

# Towards Encrypted Inference for Arbitrary Models

Louis J. M. Aslett ([louis.aslett@durham.ac.uk](mailto:louis.aslett@durham.ac.uk))  
Department of Mathematical Sciences  
Durham University

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# Acknowledgements

- Chris Holmes and i-like project — this work germinated while postdoc.
- Ryan Christ for interesting discussions.



# Introduction

# Motivation

Security in statistics applications is a growing concern:

- computing in a ‘hostile’ environment (e.g. cloud computing);
- donation of sensitive/personal data (e.g. medical/genetic studies);
- complex models on constrained devices (e.g. smart watches)
- running confidential algorithms on confidential data (e.g. engineering reliability)

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- Differential privacy
  - on outcomes of ‘statistical queries’
  - guarantees of privacy for individual observations

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- Data privacy
  - at rest
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  - data pooling
- Model privacy
  - prior distributions
  - model formulation

# The perspective for today ...

- **Eve** has a private model, including prior information which may itself be private.
- **Cain** and **Abel** have private data which is relevant to the fitting of Eve's model.

Can Eve fit a model, pooling data from Cain and Abel without observing their raw data and without revealing her model and prior information? Abel also doesn't trust Cain ...



$$\pi(\cdot | \psi)$$

$$\pi(\psi)$$



$$\{\mathbf{x}_i = (x_{i1}, \dots, x_{id})\}_{i=1}^{n_1}$$



$$\{\mathbf{x}_i = (x_{i1}, \dots, x_{id})\}_{i=n_1+1}^N$$



# Cryptography the solution?

Encryption can provide security guarantees ...

$$\text{Enc}(k_p, m) \rightleftharpoons c$$

Easy

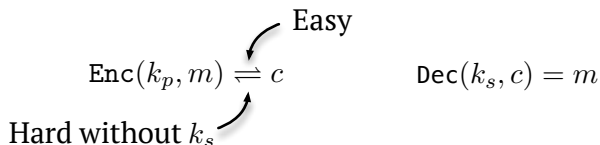
Hard without  $k_s$

$$\text{Dec}(k_s, c) = m$$

... but is typically 'brittle'.

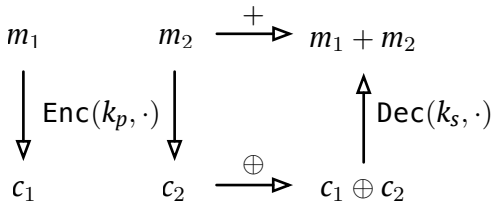
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Arbitrary addition and multiplication is possible with **fully homomorphic encryption** schemes (Gentry, 2009).



# Back to the problem ...



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$$\mathbf{x}_i^* = \text{Enc}(k_p, \mathbf{x}_i)$$

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$$\pi(\cdot | \psi)$$

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$$\pi(\psi | X) \propto$$

$$\text{Dec} \left[ k_s, \prod_{i=1}^N \pi(\mathbf{x}_i^* | \text{Enc}(k_p, \psi)) \times$$

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- ✗ Likelihood restricted to low degree polynomials
- ✗ Can only handle very small  $N$  due to multiplicative depth
- ✗ MAP/posterior? How? MCMC?



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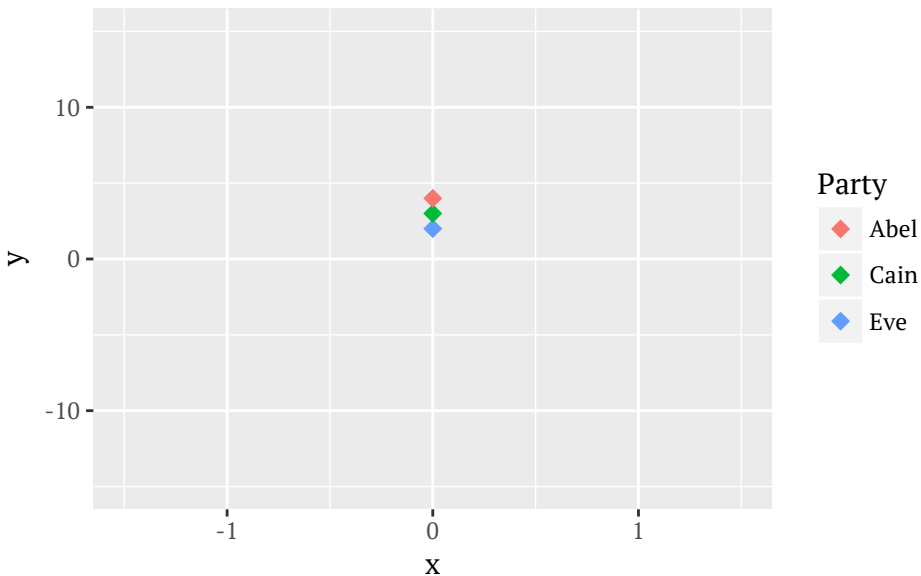
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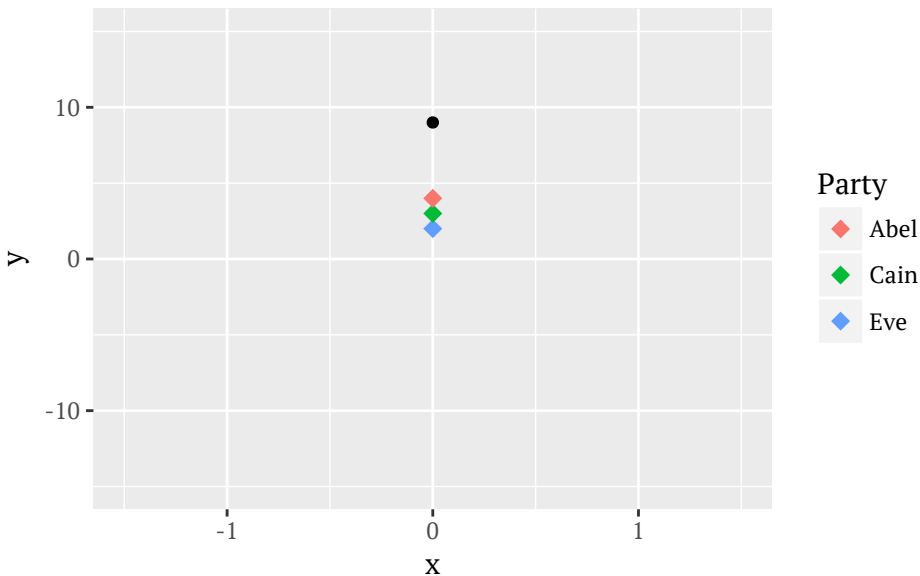
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- ✗ Who holds secret key?

# (Simplified) look at Homomorphic Secret Sharing

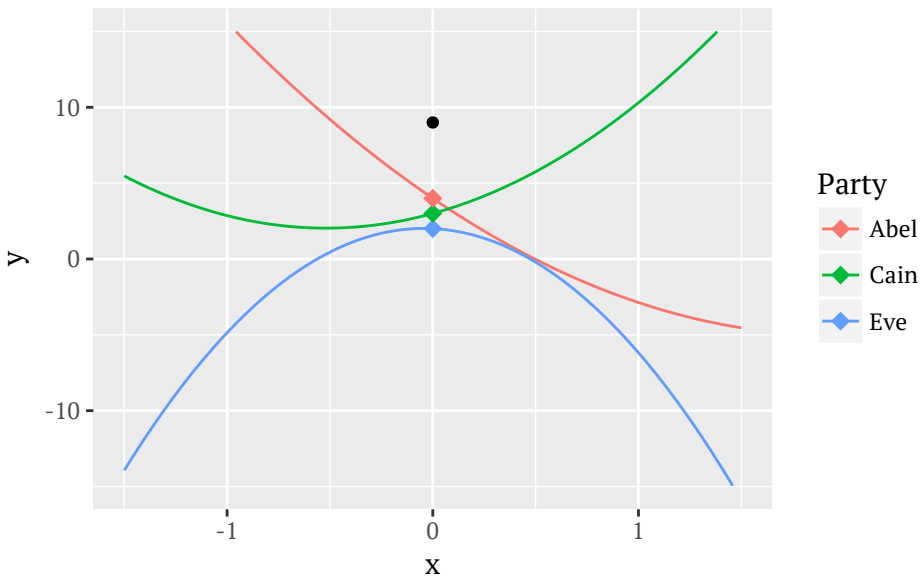


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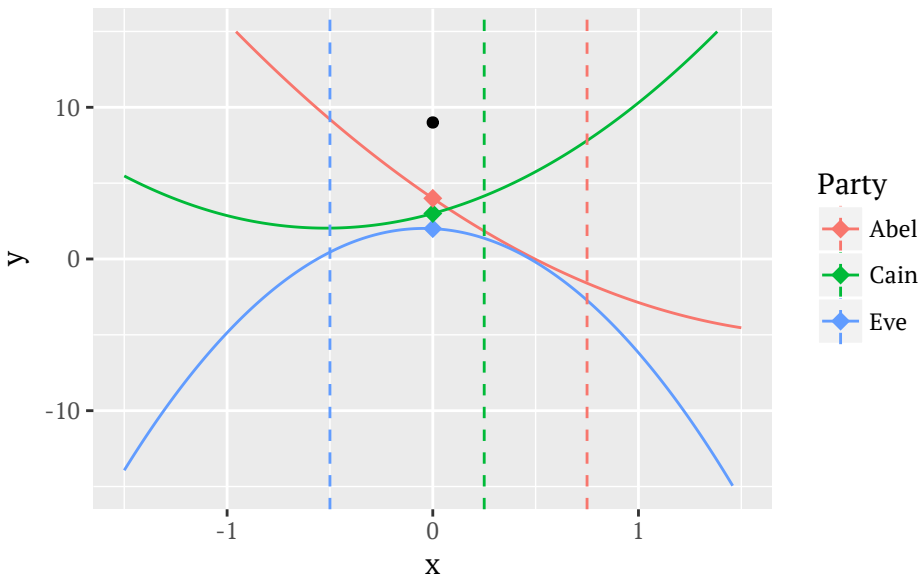




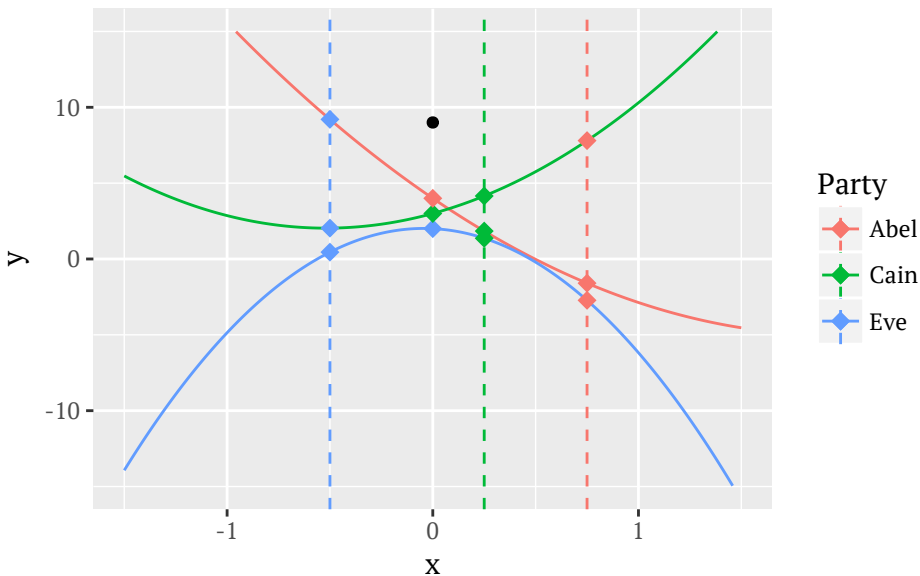
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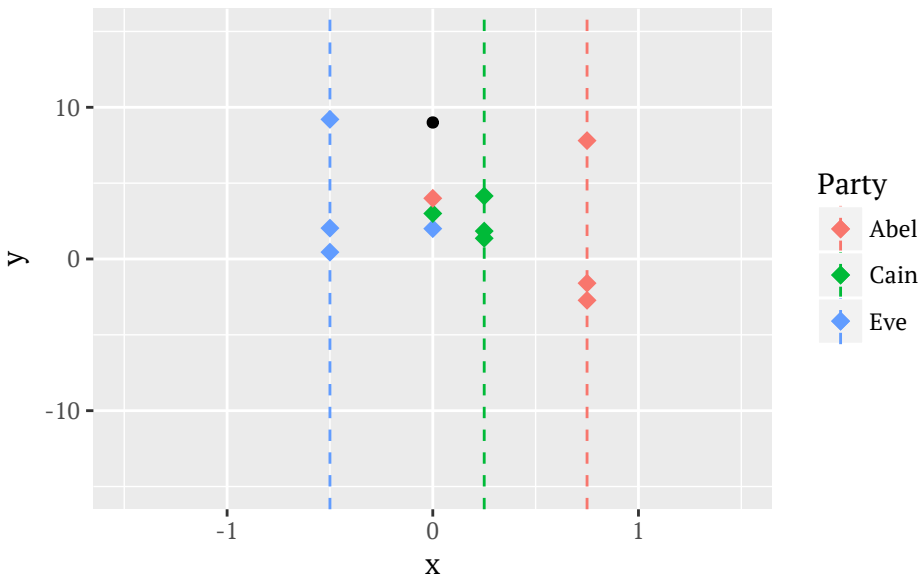
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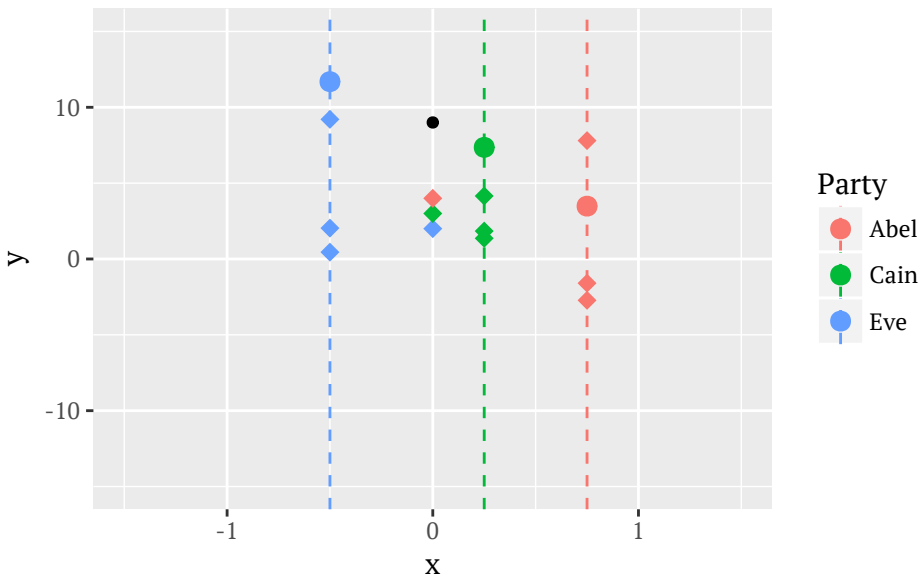
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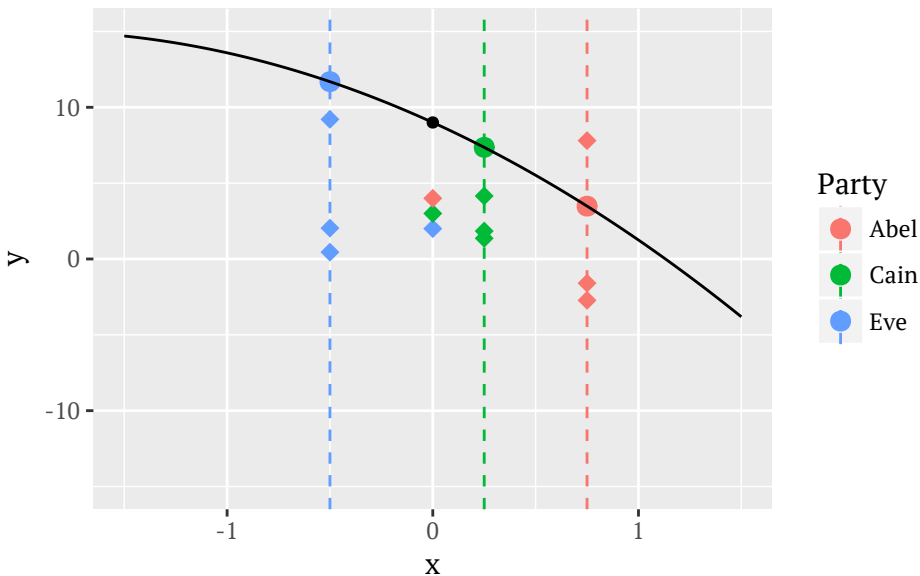
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# Eve, Cain & Abel



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- 3 Accept  $\psi_j$  if  $d(S(X), S(Y_j)) < \varepsilon$ .

Where  $S(\cdot)$  is some (vector) of summary statistics;  $d(\cdot, \cdot)$  is a distance metric; and  $\varepsilon$  is a user defined threshold.

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**Problems:**  $d(\cdot, \cdot)$  can only be low degree polynomials;  
Must compute  $S(\cdot)$  secretly for Cain and Abel's pooled data;  
Naïve ABC performs poorly & choosing  $\varepsilon$  blindfolded.

# Naïve encrypted ABC (I) – Eve & data owners $1, \dots, P$

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# Naïve encrypted ABC (II) – Eve & data owners $1, \dots, P$

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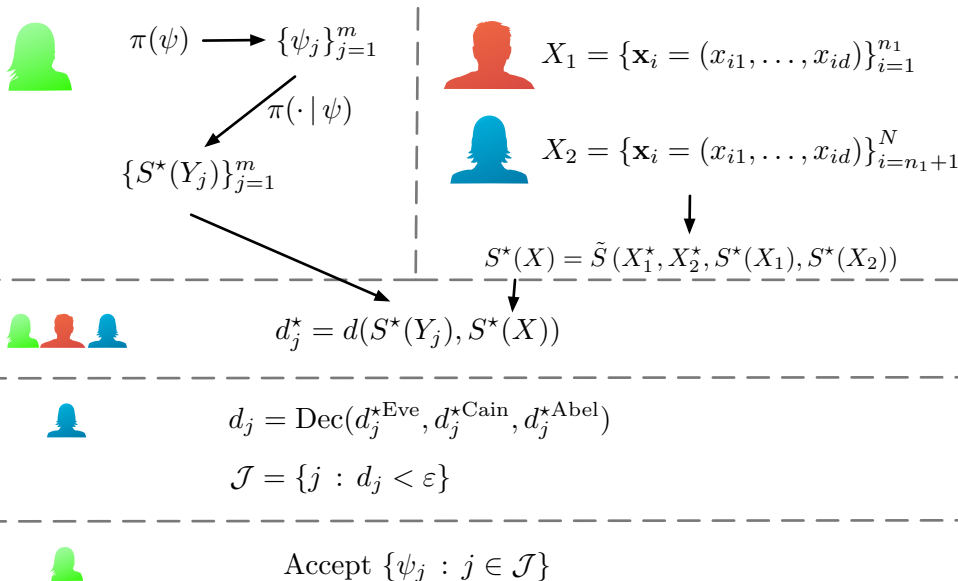
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- 8 Data owner  $k$  sends to Eve a list of those indices  $j$  such that  $d_j < \varepsilon$ .

# Naïve encrypted ABC (III) – in pictures



# Points to note

- Samples  $\psi_j$  are never seen by Cain and Abel
- Eve learns only an accept/reject
  - Final distances between summary statistics decrypted by Cain or Abel
- Cain and Abel do not learn about each other's data
  - only see composite distance between pooled summary stats and Eve's simulation
  - can make distances information theoretically secure by adding random values generated by Cain, Abel and Eve
- **BUT**, Cain and Abel do have to know  $S(\cdot)$ , which in most ABC settings is model dependent  $\implies$  risk to Eve

# Obstacles to cryptographic ABC

- Homomorphically computable pooling of summary statistics
- Summary statistics that don't reveal model
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- Homomorphically computable distance metric
- Blindfold selection of  $\varepsilon$ 
  - Propose using ABC-PMC/SMC, with distance chosen to retain  $\alpha\%$  of samples instead. Eve then uses accepted  $\psi_j$  on step  $t$  to propose step  $t + 1$  and repeat algorithm.
  - Standard idea — details omitted.

# Cryptographically Secure Inference



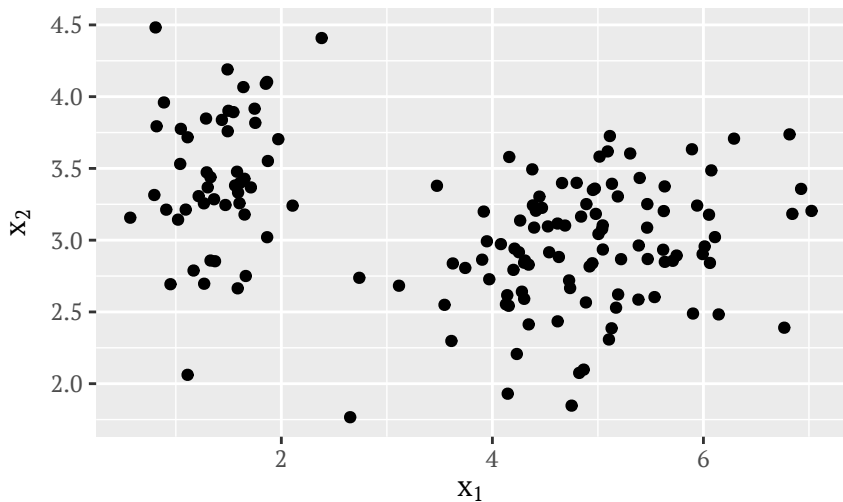
# Collection of Coarse Random Marginals (CCRM)

Construct in the manner of a decision forest:

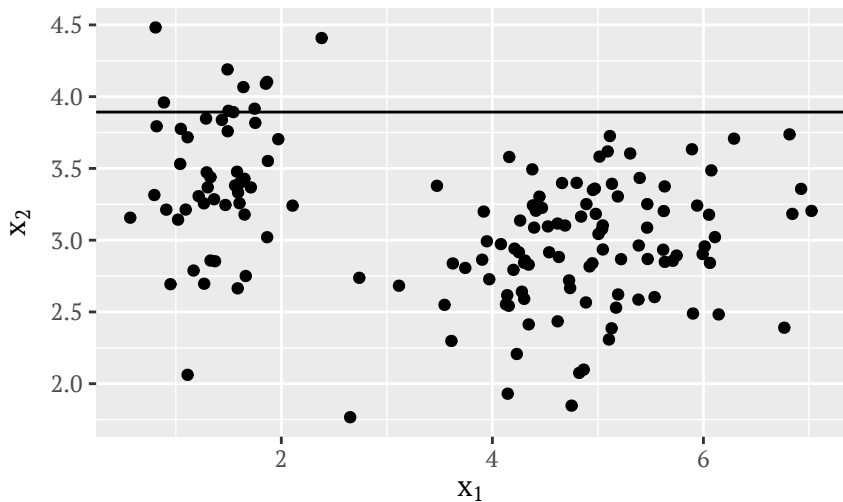
- Grow  $T$  trees, each to predetermined fixed depth  $L$
- Choose variable  $v \in \{1, \dots, d\}$  uniformly at random
- Each split point uniformly at random in range of  $x_{\cdot v}$ 
  - Thus Cain and Abel must provide range of each variable in the data, though this range need not be tight
  - e.g. release  $(\min_i x_{iv} + \eta, \max_i x_{iv} + \eta)$  for  $\eta \sim N(0, \sigma^2)$  with  $\sigma^2$  chosen not to exclude too large a range
- $\mathbf{s} = S(\cdot)$  is then the counts of observations in each terminal leaf
  - vector of  $T2^L$  counts
  - $\tilde{S}(\cdot)$  is then simply vector addition
- Define

$$d(S(X), S(Y_j)) = \sum_{i=1}^{T2^L} \left( s_i^X - s_i^{Y_j} \right)^2$$

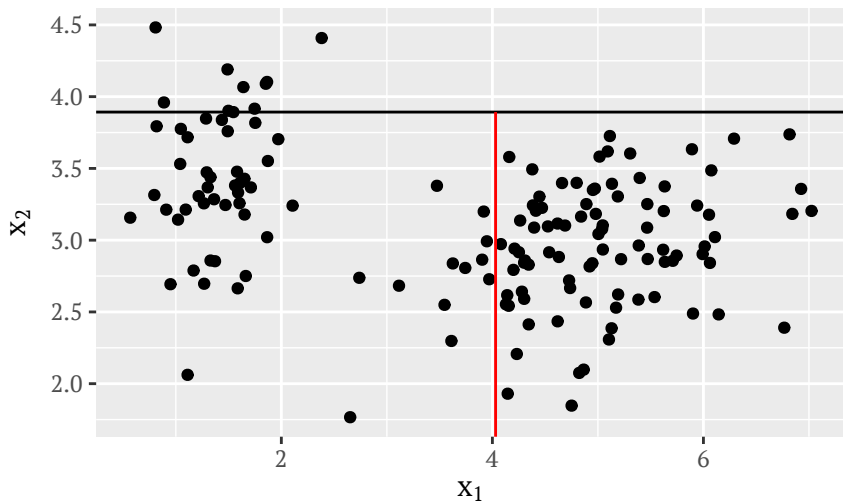
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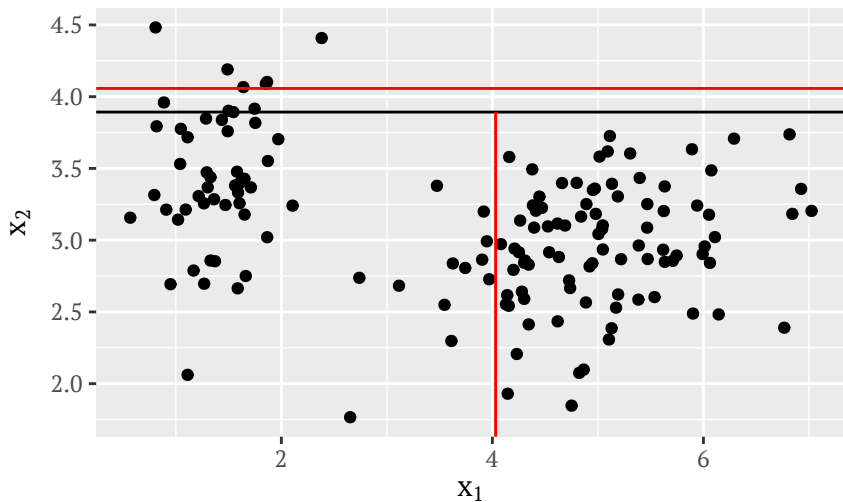
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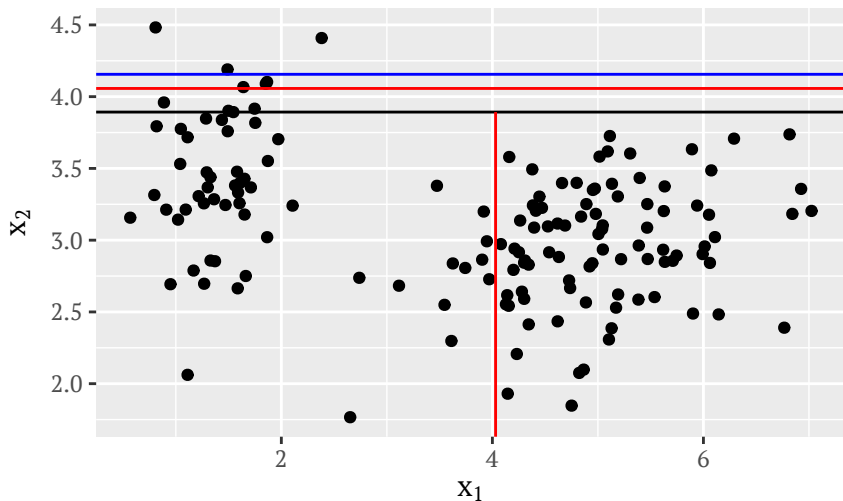
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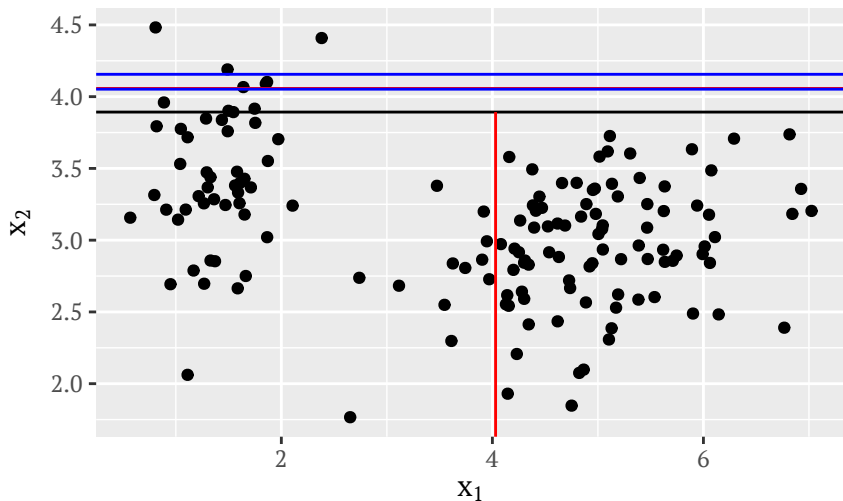
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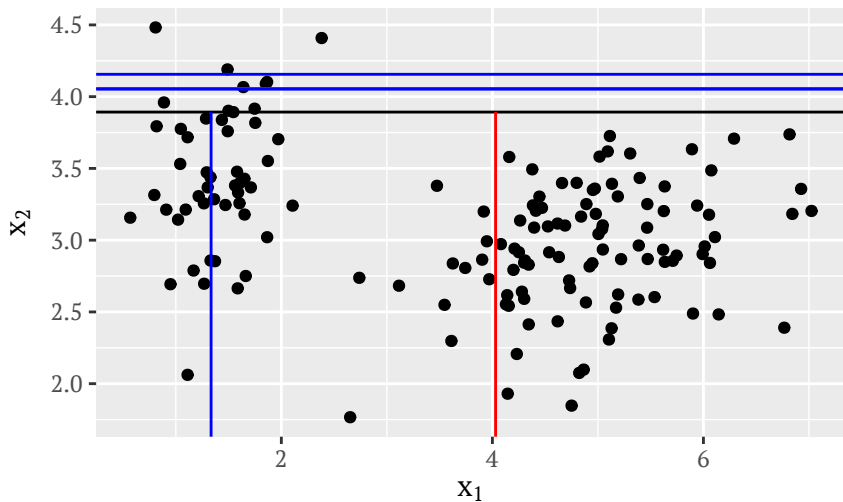
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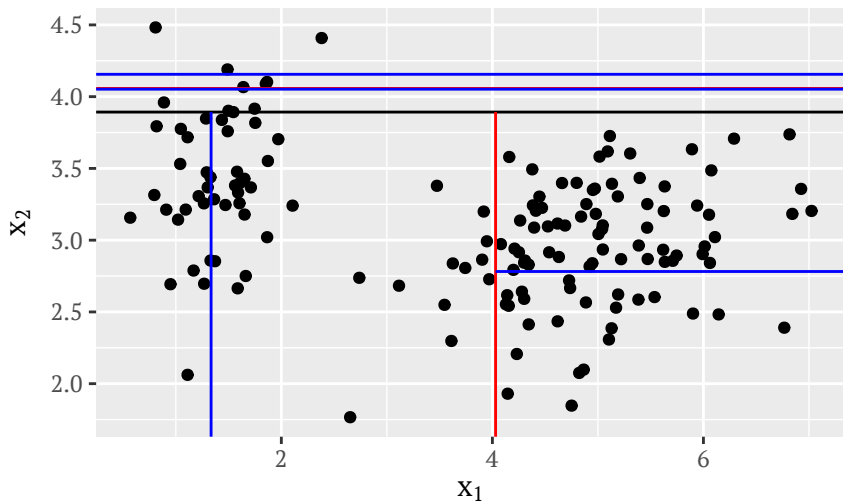


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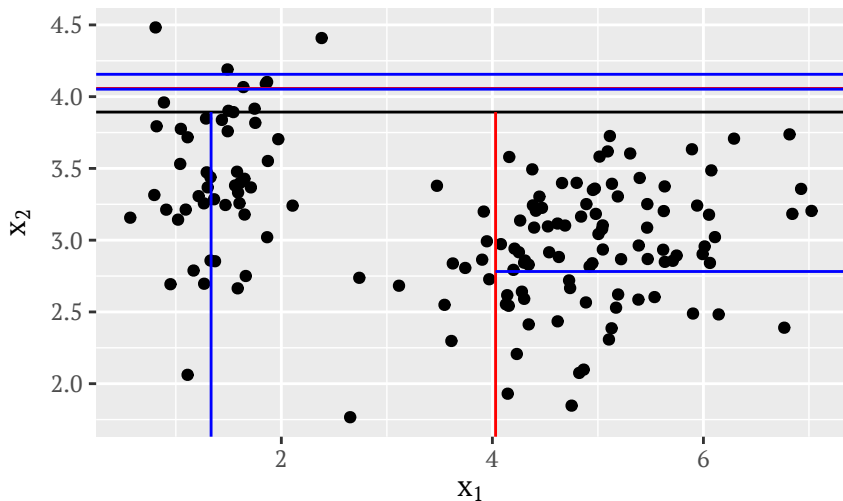




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$$S(X) = (\dots, 3, 3, 0, 3, 43, 33, 64, 24, \dots)$$

# CCRM solutions

- Homomorphically computable pooling of summary statistics
  - **simple vector addition**
- Summary statistics that don't reveal model
  - **CCRM is completely random, grown the same way for all models and data sets. Only weak information about range of each variable leaked.**
- Homomorphically computable distance metric
  - **sum of squared differences**

# Variance of distance metric per CRM

**Lemma** *Let the random variable  $V$  be multinomially distributed with success probabilities  $p = (p_1, \dots, p_k)$  for  $n$  trials. Then,*

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{Var} \left( \sum_{i=1}^k (V_i - c_i)^2 \right) \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^k \left[ ({}^n C_{n-4} - n^2(n-1)^2) p_i^4 + (6^n C_{n-3} + 2n(n-1)(4c_i - n)) p_i^3 \right. \\ & \quad \left. + (7n(n-1) - n^2 - 4c_i n(2n-3)(1+c_i)) p_i^2 + (n + 4c_i n(c_i - 1)) p_i \right. \\ & \quad \left. + \sum_{\substack{j=1 \\ i \neq j}}^k \left[ -n(2c_i - 1)(2c_j - 1) p_i p_j + 2n(n-1)(2c_j - 1) p_i^2 p_j \right. \right. \\ & \quad \left. \left. + 2n(n-1)(2c_i - 1) p_i p_j^2 - 2n(n-1)(2n-3) p_i^2 p_j^2 \right] \right] \end{aligned}$$

$\implies$  can be used to weight random marginals differently.

# ABCDE: Approximate Bayesian Computation Done Encrypted

Tying it all together:

- ABC-PMC/SMC
- Homomorphic Secret Sharing with data pooling
- CCRM summary statistic protecting model/prior privacy
- Pooled  $S(\cdot)$  computable encrypted from multiple data owners
- Distance computable encrypted and not learned by modeller
- Variance of each CRM computable encrypted for weighting

## Selected connections in ABC literature

- Bernton, E., Jacob, P. E., Gerber, M., & Robert, C. P. (2017). Inference in generative models using the Wasserstein distance. *arXiv:1701.05146*.
- Gutmann, M. U., Dutta, R., Kaski, S., & Corander, J. (2017). Likelihood-free inference via classification. *Statistics and Computing*, 1-15.
- Fearnhead, P., & Prangle, D. (2012). Constructing summary statistics for approximate Bayesian computation: semi-automatic approximate Bayesian computation. *Journal of the Royal Statistical Society: Series B*, 74(3), 419-474.

# Examples

# Toy example

Super simple first example, 8-dimensional multivariate Normal.

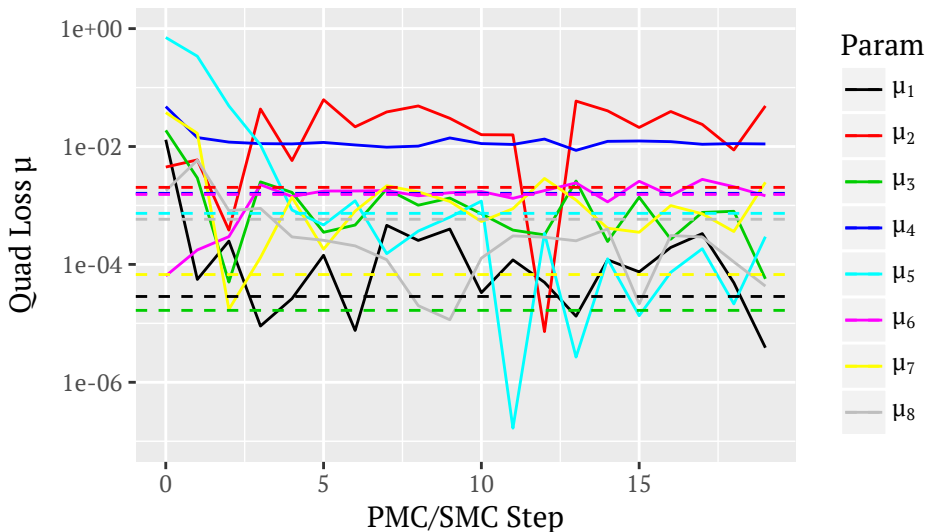
$$X \sim \mathbf{N}(\boldsymbol{\mu} = \mathbf{0}, \Sigma = I)$$
$$\mu_i \sim \mathbf{N}(\eta_i, \sigma = 2)$$

where  $\eta_i$  chosen independently uniformly at random on the interval  $[-1, 1]$  for repeated experiments.

- Simulate  $n = 1000$  observations
- Range of all dimensions taken to be  $[-4, 4]$  for construction of CCRM, without checking true range of  $X$
- Standard ABC used  $S(X) = (\bar{x}_1, \dots, \bar{x}_8)$

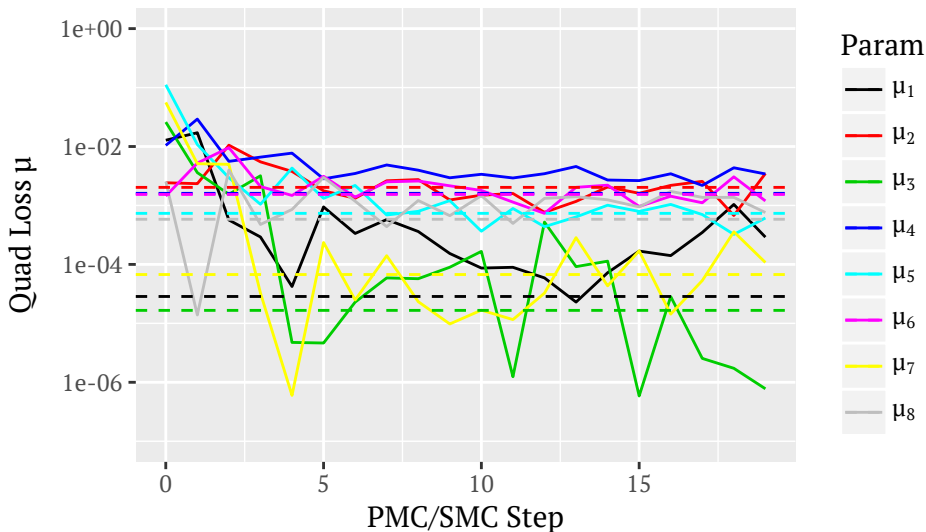


# Toy example: 8D Normal, marginal quadratic loss



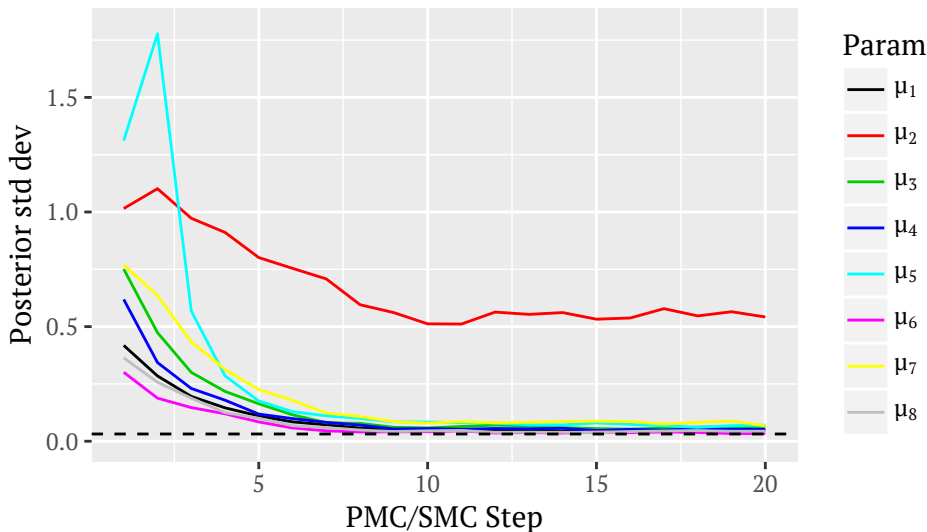
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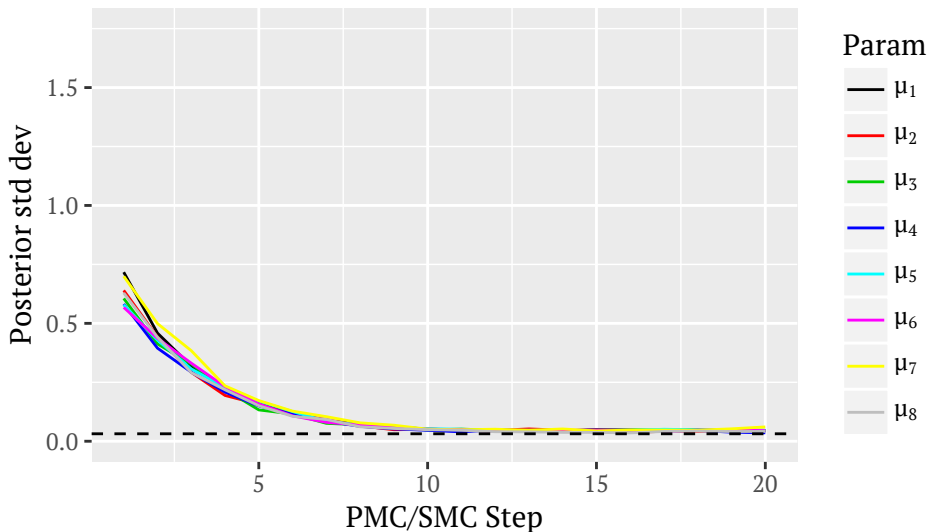
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# Toy example: 8D Normal, marginal posterior $\sigma$



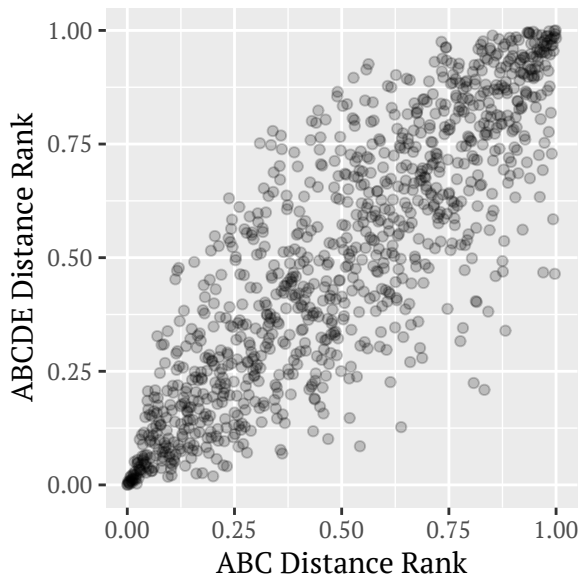
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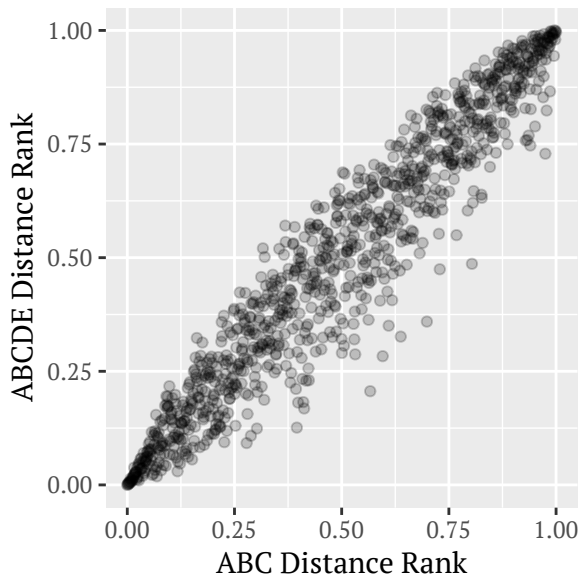
$$n = 10^3, T = 1000, L = 2, m = 10^4, \alpha = 0.01$$

# Toy example: distance concordance



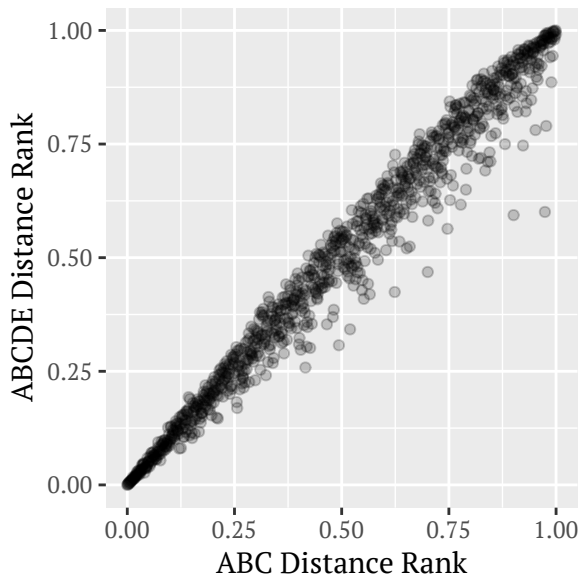
$T = 20$

# Toy example: distance concordance



$T = 100$

# Toy example: distance concordance



$T = 1000$

# Expected quadratic loss

Can understand lowest ABC error achievable without Monte Carlo error:

$$\begin{aligned} & \mathbb{E} \left[ (\mu - \hat{\mu})^2 \mid T = t \right] \\ &= \frac{1}{|\mathcal{A}^t|} \int_{\mathcal{A}^t} \left( \mu - \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \theta \mathbb{P} \left( S(x) = S(x^{\text{obs}}) \mid da_1, \dots, da_t \right) \pi(d\theta) \right)^2 \end{aligned}$$

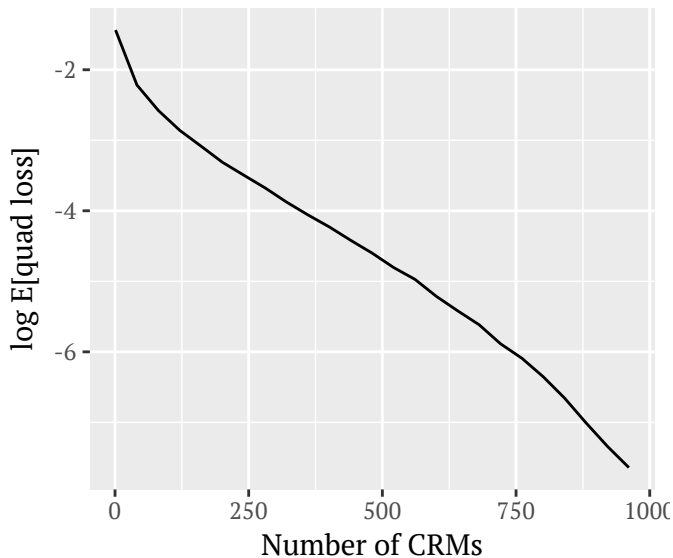
because for 1-level CRMs:

$$\begin{aligned} & \mathbb{P} \left( S(x) = S(x^{\text{obs}}) \mid da_1, \dots, da_t \right) \\ &= \prod_{k=1}^t \binom{n}{m_k} F_{v_k}(X < a_k)^{m_k} (1 - F_{v_k}(X < a_k))^{n-m_k} \end{aligned}$$

where  $m_k = \#\{i : x_i^{\text{obs}} < a_k\}$ .



# Expected quadratic loss



# g-and-k distribution (Haynes et al. 1997)

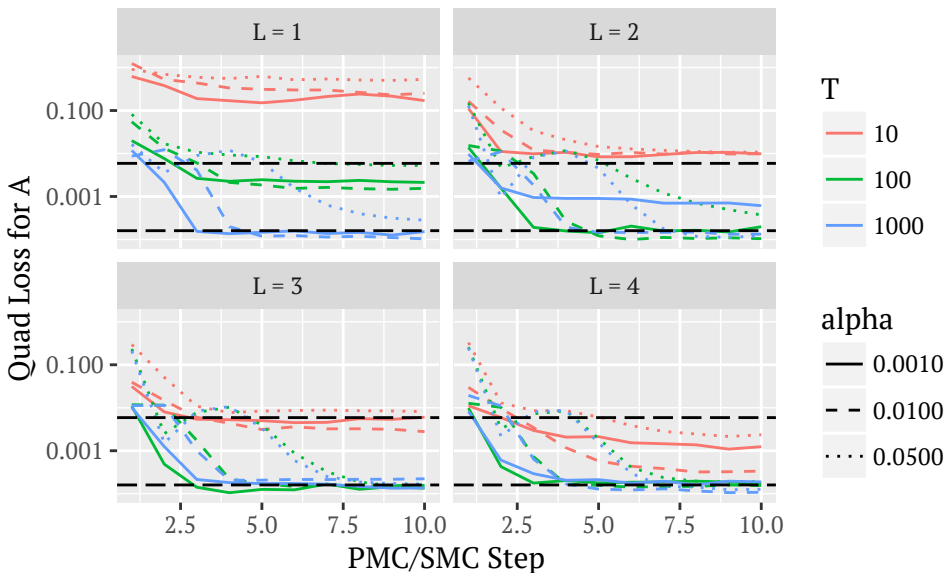
Defined via inverse distribution function

$$F^{-1}(x | A, B, g, k) = A + B \left[ 1 + 0.8 \frac{1 - \exp(-g\Phi^{-1}(x))}{1 + \exp(-g\Phi^{-1}(x))} \right] (1 + \Phi^{-1}(x)^2)^k \Phi^{-1}(x)$$

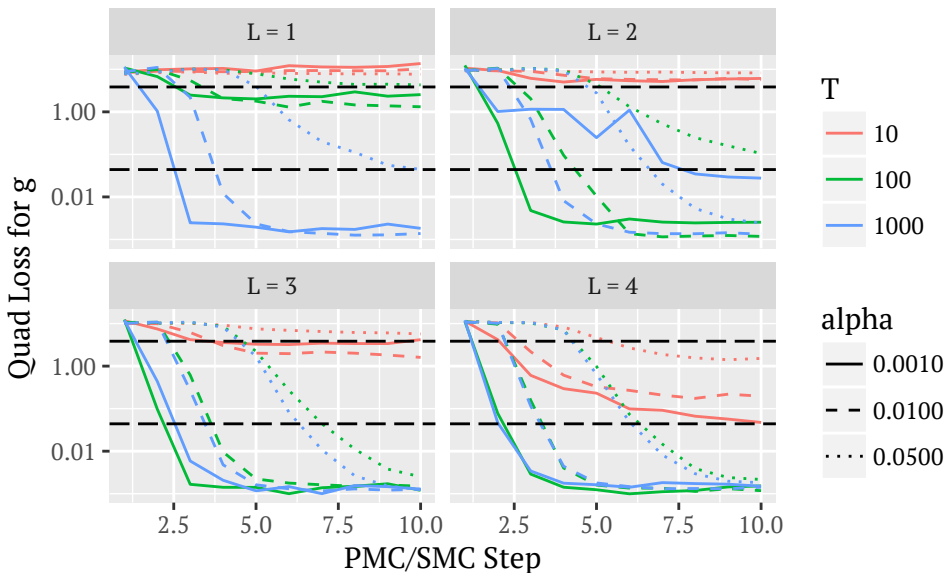
Following Allingham et al. (2009) and Fearnhead & Prangle (2012), take:

- $A = 3, B = 1, g = 2, k = \frac{1}{2}$
- simulate  $n = 10000$  observations
- standard ABC uses the order statistics,  
 $S(X) = (x_{(1)}, \dots, x_{(n)})$

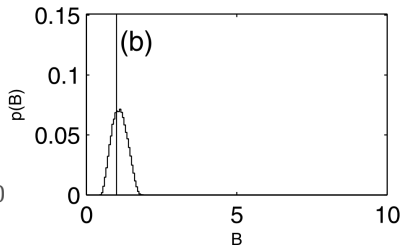
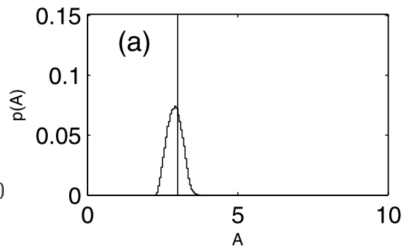
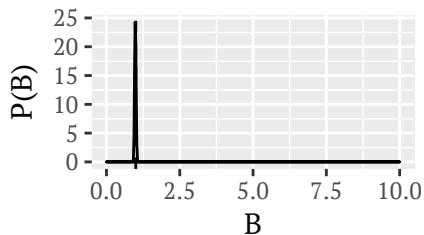
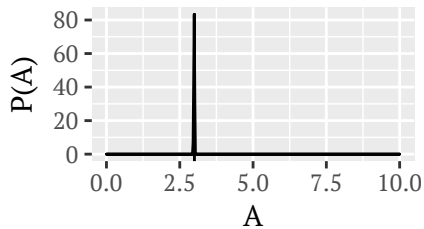
# g-and-k: quadratic loss



# g-and-k: quadratic loss



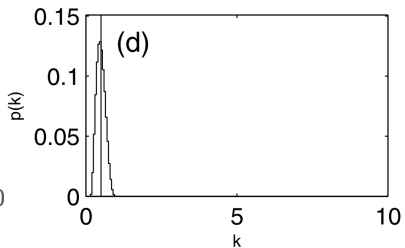
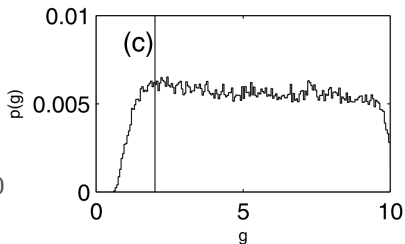
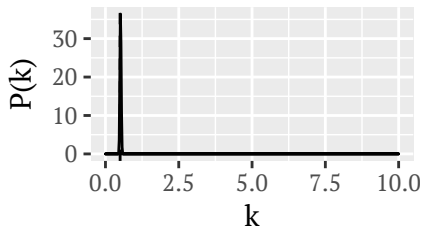
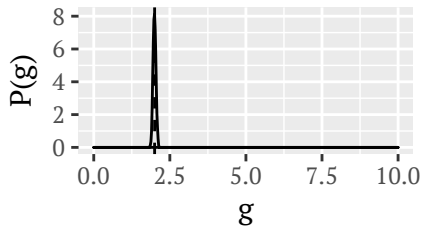
# g-and-k: density plots



$T = 1000, L = 3, m = 10^5, \alpha = 0.01$

Allingham et al (2009)

# g-and-k: density plots



$T = 1000, L = 3, m = 10^5, \alpha = 0.01$

Allingham et al (2009)

# Tuberculosis Transmission (Tanaka et al. 2006)

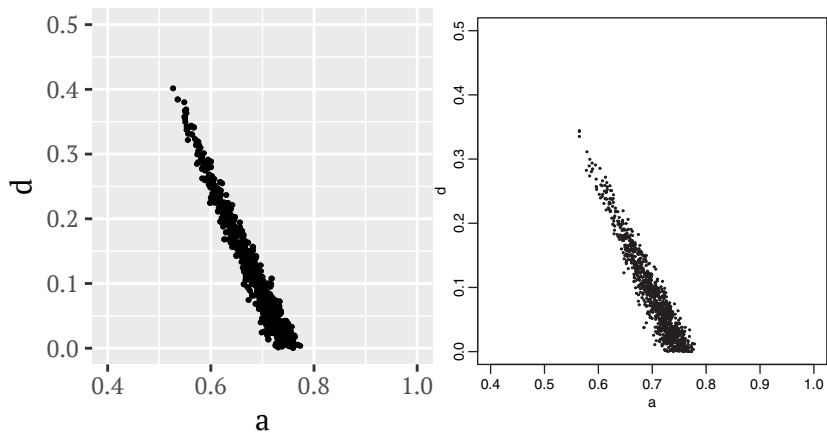
Model of transmission of disease,

- ‘birth’ of new infections, rate  $\alpha$
- ‘death’ recovery or mortality of carrier, rate  $\delta$
- ‘mutation’ genotype of bacterium mutates within carrier, rate  $\theta$  (infinite-alleles assumption)

$X_i(t)$  num infections type  $i$  at time  $t$ ;  $G(t)$  num unique genotypes.

- San Francisco tuberculosis data 1991/2, 473 samples (no time)
- Fearnhead & Prangle (2012) transform  
( $\alpha/(\alpha + \delta + \theta)$ ,  $\delta/(\alpha + \delta + \theta)$ )
- $S(X) = (G(t_{\text{end}})/473, 1 - \sum_i (X(t_{\text{end}})/473)^2)$

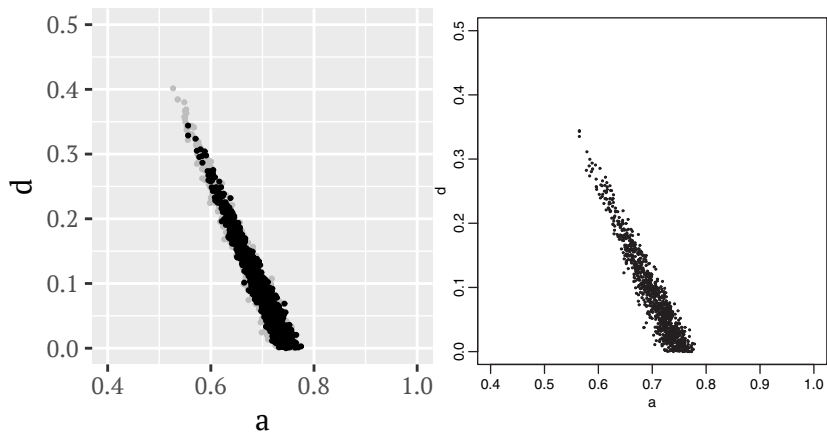
# Posterior samples



Semi-automatic ABC

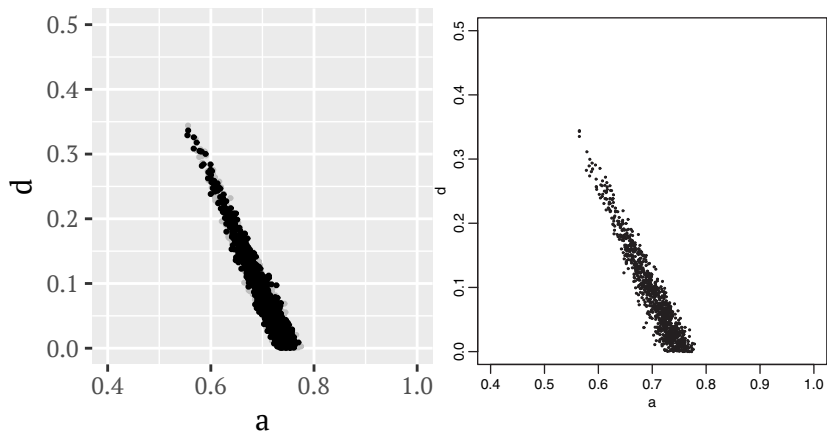


# Posterior samples



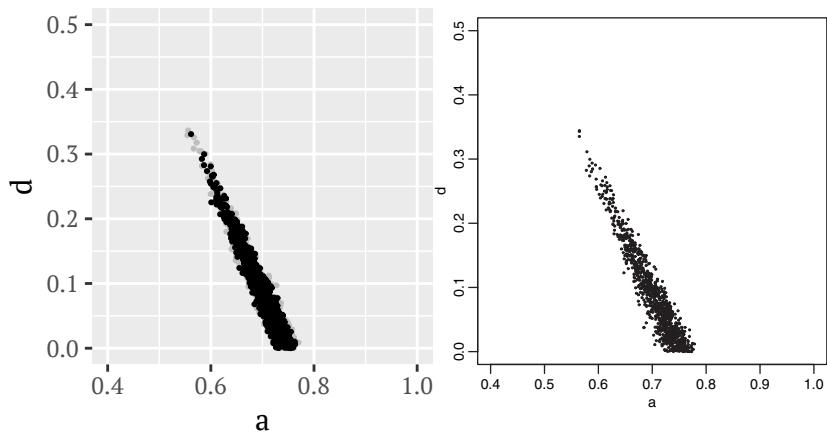
Semi-automatic ABC

# Posterior samples



Semi-automatic ABC

# Posterior samples



Semi-automatic ABC

# Conclusions

- So far, this ...
  - Provides encrypted inference whilst preserving model, prior and data privacy
  - Enables pooling of multiple data owners
  - Theoretically arbitrary low-dimensional models
- ... but this is work-in-progress! Currently in progress:
  - Method of ensuring differential privacy
  - Encrypted software implementation of this scheme
  - Best use of weights
  - Fuller understanding of accuracy for CCRM choices
  - Data as a service
- Perhaps also useful as a model independent summary statistic for unencrypted ABC too? **Scalable!**
- Questions, comments and discussion over tea welcome!

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**Thank you!**