

## Theoretical Exercises

- Multi-parameter distributions often lack convenient conjugate priors (if they have one at all). One such case is when  $Y_i$  are iid  $\text{Gamma}(\alpha, \beta)$  where *both*  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  are unknown. The conjugate prior, while proper, is not a named density. Show that the joint prior

$$p(\alpha, \beta) \propto \frac{\beta^{\alpha s}}{\Gamma(\alpha)^r} p^{\alpha-1} e^{-\beta q}$$

is actually a conjugate prior for the Gamma distribution with unknown  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$ . That is, show that when this joint prior is used, the resulting posterior has the same parametric form. Be sure to determine the parameters. (Hint: this prior is parameterized by  $p, q, r$ , and  $s$  thus the posterior should have four parameters as well.)

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L}(Y_i | \alpha, \beta) &= \prod_{i=1}^n \frac{\beta^\alpha}{\Gamma(\alpha)} Y_i^{\alpha-1} \exp(-\beta Y_i) \\ &= \frac{\beta^{\alpha n}}{\Gamma(\alpha)^n} \left[ \prod_{i=1}^n Y_i \right]^{\alpha-1} \exp \left( -\beta \sum_{i=1}^n Y_i \right) \end{aligned}$$

Let  $\boldsymbol{\theta} = (\alpha, \beta, p, q, r, s)$

$$\begin{aligned} P(\boldsymbol{\theta} | Y_i) &\propto \frac{\beta^{\alpha n}}{\Gamma(\alpha)^n} \left[ \prod_{i=1}^n Y_i \right]^{\alpha-1} \exp \left( -\beta \sum_{i=1}^n Y_i \right) \frac{\beta^{\alpha s}}{\Gamma(\alpha)^r} p^{\alpha-1} e^{-\beta q} \\ &= \frac{\beta^{\alpha(n+s)}}{\Gamma(\alpha)^{n+r}} \left[ p \prod_{i=1}^n Y_i \right]^{\alpha-1} \exp \left[ -\beta \left( q + \sum_{i=1}^n Y_i \right) \right] \\ &= \frac{\beta^{\alpha s^*}}{\Gamma(\alpha)^{r^*}} p^{*\alpha-1} \exp \left( -\beta q^* \right) \end{aligned}$$

$$s^* = n + s$$

$$r^* = n + r$$

$$p^* = p \prod_{i=1}^n Y_i$$

$$q^* = q + \sum_{i=1}^n Y_i$$

- Let  $\mathbf{y} = [y_1 \ y_2 \ \cdots \ y_n]'$  be an  $n \times 1$  vector of regression outcomes. Further let  $X$  denote an  $n \times p$  matrix of covariates and  $\boldsymbol{\beta}$  be a  $p \times 1$  vector of coefficients. Assume  $\mathbf{y}$  is normally distributed of the form

$$\mathbf{y} \sim \text{MVN}(X\boldsymbol{\beta}, \lambda^{-1} I_{n \times n}).$$

That is, the standard regression assumption where we've parametrized the model in terms of the precision,  $\lambda$ . Using the joint prior  $\pi(\boldsymbol{\beta}, \lambda) \propto \lambda^{-1}$ , find the marginal distribution posterior of  $\lambda | \mathbf{y}, X$  and the conditional posterior distribution of  $\boldsymbol{\beta} | \lambda, \mathbf{y}, X$ .

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathcal{L}(\mathbf{y}|X, \beta, \lambda) &\propto \left| \lambda^{-1} I_n \right|^{\frac{1}{2}} \exp \left[ -\frac{1}{2} (\mathbf{y} - X\beta)^T (\lambda^{-1} I_n)^{-1} (\mathbf{y} - X\beta) \right] \\
&\propto (\lambda^{-1})^{-\frac{n}{2}} \exp \left[ -\frac{\lambda}{2} (\mathbf{y} - X\beta)^T (\mathbf{y} - X\beta) \right]
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
P(\beta, \lambda | \mathbf{y}, X) &\propto \lambda^{\frac{n}{2}-1} \exp \left[ -\frac{\lambda}{2} (\mathbf{y} - X\beta)^T (\mathbf{y} - X\beta) \right] \\
&\propto \lambda^{\frac{n}{2}-1} \exp \left[ -\frac{\lambda}{2} (\mathbf{y} - X\hat{\beta} + X\hat{\beta} - X\beta)^T (\mathbf{y} - X\hat{\beta} + X\hat{\beta} - X\beta) \right] \\
&\propto \lambda^{\frac{n}{2}-1} \exp \left( -\frac{\lambda}{2} \left[ \mathbf{y} - X\hat{\beta} + X(\hat{\beta} - \beta) \right]^T \left[ \mathbf{y} - X\hat{\beta} + X(\hat{\beta} - \beta) \right] \right) \\
&\propto \lambda^{\frac{n}{2}-1} \exp \left( -\frac{\lambda}{2} \left[ (\mathbf{y} - X\hat{\beta})^T (\mathbf{y} - X\hat{\beta}) + 2(\hat{\beta} - \beta)^T X^T (\mathbf{y} - X\hat{\beta}) + (\hat{\beta} - \beta)^T X^T X (\hat{\beta} - \beta) \right] \right) \\
&\propto \lambda^{\frac{n}{2}-1} \exp \left( -\frac{\lambda}{2} \left[ (\mathbf{y} - X\hat{\beta})^T (\mathbf{y} - X\hat{\beta}) + (\hat{\beta} - \beta)^T X^T X (\hat{\beta} - \beta) \right] \right)
\end{aligned}$$

$$P(\beta | \lambda, \mathbf{y}, X) \propto \exp \left[ -\frac{\lambda}{2} (\beta - \hat{\beta})^T X^T X (\beta - \hat{\beta}) \right]$$

$$\beta | \lambda, \mathbf{y}, X \sim N \left[ \hat{\beta}, \lambda^{-1} (X^T X)^{-1} \right]$$

$$\begin{aligned}
P(\lambda | X, \mathbf{y}) &\propto \int \lambda^{\frac{n}{2}-1} \exp \left[ -\frac{\lambda}{2} (\mathbf{y} - X\hat{\beta})^T (\mathbf{y} - X\hat{\beta}) \right] \exp \left[ -\frac{\lambda}{2} (\beta - \hat{\beta})^T X^T X (\beta - \hat{\beta}) \right] d\beta \\
&\propto \lambda^{\frac{n}{2}-1} \exp \left[ -\frac{\lambda}{2} (\mathbf{y} - X\hat{\beta})^T (\mathbf{y} - X\hat{\beta}) \right] \int \frac{(2\pi)^{\frac{p}{2}} \left| \lambda^{-1} I_p (X^T X)^{-1} \right|^{\frac{1}{2}}}{(2\pi)^{\frac{p}{2}} \left| \lambda^{-1} I_p (X^T X)^{-1} \right|^{\frac{1}{2}}} \exp \left[ -\frac{\lambda}{2} (\beta - \hat{\beta})^T X^T X (\beta - \hat{\beta}) \right] d\beta \\
&\propto \lambda^{\frac{n}{2}-1} \exp \left[ -\frac{\lambda}{2} (\mathbf{y} - X\hat{\beta})^T (\mathbf{y} - X\hat{\beta}) \right] \left| \lambda^{-1} I_p \right|^{\frac{1}{2}} \left| (X^T X)^{-1} \right|^{\frac{1}{2}} \\
&\propto \lambda^{\frac{n-p}{2}-1} \exp \left[ -\frac{\lambda}{2} (\mathbf{y} - X\hat{\beta})^T (\mathbf{y} - X\hat{\beta}) \right]
\end{aligned}$$

$$\lambda | X, \mathbf{y} \sim \text{Gamma} \left[ \frac{n-p}{2}, \frac{1}{2} (\mathbf{y} - X\hat{\beta})^T (\mathbf{y} - X\hat{\beta}) \right]$$

3. Let  $W_i \sim N(\mu, \tau^2)$  for  $i = 1, \dots, n$  where both  $\mu$  and  $\tau^2$  are unknown. Determine the form of normal approximation to the joint posterior of  $\mu$  and  $\tau^2$  when using the non-informative joint prior, i.e.  $\pi(\mu, \tau^2) \propto (\tau^2)^{-1}$ . (Hint: this will require find the posterior modes for both  $\mu$  and  $\tau^2$  as well as the information matrix, i.e. the negative of the Hessian matrix.)

$$\mathcal{L}(W|\mu, \tau^2) \propto (\tau^2)^{-\frac{n}{2}} \exp \left[ -\frac{1}{2\tau^2} \sum_{i=1}^n (W_i - \mu)^2 \right]$$

$$P(\mu, \tau^2|W) \propto (\tau^2)^{-\frac{(n+2)}{2}} \exp \left[ -\frac{1}{2\tau^2} \sum_{i=1}^n (W_i - \mu)^2 \right]$$

$$\log [P(\mu, \tau^2|W)] \propto -\frac{(n+2)}{2} \log(\tau^2) - \frac{1}{2\tau^2} \sum_{i=1}^n (W_i - \mu)^2$$

$$\frac{\partial \log(P)}{\partial \mu} \propto \frac{1}{\tau^2} \sum_{i=1}^n (W_i - \mu)$$

$$\frac{\partial \log(P)}{\partial \tau^2} \propto -\frac{(n+2)}{2\tau^2} + \frac{1}{2}(\tau^2)^{-2} \sum_{i=1}^n (W_i - \mu)^2$$

$$0 = \frac{1}{\tau^2} \sum_{i=1}^n (W_i - \mu)$$

$$0 = -\frac{(n+2)}{2\tau^2} + \frac{1}{2}(\tau^2)^{-2} \sum_{i=1}^n (W_i - \mu)^2$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^n \mu = \sum_{i=1}^n W_i$$

$$\frac{(n+2)}{2\tau^2} = \frac{1}{2}(\tau^2)^{-2} \sum_{i=1}^n (W_i - \mu)^2$$

$$n\mu = n\bar{W}$$

$$\hat{\tau}^2 = \frac{1}{(n+2)} \sum_{i=1}^n (W_i - \mu)^2$$

$$\hat{\mu} = \bar{W}$$

$$\hat{\tau}^2 = \hat{\tau}^2 \Big|_{\mu=\hat{\mu}} = \frac{1}{(n+2)} \sum_{i=1}^n (W_i - \bar{W})^2$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 \log(P)}{\partial \mu^2} \propto -\frac{n}{\tau^2}$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 \log(P)}{\partial \mu^2} \Big|_{\theta=\hat{\theta}} \propto -n (\hat{\tau}^2)^{-1}$$

$$= -n \left[ \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n (W_i - \bar{W})^2}{n+2} \right]^{-1}$$

$$= -\frac{n(n+2)}{\sum_{i=1}^n (W_i - \bar{W})^2}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\frac{\partial^2 \log(P)}{\partial (\tau^2)^2} &\propto \frac{(n+2)}{2(\tau^2)^2} - (\tau^2)^{-3} \sum_{i=1}^n (W_i - \bar{W})^2 \\
\frac{\partial^2 \log(P)}{\partial (\tau^2)^2} \Big|_{\boldsymbol{\theta}=\hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}} &\propto \frac{n+2}{2} \left[ \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n (W_i - \bar{W})^2}{n+2} \right]^{-2} - \left[ \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n (W_i - \bar{W})^2}{n+2} \right]^{-3} \sum_{i=1}^n (W_i - \bar{W})^2 \\
&= \frac{(n+2)^3}{2 \left[ \sum_{i=1}^n (W_i - \bar{W})^2 \right]^2} - \frac{(n+2)^3}{\left[ \sum_{i=1}^n (W_i - \bar{W})^2 \right]^2} \\
&= -\frac{(n+2)^3}{2 \left[ \sum_{i=1}^n (W_i - \bar{W})^2 \right]^2}
\end{aligned}$$

The mean and the mode are equal for a Gaussian Distribution.

$$\begin{aligned}
\frac{\partial^2 \log(P)}{\partial \tau^2 \partial \mu} &= \frac{\partial^2 \log(P)}{\partial \mu \partial \tau^2} \propto -\frac{1}{(\tau^2)^2} \sum_{i=1}^n (W_i - \mu) \\
\frac{\partial^2 \log(P)}{\partial \tau^2 \partial \mu} \Big|_{\boldsymbol{\theta}=\hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}} &= \frac{\partial^2 \log(P)}{\partial \mu \partial \tau^2} \Big|_{\boldsymbol{\theta}=\hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}} \propto -\frac{1}{(\hat{\tau}^2)^2} \sum_{i=1}^n (W_i - \hat{\mu}) \\
&= -\frac{1}{(\hat{\tau}^2)^2} \sum_{i=1}^n (W_i - \bar{W}) \\
&= 0
\end{aligned}$$

$$\hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}} = \begin{pmatrix} \bar{W}, \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n (W_i - \bar{W})^2}{(n+2)} \end{pmatrix} \quad I(\hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}) = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{n(n+2)}{\sum_{i=1}^n (W_i - \bar{W})^2} & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{(n+2)^3}{2 \left[ \sum_{i=1}^n (W_i - \bar{W})^2 \right]^2} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\mu, \tau^2 | W \sim N \left[ \hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}, I(\hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}})^{-1} \right]$$

## Analysis Exercises

1. The age distribution of the incidence of cancer can be modeled using the Erlang distribution which has as PDF

$$f_X(x; k, \lambda) = \frac{1}{(k-1)!} \lambda^k x^{k-1} e^{-\lambda x}$$

where  $x \in [0, \infty)$ ,  $k \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ , and  $\lambda \in (0, \infty)$ . Here the parameter  $k$  can be interpreted as the number of carcinogenic events needed for a cancer to develop while  $1/\lambda$  is the average time to developing cancer. The data file `incidenceUK.txt` contains age specific incidence of all cancers in both males and females in the United Kingdom for the years 2013 to 2015. Using an Erlang distribution with  $k = 22^1$ , fixed, find the posterior distribution of the average time to developing cancer in males and females, separately, using the normal approximation to the posterior density. Use Jeffreys' prior for  $\lambda$ . Generate posterior summaries and compare between males and females. Draw a conclusion in context. Use  $B = 10000$  samples for each model and set the seed to 2020.

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L}(x|k, \lambda) &= \prod_{i=1}^n \left[ (k-1)! \right]^{-1} \lambda^k x_i^{k-1} \exp(-\lambda x_i) \\ &= \left[ (k-1)! \right]^{-n} \lambda^{nk} \left[ \prod_{i=1}^n x_i \right]^{k-1} \exp \left( -\lambda \sum_{i=1}^n x_i \right) \\ \ell(x|k, \lambda) &= -n \log \left[ (k-1)! \right] + kn \log(\lambda) + (k-1) \log \left( \sum_{i=1}^n x_i \right) - \lambda \sum_{i=1}^n x_i \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial \ell}{\partial \lambda} &= \frac{nk}{\lambda} - \sum_{i=1}^n x_i & J(\lambda) &= -E \left[ \frac{\partial^2 \ell}{\partial \lambda^2} \right] = -E \left[ \frac{-nk}{\lambda^2} \right] = \frac{nk}{\lambda^2} \\ \frac{\partial^2 \ell}{\partial \lambda^2} &= \frac{-nk}{\lambda^2} & \left[ J(\lambda) \right]^{\frac{1}{2}} &\propto \lambda^{-1} \end{aligned}$$

$$P(\lambda|k, x) \propto \frac{\lambda^{nk-1}}{\left[ (k-1)! \right]^n} \left[ \prod_{i=1}^n x_i \right]^{k-1} \exp \left( -n\bar{x}\lambda \right)$$

$$\lambda|k, x \sim \text{Gamma}(nk, n\bar{x})$$

---

<sup>1</sup>Note: 22 is roughly the average number of carcinogenic events needed from the 20 most common cancers.

$$\log [P(\lambda|k, x)] \propto (nk - 1) \log(\lambda) - n\bar{x}\lambda$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \lambda} \log [P(\lambda|k, x)] = \frac{nk - 1}{\lambda} - n\bar{x}$$

$$0 = \frac{nk - 1}{\lambda} - n\bar{x}$$

$$n\bar{x} = \frac{nk - 1}{\lambda}$$

$$\hat{\lambda} = \frac{nk - 1}{n\bar{x}}$$

$$\frac{\partial^2}{\partial \lambda^2} \log [P(\lambda|k, x)] = -\frac{nk - 1}{\lambda^2}$$

$$I(\lambda) \Big|_{\lambda=\hat{\lambda}} = \frac{nk - 1}{\hat{\lambda}^2}$$

$$= \cancel{(nk - 1)} \frac{(n\bar{x})^2}{(nk - 1)^2}$$

$$= \frac{(n\bar{x})^2}{nk - 1}$$

$$\lambda|k, x \sim N\left(\frac{nk - 1}{n\bar{x}}, \frac{nk - 1}{(n\bar{x})^2}\right)$$

```
n = nrow(dat); k = 22
xybar <- mean( dat$male )
xxbar <- mean( dat$female )
Nsim <- 10000

set.seed(2020) #male
xy <- rnorm( Nsim , (n*k-1) / (n * xybar) , sqrt(n*k-1) / (n * xybar) )
set.seed(2020) #female
xx <- rnorm( Nsim , (n*k-1) / (n * xxbar) , sqrt(n*k-1) / (n * xxbar) )

#Male
quantile( xy , probs = c(.5,.025,0.975) ); mean( xy)

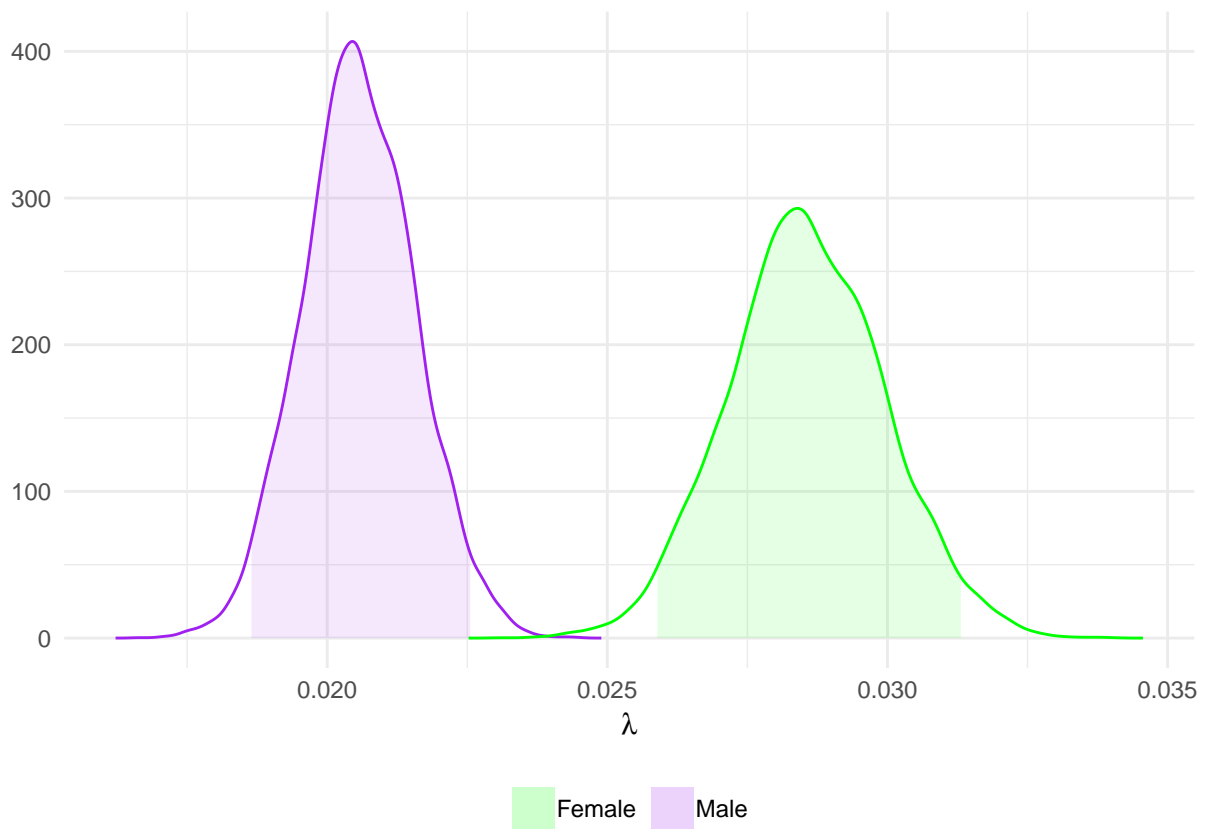
##          50%          2.5%          97.5%
## 0.02054315 0.01863656 0.02256389

## [1] 0.02056537

#Female
quantile( xx , probs = c(.5,.025,0.975) ); mean( xx)

##          50%          2.5%          97.5%
## 0.02852165 0.02587458 0.03132719

## [1] 0.02855249
```



*#Male*

```
quantile( 1/xy , probs = c(.5,.025,0.975) ); mean(1/xy)
```

```
##      50%      2.5%      97.5%
```

```
## 48.67802 44.31860 53.65796
```

```
## [1] 48.74202
```

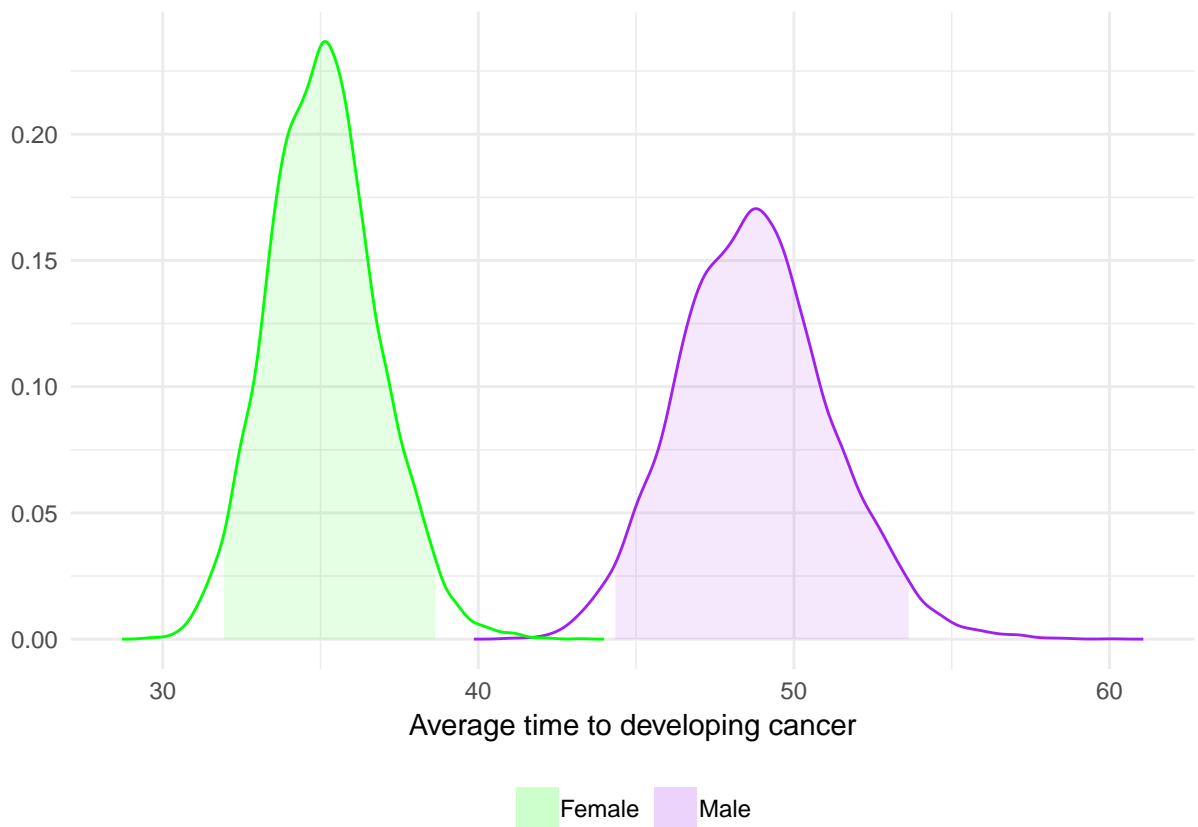
*#Female*

```
quantile( 1/xx , probs = c(.5,.025,0.975) ); mean(1/xx)
```

```
##      50%      2.5%      97.5%
```

```
## 35.06108 31.92115 38.64797
```

```
## [1] 35.10719
```



We see that women have a shorter average time to developing cancer vs men, 35 vs 48.6. It is also interesting to note, that women have a narrower credible interval than men. A practical implication from these data suggest that women should get tested for cancer at a younger age than men, but when men approach the median time they should get tested more often because their interval of incidence is wider.

2. The dataset `coup1980.txt` contains the coup risk in the month of June from 1980 for 166 different countries. Using your result from Theoretical Exercise 2, build a linear regression model to predict `logCoup` risk using the covariates `democracy` (1 = yes, 0 = no), `age` (the leader's age in years), and `tenure` (the leader's tenure in months). Conduct relevant inference to determine significant predictors and describe how each variable impacted coup risk during June of 1980. Use  $B = 10000$  samples and set the seed to 1980. (Hint: your description of the impact can be an interpretation, in context, of the coefficients.)

```
n = nrow(dat); Nsim = 10000
y <- dat[,2]
X <- as.matrix( dat[, - c(1,2 ) ] )
X <- cbind(1,X) ; colnames(X)[1] <- "(Intercept)"
p <- ncol(X)
BHat <- solve( t(X)%*%X ) %*% t(X) %*% y

set.seed(1980)
lambda <- rgamma(Nsim, (n-p)/ 2 , .5*t( y- X %*% BHat )%*% (y- X %*% BHat ))

set.seed(1980)
Beta <- matrix(NA, Nsim , p )
```



```

for( i in 1:Nsim){ Beta[i,] <- mvrnorm( 1, BHat, ( 1/lambda[i] ) * solve( t(X)%*% X ) ) }

#GLM results
summary(glm( logCoup~. , data = dat[, -1 ] ))

##
## Call:
## glm(formula = logCoup ~ ., data = dat[, -1])
##
## Deviance Residuals:
##      Min       1Q   Median       3Q      Max
## -3.5459  -0.9093   0.1790   1.0216   3.8848
##
## Coefficients:
##              Estimate Std. Error t value      Pr(>|t|)
## (Intercept) -4.200169   0.567141  -7.406 0.00000000000676 ***
## democracy   -1.826276   0.277603  -6.579 0.000000000062489 ***
## age         -0.024529   0.010930  -2.244   0.026172 *
## tenure      -0.005347   0.001422  -3.760   0.000237 ***
## ---
## Signif. codes:  0 '***' 0.001 '**' 0.01 '*' 0.05 '.' 0.1 ' ' 1
##
## (Dispersion parameter for gaussian family taken to be 2.318831)
##
##      Null deviance: 530.38  on 165  degrees of freedom
## Residual deviance: 375.65  on 162  degrees of freedom
## AIC: 616.66
##
## Number of Fisher Scoring iterations: 2

colnames(Beta) <- colnames(X)
round( t( apply(Beta, 2, quantile, probs = c(0.5, 0.025, 0.975)) ) , 4 )

##              50%      2.5%    97.5%
## (Intercept) -4.1971 -5.2988 -3.0918
## democracy   -1.8273 -2.3822 -1.2764
## age         -0.0245 -0.0461 -0.0032
## tenure      -0.0053 -0.0081 -0.0025

```

When looking at an  $x$  variable, we hold the other  $x$  variables fixed. If the country is a democracy, it shifts the regression line downward with a new intercept of about -6.02. Holding other variables constant, for a one-unit increase in age `logCoup` decreases by .02. And holding other variables constant, for a one-unit increase in tenure `logCoup` decreases by .005. We can consider all the coefficients significant because 0 does not appear in any of the credible intervals.