

# Bayesian Joint Modeling of Bone Mineral Density And Repeated Time-To-Fracture Event For Multiscale Bone Systems Model Extension

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## Background

- Physiologically-based multiscale systems (PBMS) model describes cellular mechanisms and bone dynamics in bone-related diseases.<sup>[1,2]</sup>
- Fracture rate considered as most meaningful endpoint affected by disease progression and drug intervention.<sup>[3]</sup>

## Objectives

To develop a model simultaneously characterizing bone mineral density (BMD) and fracture risk based on time since final menstrual period (FMP).

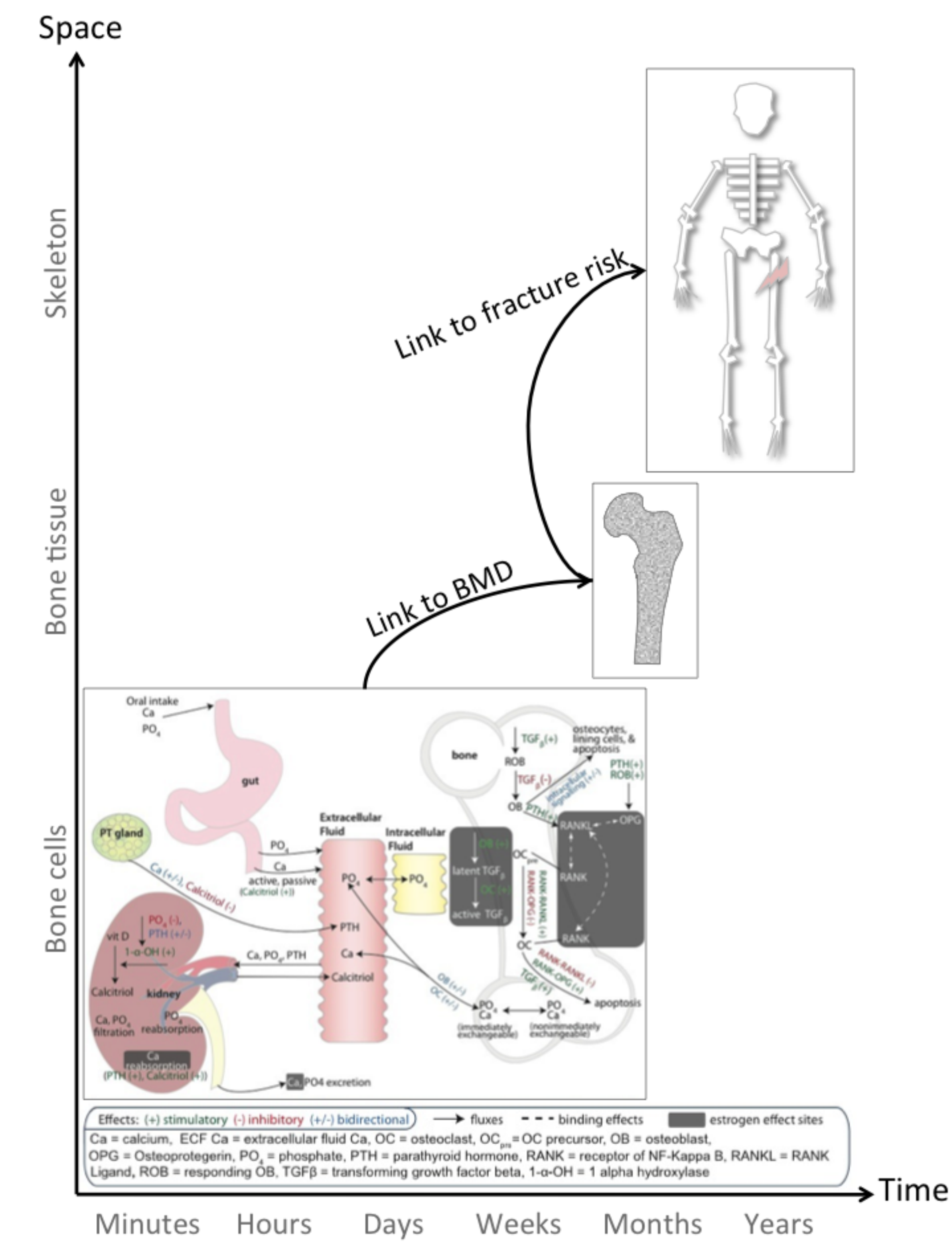


Fig. 1: Multiscale bone systems model extension to fracture risk

## Methods

### Data

- 2005-2008 NHANES<sup>[4]</sup> demographics, dual energy X-ray absorptiometry, body measures, osteoporosis, and reproductive health datasets.
- 1605 postmenopausal ♀ of 63 (95% inter-percentiles (IP) 27–85) yr mean age and 45 (95% IP 26–57) yr mean FMP age; 1 femoral neck BMD measure and 0–5 (204 total) fracture events each.

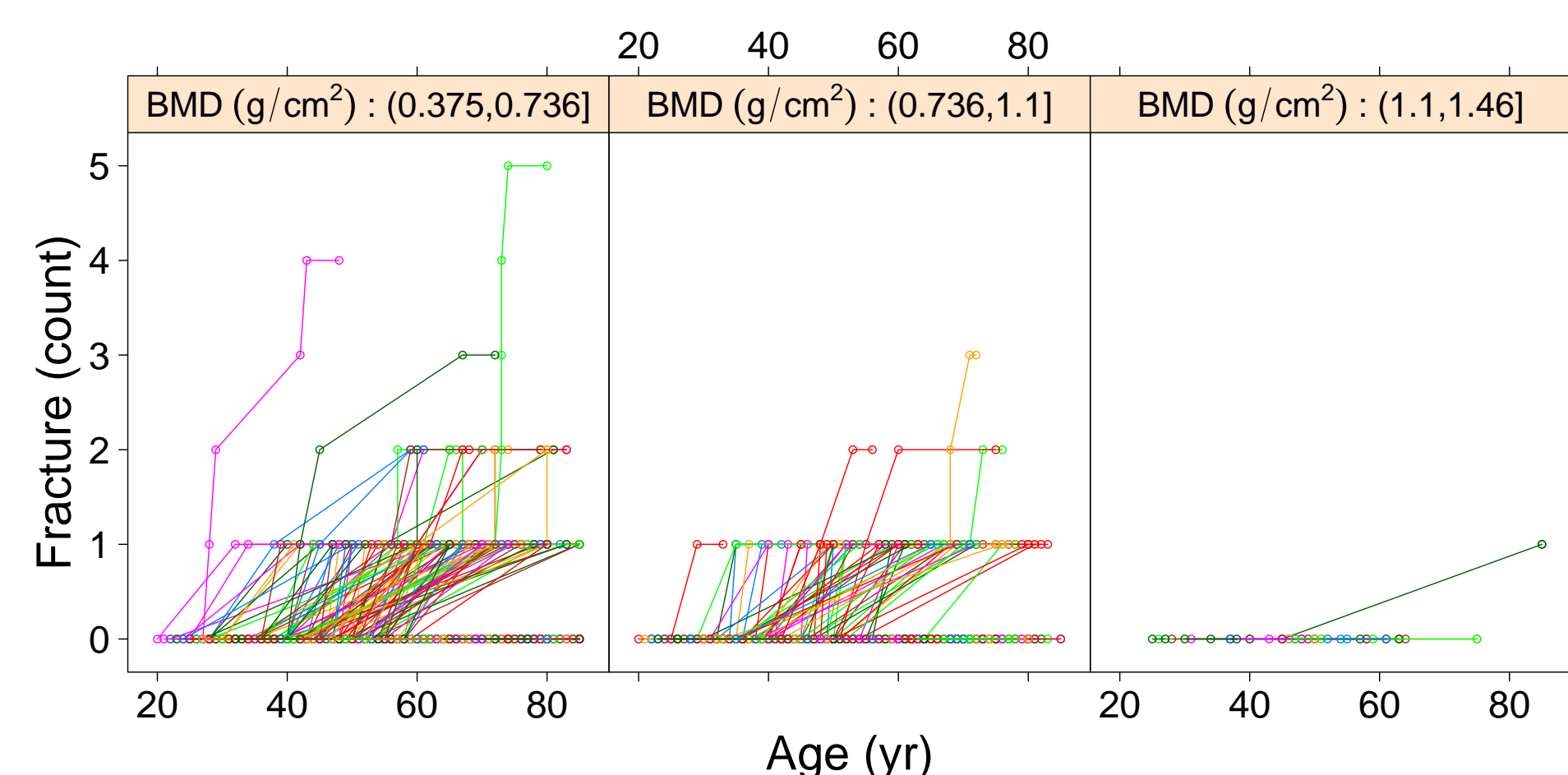


Fig. 2: Number of fractures since FMP per observed BMD strata

### Models

**BMD:** Piecewise linear model from literature<sup>[5]</sup>  
 $BMD(t) = b + s_{tr} \times t_{-1,2yr} + s_{po} \times t_{2,5yr} + s_{fi} \times t_{5,\infty yr}$   
 Included covariates: BMI, ethnicity, and  $FMP_{age}$ .

**Fracture risk:** Repeated time-to-event model<sup>[6,7]</sup>

$$S(t) = e^{-\int_{t_{j-1}}^{t_j} h(u) du}^\alpha$$

Investigated covariates: observed BMD,  $BMD(t)$ ,  $FMP_{age}$ , and time ( $\alpha \neq 1$ , Weibull distribution).

### Software

WinBUGS, BlackBox<sup>[8]</sup>, R (deSolve, mrgSim).

## Results

### Evaluation w.r.t. NHANES data

**BMD:** Retrospective prediction, from examination time to  $FMP$ , through fracture time point(s).

Structural parameter estimates:  
 $b = 0.84, s_{tr} = -1.66, s_{po} = -0.85, s_{fi} = -0.34$   
 (close to reported literature values<sup>[5]</sup>).

Centered covariate effects added on all parameters.

Random effect included as residual variability:  
 $\sigma = 0.131$  (95% credible interval (CI) 0.127–0.136).

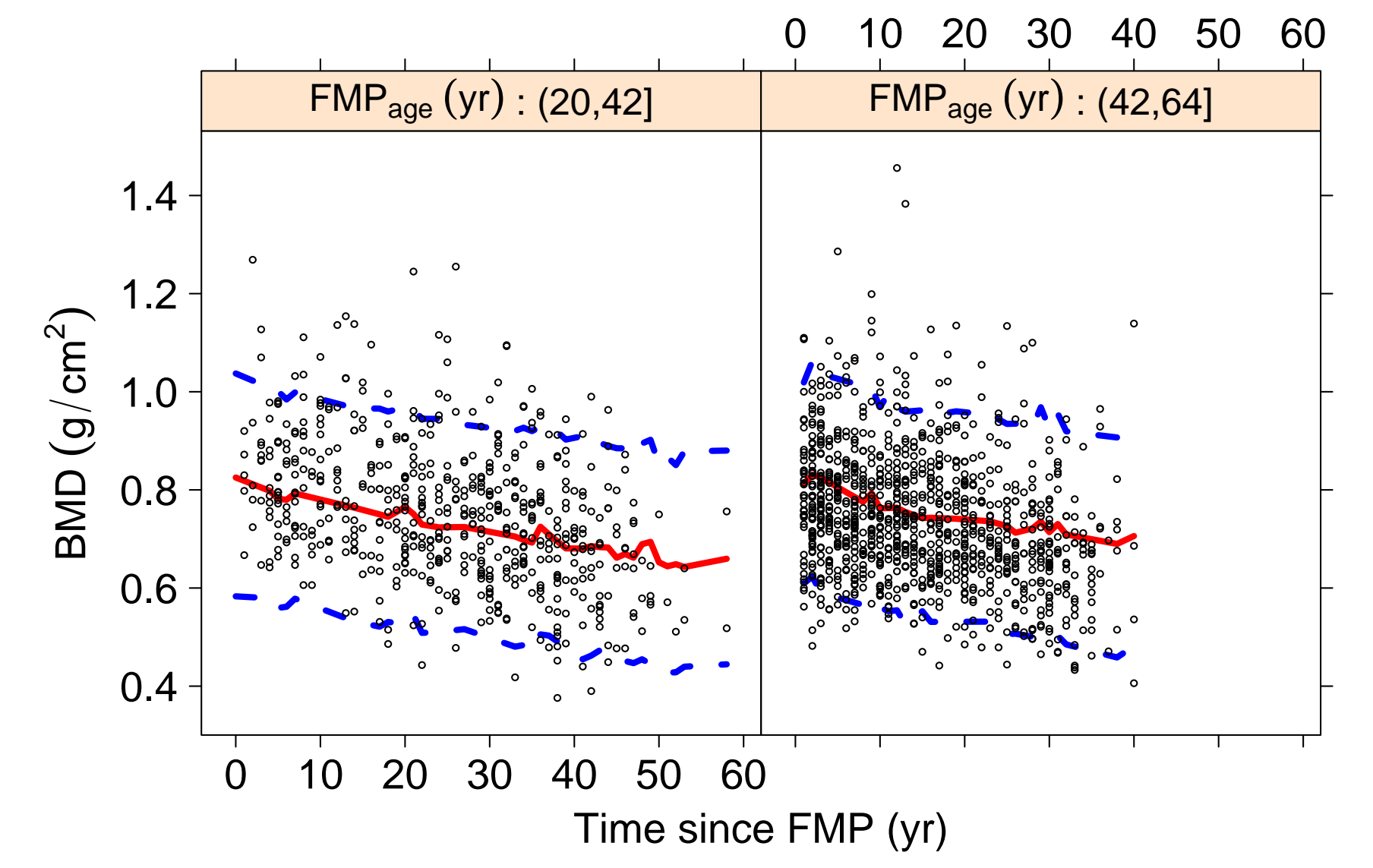


Fig. 3: Posterior predictive distributions obtained from BMD fit

**Fracture risk:** Time-varying hazard reflects increase due to time-dependent BMD decline in final model.

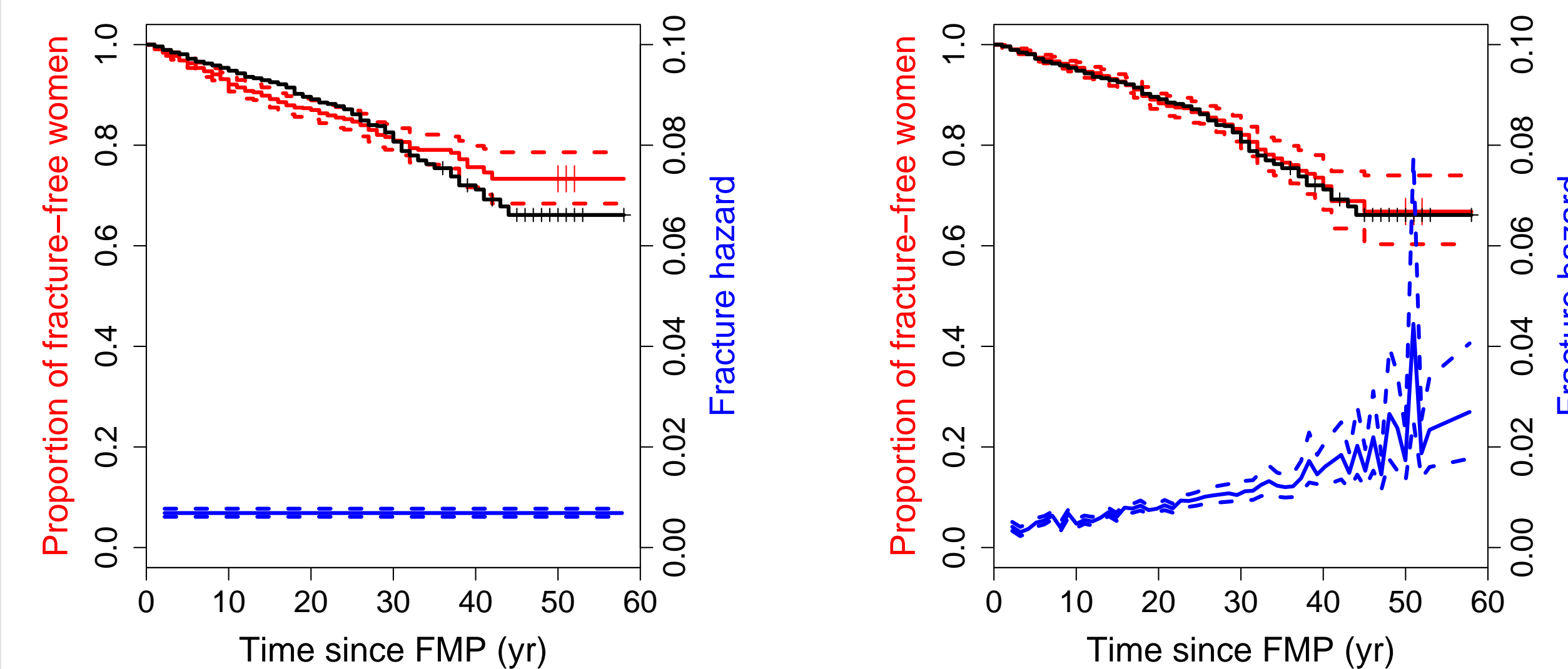


Fig. 4: Simulation with constant hazard

Fig. 5: Simulation with final model

$$h(t) = e^{\theta_h \times (1 + \theta_{BMD} \times (BMD(t) - \overline{BMD}))}$$

$$(\overline{BMD} = 0.8 \text{ g/cm}^2, \alpha = 1)$$

$\theta_h = -5.5$  (95%CI -5.49 – -5.54),  
 $\theta_{BMD} = 1.5$  (95%CI 1.49–1.52)

$h(t)$  accumulates from  $t_0 = FMP$ .  
 $\Delta DIC(\mathcal{M}_{constant} - \mathcal{M}_{varying}) = 30$

$FMP_{age}$  and time indirect covariates with dynamically predicted BMD vs. direct with observed BMD.

### Simulation with PBMS model

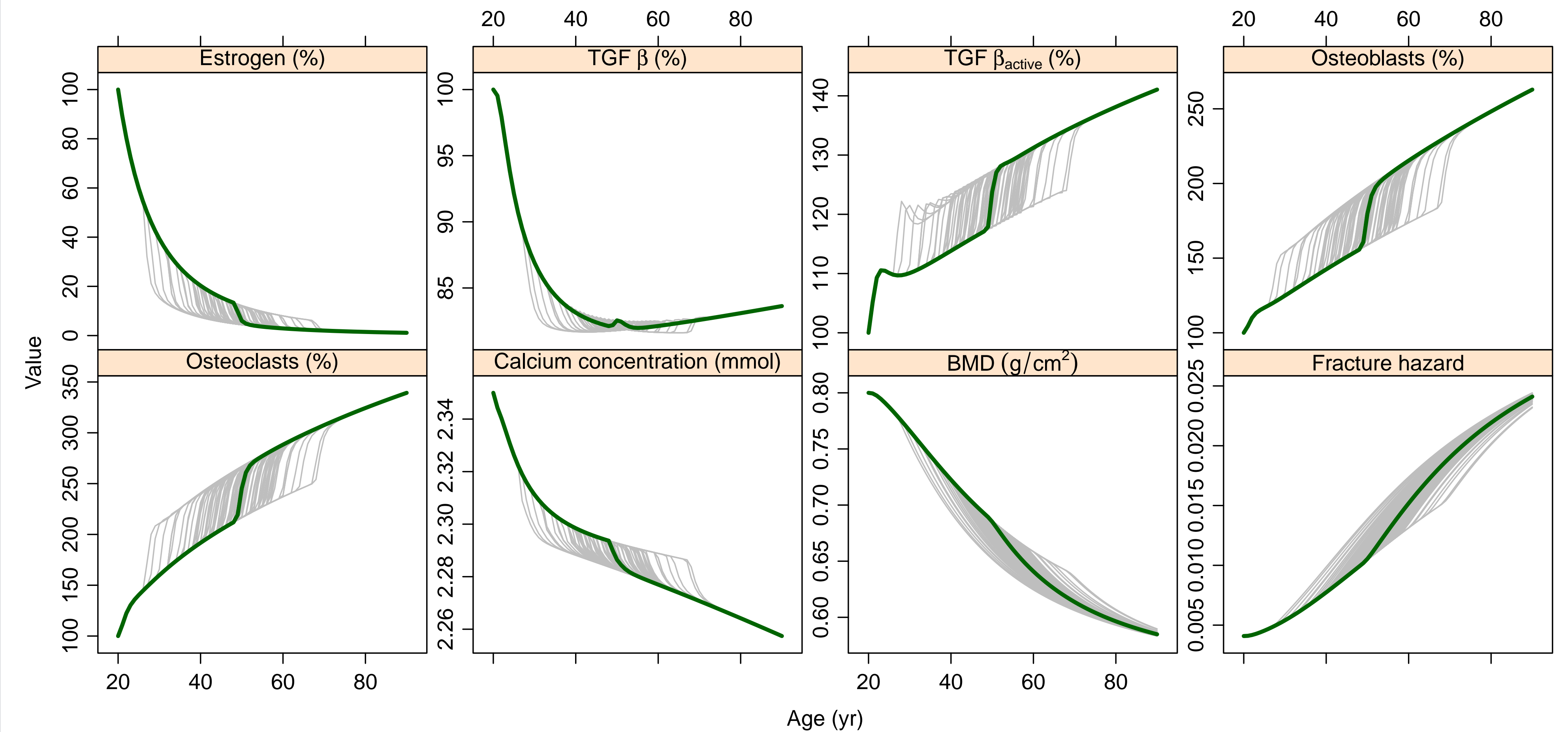


Fig. 6: Estrogen, bone remodeling factors and markers, calcium, BMD and fracture risk time-courses for 100 ♀ with FMP at 50 yr (SD 8)

Piecewise BMD model predictions resembled those based on the mechanistic model<sup>[2]</sup> reflecting the estrogen loss effect on a series of bone markers.

PBMS model extended to reflect changes in expected fracture-free time driven by bone markers.

Developed model spans several magnitudes in time and space: slow changes in survival can be predicted from more rapid changes in bone markers.

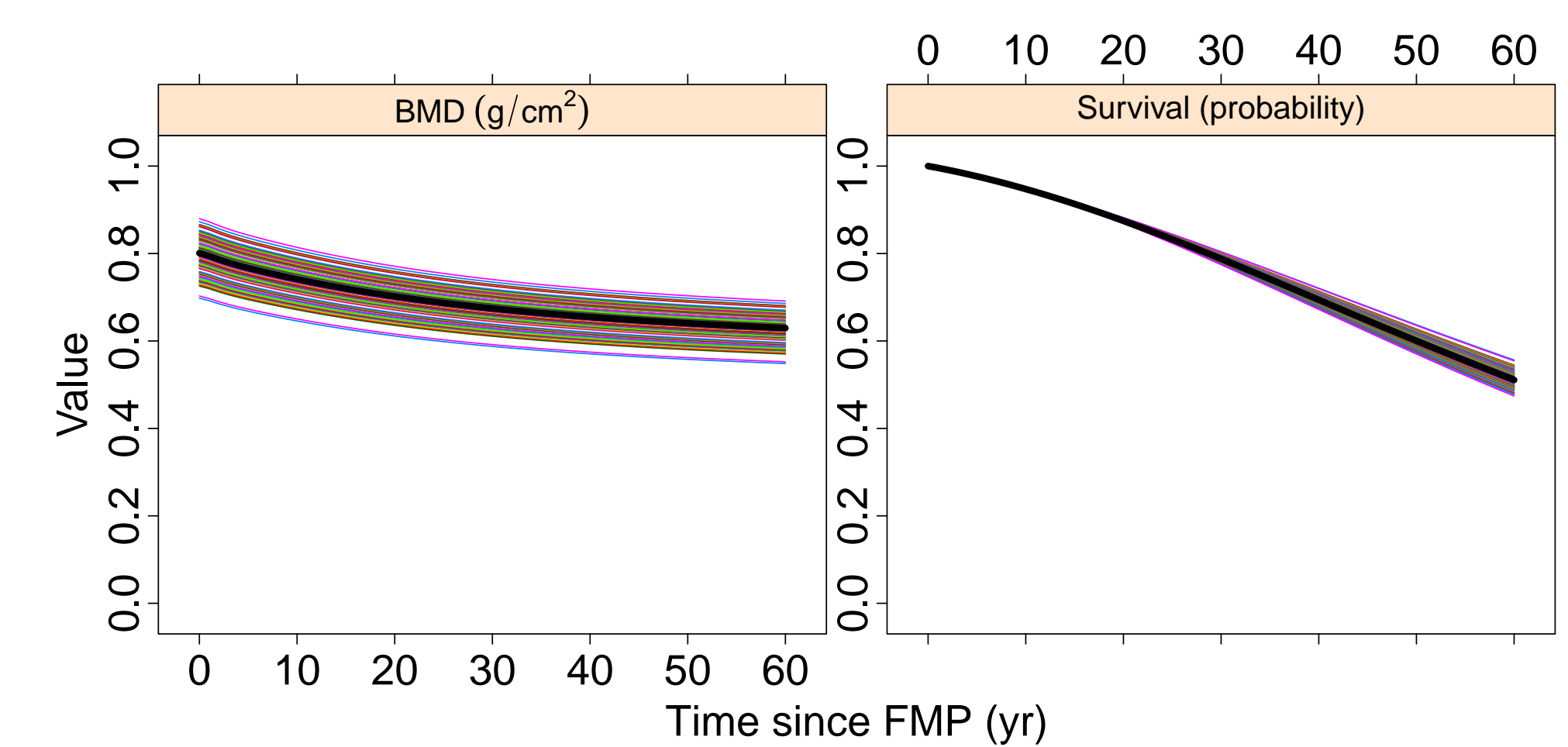


Fig. 7: BMD and probability to not experience fractures for 100 ♀ with BMD of 0.8 g/cm<sup>2</sup> (SD 0.04) at FMP

## Conclusions

- Simultaneous modeling of BMD time-course and repeated time-to-fracture events from publicly available data enabled the characterization of the fracture risk in > 1500 postmenopausal ♀.
- Next steps include, among others, testing drug effects from previously explored therapeutics, performing external evaluation with estrogen therapy, and including uncertainty in deterministic model.
- This model will be made available in the data and model library **METAMODL**<sup>™</sup>.

## References

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