

Bayesian Inference

Continuous Variables

Continuous \rightarrow Normal, Uniform
Beta, Gamma

Discrete \rightarrow Binomial,
Poisson

Prior Elicitation

p comes from β distribution. (beta family)

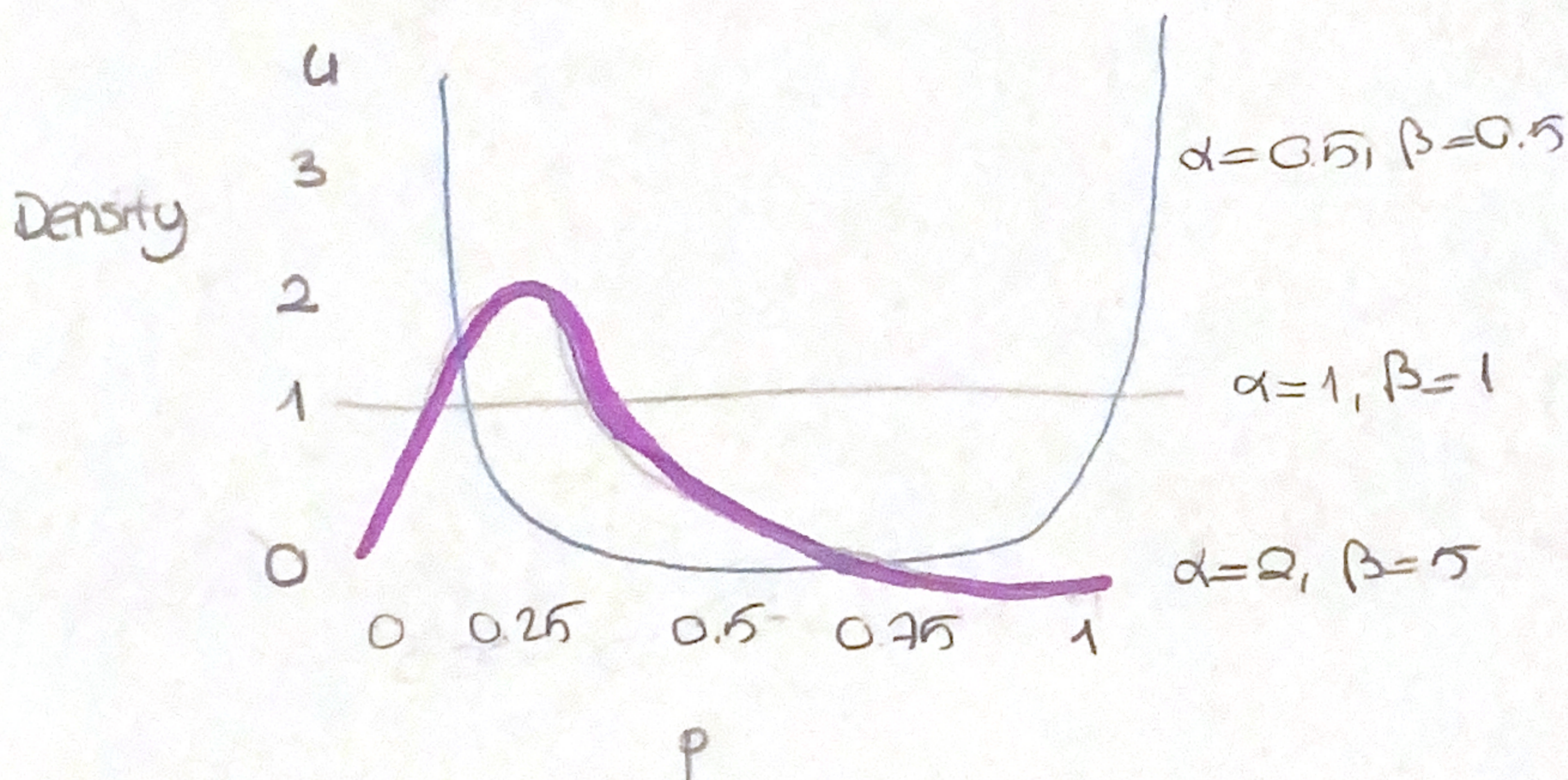
$$p \sim \text{beta}(\alpha, \beta)$$

if $\alpha = \beta = 1 \rightarrow$ beta distribution is uniform.

$$E(p) = \frac{\alpha}{\alpha + \beta}$$

$\alpha \rightarrow$ prior number of success,
 $\beta \rightarrow$ prior number of failures

If $\alpha = \beta \rightarrow$ symmetrical



Conjugacy

Prior Beliefs \rightarrow Bin(n, p) n known p unknown
beta(α, β)

Observed \rightarrow x success in n trials

$$\text{density: } p | x \sim \text{beta}(\alpha + x, \beta + n - x)$$

Conjugacy occurs when posterior distribution is in the same family of prob density functions with prior belief.