

# Astrostatistics: Fri 26 Feb 2020

<https://github.com/CambridgeAstroStat/PartIII-Astrostatistics-2020>

- Today: continue Bayesian computation / MCMC
  - MacKay: Ch 29-30; Bishop: Ch 11; Gelman BDA
  - Givens & Hoeting. "Computational Statistics"  
(Free online through Cambridge Library iDiscover)
- Lecture MCMC code examples online: lecture\_codes/
- Example Class 3: currently Thu, 5 March 3:30pm —> Move to:
  - Thursday, 12 March, 3:30pm (room?)
  - Friday, 13 Mar, 12pm, MR5
  - Wed, 11 Mar, pm (MR11)?

# Overview of Markov Chain Monte Carlo (MCMC)

- Markov Chain Monte Carlo (MCMC)
  - Metropolis-Hastings algorithm
  - Gibbs sampling
  - Metropolis-within-Gibbs
- Comparing performance of MCMC algorithms
  - Autocorrelation time
  - Effective Sample Size
- Gibbs Sampling as Metropolis-Hastings
- Detailed Balance & theoretical considerations

# Metropolis-within-Gibbs

$$\boldsymbol{\theta} = (\theta_1 \dots \theta_d) \quad \boldsymbol{\theta}_{-j} \equiv (\theta_1, \dots \theta_{j-1}, \theta_{j+1} \dots \theta_d)$$

- When you can't solve for tractable conditional distributions for all  $\theta_j$ :  $P(\theta_j | \boldsymbol{\theta}_{-j}, \mathcal{D})$
- Replace each substep for updating each jth parameter  $\theta_j$  with a separate Metropolis rule, compute Metropolis ratio, and accept/reject
- Cycle through all parameters, and repeat all for N MCMC steps

# d-dim Metropolis-within-Gibbs Sampler

$$\boldsymbol{\theta} = (\theta_1 \dots \theta_d) \quad \boldsymbol{\theta}_{-j}^t \equiv (\theta_1^{t+1}, \dots, \theta_{j-1}^{t+1}, \theta_{j+1}^t, \dots, \theta_d^t)$$

1. Choose a random starting point  $\boldsymbol{\theta}_0$

2. At cycle  $t = 1 \dots N$ , cycle through the d-parameters:

A. For each  $j = 1 \dots d$ , propose a new  $j$ -th parameter value from a 1-Dimensional Gaussian:

$$\theta_j^* \sim N(\theta_j^t, \tau_j^2)$$

B. Evaluate ratio of posteriors at proposed vs current values:

$$\begin{aligned} r &= P(\theta_j^*, \boldsymbol{\theta}_{-j}^t | \mathbf{D}) / P(\theta_j^t, \boldsymbol{\theta}_{-j}^t | \mathbf{D}) \\ &= P(\theta_j^* | \boldsymbol{\theta}_{-j}^t, \mathbf{D}) / P(\theta_j^t | \boldsymbol{\theta}_{-j}^t, \mathbf{D}) \end{aligned}$$

C. Accept  $\theta_j^{t+1} = \theta_j^*$  with prob  $\min(r, 1)$ , otherwise  $\theta_j^{t+1} = \theta_j^t$

3. After full cycle, record current values  $\boldsymbol{\theta}^{t+1}$

4. Repeat steps 2 for all parameters until convergence and enough samples

# Metropolis-within-Gibbs Sampling: Example: Gelman BDA Section 11.1)

Likelihood:  $\mathbf{y} = \begin{pmatrix} y_1 \\ y_2 \end{pmatrix} \sim N \left( \begin{pmatrix} \theta_1 \\ \theta_2 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 1 & \rho \\ \rho & 1 \end{pmatrix} \right) \quad \rho \text{ known}$

Priors:  $P(\theta_1) = P(\theta_2) \propto 1$

Posterior:  $\begin{pmatrix} \theta_1 \\ \theta_2 \end{pmatrix} \mid \mathbf{y} \sim N \left( \begin{pmatrix} y_1 \\ y_2 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 1 & \rho \\ \rho & 1 \end{pmatrix} \right)$

Suppose we can't solve for the Conditional Posteriors.

# Metropolis-within-Gibbs Sampling: Code Demo

## metropolisgibbs\_example.m

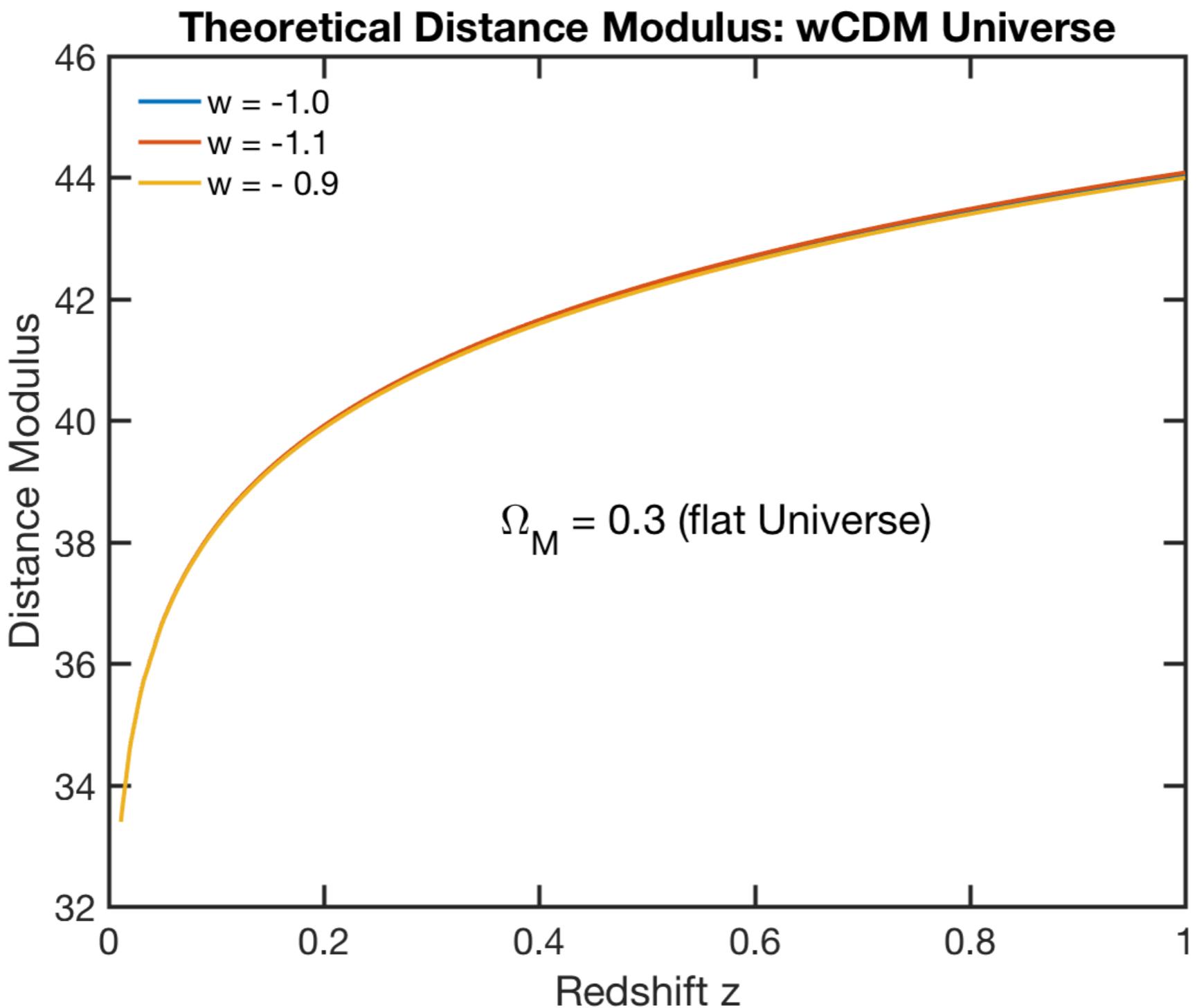
demo different  $\rho$ 's

# Supernova Cosmology Case Study:

Now assume flat Universe

$$\Omega_L = 1 - \Omega_M$$

but unknown  $\mathcal{M}_0, \sigma_{\text{int}}^2, \Omega_M, w$

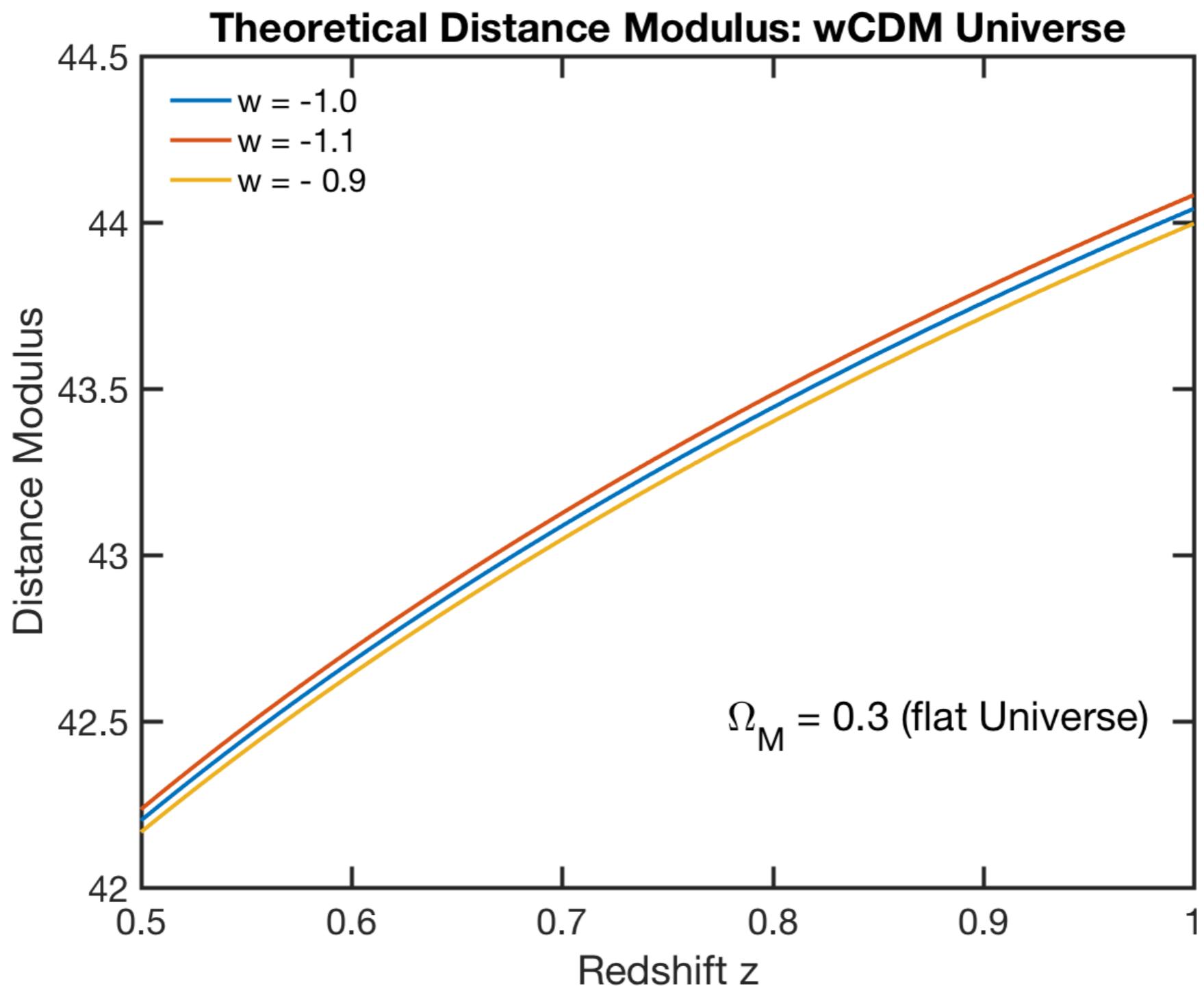


## Supernova Cosmology Case Study:

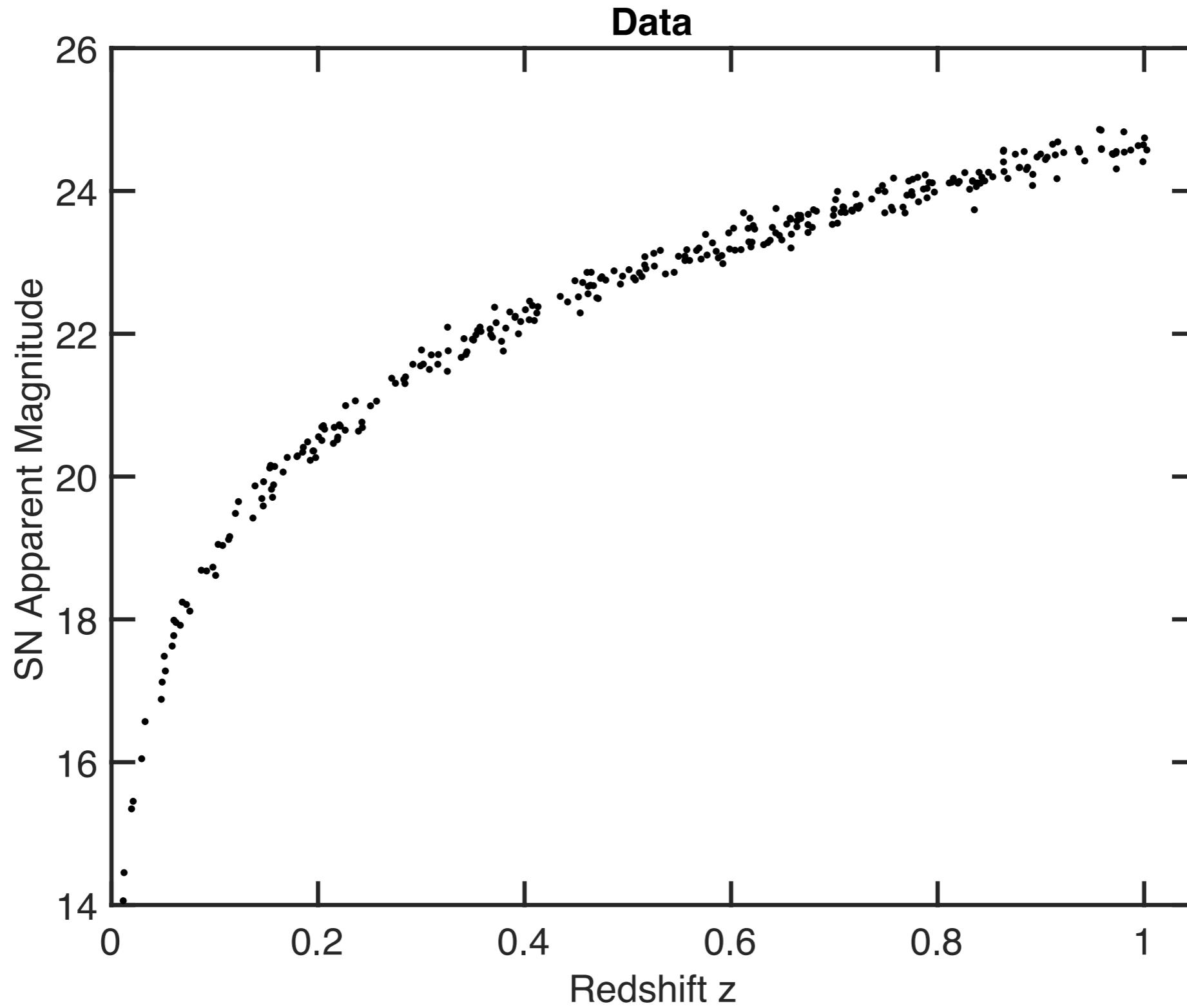
Now assume flat Universe

$$\Omega_L = 1 - \Omega_M$$

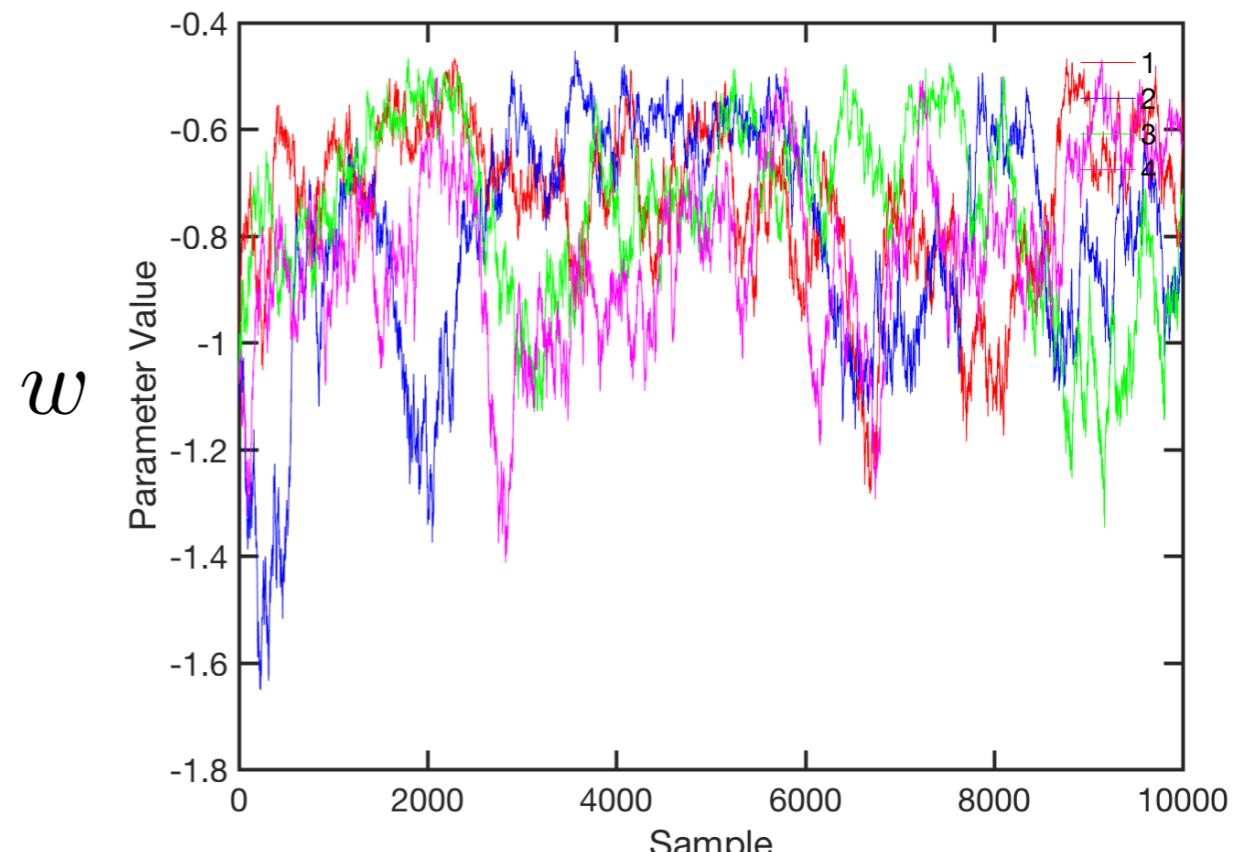
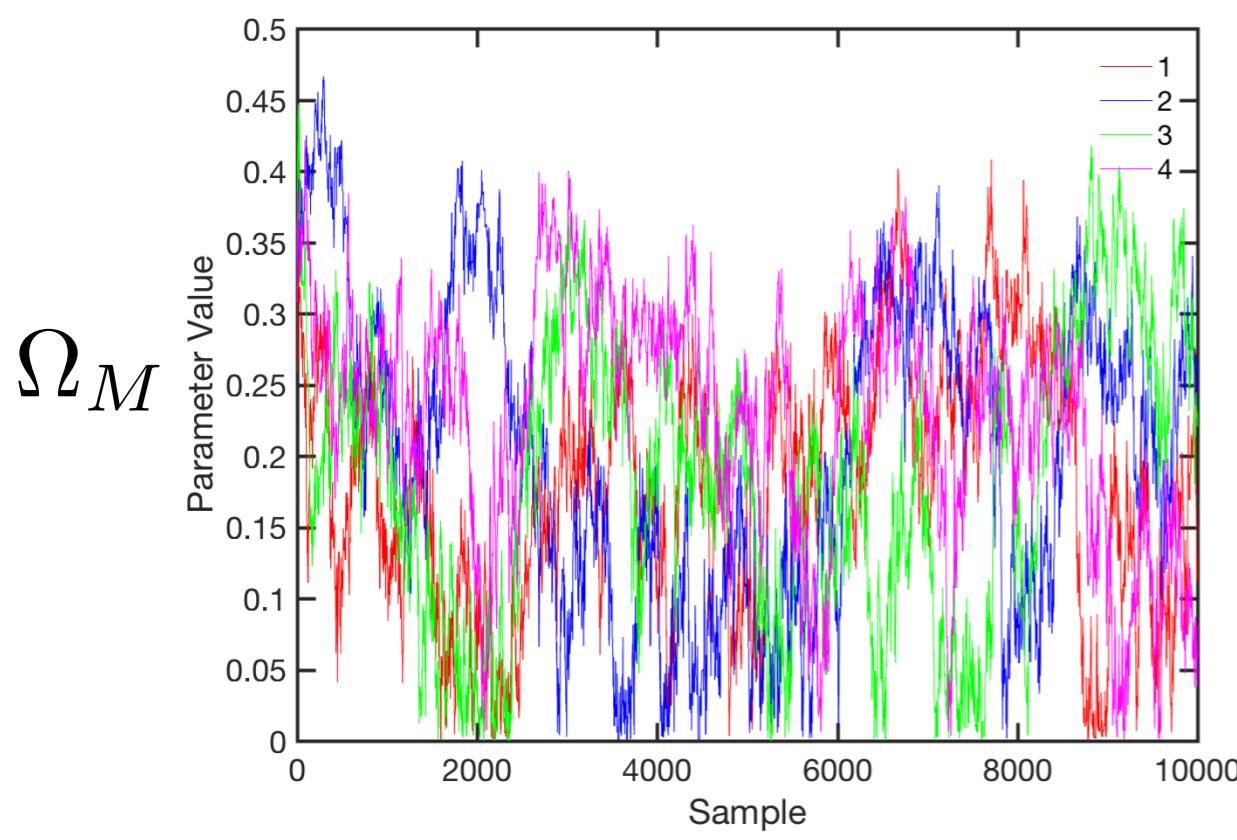
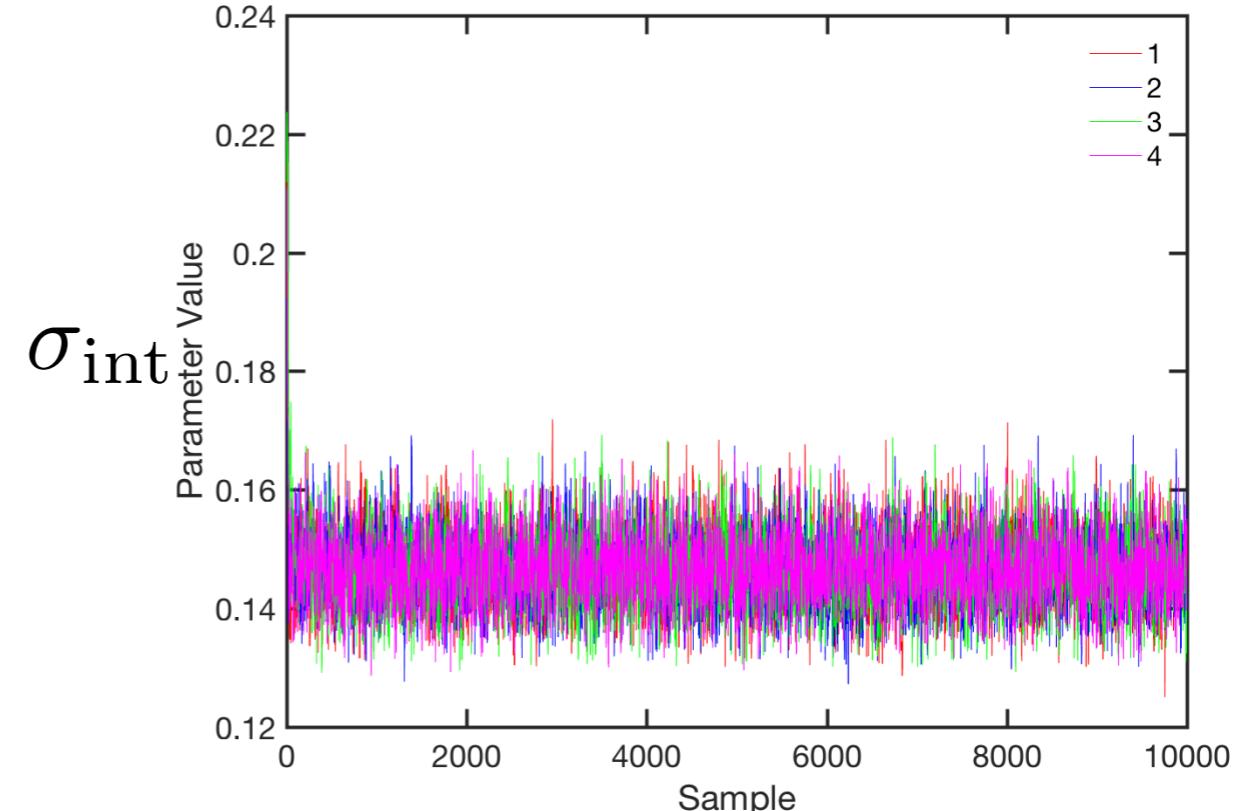
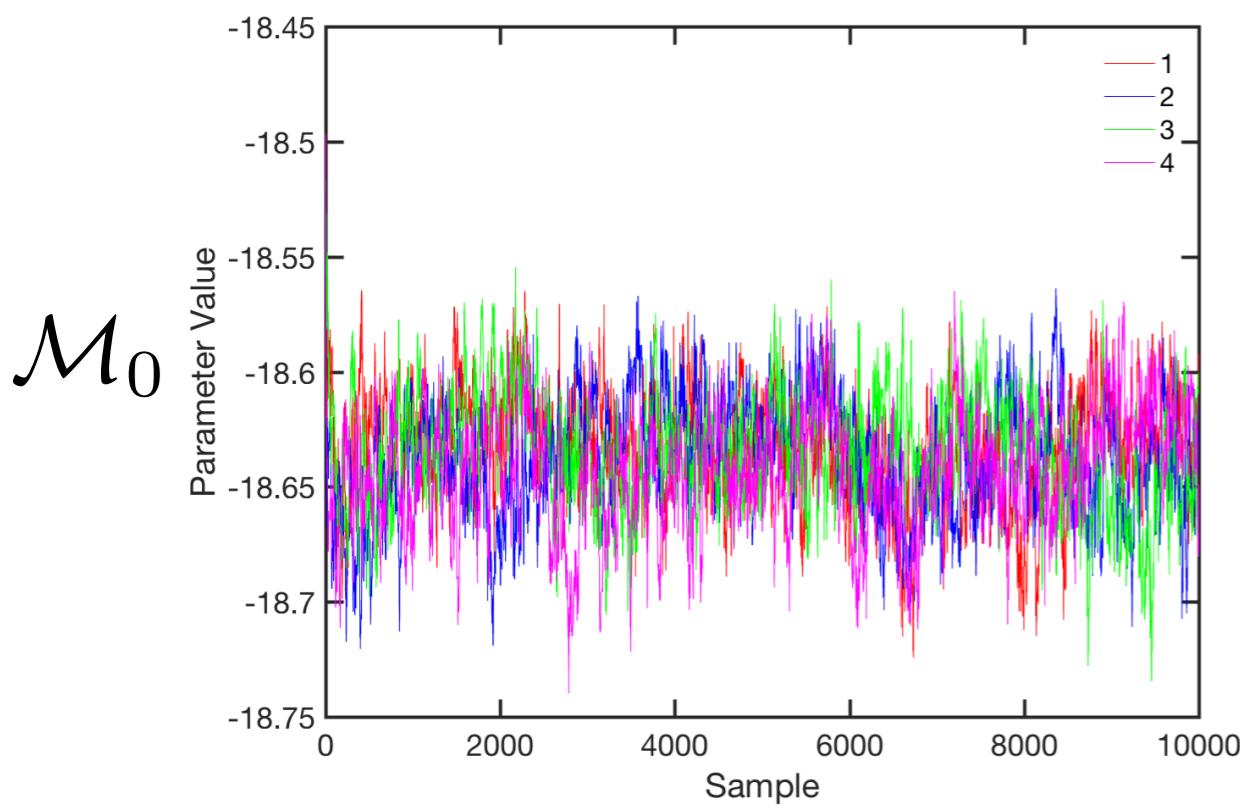
but unknown  $\mathcal{M}_0, \sigma_{\text{int}}^2, \Omega_M, w$



# Idealised supernova dataset

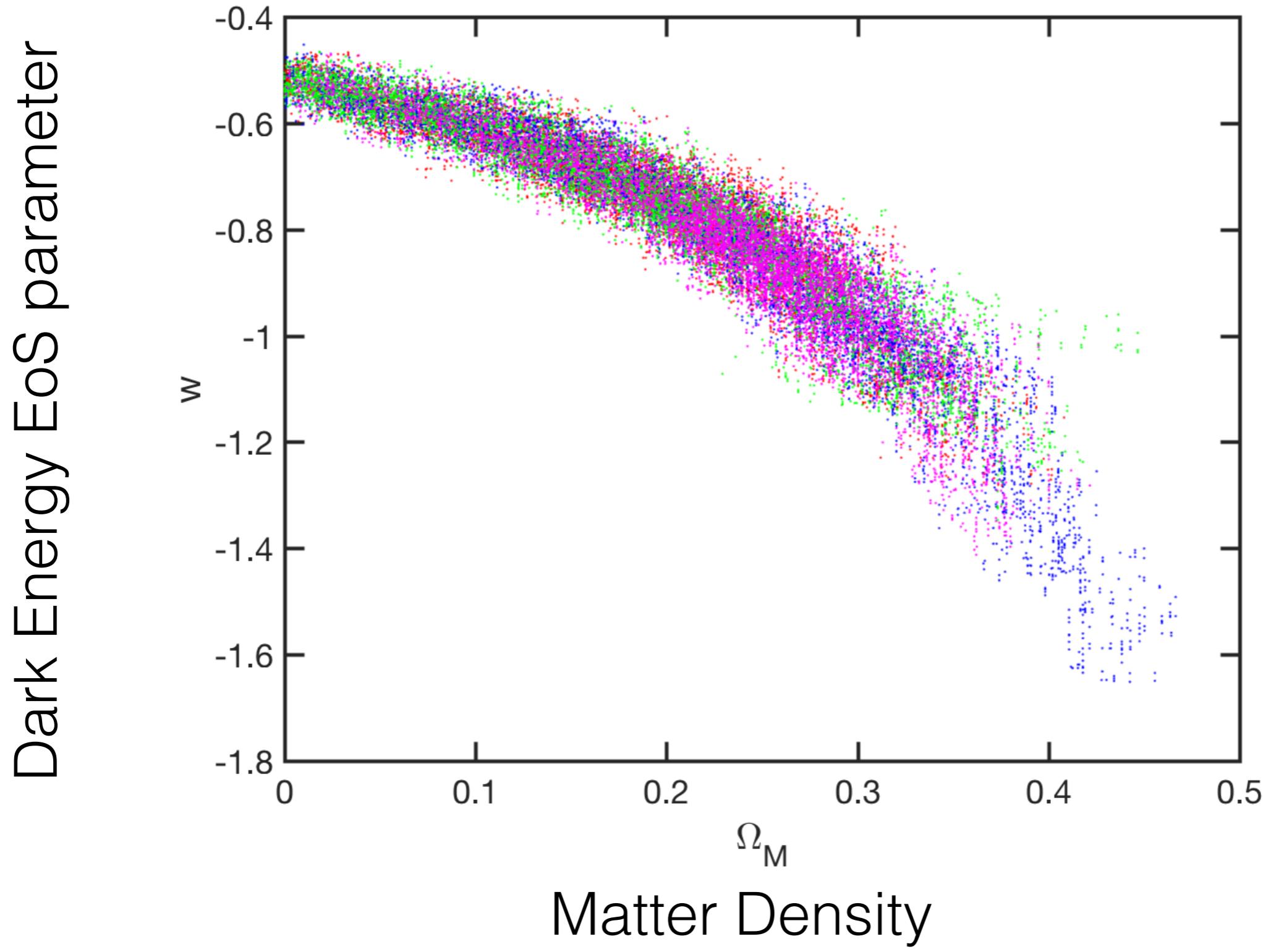


# 4x1D Metropolis-within-Gibbs: Trace paths 10k cycles, 4 chains



# Metropolis-within-Gibbs: 2D trace plot

## 10,000 steps, 4 chain



# Highly correlated parameters

```
>> std(mc)
```

```
ans =
```

```
0.0249    0.0061    0.0953    0.1742
```

```
>> corr(mc)
```

```
|  
ans =
```

1.0000	-0.0132	-0.4534	0.6653
-0.0132	1.0000	0.0290	-0.0282
-0.4534	0.0290	1.0000	-0.9337
0.6653	-0.0282	-0.9337	1.0000

Strong  
anti-correlation  
btw

$\Omega_M, w$

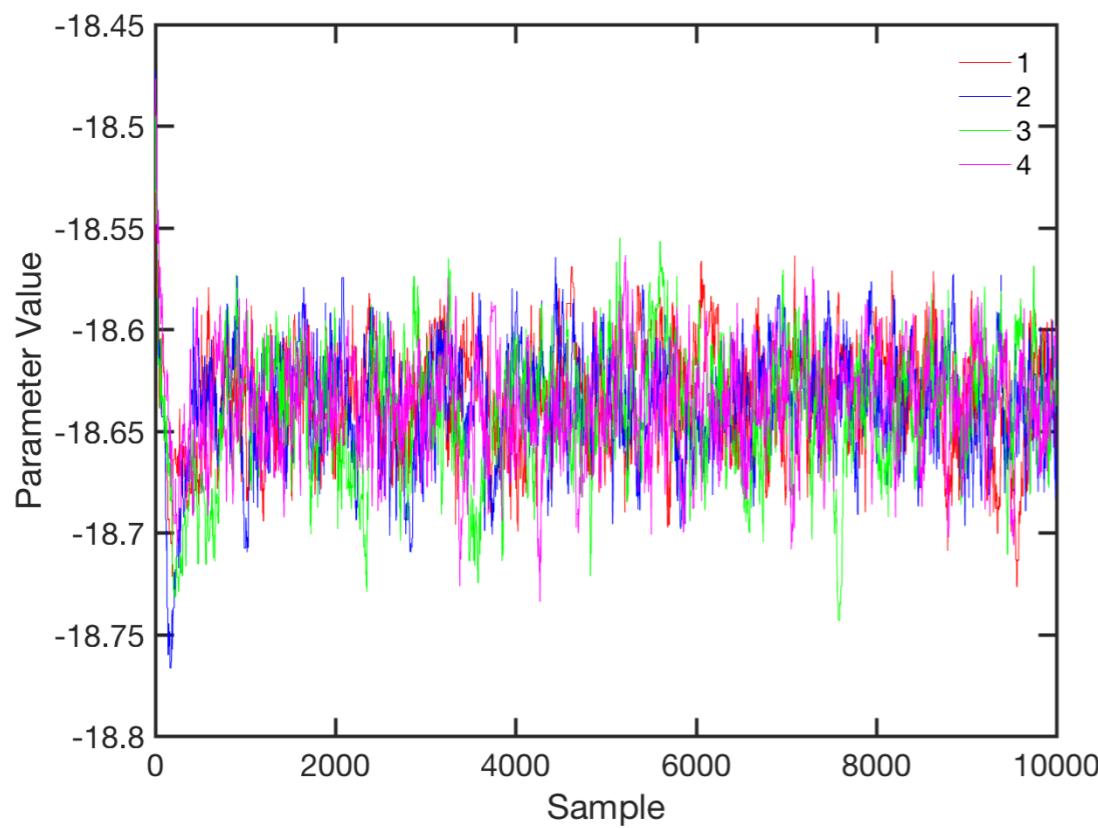


But can use as a correlated proposal distribution in  
4D Metropolis! (show code, why better?)

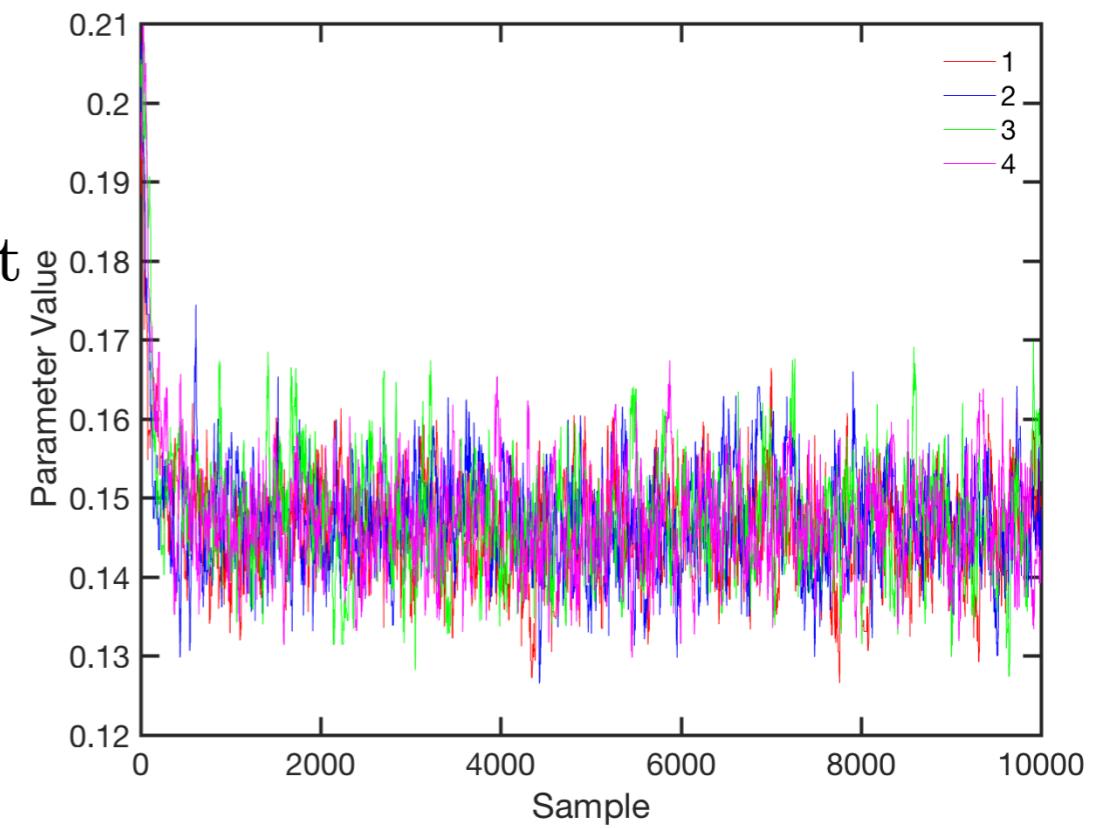
# 4D Metropolis: Trace paths 10k cycles, 4 chains

## Better!

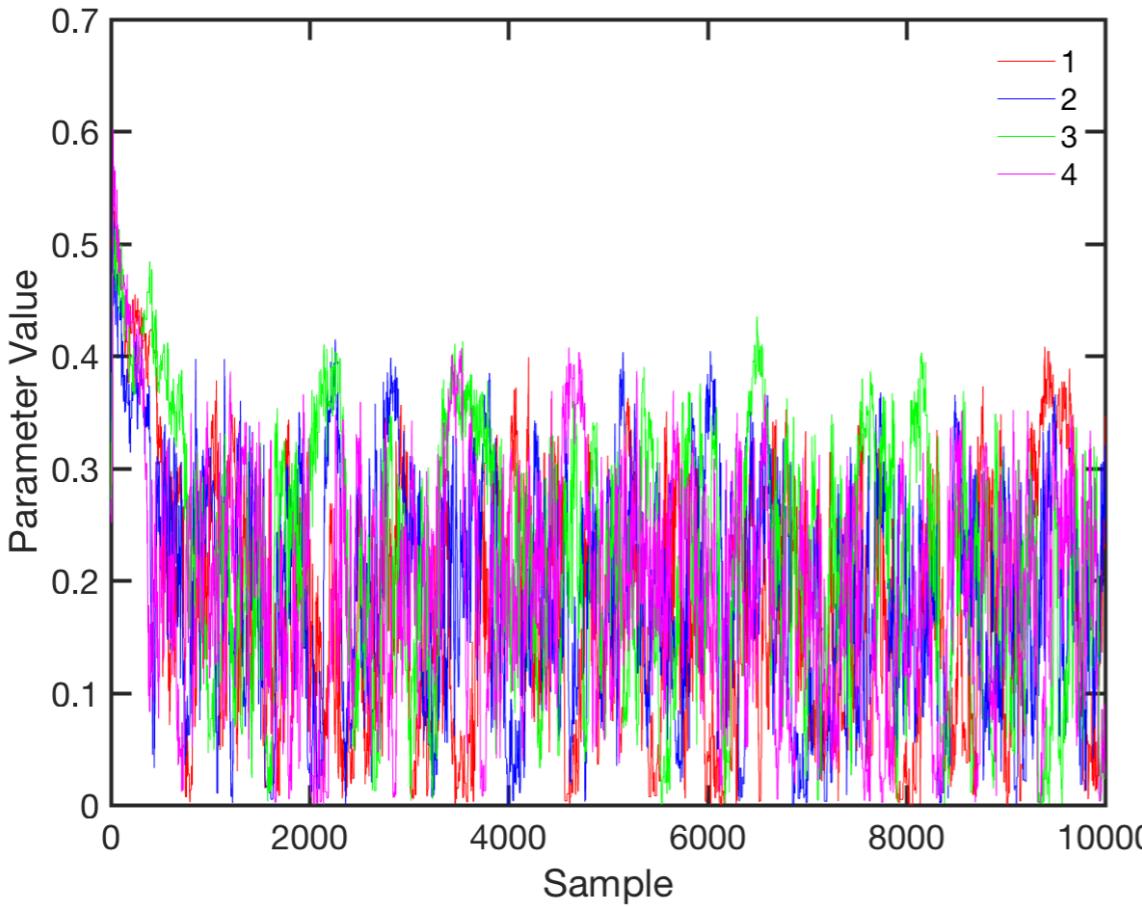
$\mathcal{M}_0$



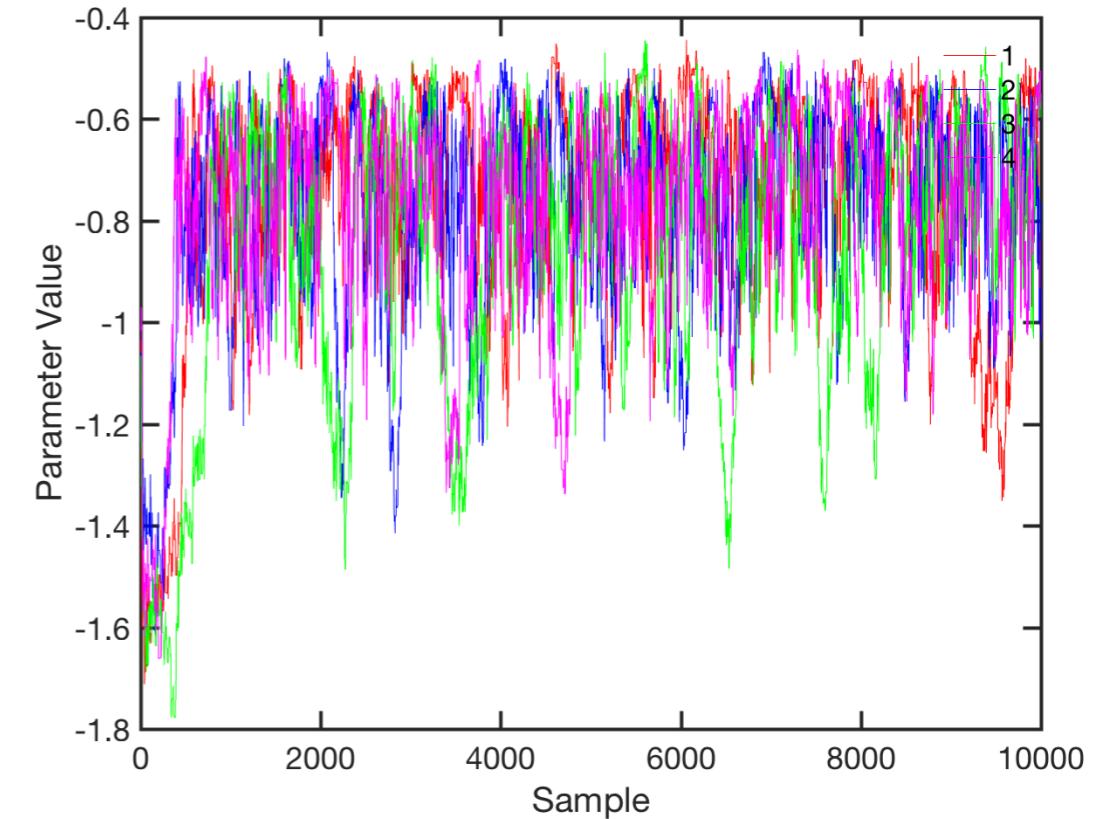
$\sigma_{\text{int}}$



$\Omega_M$



$w$



# Autocorrelation function

For each scalar parameter  $\theta$

$$\hat{\rho}_t = C_t / C_0 \quad \text{Sample Autocorrelation of lag } t$$

$$C_t = \frac{1}{N - t - 1} \sum_{i=1}^{N-t} (\theta_i - \bar{\theta})(\theta_{i+t} - \bar{\theta})$$

$C_0$  = Sample Variance of  $\theta$

$$\tau = 1 + 2 \sum_{t=1}^{\infty} \rho_t \quad \text{Autocorrelation time}$$

# Effective Sample Size

$$\hat{\tau} = 1 + 2 \sum_{t=1}^T \hat{\rho}_t \quad \text{Estimated Autocorr time}$$

Truncate at  $T$  lags, so that  $\hat{\rho}_T \approx 0.1$

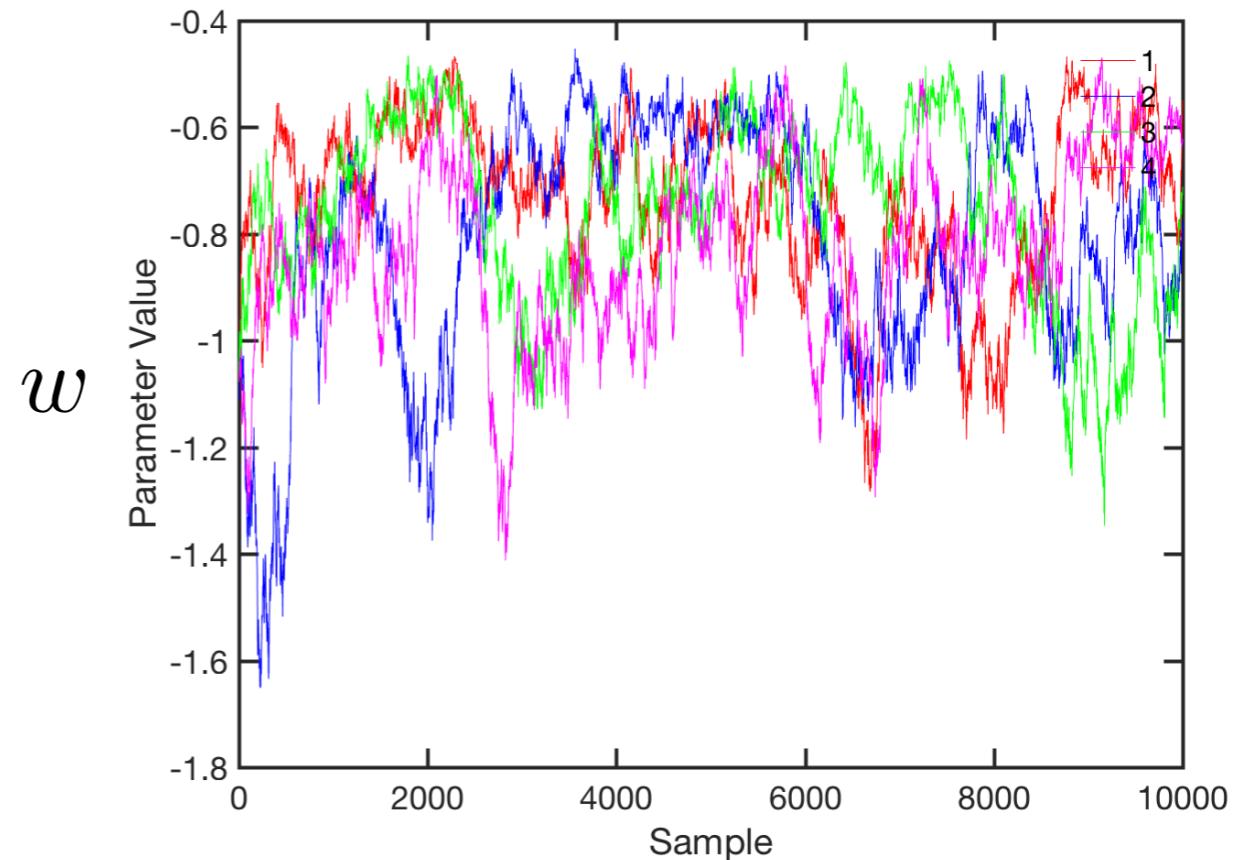
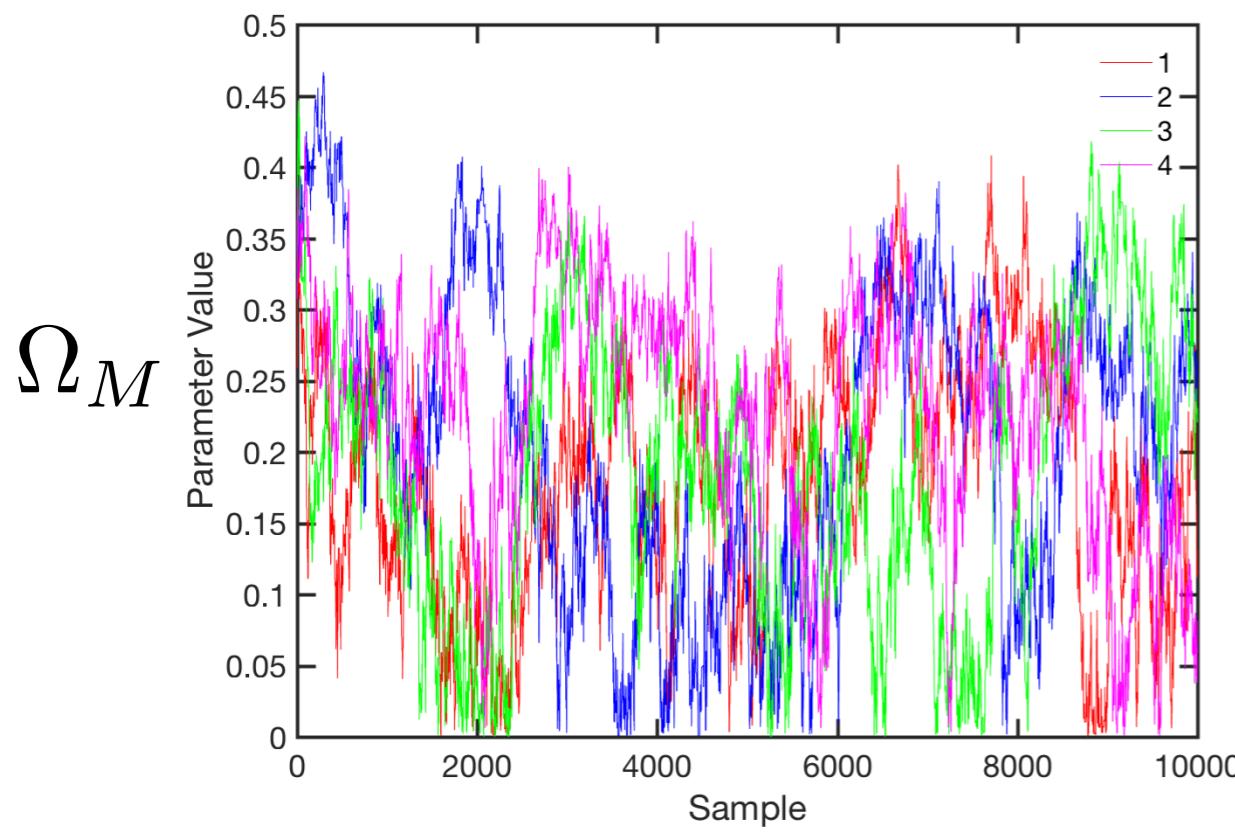
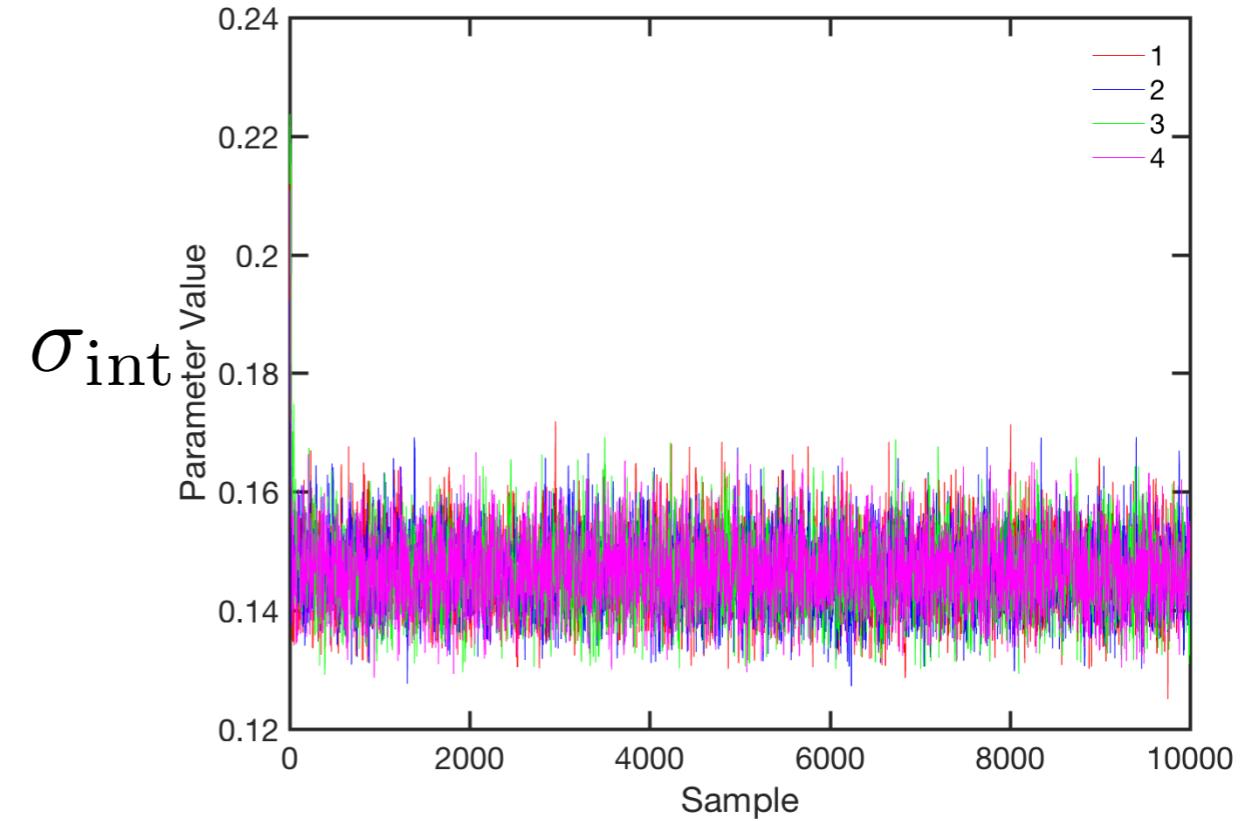
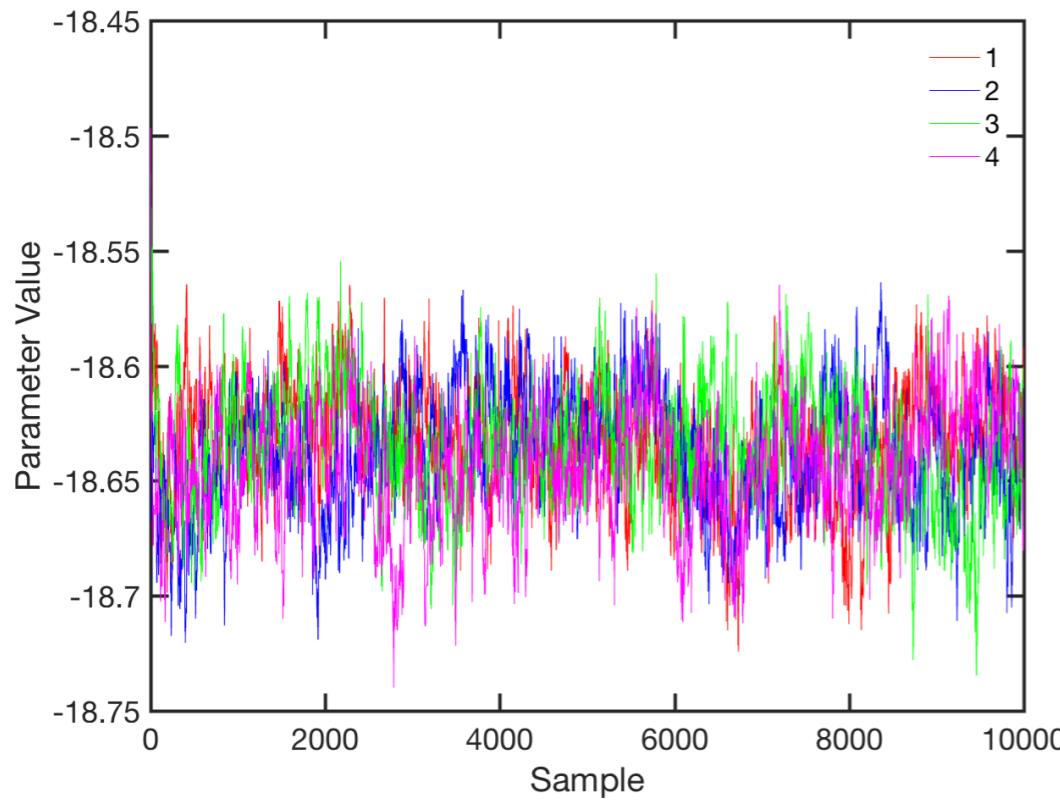
Effective number of independent samples

$$N_{\text{eff}} = N/\hat{\tau}$$

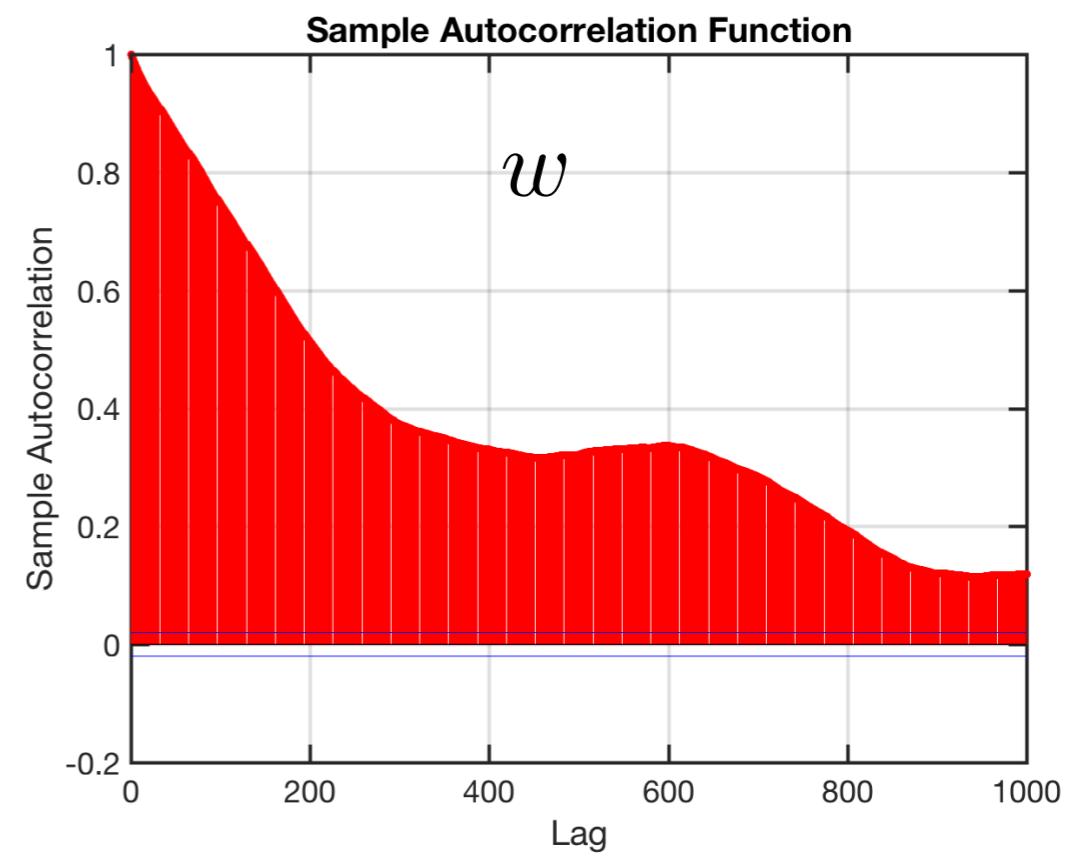
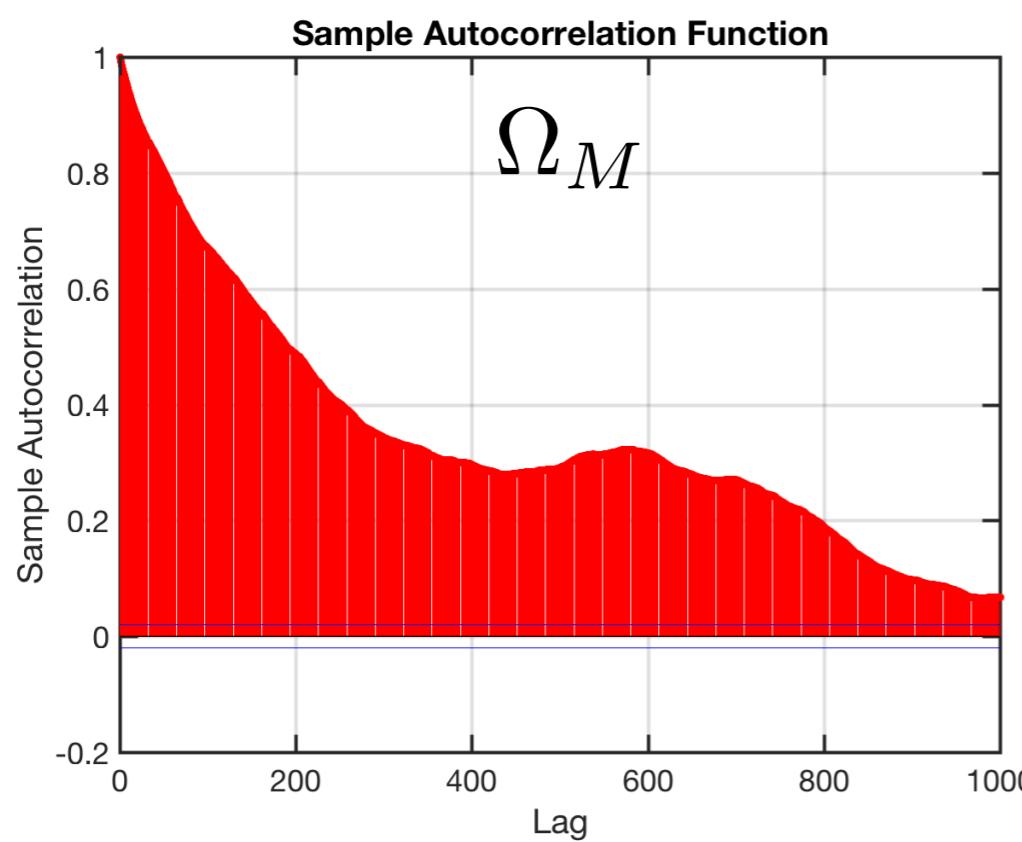
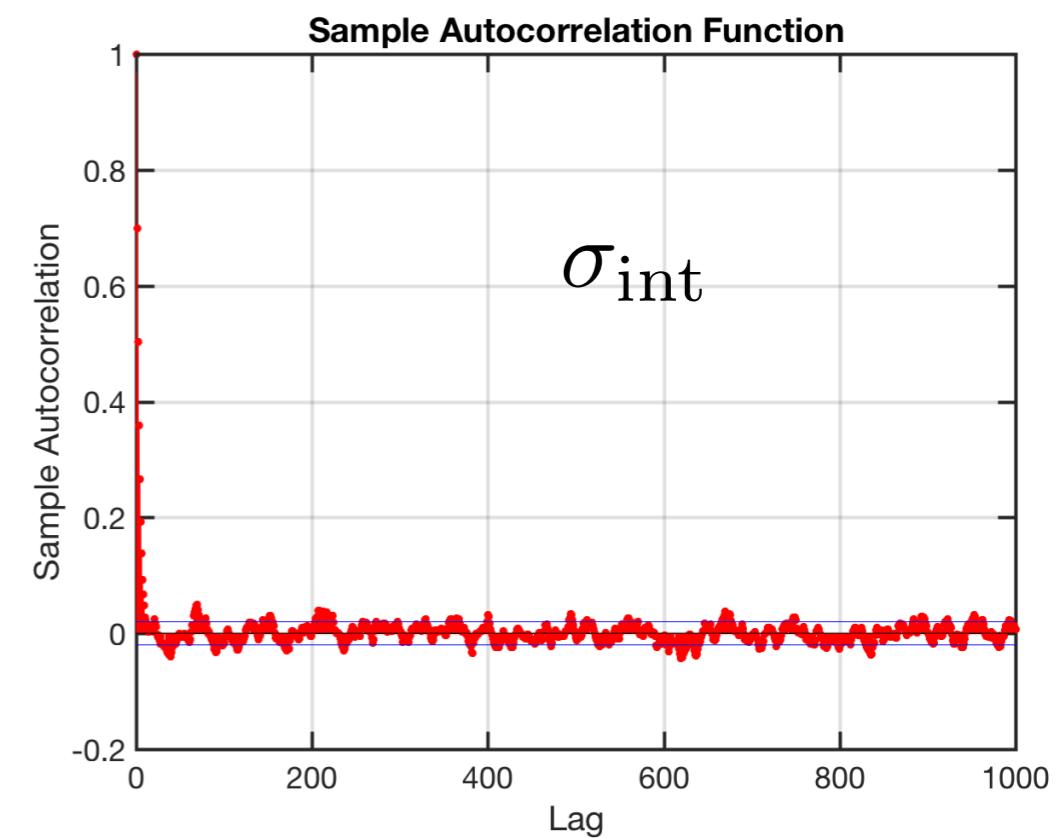
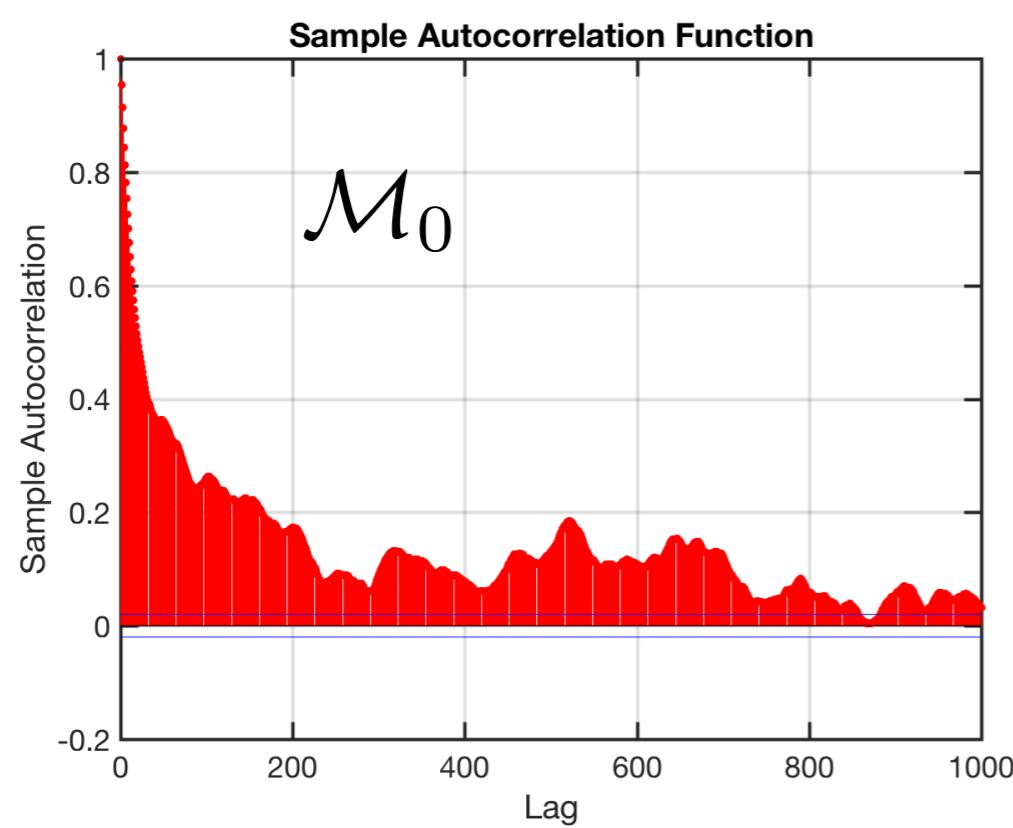
Can be computed for a single chain  
(see Gelman BDA 3rd for multi-chain generalisation)

Slowest parameter is the limiting one!

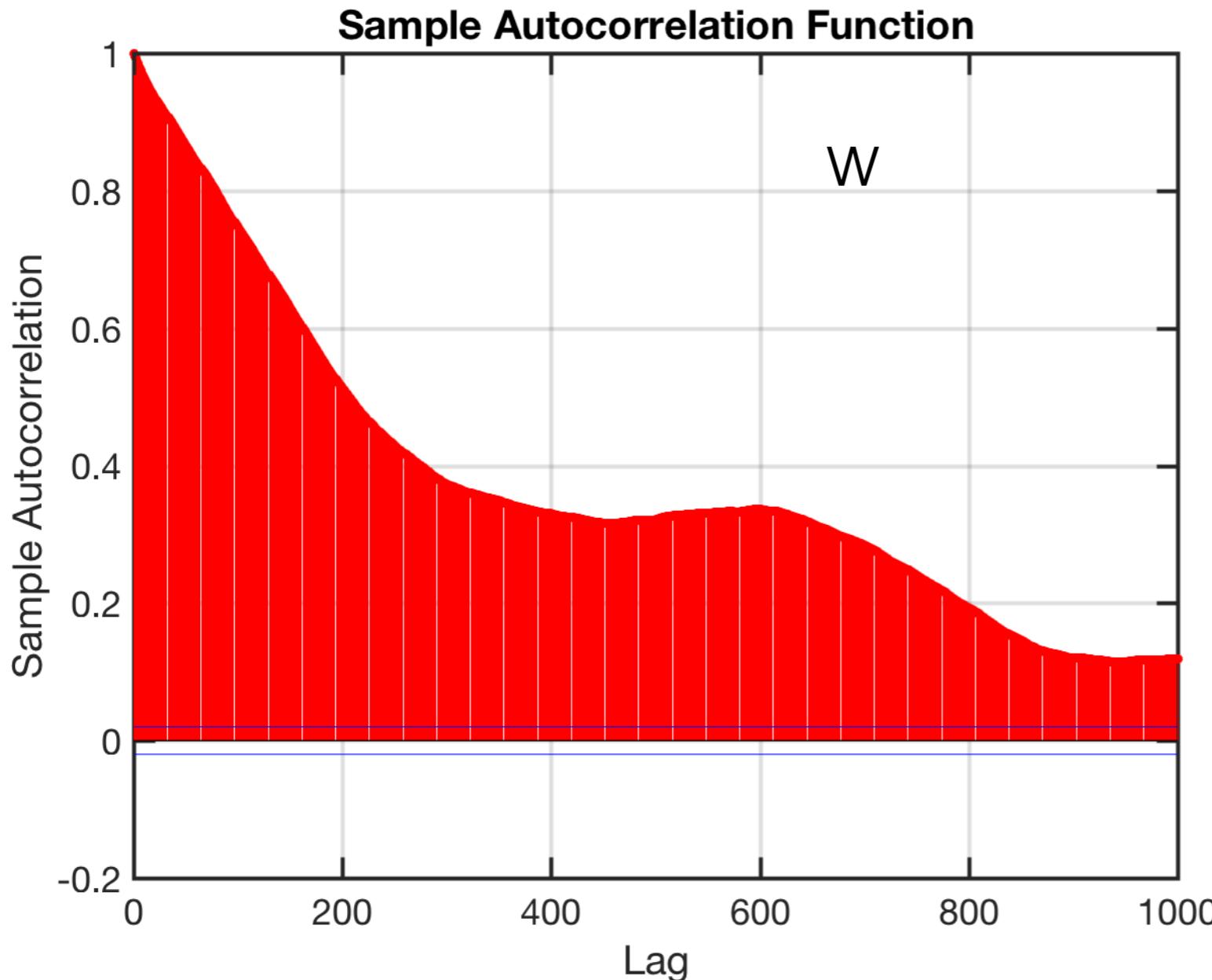
# MwG: Trace paths 10k cycles, 4 chains slow convergence (especially w)!



# Corrected MwG: Autocorr over 1000 lags



# Metrop-w/in-Gibbs: autocorrelation fcn of w (slowest mixing parameter)



$$\hat{\tau} = 1 + 2 \sum_{t=1}^T \hat{\rho}_t$$

$$\hat{\tau} = 751 \text{ cycles}$$

(single chain)

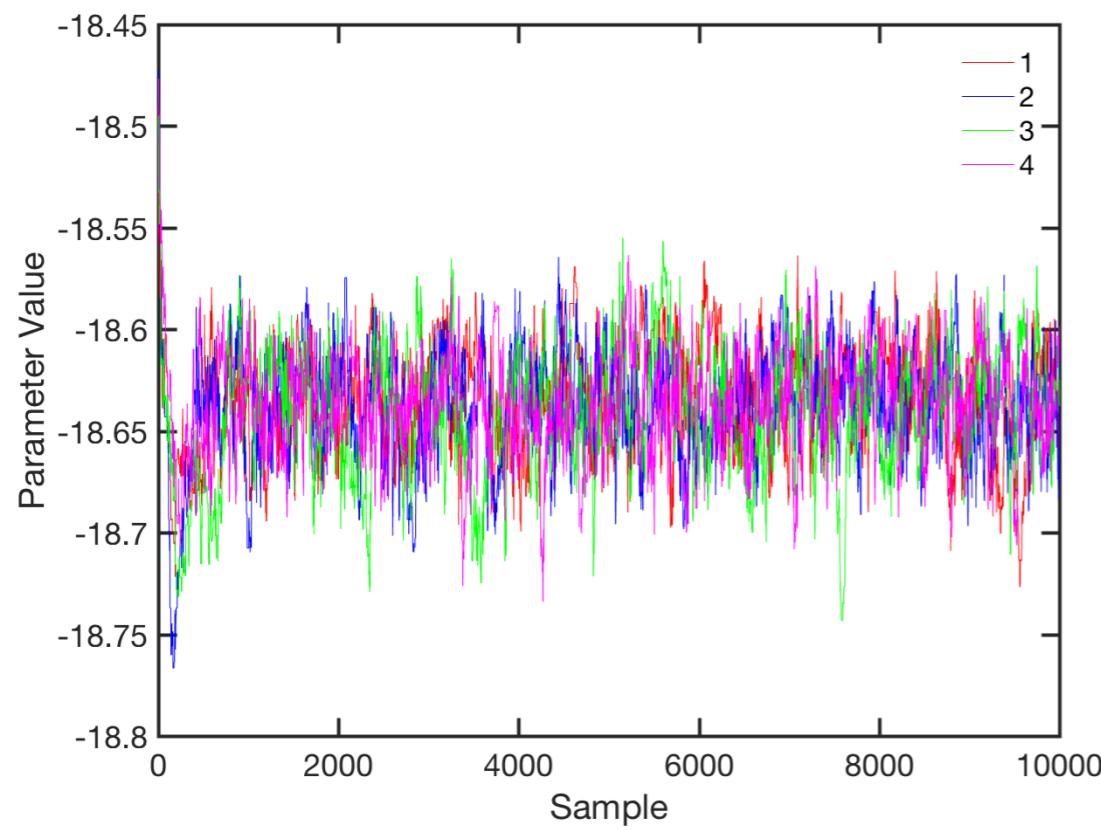
$$N_{\text{eff}} = 10,000 / 751 = 13 \text{ indep. samples}$$

$$\text{Rate} = 552 \text{ sec} / 13 = 42.5 \text{ sec per independent sample}$$

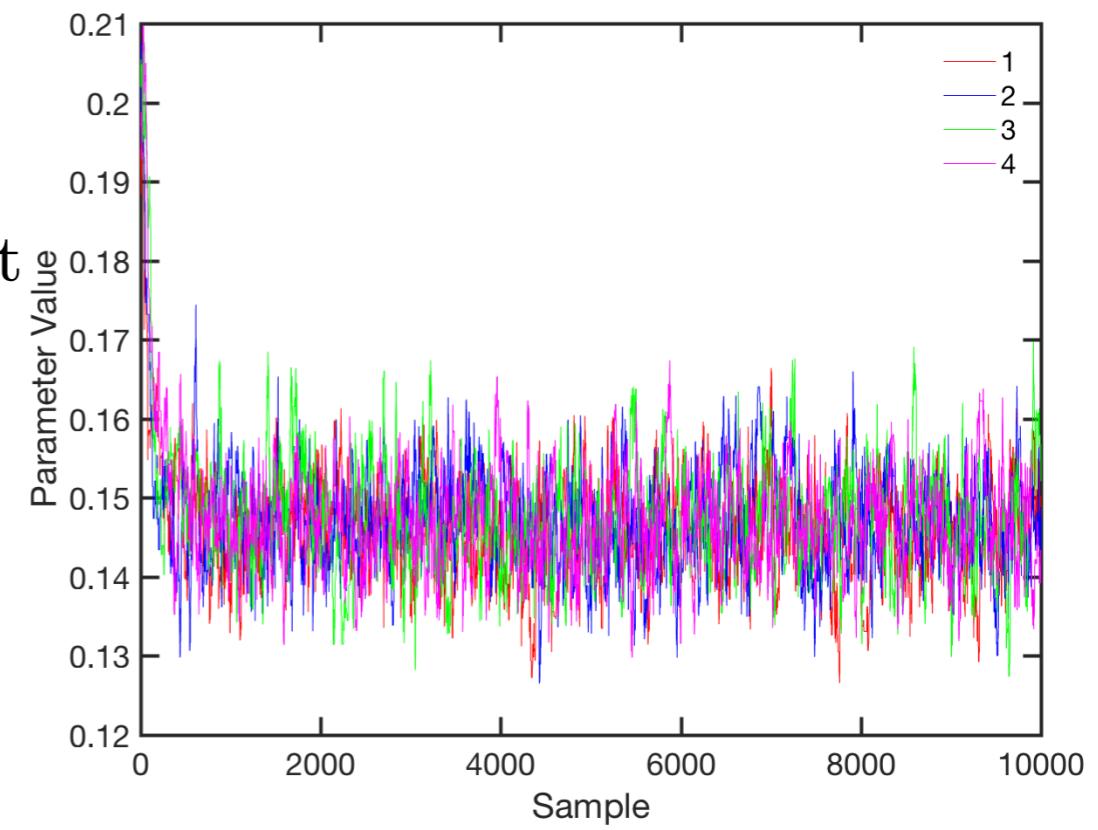
# 4D Metropolis: Trace paths 10k cycles, 4 chains

## Better!

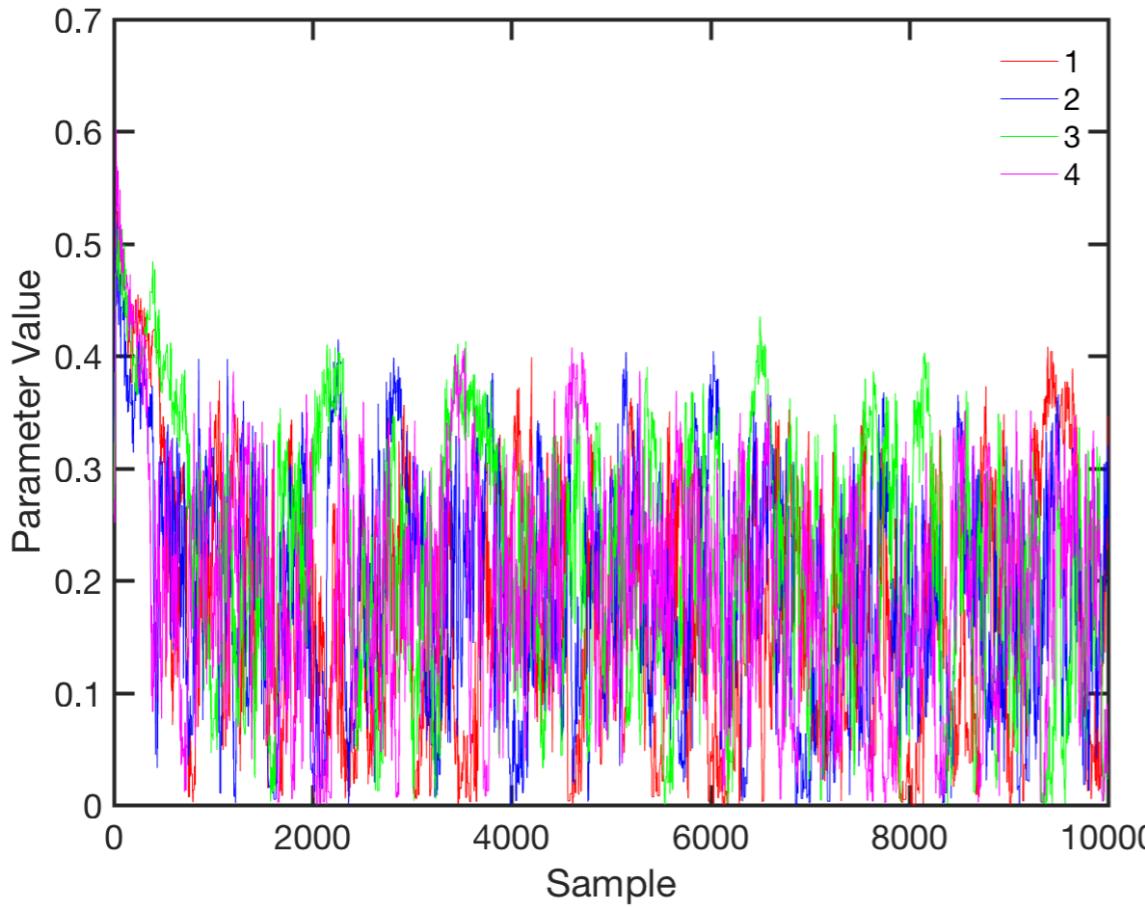
$\mathcal{M}_0$



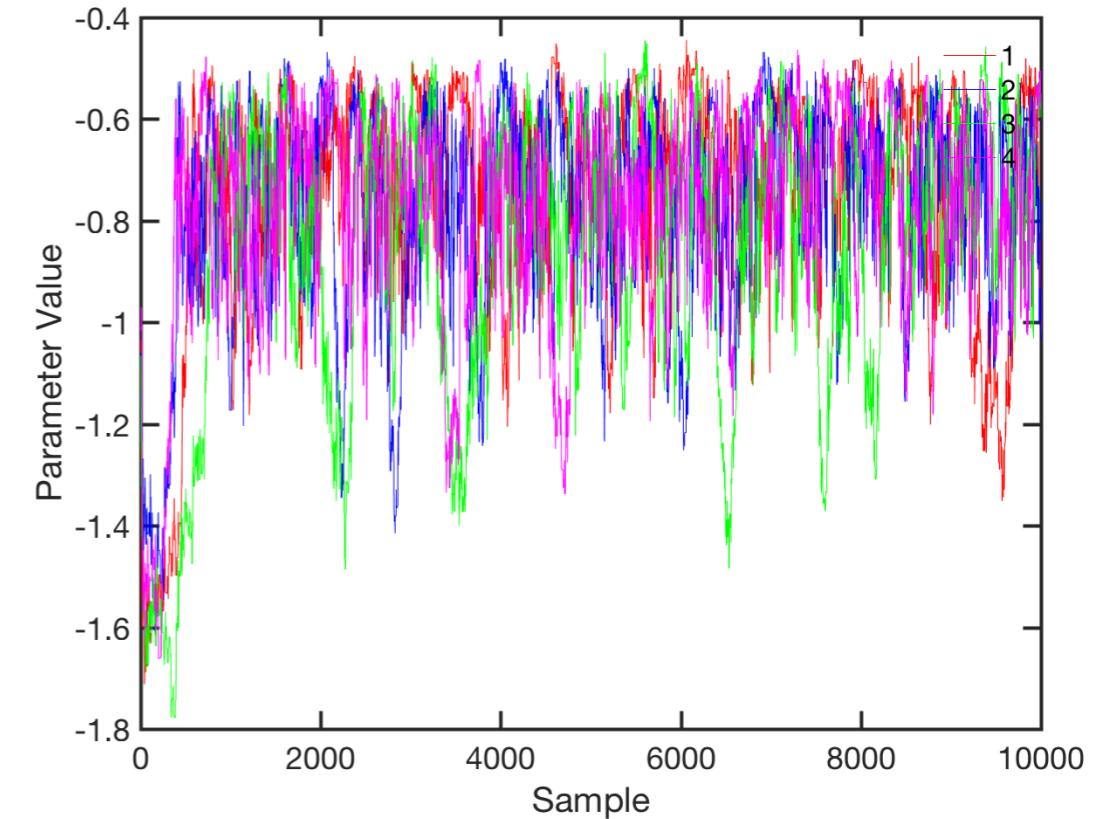
$\sigma_{\text{int}}$



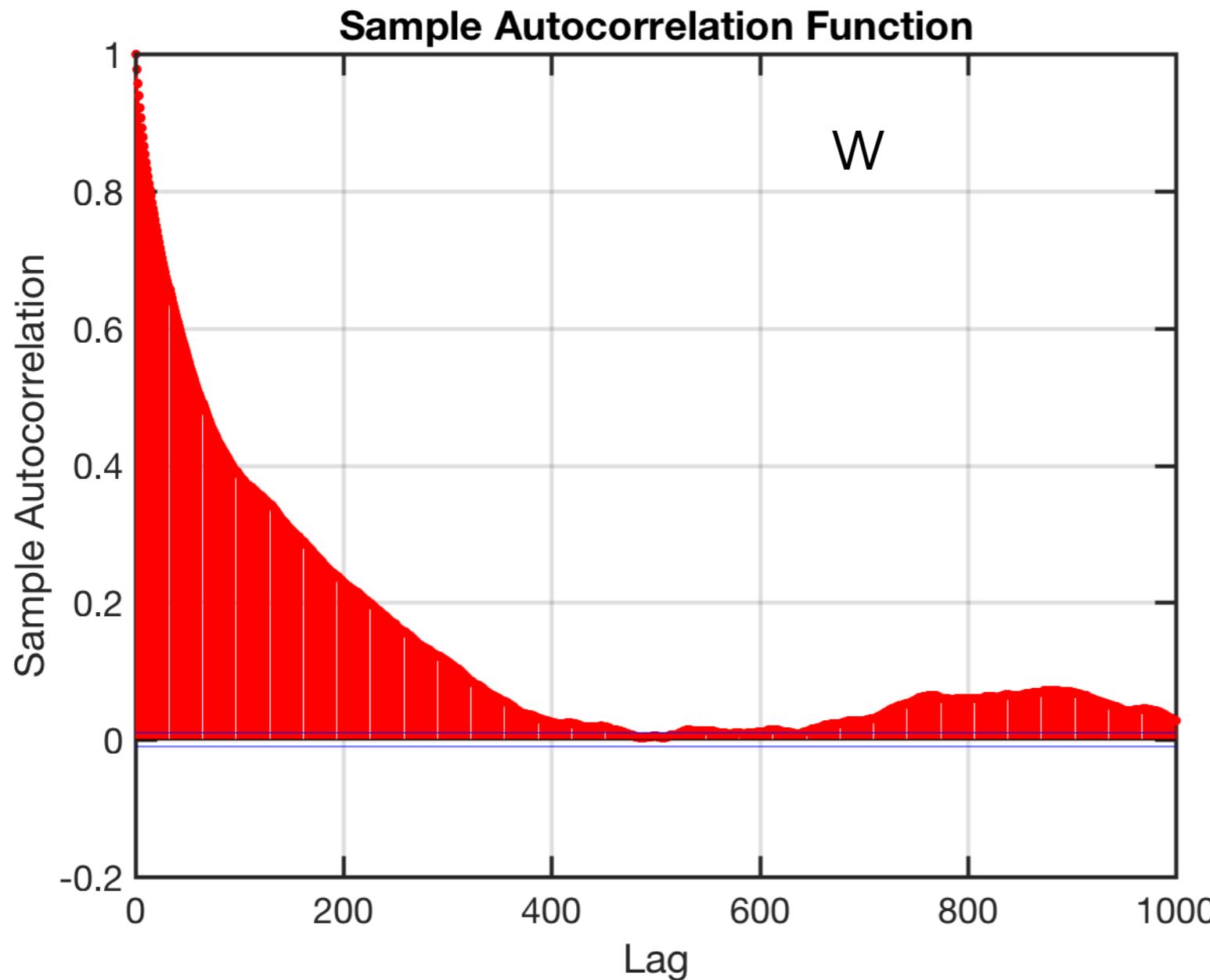
$\Omega_M$



$w$



# 4D Metropolis: autocorrelation fcn of w (slowest mixing parameter)



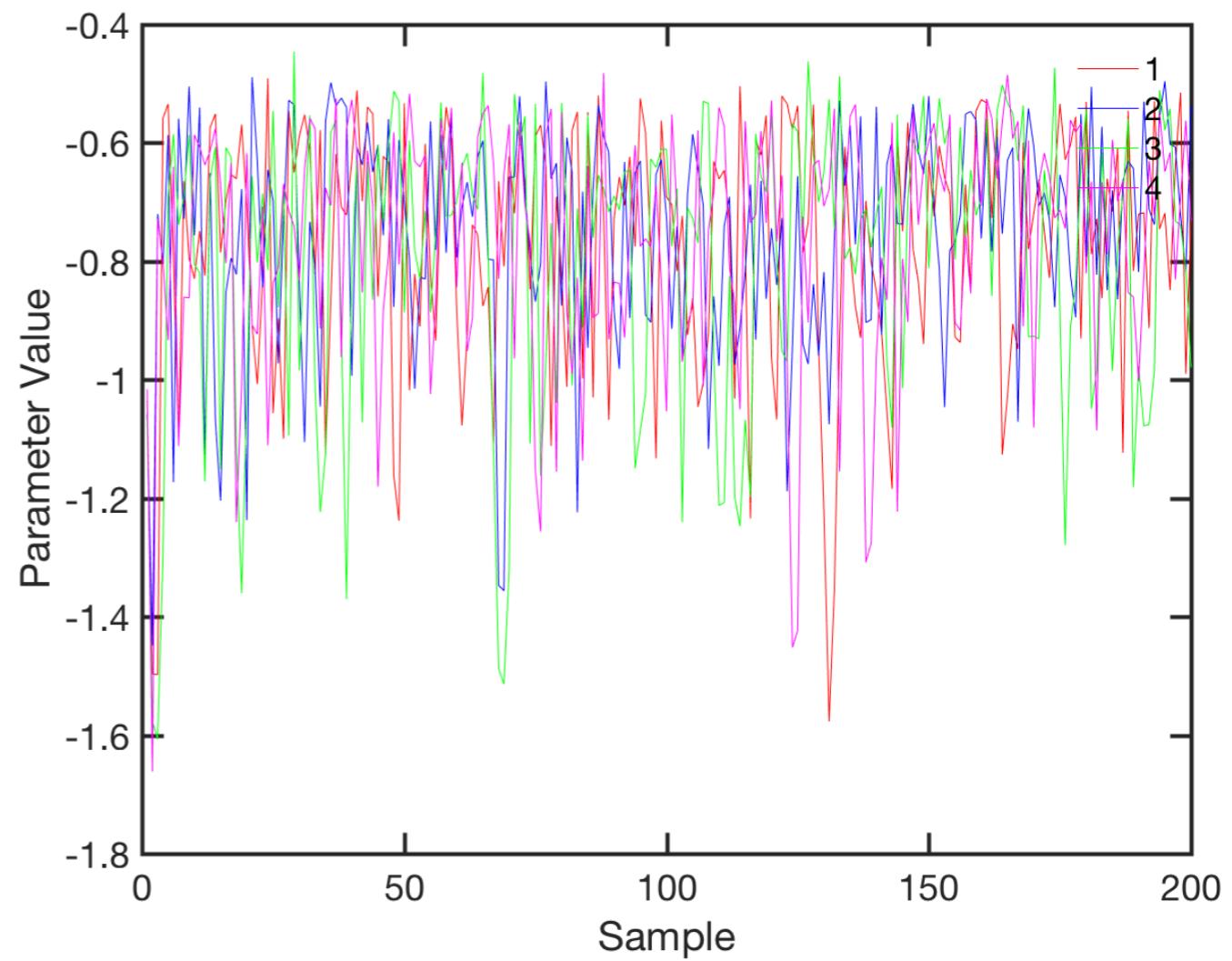
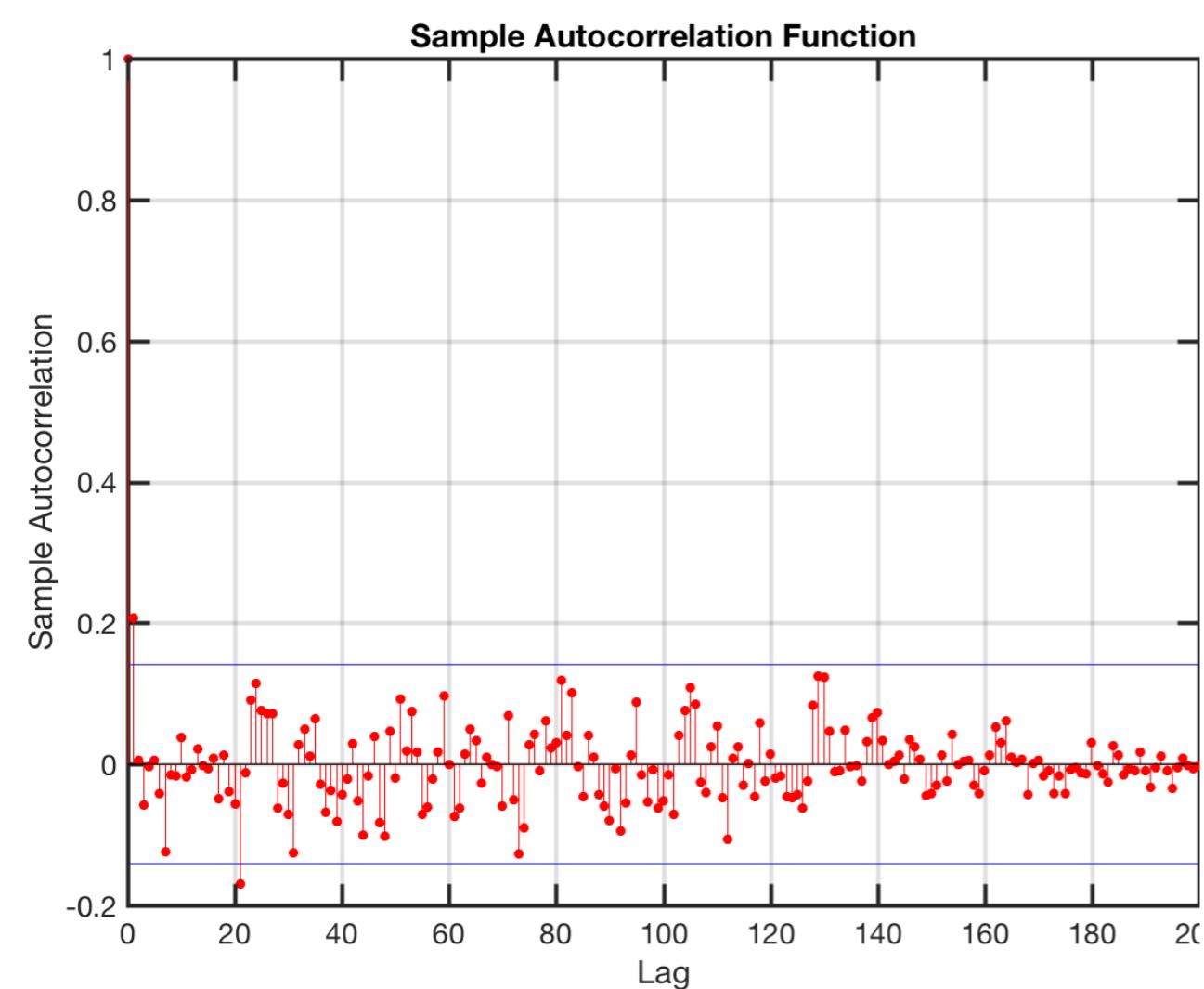
$$\hat{\tau} = 1 + 2 \sum_{t=1}^T \hat{\rho}_t$$

$\hat{\tau} = 215$  iterations  
(single chain)

$N_{\text{eff}} = 10,000 / 215 = 46$  indep. samples

Rate = 140 sec / 46 = 3.0 sec per independent sample  
14x faster than MwG!

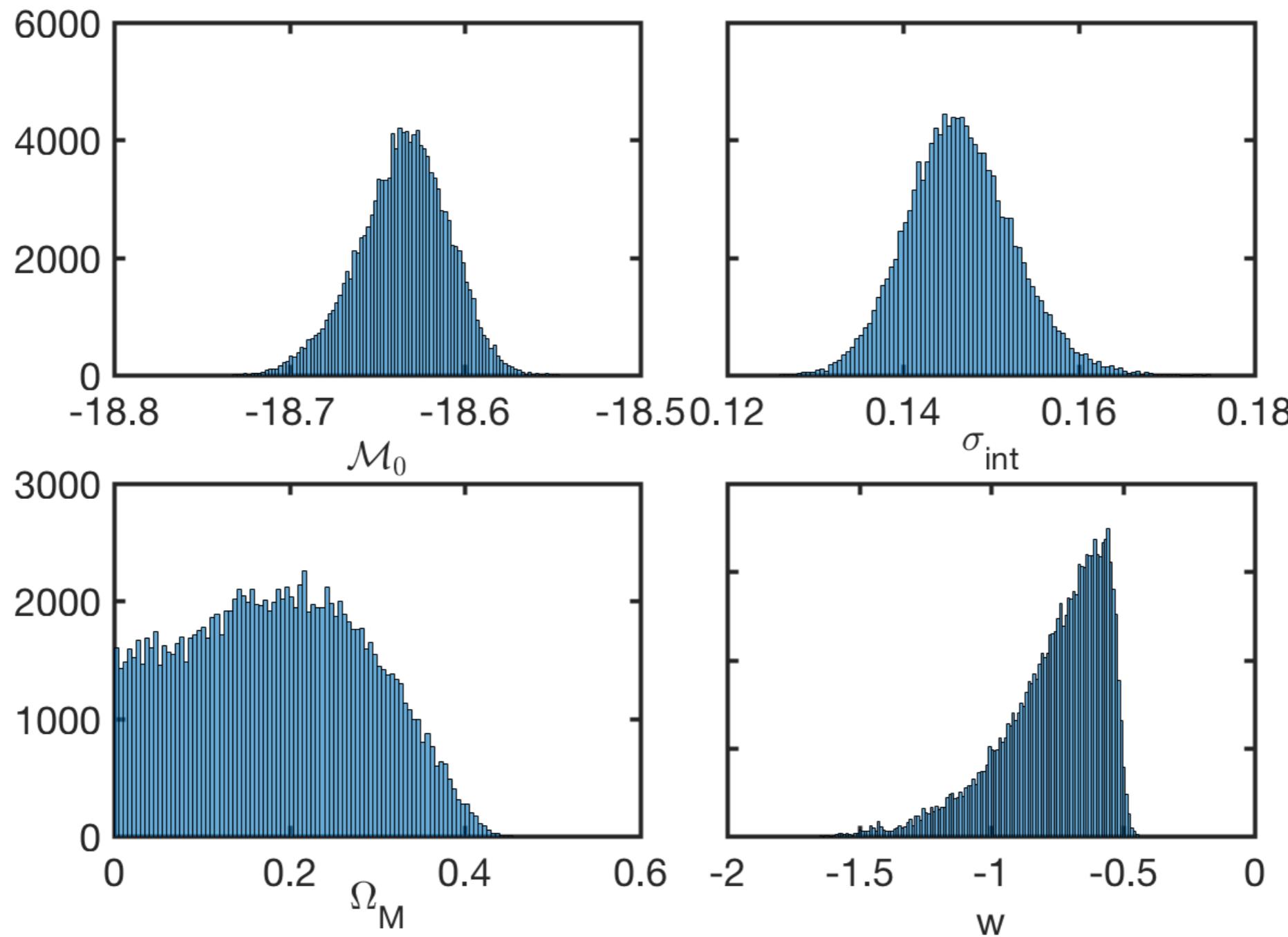
# 4D Metropolis: autocorrelation fcn of w after thinning by 200



W

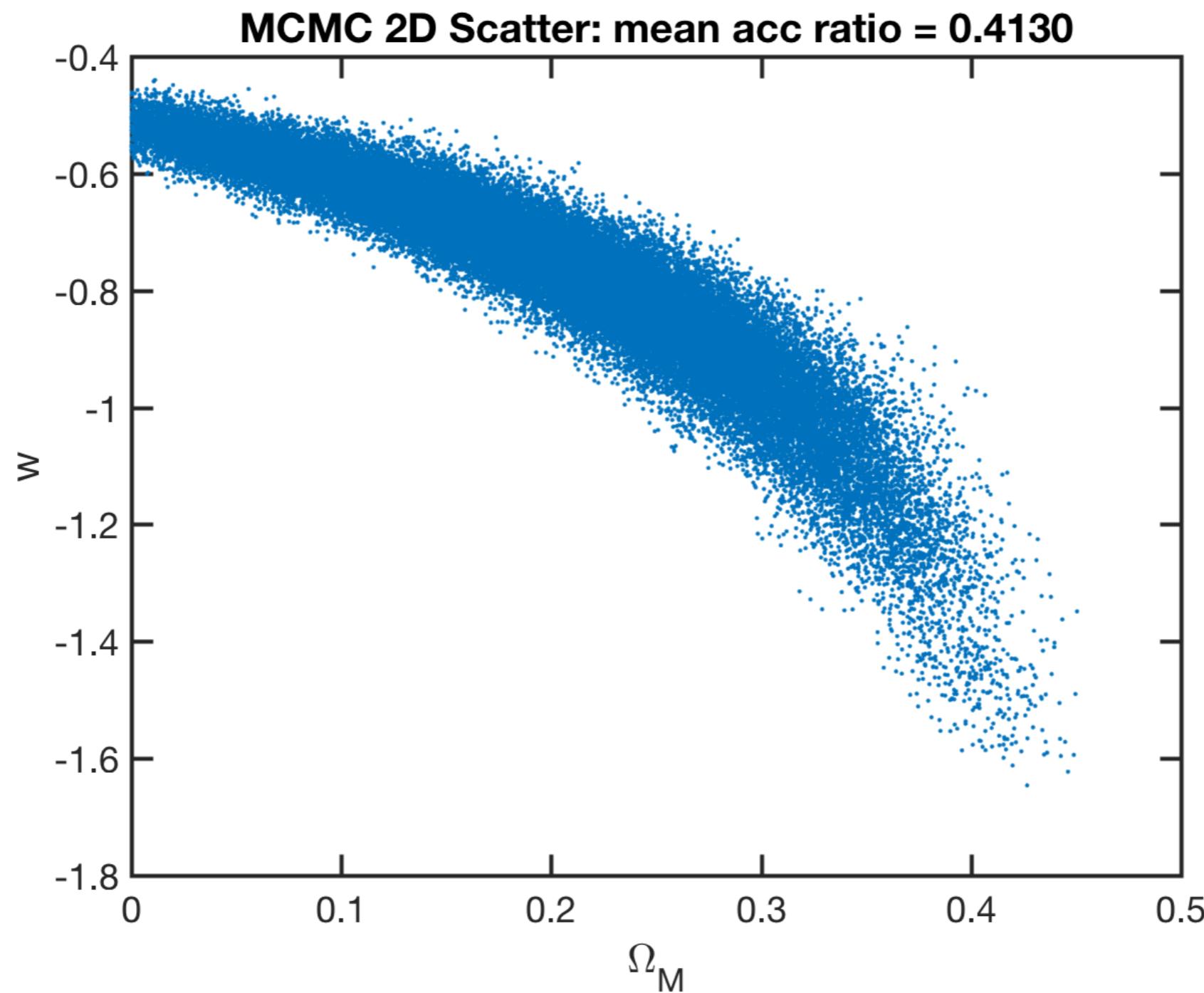
# 4D Metropolis run with 4x10k chains

## Marginal Posterior Histograms



# 4D Metropolis run with 4x10k chains

Dark Energy EoS parameter



Matter Density

# 4D Metropolis run with 4x10k chains

