

From the six boxes
to the Bayes 'billiard'

⇒ Introducing parametric inference

Inferring 'proportions'

Let's turn the toy experiment to a 'serious' physics case:

- ▶ Inferring H_j is the same as inferring the proportion of white balls:

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- ▶ Generalize White/Black \longrightarrow Success/Failure

\Rightarrow efficiencies, branching ratios, ...

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Bayes' billiard and Bernoulli trials

It is easy to recognize the analogy:

- ▶ Left/Right \rightarrow Success/Failure
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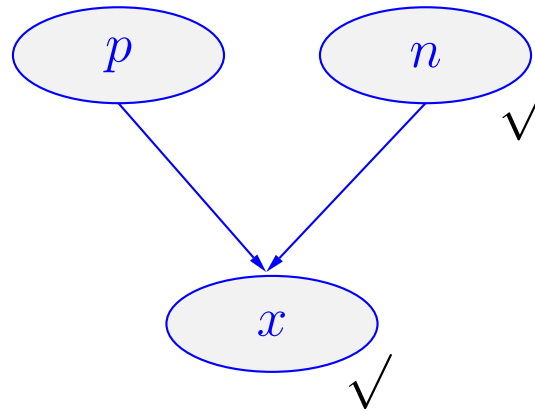
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$$f(p | x, n) \propto p^x(1 - p)^{(n - x)} \quad [x = \#S]$$

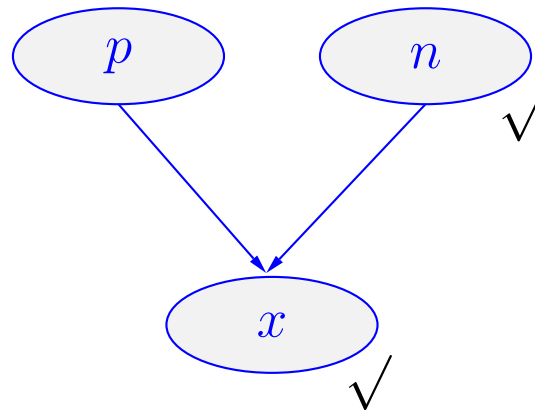
n independent Bernoulli processes

Inferring p



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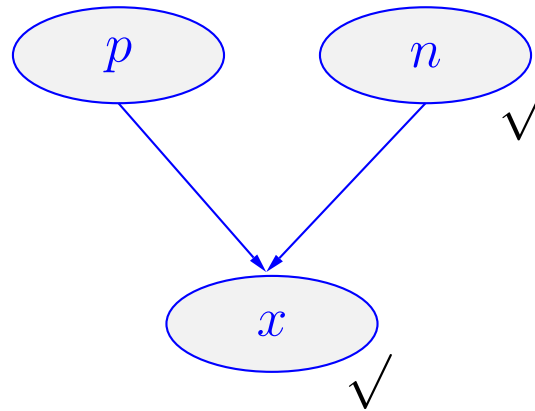
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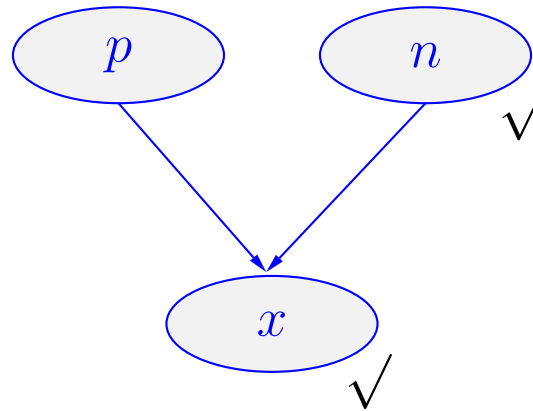
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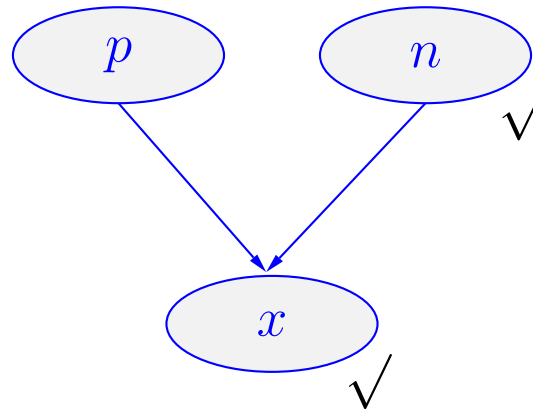
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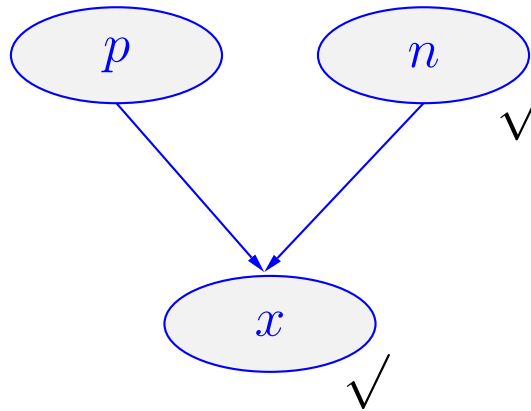
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(denominator just normalization!)

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In general, given the generic uncertain number X ,

$$f(x | \text{Beta}(r, s)) = \frac{1}{\beta(r, s)} x^{r-1} (1-x)^{s-1} \quad \begin{cases} r, s > 0 \\ 0 \leq x \leq 1 \end{cases}$$

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Try e.g.

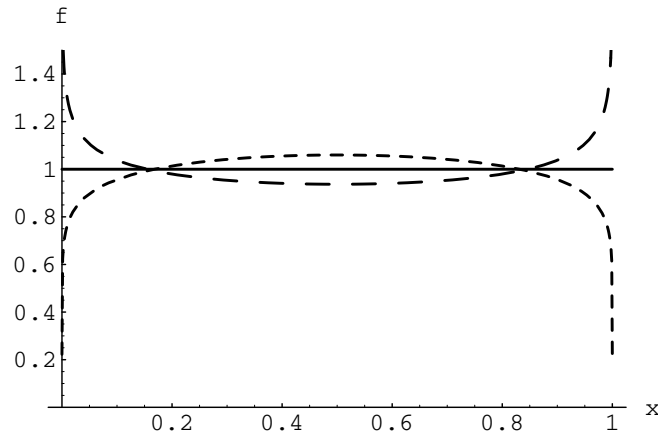
```
> p<-seq(0,1,by=0.01)
```

```
> plot(p, dbeta(p, 3, 5), ty='l', col='blue')
```

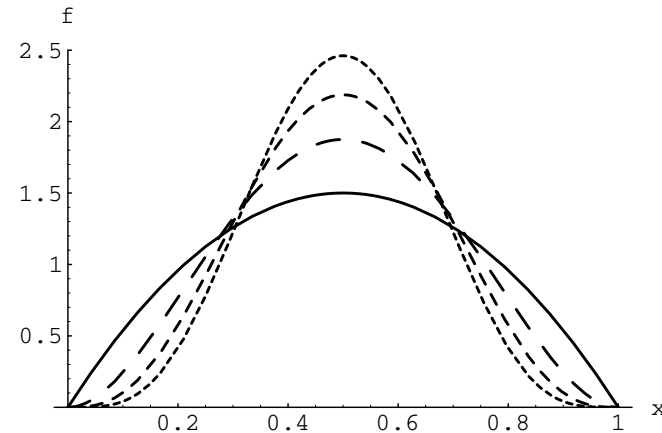

Beta distribution

Some examples

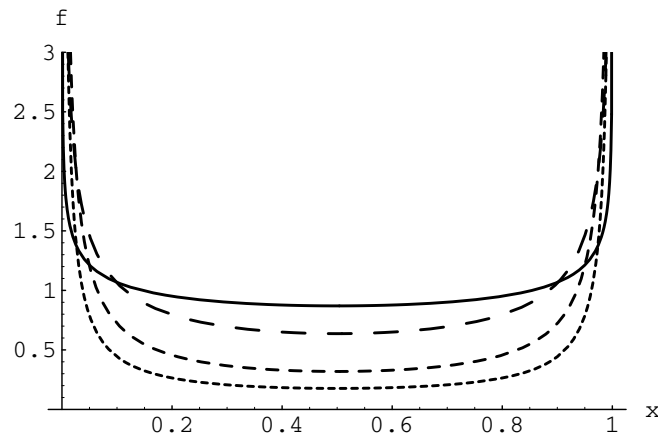
A) $r = s = 1, 1.1 \text{ e } 0.9$



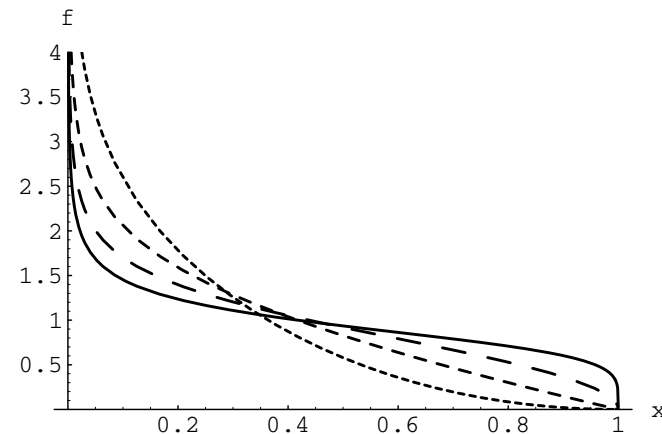
B) $r = s = 2, 3, 4, 5$



C) $r = s = 0.8, 0.5, 0.2, 0.1$



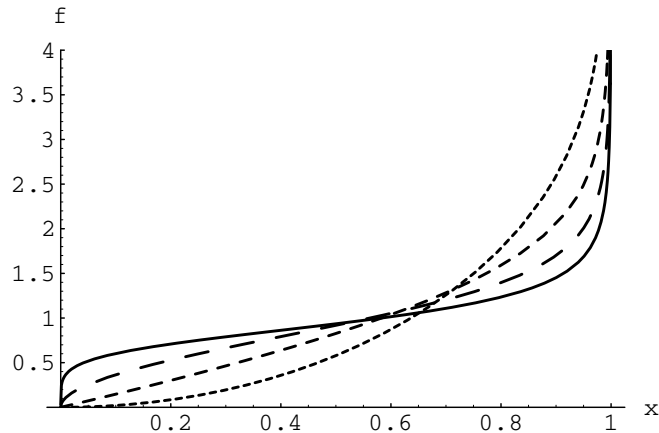
D) $r = 0.8; s = 1.2, 1.5, 2, 3$



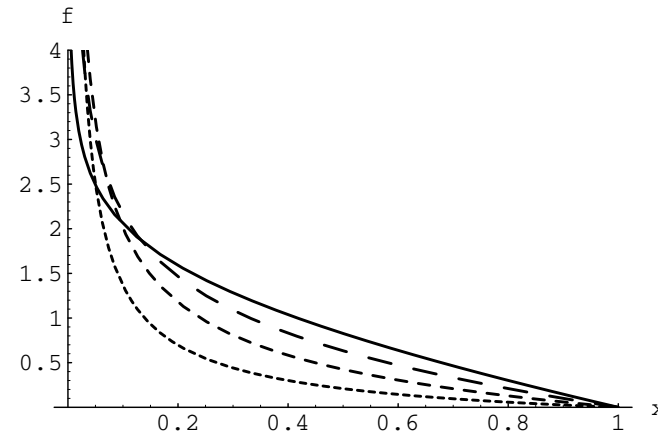
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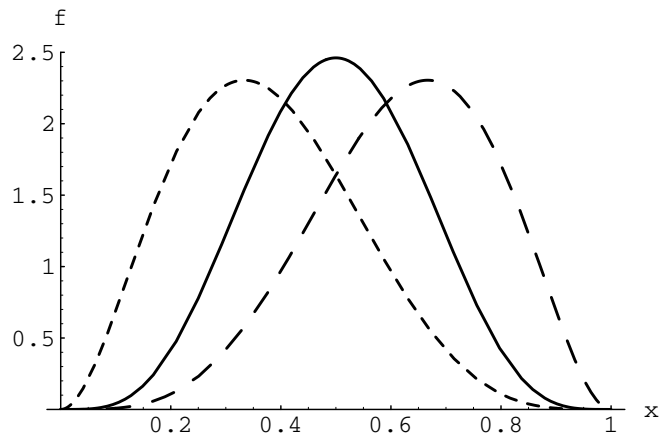
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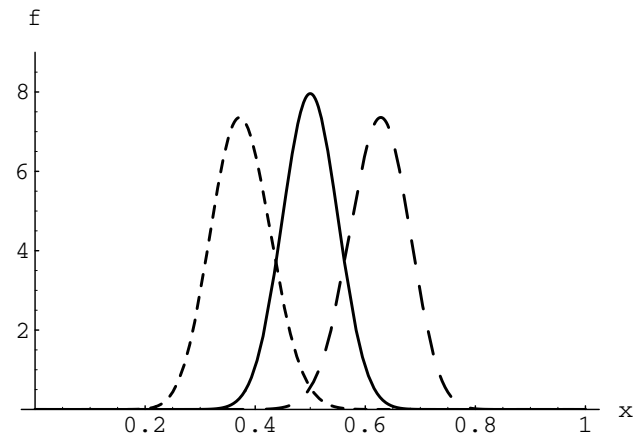
F) $s = 2$; $r = 0.8, 0.6, 0.4, 0.2$



G) $(r, s) = (3, 5), (5, 5), (5, 3)$



H) $(r, s) = (30, 50), (50, 50), (50, 30)$



Beta distribution

Summaries


$$\begin{aligned} E(X) &= \frac{r}{r+s} \\ \text{Var}(X) &= \frac{rs}{(r+s+1)(r+s)^2} . \end{aligned}$$

Mode, **unique** if $r > 1$ and $s > 1$:

$$\frac{r-1}{r+s-2}$$

A useful app

<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.mbognar.probdist>



Probability Distributions

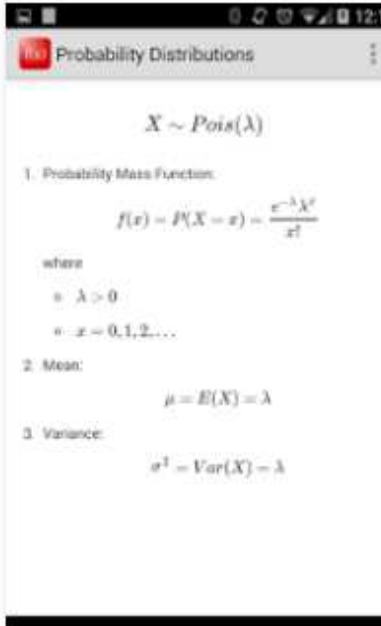
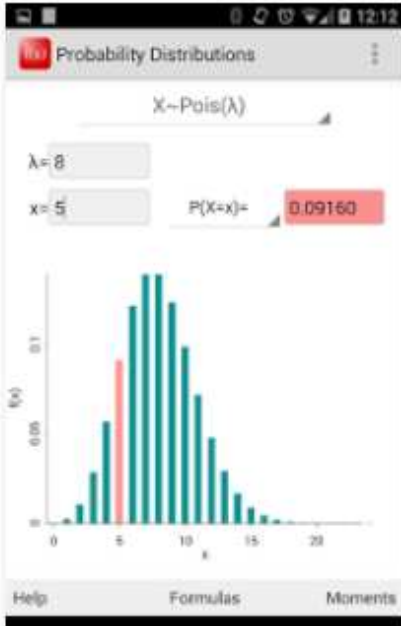
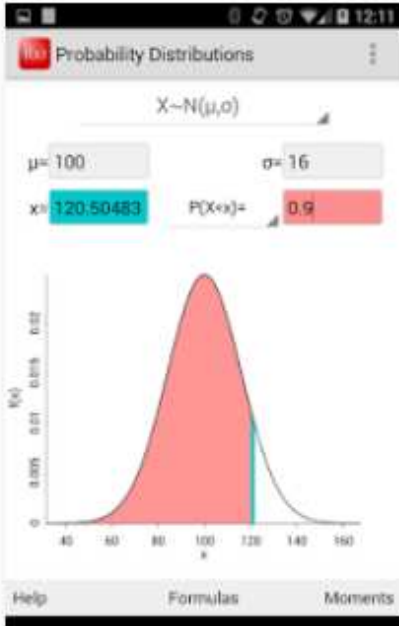
Matthew Bognar Istruzione

★★★★★ 562

PEGI 3

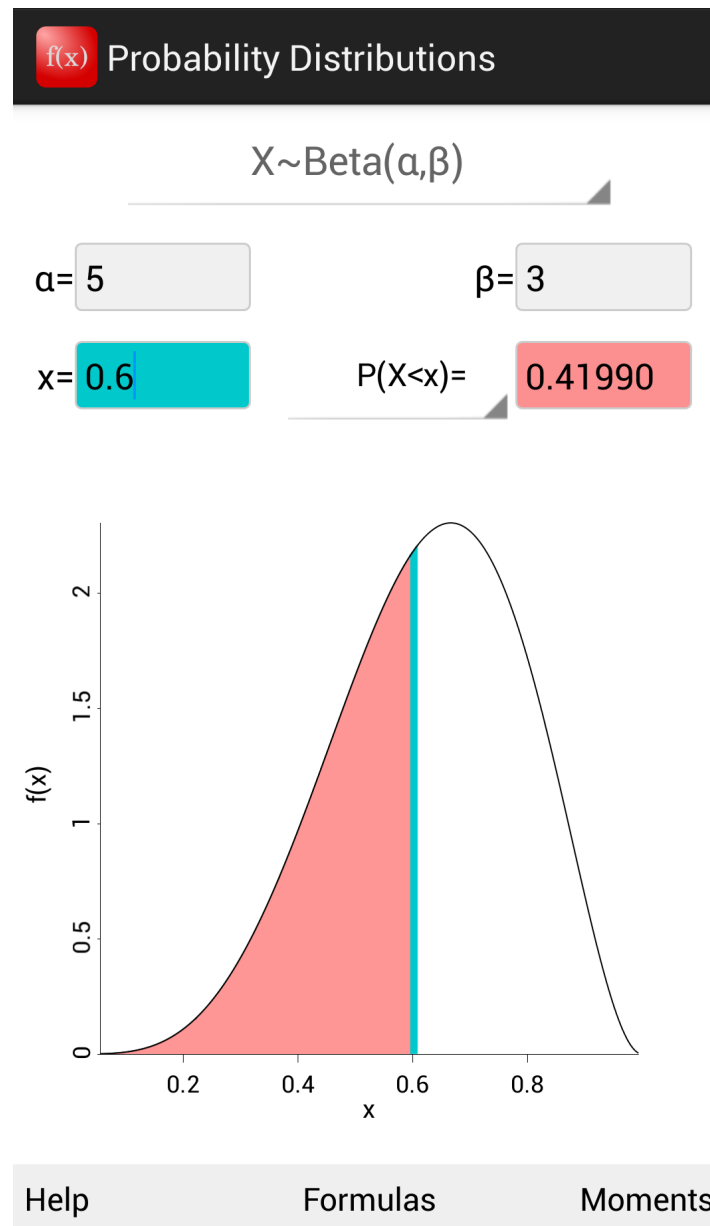
L'app è compatibile con alcuni dei tuoi dispositivi.

Installata



A useful app

An example



Beta distribution as prior

Let us finally apply it to infer the Bernoulli's p

$$\begin{aligned} f(p \mid n, x, \text{Beta}(r_i, s_i)) &\propto [p^x (1-p)^{n-x}] \times [p^{r_i-1} (1-p)^{s_i-1}] \\ &\propto p^{x+r_i-1} (1-p)^{n-x+s_i-1}. \end{aligned}$$

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$$r_f = r_i + x$$

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$$\text{Var}(X) = \frac{r_f s_f}{(r_f + s_f + 1)(r_f + s_f)^2} = \frac{(x+1)(n-x+1)}{(n+3)(n+2)^2}$$

$$\text{mode}(X) = \frac{r_f - 1}{r_f + s_f - 2} = \frac{x}{n} \quad \checkmark$$

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(In particular, the *Gaussian is self-conjugate*,
which is not so great. . .)