

# Fast Robustness Quantification with Variational Bayes

Tamara Broderick  
ITT Career Development  
Assistant Professor,  
MIT

With: Ryan Giordano, Rachael Meager, Jonathan Huggins, Michael I. Jordan

- Bayesian inference

- Bayesian inference
  - Complex, modular models

- Bayesian inference
  - Complex, modular models; posterior distribution

- Bayesian inference  $p(\theta)$ 
  - Complex, modular models; posterior distribution

- Bayesian inference  $p(x|\theta)p(\theta)$ 
  - Complex, modular models; posterior distribution

- Bayesian inference  $p(\theta|x) \propto_{\theta} p(x|\theta)p(\theta)$ 
  - Complex, modular models; posterior distribution

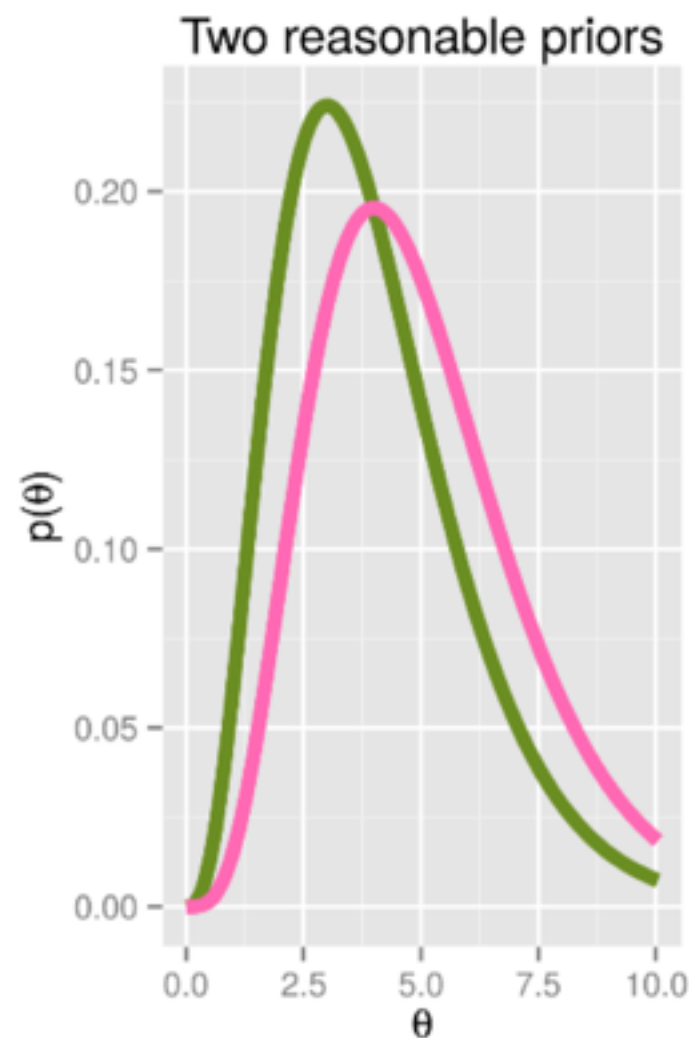
- Bayesian inference  $p(\theta|x) \propto_{\theta} p(x|\theta)p(\theta)$ 
  - Complex, modular models; posterior distribution
- Have to express prior beliefs in a distribution: challenges



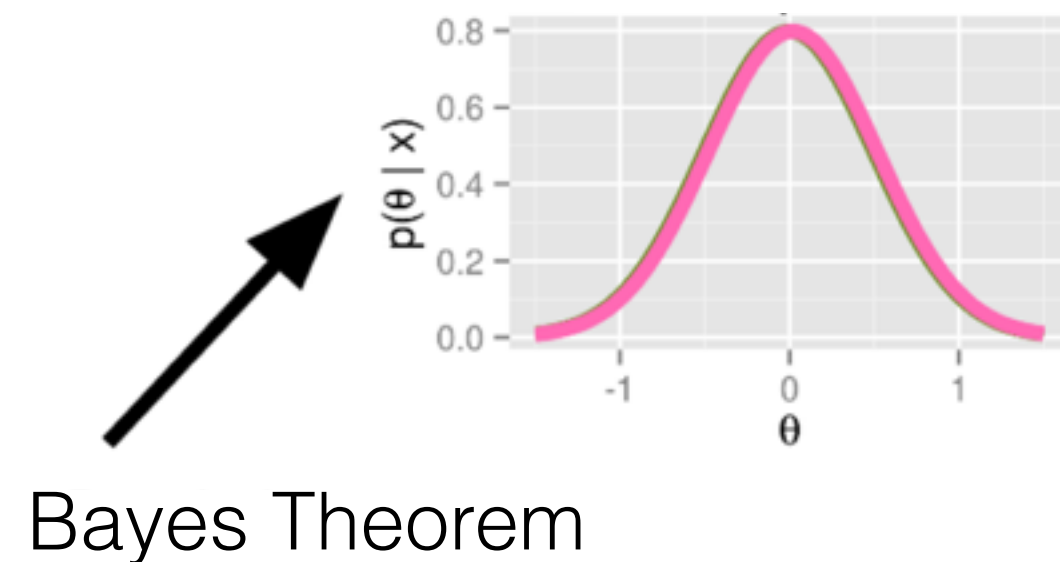
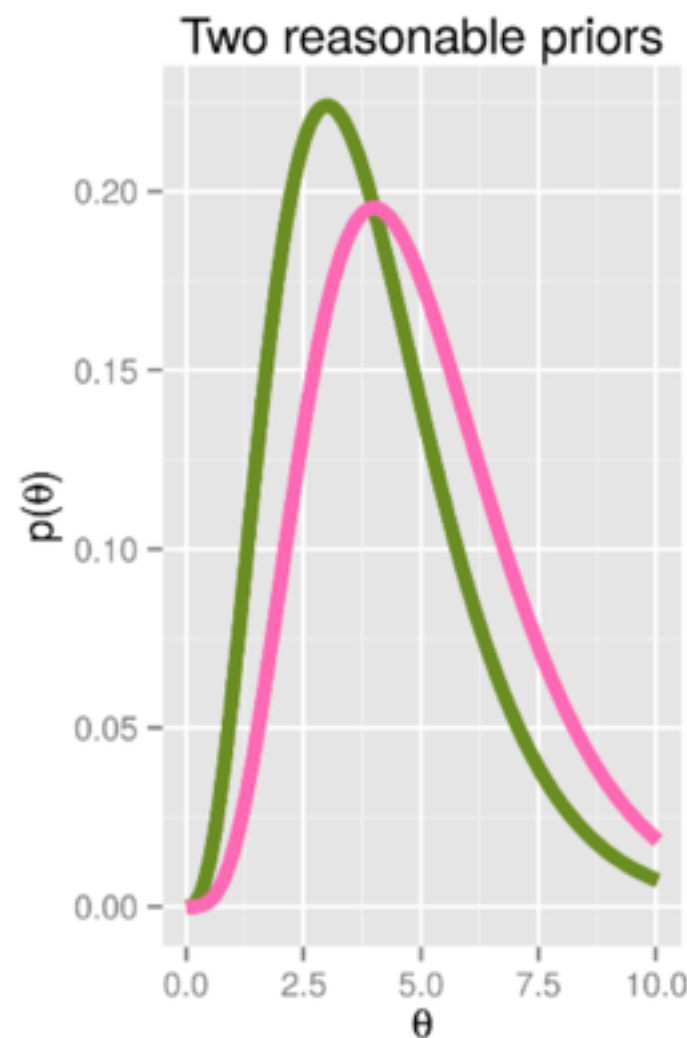
- Bayesian inference  $p(\theta|x) \propto_{\theta} p(x|\theta)p(\theta)$ 
  - Complex, modular models; posterior distribution
- Have to express prior beliefs in a distribution: challenges
  - Time-consuming

- Bayesian inference  $p(\theta|x) \propto_{\theta} p(x|\theta)p(\theta)$ 
  - Complex, modular models; posterior distribution
- Have to express prior beliefs in a distribution: challenges
  - Time-consuming; subjective

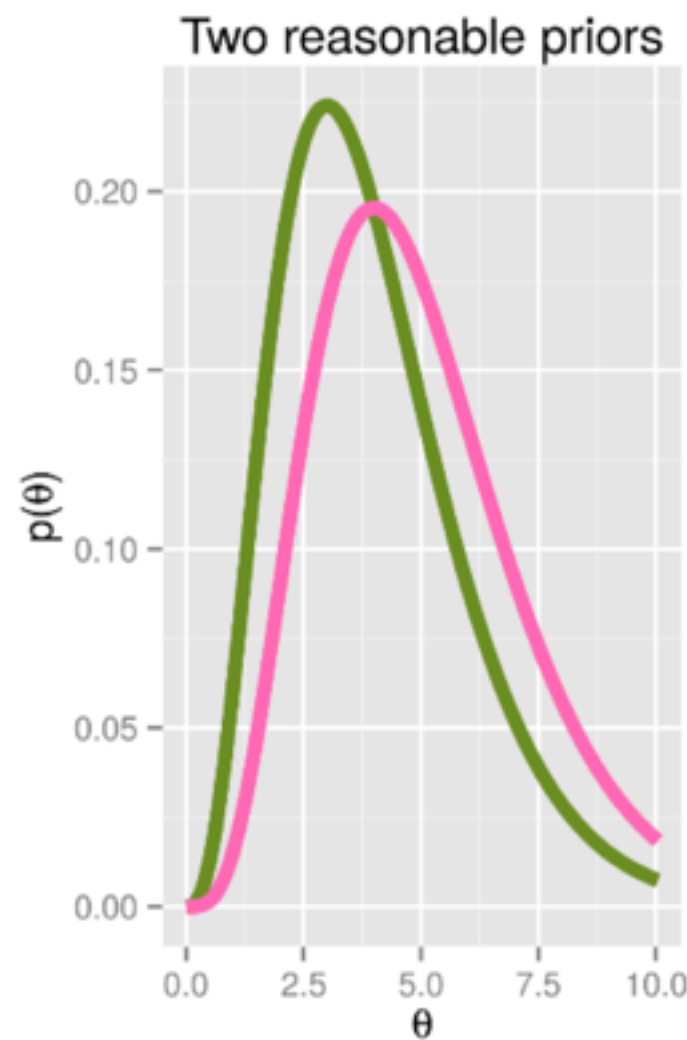
- Bayesian inference  $p(\theta|x) \propto_{\theta} p(x|\theta)p(\theta)$ 
  - Complex, modular models; posterior distribution
- Have to express prior beliefs in a distribution: challenges
  - Time-consuming; subjective



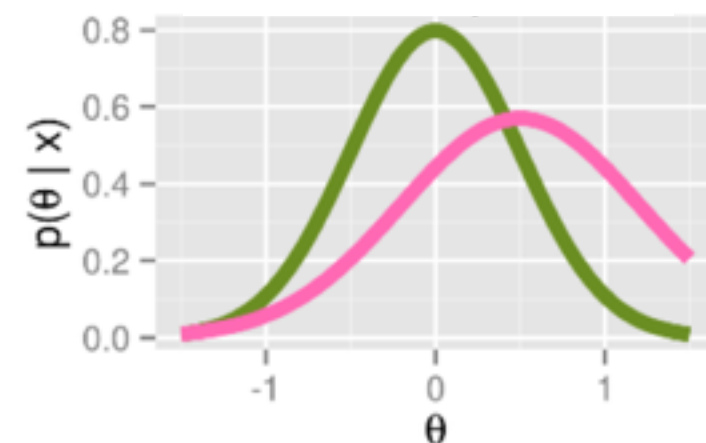
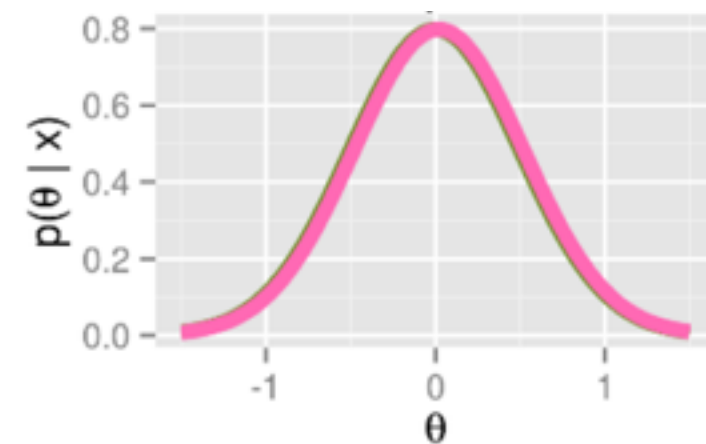
- Bayesian inference  $p(\theta|x) \propto_{\theta} p(x|\theta)p(\theta)$ 
  - Complex, modular models; posterior distribution
- Have to express prior beliefs in a distribution: challenges
  - Time-consuming; subjective



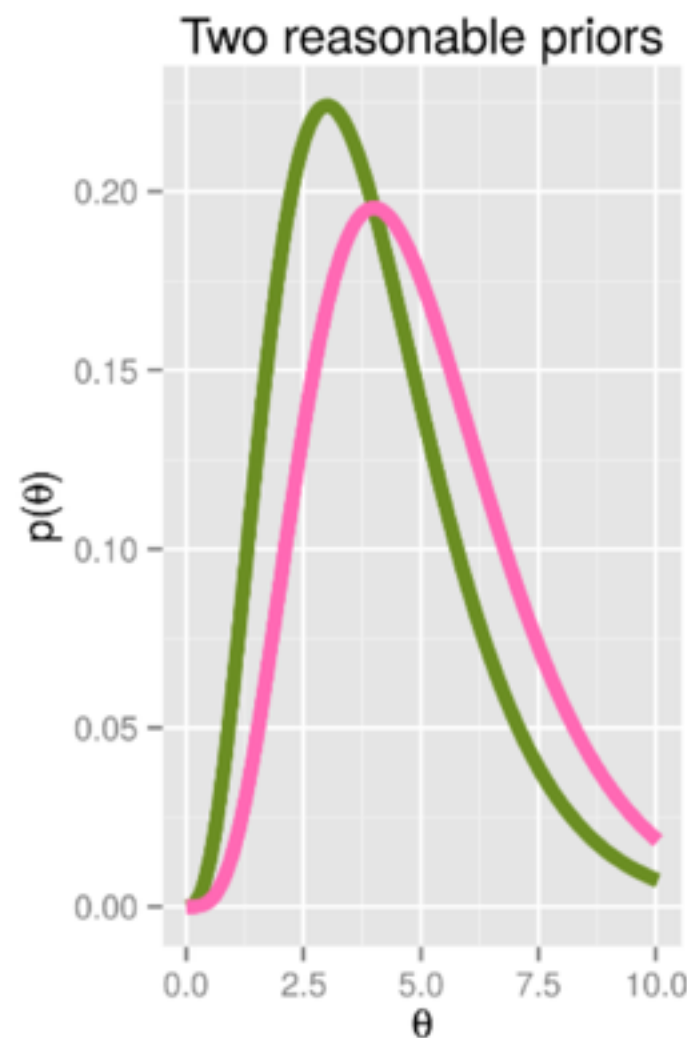
- Bayesian inference  $p(\theta|x) \propto_{\theta} p(x|\theta)p(\theta)$ 
  - Complex, modular models; posterior distribution
- Have to express prior beliefs in a distribution: challenges
  - Time-consuming; subjective



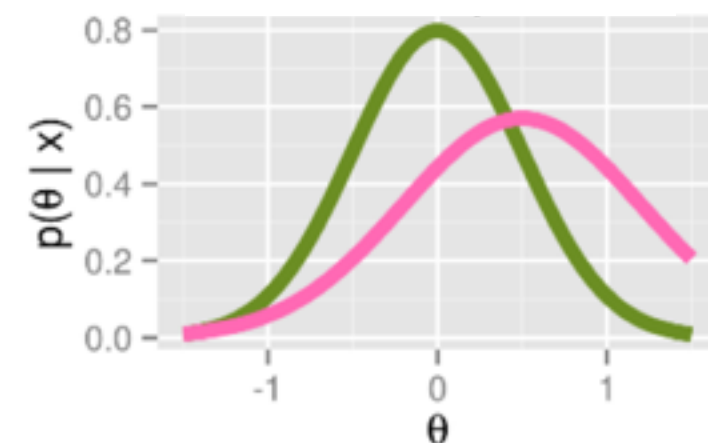
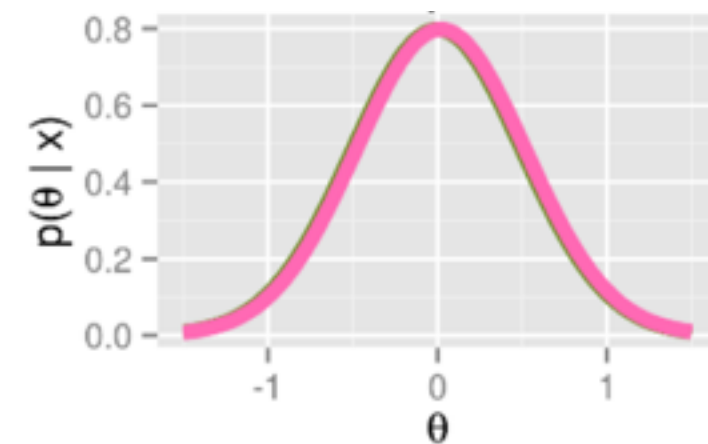
Bayes Theorem



- Bayesian inference  $p(\theta|x) \propto_{\theta} p(x|\theta)p(\theta)$ 
  - Complex, modular models; posterior distribution
- Have to express prior beliefs in a distribution: challenges
  - Time-consuming; subjective; complex models

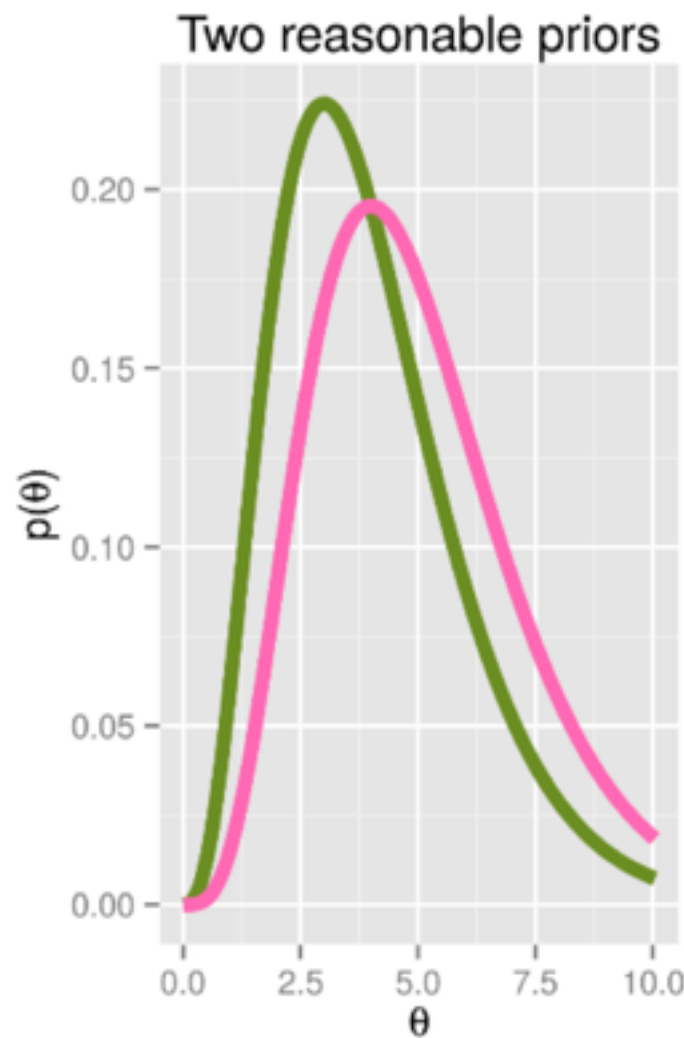


Bayes Theorem

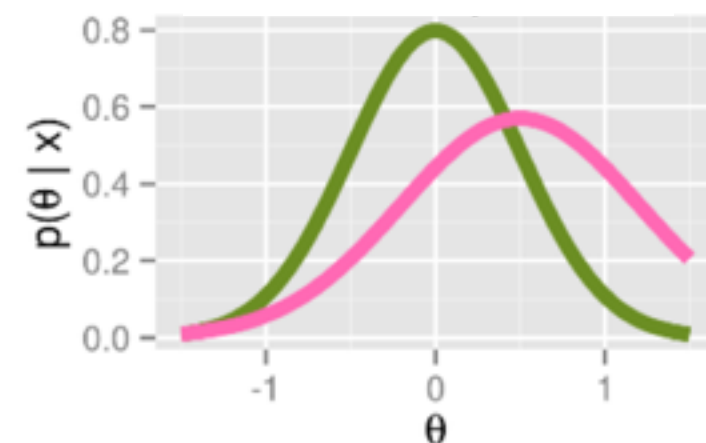
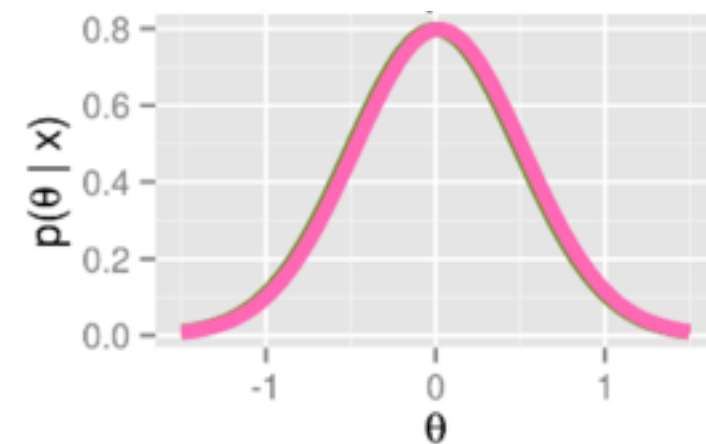


# Robustness quantification

- Bayesian inference  $p(\theta|x) \propto_{\theta} p(x|\theta)p(\theta)$ 
  - Complex, modular models; posterior distribution
- Have to express prior beliefs in a distribution: challenges
  - Time-consuming; subjective; complex models

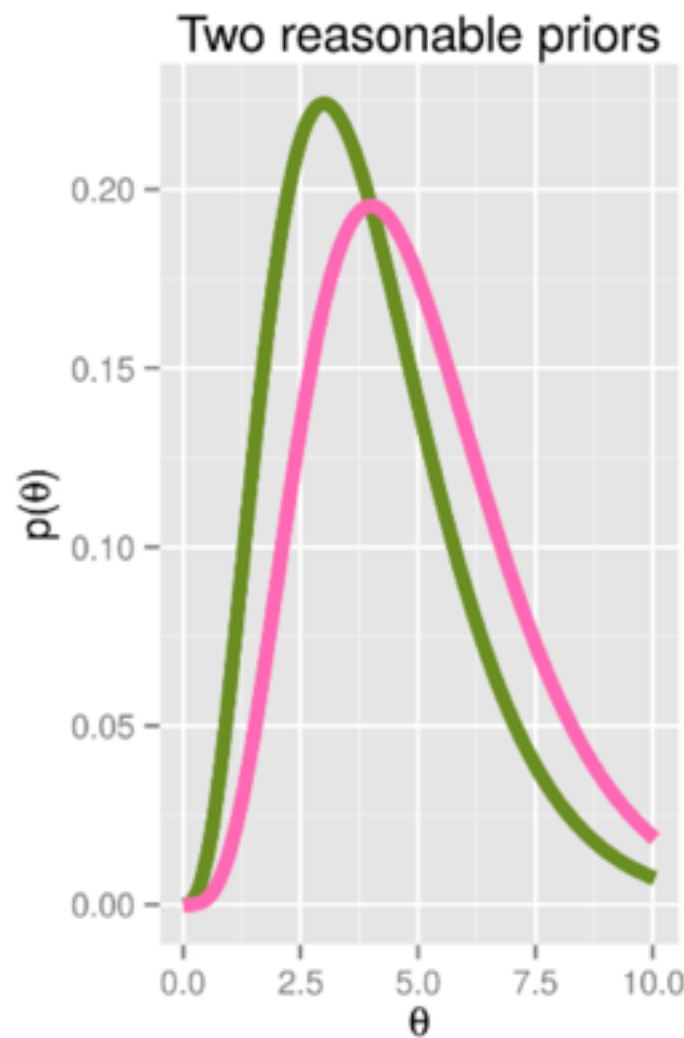


Bayes Theorem

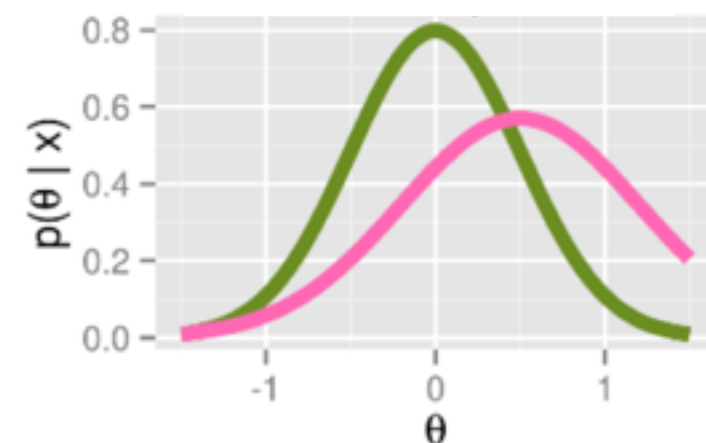
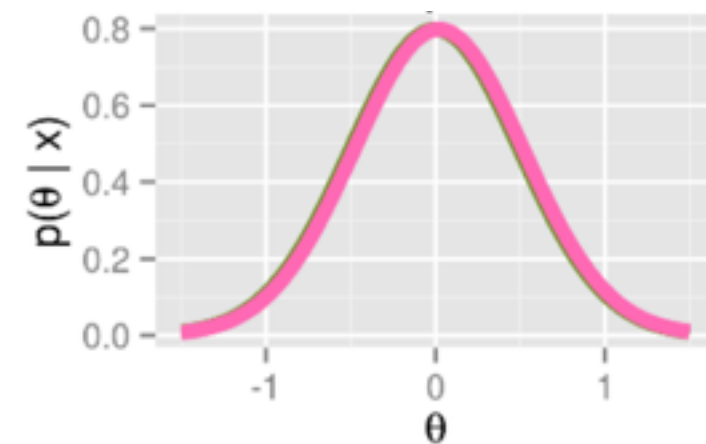


# Robustness quantification

- Bayesian inference  $p(\theta|x) \propto_{\theta} p(x|\theta)p(\theta)$ 
  - Complex, modular models; posterior distribution
- Have to express prior beliefs in a distribution: challenges
  - Time-consuming; subjective; complex models
- Robustness



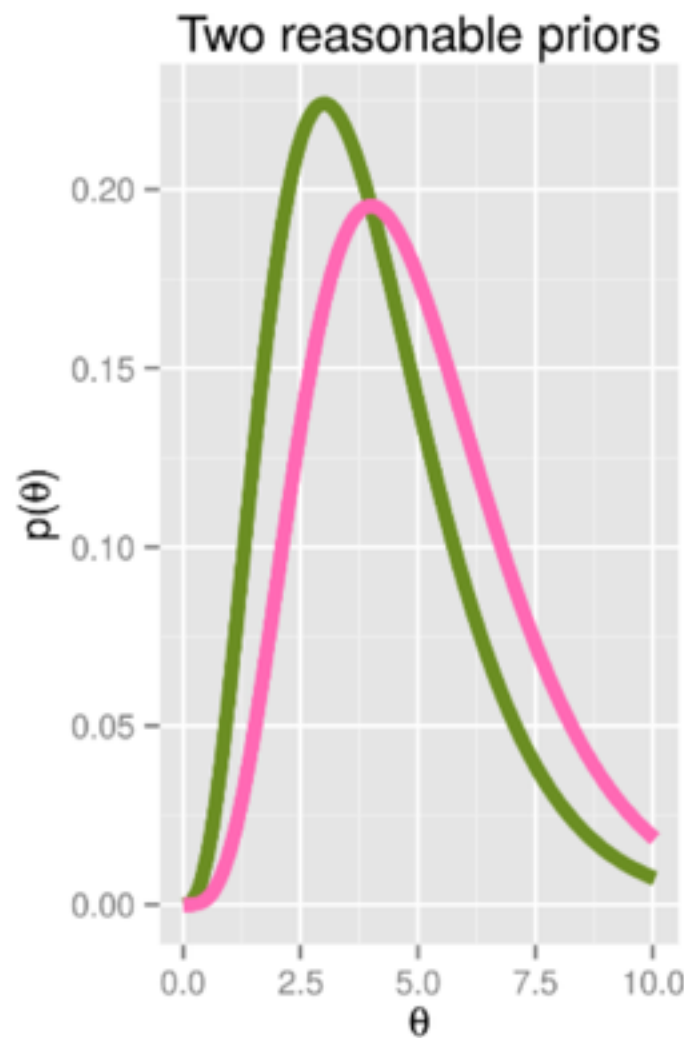
Bayes Theorem



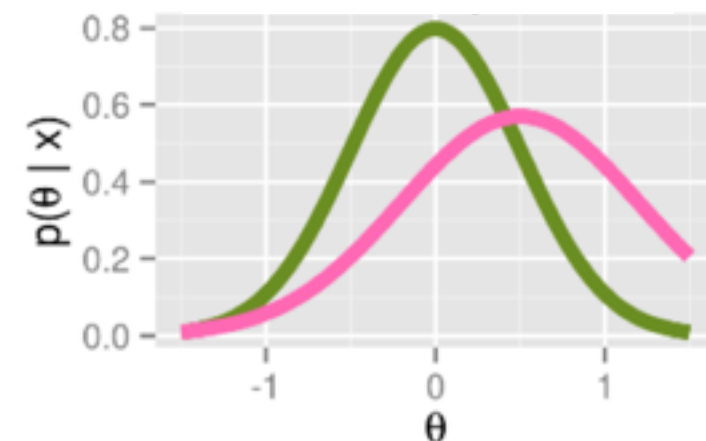
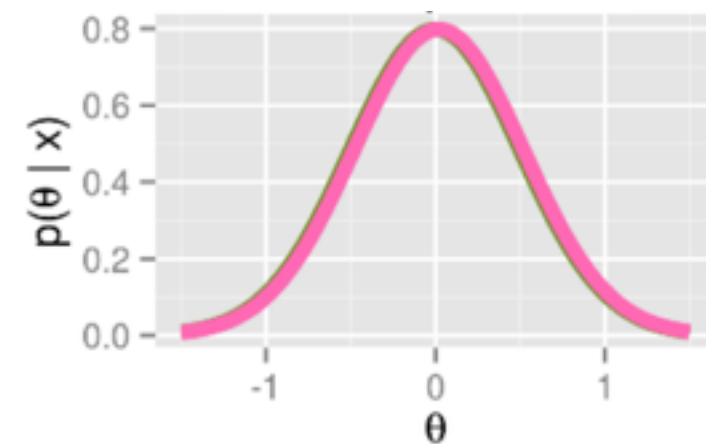


# Robustness quantification

- Bayesian inference  $p(\theta|x) \propto_{\theta} p(x|\theta)p(\theta)$ 
  - Complex, modular models; posterior distribution
- Have to express prior beliefs in a distribution: challenges
  - Time-consuming; subjective; complex models
- Robustness
  - Global & local

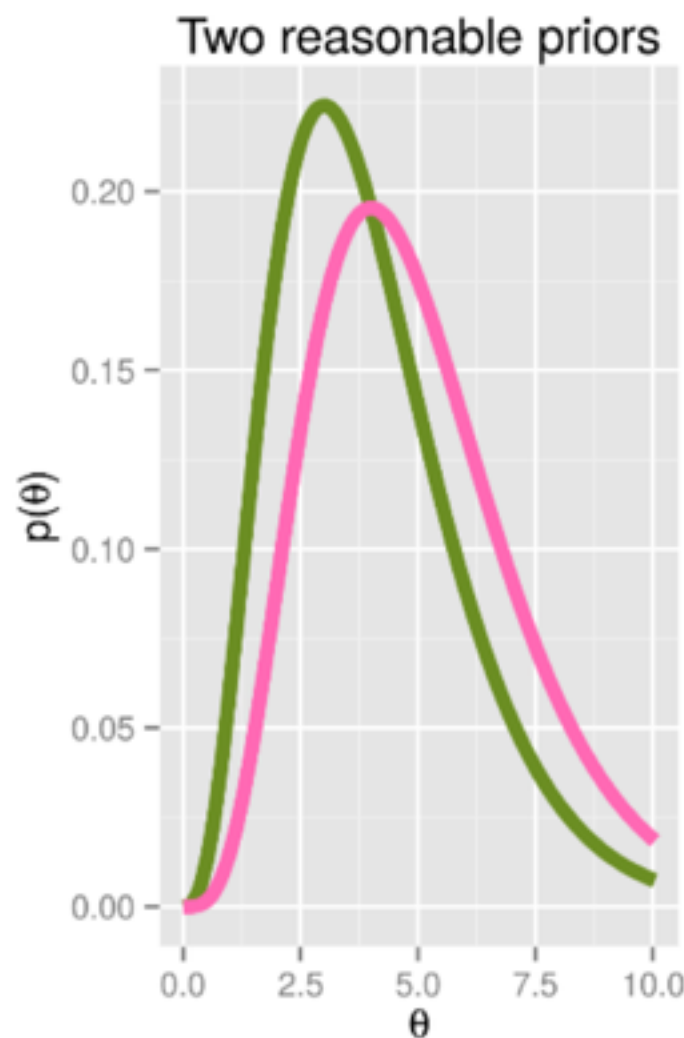


Bayes Theorem

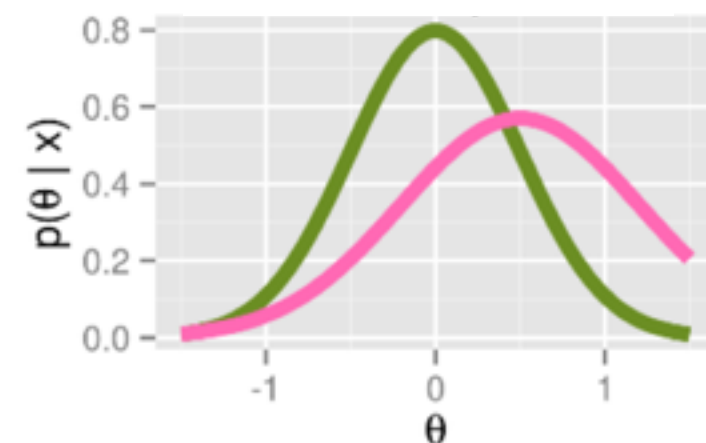
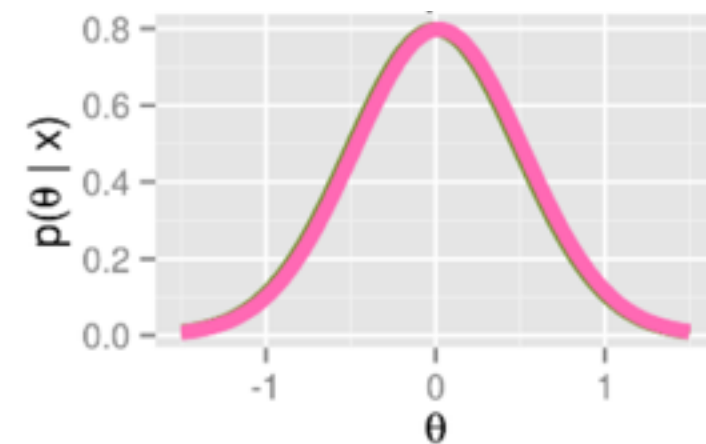


# Robustness quantification

- Bayesian inference  $p(\theta|x) \propto_{\theta} p(x|\theta)p(\theta)$ 
  - Complex, modular models; posterior distribution
- Have to express prior beliefs in a distribution: challenges
  - Time-consuming; subjective; complex models
- Robustness
  - Global & local
  - Rarely used

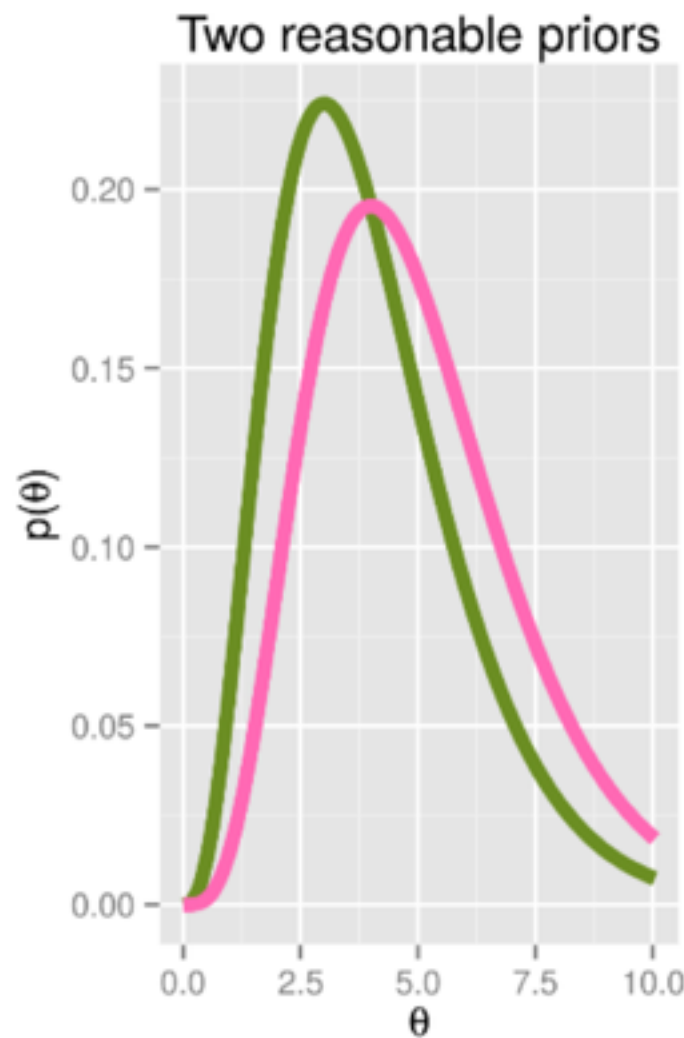


Bayes Theorem

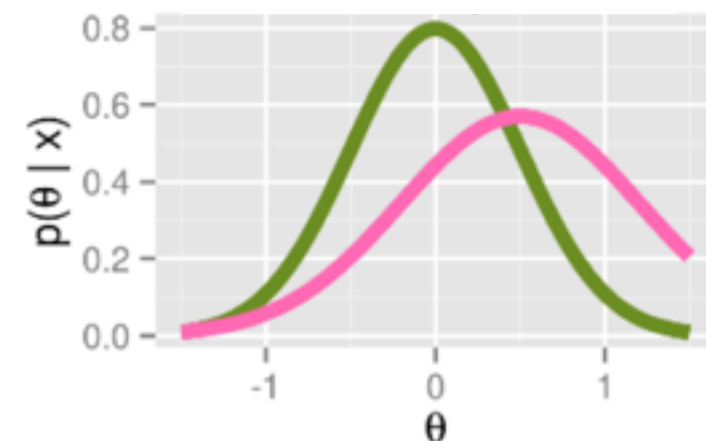
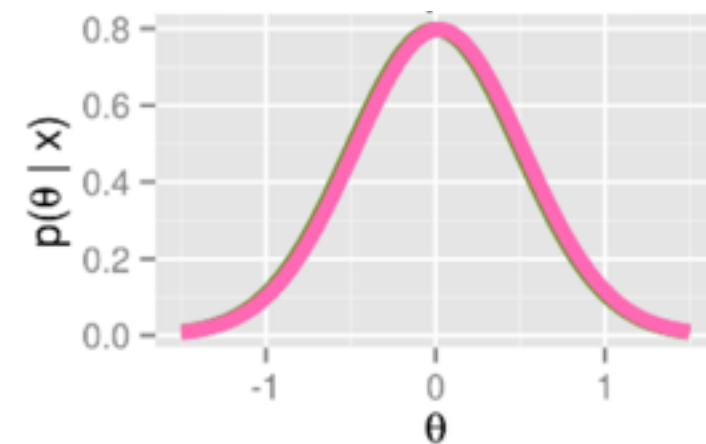


# Robustness quantification

- Bayesian inference  $p(\theta|x) \propto_{\theta} p(x|\theta)p(\theta)$ 
  - Complex, modular models; posterior distribution
- Have to express prior beliefs in a distribution: challenges
  - Time-consuming; subjective; complex models
- Robustness
  - Global & local
  - Rarely used
  - Approximation

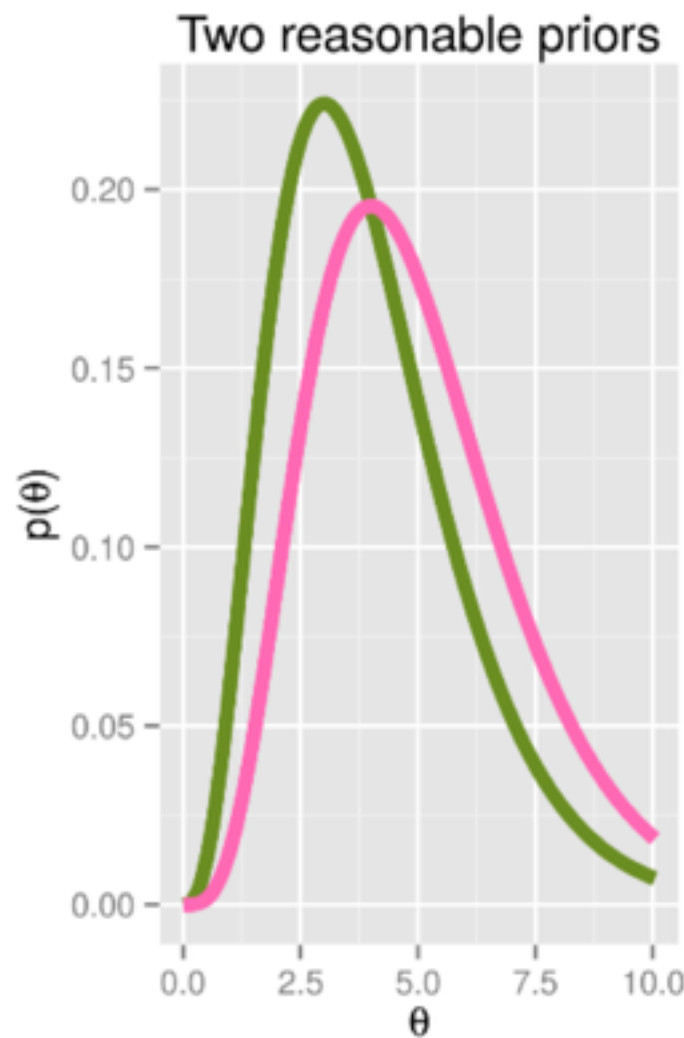


Bayes Theorem

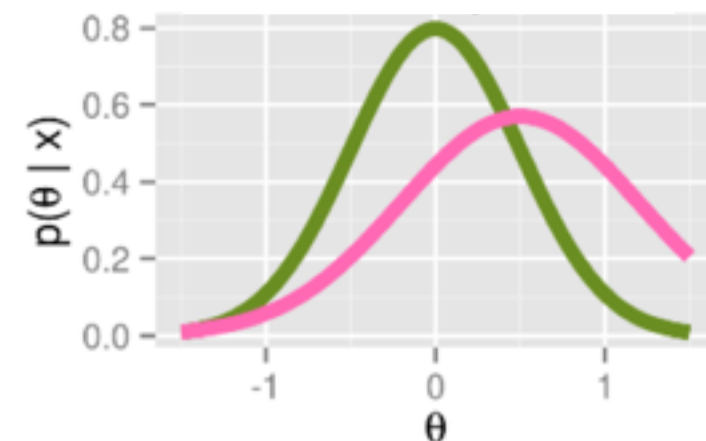
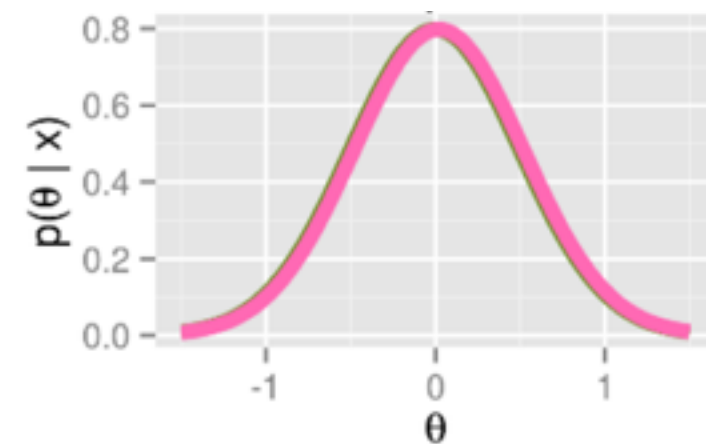


# Robustness quantification

- Bayesian inference  $p(\theta|x) \propto_{\theta} p(x|\theta)p(\theta)$ 
  - Complex, modular models; posterior distribution
- Have to express prior beliefs in a distribution: challenges
  - Time-consuming; subjective; complex models
- Robustness
  - Global & local
  - Rarely used
  - Approximation, MCMC

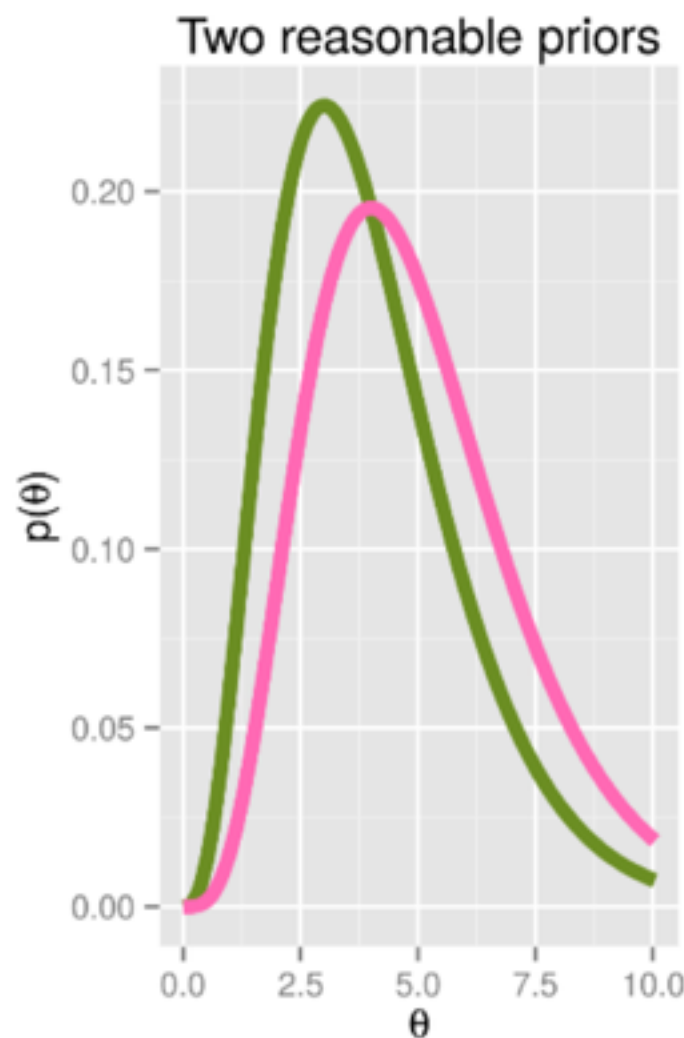


Bayes Theorem

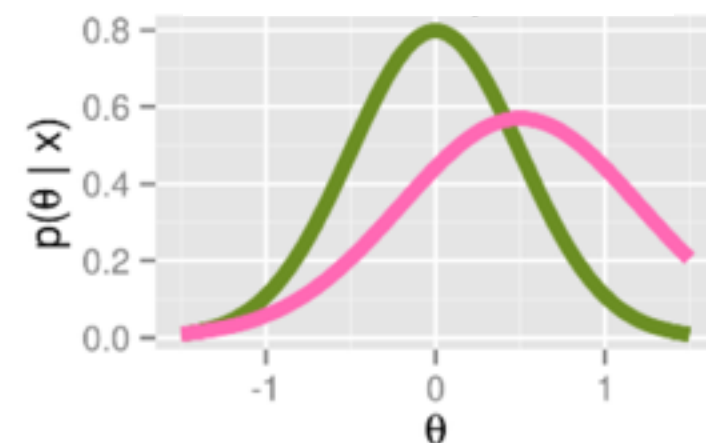
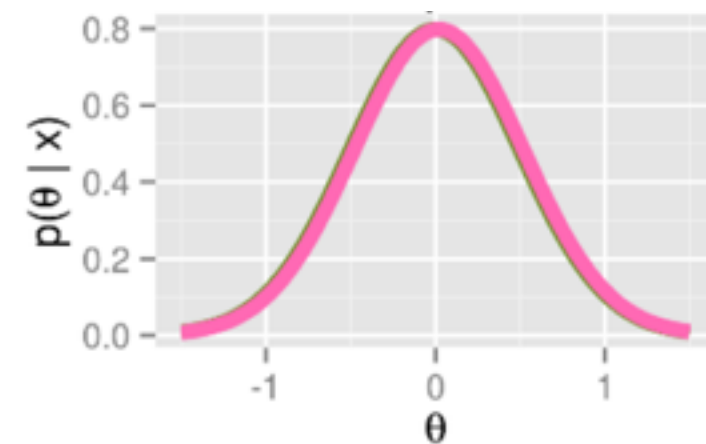


# Robustness quantification

- Bayesian inference  $p(\theta|x) \propto_{\theta} p(x|\theta)p(\theta)$ 
  - Complex, modular models; posterior distribution
- Have to express prior beliefs in a distribution: challenges
  - Time-consuming; subjective; complex models
- Robustness
  - Global & local
  - Rarely used
  - Approximation, MCMC
- Our solution:  
*variational Bayes*

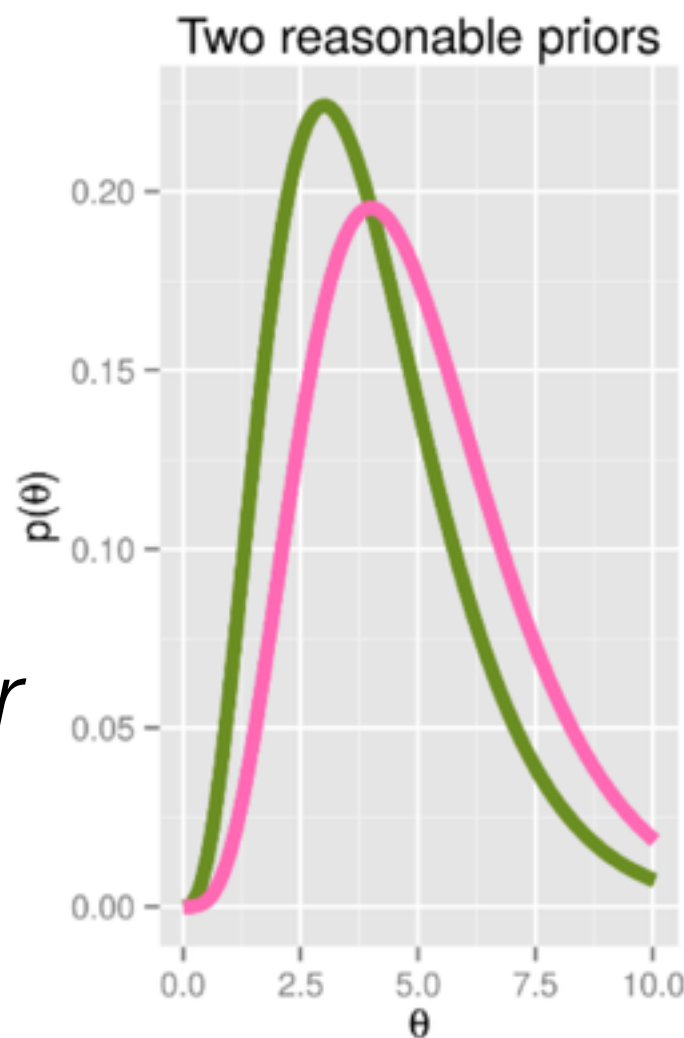


Bayes Theorem

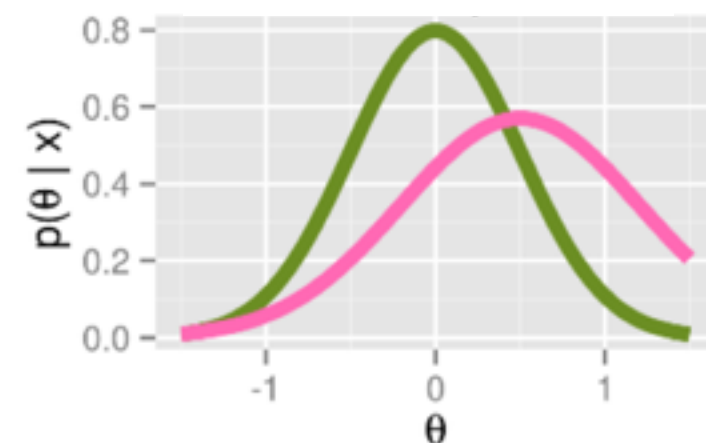
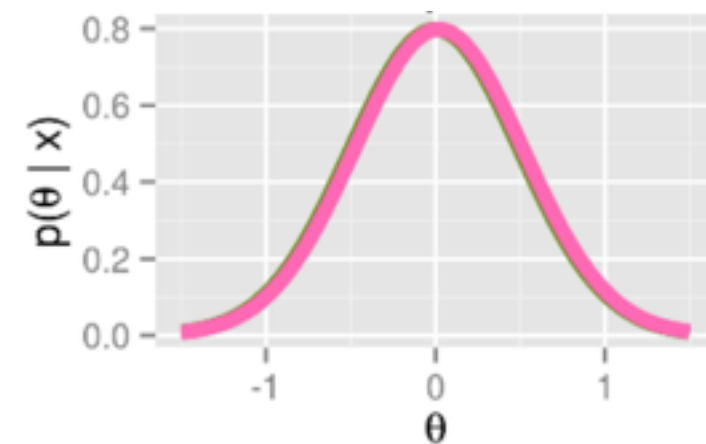


# Robustness quantification

- Bayesian inference  $p(\theta|x) \propto_{\theta} p(x|\theta)p(\theta)$ 
  - Complex, modular models; posterior distribution
- Have to express prior beliefs in a distribution: challenges
  - Time-consuming; subjective; complex models
- Robustness
  - Global & local
  - Rarely used
  - Approximation, MCMC
- Our solution: *linear response variational Bayes*



Bayes Theorem



# Robustness quantification

# Robustness quantification

- Variational Bayes as an alternative to MCMC



# Robustness quantification

- Variational Bayes as an alternative to MCMC
- Challenges of VB

# Robustness quantification

- Variational Bayes as an alternative to MCMC
- Challenges of VB
- Accurate uncertainties from VB

# Robustness quantification

- Variational Bayes as an alternative to MCMC
- Challenges of VB
- Accurate uncertainties from VB
- Accurate robustness quantification from VB

# Robustness quantification

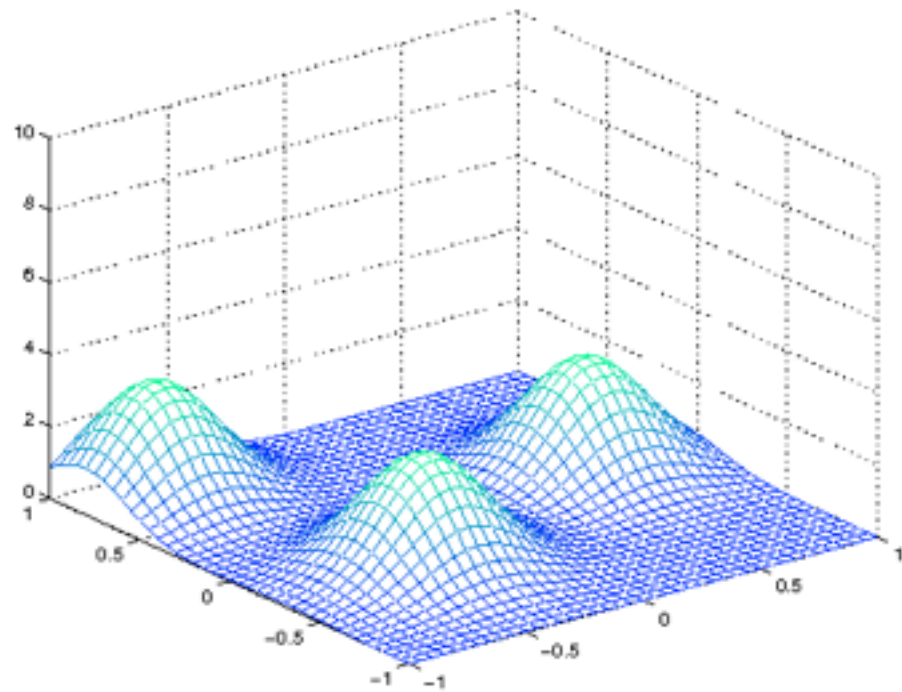
- Variational Bayes as an alternative to MCMC
- Challenges of VB
- Accurate uncertainties from VB
- Accurate robustness quantification from VB
- Big idea: derivatives/perturbations are easy in VB

# Variational Bayes

# Variational Bayes

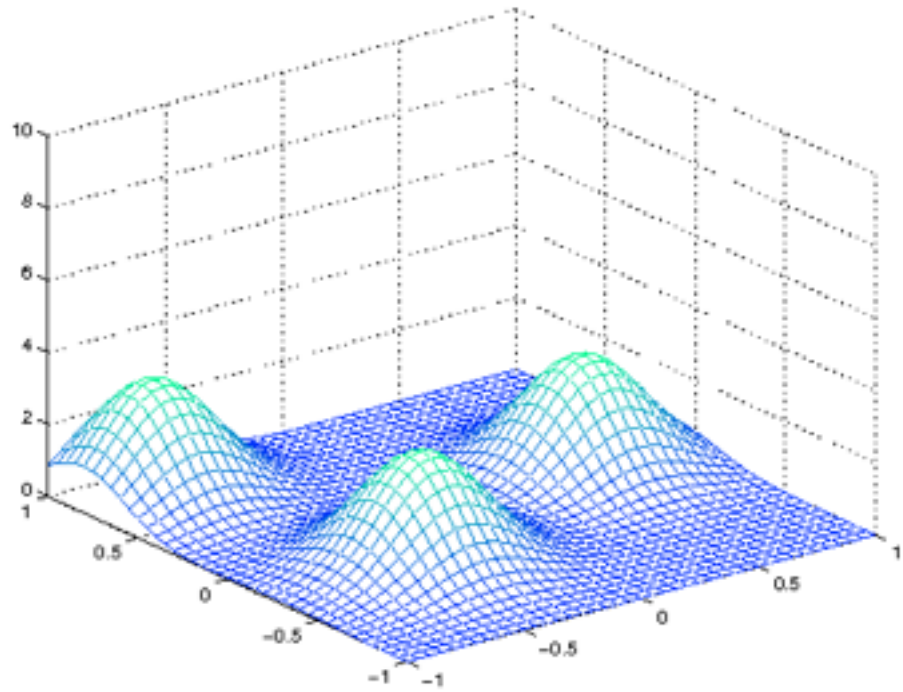
- Variational Bayes (VB)

# Variational Bayes



- Variational Bayes (VB)

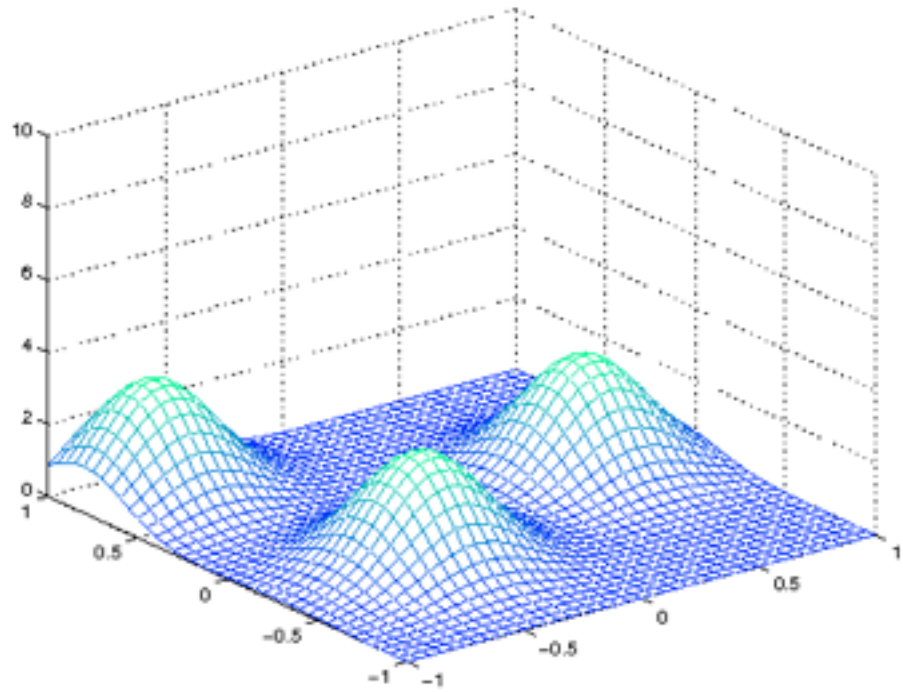
# Variational Bayes



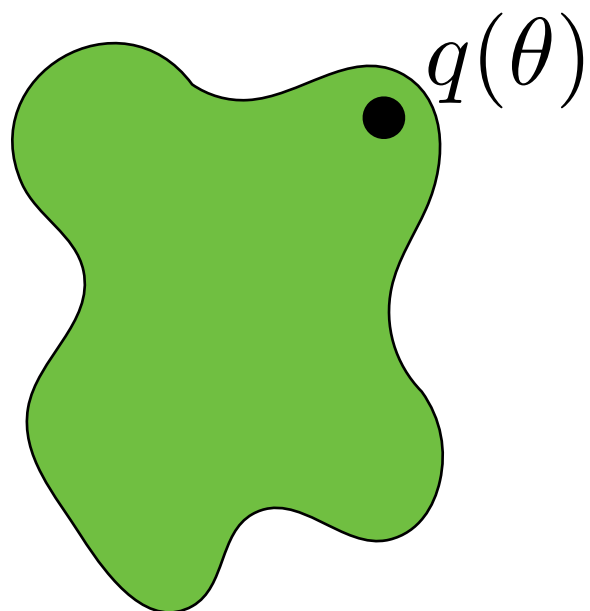
- Variational Bayes (VB)
  - Approximation  $q^*(\theta)$  for posterior  $p(\theta|x)$



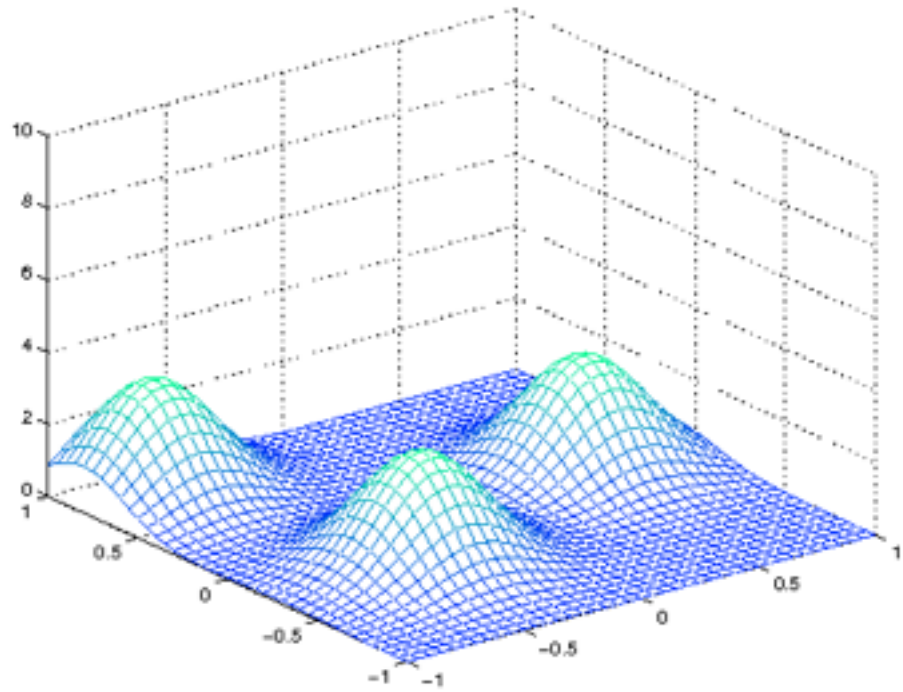
# Variational Bayes



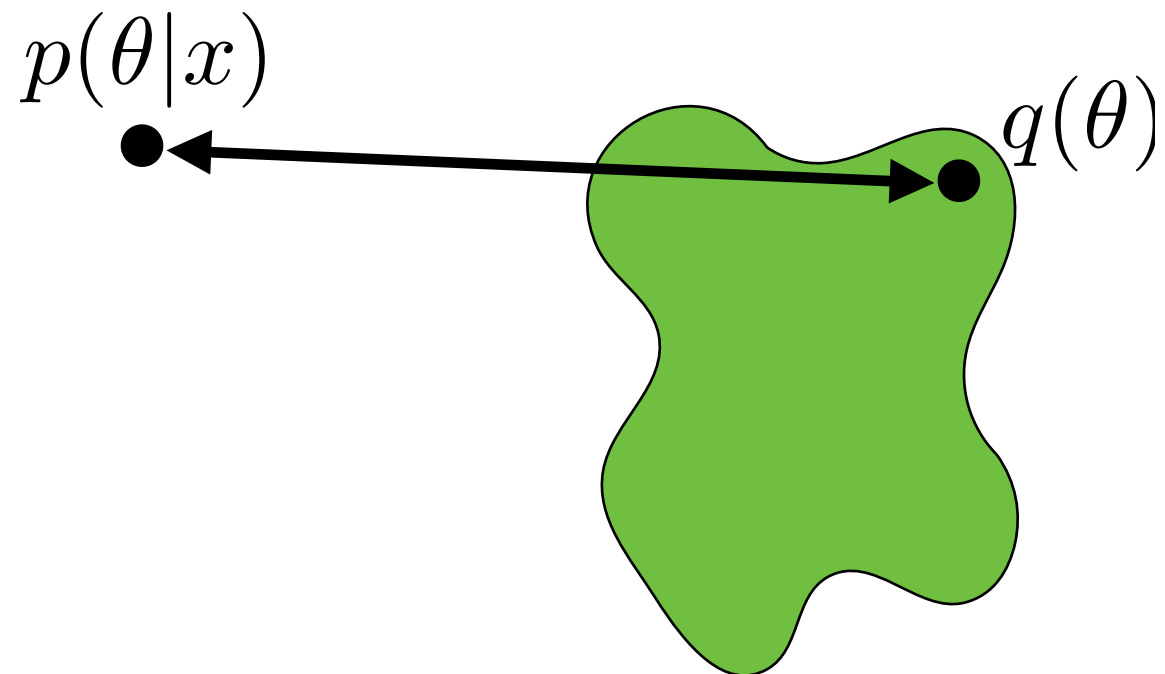
- Variational Bayes (VB)
  - Approximation  $q^*(\theta)$  for posterior  $p(\theta|x)$



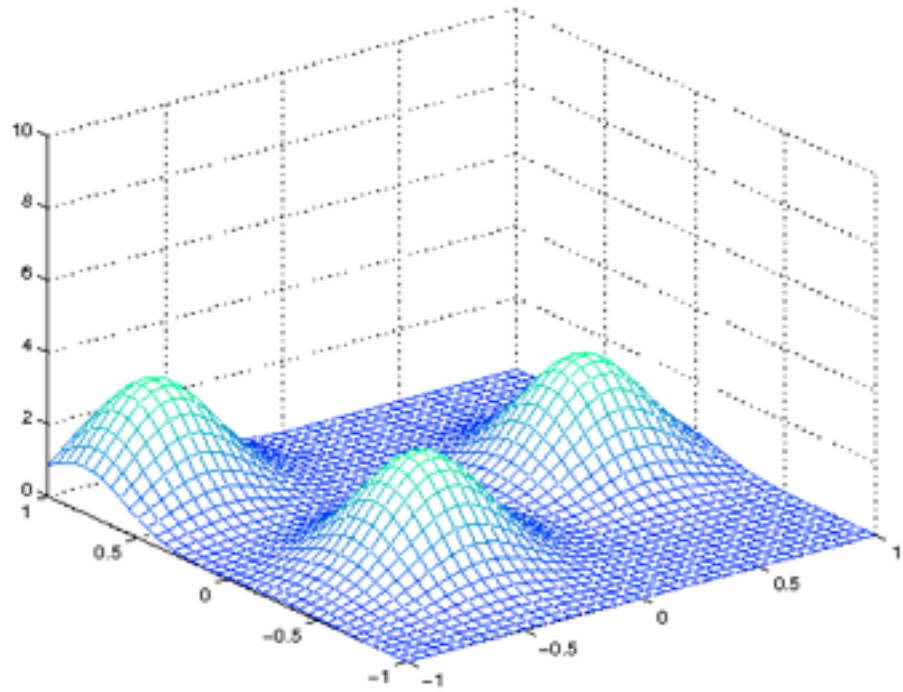
# Variational Bayes



- Variational Bayes (VB)
  - Approximation  $q^*(\theta)$  for posterior  $p(\theta|x)$

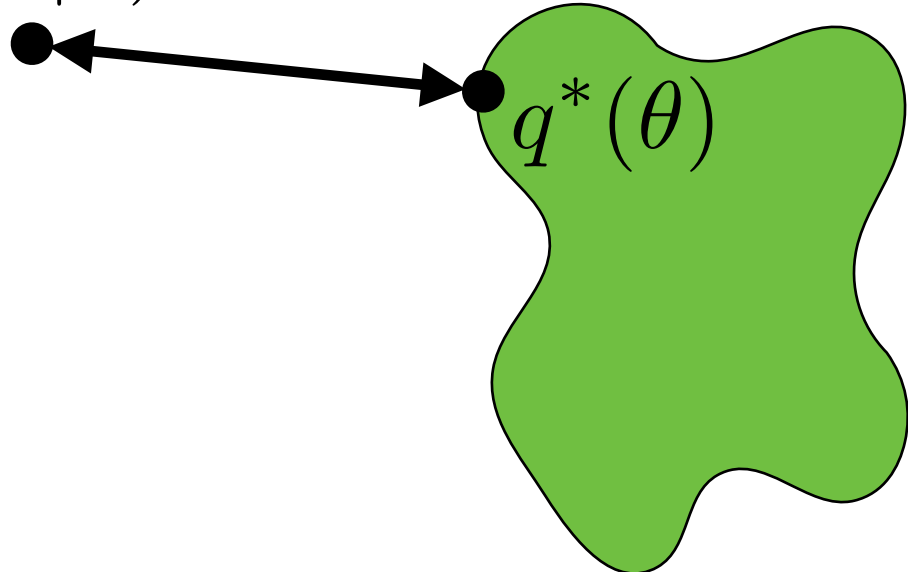


# Variational Bayes

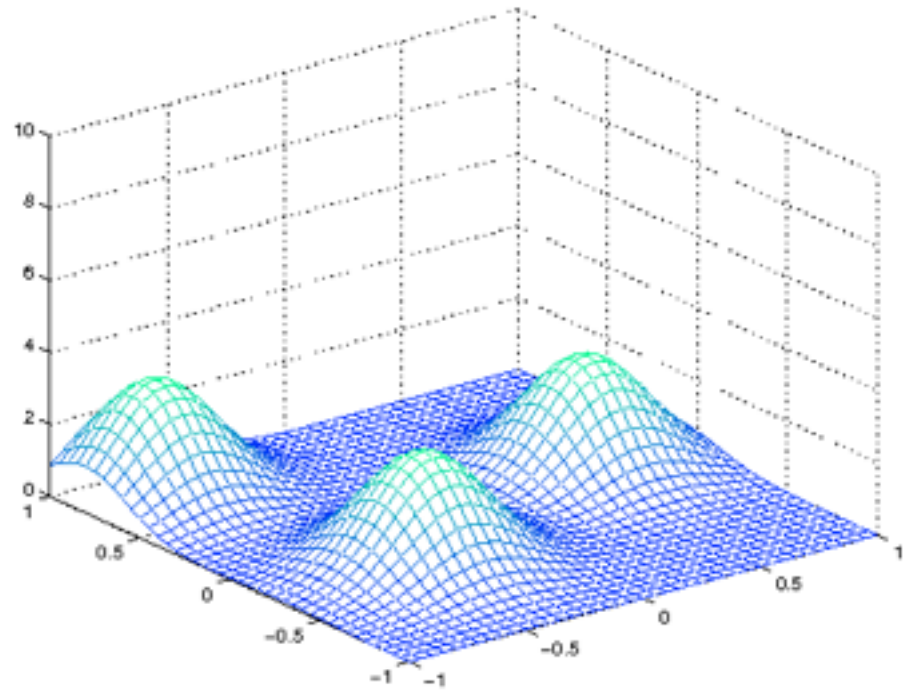


- Variational Bayes (VB)
  - Approximation  $q^*(\theta)$  for posterior  $p(\theta|x)$

$p(\theta|x)$

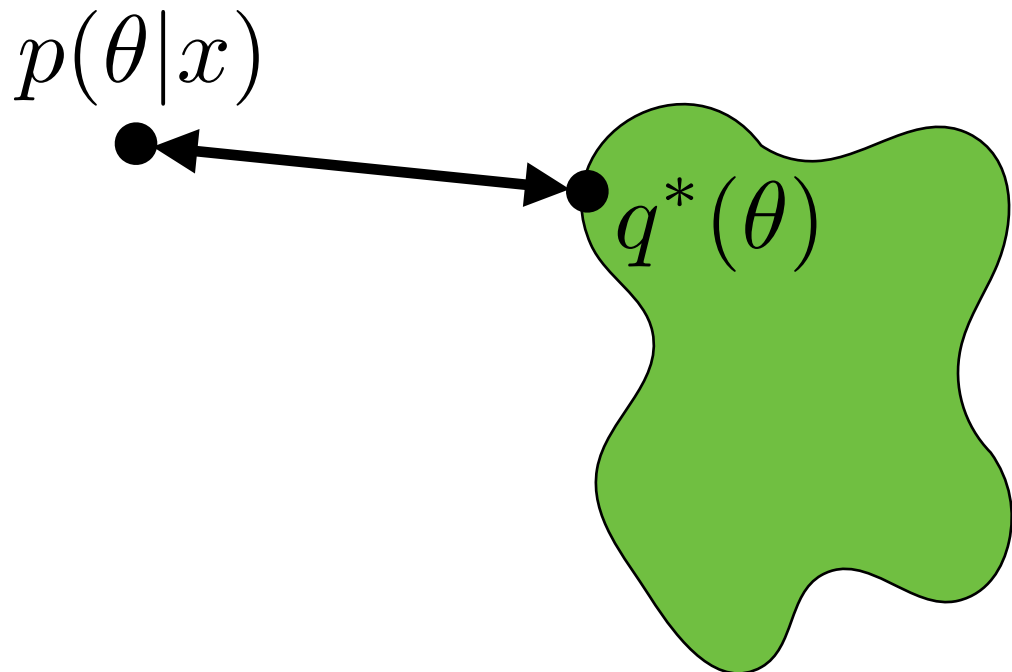


# Variational Bayes

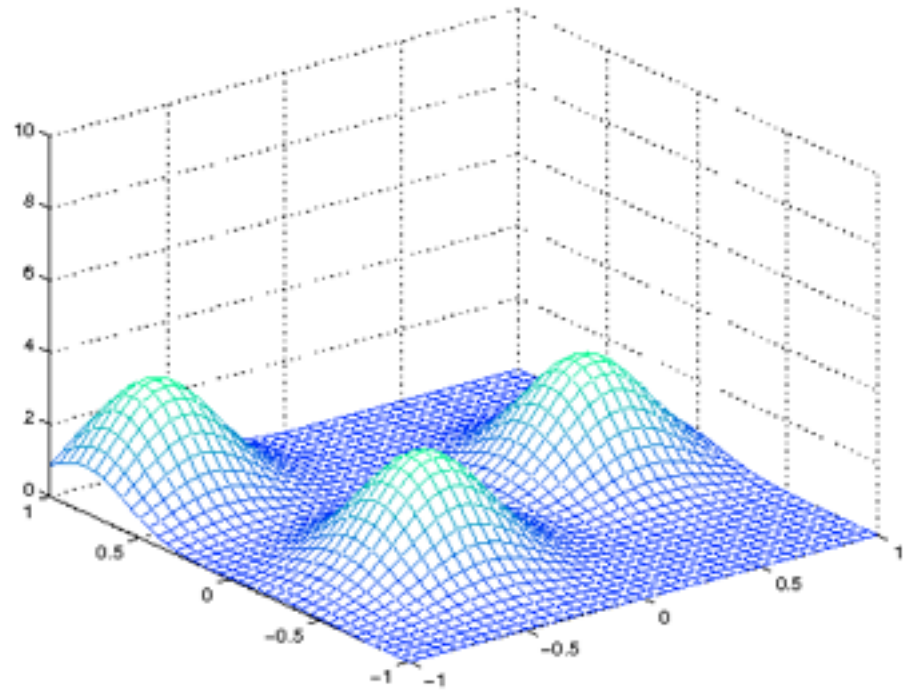


- Variational Bayes (VB)
  - Approximation  $q^*(\theta)$  for posterior  $p(\theta|x)$
  - Minimize Kullback-Liebler (KL) divergence:

$$KL(q||p(\cdot|x))$$

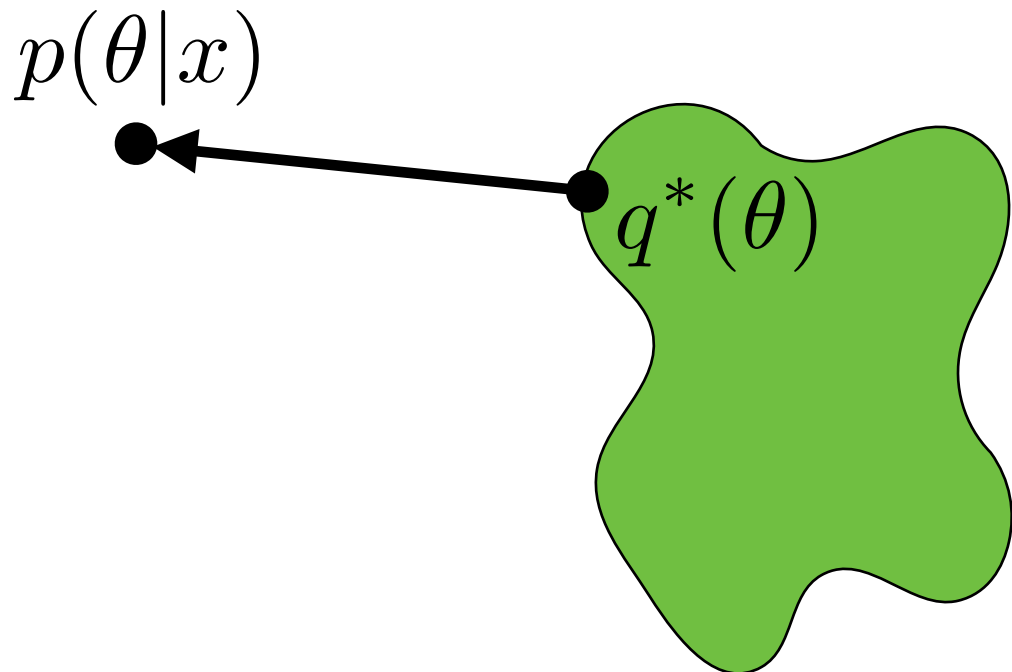


# Variational Bayes

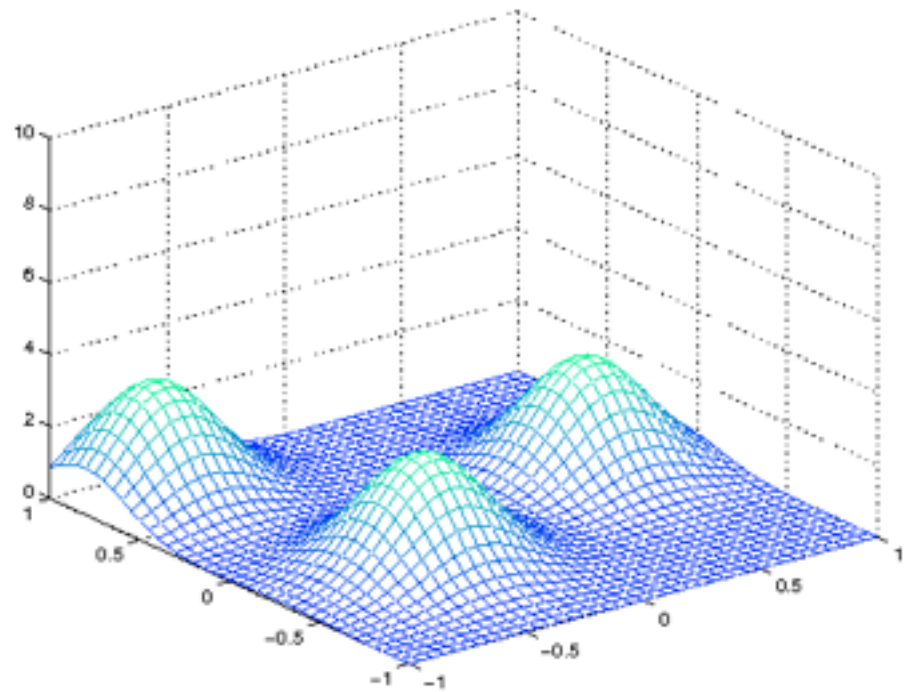


- Variational Bayes (VB)
  - Approximation  $q^*(\theta)$  for posterior  $p(\theta|x)$
  - Minimize Kullback-Liebler (KL) divergence:

$$KL(q||p(\cdot|x))$$

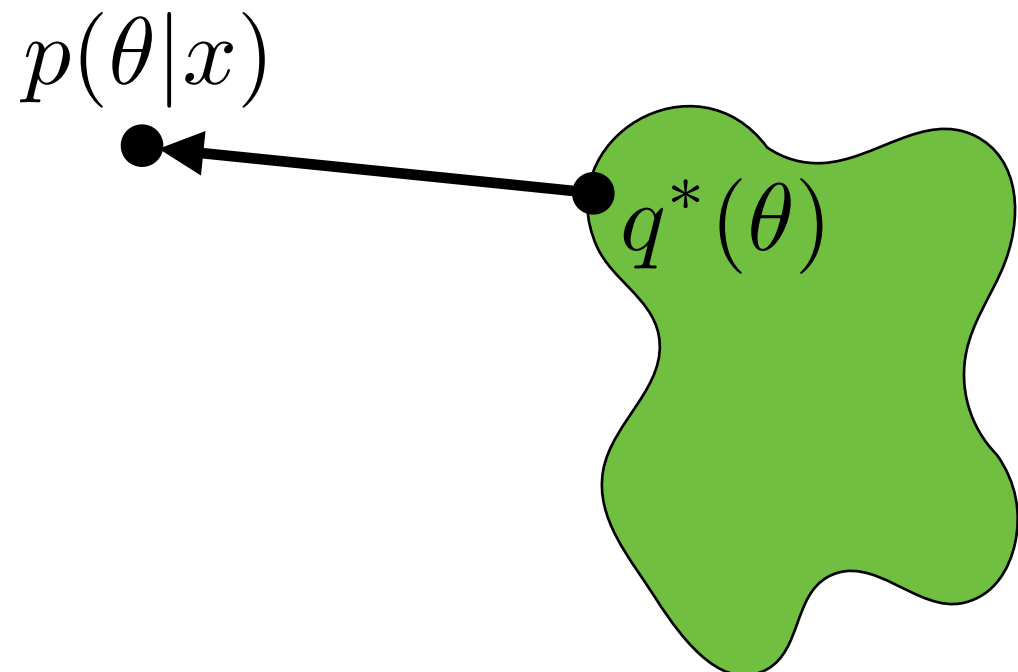


# Variational Bayes



- Variational Bayes (VB)
  - Approximation  $q^*(\theta)$  for posterior  $p(\theta|x)$
  - Minimize Kullback-Liebler (KL) divergence:

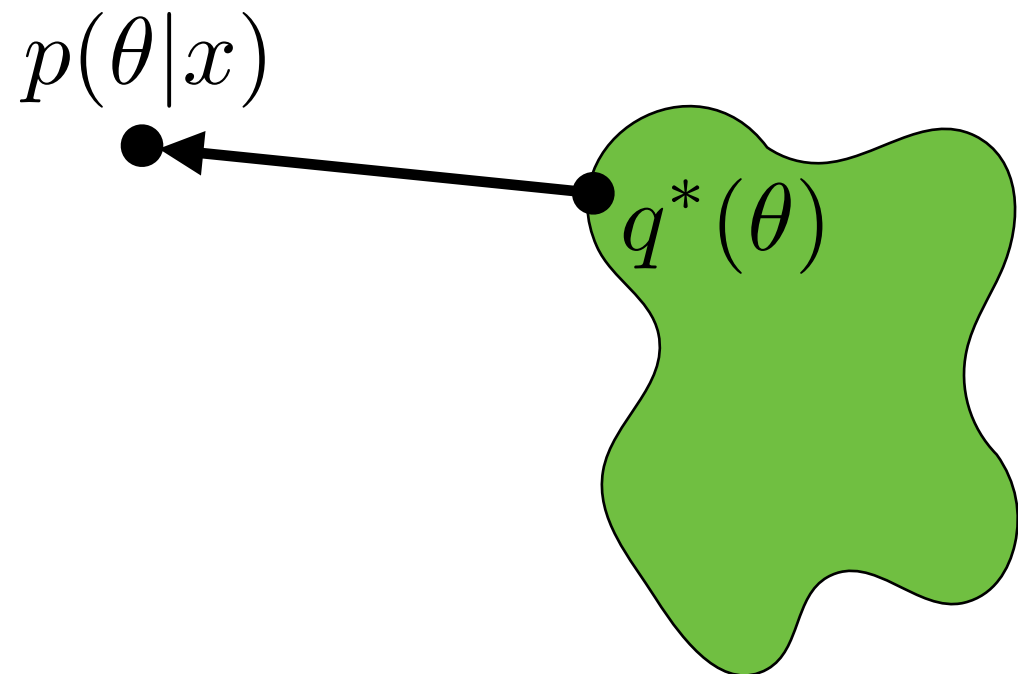
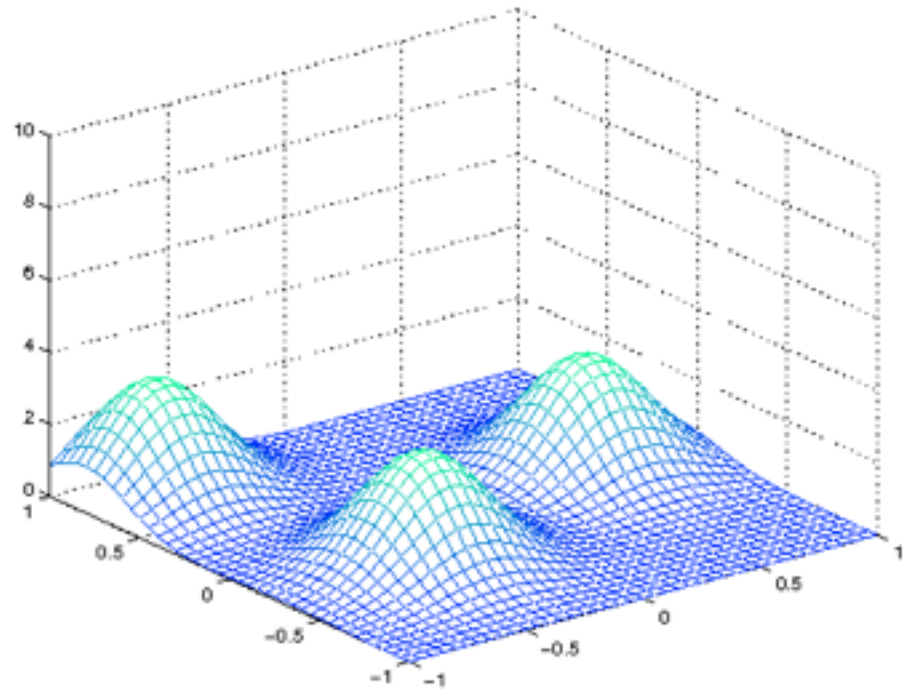
$$KL(q||p(\cdot|x))$$



- VB practical success

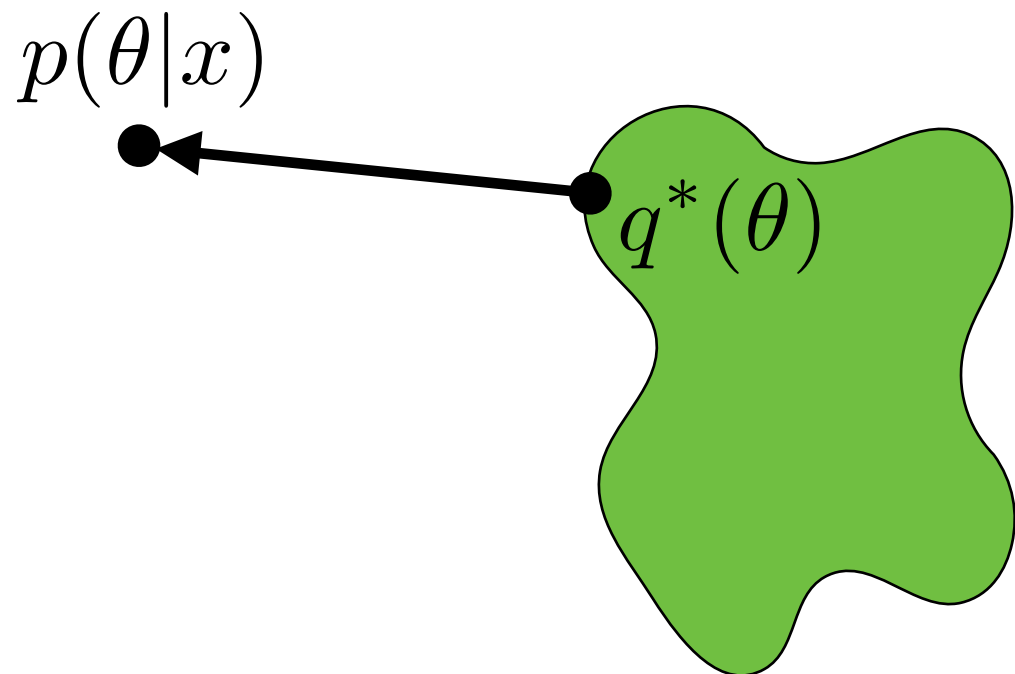
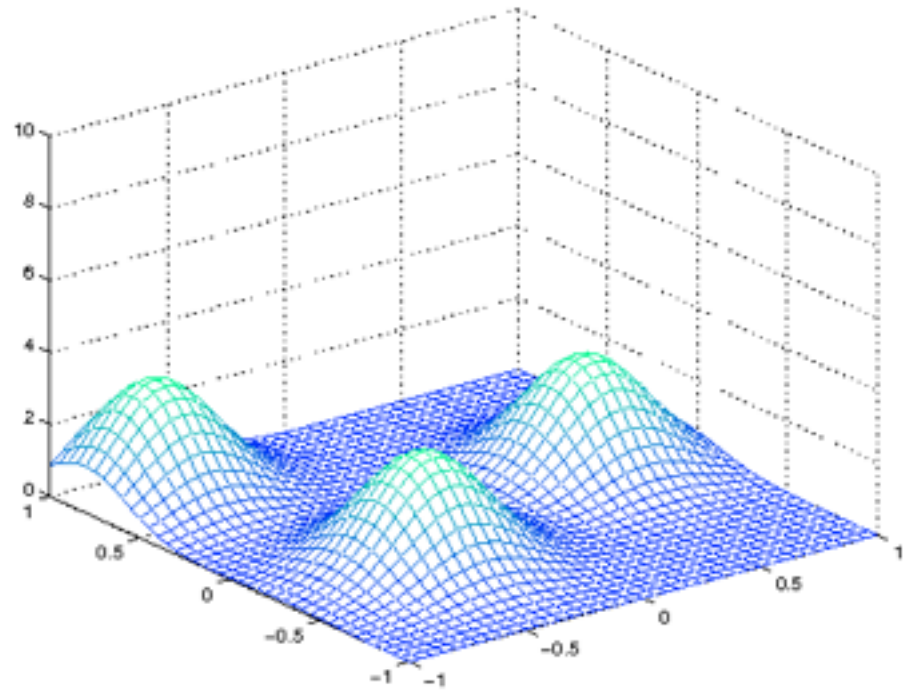


# Variational Bayes



- Variational Bayes (VB)
  - Approximation  $q^*(\theta)$  for posterior  $p(\theta|x)$
  - Minimize Kullback-Liebler (KL) divergence:
$$KL(q||p(\cdot|x))$$
- VB practical success
  - point estimates and prediction

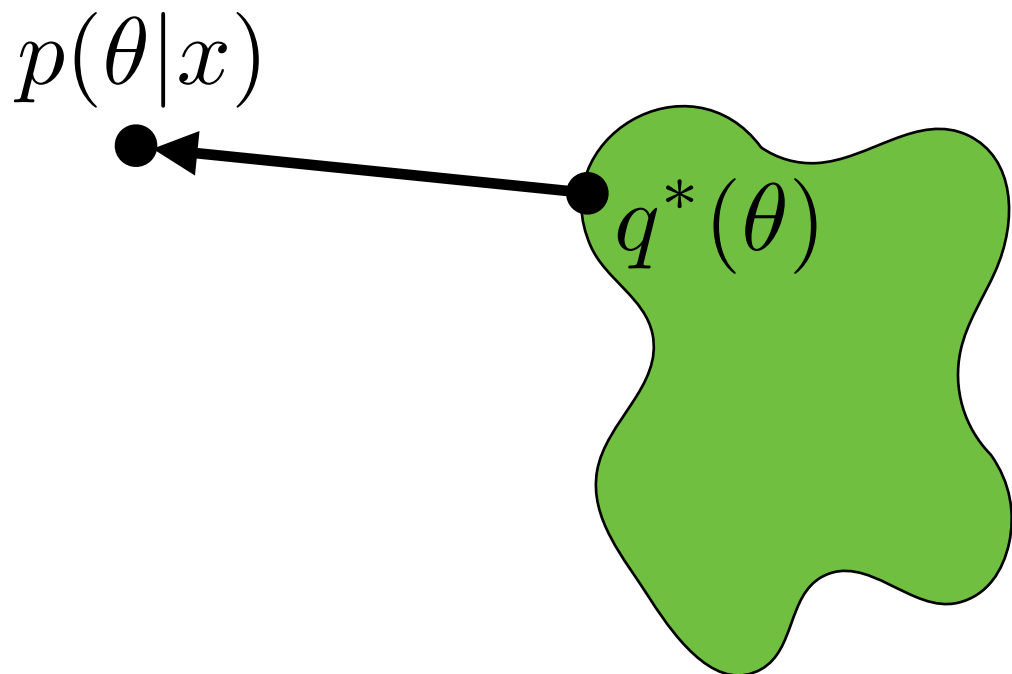
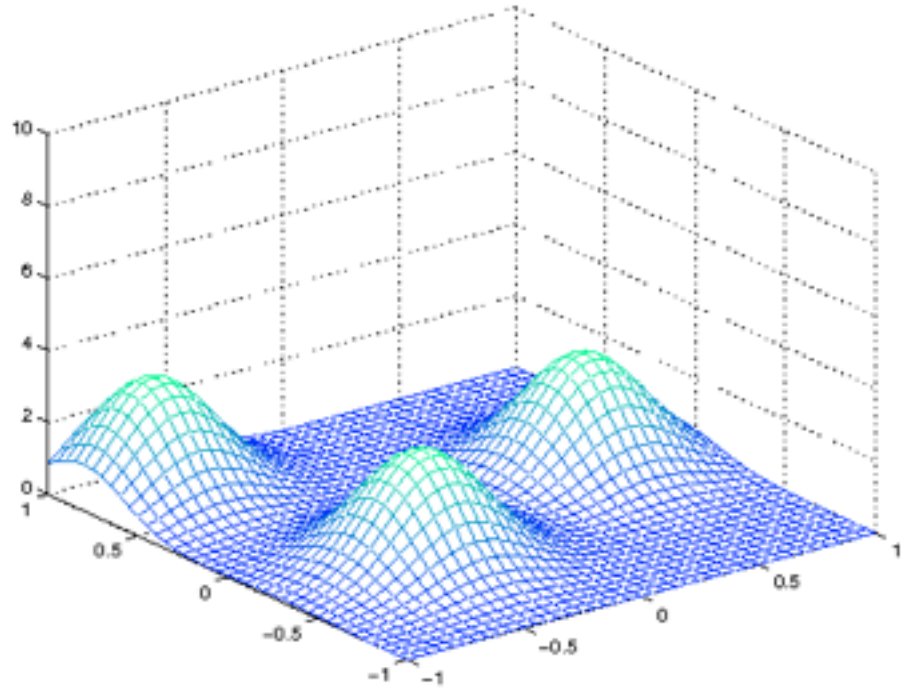
# Variational Bayes



- Variational Bayes (VB)
  - Approximation  $q^*(\theta)$  for posterior  $p(\theta|x)$
  - Minimize Kullback-Liebler (KL) divergence:
$$KL(q||p(\cdot|x))$$
- VB practical success
  - point estimates and prediction
  - fast



# Variational Bayes



- Variational Bayes (VB)
  - Approximation  $q^*(\theta)$  for posterior  $p(\theta|x)$
  - Minimize Kullback-Liebler (KL) divergence:
$$KL(q||p(\cdot|x))$$
- VB practical success
  - point estimates and prediction
  - fast, streaming, distributed

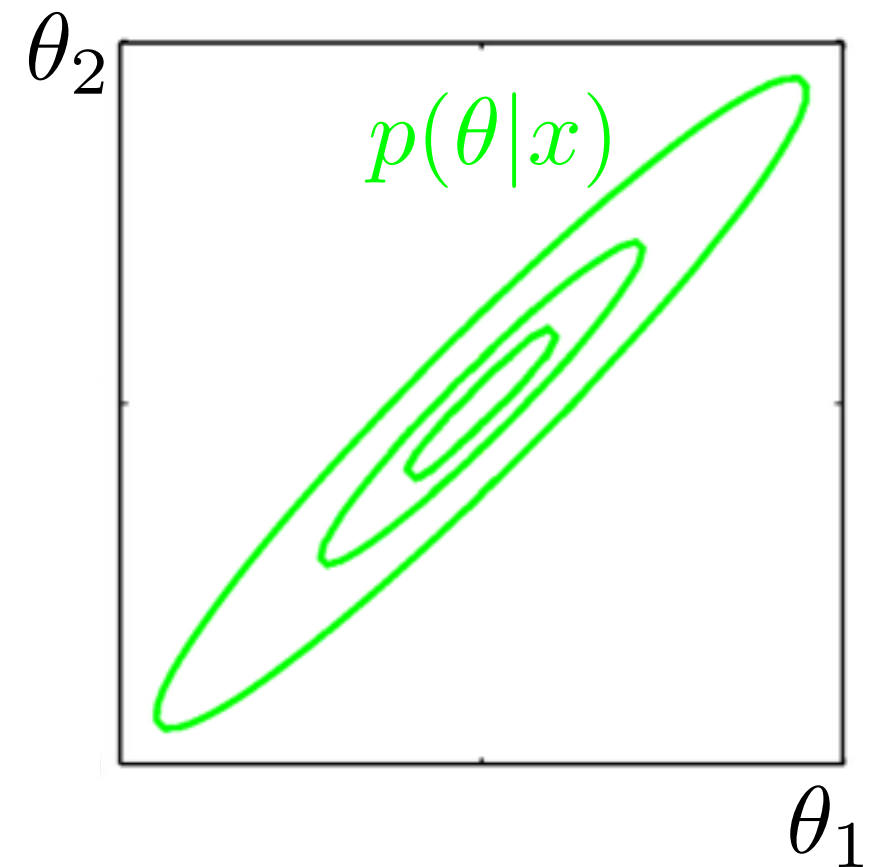
# What about uncertainty?

# What about uncertainty?

- Variational Bayes

# What about uncertainty?

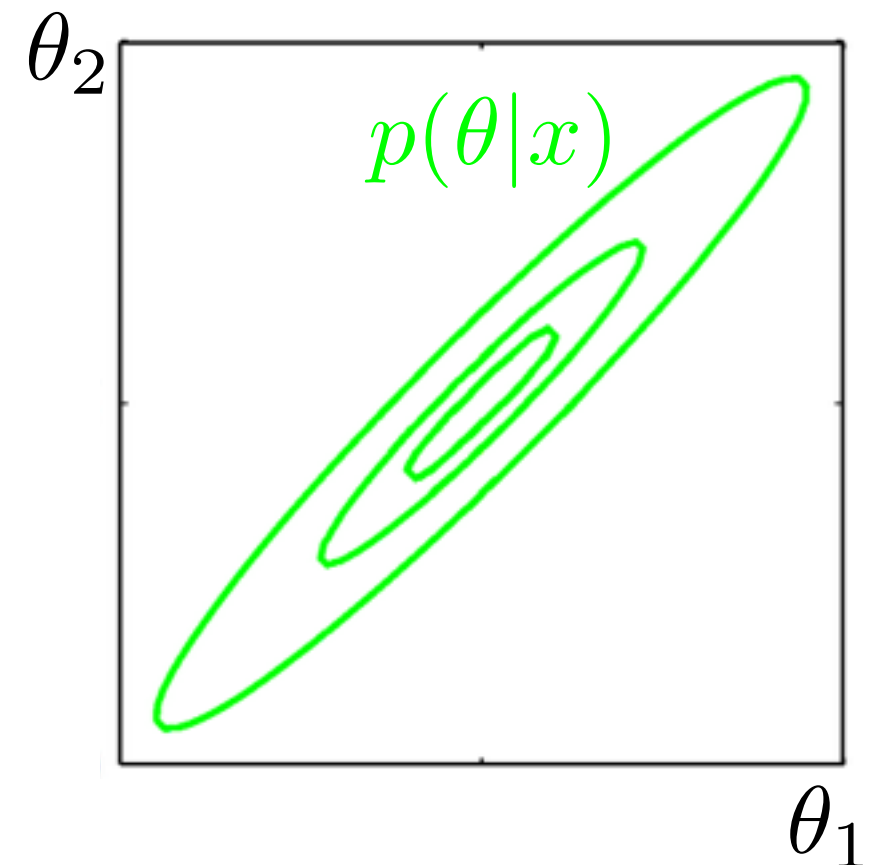
- Variational Bayes



# What about uncertainty?

- Variational Bayes

$$KL(q||p(\cdot|x)) = \int_{\theta} q(\theta) \log \frac{q(\theta)}{p(\theta|x)} d\theta$$



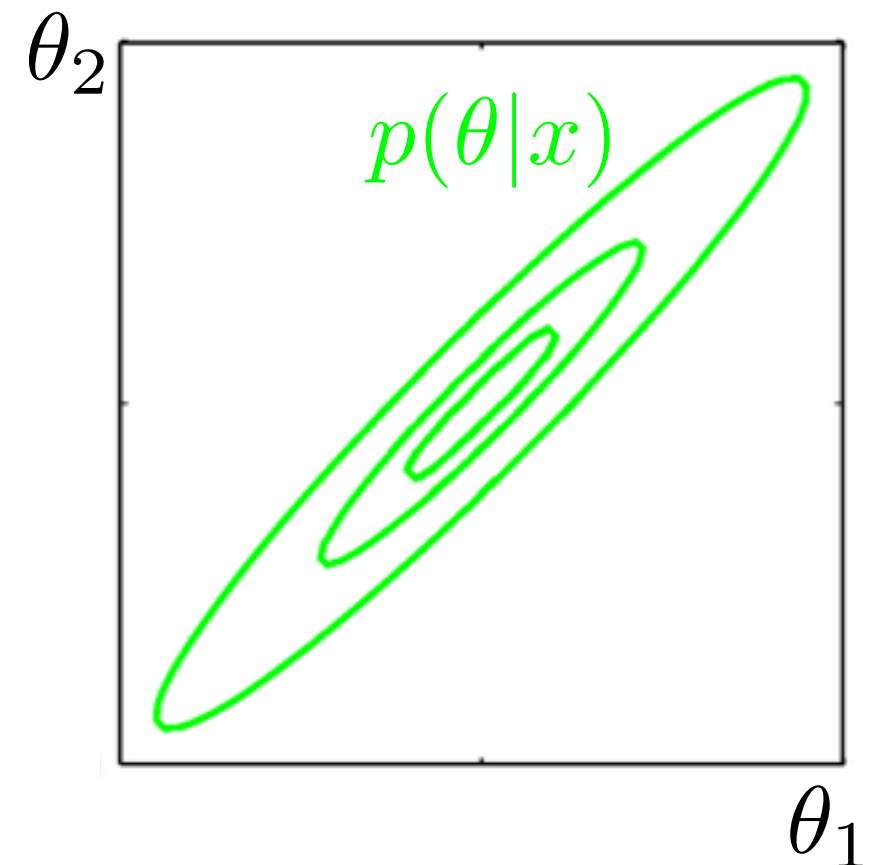
# What about uncertainty?

- Variational Bayes

$$KL(q||p(\cdot|x)) = \int_{\theta} q(\theta) \log \frac{q(\theta)}{p(\theta|x)} d\theta$$

- Mean-field variational Bayes (MFVB)

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



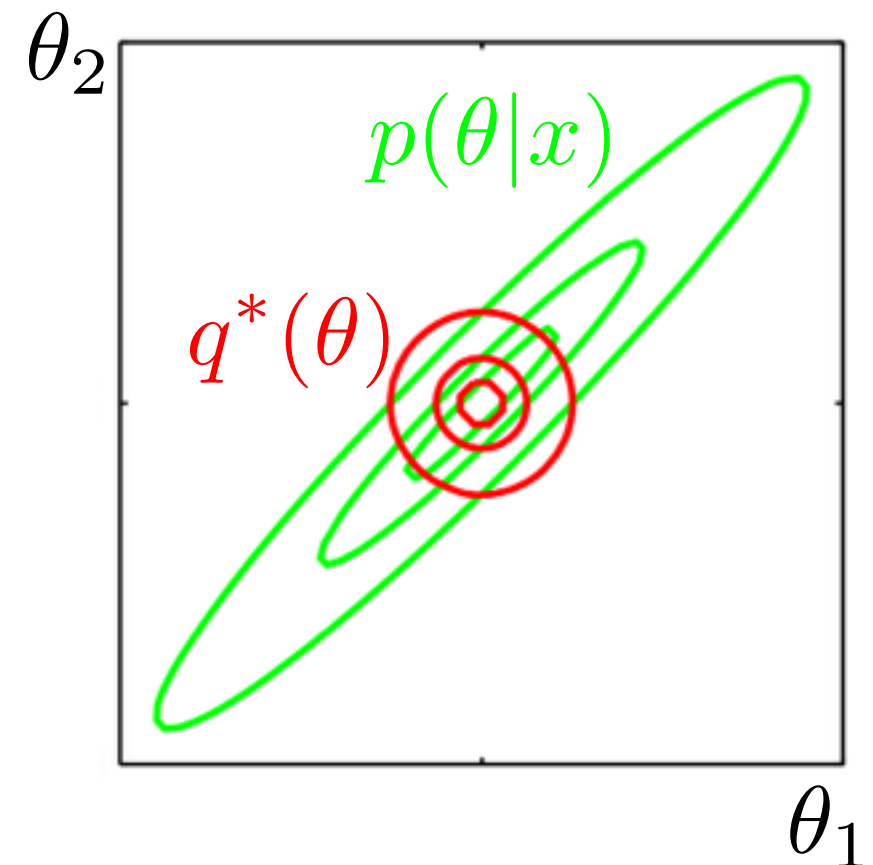
# What about uncertainty?

- Variational Bayes

$$KL(q||p(\cdot|x)) = \int_{\theta} q(\theta) \log \frac{q(\theta)}{p(\theta|x)} d\theta$$

- Mean-field variational Bayes (MFVB)

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



# What about uncertainty?

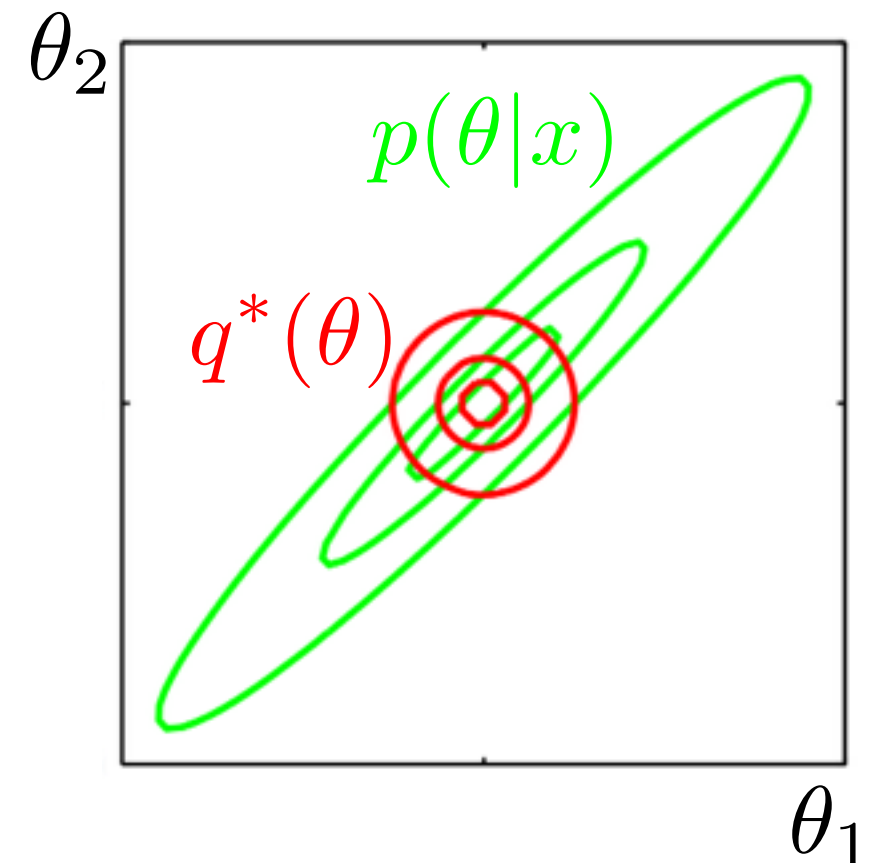
- Variational Bayes

$$KL(q||p(\cdot|x)) = \int_{\theta} q(\theta) \log \frac{q(\theta)}{p(\theta|x)} d\theta$$

- Mean-field variational Bayes (MFVB)

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

- Underestimates variance (sometimes severely)





# What about uncertainty?

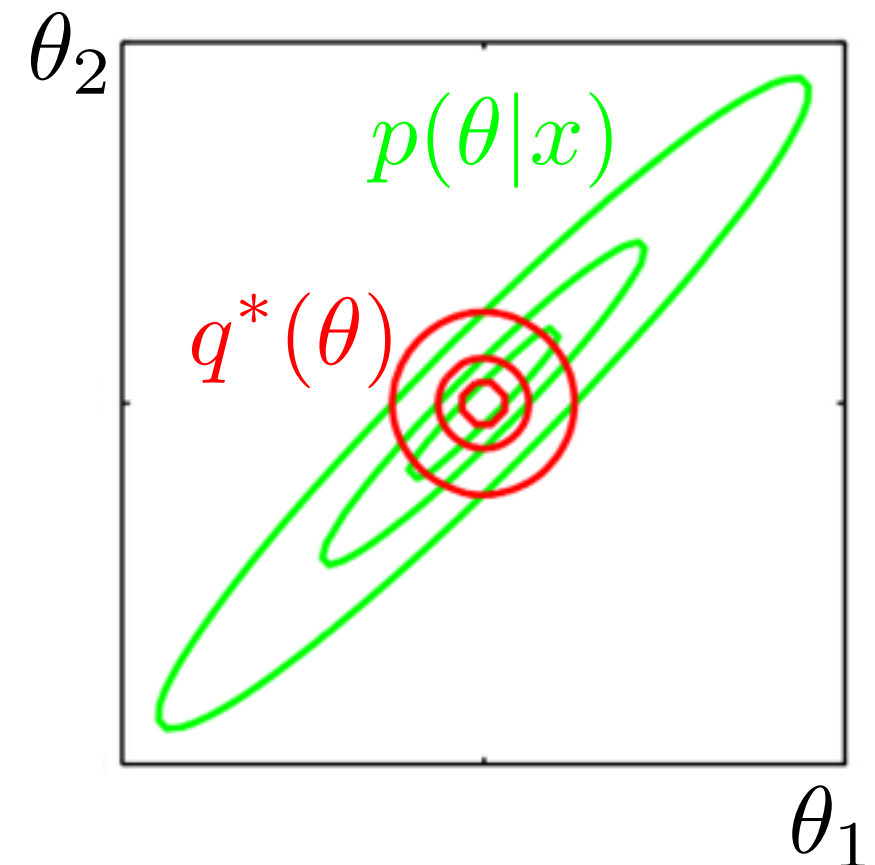
- Variational Bayes

$$KL(q||p(\cdot|x)) = \int_{\theta} q(\theta) \log \frac{q(\theta)}{p(\theta|x)} d\theta$$

- Mean-field variational Bayes (MFVB)

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

- Underestimates variance (sometimes severely)
- No covariance estimates



# What about uncertainty?

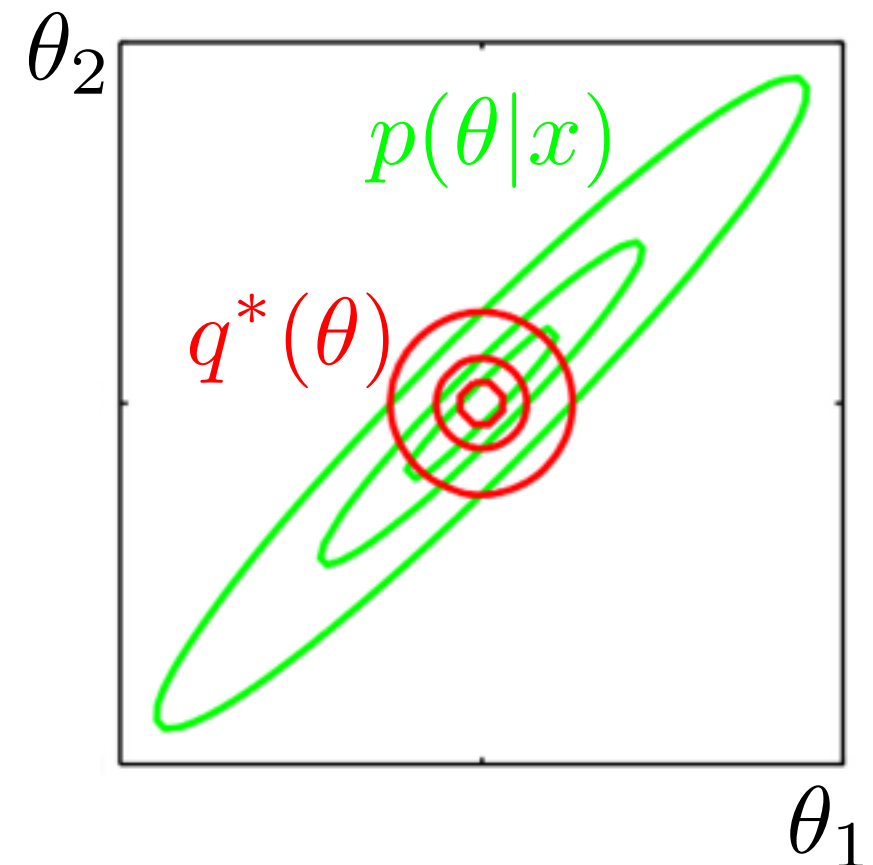
- Variational Bayes

$$KL(q||p(\cdot|x)) = \int_{\theta} q(\theta) \log \frac{q(\theta)}{p(\theta|x)} d\theta$$

- Mean-field variational Bayes (MFVB)

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

- Underestimates variance (sometimes severely)
- No covariance estimates



# What about uncertainty?

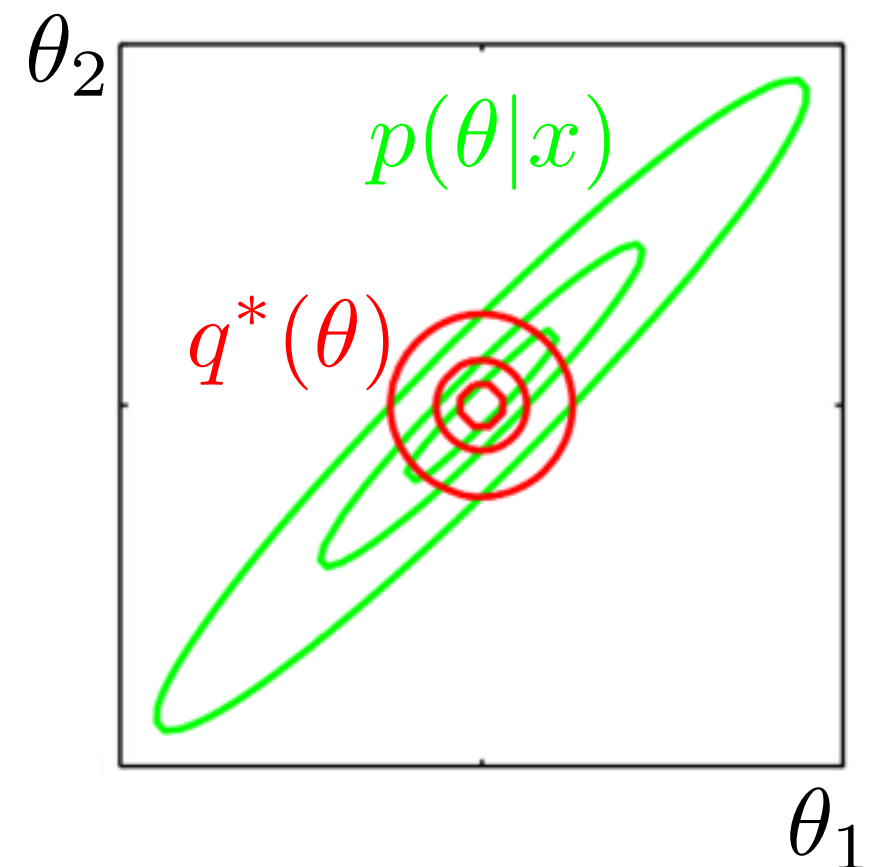
- Variational Bayes

$$KL(q||p(\cdot|x)) = \int_{\theta} q(\theta) \log \frac{q(\theta)}{p(\theta|x)} d\theta$$

- Mean-field variational Bayes (MFVB)

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

- Underestimates variance (sometimes severely)
- No covariance estimates



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

[Dunson 2014; Bardenet, Doucet, Holmes 2015]

# Linear response

# Linear response

- Cumulant-generating function

# Linear response

- Cumulant-generating function

$$C(t) := \log \mathbb{E} e^{t^T \theta}$$

# Linear response

- Cumulant-generating function

$$C(t) := \log \mathbb{E} e^{t^T \theta}$$

$$\text{mean} = \left. \frac{d}{dt} C(t) \right|_{t=0}$$

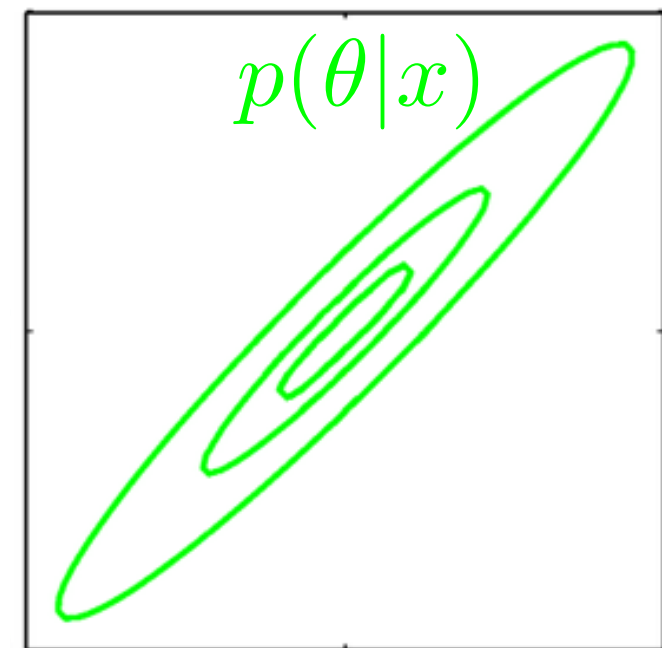
# Linear response

- Cumulant-generating function

$$C(t) := \log \mathbb{E} e^{t^T \theta}$$

$$\text{mean} = \left. \frac{d}{dt} C(t) \right|_{t=0}$$

- True posterior covariance





# Linear response

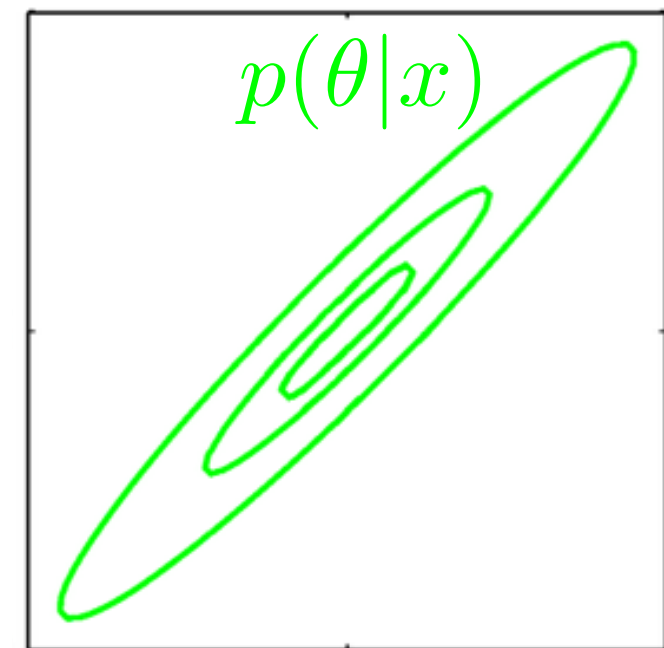
- Cumulant-generating function

$$C(t) := \log \mathbb{E} e^{t^T \theta}$$

$$\text{mean} = \left. \frac{d}{dt} C(t) \right|_{t=0}$$

- True posterior covariance

$$\Sigma := \left. \frac{d^2}{dt^T dt} C_{p(\cdot|x)}(t) \right|_{t=0}$$



# Linear response

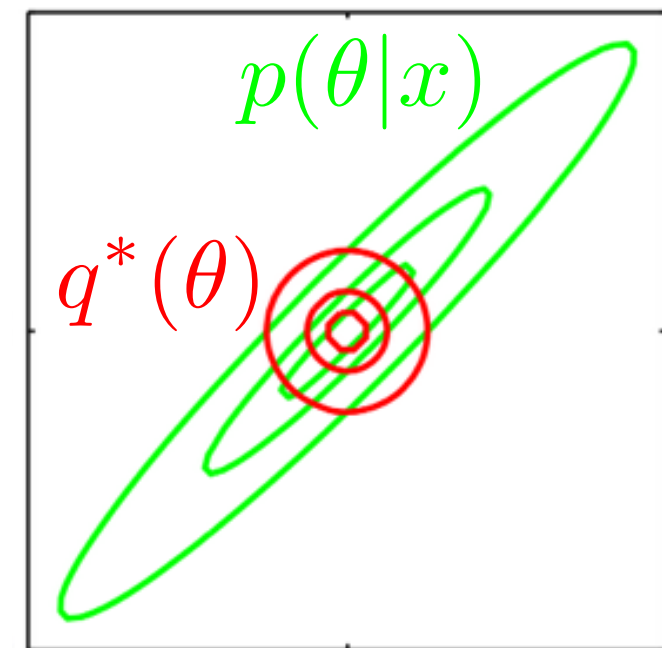
- Cumulant-generating function

$$C(t) := \log \mathbb{E} e^{t^T \theta}$$

$$\text{mean} = \left. \frac{d}{dt} C(t) \right|_{t=0}$$

- True posterior covariance vs MFVB covariance

$$\Sigma := \left. \frac{d^2}{dt^T dt} C_{p(\cdot|x)}(t) \right|_{t=0}$$



# Linear response

- Cumulant-generating function

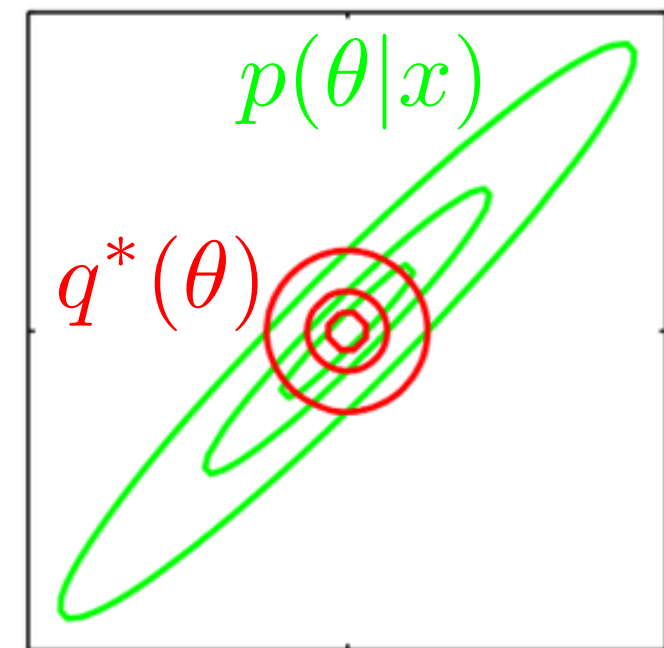
$$C(t) := \log \mathbb{E} e^{t^T \theta}$$

$$\text{mean} = \left. \frac{d}{dt} C(t) \right|_{t=0}$$

- True posterior covariance vs MFVB covariance

$$\Sigma := \left. \frac{d^2}{dt^T dt} C_{p(\cdot|x)}(t) \right|_{t=0}$$

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



# Linear response

- Cumulant-generating function

$$C(t) := \log \mathbb{E} e^{t^T \theta}$$

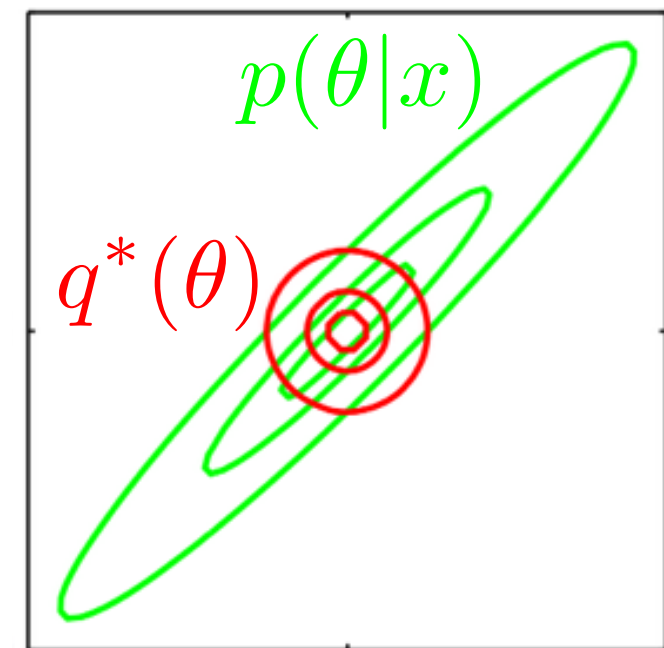
$$\text{mean} = \left. \frac{d}{dt} C(t) \right|_{t=0}$$

- True posterior covariance vs MFVB covariance

$$\Sigma := \left. \frac{d^2}{dt^T dt} C_{p(\cdot|x)}(t) \right|_{t=0}$$

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

- “Linear response”



# Linear response

- Cumulant-generating function

$$C(t) := \log \mathbb{E} e^{t^T \theta}$$

$$\text{mean} = \left. \frac{d}{dt} C(t) \right|_{t=0}$$

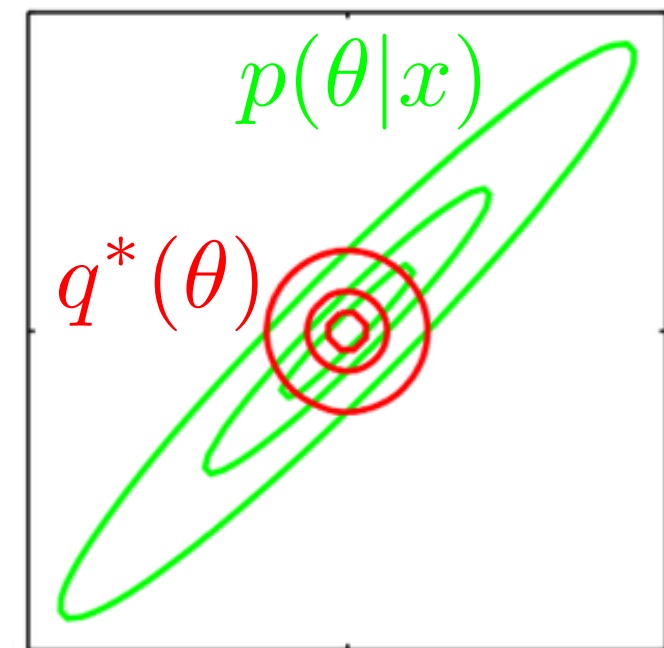
- True posterior covariance vs MFVB covariance

$$\Sigma := \left. \frac{d^2}{dt^T dt} C_{p(\cdot|x)}(t) \right|_{t=0}$$

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

- “Linear response”

$$\log p(\theta|x)$$



# Linear response

- Cumulant-generating function

$$C(t) := \log \mathbb{E} e^{t^T \theta}$$

$$\text{mean} = \left. \frac{d}{dt} C(t) \right|_{t=0}$$

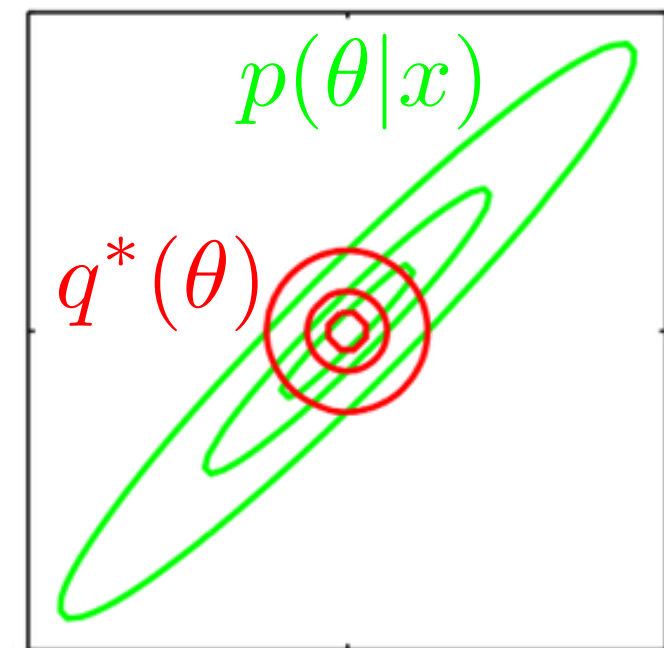
- True posterior covariance vs MFVB covariance

$$\Sigma := \left. \frac{d^2}{dt^T dt} C_{p(\cdot|x)}(t) \right|_{t=0}$$

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

- “Linear response”

$$\log p(\theta|x) + t^T \theta$$



# Linear response

- Cumulant-generating function

$$C(t) := \log \mathbb{E} e^{t^T \theta}$$

$$\text{mean} = \left. \frac{d}{dt} C(t) \right|_{t=0}$$

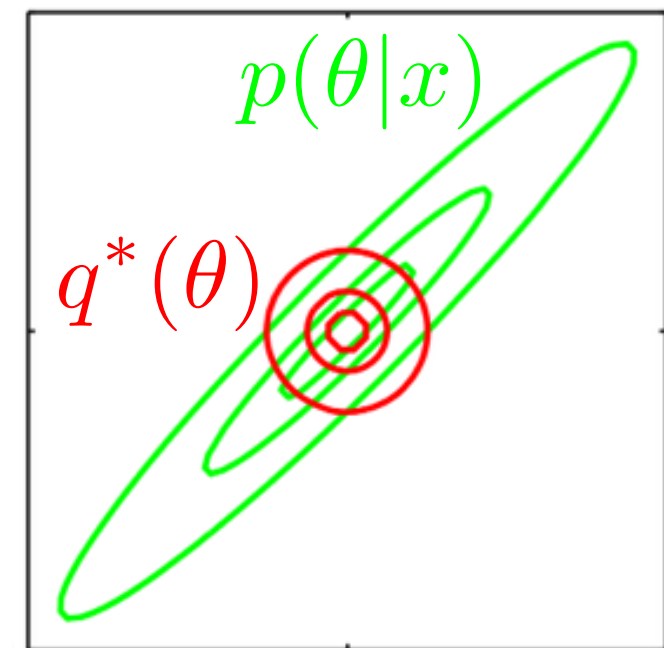
- True posterior covariance vs MFVB covariance

$$\Sigma := \left. \frac{d^2}{dt^T dt} C_{p(\cdot|x)}(t) \right|_{t=0}$$

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

- “Linear response”

$$\log p_t(\theta) := \log p(\theta|x) + t^T \theta$$



# Linear response

- Cumulant-generating function

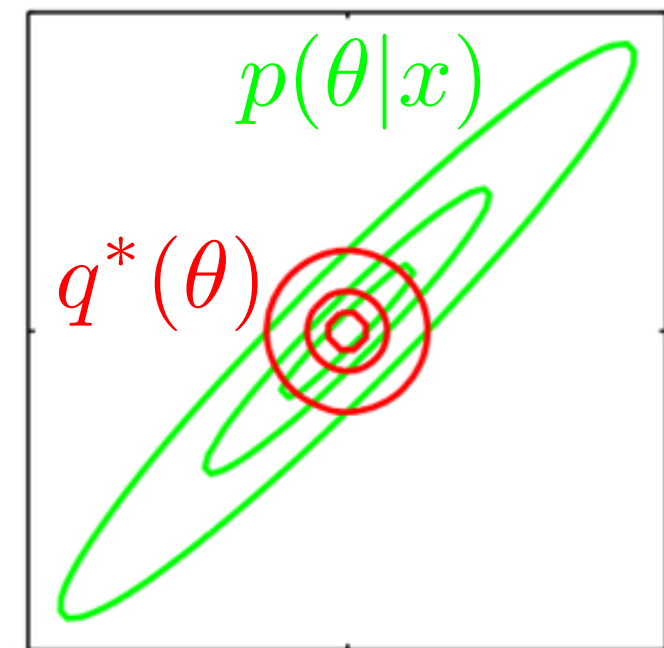
$$C(t) := \log \mathbb{E} e^{t^T \theta} \quad \text{mean} = \left. \frac{d}{dt} C(t) \right|_{t=0}$$

- True posterior covariance vs MFVB covariance

$$\Sigma := \left. \frac{d^2}{dt^T dt} C_{p(\cdot|x)}(t) \right|_{t=0} \quad V := \left. \frac{d^2}{dt^T dt} C_{q^*}(t) \right|_{t=0}$$

- “Linear response”

$$\log p_t(\theta) := \log p(\theta|x) + t^T \theta - C(t)$$





# Linear response

- Cumulant-generating function

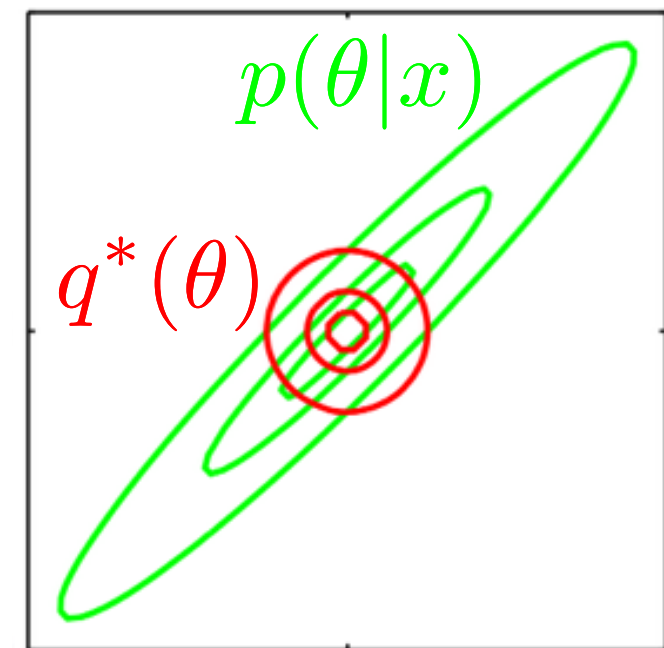
$$C(t) := \log \mathbb{E} e^{t^T \theta} \quad \text{mean} = \left. \frac{d}{dt} C(t) \right|_{t=0}$$

- True posterior covariance vs MFVB covariance

$$\Sigma := \left. \frac{d^2}{dt^T dt} C_{p(\cdot|x)}(t) \right|_{t=0} \quad V := \left. \frac{d^2}{dt^T dt} C_{q^*}(t) \right|_{t=0}$$

- “Linear response”

$$\log p_t(\theta) := \log p(\theta|x) + t^T \theta - C(t), \text{ MFVB } q_t^*$$



# Linear response

- Cumulant-generating function

$$C(t) := \log \mathbb{E} e^{t^T \theta} \quad \text{mean} = \left. \frac{d}{dt} C(t) \right|_{t=0}$$

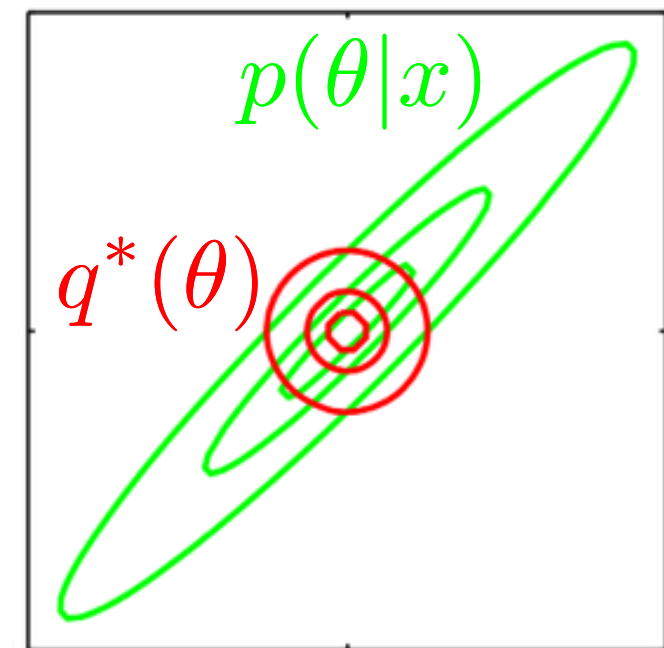
- True posterior covariance vs MFVB covariance

$$\Sigma := \left. \frac{d^2}{dt^T dt} C_{p(\cdot|x)}(t) \right|_{t=0} \quad V := \left. \frac{d^2}{dt^T dt} C_{q^*}(t) \right|_{t=0}$$

- “Linear response”

$$\log p_t(\theta) := \log p(\theta|x) + t^T \theta - C(t), \text{ MFVB } q_t^*$$

- The LRVB approximation



# Linear response

- Cumulant-generating function

$$C(t) := \log \mathbb{E} e^{t^T \theta} \quad \text{mean} = \left. \frac{d}{dt} C(t) \right|_{t=0}$$

- True posterior covariance vs MFVB covariance

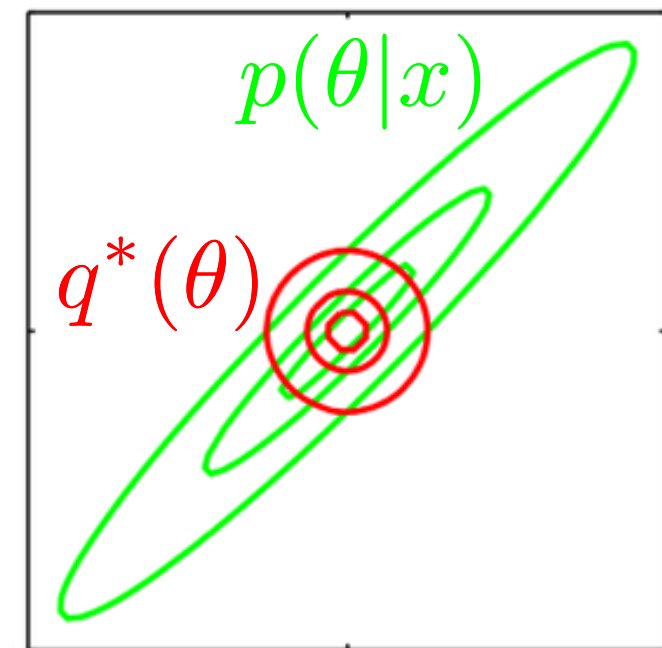
$$\Sigma := \left. \frac{d^2}{dt^T dt} C_{p(\cdot|x)}(t) \right|_{t=0} \quad V := \left. \frac{d^2}{dt^T dt} C_{q^*}(t) \right|_{t=0}$$

- “Linear response”

$$\log p_t(\theta) := \log p(\theta|x) + t^T \theta - C(t), \text{ MFVB } q_t^*$$

- The LRVB approximation

$$\Sigma = \frac{d}{dt^T} \left[ \frac{d}{dt} C_{p(\cdot|x)}(t) \right] \Big|_{t=0}$$



# Linear response

- Cumulant-generating function

$$C(t) := \log \mathbb{E} e^{t^T \theta} \quad \text{mean} = \left. \frac{d}{dt} C(t) \right|_{t=0}$$

- True posterior covariance vs MFVB covariance

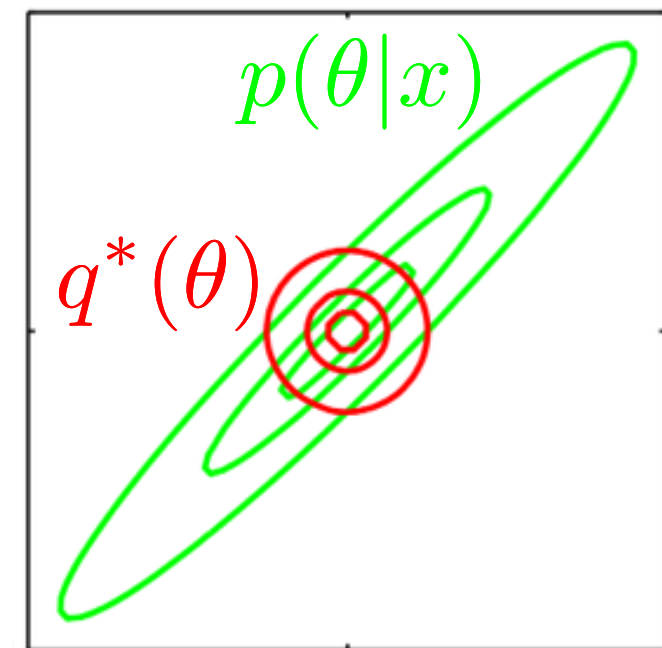
$$\Sigma := \left. \frac{d^2}{dt^T dt} C_{p(\cdot|x)}(t) \right|_{t=0} \quad V := \left. \frac{d^2}{dt^T dt} C_{q^*}(t) \right|_{t=0}$$

- “Linear response”

$$\log p_t(\theta) := \log p(\theta|x) + t^T \theta - C(t), \text{ MFVB } q_t^*$$

- The LRVB approximation

$$\Sigma = \left. \frac{d}{dt^T} \mathbb{E}_{p_t} \theta \right|_{t=0}$$



# Linear response

- Cumulant-generating function

$$C(t) := \log \mathbb{E} e^{t^T \theta} \quad \text{mean} = \left. \frac{d}{dt} C(t) \right|_{t=0}$$

- True posterior covariance vs MFVB covariance

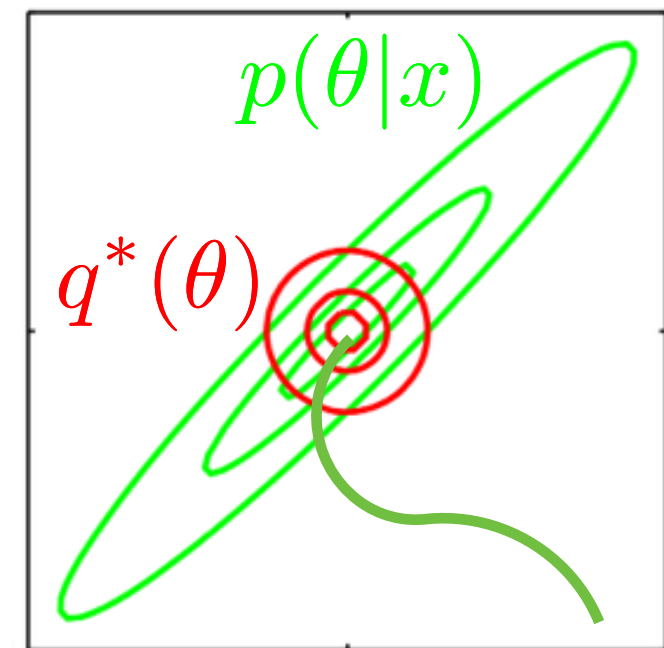
$$\Sigma := \left. \frac{d^2}{dt^T dt} C_{p(\cdot|x)}(t) \right|_{t=0} \quad V := \left. \frac{d^2}{dt^T dt} C_{q^*}(t) \right|_{t=0}$$

- “Linear response”

$$\log p_t(\theta) := \log p(\theta|x) + t^T \theta - C(t), \text{ MFVB } q_t^*$$

- The LRVB approximation

$$\Sigma = \left. \frac{d}{dt^T} \mathbb{E}_{p_t} \theta \right|_{t=0}$$



# Linear response

- Cumulant-generating function

$$C(t) := \log \mathbb{E} e^{t^T \theta} \quad \text{mean} = \left. \frac{d}{dt} C(t) \right|_{t=0}$$

- True posterior covariance vs MFVB covariance

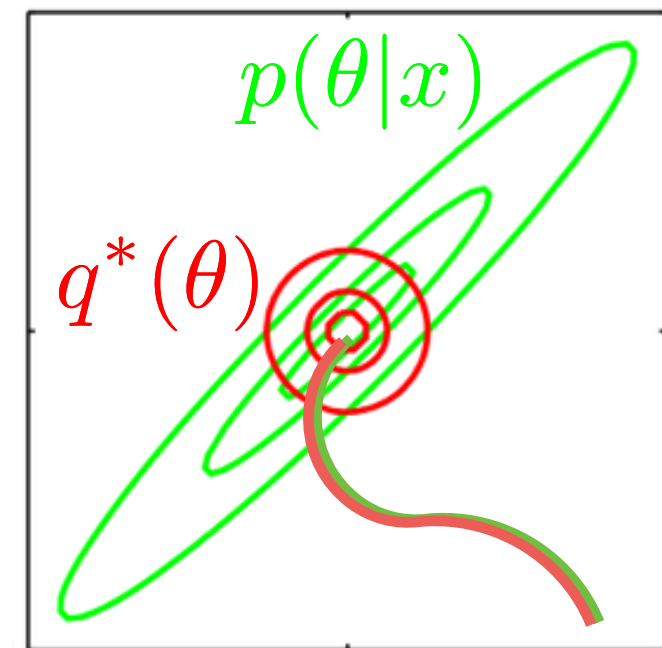
$$\Sigma := \left. \frac{d^2}{dt^T dt} C_{p(\cdot|x)}(t) \right|_{t=0} \quad V := \left. \frac{d^2}{dt^T dt} C_{q^*}(t) \right|_{t=0}$$

- “Linear response”

$$\log p_t(\theta) := \log p(\theta|x) + t^T \theta - C(t), \text{ MFVB } q_t^*$$

- The LRVB approximation

$$\Sigma = \left. \frac{d}{dt^T} \mathbb{E}_{p_t} \theta \right|_{t=0}$$



# Linear response

- Cumulant-generating function

$$C(t) := \log \mathbb{E} e^{t^T \theta} \quad \text{mean} = \left. \frac{d}{dt} C(t) \right|_{t=0}$$

- True posterior covariance vs MFVB covariance

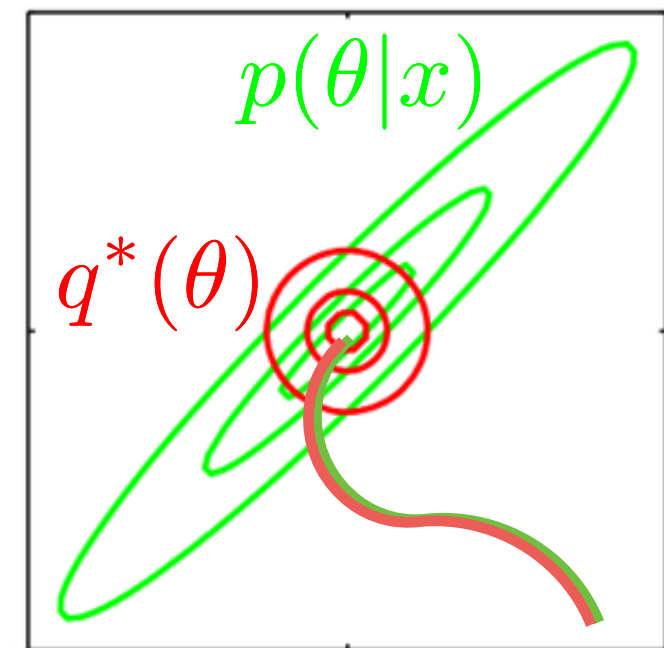
$$\Sigma := \left. \frac{d^2}{dt^T dt} C_{p(\cdot|x)}(t) \right|_{t=0} \quad V := \left. \frac{d^2}{dt^T dt} C_{q^*}(t) \right|_{t=0}$$

- “Linear response”

$$\log p_t(\theta) := \log p(\theta|x) + t^T \theta - C(t), \text{ MFVB } q_t^*$$

- The LRVB approximation

$$\Sigma = \left. \frac{d}{dt^T} \mathbb{E}_{p_t} \theta \right|_{t=0} \approx \left. \frac{d}{dt^T} \mathbb{E}_{q_t^*} \theta \right|_{t=0}$$



# Linear response

- Cumulant-generating function

$$C(t) := \log \mathbb{E} e^{t^T \theta} \quad \text{mean} = \left. \frac{d}{dt} C(t) \right|_{t=0}$$

- True posterior covariance vs MFVB covariance

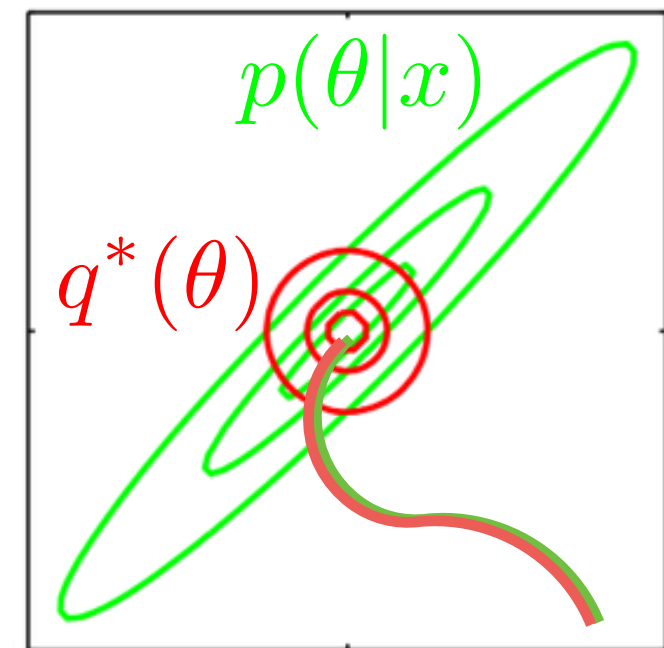
$$\Sigma := \left. \frac{d^2}{dt^T dt} C_{p(\cdot|x)}(t) \right|_{t=0} \quad V := \left. \frac{d^2}{dt^T dt} C_{q^*}(t) \right|_{t=0}$$

- “Linear response”

$$\log p_t(\theta) := \log p(\theta|x) + t^T \theta - C(t), \text{ MFVB } q_t^*$$

- The LRVB approximation

$$\Sigma = \left. \frac{d}{dt^T} \mathbb{E}_{p_t} \theta \right|_{t=0} \approx \left. \frac{d}{dt^T} \mathbb{E}_{q_t^*} \theta \right|_{t=0} =: \hat{\Sigma}$$





# LRVB estimator

- LRVB covariance estimate  $\hat{\Sigma} := \left. \frac{d}{dt} \mathbb{E}_{q_t^*} \theta \right|_{t=0}$

# LRVB estimator

- LRVB covariance estimate  $\hat{\Sigma} := \frac{d}{dt} \mathbb{E}_{q_t^*} \theta \Big|_{t=0}$
- Suppose  $q_t$  exponential family

# LRVB estimator

- LRVB covariance estimate  $\hat{\Sigma} := \left. \frac{d}{dt} \mathbb{E}_{q_t^*} \theta \right|_{t=0}$
- Suppose  $q_t$  exponential family with mean parametrization  $m_t$

# LRVB estimator

- LRVB covariance estimate  $\hat{\Sigma} := \left. \frac{d}{dt} \mathbb{E}_{q_t^*} \theta \right|_{t=0}$
- Suppose  $q_t$  exponential family with mean parametrization  $m_t$

$$\hat{\Sigma} =$$

# LRVB estimator

- LRVB covariance estimate  $\hat{\Sigma} := \frac{d}{dt^T} \mathbb{E}_{q_t^*} \theta \Big|_{t=0}$
- Suppose  $q_t$  exponential family with mean parametrization  $m_t$

$$\hat{\Sigma} = \left( \frac{\partial^2 KL}{\partial m \partial m^T} \Big|_{m=m^*} \right)^{-1}$$

# LRVB estimator

- LRVB covariance estimate  $\hat{\Sigma} := \frac{d}{dt^T} \mathbb{E}_{q_t^*} \theta \Big|_{t=0}$
- Suppose  $q_t$  exponential family with mean parametrization  $m_t$

$$\hat{\Sigma} = \left( \frac{\partial^2 KL}{\partial m \partial m^T} \Big|_{m=m^*} \right)^{-1} = (I - VH)^{-1}V$$

# LRVB estimator

- LRVB covariance estimate  $\hat{\Sigma} := \frac{d}{dt} \mathbb{E}_{q_t^*} \theta \Big|_{t=0}$
- Suppose  $q_t$  exponential family with mean parametrization  $m_t$

$$\hat{\Sigma} = \left( \frac{\partial^2 KL}{\partial m \partial m^T} \Big|_{m=m^*} \right)^{-1} = (I - VH)^{-1}V$$

- Symmetric and positive definite at local min of KL

# LRVB estimator

- LRVB covariance estimate  $\hat{\Sigma} := \frac{d}{dt} \mathbb{E}_{q_t^*} \theta \Big|_{t=0}$

- Suppose  $q_t$  exponential family with mean parametrization  $m_t$

$$\hat{\Sigma} = \left( \frac{\partial^2 KL}{\partial m \partial m^T} \Big|_{m=m^*} \right)^{-1} = (I - VH)^{-1}V$$

- Symmetric and positive definite at local min of KL
- The LRVB assumption:  $\mathbb{E}_{p_t} \theta \approx \mathbb{E}_{q_t^*} \theta$

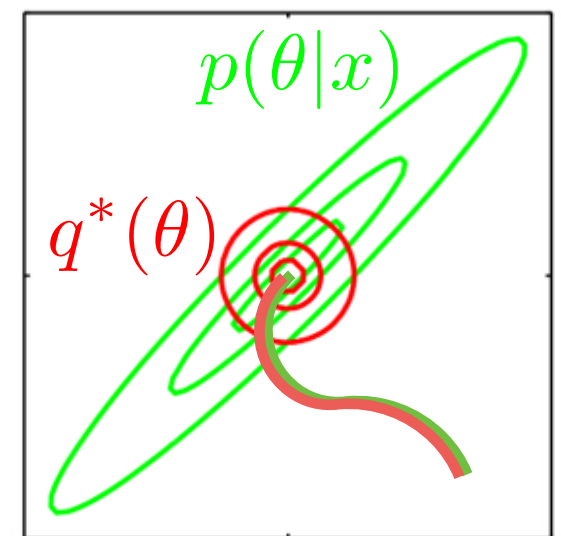


# LRVB estimator

- LRVB covariance estimate  $\hat{\Sigma} := \left. \frac{d}{dt} \mathbb{E}_{q_t^*} \theta \right|_{t=0}$
- Suppose  $q_t$  exponential family with mean parametrization  $m_t$

$$\hat{\Sigma} = \left( \left. \frac{\partial^2 KL}{\partial m \partial m^T} \right|_{m=m^*} \right)^{-1} = (I - VH)^{-1}V$$

- Symmetric and positive definite at local min of KL
- The LRVB assumption:  $\mathbb{E}_{p_t} \theta \approx \mathbb{E}_{q_t^*} \theta$



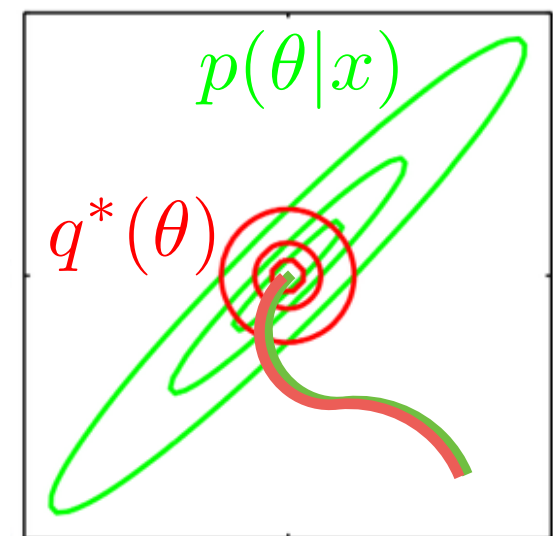
[Bishop 2006]

# LRVB estimator

- LRVB covariance estimate  $\hat{\Sigma} := \left. \frac{d}{dt} \mathbb{E}_{q_t^*} \theta \right|_{t=0}$
- Suppose  $q_t$  exponential family with mean parametrization  $m_t$

$$\hat{\Sigma} = \left( \left. \frac{\partial^2 KL}{\partial m \partial m^T} \right|_{m=m^*} \right)^{-1} = (I - VH)^{-1}V$$

- Symmetric and positive definite at local min of KL
- The LRVB assumption:  $\mathbb{E}_{p_t} \theta \approx \mathbb{E}_{q_t^*} \theta$
- LRVB estimate is exact when MFVB gives exact mean (e.g. multivariate normal)



[Bishop 2006]

# Microcredit Experiment

# Microcredit Experiment

- Simplified from Meager (2015)

# Microcredit Experiment

- Simplified from Meager (2015)
- $K$  microcredit trials (Mexico, Mongolia, Bosnia, India, Morocco, Philippines, Ethiopia)

# Microcredit Experiment


- Simplified from Meager (2015)
- $K$  microcredit trials (Mexico, Mongolia, Bosnia, India, Morocco, Philippines, Ethiopia)
- $N_k$  businesses in  $k$ th site ( $\sim 900$  to  $\sim 17K$ )

# Microcredit Experiment

- Simplified from Meager (2015)
- $K$  microcredit trials (Mexico, Mongolia, Bosnia, India, Morocco, Philippines, Ethiopia)
- $N_k$  businesses in  $k$ th site ( $\sim 900$  to  $\sim 17K$ )
- Profit of  $n$ th business at  $k$ th site:

# Microcredit Experiment

- Simplified from Meager (2015)
- $K$  microcredit trials (Mexico, Mongolia, Bosnia, India, Morocco, Philippines, Ethiopia)
- $N_k$  businesses in  $k$ th site ( $\sim 900$  to  $\sim 17K$ )
- Profit of  $n$ th business at  $k$ th site:

profit   $y_{kn}$



# Microcredit Experiment

- Simplified from Meager (2015)
- $K$  microcredit trials (Mexico, Mongolia, Bosnia, India, Morocco, Philippines, Ethiopia)
- $N_k$  businesses in  $k$ th site ( $\sim 900$  to  $\sim 17K$ )
- Profit of  $n$ th business at  $k$ th site:

profit   $y_{kn} \stackrel{indep}{\sim} \mathcal{N}(\quad, \quad)$

# Microcredit Experiment

- Simplified from Meager (2015)
- $K$  microcredit trials (Mexico, Mongolia, Bosnia, India, Morocco, Philippines, Ethiopia)
- $N_k$  businesses in  $k$ th site ( $\sim 900$  to  $\sim 17K$ )
- Profit of  $n$ th business at  $k$ th site:

profit   $y_{kn} \stackrel{indep}{\sim} \mathcal{N}(\mu_k, \sigma_k^2)$

# Microcredit Experiment

- Simplified from Meager (2015)
- $K$  microcredit trials (Mexico, Mongolia, Bosnia, India, Morocco, Philippines, Ethiopia)
- $N_k$  businesses in  $k$ th site ( $\sim 900$  to  $\sim 17K$ )
- Profit of  $n$ th business at  $k$ th site:

profit 

$$y_{kn} \stackrel{indep}{\sim} \mathcal{N}(\mu_k + T_{kn}\tau_k, \quad )$$

# Microcredit Experiment

- Simplified from Meager (2015)
- $K$  microcredit trials (Mexico, Mongolia, Bosnia, India, Morocco, Philippines, Ethiopia)
- $N_k$  businesses in  $k$ th site ( $\sim 900$  to  $\sim 17K$ )
- Profit of  $n$ th business at  $k$ th site:

profit  $\rightarrow y_{kn} \stackrel{indep}{\sim} \mathcal{N}(\mu_k + T_{kn}\tau_k, \quad )$

$T_{kn}$  is highlighted in green.

1 if microcredit

# Microcredit Experiment

- Simplified from Meager (2015)
- $K$  microcredit trials (Mexico, Mongolia, Bosnia, India, Morocco, Philippines, Ethiopia)
- $N_k$  businesses in  $k$ th site ( $\sim 900$  to  $\sim 17K$ )
- Profit of  $n$ th business at  $k$ th site:

profit  $\rightarrow y_{kn} \stackrel{indep}{\sim} \mathcal{N}(\mu_k + T_{kn} \tau_k, \quad )$

$\swarrow$  1 if microcredit

# Microcredit Experiment

- Simplified from Meager (2015)
- $K$  microcredit trials (Mexico, Mongolia, Bosnia, India, Morocco, Philippines, Ethiopia)
- $N_k$  businesses in  $k$ th site ( $\sim 900$  to  $\sim 17K$ )
- Profit of  $n$ th business at  $k$ th site:

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

$\swarrow$  1 if microcredit

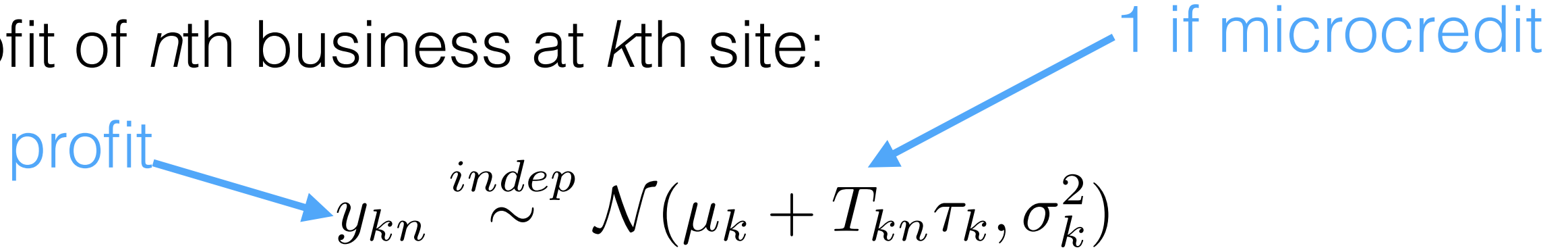
# Microcredit Experiment

- Simplified from Meager (2015)
- $K$  microcredit trials (Mexico, Mongolia, Bosnia, India, Morocco, Philippines, Ethiopia)
- $N_k$  businesses in  $k$ th site ( $\sim 900$  to  $\sim 17K$ )
- Profit of  $n$ th business at  $k$ th site:

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

$\swarrow$  1 if microcredit

# Microcredit Experiment

- Simplified from Meager (2015)
- $K$  microcredit trials (Mexico, Mongolia, Bosnia, India, Morocco, Philippines, Ethiopia)
- $N_k$  businesses in  $k$ th site ( $\sim 900$  to  $\sim 17K$ )
- Profit of  $n$ th business at  $k$ th site:  

$$y_{kn} \stackrel{indep}{\sim} \mathcal{N}(\mu_k + T_{kn}\tau_k, \sigma_k^2)$$
- Priors and hyperpriors:



# Microcredit Experiment

- Simplified from Meager (2015)
- $K$  microcredit trials (Mexico, Mongolia, Bosnia, India, Morocco, Philippines, Ethiopia)
- $N_k$  businesses in  $k$ th site ( $\sim 900$  to  $\sim 17K$ )
- Profit of  $n$ th business at  $k$ th site:

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

$\swarrow$  1 if microcredit

- Priors and hyperpriors:

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

# Microcredit Experiment

- Simplified from Meager (2015)
- $K$  microcredit trials (Mexico, Mongolia, Bosnia, India, Morocco, Philippines, Ethiopia)
- $N_k$  businesses in  $k$ th site ( $\sim 900$  to  $\sim 17K$ )
- Profit of  $n$ th business at  $k$ th site:

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

1 if microcredit  $\rightarrow T_{kn}$

- Priors and hyperpriors:

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

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

# Microcredit Experiment

- Simplified from Meager (2015)
- $K$  microcredit trials (Mexico, Mongolia, Bosnia, India, Morocco, Philippines, Ethiopia)
- $N_k$  businesses in  $k$ th site ( $\sim 900$  to  $\sim 17K$ )
- Profit of  $n$ th business at  $k$ th site:

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

$\swarrow$  1 if microcredit

- Priors and hyperpriors:

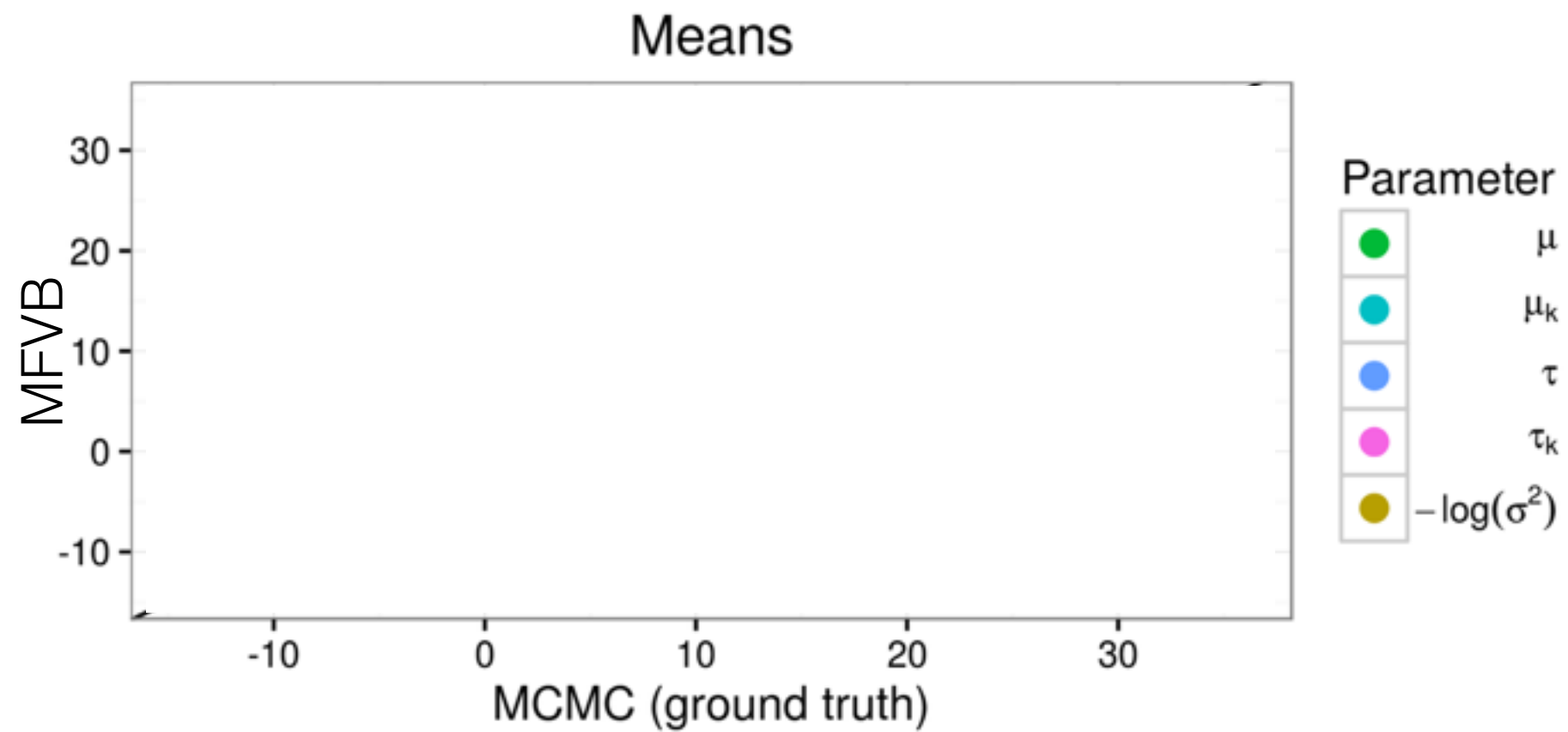
$$\begin{pmatrix} \mu_k \\ \tau_k \end{pmatrix} \stackrel{iid}{\sim} \mathcal{N}\left(\begin{pmatrix} \mu \\ \tau \end{pmatrix}, C\right) \quad \begin{pmatrix} \mu \\ \tau \end{pmatrix} \stackrel{iid}{\sim} \mathcal{N}\left(\begin{pmatrix} \mu_0 \\ \tau_0 \end{pmatrix}, \Lambda^{-1}\right)$$

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

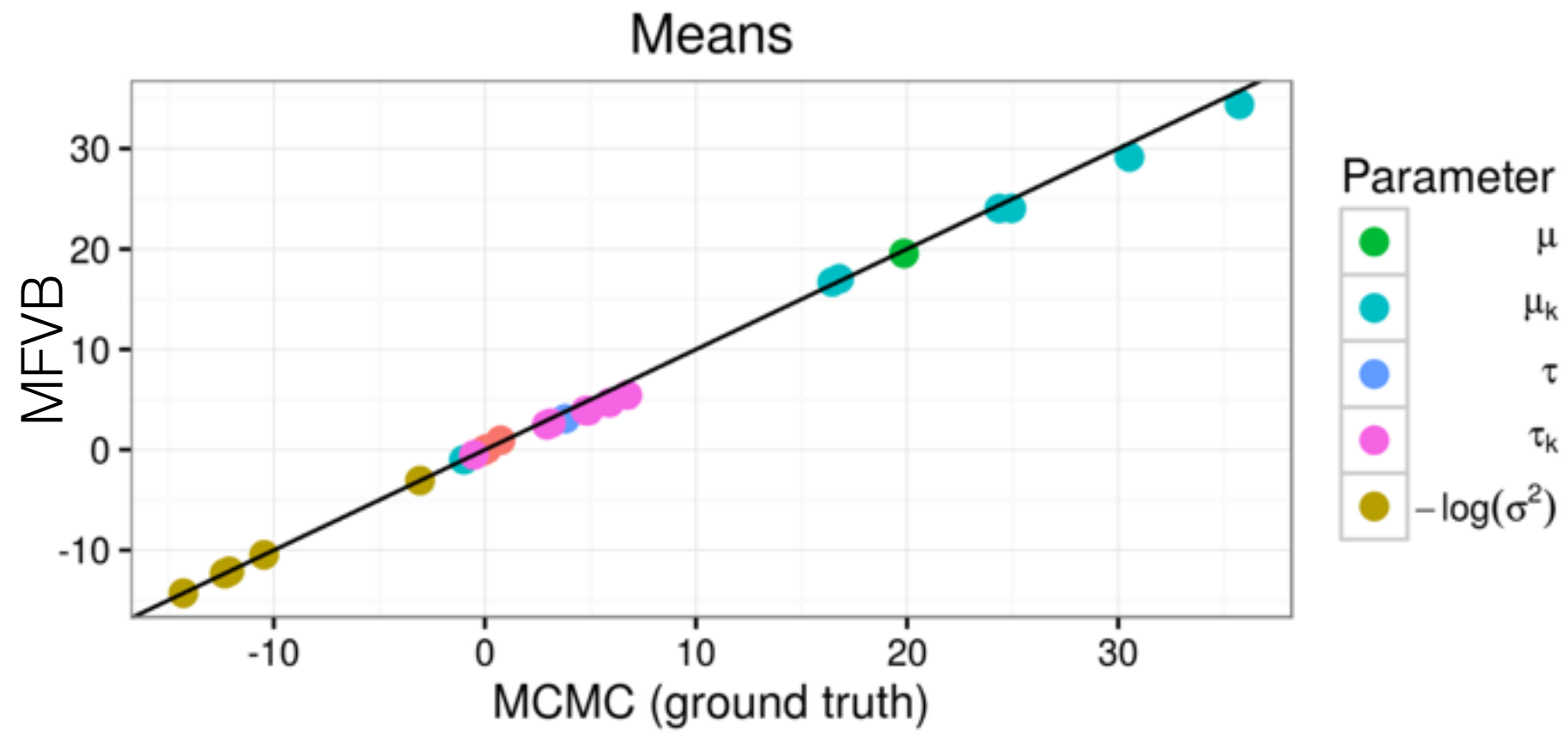
$$C \sim \text{Sep\&LKJ}(\eta, c, d)$$

# Microcredit Experiment

# Microcredit Experiment

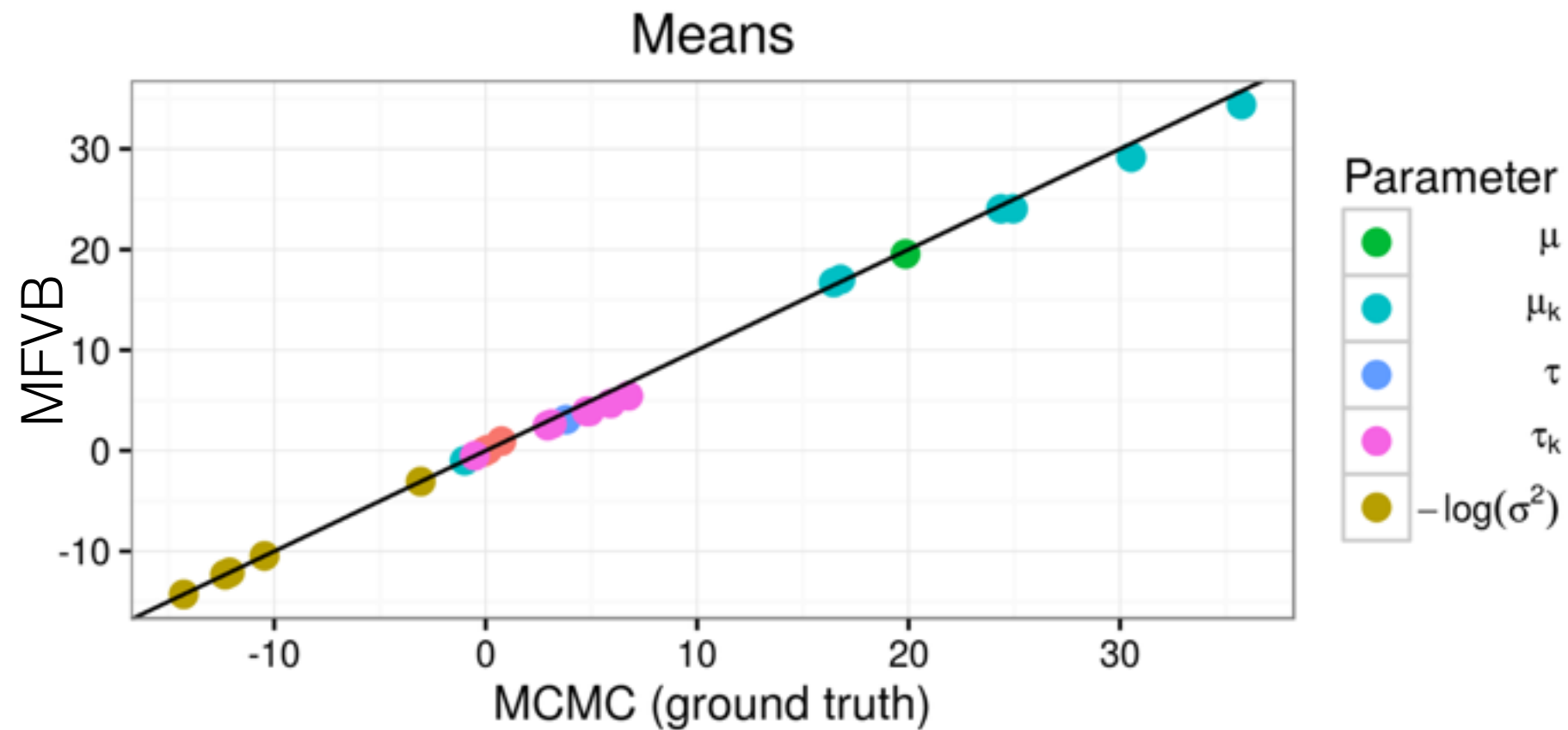


# Microcredit Experiment



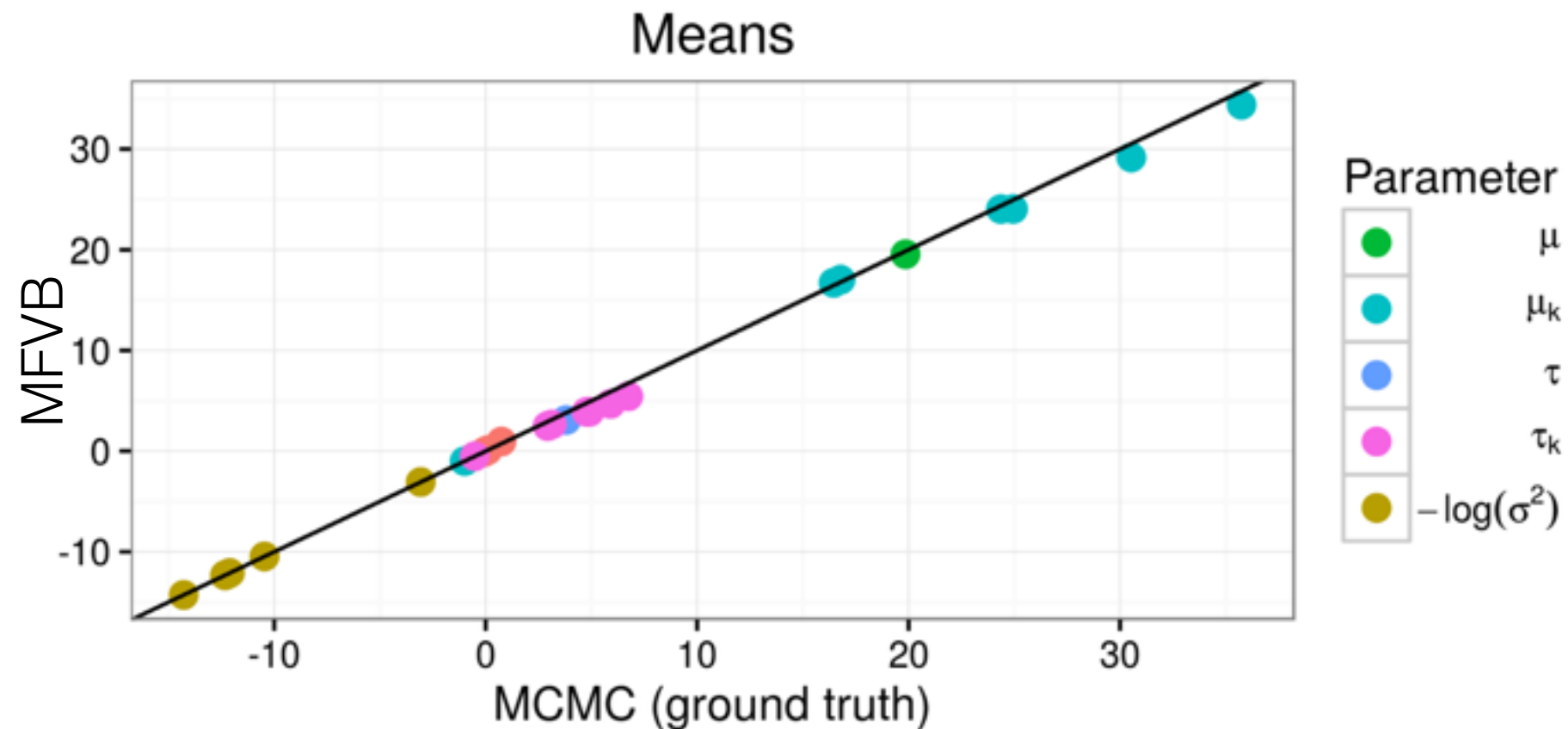
# Microcredit Experiment

- *One set of 2500*  
MCMC draws: **45**  
**minutes**



# Microcredit Experiment

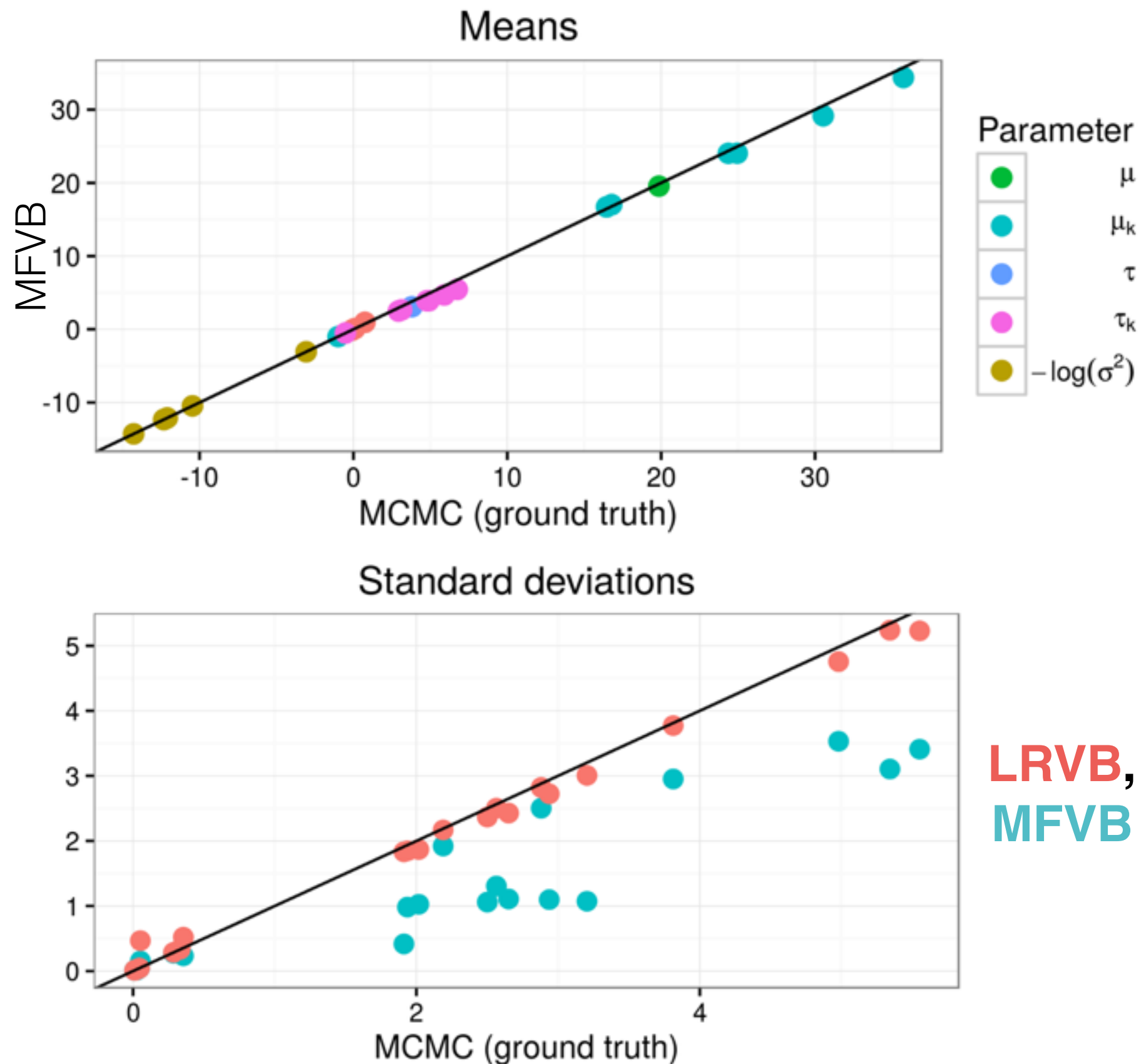
- *One set of 2500* MCMC draws: **45 minutes**
- All of MFVB optimization, LRVB uncertainties, all sensitivity measures: **58 seconds**





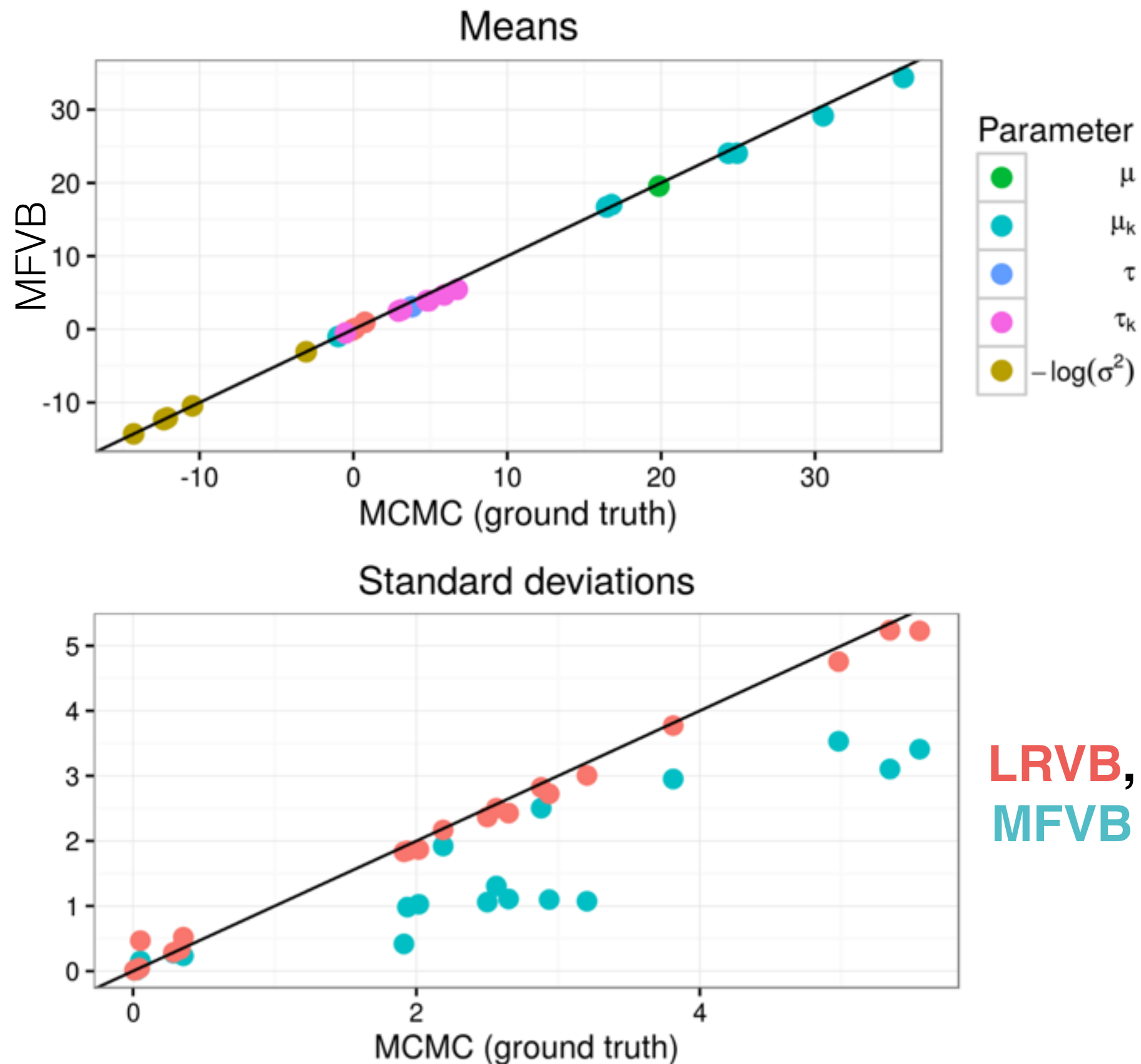
# Microcredit Experiment

- One set of 2500 MCMC draws: **45 minutes**
- All of MFVB optimization, LRVB uncertainties, all sensitivity measures: **58 seconds**



# Microcredit Experiment

- One set of 2500 MCMC draws: **45 minutes**
- All of MFVB optimization, LRVB uncertainties, all sensitivity measures: **58 seconds**
- Many other models and data sets: Mixture models, generalized linear mixed models, etc



# Robustness quantification

- Variational Bayes as an alternative to MCMC
- Challenges of VB
- Accurate uncertainties from VB
- Accurate robustness quantification from VB
- Big idea: derivatives/perturbations are easy in VB

# Robustness quantification

- Variational Bayes as an alternative to MCMC
- Challenges of VB
- Accurate uncertainties from VB
- Accurate robustness quantification from VB
- Big idea: derivatives/perturbations are easy in VB

# Robustness quantification

- Bayes Theorem

$$p(\theta|x)$$

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

# Robustness quantification

- Bayes Theorem

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

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

# Robustness quantification

- Bayes Theorem

$$p_{\alpha}(\theta) := p(\theta|x, \alpha)$$
$$\propto_{\theta} p(x|\theta)p(\theta|\alpha)$$

# Robustness quantification

- Bayes Theorem

$$p_{\alpha}(\theta) := p(\theta|x, \alpha)$$
$$\propto_{\theta} p(x|\theta)p(\theta|\alpha)$$

- Sensitivity

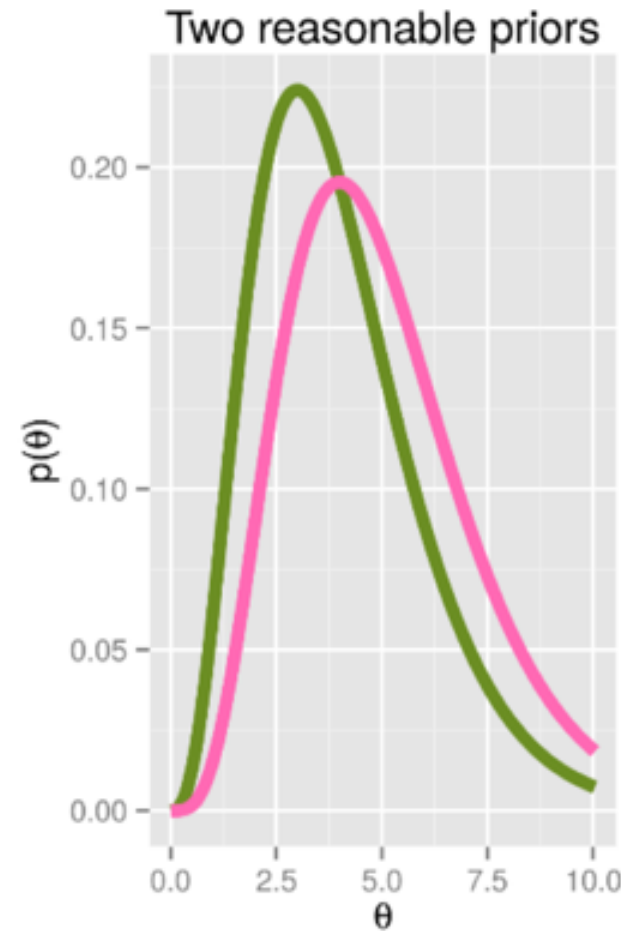


# Robustness quantification

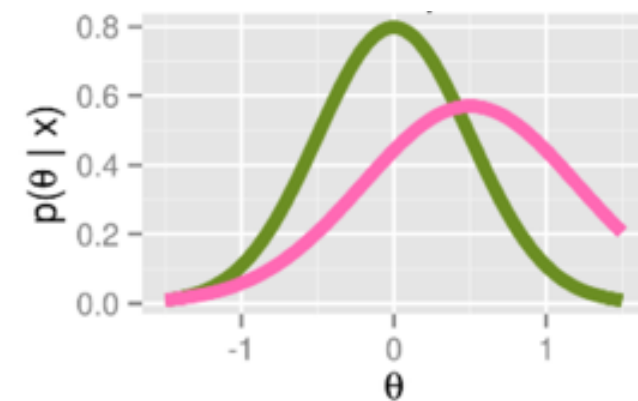
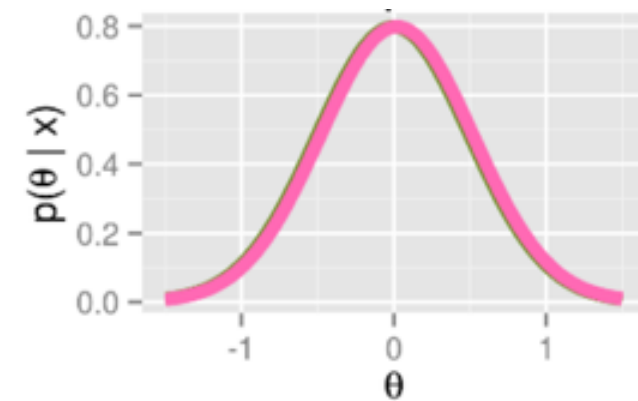
- Bayes Theorem

$$p_{\alpha}(\theta) := p(\theta|x, \alpha)$$
$$\propto_{\theta} p(x|\theta)p(\theta|\alpha)$$

- Sensitivity



Bayes Theorem



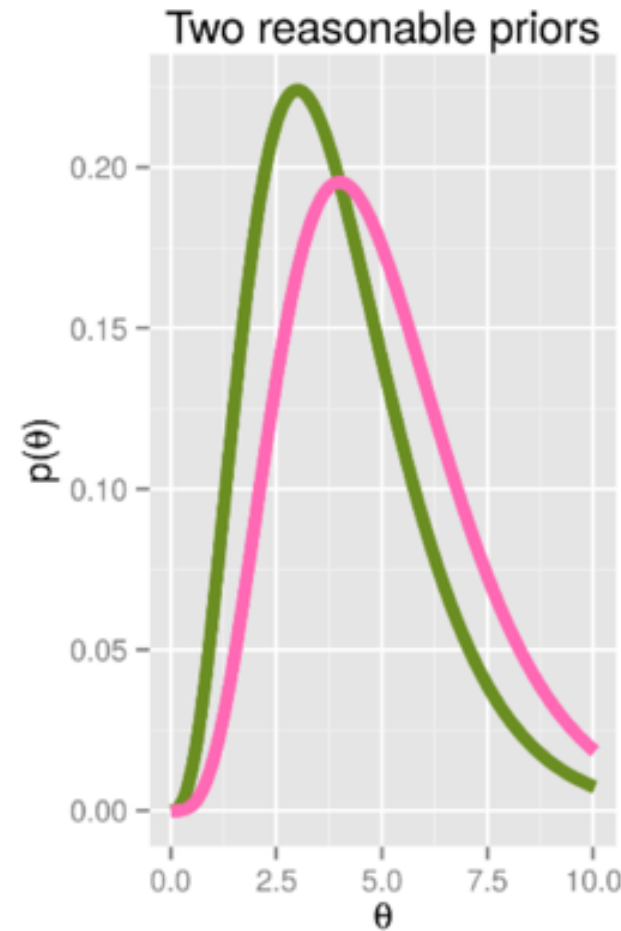
# Robustness quantification

- Bayes Theorem

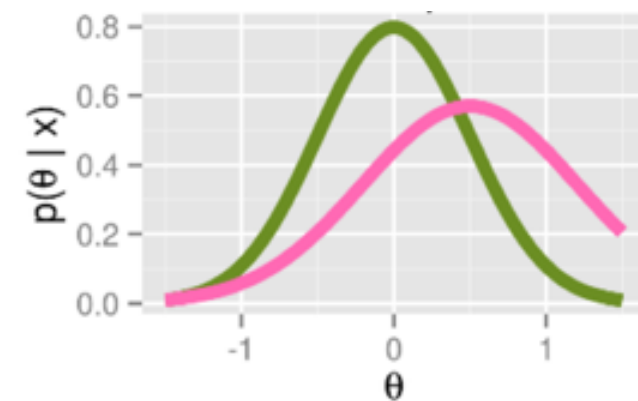
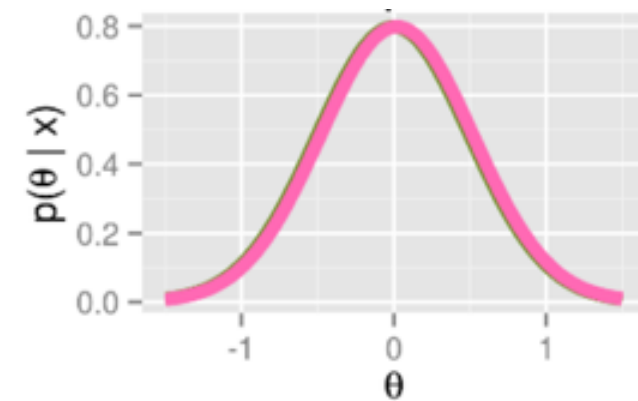
$$p_{\alpha}(\theta) := p(\theta|x, \alpha)$$
$$\propto_{\theta} p(x|\theta)p(\theta|\alpha)$$

- Sensitivity

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



Bayes Theorem



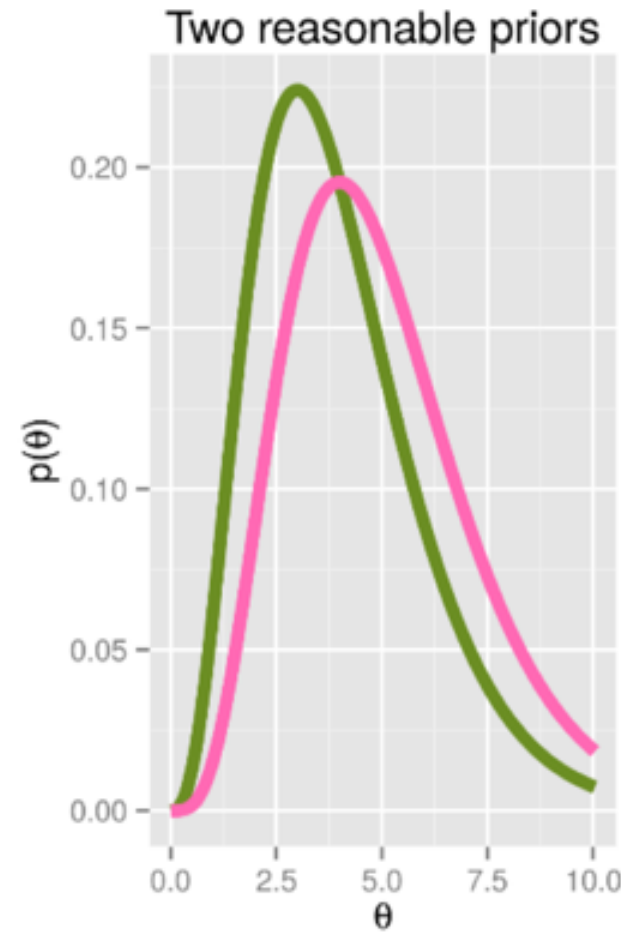
# Robustness quantification

- Bayes Theorem

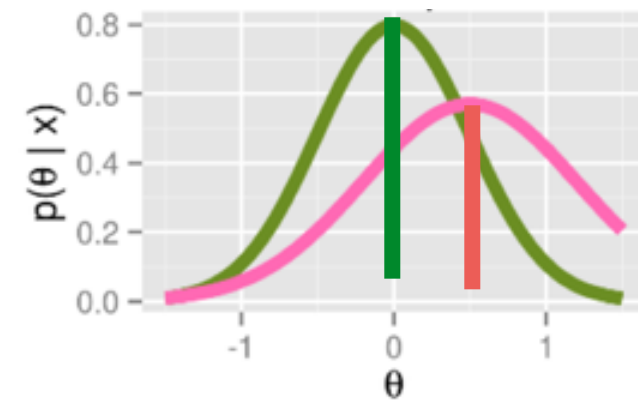
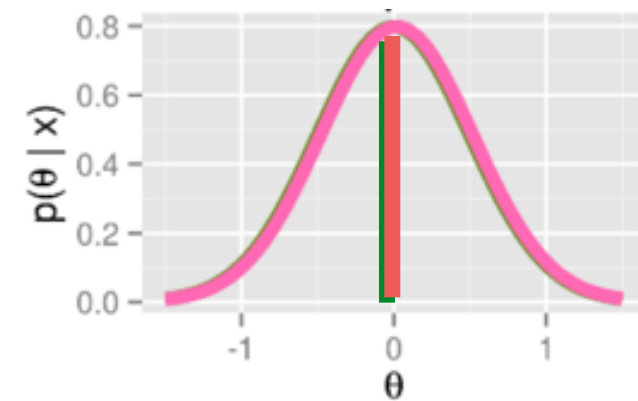
$$p_{\alpha}(\theta) := p(\theta|x, \alpha)$$
$$\propto_{\theta} p(x|\theta)p(\theta|\alpha)$$

- Sensitivity

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



Bayes Theorem



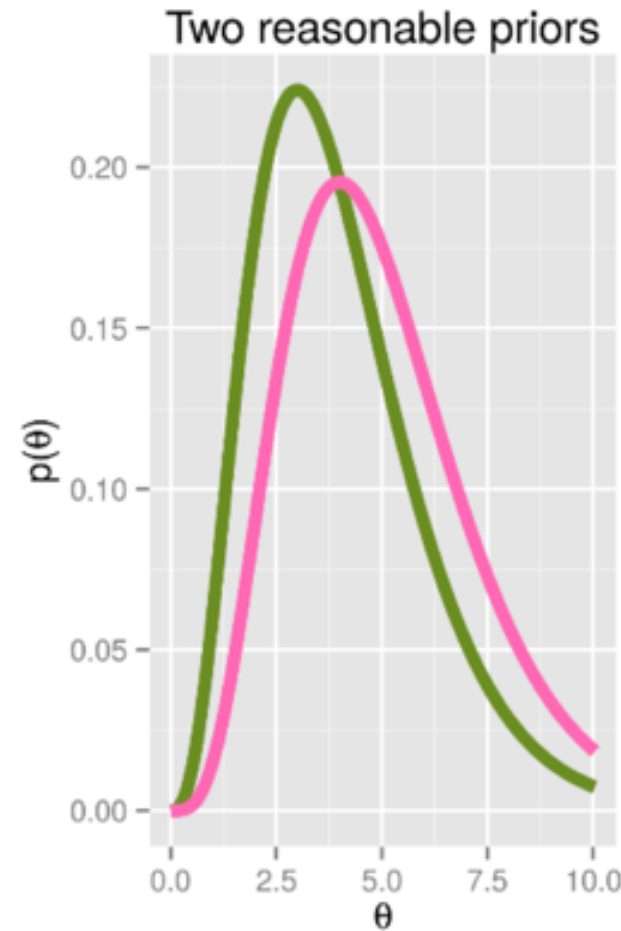
# Robustness quantification

- Bayes Theorem

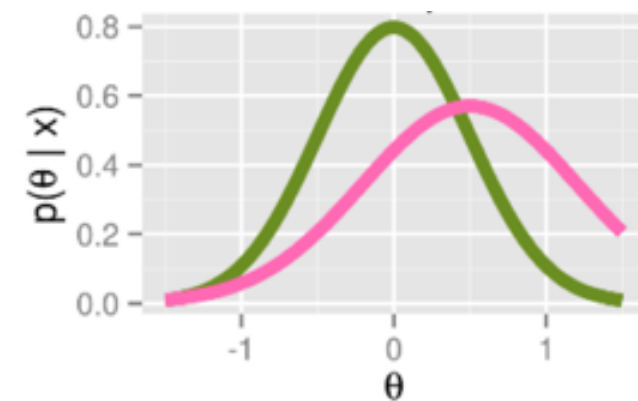
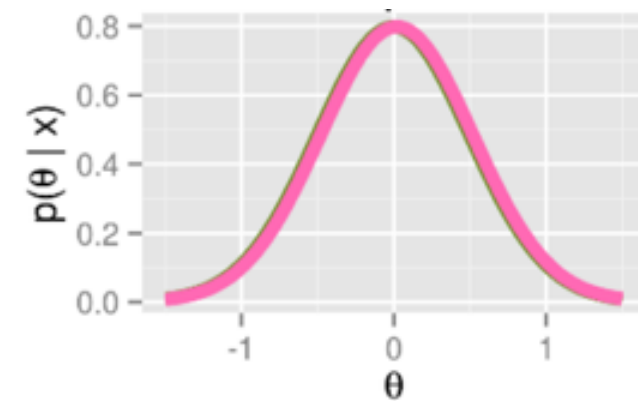
$$p_{\alpha}(\theta) := p(\theta|x, \alpha)$$
$$\propto_{\theta} p(x|\theta)p(\theta|\alpha)$$

- Sensitivity

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



Bayes Theorem



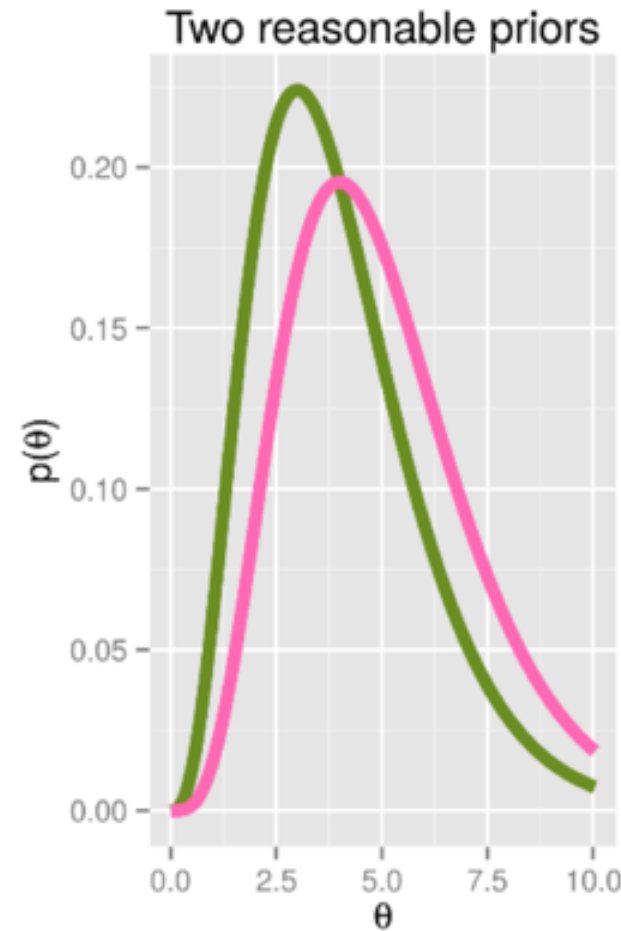
# Robustness quantification

- Bayes Theorem

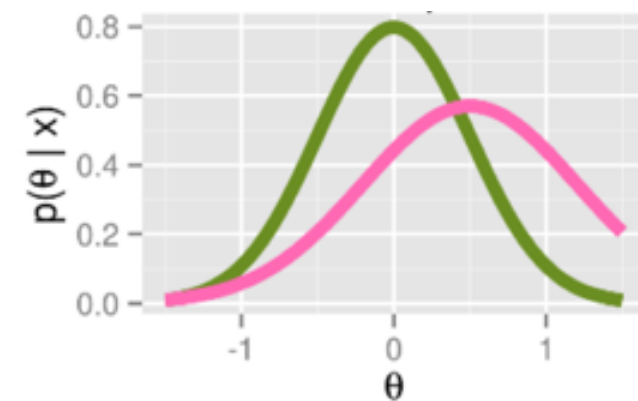
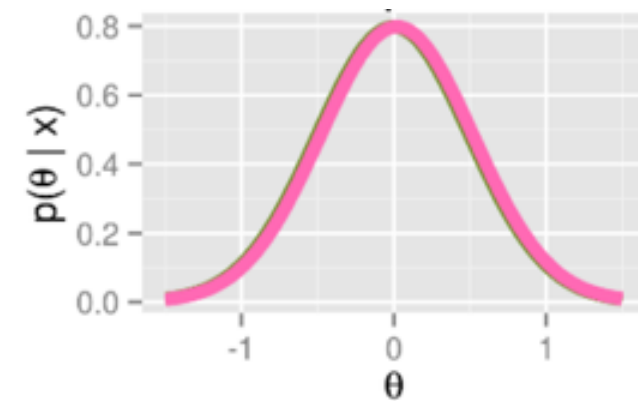
$$p_{\alpha}(\theta) := p(\theta|x, \alpha)$$
$$\propto_{\theta} p(x|\theta)p(\theta|\alpha)$$

- Sensitivity

$$S := \left. \frac{d\mathbb{E}_{p_{\alpha}}[g(\theta)]}{d\alpha} \right|_{\alpha} \Delta\alpha$$



Bayes Theorem



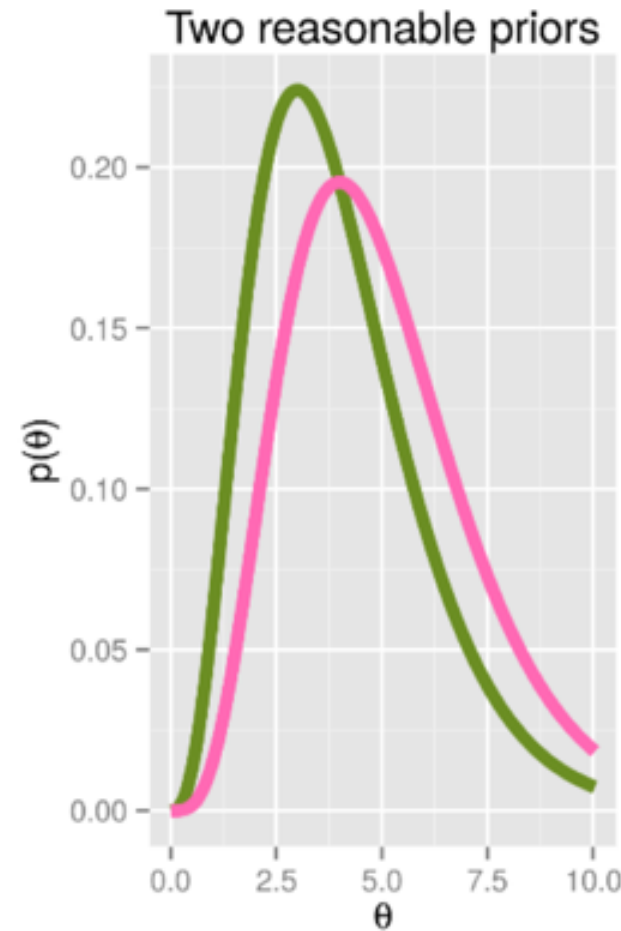
# Robustness quantification

- Bayes Theorem

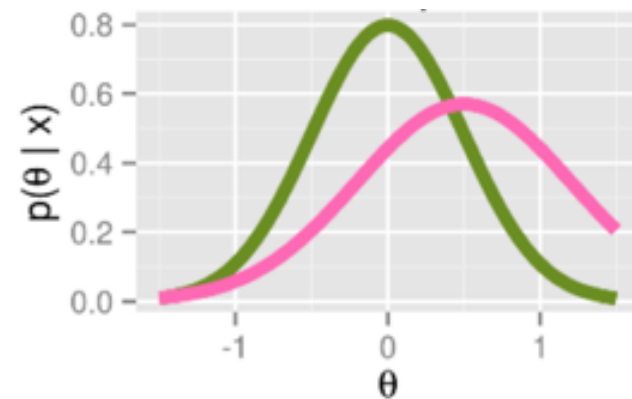
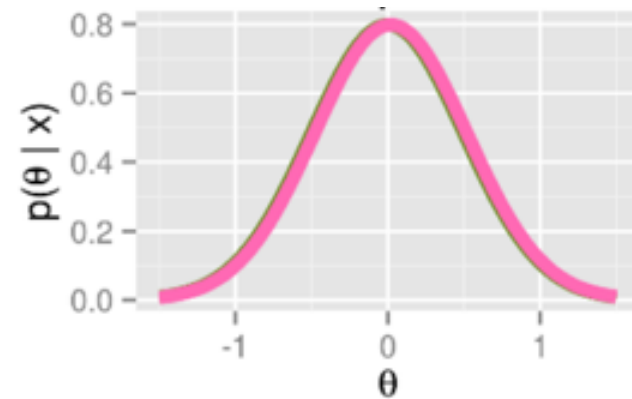
$$p_{\alpha}(\theta) := p(\theta|x, \alpha)$$
$$\propto_{\theta} p(x|\theta)p(\theta|\alpha)$$

- Sensitivity

$$S := \left. \frac{d\mathbb{E}_{p_{\alpha}}[g(\theta)]}{d\alpha} \right|_{\alpha} \Delta\alpha$$
$$\approx \left. \frac{d\mathbb{E}_{q_{\alpha}^*}[g(\theta)]}{d\alpha} \right|_{\alpha} \Delta\alpha =: \hat{S}$$



Bayes Theorem



# Robustness quantification

- Bayes Theorem

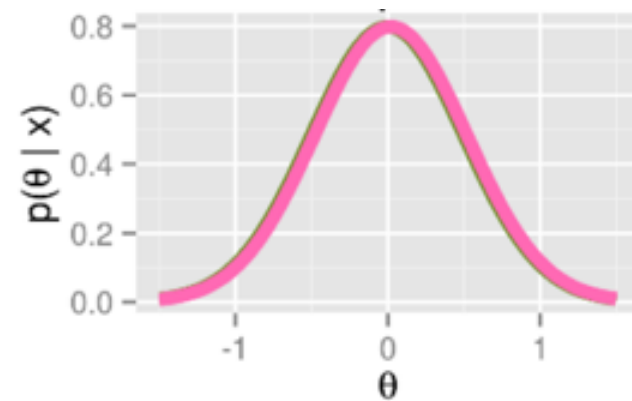
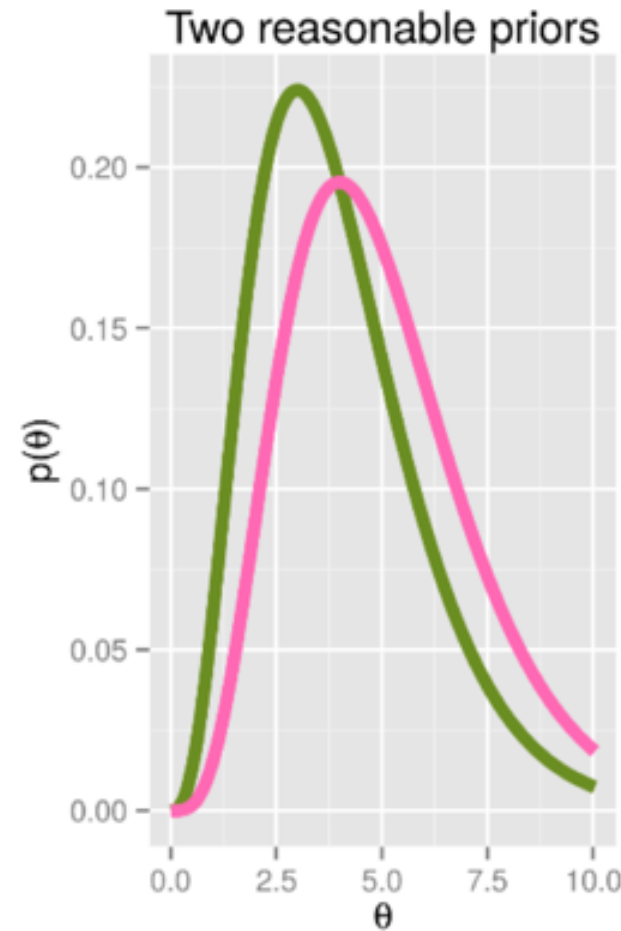
$$p_{\alpha}(\theta) := p(\theta|x, \alpha)$$

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

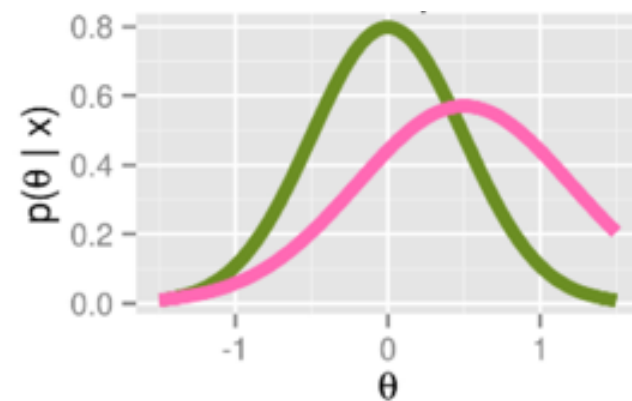
- Sensitivity

$$S := \left. \frac{d\mathbb{E}_{p_{\alpha}}[g(\theta)]}{d\alpha} \right|_{\alpha} \Delta\alpha$$

$$\approx \left. \frac{d\mathbb{E}_{q_{\alpha}^*}[g(\theta)]}{d\alpha} \right|_{\alpha} \Delta\alpha =: \hat{S} \quad \leftarrow \text{LRVB estimator}$$



Bayes Theorem



# Robustness quantification

- Bayes Theorem

$$p_{\alpha}(\theta) := p(\theta|x, \alpha)$$

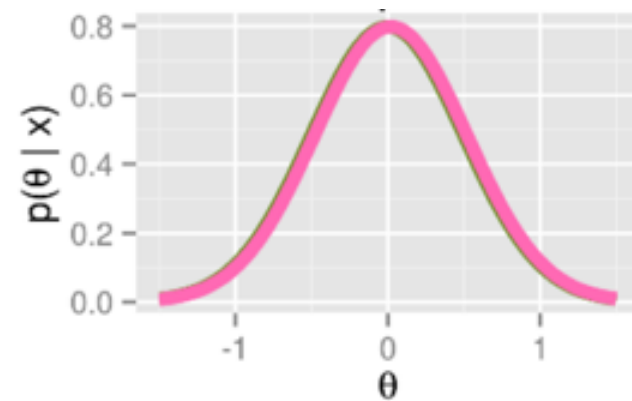
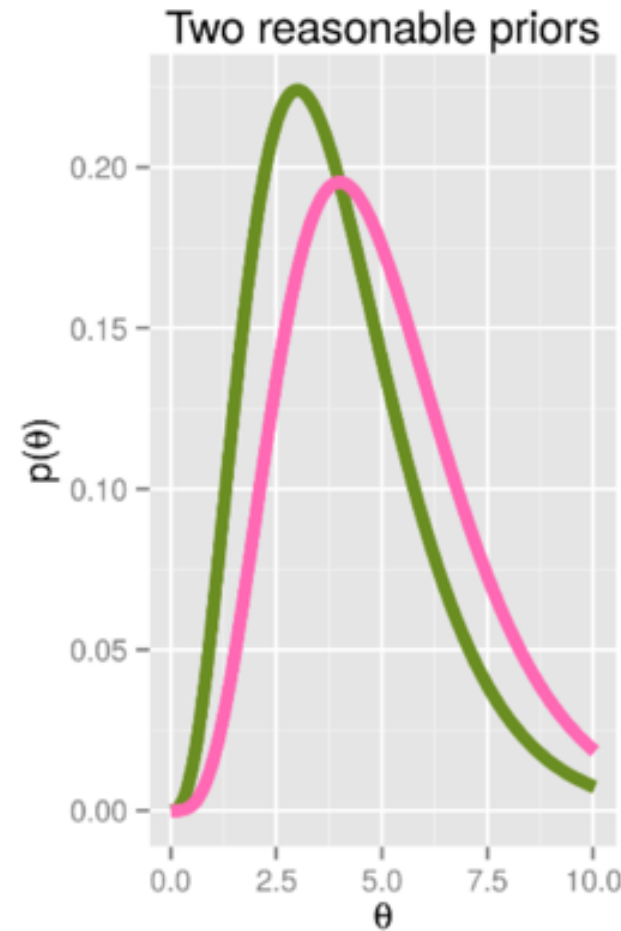
$$\propto_{\theta} p(x|\theta)p(\theta|\alpha)$$

- Sensitivity

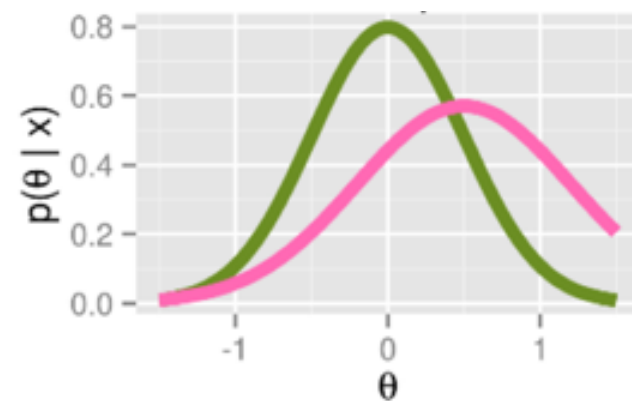
$$S := \left. \frac{d\mathbb{E}_{p_{\alpha}}[g(\theta)]}{d\alpha} \right|_{\alpha} \Delta\alpha$$

$$\approx \left. \frac{d\mathbb{E}_{q_{\alpha}^*}[g(\theta)]}{d\alpha} \right|_{\alpha} \Delta\alpha =: \hat{S} \quad \leftarrow \text{LRVB estimator}$$

- When  $q_{\alpha}^*$  in exponential family



Bayes Theorem





# Robustness quantification

- Bayes Theorem

$$p_{\alpha}(\theta) := p(\theta|x, \alpha)$$

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

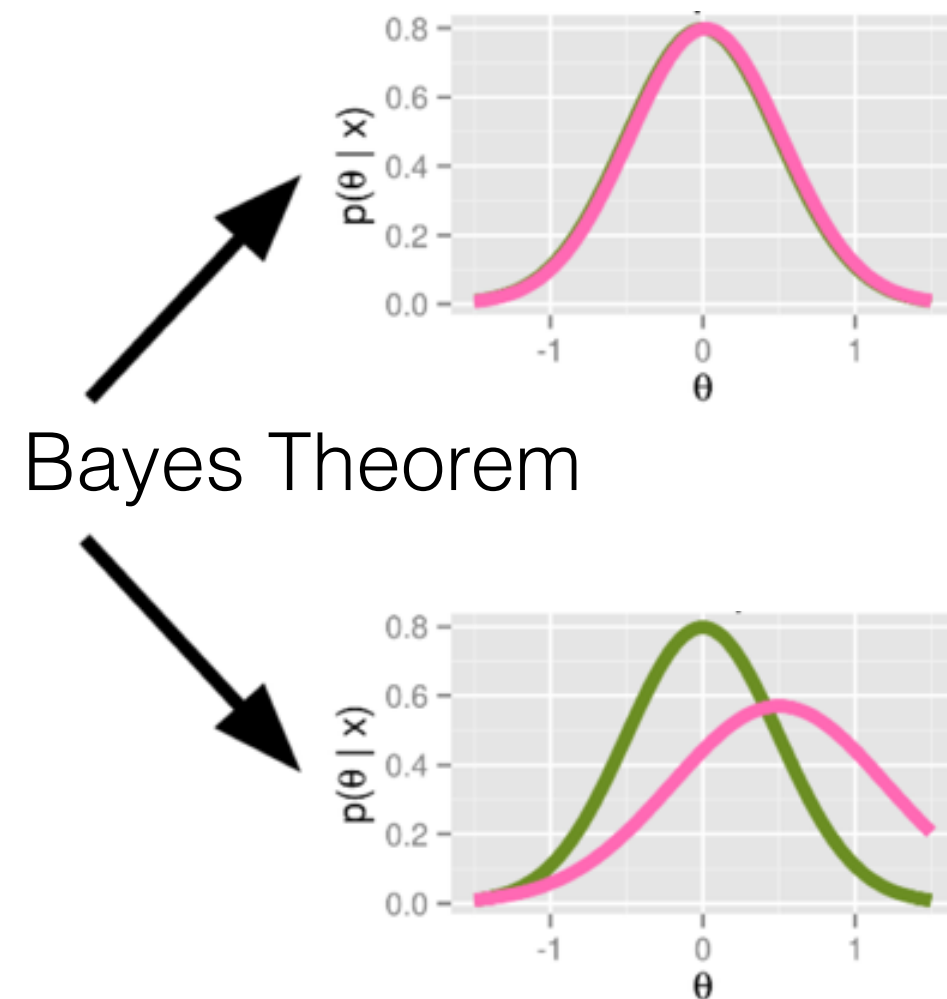
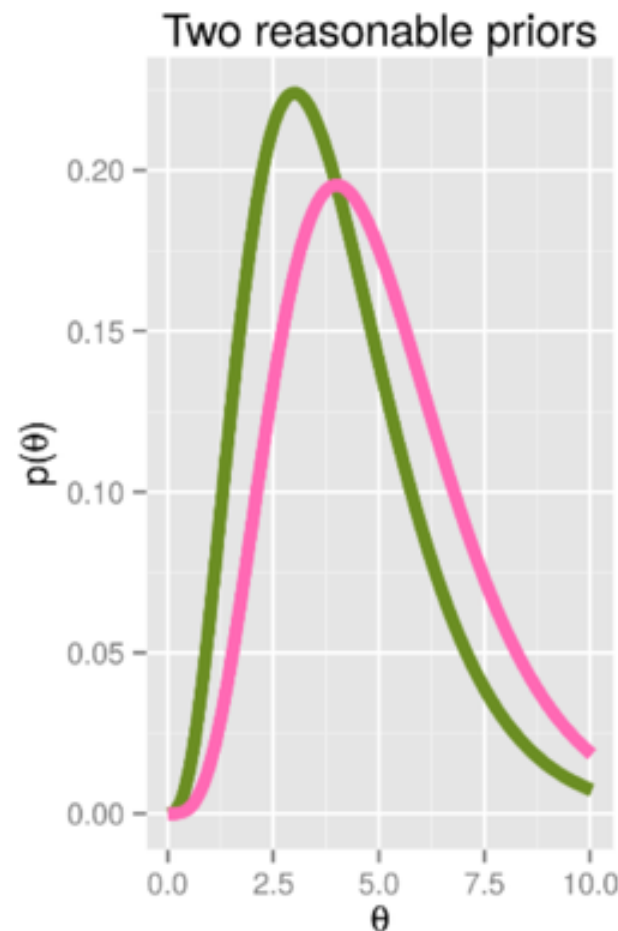
- Sensitivity

$$S := \left. \frac{d\mathbb{E}_{p_{\alpha}}[g(\theta)]}{d\alpha} \right|_{\alpha} \Delta\alpha$$

$$\approx \left. \frac{d\mathbb{E}_{q_{\alpha}^*}[g(\theta)]}{d\alpha} \right|_{\alpha} \Delta\alpha =: \hat{S}$$

- When  $q_{\alpha}^*$  in exponential family

$$\hat{S} = A \left( \left. \frac{\partial^2 KL}{\partial m \partial m^T} \right|_{m=m^*} \right)^{-1} B$$



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 ( $\sim 900$  to  $\sim 17K$ )
- Profit of  $n$ th business at  $k$ th site:

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

$\swarrow$  1 if microcredit

- Priors and hyperpriors:

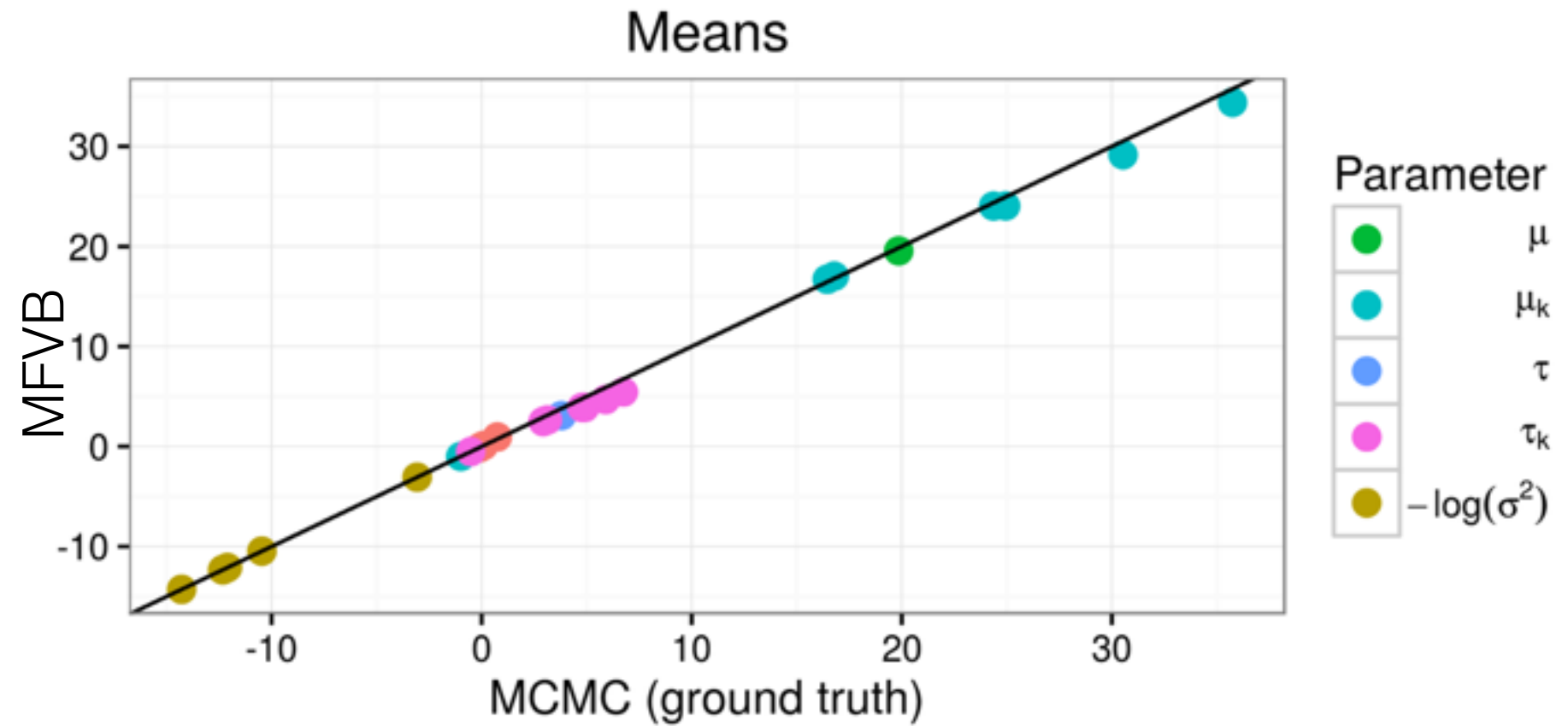
$$\begin{pmatrix} \mu_k \\ \tau_k \end{pmatrix} \stackrel{iid}{\sim} \mathcal{N}\left(\begin{pmatrix} \mu \\ \tau \end{pmatrix}, C\right) \quad \begin{pmatrix} \mu \\ \tau \end{pmatrix} \stackrel{iid}{\sim} \mathcal{N}\left(\begin{pmatrix} \mu_0 \\ \tau_0 \end{pmatrix}, \Lambda^{-1}\right)$$

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

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

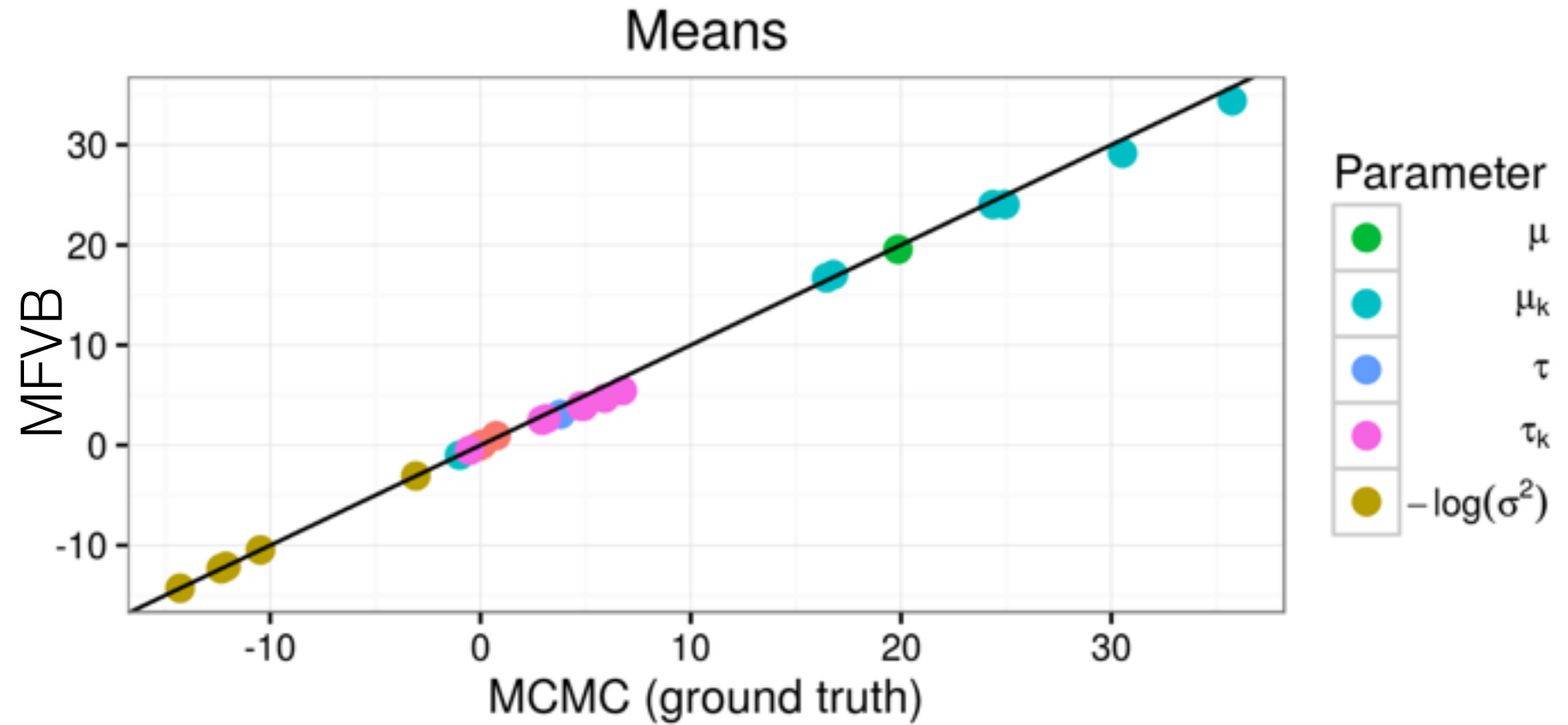
# Microcredit Experiment

# Microcredit Experiment



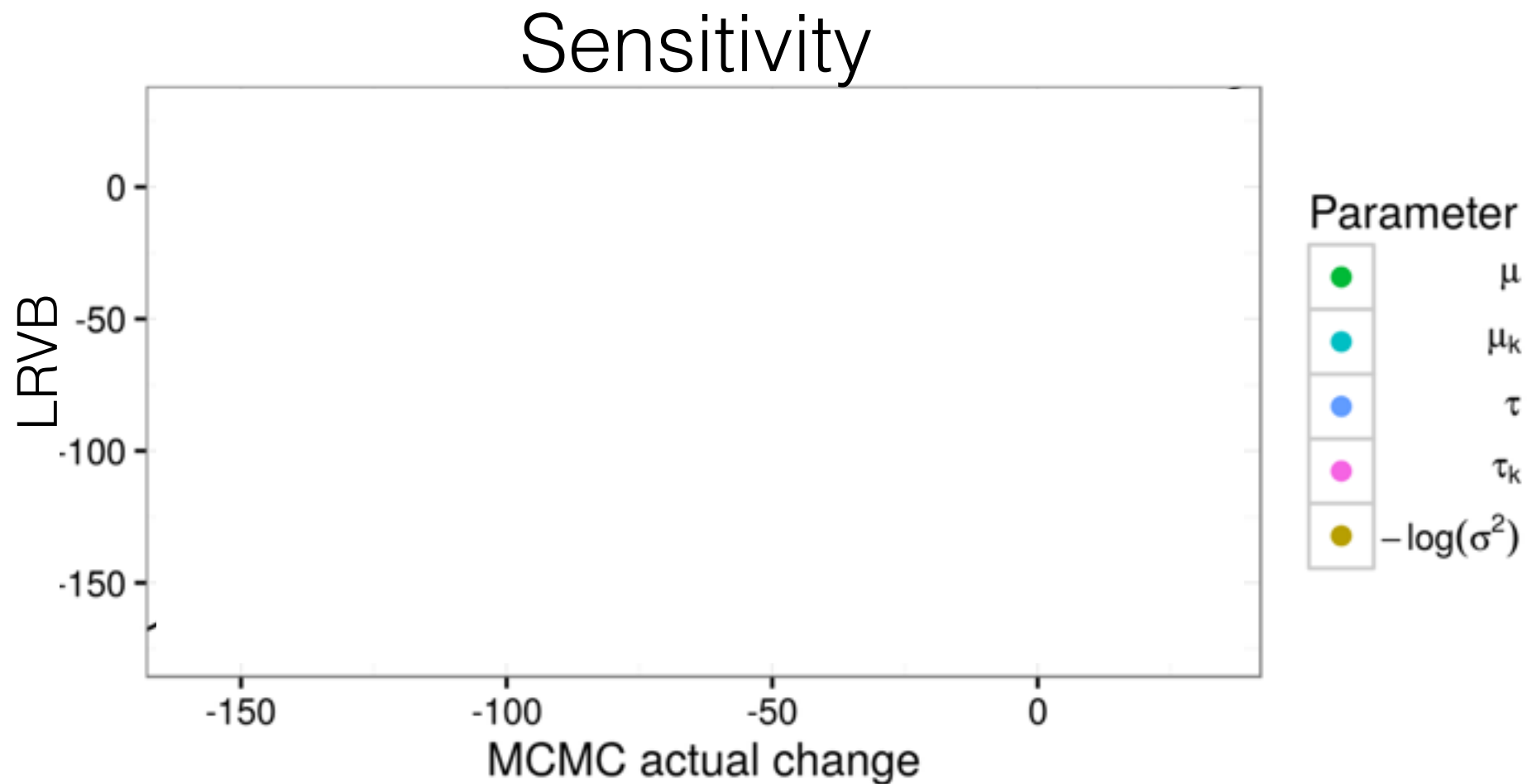
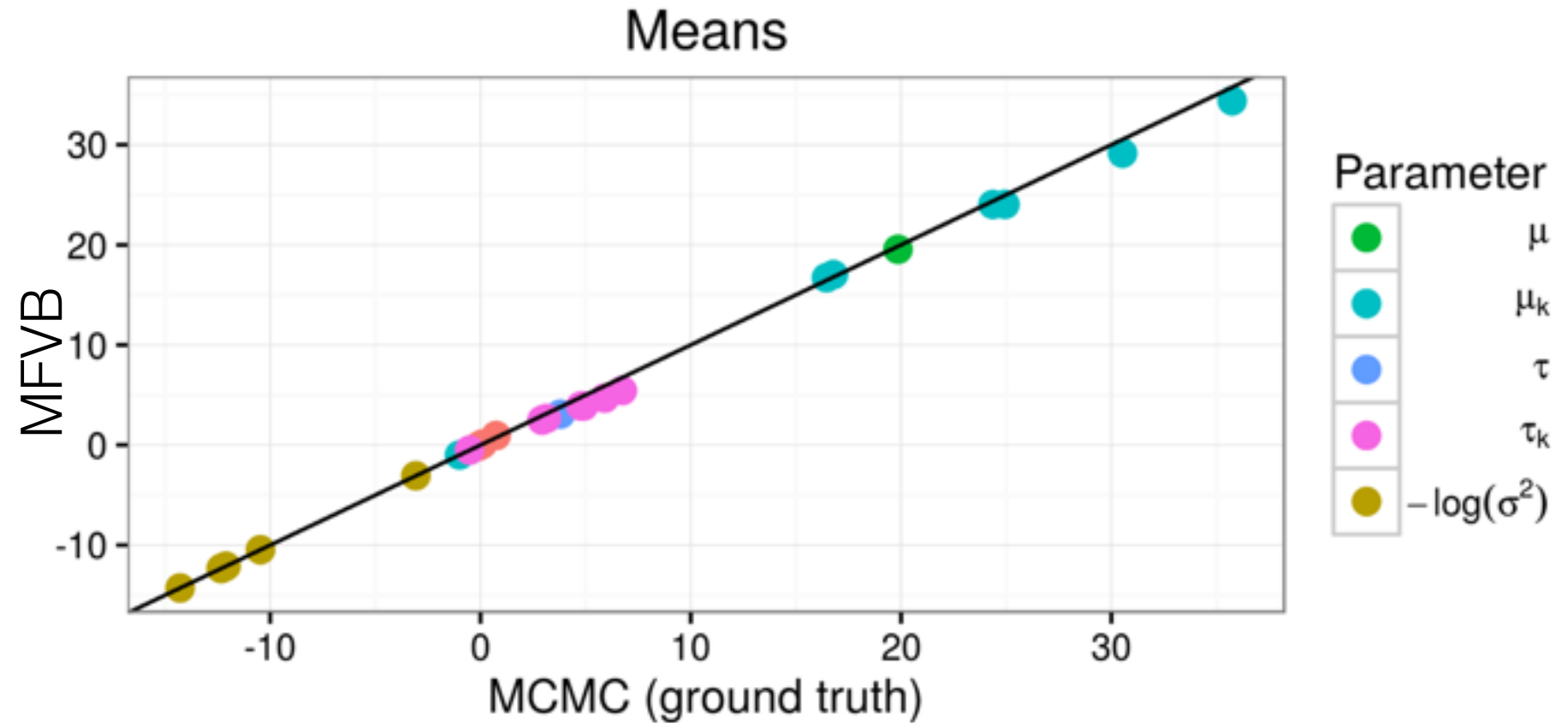
# Microcredit Experiment

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



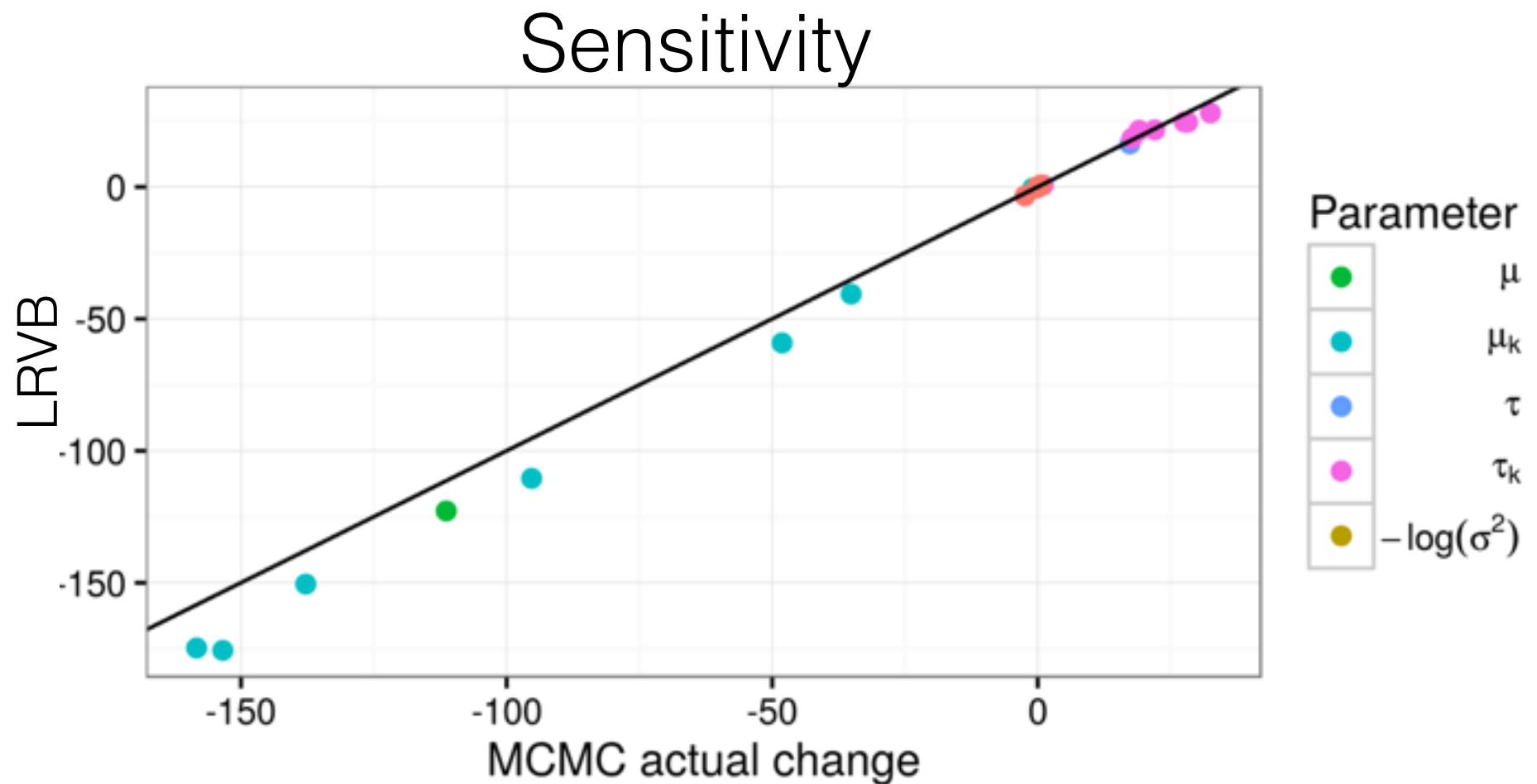
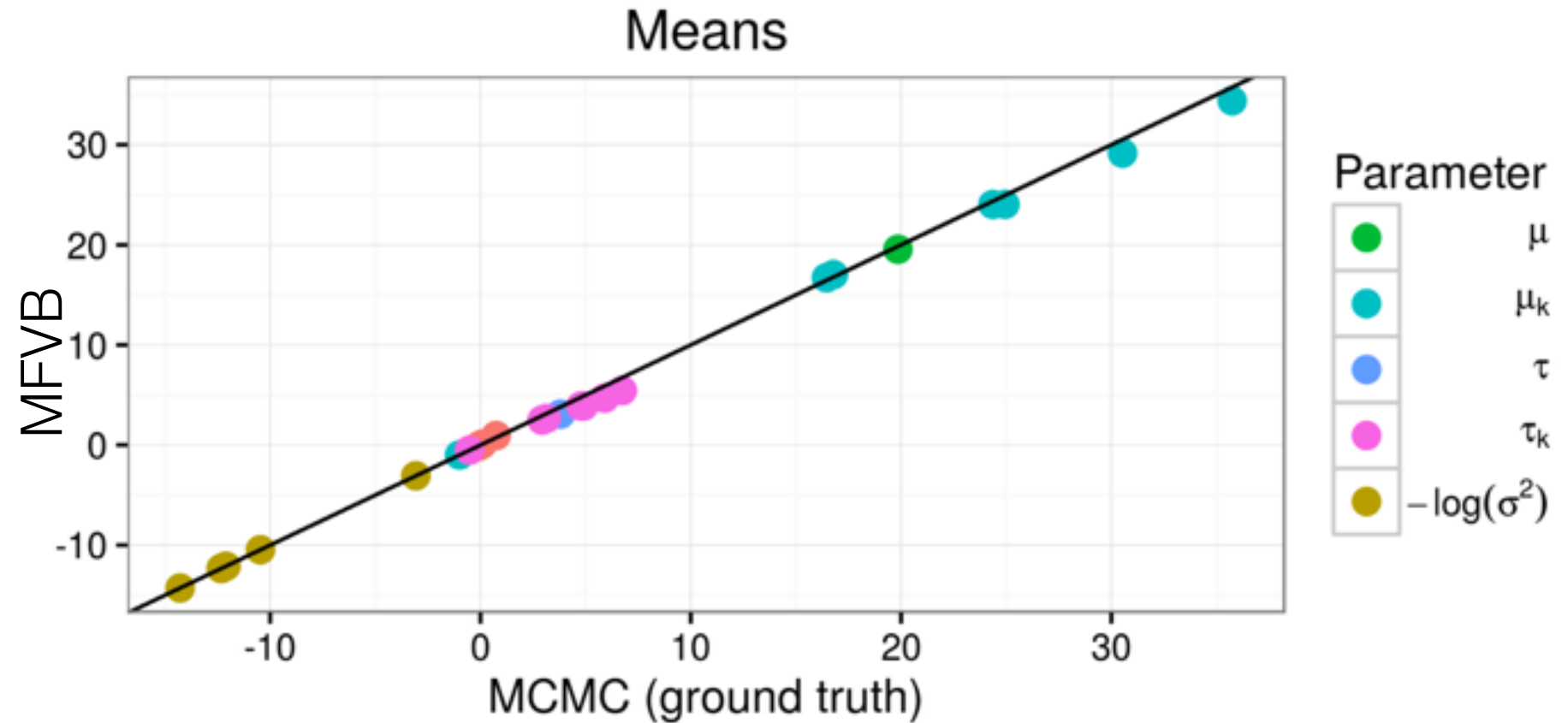
# Microcredit Experiment

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



# Microcredit Experiment

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



# Microcredit Experiment



# Microcredit Experiment

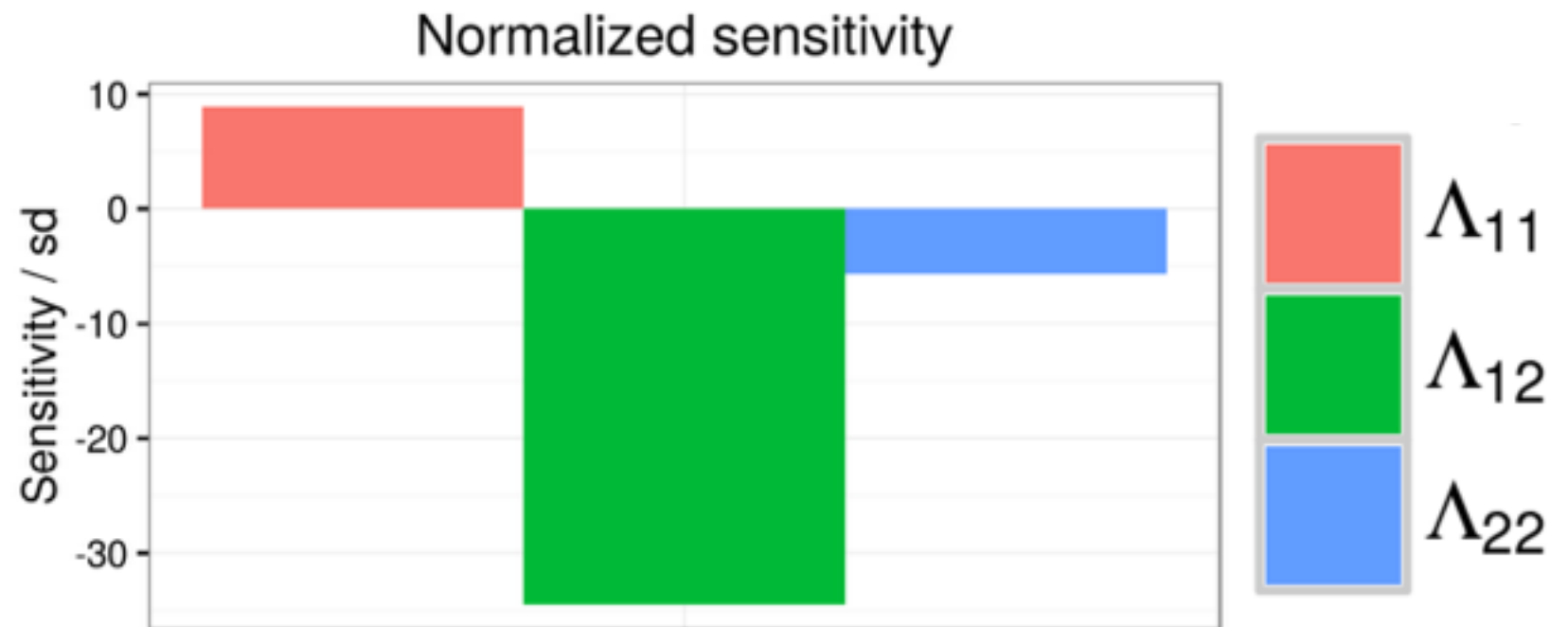
- Sensitivity of the expected microcredit effect ( $\tau$ )

# Microcredit Experiment

- Sensitivity of the expected microcredit effect ( $\tau$ )
- Normalized to be on scale of standard deviations in  $\tau$

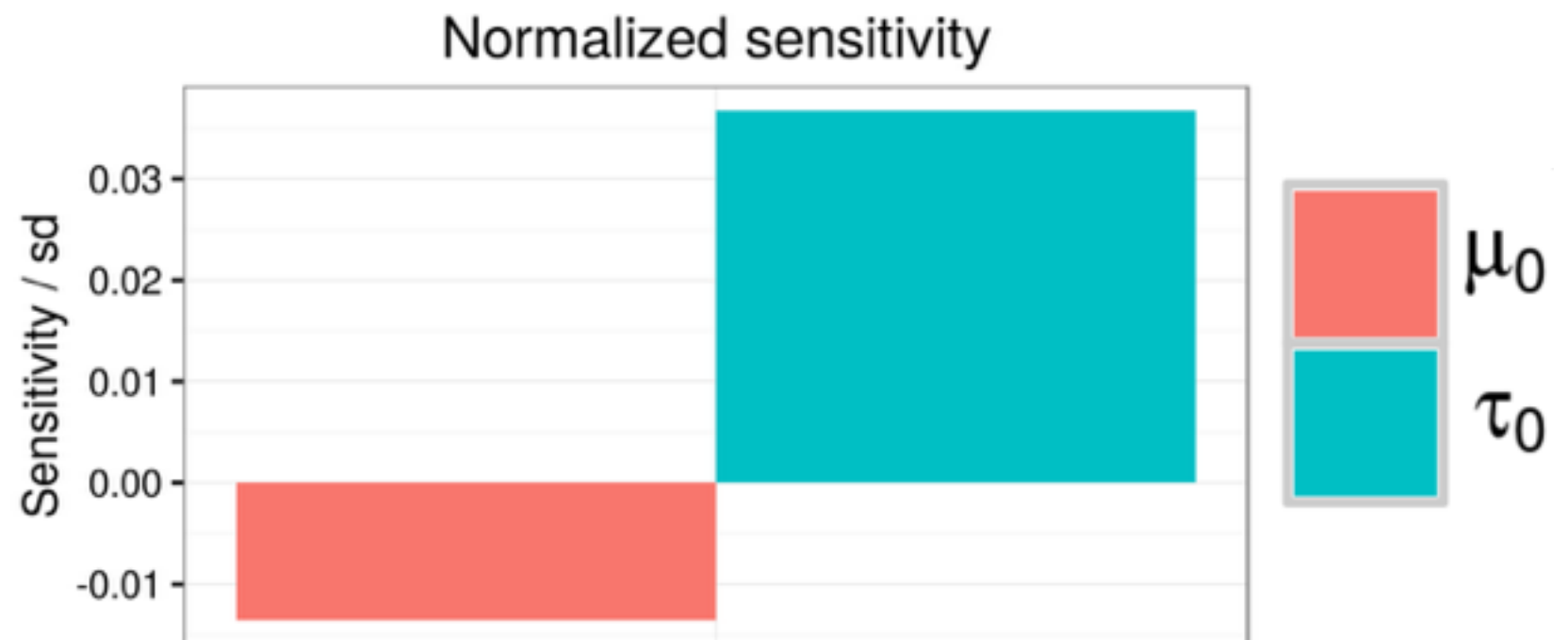
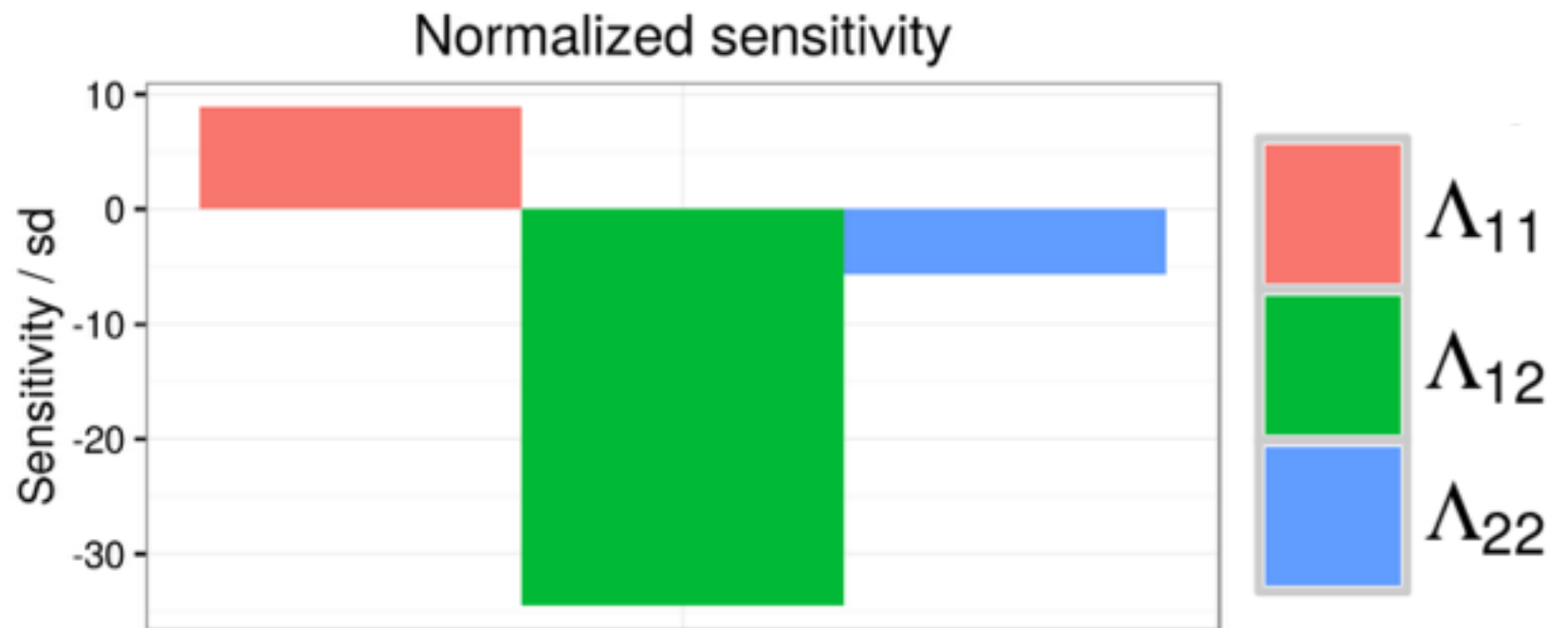
# Microcredit Experiment

- Sensitivity of the expected microcredit effect ( $\tau$ )
- Normalized to be on scale of standard deviations in  $\tau$



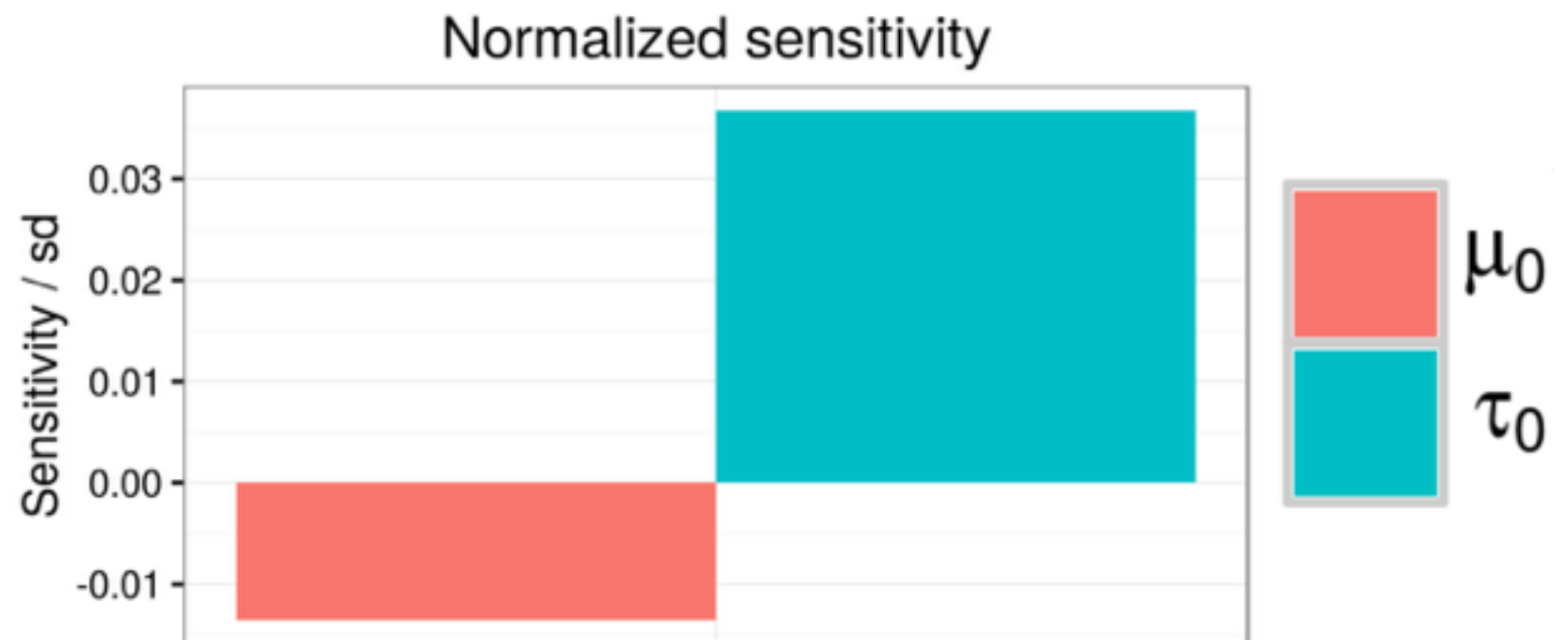
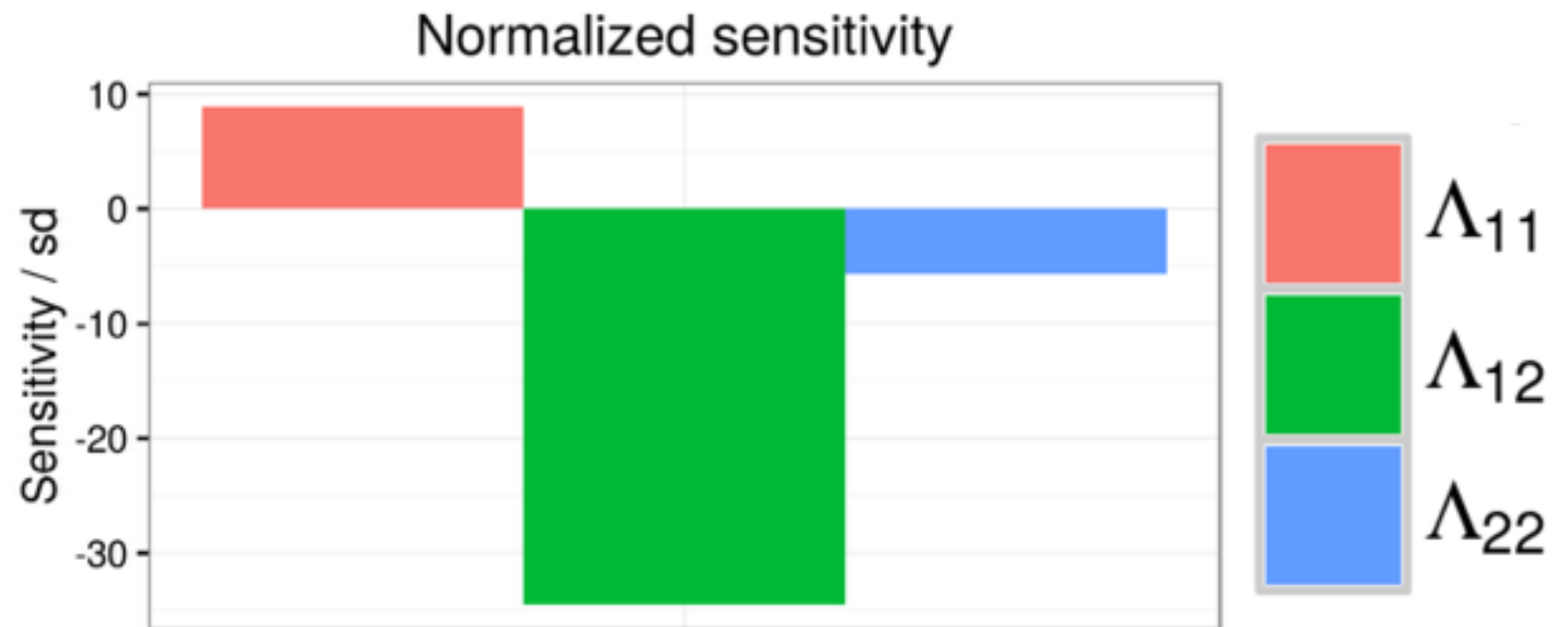
# Microcredit Experiment

- Sensitivity of the expected microcredit effect ( $\tau$ )
- Normalized to be on scale of standard deviations in  $\tau$



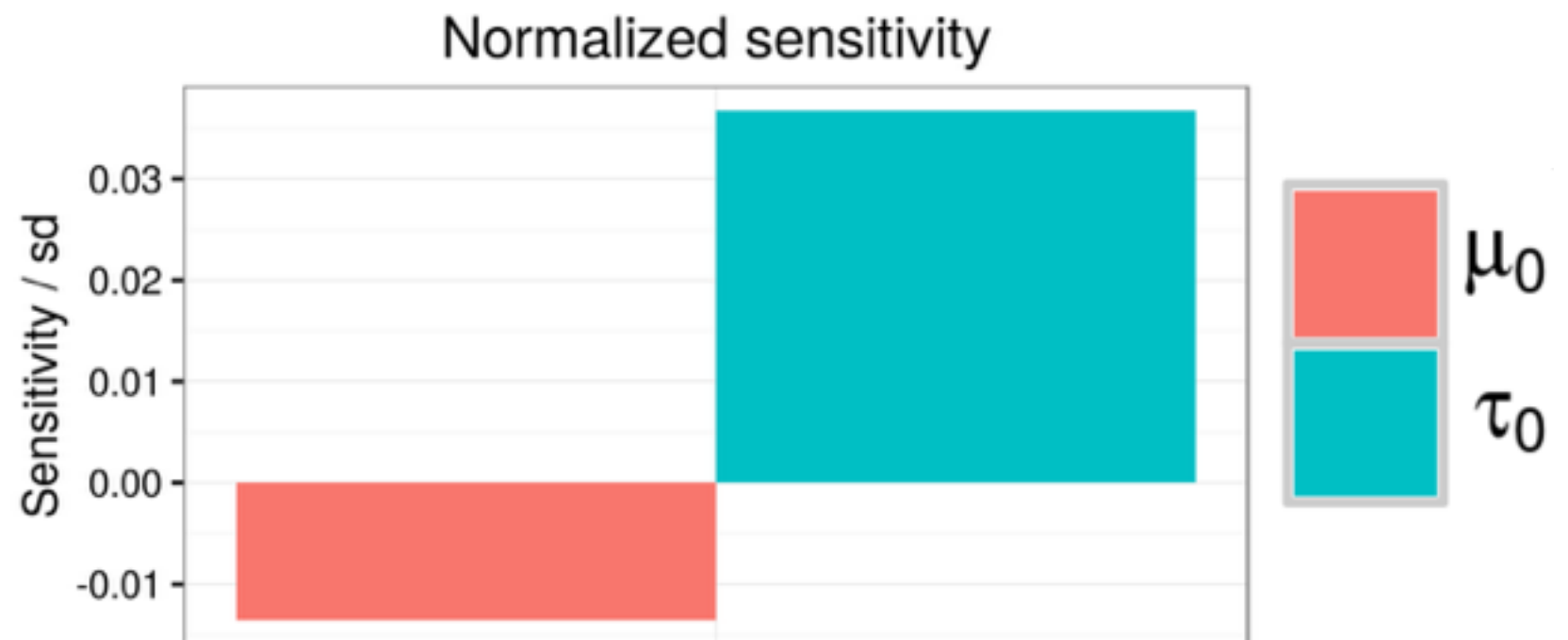
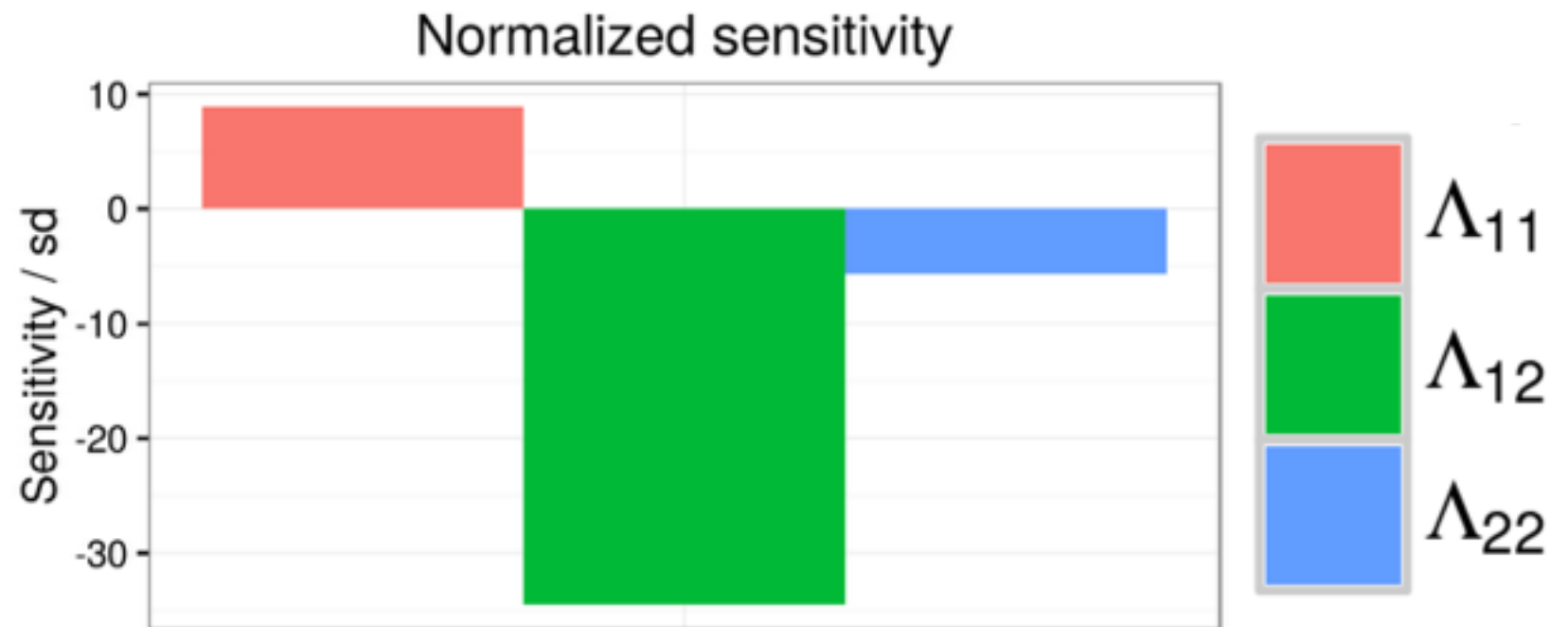
# Microcredit Experiment

- Sensitivity of the expected microcredit effect ( $\tau$ )
- Normalized to be on scale of standard deviations in  $\tau$
- E.g.



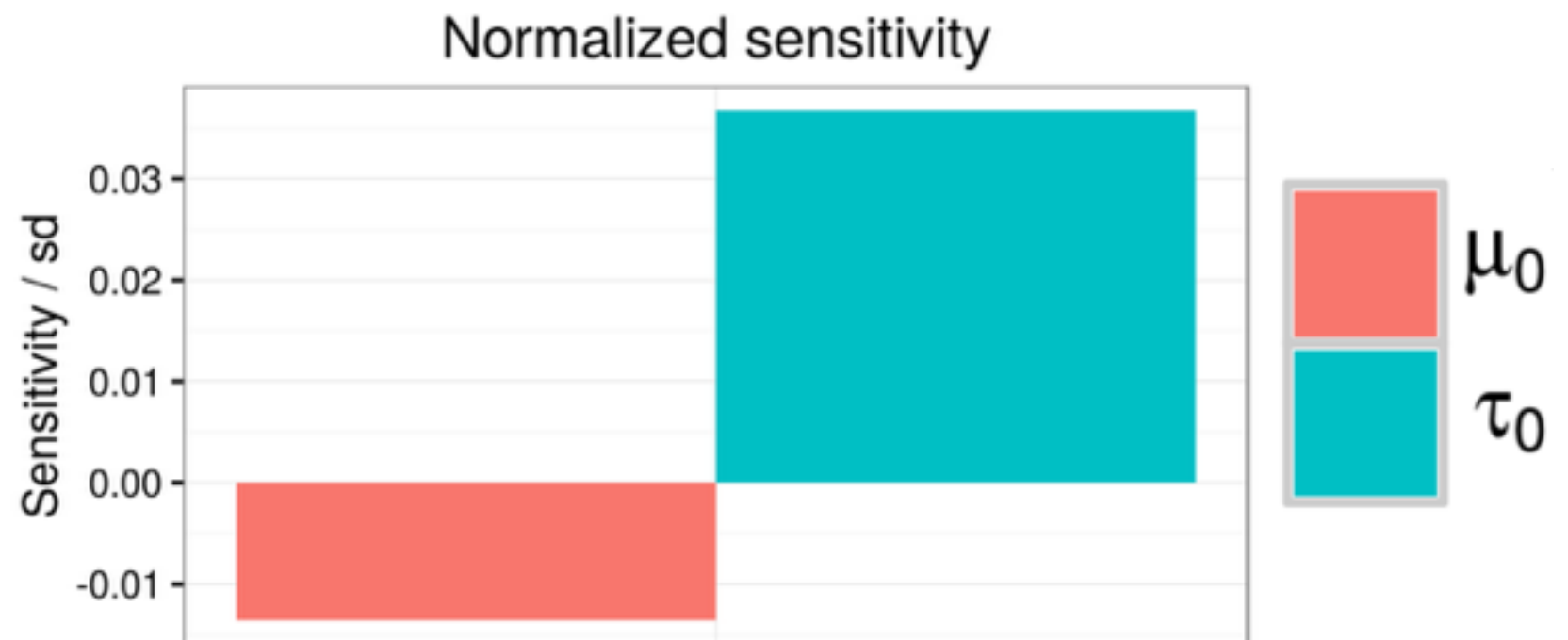
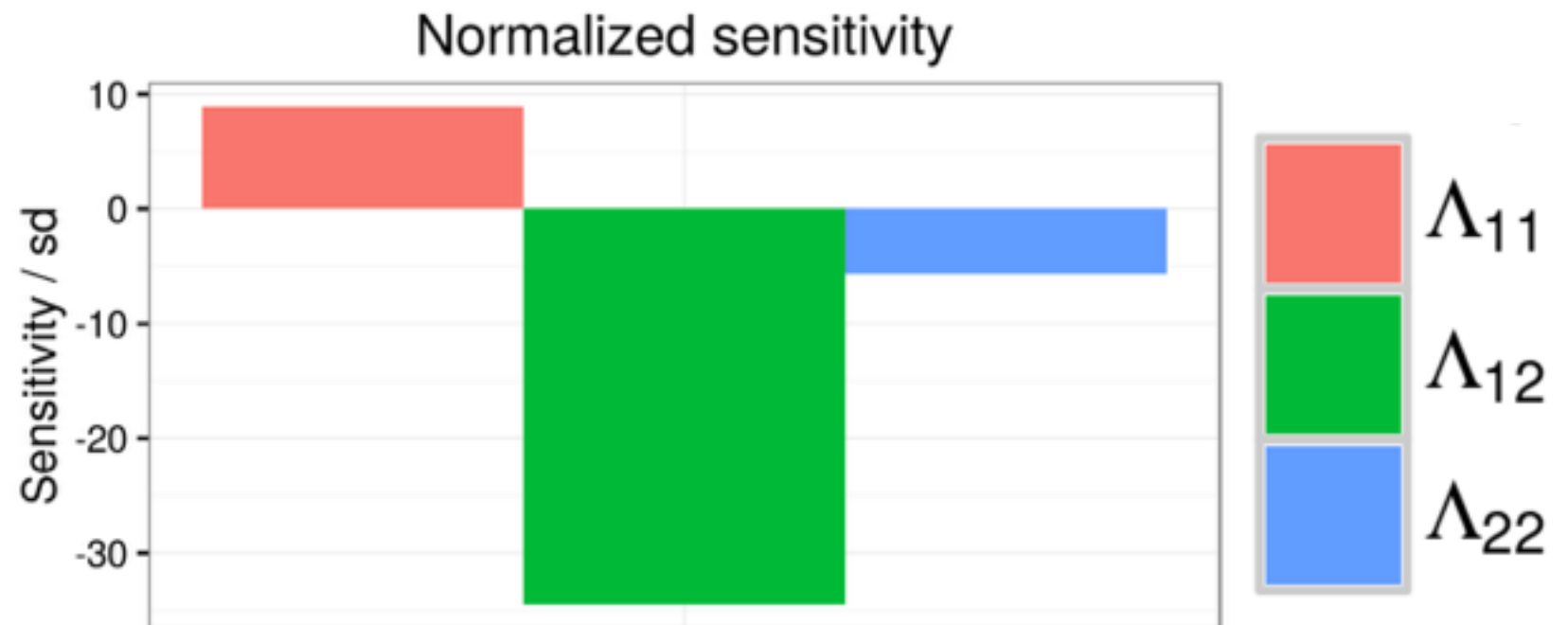
# Microcredit Experiment

- Sensitivity of the expected microcredit effect ( $\tau$ )
- Normalized to be on scale of standard deviations in  $\tau$
- E.g.  
 $\text{StdDev}_q \tau = 1.8$



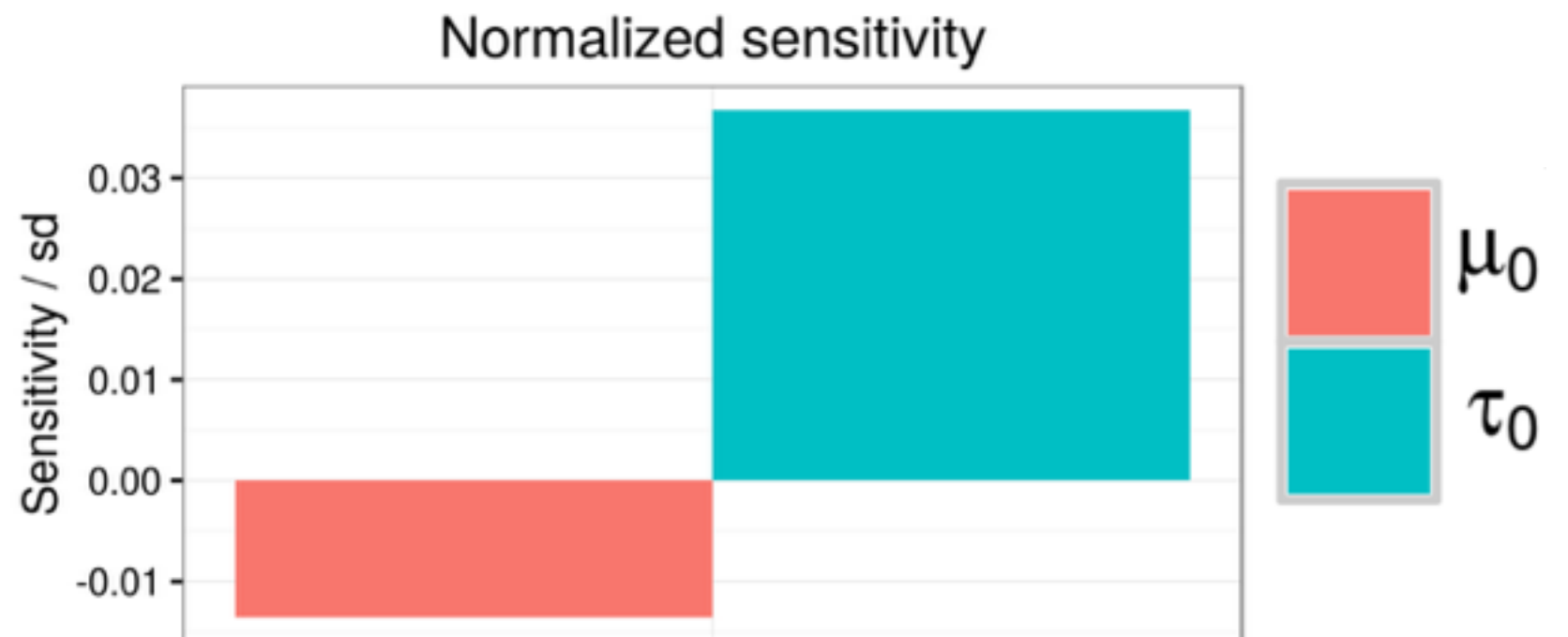
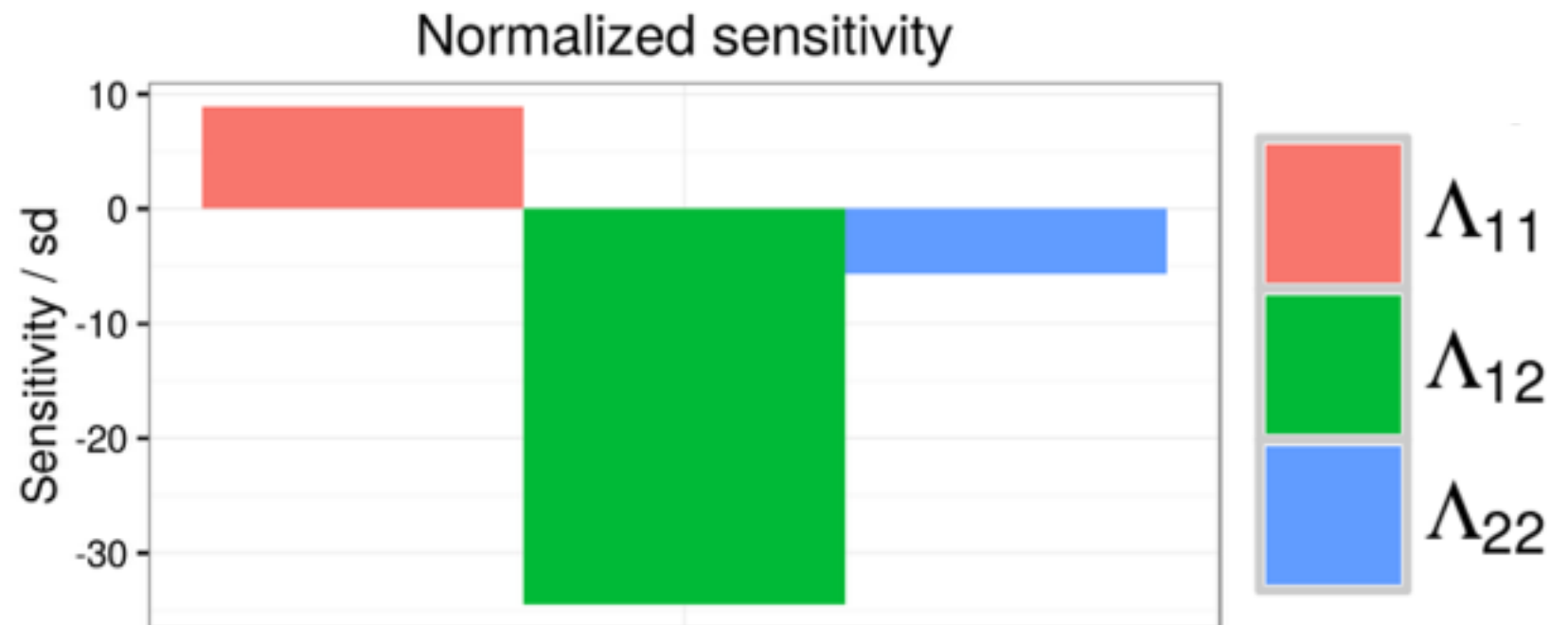
# Microcredit Experiment

- Sensitivity of the expected microcredit effect ( $\tau$ )
- Normalized to be on scale of standard deviations in  $\tau$
- E.g.  
 $\text{StdDev}_q \tau = 1.8$   
 $\mathbb{E}_q \tau = 3.7$



# Microcredit Experiment

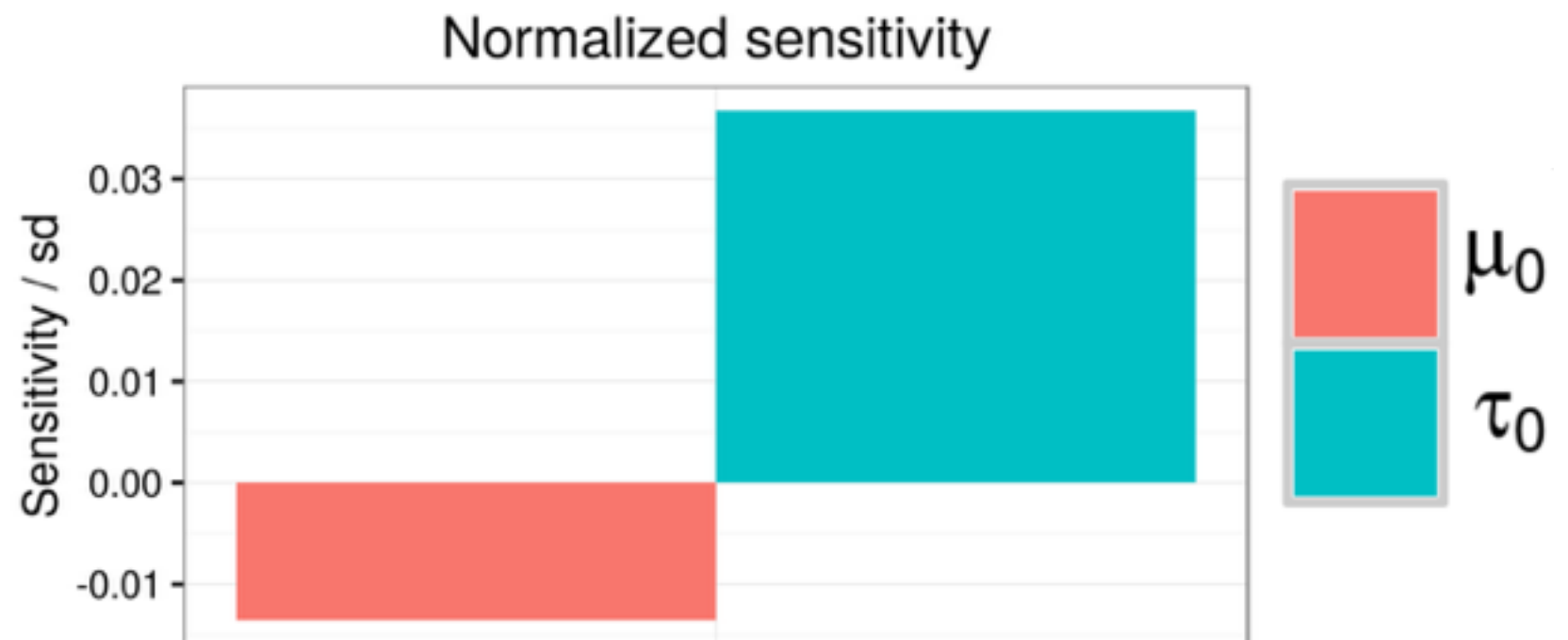
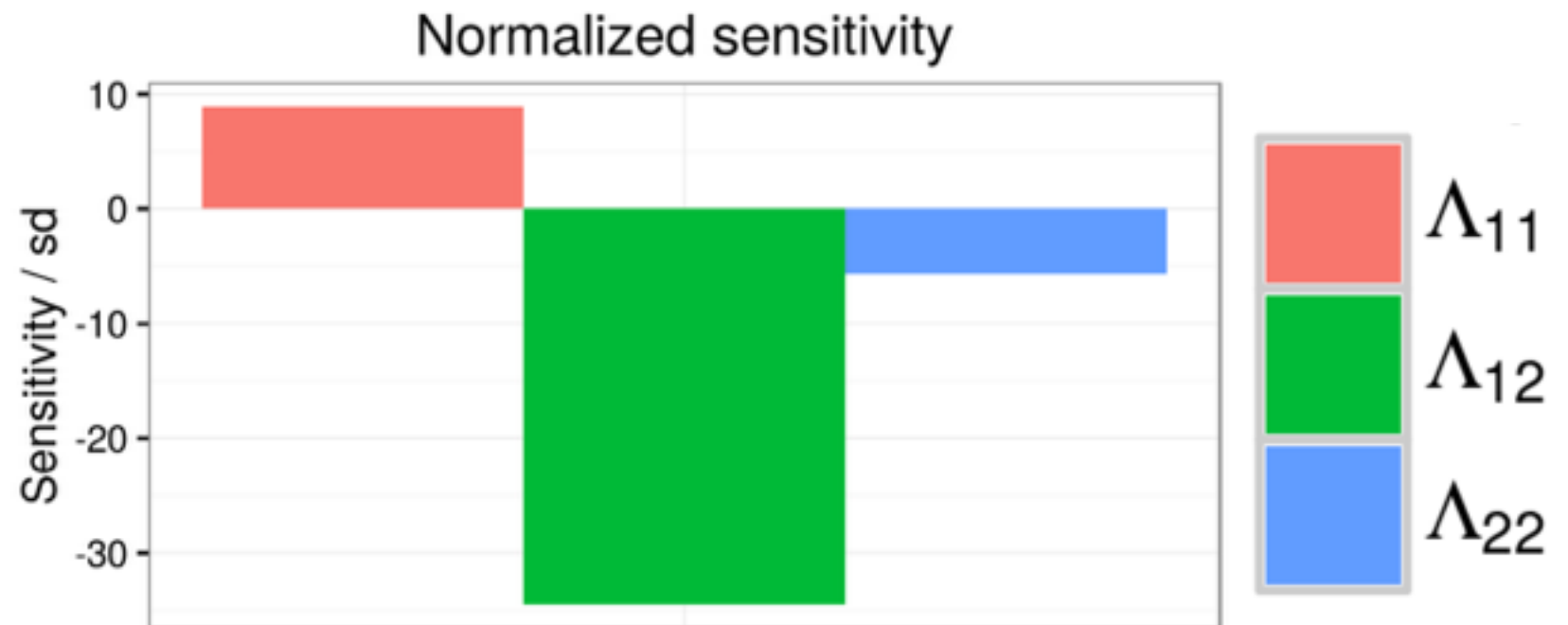
- Sensitivity of the expected microcredit effect ( $\tau$ )
- Normalized to be on scale of standard deviations in  $\tau$
- E.g.  
 $\text{StdDev}_q \tau = 1.8$   
 $\mathbb{E}_q \tau = 3.7$   
 $= 2.06 * \text{StdDev}_q \tau$





# Microcredit Experiment

- Sensitivity of the expected microcredit effect ( $\tau$ )
- Normalized to be on scale of standard deviations in  $\tau$
- E.g.  
 $\text{StdDev}_q \tau = 1.8$   
 $\mathbb{E}_q \tau = 3.7$   
 $= 2.06 * \text{StdDev}_q \tau$   
 $\Lambda_{12} + = 0.03$

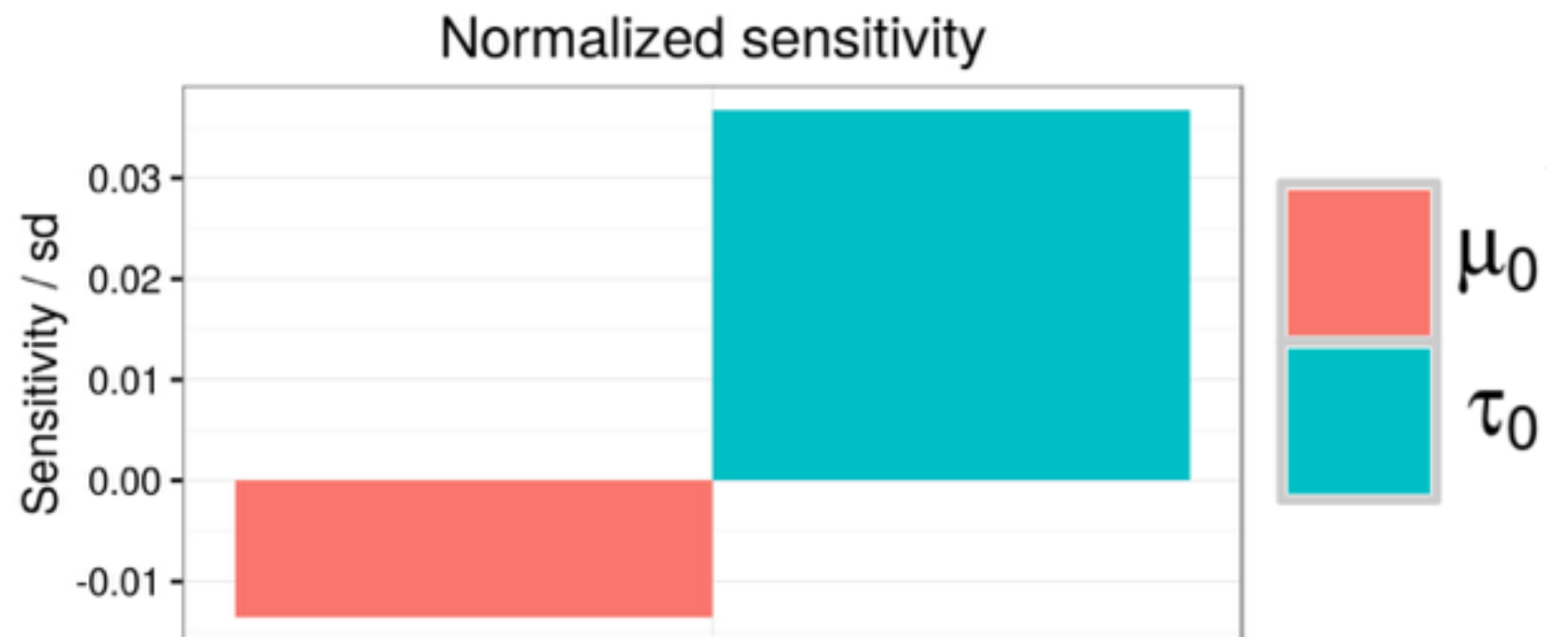
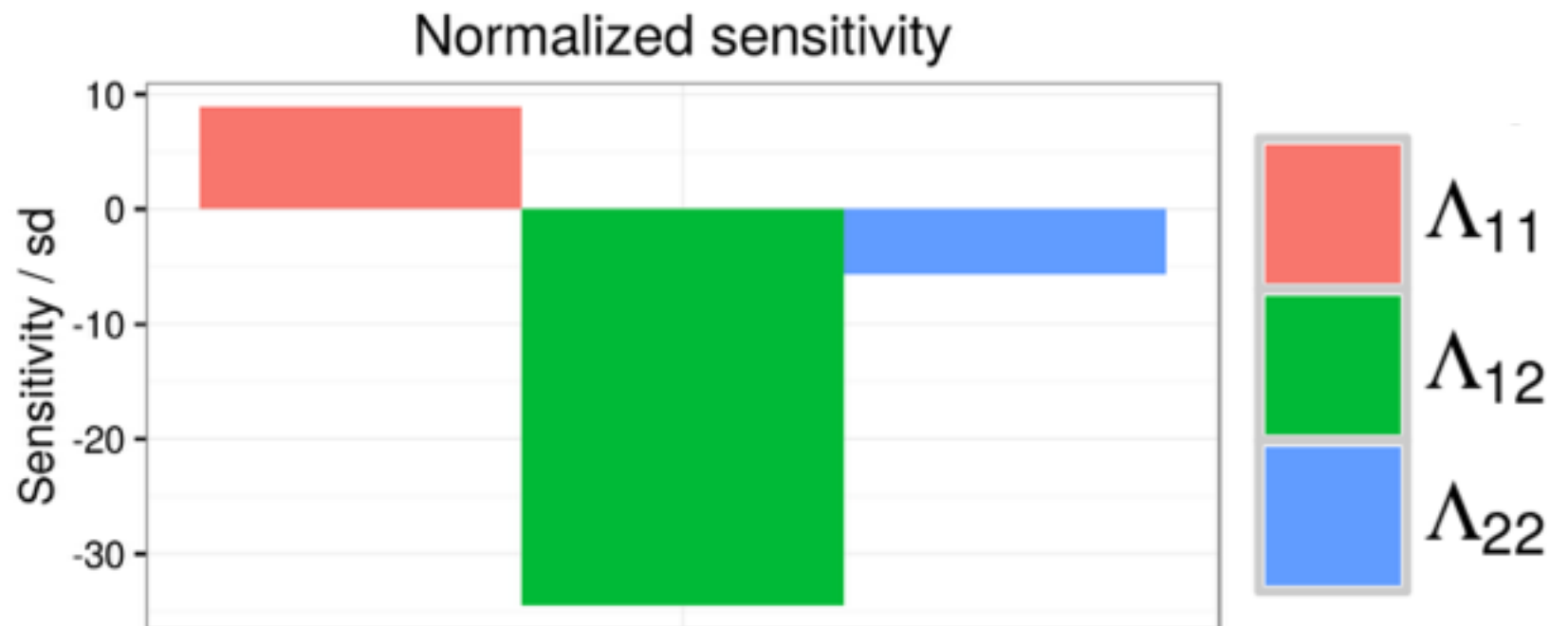


# Microcredit Experiment

- Sensitivity of the expected microcredit effect ( $\tau$ )
- Normalized to be on scale of standard deviations in  $\tau$
- E.g.  
 $\text{StdDev}_q \tau = 1.8$   
 $\mathbb{E}_q \tau = 3.7$   
 $= 2.06 * \text{StdDev}_q \tau$

$$\Lambda_{12} + = 0.03$$

$$\mathbb{E}_q \tau < 1.0 * \text{StdDev}_q \tau$$



# Conclusion

- We provide *linear response variational Bayes*: supplements MFVB for fast & accurate covariance estimate
- More from LRVB: fast & accurate robustness quantification
- Interested in your data and models:
  - Sensitivity to prior perturbations
  - Sensitivity to data perturbations

# References

T. Broderick, N. Boyd, A. Wibisono, A. C. Wilson, and M. I. Jordan. Streaming variational Bayes. *NIPS*, 2013.

**R Giordano, T Broderick, and MI Jordan. Linear response methods for accurate covariance estimates from mean field variational Bayes. *NIPS*, 2015.**

**R Giordano, T Broderick, and MI Jordan. Robust Inference with Variational Bayes. *NIPS AABI Workshop*, 2015. ArXiv: 1512.02578.**

**<https://github.com/rgiordan/MicrocreditLRVB>**

J. Huggins, T. Campbell, and T. Broderick. Core sets for scalable Bayesian logistic regression. *Under review*. ArXiv:1605.06423.

# References

R Bardenet, A Doucet, and C Holmes. On Markov chain Monte Carlo methods for tall data. arXiv, 2015.

CM Bishop. *Pattern Recognition and Machine Learning*.

D Dunson. Robust and scalable approach to Bayesian inference. Talk at *ISBA* 2014.

DJC MacKay. *Information Theory, Inference, and Learning Algorithms*. Cambridge University Press, 2003.

R Meager. Understanding the impact of microcredit expansions: A Bayesian hierarchical analysis of 7 randomised experiments. ArXiv:1506.06669, 2015.

RE Turner and M Sahani. Two problems with variational expectation maximisation for time-series models. In D Barber, AT Cemgil, and S Chiappa, editors, *Bayesian Time Series Models*, 2011.

B Wang and M Titterton. Inadequacy of interval estimates corresponding to variational Bayesian approximations. In *AISTATS*, 2004.