

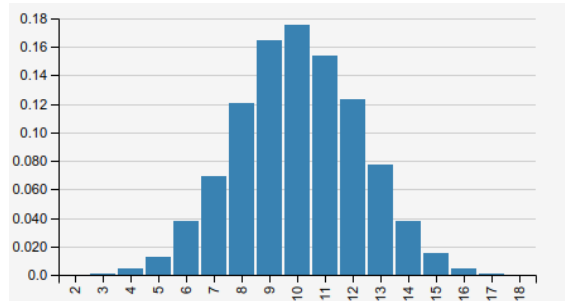
Continualization of Probabilistic Programs With Correction

Jacob Laurel, Sasa Misailovic

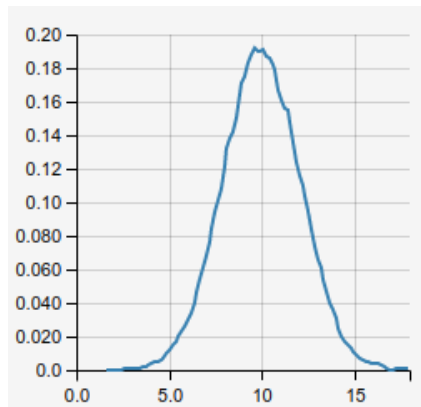
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign



Probabilistic Programs



```
var binomial = function(){  
  return sample(Binomial({n: 20, p: 0.5}))  
}
```



```
var gauss = function(){  
  return sample(Gaussian({mu: 10, sigma: 2.1}))  
}
```

WebPPL probabilistic programming for the web



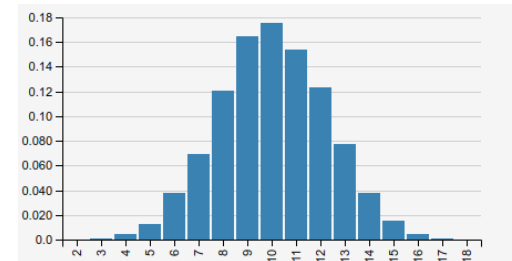
HackPPL: A Universal Probabilistic Programming Language



What Models can I write?

Discrete Probabilistic Models

- Bayesian Learning often has ***Discrete*** structure
- Inference often ***harder***

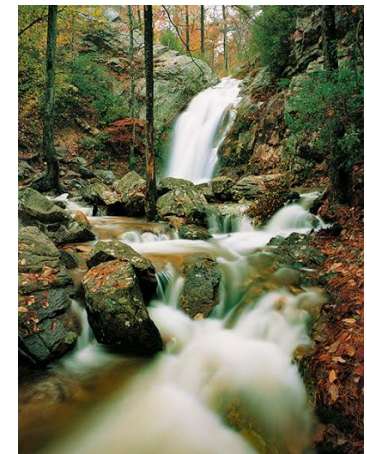


XBOX LIVE

Ranking
Systems



Population Models



Ecology

The New York Times

How to Think Like an Epidemiologist

With a new disease like Covid-19 and all the uncertainties it brings, there is ... in a clear way, and then propagate this uncertainty through the model." ... Philosophers of science posit that science as a whole is a Bayesian ...

Aug 4, 2020



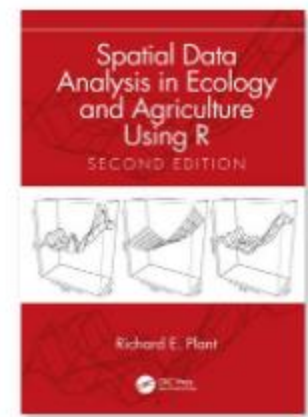
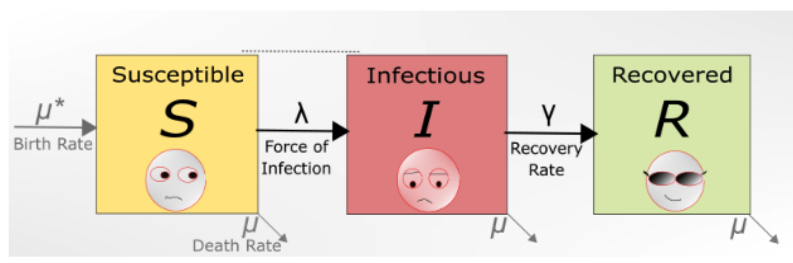
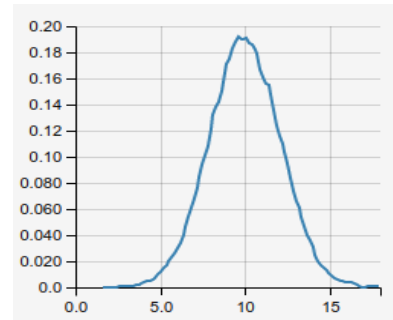
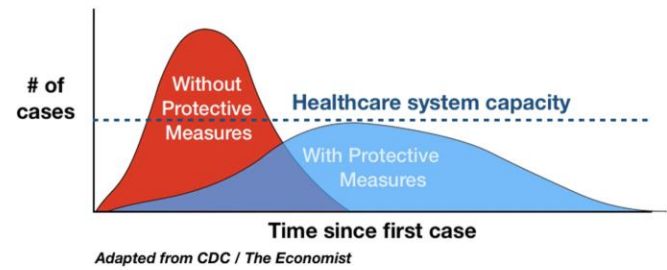
Disease Models

Continuous Probabilistic Models

- Bayesian Learning often has **Continuous** structure
- Inference often **easier**

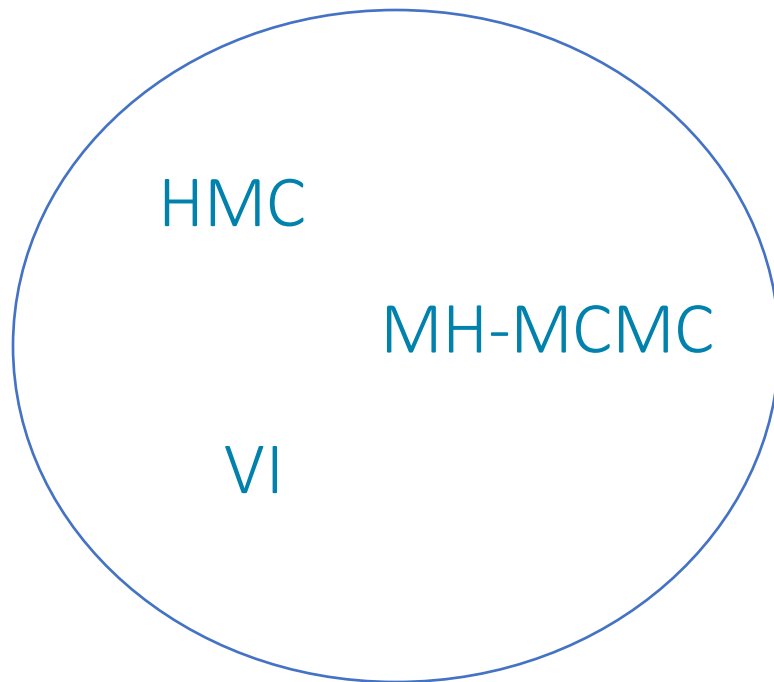
$$E_a = \frac{1}{1 + 10(R_b - R_a)/400}$$

$$E_b = \frac{1}{1 + 10(R_a - R_b)/400}$$

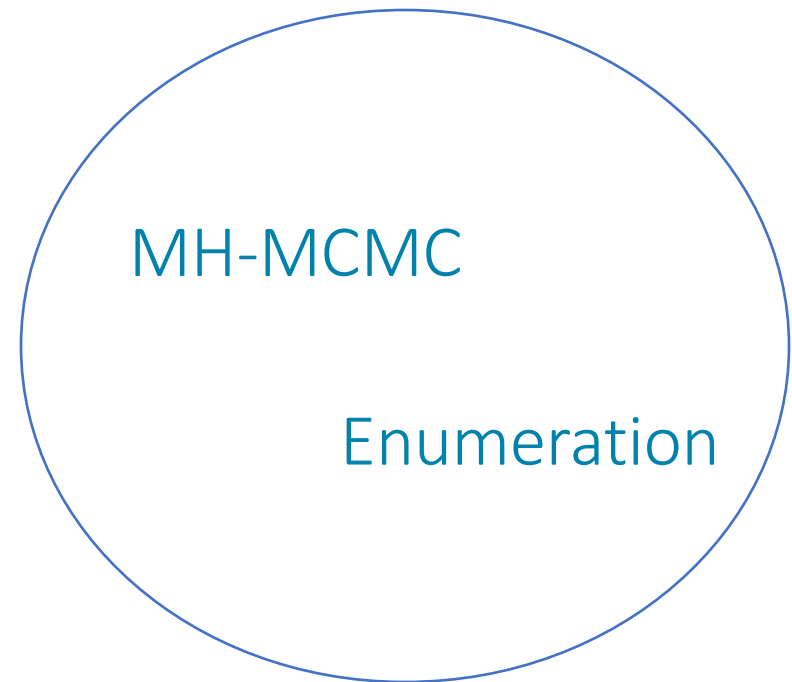


Bayesian Inference Methods

Continuous Random Variables

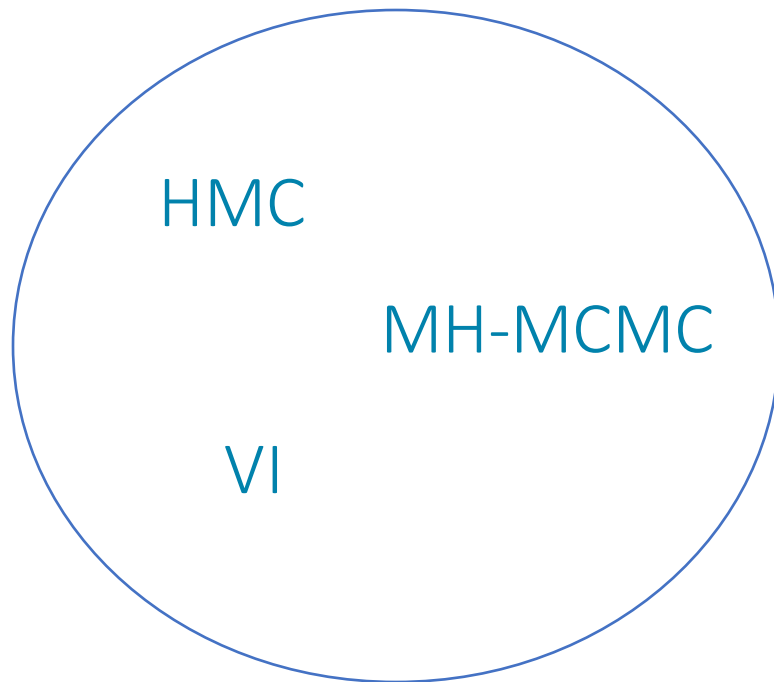


Discrete Random Variables

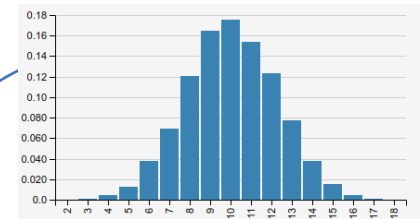


Bayesian Inference Methods

Continuous Random Variables



Discrete Random Variables



N Data := [12,8...]

```
Model {  
  Prior = Uniform(20,5)  
  Recruiters = Poisson(prior)  
  PerfGPA = 4  
  RegGPA = 4*Beta(7,3)  
  GPA = Mix(PerfGPA,.05,RegGPA,.95)  
  
  if (GPA == 4) { Interviews=Bin(Recruiters,0.9) }  
  else if (GPA > 3.5) { Interviews=Bin(Recruiters,0.6) }  
  else { Interviews=Bin(Recruiters,0.5) }  
  
  Offers=Bin(Interviews,0.4)  
}
```

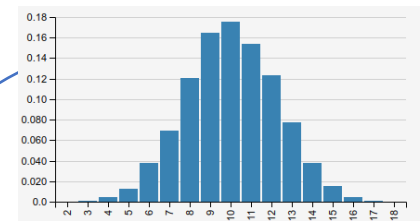
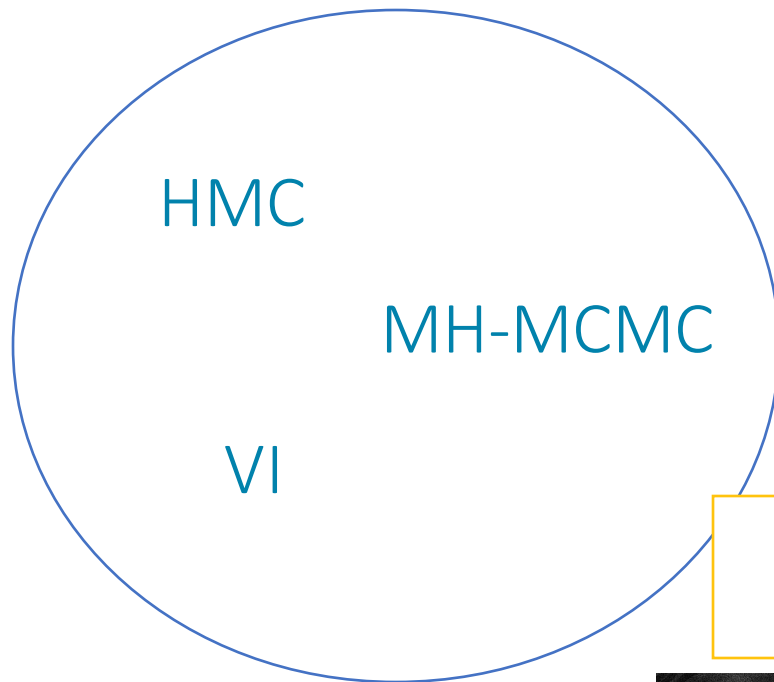
n

```
for d in Data { factor(Offers,d) }
```

Bayesian Inference Methods

Continuous Random Variables

Discrete Random Variables



```

N Data := [12,8...]

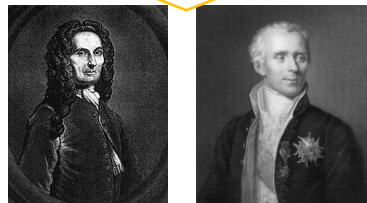
Model {
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  PerfGPA = 4
  RegGPA = 4*Beta(7,3)
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  if (GPA == 4) { Interviews=Bin(Recruiters,0.9) }
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  else { Interviews=Bin(Recruiters,0.5) }

  Offers=Bin(Interviews,0.4)
}

for d in Data { factor(Offers,d) }
    
```

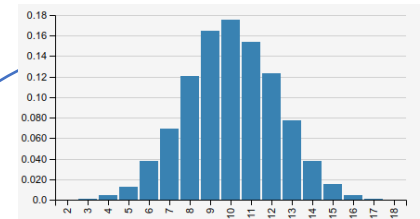
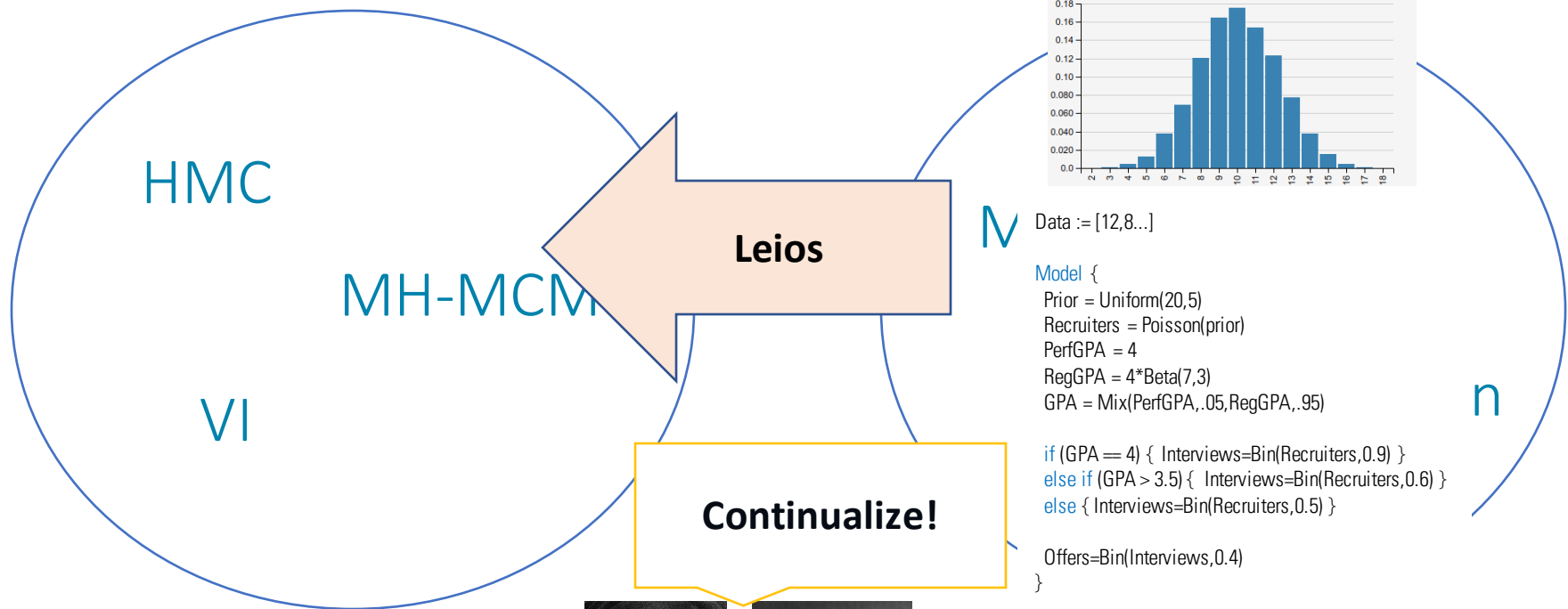
Continualize!



Bayesian Inference Methods

Continuous Random Variables

Discrete Random Variables



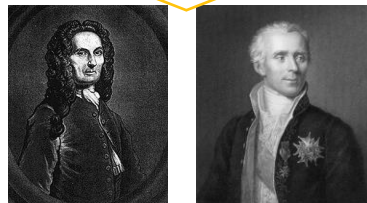
```

N Data := [12,8...]
Model {
  Prior = Uniform(20,5)
  Recruiters = Poisson(prior)
  PerfGPA = 4
  RegGPA = 4*Beta(7,3)
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  else if (GPA > 3.5) { Interviews=Bin(Recruiters,0.6) }
  else { Interviews=Bin(Recruiters,0.5) }

  Offers=Bin(Interviews,0.4)
}

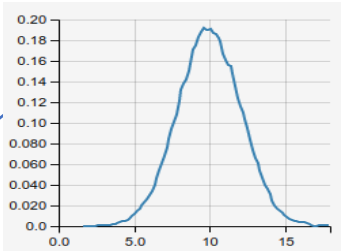
for d in Data { factor(Offers,d) }
  
```



Bayesian Inference Methods

Continuous Random Variables

Discrete Random Variables



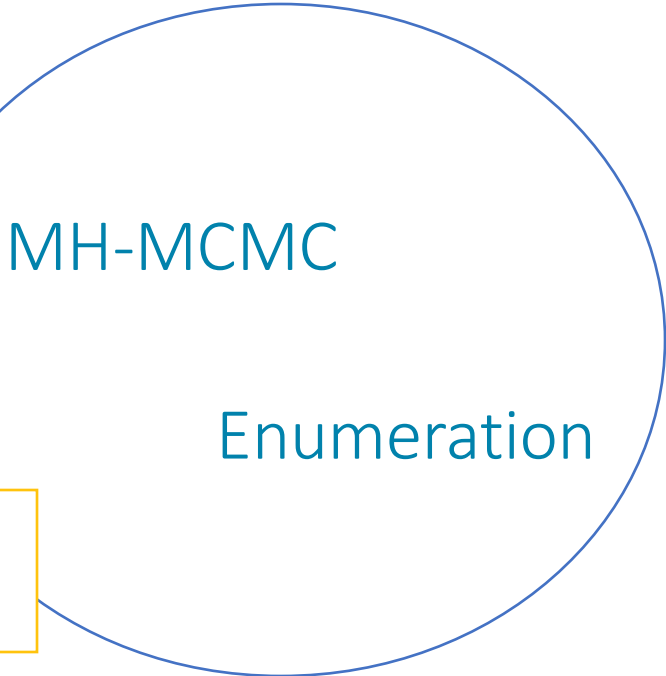
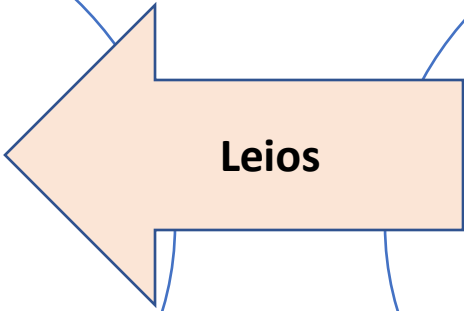
Data := [12,8...]

```
Model {
  Prior = Uniform(20,5)
  Recruiters = Gauss(prior,sqrt(prior))
  PerfGPA = Gauss(4,0.1)
  RegGPA = 4*Beta(7,3)
  GPA = Mix(PerfGPA,.05,RegGPA,.95)
```

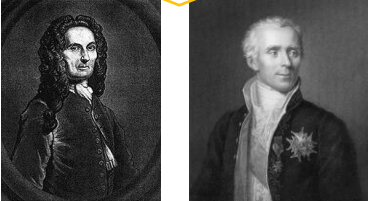
```
if (3.9 < GPA < 4.71) { Interviews=Gauss(Recruiters*0.9,sqrt(...)) }
else if (GPA > 3.5) { Interviews=Gauss(Recruiters*0.6,sqrt(...)) }
else { Interviews=Gauss(Recruiters*0.5,sqrt(...)) }
```

```
Offers=Gauss(Interviews*0.4,sqrt(...))
}
```

```
for d in Data { factor(Offers,d) }
```



Continualize!



Easy right?

Easy right?

194 Part III: From A to Binomial: Basic Probability Models



Making the continuity correction

The normal approximation to the binomial is just what it says — an *approximation* — so before you move forward with your problem after you transform your X value into a z value and use the Z table (see the Appendix) to find your probability (see the previous section to find out how), you need to make an adjustment to get a close approximation. The adjustment is called a *continuity correction* — a correction you make when moving from a discrete distribution like the binomial to a continuous distribution like the normal (see Chapter 7 for more on discrete and continuous distributions). If you don't make the adjustment, your final answer will be a little larger or a little smaller than it should be.

Chapter 10

Approximating a Binomial with a Normal Distribution

In This Chapter

- ▶ Using a normal distribution to approximate binomial probabilities
- ▶ Knowing when you can (and should) approximate a binomial
- ▶ Judging the sample and figuring the mean and standard deviation of the binomial
- ▶ Adding a continuity correction to the binomial

Easy right?

No!

94

Part III: From A to Binomial: Basic Probability Models



Making the continuity correction

The normal approximation to the binomial is just what it says — an *approximation* — so before you move forward with your problem after you transform your X value into a z value and use the Z table (see the Appendix) to find your probability (see the previous section to find out how), you need to make an adjustment to get a close approximation. The adjustment is called a *continuity correction* — a correction you make when moving from a discrete distribution like the binomial to a continuous distribution like the normal (see Chapter 7 for more on discrete and continuous distributions). If you don't make the adjustment, your final answer will be a little larger or a little smaller than it should be.

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- ▶ Judging the sample and figuring the mean and standard deviation of the binomial
- ▶ Adding a continuity correction to the binomial

Example

Example

Data := [12,8...]

```
Model {  
  Prior = Uniform(20,50)  
  Recruiters = Poisson(prior)  
  PerfGPA = 4  
  RegGPA = 4*Beta(7,3)  
  GPA = Mix(PerfGPA,.05,RegGPA,.95)  
  
  if (GPA == 4) { Interviews=Bin(Recruiters,0.9) }  
  else if (GPA > 3.5) { Interviews=Bin(Recruiters,0.6) }  
  else { Interviews=Bin(Recruiters,0.5) }  
  
  Offers=Bin(Interviews,0.4)  
}  
  
for d in Data { factor(Offers,d) }
```

Example

```
Data := [12,8...]
```

```
Model {  
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  PerfGPA = 4  
  RegGPA = 4*Beta(7,3)  
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Example

Data := [12,8...]

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Model {  
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```

```
for d in Data { factor(Offers,d) }
```

Example

```
Data := [12,8...]
```

```
Model {  
  Prior = Uniform(20,50)  
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  else { Interviews=Bin(Recruiters,0.5) }  
  
  Offers=Bin(Interviews,0.4)  
}  
  
for d in Data { factor(Offers,d) }
```

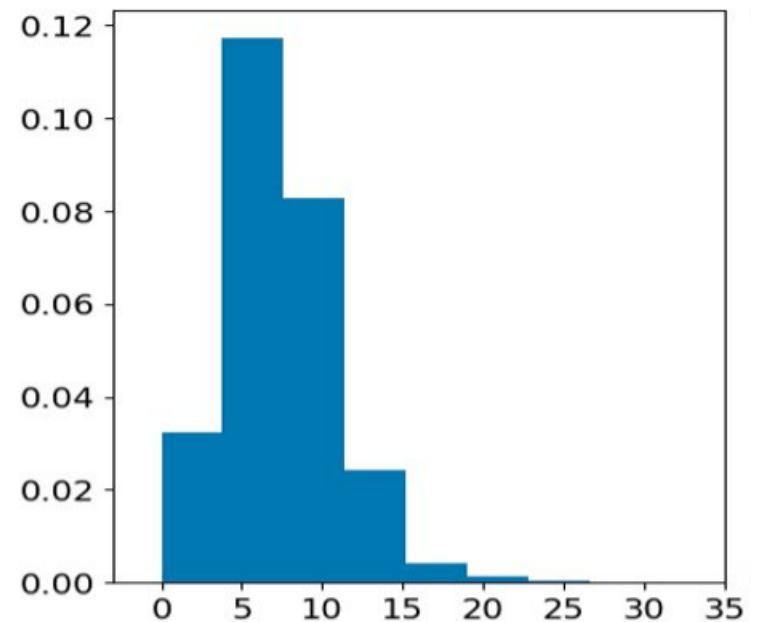
Example

```
Model {  
  Prior = Uniform(20,50)  
  Recruiters = Poisson(prior)  
  PerfGPA = 4  
  RegGPA = 4*Beta(7,3)  
  GPA = Mix(PerfGPA,.05,RegGPA,.95)  
  
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  else if (GPA > 3.5) { Interviews=Bin(Recruiters,0.6) }  
  else { Interviews=Bin(Recruiters,0.5) }  
  
  Offers=Bin(Interviews,0.4)  
}
```

Example

```
Model {  
  Prior = Uniform(20,50)  
  Recruiters = Poisson(prior)  
  PerfGPA = 4  
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  else if (GPA > 3.5) { Interviews=Bin(Recruiters,0.6) }  
  else { Interviews=Bin(Recruiters,0.5) }  
  
  Offers=Bin(Interviews,0.4)  
}
```

Distribution of Offers



Example

```
Model {  
  Prior = Uniform(20,50)  
  Recruiters = Gauss(prior,sqrt(prior))  
  PerfGPA = Gauss(4, $\beta$ )  
  RegGPA = 4*Beta(7,3)  
  GPA = Mix(PerfGPA,.05,RegGPA,.95)  
  
  if (GPA == 4) { Interviews=Gauss(Recruiters*0.9,sqrt(0.09*Recruiters)) }  
  else if (GPA > 3.5) { Interviews=Gauss(Recruiters*0.6,sqrt(0.24*Recruiters)) }  
  else { Interviews=Gauss(Recruiters*0.5,sqrt(Recruiters*0.25)) }  
  
  Offers=Gauss(Interviews*0.4,sqrt(Interviews*0.24))  
}
```

Example

```
Model {  
  Prior = Uniform(20,50)  
  Recruiters = Gauss(prior,sqrt(prior))  
  PerfGPA = Gauss(4, $\beta$ )  
  RegGPA = 4*Beta(7,3)  
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  else if (GPA > 3.5) { Interviews=Gauss(Recruiters*0.6,sqrt(0.24*Recruiters)) }  
  else { Interviews=Gauss(Recruiters*0.5,sqrt(Recruiters*0.25)) }  
  
  Offers=Gauss(Interviews*0.4,sqrt(Interviews*0.24))  
}
```



Example

```
Model {  
  Prior = Uniform(20,50)  
  Recruiters = Gauss(prior,sqrt(prior))  
  PerfGPA = Gauss(4, $\beta$ )  
  RegGPA = 4*Beta(7,3)  
  GPA = Mix(PerfGPA,.05,RegGPA,.95)  
  
  if (3.5 < GPA < 4.5) { Interviews=Gauss(Recruiters*0.9,sqrt(0.09*Recruiters)) }  
  else if (GPA > 3.5) { Interviews=Gauss(Recruiters*0.6,sqrt(0.24*Recruiters)) }  
  else { Interviews=Gauss(Recruiters*0.5,sqrt(Recruiters*0.25)) }  
  
  Offers=Gauss(Interviews*0.4,sqrt(Interviews*0.24))  
}
```



Example

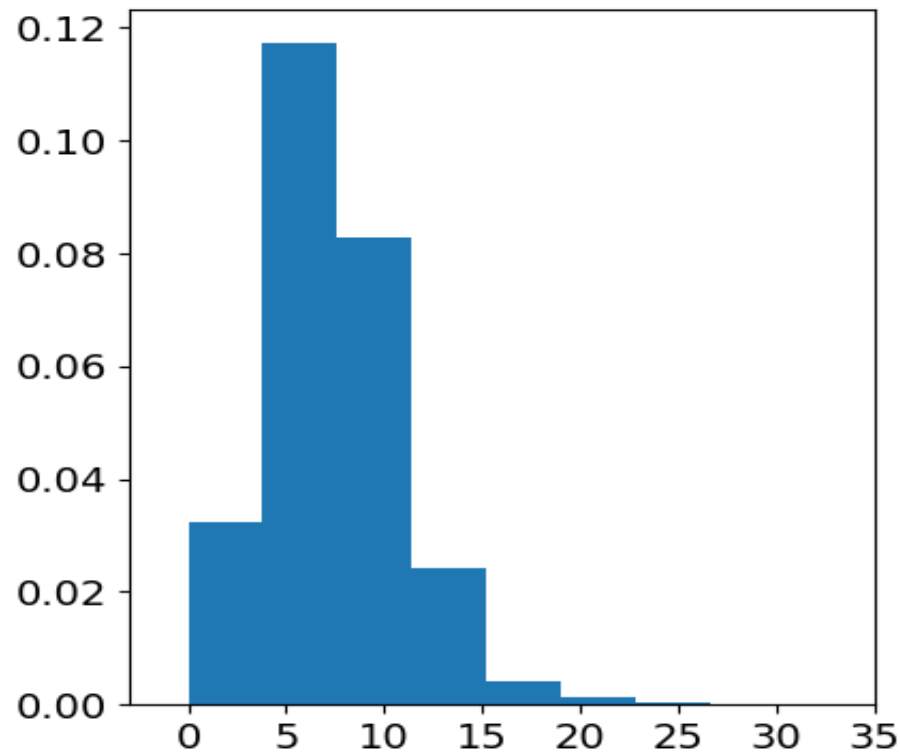
```
Model {  
  Prior = Uniform(20,50)  
  Recruiters = Gauss(prior,sqrt(prior))  
  PerfGPA = Gauss(4, $\beta$ )  
  RegGPA = 4*Beta(7,3)  
  GPA = Mix(PerfGPA,.05,RegGPA,.95)  
  
  if (3.5 < GPA < 4.5) { Interviews=Gauss(Recruiters*0.9,sqrt(0.09*Recruiters)) }  
  else if (GPA > 3.5) { Interviews=Gauss(Recruiters*0.6,sqrt(0.24*Recruiters)) }  
  else { Interviews=Gauss(Recruiters*0.5,sqrt(Recruiters*0.25)) }  
  
  Offers=Gauss(Interviews*0.4,sqrt(Interviews*0.24))  
}
```

Oops...

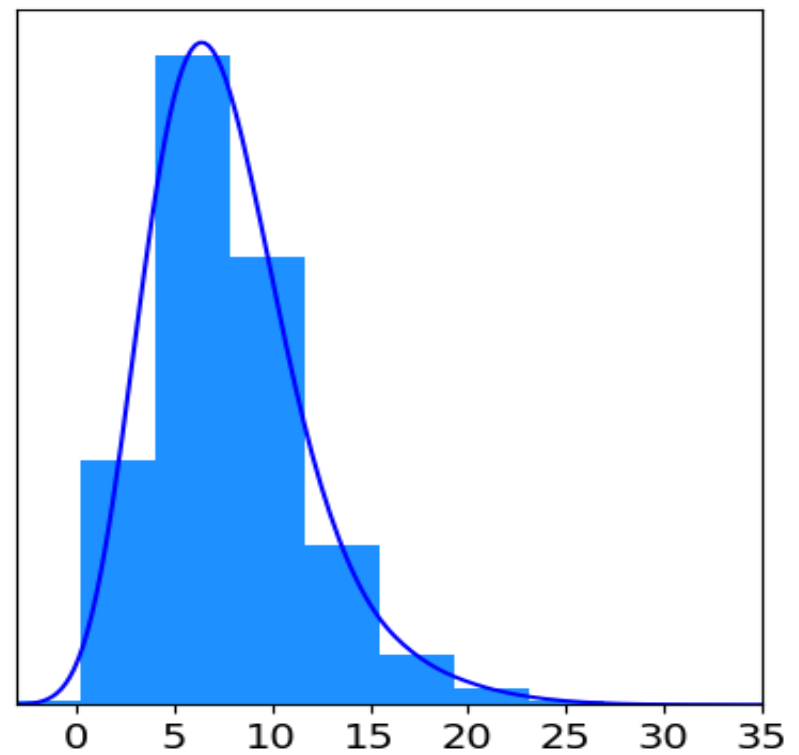


Example

Distribution of Offers



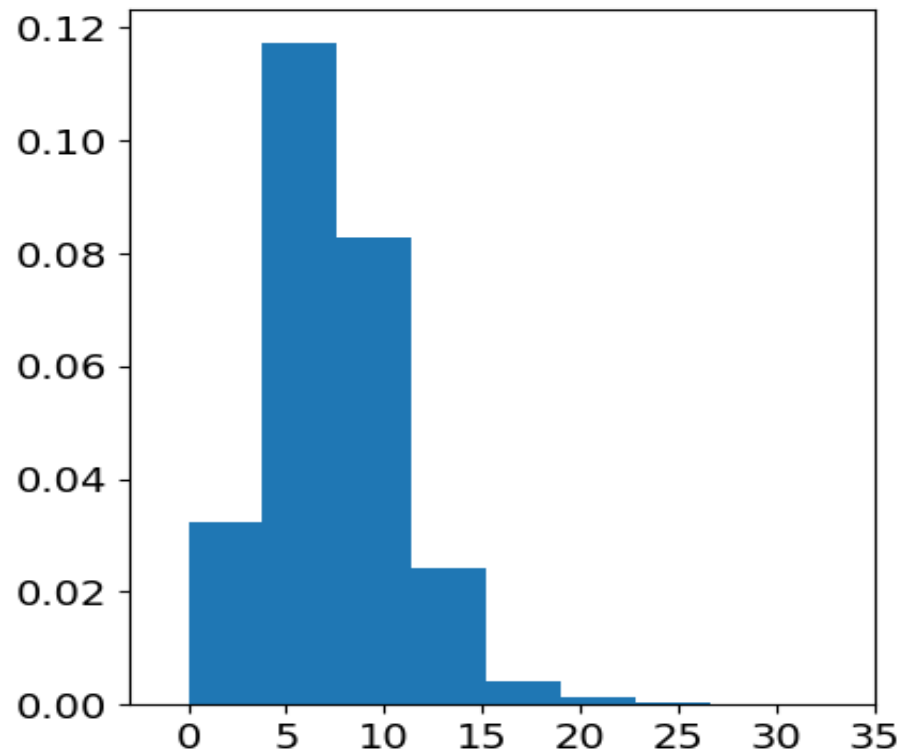
Original Model



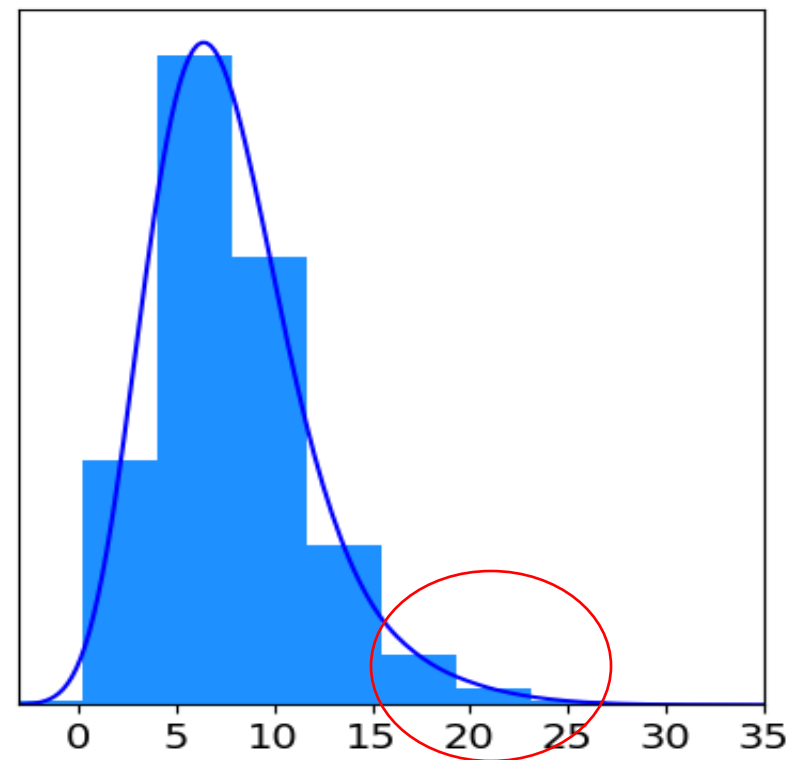
Textbook Continualization

Example

Distribution of Offers



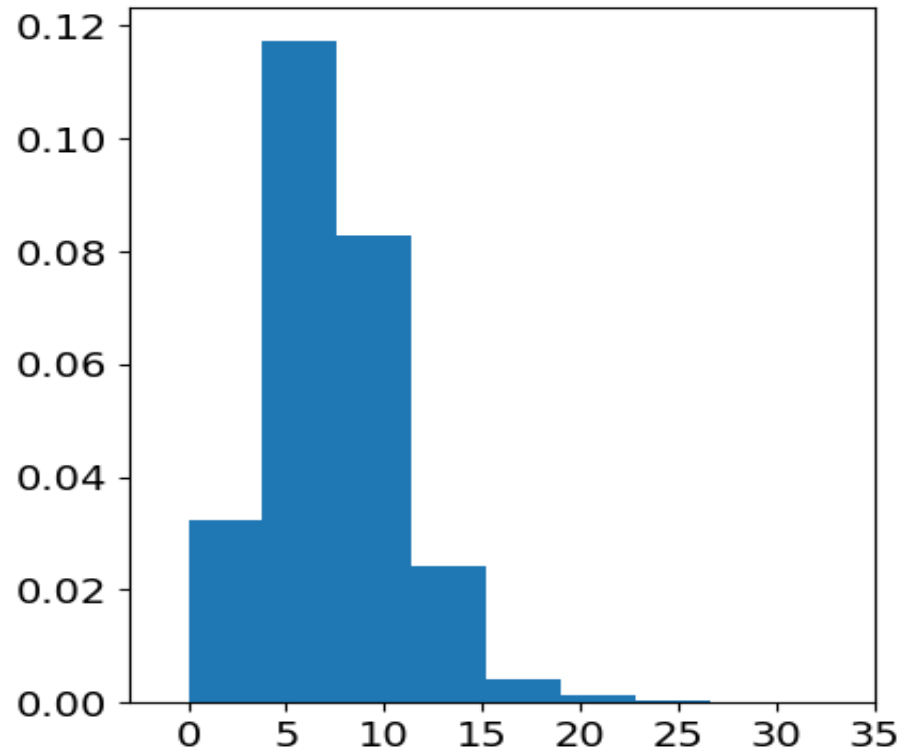
Original Model



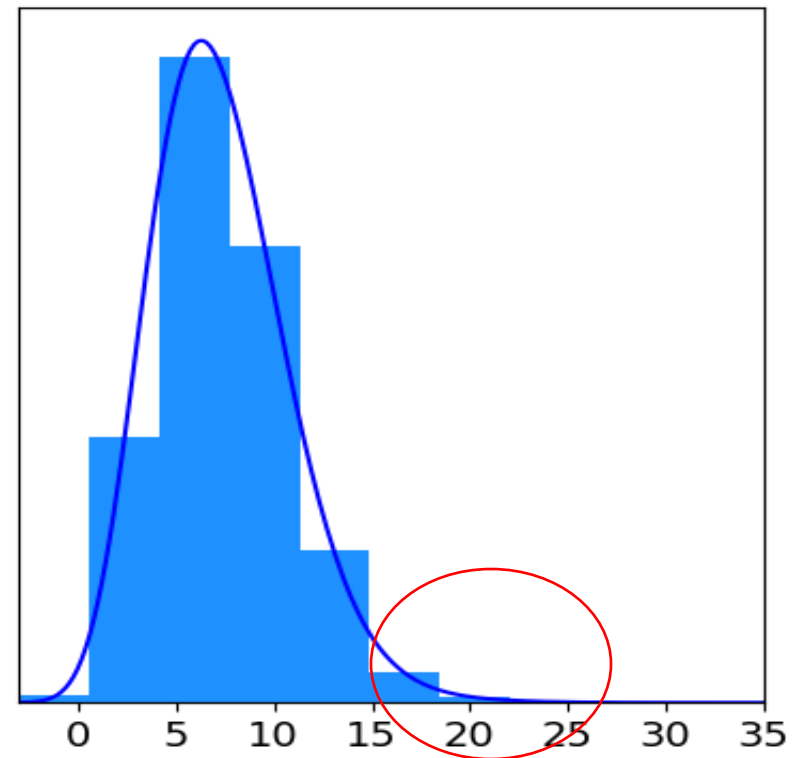
Textbook Continualization

Example

Distribution of Offers



Original Model



What we *really* want.

Example

```
Model {  
  Prior = Uniform(20,50)  
  Recruiters = Gauss(prior,sqrt(prior))  
  PerfGPA = Gauss(4, $\beta$ )  
  RegGPA = 4*Beta(7,3)  
  GPA = Mix(PerfGPA,.05,RegGPA,.95)  
  
  if (3.99 < GPA < 4.71) { Interviews=Gauss(Recruiters*0.9,sqrt(0.09*Recruiters))}  
  else if (GPA > 3.5001) { Interviews=Gauss(Recruiters*0.6,sqrt(0.24*Recruiters))}  
  else { Interviews=Gauss(Recruiters*0.5,sqrt(Recruiters*0.25))}  
  
  Offers=Gauss(Interviews*0.4,sqrt(Interviews*0.24))  
}
```



Example

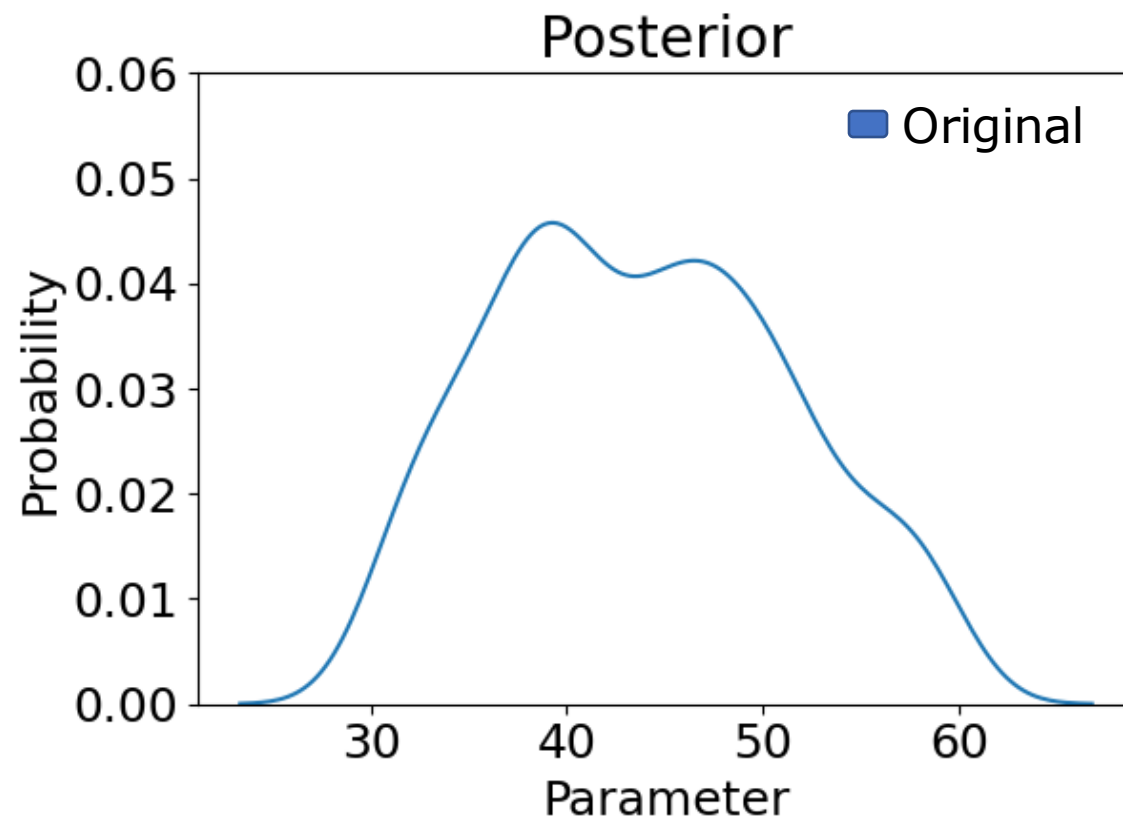
Data := [12, 8...]

```
Model {  
  Prior = Uniform(20,50)  
  Recruiters = Gauss(prior,sqrt(prior))  
  PerfGPA = Gauss(4, $\beta$ )  
  RegGPA = 4*Beta(7,3)  
  GPA = Mix(PerfGPA,.05,RegGPA,.95)  
  
  if (3.99 < GPA < 4.71) { Interviews=Gauss(Recruiters*0.9,sqrt(0.09*Recruiters))}  
  else if (GPA > 3.5001) { Interviews=Gauss(Recruiters*0.6,sqrt(0.24*Recruiters))}  
  else { Interviews=Gauss(Recruiters*0.5,sqrt(Recruiters*0.25))}  
  
  Offers=Gauss(Interviews*0.4,sqrt(Interviews*0.24))  
}  
  
for d in Data { factor(Offers,d) }
```

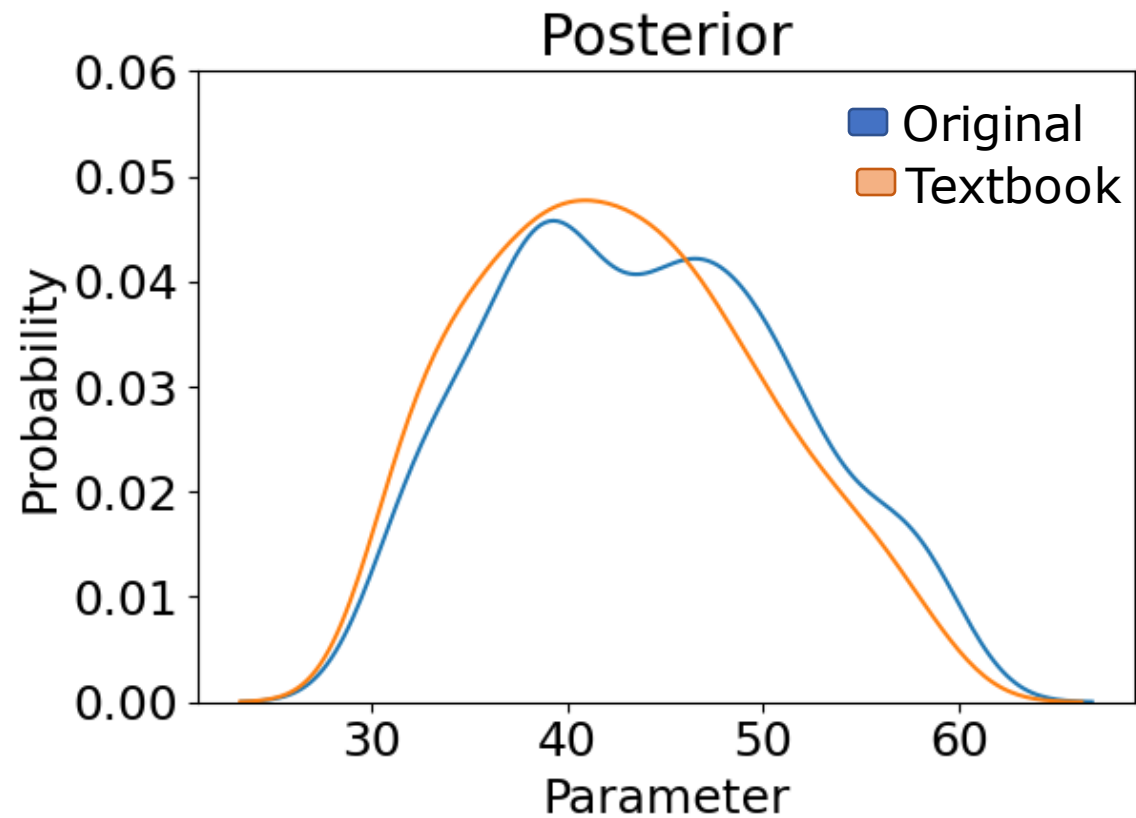
**Inference
will be
faster!**



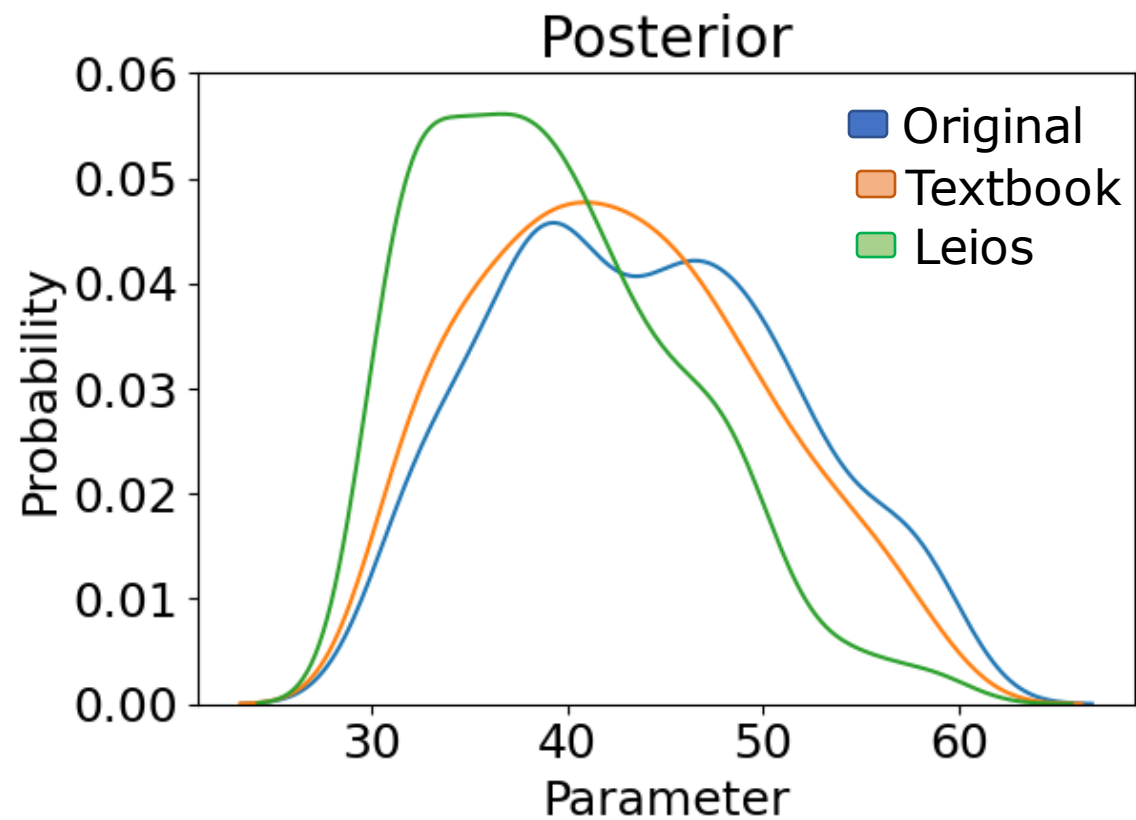
Example - Results



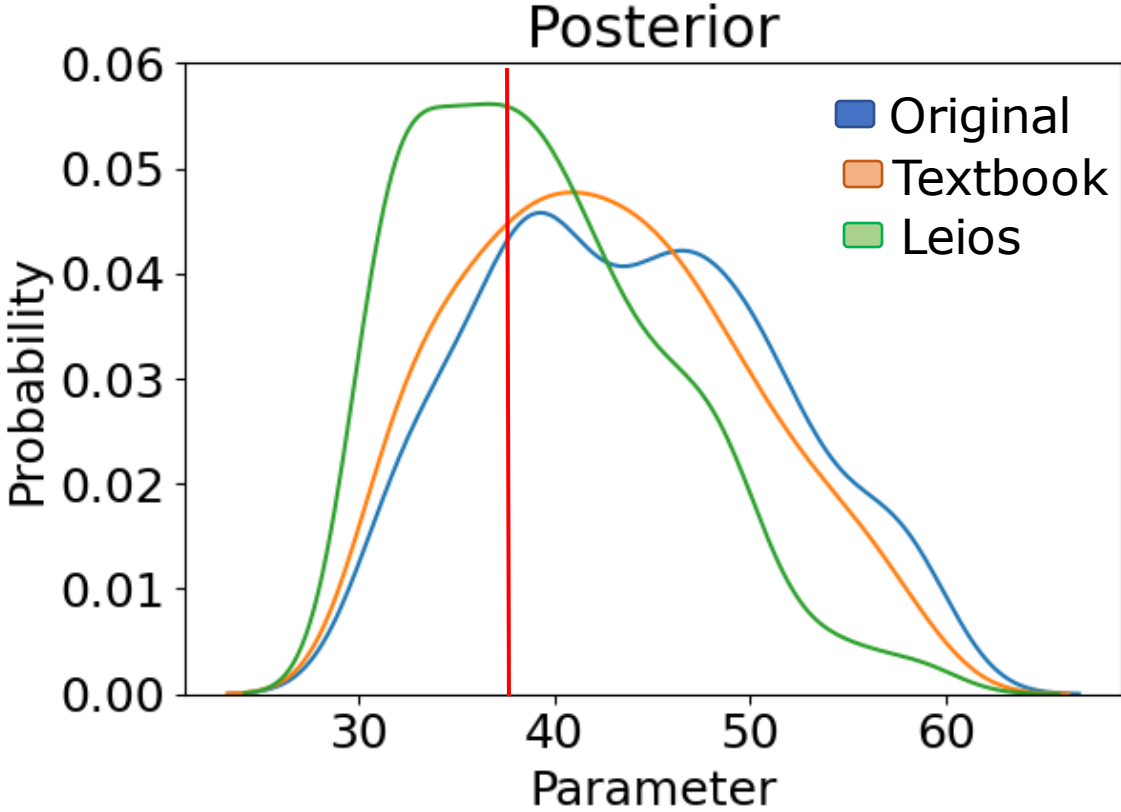
Example - Results



Example - Results

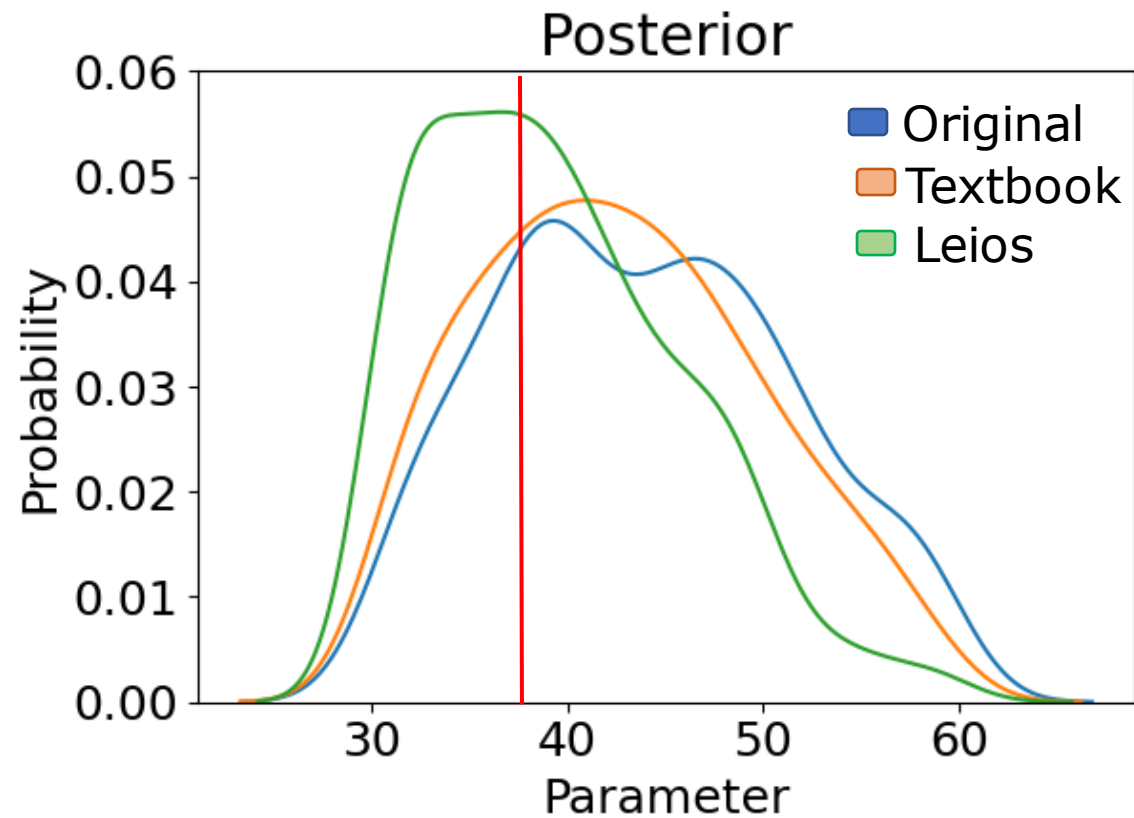


Example - Results



Ground Truth Value: 37

Example - Results



Ground Truth Value: 37 *and* we're 33% faster!

How to get there?

How to get there?

Use a **smarter** program analysis.

Leios

Leios



Data := [12,8...]

```
Model{
  Prior= Uniform(20,5)
  Recruiters=Poisson(prior)
  PerfGPA= 4
  RegGPA= 4*Beta(7,3)
  GPA = Mix(PerfGPA,.05,RegGPA,.95)

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  else { Interviews=Bin(Recruiters,0.5)}

  Offers=Bin(Interviews,0.4)
}

for d in Data { factor(Offers,d)}
```

Leios

Distribution
Transforms



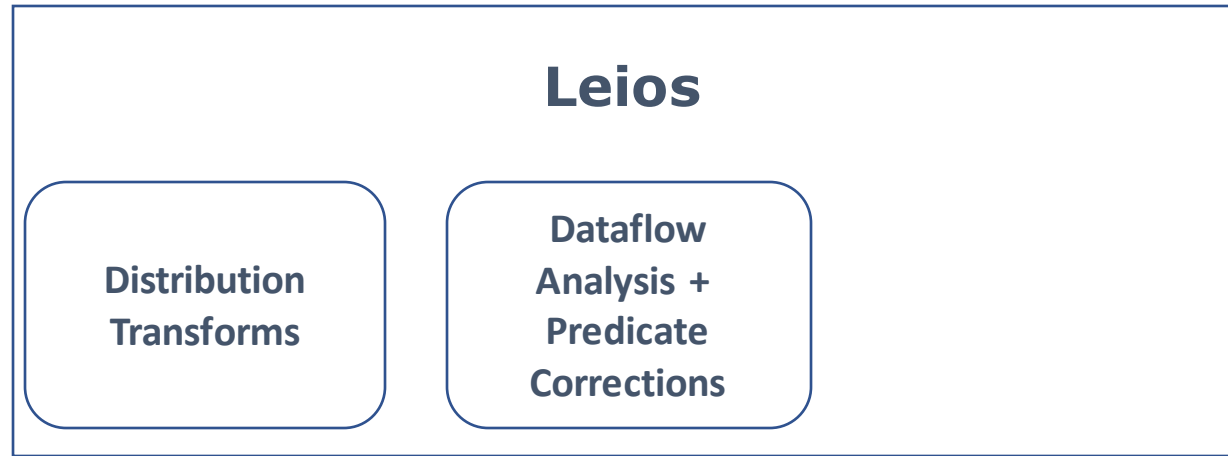
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```
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for d in Data { factor(Offers,d)}
```



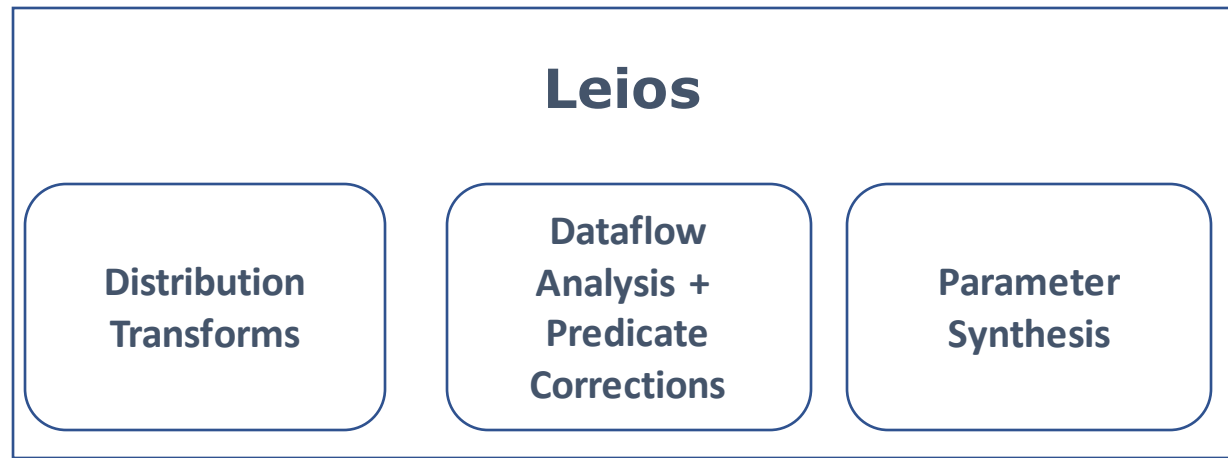
Data := [12,8...]

```
Model{
  Prior= Uniform(20,5)
  Recruiters=Poisson(prior)
  PerfGPA= 4
  RegGPA= 4*Beta(7,3)
  GPA = Mix(PerfGPA,.05,RegGPA,.95)

  if (GPA == 4) { Interviews=Bin(Recruiters,0.9)}
  else if (GPA > 3.5) { Interviews=Bin(Recruiters,0.6)}
  else { Interviews=Bin(Recruiters,0.5)}

  Offers=Bin(Interviews,0.4)
}

for d in Data { factor(Offers,d)}
```

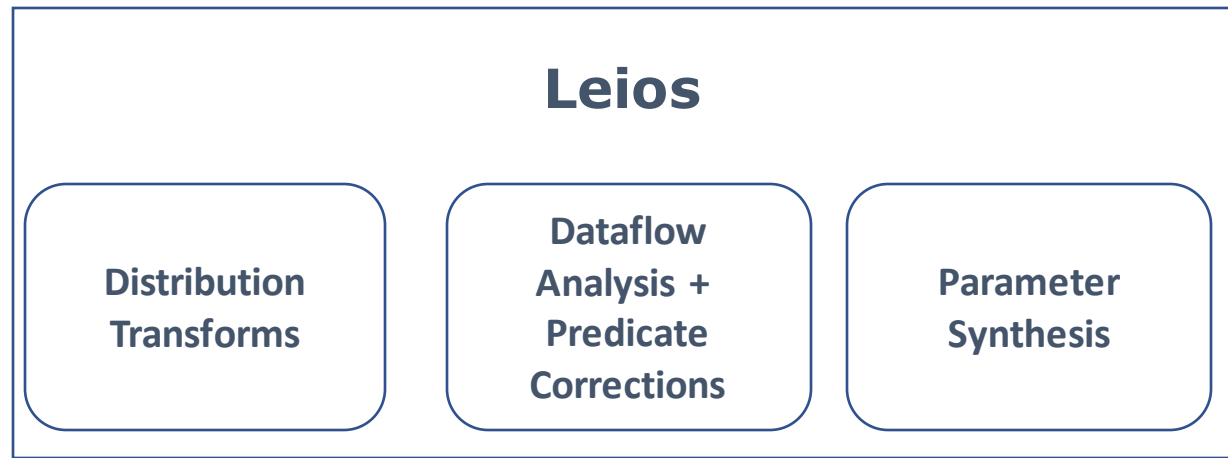
Data := [12,8...]

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Model{
  Prior= Uniform(20,5)
  Recruiters=Poisson(prior)
  PerfGPA= 4
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  GPA = Mix(PerfGPA,.05,RegGPA,.95)

  if (GPA == 4) { Interviews=Bin(Recruiters,0.9)}
  else if (GPA > 3.5) { Interviews=Bin(Recruiters,0.6)}
  else { Interviews=Bin(Recruiters,0.5)}

  Offers=Bin(Interviews,0.4)
}

for d in Data { factor(Offers,d)}
```



Data := [12,8...]

```
Model{
  Prior= Uniform(20,5)
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  PerfGPA= 4
  RegGPA= 4*Beta(7,3)
  GPA= Mix(PerfGPA,.05,RegGPA,.95)
```

```
  if (GPA == 4) { Interviews=Bin(Recruiters,0.9)}
  else if (GPA > 3.5) { Interviews=Bin(Recruiters,0.6)}
  else { Interviews=Bin(Recruiters,0.5)}
```

```
  Offers=Bin(Interviews,0.4)
}
```

```
for d in Data { factor(Offers,d)}
```

Data := [12,8...]

```
Model{
  Prior= Uniform(20,5)
  Recruiters= Gauss(prior,sqrt(prior))
  PerfGPA= Gauss(4,0.1)
  RegGPA= 4*Beta(7,3)
  GPA= Mix(PerfGPA,.05,RegGPA,.95)
```

```
  if (3.9 < GPA < 4.71) { Interviews=Gauss(Recruiters*0.9,sqrt(...))}
  else if (GPA > 3.501) { Interviews=Gauss(Recruiters*0.6,sqrt(...))}
  else { Interviews=Gauss(Recruiters*0.5,sqrt(...))}
```

```
  Offers=Gauss(Interviews*0.4,sqrt(...))
}
```

```
for d in Data { factor(Offers,d)}
```

Language Syntax

Program ::= *DataBlock?* ; *Model* { *Stmt* } ; *ObserveBlock?* ; *return Var* ;

Stmt ::= *skip* | *abort* | *Var := Expr* | *Var := Dist* | *CONST Var := Expr*
| *Stmt ; Stmt* | { *Stmt* } | *condition (BExpr)* | *while (BExpr) Stmt*
| *if (BExpr) Stmt else Stmt* | *for i = INT to INT Stmt*

Expr ::= *Expr ArithOp Expr* | *f (Expr)* | *REAL* | *INT* | *Var*

BExpr ::= *BExpr or BExpr* | *BExpr and BExpr* | *not BExpr* | *Expr Relop Expr*

DataBlock ::= [(*INT*)^{*}] | [(*REAL*)^{*}]

ObserveBlock ::= *for D in Data* { *factor (Var , D)* ; }

Dist ::= *Gaussian* | *Uniform* | *Binomial* | *Poisson* | *Bernoulli* | ...

ArithOp ∈ { +, -, *, /, **, ... } , *f* ∈ { *log*, *abs*, *exp*, ... } , *Relop* ∈ { <, ==, <=, ... }

Language Syntax

Program ::= *DataBlock?*; *Model* { *Stmt* } ; *ObserveBlock?*; *return Var*;

Stmt ::= *skip* | *abort* | *Var := Expr* | *Var := Dist* | *CONST Var := Expr*
| *Stmt ; Stmt* | { *Stmt* } | *condition (BExpr)* | *while (BExpr) Stmt*
| *if (BExpr) Stmt else Stmt* | *for i = INT to INT Stmt*

Expr ::= *Expr ArithOp Expr* | *f(Expr)* | *REAL* | *INT* | *Var*

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Dist ::= *Gaussian* | *Uniform* | *Binomial* | *Poisson* | *Bernoulli* | ...

ArithOp ∈ { +, -, *, /, **, ... } , *f* ∈ { *log*, *abs*, *exp*, ... } , *Relop* ∈ { <, ==, <=, ... }

Step 1) Distribution Transforms

Distribution Transforms

- Continuous relaxations for each latent

Distribution Transforms

- Continuous relaxations for each latent

$$\textit{Binomial}(n, p) \longrightarrow \textit{Gaussian}(np, \sqrt{np(1 - p)})$$

$$\textit{Binomial}(n, p) \longrightarrow \textit{Gamma}(n, p)$$

$$\textit{Poisson}(\lambda) \longrightarrow \textit{Gaussian}(\lambda, \sqrt{\lambda})$$

$$\textit{Poisson}(\lambda) \longrightarrow \textit{Gamma}(\lambda, 1)$$

$$\textit{DiscUniform}(a, b) \longrightarrow \textit{Uniform}(a, b)$$

$$C \longrightarrow \textit{Gaussian}(C, \beta)$$

Distribution Transforms

- Continuous relaxations for each latent

$$np \geq 30 \quad \textit{Binomial}(n, p) \longrightarrow \textit{Gaussian}(np, \sqrt{np(1-p)})$$

$$np < 30 \quad \textit{Binomial}(n, p) \longrightarrow \textit{Gamma}(n, p)$$

$$\lambda \geq 10 \quad \textit{Poisson}(\lambda) \longrightarrow \textit{Gaussian}(\lambda, \sqrt{\lambda})$$

$$\lambda < 10 \quad \textit{Poisson}(\lambda) \longrightarrow \textit{Gamma}(\lambda, 1)$$

$$\textit{DiscUniform}(a, b) \longrightarrow \textit{Uniform}(a, b)$$

$$C \longrightarrow \textit{Gaussian}(C, \beta)$$

Smoothing Likelihood

Smoothing Likelihood

- Add Gaussian($0, \beta$) to **smooth** observed value

Smoothing Likelihood

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Why?

Smoothing Likelihood

- Add Gaussian($0, \beta$) to **smooth** observed value

Why?

Likelihood sums over N observed data points

Smoothing Likelihood (Example)

Smoothing Likelihood (Example)

```
Data = [.....]  
X = DiscUniform(10,50)  
Y = Binomial(X,0.5)  
  
for i in range(N)  
    factor(Data[i],Y)
```

Smoothing Likelihood (Example)

Data = [.....]

$X = \text{DiscUniform}(10,50)$

$Y = \text{Binomial}(X,0.5)$

```
for i in range(N)  
    factor(Data[i],Y)
```

Log-likelihood sum

$$\ln(P(X = x_0)) + \sum_{i=1}^{10} \ln(P(Y = \text{data}[i]))$$

Smoothing Likelihood (Example)

Data = [.....]

$X = \text{DiscUniform}(10,50)$

$Y = \text{Binomial}(X,0.5)$

```
for i in range(N)  
    factor(Data[i],Y)
```

Log-likelihood sum

$$\ln(P(X = x_0)) + \sum_{i=1}^{10} \ln(P(Y = data[i]))$$

$$\ln\left(\mathbf{1}_{x_0 \in [10,50]} \cdot \frac{1}{40}\right) + \sum_{i=1}^{10} \ln\left(\binom{x_0}{data[i]} 0.5^{data[i]} \cdot 0.5^{x_0 - data[i]}\right)$$

Smoothing Likelihood (Example)

Data = [.....]

X = DiscUniform(10,50)

Y = Binomial(X,0.5)

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#Data * $O(C(n,k))$

Smoothing Likelihood (Example)

```
Data = [.....]  
X = DiscUniform(10,50)  
Y = Binomial(X,0.5)
```

```
for i in range(N)  
    factor(Data[i],Y)
```

```
Data = [.....]  
X = DiscUniform(10,50)  
Y = Binomial(X,0.5)  
Z = Gaussian(Y,β)
```

```
for i in range(N)  
    factor(Data[i],Z)
```

Log-likelihood sum

$$\ln(P(X = x_0)) + \sum_{i=1}^{10} \ln(P(Y = data[i]))$$

$$\ln\left(\mathbf{1}_{x_0 \in [10,50]} \cdot \frac{1}{40}\right) + \sum_{i=1}^{10} \ln\left(\binom{x_0}{data[i]} 0.5^{data[i]} \cdot 0.5^{x_0 - data[i]}\right)$$

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Data = [.....]  
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Y = Binomial(X,0.5)
```

```
for i in range(N)  
    factor(Data[i],Y)
```

```
Data = [.....]  
X = DiscUniform(10,50)  
Y = Binomial(X,0.5)  
Z = Gaussian(Y, $\beta$ )
```

```
for i in range(N)  
    factor(Data[i],Z)
```

Log-likelihood sum

$$\ln(P(X = x_0)) + \sum_{i=1}^{10} \ln(P(Y = data[i]))$$

$$\ln\left(\mathbf{1}_{x_0 \in [10,50]} \cdot \frac{1}{40}\right) + \sum_{i=1}^{10} \ln\left(\binom{x_0}{data[i]} 0.5^{data[i]} \cdot 0.5^{x_0 - data[i]}\right)$$

Smoothing Likelihood (Example)

```
Data = [.....]  
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Data = [.....]  
X = DiscUniform(10,50)  
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Z = Gaussian(Y, $\beta$ )
```

```
for i in range(N)  
    factor(Data[i],Z)
```

New Log-likelihood sum

$$\ln(P(X = x_0)) + \ln(P(Y = y_0)) + \sum_{i=1}^{10} \ln(P(Z = data[i]))$$

Smoothing Likelihood (Example)

```
Data = [.....]  
X = DiscUniform(10,50)  
Y = Binomial(X,0.5)
```

```
for i in range(N)  
    factor(Data[i],Y)
```

```
Data = [.....]  
X = DiscUniform(10,50)  
Y = Binomial(X,0.5)  
Z = Gaussian(Y, $\beta$ )
```

```
for i in range(N)  
    factor(Data[i],Z)
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New Log-likelihood sum

$$\ln(P(X = x_0)) + \ln(P(Y = y_0)) + \sum_{i=1}^{10} \ln(P(Z = data[i]))$$

$$\ln\left(\mathbf{1}_{x_0 \in [10,50]} \cdot \frac{1}{40}\right) + \ln\left(\binom{x_0}{y_0} 0.5^{y_0} \cdot 0.5^{x_0 - y_0}\right) + \sum_{i=1}^{10} \left(-\frac{(data[i] - y_0)^2}{\beta}\right) + \ln\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\beta}}\right)$$

Smoothing Likelihood (Example)

```
Data = [.....]  
X = DiscUniform(10,50)  
Y = Binomial(X,0.5)
```

```
for i in range(N)  
    factor(Data[i],Y)
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```
Data = [.....]  
X = DiscUniform(10,50)  
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Z = Gaussian(Y,β)
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for i in range(N)  
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New Log-likelihood sum

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single $O(C(n,k))$



Much easier!

Smoothing Likelihood (Example)

```
Data = [.....]
X = DiscUniform(10,50)
Y = Binomial(X,0.5)
```

```
for i in range(N)
  factor(Data[i],Y)
```

Full continualization:

```
Data = [.....]
X = Uniform(10,50)
Y = Gaussian(0.5*X,sqrt(X*0.25))
Z = Gaussian(Y,β)
```

```
for i in range(N)
  factor(Data[i],Z)
```

New Log-likelihood sum

$$\ln(P(X = x_0)) + \ln(P(Y = y_0)) + \sum_{i=1}^{10} \ln(P(Z = data[i]))$$

$$\ln\left(\mathbf{1}_{x_0 \in [10,50]} \cdot \frac{1}{40}\right) + \ln\left(\binom{x_0}{y_0} 0.5^{y_0} \cdot 0.5^{x_0 - y_0}\right) + \sum_{i=1}^{10} \left(-\frac{(data[i] - y_0)^2}{\beta}\right) + \ln\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\beta}}\right)$$



single $O(C(n,k))$



Much easier!

Smoothing Likelihood (Example)

Data = [.....]
 X = DiscUniform(10,50)
 Y = Binomial(X,0.5)

Full continualization:

Data = [.....]
 X = Uniform(10,50)
 Y = Gaussian(0.5 * X, sqrt(X * 0.25))
 Z = Gaussian(Y, β)

for i in range(N)
 factor(Data[i], Y)

for i in range(N)
 factor(Data[i], Z)

New Log-likelihood sum

$$\ln(P(X = x_0)) + \ln(P(Y = y_0)) + \sum_{i=1}^{10} \ln(P(Z = data[i]))$$

$$\ln\left(\mathbf{1}_{x_0 \in [10,50]} \cdot \frac{1}{40}\right) + \left(\frac{y_0 - 0.5x_0}{\sqrt{0.25x_0}}\right)^2 + \ln\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi \cdot 0.25x_0}}\right) + \sum_{i=1}^{10} \left(-\frac{(data[i] - y_0)^2}{\beta}\right) + \ln\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\beta}}\right)$$



Even easier.



Much easier!

What about Program Control Flow?

Predicate Correction

```
if (GPA == 4)
    Interviews = Bin(Recruiters,0.9)
else if (GPA > 3.5)
    Interviews = Bin(Recruiters,0.6)
else
    Interviews = Bin(Recruiters,0.5)
```

```
Offers = Bin(Interviews, 0.4)
```

Predicate Correction

```
if (GPA == 4)
    Interviews = Bin(Recruiters,0.9)
else if (GPA > 3.5)
    Interviews = Bin(Recruiters,0.6)
else
    Interviews = Bin(Recruiters,0.5)
```

Offers = Bin(Interviews, 0.4)

```
if ( $4 - \theta_1 < \text{GPA} < 4 + \theta_2$ )
    Interviews = Gauss(Recruiters*0.9,...)
else if ( $\text{GPA} > 3.5 + \theta_3$ )
    Interviews = Gauss(Recruiters*0.6,...)
else
    Interviews = Gauss(Recruiters*0.5,...)
```

Offers = Bin(Interviews, 0.4)

Dataflow Analysis

- Do we have to change every predicate?

Dataflow Analysis

- Do we have to change every predicate?

No!

Dataflow Analysis

- Do we have to change every predicate?

No!

Only ones (transitively) affected by the approximations

Step 3) Parameter Synthesis

Parameter Synthesis

- Minimize Wasserstein distance to *original* program
- Only done *once* per model (cost amortized)

Parameter Synthesis

```
if (4 -  $\theta_1$  < GPA < 4 +  $\theta_2$ )  
    Interviews = Gauss(Recruiters*0.9,...)  
else if (GPA > 3.5 +  $\theta_3$ )  
    Interviews = Gauss(Recruiters*0.6,...)  
else  
    Interviews = Gauss(Recruiters*0.5,...)
```

```
Offers = Bin(Interviews, 0.4)
```

Parameter Synthesis

$$\arg \min_{\theta_1, \theta_2, \theta_3} (\text{Wasserstein Dist}(P_{\text{Orig}}, P_{\text{Cont.}}))$$

```
if (4 -  $\theta_1$  < GPA < 4 +  $\theta_2$ )  
    Interviews = Gauss(Recruiters*0.9,...)  
else if (GPA > 3.5 +  $\theta_3$ )  
    Interviews = Gauss(Recruiters*0.6,...)  
else  
    Interviews = Gauss(Recruiters*0.5,...)  
  
Offers = Bin(Interviews, 0.4)
```

Parameter Synthesis

$$\arg \min_{\theta_1, \theta_2, \theta_3} (\text{Wasserstein Dist}(P_{\text{Orig}}, P_{\text{Cont.}}))$$

```
if (4 -  $\theta_1$  < GPA < 4 +  $\theta_2$ )  
    Interviews = Gauss(Recruiters*0.9,...)  
else if (GPA > 3.5 +  $\theta_3$ )  
    Interviews = Gauss(Recruiters*0.6,...)  
else  
    Interviews = Gauss(Recruiters*0.5,...)
```

```
Offers = Bin(Interviews, 0.4)
```



Original Program

Parameter Synthesis

$$\arg \min_{\theta_1, \theta_2, \theta_3} (\text{Wasserstein Dist}(P_{\text{Orig}}, P_{\text{Cont.}}))$$

```
if (4 -  $\theta_1$  < GPA < 4 +  $\theta_2$ )  
    Interviews = Gauss(Recruiters*0.9,...)  
else if (GPA > 3.5 +  $\theta_3$ )  
    Interviews = Gauss(Recruiters*0.6,...)  
else  
    Interviews = Gauss(Recruiters*0.5,...)
```

```
Offers = Bin(Interviews, 0.4)
```



Continualized Program

Parameter Synthesis

$$\arg \min_{\theta_1, \theta_2, \theta_3} (\text{Wasserstein Dist}(P_{\text{Orig}}, P_{\text{Cont.}}))$$

```
if (4 -  $\theta_1$  < GPA < 4 +  $\theta_2$ )  
  Interviews = Gauss(Recruiters*0.9,...)  
else if (GPA > 3.5 +  $\theta_3$ )  
  Interviews = Gauss(Recruiters*0.6,...)  
else  
  Interviews = Gauss(Recruiters*0.5,...)
```



How to optimize?

```
Offers = Bin(Interviews, 0.4)
```

Parameter Synthesis - Optimization

- Parameterize P_{Cont} with a fixed parameter
- Forward sample model (ignore observed data)
- Measure empirical Wasserstein Distance to P_{Orig} samples:

$$X_i \sim P_{orig}, Y_i \sim P_{cont}$$

$$EWD(P_{orig}, P_{cont}) = \sum_{i=1}^n \|X_i - Y_i\|$$

Parameter Synthesis - Optimization

- Use Nelder-Mead to explore different parameters
- Allows us to uncover runtime errors causing program to abort (e.g. negative variance)

Isn't this as hard as Inference?

Isn't this as hard as Inference?

No!

Isn't this as hard as Inference?

No!

Cost is amortized.

Measure-Theoretic Semantics

- Program **state**: $\sigma \in \mathbb{R}^n$
- Sub-probability **measures**: $\mu : \mathcal{B}(\mathbb{R}^n) \rightarrow [0, 1]$
- Program **transforms** sub-probability measures:

$$\llbracket \textit{Program} \rrbracket : \mu \rightarrow \mu$$

- Distributions interpreted as **Kernels**

$$\llbracket \textit{Dist} \rrbracket : \sigma \rightarrow \mu$$

Measure-Theoretic Semantics

- Absolute Continuity: A sub-probability measure μ is absolutely continuous w.r.t to the Lebesgue measure λ , iff

$$\forall S \in \mathcal{B}(\mathbb{R}^n) : \lambda(S) = 0 \implies \mu(S) = 0$$

Measure-Theoretic Semantics

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Sampling:} \quad & \llbracket x_i = \text{Dist}(e_1, \dots, e_k) \rrbracket(\mu) \\ = \lambda S. & \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \mu(d\sigma) \cdot \delta_{x_1} \circ \dots \circ \llbracket \text{Dist}(e_1, \dots, e_k) \rrbracket(\sigma) \circ \delta_{x_{i+1}} \dots (S) \end{aligned}$$

Where x_i 's marginal is:

$$\mu_{x_i} = \lambda S. \int_{\sigma \in \mathbb{R}^n} \mu(d\sigma) \llbracket \text{Dist}(e_1, \dots, e_k) \rrbracket(\sigma)$$

Measure-Theoretic Semantics

$\llbracket x_i = \text{Gauss}(a,b) \rrbracket(\mu)$ Example:

$$\mu_{x_i} = \lambda S. \int_{\sigma \in \mathbb{R}^n} \mu(d\sigma) \int_{x_i \in \mathbb{R} \cap S} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi b(\sigma)}} e^{-\left(\frac{x_i - a(\sigma)}{b(\sigma)}\right)^2} dx_i$$

$\llbracket x_i = \text{Binomial}(n,p) \rrbracket(\mu)$ Example:

$$\mu_{x_i} = \lambda S. \int_{\sigma \in \mathbb{R}^n} \mu(d\sigma) \sum_{k=1}^{n(\sigma)} \binom{n(\sigma)}{k} p(\sigma)^k (1 - p(\sigma))^{n(\sigma) - k} \delta_k(S)$$

Measure-Theoretic Semantics

$\llbracket x_i = \text{Gauss}(a,b) \rrbracket(\mu)$ Example:

$$\mu_{x_i} = \lambda S. \int_{\sigma \in \mathbb{R}^n} \mu(d\sigma) \int_{x_i \in \mathbb{R} \cap S} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi b(\sigma)}} e^{-\left(\frac{x_i - a(\sigma)}{b(\sigma)}\right)^2} dx_i$$

$\llbracket x_i = \text{Binomial}(n,p) \rrbracket(\mu)$ Example:

$$\mu_{x_i} = \lambda S. \int_{\sigma \in \mathbb{R}^n} \mu(d\sigma) \sum_{k=1}^{n(\sigma)} \binom{n(\sigma)}{k} p(\sigma)^k (1 - p(\sigma))^{n(\sigma) - k} \delta_k(S)$$

Measure-Theoretic Semantics

Sequencing:

$$\llbracket P_1; P_2 \rrbracket(\mu) = \llbracket P_2 \rrbracket(\llbracket P_1 \rrbracket(\mu))$$

if-then-else:

$$\mu_B = \lambda S. \mu(S \cap B)$$

$$\mu_{\neg B} = \lambda S. \mu(S \cap \neg B)$$

$$\llbracket \text{if } (B) P_1 \text{ else } P_2 \rrbracket(\mu) = \llbracket P_1 \rrbracket(\mu_B) + \llbracket P_2 \rrbracket(\mu_{\neg B})$$

Measure-Theoretic Semantics

Factor:

$$\llbracket \text{factor}(x_i, t) \rrbracket (\mu) = \lambda S. \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \mathbf{1}_S \cdot g(t, \sigma) \cdot \mu(ds)$$

Where $g(t, \sigma)$ is a **smooth** function

Theoretical Implications

Theorem 1: In the transformed program the marginal sub-probability measure of each latent is absolutely continuous at each point the variable is defined

Evaluation - Benchmarks

Program	Prior	Likelihood	Correction?	T_{cont} (s)
GPA				
Election				
Fairness				
SVM Fairness				
TrueSkill				
Disease				
SVE				
Beta Binomial				
Exam				
Plankton				

Evaluation - Benchmarks

Program	Prior	Likelihood	Correction?	T_{cont} (s)
GPA	Uniform			
Election	Disc Uniform			
Fairness	Disc Uniform			
SVM Fairness	Binomial			
TrueSkill	Poisson			
Disease	Disc Uniform			
SVE	Uniform			
Beta Binomial	Beta			
Exam	Uniform			
Plankton	Disc Uniform			

Evaluation - Benchmarks

Program	Prior	Likelihood	Correction?	T_{cont} (s)
GPA		Discrete		
Election		Bernoulli		
Fairness		Bernoulli		
SVM Fairness		Continuous		
TrueSkill		Bernoulli		
Disease		Discrete		
SVE		Hybrid		
Beta Binomial		Discrete		
Exam		Discrete		
Plankton		Discrete		

Evaluation - Benchmarks

Program	Prior	Likelihood	Correction?	T_{cont} (s)
GPA			y	
Election			y	
Fairness			y	
SVM Fairness			y	
TrueSkill			y	
Disease			n	
SVE			n	
Beta Binomial			n	
Exam			n	
Plankton			n	

Evaluation - Benchmarks

Program	Prior	Likelihood	Correction?	T_{cont} (s)
GPA				3.6
Election				1.1
Fairness				1.8
SVM Fairness				1.6
TrueSkill				1.1
Disease				0.006
SVE				0.009
Beta Binomial				0.006
Exam				0.008
Plankton				0.006

Evaluation - Methodology

- Fix a true parameter and generate data
- Place flat prior over parameter
- Infer/recover true value given generated data
- Measure how close: $\left| \frac{\text{True Val.} - \text{Inferred Val.}}{\text{True Val.}} \right|$
 - Leios
 - Original Model + Likelihood Smoothing (Naïve)
 - Original Model

Evaluation - Methodology

- Fix a true parameter and generate data
- Place flat prior over parameter
- Infer/recover true value given generated data

- Measure how close: $\left| \frac{\text{True Val.} - \text{Inferred Val.}}{\text{True Val.}} \right|$

- Leios

- Original Model + Likelihood Smoothing (Naïve)

- Original Model

Improvement due to:
Continuous Approximations

Evaluation - Methodology

- Fix a true parameter and generate data
- Place flat prior over parameter
- Infer/recover true value given generated data
- Measure how close: $\left| \frac{\text{True Val.} - \text{Inferred Val.}}{\text{True Val.}} \right|$

- Leios

- Original Model + Likelihood Smoothing (Naïve)

- Original Model

Improvement due to:
Likelihood Smoothing

MCMC ($\beta=0.1$)

Program	T_{Orig}	E_{Orig}	T_{Naive}	E_{Naive}	T_{Leios}	E_{Leios}
GPA	0.806	0.090	0.631	0.070	0.605	0.058
Election	x	x	3.232	0.051	0.616	0.036
Fairness	4.396	0.057	0.563	0.056	0.603	0.093
SVM Fairness	x	x	0.626	0.454	0.980	0.261
TrueSkill	3.668	0.009	0.494	0.059	0.586	0.053
Disease	4.944	0.009	1.350	0.013	0.490	0.008
SVE	x	x	0.522	0.045	0.516	0.091
Beta Binomial	1.224	0.028	0.564	0.024	0.459	0.013
Exam	3.973	0.087	0.504	0.126	0.527	0.133
Plankton	0.570	0.017	0.457	0.080	0.453	0.042

Variational Inference ($\beta=0.1$)

Program	T_{Orig}	E_{Orig}	T_{Naive}	E_{Naive}	T_{Leios}	E_{Leios}
GPA	x	x	x	x	3.11	0.20
Election	x	x	x	x	1.76	0.07
Fairness	x	x	x	x	1.81	0.72
SVM Fairness	x	x	x	x	1.80	0.20
TrueSkill	x	x	x	x	1.81	0.12
Disease	x	x	x	x	1.73	0.24
SVE	0.677	0.684	1.478	3.095	1.47	0.58
Beta Binomial	x	x	x	x	1.60	0.83
Exam	x	x	x	x	0.60	0.22
Plankton	x	x	x	x	3.43	0.29

Leios Takeaways



Leios makes Discrete
Inference *much* easier



Approximation error
is small price to pay!