



Exercise 1 (chapter 1.4): Conditionally on $\Theta = \theta$, $\{Y_i\}_{i=1}^n$ are independent and identically distributed random variables that follow an exponential distribution with rate θ . The density of the exponential distribution is

$$p(y | \theta) = \theta \exp\{-\theta y\}, \quad y > 0.$$

Let the prior on Θ be a Gamma distribution with shape $\alpha = 1$ and rate $\beta = 1$. There are two datasets:

1. $n = 5$ and $\bar{y} = n^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^n y_i = 0.25$
2. $n = 100$ and $\bar{y} = 0.25$

For both datasets, plot the prior, likelihood, the product of prior and likelihood as well as the posterior density (which happens to be a Gamma density).

Solution: The density of the Gamma prior on Θ is

$$p(\theta) = \frac{\beta^\alpha}{\Gamma(\alpha)} \theta^{\alpha-1} \exp\{-\beta\theta\} \quad \theta, \alpha, \beta > 0.$$

The likelihood of Θ is

$$p(y | \theta) = \prod_{i=1}^n \theta \exp\{-\theta y_i\} = \theta^n \exp\{\theta n \bar{y}\}.$$

Combining the prior density and likelihood, the posterior density of Θ is proportional to

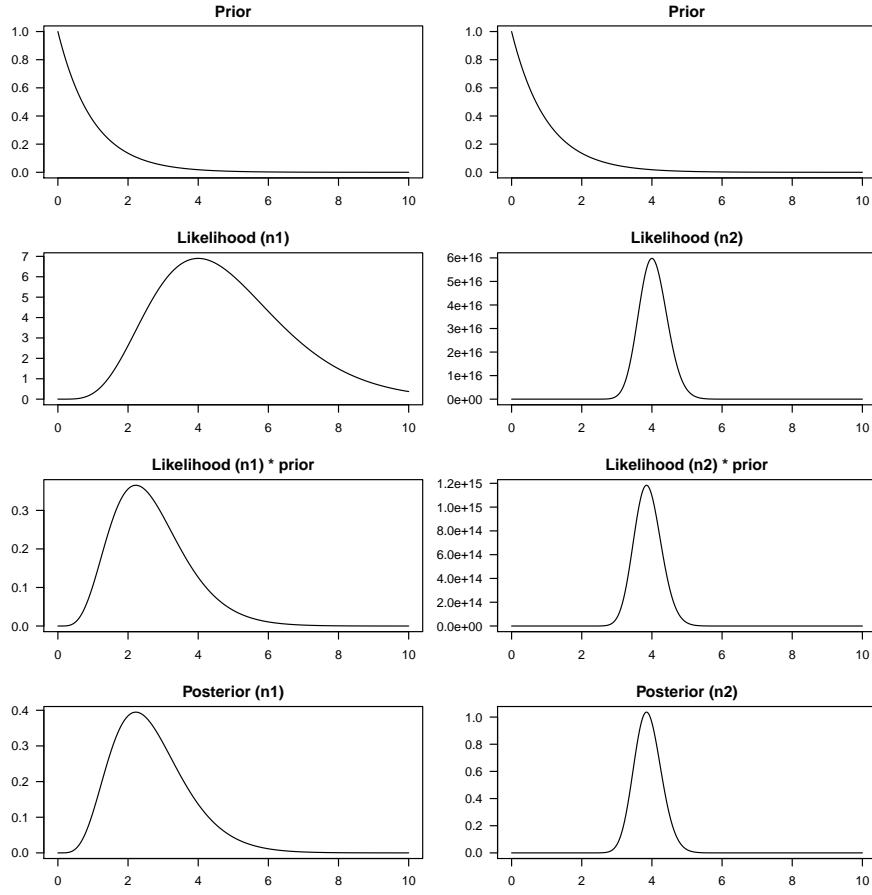
$$p(\theta | y) \propto p(y | \theta)p(\theta) = \theta^n \exp\{\theta n \bar{y}\} \theta^{\alpha-1} \exp\{-\beta\theta\} = \theta^{\alpha+n-1} \exp\{-\theta(\beta + n\bar{y})\},$$

which represents the kernel of a $\text{Gamma}(\theta | \alpha + n, \beta + n\bar{y})$ distribution.

Exercise 2 (chapter 1.4): For the statistical model from Exercise 1, find a closed form formula for the predictive density

$$p(y^* | y) = \int_{\Theta} p(y^*, \theta | y) d\theta = \int_{\Theta} p(y^* | \theta)p(\theta | y) d\theta$$

of a new observation y^* . Evaluate and plot the predictive density for the first dataset from Exercise 1 by setting up a grid for the y^* values.



Solution: The predictive density is

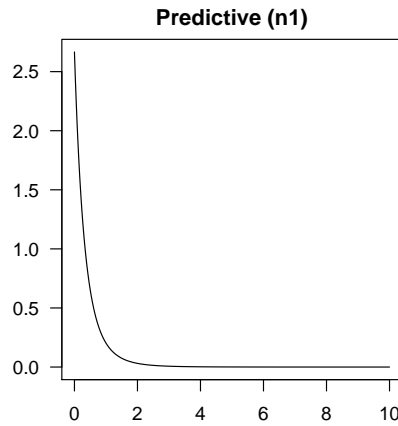
$$\begin{aligned}
 p(y^* | y) &= \int_0^\infty \theta \exp\{-\theta y^*\} \frac{(\beta + n\bar{y})^{\alpha+n}}{\Gamma(\alpha+n)} \theta^{\alpha+n-1} \exp\{-\theta(\beta + n\bar{y})\} d\theta \\
 &= \frac{(\beta + n\bar{y})^{\alpha+n}}{\Gamma(\alpha+n)} \int_0^\infty \theta^{\alpha+n} \exp\{-\theta(\beta + y^* + n\bar{y})\} d\theta \\
 &= \frac{(\beta + n\bar{y})^{\alpha+n}}{\Gamma(\alpha+n)} \frac{\Gamma(\alpha+n+1)}{(\beta + y^* + n\bar{y})^{\alpha+n+1}} \\
 &= \frac{(\alpha+n)(\beta + n\bar{y})^{\alpha+n}}{(\beta + y^* + n\bar{y})^{\alpha+n+1}},
 \end{aligned}$$

where the integral in the second line is the inverse of the normalizing constant of a Gamma distribution and the last line used the following property of the Gamma function: $\Gamma(x+1) = x\Gamma(x)$.

Exercise 3 (chapter 2.7): The joint conditional distribution of Y^* and Θ factorizes as

$$p(y^*, \theta | y) = p(y^* | \theta) p(\theta | y),$$

because the random variables Y and Y^* are conditionally independent given $\Theta = \theta$. Derive this results from the multiplication rule for conditional distributions.



Solution: Using the multiplication rule and conditional independence of Y and Y^* given $\Theta = \theta$ gives

$$p(y^*, \theta | y) = p(y^* | y, \theta)p(\theta | y) = p(y^* | \theta)p(\theta | y).$$

Exercise 4 (chapter 2.10): Let the random variable X follow a Gamma distribution with shape $\alpha > 0$ and rate $\beta > 0$. There is only information about $Y = g(X) = X^{-1}$. The distribution of Y is the Inverse-Gamma distribution with parameters α and β .

1. Find the density of Y using a change-of-variables:

$$f_Y(y) = f_X(x) \left| \frac{dx}{dy} \right| = f_X(h(y)) |h'(y)| \text{ under the bijection } y = g(x) \Leftrightarrow x = h(y)$$

2. Find a formula for the mode (i.e. the maximum point) of the density of Y
3. Find the expectation $\mathbb{E}[Y]$ assuming $\alpha > 1$ using $\mathbb{E}[X^{-1}]$

Solution: The density of Y is

$$f_Y(y) = f_X(x) \left| \frac{dx}{dy} \right| = \frac{\beta^\alpha}{\Gamma(\alpha)} \left(\frac{1}{y} \right)^{\alpha-1} \exp\left\{ -\frac{\beta}{y} \right\} \frac{1}{y^2} = \frac{\beta^\alpha}{\Gamma(\alpha)} y^{-\alpha-1} \exp\{-\beta/y\} \quad y > 0.$$

The mode of $f_Y(y)$ is

$$\frac{d \log f_Y(y)}{dy} = -\frac{\alpha+1}{y} + \frac{\beta}{y^2} \stackrel{!}{=} 0 \Rightarrow y = \frac{\beta}{\alpha+1}.$$

The second derivative is

$$\frac{d^2 \log f_Y(y)}{dy^2} = \frac{\alpha+1}{y^2} - \frac{2\beta}{y^3},$$

which is negative at $y = \beta/(\alpha + 1)$ showing that it is a maximum point. The expectation of Y is

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbb{E}[Y] = \mathbb{E}[X^{-1}] &= \int_0^\infty \frac{1}{x} \frac{\beta^\alpha}{\Gamma(\alpha)} x^{\alpha-1} \exp\{-\beta x\} dx \\ &= \frac{\beta^\alpha}{\Gamma(\alpha)} \int_0^\infty x^{(\alpha-1)-1} \exp\{-\beta x\} dx \\ &= \frac{\beta^\alpha}{\Gamma(\alpha)} \frac{\Gamma(\alpha-1)}{\beta^{\alpha-1}} = \frac{\beta}{\alpha-1} \quad \alpha > 1.\end{aligned}$$

Exercise 5 (chapter 2.10): Let the random variables $\{X_i\}_{i=1}^3$ follow independently Gamma distributions with shape $\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \alpha_3 > 0$ and rate $\beta_1 = \beta_2 = \beta_3 = 1$. Using a multivariate change-of-variables

$$Y_1 = \frac{X_1}{X_1 + X_2 + X_3} \quad Y_2 = \frac{X_2}{X_1 + X_2 + X_3} \quad S = X_1 + X_2 + X_3,$$

find the joint density of Y_1, Y_2 and S . Find also the joint density of Y_1 and Y_2 by integrating out S (which happens to be a Dirichlet distribution).

Solution: The change-of-variables gives

$$X_1 = Y_1 S \quad X_2 = Y_2 S \quad X_3 = S(1 - Y_1 - Y_2).$$

The determinant of the Jacobian matrix is required for the change-of-variable:

$$\left| \frac{\partial x_1, x_2, x_3}{\partial y_1, y_2, s} \right| = \det \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial x_1}{\partial y_1} & \frac{\partial x_1}{\partial y_2} & \frac{\partial x_1}{\partial s} \\ \frac{\partial x_2}{\partial y_1} & \frac{\partial x_2}{\partial y_2} & \frac{\partial x_2}{\partial s} \\ \frac{\partial x_3}{\partial y_1} & \frac{\partial x_3}{\partial y_2} & \frac{\partial x_3}{\partial s} \end{bmatrix} = \det \begin{bmatrix} s & 0 & y_1 \\ 0 & s & y_2 \\ -s & -s & 1 - y_1 - y_2 \end{bmatrix} = s^2.$$

The joint density of Y_1, Y_2 and S is then

$$\begin{aligned}f_{Y_1, Y_2, S}(y_1, y_2, s) &= f_{X_1, X_2, X_3}(x_1, x_2, x_3) \left| \frac{\partial x_1, x_2, x_3}{\partial y_1, y_2, s} \right| \\ &= \frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha_1)} (y_1 s)^{\alpha_1-1} e^{-y_1 s} \times \\ &\quad \frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha_2)} (y_2 s)^{\alpha_2-1} e^{-y_2 s} \times \\ &\quad \frac{1}{\Gamma(\alpha_3)} (s[1 - y_1 - y_2])^{\alpha_3-1} e^{-(1-y_1-y_2)s} \times \\ &\quad s^2 \\ &= \frac{y_1^{\alpha_1-1} y_2^{\alpha_2-1} (1 - y_1 - y_2)^{\alpha_3-1}}{\Gamma(\alpha_1)\Gamma(\alpha_2)\Gamma(\alpha_3)} s^{\alpha_1+\alpha_2+\alpha_3-1} e^{-s}.\end{aligned}$$

The marginal density of Y_1 and Y_2 is

$$\begin{aligned} f_{Y_1, Y_2}(y_1, y_2) &= \int_0^\infty f_{Y_1, Y_2, S}(y_1, y_2, s) \, ds \\ &= \frac{y_1^{\alpha_1-1} y_2^{\alpha_2-1} (1-y_1-y_2)^{\alpha_3-1}}{\Gamma(\alpha_1)\Gamma(\alpha_2)\Gamma(\alpha_3)} \int_0^\infty s^{\alpha_1+\alpha_2+\alpha_3-1} e^{-s} \, ds \\ &= \frac{\Gamma(\alpha_1 + \alpha_2 + \alpha_3)}{\Gamma(\alpha_1)\Gamma(\alpha_2)\Gamma(\alpha_3)} y_1^{\alpha_1-1} y_2^{\alpha_2-1} (1-y_1-y_2)^{\alpha_3-1} \quad y_1, y_2 > 0 \text{ and } 0 < y_1 + y_2 < 1, \end{aligned}$$

where the integral in the second line is the inverse of the normalizing constant of a Gamma distribution. The marginal density is that of a Dirichlet distribution with parameters α_1, α_2 and α_3 .

Exercise 6 (chapter 3.2): Let the random variable X follow a Pareto distribution with shape $\alpha > 0$ and scale $x_m > 0$. The density of the Pareto distribution is

$$f_X(x) = \frac{\alpha x_m^\alpha}{x^{\alpha+1}}, \quad x \geq x_m.$$

Derive the inverse transformation method to simulate from the Pareto distribution (there is no function in the standard packages of R).

Solution: The cumulative distribution function of X is

$$F_X(x) = 1 - \left(\frac{x_m}{x}\right)^\alpha \quad x \geq x_m.$$

The quantile function $F_X^{-1}(u)$ is now straightforward to derive

$$F_X^{-1}(u) = \frac{x_m}{(1-u)^{1/\alpha}} \quad 0 < u < 1.$$

The inverse transform method is then

$$\begin{aligned} &\text{Simulate } U \sim \text{Unif}(0, 1) \\ &\text{Set } X = \frac{x_m}{U^{1/\alpha}}. \end{aligned}$$

A sample of 10000 random numbers from the Pareto distribution can be generated in R.

Exercise 7 (chapter 3.4): Let $f_X(x)$ be the density of a continuously distributed random variable X . The cumulative distribution $F_X(x)$ and quantile function $F_X^{-1}(u)$ with $u \in (0, 1)$ are known. Derive the inverse transformation method when the distribution of X is truncated to the interval $I = (a, b)$ with $a < b$. The density of the truncated distribution is proportional to the unnormalized density

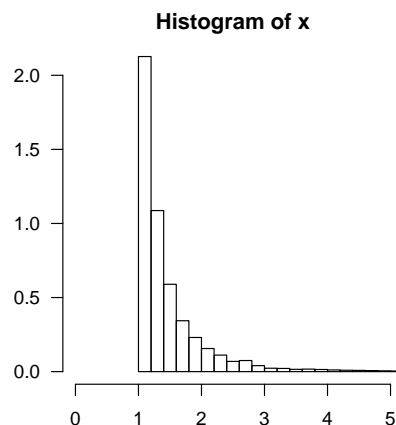
$$g_X^*(x) \propto f_X(x) 1_{(a,b)}(x).$$

Start by determining the normalizing constant k such that $g_X(x) = g_X^*(x)/k$ is a density and then derive

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alpha <- 3
xm <- 1
x <- xm/runif(10000)^(1/alpha)
par(mar = c(3, 3, 2, 2), las = 1)
hist(x, breaks = "Scott", probability = TRUE, xlim = c(0, 5), xlab = "", ylab = "")

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the cumulative distribution $G_X(x)$ and quantile function $G_X^{-1}(u)$ of the truncated distribution.

Solution: The normalizing constant of $g_X(x)$ is

$$1 = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} g_X(x) dx = \frac{1}{k} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} g_X^*(x) dx = \frac{1}{k} \int_a^b f_X(x) dx = \frac{F_X(b) - F_X(a)}{k} \Rightarrow k = F_X(b) - F_X(a).$$

For $a < x < b$, the cumulative distribution function is

$$G_X(x) = \int_a^x g_X(t) dt = \frac{1}{F_X(b) - F_X(a)} \int_a^x f_X(t) dt = \frac{F_X(x) - F_X(a)}{F_X(b) - F_X(a)}.$$

The quantile function is now straightforward to derive

$$G_X^{-1}(u) = F_X^{-1}\{F_X(a) + u[F_X(b) - F_X(a)]\} \quad 0 < u < 1.$$

The inverse transform method is then

Simulate $U \sim \text{Unif}(0, 1)$

$$\text{Set } X = F_X^{-1}\{F_X(a) + U[F_X(b) - F_X(a)]\}.$$