

YOUR NAME  
 YOUR EMAIL  
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## Homework 5

1. (4 points) Beta-Binomial Conjugacy.
  - (a) (3 points) Show that the Beta family of distributions is conjugate to the Binomial family of distributions (i.e., if the likelihood is Binomial( $n, p$ ), then if the prior is  $P \sim \text{Beta}(\alpha, \beta)$ , then the posterior  $P|X$  is a beta-distribution).
  - (b) (1 point) Use the result above to argue why a Uniform(0, 1) prior for  $P$  results in a Beta-distributed posterior.
2. (6 points) Approximate the following integrals using some form of Monte-Carlo. Describe the distribution used and the overall approach you picked.
  - (a) (2 points)  $\int_0^1 \sin(e^{-x})x^2 dx$
  - (b) (2 points)  $\int_0^2 e^{x^2} dx$
  - (c) (2 points)  $\int_0^\infty \frac{e^{-x}}{1+x^2} dx$
3. (6 points) In class, we calculated the posterior mean  $\Lambda|X$ , where  $X \sim \text{Pois}(\lambda)$ , and the prior distribution was  $\Lambda \sim U(0, 100)$ . This required calculating the following integral:

$$E[\Lambda|X = x^*] = \frac{\int_0^{100} \tau \cdot \tau^{\sum_i x_i^*} e^{-n\tau} d\tau}{\int_0^{100} \tau^{\sum_i x_i^*} e^{-n\tau} d\tau}$$

(recall the denominator is just a normalizing constant.) To perform this calculation, it required making some transformations to avoid numeric overflow / underflow issues. In particular, we showed

$$E[\Lambda|X = x^*] = \frac{\int_0^{100} \tau \cdot \tau^{\sum_i x_i^*} e^{-n\tau} d\tau}{\int_0^{100} \tau^{\sum_i x_i^*} e^{-n\tau} d\tau} = \frac{\int_0^{100} \lambda \exp\{g(\lambda) - g(\bar{x}^*)\} d\lambda}{\int_0^{100} \exp\{g(\lambda) - g(\bar{x}^*)\} d\lambda},$$

where  $g(\lambda) = \sum_i x_i^* \log \lambda - n\lambda$ .

- (a) (3 points) In class, we used the `integrate` function in R to estimate the posterior mean. **Now, estimate the posterior mean using a Monte-Carlo method.** (The numerically-stable version will probably be easier).
- (b) (3 points) Approximate the posterior variance  $\text{Var}(\Lambda|X = x^*)$  using Monte-Carlo (HINT: try finding  $E[\Lambda^2|X = x^*]$ ).