $X_i | \theta$ is $f(x_i | \theta)$. $\xi(\theta)$ is the prior ~~dens~~ p.d.f. of θ .

Note that

$$\xi(\theta | x_1, \dots, x_n) = \frac{f(x_1, \dots, x_n, \theta)}{g_n(x_1, \dots, x_n)}$$

• We are going to get $f(x_1, \dots, x_n, \theta)$.

$$\begin{aligned} f(x_1, \dots, x_n, \theta) &= f(x_1, \dots, x_n | \theta) \xi(\theta) \\ &= f(x_1 | \theta) f(x_2 | \theta) \cdots f(x_n | \theta) \xi(\theta) \\ &\quad \text{(by independence (cond. indep.))} \\ &= \prod_{i=1}^n f(x_i | \theta) \xi(\theta) \end{aligned}$$

• now we get $g_n(x_1, \dots, x_n)$

$$\begin{aligned} g_n(x_1, \dots, x_n) &= \int_{\Omega} f(x_1, \dots, x_n, \theta) d\theta = \int_{\Omega} \prod_{i=1}^n f(x_i | \theta) \xi(\theta) d\theta \\ &= \int_{\Omega} \prod_{i=1}^n f(x_i | \theta) \cdot \xi(\theta) d\theta. \end{aligned}$$