



<http://cointoolbox.github.io/>



Approximate Bayesian Computation in Astronomy

Emille E. O. Ishida

MPA – Germany

Bayes Forum, June 2015



Important remark

Parameter inference

Parameter inference

1. Physical phenomenon



Parameter inference

1. Physical
phenomenon



2. Physical reasoning

THEORY

Parameter inference

1. Physical phenomenon



2. Physical reasoning

THEORY

3. Model

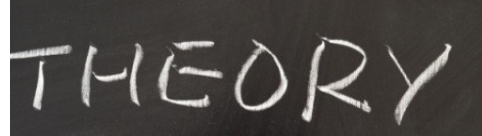
$$\{z_i, \xi_i\} \text{ for } i=1, 2, \dots, N \leftarrow \mathcal{M}(\Omega_m, w, \dots)$$

Parameter inference

1. Physical phenomenon



2. Physical reasoning



3. Model

$$\{z_i, \xi_i\} \text{ for } i=1, 2, \dots, N \leftarrow \mathcal{M}(\Omega_m, w, \dots)$$

4. Collect data



Parameter inference

1. Physical phenomenon



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THEORY

3. Model

$$\{z_i, \xi_i\} \text{ for } i=1, 2, \dots, N \leftarrow \mathcal{M}(\Omega_m, w, \dots)$$

5. Catalog

z	ξ
2.5	0.9
5.6	2.1
7.4	2.9
10.5	4.2
..	...

4. Collect data



Parameter inference

1. Physical phenomenon



2. Physical reasoning

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5. Catalog

z	ξ
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6. Find parameters

$$\Omega_m = \dots$$

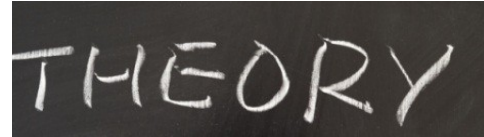
$$W = \dots$$

Parameter inference

1. Physical phenomenon



2. Physical reasoning



3. Model

$$\{z_i, x_i\} \text{ for } i=1, 2, \dots, N \leftarrow \mathcal{M}(\Omega_m, w, \dots)$$



5. Catalog

z	ξ
2.5	0.9
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7.4	2.9
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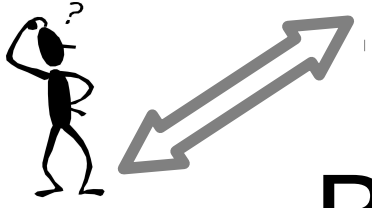
4. Collect



6. Find parameters

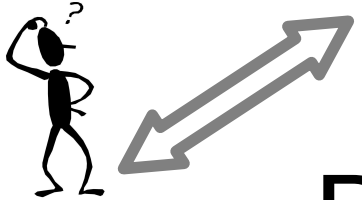
$$\Omega_m = \dots$$

$$W = \dots$$



Bayes theorem

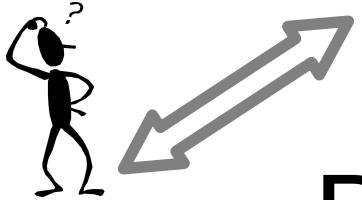
$$p(\boldsymbol{\theta}|\mathcal{D}) = \frac{p(\mathcal{D}|\boldsymbol{\theta})p(\boldsymbol{\theta})}{p(\mathcal{D})}$$



Bayes theorem

Can be too complicated!

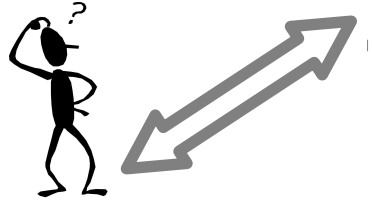
$$p(\boldsymbol{\theta}|\mathcal{D}) = \frac{p(\mathcal{D}|\boldsymbol{\theta})p(\boldsymbol{\theta})}{p(\mathcal{D})}$$



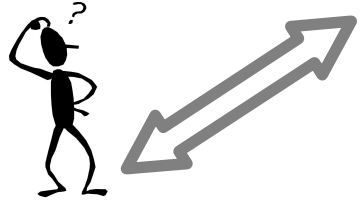
Bayes theorem

$$p(\boldsymbol{\theta}|\mathcal{D}) = \frac{p(\mathcal{D}|\boldsymbol{\theta})p(\boldsymbol{\theta})}{p(\mathcal{D})}$$

Can be problematic!



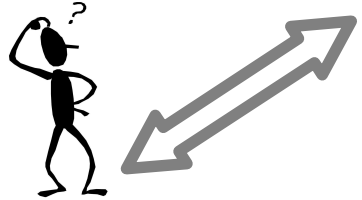
Can simulations help?



Comparing catalogs (or basic ABC)

Observed

z	ξ
2.5	0.9
5.6	2.1
7.4	2.9
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..	...

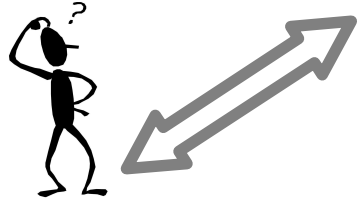


Comparing catalogs (or basic ABC)



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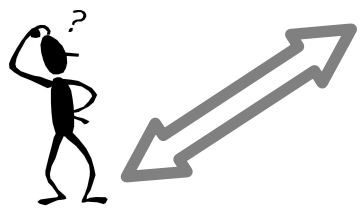
Comparing catalogs (or basic ABC)



Observed

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Draw $\{\Omega_{m1}, w_1\}$
from priors



Comparing catalogs (or basic ABC)



Model + $\{\Omega_{m1}, w_1\}$

z	ξ
2.0	1.8
11.5	10.5
13.1	12.9
25.4	26.7
..	...

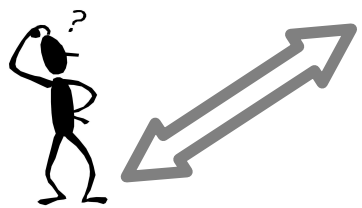
Simulate

Draw $\{\Omega_{m1}, w_1\}$
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Observed

z	ξ
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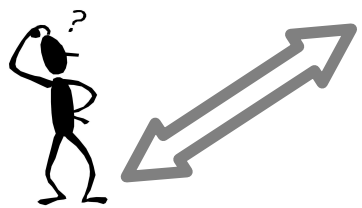
z	ξ
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11.5	10.5
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25.4	26.7
..	...

Compare



Observed

z	ξ
2.5	0.9
5.6	2.1
7.4	2.9
10.5	4.2
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Comparing catalogs (or basic ABC)



Model + $\{\Omega_{m1}, w_1\}$

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Observed

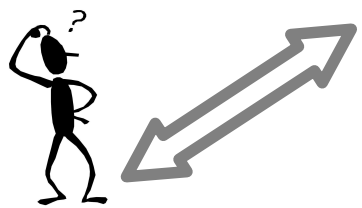
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Compare



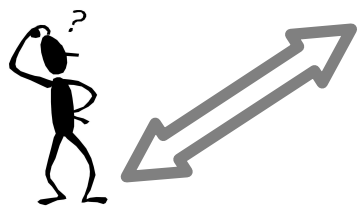
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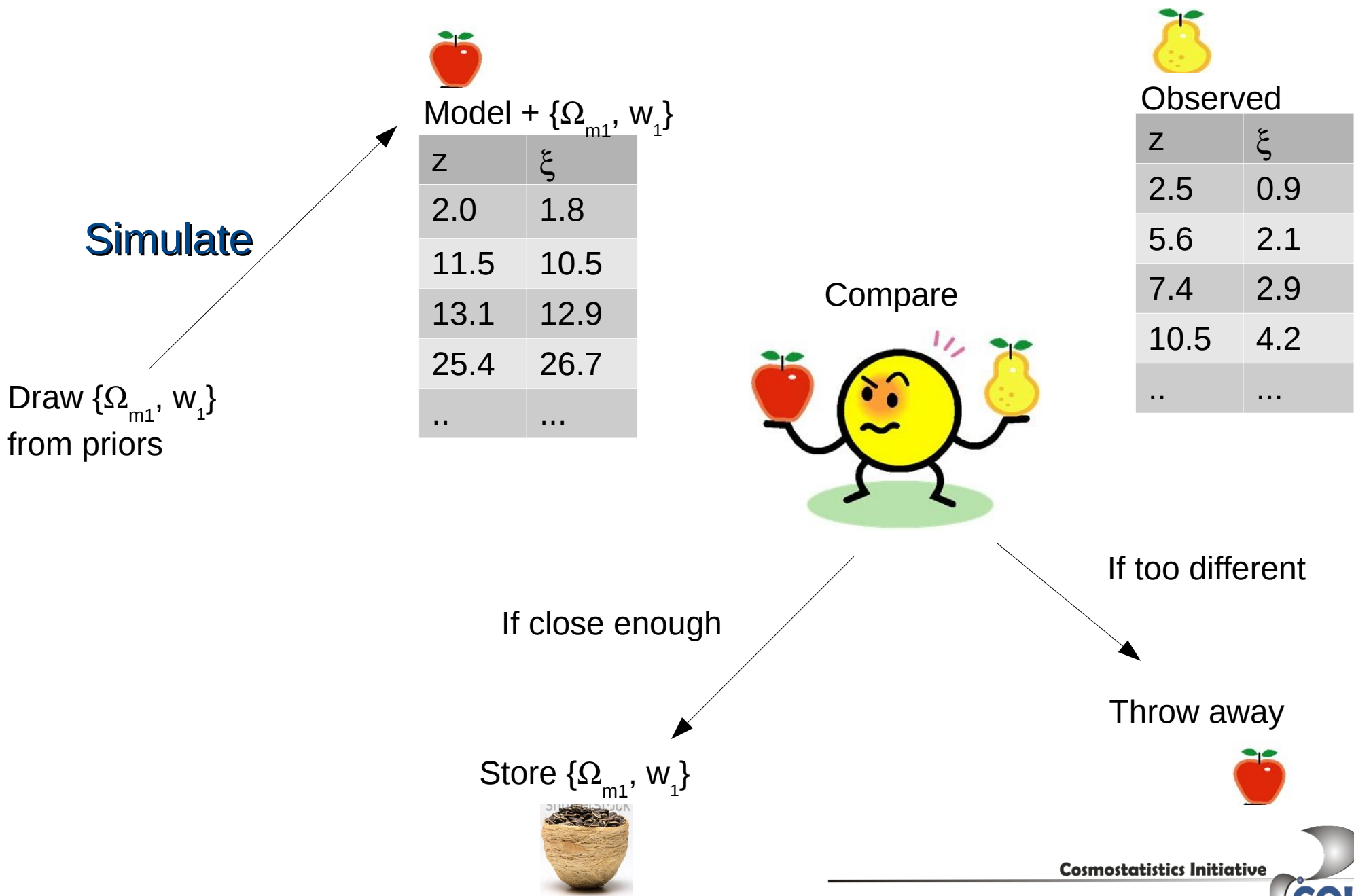
If too different

Throw away





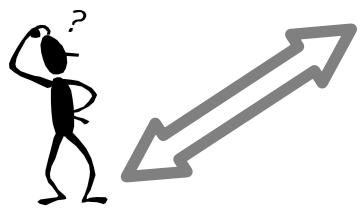
Comparing catalogs (or basic ABC)



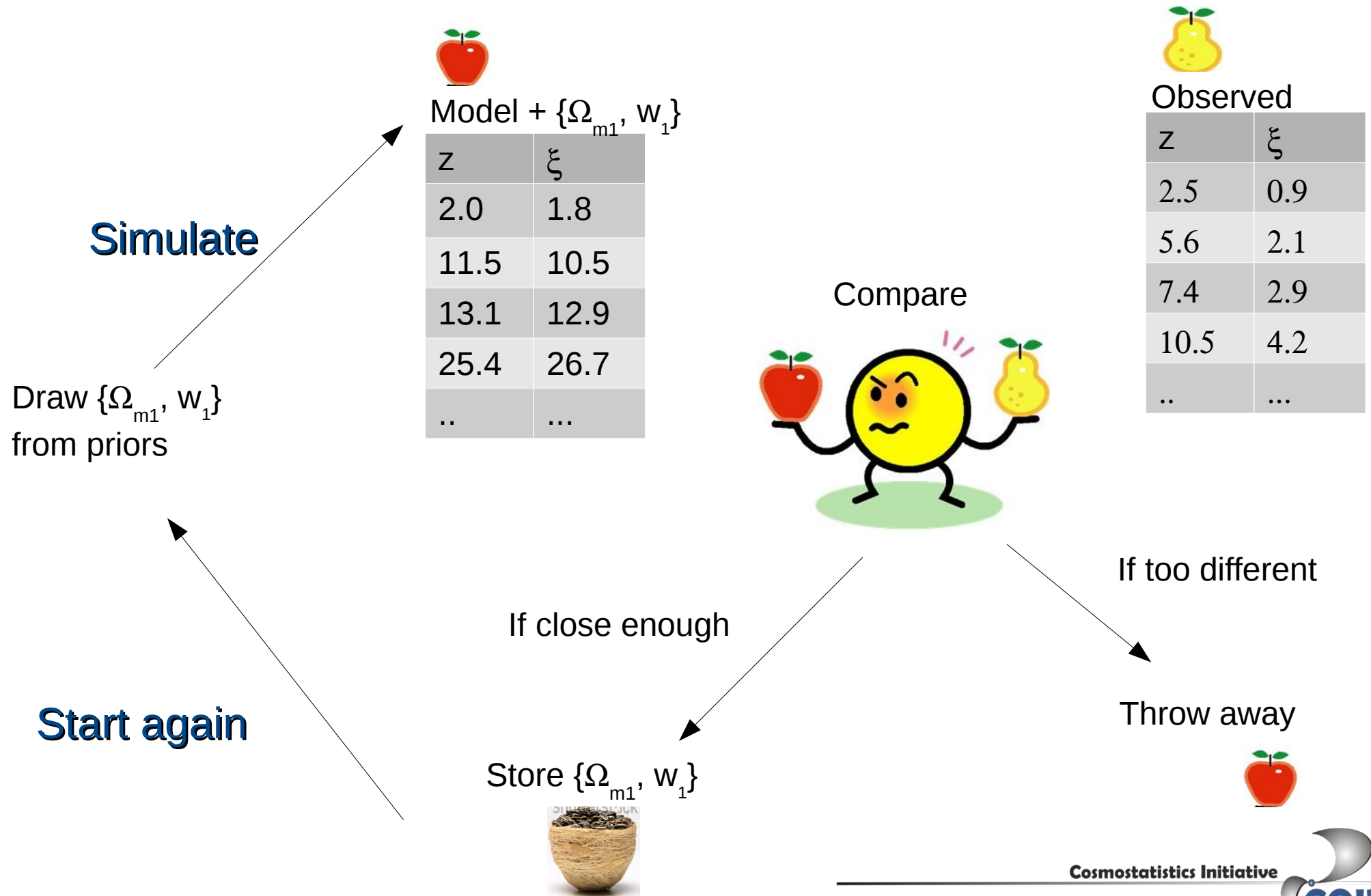
Observed

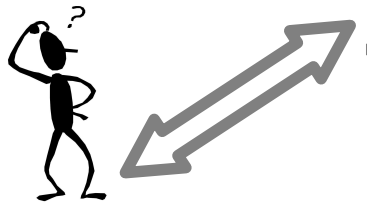
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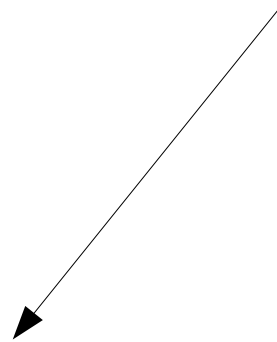


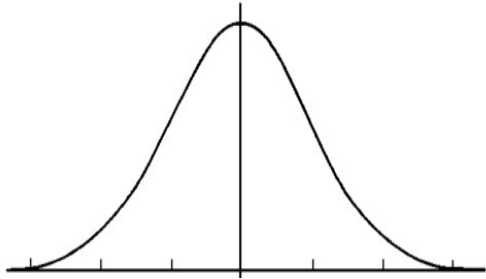
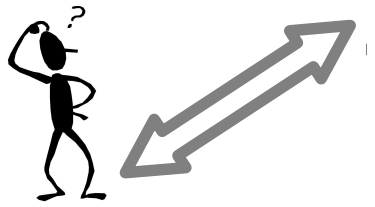
Comparing catalogs (or basic ABC)





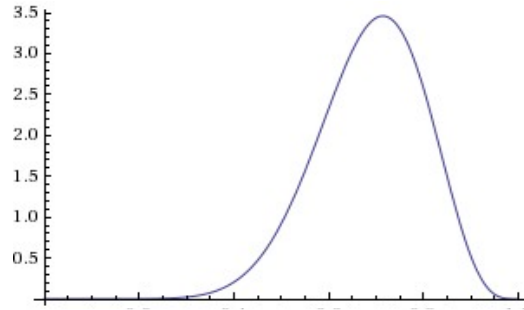
Posterior





0.27

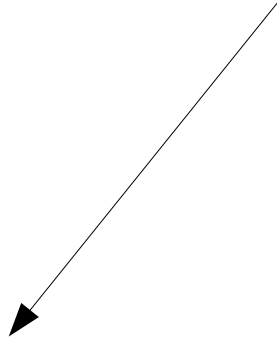
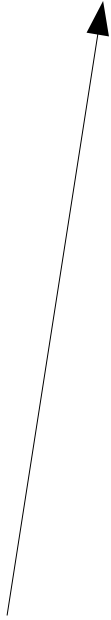
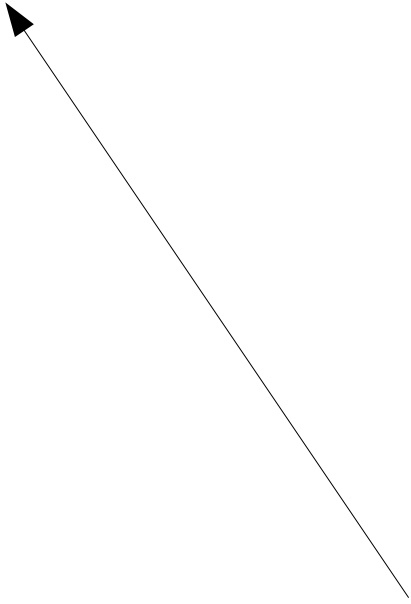
Ω_m



-1.0

W

Posterior



Approximate Bayesian Computation (ABC)

Approximate Bayesian Computation (ABC)

Ingredients

1. Priors
2. Simulator (cheap)
3. Distance function
(or summary statistics)

Approximate Bayesian Computation (ABC)

Ingredients

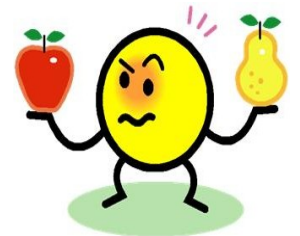
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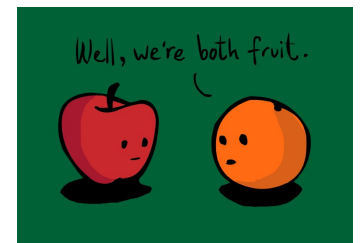


Approximate Bayesian Computation (ABC)

Ingredients

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Approximate Bayesian Computation (ABC)

Ingredients

1. Priors
2. Simulator (cheap)
3. Distance function
(or summary statistics)

Crucial and case dependent.
But before that...



Further developments in ABC



Further developments in ABC

Particle System
(parameter values
+ distances)





Further developments in ABC

Particle System
(parameter values
+ distances)



Simulate

Draw $\{\Omega_{m_1}, w_1\}$
from priors

Model + $\{\Omega_{m_1}, w_1\}$

z	ξ
2.0	1.8
11.5	10.5
13.1	12.9
25.4	26.7
..	...

Calculate
distance

Store $\{\Omega_{m_1}, w_1, d_1\}$





Further developments in ABC

Particle System
(parameter values
+ distances)



Take the N
parameter vectors
with smallest
distances



Determine
distance
threshold, ϵ



Further developments in ABC

Particle System
(parameter values
+ distances)

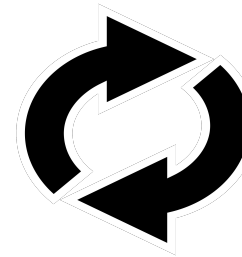


Take the N
parameter vectors
with smallest
distances



Determine
distance
threshold, ϵ

Repeat basic
ABC algorithm,
accept if $d < \epsilon$





Further developments in ABC

Particle System
(parameter values
+ distances)

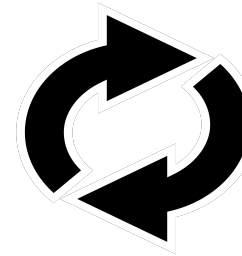


Take the N
parameter vectors
with smallest
distances



Determine
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Repeat basic
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Use the new
particle system as
a guide to
subsequent
drawings





Further developments in ABC

Particle System
(parameter values
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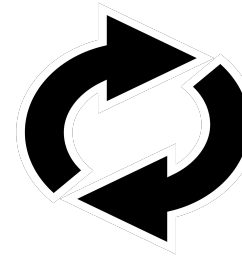


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Particle System
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Take the N
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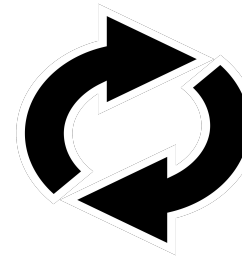


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Use the new
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Further developments in ABC



Importance sampling: guiding draws

Use the new
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Further developments in ABC



Importance sampling: guiding draws



Determine ε



Further developments in ABC



Importance sampling: guiding draws



Associate a weight
with each particle

$$W_t^j = \frac{p(\theta_t^j)}{\sum_{i=1}^N W_{t-1}^i \mathcal{N}(\theta_t^j; \theta_{t-1}^i, C_{t-1})},$$



Determine ε



Further developments in ABC



Importance sampling: guiding draws

Draw $\{\Omega_{m1}, w_1\}$
from previous
weighted
particle system



Associate a weight
with each particle

$$W_t^j = \frac{p(\theta_t^j)}{\sum_{i=1}^N W_{t-1}^i \mathcal{N}(\theta_t^j; \theta_{t-1}^i, C_{t-1})},$$



Determine ε

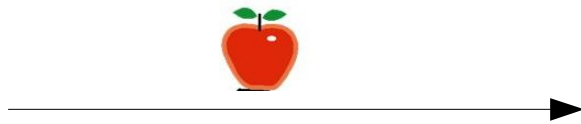


Further developments in ABC



Importance sampling: guiding draws

Draw $\{a_1, b_1\}$
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weighted
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Associate a weight
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$$W_t^j = \frac{p(\theta_t^j)}{\sum_{i=1}^N W_{t-1}^i \mathcal{N}(\theta_t^j; \theta_{t-1}^i, C_{t-1})},$$



Determine ε

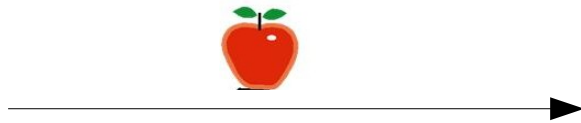


Further developments in ABC



Importance sampling: guiding draws

Draw $\{a_1, b_1\}$
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Determine ε



Further developments in ABC



Importance sampling: guiding draws

Draw $\{a_1, b_1\}$
from previous
weighted
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if $d < \epsilon$, store

$\{\Omega_{m1}, w_1\}$



Associate a weight
with each particle

$$W_t^j = \frac{p(\theta_t^j)}{\sum_{i=1}^N W_{t-1}^i \mathcal{N}(\theta_t^j; \theta_{t-1}^i, C_{t-1})}$$



Determine ϵ





Further developments in ABC



Importance sampling: guiding draws

Draw $\{a_1, b_1\}$
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Repeat until
there are N
particles stored

if $d < \epsilon$, store

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Associate a weight
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$$W_t^j = \frac{p(\theta_t^j)}{\sum_{i=1}^N W_{t-1}^i \mathcal{N}(\theta_t^j; \theta_{t-1}^i, C_{t-1})}$$



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Determine ϵ





Example

Fiducial model: $Y \sim \text{Gaussian}(\mu, \sigma)$

Priors: $-2.0 < \mu < 4.0$ and $0.1 < \sigma < 5.0$

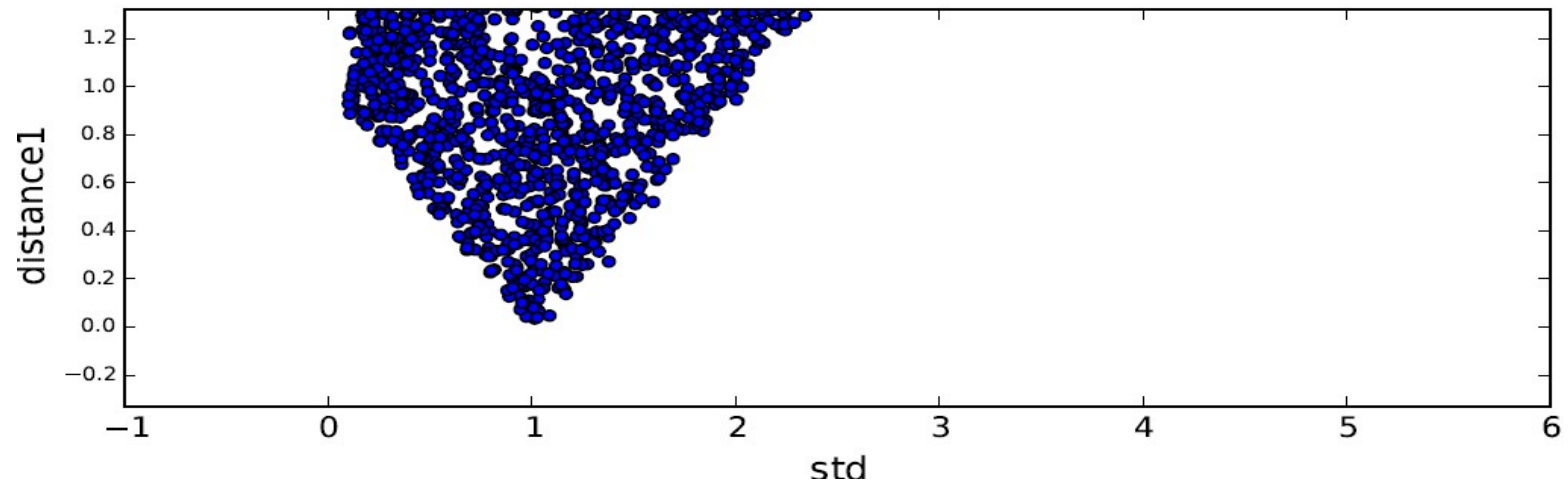
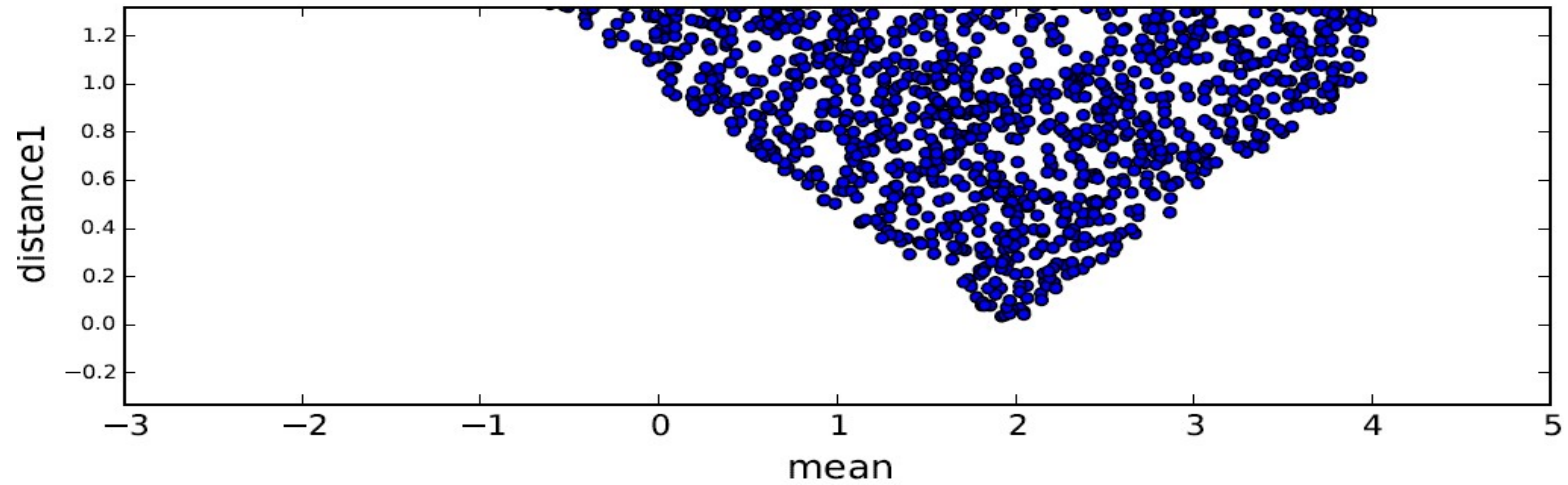
Distance: $\rho = \text{abs}\left(\frac{\bar{D} - \bar{D}_s}{\bar{D}}\right) + \text{abs}\left(\frac{\sigma_D - \sigma_{D_s}}{\sigma_D}\right)$



Y
11.2
15.3
200.0
0.5
14.3



Example: distance preview





Example: particle system evolution

<http://cosmoabc.readthedocs.org/en/latest/>

in Astronomy

2012

Cameron & Pettit

Mon. Not. R. Astron. Soc. **425**, 44–65 (2012)

Approximate Bayesian Computation for astronomical model analysis: a case study in galaxy demographics and morphological transformation at high redshift

E. Cameron[★] and A. N. Pettitt

School of Mathematical Sciences (Statistical Science), Queensland University of Technology (QUT), GPO Box 2434, Brisbane 4001, QLD, Australia

2012

2013

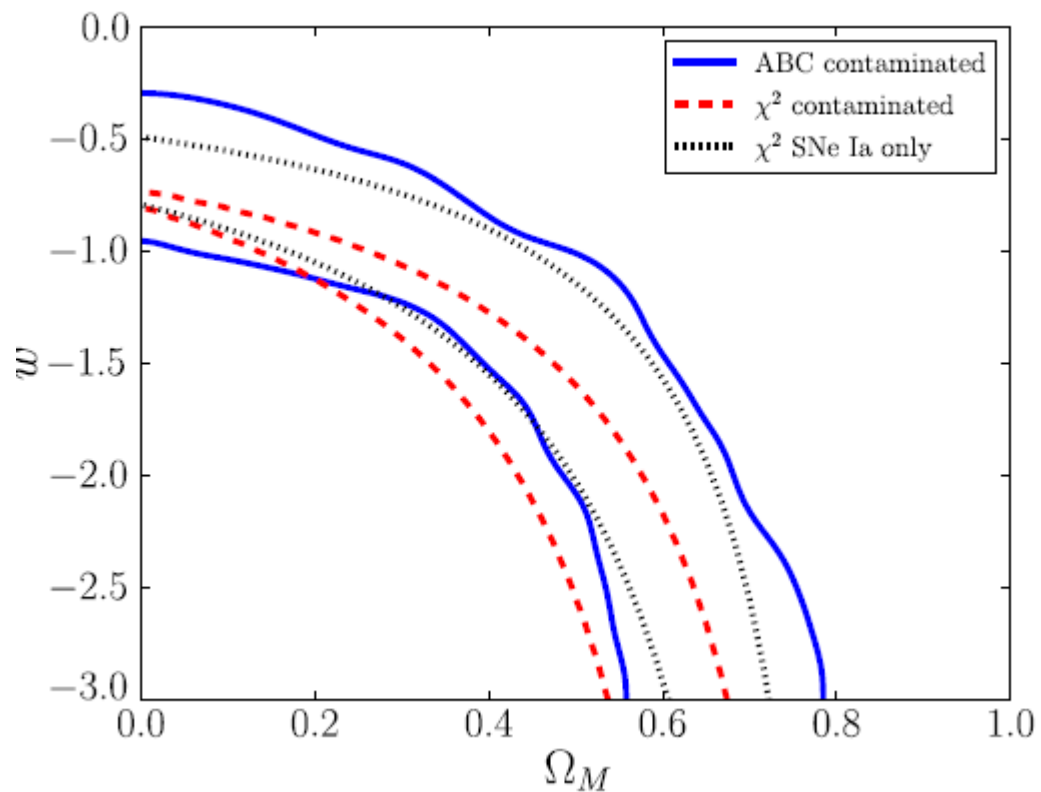
Cameron & Pettitt

Weyant et al.

THE ASTROPHYSICAL JOURNAL, 764:116 (15pp), 2013 February 20

LIKELIHOOD-FREE COSMOLOGICAL INFERENCE WITH TYPE Ia SUPERNOVAE: APPROXIMATE BAYESIAN COMPUTATION FOR A COMPLETE TREATMENT OF UNCERTAINTY

ANJA WEYANT¹, CHAD SCHAFER², AND W. MICHAEL WOOD-VASEY¹



2012

Cameron & Pettitt

2013

Weyant et al.

Feigelson & Babu

E.D. Feigelson and G.J. Babu (eds.), *Statistical Challenges in Modern Astronomy V*,
Lecture Notes in Statistics 209, DOI 10.1007/978-1-4614-3520-4_1,
© Springer Science+Business Media New York 2013

Chapter 1

Likelihood-Free Inference in Cosmology: Potential for the Estimation of Luminosity Functions

Chad M. Schafer and Peter E. Freeman

2012

Cameron & Pettitt

2013

Weyant et al.

Feigelson & Babu

2014

Robin et al.

A&A 569, A13 (2014)

Constraining the thick disc formation scenario of the Milky Way[★]

A. C. Robin¹, C. Reylé¹, J. Fliri^{2,3}, M. Czekaj⁴, C. P. Robert⁵, and A. M. M. Martins¹

2012

Cameron & Pettitt

2013

Weyant et al.

Feigelson & Babu

2014

Robin et al.

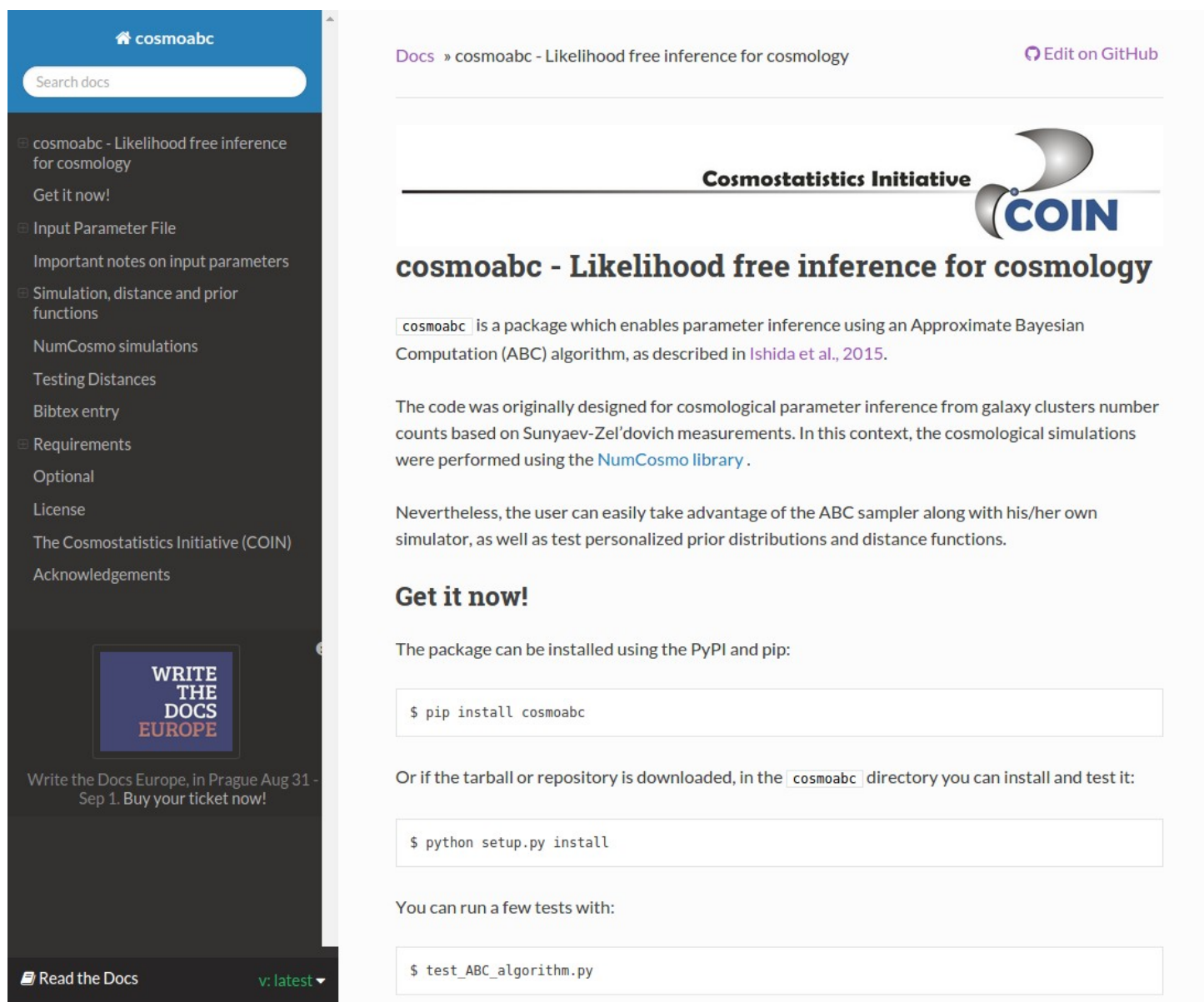
2015

Ishida et al.

arXiv:1504.06129v2


cosmoabc: Likelihood-free inference via Population Monte Carlo Approximate Bayesian Computation

E. E. O. Ishida¹, S. D. P. Vitenti², M. Penna-Lima^{3,4}, J. Cisewski⁵, R. S. de Souza⁶, A. M. M. Trindade^{7,8}
E. Cameron⁹ and V. C. Busti¹⁰, for the COIN collaboration



The screenshot shows the documentation page for cosmoabc. The sidebar on the left contains a search bar and a list of navigation links. The main content area features the Cosmostatistics Initiative logo, the title 'cosmoabc - Likelihood free inference for cosmology', and a description of the package. It also includes installation instructions and a 'Get it now!' section.

cosmoabc - Likelihood free inference for cosmology [Edit on GitHub](#)

Cosmostatistics Initiative 

cosmoabc - Likelihood free inference for cosmology

`cosmoabc` is a package which enables parameter inference using an Approximate Bayesian Computation (ABC) algorithm, as described in [Ishida et al., 2015](#).

The code was originally designed for cosmological parameter inference from galaxy clusters number counts based on Sunyaev-Zel'dovich measurements. In this context, the cosmological simulations were performed using the [NumCosmo library](#).

Nevertheless, the user can easily take advantage of the ABC sampler along with his/her own simulator, as well as test personalized prior distributions and distance functions.

Get it now!

The package can be installed using the PyPI and pip:

```
$ pip install cosmoabc
```

Or if the tarball or repository is downloaded, in the `cosmoabc` directory you can install and test it:

```
$ python setup.py install
```

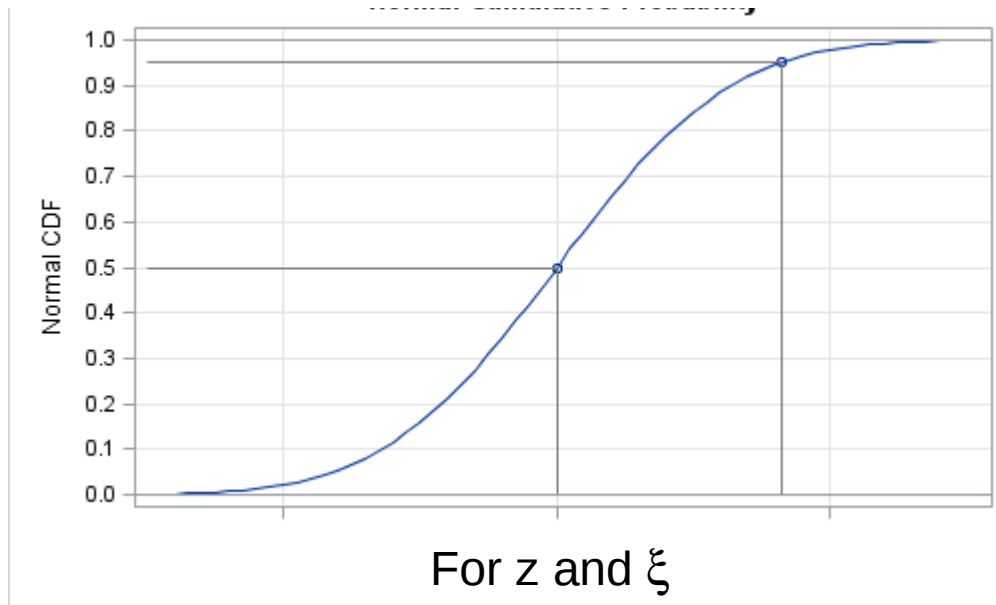
You can run a few tests with:

```
$ test_ABC_algorithm.py
```

WRITE THE DOCS EUROPE
Write the Docs Europe, in Prague Aug 31 - Sep 1. Buy your ticket now!

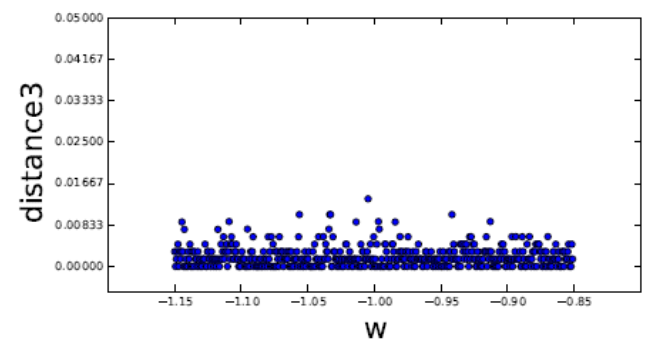
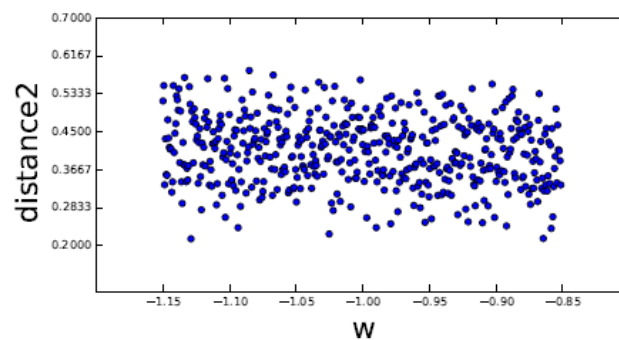
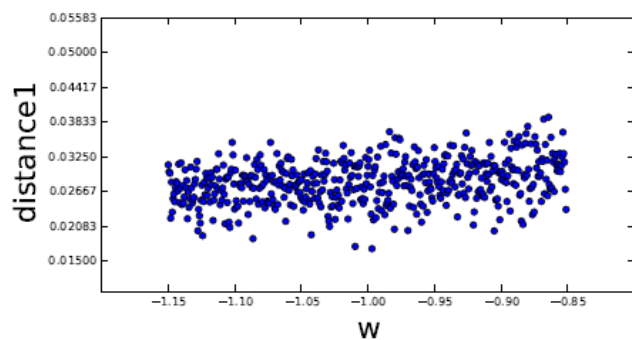
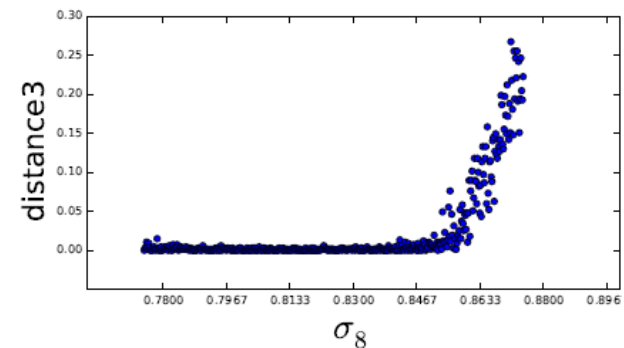
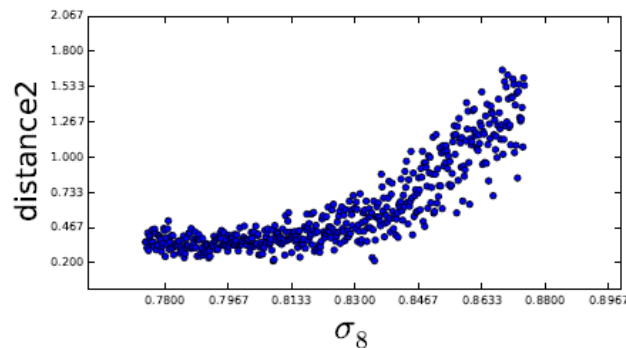
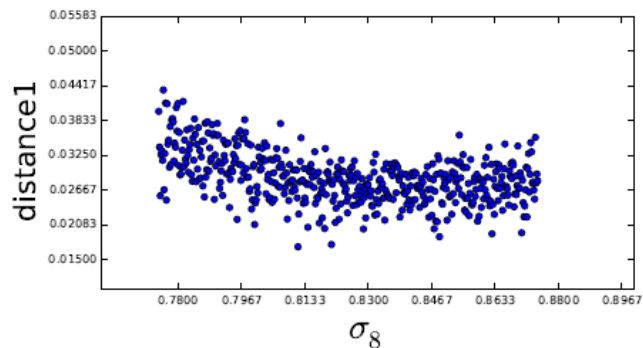
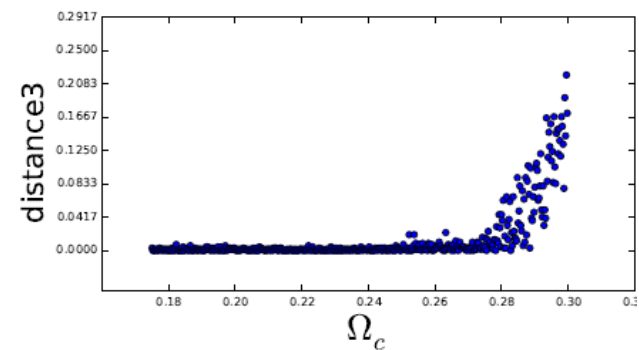
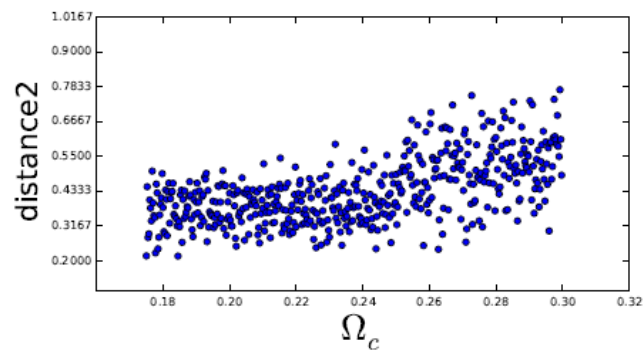
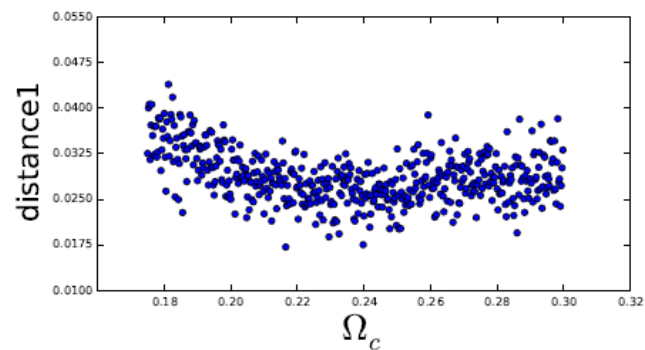
Read the Docs v: latest

Distance

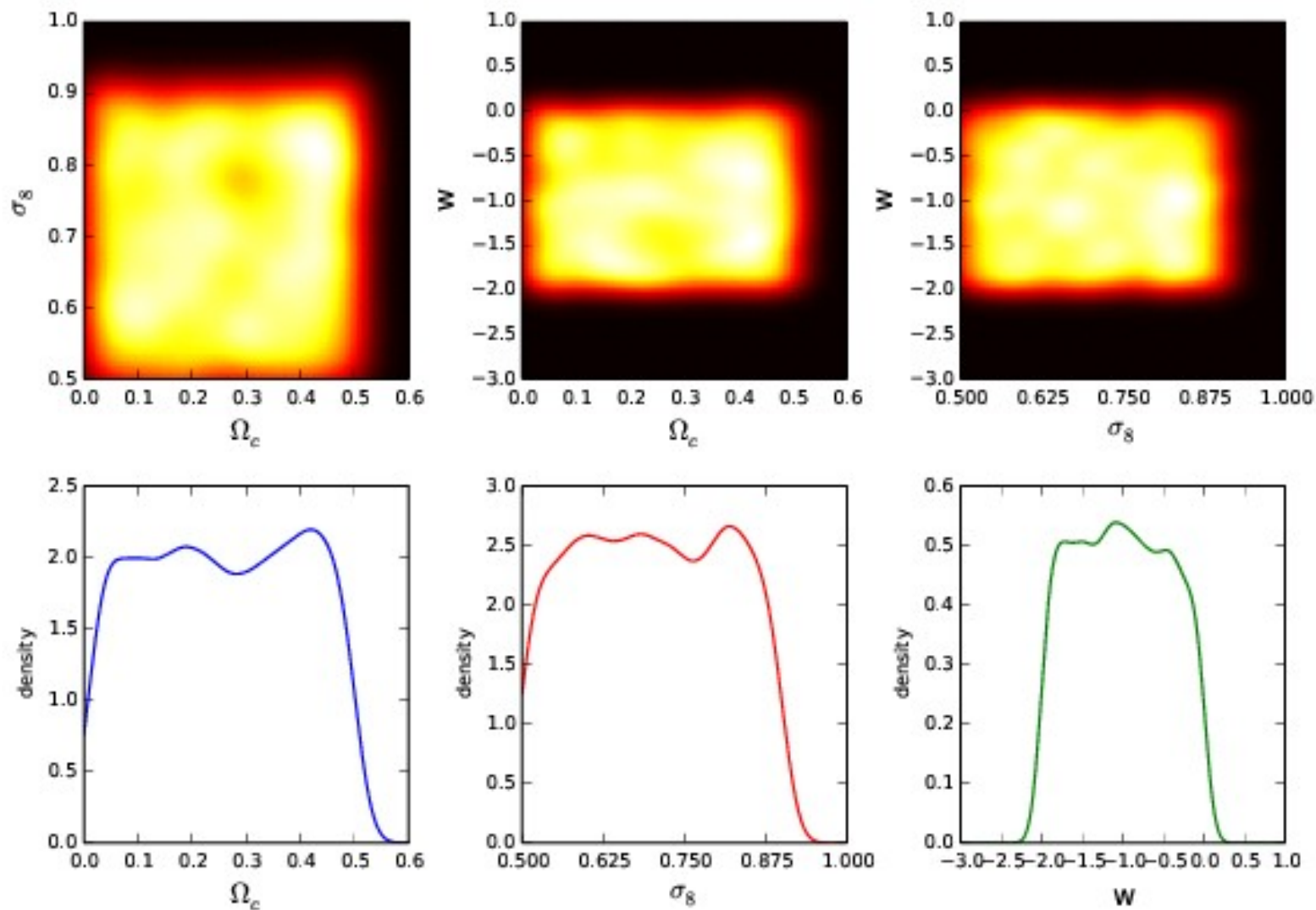


+ total number of objects

Distance



Priors



2012

Cameron & Pettitt

2013

Weyant et al.

Feigelson & Babu

2014

Robin et al.

2015

Ishida et al.

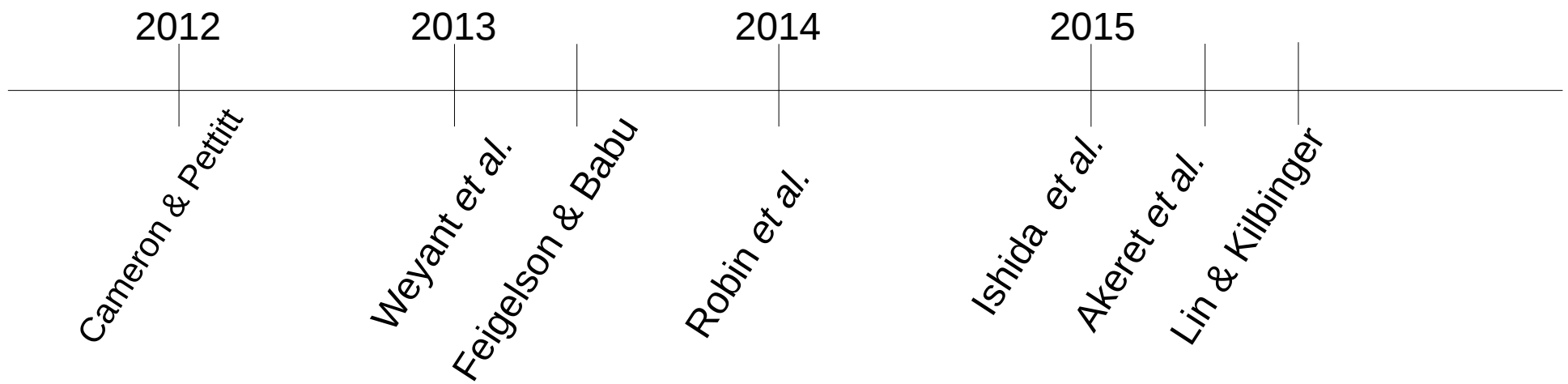
Akeret et al.

arXiv:1504.07245v2

Approximate Bayesian Computation for Forward Modeling in Cosmology

Joël Akeret^a Alexandre Refregier^a Adam Amara^a Sebastian
Seehars^a Caspar Hasner^a

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arXiv:1506.01076v1

A new model to predict weak-lensing peak counts

II. Parameter constraint strategies

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Summary



Summary

- ✓ Good alternative when likelihood is not available.
- ✓ Becomes more attractive with faster simulations.



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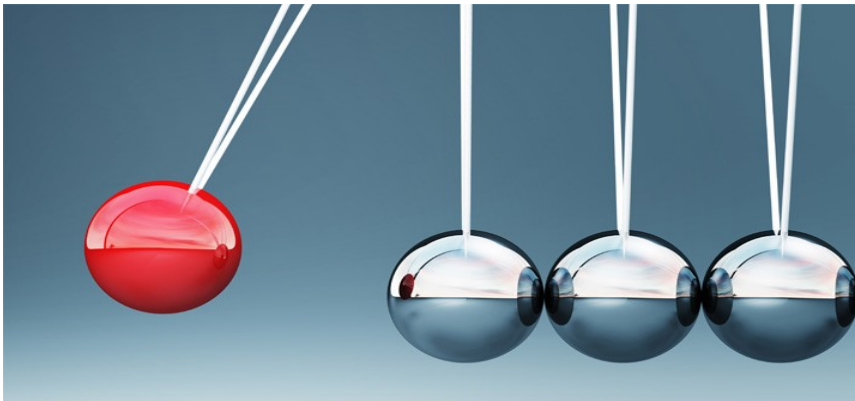
x Definition of distance function/summary statistics



Summary

- ✓ Good alternative when likelihood is not available.
- ✓ Becomes more attractive with faster simulations.

x Definition of distance function/summary statistics



Promising perspective
as it gains momentum
inside the astronomical
community!

Thank you!

Examples of ABC application

...The obvious class of problems is population studies that use population synthesis (i.e., simulating an astrophysical population). The earliest work I know of using ABC-like ideas is a thread of papers from the late 1990s/early 00s by Zaven Arzoumanian, David Chernoff, and Jim Cordes, using population synthesis (including Galactic orbital dynamics) to simulate the pulsar population in order to constrain the initial kick distribution. If you do an ADS search on Arzoumanian and Chernoff you'll find the string of papers. It culminated in this paper, which has had a big impact:

The Velocity Distribution of Isolated Radio Pulsars
<http://adsabs.harvard.edu/abs/2002ApJ...568..289A>

Tom Loredo, ASAIP Bayesian forum

Examples of ABC application

The hidden Potts model (used, e.g., in image segmentation Algorithms).

The model is easy to write down statistically in terms of a simple relationship between adjacent pixels, and it's easy to Gibbs sample from pixel-by-pixel at a fixed temperature (for which the normalization constant is unnecessary), BUT to perform inference of the temperature parameter too we need the proper likelihood which requires computation of the normalization constant (a sum over a huge combinatorial space) at each given temperature. When the image size is above $\sim 1000 \times 1000$ pixels we simply don't have the computational power to make this calculation multiple times (as for an MCMC algorithm) so we consider the likelihood Intractable.

See section 4 of <http://arxiv.org/pdf/1403.4359.pdf>

Ewan Cameron, private communication

Algorithm

cosmoabc

Data: $\mathcal{D} \rightarrow$ observed catalogue.

Result: ABC-posterior distributions over the model parameters.

$t \leftarrow 0$

$K \leftarrow M$

for $J = 1, \dots, M$ **do**

 Draw θ , from the prior, $p(\theta)$.

 Use θ to generate \mathcal{D}_S .

 Calculate distance, $\rho = \rho(\mathcal{D}_S, \mathcal{D})$.

 Store parameter and distance values,

$S_{\text{int}} \leftarrow \{\theta, \rho\}$

end

Sort elements in S_{int} by $|\rho|$.

Keep only the N parameter values with lower distance in S_{t-0} .

$C_{t-0} \leftarrow$ covariance matrix from S_{t-0}

for $L = 1, \dots, N$ **do**

$W_1^L \leftarrow 1/N$

end

while $N/K > \Delta$ **do**

$K \leftarrow 0$.

$t \leftarrow t + 1$.

$S_t \leftarrow []$

$\epsilon_t \leftarrow$ 75th-quantile of distances in S_{t-1} .

while $\text{len}(S_t) < N$ **do**

$K \leftarrow K + 1$

 Draw θ_0 from S_{t-1} with weights W_{t-1} .

 Draw θ , from $\mathcal{N}(\theta_0, C_{t-1})$.

 Use θ to generate \mathcal{D}_S .

 Calculate distance, $\rho = \rho(\mathcal{D}_S, \mathcal{D})$

if $\rho \leq \epsilon_t$ **then**

$S_t \leftarrow \{\theta, \rho, K\}$

$K \leftarrow 0$

end

end

for $J = 1, \dots, N$ **do**

$W_t^J \leftarrow$ equation (3).

end

$W_t \leftarrow$ normalized weights.

$C_t \leftarrow$ weighted covariance matrix from $\{S_t, W_t\}$.

end

$$W_t^j = \frac{p(\boldsymbol{\theta}_t^j)}{\sum_{i=1}^N W_{t-1}^i \mathcal{N}(\boldsymbol{\theta}_t^j; \boldsymbol{\theta}_{t-1}^i, C_{t-1})}, \quad (3)$$