

# Scalable Design with Posterior-Based Operating Characteristics

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Hagar, L. and Stevens, N. T. (2024+)

Scalable design with posterior-based operating characteristics.

Revision invited at the *Journal of the American Statistical Association*

[arxiv.org/abs/2312.10814](https://arxiv.org/abs/2312.10814)



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# Illustrative Example

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  - We use an uninformative normal-inverse-gamma prior for  $(\beta_0, \beta_1, \beta_2, \sigma_\varepsilon^2)$ .

## Data Generation Process

- $\Psi_0(\cdot)$ :  $(\beta_0, \beta_1, \beta_2) = (-25.75, 5, 0.25)$ ,  $x_2 \sim \mathcal{N}(115, 14.5^2)$ , and  $\varepsilon \sim \mathcal{N}(0, 10.07^2)$ .

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  - We want the type I error rate  $\leq \alpha = 0.05$ .

# Sampling Distributions of Posterior Probabilities

## Estimating Sampling Distributions

- 1 Generate  $\{y_i, x_{1i}, x_{2i}\}_{i=1}^{3n}$  according to  $\psi_1(\cdot)$  or  $\psi_0(\cdot)$ .

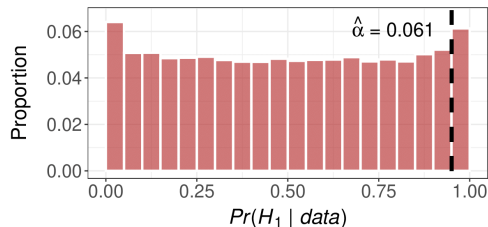
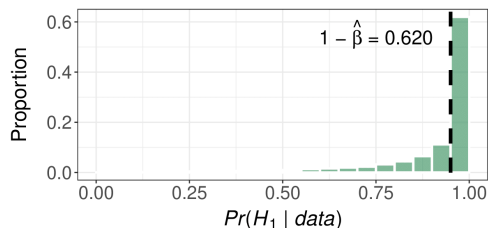


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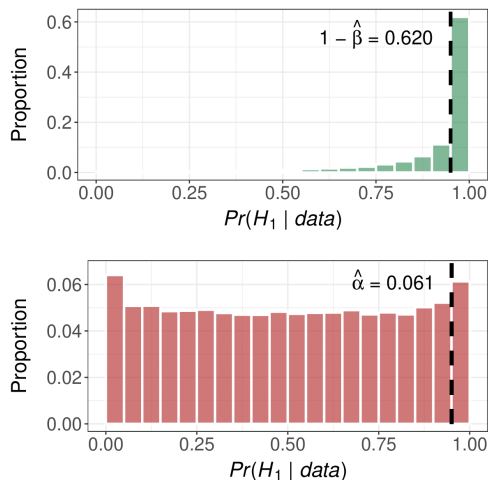


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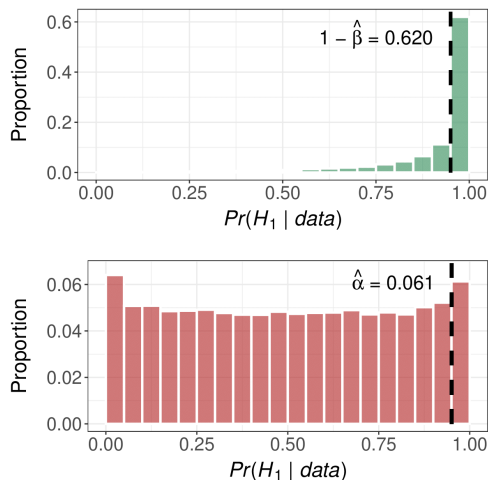


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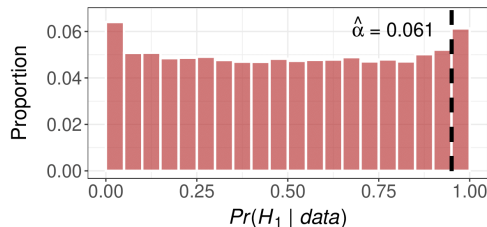
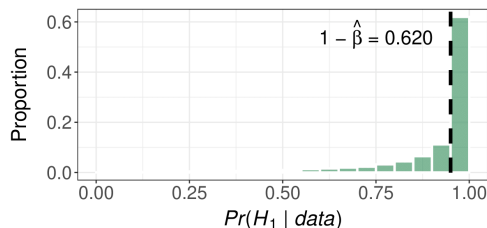


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- Can we use only sampling distribution segments near the  $\beta$ -quantile under  $H_1$  and the  $(1 - \alpha)$ -quantile under  $H_0$ ?

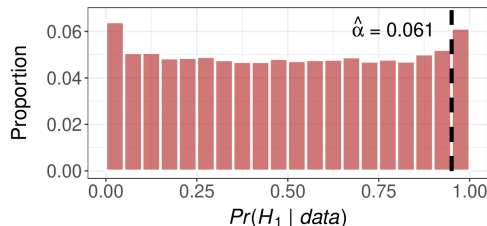
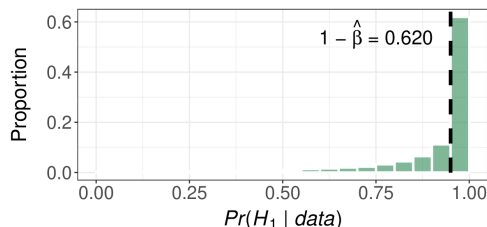


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## Pseudorandom vs. Sobol' Sequences

- In  $d$  dimensions, we often generate points  $\{\mathbf{u}_r\}_{r=1}^m \stackrel{i.i.d}{\sim} U([0, 1]^d)$ .

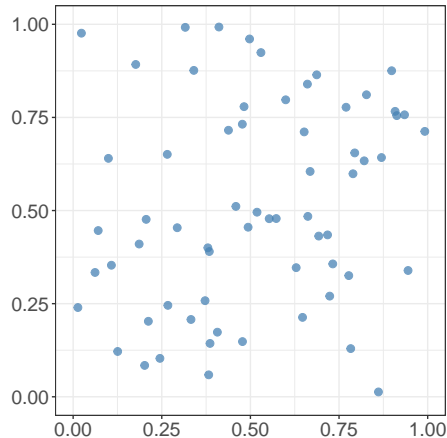


Figure 2: 2D Pseudorandom Sequence  
with  $m = 64$  Points

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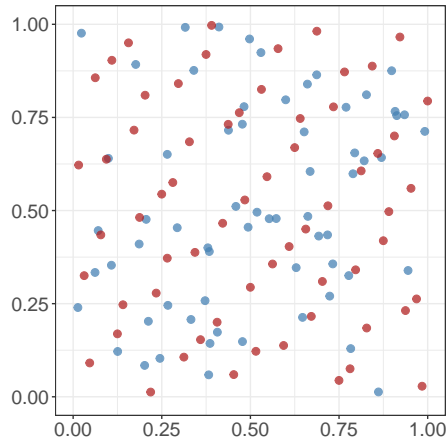


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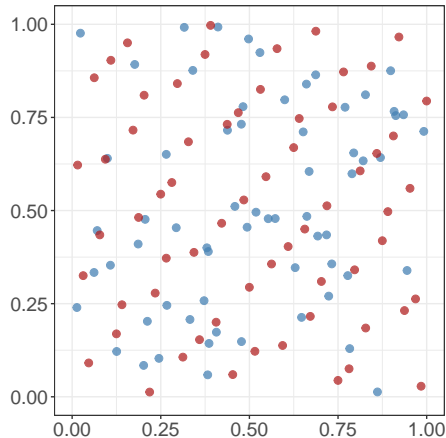


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- If we randomize these sequences [4], each point  $\mathbf{u}_r \sim U([0, 1]^d)$ .
- These dependent points  $\{\mathbf{u}_r\}_{r=1}^m$  can prompt consistent, precise estimators of power and the type I error rate.

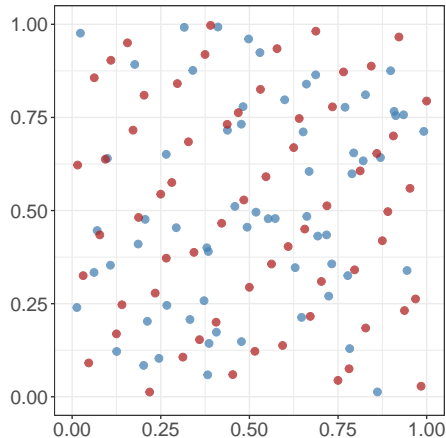


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## The Unit Hypercube

- The illustrative example uses Sobol' sequences  $\{\mathbf{u}_r\}_{r=1}^m$  from  $[0, 1]^7$ .

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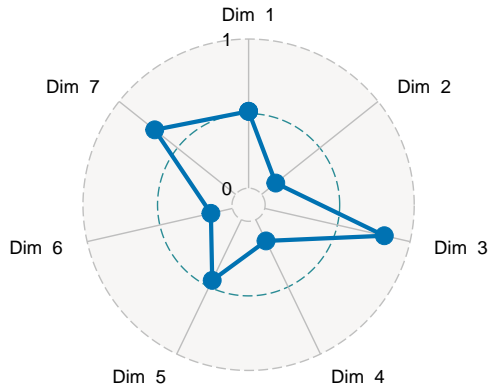


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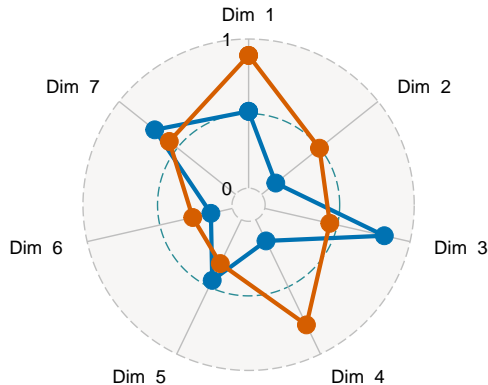


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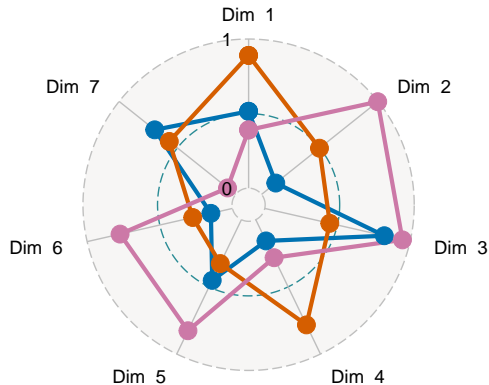


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- These sums over all patients  $i$  are low-dimensional conduits for the data:  
 $x_{2i}, x_{1i}x_{2i}, \varepsilon_i, x_{1i}\varepsilon_i, x_{2i}^2, \varepsilon_i^2, x_{2i}\varepsilon_i$ .

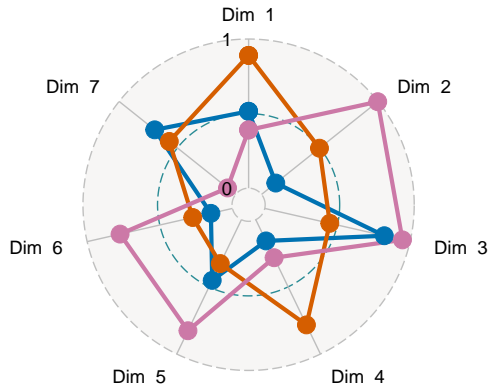


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# Mapping $[0, 1]^7$ to Posterior Probabilities

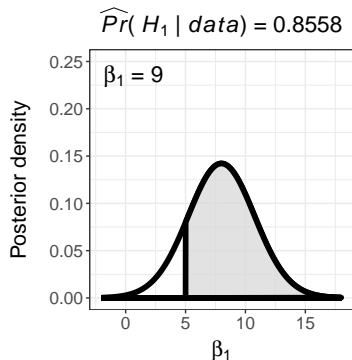
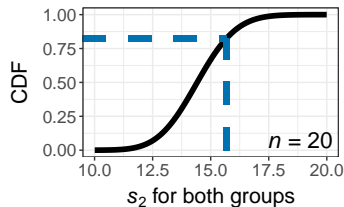
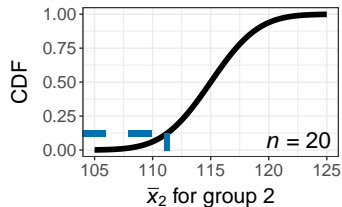
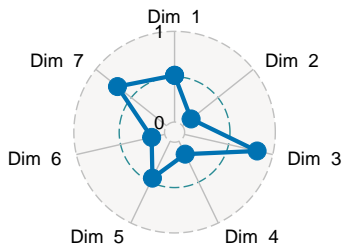
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- The sufficient statistics are based on normal and chi-squared distributions.

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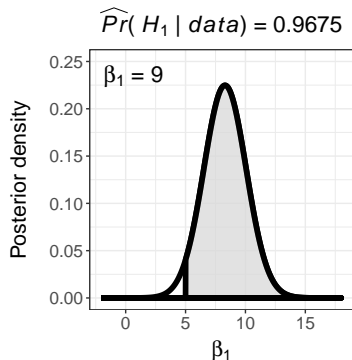
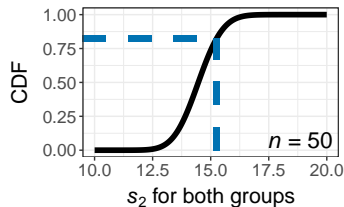
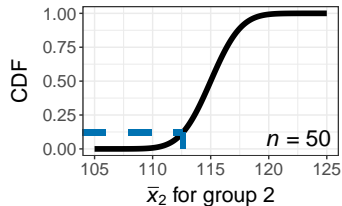
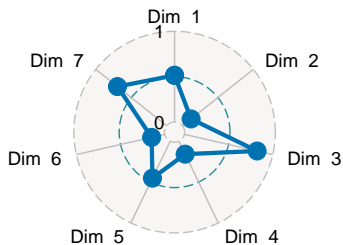
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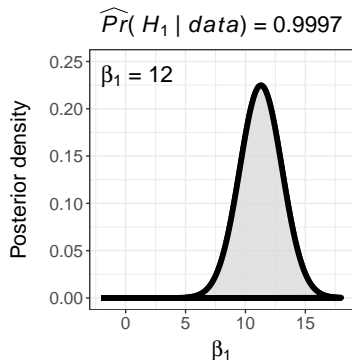
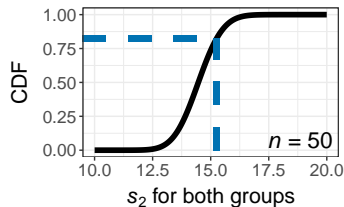
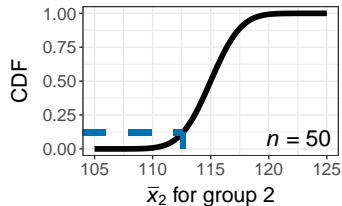
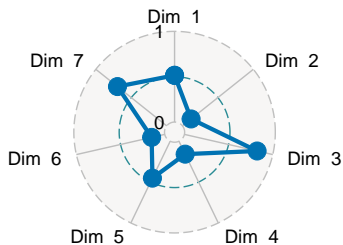
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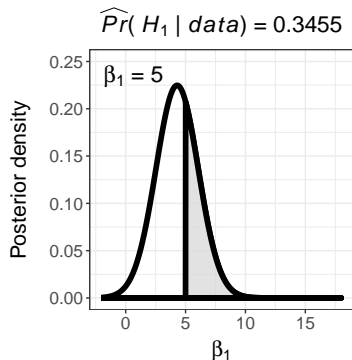
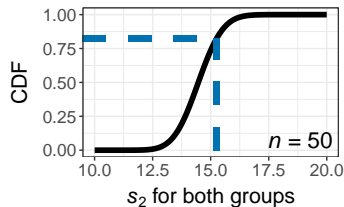
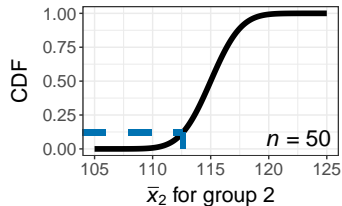
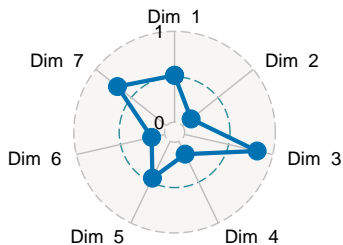
$$\widehat{Pr}(H_1 | data) = 0.9997$$

$$\beta_1 = 12$$

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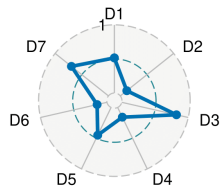


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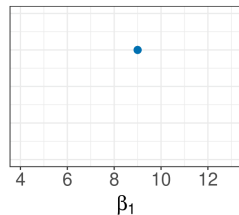
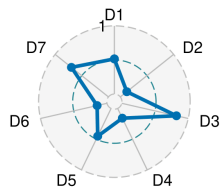


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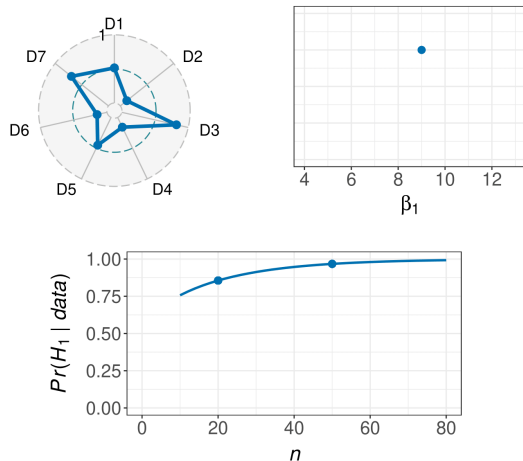


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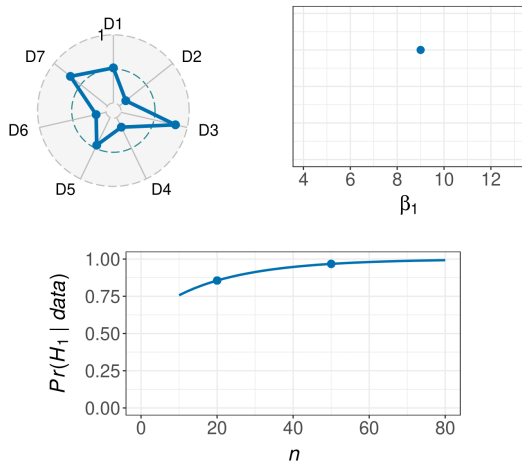


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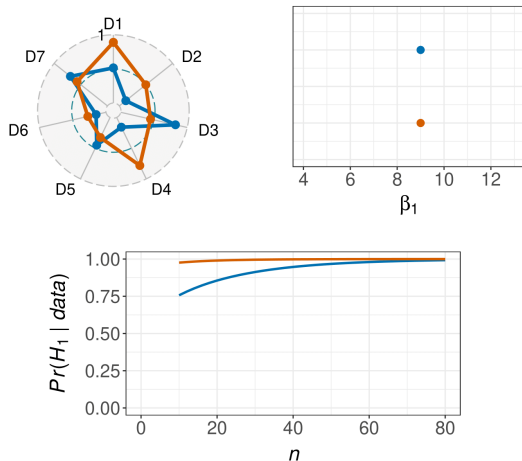


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# Selecting Sampling Distribution Segments

## Algorithm

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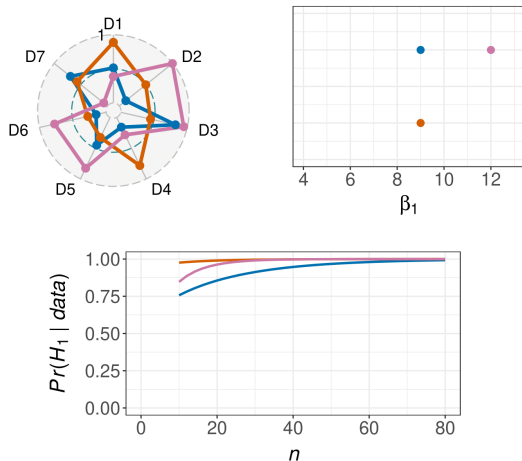


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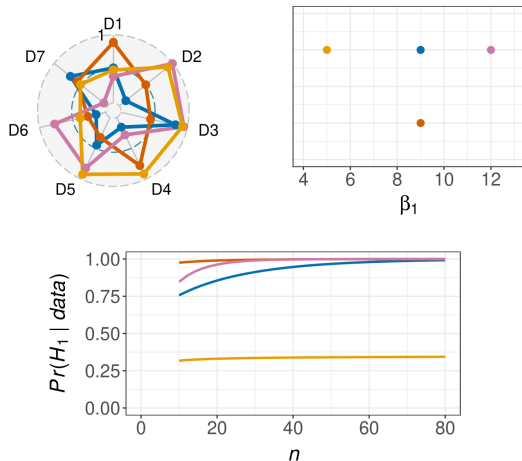


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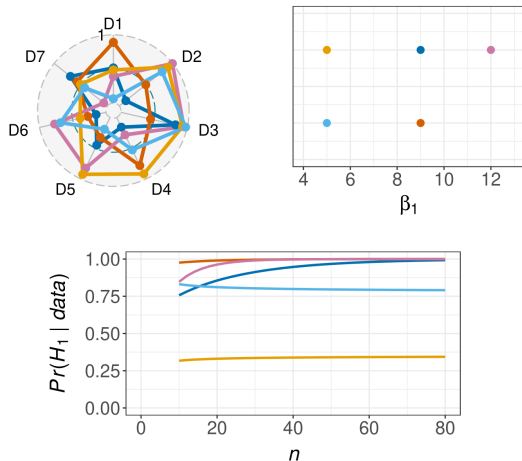


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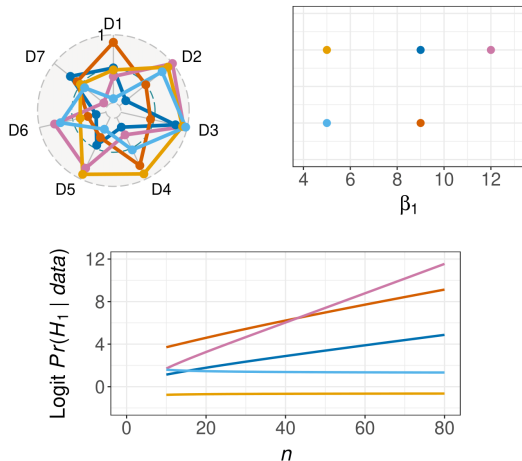


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- 5 We use these linear approximations to select segments.

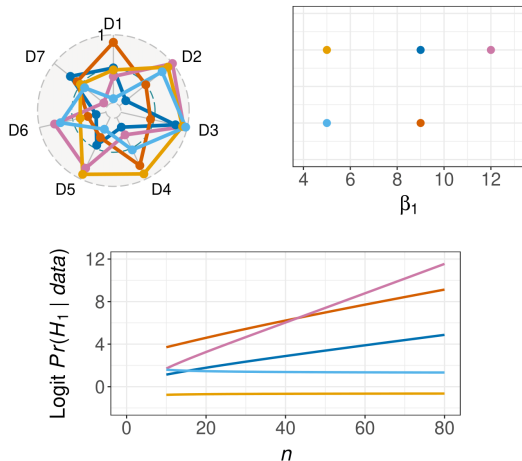


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# Finding $(n, \gamma)$ that minimizes $n$

## Obtaining Linear Approximations

- Let  $n^{(0)}$  be an initial sample size.

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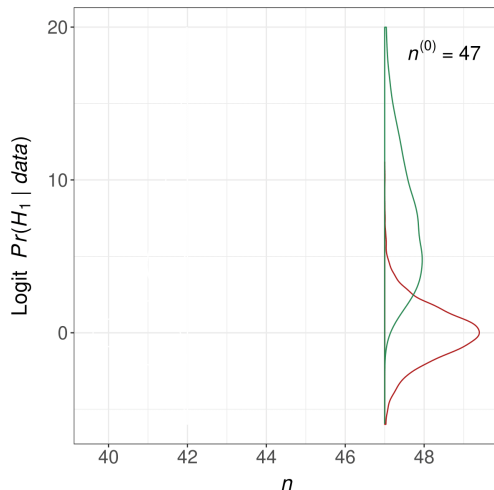


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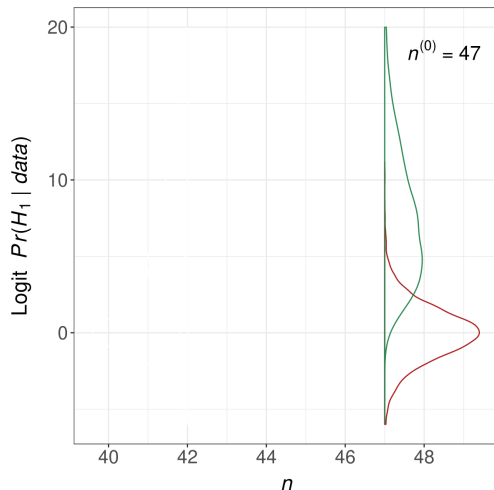


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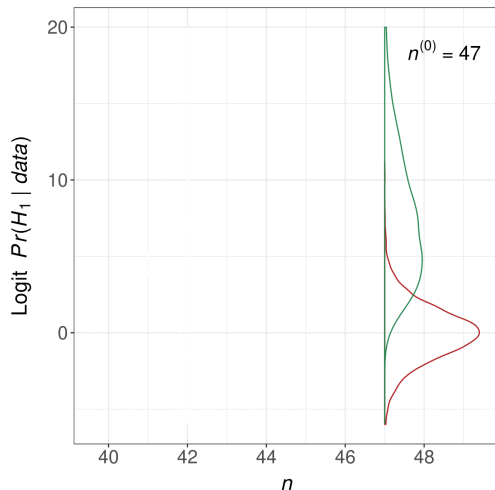


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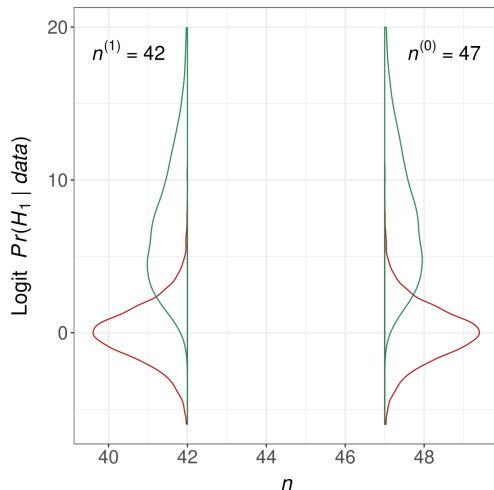


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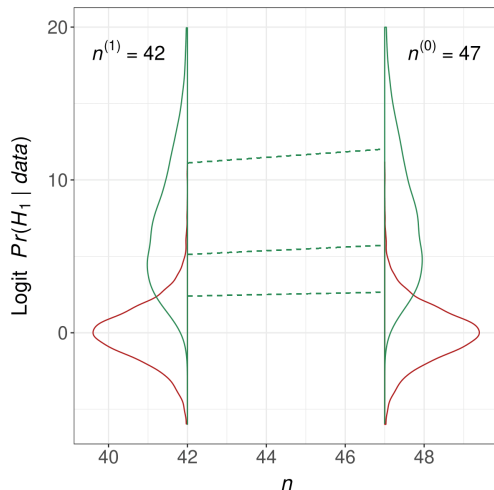


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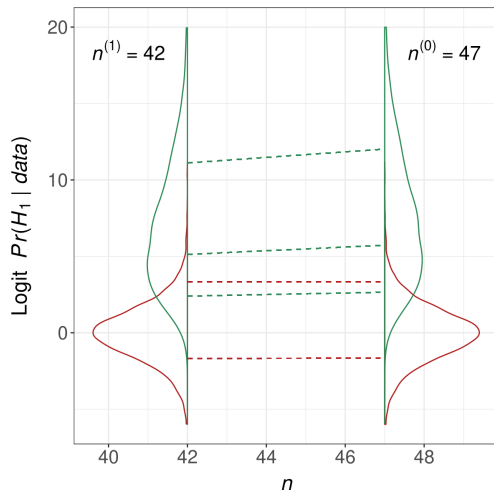


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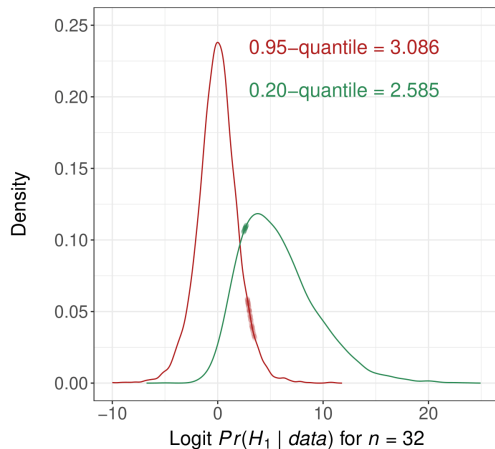


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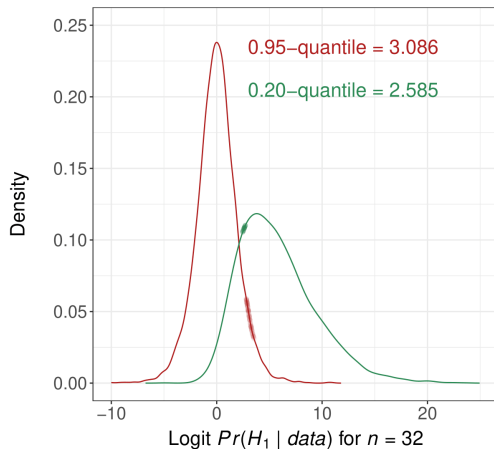


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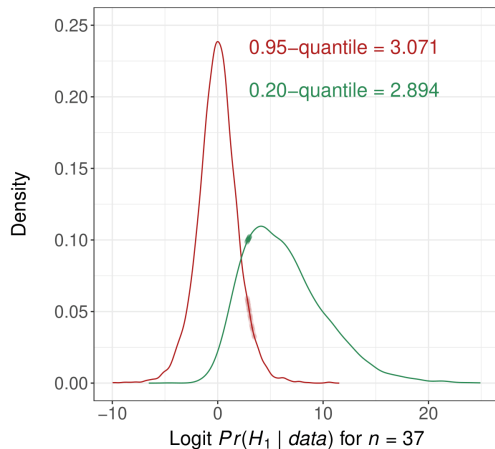


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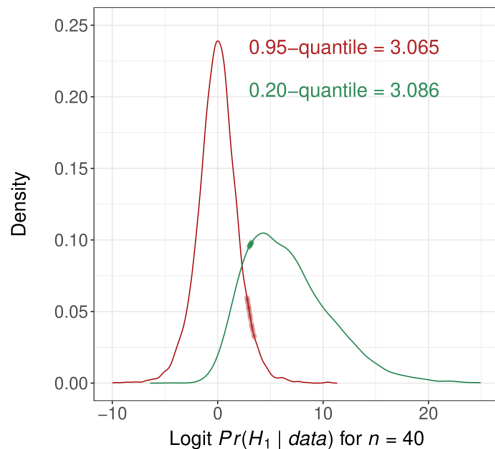


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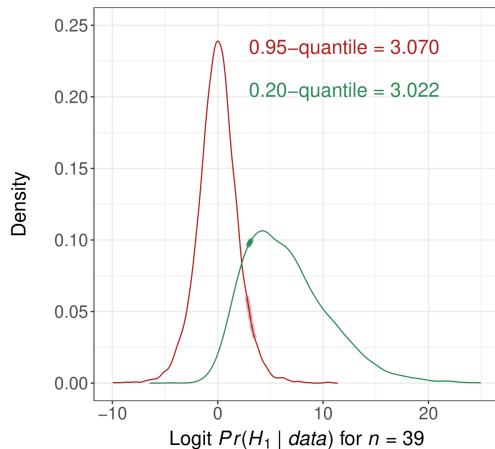


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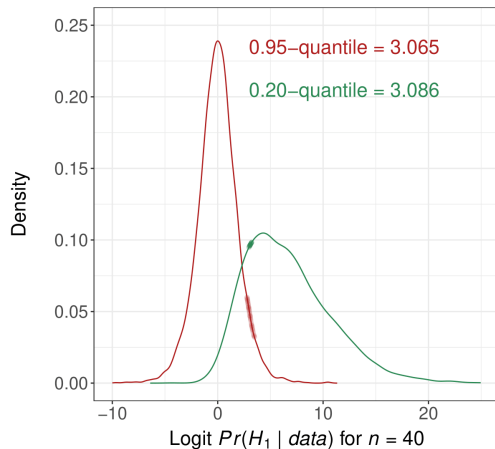


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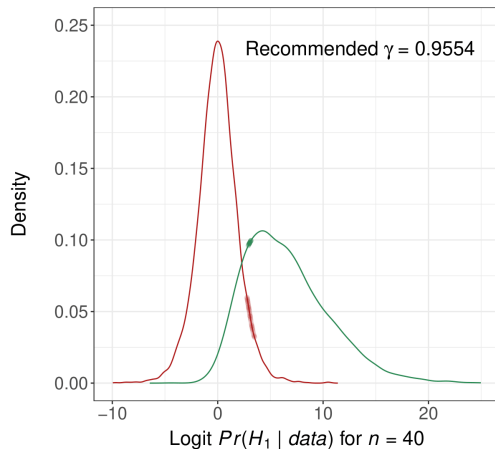


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- Sample size recommendations align with (slower) unbiased calculations.

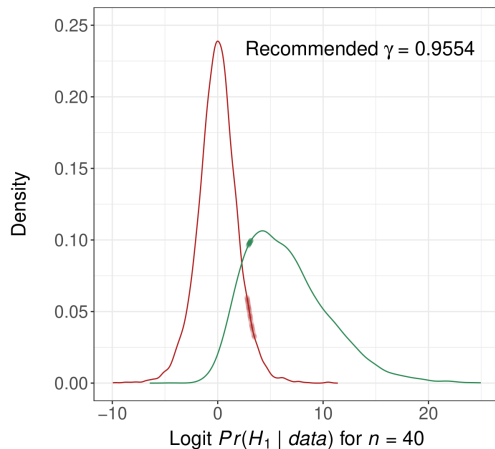


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Table 1: Runtime for illustrative example with various exploration methods and sequence types.

Exploration	Sequence	Seconds	Savings
Segments	Sobol'	4	—
Full	Sobol'	14	250%
Segments	Pseudorandom	31	675%
Full	Pseudorandom	118	2850%

## Contour Plots to Consider Various $(n, \gamma)$

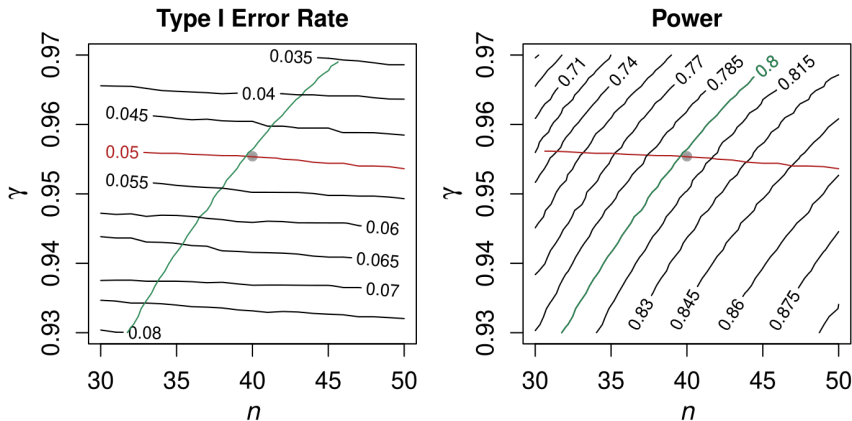


Figure 9: Plots with Repurposed Sampling Distributions and Optimal Design (Grey)

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## Conduits for the Data

- The data must be summarized by conduits that are approximately normally distributed for large enough  $n$ .

## Computational Efficiency

- Our method only thoroughly explores sampling distributions of posterior probabilities at 3 values of  $n$ .



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- These methods could promote scalable design for sequential Bayesian hypothesis tests.

# References

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