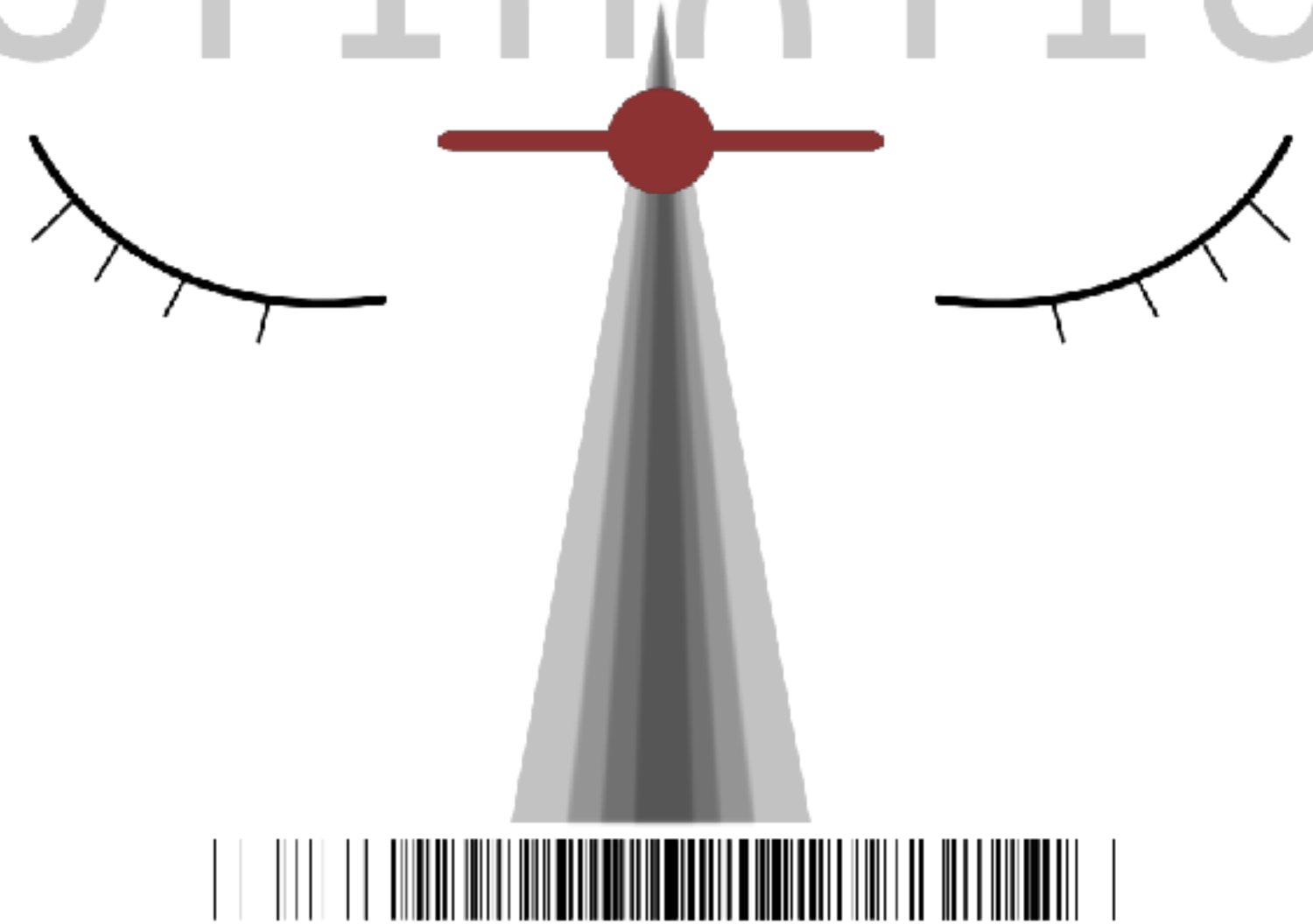


PARAMETER  
ESTIMATION



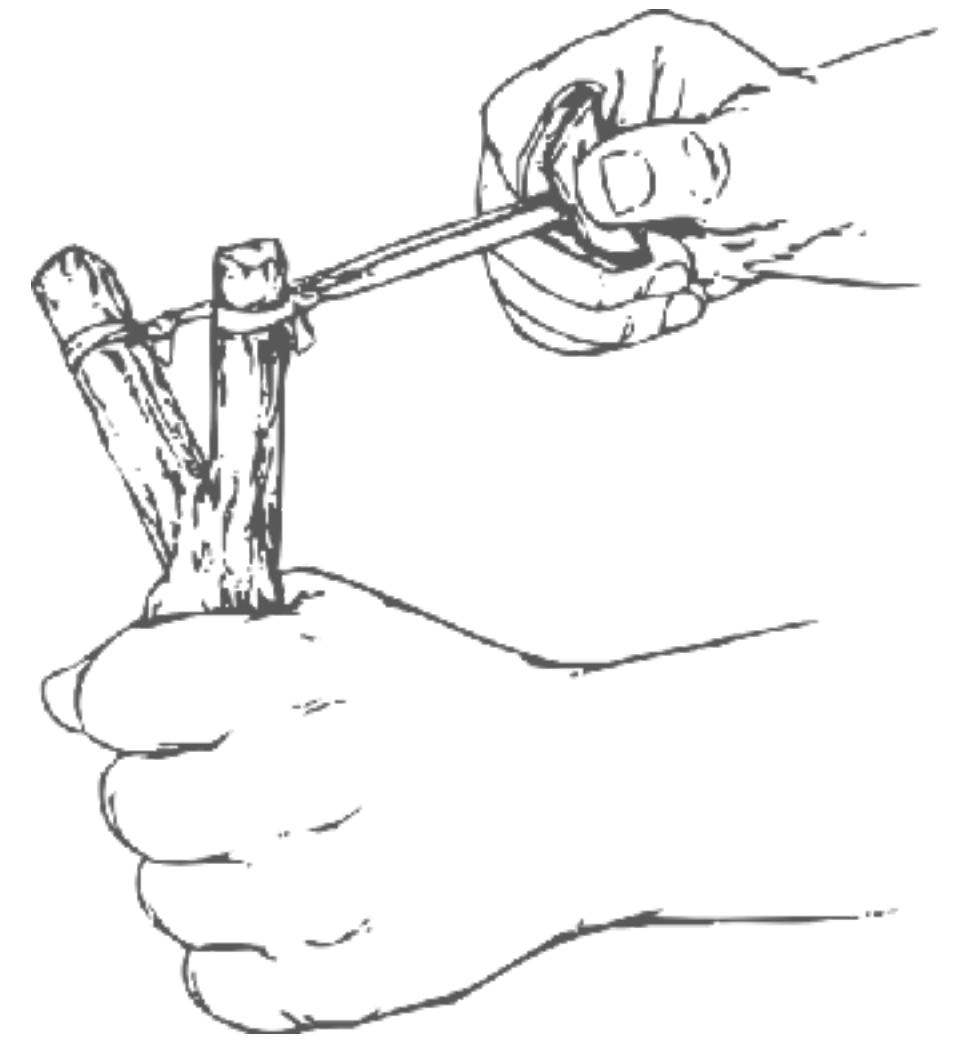
INTRODUCTION TO DATA ANALYSIS

---

**PARAMETER ESTIMATION**

## LEARNING GOALS

- ▶ understand Bayes rule for parameter estimation
  - ▶ (conjugate) priors, likelihood
- ▶ point-valued & interval-based estimators
  - ▶ frequentist: MLE, confidence intervals
  - ▶ Bayes: mean of posterior, credible intervals
- ▶ implement probabilistic models in greta
- ▶ compute with posterior samples



# ESTIMATES

- ▶ point-valued: single “best” values
- ▶ interval-range: “good” values (around “best” value)

estimate	Bayesian	frequentist
best value	mean of posterior posterior	maximum likelihood estimate
interval range	credible interval (HDI)	confidence interval



# **model-based hypothesis testing**

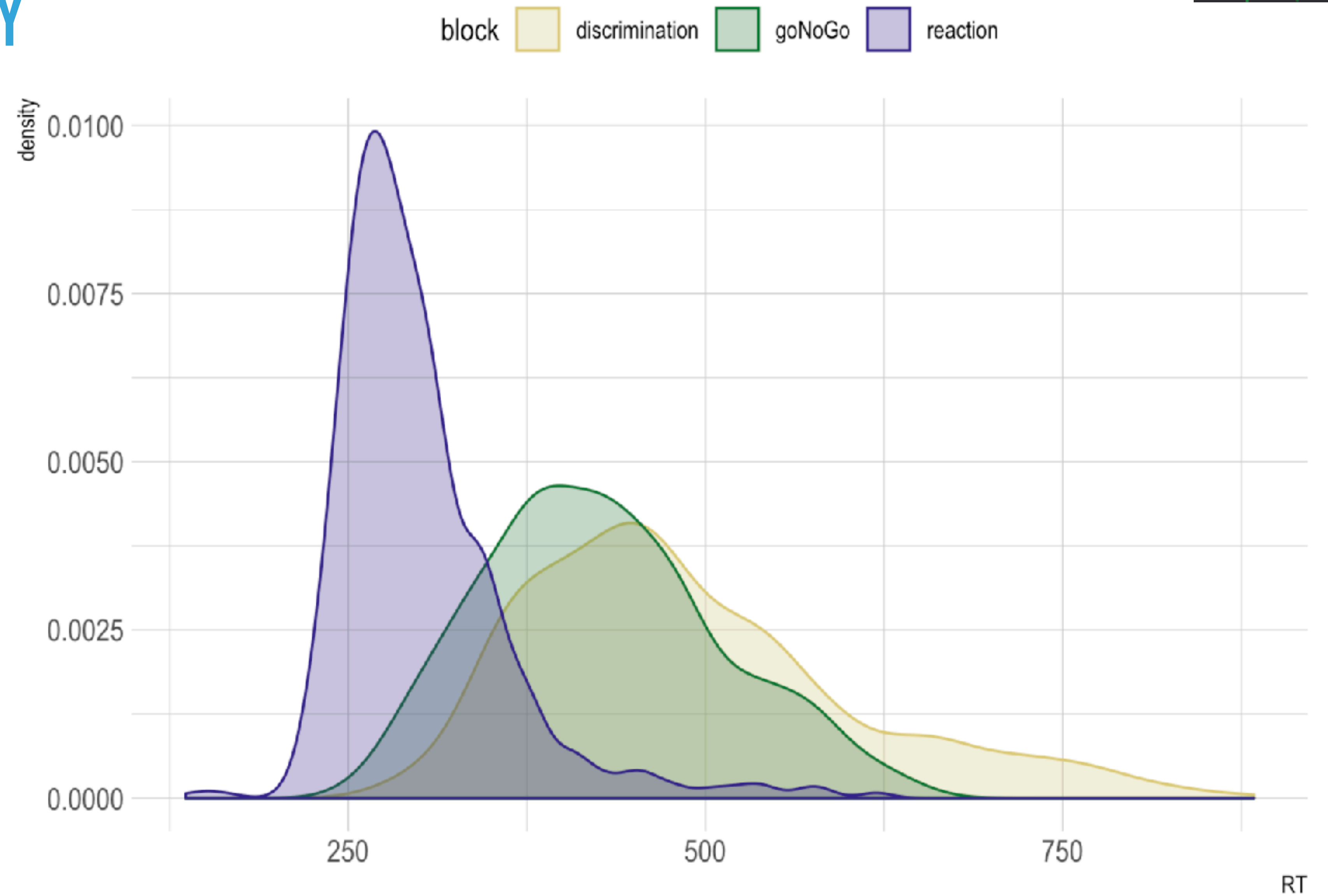


## MENTAL CHRONOMETRY

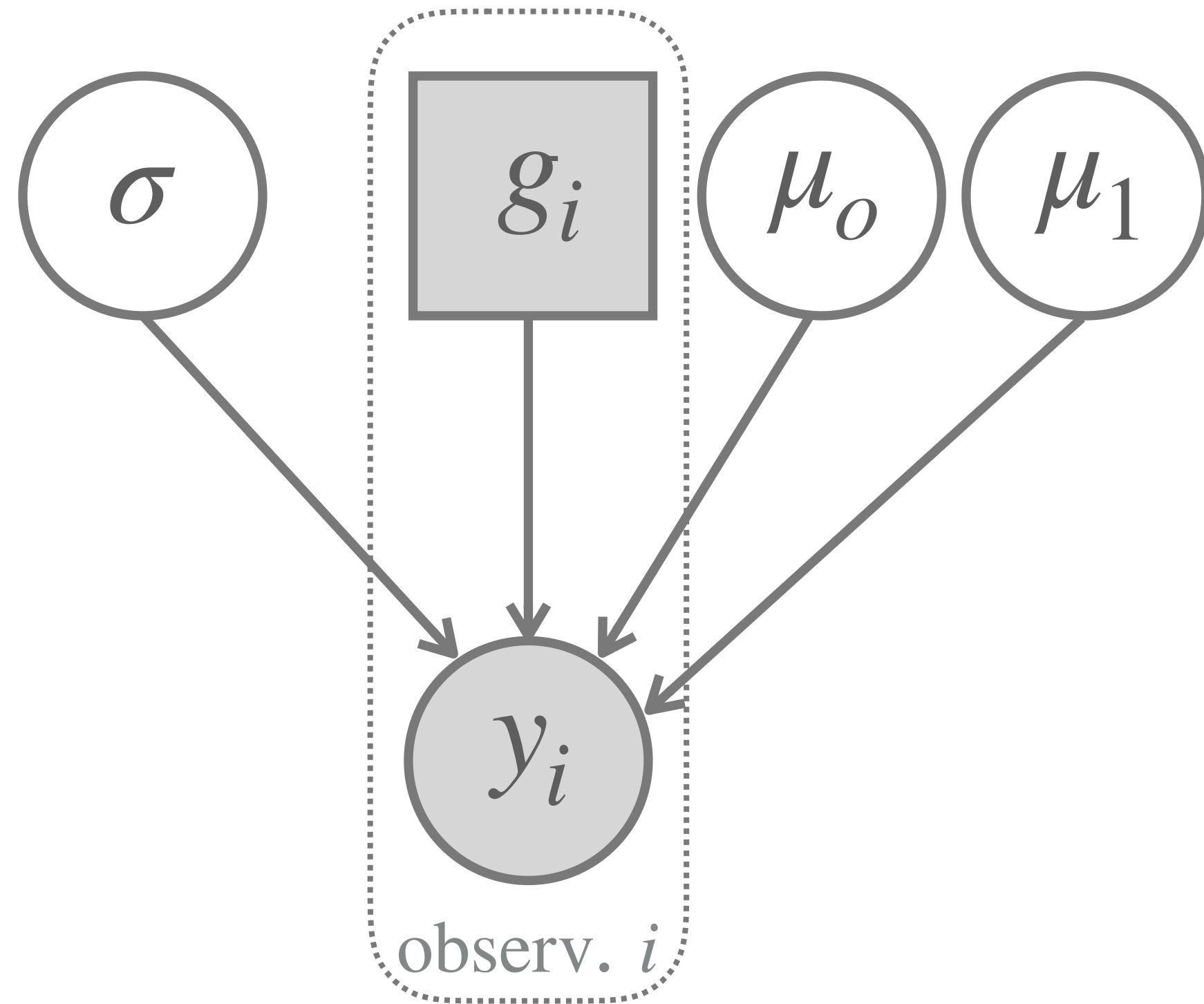
- ▶ N=50 participants recruited via Prolific
- ▶ three blocks / conditions
  - ▶ **reaction** press button when a shape appears
  - ▶ **go/no-go** press button for shape 1; don't press for shape 2
  - ▶ **discrimination** press one button for shape 1, another for shape 2



# MENTAL CHRONOMETRY



## T-TEST MODEL [TWO UNCOUPLED MEANS]



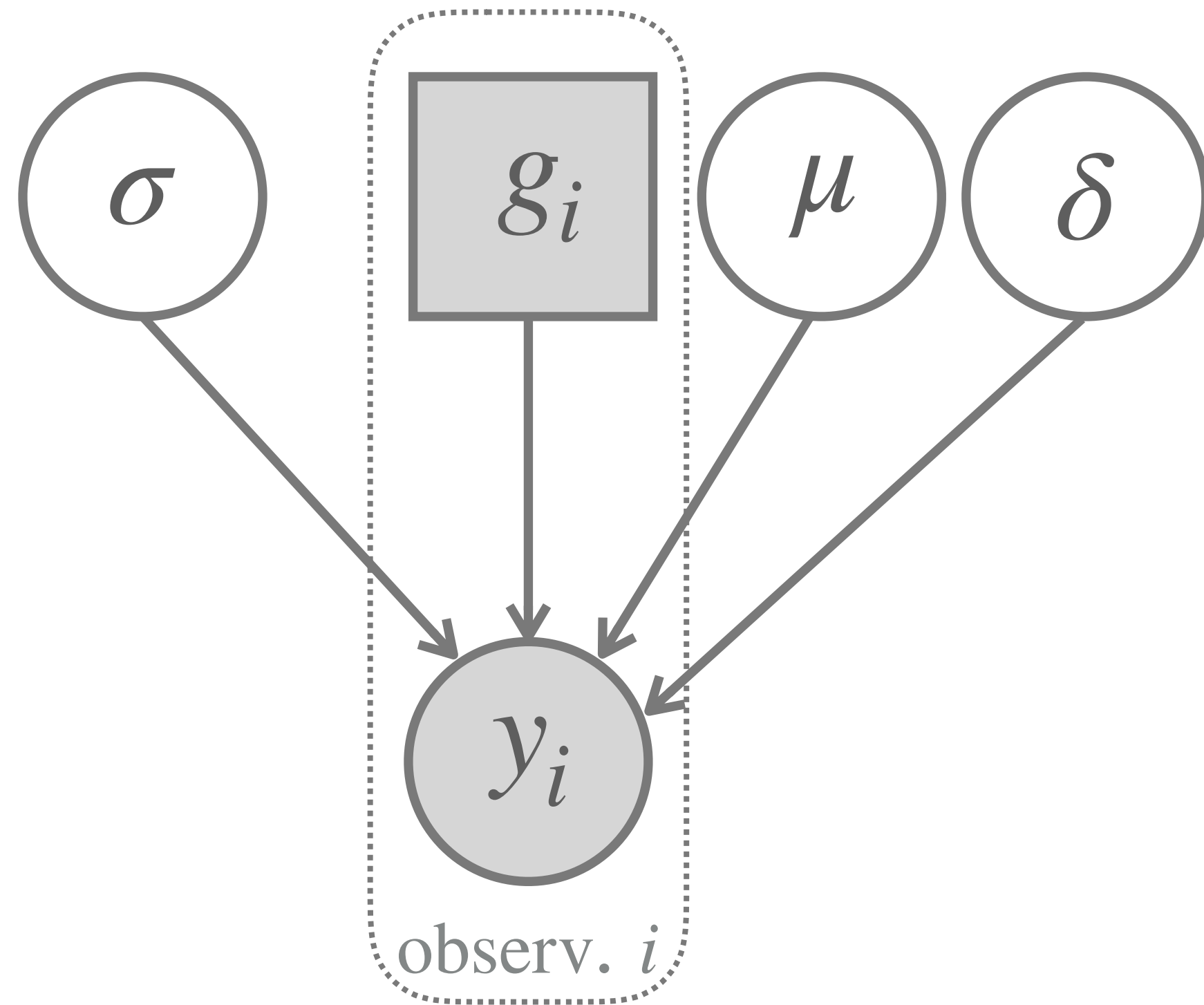
$$\sigma \sim \text{Trunc-Norm}(\dots, \text{lower} = 0)$$

$$\mu_0 \sim \text{Normal}(\dots)$$

$$\mu_1 \sim \text{Normal}(\dots)$$

$$y_i \sim \text{Normal}(\mu_{g_i}, \sigma)$$

## T-TEST MODEL [WITH DIFFERENCE BETWEEN MEANS]



$$\sigma \sim \text{Trunc-Norm}(\dots, \text{lower} = 0)$$

$$\mu \sim \text{Normal}(\dots)$$

$$\delta \sim \text{Normal}(0, \dots)$$

$$y_i \sim \begin{cases} \text{Normal}(\mu, \sigma) & \text{if } g_i = 0 \\ \text{Normal}(\mu + \delta, \sigma) & \text{if } g_i = 1 \end{cases}$$



# HYPOTHESES & PARAMETER VALUES

- ▶ point-valued null hypothesis:  $\delta = 0$
- ▶ observe data  $D$
- ▶ three ways of testing [recall three pillars of DA]:
  - ▶ **estimation**: is 0 among the parameters estimated from  $D$ ?
  - ▶ **prediction**: is  $D$  among the data predicted by a model with  $\delta = 0$ ?
  - ▶ **comparison**: take two models: one with  $\delta = 0$ , one where  $\delta$  takes on different values, too; which one explains  $D$  better?



# Bayes rule for parameter estimation

## BAYES RULE FOR PARAMETER ESTIMATION

$$P(\theta \mid D) = \frac{P(D \mid \theta) P(\theta)}{P(D)}$$

posterior                      likelihood                      prior                      marginal likelihood

$$P(D) = \int P(D \mid \theta) P(\theta) \, d\theta$$

marginal likelihood

## REMARKS ON NOTATION

- ▶ if there is only one model  $M$ , we leave out the model index, writing  $P(\theta)$  instead of  $P_M(\theta)$
- ▶ we write  $P(\theta \mid D)$  instead of  $P(\Theta = \theta \mid \mathcal{D} = D)$
- ▶ short-hand with non-normalized probabilities (implicit normalizing constant):

$$\underbrace{P(\theta \mid D)}_{\textit{posterior}} \propto \underbrace{P(\theta)}_{\textit{prior}} \underbrace{P(D \mid \theta)}_{\textit{likelihood}}$$



## EXAMPLE

- ▶ model:

$$k \sim \text{Binomial}(N, \theta)$$

$$\theta \sim \text{Beta}(\alpha, \beta)$$

- ▶ data:

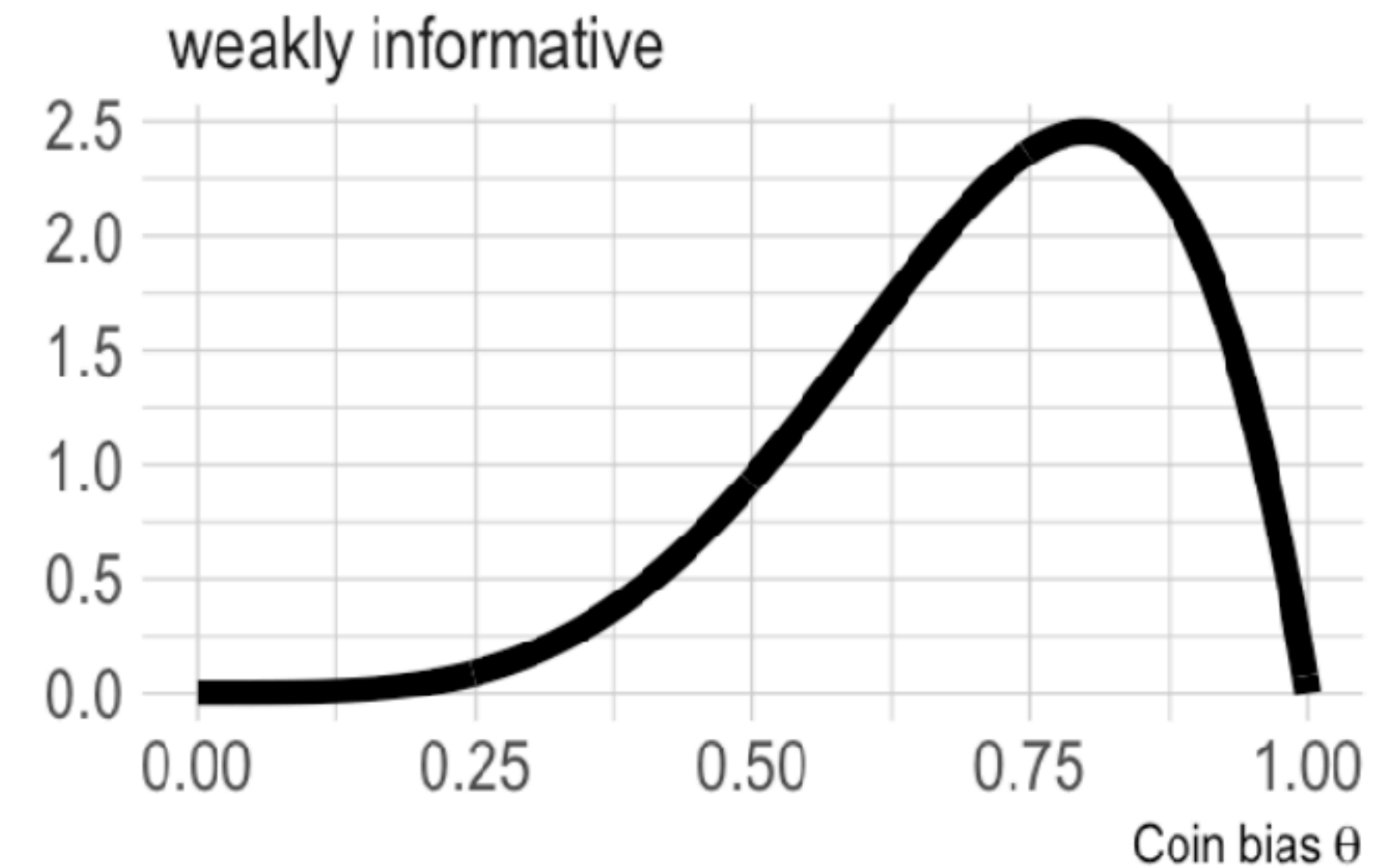
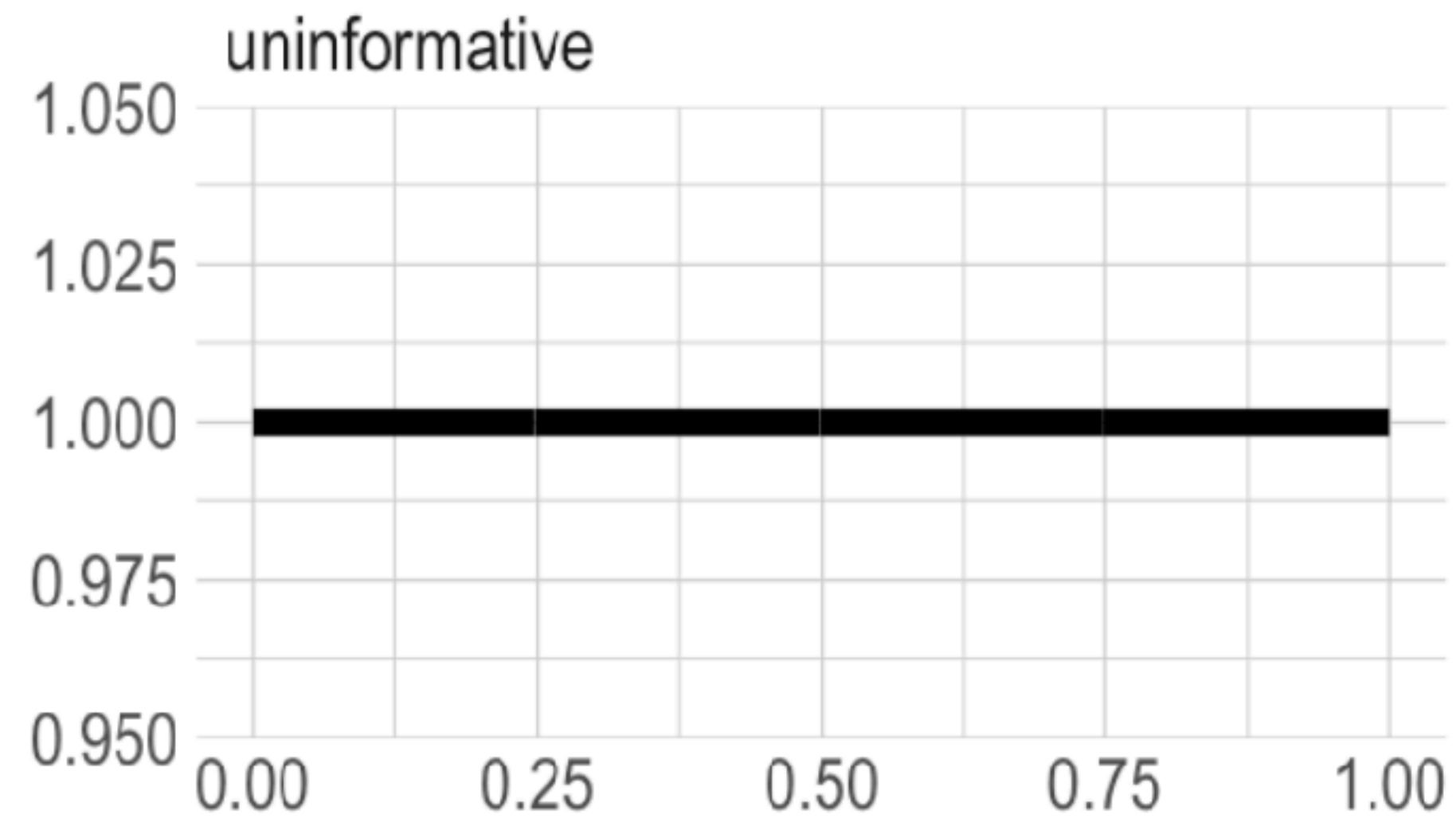
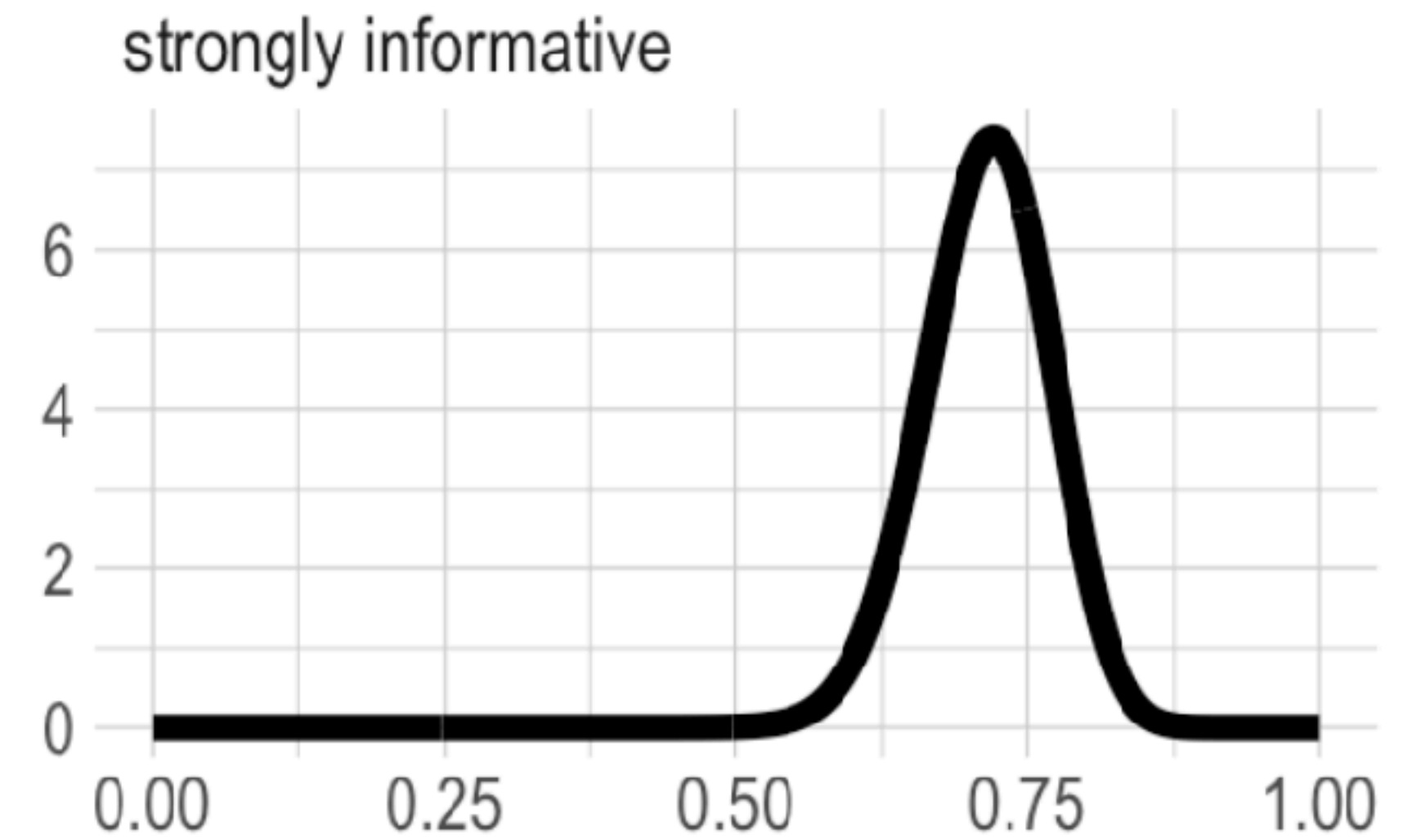
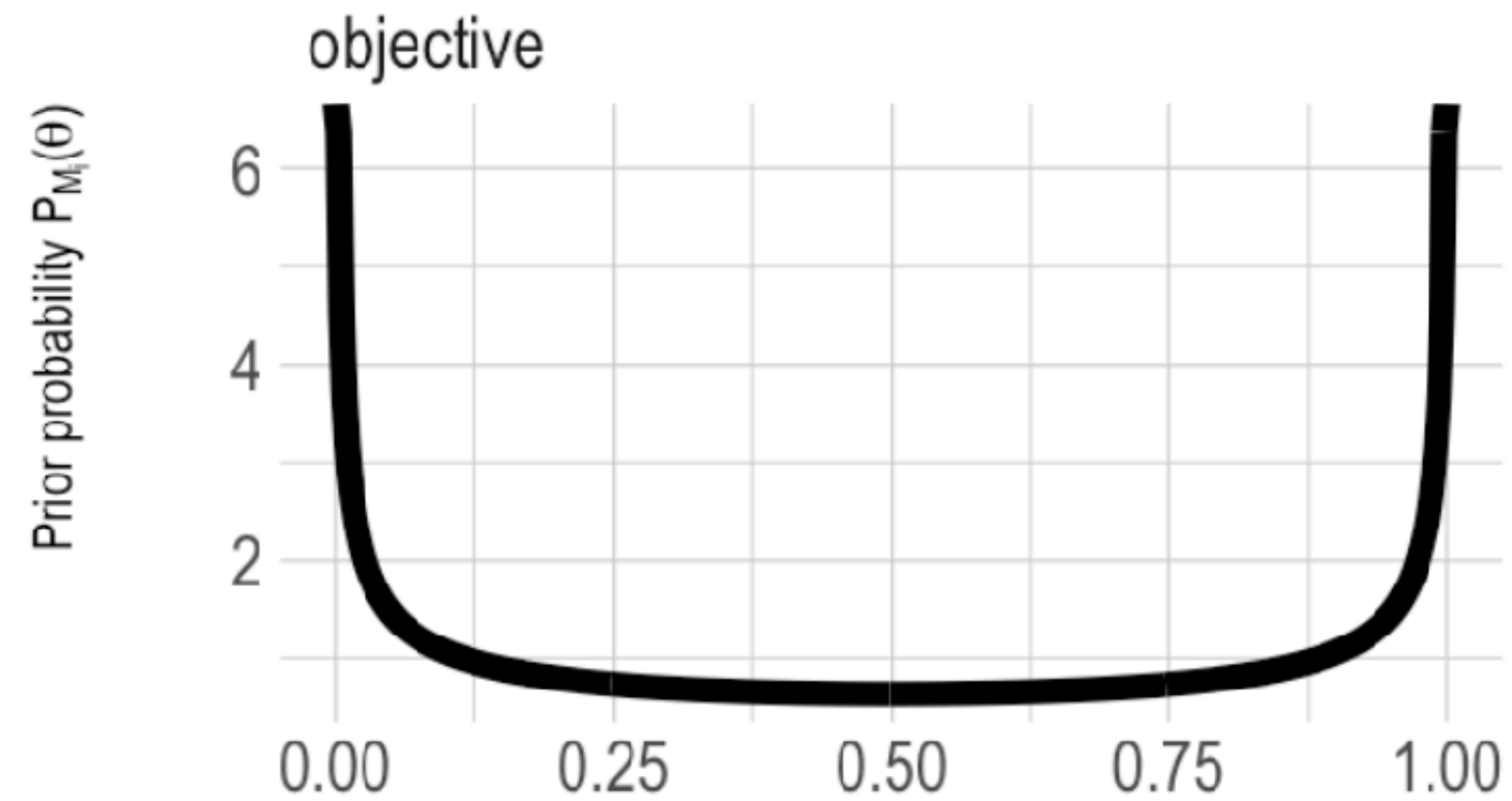
- ▶ "24/7"       $k = 7$        $N = 24$

- ▶ "KoF"       $k = 109$        $N = 311$

[number of "true" responses to all sentences with a false presupposition]

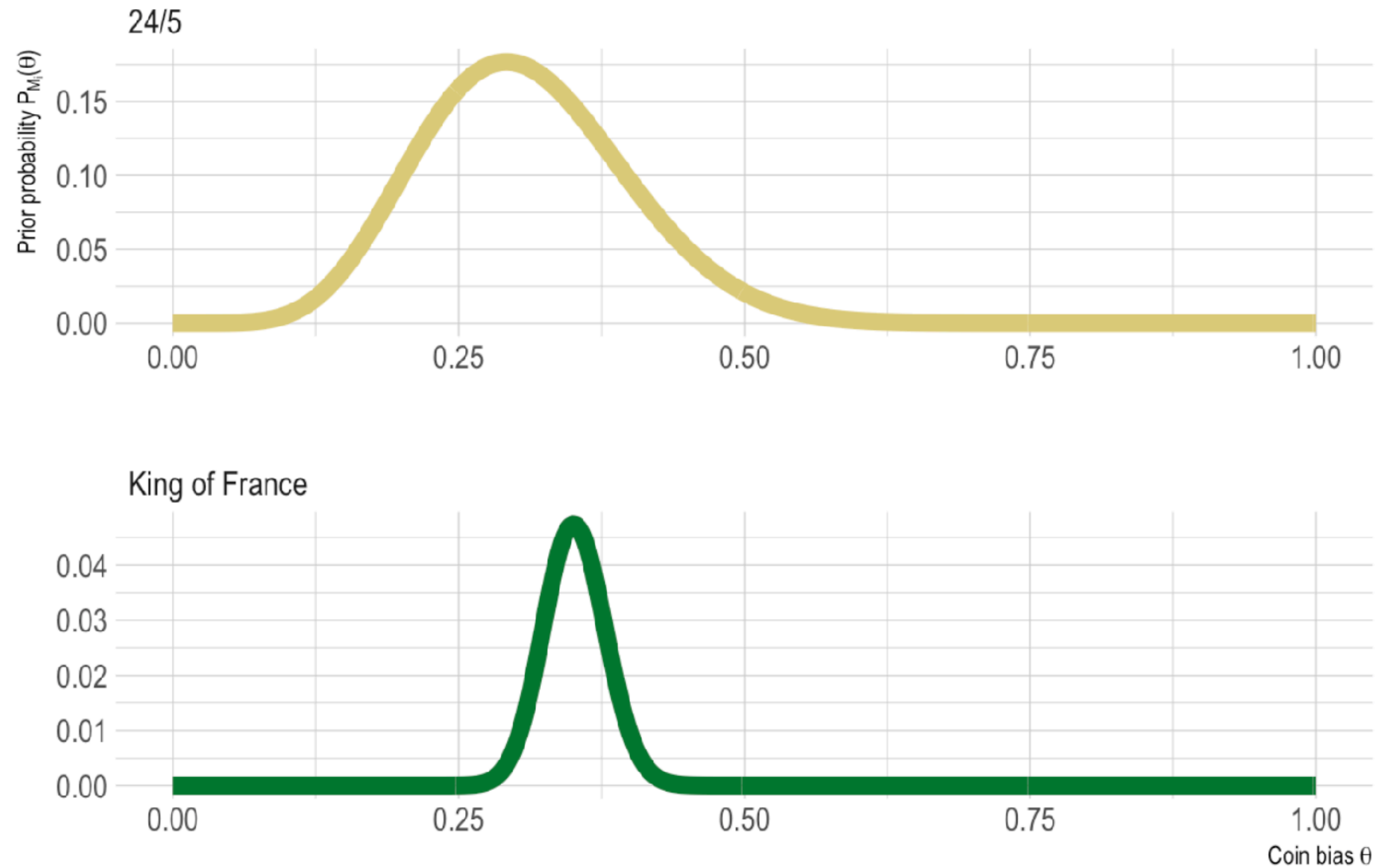


# PRIOR





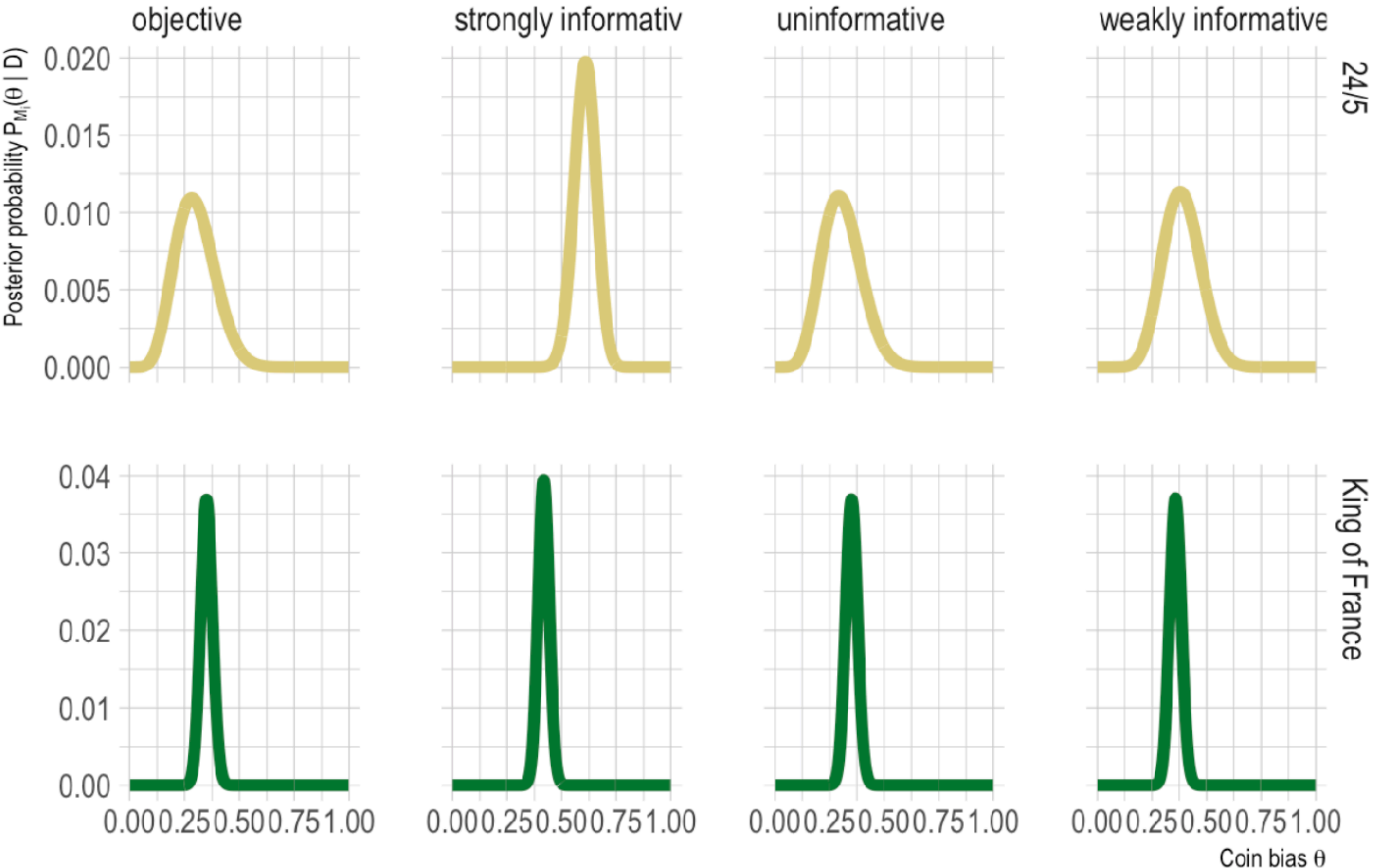
# LIKELIHOOD







POSTERIOR



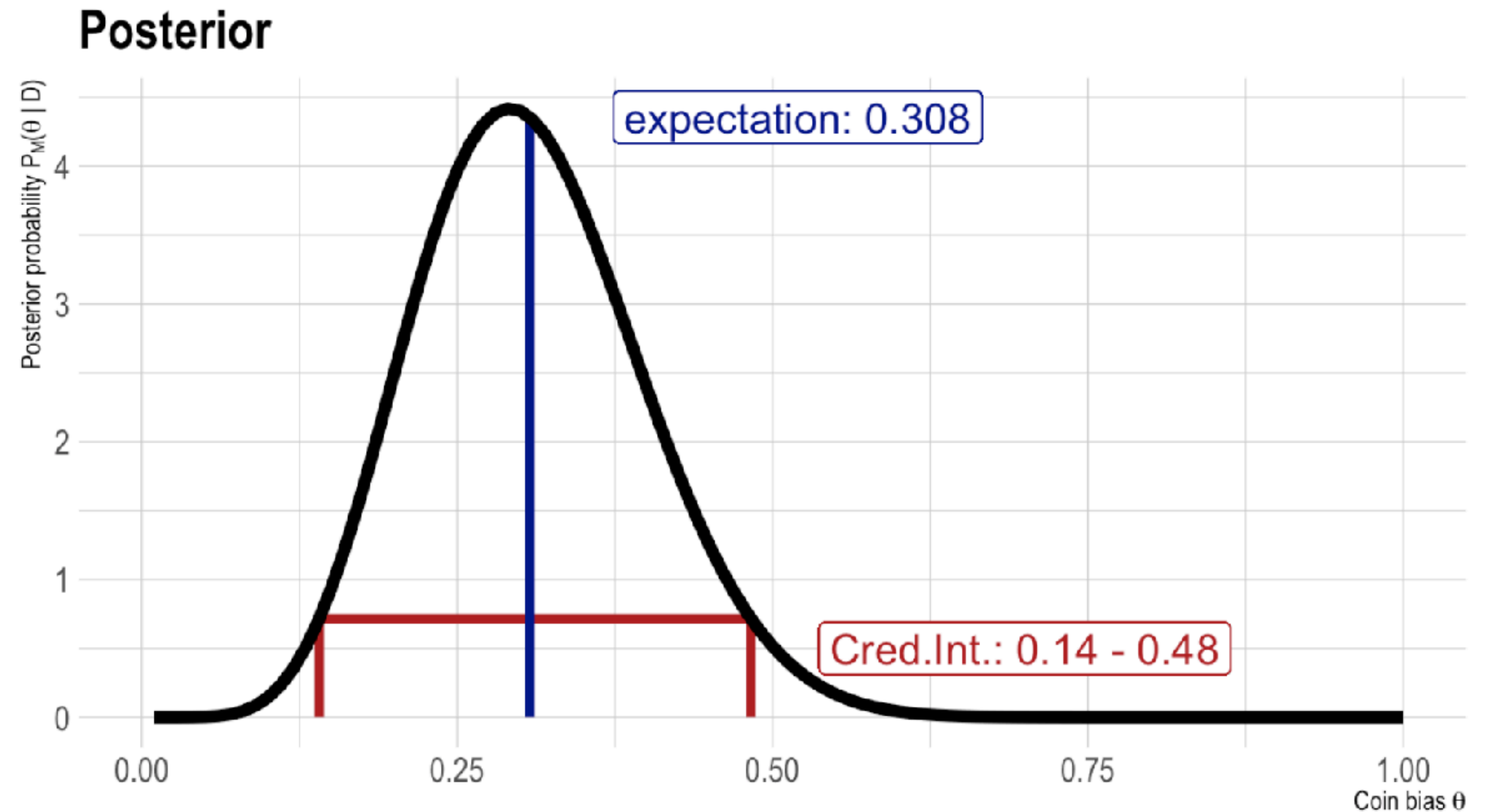
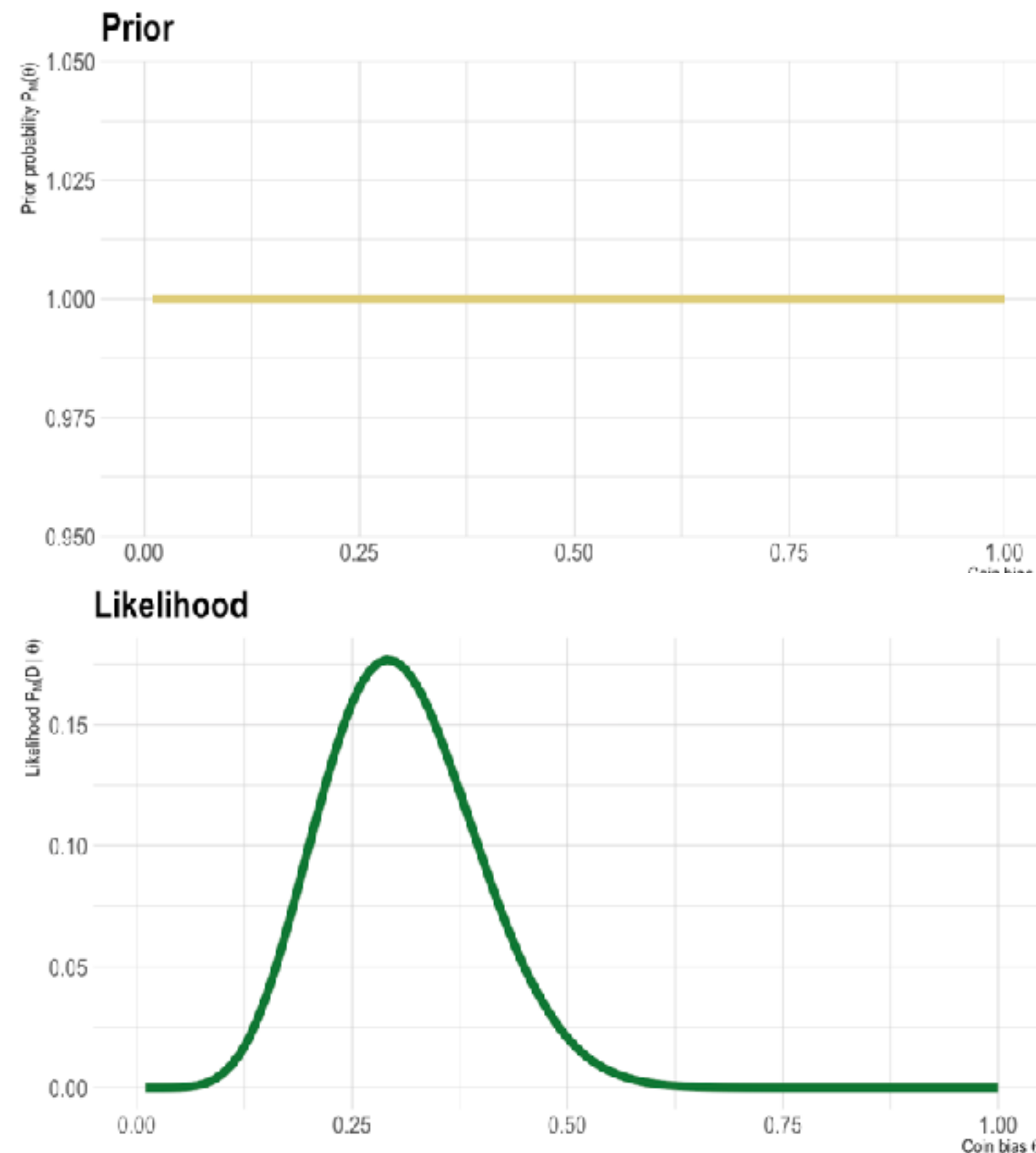




# Bayesian point- & interval-estimates

## EXAMPLE

- ▶ model:  $k \sim \text{Binomial}(N, \theta)$ ,  $\theta \sim \text{Beta}(1,1)$
- ▶ data:  $k = 7$ ,  $N = 24$



## POSTERIOR MEAN & MAP

- ▶ posterior mean:

$$\mathbb{E}_{P(\theta|D)} = \int \theta P(\theta | D) d\theta$$

- ▶ maximum a posteriori:

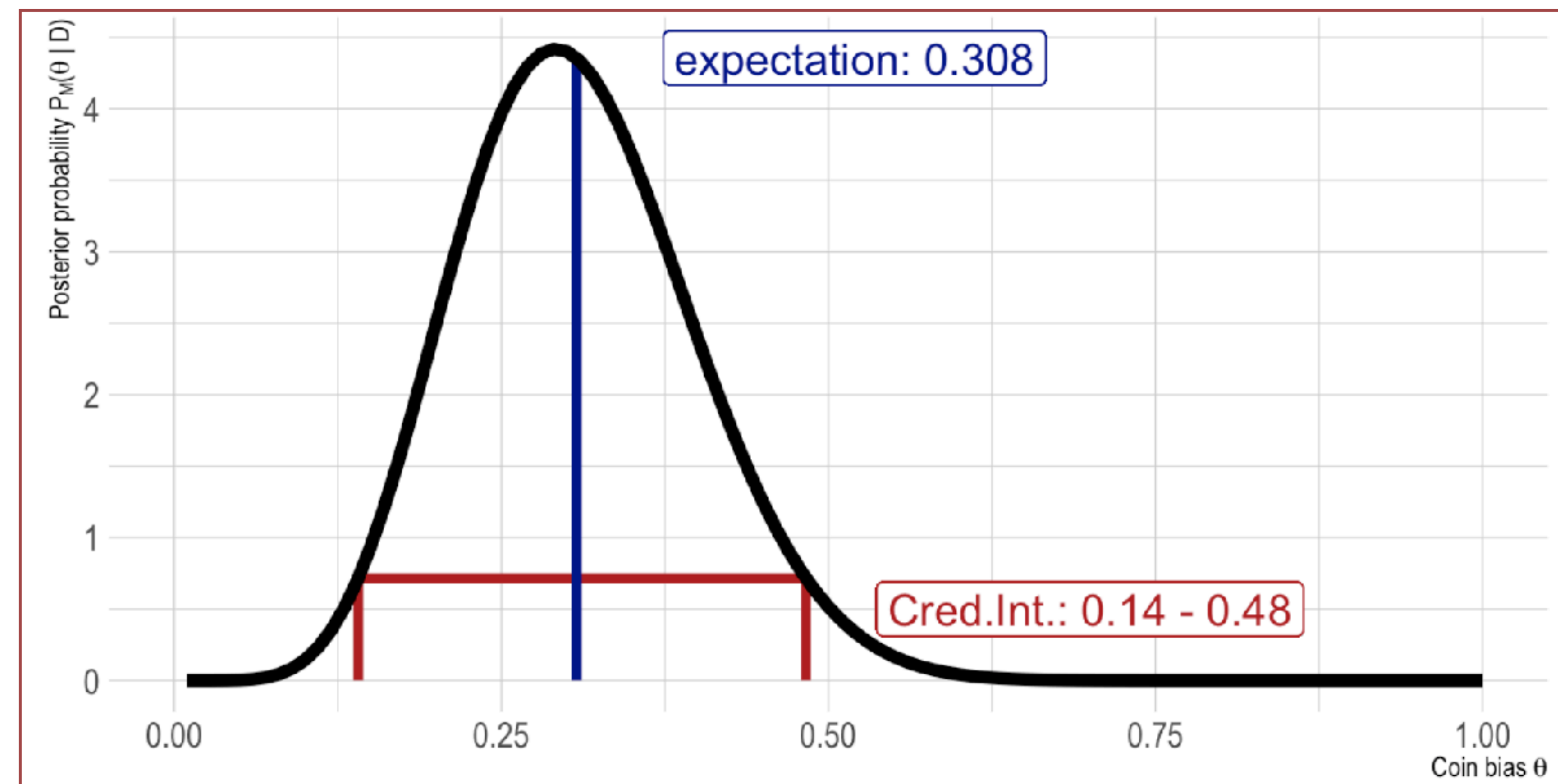
$$\text{MAP}(P(\theta | D)) = \arg \max_{\theta} P(\theta | D)$$

- posterior mean is proper Bayesian measure, because it is holistic = influenced by whole distribution
- MAP is local, not influenced by whole distribution
- estimation of posterior mean is (usually) less error-prone than estimation of MAP

# CREDIBLE INTERVAL

- ▶ interval  $[l; u]$  is a  $\gamma\%$  **credible interval** for a random variable  $X$  if
  - $P(l \leq X \leq u) = \frac{\gamma}{100}$ , and
  - for every  $x \in [l; u]$  and  $x' \notin [l; u]$  we have  $P(X = x) > P(X = x')$
- ▶ “range of values **too probable to properly ignore**”

[see David Lewis on “Elusive Knowledge”]





**posteriors from  
conjugacy**

## BAYES RULE FOR PARAMETER ESTIMATION

$$P(\theta \mid D) = \frac{P(D \mid \theta) P(\theta)}{\int P(D \mid \theta) P(\theta) d\theta}$$

Annotations on the equation:

- $P(D \mid \theta)$ : **✓fast & easy**
- $P(\theta)$ : **✓fast & easy**
- $\int P(D \mid \theta) P(\theta) d\theta$ : **✗possibly intractable ✗**



## CONJUGACY

- ▶ prior  $P(\theta)$  is a **conjugate prior** for likelihood  $P(D \mid \theta)$  iff prior  $P(\theta)$  and posterior  $P(\theta \mid D)$  are of the same kind of probability distribution (possibly with different parameter values)
- ▶ e.g., prior and posterior are both normal distributions, but have different means and standard deviations



## CONJUGACY OF BETA & BINOMIAL

► **claim:** beta & binomial are conjugate

► **proof:**

$$P(\theta \mid k, N) \propto \text{Binomial}(k; N, \theta) \text{Beta}(\theta \mid a, b)$$

$$P(\theta \mid k, N) \propto \theta^k (1 - \theta)^{N-k} \theta^{a-1} (1 - \theta)^{b-1}$$

$$P(\theta \mid k, N) \propto \theta^{k+a-1} (1 - \theta)^{N-k+b-1}$$

$$P(\theta \mid k, N) = \text{Beta}(\theta \mid k + a, N - k + b)$$

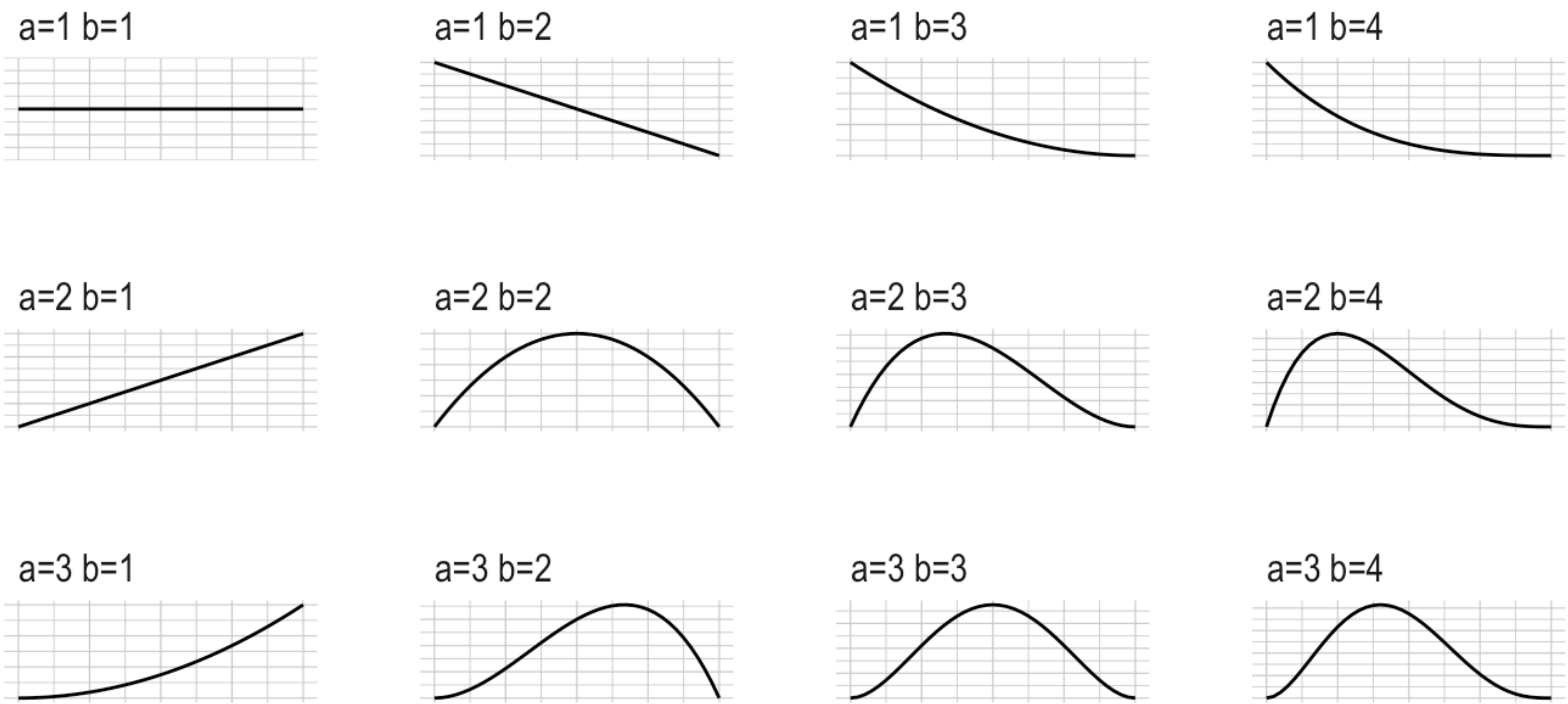






**sequential  
updating**

# SEQUENTIAL UPDATING IN THE BETA-BINOMIAL MODEL



## SEQUENTIAL UPDATING IN GENERAL

► **claim:** if  $D_1$  and  $D_2$  are disjoint and  $D_1 \cup D_2 = D$ ,  $P(\theta \mid D) \propto P(\theta \mid D_1) P(D_2 \mid \theta)$

► **proof:**

$$\begin{aligned} P(\theta \mid D) &= \frac{P(\theta) P(D \mid \theta)}{\int P(\theta') P(D \mid \theta') d\theta'} \\ &= \frac{P(\theta) P(D_1 \mid \theta) P(D_2 \mid \theta)}{\int P(\theta') P(D_1 \mid \theta') P(D_2 \mid \theta') d\theta'} && \text{[from multiplicativity of likelihood]} \\ &= \frac{P(\theta) P(D_1 \mid \theta) P(D_2 \mid \theta)}{\frac{k}{k} \int P(\theta') P(D_1 \mid \theta') P(D_2 \mid \theta') d\theta'} && \text{[for random positive k]} \\ &= \frac{\frac{P(\theta) P(D_1 \mid \theta)}{k} P(D_2 \mid \theta)}{\int \frac{P(\theta') P(D_1 \mid \theta')}{k} P(D_2 \mid \theta') d\theta'} && \text{[rules of integration; basic calculus]} \\ &= \frac{P(\theta \mid D_1) P(D_2 \mid \theta)}{\int P(\theta' \mid D_1) P(D_2 \mid \theta') d\theta'} && \text{[Bayes rule with } k = \int P(\theta) P(D_1 \mid \theta) d\theta \text{]} \end{aligned}$$

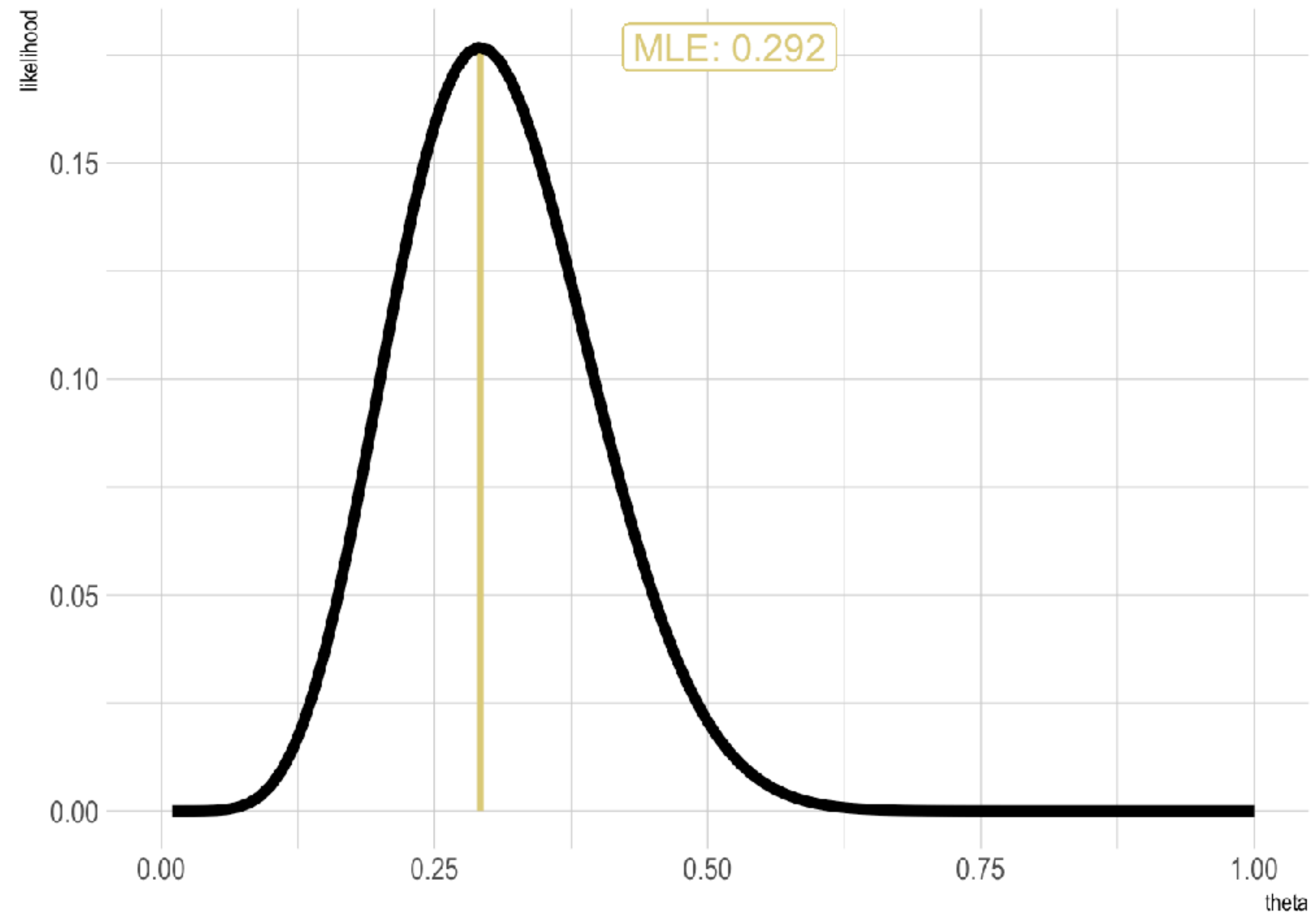


**frequentist  
estimation**

## MAXIMUM LIKELIHOOD ESTIMATE

- ▶ maximum likelihood estimate:

$$\hat{\theta} = \arg \max_{\theta} P(d \mid \theta)$$



# CONFIDENCE INTERVAL [MATHEMATICALLY]

- ▶ let  $\mathcal{D}$  be the random variable describing the probability of data
- ▶  $X_l$  and  $X_u$  are random variables derived from  $\mathcal{D}$  via functions  $g_l$  and  $g_u$  so that  
 $g_{l,u}: D \mapsto \mathbb{R}$

- ▶ a  $\gamma\%$  **confidence interval** for observed data  $D_{\text{obs}}$  is the interval:

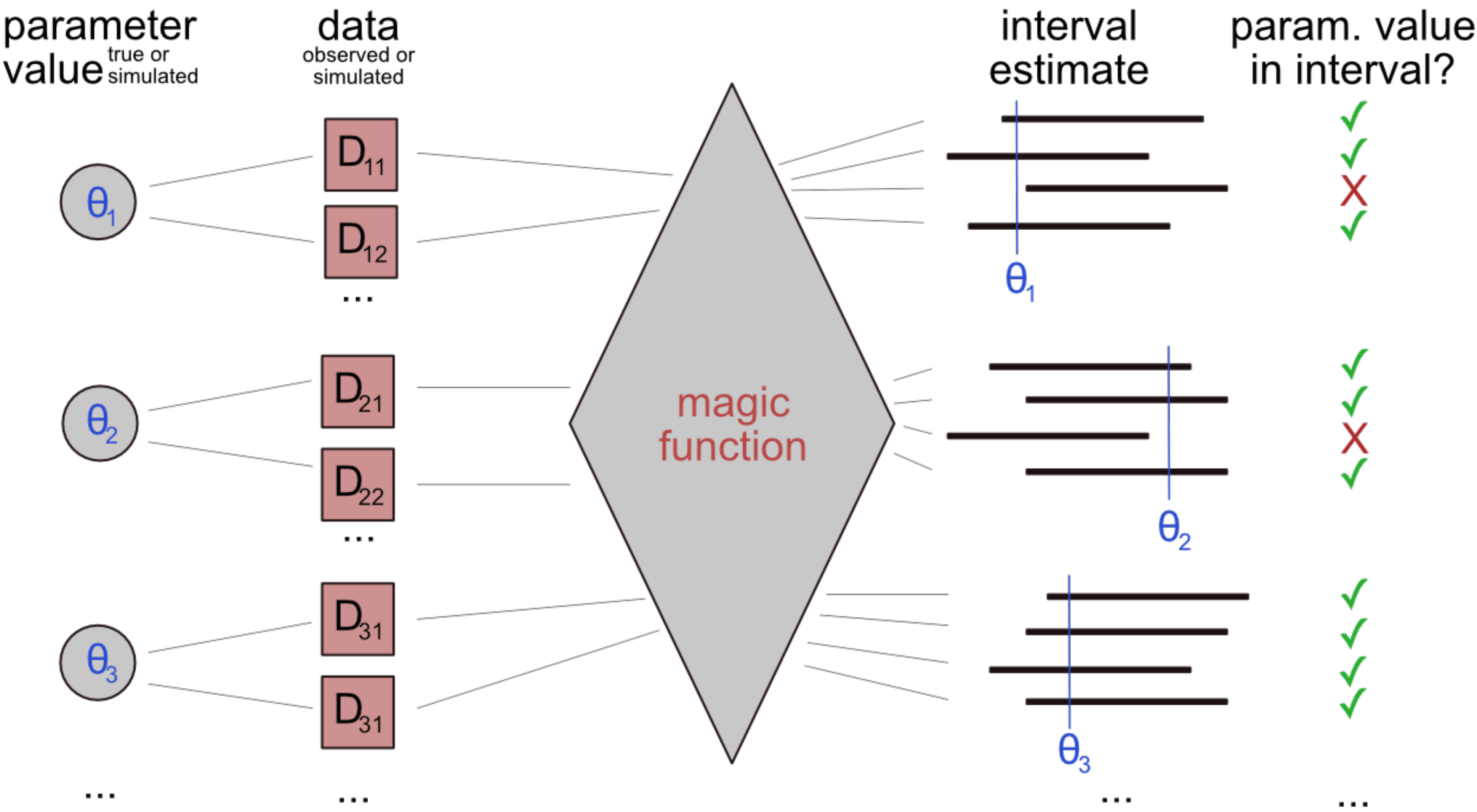
$$[g_l(D_{\text{obs}}), g_u(D_{\text{obs}})]$$

- ▶ where functions  $g_{l,u}$  are constructed so that:

$$P(X_l \leq \theta_{\text{true}} \leq X_u) = \frac{\gamma}{100}$$

- ▶ and where  $\theta_{\text{true}}$  is the true value

CONFIDENCE INTERVAL [ALGORITHMICALLY]



# CONFIDENCE INTERVAL [ALGORITHMICALLY]

- ▶ fix number of coin flips  $N$  (not really necessary, but easier)
- ▶ suppose the true coin bias is  $\theta_{\text{true}}$  (but we don't know it)
- ▶ we have a magic function  $MF: k \mapsto [u_k; l_k]$
- ▶ we now sample repeatedly  $k \sim \text{Binomial}(N, \theta_{\text{true}})$
- ▶ for each sample  $k$ , compute  $MF(k) = [u_k; l_k]$
- ▶  $MF$  gives us a  $\gamma\%$  confidence interval if  $\theta_{\text{true}}$  is inside of  $MF(k) = [u_k; l_k]$  in  $\gamma\%$  of the sampled  $k$ s





**addressing point-  
valued hypotheses  
with estimation**

# ADDRESSING POINT-VALUED HYPOTHESES [BAYES]

- ▶  $\Theta_i = \theta_i^*$  is our point-valued hypothesis
- ▶ a **region of practical equivalence [ROPE]** is an  $\epsilon$ -region around  $\theta_i^*$ :  
$$\text{ROPE}(\theta_i^*) = [\theta_i^* - \epsilon, \theta_i^* + \epsilon]$$
- ▶ for a Bayesian credible interval  $[l; u]$  for  $\Theta_i$ , we:
  - ▶ **accept** the point-valued hypothesis iff  $[l; u]$  is contained entirely in  $\text{ROPE}(\theta_i^*)$ ;
  - ▶ **reject** the point-valued hypothesis iff  $[l; u]$  and  $\text{ROPE}(\theta_i^*)$  have no overlap;
  - ▶ **withhold judgement** otherwise.

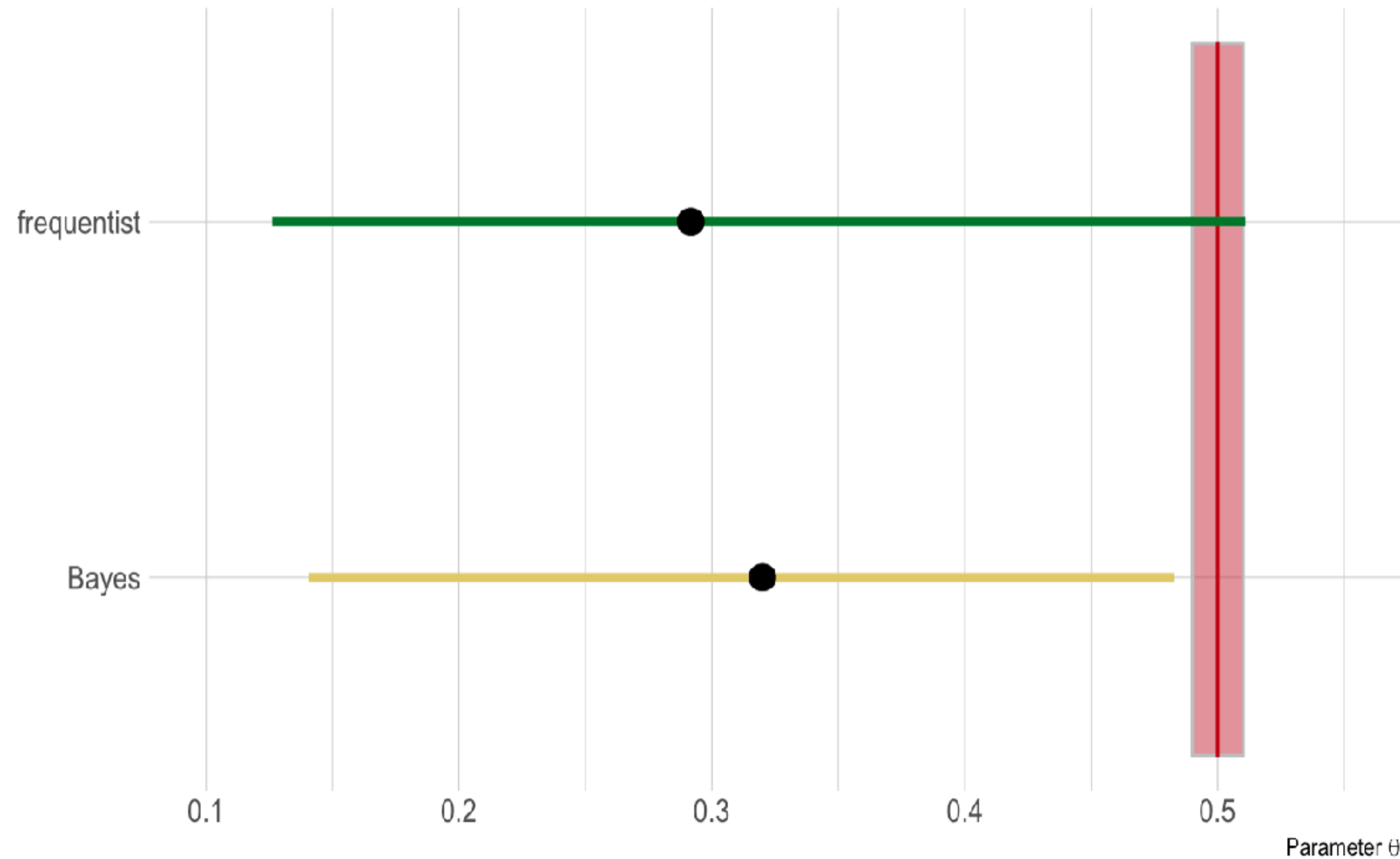
# ADDRESSING POINT-VALUED HYPOTHESES [FREQUENTIST]

- ▶  $\Theta_i = \theta_i^*$  is our point-valued hypothesis
- ▶ we do not consider a ROPE
- ▶ for a frequentist credible interval  $[l; u]$  for  $\Theta_i$ , we:
  - ▶ **reject** the point-valued hypothesis iff  $\theta_i^* \notin [l; u]$ ; and
  - ▶ **withhold judgement** otherwise.

## EXAMPLE

- ▶ 24/7 example, uninformative priors for Bayesian model
- ▶ point- and interval estimates:

```
## # A tibble: 2 x 4
##   approach    lower point upper
##   <chr>      <dbl> <dbl> <dbl>
## 1 Bayes      0.141  0.32  0.483
## 2 frequentist 0.126  0.292 0.511
```





**comparison**

# BAYESIAN VS FREQUENTIST ESTIMATES

- ▶ for Bayesianism the full posterior is the primary object of concern; point- and interval-estimates are essentially just summary statistics for the full posterior
- ▶ for frequentists the point- and interval-estimates are the primary object of concern
- ▶ MLEs are much easier to compute but might not exist
- ▶ posteriors can be very hard to compute (long run time)

# A PUZZLE ABOUT POINT-ESTIMATES

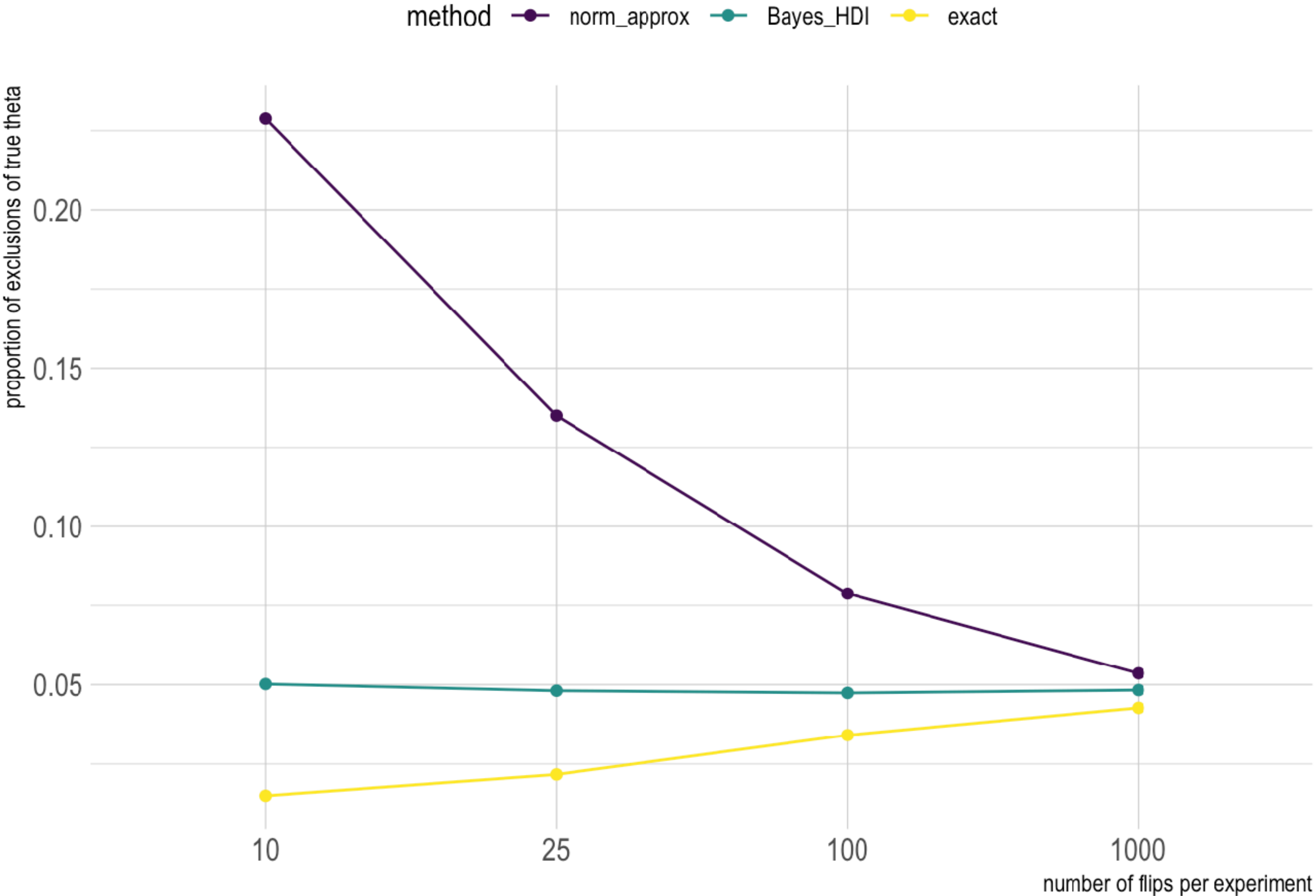
- ▶ flip a coin of unknown bias once
- ▶ suppose you see heads
- ▶ what's your best estimate of the bias?
  - ▶ MLE = 1
  - ▶ posterior mean (uninformative priors) =  $2/3$

## SIMULATION-BASED COMPARISON OF INTERVAL-ESTIMATES

- ▶ fix  $N \in \{10, 25, 100, 1000\}$
- ▶ repeatedly do:
  - ▶ sample  $\theta_{\text{true}} \sim \text{Beta}(1, 1)$
  - ▶ sample  $k \sim \text{Binomial}(\theta_{\text{true}}, N)$
  - ▶ compute intervals for  $k$  and  $N$ 
    - ▶ HDI, exact CI, approximate CI
- ▶ look at percentage that  $\theta_{\text{true}}$  is included in each interval construction



RESULTS





**computing  
estimates**

## OPTIMIZING FUNCTIONS

```
# function for the negative log-likelihood of the given
# data and fixed parameter values
nll = function(y, x, beta_0, beta_1, sd) {
  # negative sigma is logically impossible
  if (sd <= 0) {return( Inf )}
  # predicted values
  yPred = beta_0 + x * beta_1
  # negative log-likelihood of each data point
  nll = -dnorm(y, mean=yPred, sd=sd, log = T)
  # sum over all observations
  sum(nll)
}
```

```
fit_lh = optim(
  # initial parameter values
  par = c(1.5, 0, 0.5),
  # function to optimize
  fn = function(par) {
    with(avocado_data,
        nll(average_price, total_volume_sold,
            par[1], par[2], par[3])
    )
  }
)
fit_lh$par
```

```
## [1] 1.425080e+00 -2.247373e-08 3.950978e-01
```

```
lm(average_price ~ total_volume_sold, avocado_data)$coef
```

```
##          (Intercept) total_volume_sold
## 1.425096e+00      -2.247455e-08
```



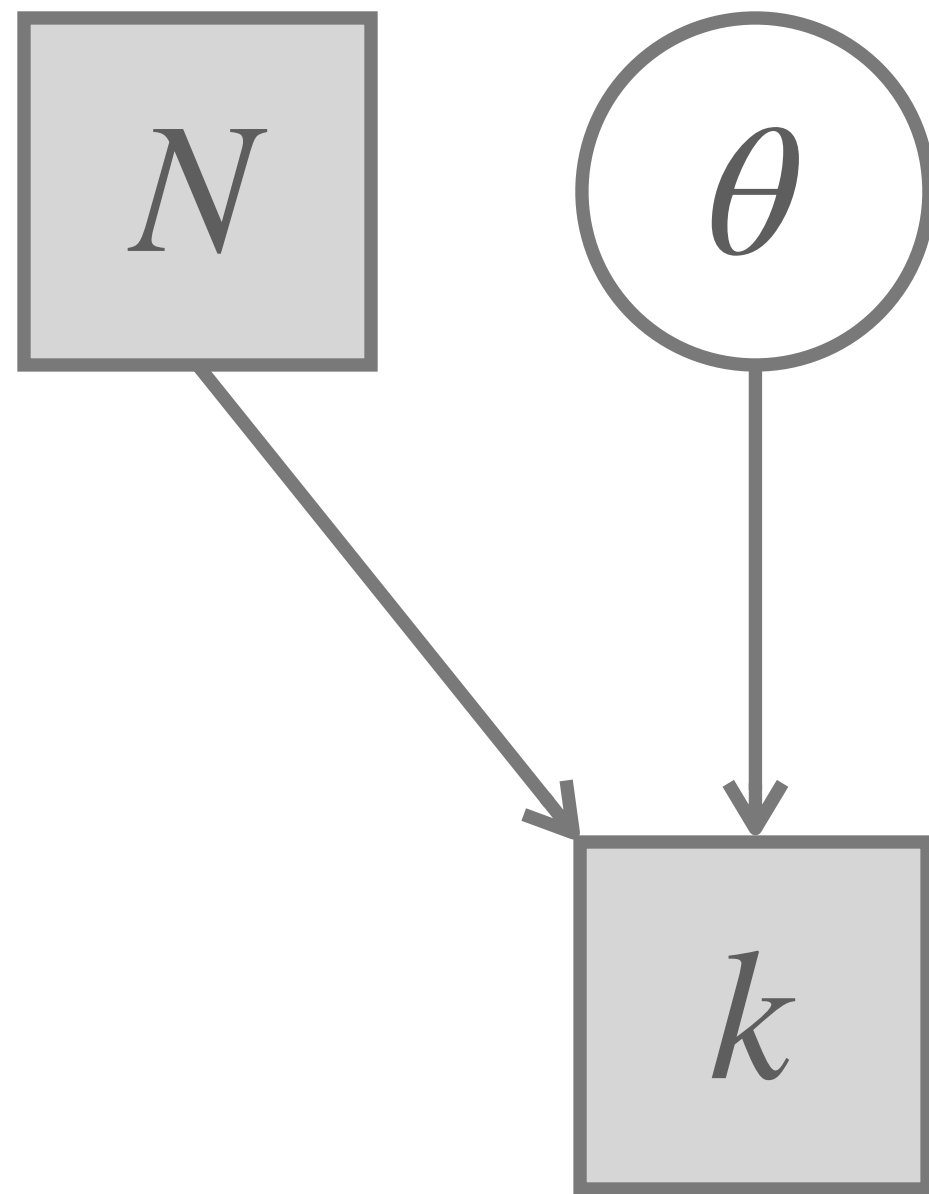
# MARKOV CHAIN MONTE CARLO





**probabilistic  
models with  
greta**

## BINOMIAL MODEL



$$\theta \sim \text{Beta}(1,1)$$

$$k \sim \text{Binomial}(\theta, N)$$

```
# greta data
```

```
k <- as_data(109)
```

```
N <- as_data(311)
```

```
# coin bias & prior (here: uninformative)
```

```
theta <- beta(1,1)
```

```
# likelihood of data given theta
```

```
distribution(k) <- binomial(N, theta)
```

```
# declare the greta model
```

```
m <- model(theta)
```

```
# take 4 chains of 1000 samples
```

```
draws <- greta::mcmc(
```

```
  model = m,
```

```
  n_samples = 1000,
```

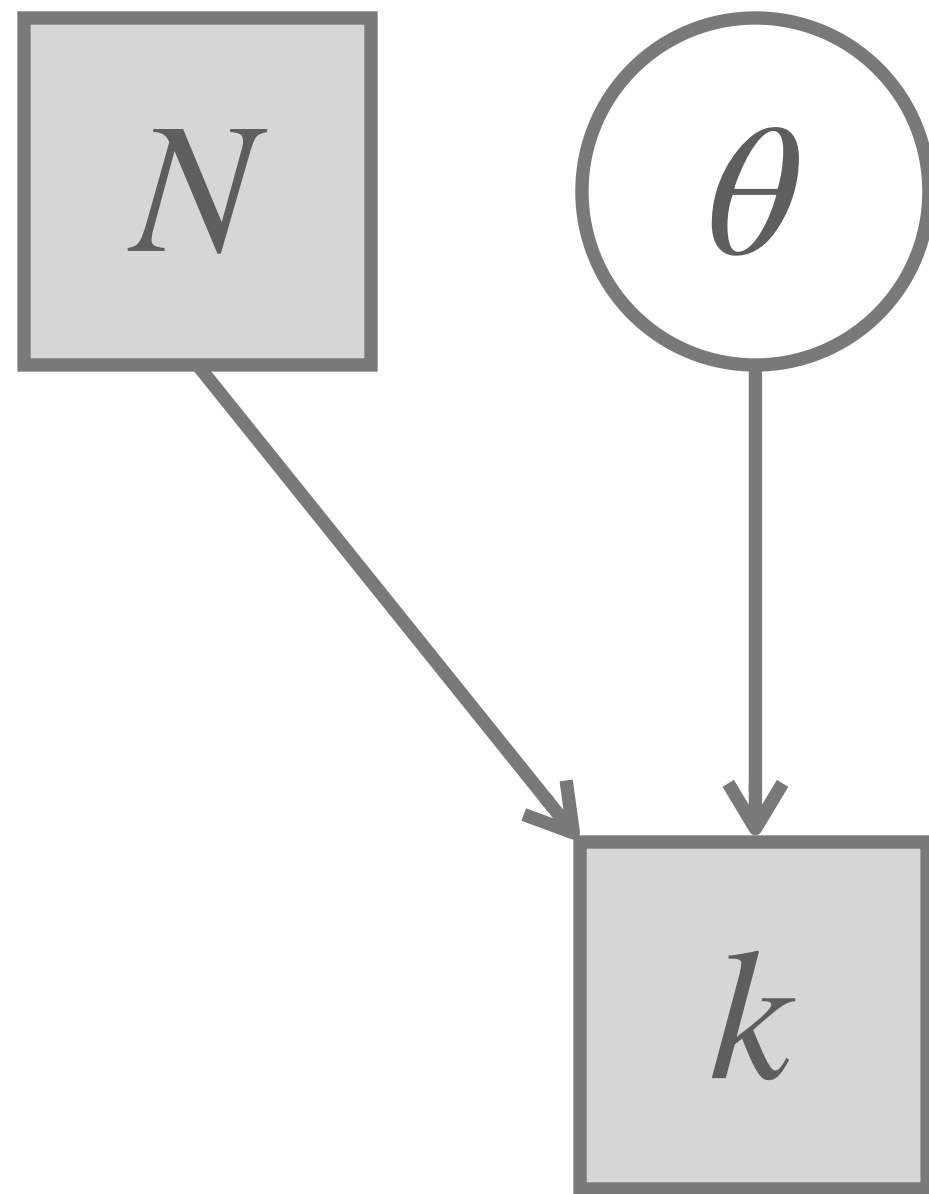
```
  warmup = 1000,
```

```
  chains = 4
```

```
)
```



## BINOMIAL MODEL



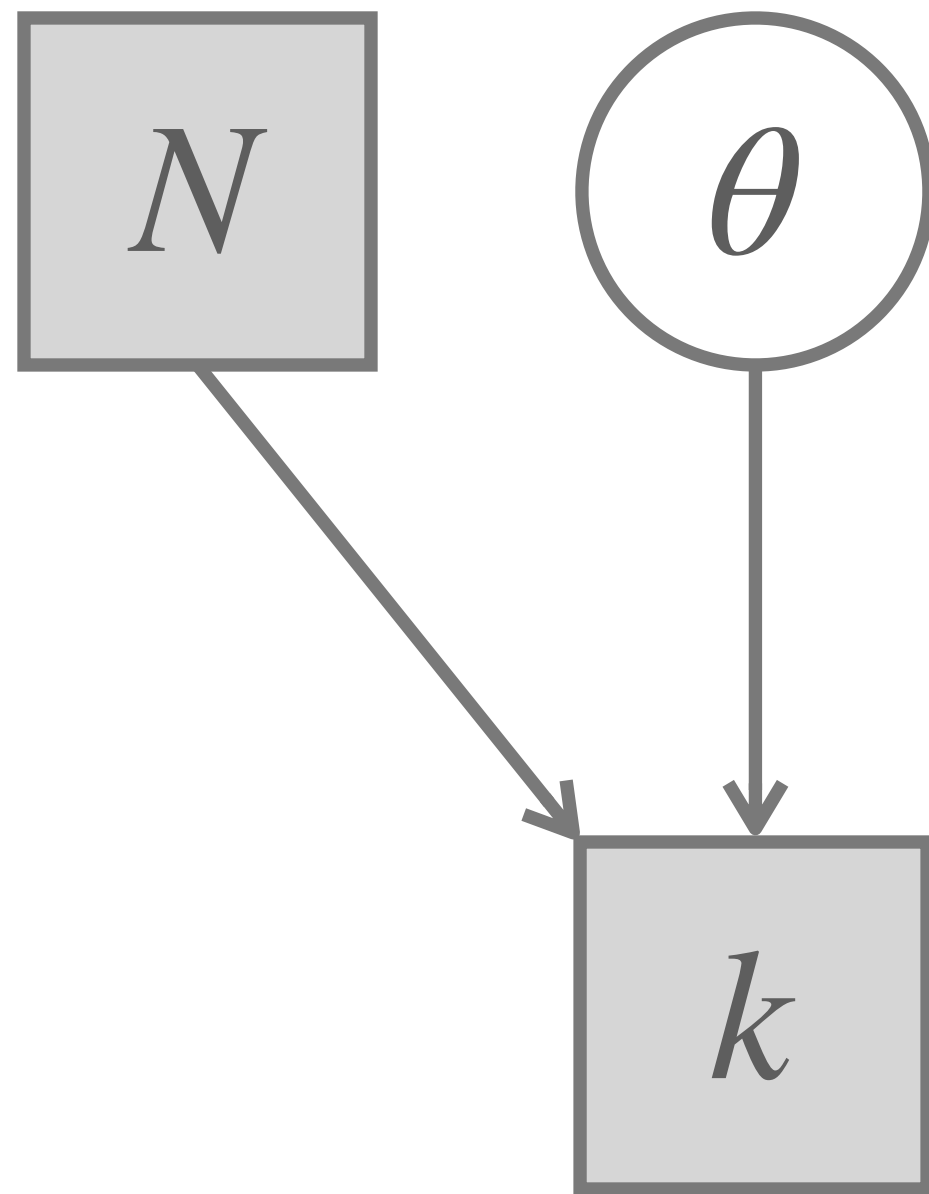
$$\theta \sim \text{Beta}(1,1)$$

$$k \sim \text{Binomial}(\theta, N)$$

```
# cast results (type 'mcmc.list') into tidy tibble
tidy_draws = ggmc::ggs(draws)
tidy_draws
```

```
## # A tibble: 4,000 x 4
##   Iteration Chain Parameter value
##       <int> <int> <fct>      <dbl>
## 1         1     1 1 theta    0.343
## 2         2     2 1 theta    0.323
## 3         3     3 1 theta    0.352
## 4         4     4 1 theta    0.356
## 5         5     5 1 theta    0.356
## 6         6     6 1 theta    0.398
## 7         7     7 1 theta    0.398
## 8         8     8 1 theta    0.346
## 9         9     9 1 theta    0.405
## 10        10    10 1 theta    0.308
## # ... with 3,990 more rows
```

## BINOMIAL MODEL



$$\theta \sim \text{Beta}(1,1)$$

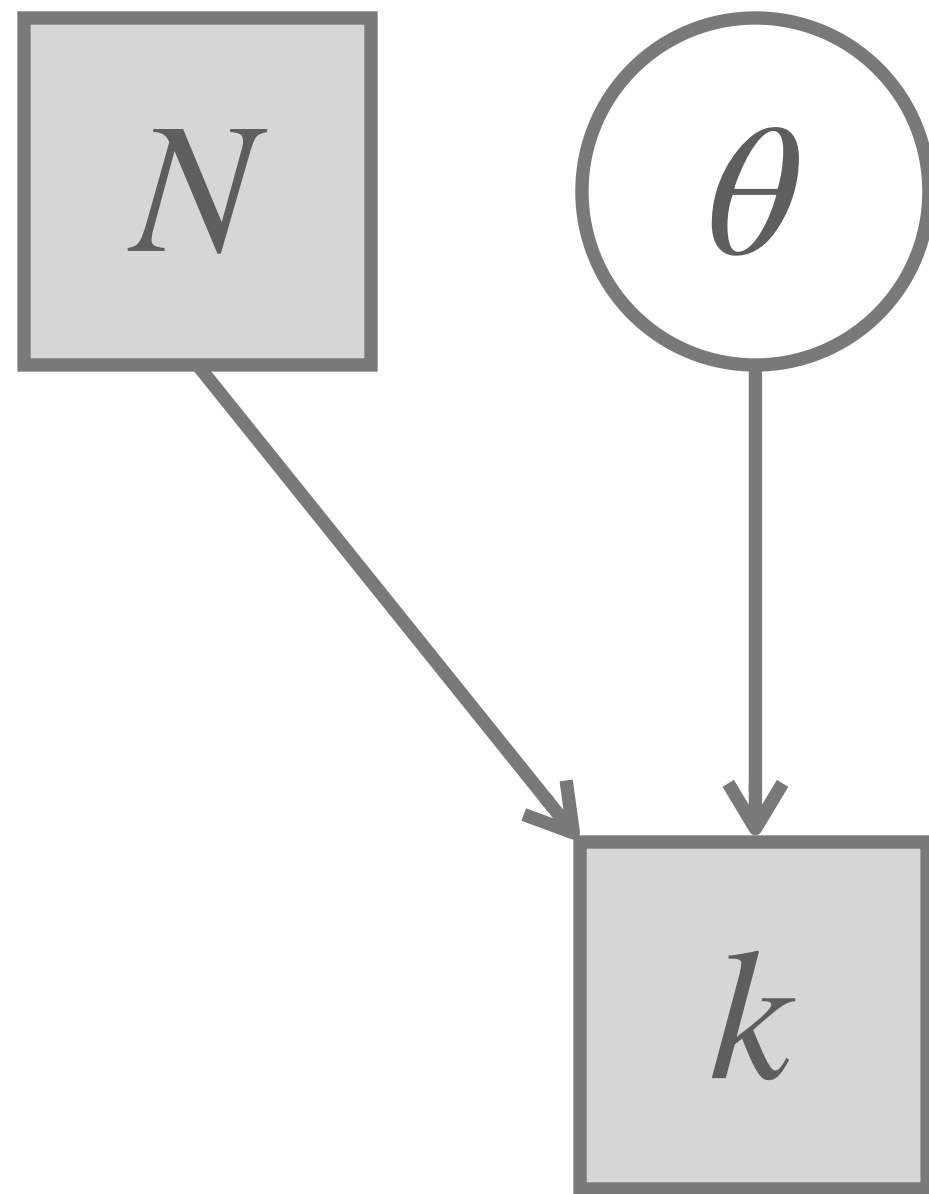
$$k \sim \text{Binomial}(\theta, N)$$

```
# obtain Bayesian point and interval estimates
Bayes_estimates <- tidy_draws %>%
  group_by(Parameter) %>%
  summarise(
    '|95%' = HDInterval::hdi(value)[1],
    mean = mean(value),
    '95|%' = HDInterval::hdi(value)[2]
  )
Bayes_estimates
```

```
## # A tibble: 1 x 4
##   Parameter `|95%` mean `95|%`
##   <fct>      <dbl> <dbl> <dbl>
## 1 theta      0.300 0.350 0.403
```



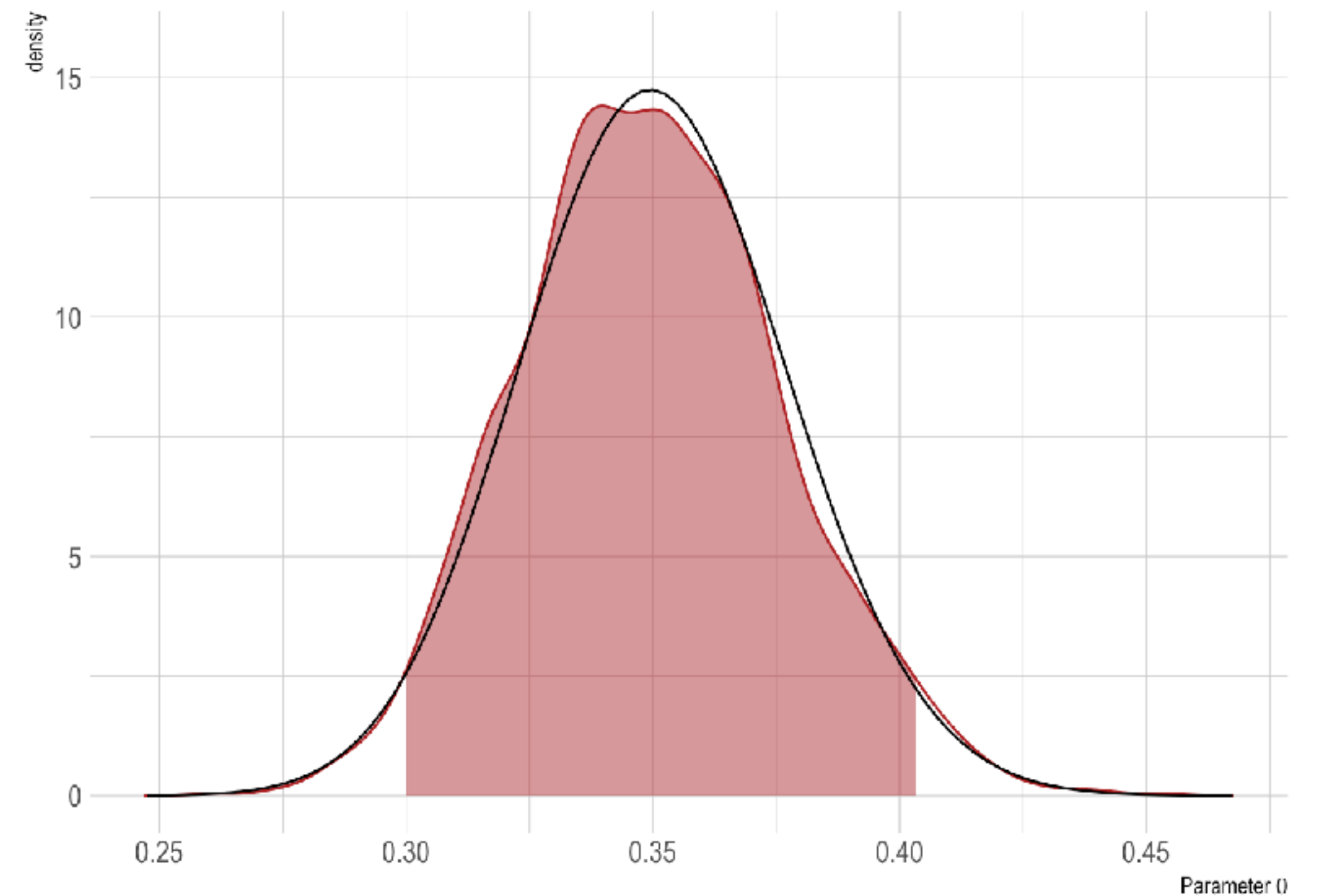
## BINOMIAL MODEL



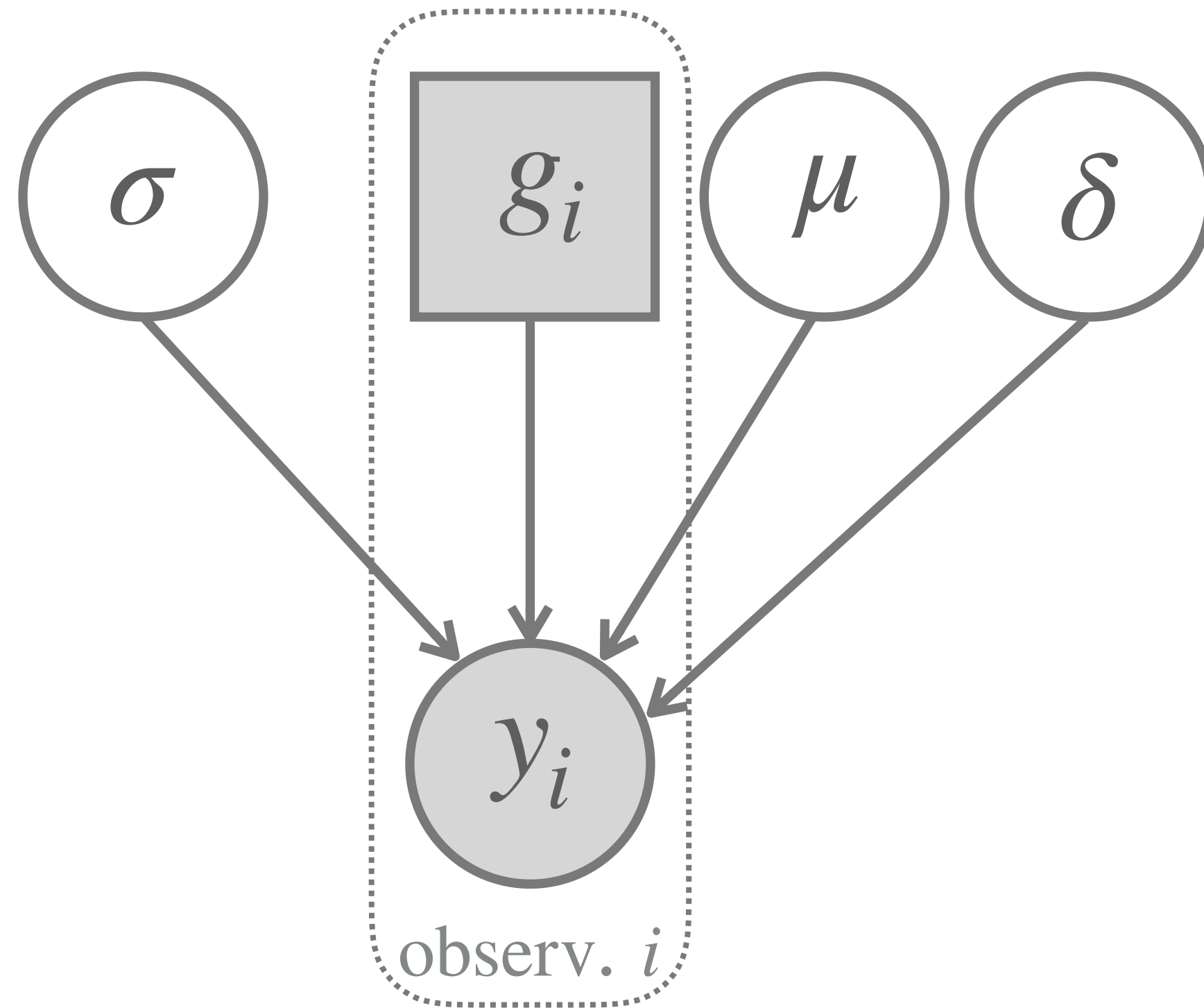
$$\theta \sim \text{Beta}(1,1)$$

$$k \sim \text{Binomial}(\theta, N)$$

```
## # A tibble: 1 x 4
##   Parameter `|95%` mean `95|`%`
##   <fct>      <dbl> <dbl> <dbl>
## 1 theta      0.300 0.350 0.403
```



## T-TEST MODEL [WITH DELTA]



```
# isolate data vectors
RT_goNoGo <- mc_data_cleaned %>% filter(block == "goNoGo") %>% pull(RT)
RT_discrm <- mc_data_cleaned %>% filter(block == "discrimination") %>% pull(RT)

# declare as greta data arrays
y0 <- as_data(RT_goNoGo)
y1 <- as_data(RT_discrm)
```

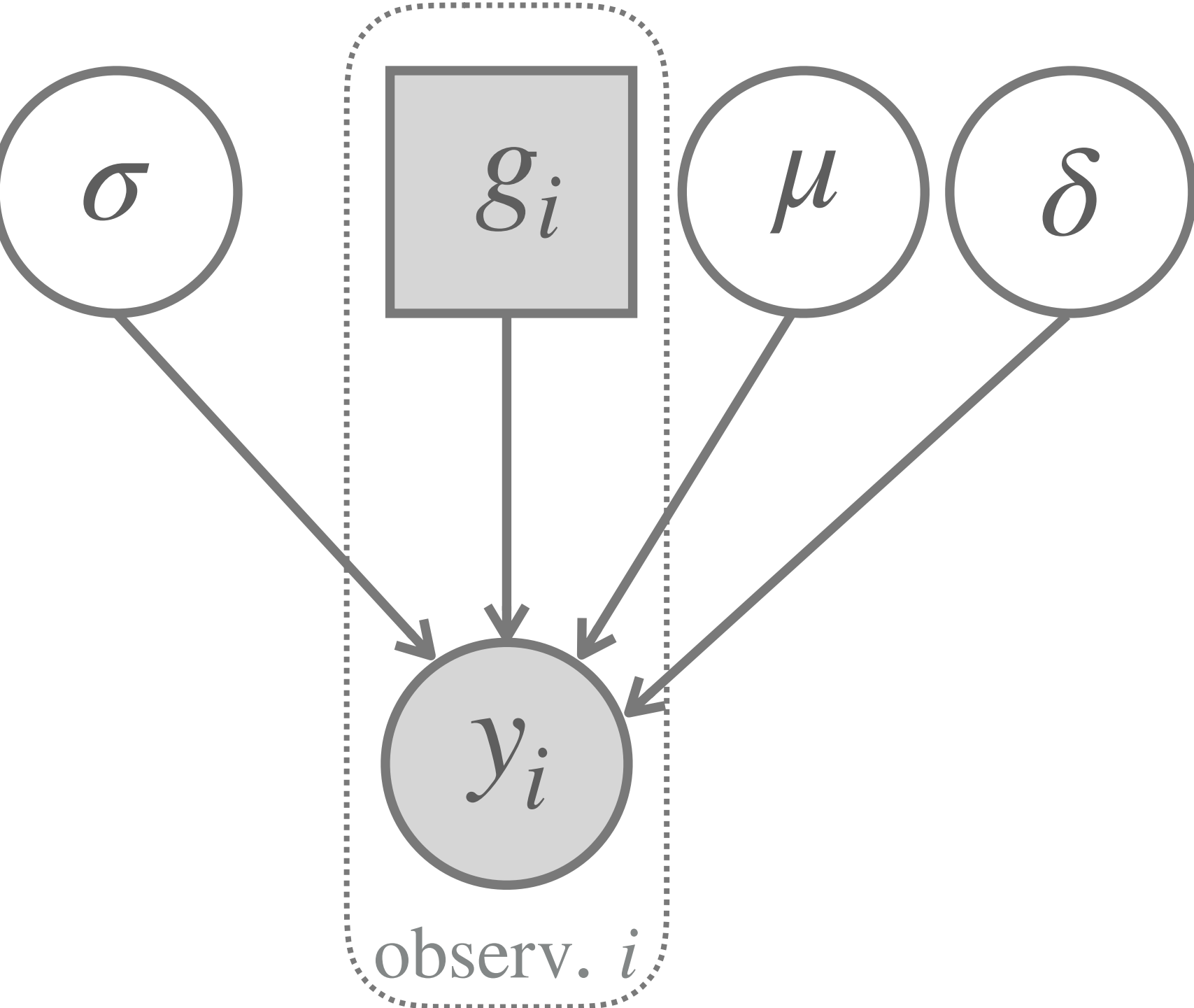
```
# priors
mean_0 <- normal(430, 50)
delta <- normal(0, 100)
sigma <- normal(100, 10, truncation = c(0, Inf))

# derived parameters
mean_1 <- mean_0 + delta

# likelihood
distribution(y0) <- normal(mean_0, sigma)
distribution(y1) <- normal(mean_1, sigma)

# model
m <- model(mean_0, mean_1, delta, sigma)## --- sampling ---
draws <- greta::mcmc(m, warmup = 4000, n_samples = 6000, thin = 2)
```

T-TEST MODEL [WITH DELTA]



```
## # A tibble: 4 x 4
##   Parameter `|95%` mean `95|`%
##   <fct>      <dbl> <dbl> <dbl>
## 1 delta      49.6  60.1  71.2
## 2 mean_0     419.  427.  436.
## 3 mean_1     481.  488.  494.
## 4 sigma     101.  105.  109.
```

