Idealised representations of distributions

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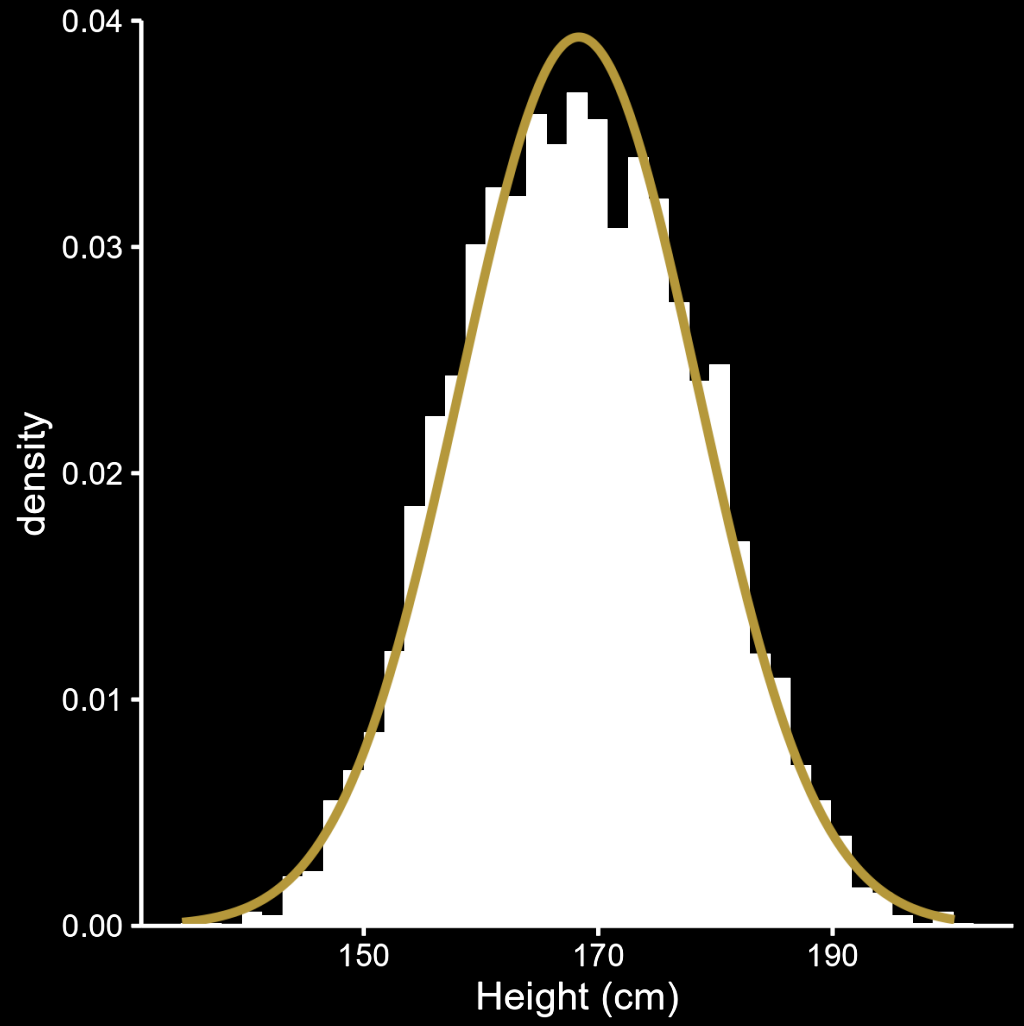
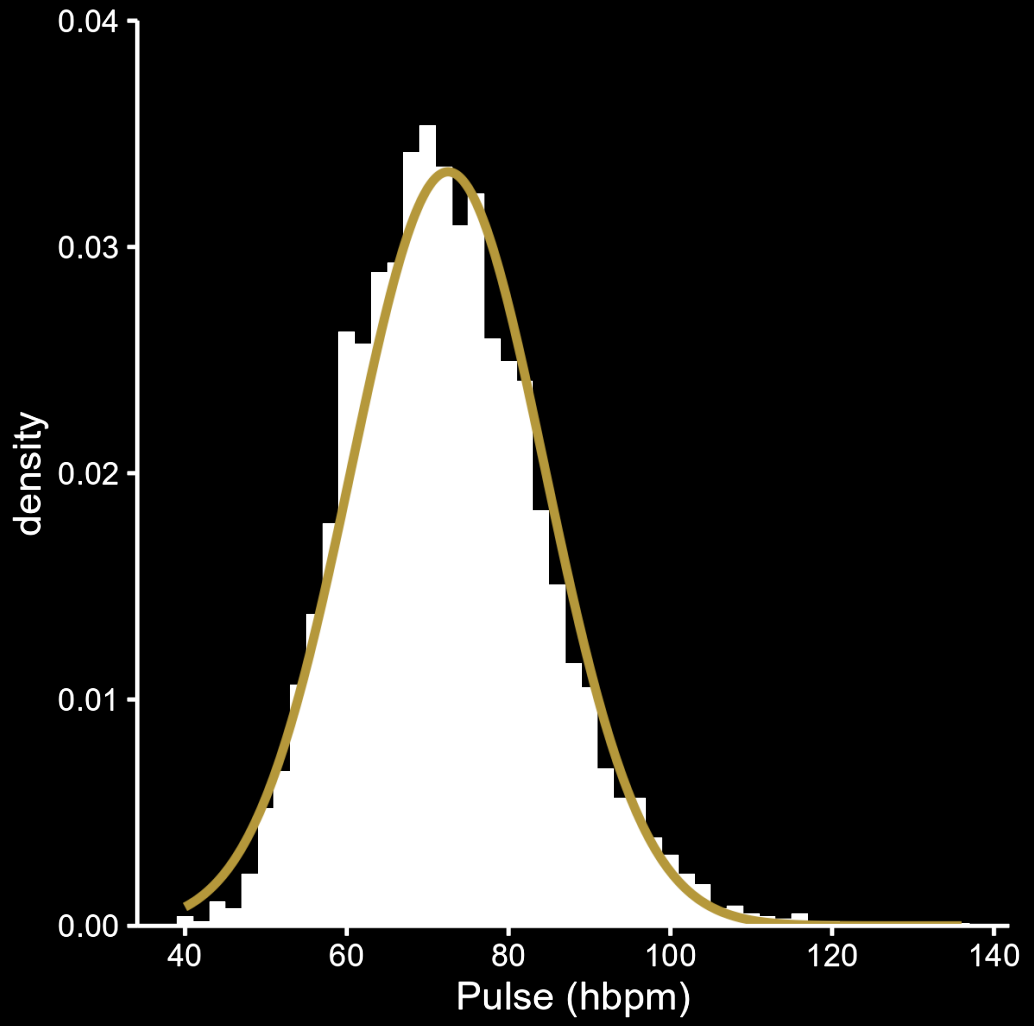
Normal or Gaussian distribution





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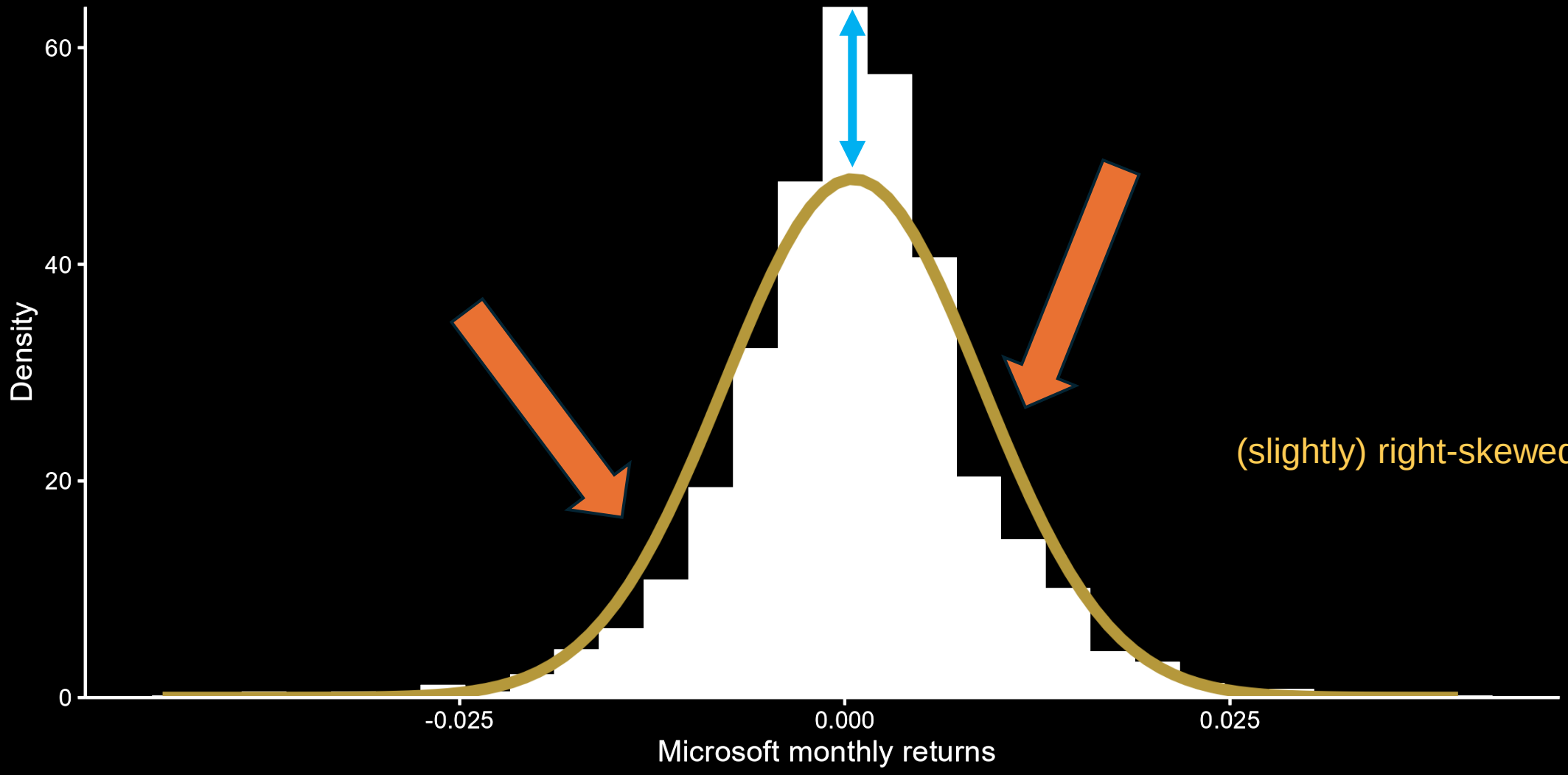
60
40
20
0
Density
-0.025
0.000
0.025
Microsoft monthly returns
(slightly) right-skewed

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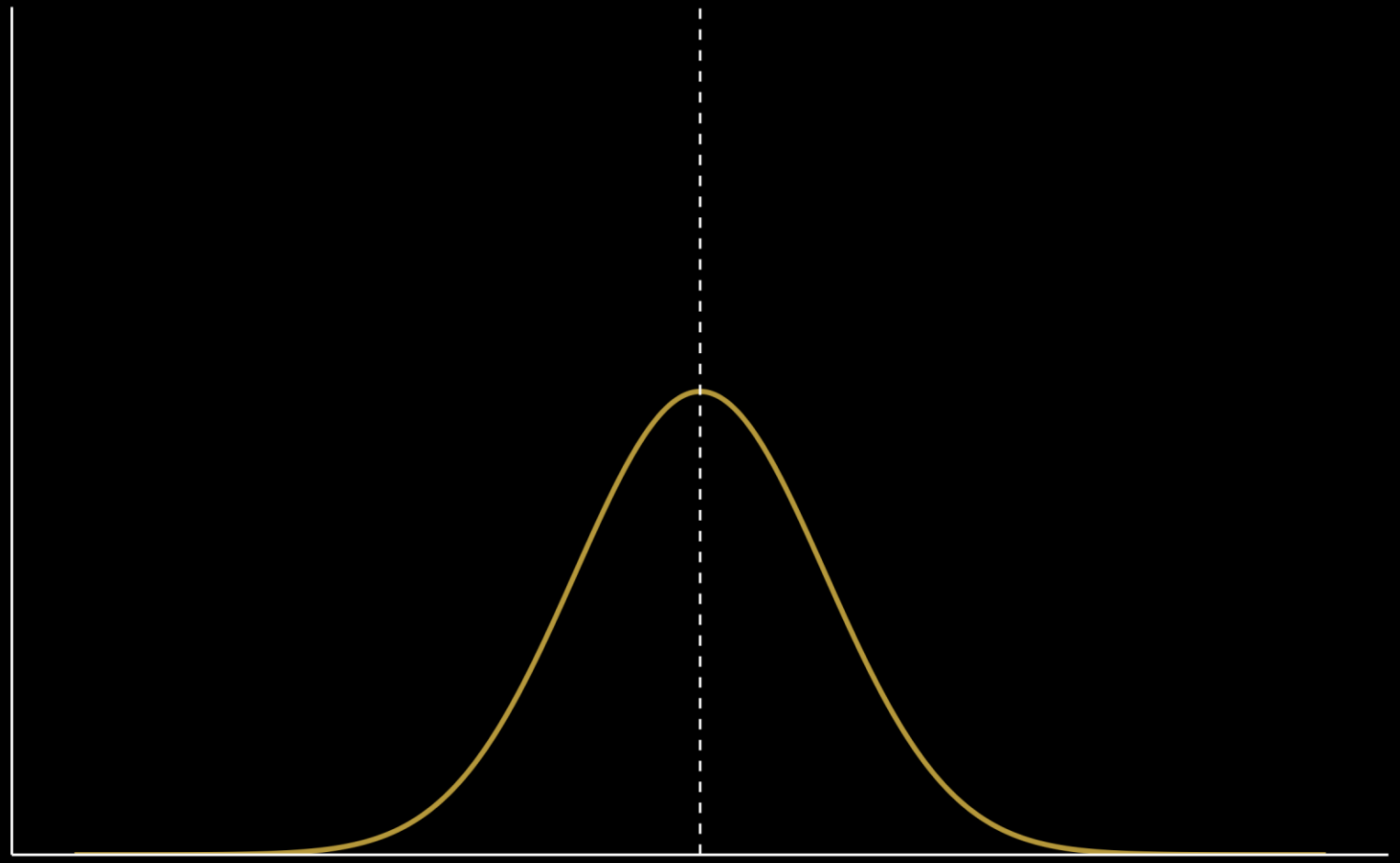
Deviations from the Normal distribution



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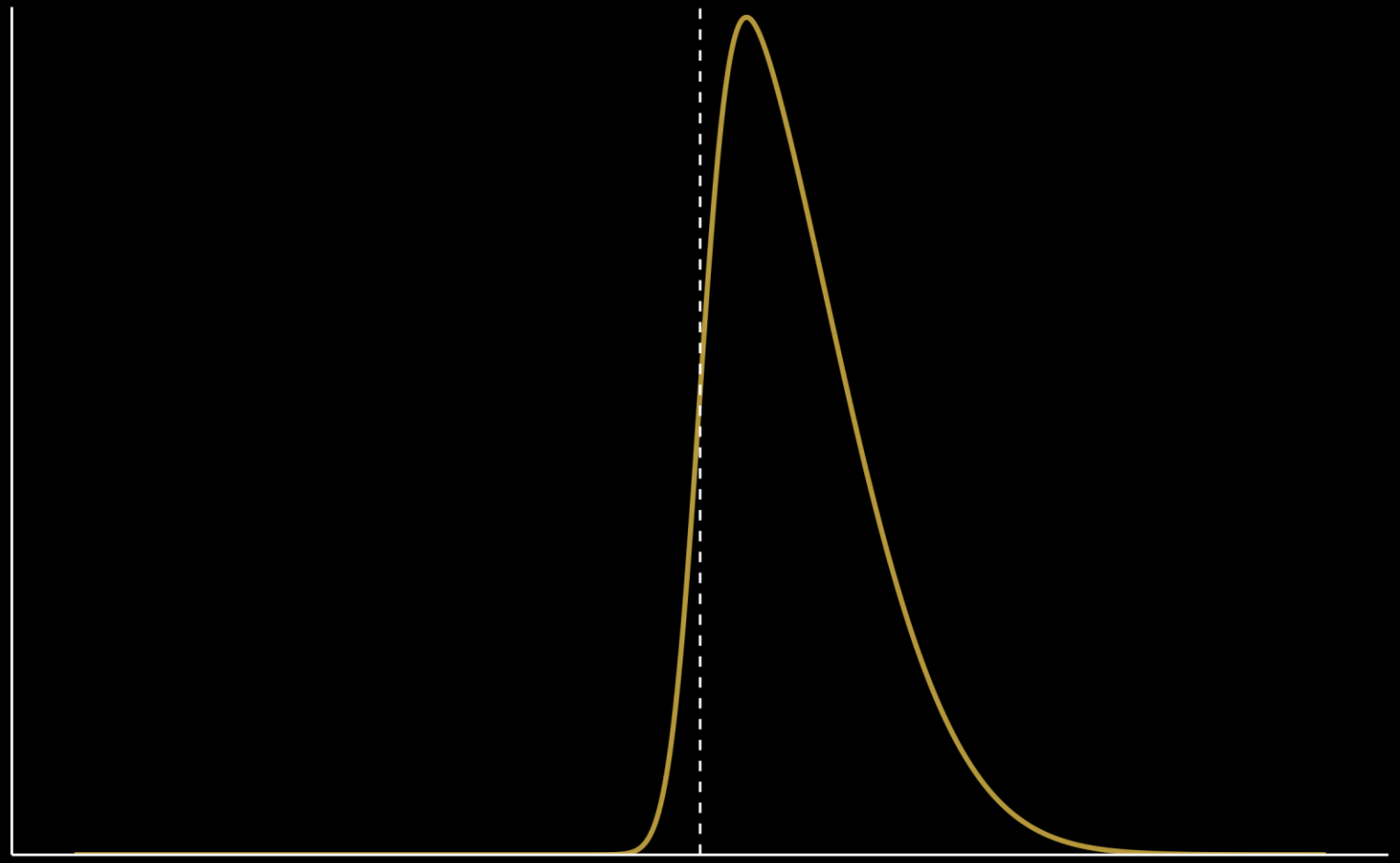
Right-skewed



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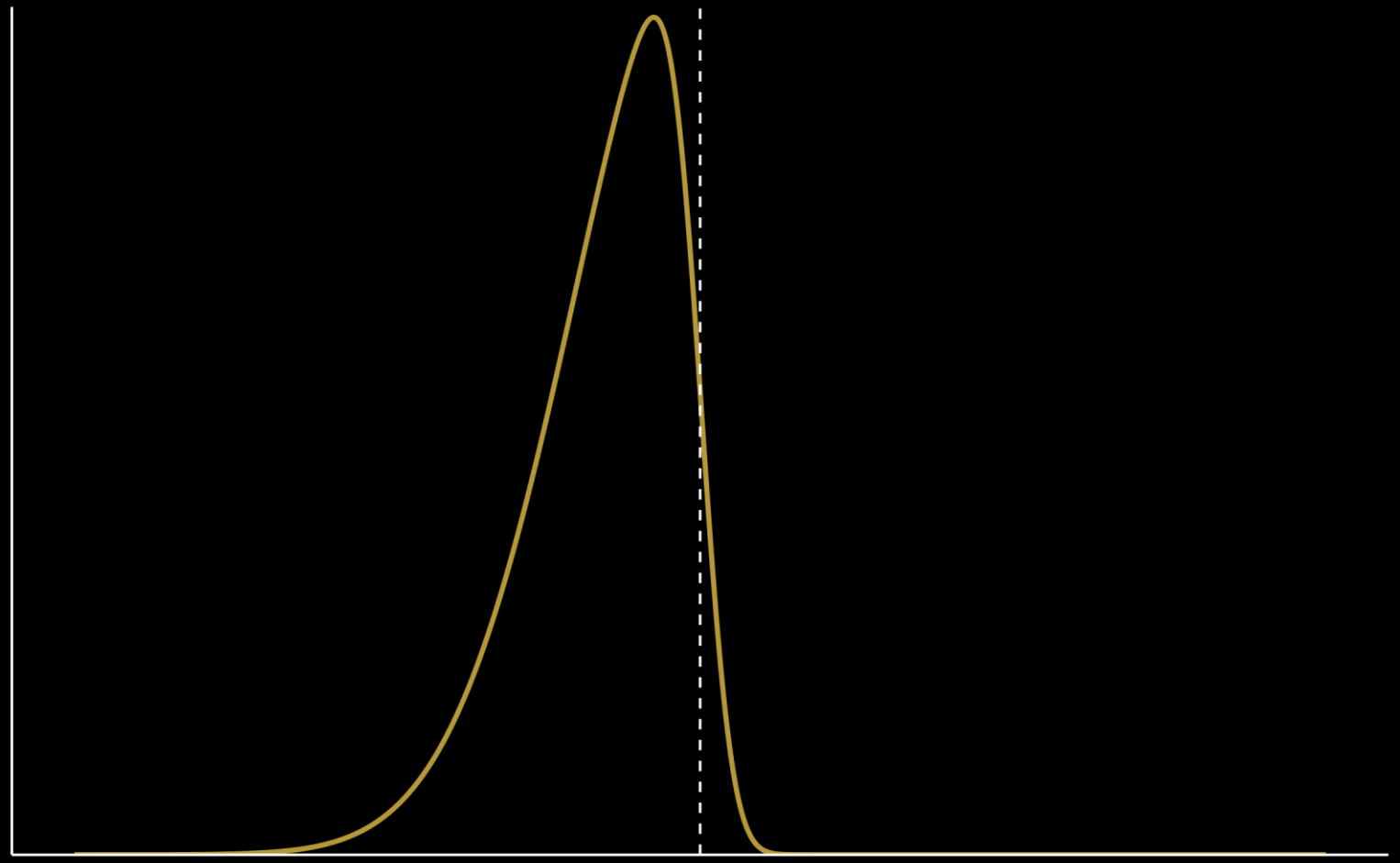
Left-skewed



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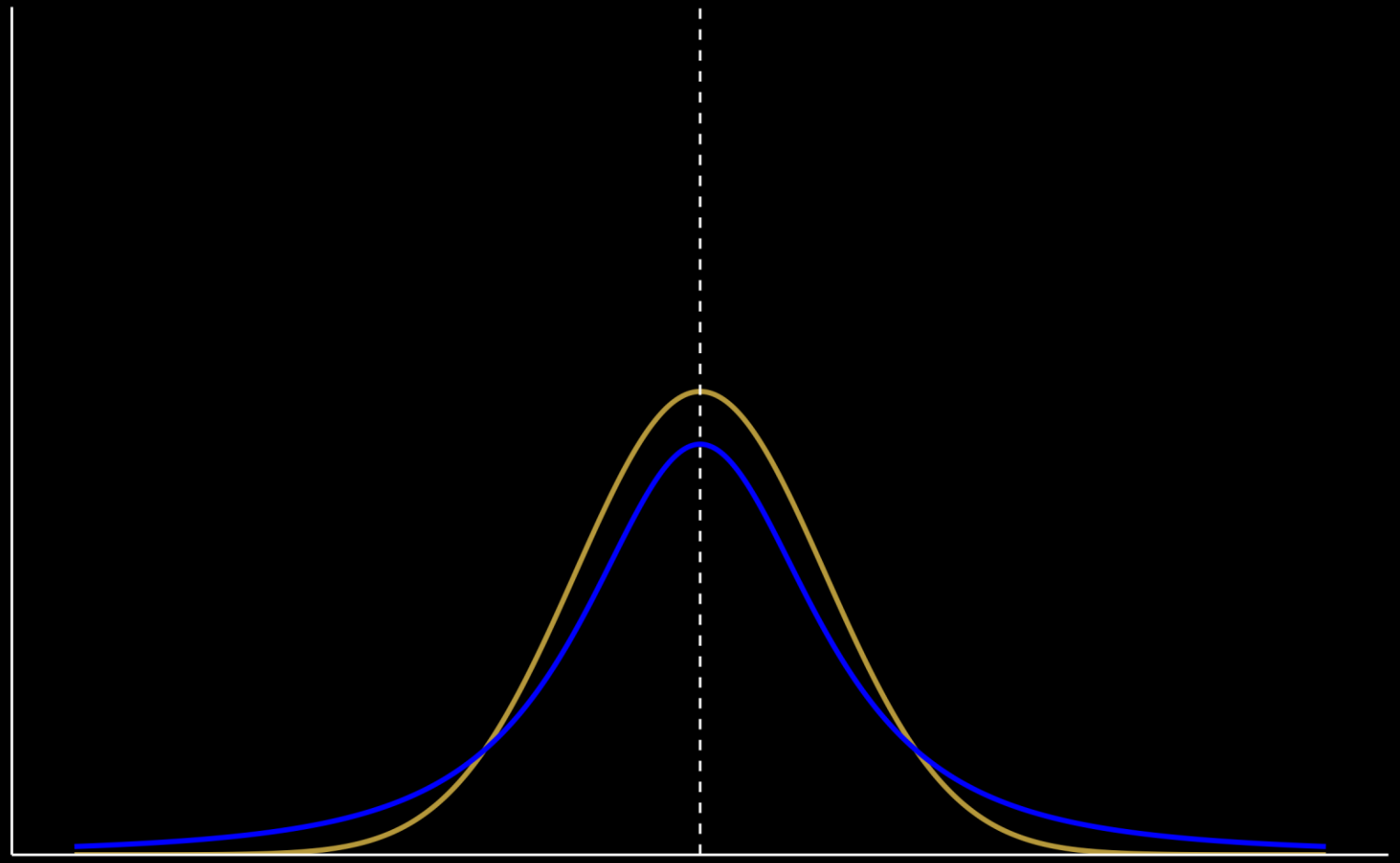
Deviations from the Normal distribution: Long tailed



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Right-Skewed waiting times

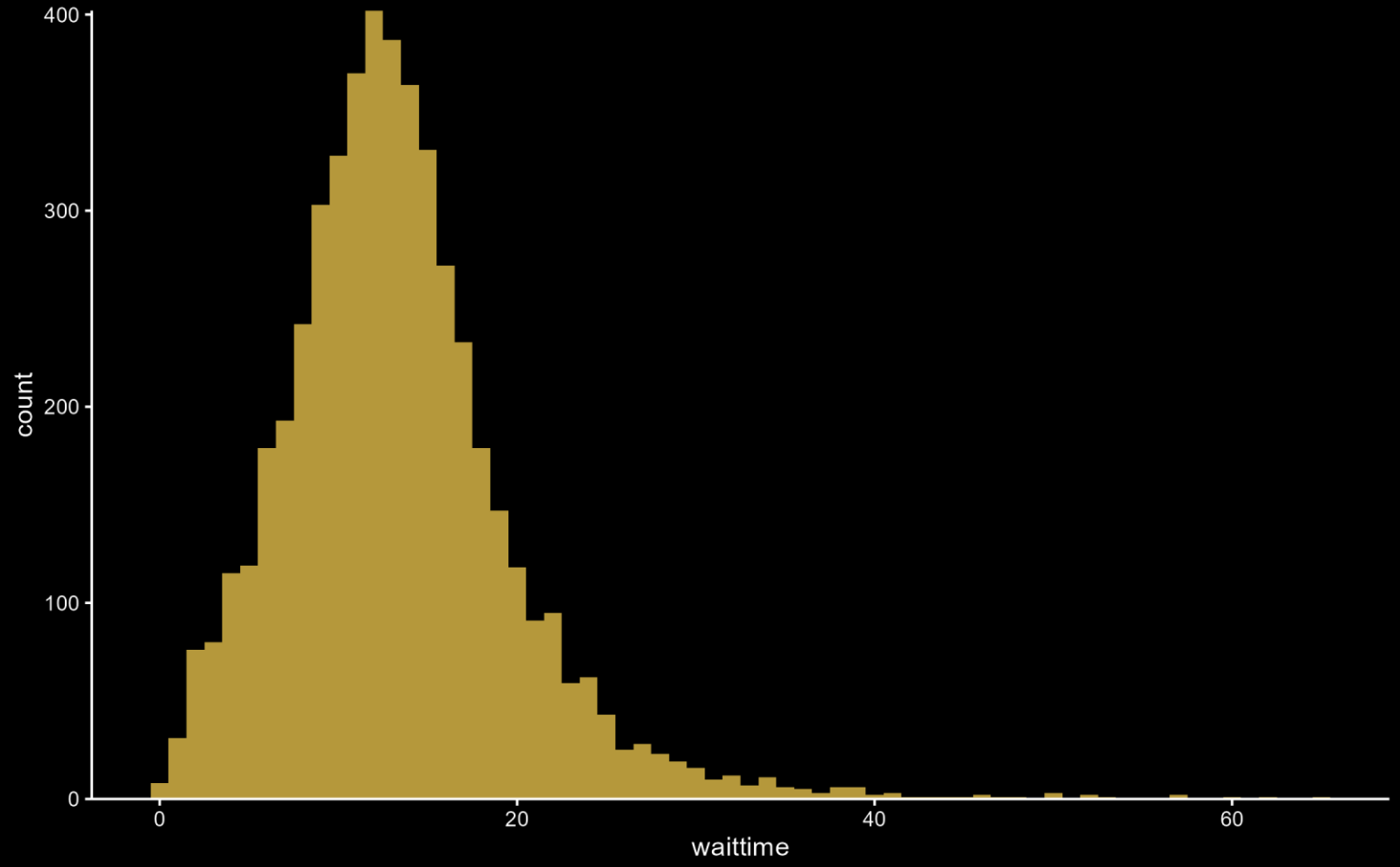

Figure 3.7 by Poldrack (2019): Waiting time for security at SFO Terminal A (Jan-Oct 2017)

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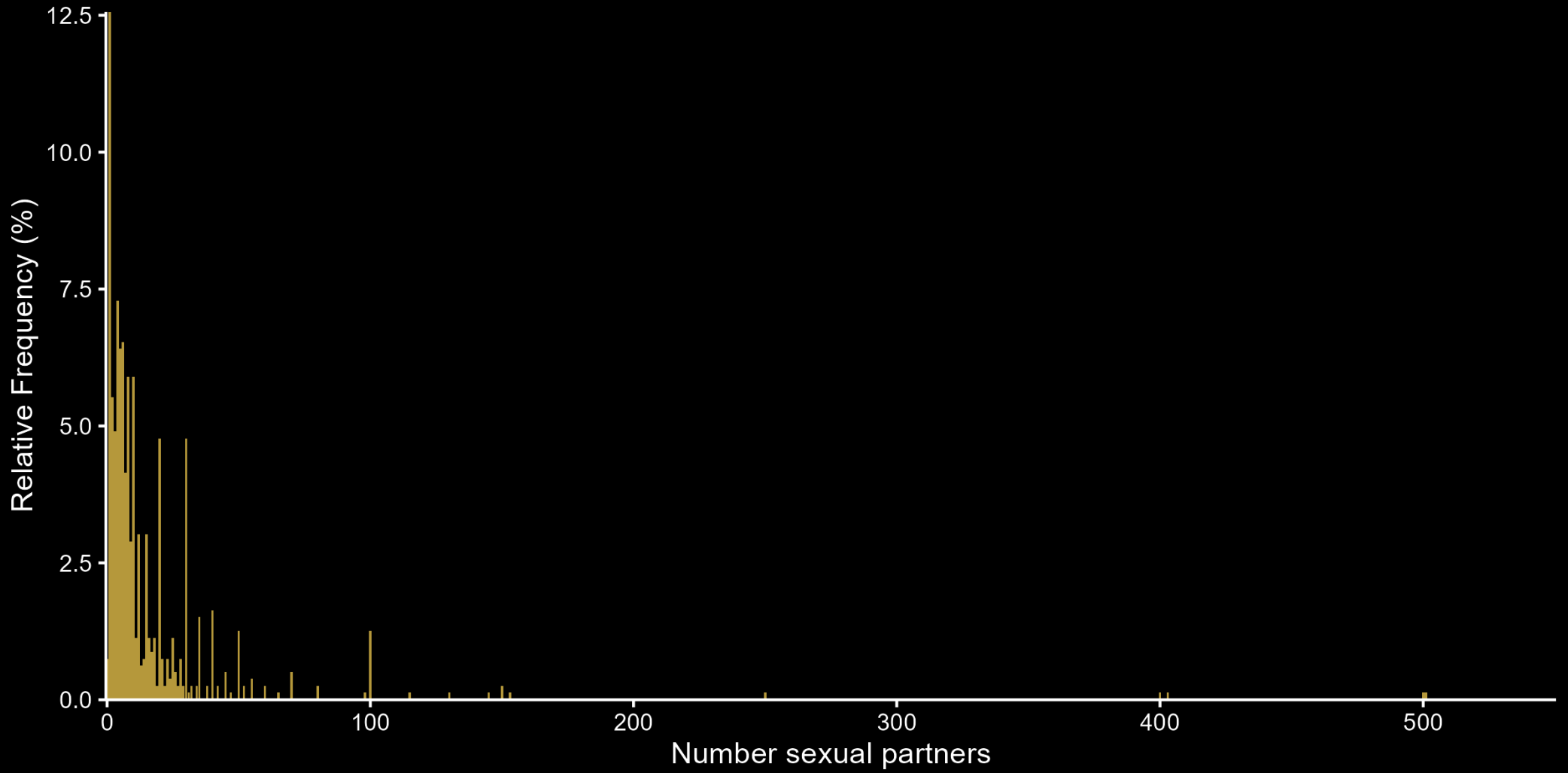
Sexual partners for men



Data source: Changes in sexual attitudes and lifestyles in Britain through the life course and over time: findings from the National Surveys of Sexual Attitudes and Lifestyles (Natsal) Mercer, Catherine H et al., 2013, The Lancet, Volume 382, Issue 9907, 1781 - 1794

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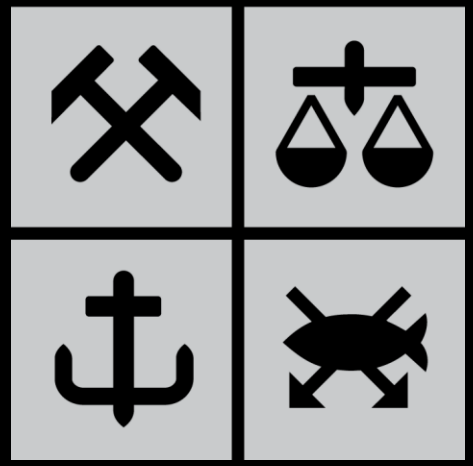

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