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# Conditional weighted residuals

an improved model diagnostic for  
the FO/FOCE methods.

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# Introduction

- Development and analysis of population PK/PD models has shifted from FO to FOCE
  - FOCE Allows for hypothesis testing during model development
  - FOCE gives less biased model parameter estimates

Medline search:  
'NONMEM', in 2005  
131 hits

Estimation method				
FO	FOCE	FOCE INTER	Combo	Not Provided
15%	21%	28%	16%	20%

50% specifically mentioned examining WRES during model diagnosis

Of those, 80% provided a plot of the WRES



# Introduction

- Weighted residuals (WRES)
  - Commonly used as a model diagnostic for evaluating model misspecification.
  - Calculated using FO approximation even when running FOCE
  - Possibility of misguided model development if WRES are wrong
- Conditional WRES (FOCE)
  - A new model diagnostic tool
  - Calculated based on FOCE approximation

# Weighted residuals (WRES) – An example...

- Sigmoidal Emax model, exponential IIV, additive RE, Hill-coefficient = 4.5

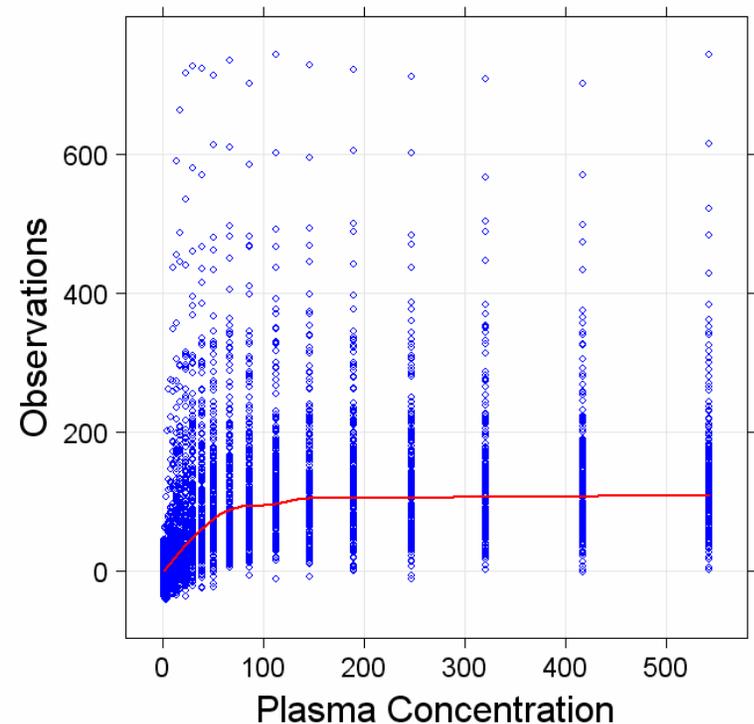
$$E = \frac{E_{\max} C^{\gamma}}{C^{\gamma} + C_{50}^{\gamma}} + \varepsilon$$

$$E_{\max} = \theta_1 e^{\eta_1}$$

$$C_{50} = \theta_2 e^{\eta_2}$$

$$\gamma = \theta_3$$

- Data simulated from model: 200 ind, 25 sampls/ind.

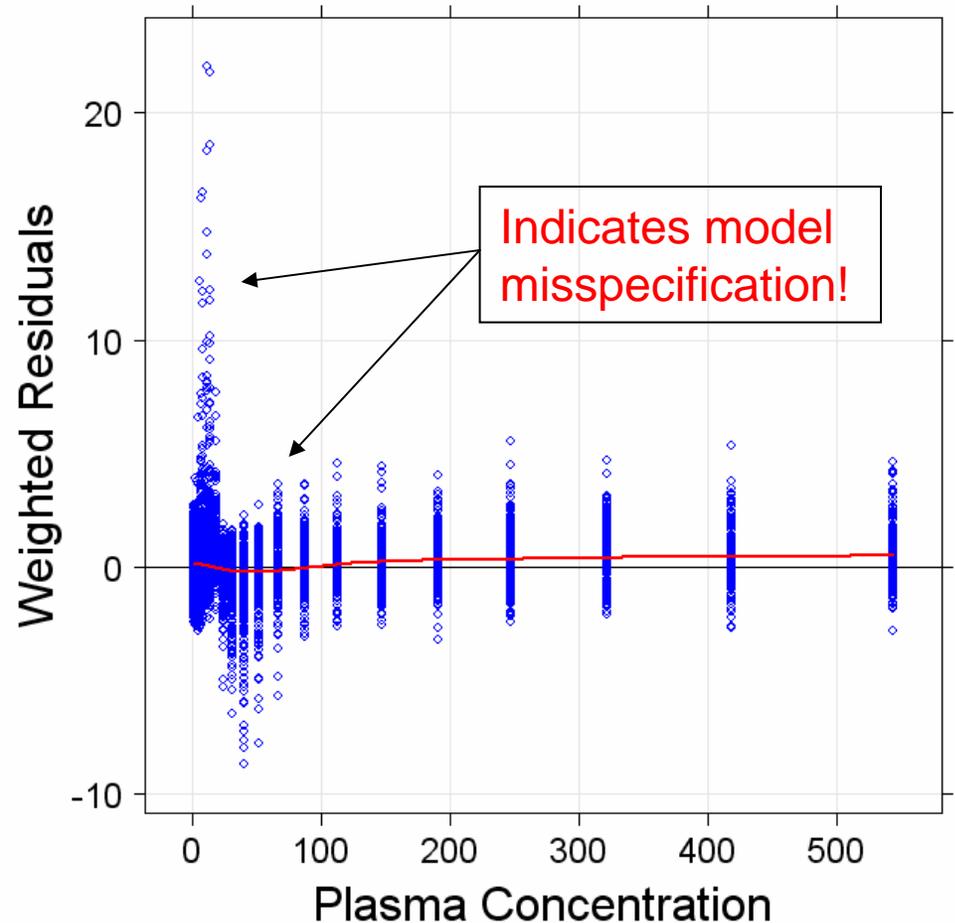




# Weighted residuals (WRES) – An example...

- Estimate using FOCE with true model.
  - Difference between estimated and true parameters is small (<10%)
  - FOCE does not have a problem with fit.

**However!**

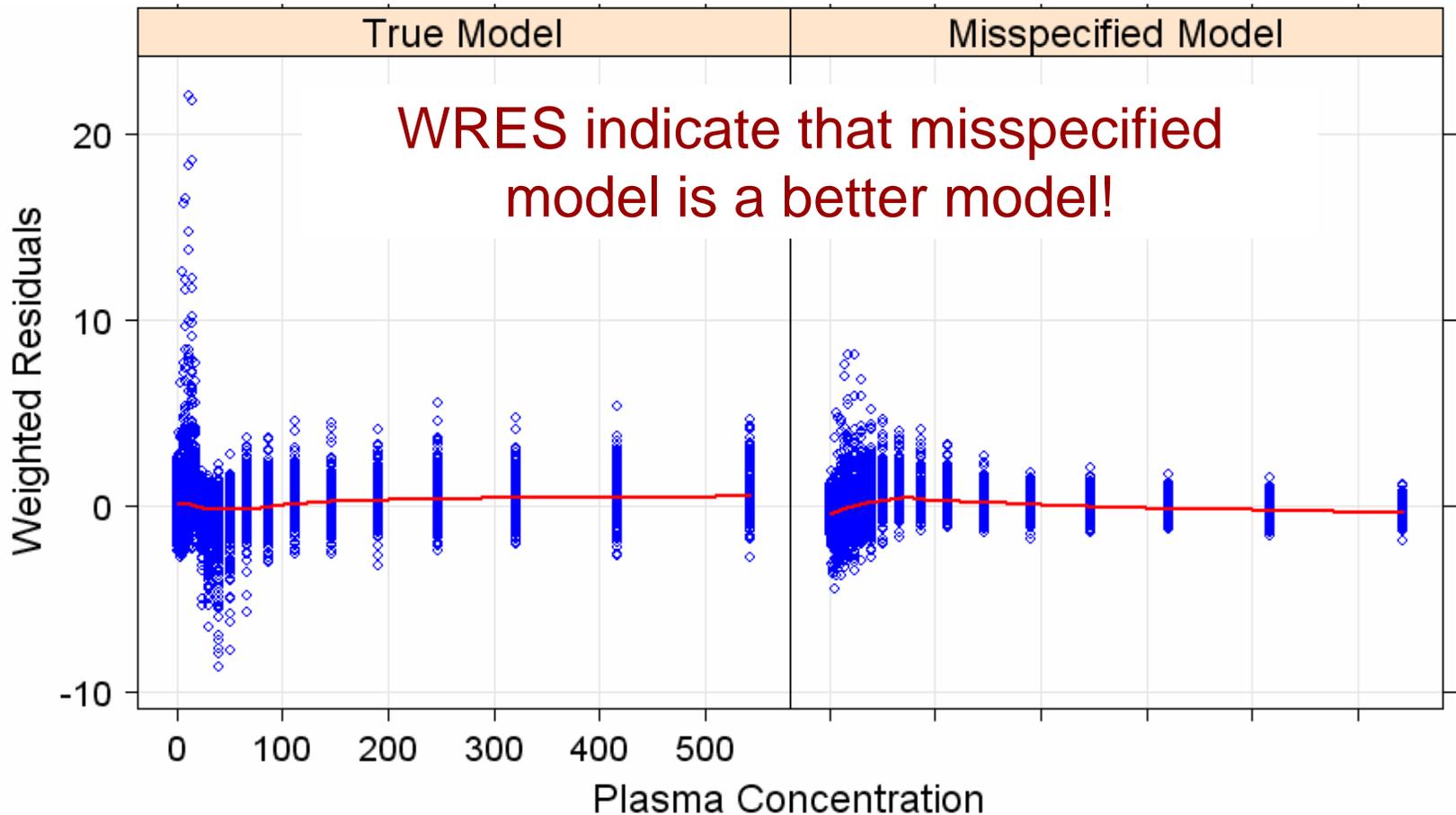




# Weighted residuals (WRES) – An example...

## ***Model Misspecification:***

Remove Hill-Coefficient from model and re-estimate





# What is going on...

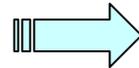
## The FO perspective

The FO objective function



$$\sum_{i=1}^m \left[ \log |\mathbf{Cov}_{FO}(\bar{y}_i)| + \frac{(\bar{y}_i - E_{FO,i}(f))^2}{\mathbf{Cov}_{FO}(\bar{y}_i)} \right]$$

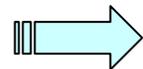
Expectation and covariance matrix based on FO approximation



$$E_{FO,i}(f) = f(\bar{\theta}, 0)$$

$$\mathbf{Cov}_{FO}(\bar{y}_i) = \left. \frac{df}{d\bar{\eta}} \right|_{\bar{\eta}=0} \cdot \Omega \cdot \left. \frac{df'}{d\bar{\eta}} \right|_{\bar{\eta}=0} + \text{diag} \left( \left. \frac{dh}{d\bar{\varepsilon}_i} \right|_{\bar{\varepsilon}_i=0} \cdot \Sigma_i \cdot \left. \frac{dh'}{d\bar{\varepsilon}_i} \right|_{\bar{\varepsilon}_i=0} \right)$$

**WRES always calculated this way (even with FOCE)**



$$WRES = \frac{\bar{y}_i - E_{FO,i}(f)}{\sqrt{\mathbf{Cov}_{FO}(\bar{y}_i)}} \in N(0,1)$$



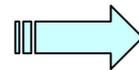
# What is going on...

## The FOCE perspective

The FOCE  
objective function

$$\Rightarrow \sum_{i=1}^m \left[ \log |\mathbf{Cov}_{FOCE}(\bar{y}_i)| + \frac{(\bar{y}_i - E_{FOCE,i}(f))^2}{\mathbf{Cov}_{FOCE}(\bar{y}_i)} \right]$$

Expectation and  
covariance matrix  
based on FOCE  
approximation



$$E_{FOCE,i}(f) = f(\bar{\theta}, \hat{\eta}_i) - \left. \frac{df}{d\bar{\eta}_i} \right|_{\bar{\eta}_i = \hat{\eta}_i} \cdot \hat{\eta}_i$$

$$Cov_{FOCE}(\bar{y}_i) = \left. \frac{df}{d\bar{\eta}_i} \right|_{\bar{\eta}_i = \hat{\eta}_i} \cdot \Omega \cdot \left. \frac{df'}{d\bar{\eta}} \right|_{\bar{\eta}_i = \hat{\eta}_i} + \text{diag} \left( \left. \frac{dh}{d\bar{\varepsilon}_i} \right|_{\bar{\varepsilon}_i = 0} \cdot \Sigma_i \cdot \left. \frac{dh'}{d\bar{\varepsilon}_i} \right|_{\bar{\varepsilon}_i = 0} \right)$$

These values are  
NOT the WRES!

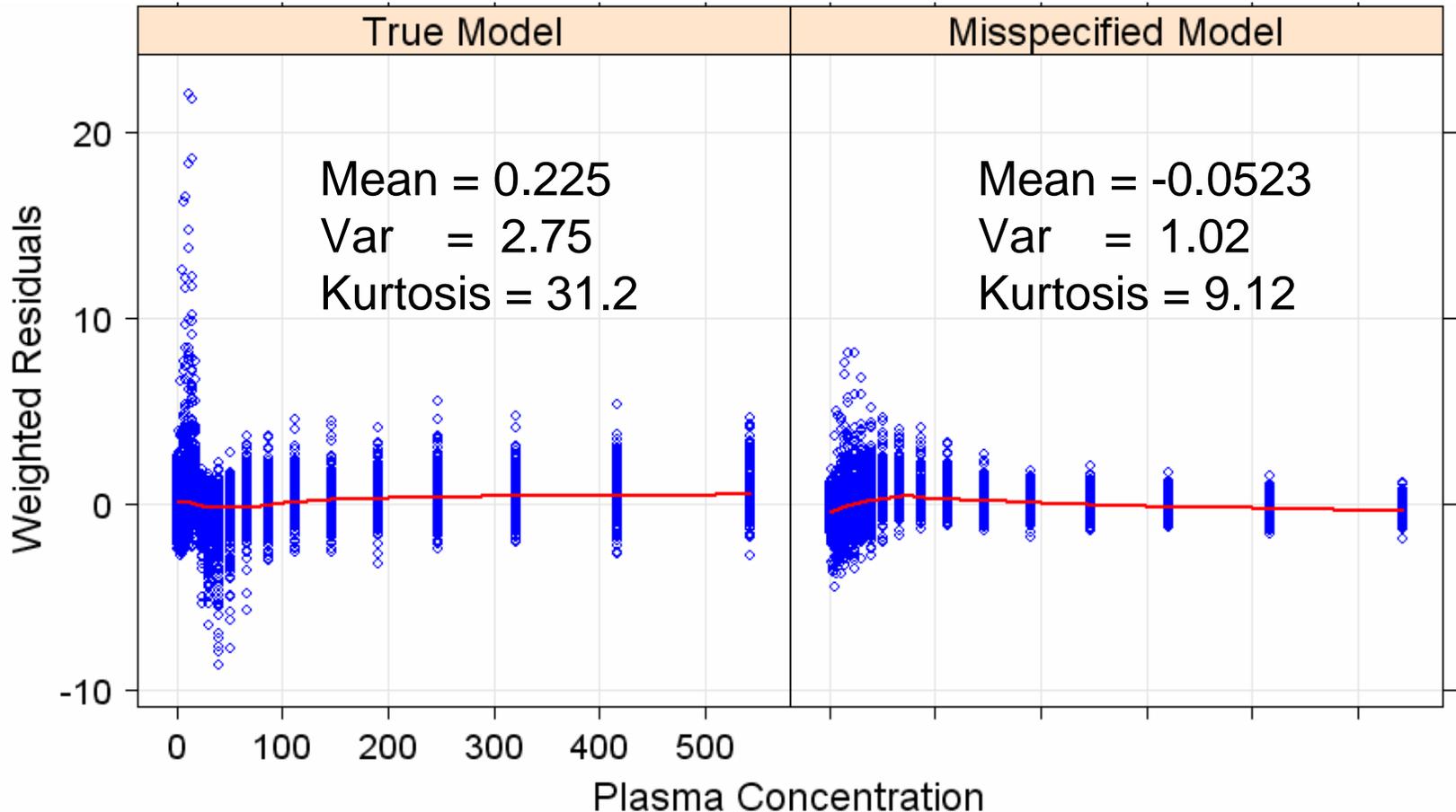


$$\text{CWRES} = \frac{\bar{y}_i - E_{FOCE,i}(f)}{\sqrt{\mathbf{Cov}_{FOCE}(\bar{y}_i)}} \in N(0,1)$$



# Investigating the CWRES: Model misspecification example

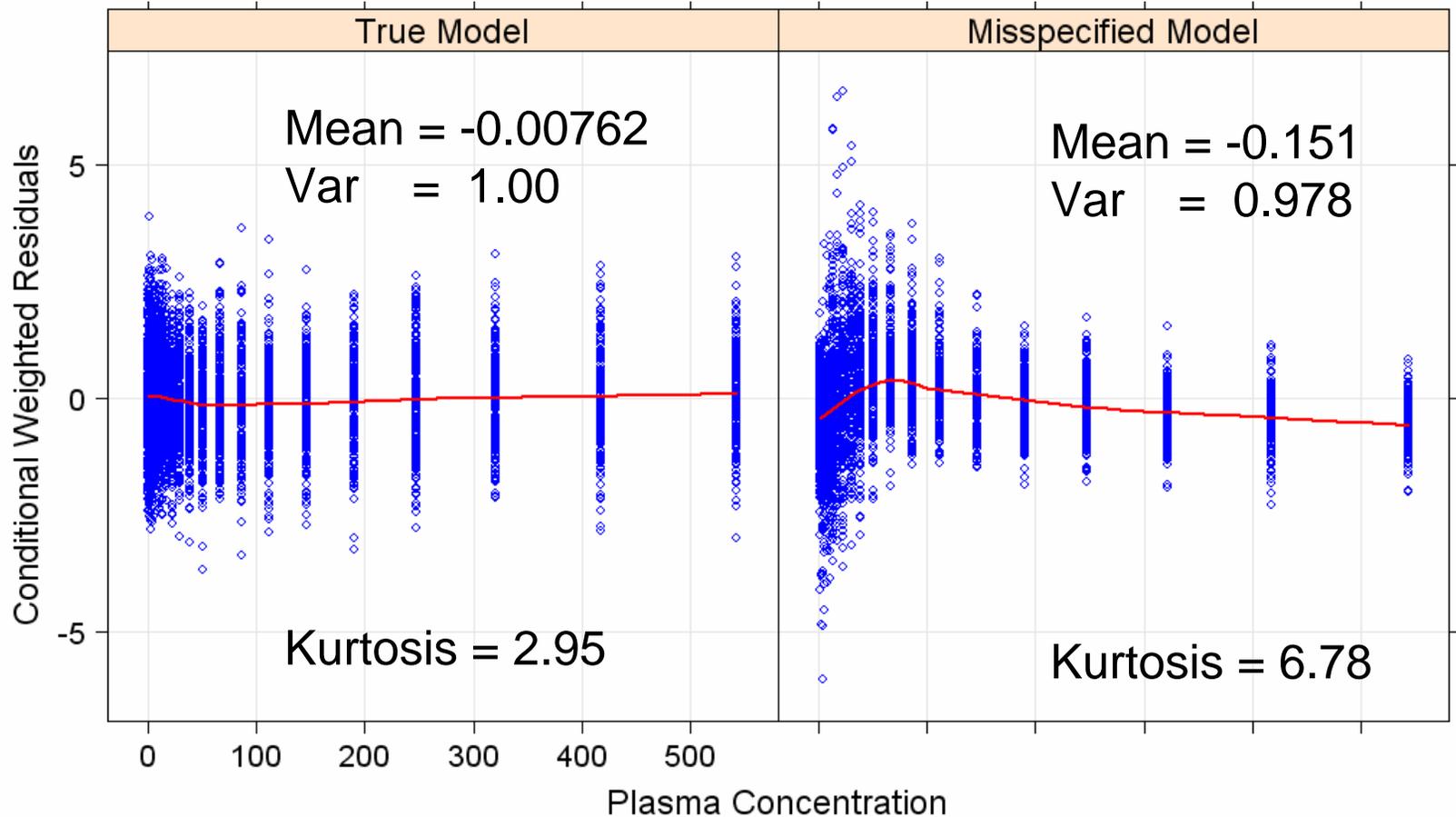
**Recall WRES** – misspecified model looks better than true model





# Investigating the CWRES: Model misspecification example

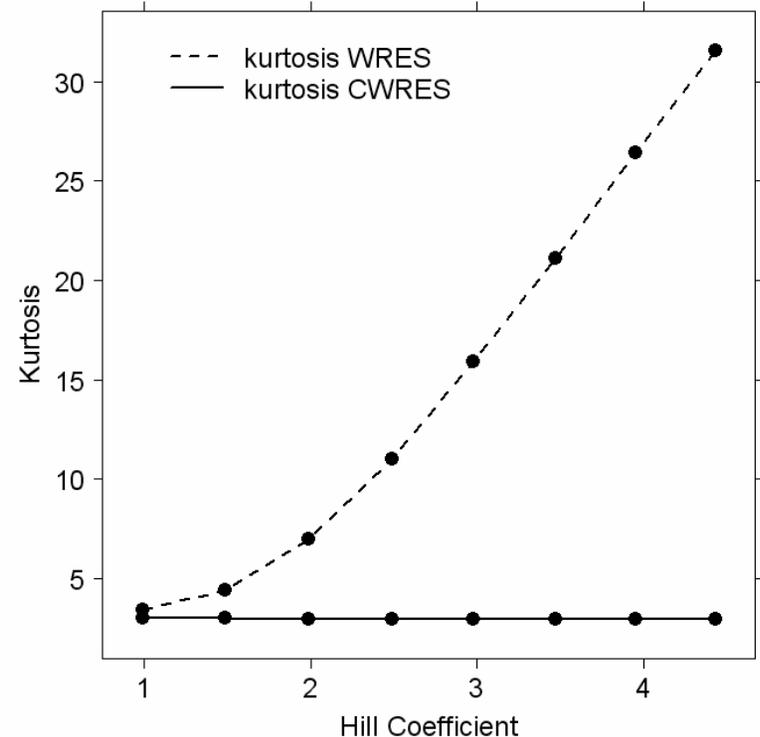
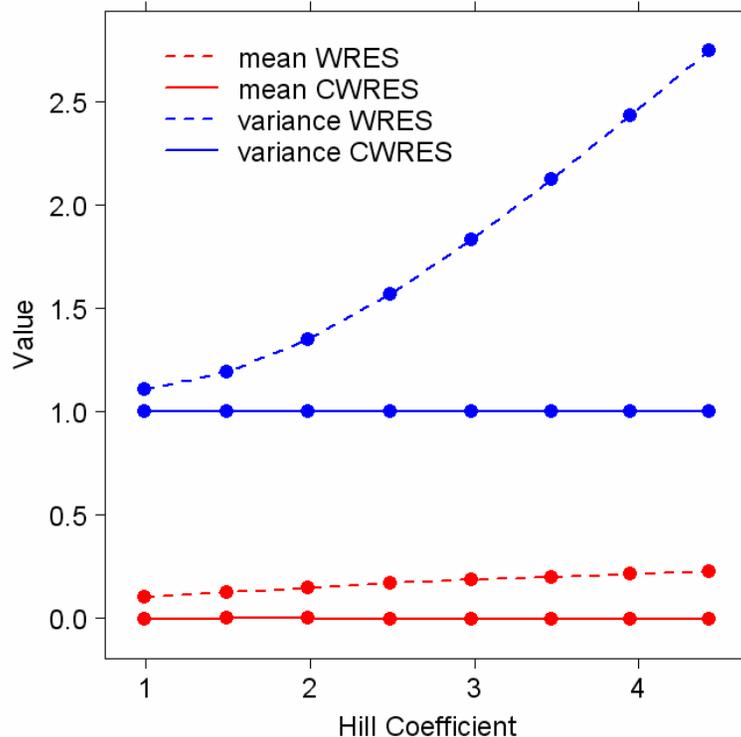
**CWRES** – indicates that correctly specified model is a better model.





# CWRES Properties: When the model is correct

- Simulate and estimate from Sigmoidal Emax model with changing Hill-coefficient.
  - Difference between estimated and true parameters is small (FOCE fit is good).
- CWRES are more normally distributed





# CWRES Properties: CWRES after FO estimation

- CWRES can be computed even in FO, using POSTHOC step in NONMEM
- WRES tells us what is happening in FO

$$OFV_{FO} = \sum_{i=1}^m \left[ \log |\mathbf{Cov}_{FO}(\bar{y}_i)| + \frac{(\bar{y}_i - E_{FO,i}(f))^2}{\mathbf{Cov}_{FO}(\bar{y}_i)} \right]$$

- CWRES tells us what is happening in FOCE

$$OFV_{FOCE} = \sum_{i=1}^m \left[ \log |\mathbf{Cov}_{FOCE}(\bar{y}_i)| + \frac{(\bar{y}_i - E_{FOCE,i}(f))^2}{\mathbf{Cov}_{FOCE}(\bar{y}_i)} \right]$$



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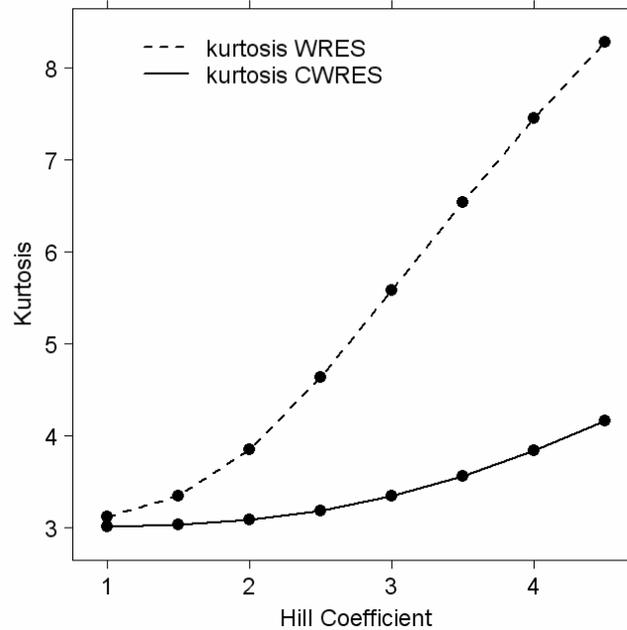
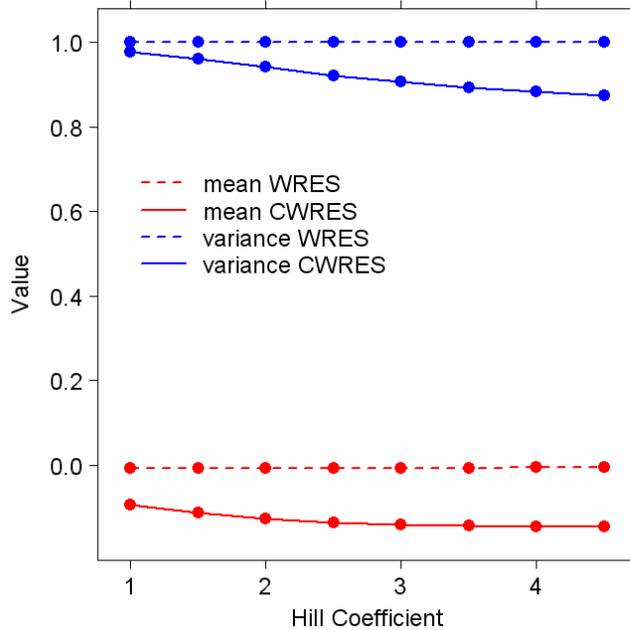
# CWRES Properties: CWRES after FO estimation

- Many models don't run in FOCE
  - Remember: since 2005, 15% of models in the literature have estimated parameters using FO!
- Can the differences between WRES and CWRES in FO tell us something about the differences between FO and FOCE estimation?



# CWRES Properties: CWRES after FO estimation

## CWRES and WRES using FO

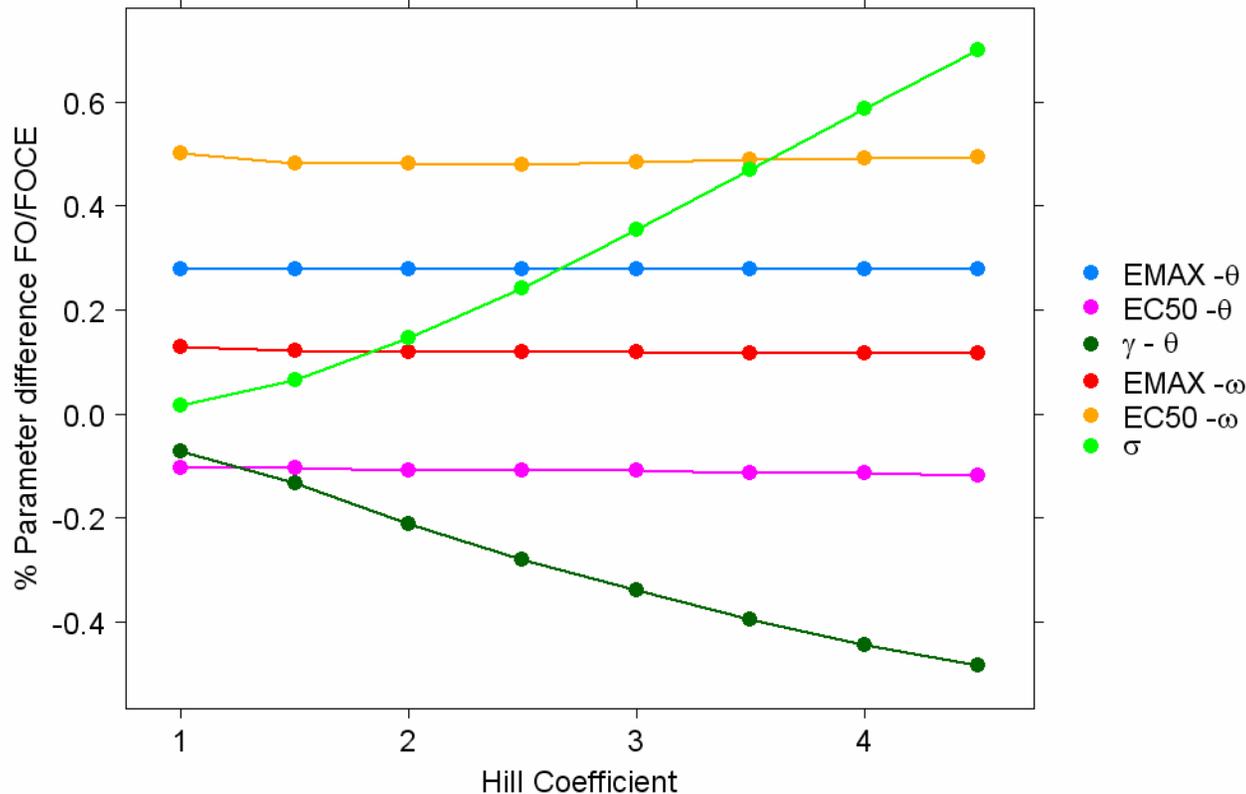


+ ...



# CWRES Properties: CWRES after FO estimation

Percent difference in parameter values between FO and FOCE



Leads to ...

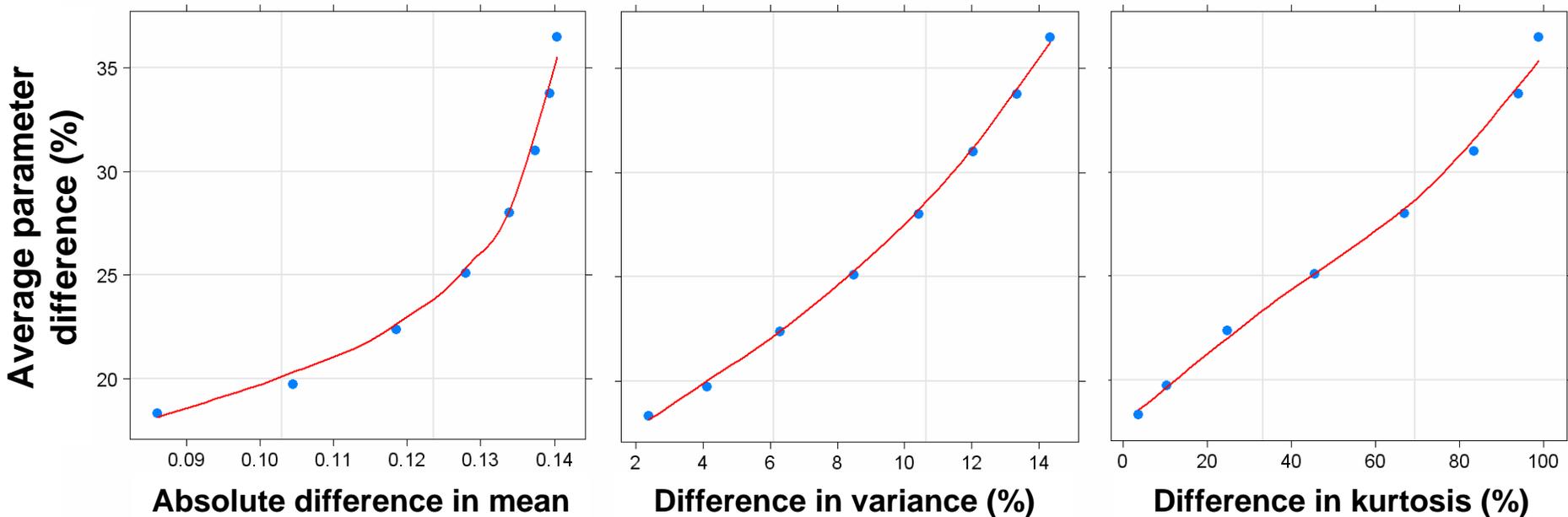


# CWRES Properties: CWRES after FO estimation

Average % parameter difference

vs.

Difference between WRES and CWRES in FO

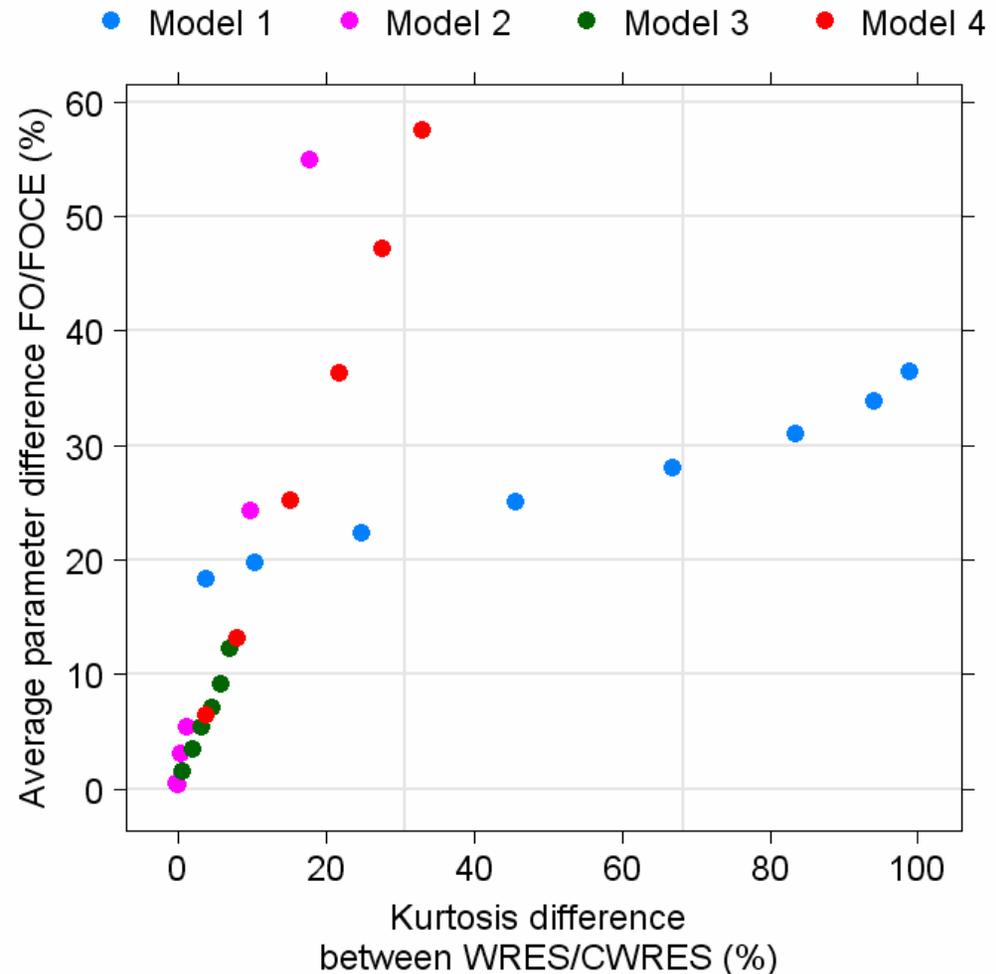




# CWRES Properties: CWRES after FO estimation

With more models and datasets:

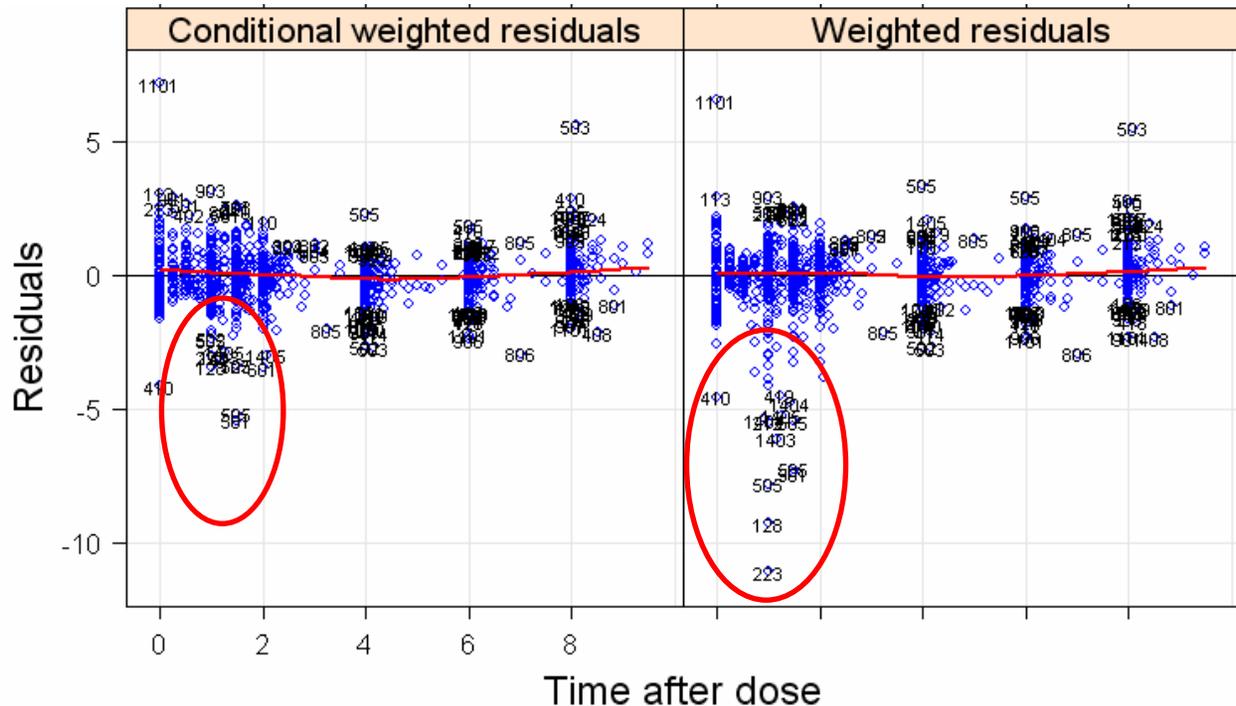
- With large differences between the kurtosis of the WRES and CWRES in FO, parameter values will differ between FO and FOCE.
- With small CWRES/WRES differences, FO/FOCE parameter estimates are similar.





# CWRES Properties: Real Data – Moxonidine

- Moxonidine PK data (Karlsson, Jonsson, Wiltse, Wade. J. Pharmacokinet. Biopharm. 1998).
- Transit compartment model (R. Savic, PAGE, 2004).
- CWRES indicate less model misspecification than previously thought from WRES.





# Conclusions

- Utilization of the CWRES could improve model development by giving a more accurate picture of if and when a model is misspecified when using the FOCE approximation.
- CWRES can also *indicate* if the FOCE estimation method will improve the results of an FO model fit to data or not.



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# Compute the CWRES yourself!

- Computation of CWRES available in the latest version of Xpose 4
  - Available for free at [xpose.sourceforge.net](http://xpose.sourceforge.net)
  - Implemented in R (free from [www.r-project.org](http://www.r-project.org) )
  - Software demonstration at PAGE: [www.page-meeting.org/?abstract=1031](http://www.page-meeting.org/?abstract=1031)
- CWRES computation Also available in MATLAB by request

Acknowledgement – This work was supported by a Pfizer post-doc fellowship grant.