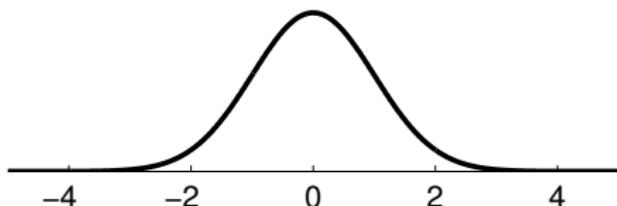


Chapter 3

- 3.1 Marginalization
- 3.2 Normal distribution with a noninformative prior (important)
- 3.3 Normal distribution with a conjugate prior (important)
- 3.4 Multinomial model (can be skipped)
- 3.5 Multivariate normal with known variance (useful for chapter 4)
- 3.6 Multivariate normal with unknown variance (glance through)
- 3.7 Bioassay example (very important, related to one of the exercises)
- 3.8 Summary (summary)

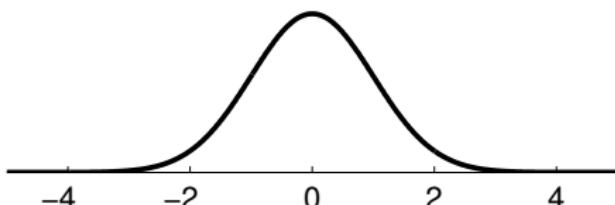
Normal / Gaussian

$$p(y|\mu) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2\sigma^2}(y - \mu)^2\right)$$



Normal / Gaussian

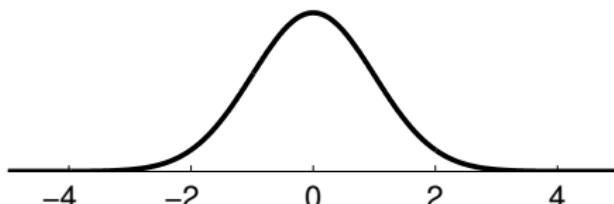
$$p(y|\mu) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2\sigma^2}(y - \mu)^2\right)$$



- **Normal:** some prominent statistician started to use this term systematically in the end of 19th century (but it's a bit of exaggeration)

Normal / Gaussian

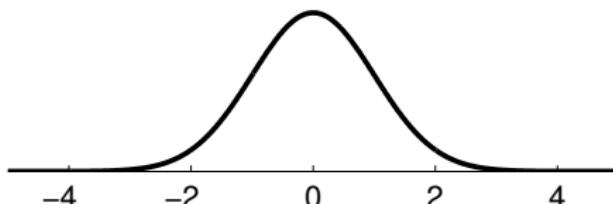
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Normal / Gaussian

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- **Normal:** some prominent statistician started to use this term systematically in the end of 19th century (but it's a bit of exaggeration)
- **Gaussian:** favored by Germans (but it was studied earlier by De Moivre and Laplace, and Gauss avoided using it)
- Shorthand notation
 - $y \sim N(\mu, \sigma^2)$ with variance σ^2
(useful in derivations)
 - $y \sim \text{normal}(\mu, \sigma)$ with deviation σ
(useful for interpreting prior and posterior scales, used in Stan)

Normal / Gaussian

- Normal linear regression
connection to least squares regression via $(y - \mu)^2$

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- Analysis of real valued observations
 - part of Assignment 3

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Normal / Gaussian

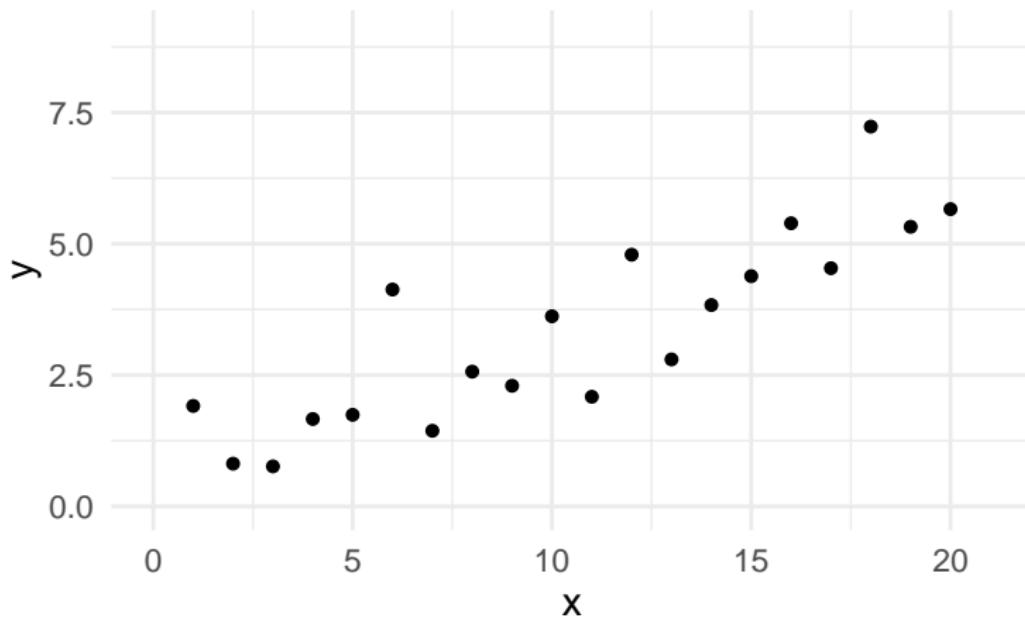
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- Gaussian processes are in practice multivariate normals
- Kalman filters are normals plus chain rule
- Posterior distribution approximation with Laplace, variational inference, expectation propagation

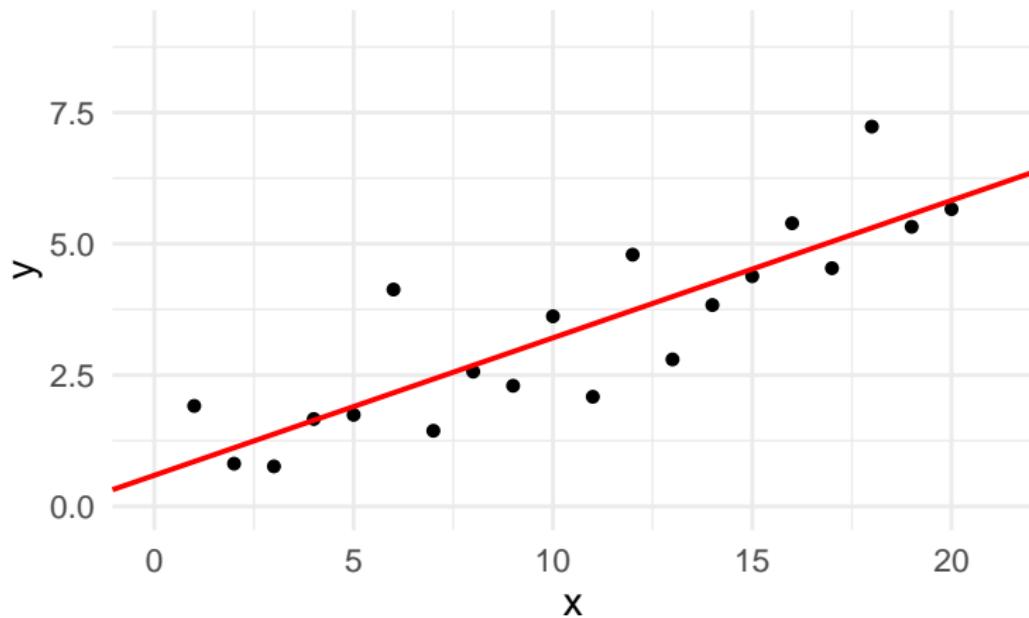
Example of uncertainty in modeling

Data



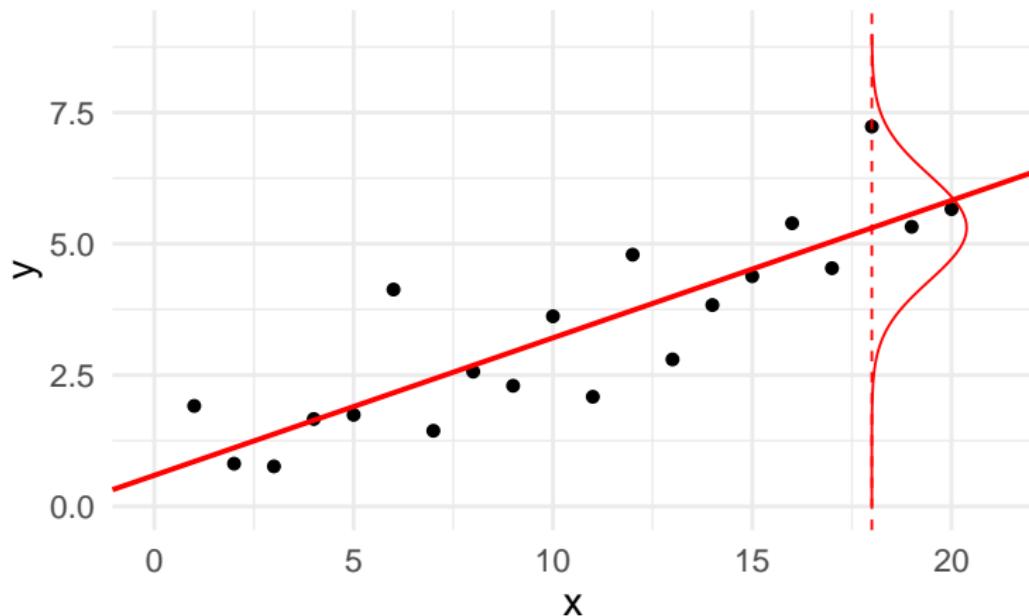
Example of uncertainty in modeling

Posterior mean



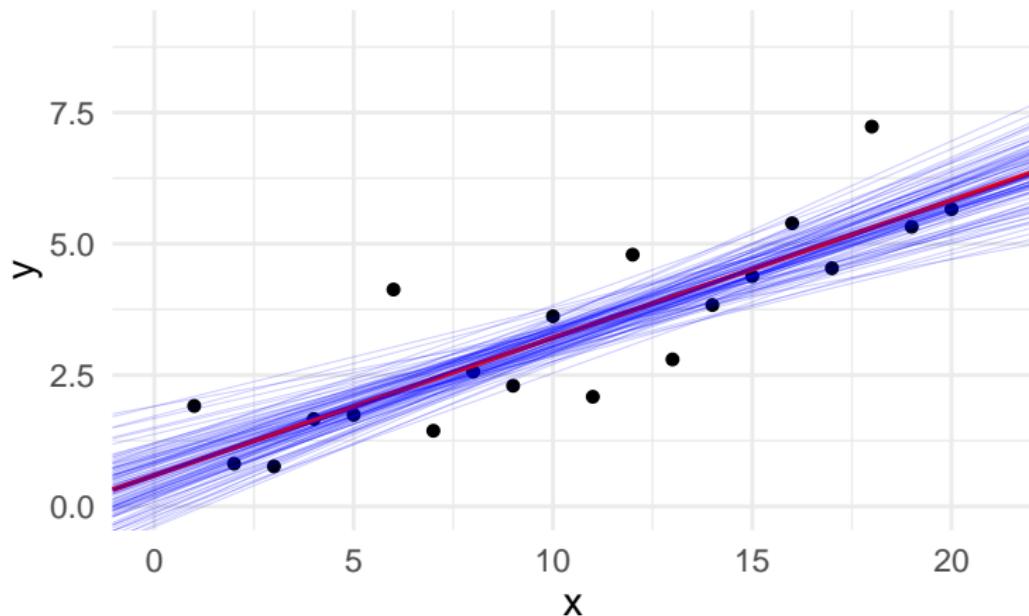
Example of uncertainty in modeling

Predictive distribution given posterior mean



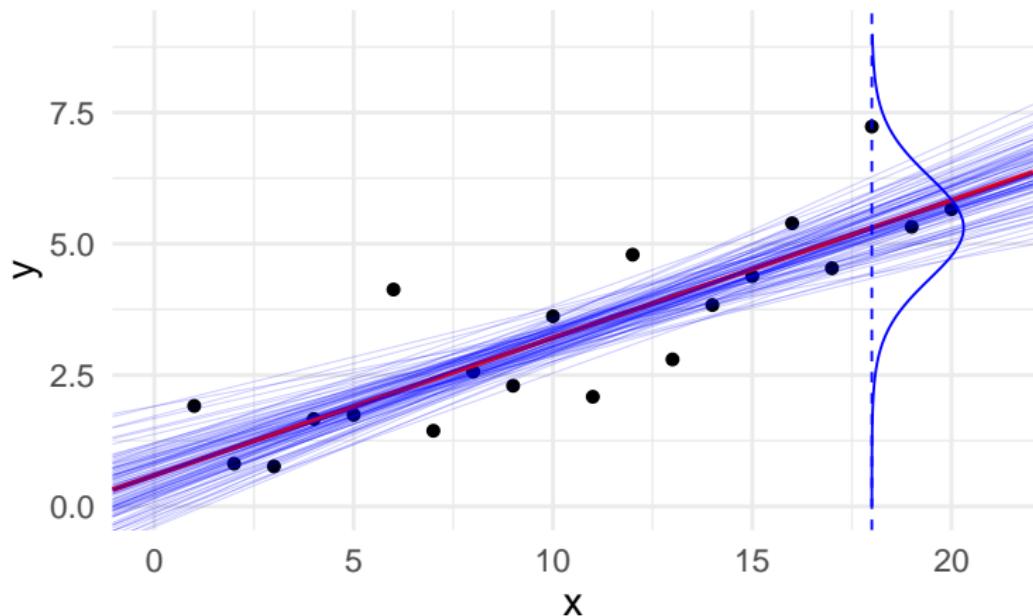
Example of uncertainty in modeling

Posterior draws



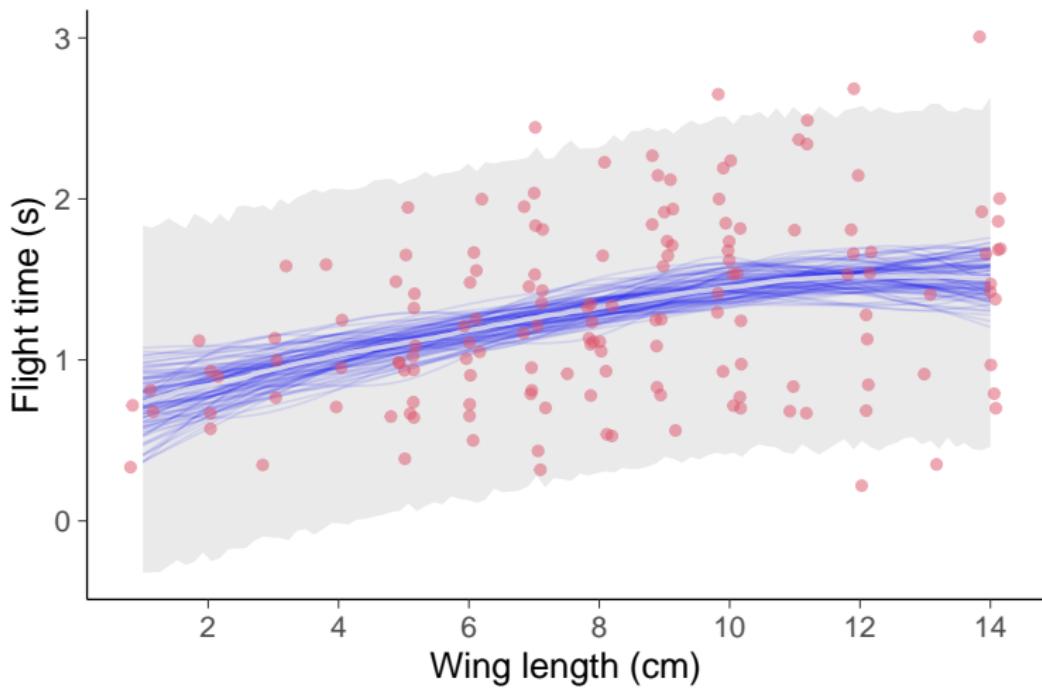
Example of uncertainty in modeling

Posterior draws and predictive distribution



Paper helicopter flight time

$$y \sim \text{normal}(f, \sigma)$$
$$f \sim GP(0, k(x, \theta))$$

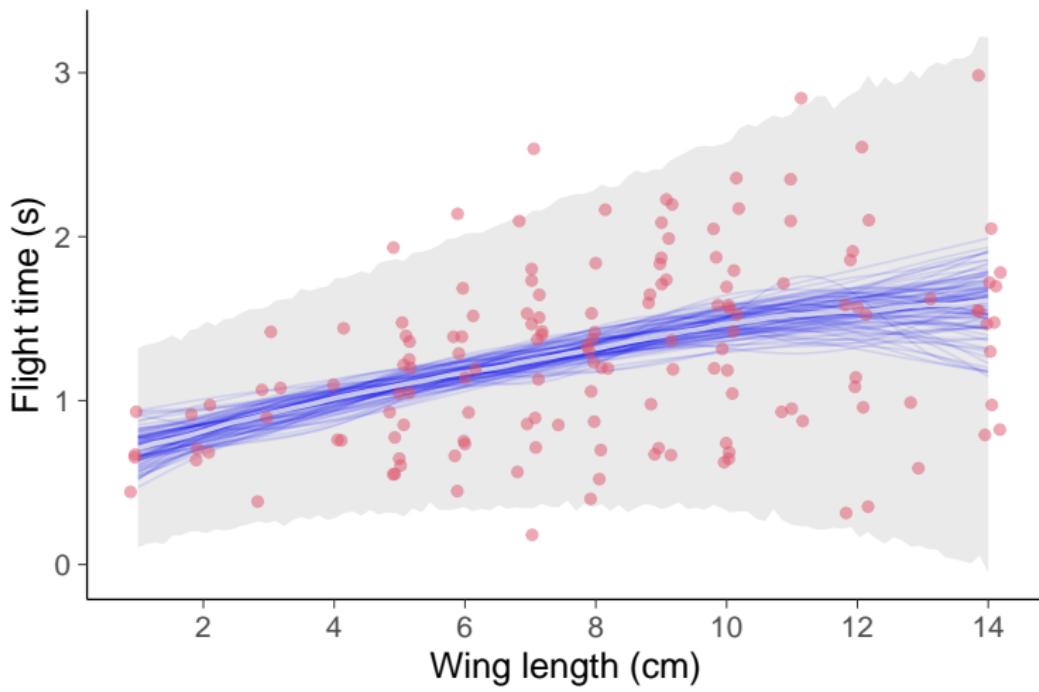


Paper helicopter flight time

$$y \sim \text{normal}(f, \sigma)$$

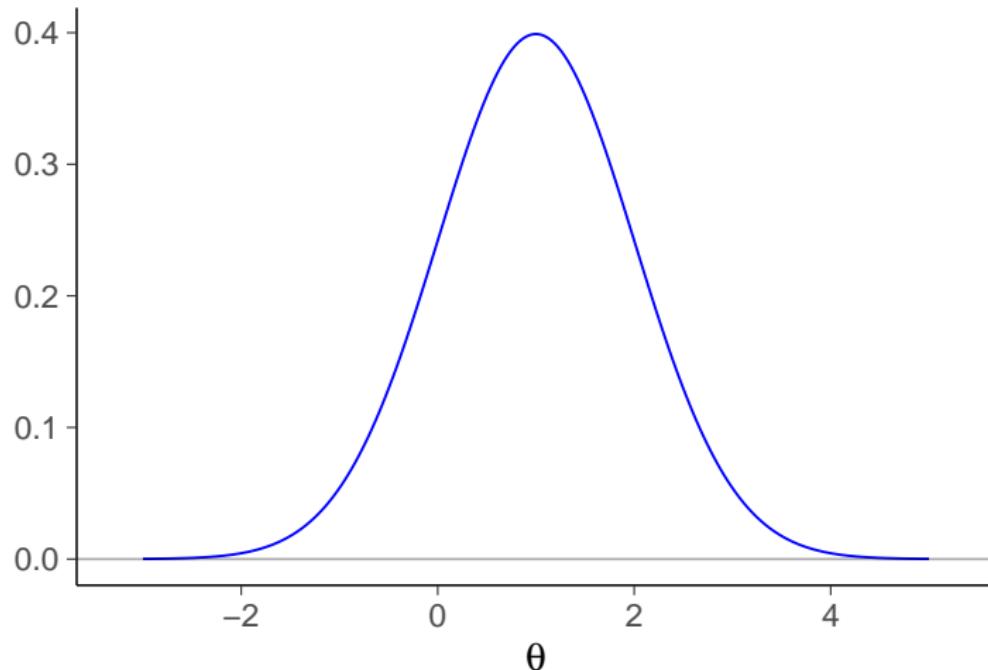
$$f \sim GP(0, k_f(x, \theta_f))$$

$$\log(\sigma) \sim GP(0, h_g(x, \theta_g))$$



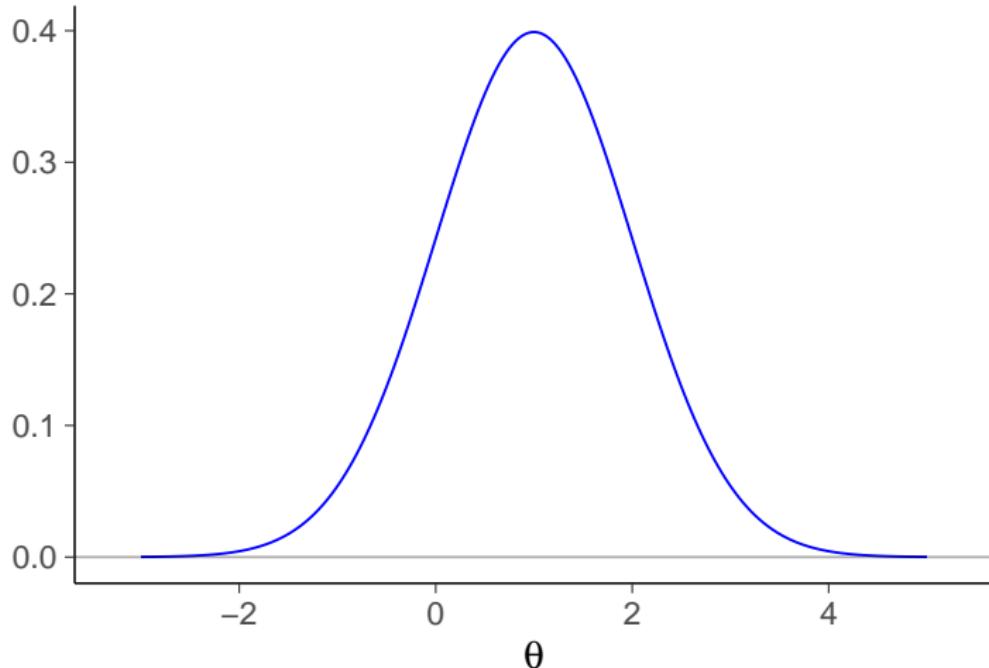
Monte Carlo and posterior draws

$$\text{Density } p(\theta|\mu, \sigma) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2\sigma^2}(\theta - \mu)^2\right) \quad (\text{dnorm}(\cdot))$$



Monte Carlo and posterior draws

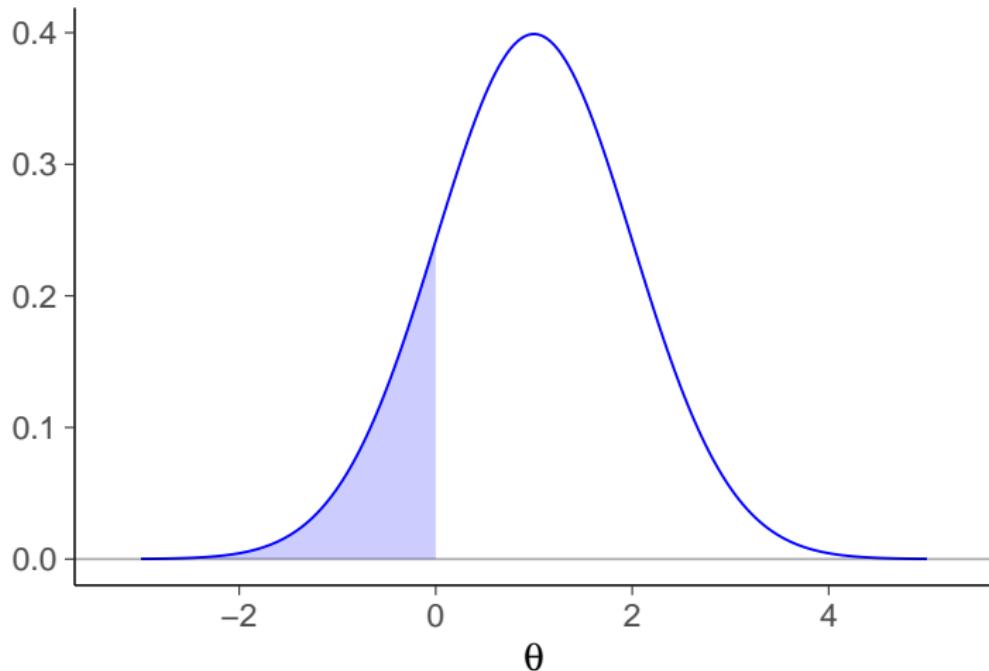
$$\text{Density } p(\theta|\mu, \sigma) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2\sigma^2}(\theta - \mu)^2\right) \quad (\text{dnorm}(\cdot))$$



$$E(\theta) = \int \theta p(\theta|\mu, \sigma) d\theta = \mu$$

Monte Carlo and posterior draws

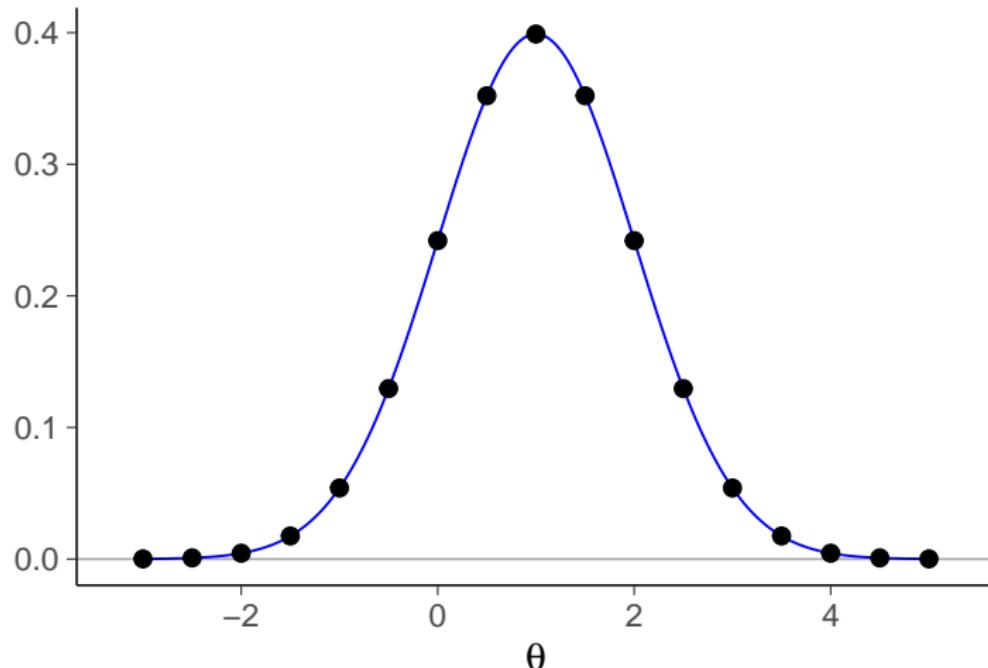
$$\text{Density } p(\theta|\mu, \sigma) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2\sigma^2}(\theta - \mu)^2\right)$$



$p(\theta \leq 0) = \int_{-\infty}^0 p(\theta|\mu, \sigma) d\theta$,
many numerical approximations (pnorm())

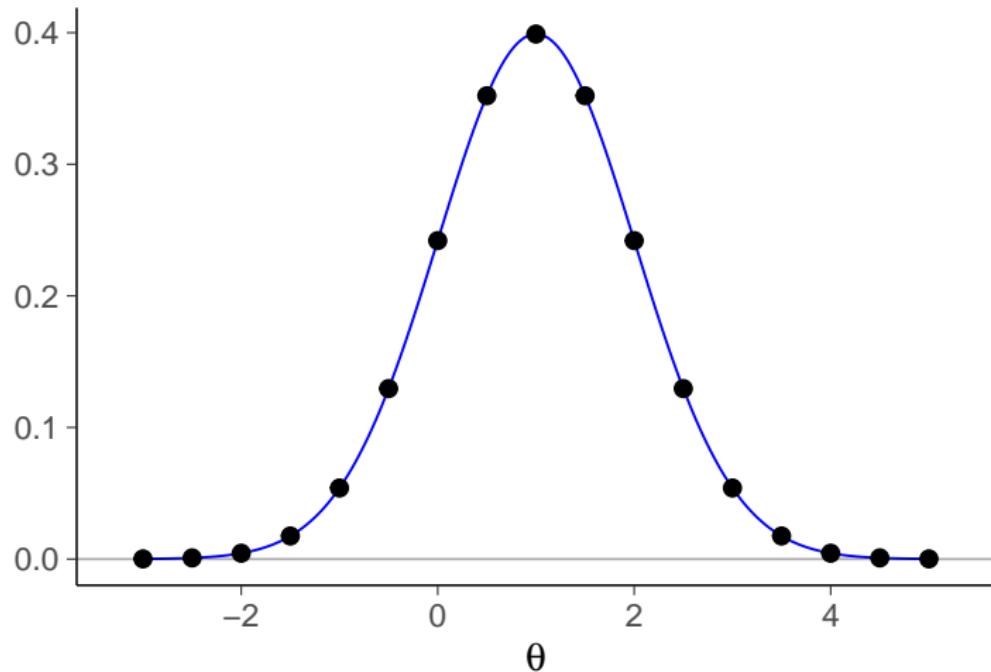
Monte Carlo and posterior draws

In practice evaluate in finite number of locations (`dnorm()`)



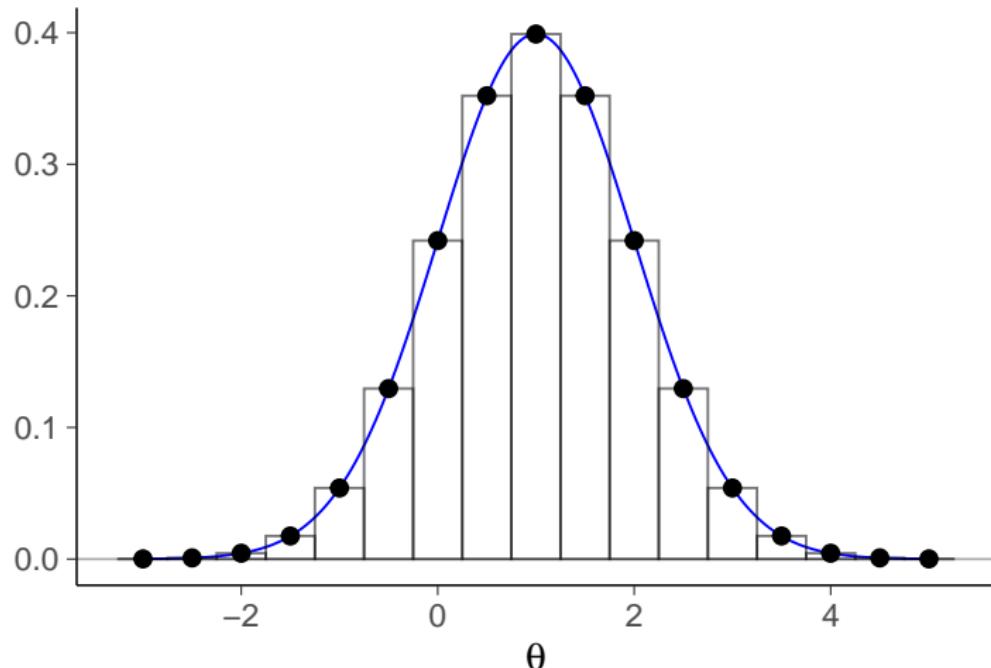
Monte Carlo and posterior draws

Here evaluated in grid with bin width 0.5



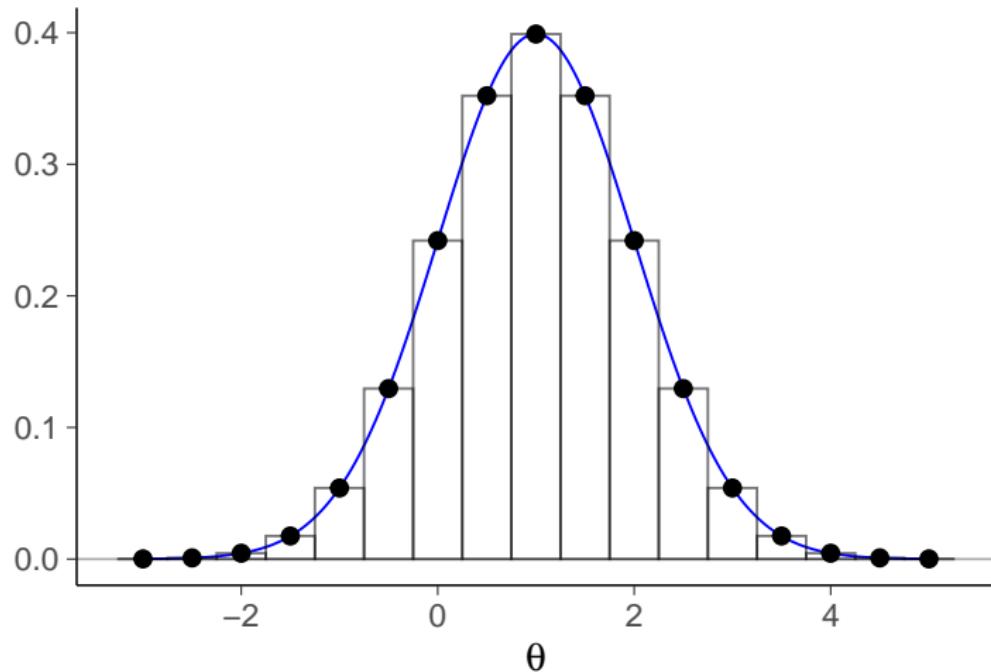
Monte Carlo and posterior draws

Here evaluated in grid with bin width 0.5



Monte Carlo and posterior draws

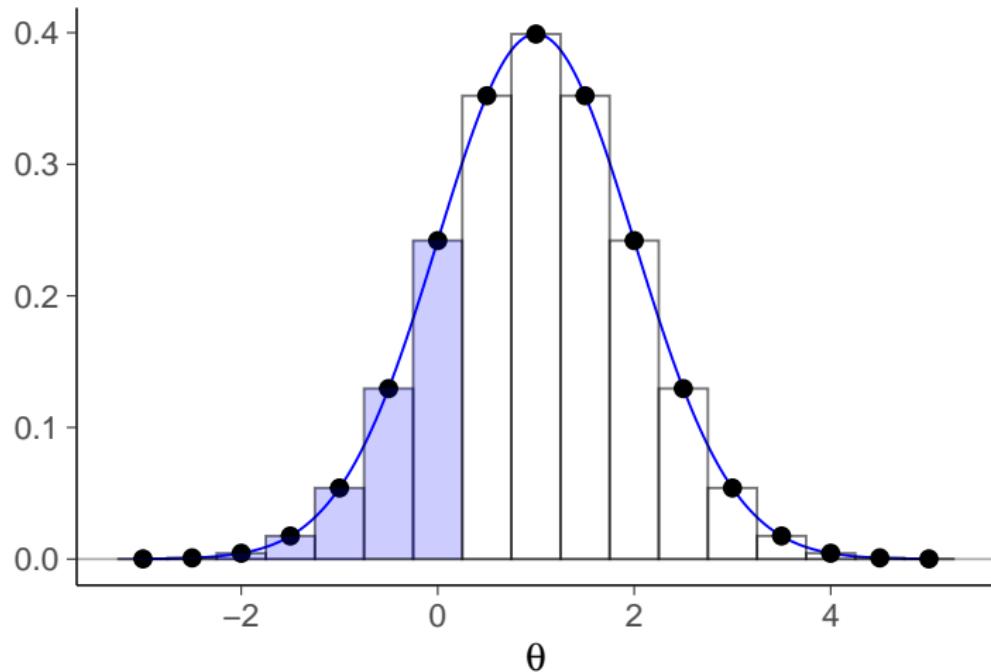
Here evaluated in grid with bin width 0.5



$$E(\theta) = \int \theta p(\theta) d\theta \approx \sum_s^S \theta^{(s)} w_s \approx 1, \text{ where } w_s = 0.5p(\theta)$$

Monte Carlo and posterior draws

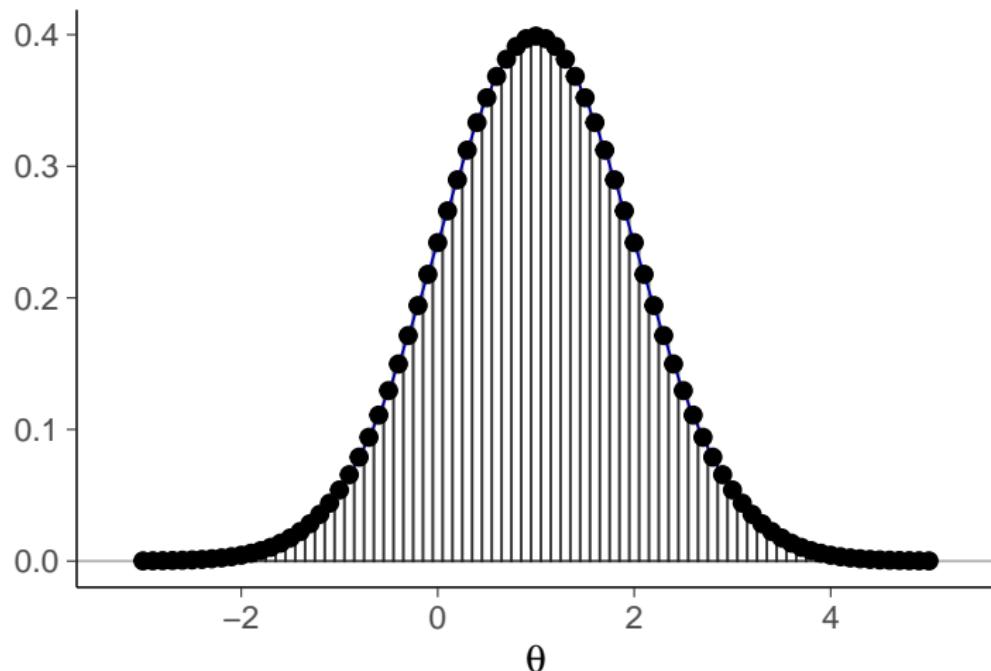
Here evaluated in grid with bin width 0.5



$$p(\theta \leq 0) = \int_{-\infty}^0 p(\theta) d\theta \approx \sum_s^S I(\theta^{(s)} \leq 0) w_s \approx 0.22$$

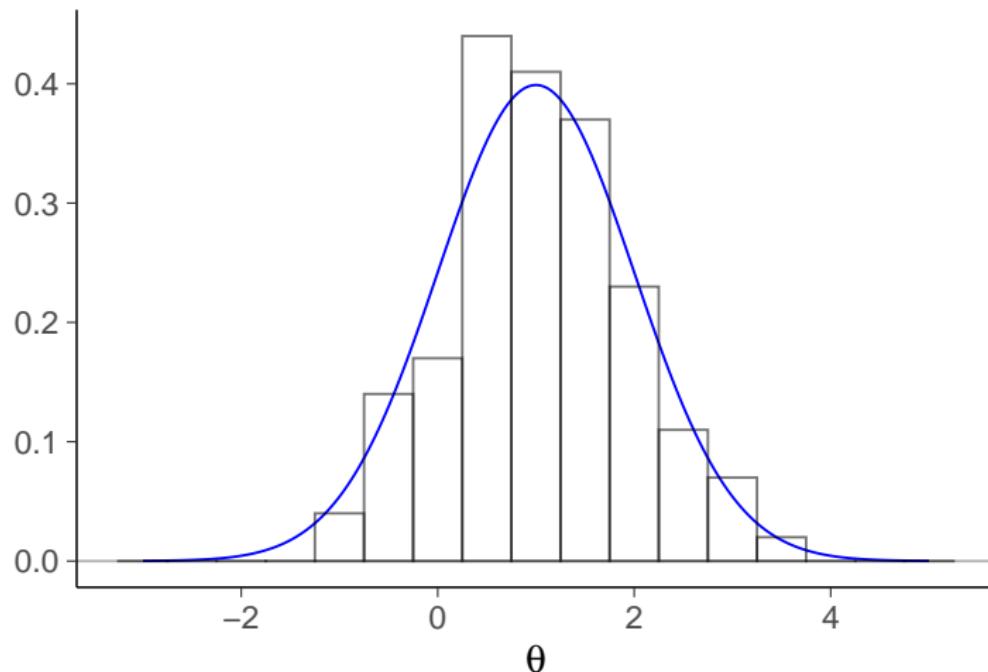
Monte Carlo and posterior draws

Here evaluated in grid with bin width 0.1



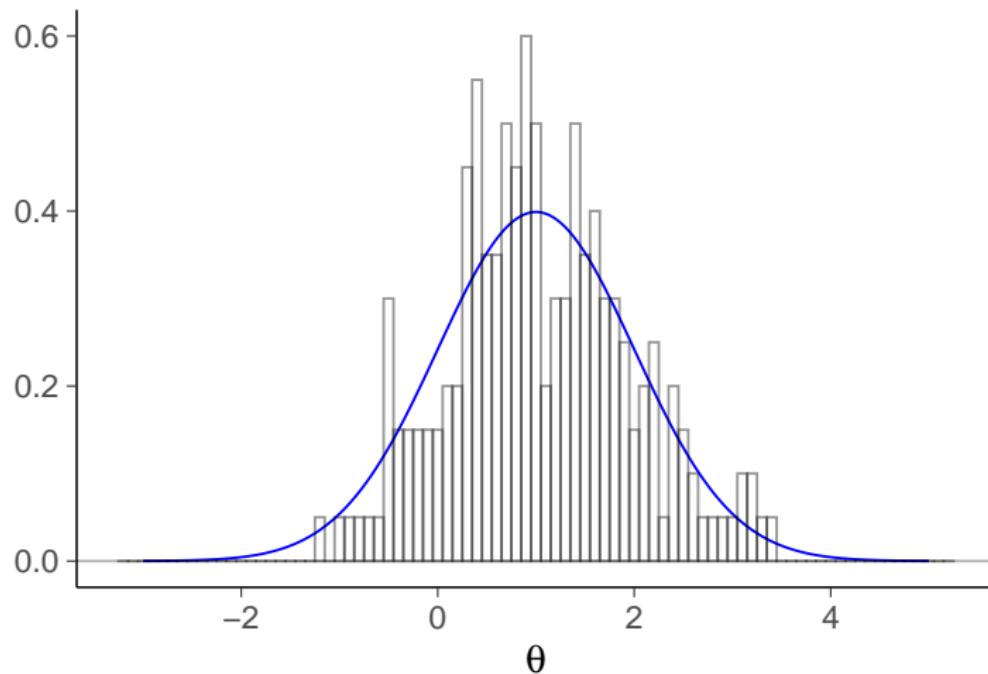
Monte Carlo and posterior draws

Histogram of 200 random draws (`rnorm()`), bin width 0.5



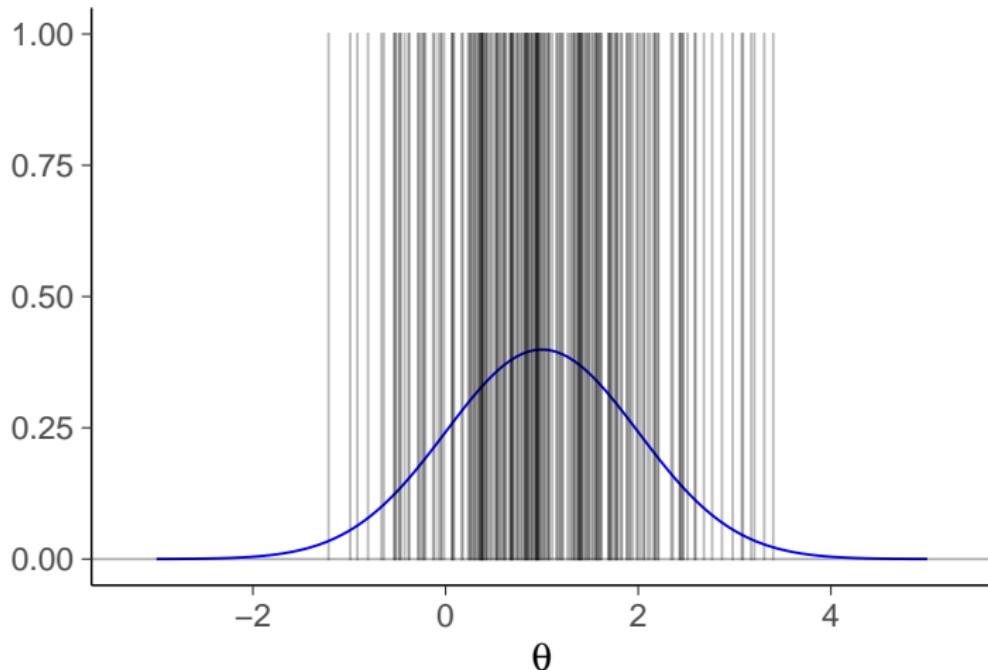
Monte Carlo and posterior draws

Histogram of 200 random draws (`rnorm()`), bin width 0.1



Monte Carlo and posterior draws

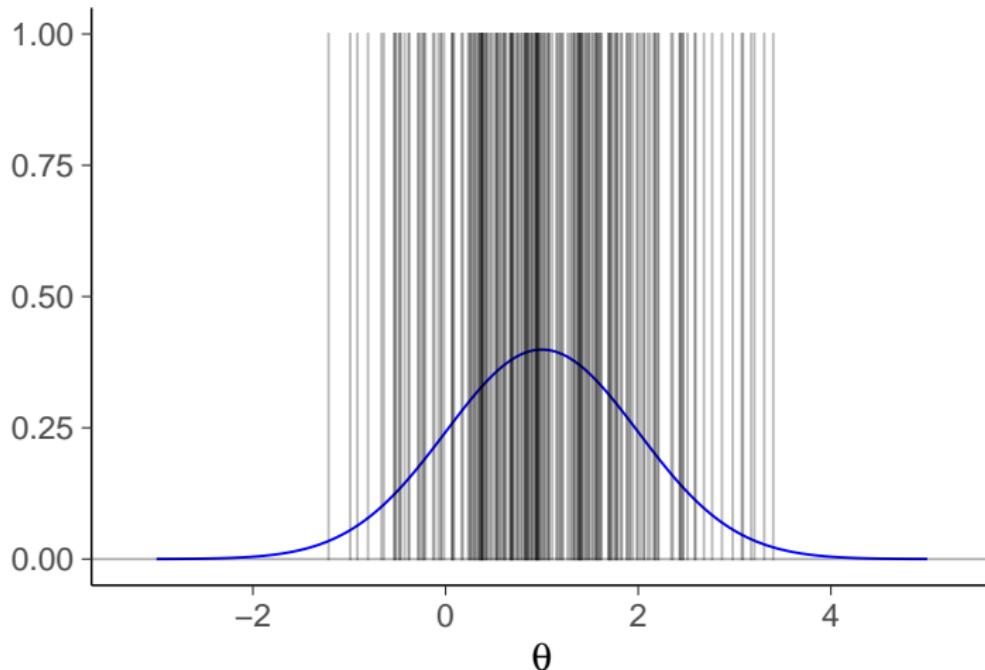
Histogram of 200 random draws (`rnorm()`), bin width 0



each bin has either 0 or 1 draw (and 0's can be ignored)

Monte Carlo and posterior draws

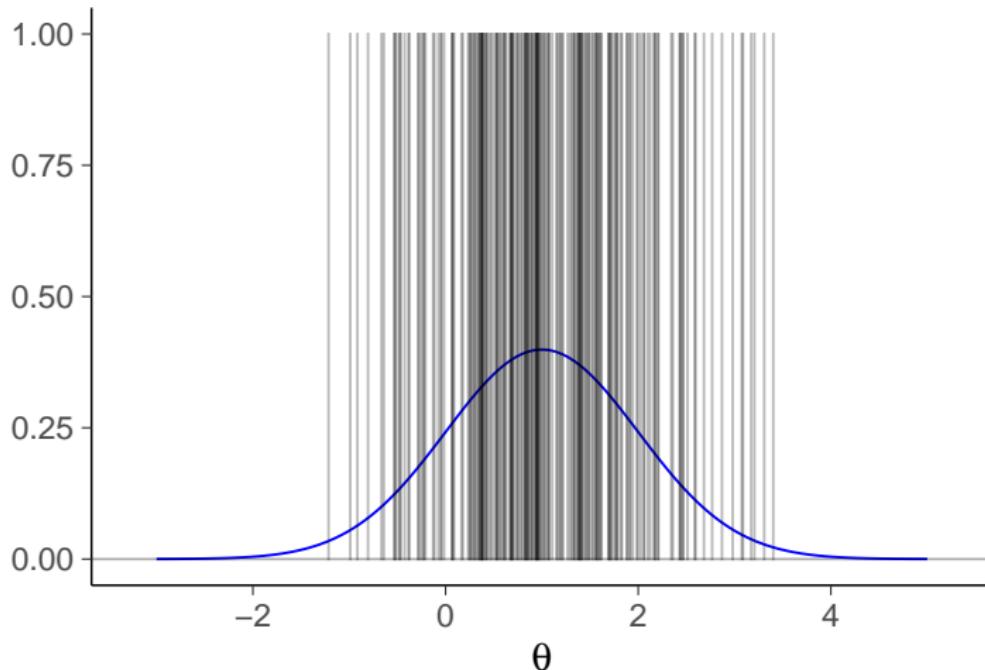
Histogram of 200 random draws (`rnorm()`), bin width 0



each bin with 1 draw has weight $1/S$

Monte Carlo and posterior draws

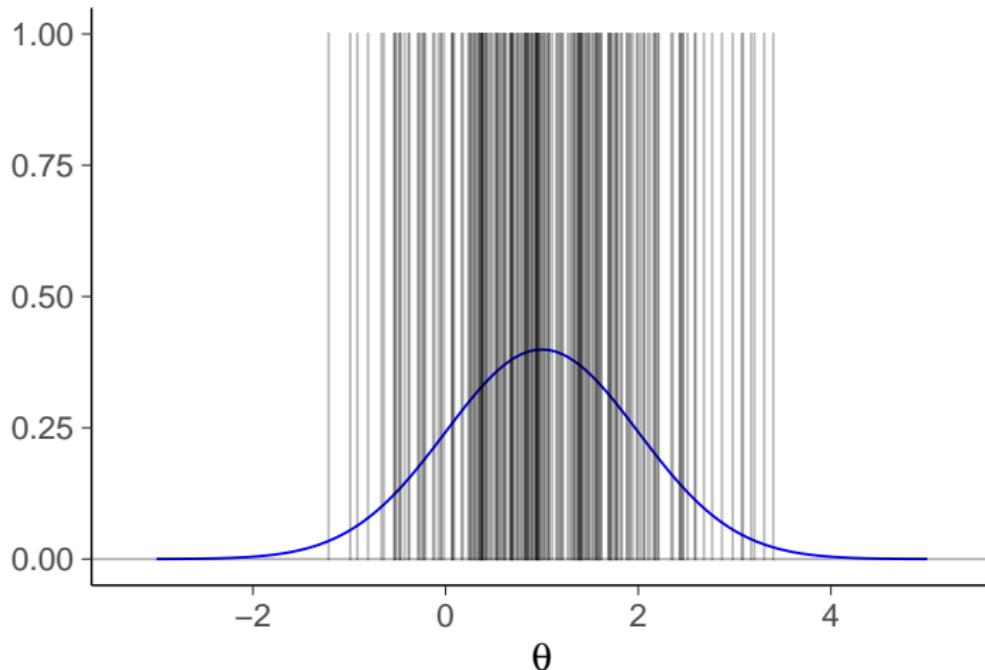
Histogram of 200 random draws (`rnorm()`), bin width 0



$$E(\theta) \approx \frac{1}{S} \sum_s^S \theta^{(s)} \approx 1$$

Monte Carlo and posterior draws

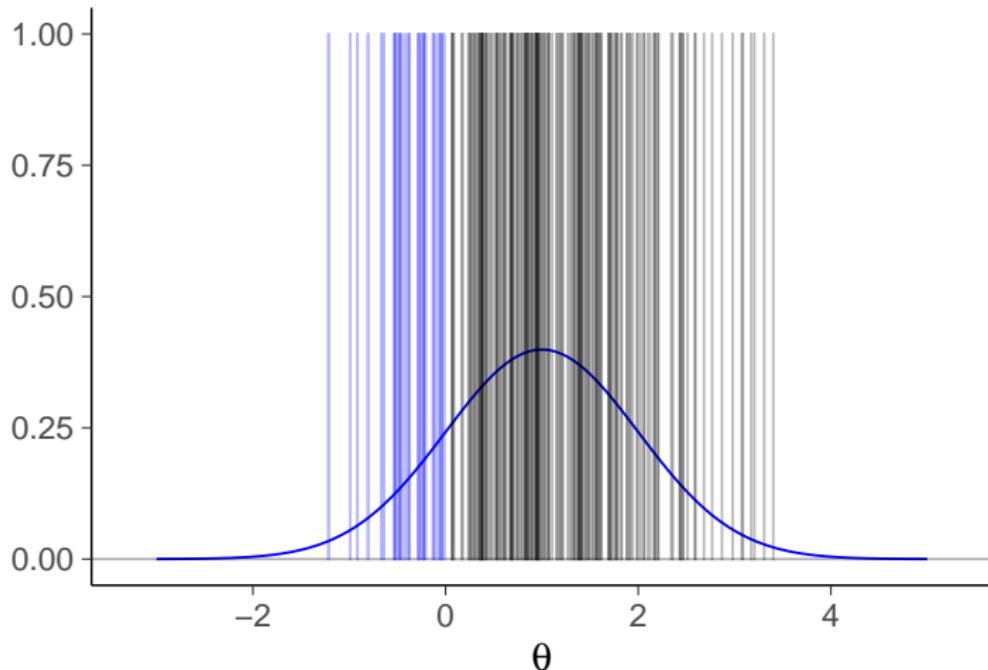
Histogram of 200 random draws (`rnorm()`), bin width 0



$$E(\theta) \approx \frac{1}{S} \sum_s^S \theta^{(s)} \approx 1, \text{ Monte Carlo estimate}$$

Monte Carlo and posterior draws

Histogram of 200 random draws, bin width 0



$$p(\theta \leq 0) \approx \frac{1}{S} \sum_s^S I(\theta^{(s)} \leq 0) \approx 0.14$$

Monte Carlo and posterior draws

- $\theta^{(s)}$ draws from $p(\theta | y)$ can be used
 - for visualization

Monte Carlo and posterior draws

- $\theta^{(s)}$ draws from $p(\theta \mid y)$ can be used
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 - to approximate expectations (integrals)

$$E_{p(\theta \mid y)}[\theta] = \int \theta p(\theta \mid y) \approx \frac{1}{S} \sum_{s=1}^S \theta^{(s)}$$

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$$E_{p(\theta \mid y)}[\theta] = \int \theta p(\theta \mid y) \approx \frac{1}{S} \sum_{s=1}^S \theta^{(s)}$$

- easy to approximate expectations of functions (push forward)

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$$E_{p(\theta|y)}[g(\theta)] = \int g(\theta) p(\theta | y) \approx \frac{1}{S} \sum_{s=1}^S g(\theta^{(s)})$$

- If $p(g(\theta))$ has finite variance, then the Monte Carlo estimate is unbiased and the error approaches 0 with increasing S based on the central limit theorem (CLT)
 - more about this later

Marginalization

- Joint distribution of parameters

$$p(\theta_1, \theta_2 | y) \propto p(y | \theta_1, \theta_2)p(\theta_1, \theta_2)$$

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$p(\theta_1 | y)$ is a marginal distribution

- Monte Carlo approximation

$$\begin{aligned} &\text{if } (\theta_1^{(s)}, \theta_2^{(s)}) \sim p(\theta_1, \theta_2 | y) \\ &\text{then } \theta_1^{(s)} \sim p(\theta_1 | y) \end{aligned}$$

Marginalization - predictive distribution

- Posterior predictive distribution is obtained by marginalizing out the posterior distribution

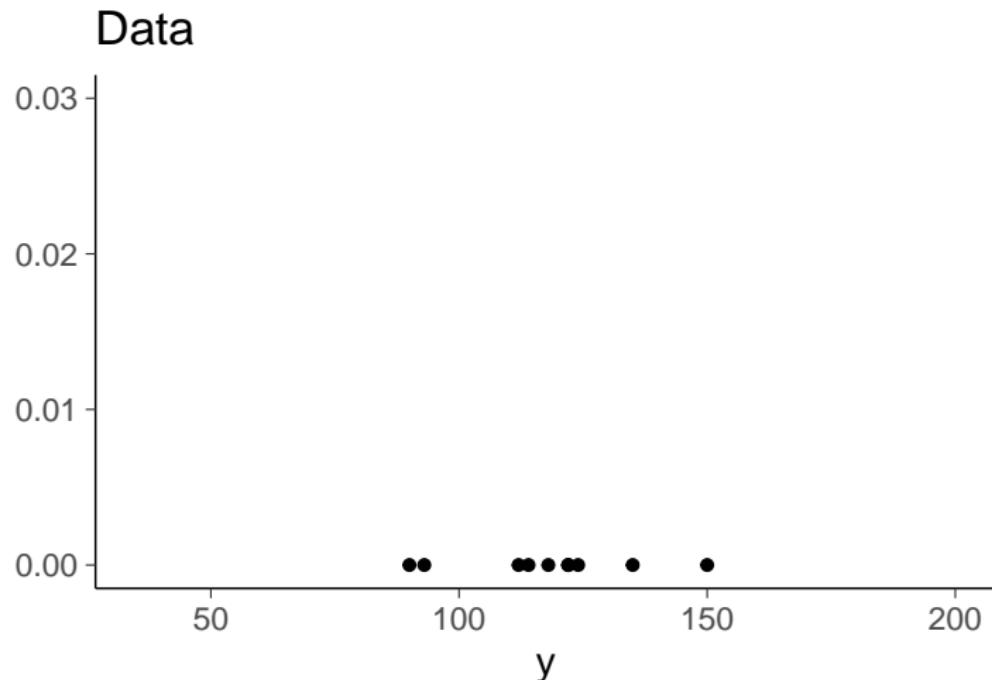
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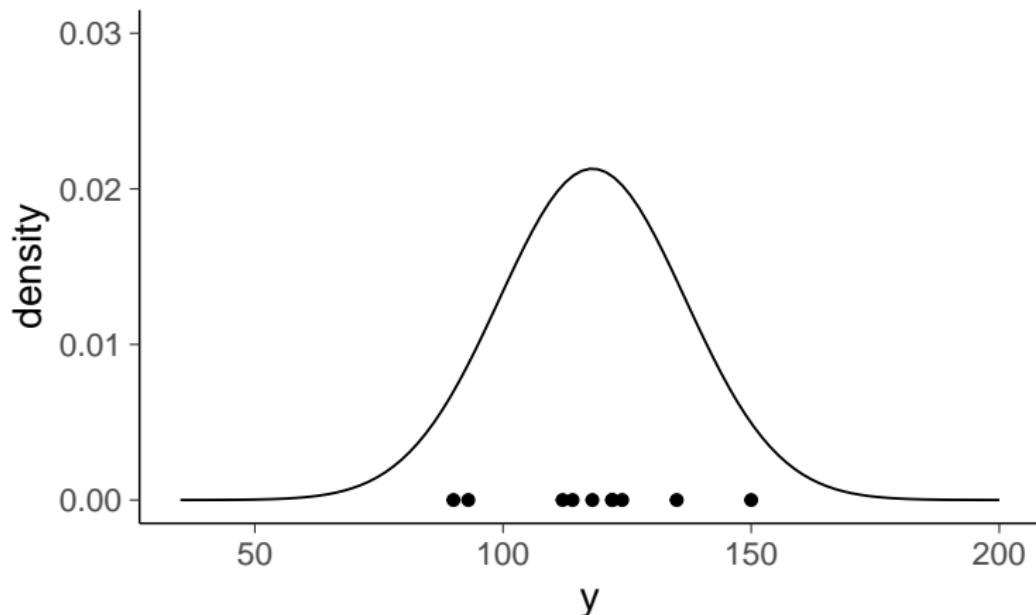
$$\begin{aligned} p(\tilde{y} \mid y) &= \int p(\tilde{y}, \theta \mid y) d\theta \\ &= \int p(\tilde{y} \mid \theta) p(\theta \mid y) d\theta \end{aligned}$$

Normal distribution example



Normal distribution example

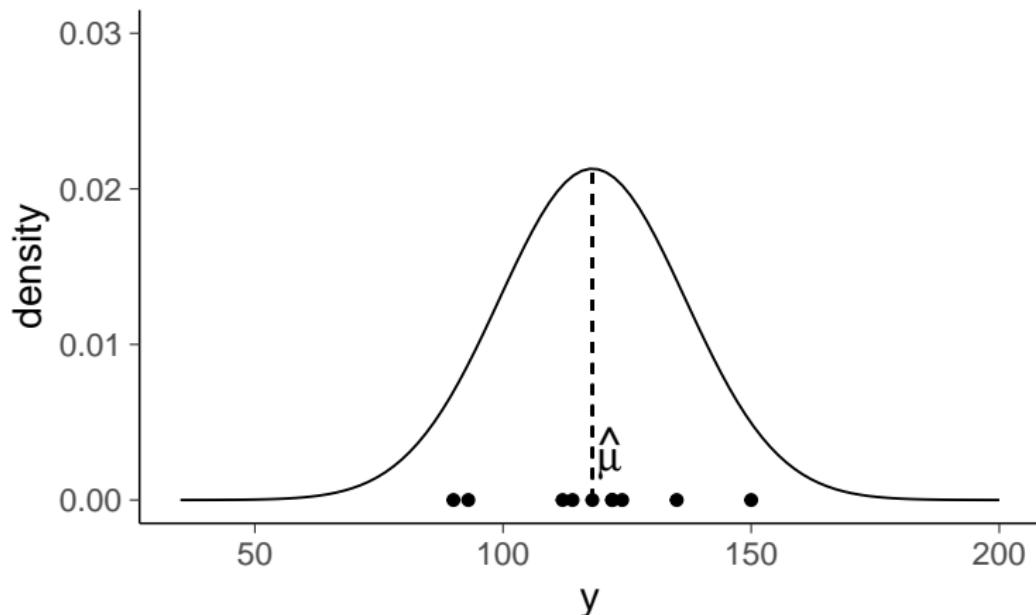
Normal fit with posterior mean



$$p(\textcolor{red}{y} | \mu, \sigma) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2\sigma^2}(\textcolor{red}{y} - \mu)^2\right)$$

Normal distribution example

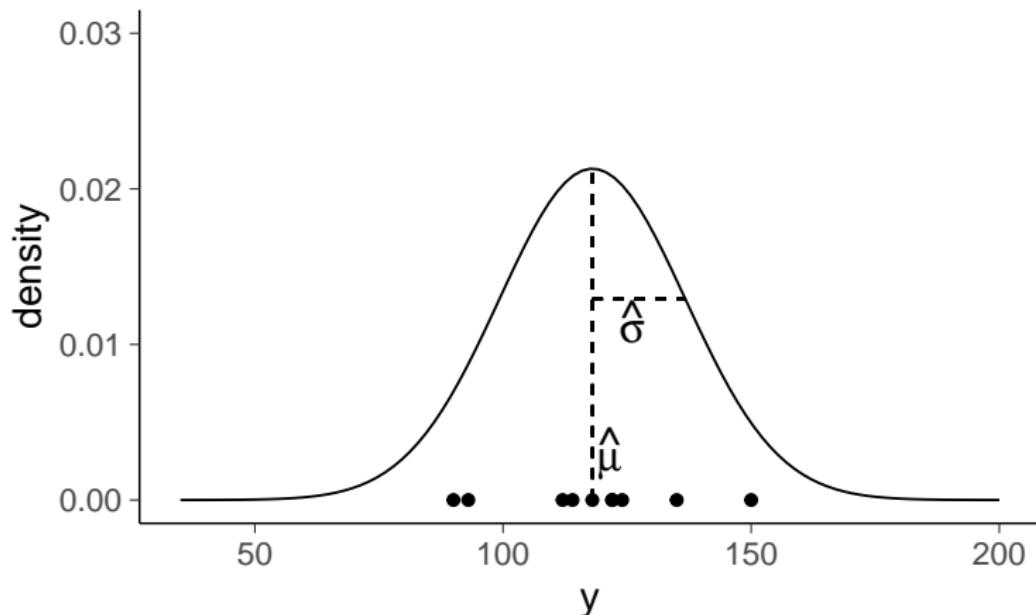
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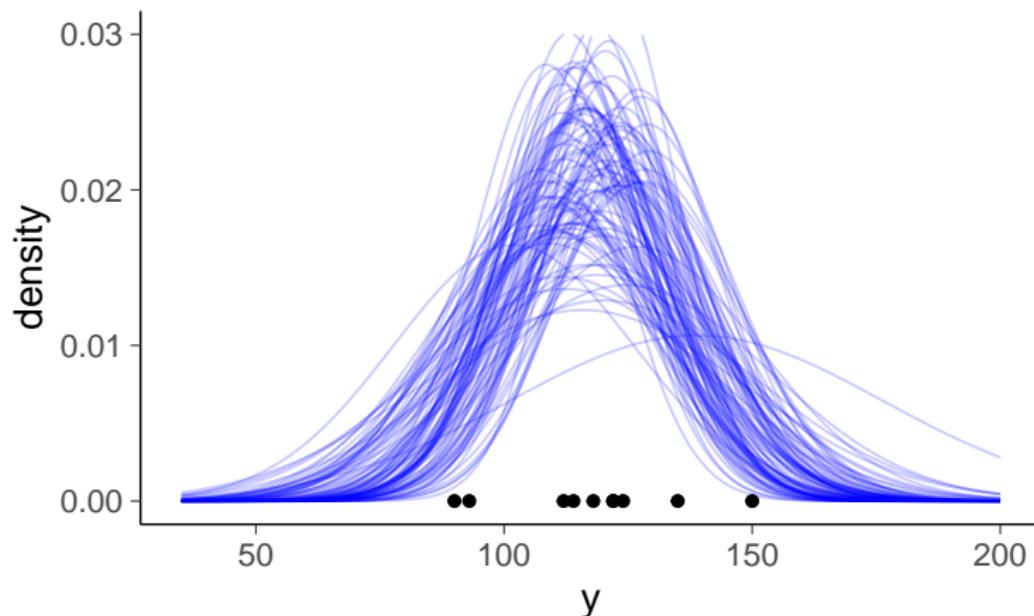
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Normal distribution example

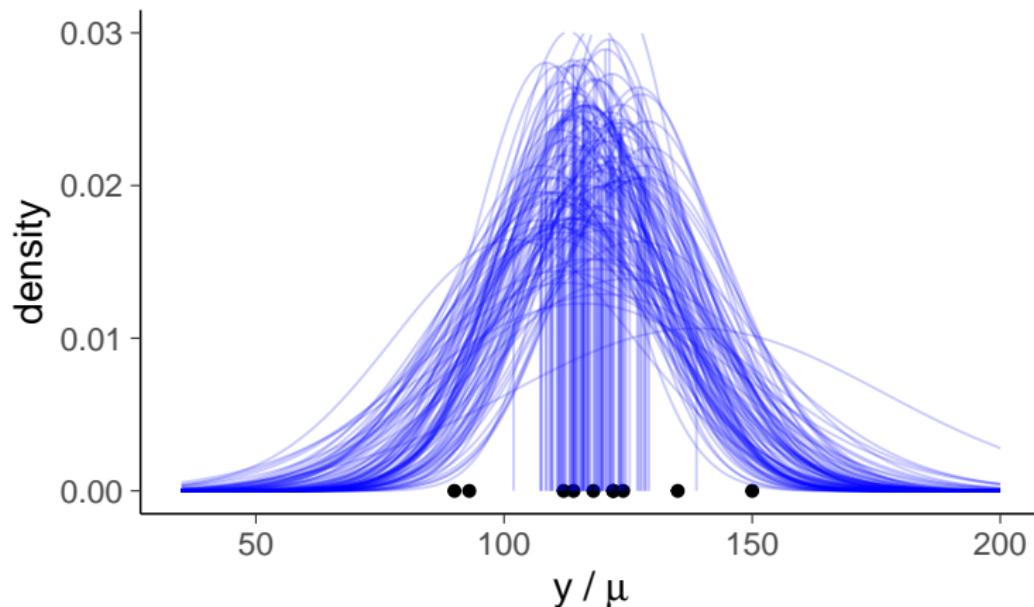
Normals with posterior draw parameters



$$\mu^{(s)}, \sigma^{(s)} \sim p(\mu, \sigma | y)$$

Normal distribution example

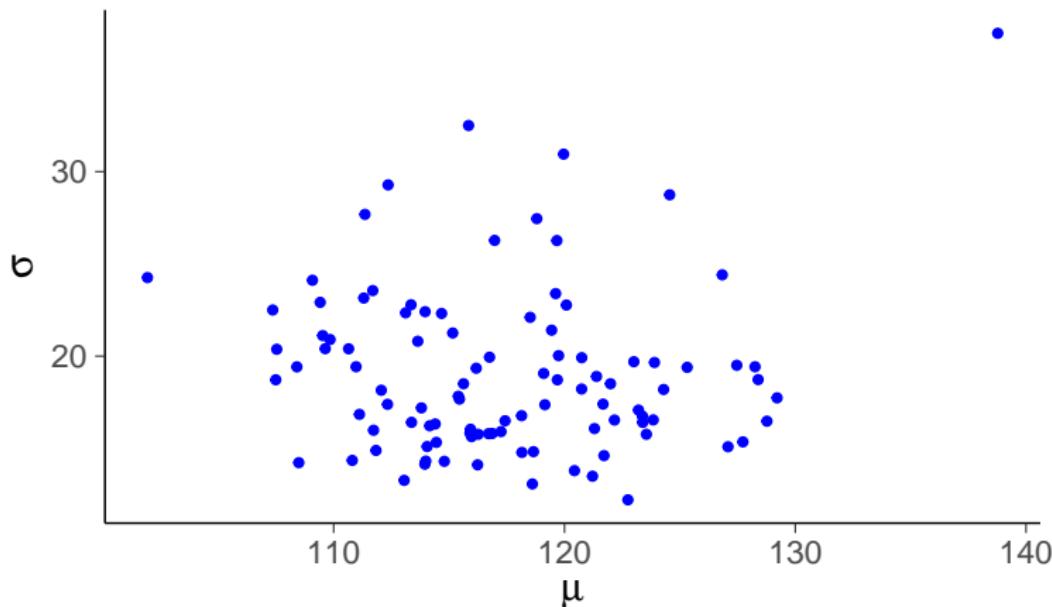
Normals with posterior draw parameters



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Normal distribution example

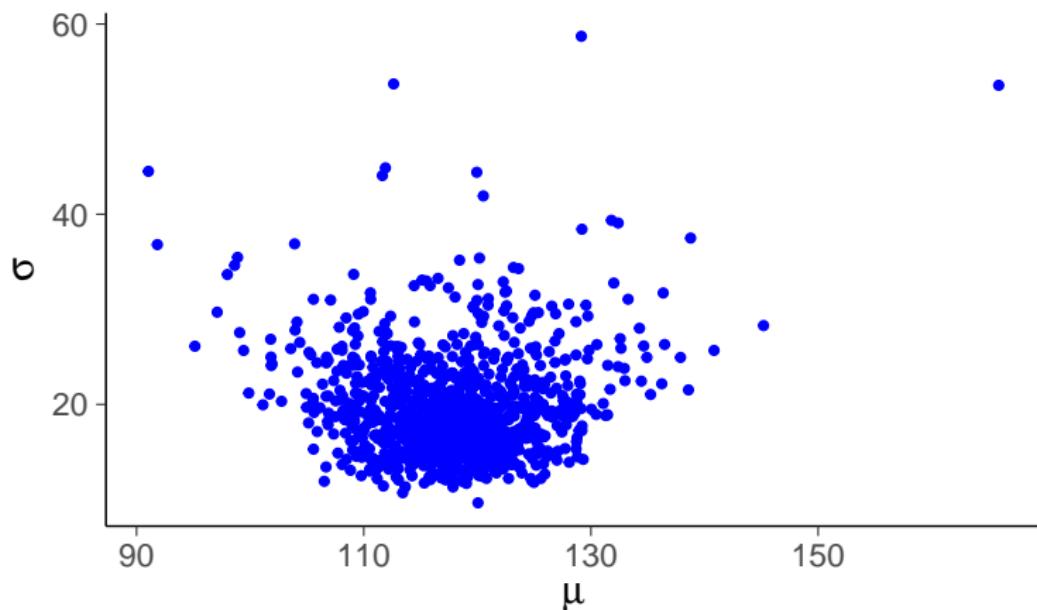
Draws from the joint posterior distribution



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Normal distribution example

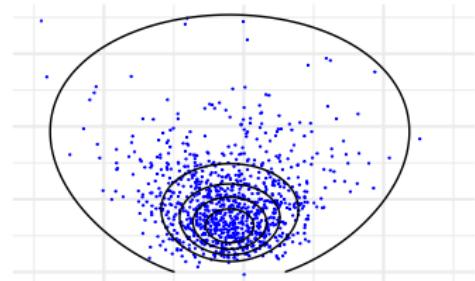
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Joint posterior

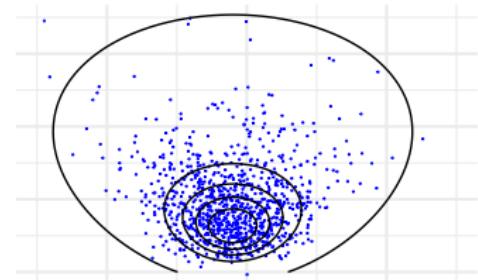
$$\mu^{(s)}, \sigma^{(s)} \sim p(\mu, \sigma | y)$$



Joint posterior

$$\mu^{(s)}, \sigma^{(s)} \sim p(\mu, \sigma | y)$$

with $p(\mu, \sigma^2) \propto \sigma^{-2}$

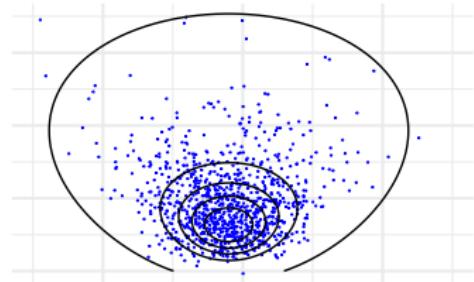


Joint posterior

$$\mu^{(s)}, \sigma^{(s)} \sim p(\mu, \sigma | y)$$

with $p(\mu, \sigma^2) \propto \sigma^{-2}$

with $p(\mu, \sigma) \propto \sigma^{-1}$ (see BDA3 p. 21 transformation of variables)

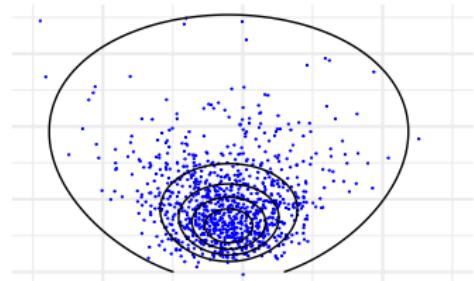


Joint posterior

$$\mu^{(s)}, \sigma^{(s)} \sim p(\mu, \sigma | y)$$

with $p(\mu, \sigma^2) \propto \sigma^{-2}$

$$p(\mu, \sigma^2 | y) \propto \sigma^{-2} \prod_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2\sigma^2}(y_i - \mu)^2\right)$$

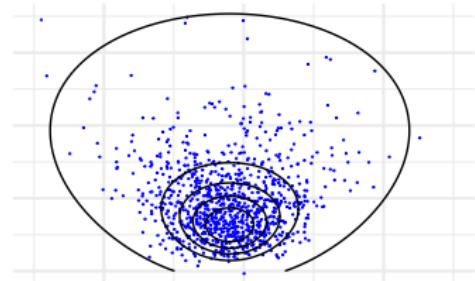


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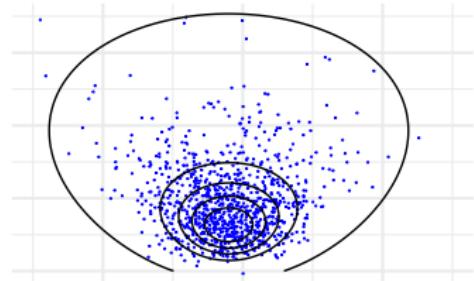
$$p(\mu, \sigma^2 | y) \propto \sigma^{-n-2} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2\sigma^2} \sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - \mu)^2\right)$$



Joint posterior

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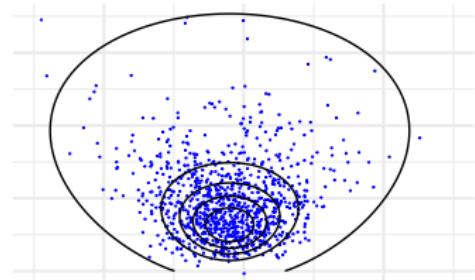
$$= \sigma^{-n-2} \exp \left(-\frac{1}{2\sigma^2} \left[\sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - \bar{y})^2 + n(\bar{y} - \mu)^2 \right] \right)$$

$$\text{where } \bar{y} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n y_i$$

Joint posterior

$$\mu^{(s)}, \sigma^{(s)} \sim p(\mu, \sigma | y)$$

with $p(\mu, \sigma^2) \propto \sigma^{-2}$



$$p(\mu, \sigma^2 | y) \propto \sigma^{-n-2} \exp \left(-\frac{1}{2\sigma^2} \sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - \mu)^2 \right)$$

$$= \sigma^{-n-2} \exp \left(-\frac{1}{2\sigma^2} \left[\sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - \bar{y})^2 + n(\bar{y} - \mu)^2 \right] \right)$$

$$\text{where } \bar{y} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n y_i$$

$$= \sigma^{-n-2} \exp \left(-\frac{1}{2\sigma^2} \left[(n-1)s^2 + n(\bar{y} - \mu)^2 \right] \right)$$

$$\text{where } s^2 = \frac{1}{n-1} \sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - \bar{y})^2$$

Normal - non-informative prior

$$\sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - \mu)^2$$

Normal - non-informative prior

$$\sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - \mu)^2$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^n (y_i^2 - 2y_i\mu + \mu^2)$$

Normal - non-informative prior

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$$\sum_{i=1}^n (y_i^2 - 2y_i\mu + \mu^2)$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^n (y_i^2 - 2y_i\mu + \mu^2 - \bar{y}^2 + \bar{y}^2 - 2y_i\bar{y} + 2y_i\bar{y})$$

Normal - non-informative prior

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$$\sum_{i=1}^n (y_i^2 - 2y_i\mu + \mu^2)$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^n (y_i^2 - 2y_i\mu + \mu^2 - \bar{y}^2 + \bar{y}^2 - 2y_i\bar{y} + 2y_i\bar{y})$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^n (y_i^2 - 2y_i\bar{y} + \bar{y}^2) + \sum_{i=1}^n (\mu^2 - 2y_i\mu - \bar{y}^2 + 2y_i\bar{y})$$

Normal - non-informative prior

$$\sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - \mu)^2$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^n (y_i^2 - 2y_i\mu + \mu^2)$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^n (y_i^2 - 2y_i\mu + \mu^2 - \bar{y}^2 + \bar{y}^2 - 2y_i\bar{y} + 2y_i\bar{y})$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^n (y_i^2 - 2y_i\bar{y} + \bar{y}^2) + \sum_{i=1}^n (\mu^2 - 2y_i\mu - \bar{y}^2 + 2y_i\bar{y})$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - \bar{y})^2 + n(\mu^2 - 2\bar{y}\mu - \bar{y}^2 + 2\bar{y}\bar{y})$$

Normal - non-informative prior

$$\sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - \mu)^2$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^n (y_i^2 - 2y_i\mu + \mu^2)$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^n (y_i^2 - 2y_i\mu + \mu^2 - \bar{y}^2 + \bar{y}^2 - 2y_i\bar{y} + 2y_i\bar{y})$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^n (y_i^2 - 2y_i\bar{y} + \bar{y}^2) + \sum_{i=1}^n (\mu^2 - 2y_i\mu - \bar{y}^2 + 2y_i\bar{y})$$

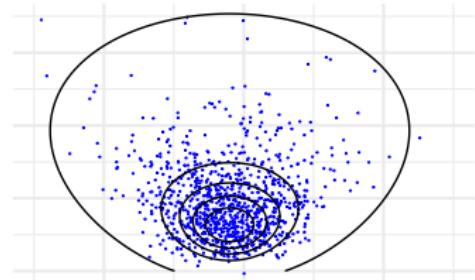
$$\sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - \bar{y})^2 + n(\mu^2 - 2\bar{y}\mu - \bar{y}^2 + 2\bar{y}\bar{y})$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - \bar{y})^2 + n(\bar{y} - \mu)^2$$

Joint posterior

$$\mu^{(s)}, \sigma^{(s)} \sim p(\mu, \sigma | y)$$

with $p(\mu, \sigma^2) \propto \sigma^{-2}$



$$p(\mu, \sigma^2 | y) \propto \sigma^{-n-2} \exp \left(-\frac{1}{2\sigma^2} \sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - \mu)^2 \right)$$

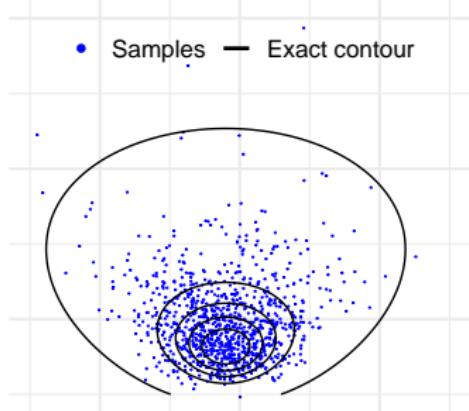
$$= \sigma^{-n-2} \exp \left(-\frac{1}{2\sigma^2} \left[\sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - \bar{y})^2 + n(\bar{y} - \mu)^2 \right] \right)$$

$$\text{where } \bar{y} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n y_i$$

$$= \sigma^{-n-2} \exp \left(-\frac{1}{2\sigma^2} \left[(n-1)s^2 + n(\bar{y} - \mu)^2 \right] \right)$$

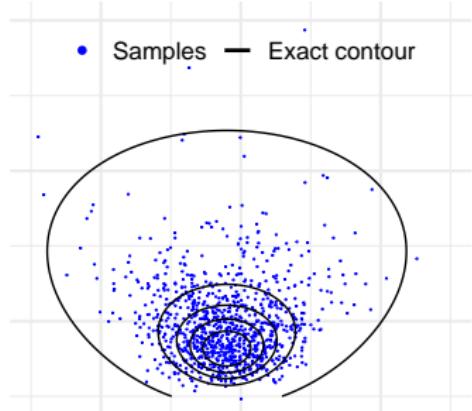
$$\text{where } s^2 = \frac{1}{n-1} \sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - \bar{y})^2$$

Joint posterior

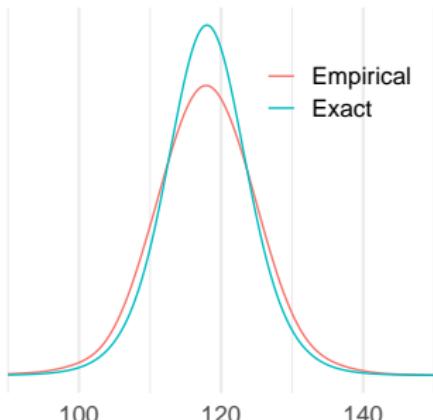


$$\mu^{(s)}, \sigma^{(s)} \sim p(\mu, \sigma | y)$$

Joint posterior



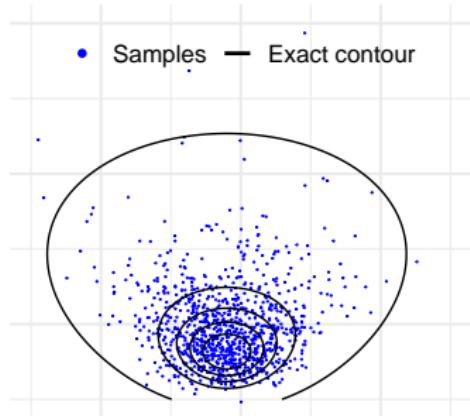
Marginal of mu



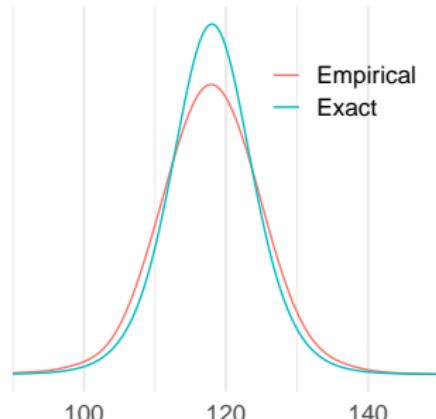
$\mu^{(s)}, \sigma^{(s)} \sim p(\mu, \sigma | y)$
marginals

$$p(\mu | y) = \int p(\mu, \sigma | y) d\sigma$$

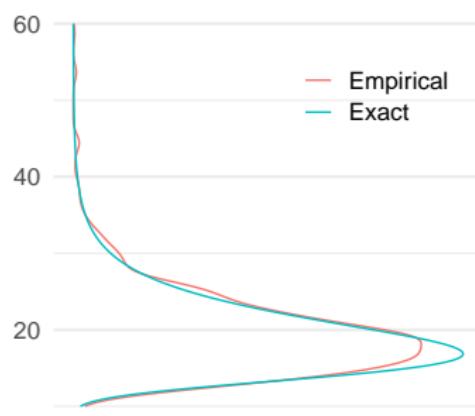
Joint posterior



Marginal of mu



Marginal of sigma



$\mu^{(s)}, \sigma^{(s)} \sim p(\mu, \sigma | y)$
marginals

$$p(\mu | y) = \int p(\mu, \sigma | y) d\sigma$$

$$p(\sigma | y) = \int p(\mu, \sigma | y) d\mu$$

Marginal posterior $p(\sigma^2 | y)$ (easier for σ^2 than σ)

$$p(\sigma^2 | y) \propto \int p(\mu, \sigma^2 | y) d\mu$$

Marginal posterior $p(\sigma^2 | y)$ (easier for σ^2 than σ)

$$\begin{aligned} p(\sigma^2 | y) &\propto \int p(\mu, \sigma^2 | y) d\mu \\ &\propto \int \sigma^{-n-2} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2\sigma^2} \left[(n-1)s^2 + n(\bar{y} - \mu)^2\right]\right) d\mu \end{aligned}$$

Marginal posterior $p(\sigma^2 | y)$ (easier for σ^2 than σ)

$$\begin{aligned} p(\sigma^2 | y) &\propto \int p(\mu, \sigma^2 | y) d\mu \\ &\propto \int \sigma^{-n-2} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2\sigma^2} \left[(n-1)s^2 + n(\bar{y} - \mu)^2\right]\right) d\mu \\ &\propto \sigma^{-n-2} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2\sigma^2}(n-1)s^2\right) \\ &\quad \int \exp\left(-\frac{n}{2\sigma^2}(\bar{y} - \mu)^2\right) d\mu \end{aligned}$$

Marginal posterior $p(\sigma^2 | y)$ (easier for σ^2 than σ)

$$\begin{aligned} p(\sigma^2 | y) &\propto \int p(\mu, \sigma^2 | y) d\mu \\ &\propto \int \sigma^{-n-2} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2\sigma^2} [(n-1)s^2 + n(\bar{y} - \mu)^2]\right) d\mu \\ &\propto \sigma^{-n-2} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2\sigma^2}(n-1)s^2\right) \\ &\quad \int \exp\left(-\frac{n}{2\sigma^2}(\bar{y} - \mu)^2\right) d\mu \\ &\quad \int \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2\sigma^2}(y - \theta)^2\right) d\theta = 1 \end{aligned}$$

Marginal posterior $p(\sigma^2 | y)$ (easier for σ^2 than σ)

$$\begin{aligned} p(\sigma^2 | y) &\propto \int p(\mu, \sigma^2 | y) d\mu \\ &\propto \int \sigma^{-n-2} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2\sigma^2} [(n-1)s^2 + n(\bar{y} - \mu)^2]\right) d\mu \\ &\propto \sigma^{-n-2} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2\sigma^2}(n-1)s^2\right) \\ &\quad \int \exp\left(-\frac{n}{2\sigma^2}(\bar{y} - \mu)^2\right) d\mu \\ &\quad \int \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2\sigma^2}(y - \theta)^2\right) d\theta = 1 \\ &\propto \sigma^{-n-2} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2\sigma^2}(n-1)s^2\right) \sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2/n} \end{aligned}$$

Marginal posterior $p(\sigma^2 | y)$ (easier for σ^2 than σ)

$$\begin{aligned} p(\sigma^2 | y) &\propto \int p(\mu, \sigma^2 | y) d\mu \\ &\propto \int \sigma^{-n-2} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2\sigma^2} [(n-1)s^2 + n(\bar{y} - \mu)^2]\right) d\mu \\ &\propto \sigma^{-n-2} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2\sigma^2}(n-1)s^2\right) \\ &\quad \int \exp\left(-\frac{n}{2\sigma^2}(\bar{y} - \mu)^2\right) d\mu \\ &\quad \int \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2\sigma^2}(y - \theta)^2\right) d\theta = 1 \\ &\propto \sigma^{-n-2} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2\sigma^2}(n-1)s^2\right) \sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2/n} \\ &\propto (\sigma^2)^{-(n+1)/2} \exp\left(-\frac{(n-1)s^2}{2\sigma^2}\right) \end{aligned}$$

Marginal posterior $p(\sigma^2 | y)$ (easier for σ^2 than σ)

$$\begin{aligned} p(\sigma^2 | y) &\propto \int p(\mu, \sigma^2 | y) d\mu \\ &\propto \int \sigma^{-n-2} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2\sigma^2} [(n-1)s^2 + n(\bar{y} - \mu)^2]\right) d\mu \\ &\propto \sigma^{-n-2} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2\sigma^2}(n-1)s^2\right) \\ &\quad \int \exp\left(-\frac{n}{2\sigma^2}(\bar{y} - \mu)^2\right) d\mu \\ &\quad \int \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2\sigma^2}(y - \theta)^2\right) d\theta = 1 \\ &\propto \sigma^{-n-2} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2\sigma^2}(n-1)s^2\right) \sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2/n} \\ &\propto (\sigma^2)^{-(n+1)/2} \exp\left(-\frac{(n-1)s^2}{2\sigma^2}\right) \\ p(\sigma^2 | y) &= \text{Inv-}\chi^2(\sigma^2 | n-1, s^2) \end{aligned}$$

Normal - non-informative prior

Known mean

$$\sigma^2 \mid y \sim \text{Inv-}\chi^2(n, v)$$

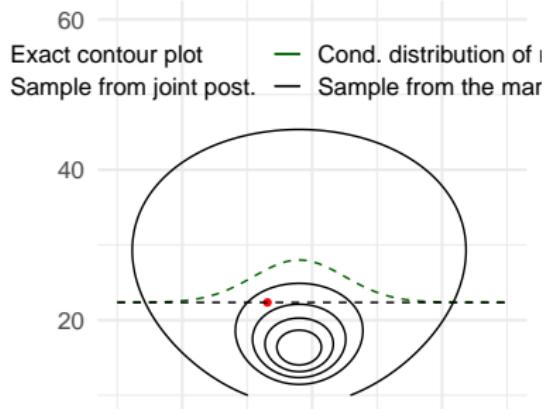
where $v = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - \theta)^2$

Unknown mean

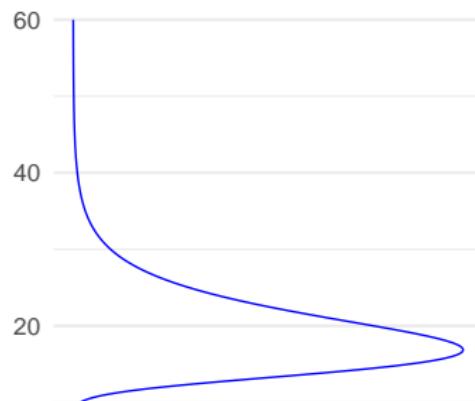
$$\sigma^2 \mid y \sim \text{Inv-}\chi^2(n - 1, s^2)$$

where $s^2 = \frac{1}{n - 1} \sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - \bar{y})^2$

Joint posterior



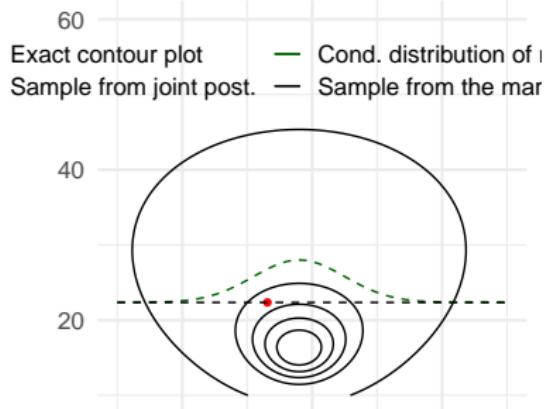
Marginal of sigma



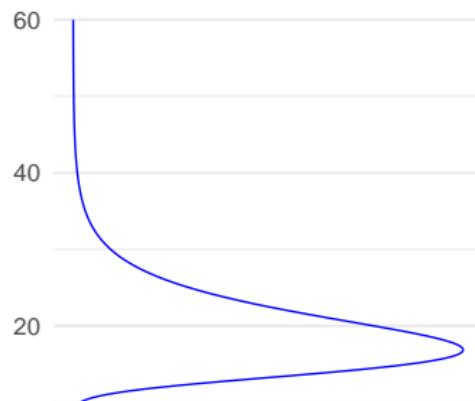
Factorization

$$p(\mu, \sigma^2 | y) = p(\mu | \sigma^2, y) p(\sigma^2 | y)$$

Joint posterior



Marginal of sigma



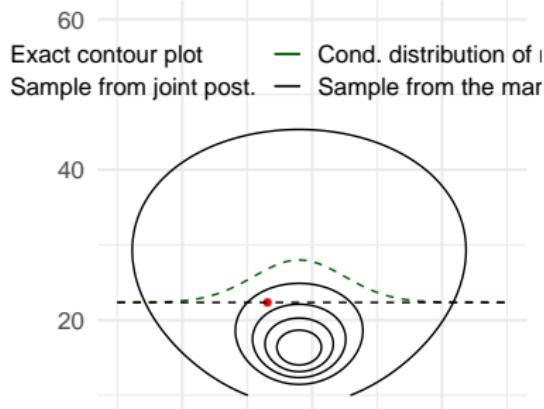
Factorization

$$p(\mu, \sigma^2 | y) = p(\mu | \sigma^2, y) p(\sigma^2 | y)$$

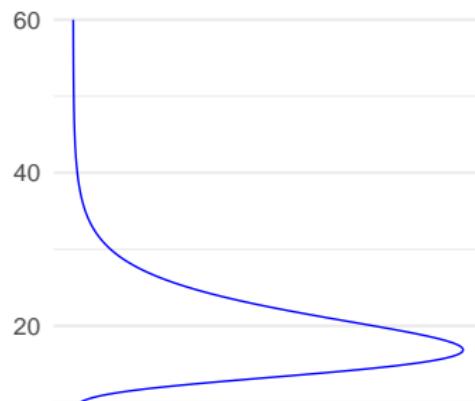
$$p(\sigma^2 | y) = \text{Inv-}\chi^2(\sigma^2 | n - 1, s^2)$$

$$(\sigma^2)^{(s)} \sim p(\sigma^2 | y)$$

Joint posterior



Marginal of sigma



Factorization

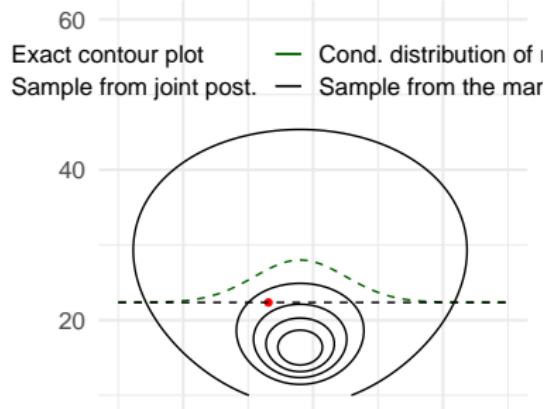
$$p(\mu, \sigma^2 | y) = p(\mu | \sigma^2, y) p(\sigma^2 | y)$$

$$p(\sigma^2 | y) = \text{Inv-}\chi^2(\sigma^2 | n - 1, s^2)$$

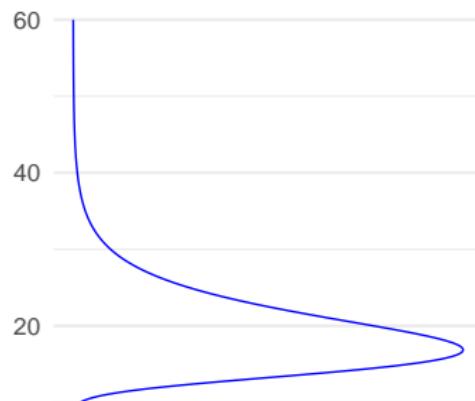
$$(\sigma^2)^{(s)} \sim p(\sigma^2 | y)$$

$$p(\mu | \sigma^2, y) = N(\mu | \bar{y}, \sigma^2/n)$$

Joint posterior



Marginal of sigma



Factorization

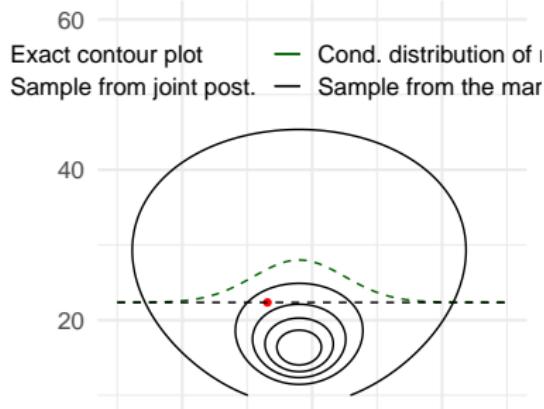
$$p(\mu, \sigma^2 | y) = p(\mu | \sigma^2, y) p(\sigma^2 | y)$$

$$p(\sigma^2 | y) = \text{Inv-}\chi^2(\sigma^2 | n - 1, s^2)$$

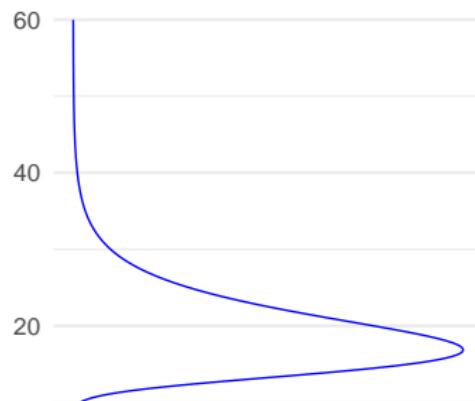
$$(\sigma^2)^{(s)} \sim p(\sigma^2 | y)$$

$$p(\mu | \sigma^2, y) = N(\mu | \bar{y}, \sigma^2/n) \propto \exp\left(-\frac{n}{2\sigma^2}(\bar{y} - \mu)^2\right)$$

Joint posterior



Marginal of sigma



Factorization

$$p(\mu, \sigma^2 | y) = p(\mu | \sigma^2, y) p(\sigma^2 | y)$$

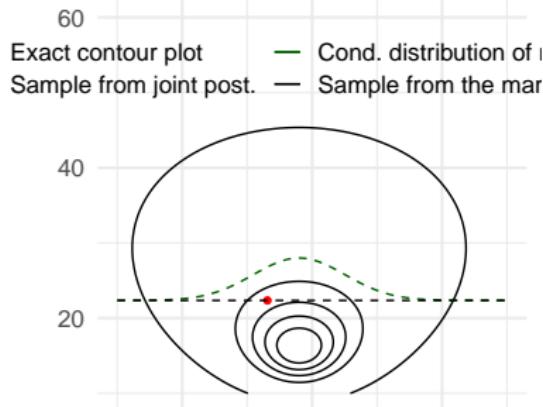
$$p(\sigma^2 | y) = \text{Inv-}\chi^2(\sigma^2 | n - 1, s^2)$$

$$(\sigma^2)^{(s)} \sim p(\sigma^2 | y)$$

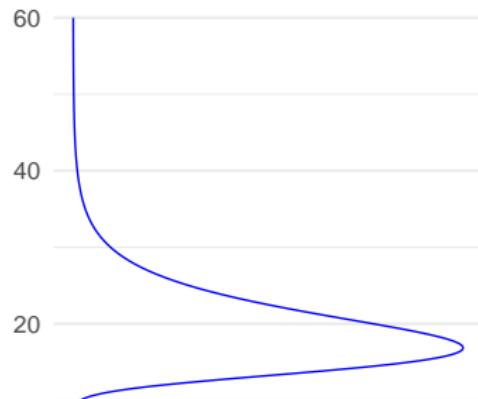
$$p(\mu | \sigma^2, y) = N(\mu | \bar{y}, \sigma^2/n)$$

$$\mu^{(s)} \sim p(\mu | (\sigma^2)^{(s)}, y)$$

Joint posterior



Marginal of sigma



Factorization

$$p(\mu, \sigma^2 | y) = p(\mu | \sigma^2, y) p(\sigma^2 | y)$$

$$p(\sigma^2 | y) = \text{Inv-}\chi^2(\sigma^2 | n - 1, s^2)$$

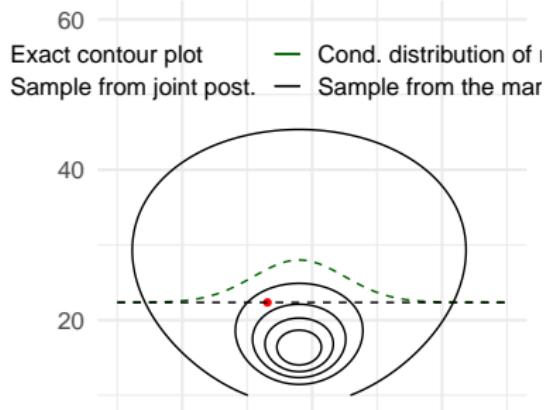
$$(\sigma^2)^{(s)} \sim p(\sigma^2 | y)$$

$$p(\mu | \sigma^2, y) = N(\mu | \bar{y}, \sigma^2/n)$$

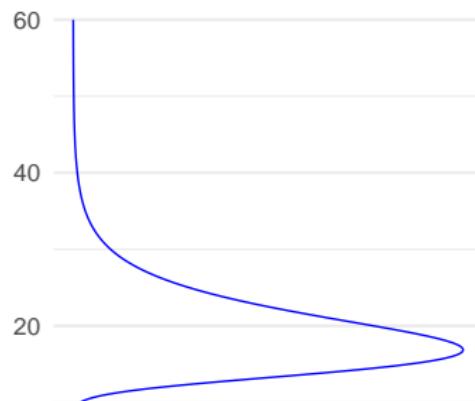
$$\mu^{(s)} \sim p(\mu | (\sigma^2)^{(s)}, y)$$

$$\mu^{(s)}, \sigma^{(s)} \sim p(\mu, \sigma | y)$$

Joint posterior



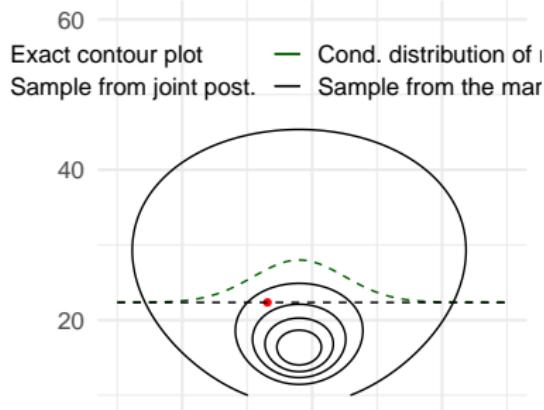
Marginal of sigma



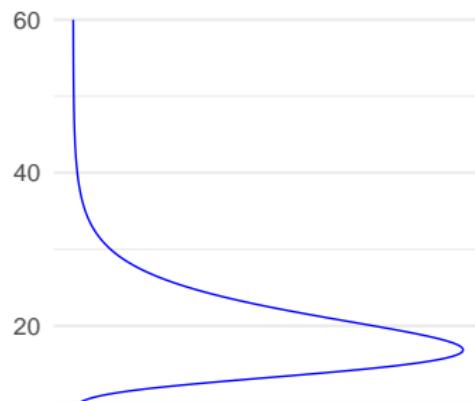
Factorization

$$p(\mu, \sigma^2 | y) = p(\mu | \sigma^2, y)p(\sigma^2 | y)$$

Joint posterior



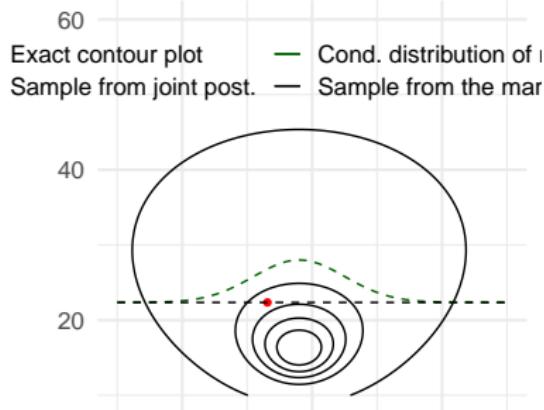
Marginal of sigma



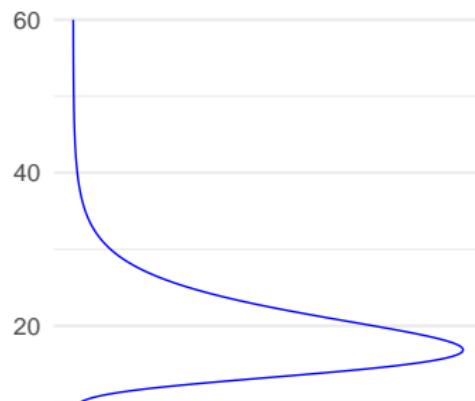
Factorization

$$p(\mu, \sigma^2 | y) = p(\mu | \sigma^2, y)p(\sigma^2 | y)$$
$$(\sigma^2)^{(s)} \sim p(\sigma^2 | y)$$

Joint posterior



Marginal of sigma



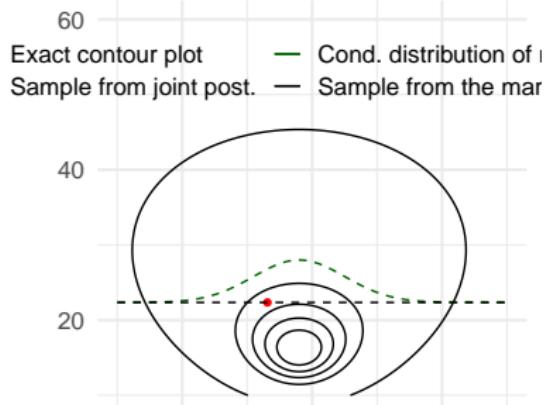
Factorization

$$p(\mu, \sigma^2 | y) = p(\mu | \sigma^2, y)p(\sigma^2 | y)$$

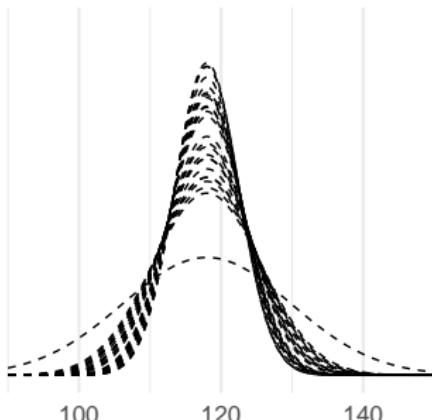
$$(\sigma^2)^{(s)} \sim p(\sigma^2 | y)$$

$$p(\mu | (\sigma^2)^{(s)}, y) = N(\mu | \bar{y}, (\sigma^2)^{(s)}/n)$$

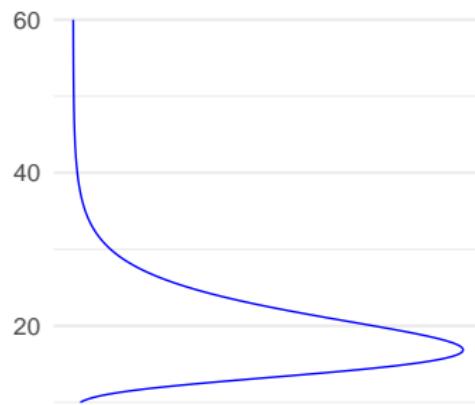
Joint posterior



Cond distr of μ for 25 draws



Marginal of sigma



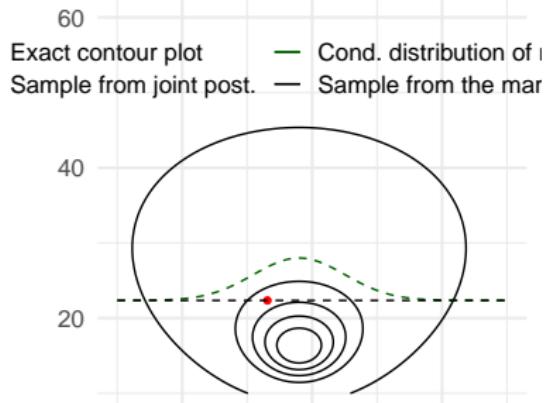
Factorization

$$p(\mu, \sigma^2 | y) = p(\mu | \sigma^2, y)p(\sigma^2 | y)$$

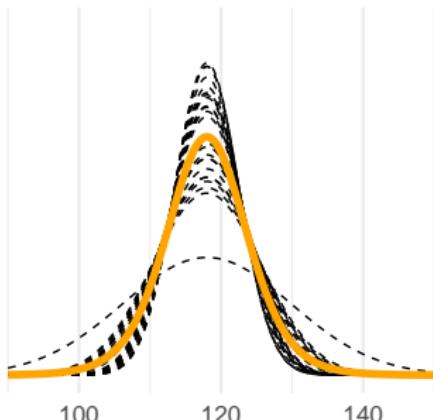
$$(\sigma^2)^{(s)} \sim p(\sigma^2 | y)$$

$$p(\mu | (\sigma^2)^{(s)}, y) = N(\mu | \bar{y}, (\sigma^2)^{(s)}/n)$$

Joint posterior



Cond distr of mu for 25 draws



Marginal of sigma



Factorization

$$p(\mu, \sigma^2 | y) = p(\mu | \sigma^2, y)p(\sigma^2 | y)$$

$$(\sigma^2)^{(s)} \sim p(\sigma^2 | y)$$

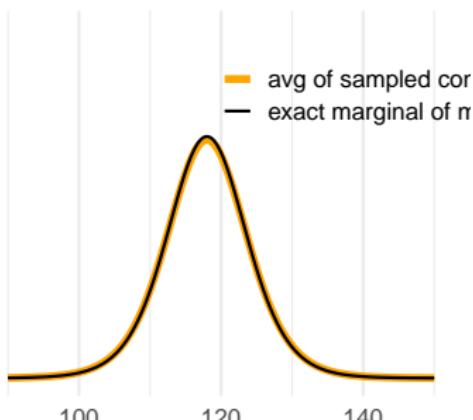
$$p(\mu | (\sigma^2)^{(s)}, y) = N(\mu | \bar{y}, (\sigma^2)^{(s)}/n)$$

$$p(\mu | y) \approx \frac{1}{S} \sum_{s=1}^S N(\mu | \bar{y}, (\sigma^2)^{(s)}/n)$$

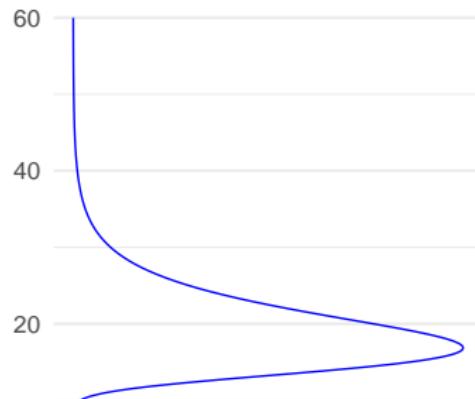
Joint posterior



Cond. distr of μ



Marginal of sigma



Factorization

$$p(\mu, \sigma^2 | y) = p(\mu | \sigma^2, y)p(\sigma^2 | y)$$

$$(\sigma^2)^{(s)} \sim p(\sigma^2 | y)$$

$$p(\mu | (\sigma^2)^{(s)}, y) = N(\mu | \bar{y}, (\sigma^2)^{(s)}/n)$$

$$p(\mu | y) \approx \frac{1}{S} \sum_{s=1}^S N(\mu | \bar{y}, (\sigma^2)^{(s)}/n)$$

Marginal posterior $p(\mu | y)$

$$p(\mu | y) = \int_0^\infty p(\mu, \sigma^2 | y) d\sigma^2$$

Marginal posterior $p(\mu | y)$

$$\begin{aligned} p(\mu | y) &= \int_0^\infty p(\mu, \sigma^2 | y) d\sigma^2 \\ &\propto \int_0^\infty \sigma^{-n-2} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2\sigma^2} \left[(n-1)s^2 + n(\bar{y} - \mu)^2\right]\right) d\sigma^2 \end{aligned}$$

Marginal posterior $p(\mu | y)$

$$\begin{aligned} p(\mu | y) &= \int_0^\infty p(\mu, \sigma^2 | y) d\sigma^2 \\ &\propto \int_0^\infty \sigma^{-n-2} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2\sigma^2} \left[(n-1)s^2 + n(\bar{y} - \mu)^2\right]\right) d\sigma^2 \end{aligned}$$

Transformation

$$A = (n-1)s^2 + n(\mu - \bar{y})^2$$

Marginal posterior $p(\mu | y)$

$$\begin{aligned} p(\mu | y) &= \int_0^\infty p(\mu, \sigma^2 | y) d\sigma^2 \\ &\propto \int_0^\infty \sigma^{-n-2} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2\sigma^2} \left[(n-1)s^2 + n(\bar{y} - \mu)^2\right]\right) d\sigma^2 \end{aligned}$$

Transformation

$$A = (n-1)s^2 + n(\mu - \bar{y})^2 \quad \text{and} \quad z = \frac{A}{2\sigma^2}$$

Marginal posterior $p(\mu | y)$

$$\begin{aligned} p(\mu | y) &= \int_0^\infty p(\mu, \sigma^2 | y) d\sigma^2 \\ &\propto \int_0^\infty \sigma^{-n-2} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2\sigma^2} \left[(n-1)s^2 + n(\bar{y} - \mu)^2\right]\right) d\sigma^2 \end{aligned}$$

Transformation

$$A = (n-1)s^2 + n(\mu - \bar{y})^2 \quad \text{and} \quad z = \frac{A}{2\sigma^2}$$

$$p(\mu | y) \propto A^{-n/2} \int_0^\infty z^{(n-2)/2} \exp(-z) dz$$

Marginal posterior $p(\mu | y)$

$$\begin{aligned} p(\mu | y) &= \int_0^\infty p(\mu, \sigma^2 | y) d\sigma^2 \\ &\propto \int_0^\infty \sigma^{-n-2} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2\sigma^2} \left[(n-1)s^2 + n(\bar{y} - \mu)^2\right]\right) d\sigma^2 \end{aligned}$$

Transformation

$$A = (n-1)s^2 + n(\mu - \bar{y})^2 \quad \text{and} \quad z = \frac{A}{2\sigma^2}$$

$$p(\mu | y) \propto A^{-n/2} \int_0^\infty z^{(n-2)/2} \exp(-z) dz$$

Recognize gamma integral $\Gamma(u) = \int_0^\infty x^{u-1} \exp(-x) dx$

Marginal posterior $p(\mu | y)$

$$\begin{aligned} p(\mu | y) &= \int_0^\infty p(\mu, \sigma^2 | y) d\sigma^2 \\ &\propto \int_0^\infty \sigma^{-n-2} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2\sigma^2} \left[(n-1)s^2 + n(\bar{y} - \mu)^2\right]\right) d\sigma^2 \end{aligned}$$

Transformation

$$A = (n-1)s^2 + n(\mu - \bar{y})^2 \quad \text{and} \quad z = \frac{A}{2\sigma^2}$$

$$p(\mu | y) \propto A^{-n/2} \int_0^\infty z^{(n-2)/2} \exp(-z) dz$$

Recognize gamma integral $\Gamma(u) = \int_0^\infty x^{u-1} \exp(-x) dx$

$$\propto [(n-1)s^2 + n(\mu - \bar{y})^2]^{-n/2}$$

Marginal posterior $p(\mu | y)$

$$\begin{aligned} p(\mu | y) &= \int_0^\infty p(\mu, \sigma^2 | y) d\sigma^2 \\ &\propto \int_0^\infty \sigma^{-n-2} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2\sigma^2} \left[(n-1)s^2 + n(\bar{y} - \mu)^2\right]\right) d\sigma^2 \end{aligned}$$

Transformation

$$A = (n-1)s^2 + n(\mu - \bar{y})^2 \quad \text{and} \quad z = \frac{A}{2\sigma^2}$$

$$p(\mu | y) \propto A^{-n/2} \int_0^\infty z^{(n-2)/2} \exp(-z) dz$$

Recognize gamma integral $\Gamma(u) = \int_0^\infty x^{u-1} \exp(-x) dx$

$$\begin{aligned} &\propto [(n-1)s^2 + n(\mu - \bar{y})^2]^{-n/2} \\ &\propto \left[1 + \frac{n(\mu - \bar{y})^2}{(n-1)s^2}\right]^{-n/2} \end{aligned}$$

Marginal posterior $p(\mu | y)$

$$\begin{aligned} p(\mu | y) &= \int_0^\infty p(\mu, \sigma^2 | y) d\sigma^2 \\ &\propto \int_0^\infty \sigma^{-n-2} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2\sigma^2} \left[(n-1)s^2 + n(\bar{y} - \mu)^2\right]\right) d\sigma^2 \end{aligned}$$

Transformation

$$A = (n-1)s^2 + n(\mu - \bar{y})^2 \quad \text{and} \quad z = \frac{A}{2\sigma^2}$$

$$p(\mu | y) \propto A^{-n/2} \int_0^\infty z^{(n-2)/2} \exp(-z) dz$$

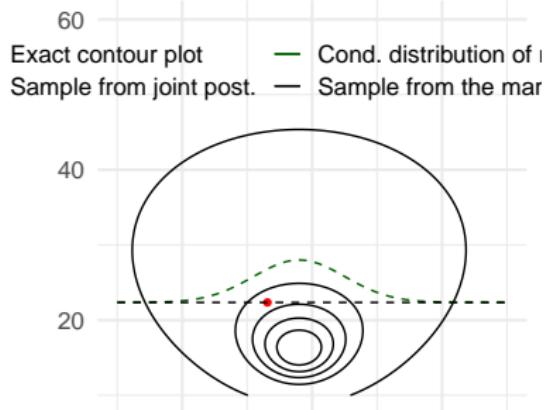
Recognize gamma integral $\Gamma(u) = \int_0^\infty x^{u-1} \exp(-x) dx$

$$\propto [(n-1)s^2 + n(\mu - \bar{y})^2]^{-n/2}$$

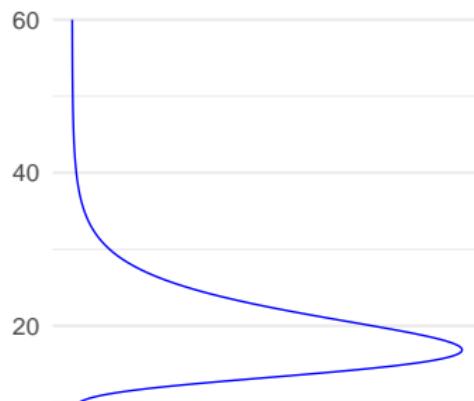
$$\propto \left[1 + \frac{n(\mu - \bar{y})^2}{(n-1)s^2}\right]^{-n/2}$$

$$p(\mu | y) = t_{n-1}(\mu | \bar{y}, s^2/n) \quad \text{Student's } t$$

Joint posterior



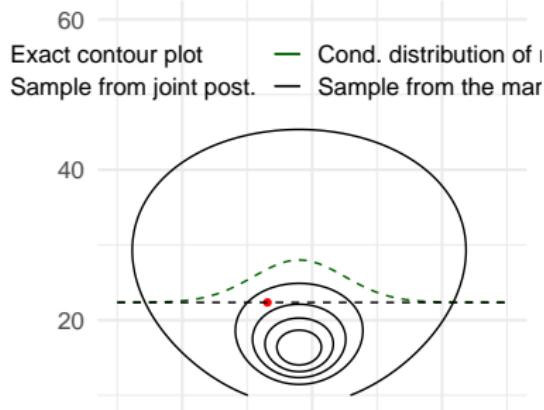
Marginal of sigma



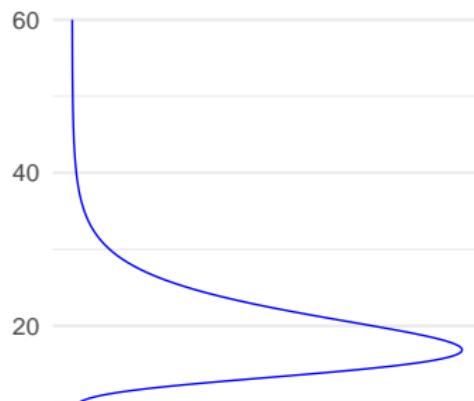
Predictive distribution for new \tilde{y}

$$p(\tilde{y} | y) = \int p(\tilde{y} | \mu, \sigma) p(\mu, \sigma | y) d\mu \sigma$$

Joint posterior



Marginal of sigma

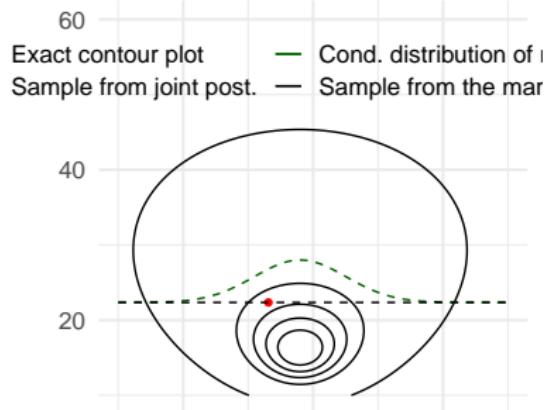


Predictive distribution for new \tilde{y}

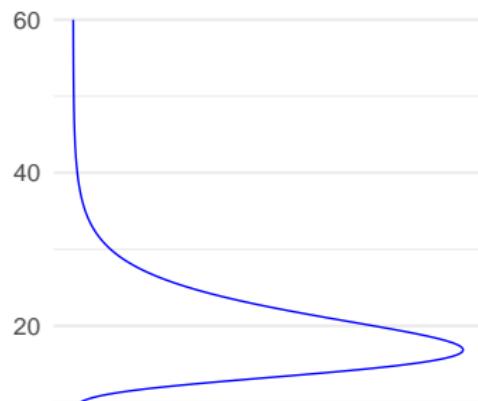
$$p(\tilde{y} | y) = \int p(\tilde{y} | \mu, \sigma) p(\mu, \sigma | y) d\mu \sigma$$

$$\mu^{(s)}, \sigma^{(s)} \sim p(\mu, \sigma | y)$$

Joint posterior



Marginal of sigma



Posterior predictive distribution

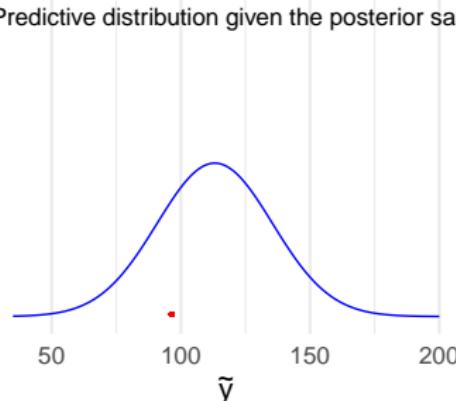
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Predictive distribution for new \tilde{y}

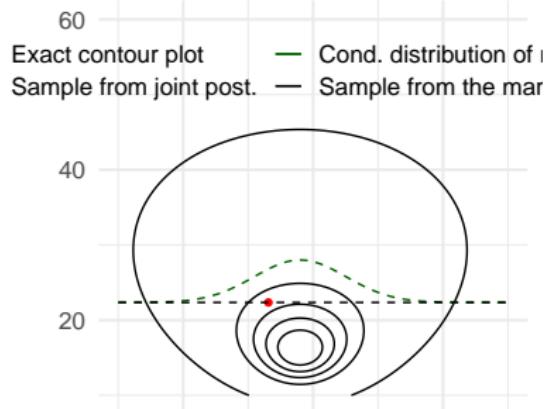
$$p(\tilde{y} | y) = \int p(\tilde{y} | \mu, \sigma) p(\mu, \sigma | y) d\mu d\sigma$$

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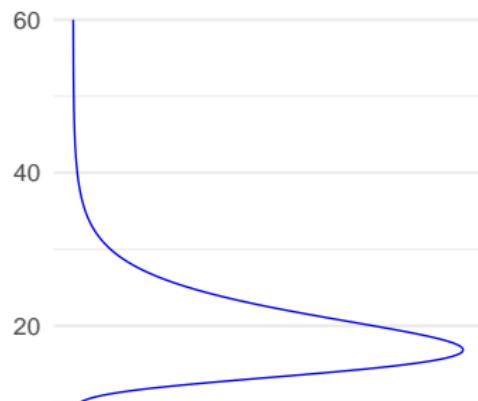
$$\tilde{y}^{(s)} \sim p(\tilde{y} | \mu^{(s)}, \sigma^{(s)})$$



Joint posterior



Marginal of sigma



Predictive distribution for new \tilde{y}

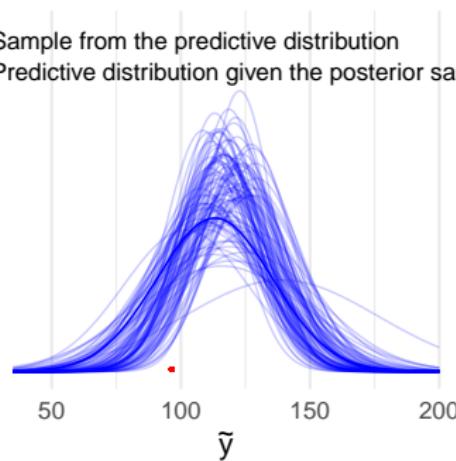
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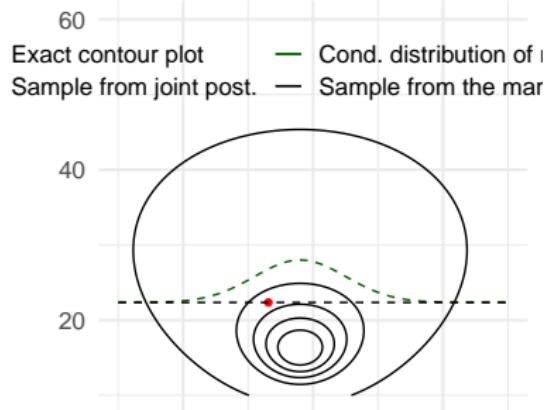
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Posterior predictive distribution

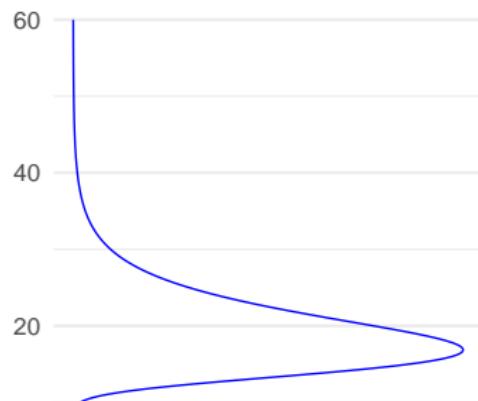
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Joint posterior



Marginal of sigma



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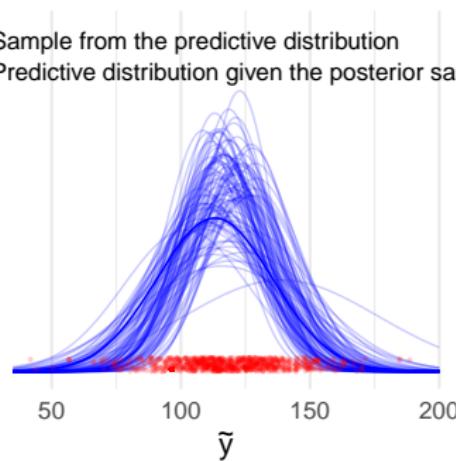
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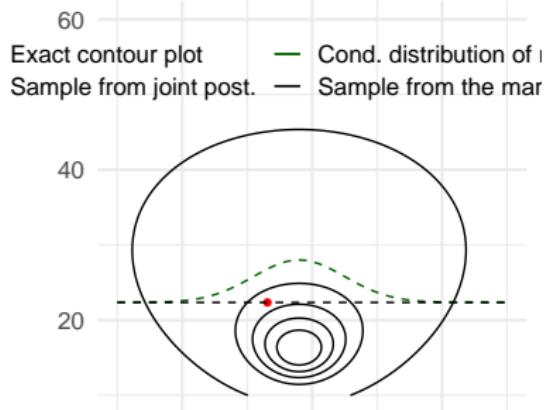
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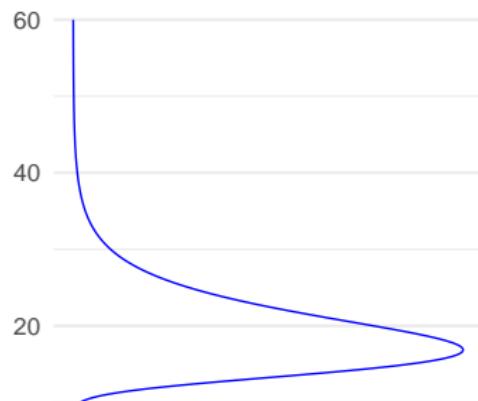
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Joint posterior



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Predictive distribution for new \tilde{y}

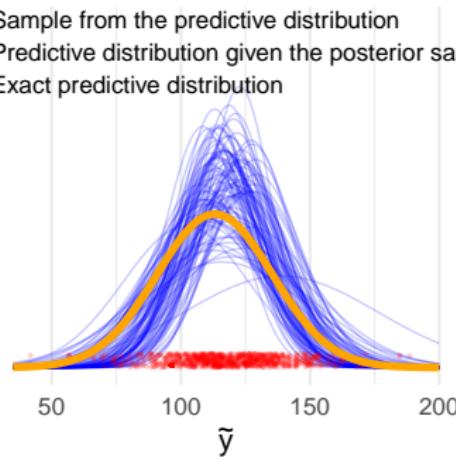
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$$\mu^{(s)}, \sigma^{(s)} \sim p(\mu, \sigma | y)$$

$$\tilde{y}^{(s)} \sim p(\tilde{y} | \mu^{(s)}, \sigma^{(s)})$$

Posterior predictive distribution

- Sample from the predictive distribution
- Predictive distribution given the posterior sam
- Exact predictive distribution



Normal - posterior predictive distribution

Posterior predictive distribution given known variance

$$p(\tilde{y} \mid \sigma^2, y) = \int p(\tilde{y} \mid \mu, \sigma^2) p(\mu \mid \sigma^2, y) d\mu$$

Normal - posterior predictive distribution

Posterior predictive distribution given known variance

$$\begin{aligned} p(\tilde{y} \mid \sigma^2, y) &= \int p(\tilde{y} \mid \mu, \sigma^2) p(\mu \mid \sigma^2, y) d\mu \\ &= \int N(\tilde{y} \mid \mu, \sigma^2) N(\mu \mid \bar{y}, \sigma^2/n) d\mu \end{aligned}$$

Normal - posterior predictive distribution

Posterior predictive distribution given known variance

$$\begin{aligned} p(\tilde{y} \mid \sigma^2, y) &= \int p(\tilde{y} \mid \mu, \sigma^2) p(\mu \mid \sigma^2, y) d\mu \\ &= \int N(\tilde{y} \mid \mu, \sigma^2) N(\mu \mid \bar{y}, \sigma^2/n) d\mu \\ &= N(\tilde{y} \mid \bar{y}, (1 + \frac{1}{n})\sigma^2) \end{aligned}$$

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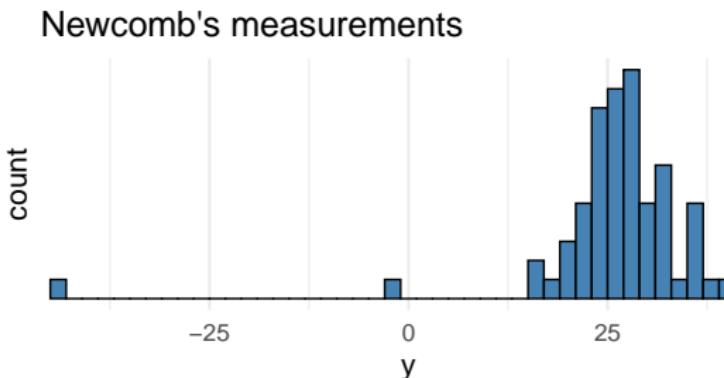
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$$p(\tilde{y} \mid y) = t_{n-1}(\tilde{y} \mid \bar{y}, (1 + \frac{1}{n})s^2)$$

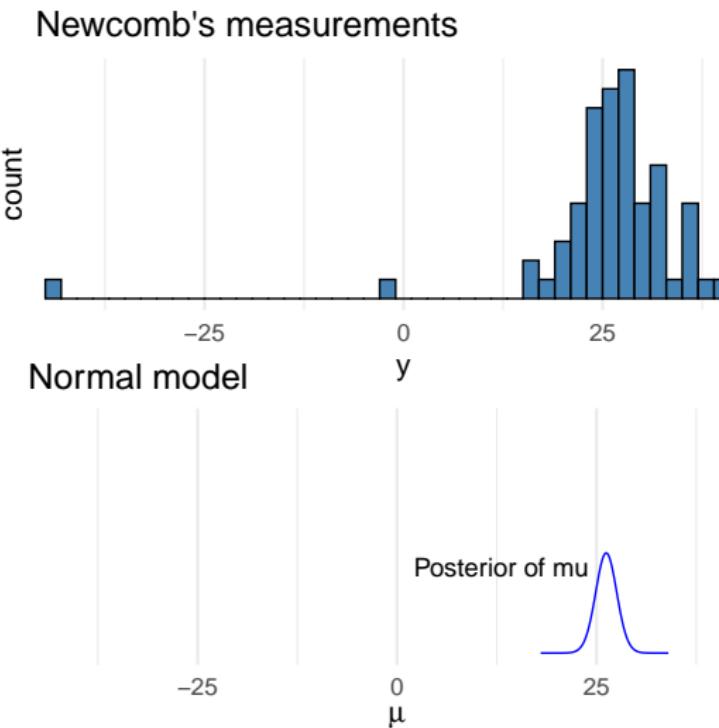
Simon Newcomb's light of speed experiment in 1882

Newcomb measured ($n = 66$) the time required for light to travel from his laboratory on the Potomac River to a mirror at the base of the Washington Monument and back, a total distance of 7422 meters.



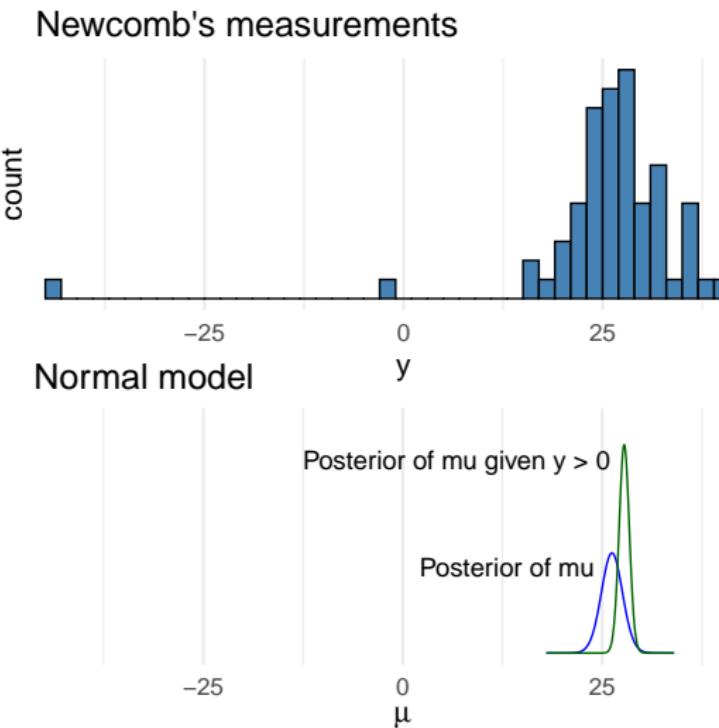
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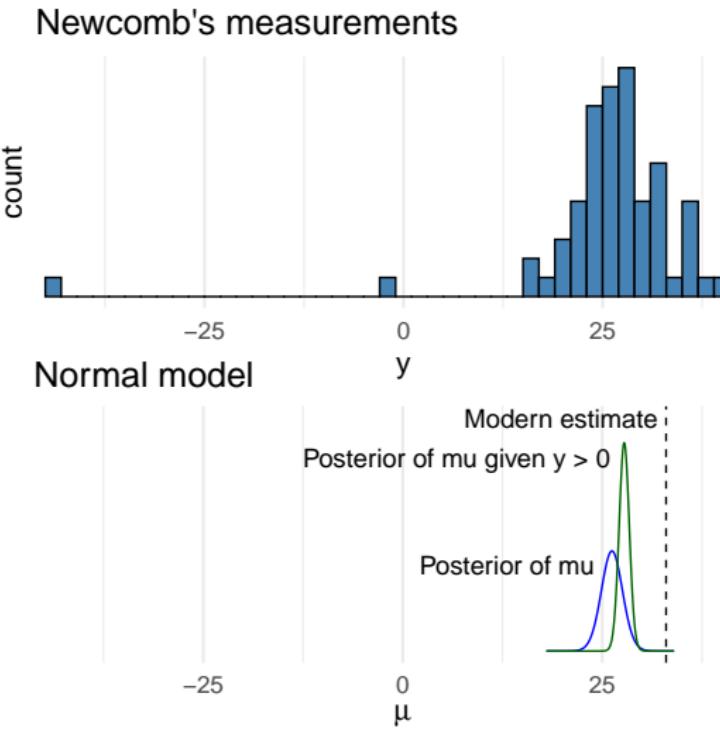
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Normal - conjugate prior

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(see the chapter notes)

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which can be written as

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$$p(\mu, \sigma^2) = N\text{-Inv-}\chi^2(\mu_0, \sigma_0^2 / \kappa_0; \nu_0, \sigma_0^2)$$

- μ and σ^2 are a priori dependent
 - if σ^2 is large, then μ has wide prior

Normal - conjugate prior

Joint posterior (exercise 3.9)

$$p(\mu, \sigma^2 | y) = \text{N-Inv-}\chi^2(\mu_n, \sigma_n^2 / \kappa_n; \nu_n, \sigma_n^2)$$

where

$$\mu_n = \frac{\kappa_0}{\kappa_0 + n} \mu_0 + \frac{n}{\kappa_0 + n} \bar{y}$$

$$\kappa_n = \kappa_0 + n$$

$$\nu_n = \nu_0 + n$$

$$\nu_n \sigma_n^2 = \nu_0 \sigma_0^2 + (n - 1)s^2 + \frac{\kappa_0 n}{\kappa_0 + n} (\bar{y} - \mu_0)^2$$

Comparison of means of two normals

- The difference of two normally distributed variables is normally distributed
- The difference of two t distributed variables with different variances and degrees of freedom doesn't have a closed form
 - easy to sample from the two distributions, and obtain samples of the differences

$$\text{if } \mu_1^{(s)} \sim p(\mu_1 | y_1)$$

$$\mu_2^{(s)} \sim p(\mu_2 | y_2)$$

$$\delta^{(s)} = \mu_1^{(s)} - \mu_2^{(s)}$$

$$\text{then } \delta^{(s)} \sim p(\delta | y_1, y_2)$$

Multivariate normal

- Observation model

$$p(y | \mu, \Sigma) \propto |\Sigma|^{-1/2} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2}(y - \mu)^T \Sigma^{-1} (y - \mu)\right)$$

- BDA3 p. 72–
- New recommended LKJ-prior mentioned in Appendix A, see more in Stan manual

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- BDA3 p. 72–
- New recommended LKJ-prior mentioned in Appendix A, see more in Stan manual
- Gaussian process and Gaussian Markov random field models are in practice computed with multivariate normals
 - GPs in BDA3 Chapter 21, and a course in spring
 - GPs and GMRFs often used also as priors for latent functions and combined with non-normal observation models

Normal linear regression

- $y_i \sim N(\alpha + \beta x_i, \sigma^2), \quad i = 1, \dots, N$

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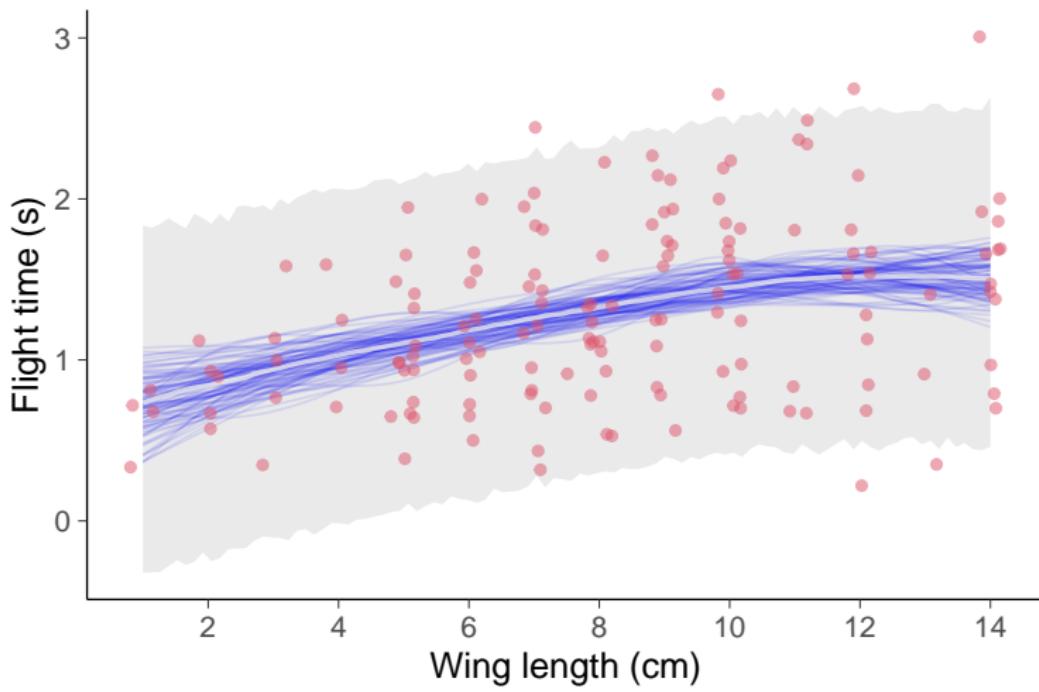
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- more in BDA3 Chapter 14 (not part of the course) and Regression and Other Stories book

Paper helicopter flight time

$$y \sim \text{normal}(f, \sigma)$$

$$f \sim GP(0, K(x, \theta))$$

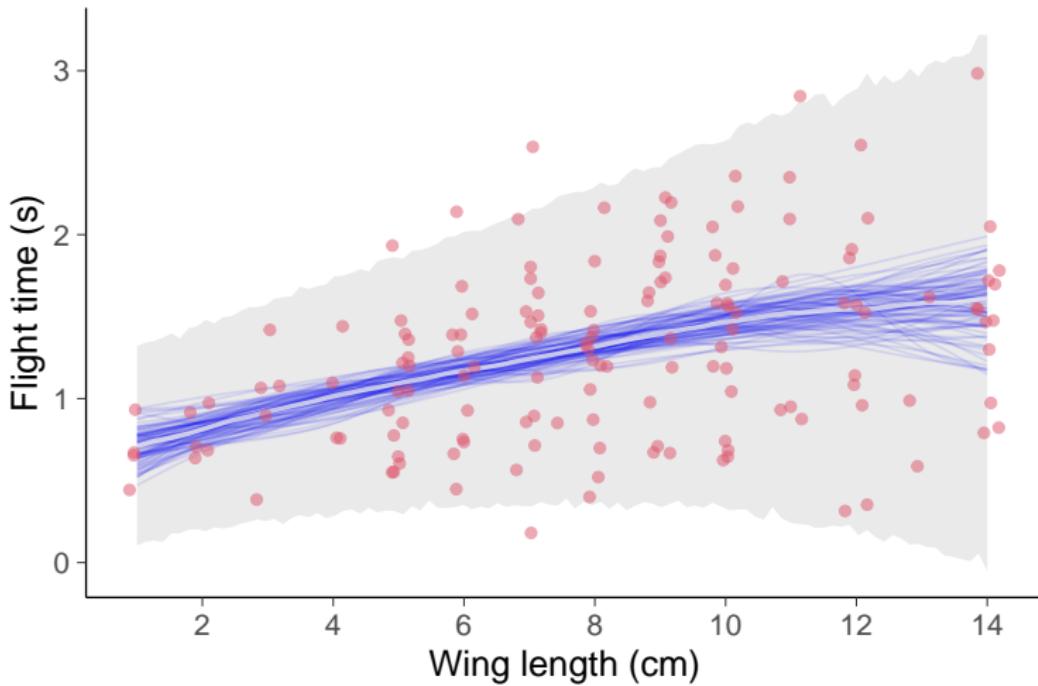


Paper helicopter flight time

$$y \sim \text{normal}(f, \sigma)$$

$$f \sim GP(0, K_f(x, \theta_f))$$

$$\log(\sigma) \sim GP(0, K_g(x, \theta_g))$$



Scale mixture of normals

- Many useful distributions can be presented as scale mixture of normals, e.g.
 - Student's t
 - Cauchy
 - Double exponential aka Laplace
 - Horseshoe
 - R2-D2

Multinomial model for categorical data

- Extension of binomial
- Observation model

$$p(y \mid \theta) \propto \prod_{j=1}^k \theta_j^{y_j},$$

- BDA3 p. 69–

Generalized linear model (GLM)

- $y_i \sim p(g^{-1}(\alpha + \beta x_i), \phi), \quad i = 1, \dots, N$
 - where p is non-normal (in original definition in exponential family)
 - and g is a link function

Generalized linear model (GLM)

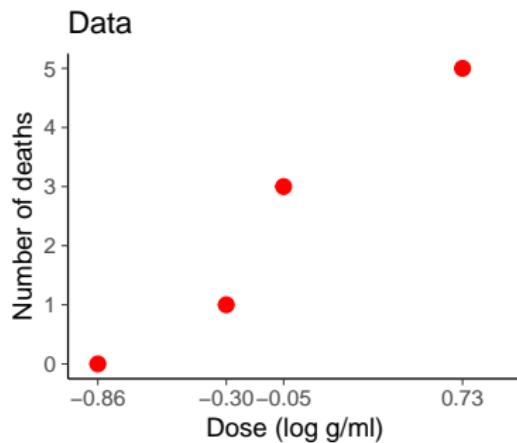
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- Bioassay analysis is used as an example
- More in BDA3 Chapter 16 and Regression and other stories book

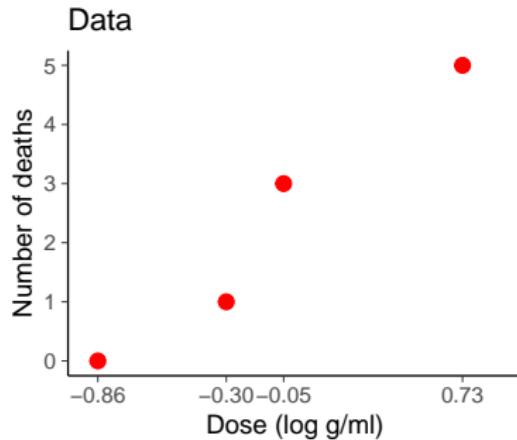
Bioassay

Dose, x_i (log g/ml)	Number of animals, n_i	Number of deaths, y_i
-0.86	5	0
-0.30	5	1
-0.05	5	3
0.73	5	5



Bioassay

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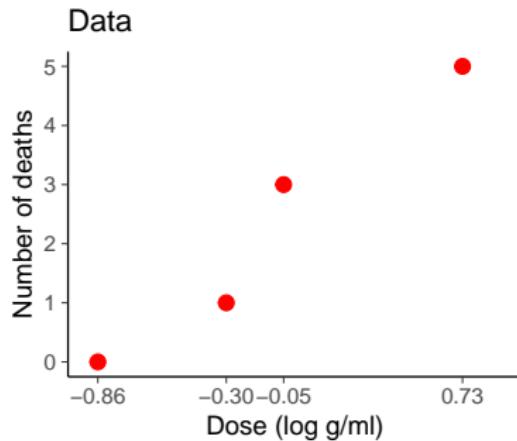


Find out lethal dose 50% (LD50)

- used to classify how hazardous chemical is
- 1984 EEC directive has 4 levels (see the chapter notes)

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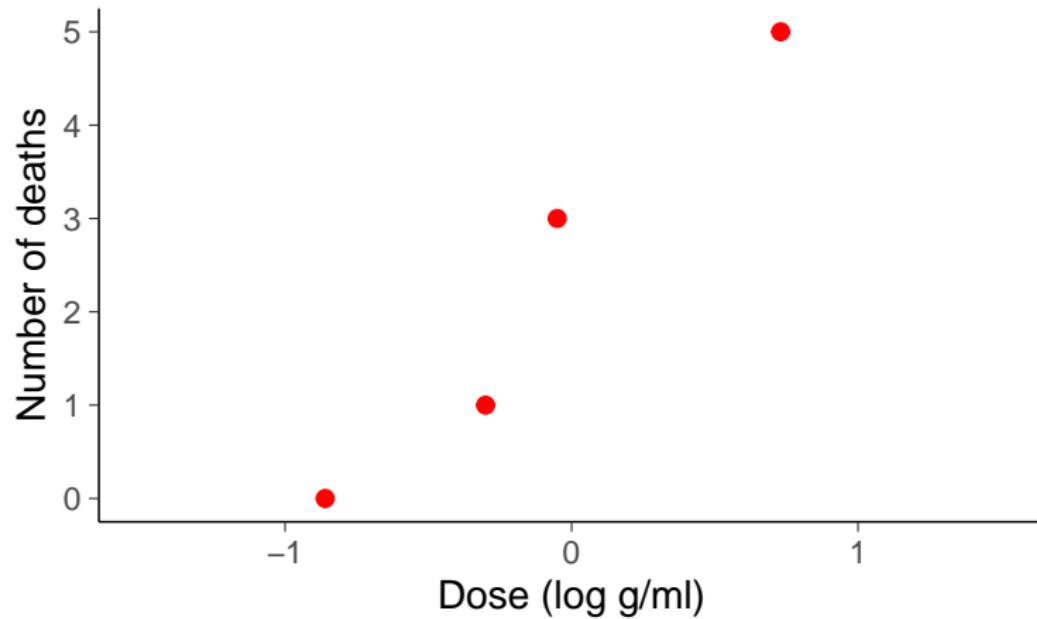
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Bayesian methods help to

- reduce the number of animals needed
- easy to make sequential experiment and stop as soon as desired accuracy is obtained

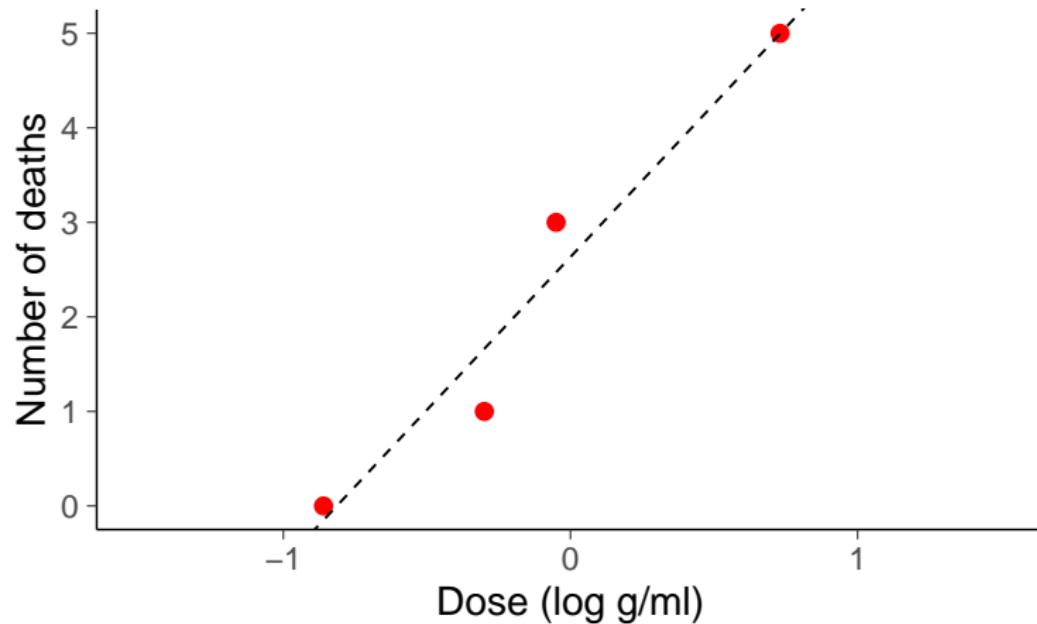
Bioassay

Data



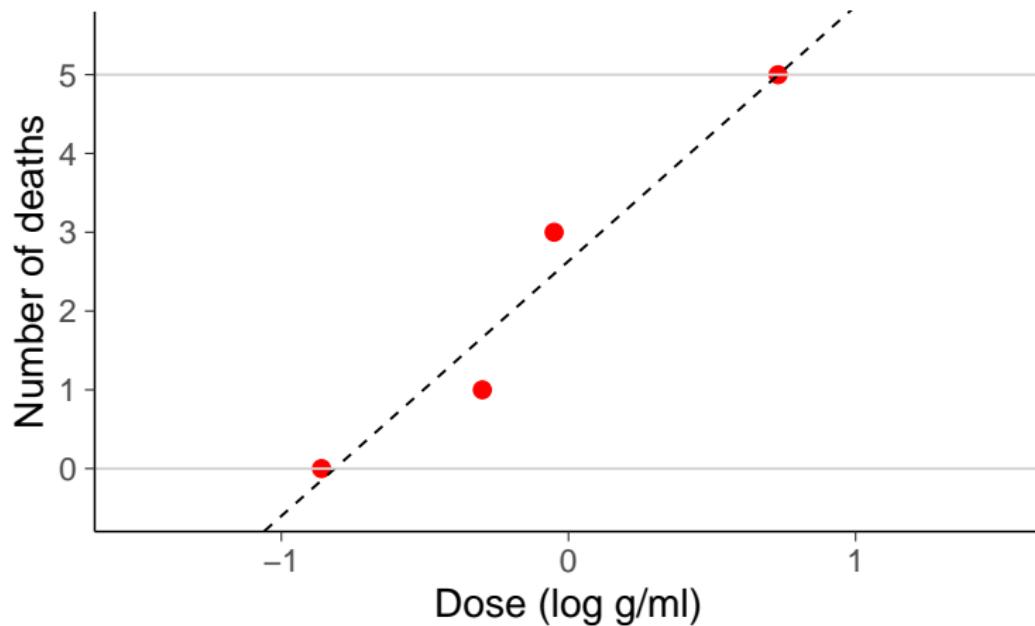
Bioassay

Linear fit

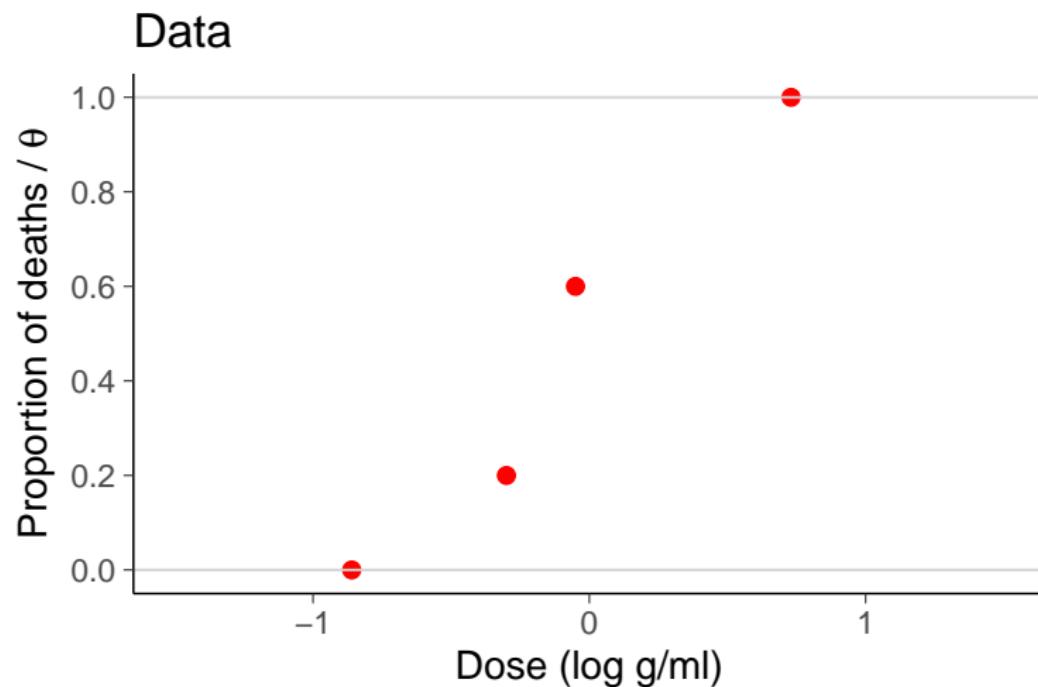


Bioassay

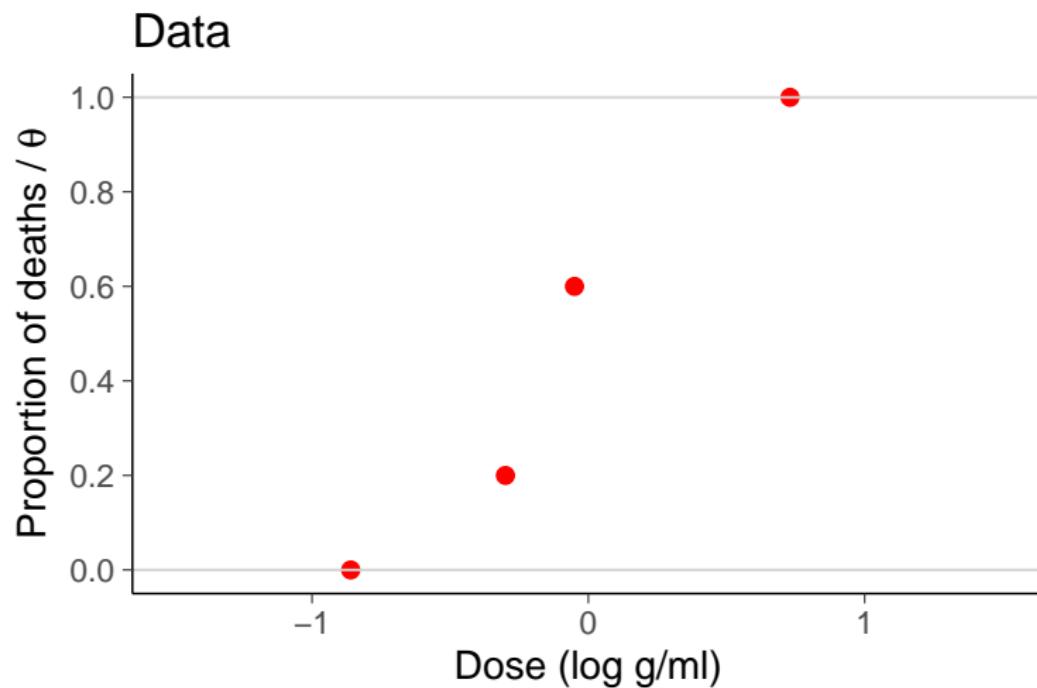
Linear fit



Bioassay



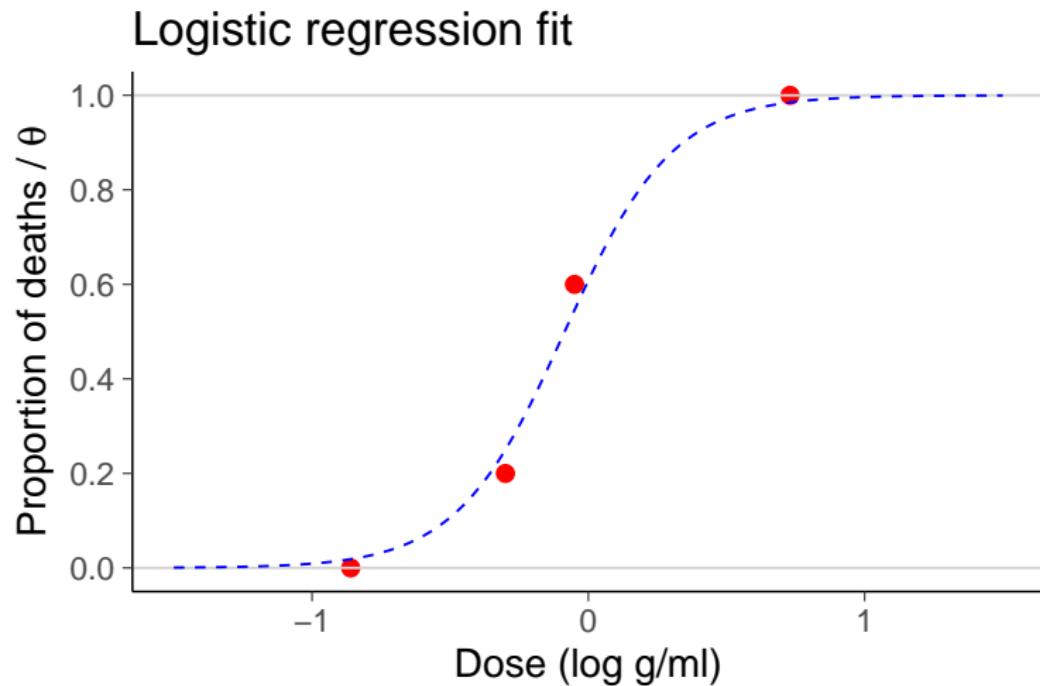
Bioassay



Binomial model

$$y_i \mid \theta_i \sim \text{Bin}(\theta_i, n_i)$$

Bioassay



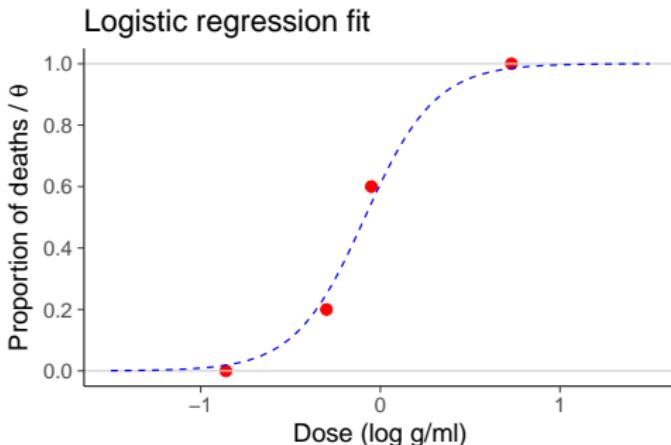
Binomial model

$$y_i \mid \theta_i \sim \text{Bin}(\theta_i, n_i), \quad \text{logit}(\theta_i) = \log \left(\frac{\theta_i}{1 - \theta_i} \right) = \alpha + \beta x_i$$

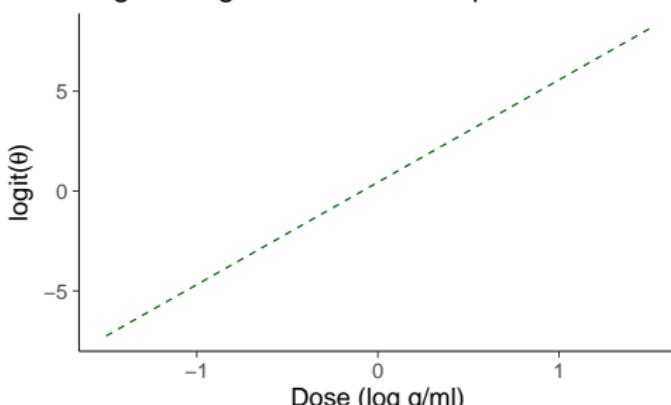
Bioassay

$$y_i \mid \theta_i \sim \text{Bin}(\theta_i, n_i)$$

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Logistic regression in latent space

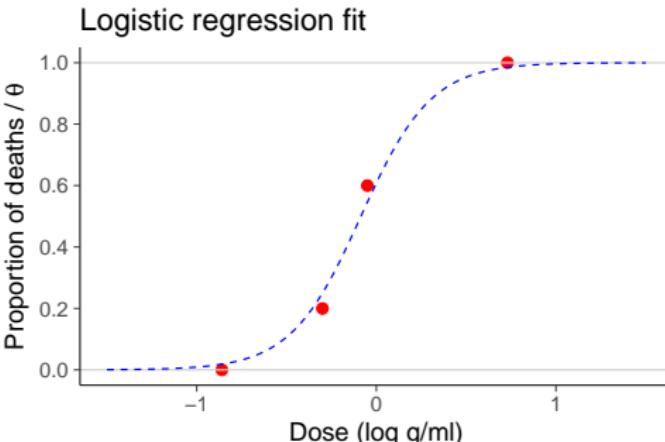


Bioassay

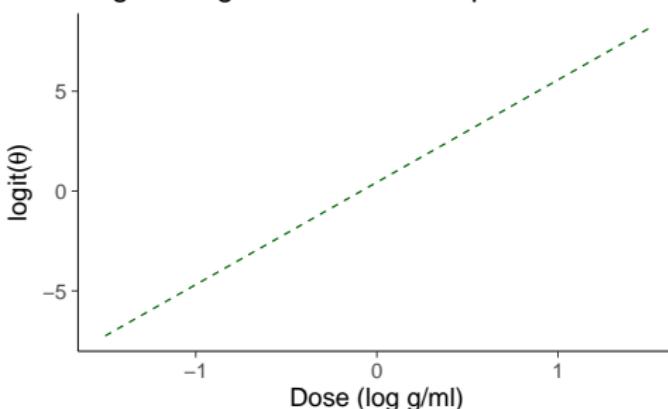
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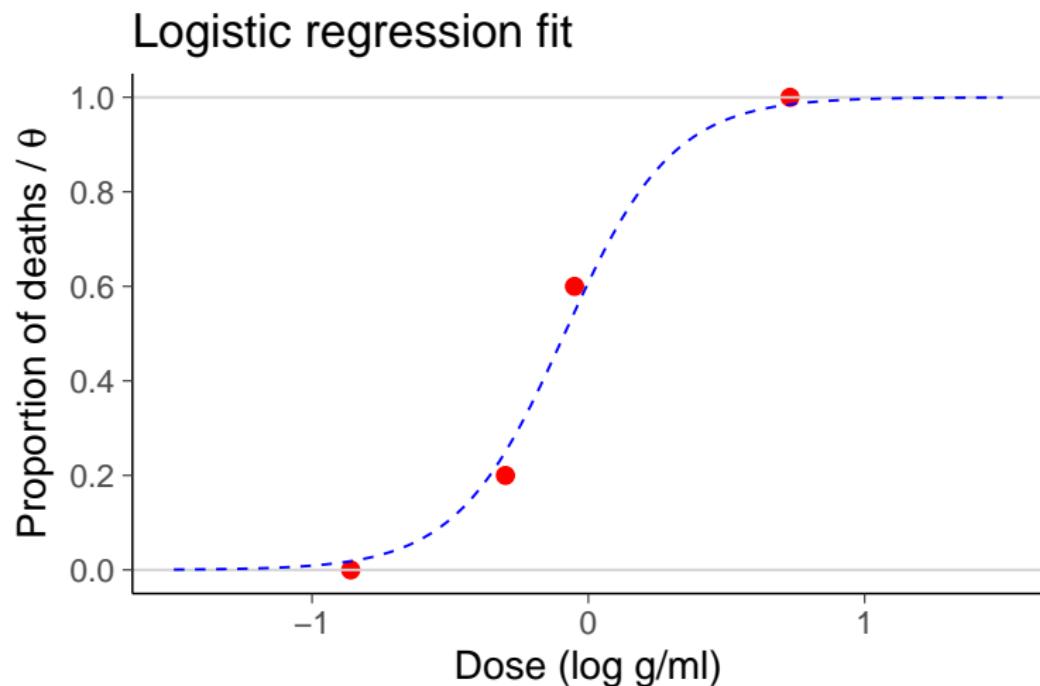
$$\theta_i = \frac{1}{1 + \exp(-(\alpha + \beta x_i))}$$



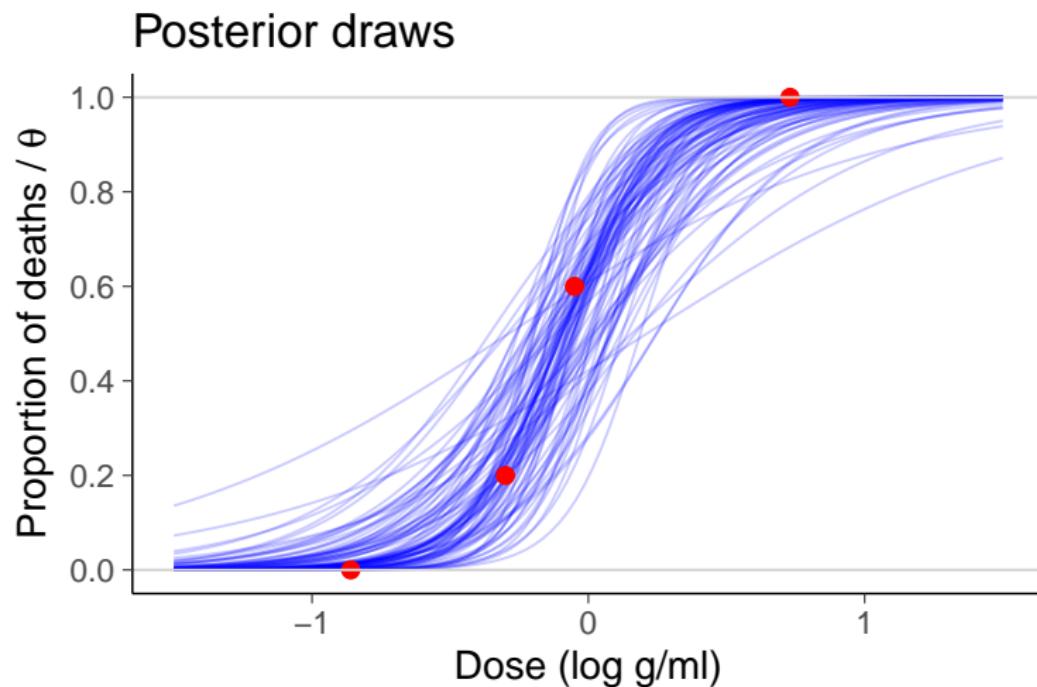
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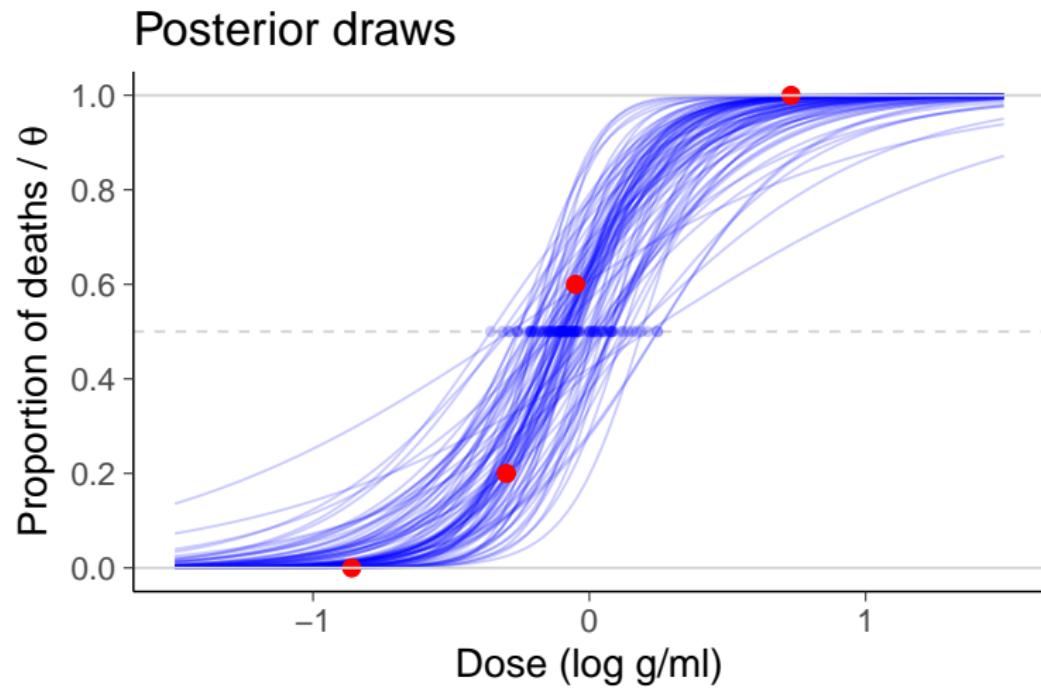
Bioassay



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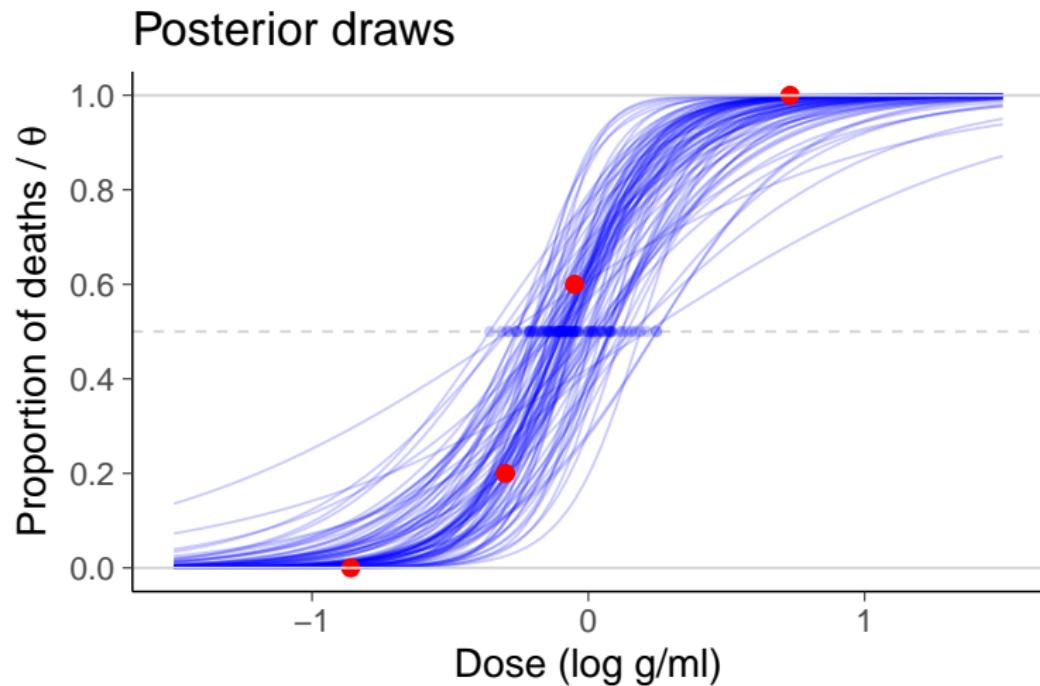


Bioassay



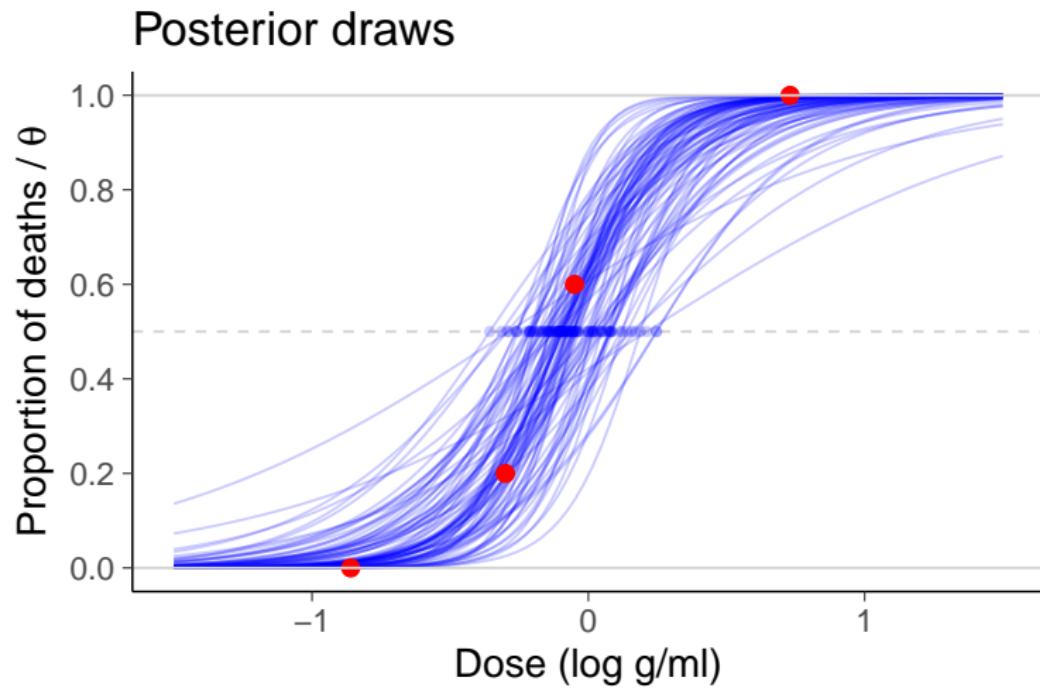
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Bioassay



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Bioassay

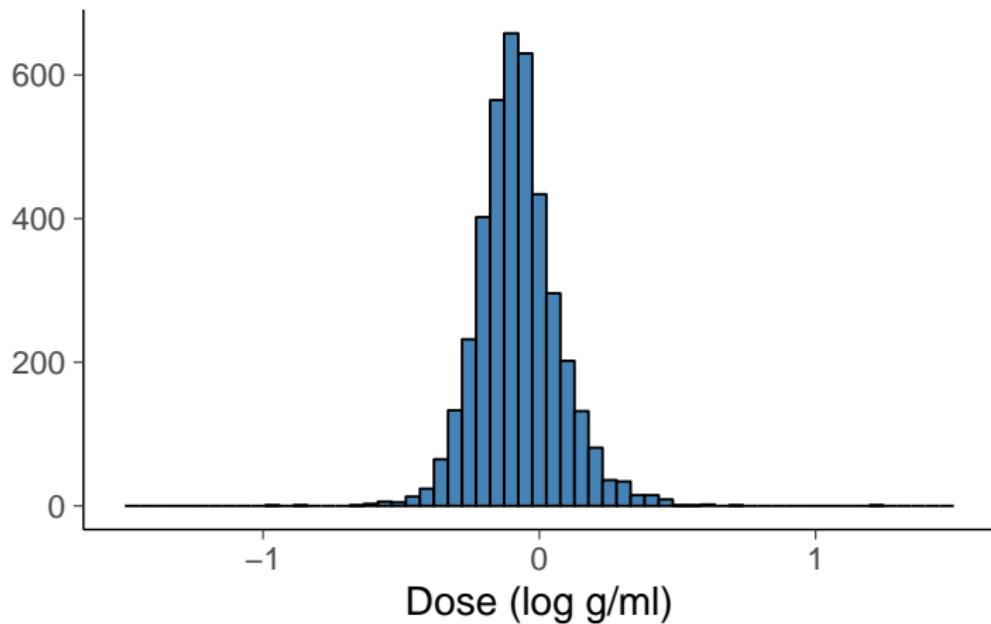


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$$x_{\text{LD50}}^{(s)} = -\alpha^{(s)}/\beta^{(s)}$$

Bioassay

Bioassay LD50



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Bioassay posterior

Binomial model

$$y_i \mid \theta_i \sim \text{Bin}(\theta_i, n_i)$$

Link function

$$\text{logit}(\theta_i) = \alpha + \beta x_i$$

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Likelihood

$$p(y_i \mid \alpha, \beta, n_i, x_i) \propto \theta_i^{y_i} [1 - \theta_i]^{n_i - y_i}$$

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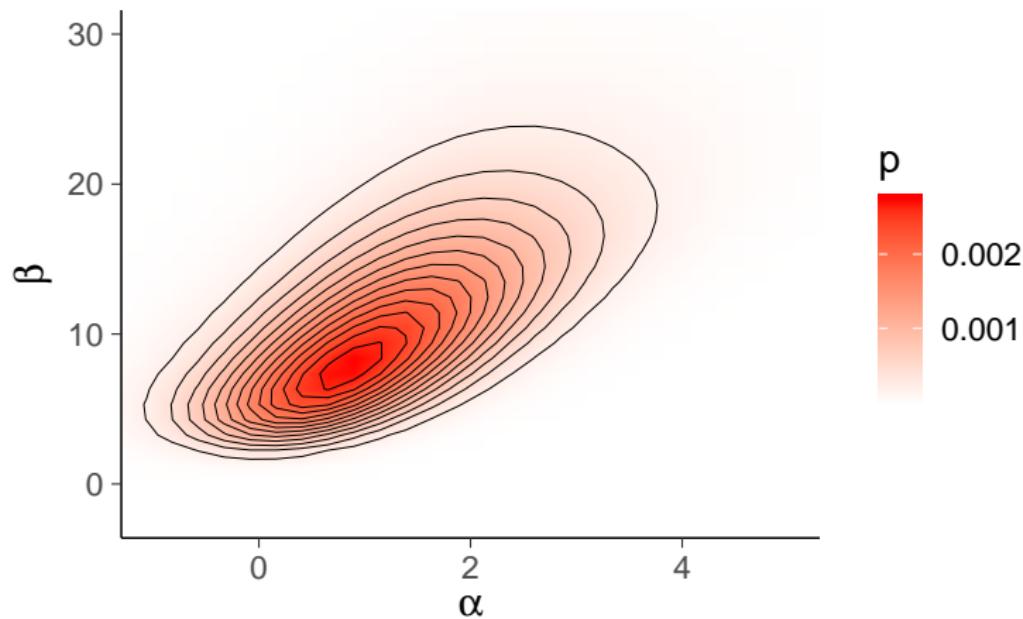
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Posterior (with uniform prior on α, β)

$$p(\alpha, \beta \mid y, n, x) \propto p(\alpha, \beta) \prod_{i=1}^n p(y_i \mid \alpha, \beta, n_i, x_i)$$

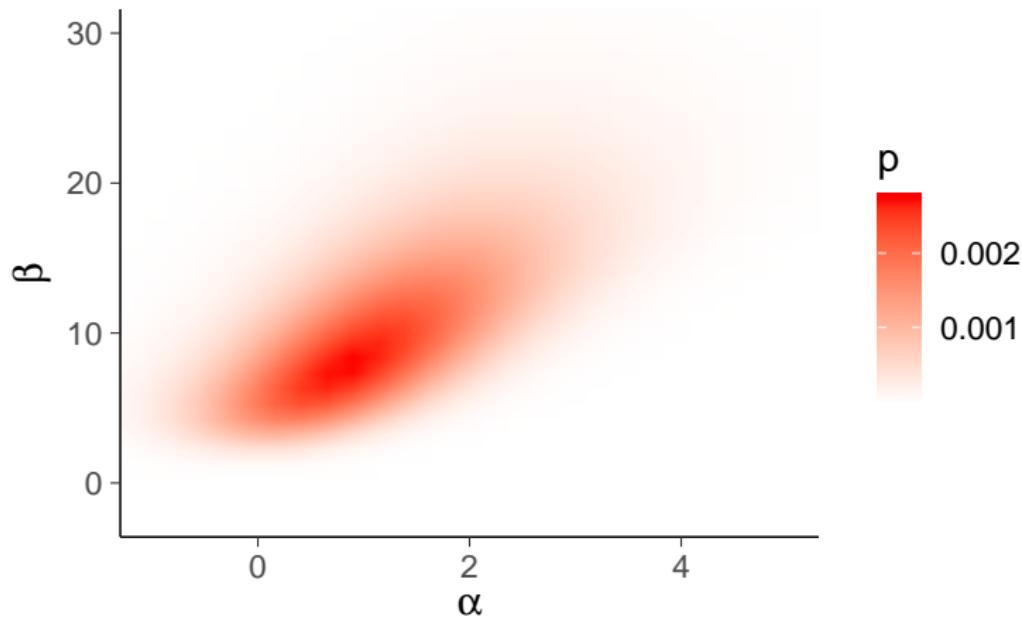
Bioassay

Posterior density evaluated in a grid



Bioassay

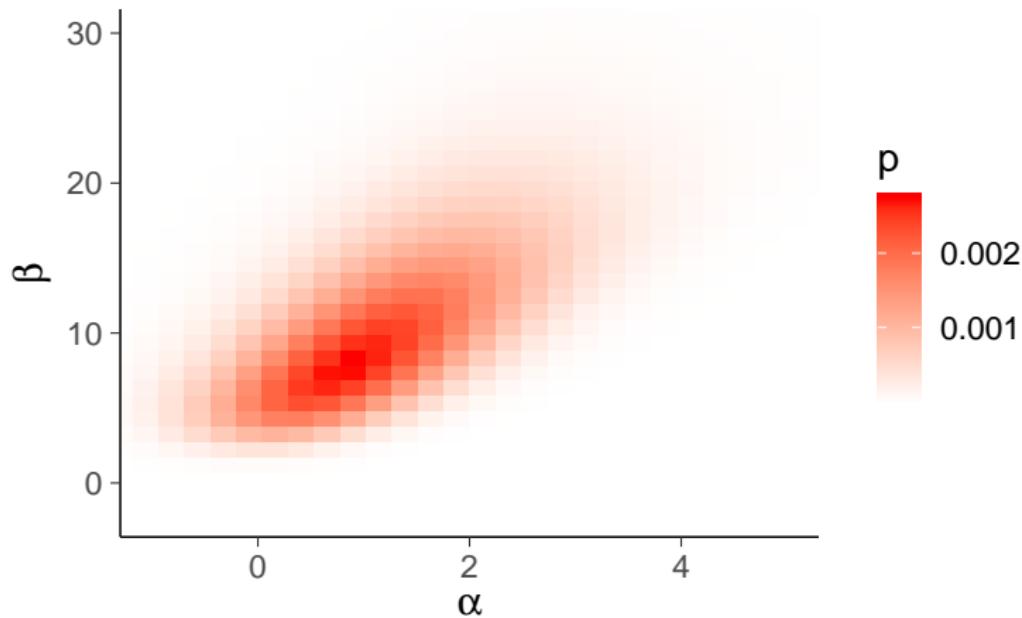
Posterior density evaluated in a grid



Density evaluated in grid, but plotted using interpolation

Bioassay

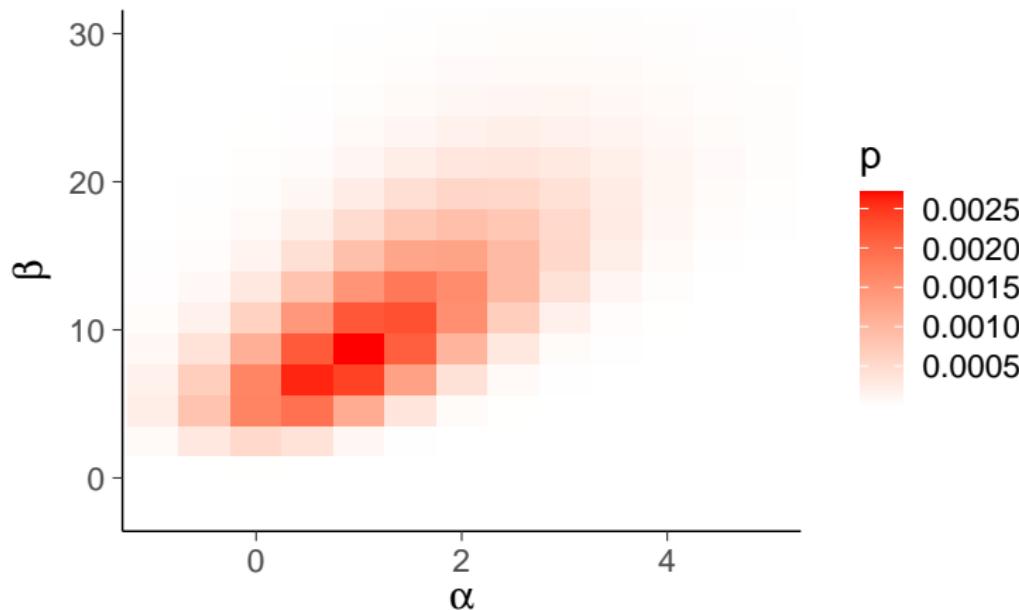
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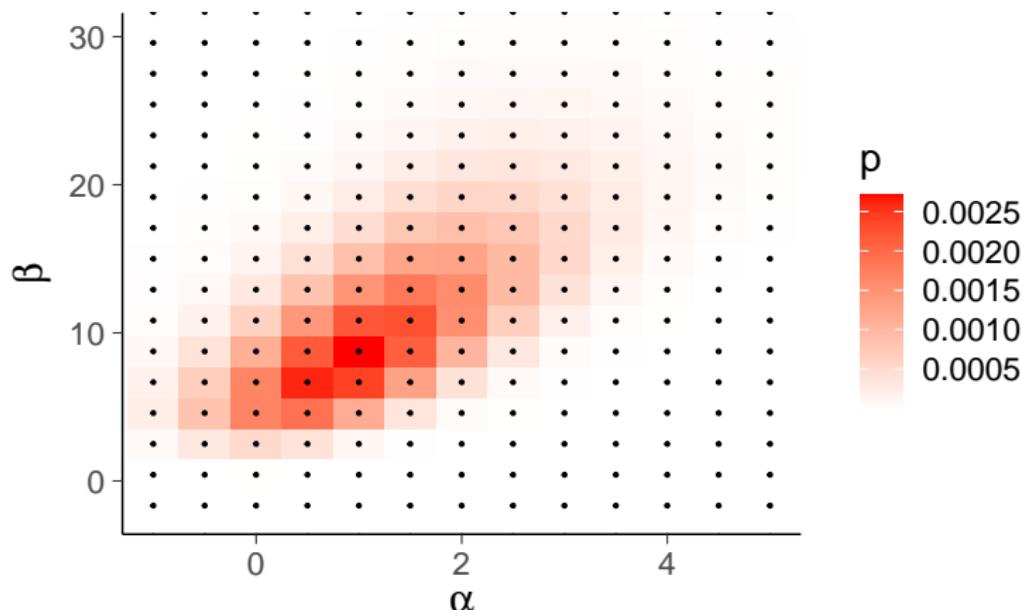
Posterior density evaluated in a grid



Density evaluated in a coarser grid

Bioassay

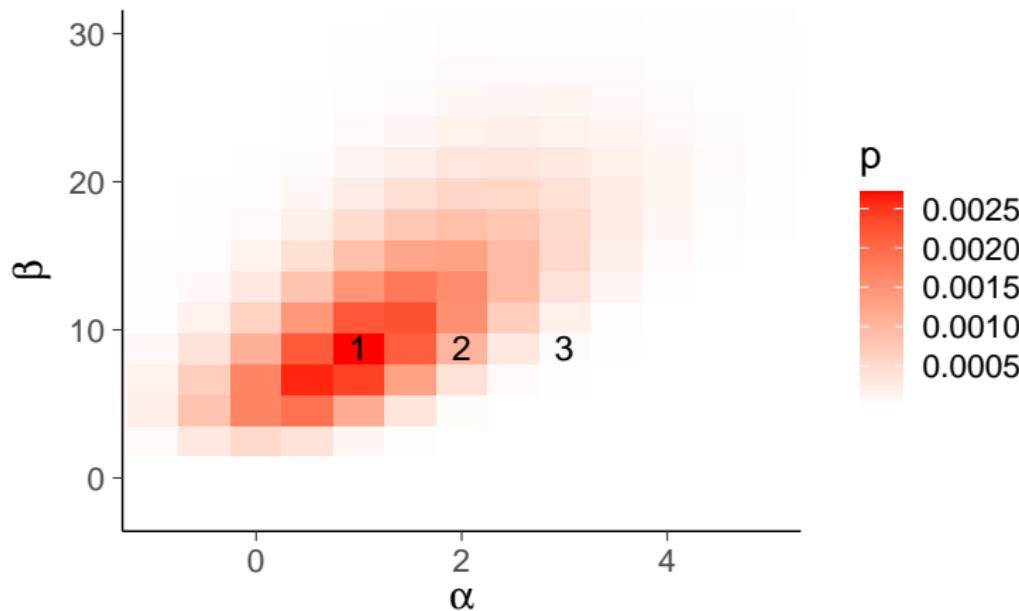
Posterior density evaluated in a grid



- Approximate the density as piecewise constant function
- Evaluate density in a grid over some finite region
- Density times cell area gives probability mass in each cell

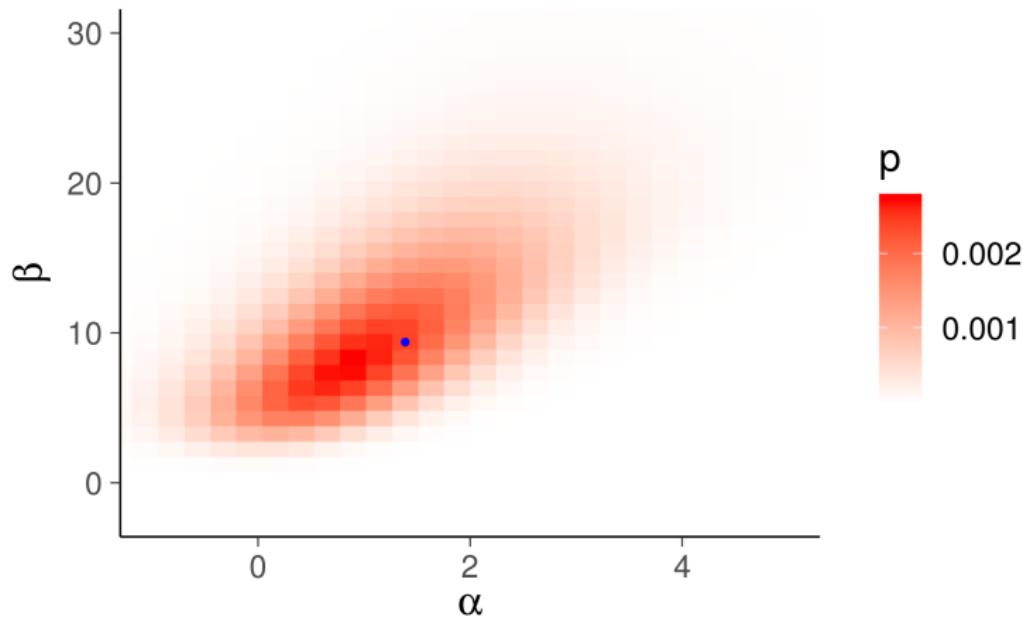
Bioassay

Posterior density evaluated in a grid



- Densities at 1, 2, and 3: 0.0027 0.0010 0.0001
- Probabilities of cells 1, 2, and 3: 0.0431 0.0166 0.0010
- Probabilities of cells sum to 1

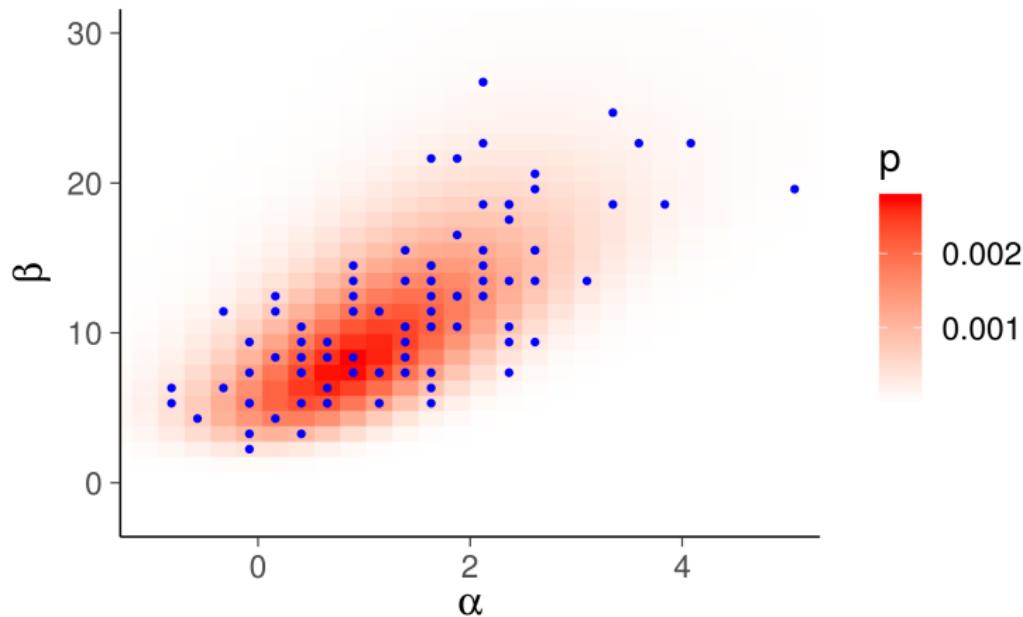
Posterior density and draws in a grid



- Sample according to grid cell probabilities

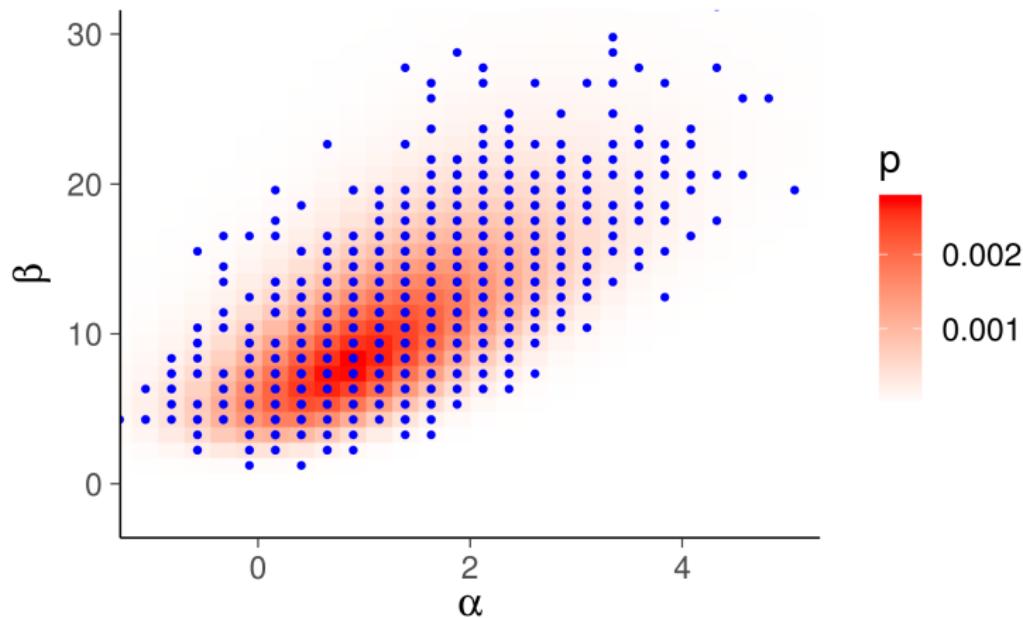
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Posterior density and draws in a grid



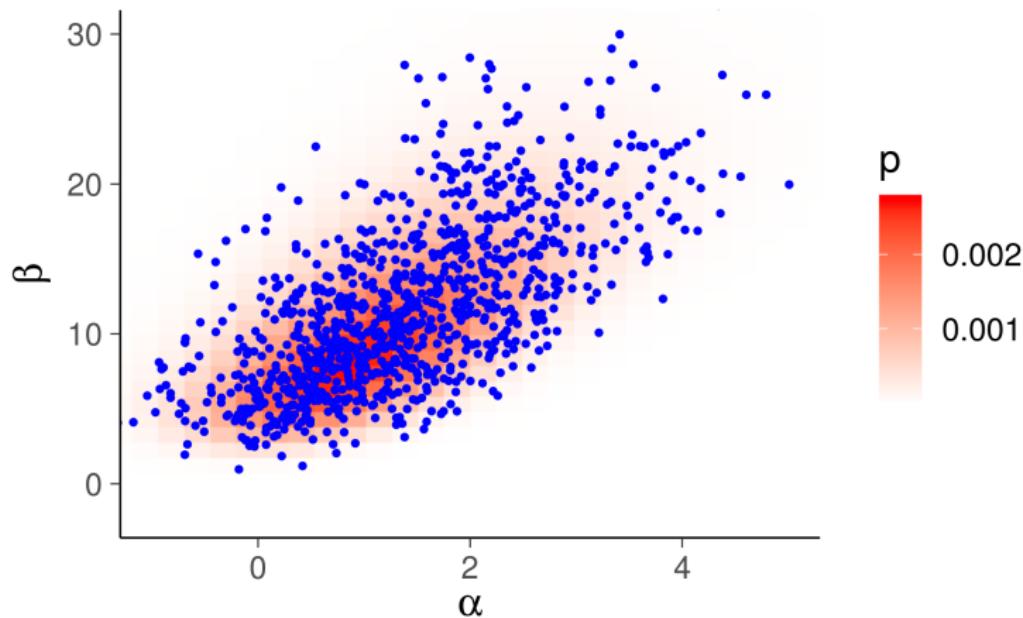
- Sample according to grid cell probabilities

Posterior density and draws in a grid



- Sample according to grid cell probabilities
- Several draws can be from the same grid cell

Posterior density in a grid and jittered draws



- Jitter can be added to improve visualization

Grid sampling

- Draws can be used to estimate expectations, for example

$$E[x_{LD50}] = E[-\alpha/\beta] \approx \frac{1}{S} \sum_{s=1}^S -\frac{\alpha^{(s)}}{\beta^{(s)}}$$

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- Instead of sampling, grid could be used to evaluate functions directly, for example

$$E[-\alpha/\beta] \approx \sum_{t=1}^T -\frac{\alpha^{(t)}}{\beta^{(t)}} w_{\text{cell}}^{(t)},$$

where $w_{\text{cell}}^{(t)}$ is the normalized probability of a grid cell t , and $\alpha^{(t)}$ and $\beta^{(t)}$ are center locations of grid cells

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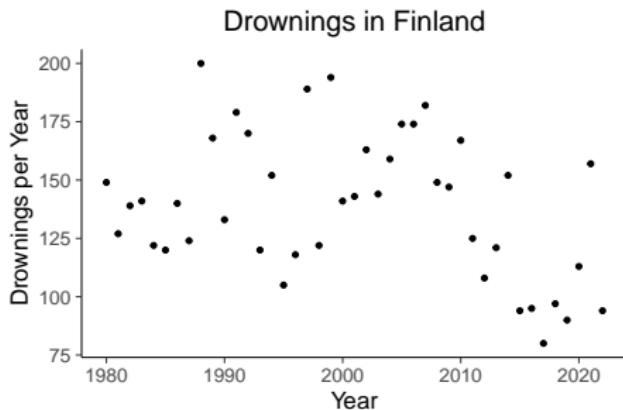
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- Grid sampling gets computationally too expensive in high dimensions

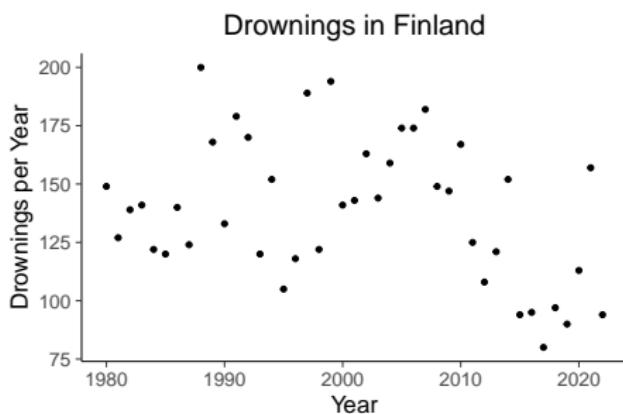
Example GLM

Count of deaths, y_i	Year
149	1980
127	1981
139	1982
⋮	⋮
157	2021
94	2022



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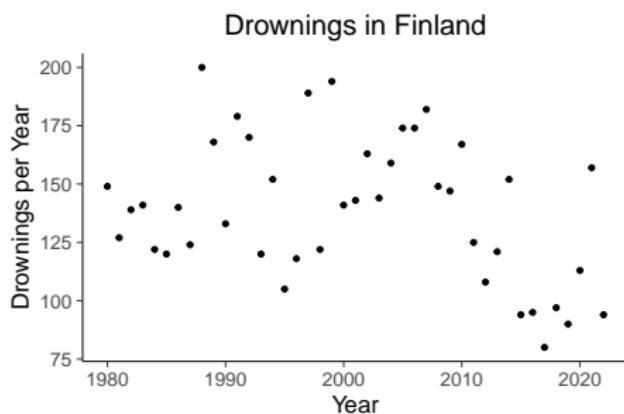


Swimming is popular in Finland, but also hazardous

- On average ~ 140 drownings per year
- Finnish government has invested in measures for reducing deaths
- Recent narrative based on effectiveness of education

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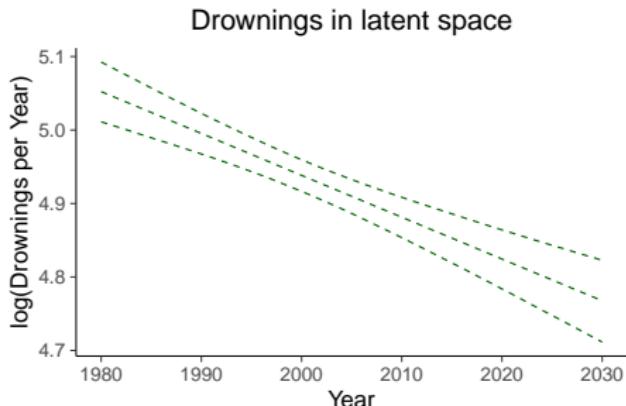
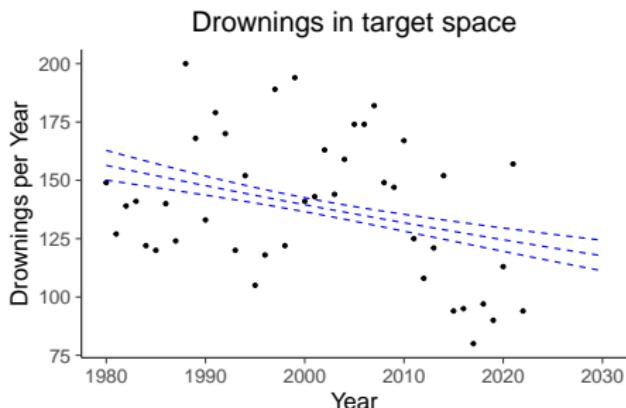
Bayesian methods help

- Describe trends over time
- Evaluate uncertainty

Example GLM: Poisson Linear Model

$$y_i \mid \mu_i \sim \text{Poisson}(\mu_i)$$

$$\mu_i = e^{\alpha + \beta x_i}$$

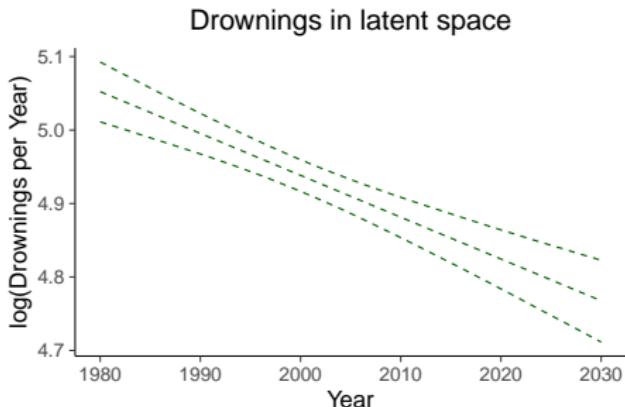
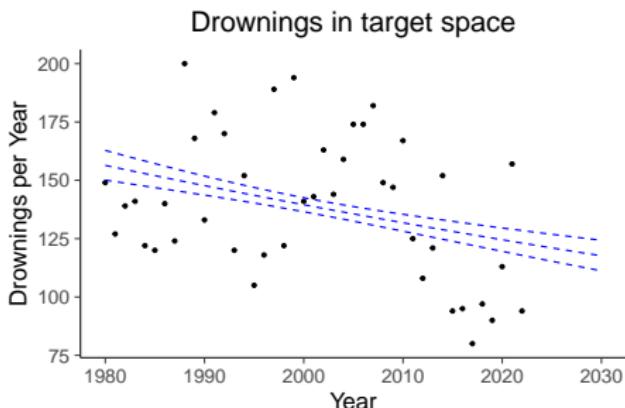


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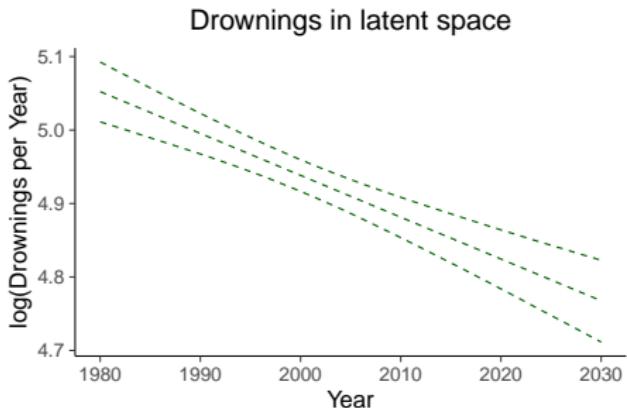
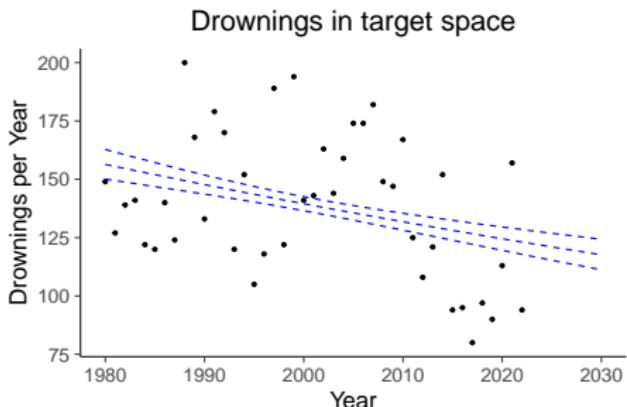
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Alternatively :

$$y_i \mid \mu_i, \phi \sim \text{Neg-bin}(y_i | \mu_i, \phi)$$



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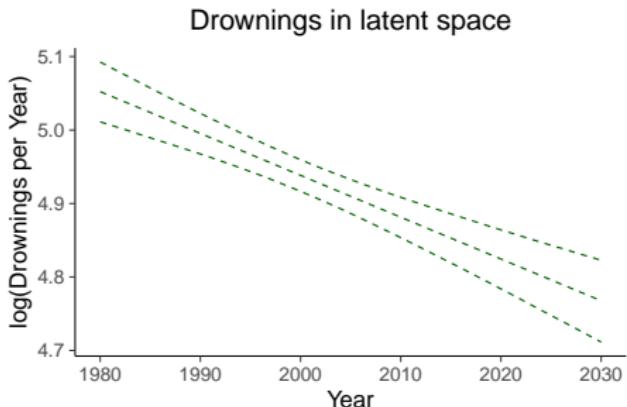
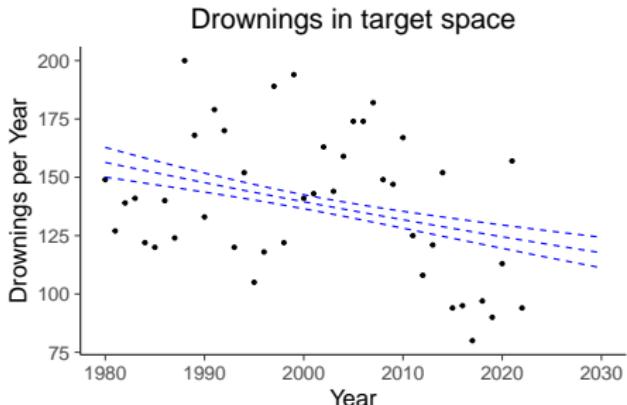
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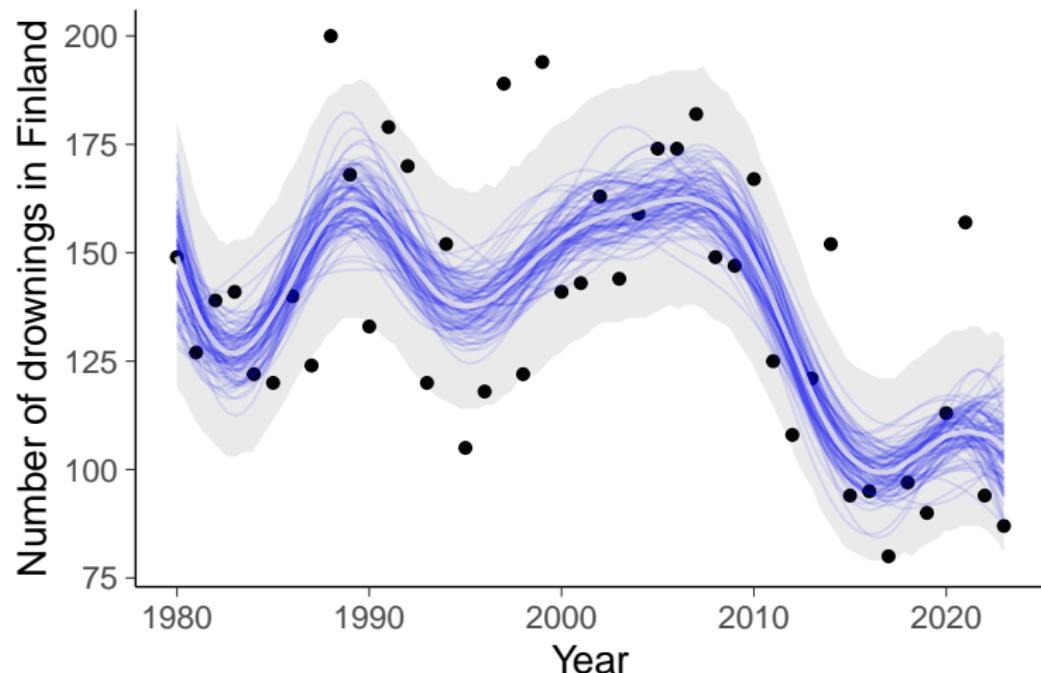
Alternatively :

$$y_i \mid \mu_i, \phi \sim \text{Neg-bin}(y_i | \mu_i, \phi)$$

$$\text{Neg-bin}(y_i \mid \mu_i, \phi) = \frac{\Gamma(y_i + \phi)}{y_i! \Gamma(\phi)} \left(\frac{\mu_i}{\mu_i + \phi} \right)^{y_i} \left(\frac{\phi}{y_i + \phi} \right)^\phi$$



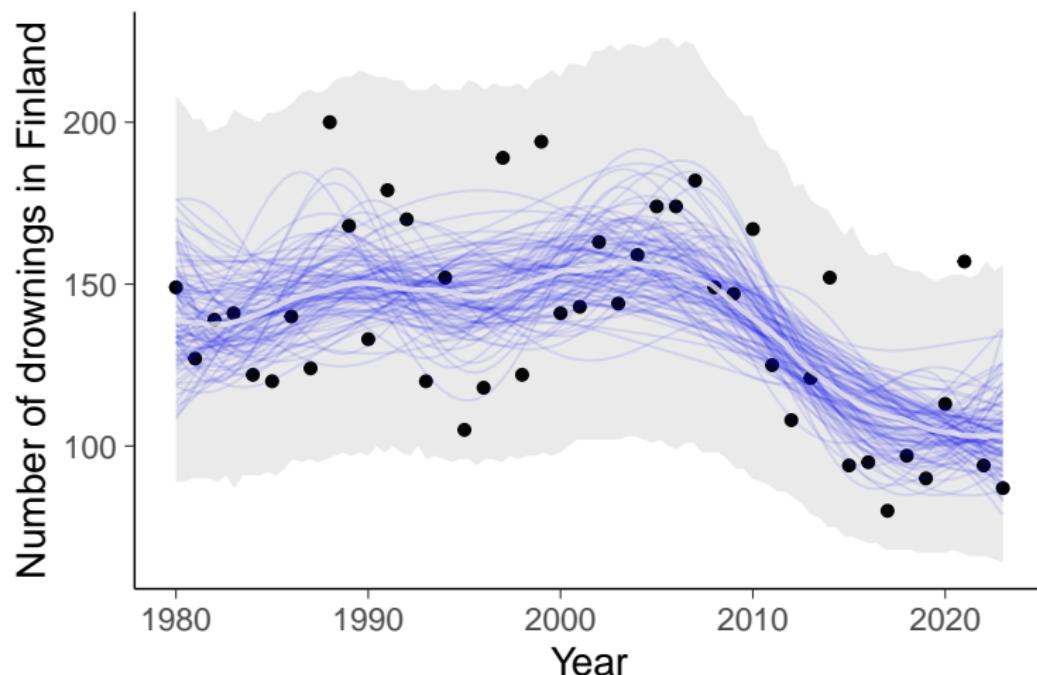
Example GLM: Gaussian Process Models



$$y_i \mid \mu_i \sim \text{Poisson}(\mu_i)$$

$$\mu_i \sim e^{f_i}, f \sim \text{GP}(0, k(\text{Year}, \theta))$$

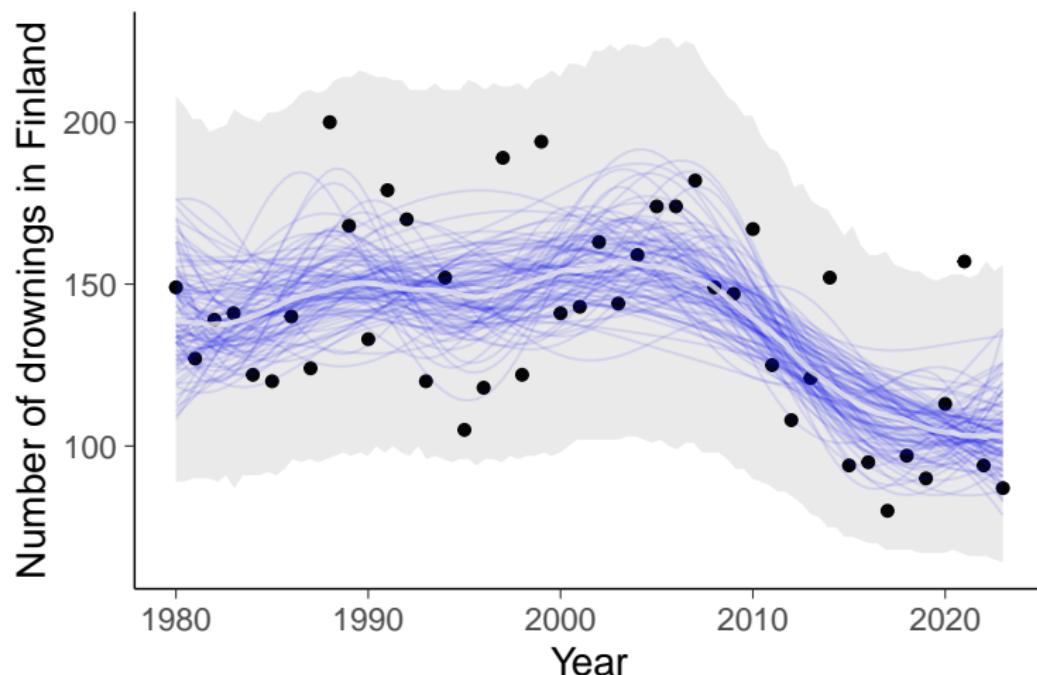
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Example GLM: Gaussian Process Models



- Clear overdispersion
 - later we use posterior predictive checking and cross-validation to confirm this
- Trend interpretations shouldn't be based on one observation

Thinking counts

- For simplicity of exposition, we often start learning with normal observation models
- But we observe count data on a daily basis
- Very relevant in industry (number of sold products, ad views, customer count, etc.)
- Can you think of such examples from the class room?
 - Think of how many students attend BDA lectures over the course
 - Number of students who report getting sick over time until Christmas
 - Number of dropouts
 - Would you expect overdispersion?