

posterior probabilities, p-value and paradoxes

Dr. Merlise Clyde

extrasensory perception

$$n = 104,490,000$$

$$\bar{y} = \frac{52263471}{104490000} = 0.500177$$

$$H_1 : \mu = 0.5$$

$$H_2 : \mu \neq 0.5$$

$$Z = 3.61 \text{ with p-value } 0.000302$$

$$BF[H_1 : H_2] = 14.91$$

$$P(H_1 \mid \text{data}) = 0.9371$$



priors and Bayes factor: known σ^2

$$\mu = .5 \mid H_1 \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad \bar{Y} \mid \sigma^2, H_1 \sim N(.5, \sigma^2/n)$$

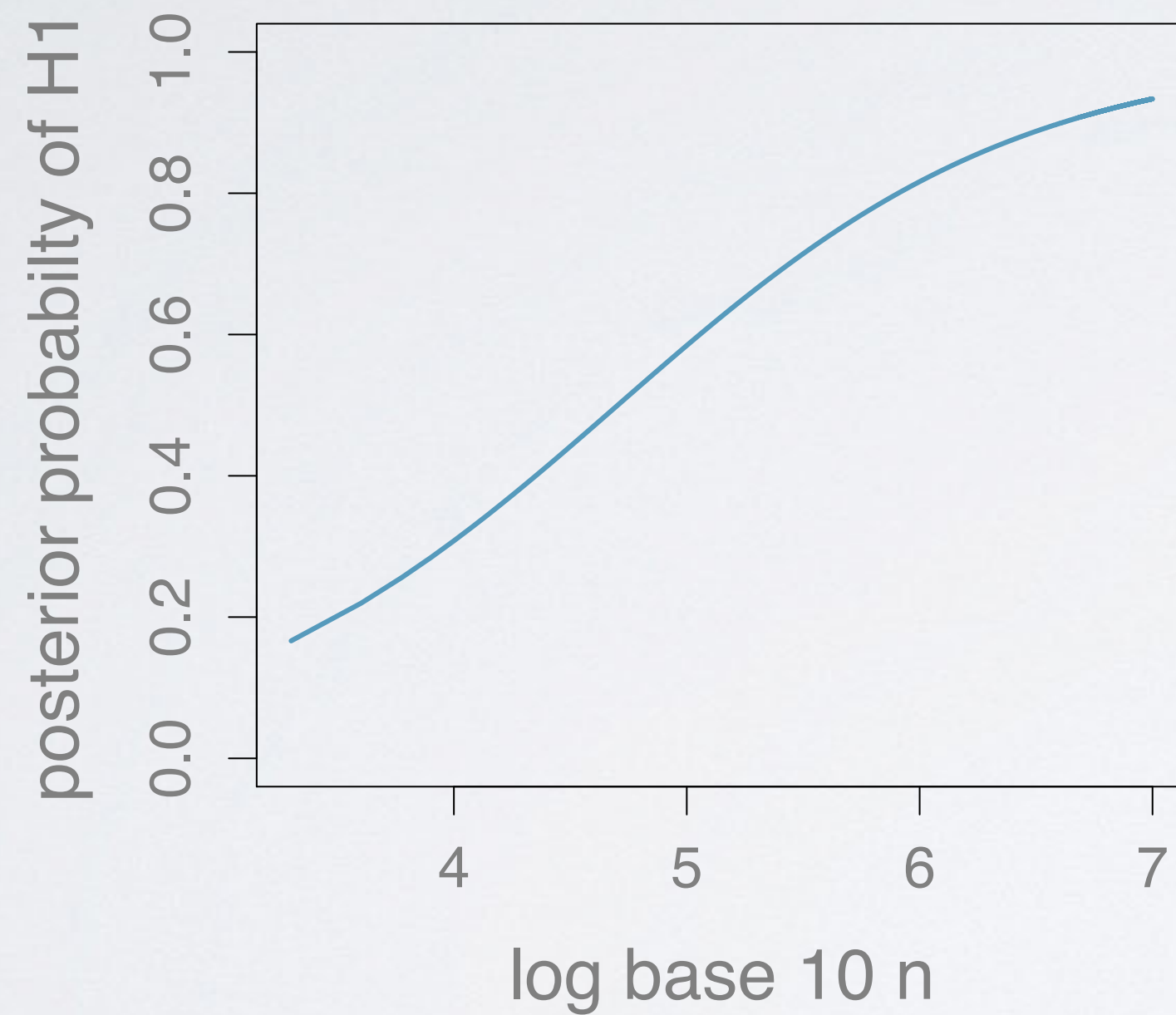
$$\mu \mid \sigma^2, H_2 \sim N(.5, \sigma^2/n_0) \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad \bar{Y} \mid \sigma^2, H_2 \sim N\left(.5, \sigma^2 \left(\frac{1}{n} + \frac{1}{n_0}\right)\right)$$

$$\text{Bayes factor } BF[H_1 : H_2] = \left(\frac{n+n_0}{n_0}\right)^{1/2} \exp\left\{-\frac{1}{2} \frac{n}{n+n_0} Z^2\right\}$$

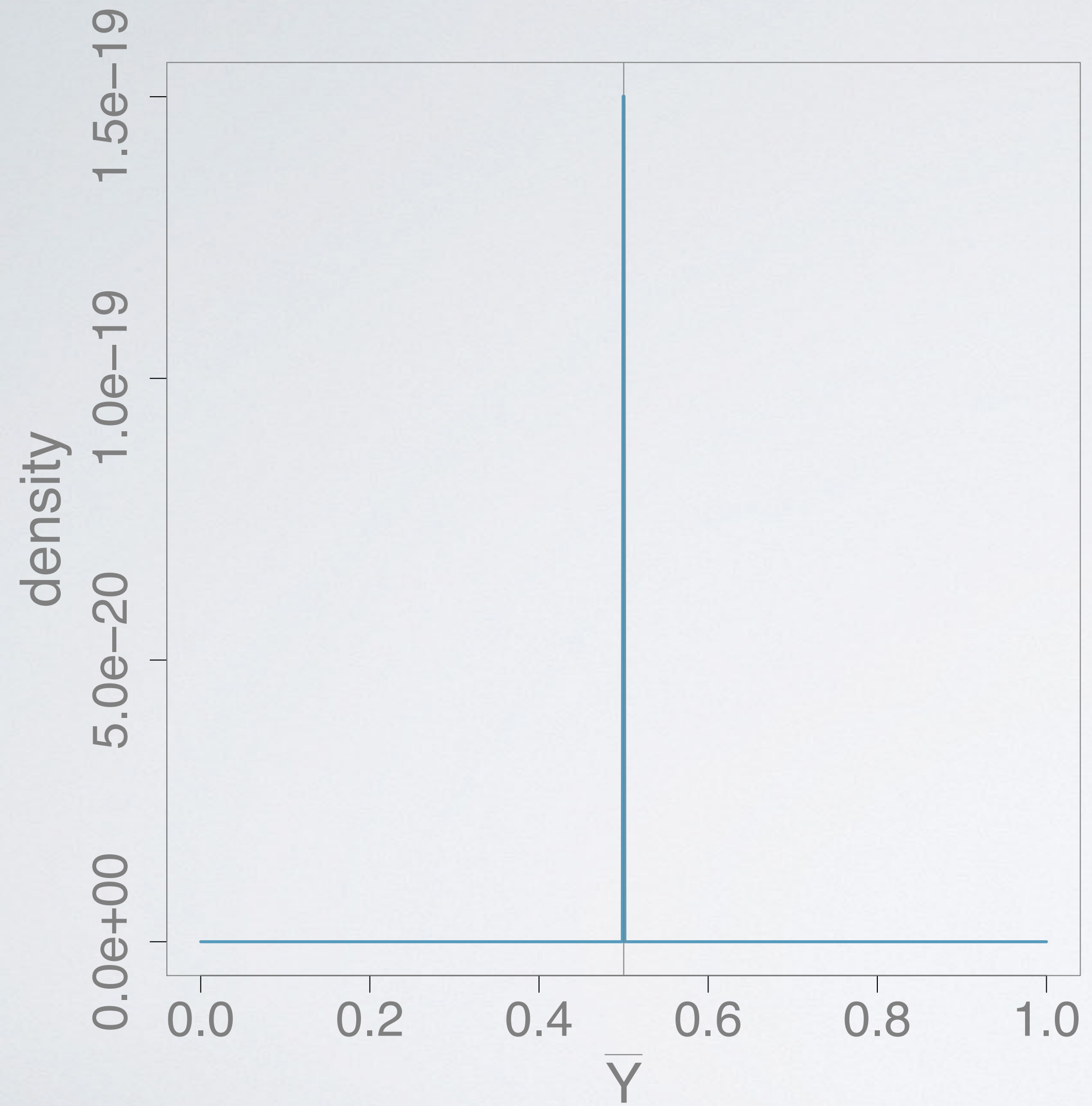
$$\text{Z-score } Z = \frac{(\bar{Y} - .5)^2}{\sigma / \sqrt{n}}$$

Lindley's paradox: fixed Z , large n

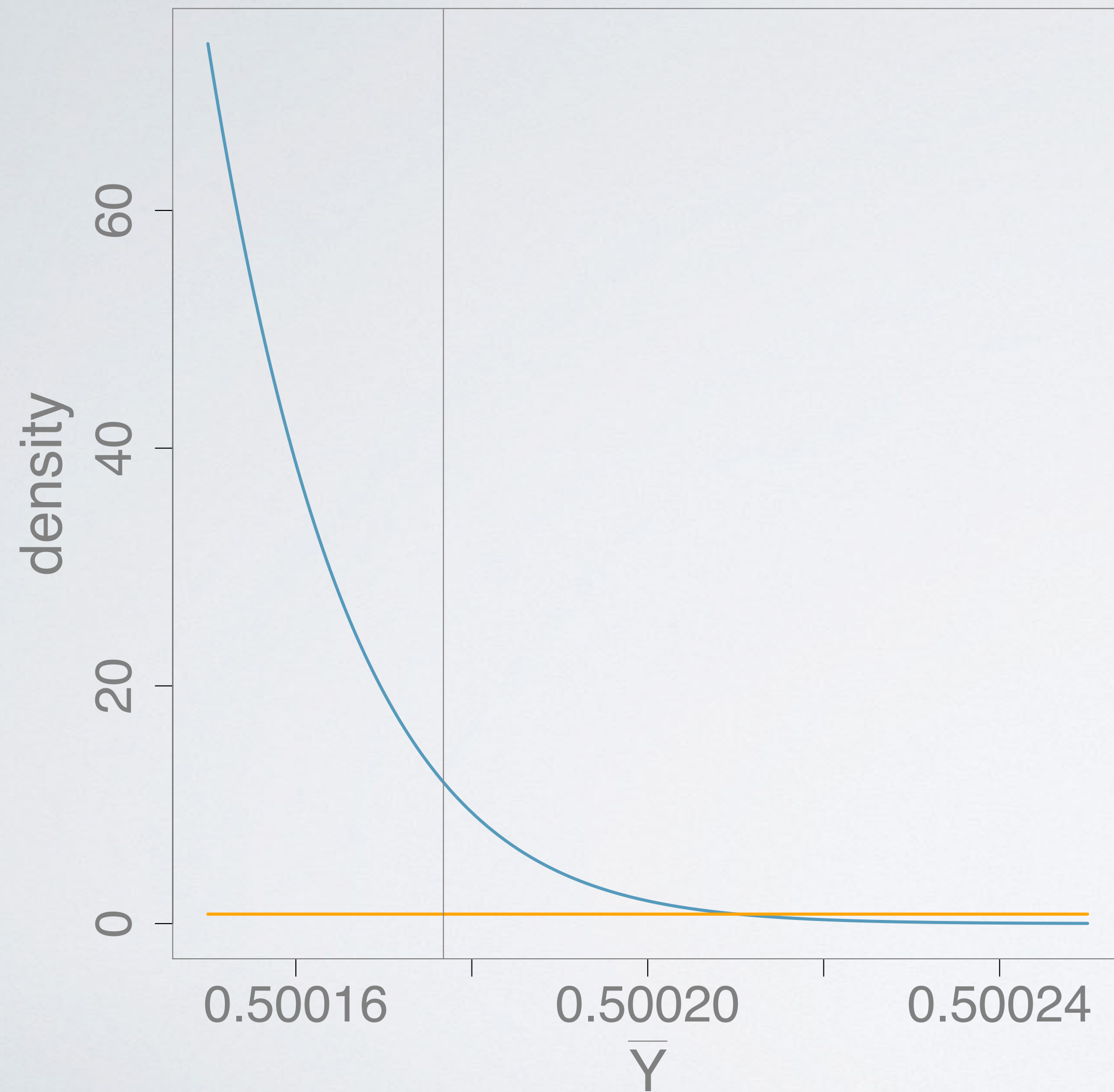
$$BF[H_1 : H_2] = \left(\frac{n+n_0}{n_0} \right)^{1/2} \exp \left\{ -\frac{1}{2} \frac{n}{n+n_0} Z^2 \right\}$$



predictive distributions



predictive distributions: zoomed view



Bartlett's paradox

$$BF[H_1 : H_2] = \left(\frac{n+n_0}{n_0} \right)^{1/2} \exp \left\{ -\frac{1}{2} \frac{n}{n+n_0} Z^2 \right\}$$

n_0 goes to zero

$BF[H_1 : H_2]$ goes to infinity

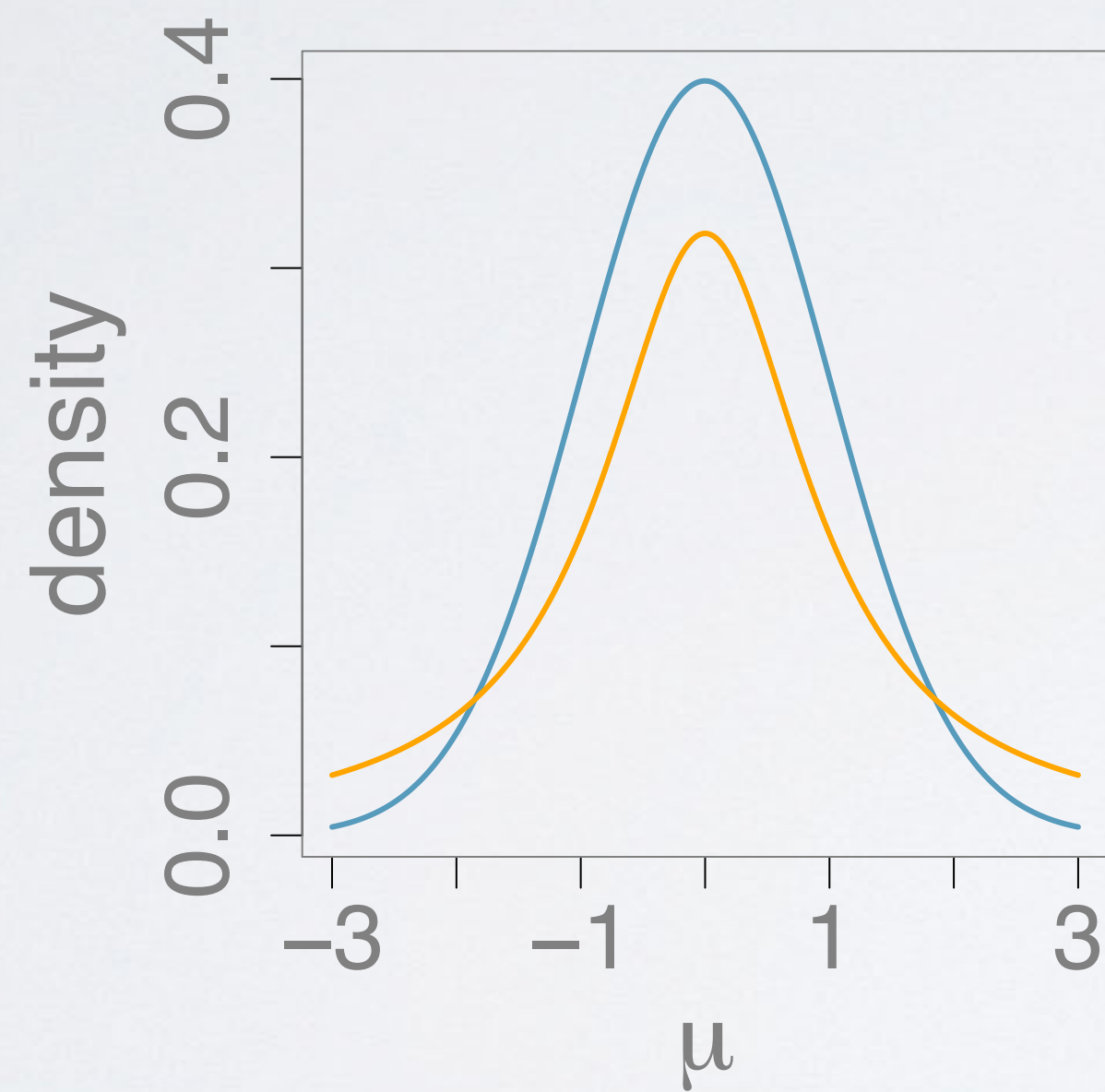
$P(H_1 \mid \text{data})$ goes to 1

Cauchy prior

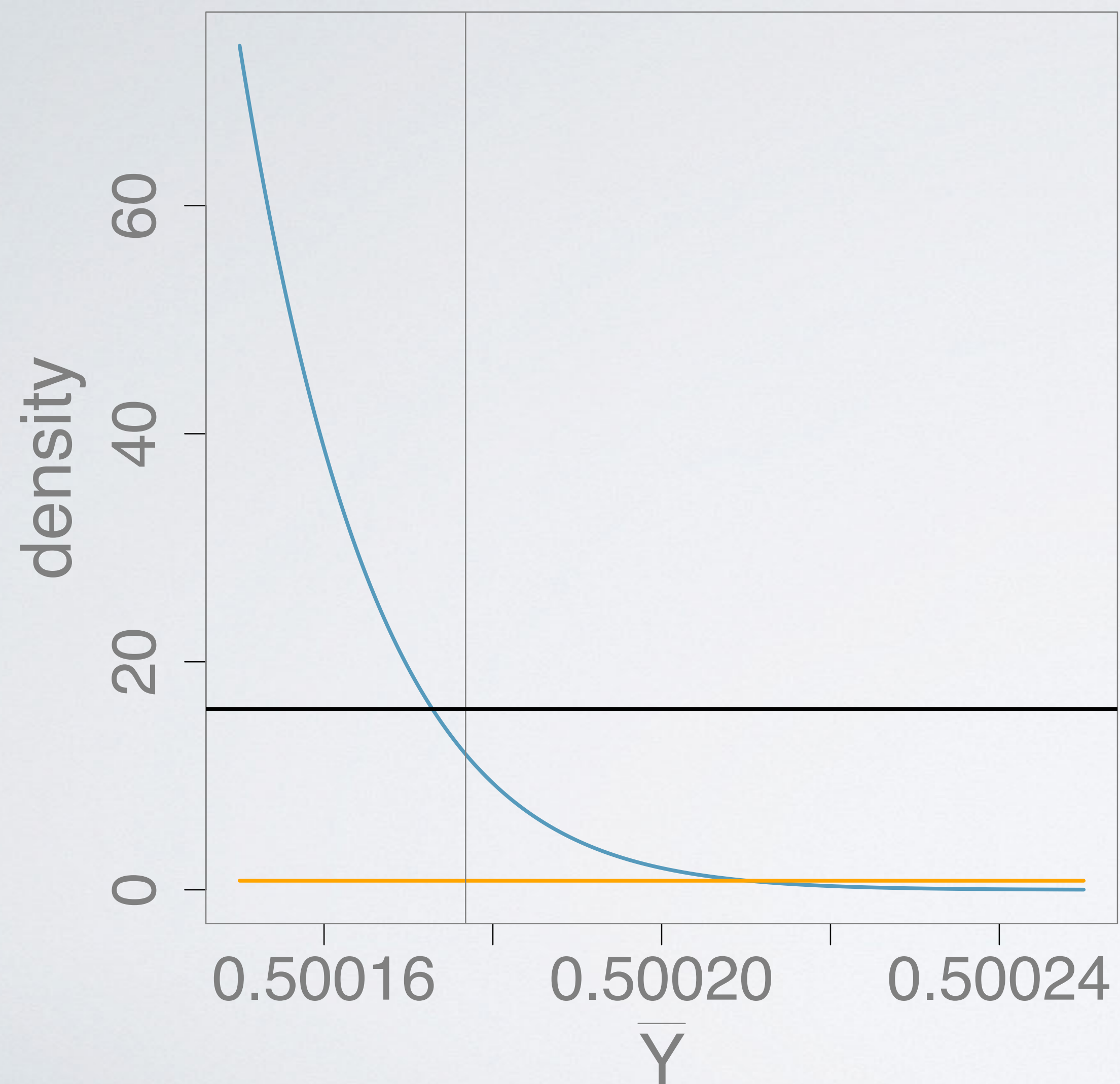
$$\mu \mid \sigma^2, n_0, H_2 \sim \mathbf{N}(\mu_0, \frac{\sigma^2}{n_0})$$

$$n_0 \mid H_2 \sim \mathbf{G}(1/2, 1/2)$$

$$\mu \mid \sigma^2, H_2 \sim \mathbf{C}(\mu_0, \sigma^2)$$



predictive distributions: zoomed view



summary

- ▶ use robust priors and subjective information
- ▶ test point null hypotheses $\mu = \mu_0$?
- ▶ ESP versus bias in random number generators