# **Bayesian inference**

#### J. Daunizeau

Brain and Spine Institute, Paris, France Wellcome Trust Centre for Neuroimaging, London, UK

### Overview of the talk

- 1 Probabilistic modelling and representation of uncertainty
  - 1.1 Bayesian paradigm
  - 1.2 Hierarchical models
  - 1.3 Frequentist versus Bayesian inference
- 2 Numerical Bayesian inference methods
  - 2.1 Sampling methods
  - 2.2 Variational methods (ReML, EM, VB)
- 3 SPM applications
  - 3.1 aMRI segmentation
  - 3.2 Decoding of brain images
  - 3.3 Model-based fMRI analysis (with spatial priors)
  - 3.4 Dynamic causal modelling

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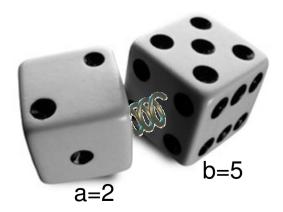
probability theory: basics

### **Degree of plausibility** desiderata:

- should be represented using real numbers (	(D1)	)
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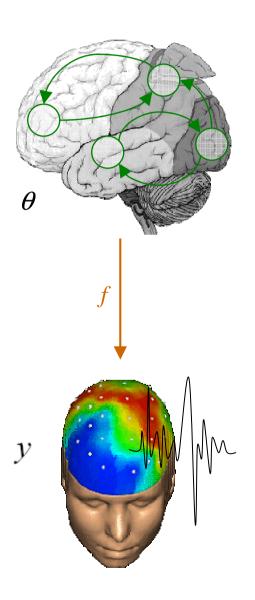
• normalization: 
$$\sum_{a} P(a) = 1$$



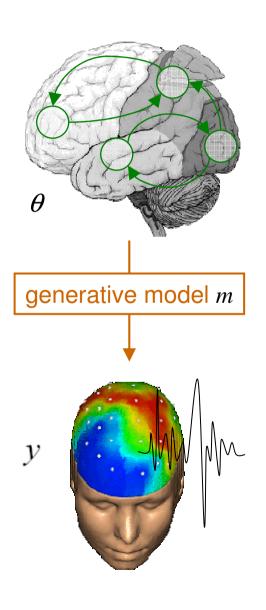
• marginalization: 
$$P(b) = \sum_{a} P(a,b)$$

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• conditioning : 
$$P(a,b) = P(a|b)P(b)$$
(Bayes rule) 
$$= P(b|a)P(a)$$

deriving the likelihood function



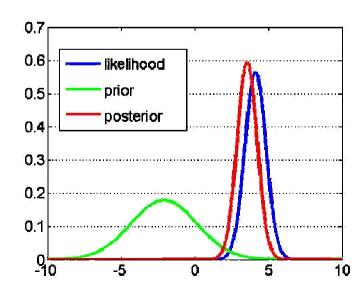
likelihood, priors and the model evidence



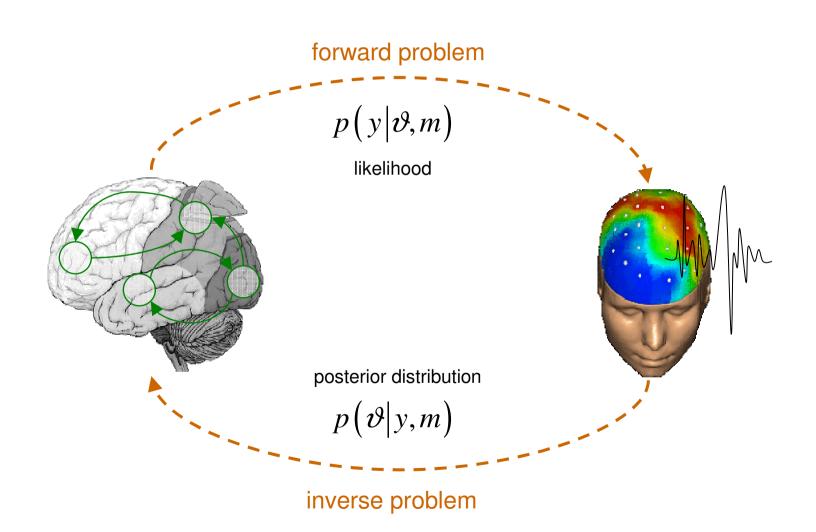
 $p(y|\theta,m)$  $p(\theta|m)$ Likelihood

Prior:

 $p(\theta|y,m) = \frac{p(y|\theta,m)p(\theta|m)}{p(y|m)}$ Bayes rule:



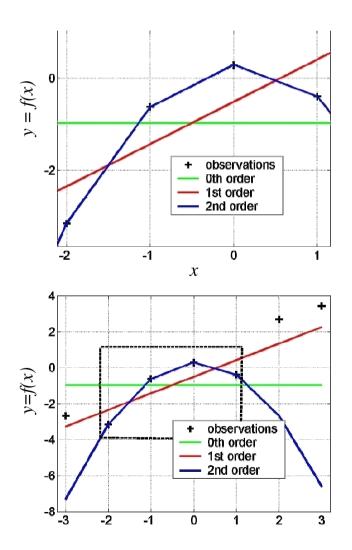
forward and inverse problems



model comparison

### Principle of parsimony:

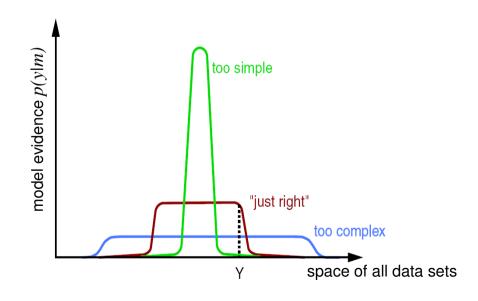
« plurality should not be assumed without necessity »



### Model evidence:

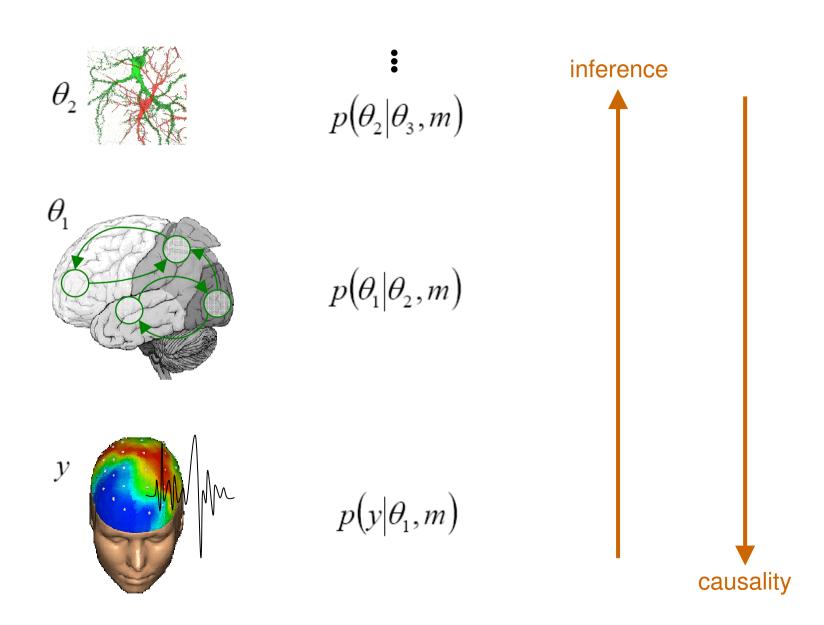
$$p(y|m) = \int p(y|\theta,m)p(\theta|m)d\theta$$

### "Occam's razor":



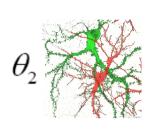
### Hierarchical models

principle

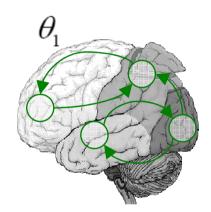


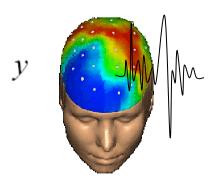
### Hierarchical models

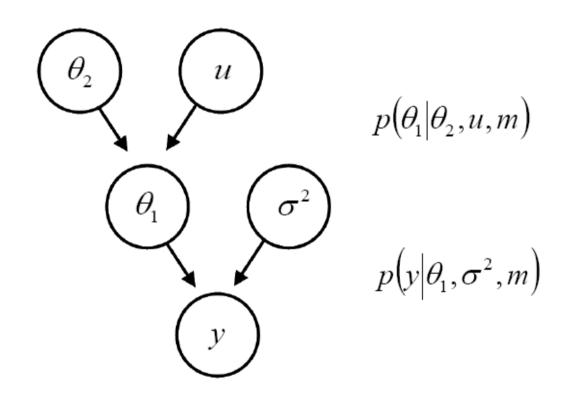
directed acyclic graphs (DAGs)









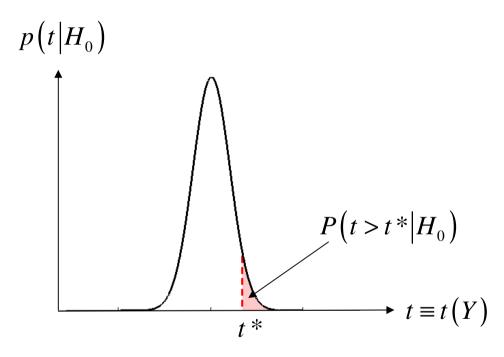


$$p(\theta|m) = \prod_{j} p(\theta_{j}|par(\theta_{j}), m)$$

## Frequentist versus Bayesian inference

a (quick) note on hypothesis testing

• define the null, e.g.:  $H_0: \theta = 0$ 



- estimate parameters (obtain test stat.)
- apply decision rule, i.e.:

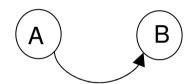
if 
$$P(t > t * | H_0) \le \alpha$$
 then reject H0

classical (null) hypothesis testing

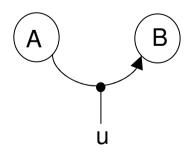
# Family-level inference

trading model resolution against statistical power

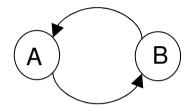
 $P(m_1|y) = 0.04$ 



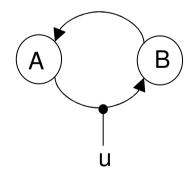
$$P(m_2|y) = 0.01$$



$$P(m_2|y) = 0.25$$



$$P(m_2|y) = 0.7$$

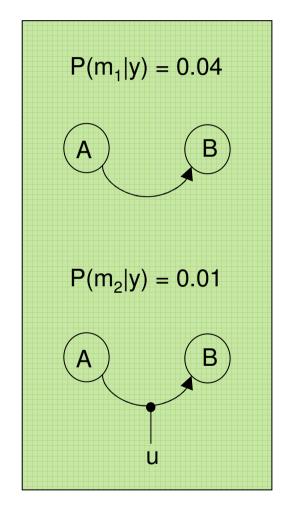


### model selection error risk:

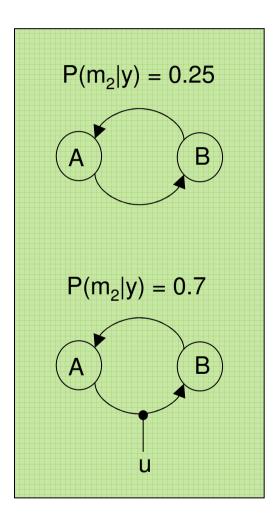
$$P(e=1|y) = 1 - \max_{m} P(m|y)$$
$$= 0.3$$

## Family-level inference

trading inference resolution against statistical power



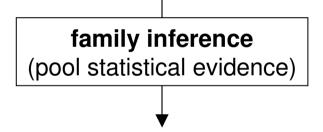
$$P(f_1|y) = 0.05$$



$$P(f_2|y) = 0.95$$

#### model selection error risk:

$$P(e=1|y) = 1 - \max_{m} P(m|y)$$
$$= 0.3$$

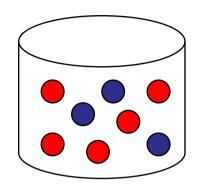


$$P(f|y) = \sum_{m \in f} P(m|y)$$

$$P(e=1|y) = 1 - \max_{f} P(f|y)$$
$$= 0.05$$

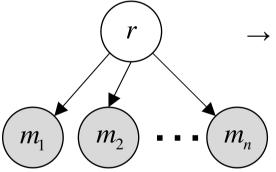
## Group-level model comparison

preliminary: Polya's urn



$$\begin{cases} m_i = 1 & \rightarrow i^{\text{th}} \text{ marble is blue} \\ m_i = 0 & \rightarrow i^{\text{th}} \text{ marble is purple} \end{cases}$$

r = proportion of blue marbles in the urn



 $\rightarrow$  (binomial) probability of drawing a set of n marbles:

$$p(m|r) = \prod_{i=1}^{n} r^{m_i} (1-r)^{1-m_i}$$

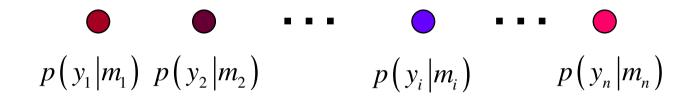
Thus, our belief about the proportion of blue marbles is:

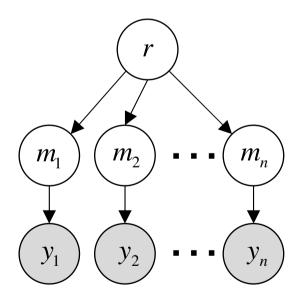
$$p(r|m) \propto p(r) \prod_{i=1}^{n} r^{m_i} (1-r)^{1-m_i} \quad \stackrel{p(r) \propto 1}{\Longrightarrow} \quad E[r|m] = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} m_i$$

## Group-level model comparison

what if we are colour blind?

At least, we can measure how likely is the  $i^{th}$  subject's data under each model!





$$p(r,m|y) \propto p(r) \prod_{i=1}^{n} p(y_i|m_i) p(m_i|r)$$

Our belief about the proportion of models is:

$$p(r|y) = \sum_{m} p(r,m|y)$$

Exceedance probability:  $\varphi_k = P(r_k > r_{k'\neq k} | y)$ 

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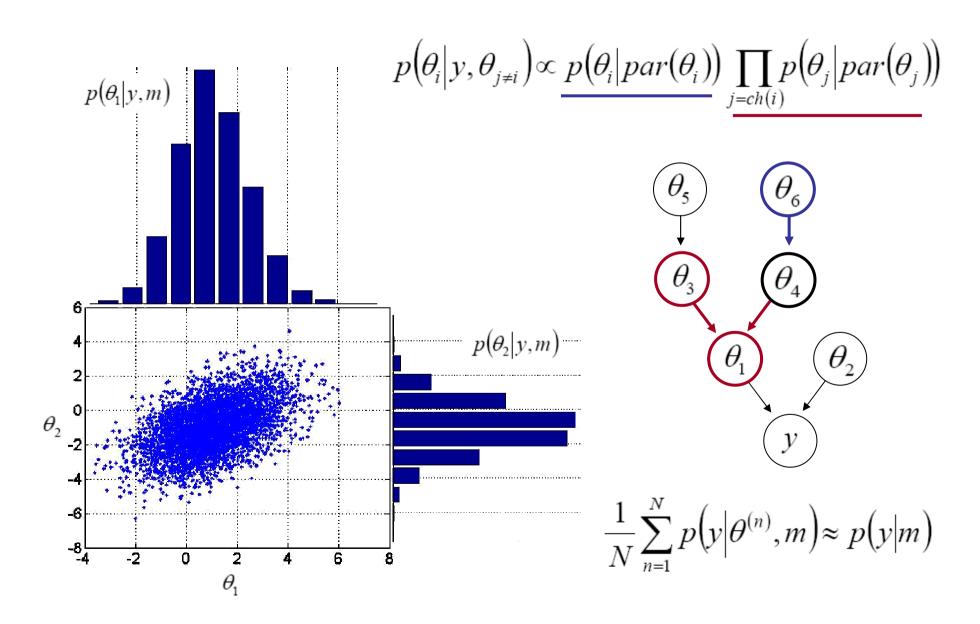
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## Sampling methods

MCMC example: Gibbs sampling

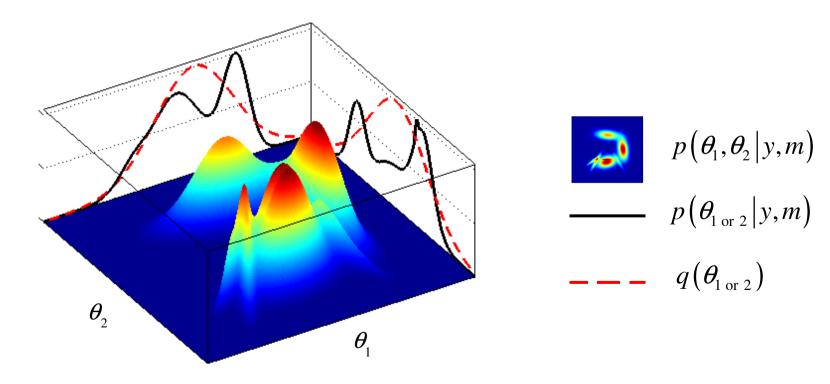


### Variational methods

VB / EM / ReML

$$\ln p(y|m) = \underbrace{\left\langle \ln p(\theta, y|m) \right\rangle_q + S(q) + D_{\mathit{KL}} \big( q(\theta); p(\theta|y, m) \big)}_{\text{free energy } F(q)}$$

 $ightharpoonup \mathbf{VB}$ : maximize the free energy F(q) w.r.t. the approximate posterior  $q(\theta)$  under some (e.g., mean field, Laplace) simplifying constraint

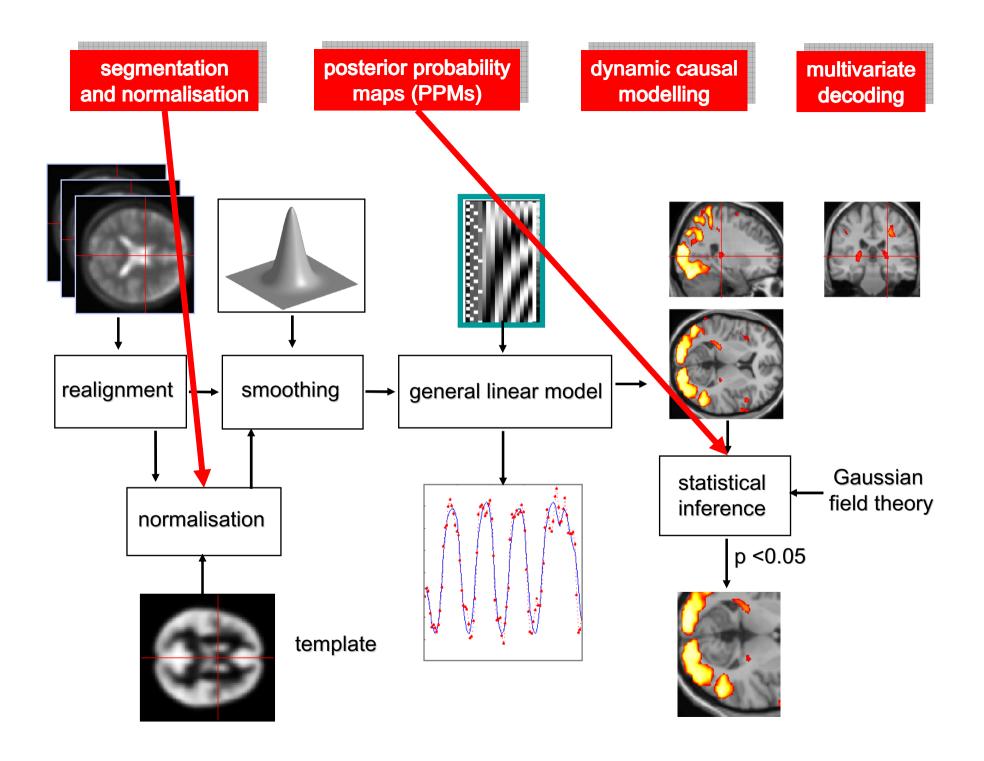


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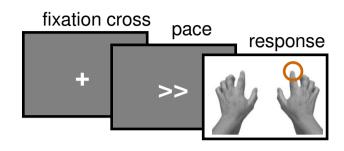
## aMRI segmentation

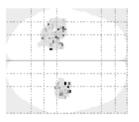
mixture of Gaussians (MoG) model

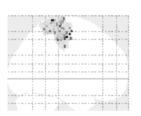
### class variances $\sigma_2$ $\sigma_{k}$ ${\cal Y}$ histogram $\sigma_{1}$ $\sigma_{\scriptscriptstyle 2}$ $\mu_1$ $\sigma_{\scriptscriptstyle 3}$ ith voxel label $\mu_{1}$ $\mu_{\scriptscriptstyle 3}$ $\mu_{\rm 2}$ $\mu_2$ class ith voxel frequencies value $\mu_k$ class means CSF white matter grey matter

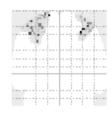
# Decoding of brain images

recognizing brain states from fMRI

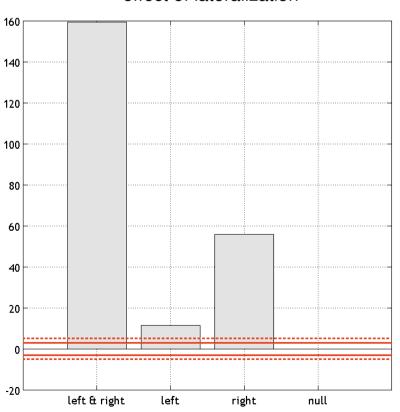




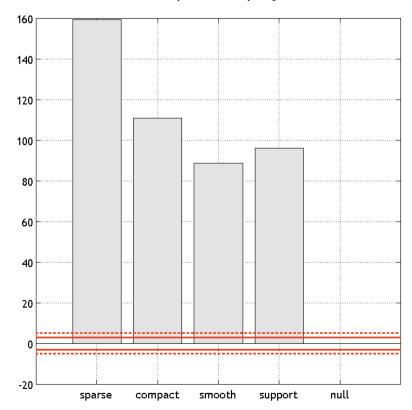




log-evidence of X-Y sparse mappings: effect of lateralization

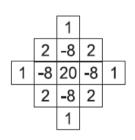


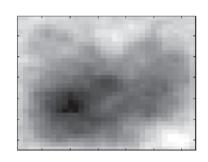
log-evidence of X-Y bilateral mappings: effect of spatial deployment



## fMRI time series analysis

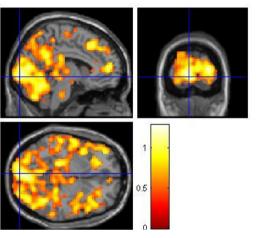
spatial priors and model comparison

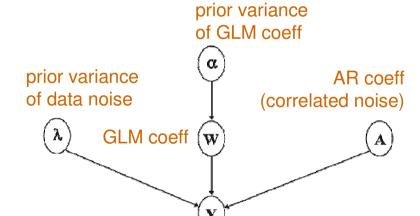




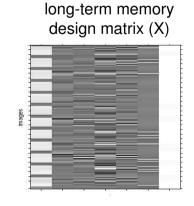
short-term memory design matrix (X)

PPM: regions best explained by short-term memory model

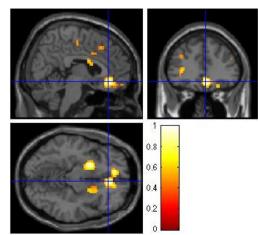




fMRI time series

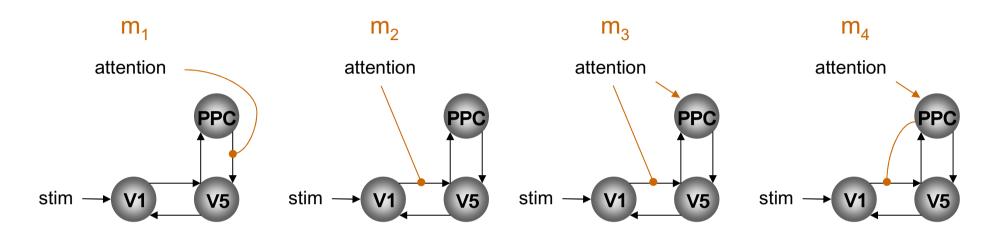


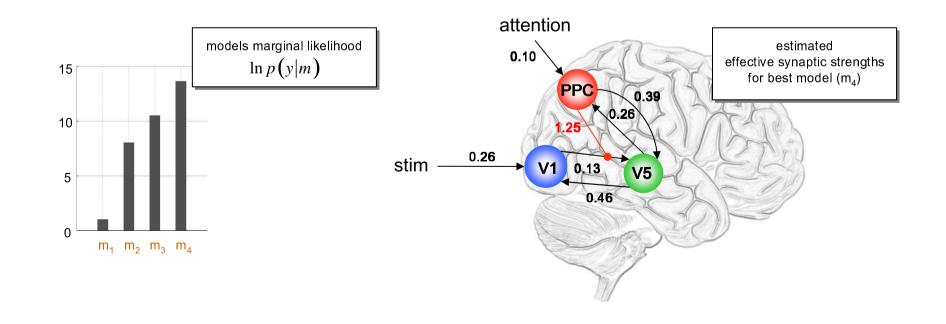
PPM: regions best explained by long-term memory model



## **Dynamic Causal Modelling**

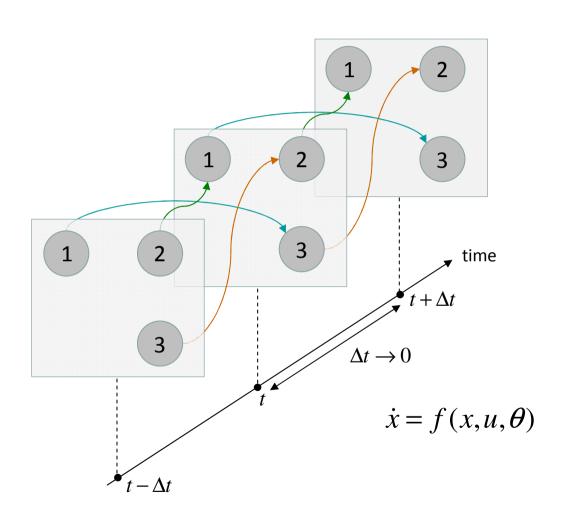
network structure identification

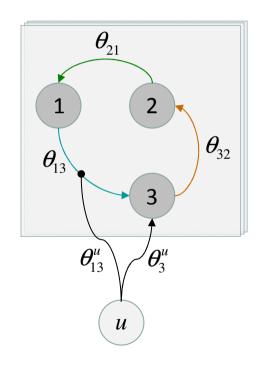


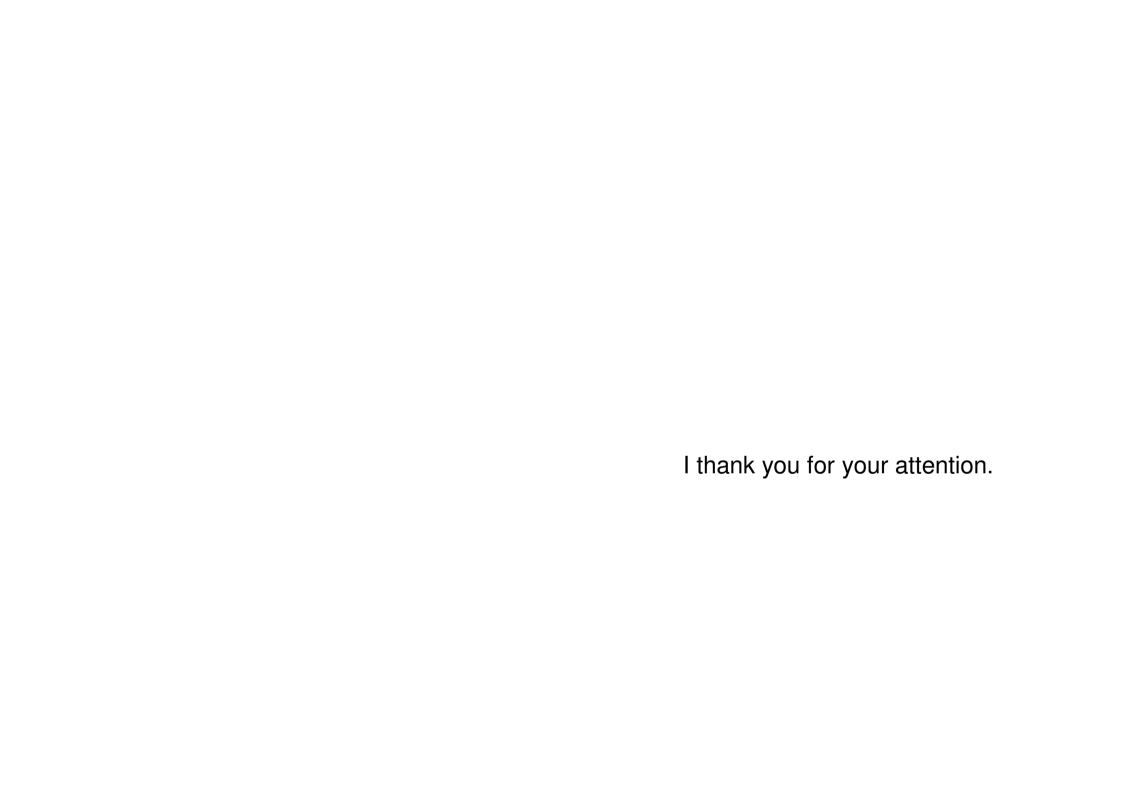


### DCMs and DAGs

a note on causality







## A note on statistical significance

lessons from the Neyman-Pearson lemma

• Neyman-Pearson lemma: the likelihood ratio (or Bayes factor) test

$$\Lambda = \frac{p(y|H_1)}{p(y|H_0)} \ge u$$

is the most powerful test of size  $\alpha = p(\Lambda \ge u | H_0)$  to test the null.

• what is the threshold u, above which the Bayes factor test yields a error I rate of 5%?

