

University of Toronto
Department of Computer & Mathematical Sciences
STAB57: an Introduction to Statistics
Week 9 Assignment

taught by Louis de Thanhoffer de Volcsey

[-email me](#)
[-website](#)
[-textbook](#)

This week's list of problems is based on the material from:
Chapter 6, §3, Chapter 7, §1, §2
You are expected to work on this list of problems prior to the upcoming tutorial.
Problems have the following tags:
👹: difficult, 📖: Book exercise, Ⓔ: extra exercise

Terminology and Concepts to learn:

- Bayesian model: prior, prior predictive, posterior distribution
- Bayesian inference: estimation through mean and mode for Bernoulli and location normal model
- conjugate priors
- Bayesian inference: credible interval
- Bayesian inference: p-value and Bayesian factor

Problem 1 👹

Assume that a probability distribution P has a mean μ and mode m . Assume that the distribution is symmetric in the sense that the density function satisfies $f(x_0 + x) = f(x_0 - x)$ for some x_0 . Show that $\mu = m = x_0$.

Problem 2 📖

Practice your skills on Bayesian estimation by doing problems: 7.2.1, 7.2.3, 7.2.5, 7.2.6, 7.2.10 and 7.2.11

Problem 3 

Consider a Bayesian model with a uniform prior on Θ and a statistical model $\Theta \implies S$ where $f_\theta \sim \text{Geometric}(\theta)$. Compute the posterior. Can you find a conjugate prior distribution in this case?

Problem 4 

Similarly, assume $f_\theta \sim \text{exponential}(\theta)$ in this case. Find the posterior density and determine a conjugate prior.

Problem 5 

We alluded to the cat that another way to test hypotheses is through Bayesian factors, which uses odds as opposed to probabilities. ie $O(A) = P(A)/(1 - P(A))$. Another application of odds is the function $\phi : [0, 1[\rightarrow \mathbb{R} : p \mapsto \ln(\frac{p}{1-p})$. Show that this function is one-to-one and onto (alternatively, show that this function has an inverse).¹

¹this function will play a key role in the theory of regression