

# COPING WITH THE STOCHASTIC BIOMETRICS

*Tomáš Rosa*  
*Raiffeisenbank, a.s.*

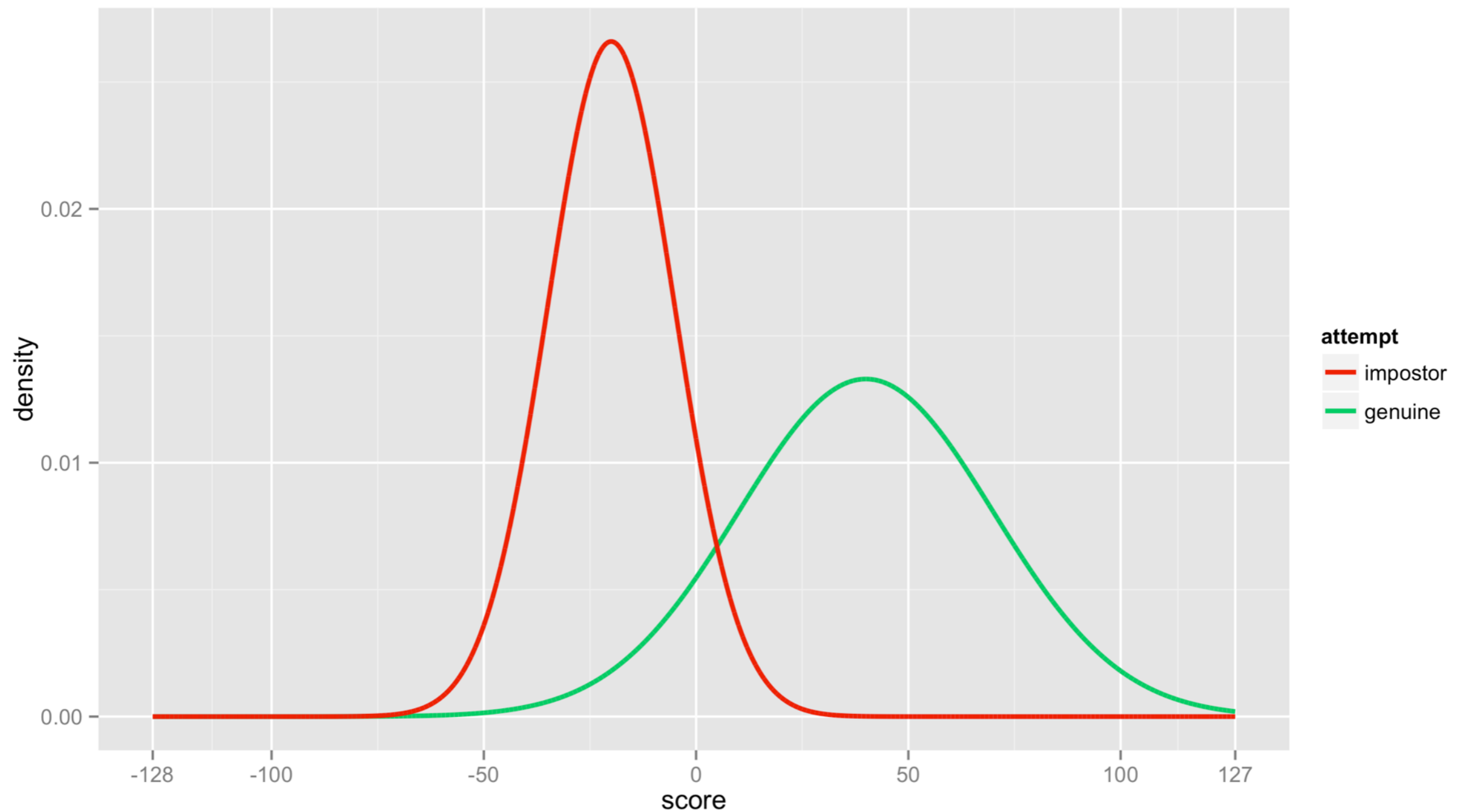
# SIGNALS PRIMER

- Let a signal be any measurable space-time varying quantity conveying information about a physical phenomena.
- Signal detection is then an ability to discern between information-bearing patterns (signals) and random patterns (noise) that distract from the information.

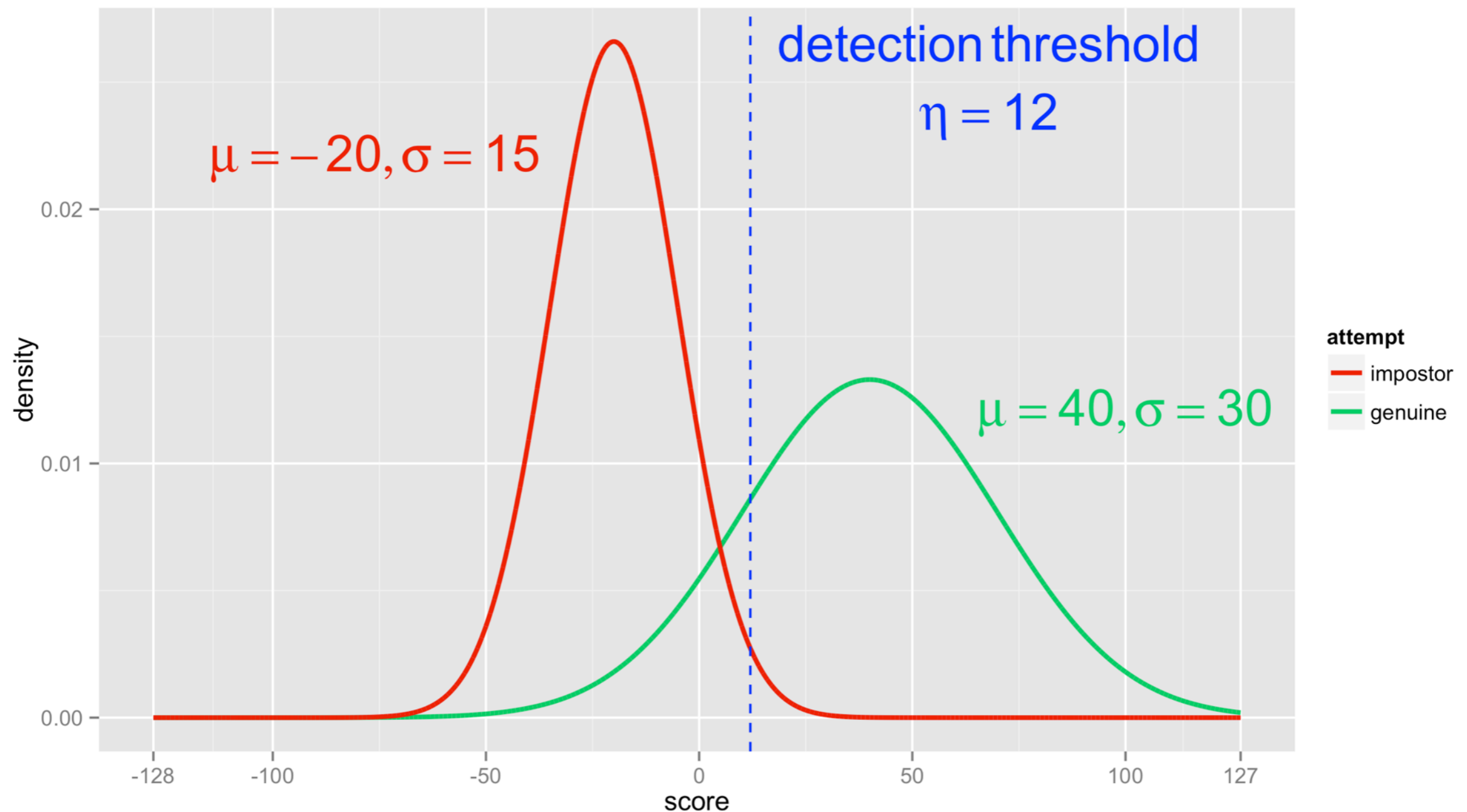
# MATCH SCORE

- It would be nice if we had a simple true-false result.
  - As in conventional crypto.
  - But we cannot...
- All we have is a value of random variable  $X$  that follows two conditional distributions.
  - $f(x \mid \text{impostor})$
  - $f(x \mid \text{genuine})$

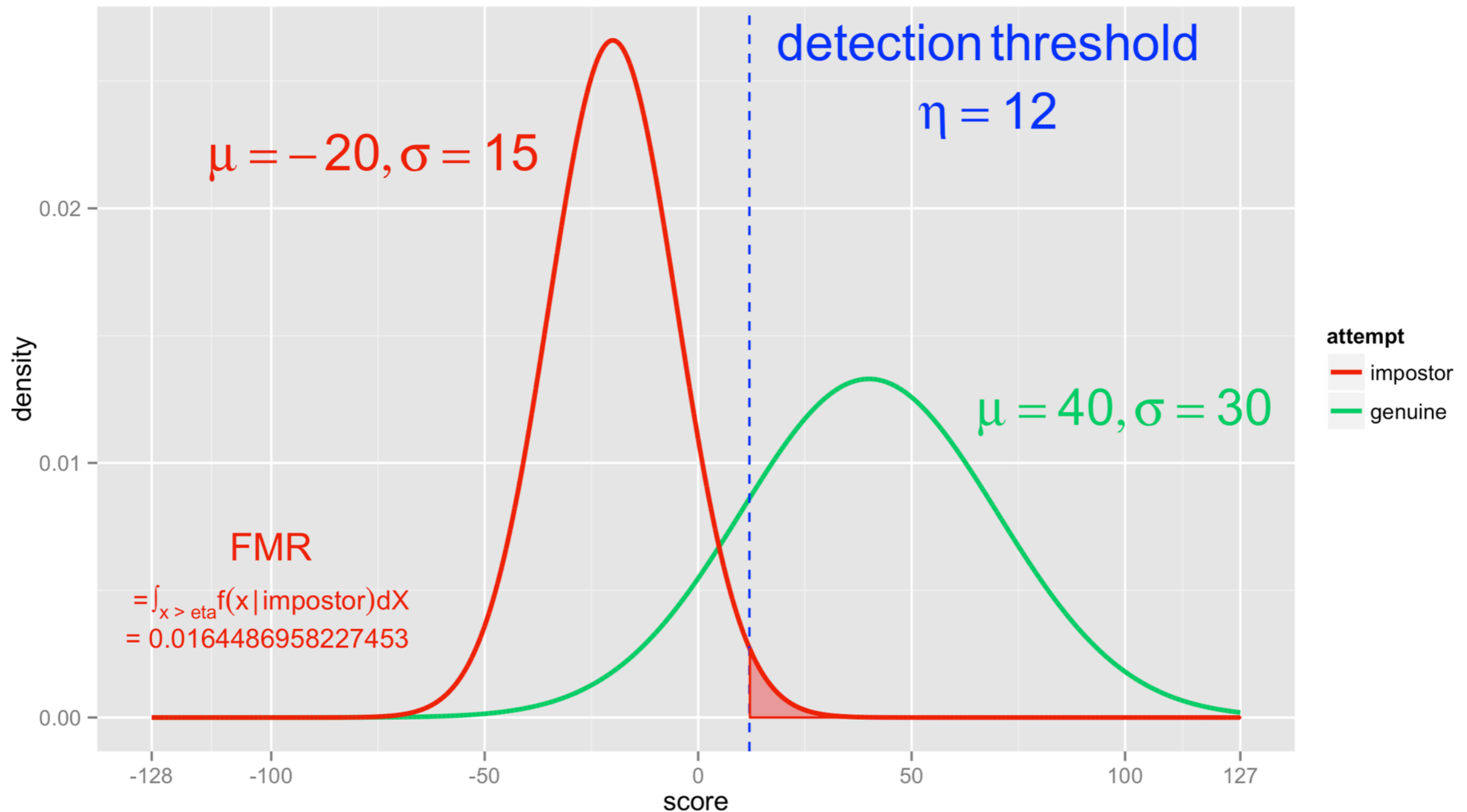
# BASE "CAMEL" GRAPH



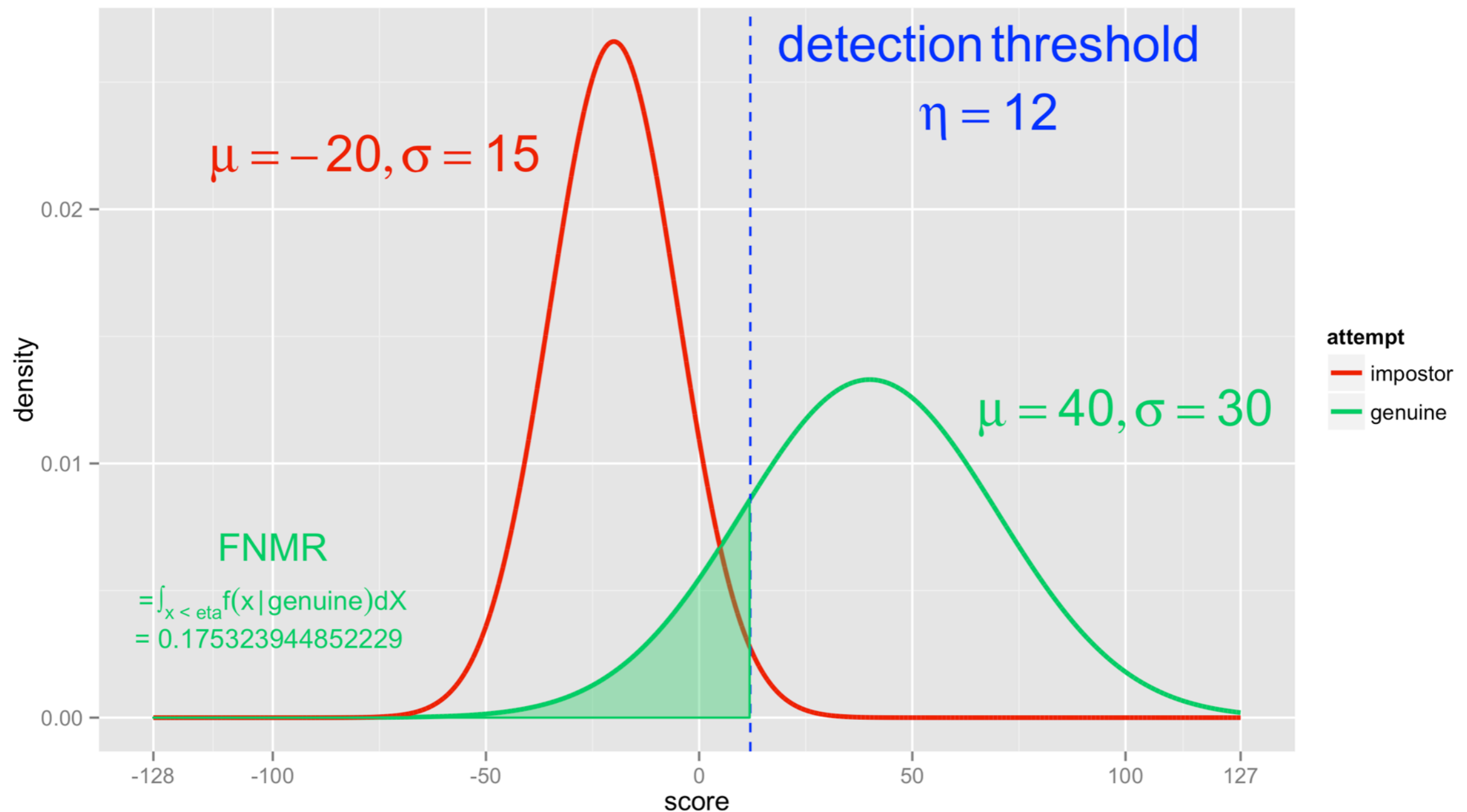
# SIGNAL DETECTION APPROACH



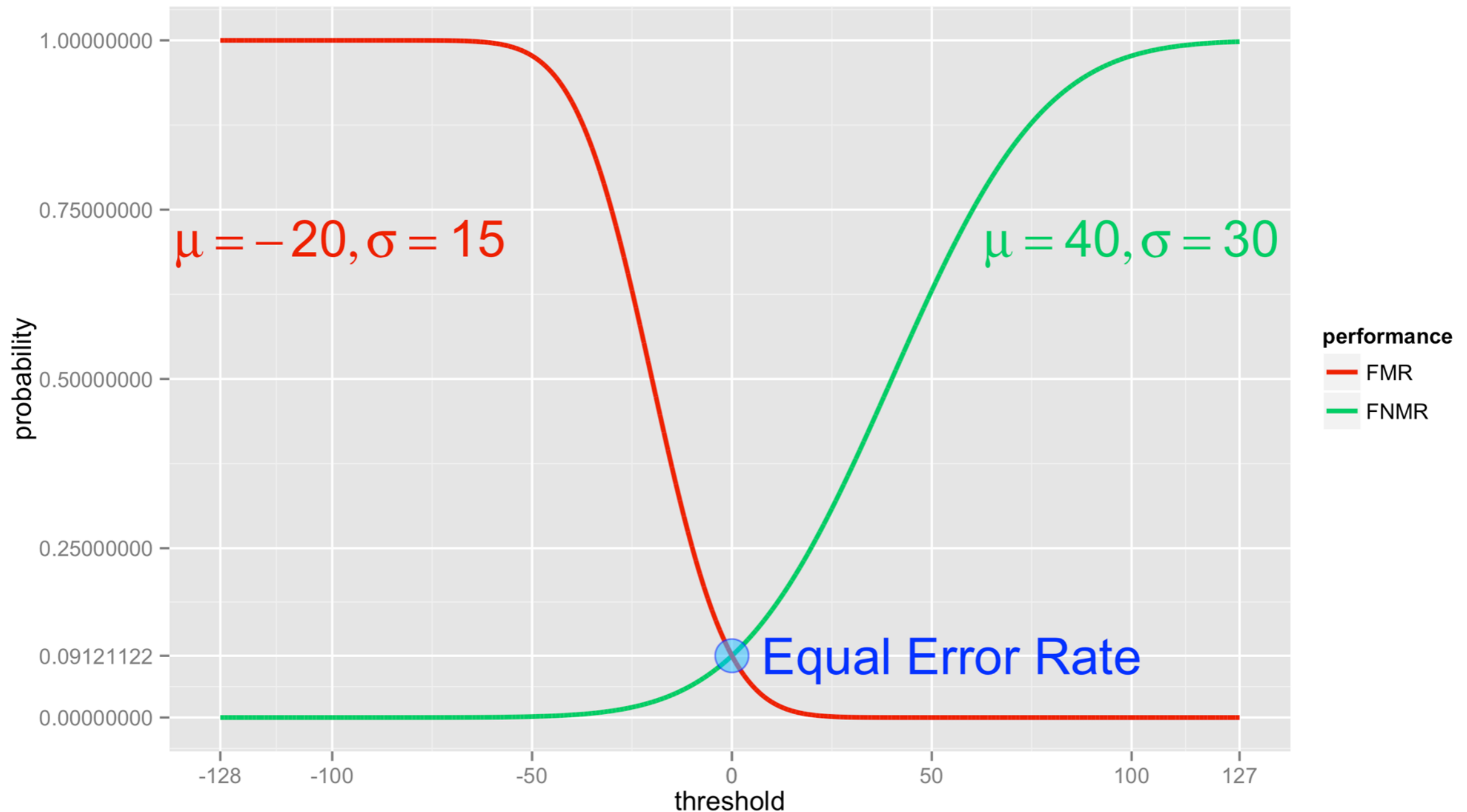
# FALSE MATCH RATE



# FALSE NON-MATCH RATE

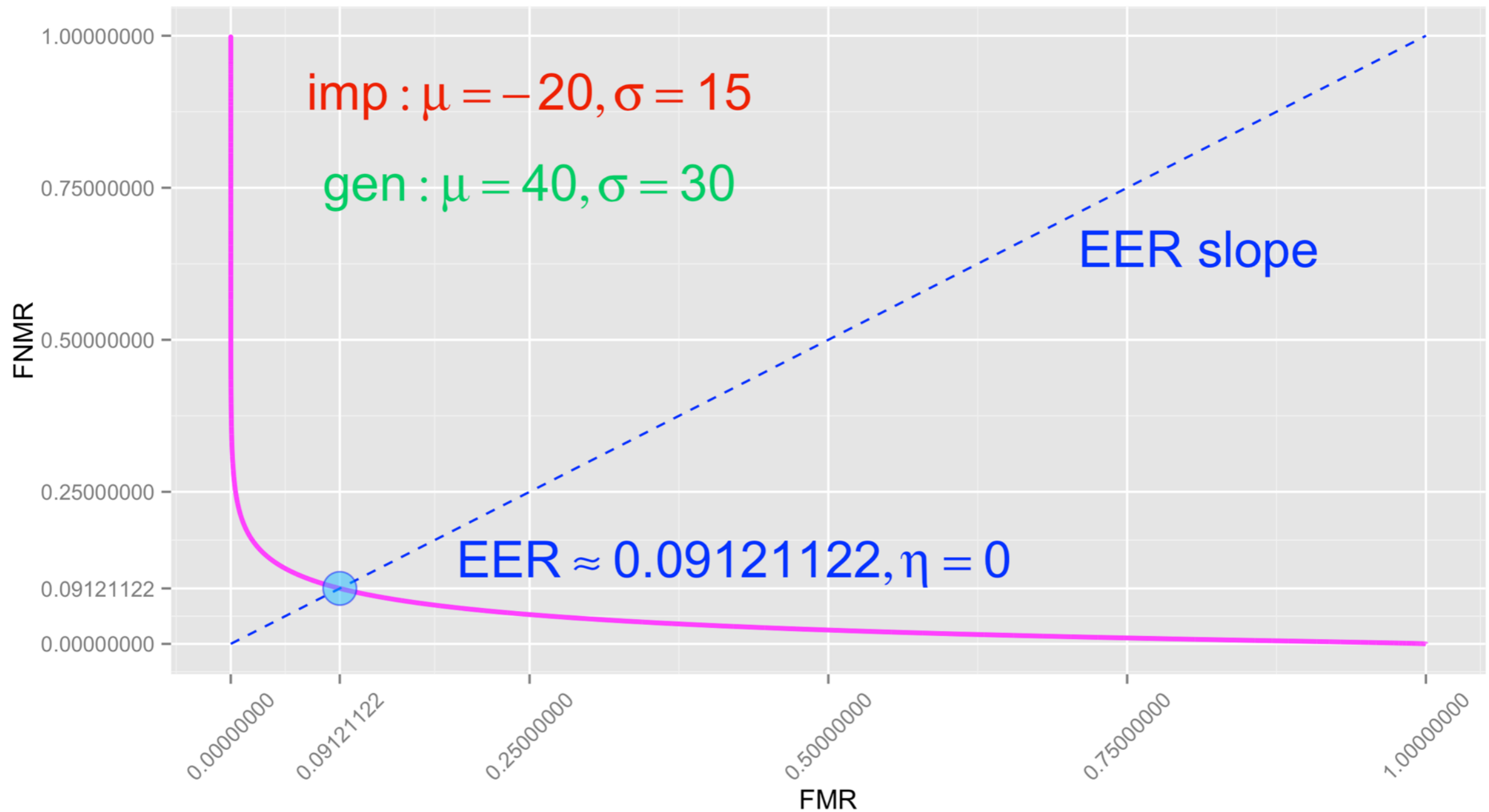


# ERROR DISTRIBUTION FUNCTIONS

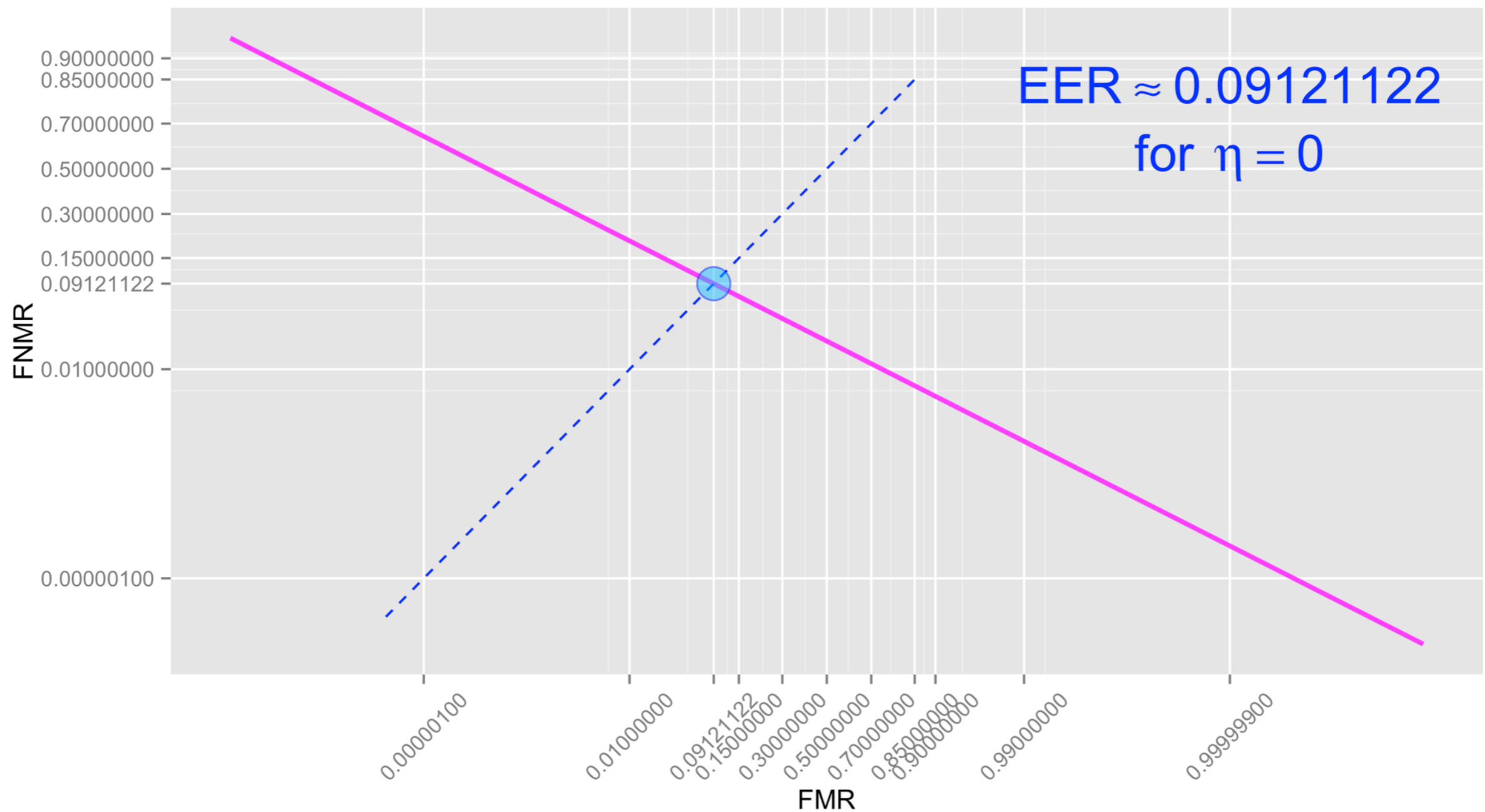




# RECEIVER OPERATING CHARACTERISTICS



# DETECTION ERROR TRADE-OFF



# ISO/IEC 19795

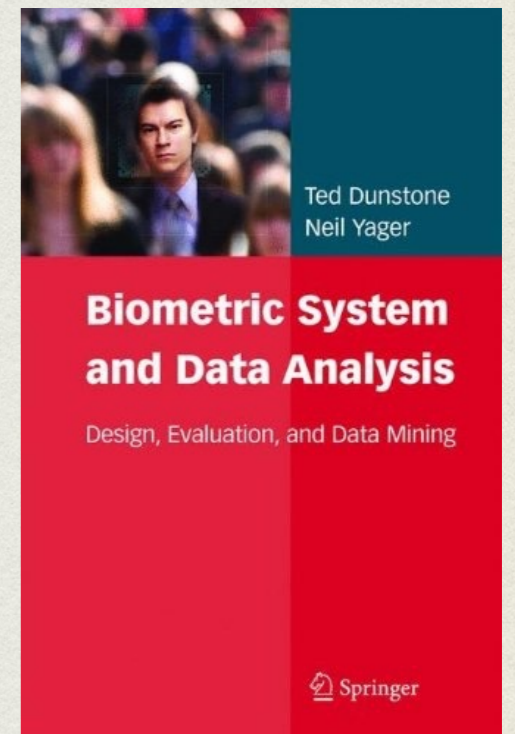
- Performance test methodologies for different life-cycle phases:
  - technology evaluation
  - scenario evaluation
  - operational evaluation
- We get comparable results with plausible confidence intervals.

# BUNCH OF PARAMETERS

- False Match Rate / False Non-Match Rate
  - attempt oriented
- False Acceptance Rate / False Rejection Rate
  - transactional version of FMR/FNMR
- Failure To Acquire
- Failure To Enroll
  - both attempt and txn-oriented versions

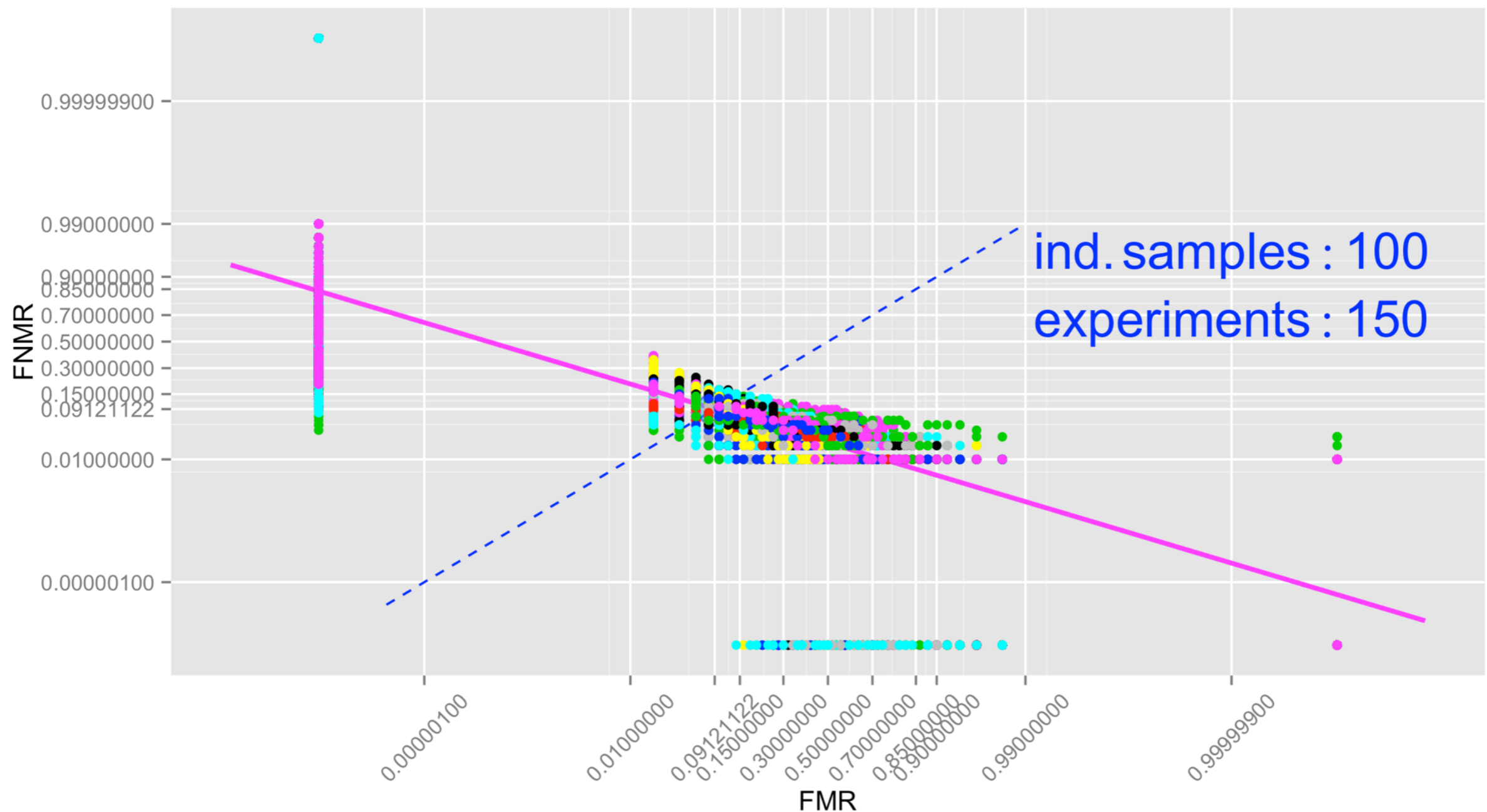
# BIOMETRIC DATA MINING

- In any life-cycle phase, we shall gather as much data as we can to estimate the performance or check we are still operating in expected margins.
- Anomalies may indicate a component malfunction or even a fraud.
- Again, be careful about confidence.
- Misleading statistics can be worse than none!

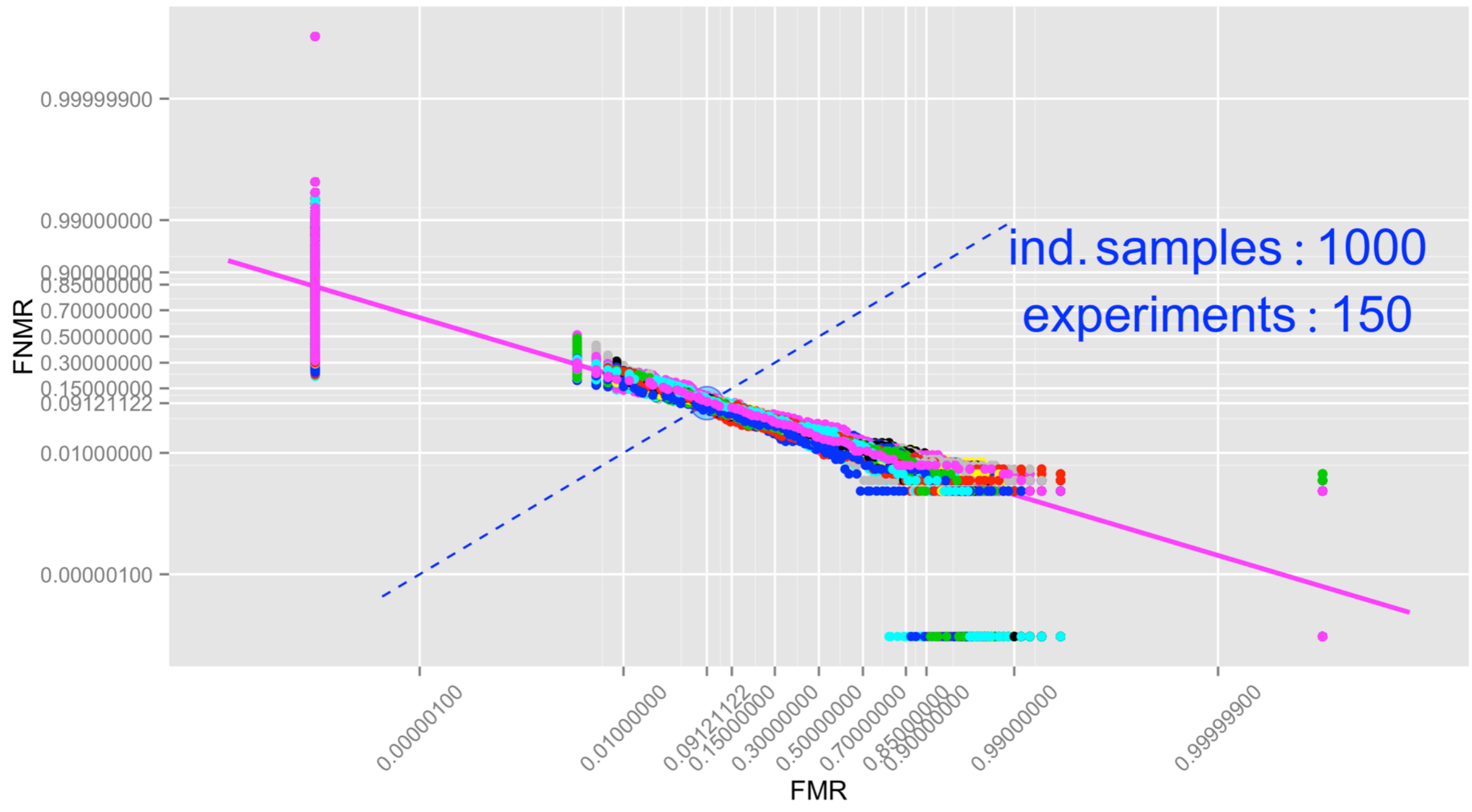




# CONFIDENCE INTERVALS?!

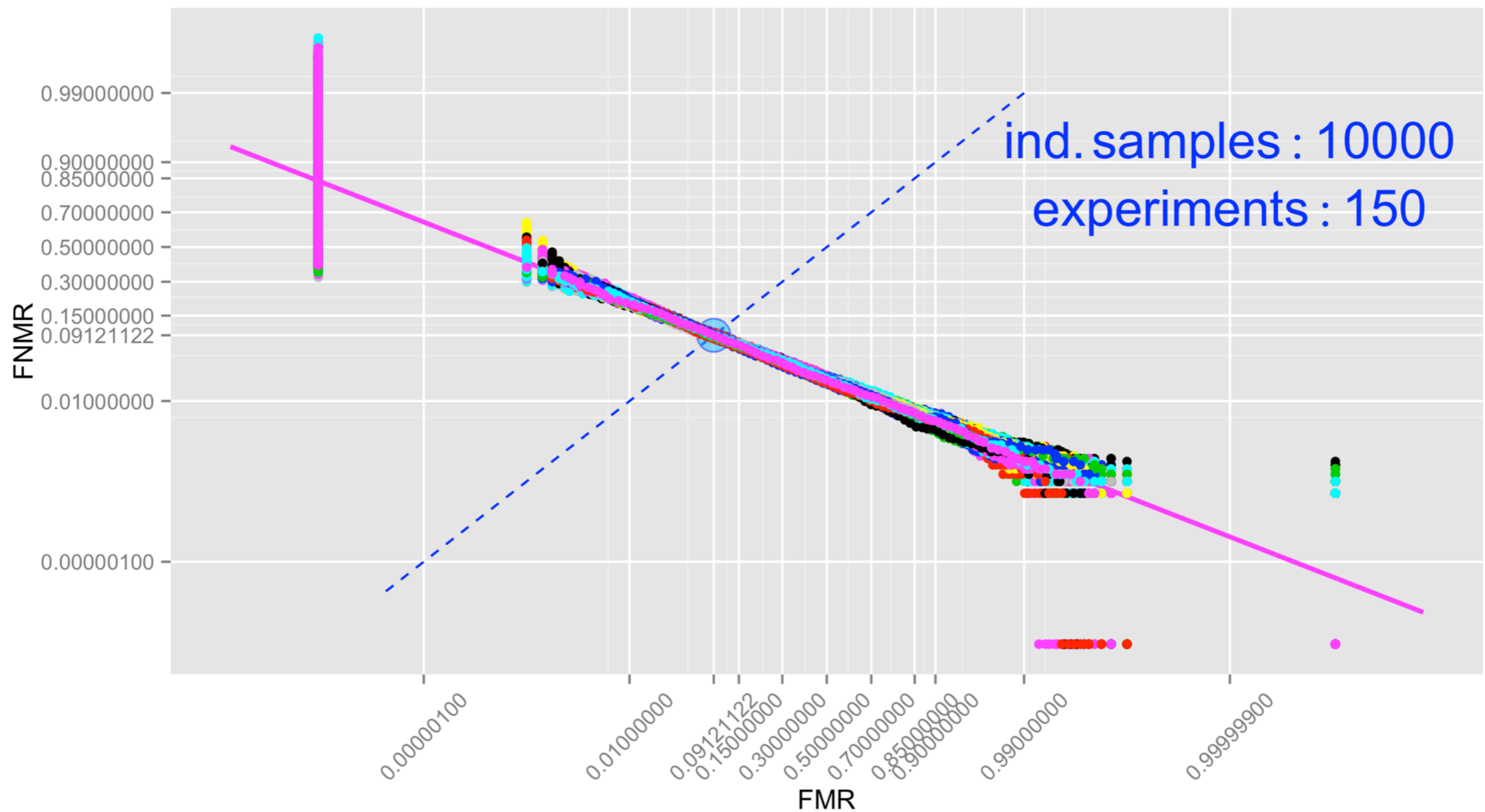


# ANY CONFIDENCE, YET?



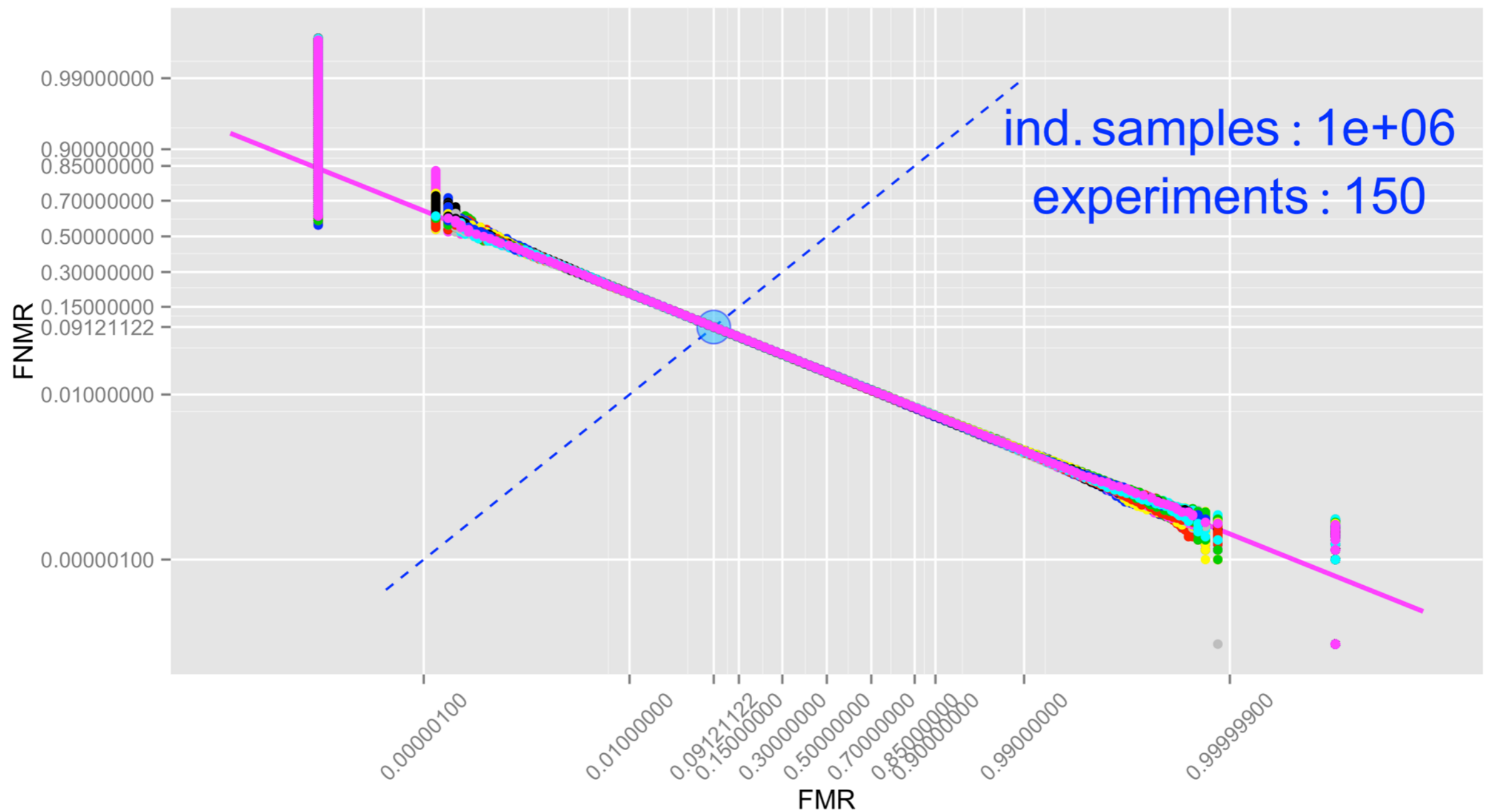


# FAIR CONFIDENCE





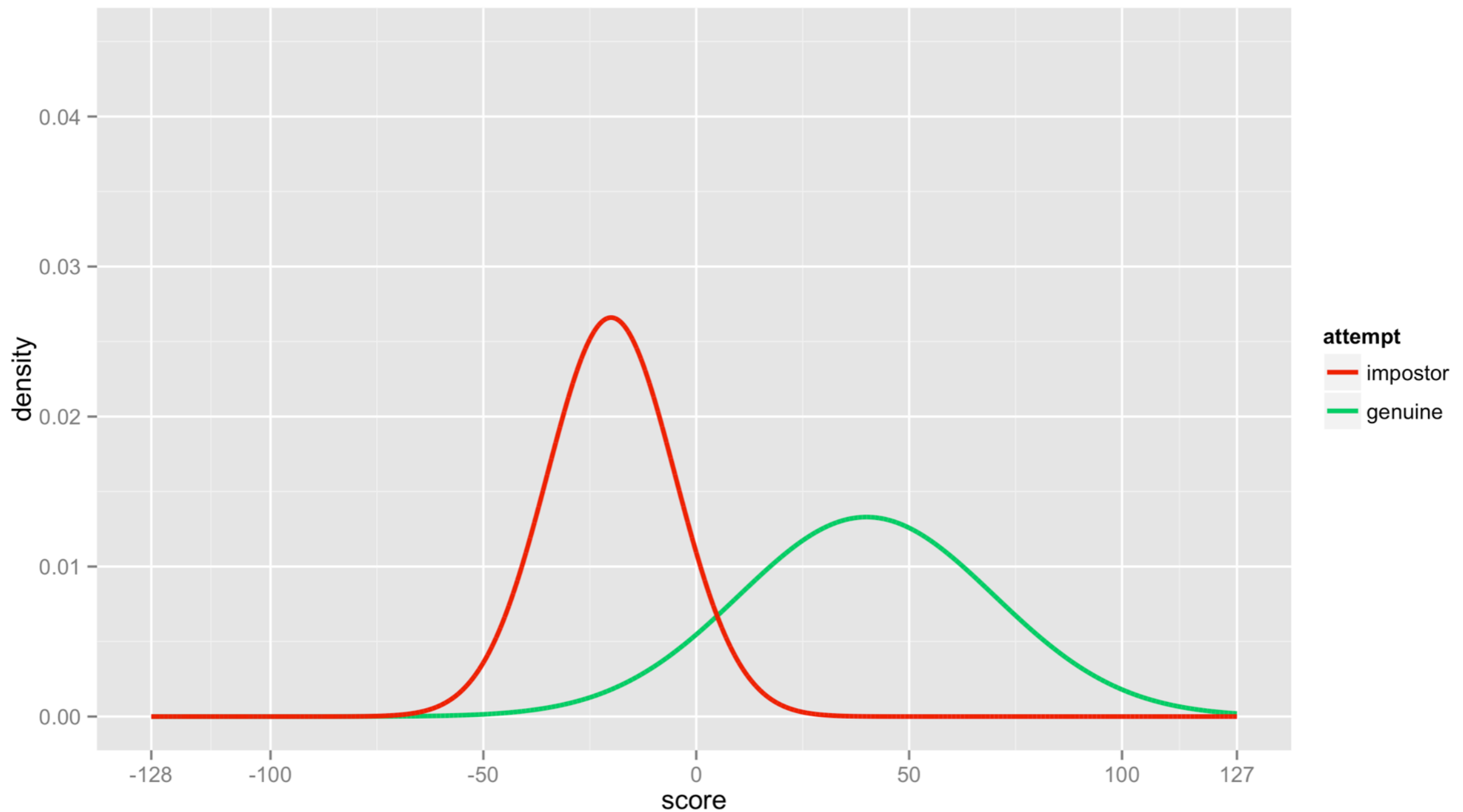
# JUST A DREAM...



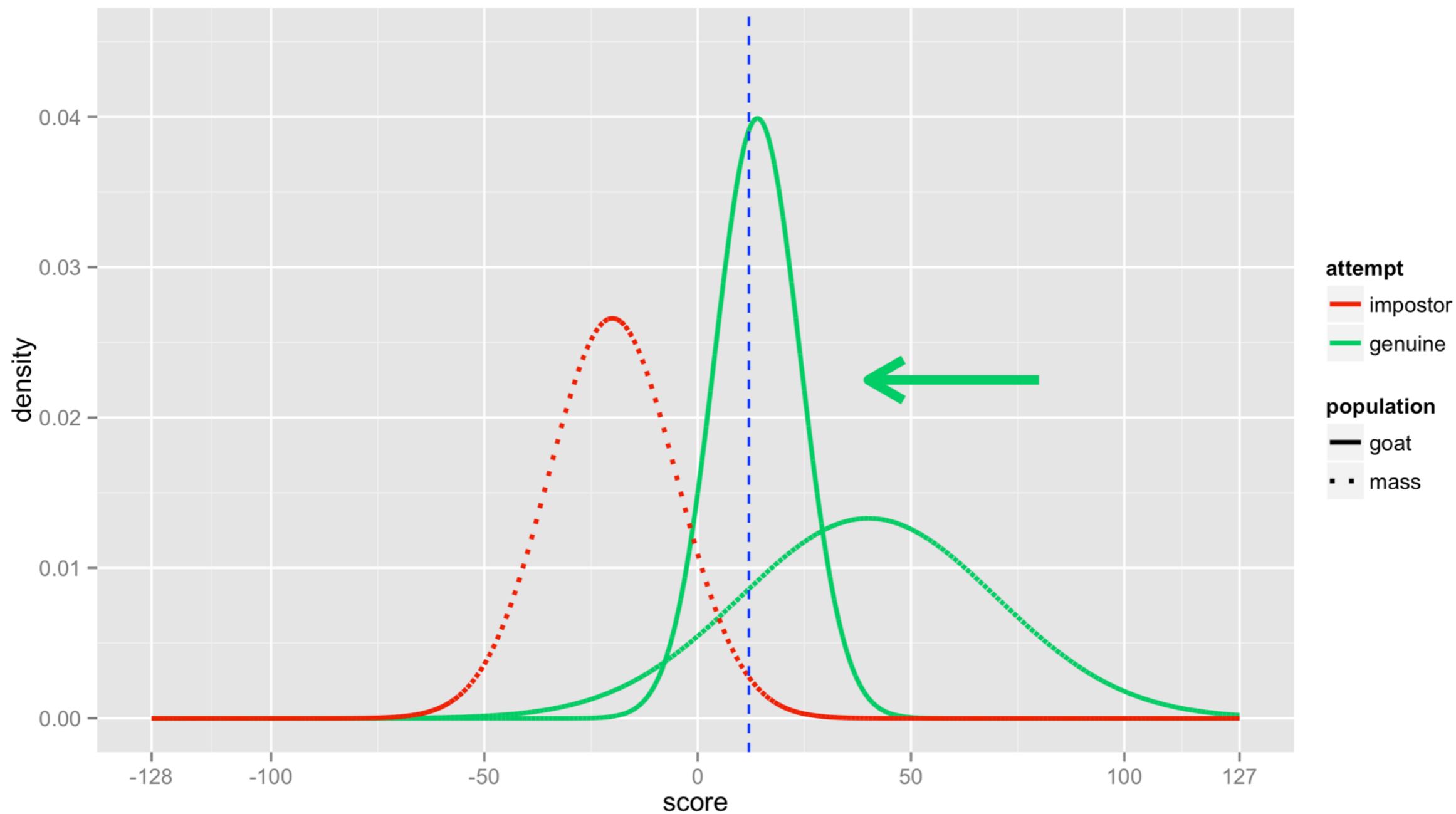
# BIOMETRIC MENAGERIE

- To further complicate biometrics testing, those score distributions are usually not person-independent.
- That means the performance is not the same for all people.
- There are plenty of anomalies out there we shall be aware of to interpret the system behaviour correctly.

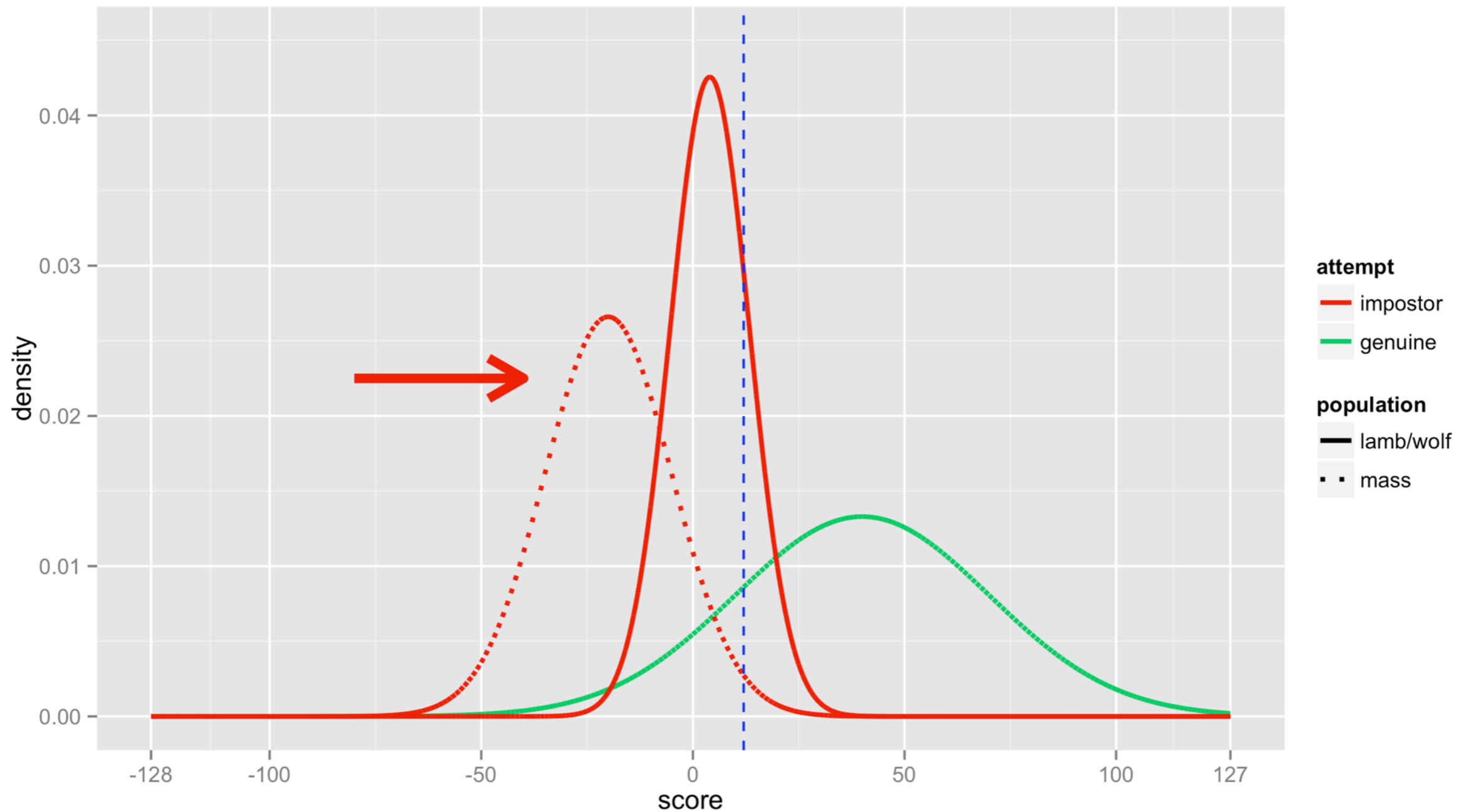
# SHEEP: AN ORDINARY USER



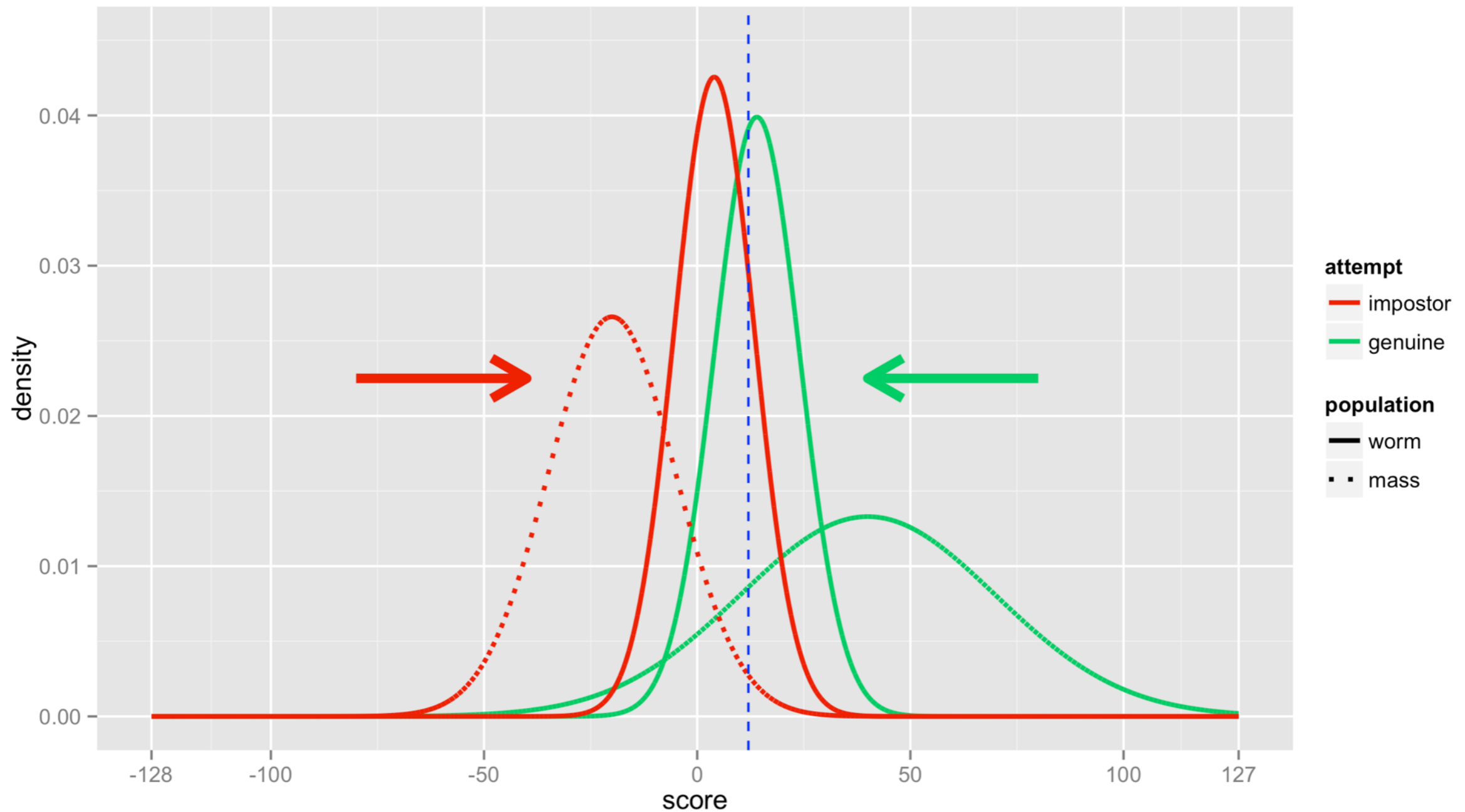
# GOAT: PROBLEMATIC FNMR



# LAMB/WOLF: EASY TARGET AND-OR EFFECTIVE PREDATOR

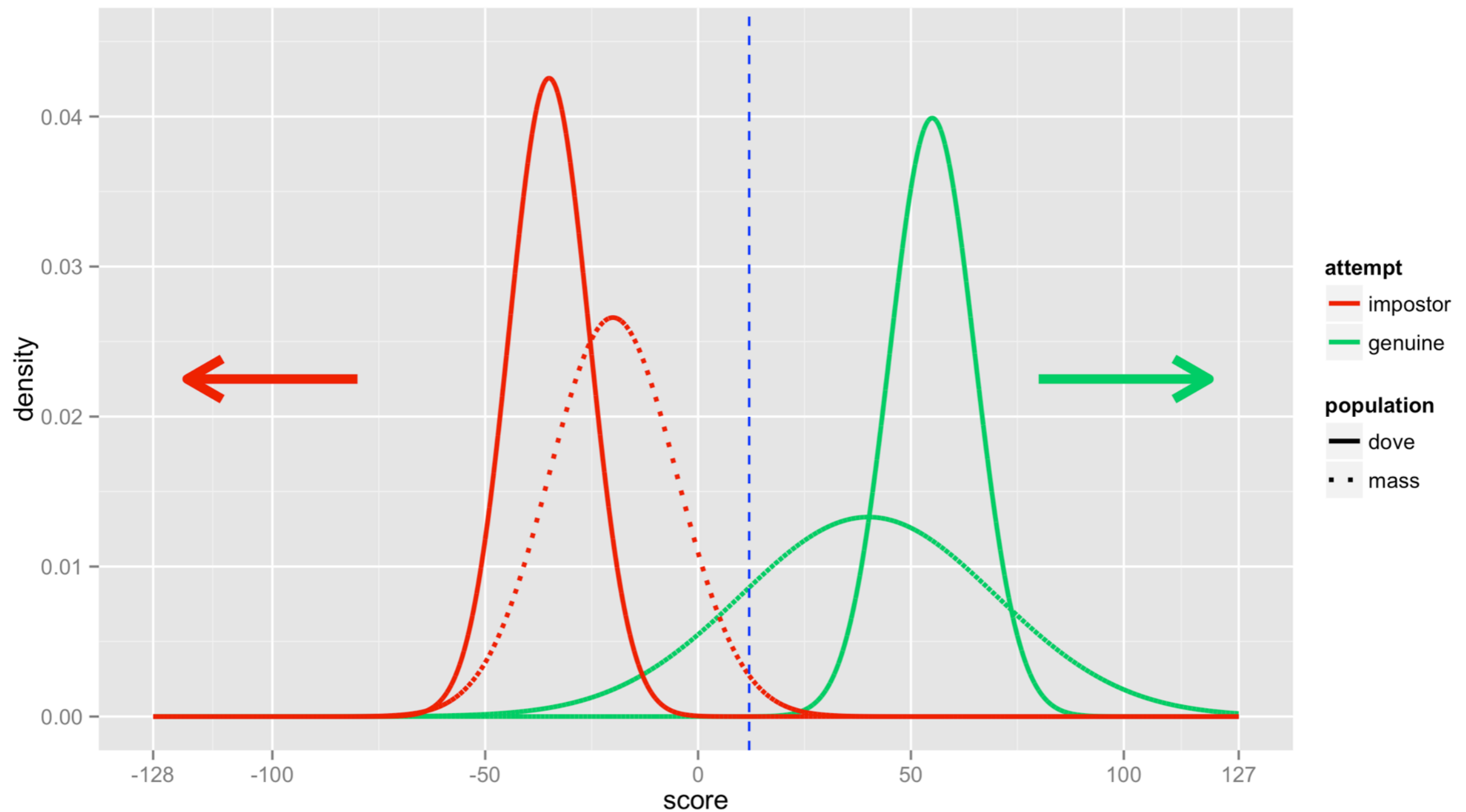


# WORMS: BOTH FNMR AND FMR INCREASED

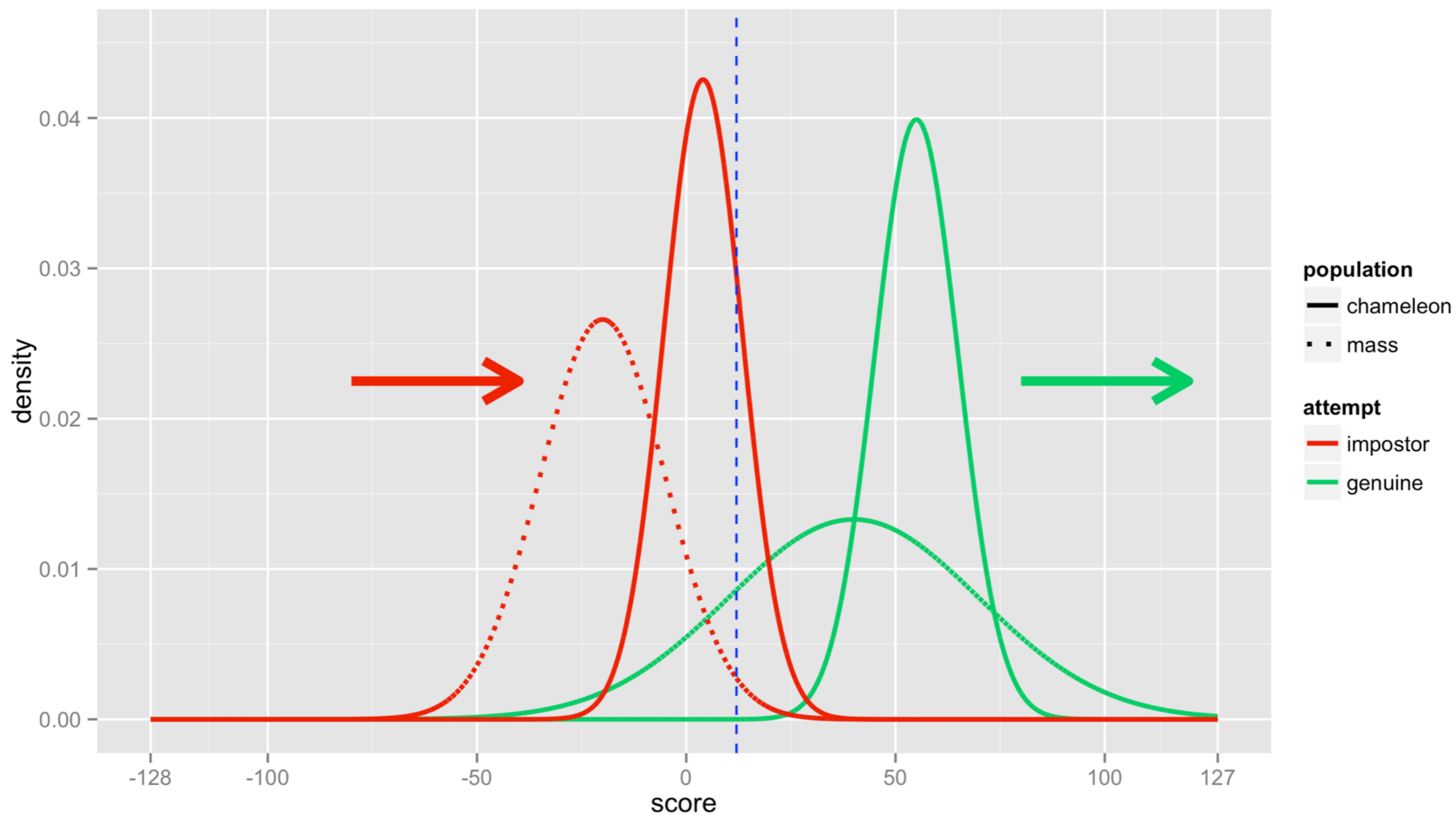




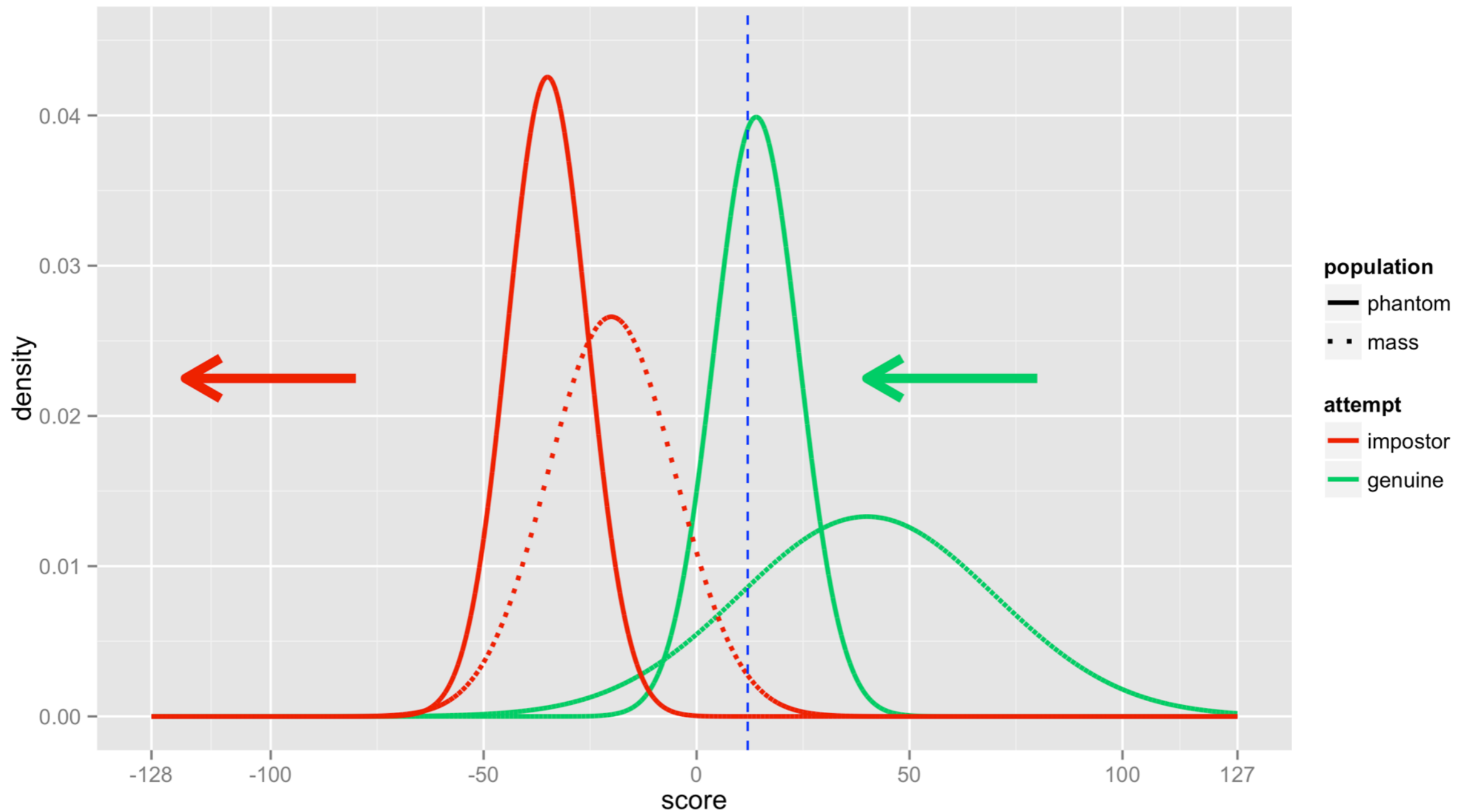
# DOVE: EXCELLENT USER



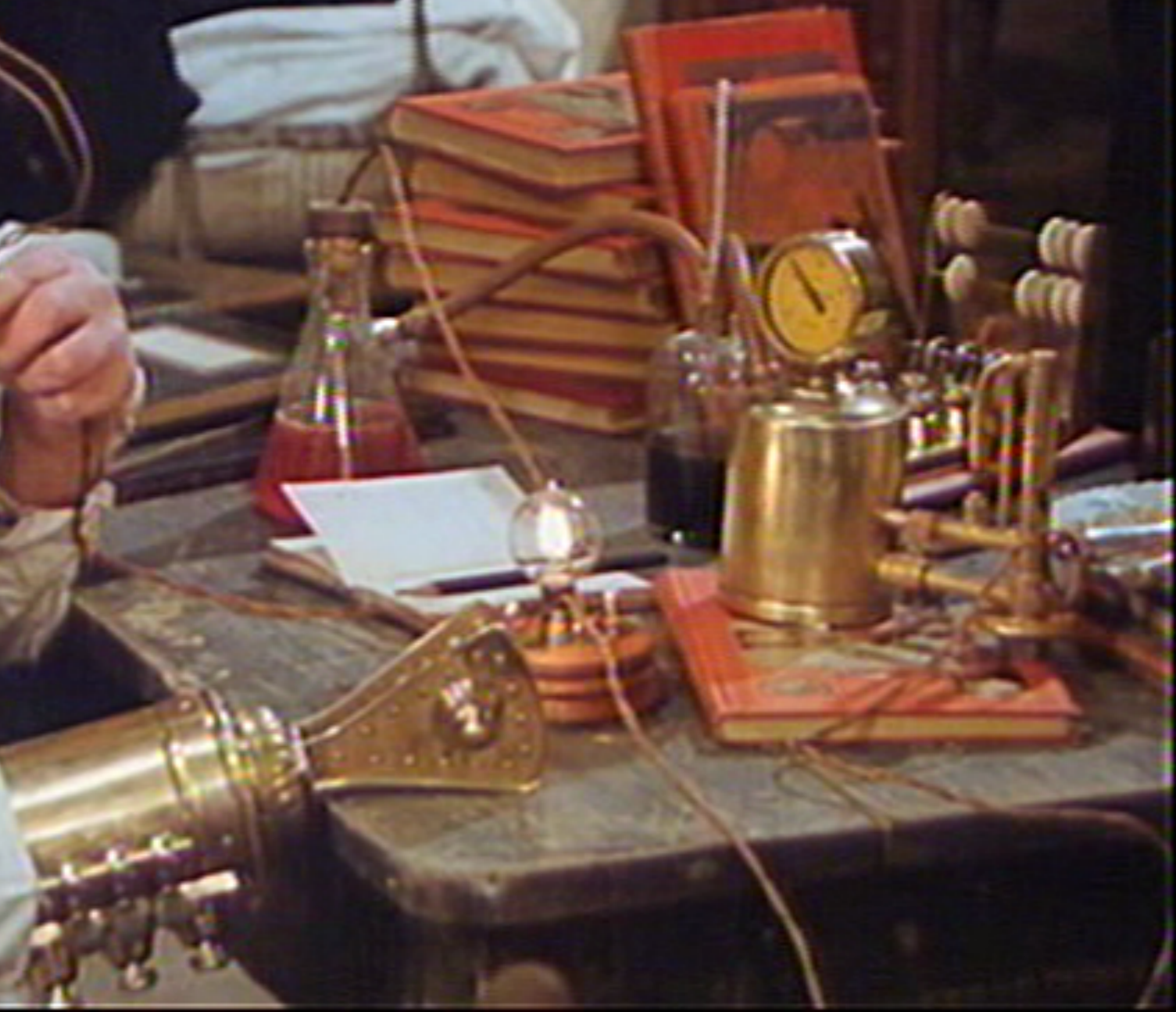
# CHAMELEON: EXCELLENT SCORES, ANYWAY(!)



# PHANTOM: PROBLEMATIC MATCHING, ANYWAY



# SECRET FILES ON BIOMETRICS



# BIO BRUTE FORCE ATTACK

- Randomly generate plausible circa  $1/\text{FMR}$  samples and put them to the test.
- Also termed “Zero-Effort”, denoting that the attacker makes no special effort to imitate the original person characteristic.
- Synthetic samples generation is quite feasible today.

## BIOMETRIC INVERSE PROBLEMS

Svetlana N. Yanushkevich  
Adrian Stoica  
Vlad P. Shmerko  
Denis V. Popel

 Taylor & Francis  
Taylor & Francis Group

# CRYPTANALYSIS-LIKE ATTACKS

- Masquerade attacks, can be a variant of “Hill-Climbing” denoting the attacker iteratively improves the BIO sample data based on:
  - scoring feedback (side channels)
  - stolen template (pre-image attacks)
  - independent template trained from intercepted BIO samples (correlation attacks)
  - known scoring anomaly (differential analysis)
  - implementation faults (general hacking)

# SPOOFING

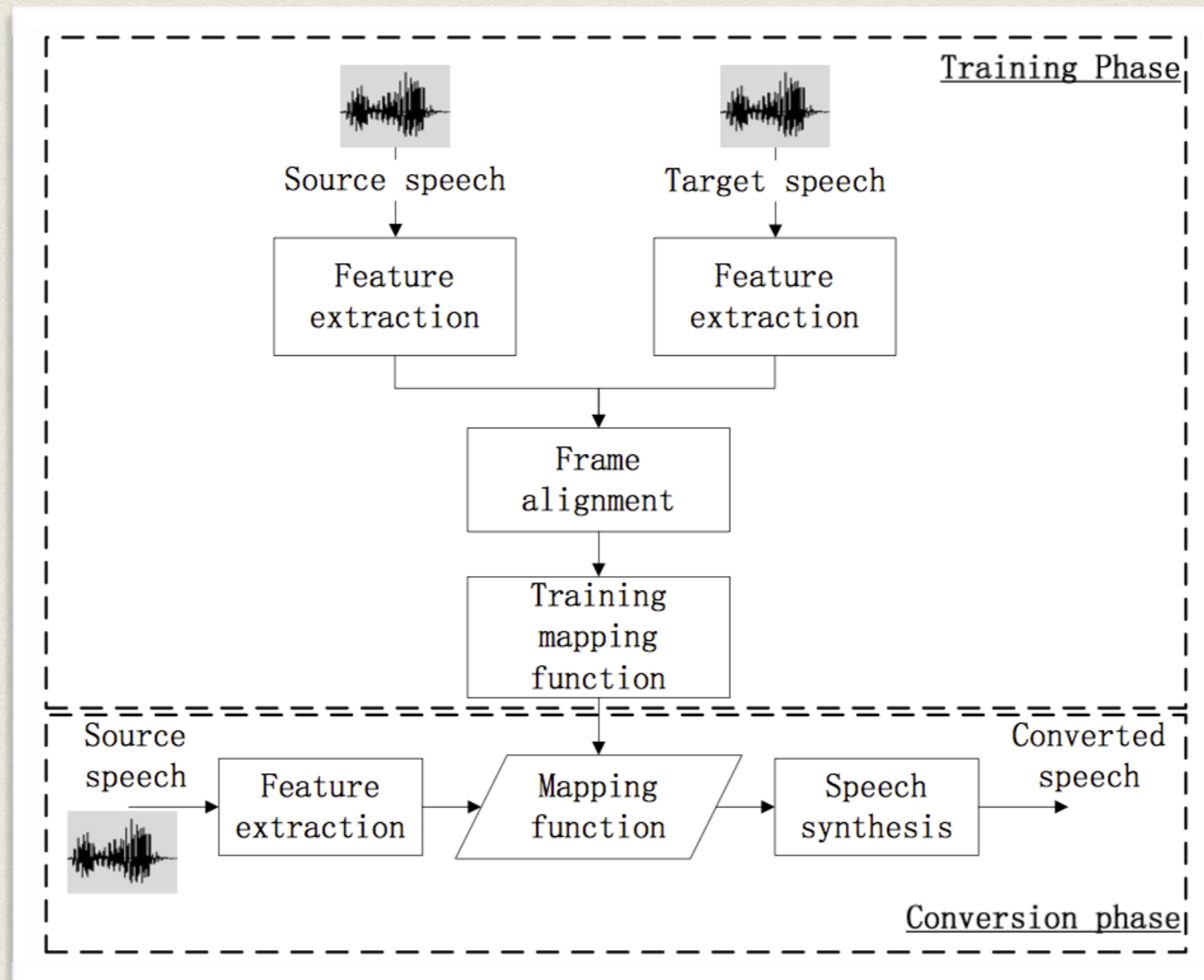
- *The process of defeating a biometric system through the introduction of fake biometric samples.*
- *(Schuckers, Adler et al., 2010)*
- Particular modus operandi on how to deploy the attacking data vectors.
- Can be seen as being orthogonal to the aforementioned ways of gaining fake samples.

# SENSOR-BYPASS ATTACKS

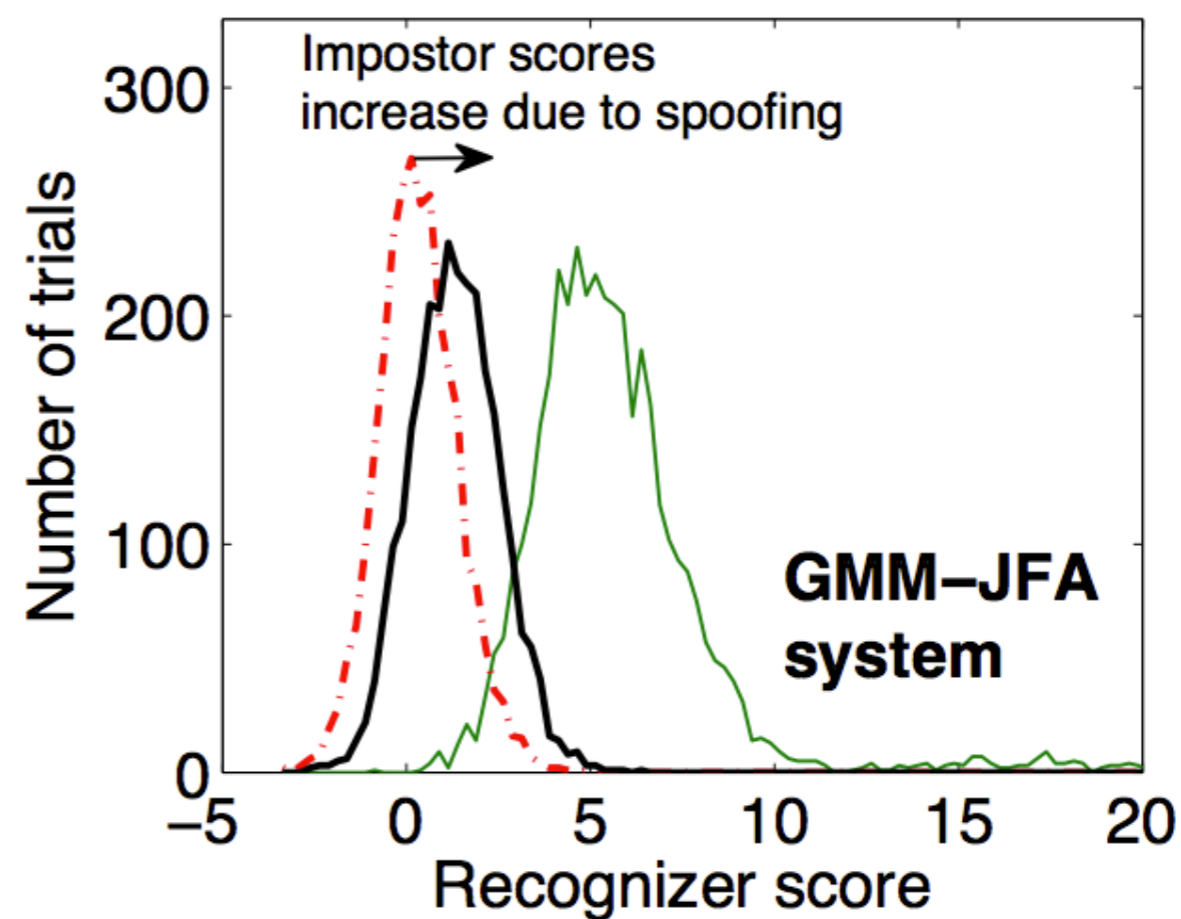
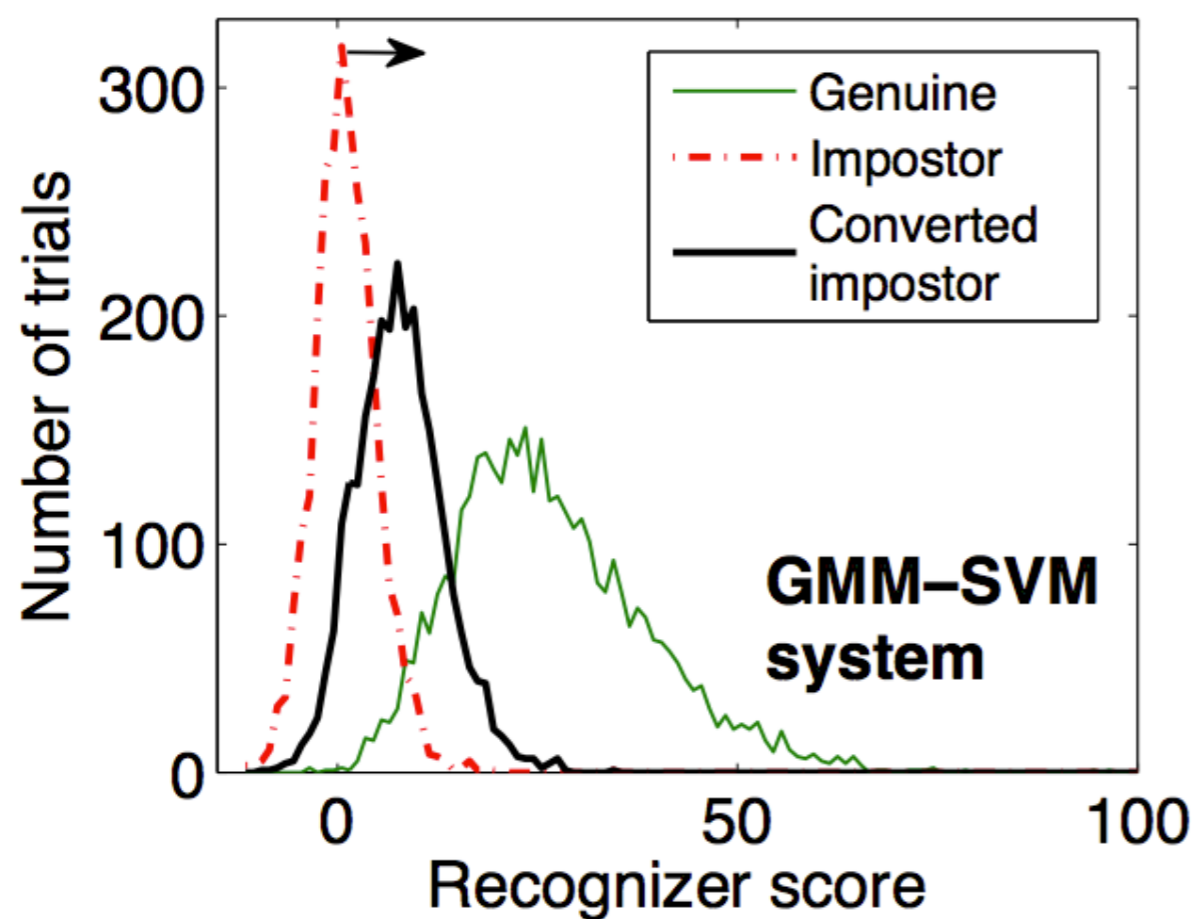
- Do not expose API service for unrestricted automated sample verification!
- Recall the zero-effort attack complexity is often trivial.
- Furthermore, masquerade attacks can shift FMR significantly.



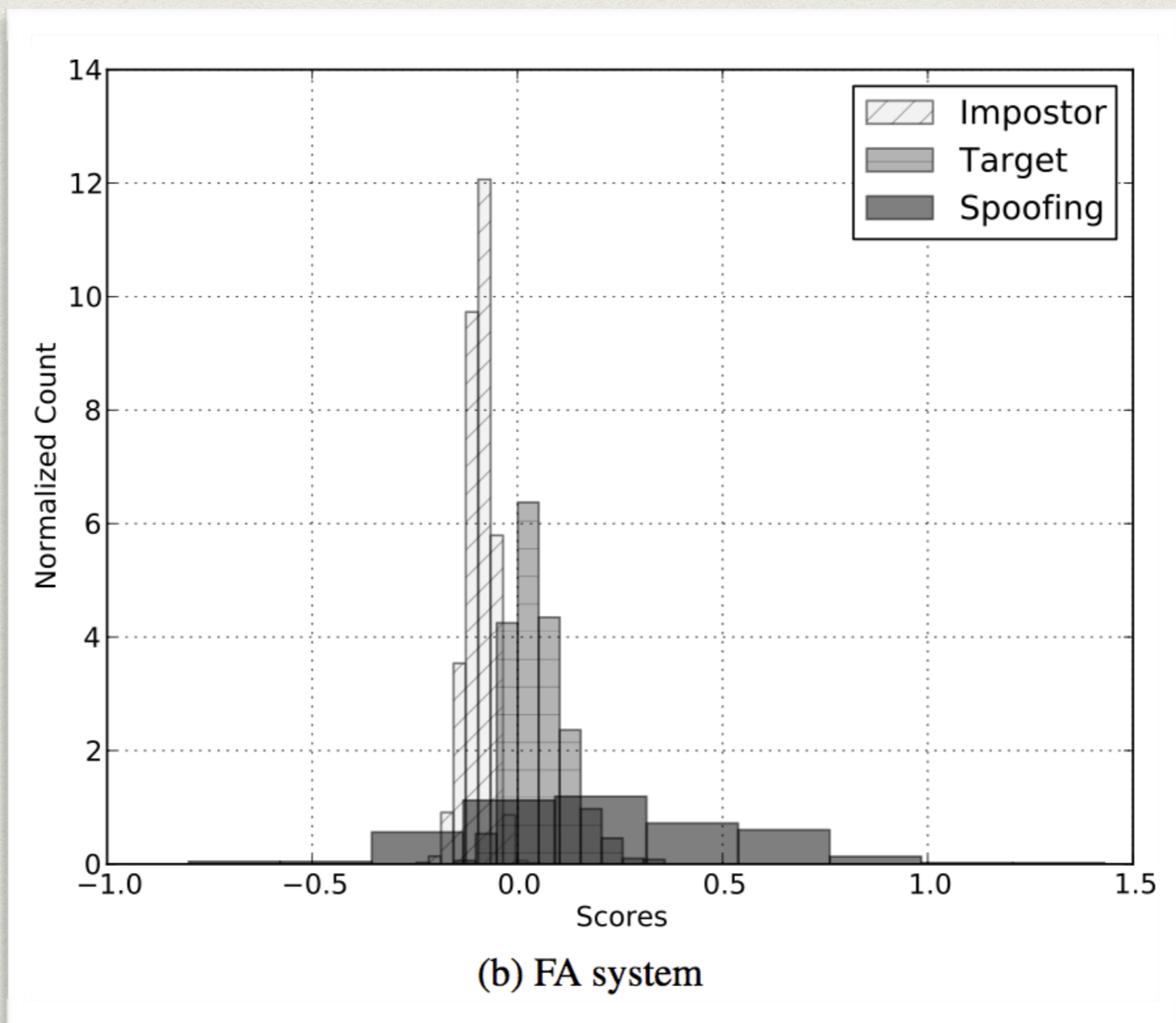
# CONVERSION ATTACK EXAMPLE



# REPORTING ATTACK IMPACT



# ARTIFICIAL SIGNALS IMPACT

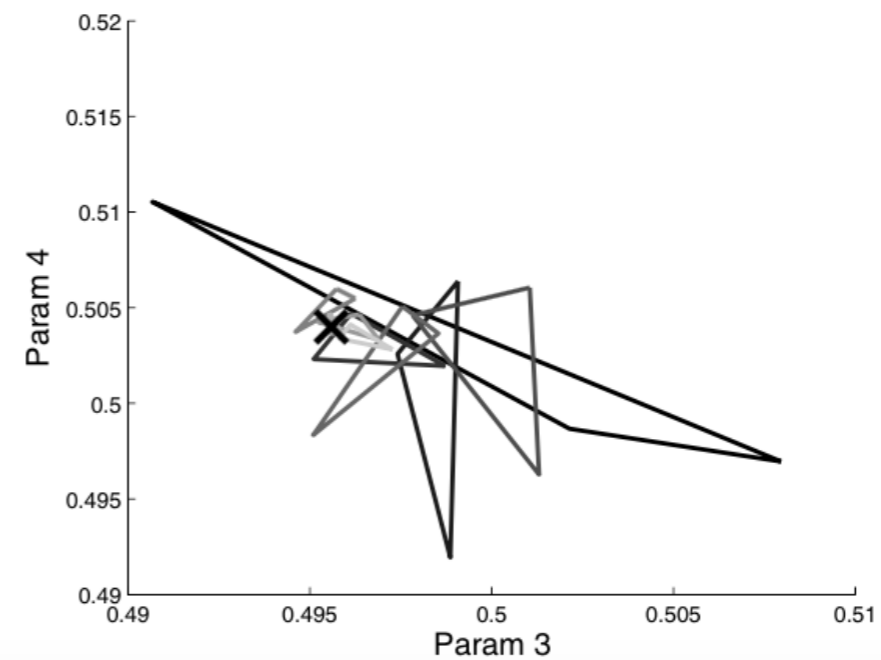
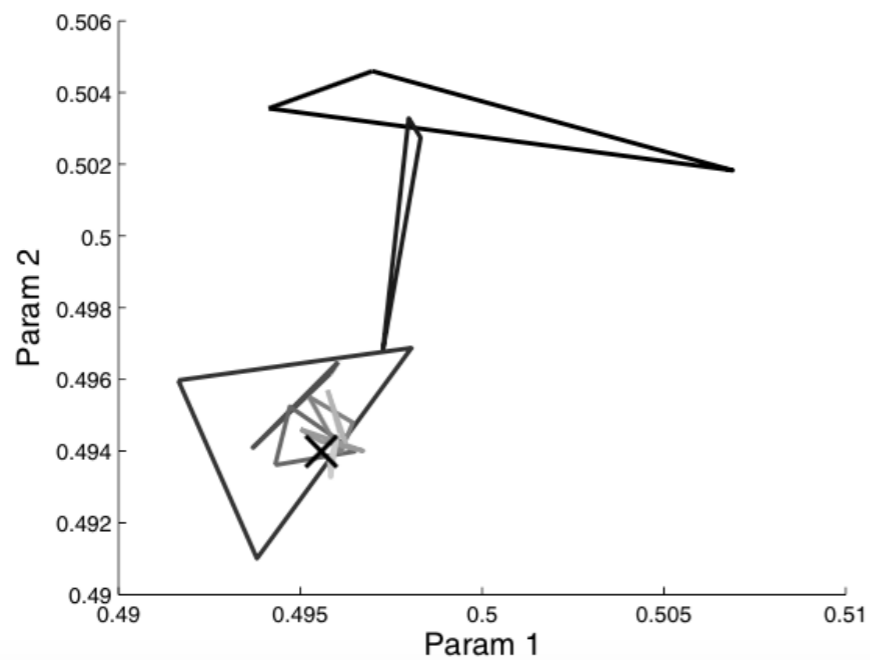
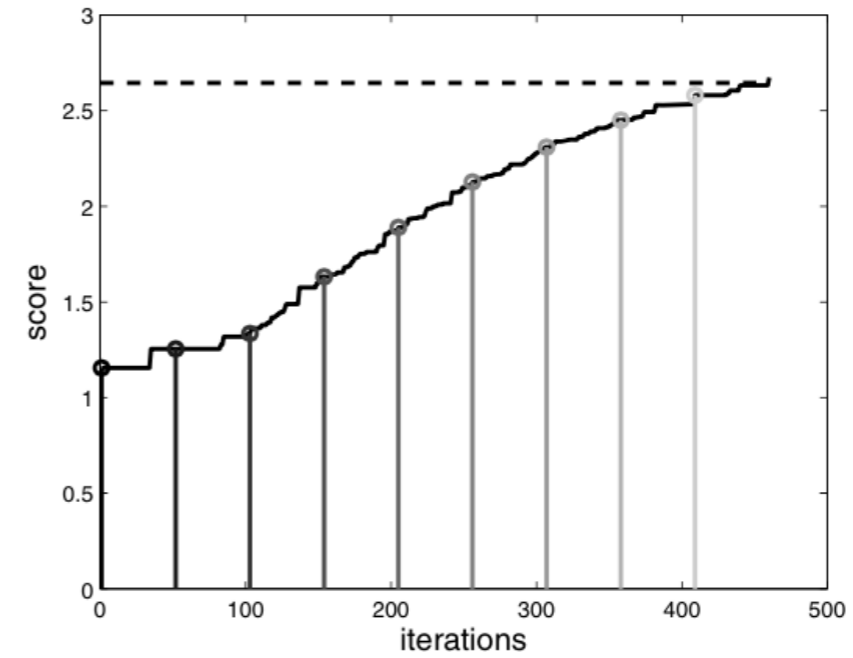


# BIOMETRIC SIGNATURE MASQUERADE

- Hill-Climbing attack based on the Uphill Simplex algorithm and its application to signature verification
- Gomez-Barrero, M., Galbally, J., Fierrez, J., and Garcia, J.-O. at BioID 2011

FMR 0-effort	$\phi$ (#trials) 0-effort	FMR' masq.	$\phi$ (#iters) masq.
0.05%	2 000	91.76%	1 556
0.01%	10 000	89.58%	1 678
0.0025 %	40 000	87.82%	1 805

# SUBSPACE CONVERGENCE ILLUSTRATED



# X-TALK SIGNAL LEAKAGE

- Furthermore, there is a certain link in between online (sign-pad made) and offline (pen-and-paper made) signatures.
- Btw., we also hope to exploit this link should it come to a trial.
- On the other hand, the amount of information being cross-transferred in between these two signal forms is yet to be discovered!

# PDF SIGNATURE LEAKAGE

- When signing a PDF using online signature data, we often put a human readable picture into the PDF annotation.
  - This is just to make the technology more user-friendly.
- This is, however, usually an offline plaintext projection of the (encrypted) online signature data.
  - How much information is leaking this way?

# OFFLINE PROJECTION EXAMPLE

A handwritten signature in black ink on a light gray background. The signature is cursive and somewhat stylized, starting with a large loop on the left and ending with a wavy tail on the right.

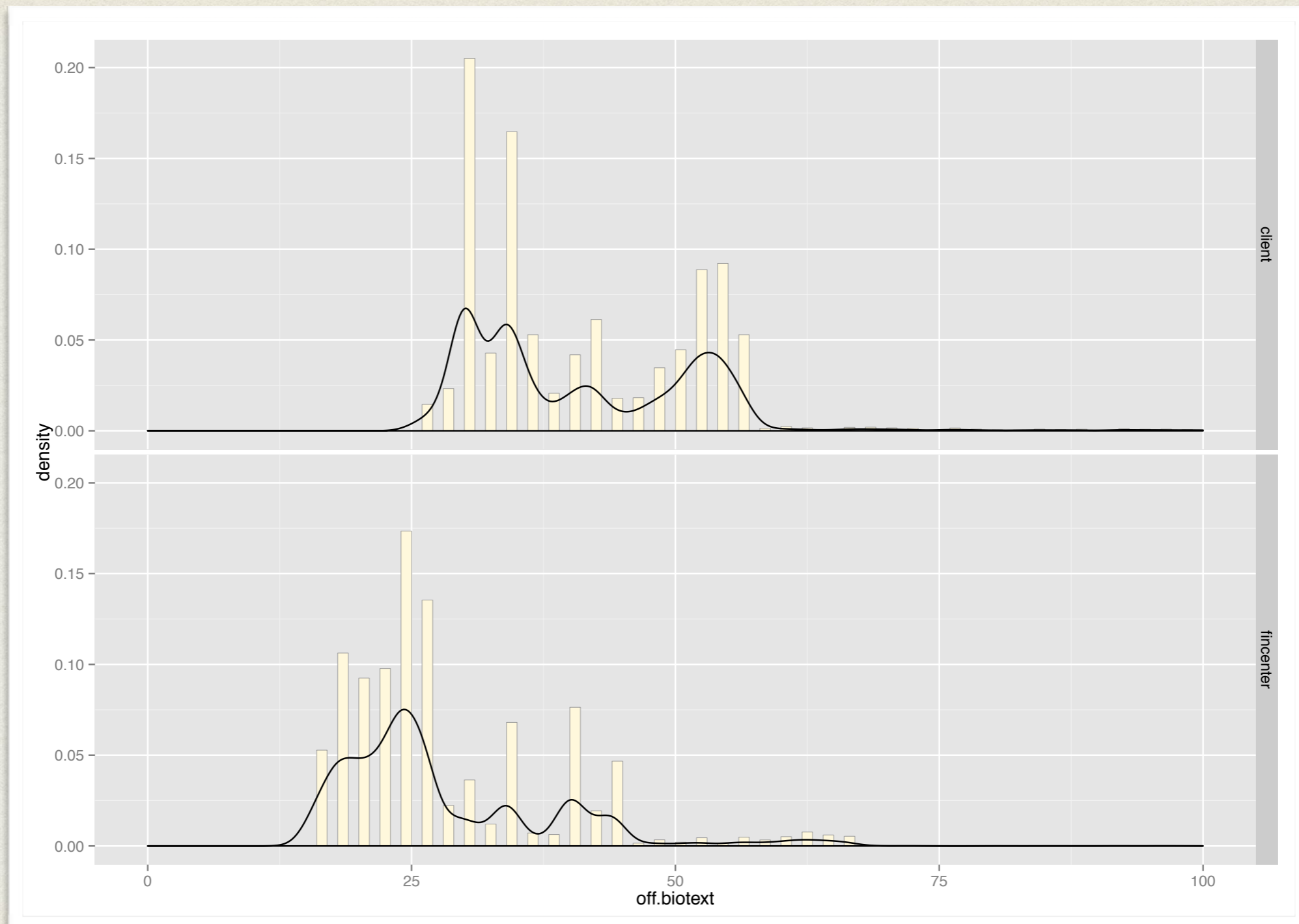
*fincenter*

A handwritten signature in black ink on a light gray background. The signature is cursive and highly stylized, featuring several large loops and a long, sweeping tail that extends to the right.

*client*



# OFFLINE SIGNAL BRIEF - THERE IS SOMETHING!



# ISO/IEC 24745 REQUIREMENTS

- **Renewability**
  - allows multiple independent biometric references created ad hoc
  - a particular leaked template does not compromise the other ones (provably!)
- **Revocability**
  - user can revoke the ability of being successfully verified by a particular template from now on
- Biocryptography is an effective way on how to achieve these goals.

# BIOMETRIC CRYPTOGRAPHY?



# CRYPTOGRAPHY EXACTNESS

Let  $y = AES_K(x)$  for a random  $K$ .

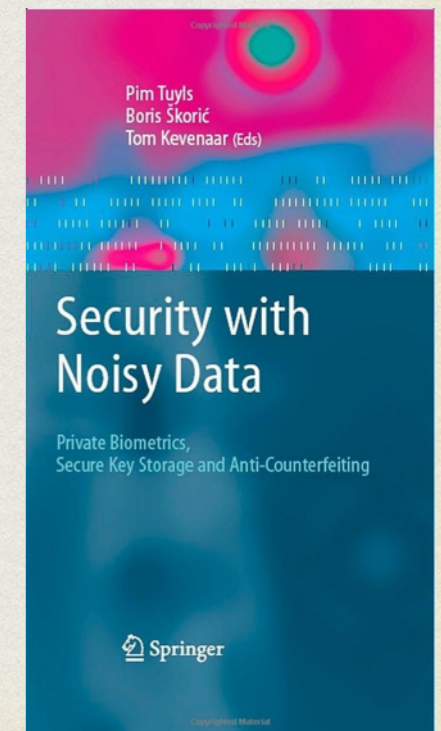
Then  $AES_K^{-1}(y) = x$ , while

$AES_{K \oplus 1}^{-1}(y) \neq x$  (probability  $\approx 1$ ).

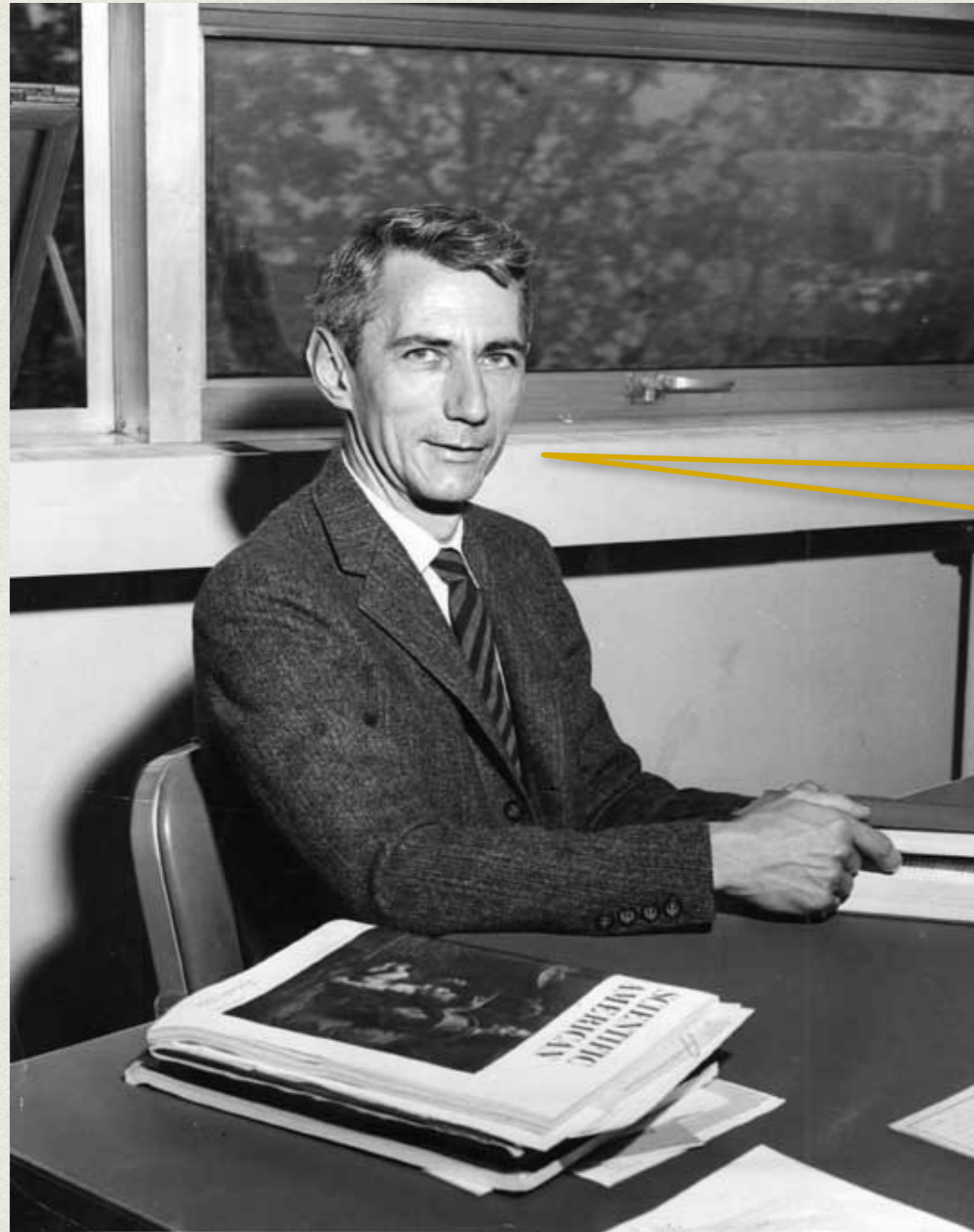
- *The better the algorithm is the more randomized response we get for even one-bit error.*

# BIOMETRICS FUZZINESS

- We seldom get the same data in the subsequent scans of the very same person.
- Actually, this is usually a clear sign of a spoofed sample.
- To overcome this (intra-class) variability, we can employ the *biometric cryptography*.



# BACK TO THE ORIGIN



1. analyse the entropy gain from inter-class variation
2. use an error-correction code to cope with intra-class noise

Claude Elwood Shannon, 1948-49

# ERROR-CORRECTING CODE $C$

Let  $(F, \rho)$  be a metric space,  $\rho : F \times F \rightarrow [0, \infty)$ .

translation invariant metric:  $\rho(x, y) = \rho(0, x - y)$

Error correcting code is  $C \subset F, C = \{c_1, c_2, \dots\}$ .

*decode* :  $F \rightarrow C$

$t$ -error correction capability:

Let  $\rho(c_i, y) \leq t$ , then *decode*( $c_i$ ) = *decode*( $y$ ) =  $c_i$ .

We assume *decode*() always returns a (possibly wrong) codeword.

# ENROLMENT

- i) randomly choose  $c_{key} \in \mathbf{C} \subset \mathbf{F}$
- ii) get BIO features vector  $w \in \mathbf{F}$
- iii) let  $\xi = w - c_{key}$
- iv) let  $BIO\_key = hash(c_{key})$
- v) template =  $(\xi)$



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**More involved entropy extractors can be used here...**

# VERIFICATION

- i) get BIO features vector  $w' \in F$
- ii) let  $y = w' - \xi$
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**We have an ordinary crypto key, now...**

# CORE PRINCIPLE ILLUSTRATED

●  
codewords



# CORE PRINCIPLE ILLUSTRATED

codewords

$C_k$

# CORE PRINCIPLE ILLUSTRATED



codewords

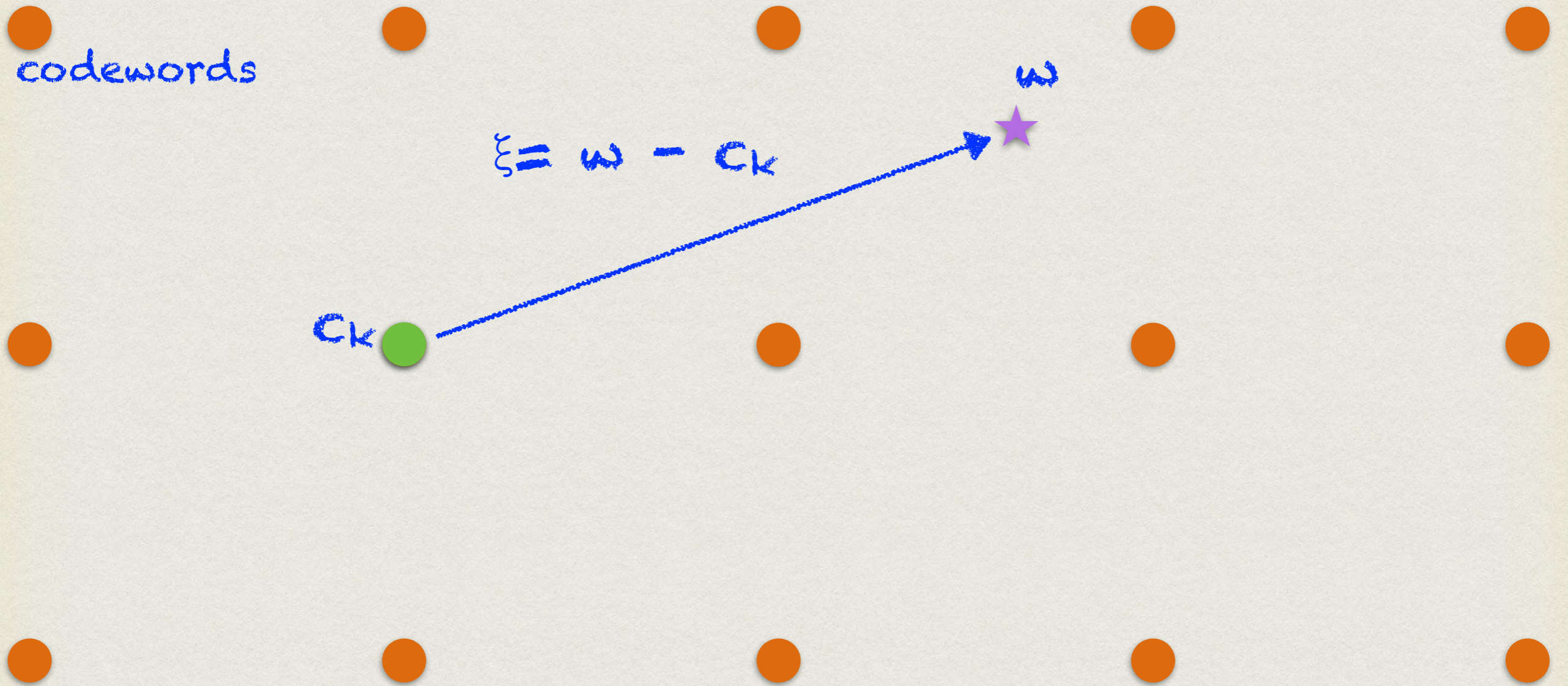
$w$



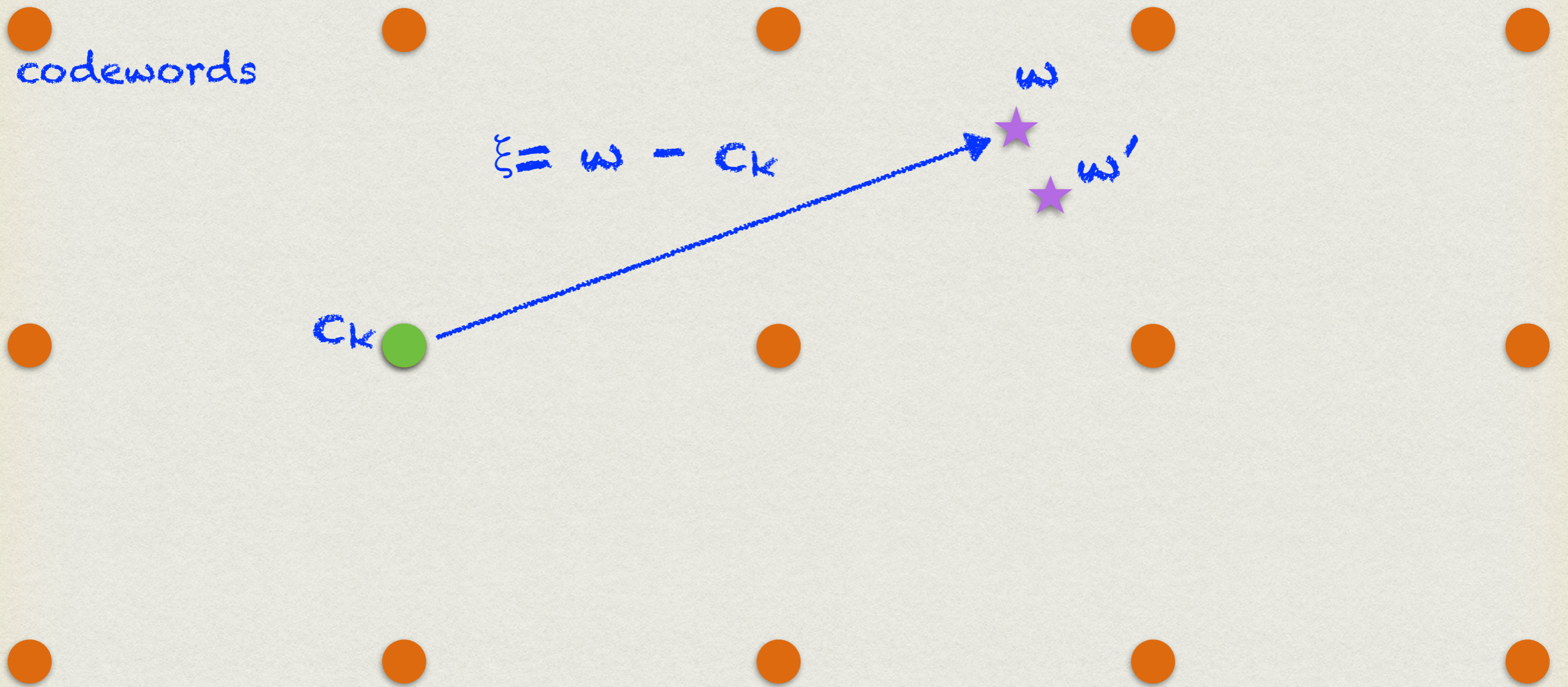
$C_k$



# CORE PRINCIPLE ILLUSTRATED



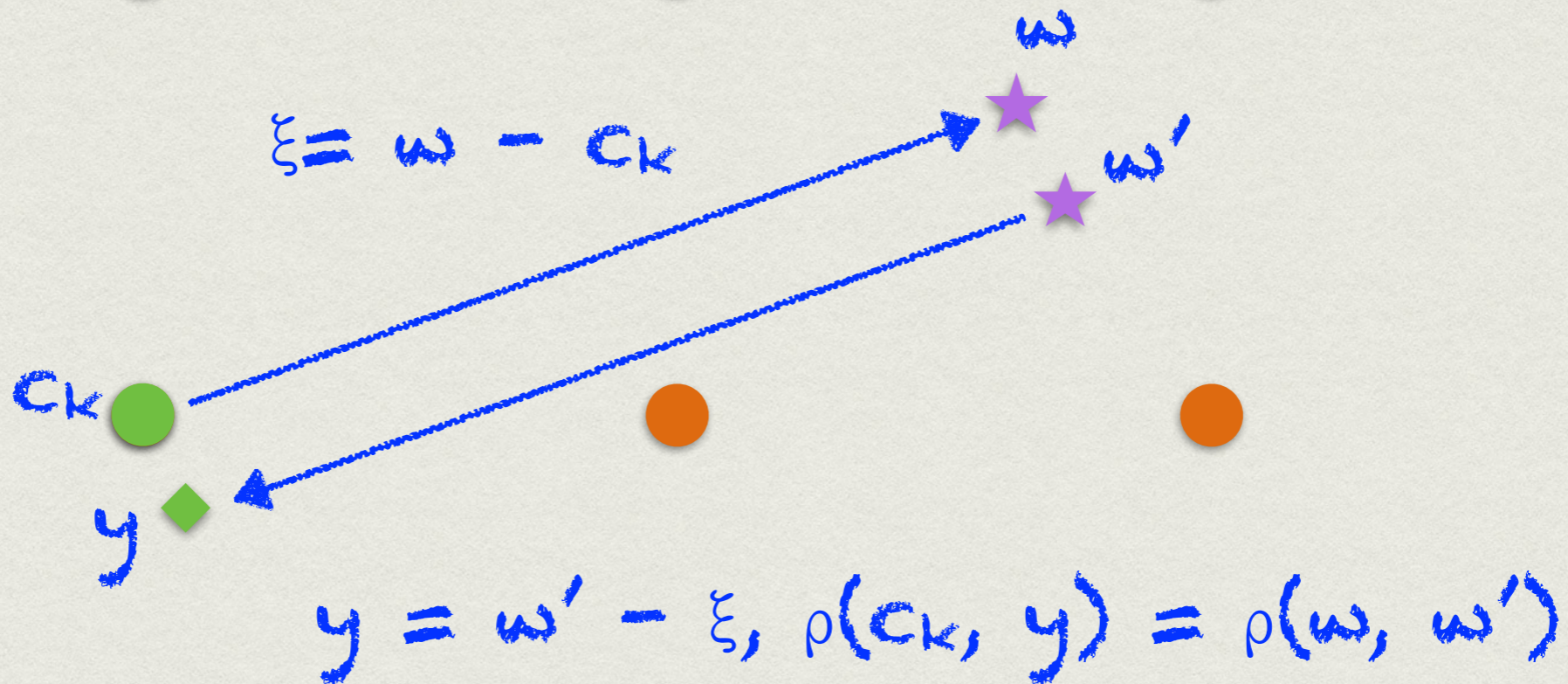
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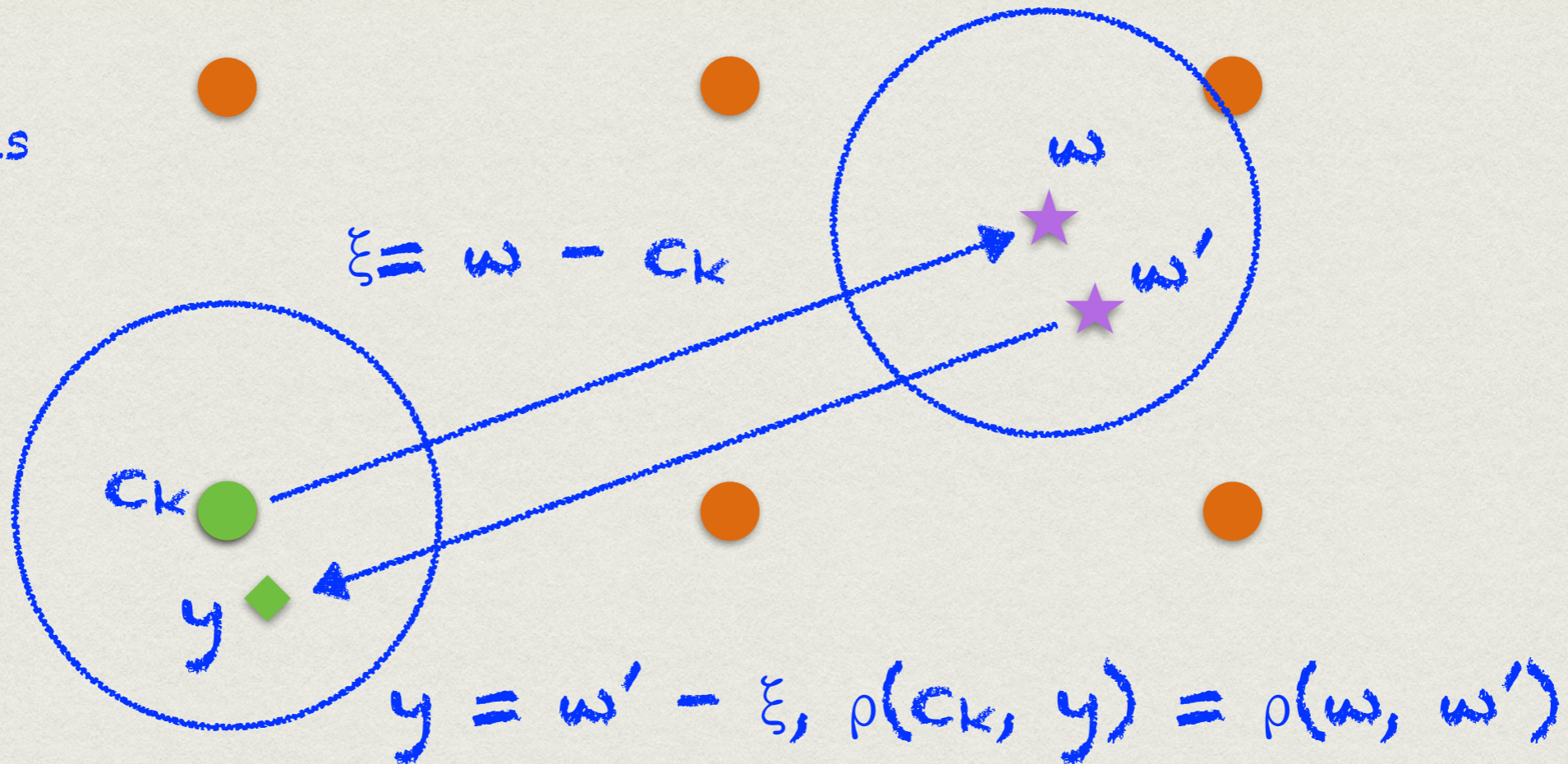
# CORE PRINCIPLE ILLUSTRATED

codewords



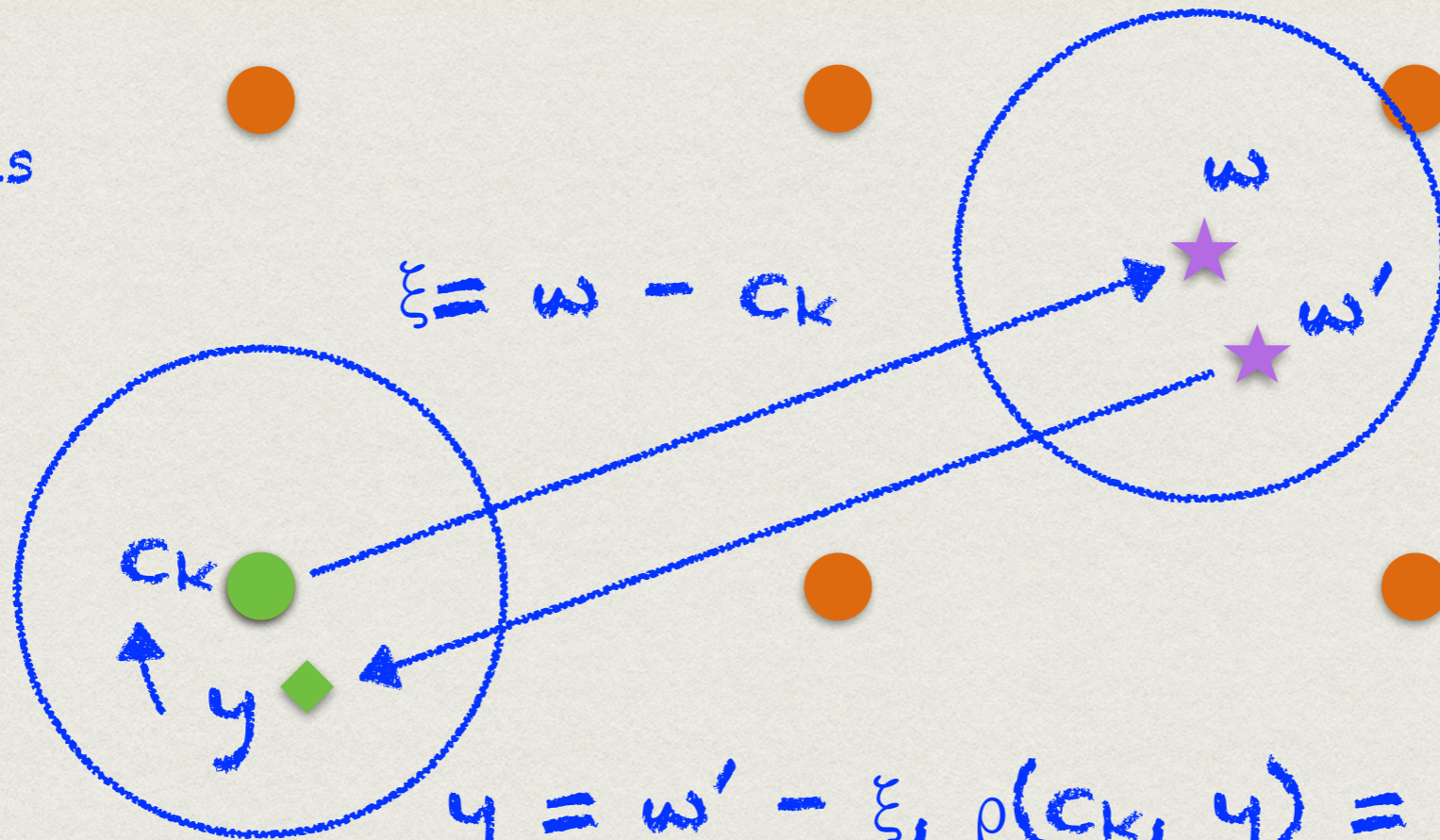
# CORE PRINCIPLE ILLUSTRATED

codewords



# CORE PRINCIPLE ILLUSTRATED

codewords



$$y = w' - \xi, \rho(c_k, y) = \rho(w, w')$$

$$\rho(w, w') \leq t \Rightarrow \text{decode}(y) = c_k$$

# IS IT ENOUGH?

- Template protection in contemporary systems is often quite questionable (to be polite).
- On the other hand, is it the only one problem?
  - No. We shall not push the concept of bio-keys too hard anyway.

# BIO-SKIMMING

- Once biometric systems become ubiquitous, this will be a fruitful attack vector.
  - Attackers use a fake sensor (or hack into an original one) to skim the “bio-master-key”.
  - At the end of the day, how many eyes, fingers, faces, vocal tracts (etc.) do we have?
  - It is like having few master-keys for a whole life.
  - Furthermore, we prove the master-key possession by simply handing it over to almost any device that asks so (again, again, ...and again).

# SPOOFING STILL MATTERS!

- That said, liveness detection will be always important!
  - Remember, biometrics is a signal detection.
  - It all works as long as we can assume the signal is coming from a particular human being!
  - *Apparently, the biometric signal detector output shall be just one out of many inputs into an authentication process (itself being another multidimensional signal detection problem).*

# TAMPER-RESISTANT SENSOR

- It signs the biometric signal samples with its private key to indicate it already has sampled that signal from a living individual.
- Furthermore, the sample shall be then processed as soon as possible.
- Otherwise, we have to mitigate the risk of a sensor compromise in the intermediate time by a further time-stamping: Long Term Validation of bio-samples.
- This concept is all too often neglected in the emerging handwritten signature biometrics!

ANYWAY, DO THE PENTEST!





# CONCLUSION

- We shall **require ISO 19795 methodology** during biometric application selection, comparison, and operational testing.
- Use an **independent penetration test** to verify:
  - **zero-effort attack complexity**  
*–beware of automated APIs!*
  - **masquerade attacks**
  - **spoofing possibilities**
  - **template security**
  - **system security in general**  
*–threshold settings, template tampering*