



United Nations
Educational, Scientific and
Cultural Organization



GWData-Bootcamp



Mainly, for the Bayesian inference and computation methods in the gravitational-wave (GW) research

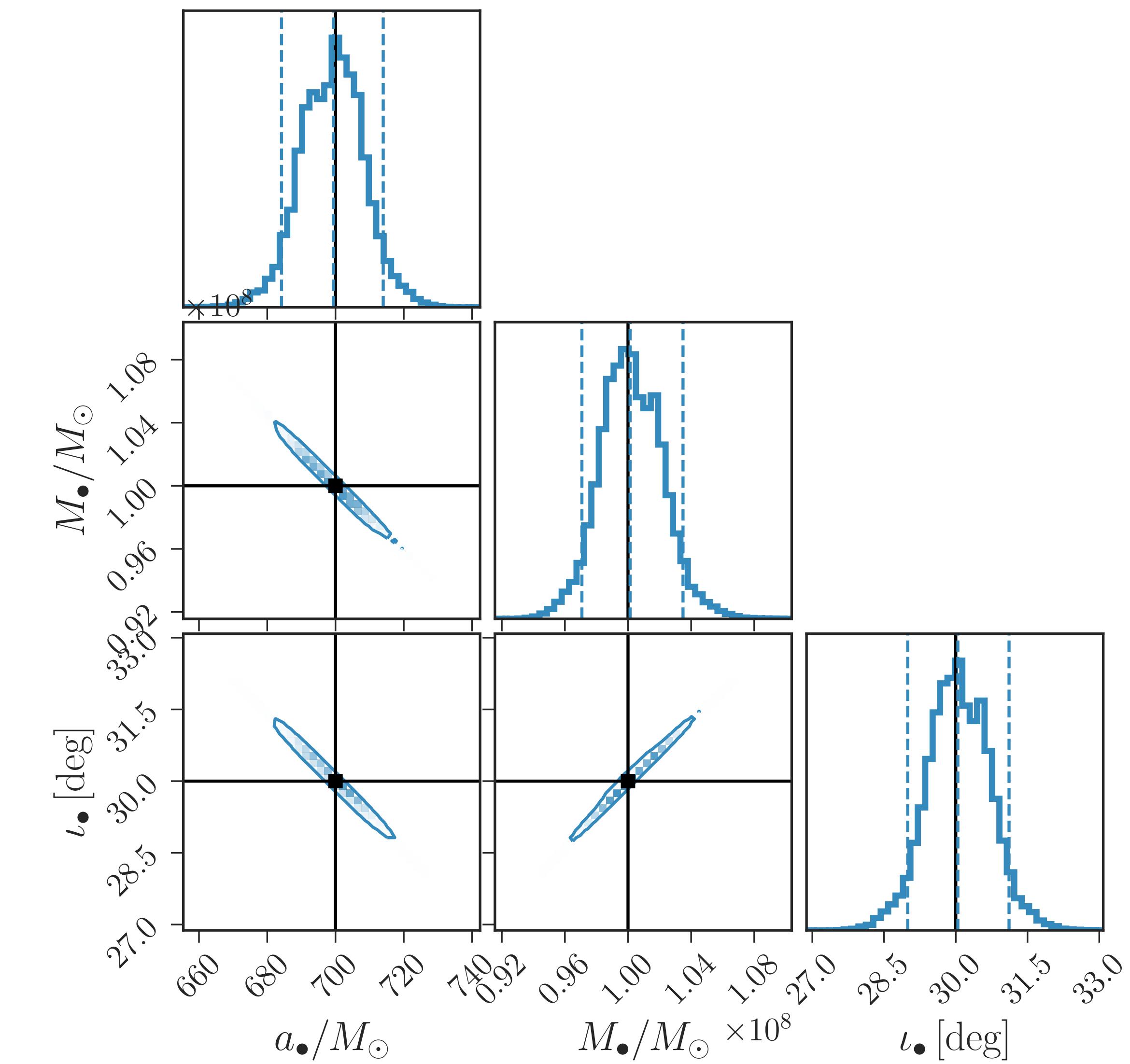
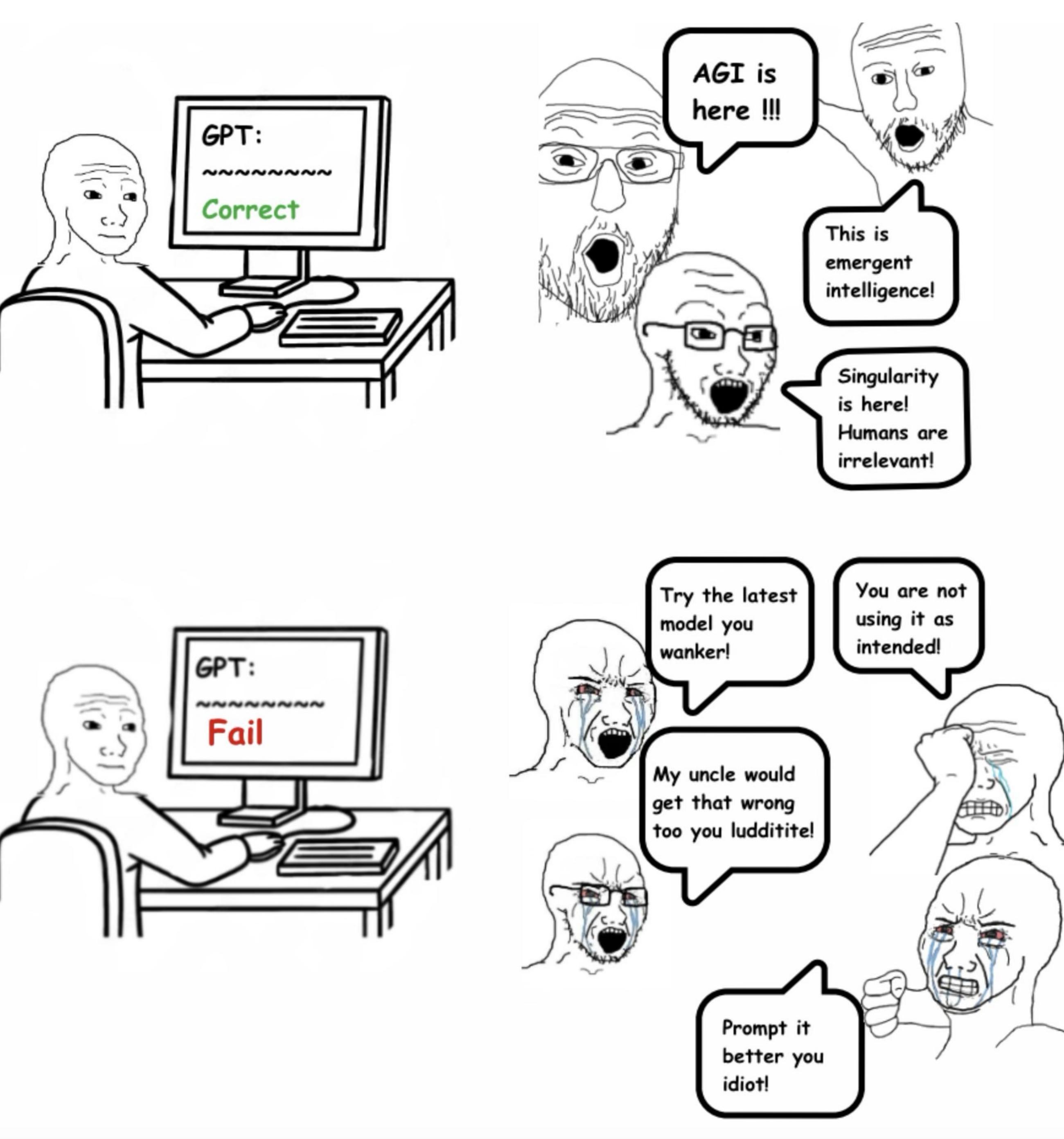
Bayesian inference for GW science

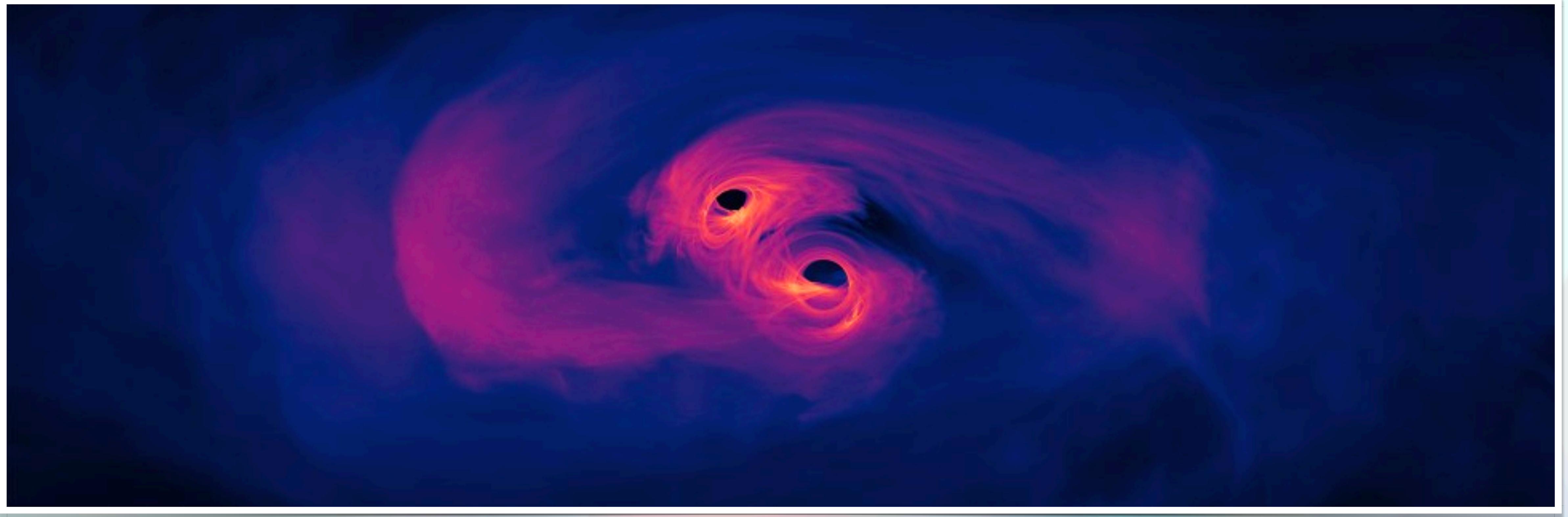
Junjie Zhao
(赵俊杰)

Department of Astronomy, Beijing Normal University

Dec. 16 & 17, 2023 (Beijing, Online)





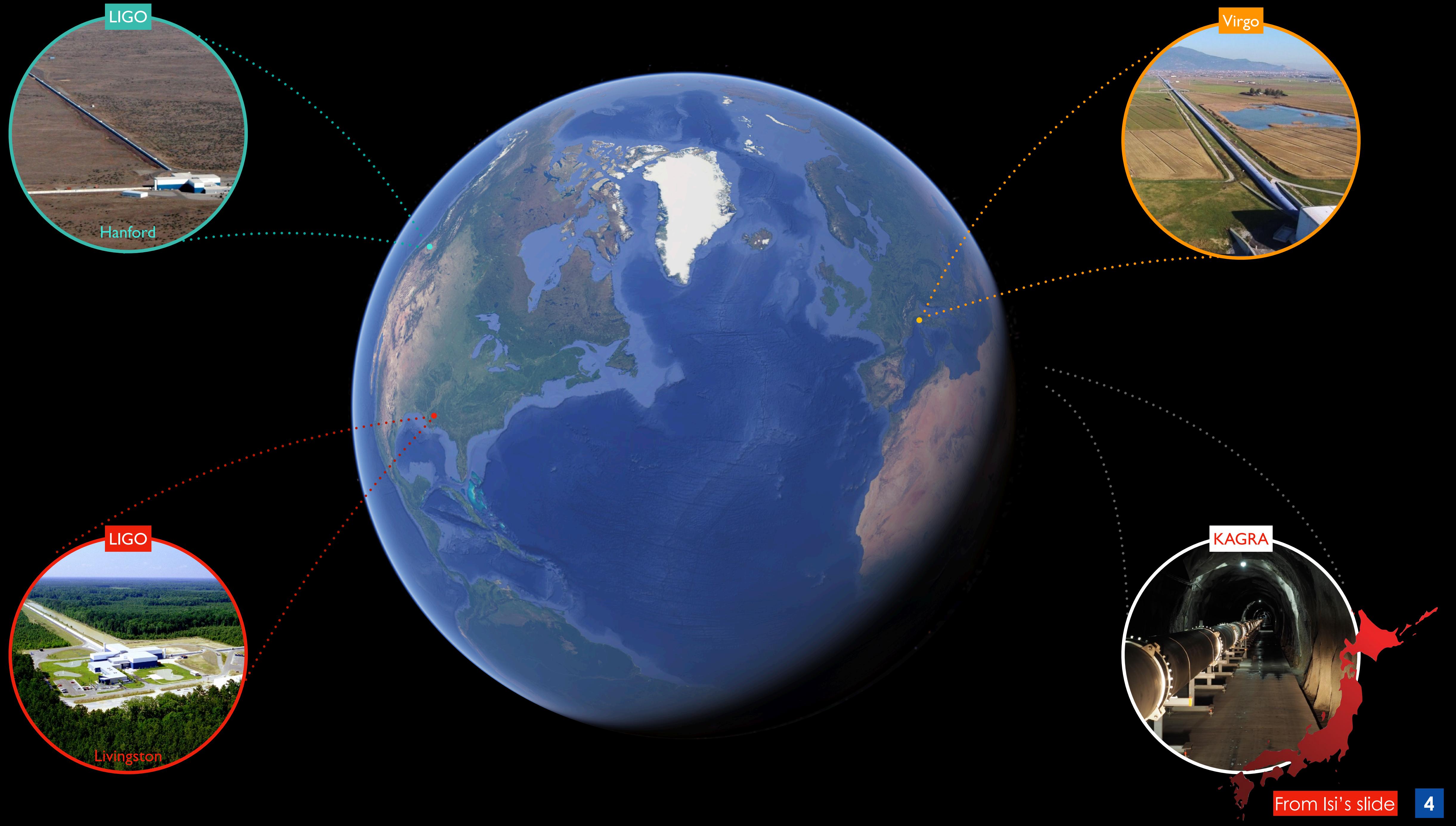


Simple background for GW

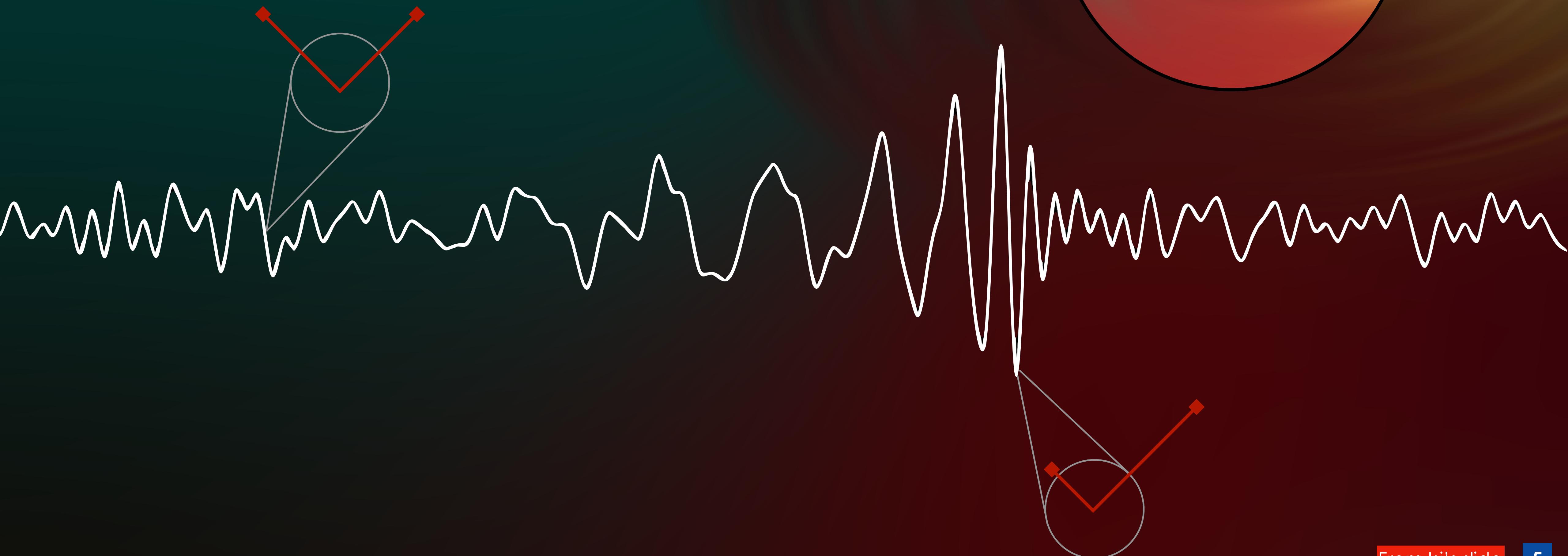
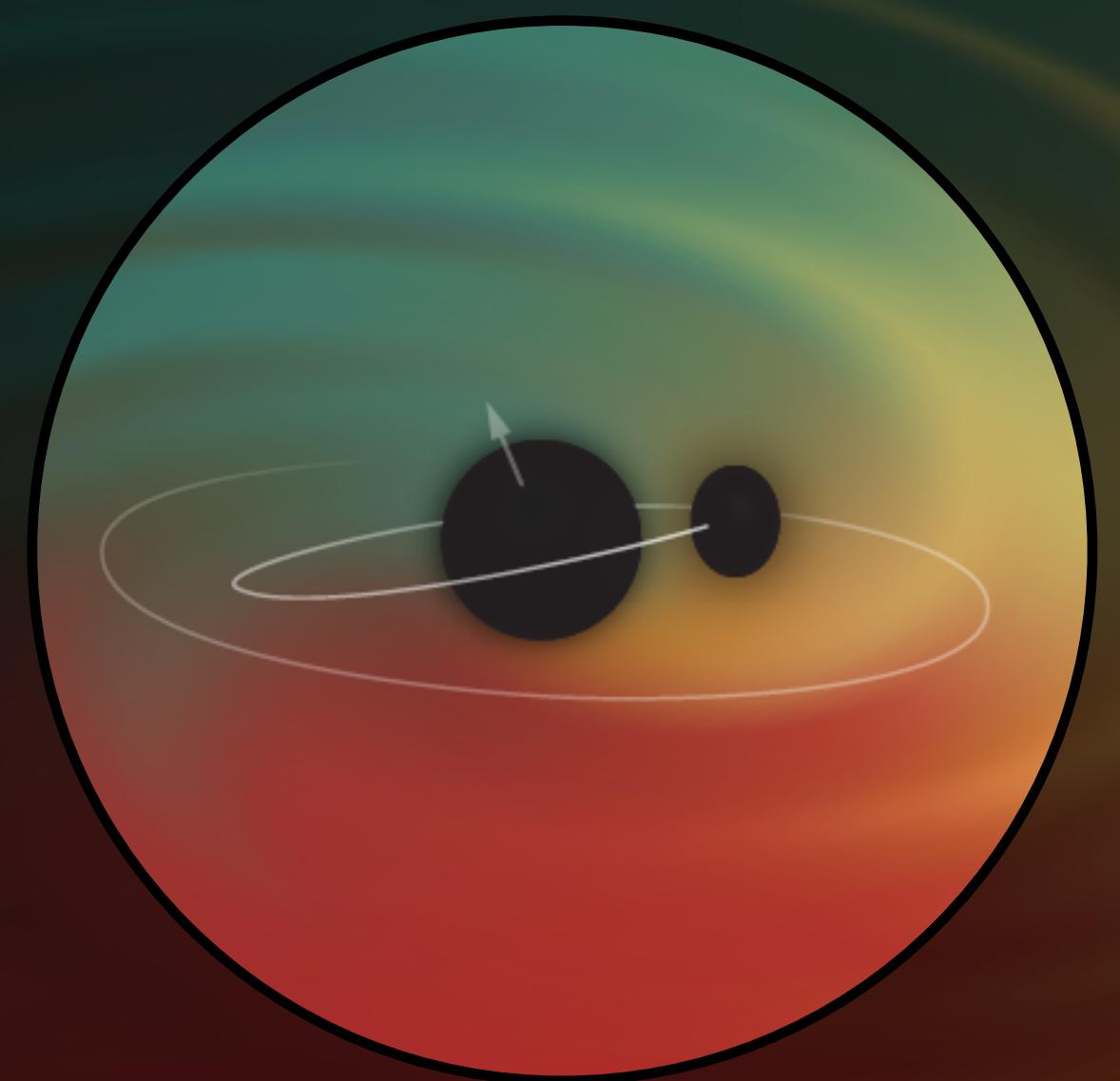
Detectors

Matched-filtering technique

Parameter estimations

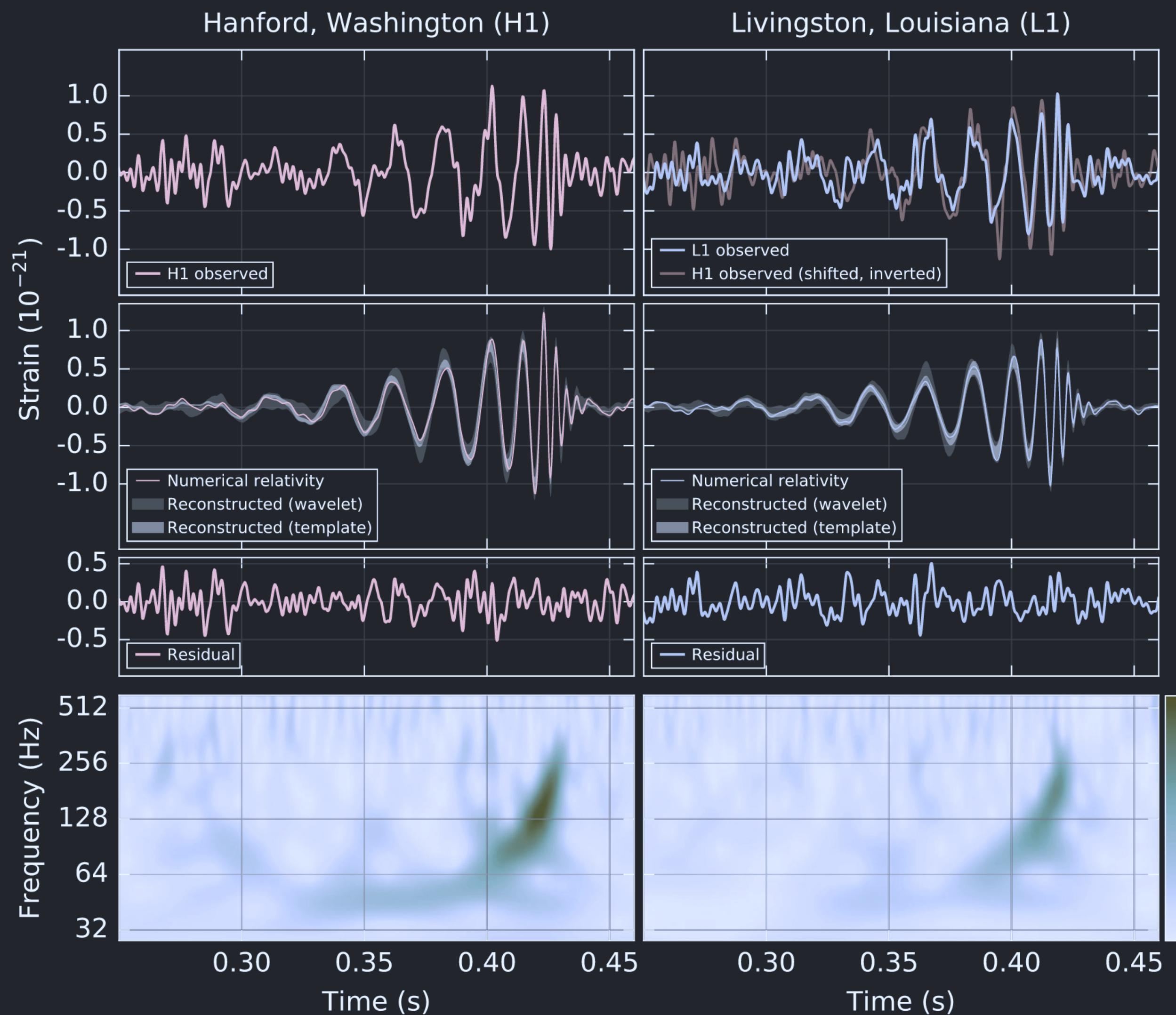


Typical strains from astrophysical sources $\lesssim 10^{-21}$,
displacement sensitivities δL of less than $\sim 10^{-18} \text{ m}$.
The radius of a proton is $\sim 8.5 \times 10^{-16} \text{ m}$.



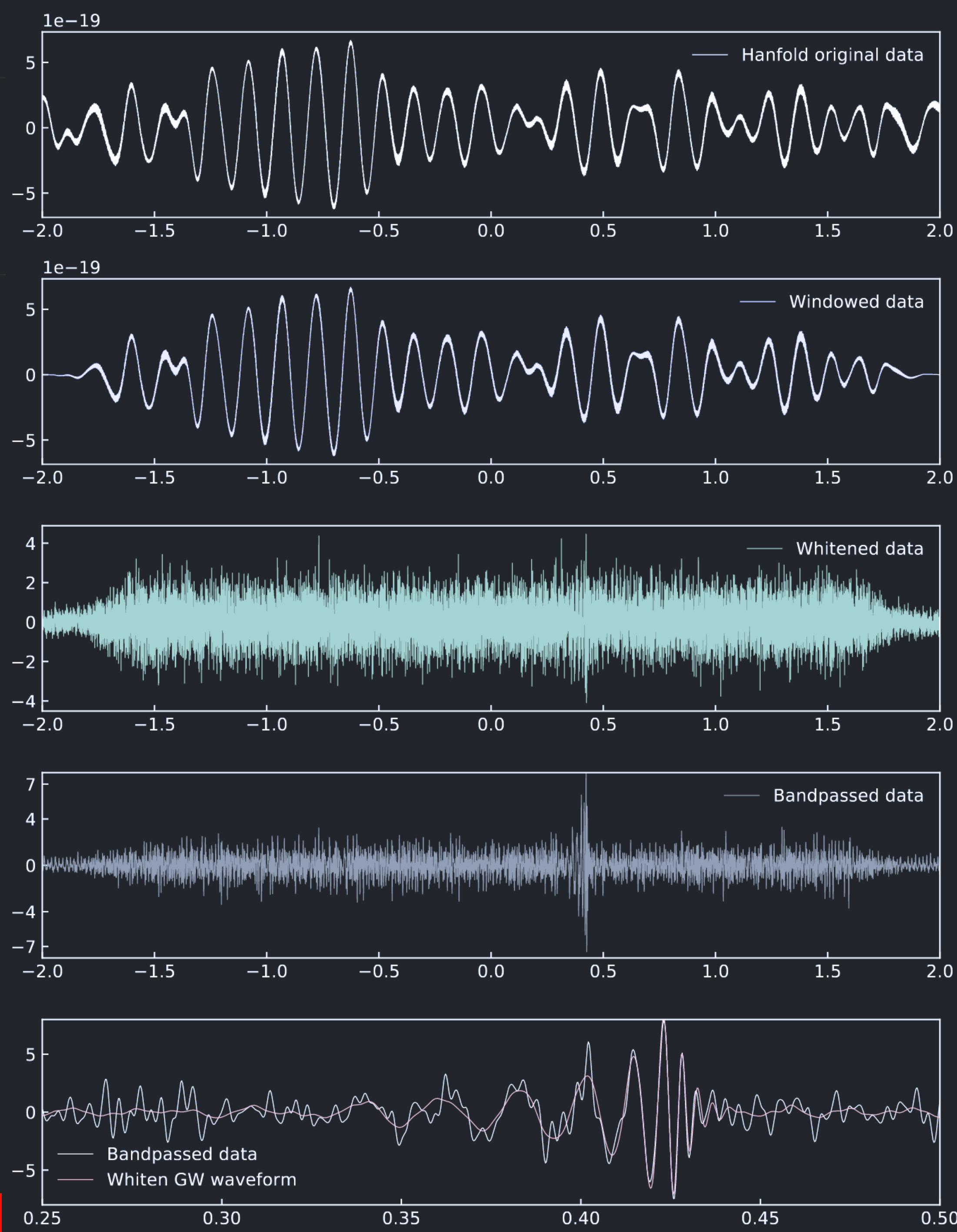


GW150914



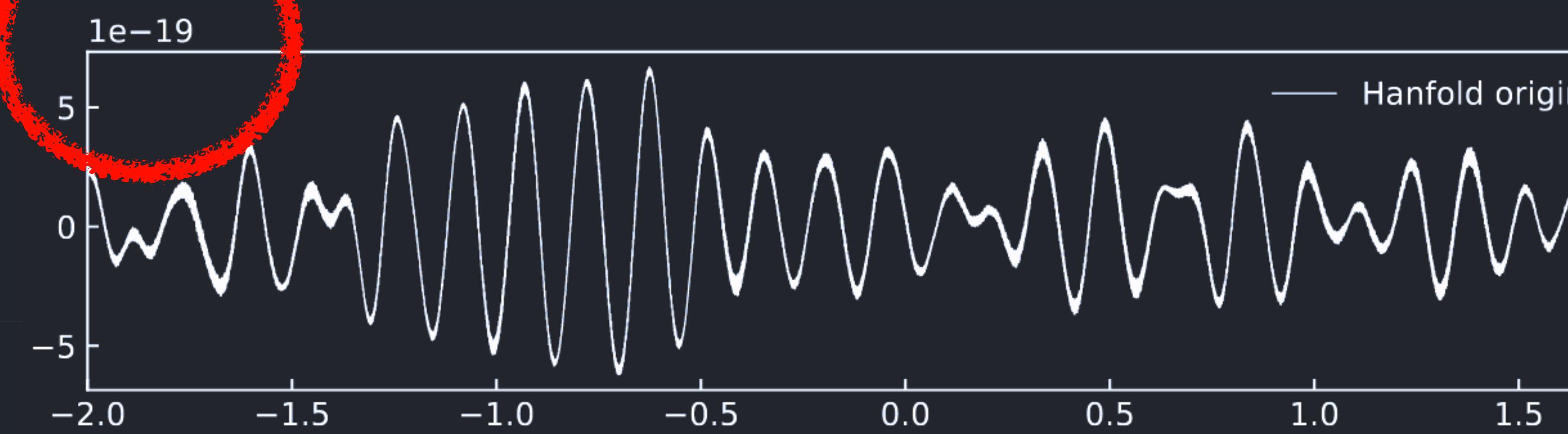
Abbott et al. '2016

From Junjie's thesis



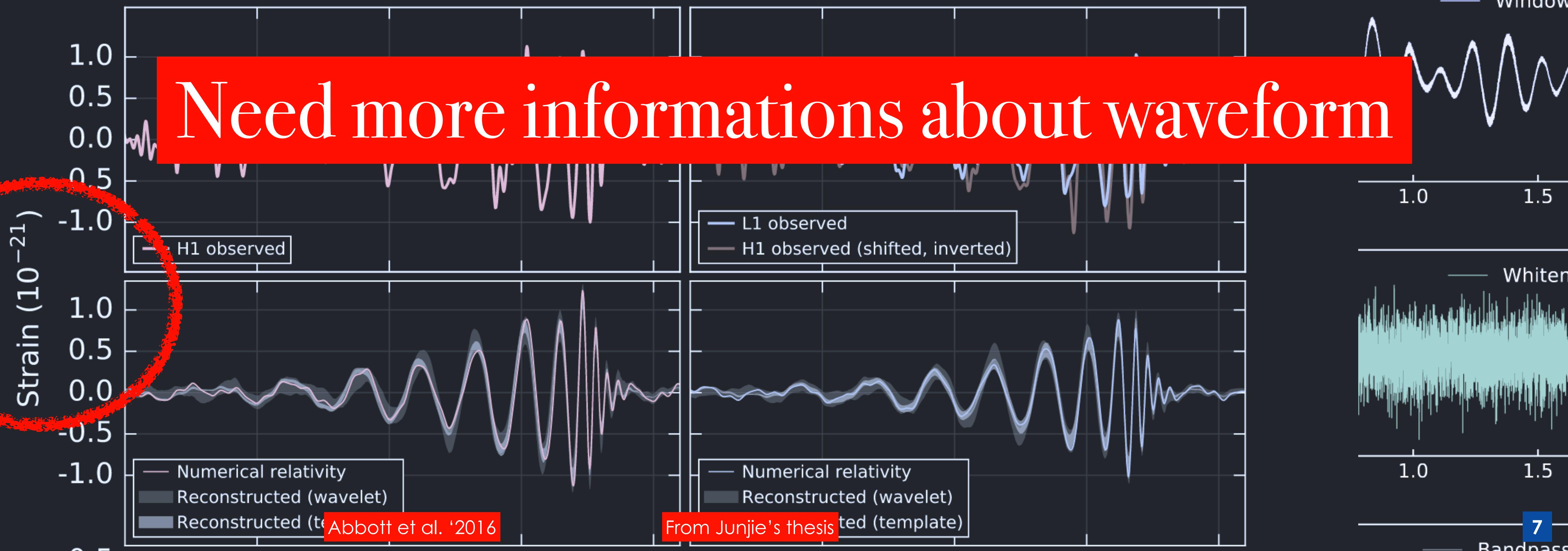


GW150914



Hanford, Washington (H1)

Livingston, Louisiana (L1)



Gravitational-Wave Transient Catalog 3 (GWTC-3)

Compact binary coalescences from the second part of the third observing run (O3b)



Observing period: 1st Nov 2019 15:00 UTC to 27th Mar 2020 17:00 UTC

125.5 days with 2 or more detectors observing

2 O3b exceptional events previously published

18 of our 35 candidates were previously reported during O3b as low-latency public alerts.

GWTC-3 also includes 17 O3b candidates that are being reported for the first time.

Events of Note

GW200220_061928

Most massive binary system in O3b with total mass = $148 M_{\odot}$

GW191219_163120

NSBH merger between a $1.17 M_{\odot}$ NS and $31.1 M_{\odot}$ BH, with the most extreme mass ratio ($q = 0.038$) measured to date

GW200115_042309

NSBH merger between a $1.44 M_{\odot}$ NS and $5.9 M_{\odot}$ BH

GW200210_092254

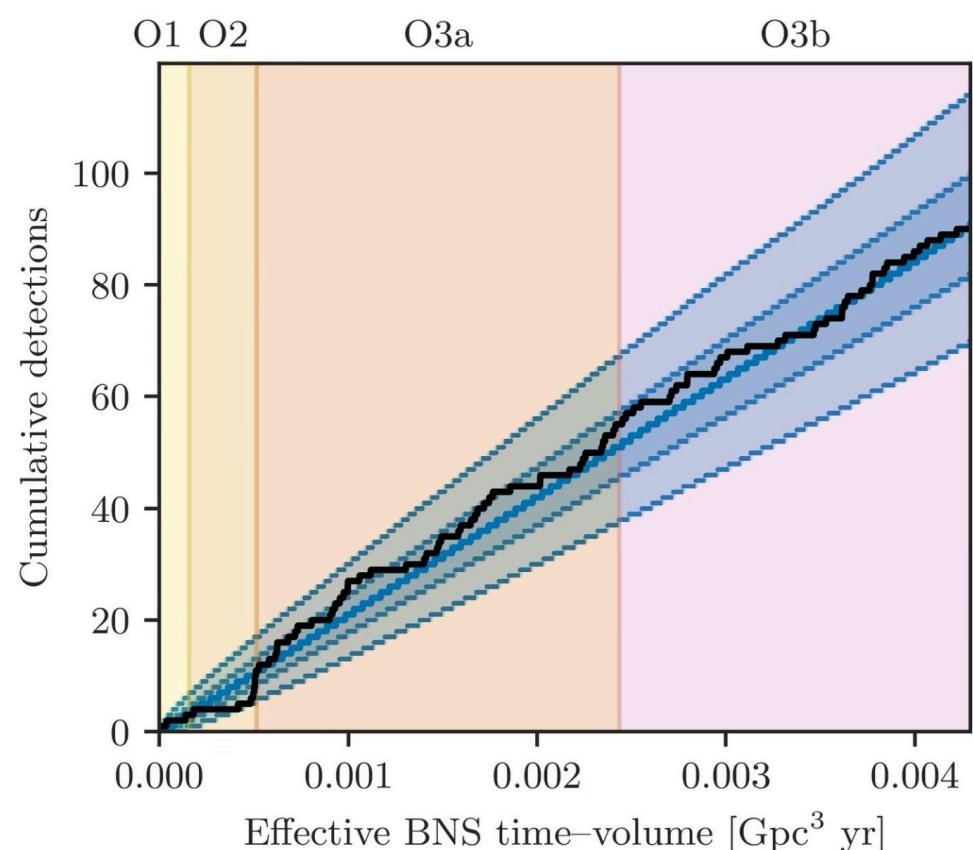
NSBH or BBH merger: less massive object has a mass of $2.83 M_{\odot}$

GW191109_010717

BBH merger which is very likely to have negative spin

GW191129_134029

Least massive definite BBH merger in O3b, with total mass = $17.5 M_{\odot}$



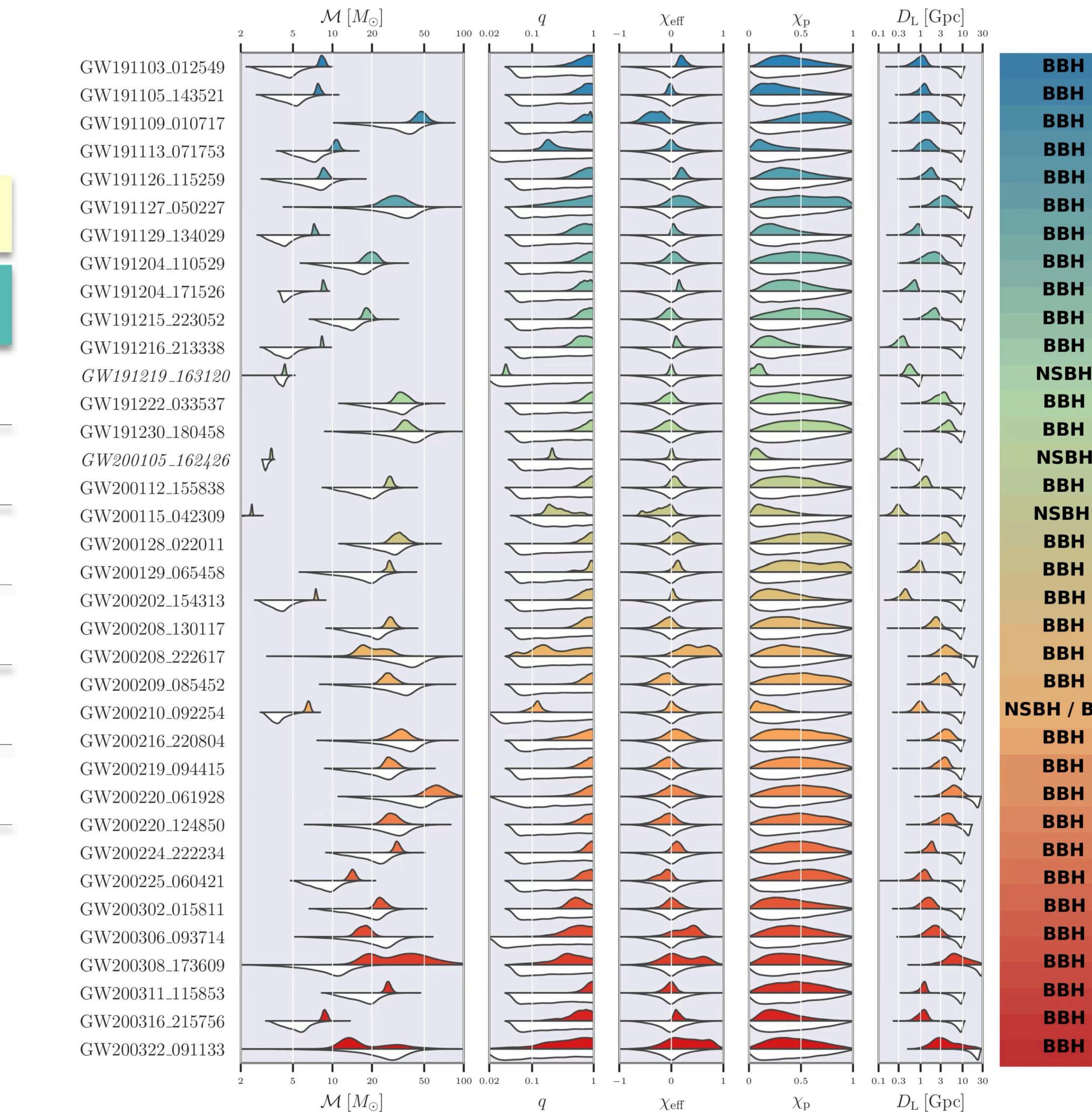
Growth in the number of LVK catalog candidates across observing runs. This figure shows the number of compact binary coalescence candidates with a probability of astrophysical origin $p_{\text{astro}} > 0.5$ versus the detector network's effective surveyed time-volume for binary neutron star (BNS) coalescences, which should be approximately proportional to the number of detections.

The colored bands indicate the different observing runs: O1, O2, O3a and O3b. The cumulative number of probable candidates is indicated by the solid black line.

Data for all GWTC-3 events are available from the Gravitational-Wave Open Science Center:
<https://www.gw-openscience.org/>

Gravitational-Wave Transient Catalog 3 (GWTC-3)

Compact binary coalescences from the second part of the third observing run (O3b)

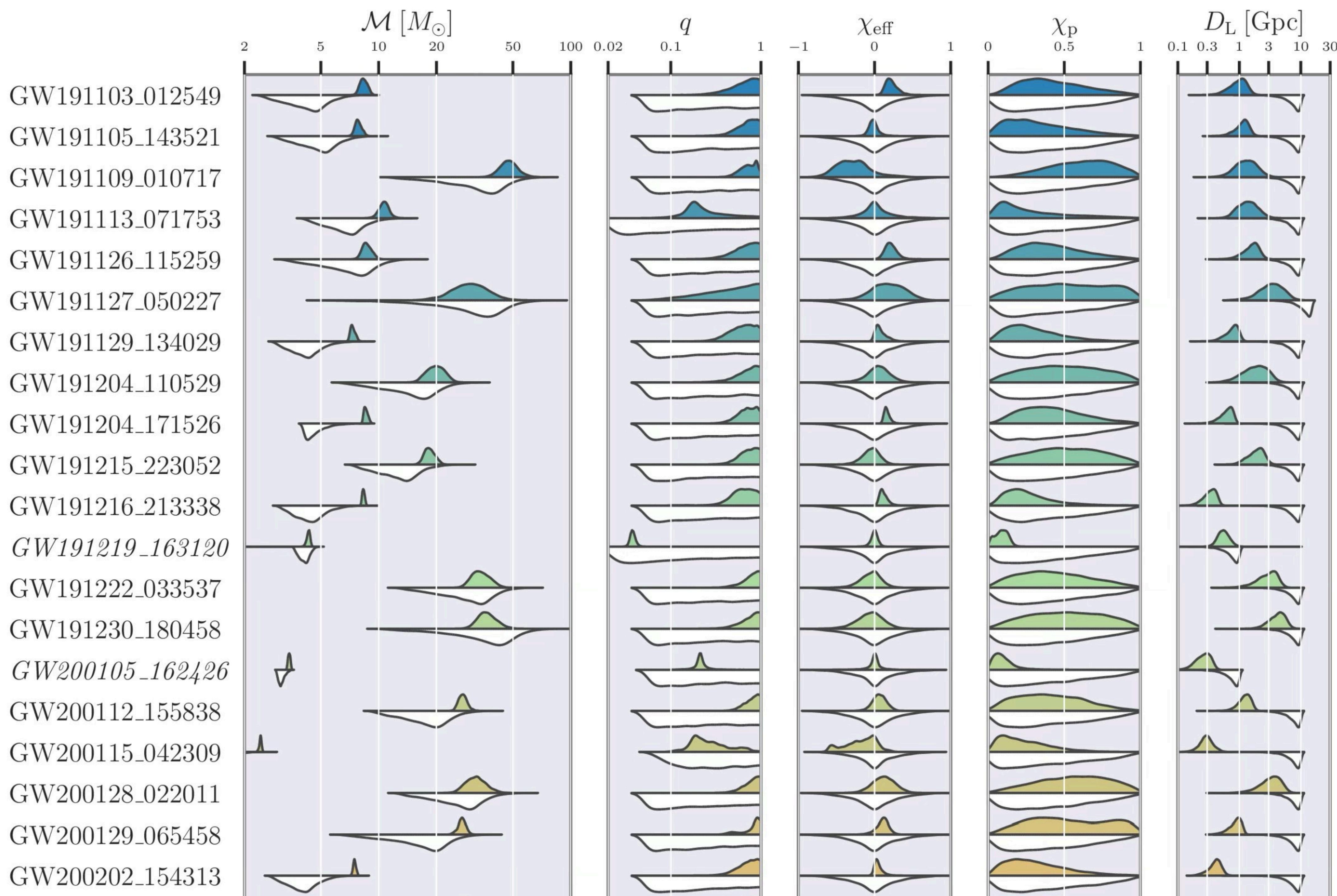


Properties of the events reported in the O3b catalog are listed above: chirp mass \mathcal{M} , in solar masses, mass ratio q , effective inspiral spin χ_{eff} , effective precession spin χ_p , and distance D_L in Gigaparsecs.

Also listed for each event is the most likely source classification. Events labelled BBH are those that we are confident are binary black hole coalescences. Events labelled NSBH are those that are possible neutron star and black hole coalescences. (We consider compact objects that are likely to have masses less than 3 times the mass of our sun to be possible neutron star candidates).

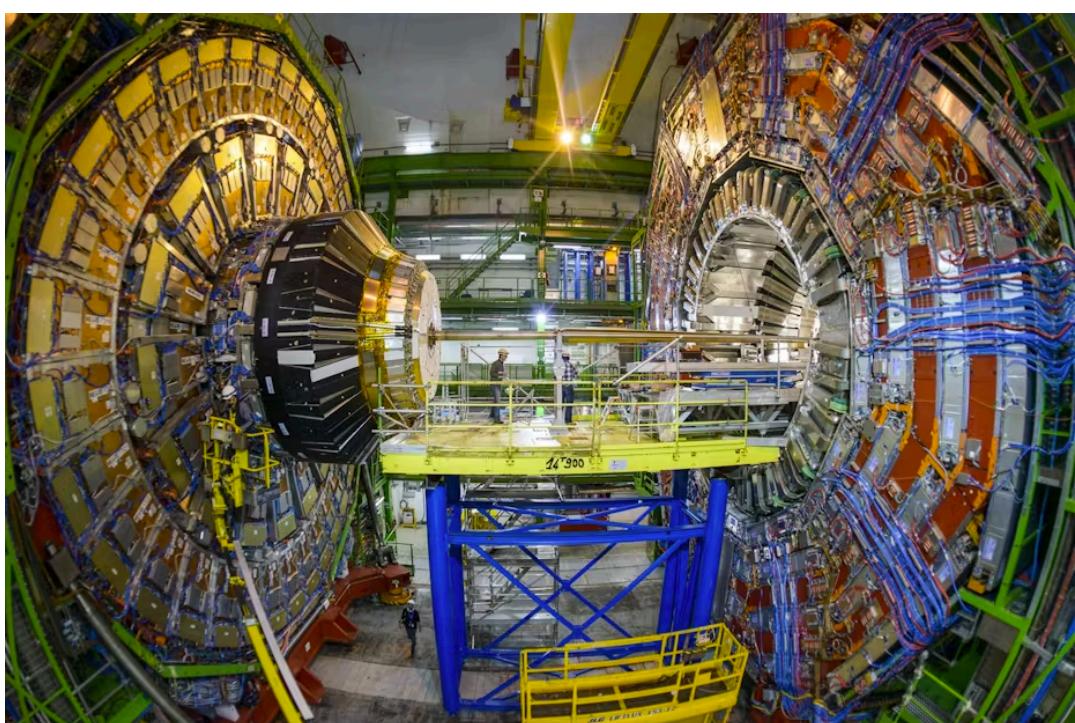
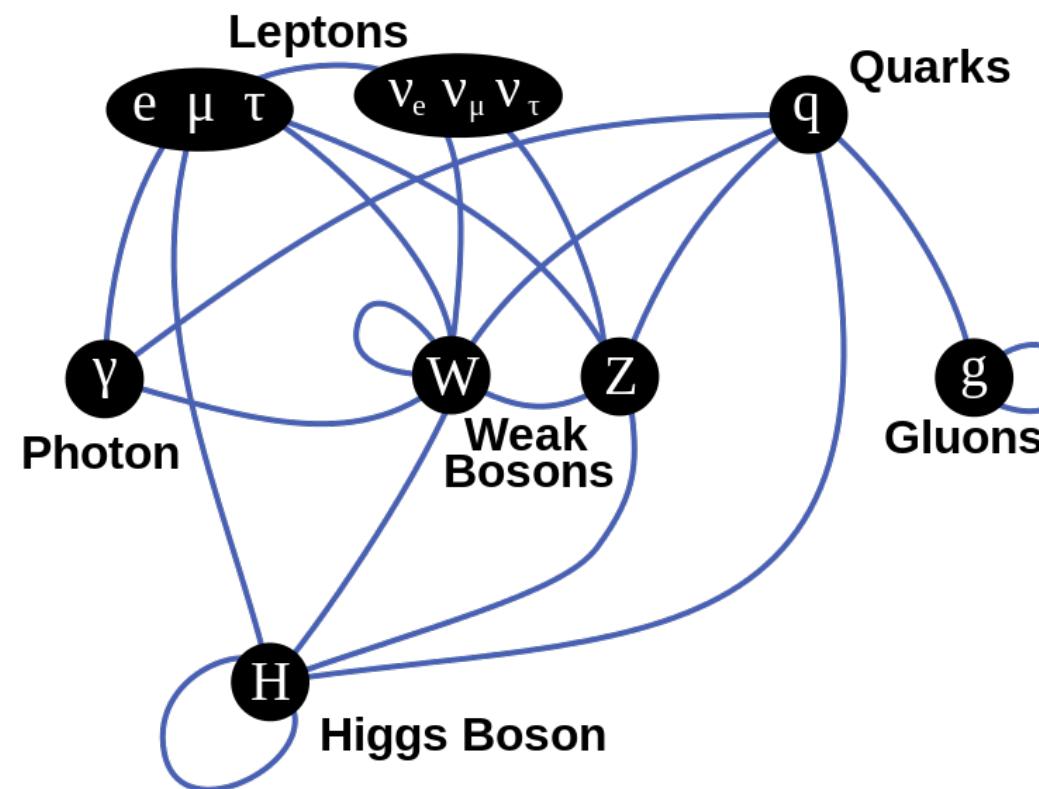
Credits: Martin Hendry, Hannah Middleton

GWTC-3
Abbott et al. '2021

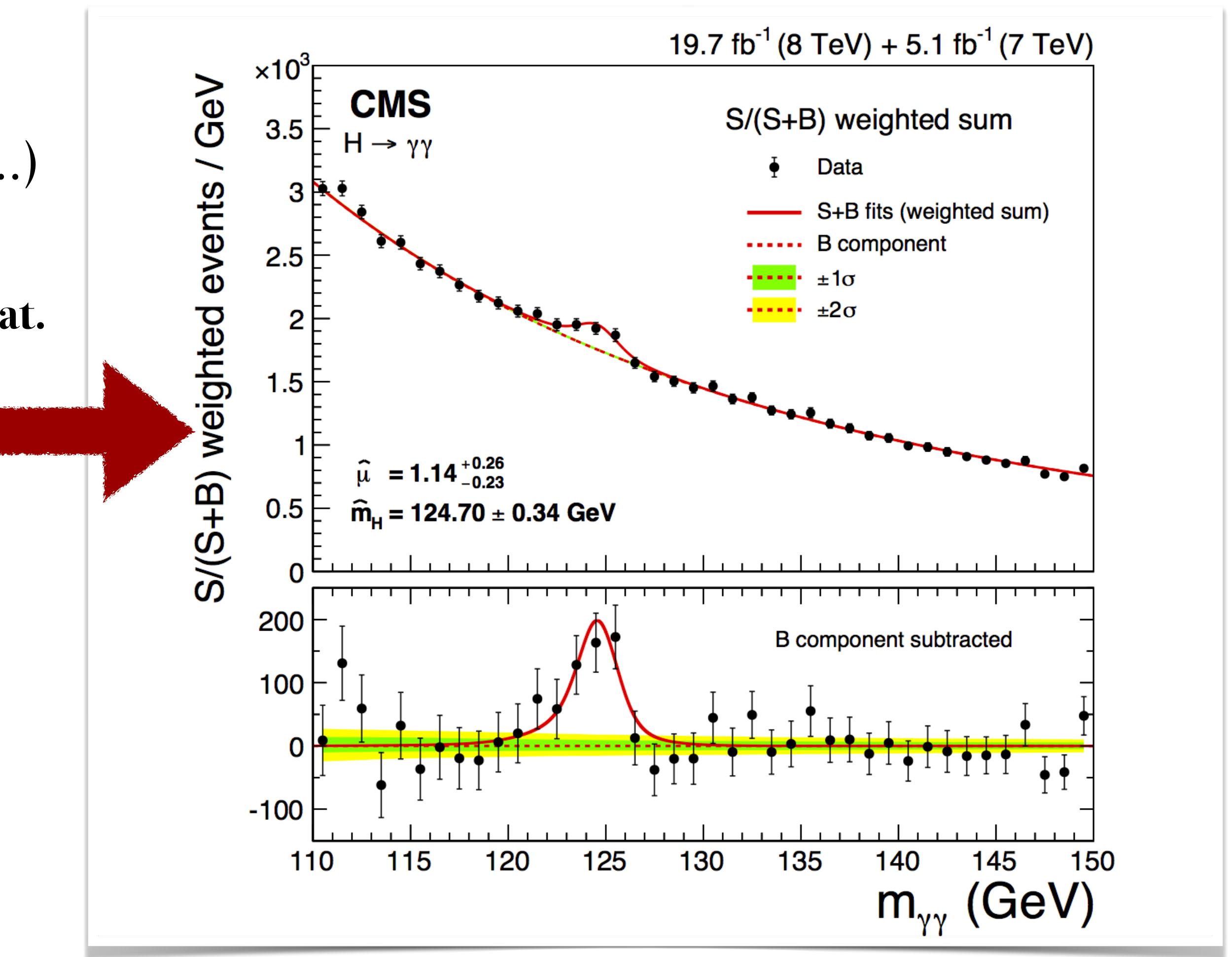




Example: the discovery of Higgs boson



Experiment (decay rate, ...)



Credit: CERN

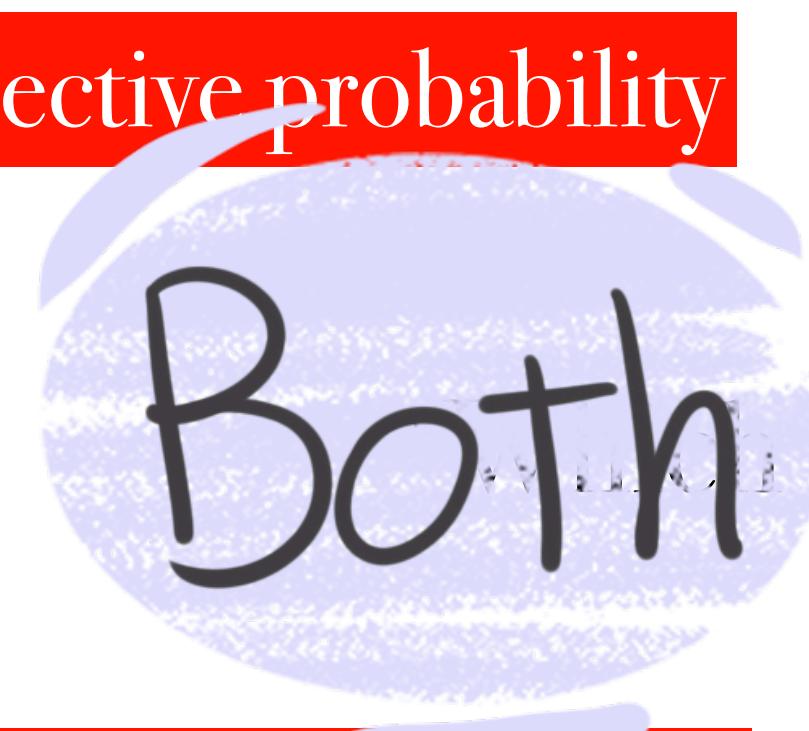
Intention

- ❖ Experiment: observing events [e.g., proton-proton (pp) collisions], measuring a set of characteristics:
 - ❖ Particle momenta, ...
 - ❖ Energy of jets, ...
- ❖ Compare theory to experiment
 - ❖ Parameters of the theory
- ❖ Hypothesis test [5σ]:
 - ❖ Assess how well a given theory stands in agreement with the observed data:
 - ❖ p-value, Bayesian factor (BF)

We need a clear definition of PROBABILITY

Events & Probability

- ❖ Events
 - ❖ Repeatable (with independence)
❖ e.g. coin-flip experiments
❖ ...
 - ❖ Disposable
❖ e.g. How possible will it rain tomorrow?
❖ ...



Objective probability

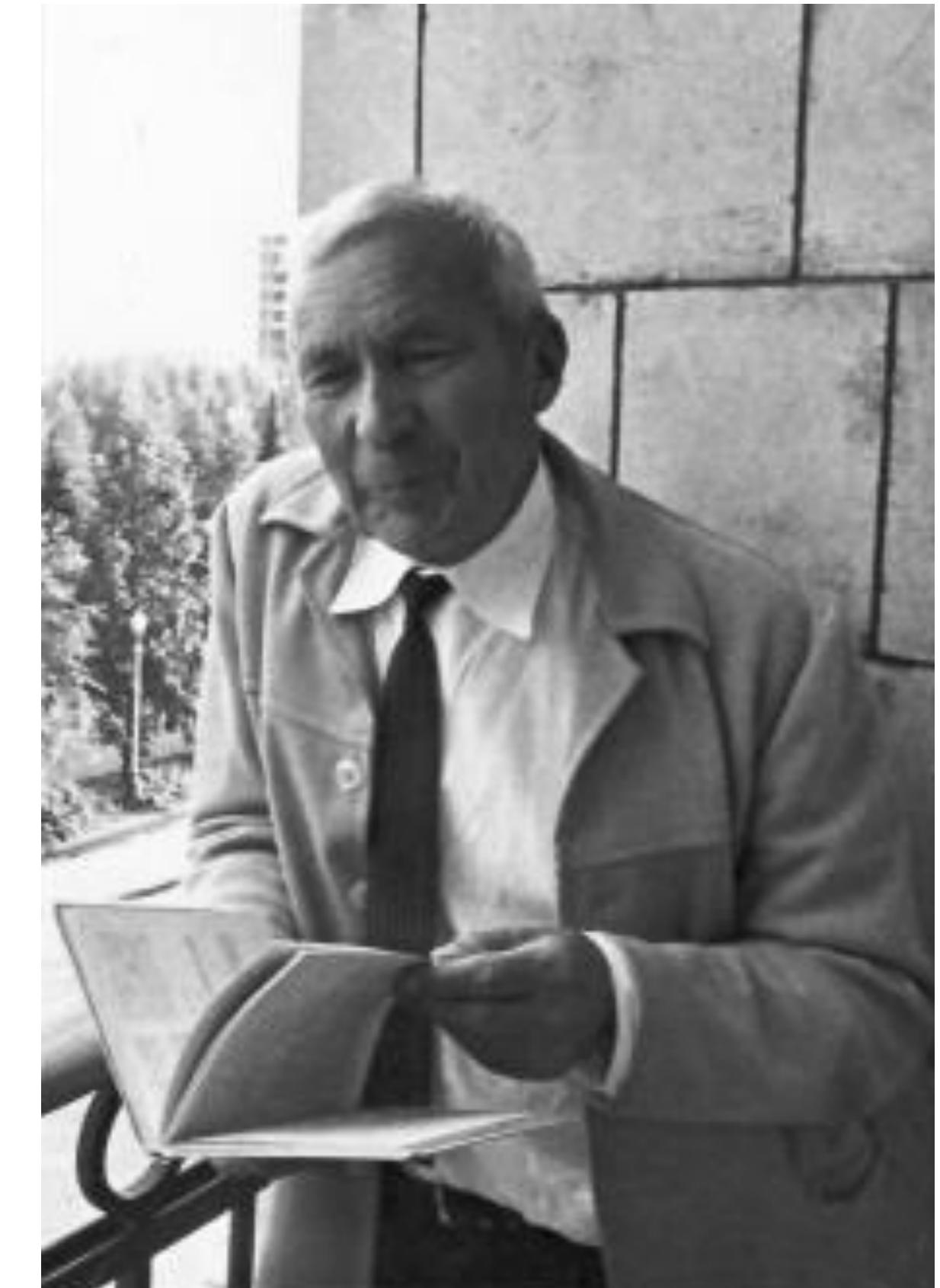
Subjective probability

is the True Definition of Probability?

Definition of “probability”

- ❖ Kolmogorov axioms (1933)
 - ❖ Consider a set \mathcal{S} with subsets A, B, \dots
 - ❖ For all $A \subset \mathcal{S}$, $P(A) \geq 0$
 - ❖ $P(\mathcal{S}) = 1$
 - ❖ If $A \cap B = \emptyset$, $P(A \cup B) = P(A) + P(B)$
 - ❖ Define the conditional probability of A given B:

$$P(A | B) = \frac{P(A \cap B)}{P(B)}$$



Andrey Kolmogorov
1903-1987

Bayes' theorem

- ❖ From the definition of conditional probability:

$$P(A | B) = \frac{P(A \cap B)}{P(B)} \quad \text{and} \quad P(B | A) = \frac{P(B \cap A)}{P(A)}$$

- ❖ Bayes' theorem

$$P(A | B) = \frac{P(B | A)P(A)}{P(B)}$$

- ❖ Law of total probability: $P(B) = \sum_i P(B | A_i)P(A_i)$

$$\Rightarrow P(A | B) = \frac{P(B | A)P(A)}{\sum_i P(B | A_i)P(A_i)}$$



Thomas Bayes
1702-1761

The simplest example: false positives

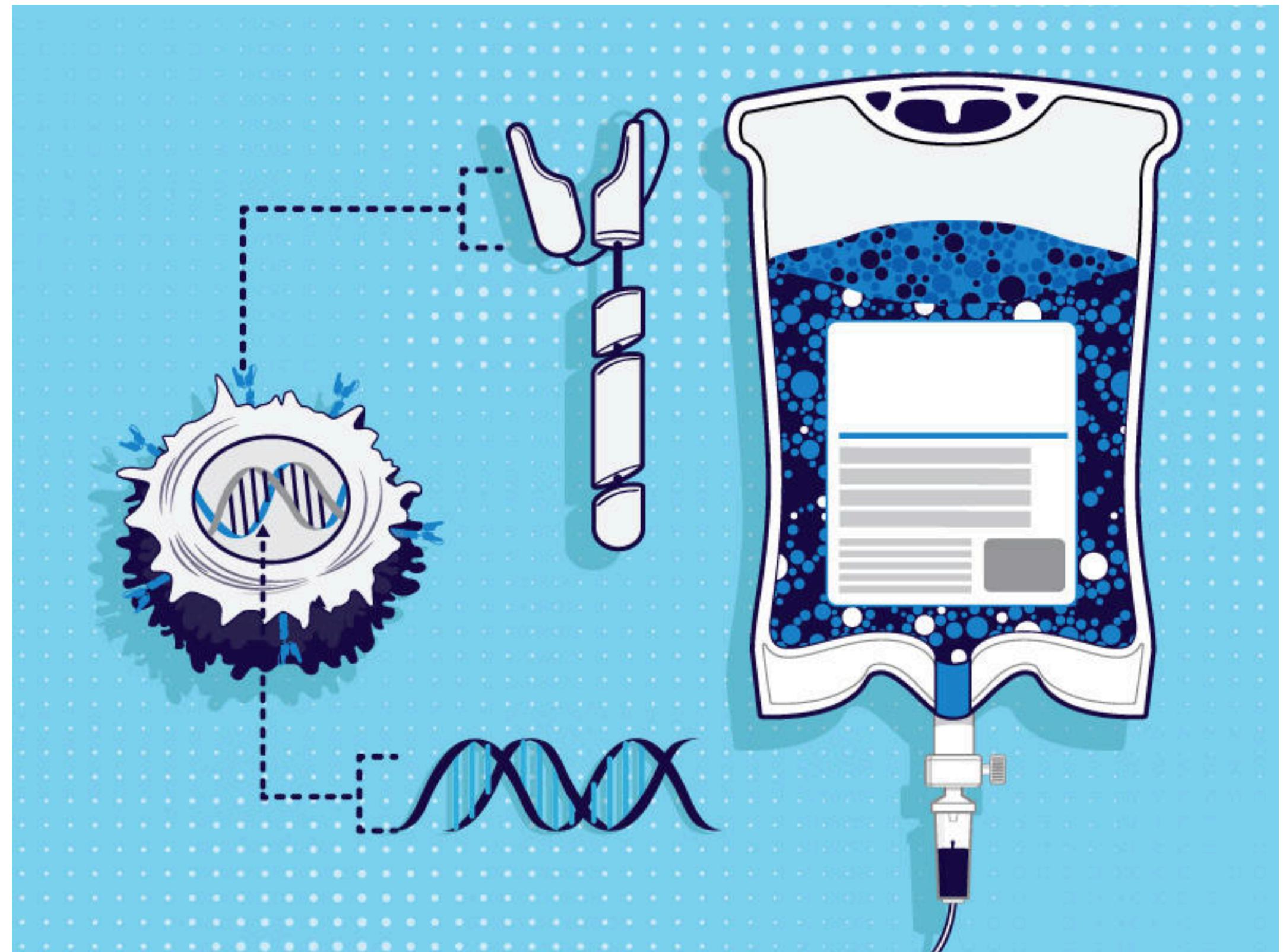
$$P(+ | \text{Cancer}) = 0.9$$

$$P(- | \text{no Cancer}) = 0.9$$

$$P(\text{Cancer}) = 0.01$$



$$P(\text{Cancer} | +) = ?$$



GW detection

$$\mathbf{d}(t) = \begin{cases} \mathbf{n}(t) & \text{if signal not present} \\ \mathbf{n}(t) + \mathbf{h}(t; \Theta) & \text{if signal } \mathbf{h}(t; \Theta) \text{ present.} \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{aligned} P(\mathbf{h} \mid \mathbf{d}) &= \frac{P(\mathbf{d} \mid \mathbf{h}) \pi(\mathbf{h})}{P(\mathbf{d})} = \frac{P(\mathbf{d} \mid \mathbf{h}) \pi(\mathbf{h})}{P(\mathbf{d} \mid \mathbf{h}) \pi(\mathbf{h}) + P(\mathbf{d} \mid \mathbf{0}) \pi(\mathbf{0})} \\ &= \Lambda \left[\Lambda + \frac{\pi(\mathbf{0})}{\pi(\mathbf{h})} \right]^{-1} \quad \text{where } \Lambda = \frac{P(\mathbf{d} \mid \mathbf{h})}{P(\mathbf{d} \mid \mathbf{0})} = \frac{P(\mathbf{d} - \mathbf{h} \mid \mathbf{0})}{P(\mathbf{d} \mid \mathbf{0})} \end{aligned}$$

Stationary, Gaussian white noise: $P(\mathbf{n} \mid \mathbf{0}) = \mathcal{N} e^{-\frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{n} \mid \mathbf{n})} = \mathcal{N} e^{-\frac{1}{2}\mathbf{n}^T \cdot \mathbf{C}^{-1} \cdot \mathbf{n}}$

Finn '1992

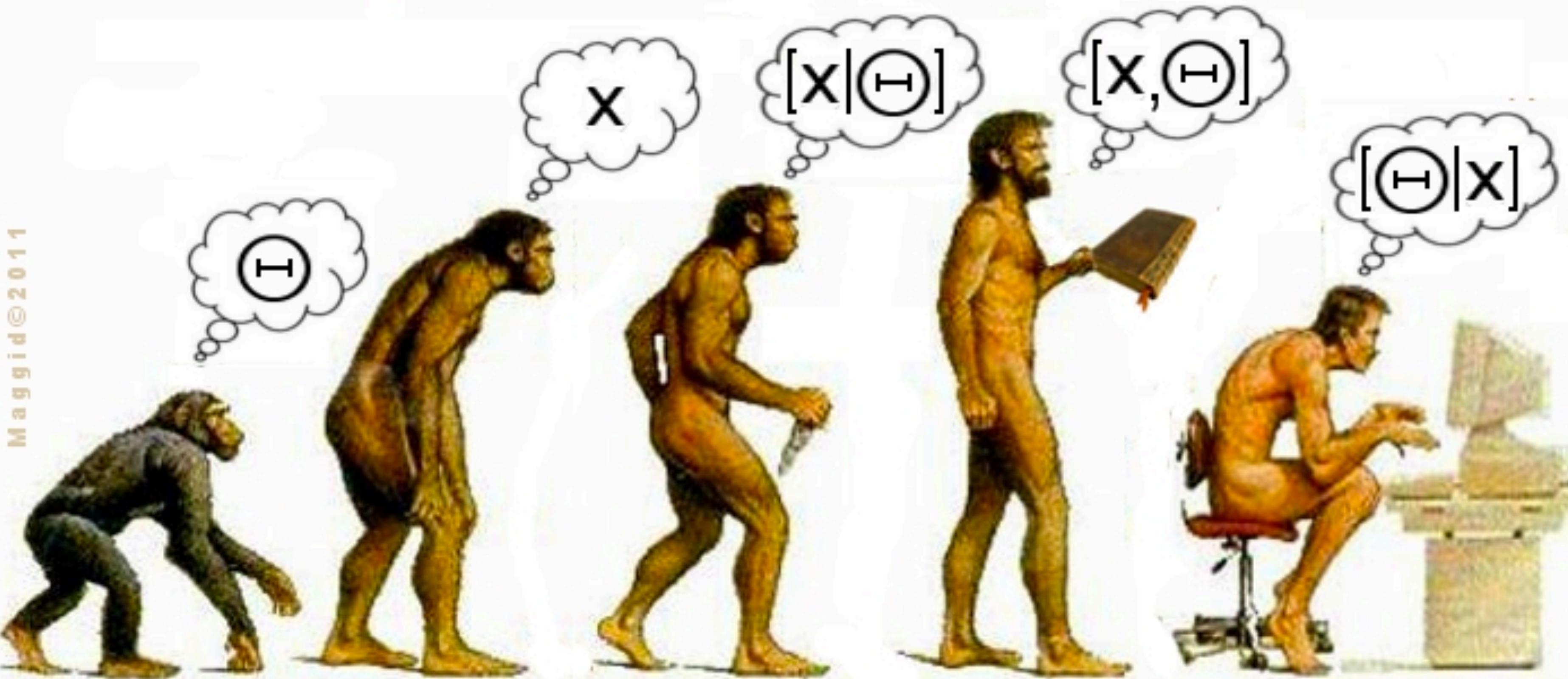
Log-likelihood ratio: $\ln \Lambda = -\frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{d} - \mathbf{h} \mid \mathbf{d} - \mathbf{h}) + \frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{d} \mid \mathbf{d}) = (\mathbf{d} \mid \mathbf{h}) - \frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{h} \mid \mathbf{h})$

Rethink the interpretations

Both interpretations consistent with Kolmogorov axioms.

- Frequentist statistics:
 - Probability is interpreted as the frequency of the outcome of a repeatable experiment.
$$P(A) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\text{times outcomes of A}}{n}$$
 - assumes that there is an unknown but objectively fixed parameter (e.g. $\hat{\theta} = \operatorname{argmax}_{\theta} p(x | \theta)$)
- Bayesian statistics:
 - Probability is more general and includes degree of belief (subjective probability)
$$P(A) = \text{degree of belief that A is true}$$
 - The prior degree of belief is updated by the data from the experiment.

History of Actuarial Life as we know it



**Homo
Actuarius
Apriorius**

**Homo
Actuarius
Pragmaticus**

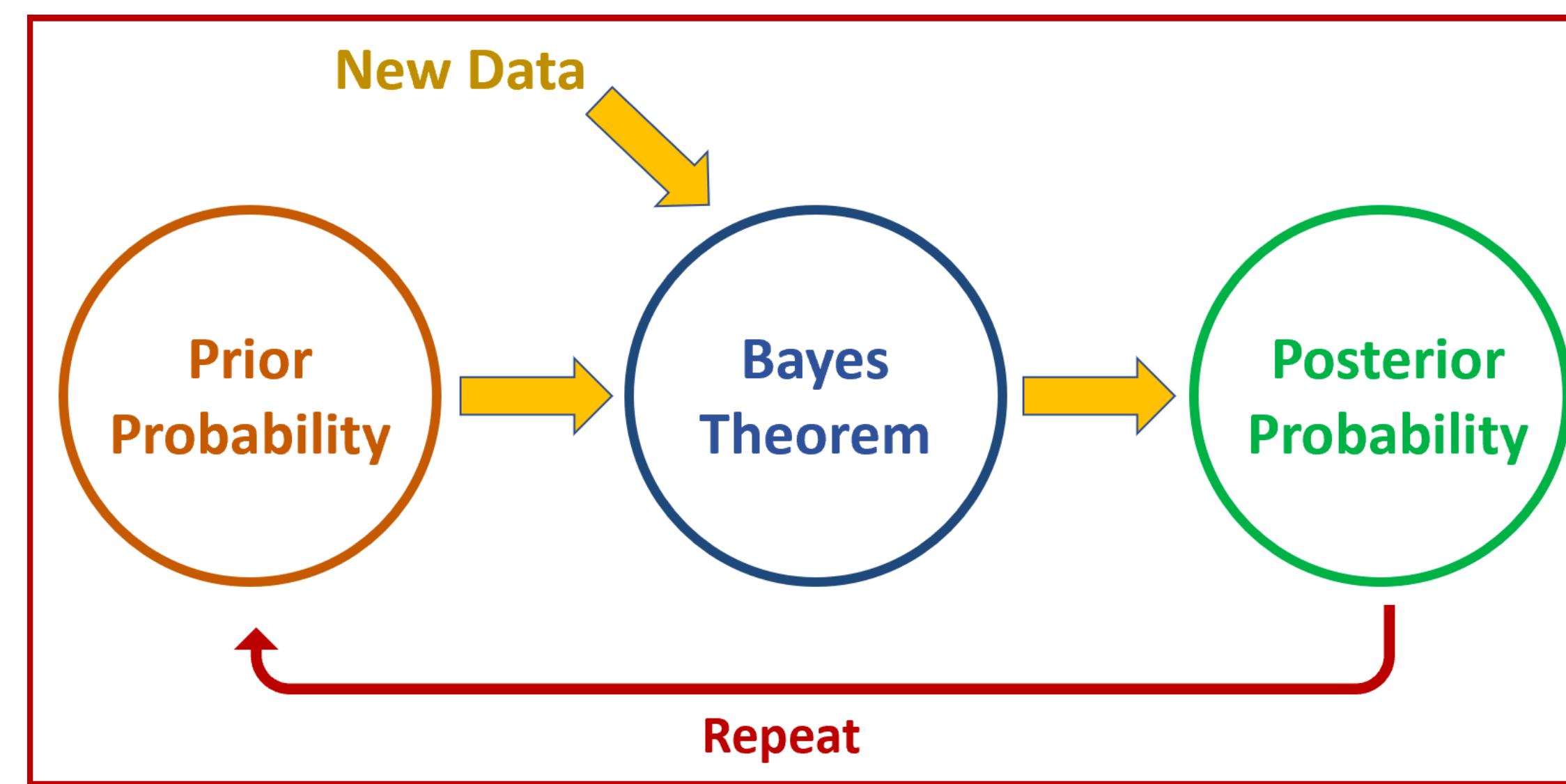
**Homo
Actuarius
Frequentistus**

**Homo
Actuarius
Contemplatus
Bayesianis**

Bayesian thinking

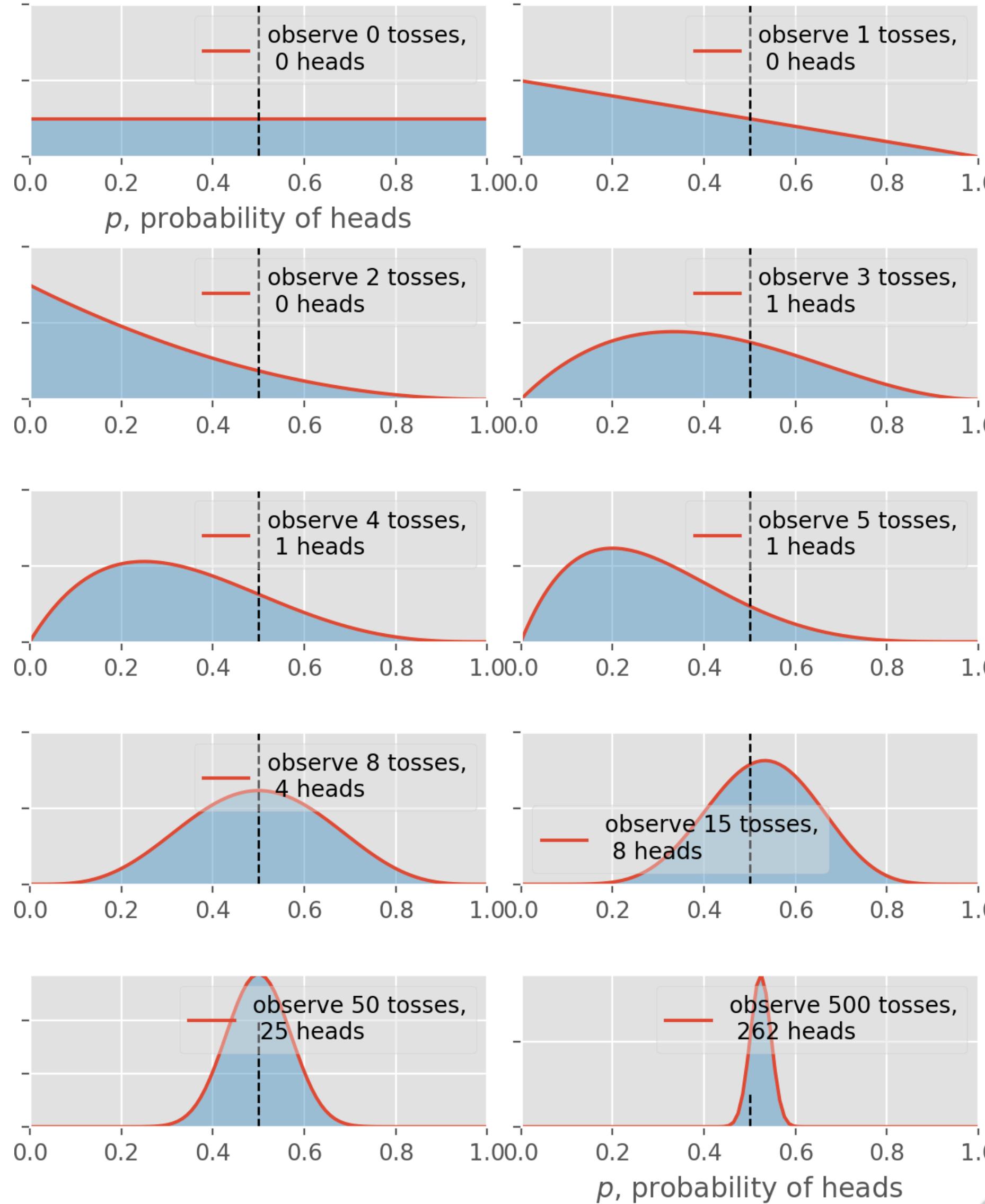
The prior degree of belief is updated by the data from the experiment

$$P(\Theta | X) = \frac{P(X | \Theta)P(\Theta)}{P(X)}$$
$$\propto P(X | \Theta)P(\Theta) \text{ (} \propto \text{ is proportional to)}$$





Effect of the prior as N increases

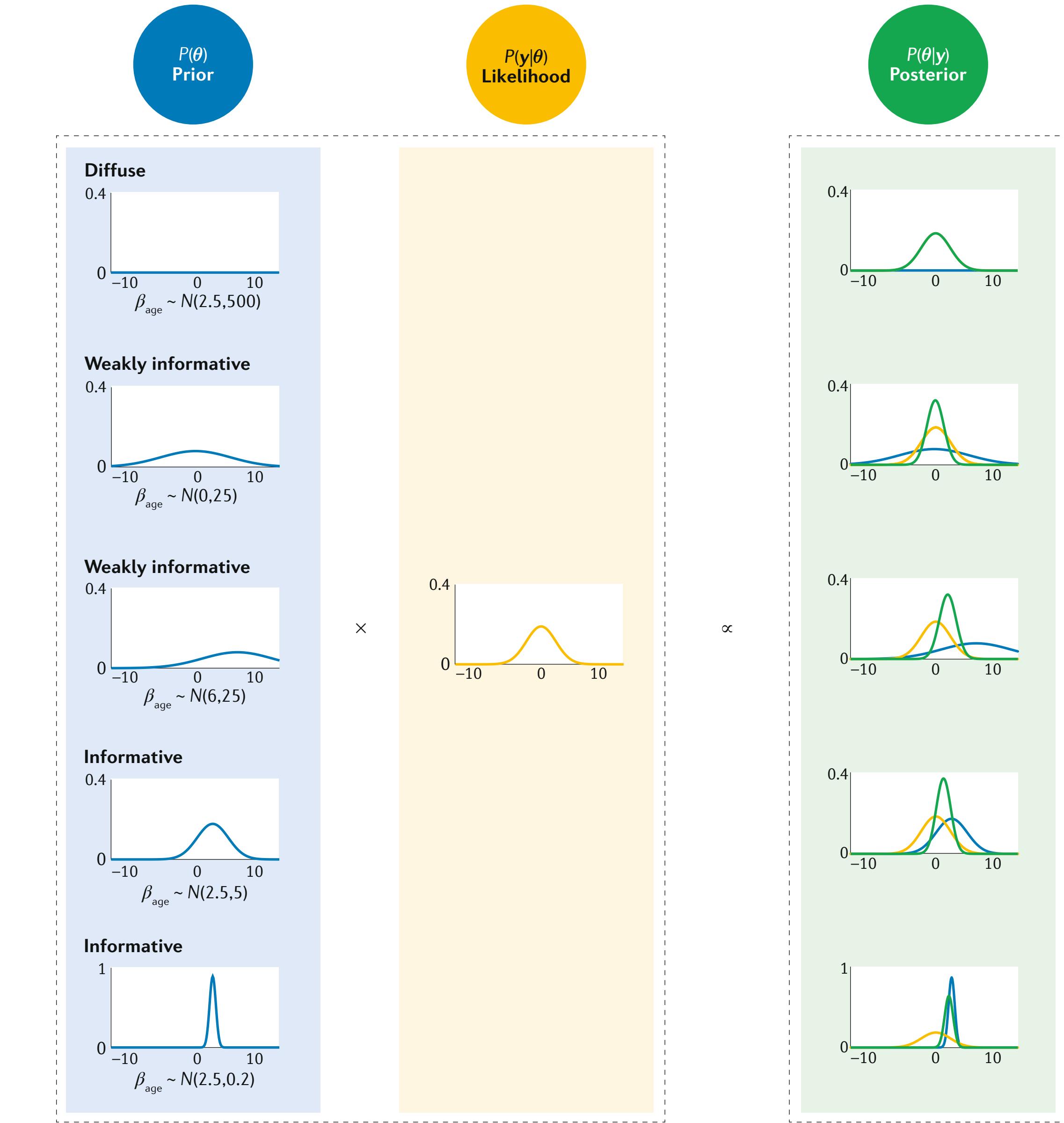
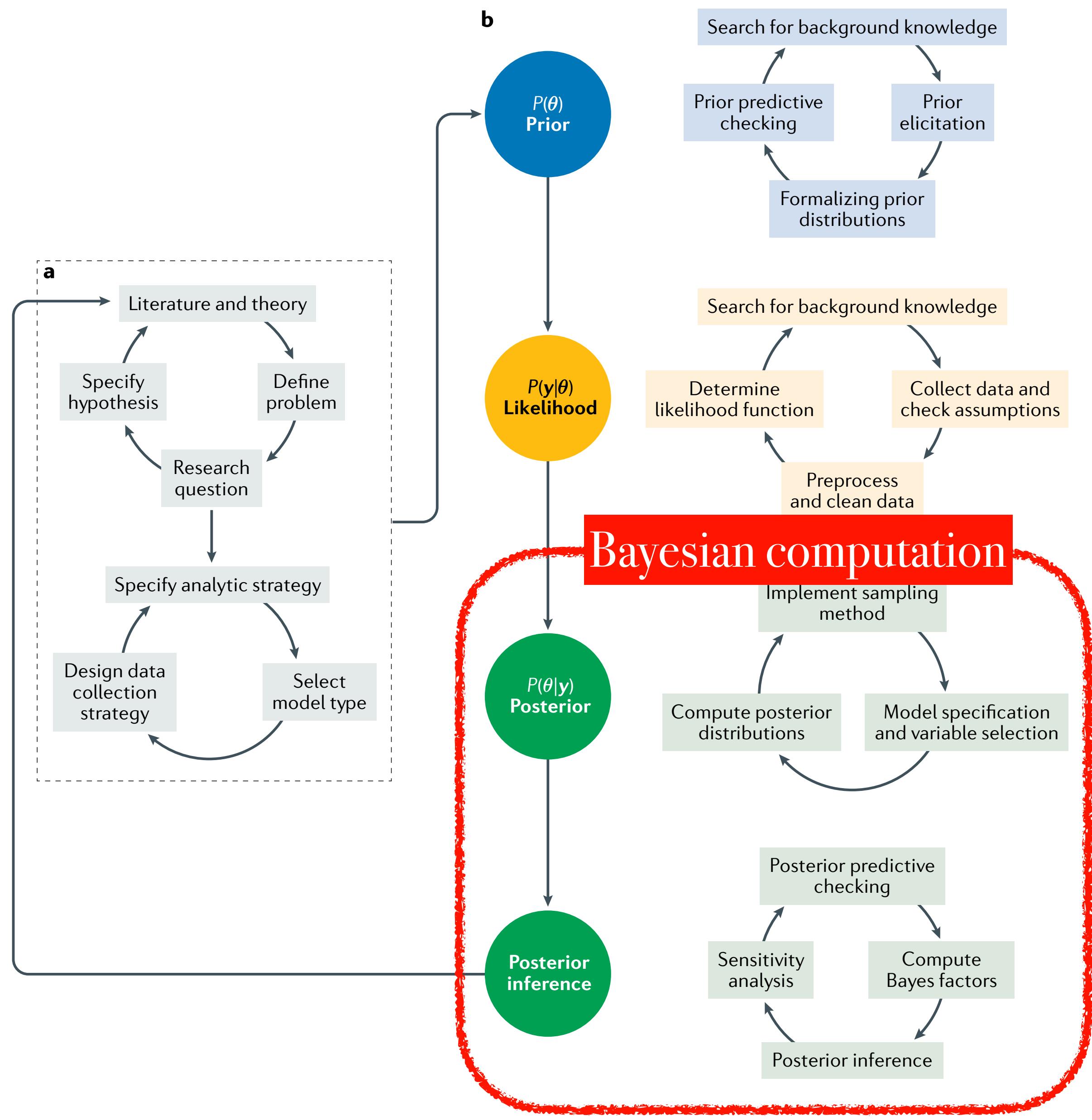


$$p(\theta | X) \propto \underbrace{p(X | \theta)}_{\text{likelihood}} \cdot \overbrace{p(\theta)}^{\text{prior}}$$

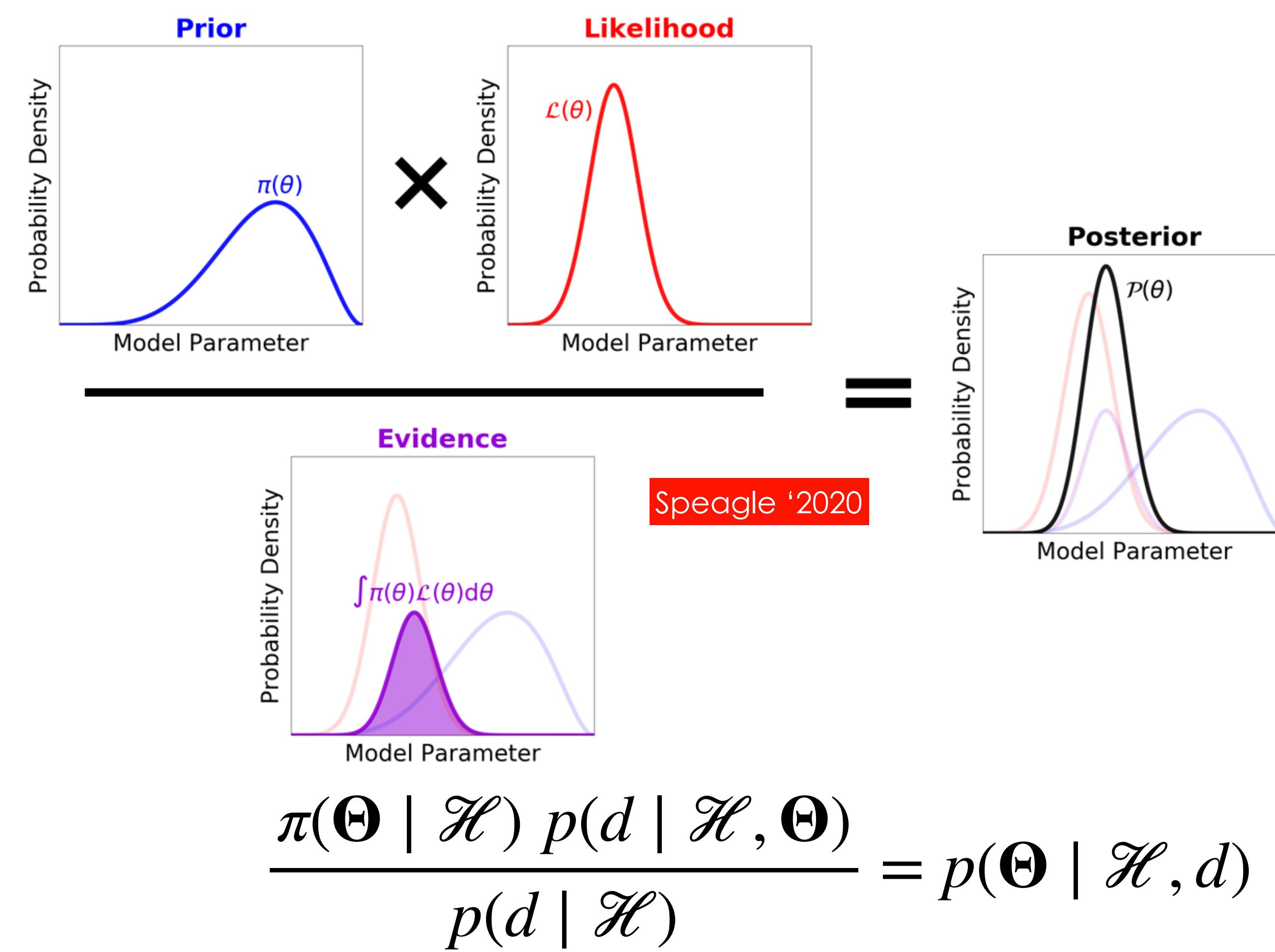
$$\ln(p(\theta | X)) = c + L(\theta; X) + \ln(p(\theta))$$

As the sample size increases, the chosen prior has less influence.

a.k.a. convergence of posterior distributions



Bayesian inference



- ❖ Parameter estimation: **Posterior**
- ❖ Find the posterior probability density $p(\Theta | d, \mathcal{H})$
- ❖ Model selection: **Evidence**
- ❖ compare different hypotheses through an odds ratio

$$O_{\mathcal{H}_2}^{\mathcal{H}_1} = \frac{p(\mathcal{H}_1 | d)}{p(\mathcal{H}_2 | d)} = \frac{p(d | \mathcal{H}_1) p(\mathcal{H}_1)}{p(d | \mathcal{H}_2) p(\mathcal{H}_2)}$$

Parameter estimation in GW

Find the posterior probability density

$$p(\Theta \mid \mathbf{d}, \mathcal{H}) = \frac{p(\mathbf{d} \mid \Theta, \mathcal{H}) p(\Theta \mid \mathcal{H})}{p(\mathbf{d} \mid \mathcal{H})}$$

The priors $p(\Theta \mid \mathcal{H})$ are based on what we know about the Universe

- Masses > 0 and usually $3M_\odot > M > 1M_\odot$ for the neutron star
- For binary black holes, we do not set the tidal deformability
- Luminosity distance $p(d_L) \propto d_L^{(D-1)}$, D is the dimension of space
-

Parameter estimation in GW

Find the posterior probability density

$$p(\Theta \mid \mathbf{d}, \mathcal{H}) = \frac{p(\mathbf{d} \mid \Theta, \mathcal{H}) p(\Theta \mid \mathcal{H})}{p(\mathbf{d} \mid \mathcal{H})}$$

Computing likelihood $p(\mathbf{d} \mid \Theta, \mathcal{H}) = \mathcal{N} e^{-\frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{d}-\mathbf{h}|\mathbf{d}-\mathbf{h})}$ is the key in the GW

The evidence $p(\mathbf{d} \mid \mathcal{H})$ can be ignored here (I will explain it later)

- Independent of the parameters, just a number

Model selection in GW

$$O_{\mathcal{H}_1}^{\mathcal{H}_2} = \frac{p(\mathcal{H}_1 | d)}{p(\mathcal{H}_2 | d)} = \frac{p(d | \mathcal{H}_1)}{p(d | \mathcal{H}_2)} \frac{p(\mathcal{H}_1)}{p(\mathcal{H}_2)} \propto \frac{Z_1}{Z_2}$$

The hypotheses $\mathcal{H}_1, \mathcal{H}_2$ correspond to different waveform models

- Binary neutron stars versus binary black holes
- Waveform with aligned spin versus precessing binary
- Waveform predicted by general relativity versus alternative theories of gravity
- Natural GW signal versus artificial signal
- Add more parameters in the GW waveform
-

Model comparison & Occam's penalty

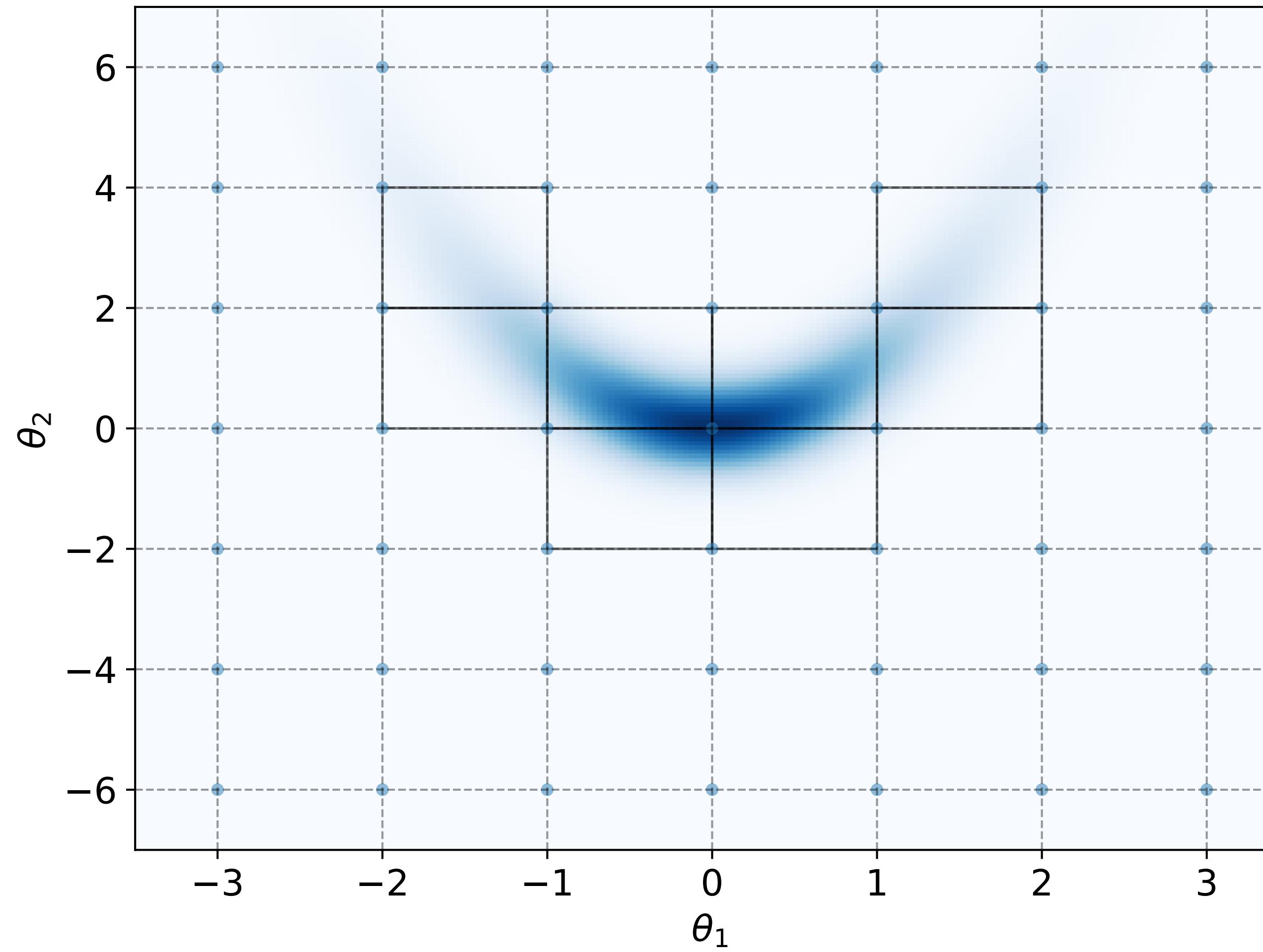
$$O_{\mathcal{H}_2}^{\mathcal{H}_1} = \frac{p(\mathcal{H}_1 | d)}{p(\mathcal{H}_2 | d)} = \frac{p(d | \mathcal{H}_1)}{p(d | \mathcal{H}_2)} \frac{p(\mathcal{H}_1)}{p(\mathcal{H}_2)} \sim \mathcal{B} \quad p(d | \theta_1, \mathcal{H}_1) = p(d | \theta_1, \lambda = 0, \mathcal{H}_2)$$

$$\begin{aligned} p(\lambda | d, \mathcal{H}_2) &= \frac{p(\lambda | \mathcal{H}_2)p(d | \lambda, \mathcal{H}_2)}{p(d | \mathcal{H}_2)} \\ &= \frac{p(\lambda | \mathcal{H}_2)p(d | \lambda, \mathcal{H}_2)}{\int p(\lambda', \mathcal{H}_2)p(d | \lambda', \mathcal{H}_2)d\lambda'} \end{aligned}$$

$$p(d | \lambda) = ce^{-(\lambda - \mu)^2 / (2\sigma^2)} \quad \mathcal{B} = \frac{p(\lambda = 0 | d, \mathcal{H}_2)}{p(\lambda = 0 | \mathcal{H}_2)} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-\mu^2 / (2\sigma^2)} \frac{\Delta\lambda}{\sigma}.$$

Savage-Dickey density ratio

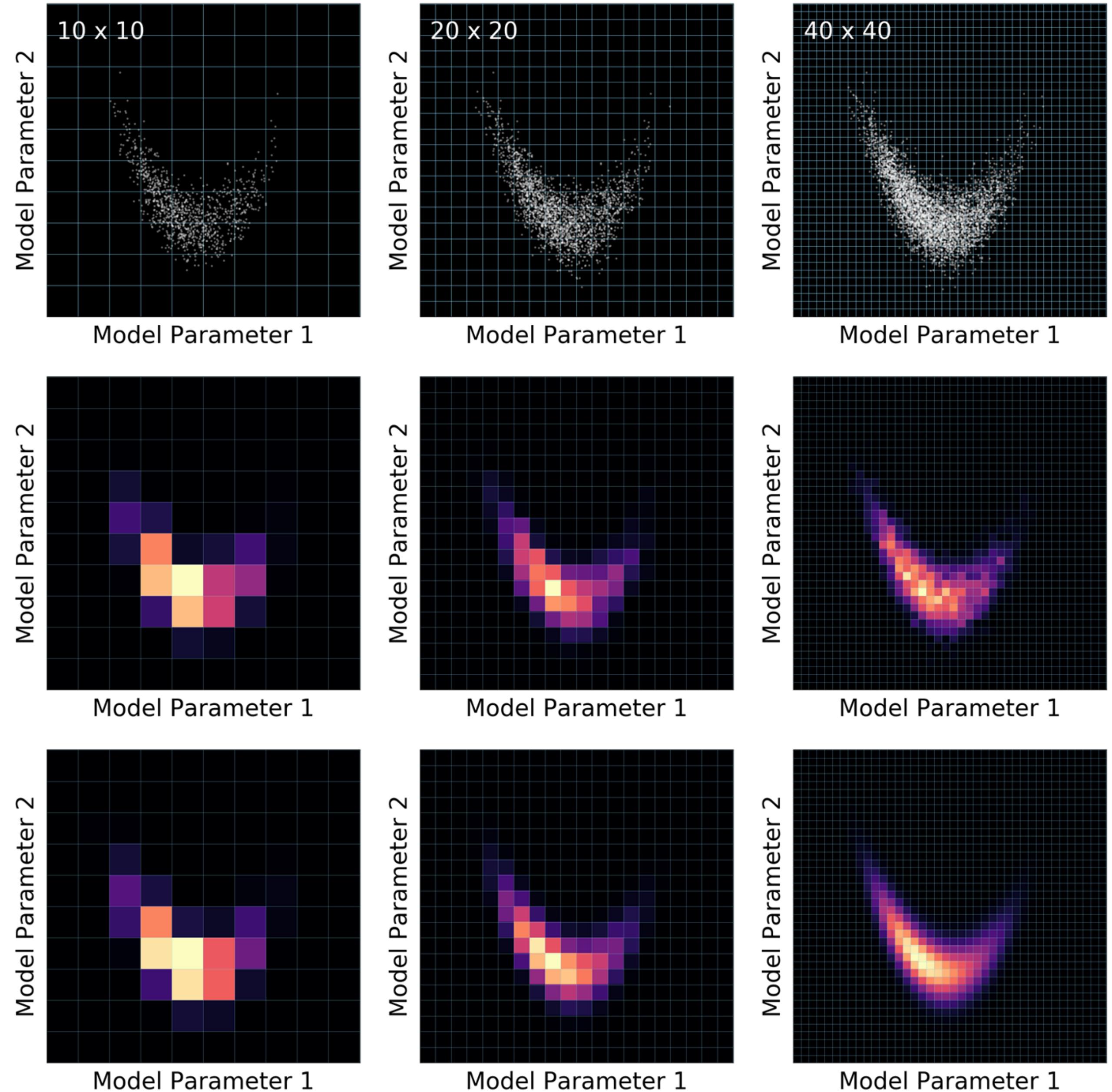
Bayesian computation method



MCMC Samples

Sample Density

Posterior Density



Increasing resolution →

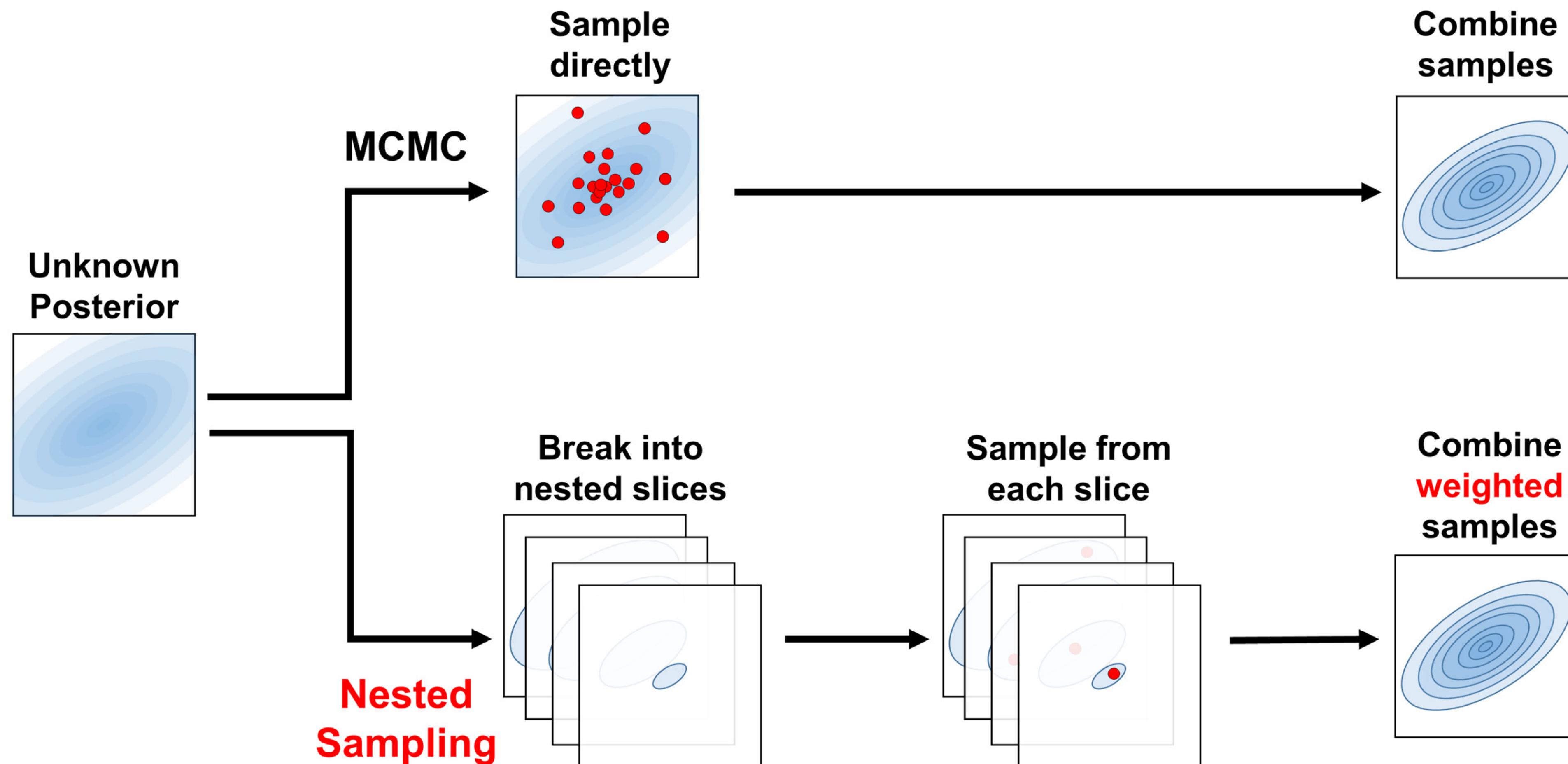
$$20 \times 20 \times \dots \times 20 = 20^D$$

When $D = 15$

$$20^D = 3.2768 \times 10^{19}$$

1 ms $\rightarrow 10^8$ yrs

Bayesian computation method



Speagle '2019



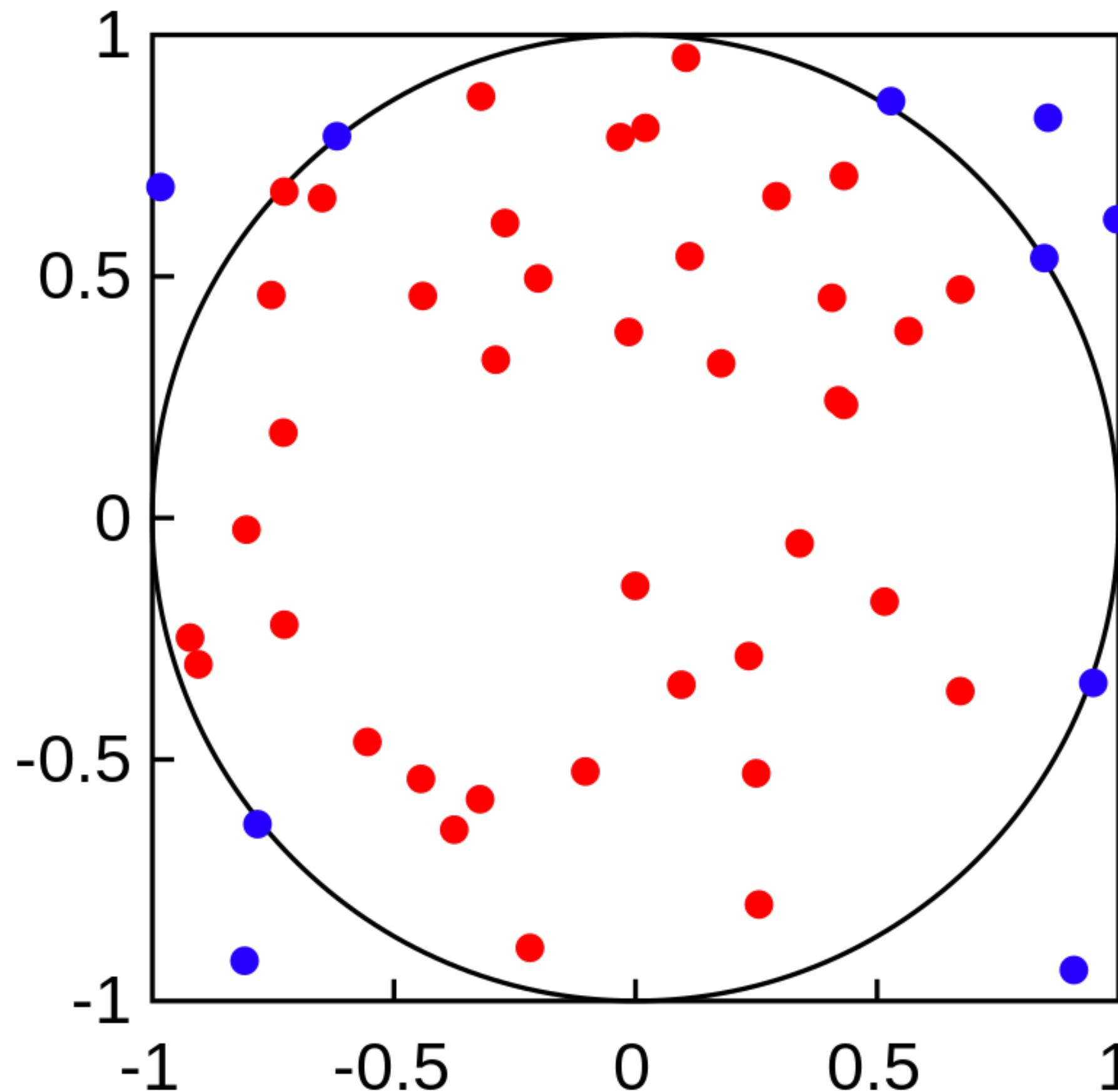


The Best of the 20th Century: Editors Name Top 10 Algorithms

Markov Chain Monte Carlo

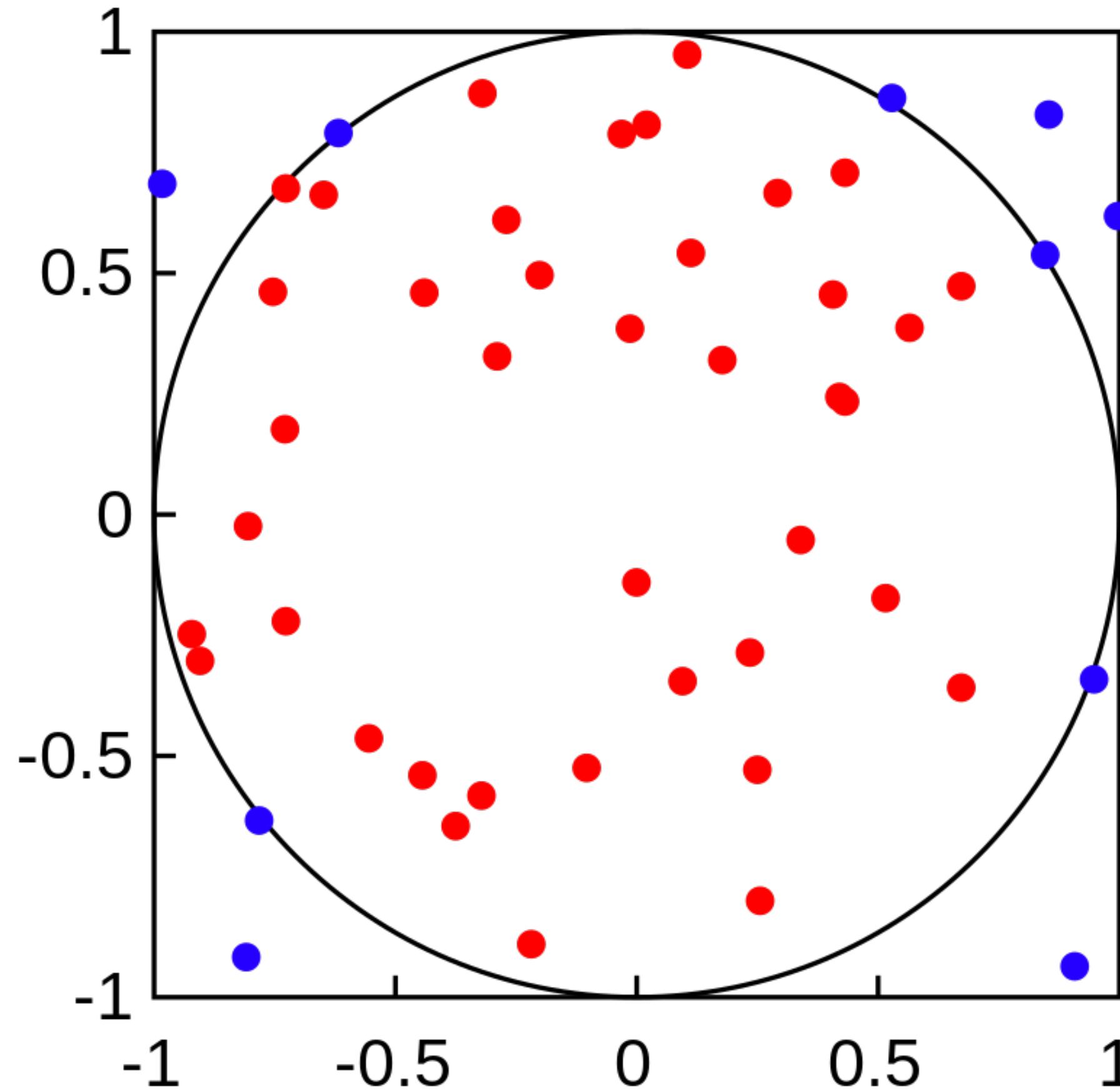
Prometheus in high-dimensional integral
Save Bayesian statistics

Monte Carlo methods

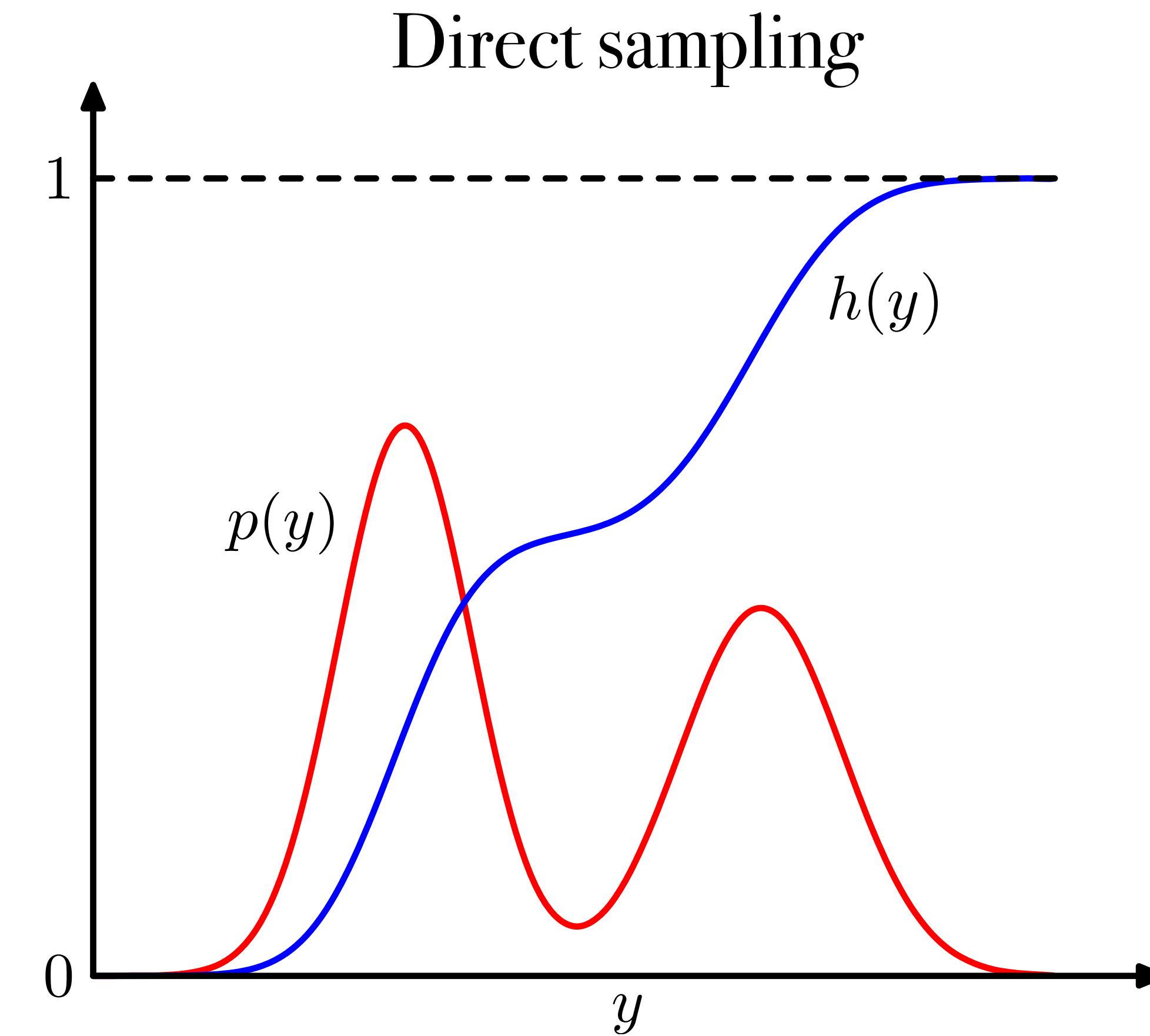


Monte Carlo integration

Monte Carlo methods: Basic sampling

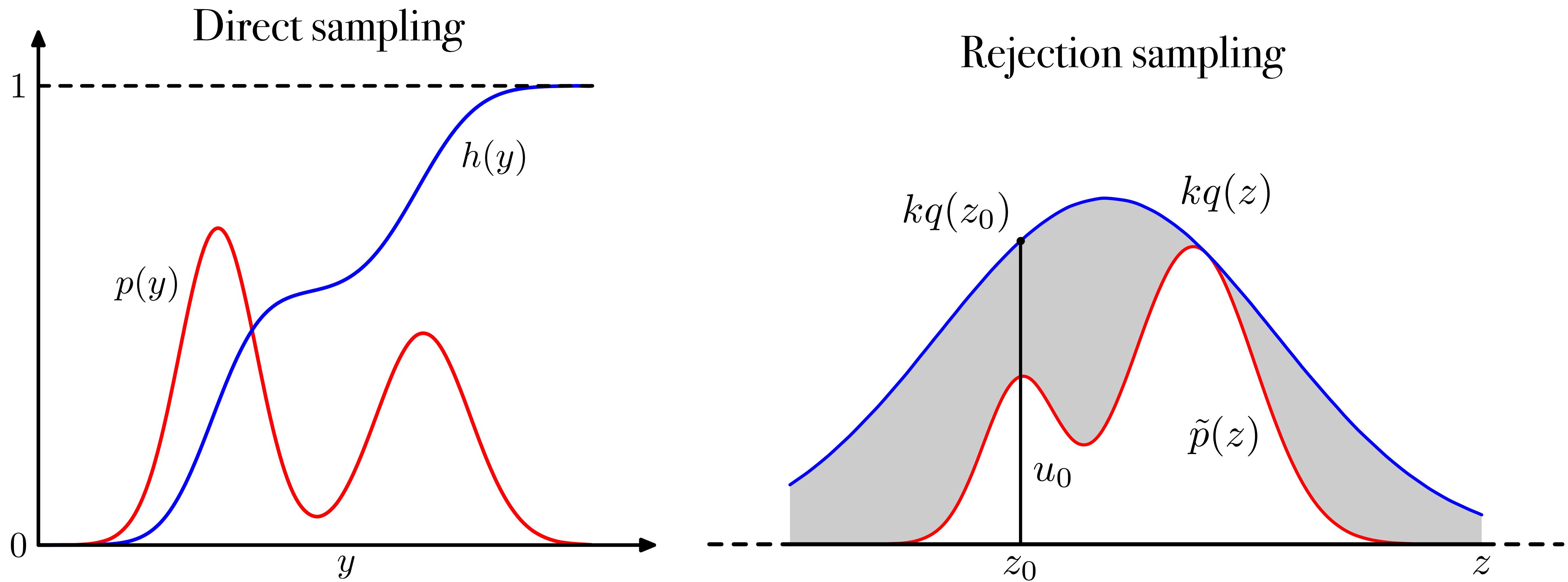


Monte Carlo integration

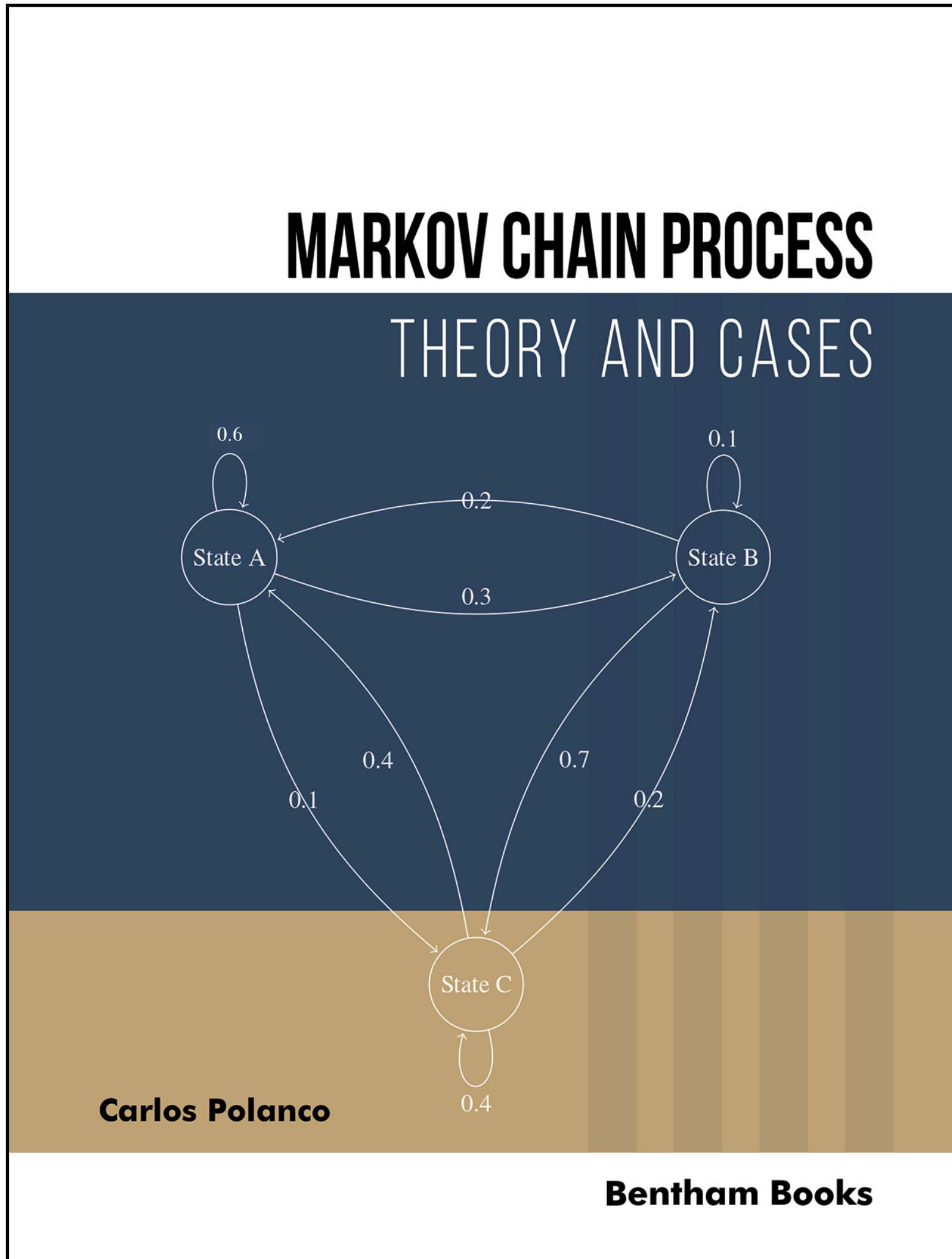


Bishop '2006

Monte Carlo methods: Basic sampling



Markov Chain



Three states: A (lord), B (soldier), C (farmer)

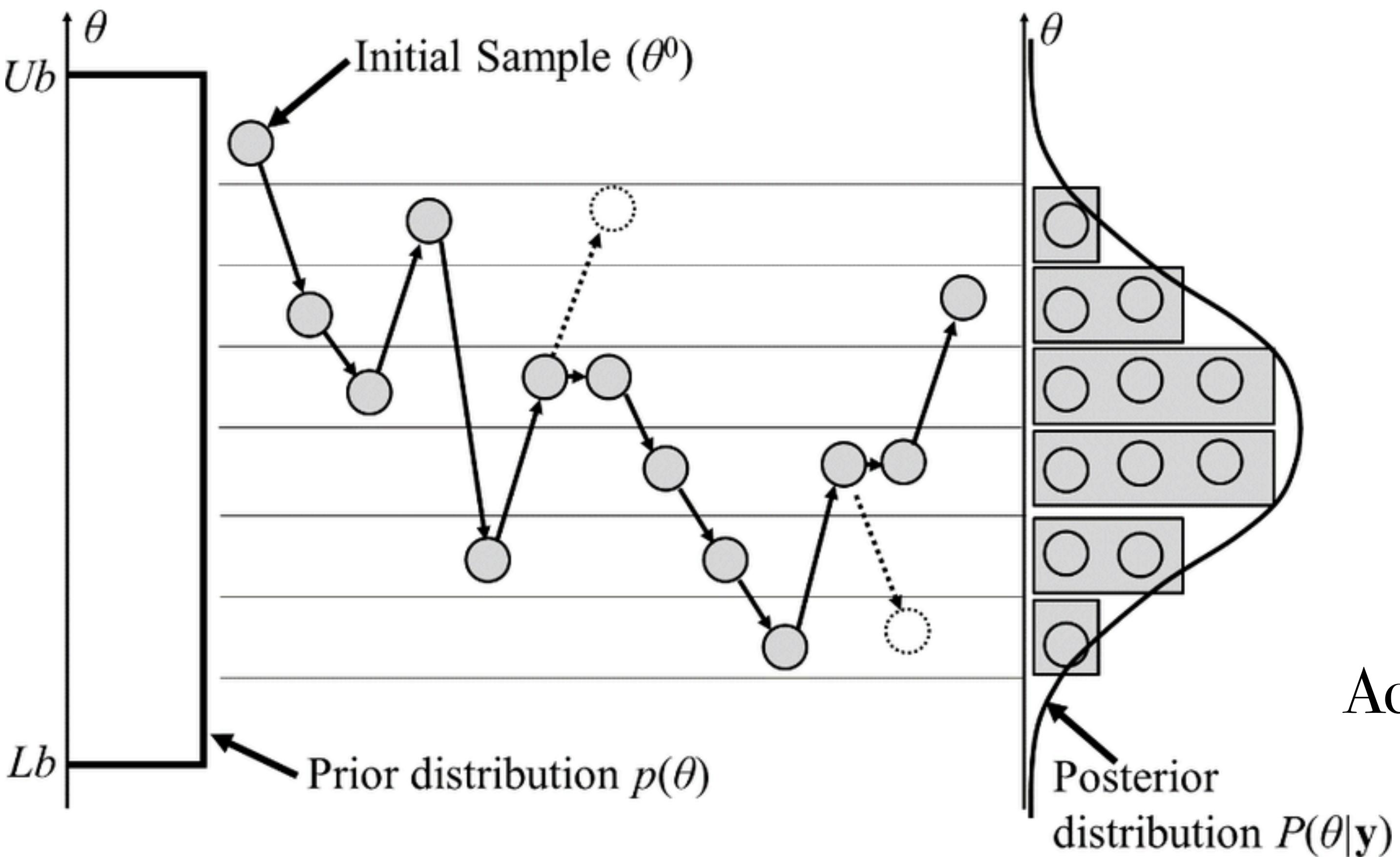
$$P = \begin{bmatrix} 0.6 & 0.3 & 0.1 \\ 0.2 & 0.1 & 0.7 \\ 0.4 & 0.2 & 0.4 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$P(X^{t+1} | X^1, \dots, X^t) = P(X^{t+1} | X^t).$$



Markov Chain Monte Carlo (MCMC)

Detailed Balance Condition



$$\pi(i)P(i,j) = \pi(j)P(j,i)$$

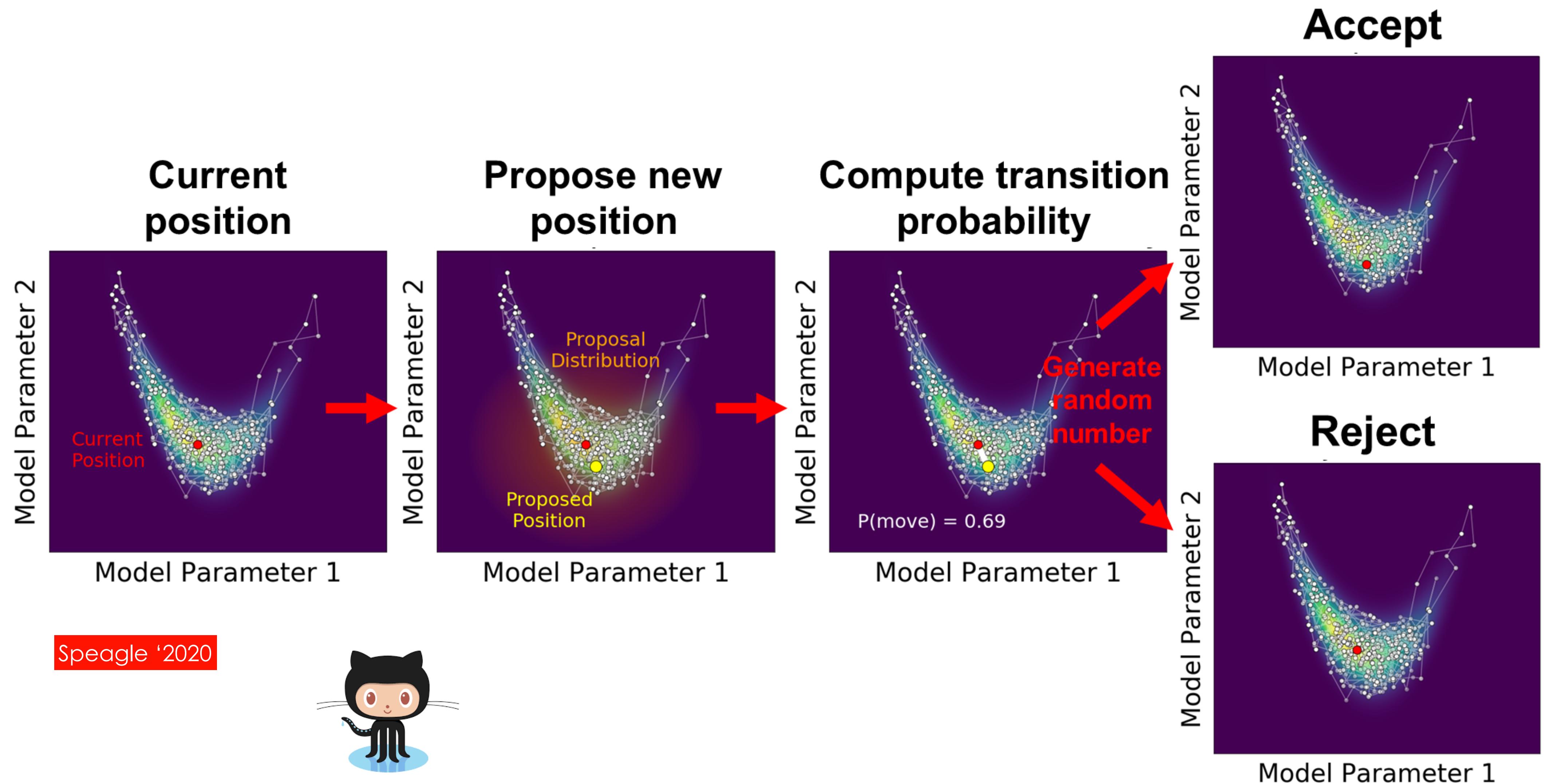
$$\pi(i)Q(i,j)\alpha(i,j) = \pi(j)Q(j,i)\alpha(j,i)$$

$$P(i,j) = Q(i,j)\alpha(i,j)$$

Metropolis-Hastings sampling

Accept rate $\alpha(i,j) = \min \left\{ \frac{\pi(j)Q(j,i)}{\pi(i)Q(i,j)}, 1 \right\}$

Metropolis-Hastings algorithm: detailed balance



Limitations of MCMC



For how many iterations should we run Markov chain Monte Carlo?

Charles C. Margossian

Center for Computational Mathematics, Flatiron Institute, New York, NY

Andrew Gelman

Department of Statistics and Political Science, Columbia University, New York, NY

“All human wisdom is contained in
these two words: wait and hope.”

— Alexandre Dumas,
The Count of Monte Cristo

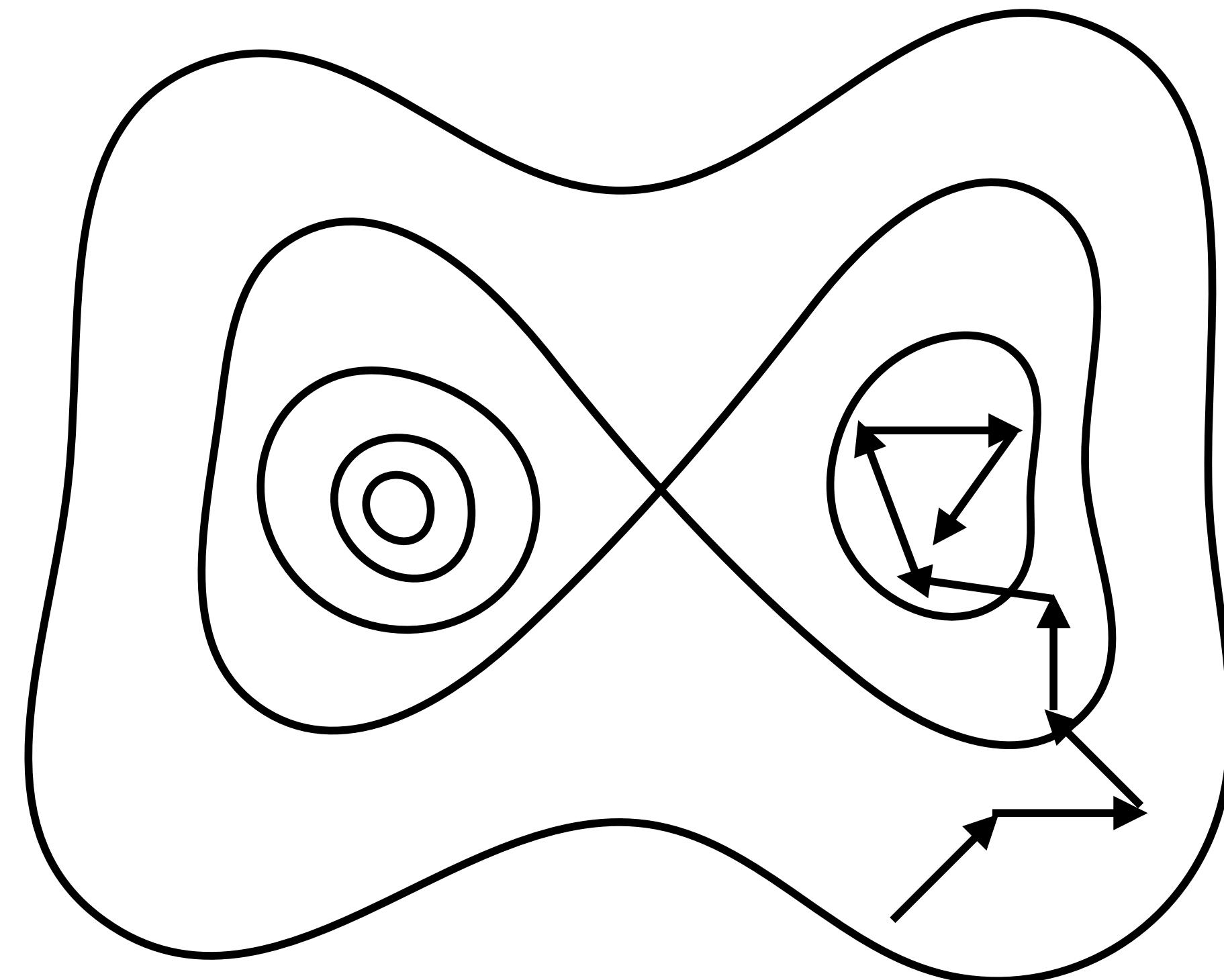
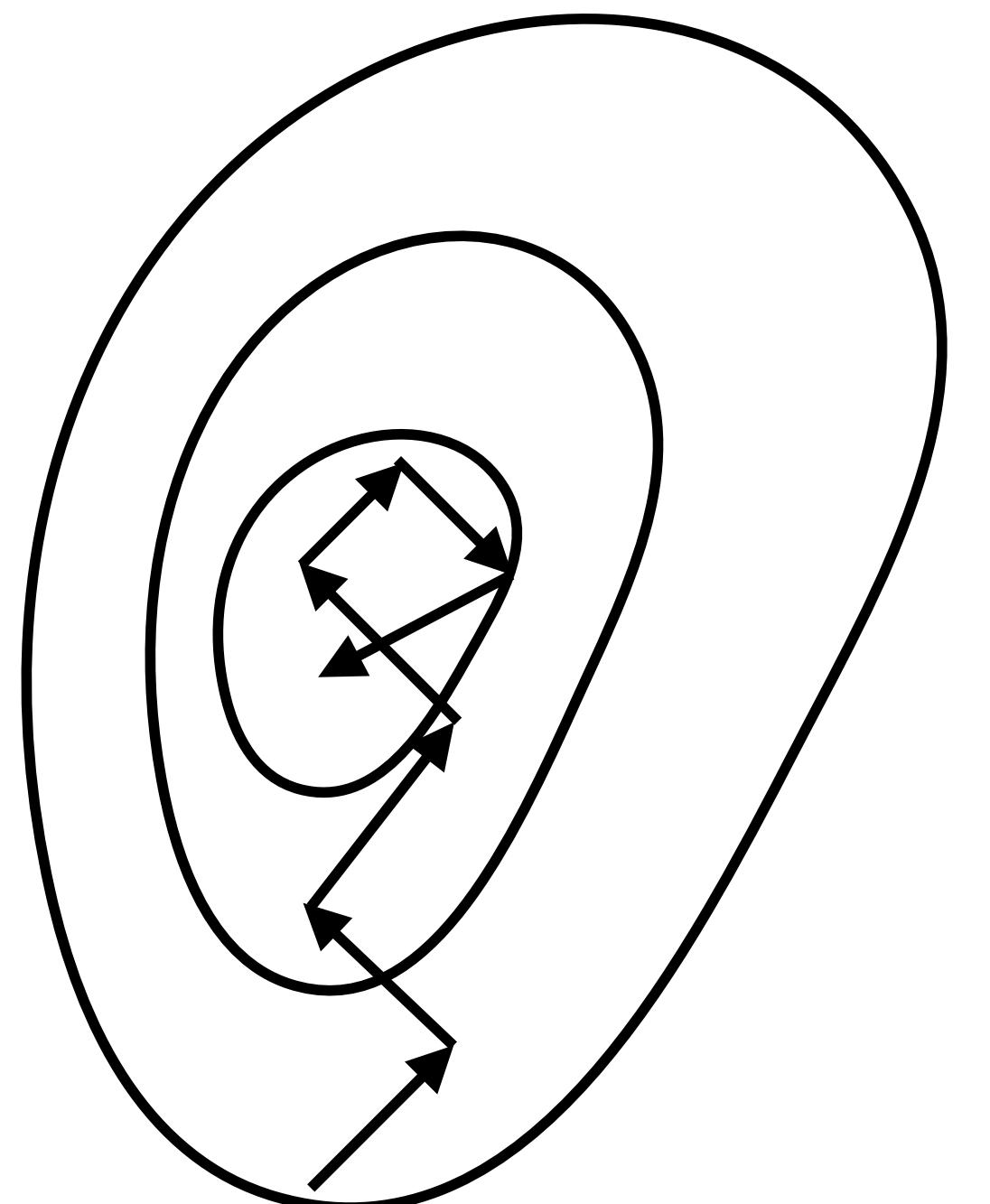
Burn-in & Thin-in

Auto-correlation statistics

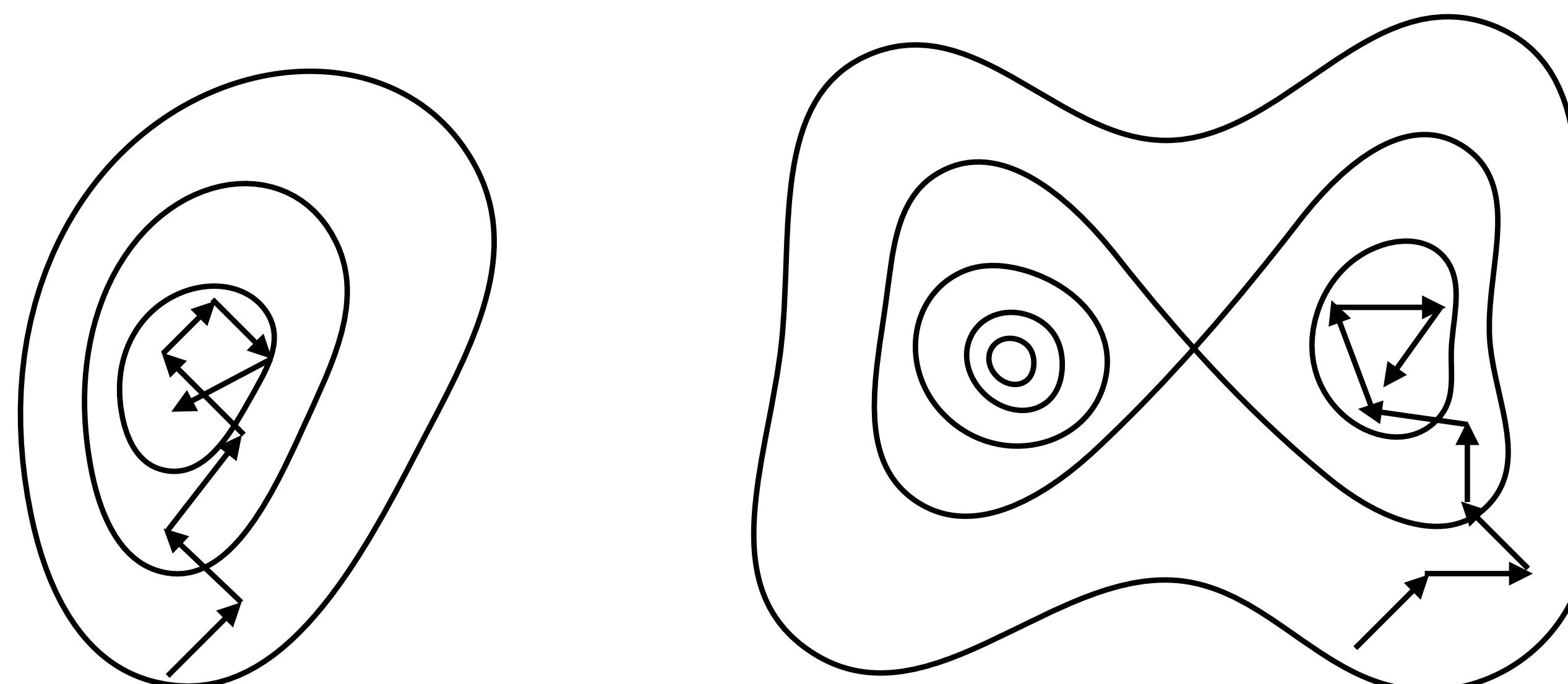
Gelman-Rubin statistics

[Zeus package: convergence](#)
[Emcee package: autocorrelation](#)
Margossian & Gelman ‘2023
Gelman & Rubin ‘1992

Multimodal: trapped in local maximum



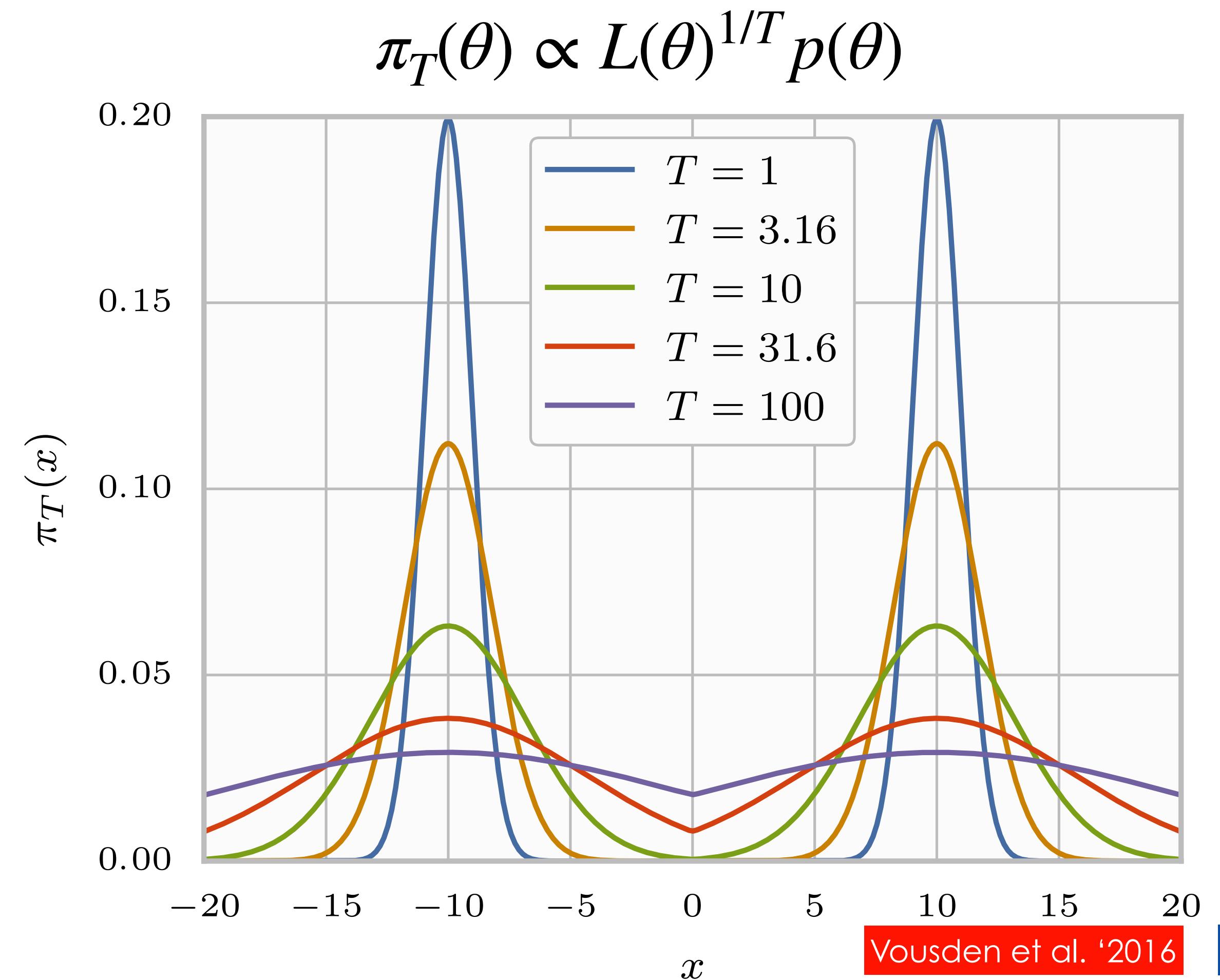
Multimodal: trapped in local maximum

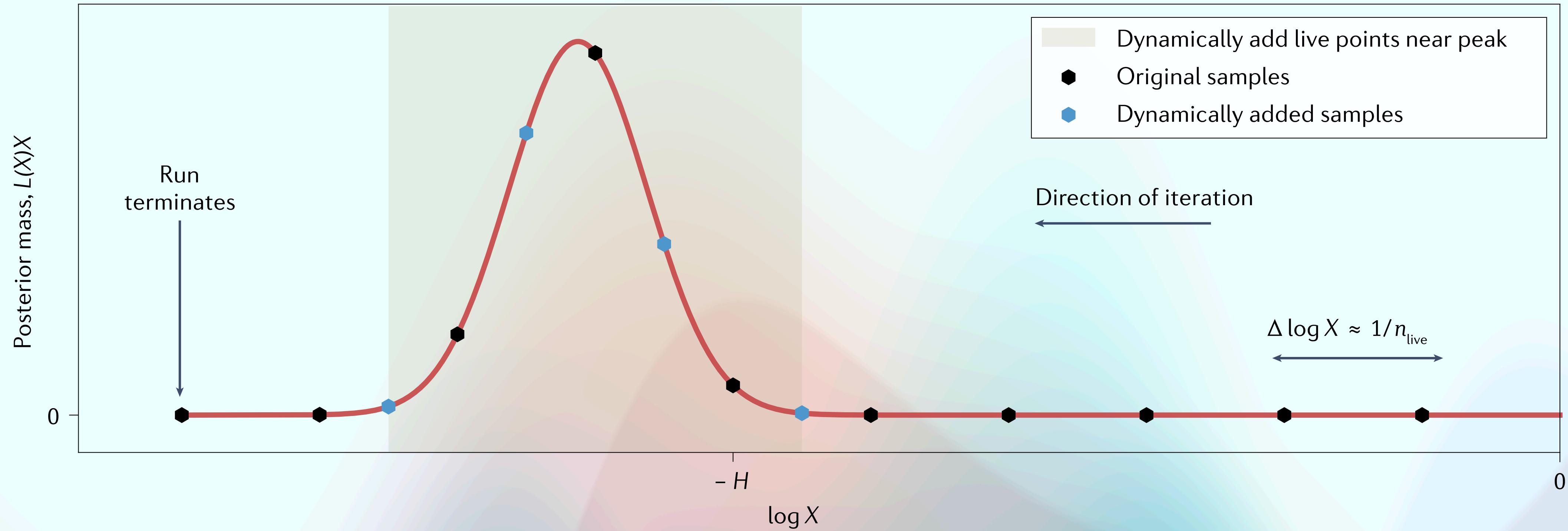


→ Evidence

Maturana-Russel et al. '2019

PTMCMC (parallel-tempering):





Approximate the evidence by integrating the prior in nested “shells” of iso-likelihood.

Nested sampling method

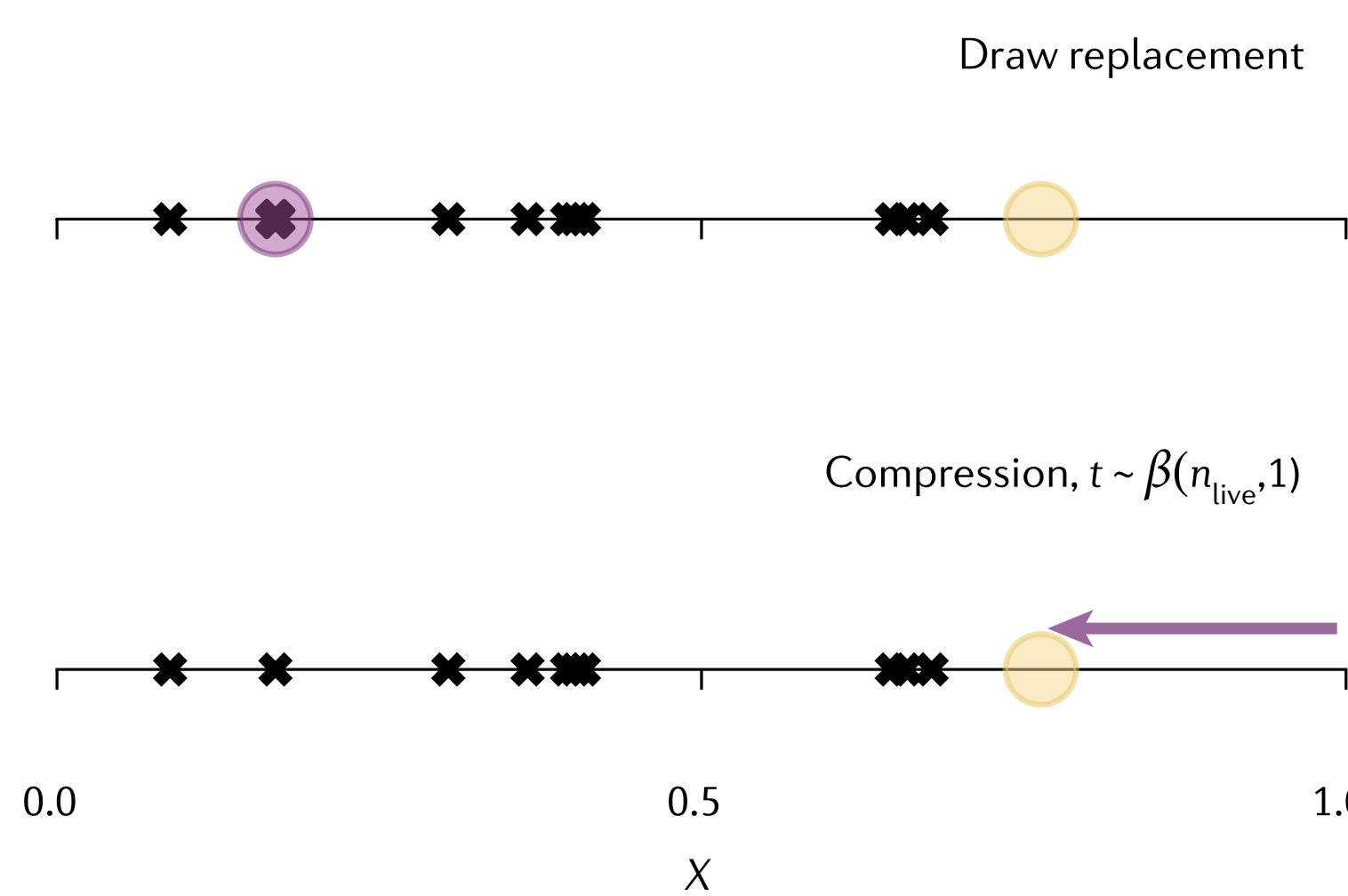
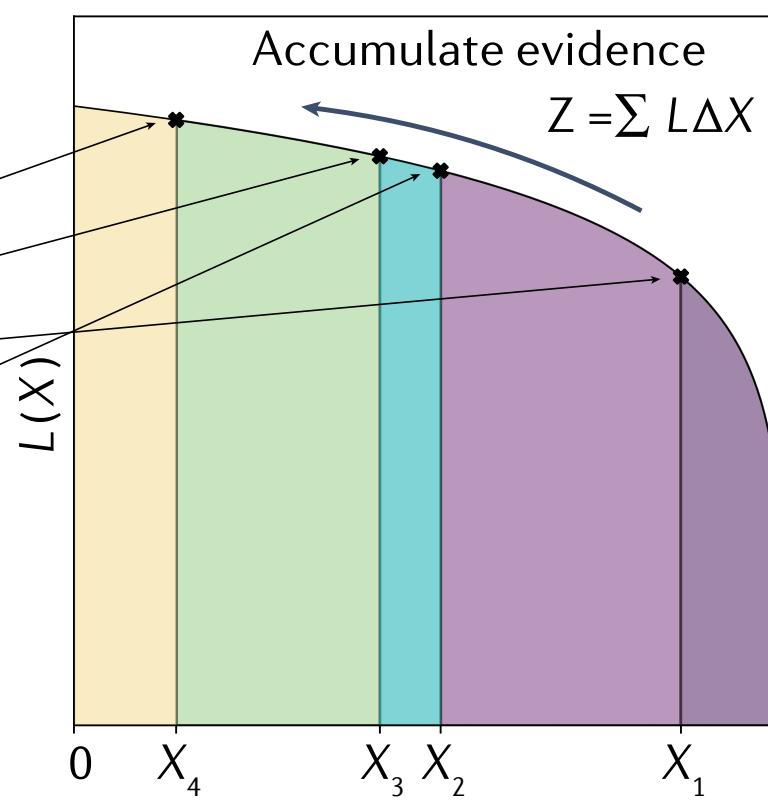
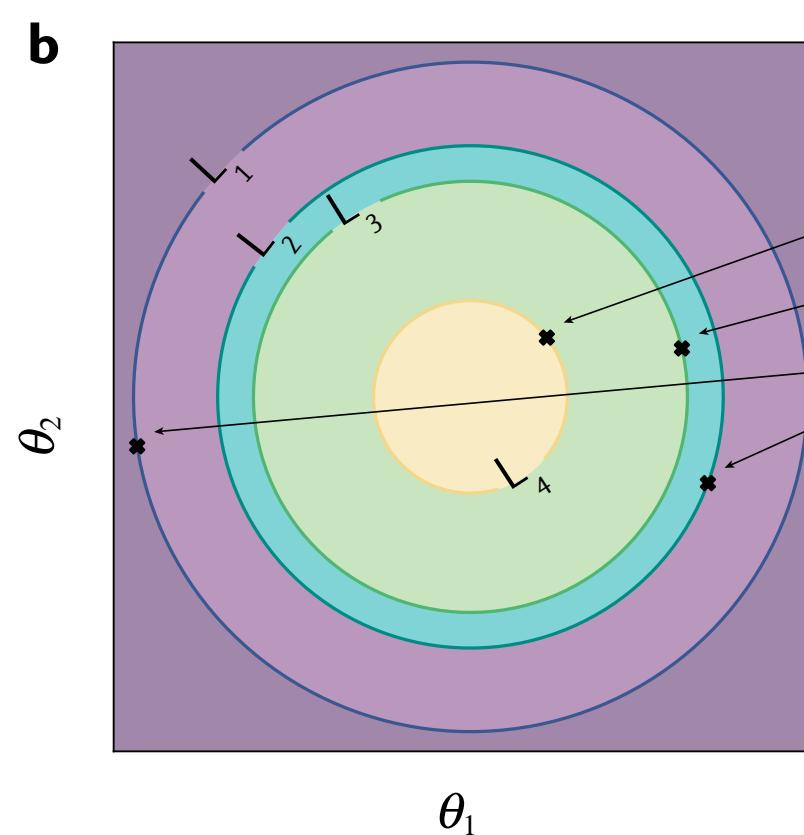
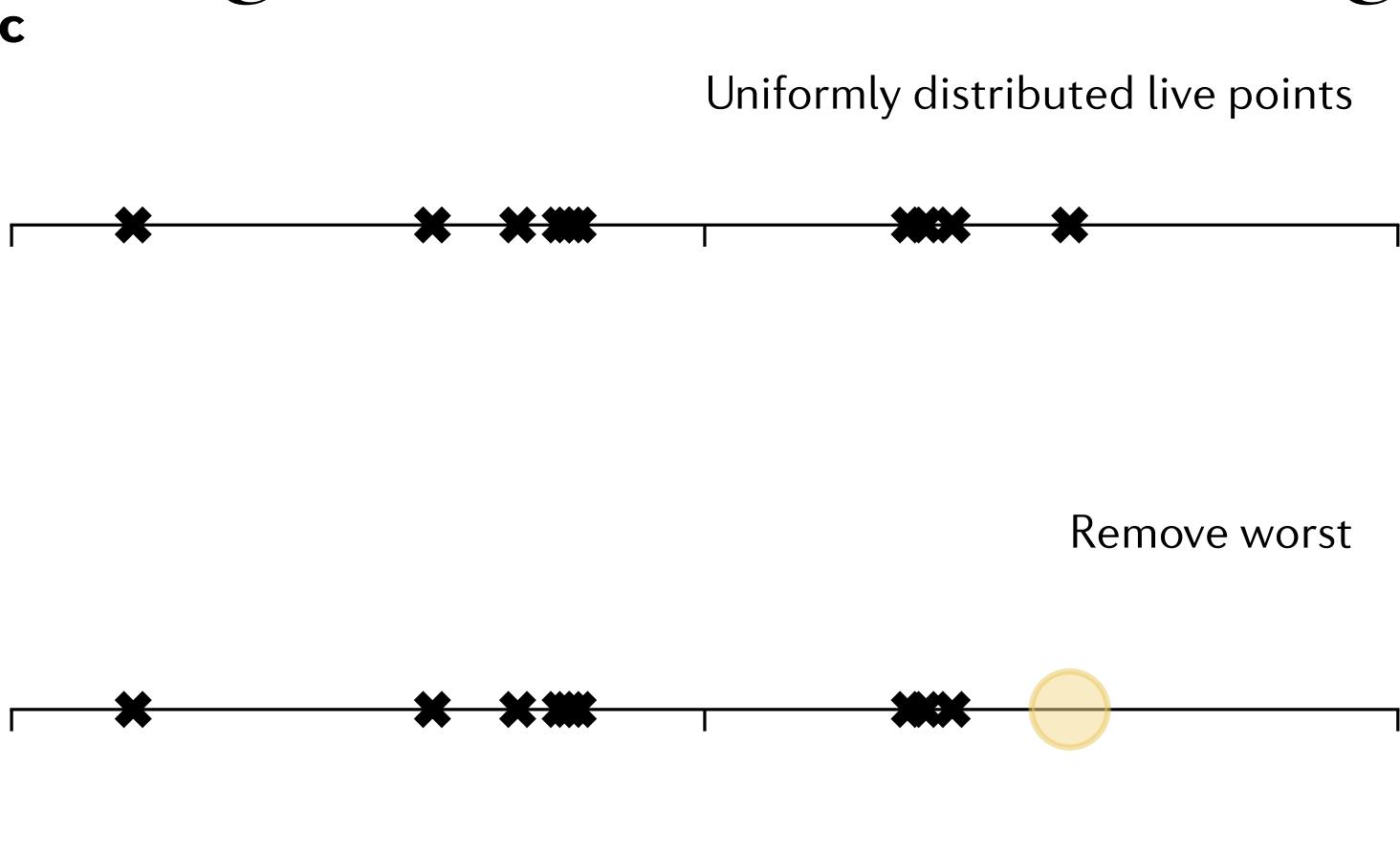
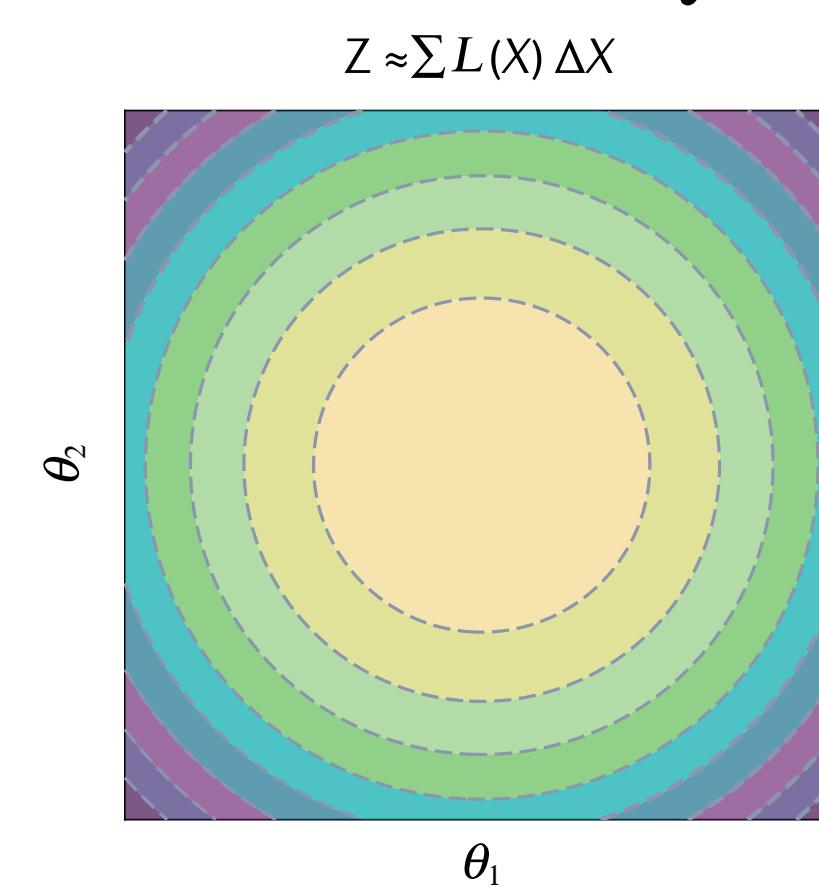
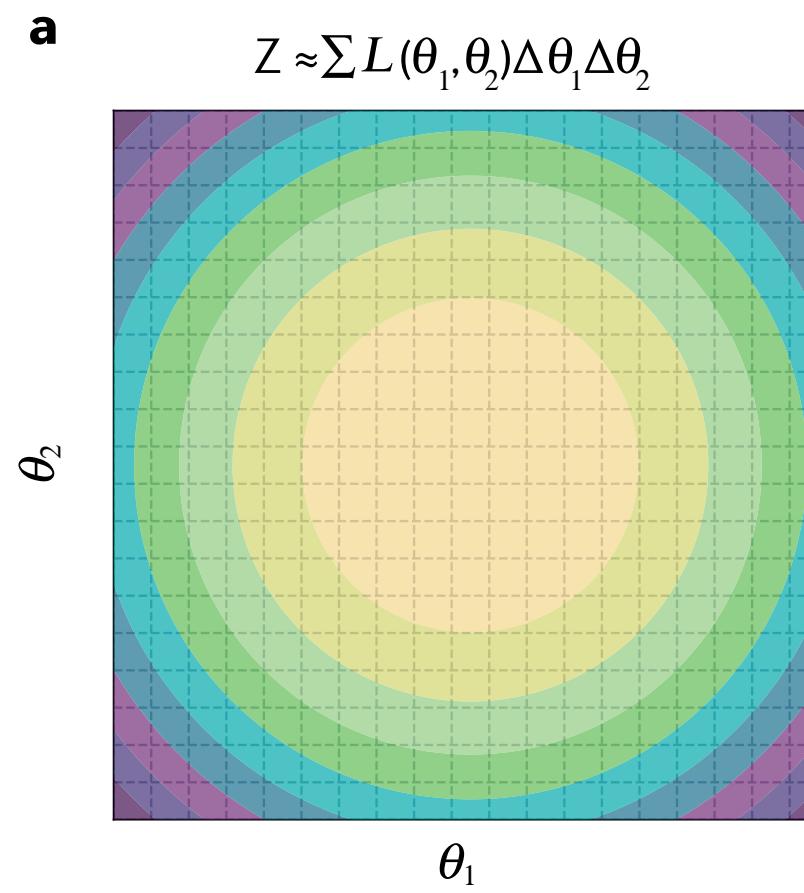
Well-defined stopping criteria

Calculate the evidence

Solve multimodal problem

Nested sampling

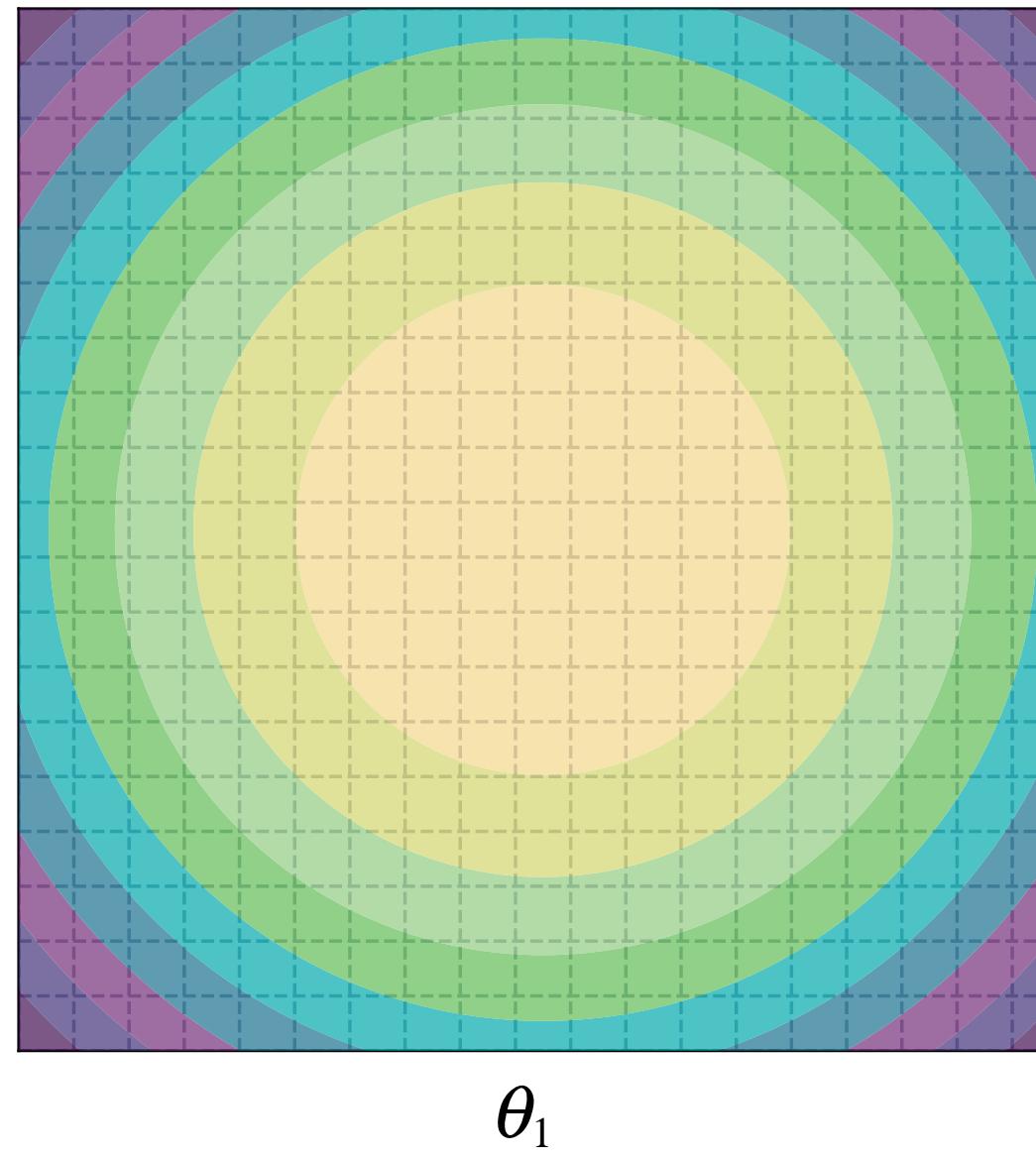
Goal of efficiently evaluating **evidence** and returning **posterior** estimate



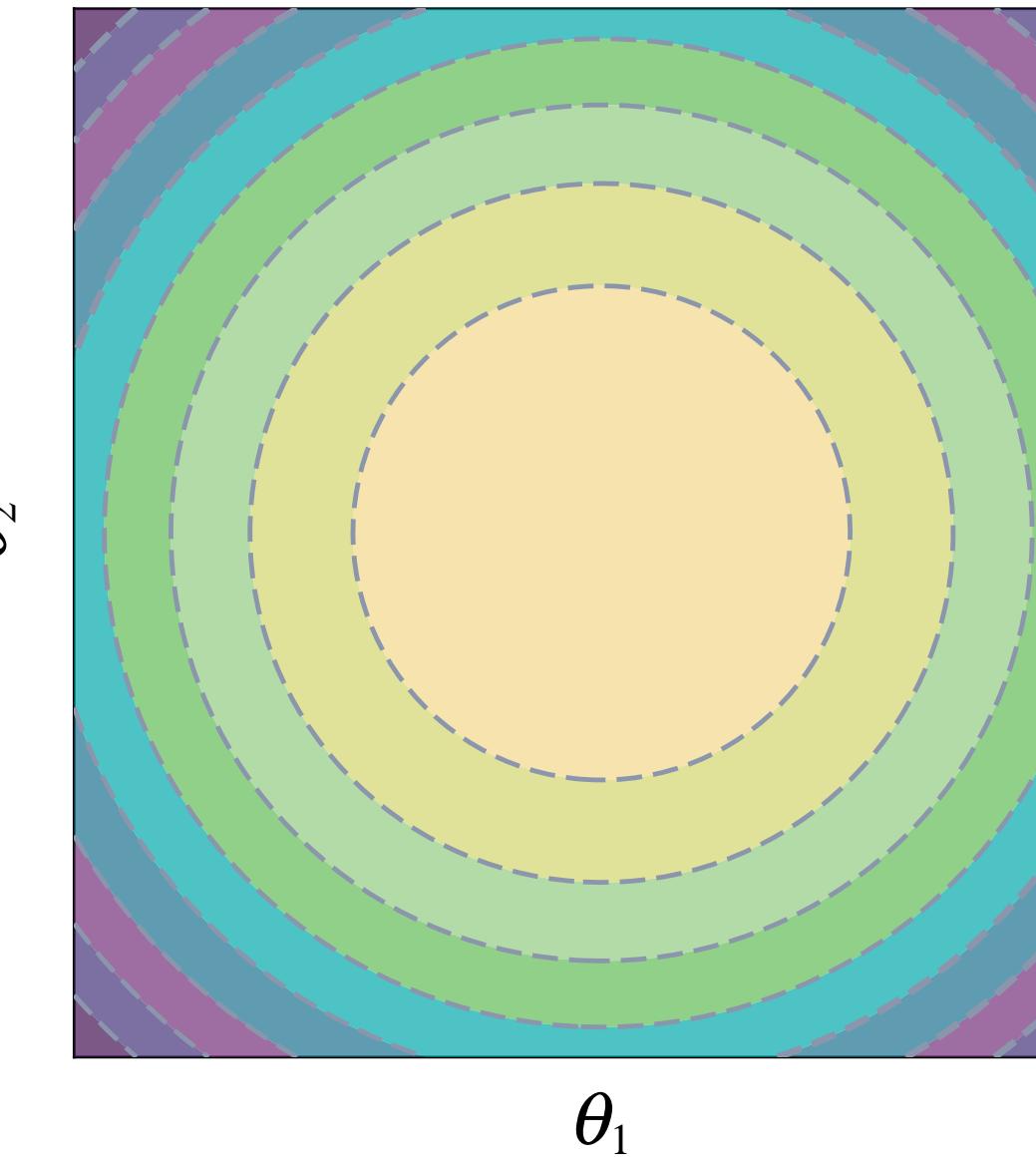
$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{Z} &= \int \tilde{\mathcal{P}}(\Theta) d\Theta \\ &= \int_{\Omega_\Theta} \mathcal{L}(\Theta) \pi(\Theta) d^N \Theta \\ &= \int L(X) dX \\ &\approx \sum_{i=1}^n L(X_i) \Delta X_i \\ X(\lambda) &= \int_{\{\Theta : \mathcal{L}(\Theta) > \lambda\}} \pi(\Theta) d\Theta \end{aligned}$$

a

$$Z \approx \sum L(\theta_1, \theta_2) \Delta\theta_1 \Delta\theta_2$$

 θ_2  θ_1

$$Z \approx \sum L(X) \Delta X$$

 θ_2  θ_1 **c**

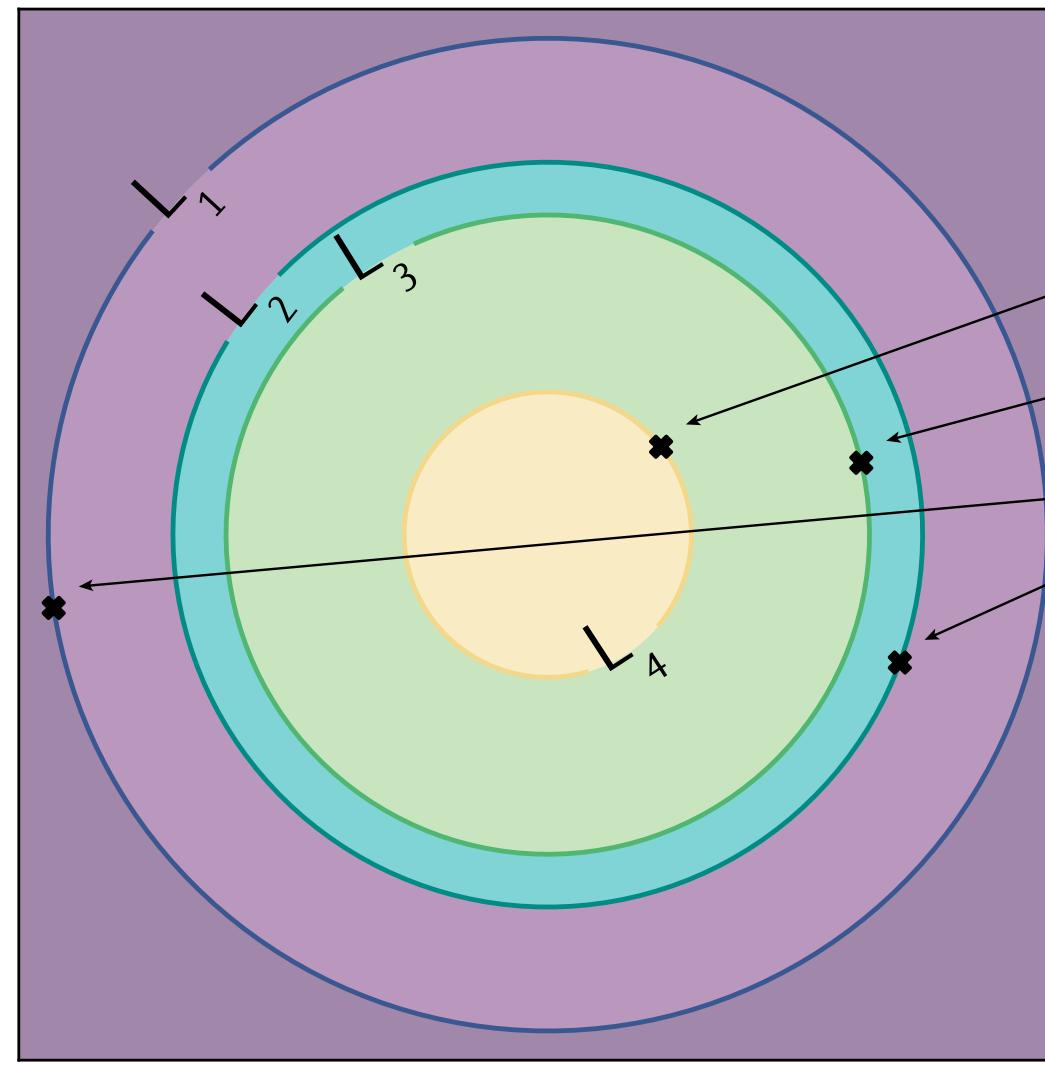
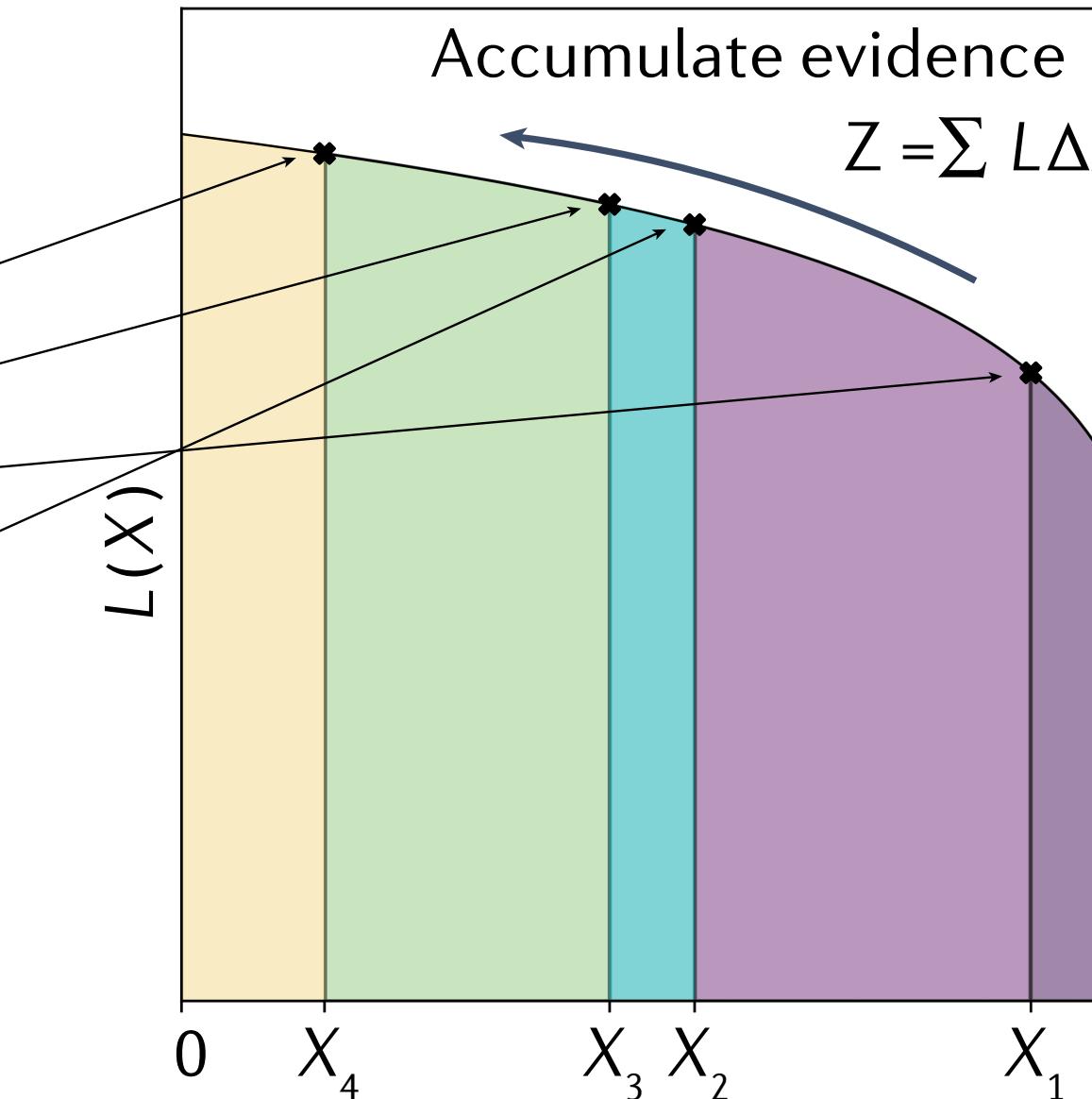
Uniformly distributed live points



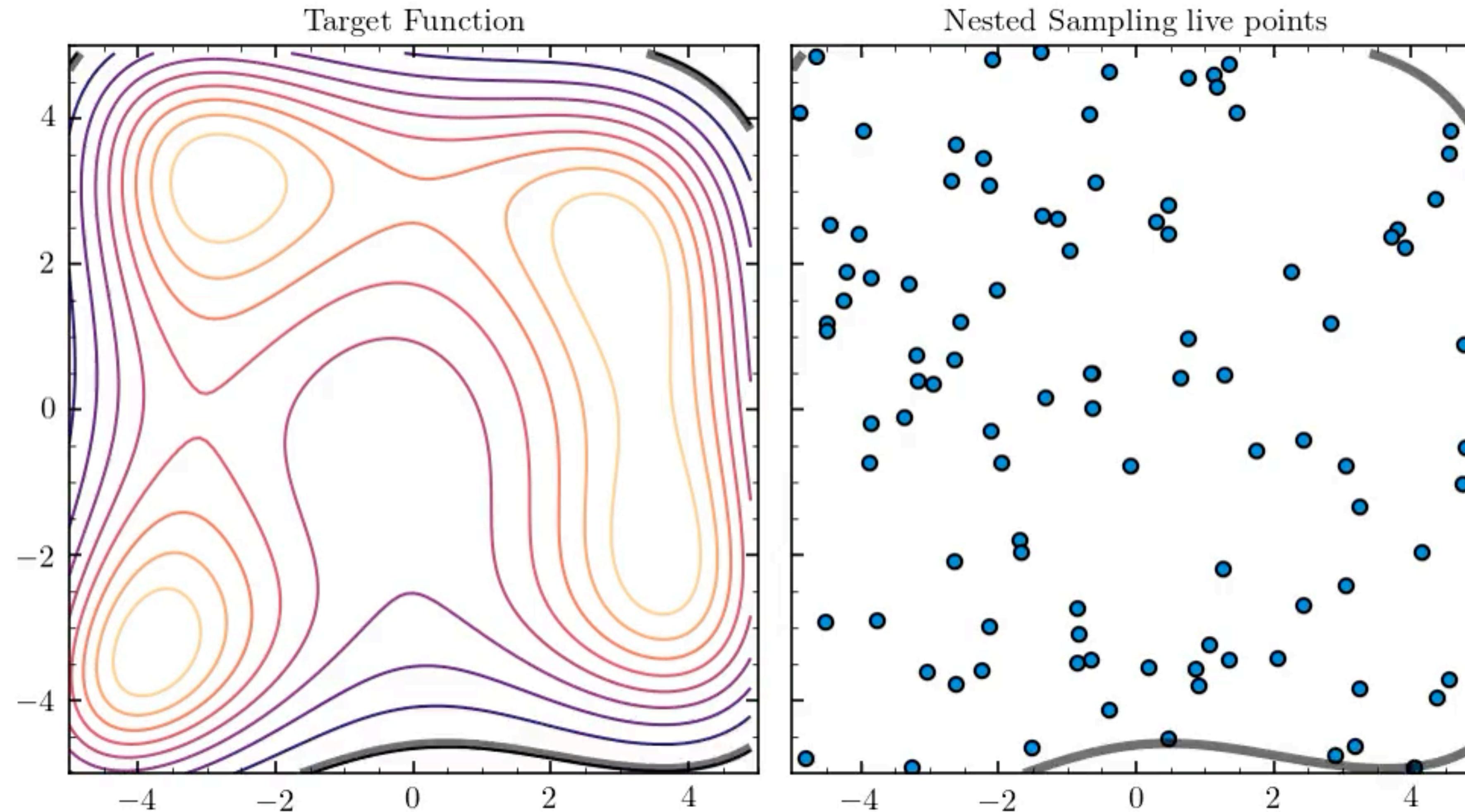
Remove worst



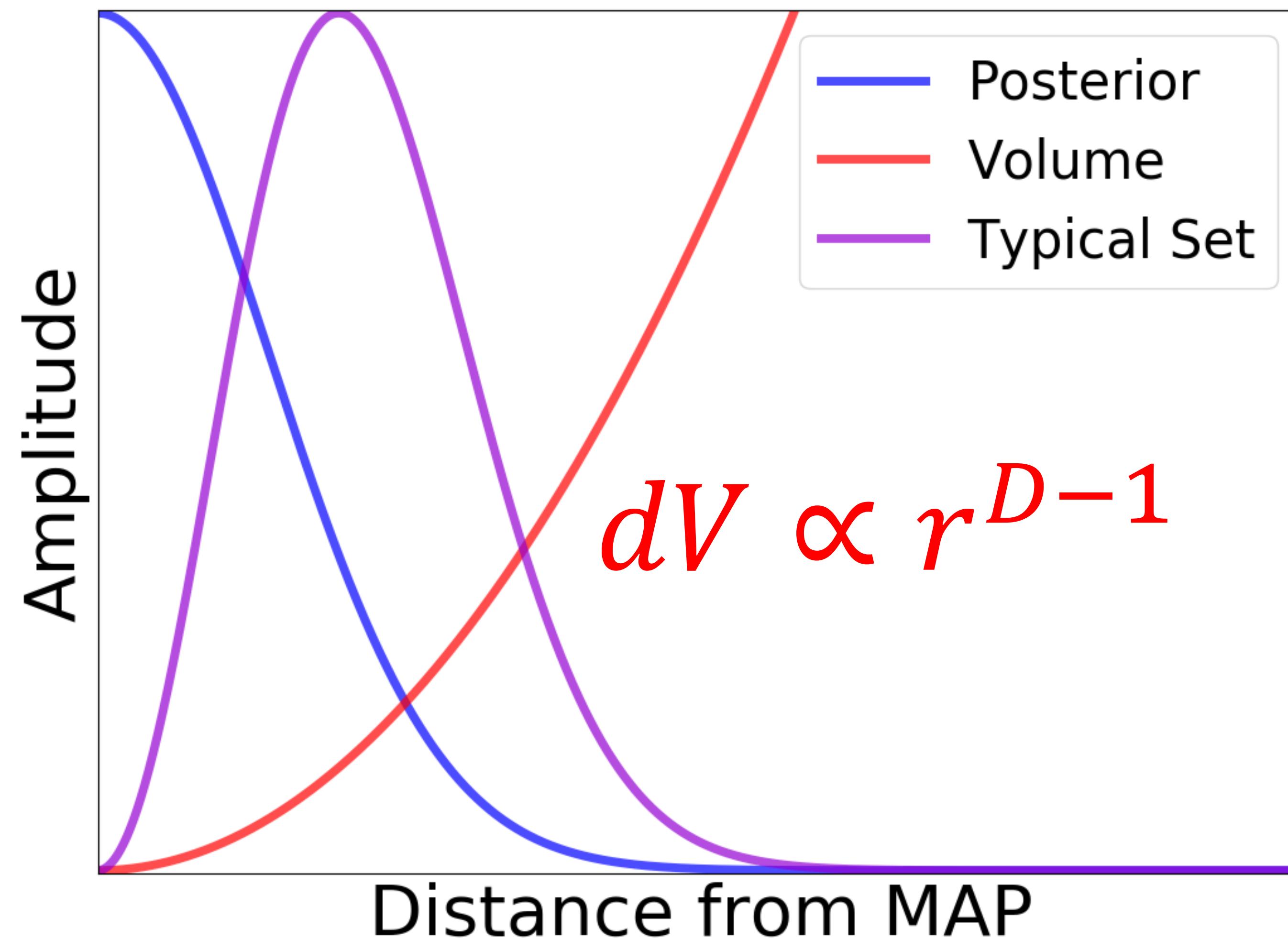
Draw replacement

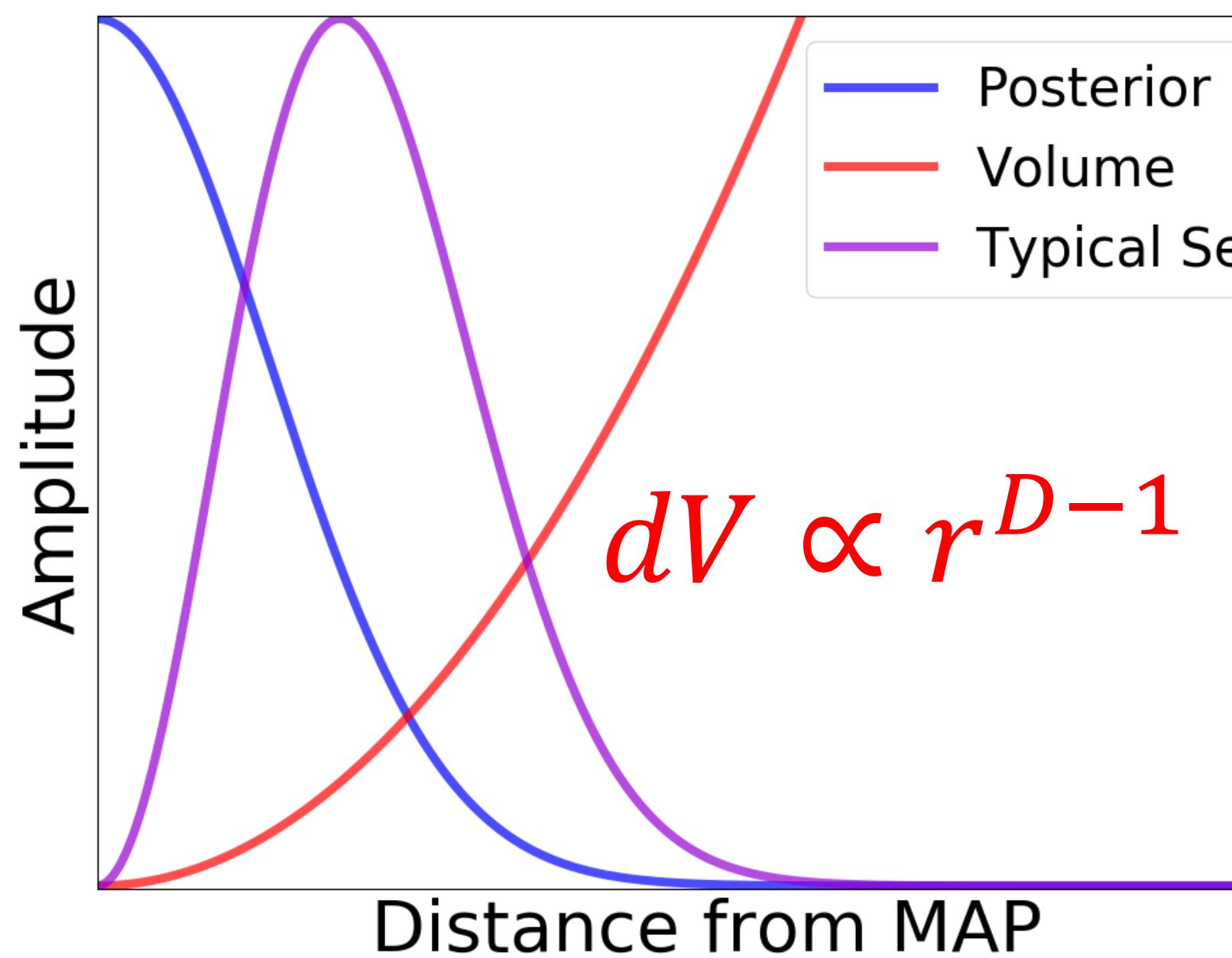
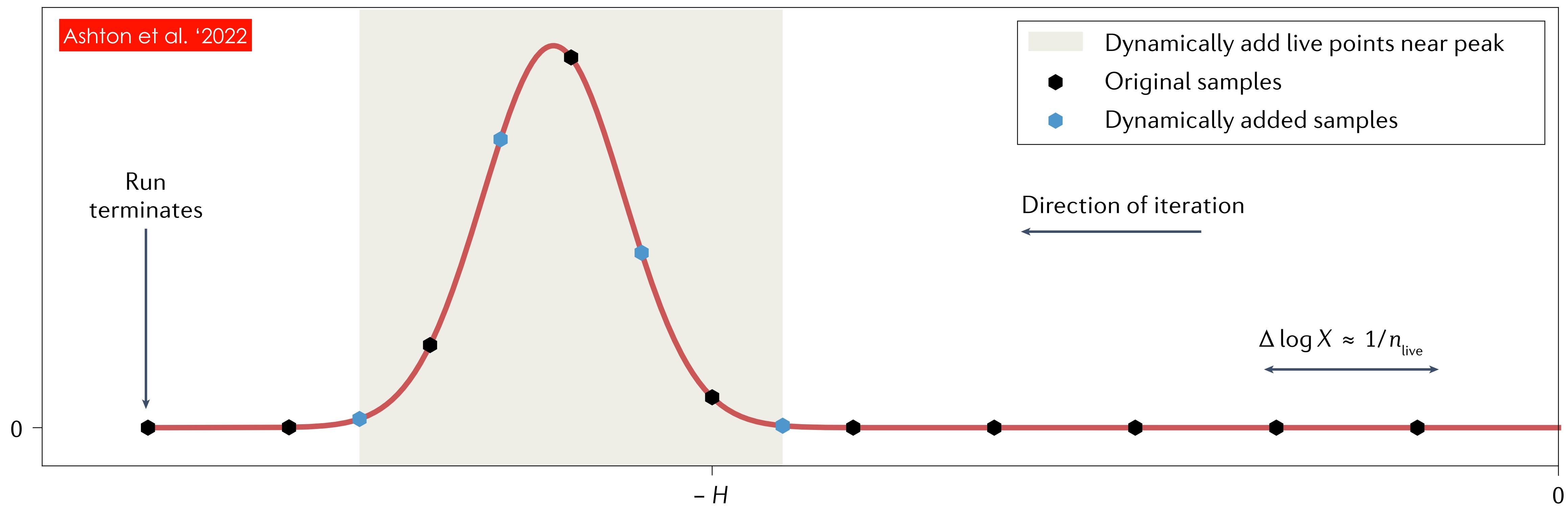
Compression, $t \sim \beta(n_{\text{live}}, 1)$ **b** θ_2  θ_1 

Nested sampling



Posterior mass, $L(X)X$

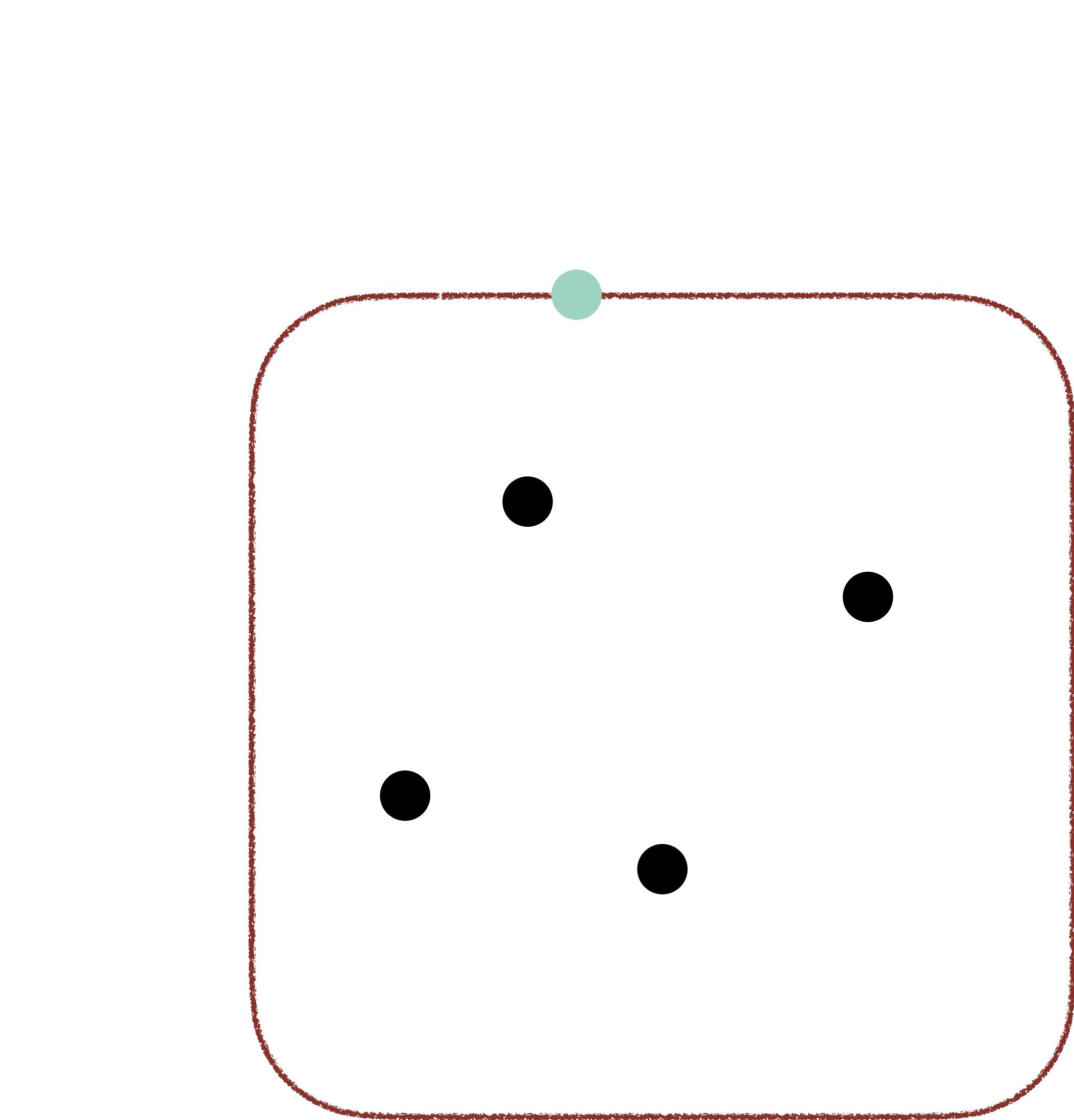
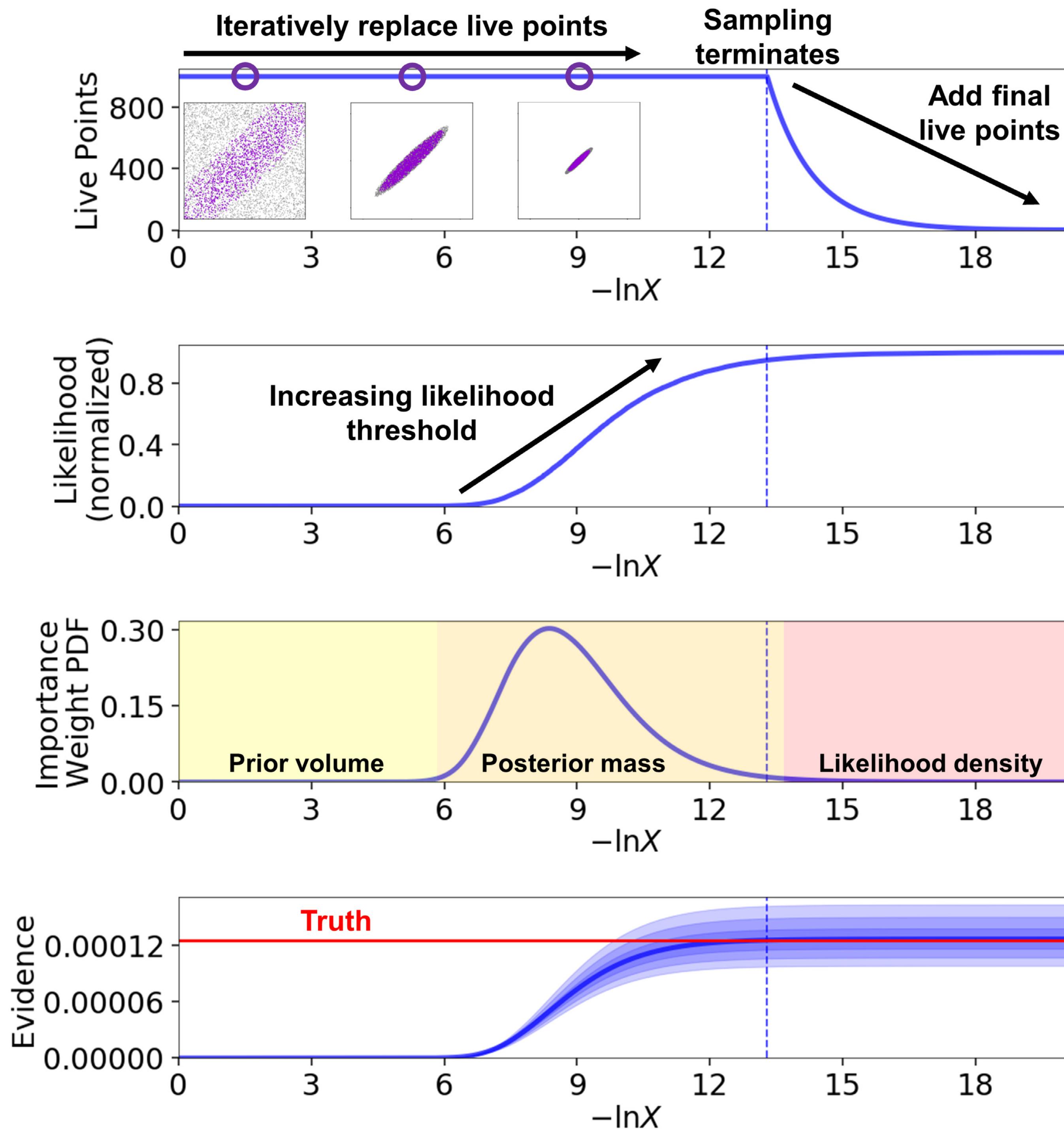


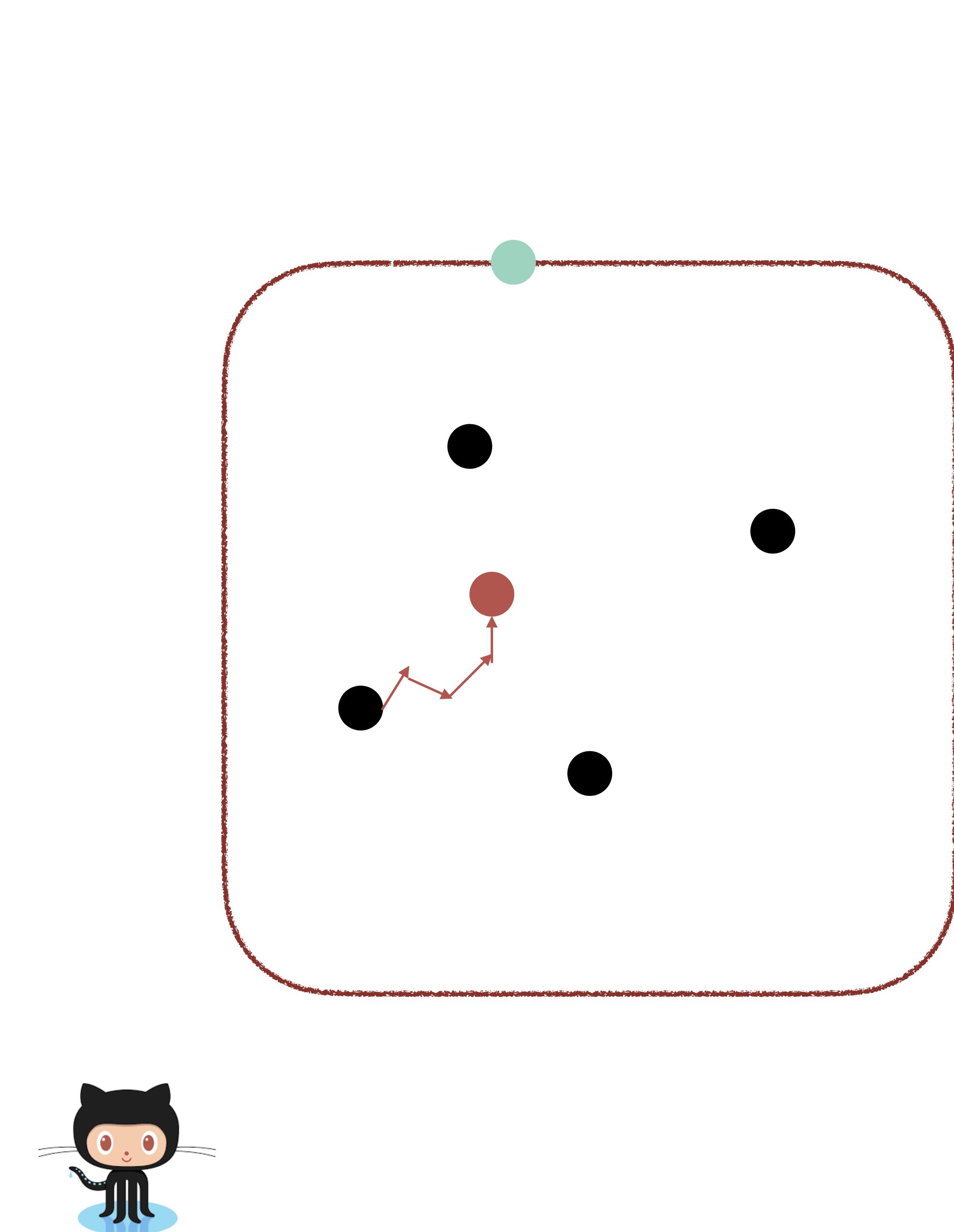
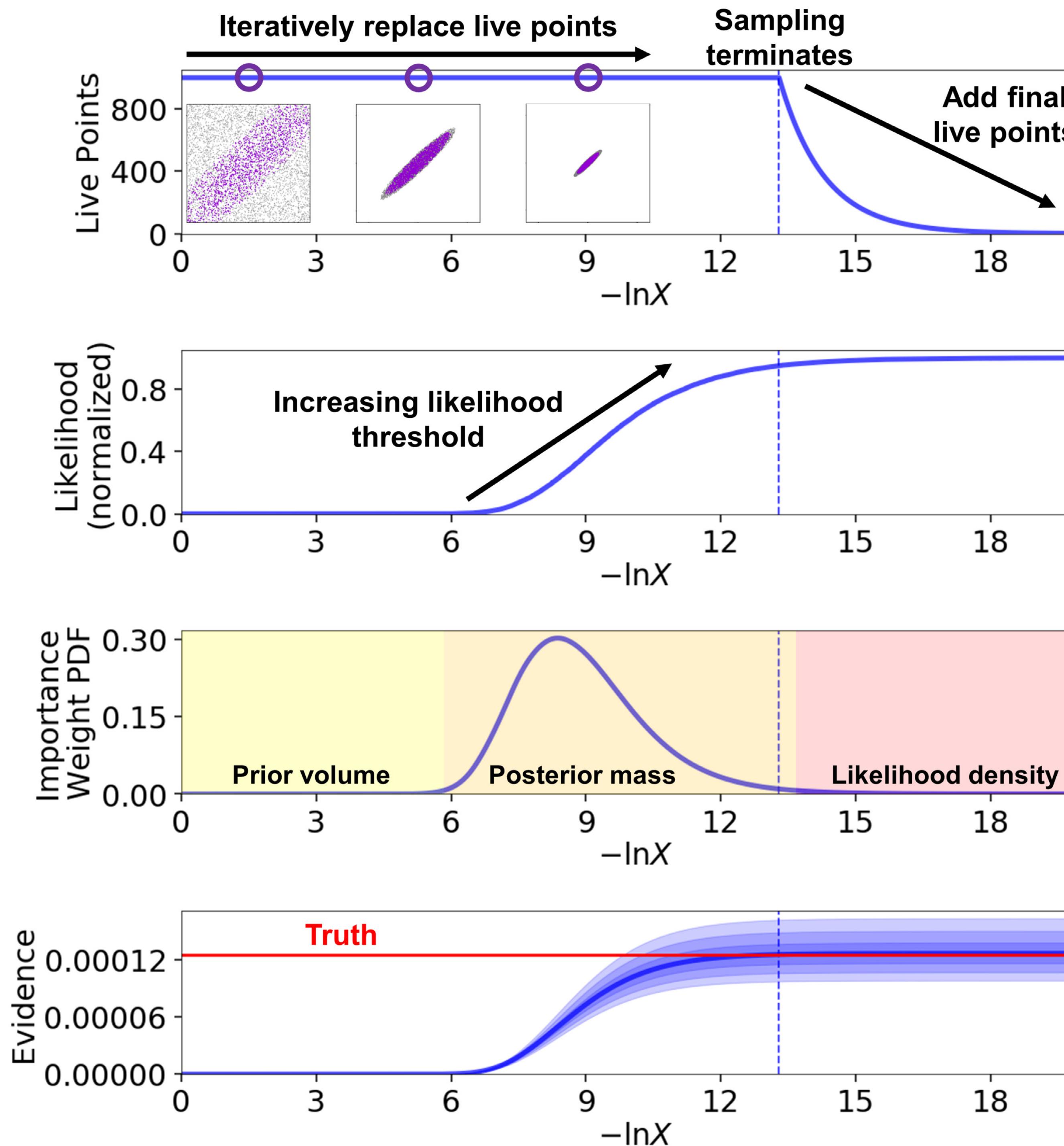
Posterior mass, $L(X)X$ “Prior Volume”: X

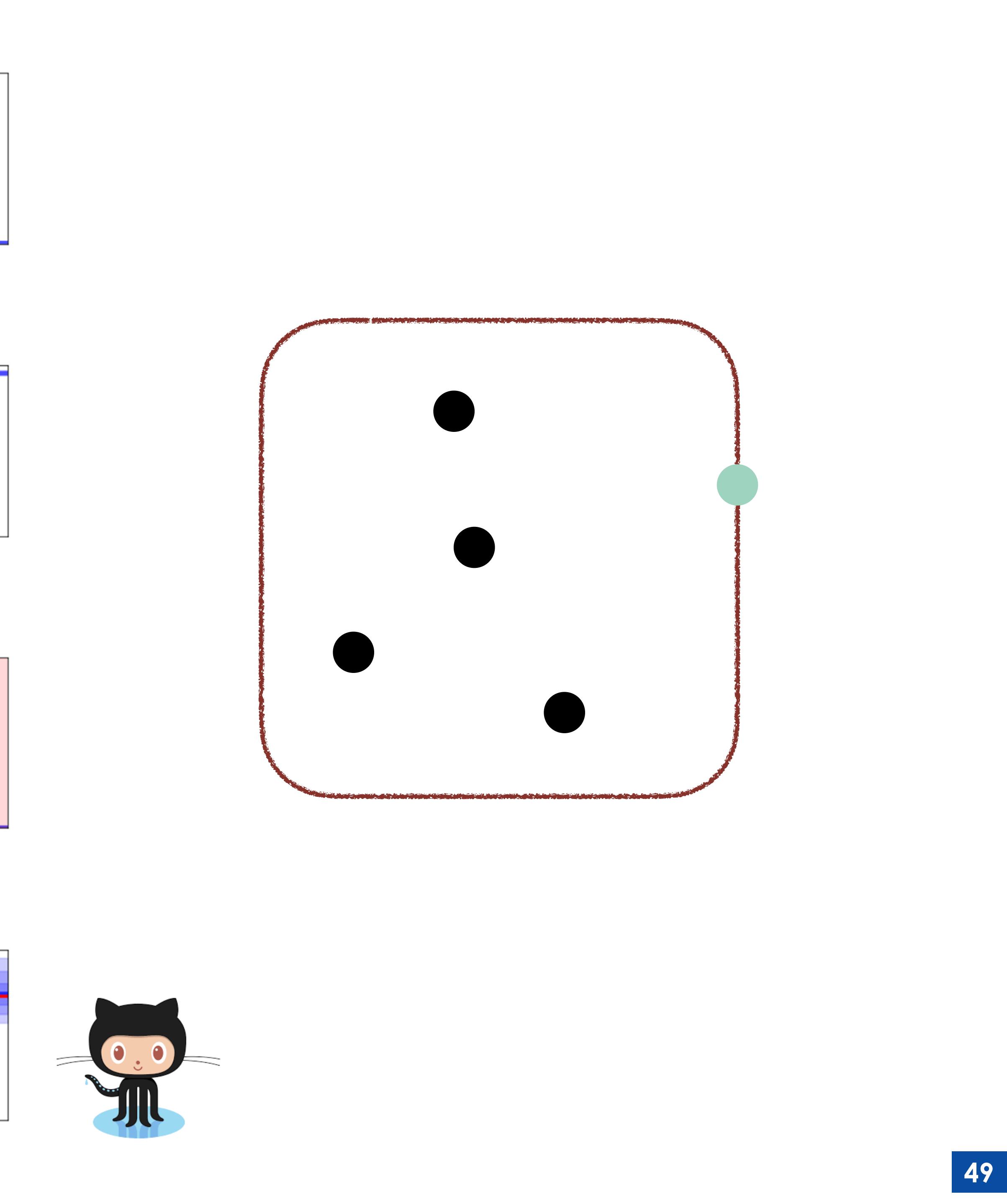
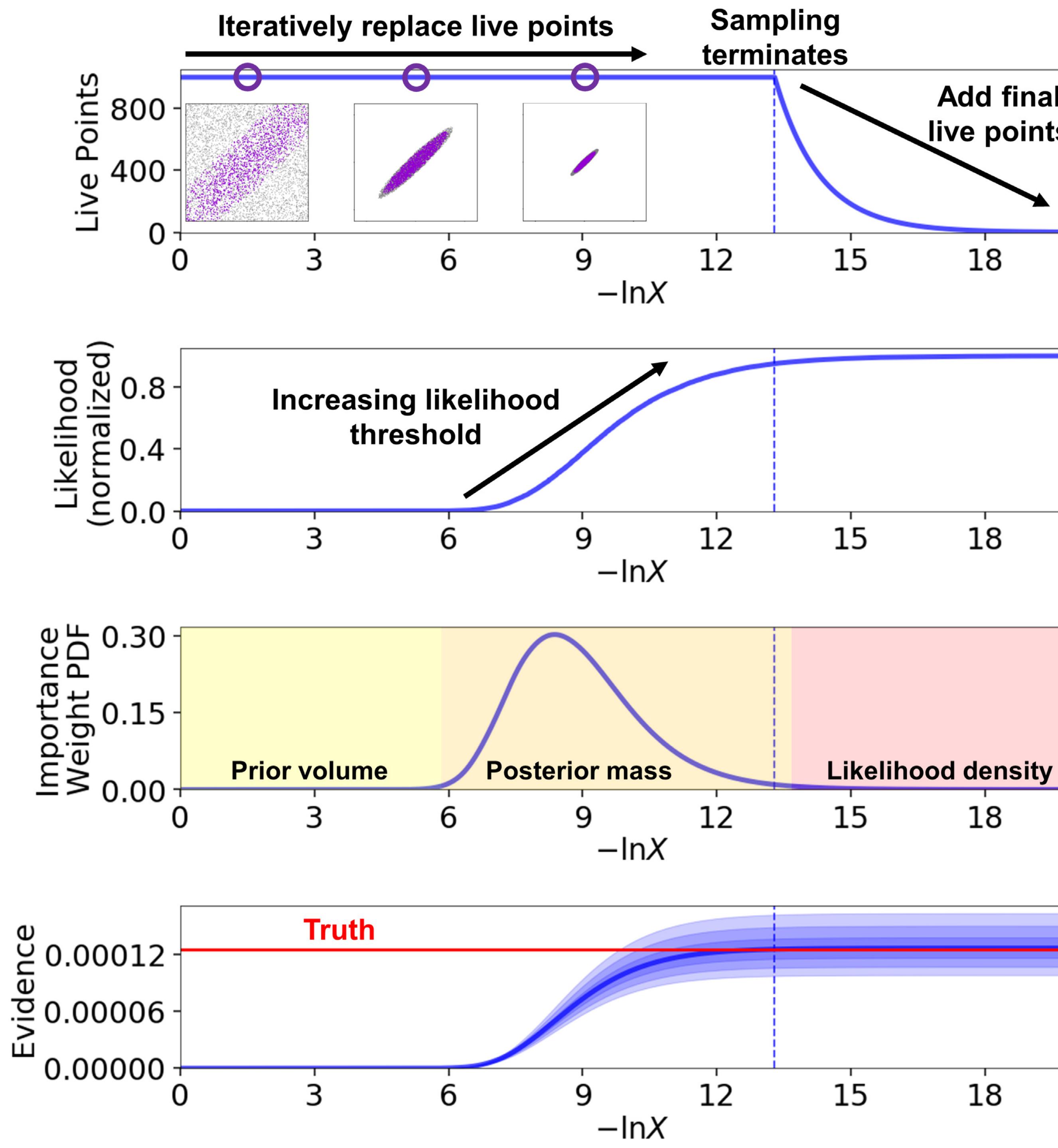
K-L divergence

$$H = \int P(\Theta) \log \left(\frac{P(\Theta)}{\pi(\Theta)} \right) d\Theta$$

$$\Delta \log Z \approx \sqrt{\frac{H}{n_{\text{live}}}}$$







Bilby

A user-friendly Bayesian inference library. Fulfilling all your Bayesian dreams.



Nested sampling family

[dynesty](#)

[UltraNest](#)

[nestle](#)

[pymultinest](#)

[cpnest](#)

[nessai](#)

[pypolychord](#)

MCMC family

[emcee](#)

[ptemcee](#)

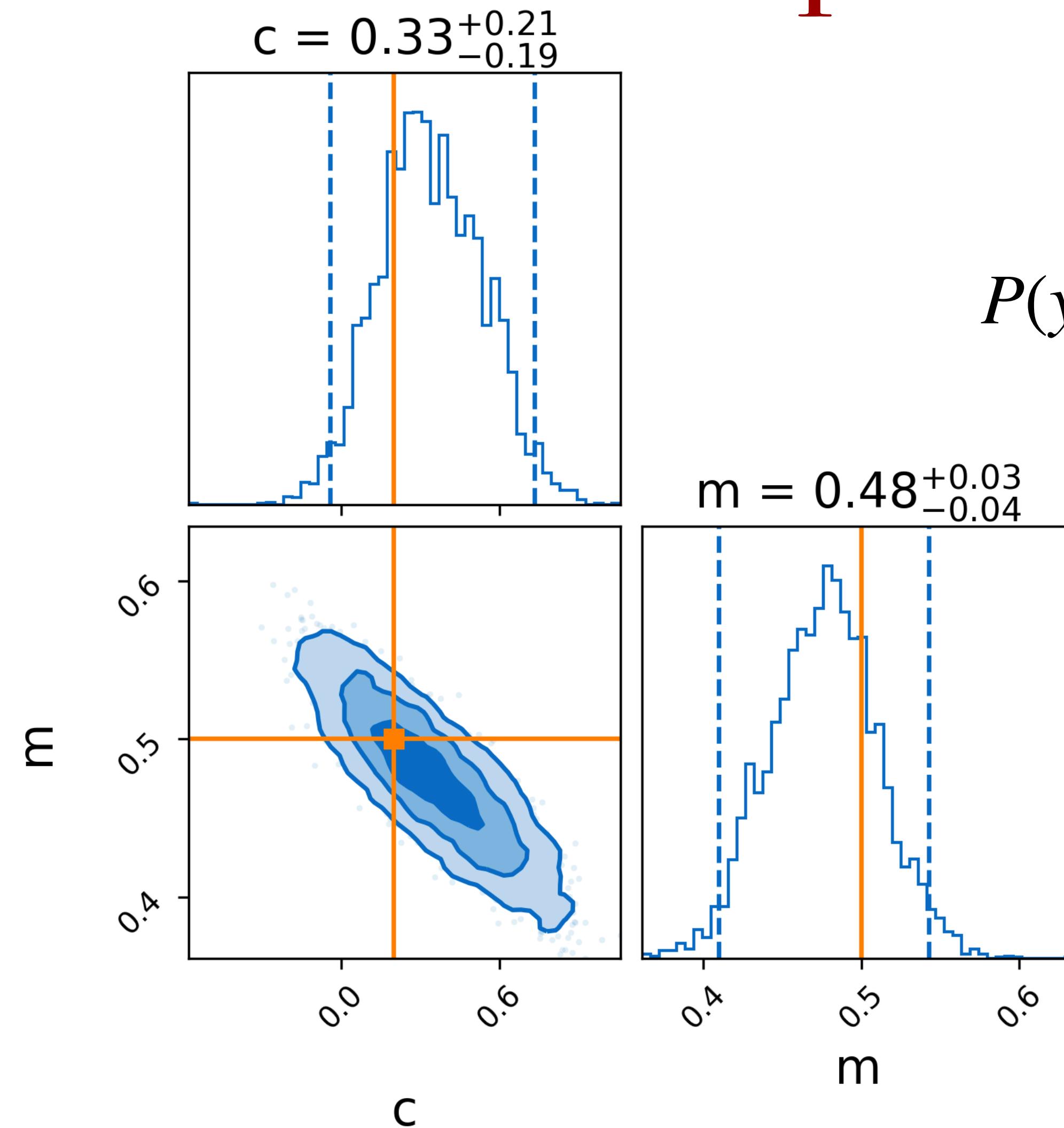
[bilby-mcmc](#)

[zeus](#)

[ptmcmc sampler](#)

[PyMC3](#)

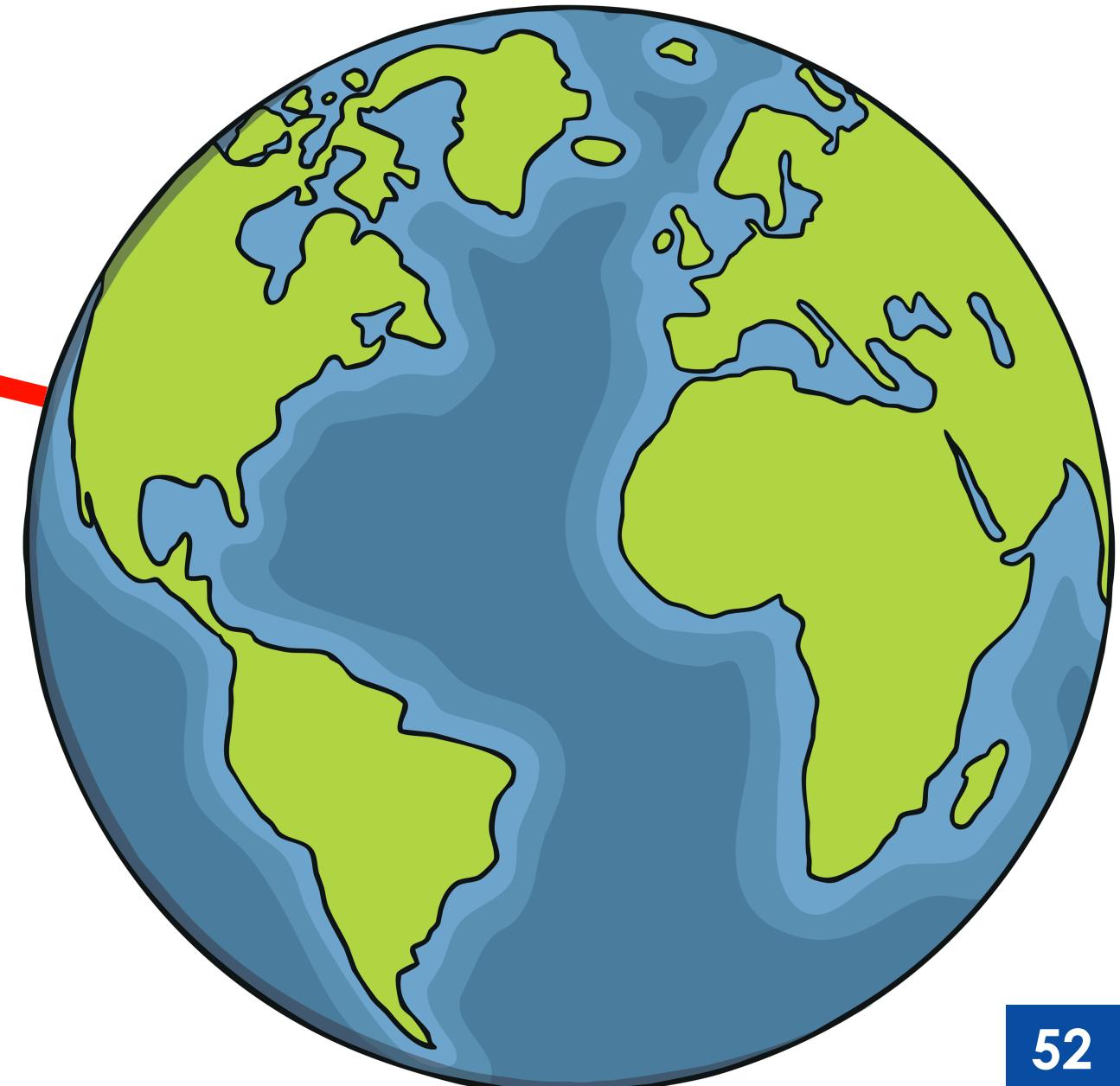
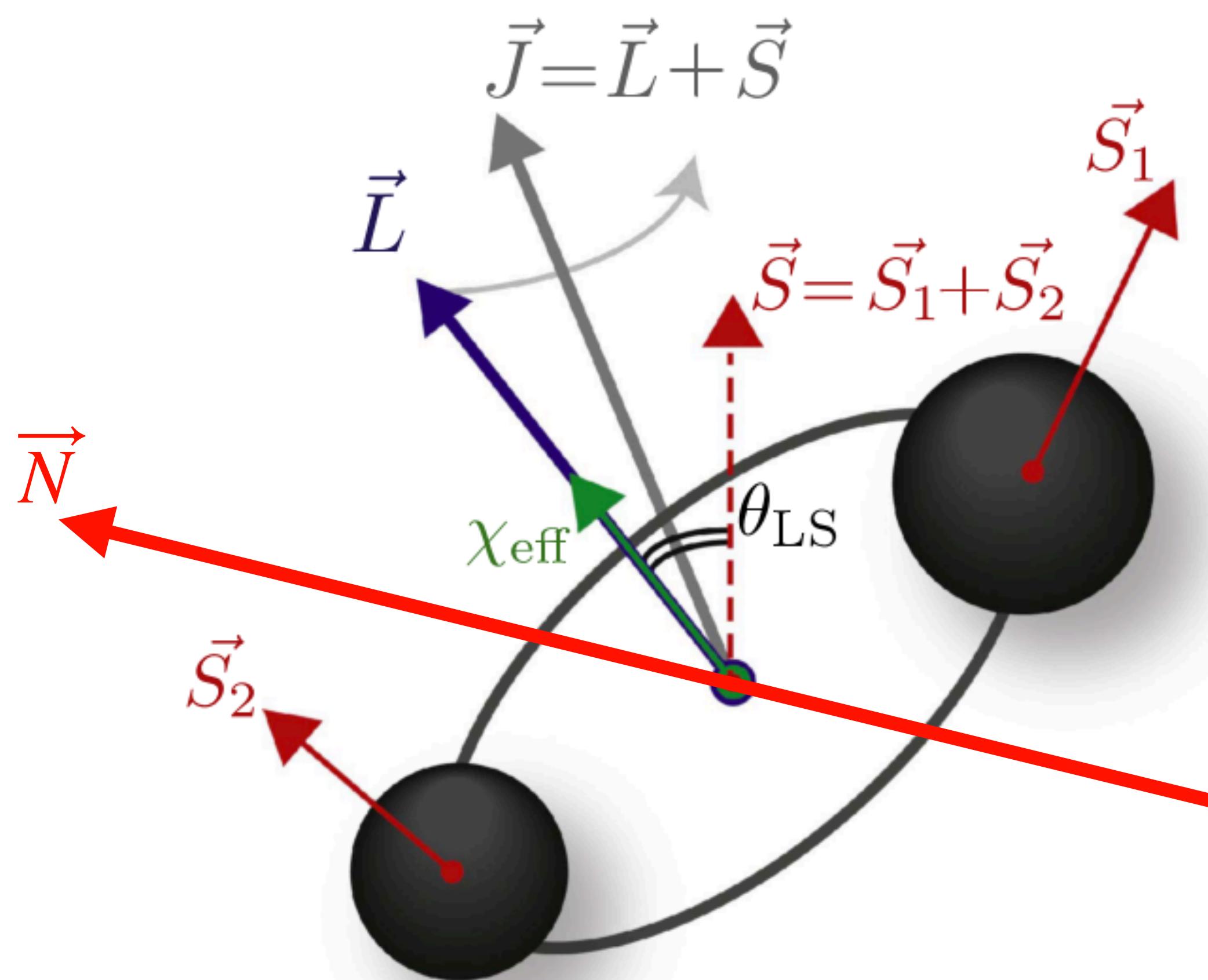
Example: linear regression



$$P(y_i, t_i | m, c, \mathcal{H}) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}} \exp\left(\frac{-(y_i - (t_i m + c))^2}{2\sigma^2}\right)$$

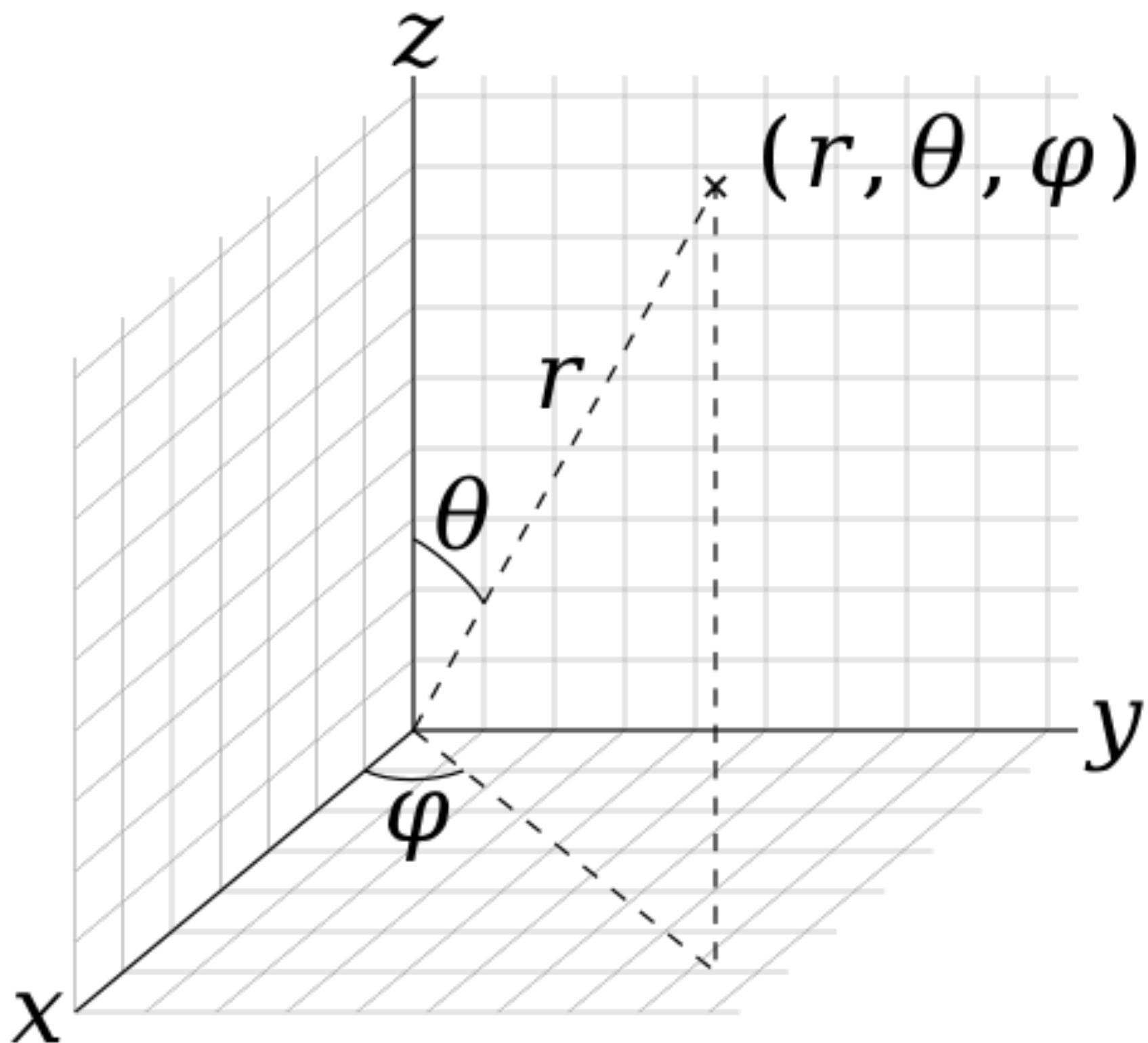


Example: GW

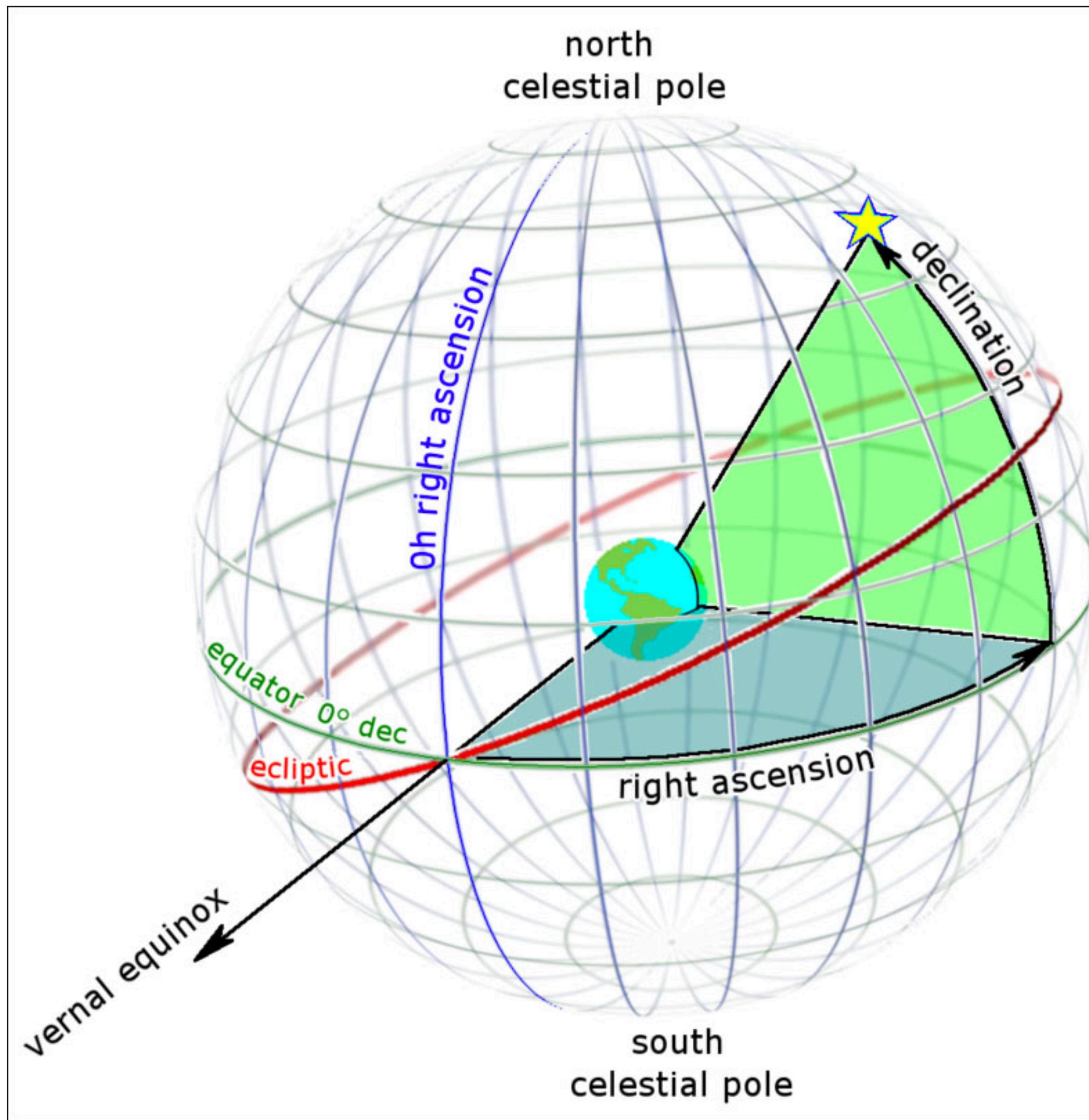


Priors for spherical coordinates

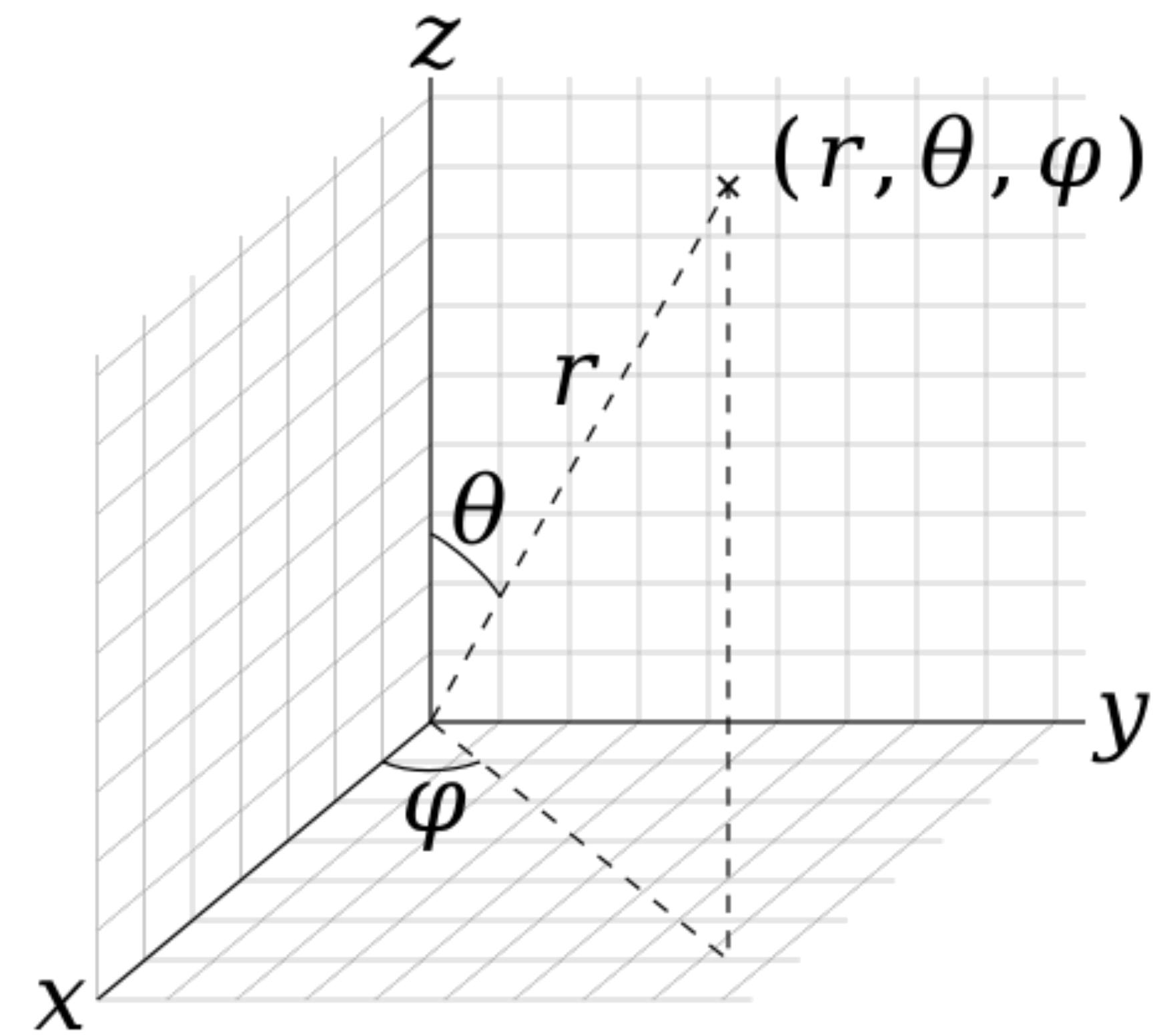
$$dV = dr \cdot r d\theta \cdot r \sin \theta d\varphi$$



Priors for RA, Dec, distance



$$dV = dr \cdot r d\theta \cdot r \sin \theta d\varphi$$

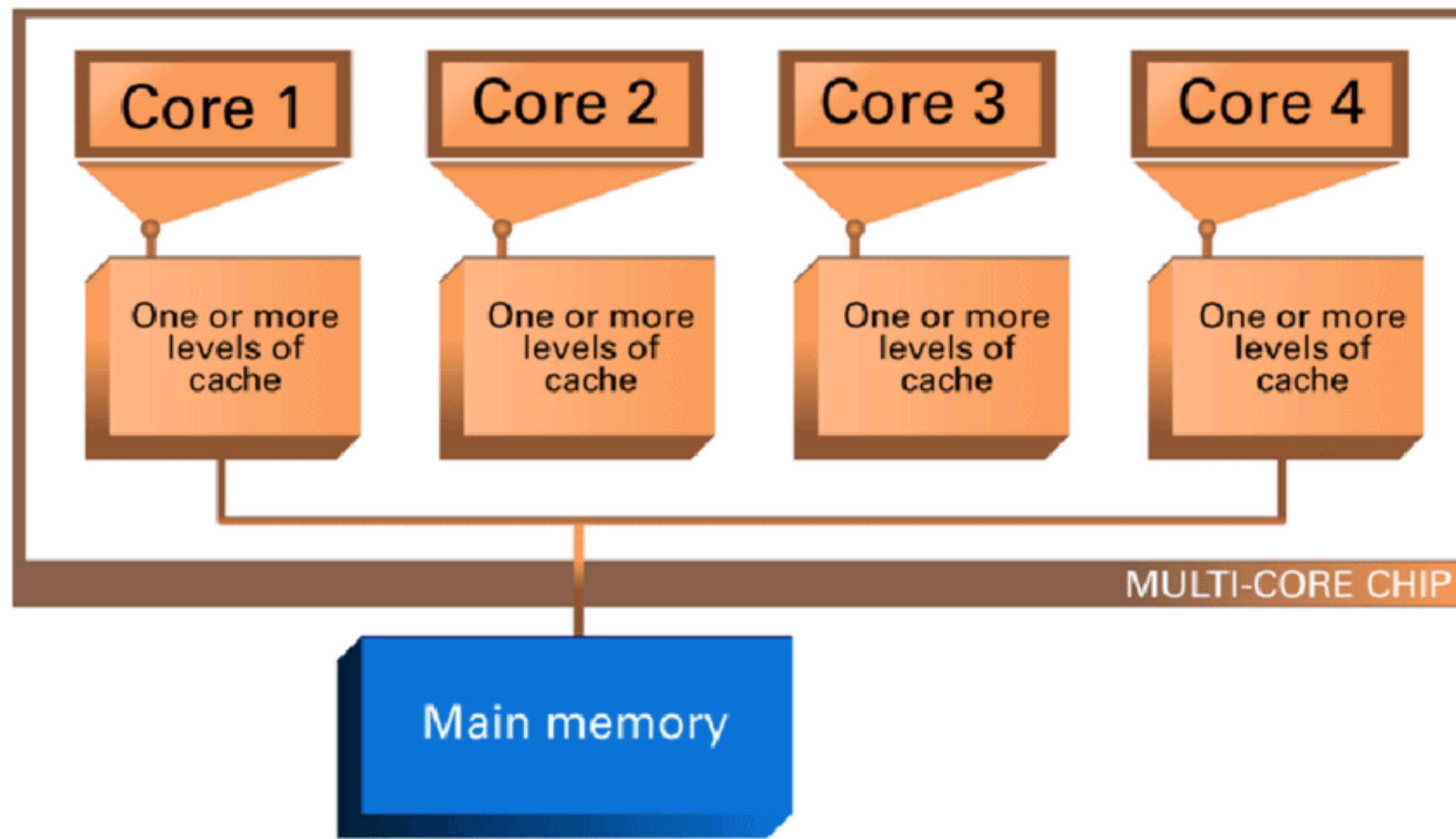


Parallel Bilby = OpenMPI + Bilby for GW

OpenMP/multiprocessing in Python

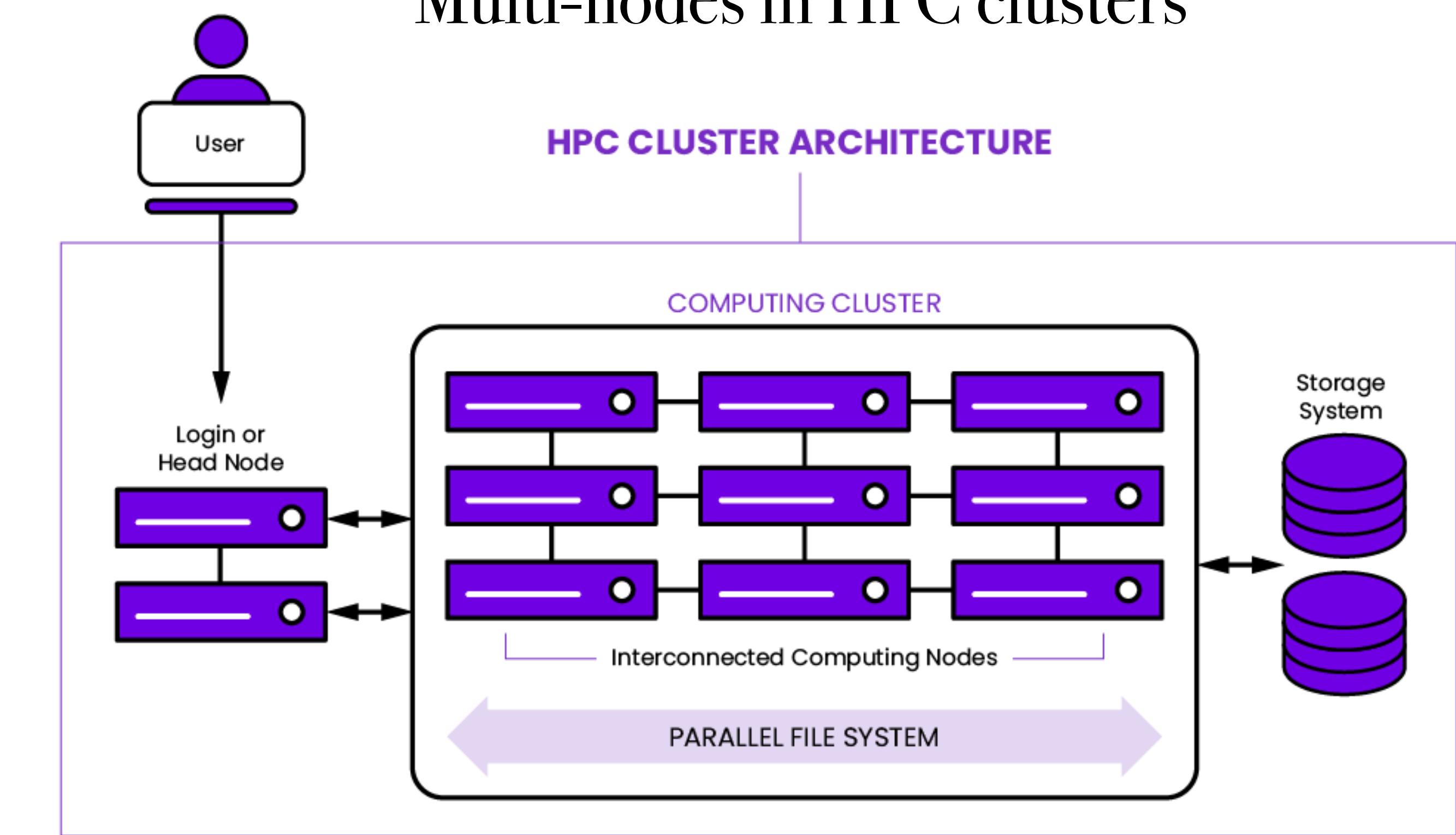


Shared-memory multi-processor



MPI: Message Passing Interface

Multi-nodes in HPC clusters



THE AMAZING Thomas Bayes

