

Ph.D. Defense

MIXED MEMBERSHIP MODELS WITH APPLICATIONS  
TO NEUROIMAGING

NICHOLAS MARCO

Advisor: Donatello Telesca

Additional Committee Members: Michele Guindani, Damla Şentürk,  
Joanne Weidhaas

Friday 26<sup>th</sup> May, 2023

# Table of Contents

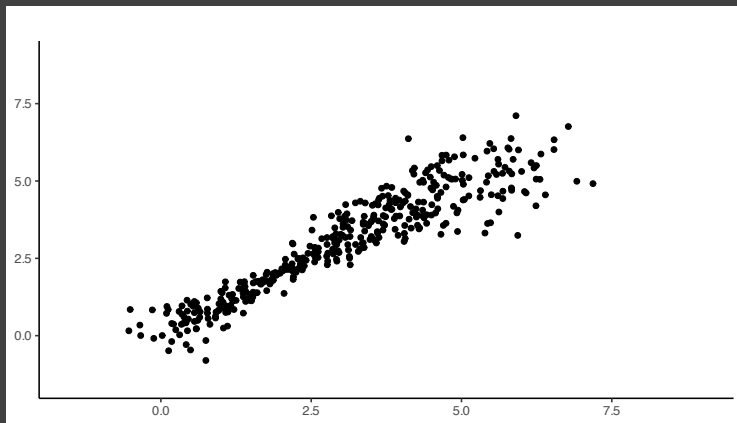
Introduction to Mixed Membership Models

Functional Mixed Membership Models

Covariate Adjusted Mixed Membership Models

## Overview of Clustering

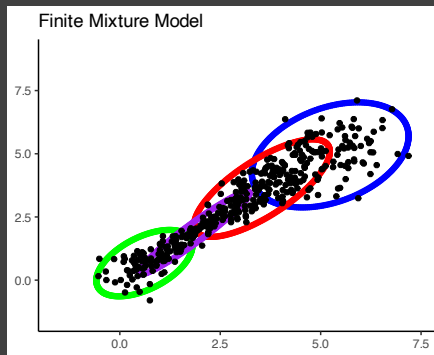
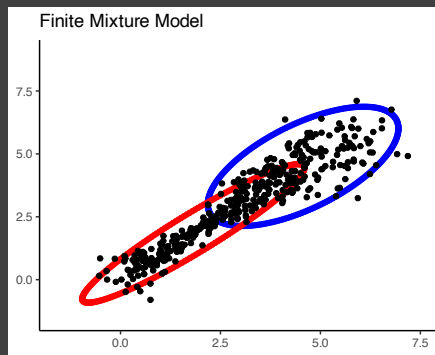
- ▶ Clustering analysis is an exploratory task that aims to assign observations into homogeneous subgroups so that we can better understand the data (Hennig et al., 2015)



## Overview of Clustering

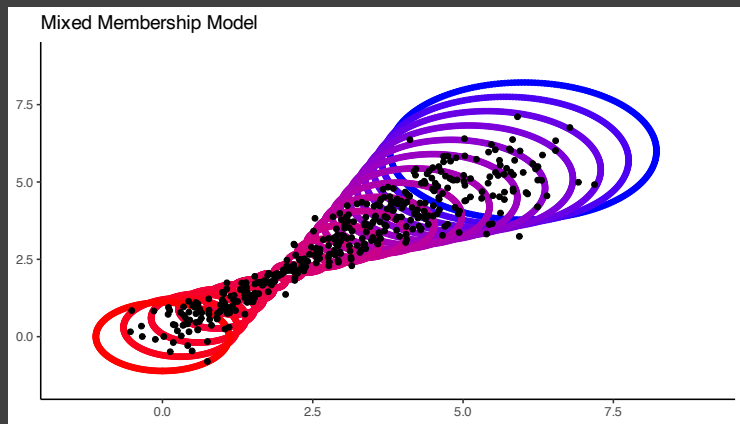
- ▶ Clustering membership can generally be divided into two main categories:
  1. *Soft/Fuzzy clustering*: Each observation belong **partially** to each subgroup, akin to **Mixed Membership**
    - ▶ **Mixed Membership Models**, Fuzzy C-Means
  2. *Hard clustering*: Each observation comes from a **single** (but unknown) subgroup, akin to **Uncertain Membership**
    - ▶ Finite Mixture Models, K-Means
- ▶ Clustering models can generally be divided into two main categories:
  1. *Probabilistic/Model-Based clustering*: Construction of a fully probabilistic model of the data, with the clustering labels often thought of as latent variables
    - ▶ **Mixed Membership Models**, Finite Mixture Models
  2. *Cost-Based clustering*: Achieve clustering by minimizing a cost function to get the optimal clustering labels
    - ▶ Fuzzy C-Means, K-Means

# Overview of Finite Mixture Models



- ▶ Finite mixture models are probabilistic clustering models that assume each observation comes from one of the  $K$  clusters
  - ▶ The choice of the number of clusters ( $K$ ) is user-specified

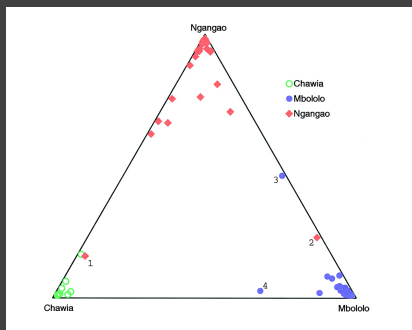
## Overview of Mixed Membership Models



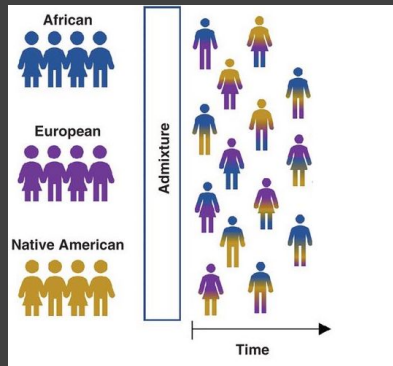
- ▶ Mixed membership models are a generalization of finite mixture models, where membership is considered to be on a spectrum

## Mixed Membership Models in Genetics

- ▶ Mixed Membership Models often are referred to as *admixture models* in the genetics literature (Pritchard et al., 2000; Tang et al., 2005; Alexander et al., 2009)



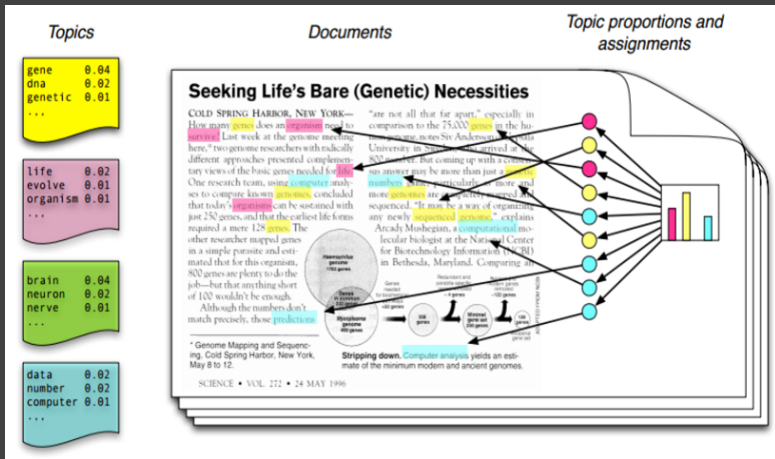
(Pritchard et al., 2000)



(Horimoto et al., 2022)

# Latent Dirichlet Allocation

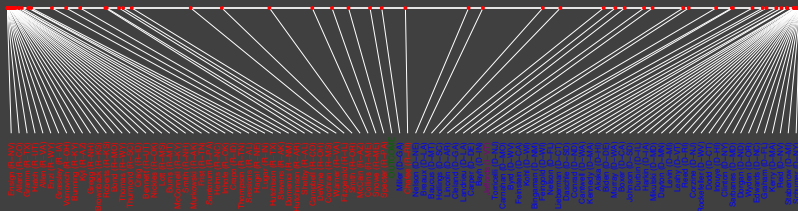
- ▶ Topic Models, such as Latent Dirichlet Allocation (Blei et al., 2003), aims to explain a collection of objects (referred to as *documents*) through a set of unobserved subgroups (referred to as *topics*)





## Other Mixed Membership Models

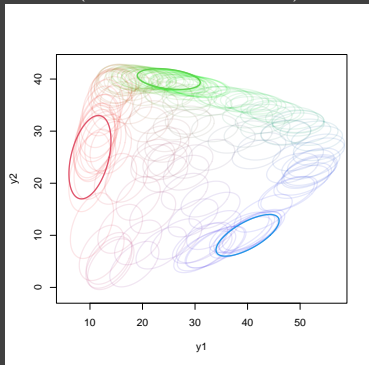
- ▶ Erosheva et al. (2004) used a mixed membership model to classify scientific publications
- ▶ Heller et al. (2008) introduced a fully probabilistic mixed membership framework for data that is assumed to have come from the exponential family of distributions
  - ▶ Applied their framework to classifying senators based off of roll call data (binary voting records)



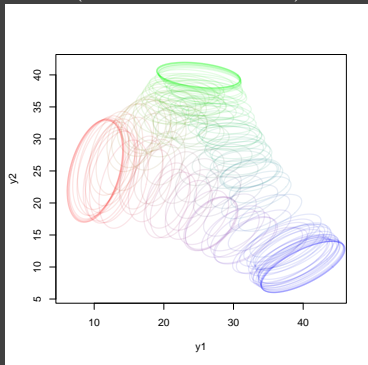
## Example: Bivariate Normal ( $K=3$ Features)

- ▶ The partial membership model framework proposed by Heller et al. (2008) leads to unwieldy implied sampling models, even in cases when we have more than 2 features in the mixed membership model

(Heller et al., 2006)



(Marco et al., 2022)



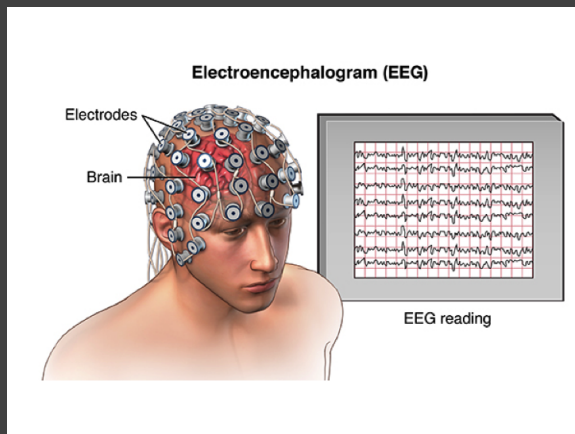
# Table of Contents

Introduction to Mixed Membership Models

Functional Mixed Membership Models

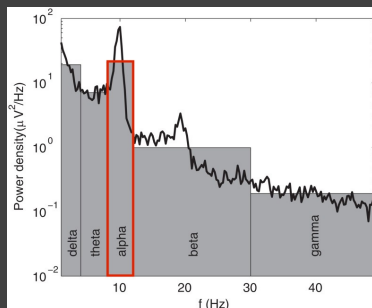
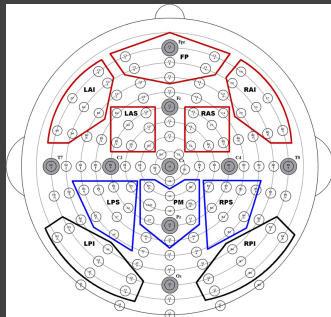
Covariate Adjusted Mixed Membership Models

## Motivation: EEG as a Functional Brain Imaging Modality



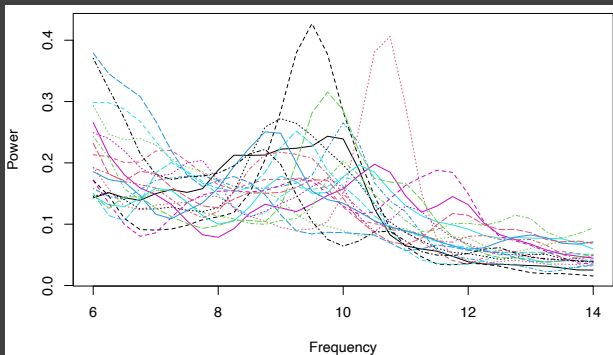
- ▶ EEG sensors measure distributed neuronal activity on cortical patches perpendicular to the sensors
- ▶ We study the response of a population of neurons – [Learning, memory formation, task execution, ...]

# Resting State EEG and Spectral Features



- ▶ Power spectrum analysis associates spectral features in a specific frequency range, with bio-behavioral characterizations of brain activity
- ▶ We focus on the alpha frequency range, whose patterns at rest are thought to play a role in neural coordination and communication between distributed brain regions

## EEG Spectral Power (ASD + TD)



- ▶ Can we use spectral power dynamics to identify latent neuro-developmental classes?
- ▶ Is the uncertain membership (clustering) framework appropriate for this application?

## Functional Data Analysis

- ▶ Functional Data Analysis (FDA) focuses on methods used to analyze sample paths of an underlying continuous stochastic process  $Y$
- ▶ Typically we consider:

$$Y_i(t) = f_i(t) + \epsilon_i(t); \quad f_i(t) \sim GP\{\mu(t), C(\cdot, \cdot)\}; \quad \epsilon_i(t) \sim N(0, \sigma_\epsilon^2)$$

Note: Often the literature on GP focuses on direct (parametrized) modeling of the covariance function  $C(\cdot, \cdot)$

Example:  $C(s, t) = a^2 \exp\{-0.5\|s - t\|^2/\ell^2\}$

**FDA:** Estimation of  $C(s, t)$  from random samples  $[Y_1(t), \dots, Y_n(t)]$

- ▶ Established literature on flexible priors for  $C(\cdot, \cdot)$  [Yang et al., 2017; Montagna et al., 2012; Shamshoian et al., 2022]

## Functional Clustering (GP Mixtures)

- ▶ The FDA literature on clustering is very mature (James and Sugar, 2003; Chiu and Li, 2007)
- ▶ From a Bayesian perspective, assuming there exist  $K$  latent GPs

$$f^{(k)} \sim \mathcal{GP} \left( \mu^{(k)}, C^{(k)} \right), \quad k = 1, 2, \dots, K$$

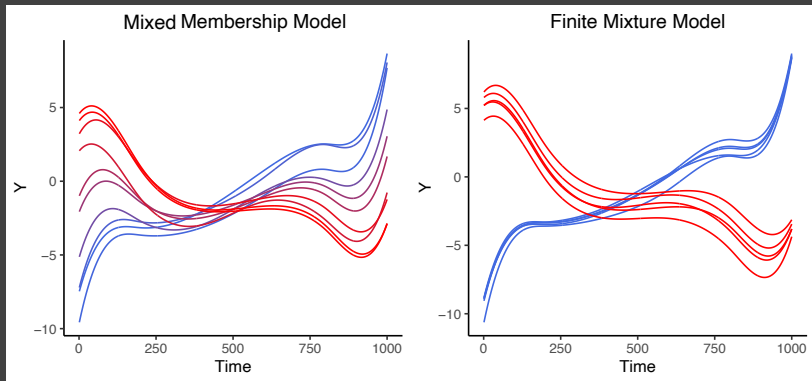
Each sample paths  $f_i$ , ( $i=1,2,\dots, N$ ), follows a finite mixture of GPs:

$$p \left( f_i \mid \rho^{(1:K)}, \mu^{(1:K)}, C^{(1:K)} \right) = \sum_{k=1}^K \rho^{(k)} \mathcal{GP} \left( f_i \mid \mu^{(k)}, C^{(k)} \right);$$

where  $\rho^{(k)} \in [0, 1]$  is the mixing proportion quantifying uncertain membership to the  $k^{th}$  GP



# Functional Clustering vs. Functional Mixed Membership



## Mixed Membership Functions

- ▶ Mixed membership process:

$$f_i \mid \mathbf{z}_i =_d \sum_{k=1}^K Z_{ik} f^{(k)}$$

- ▶ The proposed sampling model assumes

$$f_i \mid \Theta \sim GP \left( \sum_k Z_{ik} \mu^{(k)}, \sum_k Z_{ik}^2 C^{(k)} + \sum_k \sum_{k' \neq k} Z_{ik} Z_{ik'} C^{(k,k')} \right)$$

- ▶ Model  $K$  Gaussian Processes (GPs),  $f^{(k)}$ 
  - ▶  $K$  mean functions,  $\mu^{(k)}(t)$
  - ▶  $K$  covariance functions,  $C^{(k,k)}(s, t)$
  - ▶  $\frac{K(K-1)}{2}$  cross-covariance functions,  $C^{(k,j)}(t_k, t_j)$

## Joint Representation of $K$ Gaussian Processes

- ▶ We assume  $f^{(k)}$  can be represented by a set of **uniformly continuous** basis functions.
- ▶ Let  $\mathbf{B}(t)$  is a vector of the  $P$  basis functions evaluated at  $t$
- ▶ The Multivariate Karhunen-Loève theorem (Happ and Greven, 2018) jointly decomposes  $K$  GPs:

$$f^{(k)}(t) = \boldsymbol{\nu}'_k \mathbf{B}(t) + \sum_{m=1}^{KP} \chi_m \phi'_{km} \mathbf{B}(t), \quad (1)$$

where  $\boldsymbol{\nu}_k \in \mathbb{R}^P$ ,  $\phi_{km} \in \mathbb{R}^P$ , and  $\chi_m \sim \mathcal{N}(0, 1)$

- ▶ Using this decomposition, we have:
  - ▶  $\mu^{(k)}(t) = \boldsymbol{\nu}'_k \mathbf{B}(t)$
  - ▶  $C^{(k,j)}(t_k, t_j) = \sum_{m=1}^{KP} \phi'_{km} \mathbf{B}(t_k) \phi'_{jm} \mathbf{B}(t_j)$

## Multivariate Karhunen-Loève Theorem (cont.)

- ▶ The Karhunen-Loève theorem typically allows for a reduced dimensional representation with  $M \leq KP$  components, s.t.

$$f^{(k)}(t) \approx \boldsymbol{\nu}'_k \mathbf{B}(t) + \sum_{m=1}^M \chi_m \boldsymbol{\phi}'_{km} \mathbf{B}(t), \quad (2)$$

- ▶ Number of parameters needed to model the covariance structure:
  - ▶ Multivariate Karhunen-Loève:  $\mathcal{O}(KPM)$
  - ▶ Naïve :  $\mathcal{O}(K^2P^2)$

## Finite Dimensional Margins

- ▶  $Z_{ik} \in (0, 1) \rightarrow$  mixed membership proportion of path  $i$  belonging to GP ( $k$ )
- ▶ Using the multivariate KL construction, we obtain:

$$y_i(t) | \Theta \sim \mathcal{N} \left( \sum_{k=1}^K Z_{ik} \underbrace{\left( \nu'_k \mathbf{B}(t) + \sum_{m=1}^M \chi_{im} \phi'_{km} \mathbf{B}(t) \right)}_{f^{(k)}(t)}, \sigma^2 \right) \quad (3)$$

- ▶ Integrating over  $\chi_i$  yields

$$y_i(\mathbf{t}_i) | \Theta_{-\chi} \sim \mathcal{N} \left( \sum_{k=1}^K Z_{ik} \underbrace{\mathbf{S}'(\mathbf{t}_i) \nu_k}_{\boldsymbol{\mu}^{(k)}(\mathbf{t}_i)}, \sum_{k=1}^K \sum_{j=1}^K Z_{ik} Z_{ij} \underbrace{\left( \mathbf{S}'(\mathbf{t}_i) \sum_{m=1}^M (\phi_{km} \phi'_{jm}) \mathbf{S}(\mathbf{t}_i) \right)}_{C^{(k,j)}(\mathbf{t}_i, \mathbf{t}_i)} + \sigma^2 \mathbf{I}_{n_i} \right) \quad (4)$$

## Prior Distributions

- ▶ The  $\phi$  parameters construct scaled eigenfunctions of the covariance operator
  - ▶ Mutually orthogonal
  - ▶ Magnitude of the scaled eigenfunctions should decrease
    - ▶ Multiplicative gamma process shrinkage prior (Bhattacharya and Dunson, 2011)

$$\phi_{kpm} | \gamma_{kpm}, \tilde{\tau}_{mk} \sim \mathcal{N} \left( 0, \gamma_{kpm}^{-1} \tilde{\tau}_{mk}^{-1} \right),$$

$$\gamma_{kpm} \sim \Gamma(\nu_\gamma/2, \nu_\gamma/2), \quad \tilde{\tau}_{mk} = \prod_{n=1}^m \delta_{nk},$$

$$\delta_{1k} \sim \Gamma(a_{1k}, 1), \quad \delta_{jk} \sim \Gamma(a_{2k}, 1), \quad a_{1k} \sim \Gamma(\alpha_1, \beta_1), \quad a_{2k} \sim \Gamma(\alpha_2, \beta_2)$$

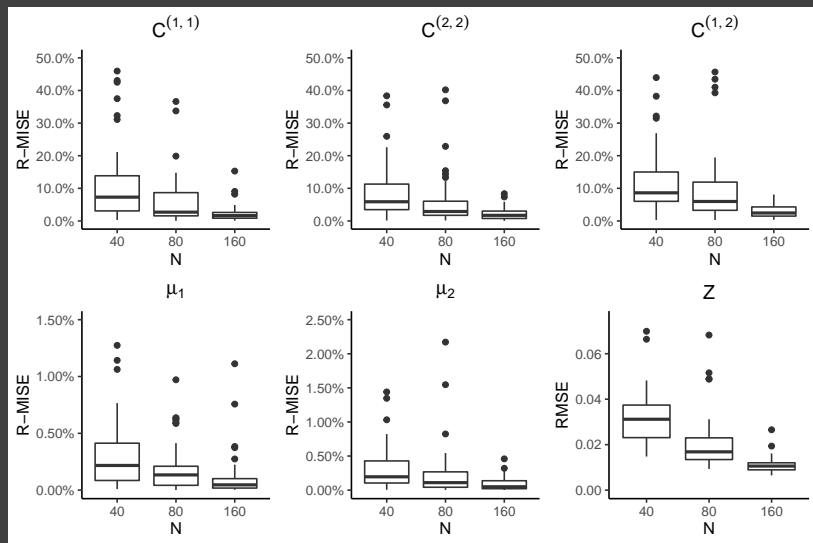
## Posterior Distributions

- ▶ Let  $\Sigma_{jk} := \sum_{p=1}^{KP} (\phi_{jp} \phi'_{kp})$  and

$$\omega := \{\nu_1, \dots, \nu_K, \Sigma_{11}, \dots, \Sigma_{1K}, \dots, \Sigma_{KK}, \sigma^2\}.$$

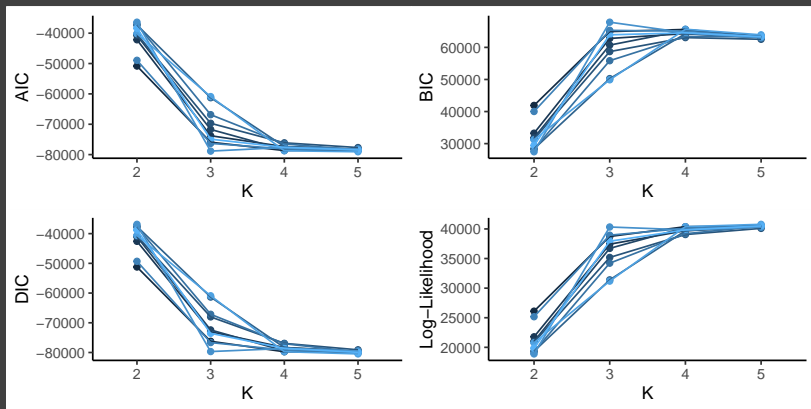
- ▶ The parameters in  $\omega \in \Omega$  completely specify the mean and covariance structure of our model. We will denote the true set of parameters as  $\omega_0$
- ▶ Assumptions:
  1.  $\mathbf{Y}_1, \dots, \mathbf{Y}_n$  are observed on a grid of  $R$  points ( $R > KP$ ) in the domain,  $\{t_1, \dots, t_R\}$
  2. The variables  $Z_{ik}$  are fixed and known (not-random)
  3.  $\sigma_0^2 > 0$
- ▶ Consider the fully saturated model ( $M = KP$ ). Under these assumptions, the posterior distribution is weakly consistent at  $\omega_0 \in \Omega$

# Operating Characteristics on Engineered Data



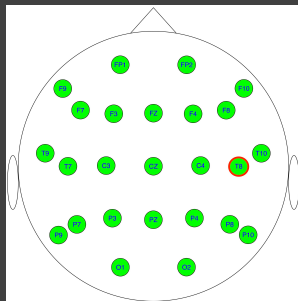


# Selecting the Number of Features



## Case Study: Peak Alpha Frequency (TD and ASD)

- ▶ Autism spectrum disorder (ASD) is a term used to describe individuals with a collection of social communication deficits and restricted or repetitive sensory-motor behaviors
- ▶ This case study contains electroencephalogram (EEG) data for 39 typically developing (TD) children and 58 children with ASD between the ages of 2 and 12 years old
- ▶ We fit a 2 functional feature mixed membership model on data from the T8 electrode



## EEG Case Study Data

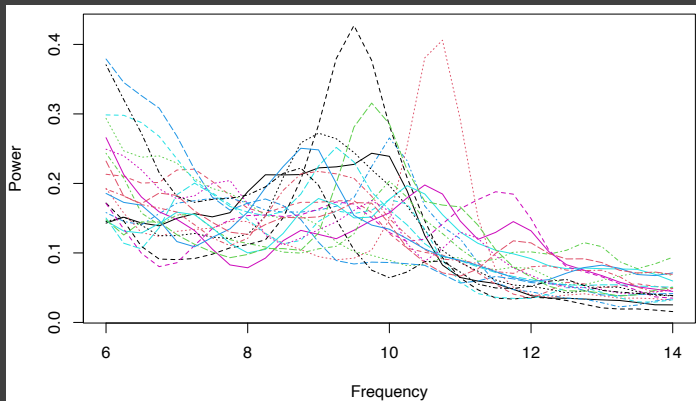


Figure: EEG data from the T8 electrode for 20 individuals (ASD and TD)

## EEG Case Study Data (cont.)

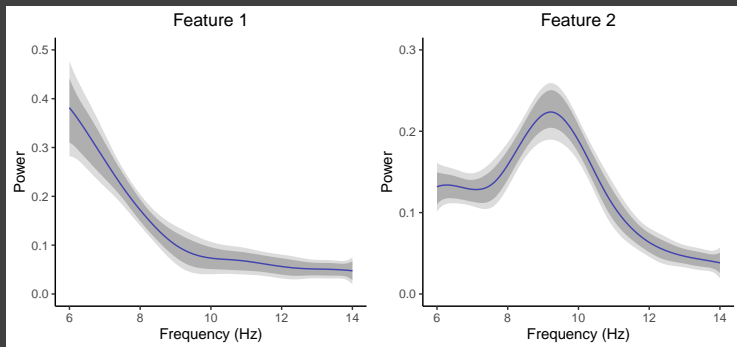
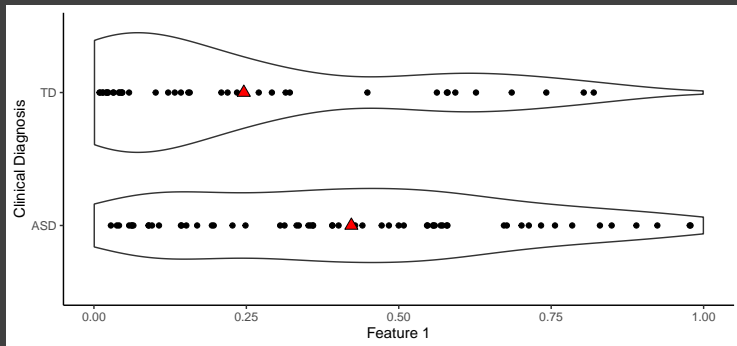


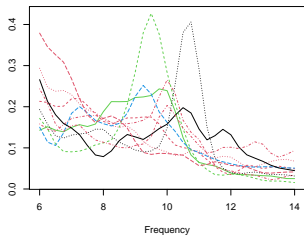
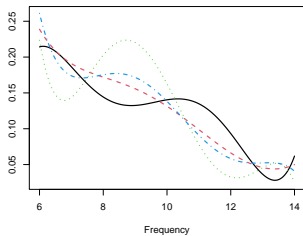
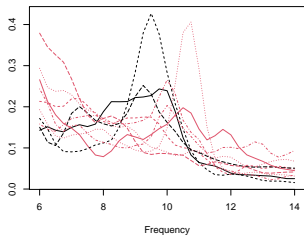
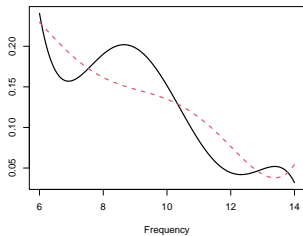
Figure: Posterior median and 95% credible (pointwise credible interval in dark gray and simultaneous credible interval in light gray) of the mean function for each latent functional feature.

## EEG Case Study (cont.)



- ▶ Children with an TD clinical diagnosis are highly likely to load on the second functional feature, whereas children with ASD exhibit a higher level of heterogeneity

# EEG Case Study Data (Functional Clustering)



# Table of Contents

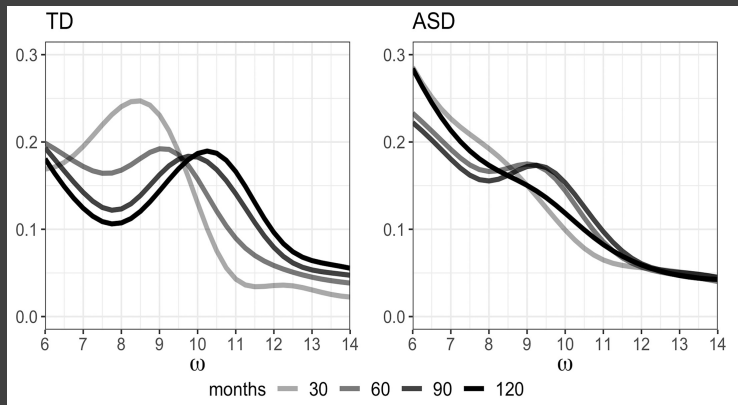
Introduction to Mixed Membership Models

Functional Mixed Membership Models

Covariate Adjusted Mixed Membership Models

## Motivation: Peak Alpha Frequency Shift with Aging

- ▶ As typically developing children grow, the alpha peak tends to become more prominent and the PAF shifts to a higher frequency (Rodríguez-Martínez et al., 2017; Scheffler et al., 2019)

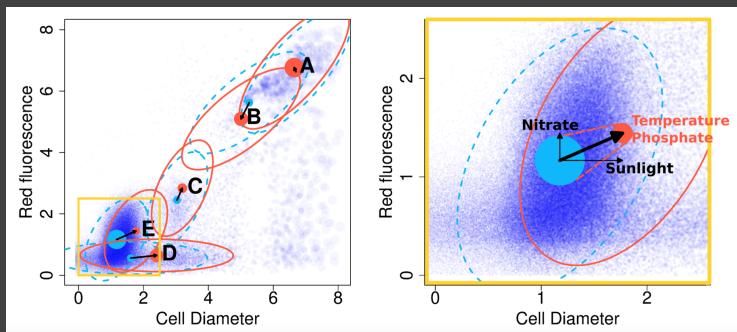


(Scheffler et al., 2019)



## Covariate Adjusted Clustering

- ▶ *Mixture of Experts models* and *Mixture of Regressions models* are two common covariate-dependent clustering models where the mean components of the mixtures are dependent on the covariates of interest
  - ▶ Mixture of Experts models also assume that cluster membership also depends on the covariates of interest



(Hyun et al., 2022)

## Covariate Adjusted Clustering

- ▶ Gaussian finite mixture models (GFMM) can be expressed as

$$f_i \mid \boldsymbol{\pi}_i, \mu^{(1:K)}, C^{(1:K)} \sim \mathcal{GP} \left( \sum_{k=1}^K \pi_{ik} \mu^{(k)}, \sum_{k=1}^K \pi_{ik} C^{(k)} \right)$$

- ▶ Similarly, we can extend the framework of GFMMs to arrive at the Mixture of Regressions Model framework (5) and Mixture of Experts framework (6):

$$f_i \mid \mathbf{X}, \Theta \sim \mathcal{GP} \left( \sum_{k=1}^K \pi_{ik} \mu^{(k)}(\mathbf{x}_i), \sum_{k=1}^K \pi_{ik} C^{(k)} \right) \quad (5)$$

$$P(f_i \mid \mathbf{X}, \Theta) = \sum_{k=1}^K \pi_{ik}(\mathbf{x}_i, \boldsymbol{\alpha}_k) \mathcal{GP}(f_i \mid \mu^{(k)}(\mathbf{x}_i), C^{(k)}) \quad (6)$$

- ▶ The mean function,  $\mu^{(k)}(\mathbf{x}_i)$ , is often modeled through a regression framework

## Function-on-Scalar Regression

- ▶ Function-on-scalar regression is a common method in FDA which allows the mean structure of the continuous stochastic process to be covariate-dependent
  - ▶ The covariates of interest are scalar or vector-valued, while the response is functional
- ▶ The general form of function-on-scalar regression can be expressed as follows:

$$Y(t) = \mu(t) + \sum_{r=1}^R X_r \beta_r(t) + \epsilon(t); \quad t \in \mathcal{T}, \quad (7)$$

- ▶ The mean function ( $\mu(t)$ ) and the functional coefficients ( $\beta_r(t)$ ) are infinite dimensional parameters, making inference intractable
  - ▶ We typically assume that the data lie in the span of a finite set of basis functions ( $b_1(t), \dots, b_p(t)$ )
    - ▶ *A-priori* specified basis functions
    - ▶ Data-driven basis functions (F-PCA)

## Function-on-Scalar Regression, Mixture of Regressions, and CAFMM Models

- ▶ Function-on-scalar regression can be considered a **population** level analysis, where the covariates have the same effects on each observation
- ▶ Gaussian mixture of regressions models can be considered a **sub-population** level analysis, where covariates the covariate effects on the mean structure depend on which cluster an observation belongs to

$$f_i | \mathbf{X}, \Theta \sim \mathcal{GP} \left( \sum_{k=1}^K \pi_{ik} \left( \mu_k + \sum_{r=1}^R X_{ir} \beta_{kr} \right), \sum_{k=1}^K \pi_{ik} C^{(k)} \right)$$

- ▶ Covariate adjusted functional mixed membership (CAFMM) models can be considered an **individual** level analysis, where each observation has a different allocation vector
  - ▶ Each underlying feature has a unique mean structure (covariate-dependent) and covariance structure

## Extension to CAFMM Models

- ▶ The functional mixed membership model can be expressed as

$$\mathbf{x}_i | \mathbf{z}_{(1:N)} =_d \sum_{k=1}^K Z_{ik} \mathbf{f}_k,$$

where

$$f^{(k)} \sim \mathcal{GP} \left( \mu^{(k)}, C^{(k)} \right), \quad k = 1, 2, \dots, K$$

- ▶ This leads to the following likelihood:

$$f_i | \Theta \sim GP \left( \sum_k Z_{ik} \mu^{(k)}, \sum_k Z_{ik}^2 C^{(k)} + \sum_k \sum_{k' \neq k} Z_{ik} Z_{ik'} C^{(k,k')} \right)$$

- ▶ Leveraging the function-on-scalar framework, we can arrive at the general form of the proposed CAFMM model

$$f_i | \Theta \sim GP \left( \sum_k Z_{ik} (\mu^{(k)} + \mathbf{X}_{ir} \beta_{rk}), \sum_k \sum_{k'} Z_{ik} Z_{ik'} C^{(k,k')} \right)$$

## Example of a Covariate Adjusted Mean Structure

## Finite Dimensional Marginal Distributions

- ▶ Let  $\mathbf{x}_i \in \mathbb{R}^R$  be the vector of covariates for the  $i^{\text{th}}$  observation
- ▶ Using the multivariate KL construction and the assumption that the features lie in the user-defined basis, we obtain the functional model:

$$\mathbf{Y}_i(\mathbf{t}_i) | \Theta, \mathbf{X} \sim \mathcal{N} \left\{ \sum_{k=1}^K Z_{ik} \left( \mathbf{S}'(\mathbf{t}_i) (\boldsymbol{\nu}_k + \boldsymbol{\eta}_k \mathbf{x}_i') \right) + \sum_{m=1}^M \chi_{im} \mathbf{S}'(\mathbf{t}_i) (\boldsymbol{\phi}_{km}) \right\}, \sigma^2 \mathbf{I}_{n_i}$$

- ▶ Integrating out the  $\chi_{im}$  parameters, we have

$$y_i(\mathbf{t}_i) | \Theta_{-\chi} \sim \mathcal{N} \left( \sum_{k=1}^K Z_{ik} \mathbf{S}'(\mathbf{t}_i) (\boldsymbol{\nu}_k + \boldsymbol{\eta}_k \mathbf{x}_i'), \sum_{k=1}^K \sum_{j=1}^K Z_{ik} Z_{ij} \left( \mathbf{S}'(\mathbf{t}_i) \sum_{m=1}^M (\boldsymbol{\phi}_{km} \boldsymbol{\phi}'_{jm}) \mathbf{S}(\mathbf{t}_i) \right) + \sigma^2 \mathbf{I}_{n_i} \right) \quad (8)$$

- ▶  $\boldsymbol{\eta}_k \in \mathbb{R}^{P \times R}$  represents the covariate adjustment to the mean structure of the  $k^{\text{th}}$  feature

## Identifiability

- ▶ Let  $\omega$  be a set of parameters
- ▶ The parameters  $\omega$  are unidentifiable if there exists at least one  $\omega^* \neq \omega$  such that  $\mathcal{L}(\mathbf{Y}_i(\mathbf{t}_i) \mid \omega, \mathbf{x}_i) = \mathcal{L}(\mathbf{Y}_i(\mathbf{t}_i) \mid \omega^*, \mathbf{x}_i)$  for all sets of observations  $\{\mathbf{Y}_i(\mathbf{t}_i)\}_{i=1}^N$ 
  - ▶ Otherwise, the parameters  $\omega$  are called identifiable
- ▶ The *label switching* problem is a common source of unidentifiability in finite mixture models.
- ▶ What conditions do we need on the parameters  $\omega$  and design matrix  $\mathbf{X}$  to ensure identifiability?

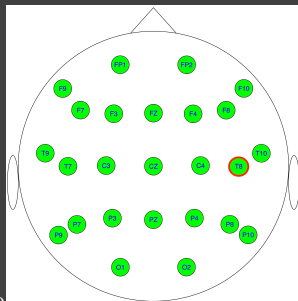


**Lemma:** Consider a two feature ( $K = 2$ ) covariate adjusted model as specified in Equation 39. The parameters  $\nu_k, \eta_k, Z_{ik}, \sum_{m=1}^M (\phi_{km} \phi'_{k'm})$ , and  $\sigma^2$  are identifiable up to a permutation of the labels (i.e. label switching), for  $k, k' = 1, 2, n = 1, \dots, N$ , and  $m = 1, \dots, M$ , given the following assumptions:

1.  $\mathbf{X}$  is full column rank with  $\mathbf{1}$  not in the column space of  $\mathbf{X}$ .
2. The separability condition holds on the allocation matrix (there exists  $\tilde{i}_1, \tilde{i}_2$  such that  $Z_{\tilde{i}_1 1} = 1$  and  $Z_{\tilde{i}_2 2} = 1$ ). Moreover, there exists at least 2 observations with allocation parameters that lie in the interior of the unit simplex (i.e.  $\mathbf{z}_i \in \left\{ \mathbf{z} \in \mathbb{R}^2 \mid \sum_{k=1}^2 Z_k = 1, 0 < Z_k < 1 \right\}$ ).
3. The sample paths  $\mathbf{Y}_i(\mathbf{t}_i)$  are sampled such that  $n_i \geq P$ , and furthermore, there exists a sample path  $\mathbf{Y}_i(\mathbf{t}_i)$  such that  $n_i > 4M$ .

## Revisiting the ASD Case Study

- ▶ Autism spectrum disorder (ASD) is a term used to describe individuals with a collection of social communication deficits and restricted or repetitive sensory-motor behaviors
- ▶ This case study contains electroencephalogram (EEG) data for 39 typically developing (TD) children and 58 children with ASD between the ages of 2 and 12 years old
- ▶ We fit a 2 CAFMM model on data from the T8 electrode with Age as the covariate of interest



## Function-on-Scalar Regression (Covariates: Age)

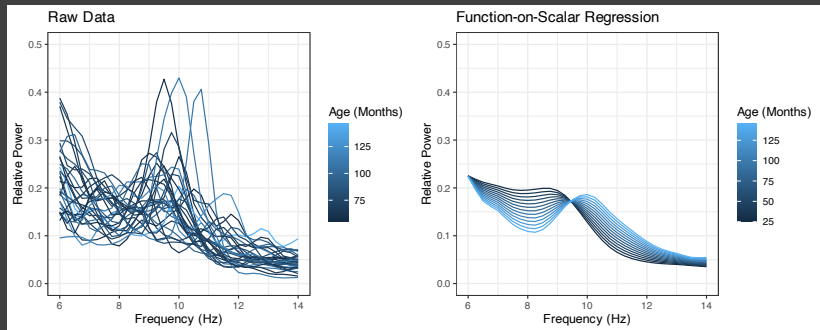


Figure: (Left) Data colored by age at the time of recording. (Right) Results from a function-on-scalar regression.

# CAFMM Model (Covariates: Age)

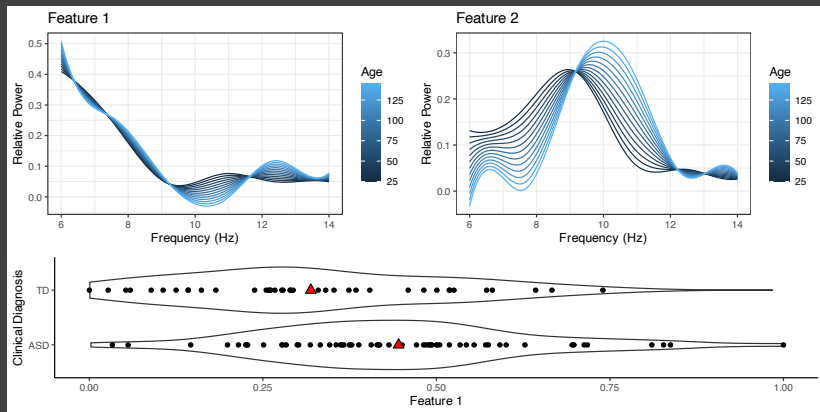


Figure: (Top Left) Mean of the first feature at various ages. (Top Right) Mean of the second feature at various ages. (Bottom) Estimated allocation features stratified by clinical diagnosis.

# Function-on-Scalar Regression (Covariates: Age and Clinical Diagnosis)

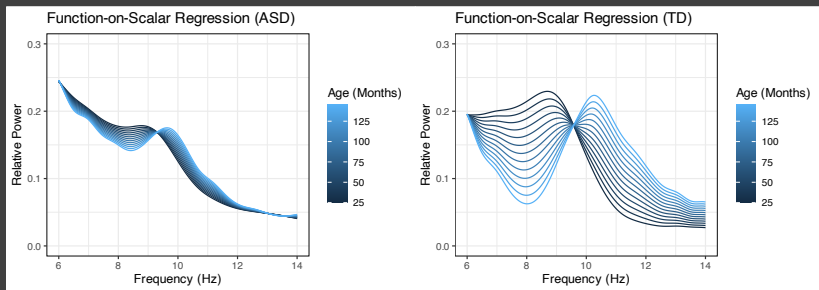
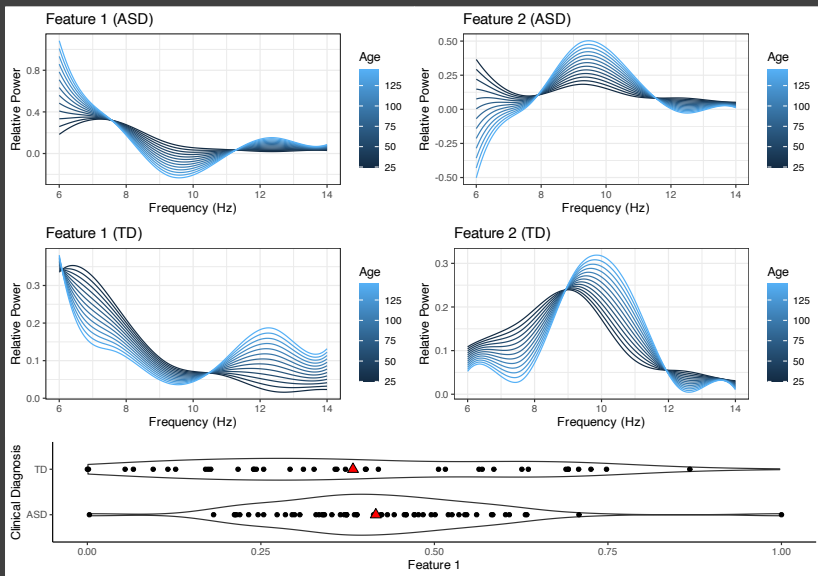


Figure: Results from a function-on-scalar regression with age and clinical diagnosis as the covariates of interest.

# CAFMM Model (Covariates: Age and Clinical Diagnosis)



## CAFMM Model (Covariates: Age and Clinical Diagnosis)

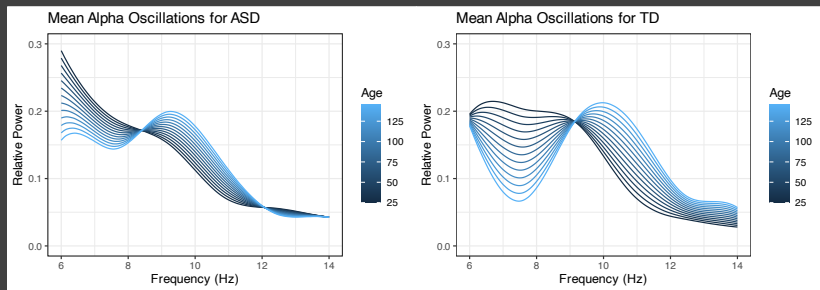


Figure: Estimated average developmental trajectory of alpha oscillations stratified by diagnostic group.

## Summary

- ▶ Interpretable sampling models allow us to easily interpret the mean and covariance structure
- ▶ Multivariate KL constructions allow for efficient representation and dimension reduction of multivariate GPs
- ▶ In our applications, results are robust to increasing dimensionality (multi-channel analyses)
- ▶ Covariate adjusted functional mixture models can be thought of as a generalization of function-on-scalar regression



# Thank You!

## R Packages

BayesFMMM    Funct. Mixed Membership Models    <https://github.com/ndmarco/BayesFMMM>

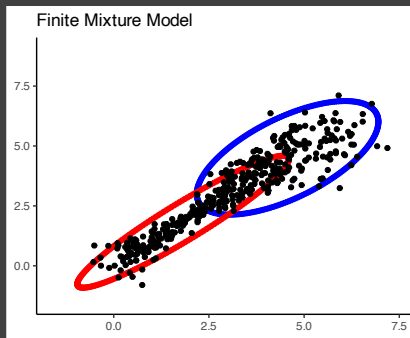
## Manuscripts

- Marco N, Senturk D, Jeste S, Dickinson A and D. Telesca D (2022) *Functional Mixed Membership Models*. (arXiv:2206.12084).
- Marco N, Senturk D, Jeste S, Dickinson A and D. Telesca D (2022) *Flexible Regularized Estimation in High-Dimensional Mixed Membership Models* (arXiv:2212.06906)

## Funding

R01 MH122428-01 (DS, DT) from the NIH/NIMH

## Construction of a Finite Mixture Model



- ▶ Let  $\pi_{ik} \in \{0, 1\}$  ( $\sum_k \pi_{ik} = 1$ ) denote whether or not the  $i^{th}$  observation belongs to the  $k^{th}$  cluster, by the law of total probability we have:

$$\begin{aligned} P(Y_i) &= P(Y_i | \pi_{i1} = 1)P(\pi_{i1} = 1) + \cdots + P(Y_i | \pi_{iK} = 1)P(\pi_{iK} = 1) \\ &= \sum_{k=1}^K \rho_k P(Y_i | \pi_{ik} = 1) \end{aligned}$$

## Construction of a Finite Mixture Model

- ▶ Assuming that the distributions of the clusters are in the exponential family, we have

$$P(Y_i | \boldsymbol{\theta}_{1:K}) = \rho_k P(Y_i | \boldsymbol{\theta}_k)$$

- ▶ Using the latent variables  $\boldsymbol{\pi}_i = [\pi_{i1}, \dots, \pi_{iK}]$  ( $\pi_{ik} \in \{0, 1\}$  and  $\sum_{k=1}^K \pi_{ik} = 1$ ), we have

$$P(Y_i | \boldsymbol{\pi}_i, \boldsymbol{\theta}_{(1:K)}) = \sum_{\boldsymbol{\pi}_i} P(\boldsymbol{\pi}_i) \prod_{i=1}^K P(Y_i | \boldsymbol{\theta}_k)^{\pi_{ik}},$$

where  $P(\pi_{ik} = 1) = \rho_k$

## Extension to Heller's Characterization of Partial Membership Models

- ▶ Let  $\mathbf{z}_i = [Z_{i1}, \dots, Z_{iK}]$ , where  $Z_{ik} \in [0, 1]$  and  $\sum_k Z_{ik} = 1$ , represent the  $i^{\text{th}}$  observation's proportion of membership to the  $K^{\text{th}}$  feature
- ▶ Using these latent variables, we arrive at the general form proposed in Heller et al. (2008):

$$P(Y_i | \mathbf{z}_i, \boldsymbol{\theta}_{(1:K)}) \propto \int_{\mathbf{z}_i} P(\mathbf{z}_i) \prod_{i=1}^K P(Y_i | \boldsymbol{\theta}_k)^{Z_{ik}} d\mathbf{z}_i$$

- ▶ Assuming the distributions of the features are in the exponential family (i.e.  $Y_i | \boldsymbol{\theta}_k \sim \text{Expon}(\boldsymbol{\theta}_k)$ ), we have

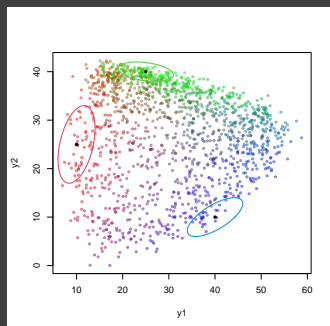
$$Y_i | \mathbf{z}_i, \boldsymbol{\theta}_{(1:K)} \sim \text{Expon} \left( \sum_k Z_{ik} \boldsymbol{\theta}_k \right)$$

## Extension to Heller's Characterization of Partial Membership Models

- ▶ Assuming that the features follow a Gaussian distribution, where  $\boldsymbol{\nu}_k$  and  $\mathbf{C}_k$  denote the corresponding mean and covariance parameters of the  $k^{\text{th}}$  feature, we have that

$$Y_i \mid \mathbf{z}_i, \boldsymbol{\nu}_{(1:K)}, \mathbf{C}_{(1:K)} \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{H}_i \mathbf{h}_i, \mathbf{H}_i),$$

where  $\mathbf{h}_i = \sum_{k=1}^K \pi_{ik} \mathbf{C}_k^{-1} \boldsymbol{\nu}_k$  and  $\mathbf{H}_i = \left( \sum_{k=1}^K \pi_{ik} \mathbf{C}_k^{-1} \right)^{-1}$



## Extension to our Proposed Mixed Membership Model

- ▶ In a Gaussian finite mixture model, we have:

$$p(\mathbf{x}_i | \boldsymbol{\rho}_{(1:K)}, \boldsymbol{\nu}_{(1:K)}, \mathbf{C}_{(1:K)}) = \sum_{\boldsymbol{\pi}_i} p(\boldsymbol{\pi}_i) \prod_{k=1}^K \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{x}_i | \boldsymbol{\nu}_k, \mathbf{C}_k)^{\pi_{ik}}$$

- ▶ If we condition on the membership parameters, we get:

$$\mathbf{x}_i | \boldsymbol{\pi}_{(1:N)} =_d \sum_{k=1}^K \pi_{ik} \mathbf{f}_k,$$

where  $\mathbf{f}_k \sim \mathcal{N}(\boldsymbol{\nu}_k, \mathbf{C}_k)$

- ▶ Thus we can rewrite the likelihood as:

$$\mathbf{x}_i | \boldsymbol{\pi}_{(1:N)}, \boldsymbol{\nu}_{(1:K)}, \mathbf{C}_{(1:K)} \sim \mathcal{N}\left(\sum_{k=1}^K \pi_{ik} \boldsymbol{\nu}_k, \sum_{k=1}^K \pi_{ik} \mathbf{C}_k\right)$$

## Extension to our Proposed Mixed Membership Model

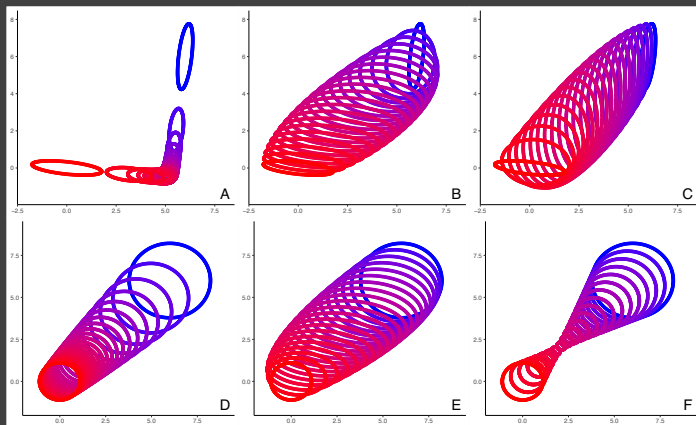
- ▶ We can extend this to our partial membership model by introducing variables  $\mathbf{z}_i = [Z_{i1}, \dots, Z_{iK}]$  ( $Z_{ik} \in [0, 1]$ ,  $\sum_k Z_{ik} = 1$ ) such that:

$$\mathbf{x}_i | \mathbf{z}_{(1:N)} =_d \sum_{k=1}^K Z_{ik} \mathbf{f}_k$$

- ▶ We can't assume that the *features* ( $\mathbf{f}_k$ ) are independent
- ▶ Let  $\mathbf{C}^{(k,k')} = \text{Cov}(\mathbf{f}_k, \mathbf{f}_{k'})$  denote the cross-covariance between the feature  $k$  and feature  $k'$
- ▶ Letting  $\mathbf{C}$  denote the collection of covariance and cross-covariance matrices, we have

$$\mathbf{x}_i | \mathbf{z}_{(1:N)}, \boldsymbol{\nu}_{(1:K)}, \mathbf{C} \sim \mathcal{N} \left( \sum_{k=1}^K Z_{ik} \boldsymbol{\nu}_k, \sum_{k=1}^K Z_{ik}^2 \mathbf{C}_k + \sum_{k=1}^K \sum_{k' \neq k} Z_{ik} Z_{ik'} \mathbf{C}^{(k,k')} \right)$$

## Relation to Other Mixed Membership Models

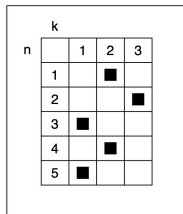


- The proposed representation is more flexible and interpretable compared to other MMMs (i.e. Heller et al., 2008).

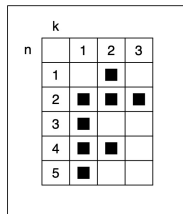


# Visualizations of Clustering Models

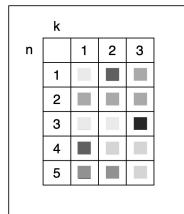
**Finite Mixture Models**



**Feature Allocation Models**



**Mixed Membership Models**



## Joint Decomposition

- ▶ Letting  $\mathbf{F} = [\mathbf{f}_1, \dots, \mathbf{f}_K]$ , we we have that

$$\text{Cov}(\text{vec}(\mathbf{F})) = \mathbf{\Sigma} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{C}^{(1,1)} & \dots & \mathbf{C}^{(1,K)} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \mathbf{C}^{(K,1)} & \dots & \mathbf{C}^{(K,K)} \end{bmatrix}$$

- ▶ Letting  $\mathbf{\Phi}_m = [\phi'_{1m} \dots \phi'_{Km}]'$  be scaled eigenvectors of  $\mathbf{\Sigma}$ , we have

$$\mathbf{C}^{(k,k')} = \sum_{m=1}^{PK} \phi_{km} \phi'_{k'm}$$

- ▶ Thus we have that  $\text{vec}(\mathbf{F}) \approx \text{vec}(\boldsymbol{\mu}) + \sum_{m=1}^M \chi_m \mathbf{\Phi}_m$  or  $\mathbf{f}_k \approx \boldsymbol{\nu}_k + \sum_{m=1}^M \chi_m \phi_{km}$ , where  $\chi_m \sim \mathcal{N}(0, 1)$

## Model Specification

- ▶ Using the approximation, we obtain:

$$\mathbf{y}_i | \Theta \sim \mathcal{N} \left( \sum_{k=1}^K Z_{ik} \underbrace{\left( \boldsymbol{\nu}_k + \sum_{m=1}^M \chi_{im} \boldsymbol{\phi}_{km} \right)}_{f^{(k)}(t)}, \sigma^2 \mathbf{I}_P \right)$$

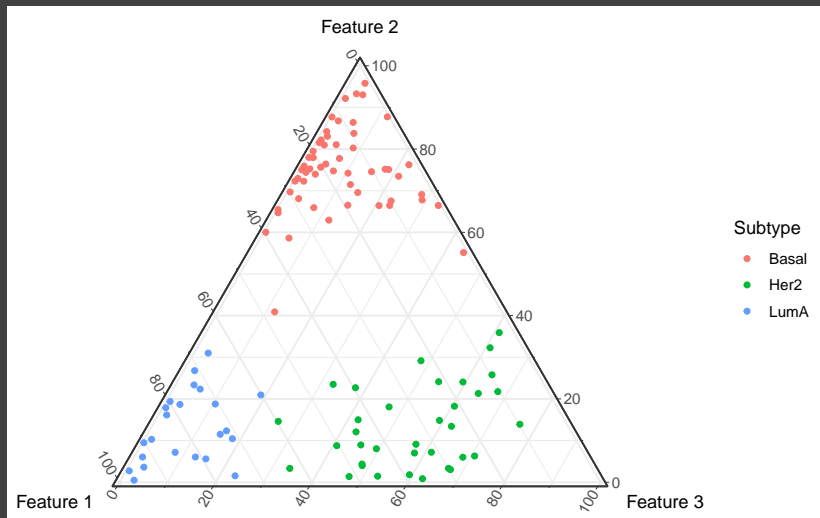
- ▶ If we integrate out the  $\chi_{im}$  variables, we obtain:

$$\mathbf{y}_i | \Theta_{-\chi} \sim \mathcal{N} \left( \sum_{k=1}^K Z_{ik} \boldsymbol{\nu}_k, \left( \sum_{k=1}^K \sum_{k'=1}^K Z_{ik} Z_{ik'} \underbrace{\left( \sum_{m=1}^M \boldsymbol{\phi}_{km} \boldsymbol{\phi}'_{k'm} \right)}_{C^{(k,k')}} \right) + \sigma^2 \mathbf{I}_P \right)$$

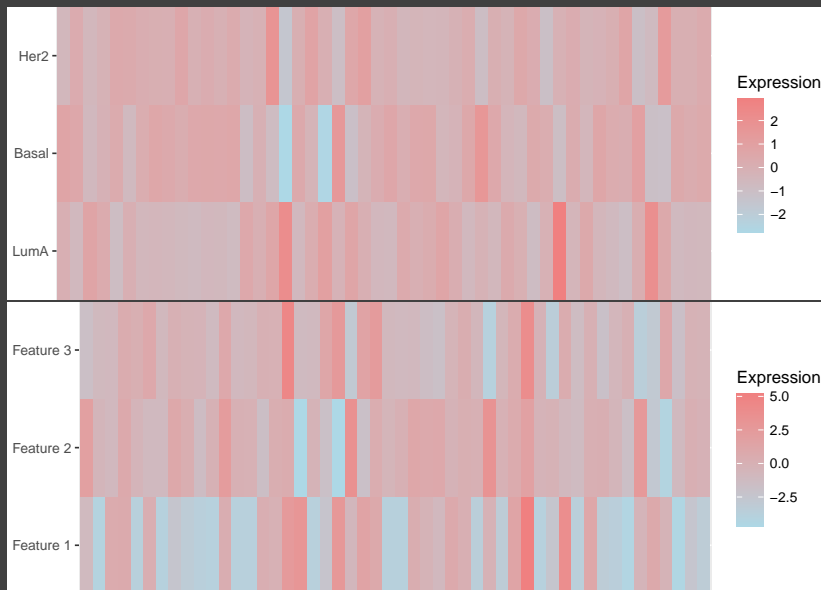
## Case Study: Molecular Subtypes of Breast Cancer

- ▶ In 2014, there were an estimated 534,000 deaths due to breast cancer worldwide (Wang et al.,2016)
- ▶ In the past two decades, 5 molecular subtypes of breast cancer have been discovered; each with a different prognosis, risk factors, and treatment sensitivity (Prat et al., 2015)
- ▶ In 2009, Parker et al. discovered that the cancer subtype can be accurately classified by centroid-based prediction methods using gene expression data from 50 genes (PAM50)
- ▶ We fit a 3 feature mixed membership model on gene expression data from PAM50, using patients with LumA, Basal, and Her2 cancer subtypes

# Case Study: Molecular Subtypes of Breast Cancer



# Case Study: Molecular Subtypes of Breast Cancer



## Case Study: Molecular Subtypes of Breast Cancer

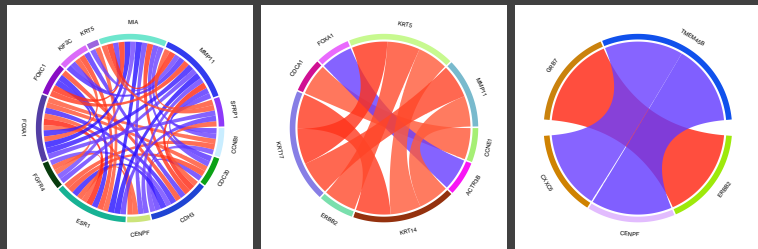
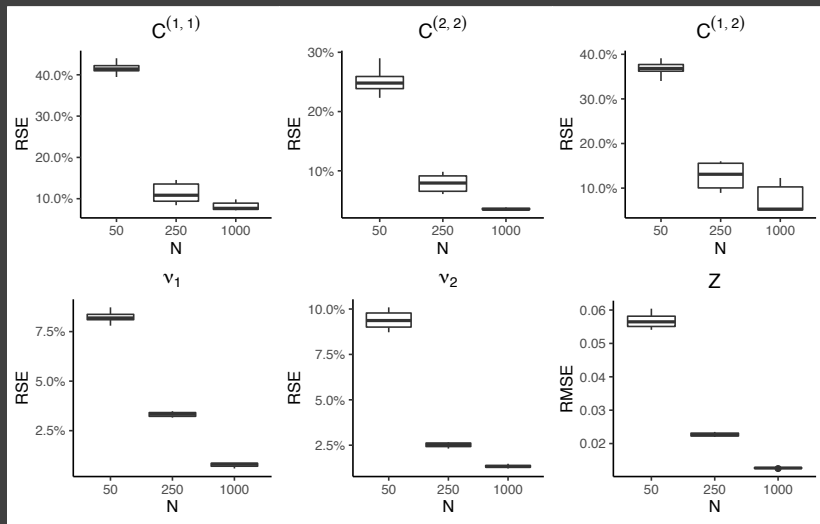


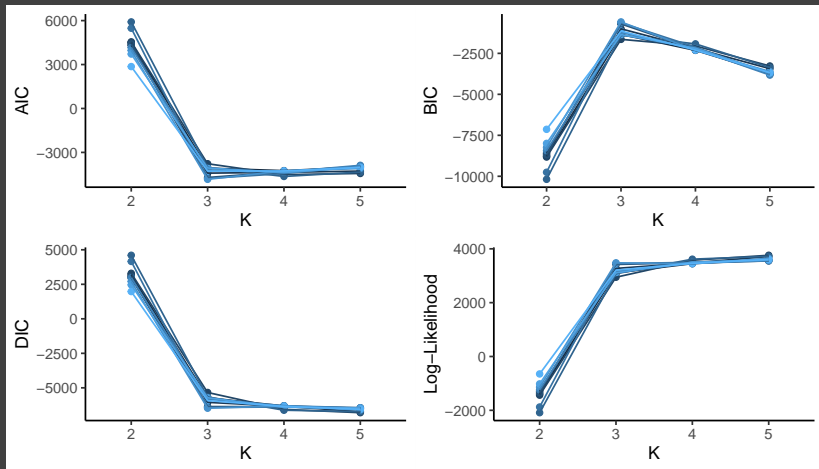
Figure: Visualization of the correlation structure of the each feature (Feature 1: Left, Feature 2: Middle, Feature 3: Right)

# Simulation Study: Recovery of Parameters

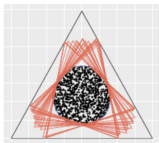




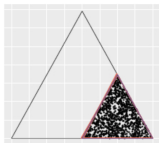
# Simulation Study: Information Criteria



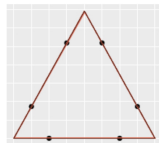
# Unidentifiability of Allocation Parameters



(a) non-identifiable



(b) non-identifiable



(c) identifiable



(d) identifiable

## Identifiability of Allocation Parameters

- ▶ *Seperability* condition: at least one observation belongs entirely in each feature
- ▶ *Sufficiently Scattered* condition: an allocation matrix  $\mathbf{Z}$  is sufficiently scattered if:
  1.  $\text{cone}(\mathbf{Z}')^* \subseteq \mathcal{K}$
  2.  $\text{cone}(\mathbf{Z}')^* \cap \text{bd}\mathcal{K} \subseteq \{\lambda \mathbf{e}_f, f = 1, \dots, k, \lambda \geq 0\}$

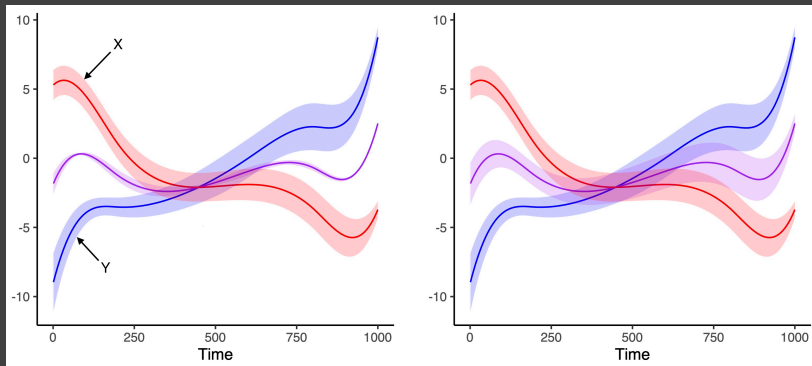
where  $\mathcal{K} := \{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^K \mid \|\mathbf{x}\|_2 \leq \mathbf{x}'\mathbf{1}_K\}$ ,

$\text{bd}\mathcal{K} := \{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^K \mid \|\mathbf{x}\|_2 = \mathbf{x}'\mathbf{1}_K\}$ ,

$\text{cone}(\mathbf{Z}')^* := \{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^K \mid \mathbf{x}\mathbf{Z}' \geq 0\}$ , and  $\mathbf{e}_f$  is a vector with the  $i^{\text{th}}$  element equal to 1 and zero elsewhere.

## Effects of the Cross-Covariance Function

$$\text{Cov}^{(X,Y)}(s,t) = \text{Cov}(X(s), Y(t))$$



## EEG Case Study (cont.)

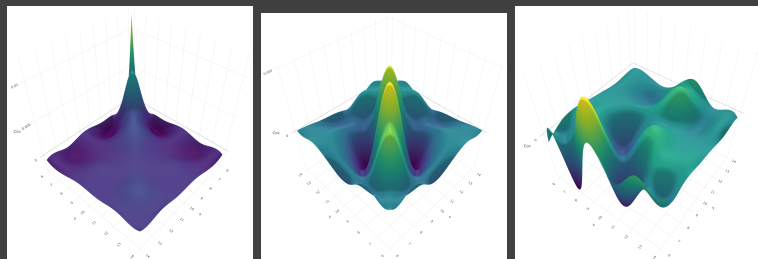
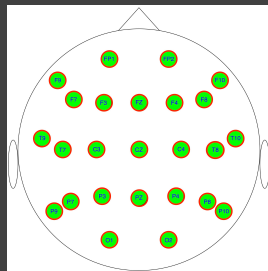


Figure: Posterior estimates of the covariance functions (From left to right: covariance of feature 1, covariance of feature 2, cross-covariance between features 1 and 2)

## Analysis of Multi-Channel EEG Data

- ▶ In the previous case study, we only used the T8 electrode and discarded the information from the 24 other electrodes
- ▶ For this case study, we will model all electrodes using a functional model, assuming  $\mathcal{T} \subset \mathbb{R}^3$ 
  - ▶ Two of the indices will contain the spatial location of the electrodes
  - ▶ The third index will contain the frequency domain



## Analysis of Multi-Channel EEG Data (cont.)

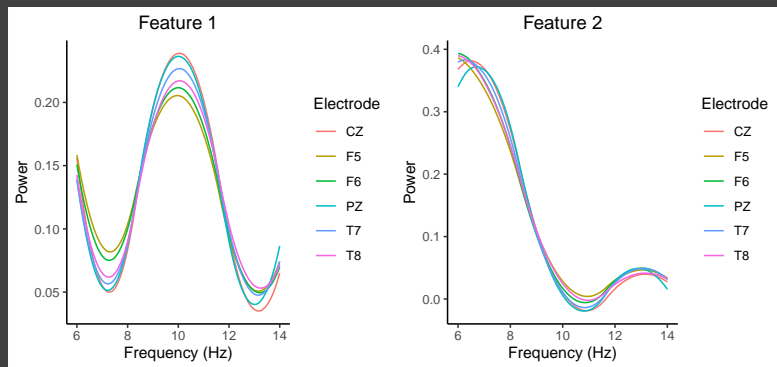


Figure: Posterior estimates of the means of the two functional features viewed at specific electrodes of interest

## Analysis of Multi-Channel EEG Data (cont.)

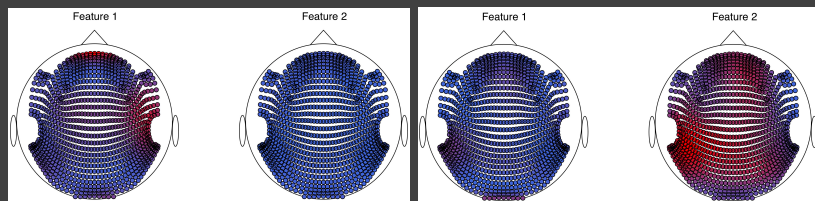
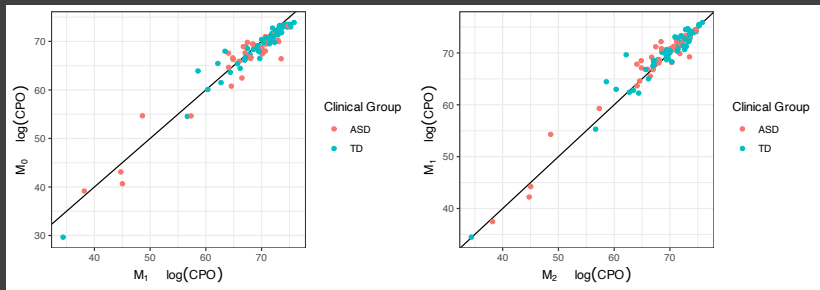


Figure: Variance of electrodes at 6 Hz (left) and 10 Hz (right)

- ▶ For the second functional feature, we can see that there is high heterogeneity around the T8 electrode at 6 Hz



# Conditional Predictive Ordinate (CPO)



# Sim Study (Covariate Adjusted)

Truth / Model (# Covariates)	Parameter	N = 60	N = 120	N = 240
2/2	$\mu_1$	1.9% (0.3%, 24.7%)	1.1% (0.2%, 10.4%)	0.3% (0.1%, 8.8%)
	$\mu_2$	1.5% (0.4%, 14.5%)	1.0% (0.2%, 10.5%)	0.2% (0.1%, 10.9%)
	$C^{(1,1)}$	156.1% (2.1%, 112219.4%)	110.3% (0.1%, 1806067.0%)	6.1% (0.1%, 362938.9%)
	$C^{(2,2)}$	88.1% (1.8%, 60673.8%)	416.2% (1.9%, 1008651.0%)	4.9% (0.5%, 22725.8%)
	$C^{(1,2)}$	431.2% (3.5%, 35924.4%)	433.7% (2.2%, 246646.3%)	22.3% (0.6%, 29231.3%)
	Z	0.047 (0.020, 0.099)	0.030 (0.013, 0.074)	0.013 (0.008, 0.054)
		N = 50	N = 100	N = 200
1/1	$\mu_1$	1.5% (0.2%, 7.6%)	0.8% (0.1%, 4.9%)	1.1% (0.2%, 5.4%)
	$\mu_2$	1.6% (0.3%, 5.7%)	1.2% (0.2%, 7.6%)	1.2% (0.2%, 5.4%)
	$C^{(1,1)}$	218.5% (26.0%, 11299.6%)	30.8% (14.4%, 308.4%)	37.1% (9.5%, 421.2%)
	$C^{(2,2)}$	204.4% (22.5%, 2603.4%)	40.2% (8.3%, 597.6%)	25.5% (5.7%, 157.7%)
	$C^{(1,2)}$	219.8% (42.9%, 1912.9%)	89.1% (21.2%, 403.0%)	60.6% (13.0%, 350.2%)
	Z	0.067 (0.047, 0.085)	0.056 (0.042, 0.081)	0.051 (0.040, 0.065)
1/0	$\mu_1$	382.2% (153.4%, 961.9%)	650.7% (91.1%, 1511.0%)	1076.7% (94.8%, 2339.0%)
	$\mu_2$	394.6% (117.5%, 1292.3%)	751.4% (69.0%, 1721.0%)	885.1% (145.0%, 2313.0%)
	$C^{(1,1)}$	1581365.0% (81644.7%, 23059352.5%)	1328559.4% (64656.5%, 40230314.1%)	1348112.9% (98035.6%, 65828353.0%)
	$C^{(2,2)}$	730829.2% (133764.2%, 9829513.4%)	1015747.1% (86551.9%, 17361755.8%)	802590.5% (44704.4%, 21037857.8%)
	$C^{(1,2)}$	1271237.9% (90303.1%, 9356418.4%)	1917180.3% (91394.3%, 20373022.9%)	1392890.2% (81254.1%, 19419032.6%)
	Z	0.202 (0.180, 0.217)	0.172 (0.157, 0.184)	0.144 (0.121, 0.156)
		N = 40	N = 80	N = 160
0/1	$\mu_1$	2.3% (0.3%, 36.7%)	2.5% (0.2%, 33.6%)	1.9% (0.2%, 20.4%)
	$\mu_2$	4.1% (0.3%, 36.1%)	1.9% (0.3%, 21.6%)	3.8% (0.2%, 26.1%)
	$C^{(1,1)}$	27.1% (7.7%, 703.6%)	19.1% (3.3%, 95.5%)	20.3% (3.1%, 64.9%)
	$C^{(2,2)}$	28.9% (9.4%, 319.1%)	19.0% (3.7%, 206.9%)	13.5% (3.0%, 74.8%)
	$C^{(1,2)}$	31.4% (8.8%, 353.3%)	24.2% (7.7%, 61.2%)	26.9% (4.9%, 67.1%)
	Z	0.0957 (0.070, 0.148)	0.083 (0.061, 0.107)	0.068 (0.048, 0.088)
0/0	$\mu_1$	0.23% (0.04%, 1.23%)	0.12% (0.01%, 0.35%)	0.04% (0.01%, 0.31%)
	$\mu_2$	0.27% (0.09%, 0.88%)	0.12% (0.02%, 0.42%)	0.04% (0.01%, 0.31%)
	$C^{(1,1)}$	3.5% (0.9%, 16.0%)	1.9% (0.3%, 7.4%)	1.3% (0.3%, 4.4%)
	$C^{(2,2)}$	4.5% (0.6%, 18.0%)	1.6% (0.3%, 8.0%)	1.1% (0.2%, 4.5%)
	$C^{(1,2)}$	5.3% (1.1%, 19.9%)	2.0% (0.6%, 9.5%)	1.3% (0.6%, 5.4%)
	Z	0.032 (0.023, 0.049)	0.018 (0.013, 0.024)	0.011 (0.009, 0.015)