

Theorem 1 Suppose that X_1, \dots, X_n is a random sample from a normal distribution with an unknown value of the mean M and an unknown value of the precision R . Suppose also that the prior joint distribution of M and R is as follows: The conditional distribution of M when $R = r$ ($r > 0$) is a normal distribution with mean μ and precision τ such that $-\infty < \mu < \infty$ and $\tau > 0$, and the marginal distribution of R is a gamma distribution with parameters α and β such that $\alpha > 0$ and $\beta > 0$. Then the posterior joint distribution of M and R when $X_i = x_i$ ($i = 1, \dots, n$) is as follows: The conditional distribution of M when $R = r$ is a normal distribution with mean μ' and precision $(\tau + n)r$; where

$$\mu' = \frac{\tau\mu + n\bar{x}}{\tau + n} = \frac{\tau\mu + n\bar{x}}{n\tau + n} \quad (1)$$

and the marginal distribution of R is a gamma distribution with parameters $\alpha + (n/2)$ and β' , where

$$\beta' = \beta + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \bar{x})^2 + \frac{\tau n (\bar{x} - \mu)^2}{2(\tau + n)}. \quad (2)$$