

Worksheet 18

1. Consider a prior distribution where $\lambda \sim \text{Gamma}(\alpha, \beta)$ and a likelihood $X_j | \lambda \sim \text{Poisson}(\lambda)$ for an i.i.d. sample of size n . Find (a) the posterior distribution, (b) the Bayesian point estimator, and (c) the limit of the point estimator when the data dominates the prior.

2. Assume you have a sample of size $n = 10$ from a Poisson distribution. The average of the data is $\bar{x} = 3$. What are the (a) MLE estimator of λ , (b) the Bayesian estimator of λ with a $\text{Gamma}(1, 1)$, and (c) the Bayesian estimator of λ with a $\text{Gamma}(10, 1)$?¹

¹ Take a moment to compare the results and see how they relate the means of the two priors.

3. Consider a prior distribution where $\lambda \sim \text{Gamma}(\alpha, \beta)$ and a likelihood $X | \lambda \sim \text{Exp}(\lambda)$ for an i.i.d. sample of size n . Find (a) the posterior distribution, (b) the Bayesian point estimator, and (c) the limit of the point estimator when the data dominates the prior.

4. Assume you have a sample of size $n = 30$ from an Exponential. The average of the data is $\bar{x} = 0.5$. What are the (a) MLE estimator of λ , (b) the Bayesian estimator of λ with a $\text{Gamma}(1, 1)$, and (c) the Bayesian estimator of λ with a $\text{Gamma}(1, 4)$?

5. Consider a prior distribution where $p \sim \text{Beta}(a, b)$ and a likelihood $X | p \sim \text{Geometric}(1, \beta)$ for an i.i.d. sample of size n . Find (a) the posterior distribution, (b) the Bayesian point estimator, and (c) the limit of the point estimator when the data dominates the prior.

6. Assume you have a sample of size $n = 12$ from a Geometric distribution. The average of the data is $\bar{x} = 2$. What are the (a) MLE estimator of p , (b) the Bayesian estimator of λ with a $\text{Beta}(1, 10)$, and (c) the Bayesian estimator of λ with a $\text{Beta}(10, 1)$? What are the means of the two priors?