

# Nonparametric System Reliability Combining Expert Knowledge and Data

Gero Walter<sup>1</sup>, Louis Aslett<sup>2</sup>, Frank Coolen<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Eindhoven University of Technology, Eindhoven, NL

<sup>2</sup>University of Oxford, Oxford, UK

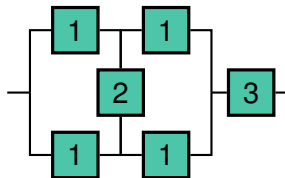
<sup>3</sup>Durham University, Durham, UK

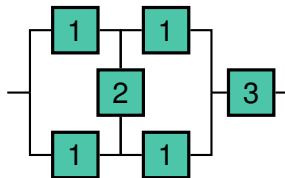
[g.m.walter@tue.nl](mailto:g.m.walter@tue.nl)



2016-02-04

We want to learn about the system reliability  
 $R_{\text{sys}}(t) = P(T_{\text{sys}} > t)$  based on



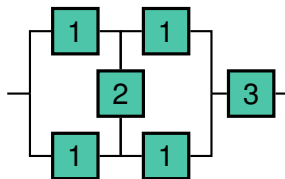


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- ▶ component test data:

$n_k$  failure times for components of type  $k$ ,  
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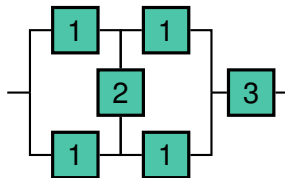
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How to combine these two information sources?

expert info + data → complete picture

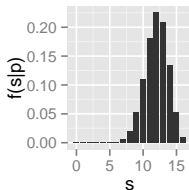
expert info	+	data	→	complete picture
prior distribution	+	sample distribution	→	posterior distribution
$f(p)$	×	$f(s   p)$	$\propto$	$f(p   s)$
				▶ Bayes' Rule

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## Binomial distribution

$$s | p \sim \text{Binomial}(n, p)$$





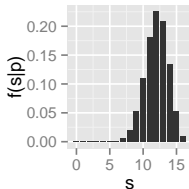
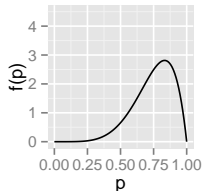
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Beta prior

Binomial  
distribution

$$p \sim \text{Beta}(\alpha^{(0)}, \beta^{(0)})$$

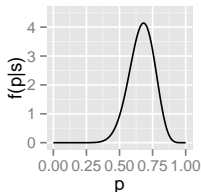
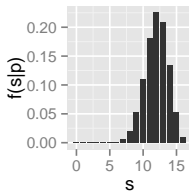
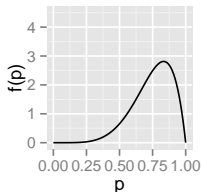
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Beta prior		Binomial distribution	Beta posterior
$p \sim \text{Beta}(\alpha^{(0)}, \beta^{(0)})$		$s   p \sim \text{Binomial}(n, p)$	$p   s \sim \text{Beta}(\alpha^{(n)}, \beta^{(n)})$

► Bayes' Rule

► conjugacy



expert info + data → complete picture

prior distribution + sample distribution → posterior distribution

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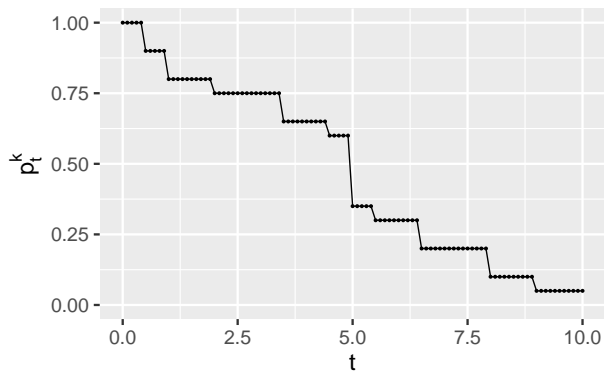
- ▶ conjugate prior makes learning about parameter tractable, just update hyperparameters:  $\alpha^{(0)} \rightarrow \alpha^{(n)}, \beta^{(0)} \rightarrow \beta^{(n)}$
- ▶ closed form for some inferences:  $E[p | s] = \frac{\alpha^{(n)}}{\alpha^{(n)} + \beta^{(n)}}$

Functioning probability  $p_t^k$  of **k** for each time  $t \in \mathcal{T} = \{t_1, t_2, \dots\}$

▶ discrete component reliability function  $R^k(t) = p_t^k, t \in \mathcal{T}$ .

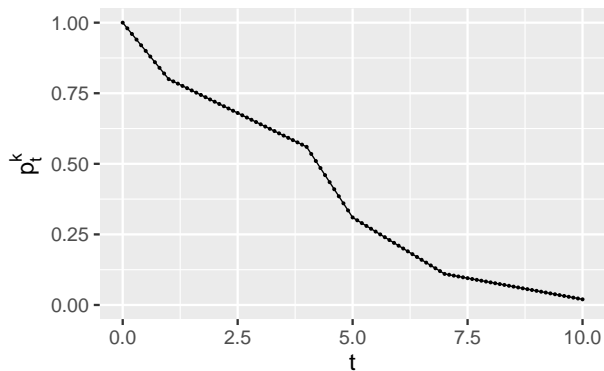
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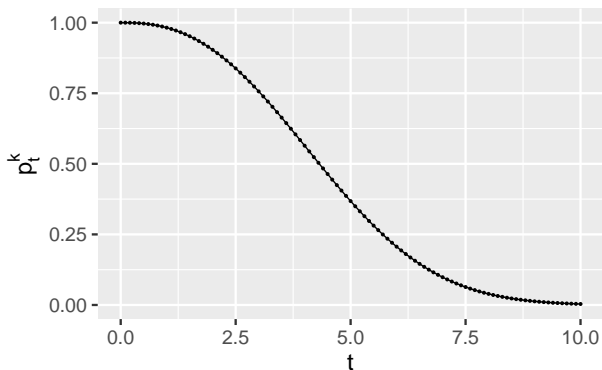
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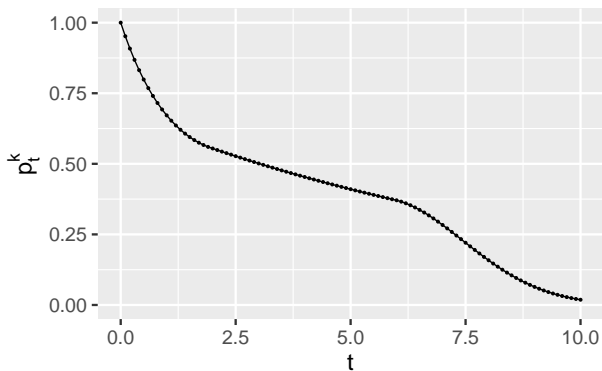
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$$\begin{aligned} P(T_{\text{sys}} > t \mid \{n_{k,t}^{(0)}, y_{k,t}^{(0)}, \mathbf{t}^k\}^{1:K}) \\ = \sum_{l_1=0}^{m_1} \cdots \sum_{l_K=0}^{m_K} \Phi(l_1, \dots, l_K) \prod_{k=1}^K P(C_t^k = l_k \mid n_{k,t}^{(0)}, y_{k,t}^{(0)}, \mathbf{t}^k) \end{aligned}$$

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(Coolen and Coolen-Maturi [2012](#))

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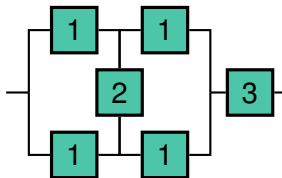
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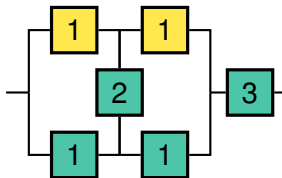


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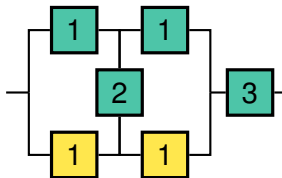


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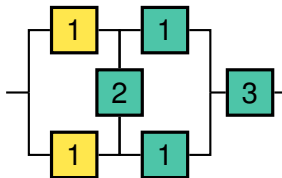


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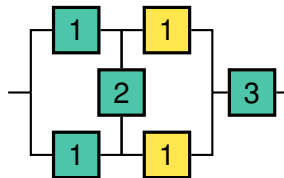
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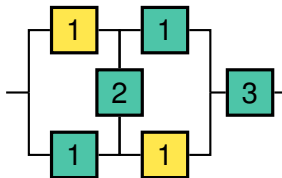


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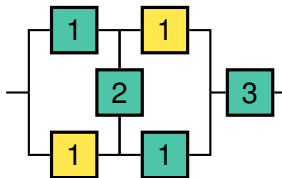


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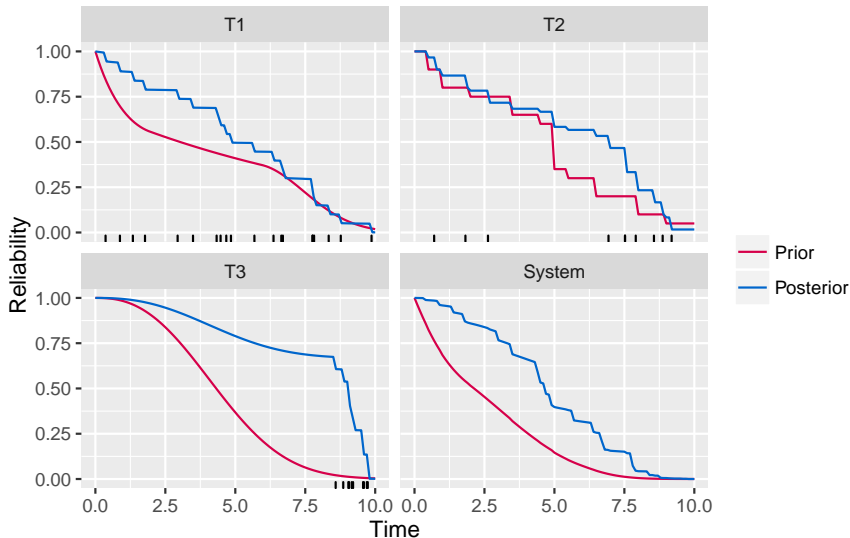
Posterior predictive probability that in a new system,  $l_k$  of the  $m_k$  **k**'s function at time  $t$ :

$$\binom{m_k}{l_k} \int [P(T < t \mid p_t^k)]^{l_k} [P(T \geq t \mid p_t^k)]^{m_k - l_k} f(p_t^k \mid n_{k,t}^{(0)}, y_{k,t}^{(0)}, \mathbf{t}^k) dp_t^k$$

(integral can be solved analytically)

# System Reliability: Example

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How is uncertainty about  $R_{\text{sys}}(t)$  expressed?
- ▶ **Add imprecision as new modelling dimension:**  
**Sets of priors** model uncertainty in probability statements,  
allow to better model partial or vague information on  $p_t^k$  and  
highlight prior-data conflict.

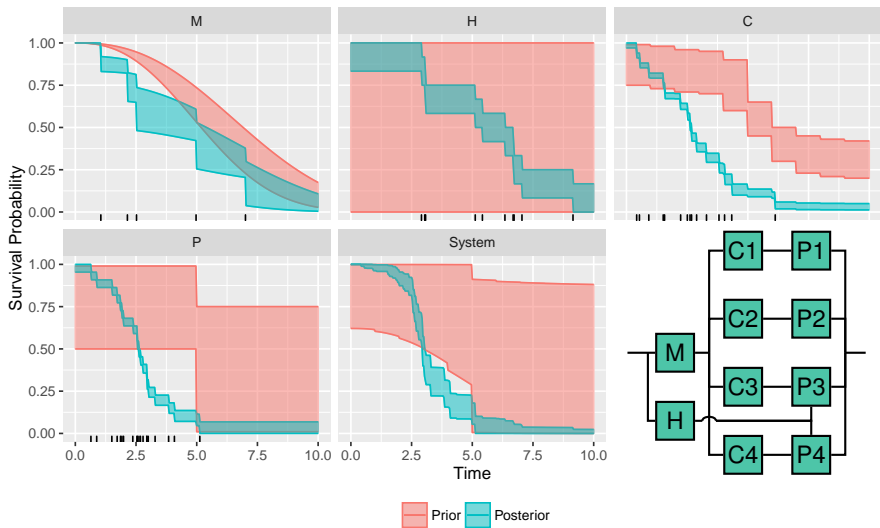
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# System Reliability Bounds





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- ▶ Nonparametric modeling of component reliability curves
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- ▶ Set of system reliability functions reflects uncertainties from limited data, vague expert information, and prior-data conflict

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## Next steps:

- ▶ Allow right-censored observations (RUL estimation)
- ▶ Allow dependence between components (common-cause failure, ...)
- ▶ Use for system design (where to put extra redundancy?)
- ▶ Use for maintenance planning

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