

Capturing the impact of climate  
on Dengue using stochastic  
dynamical systems

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**Ecole Normale Supérieure**

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Statistics Department

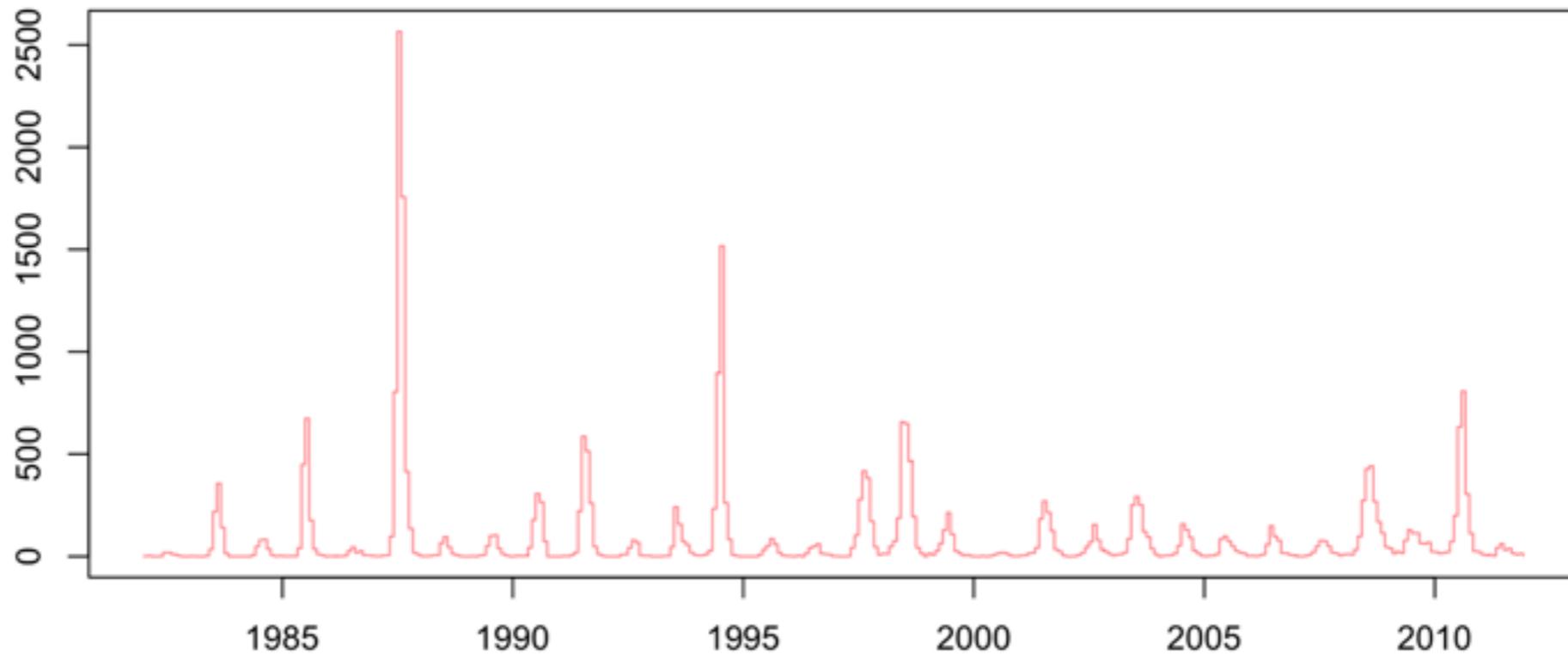
**Joint work with Bernard Cazelles  
as part of the DENFREE project**

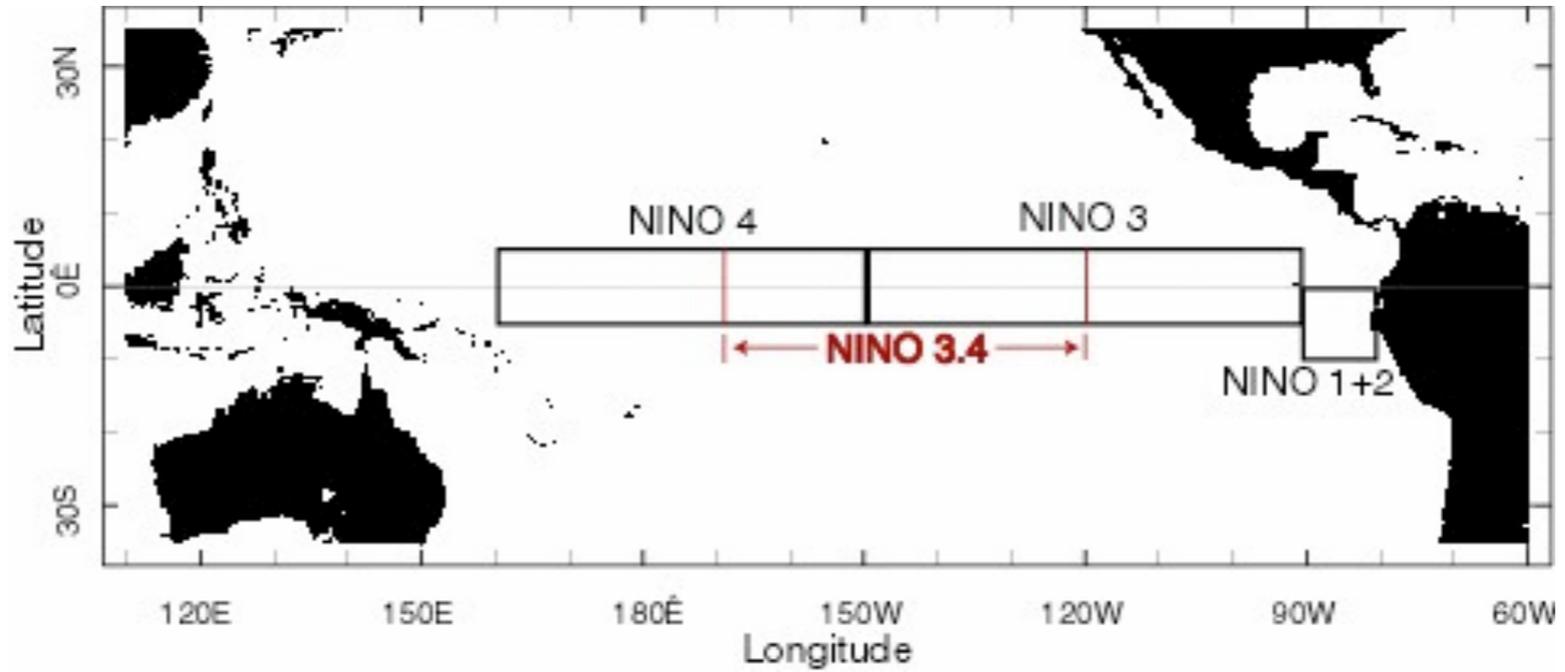
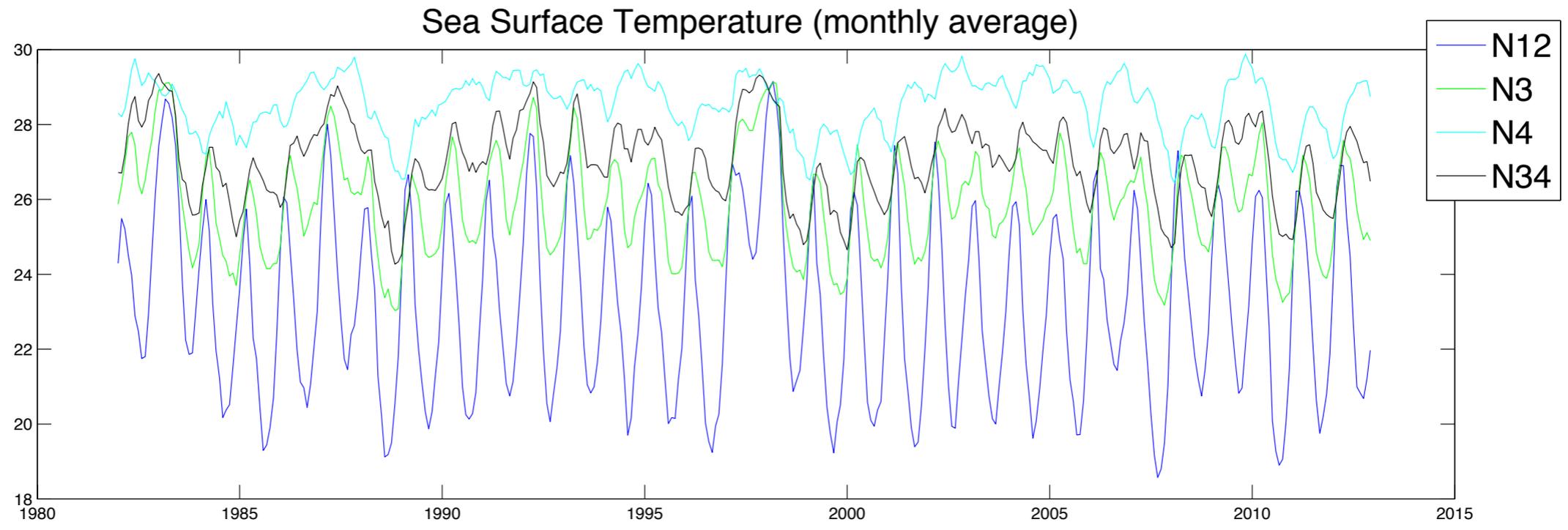
# Outline

1. At first sight
2. A mechanistic modeling approach
3. Computationally intensive inference
4. Results
5. Conclusions

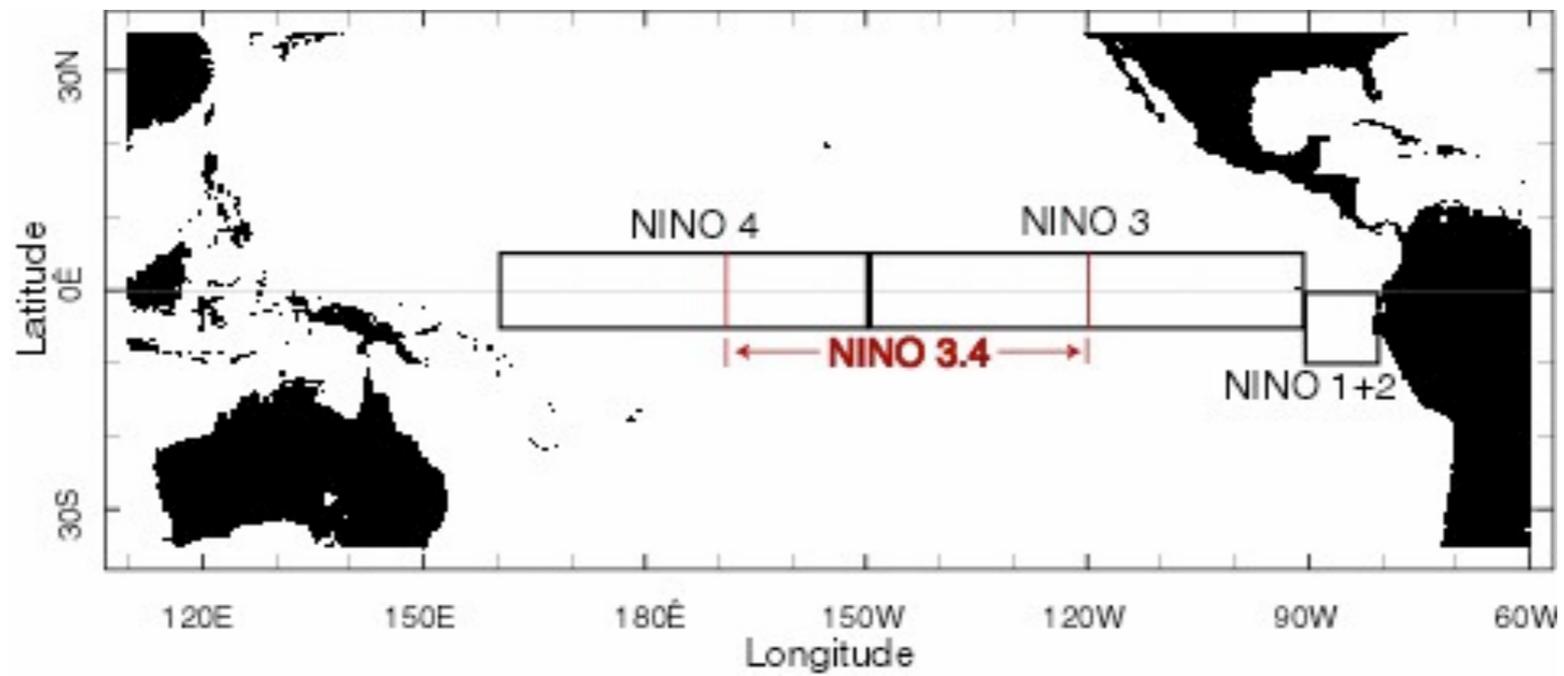
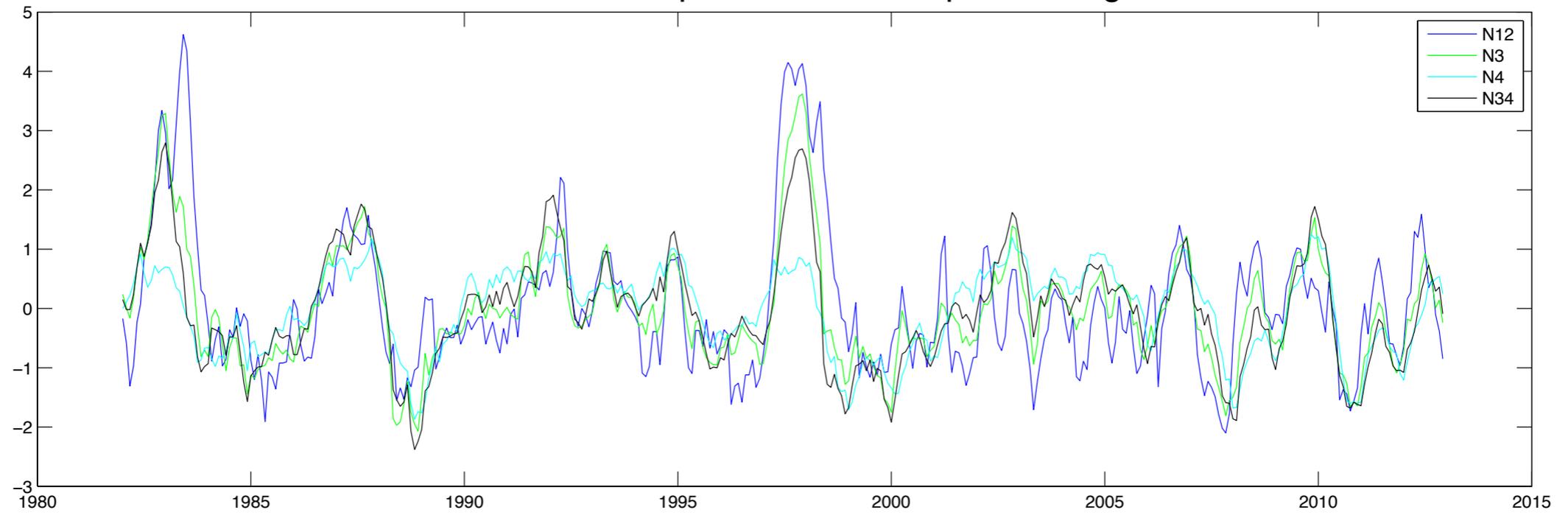
1. *At first sight*

Monthly recorded cases  
Chiang Mai district

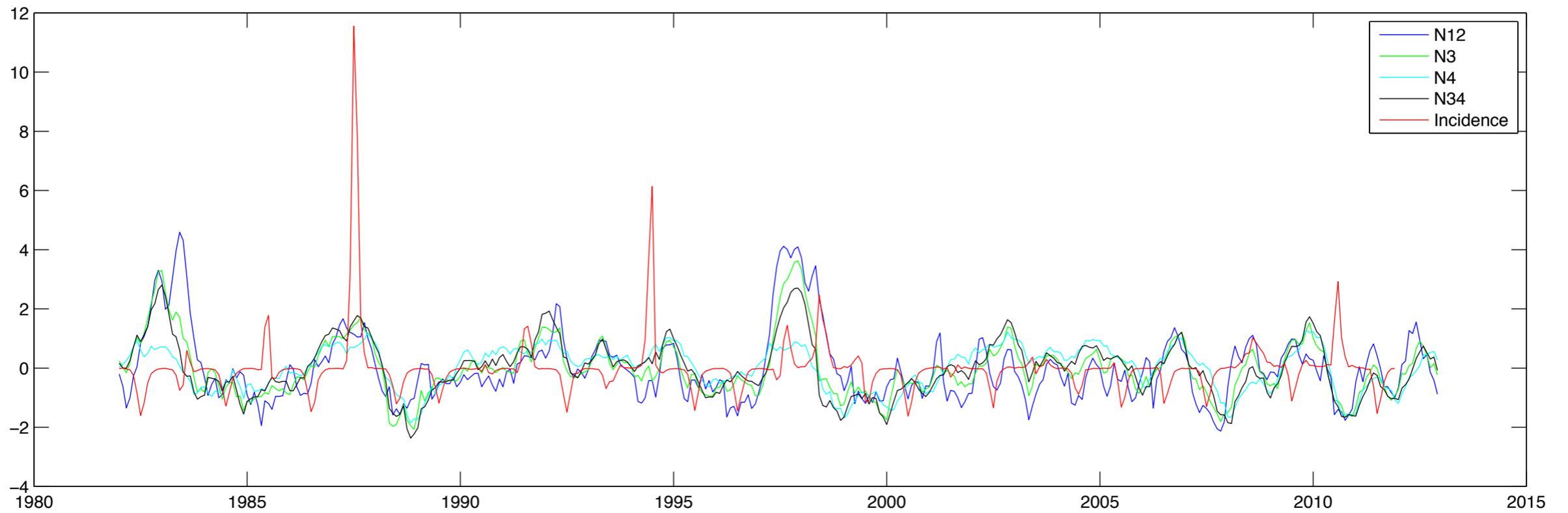




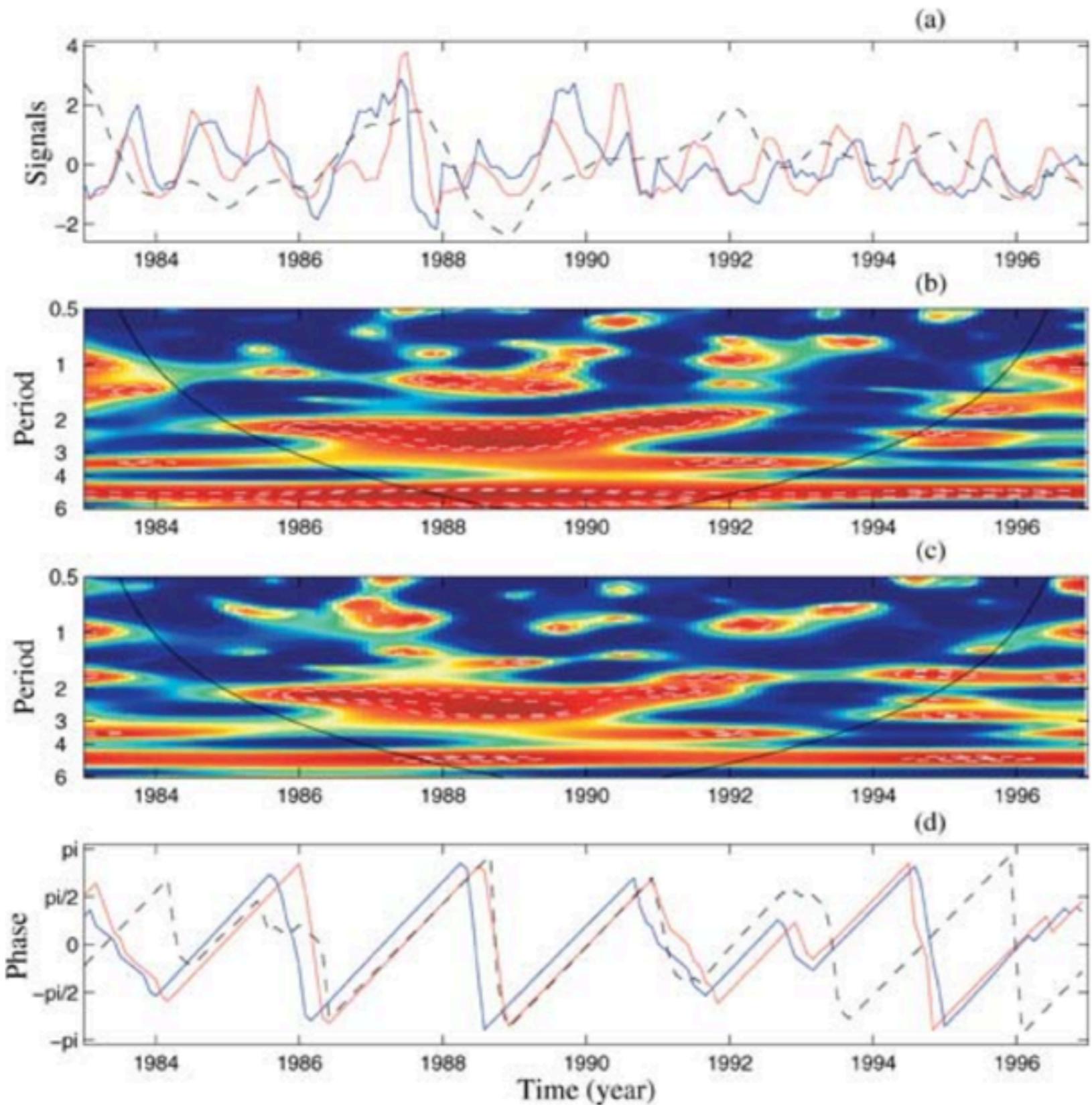
# Sea Surface Temperature – mean periodic signal



# Anomalies



	Lag (months)	Correlation	p-value
N12	-6	0.17	0.001
N3	-6	0.17	0.001
N4	-6	0.16	0.002
N34	-6	0.19	0.0002



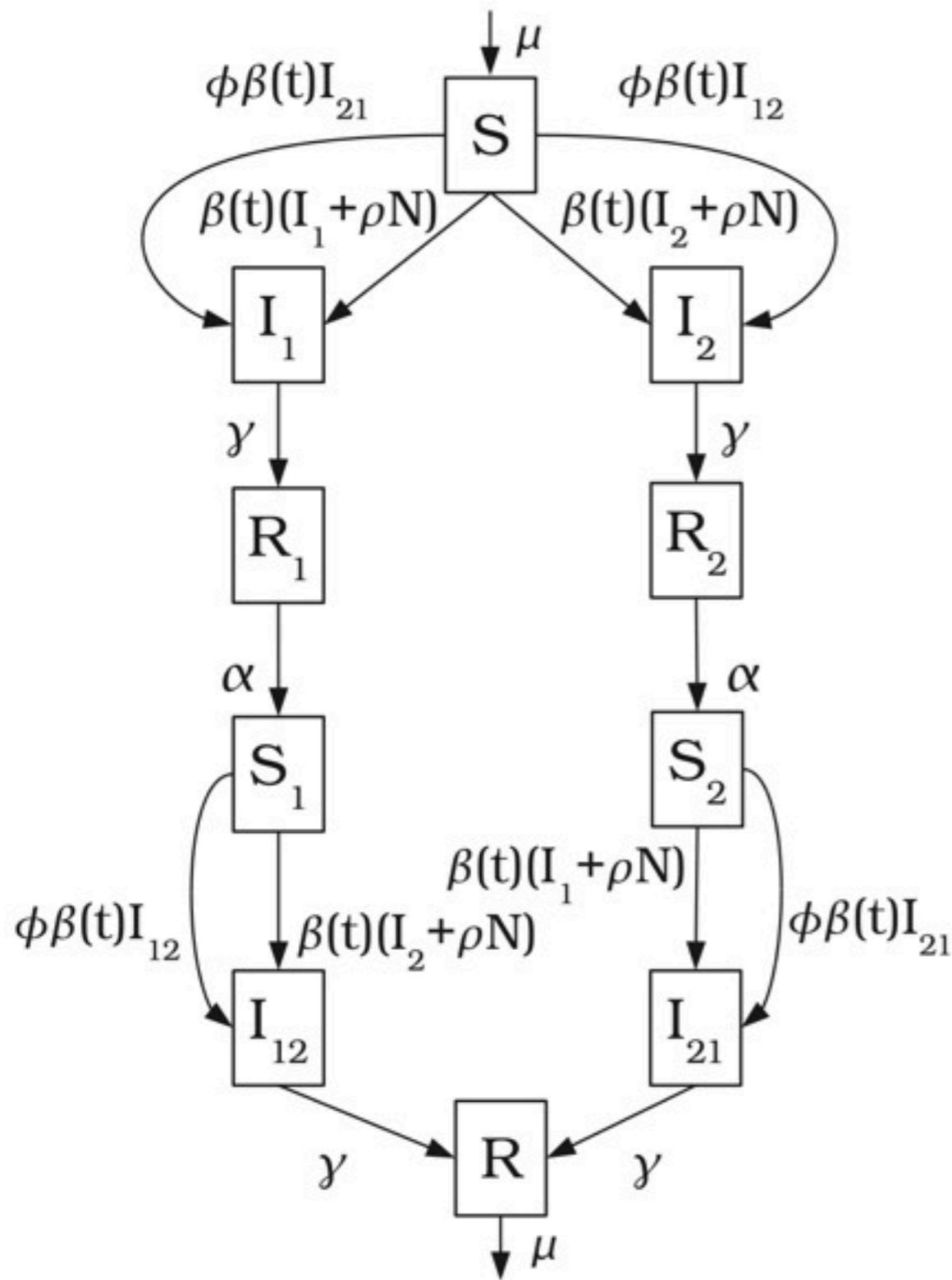
“(...) significant association between El Niño, climate variables, and DHF incidence for Bangkok and for the rest of Thailand.’

“Dengue in Bangkok seems to precede the oscillations of the Nino 3 index.”

“These findings do not exclude an important role for other factors, such as intrinsic disease dynamics, in explaining patterns of dengue incidence in Thailand.”

Cazelles, B., Chavez, M., McMichael, A. J., & Hales, S. (2005). Nonstationary influence of El Niño on the synchronous dengue epidemics in Thailand. *PLoS medicine*, 2(4), e106.

## 2. A mechanistic modeling approach



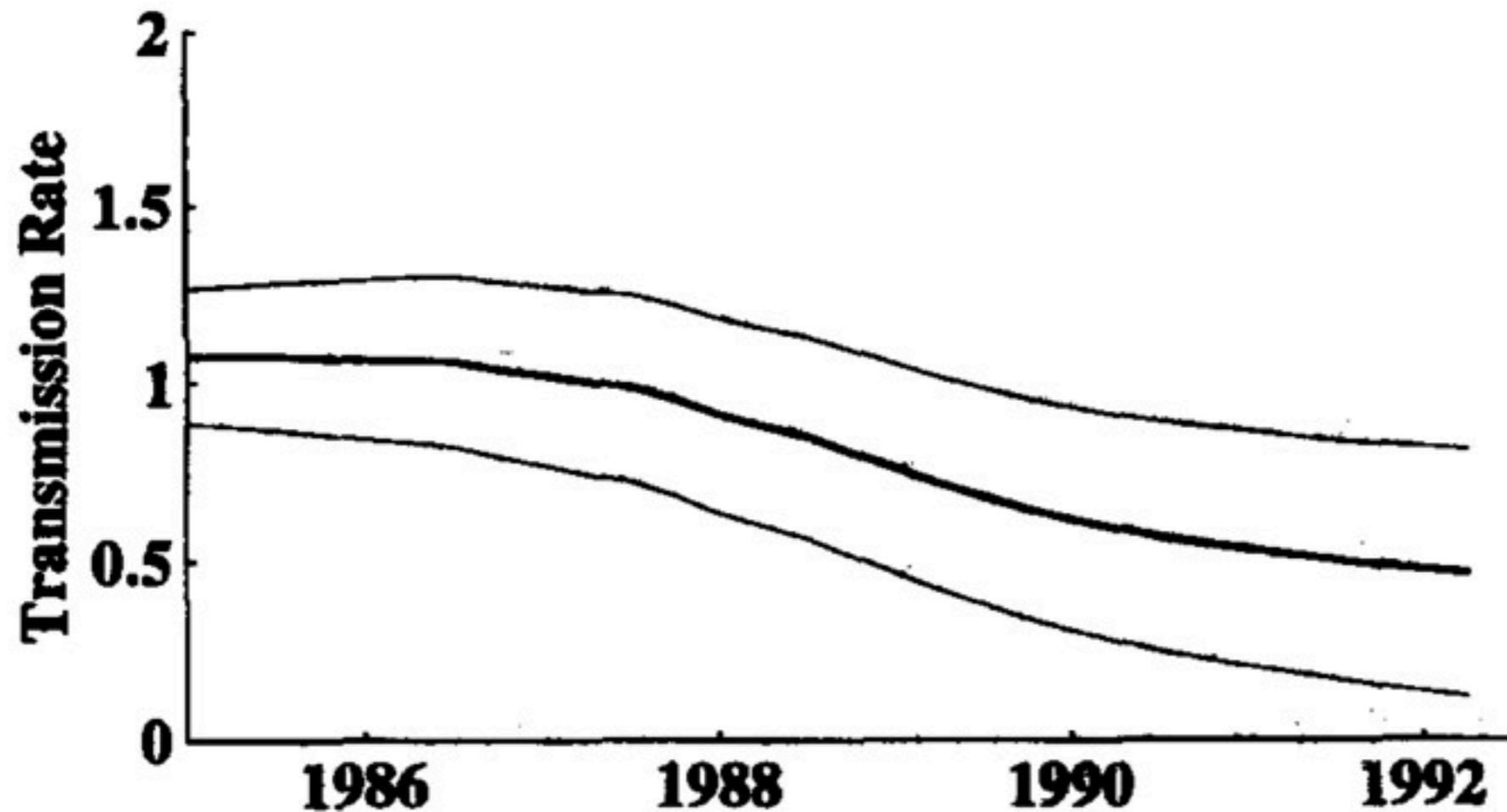
$$\beta_t = \beta_0 * (1 + e * \cos(\omega(t + \phi))) + \tilde{\beta}_t$$



Aguiar, M., Ballesteros, S., Kooi, B. W., & Stollenwerk, N. (2011). The role of seasonality and import in a minimalistic multi-strain dengue model capturing differences between primary and secondary infections: complex dynamics and its implications for data analysis. *Journal of Theoretical Biology*, 289, 181-196.

# Capturing unknown variations of a key parameter

HIV transmission rate among the Parisian  
gay community



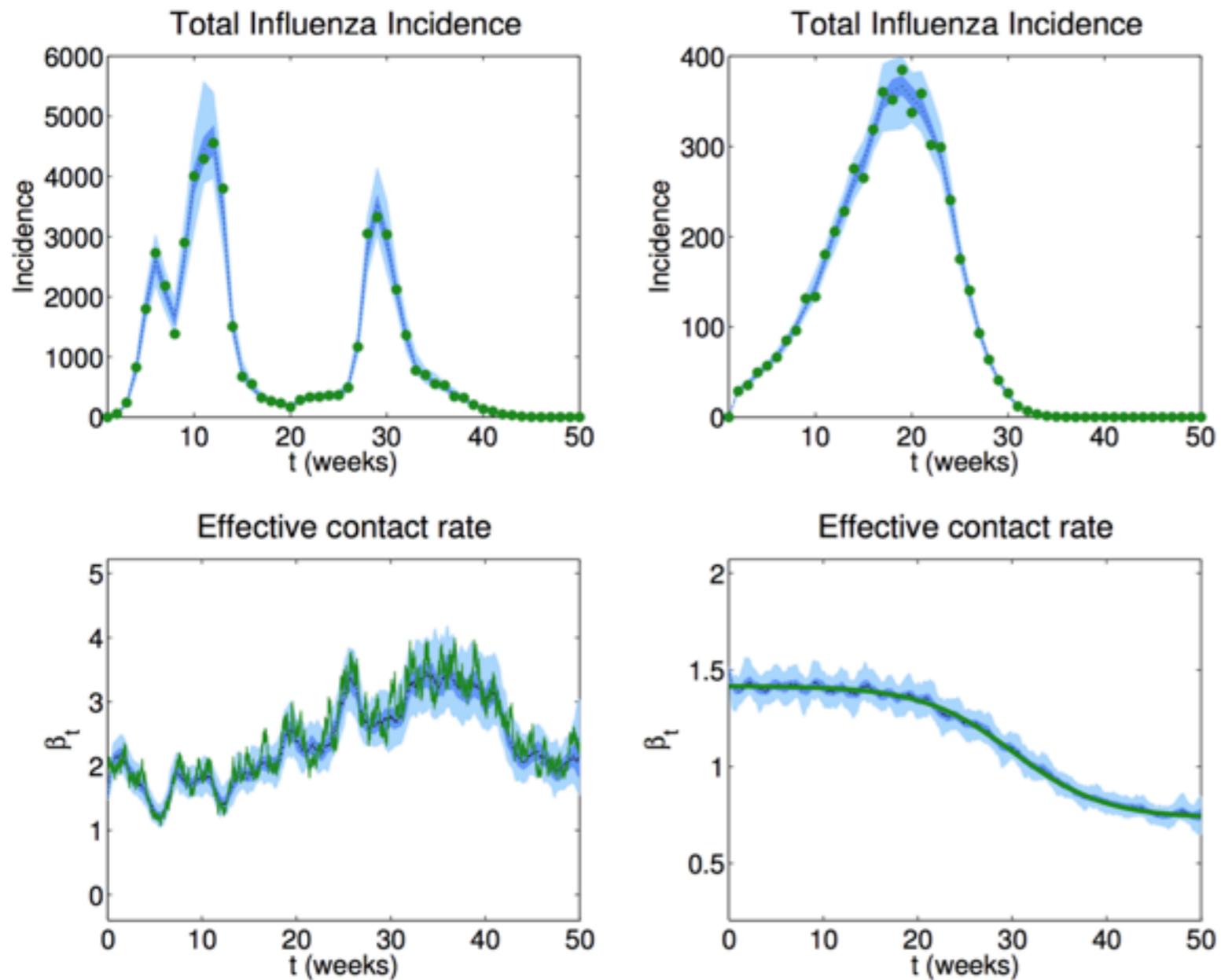
$$\beta_t = \sigma dB_t$$

Cazelles, B., & Chau, N. P. (1997). Using the Kalman filter and dynamic models to assess the changing HIV/AIDS epidemic. *Mathematical biosciences*, 140(2), 131-154.

# Capturing unknown variations of a key parameter

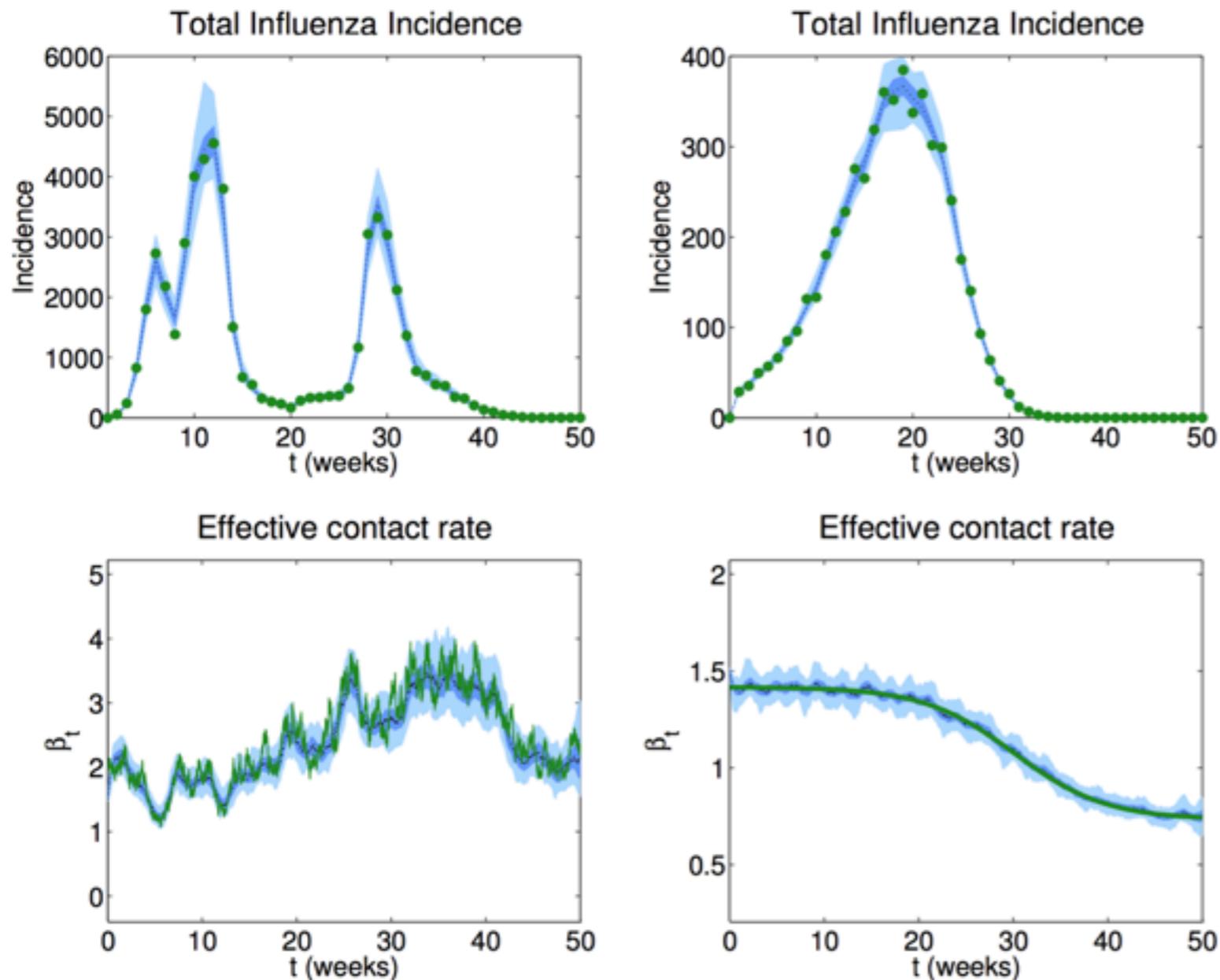
$$\begin{cases} \frac{dS_t}{dt} = -\beta_t S_t \frac{I_t}{N} \\ \frac{dE_t}{dt} = \beta_t S_t \frac{I_t}{N} - kE_t \\ \frac{dI_t}{dt} = kE_t - \gamma I_t \\ \frac{dR_t}{dt} = \gamma I_t \\ d \log(\beta_t) = \sigma dB_t \end{cases}$$

# Capturing unknown variations of a key parameter



- Simulated incidence observations
- Simulated unobserved path of  $\beta_t$
- 95% credible interval
- 50% credible interval

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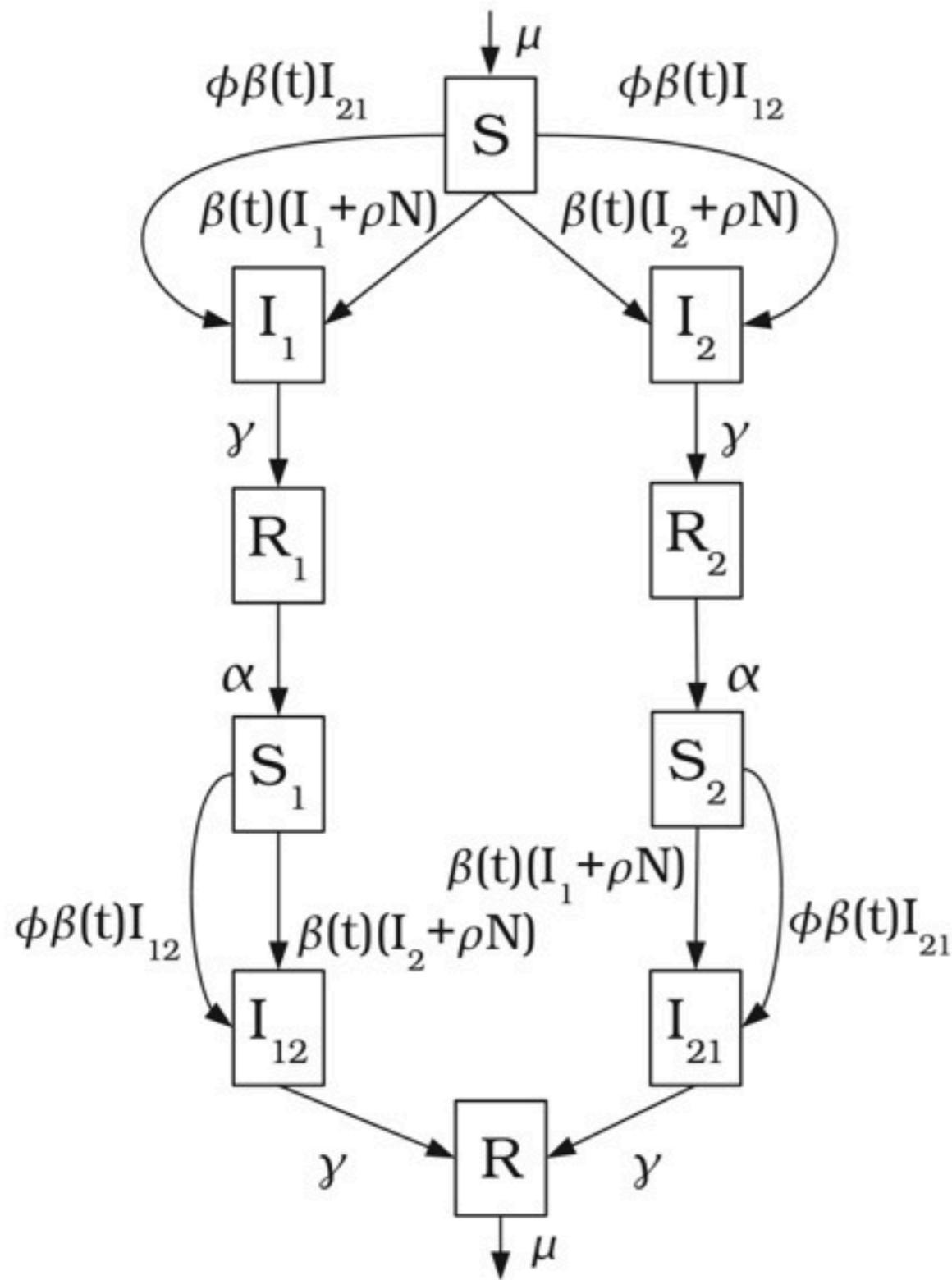
Generic framework:

$$dh(\beta_t) = \mu(\beta_t, \theta)dt + \sigma(\beta_t, \theta)dB_t$$

Exact exploration of  $p_\delta(\beta_t | \theta^*, y_{1:n})$   
or  $p_\delta(\beta_t | y_{1:n})$

Robust algorithm when  $\delta \rightarrow 0$

Dureau, J., Kalogeropoulos, K., & Baguelin, M. (2012). Capturing the time-varying drivers of an epidemic using stochastic dynamical systems. *arXiv preprint arXiv:1203.5950*.



$$\beta_t = \beta_0 * (1 + e * \cos(\omega(t + \phi))) + \tilde{\beta}_t$$

$$d \text{logit}_{[-0.3;0.3]}(\tilde{\beta}_t) = \sigma dB_t$$



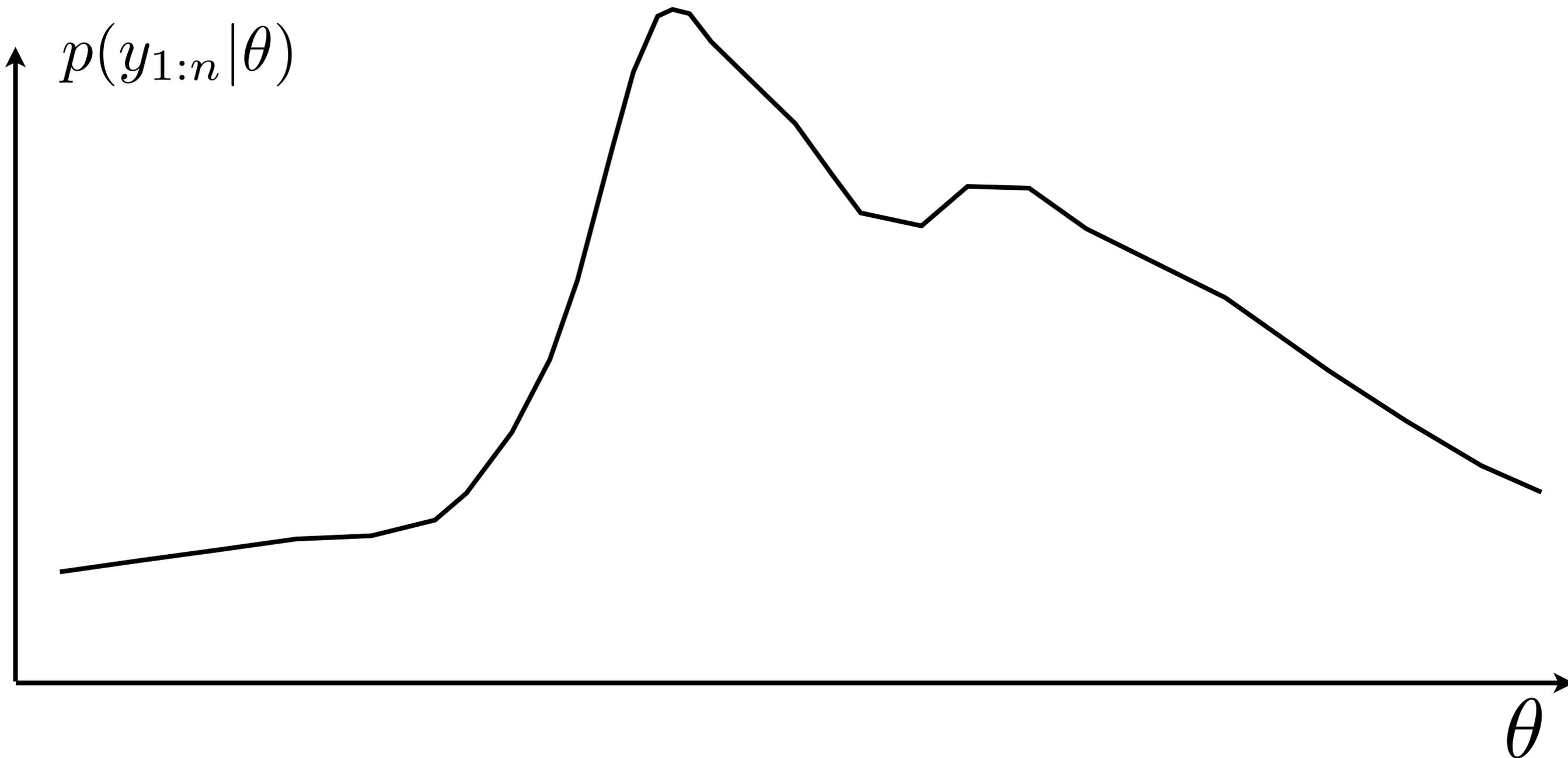
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### 3. Computationally intensive inference

# Iterated Filtering

*a simplified view*

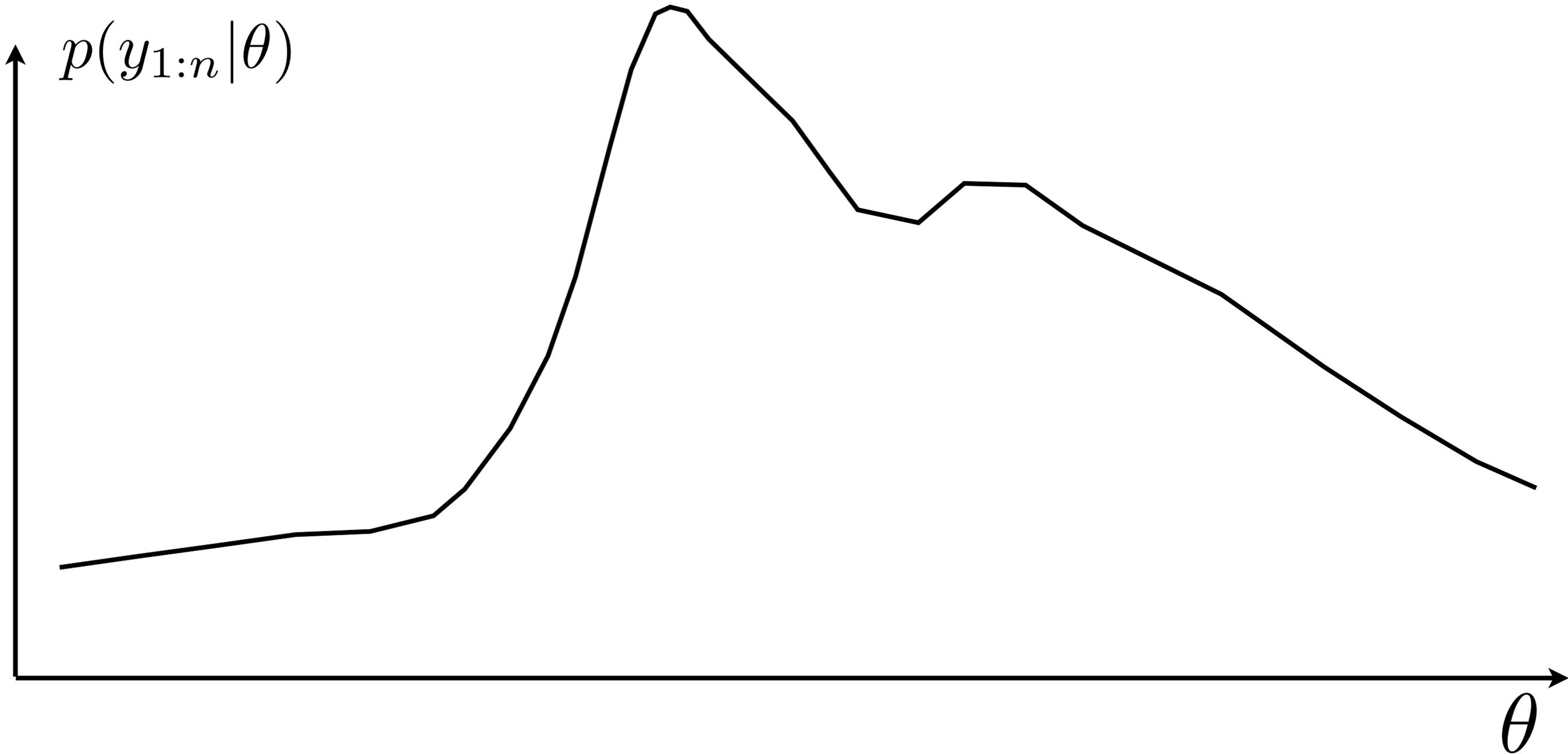
Ionides, E. L., Bretó, C., & King, A. A.  
(2006). Inference for nonlinear dynamical  
systems. *Proceedings of the National Academy  
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# Iterated Filtering

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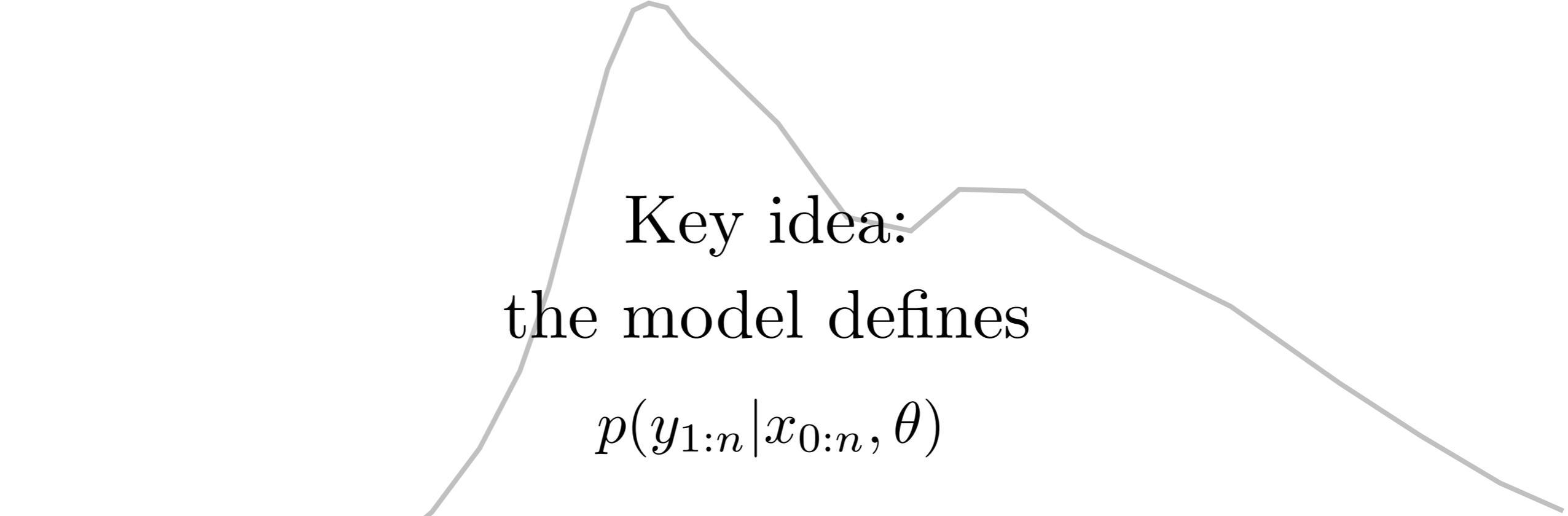


here,  $\dim(\theta) = 19$

# Iterated Filtering

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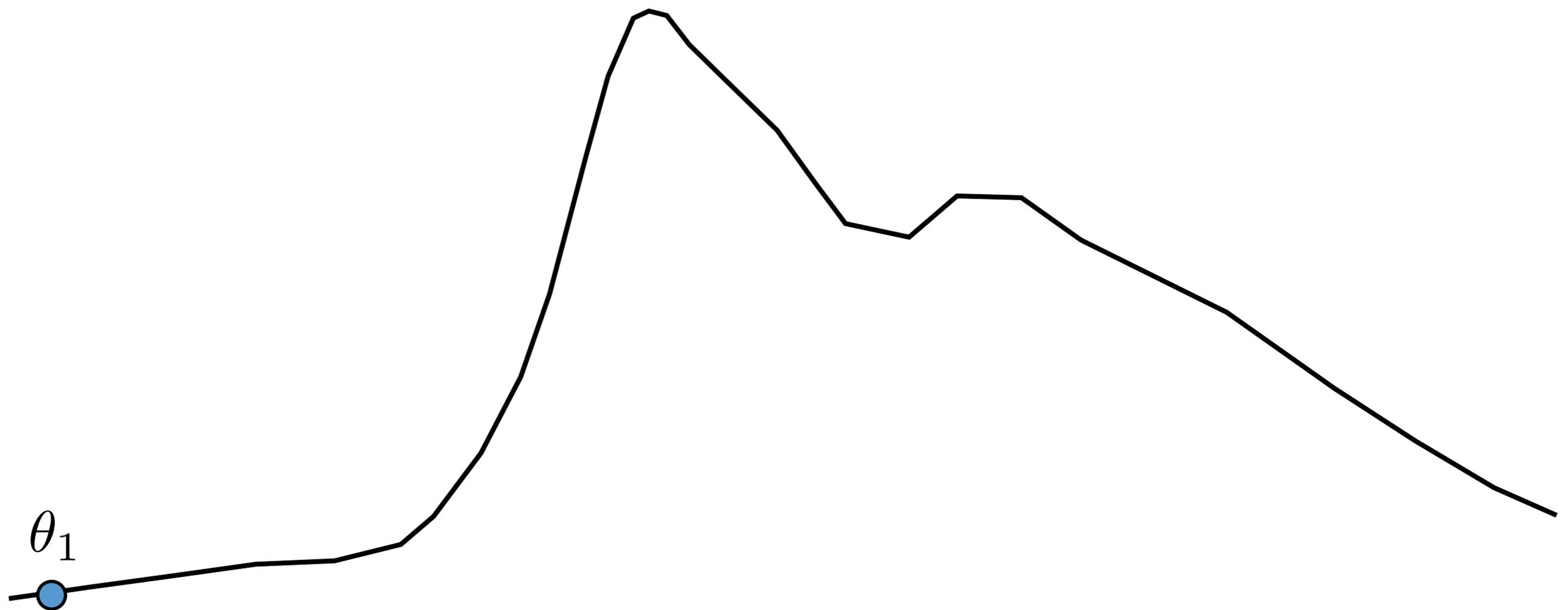


Key idea:  
the model defines

$$p(y_{1:n} | x_{0:n}, \theta)$$

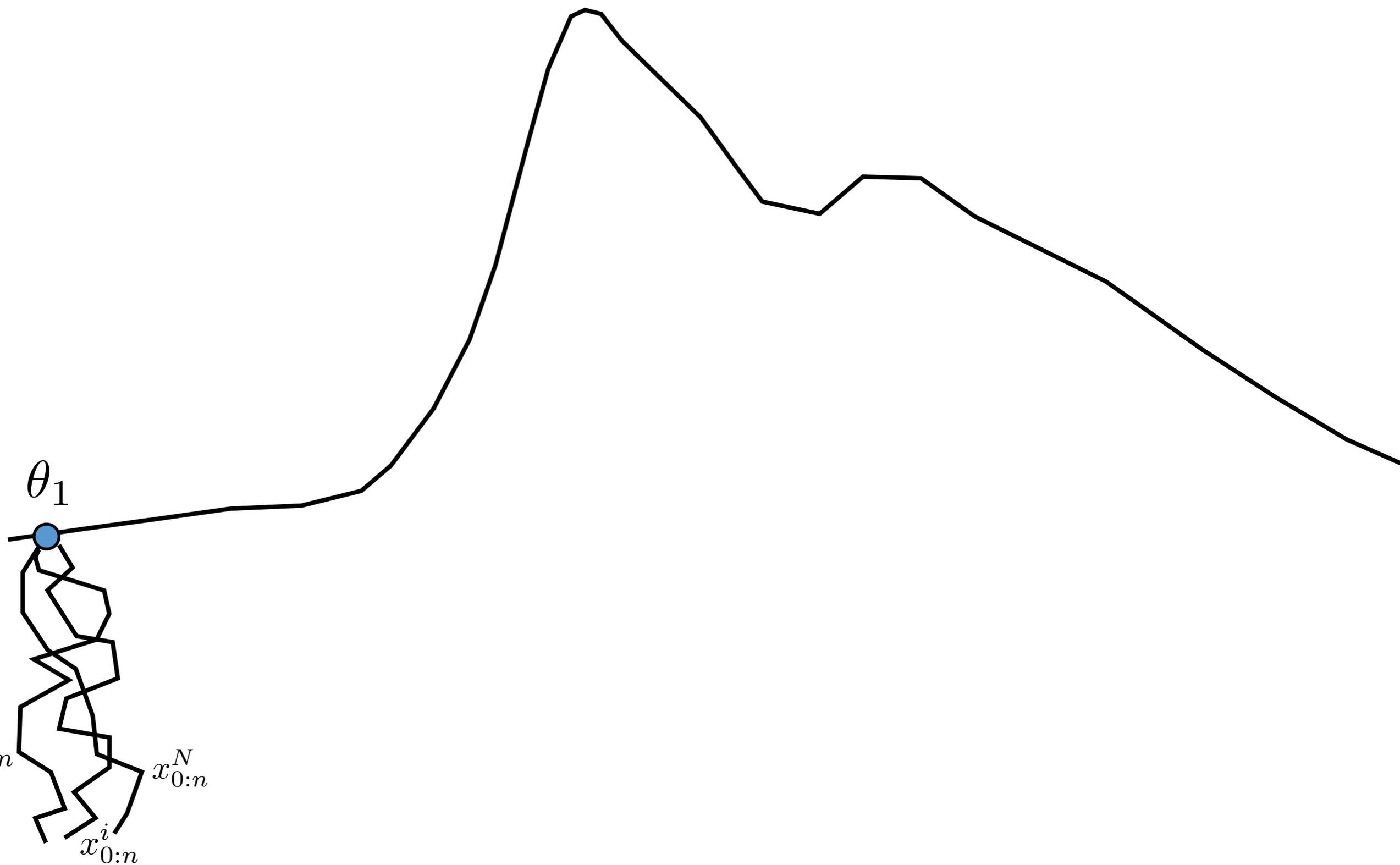
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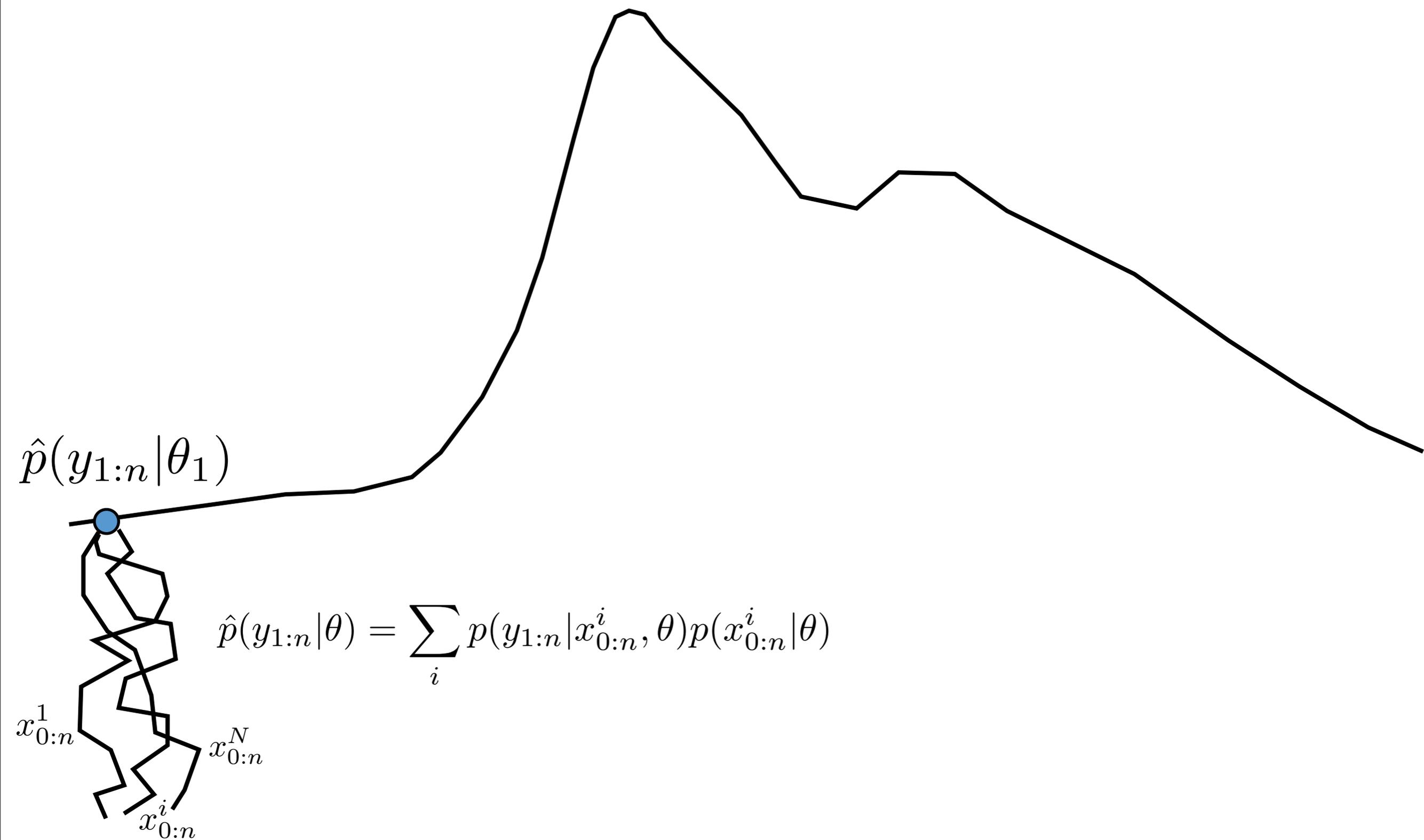
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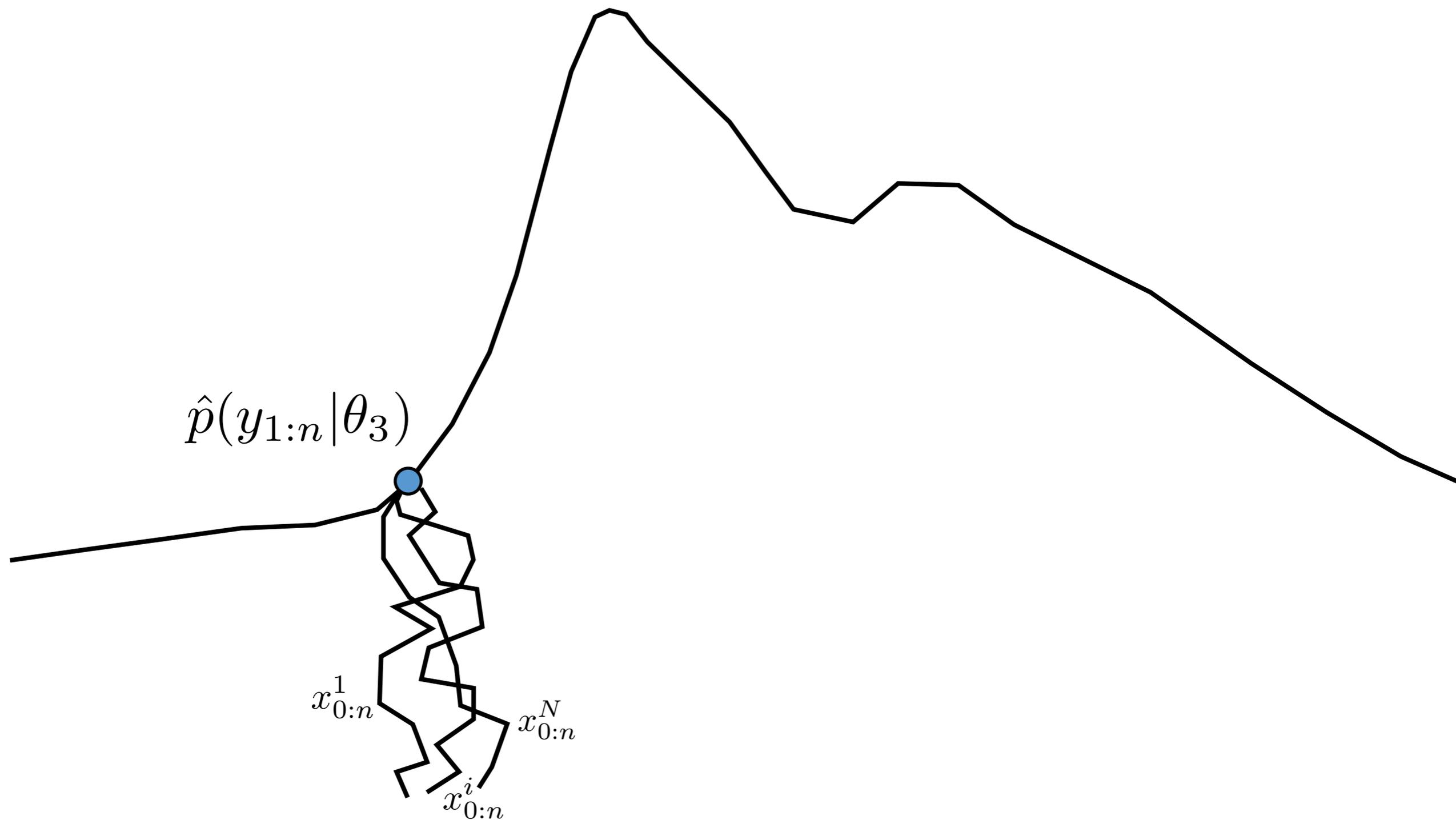
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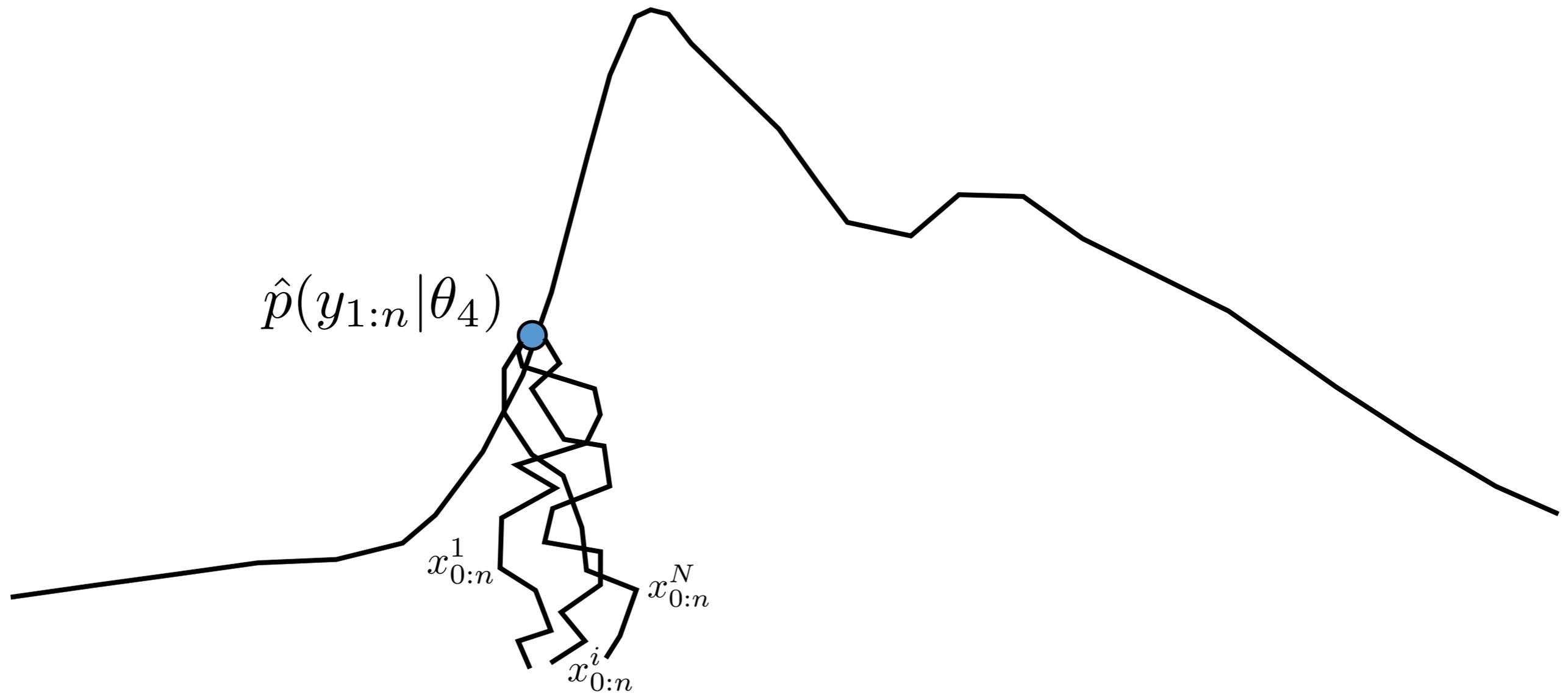
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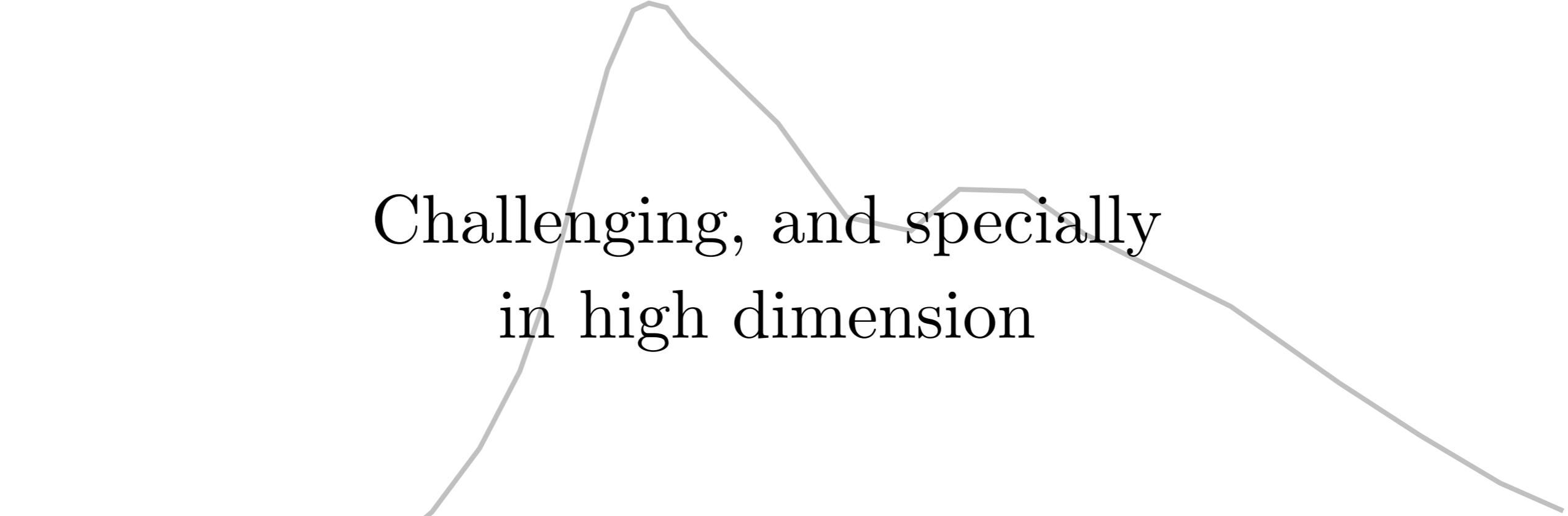
*a simplified view*



# Iterated Filtering

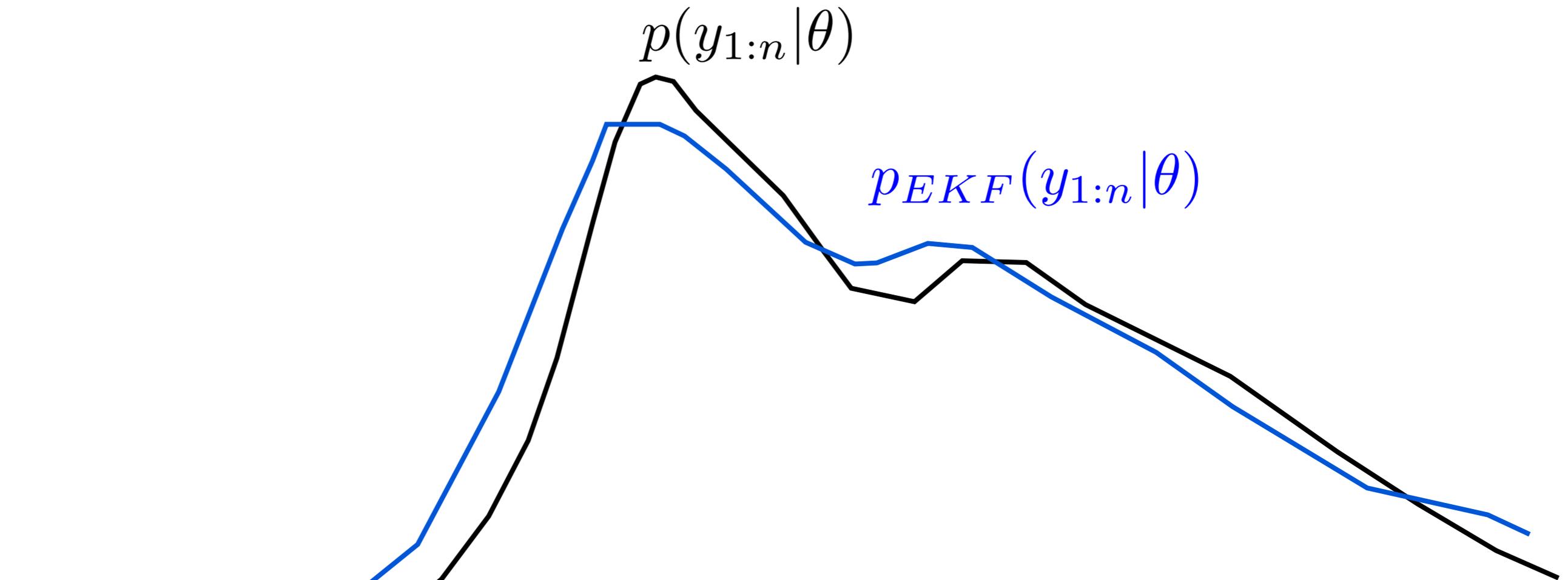
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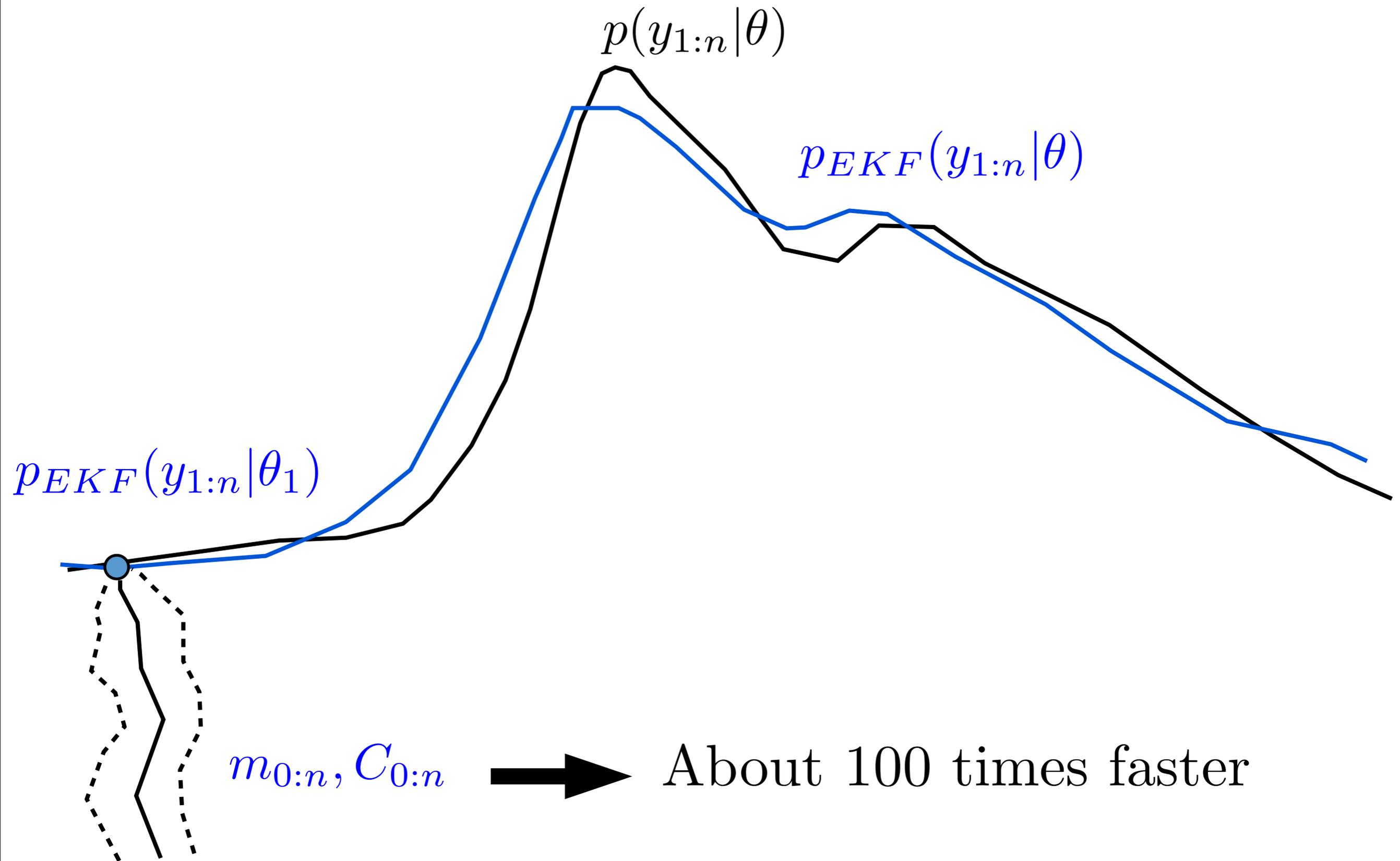
Challenging, and specially  
in high dimension

# Relying on the Extended Kalman Filter

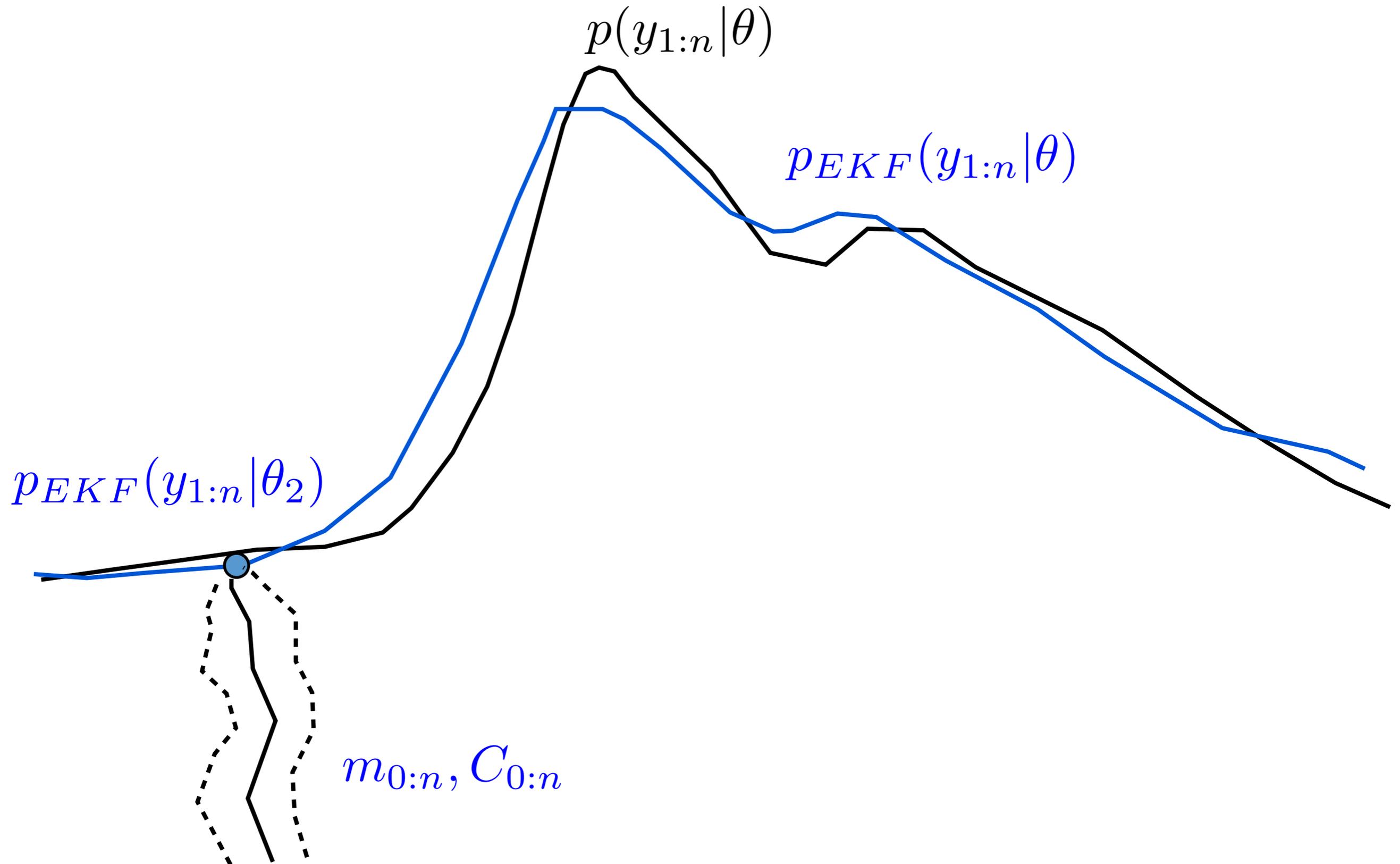


- Requires an SDE formulation / approximation of the model
- Relies on a Gaussian approximation of  $p(x_t | y_{1:n}, \theta)$  and  $p(y_{1:n} | x_t, \theta)$

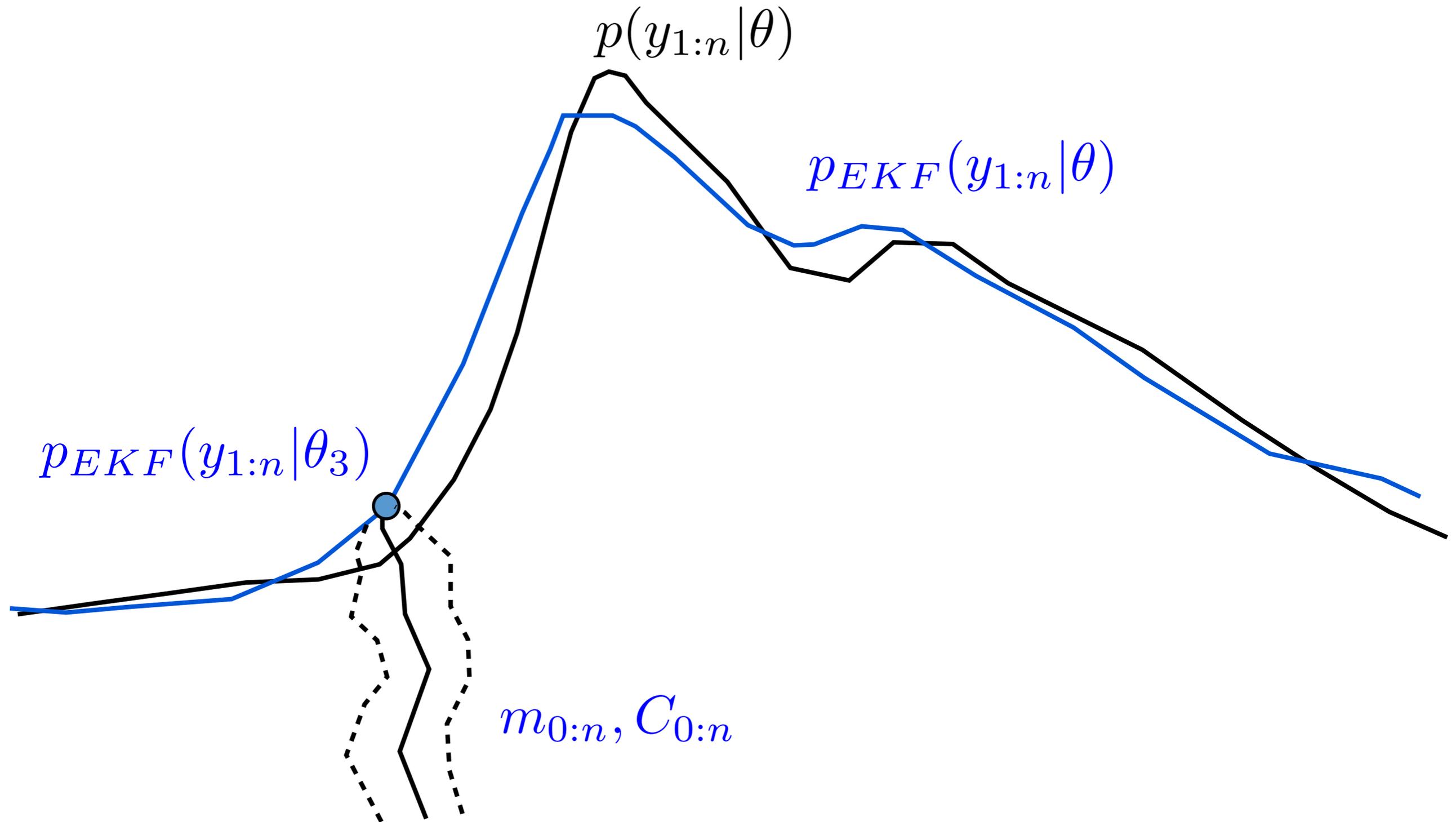
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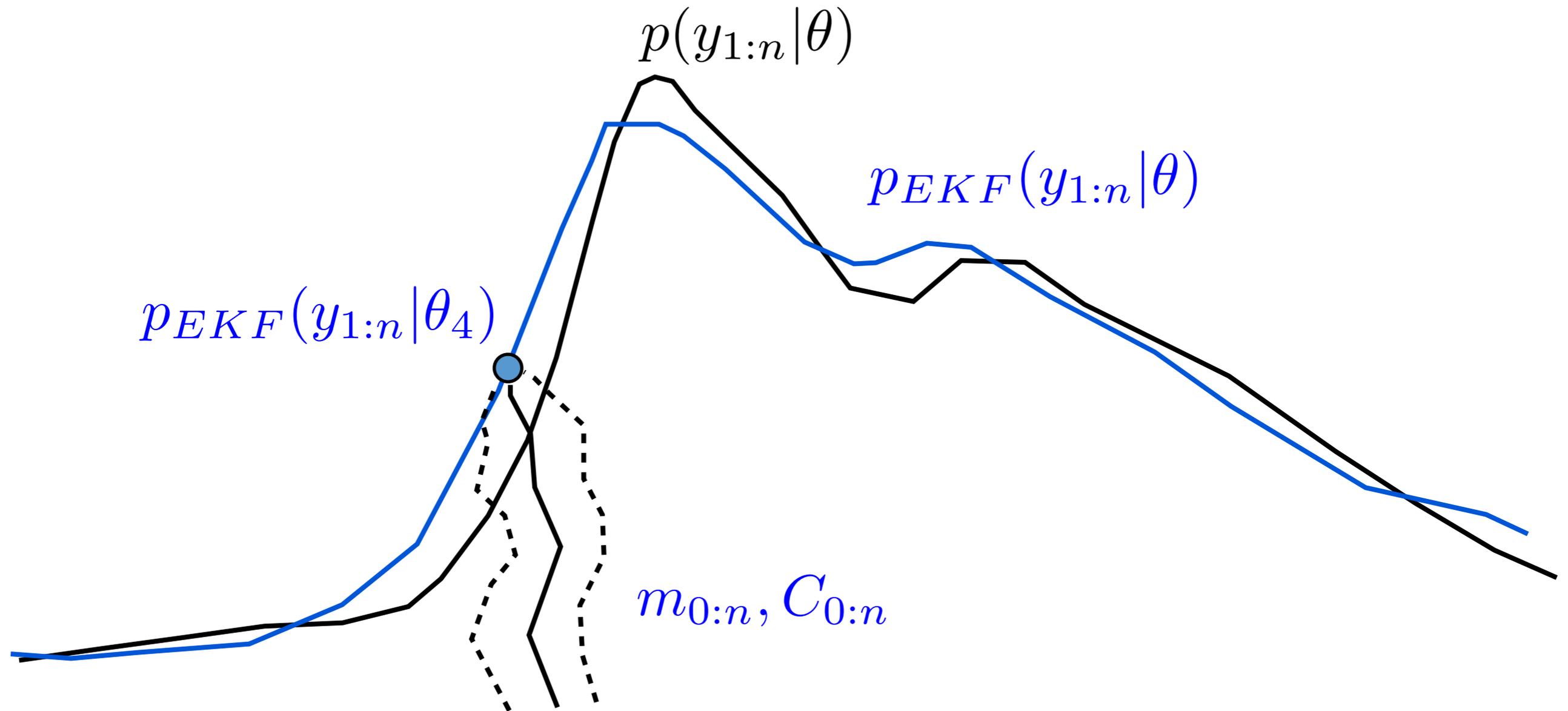
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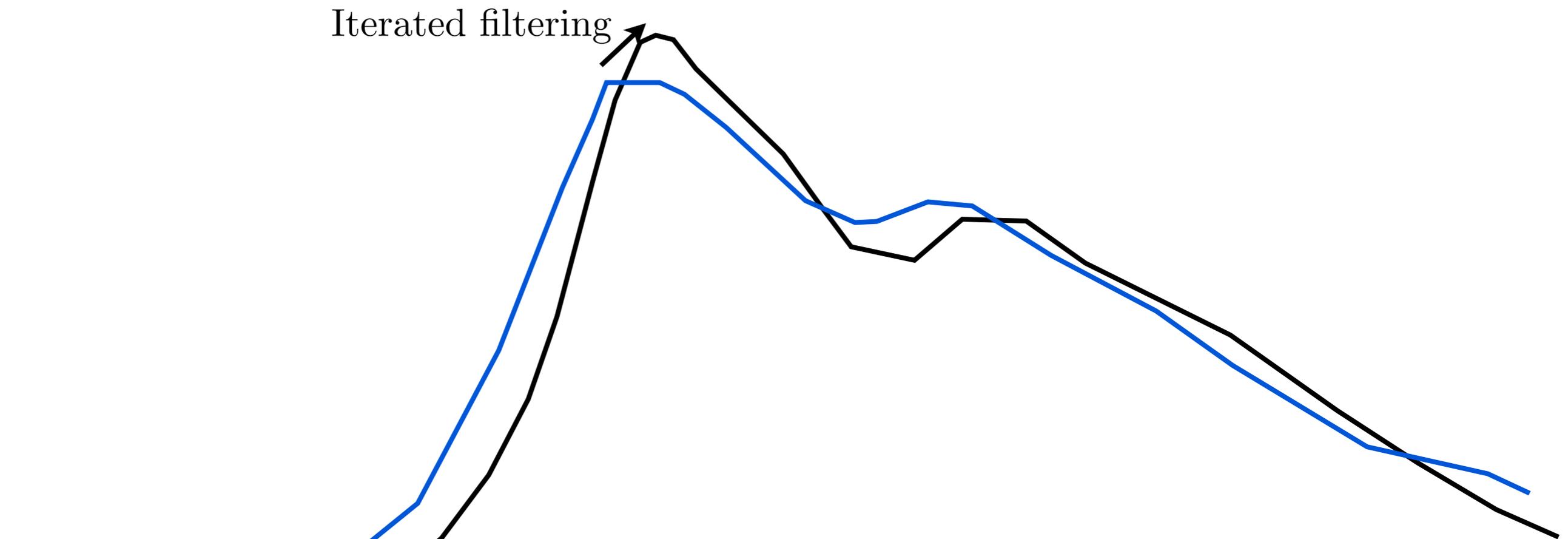
# Relying on the Extended Kalman Filter



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# Relying on the Extended Kalman Filter



*Combining quick approximate methods to “exact”  
inference algorithms*

Plug-and-play versions of  
MIF, pMCMC, ksimplex, kMCMC  
available soon on [www.plom.io](http://www.plom.io)

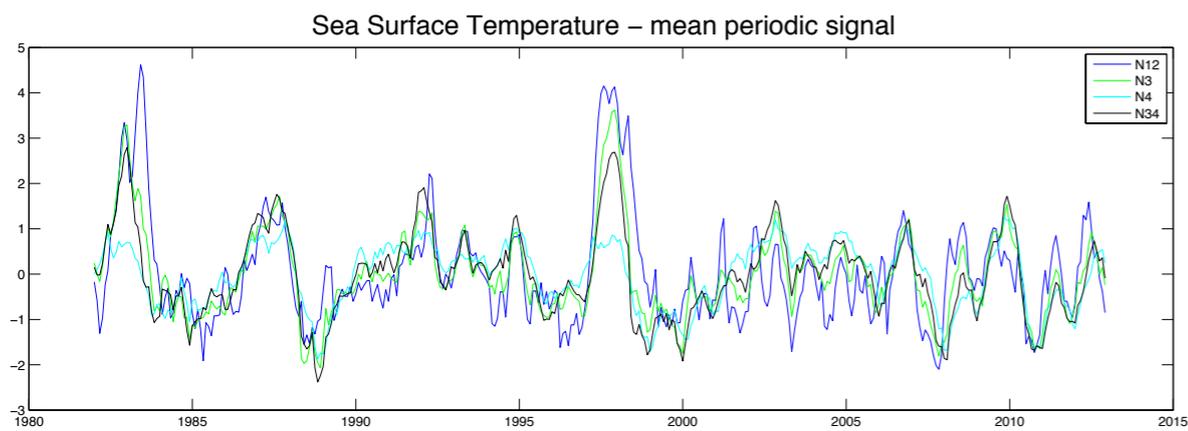
**PLoM.io**

Public Library of Models (starting with epidemiology)



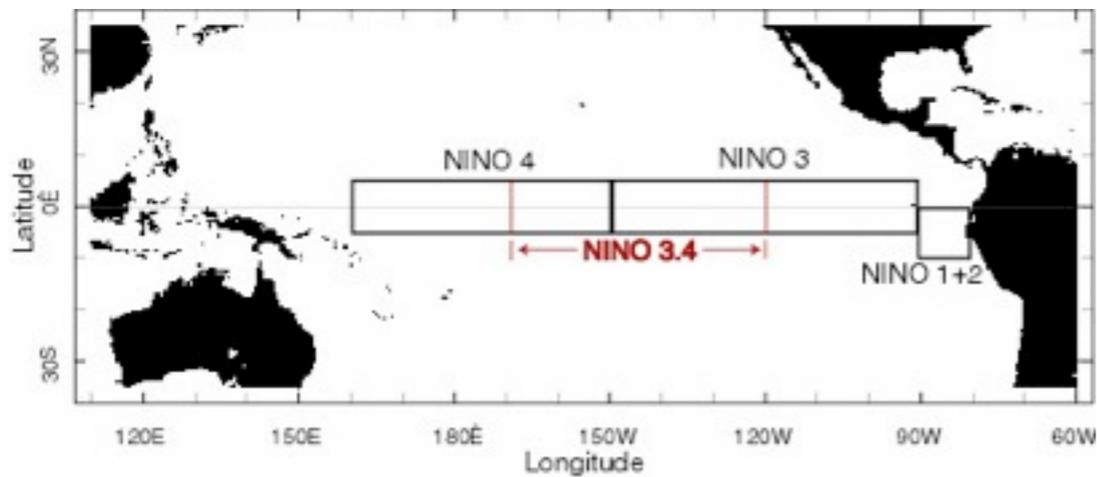
Developped by S. Ballesteros, T. Bogich and J. Dureau  
with the support of B. Grenfell and B. Cazelles

## 4. Results

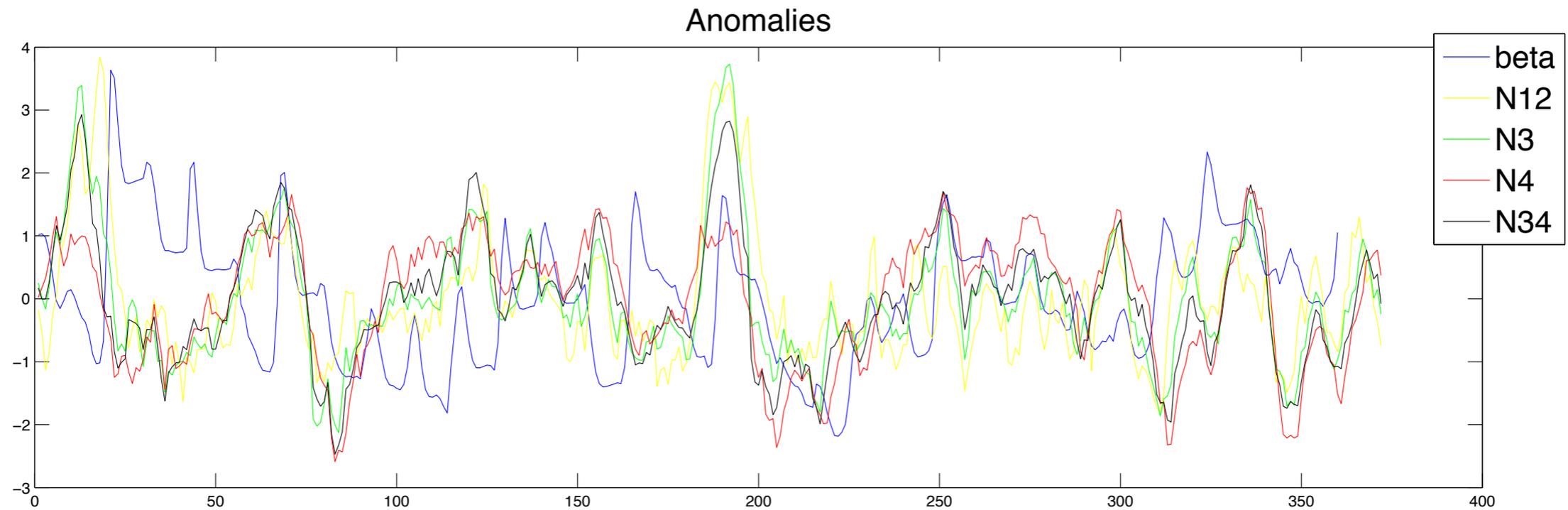


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# Chiang Mai



	Lag (months)	Correlation	p-value
N12	-9 (-6)	0.28 (0.17)	1e-8 (0.001)
N3	-9 (-6)	0.24 (0.17)	1e-6 (0.001)
N4	-9 (-6)	0.13 (0.16)	0.01 (0.002)
N34	-9 (-6)	0.21 (0.19)	1e-5 (0.0002)

# 5. Conclusions

## **Take-home message:**

This approach may allow to disentangle the role of extrinsic and intrinsic determinants.

It is a work in progress.

## **Further work:**

- Further exploration of likelihood function

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- Critical analysis of fit and model

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- Other districts (in particular rural/urban)
- Confront to climate data from Thailand

## Questions:

- Should we also explore non-chaotic states?

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- Can we build an explicit coupling of climate and dengue through the transmission rate?
- Can the predictability horizon be extended?

Thanks!