

# Bayesian inference

**J. Daunizeau**

*Institute of Empirical Research in Economics, Zurich, Switzerland  
Brain and Spine Institute, Paris, France*

# Overview of the talk

## 1 Probabilistic modelling and representation of uncertainty

*1.1 Bayesian paradigm*

*1.2 Hierarchical models*

*1.3 Frequentist versus Bayesian inference*

## 2 Numerical Bayesian inference methods

*2.1 Sampling methods*

*2.2 Variational methods (ReML, EM, VB)*

## 3 SPM applications

*3.1 aMRI segmentation*

*3.2 Decoding of brain images*

*3.3 Model-based fMRI analysis (with spatial priors)*

*3.4 Dynamic causal modelling*

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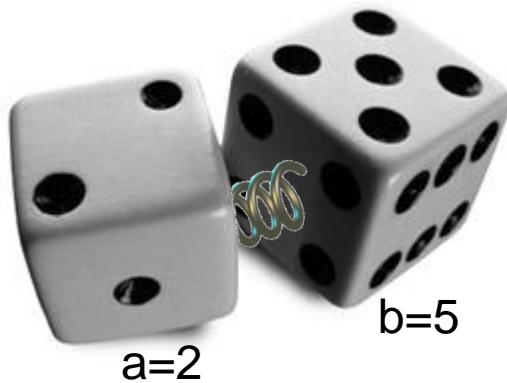
*3.4 Dynamic causal modelling*

# Bayesian paradigm

*probability theory: basics*

**Degree of plausibility** desiderata:

- should be represented using real numbers (D1)
- should conform with intuition (D2)
- should be consistent (D3)



- normalization:

$$\sum_a P(a) = 1$$

- marginalization:

$$P(b) = \sum_a P(a, b)$$

- conditioning :  
*(Bayes rule)*

$$\begin{aligned} P(a, b) &= P(a|b)P(b) \\ &= P(b|a)P(a) \end{aligned}$$

# Bayesian paradigm

*deriving the likelihood function*

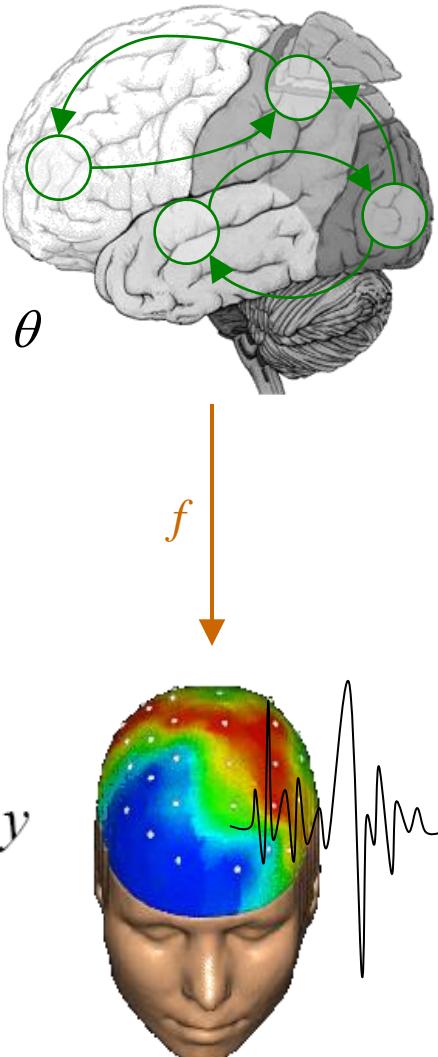
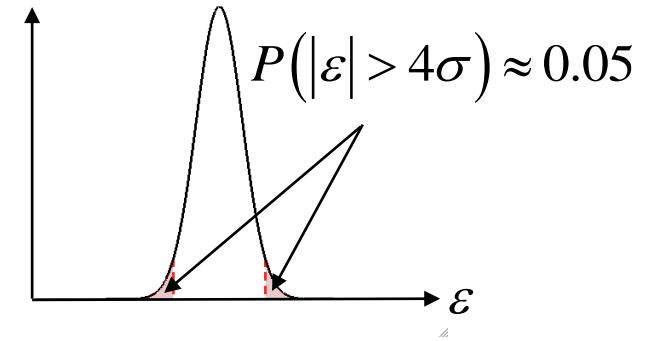
- Model of data with unknown parameters:

$$y = f(\theta) \quad \text{e.g., GLM: } f(\theta) = X\theta$$

- But data is noisy:  $y = f(\theta) + \varepsilon$

- Assume noise/residuals is ‘small’:

$$p(\varepsilon) \propto \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2\sigma^2}\varepsilon^2\right)$$

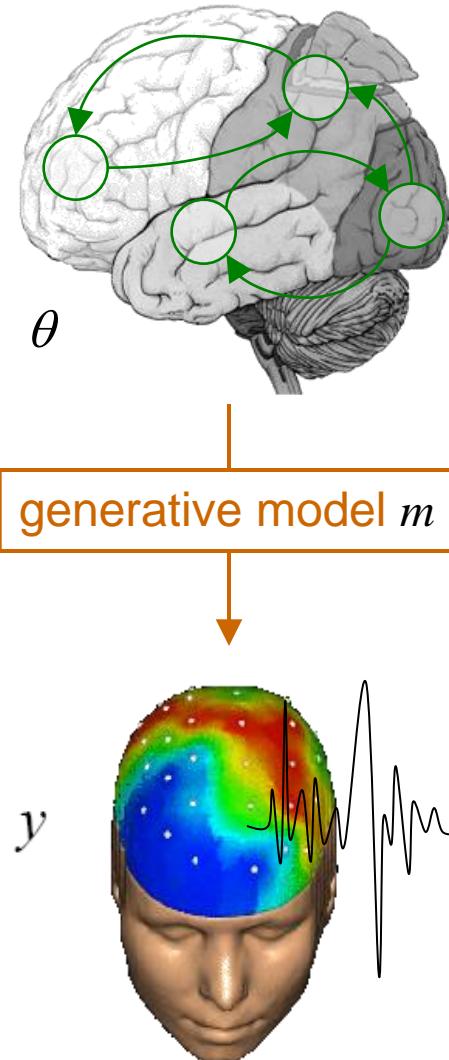


→ Distribution of data, *given fixed parameters*:

$$p(y|\theta) \propto \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2\sigma^2}(y - f(\theta))^2\right)$$

# Bayesian paradigm

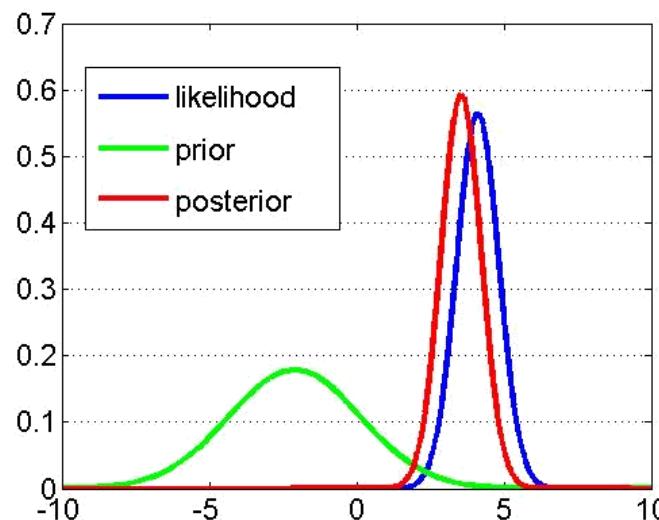
*likelihood, priors and the model evidence*



Likelihood:  $p(y|\theta, m)$

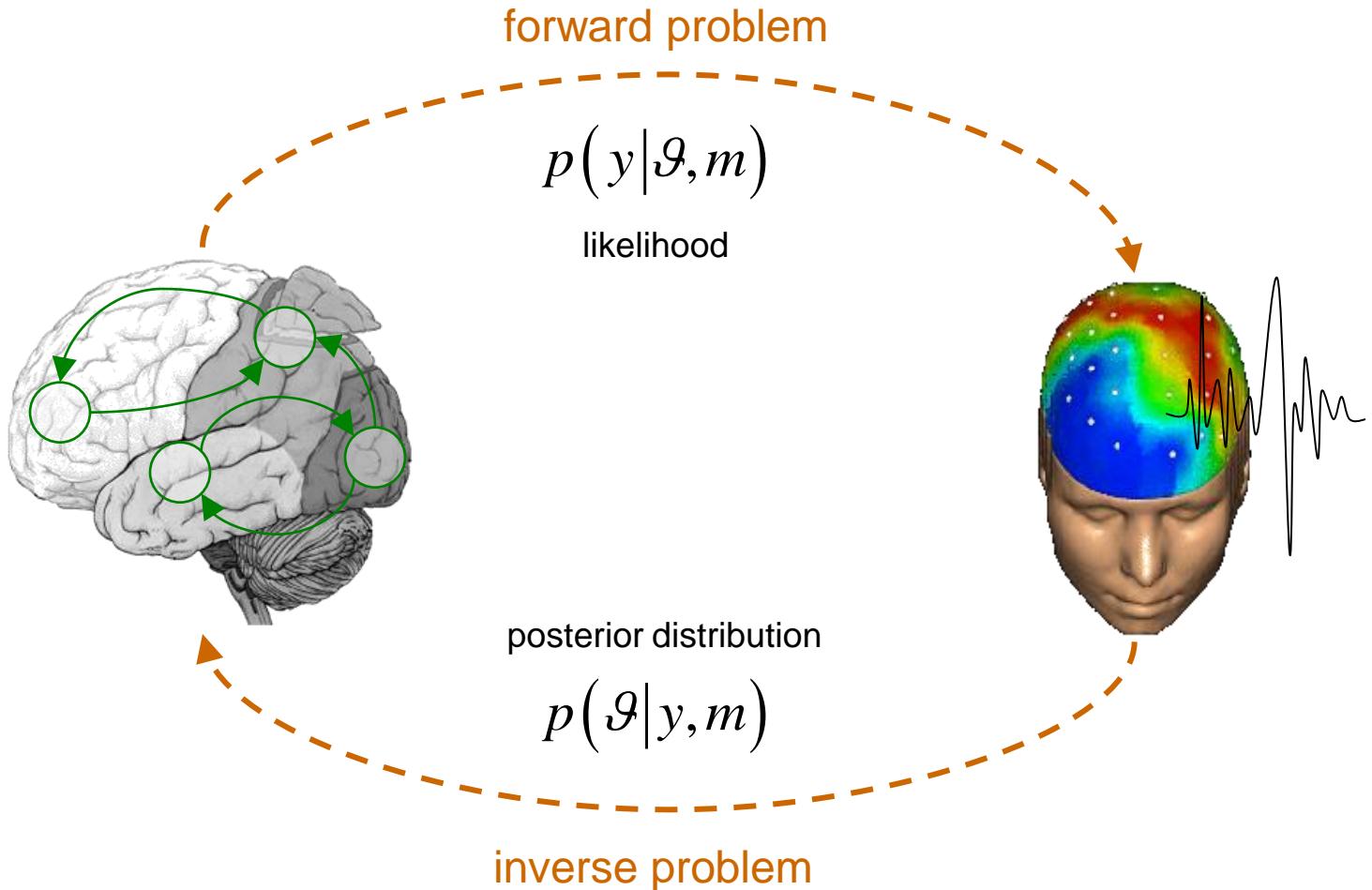
Prior:  $p(\theta|m)$

Bayes rule:  $p(\theta|y, m) = \frac{p(y|\theta, m)p(\theta|m)}{p(y|m)}$



# Bayesian paradigm

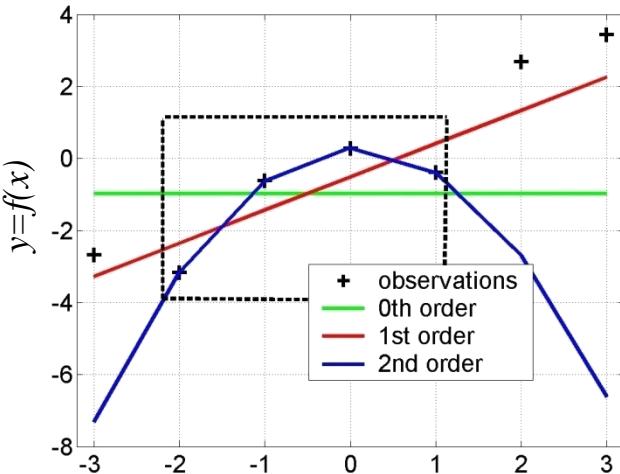
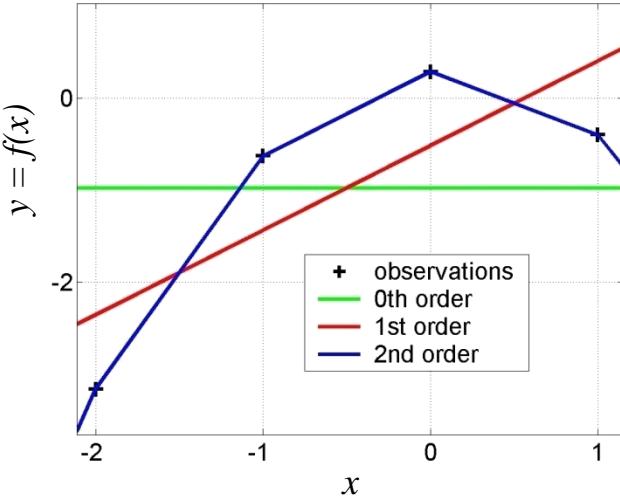
*forward and inverse problems*



# Bayesian paradigm

## *model comparison*

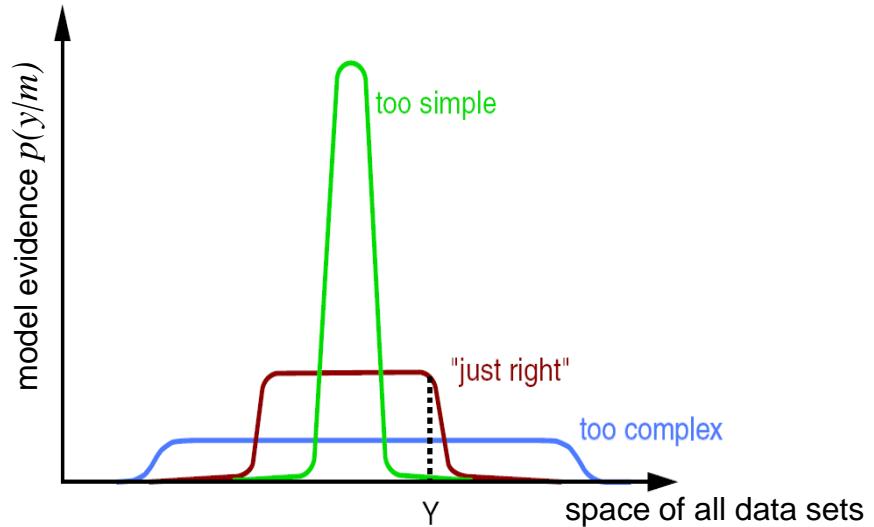
*Principle of parsimony :*  
« plurality should not be assumed without necessity »



Model evidence:

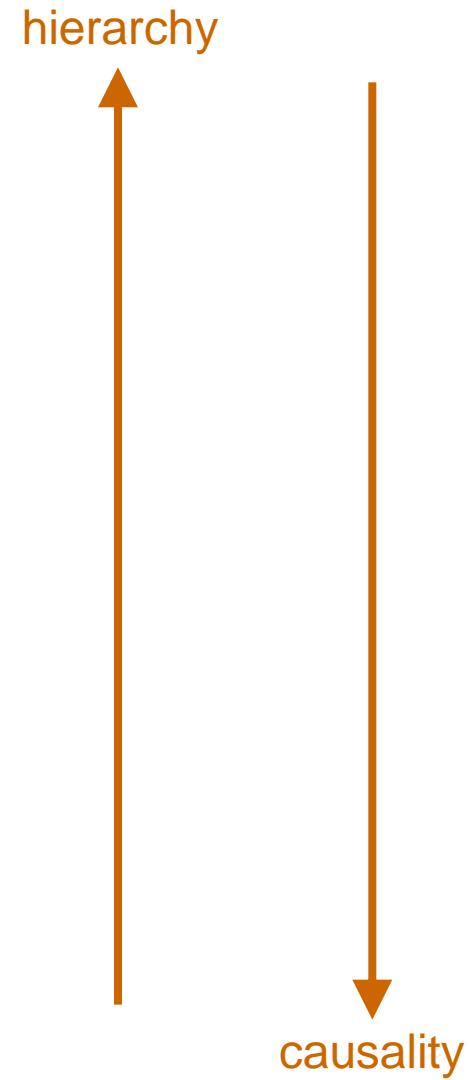
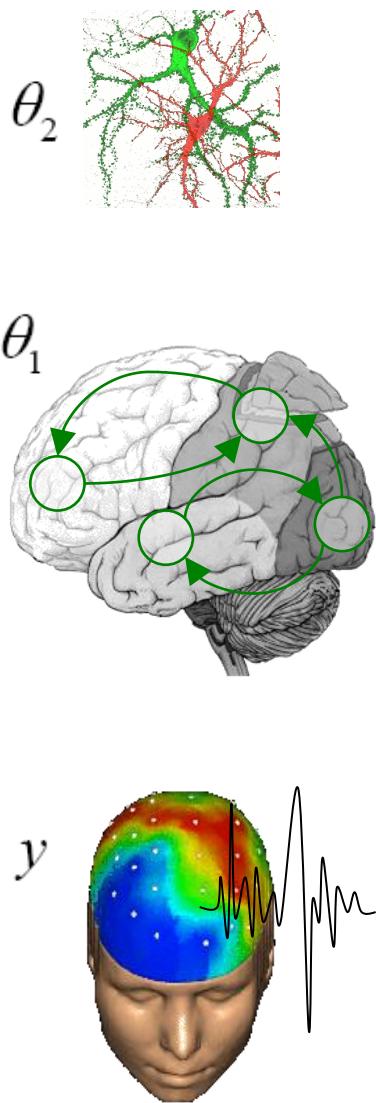
$$p(y|m) = \int p(y|\theta, m)p(\theta|m)d\theta$$

“Occam’s razor” :



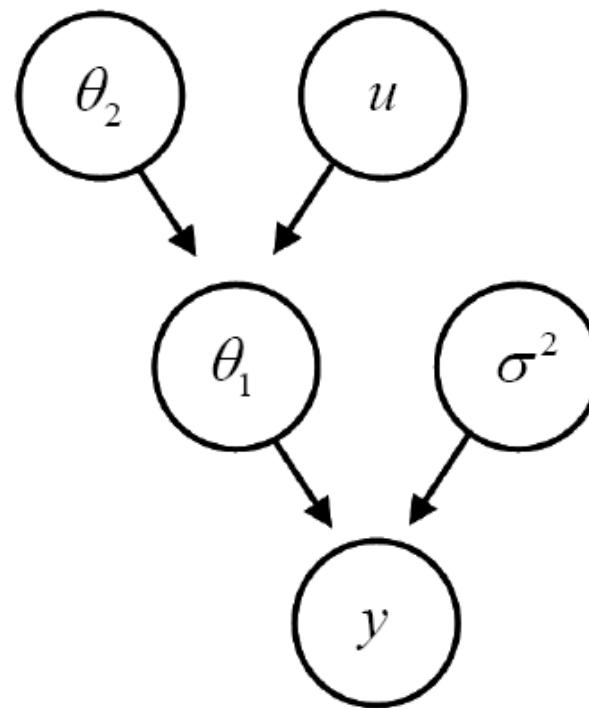
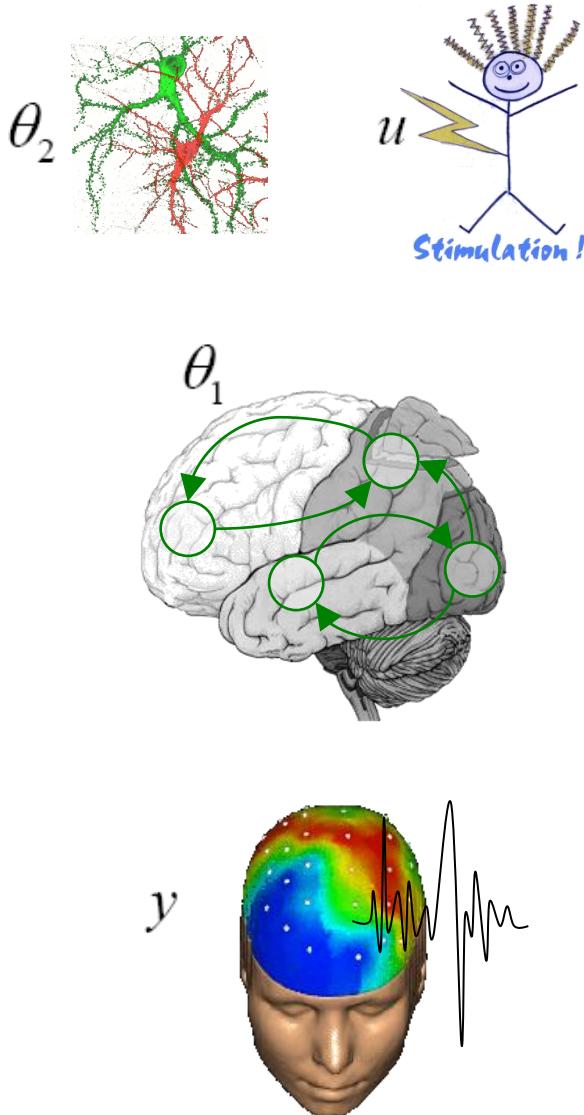
# Hierarchical models

*principle*



# Hierarchical models

*directed acyclic graphs (DAGs)*



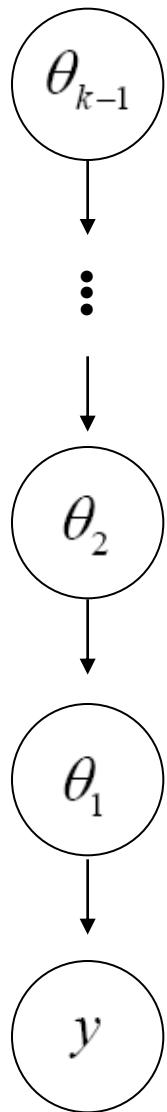
$$p(\theta_1 | \theta_2, u, m)$$

$$p(y | \theta_1, \sigma^2, m)$$

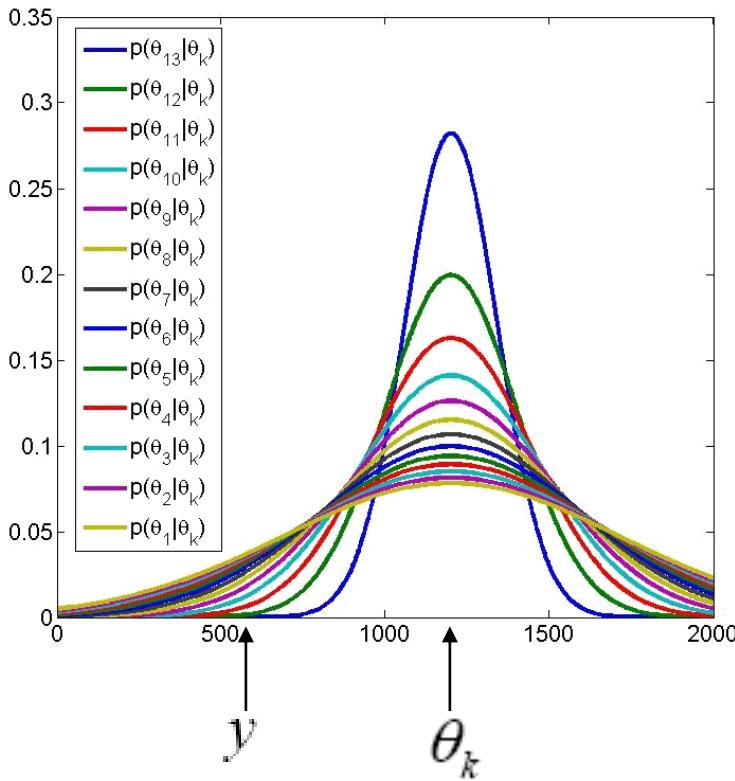
$$p(\theta | m) = \prod_j p(\theta_j | par(\theta_j), m)$$

# Hierarchical models

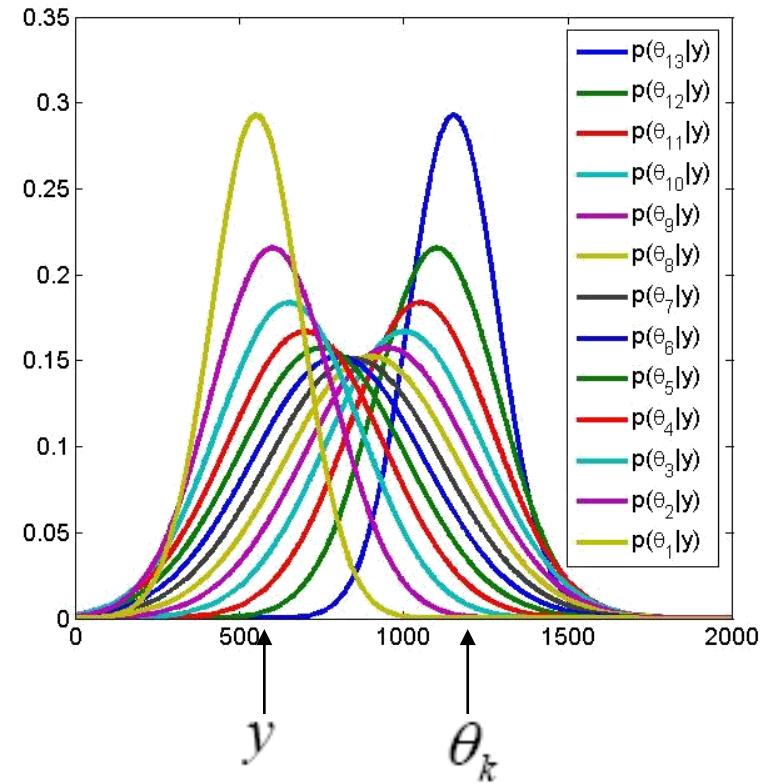
*univariate linear hierarchical model*



prior densities



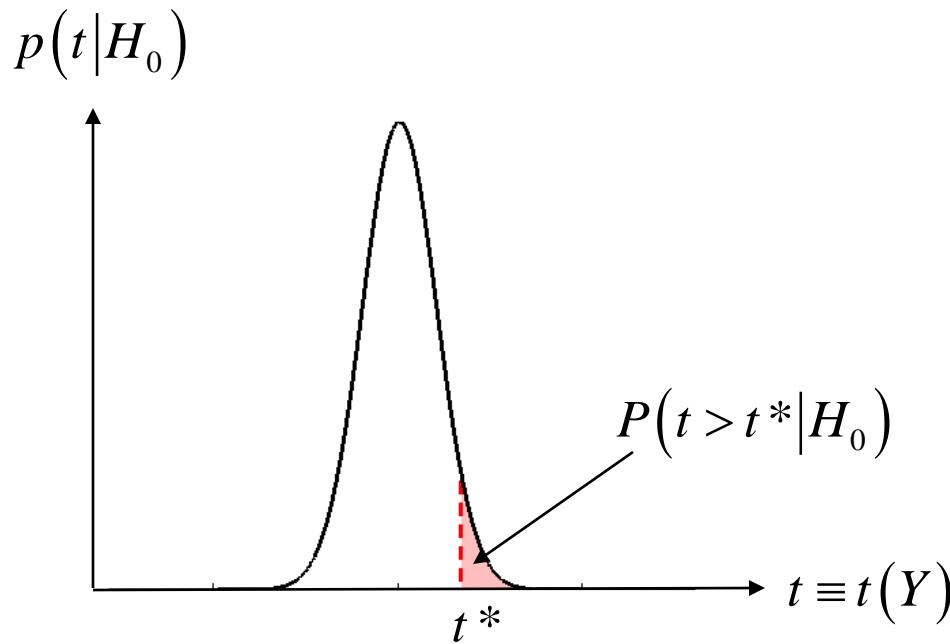
posterior densities



# Frequentist versus Bayesian inference

*a (quick) note on hypothesis testing*

- define the null, e.g.:  $H_0 : \theta = 0$



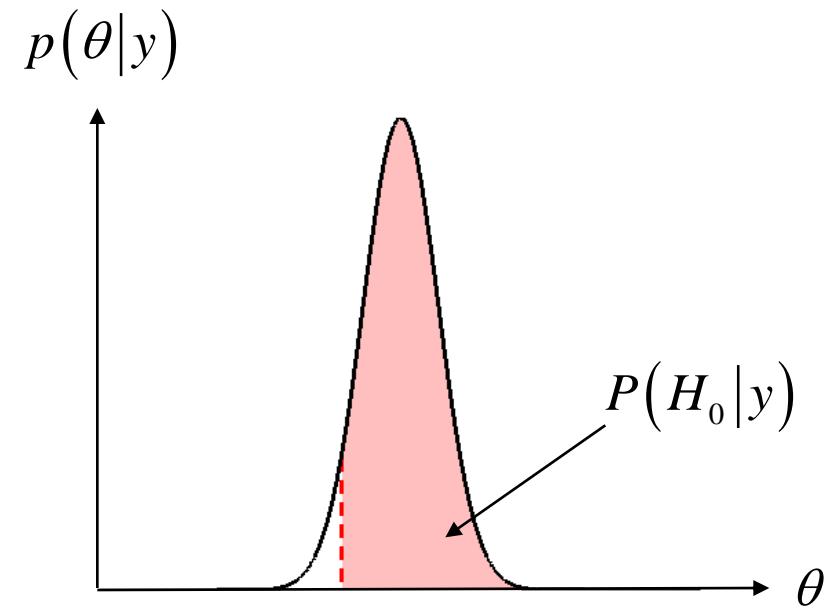
- estimate parameters (obtain test stat.)

- apply decision rule, i.e.:

if  $P(t > t^* | H_0) \leq \alpha$  then reject  $H_0$

classical SPM

- invert model (obtain posterior pdf)



- define the null, e.g.:  $H_0 : \theta > 0$

- apply decision rule, i.e.:

if  $P(H_0|y) \geq \alpha$  then accept  $H_0$

Bayesian PPM

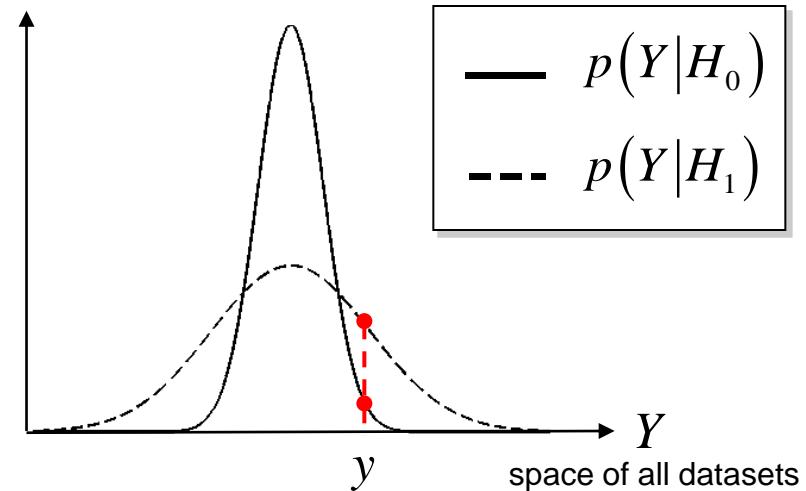
# Frequentist versus Bayesian inference

*what about bilateral tests?*

- define the null and the alternative hypothesis *in terms of priors*, e.g.:

$$H_0 : p(\theta|H_0) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } \theta = 0 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$$H_1 : p(\theta|H_1) = N(0, \Sigma)$$



- apply decision rule, i.e.:      if     $\frac{P(H_0|y)}{P(H_1|y)} \leq 1$     then reject H<sub>0</sub>

- Savage-Dickey ratios (nested models, i.i.d. priors):

$$p(y|H_0) = p(y|H_1) \frac{p(\theta = 0|y, H_1)}{p(\theta = 0|H_1)}$$

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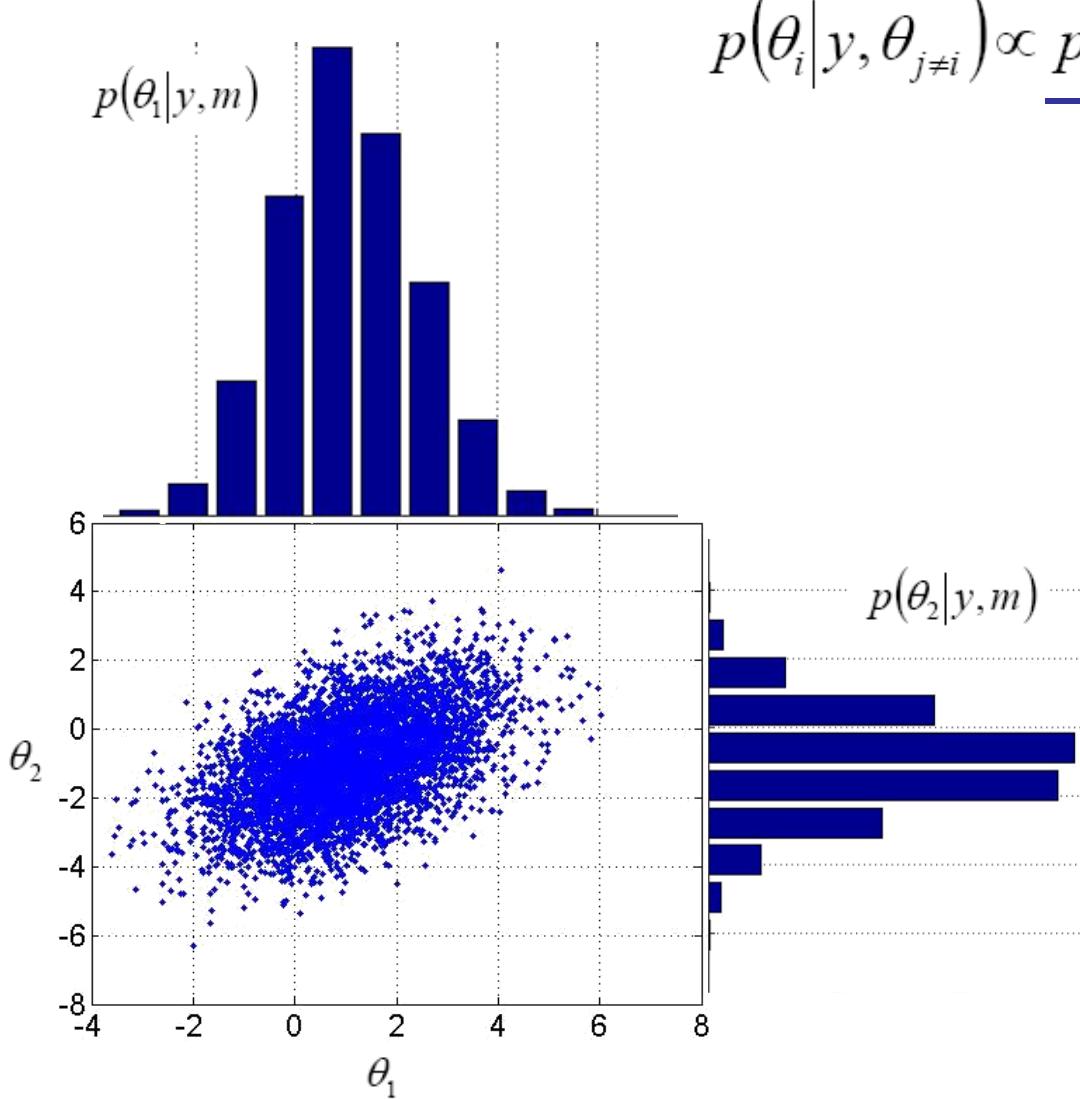
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*3.3 Model-based fMRI analysis (with spatial priors)*

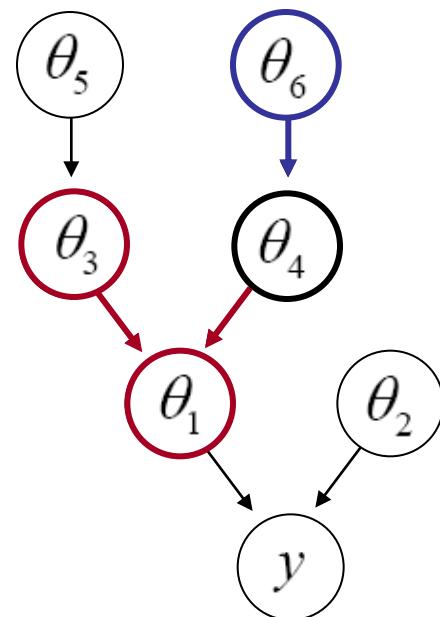
*3.4 Dynamic causal modelling*

# Sampling methods

## MCMC example: Gibbs sampling



$$p(\theta_i|y, \theta_{j \neq i}) \propto \frac{p(\theta_i|par(\theta_i))}{\prod_{j=ch(i)} p(\theta_j|par(\theta_j))}$$



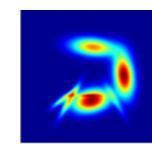
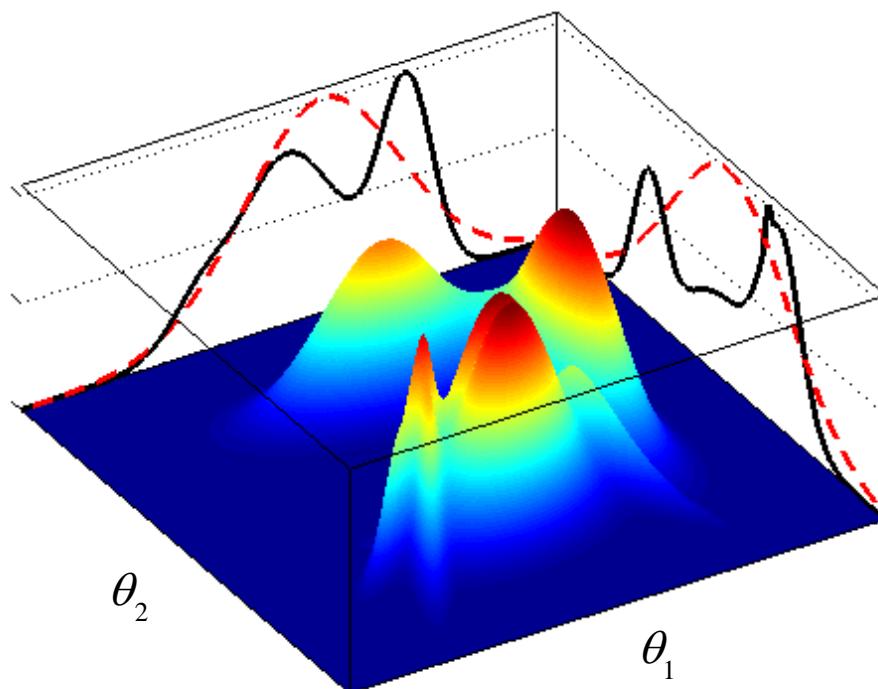
$$\frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=1}^N p(y|\theta^{(n)}, m) \approx p(y|m)$$

# Variational methods

VB / EM / ReML

$$\ln p(y|m) = \underbrace{\left\langle \ln p(\theta, y|m) \right\rangle_q + S(q)}_{\text{free energy } F(q)} + D_{KL}(q(\theta); p(\theta|y, m))$$

→ **VB** : maximize the **free energy**  $F(q)$  w.r.t. the “**variational**” posterior  $q(\theta)$  under some (e.g., *mean field*, *Laplace*) approximation



$$p(\theta_1, \theta_2 | y, m)$$



$$p(\theta_1 \text{ or } 2 | y, m)$$



$$q(\theta_1 \text{ or } 2)$$

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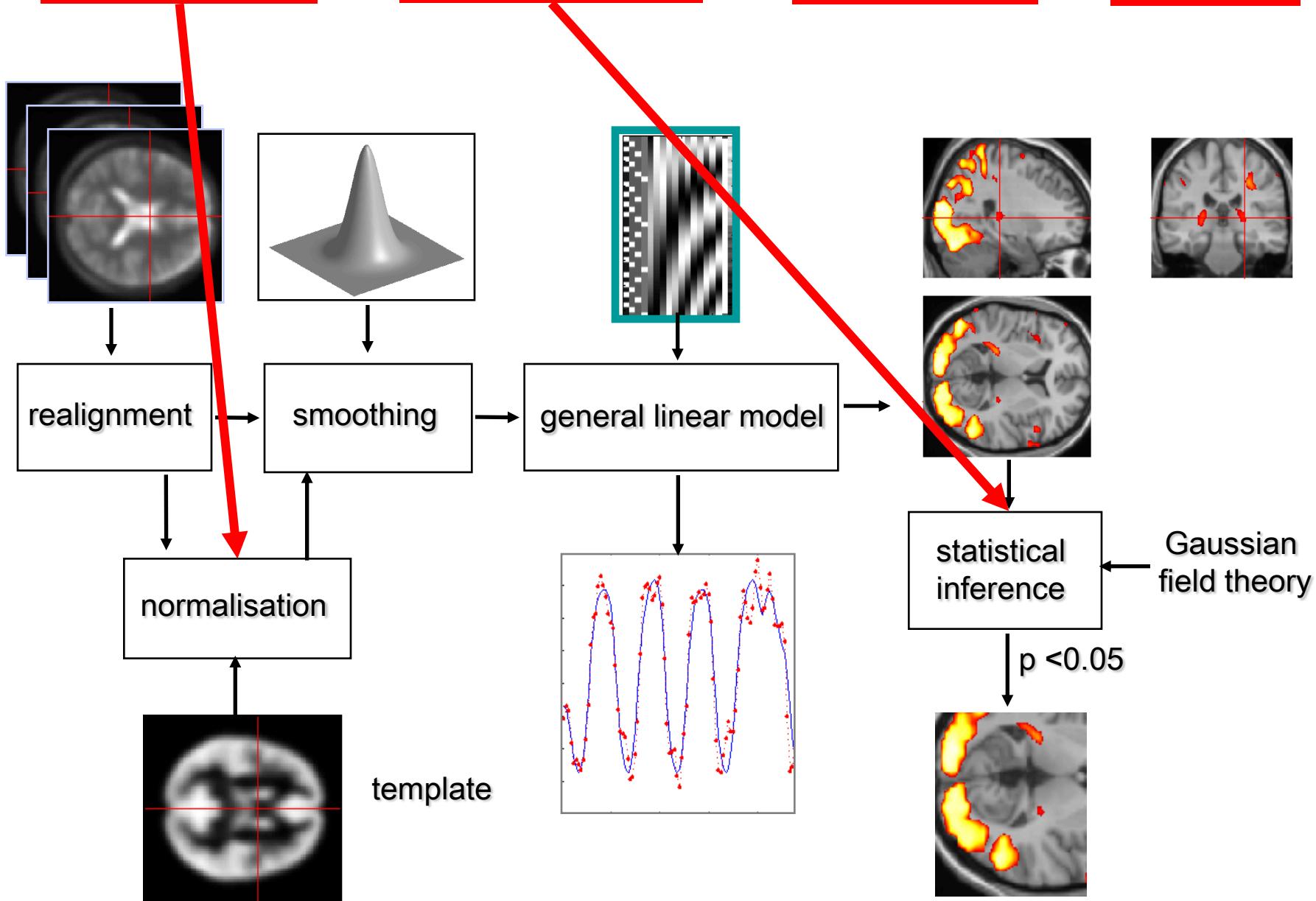
*3.4 Dynamic causal modelling*

## segmentation and normalisation

## posterior probability maps (PPMs)

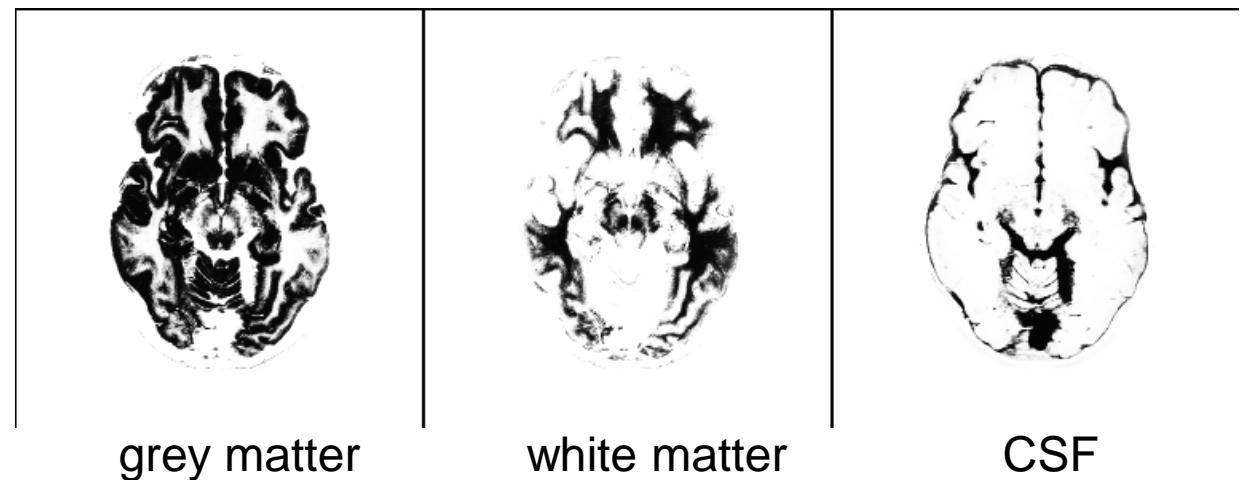
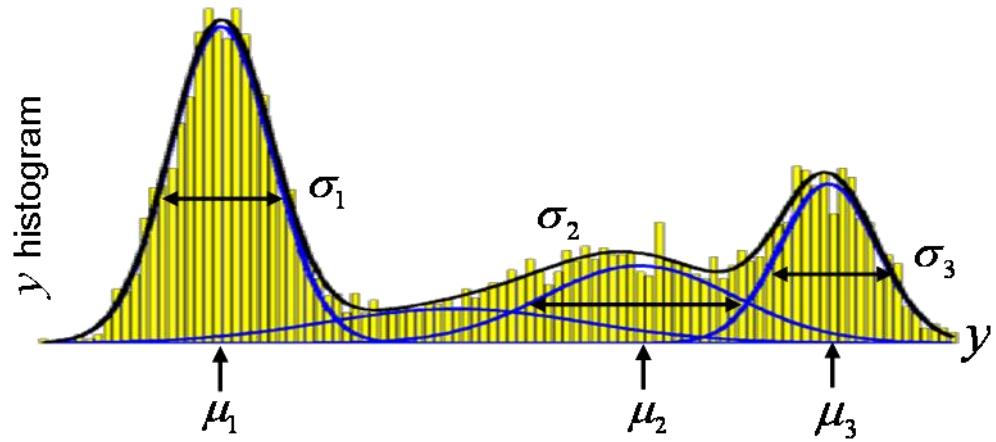
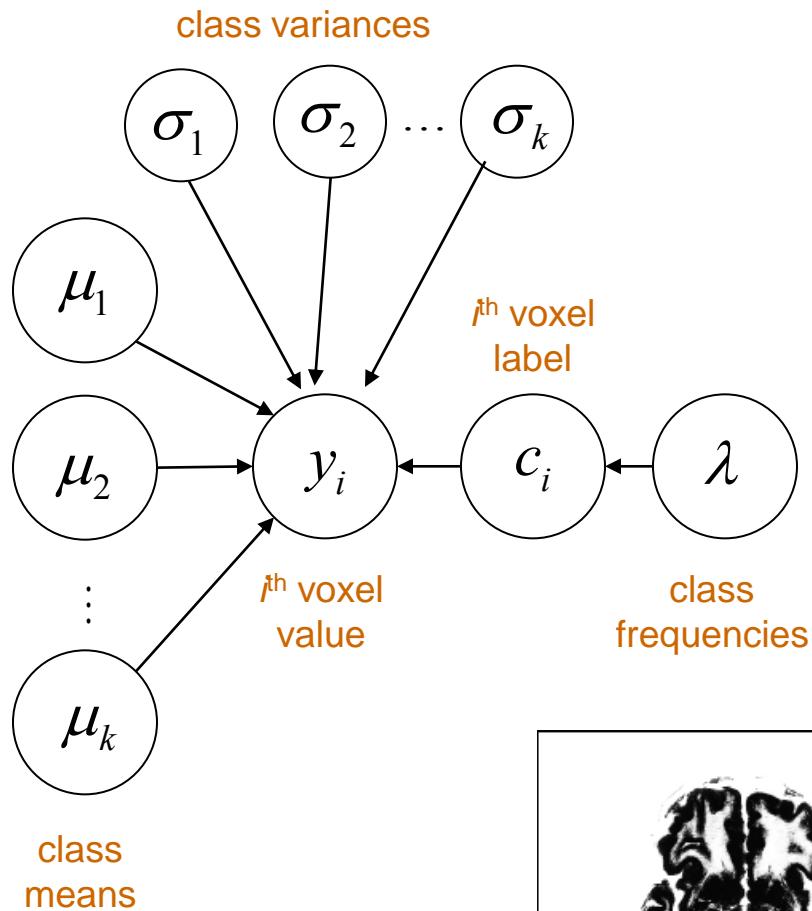
## dynamic causal modelling

## multivariate decoding



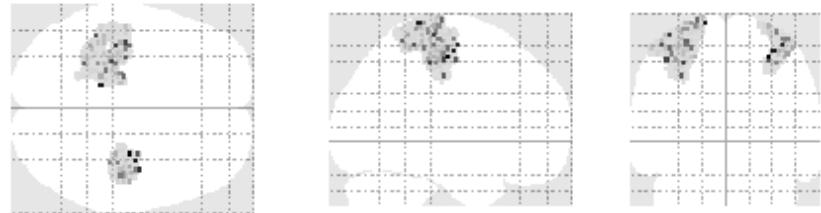
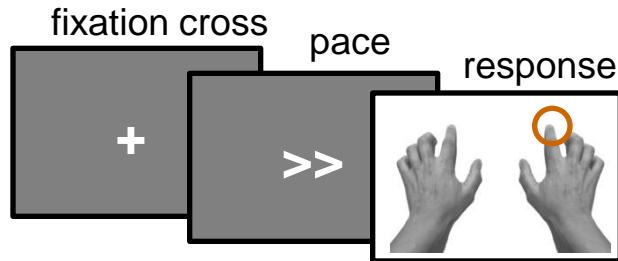
# aMRI segmentation

## mixture of Gaussians (MoG) model

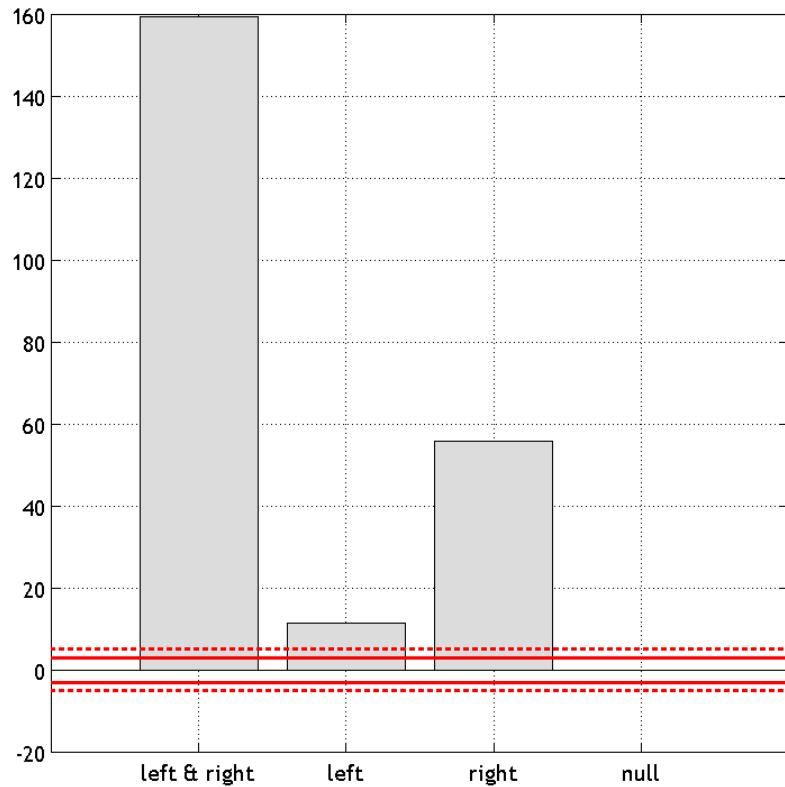


# Decoding of brain images

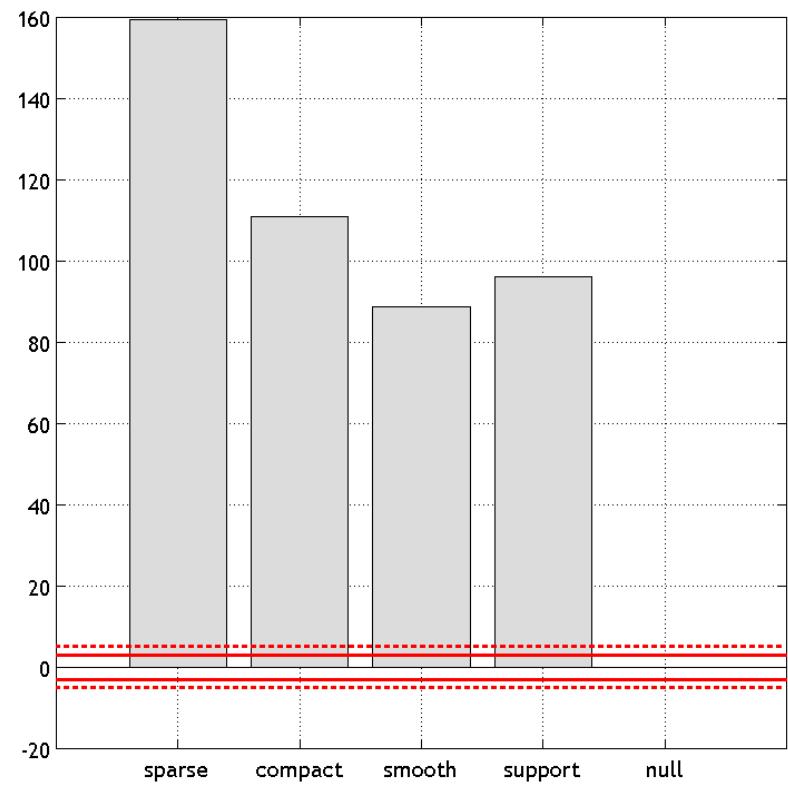
recognizing brain states from fMRI



log-evidence of X-Y sparse mappings:  
effect of lateralization

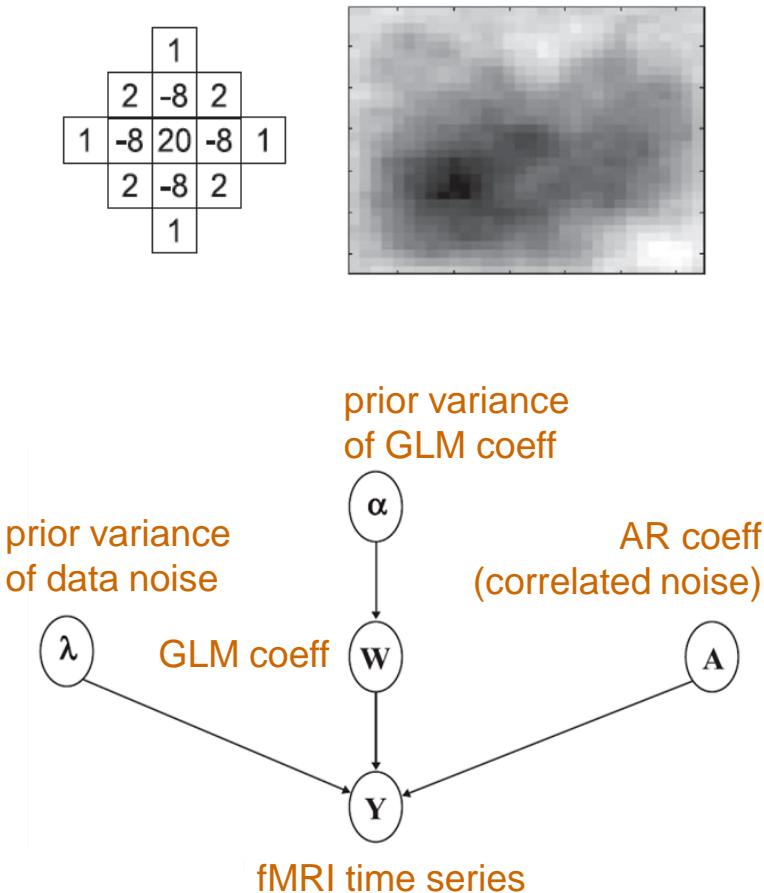


log-evidence of X-Y bilateral mappings:  
effect of spatial deployment

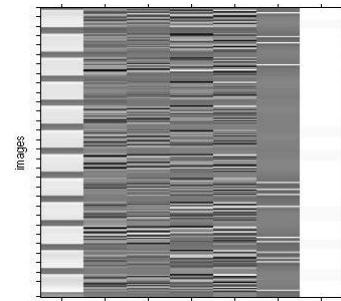


# fMRI time series analysis

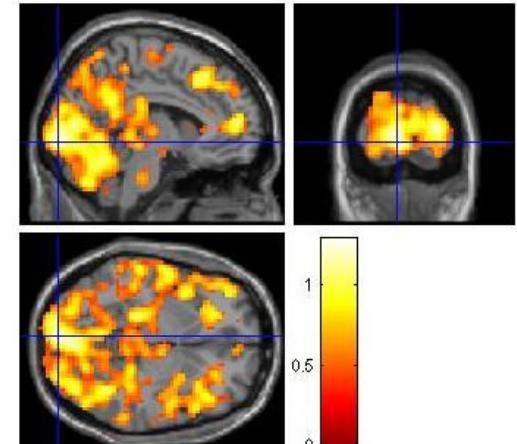
## spatial priors and model comparison



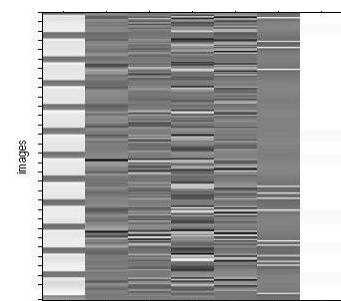
short-term memory  
design matrix ( $X$ )



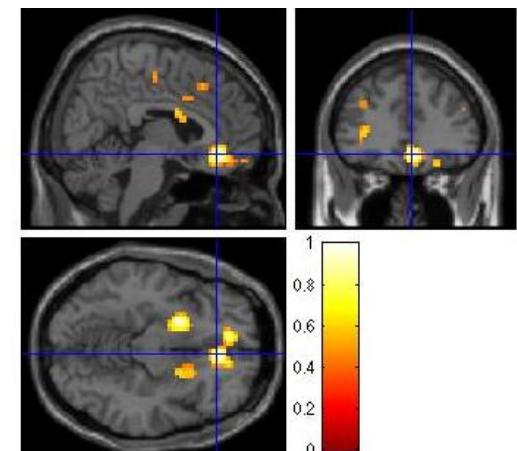
PPM: regions best explained  
by short-term memory model



long-term memory  
design matrix ( $X$ )

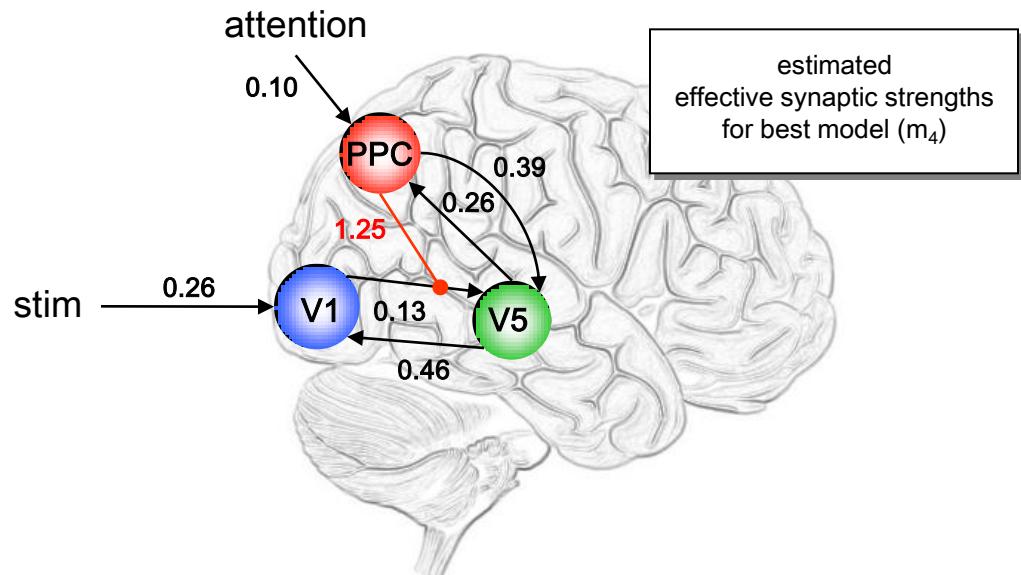
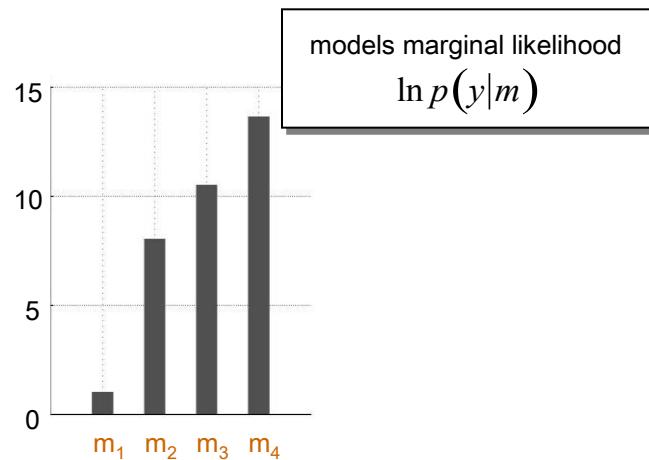
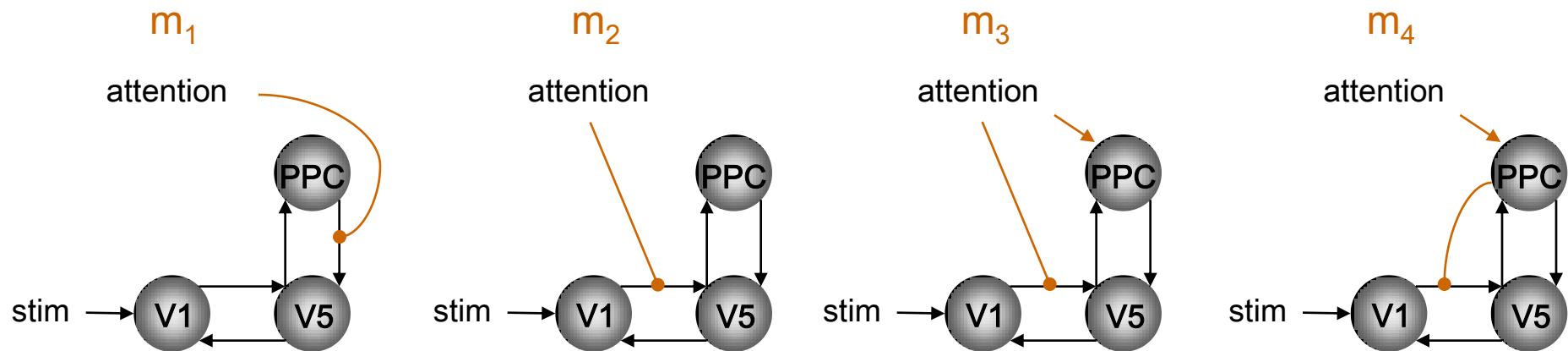


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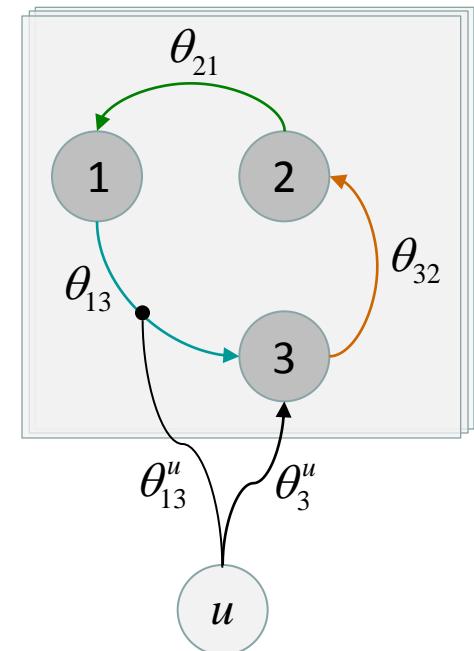
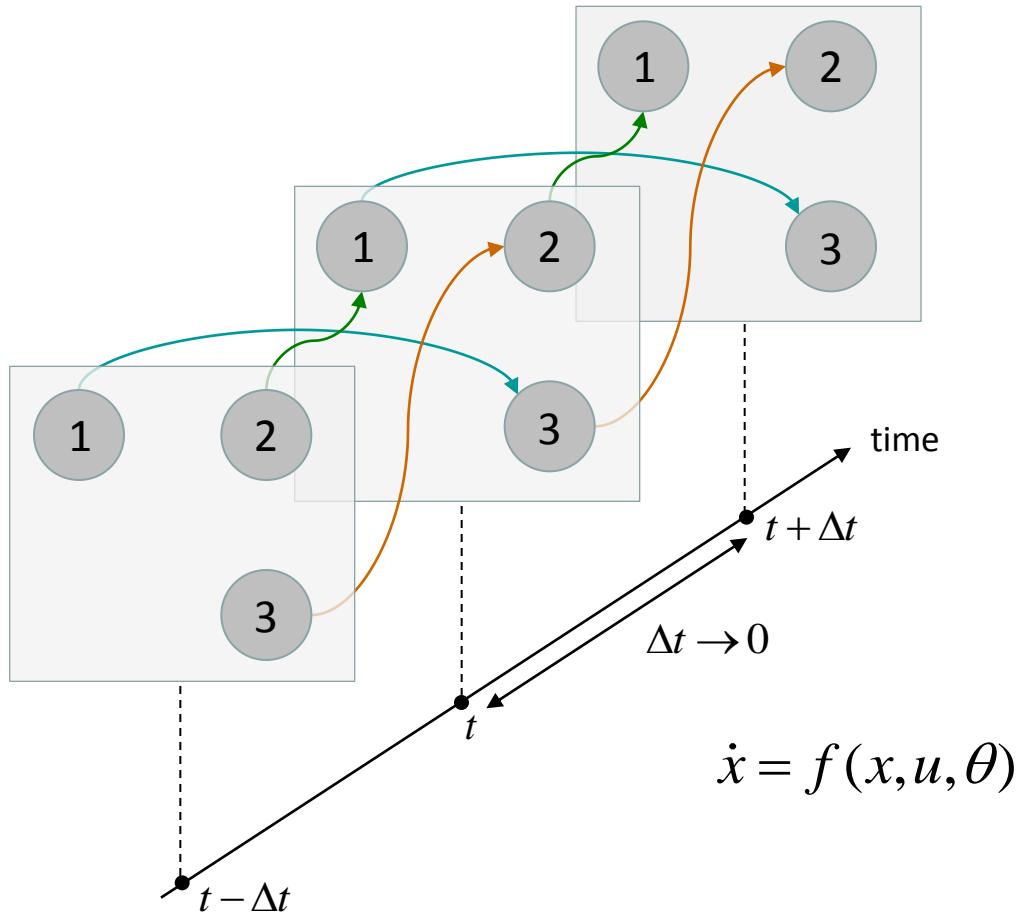
# Dynamic Causal Modelling

network structure identification



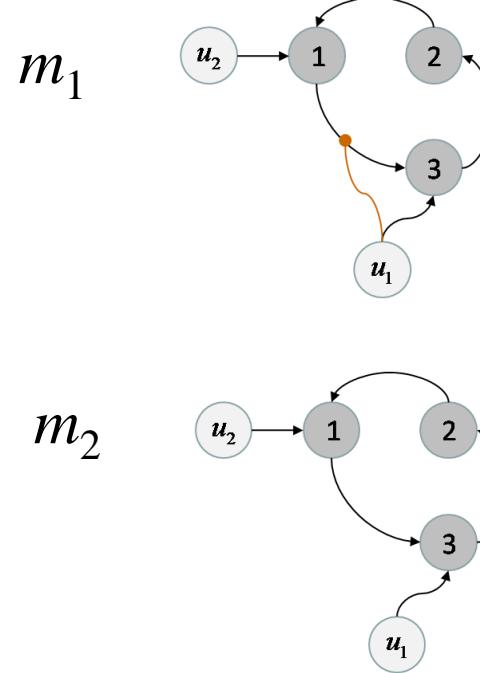
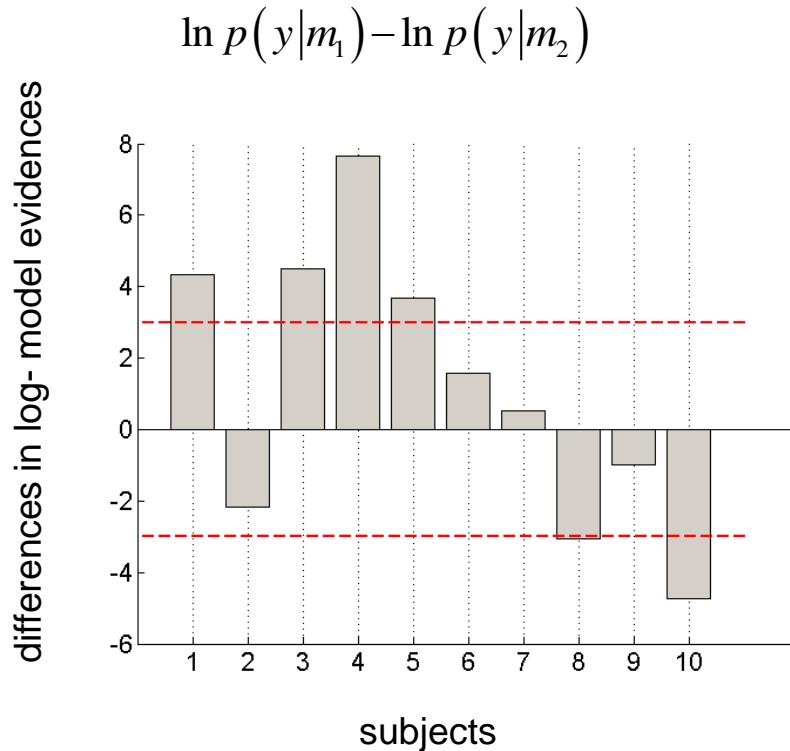
# DCMs and DAGs

## a note on causality



# Dynamic Causal Modelling

## model comparison for group studies



fixed effect

assume all subjects correspond to the same model

random effect

assume different subjects might correspond to different models

I thank you for your attention.

# A note on statistical significance

lessons from the Neyman-Pearson lemma

- **Neyman-Pearson lemma:** the likelihood ratio (or Bayes factor) test

$$\Lambda = \frac{p(y|H_1)}{p(y|H_0)} \geq u$$

is the most powerful test of size  $\alpha = p(\Lambda \geq u | H_0)$  to test the null.

- what is the threshold  $u$ , above which the Bayes factor test yields a error I rate of 5%?

