

# Homework 8

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## Question 1: Biased coin problem:

Suppose we have univariate data  $y_1, \dots, y_n | \theta \sim \text{Bernoulli}(\theta)$  and wish to test:  $H_0 : \theta = 0.5$  vs.  $H_1 : \theta \neq 0.5$ .

Part (a): Formulate this hypothesis testing problem in a Bayesian way. Specify all the necessary steps and come up with your own priors where necessary.

### Steps:

1. Put a prior on actual hypotheses, that is on  $\pi(H_0) = \text{Pr}(H_0)$  and  $\pi(H_1) = \text{Pr}(H_1)$ . In this case, since we have no prior information, we set  $\text{Pr}(H_0) = \text{Pr}(H_1) = 0.5$ .
2. Put a prior on the parameter in each model. In this case, we set an uninformative prior  $\pi(\theta) = \text{Beta}(1, 1) = 1$ .
3. Compute marginal posterior probabilities for each hypothesis:  $\text{Pr}(H_0|Y)$  and  $\text{Pr}(H_1|Y)$ .
4. Conclude based on the magnitude of  $\text{Pr}(H_1|Y)$  relative to  $\text{Pr}(H_0|Y)$ .

Part (b): Derive and simplify the marginal likelihoods  $L[Y|H_0]$  and  $L[Y|H_1]$ .

$$\begin{aligned} L[Y|H_0] &= \int_{\theta=0.5} p(Y, \theta|H_0) d\theta \\ &= \int_{\theta=0.5} L(Y|H_0, \theta) \pi(\theta|H_0) d\theta \\ &= 0.5^{\sum y_i} 0.5^{n - \sum y_i} \\ &= 0.5^n \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} L[Y|H_1] &= \int_{\theta=0}^1 p(Y, \theta|H_1) d\theta \\ &= \int_{\theta=0}^1 L(Y|H_1, \theta) \pi(\theta|H_1) d\theta \\ &= \int_{\theta=0}^1 \theta^{\sum y_i} (1 - \theta)^{n - \sum y_i} \text{Beta}(1, 1) d\theta \\ &= B(\sum y_i + 1, n - \sum y_i + 1) \end{aligned}$$

Part (c): Derive the Bayes factor in favor of  $H_1$ . Also, derive the posterior probability of  $H_1$  being true. Simplify both as much as possible.

$$BF_{10} = \frac{L[Y|H_1]}{L[Y|H_0]} = \frac{B(\sum y_i + 1, n - \sum y_i + 1)}{0.5^n}$$

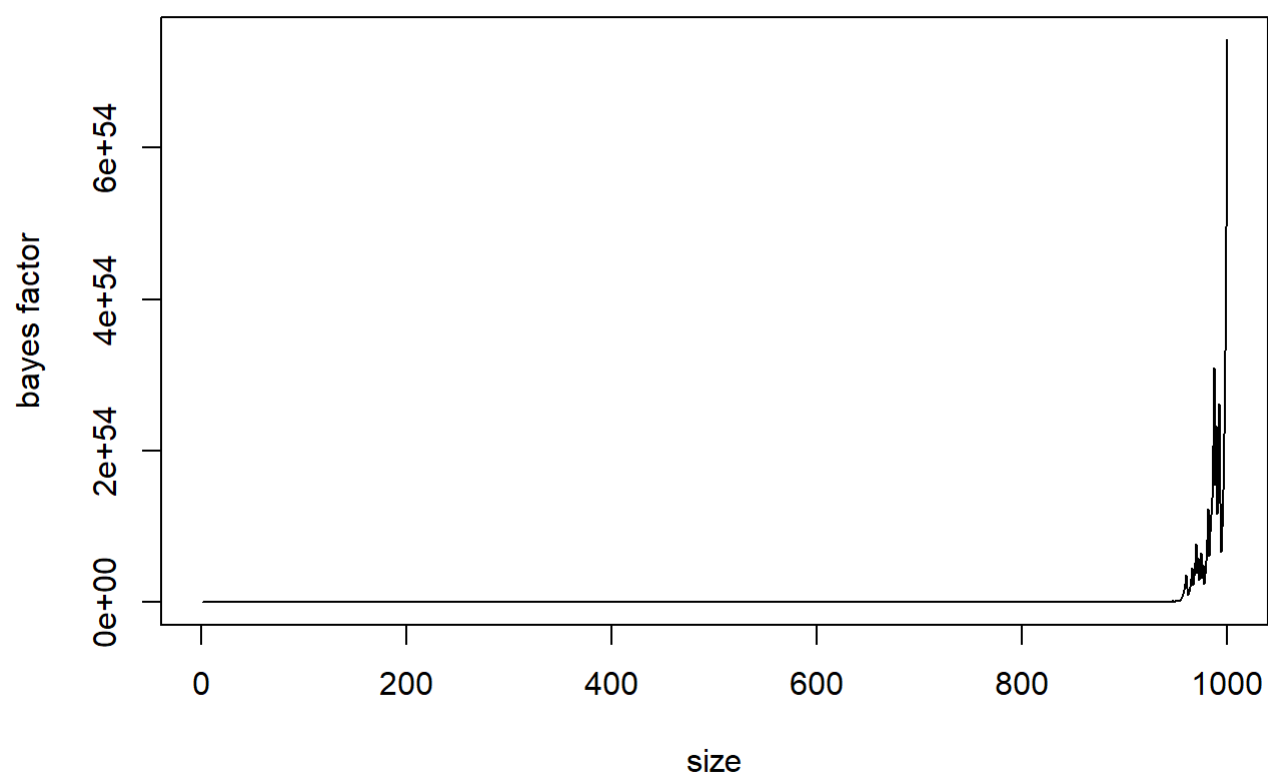
$$\text{Pr}[H_1|Y] = \frac{1}{BF_{01} + 1} = \frac{1}{\frac{1}{BF_{10}} + 1} = \frac{1}{\frac{0.5^n}{B(\sum y_i + 1, n - \sum y_i + 1)} + 1} = \frac{B(\sum y_i + 1, n - \sum y_i + 1)}{B(\sum y_i + 1, n - \sum y_i + 1) + 0.5^n}$$

Part (d): Study the asymptotic behavior of the Bayes factor in favor of  $H_1$ . For  $\theta \in \{0.25, 0.46, 0.5, 0.54\}$ , make a plot of the Bayes factor (y-axis) against sample size (x-axis). You should have four plots. Comment (in detail) on the implications of the true value of  $\theta$  on the behavior of the Bayes factor in favor of  $H_1$ , as a function of sample size. When answering this question, remind yourself of what Bayes factors actually mean and represent! One line answers will not be sufficient here; explain clearly and in detail what you think the plots mean or represent.

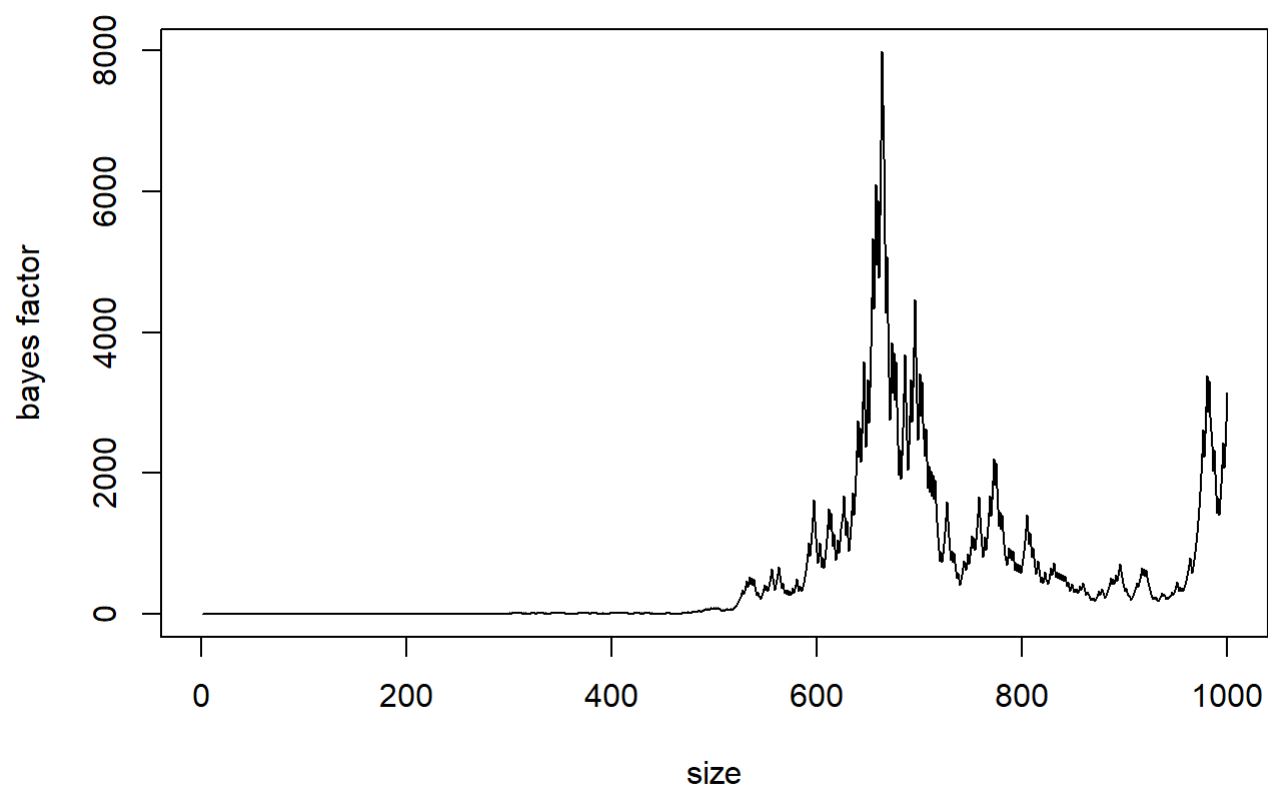
```
theta_list = c(0.25,0.46,0.5, 0.54)
a = b = 1

for (theta in theta_list){
  n = 1000
  y = c()
  bf10_vec = c()
  for(i in 1:n){
    y_new = rbinom(1,1,theta)
    y = c(y, y_new)
    Y = sum(y)
    bf10 = beta(a+Y, b+i-Y)/(0.5^i)
    bf10_vec = c(bf10_vec, bf10)
  }
  plot(x=1:n, y=bf10_vec, main=paste("theta = ",theta), ylab = "bayes factor", xlab = "size",type="l")
}
```

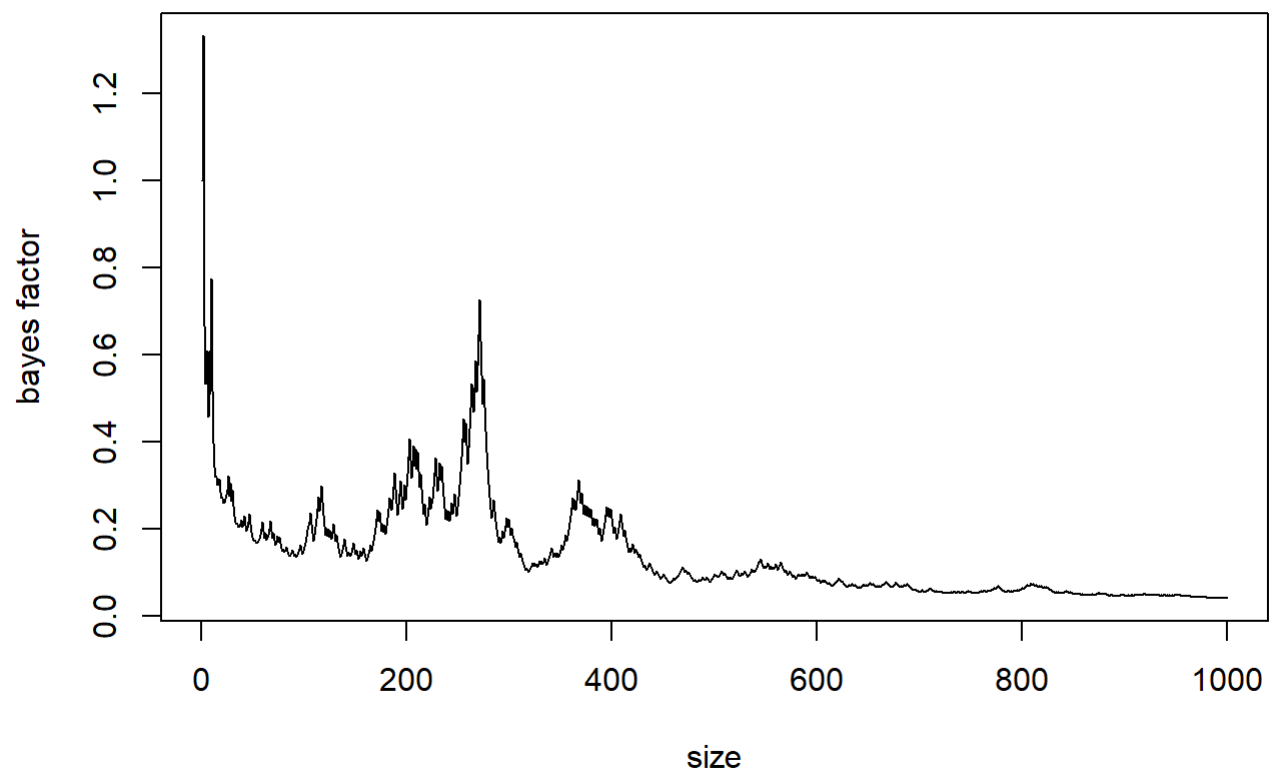
**theta = 0.25**



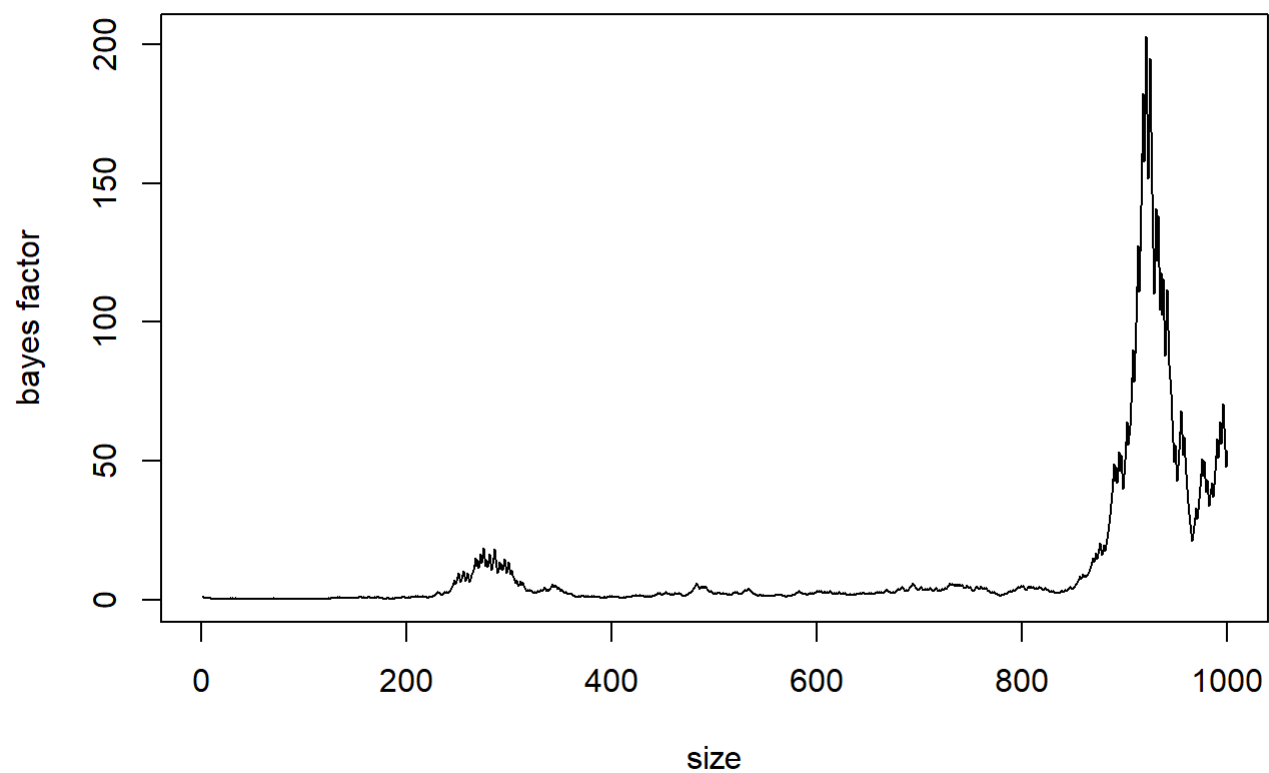
**theta = 0.46**



**theta = 0.5**



**theta = 0.54**



In the first plot when true  $\theta = 0.25$ , as sample size becomes larger, especially towards 800 - 1000, we can see that the bayes factor  $BF_{10}$  increases significantly. This shows that when sample size is large,  $Pr[H_0|Y]$  becomes small enough that the null hypothesis should be rejected.

Whereas in the third plot when true  $\theta = 0.5$ , as sample size becomes larger, the bayes factor  $BF_{10}$  stabilizes around 0, which shows decisive evidence that  $Pr[H_0|Y]$  is close enough to 1 and we should not reject the null.

For second and fourth plots, since the true  $\theta$ s are close to but not equal to 0.5, the plots for bayes factors don't have a fixed pattern (however, the range of bayes factor is narrower than that of plot 1), suggesting that data can either support  $H_0$  or  $H_1$ .

## Question 2: Metropolis-Hastings

Part (a): Full Conditionals:

$$g_{\theta_1}[\theta_1^*|\theta_1^{(s)}, \theta_2^{(s)}] = p(\theta_1^*|y_1, \dots, y_n, \theta_2^{(s)});$$

$$g_{\theta_2}[\theta_2^*|\theta_1^{(s)}, \theta_2^{(s)}] = p(\theta_2^*|y_1, \dots, y_n, \theta_1^{(s)}).$$

$$\begin{aligned} r &= \frac{p(\theta_1^*, \theta_2^{(s)}|y_{1:n})}{p(\theta_1^{(s)}, \theta_2^{(s)}|y_{1:n})} \frac{g_{\theta_1}[\theta_1^*|\theta_1^{(s)}, \theta_2^{(s)}]}{g_{\theta_1}[\theta_1^{(s)}|\theta_1^{(s)}, \theta_2^{(s)}]} \\ &= \frac{p(\theta_1^*|y_{1:n}, \theta_2^{(s)})p(\theta_2^*|y_{1:n})}{p(\theta_1^{(s)}|y_{1:n}, \theta_2^{(s)})p(\theta_2^*|y_{1:n})} \frac{p(\theta_1^{(s)}|y_{1:n}, \theta_2^{(s)})}{p(\theta_1^*|y_{1:n}, \theta_2^{(s)})} \\ &= 1 \end{aligned}$$

Similarly, acceptance ratio for  $r = \frac{p(\theta_1^{(s)}, \theta_2^*|y_{1:n})}{p(\theta_1^{(s)}, \theta_2^{(s)}|y_{1:n})} \frac{g_{\theta_2}[\theta_2^*|\theta_1^{(s)}, \theta_2^{(s)}]}{g_{\theta_2}[\theta_2^{(s)}|\theta_1^{(s)}, \theta_2^{(s)}]} = 1$

Part (b): Priors:

$$g_{\theta_1}[\theta_1^*|\theta_1^{(s)}, \theta_2^{(s)}] = \pi_1(\theta_1^*);$$

$$g_{\theta_2}[\theta_2^*|\theta_1^{(s)}, \theta_2^{(s)}] = \pi_2(\theta_2^*).$$

$$\begin{aligned} r &= \frac{p(\theta_1^*, \theta_2^{(s)}|y_{1:n})}{p(\theta_1^{(s)}, \theta_2^{(s)}|y_{1:n})} \frac{g_{\theta_1}[\theta_1^*|\theta_1^{(s)}, \theta_2^{(s)}]}{g_{\theta_1}[\theta_1^{(s)}|\theta_1^{(s)}, \theta_2^{(s)}]} \\ &= \frac{p(y_{1:n}|\theta_1^*, \theta_2^{(s)})\pi_1(\theta_1^*)\pi_2(\theta_2^{(s)})}{p(y_{1:n}|\theta_1^{(s)}, \theta_2^{(s)})\pi_1(\theta_1^{(s)})\pi_2(\theta_2^{(s)})} \frac{\pi_1(\theta_1^{(s)})}{\pi_1(\theta_1^*)} \\ &= \frac{p(y_{1:n}|\theta_1^*, \theta_2^{(s)})}{p(y_{1:n}|\theta_1^{(s)}, \theta_2^{(s)})} \end{aligned}$$

Similarly, acceptance ratio for  $r = \frac{p(\theta_1^{(s)}, \theta_2^*|y_{1:n})}{p(\theta_1^{(s)}, \theta_2^{(s)}|y_{1:n})} \frac{g_{\theta_2}[\theta_2^*|\theta_1^{(s)}, \theta_2^{(s)}]}{g_{\theta_2}[\theta_2^{(s)}|\theta_1^{(s)}, \theta_2^{(s)}]} = \frac{p(y_{1:n}|\theta_1^{(s)}, \theta_2^*)}{p(y_{1:n}|\theta_1^{(s)}, \theta_2^{(s)})}$

Part (c): Random Walk:

$$g_{\theta_1}[\theta_1^*|\theta_1^{(s)}, \theta_2^{(s)}] = N(\theta_1^{(s)}, \delta^2);$$

$$g_{\theta_2}[\theta_2^*|\theta_1^{(s)}, \theta_2^{(s)}] = N(\theta_2^{(s)}, \delta^2).$$

$$\begin{aligned}
r &= \frac{p(\theta_1^*, \theta_2^{(s)} | y_{1:n})}{p(\theta_1^{(s)}, \theta_2^{(s)} | y_{1:n})} \times \frac{g_{\theta_1}[\theta_1^s | \theta_1^{(s)}, \theta_2^{(s)}]}{g_{\theta_1}[\theta_1^* | \theta_1^{(s)}, \theta_2^{(s)}]} \\
&= \frac{p(y_{1:n} | \theta_1^*, \theta_2^{(s)}) \pi_1(\theta_1^*) \pi_2(\theta_2^{(s)})}{p(y_{1:n} | \theta_1^{(s)}, \theta_2^{(s)}) \pi_1(\theta_1^{(s)}) \pi_2(\theta_2^{(s)})} \times \frac{\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2\delta^2} (\theta_1^{(s)} - \theta_1^*)^2\right)}{\frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2\delta^2} (\theta_1^* - \theta_1^{(s)})^2\right)} \\
&= \frac{p(y_{1:n} | \theta_1^*, \theta_2^{(s)}) \pi_1(\theta_1^*)}{p(y_{1:n} | \theta_1^{(s)}, \theta_2^{(s)}) \pi_1(\theta_1^{(s)})}
\end{aligned}$$

Similarly, acceptance ratio for  $r = \frac{p(\theta_1^{(s)}, \theta_2^* | y_{1:n})}{p(\theta_1^{(s)}, \theta_2^{(s)} | y_{1:n})} \frac{g_{\theta_2}[\theta_2^s | \theta_1^{(s)}, \theta_2^{(s)}]}{g_{\theta_2}[\theta_2^* | \theta_1^{(s)}, \theta_2^{(s)}]} = \frac{p(y_{1:n} | \theta_1^{(s)}, \theta_2^*) \pi_2(\theta_2^*)}{p(y_{1:n} | \theta_1^{(s)}, \theta_2^{(s)}) \pi_2(\theta_2^{(s)})}$