Hamiltonian Monte Carlo and Stan

- Hamiltonian Monte Carlo uses gradient information and dynamic simulation to reduce random-walk and increase acceptance rate
 - the performance scales well with the number of dimensions
 - this lecture introduces the basic HMC and No-U-Turn-Sampler based dynamic HMC
 - other useful variants have been developed recently

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 - other useful variants have been developed recently
- Stan is the most popular probabilistic programming framework
 - many recent probprog frameworks use dynamic HMC samplers
 - this lecture introduces Stan language and main features
 - later you can also use higher level packages built on top of Stan

BDA Chapter 12

- 12.1 Efficient Gibbs samplers (not part of the course)
- 12.2 Efficient Metropolis jump rules (not part of the course)
- 12.3 Further extensions to Gibbs and Metropolis (not part of the course)
- 12.4 Hamiltonian Monte Carlo (important)
- 12.5 Hamiltonian dynamics for a simple hierarchical model (useful example)
- 12.6 Stan: developing a computing environment (useful intro)

Extra material for HMC / NUTS

- An introduction for applied users with good visualizations: Monnahan, Thorson, and Branch (2016) Faster estimation of Bayesian models in ecology using Hamiltonian Monte Carlo. https://dx.doi.org/10.1111/2041-210X.12681
- A technical review of why HMC works: Neal (2012). MCMC using Hamiltonian dynamics. https://arxiv.org/abs/1206.1901
- The No-U-Turn Sampler: Hoffman and Gelman (2014). The No-U-Turn Sampler: Adaptively Setting Path Lengths in Hamiltonian Monte Carlo. https://jmlr.csail.mit.edu/papers/v15/hoffman14a.html
- Multinomial variant of NUTS: Betancourt (2018). A Conceptual Introduction to Hamiltonian Monte Carlo. https://arxiv.org/abs/1701.02434

Extra material for Stan

- Gelman, Lee, and Guo (2015) Stan: A probabilistic programming language for Bayesian inference and optimization. http://www.stat.columbia.edu/~gelman/research/published/ stan_jebs_2.pdf
- Carpenter et al (2017). Stan: A probabilistic programming language. Journal of Statistical Software 76(1). https://dox.doi.org/10.18637/jss.v076.i01
- Stan User's Guide, Language Reference Manual, and Language Function Reference (in html and pdf) https://mc-stan.org/users/documentation/
 - easiest to start from Example Models in User's guide
- Basics of Bayesian inference and Stan, part 1 Jonah Gabry & Lauren Kennedy (StanCon 2019 Helsinki tutorial)
 - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZRpo41I02KQ&index=6& list=PLuwyh42iHquU4hUBQs20hkBsKSMrp6H0J
 - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6cc4N1vT8pk&index=7& list=PLuwyh42iHquU4hUBQs20hkBsKSMrp6H0J

Chapter 12 demos

- demo12_1: HMC
- https://chi-feng.github.io/mcmc-demo/
- http:

//elevanth.org/blog/2017/11/28/build-a-better-markov-chain/

- cmdstanr_demo, rstan_demo
- http://sumsar.net/blog/2017/01/ bayesian-computation-with-stan-and-farmer-jons/
- http://mc-stan.org/documentation/case-studies.html
- https://mc-stan.org/cmdstanr/
- https://mc-stan.org/rstan/

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- Also used as the a high-fidelity reference in Approximate Inference in Bayesian Deep Learning competition https://izmailovpavel.github.io/neurips_bdl_competition/

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 Trends



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- Uses gradient of log density for more efficient sampling Autocorrelation function



-theta1-theta2

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 Cumulative averages



-theta1-theta2--95% interval for MCMC error-95% interval for indeper4

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- 4. NUTS + multinomial (dynamic HMC)
 - Betancourt (2018)

- Related methods
 - Factorizing $p(\theta_1, \theta_2) = p(\theta_1 \mid \theta_2)p(\theta_2)$: sample from 1) $p(\theta_2)$, 2) $p(\theta_1 \mid \theta_2)$

- Related methods
 - Factorizing p(θ₁, θ₂) = p(θ₁ | θ₂)p(θ₂): sample from 1) p(θ₂),
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- HMC
 - Augment with ϕ (the same dimensionality as θ)
 - 1) sample directly from p(φ),

2) make a special joint Metropolis step for $p(\theta, \phi) = p(\theta)p(\phi)$

- 1) Sample from $p(\phi)$
 - define $p(\phi) = \text{normal}(0, 1)$
- 2) Metropolis update for $p(\theta, \phi) = p(\theta)p(\phi)$
 - proposal from Hamiltonian dynamic simulation

Hamiltonian dynamic simulation

Statistical mechanics and canonical distribution

$$p(\theta, \phi) = p(\theta)p(\phi)$$

= $\frac{1}{Z} \exp(-(U(\theta) + K(\phi)))$
= $\frac{1}{Z} \exp(-H(\theta, \phi))$

where

- U is potential energy function
- *K* is kinetic energy function
- *H* is Hamiltonian energy function
- ϕ is called a momentum variable
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- *H* is Hamiltonian energy function
- ϕ is called a momentum variable
- The potential energy is the negative log density $U(\theta) = -\log(p(\theta)) + C$

Hamiltonian dynamic simulation

Equations of motion, use also the gradient



From Monnahan et al (2017)

Hamiltonian Monte Carlo

- 1) Sample from $p(\phi)$
 - define $p(\phi) = \text{normal}(0, 1)$
- 2) Metropolis update for $p(\theta, \phi) = p(\theta)p(\phi)$
 - proposal from Hamiltonian dynamic simulation $p(\theta, \phi) \propto \exp(-H(\theta, \phi))$



From Monnahan et al (2017)

Leapfrog discretization

- Leapfrog discretization
 - preserves volume
 - reversible
 - discretization error does not usually grow in time



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 - due to the discretization error the simulation steps away from the constant contour
- Metropolis step with $r = \exp\left(-H(\theta^*, \phi^*) + H(\theta^{(t-1)}, \phi^{(t-1)})\right)$
 - accept if the Hamiltonian energy in the end is higher
 - accept with some probability if the Hamiltonian energy in the end is lower



Two steps of Hamiltonian Monte Carlo

• Perfect simulation keeps $p(\theta, \phi)$ constant



From Neal (2012)

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- Discretized simulation keeps changes in $p(\theta, \phi)$ small



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Two steps of Hamiltonian Monte Carlo

- Perfect simulation keeps $p(\theta, \phi)$ constant
- Discretized simulation keeps changes in $p(\theta, \phi)$ small
- Alternating sampling from *p*(φ) is crucial for moving to (θ, φ) points with different joint density



From Neal (2012)

Leapfrog discretization, step size

- Small step size → high acceptance rate, but many log density and gradient evaluations
- Big step size → less log density and gradient evaluations, but lower acceptance rate



From Monnahan et al (2017)

Leapfrog discretization, step size

- Small step size → high acceptance rate, but many log density and gradient evaluations
- Big step size → less log density and gradient evaluations, but lower acceptance rate and the simulation may diverge



From Monnahan et al (2017)

Leapfrog discretization, the number of steps

- Many steps can reduce random walk
- Many steps require many log density and gradient evaluations



From Monnahan et al (2017)

Static Hamiltonian Monte Carlo

- Fixed number of steps
- Demo https://chi-feng.github.io/mcmc-demo/

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from Hoffman & Gelman (2014)

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 - need to simulate in two directions
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- After adaptation the algorithm parameters are fixed and some more iterations run to finish the warmup

- NUTS specific diagnostic
 - the dynamic simulation is build as a binary tree



from Hoffman & Gelman (2014)

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- Indicates inefficiency in sampling leading to higher autocorrelations and lower ESS (S_{eff})
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 - moderate inefficiency doesn't invalidate the result

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- Different parameterizations matter

- HMC specific: indicates that Hamiltonian dynamic simulation has problems with unexpected fast changes in log-density (compared to the used step size)
 - indicates possibility of biased estimates



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variable mean median sd mad q5 q95 rhat ess_bulk ess_tail 0.19 0.20 0.023 1571. sigma0 0.27 0.24 0.64 1.0 1737. -1.4 -0.45 1571. 1737.28/74 lsigma0 -1.7 1.1 0.87 -3.8 1.0

Problematic distributions

- Nonlinear dependencies
 - simple mass matrix scaling doesn't help
- Funnels
 - optimal step size depends on location
- Multimodal
 - difficult to move from one mode to another
- Long-tailed with non-finite variance and mean
 - efficiency of exploration is reduced
 - central limit theorem doesn't hold for mean and variance

Some other recent HMC and gradient based variants

- ChEES-HMC (Hoffman et al., 2021)
 - a GPU friendly adapted but fixed simulation length
 - static after adaptation
- MEADS (Hoffman & Sountsov, 2022)
 - a GPU friendly multi-chain adaptation for generalized HMC (Horowitz, 1991) in which the momentum is partially updated frequently
 - instead of simulation length, need to choose the partial update rate
- MALT (Riou-Durand and Vogrinc, 2022; Riou-Durand et al., 2022)
 - a GPU friendly method related to GHMC
 - but avoids momentum flips after rejection

Probabilistic programming language

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- Wikipedia "A probabilistic programming language (PPL) is a programming language designed to describe probabilistic models and then perform inference in those models"
- To make probabilistic programming useful
 - inference has to be as automatic as possible
 - diagnostics for telling if the automatic inference doesn't work
 - easy workflow (to reduce manual work)
 - fast enough (manual work replaced with automation)

Probabilistic programming

- Enables agile workflow for developing probabilistic models
 - language
 - automated inference
 - diagnostics
- Many frameworks Stan, PyMC, Pyro (Uber), TFP (Google), Turing.jl, JAGS, ELFI, ...
 - Short review of the landscape: Štrumbelj et al. (2023). Past, Present, and Future of Software for Bayesian Inference. *Statistical Science*, accepted for publication. Preprint http://www.stat.columbia.edu/~gelman/research/ published/Bayesian_software_review-8.pdf.

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- R, Python, Julia, Scala, Stata, command line interfaces
- More than 200 R packages using Stan



Stan

- Stanislaw Ulam (1909-1984)
 - Monte Carlo method
 - H-Bomb

Domain-specific language for constructing models with common *distributed* $as \sim$ notation

```
data {
  int<lower=0> N; // number of experiments
  int<lower=0,upper=N> y; // number of successes
}
parameters {
  real<lower=0,upper=1> theta; // parameter of the binomial
}
model {
 theta ~ beta(1, 1); // prior
 v ~ binomial(N, theta); // observation / data model
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 - If you are not used to strong typing, this may feel annoying, but it will reduce the probability of coding errors, which will reduce probability of data analysis errors

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- Stan makes transformation to unconstrained space and samples in unconstrained space
 - e.g. log transformation for <lower=a>
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- For these declared transformation Stan automatically takes into account the Jacobian of the transformation (see BDA3 p. 21)

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- if y are data, and theta is a parameter, then that term defines log likelihood

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}
```

- target is the log posterior density (Lecture 4 discussed log)
- _lpdf for continuous, _lpmf for discrete distributions (left of |)
- if y are data, and theta is a parameter, then that term defines log likelihood
- for Stan sampler there is no difference between prior and likelihood, all that matters is the final target

Stan

• You can write in Stan language any program to compute the log density (Stan language is Turing complete)

Stan

- You can write in Stan language any program to compute the log density (Stan language is Turing complete)
- Stan compiles (transplies) the model written in Stan language to C++
 - this makes the sampling for complex models and bigger data faster
 - also makes Stan models easily portable, you can use your own favorite interface and scripting language for manipulating data and inference results (e.g. R, Python, Julia, Stata, ...)

CmdStanR

CmdStanR is an R interface for Stan

```
# Load CmdStanR
library(cmdstanr)
options(mc.cores = 1)
```

```
# Compile Stan model
mod_bin <- cmdstan_model(stan_file = 'binom.stan')</pre>
```

```
# Sample from the posterior given the model and data
d_bin <- list(N = 10, y = 7)
fit_bin <- mod_bin$sample(data = d_bin)</pre>
```

```
# Show summary and access draws
fit_bin$summary()
draws <- fit_bin$draws(format = "df")</pre>
```

CmdStanR

CmdStanR is an R interface for Stan

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Sample from the posterior given the model and data
d_bin <- list(N = 10, y = 7)
fit_bin <- mod_bin\$sample(data = d_bin)</pre>

```
# Show summary and access draws
fit_bin$summary()
draws <- fit_bin$draws(format = "df")</pre>
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CmdStanR

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```
# Sample from the posterior given the model and data
d_bin <- list(N = 10, y = 7)
fit_bin <- mod_bin$sample(data = d_bin)</pre>
```

```
# Show summary and access draws
fit_bin$summary()
draws <- fit_bin$draws(format = "df")</pre>
```

Stan

- Compilation (unless previously compiled model available)
- Pick random initial values for MCMC chains
- Run warm-up iterations including adaptation of mass matrix and step-size
- Sampling
- Generated quantities
- Save posterior draws
- Report divergences, ESS, \widehat{R}

- An experiment was performed to estimate the effect of beta-blockers on mortality of cardiac patients
- A group of patients were randomly assigned to treatment and control groups:
 - out of 674 patients receiving the control, 39 died
 - out of 680 receiving the treatment, 22 died

```
data {
  int<lower=0> N1:
  int<lower=0> y1;
  int<lower=0> N2;
  int<lower=0> y2;
}
parameters {
  real<lower=0,upper=1> theta1;
  real<lower=0,upper=1> theta2;
}
model {
  theta1 ~ beta(1, 1):
  theta2 ~ beta(1, 1);
  y1 ~ binomial(N1, theta1);
  y2 ~ binomial(N2, theta2);
generated quantities {
  real oddsratio;
  oddsratio = (theta2/(1-theta2))/(theta1/(1-theta1));
}
```

```
data {
  int<lower=0> N1:
  int<lower=0> y1;
  int<lower=0> N2;
  int<lower=0> y2;
parameters {
  real<lower=0,upper=1> theta1;
  real<lower=0,upper=1> theta2;
}
model {
  theta1 ~ beta(1, 1):
  theta2 ~ beta(1, 1);
  y1 ~ binomial(N1, theta1);
  y2 ~ binomial(N2, theta2);
generated quantities {
  real oddsratio;
  oddsratio = (theta2/(1-theta2))/(theta1/(1-theta1));
}
```

```
data {
  int<lower=0> N1:
  int<lower=0> y1;
  int<lower=0> N2;
  int<lower=0> y2;
parameters {
  real<lower=0,upper=1> theta1;
  real<lower=0,upper=1> theta2;
}
model {
  theta1 ~ beta(1, 1):
  theta2 ~ beta(1, 1);
  y1 ~ binomial(N1, theta1);
  v2 ~ binomial(N2, theta2);
}
generated quantities {
  real oddsratio;
  oddsratio = (theta2/(1-theta2))/(theta1/(1-theta1));
}
```

```
data {
  int<lower=0> N1:
  int<lower=0> y1;
  int<lower=0> N2;
  int<lower=0> y2;
parameters {
  real<lower=0,upper=1> theta1;
  real<lower=0,upper=1> theta2;
}
model {
  theta1 ~ beta(1, 1):
  theta2 ~ beta(1, 1);
  y1 ~ binomial(N1, theta1);
  y2 ~ binomial(N2, theta2);
generated quantities {
  real oddsratio;
  oddsratio = (theta2/(1-theta2))/(theta1/(1-theta1));
}
```

```
generated quantities {
   real oddsratio;
   oddsratio = (theta2/(1-theta2))/(theta1/(1-theta1));
}
```

generated quantities is run after the sampling

d_bin2 <- list(N1 = 674, y1 = 39, N2 = 680, y2 = 22)
mod_bin2 <- cmdstan_model(stan_file = 'binom2.stan')
fit_bin2 <- mod_bin2\$sample(data = d_bin2, refresh=1000)</pre>

> Running MCMC with 4 parallel chains...

Chain 1 Iteration: 1 / 2000 [0%] (Warmup) Chain 1 Iteration: 1000 / 2000 [50%] (Warmup) Chain 1 Iteration: 1001 / 2000 [50%] (Sampling) Chain 1 Iteration: 2000 / 2000 [100%] (Sampling) ... All 4 chains finished successfully. Mean chain execution time: 0.0 seconds. Total execution time: 0.2 seconds.

options(posterior.num_args=list(sigfig=2))
fit_bin2\$summary()

	variable	mean	median	sd	mad	q5	q95	rhat	ess_bulk	ess_tail
1	lp	-2.5e+2	-2.5e+2	1.0	0.74	-2.6e+2	-2.5e+2	1.0	1751.	2231.
2	theta1	5.9e-2	5.9e-2	0.0093	0.0093	4.5e-2	7.5e-2	1.0	3189.	2657.
3	theta2	3.4e-2	3.3e-2	0.0069	0.0067	2.3e-2	4.6e-2	1.0	3229.	2163.
4	oddsratio	5.7e-1	5.5e-1	0.16	0.15	3.5e-1	8.7e-1	1.0	2998.	2685.

options(posterior.num_args=list(sigfig=2))
fit_bin2\$summary()

 variable
 mean
 median
 sd
 mad
 q5
 q95
 rhat
 ess_bulk
 ess_tail

 1 lp__
 -2.5e+2
 -2.5e+2
 1.0
 0.74
 -2.6e+2
 -2.5e+2
 1.0
 1751.
 2231.

 2 theta1
 5.9e-2
 5.9e-2
 0.0093
 0.0093
 4.5e-2
 7.5e-2
 1.0
 3189.
 2657.

 3 theta2
 3.4e-2
 3.3e-2
 0.0069
 0.0067
 2.3e-2
 4.6e-2
 1.0
 3229.
 2163.

 4 oddsratio
 5.7e-1
 5.5e-1
 0.16
 0.15
 3.5e-1
 8.7e-1
 1.0
 2998.
 2685.

lp__ is the log density, ie, same as target

HMC specific diagnostics

\$num_divergent
[1] 0 0 0 0

\$num_max_treedepth
[1] 0 0 0 0

HMC specific diagnostics

\$num_divergent
[1] 0 0 0 0

\$num_max_treedepth
[1] 0 0 0 0

diagnostic_summary() includes E-BFMI diagnostic, which I'll skip
in this course

Difference between proportions (bayesplot)

```
draws <- fit_bin2$draws(format = "df")
mcmc_hist(draws, pars = 'oddsratio') +
  geom_vline(xintercept = 1) +
  scale_x_continuous(breaks = c(seq(0.25,1.5,by=0.25)))</pre>
```



Difference between proportions (ggplot2)

```
draws <- fit_bin2$draws(format = "df")
draws |> ggplot(aes(x=oddsratio)) +
   geom_histogram() +
   geom_vline(xintercept = 1) +
   scale_x_continuous(breaks = c(seq(0.25,1.5,by=0.25)))
```



Difference between proportions (ggdist dot plot)

```
draws <- fit_bin2$draws(format = "df")
draws |> ggplot(aes(x=oddsratio)) +
   geom_dotsinterval() +
   geom_vline(xintercept = 1) +
   scale_x_continuous(breaks = c(seq(0.25,1.5,by=0.25)))
```



50/74

Difference between proportions (probability and MCSE)

Probability (and corresponding MCSE) that oddsratio<1

p_oddsratio_lt_1 0.99 0.0023

Default is draws_array

```
> fit_bin2$draws()
# A draws_array: 1000 iterations, 4 chains, and 4 variables
, , variable = lp_{-}
```

4

chain iteration 1 2 3 4 1 -253 -253 -254 -253 2 -253 -253 -255 -252 3 -254 -252 -254 -253 4 -255 -253 -254 -254 5 -253 -253 -253 -253 , , variable = theta1 chain iteration 1 2 3 1 0.054 0.052 0.045 0.049 2 0.062 0.060 0.070 0.058

. . .

> fit bin2\$draws(format ="df")

draws_df looks prettier and works with ggplot()

				u .)				
#	A draw	ws_df: ´	1000 ite	rations, 4	chains,	and 4	<pre>variables</pre>	
	lp	theta1	theta2	oddsratio				
1	-253	0.054	0.033	0.59				
2	-253	0.062	0.035	0.55				
3	-254	0.047	0.026	0.54				
4	-255	0.049	0.049	0.99				
5	-253	0.068	0.035	0.50				
6	-253	0.056	0.027	0.47				
7	-253	0.071	0.031	0.43				
8	-253	0.049	0.036	0.72				
9	-253	0.049	0.036	0.72				
1(0 -253	0.063	0.026	0.39				
#	wi	ith 3990) more d	raws				
#	hi	idden re	eserved	variables	{'.chain	', '.i	teration',	'.draw'}

draws_rvar makes it easy to compute derived quantities

```
> as_draws_rvars(fit_bin2$draws())
# A draws_rvars: 1000 iterations, 4 chains, and 4 variables
$lp__: rvar<1000,4>[1] mean ± sd:
[1] -253 ± 1
$theta1: rvar<1000,4>[1] mean ± sd:
[1] 0.059 ± 0.0093
$theta2: rvar<1000,4>[1] mean ± sd:
[1] 0.034 ± 0.0069
$oddsratio: rvar<1000,4>[1] mean ± sd:
[1] 0.57 ± 0.16
```

draws_rvar makes it easy to compute derived quantities

```
> as draws rvars(fit bin2$draws())
# A draws_rvars: 1000 iterations, 4 chains, and 4 variables
$lp : rvar<1000.4>[1] mean ± sd:
[1] - 253 \pm 1
$theta1: rvar<1000.4>[1] mean ± sd:
[1] 0.059 \pm 0.0093
$theta2: rvar<1000,4>[1] mean ± sd:
[1] 0.034 ± 0.0069
$oddsratio: rvar<1000,4>[1] mean ± sd:
[1] 0.57 \pm 0.16
> with(draws. (theta2/(1-theta2))/(theta1/(1-theta1)))
rvar<1000.4>[1] mean ± sd:
[1] 0.5689 ± 0.1577
```

draws_rvar makes it easy to compute derived quantities

```
> as draws rvars(fit bin2$draws())
# A draws_rvars: 1000 iterations, 4 chains, and 4 variables
$lp : rvar<1000.4>[1] mean ± sd:
[1] - 253 \pm 1
$theta1: rvar<1000.4>[1] mean ± sd:
[1] 0.059 \pm 0.0093
$theta2: rvar<1000,4>[1] mean ± sd:
[1] 0.034 ± 0.0069
$oddsratio: rvar<1000,4>[1] mean ± sd:
[1] 0.57 \pm 0.16
> with(draws. (theta2/(1-theta2))/(theta1/(1-theta1)))
rvar<1000.4>[1] mean ± sd:
[1] 0.5689 ± 0.1577
> draws$oddsratio<1</pre>
rvar<1000,4>[1] mean ± sd:
[1] 0.9865 ± 0.1154
```

- Temperature at Kilpisjärvi in June, July and August from 1952 to 2013
- Is there change in the temperature?



55/74

```
data {
    int<lower=0> N; // number of observations
   vector[N] x;
   vector[N] y;
}
parameters {
   real alpha;
                       // intercept
   real beta;
                     // slope
    real<lower=0> sigma; // observation model sd
}
transformed parameters {
   vector[N] mu;
   mu = alpha + beta*x; // linear model
}
model {
    y ~ normal(mu, sigma); // observation model
}
```

```
data {
    int<lower=0> N; // number of observations
   vector[N] x;
   vector[N] y;
}
parameters {
    real alpha;
                       // intercept
    real beta;
                      // slope
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data {
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   vector[N] mu;
   mu = alpha + beta*x; // linear model
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model {
   y ~ normal(mu, sigma); // observation model
}
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data {
   int<lower=0> N; // number of observations
   vector[N] x;
   vector[N] y;
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   real alpha;
                      // intercept
   real beta;
              // slope
   real<lower=0> sigma; // observation model sd
}
transformed parameters {
   vector[N] mu;
   mu = alpha + beta*x; // linear model
}
model {
   y ~ normal(mu, sigma); // observation model
}
```

```
data {
    int<lower=0> N; // number of observations
    vector[N] x;
    vector[N] y;
}
```

• difference between vector[N] x and array[N] real x

```
data {
    int<lower=0> N;    // number of observations
    vector[N] x;
    vector[N] y;
}
```

- difference between vector[N] x and array[N] real x
- only integer arrays: array[N] int x

```
parameters {
    real alpha;    // intercept
    real beta;    // slope
    real<lower=0> sigma;    // observation model sd
}
transformed parameters {
    vector[N] mu;
    mu = alpha + beta*x;    // linear model
}
```

 transformed parameters are deterministic transformations of parameters and data

Student-t linear model

```
. . .
parameters {
  real alpha;
  real beta;
  real<lower=0> sigma;
  real<lower=1.upper=80> nu;
}
transformed parameters {
  vector[N] mu;
  mu = alpha + beta * x;
}
model {
                                    // prior for nu
  nu ~ gamma(2, 0.1);
  y ~ student_t(nu, mu, sigma); // observation model
}
```

Priors for normal linear model

```
data {
    int<lower=0> N; // number of observations
    vector[N] x; //
    vector[N] y; //
    real pmualpha; // prior mean for alpha
    real psalpha; // prior std for alpha
    real pmubeta; // prior mean for beta
    real psbeta; // prior std for beta
}
. . .
transformed parameters {
    vector[N] mu;
    mu = alpha + beta * x;
}
model {
    alpha ~ normal(pmualpha, psalpha); // prior for alpha
    beta ~ normal(pmubeta, psbeta); // prior for beta
    y ~ normal(mu, sigma);
                                     // observation model
}
```

Priors

• Prior for temperature increase?

Posterior fit



Posterior draws of alpha and beta







Warning: 1 of 4000 (0.0%) transitions hit the maximum treedepth limit of 10. See https://mc-stan.org/misc/warnings for details.
Kilpisjärvi summer temperature





Warning: 1 of 4000 (0.0%) transitions hit the maximum treedepth limit of 10. See https://mc-stan.org/misc/warnings for details.

Hitting maximum treedepth (maximum number of steps) does not invalidate results, but indicates inefficient sampling

Linear regression model in Stan

Center the data inside the model code

```
data {
    int<lower=0> N; // number of observations
    vector[N] x;
    vector[N] y;
    real xpred; // covarite values for prediction
}
```

```
transformed data {
  vector[N] x_std;
  vector[N] y_std;
  real xpred_std;
  x_std = (x - mean(x)) / sd(x);
  y_std = (y - mean(y)) / sd(y);
  xpred_std = (xpred - mean(x)) / sd(x);
}
```

Kilpisjärvi summer temperature

Posterior draws of alpha and beta when data is centered



Kilpisjärvi summer temperature

Without centering

variable	rhat	ess_bulk	ess_tail
alpha	1.0	919.	897.
beta	1.0	919.	895.

With centering

variable	rhat	ess_bulk	ess_tail
alpha	1.0	3872.	2616.
beta	1.0	3770.	2396.

RStanARM

- RStanARM provides simplified model description with pre-compiled models
 - no need to wait for compilation
 - a restricted set of models

Two group Binomial model:

RStanARM

- RStanARM provides simplified model description with pre-compiled models
 - no need to wait for compilation
 - a restricted set of models

Two group Binomial model:

Normal linear model

brms

- brms provides simplified model description
 - + a larger set of models than RStanARM, but still restricted
 - need to wait for the compilation

Geomagnetic storms



```
data {
  int<lower=0> N;
  vector<lower=0>[N] y;
  int<lower=0> Nt;
  vector<lower=0>[Nt] yt;
}
transformed data {
  real ymax = max(y); // pre-compute a useful quantity
parameters {
  real<lower=0> sigma;
  real<lower=-sigma/ymax> k; // constraint can depend on other parameters
}
model {
 y ~ gpareto(k, sigma); // user defined distribution
generated quantities {
 vector[Nt] predccdf = gpareto_ccdf(yt, k, sigma);
```

```
data {
  int<lower=0> N;
  vector<lower=0>[N] y;
  int<lower=0> Nt;
  vector<lower=0>[Nt] vt;
transformed data {
  real ymax = max(y);
                     // pre-compute a useful quantity
}
parameters {
  real<lower=0> sigma;
  real<lower=-sigma/ymax> k; // constraint can depend on other parameters
}
model {
 y ~ gpareto(k, sigma); // user defined distribution
generated quantities {
 vector[Nt] predccdf = gpareto_ccdf(yt, k, sigma);
```

```
data {
  int<lower=0> N;
  vector<lower=0>[N] y;
  int<lower=0> Nt;
  vector<lower=0>[Nt] vt;
transformed data {
  real ymax = max(y); // pre-compute a useful quantity
parameters {
  real<lower=0> sigma;
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```

```
data {
  int<lower=0> N;
  vector<lower=0>[N] y;
  int<lower=0> Nt;
  vector<lower=0>[Nt] vt;
transformed data {
  real ymax = max(y); // pre-compute a useful quantity
parameters {
  real<lower=0> sigma;
  real<lower=-sigma/ymax> k; // constraint can depend on other parameters
}
model {
 y ~ gpareto(k, sigma); // user defined distribution
generated quantities {
  vector[Nt] predccdf = gpareto_ccdf(yt, k, sigma);
}
```

User defined functions

```
functions {
  real gpareto_lpdf(vector y, real k, real sigma) {
    // generalised Pareto log pdf with mu=0
    // should check and give error if k<0</pre>
    // and max(y)/sigma > -1/k
    int N;
    N \leq dims(y)[1];
    if (abs(k) > 1e-15)
      return -(1+1/k)*sum(log1pv(y*k/sigma)) -N*log(sigma);
    else
      return -sum(y/sigma) -N*log(sigma); // limit k->0
  }
  vector gpareto_ccdf(vector y, real k, real sigma) {
    // generalised Pareto log ccdf with mu=0
    // should check and give error if k<0</pre>
    // and max(y)/sigma < -1/k
    if (abs(k) > 1e-15)
      return exp((-1/k)*log1pv(y/sigma*k));
    else
      return exp(-y/sigma); // limit k->0
```

User defined functions

}

```
functions {
  real gpareto_lpdf(vector y, real k, real sigma) {
    // generalised Pareto log pdf with mu=0
    // should check and give error if k<0</pre>
    // and max(y)/sigma > -1/k
    int N;
    N \leq -\dim(y)[1];
    if (abs(k) > 1e-15)
      return -(1+1/k)*sum(log1pv(y*k/sigma)) -N*log(sigma);
    else
      return -sum(y/sigma) -N*log(sigma); // limit k->0
  vector gpareto_ccdf(vector y, real k, real sigma) {
    // generalised Pareto log ccdf with mu=0
    // should check and give error if k<0</pre>
    // and max(y)/sigma < -1/k
    if (abs(k) > 1e-15)
      return exp((-1/k)*log1pv(y/sigma*k));
    else
      return exp(-y/sigma); // limit k->0
  }
```

Different interfaces

- CmdStanR / CmdStanPy
 - Interface on top of command-line program CmdStan
- RStan / PyStan
 - C++ functions of Stan are called directly from R / Python
 - Higher integration between R/Python and Stan, but maybe more difficult to install due to more requirements of compatible C++ compilers and libraries

Other packages

- R
- posterior posterior handling and diagnostics (Lectures 5 and 6)
- bayesplot visualization and model checking (Lectures 5, 6, and 8)
- tidybayes and ggdist more posterior and prediction visualization (Lecture 6)
- marginaleffects prediction and comparison visualization
- loo cross-validation model assessment and comparison (Lecture 9)
- projpred projection predictive variable selection (Lecture 12)
- priorsense prior and likelihood sensitivity diagnostics (Lecture 12)
- Python
 - ArviZ visualization, and model checking and assessment