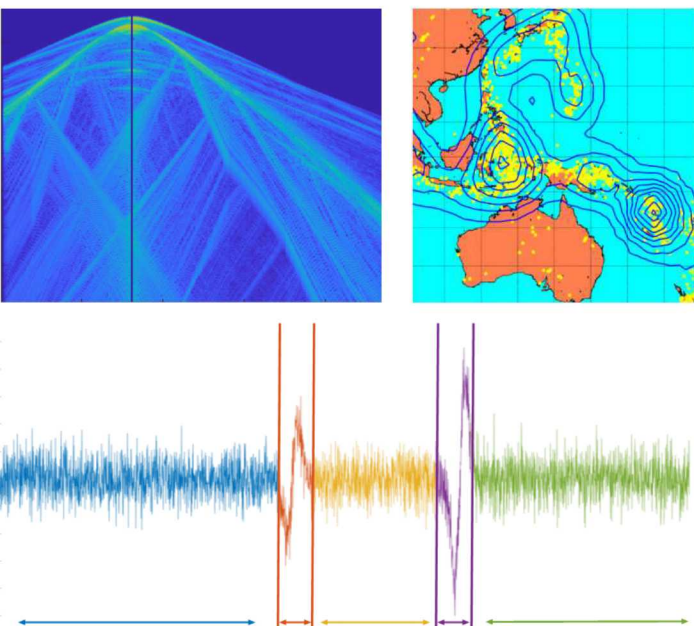


# Feature-Based Bayesian Inference for Seismic Event Monitoring

Thomas A. Catanach  
SSA Annual Meeting 2019



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- The Bayesian Perspective:
  - Probability distributions quantify uncertainty due to insufficient information
  - Bayesian methods for identification and estimation are critical to robust decision-making
- Target Contribution:
  - Take a Bayesian approach to waveform processing to detect and identify seismic events while integrating various sources of uncertainty to quantify confidence while identifying weak signals
  - Use a unique statistical framework and novel computational methods to make waveform-based Bayesian inference tractable
- General Approach:
  - Formulate an inference problem based upon predicting waveform features instead of the waveforms themselves
  - Simulate waveforms to build a statistical model of waveform features along with sources of feature uncertainty
  - Use Sequential Tempered Markov Chain Monte Carlo to efficiently identify events

# Talk Outline

1. Overview of Bayesian Inference and MCMC
2. Formulation of Seismic Monitoring as a Bayesian Inference Problem
3. Feature-Based Bayesian Inference
4. Building the Feature-Based Inference Workflow
5. Example with synthetic data
6. Future work and Conclusion

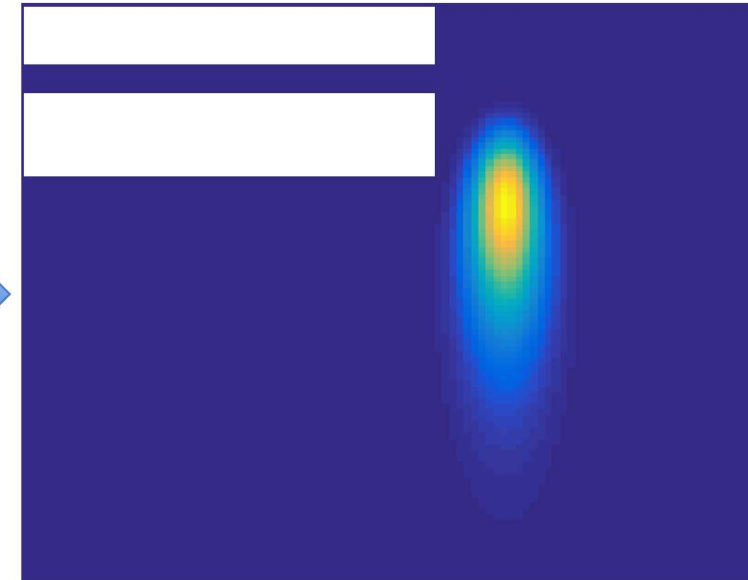
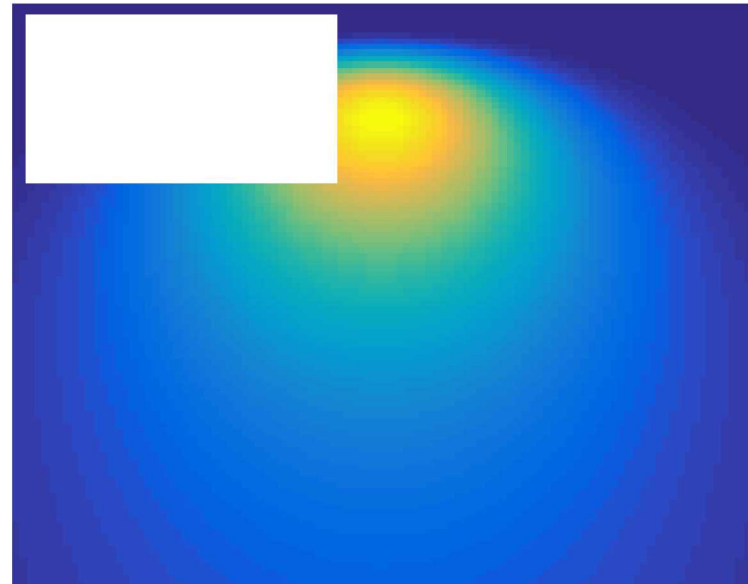
# **BAYESIAN INFERENCE AND MARKOV CHAIN MONTE CARLO**

# The Bayesian Inference Problem

Observations:  $\mathcal{D}$

Bayes' Theorem

$$p(\theta \mid \mathcal{D}, \mathcal{M}) = \frac{p(\mathcal{D} \mid \theta, \mathcal{M}) p(\theta \mid \mathcal{M})}{p(\mathcal{D} \mid \mathcal{M})}$$



# The Bayesian Inference Problem

Observations:  $\mathcal{D}$

Bayes' Theorem

$$p(\theta \mid \mathcal{D}, \mathcal{M}) = \frac{p(\mathcal{D} \mid \theta, \mathcal{M}) p(\theta \mid \mathcal{M})}{p(\mathcal{D} \mid \mathcal{M})}$$

$$p(\mathcal{D} \mid \mathcal{M}) = \underbrace{\int p(\mathcal{D} \mid \theta, \mathcal{M}) p(\theta \mid \mathcal{M}) d\theta}_{\text{Intractable}}$$

# The Bayesian Inference Problem

Observations:  $\mathcal{D}$

Bayes' Theorem

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

Posterior Estimation:

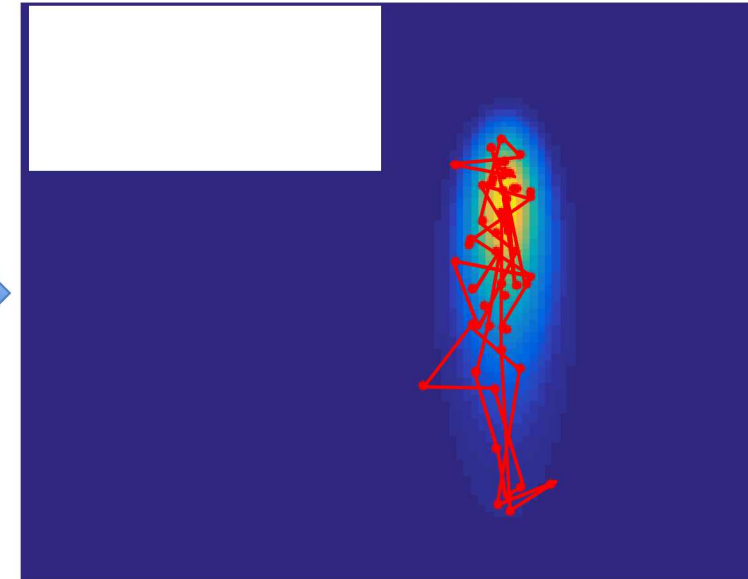
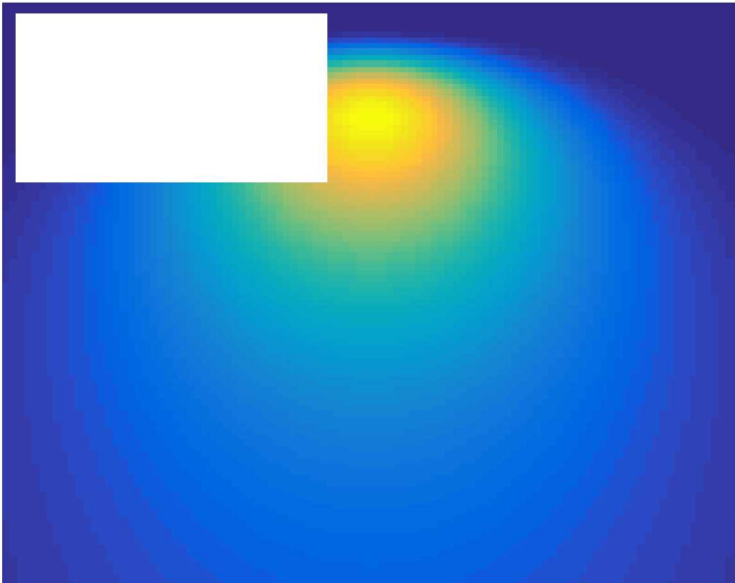
$$\mathbb{E}[g(\theta) | \mathcal{D}, \mathcal{M}] = \int g(\theta) p(\theta | \mathcal{D}, \mathcal{M}) d\theta \approx \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N g(\theta_i)$$

# The Bayesian Inference Problem

Observations:  $\mathcal{D}$

Bayes' Theorem

$$p(\theta \mid \mathcal{D}, \mathcal{M}) = \frac{p(\mathcal{D} \mid \theta, \mathcal{M}) p(\theta \mid \mathcal{M})}{p(\mathcal{D} \mid \mathcal{M})}$$



Exploration of the space  
by proposal distribution

+

Accept/Reject  
correction

=

Metropolis-Hastings  
MCMC

# The Bayesian Inference Problem

Observations:  $\mathcal{D}$

Bayes' Theorem

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

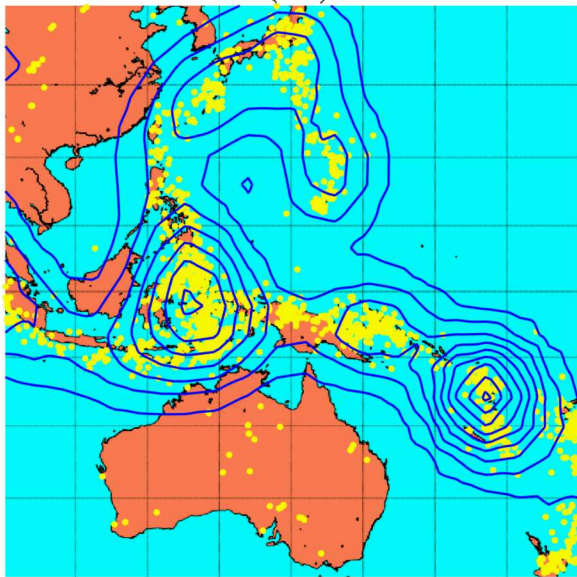
Posterior Estimation:  $\mathbb{E}[g(\theta) | \mathcal{D}, \mathcal{M}] = \int g(\theta) p(\theta | \mathcal{D}, \mathcal{M}) d\theta \approx \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N g(\theta_i)$

Effective Number of Samples:  $ESS[g(\theta_{1:N})] = \frac{\text{var}[g(\theta)]}{\text{var}\left[\frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N g(\theta_i)\right]}$

# **BAYESIAN INFERENCE FOR SEISMIC EVENT LOCALIZATION**

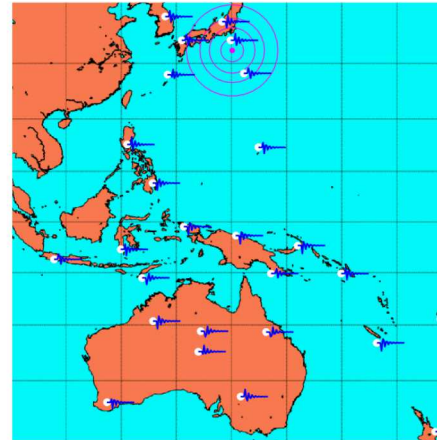
# The Bayesian Framework

Prior:  $p(\theta)$



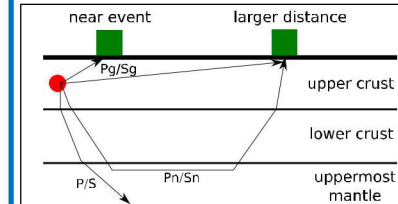
Knowledge about where events are likely to occur

Data:  $\mathcal{D}$



Likelihood:  $p(\mathcal{D} | \theta)$

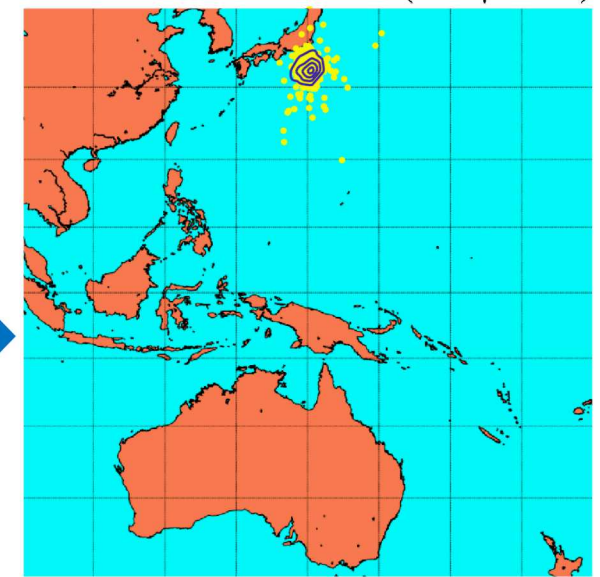
Physics Model  
Sensor Model  
Uncertainty Model



Bayes' Theorem:

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

Posterior:  $p(\theta | \mathcal{D})$



Updated knowledge about where a specific event occurred

## Detection-Based

- Description
  - Each station pre-processes their observed waveforms to extract arrival “picks”
  - The likelihood of an event (or events) is based upon how well the observed arrival times correspond to arrivals from seismic waves generated by the event hypothesis
  - Arrival time and detection uncertainty can be integrated into the model
- Examples: BayesLoc<sup>1</sup>, NET-VISA<sup>2</sup>
- Advantages
  - Requires only a model of travel-time and not the waveform
- Disadvantages
  - Events that produce weak signals below the pick threshold cannot be detected, even when many sensors are combined

<sup>1</sup>Myers, S. C., Gardar Johannesson, and Robert J. Mellors. “BayesLoc: A robust location program for multiple seismic events given an imperfect earth model and error-corrupted seismic data” (2011)

<sup>2</sup>Arora, Nimar S., Stuart Russell, and Erik Sudderth. “NET-VISA: Network processing vertically integrated seismic analysis” (2013)

## Signal-Based

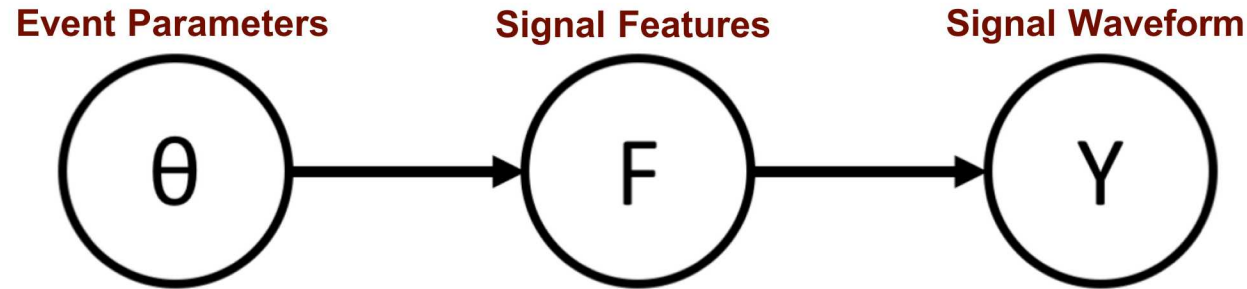
- Description
  - The likelihood of a candidate event (or events) is based upon comparing predicted waveforms given the event hypothesis, noise process, and other modeled uncertainty to the observed waveforms
- Example: SIG-VISA<sup>3</sup>
- Advantages
  - Can integrate many sensors to detect low magnitude signals
  - Waveform characteristics can contain useful information for event identification
- Disadvantages
  - Requires learning and evaluating a generative model of the full waveform to compute the likelihood of the observed signal

<sup>3</sup>Moore, David A., and Stuart J. Russell. "Signal-based Bayesian seismic monitoring" (2017)

# FEATURE-BASED INFERENCE

# Defining feature-based inference

## Graphical Model:



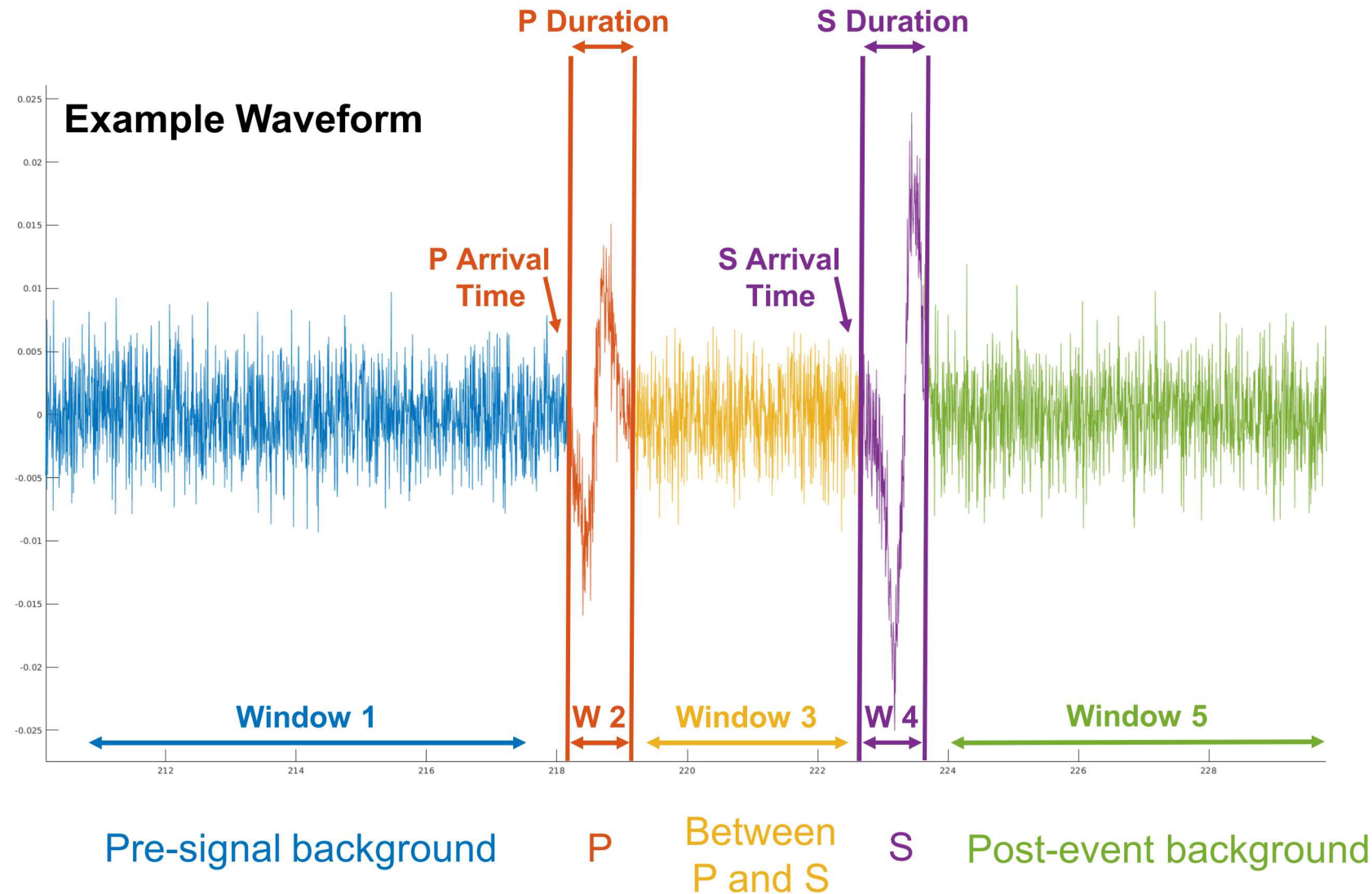
## Bayesian Inference:

- Feature-based inference requires building statistical models for the likelihood of a signal given certain features and the likelihood of those features given an hypothesized event parameterization

$$\underbrace{p(\theta | Y)}_{\text{Posterior}} = \frac{\overbrace{p(Y | \theta)}^{\text{Likelihood}} \overbrace{p(\theta)}^{\text{Prior}}}{\underbrace{p(Y)}_{\text{Evidence}}} = \left( \underbrace{\int \overbrace{p(Y | F)}^{\text{Signal Likelihood}} \overbrace{p(F | \theta)}^{\text{Feature Likelihood}} dF}_{\text{Marginalize over features}} \right) \frac{p(\theta)}{p(Y)}$$

# Feature Based Inference for Seismic Monitoring

- Waveform Features
  - P and S arrival time
  - Waveform feature within window e.g. total signal power
- P and S arrival times and uncertainty can be found using models like AK135
- We can build a statistical model for the signal power using simulations and background models



# Waveform Likelihood based on arrivals and signal power feature

## Bayesian Inference:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{Posterior} \quad p(\theta | Y) &\propto \text{Prior} \quad p(\theta) \int \text{Features: P and S Arrivals and Window Powers} \quad p(Y | t_p, t_s, P_{1:5}) p(t_p, t_s, P_{1:5} | \theta) dt_p dt_s dP_{1:5} \\
 &= p(\theta) \int \underbrace{p(Y_{1:5} | t_p, t_s, P_{1:5})}_{\text{Uniform}} \underbrace{p(P_{1:5} | t_p, t_s, \theta)}_{\text{Simulations and Background process}} \underbrace{p(t_p, t_s | \theta)}_{\text{Travel time model}} dt_p dt_s dP_{1:5}
 \end{aligned}$$

Assuming conditional independence:

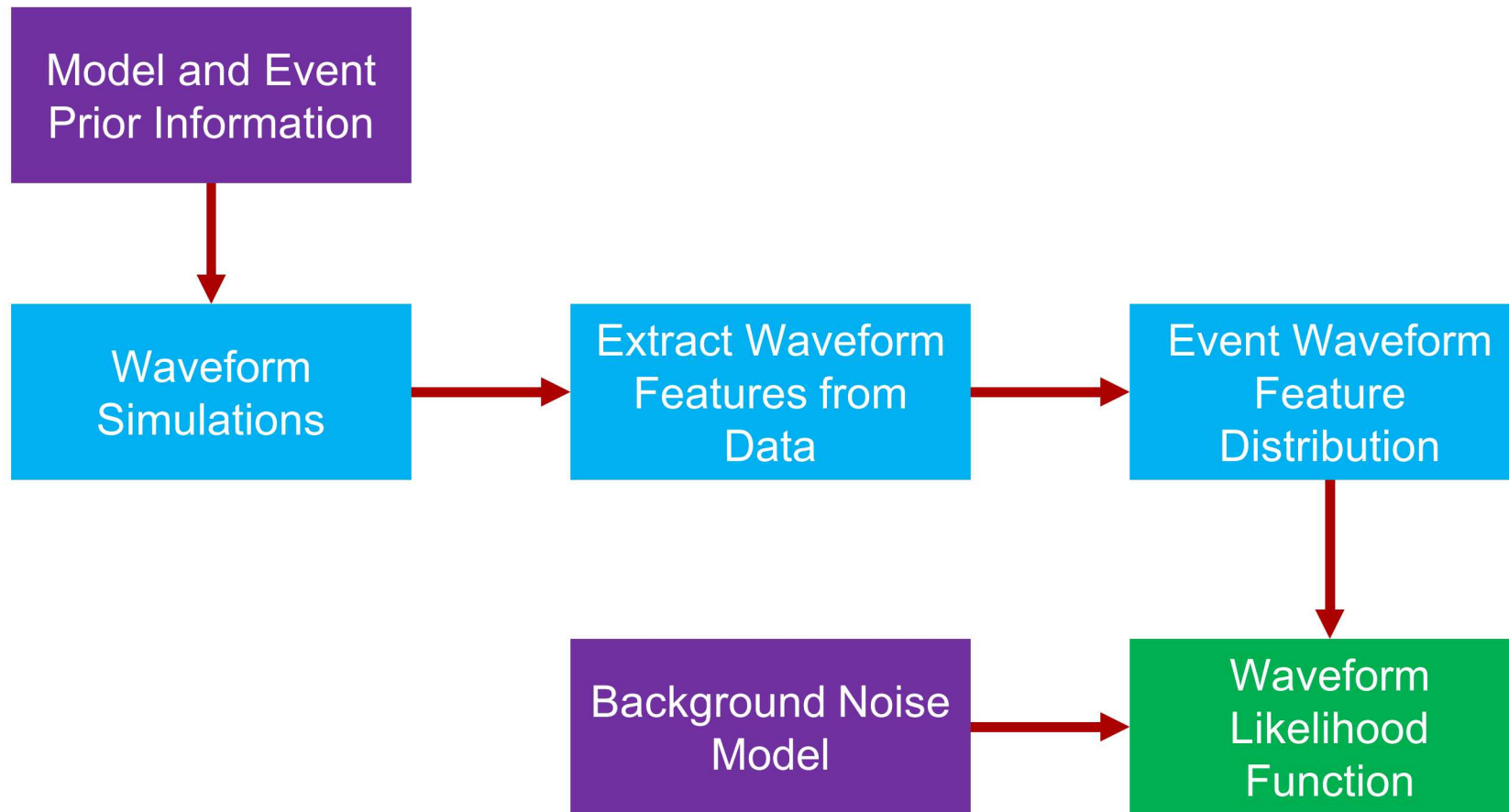
$$p(Y_{1:5} | t_p, t_s, P_{1:5}) = \prod_{i=1}^5 p(Y_i | t_p, t_s, P_i)$$

Uniform waveform distribution conditioned on features:

$$p(Y | t_p, t_s, P) = \frac{1}{\underbrace{\int \delta(Y^T Y - P) p(Y) dY}_{\text{Quantifies the size of the signal space with given features}}} \propto \frac{\Gamma(\frac{n}{2})}{\pi^{\frac{n}{2}} P^{\frac{n}{2}-1}}$$

# **BUILDING FEATURE-BASED WORKFLOW**

# Data driven workflow



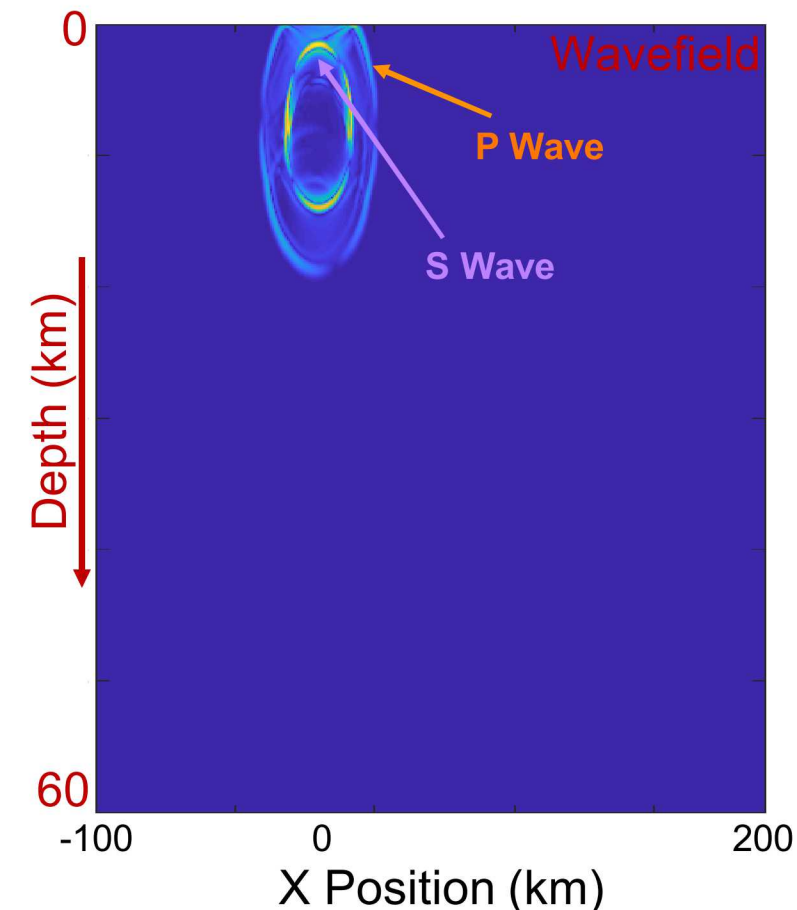
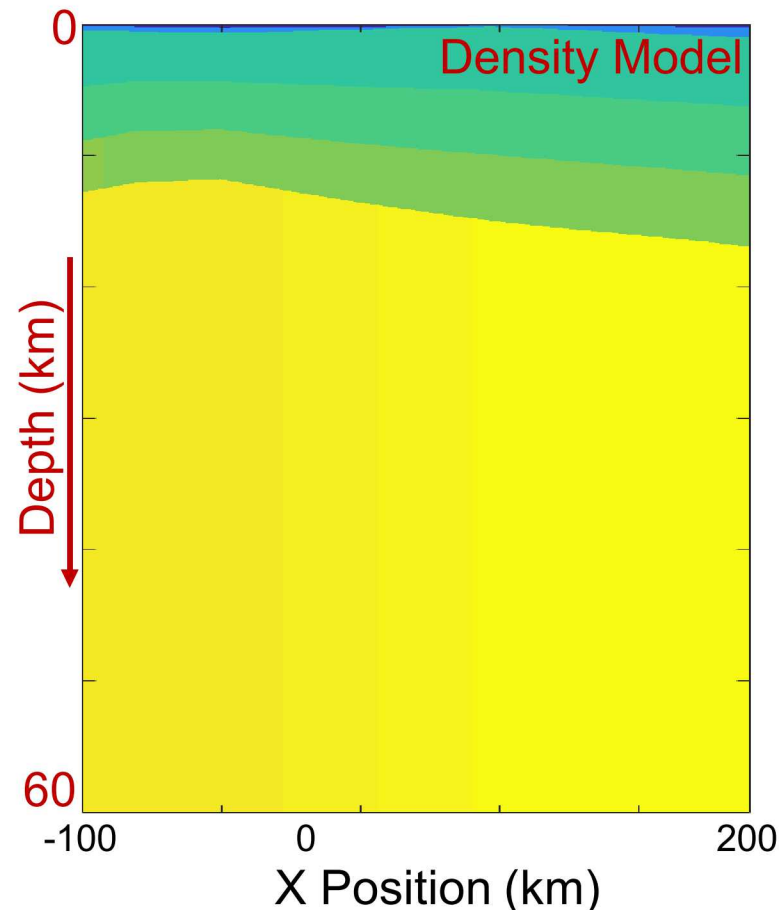
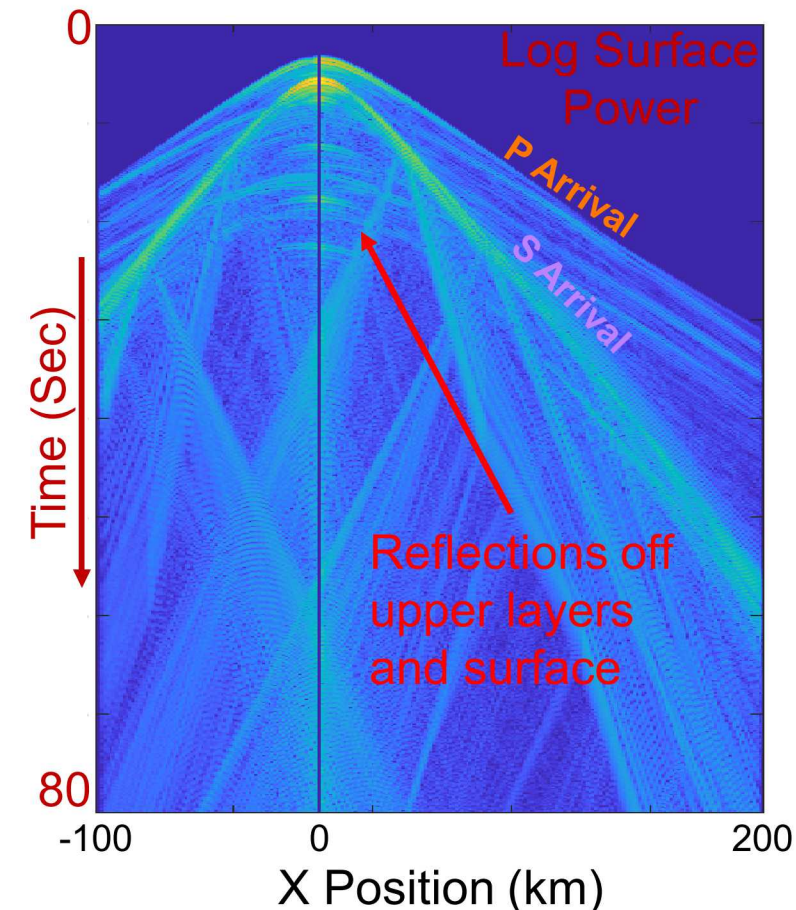
# Bayesian Inference Problem

- Parameters
  - Event Parameters: Latitude, Longitude, Depth, Magnitude, Origin Time
  - Uncertainty Parameters: Travel time uncertainty
- Feature Model
  - AK135 for mean travel time and approximate travel time uncertainty
  - Waveform Simulations build signal power distribution as a function of distance from the source and marginalize over sources of uncertainty like focal mechanism.
- Background Noise Process
  - Assume a process modeled as a stationary Gaussian process within each window with known covariance
  - Independent of the event signal

# Building Feature Model

## Simulation Environment

- 2D waveform simulations<sup>4</sup> on 300 km x 60 km domain from Crust 1.0 cross-sections of Utah
- Simulated 1k events at 10 sensors with uniformly distributed event and focal mechanism parameters



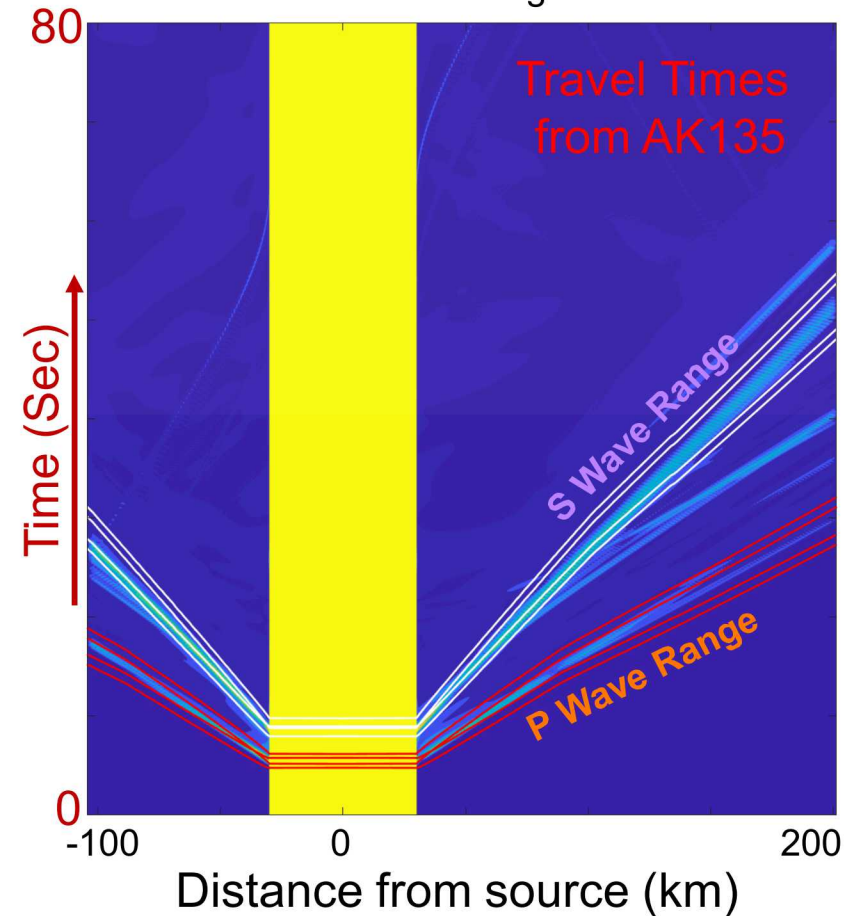
<sup>4</sup>Li, Dunzhu, et al. "Global synthetic seismograms using a 2-D finite-difference method." (2014)

# Building Features: Extracting Waveform Features and KDE Model

- P and S travel times, uncertainty, and assumed duration define possible window arrangements
- The window arrangement which contains the maximum event power is used to build the KDE

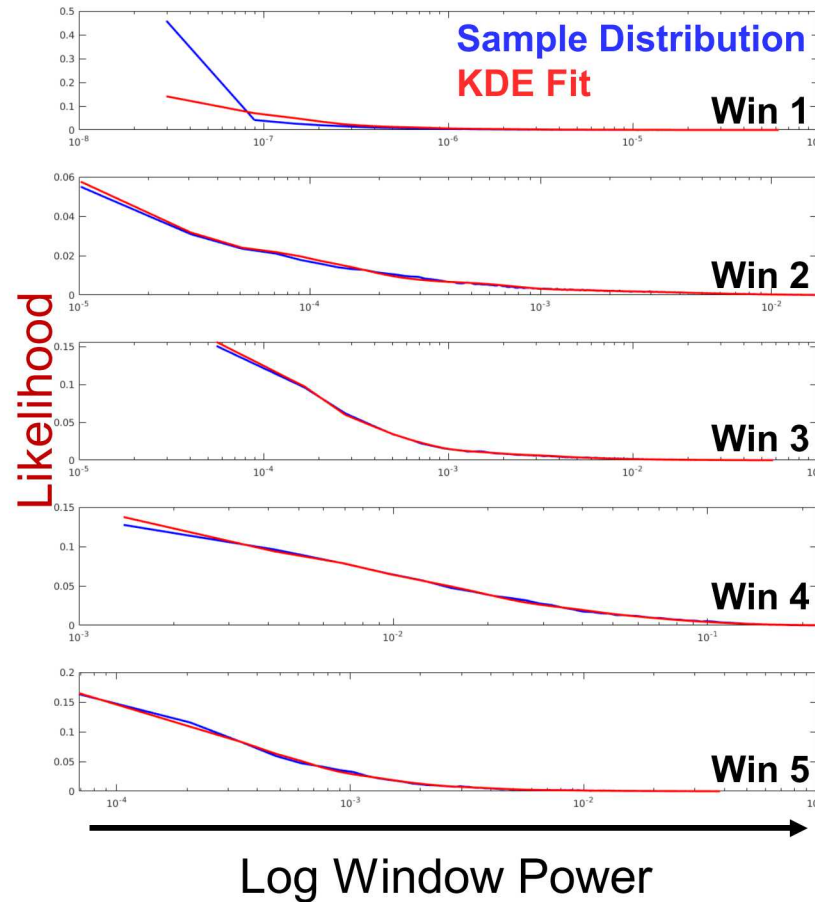
## Extracting Waveform Power

Simulated Signal



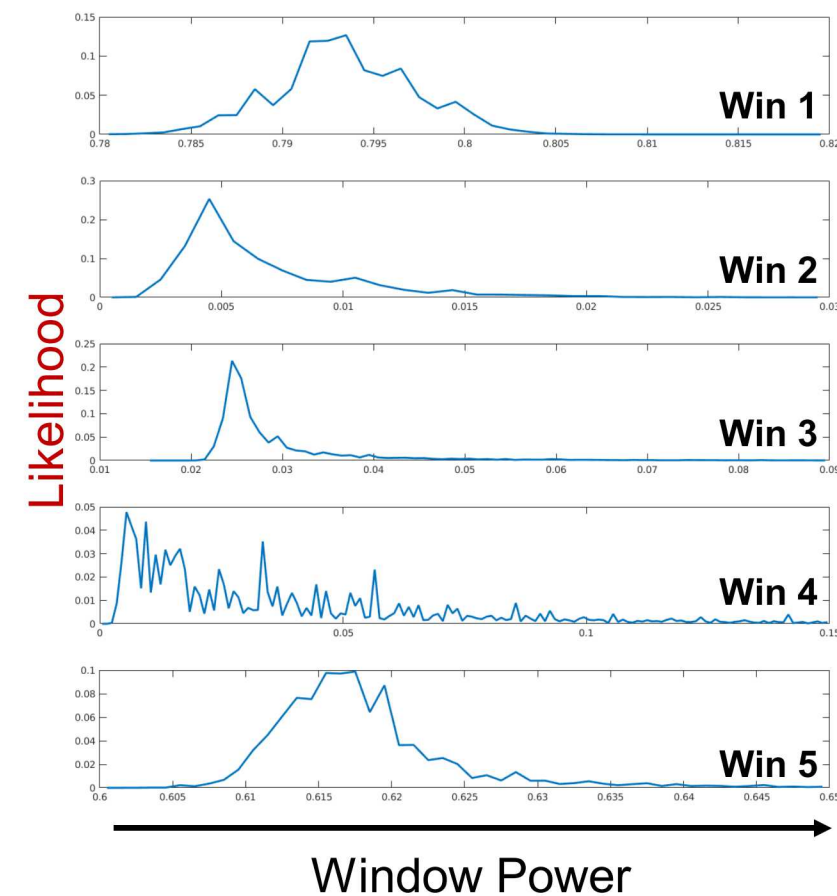
## Distribution of Window Power

Simulated Signal



## Distribution of Window Power

Background Distribution Added and Scaled

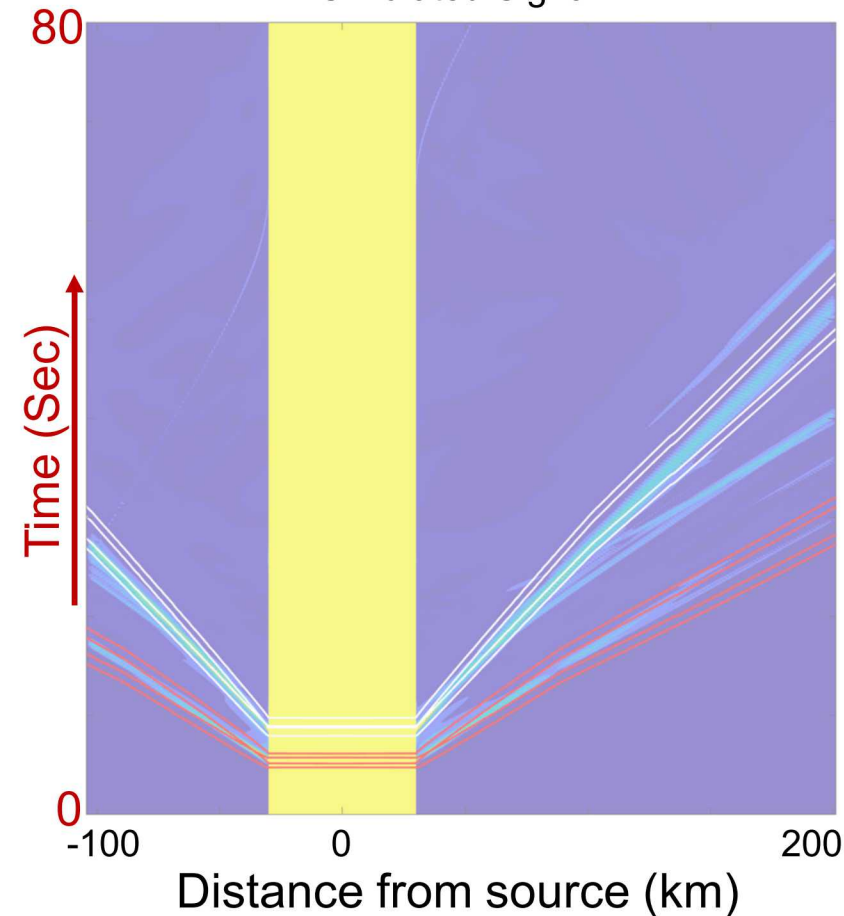


# Building Features: Extracting Waveform Features and KDE Model

- The event magnitude and background process change the distribution of window power. Assuming a Gaussian background process, this can be modeled as shifting and scaling the KDE kernels.

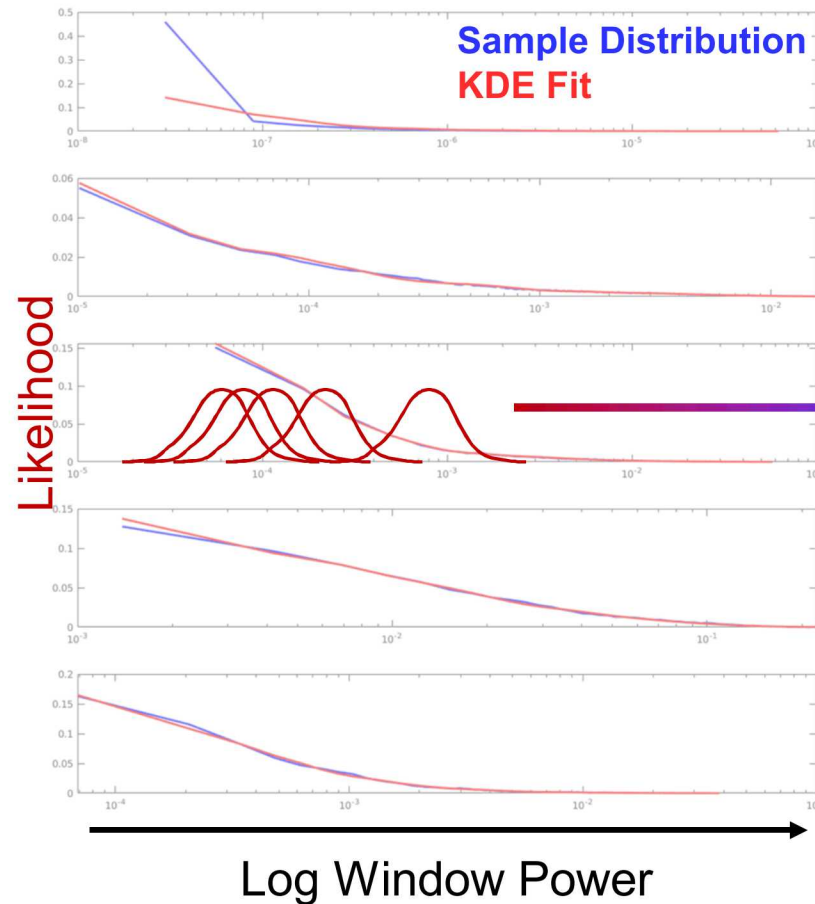
## Extracting Waveform Power

Simulated Signal



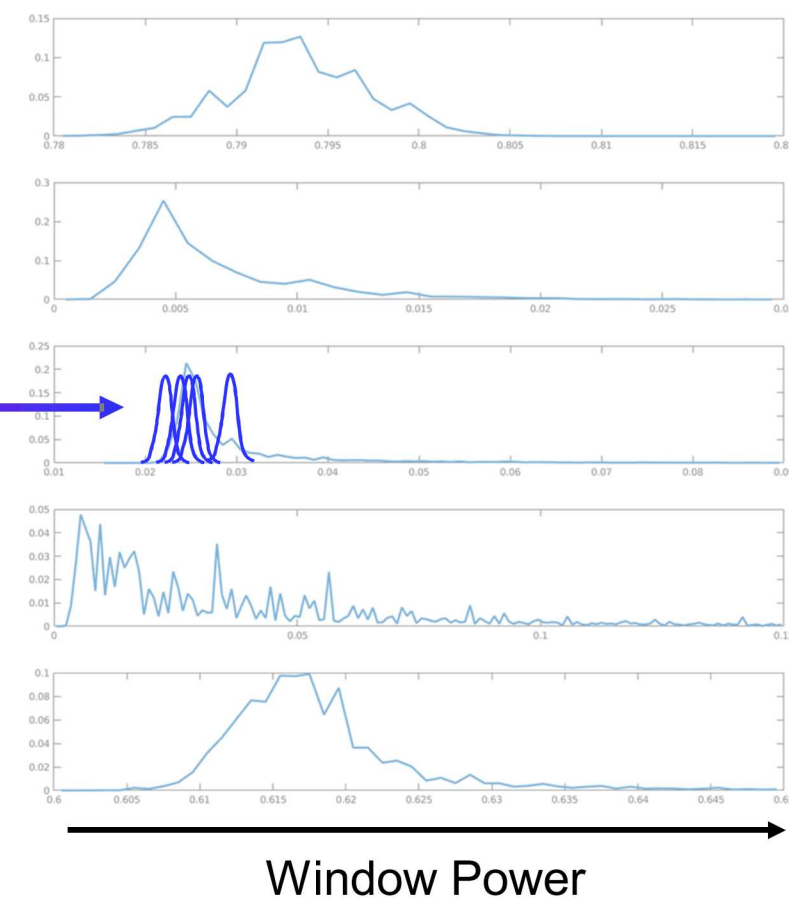
## Distribution of Window Power

Simulated Signal



## Distribution of Window Power

Background Distribution Added and Scaled



- Sequential Tempered MCMC<sup>5,6</sup>
  - Combines Annealing, Importance Sampling, and MCMC into a single algorithm to efficiently sample the posterior
  - Enables parallel sampling to utilize HPC and model evidence estimates for event detection
  - The annealing schedule can be tuned to avoid poorly identified posterior distribution when only a limited number of sensors influence the likelihood
  
- Pseudo-Marginal MCMC<sup>7</sup>
  - Enables better uncertainty quantification by using unbiased estimate of the likelihood while still maintaining the posterior distribution.
  - Therefore we can more marginalize over sources of uncertainty e.g. travel time uncertainty.
  - Adaptive methods can be integrated into ST-MCMC to better importance sample the travel time distributions and determine how many trials are needed to get a reasonable likelihood estimate.

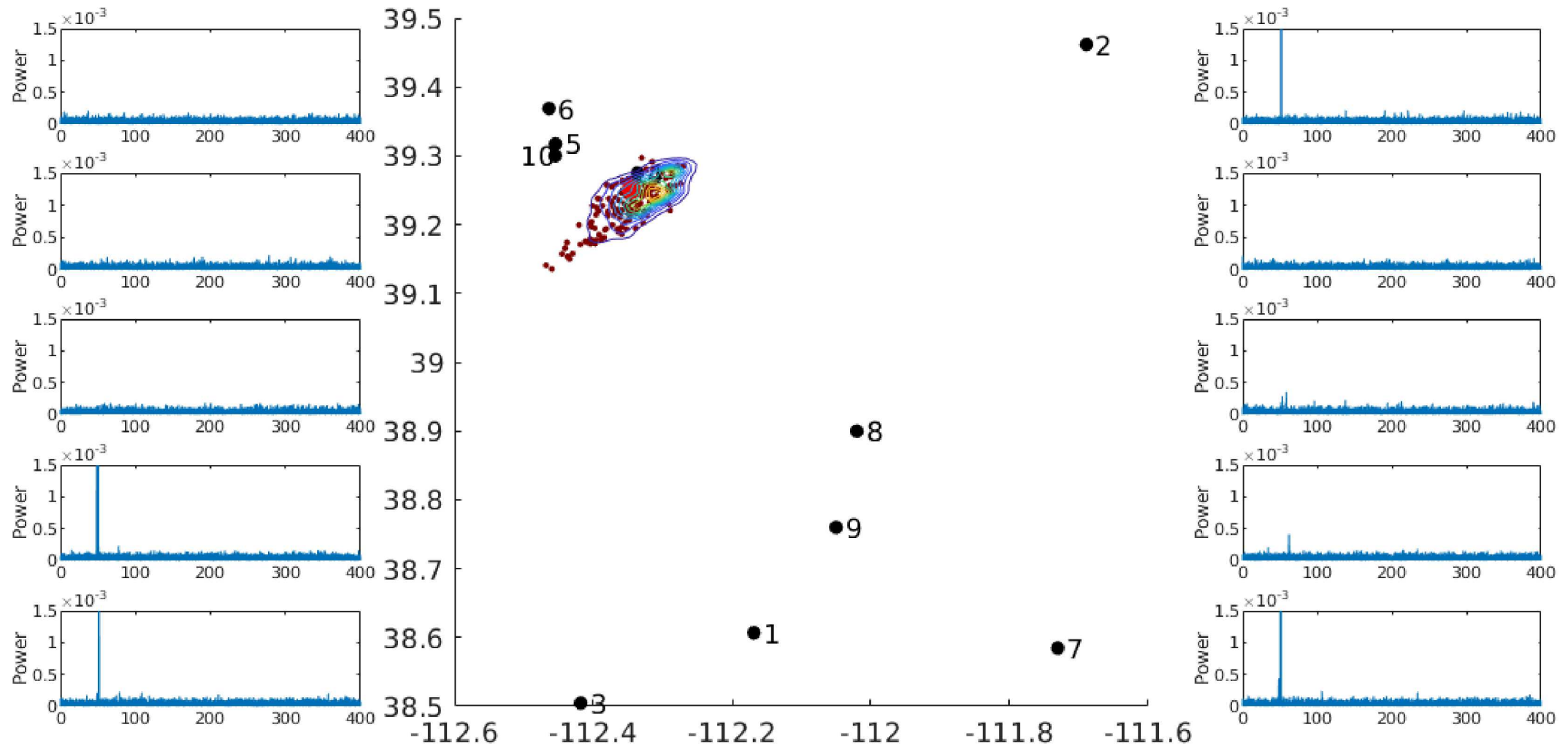
<sup>5</sup>Catanach, T A., and J. L. Beck "Bayesian updating and uncertainty quantification using sequential tempered MCMC with the rank-one modified metropolis algorithm" (2018)

<sup>6</sup>Minson, S. E., M. Simons, and J. L. Beck "Bayesian inversion for finite fault earthquake source models I—Theory and algorithm" (2013)

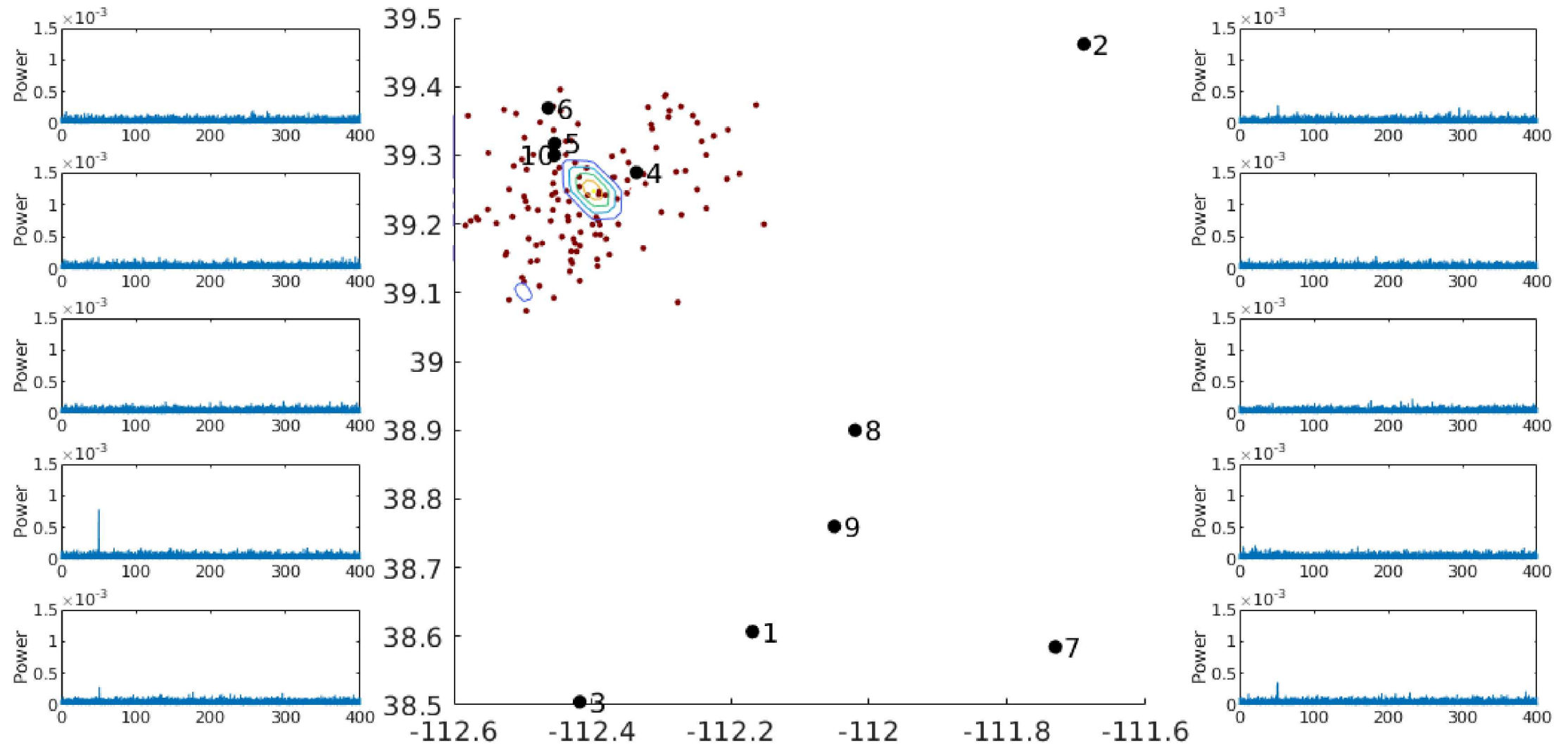
<sup>7</sup>Andrieu, Christophe, and Gareth O. Roberts "The pseudo-marginal approach for efficient Monte Carlo computations" (2009)

# SYNTHETIC EXAMPLE

# Example 1: Well identified strong signal



## Example 2: Weak signal with more variance



# **FUTURE WORK AND CONCLUSION**

- Application and Validation
  - Multiple events and event model selection
  - Compare with Detection-Based and Signal-Based methods
- Better Uncertainty Quantification
  - Integrate complex description of the background noise process
  - Spatial correlation between sensors for more complex arrival time and power uncertainty models
- Richer Features
  - Integrate directional features
  - Preprocess signals to make extracting meaningful features easier such as performing STA/LTA

# Conclusion

- Bayesian inference provides a natural way to express and propagate uncertainty for seismic monitoring and decision-making
- Feature-based inference provides a promising approach to signal-based full waveform monitoring that reduces the complexity of the statistical problem
- Advanced MCMC techniques can be employed to reduce the computational burden of the Bayesian inference problem and allow for the explicit integration of uncertainty

# BACKUP SLIDES

# Sequential Tempered MCMC

- ST-MCMC methods combine:
  - 1) **Annealing**: Introduce intermediate distributions
  - 2) **MCMC**: Explore the intermediate distributions
  - 3) **Importance Resampling**: Discard unlikely chains and multiply likely chains while maintaining the distribution
- Examples: SMC<sup>1</sup>, Subset Simulation<sup>2</sup>, TMCMC<sup>3</sup>, ATar/Catmip<sup>4</sup>, AIMS<sup>5</sup>, and AMSSA<sup>6</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Del Moral et al 2006

<sup>2</sup> S.K. Au and J.L. Beck 2001

<sup>3</sup> J. Ching and Y. C. Chen 2007

<sup>4</sup> J.L. Beck and K.M. Zuev 2013

<sup>5</sup> S.E Minson, M. Simons, J.L. Beck 2013

<sup>6</sup> E. Prudencio and S.H. Cheung 2012

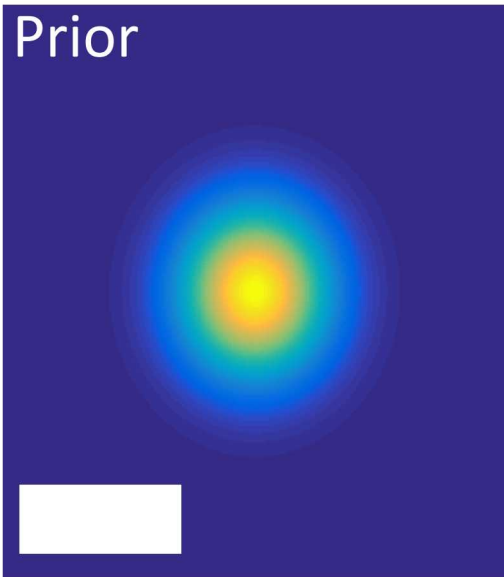
$\beta$  defines how much the data updates the intermediate distribution:

$$\pi_i(\theta) \propto p(\mathcal{D} \mid \theta, \mathcal{M})^{\beta_i} p(\theta \mid \mathcal{M}) \quad \beta_i \in [0, 1]$$

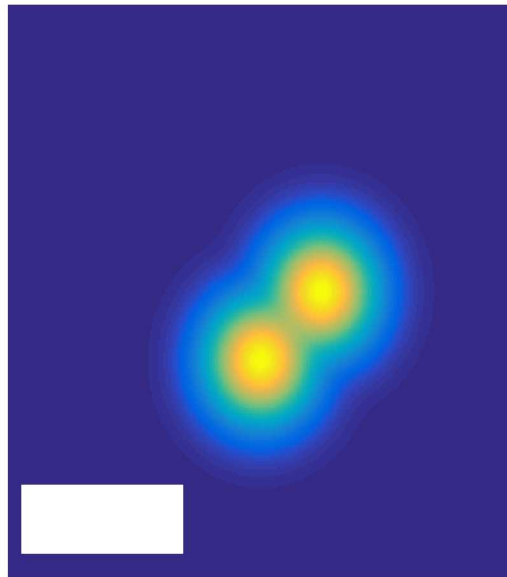
## Intermediate distributions at different $\beta$ levels

Level 0:  $\beta_0 = 0$

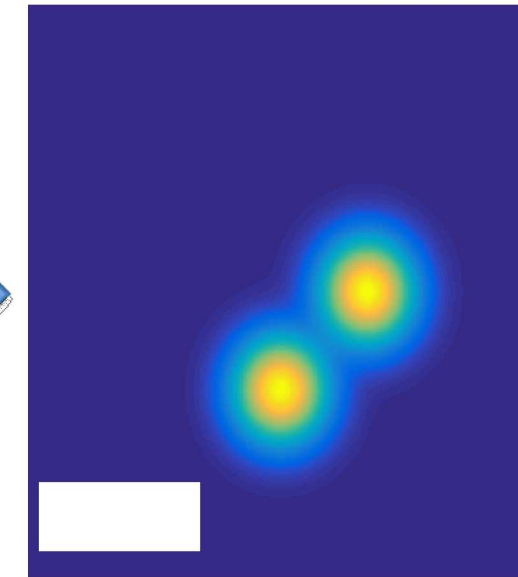
Prior



Level 1:  $\beta_1 = \beta_0 + \Delta\beta_1$



Level 2:  $\beta_2 = \beta_1 + \Delta\beta_2$



Level n:  $\beta_n = 1$

Posterior



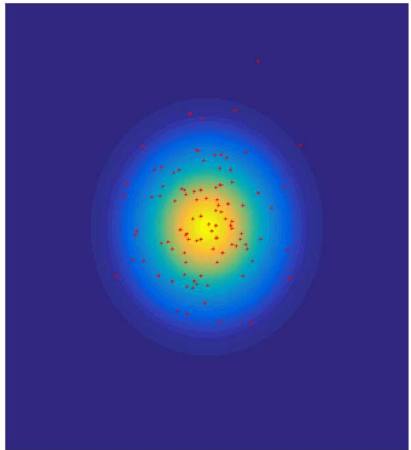
# Annealing: Finding $\Delta\beta$

Find  $\Delta\beta$  such that the **coefficient of variation** ( $\kappa$ ) of the sample weights is 1

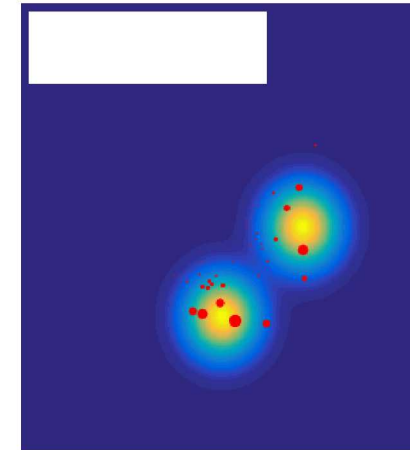
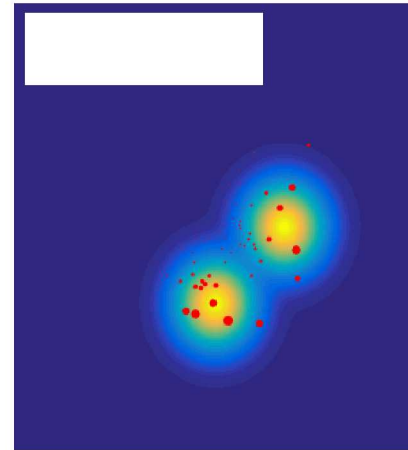
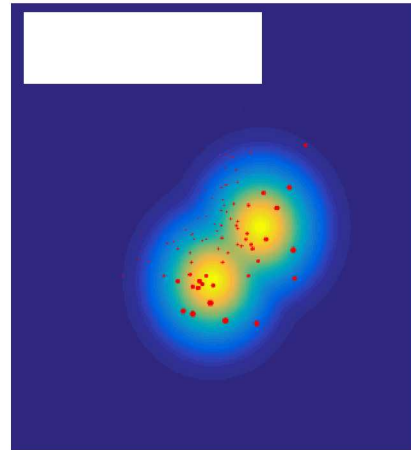
Sample weight:  $w(\theta_j) \propto p(\mathcal{D} \mid \theta_j, \mathcal{M})^{\Delta\beta_i}$

Coefficient of variation:  $\kappa(w) = \frac{\sigma(w)}{\bar{w}}$

Current Level



Set of Possible Next Betas



Weighted Sample Populations

# Importance Resampling

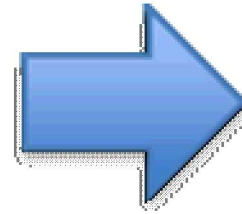
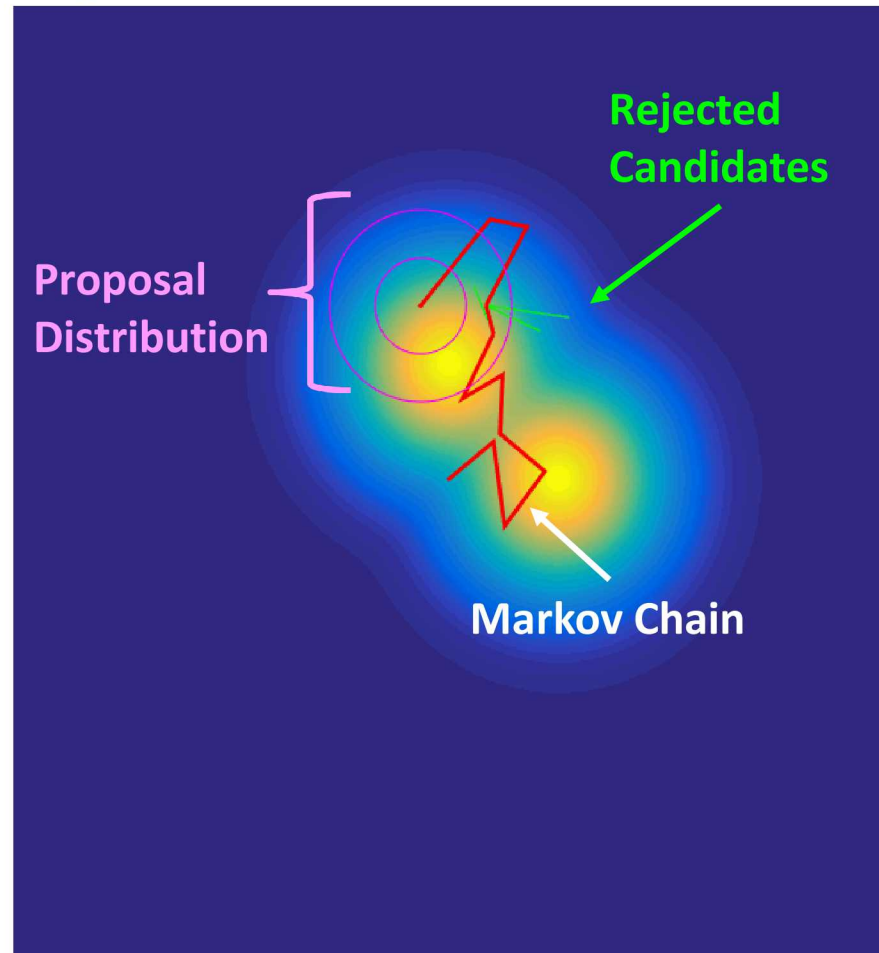
- Resampling the population rebalances the weights as the distribution changes. This discards unlikely samples and replicates likely samples
- Multinomial Resampling from level  $i-1$  to level  $i$ :

Probability of selecting sample  $k$ :  $P(\theta_{i,j} = \theta_{i-1,k}) = w(\theta_{i-1,k})$

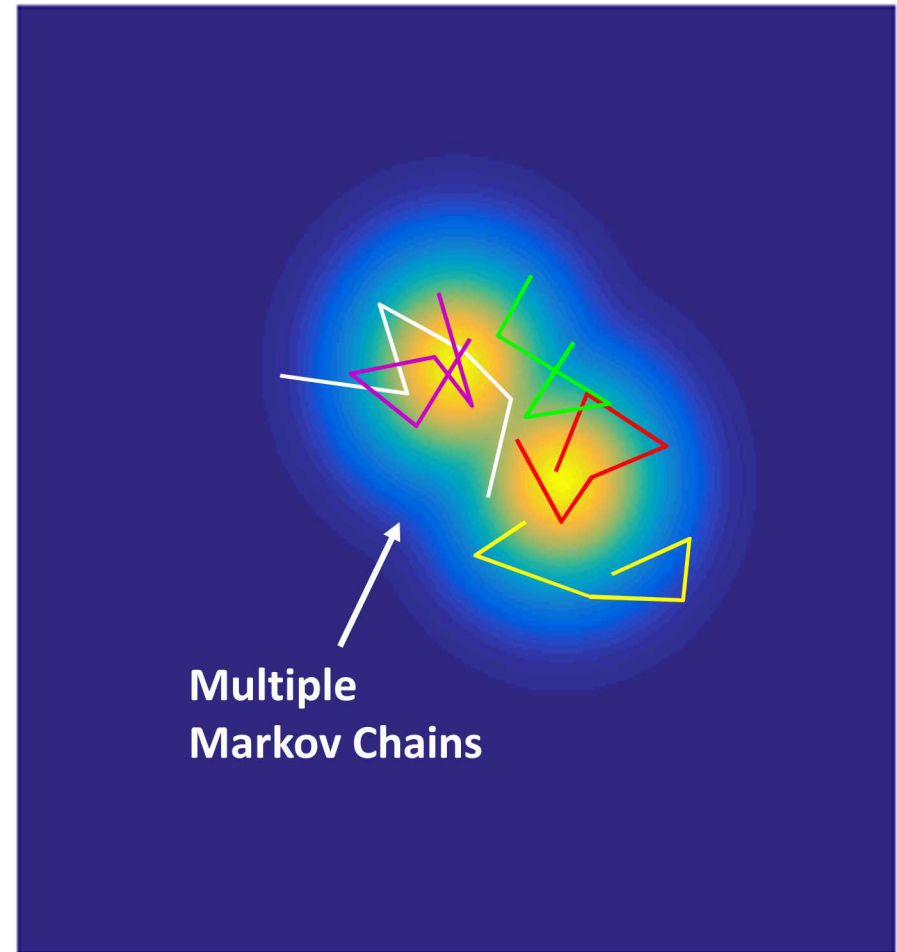
Sample weight:  $w(\theta_{i-1,j}) \propto p(\mathcal{D} \mid \theta_{i-1,j}, \mathcal{M})^{\Delta\beta_i}$

# Metropolis Hastings MCMC with Parallel Chains

Single MH Markov Chain



Parallel MH Markov Chain



# Designing the ST-MCMC Algorithm

- Algorithm Parameters
  - Number of parallel Markov Chains
  - Chain Length or target correlation
  - Annealing/convergence rate i.e. coefficient of variation target
- MCMC Algorithm
  - Freedom to choose the proposal distribution and its properties
  - Design of the Markov Chain kernel
- Resampling scheme for importance sampling