

CGS698C, Assignment 03

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Part 1: Estimating the posterior distribution using different computational methods

You are given 10 independent and identically distributed datapoints that are assumed to come from a Binomial distribution with sample size 20 and probability of success θ :

10, 15, 15, 14, 14, 13, 11, 12, 16

Model:

Let y_i be the i^{th} datapoint,

$$y_i \sim \text{Binomial}(n = 20, \theta)$$

$$\theta \sim \text{Beta}(1, 1)$$

The analytically-derived posterior distribution of θ is a Beta distribution with shape parameters 135 and 67.

$$\theta|y \sim \text{Beta}(135, 67)$$

Use the above information to solve the following exercises.

1. Graph the analytically-derived posterior distribution of θ .
2. Use **grid approximation** to estimate the posterior density function of θ and graph the estimated posterior density function.
3. Use Monte Carlo integration to estimate the marginal likelihood of the model. (Hint: Draw a large number of samples from the prior $\text{Beta}(1, 1)$, compute the likelihood for each sample, and calculate the average of all the likelihoods.)
4. Use **importance sampling** to draw samples from the posterior distribution of θ .

(Hint: Draw N samples of θ from a proposal density function, say $q(\theta)$. Compute the likelihood $L(\theta_i|y)$, prior $p(\theta_i)$, and proposal density $q(\theta_i)$ for each sample. Store each sample θ_i and its corresponding weight w_i as a row in a dataframe, where $w_i = \frac{L(\theta_i|y)p(\theta_i)}{q(\theta_i)}$. Now, select $N/4$ samples from the vector of N samples based on their weights. You can use the function `sample(theta_vector, size = n/4, prob = weights_vector)`. These new $N/4$ samples are the samples from the posterior.)

```
# Assuming df is the dataframe containing samples of theta and
# their corresponding weights as the columns 'theta' and 'weights' respectively.
```

```
n <- length(df$theta)
sample(df$theta, size=n/4, prob=df$weights)
```

5. Use Markov chain Monte Carlo method to estimate the posterior distribution of θ .
(Hint: You can use the Metropolis-Hastings algorithm code given on page 20 in the lecture notes.)
6. Graphically compare the posterior distributions of θ obtained using:
 - Importance sampling
 - Markov chain Monte Carlo
 - Analytical derivation

Part 2: Writing your own sampler for Bayesian inference

2.1 The research problem

In a visual word recognition experiment, a participant has to recognize whether a string shown on the screen is a meaningful word (e.g., “book”) or a non-word (e.g., “bktr”). The participant is asked to answer “yes” if the shown string is a meaningful word, and “no” if it is a meaningless non-word. Suppose a participant is shown n words and n non-words on the screen one by one and you record the recognition time for each word/non-word.

Say, T_w is the vector of word recognition times, and T_{nw} is the vector of non-word recognition times.

You ask the following question:

Does it take longer to recognize the non-words compared to the words?

Technically,

Is the mean recognition time for the non-words larger than the mean recognition time for the words?

2.2 Hypothesis

Lexical-access hypothesis: The mean recognition time for the non-words is longer than the mean recognition time for the words.

2.3 Model

RT_i is the observed recognition time of the i^{th} string, which can be a word or a non-word.

Likelihood assumption:

$$RT_i \sim Normal(\mu_i, \sigma)$$

such that

$$\mu_i = \alpha + \beta \cdot type_i$$

where $type_i$ indicate whether the i^{th} string is a word or a non-word. If the string i is a non-word, the $type_i$ will be equal to 1, otherwise 0. α , β , and σ are the three parameters of the model; α represents mean recognition time for the words, and β represents to what extent non-words are recognized slower than words.

Priors:

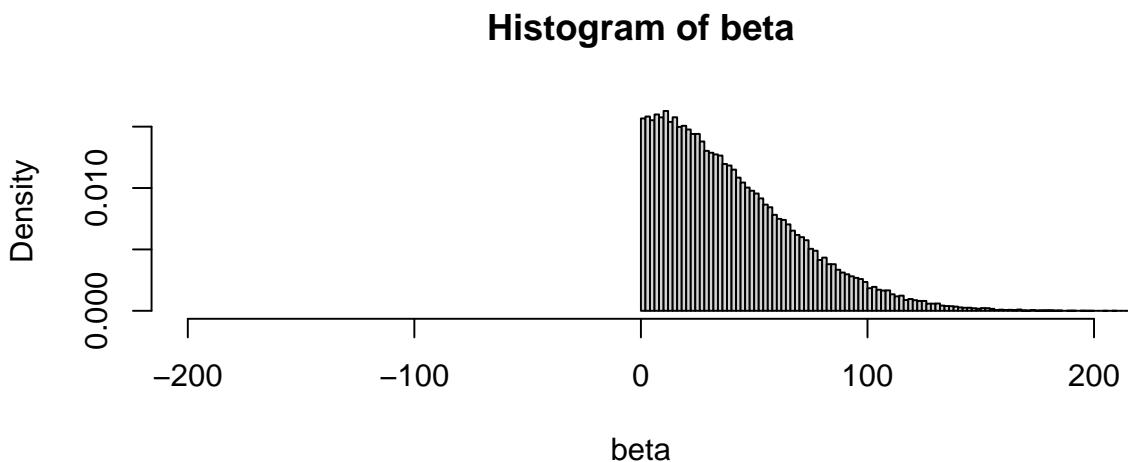
$$\alpha \sim Normal(400, 50)$$

$$\sigma = 30$$

$$\beta \sim Normal_+(0, 50)$$

where $Normal_+()$ represent a truncated normal distribution such that β would always be larger than 0.

```
library(truncnorm)
# You can generate from a truncated normal distribution using rtruncnorm
beta <- rtruncnorm(100000, a=0, b=Inf, mean=0, sd=50)
hist(beta, xlim = c(-200,200), probability = T, breaks = 100)
```



```
# You can calculate the probability density of obtaining a value x
# from the truncated normal distribution.
x <- 20
density_x <- dtruncnorm(x, a=0, b=Inf, mean=0, sd=50)
```

2.4 Data

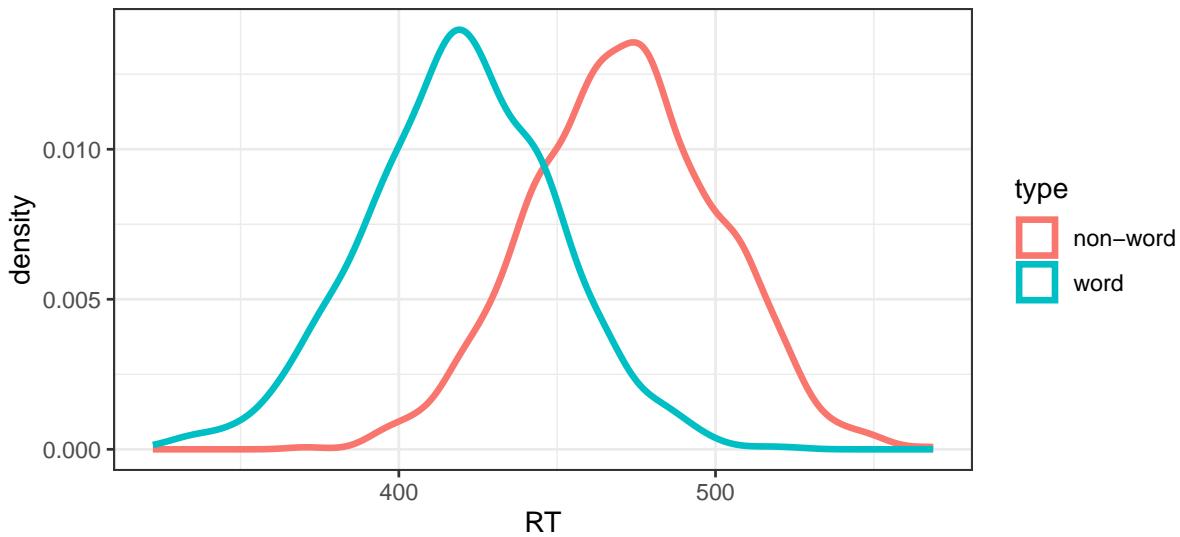
The file `word-recognition-times.csv` on github contains the recognition times data for 4000 strings which can be either words or non-words represented by the column `type`; the recognition times are given in the column `RT`. Use the following code to load the data. (Alternatively, you can directly download the csv file and read it using `read.table`.)

```
dat <- read.table(
  "https://raw.githubusercontent.com/yadavhimanshu059/CGS698C/main/notes/Data/word-recognition-ti
  sep=",",header = T)[,-1]
head(dat)

##      type      RT
## 1    word 423.1019
## 2    word 429.9432
## 3 non-word 486.9959
## 4 non-word 451.4400
## 5 non-word 482.2657
## 6 non-word 470.8003

ggplot(dat,aes(x=RT,color=type))+geom_density(size=1.2)+theme_bw()

## Warning: Using 'size' aesthetic for lines was deprecated in ggplot2 3.4.0.
## i Please use 'linewidth' instead.
## This warning is displayed once every 8 hours.
## Call 'lifecycle::last_lifecycle_warnings()' to see where this warning was
## generated.
```



2.5 Exercises

2.5.1 Estimate the parameters α and β using **Markov Chain Monte Carlo**.

(Hint: Transform posterior densities on log scale. See the algorithm on page 24 in the lecture notes.)

2.5.2 What is the 95% credible interval for each parameter?

(If you can say with 95% certainty that the true value of the parameter lies between a and b , then the range $[a, b]$ is called the credible interval. You can estimate the credible interval from the vector of samples from the posterior, using `quantile(post_samples, probs=c(.025, .975))`)

Part 3: Hamiltonian Monte Carlo sampler

You are given 500 data points that are assumed to come from a normal distribution with mean μ and variance σ^2 ,

```
true_mu <- 800
true_var <- 100 #sigma^2
y <- rnorm(500, mean=true_mu, sd=sqrt(true_var))
hist(y)
```

Copy and paste the above chunk of code to generate data y .

Model:

Let y_i be i^{th} data point,

$y_i \sim \text{Normal}(\mu, \sigma^2)$

$\mu \sim \text{Normal}(m = 1000, s = 100)$

$\sigma \sim \text{Normal}(a = 10, b = 2)$

You have to estimate the posterior distributions of μ and σ using Hamiltonian Monte Carlo sampler.

You can directly use the following HMC sampler code to estimate the parameters of the above model.

```
#Gradient functions
gradient <- function(mu,sigma,y,n,m,s,a,b){
  grad_mu <- (((n*mu)-sum(y))/(sigma^2))+((mu-m)/(s^2))
  grad_sigma <- (n/sigma)-(sum((y-mu)^2)/(sigma^3))+((sigma-a)/(b^2))
  return(c(grad_mu,grad_sigma))
}

#Potential energy function
V <- function(mu,sigma,y,n,m,s,a,b){
  nlpd <- -(sum(dnorm(y,mu,sigma,log=T))+dnorm(mu,m,s,log=T)+dnorm(sigma,a,b,log=T))
  nlpd
}
```

```

#HMC sampler
HMC <- function(y,n,m,s,a,b,step,L,initial_q,nsamp,nburn){
  mu_chain <- rep(NA,nsamp)
  sigma_chain <- rep(NA,nsamp)
  reject <- 0
  #Initialization of Markov chain
  mu_chain[1] <- initial_q[1]
  sigma_chain[1] <- initial_q[2]
  #Evolution of Markov chain
  i <- 1
  while(i < nsamp){
    q <- c(mu_chain[i],sigma_chain[i])    # Current position of the particle
    p <- rnorm(length(q),0,1)                # Generate random momentum at the current position
    current_q <- q
    current_p <- p
    current_V = V(current_q[1],current_q[2],y,n,m,s,a,b) # Current potential energy
    current_T = sum(current_p^2)/2             # Current kinetic energy
    # Take L leapfrog steps
    for(l in 1:L){
      # Change in momentum in 'step/2' time
      p <- p-((step/2)*gradient(q[1],q[2],y,n,m,s,a,b))
      # Change in position in 'step' time
      q <- q + step*p
      # Change in momentum in 'step/2' time
      p <- p-((step/2)*gradient(q[1],q[2],y,n,m,s,a,b))
    }
    proposed_q <- q
    proposed_p <- p
    proposed_V = V(proposed_q[1],proposed_q[2],y,n,m,s,a,b) # Proposed potential energy
    proposed_T = sum(proposed_p^2)/2                         # Proposed kinetic energy
    accept.prob <- min(1,exp(current_V+current_T-proposed_V-proposed_T))
    # Accept/reject the proposed position q
    if(accept.prob>runif(1,0,1)){
      mu_chain[i+1] <- proposed_q[1]
      sigma_chain[i+1] <- proposed_q[2]
      i <- i+1
    }else{
      reject <- reject+1
    }
  }
}

```

```

postiors <- data.frame(mu_chain,sigma_chain)[-1:nburn,]
postiors$sample_id <- 1:nrow(postiors)
postiors
}

```

Exercise 3.1 Use the following values for the internal parameters of the HMC sampler,

- Total number of samples, $nsamp = 6000$
- Total number of burn-in samples, $nburn = 2000$ (a certain number of initial samples that you want to throw away)
- Step-size parameter, $step = 0.02$
- Number of leapfrog steps, $L = 12$
- Initializing value of the μ and σ chain, $initial_q = c(1000, 11)$

Estimate and plot the posteriors for μ and σ .

(Hint: You can directly run the HMC function as follows:)

```

df.posterior <- HMC(y=y,n=length(y),
                      m=1000,s=20,a=10,b=2,
                      step=0.02,
                      L=12,
                      initial_q=c(1000,11),
                      nsamp=6000,
                      nburn=2000)           # data
                           # priors
                           # step-size
                           # no. of leapfrog steps
                           # Chain initialization
                           # total number of samples
                           # number of burn-in samples

```

Exercise 3.2 Check posterior sensitivity to the total number of samples. How do the posteriors change with change in total number of samples?

Estimate and compare the posteriors obtained for the following values of total number of samples, $nsamp$ -

- $nsamp = 100$
- $nsamp = 1000$
- $nsamp = 6000$

Change burn-in samples $nburn$ accordingly. For example, you can set $nburn = nsamp/3$. Keep all other parameters same as in Exercise 1.1.

Exercise 3.3 How do the posteriors change with change in step-size parameter?

Estimate and compare the posteriors obtained when step-size had the following values -

- $step = 0.001$
- $step = 0.005$

- $step = 0.02$

Keep all other parameter same as in Exercise 1.1.

Exercise 3.4 Visually inspect the *mu* and *sigma* chains obtained in exercise 3.3. Do you find anything problematic?

Exercise 3.5 Check the prior sensitivity for the μ parameter. Estimate and compare the posterior distribution of μ when the prior on μ are -

- $\mu \sim Normal(m = 400, s = 5)$
- $\mu \sim Normal(m = 400, s = 20)$
- $\mu \sim Normal(m = 1000, s = 5)$
- $\mu \sim Normal(m = 1000, s = 20)$
- $\mu \sim Normal(m = 1000, s = 100)$

(Keep all other parameters same as in Exercise 3.1).

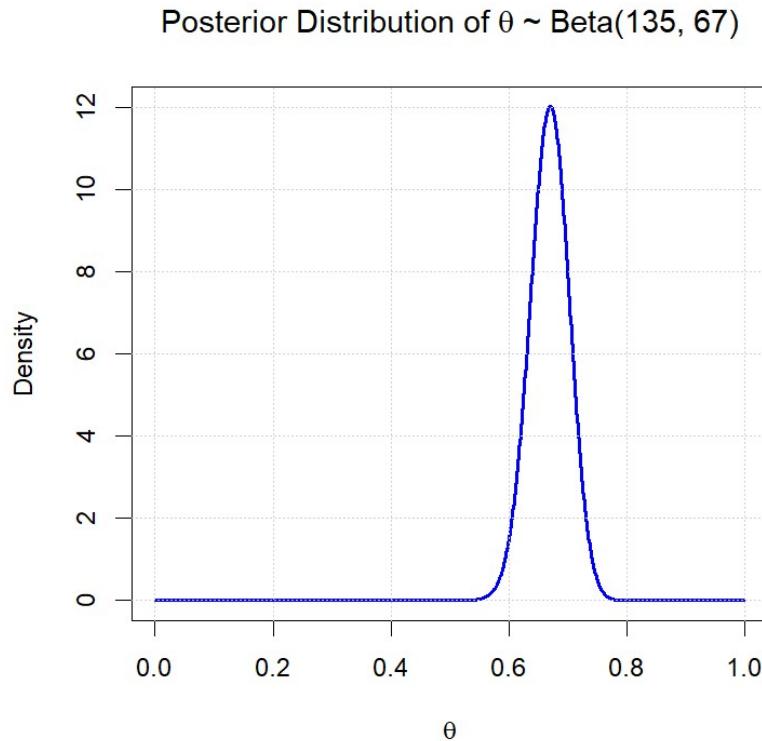
Part 1

Answer Number: 1

CODE -

```
R assignment 3 solution.R x
Source on Save Run Source
1 #parameters
2 alpha <- 135
3 beta <- 67
4 #theta values from 0 to 1
5 theta <- seq(0, 1, length.out = 1000)
6 posterior <- dbeta(theta, alpha, beta)
7 #Plot
8 plot(theta, posterior, type = "l", lwd = 2, col = "blue",
9       main = expression("Posterior Distribution of " * theta * " ~ Beta(135, 67)"),
10      xlab = expression(theta), ylab = "Density")
11 grid()
12 |
```

OUTPUT - Graph of the analytically derived posterior distribution of θ ,



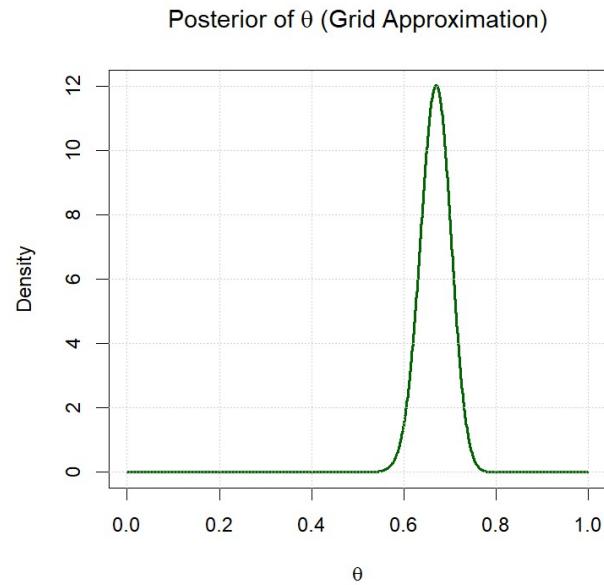
Part 1

Answer Number: 2

CODE -

```
R assignment 3 solution.R* 
assignment 3 solution.R* | Run | Source | 
1 # Observed data
2 y <- c(10, 15, 15, 14, 14, 14, 13, 11, 12, 16)
3 n <- 20
4 # Prior parameters for Beta(1, 1)
5 a_prior <- 1
6 b_prior <- 1
7 # Grid of theta values
8 theta <- seq(0, 1, length.out = 1000)
9 likelihood <- sapply(theta, function(t) {
10   prod(dbinom(y, size = n, prob = t))
11 })
12 # Compute the prior
13 prior <- dbeta(theta, a_prior, b_prior)
14 unnorm_posterior <- likelihood * prior
15 posterior <- unnorm_posterior / sum(unnorm_posterior * diff(theta)[1])
16 # Plot
17 plot(theta, posterior, type = "l", lwd = 2, col = "darkgreen",
18       main = expression("Posterior of " * theta * " (Grid Approximation)"),
19       xlab = expression(theta), ylab = "Density")
20 grid()
21
```

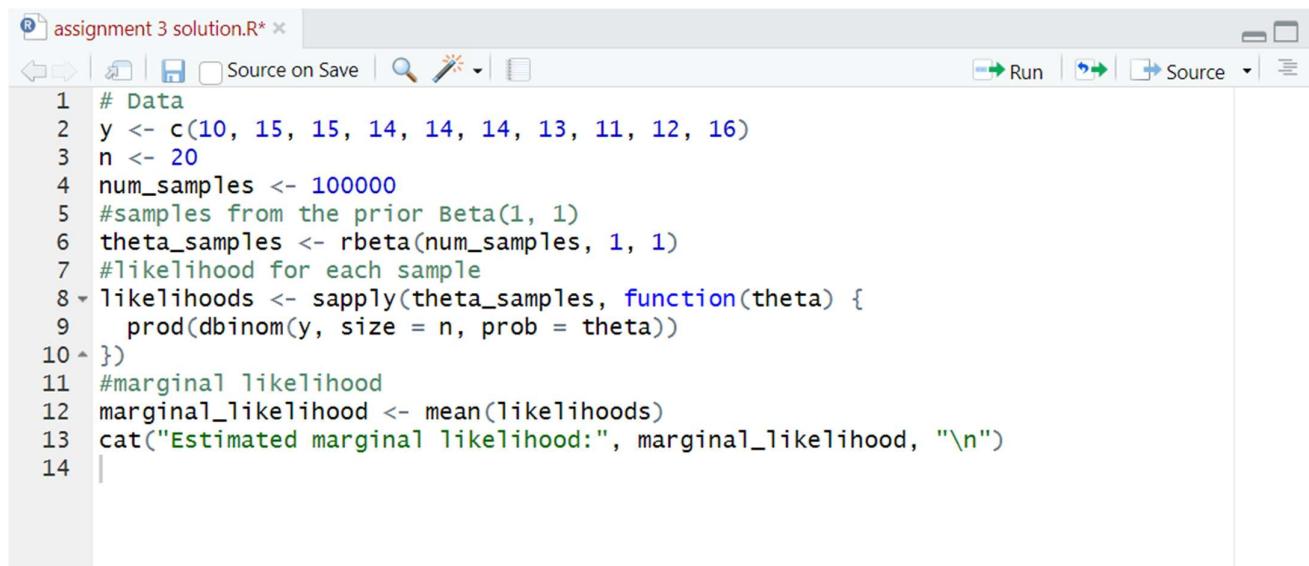
OUTPUT- Use of grid approximation to estimate the posterior density function of θ



Part 1

Answer Number: 3

CODE -



The screenshot shows the RStudio interface with a code editor window titled "assignment 3 solution.R*". The code is written in R and performs the following steps:

- Loads data (y) and sample size (n).
- Generates 100,000 samples from a Beta(1, 1) prior.
- Calculates the likelihood for each sample.
- Computes the mean likelihood as the marginal likelihood.
- Prints the estimated marginal likelihood.

```
1 # Data
2 y <- c(10, 15, 15, 14, 14, 14, 13, 11, 12, 16)
3 n <- 20
4 num_samples <- 100000
5 #samples from the prior Beta(1, 1)
6 theta_samples <- rbeta(num_samples, 1, 1)
7 #likelihood for each sample
8 likelihoods <- sapply(theta_samples, function(theta) {
9   prod(dbinom(y, size = n, prob = theta))
10 })
11 #marginal likelihood
12 marginal_likelihood <- mean(likelihoods)
13 cat("Estimated marginal likelihood:", marginal_likelihood, "\n")
14
```

OUTPUT -

Answer -

Estimated marginal likelihood: 1.397006e-10

```
> #marginal likelihood
> marginal_likelihood <- mean(likelihoods)
> cat("Estimated marginal likelihood:", marginal_likelihood, "\n")
Estimated marginal likelihood: 1.397006e-10
```

Part 1

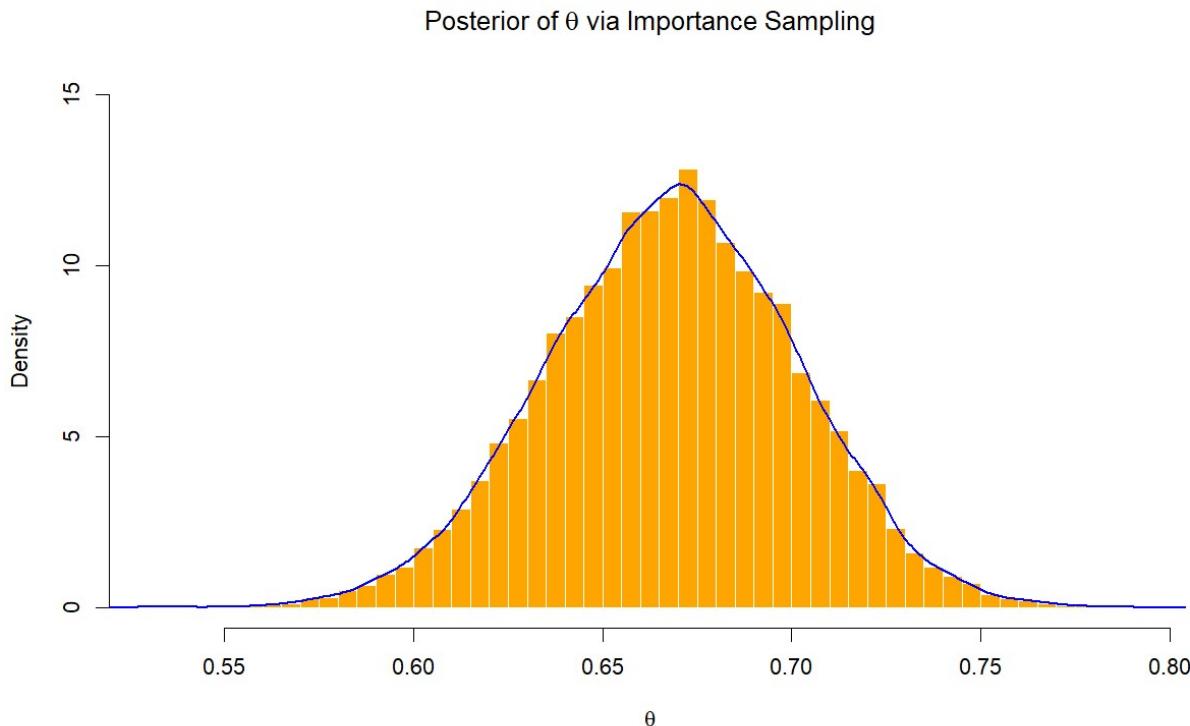
Answer Number: 4

CODE -

```
assignment 3 solution.R* ×
Source on Save | Run | Source | □
1 # Data
2 y <- c(10, 15, 15, 14, 14, 14, 13, 11, 12, 16)
3 n_obs <- 20
4 N <- 100000 # Number of samples
5 #proposal distribution
6 q_alpha <- 5
7 q_beta <- 5
8 theta_samples <- rbeta(N, q_alpha, q_beta)
9 #compute prior density
10 prior_density <- dbeta(theta_samples, 1, 1)
11 #compute proposal density
12 proposal_density <- dbeta(theta_samples, q_alpha, q_beta)
13 #compute likelihood for each theta
14 likelihood <- sapply(theta_samples, function(theta) {
15   prod(dbinom(y, size = n_obs, prob = theta))
16 })
17 weights <- likelihood * prior_density / proposal_density
18 #normalize weights
19 weights_normalized <- weights / sum(weights)
20 #store in dataframe
21 df <- data.frame(theta = theta_samples, weights = weights)
22 #resample N/4 samples from theta based on weights
23 posterior_samples <- sample(df$theta, size = N/4, prob = df$weights, replace = TRUE)
24 #plot
25 hist(posterior_samples, breaks = 50, probability = TRUE, col = "orange",
26       border = "white", main = expression("Posterior of " * theta * " via Importance Sampling"),
27       xlab = expression(theta), ylim = c(0, 15))
28 lines(density(posterior_samples), col = "blue", lwd = 2)
29
```

OUTPUT -

Answer – Use of importance sampling to draw samples from the posterior distribution of θ



Part 1

Answer Number: 5

CODE -

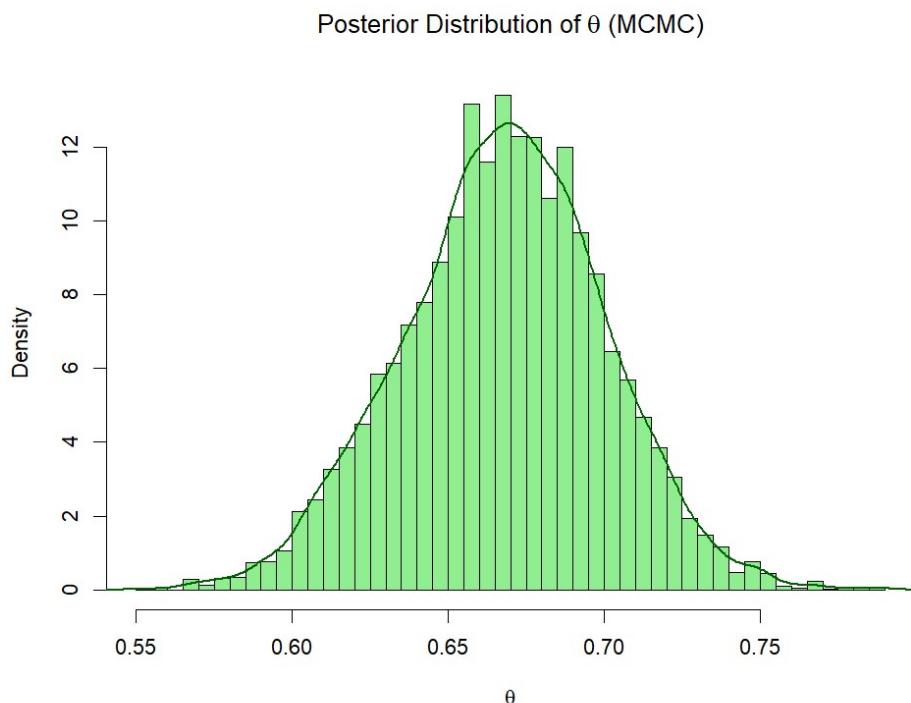
```
assignment 3 solution.R* x Source on Save | Run | Source |
```

```
1 y <- c(10, 15, 15, 14, 14, 14, 13, 11, 12, 16)
2 n_obs <- 20
3 n_iter <- 10000 #number of MCMC iterations
4 theta <- numeric(n_iter)
5 theta[1] <- runif(1)
6 proposal_sd <- 0.05# (tune for acceptance rate ~ 0.3)
7 log_prior <- function(theta) {
8   if (theta <= 0 || theta >= 1) return(-Inf)
9   return(0)
10 }
11 #Log-likelihood for all observations
12 log_likelihood <- function(theta) {
13   sum(dbinom(y, size = n_obs, prob = theta, log = TRUE))
14 }
15 #MCMC via Metropolis-Hastings
16 for (i in 2:n_iter) {
17   theta_current <- theta[i - 1]
18   theta_proposed <- rnorm(1, mean = theta_current, sd = proposal_sd)
19   log_p_current <- log_likelihood(theta_current) + log_prior(theta_current)
20   log_p_proposed <- log_likelihood(theta_proposed) + log_prior(theta_proposed)
21   log_accept_ratio <- log_p_proposed - log_p_current
22   if (log(runif(1)) < log_accept_ratio) {
23     theta[i] <- theta_proposed
24   } else {
25     theta[i] <- theta_current
26   }
27 }
28 burn_in <- 2000 #discard burn-in and plot posterior
29 posterior_samples <- theta[(burn_in + 1):n_iter]
30 # overlay histogram and density
31 hist(posterior_samples, breaks = 50, probability = TRUE, col = "lightgreen",
32   main = expression("Posterior Distribution of " * theta * " (MCMC)"),
33   xlab = expression(theta))
34 lines(density(posterior_samples), col = "darkgreen", lwd = 2)
35
```

25:30 (Top Level) R Script

OUTPUT -

ANSWER - Use of Markov chain Monte Carlo method to estimate the posterior distribution of θ



Part 1

Answer Number: 6

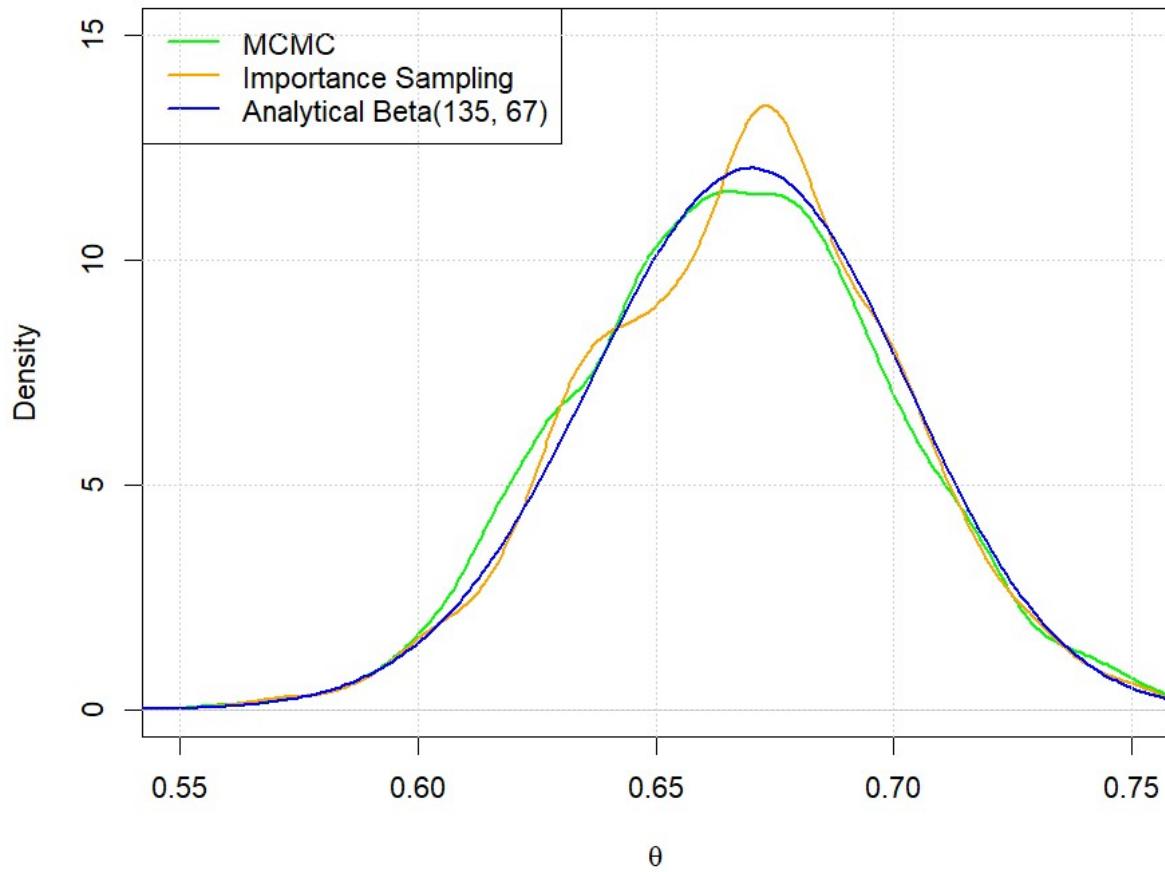
CODE-

```
assignment 3 solution.R* x
Source on Save | Run | Source | ...
1 y <- c(10, 15, 15, 14, 14, 13, 11, 12, 16, 14) #data
2 n_trials <- 20
3 alpha_prior <- 1
4 beta_prior <- 1
5 alpha_post <- alpha_prior + sum(y)
6 beta_post <- beta_prior + (length(y) * n_trials - sum(y))
7 theta_grid <- seq(0, 1, length.out = 1000)
8 beta_density <- dbeta(theta_grid, alpha_post, beta_post)
9 #importance Sampling
10 set.seed(123)
11 N <- 10000
12 theta_samples_is <- rbeta(N, 2, 2) #Beta(2, 2)
13 # Likelihood
14 likelihood_is <- sapply(theta_samples_is, function(theta) {
15   prod(dbinom(y, size = n_trials, prob = theta))
16 })
17 # Prior
18 prior_is <- dbeta(theta_samples_is, alpha_prior, beta_prior)
19 proposal_is <- dbeta(theta_samples_is, 2, 2)
20 # Weights
21 weights <- (likelihood_is * prior_is) / proposal_is
22 weights <- weights / sum(weights) # Normalize
23 #posterior samples based on weights
24 posterior_samples_is <- sample(theta_samples_is, size = N / 4, replace = TRUE, prob = weights)
25 #MCMC Metropolis-Hastings
26 set.seed(42)
27 mcmc_samples <- 10000
28 theta_mcmc <- numeric(mcmc_samples)
29 theta_mcmc[1] <- runif(1, 0, 1)
30 proposal_sd <- 0.05
31 for (i in 2:mcmc_samples) {
32   theta_prop <- rnorm(1, theta_mcmc[i - 1], proposal_sd)
33   if (theta_prop > 0 && theta_prop < 1) {
34     log_lik_curr <- sum(dbinom(y, n_trials, theta_mcmc[i - 1], log = TRUE))
35     log_lik_prop <- sum(dbinom(y, n_trials, theta_prop, log = TRUE))
36     log_accept_ratio <- log_lik_prop - log_lik_curr
37     if (log(runif(1)) < log_accept_ratio) {
38       theta_mcmc[i] <- theta_prop
39     } else {
40       theta_mcmc[i] <- theta_mcmc[i - 1]
41     }
42   } else {
43     theta_mcmc[i] <- theta_mcmc[i - 1]
44   }
45 }
46 posterior_samples_mcmc <- theta_mcmc[5001:10000] # Discard burn-in
47 #Densities for Plotting
48 dens_mcmc <- density(posterior_samples_mcmc)
49 dens_is <- density(posterior_samples_is)
50 #Plot
51 plot(dens_mcmc, col = "green", lwd = 2, xlim = c(0.55, 0.75), ylim = c(0, 15),
52       main = expression("Comparison of Posterior Distributions of " * theta),
53       xlab = expression(theta), ylab = "Density")
54 lines(dens_is, col = "orange", lwd = 2)
55 lines(theta_grid, beta_density, col = "blue", lwd = 2)
56
57 legend("topleft",
58       legend = c("MCMC", "Importance Sampling", "Analytical Beta(135, 67)"),
59       col = c("green", "orange", "blue"),
60       lwd = 2)
61 grid()
```

ANSWER – Comparison of the posterior distributions of θ obtained using:

Method	Accuracy	Flexibility	Speed	When to Use
Analytical Posterior	Exact	Low	Fast	When conjugate priors are available
Importance Sampling	Approximate	Moderate	Depends on	When a good proposal is available
MCMC	Approximate	Very High	Slower	For complex or high-dimensional models

Comparison of Posterior Distributions of θ



• **Green Curve - Markov Chain Monte Carlo (MCMC):**

This curve represents samples drawn via the Metropolis-Hastings algorithm. It shows a smooth, bell-shaped density centered around $\theta \approx 0.67$, matching the expected posterior well.

• **Orange Curve - Importance Sampling:**

This approximation also centers around $\theta \approx 0.67$, showing good alignment with MCMC. Some slight roughness or asymmetry may appear if the sample size is limited or the proposal distribution isn't optimal.

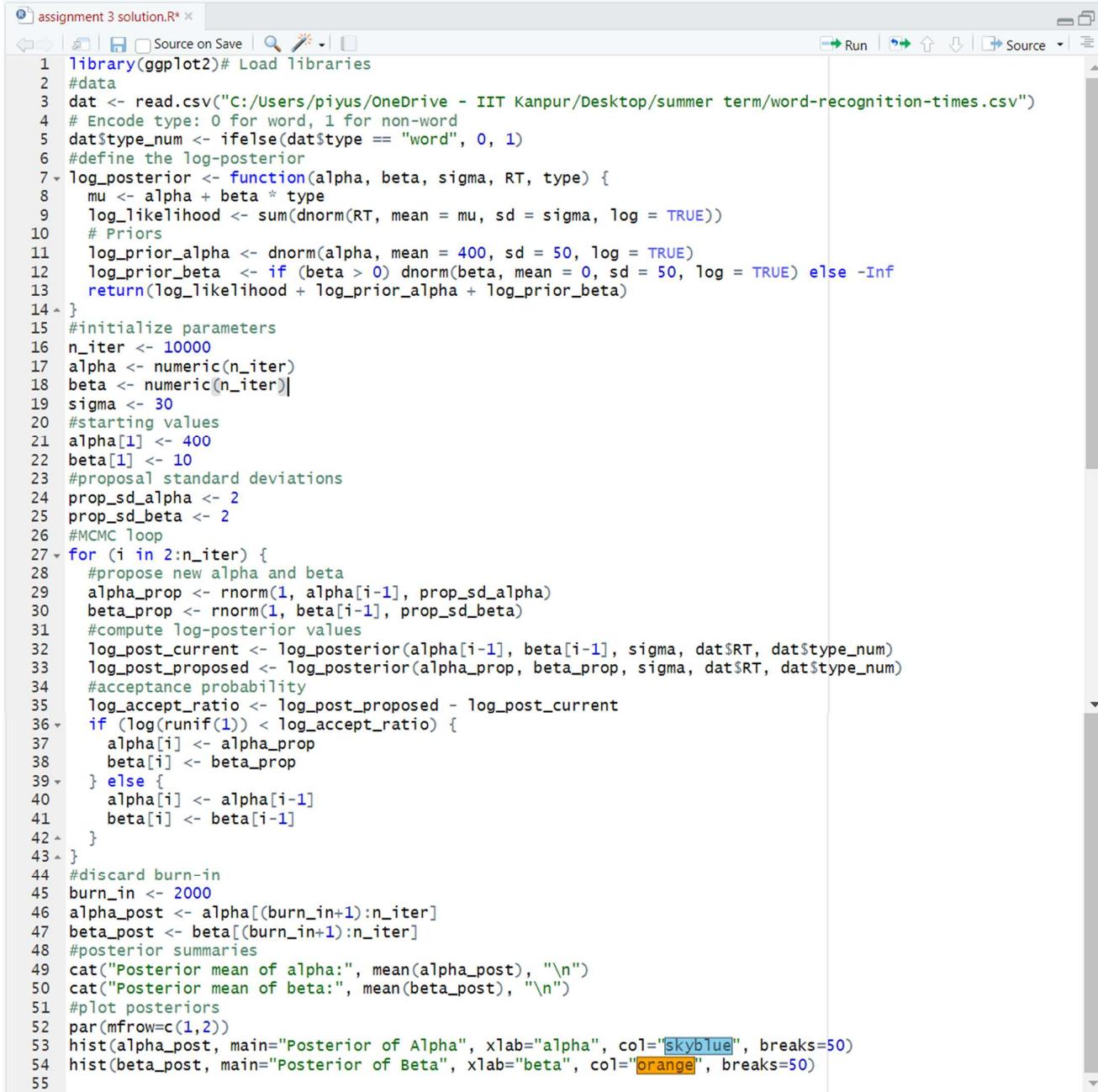
• **Blue Curve - Analytical Posterior (Beta (135, 67)):**

This is the exact posterior derived using conjugate priors. It serves as the benchmark, with a sharp, narrow peak indicating high certainty around the mean.

Part 2

Answer Number: 2.5.1

CODE -



The screenshot shows an RStudio interface with the following details:

- File:** assignment 3 solution.R*
- Toolbar:** Includes icons for file operations (New, Open, Save, Print, Find, Replace, Run, Source, etc.).
- Code Area:** The main area contains the R code for a Bayesian MCMC analysis. The code includes:
 - Library loading: `library(ggplot2)`
 - Data reading: `dat <- read.csv("C:/Users/piyus/OneDrive - IIT Kanpur/Desktop/summer term/word-recognition-times.csv")`
 - Type encoding: `# Encode type: 0 for word, 1 for non-word`
 - Log-posterior function: `log_posterior <- function(alpha, beta, sigma, RT, type) {`
 - Priors: `log_prior_alpha <- dnorm(alpha, mean = 400, sd = 50, log = TRUE)` and `log_prior_beta <- if (beta > 0) dnorm(beta, mean = 0, sd = 50, log = TRUE) else -Inf`
 - Initialization: `n_iter <- 10000`, `alpha <- numeric(n_iter)`, `beta <- numeric(n_iter)`, `sigma <- 30`
 - Starting values: `alpha[1] <- 400`, `beta[1] <- 10`
 - Proposal standard deviations: `prop_sd_alpha <- 2`, `prop_sd_beta <- 2`
 - MCMC loop: `for (i in 2:n_iter) {` to `alpha[i] <- alpha_prop` and `beta[i] <- beta_prop`.
 - Acceptance probability: `log_accept_ratio <- log_post_proposed - log_post_current` and `if (log(runif(1)) < log_accept_ratio) {`
 - Posterior summaries: `cat("Posterior mean of alpha:", mean(alpha_post), "\n")` and `cat("Posterior mean of beta:", mean(beta_post), "\n")`
 - Plotting: `par(mfrow=c(1,2))`, `hist(alpha_post, main="Posterior of Alpha", xlab="alpha", col="skyblue", breaks=50)`, and `hist(beta_post, main="Posterior of Beta", xlab="beta", col="orange", breaks=50)`.
- Right Panel:** Shows the R console, workspace, and environment.

We adopt a **Bayesian approach** using **Markov Chain Monte Carlo (MCMC)** to estimate the parameters:

- α : Mean recognition time for words.
- β : Additional time required to recognize non-words (compared to words).
- σ : Known standard deviation of recognition times (set to 30).

Posterior Inference via MCMC

To estimate α and β , we use the **Metropolis algorithm**, a type of MCMC. This technique allows us to sample from the posterior distributions by proposing small random changes and accepting or rejecting them based on how well they fit the data .

We use the **log scale** for evaluating the posterior to improve numerical stability and avoid underflow from multiplying small probabilities.

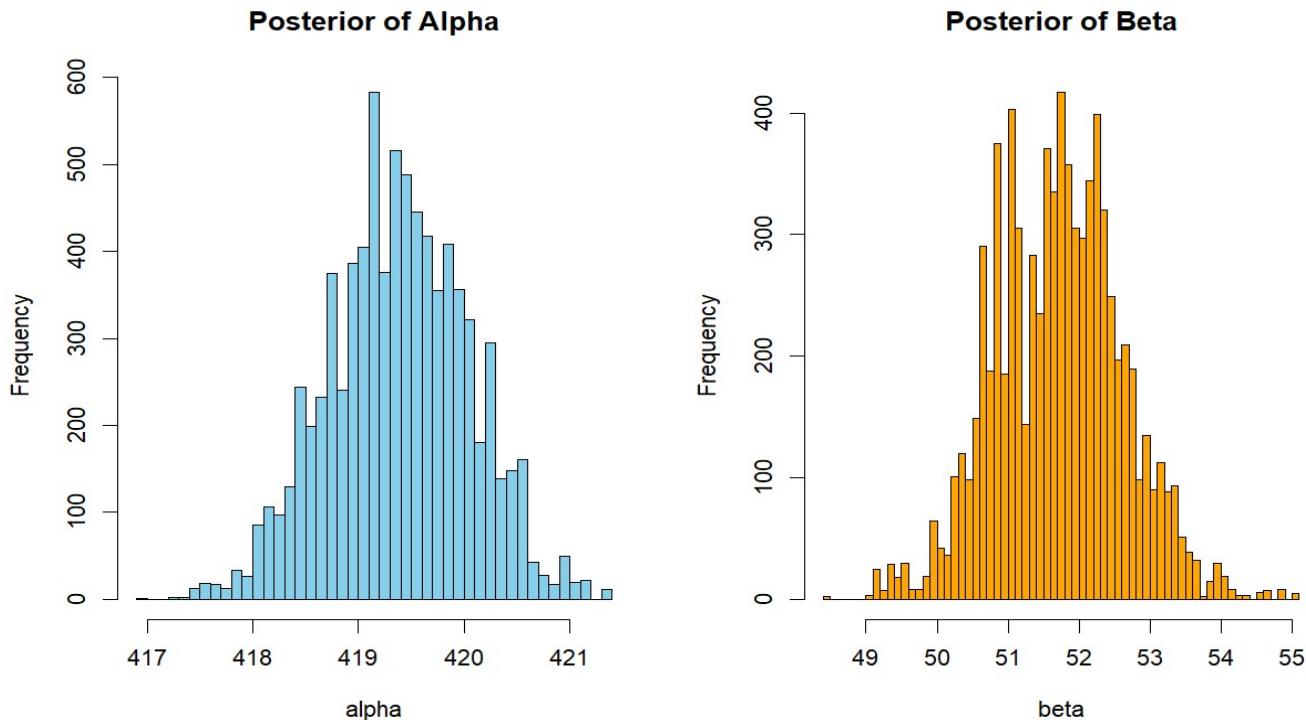
After convergence (verified by discarding an initial burn-in), we summarize the posterior samples of α and β using their means and visualize them using histograms.

Conclusion

This Bayesian framework, implemented via MCMC, provides a principled way to estimate and quantify uncertainty in the recognition time difference between words and non-words.

OUTPUT – Estimation of the parameters α and β using Markov Chain Monte

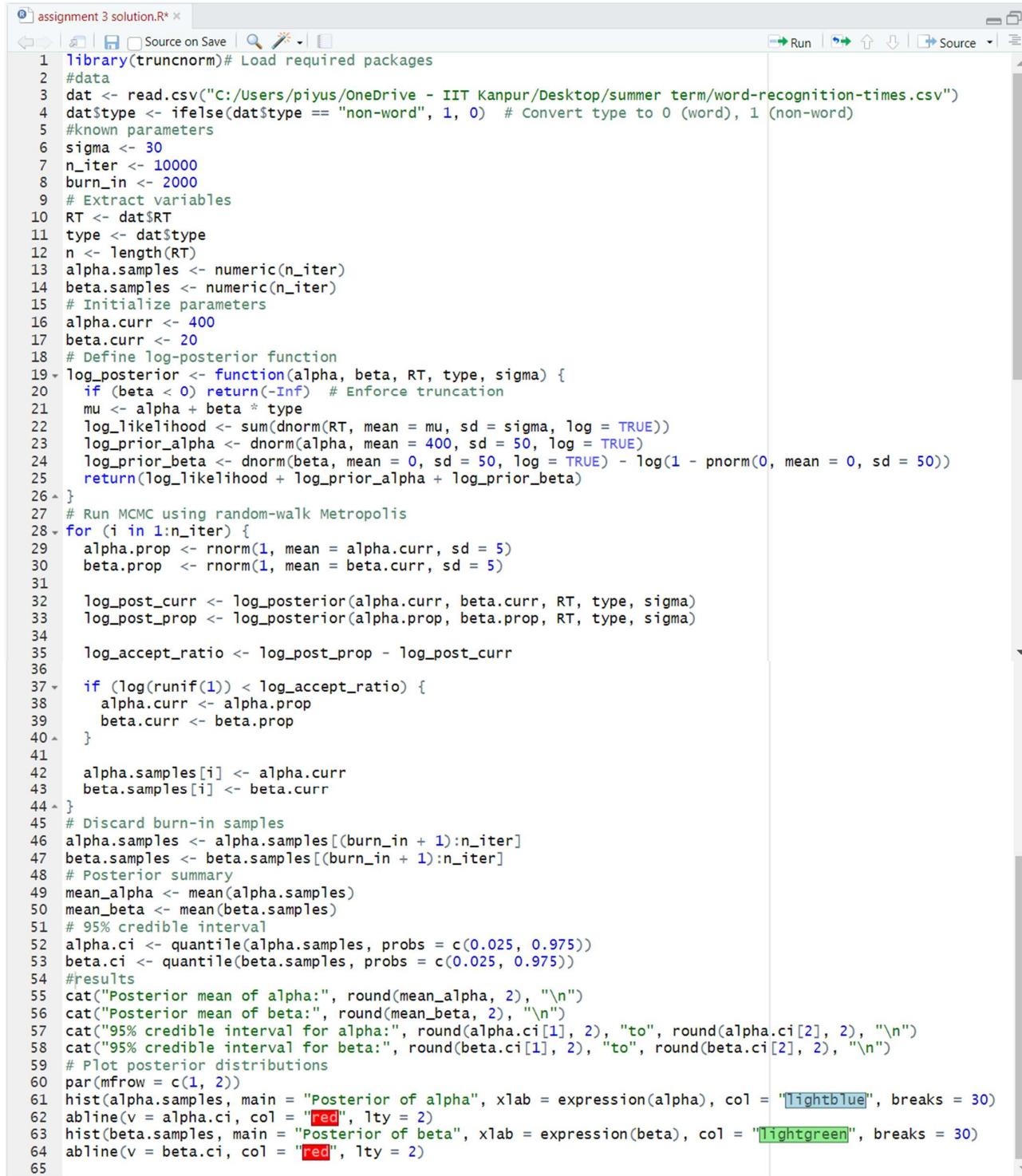
Carlo.



Part 2

Answer Number: 2.5.2

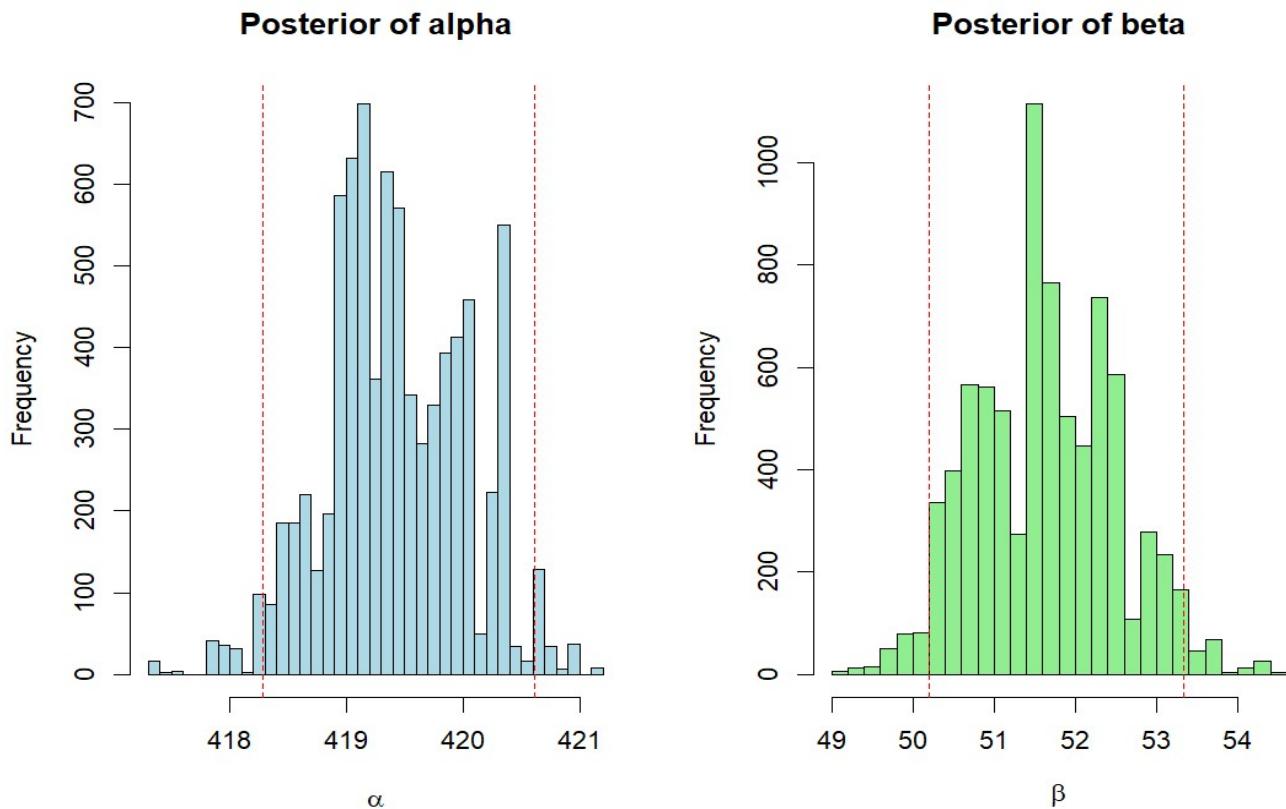
CODE –



The screenshot shows the RStudio interface with the code for 'assignment 3 solution.R*'. The code is a script for estimating parameters alpha and beta using a truncated normal prior and a random-walk Metropolis-Hastings algorithm. It includes data loading, parameter initialization, a log-posterior function, MCMC sampling, posterior summaries, and histograms.

```
1 library(truncnorm) # Load required packages
2 #data
3 dat <- read.csv("C:/Users/piyus/OneDrive - IIT Kanpur/Desktop/summer term/word-recognition-times.csv")
4 dat$type <- ifelse(dat$type == "non-word", 1, 0) # Convert type to 0 (word), 1 (non-word)
5 #known parameters
6 sigma <- 30
7 n_iter <- 10000
8 burn_in <- 2000
9 # Extract variables
10 RT <- dat$RT
11 type <- dat$type
12 n <- length(RT)
13 alpha.samples <- numeric(n_iter)
14 beta.samples <- numeric(n_iter)
15 # Initialize parameters
16 alpha.curr <- 400
17 beta.curr <- 20
18 # Define log-posterior function
19 log_posterior <- function(alpha, beta, RT, type, sigma) {
20   if (beta < 0) return(-Inf) # Enforce truncation
21   mu <- alpha + beta * type
22   log_likelihood <- sum(dnorm(RT, mean = mu, sd = sigma, log = TRUE))
23   log_prior_alpha <- dnorm(alpha, mean = 400, sd = 50, log = TRUE)
24   log_prior_beta <- dnorm(beta, mean = 0, sd = 50, log = TRUE) - log(1 - pnorm(0, mean = 0, sd = 50))
25   return(log_likelihood + log_prior_alpha + log_prior_beta)
26 }
27 # Run MCMC using random-walk Metropolis
28 for (i in 1:n_iter) {
29   alpha.prop <- rnorm(1, mean = alpha.curr, sd = 5)
30   beta.prop <- rnorm(1, mean = beta.curr, sd = 5)
31
32   log_post_curr <- log_posterior(alpha.curr, beta.curr, RT, type, sigma)
33   log_post_prop <- log_posterior(alpha.prop, beta.prop, RT, type, sigma)
34
35   log_accept_ratio <- log_post_prop - log_post_curr
36
37   if (log(runif(1)) < log_accept_ratio) {
38     alpha.curr <- alpha.prop
39     beta.curr <- beta.prop
40   }
41
42   alpha.samples[i] <- alpha.curr
43   beta.samples[i] <- beta.curr
44 }
45 # Discard burn-in samples
46 alpha.samples <- alpha.samples[(burn_in + 1):n_iter]
47 beta.samples <- beta.samples[(burn_in + 1):n_iter]
48 # Posterior summary
49 mean_alpha <- mean(alpha.samples)
50 mean_beta <- mean(beta.samples)
51 # 95% credible interval
52 alpha.ci <- quantile(alpha.samples, probs = c(0.025, 0.975))
53 beta.ci <- quantile(beta.samples, probs = c(0.025, 0.975))
54 #results
55 cat("Posterior mean of alpha:", round(mean_alpha, 2), "\n")
56 cat("Posterior mean of beta:", round(mean_beta, 2), "\n")
57 cat("95% credible interval for alpha:", round(alpha.ci[1], 2), "to", round(alpha.ci[2], 2), "\n")
58 cat("95% credible interval for beta:", round(beta.ci[1], 2), "to", round(beta.ci[2], 2), "\n")
59 # Plot posterior distributions
60 par(mfrow = c(1, 2))
61 hist(alpha.samples, main = "Posterior of alpha", xlab = expression(alpha), col = "lightblue", breaks = 30)
62 abline(v = alpha.ci, col = "red", lty = 2)
63 hist(beta.samples, main = "Posterior of beta", xlab = expression(beta), col = "lightgreen", breaks = 30)
64 abline(v = beta.ci, col = "red", lty = 2)
65
```

OUTPUT – PLOTS:



OUTPUT – VALUES:

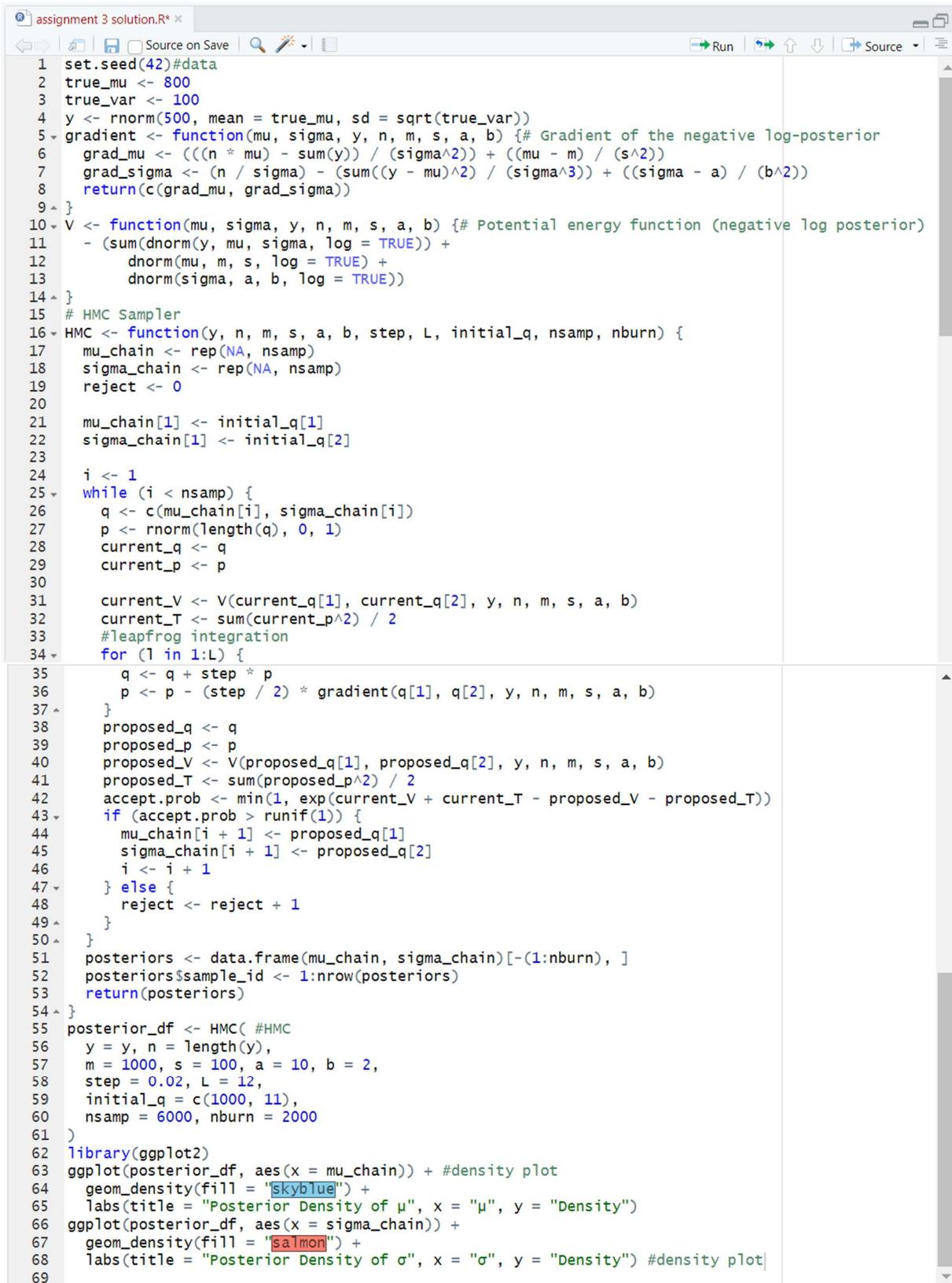
- With 95% certainty, the mean recognition time for **words** (for a 1pha): **418.28 to 420.61**
- With 95% certainty, the additional recognition time for **non-words** (for beta): **50.2 to 53.33**, confirming they are recognized slower than words.

```
> # Print results
> cat("Posterior mean of alpha:", round(mean_alpha, 2), "\n")
Posterior mean of alpha: 419.43
> cat("Posterior mean of beta:", round(mean_beta, 2), "\n")
Posterior mean of beta: 51.64
> cat("95% credible interval for alpha:", round(alpha.ci[1], 2), "to", round(alpha.ci[2], 2), "\n")
95% credible interval for alpha: 418.28 to 420.61
> cat("95% credible interval for beta:", round(beta.ci[1], 2), "to", round(beta.ci[2], 2), "\n")
95% credible interval for beta: 50.2 to 53.33
```

Part 3

Answer Number: 3.1

CODE -



```
1 set.seed(42) #data
2 true_mu <- 800
3 true_var <- 100
4 y <- rnorm(500, mean = true_mu, sd = sqrt(true_var))
5 gradient <- function(mu, sigma, y, n, m, s, a, b) {# Gradient of the negative log-posterior
6   grad_mu <- (((n * mu) - sum(y)) / (sigma^2)) + ((mu - m) / (s^2))
7   grad_sigma <- (n / sigma) - (sum((y - mu)^2) / (sigma^3)) + ((sigma - a) / (b^2))
8   return(c(grad_mu, grad_sigma))
9 }
10 V <- function(mu, sigma, y, n, m, s, a, b) {# Potential energy function (negative log posterior)
11   - (sum(dnorm(y, mu, sigma, log = TRUE)) +
12     dnorm(mu, m, s, log = TRUE) +
13     dnorm(sigma, a, b, log = TRUE))
14 }
15 # HMC Sampler
16 HMC <- function(y, n, m, s, a, b, step, L, initial_q, nsamp, nburn) {
17   mu_chain <- rep(NA, nsamp)
18   sigma_chain <- rep(NA, nsamp)
19   reject <- 0
20
21   mu_chain[1] <- initial_q[1]
22   sigma_chain[1] <- initial_q[2]
23
24   i <- 1
25   while (i < nsamp) {
26     q <- c(mu_chain[i], sigma_chain[i])
27     p <- rnorm(length(q), 0, 1)
28     current_q <- q
29     current_p <- p
30
31     current_V <- V(current_q[1], current_q[2], y, n, m, s, a, b)
32     current_T <- sum(current_p^2) / 2
33     #leapfrog integration
34     for (l in 1:L) {
35       q <- q + step * p
36       p <- p - (step / 2) * gradient(q[1], q[2], y, n, m, s, a, b)
37     }
38     proposed_q <- q
39     proposed_p <- p
40     proposed_V <- V(proposed_q[1], proposed_q[2], y, n, m, s, a, b)
41     proposed_T <- sum(proposed_p^2) / 2
42     accept_prob <- min(1, exp(current_V + current_T - proposed_V - proposed_T))
43     if (accept_prob > runif(1)) {
44       mu_chain[i + 1] <- proposed_q[1]
45       sigma_chain[i + 1] <- proposed_q[2]
46       i <- i + 1
47     } else {
48       reject <- reject + 1
49     }
50   }
51   posteriors <- data.frame(mu_chain, sigma_chain)[-1:nburn, ]
52   posteriors$sample_id <- 1:nrow(posteriors)
53   return(posteriors)
54 }
55 posterior_df <- HMC( #HMC
56   y = y, n = length(y),
57   m = 1000, s = 100, a = 10, b = 2,
58   step = 0.02, L = 12,
59   initial_q = c(1000, 11),
60   nsamp = 6000, nburn = 2000
61 )
62 library(ggplot2)
63 ggplot(posterior_df, aes(x = mu_chain)) + #density plot
64   geom_density(fill = "skyblue") +
65   labs(title = "Posterior Density of  $\mu$ ", x = " $\mu$ ", y = "Density")
66 ggplot(posterior_df, aes(x = sigma_chain)) +
67   geom_density(fill = "salmon") +
68   labs(title = "Posterior Density of  $\sigma$ ", x = " $\sigma$ ", y = "Density") #density plot
69
```

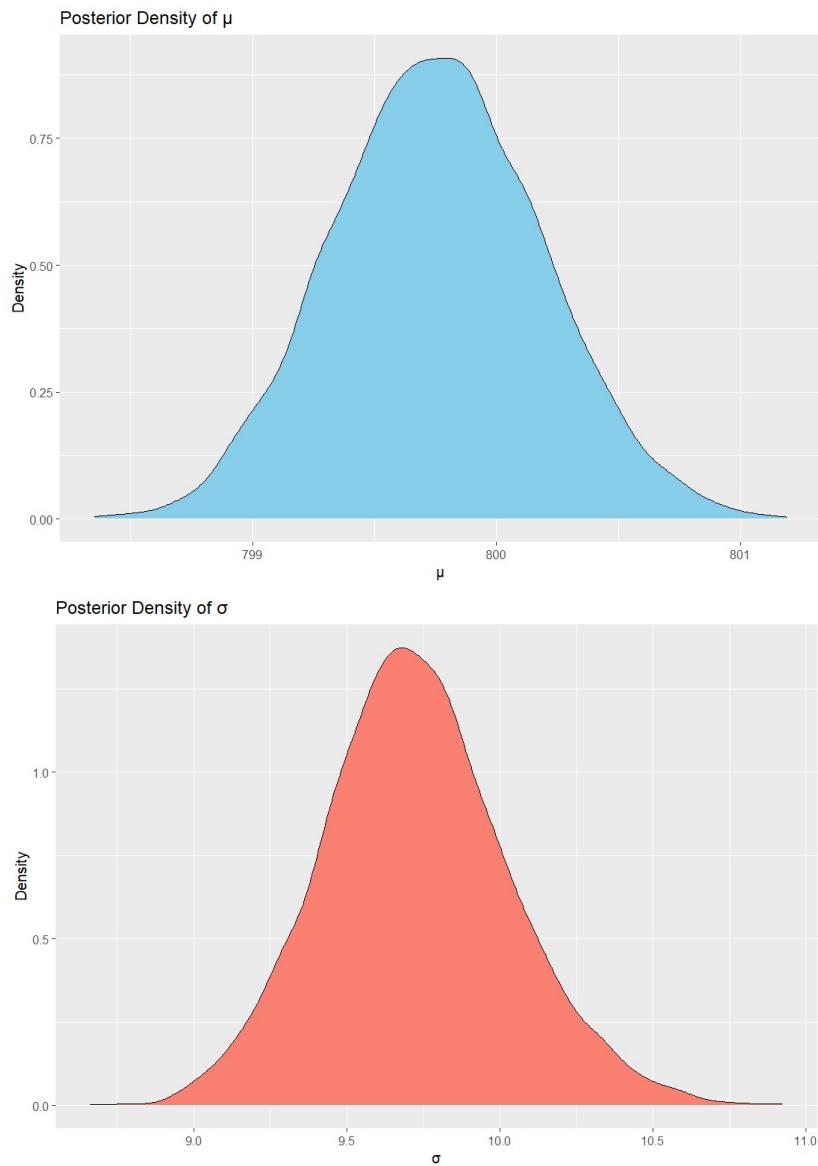
In Bayesian inference, we aim to estimate the **posterior distribution** of unknown parameters given observed data and prior beliefs.

We have:

- Data $y \sim \text{Normal}(\mu, \sigma^2)$
- Priors:
 - $\mu \sim \text{Normal}(1000, 100^2) \rightarrow$ belief that mean is around 1000, but uncertain
 - $\sigma \sim \text{Normal}(10, 2^2) \rightarrow$ belief that standard deviation is around 10

The goal is to sample from the **joint posterior** $p(\mu, \sigma | y)$ pushing the **HMC** technique, which improves sampling efficiency by incorporating gradients to explore the space better than basic MCMC.

OUTPUT – Plot of the posteriors for μ and σ .

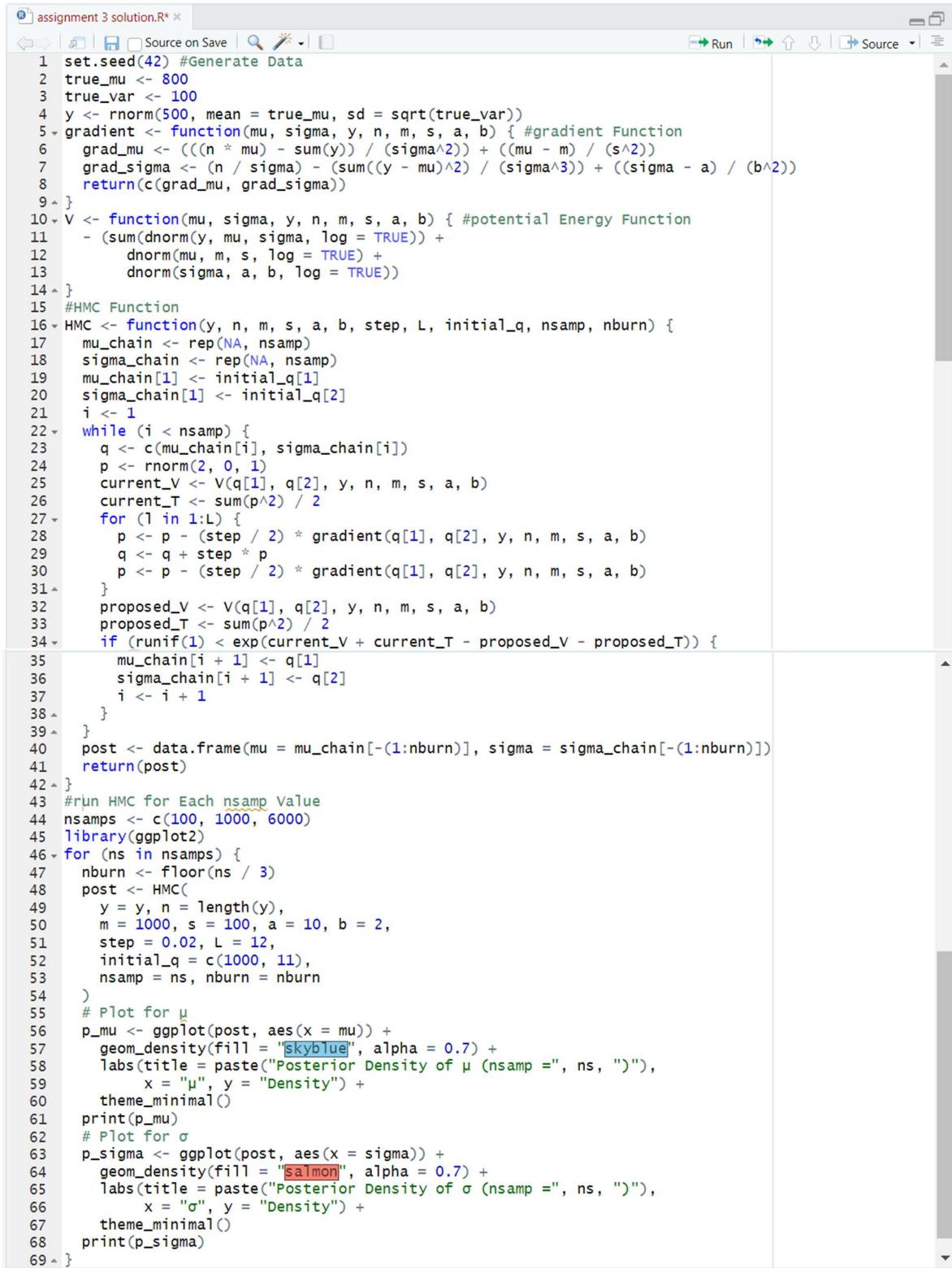


- Posterior of μ should be centered around the **true value** (800), pulled slightly by the prior (which assumed 1000).
- Posterior of σ should be around **10** (square root of true_var), also influenced by the prior.

Part 3

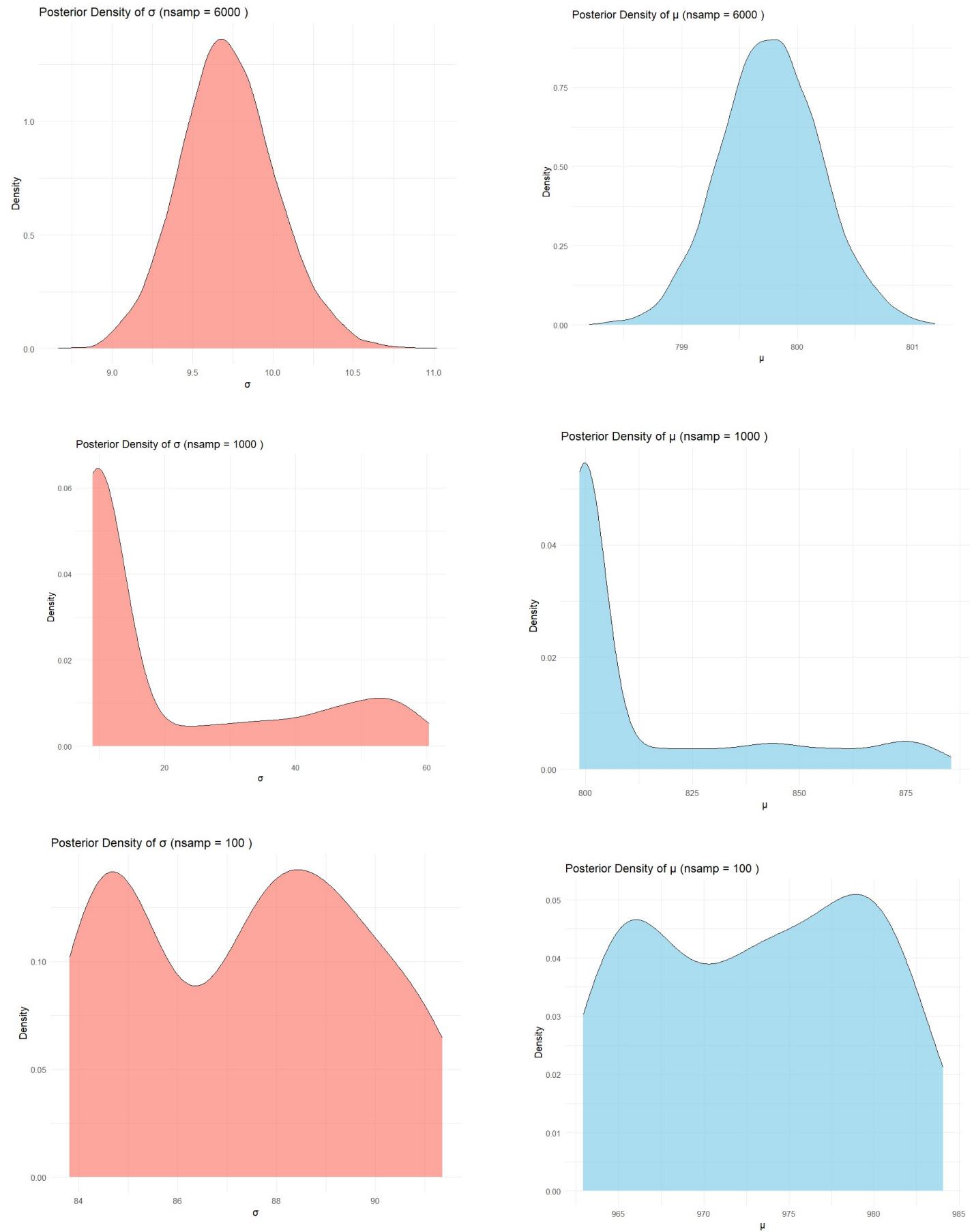
Answer Number: 3.2

Code -



```
1 set.seed(42) #Generate Data
2 true_mu <- 800
3 true_var <- 100
4 y <- rnorm(500, mean = true_mu, sd = sqrt(true_var))
5 gradient <- function(mu, sigma, y, n, m, s, a, b) { #gradient Function
6   grad_mu <- (((n * mu) - sum(y)) / (sigma^2)) + ((mu - m) / (s^2))
7   grad_sigma <- (n / sigma) - (sum((y - mu)^2) / (sigma^3)) + ((sigma - a) / (b^2))
8   return(c(grad_mu, grad_sigma))
9 }
10 V <- function(mu, sigma, y, n, m, s, a, b) { #potential Energy Function
11   - (sum(dnorm(y, mu, sigma, log = TRUE)) +
12     dnorm(mu, m, s, log = TRUE) +
13     dnorm(sigma, a, b, log = TRUE))
14 }
15 #HMC Function
16 HMC <- function(y, n, m, s, a, b, step, L, initial_q, nsamp, nburn) {
17   mu_chain <- rep(NA, nsamp)
18   sigma_chain <- rep(NA, nsamp)
19   mu_chain[1] <- initial_q[1]
20   sigma_chain[1] <- initial_q[2]
21   i <- 1
22   while (i < nsamp) {
23     q <- c(mu_chain[i], sigma_chain[i])
24     p <- rnorm(2, 0, 1)
25     current_V <- V(q[1], q[2], y, n, m, s, a, b)
26     current_T <- sum(p^2) / 2
27     for (l in 1:L) {
28       p <- p - (step / 2) * gradient(q[1], q[2], y, n, m, s, a, b)
29       q <- q + step * p
30       p <- p - (step / 2) * gradient(q[1], q[2], y, n, m, s, a, b)
31     }
32     proposed_V <- V(q[1], q[2], y, n, m, s, a, b)
33     proposed_T <- sum(p^2) / 2
34     if (runif(1) < exp(current_V + current_T - proposed_V - proposed_T)) {
35       mu_chain[i + 1] <- q[1]
36       sigma_chain[i + 1] <- q[2]
37       i <- i + 1
38     }
39   }
40   post <- data.frame(mu = mu_chain[-(1:nburn)], sigma = sigma_chain[-(1:nburn)])
41   return(post)
42 }
43 #run HMC for Each nsamp Value
44 nsamps <- c(100, 1000, 6000)
45 library(ggplot2)
46 for (ns in nsamps) {
47   nburn <- floor(ns / 3)
48   post <- HMC(
49     y = y, n = length(y),
50     m = 1000, s = 100, a = 10, b = 2,
51     step = 0.02, L = 12,
52     initial_q = c(1000, 11),
53     nsamp = ns, nburn = nburn
54   )
55   # Plot for mu
56   p_mu <- ggplot(post, aes(x = mu)) +
57     geom_density(fill = "skyblue", alpha = 0.7) +
58     labs(title = paste("Posterior Density of mu (nsamp =", ns, ")"),
59          x = "mu", y = "Density") +
60     theme_minimal()
61   print(p_mu)
62   # Plot for sigma
63   p_sigma <- ggplot(post, aes(x = sigma)) +
64     geom_density(fill = "salmon", alpha = 0.7) +
65     labs(title = paste("Posterior Density of sigma (nsamp =", ns, ")"),
66          x = "sigma", y = "Density") +
67     theme_minimal()
68   print(p_sigma)
69 }
```

OUTPUT - Posteriors obtained for the given values of total number of samples.



Setting	nsamp	nburn
A	100	33
B	1000	333
C	6000	2000

All other parameters (step size, leapfrog steps, priors, initial values) are kept the same as in Exercise 1.1.

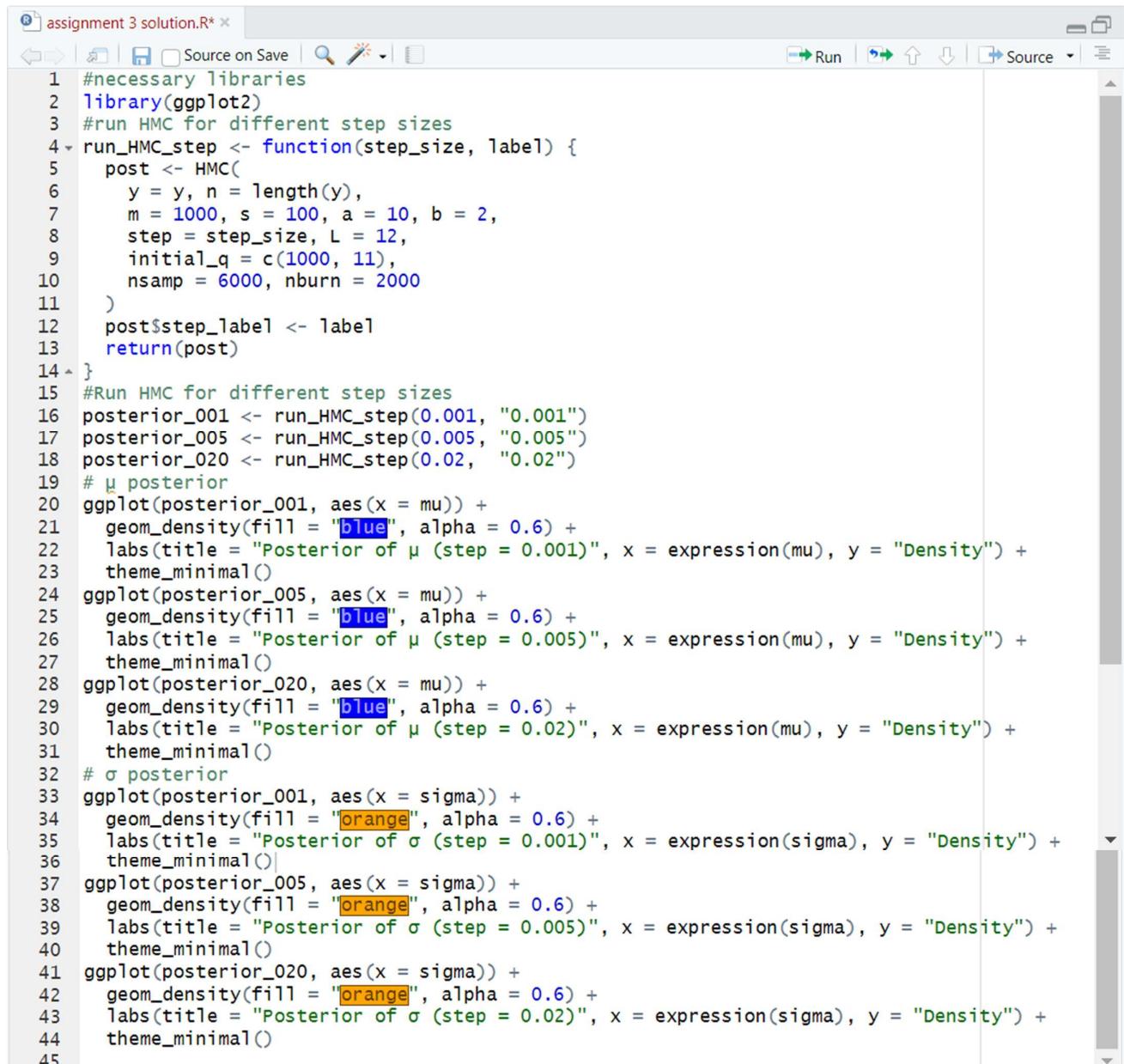
Setting	Posterior Shape	Stability	Comments
100	Very noisy	Poor	Posterior is bumpy due to low sample size
1000	Smoothen	Moderate	Better estimate but still some variance
6000	Very smooth	Strong	Posterior closely matches true values, more confidence

- More **samples** → **better approximation** of the true posterior.
- Fewer **samples** → **unreliable estimates** (not just noisy plots, but real inference problems).
- For practical use, always aim for **converged and stable posteriors** (like nsamp = 6000).

Part 3

Answer Number: 3.3

Code -



The screenshot shows the RStudio interface with the code for 'assignment 3 solution.R*' in the editor pane. The code is a script that defines a function to run HMC for different step sizes and then generates density plots for the posterior distributions of μ and σ for three different step sizes: 0.001, 0.005, and 0.02. The plots are styled with a blue fill and alpha = 0.6.

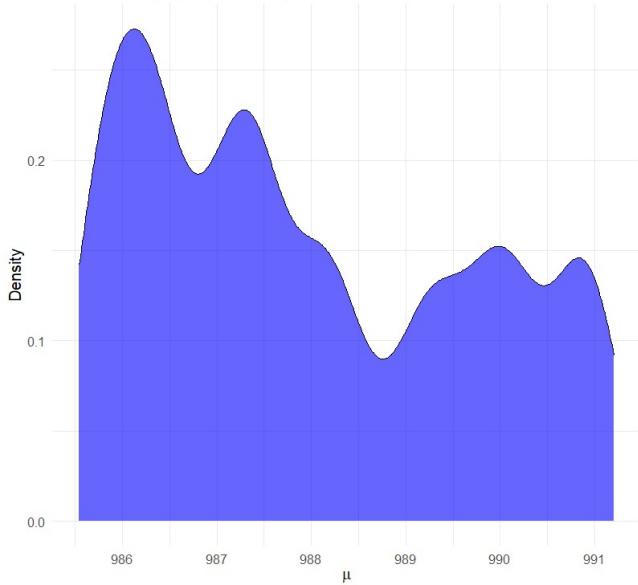
```

1 #necessary libraries
2 library(ggplot2)
3 #run HMC for different step sizes
4 run_HMC_step <- function(step_size, label) {
5   post <- HMC(
6     y = y, n = length(y),
7     m = 1000, s = 100, a = 10, b = 2,
8     step = step_size, L = 12,
9     initial_q = c(1000, 11),
10    nsamp = 6000, nburn = 2000
11  )
12  post$step_label <- label
13  return(post)
14 }
15 #Run HMC for different step sizes
16 posterior_001 <- run_HMC_step(0.001, "0.001")
17 posterior_005 <- run_HMC_step(0.005, "0.005")
18 posterior_020 <- run_HMC_step(0.02, "0.02")
19 # μ posterior
20 ggplot(posterior_001, aes(x = mu)) +
21   geom_density(fill = "blue", alpha = 0.6) +
22   labs(title = "Posterior of μ (step = 0.001)", x = expression(mu), y = "Density") +
23   theme_minimal()
24 ggplot(posterior_005, aes(x = mu)) +
25   geom_density(fill = "blue", alpha = 0.6) +
26   labs(title = "Posterior of μ (step = 0.005)", x = expression(mu), y = "Density") +
27   theme_minimal()
28 ggplot(posterior_020, aes(x = mu)) +
29   geom_density(fill = "blue", alpha = 0.6) +
30   labs(title = "Posterior of μ (step = 0.02)", x = expression(mu), y = "Density") +
31   theme_minimal()
32 # σ posterior
33 ggplot(posterior_001, aes(x = sigma)) +
34   geom_density(fill = "orange", alpha = 0.6) +
35   labs(title = "Posterior of σ (step = 0.001)", x = expression(sigma), y = "Density") +
36   theme_minimal()
37 ggplot(posterior_005, aes(x = sigma)) +
38   geom_density(fill = "orange", alpha = 0.6) +
39   labs(title = "Posterior of σ (step = 0.005)", x = expression(sigma), y = "Density") +
40   theme_minimal()
41 ggplot(posterior_020, aes(x = sigma)) +
42   geom_density(fill = "orange", alpha = 0.6) +
43   labs(title = "Posterior of σ (step = 0.02)", x = expression(sigma), y = "Density") +
44   theme_minimal()
45

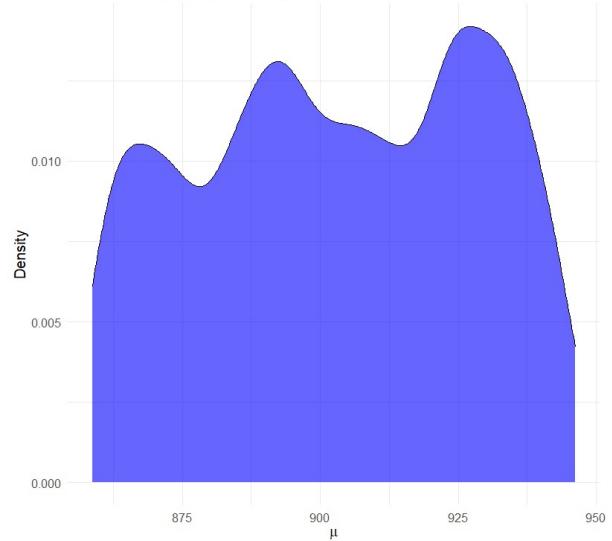
```

Scenario	Step size	Other Parameters
A	0.001	Same as Ex 1.1
B	0.005	Same
C	0.02	Same (default)

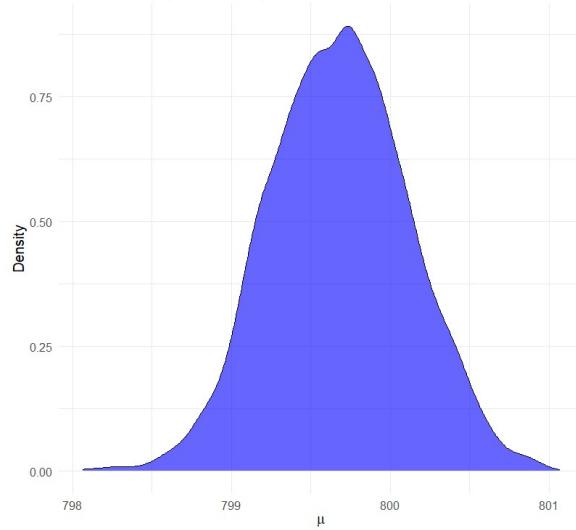
Posterior of μ (step = 0.001)



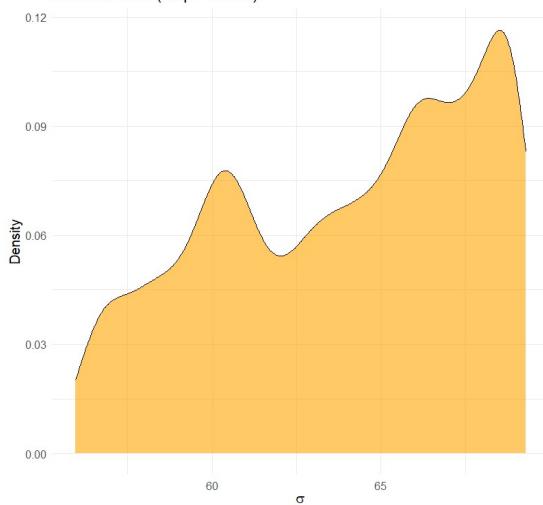
Posterior of μ (step = 0.005)



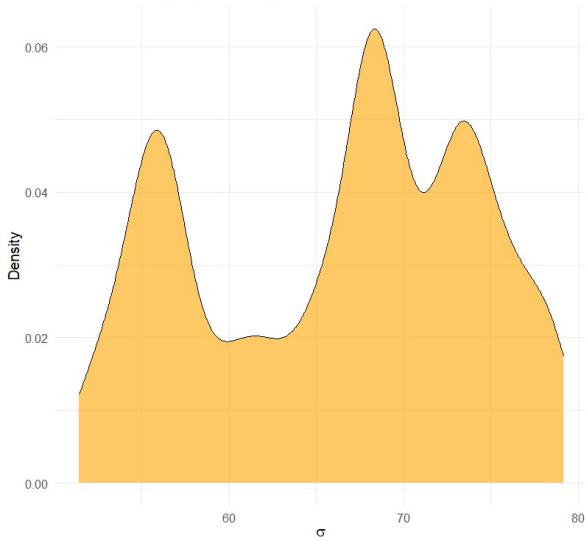
Posterior of μ (step = 0.02)



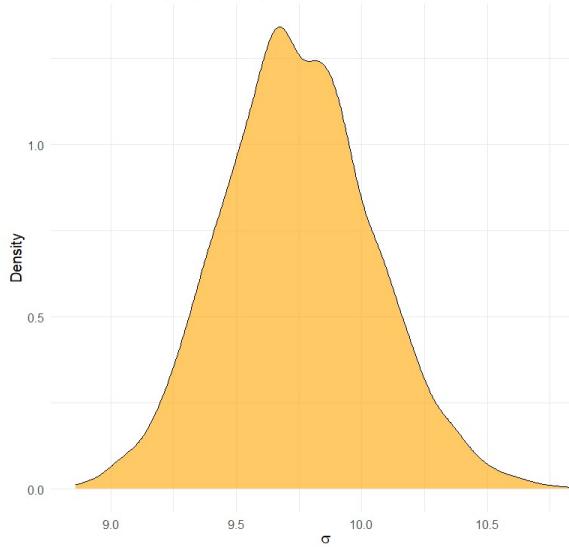
Posterior of σ (step = 0.001)



Posterior of σ (step = 0.005)



Posterior of σ (step = 0.02)



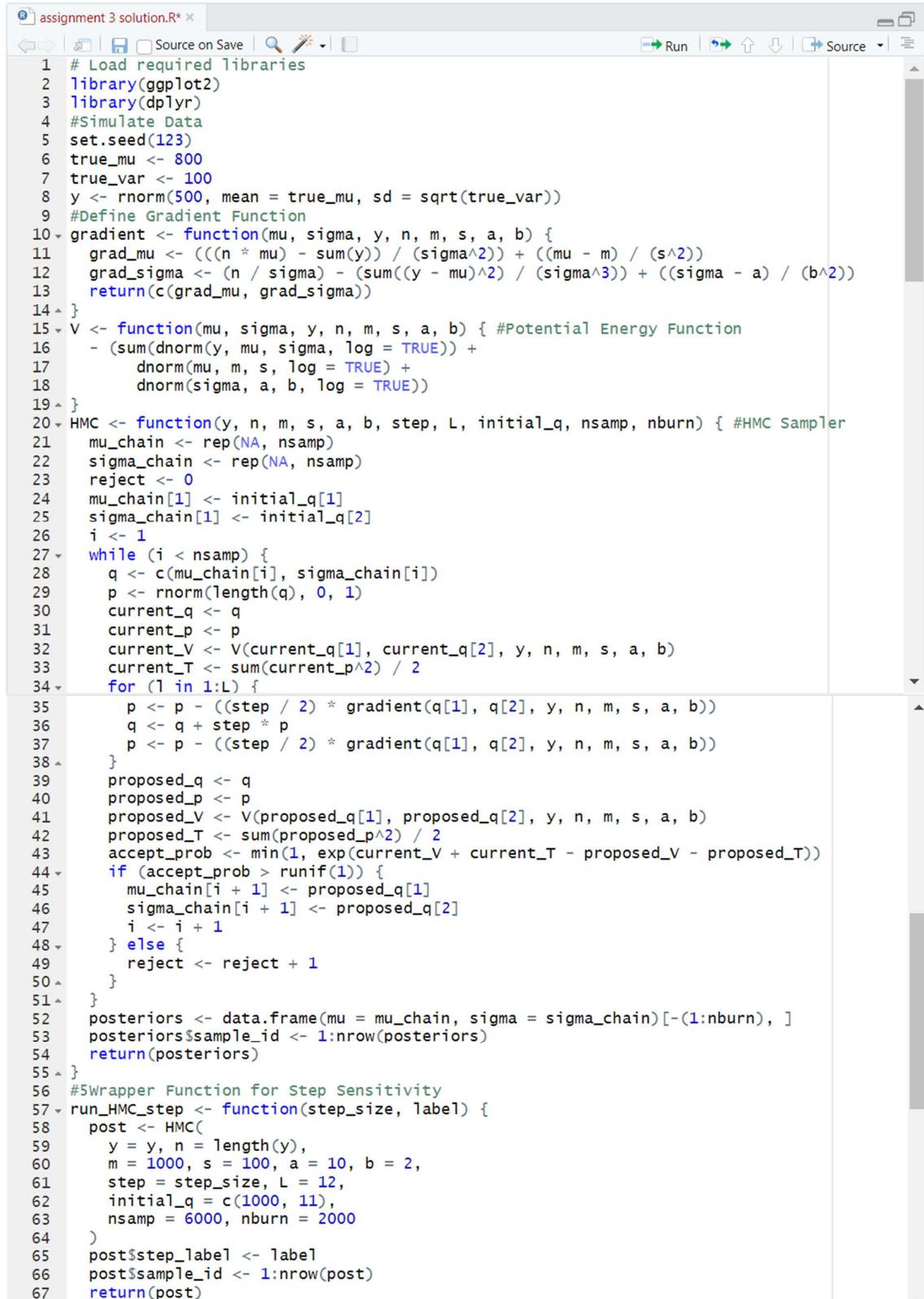
Step Size	Posterior Behavior	Explanation
0.001	Smooth but very narrow; maybe underexplored	Sampler moves very slowly and may not explore the whole posterior well.
0.005	Better than 0.001, still stable	Good balance between accuracy and exploration.
0.02	Smooth and well-spread	Default in Ex 1.1; efficient movement with acceptable accuracy.

- Too **small step** → the sampler takes forever to move slowly mixing.
- Too **large step** → leapfrog steps become inaccurate → poor acceptance.
- Optimal step size ensures **good exploration** of the posterior **without wasting time or accuracy**.

Part 3

Answer Number: 3.4

Code -



The screenshot shows the RStudio interface with the code for 'assignment 3 solution.R' in the editor. The code is a script for performing Hamiltonian Monte Carlo (HMC) sampling. It includes functions for loading libraries, generating simulated data, defining the gradient and potential energy functions, and implementing the HMC sampler. The code uses R's dplyr and ggplot2 packages, and it includes a wrapper function for step sensitivity analysis.

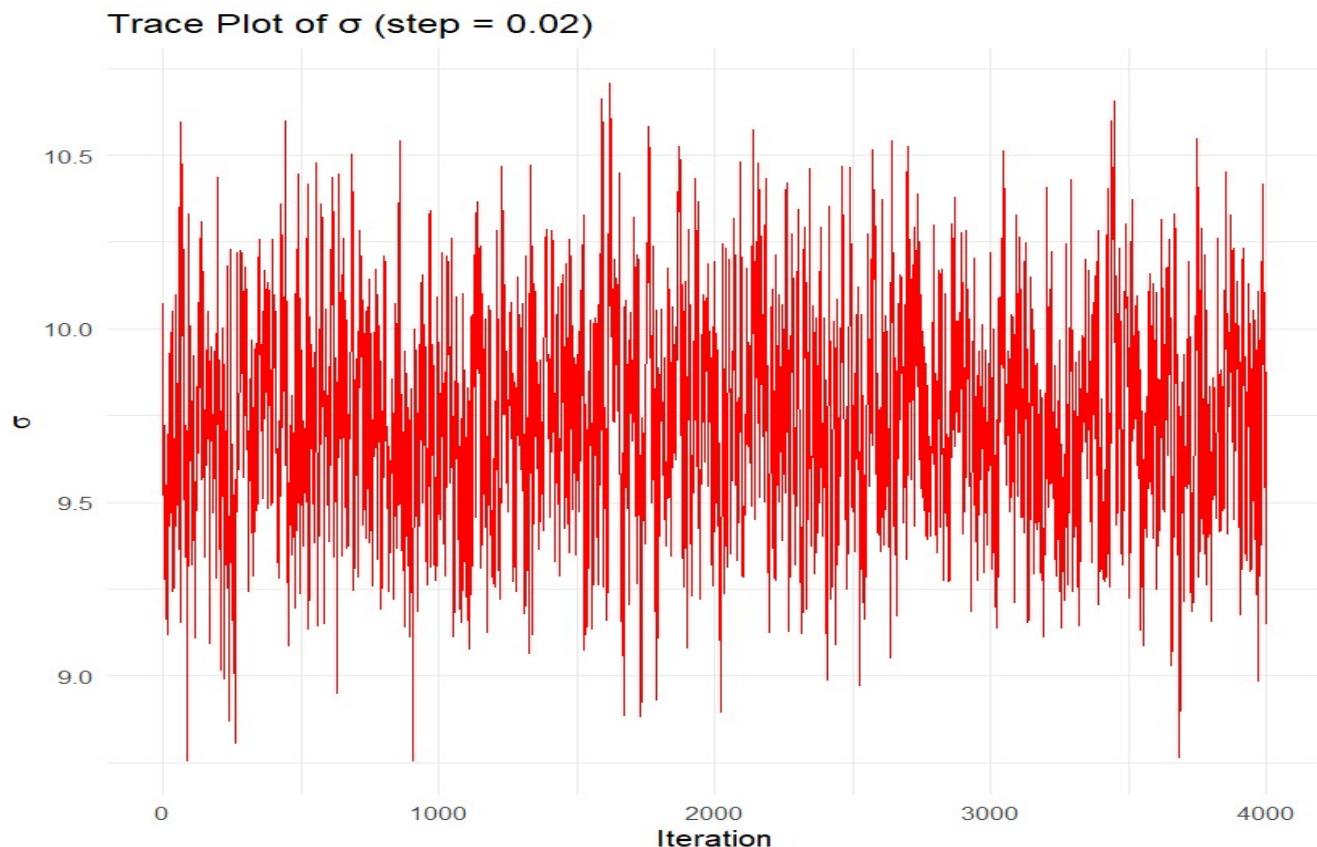
```
1 # Load required libraries
2 library(ggplot2)
3 library(dplyr)
4 #Simulate Data
5 set.seed(123)
6 true_mu <- 800
7 true_var <- 100
8 y <- rnorm(500, mean = true_mu, sd = sqrt(true_var))
9 #Define Gradient Function
10 gradient <- function(mu, sigma, y, n, m, s, a, b) {
11   grad_mu <- (((n * mu) - sum(y)) / (sigma^2)) + ((mu - m) / (s^2))
12   grad_sigma <- (n / sigma) - (sum((y - mu)^2) / (sigma^3)) + ((sigma - a) / (b^2))
13   return(c(grad_mu, grad_sigma))
14 }
15 V <- function(mu, sigma, y, n, m, s, a, b) { #Potential Energy Function
16   - (sum(dnorm(y, mu, sigma, log = TRUE)) +
17     dnorm(mu, m, s, log = TRUE) +
18     dnorm(sigma, a, b, log = TRUE))
19 }
20 HMC <- function(y, n, m, s, a, b, step, L, initial_q, nsamp, nburn) { #HMC Sampler
21   mu_chain <- rep(NA, nsamp)
22   sigma_chain <- rep(NA, nsamp)
23   reject <- 0
24   mu_chain[1] <- initial_q[1]
25   sigma_chain[1] <- initial_q[2]
26   i <- 1
27   while (i < nsamp) {
28     q <- c(mu_chain[i], sigma_chain[i])
29     p <- rnorm(length(q), 0, 1)
30     current_q <- q
31     current_p <- p
32     current_V <- V(current_q[1], current_q[2], y, n, m, s, a, b)
33     current_T <- sum(current_p^2) / 2
34     for (l in 1:L) {
35       p <- p - ((step / 2) * gradient(q[1], q[2], y, n, m, s, a, b))
36       q <- q + step * p
37       p <- p - ((step / 2) * gradient(q[1], q[2], y, n, m, s, a, b))
38     }
39     proposed_q <- q
40     proposed_p <- p
41     proposed_V <- V(proposed_q[1], proposed_q[2], y, n, m, s, a, b)
42     proposed_T <- sum(proposed_p^2) / 2
43     accept_prob <- min(1, exp(current_V + current_T - proposed_V - proposed_T))
44     if (accept_prob > runif(1)) {
45       mu_chain[i + 1] <- proposed_q[1]
46       sigma_chain[i + 1] <- proposed_q[2]
47       i <- i + 1
48     } else {
49       reject <- reject + 1
50     }
51   }
52   posteriors <- data.frame(mu = mu_chain, sigma = sigma_chain)[-1:nburn, ]
53   posteriors$sample_id <- 1:nrow(posteriors)
54   return(posteriors)
55 }
56 #5Wrapper Function for Step Sensitivity
57 run_HMC_step <- function(step_size, label) {
58   post <- HMC(
59     y = y, n = length(y),
60     m = 1000, s = 100, a = 10, b = 2,
61     step = step_size, L = 12,
62     initial_q = c(1000, 11),
63     nsamp = 6000, nburn = 2000
64   )
65   post$step_label <- label
66   post$sample_id <- 1:nrow(post)
67   return(post)
68 }
```

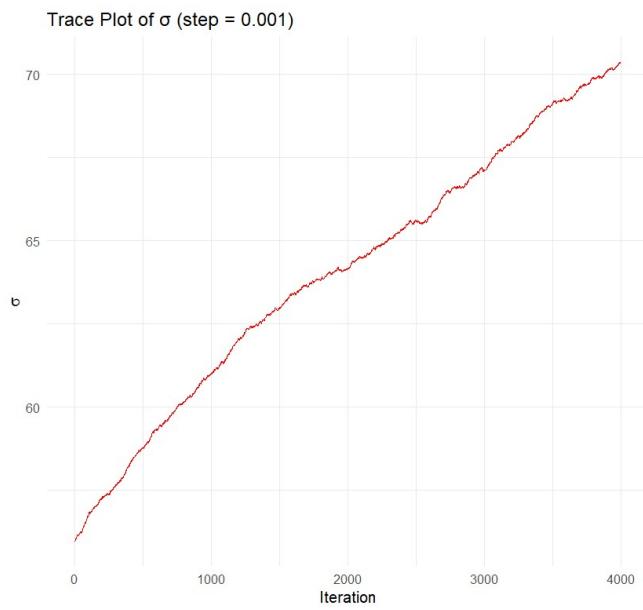
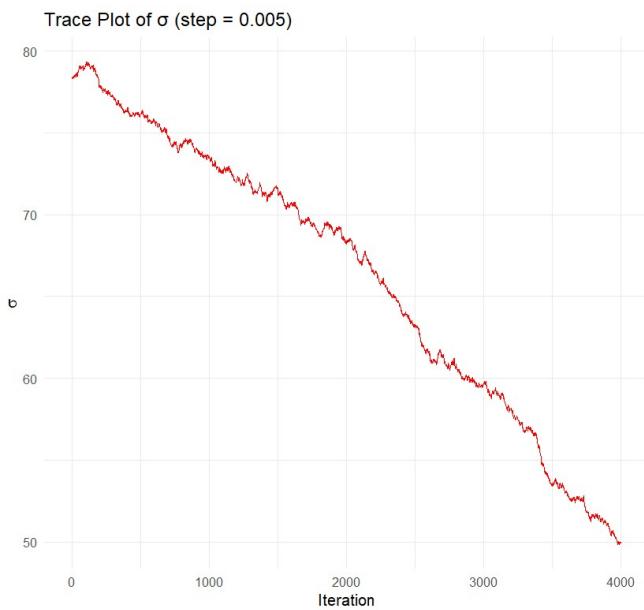
```

68  }
69 # Run for Step Sizes
70 posterior_001 <- run_HMC_step(0.001, "0.001")
71 posterior_005 <- run_HMC_step(0.005, "0.005")
72 posterior_020 <- run_HMC_step(0.02, "0.02")
73 #TRACE PLOTS FOR  $\mu$ 
74 ggplot(posterior_001, aes(x = sample_id, y = mu)) +
75   geom_line(color = "blue") +
76   labs(title = "Trace Plot of  $\mu$  (step = 0.001)", x = "Iteration", y = expression(mu)) +
77   theme_minimal()
78 ggplot(posterior_005, aes(x = sample_id, y = mu)) +
79   geom_line(color = "blue") +
80   labs(title = "Trace Plot of  $\mu$  (step = 0.005)", x = "Iteration", y = expression(mu)) +
81   theme_minimal()
82 ggplot(posterior_020, aes(x = sample_id, y = mu)) +
83   geom_line(color = "blue") +
84   labs(title = "Trace Plot of  $\mu$  (step = 0.02)", x = "Iteration", y = expression(mu)) +
85   theme_minimal()
86 #TRACE PLOTS FOR  $\sigma$ 
87 ggplot(posterior_001, aes(x = sample_id, y = sigma)) +
88   geom_line(color = "red") +
89   labs(title = "Trace Plot of  $\sigma$  (step = 0.001)", x = "Iteration", y = expression(sigma)) +
90   theme_minimal()
91 ggplot(posterior_005, aes(x = sample_id, y = sigma)) +
92   geom_line(color = "red") +
93   labs(title = "Trace Plot of  $\sigma$  (step = 0.005)", x = "Iteration", y = expression(sigma)) +
94   theme_minimal()
95 ggplot(posterior_020, aes(x = sample_id, y = sigma)) +
96   geom_line(color = "red") +
97   labs(title = "Trace Plot of  $\sigma$  (step = 0.02)", x = "Iteration", y = expression(sigma)) +
98   theme_minimal()

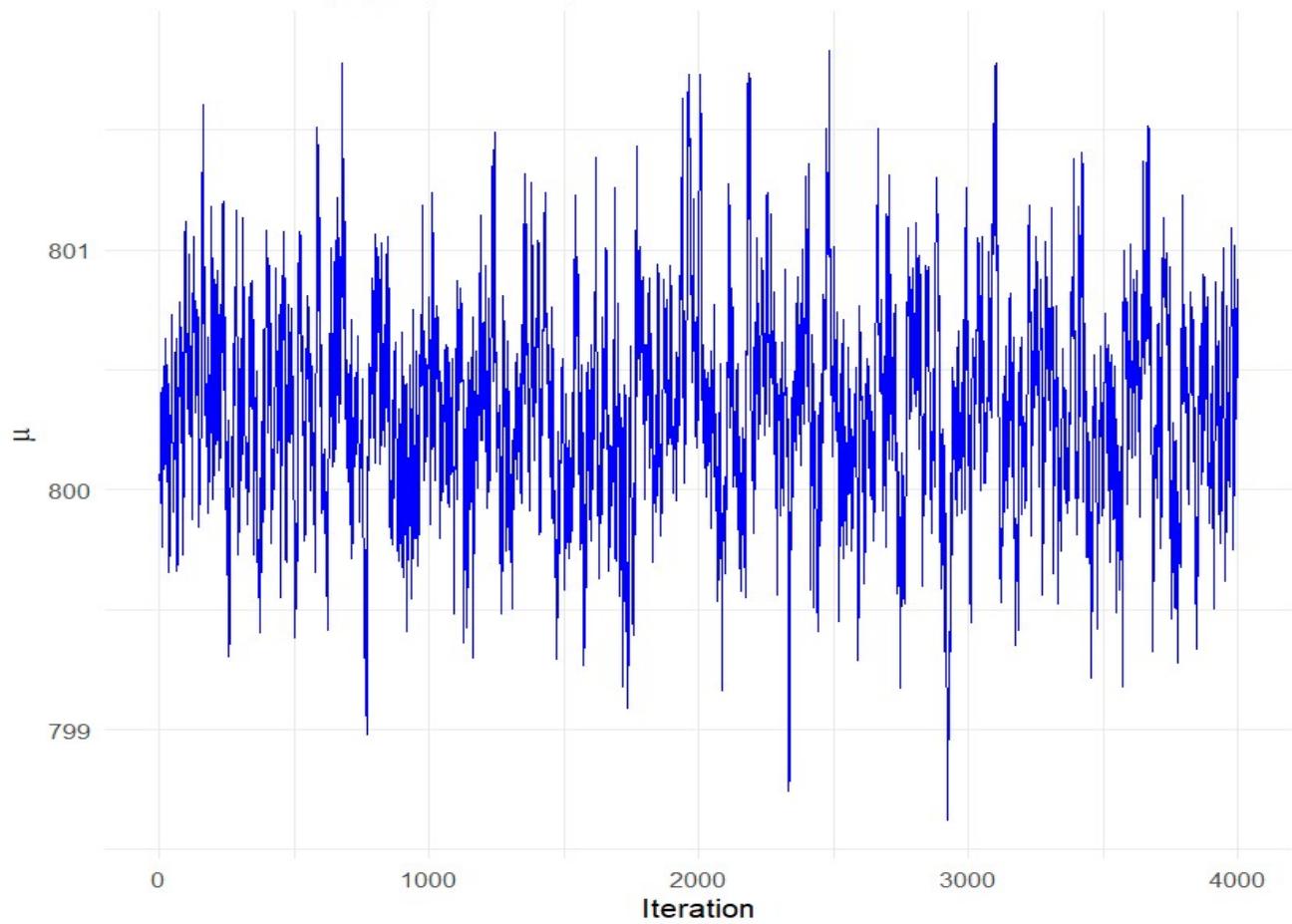
```

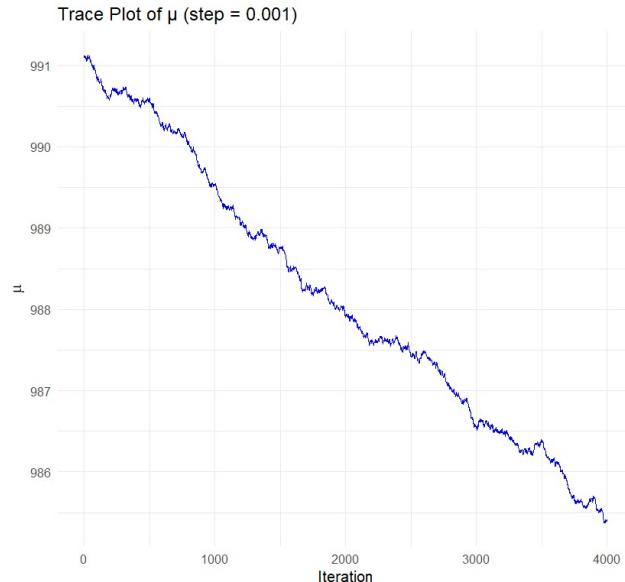
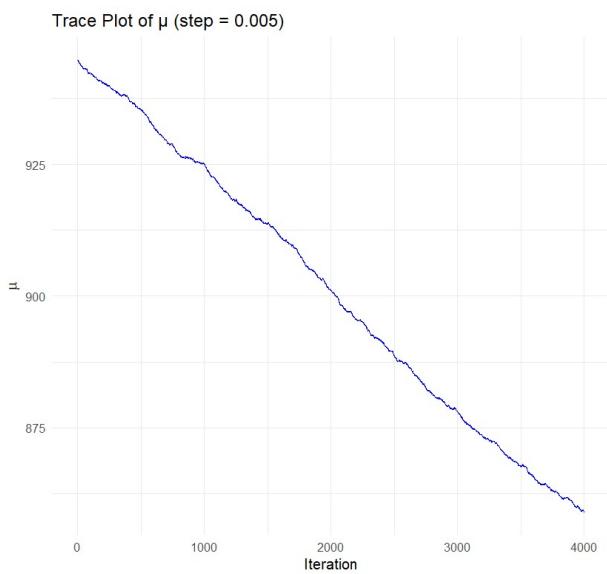
Output – Inspection of the mu and sigma chains PLOTS –





Trace Plot of μ (step = 0.02)





There are problems when using small step sizes (especially step = 0.001 and 0.005) in the HMC chains for μ and σ .

1. Poor Mixing for Small Step Sizes

- In the trace plots for step = 0.001, the chain changes **very slowly**, and values are **highly autocorrelated**.

2. Low Exploration

- The trace that the samples stay in a **narrow range** for long stretches. That means the sampler is **not moving far enough** to represent the full posterior.

3. Moderate Mixing at 0.005

- Step size 0.005 performs **slightly better**, but still shows **slow exploration** compared to 0.02.

Result -

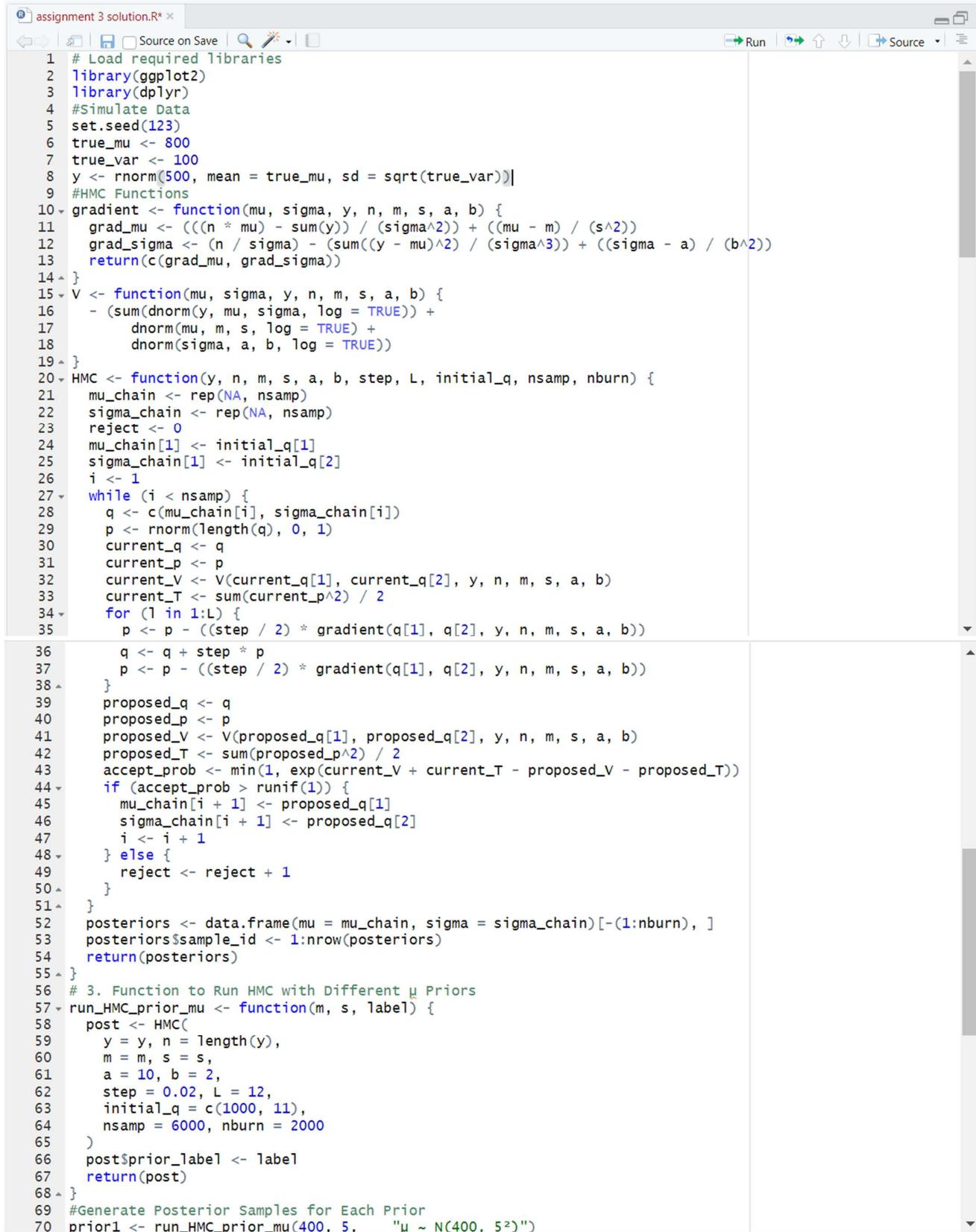
Yes, for small step sizes like 0.001, the chains show **poor mixing** and **inefficient sampling**, which is **problematic**.

Step size 0.02 results in **well-mixed, stable chains** and is the most reliable setting.

Part 3

Answer Number: 3.5

Code -



The screenshot shows the RStudio interface with the code for Assignment 3 solution.R. The code is a script for performing Hamiltonian Monte Carlo (HMC) sampling. It includes functions for calculating the gradient of the log posterior, the log posterior itself, and the HMC sampling algorithm. The code also includes a function to run HMC with different prior distributions for the mean parameter.

```
1 # Load required libraries
2 library(ggplot2)
3 library(dplyr)
4 #Simulate Data
5 set.seed(123)
6 true_mu <- 800
7 true_var <- 100
8 y <- rnorm(500, mean = true_mu, sd = sqrt(true_var))
9 #HMC Functions
10 gradient <- function(mu, sigma, y, n, m, s, a, b) {
11   grad_mu <- (((n * mu) - sum(y)) / (sigma^2)) + ((mu - m) / (s^2))
12   grad_sigma <- (n / sigma) - (sum((y - mu)^2) / (sigma^3)) + ((sigma - a) / (b^2))
13   return(c(grad_mu, grad_sigma))
14 }
15 V <- function(mu, sigma, y, n, m, s, a, b) {
16   - (sum(dnorm(y, mu, sigma, log = TRUE)) +
17     dnorm(mu, m, s, log = TRUE) +
18     dnorm(sigma, a, b, log = TRUE))
19 }
20 HMC <- function(y, n, m, s, a, b, step, L, initial_q, nsamp, nburn) {
21   mu_chain <- rep(NA, nsamp)
22   sigma_chain <- rep(NA, nsamp)
23   reject <- 0
24   mu_chain[1] <- initial_q[1]
25   sigma_chain[1] <- initial_q[2]
26   i <- 1
27   while (i < nsamp) {
28     q <- c(mu_chain[i], sigma_chain[i])
29     p <- rnorm(length(q), 0, 1)
30     current_q <- q
31     current_p <- p
32     current_V <- V(current_q[1], current_q[2], y, n, m, s, a, b)
33     current_T <- sum(current_p^2) / 2
34     for (l in 1:L) {
35       p <- p - ((step / 2) * gradient(q[1], q[2], y, n, m, s, a, b))
36       q <- q + step * p
37       p <- p - ((step / 2) * gradient(q[1], q[2], y, n, m, s, a, b))
38     }
39     proposed_q <- q
40     proposed_p <- p
41     proposed_V <- V(proposed_q[1], proposed_q[2], y, n, m, s, a, b)
42     proposed_T <- sum(proposed_p^2) / 2
43     accept_prob <- min(1, exp(current_V + current_T - proposed_V - proposed_T))
44     if (accept_prob > runif(1)) {
45       mu_chain[i + 1] <- proposed_q[1]
46       sigma_chain[i + 1] <- proposed_q[2]
47       i <- i + 1
48     } else {
49       reject <- reject + 1
50     }
51   }
52   posteriors <- data.frame(mu = mu_chain, sigma = sigma_chain)[-1:nburn, ]
53   posteriors$sample_id <- 1:nrow(posteriors)
54   return(posteriors)
55 }
56 # 3. Function to Run HMC with Different  $\mu$  Priors
57 run_HMC_prior_mu <- function(m, s, label) {
58   post <- HMC(
59     y = y, n = length(y),
60     m = m, s = s,
61     a = 10, b = 2,
62     step = 0.02, L = 12,
63     initial_q = c(1000, 11),
64     nsamp = 6000, nburn = 2000
65   )
66   post$prior_label <- label
67   return(post)
68 }
69 #Generate Posterior Samples for Each Prior
70 prior1 <- run_HMC_prior_mu(400, 5, "mu ~ N(400, 5^2)")
```

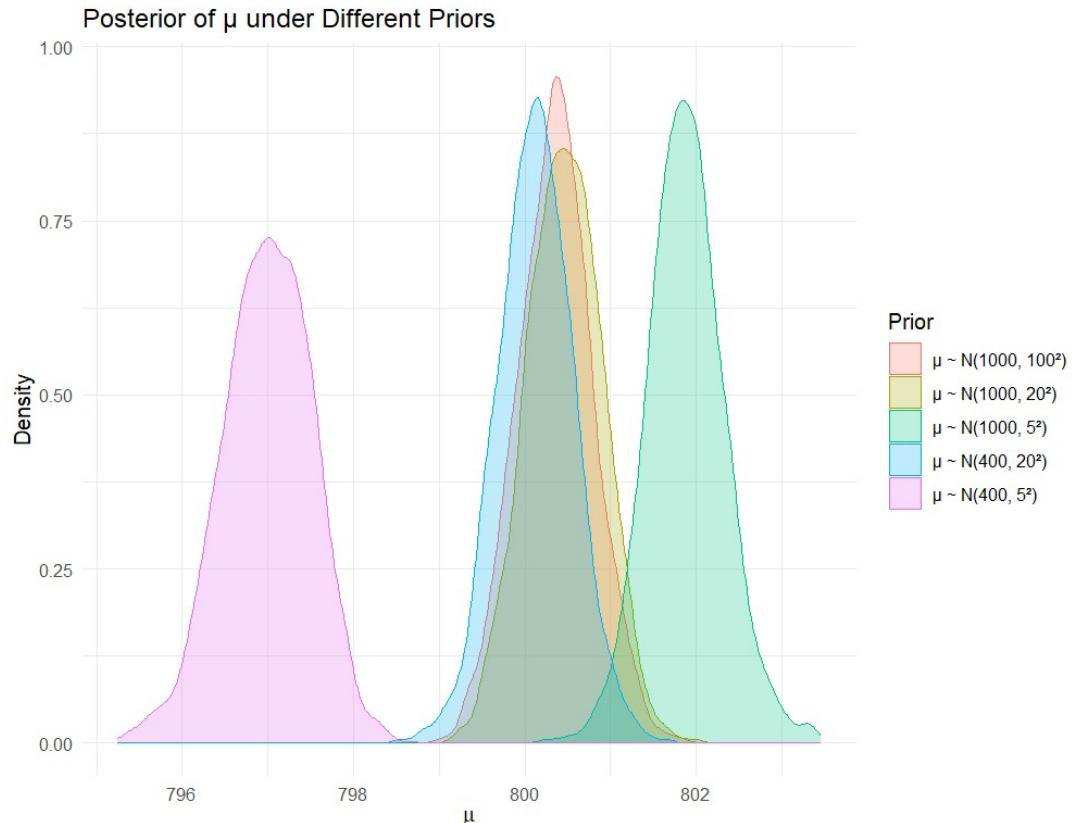
```

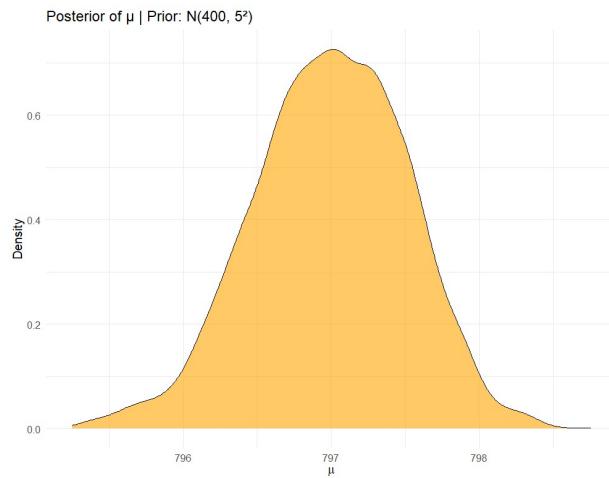
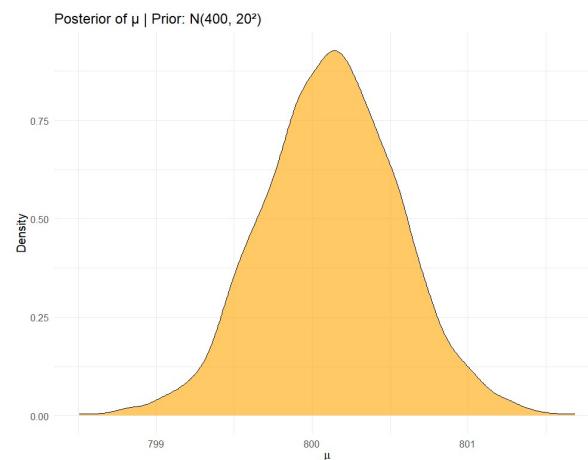
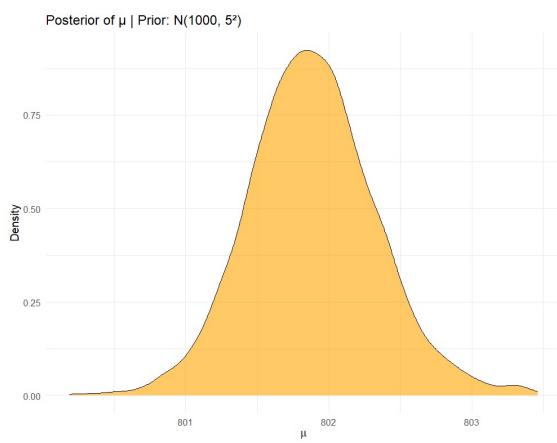
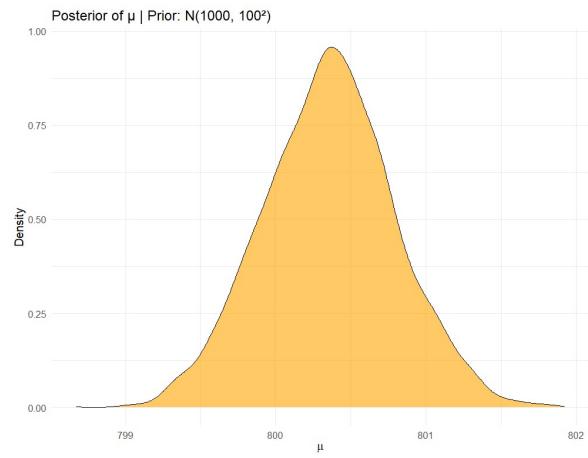
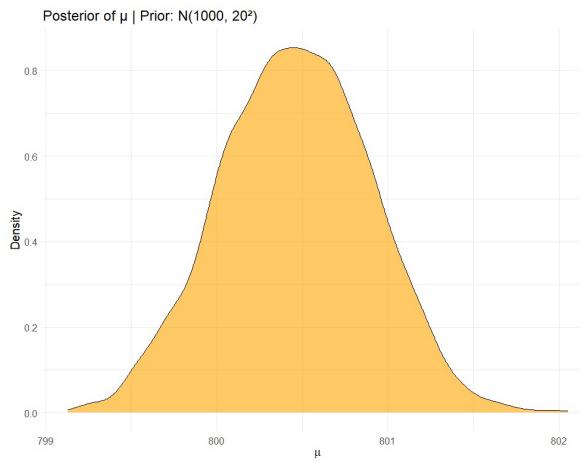
71 prior2 <- run_HMC_prior_mu(400, 20, "μ ~ N(400, 20²)")
72 prior3 <- run_HMC_prior_mu(1000, 5, "μ ~ N(1000, 5²)")
73 prior4 <- run_HMC_prior_mu(1000, 20, "μ ~ N(1000, 20²)")
74 prior5 <- run_HMC_prior_mu(1000, 100, "μ ~ N(1000, 100²)")
75 #plot
76 all_priors <- bind_rows(prior1, prior2, prior3, prior4, prior5)
77 ggplot(prior1, aes(x = mu)) +
78   geom_density(fill = "orange", alpha = 0.6) +
79   labs(title = "Posterior of μ | Prior: N(400, 5²)", x = expression(mu), y = "Density") +
80   theme_minimal()
81 ggplot(prior2, aes(x = mu)) +
82   geom_density(fill = "orange", alpha = 0.6) +
83   labs(title = "Posterior of μ | Prior: N(400, 20²)", x = expression(mu), y = "Density") +
84   theme_minimal()
85 ggplot(prior3, aes(x = mu)) +
86   geom_density(fill = "orange", alpha = 0.6) +
87   labs(title = "Posterior of μ | Prior: N(1000, 5²)", x = expression(mu), y = "Density") +
88   theme_minimal()
89 ggplot(prior4, aes(x = mu)) +
90   geom_density(fill = "orange", alpha = 0.6) +
91   labs(title = "Posterior of μ | Prior: N(1000, 20²)", x = expression(mu), y = "Density") +
92   theme_minimal()
93 ggplot(prior5, aes(x = mu)) +
94   geom_density(fill = "orange", alpha = 0.6) +
95   labs(title = "Posterior of μ | Prior: N(1000, 100²)", x = expression(mu), y = "Density") +
96   theme_minimal()
97 #COMBINED PLOT FOR COMPARISON
98 ggplot(all_priors, aes(x = mu, color = prior_label, fill = prior_label)) +
99   geom_density(alpha = 0.25) +
100  labs(title = "Posterior of μ under Different Priors",
101    x = expression(mu), y = "Density", color = "Prior", fill = "Prior") +
102  theme_minimal()
103

```

Output - Estimation and comparison of the posterior distribution of μ when the prior on μ are different -

Plots -





Yes, the posterior distribution of μ is sensitive to the choice of prior.

Tight priors like $N(400, 5^2)$ or $N(1000, 5^2)$ significantly skew the posterior toward the prior mean, even though the data mean is around 800.

Looser priors like $N(1000, 100^2)$ produce posteriors that reflect the data better.

Hence, choosing a prior should be done carefully depending on the confidence in prior knowledge.

- **Stronger (narrower) priors** have **more influence** over the posterior.
- **Broader priors (higher SD)** allow the **data to dominate**.
- **Best practice:** Use **weakly informative priors** unless strong prior knowledge is justified.

CGS698C, Assignment 04

Himanshu Yadav

Part 1: A simple linear regression: Power posing and testosterone

Download the file `df_powerpose.csv` and load the following data set:

```
df_powerpose <- read.table("df_powerpose.csv", header=T, sep=",")  
head(df_powerpose)  
  
##   X id hptreat female age testm1  testm2  
## 1 2 29    High   Male  19 38.725  62.375  
## 2 3 30    Low   Female 20 32.770  29.235  
## 3 4 31    High   Female 20 32.320  27.510  
## 4 5 32    Low   Female 18 17.995  28.655  
## 5 7 34    Low   Female 21 73.580  44.670  
## 6 8 35    High   Female 20 80.695 105.485
```

The data set, which was originally published in Carney, Cuddy, and Yap (2010) but released in modified form by Fosse (2016), shows the testosterone levels of 39 different individuals, before and after treatment, where treatment refers to each individual being assigned to a high power pose or a low power pose. In the original paper by Carney, Cuddy, and Yap (2010), the unit given for testosterone measurement (estimated from saliva samples) was picograms per milliliter (pg/ml). One picogram per milliliter is 0.001 nanogram per milliliter (ng/ml).

The research hypothesis is that on average, assigning a subject a high power pose vs. a low power pose will lead to higher testosterone levels after treatment.

Investigate this claim using a linear model and weakly informative priors¹ in brms. You'll need to estimate the effect of the variable that encodes the change in testosterone.

Part 2: Poisson regression models and hypothesis testing

Human language has an interesting, empirical property: When dependency arcs are drawn between syntactically-related words, they rarely cross each other. You can ignore this sentence if you do not have any background in Linguistics. I am just setting a motivation for the problem.

Any sentence from a human language would contain some easy structures and some difficult structures. A crossing dependency is a type of structure that is arguably difficult to process and is rarely found in natural languages.

The number of crossing dependencies in a sentence can be given by a Poisson distribution

$$N_i \sim \text{Poisson}(\lambda_i) \tag{1}$$

where N_i is the number of crossing dependencies in the sentence i ; λ_i is rate parameter indicating the expected rate of crossing dependencies in the sentence i , such that

¹ You can also use default priors of brms assuming you know nothing about typical ranges of testosterone using salivary measurement. But I would suggest you try to come up with weakly informative priors. Feel free to do a prior predictive check if you are unsure.

$$\log \lambda_i = \alpha + \beta L_i \quad (2)$$

where L_i is the length of the sentence i , α is the expected rate of crossings in a sentence of **average length** (say 11) and β is the change in rate of crossings as a function of sentence length.

(Note: Sentence length means the number of words in a sentence. For simplicity, assume that sentence lengths can range from 2 to 20.)

Exercise 2.1 Implement the model in R or Python such that the function gives the number of crossings as the outcome, and takes sentence length, α , and β as its arguments.

Exercise 2.2 Generate prior predictions of the model for sentences of length 4 under the following prior assumptions

$$\alpha \sim \text{Normal}_{lb=0}(0.15, 0.1) \quad (3)$$

$$\beta \sim \text{Normal}_{lb=0}(0.25, 0.05) \quad (4)$$

Exercise 2.3 Consider a dataset of crossing dependencies from English and German corpora, "crossing.csv". This dataset contains number of crossings for each sentence from each language. Fit the following two models, $\mathcal{M}1$ and $\mathcal{M}2$, to the given data.

Model $\mathcal{M}1$

Assumption: The rate of crossings is only a function of sentence length and it remains exactly the same in English and German.)

This assumption can be represented by the following regression.

$$N_{i,j} \sim \text{Poisson}(\lambda_{i,j}) \quad (5)$$

where $N_{i,j}$ is the number of crossing dependencies in sentence i in language j ; $\lambda_{i,j}$ is rate parameter indicating the expected rate of crossing dependencies in sentence i in language j , such that

$$\log \lambda_{i,j} = \alpha + \beta L_{i,j} \quad (6)$$

where $L_{i,j}$ is the length of sentence i of language j .

The above model implies the average rate of crossings depends only on the sentence length.

Model $\mathcal{M}2$

Assumption: As sentence length increases, the number crossings grows at a different rate in English vs. German.)

$$N_{i,j} \sim \text{Poisson}(\lambda_{i,j}) \quad (7)$$

where $N_{i,j}$ is the number of crossing dependencies in sentence i in language j ; $\lambda_{i,j}$ is rate parameter indicating the expected rate of crossing dependencies in sentence i in language j , such that

$$\log \lambda_{i,j} = \alpha + \beta L_{i,j} + \beta_{language} R_j + \beta_{interact} L_{i,j} * R_j \quad (8)$$

where $L_{i,j}$ is the length of sentence i of language j , R_j is the indicator variable such that $R_j = 0$ if the language is English and $R_j = 1$ if the language is German.

The above model implies that the average rate of crossings depends on the sentence length as well the language (English vs German).

Load the data file "crossings.csv" and fit the above two models to the data and estimate all the parameters. You can use "brms" to fit the above models, you will have to use Poisson family for the likelihood. Use the following priors:

$$\alpha \sim Normal(0.15, 0.1) \quad (9)$$

$$\beta \sim Normal(0, 0.15) \quad (10)$$

$$\beta_{language} \sim Normal(0, 0.15) \quad (11)$$

$$\beta_{interact} \sim Normal(0, 0.15) \quad (12)$$

Exercise 2.4 Quantify evidence for the models \mathcal{M}_1 and \mathcal{M}_2 using k -fold cross-validation.

Here is a sample code to do the same.

```
observed <- read.table("crossings.csv", sep=",", header=T)
# Visualize average rate of crossings
observed %>% group_by(Language, s.length) %>%
  summarise(mean.crossings=mean(nCross)) %>%
  ggplot(aes(x=s.length, y=mean.crossings,
             group=Language, color=Language)) +
  geom_point() + geom_line()

# Code/center the predictors
observed$s.length <- observed$s.length - mean(observed$s.length)
observed$lang <- ifelse(observed$Language=="German", 1, 0)

# These two vectors will store log predictive densities
# in each fold

lpds.m1 <- c()
lpds.m2 <- c()

untested <- observed
for(k in 1:5){
  # Prepare test data and training data
  ytest <- sample_n(untested, size=nrow(observed)/5)
  ytrain <- setdiff(observed, ytest)
```

```

untested <- setdiff(untested,ytest)
# Fit the models M1 and M2 on training data
fit.m1 <-
  brm(nCross ~ 1 + s.length,data=ytrain,
       family = poisson(link = "log"),
       prior = c(prior(normal(0.15, 0.1), class = Intercept),
                 prior(normal(0, 0.15), class = b)),
       cores=4)

fit.m2 <-
  brm(nCross ~ 1 + s.length + lang + s.length*lang,
       data=ytrain,
       family = poisson(link = "log"),
       prior = c(prior(normal(0.15, 0.1), class = Intercept),
                 prior(normal(0, 0.15), class = b)),
       cores=4)

# retrieve posterior samples
post.m1 <- posterior_samples(fit.m1)
post.m2 <- posterior_samples(fit.m2)

# Calculate log pointwise predictive density using test data
lppd.m1 <- 0
lppd.m2 <- 0
for(i in 1:nrow(ytest)){
  lpd_im1 <- log(mean(dpois(ytest[i,]$nCross,
                               lambda=exp(post.m1[,1]+
                                          post.m1[,2]*ytest[i,]$s.length))))
  lppd.m1 <- lppd.m1 + lpd_im1
  lpd_im2 <- log(mean(dpois(ytest[i,]$nCross,
                               lambda=exp(post.m2[,1]+
                                          post.m2[,2]*ytest[i,]$s.length+
                                          post.m2[,3]*ytest[i,]$lang+
                                          post.m2[,4]*ytest[i,]$s.length*ytest[i,]$lang
                                          ))))
  lppd.m2 <- lppd.m2 + lpd_im2
}
lpds.m1 <- c(lpds.m1,lppd.m1)
lpds.m2 <- c(lpds.m2,lppd.m2)
}

# Predictive accuracy of model M1
elpd.m1 <- sum(lpds.m1)

```

```
# Predictive accuracy of model M2
elpd.m2 <- sum(lpds.m2)

# Evidence in favor of M2 over M1
difference_elpd <- elpd.m2-elpd.m1
```

SOLUTION

Answer - Part 1

Code -

```
1 #required packages
2 library(brms)
3 library(ggplot2)
4 library(dplyr)
5 #data
6 df_powerpose <- read.table("c:\\\\users\\\\piyus\\\\downloads\\\\df_powerpose_3d0b3d2e-da49-41b8-ab35-010b8a1fb7af.csv", header = TRUE, sep = ",")
7 #view first few rows
8 head(df_powerpose)
9 #compute testosterone change
10 df_powerpose$test_change <- df_powerpose$testm2 - df_powerpose$testm1
11 #quick check
12 summary(df_powerpose$test_change)
13 #optional: Visualize change by treatment group
14 ggplot(df_powerpose, aes(x = hptreat, y = test_change, fill = hptreat)) +
15   geom_boxplot() +
16   labs(title = "Testosterone Change by Power Pose", y = "Change in Testosterone (pg/ml)", x = "Power Pose") +
17   theme_minimal()
18 #set weakly informative priors
19 priors <- c(
20   prior(normal(0, 5), class = "Intercept"),
21   prior(normal(0, 5), class = "b")
22 )
23 #Fit Bayesian linear regression
24 fit <- brm(
25   test_change ~ hptreat,
26   data = df_powerpose,
27   family = gaussian(),
28   prior = priors,
29   chains = 4, cores = 4, seed = 123
30 )
31 #Model summary
32 summary(fit)
33 #Plot posterior distributions
34 plot(fit)
35
```

Output Results - Summary and Related Plots



All 4 chains finished successfully.
 Mean chain execution time: 0.0 seconds.
 Total execution time: 0.2 seconds.

```
>
> # Model summary
> summary(fit)
  Family: gaussian
  Links: mu = identity; sigma = identity
  Formula: test_change ~ hptreat
  Data: df_powerpose (Number of observations: 39)
  Draws: 4 chains, each with iter = 2000; warmup = 1000; thin = 1;
         total post-warmup draws = 4000
```

Regression Coefficients:

	Estimate	Est.Error	1-95% CI	u-95% CI	Rhat	Bulk_ESS	Tail_ESS
Intercept	1.75	3.36	-4.94	8.21	1.00	3683	3045
hptreatLow	-3.33	4.00	-11.36	4.37	1.00	3450	2964

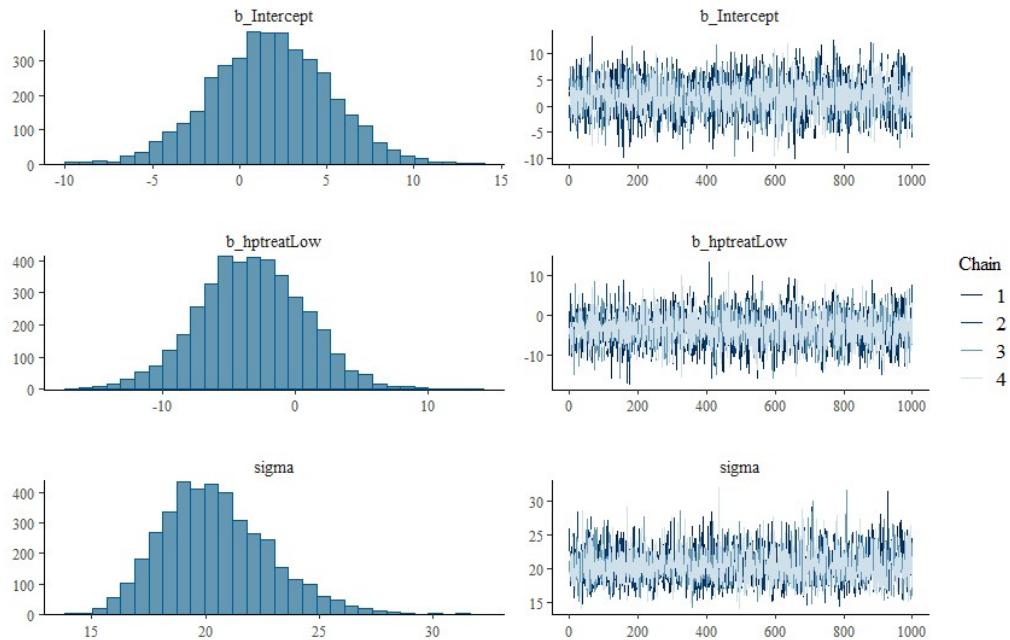
Further Distributional Parameters:

	Estimate	Est.Error	1-95% CI	u-95% CI	Rhat	Bulk_ESS	Tail_ESS
sigma	20.45	2.37	16.48	25.70	1.00	3564	2738

Draws were sampled using `sample(hmc)`. For each parameter, `Bulk_ESS` and `Tail_ESS` are effective sample size measures, and `Rhat` is the potential scale reduction factor on split chains (at convergence, `Rhat` = 1).

```
>
> # Plot posterior distributions
> plot(fit)
```

>



Final Interpretation -

- The **intercept** represents the **mean testosterone change** in the **High power pose** group ($\approx +1.75$ pg/ml).
- The coefficient for `hptreatLow` is **-3.33**, meaning:
- The **Low pose group** had, on average, **3.33 pg/ml less increase** in testosterone than the High group.
- However, the **95% credible interval [-11.36, 4.37]** includes **0**, indicating **high uncertainty** and **no strong evidence** for a real effect.

PART 2

EXCERSISE 2.1

CODE –

```
1 # Function
2 simulate_crossings <- function(sentence_length, alpha, beta) {
3 #log lambda
4   log_lambda <- alpha + beta * sentence_length
5 # Transform to lambda
6   lambda <- exp(log_lambda)
7 #number of crossings
8   n_crossings <- rpois(n = 1, lambda = lambda)
9   return(n_crossings)
10 }
11
12 # Example:
13 simulate_crossings(sentence_length = 10, alpha = 0.15, beta = 0.25)
14
```

OUTPUT – Result of example usage

```
> # Example:
> simulate_crossings(sentence_length = 10, alpha = 0.15, beta = 0.25)
[1] 13
>
```

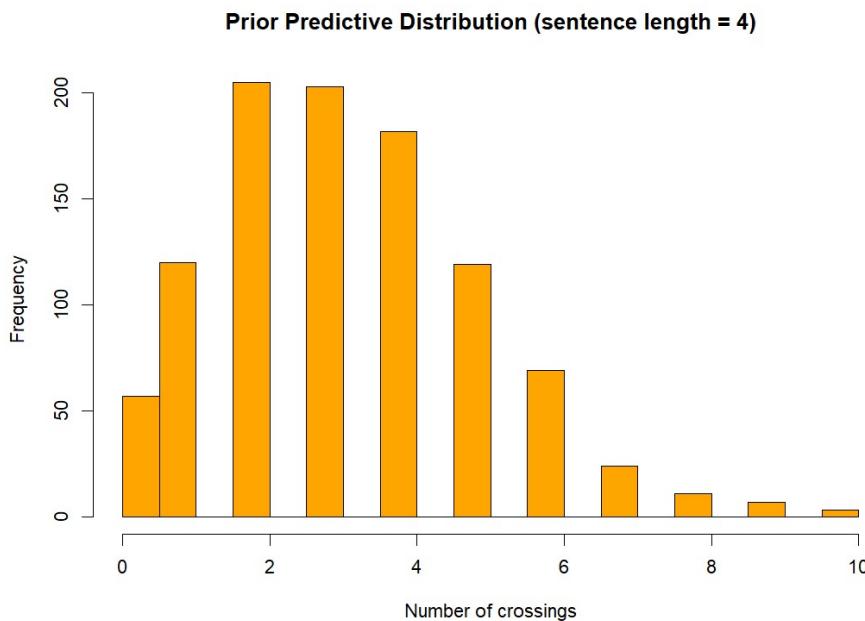
PART 2

EXCERSISE 2.2

CODE –

```
1 #required package
2 library(truncnorm)
3 # Function
4 prior_predictive_simulation <- function(n_sim = 1000, sentence_length = 4) {
5 #Sample alpha and beta
6 alpha_samples <- rtruncnorm(n_sim, a = 0, mean = 0.15, sd = 0.1)
7 beta_samples <- rtruncnorm(n_sim, a = 0, mean = 0.25, sd = 0.05)
8 #Calculate lambda
9 log_lambda <- alpha_samples + beta_samples * sentence_length
10 lambda <- exp(log_lambda)
11 #Simulate crossings from Poisson
12 n_crossings <- rpois(n_sim, lambda)
13
14 return(n_crossings)
15 }
16 #Run the simulation
17 set.seed(123)
18 prior_predictions <- prior_predictive_simulation()
19 # Plot histogram
20 hist(prior_predictions,
21 main = "Prior Predictive Distribution (sentence length = 4)",
22 xlab = "Number of crossings",
23 col = "orange", breaks = 20)
24 #summary statistics
25 summary(prior_predictions)
26
```

OUTPUT –



STATISTICAL SUMMARY OUTPUT –

```
> summary(prior_predictions)
  Min. 1st Qu. Median      Mean 3rd Qu.      Max.
0.000  2.000  3.000  3.225  4.000 10.000
```

PART 2

EXCERSISE 2.3

CODE –

```
1 library(brms)# Load required packages
2 library(dplyr)
3 data <- read.csv("E:\\crossings_6152aea5-d4ce-4824-ae9b-f5598b52aecc.csv")# Load the data
4 # Center sentence length and encode language
5 data <- data %>%
6   mutate(
7     s.length = s.length - mean(s.length),
8     lang = ifelse(Language == "German", 1, 0)
9   )
10 # Define priors
11 priors <- c(
12   prior(normal(0.15, 0.1), class = "Intercept"),
13   prior(normal(0, 0.15), class = "b")
14 )
15 # Fit Model M1
16 fit_m1 <- brm(
17   formula = nCross ~ 1 + s.length,
18   data = data,
19   family = poisson(link = "log"),
20   prior = priors,
21   cores = 4,
22   seed = 123
23 )
24 # Fit Model M2
25 fit_m2 <- brm(
26   formula = nCross ~ 1 + s.length + lang + s.length:lang,
27   data = data,
28   family = poisson(link = "log"),
29   prior = priors,
30   cores = 4,
31   seed = 123
32 )
33 summary(fit_m1)# Summary of fitted models
34 summary(fit_m2)
35
```

OUTPUT –

```
> # Summary of fitted models
> summary(fit_m1)
Family: poisson
Links: mu = log
Formula: nCross ~ 1 + s.length
Data: data (Number of observations: 1900)
Draws: 4 chains, each with iter = 2000; warmup = 1000; thin = 1;
      total post-warmup draws = 4000

Regression Coefficients:
  Estimate Est.Error 1-95% CI u-95% CI Rhat Bulk_ESS Tail_ESS
Intercept    0.20      0.02     0.15     0.24 1.00    1251    1349
s.length     0.15      0.00     0.14     0.16 1.00    1694    1777

Draws were sampled using sampling(NUTS). For each parameter, Bulk_ESS
and Tail_ESS are effective sample size measures, and Rhat is the potential
scale reduction factor on split chains (at convergence, Rhat = 1).
> summary(fit_m2)
Family: poisson
Links: mu = log
Formula: nCross ~ 1 + s.length + lang + s.length:lang
Data: data (Number of observations: 1900)
Draws: 4 chains, each with iter = 2000; warmup = 1000; thin = 1;
      total post-warmup draws = 4000

Regression Coefficients:
  Estimate Est.Error 1-95% CI u-95% CI Rhat Bulk_ESS Tail_ESS
Intercept    0.16      0.03     0.10     0.22 1.00    2740    2366
s.length     0.10      0.01     0.09     0.11 1.00    2231    2242
lang         0.03      0.05    -0.06     0.11 1.00    2011    2084
s.length:lang 0.10      0.01     0.08     0.11 1.00    1877    2112

Draws were sampled using sampling(NUTS). For each parameter, Bulk_ESS
and Tail_ESS are effective sample size measures, and Rhat is the potential
scale reduction factor on split chains (at convergence, Rhat = 1).
` |
```

PART 2

EXCERISE 2.4

CODE –

```
1 # Load required packages
2 library(brms)
3 library(dplyr)
4 # Use cmdstanr backend
5 options(brms.backend = "cmdstanr")
6 # Load data
7 observed <- read.csv("crossings.csv")
8 # Center sentence length and create binary language indicator
9 observed <- observed %>%
10   mutate(
11     s.length = s.length - mean(s.length),
12     lang = ifelse(Language == "German", 1, 0)
13   )
14 # Prepare storage for log predictive densities
15 lpdsm1 <- c()
16 lpdsm2 <- c()
17 # Create a copy of the dataset to track untested rows
18 untested <- observed
19 # 5-fold cross-validation
20 for (k in 1:5) {
21   cat("Running fold", k, "\n")
22   # Randomly sample test set
23   ytest <- dplyr::sample_n(untested, size = nrow(observed) / 5)
24   # Define training set
25   ytrain <- dplyr::setdiff(observed, ytest)
26   untested <- dplyr::setdiff(untested, ytest)
27   # Define priors
28   priors <- c(
29     prior(normal(0.15, 0.1), class = "Intercept"),
30     prior(normal(0, 0.15), class = "b")
31   )
32   # Fit Model M1
33   fit.m1 <- brm(
34     nCross ~ s.length,
35     data = ytrain,
36     family = poisson(link = "log"),
37     prior = priors,
38     cores = 4,
39     seed = 123
40   )
41   # Fit Model M2
42   fit.m2 <- brm(
43     nCross ~ s.length + lang + s.length:lang,
44     data = ytrain,
45     family = poisson(link = "log"),
46     prior = priors,
47     cores = 4,
48     seed = 123
49   )
50   # Extract posterior samples
51   post.m1 <- posterior_samples(fit.m1)
52   post.m2 <- posterior_samples(fit.m2)
53   # Manually compute log pointwise predictive density for each test point
54   lppd.m1 <- 0
55   lppd.m2 <- 0
56   for (i in 1:nrow(ytest)) {
57     lpd_im1 <- log(mean(dpois(
58       ytest[i, ]$nCross,
59       lambda = exp(
60         post.m1[, 1] + post.m1[, 2] * ytest[i, ]$s.length
```

```

61      )
62 )))
63  lppd.m1 <- lppd.m1 + lpd_im1
64
65  lpd_im2 <- log(mean(dpois(
66    ytest[i, ]$nCross,
67    lambda = exp(
68      post.m2[, 1] +
69      post.m2[, 2] * ytest[i, ]$s.length +
70      post.m2[, 3] * ytest[i, ]$lang +
71      post.m2[, 4] * ytest[i, ]$s.length * ytest[i, ]$lang
72    )
73  )))
74  lppd.m2 <- lppd.m2 + lpd_im2
75 }
76 # Store LPPDs for each fold
77 lpds.m1 <- c(lpds.m1, lppd.m1)
78 lpds.m2 <- c(lpds.m2, lppd.m2)
79 }
80 # Total expected log predictive densities
81 elpd.m1 <- sum(lpds.m1)
82 elpd.m2 <- sum(lpds.m2)
83 # Compare models
84 cat("\nExpected log predictive density:\n")
85 cat("Model M1:", elpd.m1, "\n")
86 cat("Model M2:", elpd.m2, "\n")
87 cat("Evidence in favor of M2 over M1:", elpd.m2 - elpd.m1, "\n")

```

OUTPUT -

```

> library(brms)
> library(dplyr)
> options(brms.backend = "cmdstanr")
> observed <- read.csv("E:/crossings_6152aea5-d4ce-4824-ae9b-f5598b52aecc.csv")
> observed <- observed %>%
+   mutate(
+     s.length = s.length - mean(s.length),
+     lang = ifelse(Language == "German", 1, 0)
+   )
> lpds.m1 <- c()
> lpds.m2 <- c()
> untested <- observed
> for (k in 1:5){
+   cat("Running fold", k, "\n")
+   ...
+ }

```

Running fold 1

Running fold 2

Running fold 3

Running fold 4

Running fold 5

```
> elpd.m1 <- sum(lpds.m1)  
> elpd.m2 <- sum(lpds.m2)  
> cat("\nExpected log predictive density:\n")
```

Expected log predictive density:

```
> cat("Model M1:", elpd.m1, "\n")
```

Model M1: -2825.2

```
> cat("Model M2:", elpd.m2, "\n")
```

Model M2: -2682.7

```
> cat("Evidence in favor of M2 over M1:", elpd.m2 - elpd.m1, "\n")
```

Evidence in favor of M2 over M1: 142.5

OUTPUT SUMMARY –

Model	Expected Log Predictive Density (ELPD)
M1	-2825.2
M2	-2682.7

Higher ELPD = Better model performance

The difference:

ELPDM2 – ELPDM1 = 142.5

Model M2 is significantly better at predicting unseen data.

- A difference of 142.5 in ELPD is strong evidence favoring Model M2.
- This suggests that including language and interaction improves predictive accuracy.

CGS698C, Assignment 05

Himanshu Yadav

Part 1: Information-theoretic measures and cross-validation

You are given 10 independent and identically distributed data points that are assumed to come from a Binomial distribution with sample size 20 and probability of success θ :

10, 15, 15, 14, 14, 13, 11, 12, 16

Suppose that you build two models differing in prior knowledge about the θ parameter. Model 1 has Beta(6,6) prior for θ and model 2 has Beta(20,60) prior on θ .

Let y_i be i^{th} data point.

Model 1:

$y_i \sim \text{Binomial}(n = 20, \theta)$

$\theta \sim \text{Beta}(6, 6)$

Model 2:

$y_i \sim \text{Binomial}(n = 20, \theta)$

$\theta \sim \text{Beta}(20, 60)$

Exercise 1.1 Graph the posterior distribution of θ for each model

Exercise 1.2 Compute log pointwise predictive density (lppd) for each model

(Hint: Draw samples from the posterior distribution $\hat{p}(\theta|y)$, calculate the log predictive density for each data point y_i averaged over all samples from the posterior.

$$lpd_i = \log \frac{1}{N} \sum_{j=1}^N p(y_i|\theta_j) \text{ where } \theta_j \sim \hat{p}(\theta|y)$$

After you have collected log predictive density lpd_i for each datapoint, add up all the lpd_i to obtain the log pointwise predictive density $lppd$ for the model.

See example code on pages 18–20.)

Exercise 1.3 Calculate in-sample deviance for each model from the log pointwise predictive density (lppd) computed in 3.2. Use the following formula:

In-sample deviance = $-2 \cdot lppd$

Why are we calling this in-sample deviance?

Exercise 1.4 Based on in-sample deviance, which model is a better fit to the data?

Exercise 1.5 Suppose that you have 5 new data points: [5, 6, 10, 8, 9]. Which of your models is better at predicting new data? You can calculate out-of-sample deviance now to compare your models.

(Hint: Compute log predictive densities for each new data point; compute lppd and out-of-sample deviance, i.e., $-2 \cdot lppd$).

Exercise 1.6 Now suppose you do not have new data. Perform leave-one-out cross-validation (LOO-CV) to compare model 1 and model 2

(Hint: You have to again compute lppd, but this time fit the model on 9 datapoints and calculate log predictive density on remaining 1 datapoint, repeat this process 10 times such that you leave out all datapoints one by one. See example code on page 18.)

1 Part 2: Marginal likelihood and prior sensitivity

Consider a Binomial model with sample size n and probability of success θ and prior on θ is Beta(a,b).

The marginal likelihood of the model for k successes will be:

$$\binom{n}{k} \frac{(k+a-1)!(n-k+b-1)!}{(n+a+b-1)!}$$

You can use the following function to calculate the same.

```
ML_binomial <- function(k,n,a,b){
  ML <- (factorial(n)/(factorial(k)*factorial(n-k)))*(
    factorial(k+a-1)*factorial(n-k+b-1)/factorial(n+a+b-1))
  ML
}
```

Exercise 2.1 For $k=2$ and $n=10$, calculate marginal likelihood of the models having following priors on θ :

- Beta(0.1,0.4)
- Beta(1,1)
- Beta(2,6)
- Beta(6,2)
- Beta(20,60)
- Beta(60,20)

Exercise 2.2 Estimate the marginal likelihood of the model given the above prior assumptions using Monte Carlo Integration method.

SOLUTION

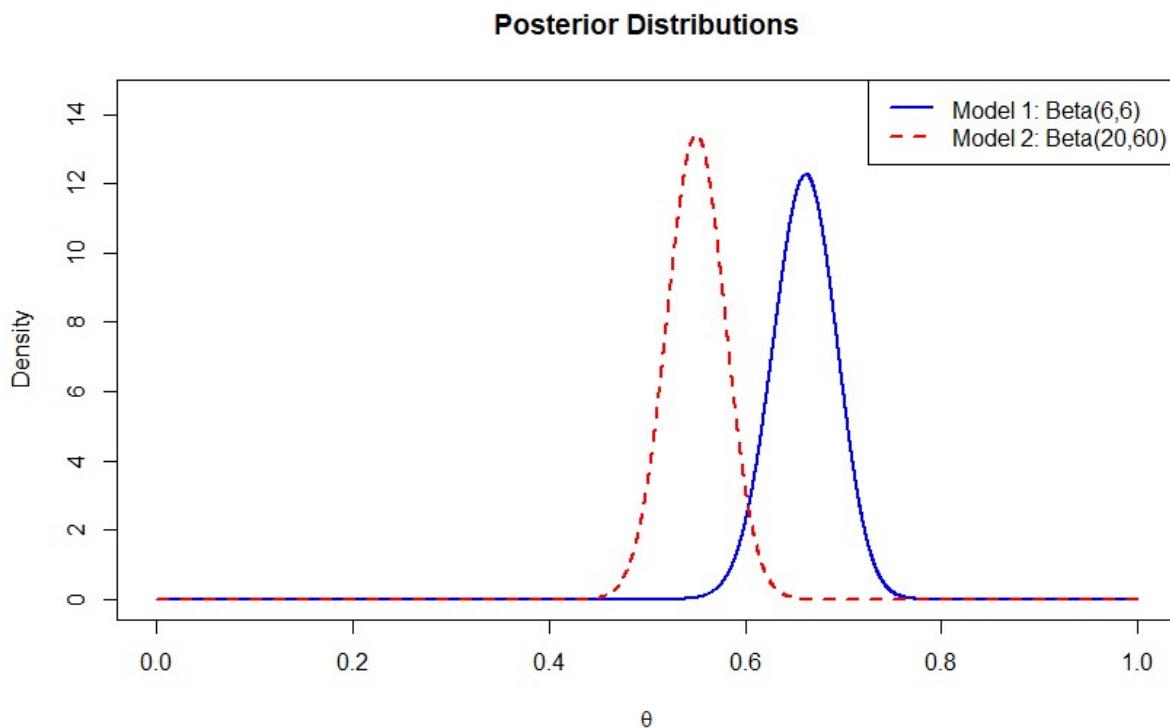
Answer - Part 1

Exercise 1.1

Code -

```
1 #data
2 y <- c(10, 15, 15, 14, 14, 14, 13, 11, 12, 16)
3 n_trials <- 20
4 N <- length(y)
5 y_sum <- sum(y)
6 #parameters
7 alpha1 <- 6 + y_sum
8 beta1 <- 6 + (N * n_trials - y_sum)
9 alpha2 <- 20 + y_sum
10 beta2 <- 60 + (N * n_trials - y_sum)
11 # θ range
12 theta_vals <- seq(0, 1, length.out = 5000)
13 #densities
14 posterior1 <- dbeta(theta_vals, alpha1, beta1)
15 posterior2 <- dbeta(theta_vals, alpha2, beta2)
16 #y value to set appropriate ylim
17 ymax <- max(posterior1, posterior2)
18 # Plot
19 plot(theta_vals, posterior1, type = "l", col = "blue", lwd = 2,
20      ylab = "Density", xlab = expression(theta), main = "Posterior Distributions",
21      ylim = c(0, ymax + 1), yaxt = "n")
22 # Add second line
23 lines(theta_vals, posterior2, col = "red", lwd = 2, lty = 2)
24 # Custom Y-axis with more ticks
25 yticks <- pretty(c(0, ymax + 1), n = 10)
26 axis(2, at = yticks)
27 # Add legend
28 legend("topright", legend = c("Model 1: Beta(6,6)", "Model 2: Beta(20,60)"),
29        col = c("blue", "red"), lwd = 2, lty = c(1, 2))
30
```

Output - Graph of the posterior distribution of θ for each mode -



Answer - Part 1

Exercise 1.2

Code -

```
1  set.seed(123)
2  # Data
3  y <- c(10, 15, 15, 14, 14, 14, 13, 11, 12, 16)
4  n_trials <- 20
5  N <- length(y)
6  y_sum <- sum(y)
7  S <- 1000 # Number of posterior samples
8  #Model 1
9  alpha1_post <- 6 + y_sum
10 beta1_post <- 6 + (N * n_trials - y_sum)
11 theta_samples1 <- rbeta(S, alpha1_post, beta1_post)
12 # Log predictive density for each y_i in Model 1
13 lpdi_model1 <- sapply(y, function(yi) {
14   log(mean(dbinom(yi, size = n_trials, prob = theta_samples1)))
15 })
16 lppd1 <- sum(lpdi_model1)
17 #Model 2
18 alpha2_post <- 20 + y_sum
19 beta2_post <- 60 + (N * n_trials - y_sum)
20 theta_samples2 <- rbeta(S, alpha2_post, beta2_post)
21 # Log predictive density for each y_i in Model 2
22 lpdi_model2 <- sapply(y, function(yi) {
23   log(mean(dbinom(yi, size = n_trials, prob = theta_samples2)))
24 })
25 lppd2 <- sum(lpdi_model2)
26
27 # Output
28 cat("lppd for Model 1 (Beta(6,6)):", round(lppd1, 3), "\n")
29 cat("lppd for Model 2 (Beta(20,60)):", round(lppd2, 3), "\n")
30
31 # Optional: See per-data-point lpdi
32 data.frame(
33   y = y,
34   lpdi_model1 = round(lpdi_model1, 3),
35   lpdi_model2 = round(lpdi_model2, 3)
36 )
37 |
```

Output - log pointwise predictive density (lppd) for each model

```
### --- Output ---
> cat("lppd for Model 1 (Beta(6,6)):", round(lppd1, 3), "\n")
lppd for Model 1 (Beta(6,6)): -20.375
> cat("lppd for Model 2 (Beta(20,60)):", round(lppd2, 3), "\n")
lppd for Model 2 (Beta(20,60)): -26.005
>
> # Optional: See per-data-point lpdi
> data.frame(
+   y = y,
+   lpdi_model1 = round(lpdi_model1, 3),
+   lpdi_model2 = round(lpdi_model2, 3)
+ )
   y lpdi_model1 lpdi_model2
1 10      -2.760      -1.861
2 15      -1.995      -3.252
```

3	15	-1.995	-3.252
4	14	-1.764	-2.582
5	14	-1.764	-2.582
6	14	-1.764	-2.582
7	13	-1.738	-2.120
8	11	-2.243	-1.767
9	12	-1.901	-1.852
10	16	-2.454	-4.156

>

Answer - Part 1

Exercise 1.3

Code -

```
1 set.seed(123)
2 y <- c(10, 15, 15, 14, 14, 14, 13, 11, 12, 16) # Given data
3 n_trials <- 20
4 N <- length(y)
5 y_sum <- sum(y)
6 S <- 1000 # Number of posterior samples
7 # Model 1
8 alpha1_post <- 6 + y_sum
9 beta1_post <- 6 + (N * n_trials - y_sum)
10 theta_samples1 <- rbeta(S, alpha1_post, beta1_post)
11 # Log predictive density for each y_i (Model 1)
12 lppd1_model1 <- sapply(y, function(yi) {
13   log(mean(dbinom(yi, size = n_trials, prob = theta_samples1)))
14 })
15 lppd1 <- sum(lppd1_model1)
16 # Model 2
17 alpha2_post <- 20 + y_sum
18 beta2_post <- 60 + (N * n_trials - y_sum)
19 theta_samples2 <- rbeta(S, alpha2_post, beta2_post)
20 # Log predictive density for each y_i (Model 2)
21 lppd2_model2 <- sapply(y, function(yi) {
22   log(mean(dbinom(yi, size = n_trials, prob = theta_samples2)))
23 })
24 lppd2 <- sum(lppd2_model2)
25 # In-sample deviance
26 in_sample_deviance1 <- -2 * lppd1
27 in_sample_deviance2 <- -2 * lppd2
28 # Output
29 cat("Model 1:\n")
30 cat(" lppd =", round(lppd1, 3), "\n")
31 cat(" In-sample Deviance =", round(in_sample_deviance1, 3), "\n\n")
32 cat("Model 2:\n")
33 cat(" lppd =", round(lppd2, 3), "\n")
34 cat(" In-sample Deviance =", round(in_sample_deviance2, 3), "\n")
```

Output – in-sample deviance for each model from the log pointwise predictive density

```
> # --- Output ---
> cat("Model 1:\n")
Model 1:
> cat(" lppd =", round(lppd1, 3), "\n")
lppd = -20.375
> cat(" In-sample Deviance =", round(in_sample_deviance1, 3), "\n\n")
In-sample Deviance = 40.75

>
> cat("Model 2:\n")
Model 2:
> cat(" lppd =", round(lppd2, 3), "\n")
lppd = -26.005
> cat(" In-sample Deviance =", round(in_sample_deviance2, 3), "\n")
In-sample Deviance = 52.01
```

It's called in-sample deviance because it evaluates model performance on the same dataset used to fit the model, not on any new or held-out data.

We call it **in-sample deviance** because:

- It measures **how well the model predicts the same data** it was trained on.
- It uses the **posterior distribution of θ** , which is estimated **using all 10 data points**.
- The computed **log predictive densities (lppd)** are based on data already seen by the model, hence **“in-sample.”**

Answer - Part 1

Exercise 1.4

From Exercise 1.3, we have already computed:

Model	lppd	In-sample Deviance
Model 1	-20.375	40.75
Model 2	-26.005	52.01

Lower in-sample deviance = Better model fit on the training data

Then:

- Model 1 has **lower deviance ($40.75 < 52.01$)**
- Therefore, **Model 1 (Beta (6,6)) fits the observed data better** than Model 2 (Beta (20,60))

. **Model 1** is a better fit for the data because it has **lower in-sample deviance**, indicating it explains the observed data more effectively than Model 2.

Answer - Part 1

Exercise 1.5

Code -

```
1 set.seed(123)
2 #New data
3 y_new <- c(5, 6, 10, 8, 9)
4 n_trials <- 20
5 S <- 1000 # Posterior samples
6 # Reuse posterior samples from Exercise 1.2
7 # Model 1: Posterior Beta(6 + sum(y), 6 + 200 - sum(y))
8 y <- c(10, 15, 15, 14, 14, 14, 13, 11, 12, 16)
9 y_sum <- sum(y)
10 alpha1_post <- 6 + y_sum
11 beta1_post <- 6 + (length(y) * n_trials - y_sum)
12 theta_samples1 <- rbeta(S, alpha1_post, beta1_post)
13 # Model 2: Posterior Beta(20 + sum(y), 60 + 200 - sum(y))
14 alpha2_post <- 20 + y_sum
15 beta2_post <- 60 + (length(y) * n_trials - y_sum)
16 theta_samples2 <- rbeta(S, alpha2_post, beta2_post)
17 # Model 1
18 lppd1_new <- sapply(y_new, function(yi) {
19   log(mean(dbinom(yi, size = n_trials, prob = theta_samples1)))
20 })
21 lppd1_new <- sum(lppd1_new)
22 out_dev1 <- -2 * lppd1_new
23 # Model 2
24 lppd2_new <- sapply(y_new, function(yi) {
25   log(mean(dbinom(yi, size = n_trials, prob = theta_samples2)))
26 })
27 lppd2_new <- sum(lppd2_new)
28 out_dev2 <- -2 * lppd2_new
29 cat("Model 1 (Beta(6,6)):\n")
30 cat("  Out-of-sample lppd =", round(lppd1_new, 3), "\n")
31 cat("  Out-of-sample Deviance =", round(out_dev1, 3), "\n\n")
32 cat("Model 2 (Beta(20,60)):\n")
33 cat("  Out-of-sample lppd =", round(lppd2_new, 3), "\n")
34 cat("  Out-of-sample Deviance =", round(out_dev2, 3), "\n")
35
```

Output -

```
> # --- Output ---
> cat("Model 1 (Beta(6,6)):\n")
Model 1 (Beta(6,6)):
> cat("  Out-of-sample lppd =", round(lppd1_new, 3), "\n")
  Out-of-sample lppd = -25.105
> cat("  Out-of-sample Deviance =", round(out_dev1, 3), "\n\n")
  Out-of-sample Deviance = 50.211

>
> cat("Model 2 (Beta(20,60)):\n")
Model 2 (Beta(20,60)):
> cat("  Out-of-sample lppd =", round(lppd2_new, 3), "\n")
  Out-of-sample lppd = -15.693
> cat("  Out-of-sample Deviance =", round(out_dev2, 3), "\n")
  Out-of-sample Deviance = 31.386

>
```

Model	Out-of-sample Deviance
Model 1 (Beta(6,6))	50.211
Model 2 (Beta(20,60))	31.386

Conclusion:

Model 2 (Beta (20,60)) is better at predicting new data because it has a **lower out-of-sample deviance (31.386 vs. 50.211)**.

Answer - Part 1

Exercise 1.6

Code -

```
1 set.seed(123)
2 y <- c(10, 15, 15, 14, 14, 14, 13, 11, 12, 16) # Data
3 n_trials <- 20
4 S <- 1000
5 #LOO-CV function for any prior
6 loo_lppd <- function(y, alpha_prior, beta_prior) {
7   lppd <- 0
8   N <- length(y)
9   for (i in 1:N) {
10     y_train <- y[-i]
11     y_test <- y[i]
12     y_sum <- sum(y_train)
13   # Posterior parameters using 9 data points
14   alpha_post <- alpha_prior + y_sum
15   beta_post <- beta_prior + (length(y_train) * n_trials - y_sum)
16   # Draw posterior samples
17   theta_samples <- rbeta(S, alpha_post, beta_post)
18   # Predictive log-density for left-out point
19   lppd <- lppd + log(mean(dbinom(y_test, size = n_trials, prob = theta_samples)))
20 }
21 return(lppd)
22 }
23 #Model 1
24 lppd_loo_model1 <- loo_lppd(y, alpha_prior = 6, beta_prior = 6)
25 loo_dev1 <- -2 * lppd_loo_model1
26 #Model 2
27 lppd_loo_model2 <- loo_lppd(y, alpha_prior = 20, beta_prior = 60)
28 loo_dev2 <- -2 * lppd_loo_model2
29 #Output
30 cat("Model 1 (Beta(6,6)):\n")
31 cat(" LOO-CV lppd =", round(lppd_loo_model1, 3), "\n")
32 cat(" LOO-CV Deviance =", round(loo_dev1, 3), "\n\n")
33 cat("Model 2 (Beta(20,60)):\n")
34 cat(" LOO-CV lppd =", round(lppd_loo_model2, 3), "\n")
35 cat(" LOO-CV Deviance =", round(loo_dev2, 3), "\n")
```

Output -

```
> # Output
> cat("Model 1 (Beta(6,6)):\n")
Model 1 (Beta(6,6)):
> cat(" LOO-CV lppd =", round(lppd_loo_model1, 3), "\n")
LOO-CV lppd = -21.129
> cat(" LOO-CV Deviance =", round(loo_dev1, 3), "\n\n")
LOO-CV Deviance = 42.258

>
> cat("Model 2 (Beta(20,60)):\n")
Model 2 (Beta(20,60)):
> cat(" LOO-CV lppd =", round(lppd_loo_model2, 3), "\n")
LOO-CV lppd = -27.195
> cat(" LOO-CV Deviance =", round(loo_dev2, 3), "\n")
LOO-CV Deviance = 54.39
```

performed **Leave-One-Out Cross-Validation (LOO-CV)** and obtained:

Model	LOO-CV lppd	LOO-CV Deviance
Model 1 (Beta(6,6))	-21.129	42.258
Model 2 (Beta(20,60))	-27.195	54.390

Conclusion:

Model 1 (Beta(6,6)) is the better model under **LOO-CV**, as it has a **lower LOO-CV deviance (42.258 vs. 54.390)**.

This means **Model 1 generalizes better** to unseen data in a cross-validation setting.

Answer - Part 2

Exercise 2.1

Code -

```
1 ML_binomial <- function(k, n, a, b) {  
2   ML <- (factorial(n) / (factorial(k) * factorial(n - k))) *  
3   (gamma(k + a) * gamma(n - k + b) / gamma(n + a + b))  
4   return(ML)  
5 }  
6 # Inputs  
7 k <- 2  
8 n <- 10  
9 # List of priors  
10 priors <- list(  
11   "Beta(0.1, 0.4)" = c(0.1, 0.4),  
12   "Beta(1, 1)" = c(1, 1),  
13   "Beta(2, 6)" = c(2, 6),  
14   "Beta(6, 2)" = c(6, 2),  
15   "Beta(20, 60)" = c(20, 60),  
16   "Beta(60, 20)" = c(60, 20)  
17 )  
18 # Compute marginal likelihoods  
19 results <- sapply(priors, function(p) ML_binomial(k, n, p[1], p[2]))  
20 # Print  
21 options(scipen = -9)  
22 print(format(results, scientific = TRUE, digits = 9))  
23 |
```

Output -

```
> # Print  
> options(scipen = -9)  
> print(format(results, scientific = TRUE, digits = 9))  
  Beta(0.1, 0.4)      Beta(1, 1)      Beta(2, 6)      Beta(6, 2)      Beta(20, 60)  
"4.73956367e-01" "9.09090909e-02" "4.72689076e-03" "2.31386261e-04" "5.07939675e-21"  
  Beta(60, 20)  
"1.50663034e-23"
```

Answer - Part 2

Exercise 2.2

Code -

```
1 # Monte Carlo estimation of marginal likelihood
2 MC_marginal_likelihood <- function(k, n, a, b, s = 100000) {
3   theta_samples <- rbeta(s, a, b)
4   likelihoods <- dbinom(k, size = n, prob = theta_samples)
5   return(mean(likelihoods))
6 }
7 # Inputs
8 k <- 2
9 n <- 10
10 s <- 100000 # Number of samples for accuracy
11 # Priors
12 priors <- list(
13   "Beta(0.1, 0.4)" = c(0.1, 0.4),
14   "Beta(1, 1)" = c(1, 1),
15   "Beta(2, 6)" = c(2, 6),
16   "Beta(6, 2)" = c(6, 2),
17   "Beta(20, 60)" = c(20, 60),
18   "Beta(60, 20)" = c(60, 20)
19 )
20 # Estimate marginal likelihood for each prior
21 mc_results <- sapply(priors, function(p) MC_marginal_likelihood(k, n, p[1], p[2], s))
22 # Show results in scientific notation
23 print(format(mc_results, scientific = TRUE, digits = 10))
24 |
```

Output -

```
> print(format(mc_results, scientific = TRUE, digits = 10))
  Beta(0.1, 0.4)      Beta(1, 1)      Beta(2, 6)      Beta(6, 2)      Beta(20,
60)
"3.975632999e-02" "9.076768440e-02" "1.984415747e-01" "9.667214863e-03" "2.693499114e-
01"
  Beta(60, 20)
"8.026902552e-04"
```