

# Kernel Statistical Tests for Random Processes

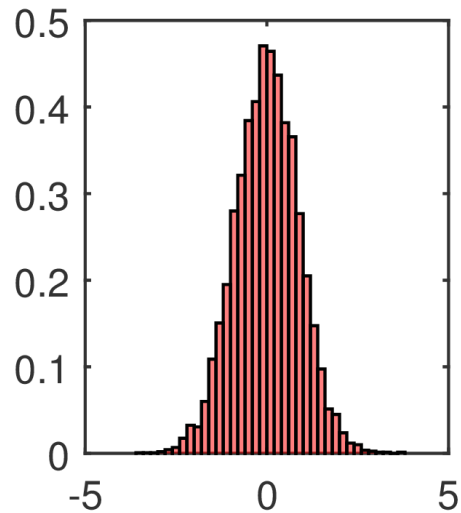
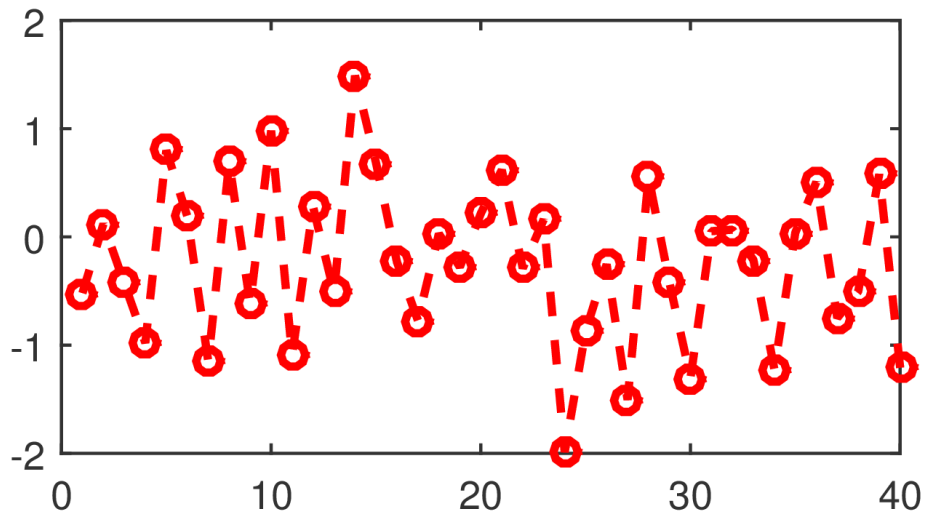
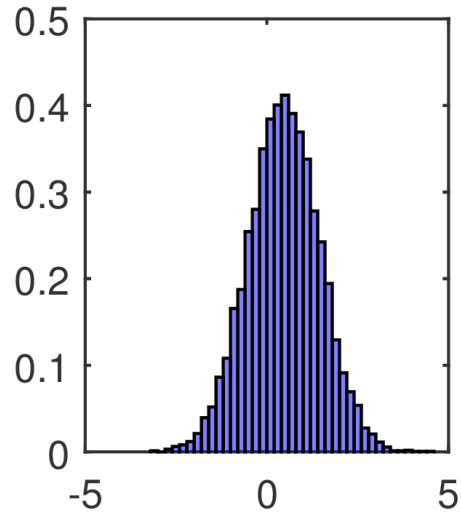
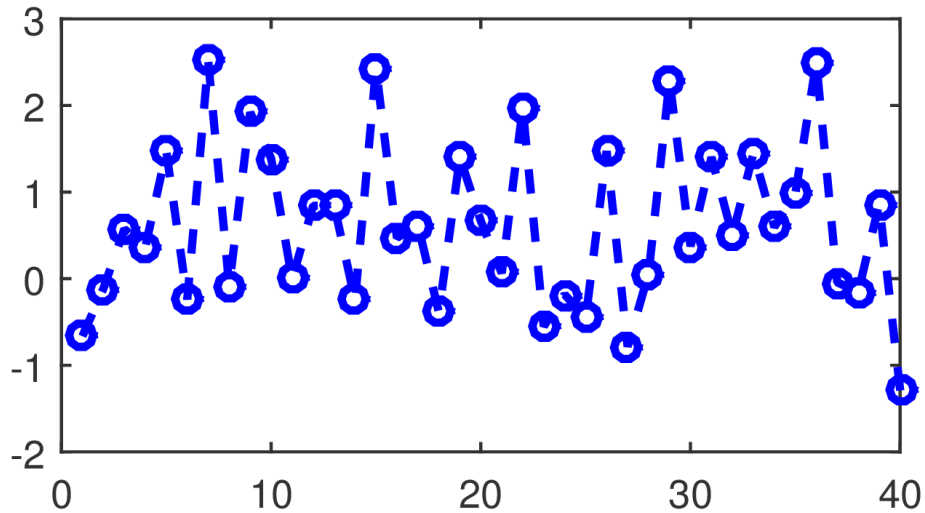
*ISNPS, Avignon, 2016*

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Gatsby Unit, UCL

# Two-Sample Test for Random Processes

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Is  
 $P$   
the same distribution as  
 $Q$   
?

# Outline

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Testing for differences in **marginal distributions** of random processes (**MMD**):

- Markov chain convergence diagnostics
- Change point detection

Testing for **independence** between random processes (**HSIC**)

- Dependency structure in financial markets
- Brain region activation

**Why time series-based tests needed:**

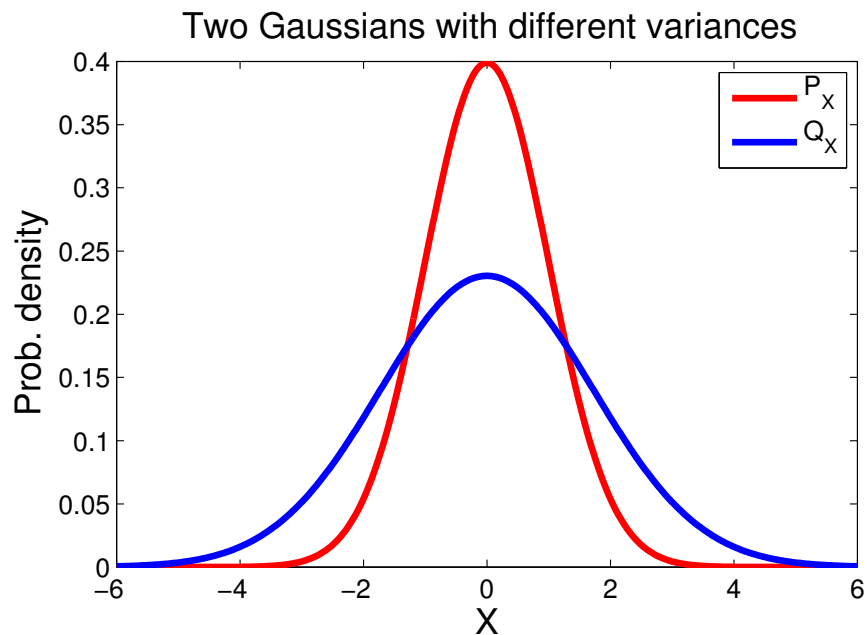
- Most real data (in the brain!) are time series
- MCMC diagnostics require tests on time series (or throwing out most of the data)

Maximum mean discrepancy, two-sample test

# Feature mean difference

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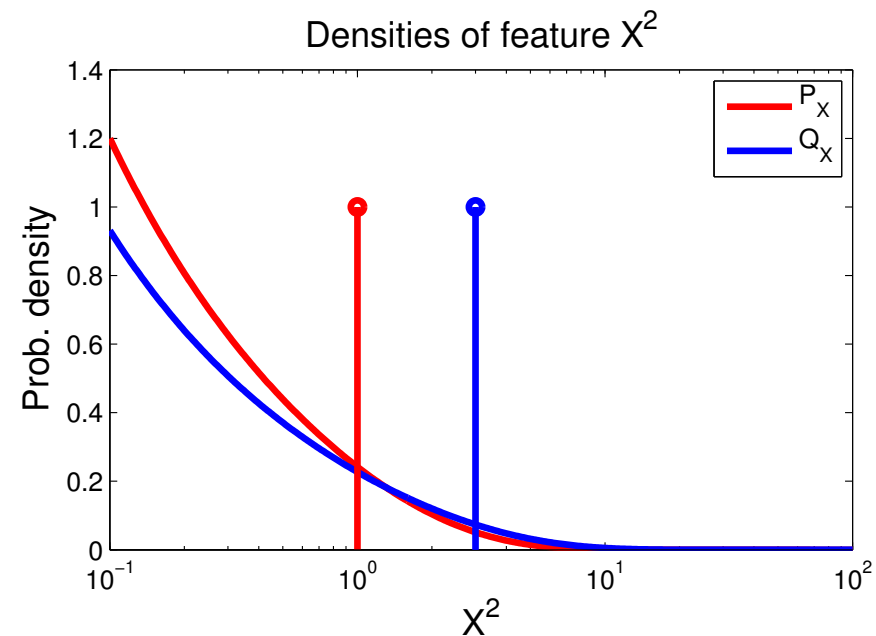
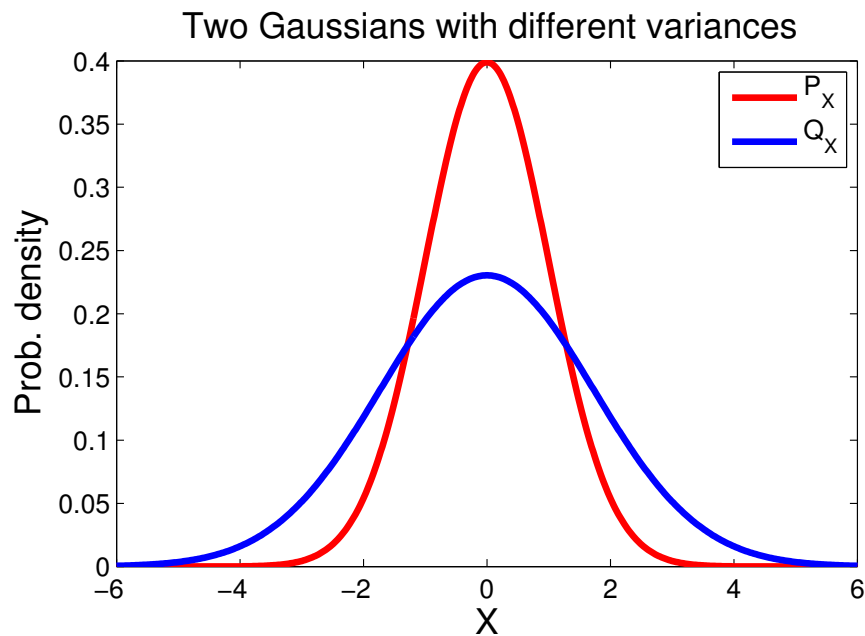
- Two Gaussians with same means, different variance
- Idea: look at difference in **means of features** of the RVs
- In Gaussian case: second order features of form  $\varphi(x) = x^2$



# Feature mean difference

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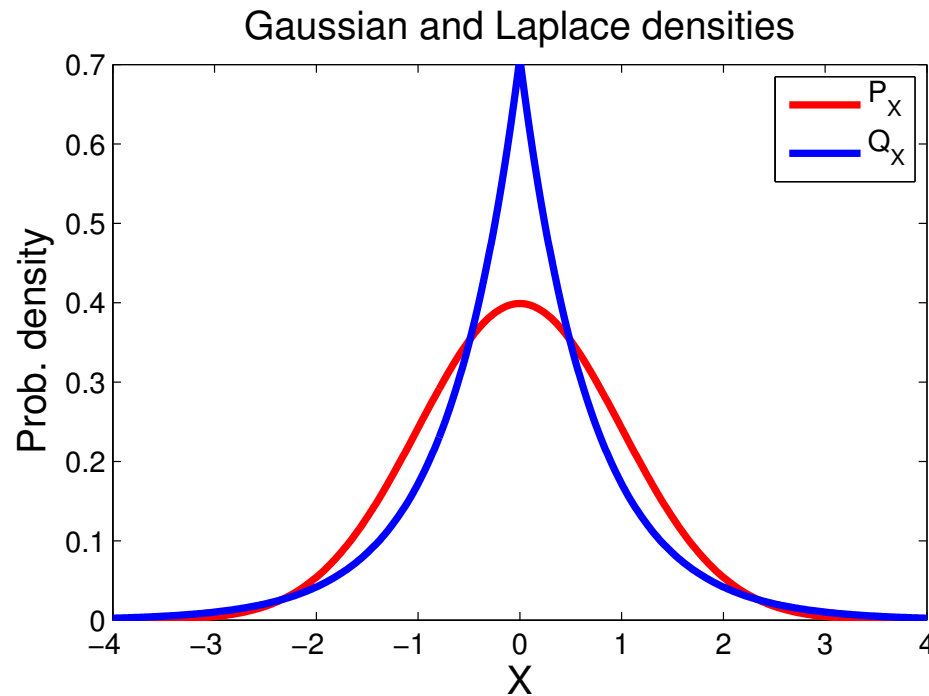
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- Idea: look at difference in means of **features** of the RVs
- In Gaussian case: second order features of form  $\varphi_x = x^2$



# Feature mean difference

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- Gaussian and Laplace distributions
- Same mean *and* same variance
- Difference in means using **higher order features**



... so let's explore **feature representations!**

# Kernels: similarity between features

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## Kernel:

- We have two objects  $x$  and  $x'$  from a set  $\mathcal{X}$  (documents, images, ...).  
How similar are they?



# Kernels: similarity between features

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## Kernel:

- We have two objects  $x$  and  $x'$  from a set  $\mathcal{X}$  (documents, images, ...).  
How similar are they?
- Define **features** of objects:
  - $\varphi_x$  are features of  $x$ ,
  - $\varphi_{x'}$  are features of  $x'$
- A **kernel** is the dot product between these **features**:

$$k(x, x') := \langle \varphi_x, \varphi_{x'} \rangle_{\mathcal{F}}.$$

# Probabilities in feature space: the mean trick

---

## The kernel trick

- Given  $x \in \mathcal{X}$  for some set  $\mathcal{X}$ ,  
define **feature map**  $\varphi_x \in \mathcal{F}$ ,

$$\varphi_x = [\dots e_i(x) \dots]$$

- For **kernel**  $k(x, x')$ ,

$$k(x, x') = \langle \varphi_x, \varphi_{x'} \rangle_{\mathcal{F}}$$

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- For kernel  $k(x, x')$ ,

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## The mean trick

- Given probability  $\mathbf{P}$  define mean embedding  $\mu_{\mathbf{P}} \in \mathcal{F}$

$$\mu_{\mathbf{P}} = [\dots \mathbf{E}_{\mathbf{P}} [e_i(X)] \dots]$$

- For kernel  $k(x, x')$ ,

$$\langle \mu_{\mathbf{P}}, \mu_{\mathbf{Q}} \rangle_{\mathcal{F}} = \mathbf{E}_{\mathbf{P}, \mathbf{Q}} k(X, Y)$$

for  $X \sim \mathbf{P}$  and  $Y \sim \mathbf{Q}$ .

Need to ensure Bochner integrability of  $\varphi_x$  for  $x \sim \mathbf{P}$ :

true for bounded kernels.

# The maximum mean discrepancy

---

The **maximum mean discrepancy** is the distance between **feature means**:

$$\begin{aligned} MMD^2(\mathbf{P}, \mathbf{Q}) &= \|\mu_{\mathbf{P}} - \mu_{\mathbf{Q}}\|_{\mathcal{F}}^2 = \langle \mu_{\mathbf{P}}, \mu_{\mathbf{P}} \rangle_{\mathcal{F}} + \langle \mu_{\mathbf{Q}}, \mu_{\mathbf{Q}} \rangle_{\mathcal{F}} - 2 \langle \mu_{\mathbf{P}}, \mu_{\mathbf{Q}} \rangle_{\mathcal{F}} \\ &= \underbrace{\mathbf{E}_{\mathbf{P}} k(x, x')}_{(a)} + \underbrace{\mathbf{E}_{\mathbf{Q}} k(y, y')}_{(a)} - \underbrace{2\mathbf{E}_{\mathbf{P}, \mathbf{Q}} k(x, y)}_{(b)} \end{aligned}$$

(a) = within distrib. similarity, (b) = cross-distrib. similarity

# The maximum mean discrepancy

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The **maximum mean discrepancy** is the distance between **feature means**:

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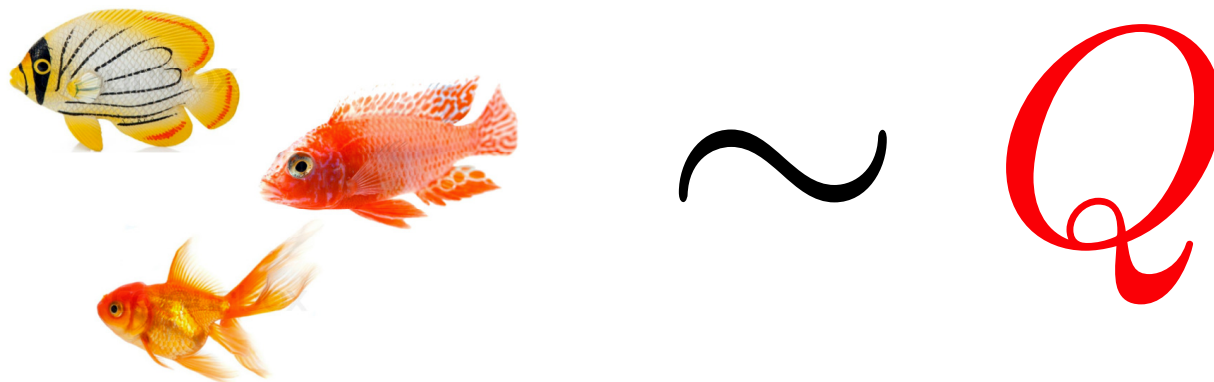
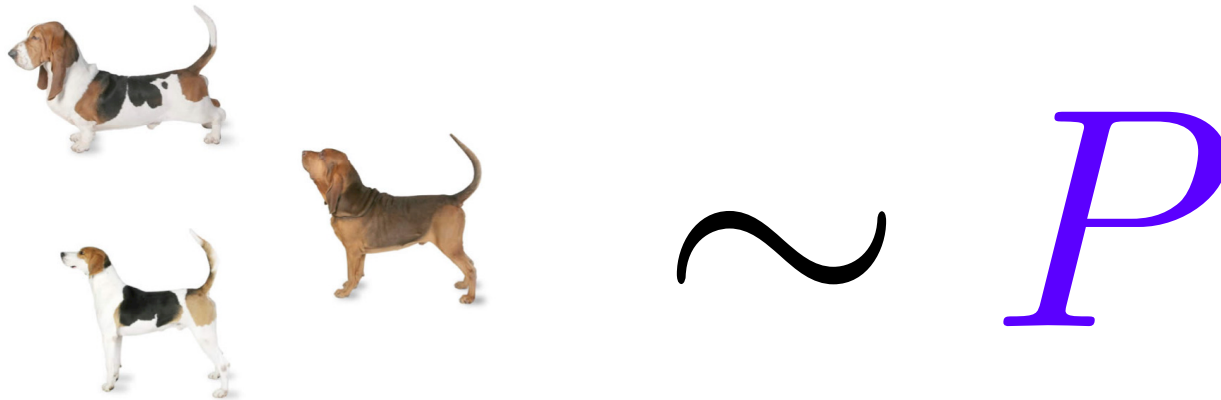
(a)= within distrib. similarity, (b)= cross-distrib. similarity

A biased **empirical estimate** (V-statistic):

$$\begin{aligned} \widehat{\text{MMD}}^2 &= \frac{1}{n^2} \sum_{i,j}^n [k(x_i, x_j) - k(x_i, y_j) - k(y_i, x_j) + k(y_i, y_j)] \\ &= \frac{1}{n^2} \sum_{i,j}^n \underbrace{\langle \varphi_{x_i} - \varphi_{y_i}, \varphi_{x_j} - \varphi_{y_j} \rangle_{\mathcal{F}}}_{\mathcal{K}((x_i, y_i), (x_j, y_j))} \end{aligned}$$

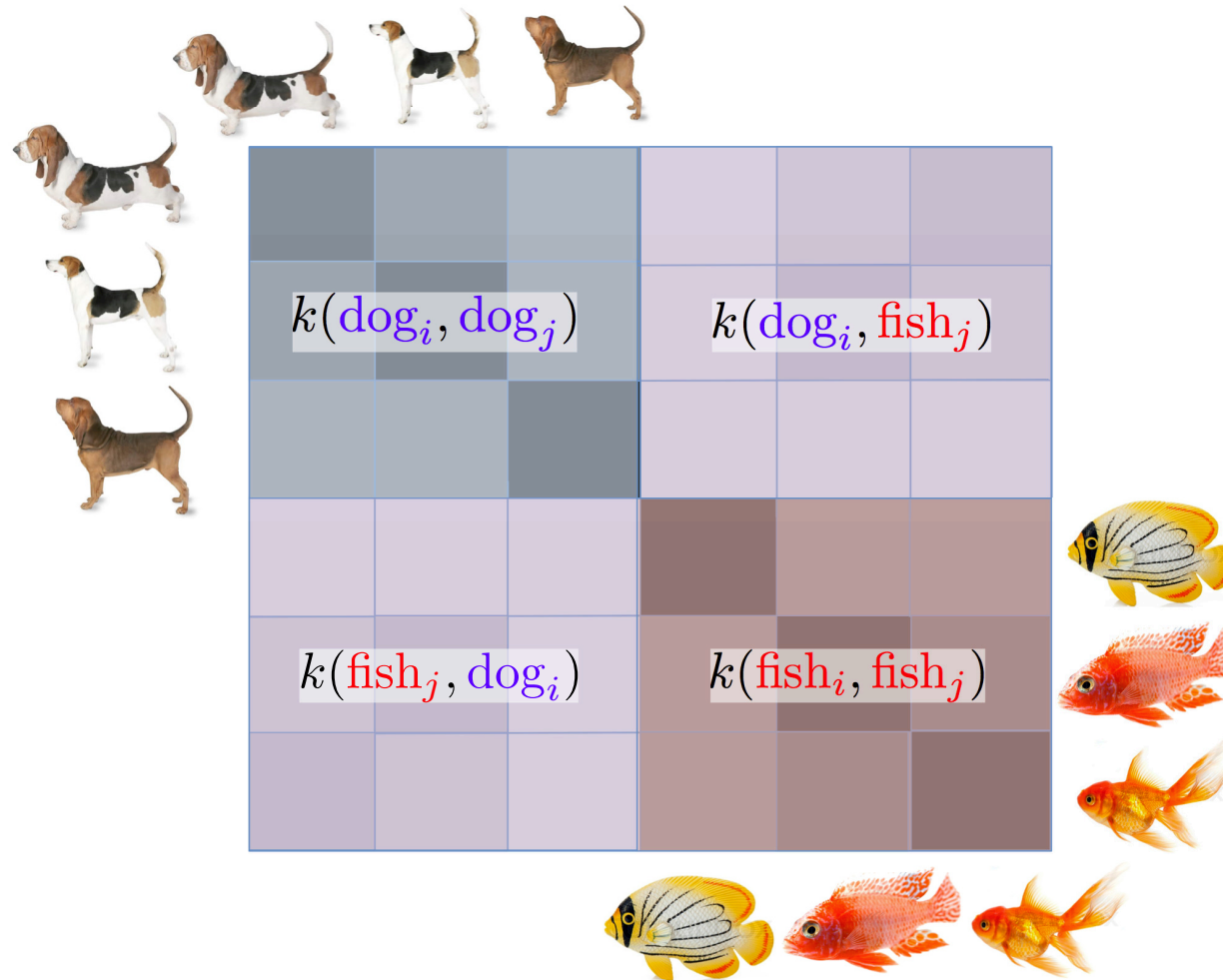
# The maximum mean discrepancy

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# The maximum mean discrepancy

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$$\widehat{MMD}^2 = \overline{K_{P,P}} + \overline{K_{Q,Q}} - 2\overline{K_{P,Q}}$$

# Statistical test using MMD

---

- Two hypotheses:
  - $H_0$ : null hypothesis ( $\mathbf{P} = \mathbf{Q}$ )
  - $H_1$ : alternative hypothesis ( $\mathbf{P} \neq \mathbf{Q}$ )
- Observe **dependent** samples  $\mathbf{x} := \{x_1, \dots, x_t, \dots, x_n\}$  with marginal distribution  $\mathbf{P}$ , and  $\mathbf{y} := \{y_1, \dots, y_t, \dots, y_n\}$  with marginal distribution  $\mathbf{Q}$
- If **empirical**  $\widehat{\text{MMD}}^2$  is
  - “far from zero”: reject  $H_0$
  - “close to zero”: accept  $H_0$



# Statistical test using MMD

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- If **empirical**  $\widehat{\text{MMD}}^2$  is
  - “far from zero”: reject  $H_0$
  - “close to zero”: accept  $H_0$
- Assumptions:  $(X_t)_{t \in \mathbb{Z}}$  and  $(Y_t)_{t \in \mathbb{Z}}$  are **strictly stationary** and  **$\tau$ -dependent** with  $\sum_{r=1}^{\infty} \sqrt{\tau(r)} < \infty$ .

$$E \left\| X_r - \tilde{X}_r \right\|_1 < \tau(r),$$

where  $X_r$  is dependent on  $X_0$ ,  $\tilde{X}_r$  is a copy of  $X_r$  independent of  $X_0$ .

# Statistical test using MMD

- “far from zero” vs “close to zero” - threshold?
- **One answer:** asymptotic distribution of  $\widehat{\text{MMD}}^2$

When  $\mathbf{P} = \mathbf{Q}$ , asymptotic distribution is [Leucht and Neumann, 2013]

$$n\widehat{\text{MMD}}^2 \sim \sum_{l=1}^{\infty} \lambda_l Q_l^2 =: \mathcal{D}_{\text{MMD}}$$

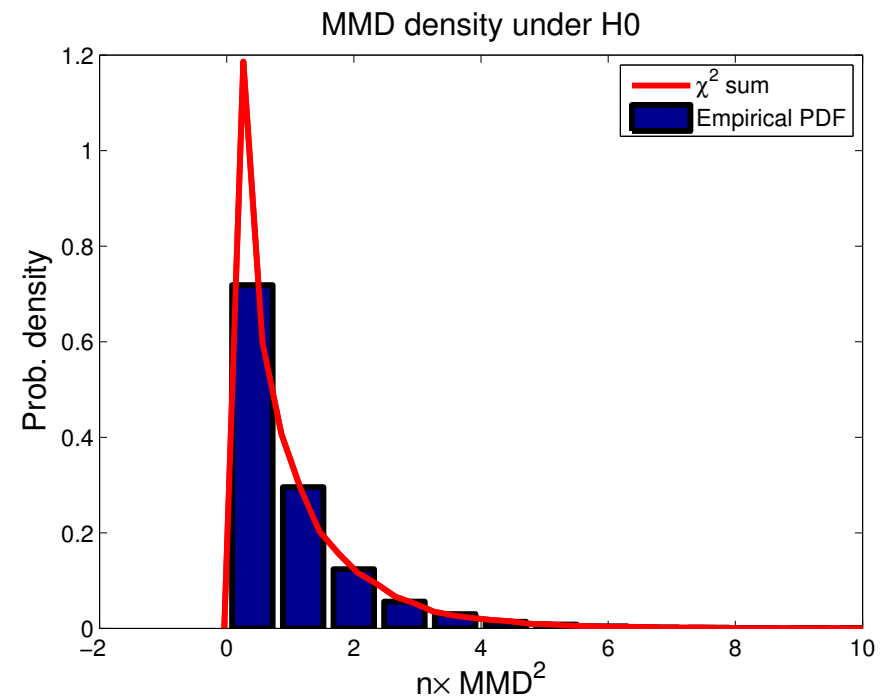
- where

- $\int_{\mathcal{X}} \mathcal{K}(z, z') \psi_i(z) d\mathbf{P}_0(z) = \lambda_i \psi_i(z')$

- $z := (x, y)$

- $Q_l \sim \mathcal{N}(0, 1)$  **correlated**,  
 $\text{cov}(Q_u, Q_v)$

$$= \sum_{r=-\infty}^{\infty} \text{cov} [\psi_u(Z_0), \psi_v(Z_r)]$$



# Asymptotics of $\widehat{MMD}^2$ : proof idea

---

First define an order  $m$  truncation of  $\mathfrak{K}(z, z')$ :

$$\mathfrak{K}^{(m)}(z, z') = \sum_{\ell=1}^m \lambda_{\ell} \psi_{\ell}(z) \psi_{\ell}(z').$$

We can prove that as  $m \rightarrow \infty$  the asymptotics of the truncation approach those of  $\mathfrak{K}$ .

The associated  $V$ -statistic is:

$$\begin{aligned} nV_n^{(m)} &= \frac{1}{n} \sum_{s,t=1}^n \underbrace{\left( \sum_{\ell=1}^m \lambda_{\ell} \psi_{\ell}(Z_s) \psi_{\ell}(Z_t) \right)}_{\mathfrak{K}^{(m)}(z_s, z_t)} \\ &= \sum_{\ell=1}^m \lambda_{\ell} \left( n^{-1/2} \sum_{t=1}^n \psi_{\ell}(Z_t) \right)^2 \end{aligned}$$

# Asymptotics of $\widehat{MMD}^2$ : proof idea

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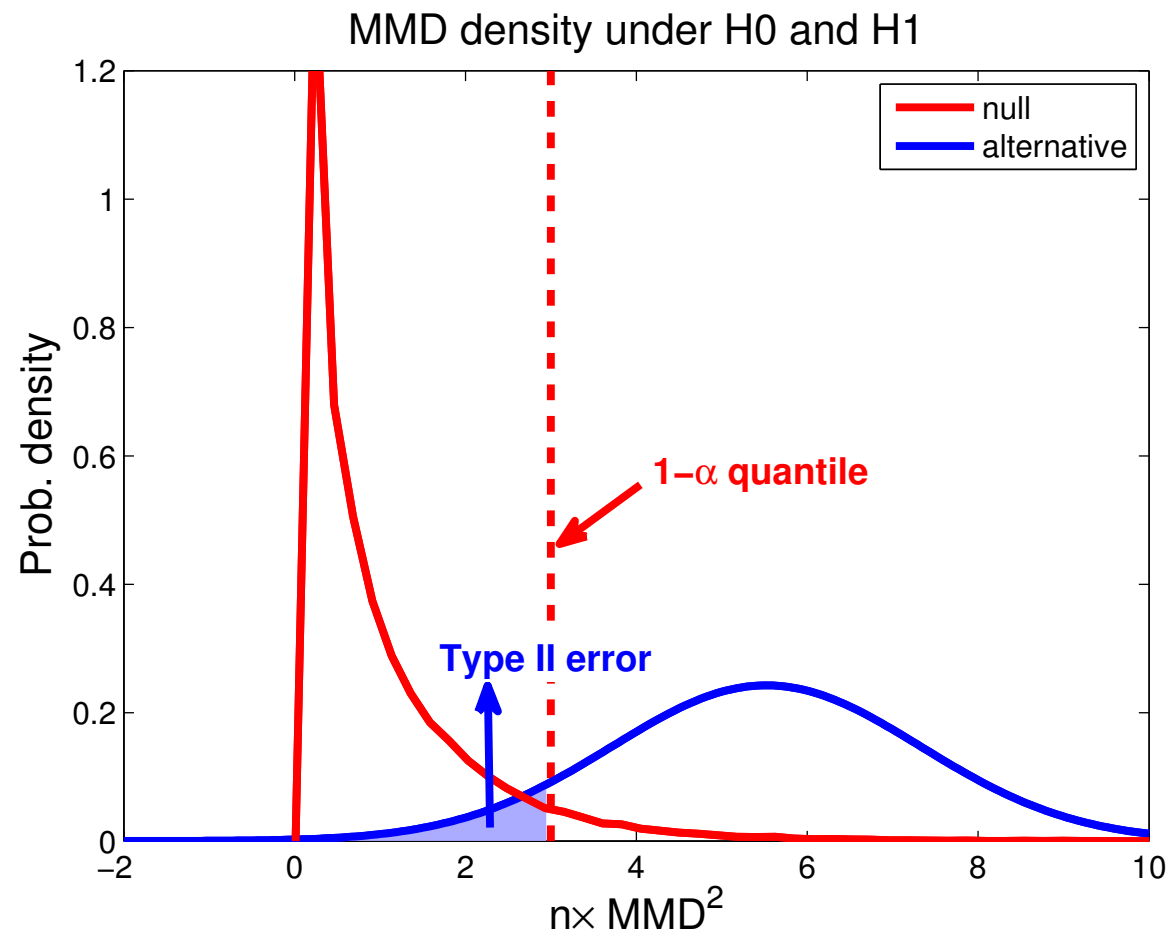
Under the assumptions on  $Z_t$ , we can apply a central limit theorem for weakly dependent random variables on the inner sum:

$$n^{-1/2} \sum_{t=1}^n \begin{bmatrix} \psi_1(Z_t) & \dots & \psi_\ell(Z_t) \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{d} \begin{bmatrix} Q_1 & \dots & Q_\ell \end{bmatrix}$$

# Statistical test using MMD

- Given  $\mathbf{P} = \mathbf{Q}$ , want threshold  $T$  such that  $\mathbf{P}(\text{MMD} > T) \leq \alpha$

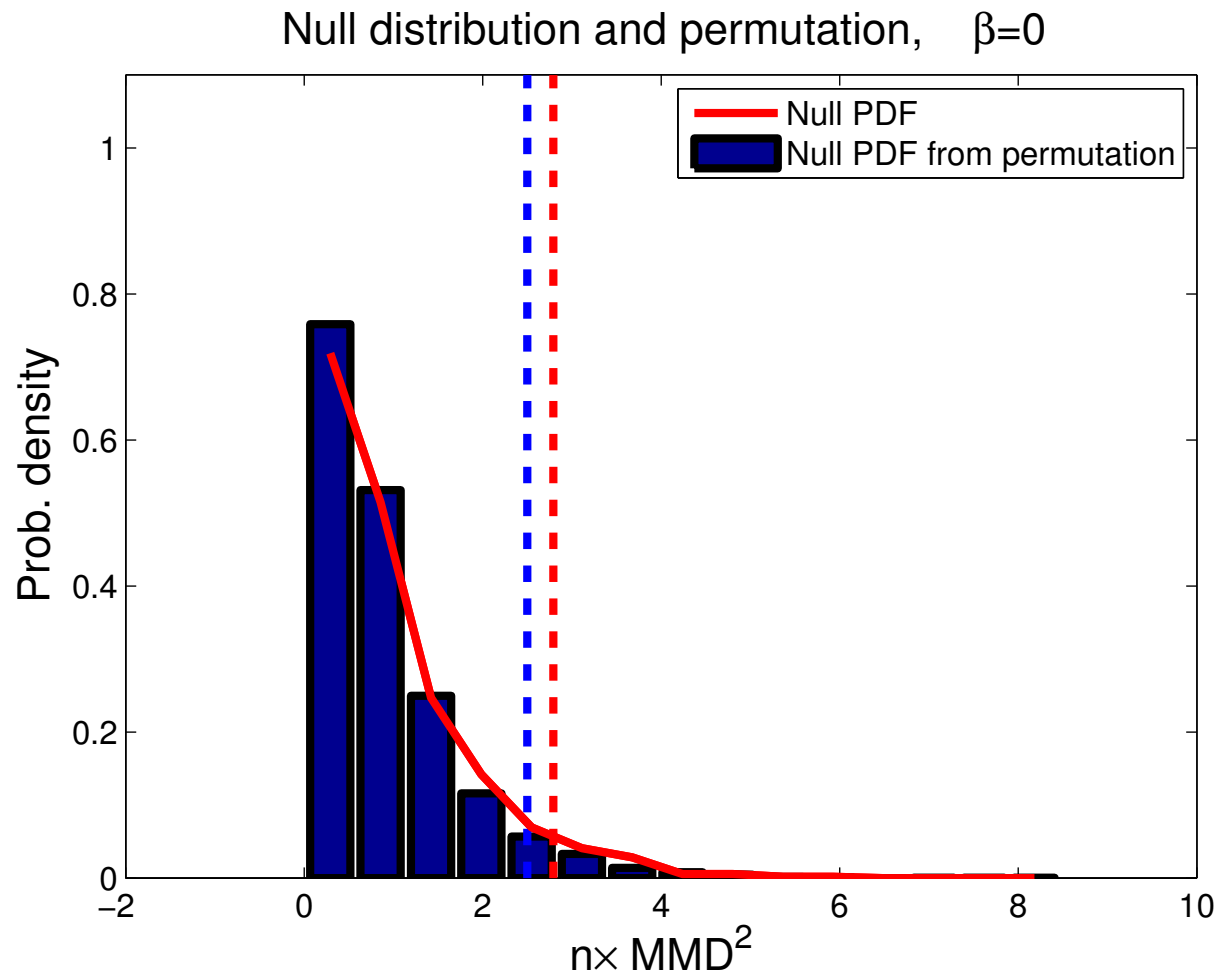
$$\widehat{\text{MMD}}^2 = \overline{K_{P,P}} + \overline{K_{Q,Q}} - 2\overline{K_{P,Q}}$$



# Statistical test using MMD

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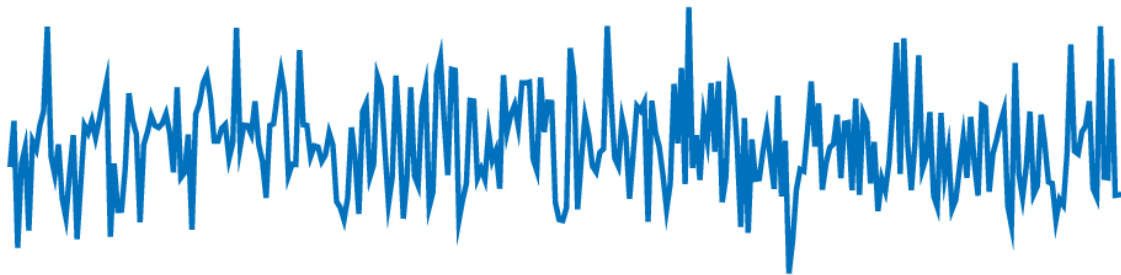
- Given  $\mathbf{P} = \mathbf{Q}$ , want threshold  $T$  such that  $\mathbf{P}(\text{MMD} > T) \leq 0.05$
- **Permutation** for empirical CDF [Arcones and Giné, 1992]



# Memory of the Processes

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$$X_t = \beta X_{t-1} + \epsilon_t \quad \epsilon_t \stackrel{\text{i.i.d.}}{\sim} \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma^2)$$



$$\beta = 0.14$$



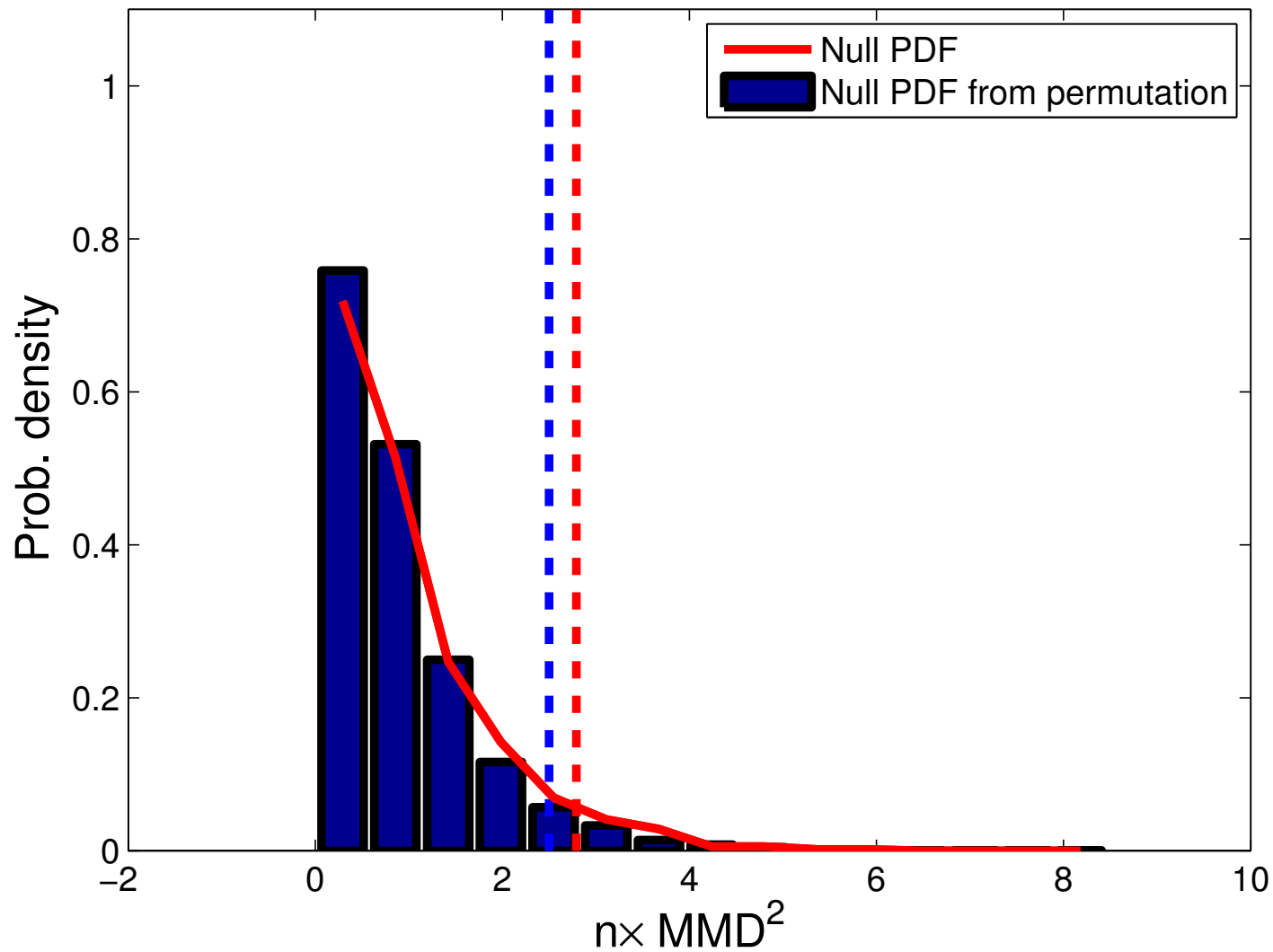
$$\beta = 0.97$$

The null distribution of the  $V$ -statistic is strongly affected by memory

# Memory $\beta = 0.0$ , permutation for null

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Null distribution and permutation,  $\beta=0$

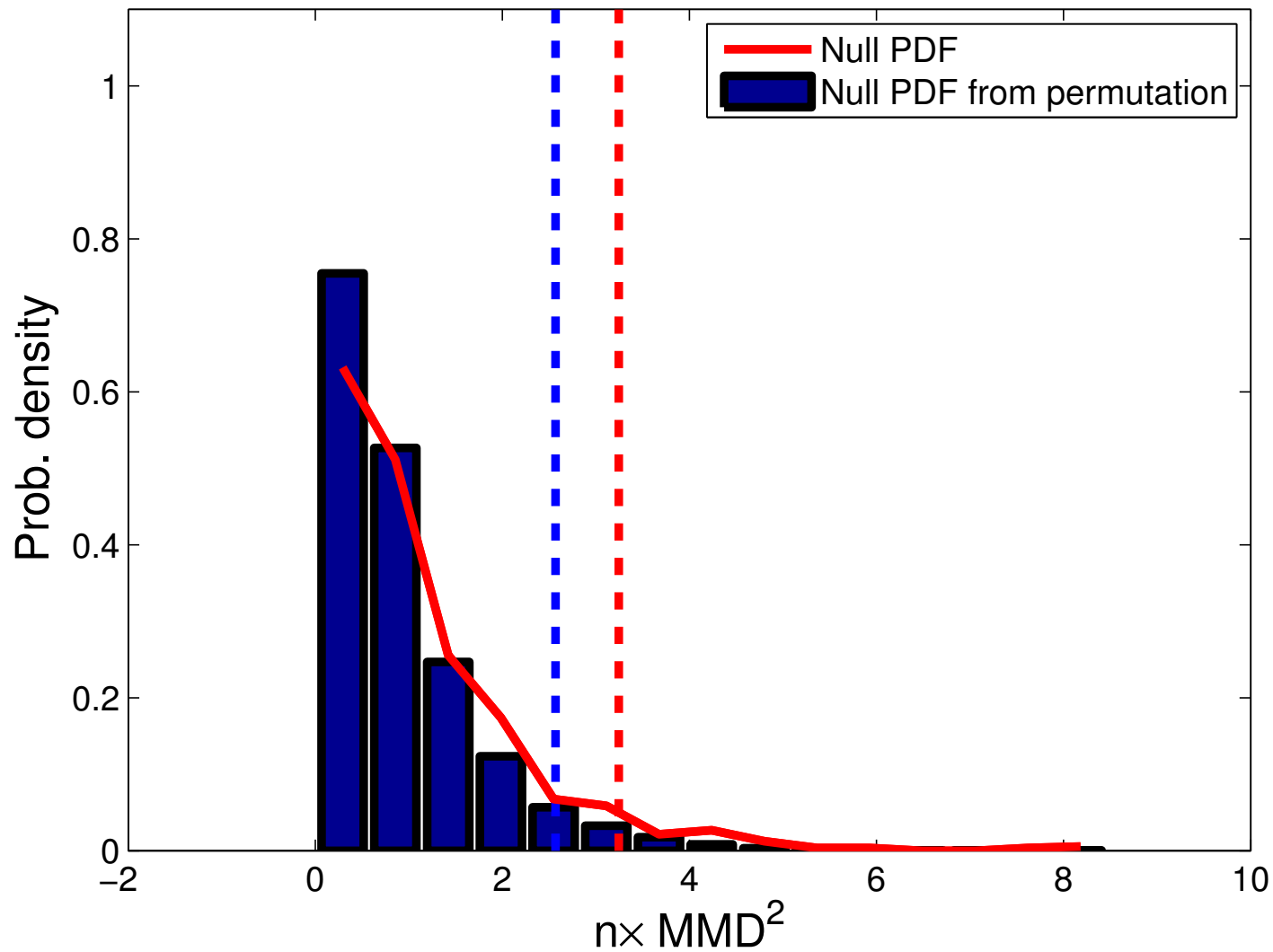




# Memory $\beta = 0.2$ , permutation for null

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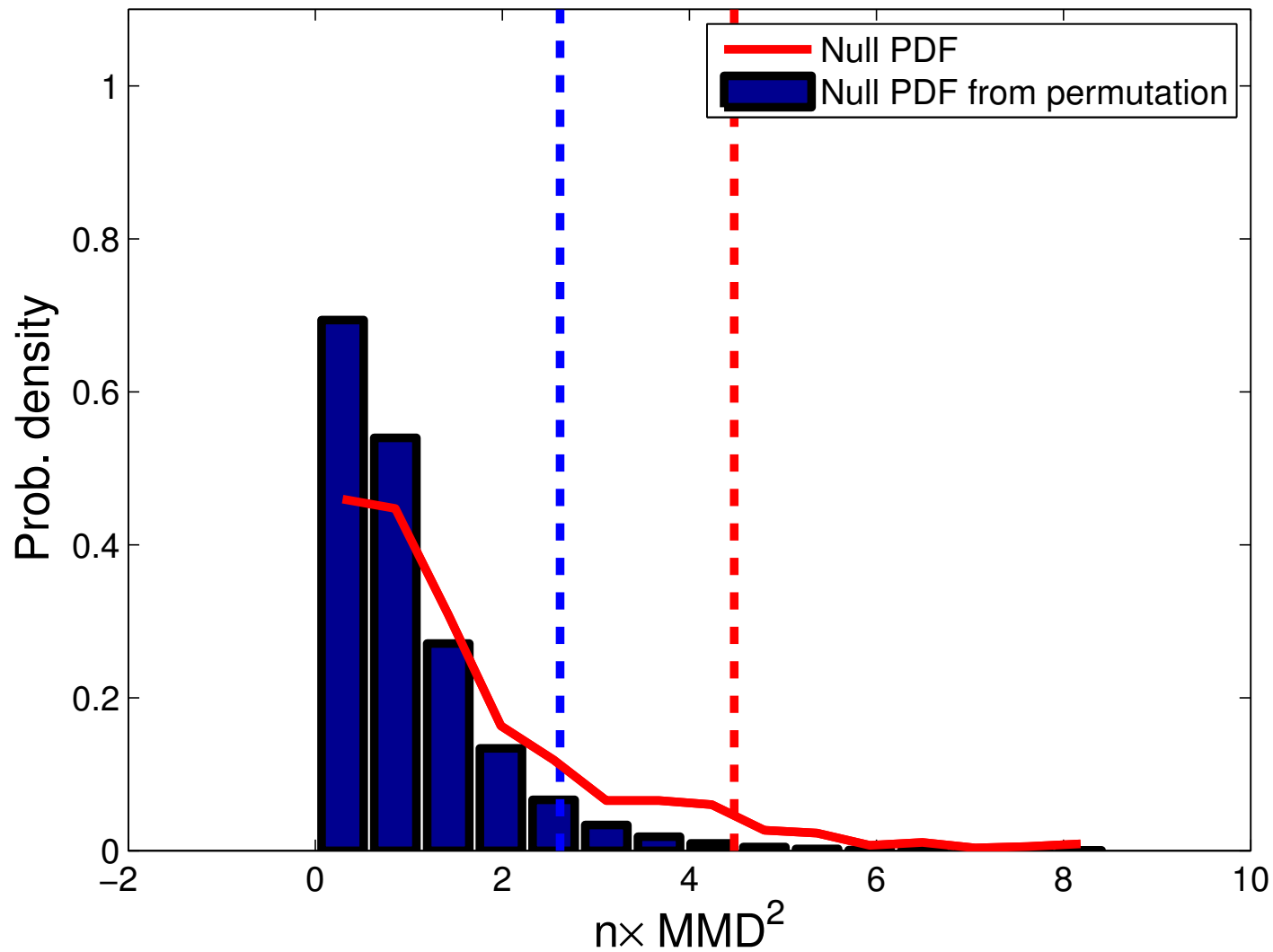
Null distribution and permutation,  $\beta=0.2$



# Memory $\beta = 0.4$ , permutation for null

---

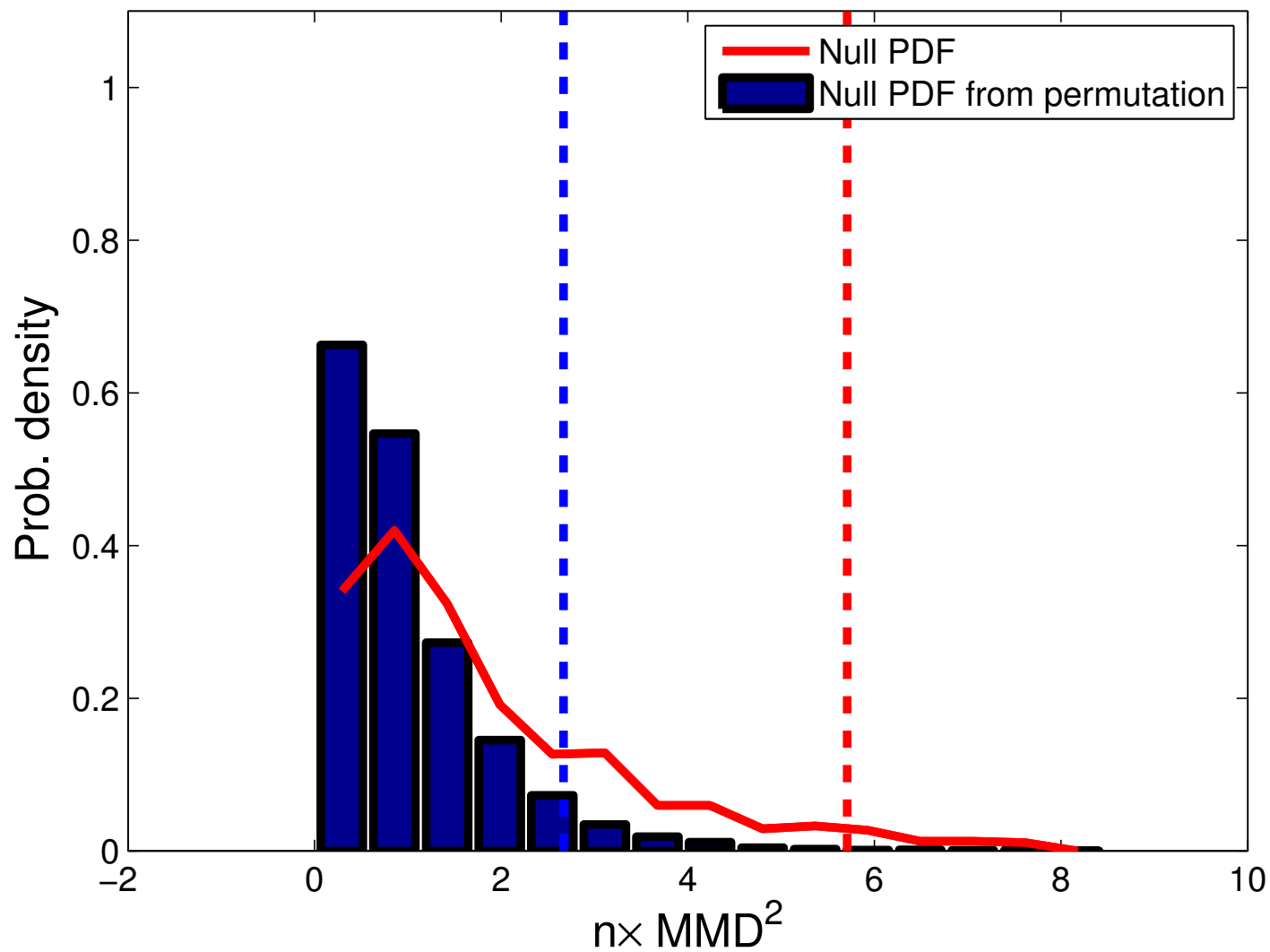
Null distribution and permutation,  $\beta=0.4$



# Memory $\beta = 0.5$ , permutation for null

---

Null distribution and permutation,  $\beta=0.5$



# Wild bootstrap estimate of the asymptotic distribution

---

Define a new time series  $W_t^*$  with the property

$$\text{cov}(W_s^*, W_t^*) = \rho(|s - t| / \ell_n),$$

where  $\ell_n$  is a width parameter growing with  $n$ , and  $\rho$  is a window, e.g.

$$\text{cov}(W_s^*, W_t^*) = \exp(-|s - t| / \ell_n).$$

$X_t$  and  $Y_t$   $\tau$ -dependent with  $\sum_{r=1}^{\infty} r^2 \sqrt{\tau(r)} < \infty$ .

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$X_t$  and  $Y_t$   $\tau$ -dependent with  $\sum_{r=1}^{\infty} r^2 \sqrt{\tau(r)} < \infty$ .

**Wild bootstrap estimate of the null:**

$$V_n^* := \frac{1}{n} \sum_{s,t=1}^n h((X_s, Y_s), (X_t, Y_t)) W_s^* W_t^*$$

As measured via Prokhorov metric  $d_p$ ,

$$d_p \left( \mathcal{D}_{MMD}, \frac{1}{n} \sum_{s,t=1}^n \mathcal{K}((X_s, Y_s), (X_t, Y_t)) W_s^* W_t^* \right) \xrightarrow{p} 0 \quad \text{as } n \rightarrow \infty.$$

# How the proof works (1)

---

Again define a finite approximation,

$$\begin{aligned} V_n^{(m)*} &= \frac{1}{n} \sum_{s,t=1}^n \mathcal{K}^{(m)}(Z_s, Z_t) W_s^* W_t^* \\ &= \sum_{k=1}^m \lambda_k \left( n^{-1/2} \sum_{t=1}^n \psi_k(Z_t) W_t^* \right)^2 \end{aligned}$$

which can be shown to converge as  $m \rightarrow \infty$ . Define

$$U_t^* := \begin{bmatrix} \psi_1(Z_t) & \dots & \psi_m(Z_t) \end{bmatrix} W_t^*$$

We need that in probability (as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ ),

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \sum_{t=1}^n U_t^* \xrightarrow{d} \mathcal{N}(0, \Sigma_m)$$

## How the proof works (2)

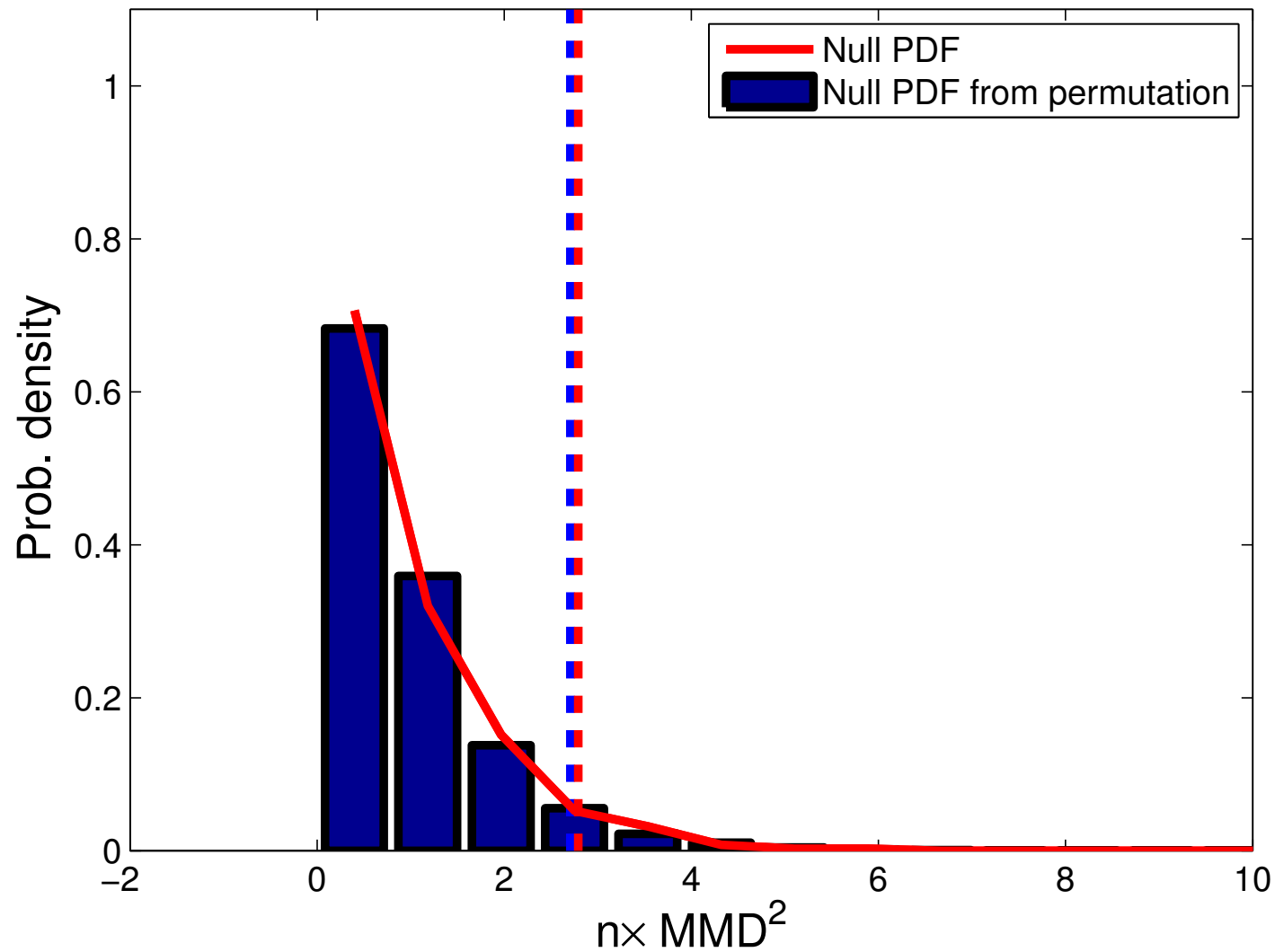
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$$\begin{aligned}
 & \text{cov} \left( n^{-1/2} \sum_{s=1}^n \psi_j(Z_s) W_s^*, n^{-1/2} \sum_{t=1}^n \psi_k(Z_t) W_t^* \right) \\
 &= \frac{1}{n} \sum_{s,t=1}^n \psi_j(Z_s) \psi_k(Z_t) \rho(|s-t|/\ell_n) \\
 &= \underbrace{\frac{1}{n} \sum_{s,t=1}^n (\psi_j(Z_s) \psi_k(Z_t) - E[\psi_j(Z_s) \psi_k(Z_t)]) \rho(|s-t|/\ell_n)}_{\text{converges to 0}} \\
 &+ \underbrace{\sum_{r=-\infty}^{\infty} E(\psi_j(Z_0) \psi_k(Z_r)) \rho(|r|/\ell_n) \max\{1 - |r|/n, 0\}}_{\text{converges to } (\Sigma_m)_{j,k}}
 \end{aligned}$$

# Memory $\beta = 0.0$ , wild bootstrap for null

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Null distribution and permutation,  $\beta=0$

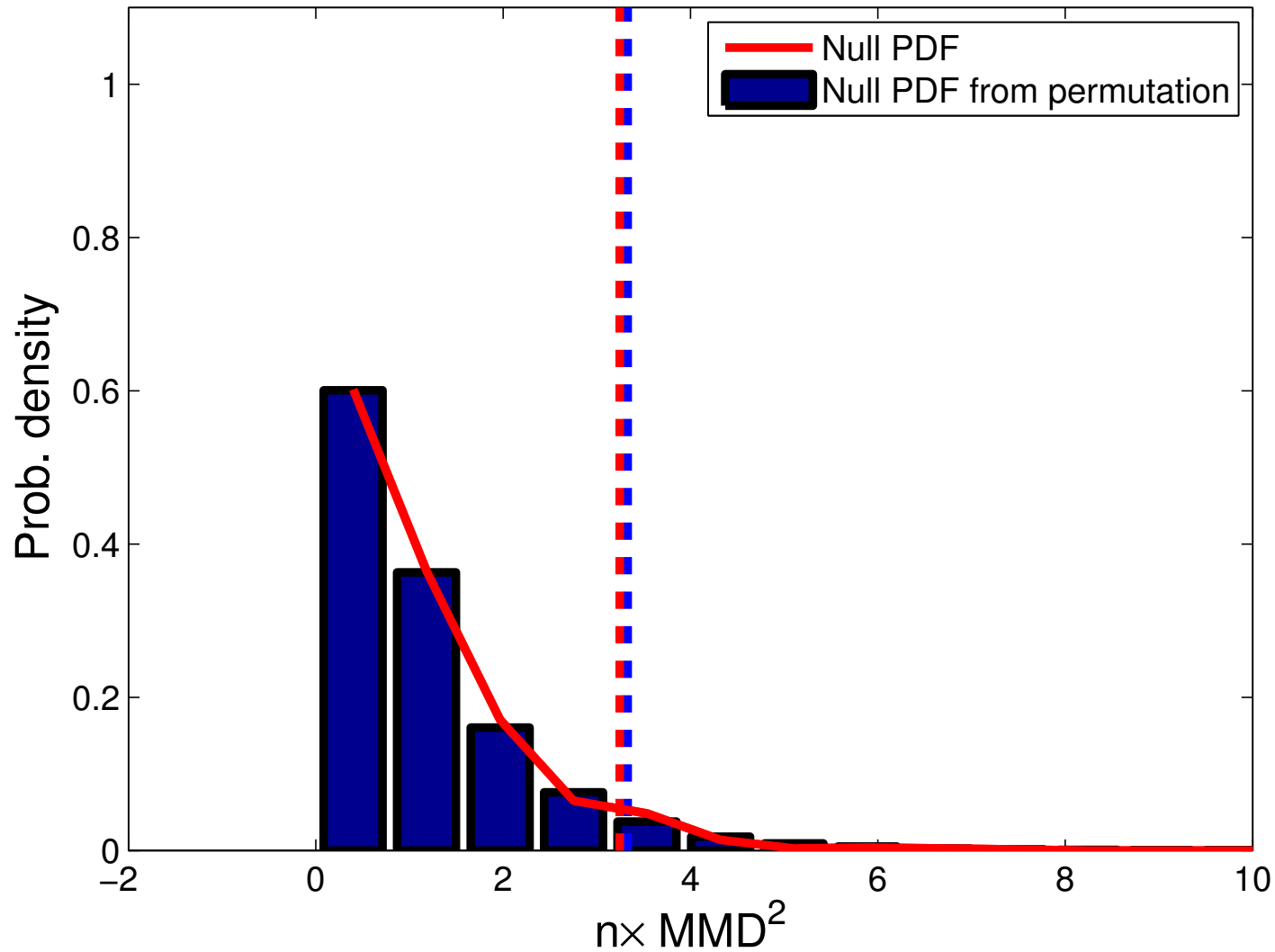




# Memory $\beta = 0.2$ , wild bootstrap for null

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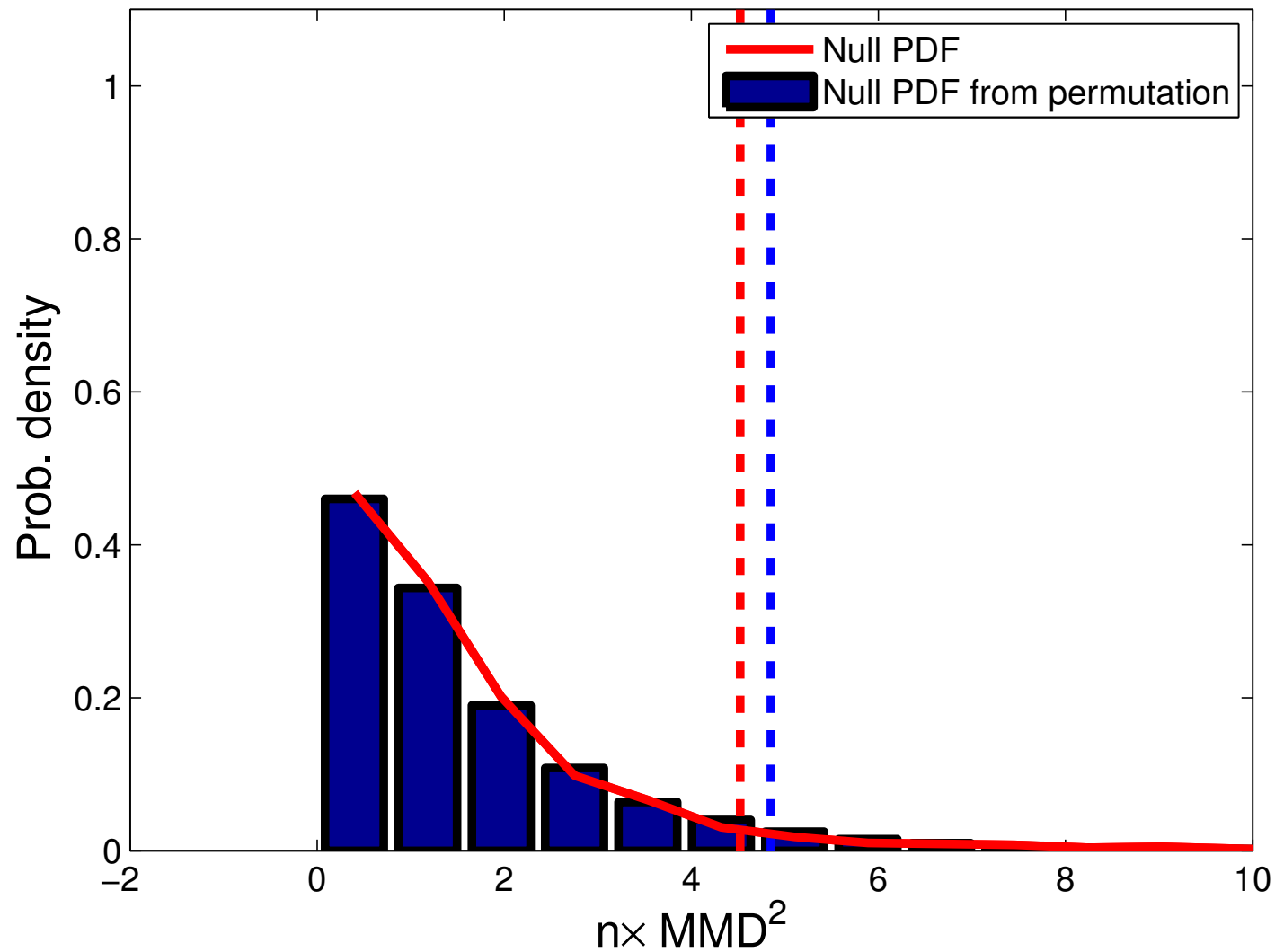
Null distribution and permutation,  $\beta=0.2$



# Memory $\beta = 0.4$ , wild bootstrap for null

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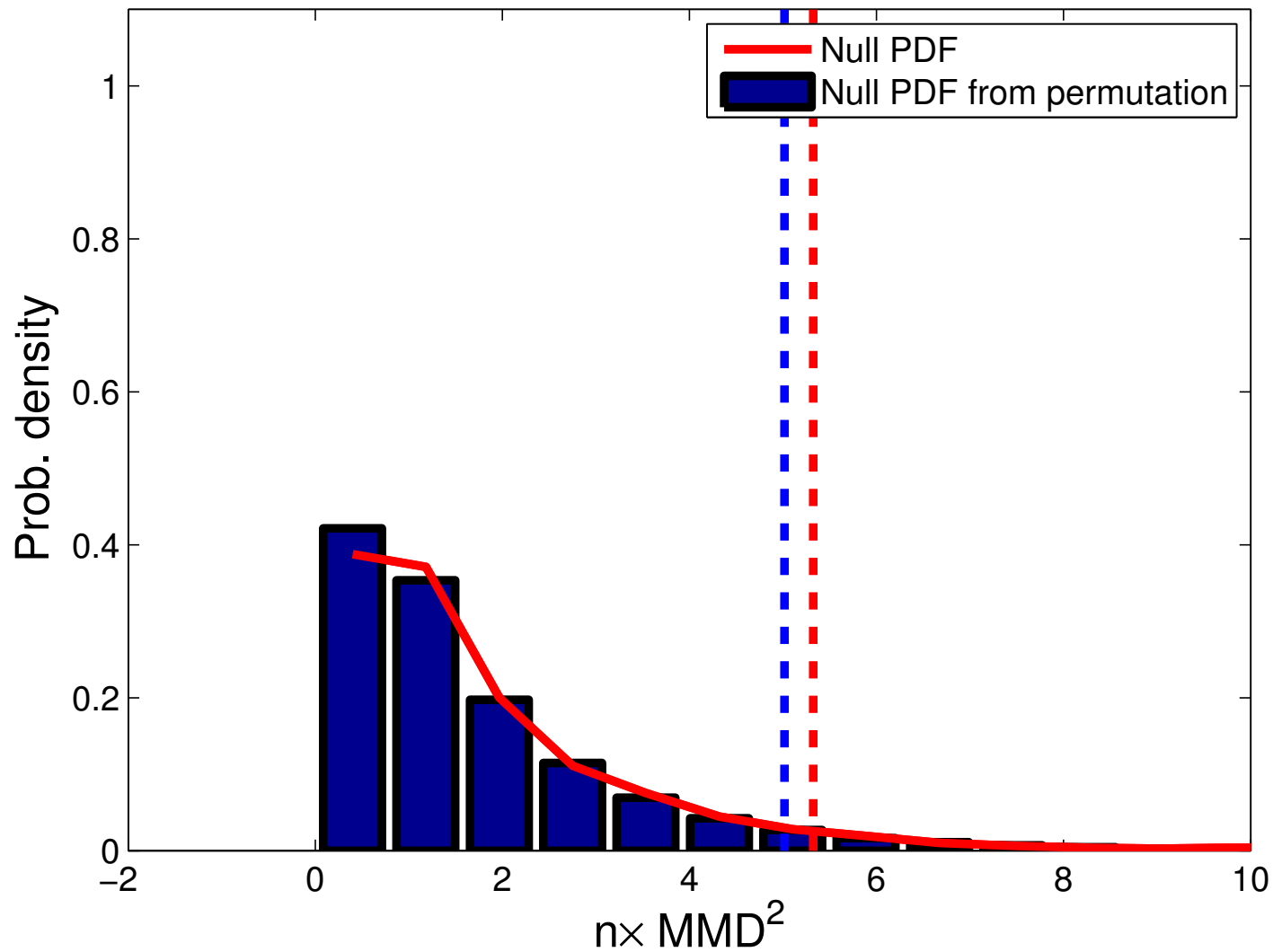
Null distribution and permutation,  $\beta=0.4$



# Memory $\beta = 0.5$ , wild bootstrap for null

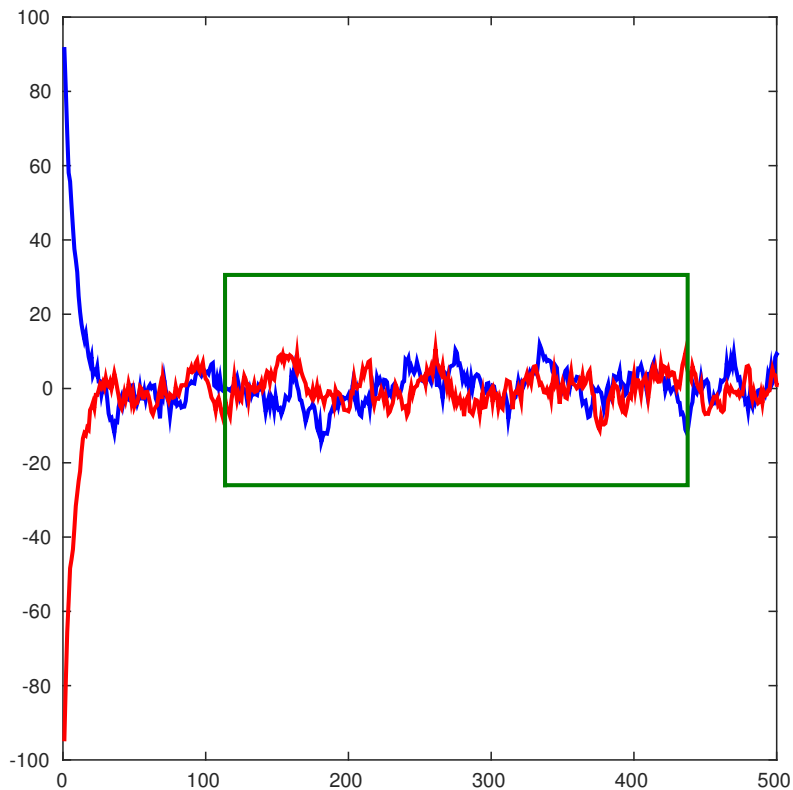
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Null distribution and permutation,  $\beta=0.5$



# MCMC M.D. Experiment

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Does  $P$  have the same marginal distribution as  $Q$ ?

Test - MMD	Type one error
Permutation	68 %
Wild Bootstrap	6 %

# Testing Independence and the Hilbert-Schmidt Independence Criterion

# MMD for independence

---

- Dependence measure: the **Hilbert Schmidt Independence Criterion** [ALT05, NIPS07a, ALT07, ALT08, JMLR10]

Related to [Feuerverger, 1993] and [Székely and Rizzo, 2009, Székely et al., 2007]

$$HSIC^2(\mathbf{P}_{XY}, \mathbf{P}_X \mathbf{P}_Y) := \|\mu_{\mathbf{P}_{XY}} - \mu_{\mathbf{P}_X \mathbf{P}_Y}\|^2$$

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$$HSIC^2(\mathbf{P}_{XY}, \mathbf{P}_X \mathbf{P}_Y) := \|\mu_{\mathbf{P}_{XY}} - \mu_{\mathbf{P}_X \mathbf{P}_Y}\|^2$$

$$\begin{aligned} k\left(\begin{array}{|c|} \hline \text{1} \\ \hline \end{array}, \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \text{2} \\ \hline \end{array}\right) \quad l\left(\begin{array}{|c|} \hline \text{1} \\ \hline \end{array}, \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \text{2} \\ \hline \end{array}\right) \\ \downarrow \\ \mathcal{K}\left(\begin{array}{|c|} \hline \text{1} \\ \hline \end{array}, \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \text{1} \\ \hline \end{array}, \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \text{2} \\ \hline \end{array}, \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \text{2} \\ \hline \end{array}\right) = \\ k\left(\begin{array}{|c|} \hline \text{1} \\ \hline \end{array}, \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \text{2} \\ \hline \end{array}\right) \times l\left(\begin{array}{|c|} \hline \text{1} \\ \hline \end{array}, \begin{array}{|c|} \hline \text{2} \\ \hline \end{array}\right) \end{aligned}$$

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Related to [Feuerverger, 1993] and [Székely and Rizzo, 2009, Székely et al., 2007]

$$HSIC^2(\mathbf{P}_{XY}, \mathbf{P}_X \mathbf{P}_Y) := \|\mu_{\mathbf{P}_{XY}} - \mu_{\mathbf{P}_X \mathbf{P}_Y}\|^2$$

HSIC using expectations of kernels:

Define RKHS  $\mathcal{F}$  on  $\mathcal{X}$  with kernel  $k$ , RKHS  $\mathcal{G}$  on  $\mathcal{Y}$  with kernel  $l$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} HSIC^2(\mathbf{P}_{XY}, \mathbf{P}_X \mathbf{P}_Y) &= \|\mathbf{E}_{XY} [(\varphi_X - \mu_{\mathbf{P}_X}) \otimes (\psi_Y - \mu_{\mathbf{P}_Y})]\|_{\mathcal{F} \times \mathcal{G}}^2 \\ &= \mathbf{E}_{XY} \mathbf{E}_{X'Y'} k(x, x') l(y, y') + \mathbf{E}_X \mathbf{E}_{X'} k(x, x') \mathbf{E}_Y \mathbf{E}_{Y'} l(y, y') \\ &\quad - 2\mathbf{E}_{X'Y'} [\mathbf{E}_X k(x, x') \mathbf{E}_Y l(y, y')]. \end{aligned}$$



# HSIC: empirical estimate and intuition

---



Their noses guide them through life, and they're never happier than when following an interesting scent. They need plenty of exercise, about an hour a day if possible.



A large animal who slings slobber, exudes a distinctive houndy odor, and wants nothing more than to follow his nose. They need a significant amount of exercise and mental stimulation.



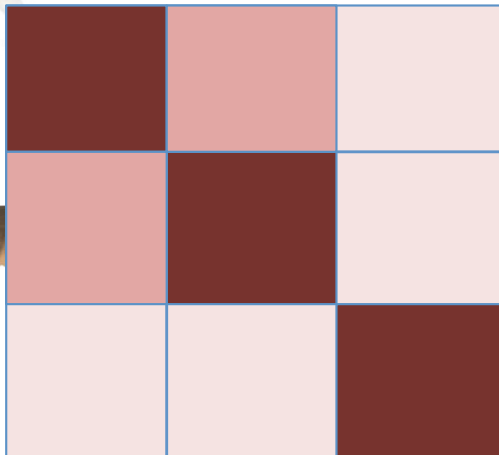
Known for their curiosity, intelligence, and excellent communication skills, the Javanese breed is perfect if you want a responsive, interactive pet, one that will blow in your ear and follow you everywhere.

# HSIC: empirical estimate and intuition

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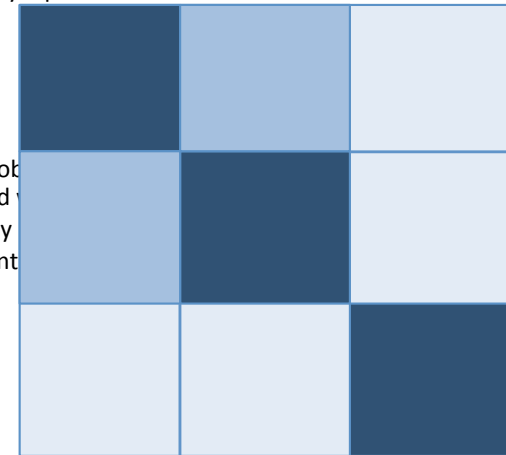


**K**



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**L**



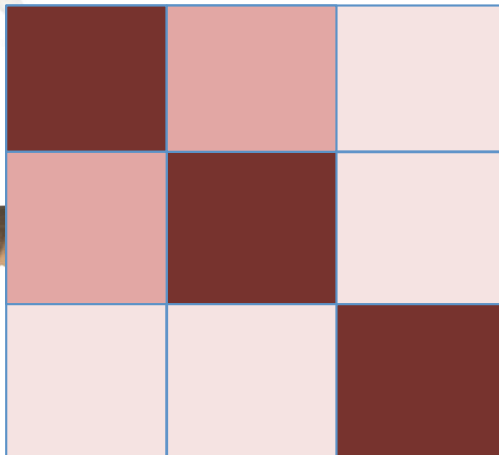
A large animal who slings slobbery, a distinctive houndy odor, and is more than willing to follow his nose. They need a lot of exercise and mental stimulation.

Known for their curiosity, intelligence, and excellent communication skills, the Javanese breed is perfect if you want a responsive, interactive pet, one that will blow in your ear and follow you everywhere.

# HSIC: empirical estimate and intuition

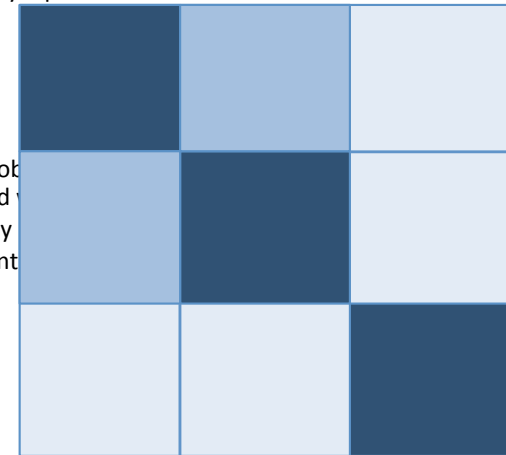


**K**



Their noses guide them through life, and they're never happier than when following an interesting scent. They need plenty of exercise, about an hour a day if possible.

**L**



A large animal who slings slobbery, distinctive houndy odor, and is more than willing to follow his nose. They need a lot of exercise and mental stimulation.

Known for their curiosity, intelligence, and excellent communication skills, the Javanese breed is perfect if you want a responsive, interactive pet, one that will blow in your ear and follow you everywhere.

Text from dogtime.com and petfinder.com

Empirical  $HSIC^2(\mathbf{P}_{XY}, \mathbf{P}_X \mathbf{P}_Y)$ :

$$\frac{1}{n^2} (H \mathbf{K} H \circ H \mathbf{L} H)_{++}$$

# HSIC and independence testing

---

Assume  $Z_t := (X_t, Y_t)$  is  $\beta$  mixing with  $\beta(r) = o(r^{-6})$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned}\widehat{\text{HSIC}}^2 &= \left\| \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n (\varphi_{x_i} - \hat{\mu}_{\mathbf{P}_x}) \otimes (\phi_{y_i} - \hat{\mu}_{\mathbf{P}_y}) \right\|_{\mathcal{F} \times \mathcal{G}}^2 \\ &= \left\| \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n (\varphi_{x_i} - \mu_{\mathbf{P}_x}) \otimes (\phi_{y_i} - \mu_{\mathbf{P}_y}) \right\|_{\mathcal{F} \times \mathcal{G}}^2 + O_P(n^{-1}) \\ &= \frac{1}{n^2} \sum_{i,j=1}^m \underbrace{\tilde{k}(x_i, x_j) \tilde{l}(y_i, y_j)}_{\mathcal{K}((x_i, y_i), (x_j, y_j))} + O_P(n^{-1})\end{aligned}$$

where  $\tilde{k}(x_i, x_j) = \langle \varphi_{x_i} - \mu_{\mathbf{P}_X}, \varphi_{x_j} - \mu_{\mathbf{P}_X} \rangle_{\mathcal{F}}$ .

# HSIC and independence testing

---

Assume  $Z_t := (X_t, Y_t)$  is  $\beta$  mixing with  $\beta(r) = o(r^{-6})$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned}
 \widehat{\text{HSIC}}^2 &= \left\| \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n (\varphi_{x_i} - \hat{\mu}_{\mathbf{P}_x}) \otimes (\phi_{y_i} - \hat{\mu}_{\mathbf{P}_y}) \right\|_{\mathcal{F} \times \mathcal{G}}^2 \\
 &= \left\| \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n (\varphi_{x_i} - \mu_{\mathbf{P}_x}) \otimes (\phi_{y_i} - \mu_{\mathbf{P}_y}) \right\|_{\mathcal{F} \times \mathcal{G}}^2 + O_P(n^{-1}) \\
 &= \frac{1}{n^2} \sum_{i,j=1}^m \underbrace{\tilde{k}(x_i, x_j) \tilde{l}(y_i, y_j)}_{\mathcal{K}((x_i, y_i), (x_j, y_j))} + O_P(n^{-1})
 \end{aligned}$$

where  $\tilde{k}(x_i, x_j) = \langle \varphi_{x_i} - \mu_{\mathbf{P}_X}, \varphi_{x_j} - \mu_{\mathbf{P}_X} \rangle_{\mathcal{F}}$ .

Wild bootstrap estimate of null for  $n\widehat{\text{HSIC}}^2$  is

$$V_n^* := \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i,j=1}^m W_i^* W_j^* \mathcal{K}((x_i, y_i), (x_j, y_j)).$$

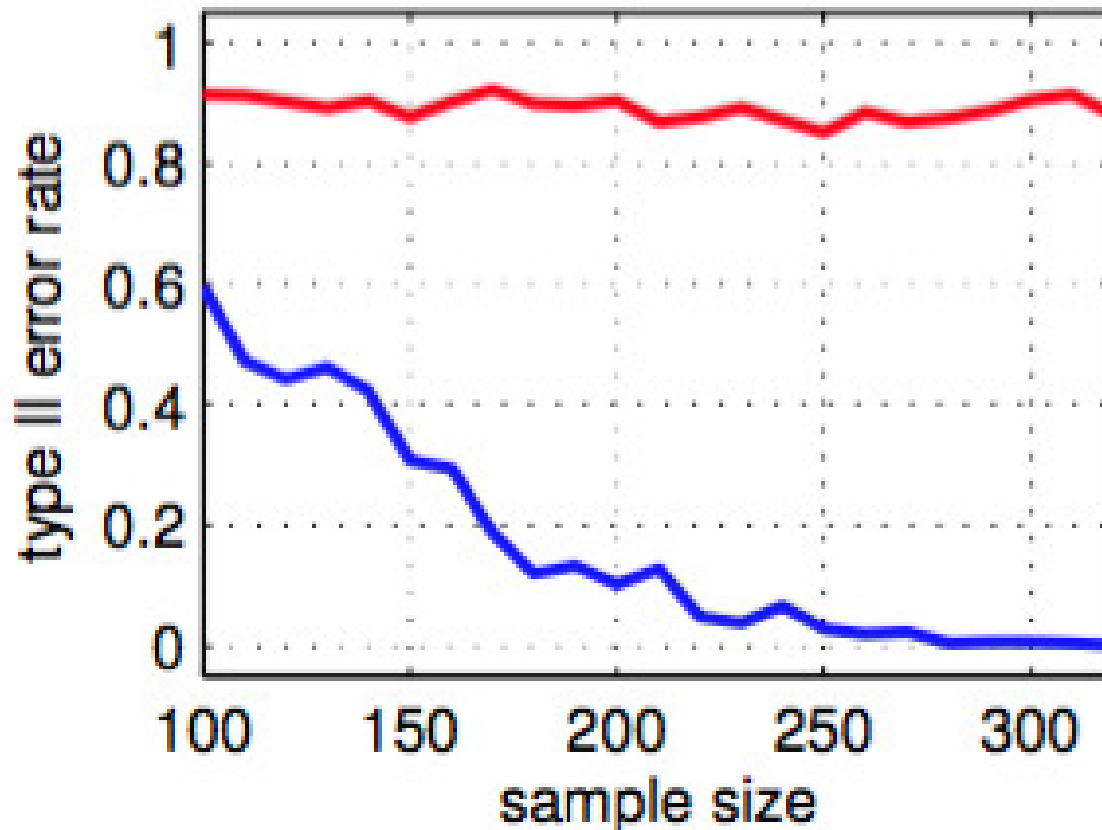
# Time series experiments

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Two time series, common variance (market volatility model) [Bauwens et al., 2006]

$$X_t = \epsilon_{1,t}\sigma_t^2, \quad Y_t = \epsilon_{2,t}\sigma_t^2, \quad \sigma_t^2 = 1 + 0.45(X_{t-1}^2 + Y_{t-1}^2)$$

$$\epsilon_{i,t} \stackrel{i.i.d.}{\sim} \mathcal{N}(0, 1), \quad i \in \{1, 2\}.$$



# Outline

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Testing for differences in [marginal distributions](#) of random processes ([MMD](#)):

- Markov chain convergence diagnostics
- Change point detection

Testing for [independence](#) between random processes ([HSIC](#))

- Dependency structure in financial markets
- Brain region activation

# Co-authors

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- **External:**
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