

# Using MCMC to estimate unknown parameters of normal mixture

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## Abstract

In this assignment, we will use the Gibbs sampling approach to design an MCMC to estimate all the unknown parameters. Use the `arms()` function in package `HL`.

## 1 Normal mixture revisited

Consider again the normal mixture example, except that the parameters of the normal distributions are considered unknown. Suppose that prior for  $\mu_1$  and  $\mu_2$  are  $N(0, 10^2)$ , that the prior for  $1/\sigma_1^2$  and  $1/\sigma_2^2$  are  $\Gamma(a, b)$  with shape  $a = .5$  and scale  $b = 10$ . Further, all the priors are independent. Design an MCMC using the Gibbs sampling approach to estimate all 5 parameters. Use the `arms()` function in package `HL`. Run your chain for sufficiently long and drop the burn-in period. Plot the histogram of the results for all the parameters.

## 2 Likelihood function

First, let's consider the normal mixture example, the normal mixture distribution is a mixture of two normal distribution function:

$$N(\mu_1, \sigma_1^2); N(\mu_2, \sigma_2^2)$$

and the weight for each distribution is  $\delta$  and  $1 - \delta$ .

```
mixture_distribution <- function(delta, x, mu1, mu2, sigma1, sigma2) {  
  delta * dnorm(x, mu1, sigma1) + (1 - delta) * dnorm(x, mu2, sigma2)  
}
```

However, we don't know these 5 parameters of the mixture distribution function. Further, all the priors are independent. Now, we will generate some random sample:  $\delta = 0.7, \mu_1 = 7, \sigma_1^2 = 0.5^2, \mu_2 = 10, \sigma_2^2 = 0.5^2$

```
delta <- 0.7 # true value to be estimated based on the data  
n <- 100  
set.seed(123)  
u <- rbinom(n, prob = delta, size = 1)  
x0 <- rnorm(n, ifelse(u == 1, 7, 10), 0.5)
```

By sampling  $n = 100$  data from the mixture distribution, we will get the likelihood function:

$$likelihood(x; \delta, \mu_1, \sigma_1^2, \mu_2, \sigma_2^2) = \prod_{i=1}^n [\delta N(\mu_1, \sigma_1^2) + (1 - \delta) N(\mu_2, \sigma_2^2)]$$

so does the loglikelihood function:

$$loglike(x; \delta, \mu_1, \sigma_1^2, \mu_2, \sigma_2^2) = \sum_{i=1}^n \log(\delta N(\mu_1, \sigma_1^2) + (1 - \delta) N(\mu_2, \sigma_2^2))$$

```
loglike <- function(delta, x , mu1, mu2, sigma1, sigma2){
  sum(log(delta * dnorm(x, mu1, sigma1) + (1 - delta) * dnorm(x, mu2, sigma2)))
}
```

### 3 Posterior density

then, let's calculate posterior density, according to Bayes theory

$$p(\theta|x) = \frac{p(x|\theta)p(\theta)}{p(x)}$$

$p(\theta|x)$  is what we called posterior density,  $p(x|\theta)$  is the likelihood function,  $p(\theta)$  is prior probability,  $p(x)$  is the normalization constant useful for Bayesian model selection. The prior for  $\mu_1$  and  $\mu_2$  are  $N(0, 10^2)$ , the prior for  $\frac{1}{\sigma_1^2}$  and  $\frac{1}{\sigma_2^2}$  are  $\Gamma(0.5, 10)$ , hence the prior for  $\sigma_1^2$  and  $\sigma_2^2$  are the inverse gamma distribution  $IG(0.5, 10)$ .

So we get the posterior density:

$$p(\delta, \mu_1, \sigma_1^2, \mu_2, \sigma_2^2|x) = \prod_{i=1}^n [\delta N(\mu_1, \sigma_1^2) + (1 - \delta)N(\mu_2, \sigma_2^2)] N(\mu_1, 0, 10)N(\mu_2, 0, 10)IG(\sigma_1^2, 0.5, 10)IG(\sigma_2^2, 0.5, 10)$$

so does the log posterior function:

$$\logposterior(\delta, \mu_1, \sigma_1^2, \mu_2, \sigma_2^2|x) = \sum_{i=1}^n (\delta N(\mu_1, \sigma_1^2) + (1 - \delta)N(\mu_2, \sigma_2^2)) + \log(N(\mu_1, 0, 10)) + \log(N(\mu_2, 0, 10)) + \log(IG(\sigma_1^2, 0.5, 10))$$

```
library(invgamma)
logposterior <- function(delta, x, mu1, mu2, sigma1, sigma2){
  mu1.logprior <- dnorm(mu1, 0, 10, log = T)
  mu2.logprior <- dnorm(mu2, 0, 10, log = T)
  sigma1.logprior <- dinvgamma(sigma1^2, shape = 0.5, scale = 10, log = T)
  sigma2.logprior <- dinvgamma(sigma2^2, shape = 0.5, scale = 10, log = T)
  sum(mu1.logprior + mu2.logprior + sigma1.logprior + sigma2.logprior) + loglike(delta, x, mu1, mu2, sigma1, sigma2)
}
```

### 4 Gibbs sampling

Next we will use an MCMC based the Gibbs sampler uses the ARMS algorithm from R package HI as recommended in the question:

```
library(HI)
mymcmc <- function(niter, delta.init, mu1.init, mu2.init, sigma1.init, sigma2.init, x){
  data <- matrix(nrow = niter, ncol = 5)
  for(i in 1:niter){
    f1 <- function(x1) logposterior(x1, x0, mu1.init, mu2.init, sigma1.init, sigma2.init)
    delta.init <- data[i,1] <- arms(delta.init, f1, function(x1) (x1 > 0) * (x1 < 1), 1)

    f2 <- function(x2) logposterior(delta.init, x0, x2, mu2.init, sigma1.init, sigma2.init)
    mu1.init <- data[i,2] <- arms(mu1.init, f2, function(x2) (x2 > -100) * (x2 < 100), 1)
  }
}
```

```

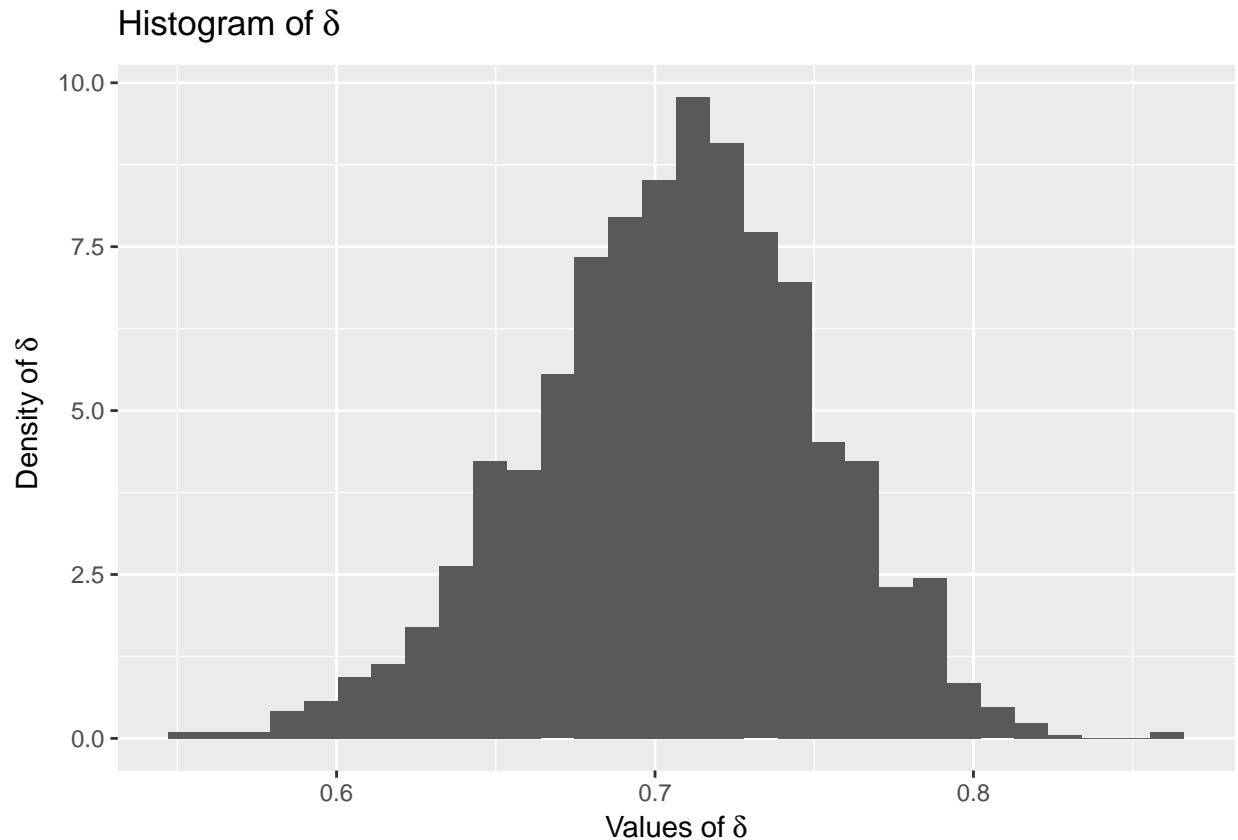
f3 <- function(x3) logposterior(delta.init,x0,mu1.init,x3,sigma1.init,sigma2.init)
mu2.init <- data[i,3] <- arms(mu2.init, f3, function(x3) (x3 > -100) * (x3 < 100), 1)

f4 <- function(x4) logposterior(delta.init,x0,mu1.init,mu2.init,x4,sigma2.init)
sigma1.init <- data[i,4] <- arms(sigma1.init, f4, function(x4) (x4 > 0) * (x4 < 200), 1)

f5 <- function(x5) logposterior(delta.init,x0,mu1.init,mu2.init,sigma1.init,x5)
sigma2.init <- data[i,5] <- arms(sigma2.init, f5, function(x5) (x5 > 0) * (x5 < 200), 1)
}
data
}
niter <- 3000
results <- mymcmc(niter, 0.5, 1,1,1,1,x0)
results <- results[-c(1:1000),]
options(warn=-1)
library(ggplot2)
plot1<- ggplot(data.frame(x = results[,1]), aes(x = x))+
  geom_histogram(aes(y=..density..))+labs(x = expression("Values of"~delta),
  y = expression(" Density of"~delta), title=expression("Histogram of"~delta))
plot1

```

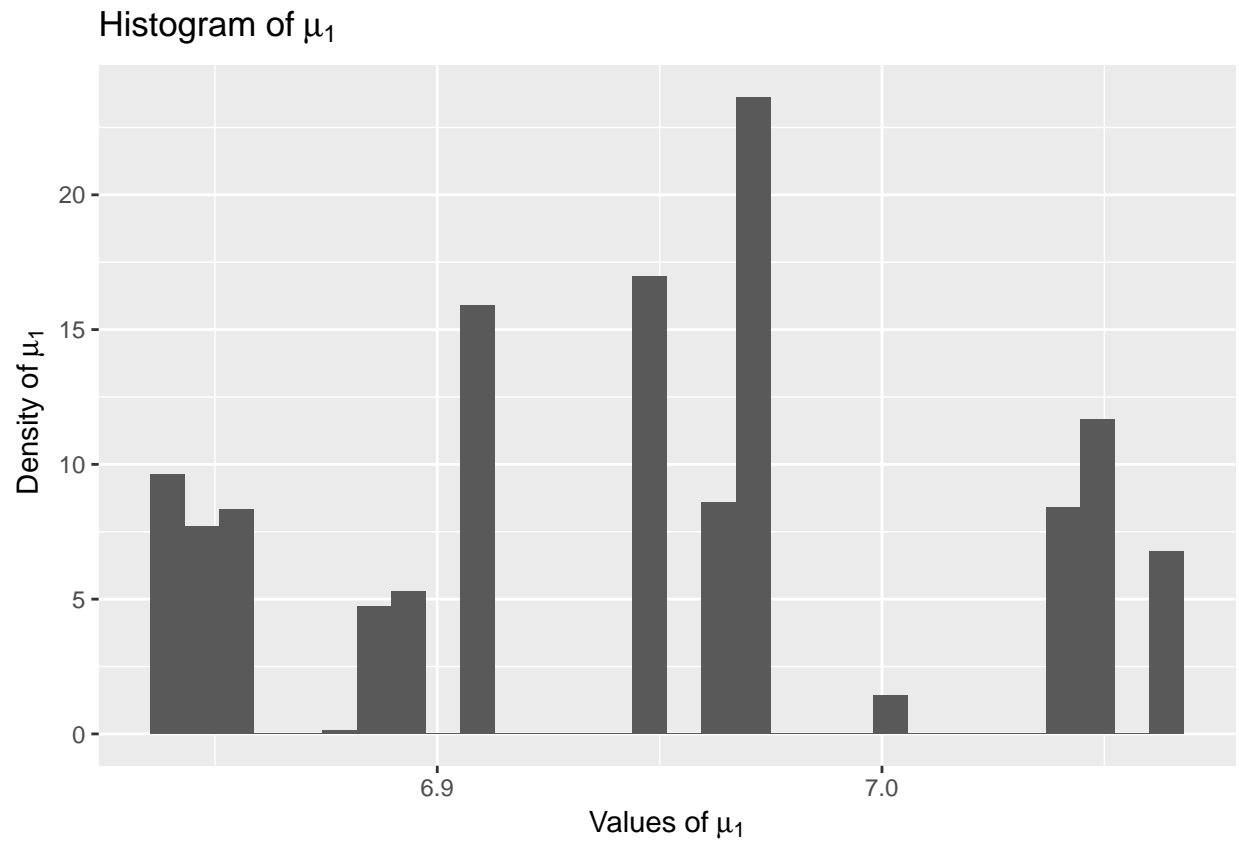
## `stat\_bin()` using `bins = 30`. Pick better value with `binwidth`.



$\delta$  is about 0.7

```
plot2<- ggplot(data.frame(x = results[,2]), aes(x = x))+
  geom_histogram(aes(y=..density..))+labs(x = expression("Values of"~mu[1]),
  y = expression(" Density of"~mu[1]), title=expression("Histogram of"~mu[1]))
plot2
```

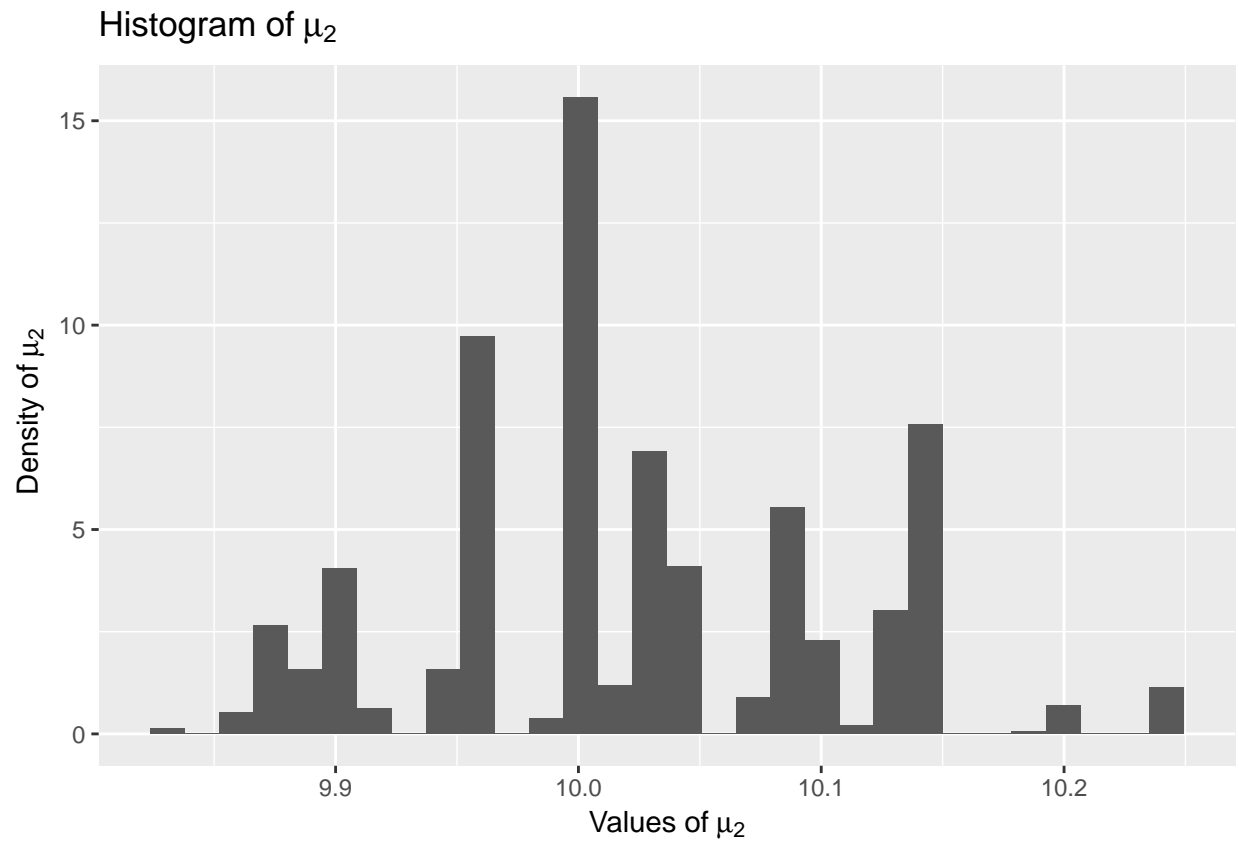
## `stat\_bin()` using `bins = 30`. Pick better value with `binwidth`.



$\mu_1$  is about 7

```
plot3<- ggplot(data.frame(x = results[,3]), aes(x = x))+
  geom_histogram(aes(y=..density..))+labs(x = expression("Values of"~mu[2]),
  y = expression(" Density of"~mu[2]), title=expression("Histogram of"~mu[2]))
plot3
```

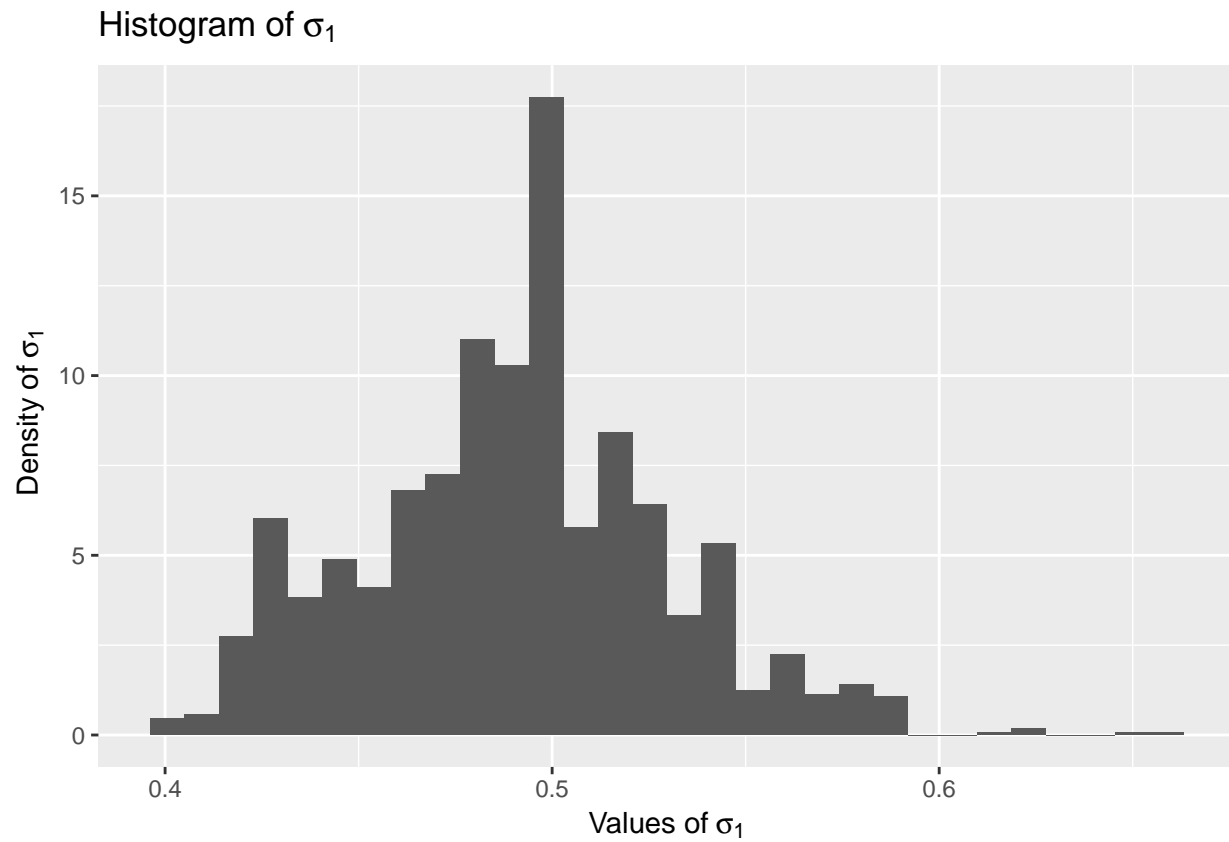
## `stat\_bin()` using `bins = 30`. Pick better value with `binwidth`.



$\mu_2$  is about 10

```
plot4<- ggplot(data.frame(x = results[,4]), aes(x = x))+
  geom_histogram(aes(y=..density..))+labs(x = expression("Values of"~sigma[1]),
  y = expression(" Density of"~sigma[1]), title=expression("Histogram of"~sigma[1]))
plot4
```

## `stat\_bin()` using `bins = 30`. Pick better value with `binwidth`.



```
plot5<- ggplot(data.frame(x = results[,5]), aes(x = x))+
  geom_histogram(aes(y=..density..))+labs(x = expression("Values of"~sigma[2]),
  y = expression(" Density of"~sigma[2]), title=expression("Histogram of"~sigma[2]))
plot5
```

## `stat\_bin()` using `bins = 30`. Pick better value with `binwidth`.

