

Covariances, Robustness, and Variational Bayes

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ITT Career Development
Assistant Professor,
MIT

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Jonathan H. Huggins, Michael I. Jordan

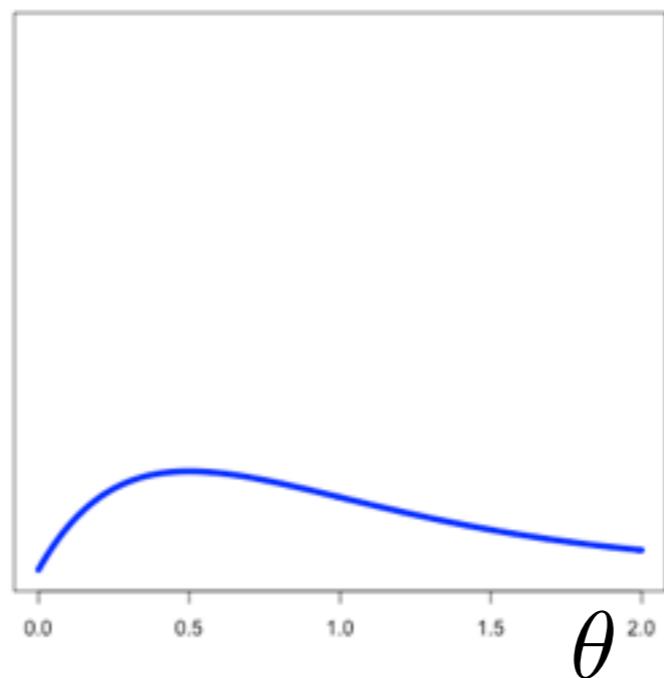
<http://www.tamarabroderick.com/tutorials.html>

- Bayesian inference

- Bayesian inference $p(\theta)$

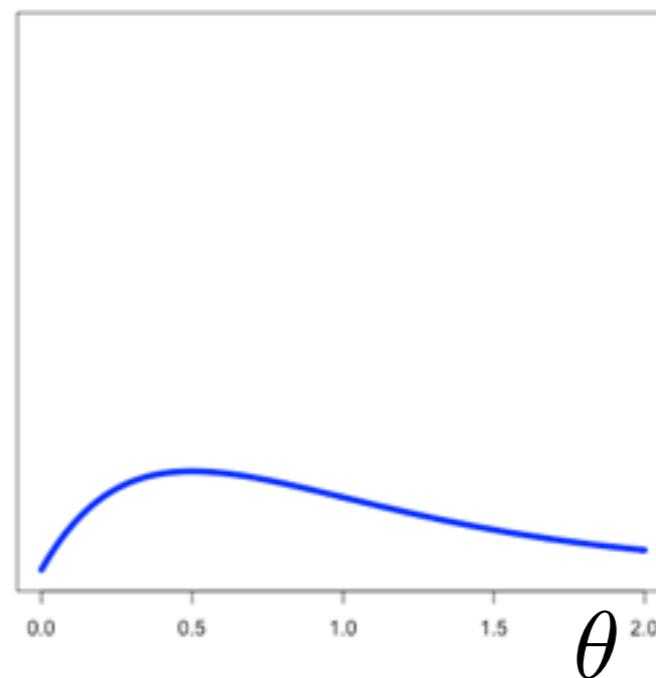
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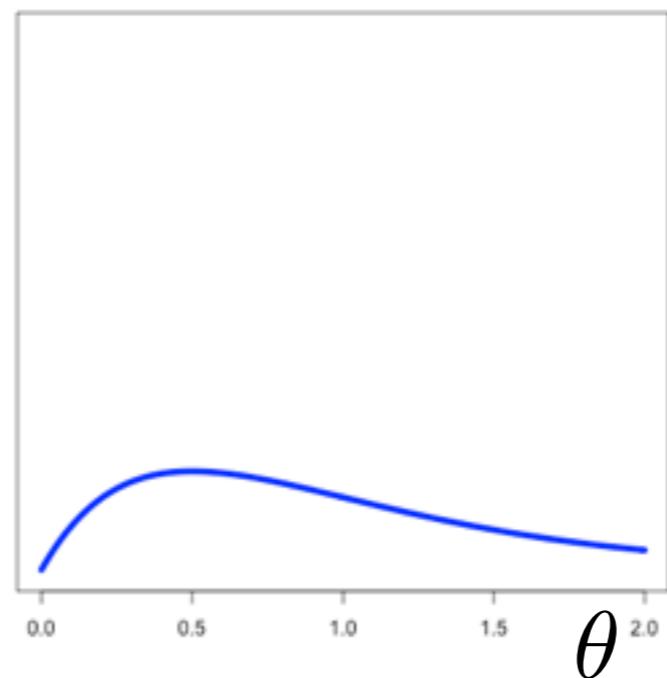


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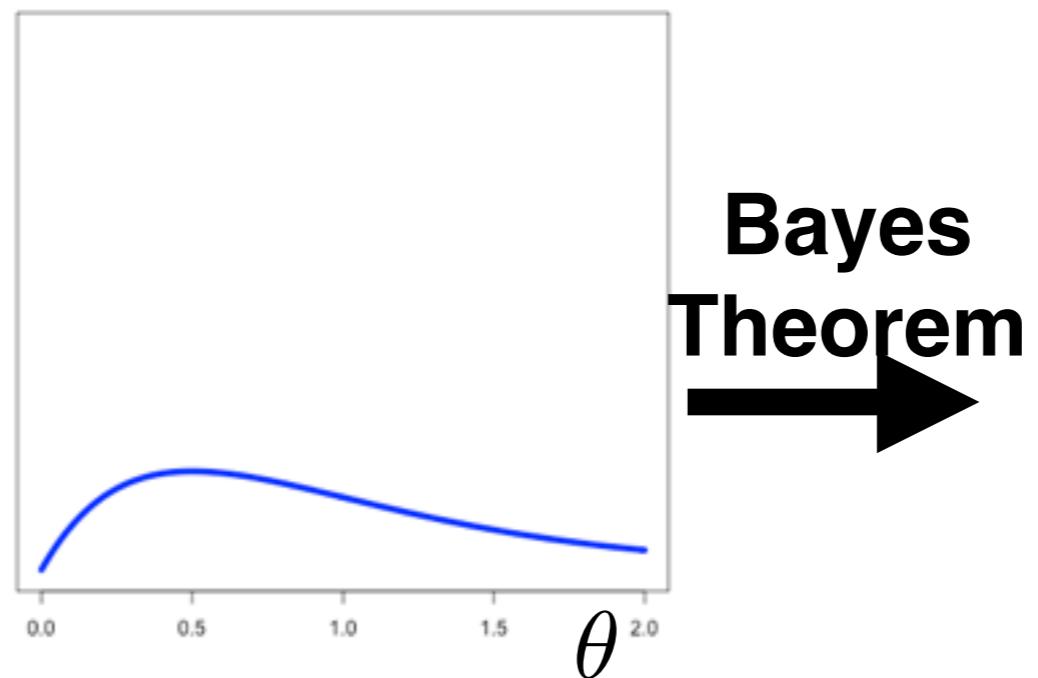
$$p(y|\theta)p(\theta)$$



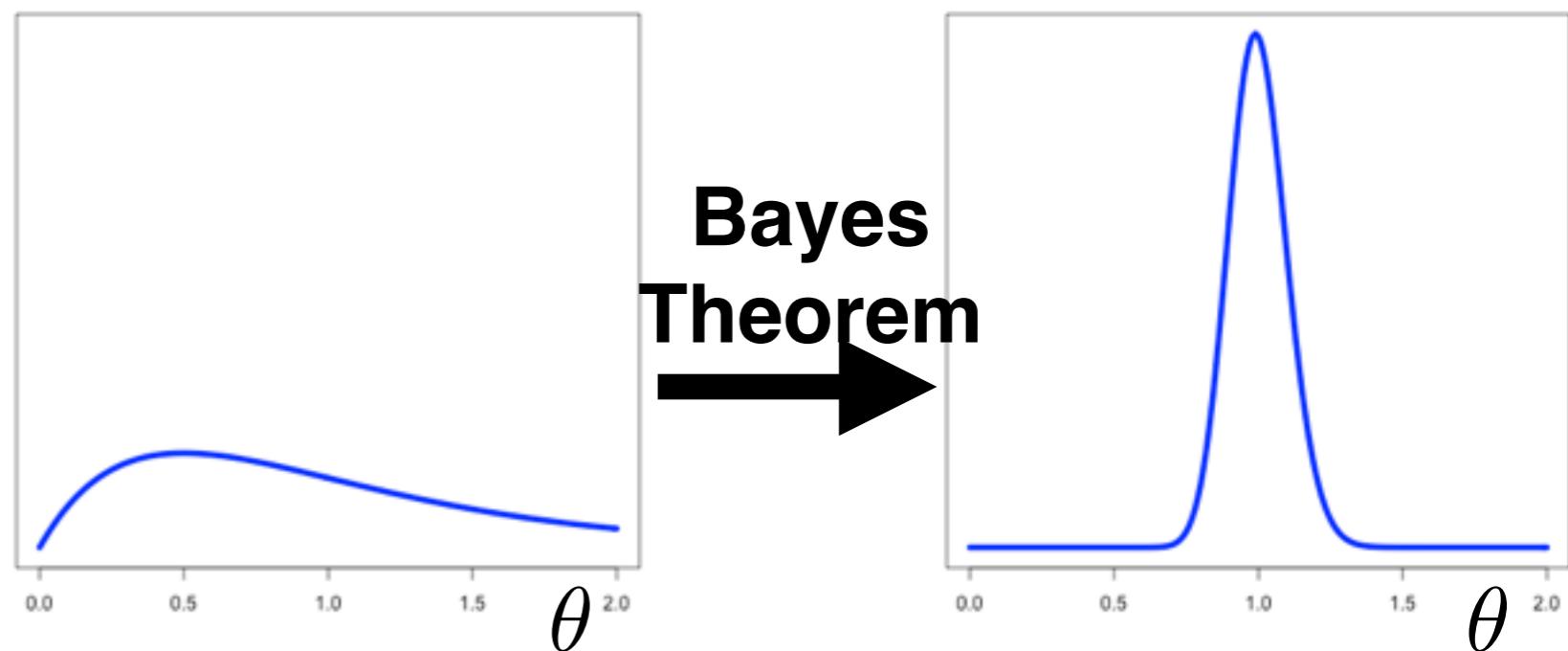
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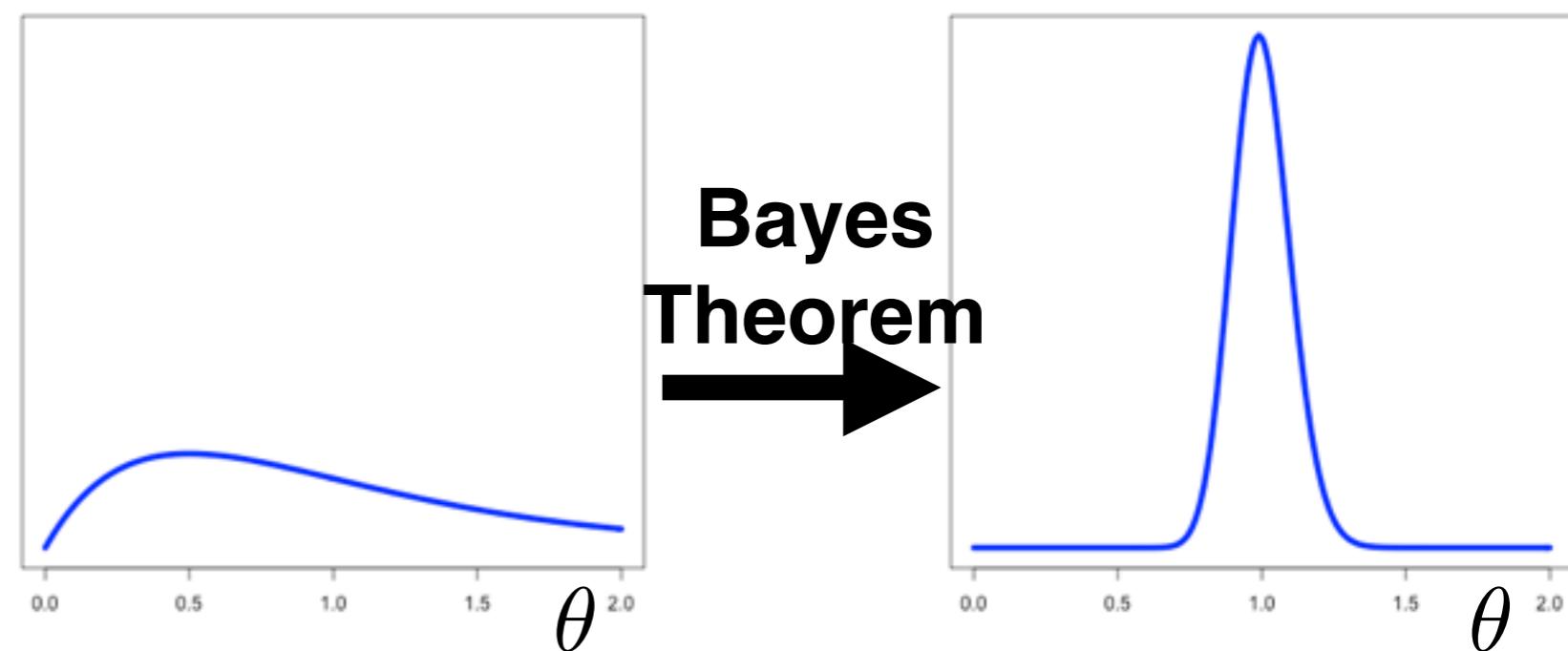


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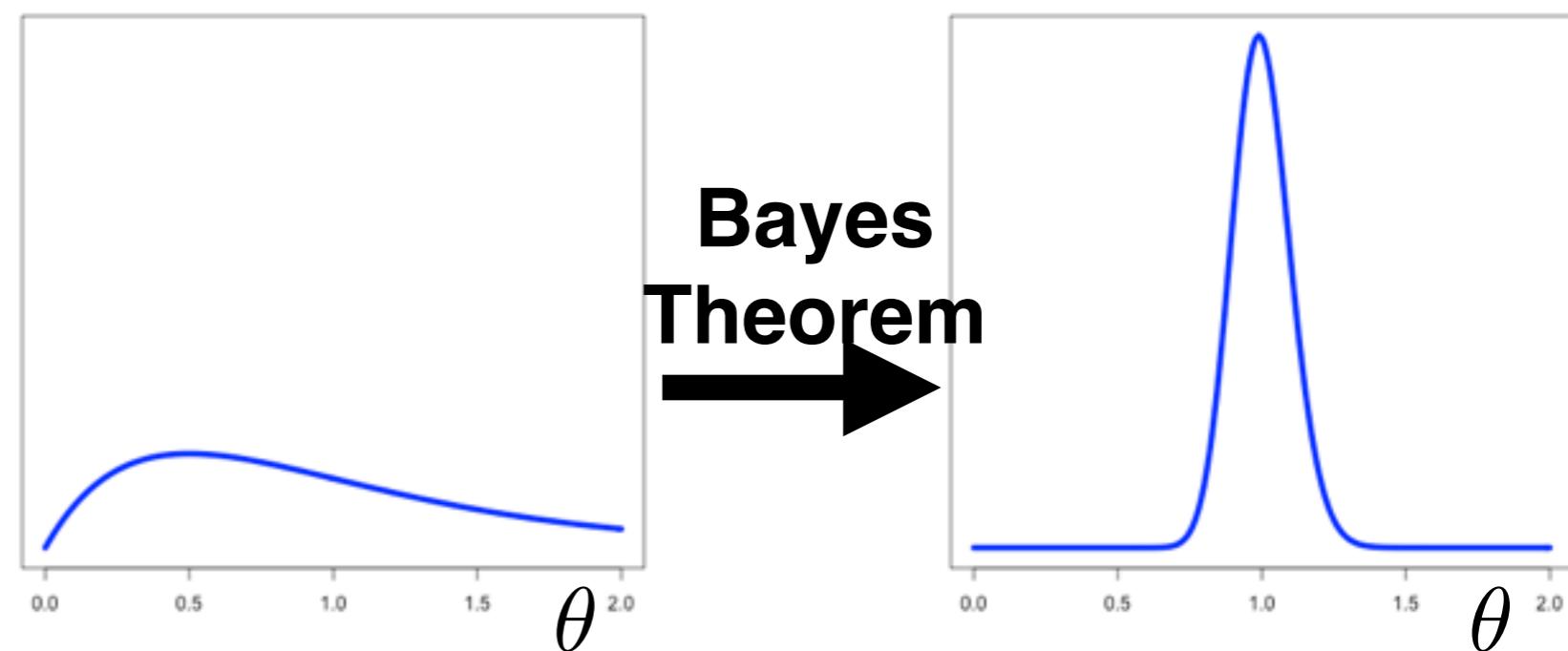
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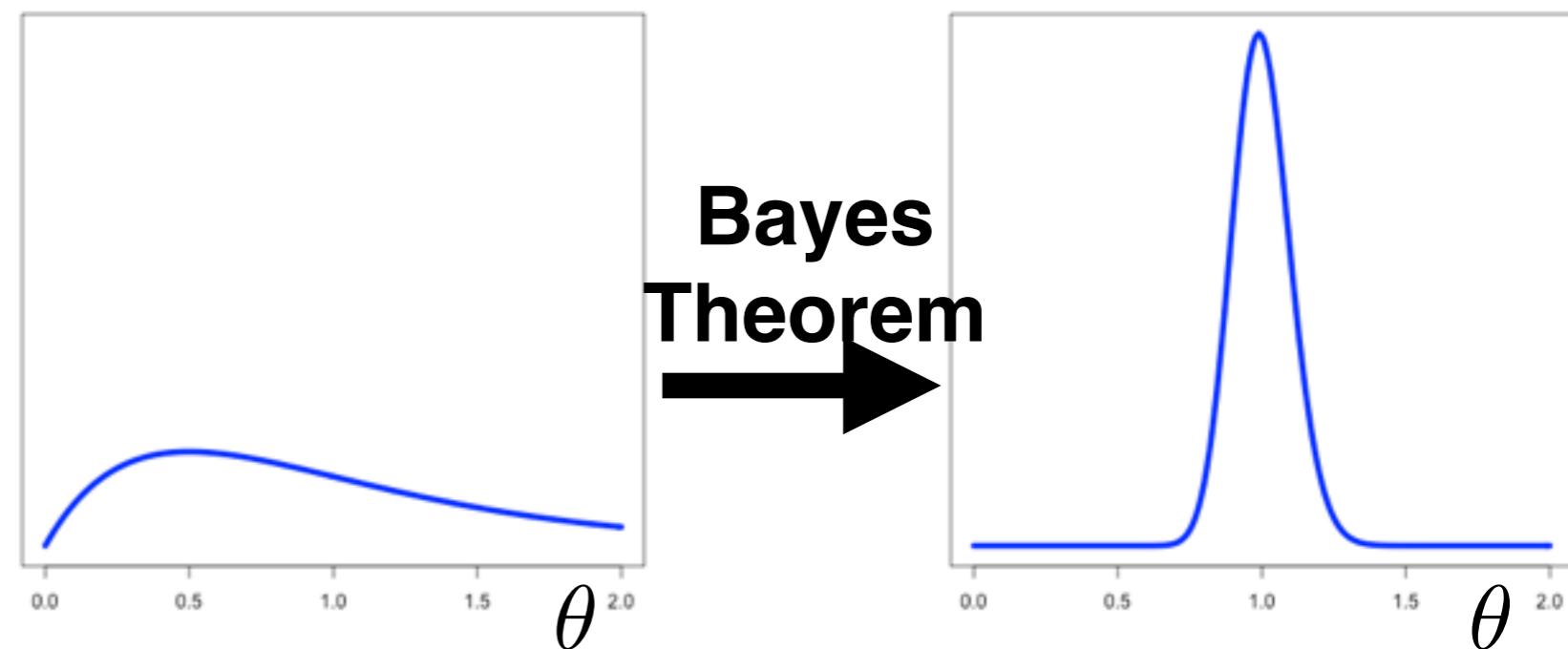
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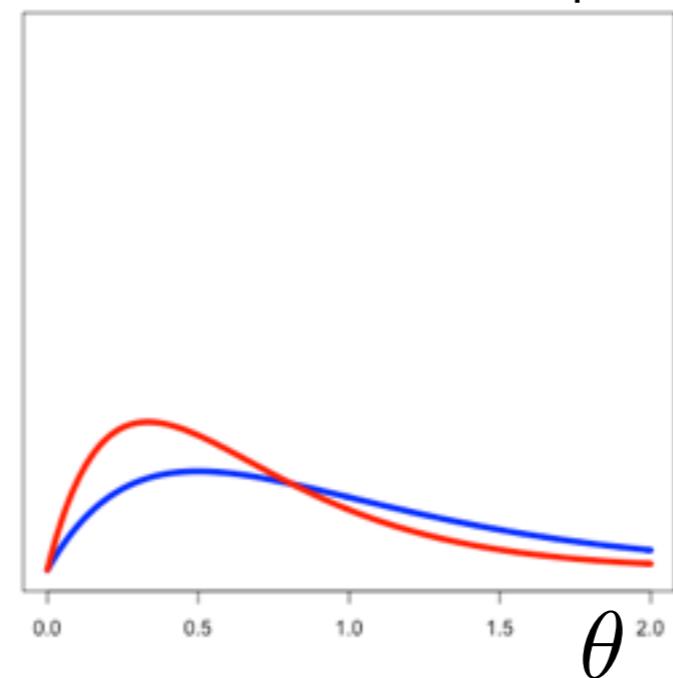
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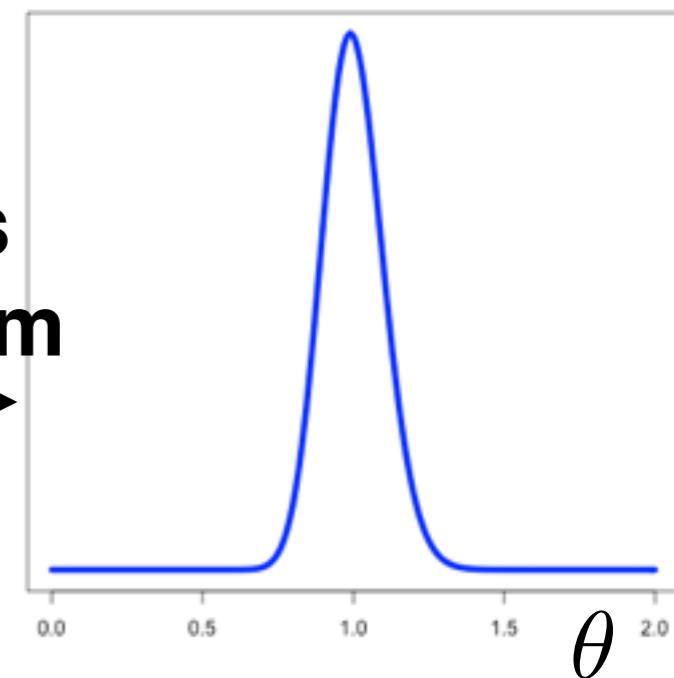
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Some reasonable priors



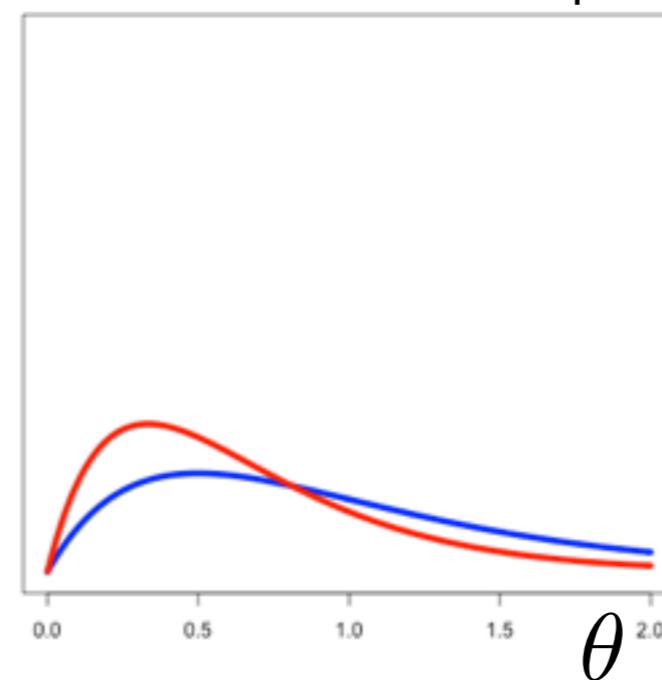
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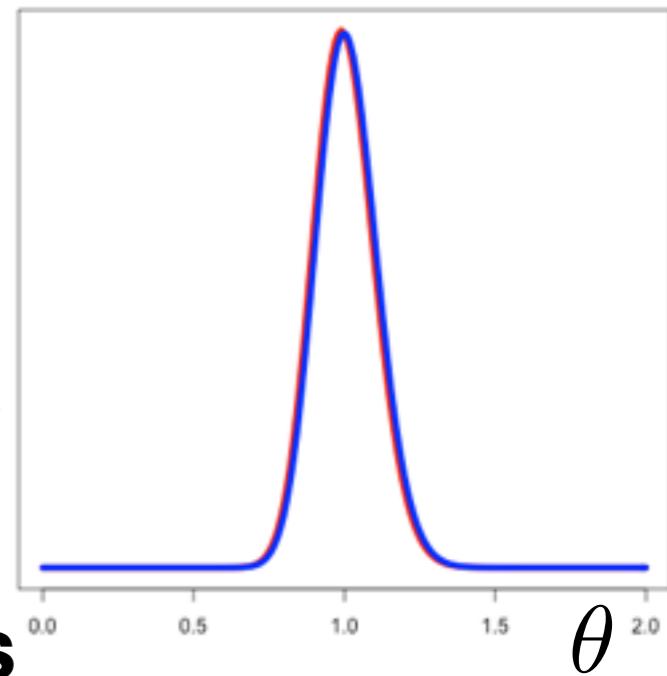
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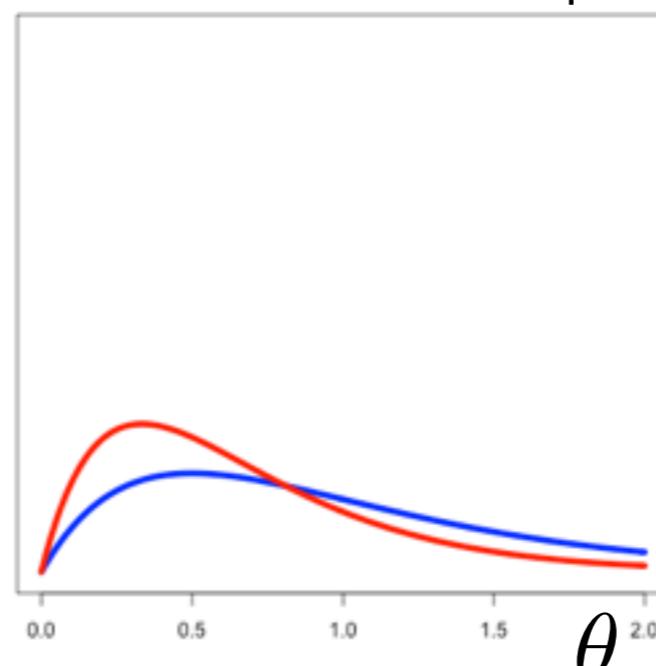
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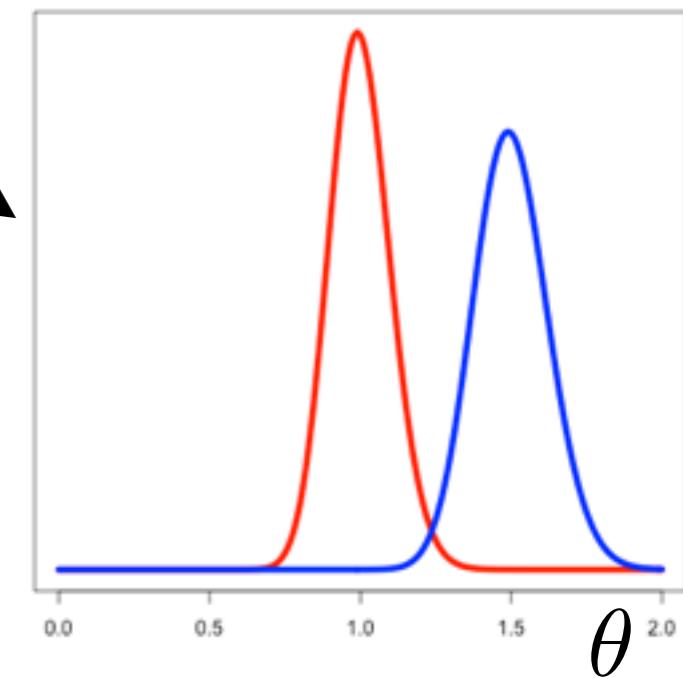
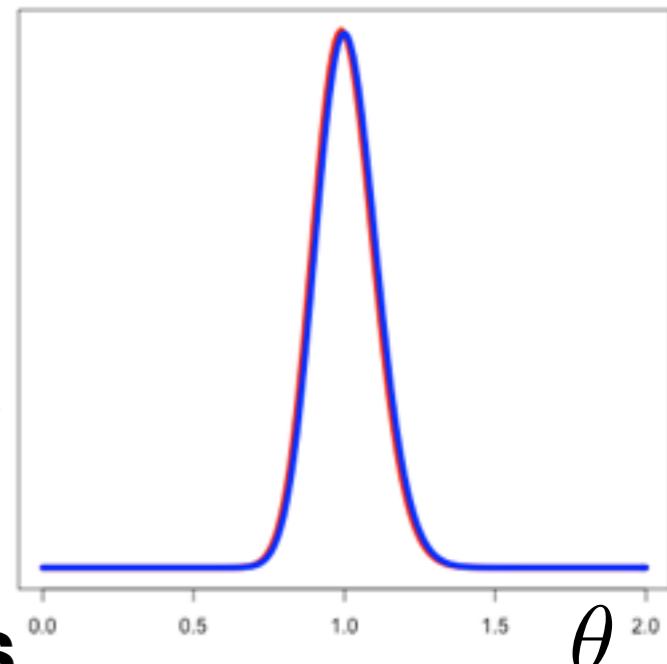
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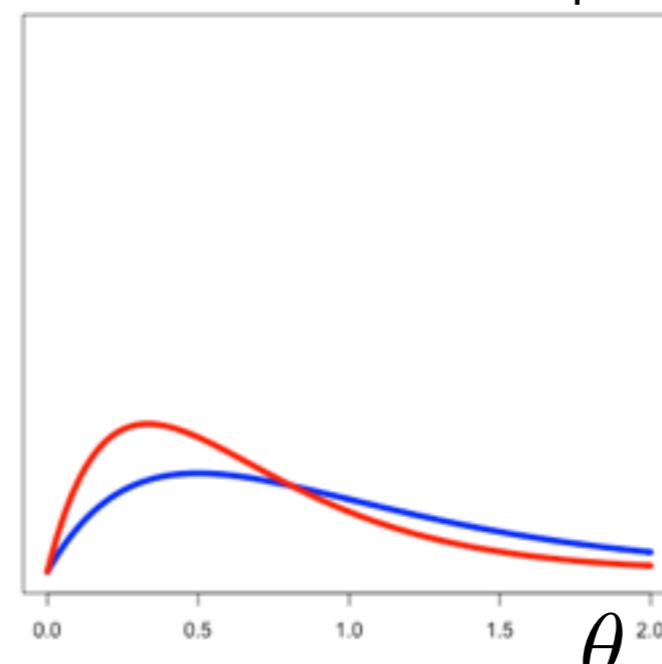
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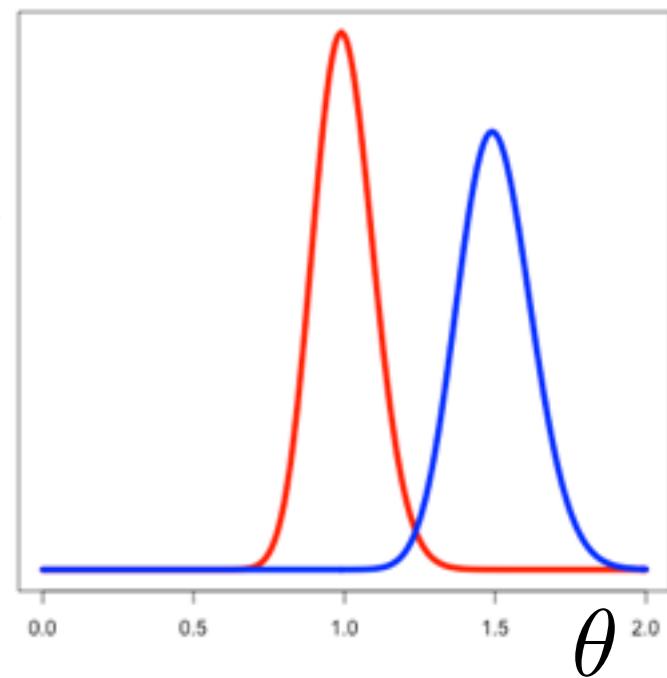
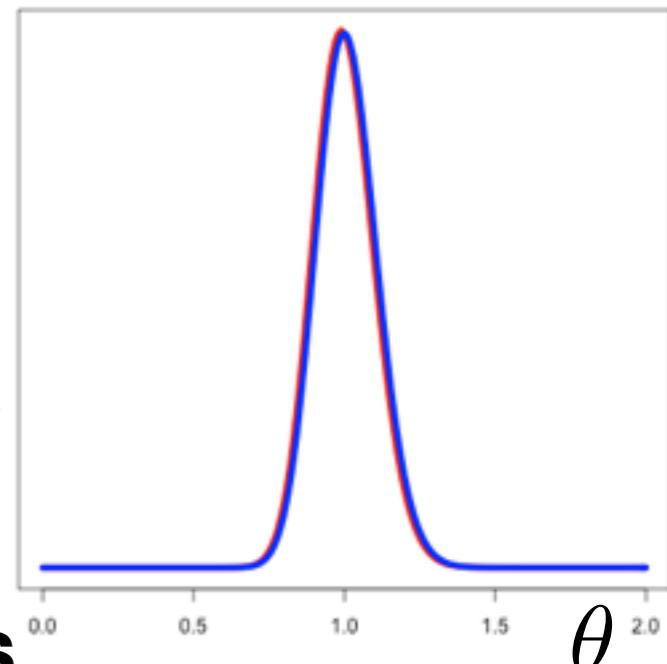
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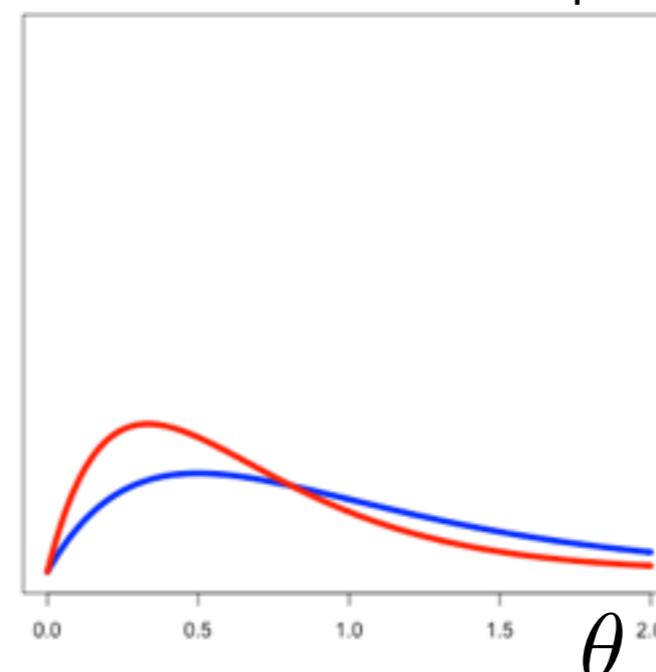


robustness quantification

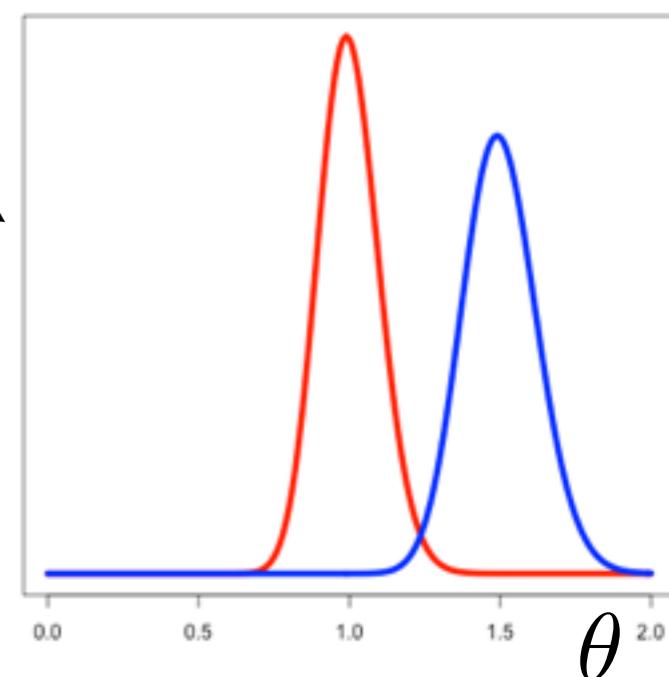
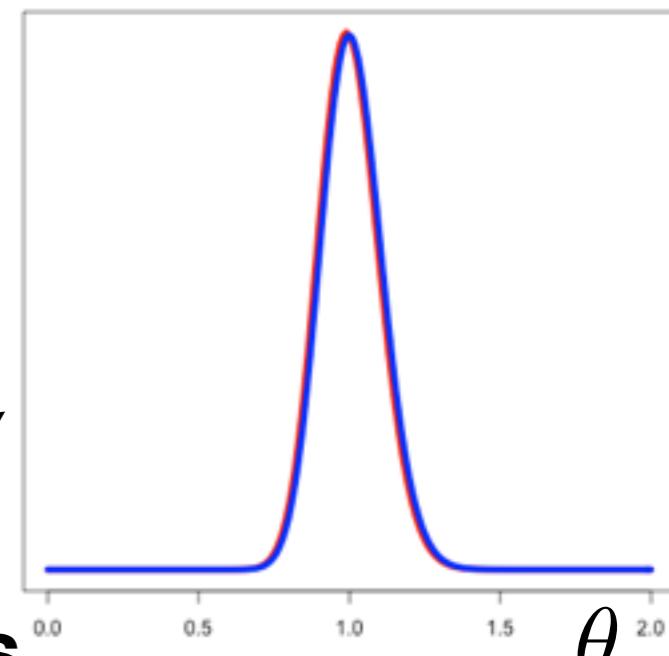
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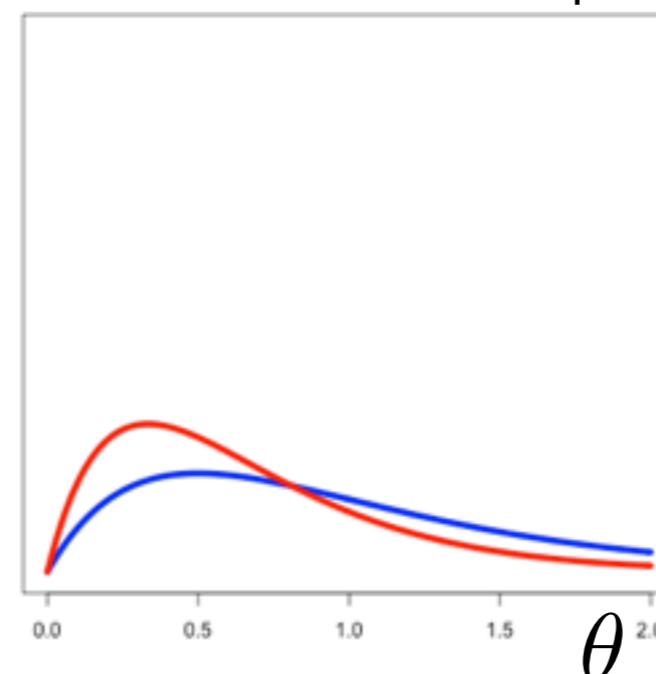


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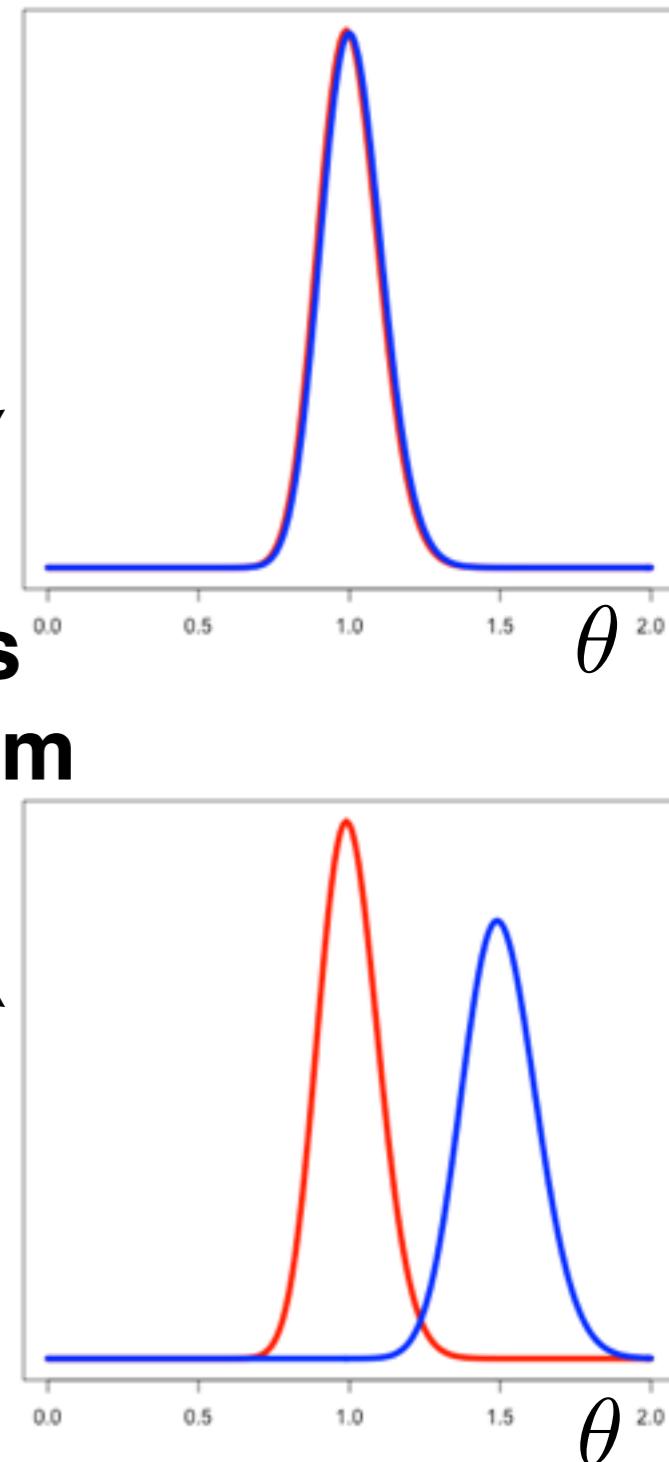
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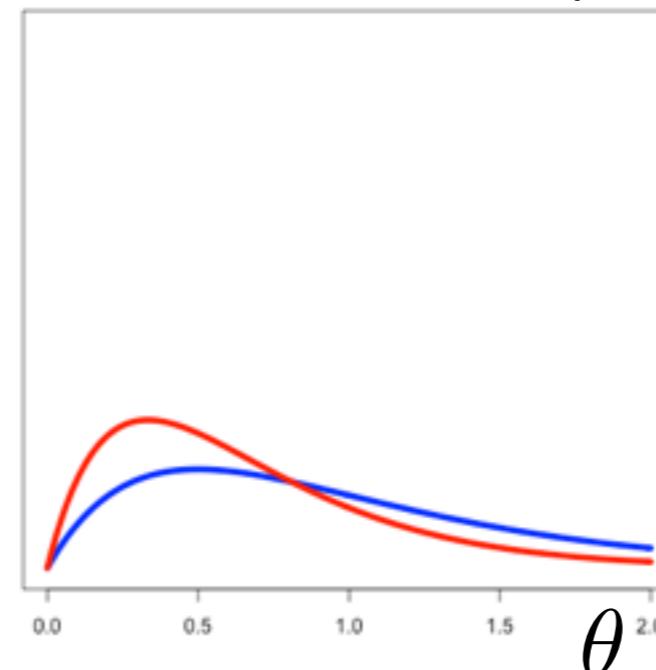


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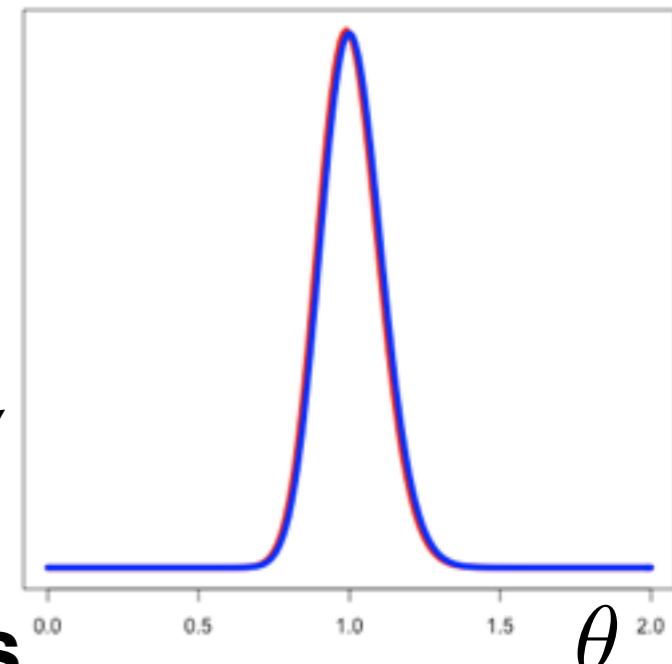
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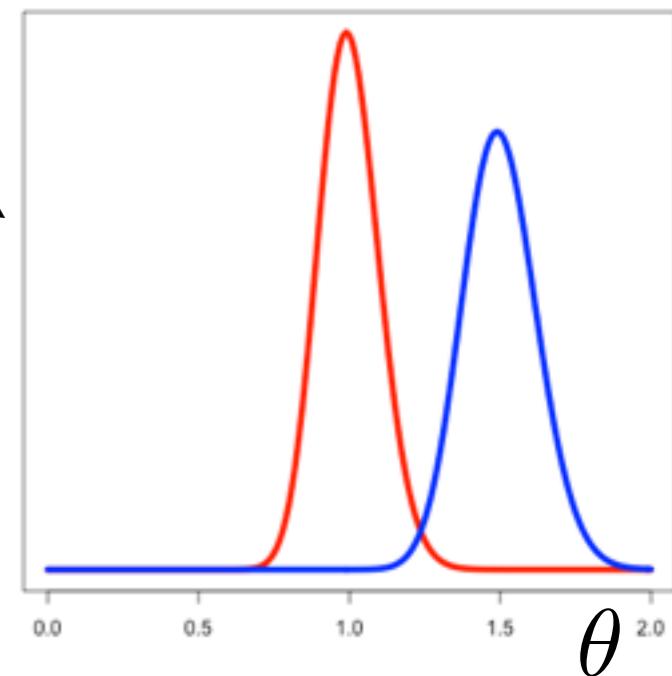
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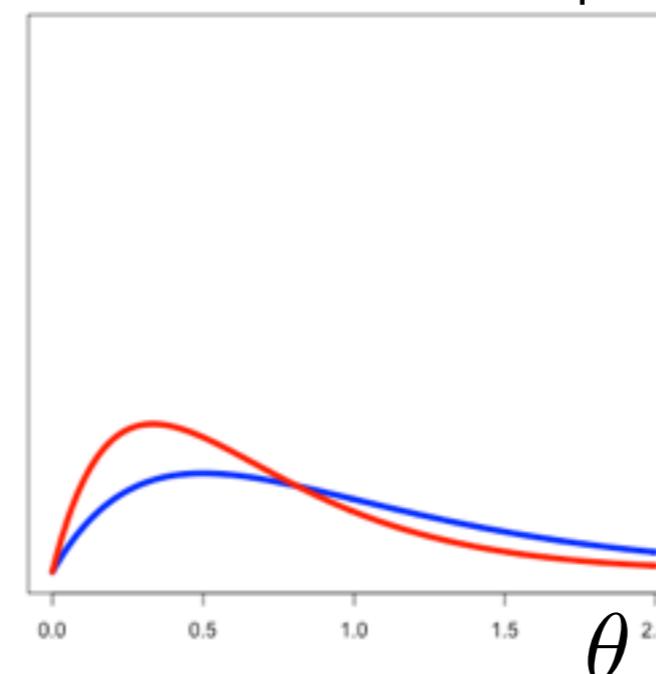


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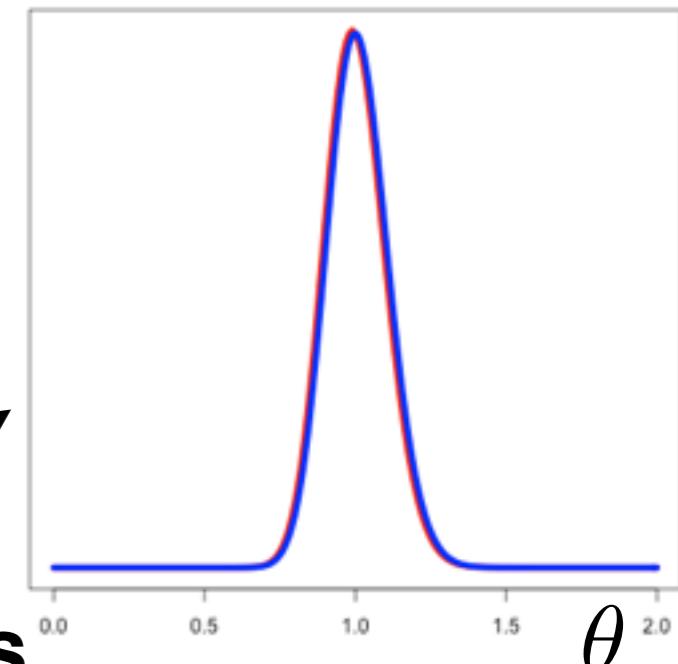
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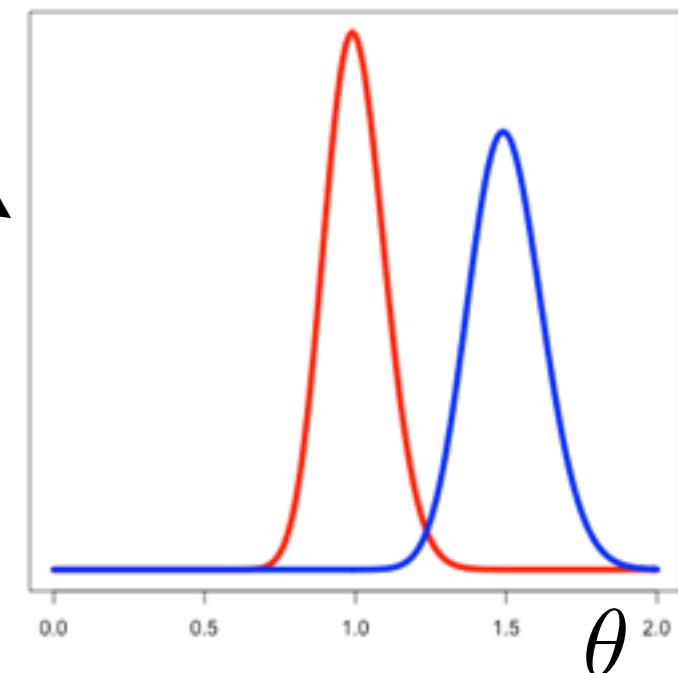
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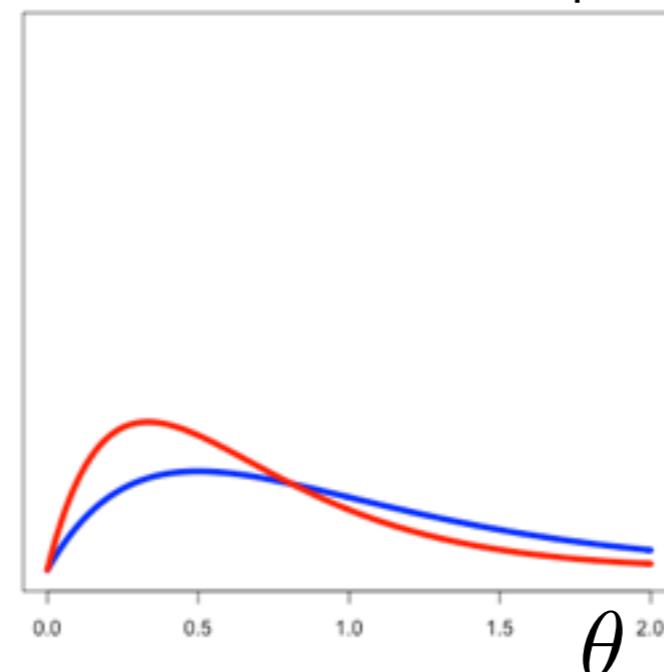


Uncertainty & robustness quantification

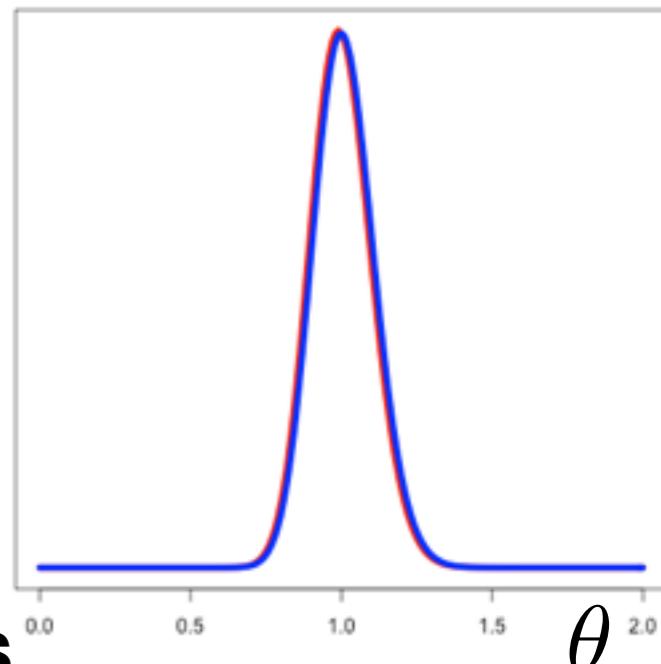
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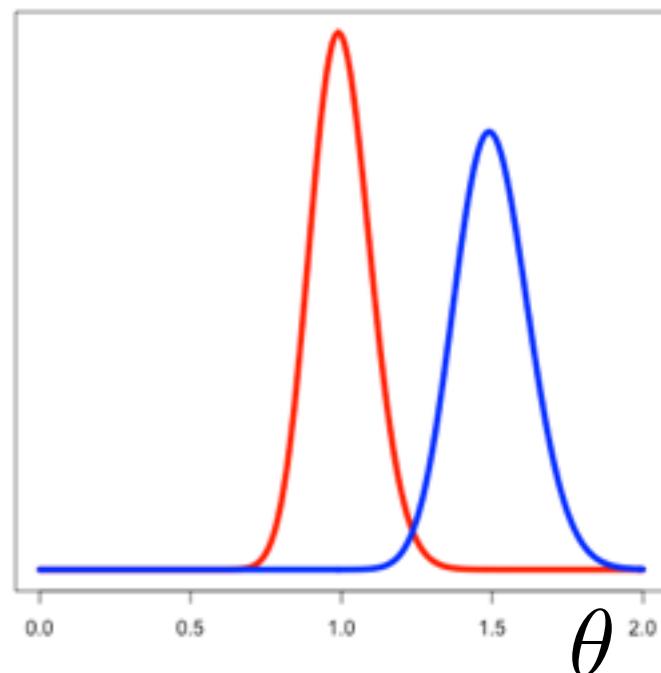
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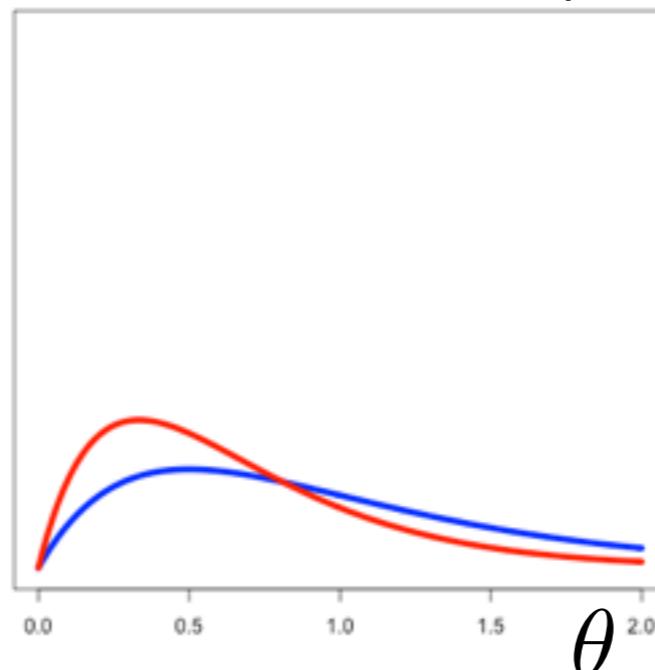


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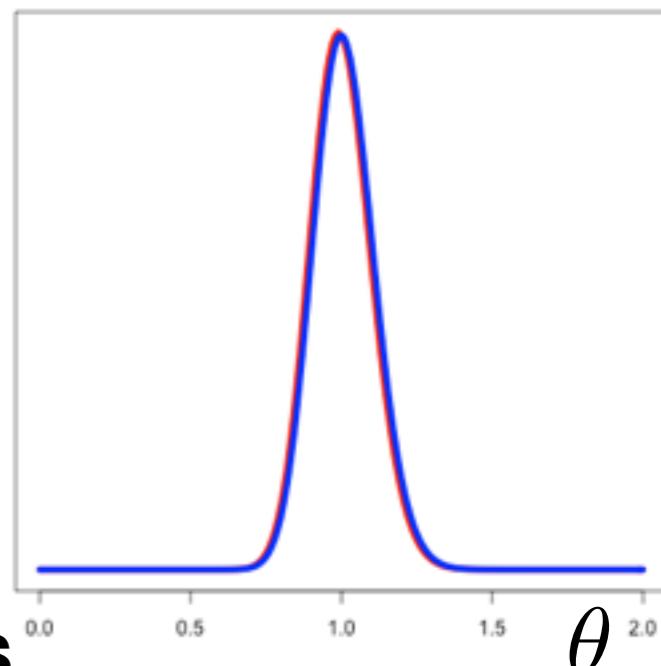
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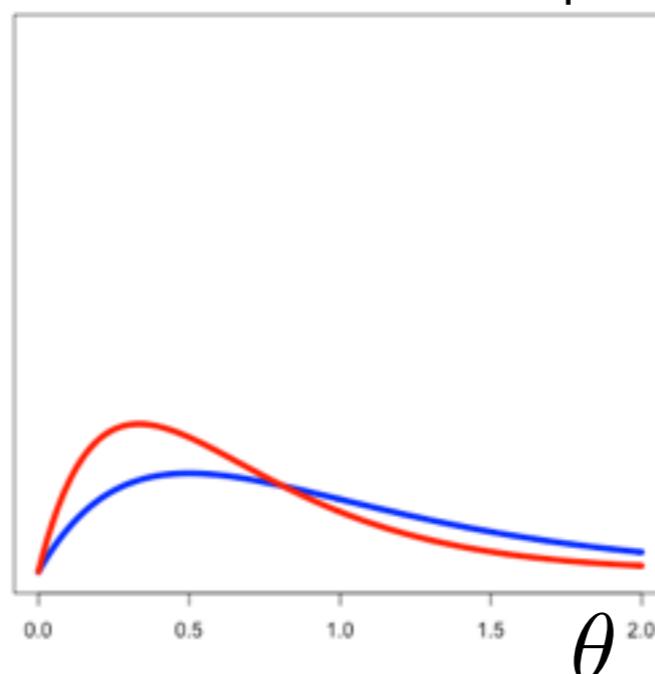
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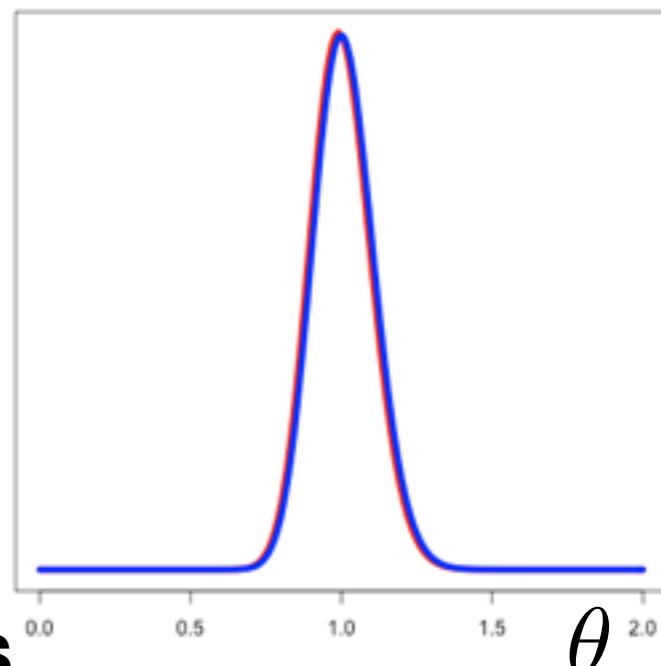
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[see also Opper, Winther 2003]

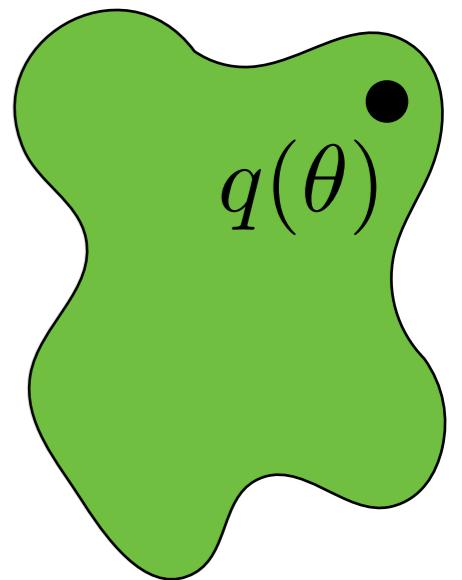
Roadmap

- Challenges of VB
- Accurate uncertainties from VB
- Accurate robustness quantification from VB
 - Big idea: derivatives/perturbations are relatively easy in VB

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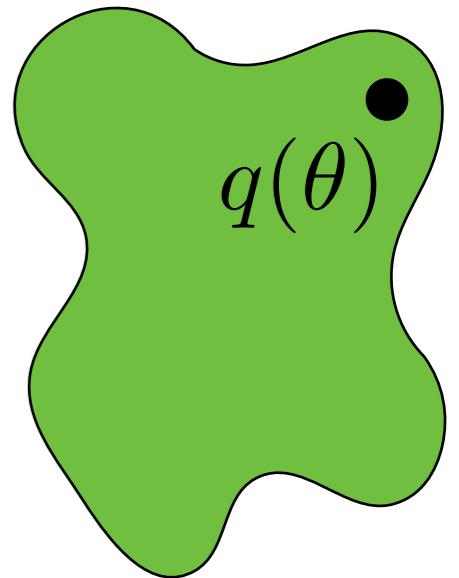
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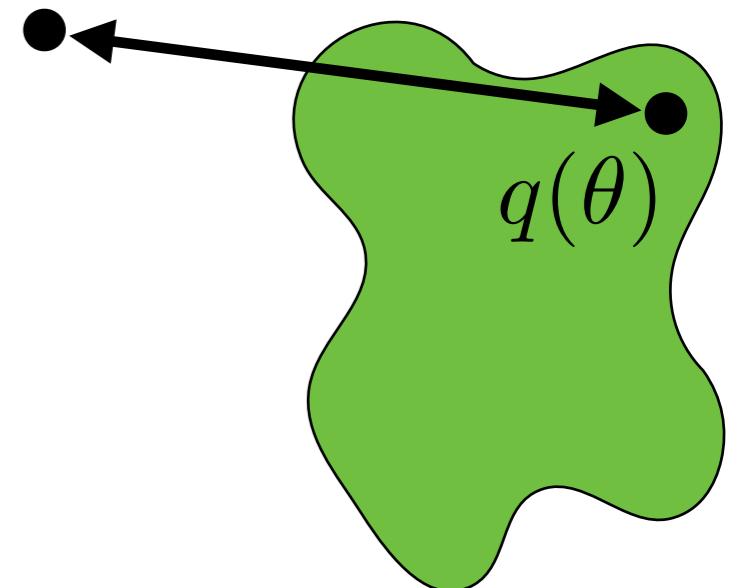
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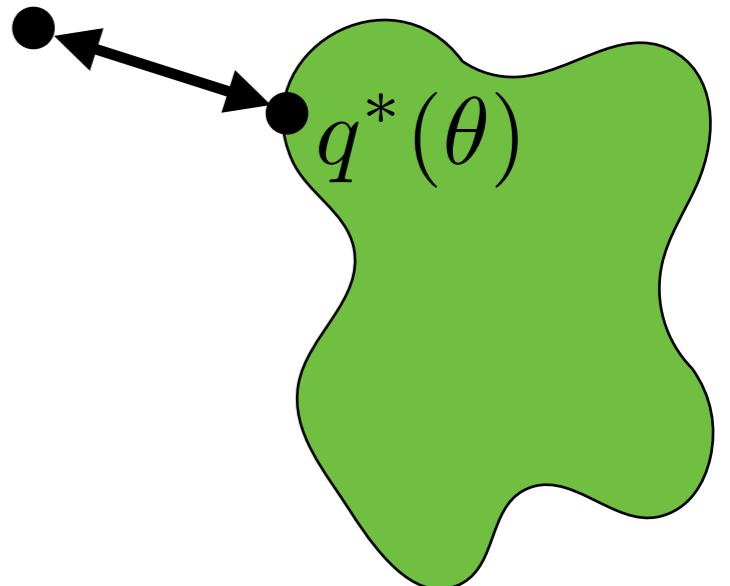
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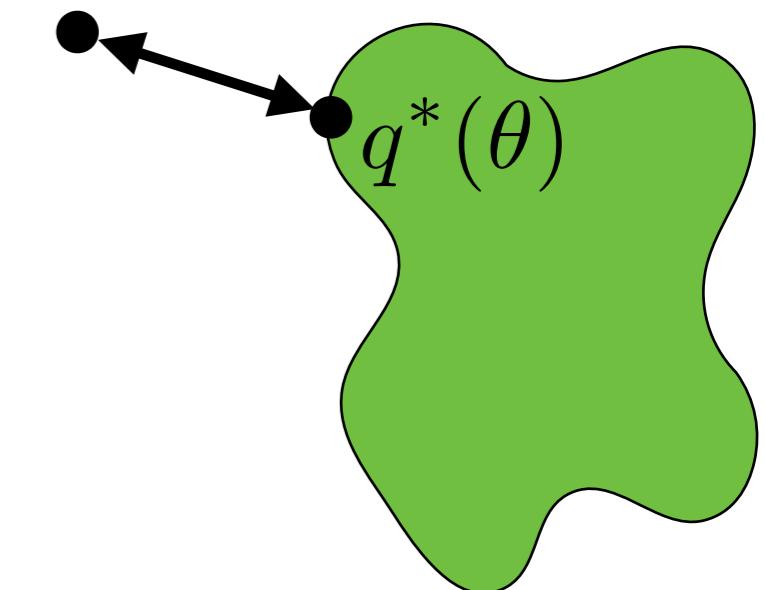


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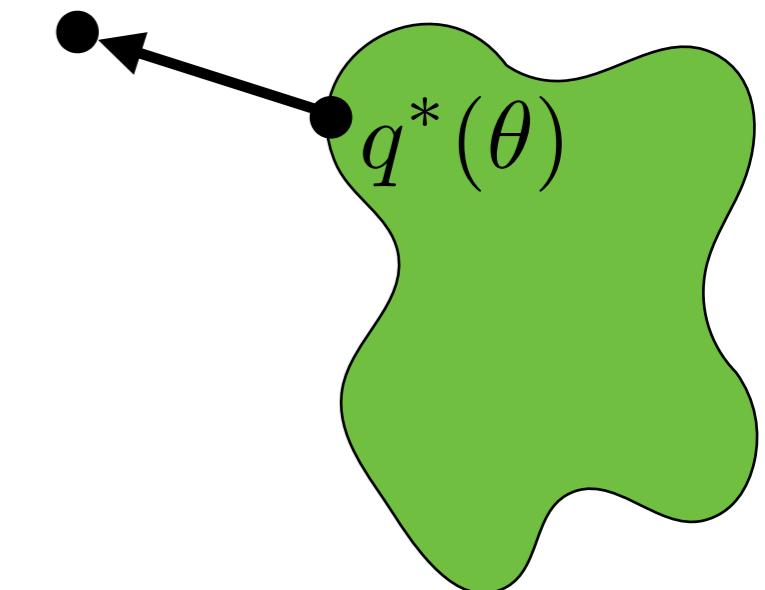


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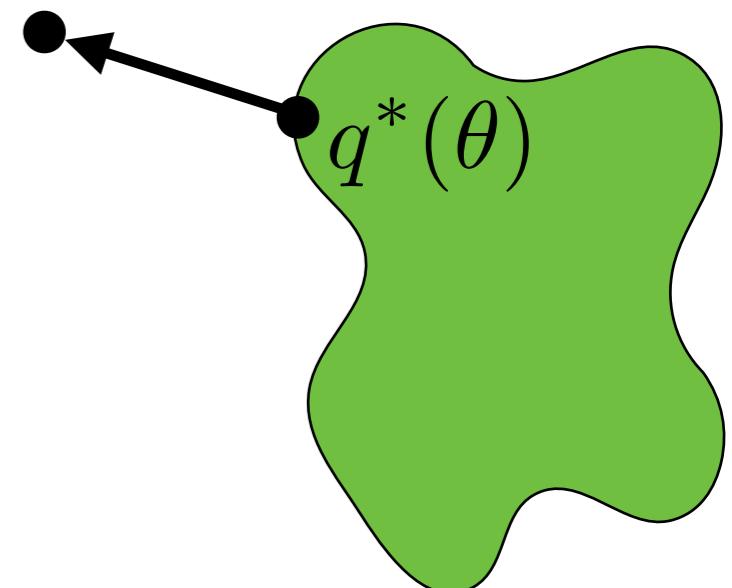
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$$q(\theta) = \prod_{j=1}^J q(\theta_j)$$

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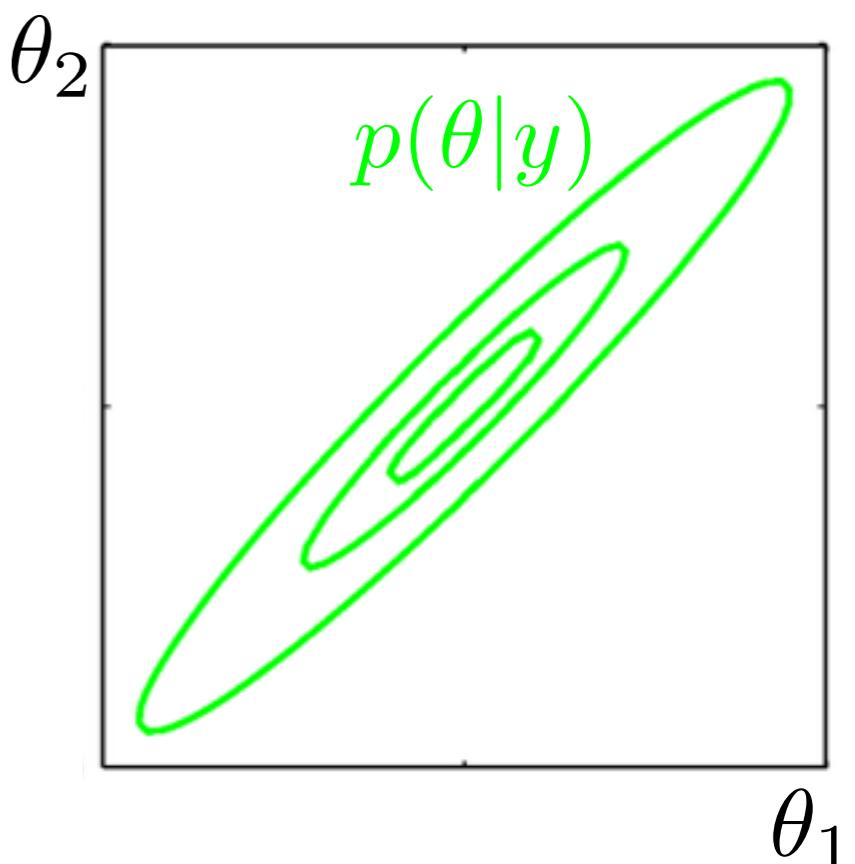
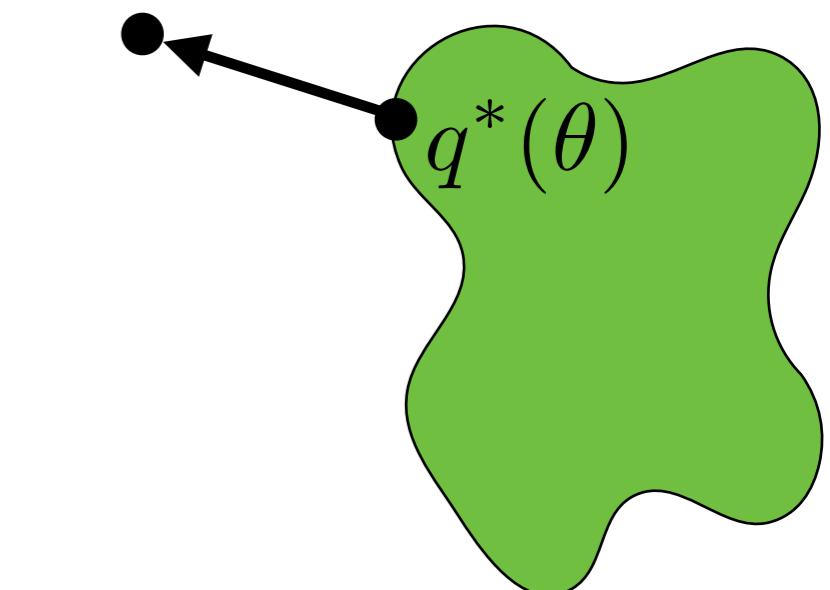
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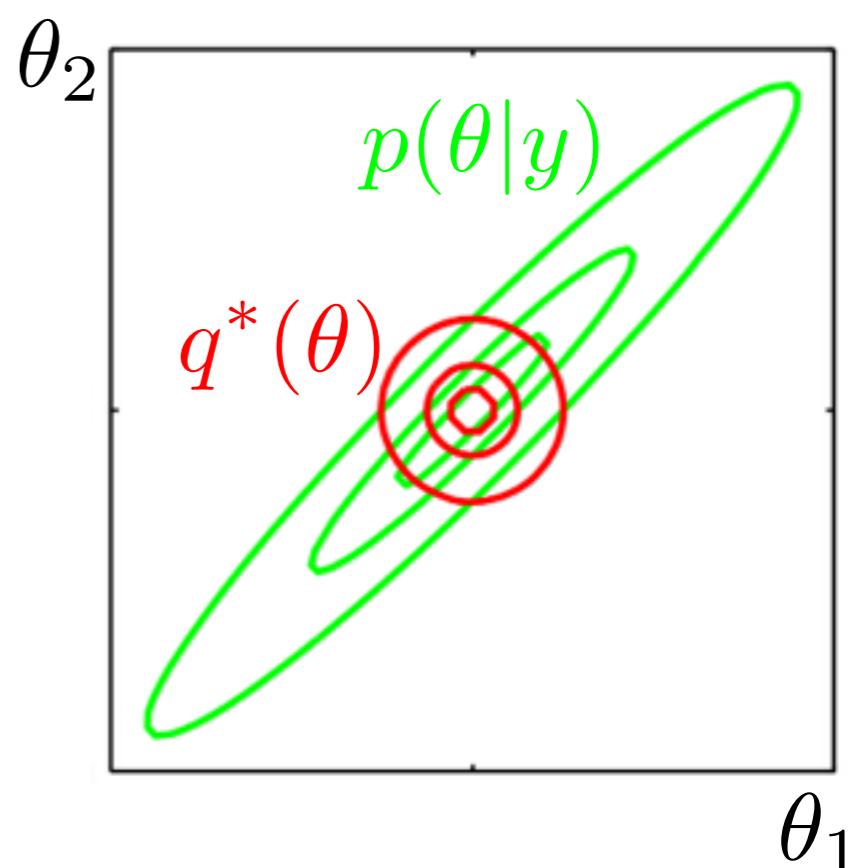
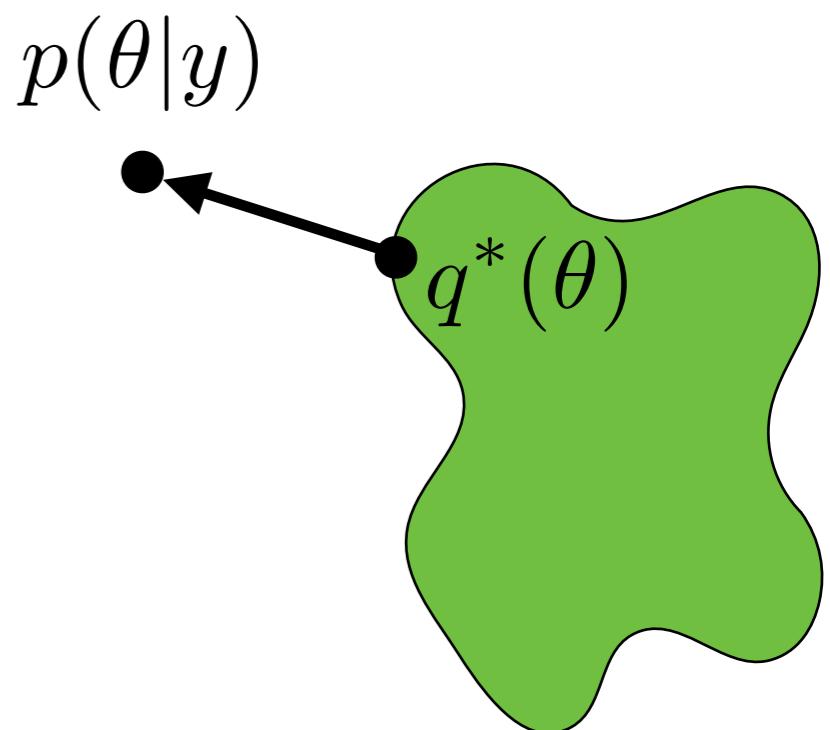
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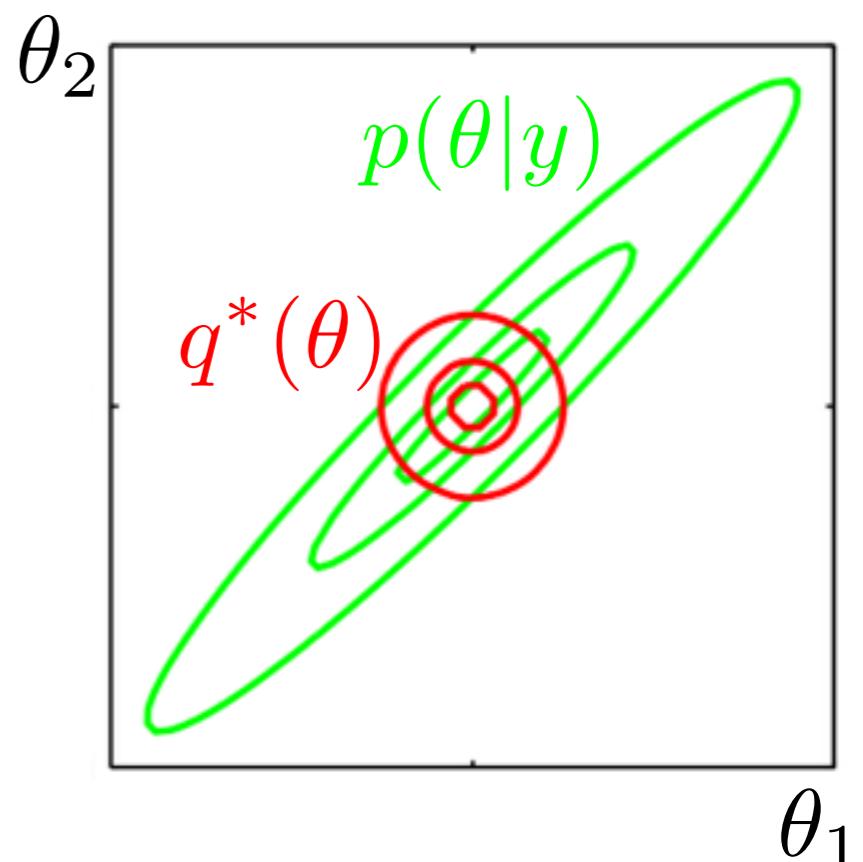
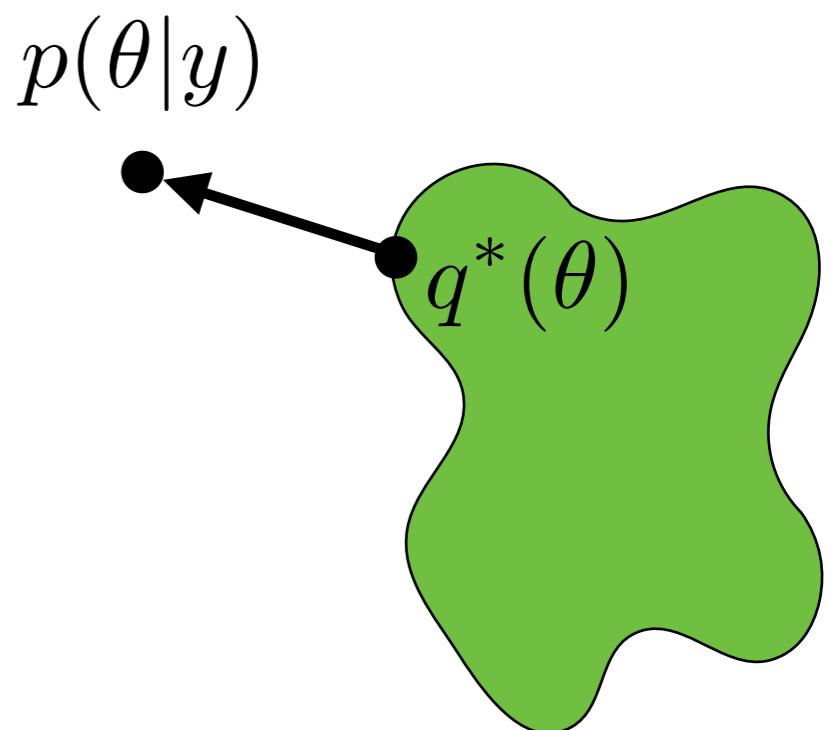
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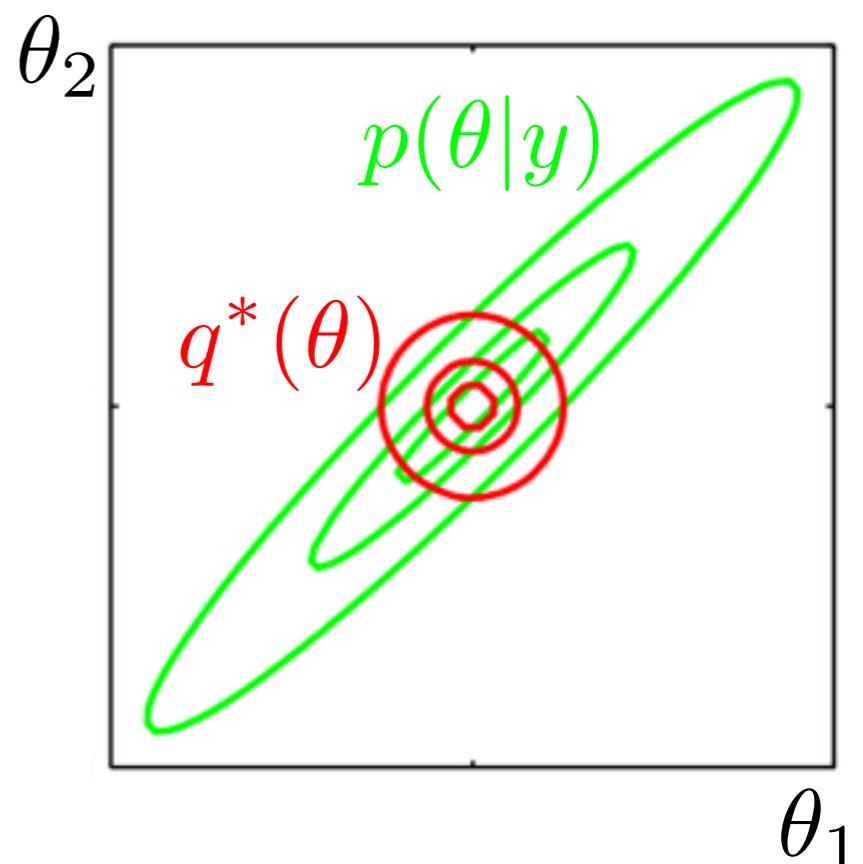
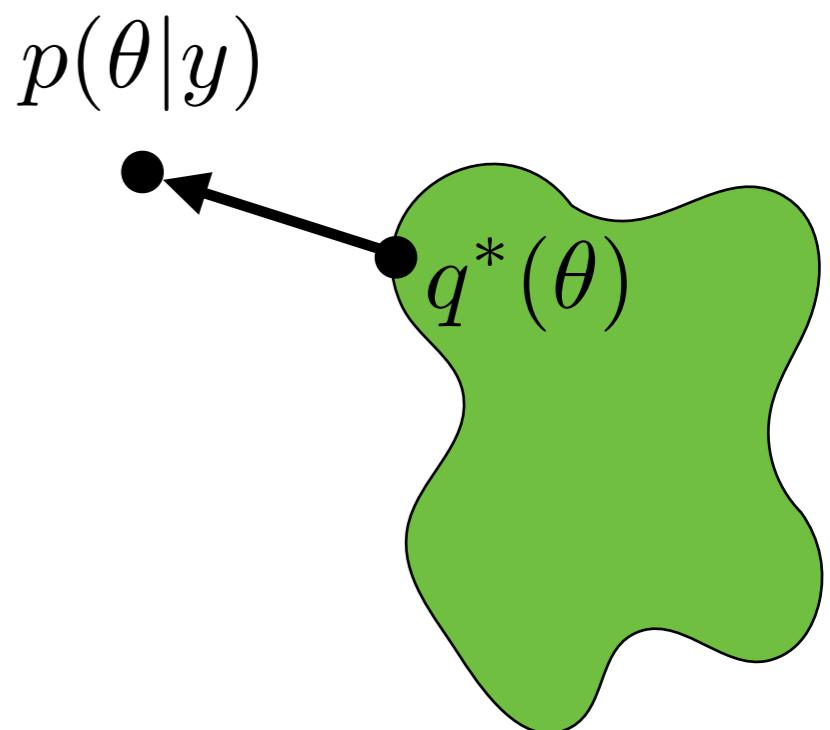
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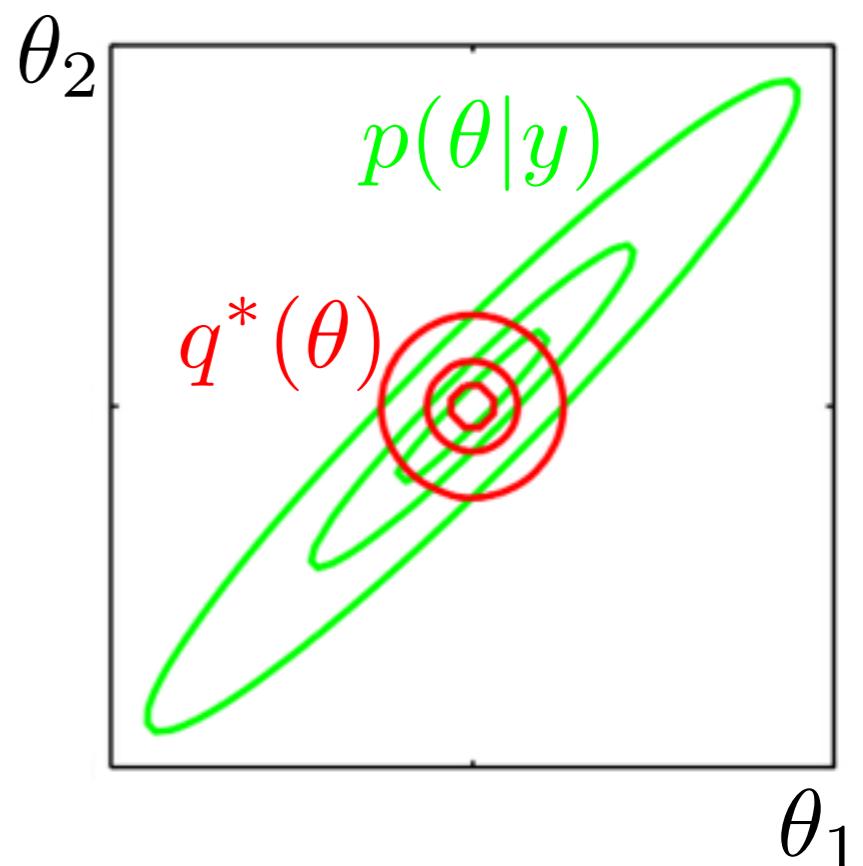
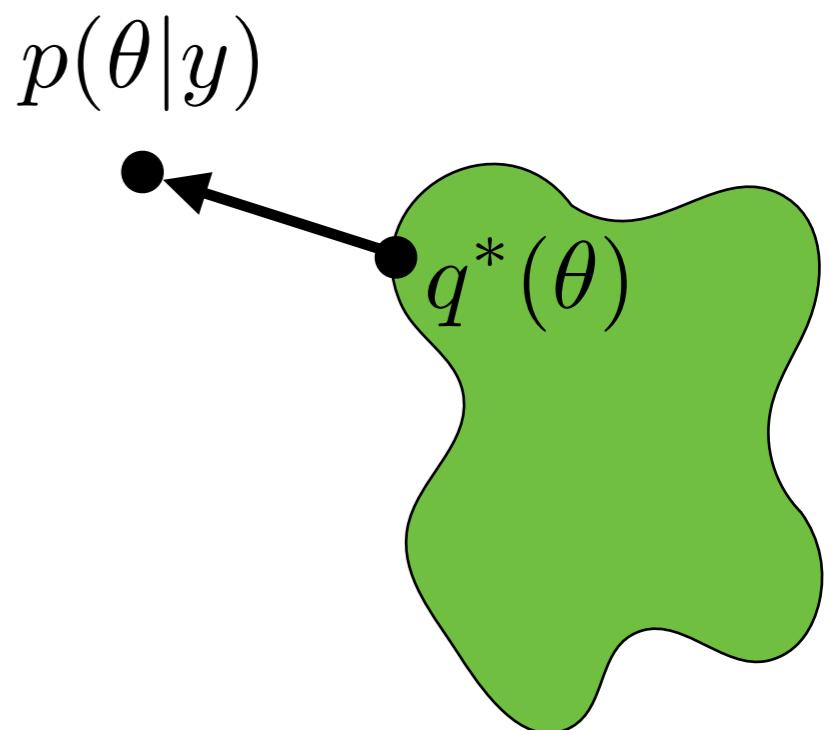
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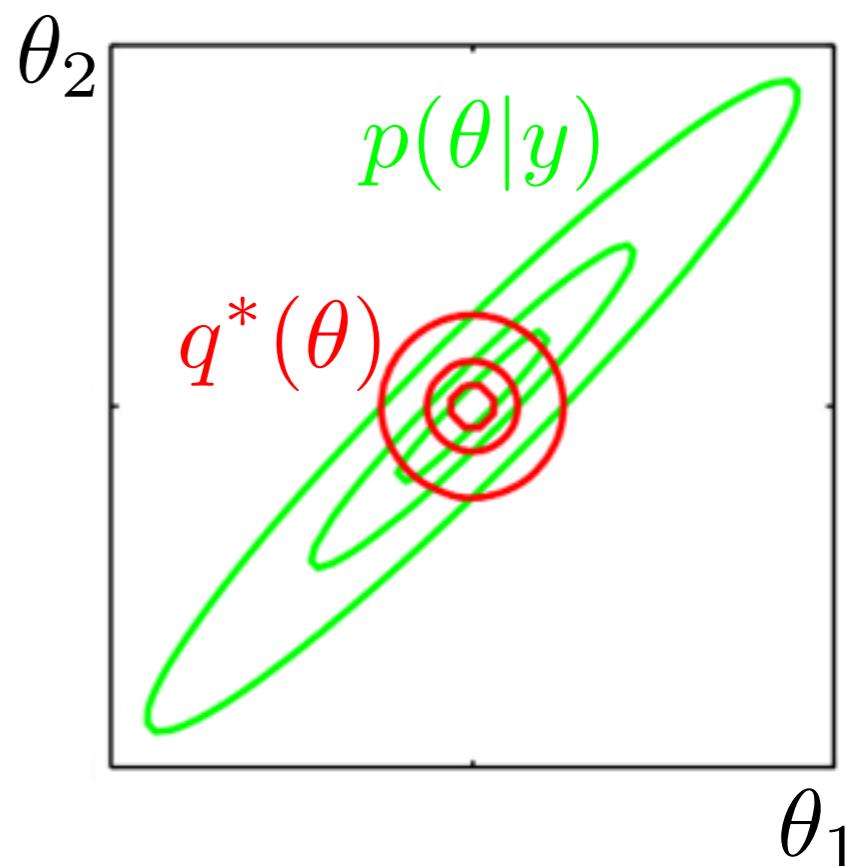
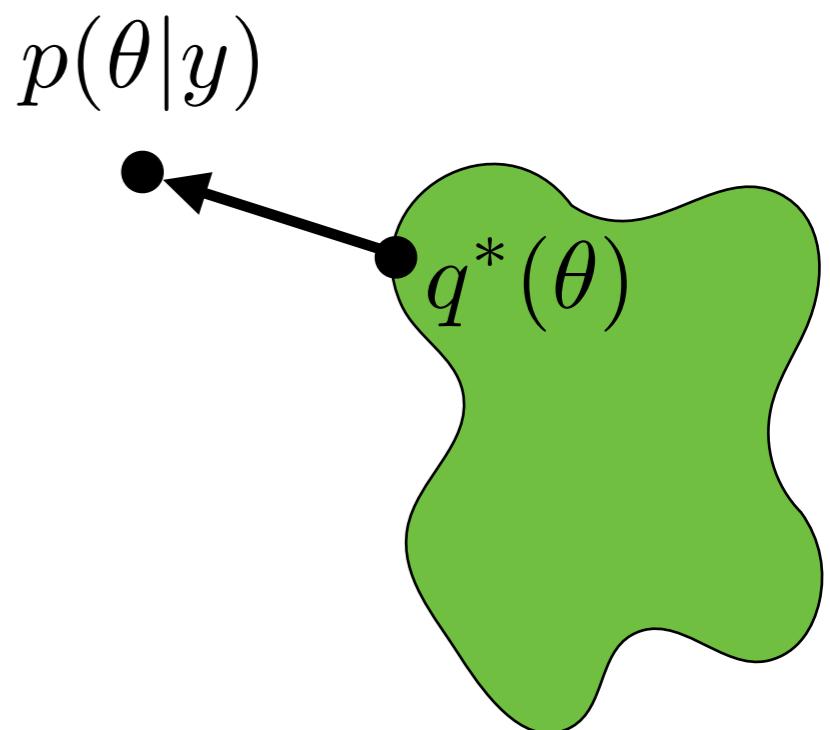
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[MacKay 2003; Bishop 2006; Wang, Titterington 2004; Turner, Sahani 2011]

[Fosdick 2013; Dunson 2014; Bardenet, Doucet, Holmes 2017]

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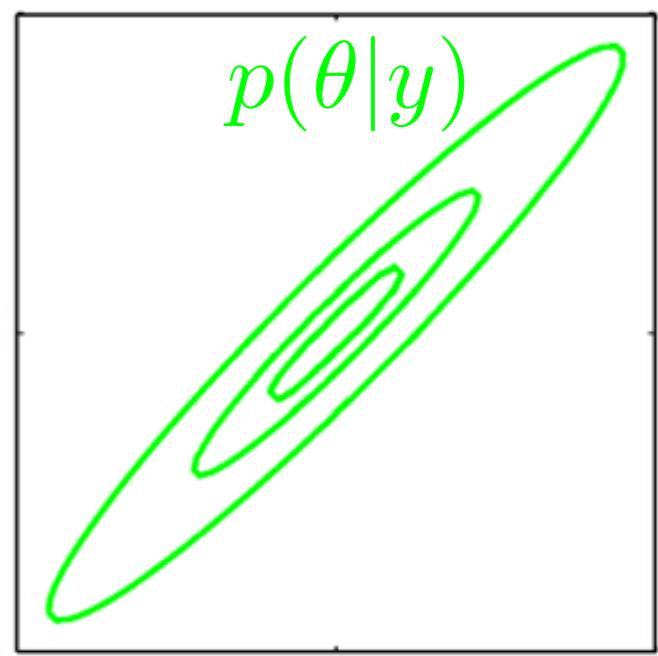
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[adapted from Bishop 2006]

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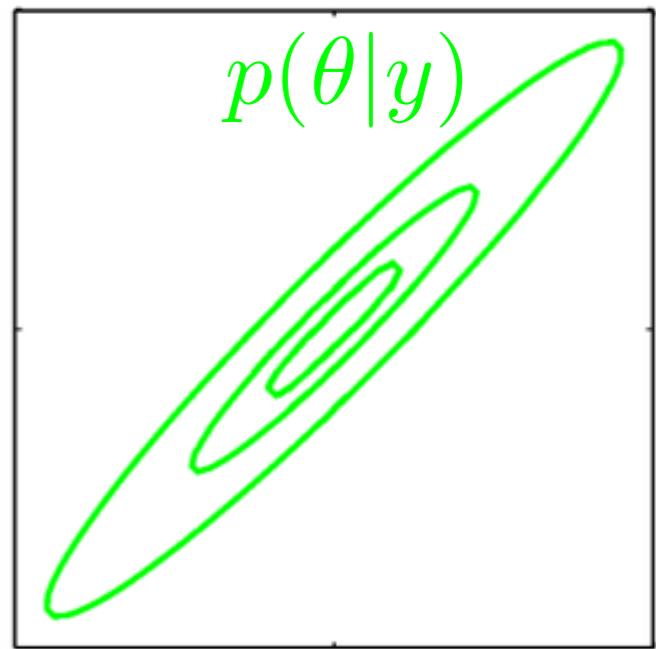
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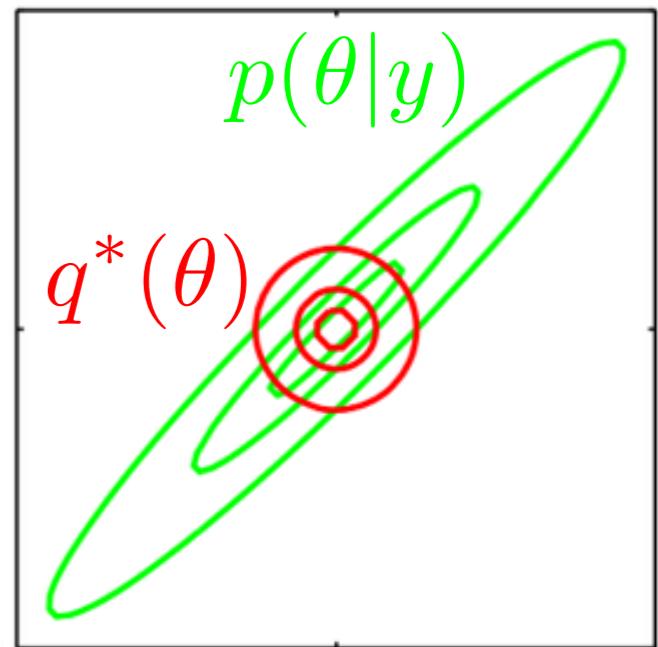
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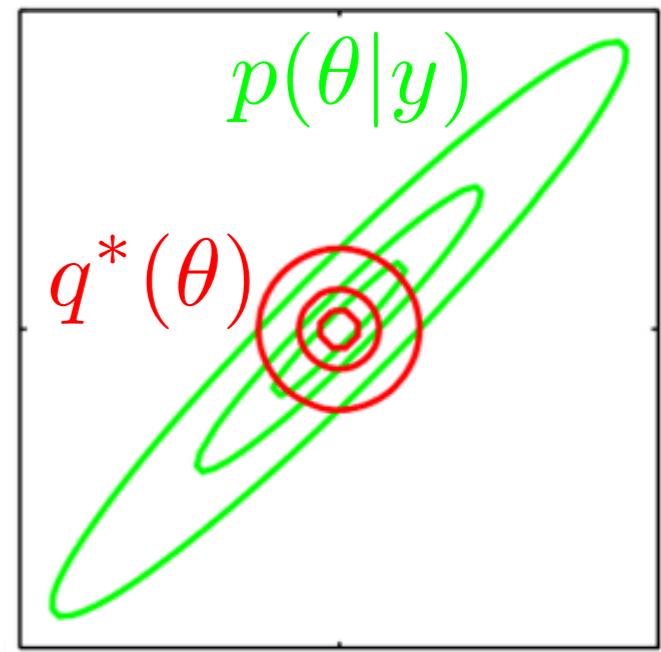
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$$V := \left. \frac{d^2}{dt^T dt} C_{q_{\eta^*}}(t) \right|_{t=0}$$



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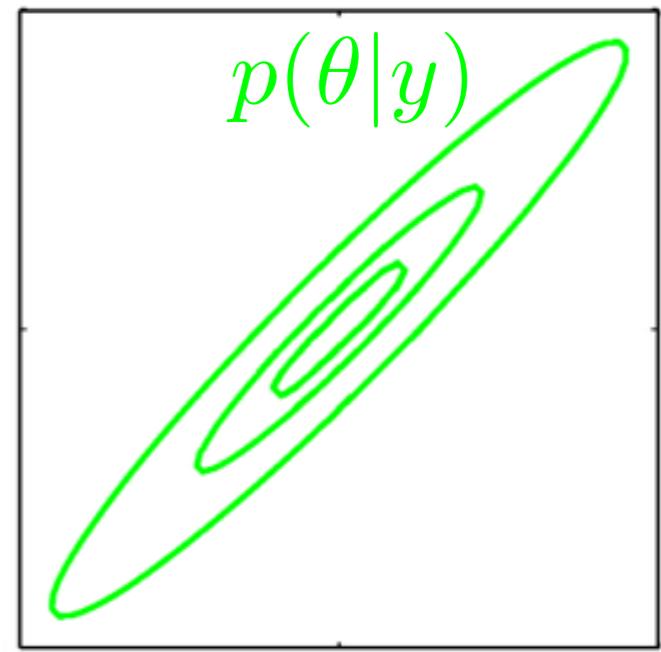
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- “Linear response”



[adapted from Bishop 2006]

Linear response

- Cumulant-generating function

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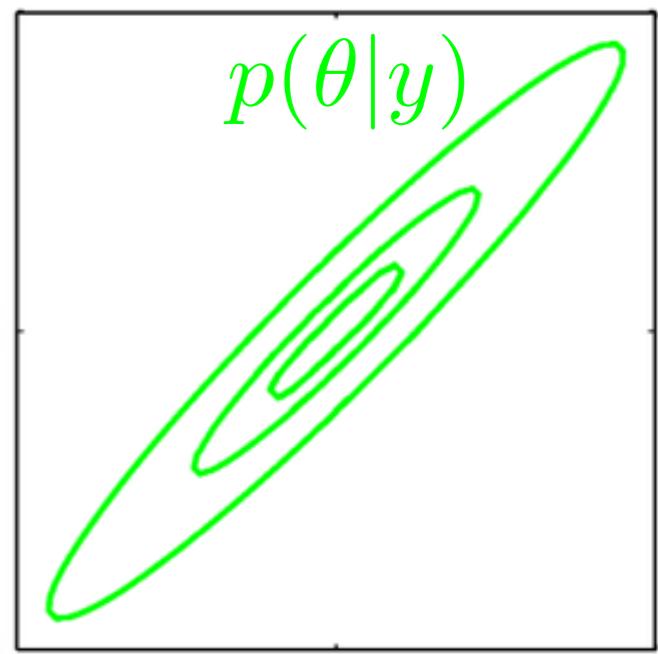
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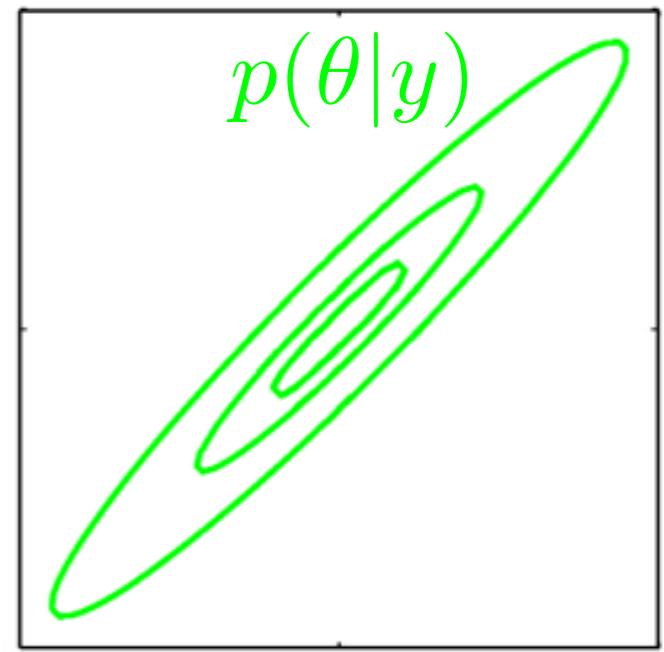
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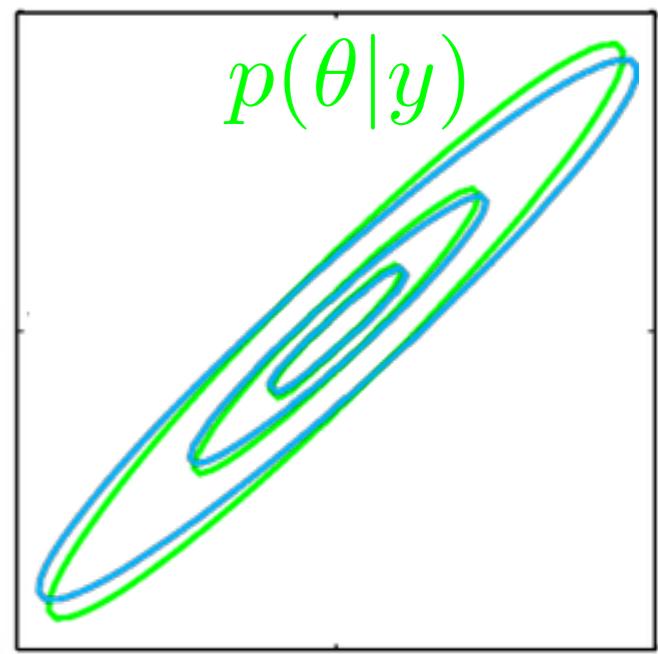
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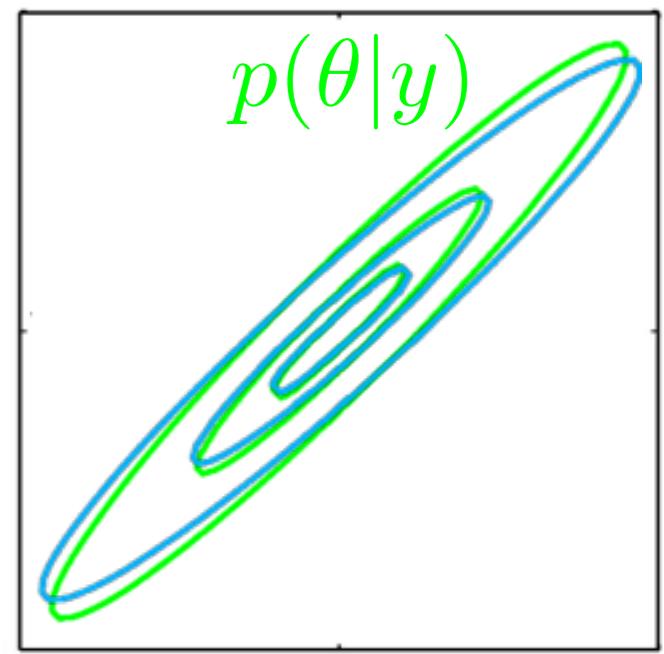
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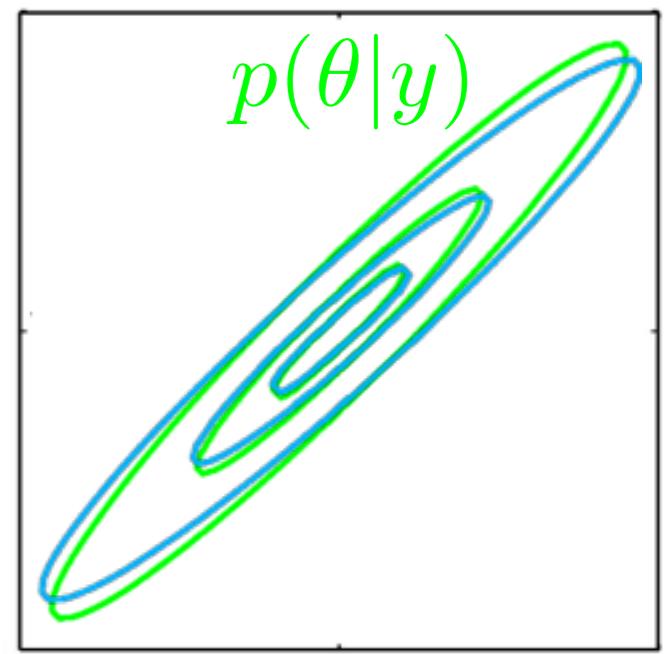
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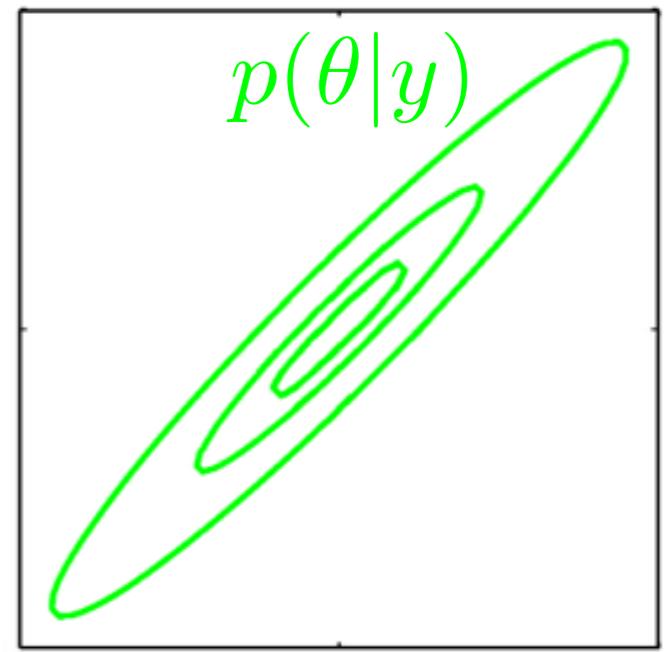
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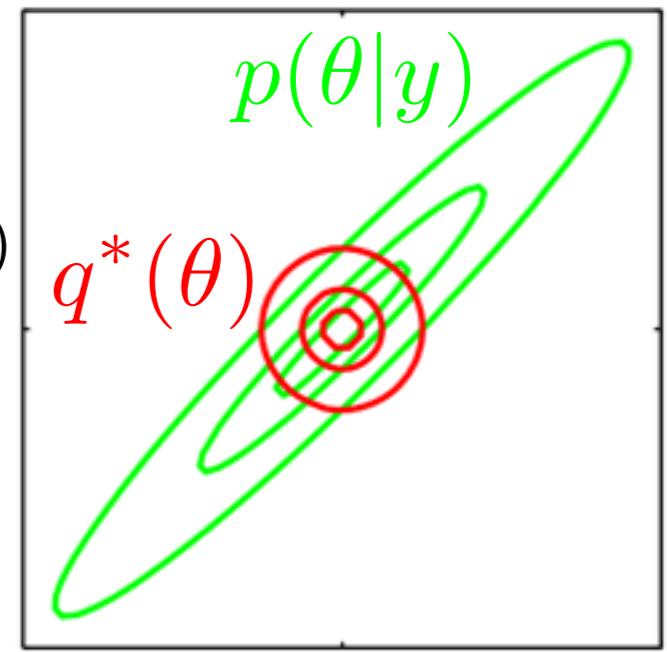
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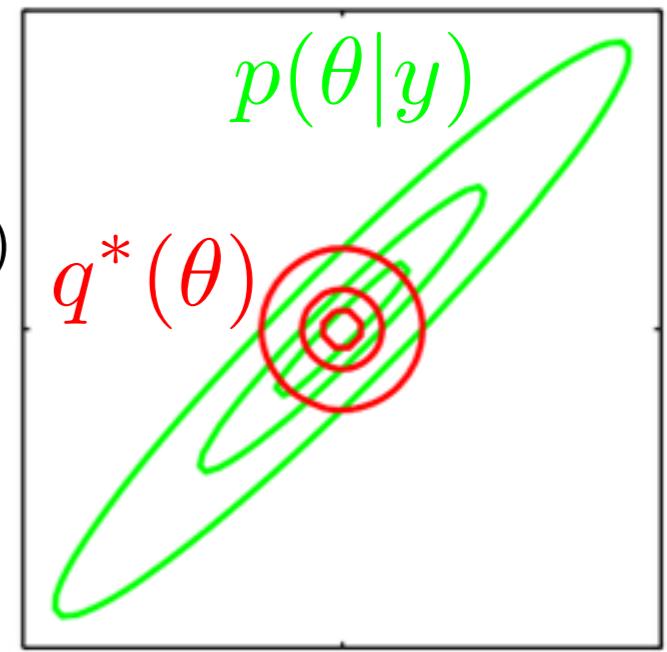
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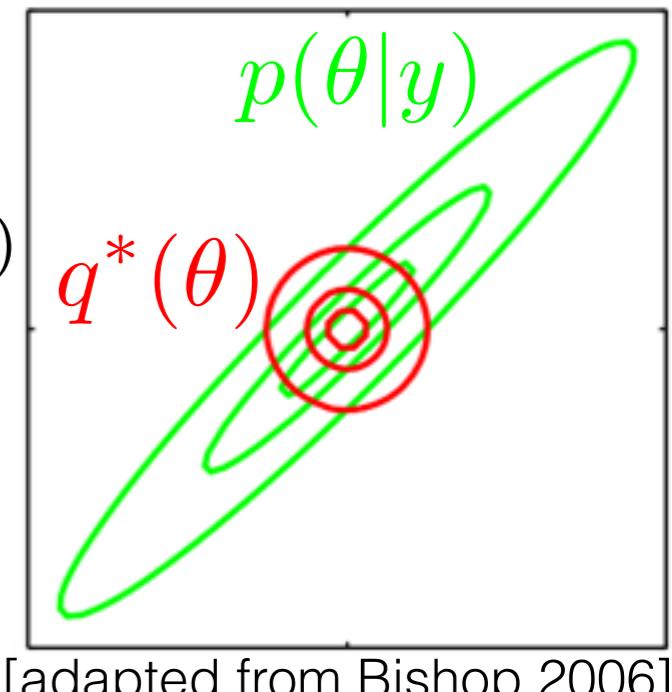
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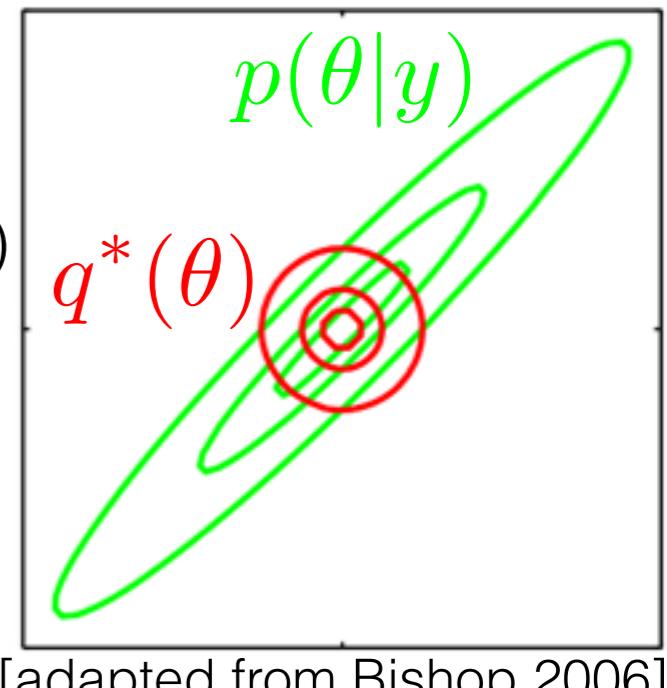
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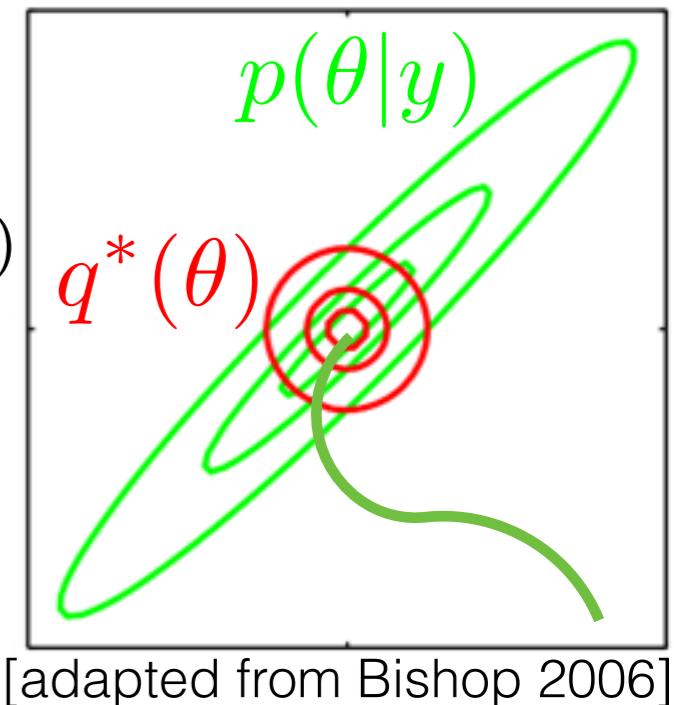
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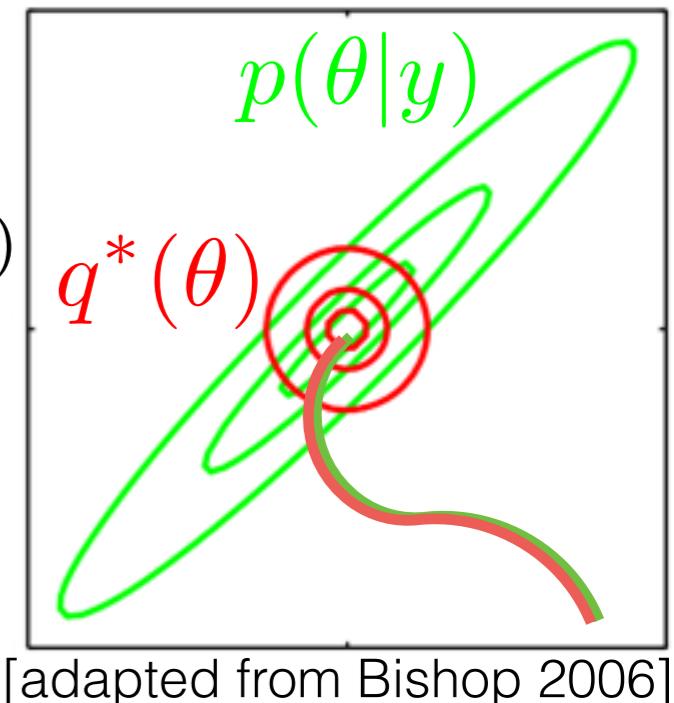
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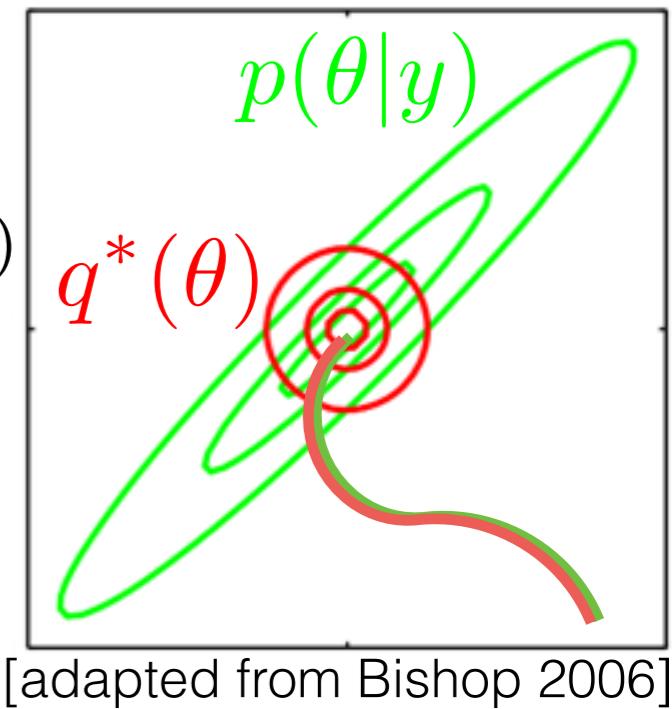
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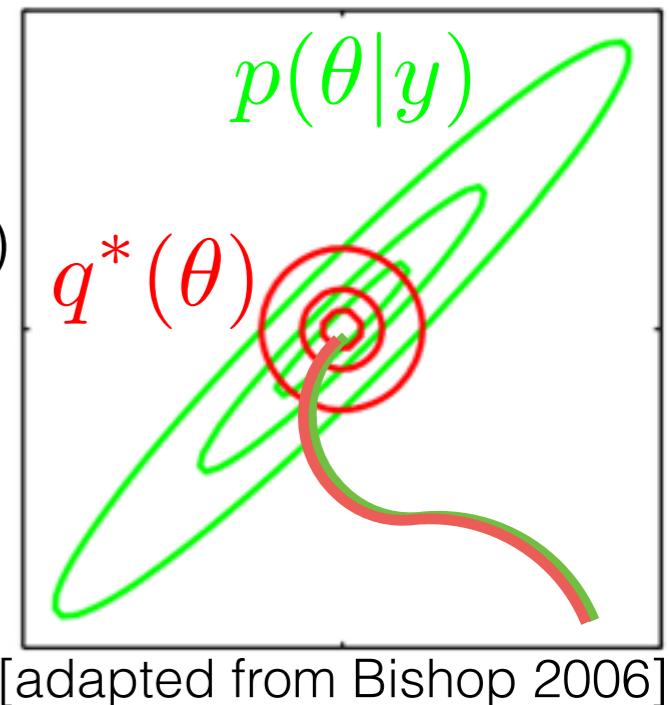
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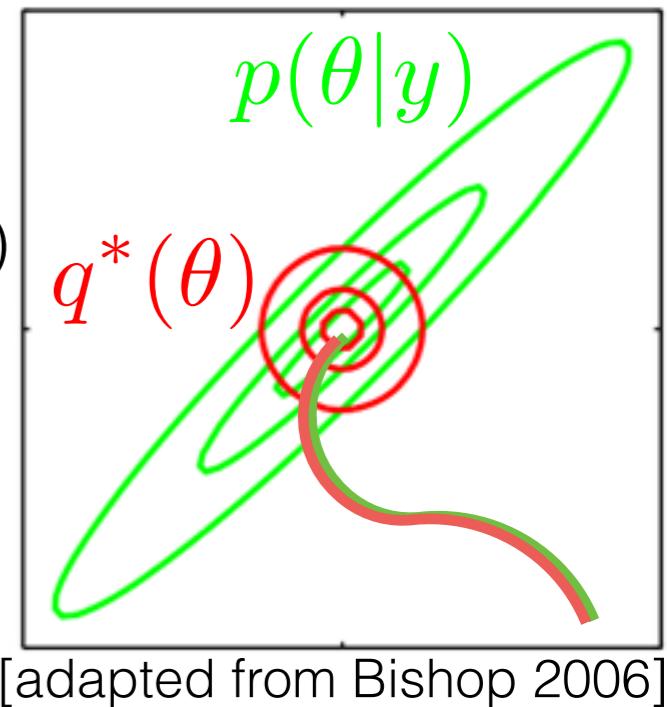
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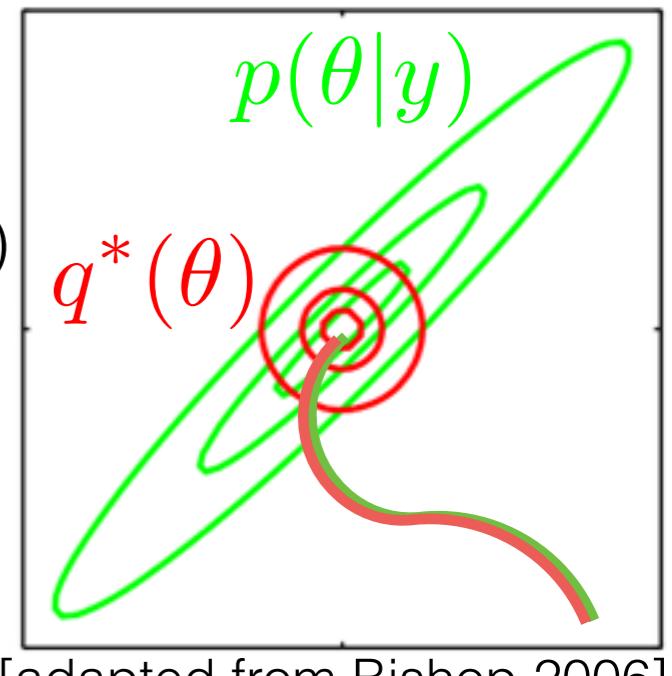
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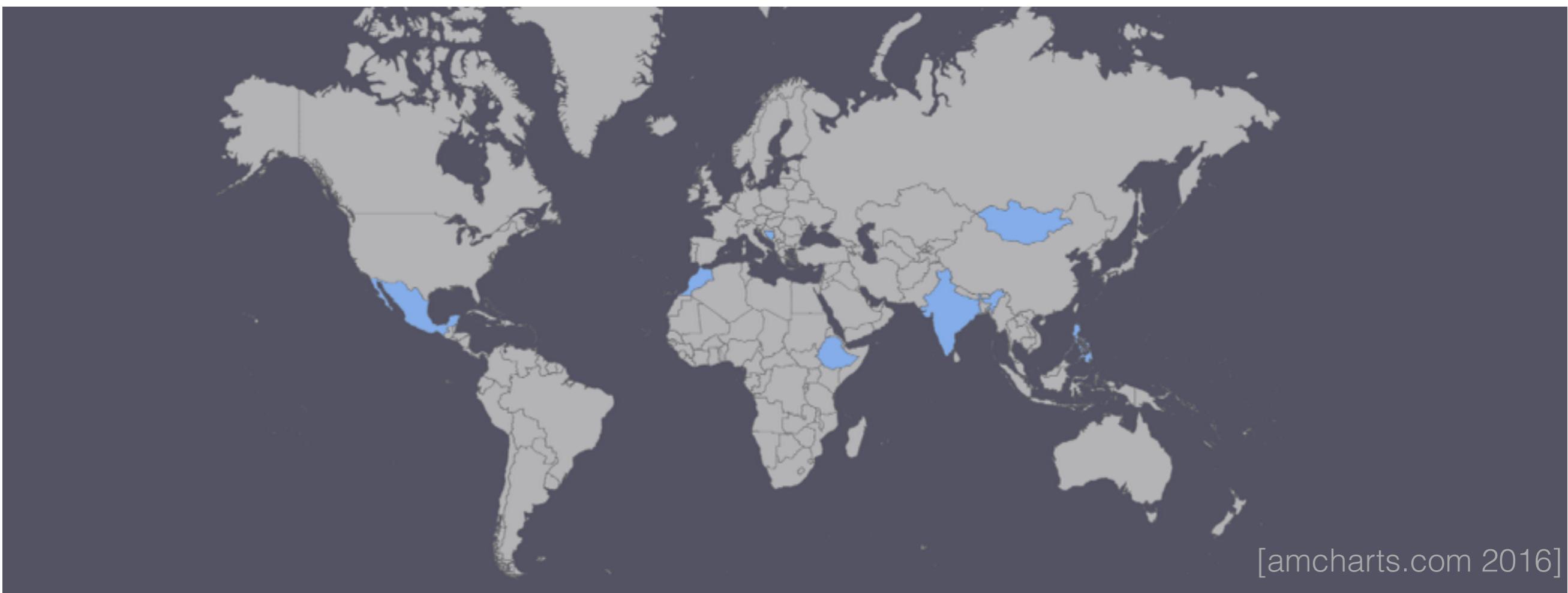
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[board]

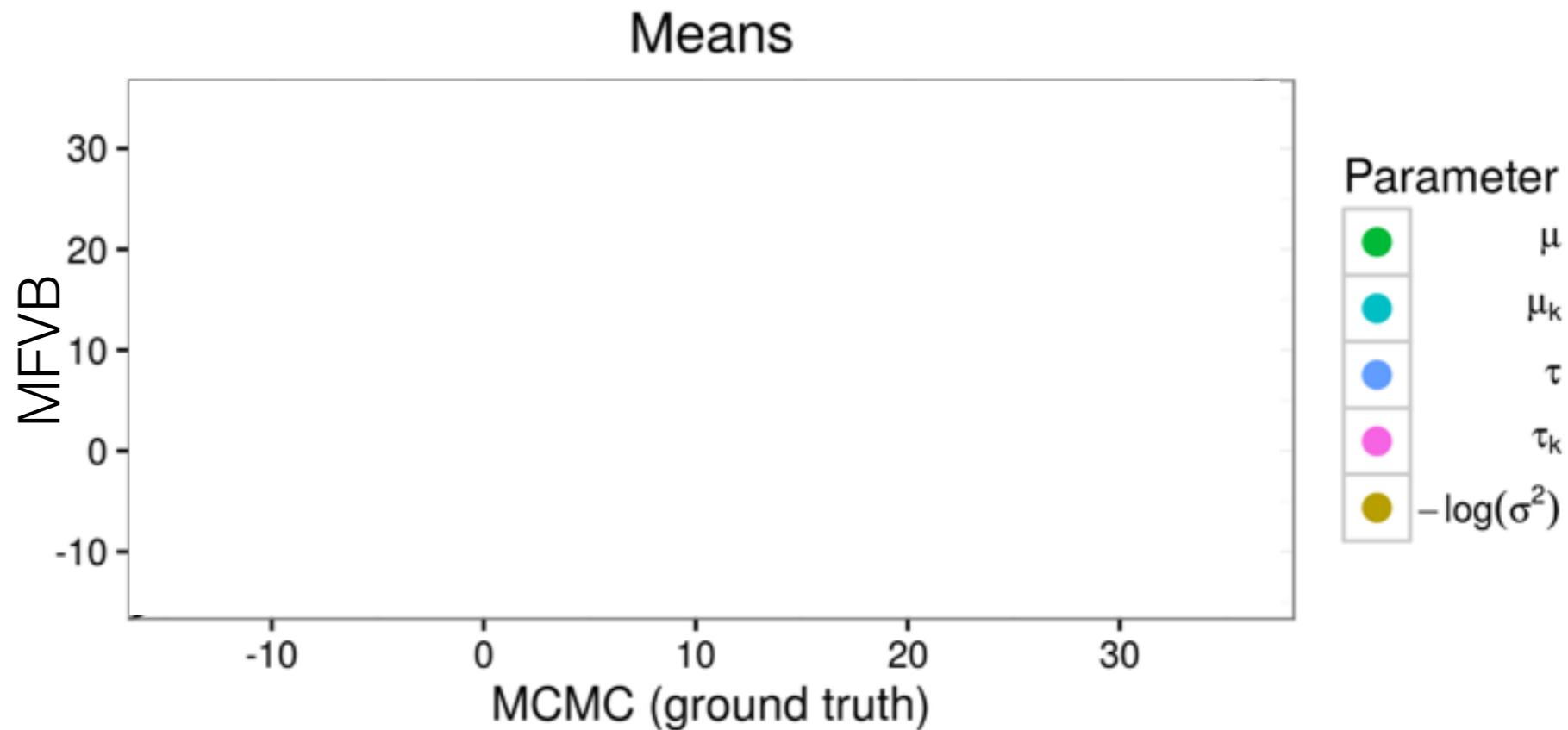


Microcredit Experiment

- Simplified from Meager (2018a)
- K microcredit trials (Mexico, Mongolia, Bosnia, India, Morocco, Philippines, Ethiopia)
- N_k businesses in k th site (~ 900 to $\sim 17K$)

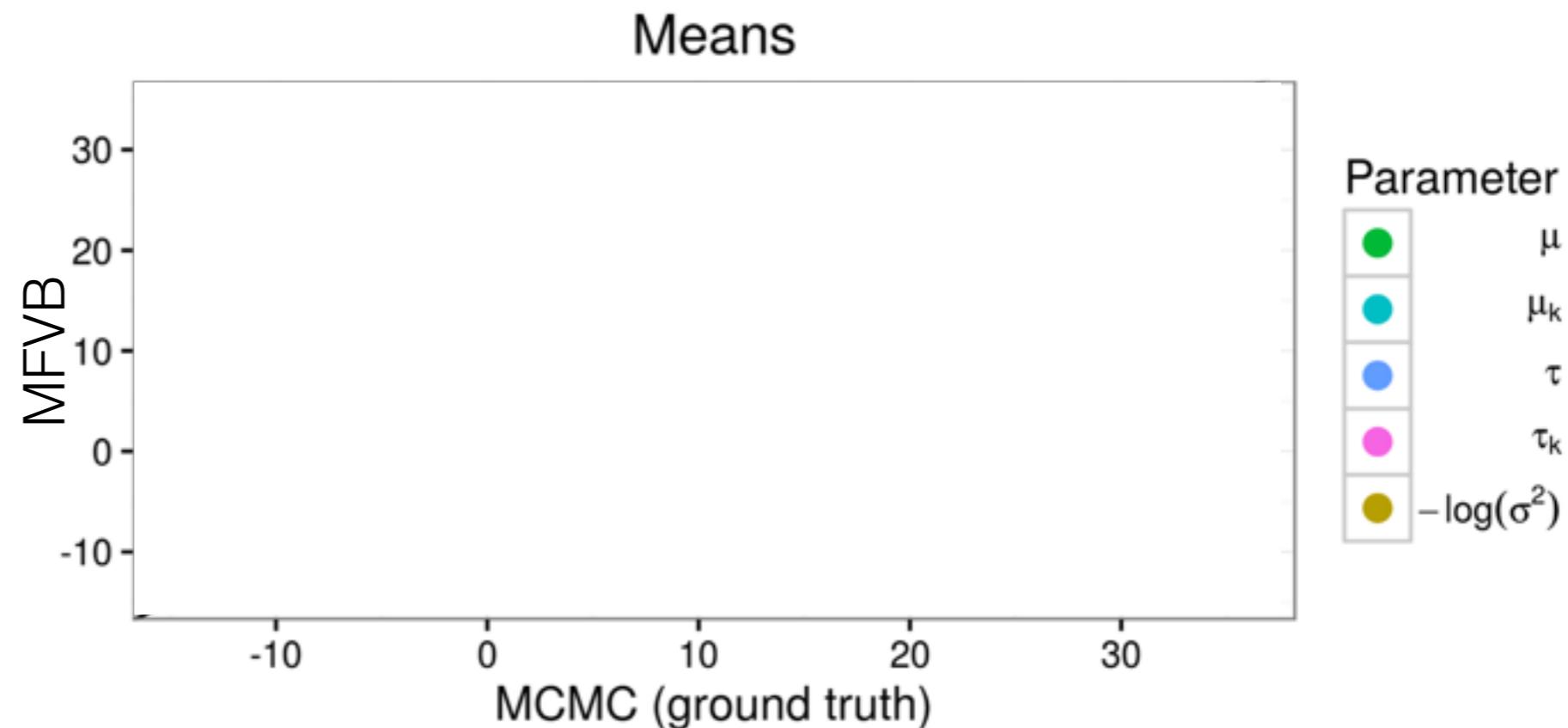


Microcredit Experiment



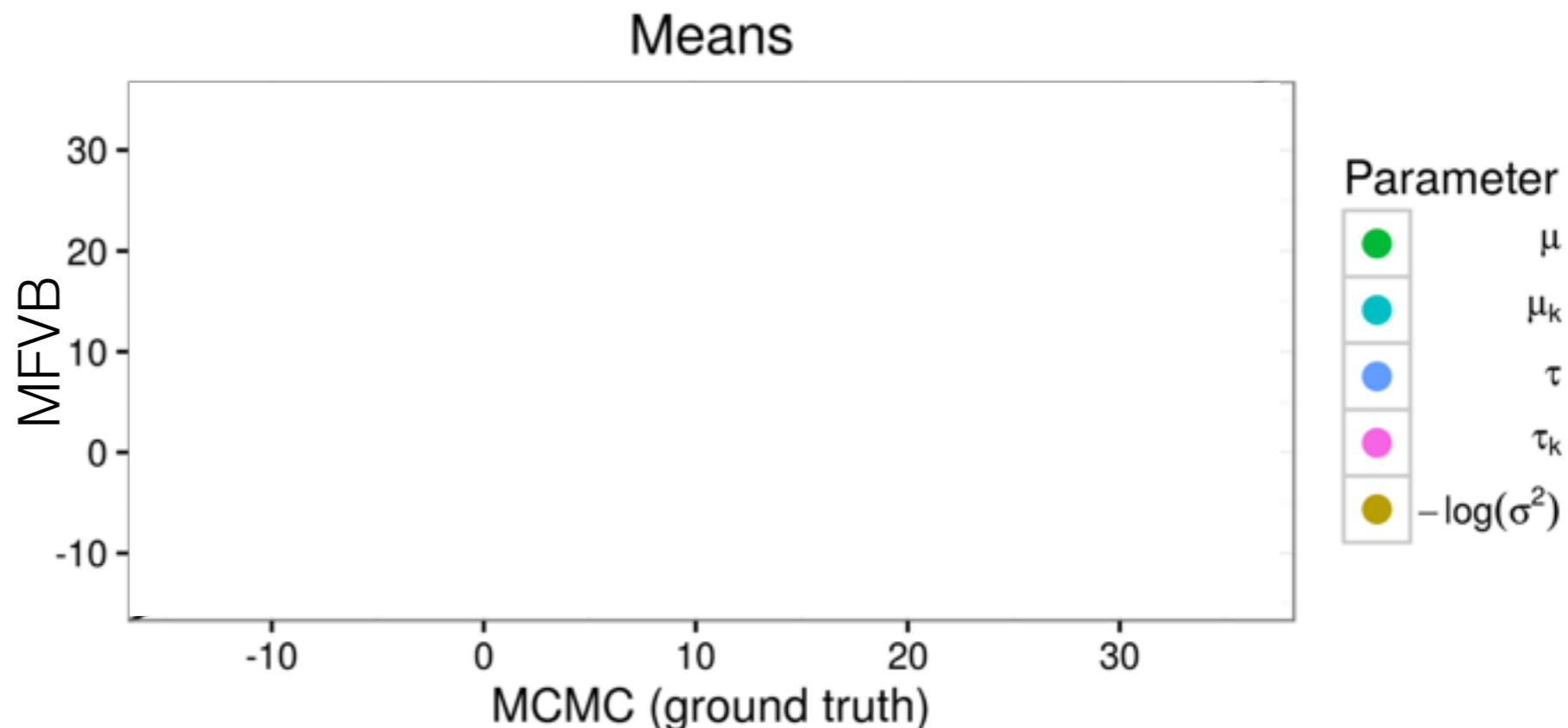
Microcredit Experiment

- One set of 2500 MCMC draws:
45 minutes



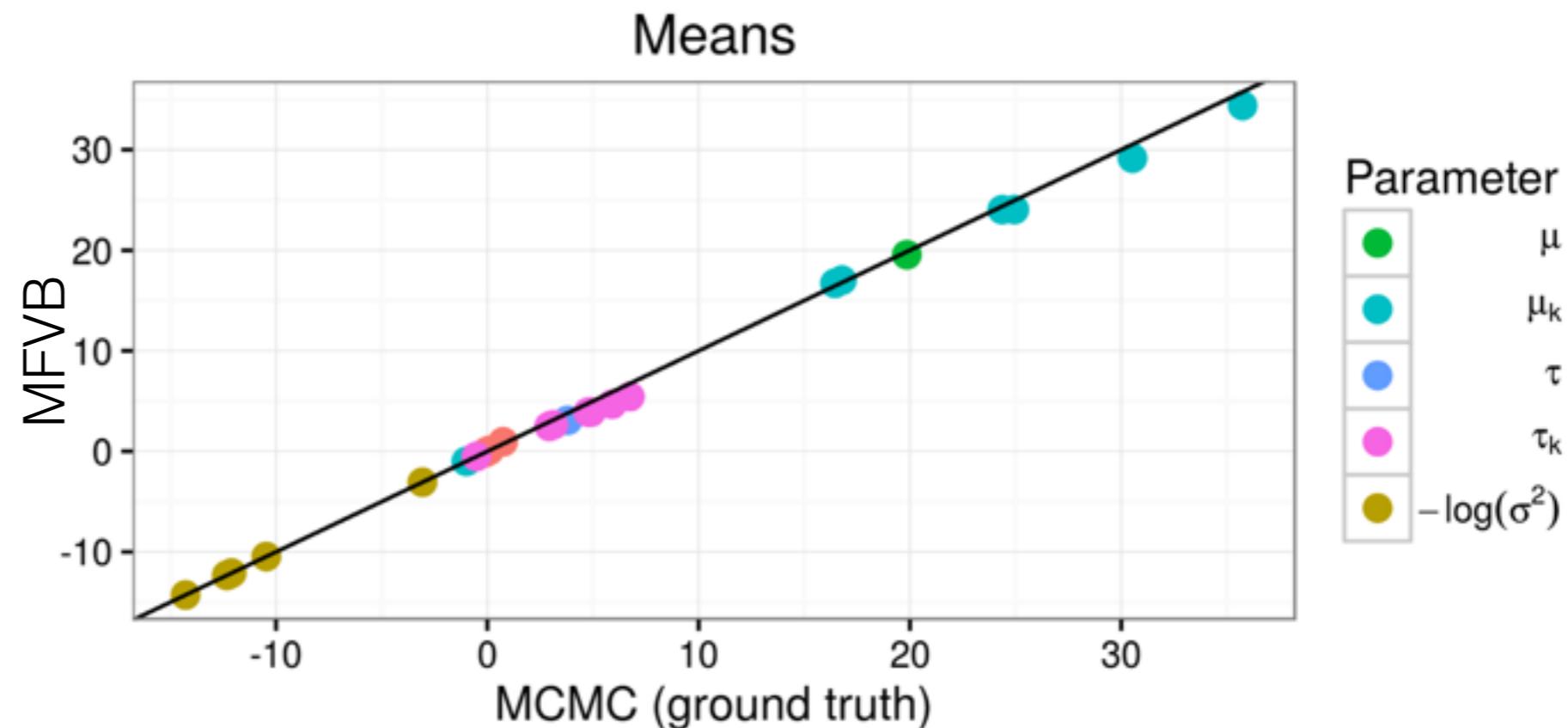
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- One set of 2500 MCMC draws:
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- All of MFVB optimization, LRVB uncertainties, all sensitivity measures:
58 seconds



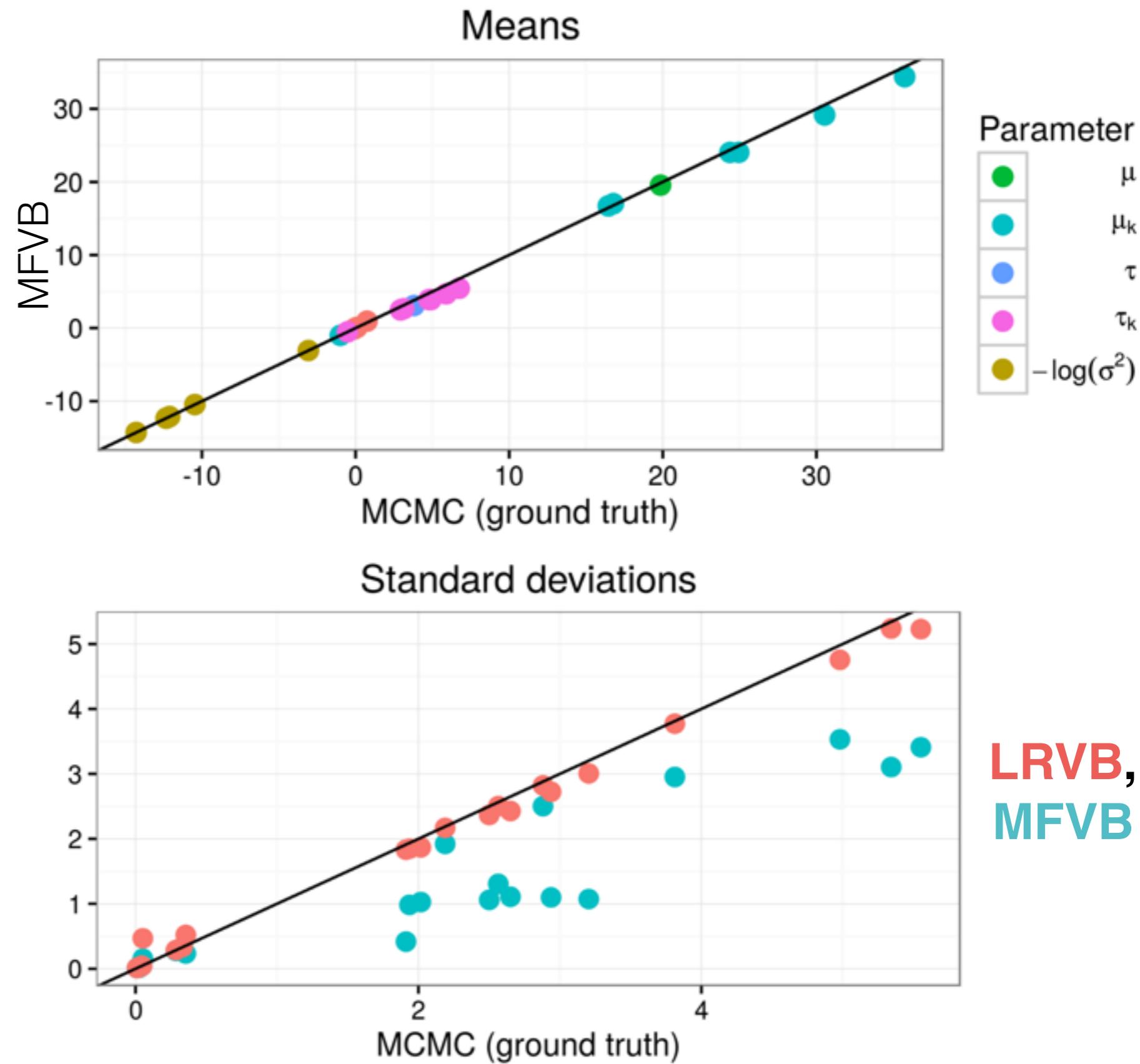
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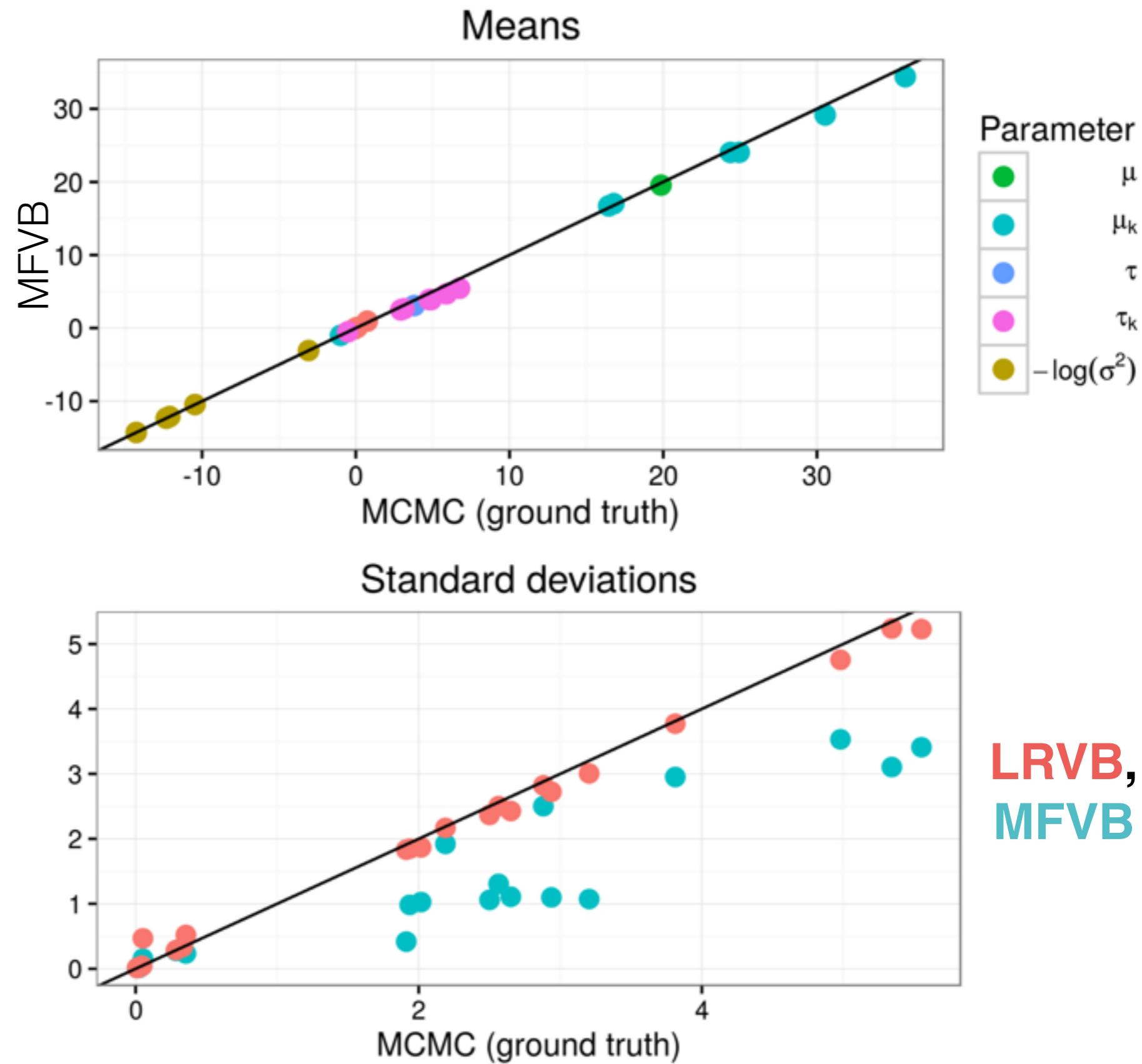
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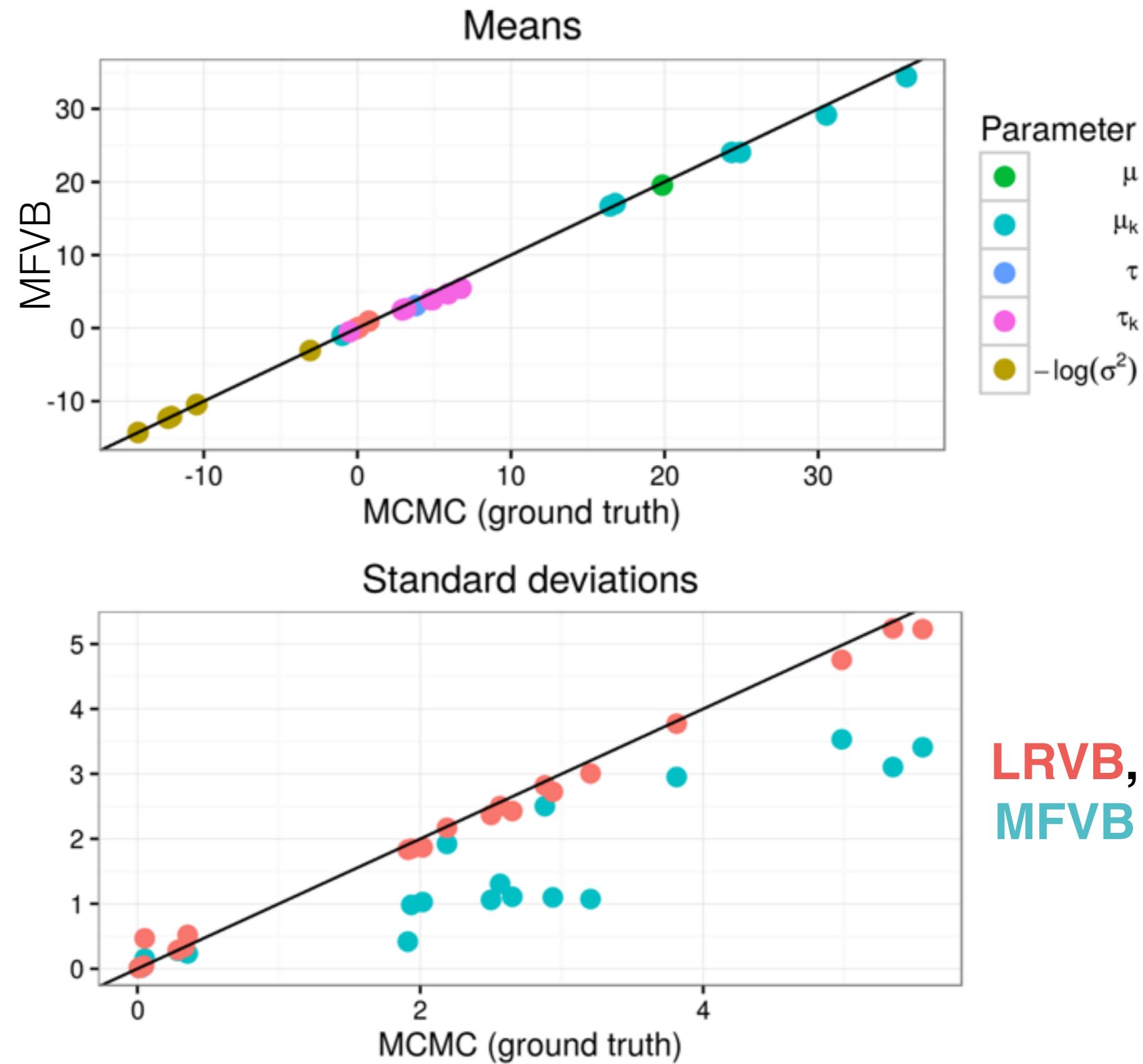
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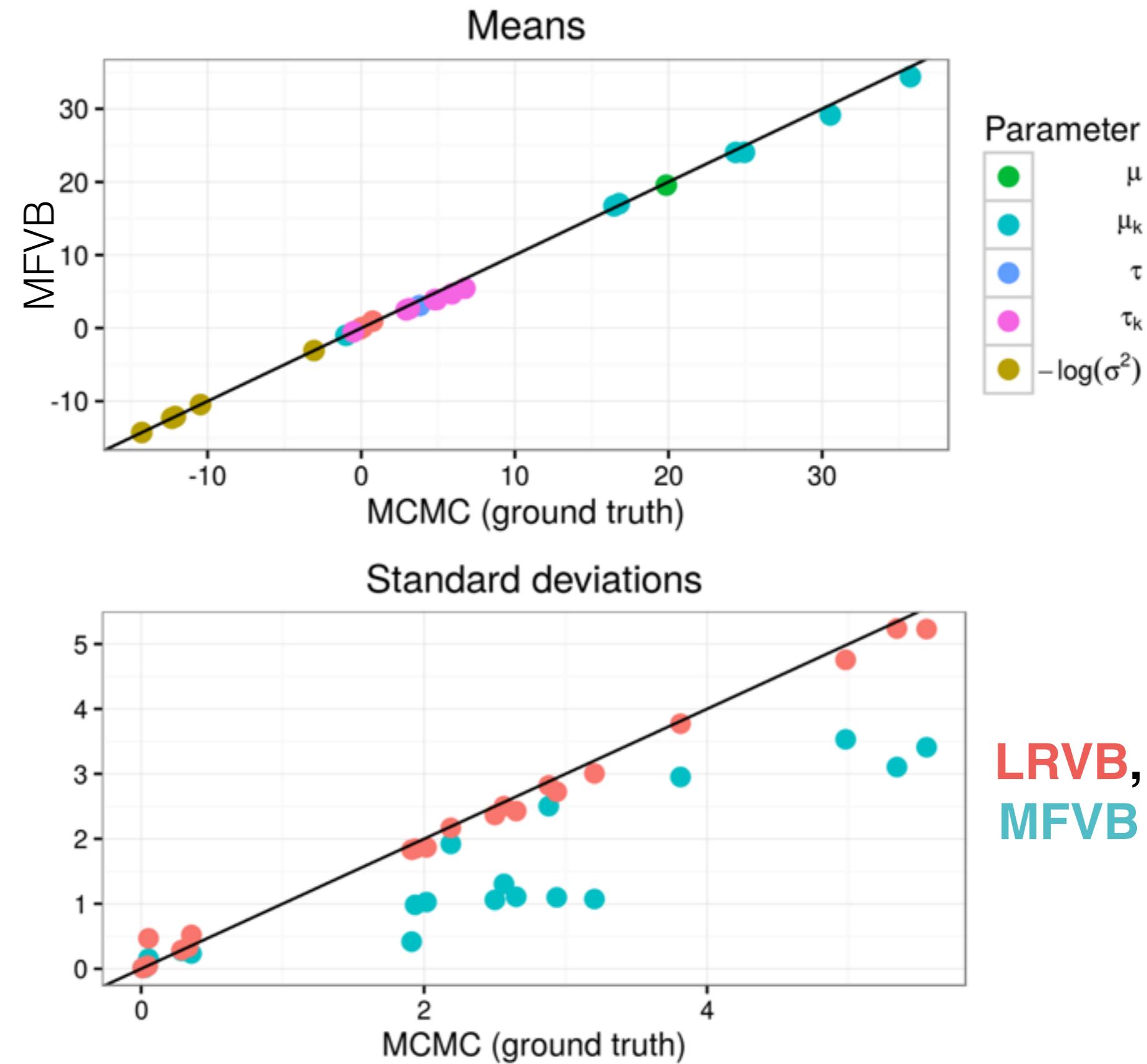
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- Mean is 1.68 std dev from 0



Roadmap

- Challenges of VB
- Accurate uncertainties from VB
- Accurate robustness quantification from VB

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Robustness quantification

- Bayes Theorem

$$p(\theta|y)$$

$$\propto_{\theta} p(y|\theta)p(\theta)$$

Robustness quantification

- Bayes Theorem

$$p(\theta|y, \alpha)$$

$$\propto_{\theta} p(y|\theta)p(\theta|\alpha)$$

Robustness quantification

- Bayes Theorem

$$p_\alpha(\theta) := p(\theta|y, \alpha)$$
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- Sensitivity

Robustness quantification

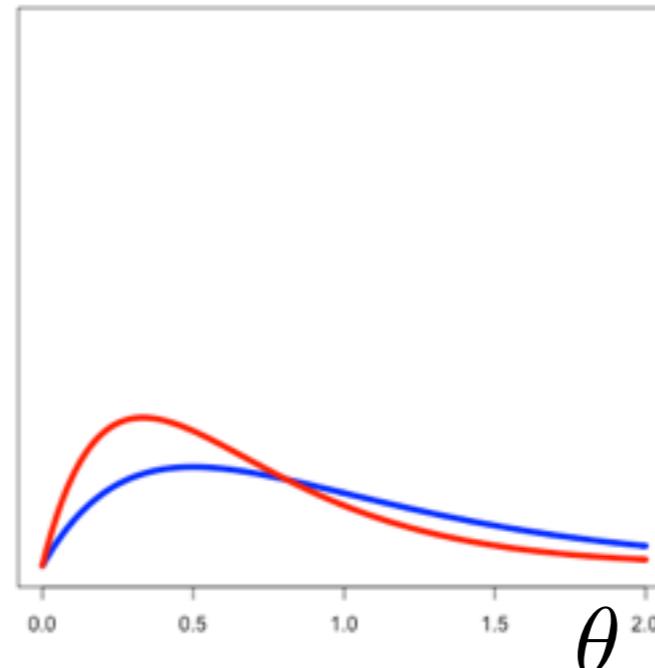
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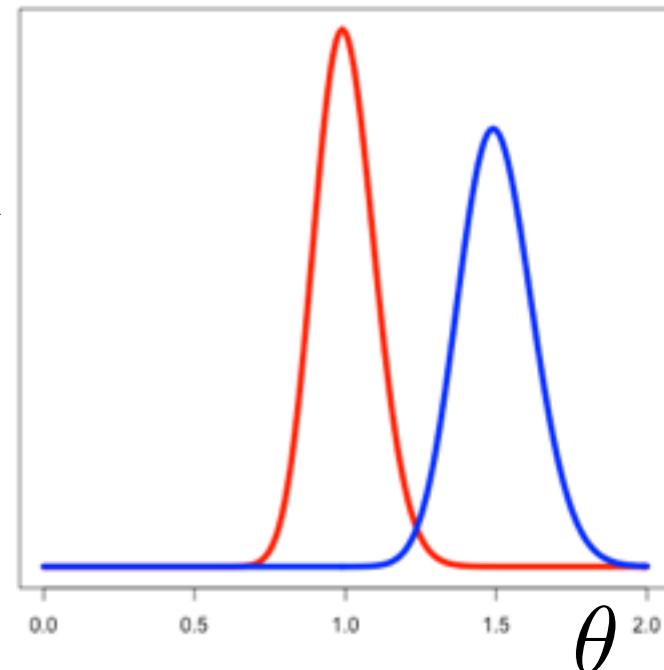
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- Sensitivity

Some reasonable priors



**Bayes
Theorem**



Robustness quantification

- Bayes Theorem

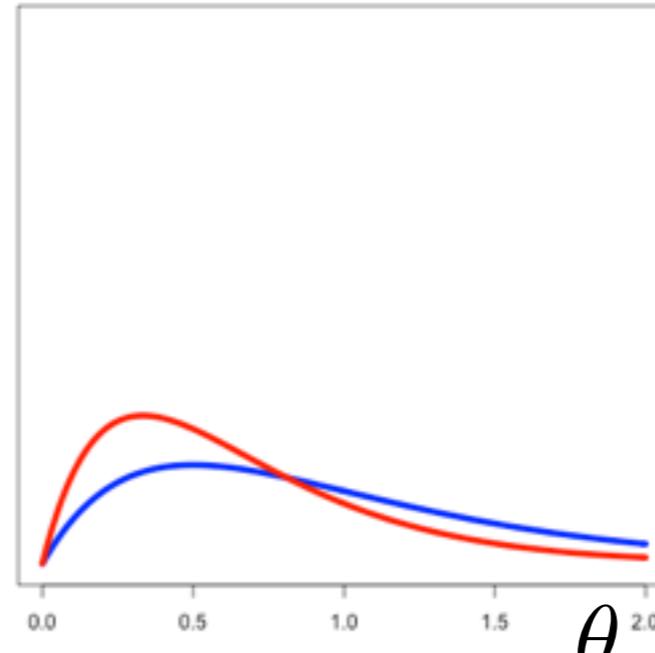
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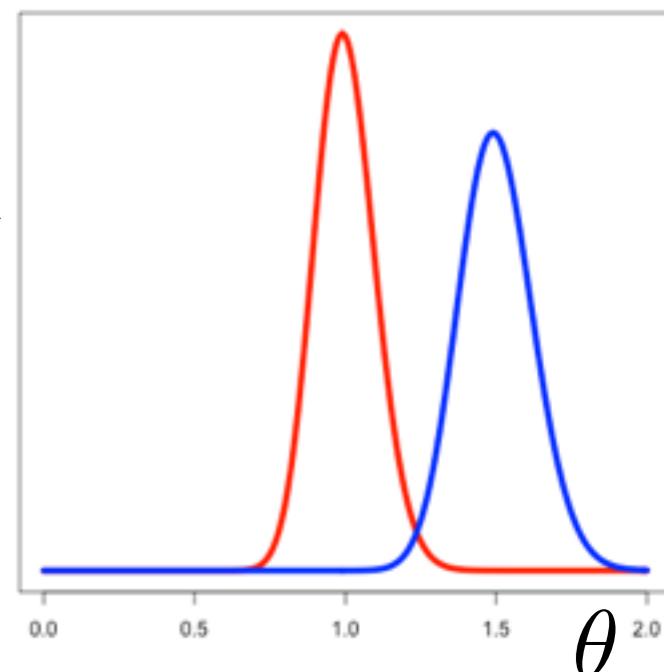
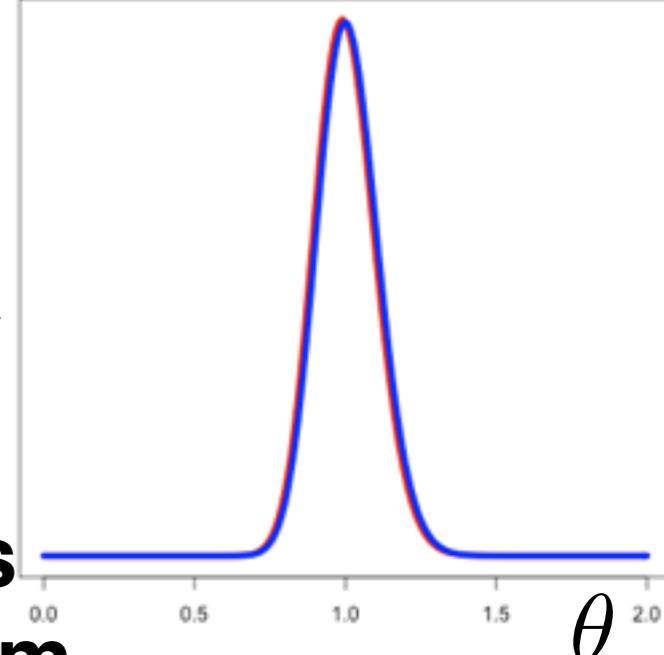
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$$\mathbb{E}_{p_\alpha}[g(\theta)]$$

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Robustness quantification

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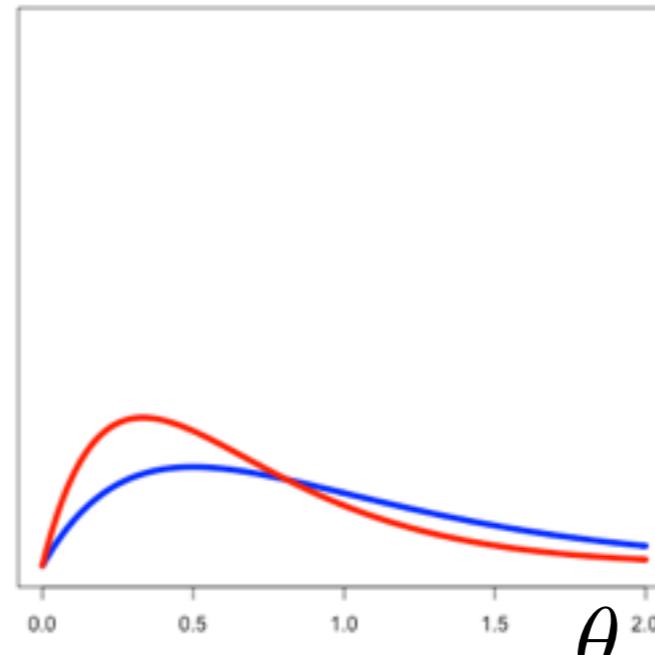
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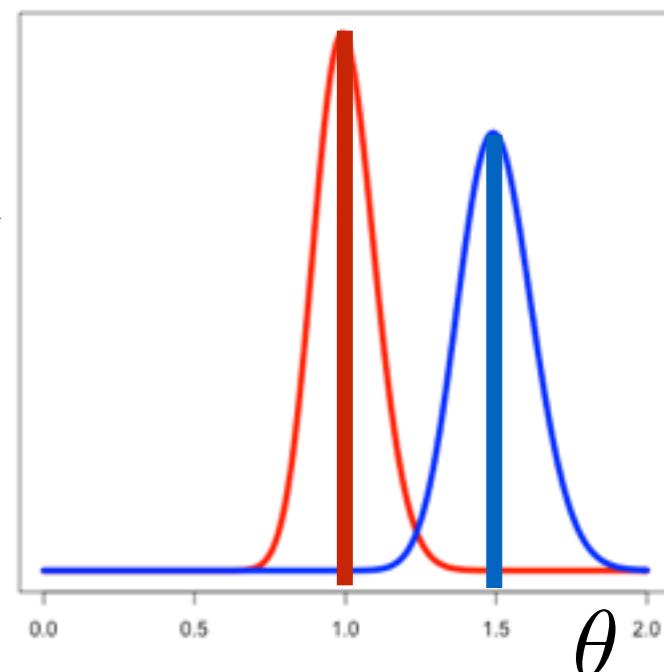
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**Bayes
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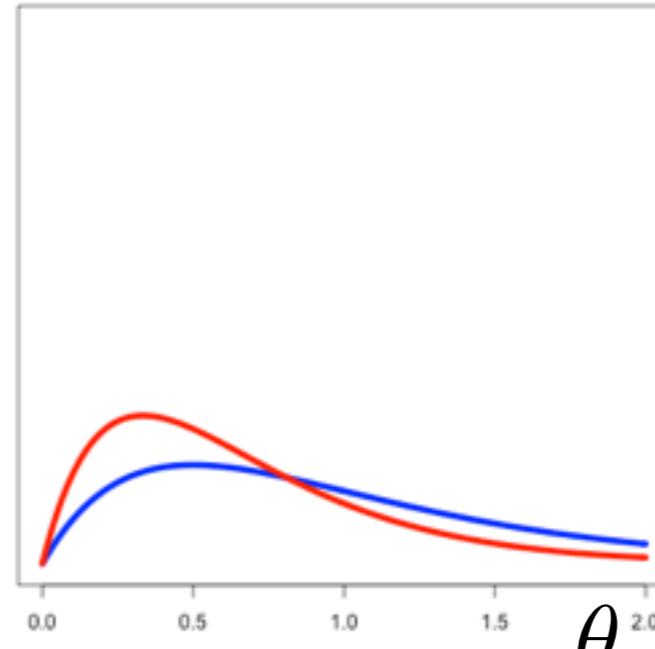
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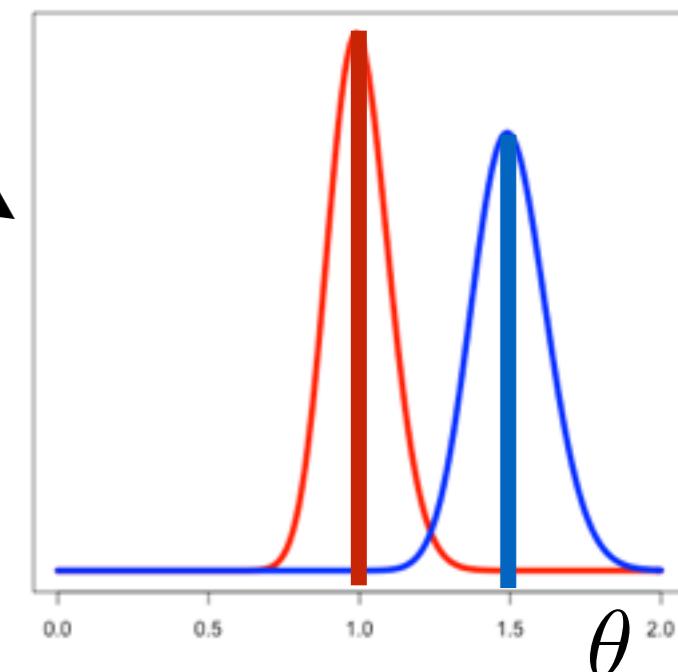
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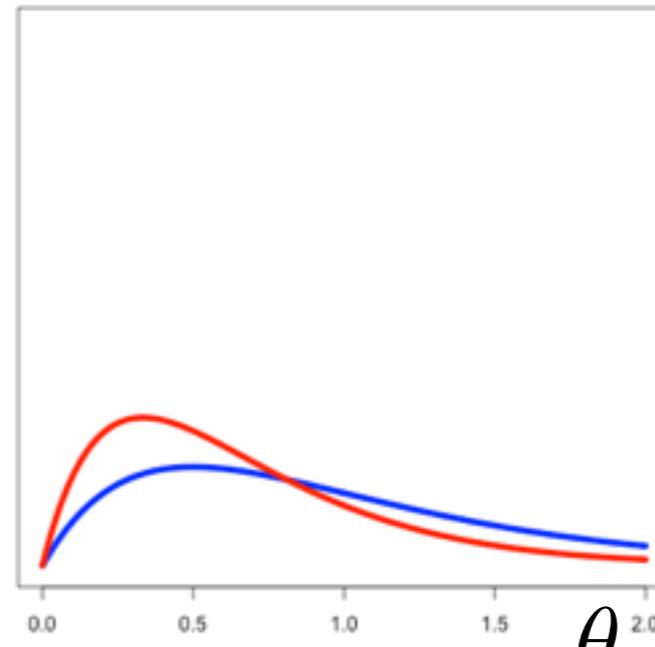
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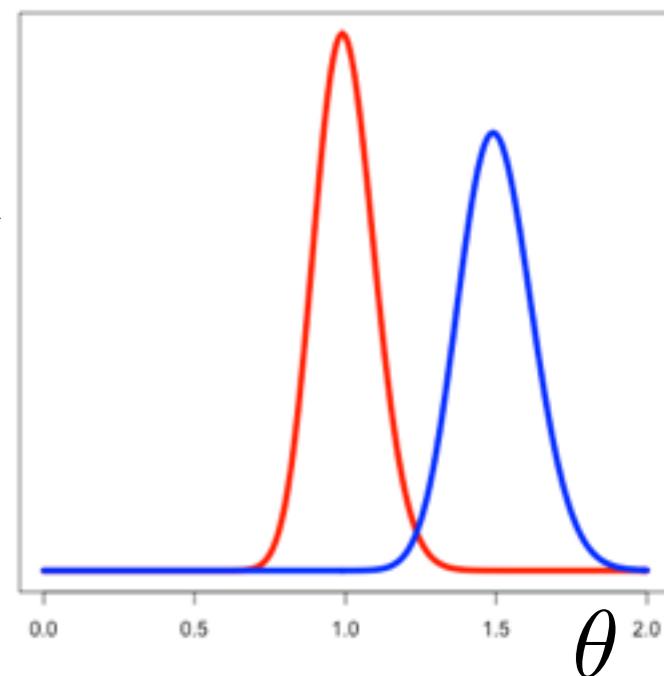
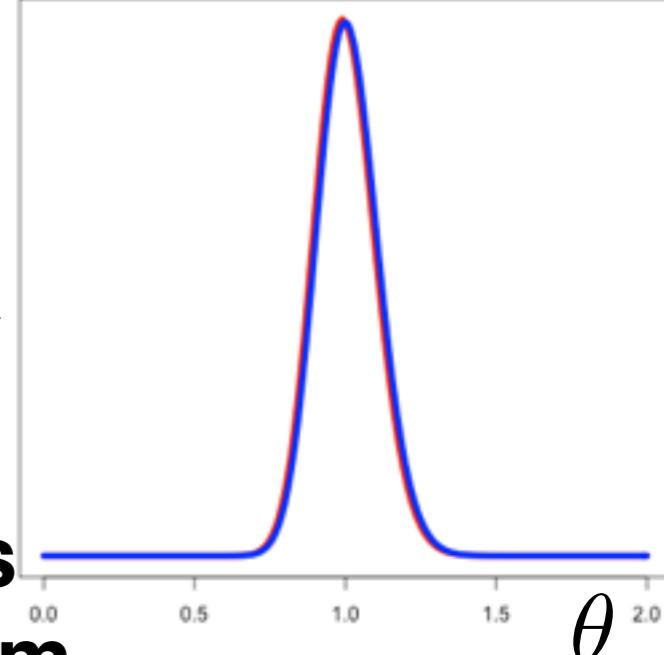
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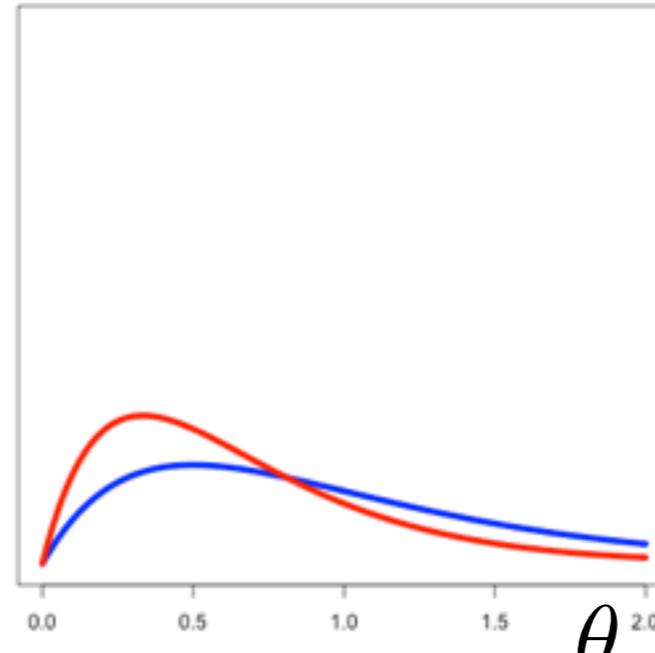
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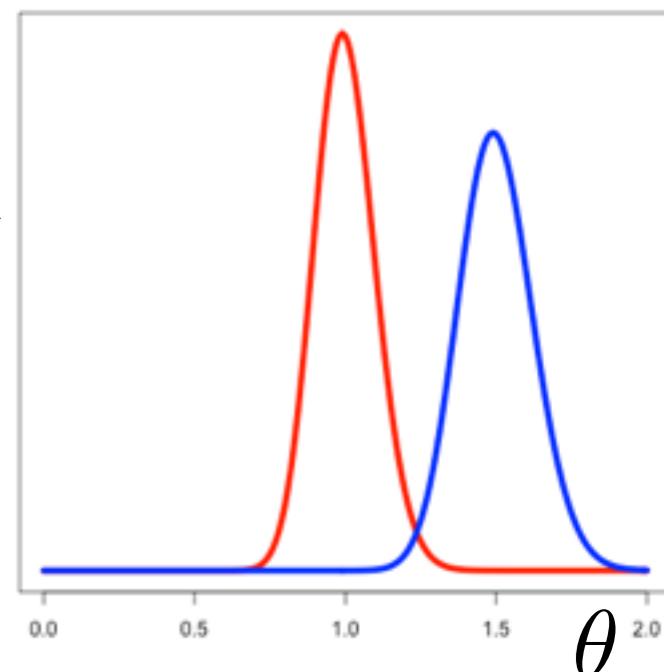
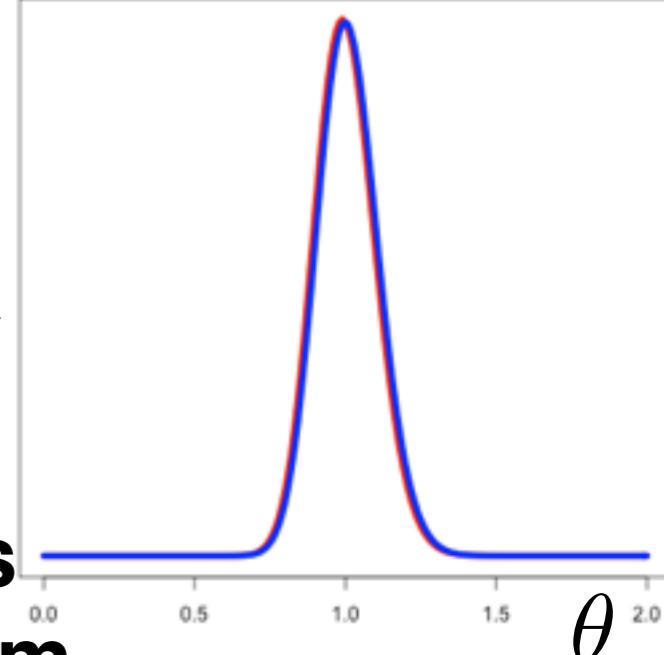
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Some reasonable priors



**Bayes
Theorem**



Robustness quantification

- Bayes Theorem

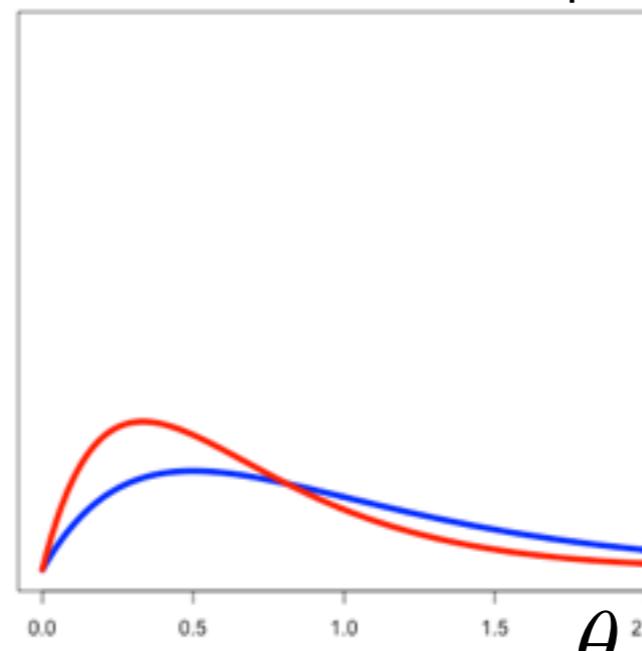
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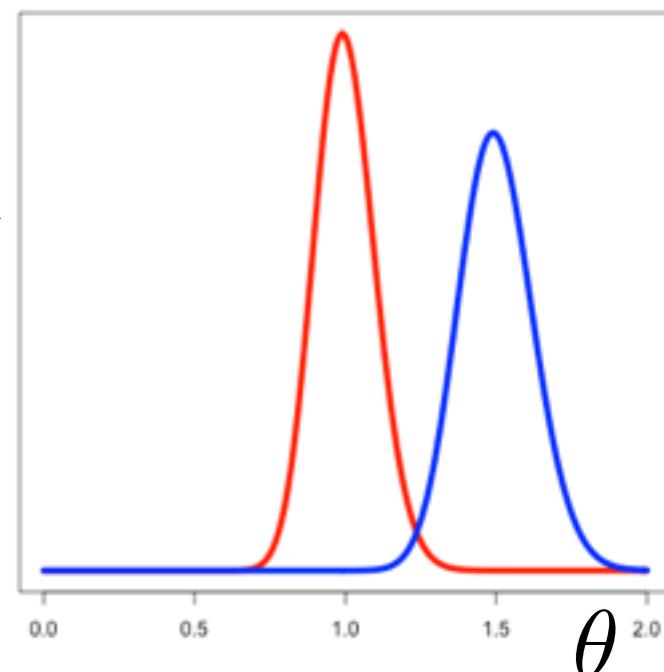
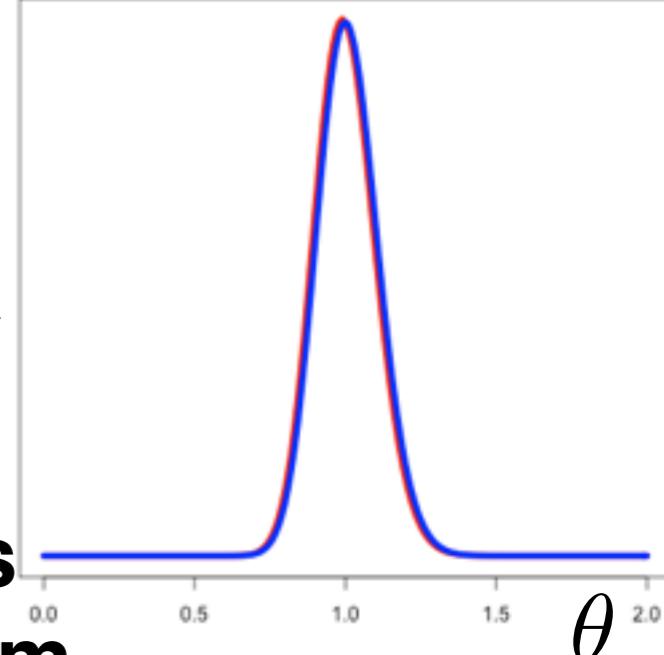
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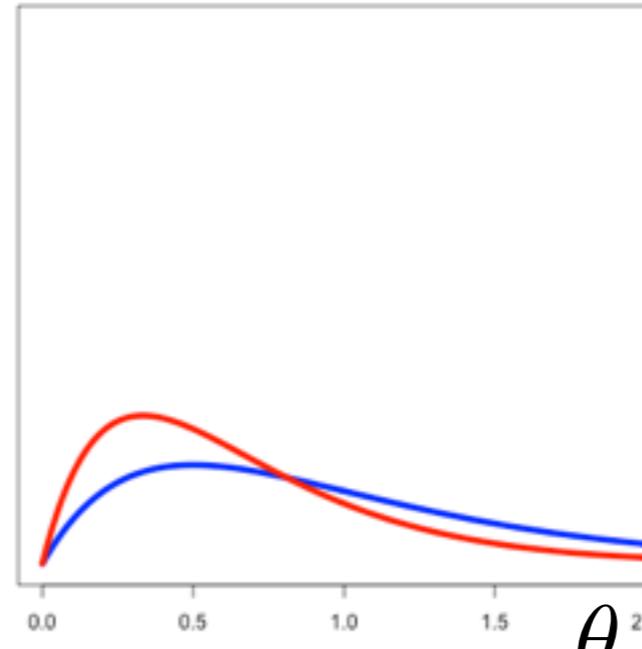
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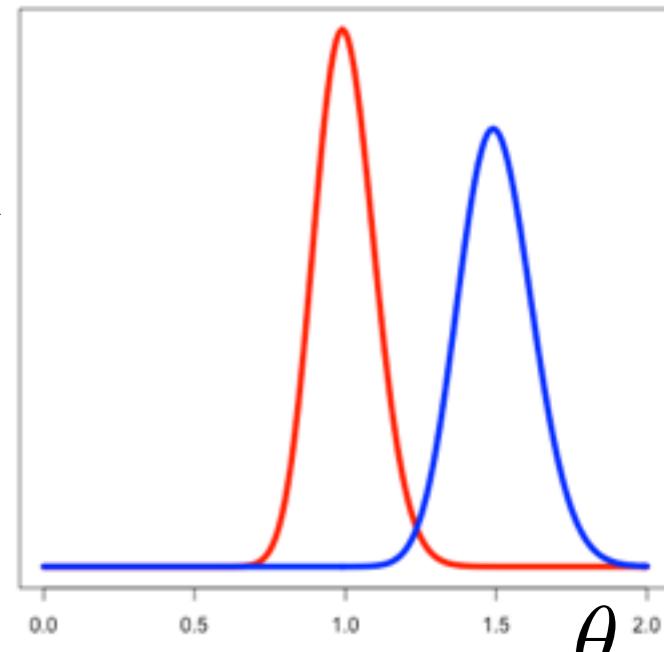
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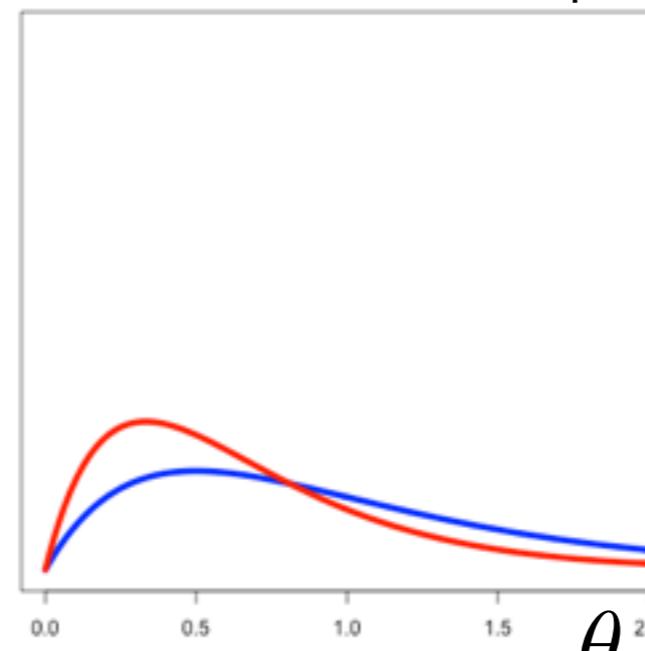
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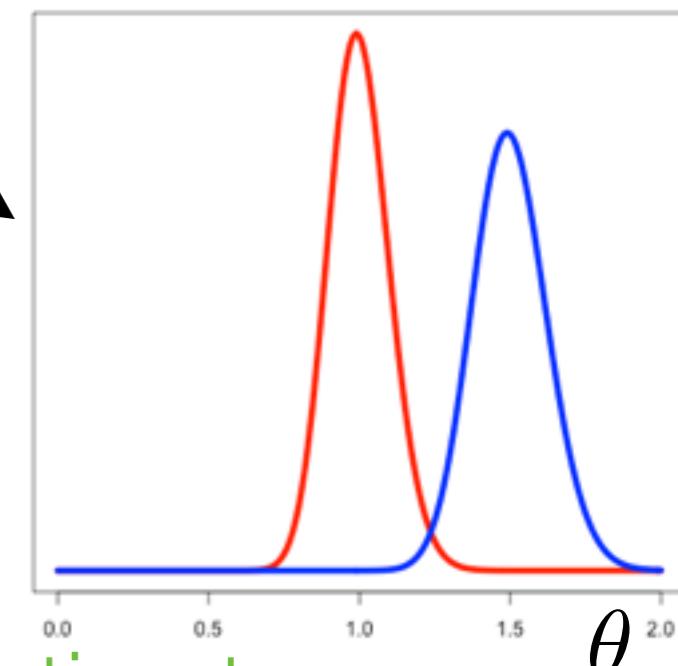
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**Bayes
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← LRVB estimator

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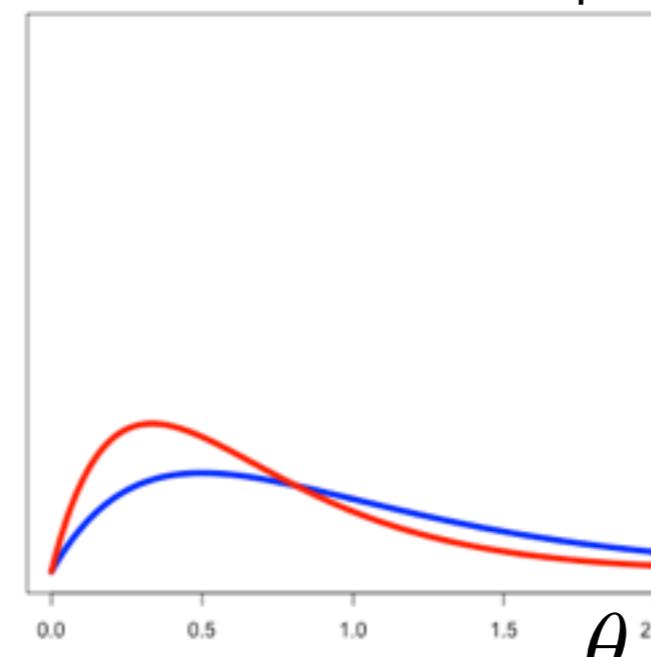
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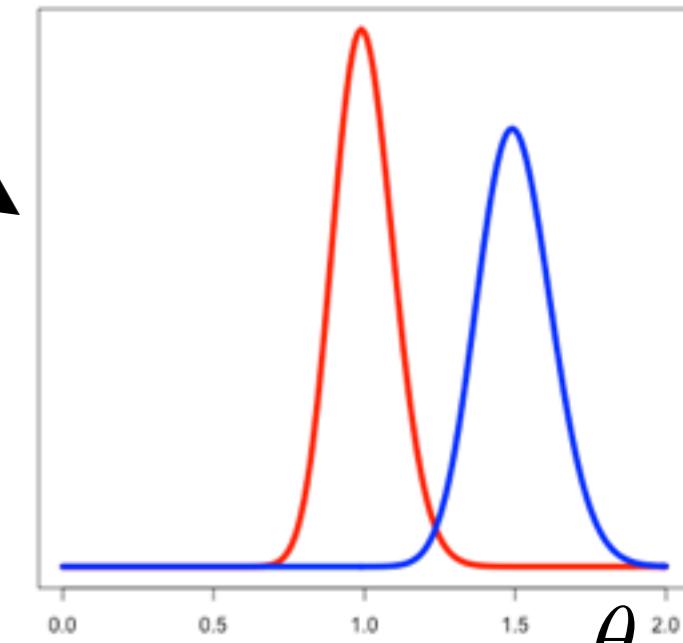
- Recall: our general LRVB formula applies for:

$$\log p_t(\theta) = \log p(\theta|y) + f(\theta, t) - \text{Const}(t)$$

Some reasonable priors



**Bayes
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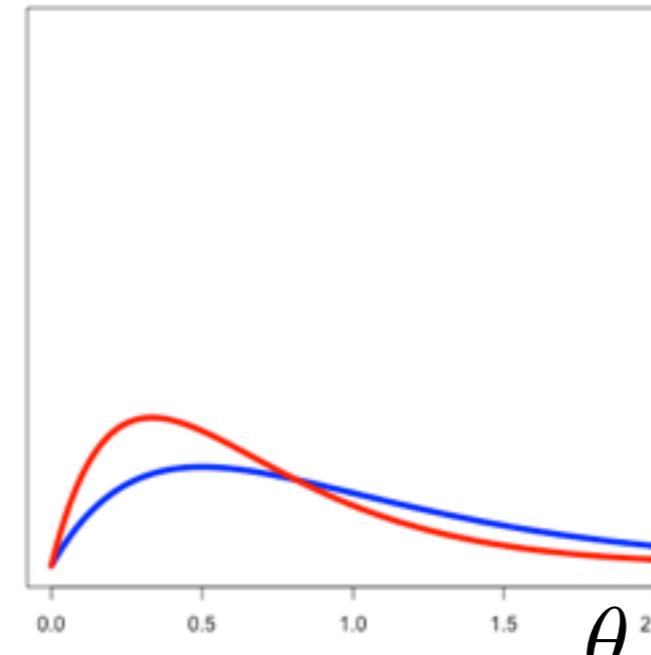
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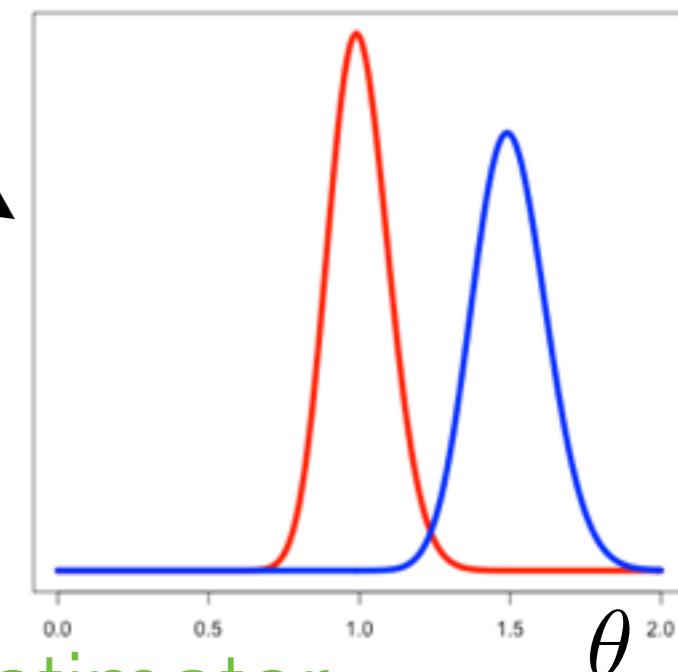
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[board]

Some reasonable priors



**Bayes
Theorem**



← LRVB estimator

Microcredit Experiment

- Simplified from Meager (2015)
- K microcredit trials (Mexico, Mongolia, Bosnia, India, Morocco, Philippines, Ethiopia)
- N_k businesses in k th site (~ 900 to $\sim 17K$)
- Profit of n th business at k th site:
$$y_{kn} \stackrel{\text{indep}}{\sim} \mathcal{N}(\mu_k + T_{kn}\tau_k, \sigma_k^2)$$

profit

$$y_{kn} \stackrel{\text{indep}}{\sim} \mathcal{N}(\mu_k + T_{kn}\tau_k, \sigma_k^2)$$

1 if microcredit

- Priors and hyperpriors:

$$\begin{pmatrix} \mu_k \\ \tau_k \end{pmatrix} \stackrel{iid}{\sim} \mathcal{N}\left(\begin{pmatrix} \mu \\ \tau \end{pmatrix}, C\right)$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} \mu \\ \tau \end{pmatrix} \stackrel{iid}{\sim} \mathcal{N}\left(\begin{pmatrix} \mu_0 \\ \tau_0 \end{pmatrix}, \Lambda^{-1}\right)$$

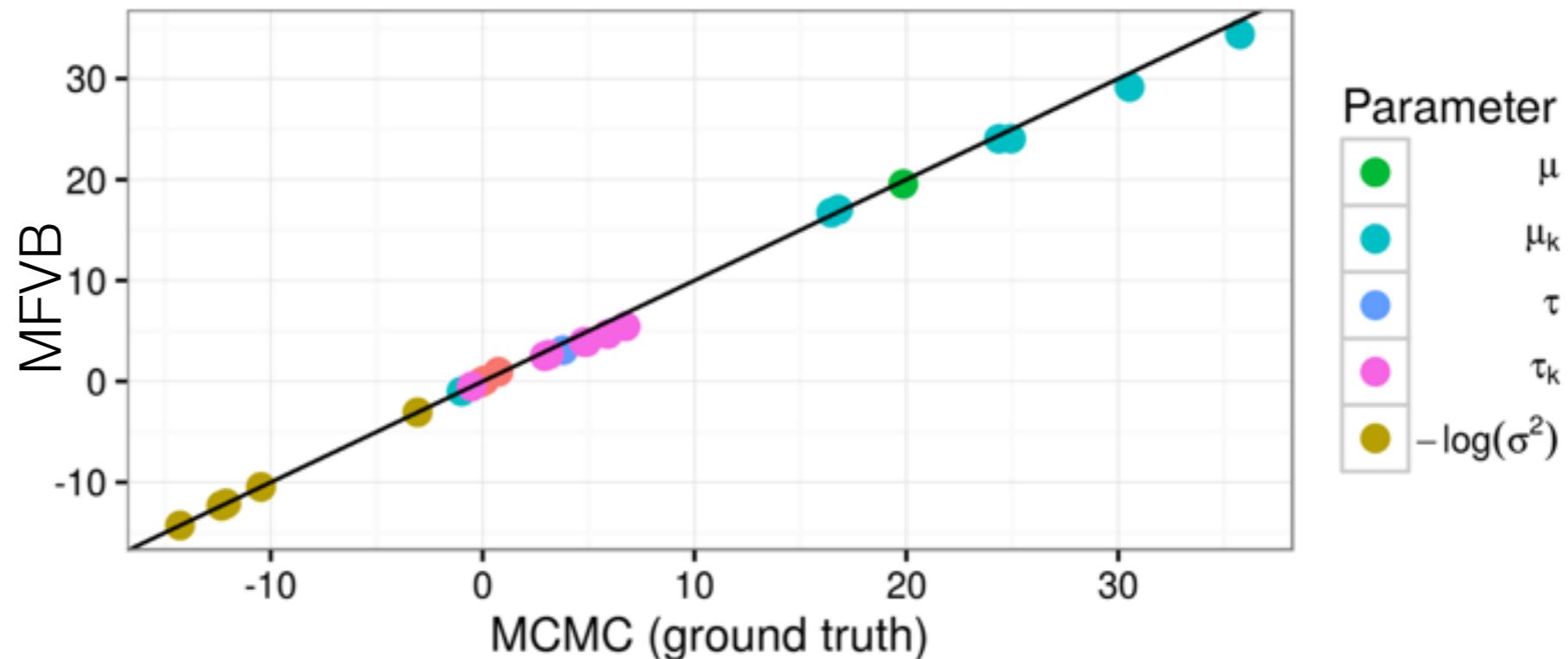
$$\sigma_k^{-2} \stackrel{iid}{\sim} \Gamma(a, b)$$

$$C \sim \text{Sep\&LKJ}(\eta, c, d)$$

Microcredit Experiment

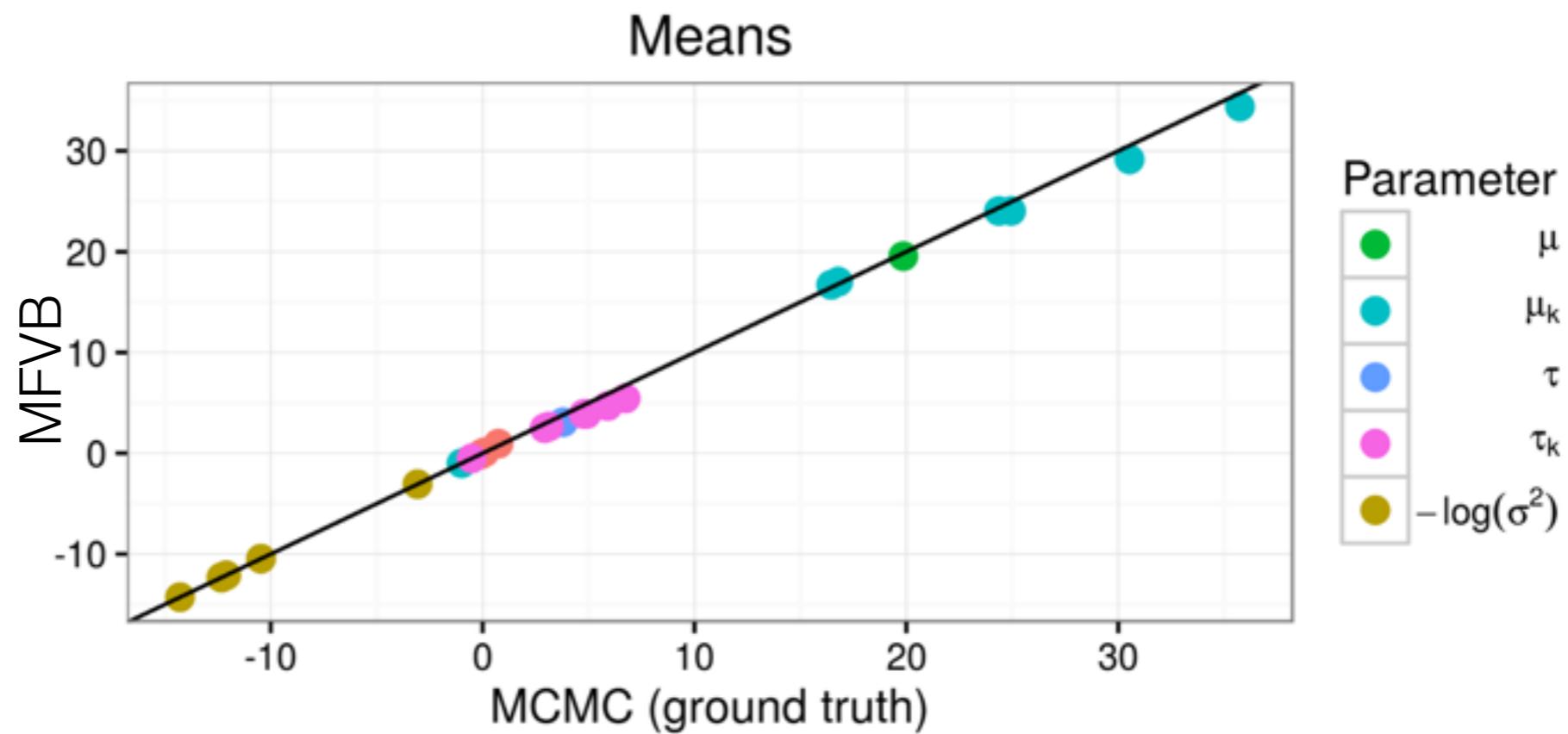
Microcredit Experiment

Means



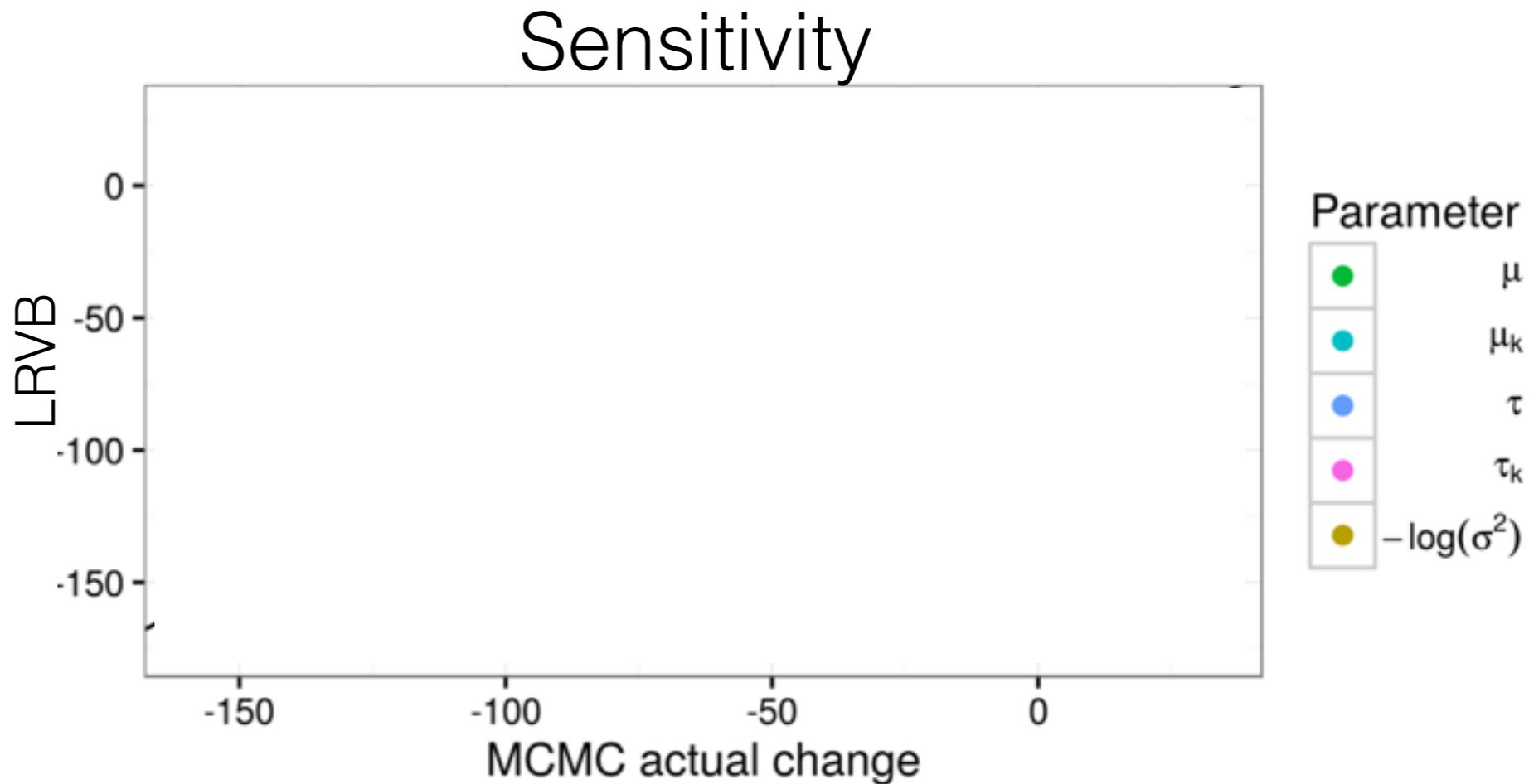
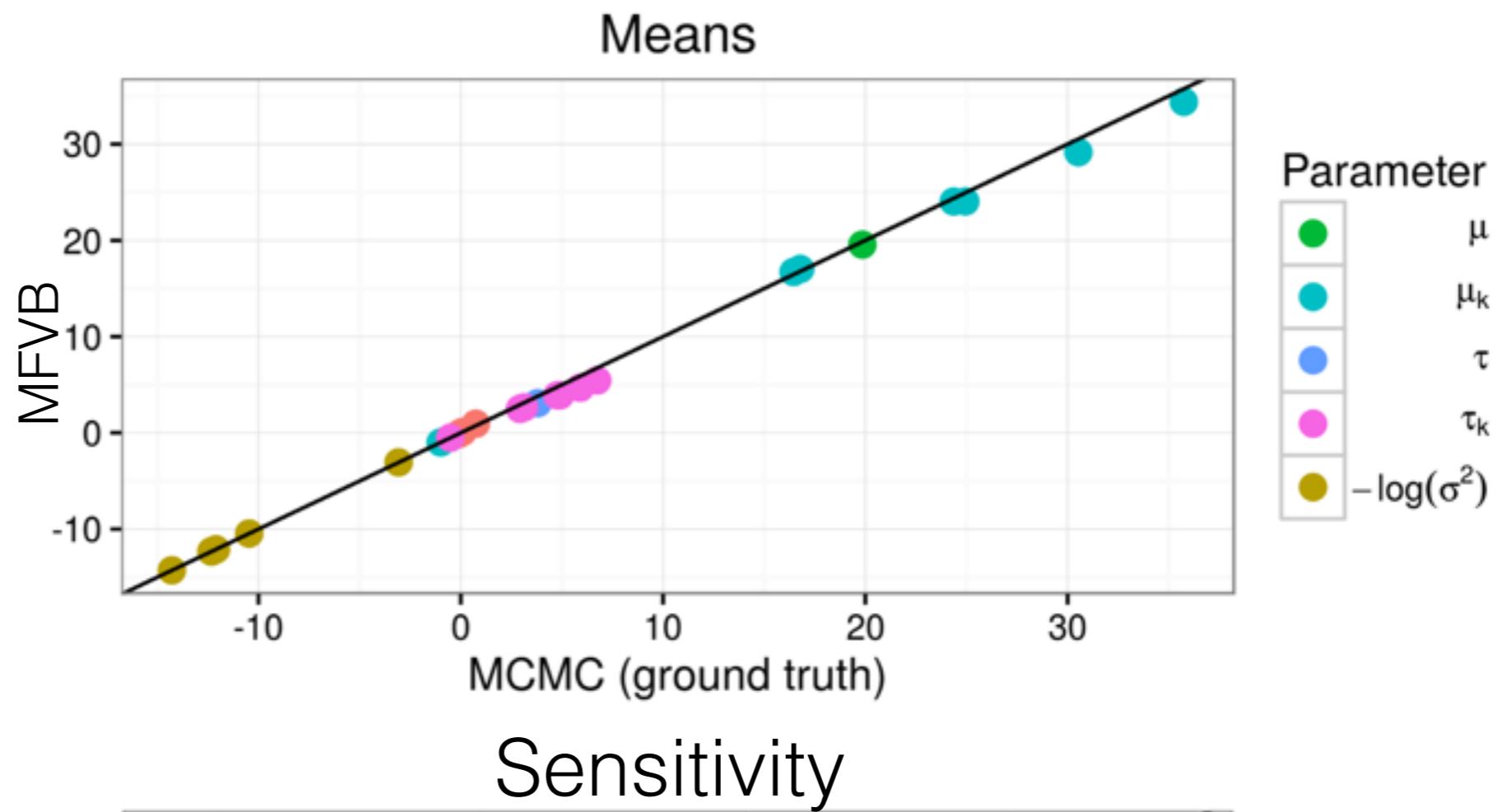
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- Perturb Λ_{11} :
 $0.03 \rightarrow 0.04$



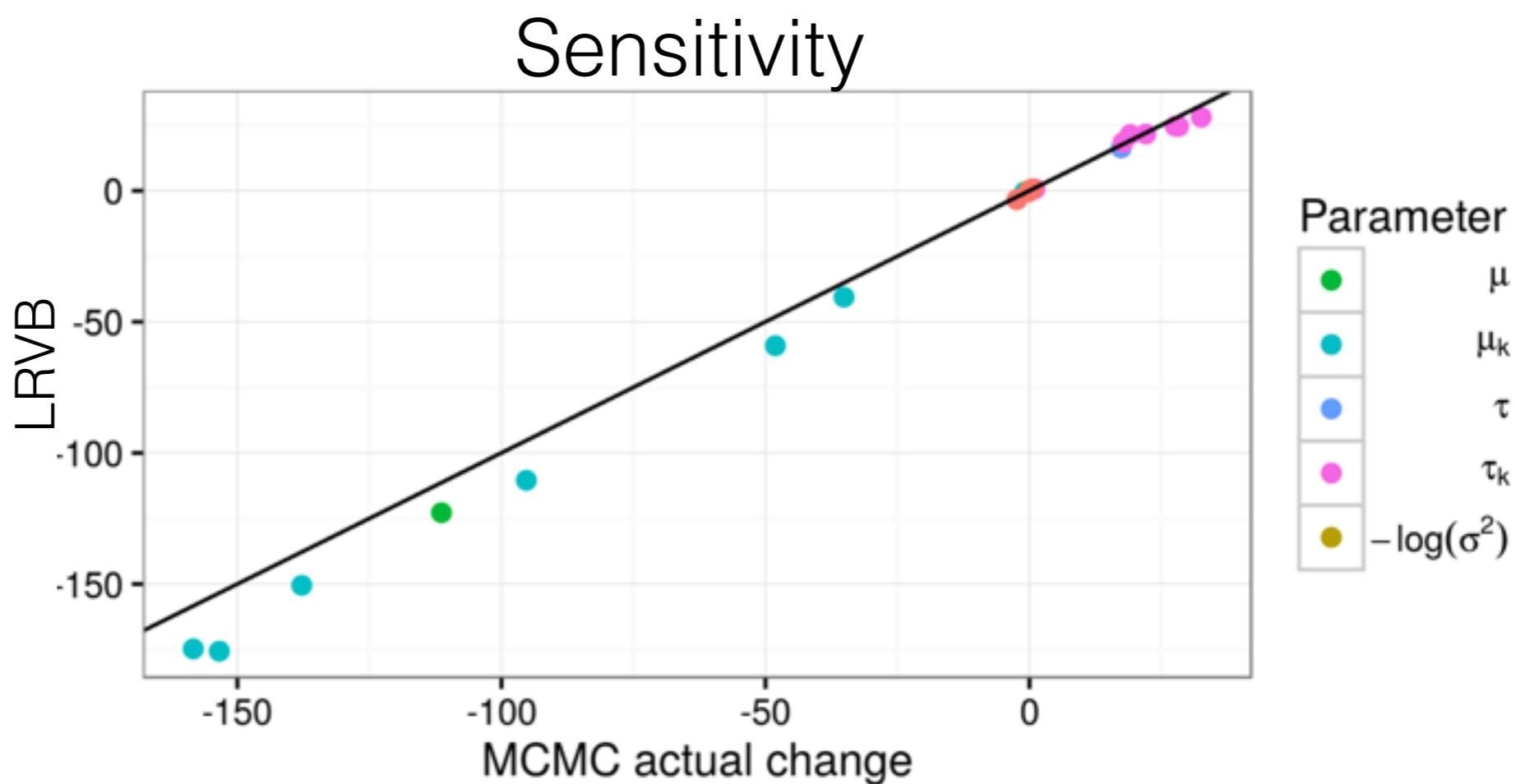
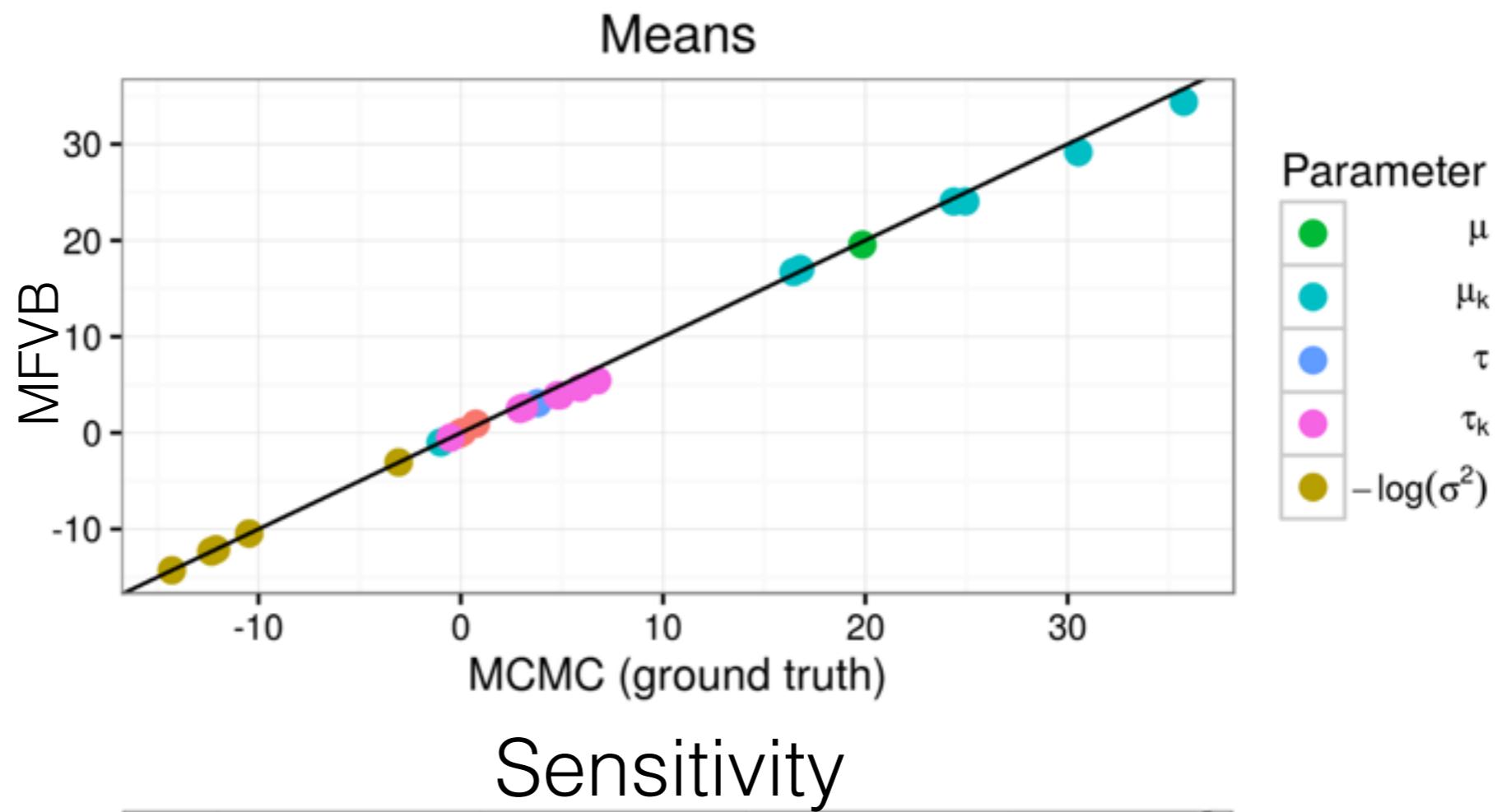
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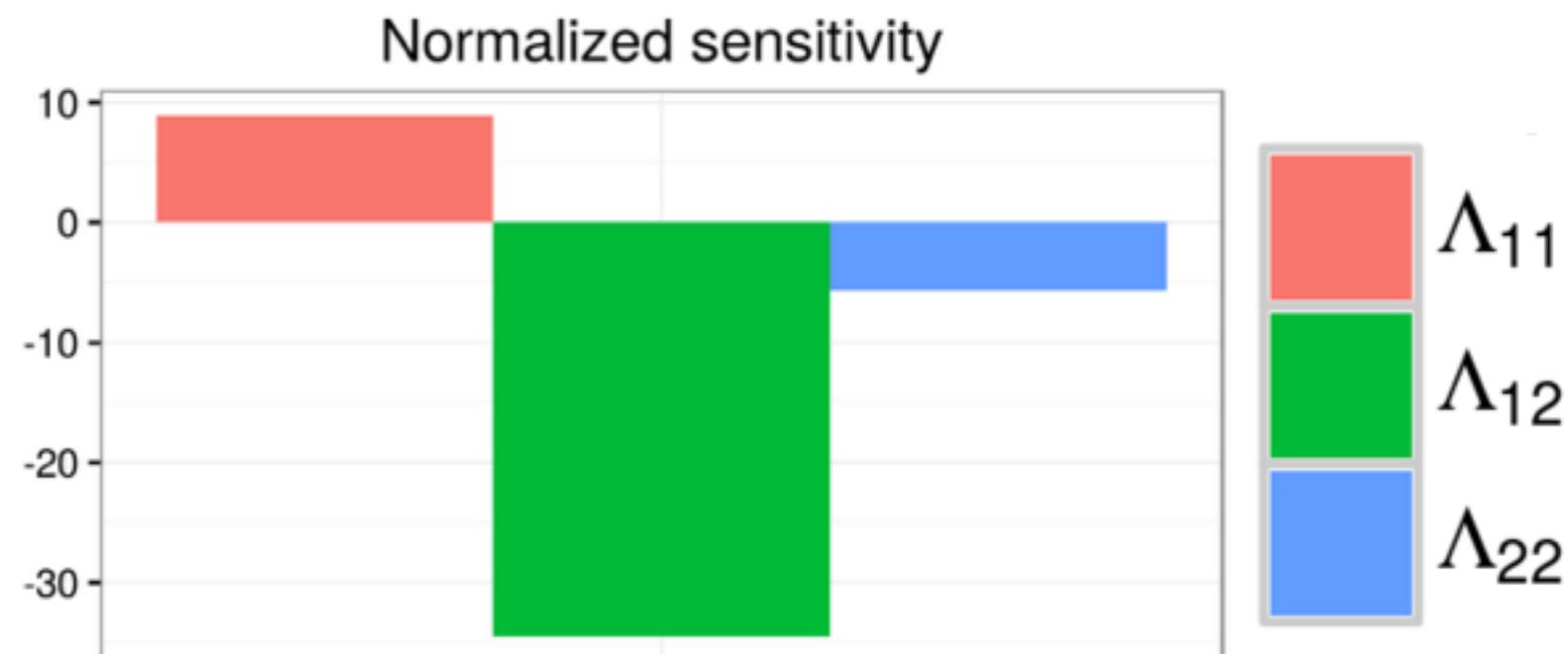
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Microcredit Experiment

- Sensitivity of the expected microcredit effect (τ)
- Normalized to be on scale of τ std devs

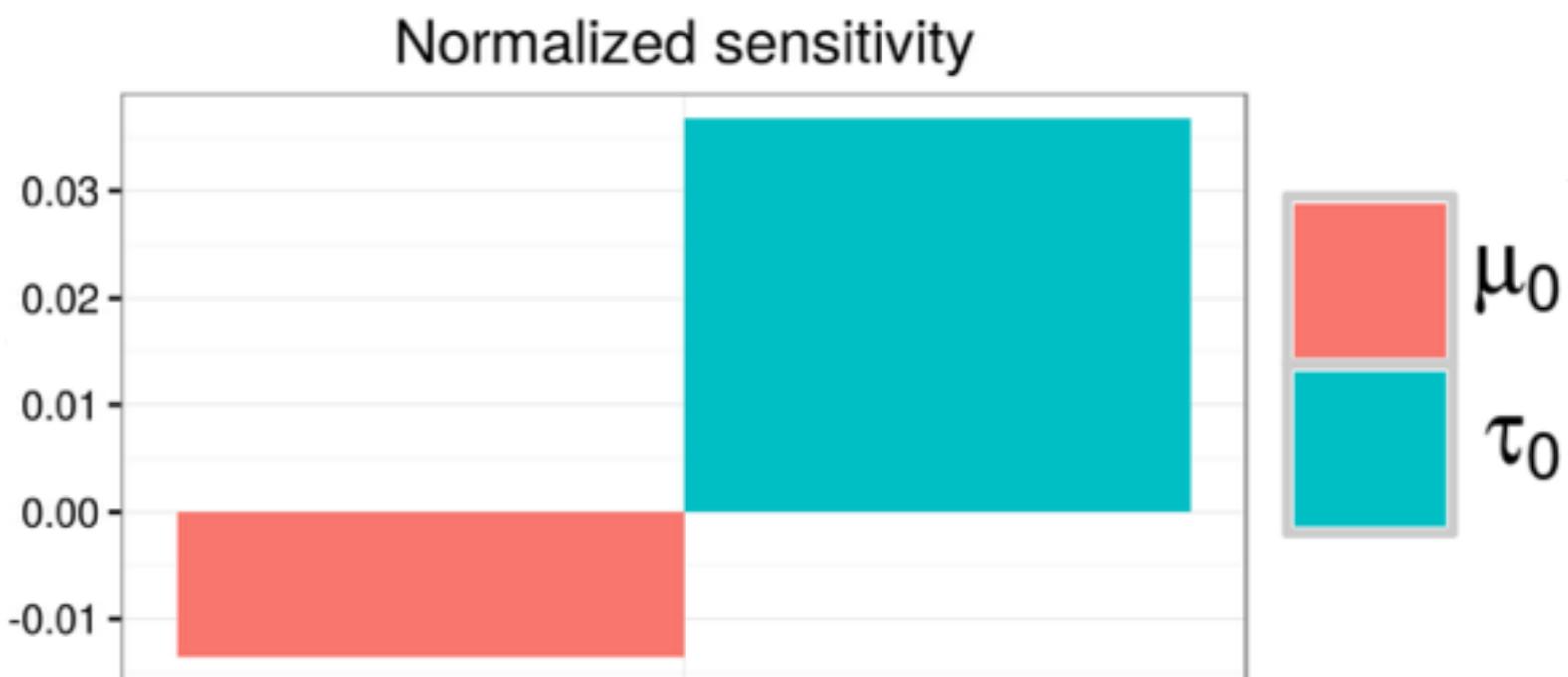
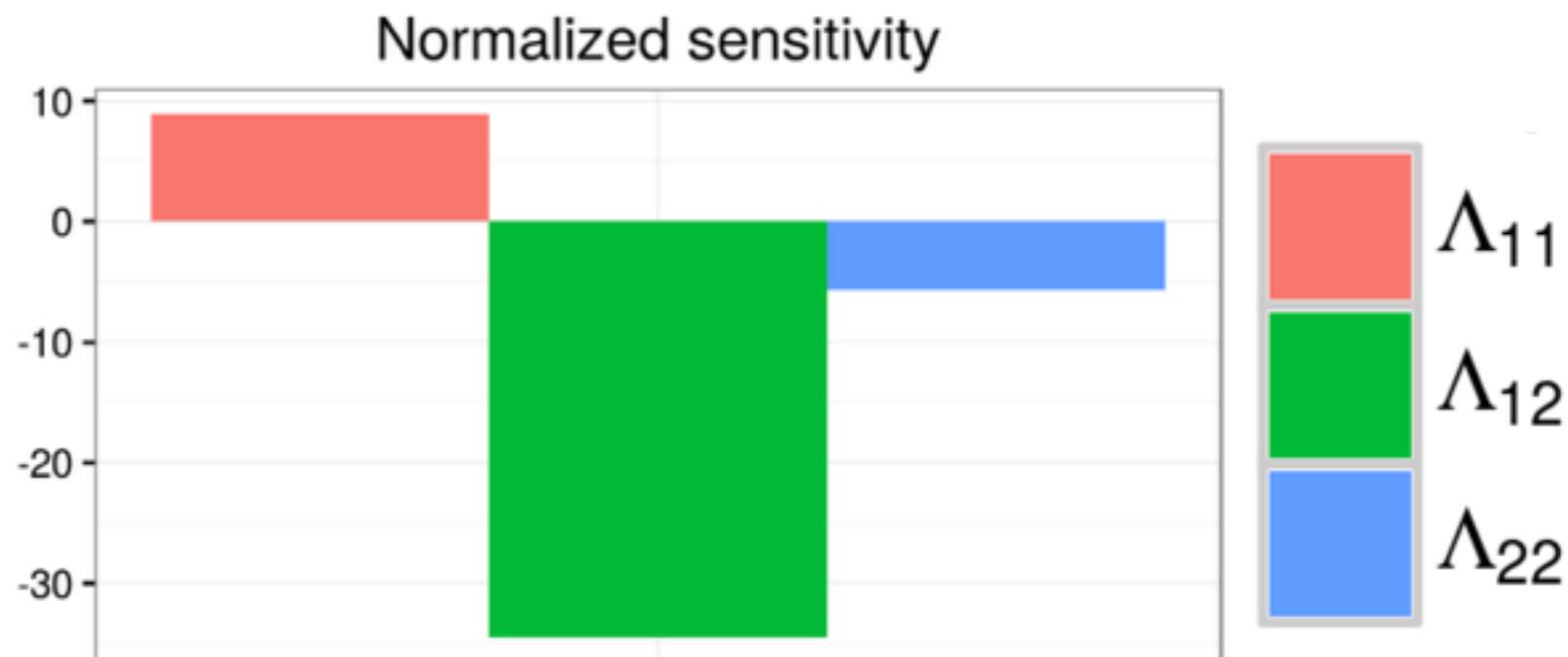
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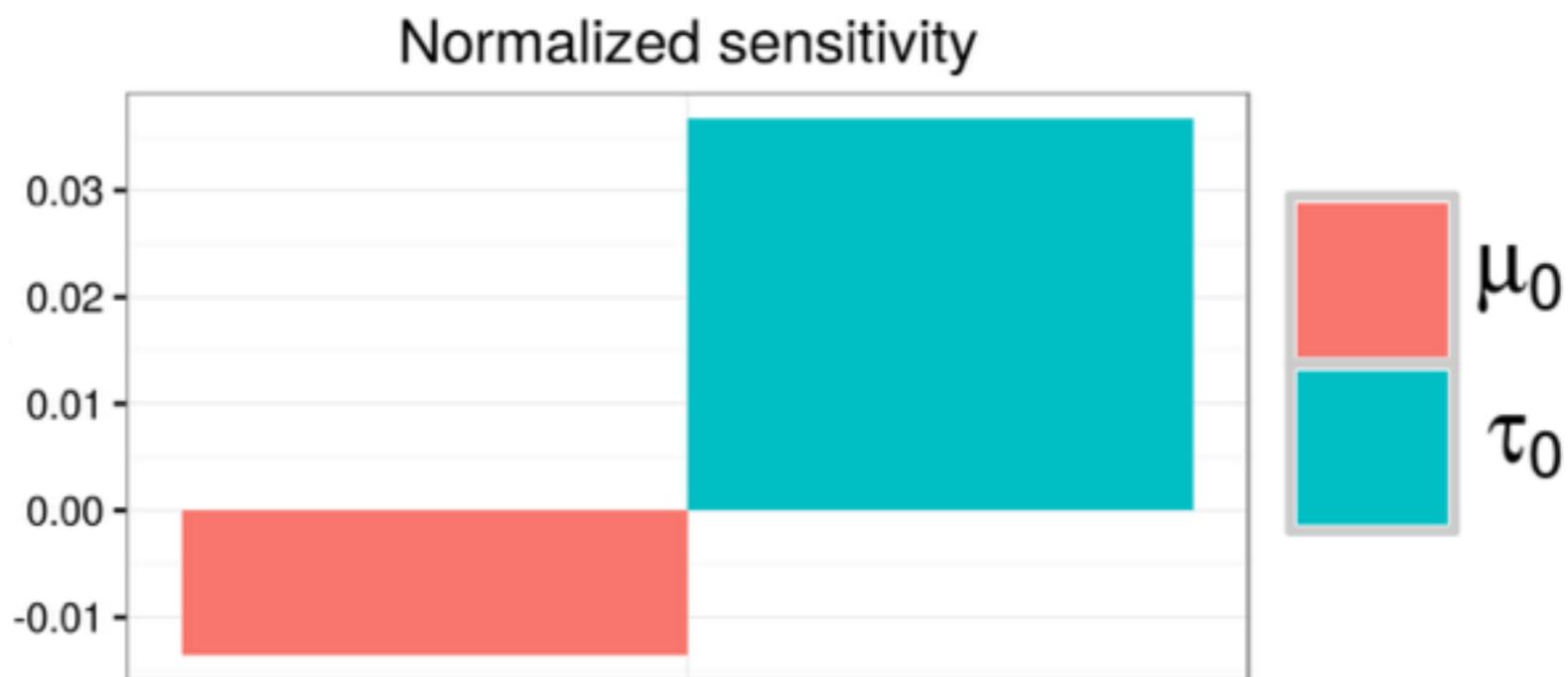
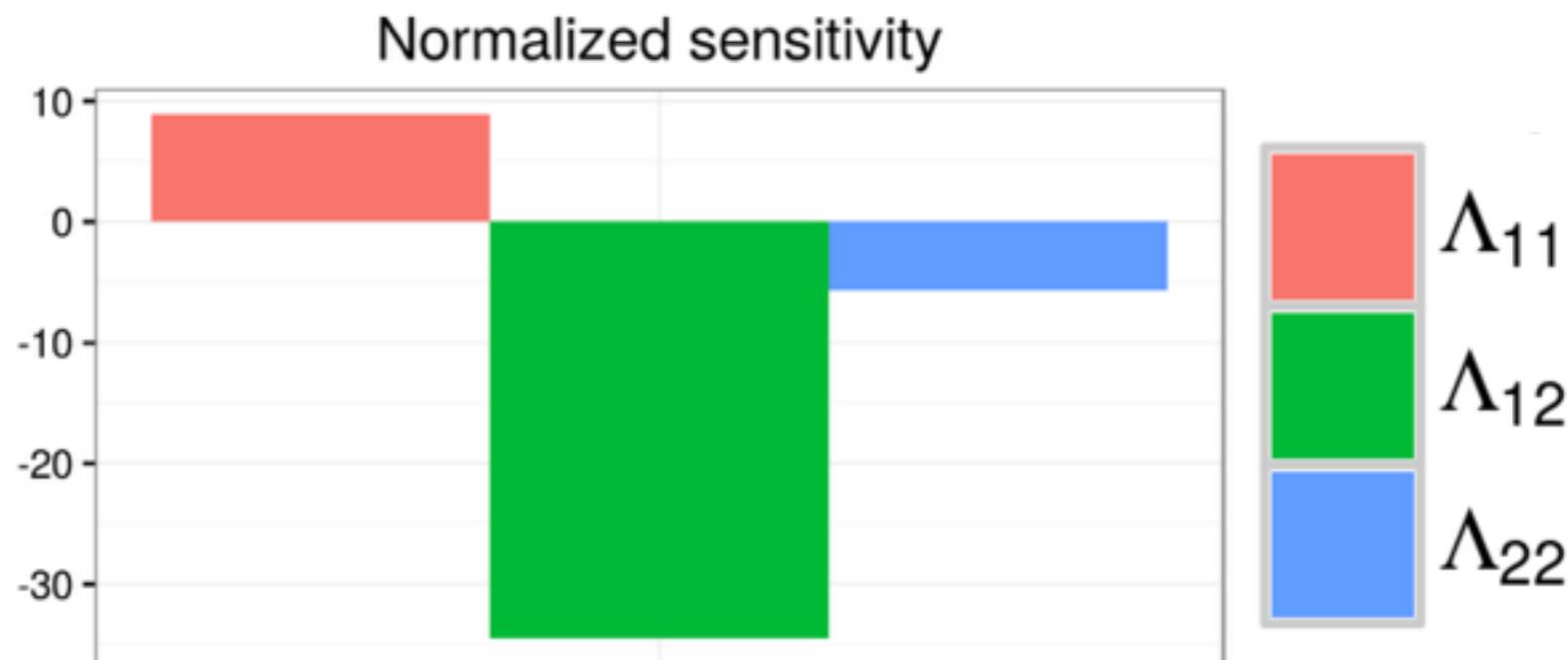
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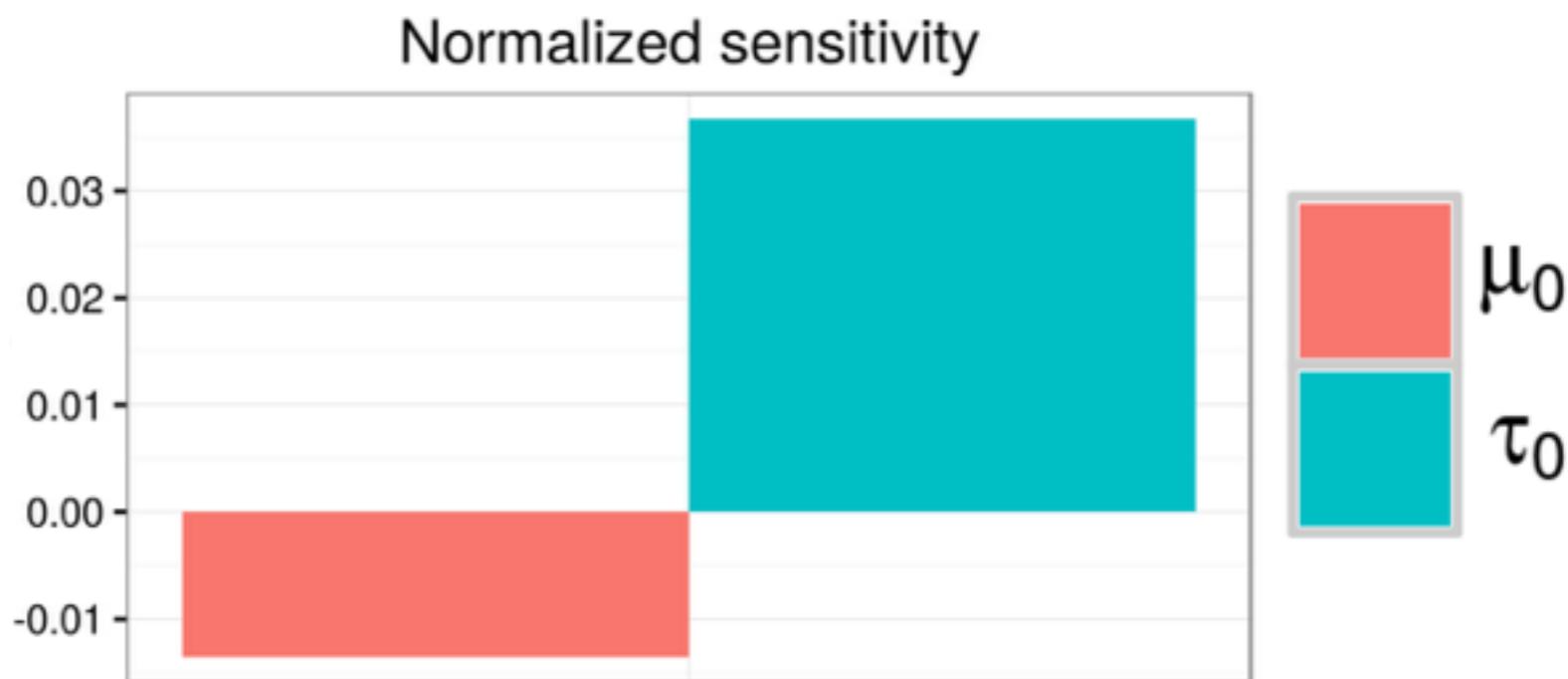
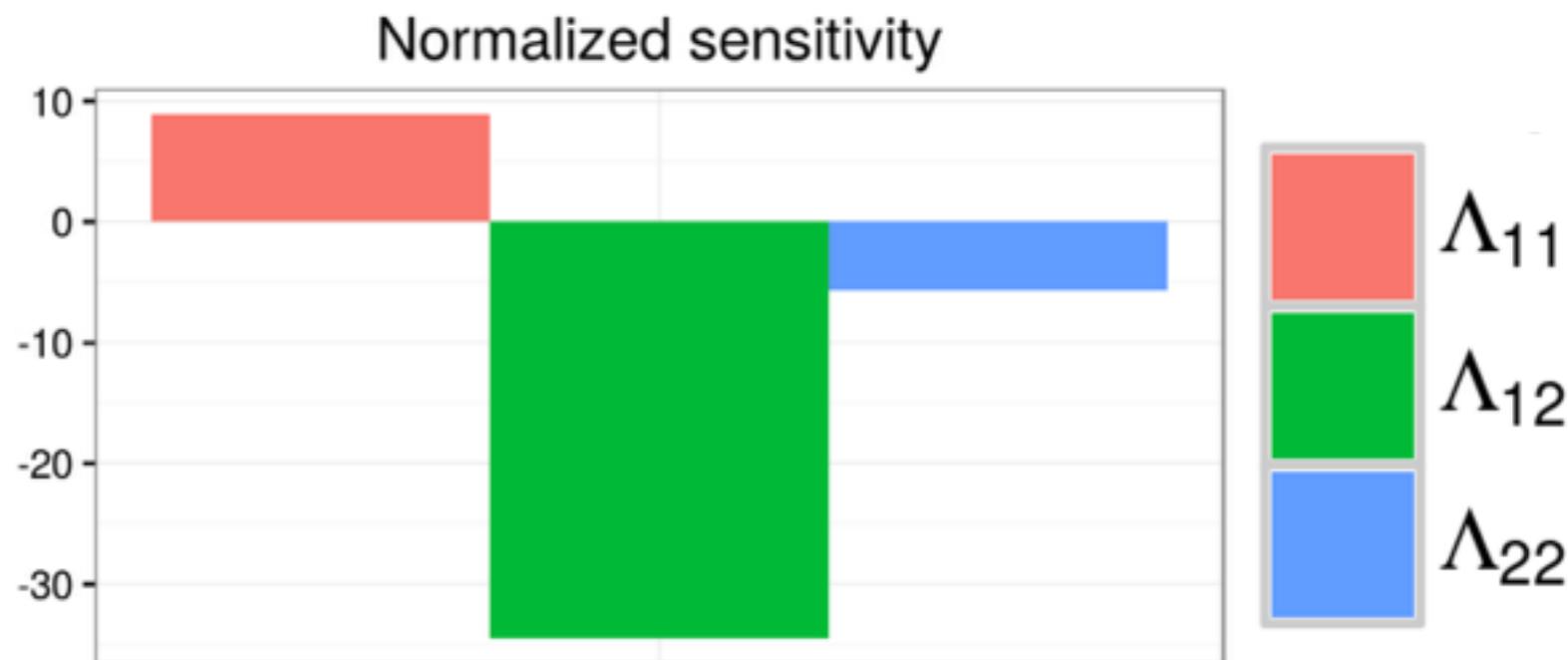
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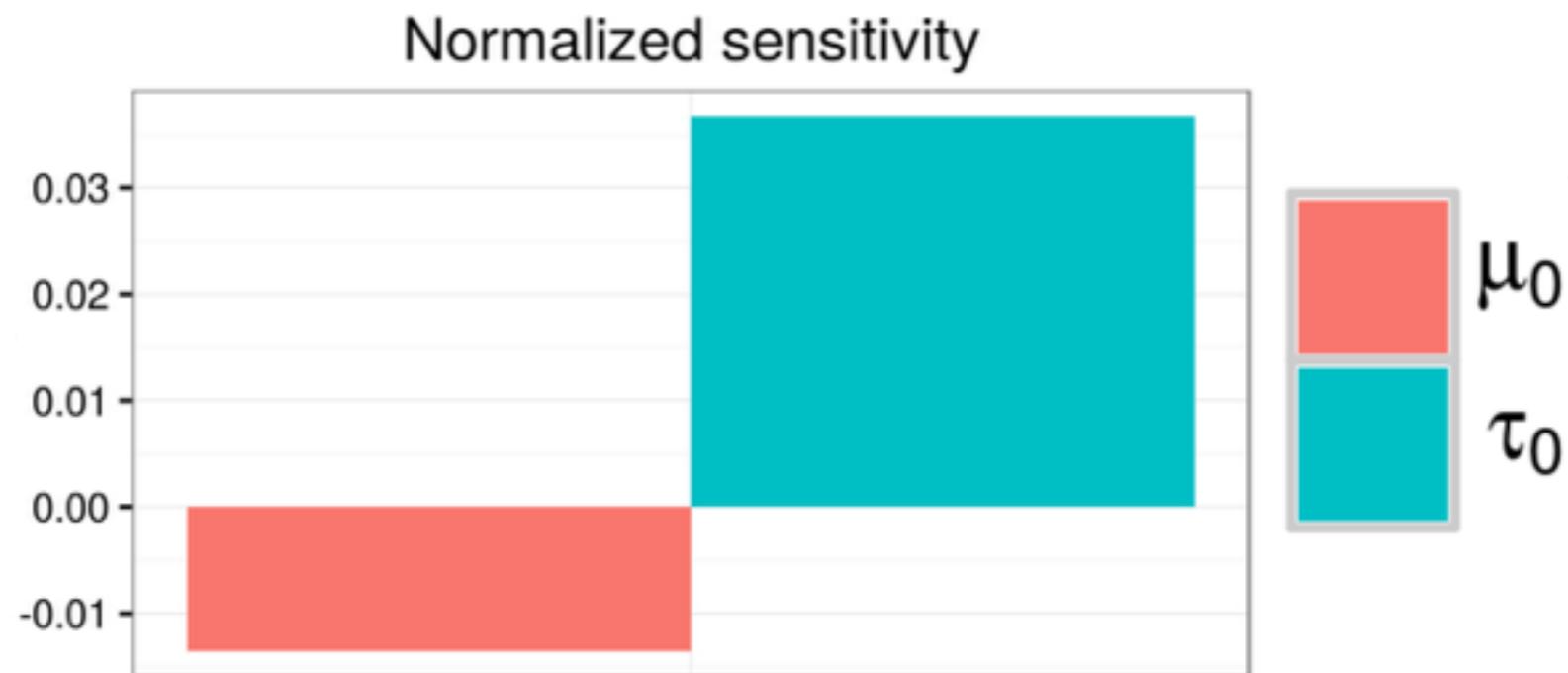
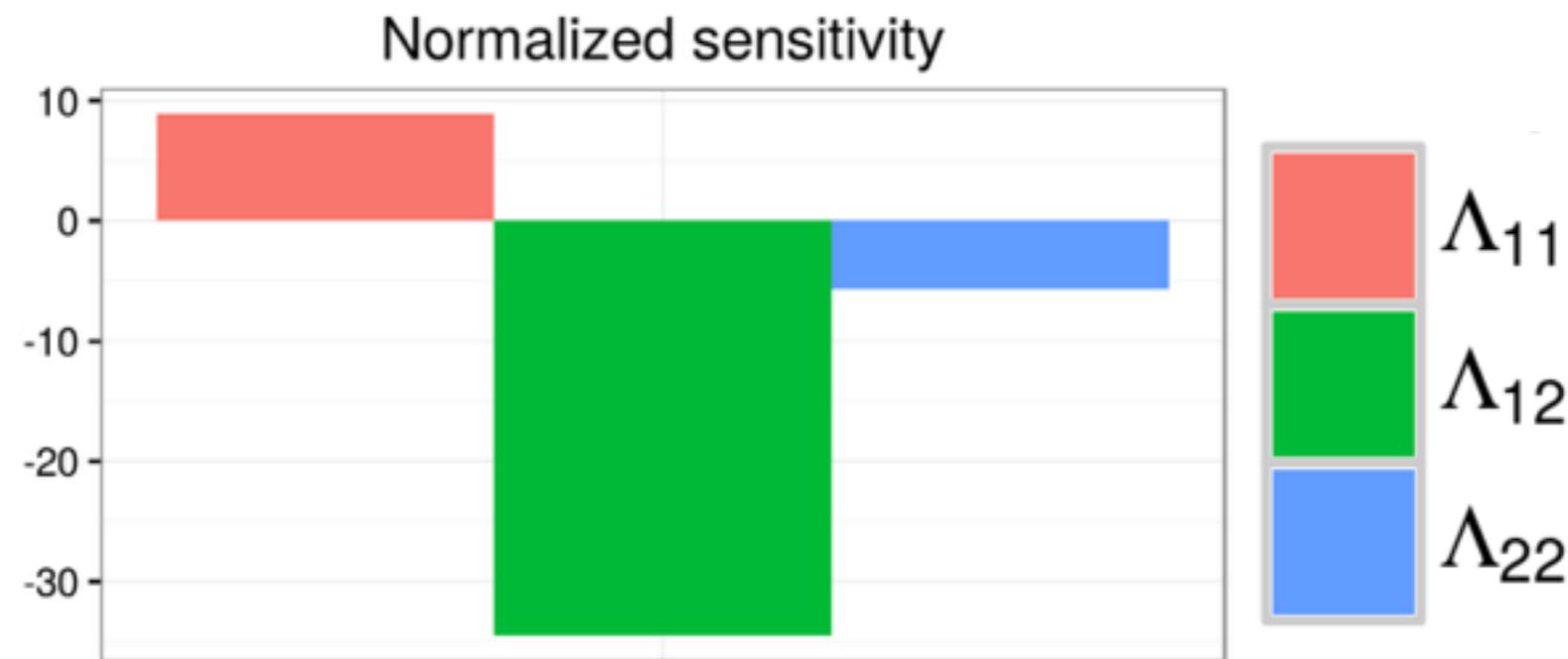
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⇒ Mean > 2 std dev



Criteo Online Ads Experiment

- Click-through conversion prediction
- Q: Will a customer (e.g.) buy a product after clicking?
- Q: How predictive of conversion are different features?
- Logistic GLMM; $N = 61,895$ subset to compare to MCMC
- Model:

$$y_{kn} \sim \text{Bernoulli}(p_{kn}) \quad p_{kn} = \frac{\exp(\rho_{kn})}{1 + \exp(\rho_{kn})}$$

$$\rho_{kn} = x_{kn}^T \beta + u_k$$

- Priors and hyperpriors:

$$u_k \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu, \sigma^2) \quad \beta \sim \mathcal{N}(\beta_0, \text{diag}(\gamma))$$

$$\mu \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu_0, \sigma_0^2)$$

$$(\sigma^2)^{-1} \sim \text{Gamma}(a, b)$$

Criteo Online Ads Experiment

Criteo Online Ads Experiment

- VB: 57 sec

Criteo Online Ads Experiment

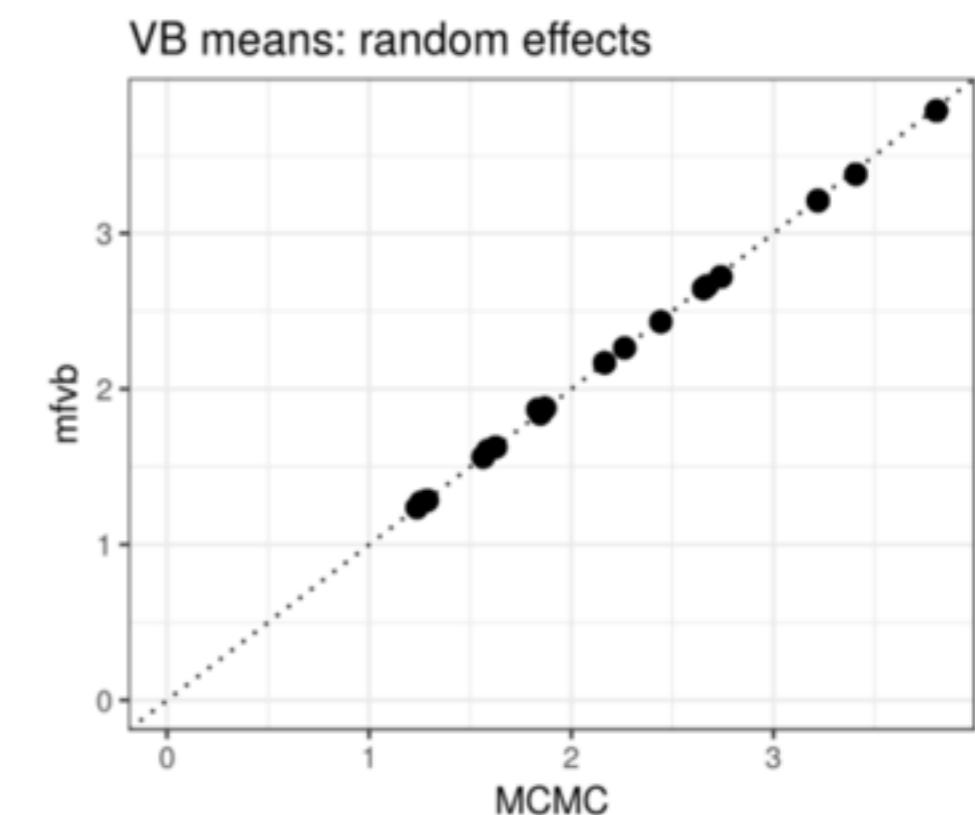
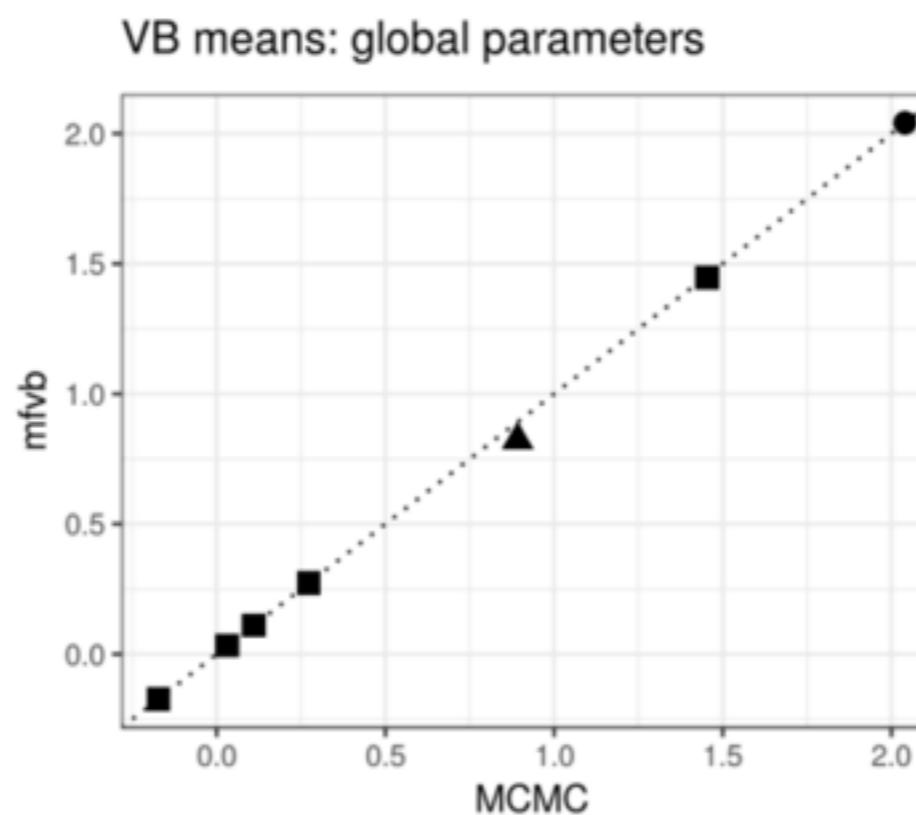
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VB + LRVB:
553 sec
(9.2 min)

Criteo Online Ads Experiment

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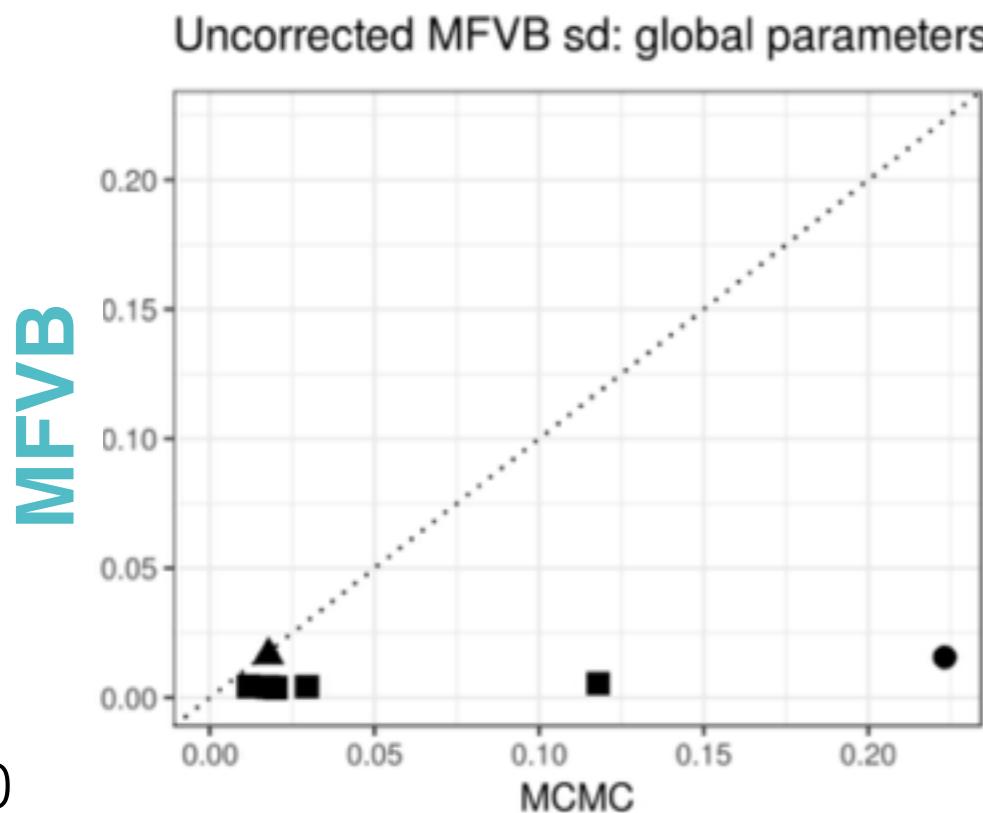
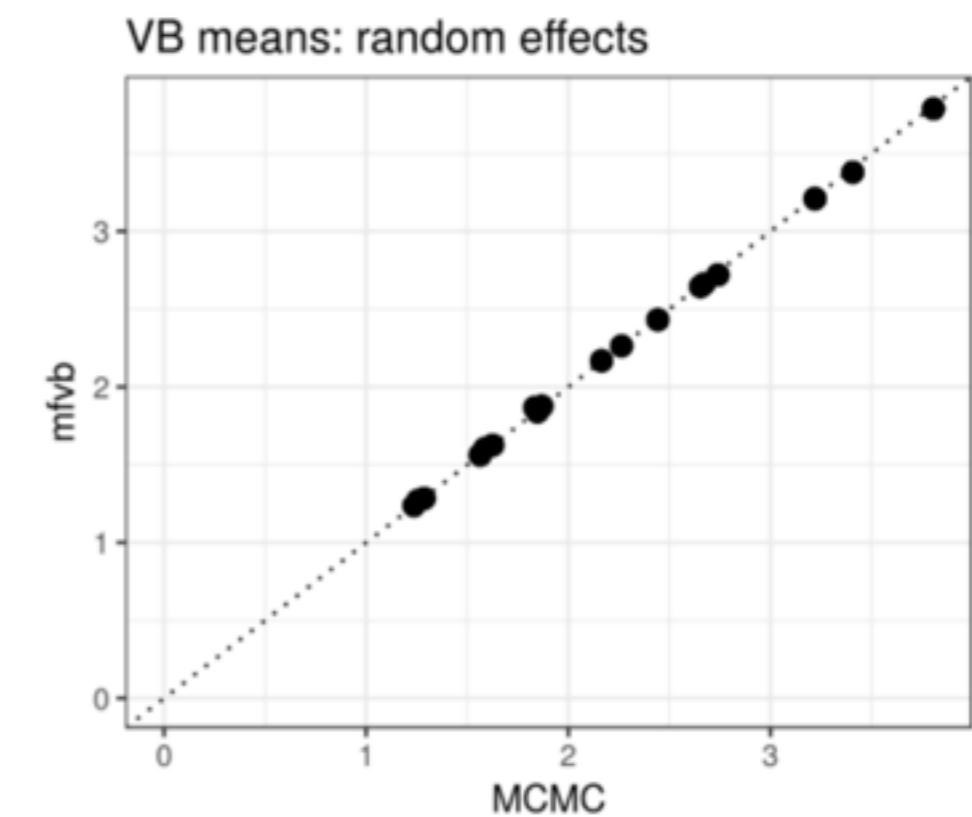
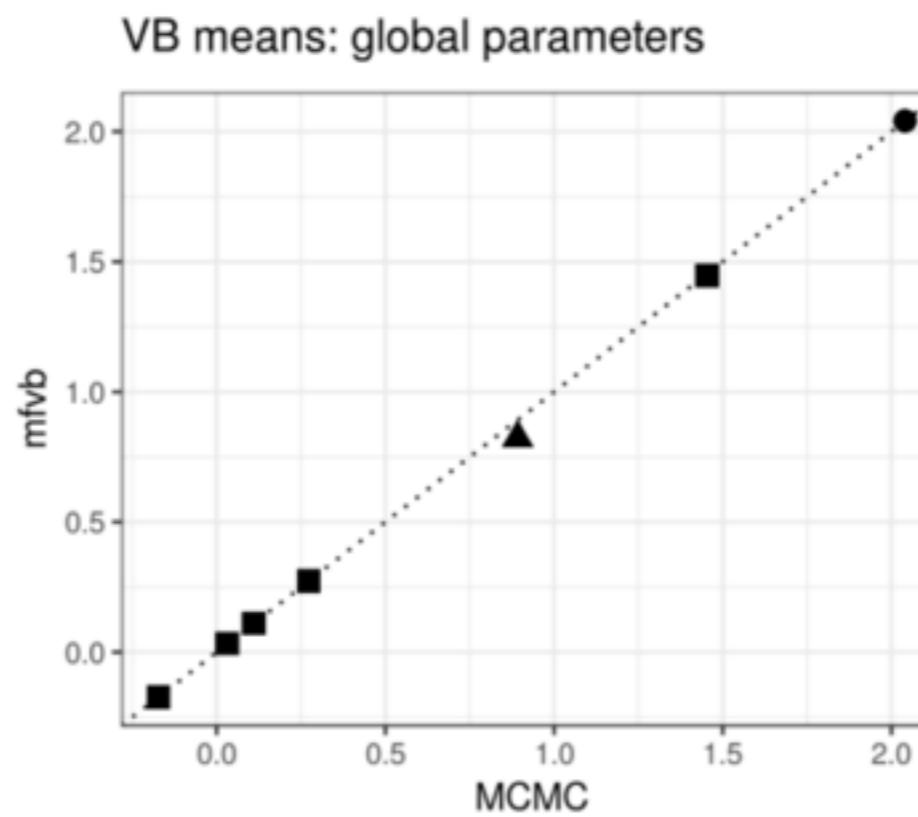
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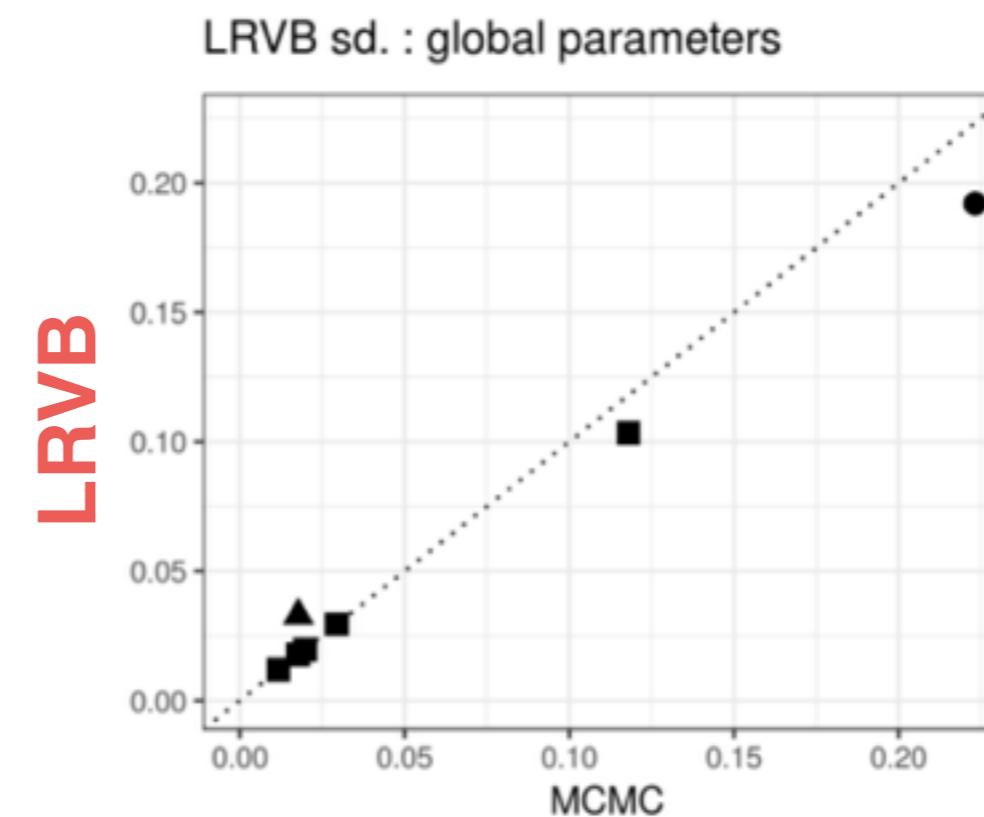
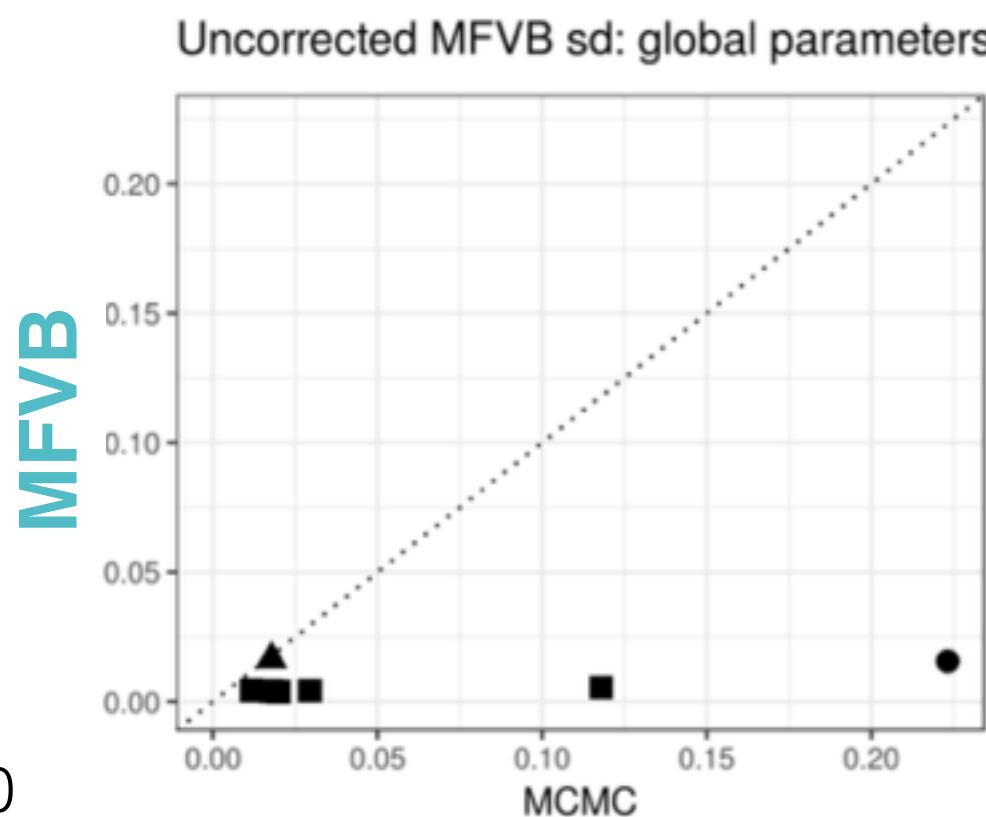
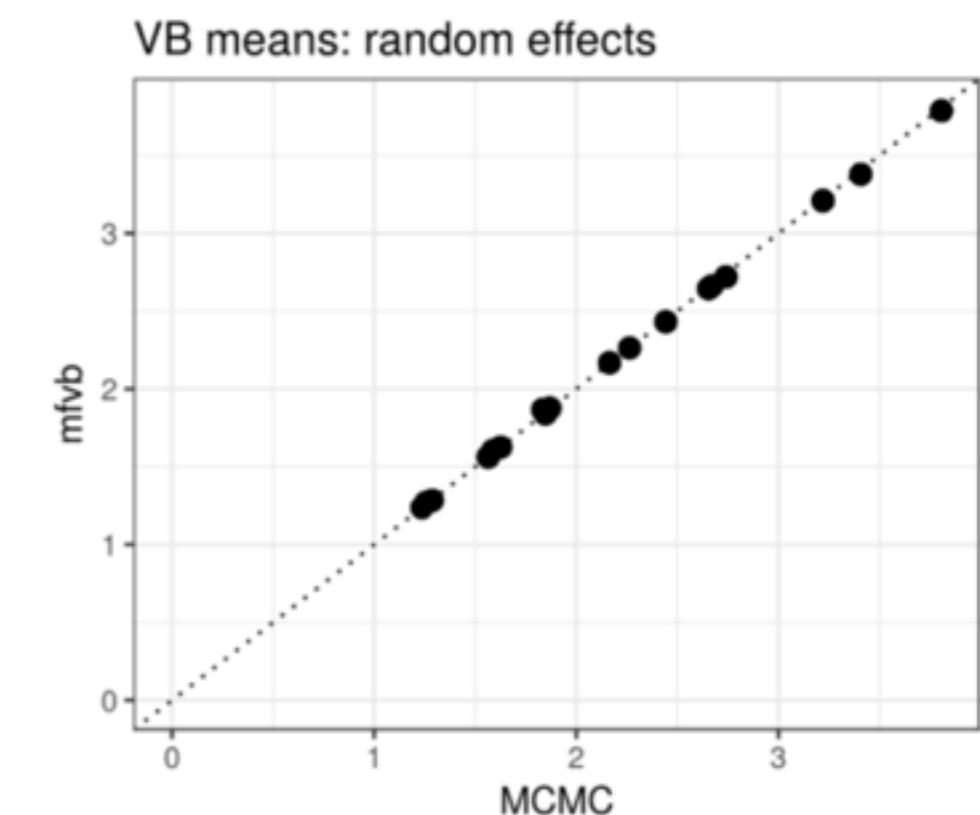
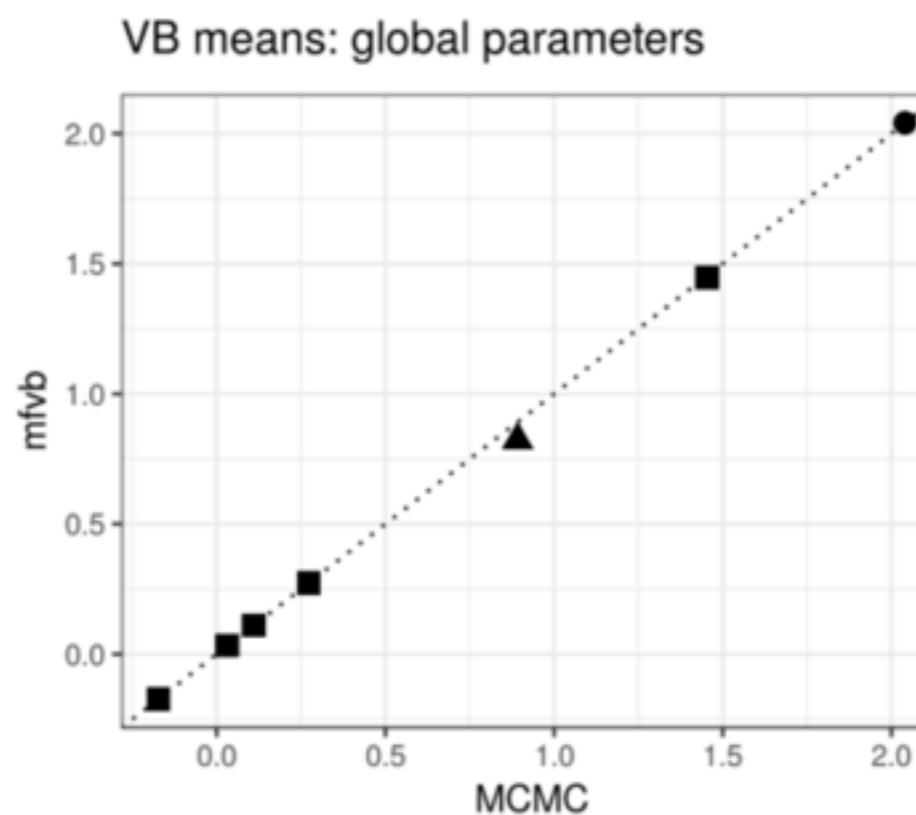
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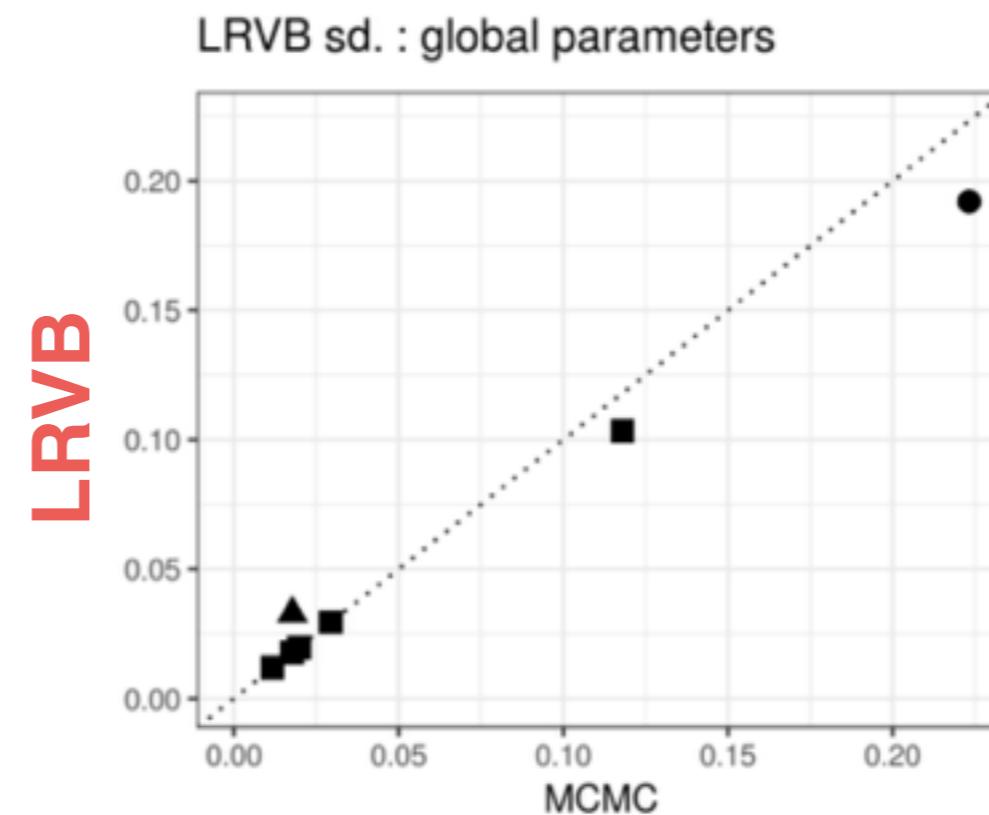
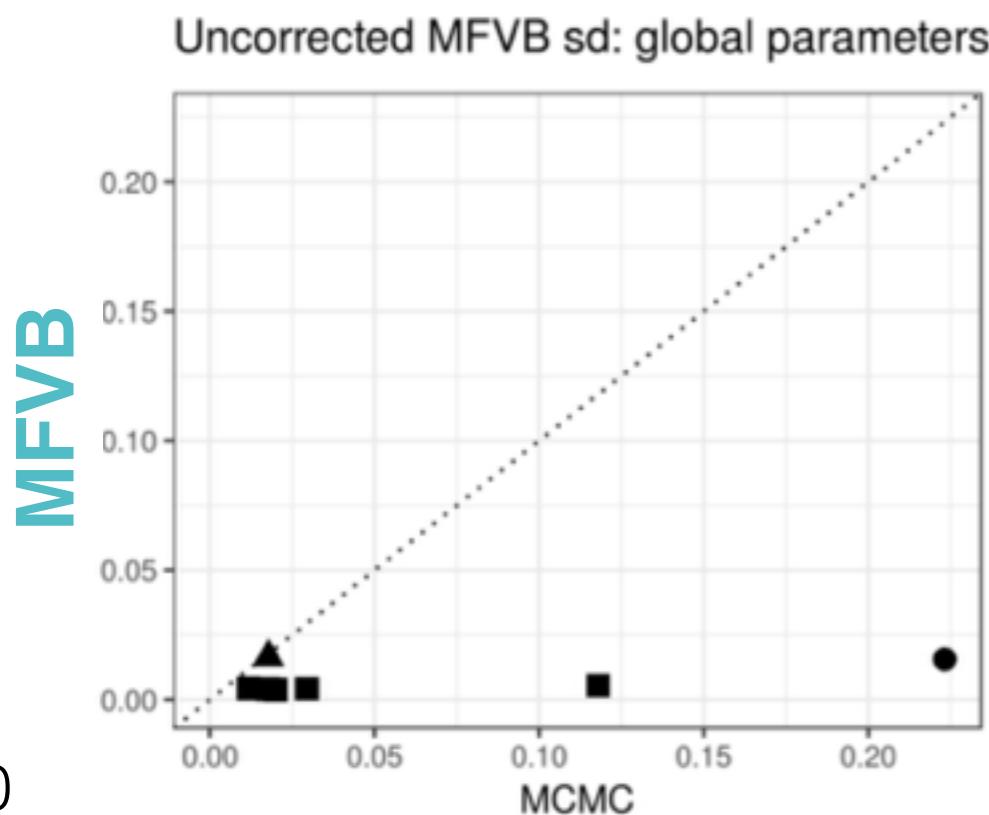
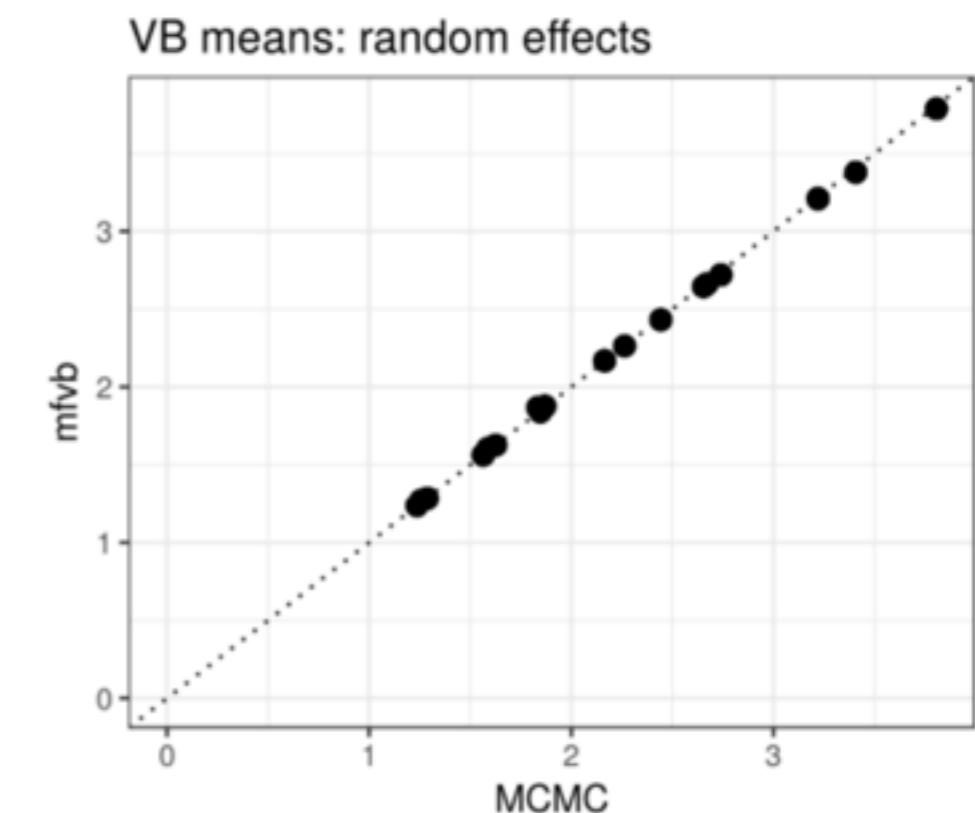
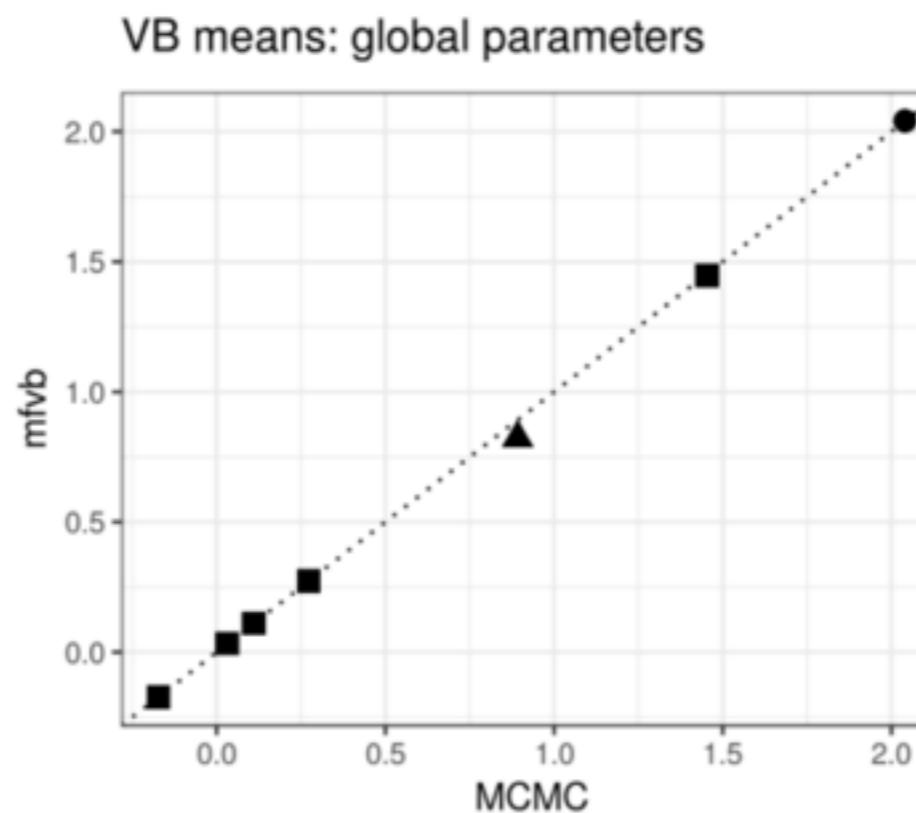
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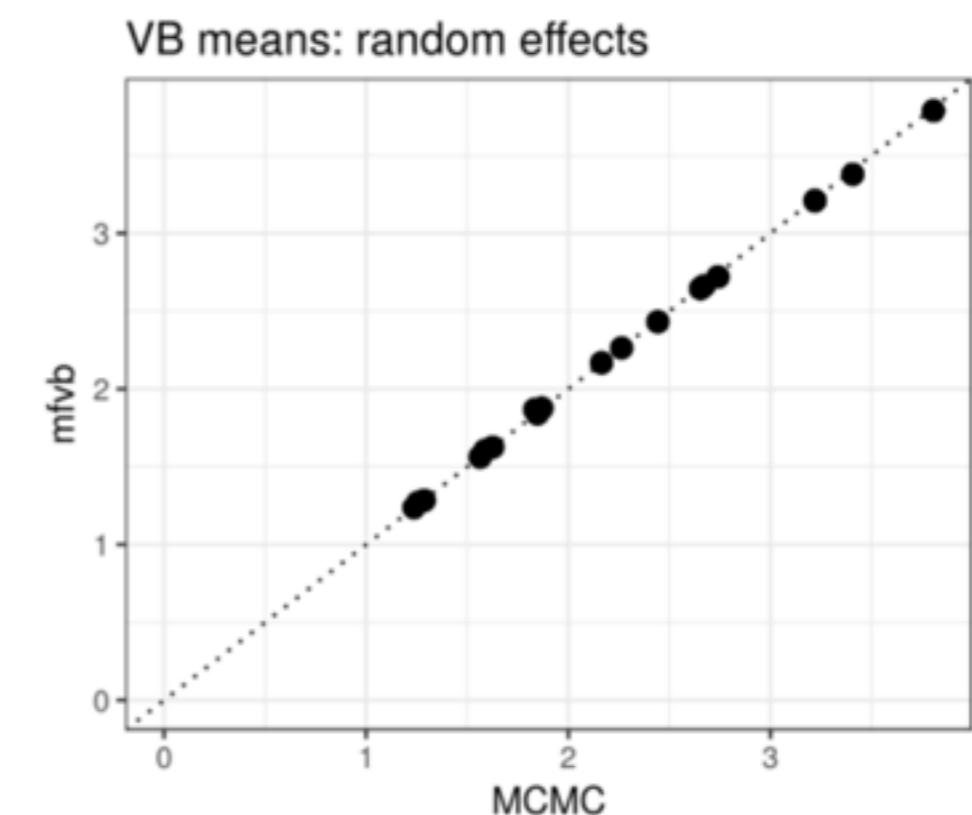
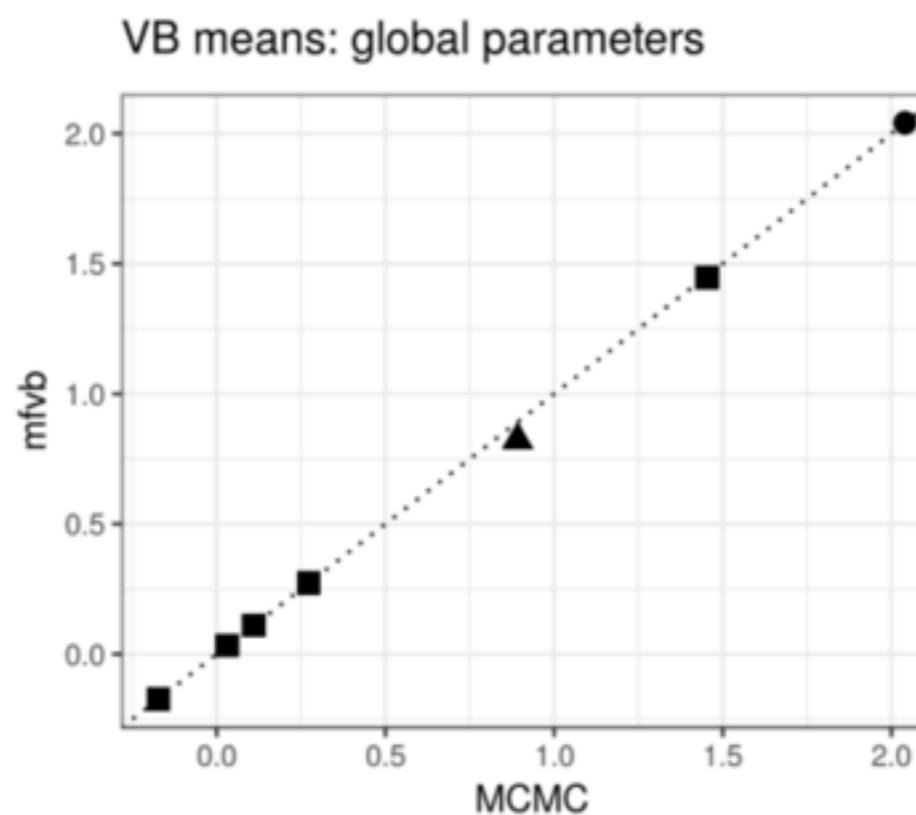
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Also good random effects sd and covariances

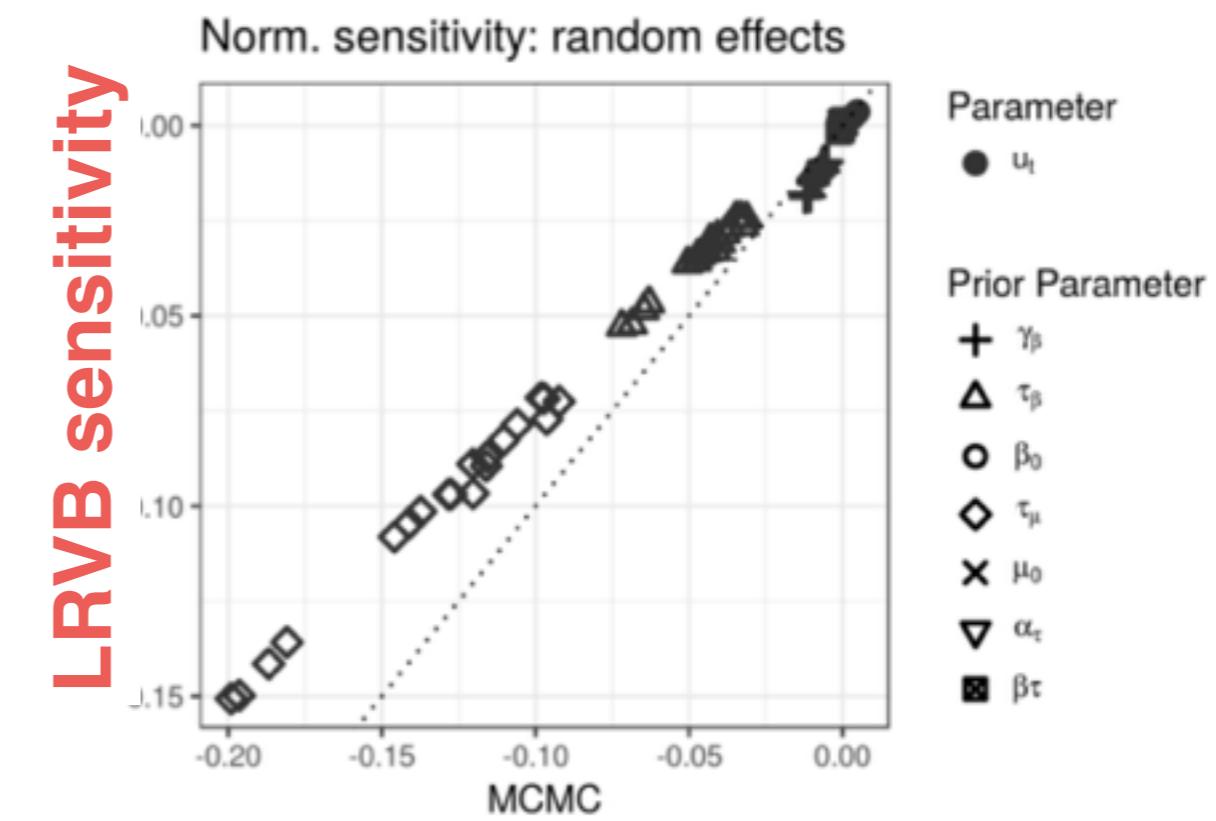
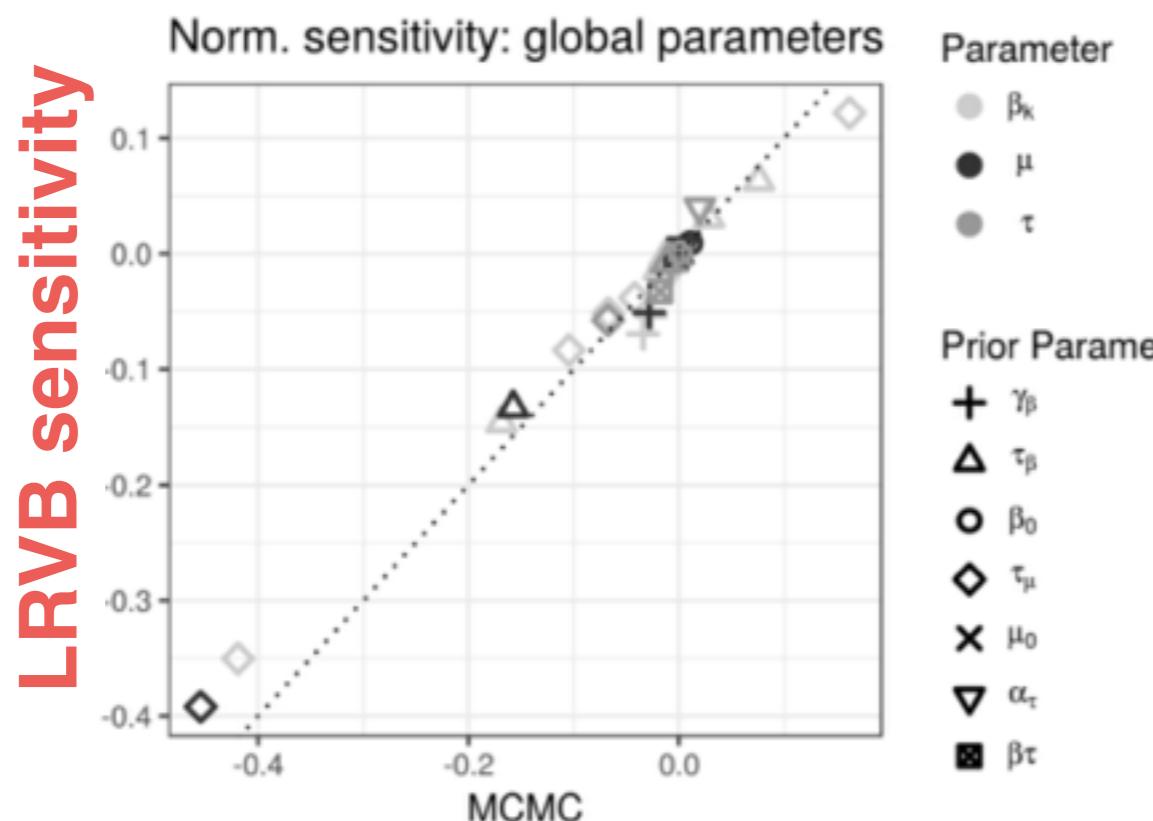
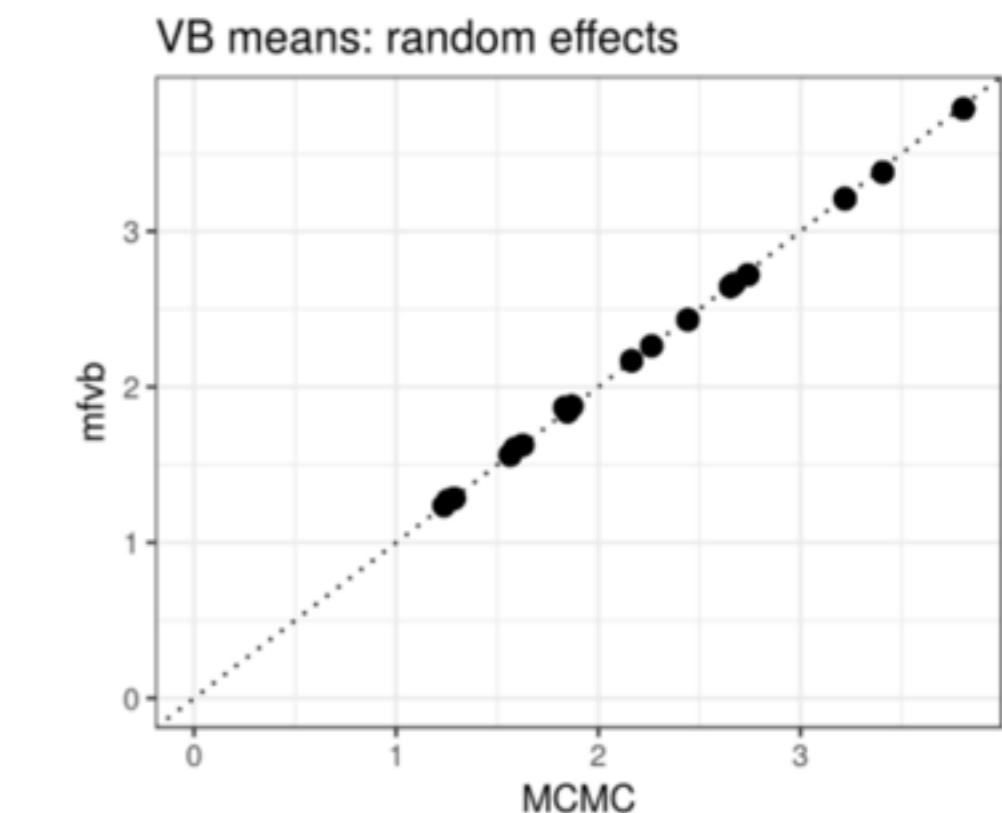
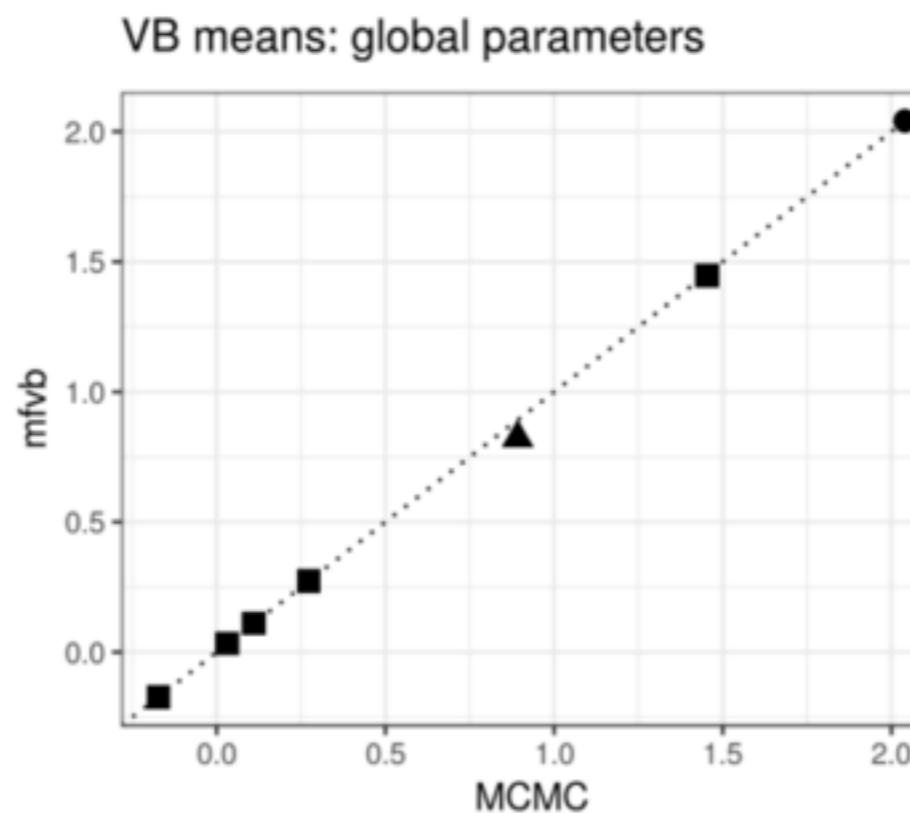
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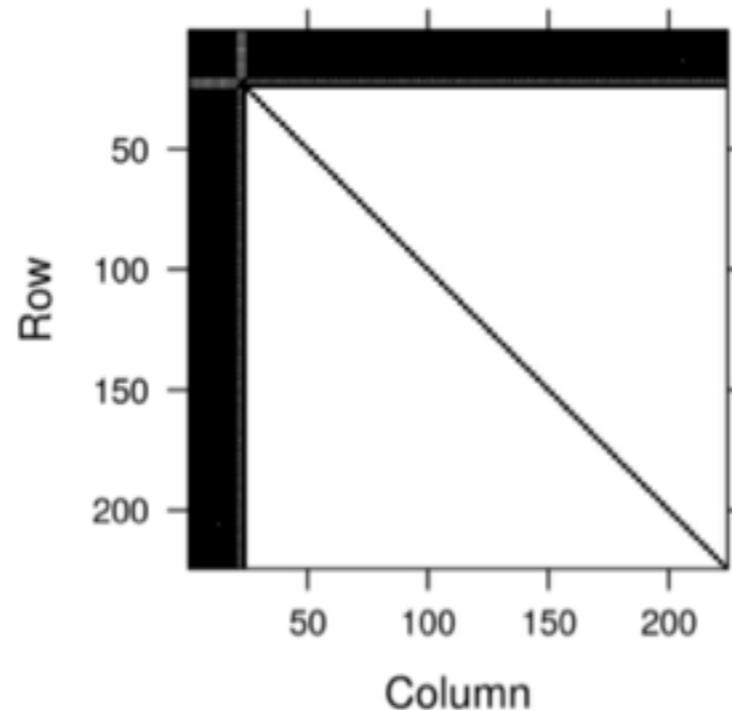
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Computational complexity

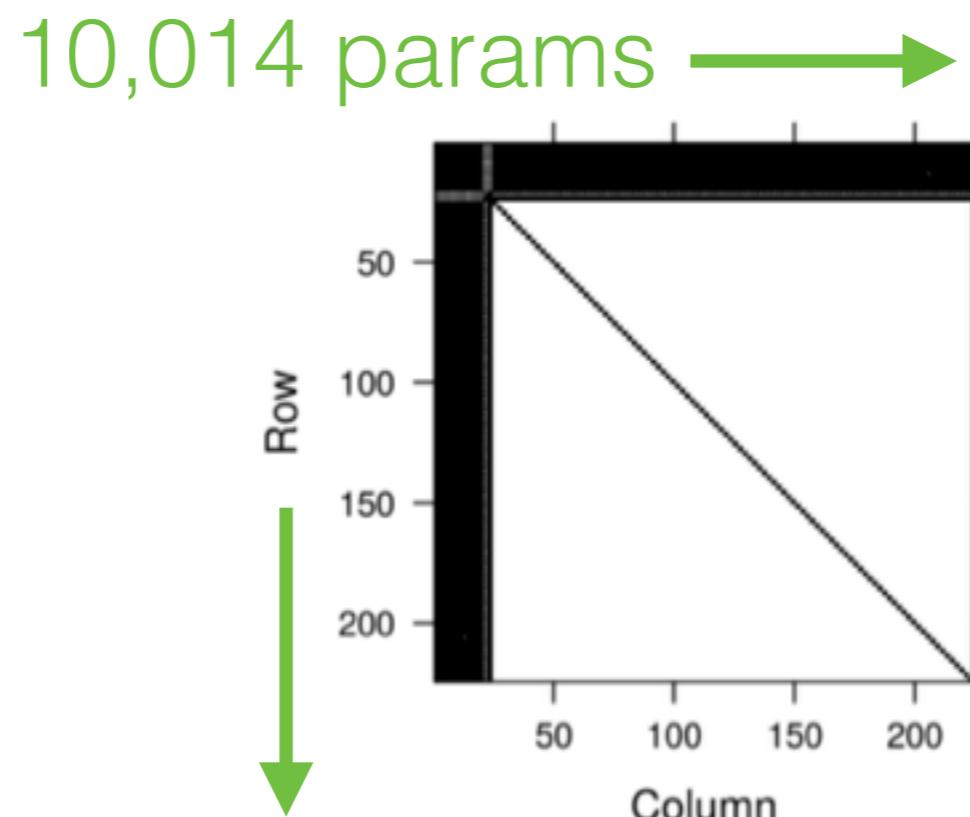
Computational complexity

- Top left submatrix for Criteo analysis



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Posterior means: revisited

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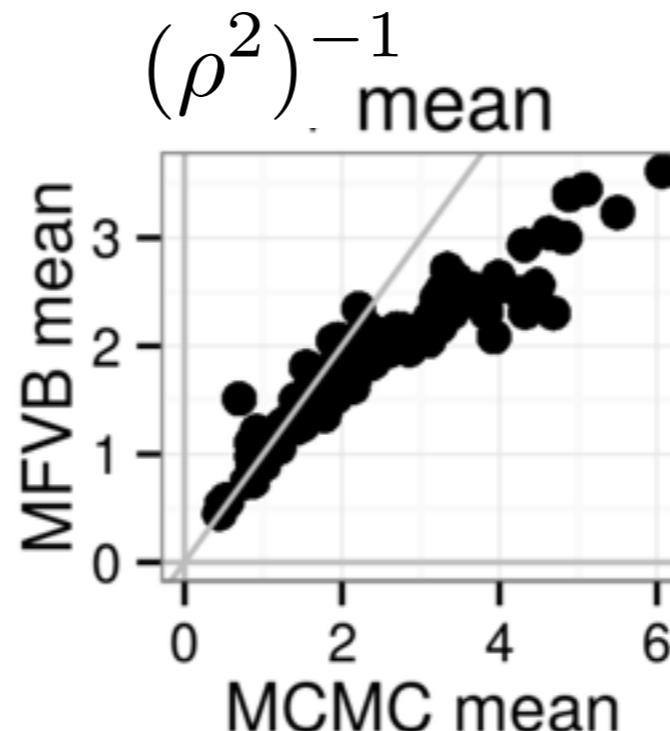
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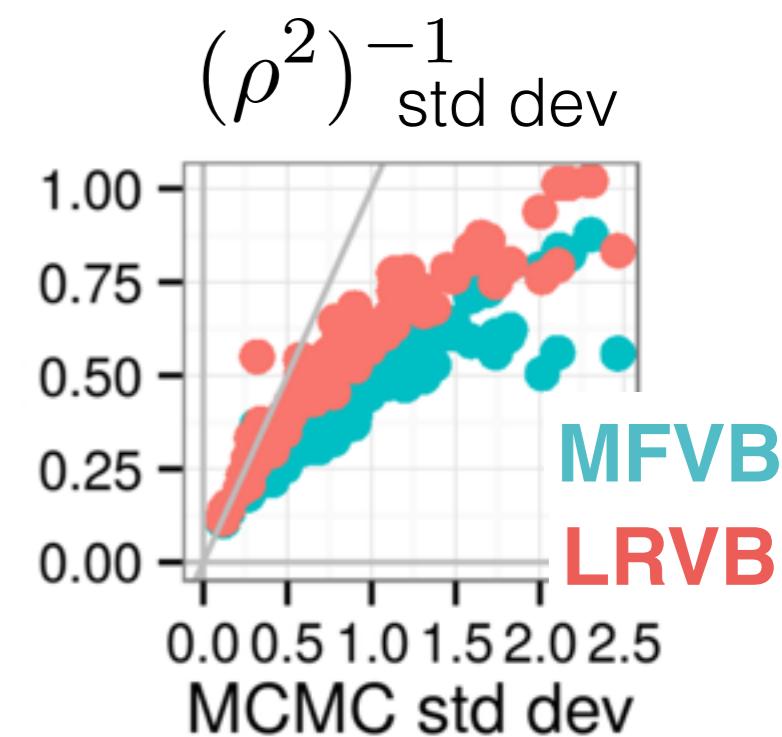
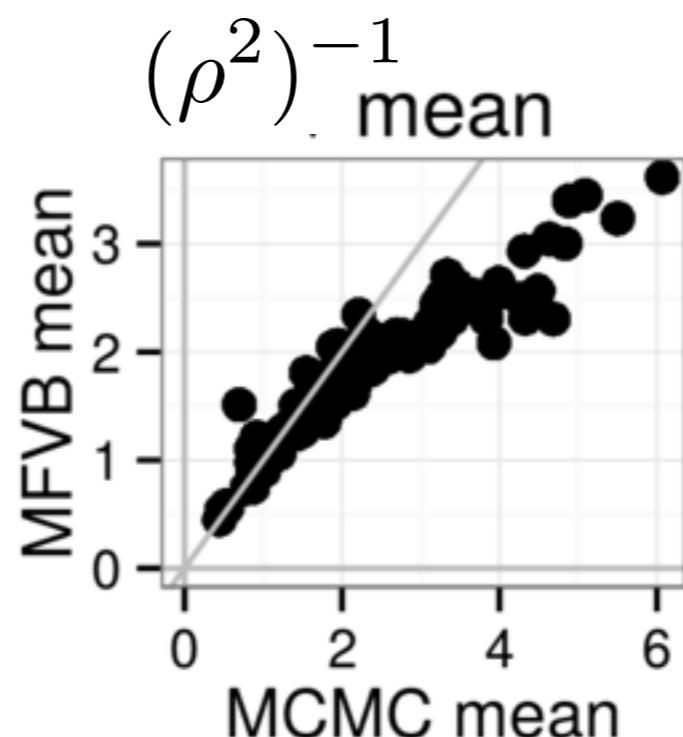
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 - Fast **robustness** quantification
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- When can we trust LRVB?
- Data summarization for scalability (Next part)

References (1/2)

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