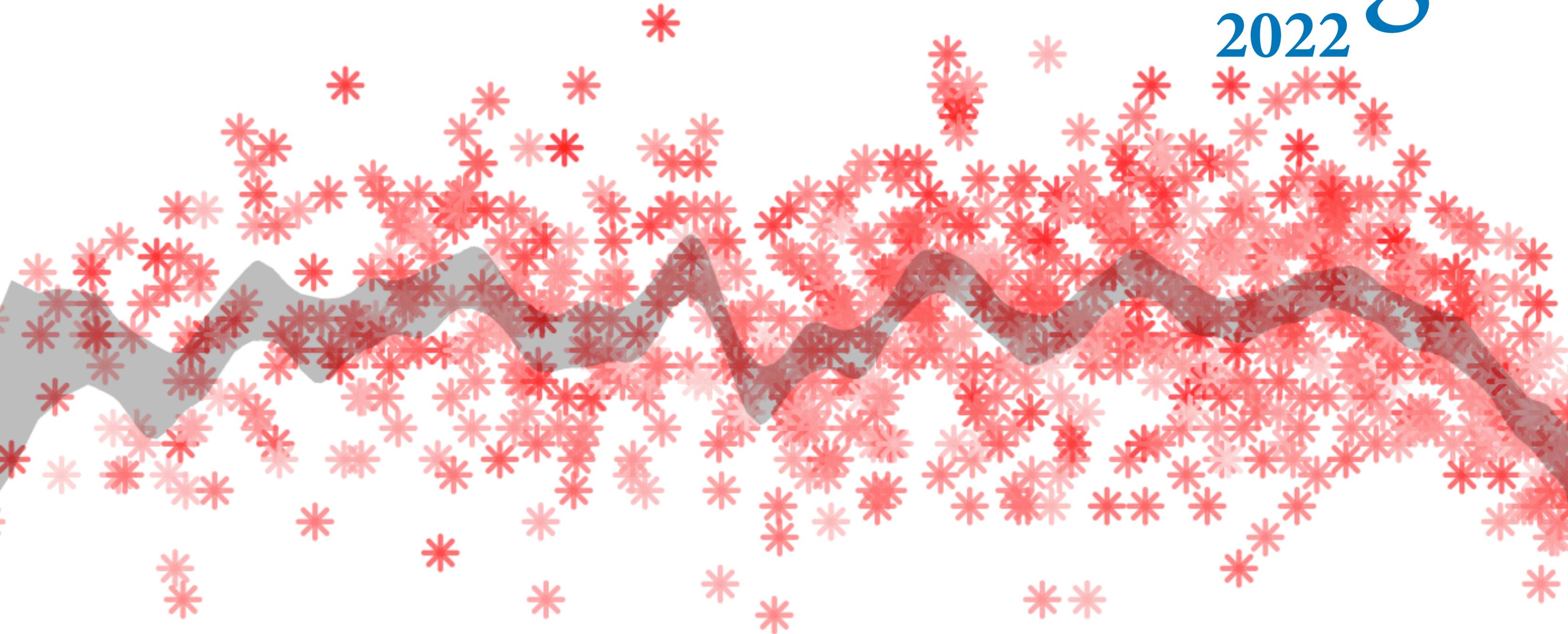


# Statistical Rethinking

2022



## 12: Multilevel Models



**Clive Wearing (1938–)**



# Repeat observations

12 stories ( $S$ )

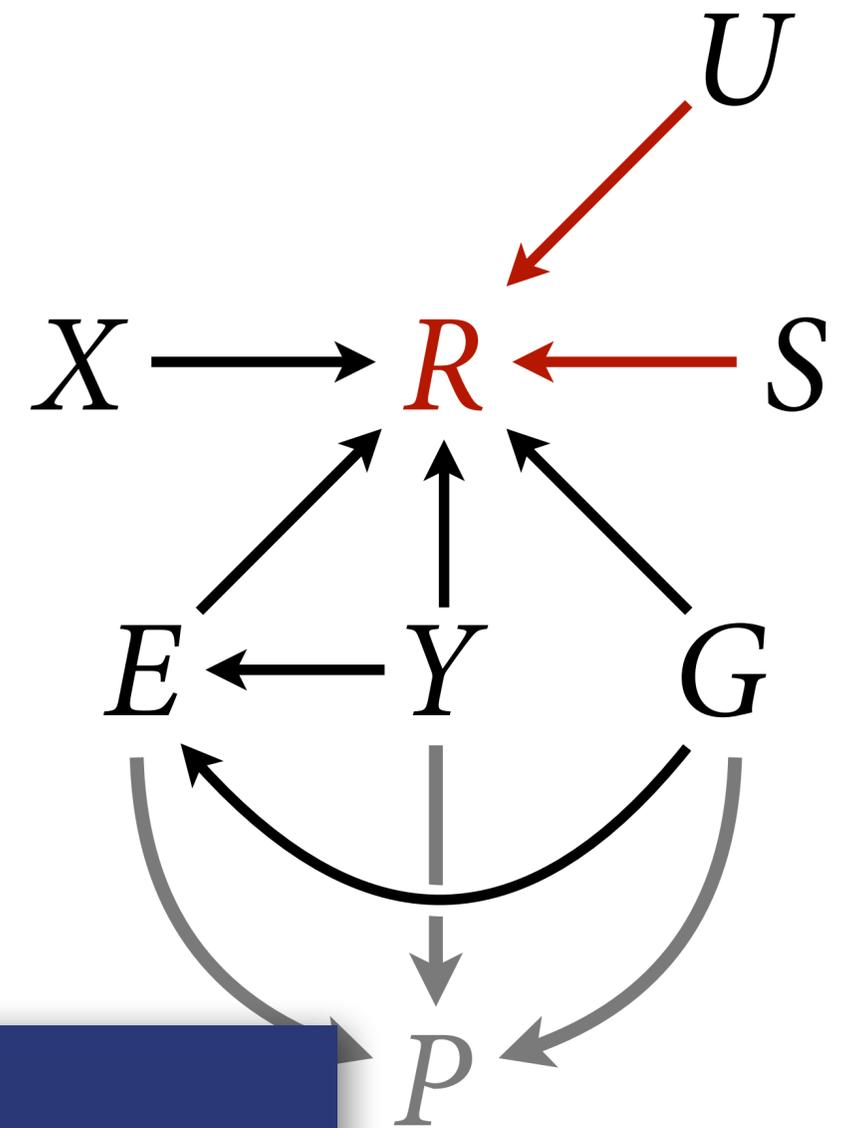
```
> table(d$story)
```

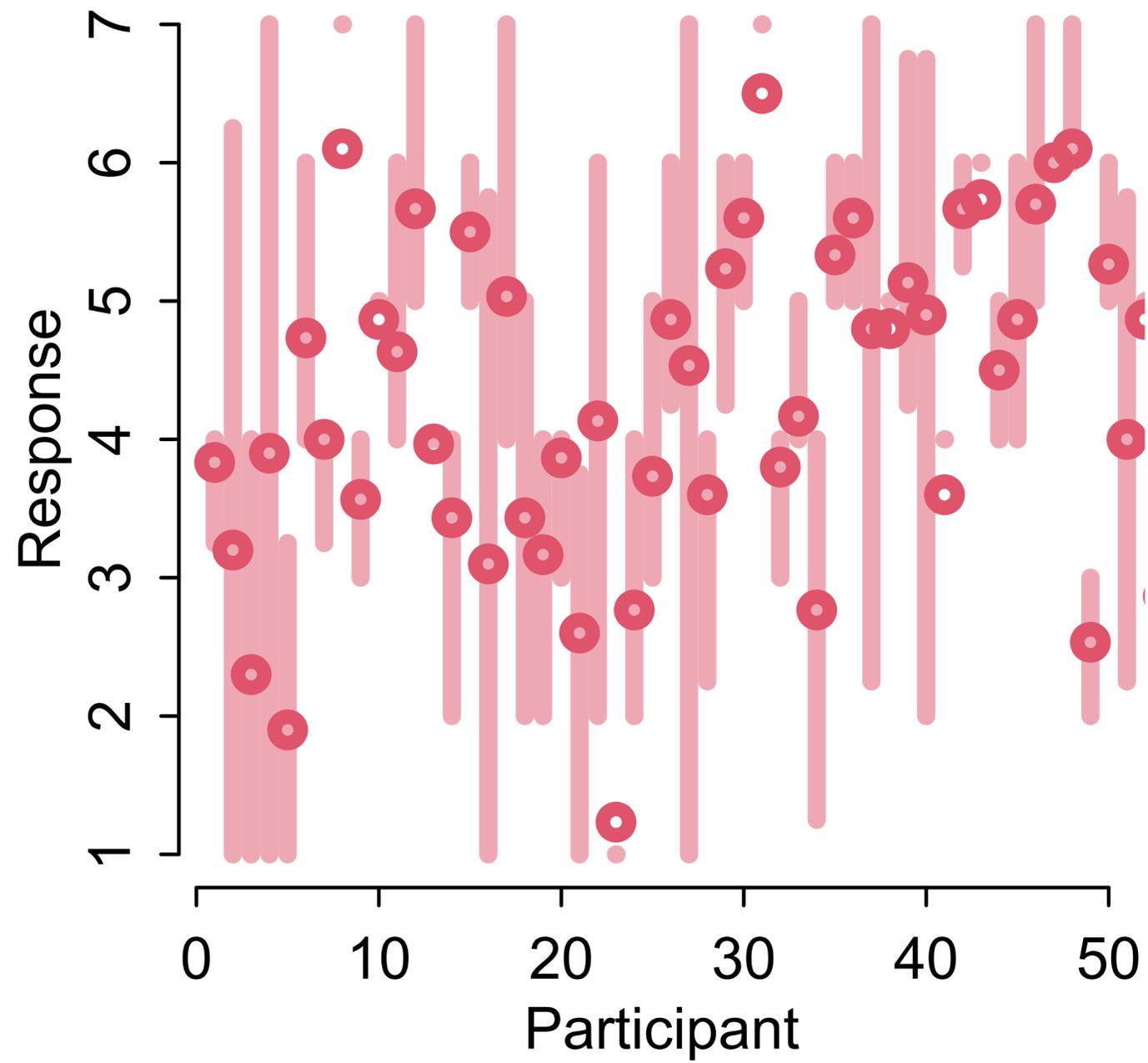
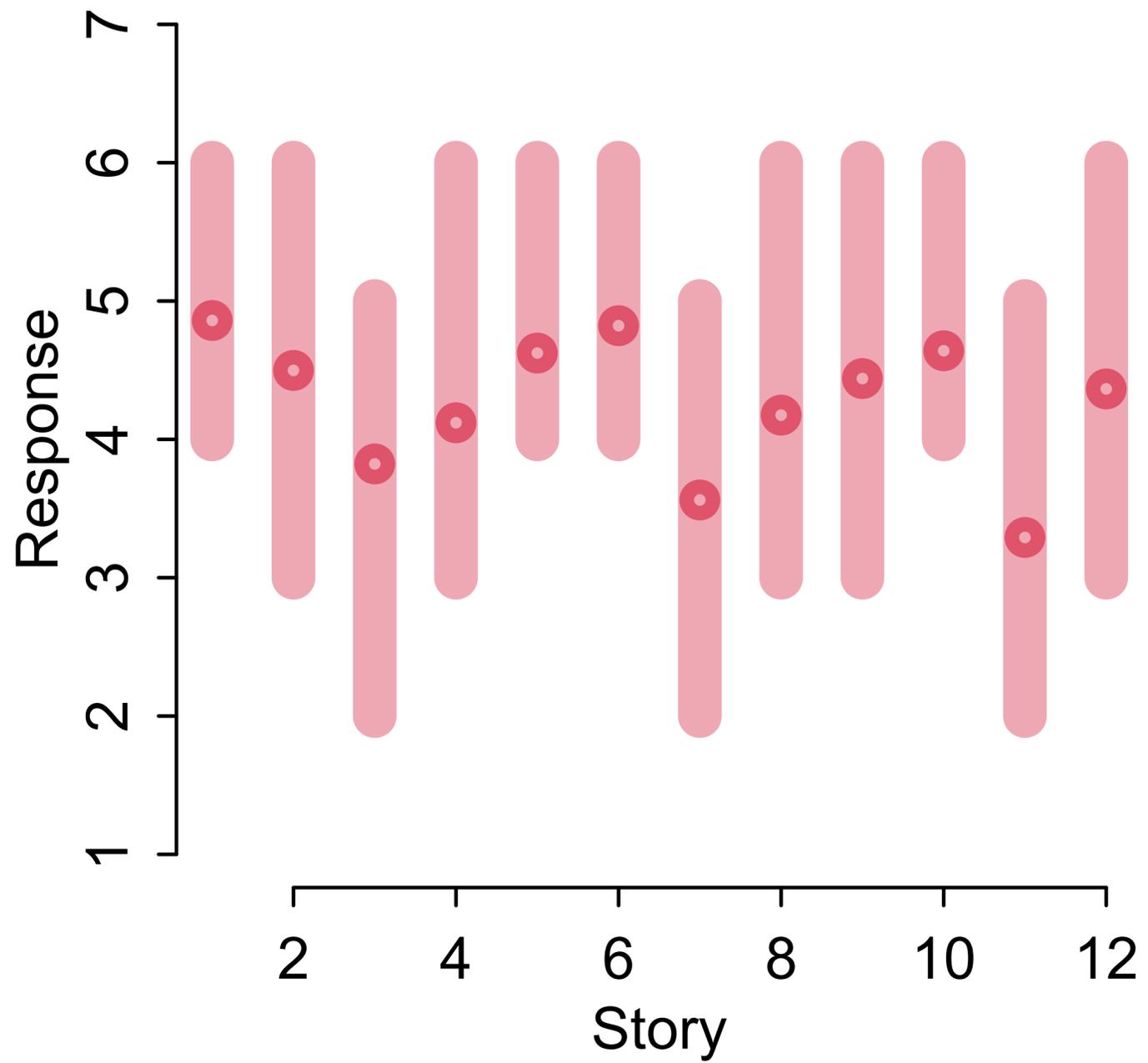
aqu	boa	box	bur	car	che	pon	rub	sha	shi	spe	swi
662	662	1324	1324	662	662	662	662	662	662	993	993

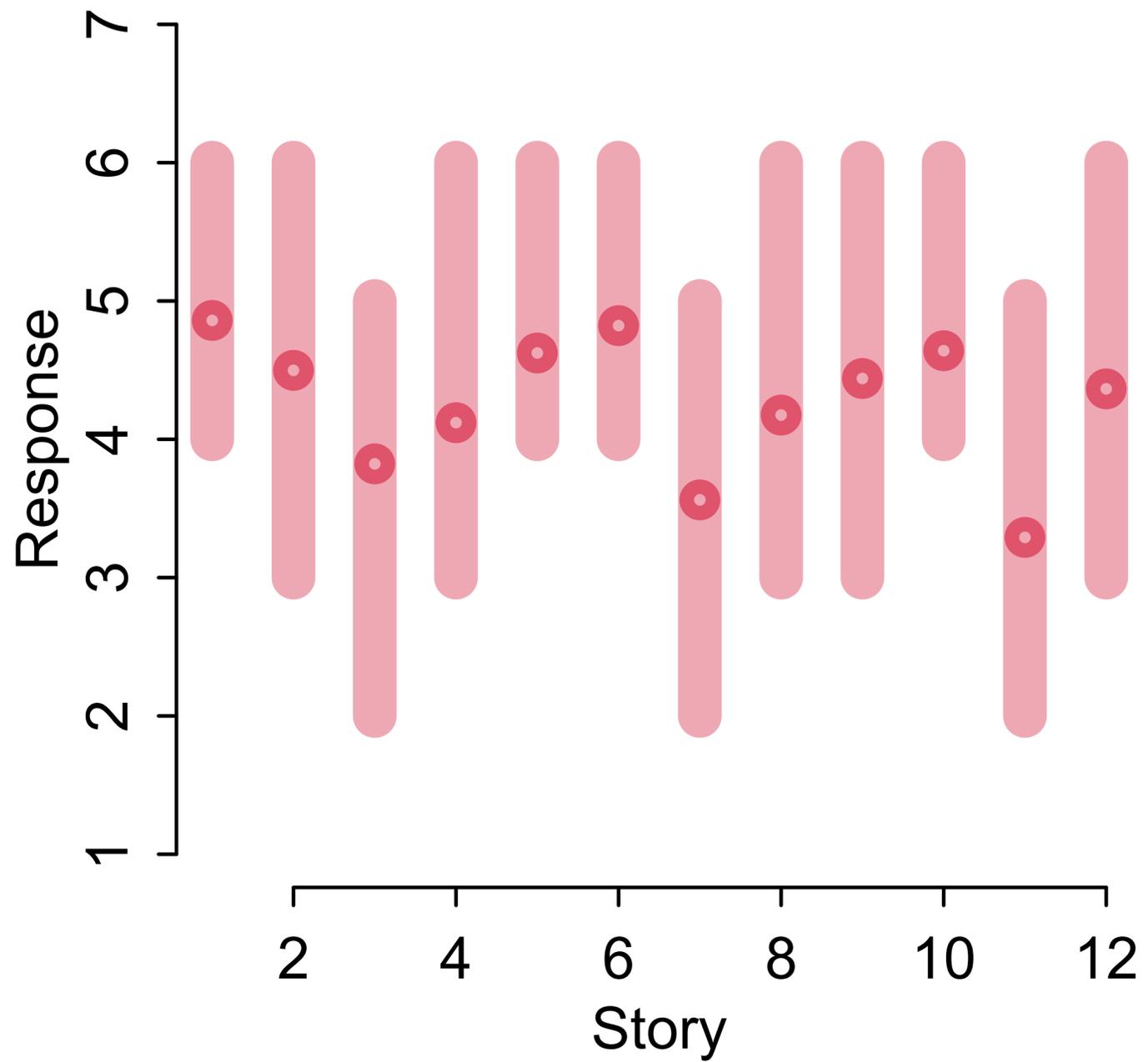
331 individuals ( $U$ )

```
> table(d$id)
```

96;434	96;445	96;451	96;456	96;458	96;466	96;467	96;474	96;480	96;481	96;497
30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30
96;498	96;502	96;505	96;511	96;512	96;518	96;519	96;531	96;533	96;538	96;547
30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30
96;550	96;553	96;555	96;558	96;560	96;562	96;566	96;570	96;581	96;586	96;591
30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30







$$R_i \sim \text{OrderedLogit}(\phi_i, \alpha)$$

$$\phi_i = \beta_{S[i]}$$

*This model has  
anterograde amnesia*

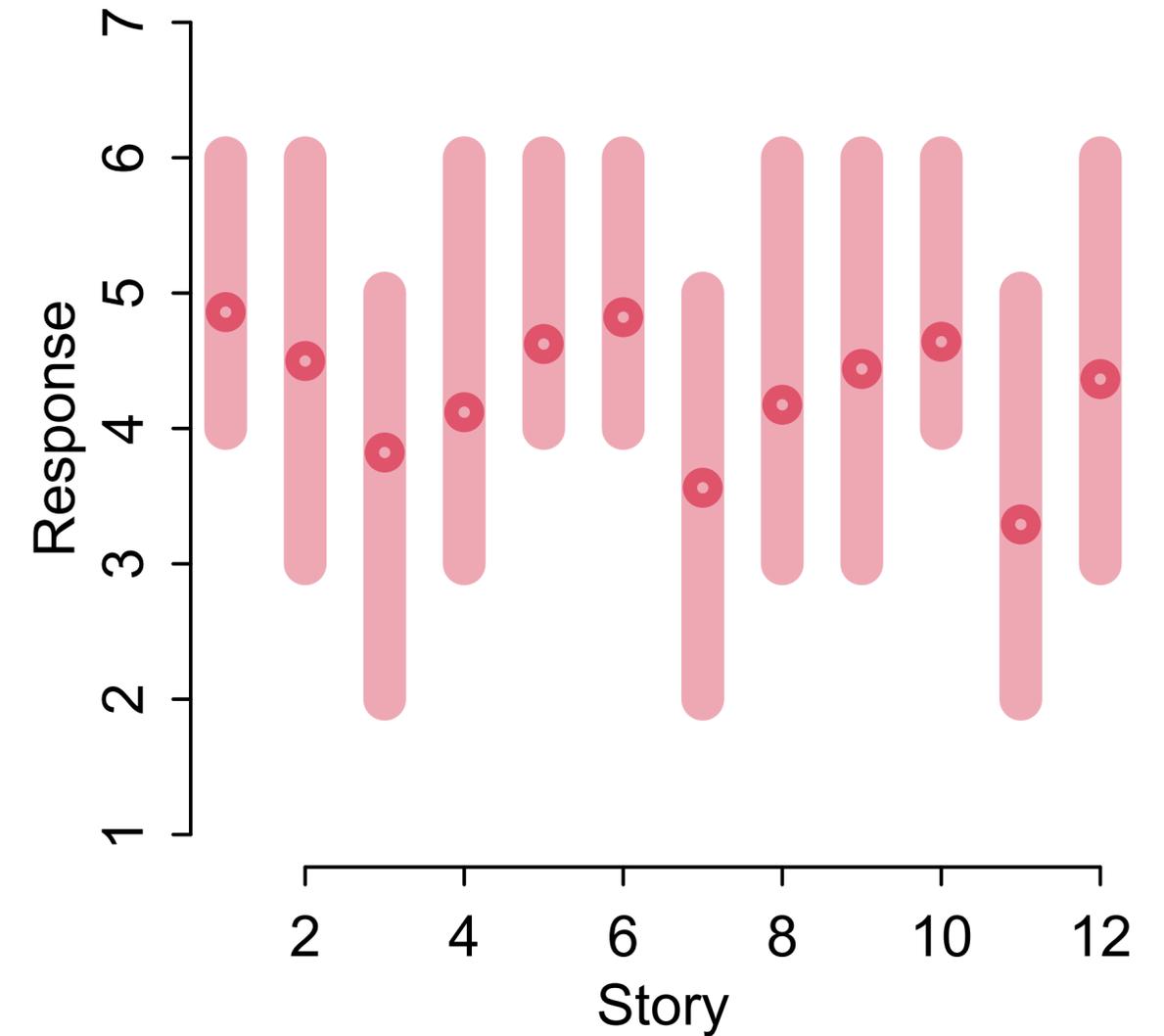
# Models With Memory

**Multilevel models** are models within models

(1) Model observed groups/individuals

(2) Model of population of groups/individuals

The population model creates a kind of memory

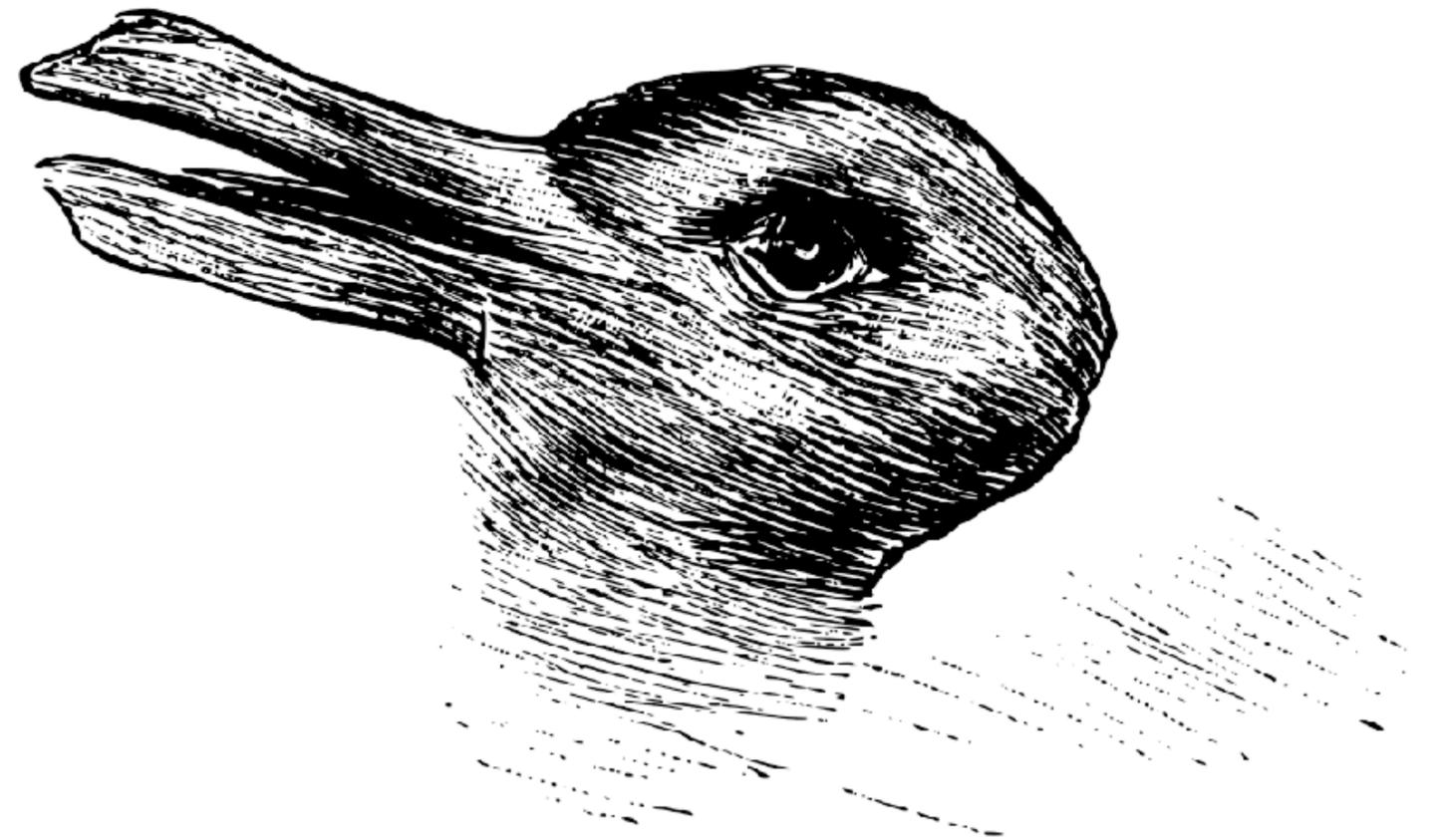


# Two Perspectives

(1) Models with memory learn faster, better

(2) Models with memory resist overfitting

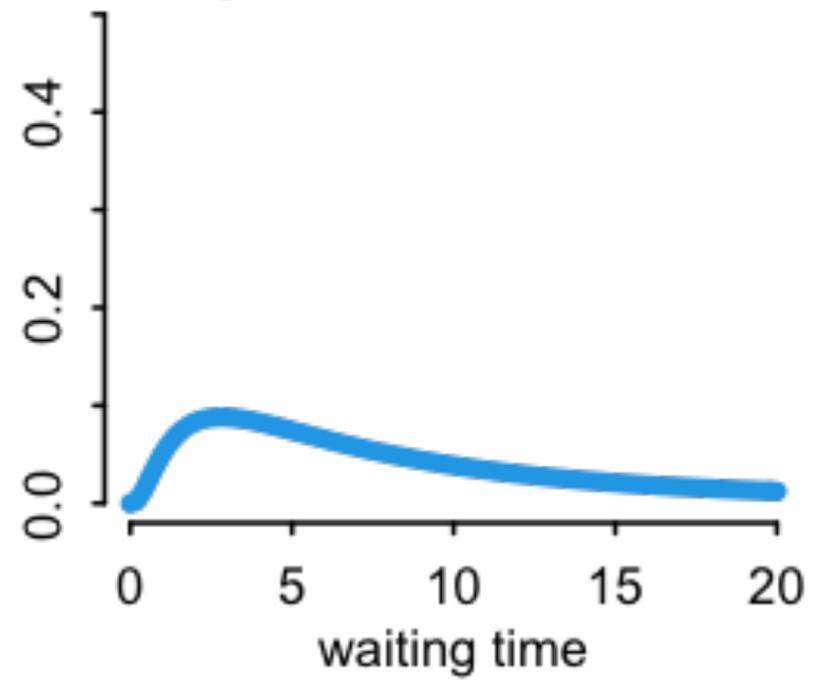
Welche Thiere gleichen ein-  
ander am meisten?



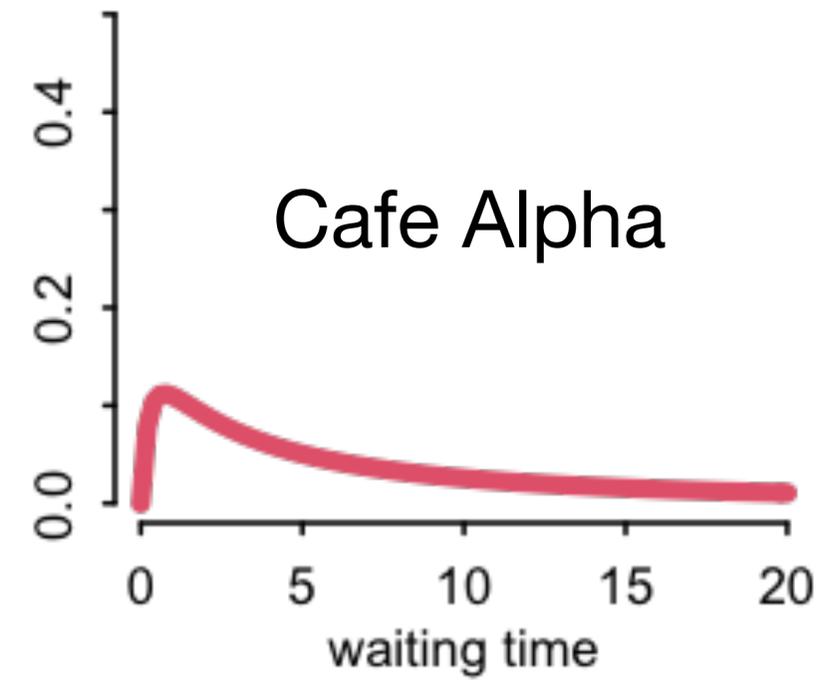
Kaninchen und Ente.

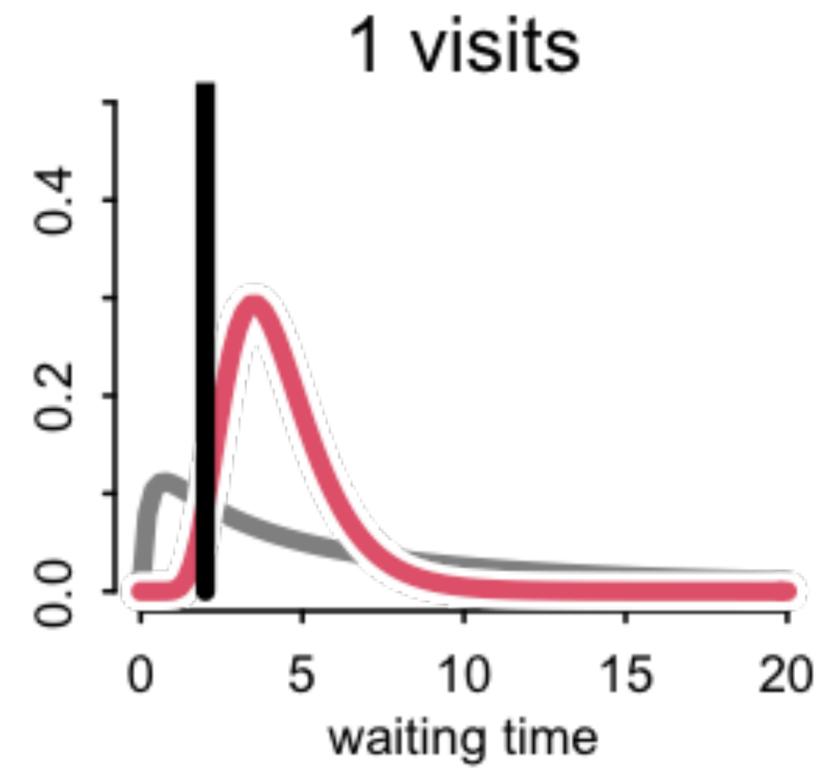
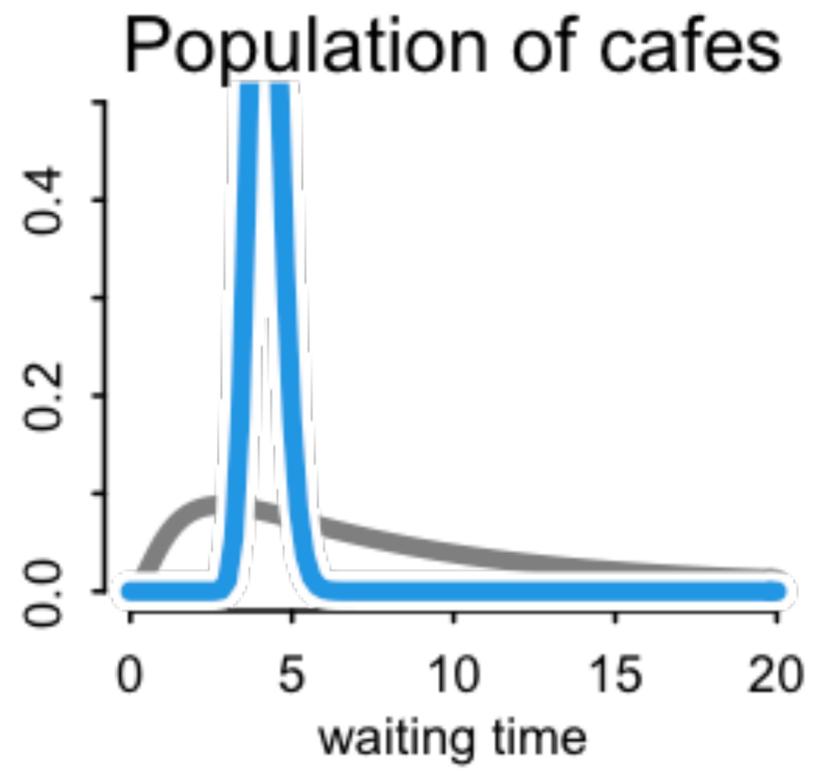


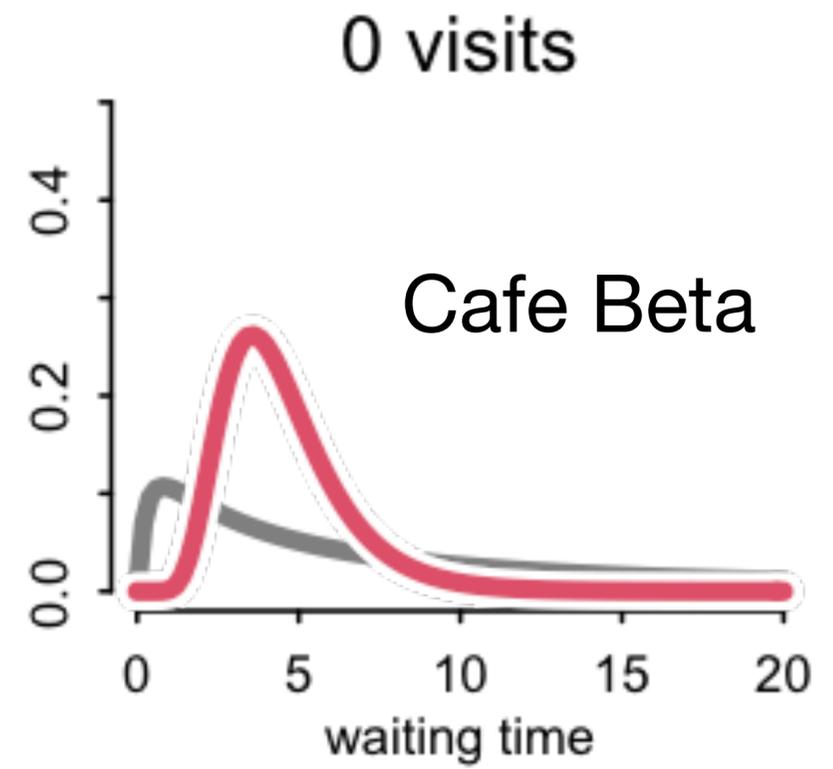
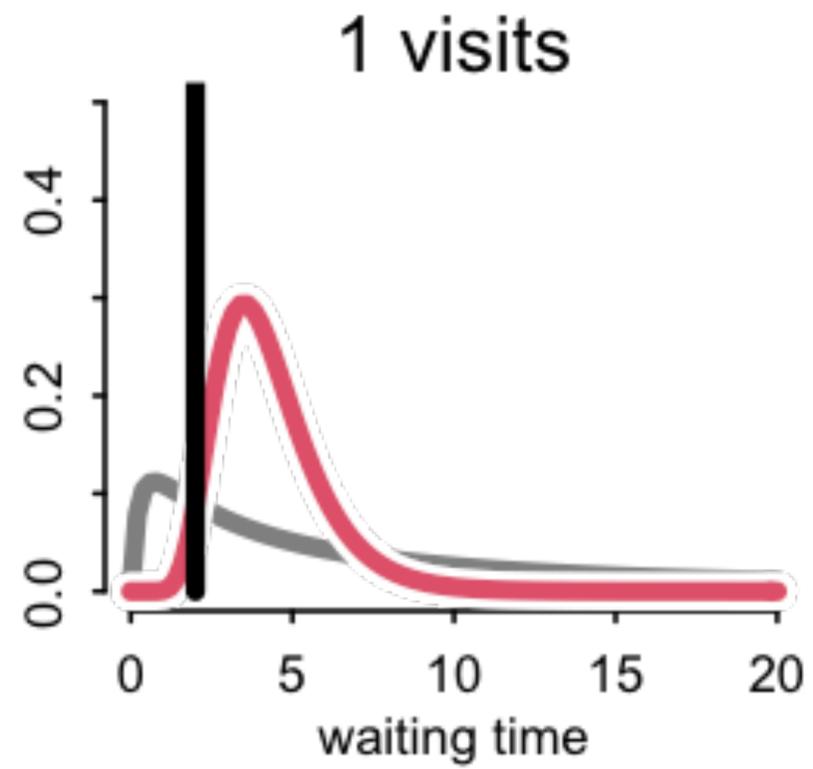
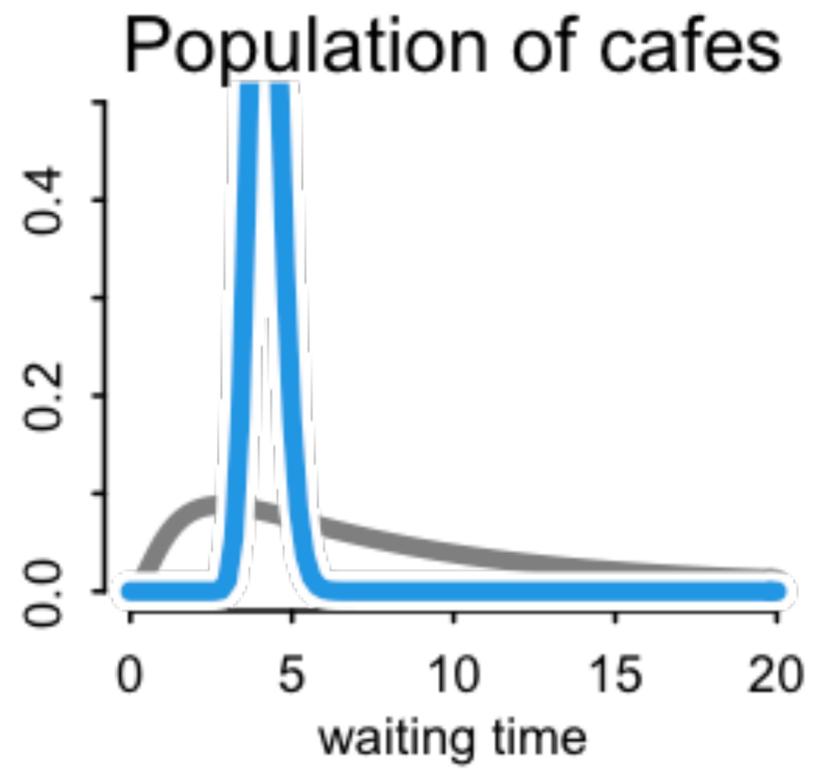
Population of cafes

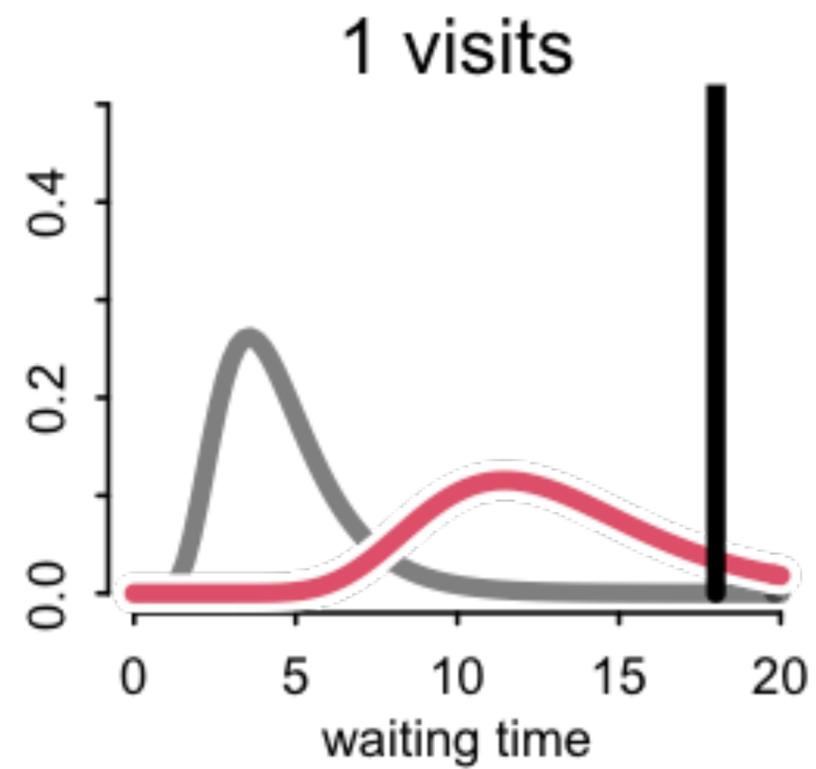
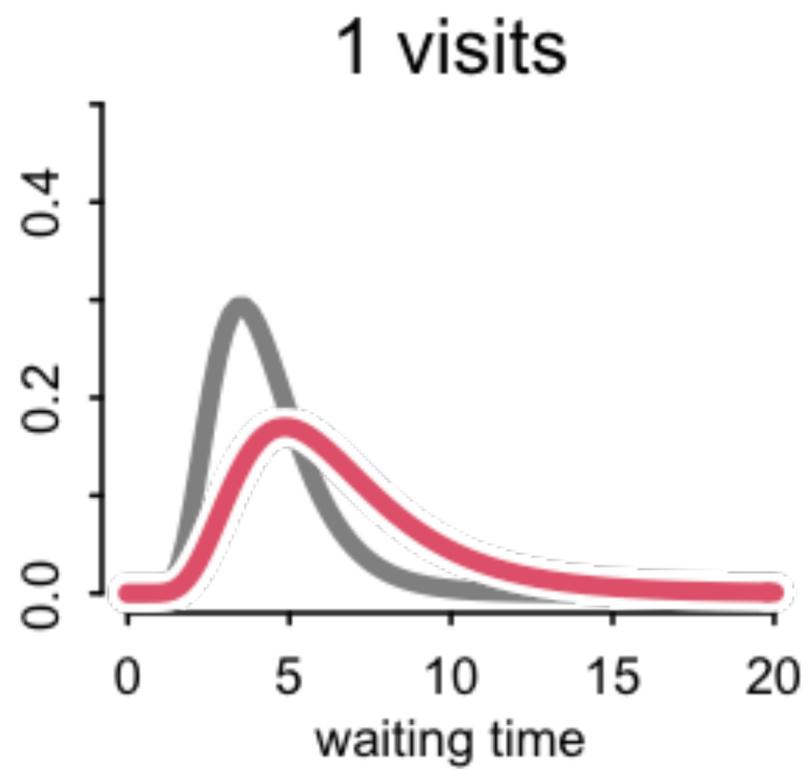
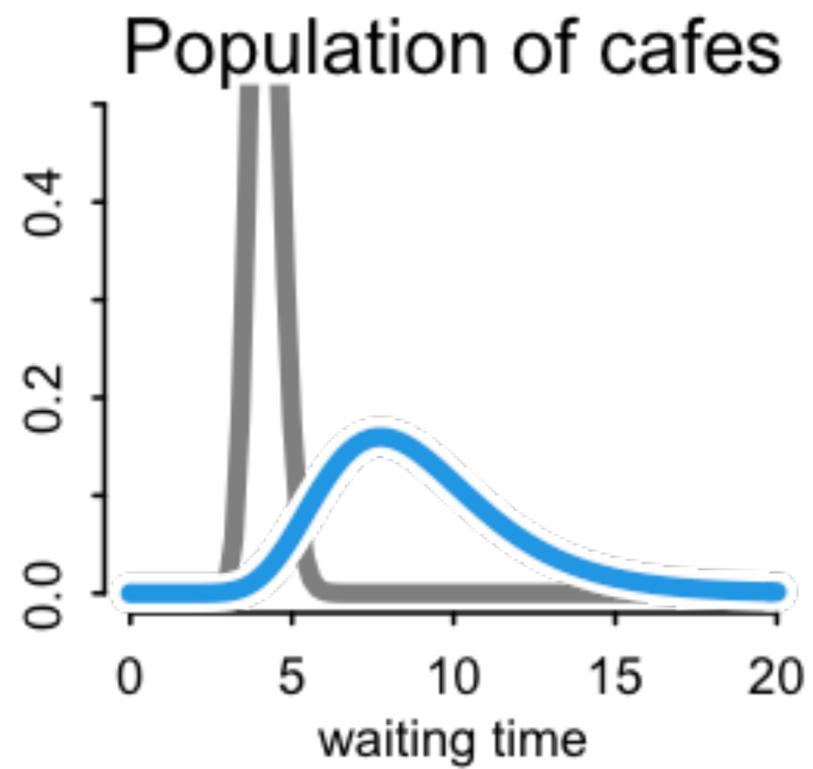


Cafe Alpha

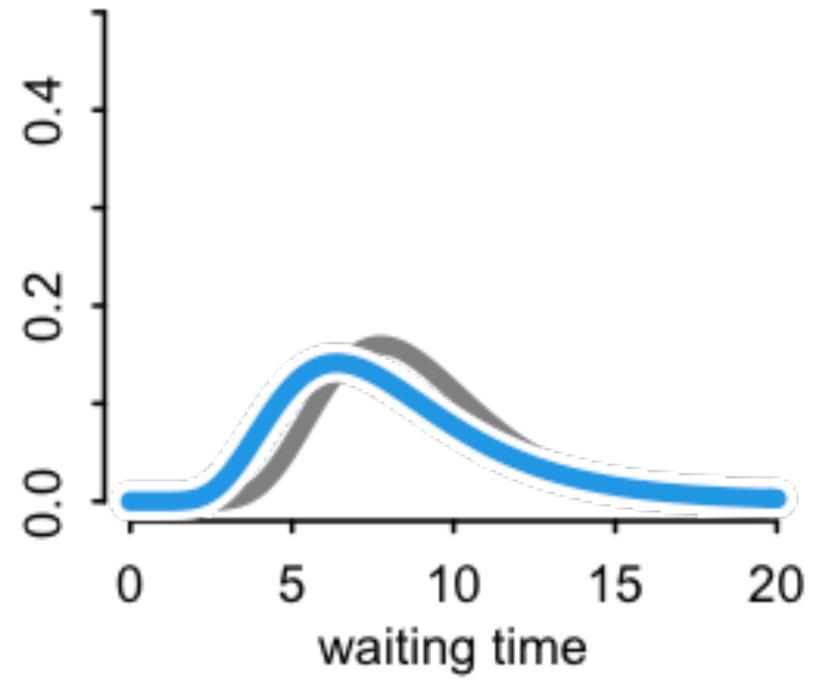




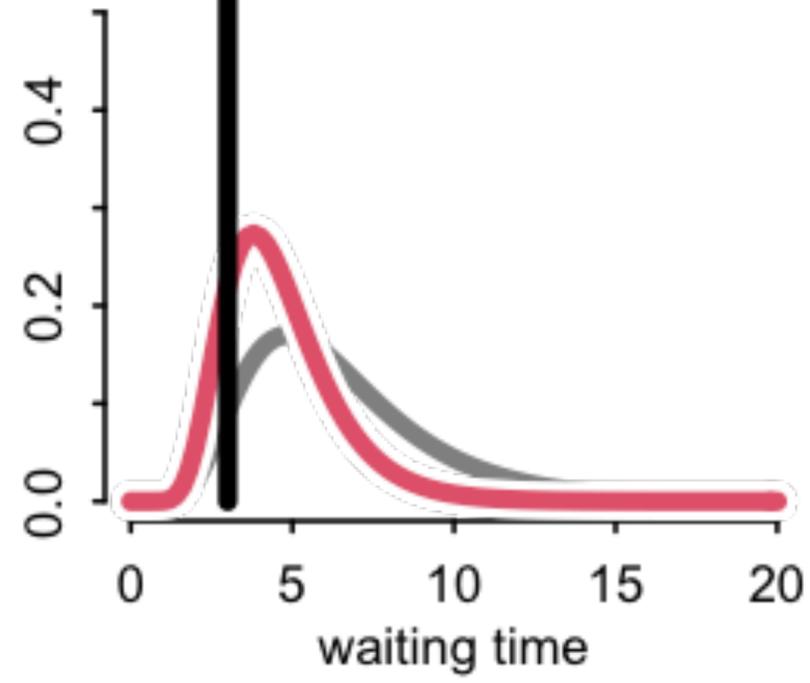




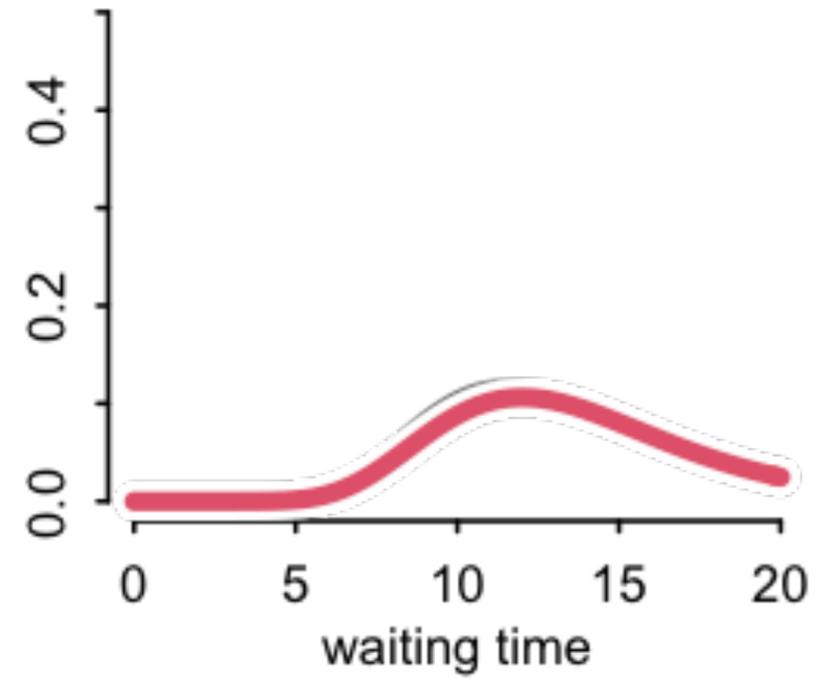
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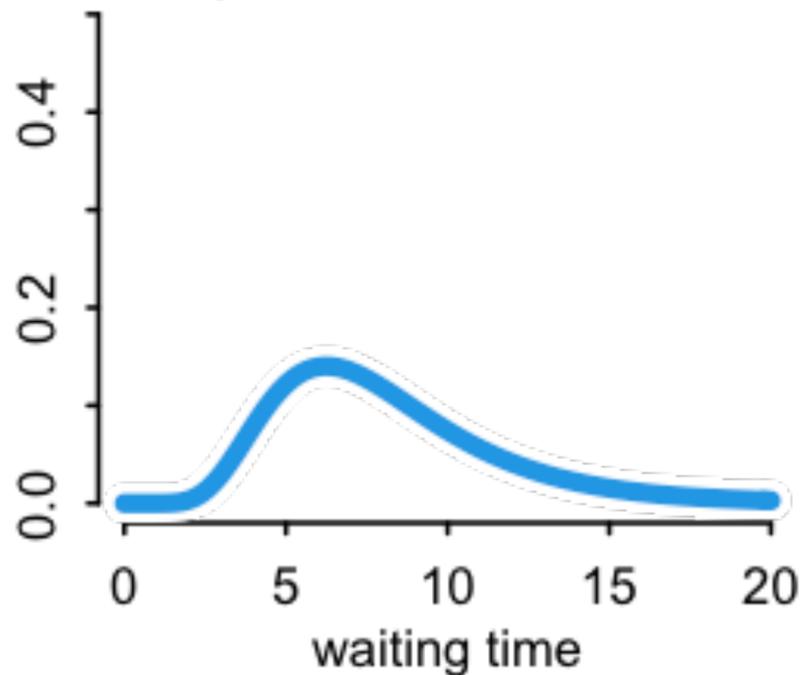
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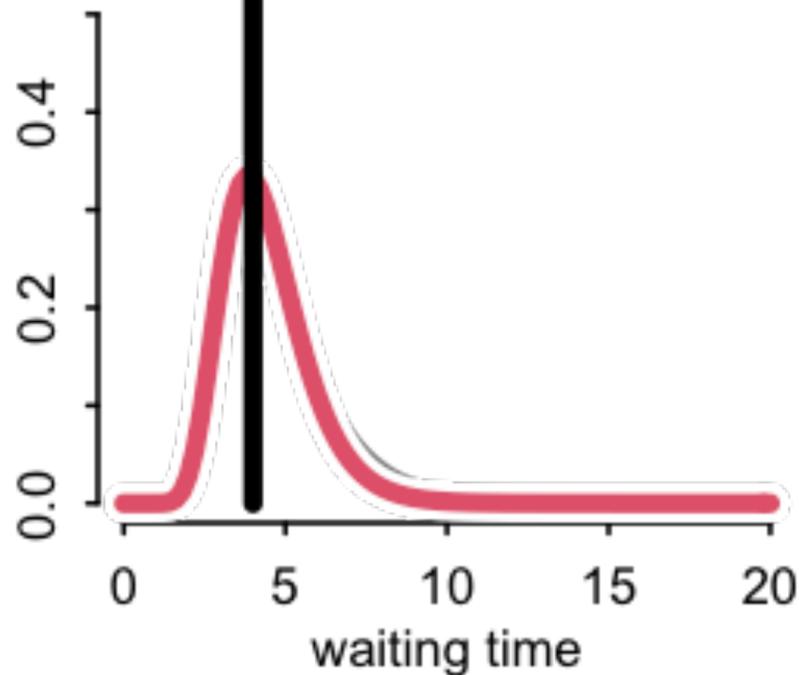
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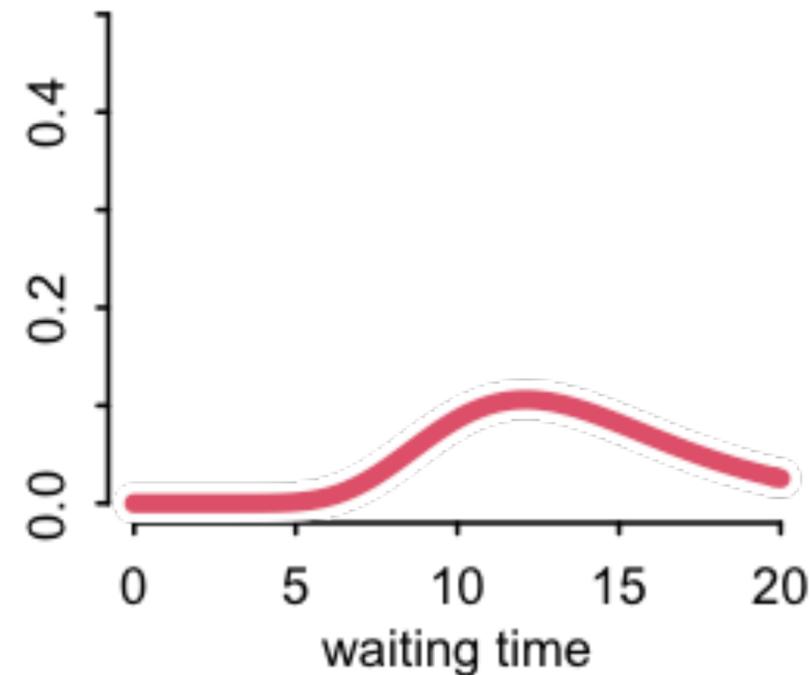
Population of cafes



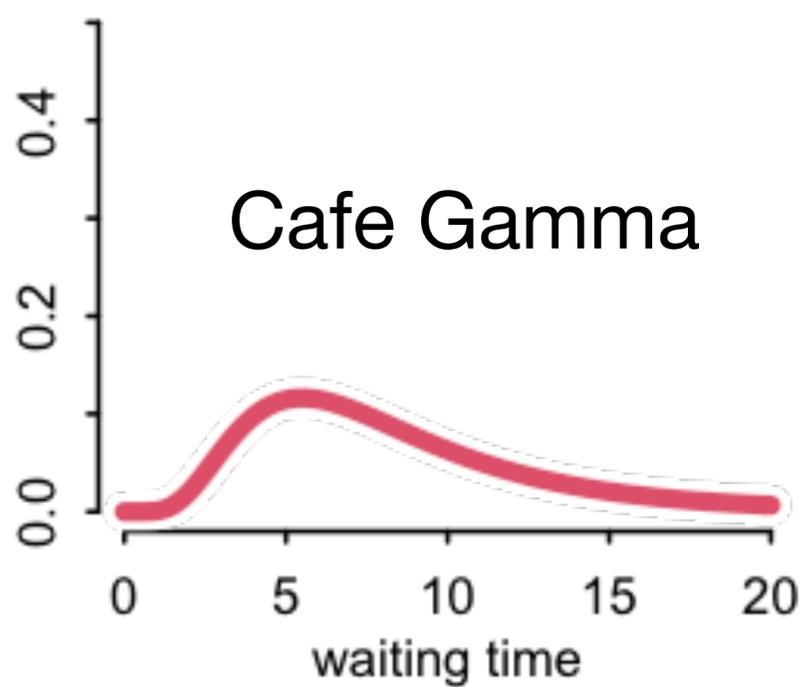
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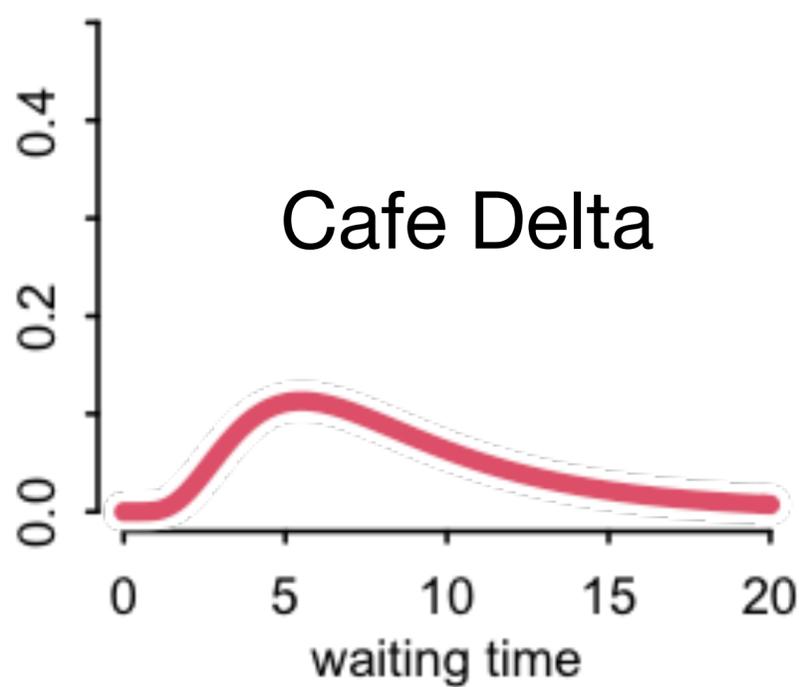
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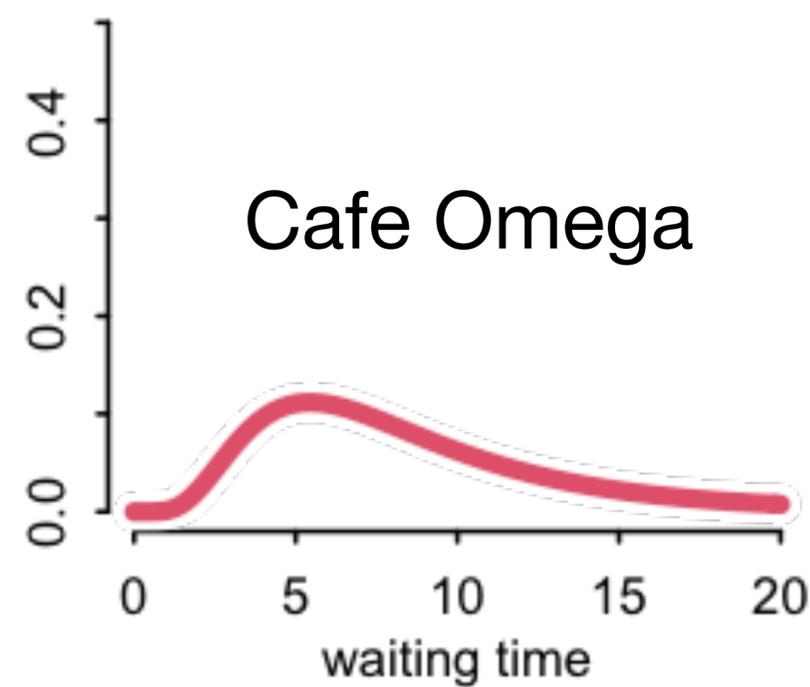
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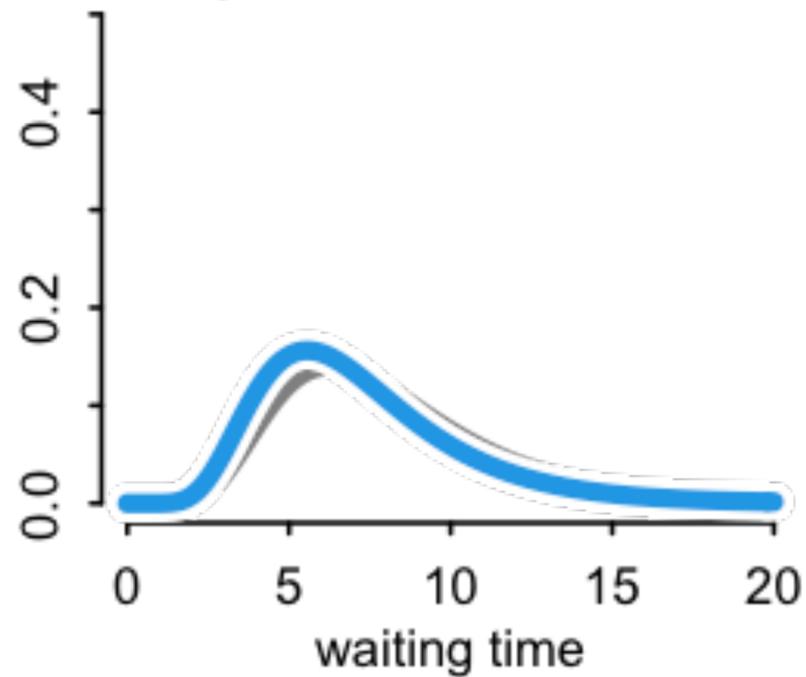
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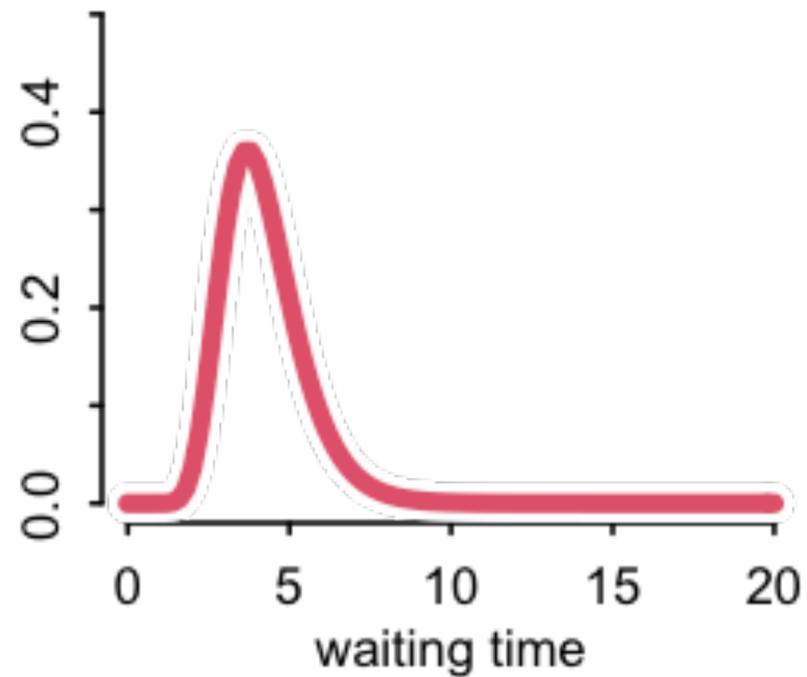
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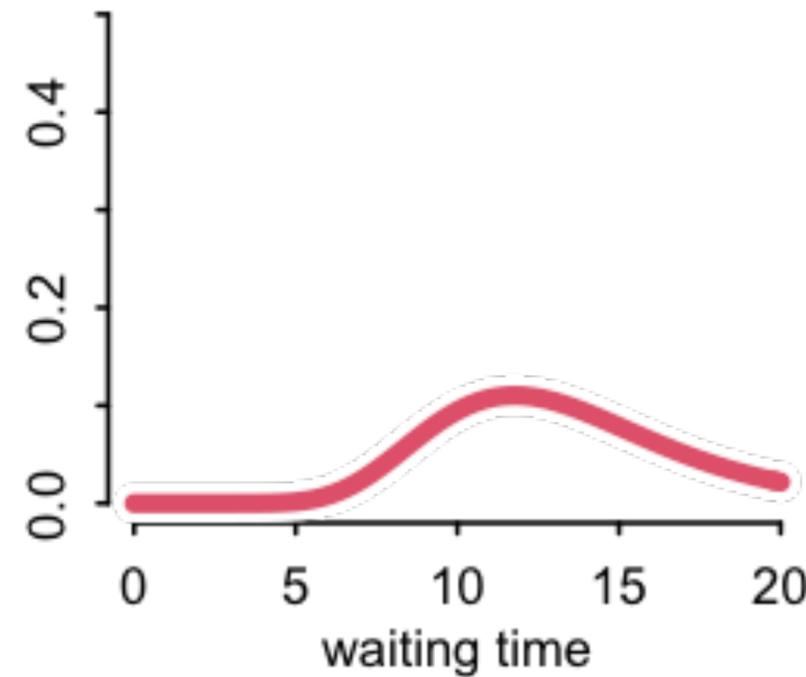
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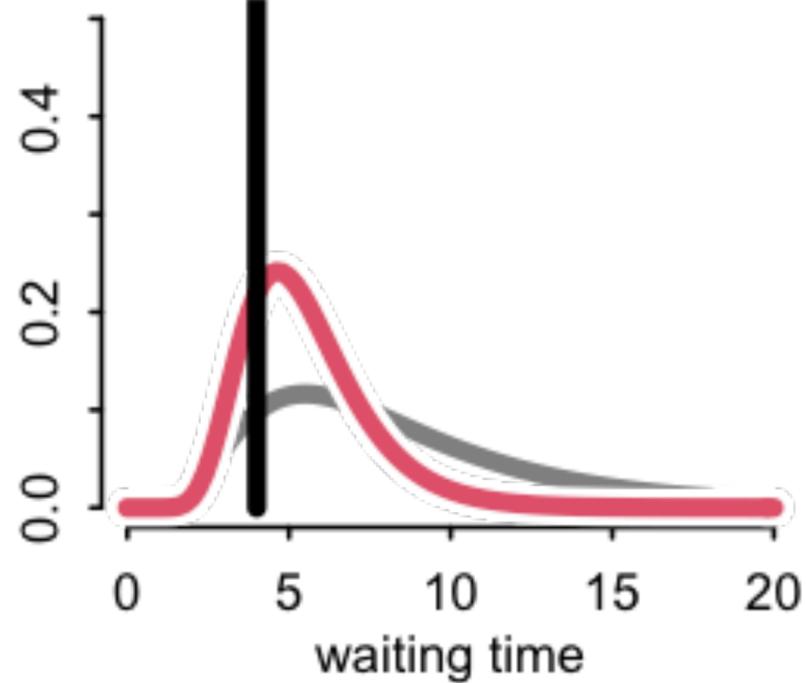
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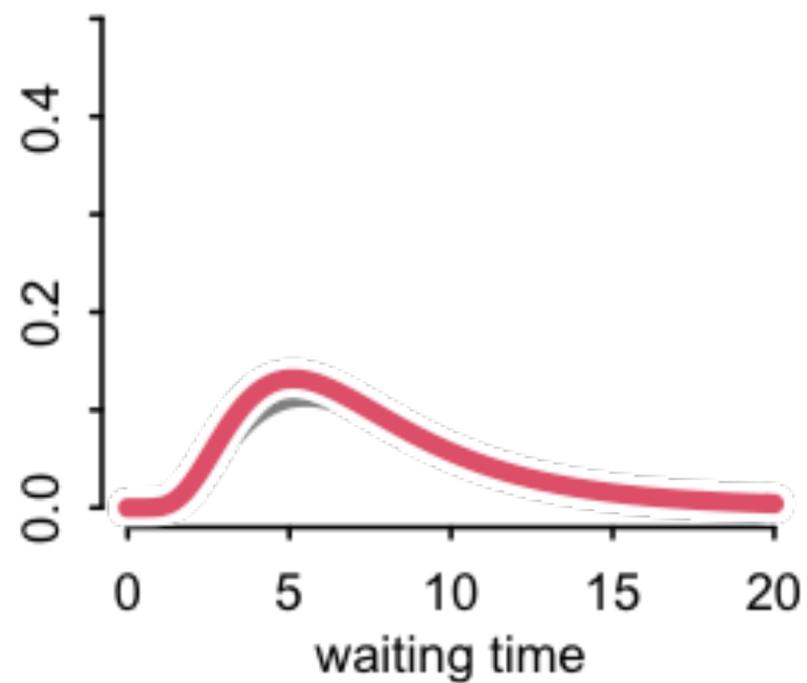
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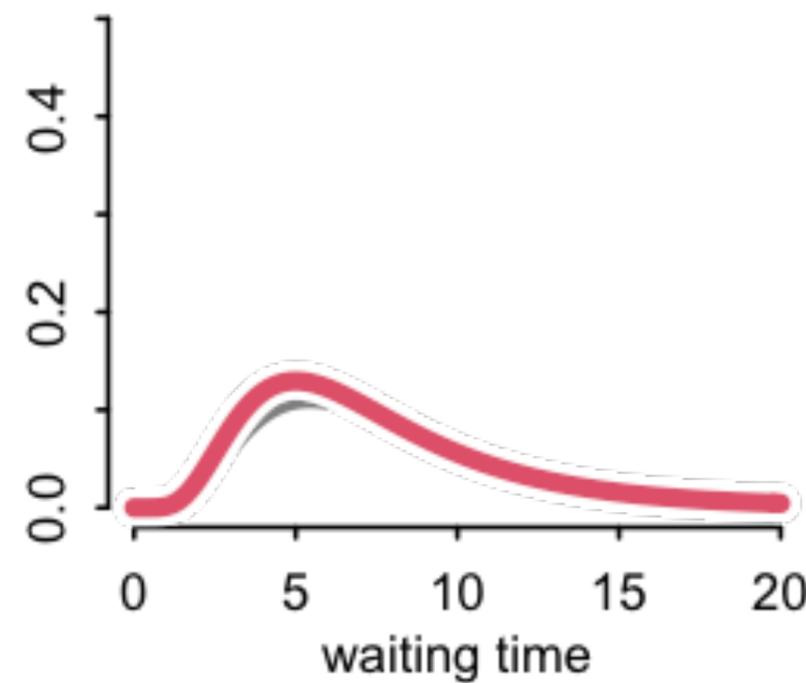
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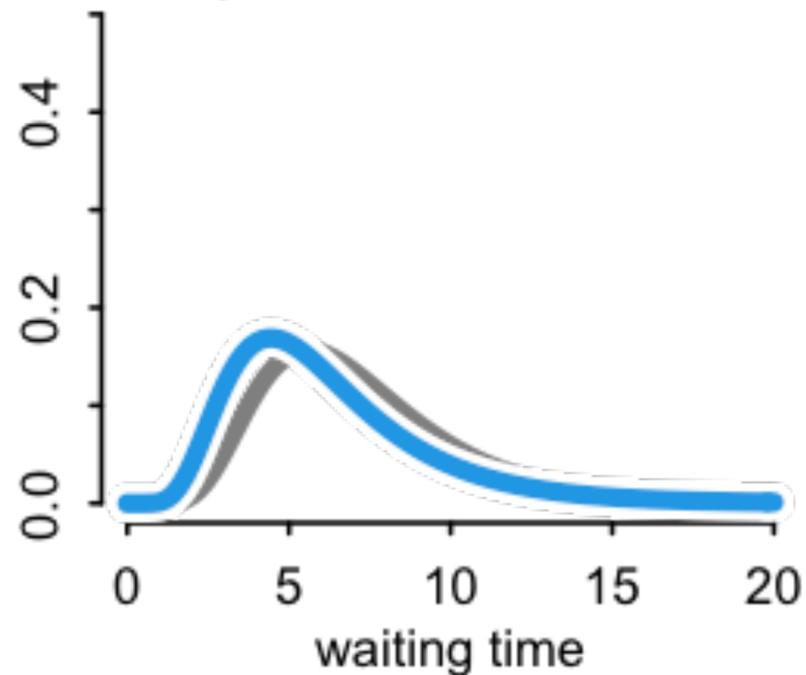
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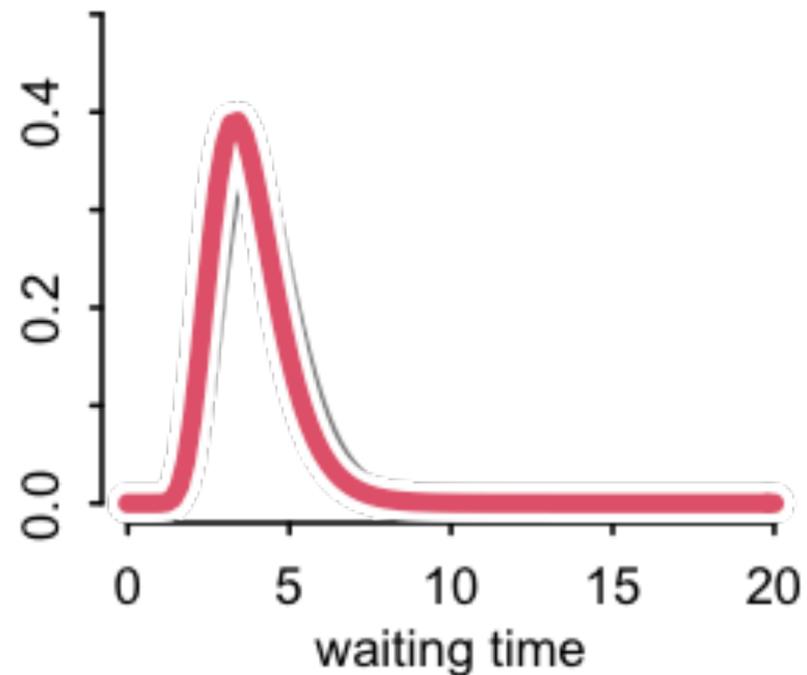
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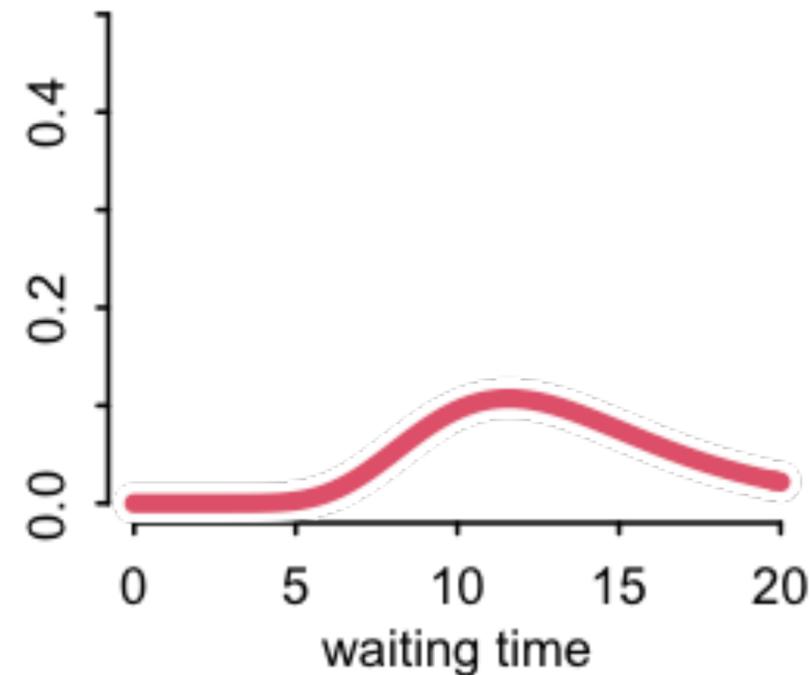
Population of cafes



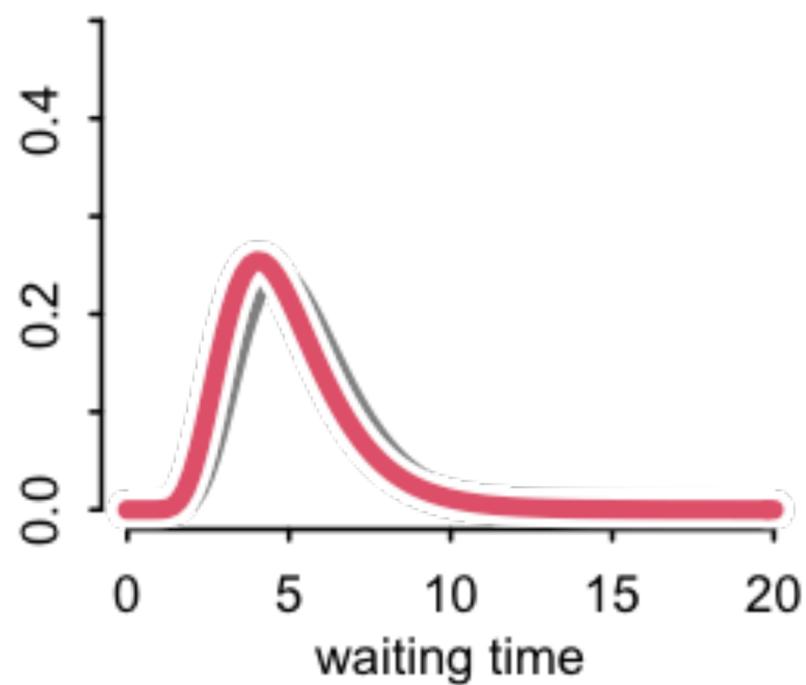
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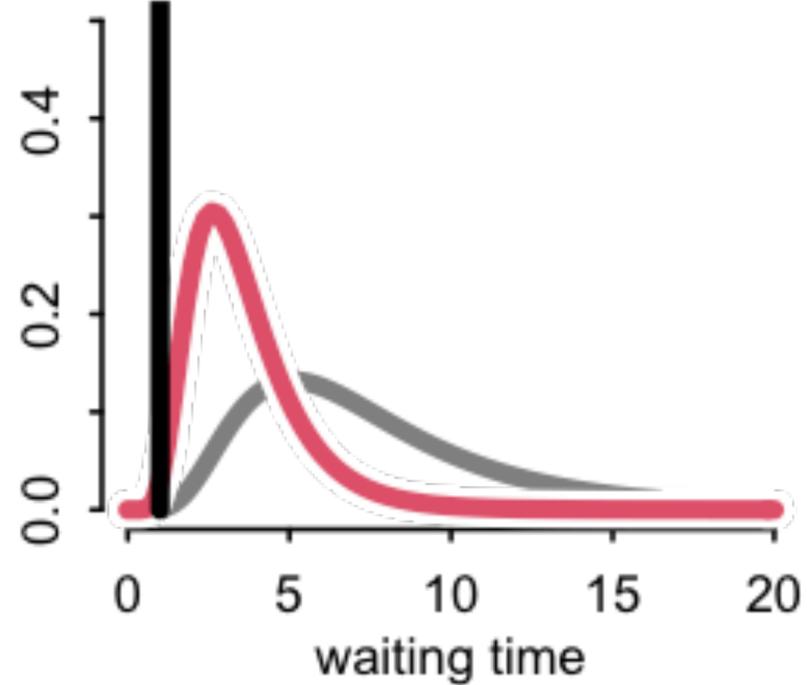
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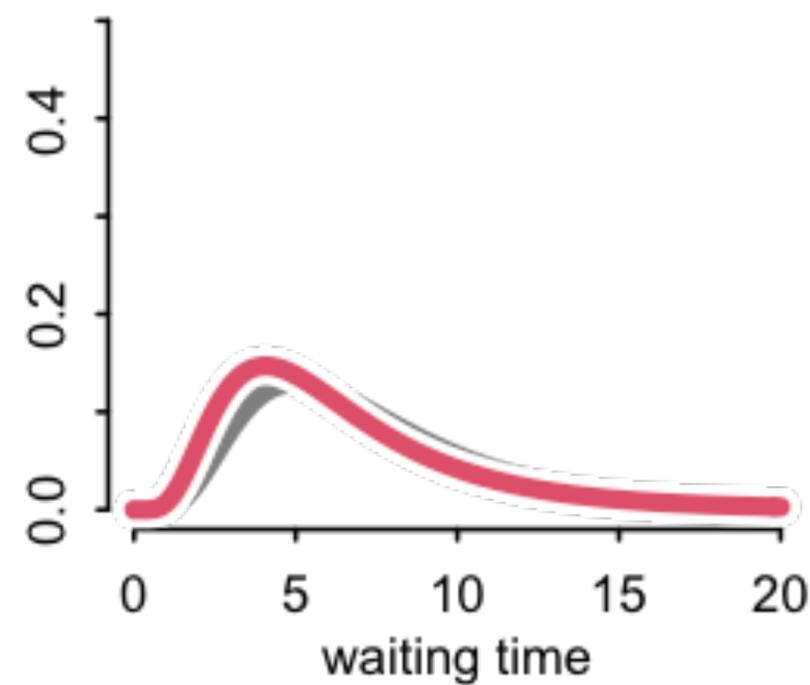
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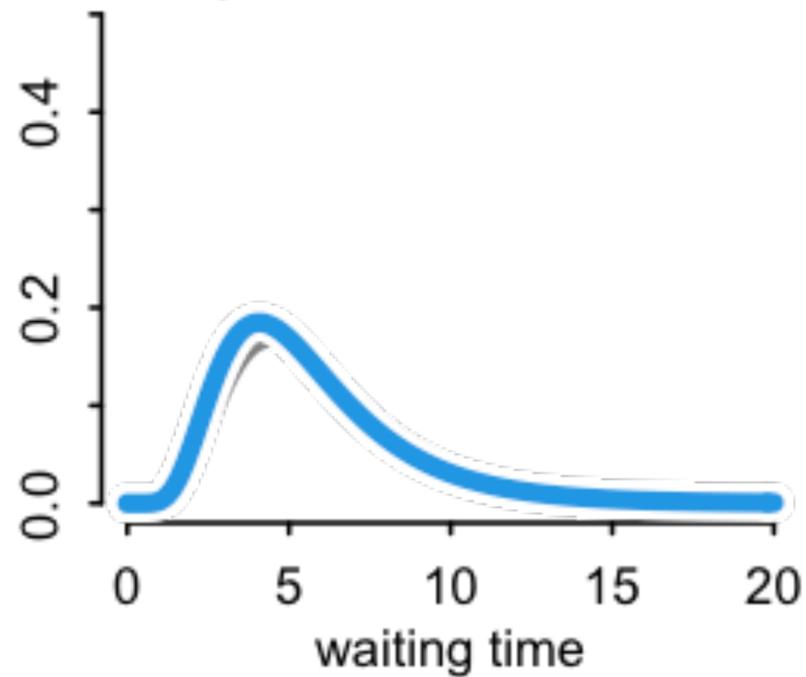
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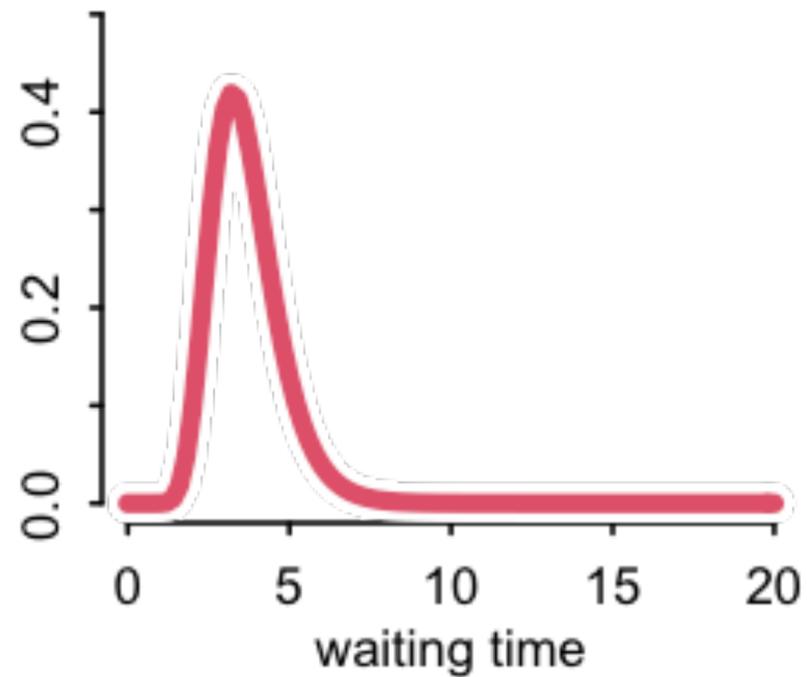
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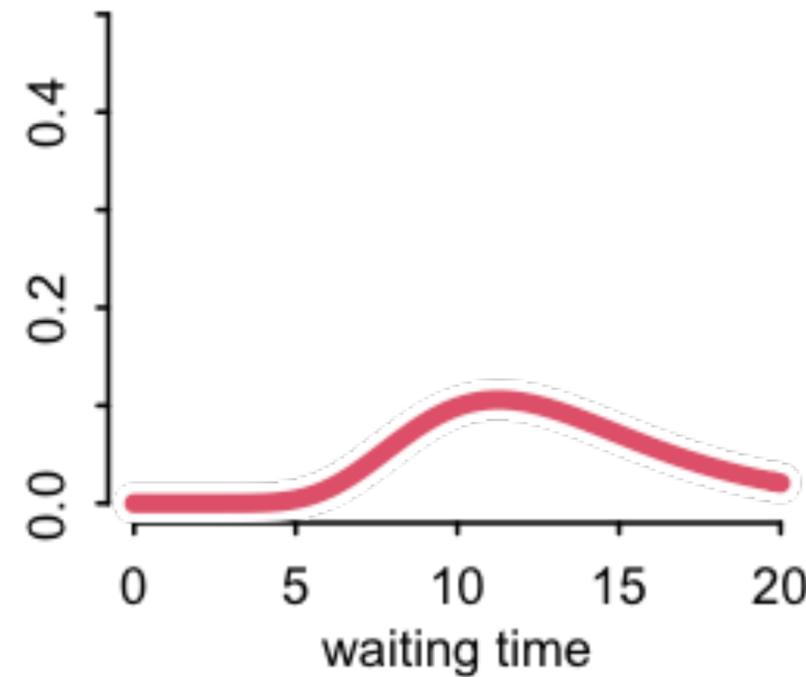
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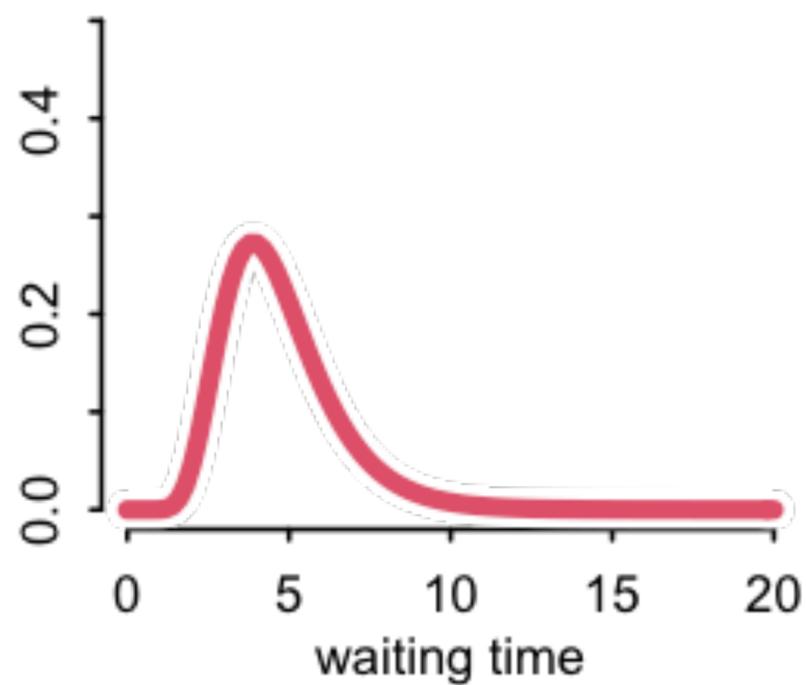
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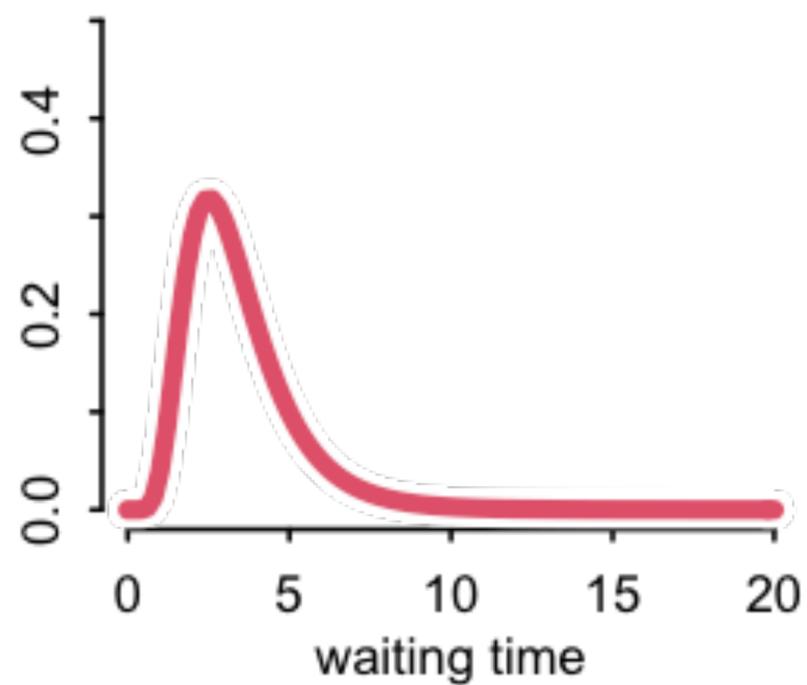
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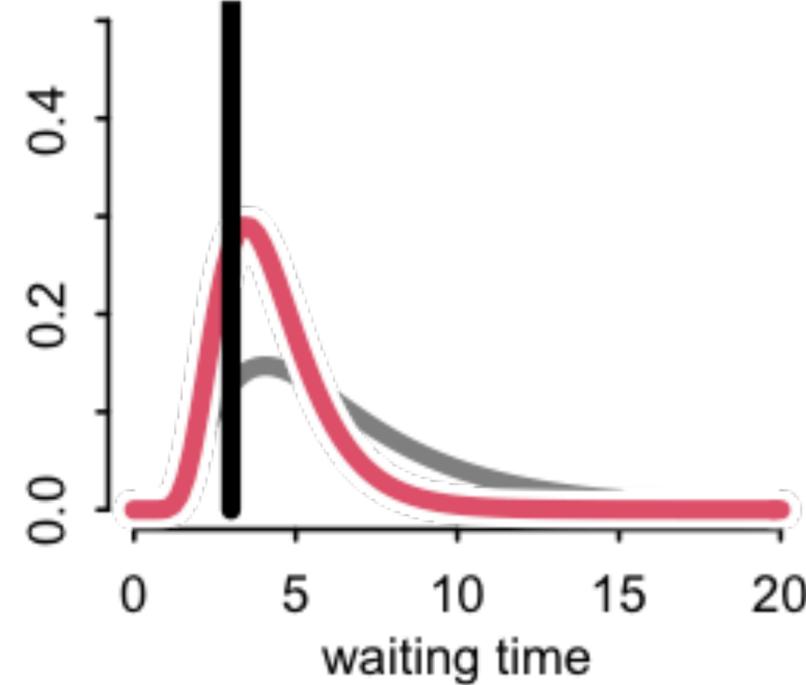
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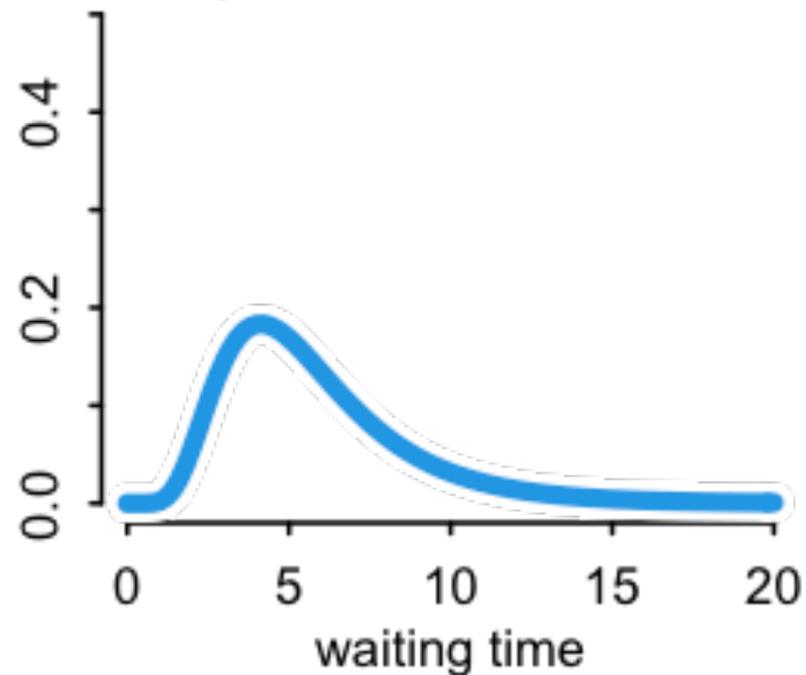
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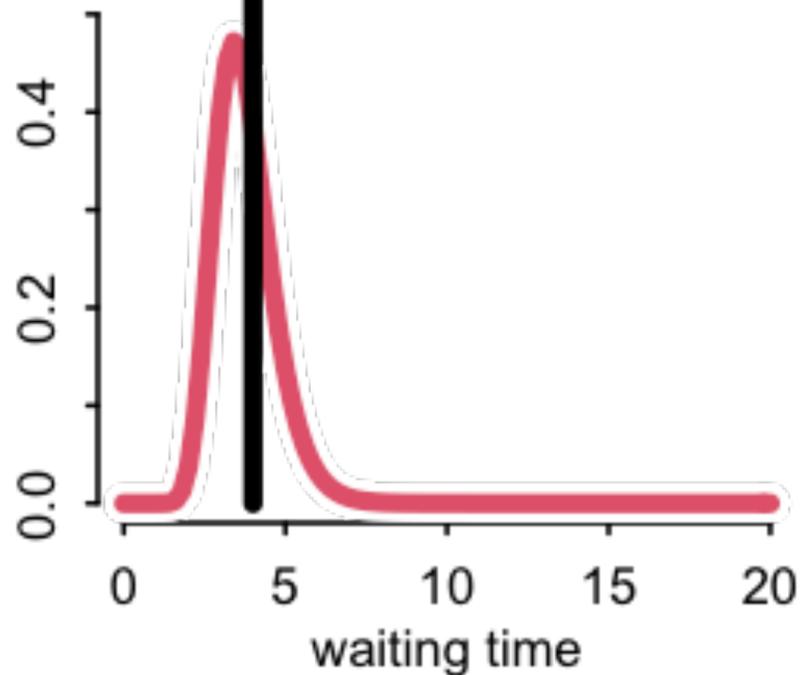
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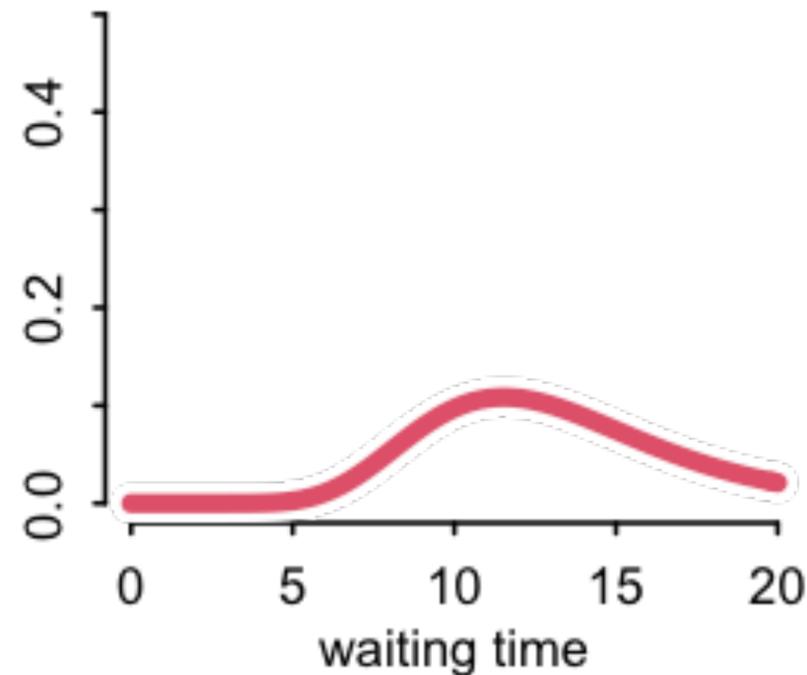
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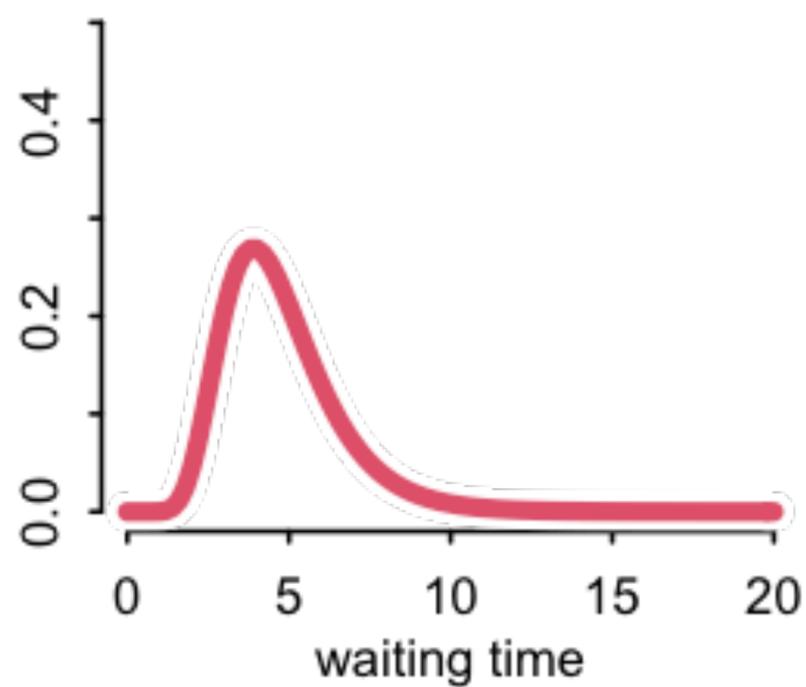
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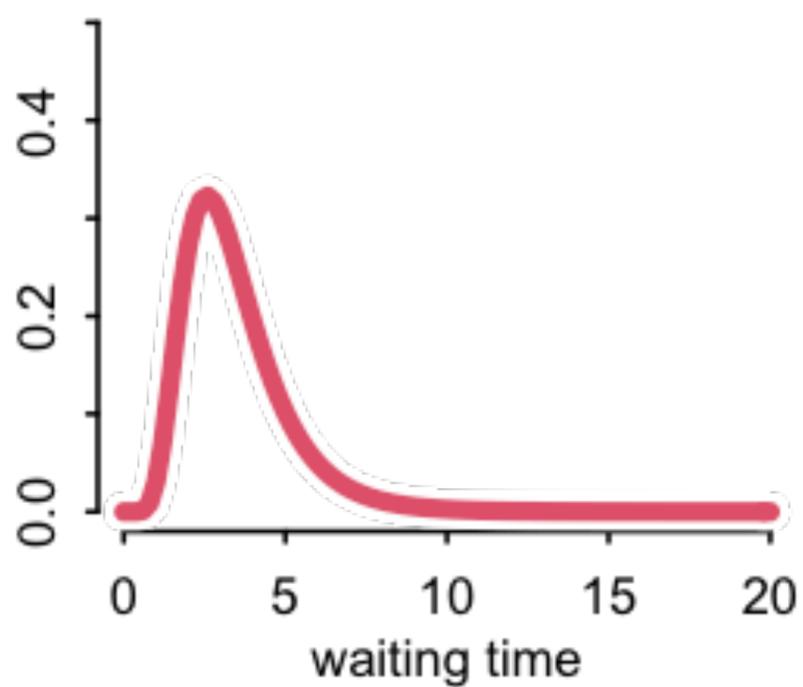
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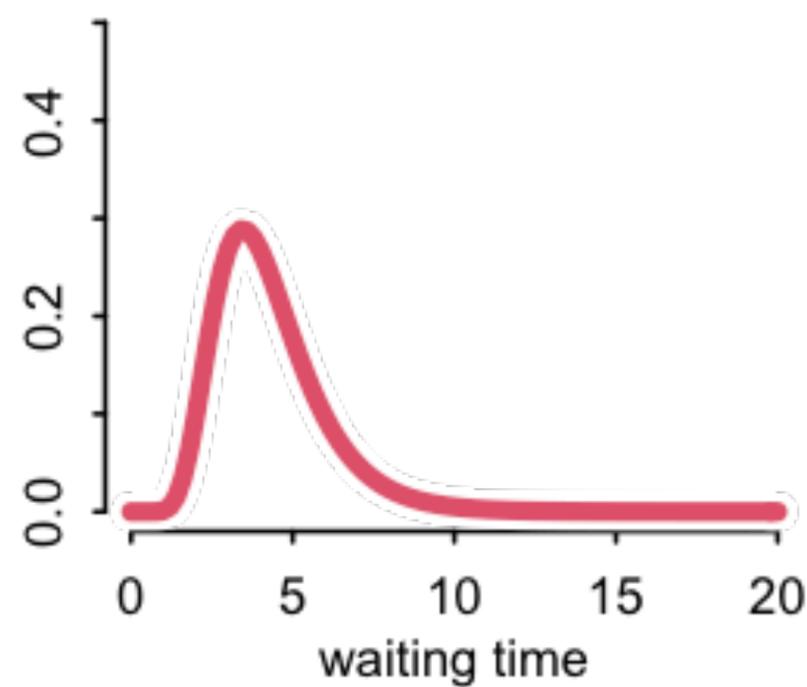
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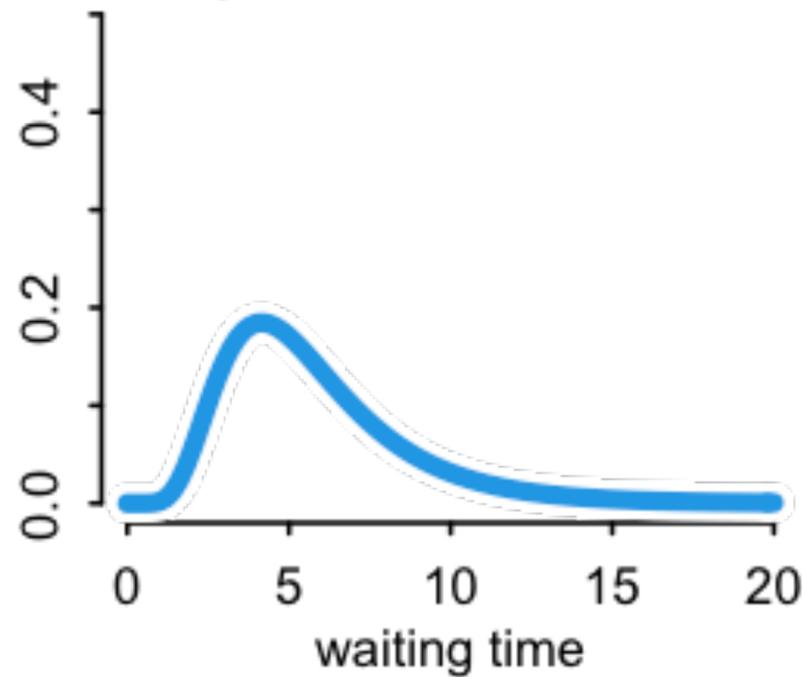
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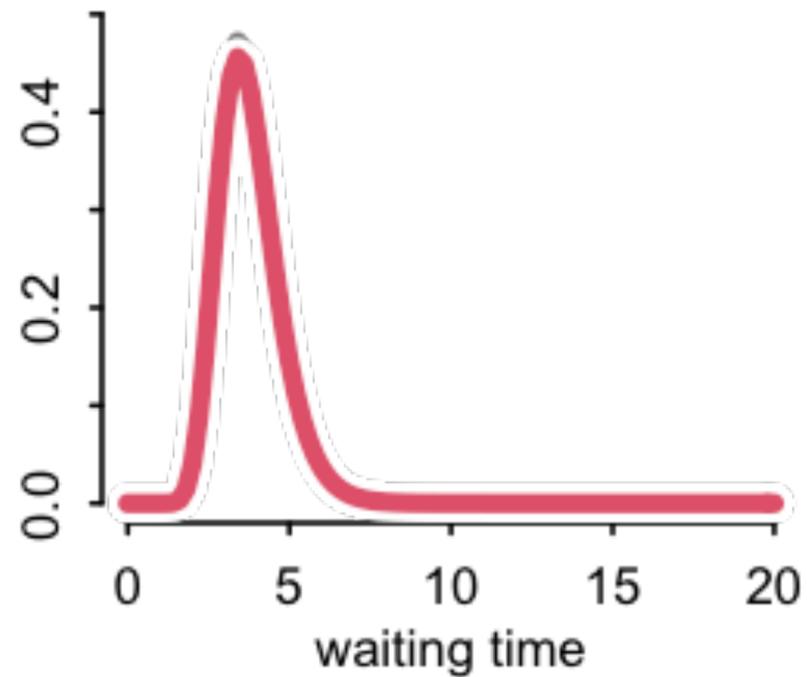
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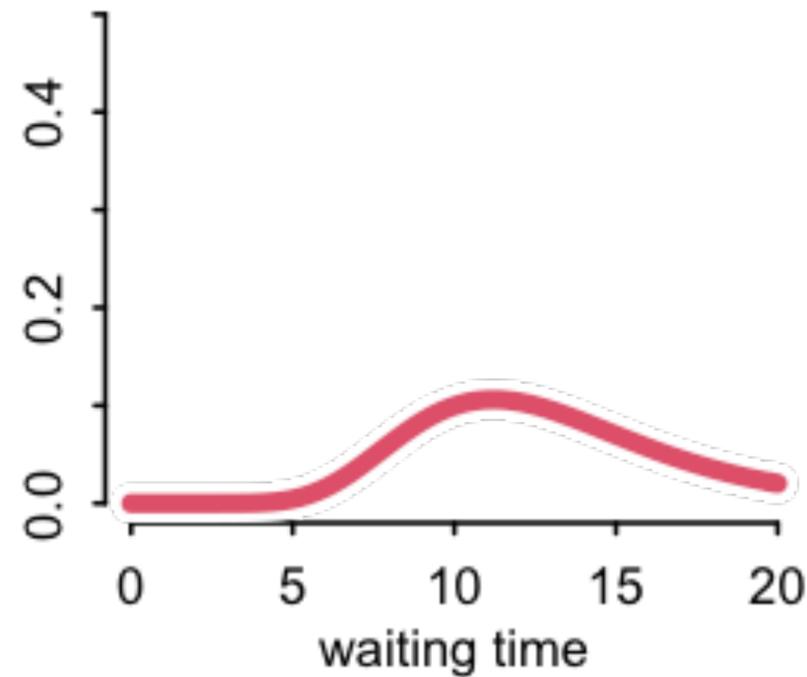
Population of cafes



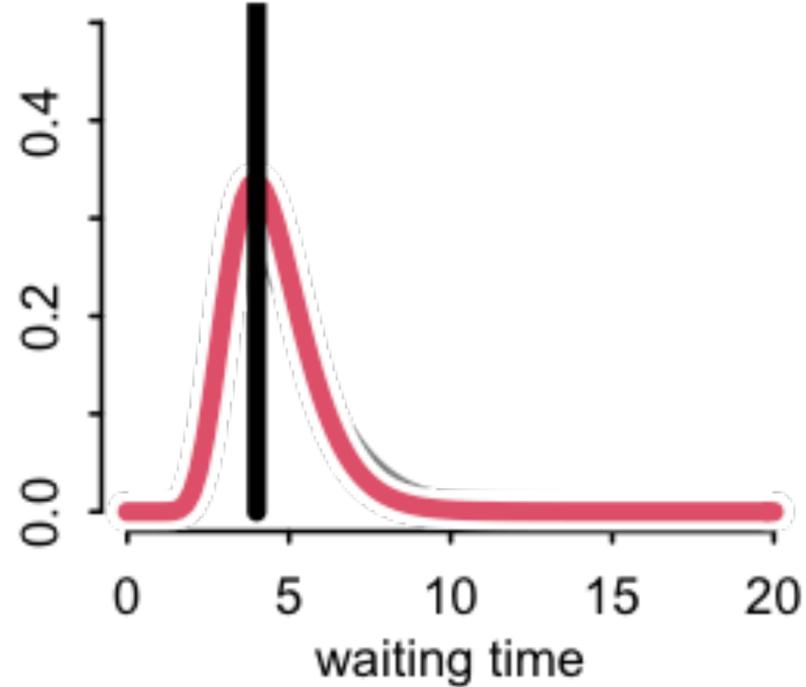
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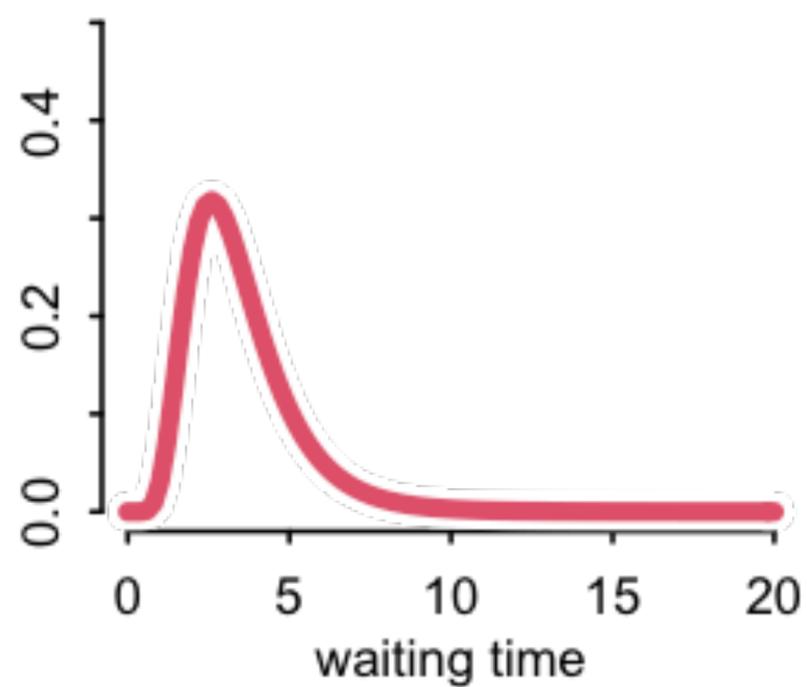
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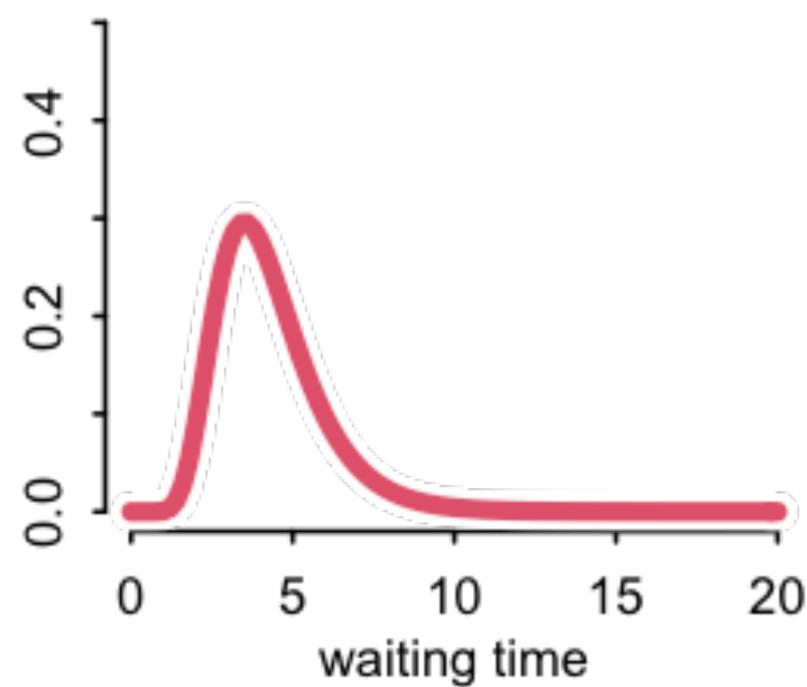
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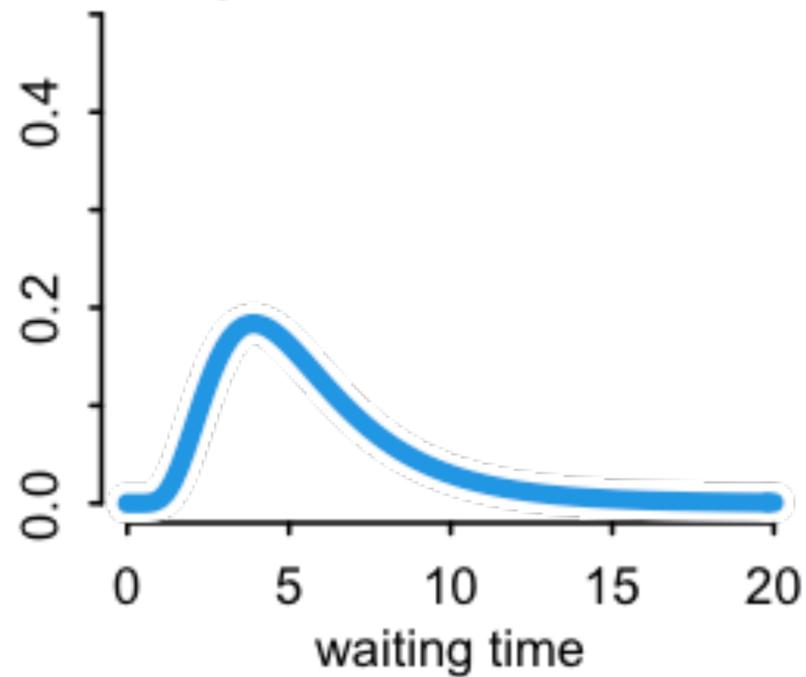
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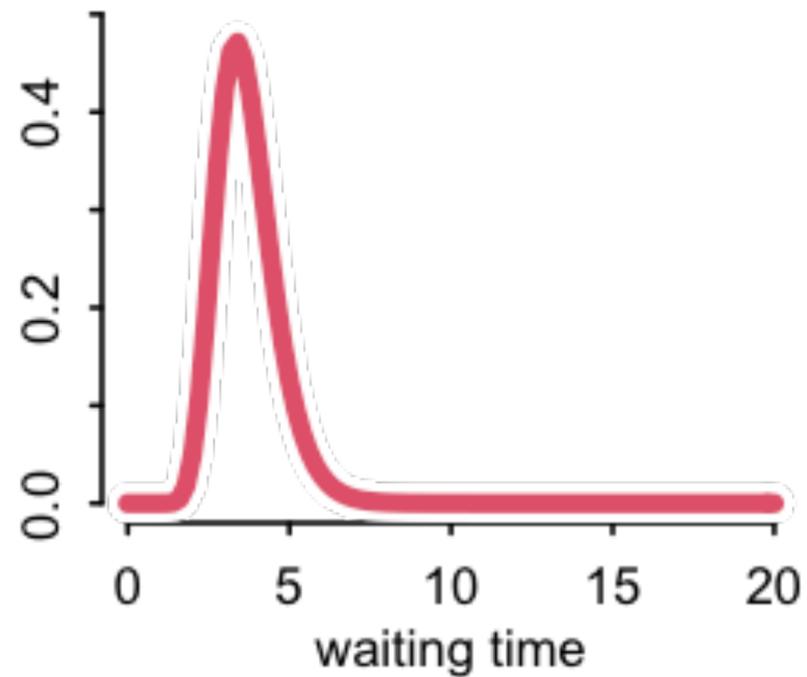
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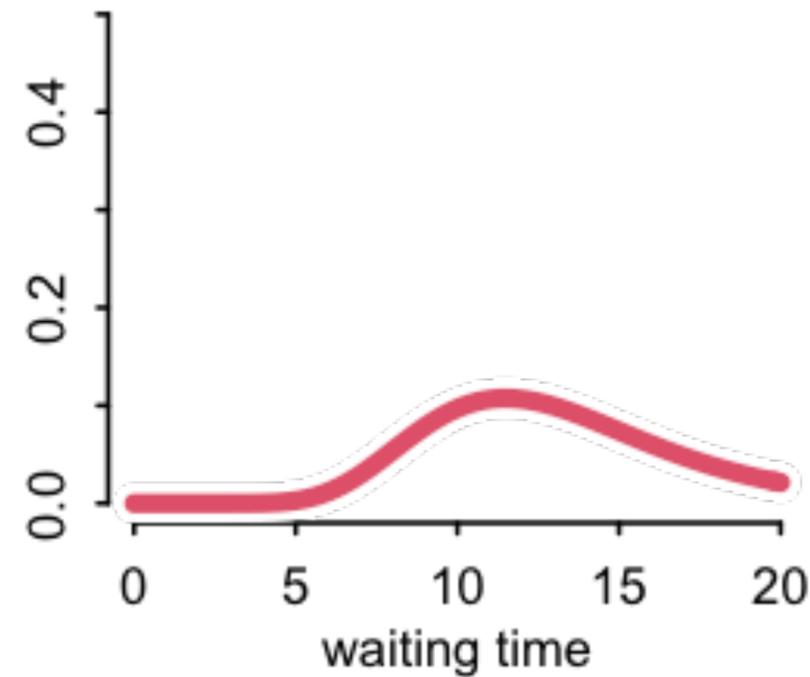
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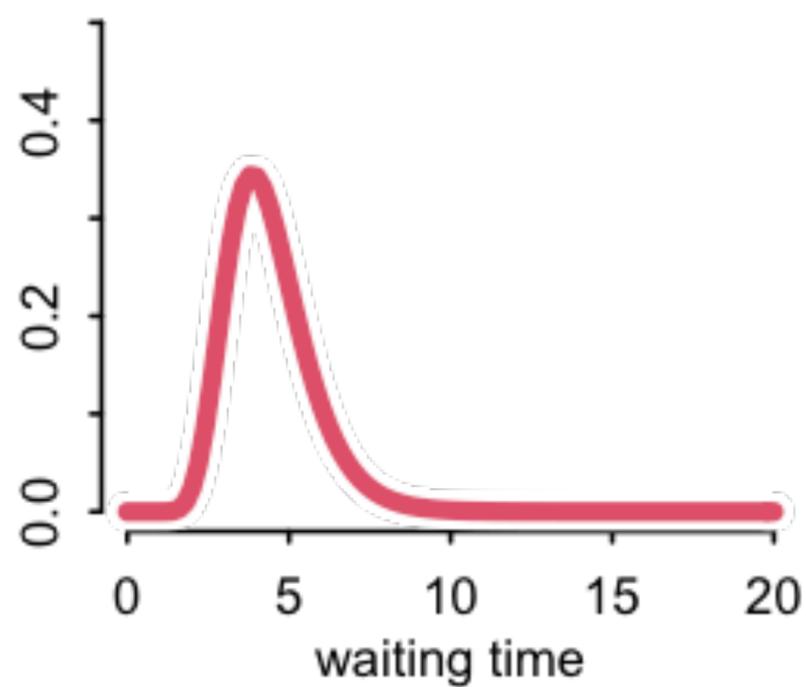
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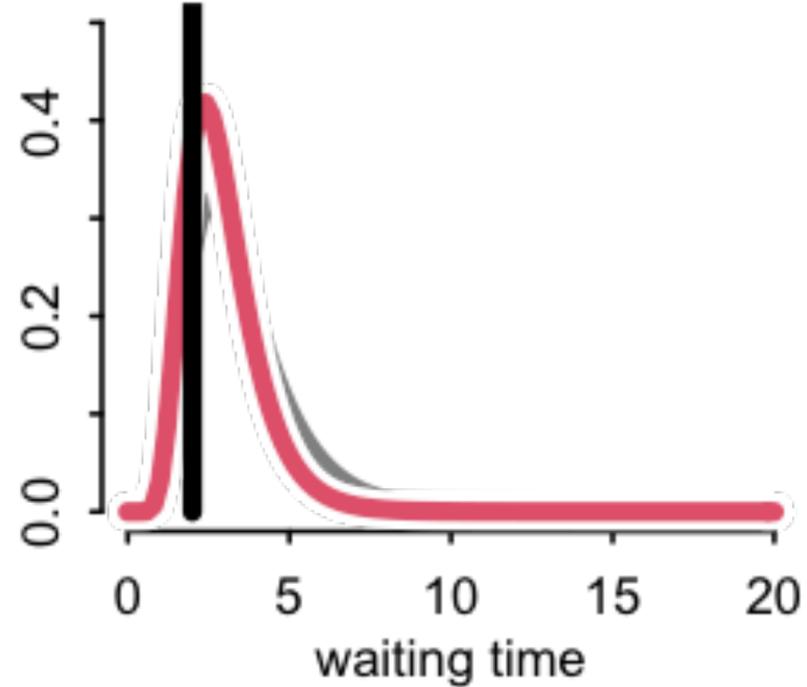
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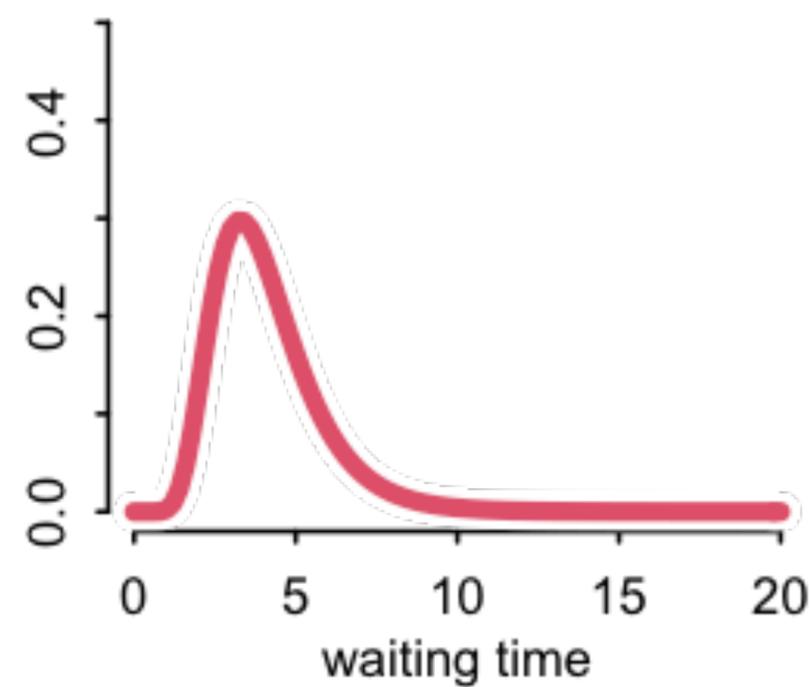
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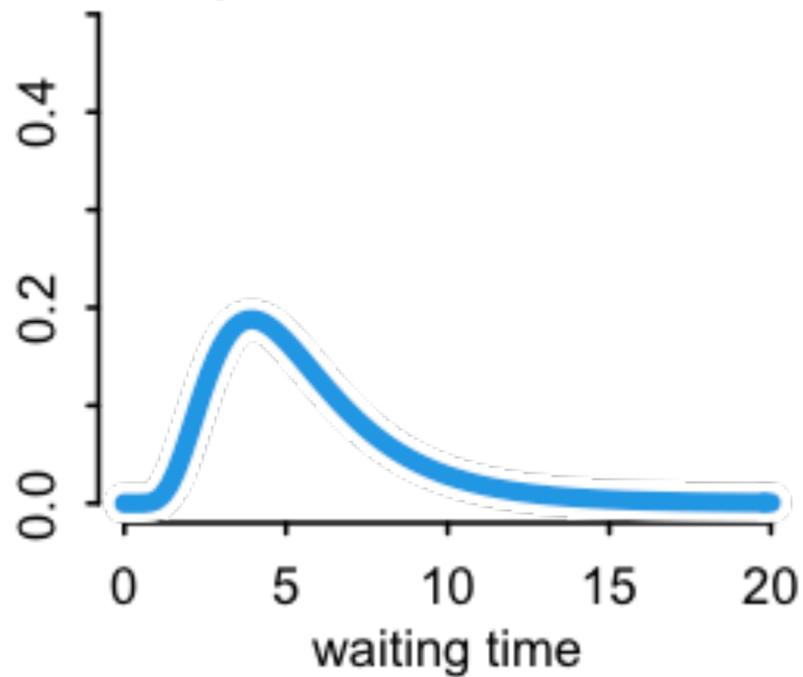
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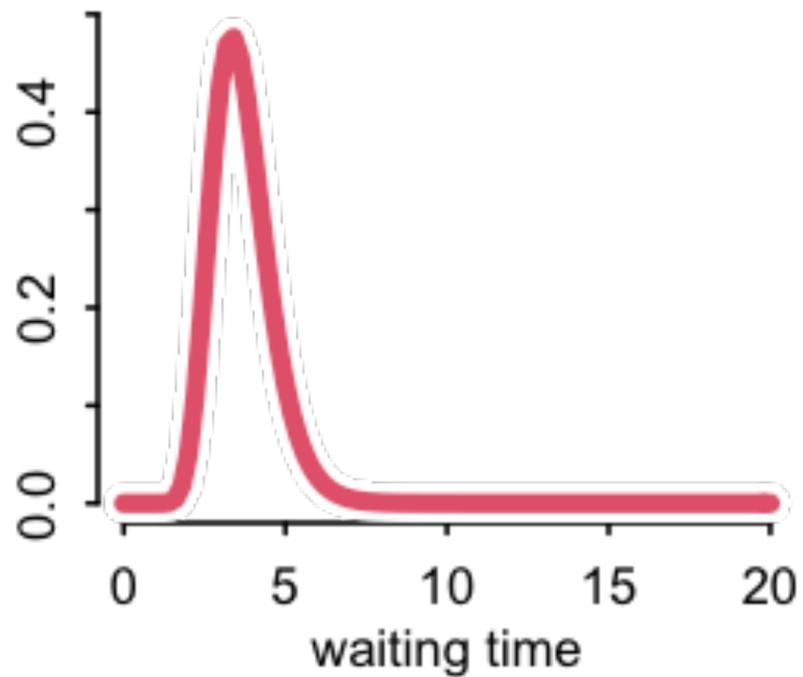
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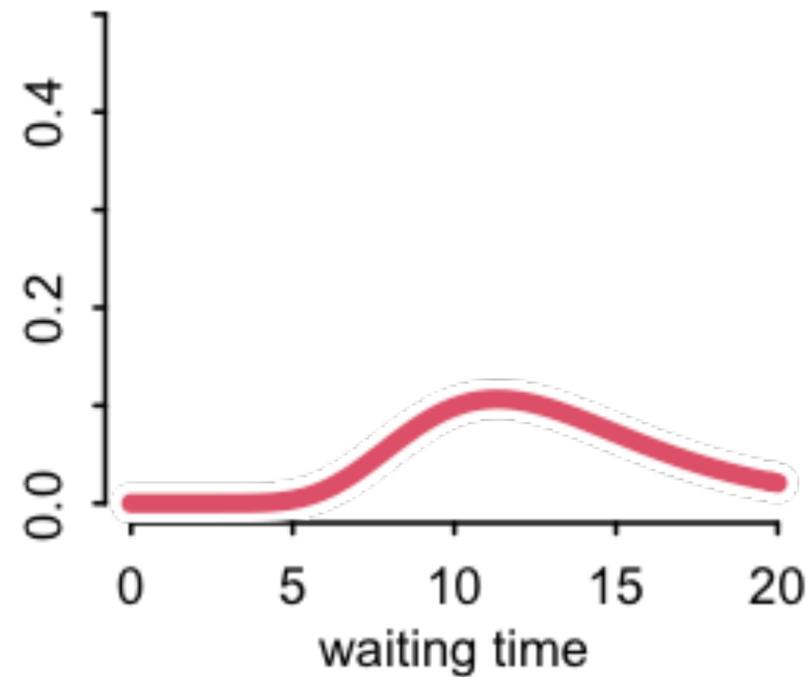
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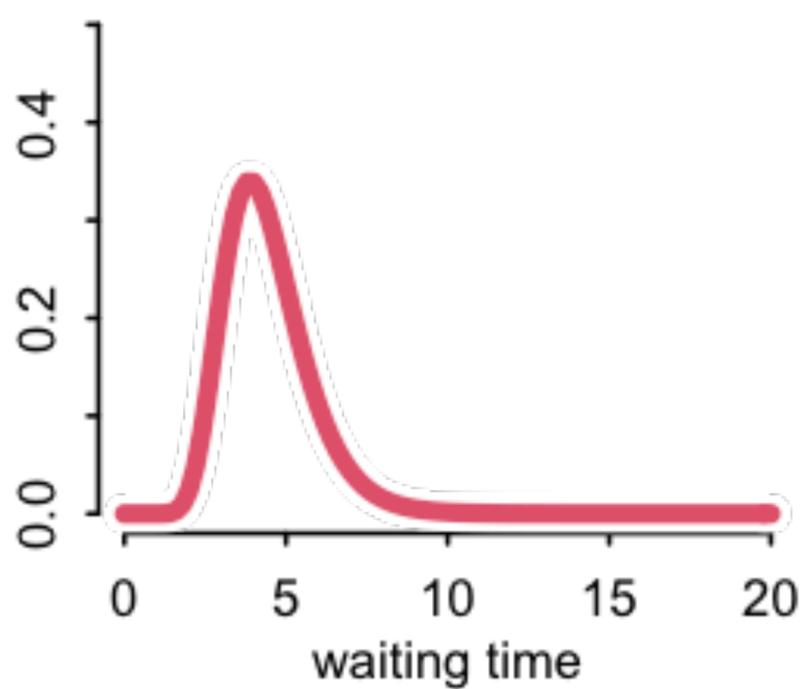
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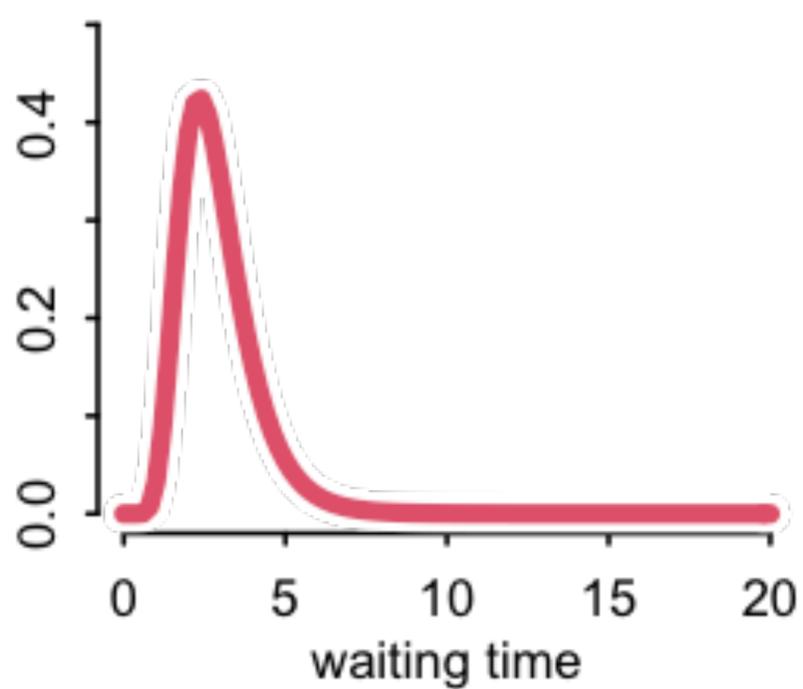
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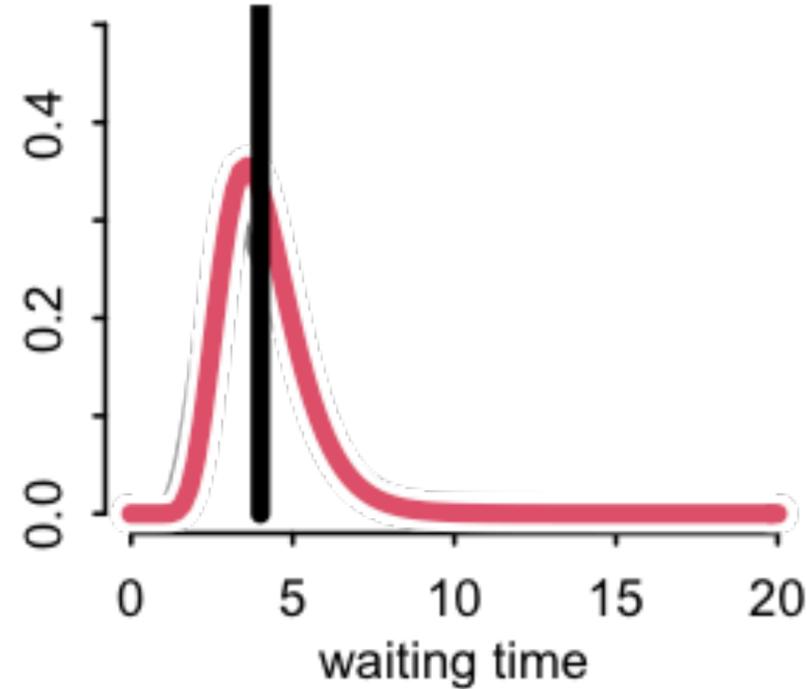
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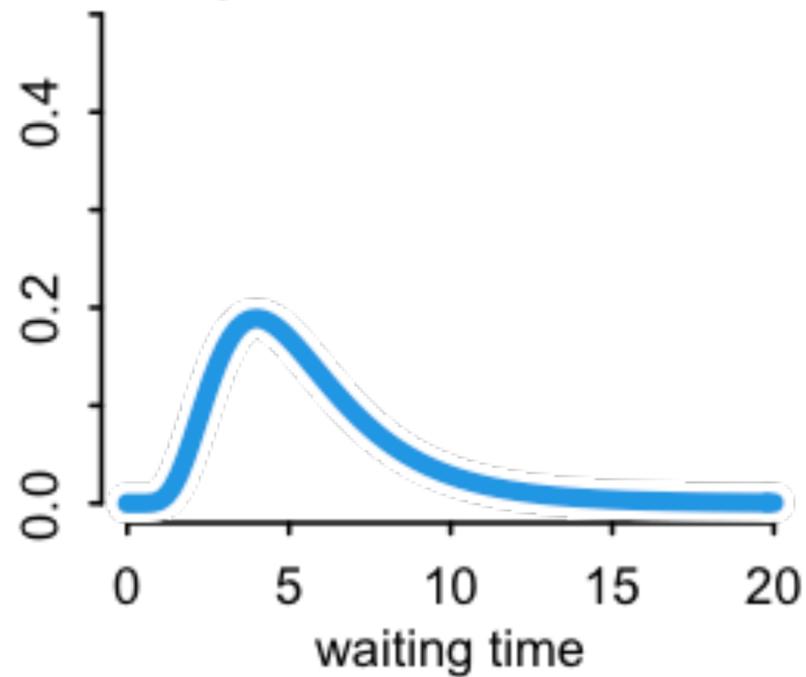
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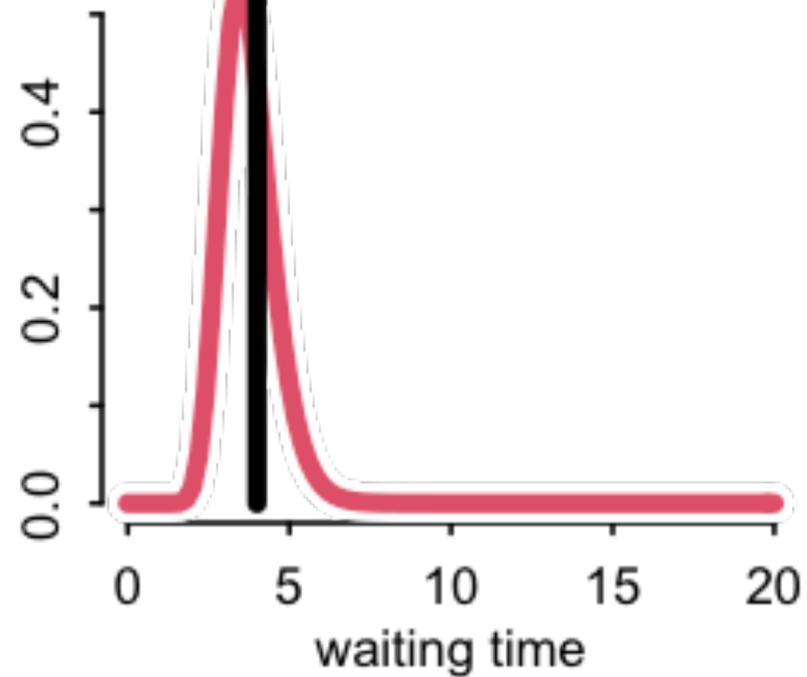
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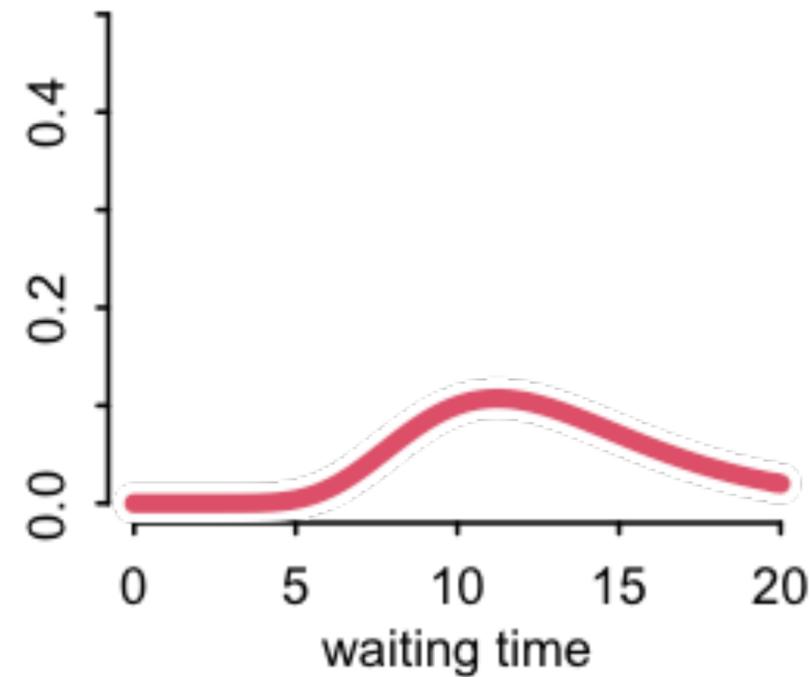
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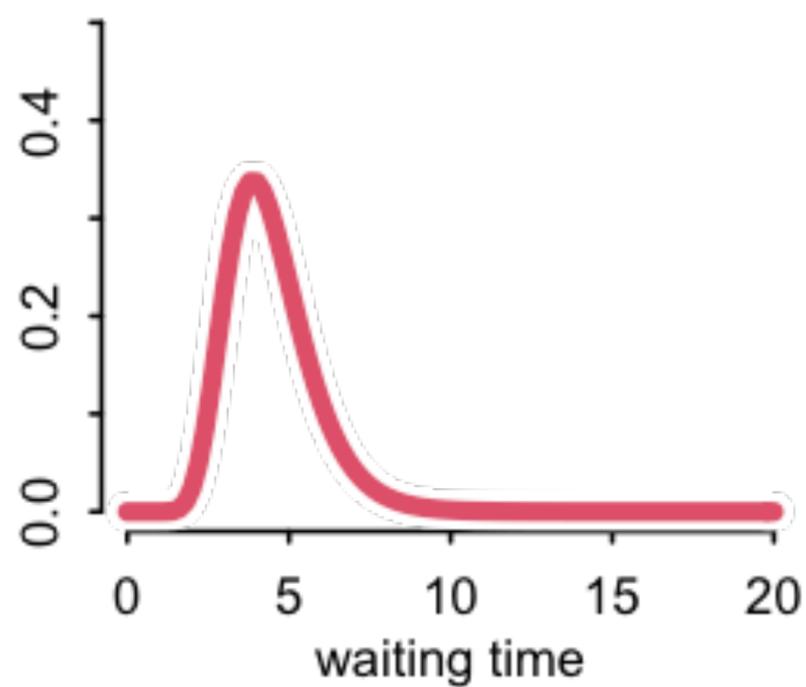
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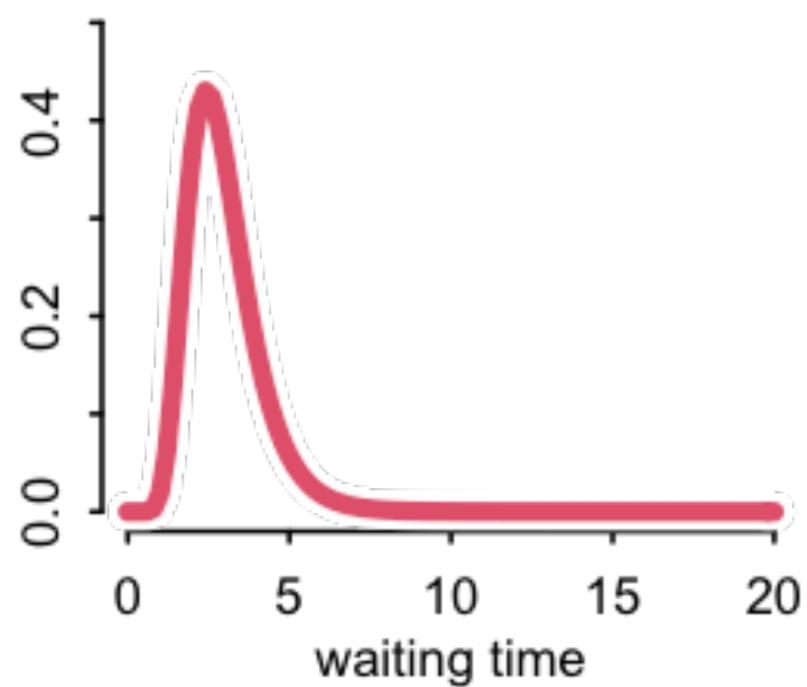
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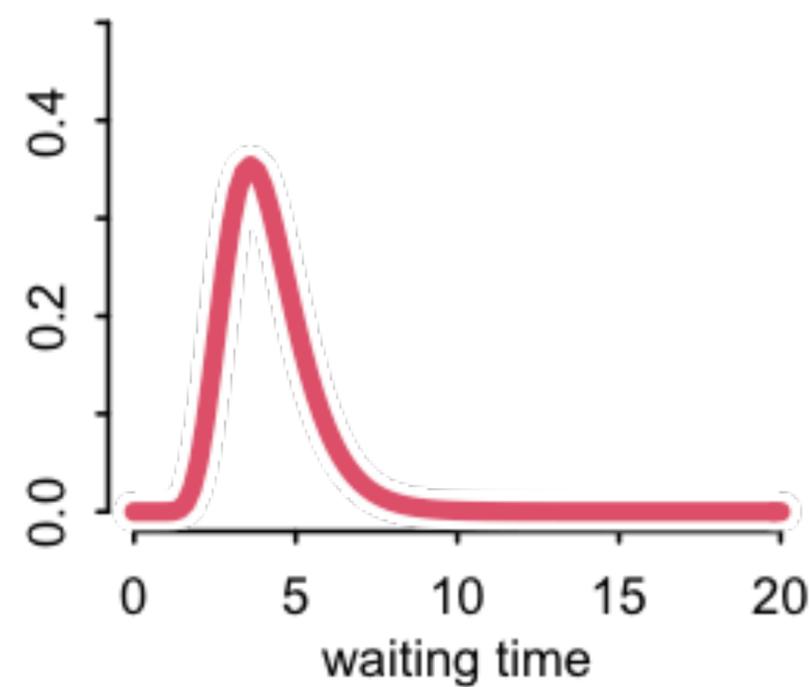
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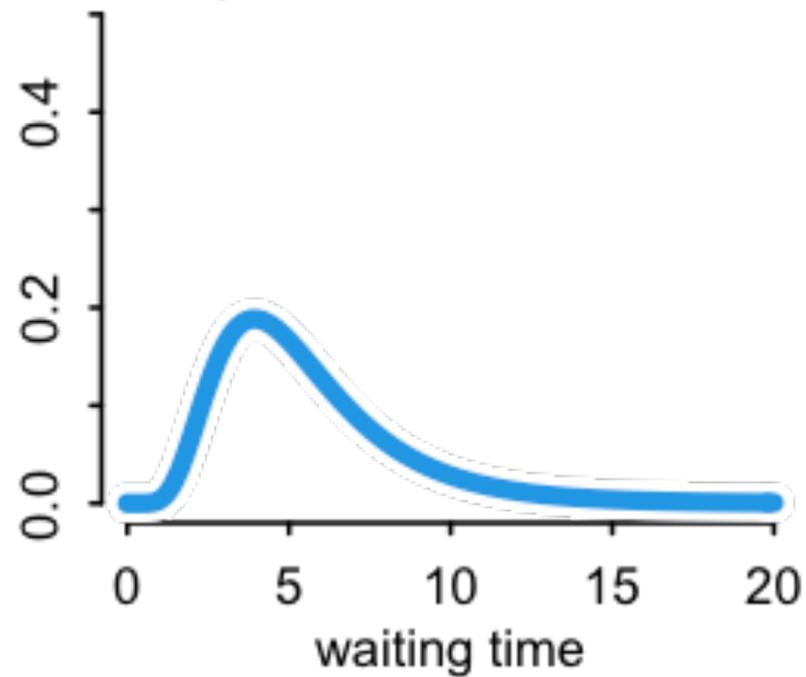
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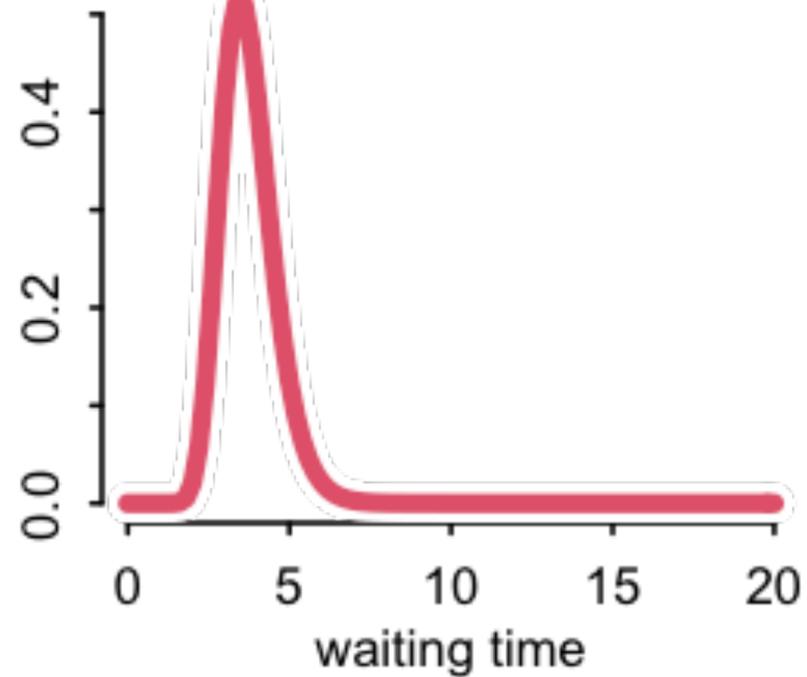
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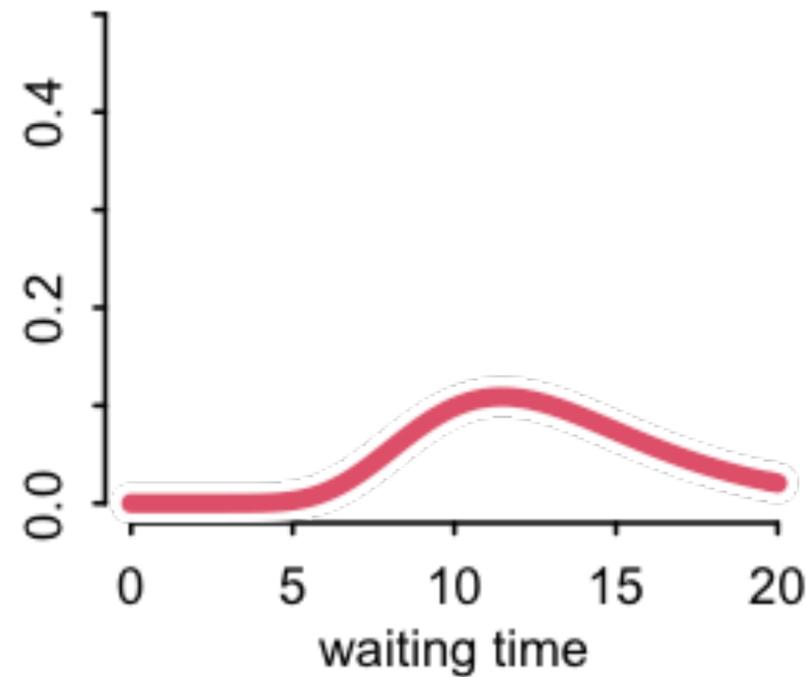
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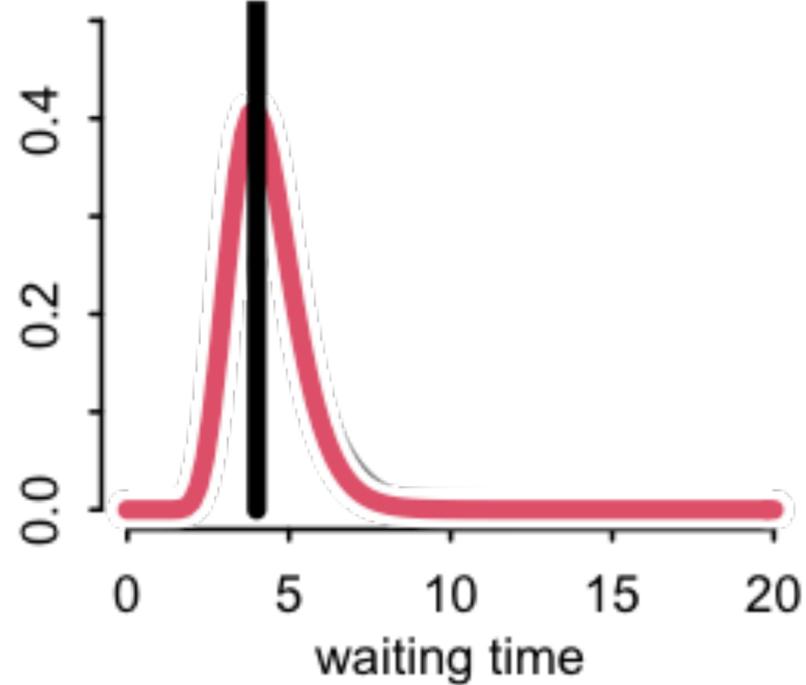
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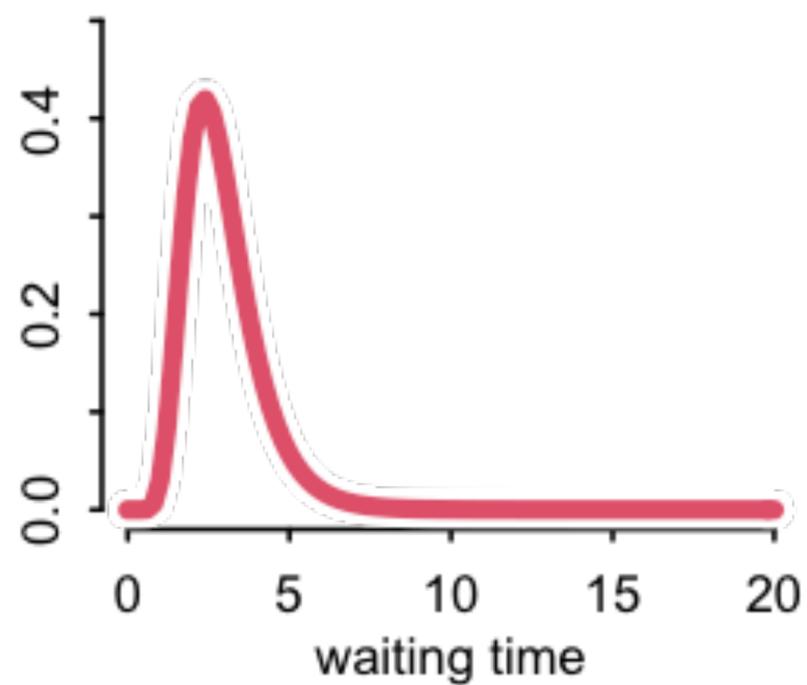
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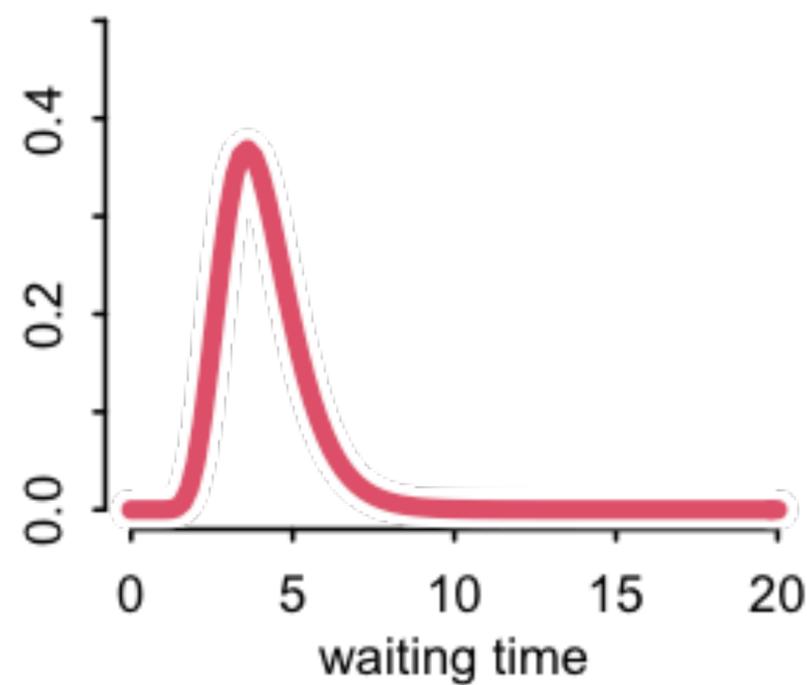
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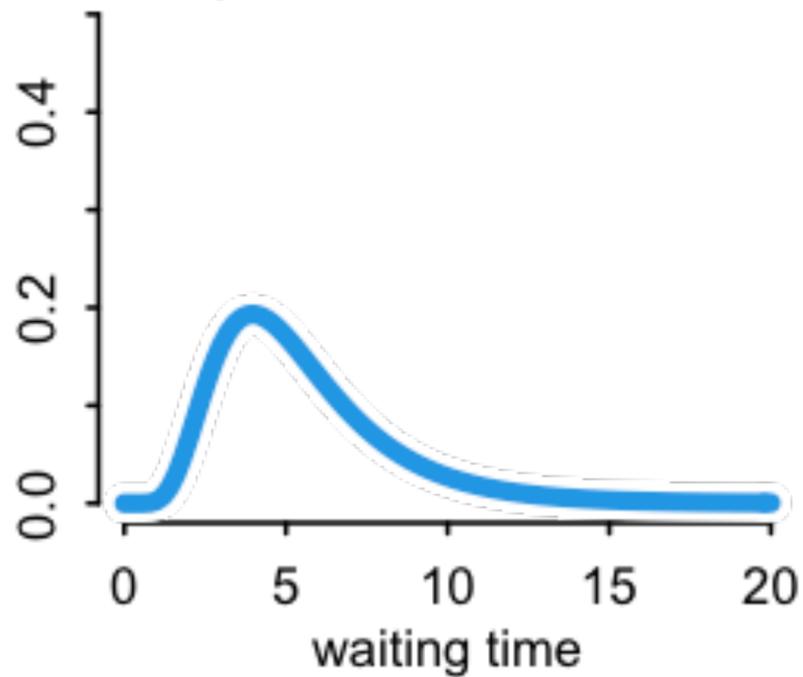
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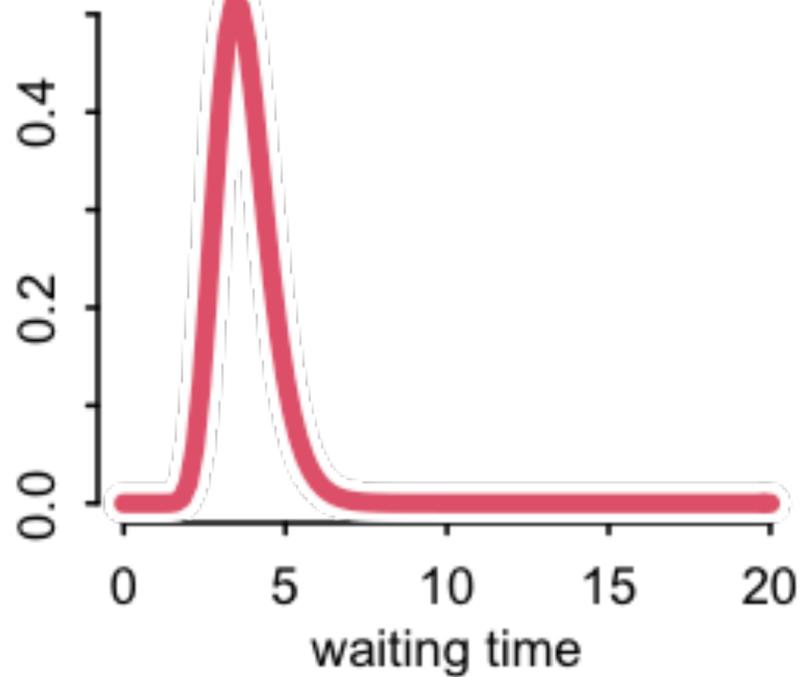
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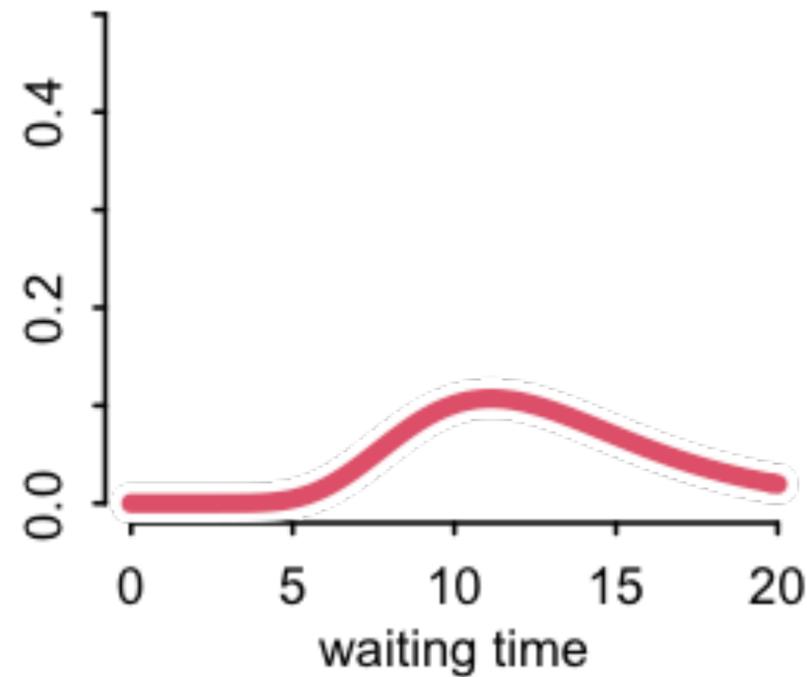
Population of cafes



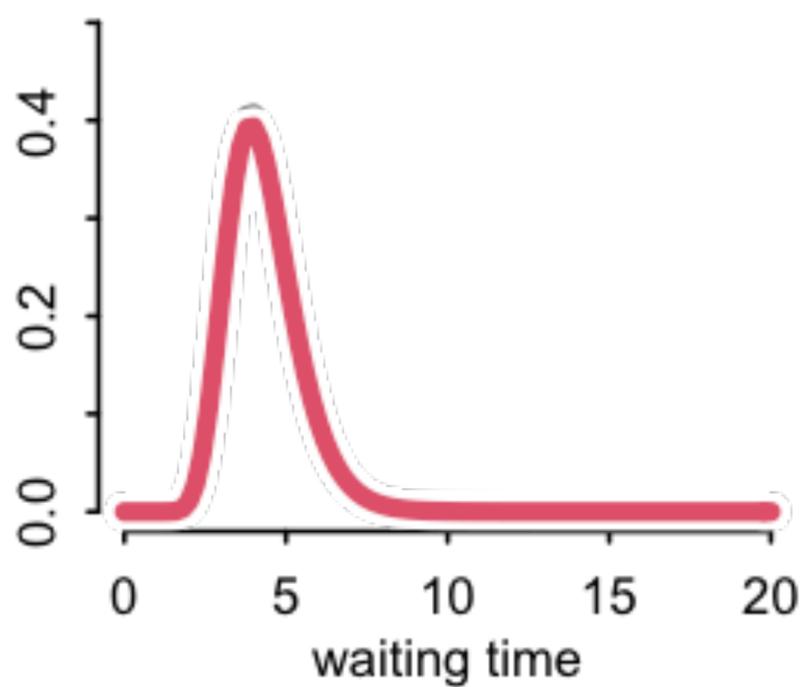
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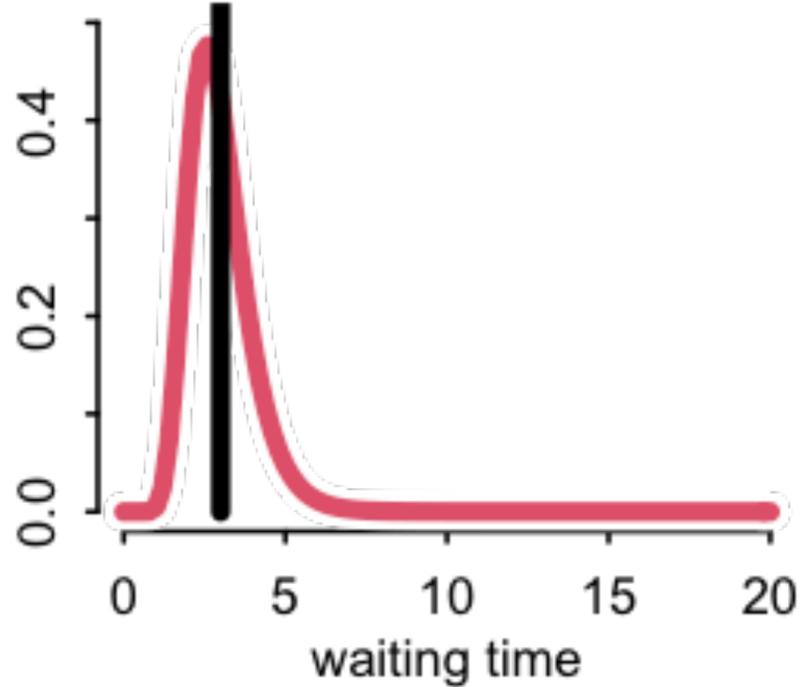
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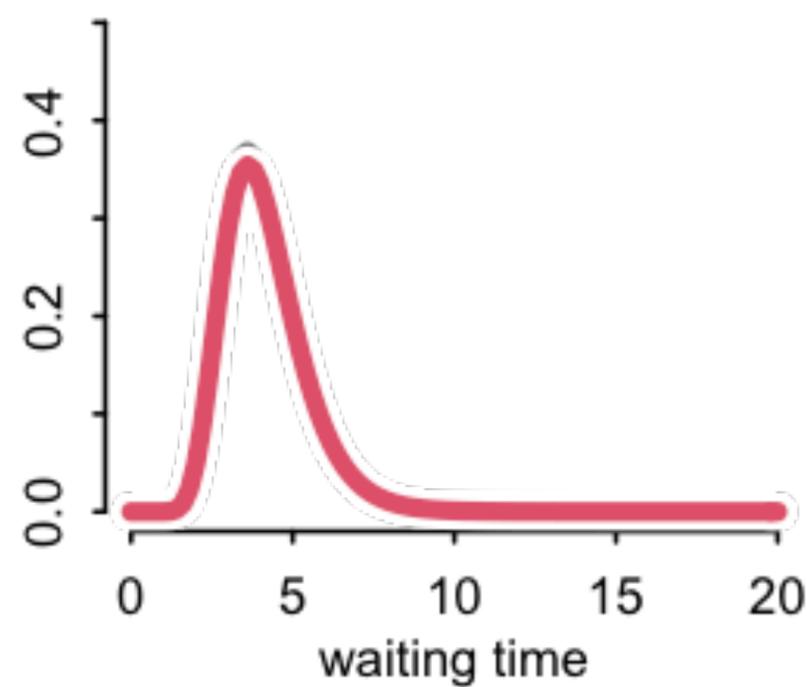
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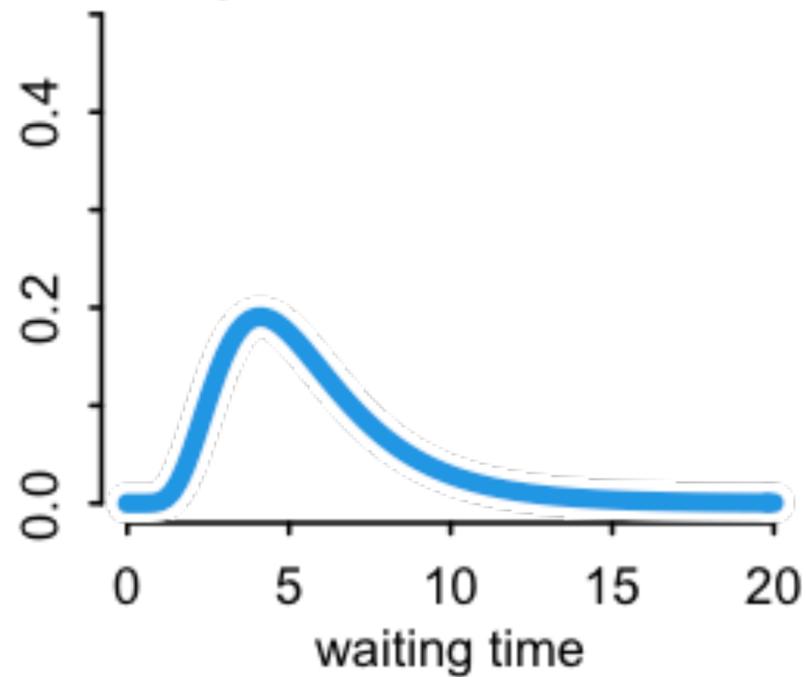
3 visits



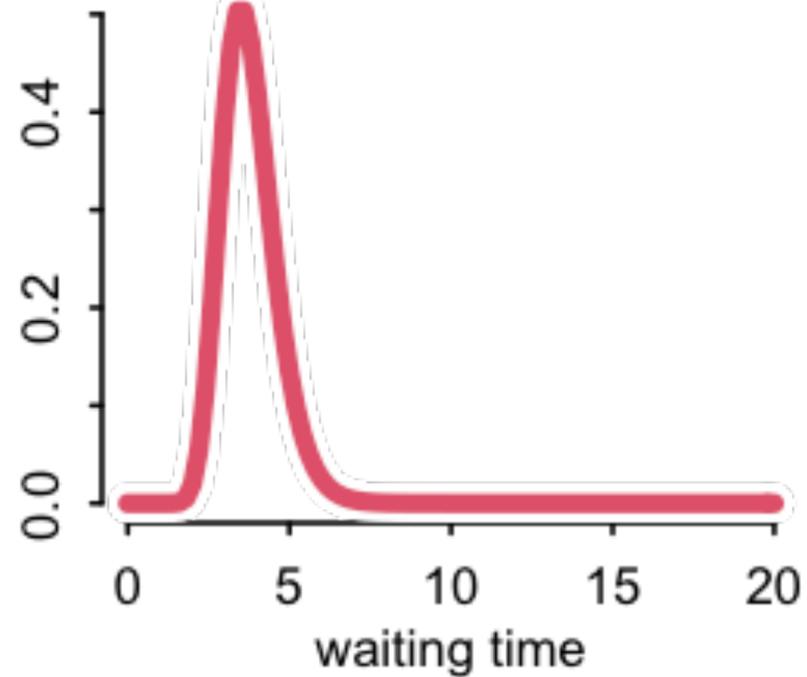
2 visits



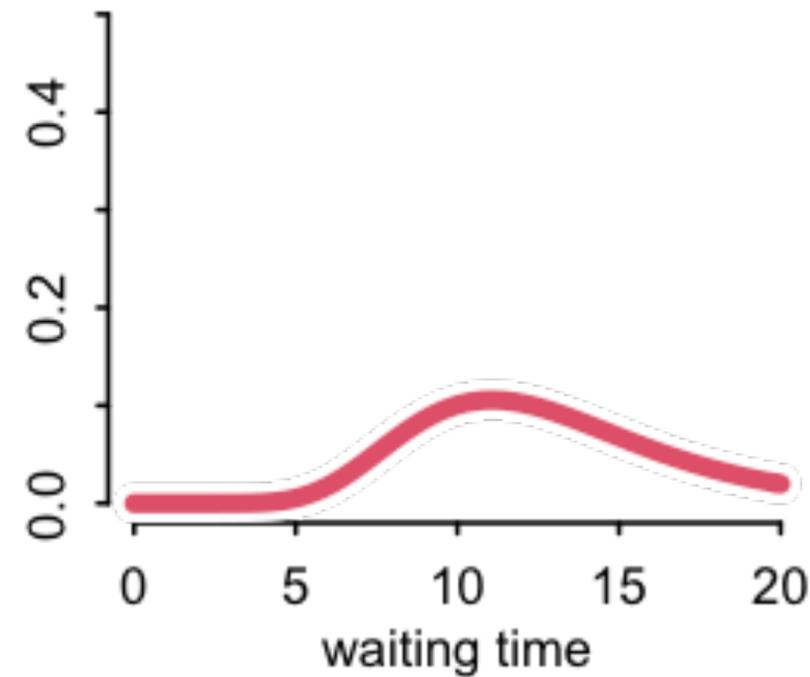
Population of cafes



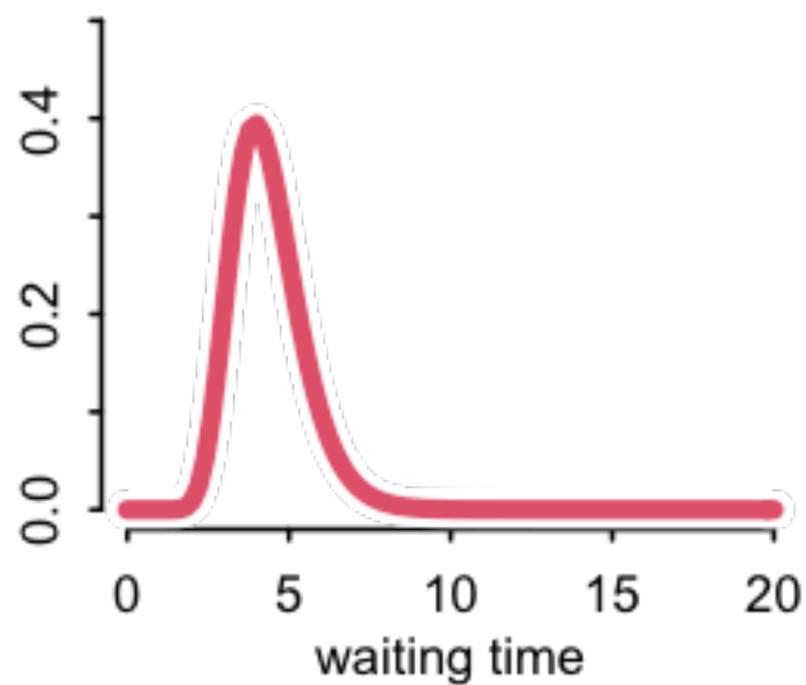
5 visits



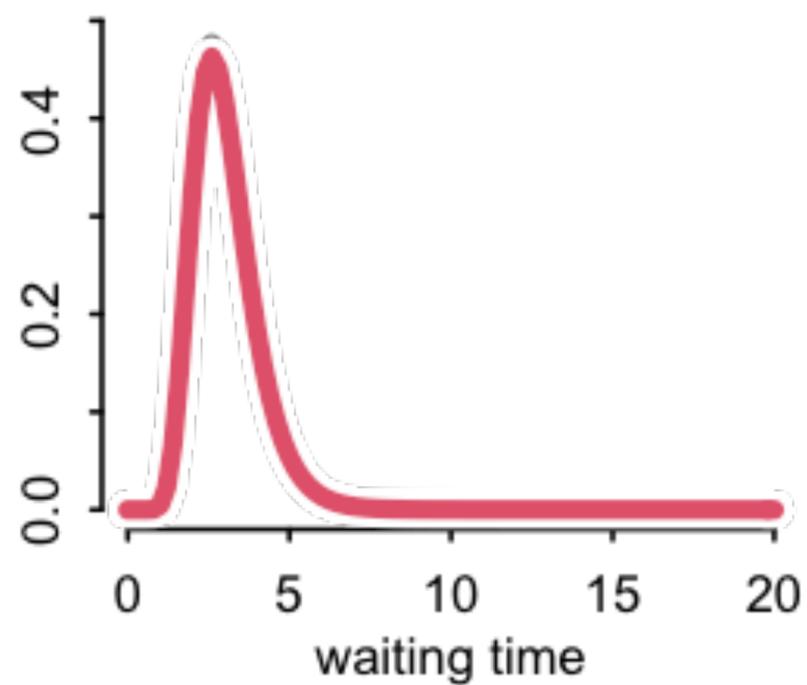
1 visits



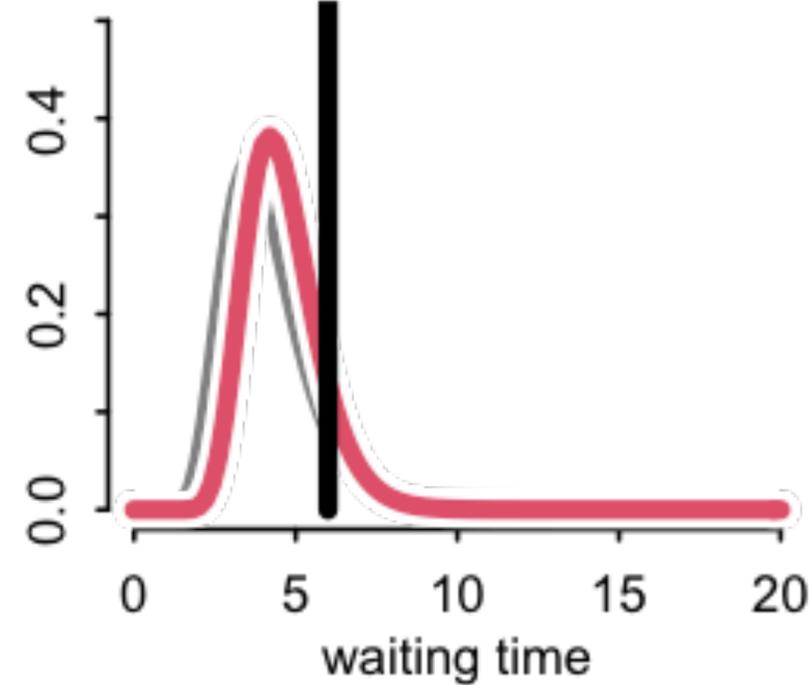
3 visits



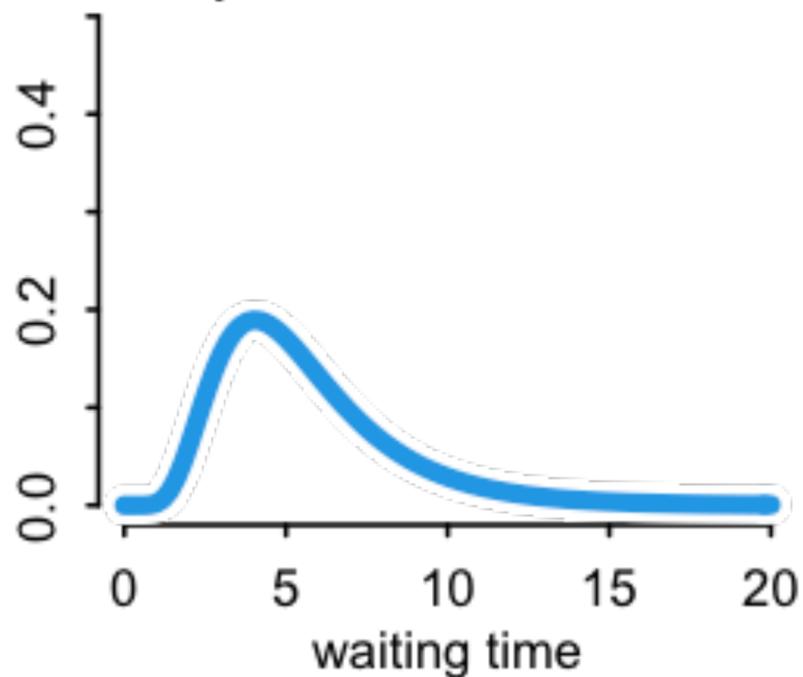
3 visits



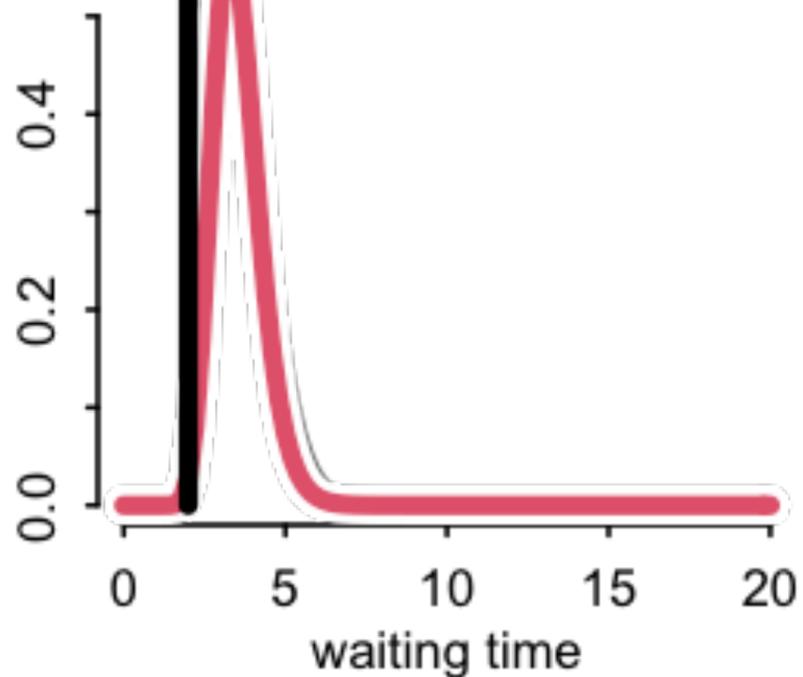
3 visits



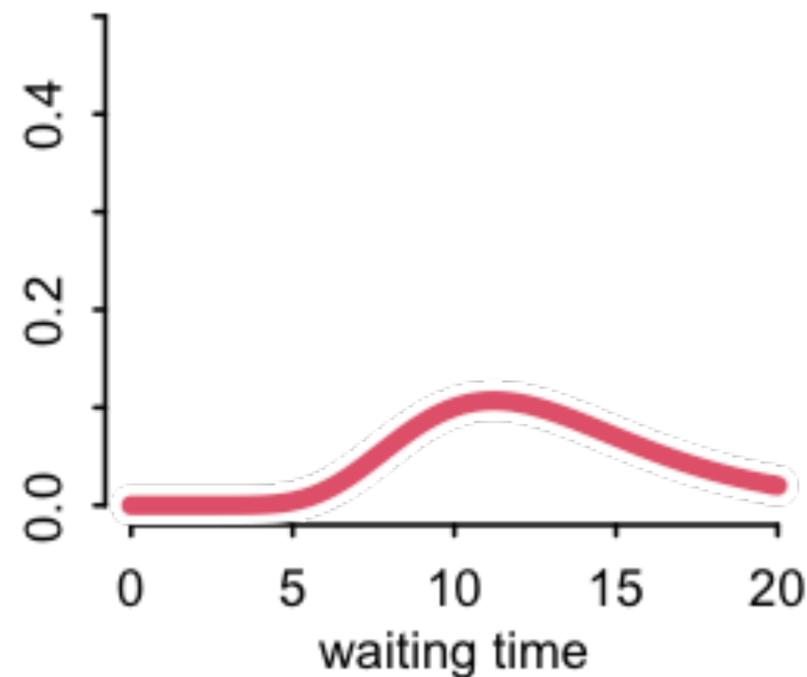
Population of cafes



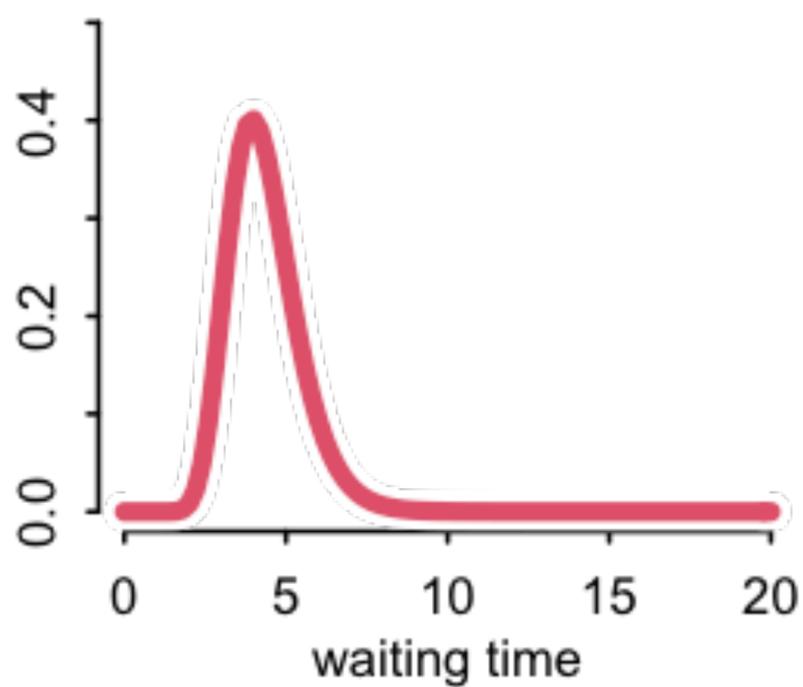
6 visits



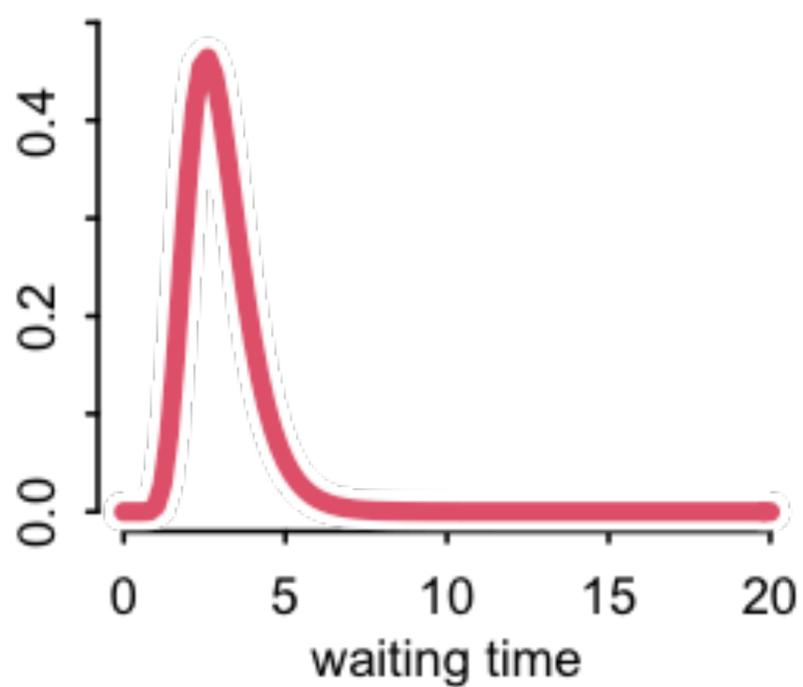
1 visits



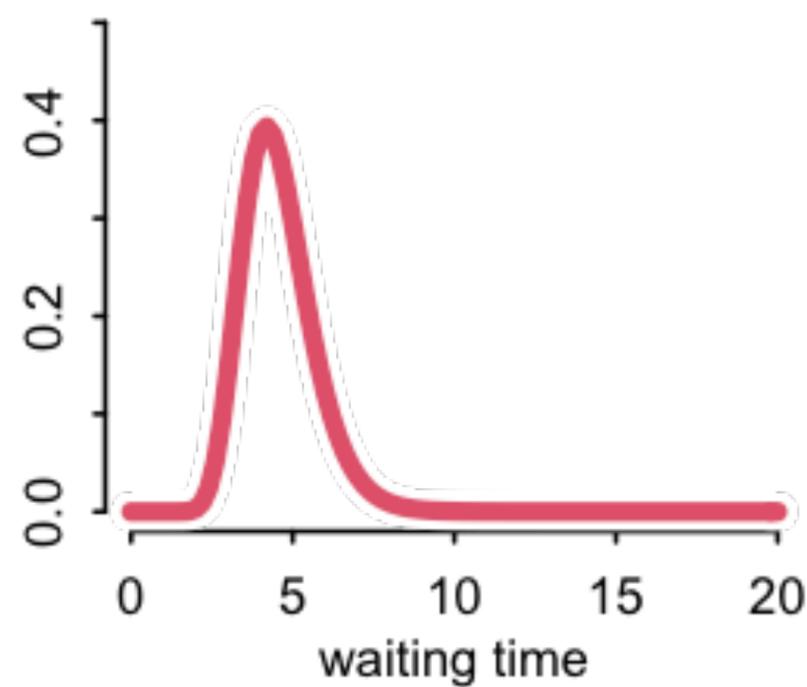
3 visits



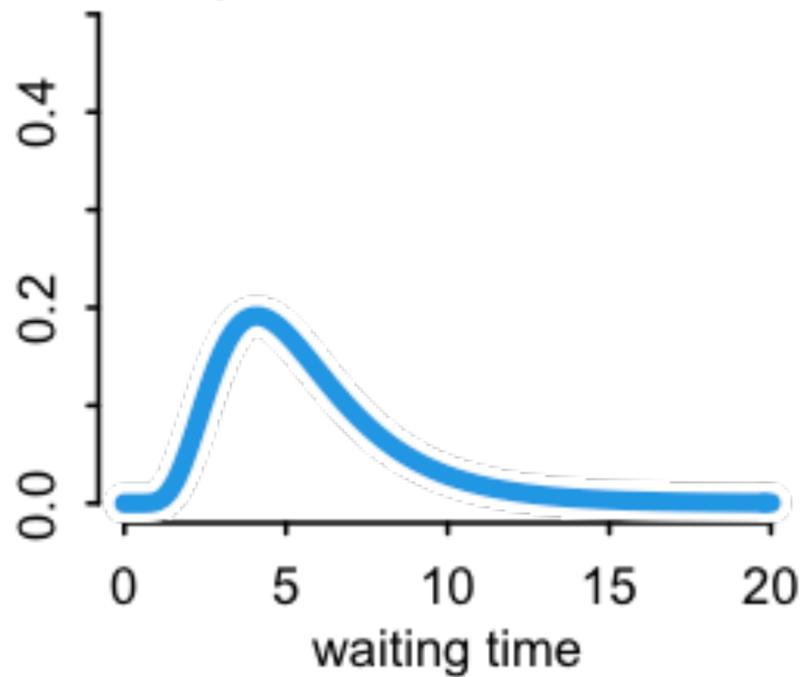
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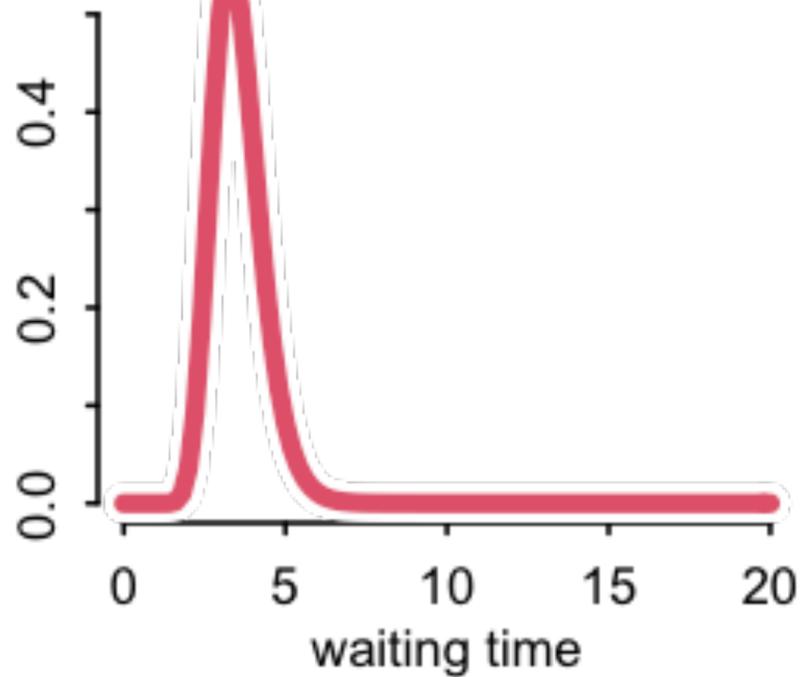
3 visits



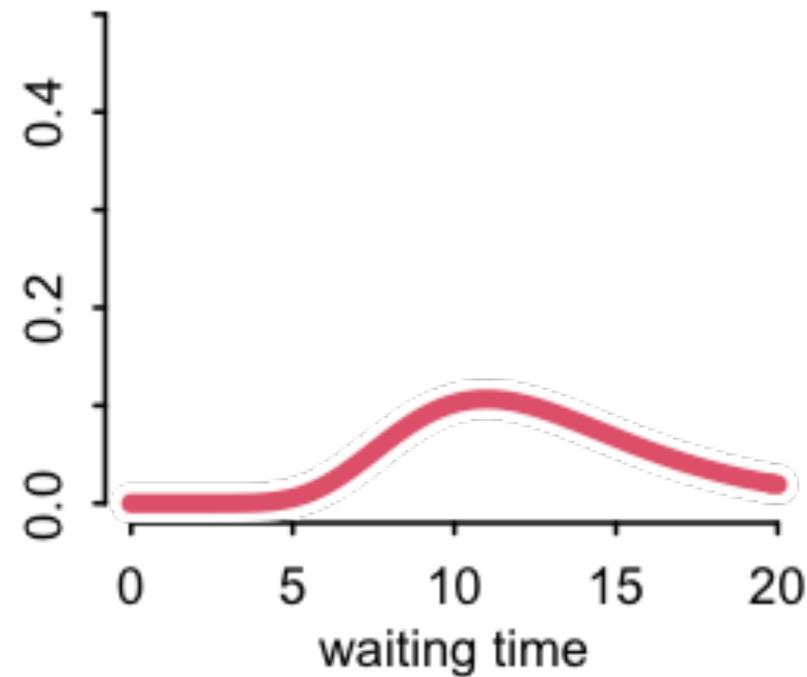
Population of cafes



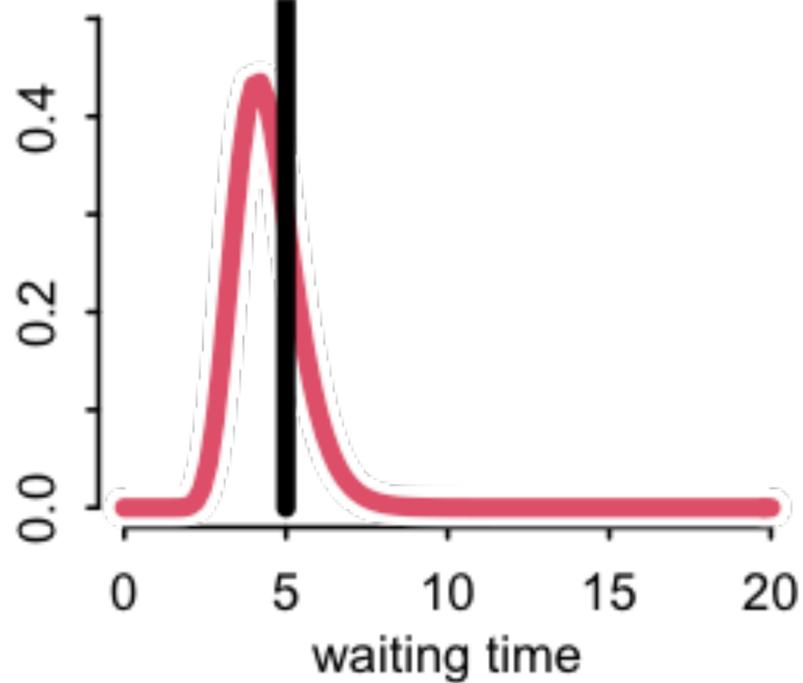
6 visits



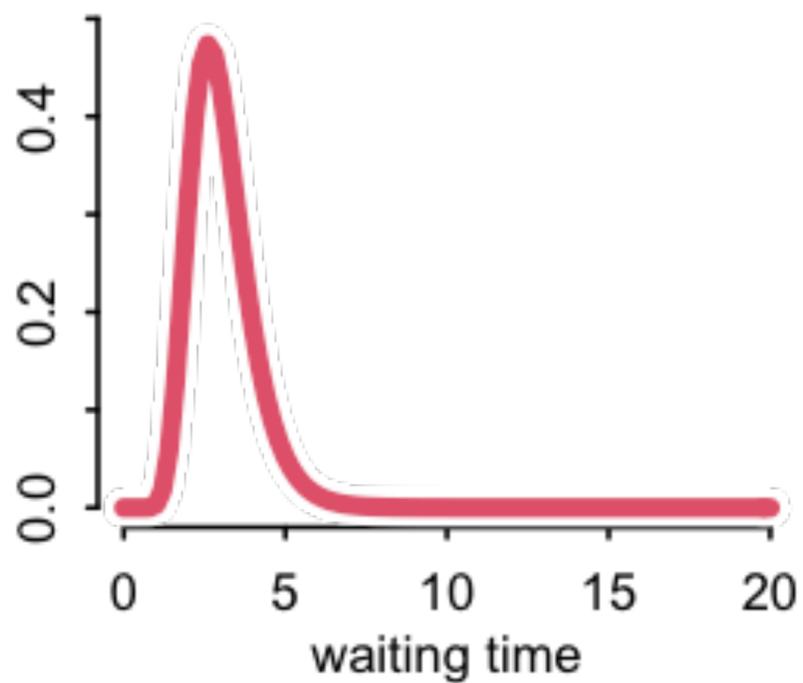
1 visits



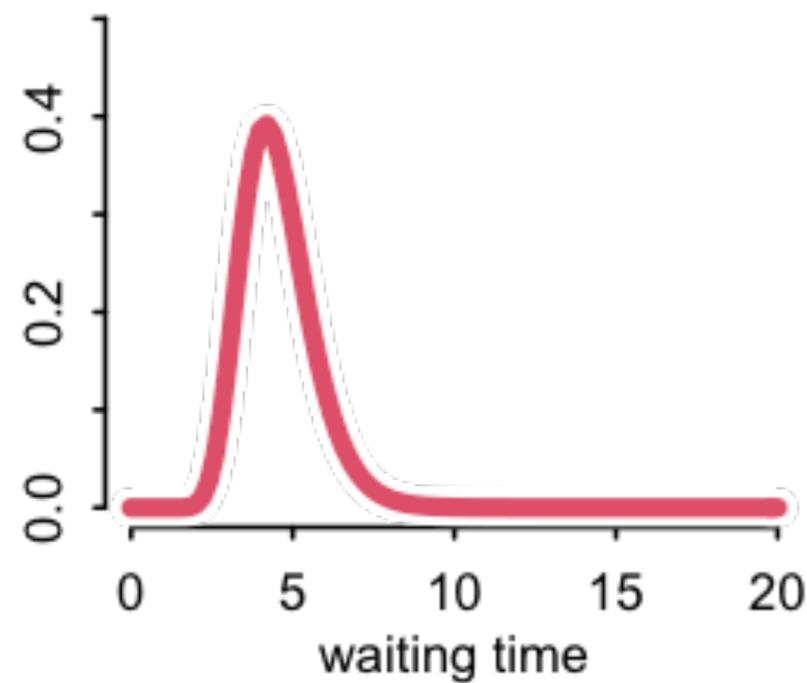
4 visits



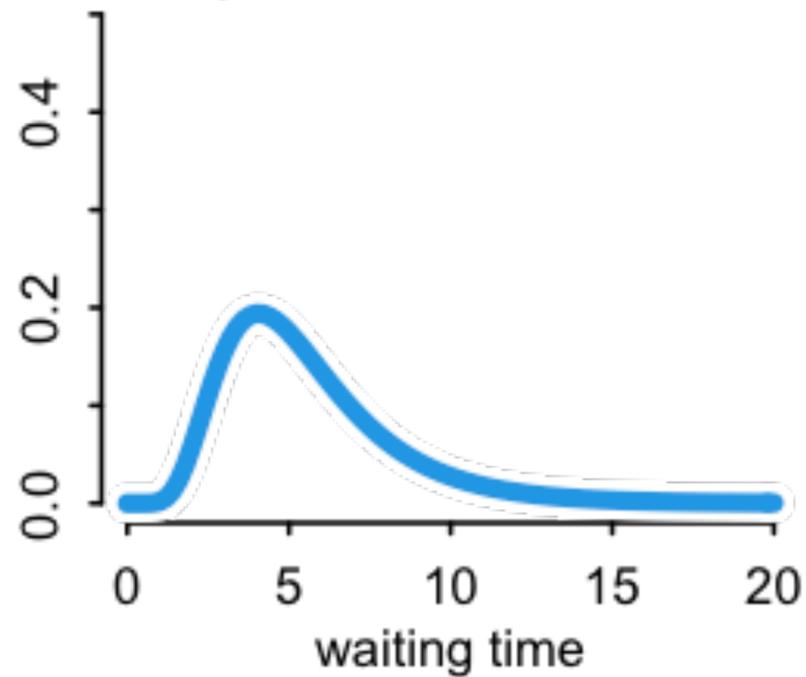
3 visits



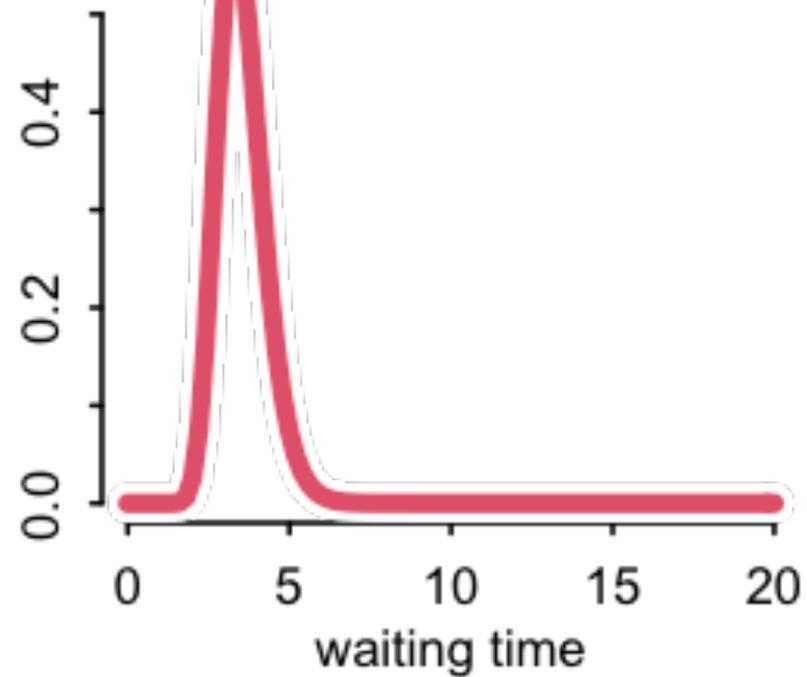
3 visits



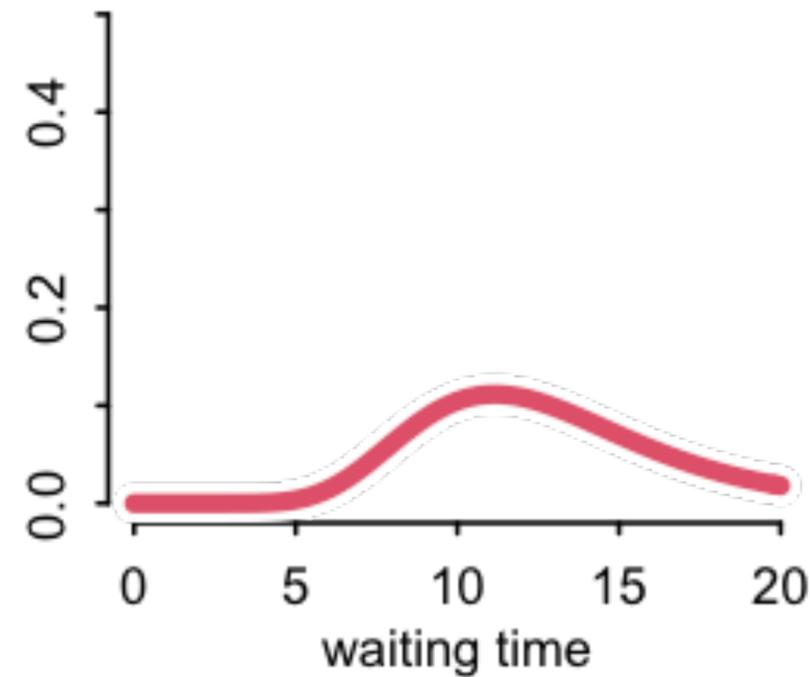
Population of cafes



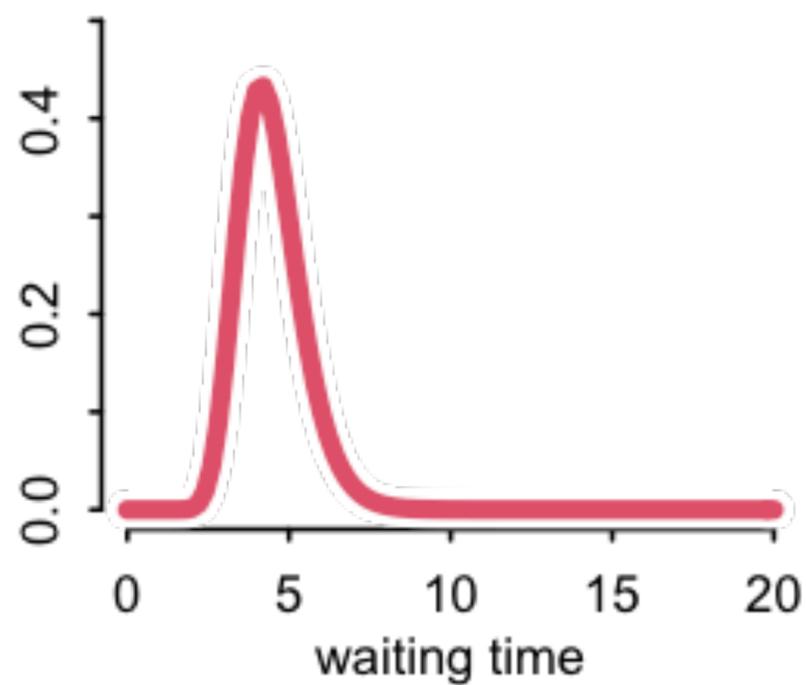
6 visits



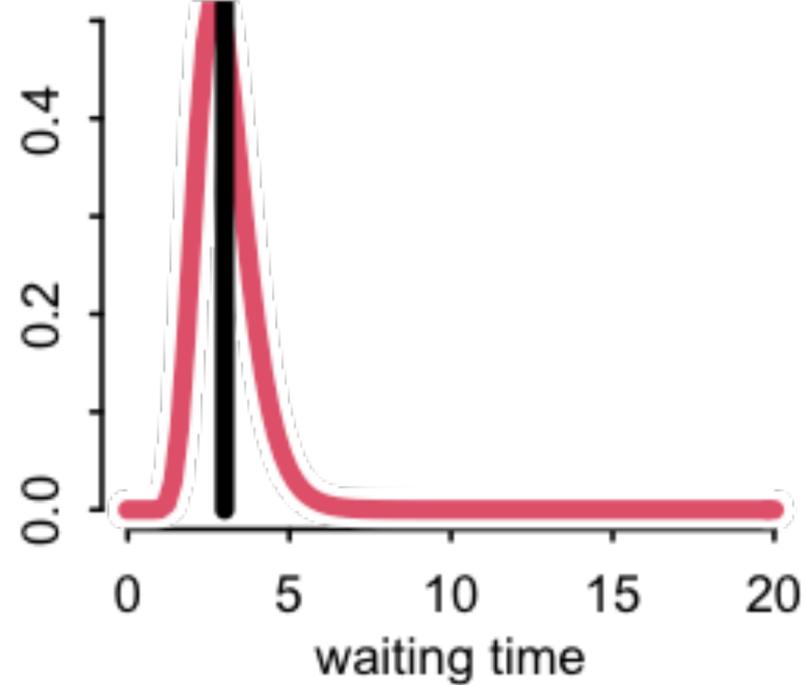
1 visits



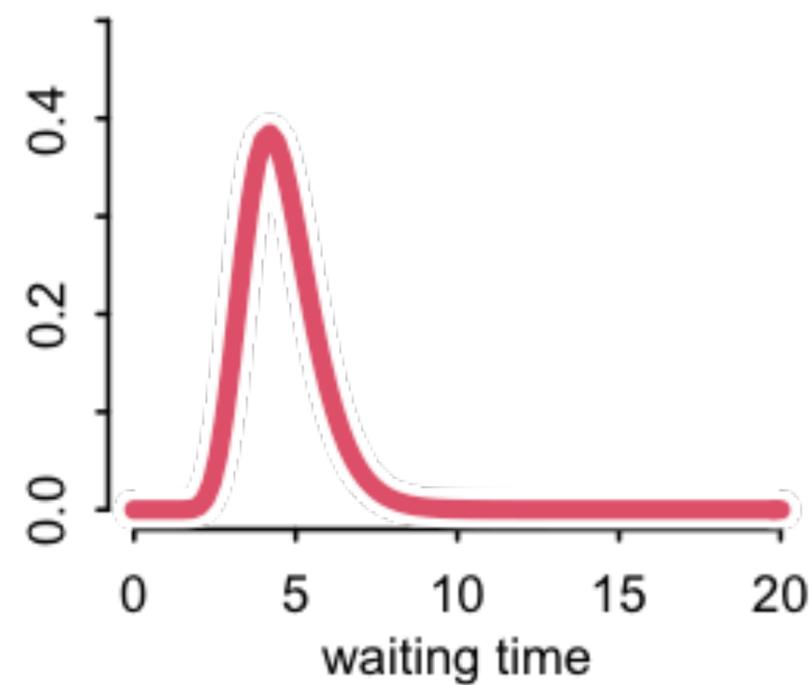
4 visits



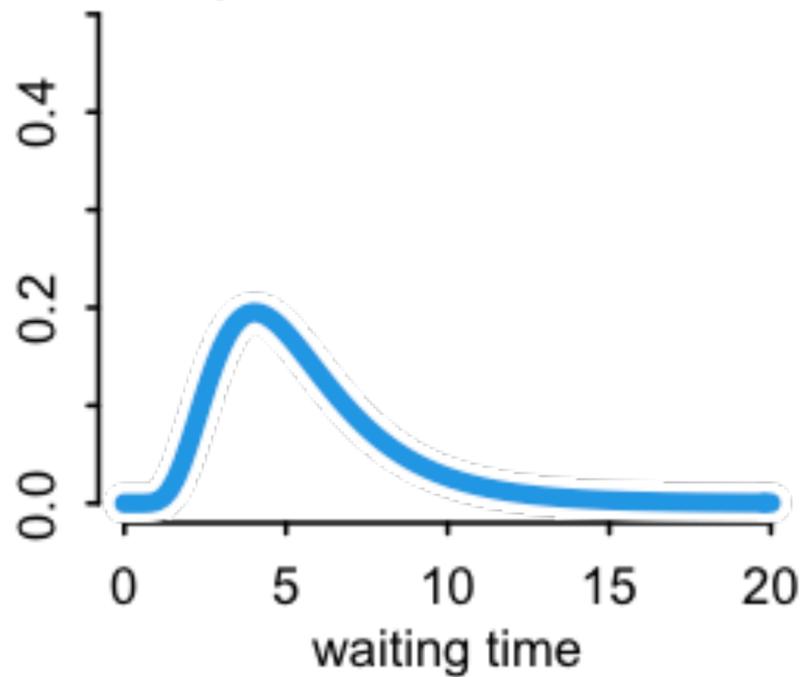
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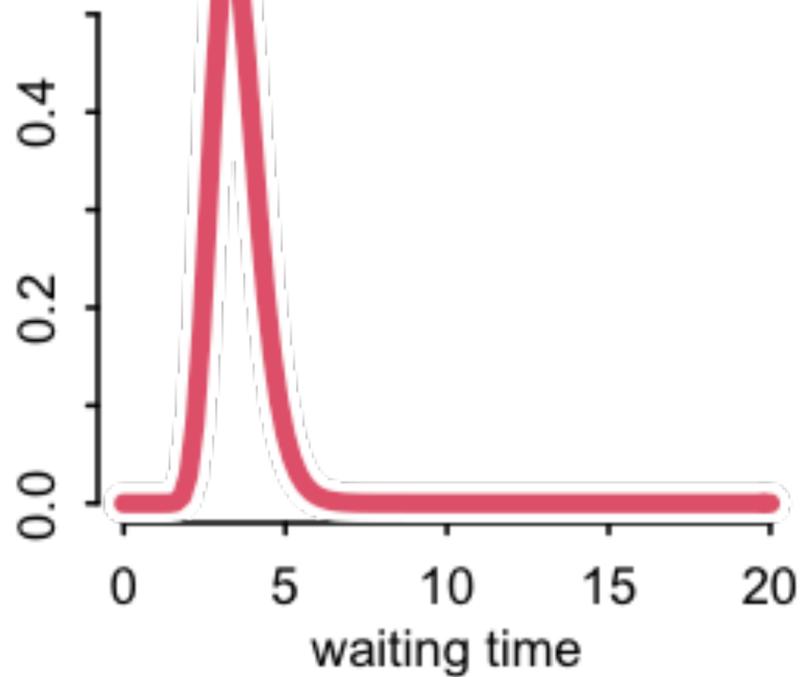
3 visits



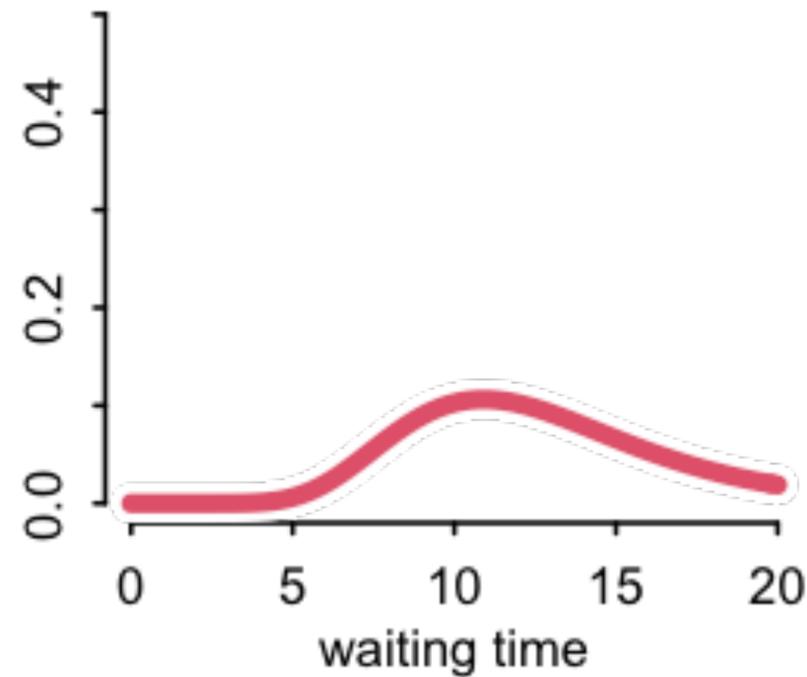
Population of cafes



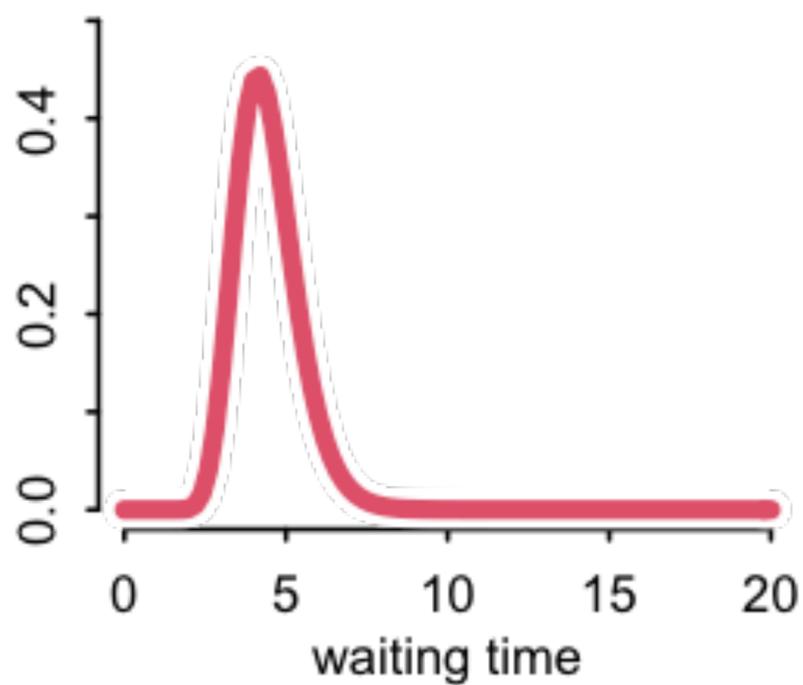
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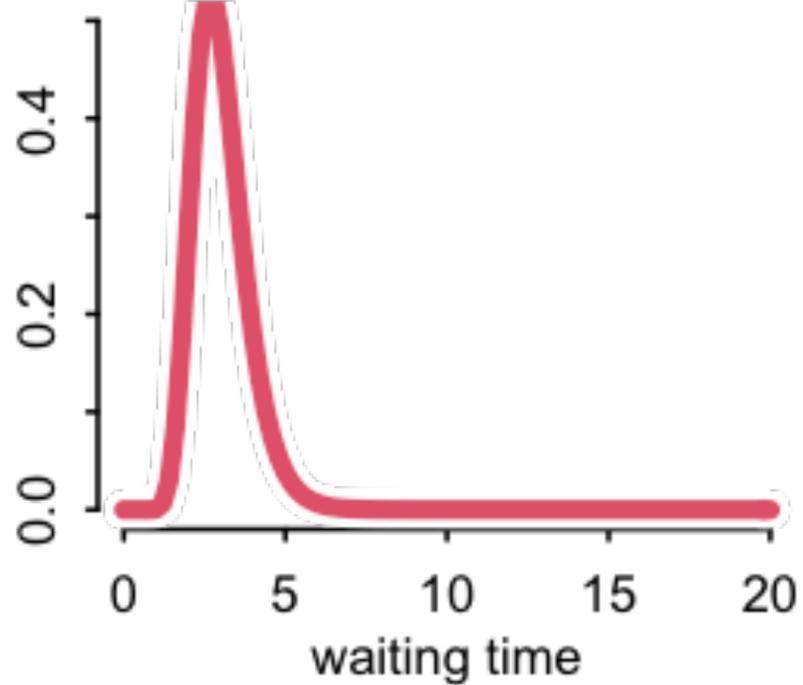
1 visits



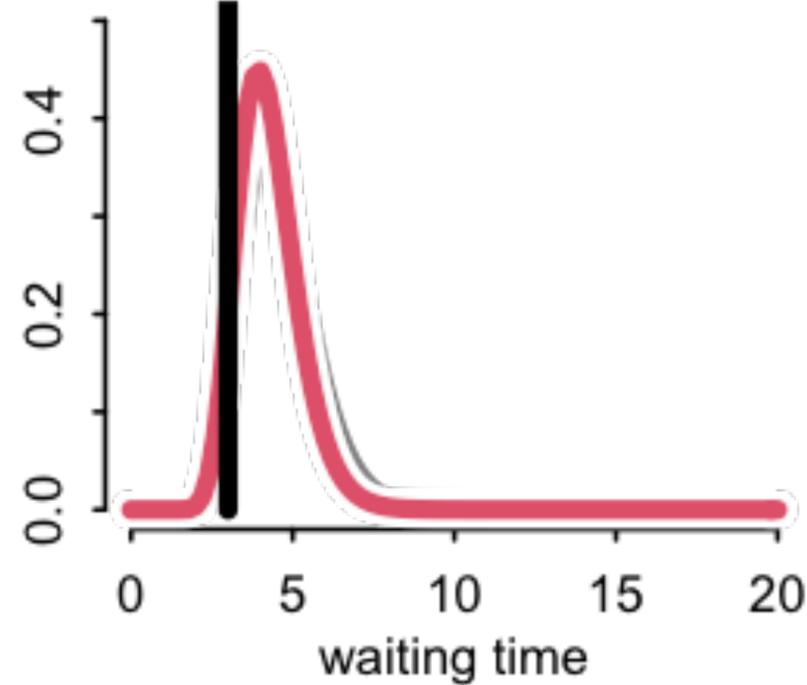
4 visits



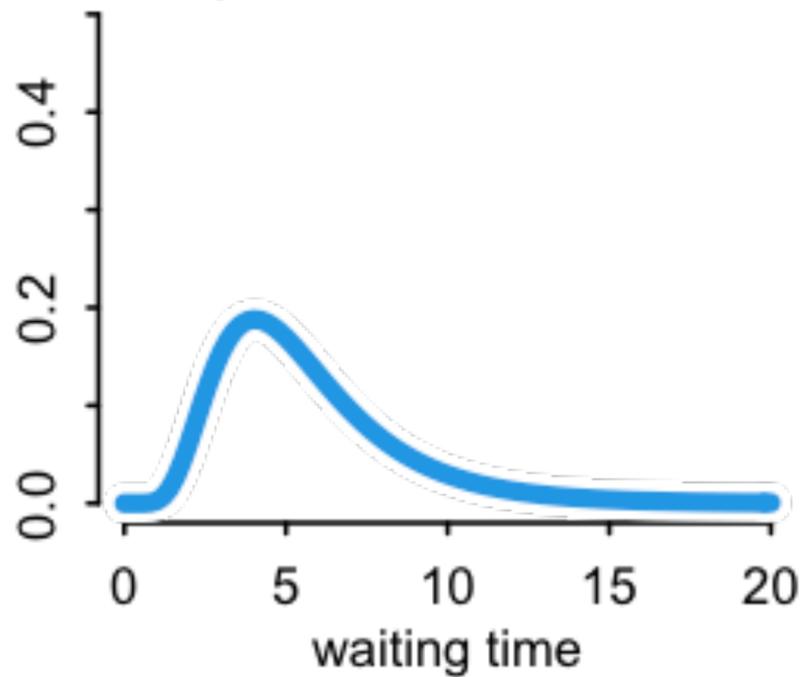
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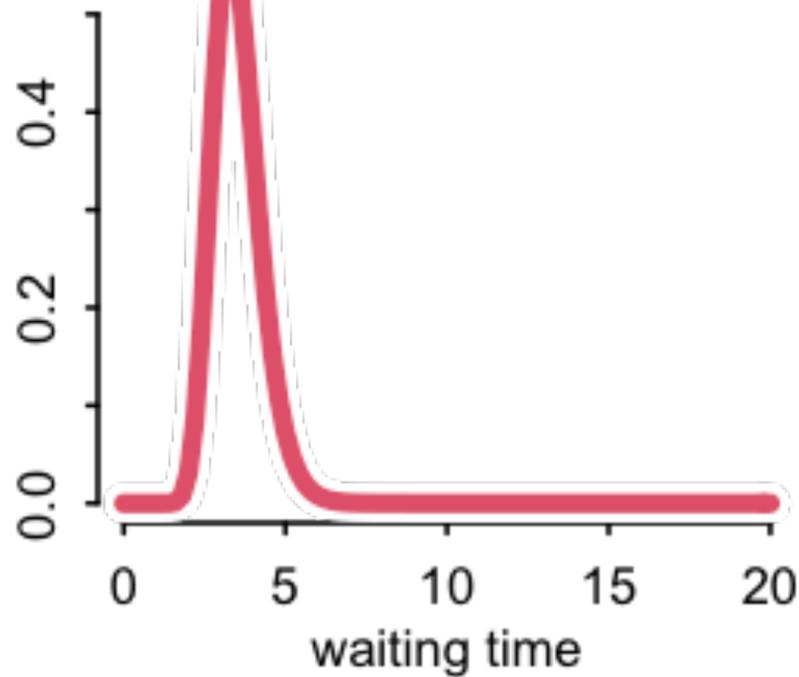
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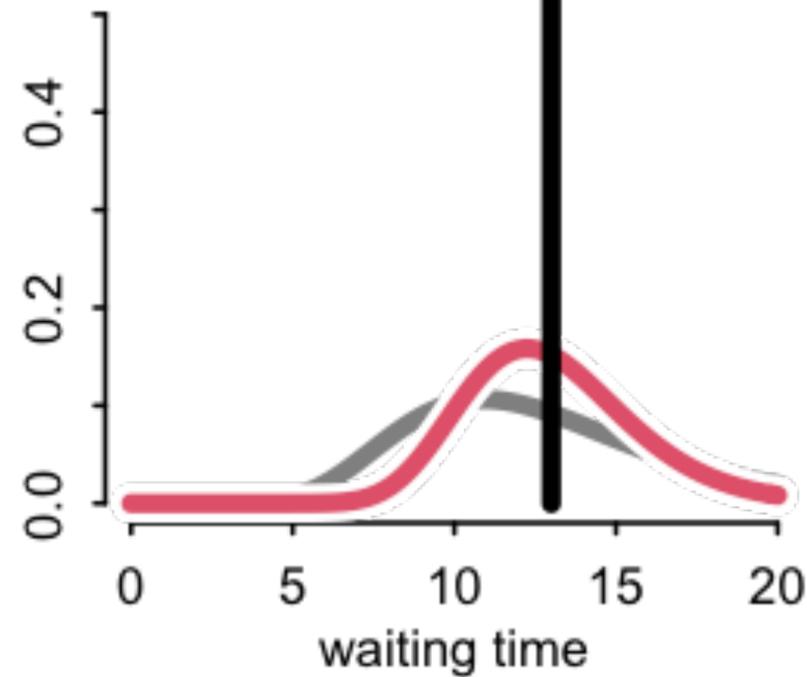
Population of cafes



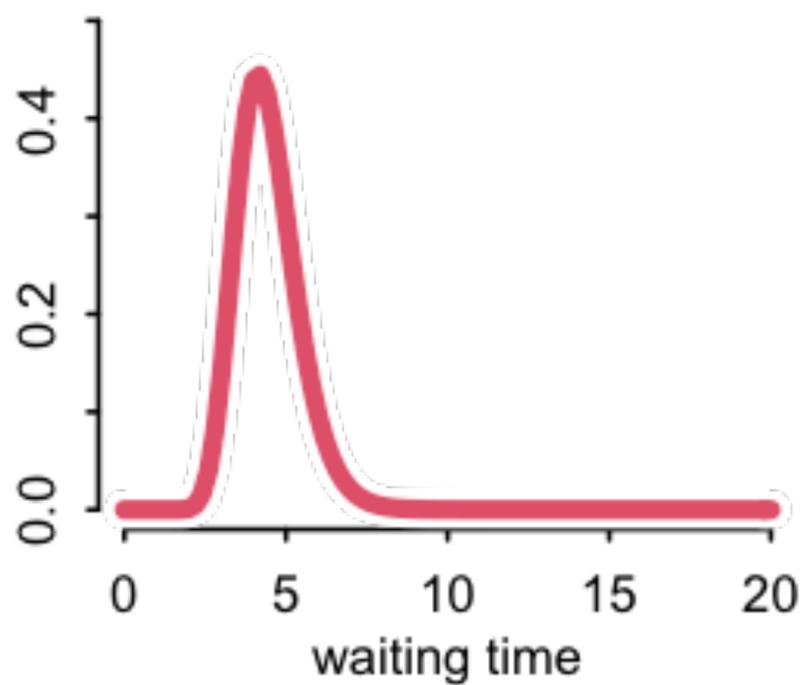
6 visits



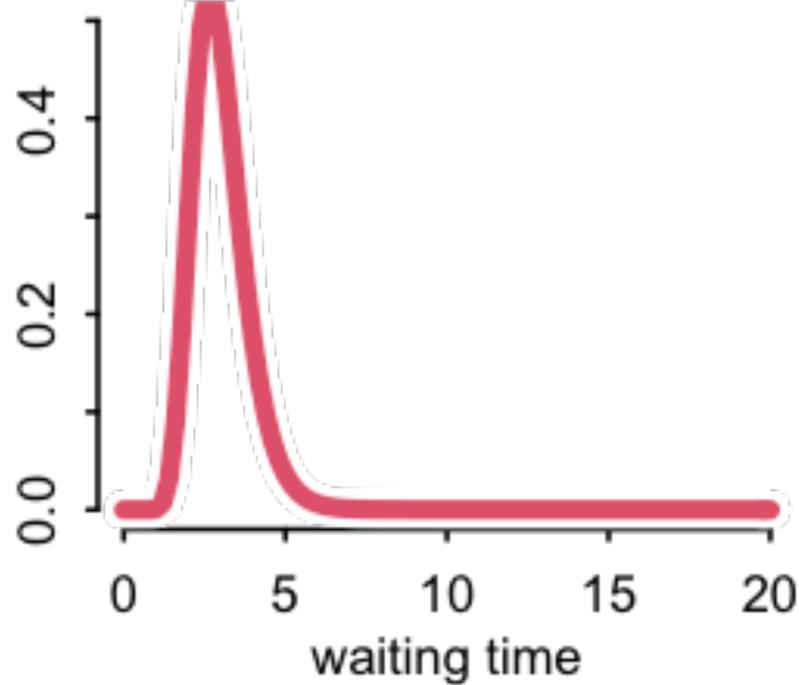
2 visits



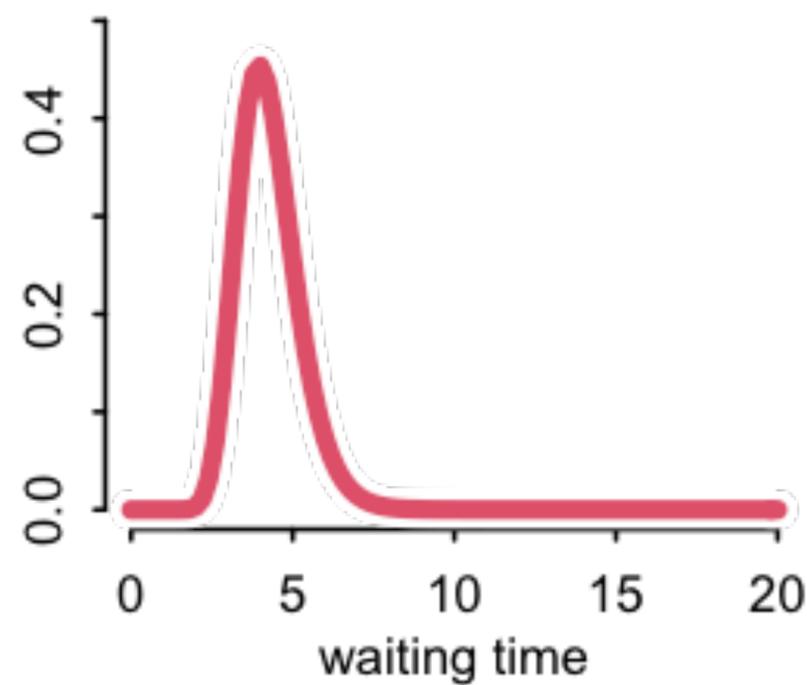
4 visits



4 visits



4 visits



# Regularization

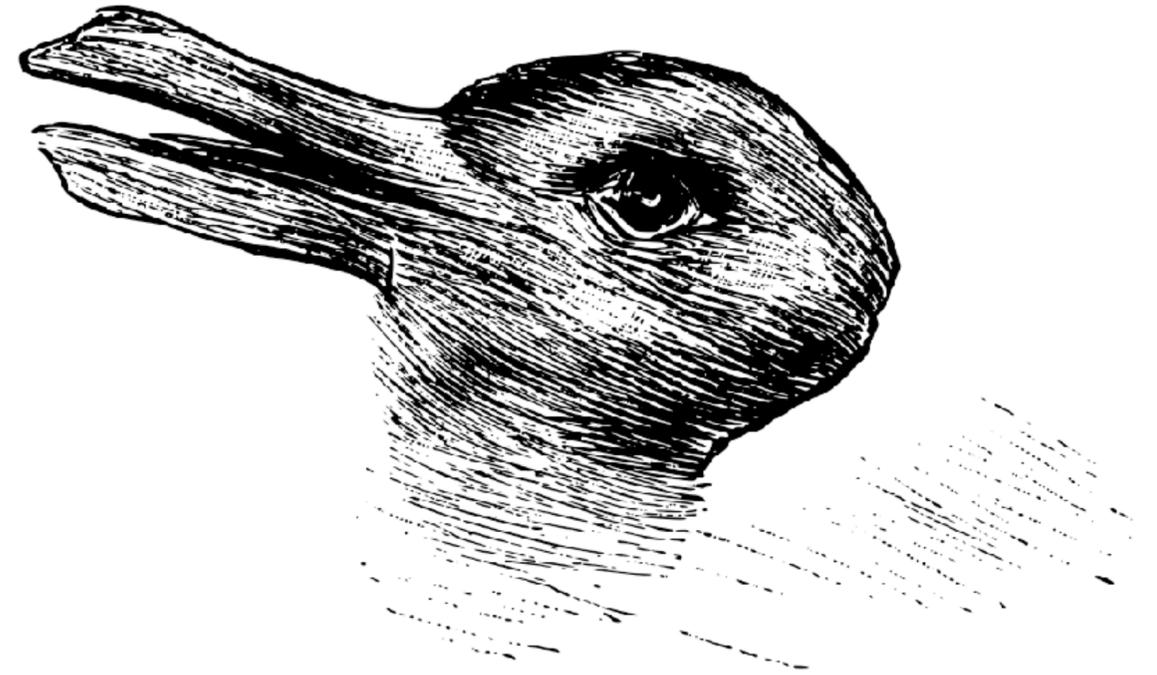
Another reason for multilevel models is that they adaptively regularize

**Complete pooling:** Treat all clusters as identical => underfitting

**No pooling:** Treat all clusters as unrelated => overfitting

**Partial pooling:** Adaptive compromise

Welche Tiere gleichen ein-  
ander am meisten?



Kaninchen und Ente.

# Reedfrogs in peril

data(reedfrogs)

48 groups (“tanks”) of tadpoles

Treatments: density, size, predation

Outcome: survival



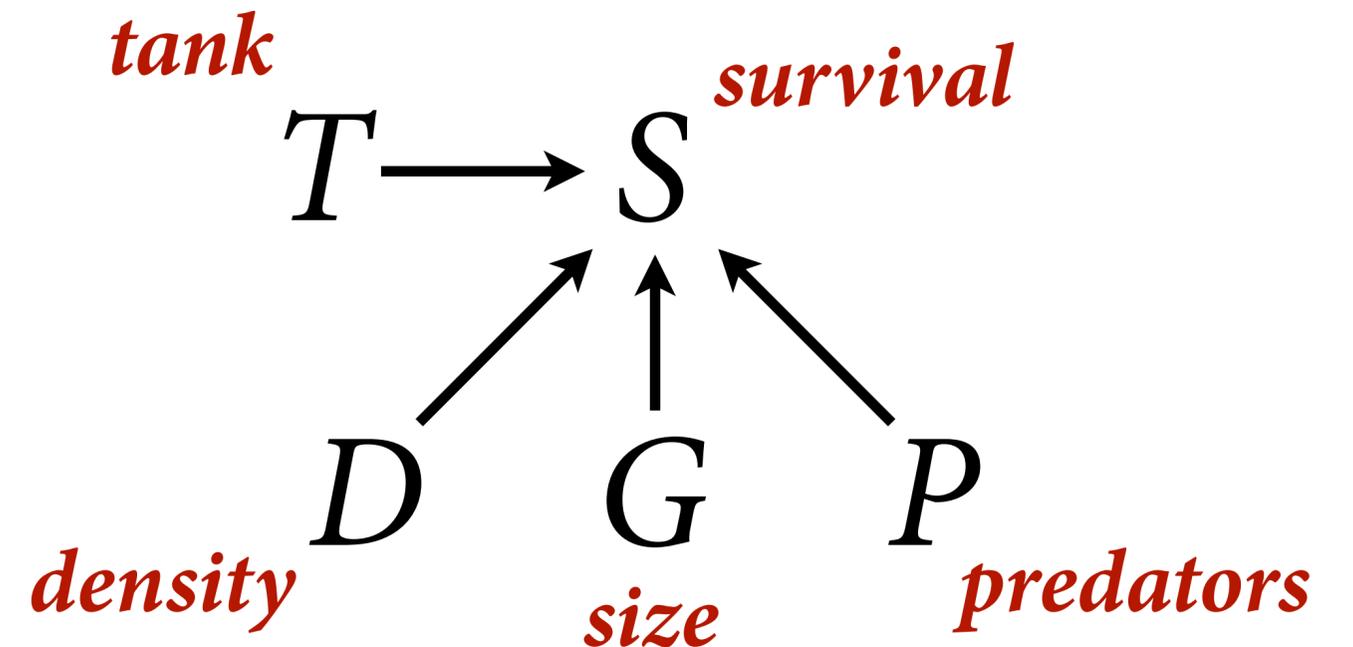
# Reedfrogs in peril

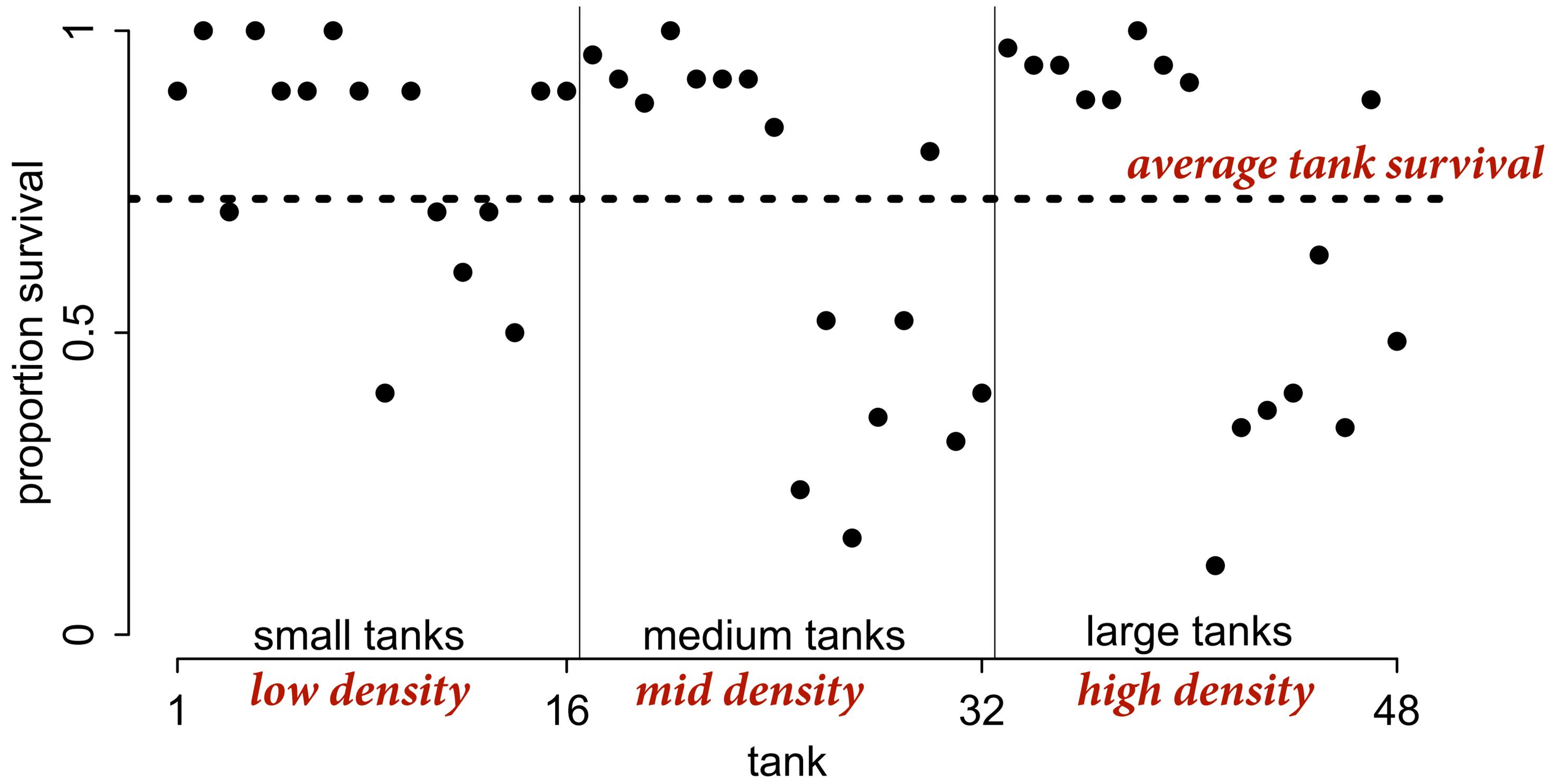
data(reedfrogs)

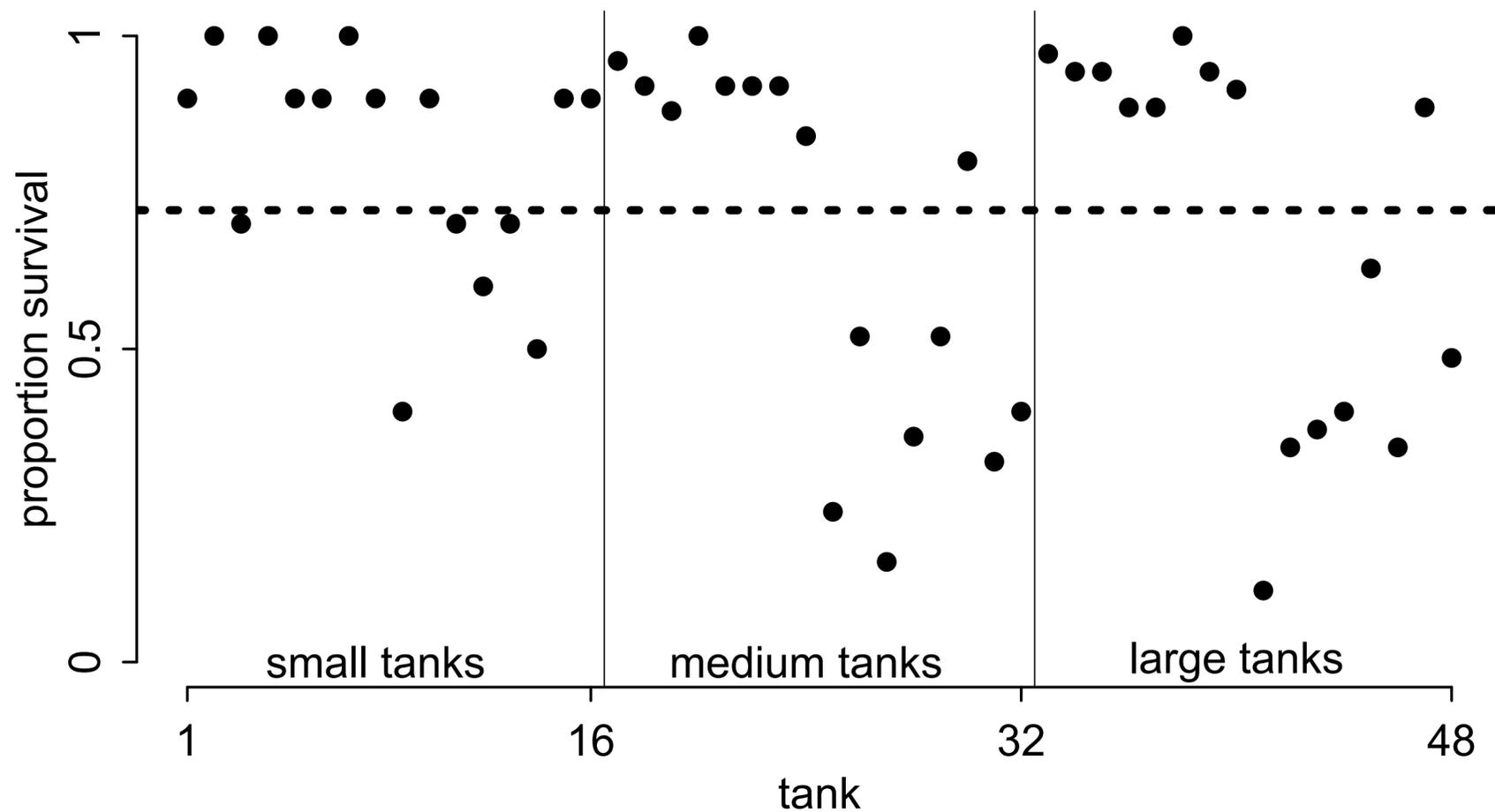
48 groups (“tanks”) of tadpoles

Treatments: density, size, predation

Outcome: survival





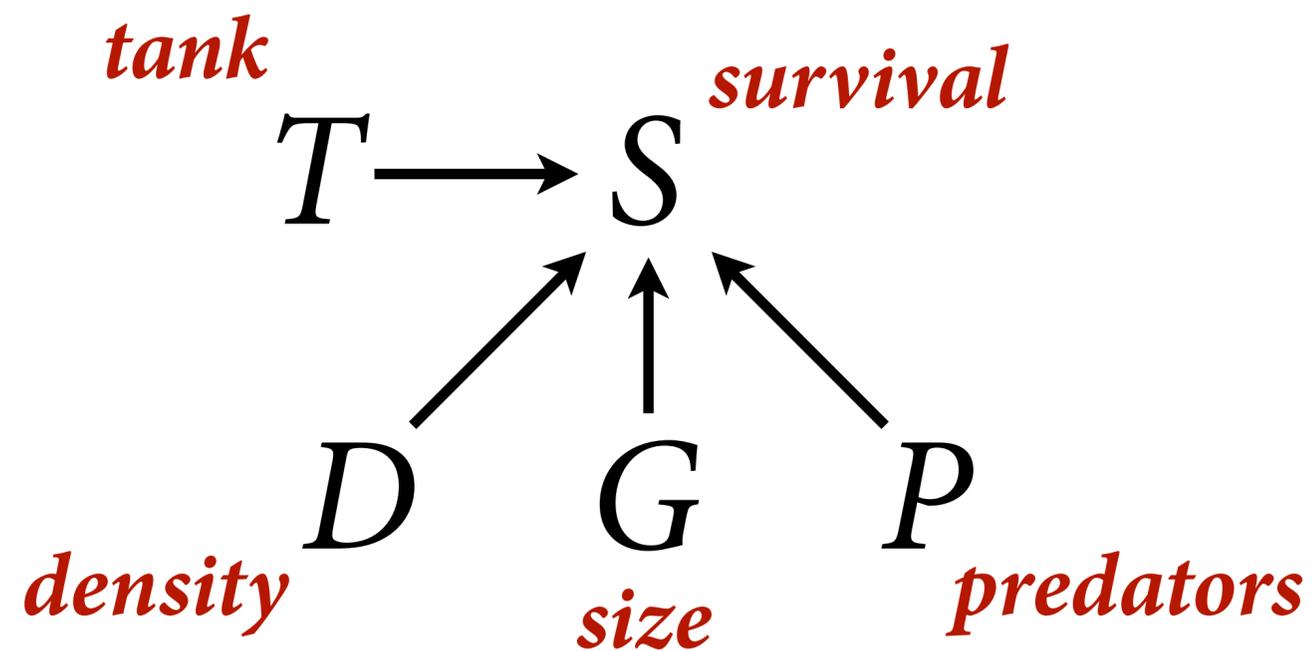


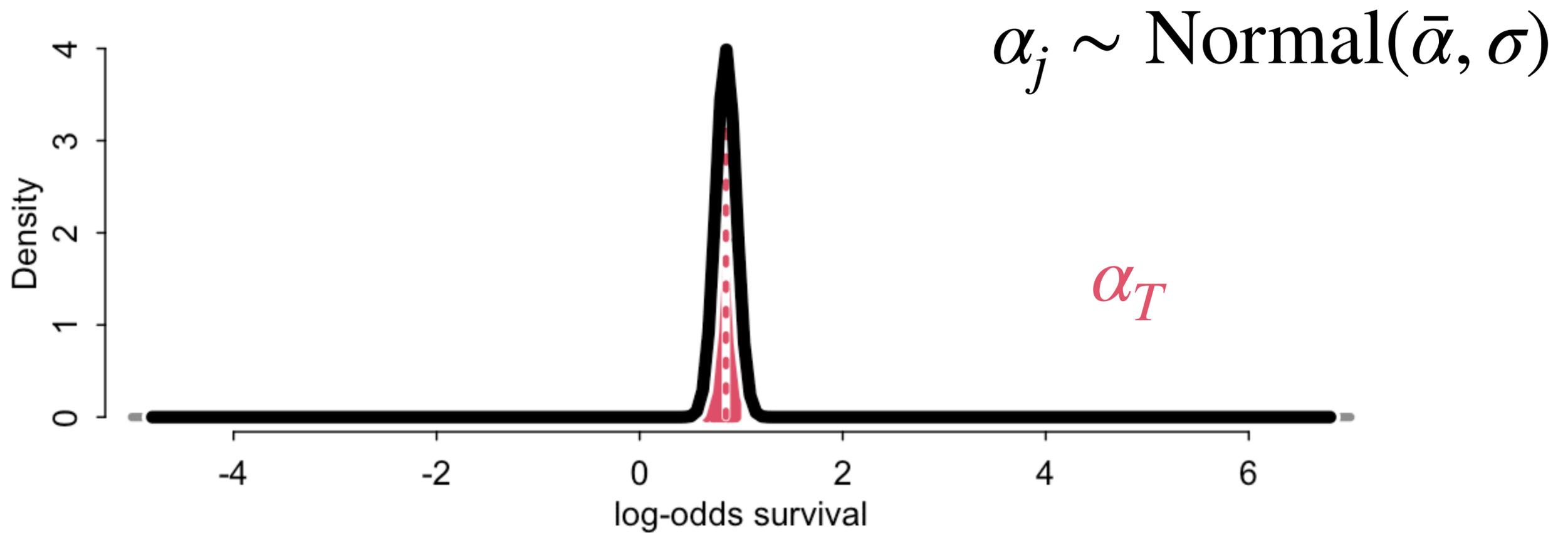
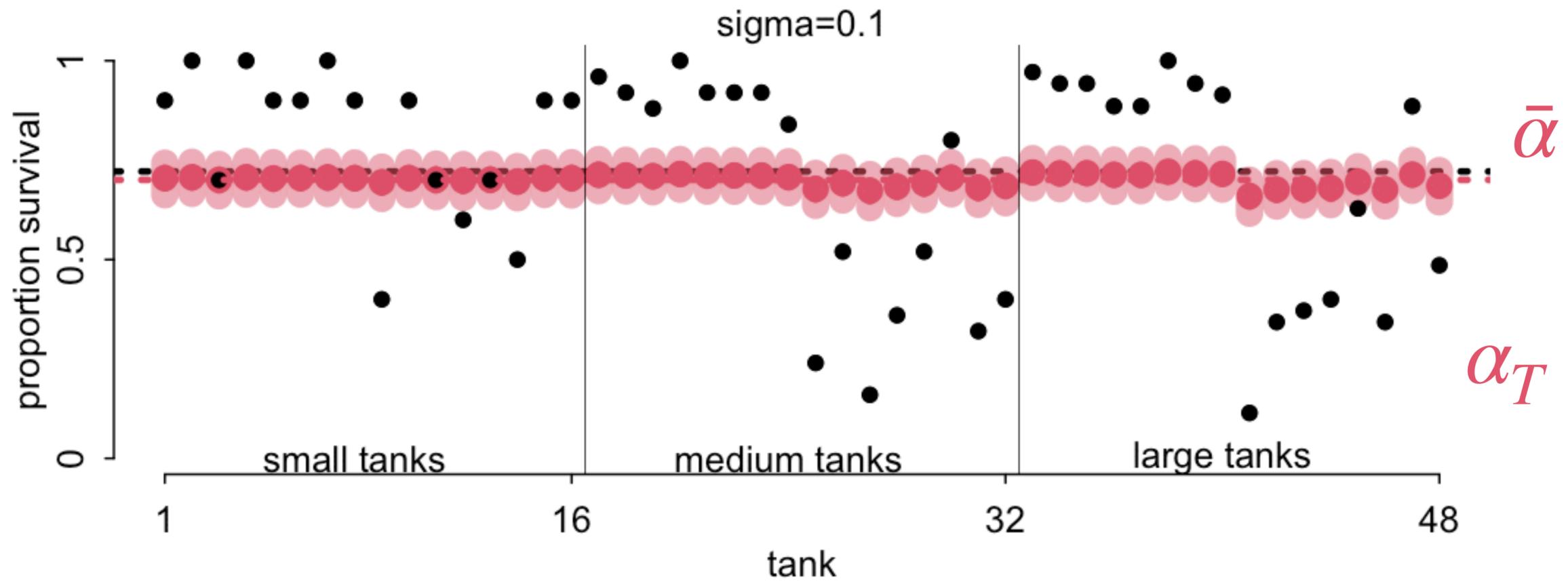
$$S_i \sim \text{Binomial}(D_i, p_i)$$

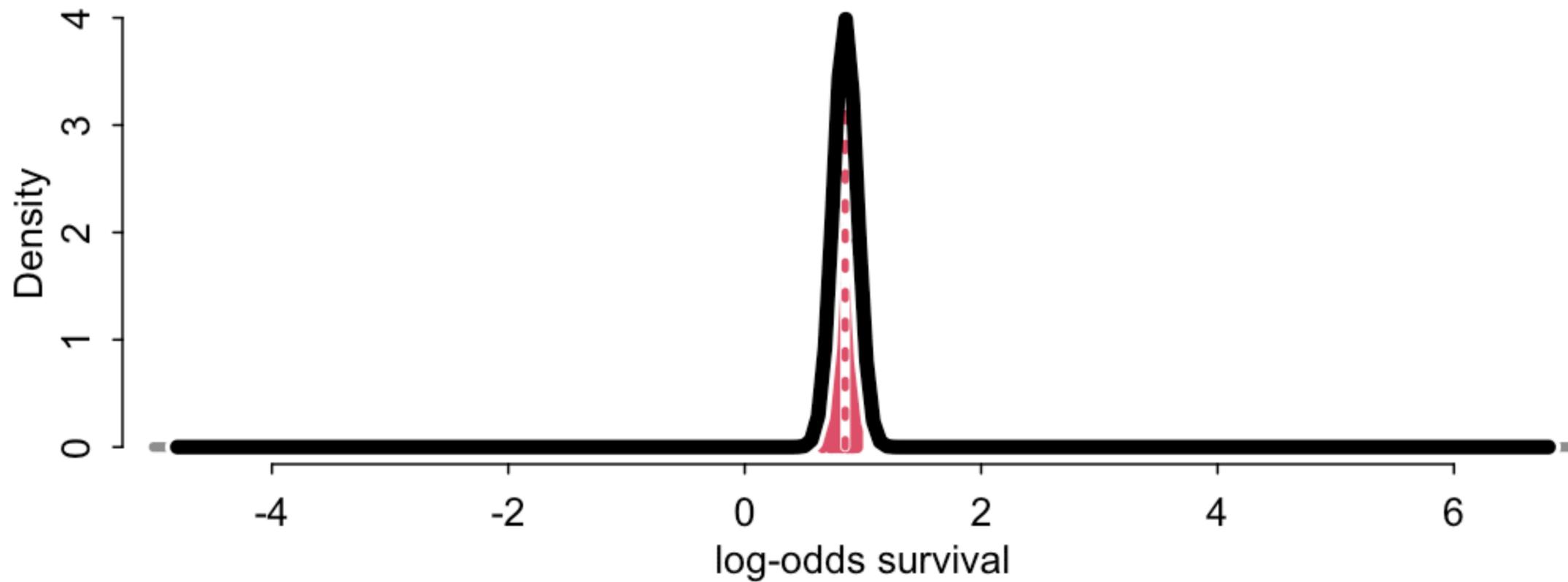
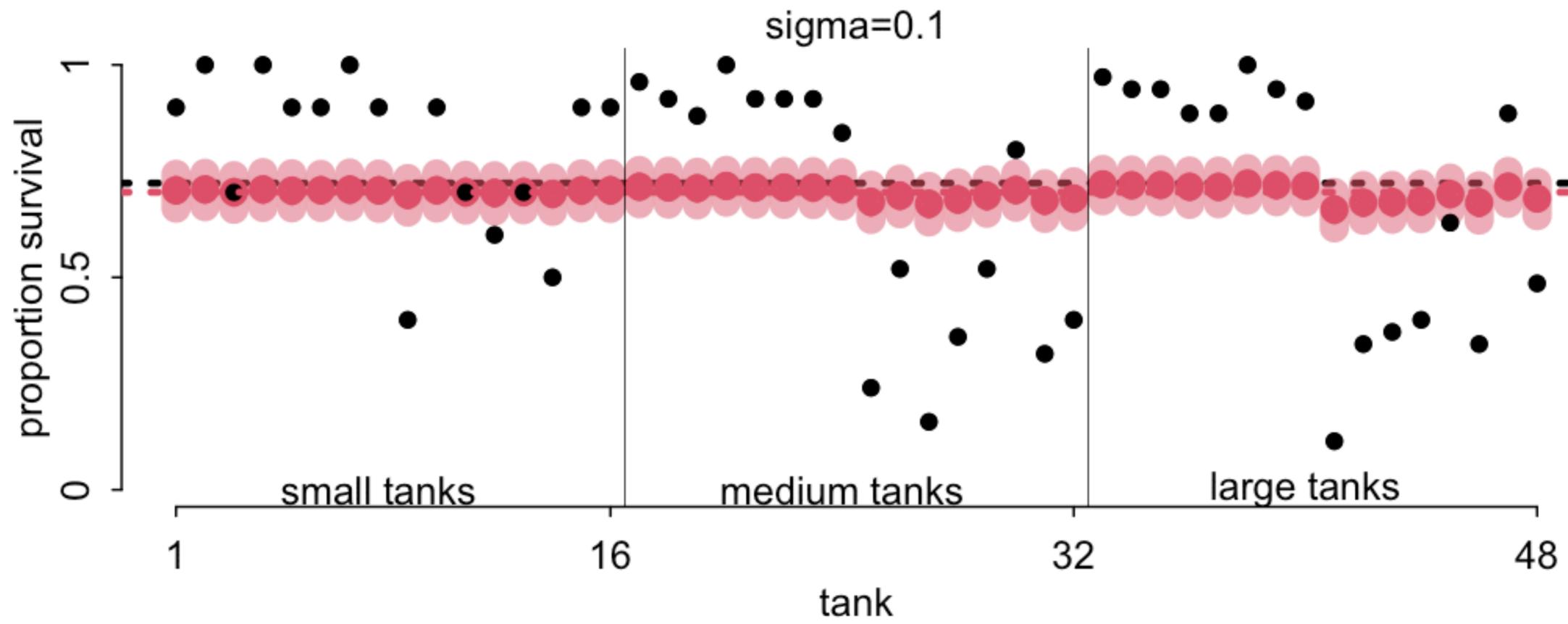
$$\text{logit}(p_i) = \alpha_{T[i]}$$

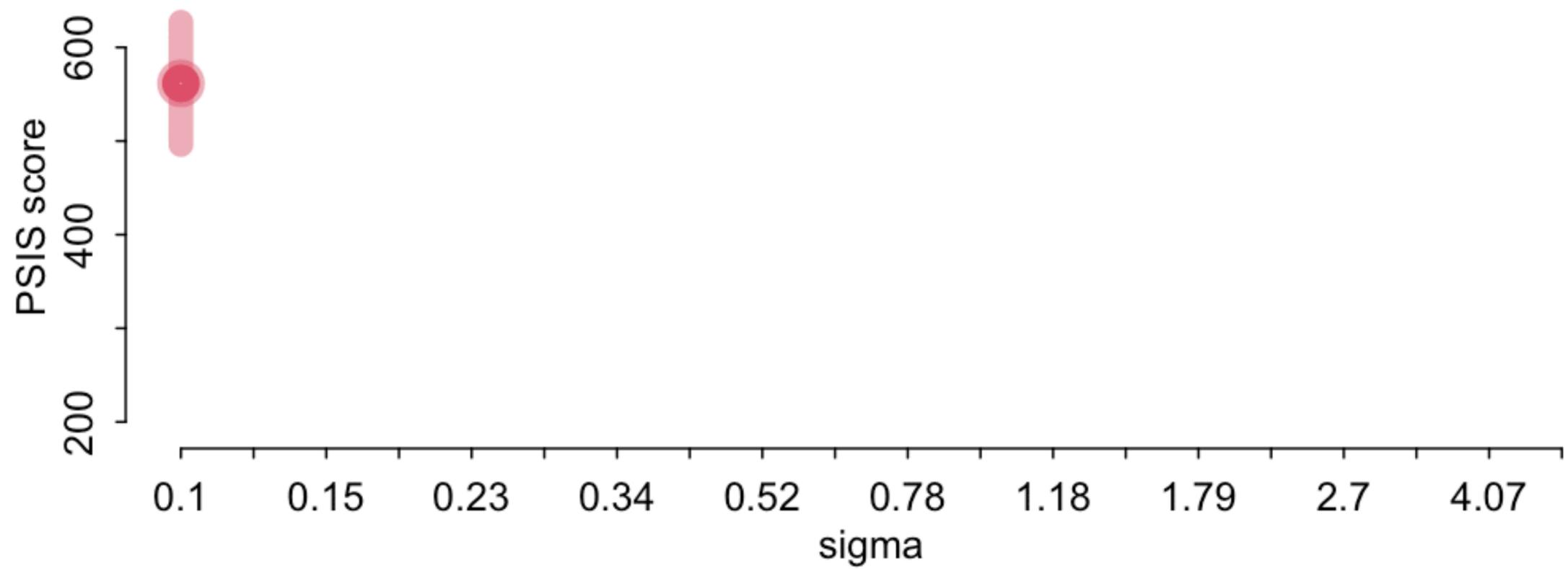
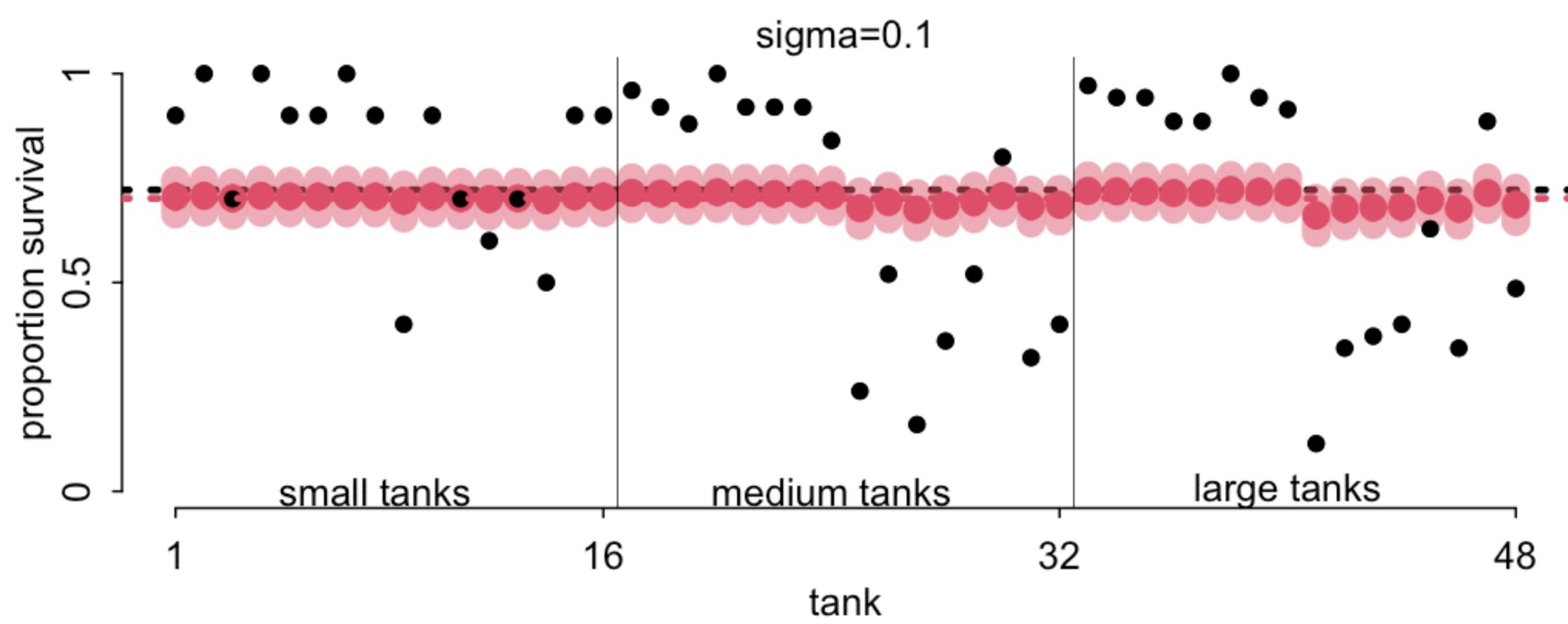
$$\alpha_j \sim \text{Normal}(\bar{\alpha}, ?)$$

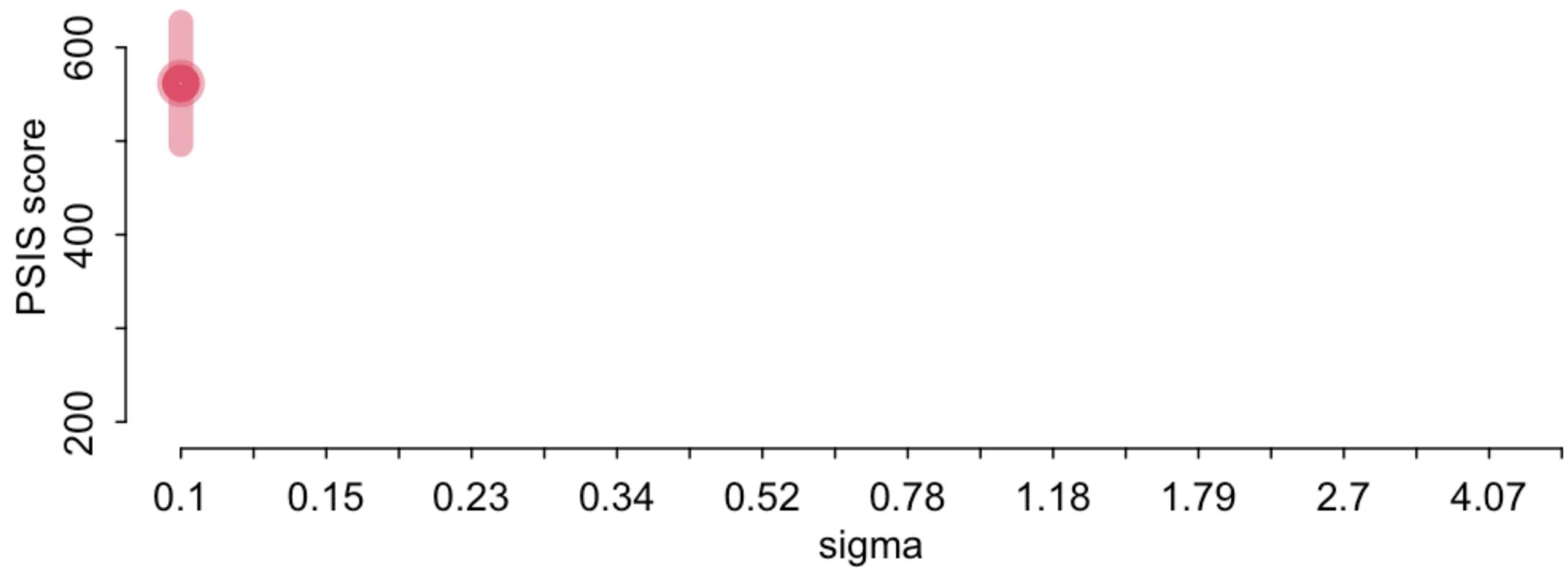
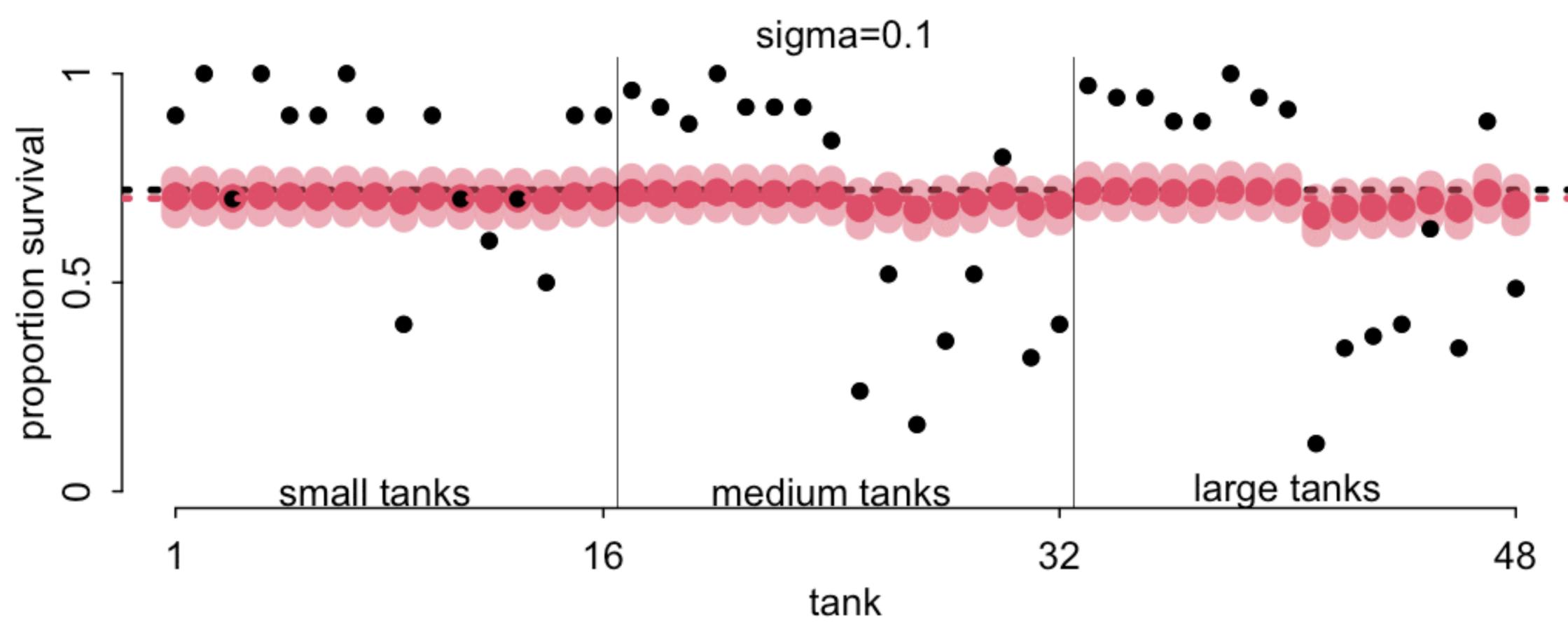
$$\bar{\alpha} \sim \text{Normal}(0, 1.5)$$

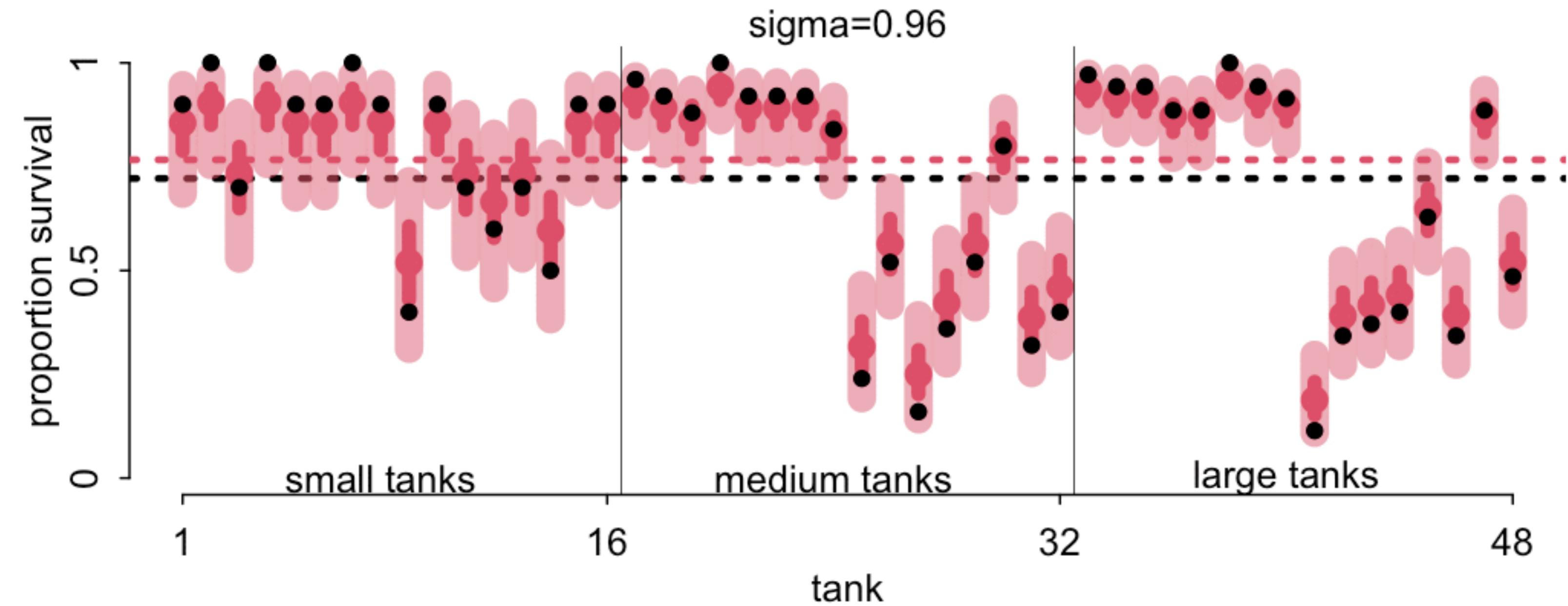








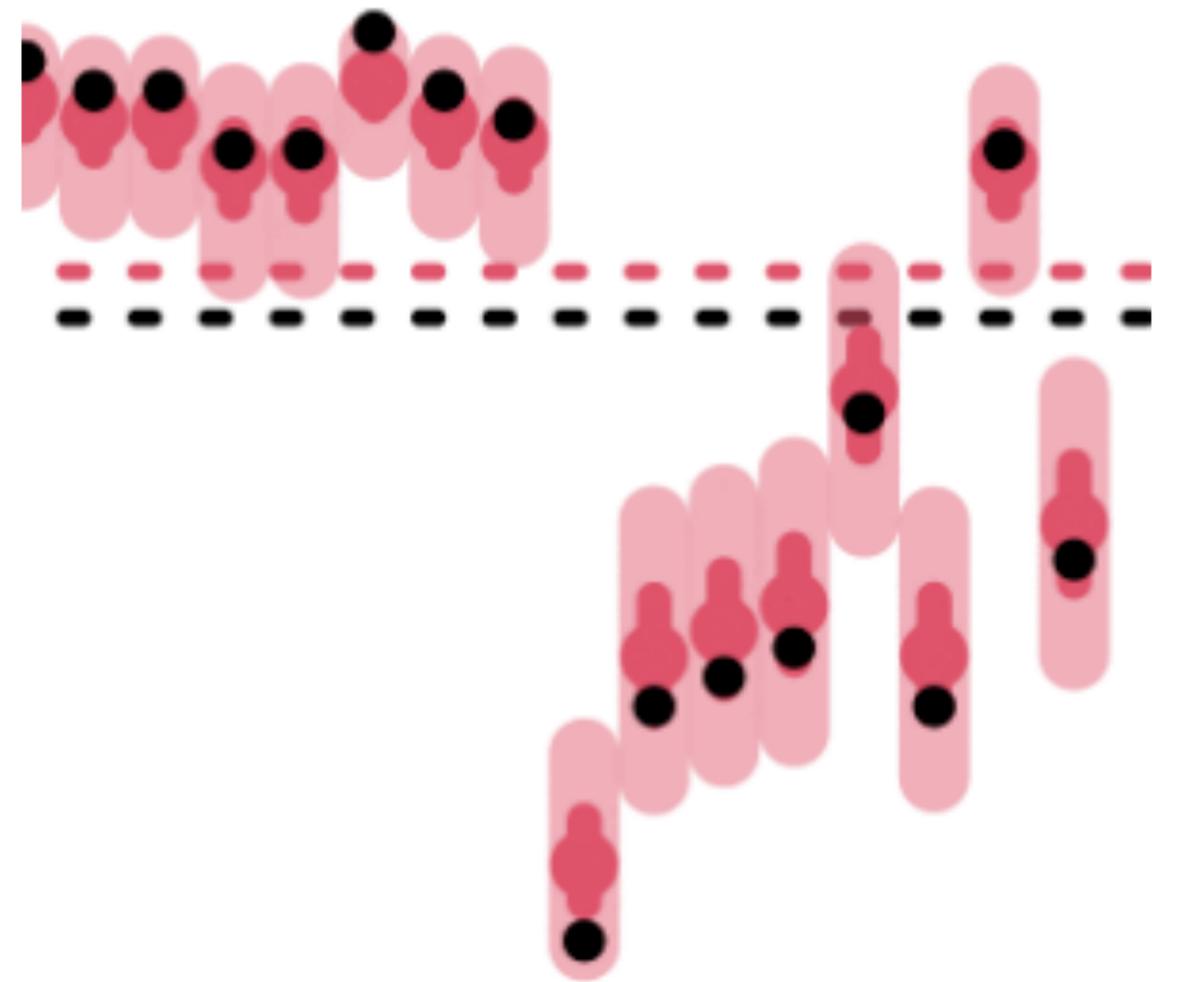




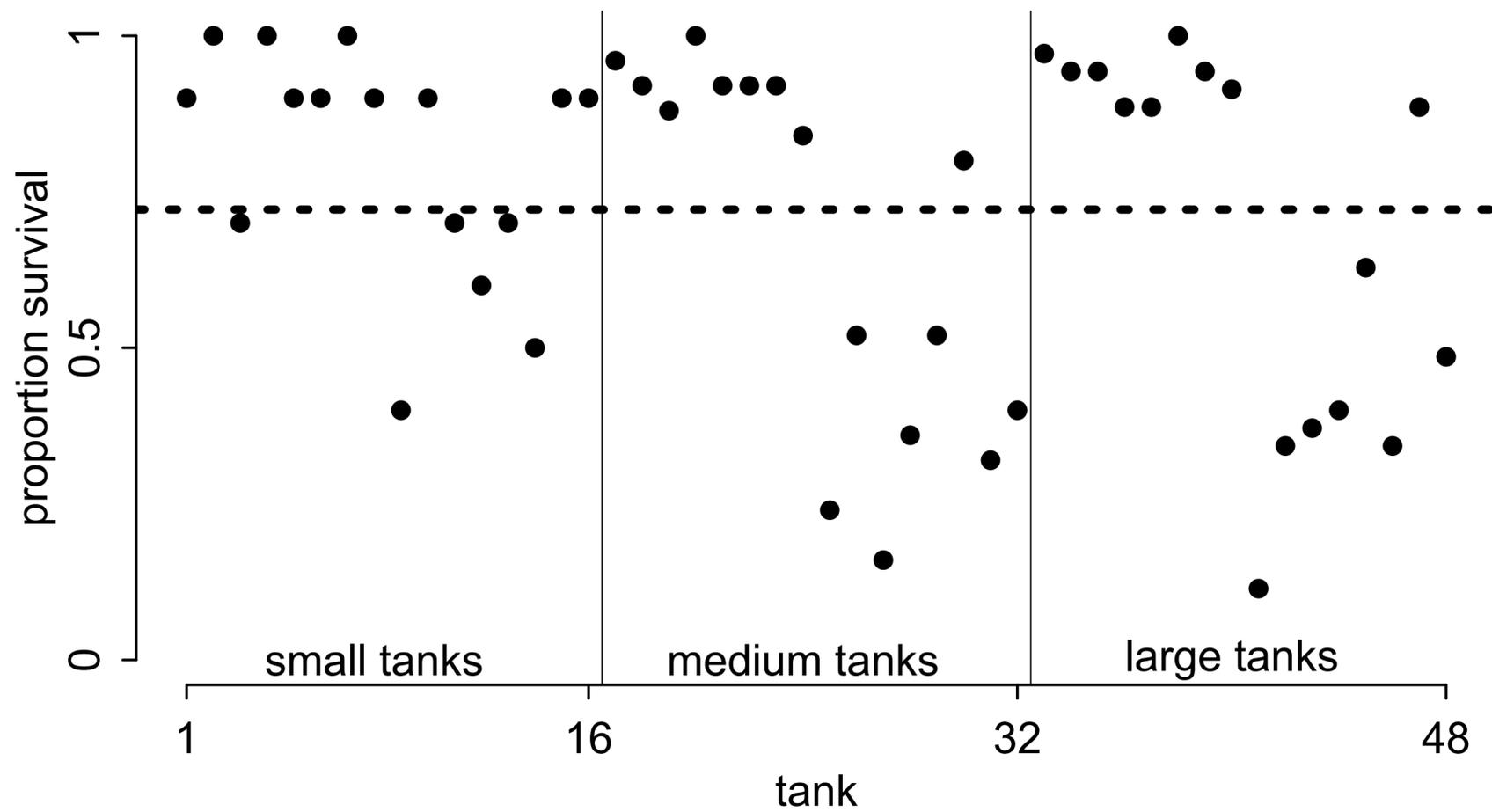
# Automatic regularization

Wouldn't it be nice if we could find a good sigma without running so many models?

Maybe we could learn it from the data?



**PAUSE**



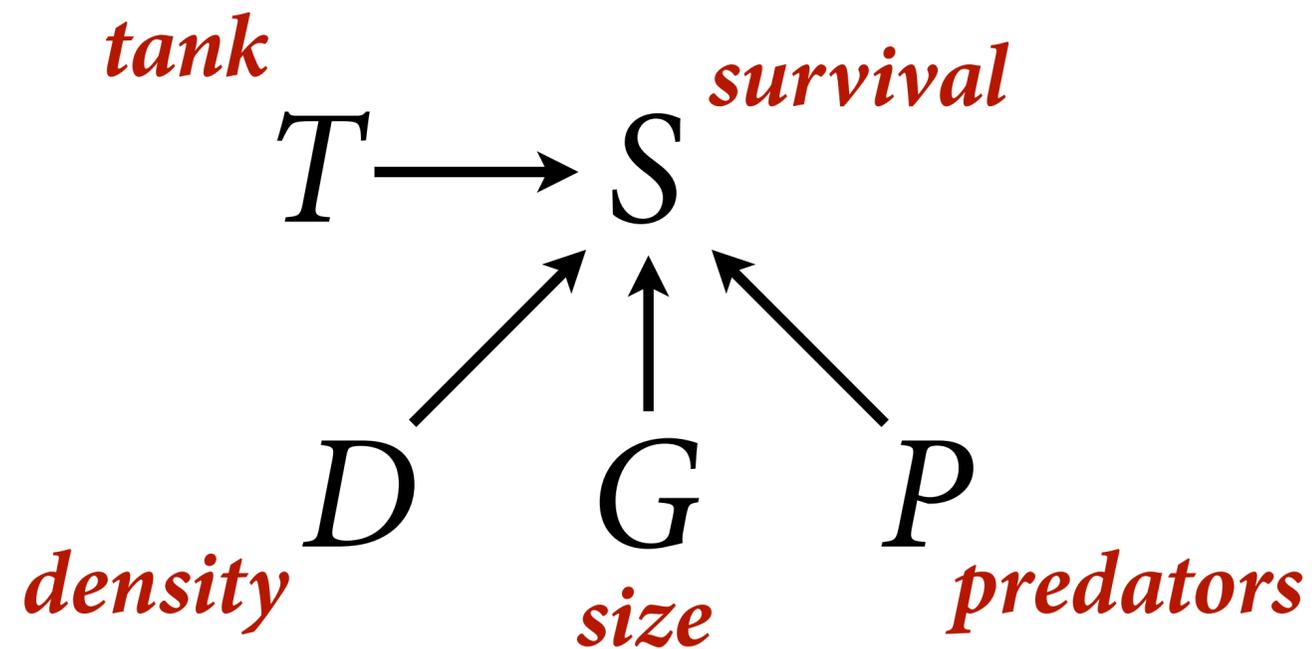
$$S_i \sim \text{Binomial}(D_i, p_i)$$

$$\text{logit}(p_i) = \alpha_{T[i]}$$

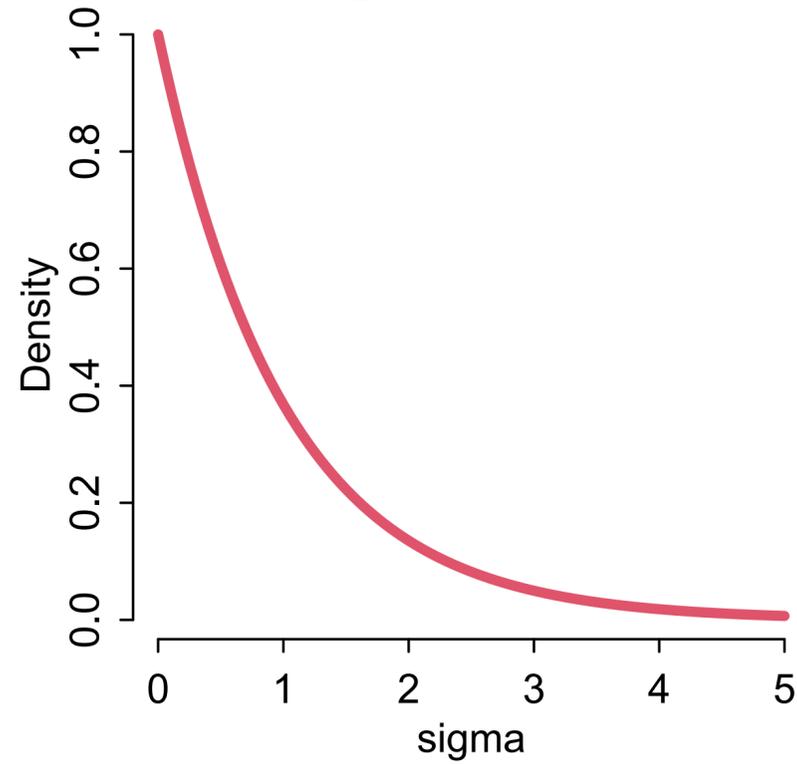
$$\alpha_j \sim \text{Normal}(\bar{\alpha}, \sigma)$$

$$\bar{\alpha} \sim \text{Normal}(0, 1.5)$$

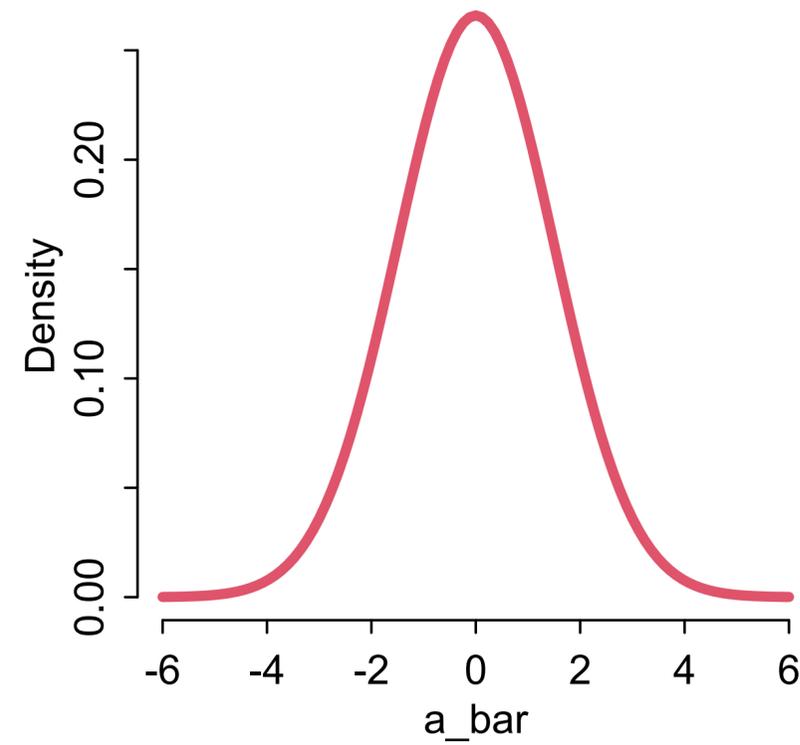
$$\sigma \sim \text{Exponential}(1)$$



$\sigma \sim \text{Exponential}(1)$



$\bar{\alpha} \sim \text{Normal}(0, 1.5)$



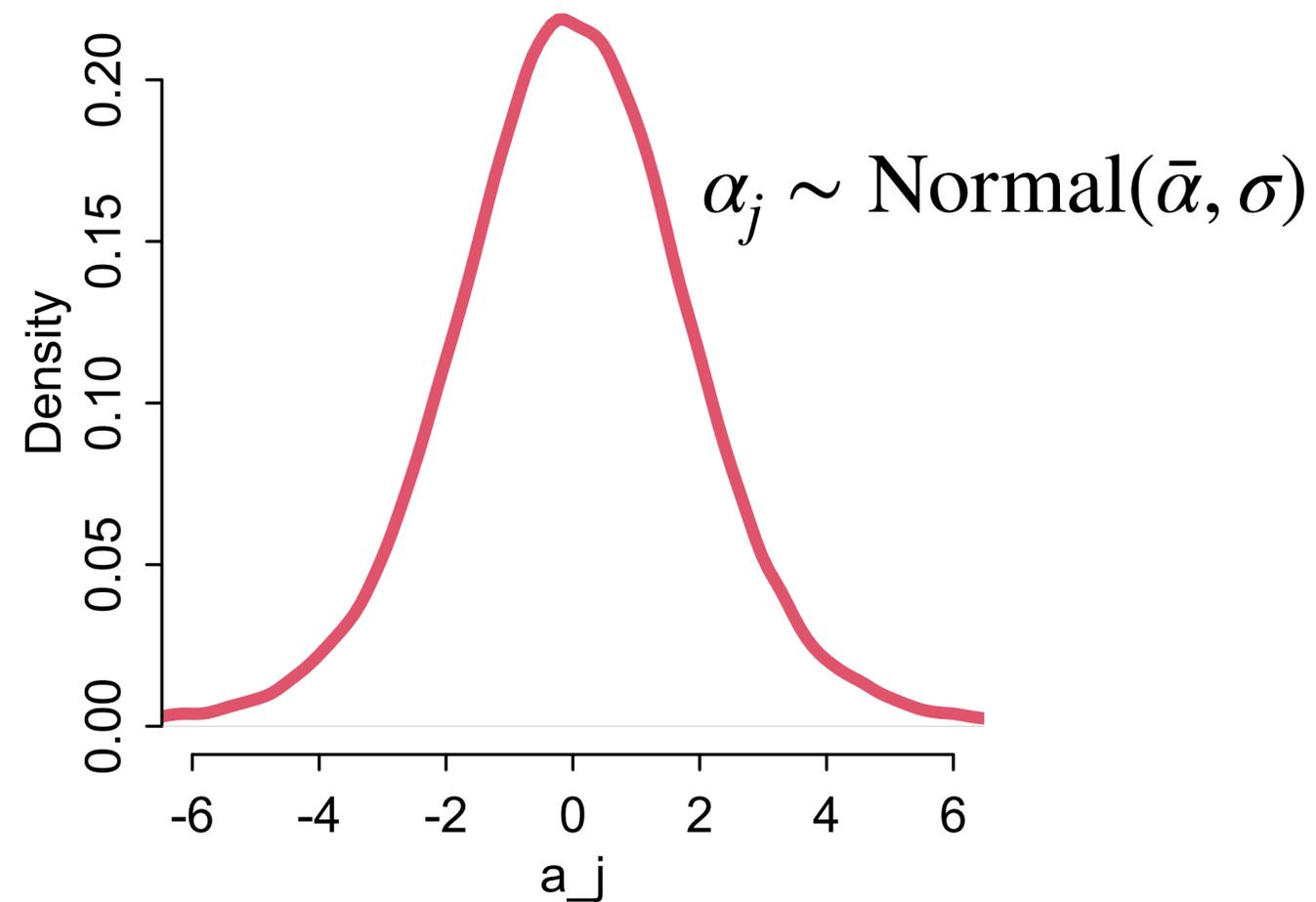
$S_i \sim \text{Binomial}(D_i, p_i)$

$\text{logit}(p_i) = \alpha_{T[i]}$

$\alpha_j \sim \text{Normal}(\bar{\alpha}, \sigma)$

$\bar{\alpha} \sim \text{Normal}(0, 1.5)$

$\sigma \sim \text{Exponential}(1)$



```

library(rethinking)
data(reedfrogs)
d <- reedfrogs
d$tank <- 1:nrow(d)
dat <- list(
  S = d$surv,
  D = d$density,
  T = d$tank )

mST <- ulam(
  alist(
    S ~ dbinom( D , p ) ,
    logit(p) <- a[T] ,
    a[T] ~ dnorm( a_bar , sigma ) ,
    a_bar ~ dnorm( 0 , 1.5 ) ,
    sigma ~ dexp( 1 )

  ), data=dat , chains=4 , log_lik=TRUE )

```

$$S_i \sim \text{Binomial}(D_i, p_i)$$

$$\text{logit}(p_i) = \alpha_{T[i]}$$

$$\alpha_j \sim \text{Normal}(\bar{\alpha}, \sigma)$$

$$\bar{\alpha} \sim \text{Normal}(0, 1.5)$$

$$\sigma \sim \text{Exponential}(1)$$

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    a_bar ~ dnorm( 0 , 1.5 ) ,
    sigma ~ dexp( 1 )
  ), data=dat , chains=4 , log_lik=TRUE )

```

```

> precis(mST,depth=2)
      mean  sd  5.5% 94.5% n_eff Rhat4
a[1]  2.13 0.85  0.89  3.54 2992    1
a[2]  3.06 1.04  1.57  4.82 2716    1
a[3]  1.01 0.67 -0.01  2.11 5635    1
a[4]  3.08 1.07  1.53  4.88 2441    1
a[5]  2.14 0.87  0.85  3.61 3460    1
a[6]  2.11 0.85  0.88  3.61 3628    1
a[7]  3.05 1.08  1.54  4.90 3603    1
a[8]  2.14 0.89  0.83  3.69 3190    1
a[9] -0.17 0.64 -1.20  0.88 5424    1
a[10] 2.15 0.90  0.83  3.72 2559    1
a[11] 1.00 0.66 -0.03  2.09 3265    1
a[12] 0.57 0.63 -0.44  1.60 6602    1
a[13] 1.01 0.67 -0.02  2.13 3618    1
a[14] 0.21 0.62 -0.75  1.21 4147    1
a[15] 2.10 0.85  0.84  3.51 4563    1
a[16] 2.12 0.85  0.89  3.58 3030    1
a[17] 2.88 0.77  1.82  4.22 3888    1
a[18] 2.38 0.65  1.42  3.46 3645    1
a[19] 2.01 0.58  1.16  2.95 4029    1
a[20] 3.65 1.04  2.17  5.47 2750    1
a[21] 2.39 0.65  1.43  3.47 3585    1
a[22] 2.39 0.66  1.41  3.51 3607    1
a[23] 2.40 0.66  1.45  3.49 3312    1
a[24] 1.71 0.53  0.92  2.58 3395    1
a[25] -0.99 0.43 -1.69 -0.32 3187    1
a[26]  0.16 0.39 -0.47  0.80 4611    1
a[27] -1.43 0.49 -2.23 -0.69 3289    1
a[28] -0.47 0.41 -1.15  0.15 5525    1
a[29]  0.17 0.40 -0.46  0.82 5628    1
a[30]  1.44 0.50  0.68  2.26 4925    1
a[31] -0.62 0.41 -1.29  0.03 5449    1
a[32] -0.30 0.39 -0.95  0.32 4039    1
a[33]  3.19 0.80  2.06  4.60 2357    1
a[34]  2.71 0.63  1.79  3.80 3117    1
a[35]  2.71 0.62  1.82  3.71 3185    1
a[36]  2.07 0.53  1.28  2.95 3616    1
a[37]  2.05 0.47  1.34  2.82 4705    1
a[38]  3.87 0.91  2.56  5.42 3022    1
a[39]  2.71 0.66  1.76  3.80 3479    1
a[40]  2.37 0.59  1.47  3.38 2981    1
a[41] -1.79 0.45 -2.54 -1.13 4340    1
a[42] -0.58 0.35 -1.14  0.00 4354    1
a[43] -0.45 0.36 -1.01  0.10 5360    1
a[44] -0.33 0.34 -0.89  0.22 4541    1
a[45]  0.58 0.35  0.02  1.15 5803    1
a[46] -0.56 0.37 -1.14  0.02 4696    1
a[47]  2.06 0.51  1.27  2.91 3955    1
a[48]  0.01 0.35 -0.55  0.56 5353    1
a_bar  1.35 0.26  0.93  1.78 2746    1
sigma  1.61 0.21  1.32  1.96 1557    1

```

Binomial( $D_i, p_i$ )

$\alpha_{T[i]}$

Normal( $\bar{\alpha}, \sigma$ )

Normal(0,1.5)

Exponential(1)

```

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  T = d$tank )

```

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  alist(

```

```

    S ~ dbinom( D , p ) ,
    logit(p) <- a[T] ,
    a[T] ~ dnorm( a_bar , sigma ) ,
    a_bar ~ dnorm( 0 , 1.5 ) ,
    sigma ~ dexp( 1 )

```

```

  ), data=dat , chains=4 , log_lik=TRUE )

```

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a[4]  3.08 1.07  1.53  4.88 2441    1
a[5]  2.14 0.87  0.85  3.61 3460    1
a[6]  2.11 0.85  0.88  3.61 3628    1
a[7]  3.05 1.08  1.54  4.90 3603    1
a[8]  2.14 0.89  0.83  3.69 3190    1
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a[11] 1.00 0.66 -0.03  2.09 3265    1
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a[13] 1.01 0.67 -0.02  2.13 3618    1
a[14] 0.21 0.62 -0.75  1.21 4147    1
a[15] 2.10 0.85  0.84  3.51 4563    1
a[16] 2.12 0.85  0.89  3.58 3030    1
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a[18] 2.38 0.65  1.42  3.46 3645    1
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```

```

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a_bar  1.35 0.26  0.93  1.78 2746    1
sigma  1.61 0.21  1.32  1.96 1557    1

```

```

a[29]  0.17 0.40 -0.46  0.82 5628    1
a[30]  1.44 0.50  0.68  2.26 4925    1
a[31] -0.62 0.41 -1.29  0.03 5449    1
a[32] -0.30 0.39 -0.95  0.32 4039    1
a[33]  3.19 0.80  2.06  4.60 2357    1
a[34]  2.71 0.63  1.79  3.80 3117    1
a[35]  2.71 0.62  1.82  3.71 3185    1
a[36]  2.07 0.53  1.28  2.95 3616    1
a[37]  2.05 0.47  1.34  2.82 4705    1
a[38]  3.87 0.91  2.56  5.42 3022    1
a[39]  2.71 0.66  1.76  3.80 3479    1
a[40]  2.37 0.59  1.47  3.38 2981    1
a[41] -1.79 0.45 -2.54 -1.13 4340    1
a[42] -0.58 0.35 -1.14  0.00 4354    1
a[43] -0.45 0.36 -1.01  0.10 5360    1
a[44] -0.33 0.34 -0.89  0.22 4541    1
a[45]  0.58 0.35  0.02  1.15 5803    1
a[46] -0.56 0.37 -1.14  0.02 4696    1
a[47]  2.06 0.51  1.27  2.91 3955    1
a[48]  0.01 0.35 -0.55  0.56 5353    1
a_bar  1.35 0.26  0.93  1.78 2746    1
sigma  1.61 0.21  1.32  1.96 1557    1

```

Binomial( $D_i, p_i$ )

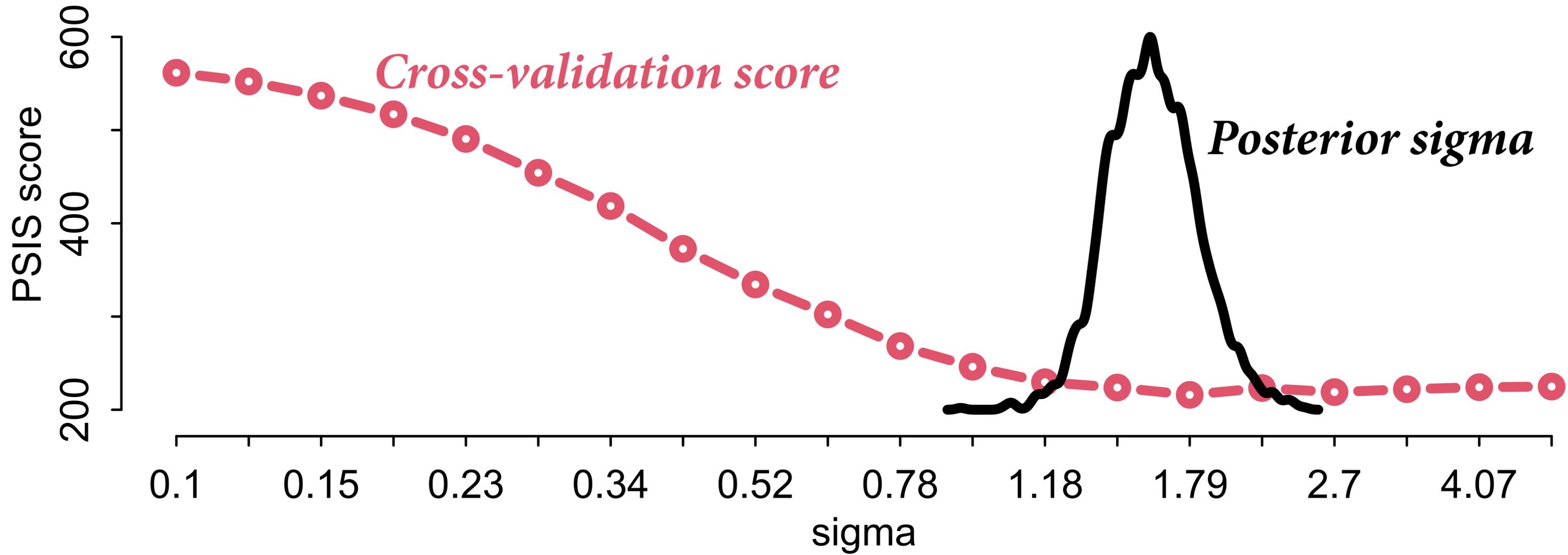
$\alpha_{T[i]}$

$(\bar{\alpha}, \sigma)$

Normal(0,1.5)

Exponential(1)

	mean	sd	5.5%	94.5%	n_eff	Rhat4
a_bar	1.35	0.26	0.93	1.78	2746	1
sigma	1.61	0.21	1.32	1.96	1557	1



```

mST <- ulam(
  alist(
    S ~ dbinom( D , p ) ,
    logit(p) <- a[T] ,
    a[T] ~ dnorm( a_bar , sigma ) ,
    a_bar ~ dnorm( 0 , 1.5 ) ,
    sigma ~ dexp( 1 )
  ), data=dat , chains=4 , log_lik=TRUE )

```

$$S_i \sim \text{Binomial}(D_i, p_i)$$

$$\text{logit}(p_i) = \alpha_{T[i]}$$

$$\alpha_j \sim \text{Normal}(\bar{\alpha}, \sigma)$$

$$\bar{\alpha} \sim \text{Normal}(0, 1.5)$$

$$\sigma \sim \text{Exponential}(1)$$

```

mSTnomem <- ulam(
  alist(
    S ~ dbinom( D , p ) ,
    logit(p) <- a[T] ,
    a[T] ~ dnorm( a_bar , 1 ) ,
    a_bar ~ dnorm( 0 , 1.5 )
  ), data=dat , chains=4 , log_lik=TRUE )

compare( mST , mSTnomem , func=WAIC )

```

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```
> compare( mST , mSTnomem , func=WAIC )
```

	WAIC	SE	dWAIC	dSE	pWAIC	weight
mST	200.6	7.52	0.0	NA	21.1	1
mSTnomem	217.4	7.80	16.8	4.35	25.6	0

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    logit(p) <- a[T] ,
    a[T] ~ dnorm( a_bar , sigma ) ,
    a_bar ~ dnorm( 0 , 1.5 ) ,
    sigma ~ dexp( 1 )
  ) , data=dat , chains=1000 )
```

$$S_i \sim \text{Binomial}(D_i, p_i)$$

$$\text{logit}(p_i) = \alpha_{T[i]}$$

$$\alpha_j \sim \text{Normal}(\bar{\alpha}, \sigma)$$

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```

$$S_i \sim \text{Binomial}(D_i, p_i)$$

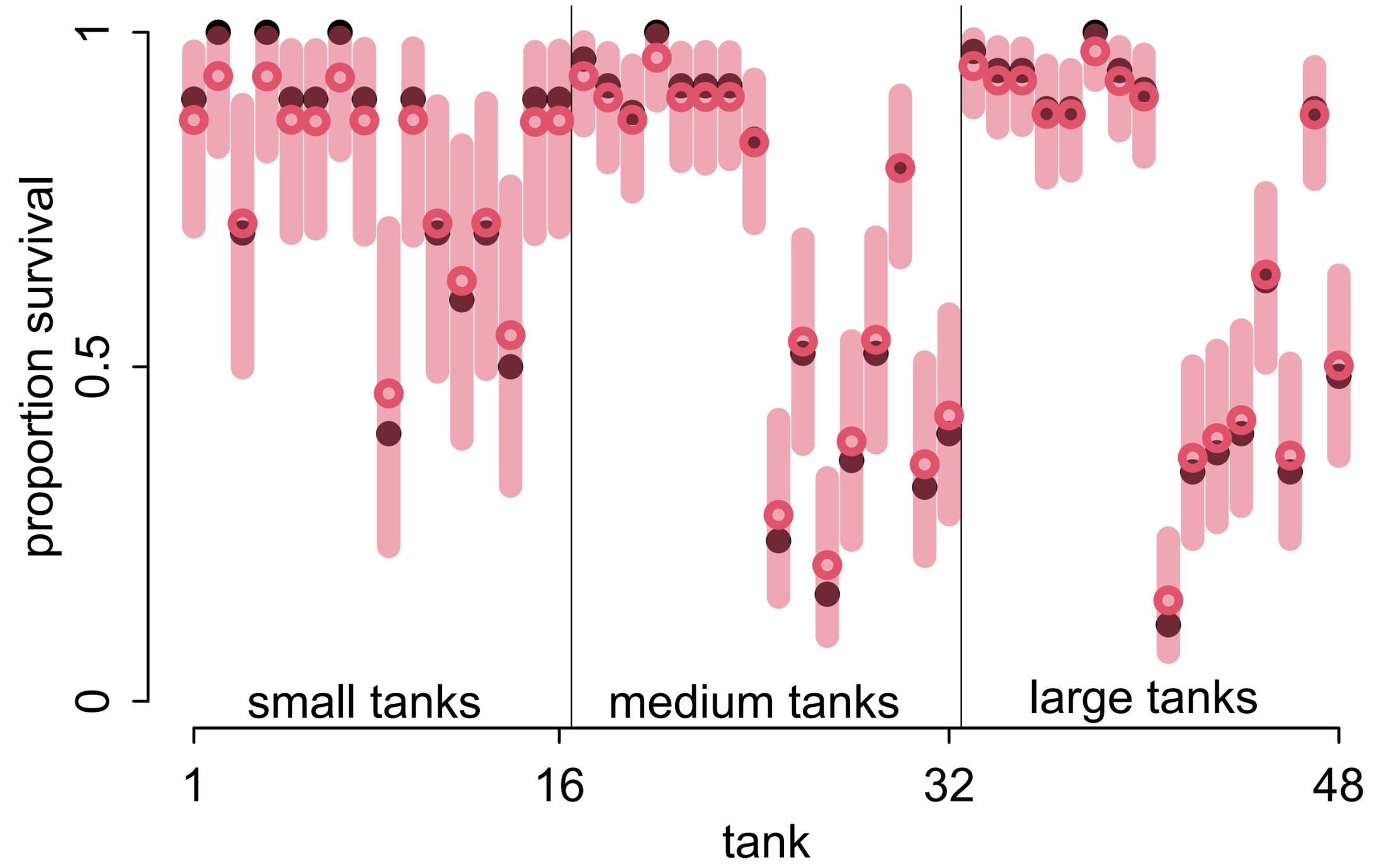
***Adding parameters can reduce overfitting***

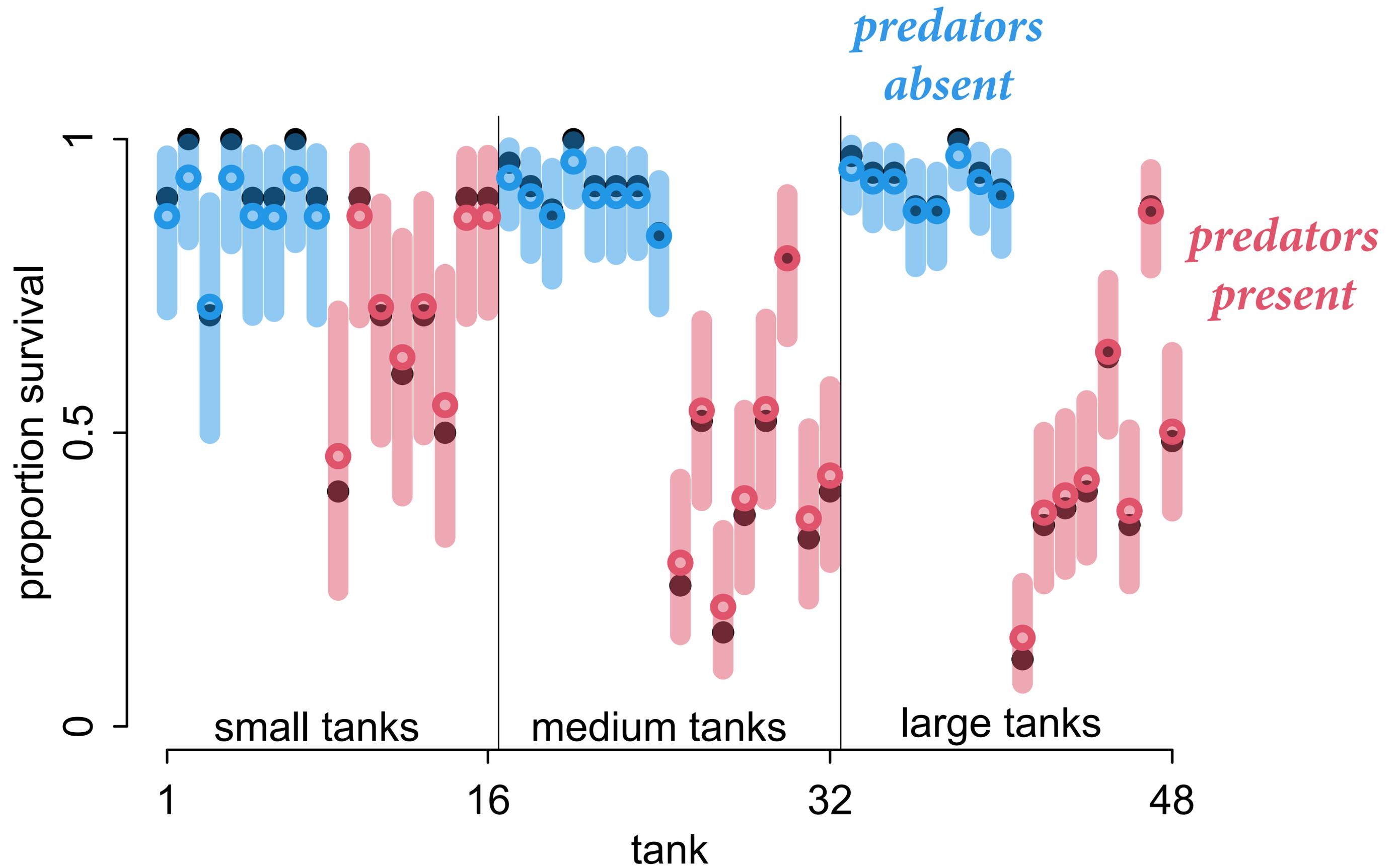
***What matters is structure, not number***

```
compare( mST , mSTnomem , func=WAIC )
```

*less evidence,  
more conservative  
estimates*

*more evidence,  
less conservative  
estimates*





# Stratify mean by predators

$$S_i \sim \text{Binomial}(D_i, p_i)$$

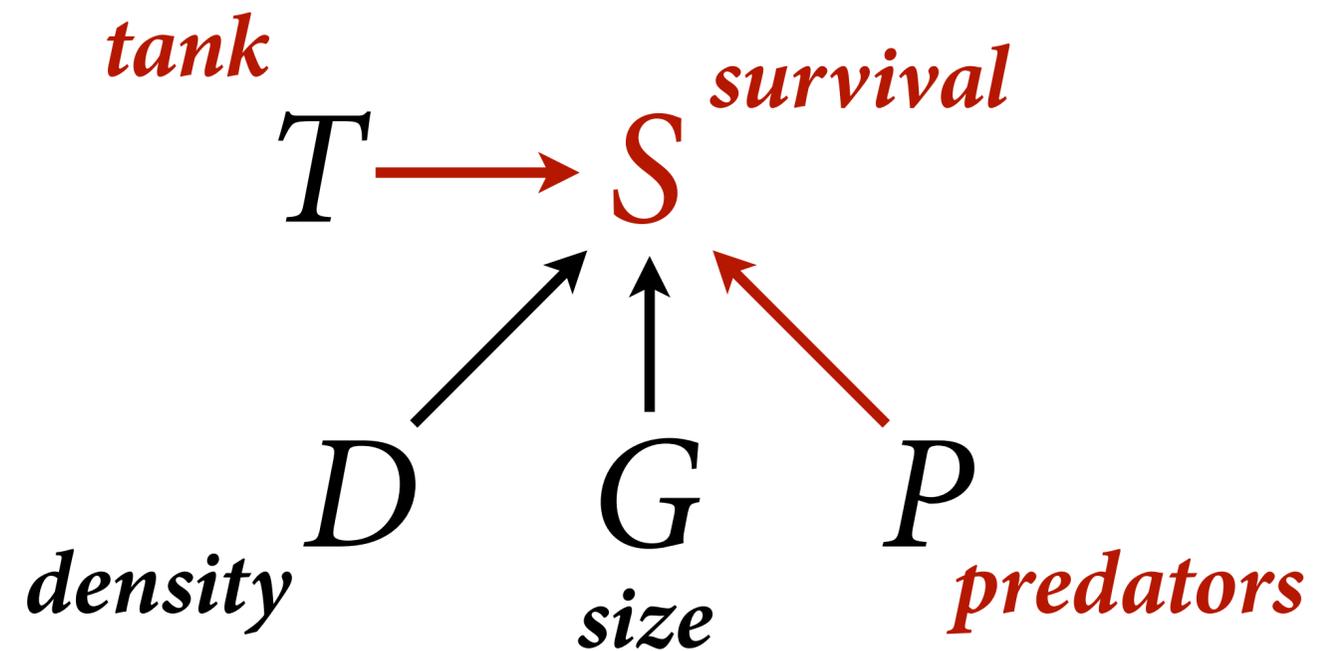
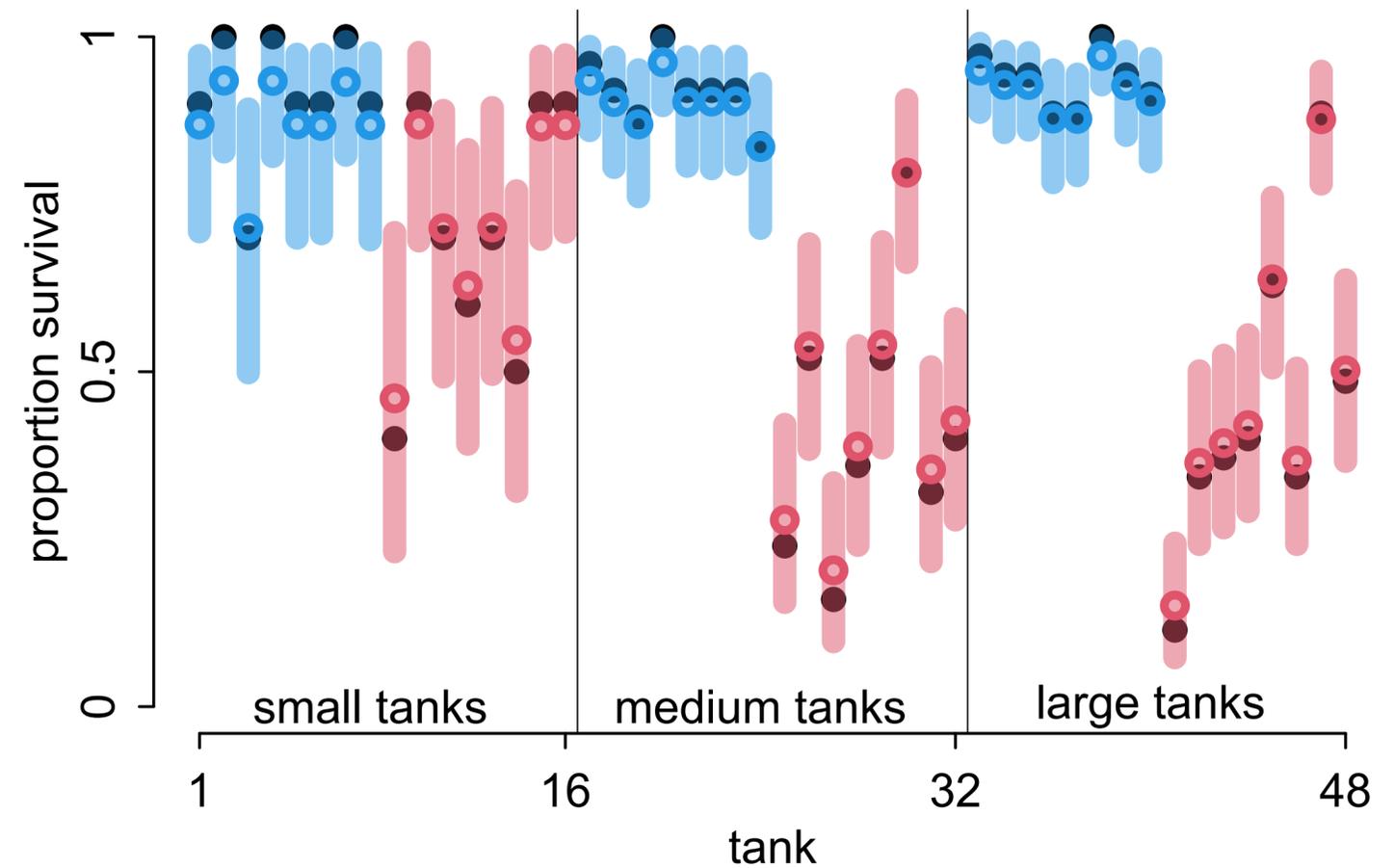
$$\text{logit}(p_i) = \alpha_{T[i]} + \beta_P P_i$$

$$\beta_P \sim \text{Normal}(0, 0.5)$$

$$\alpha_j \sim \text{Normal}(\bar{\alpha}, \sigma)$$

$$\bar{\alpha}_j \sim \text{Normal}(0, 1.5)$$

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$$\sigma \sim \text{Exponential}(1)$$

```
dat$P <- ifelse(d$pred=="pred",1,0)
mSTP <- ulam(
  alist(
    S ~ dbinom( D , p ) ,
    logit(p) <- a[T] + bP*P ,
    bP ~ dnorm( 0 , 0.5 ) ,
    a[T] ~ dnorm( a_bar , sigma ) ,
    a_bar ~ dnorm( 0 , 1.5 ) ,
    sigma ~ dexp( 1 )
  ) , data=dat , chains=4 , log_lik=TRUE )
```

# Stratify mean by predators

$$S_i \sim \text{Binomial}(D_i, p_i)$$

$$\text{logit}(p_i) = \alpha_{T[i]} + \beta_P P_i$$

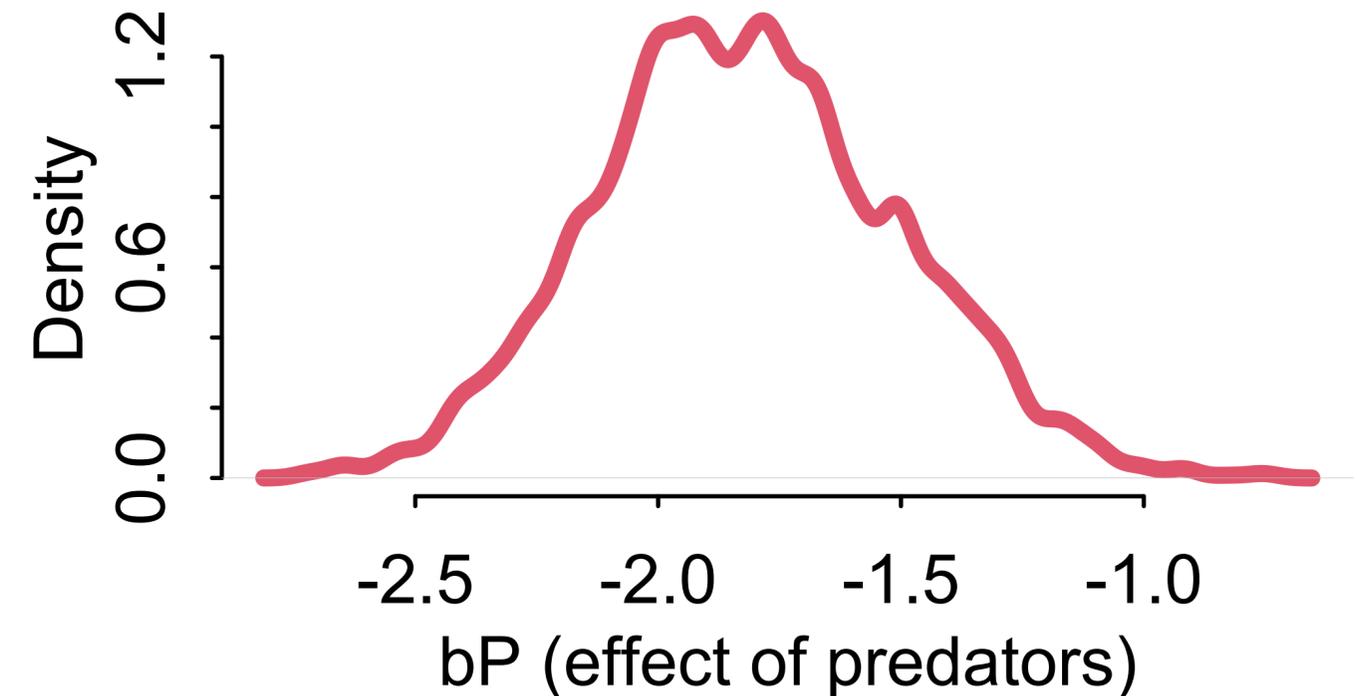
$$\beta_P \sim \text{Normal}(0, 0.5)$$

$$\alpha_j \sim \text{Normal}(\bar{\alpha}, \sigma)$$

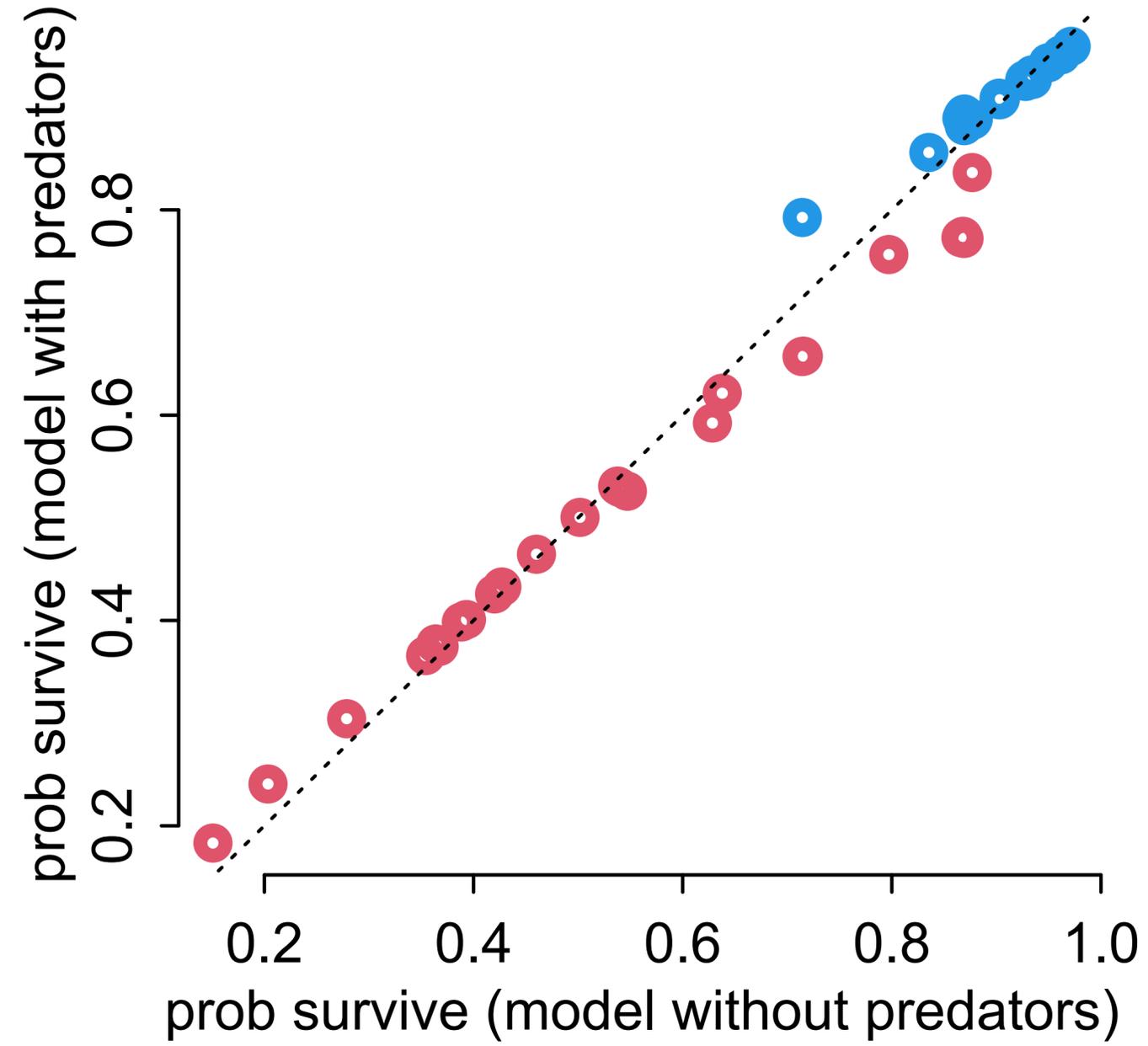
$$\bar{\alpha}_j \sim \text{Normal}(0, 1.5)$$

$$\sigma \sim \text{Exponential}(1)$$

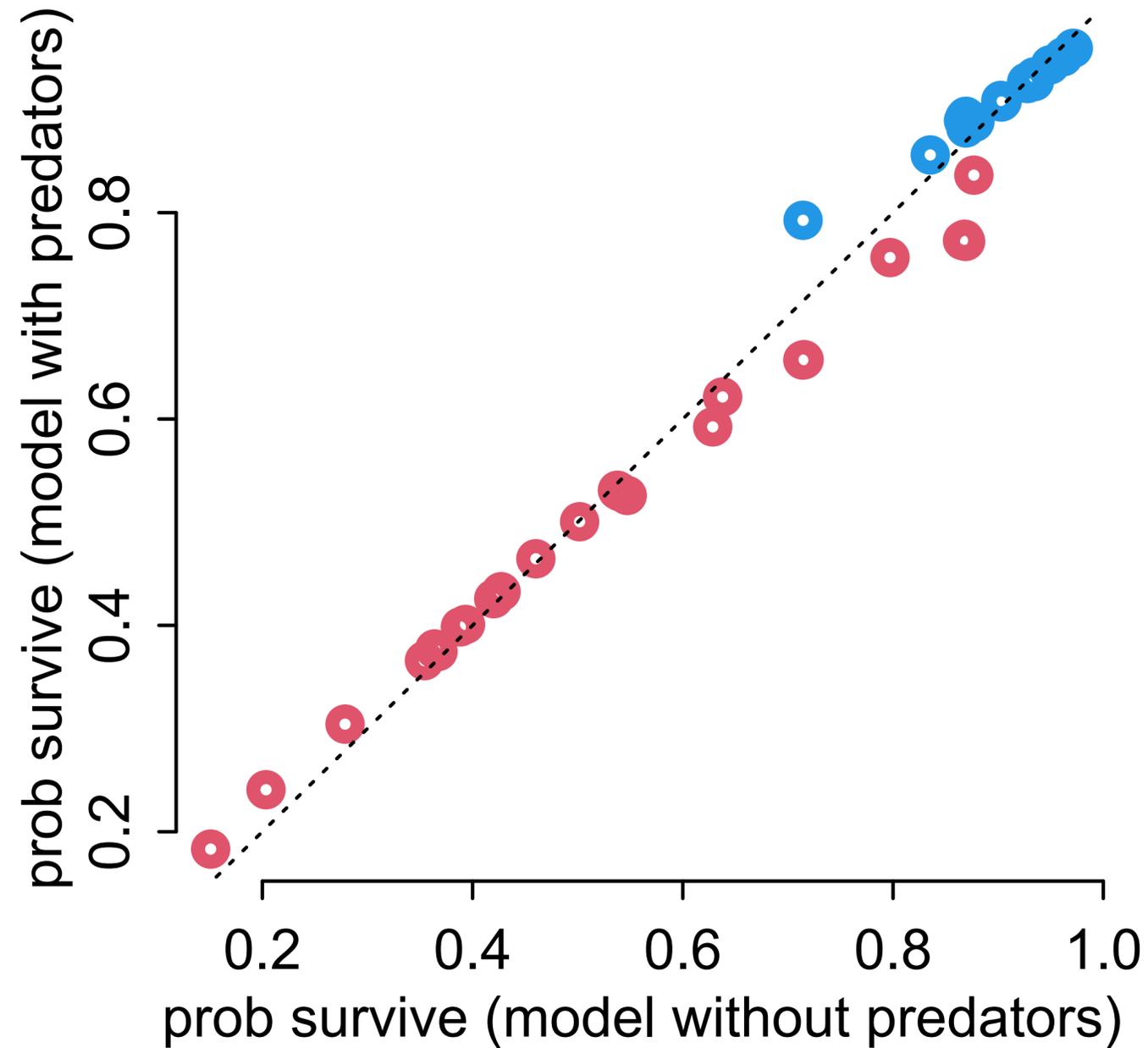
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  alist(
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    logit(p) <- a[T] + bP*P ,
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    sigma ~ dexp( 1 )
  ) , data=dat , chains=4 , log_lik=TRUE )
```



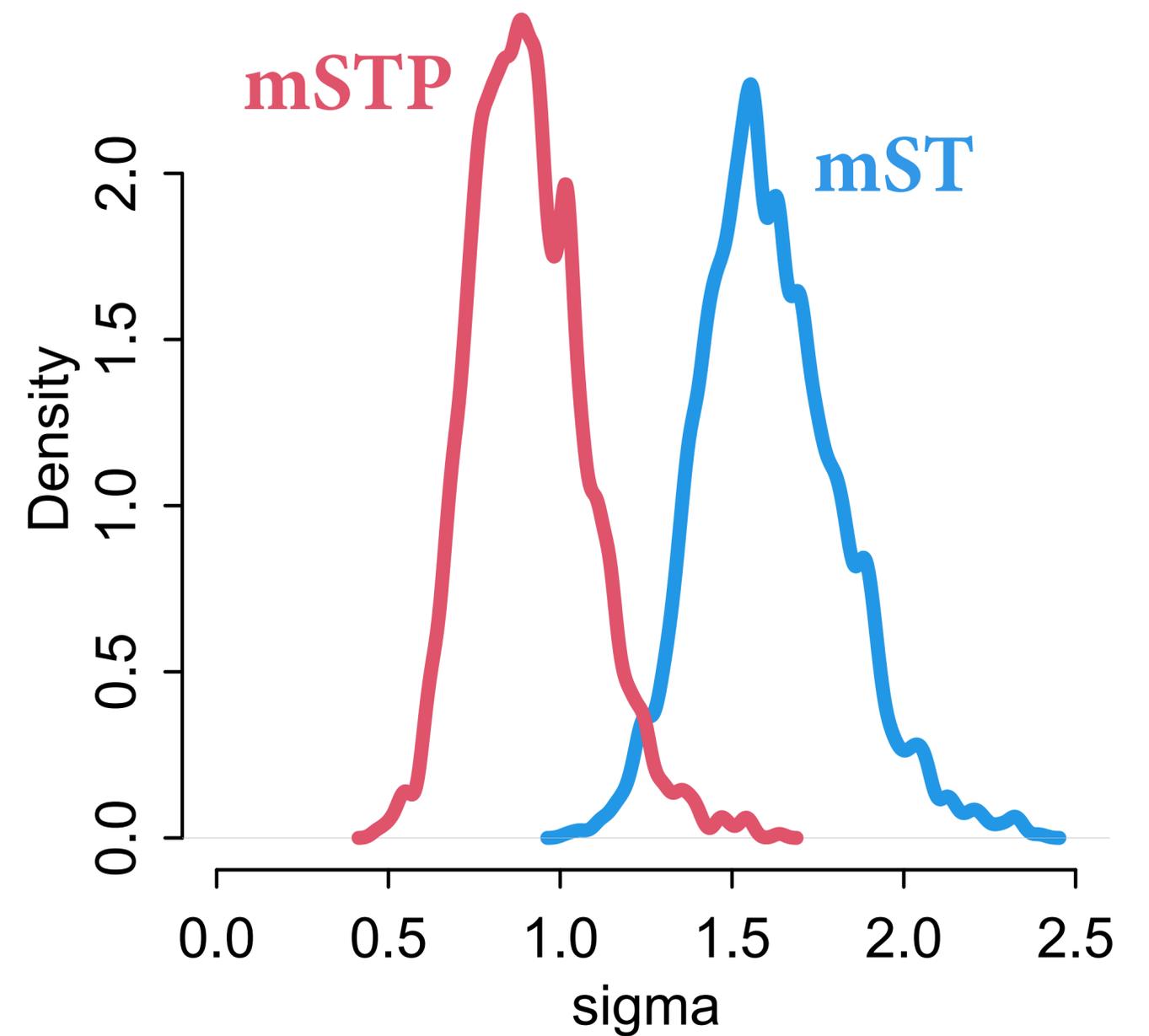
# Extremely similar predictions



## Extremely similar predictions



## Very different sigma values



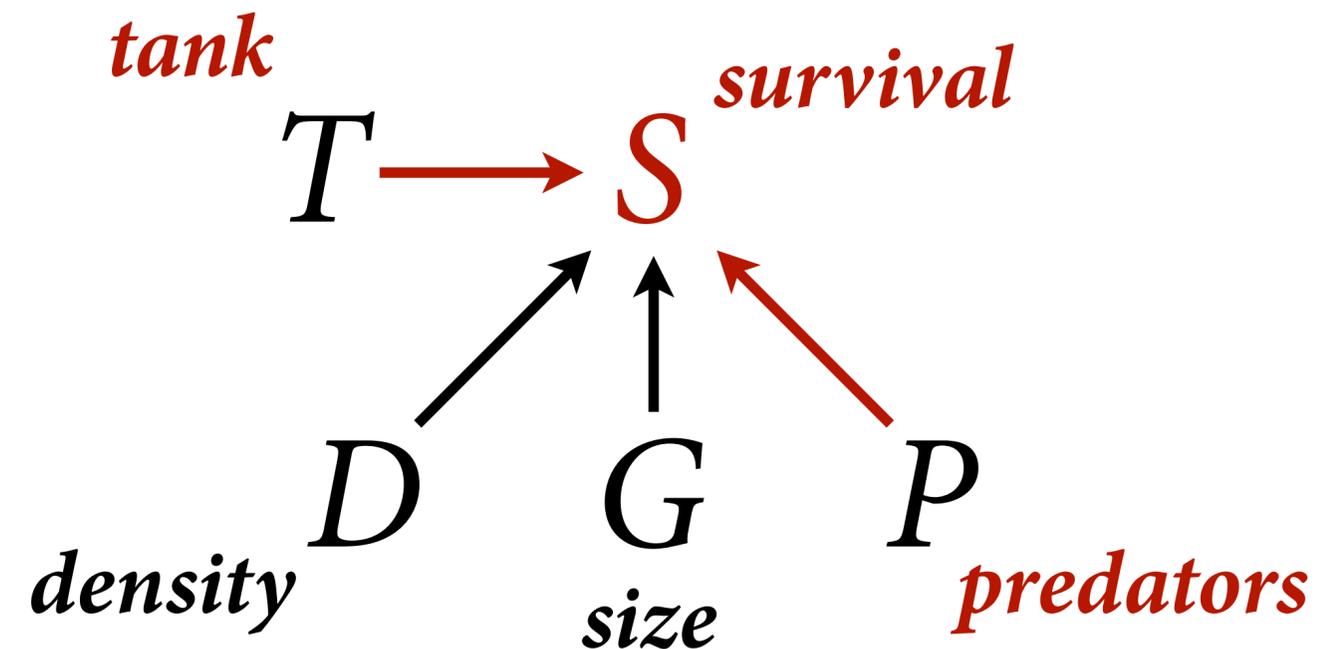
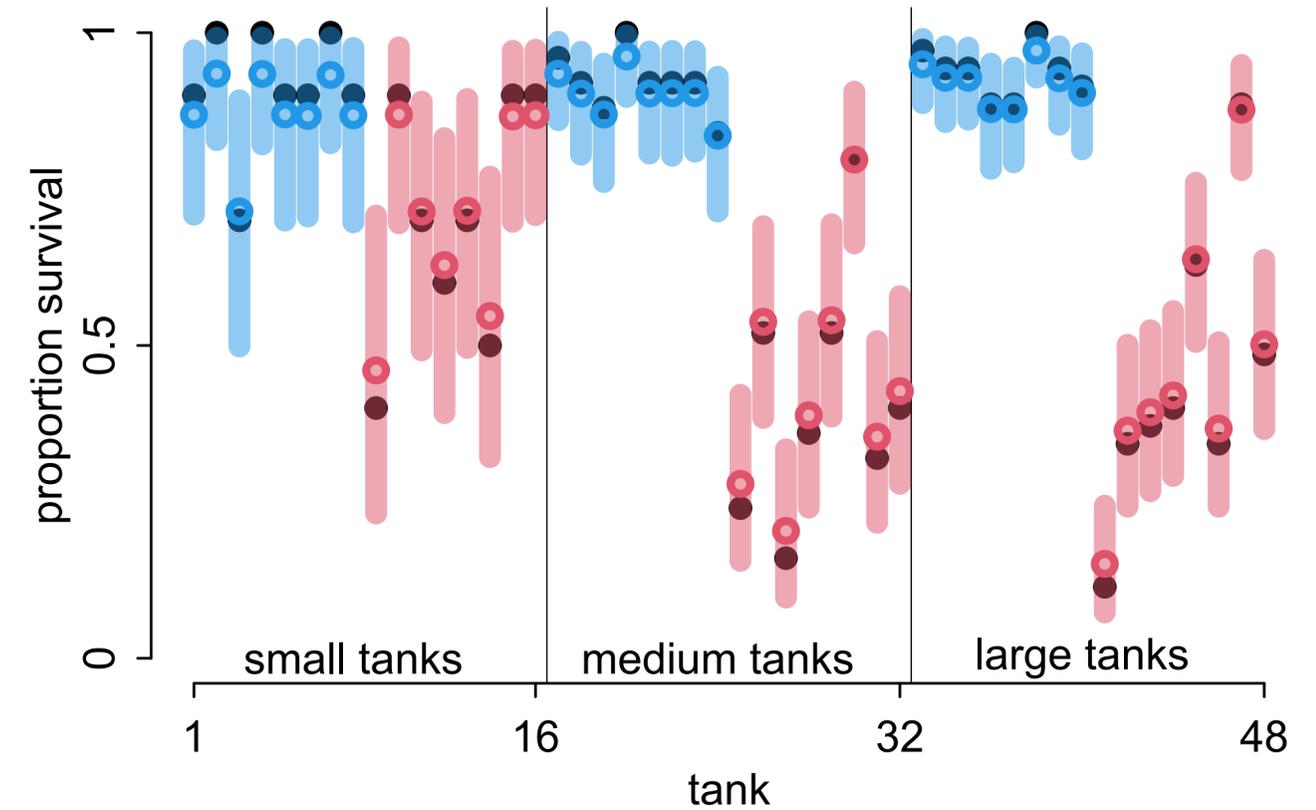
# Multilevel Tadpoles

Model of unobserved population helps learn about observed units

Use data efficiently, reduce overfitting

*Varying effects*: Unit-specific partially pooled estimates

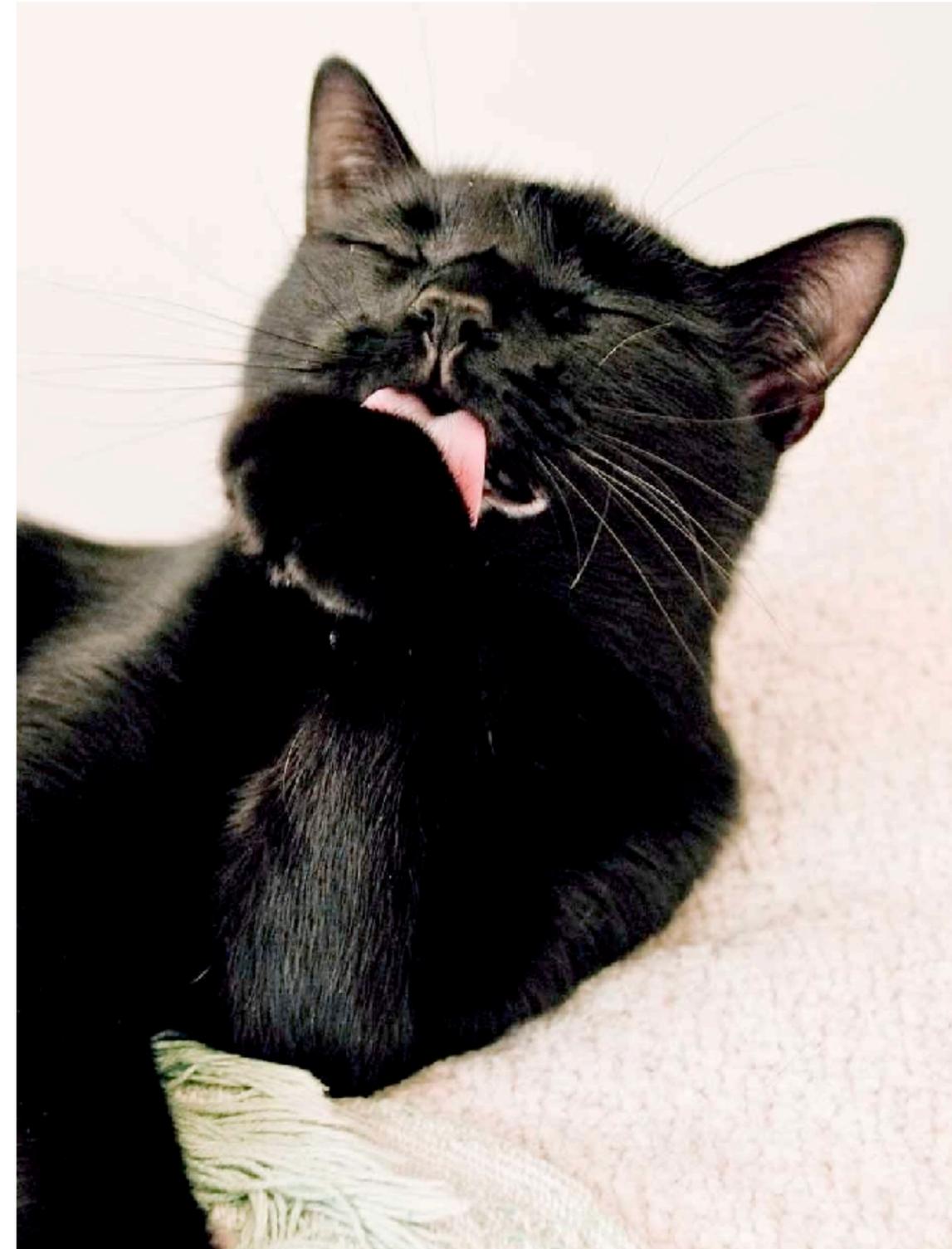
What about  $D$  and  $G$ ? **Homework**



# Varying Effect Superstitions

Varying effect models are plagued by superstition

- (1) Units must be sampled at random
- (2) Number of units must be large
- (3) Assumes Gaussian variation



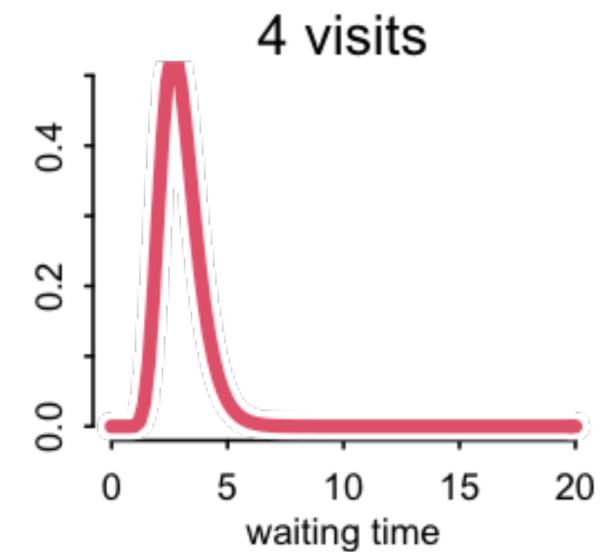
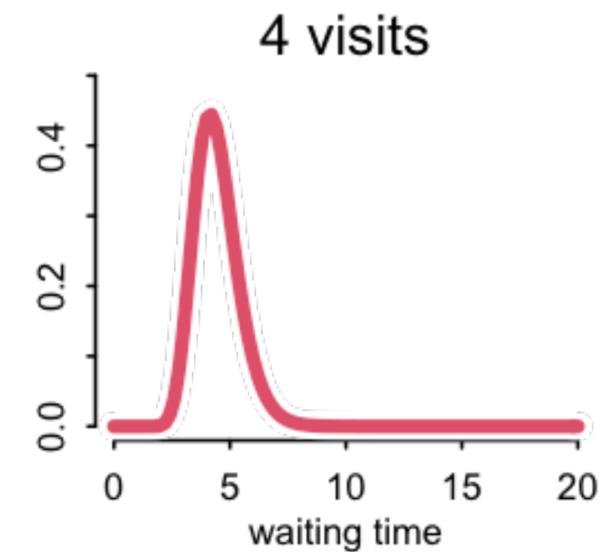
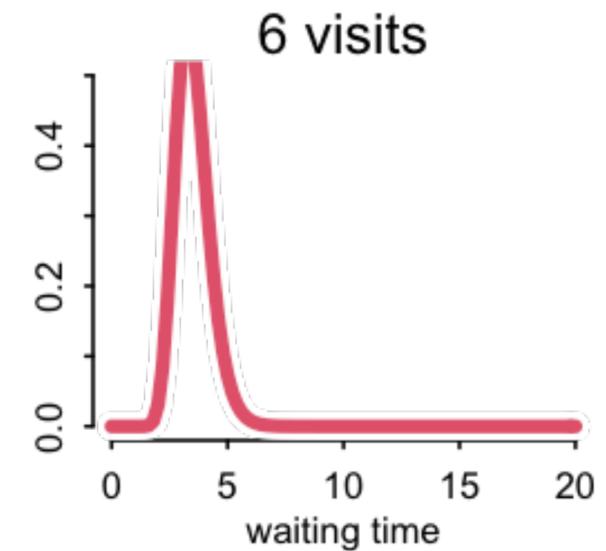
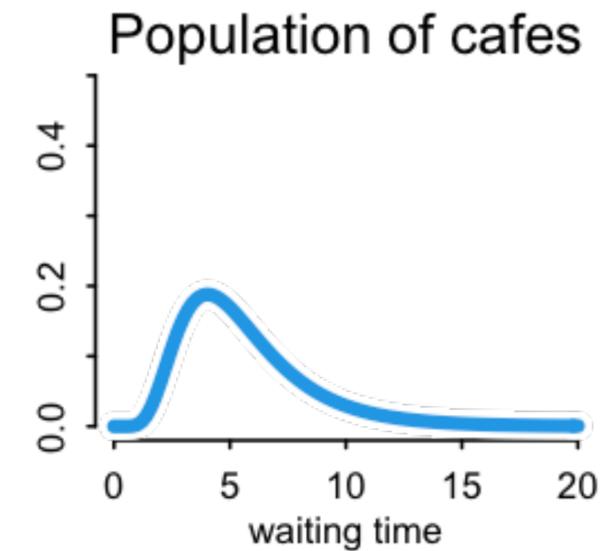
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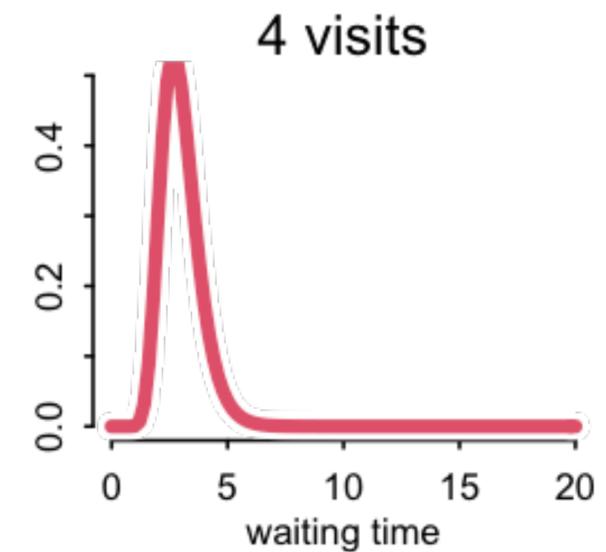
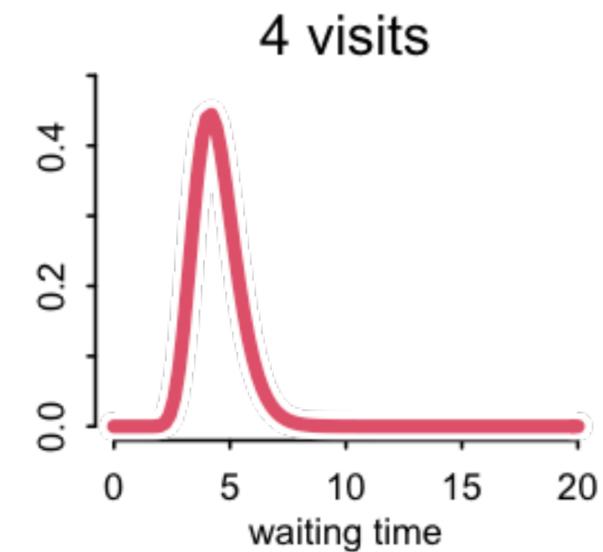
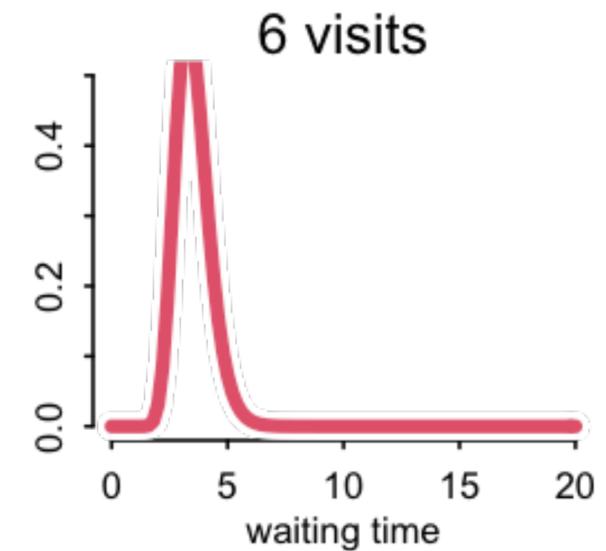
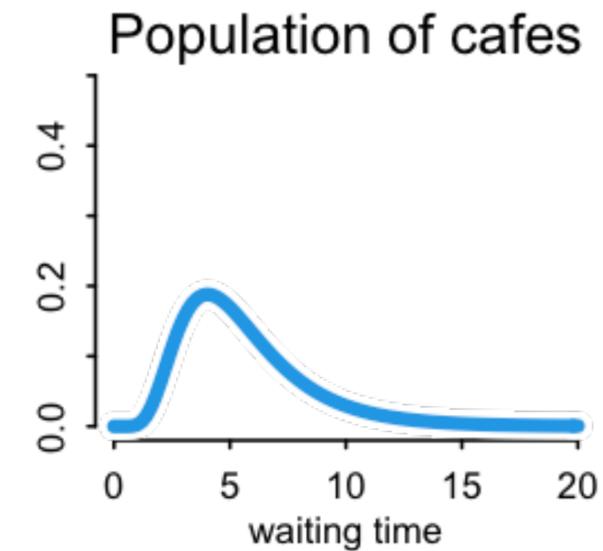
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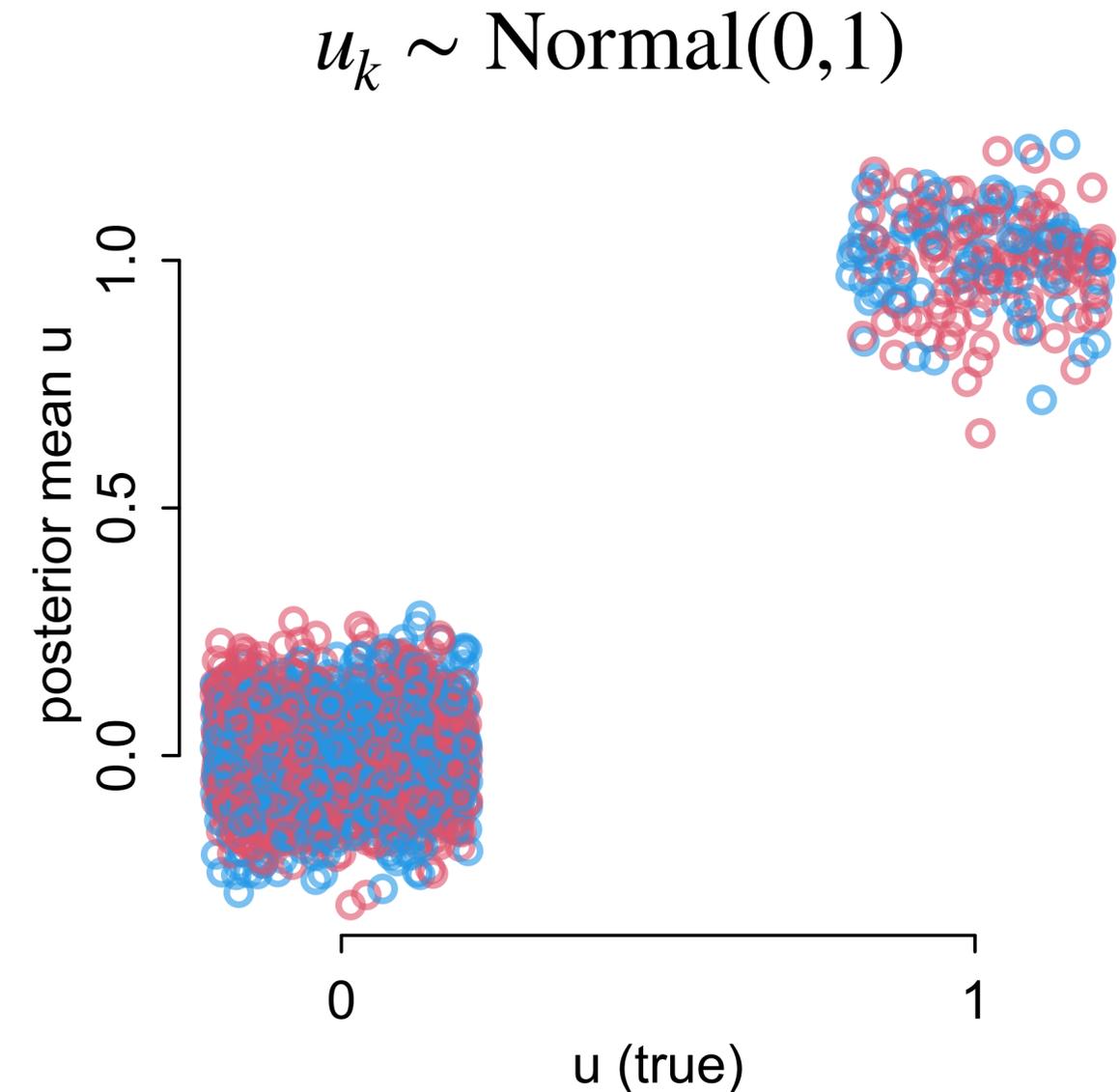
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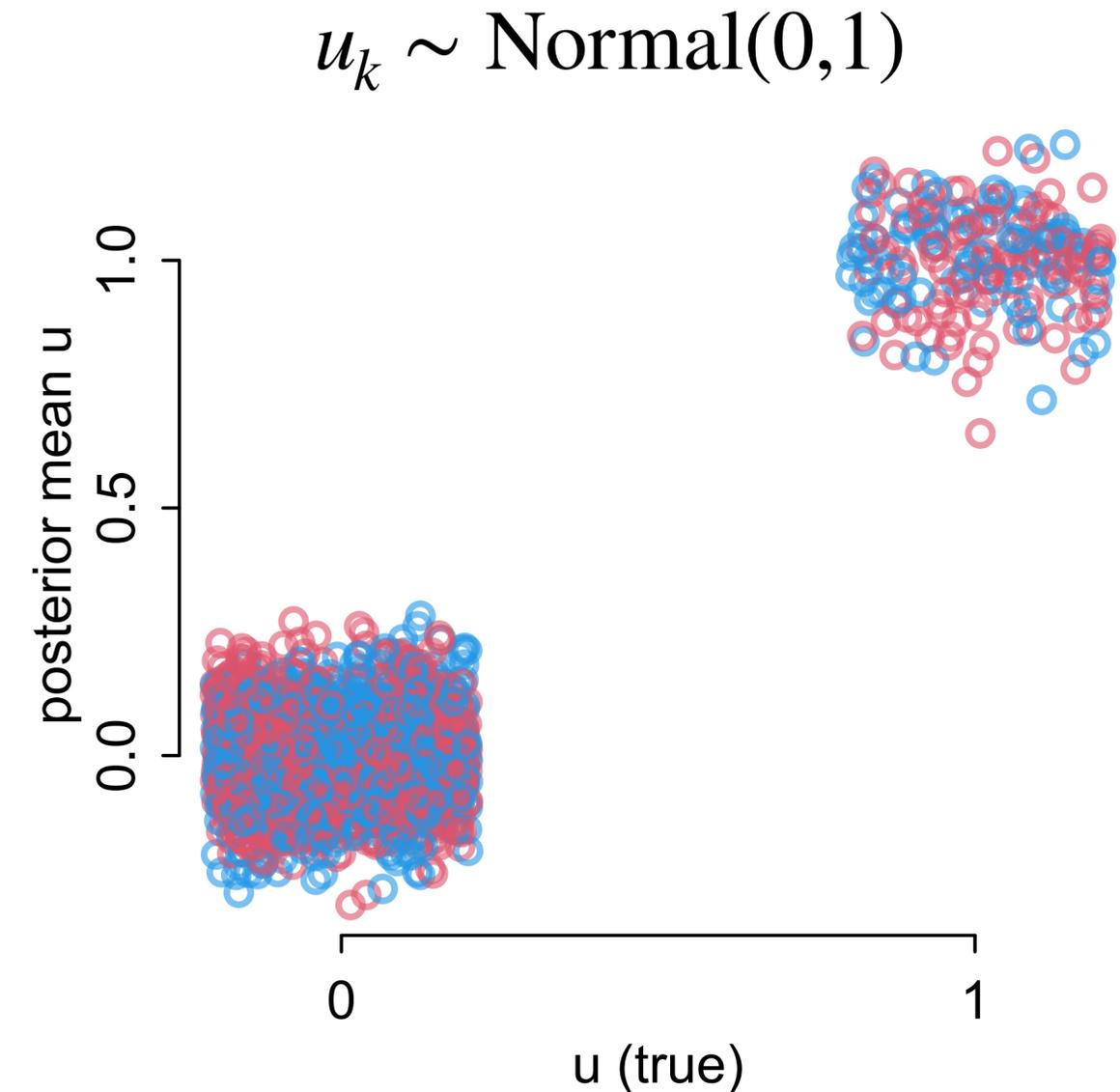
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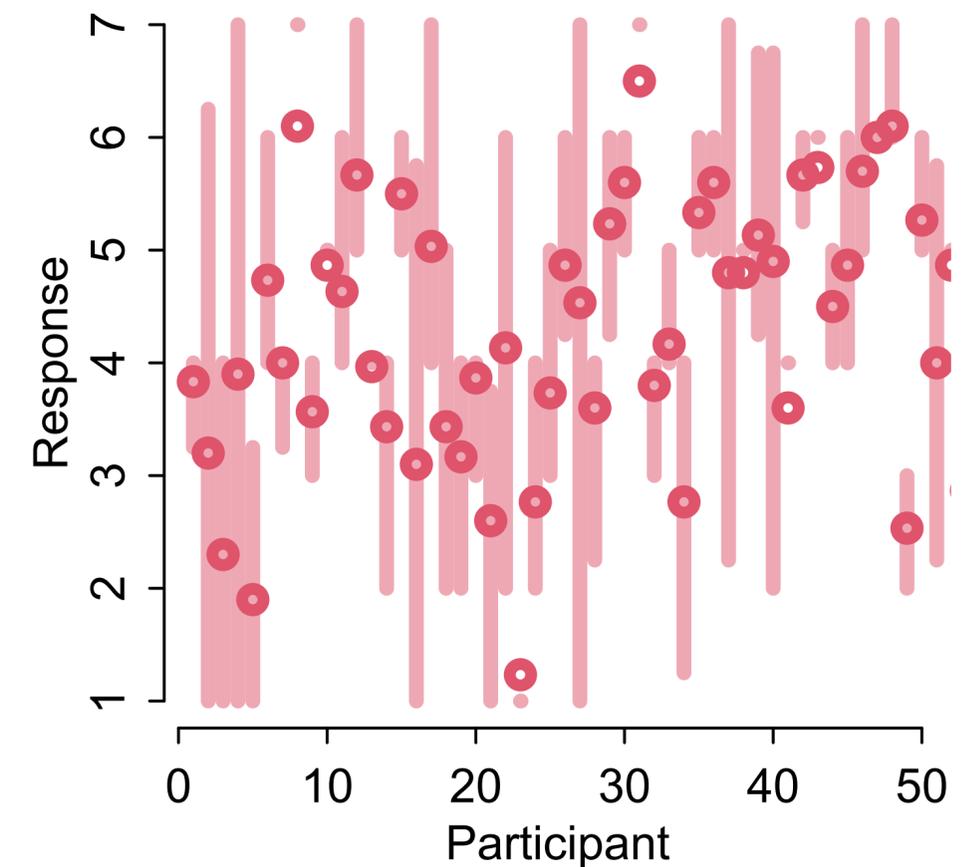
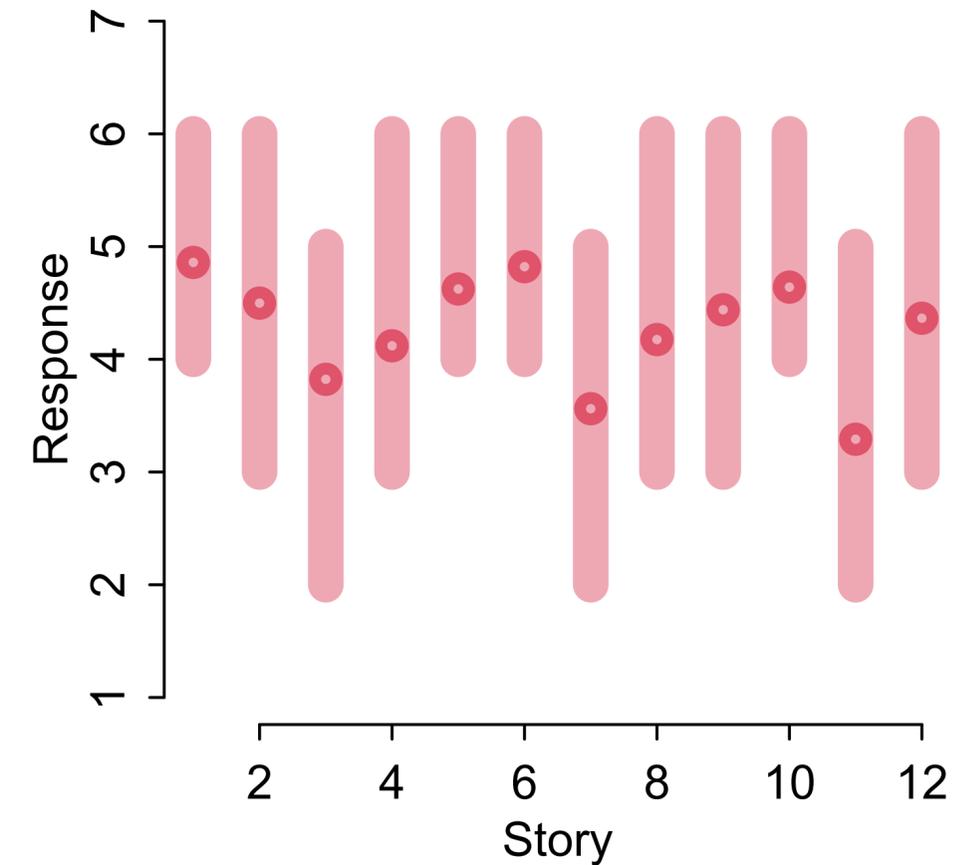


# Practical Difficulties

Varying effects are a good default, but...

(1) How to use **more than one** cluster type at the same time? For example **stories** and **participants**

(2) How to sample efficiently



# Course Schedule

Week 1	Bayesian inference	Chapters 1, 2, 3
Week 2	Linear models & Causal Inference	Chapter 4
Week 3	Causes, Confounds & Colliders	Chapters 5 & 6
Week 4	Overfitting / MCMC	Chapters 7, 8, 9
Week 5	Generalized Linear Models	Chapters 10, 11
Week 6	Ordered categories & Multilevel models	Chapters 12 & 13
Week 7	More Multilevel models	Chapters 13 & 14
Week 8	Multilevel models & Gaussian processes	Chapter 14
Week 9	Measurement & Missingness	Chapter 15
Week 10	Generalized Linear Madness	Chapter 16

[https://github.com/rmcelreath/stat\\_rethinking\\_2022](https://github.com/rmcelreath/stat_rethinking_2022)

