

1. This is essentially problem 5.1.a of Leonard and Hsu (1999).

Consider a sample  $(X = x) = (X_1 = x_1, \dots, X_n = x_n)$  from a normal distribution  $\mathcal{N}(\theta, \phi)$ .

(a) Show that the likelihood function is

$$L(\theta, \phi) \propto \phi^{-n/2} \exp\left\{-\frac{s}{2\phi} - \frac{n(\theta - \bar{x})^2}{2\phi}\right\}$$

where  $\bar{x} = n^{-1} \sum_i x_i$  and  $S = \sum_i^n (x_i - \bar{x})^2$ .

(b) Consider the (improper) prior distribution  $\pi(\theta, \phi) \propto \phi^{-1}$  and show that the marginal posterior of  $\theta$  is

$$\pi(\theta | x) \propto \{s + n(\theta - \bar{x})^2\}^{-n/2}.$$

(c) Show that the marginal posterior distribution of  $\phi$  is

$$\pi(\phi | x) \propto \phi^{-(n+1)/2} \exp\{-s/(2\phi)\}.$$

(d) Show that the posterior density of  $\gamma = \log \phi$  is

$$\pi(\gamma | x) \propto \exp\{-\gamma(n-1)/2 - e^{-\gamma}s/2\}.$$

(e) Show that the posterior density of  $\xi = \phi^{-1}$  is

$$\pi(\xi | x) \propto \xi^{(n-3)/2} \exp\{-s\xi/2\}.$$

(f) Find the posterior mode, mean, and median of  $\phi, \gamma, \xi$ .

(g) Compare the marginal posterior densities with those obtained by Laplace approximation of the relevant integrals.

(h) Use the Laplace approximation to derive an approximate expression for the density of  $\eta = \theta - \gamma$ .