

# **Closed-form Gibbs Sampling for Graphical Models with Algebraic constraints**

Hadi Mohasel Afshar

**Scott Sanner**

Christfried Webers

# Inference in Hybrid Graphical Models / Probabilistic Programs

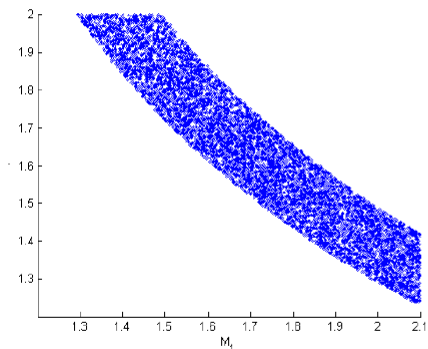
- Limitations of BUGS, PyMC, Anglican, and STAN
  - They don't handle piecewise functions well
    - i.e., slow convergence with conditionals *if* ( $t > 0$ ) ...
  - They don't handle simple algebraic constraints
    - i.e., you cannot assign  $x = y + 1$   
(you have to add noise)



Our solution  
efficiently handles  
piecewise functions  
and algebraic  
constraints

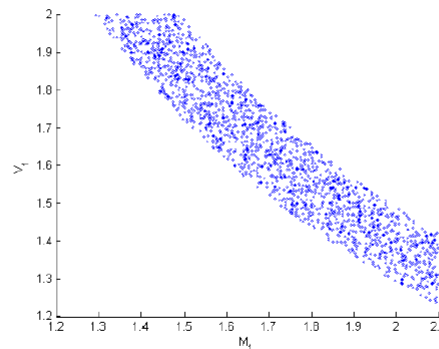
# Sneak Preview: Sampling in Piecewise Models with Algebraic Constraints

SymGibbs



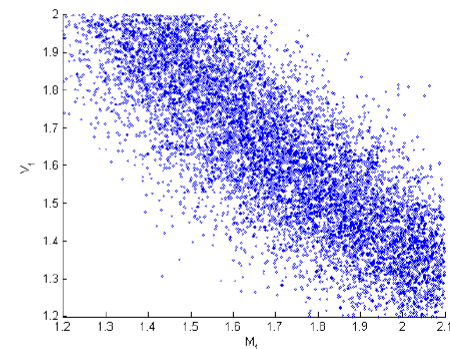
(a)

MH



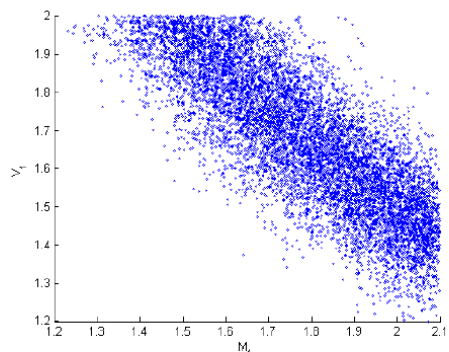
(b)

HMC (high noise)



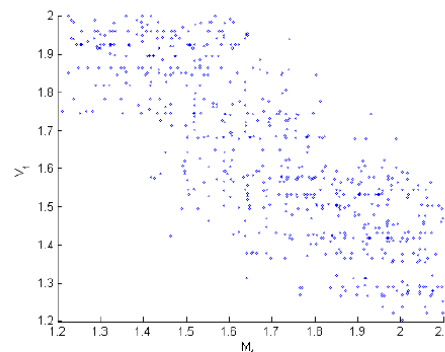
(c)

HMC (low noise)



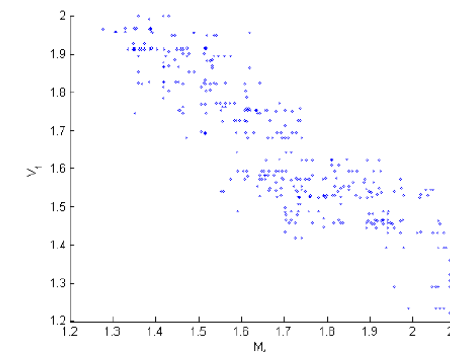
(d)

SMC (high noise)



(e)

SMC (low noise)



(f)

# Contribution 1:

We present an effective sampler for  
GMs with piecewise factors

Polynomial-piecewise fractional functions  
(PPFs)

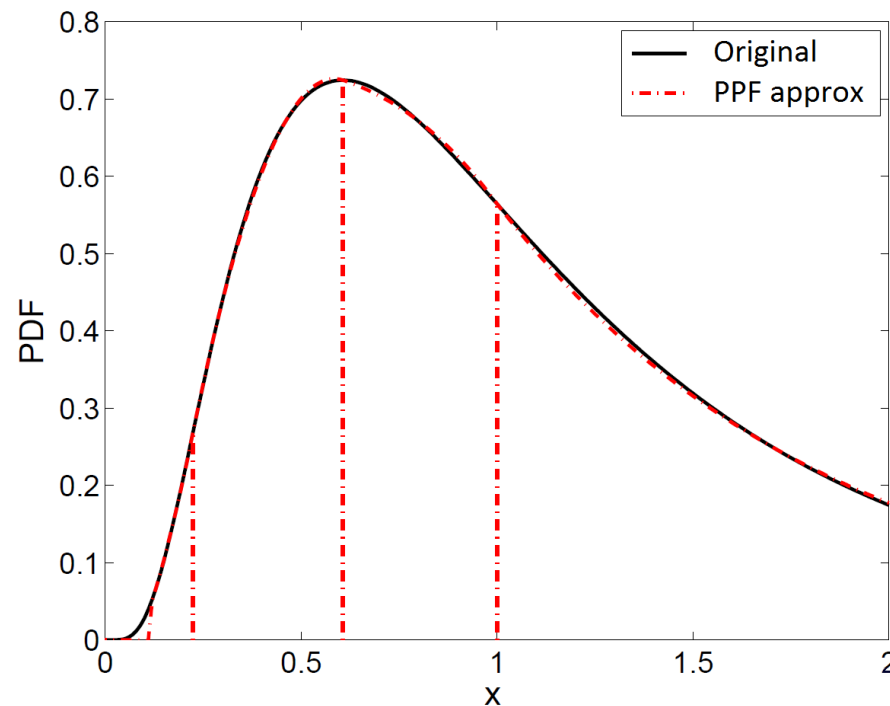
Fractional

Polynomial

Example: 
$$\begin{cases} \frac{x}{y} & \text{if } x + y > 0 \\ \frac{x^2 + y}{y^2} & \text{if } x + y < 0, y > 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots \end{cases}$$

# PPFs can be used for:

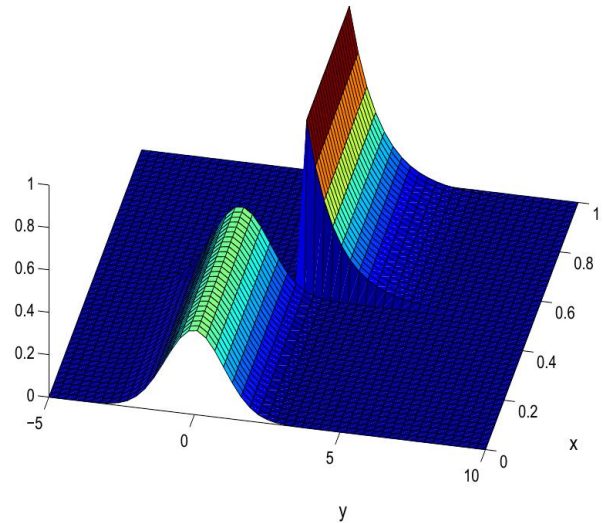
- Representing truncated/finite support models
- Approximating arbitrary models



# PPFs can be used for:

- Representing truncated/finite support models
- Approximating arbitrary models
- Probabilistic programming

```
% Draw from uniform (0, 1)
x = rand;
if (x < 0.5)
    % Draw from standard Normal
    y = randn;
else
    % Draw from Gamma(1, 1)
    y = randg + 2.0;
end
```



# PPFs can be used for:

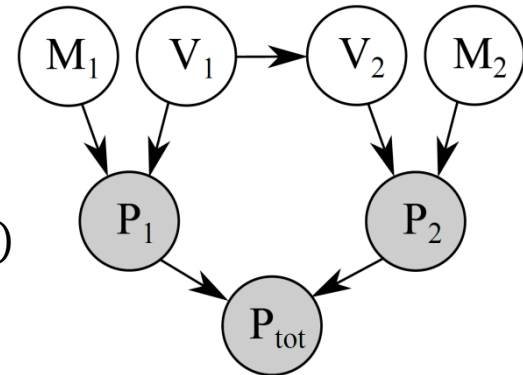
- Representing truncated/finite support models
- Approximating arbitrary models
- Probabilistic programming
- Bayesian inference: piecewise priors and likelihoods
- Algebraic constraints!

# Contribution 2: Algebraic Constraints

- An example:**

$$pr(M_1) = U(M_1; 0.1, 2.1) \quad pr(V_1) = U(V_1; -2, 2)$$

$$pr(M_2) = U(M_2; 0.1, 2.1) \quad pr(V_2|V_1) = U(V_2; -2, V_1)$$



Observation:  $P_{tot} = 3$

Query:  $pr(V_1, M_2, V_2 | P_{tot} = 3)$  ?

$$M_1V_1 + M_2V_2 = 3$$

$$pr(V_1, M_2, V_2 | P_{tot} = 3) \propto \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} pr(M_1, V_1, M_2, V_2) pr(P_{tot} | M_1, V_1, M_2, V_2) dM_1$$

$$\delta(f(x)) = \sum_{r \in \text{roots}(f(x))} \frac{\delta(x - r)}{\left| \frac{\partial f(x)}{\partial x} \right|}$$

$P_{tot} = M_1V_1 + M_2V_2$  , so:

$$pr(P_{tot}) = \delta(M_1V_1 + M_2V_2 - 3)$$

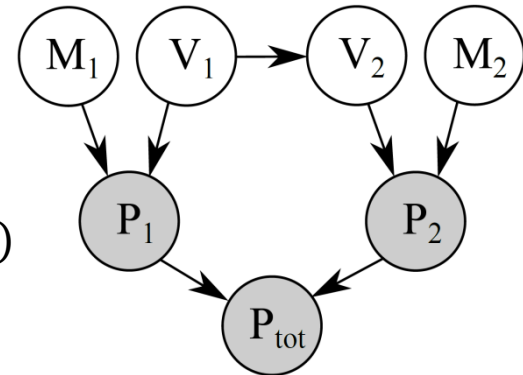
$$= \frac{\delta\left(M_1 - \left(\frac{3 - M_2V_2}{V_1}\right)\right)}{|V_1|}$$



# Contribution 2: Algebraic Constraints

- An example:**

$$\begin{aligned} pr(M_1) &= U(M_1; 0.1, 2.1) & pr(V_1) &= U(V_1; -2, 2) \\ pr(M_2) &= U(M_2; 0.1, 2.1) & pr(V_2|V_1) &= U(V_2; -2, V_1) \end{aligned}$$



Observation:  $P_{tot} = 3$

Query:  $pr(V_1, M_2, V_2 | P_{tot} = 3)$

Divisions, absolute values!  
PPFs are closed under them 😊

$$pr(V_1, M_2, V_2 | P_{tot} = 3) \propto \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} pr(M_1, V_1, M_2, V_2) pr(P_{tot} = 3 | M_1, V_1, M_2, V_2) dM_1$$

Next: PPFs are closed under  
fractional substitutions! 😊

$$\begin{aligned} \delta(f(x)) \\ = \sum_{r \in \text{roots}(f(x))} \frac{\delta(x - r)}{\left| \frac{\partial f(x)}{\partial x} \right|} \end{aligned}$$

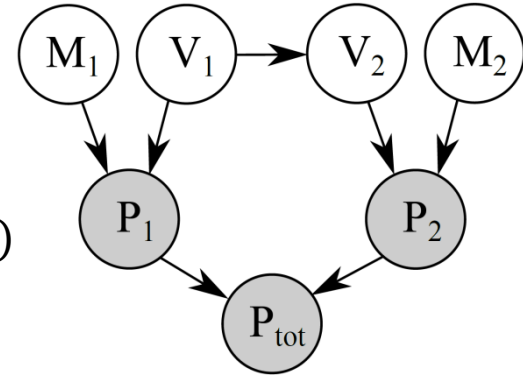
$$\begin{aligned} P_{tot} &= M_1 V_1 + M_2 V_2, \text{ so} \\ pr(P_{tot}) &= \delta(M_1 V_1 + M_2 V_2 - 3) \\ &= \frac{\delta\left(M_1 - \left(\frac{3 - M_2 V_2}{V_1}\right)\right)}{|V_1|} \end{aligned}$$

# Collapse Algebraic Constraints

- Collapse out  $M_1$ :**

$$pr(M_1) = U(M_1; 0.1, 2.1) \quad pr(V_1) = U(V_1; -2, 2)$$

$$pr(M_2) = U(M_2; 0.1, 2.1) \quad pr(V_2|V_1) = U(V_2; -2, V_1)$$



Observation:  $P_{tot} = 3$  that is,  $M_1V_1 + M_2V_2 = 3$

Query:  $pr(V_1, M_2, V_2 | P_{tot} = 3)$  ?

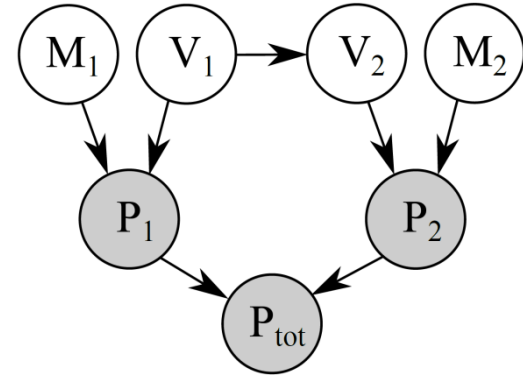
$$pr(P_{tot} | \dots) = \frac{\delta\left(M_1 - \left(\frac{3 - M_2V_2}{V_1}\right)\right)}{|V_1|}$$

$$pr(V_1, M_2, V_2 | P_{tot} = 3) \propto \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} pr(M_1, V_1, M_2, V_2) pr(P_{tot} | M_1, V_1, M_2, V_2) dM_1$$

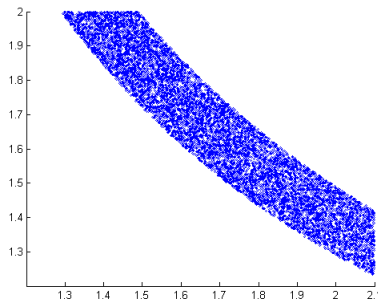
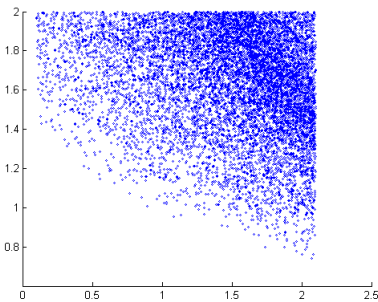
$$\propto \begin{cases} \frac{1}{V_1(V_1 + 2)} & \text{if } 0 < V_1, 0.1 < \frac{3 - M_2V_2}{V_1} < 2.1, 1 < M_2 < 3, \\ & -2 < V_1 < 2, -2 < V_2 < V_1 \\ \frac{-1}{V_1(V_1 + 2)} & \text{if } 0 > V_1, 0.1 < \frac{3 - M_2V_2}{V_1} < 2.1, 1 < M_2 < 3, \\ & -2 < V_1 < 2, -2 < V_2 < V_1 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

# Sneak Preview: Inference Results

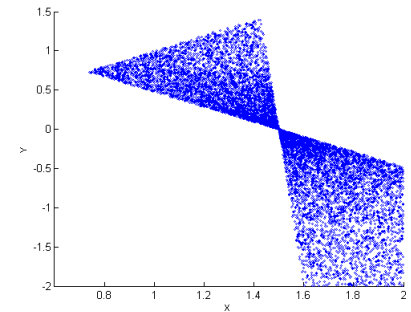
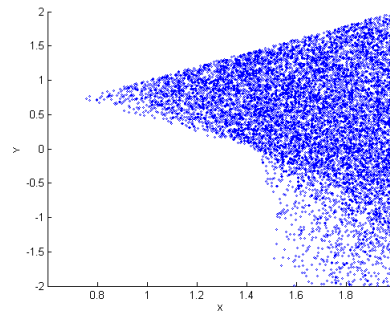
Even in this simple example,  
posteriors are **multimodal** and  
**piecewise**!



$$pr(M_1, V_1 | P_{tot} = 3, V_2 = 0.2)$$



$$pr(V_1, V_2 | P_{tot} = 3, M_1 = 2)$$



$$pr(M_1, V_1 | P_{tot} = 3)$$

$$pr(V_1, V_2 | P_{tot} = 3)$$

# Where are we?

- We've written down expressive PPF models
- We've collapsed out determinism (constraints)
- We still need to do inference in the collapsed PPF model...

# Inference in Piecewise Algebraic Models

- Closed-form solution? **Generally, impossible!** 😞
- Metropolis Hastings? **Low acceptance rate!** 😞

Due to high KL-divergence  
between the proposal and  
target densities

# Inference in Piecewise Algebraic Models

- Closed-form solution? **Generally, impossible!** ☹️
- Metropolis Hastings? **Low acceptance rate!** ☹️
- Hamiltonian Monte Carlo? **Low acceptance rate!** ☹️

Also no discrete variables!

Since HMC leap-frog mechanism relies on the assumption of smoothness.

# Inference in Piecewise Algebraic Models

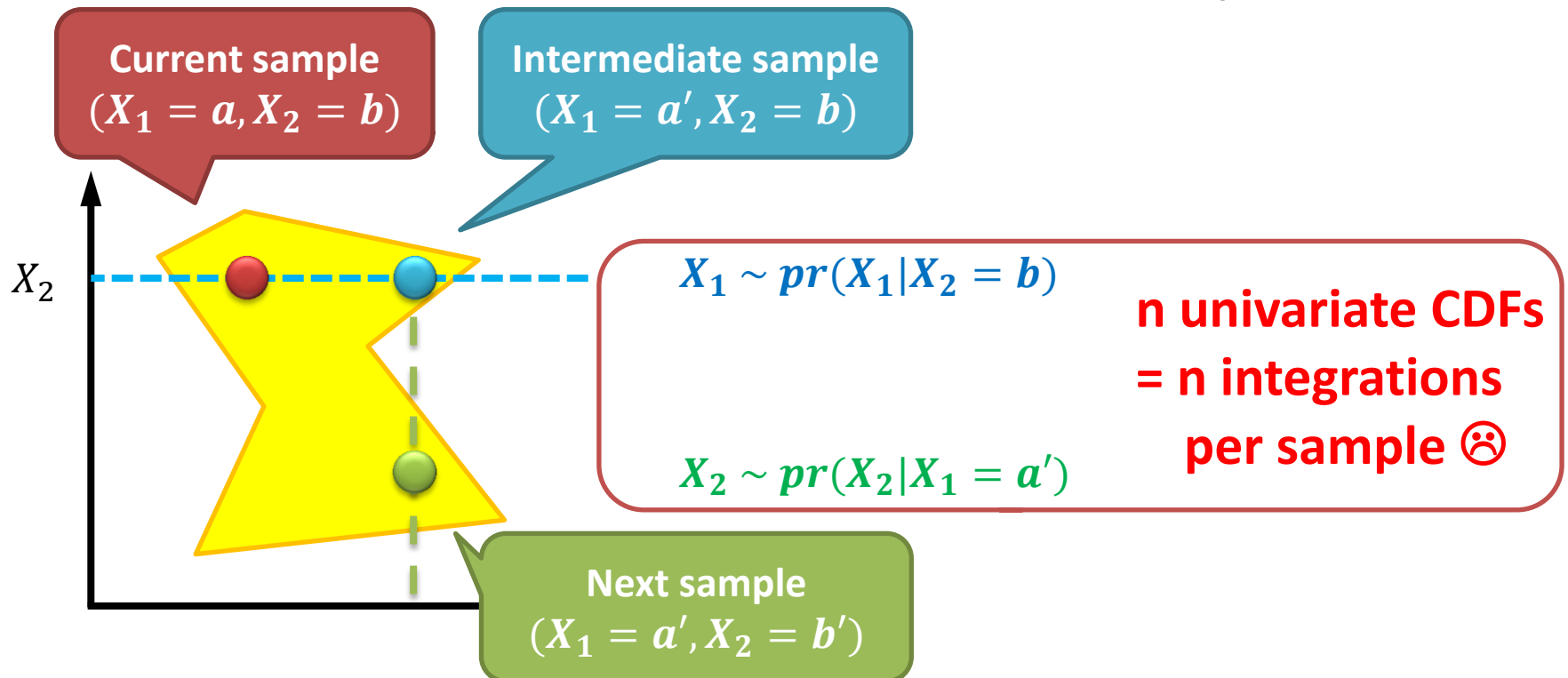
- Closed-form solution? **Generally, impossible!** ☹️
- Metropolis Hastings? **Low acceptance rate!** ☹️
- Hamiltonian Monte Carlo? **Low acceptance rate!** ☹️
- Slice Sampling? **Poor performance on multimodal densities!** ☹️
- Gibbs sampling? **Slow, due to per sample (multiple) CDF computation (integration)!** ☹️

We are going to make it fast!



# Gibbs sampling

- Remember that in Gibbs, sampling from an  $n$  dimensional function is done in  $n$  steps.

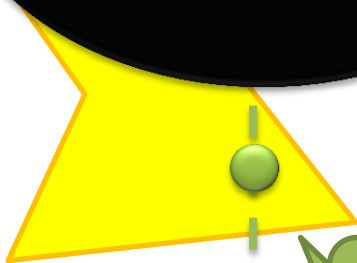




**IDEA!**

**What if we can compute  
CDFs symbolically and prior  
to sampling?**

$X_2$



$$X_2 \sim pr(X_2|X_1 = a')$$

Next sample  
 $(X_1 = a', X_2 = b')$

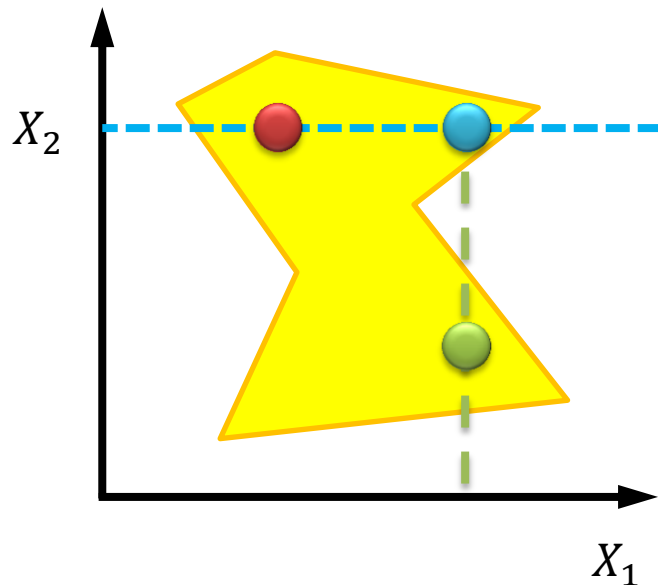
Univariate CDFs  
integrations  
per sample ☹️

# Gibbs sampling

- Remember that in Gibbs, sampling from an  $n$  dimensional function is done in  $n$  steps.

Only need to do one integral which is possible for a large class of PPFs

Mapping **variables** to symbolic CDFs



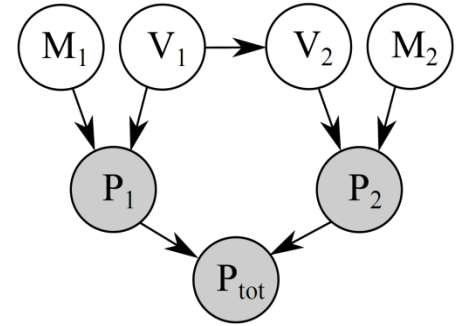
$$X_1 \longrightarrow F_{X_1}(x) := \int_{-\infty}^x P(X_1 = t, X_2, \dots, X_n) dt$$

$\vdots$

$$X_n \longrightarrow F_{X_n}(x) := \int_{-\infty}^x P(X_1, \dots, X_{n-1}, X_n = t) dt$$

**$n$  integrals rather than  $n \times \text{\#samples}$**

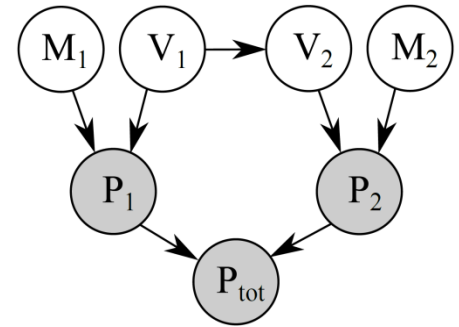
# Returning to our example:



$$pr(V_1, M_2, V_2 | P_{tot} = 3) \propto$$

$$\begin{cases} \frac{1}{V_1(V_1 + 2)} & \text{if } 0 < V_1, V_1 < 30 - 10M_2V_2, \frac{3 - M_2V_2}{2.1} < V_1, 1 < M_2 < 3, \\ & -2 < V_1, V_1 < 2, -2 < V_2, V_2 < V_1 \\ \\ \frac{-1}{V_1(V_1 + 2)} & \text{if } 0 > V_1, V_1 > 30 - 10M_2V_2, \frac{3 - M_2V_2}{2.1} > V_1, 1 < M_2 < 3, \\ & -2 < V_1 < 2, -2 < V_2 < V_1 \\ \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

# Returning to our example:



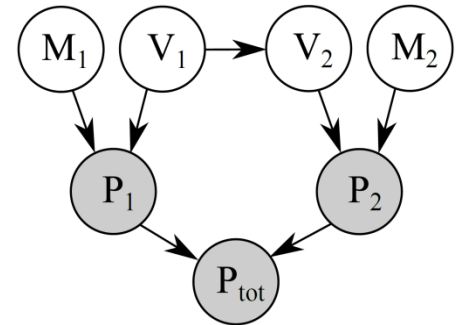
$$V_1 \xrightarrow{\text{maps}} F_{V_1}(v_1)$$

$$= \int_{V_1=-\infty}^{v_1} pr(V_1, M_2, V_2 | P_{tot} = 3) dV_1 \propto$$

Let's just consider one statement

$$\int_{V_1=-\infty}^{v_1} \left( \frac{1}{V_1(V_1 + 2)} \quad \text{if } 0 < V_1, V_1 < 30 - 10M_2V_2, \frac{3 - M_2V_2}{2.1} < V_1, 1 < M_2 < 3, \right. \\ \left. -2 < V_1, V_1 < 2, -2 < V_2, V_2 < V_1 \right) dV_1 \\ + \\ \int_{V_1=-\infty}^{v_1} \left( \frac{-1}{V_1(V_1 + 2)} \quad \text{if } 0 > V_1, V_1 > 30 - 10M_2V_2, \frac{3 - M_2V_2}{2.1} > V_1, 1 < M_2 < 3, \right. \\ \left. -2 < V_1 < 2, -2 < V_2 < V_1 \right) dV_1 \\ 0 \quad \text{otherwise}$$

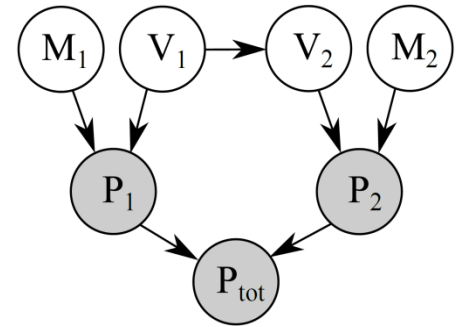
# Returning to our example:



Let's just consider one statement

$$\int_{V_1=-\infty}^{v_1} \left( \frac{1}{V_1(V_1 + 2)} \quad \text{if } 0 < V_1, V_1 < 30 - 10M_2V_2, \frac{3 - M_2V_2}{2.1} < V_1, 1 < M_2 < 3, \right. \\ \left. -2 < V_1, V_1 < 2, -2 < V_2, V_2 < V_1 \right) dV_1$$

# Returning to our example:



$$\int_{V_1=-\infty}^{v_1} \left( \frac{1}{V_1(V_1+2)} \quad \text{if } \begin{array}{l} 0 < V_1, V_1 < 30 - 10M_2V_2, \frac{3 - M_2V_2}{2.1} < V_1, 1 < M_2 < 3, \\ -2 < V_1, V_1 < 2, -2 < V_2, V_2 < V_1 \end{array} \right) dV_1$$

$$= \begin{cases} \int_{V_1=\max\{0, V_2, \frac{3-M_2V_2}{2.1}\}}^{\min\{v_1, 30-10M_2V_2, 2\}} \frac{1}{V_1(V_1+2)} dV_1 & \text{if } \min\{v_1, 30-10M_2V_2, 2\} > \max\left\{0, V_2, \frac{3-M_2V_2}{2.1}\right\}, \\ 0 & \text{if } 1 < M_2 < 3, -2 < V_2 \\ & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

A large set of algebraic functions have closed-form indefinite integrals i.e. here  $\int \frac{dV_1}{V_1(V_1+2)} = \frac{\log(V_1) - \log(V_1+2)}{2}$

# Inference in Piecewise Algebraic GMs

## 1. Collapse determinism

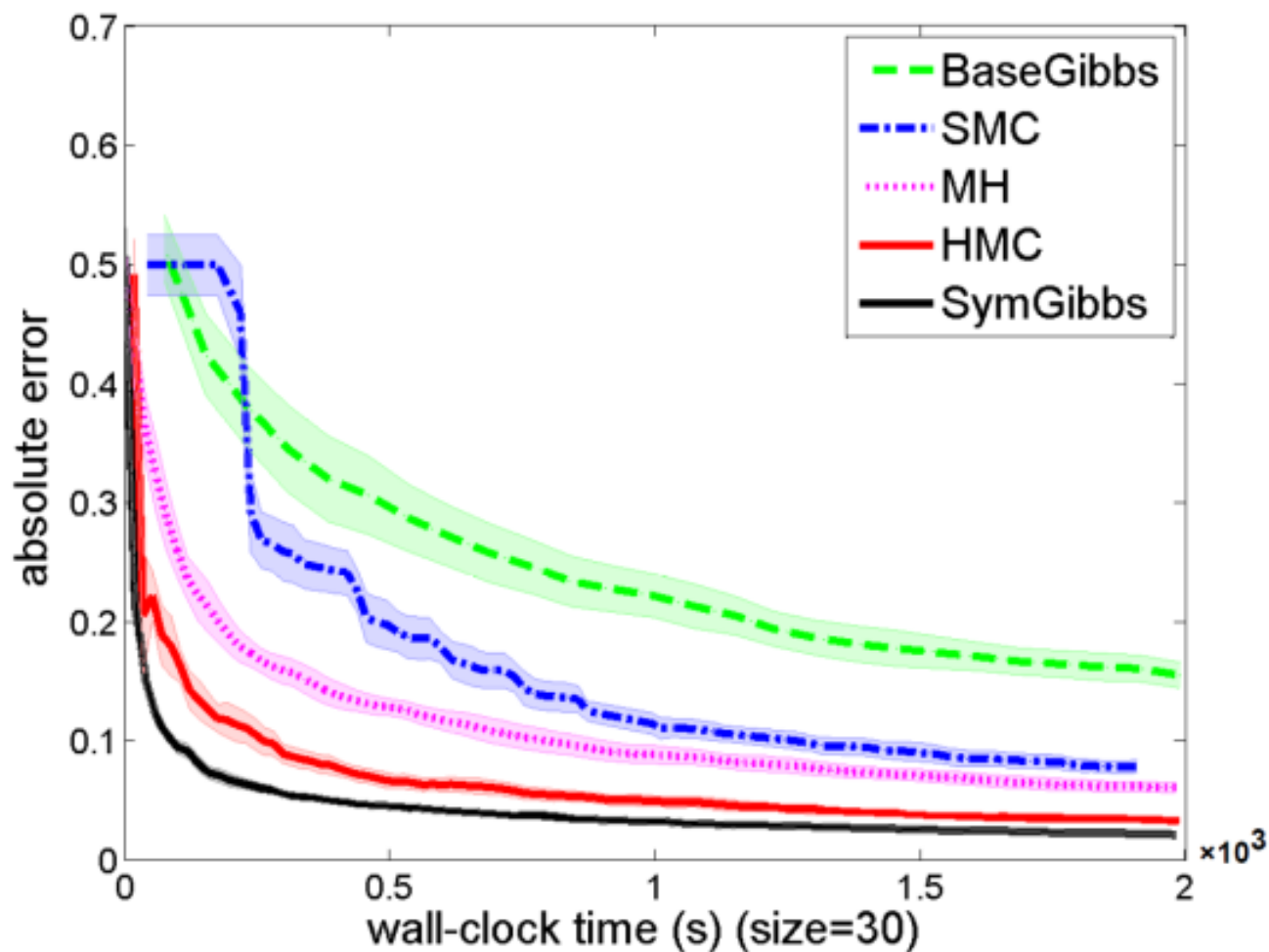
- Collapse one variable in each algebraic constraint

## 2. To take **S** samples from an **N**-dimensional model,

- In **baseline** Gibbs,  **$S \times N$  (univariate) CDFs** are computed.
- In **Symbolic** Gibbs,  **$N$  (analytical) CDFs** and  **$S \times N$  function evaluations** are required.

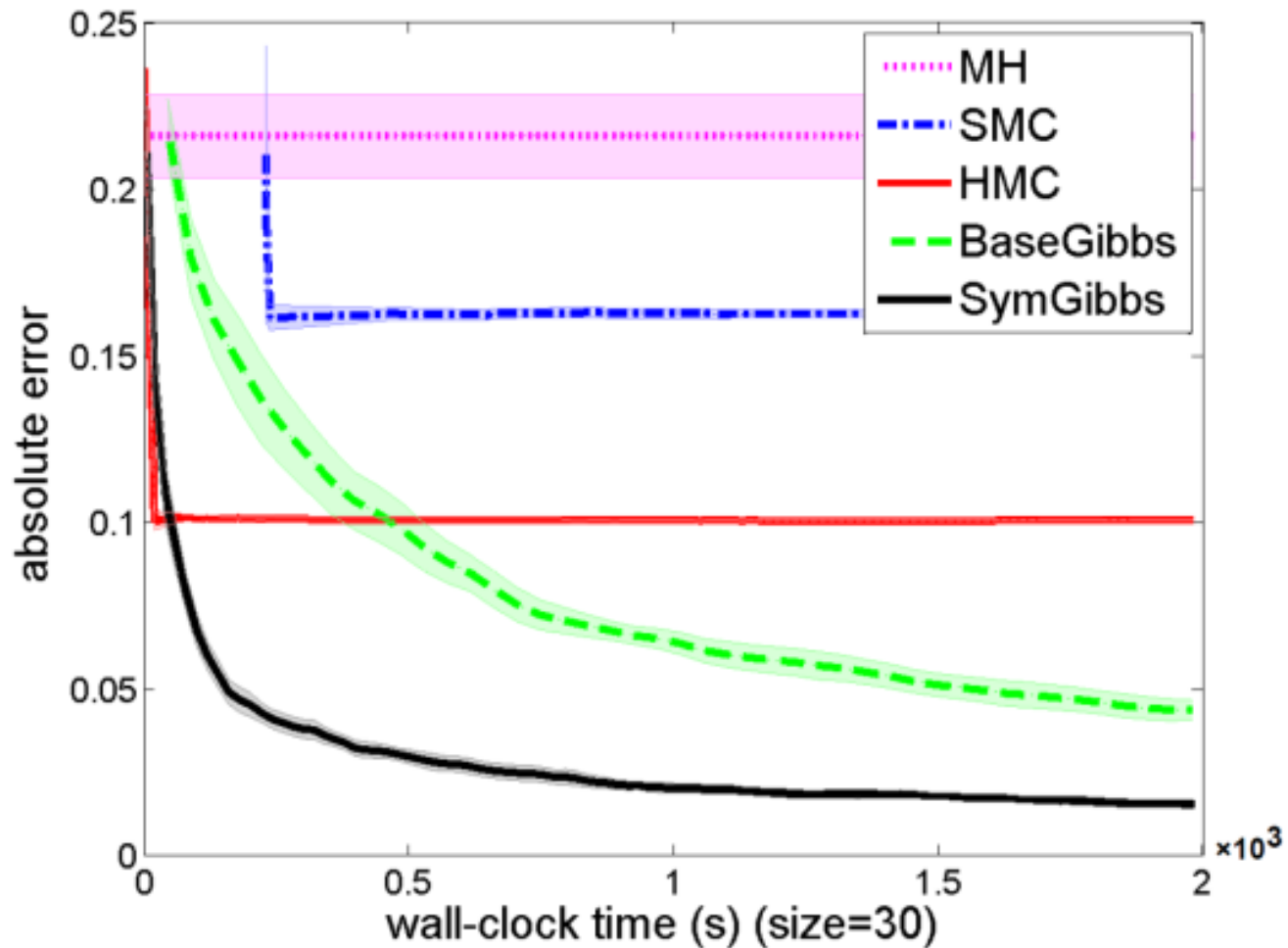
**Much faster!**

# Results





# Results



# Conclusions

- Expressive Graphical Models / Probabilistic Programs
  - Allow algebraic constraints
  - Represent factors as polynomial-piecewise fractions (PPFs)
  - Sufficient for rich class of probabilistic programs
    - Among **many** other applications...
- Result 1: Collapse all algebraic constraints (determinism)
  - Yields symbolic substitutions into PPF form
- Result 2: PPFs are one-time integrable!
  - Symbolically pre-compute all conditions for Gibbs sampling
  - Leads to very fast Gibbs sampler!

**Expressive Exact GM /  
PP MCMC Inference!**