

Abstract: I analyze a model where agents learn about an unknown parameter by observing a sequence of public signals. I examine under what conditions there will be *common learning*, i.e. the parameter will become approximate common knowledge. The first main result is a necessary and sufficient condition on prior beliefs for common learning: When the true parameter is θ , common learning occurs if and only if, for every $p \in (0, 1)$, there exists $q > 0$ such that it is common p -belief that each agent assigns prior probability at least q to θ . The second main result states that the set of types for which common learning occurs is nongeneric in the product topology, in the sense that it is a countable union of nowhere dense subsets of the set of all belief hierarchies.