Past, present and future of Bayesian biostatistics

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The history of Bayesian statistics is deeply linked to biostatistics with one of its first advocates being the statistician Jerome Cornfield, who excelled in the study of cancer and coronary heart diseases. In general, the data that Biostatistics has been dealing with since its beginnings are complex data that require complex modeling in which Bayesian statistics makes special sense. This situation has not changed over the years and, nowadays, with the so called BigData, it has become even more important to correctly account for the different sources of uncertainty in a problem. In fact, as the future is getting closer we can see the complexity of the data increasing and new approaches arising in order to better understand our world. And in this present and future world, Bayesian Statistics can play an important role not only helping with the inferential process but also in the communication of results, moving away from the conceptual complexity of p-values or confidence intervals.