

1

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

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

• $y_i | \lambda \sim \text{Poisson}(\lambda)$ what is λ ?

Let $\lambda = \theta x$

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

θ : rate of assists per unit time

$$\begin{aligned} p(y_1, \dots, y_n | \theta) &= \prod_{i=1}^n p(y_i | \theta) \\ &= \prod_{i=1}^n \frac{(\theta x_i)^{y_i} e^{-\theta x_i}}{y_i!} \end{aligned}$$

2. Prior of unknowns

• What is unknown? answer: θ !

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

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

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

^ terrible prior, can our likelihood overcome it?

(2)

3.

Posterior

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

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

$$\propto \underbrace{\theta^{\sum y_i + a - 1}} e^{-\theta(b + \sum x_i)}$$

kernel of gamma(α, β)

$$\alpha = \sum y_i + a$$

$$\beta = b + \sum x_i$$

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 $\sum x_i$ = total min / playedprior says a assists in b minutes.

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

(3)

4. Poisson as a member of the exp. family

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

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


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

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

$t(y) = y$

therefore the conj. prior is

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

how to go from $p(\phi | n_0, t_0) \rightarrow p(\lambda | n_0, t_0)$?
one-line formula: 

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

$$p(\lambda | n_0, t_0) = p(\phi | n_0, t_0) \left| \frac{d\phi}{d\lambda} \right| \quad \frac{d}{d\lambda} \log \lambda = \frac{1}{\lambda}$$

(4)

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

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

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