



### Justin S. Bois

[bois@caltech.edu](mailto:bois@caltech.edu)  
<http://bois.caltech.edu/>

#### Education

Ph.D., Chemical Engineering, California Institute of Technology, 2007  
B.S., Chemical Engineering, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, 1999

#### Experience

Jan. 2014 – present      **Lecturer**  
Division of Biology and Biological Engineering, Caltech  
Course topics: Physical cell biology, undergraduate biology lab, morphogenesis, systems biology, synthetic biology, data analysis

Jan. 2011 – Dec. 2013      **Postdoctoral Researcher**  
Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry, UCLA  
Department of Applied Physics, Caltech  
Research Group: Margot Quinlan and Rob Phillips  
Project: Experimental and theoretical analysis of cytoplasmic streaming in the *Drosophila* oocyte

Oct. 2007 – Dec. 2010      **Visiting Scientist, Biological Physics Group**  
Max Planck Institute for Physics of Complex Systems and  
Max Planck Institute of Molecular Cell Biology and Genetics, Dresden  
Research Group: Stephan Grill and Frank Jülicher  
Project: Pattern formation in active fluids with application to the polarizing *C. elegans* syncytium

May 2007 – July 2007      **Postdoctoral Scholar**  
Department of Biengineering, Caltech  
Research Group: Niles Pierce  
Project: Coarse graining nucleic acid free energy landscapes

Oct. 2001 – Apr. 2007      **Graduate Student**  
Department of Chemical Engineering, Caltech  
Research Groups: Niles Pierce and Zhen-Gang Wang  
Thesis title: Analysis of interacting nucleic acids in dilute solutions

Jan. 2000 – Apr. 2001      **Research Engineer**  
Kraft Foods Technology Center, Glenview, IL  
Project: Product management and process optimization

#### Teaching

*As Course Instructor:*  
Spring 2014      *The Great Ideas of Biology: Exploration through Experimentation*, Caltech  
Spring 2010      *Signal Transduction and Mechanics in Morphogenesis*, Caltech

Winter 2014      *Physical Biology of the Cell*, Caltech

Spring 2010      *Physical Principles for Cell Biologists*, MPI-CBG Dresden

*As Guest Instructor:*  
Spring 2018      Project leader, Undergraduate Biology Lab, Caltech





Useful MCMC packages: OpenBUGS, RJAGS, RStan

Useful plotting packages: ggplot2, shiny

Useful data management packages: dplyr2, tidyr



**ANACONDA**<sup>®</sup>

Useful MCMC packages: OpenBUGS, RJAGS, RStan

Useful plotting packages: ggplot2, shiny

Useful data management packages: dplyr2, tidyr



Jython



OpenCV



# ilastik

the interactive learning and segmentation  
toolkit

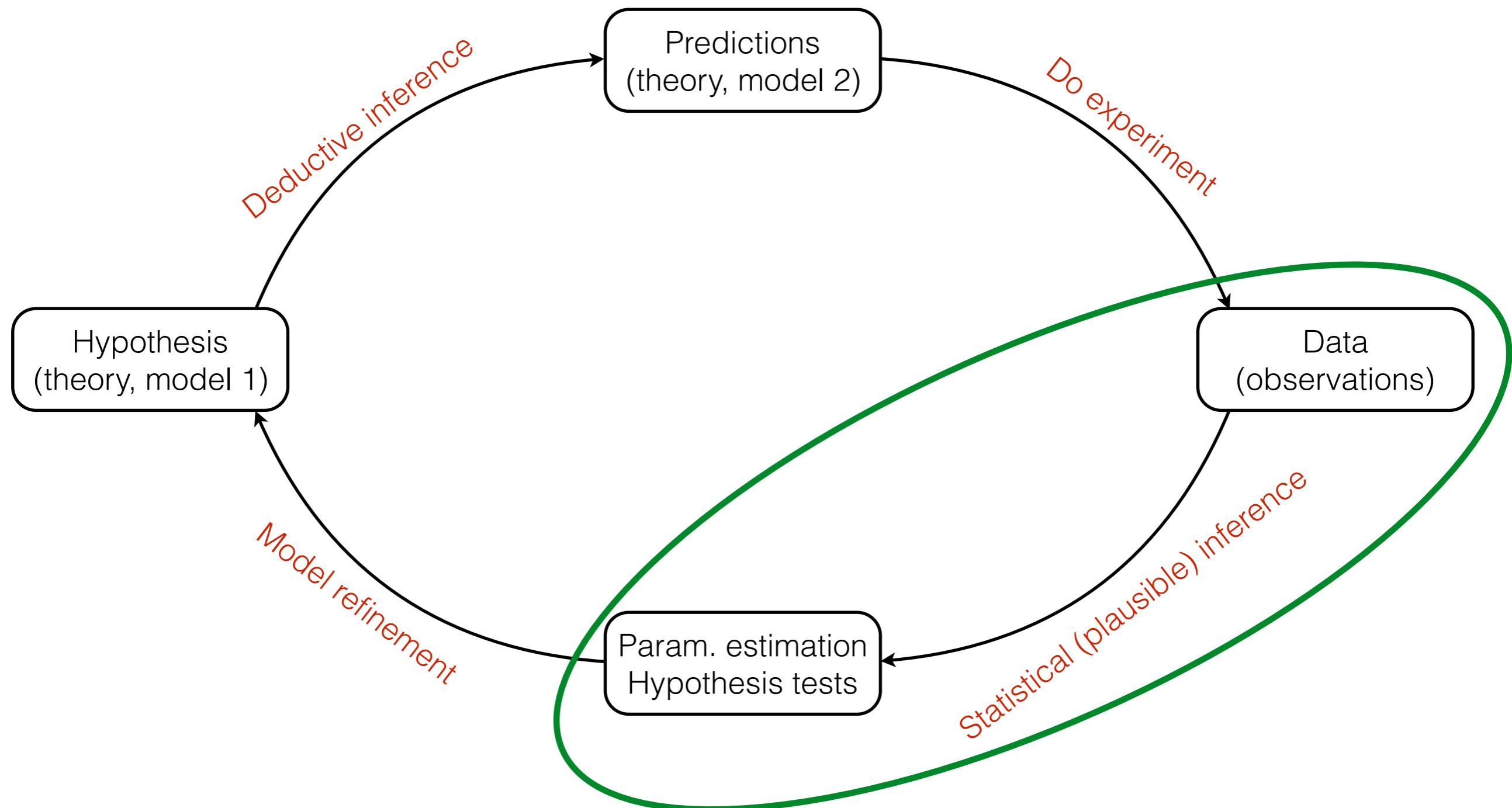




icy

BE/Bi 103  
Data Analysis in the Biological Sciences  
Fall term, 2015

# The scientific method



# Statistical inference requires a probability theory

$M_i$ : model  $i$

$\mathbf{a}_i$ : the set of parameters associated with model  $i$

$D$ : the measured data

$I$ : all other knowledge

Bayes's theorem for parameter estimation:

$$\text{posterior} = P(\mathbf{a}_i|D, M_i, I) = \frac{P(D|\mathbf{a}_i, M_i, I)P(\mathbf{a}_i|M_i, I)}{P(D|M_i, I)} = \frac{\text{likelihood} \cdot \text{prior}}{\text{evidence}}$$

Normalization of posterior (marginalization):

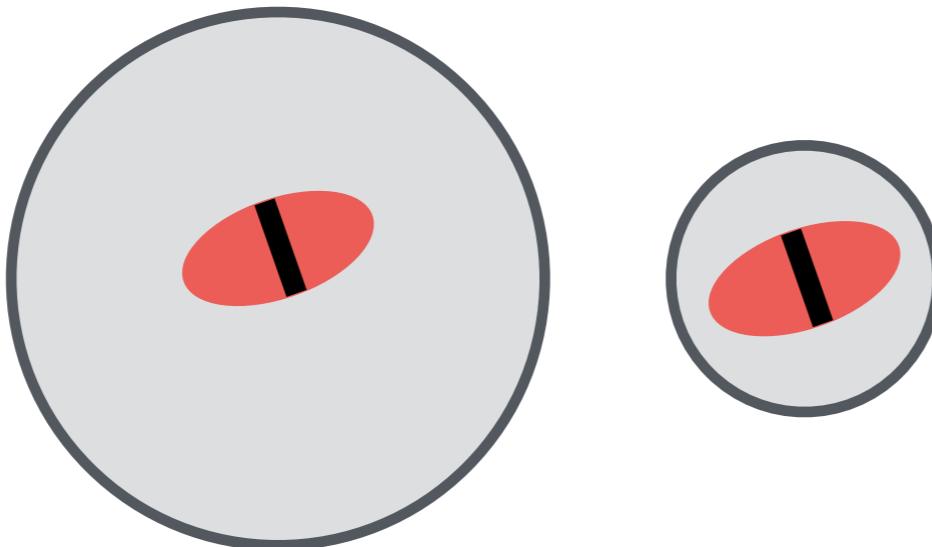
$$P(D|M_i, I) = \int d\mathbf{a} P(D|\mathbf{a}_i, M_i, I)P(\mathbf{a}_i|M_i, I)$$

Bayes's theorem for model selection:

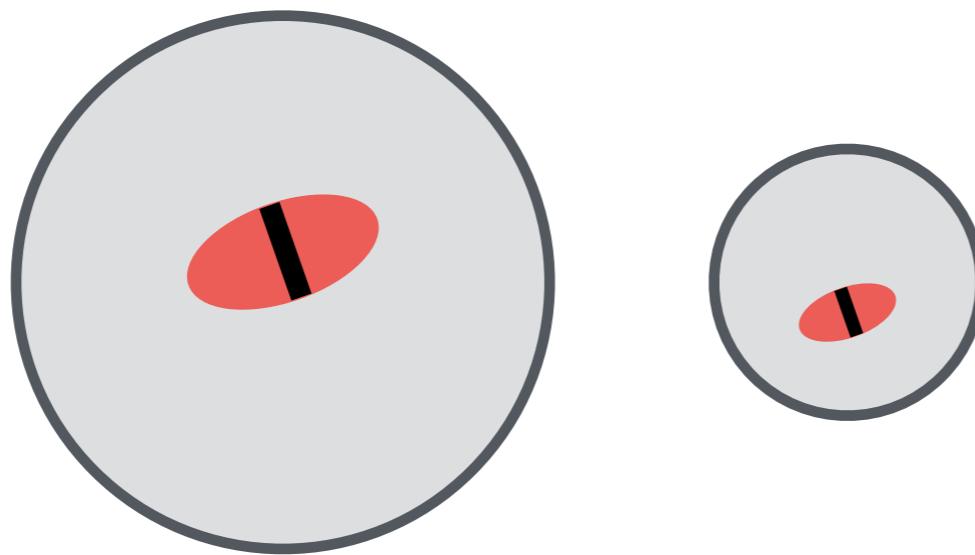
$$P(M_i|D, I) = \frac{P(D|M_i, I)P(M_i|I)}{P(D|I)}$$

# Model type 1: Cartoons (informal)

Model a:

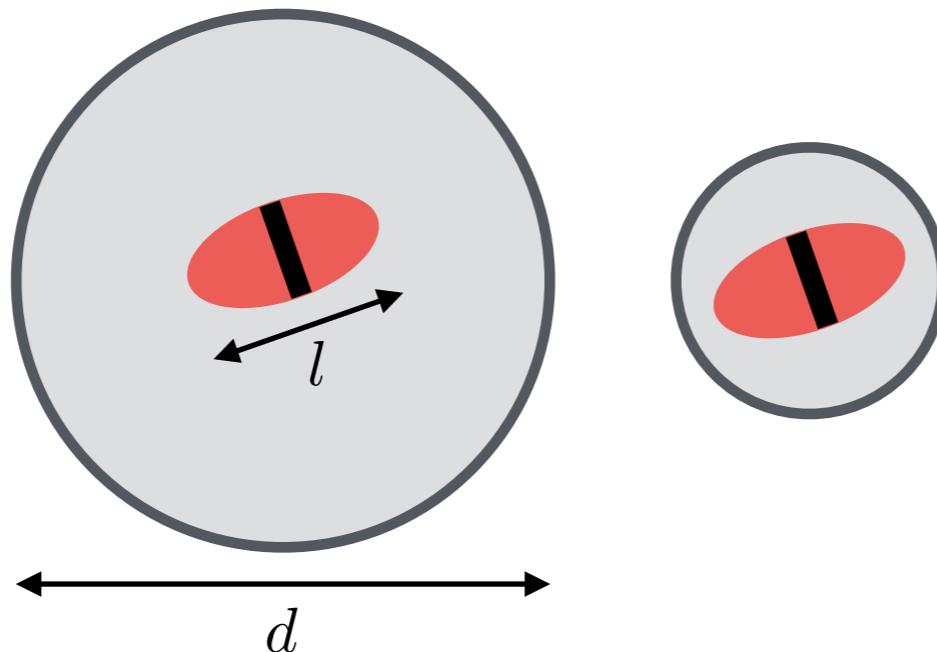


Model b:



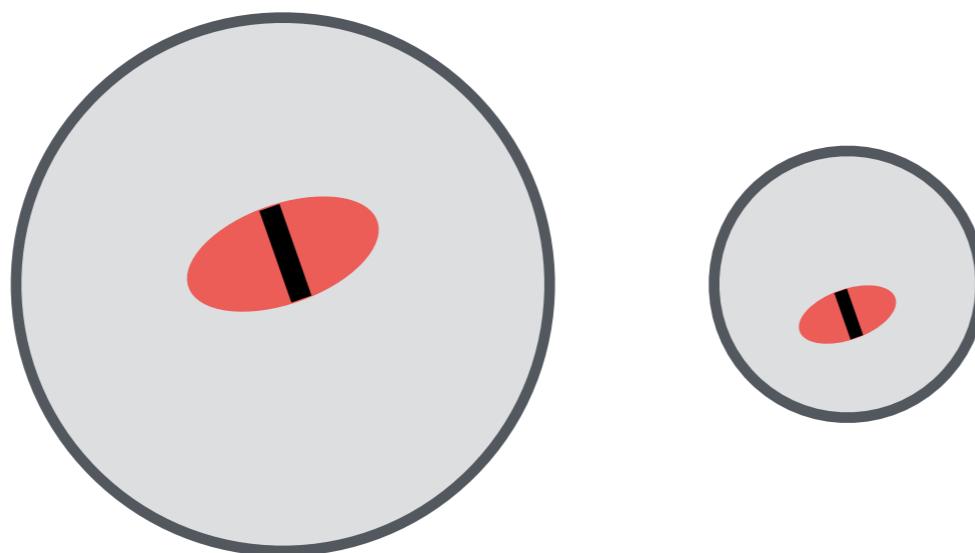
# Model type 2: Mathematized cartoons (formal)

Model a:



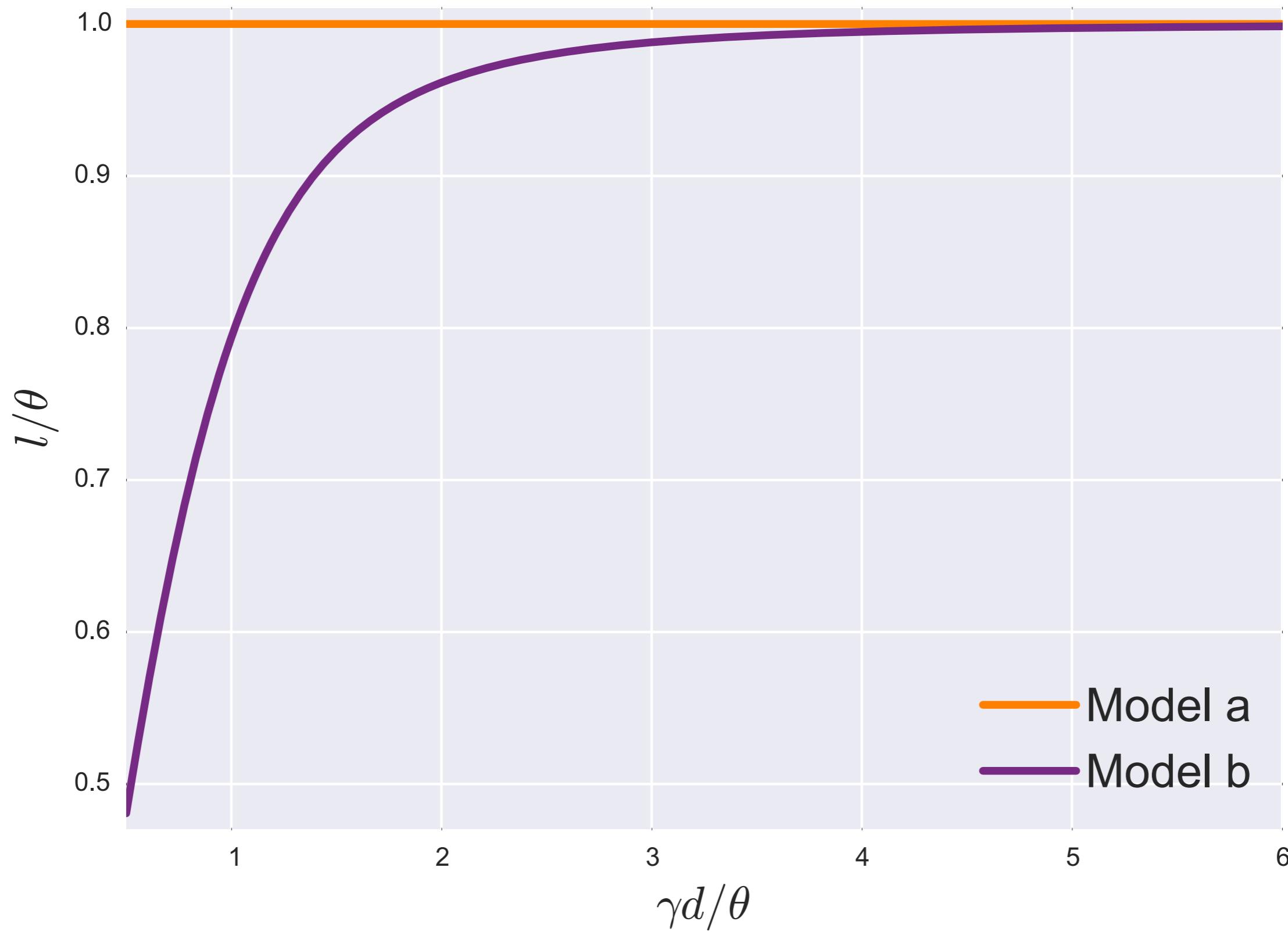
$$l \neq l(d)$$
$$l = \theta$$

Model b:



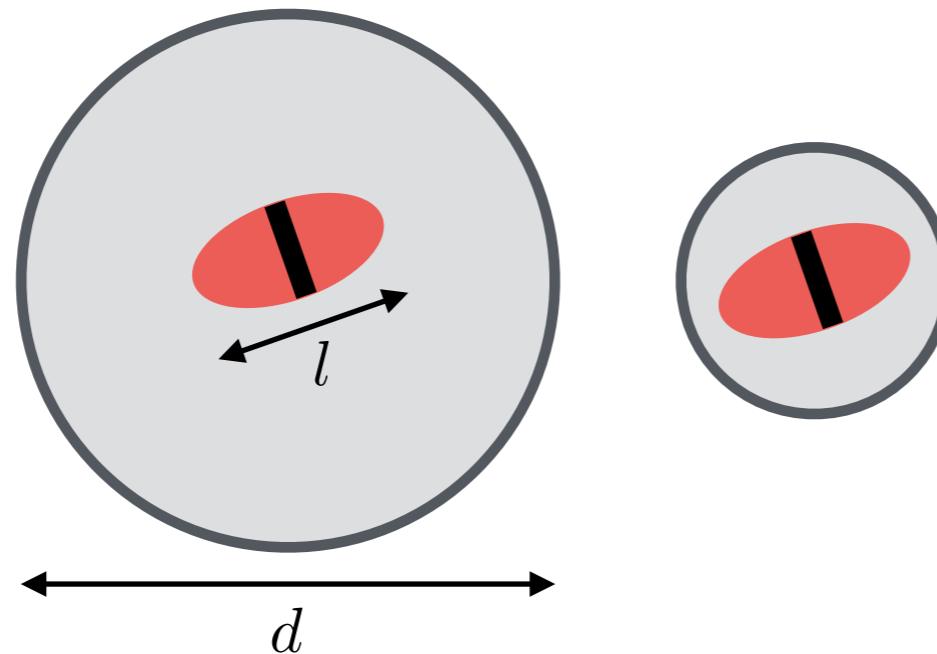
$$l(d; \gamma, \theta) = \frac{\gamma d}{(1 + (\gamma d/\theta)^3)^{\frac{1}{3}}}$$

# Model type 2: Mathematized cartoons (formal)



# Model type 3: Model type 2 + data description

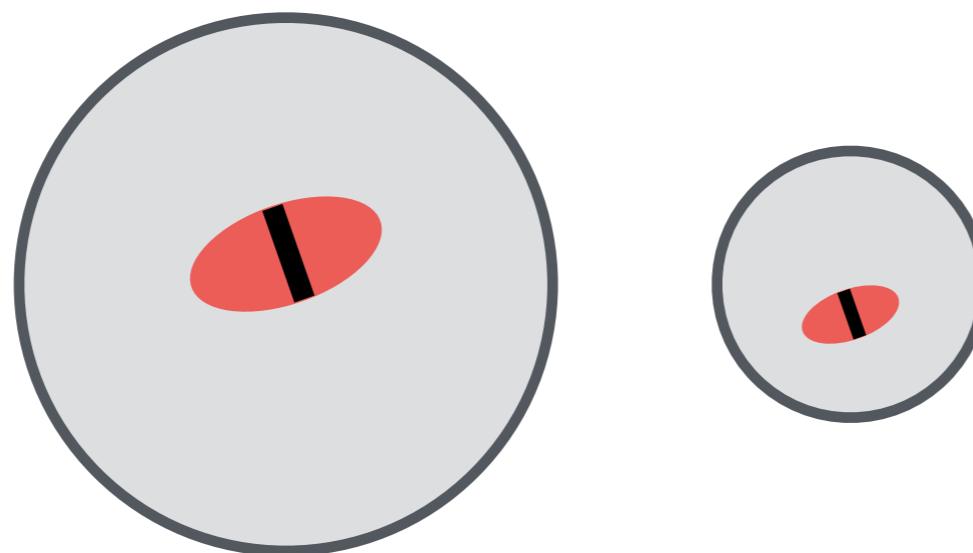
Model a:



$$l_i = \theta + e_i$$

$e_i$  Gaussian distributed

Model b:



$$l_i = \frac{\gamma d_i}{(1 + (\gamma d_i / \theta)^3)^{\frac{1}{3}}} + e_i$$

$e_i$  Gaussian distributed

# Models (definition 3!)

$M_i$  and  $I$  encode the functional form of the likelihood  $P(D|\mathbf{a}_i, M_i, I)$  and prior  $P(\mathbf{a}_i|M_i, I)$ .

Prior  $P(\mathbf{a}_i|M_i, I)$ : Often chosen to be **uninformative**, e.g., uniform or Jeffreys.

Likelihood  $P(D|\mathbf{a}_i, M_i, I)$ : Depends on model, often independent Gaussians.

Given the model and all our previous knowledge, *the posterior is completely determined*. All of the “work” of inference is computing it!

# Computing the posterior: analytical results

Multiple measurements of parameter  $\mu$  with unknown variance  $\sigma^2$ .

$$P(\{x_i\}|\mu, \sigma, I) = \prod_i \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}} e^{-(x_i - \mu)^2/2\sigma^2}$$

$$P(\mu, \sigma|I) \propto \sigma^{-1}$$

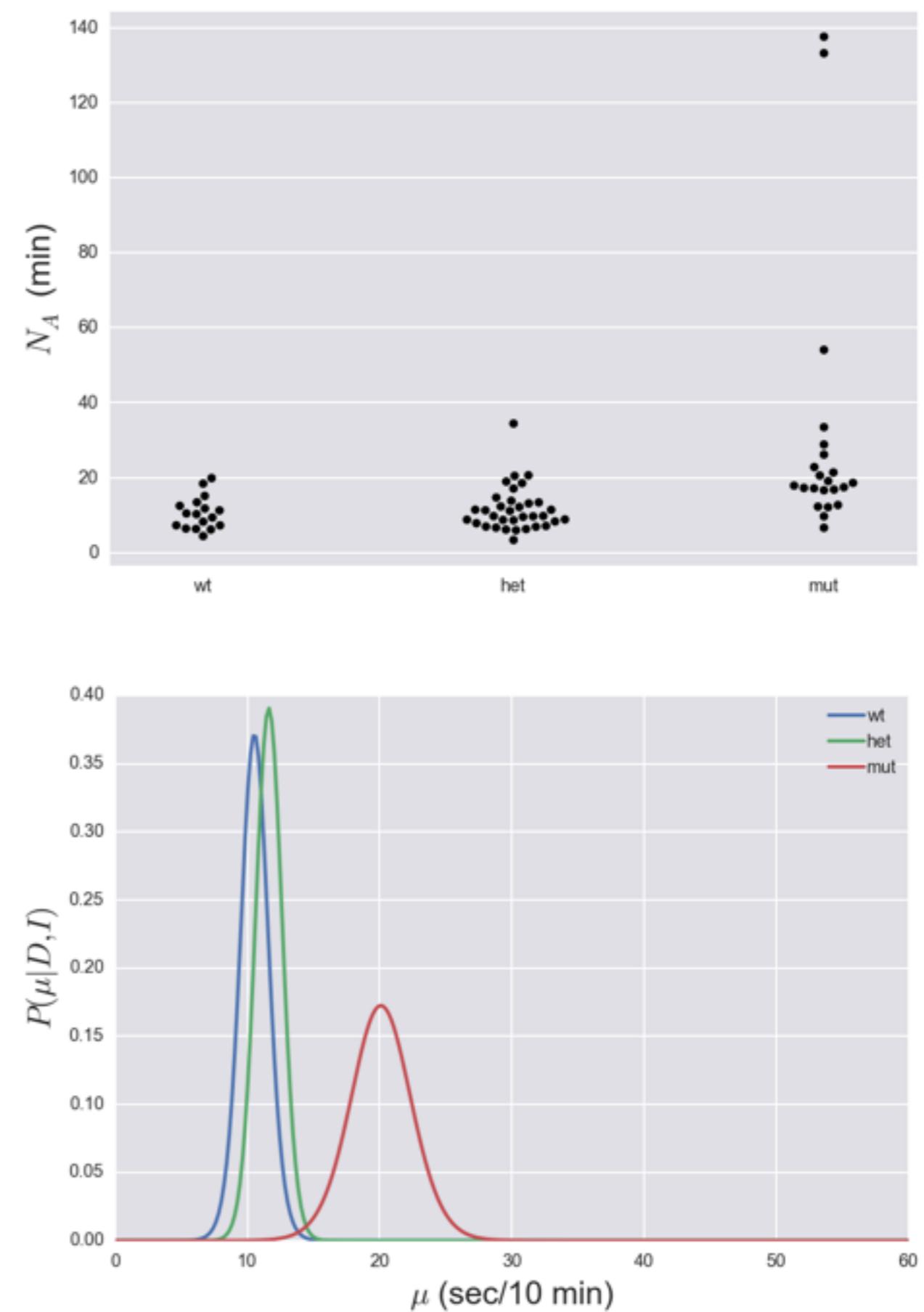
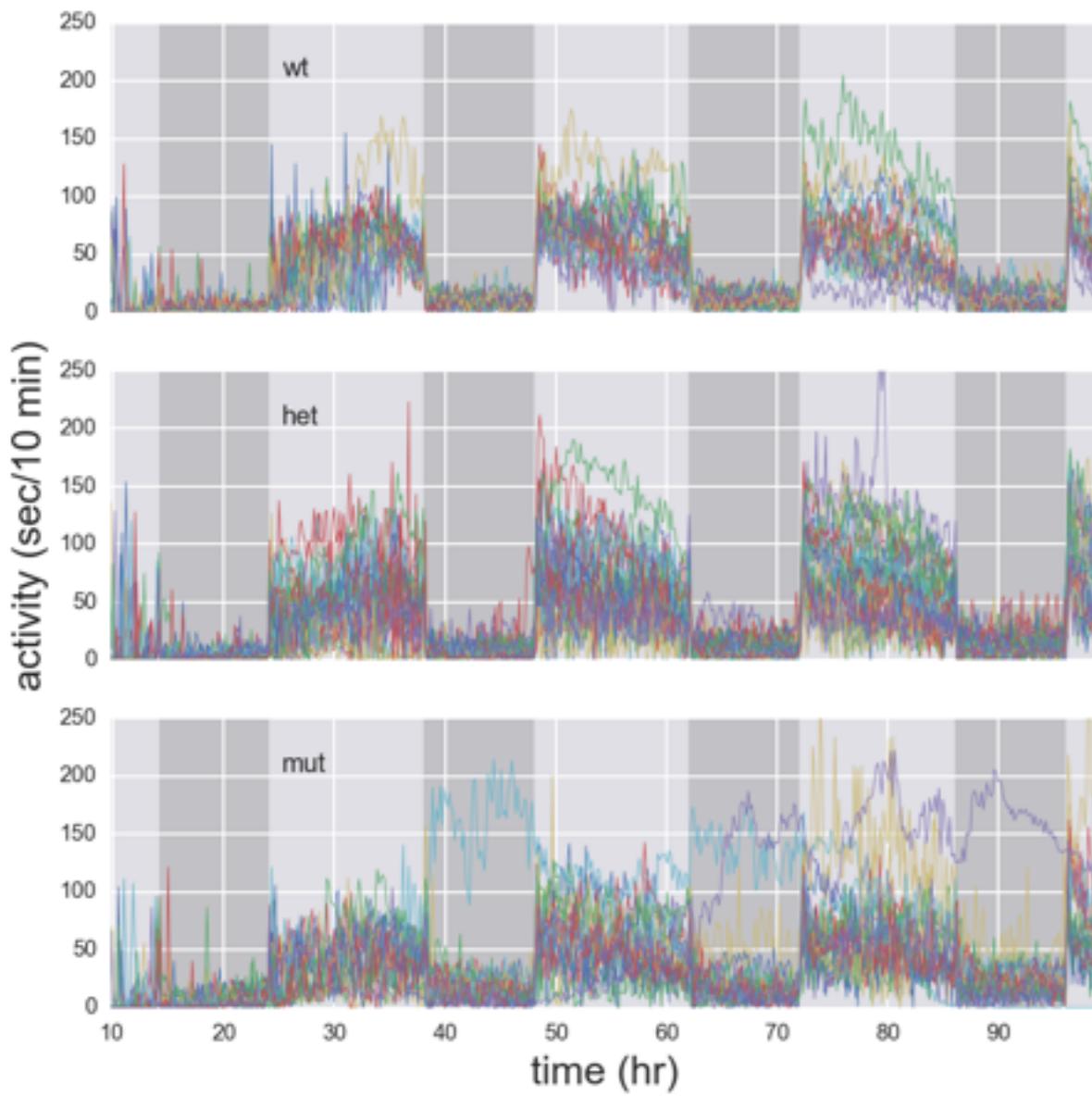
$$\text{most probable } \mu = \bar{x} \equiv \frac{1}{n} \sum_i x_i$$

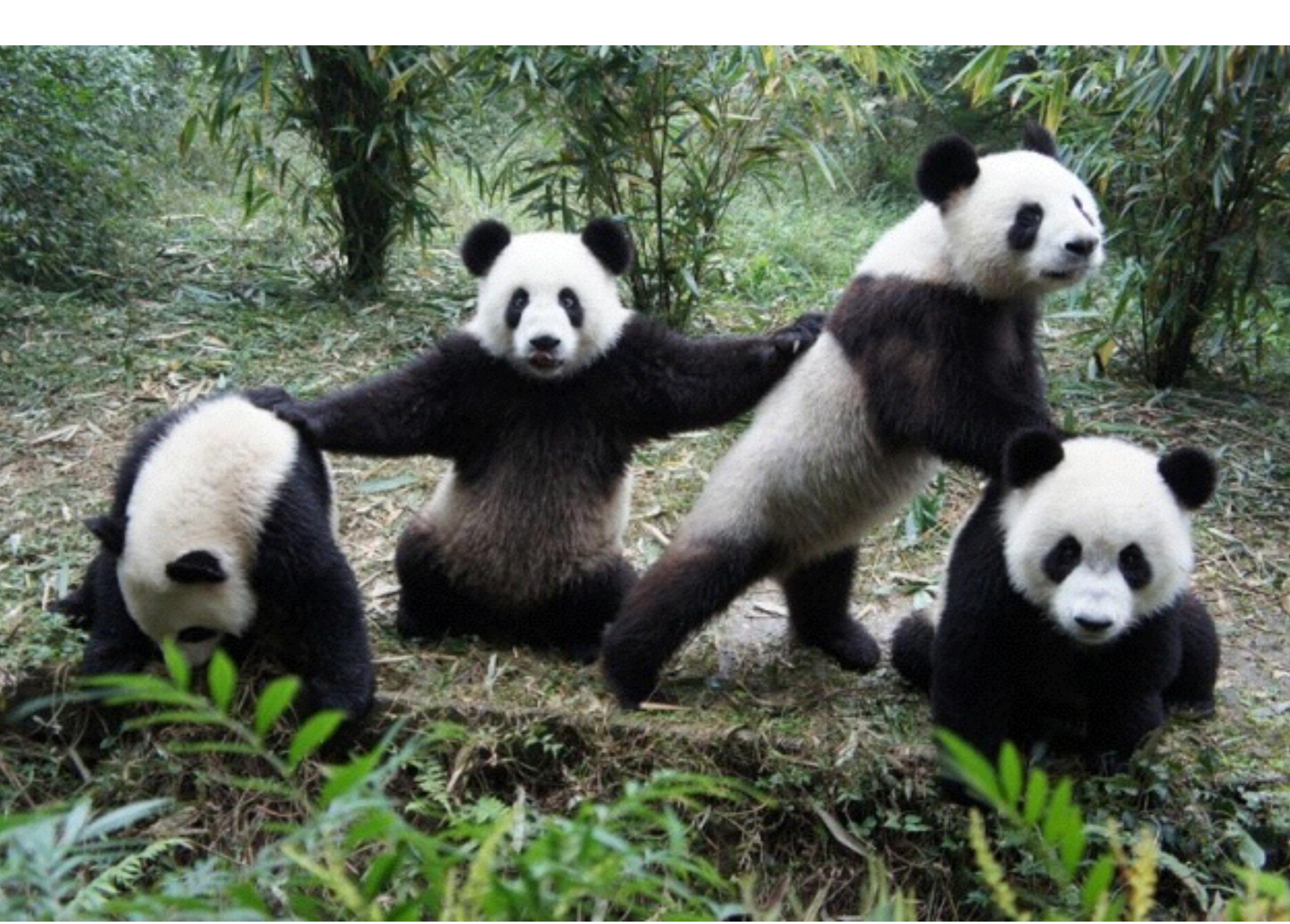
$$\text{most probable } \sigma^2 = r^2 \equiv \frac{1}{n} \sum_i (x_i - \bar{x})^2$$

$$P(\mu|\{x_i\}, I) \approx \frac{\Gamma\left(\frac{n}{2}\right)}{\sqrt{\pi}\Gamma\left(\frac{n-1}{2}\right)} \frac{1}{r} \left(1 + \frac{(\bar{x} - \mu)^2}{r^2}\right)^{-\frac{n}{2}} \quad (\text{Student-t})$$

$$\mu \approx \bar{x} \pm r/\sqrt{n}$$

# Computing the posterior: analytical results



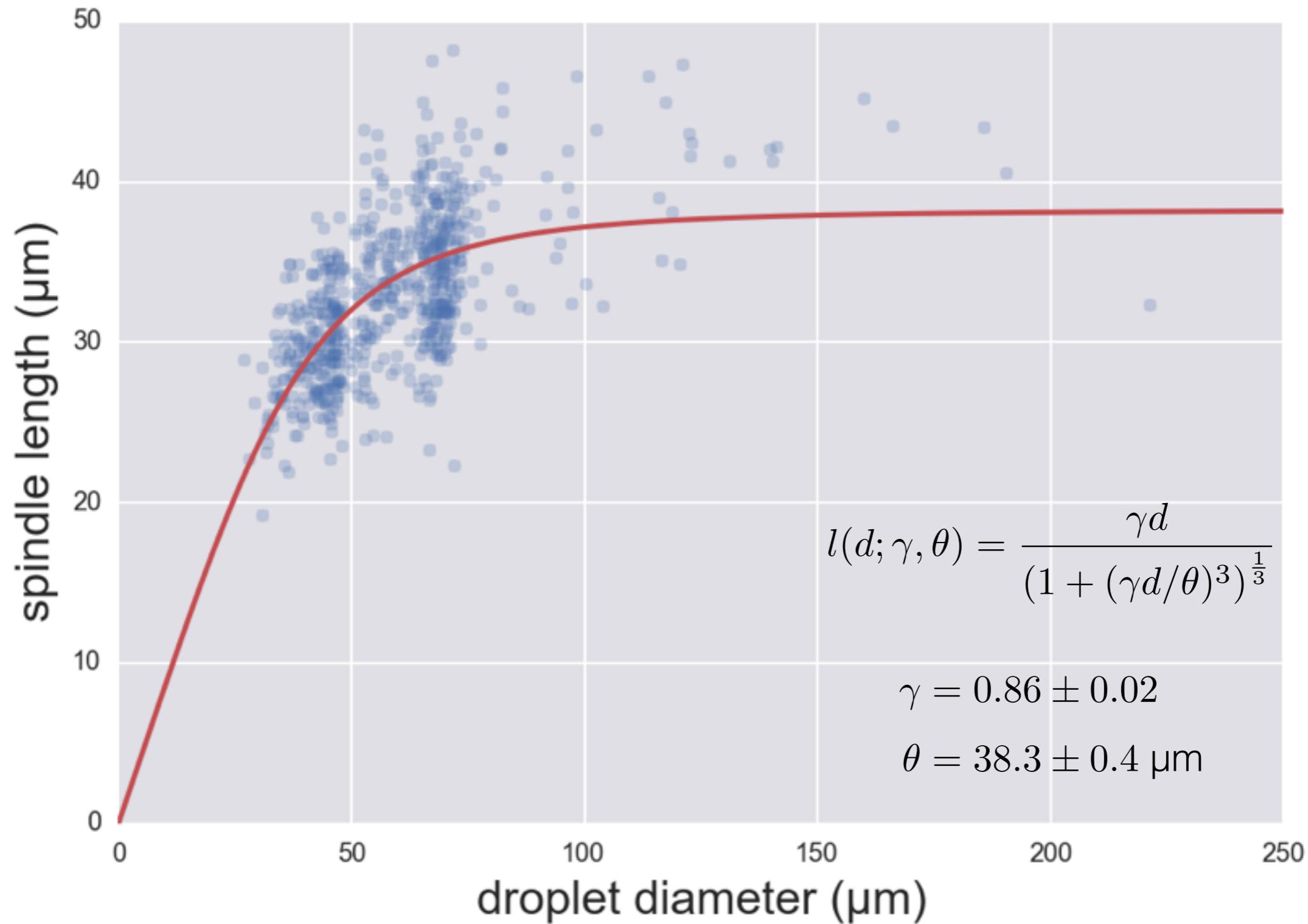


# Computing the posterior: approximate summary

1. Find most probable parameters  $\mathbf{a}^*$ .
2. Approximate  $P(\mathbf{a}|D, I)$  as Gaussian by doing a Taylor expansion of  $\ln P(\mathbf{a}|D, I)$  about  $\mathbf{a}^*$ .
3. The covariance matrix is given by the negative inverse of the Hessian of  $\ln P(\mathbf{a}|D, I)$ .

Obvious assumption: posterior is approximately Gaussian.

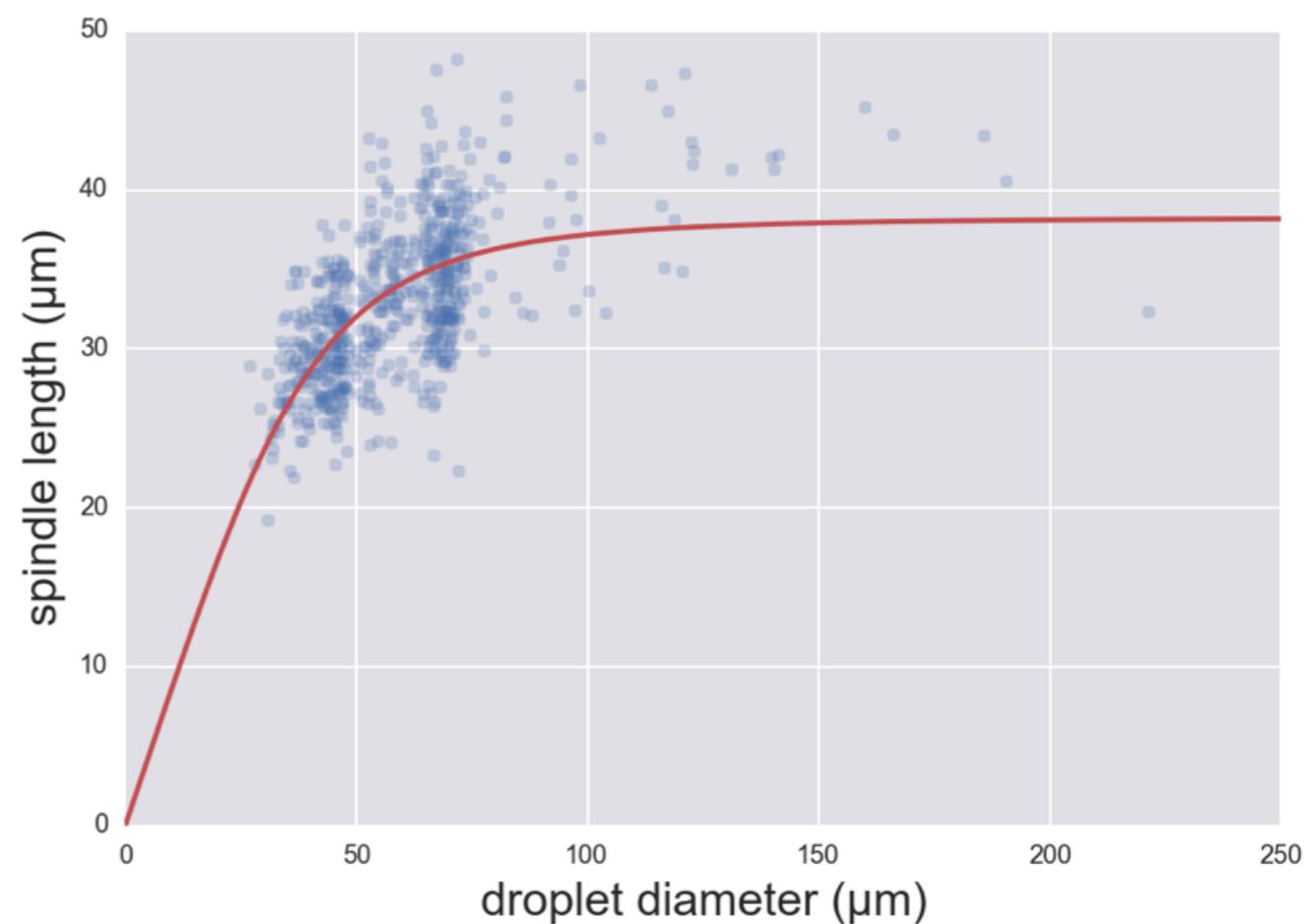
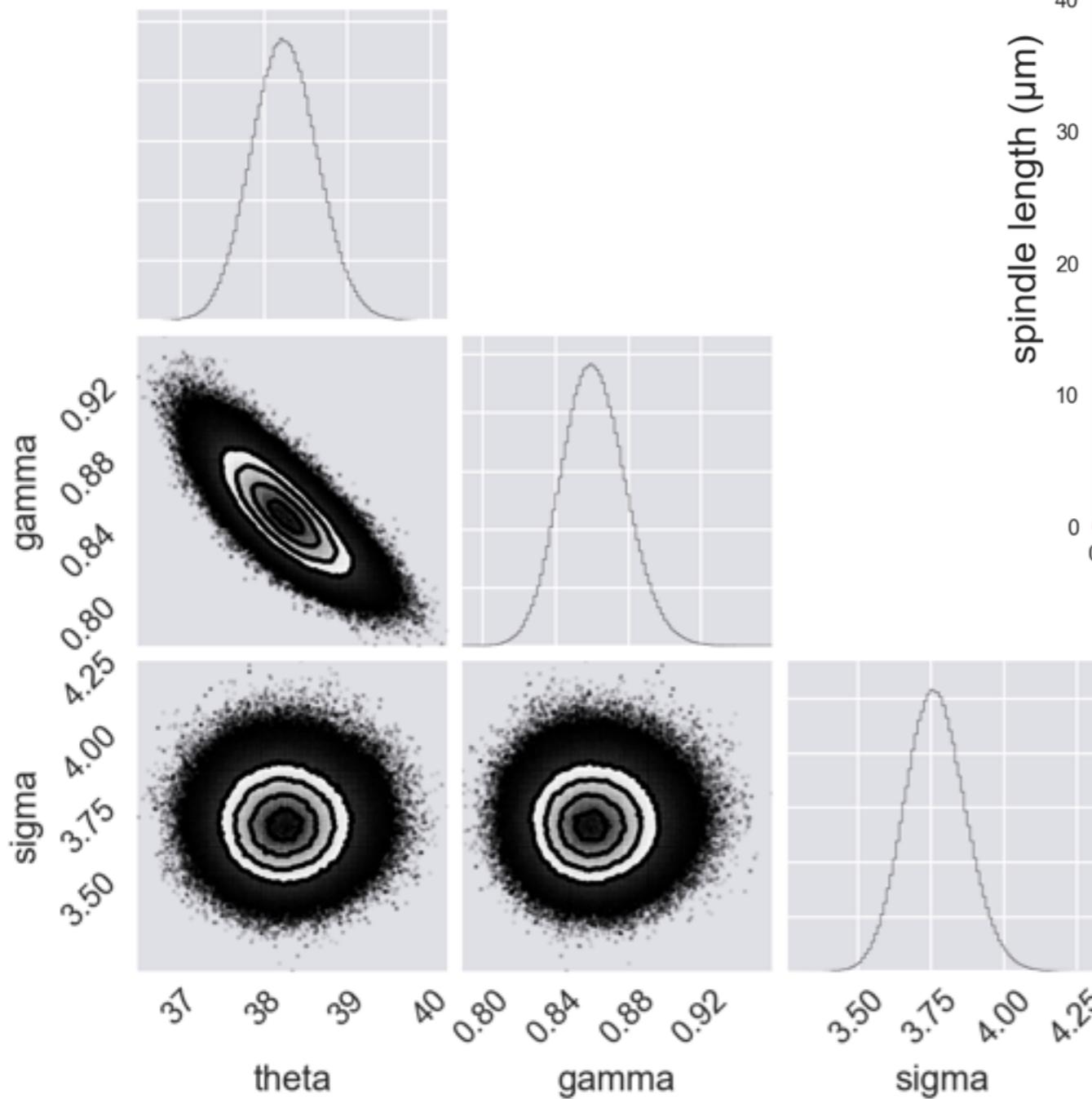
# Computing the posterior: approximate summary



# Computing the posterior: MCMC

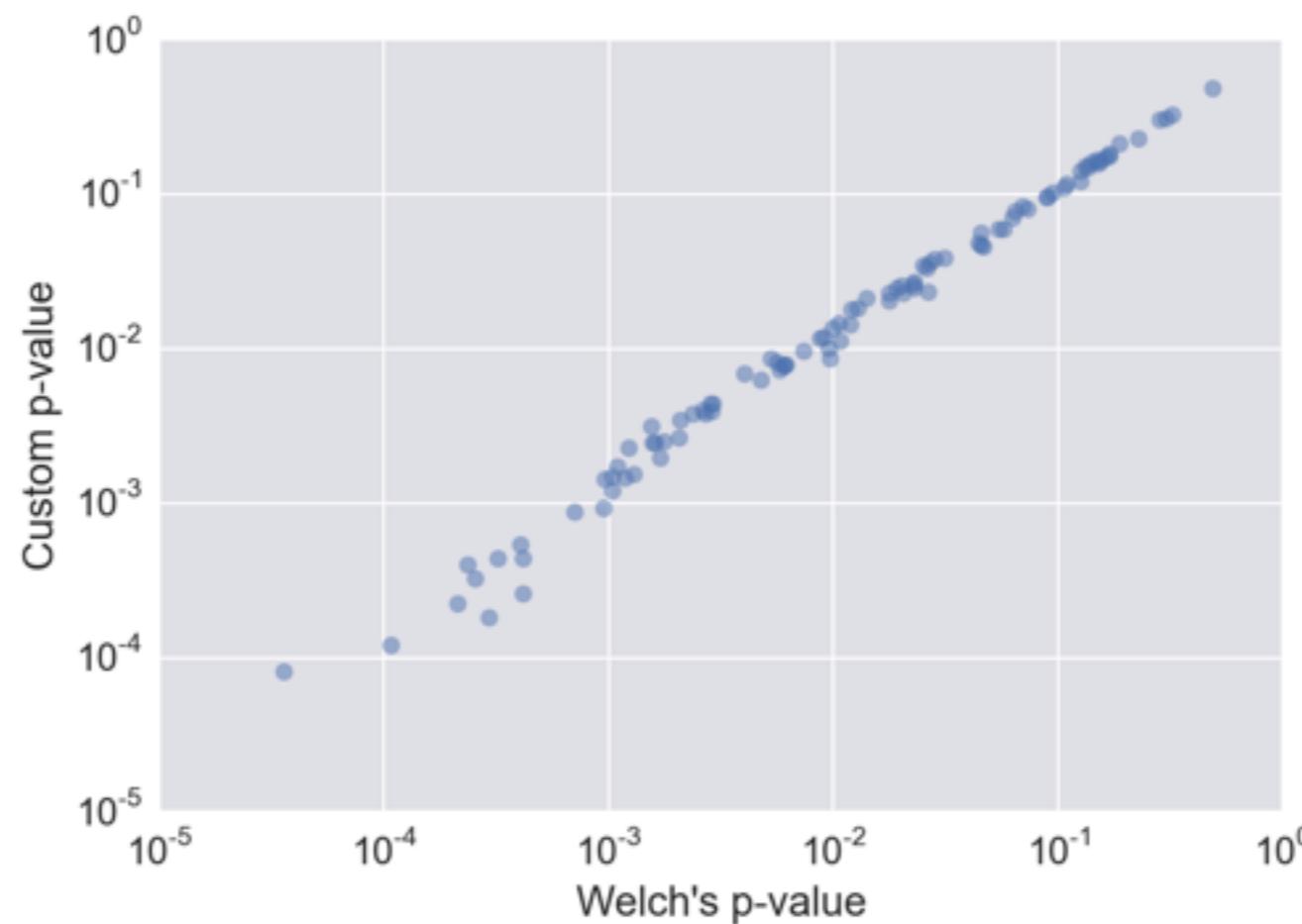
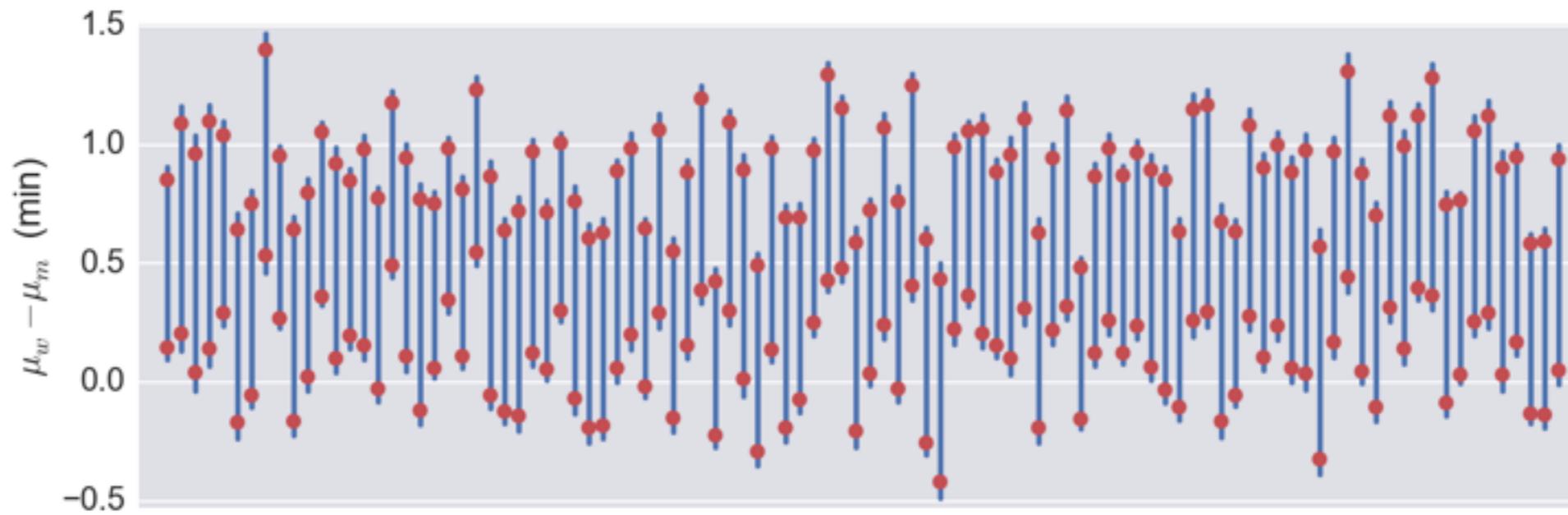
1. Define the (log) posterior distribution.
2. Efficiently sample the posterior with an ergodic, positively recurrent Markov chain.
3. Posterior is trivially marginalized by considering specific parameters.
4. Bin samples to get histograms describing posterior.

# Computing the posterior: MCMC





# Foray into frequentism



# DID THE SUN JUST EXPLODE? (IT'S NIGHT, SO WE'RE NOT SURE.)

THIS NEUTRINO DETECTOR MEASURES WHETHER THE SUN HAS GONE NOVA.

THEN, IT ROLLS TWO DICE. IF THEY BOTH COME UP SIX, IT LIES TO US. OTHERWISE, IT TELLS THE TRUTH.

LET'S TRY.

DETECTOR! HAS THE SUN GONE NOVA?

ROLL

YES.



FREQUENTIST STATISTICIAN:

THE PROBABILITY OF THIS RESULT HAPPENING BY CHANCE IS  $\frac{1}{36} = 0.027$ . SINCE  $p < 0.05$ , I CONCLUDE THAT THE SUN HAS EXPLODED.

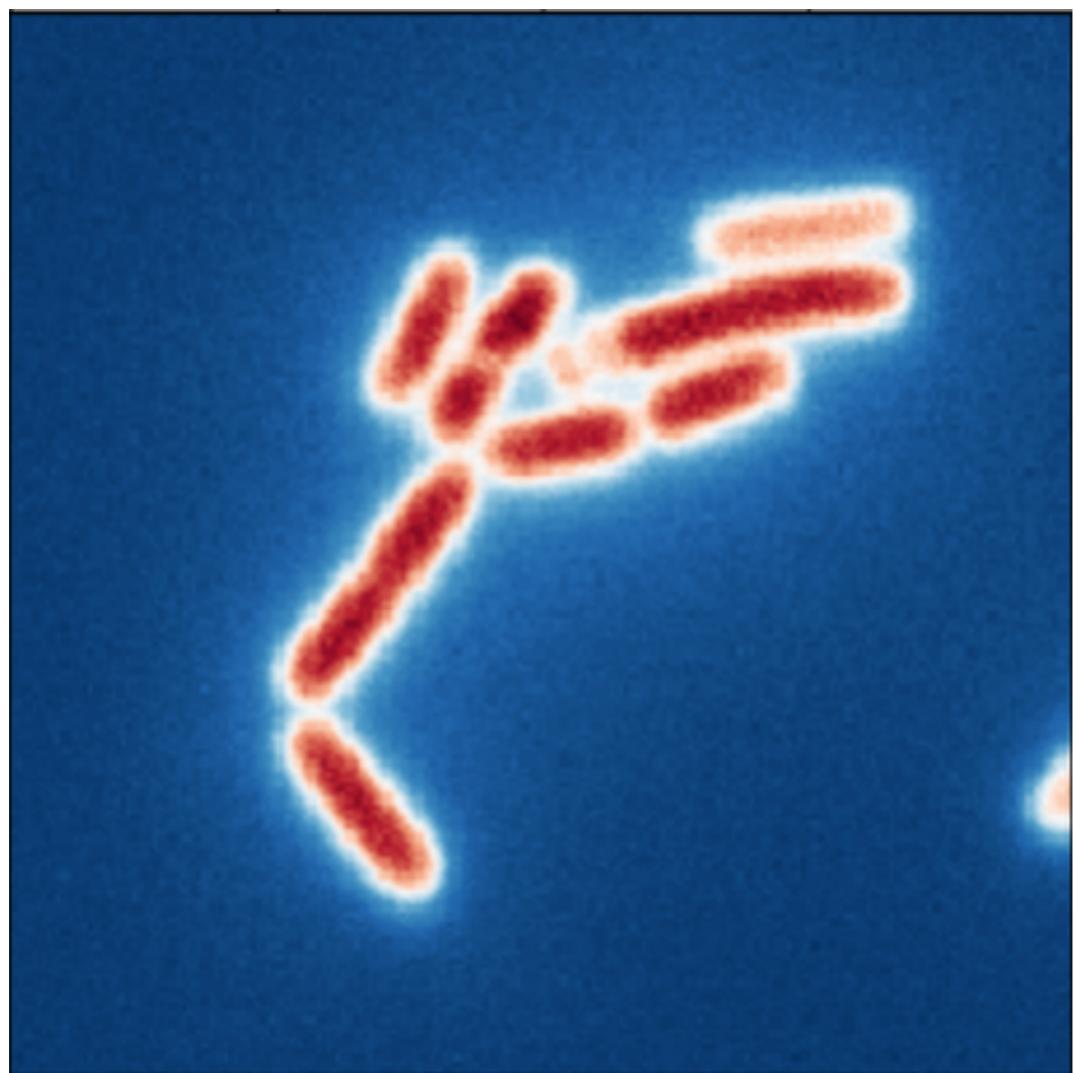


BAYESIAN STATISTICIAN:

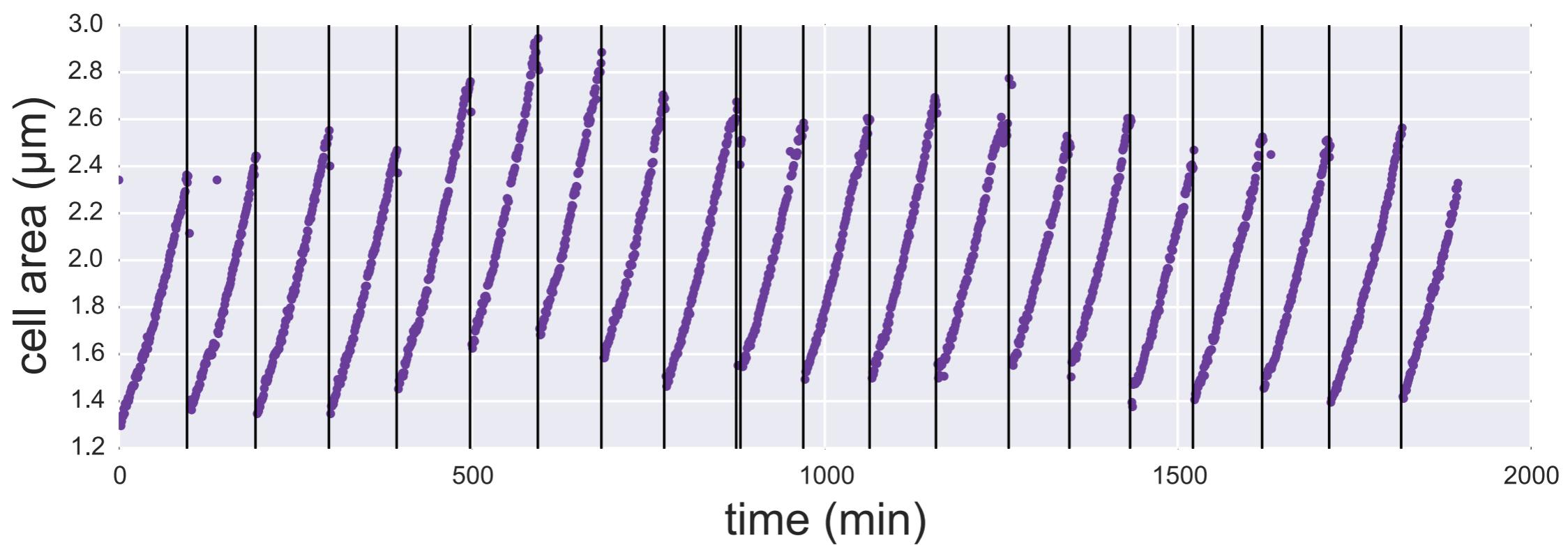
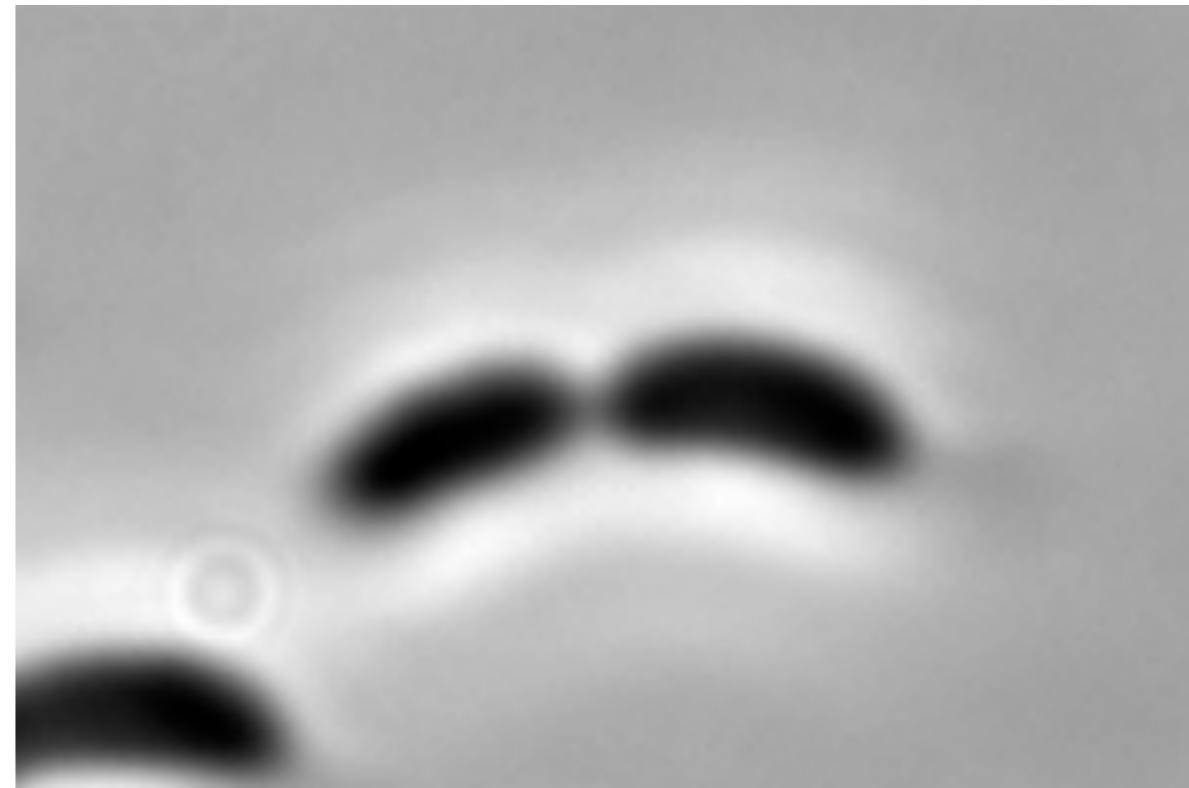
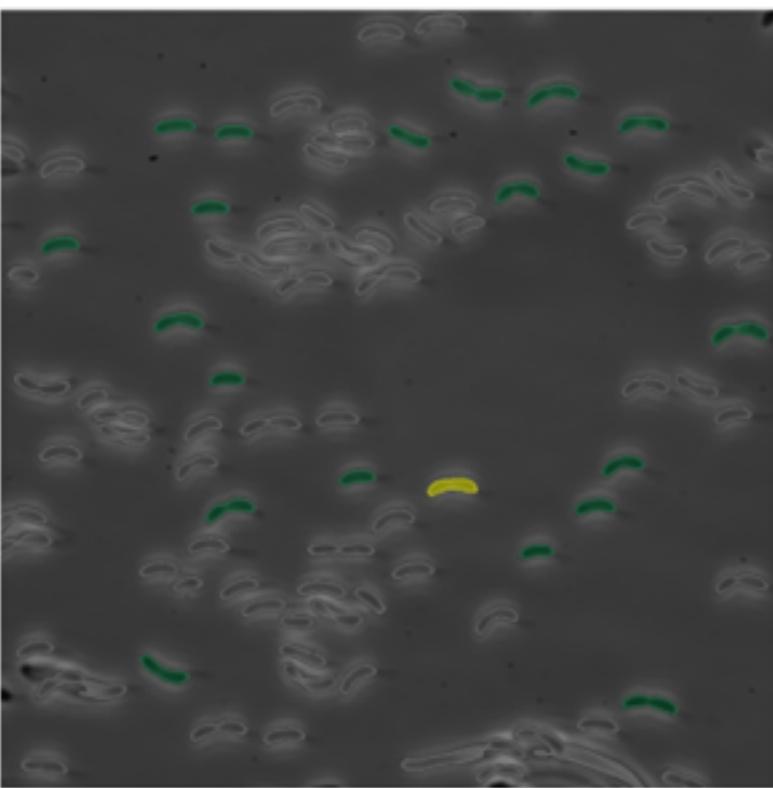
BET YOU \$50 IT HASN'T.



# Image segmentation



# Image segmentation



# Colocalization

