

Machine Learning for Thermodynamic Observables

K.A. Nicoli, C. Anders, L Funcke, T. Hartung, K. Jansen, P. Kessel, S. Nakajima, P. Stornati, Phys. Rev. Lett. 126 (2021) 3, 032001

The 38th International Symposium on Lattice Field Theory

ZOOM, 29.07.2021



In collaboration with this awesome team...



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The curse of MCMC samplers

Even specified MCMC algorithms come at a **cost**

👎 **Sequential Sampling** \implies Can't be parallelized

👎 **Critical Slowing down** \implies Exponential increase of computational cost

👎 **No direct access to Z** \implies Boltzmann distribution known up to normalization

👎 **Integration through phase** \implies ratios of partition functions $\frac{Z_t}{Z_0} = \Delta F_t = \mathbb{E}_{p_0} \left[\frac{\exp(S_t)}{\exp(S_0)} \right]$

👎 **Stepping through phase space** leads to **large statistical errors**

👎 **No direct access to $F = -T \ln Z$** and thermodynamic observables

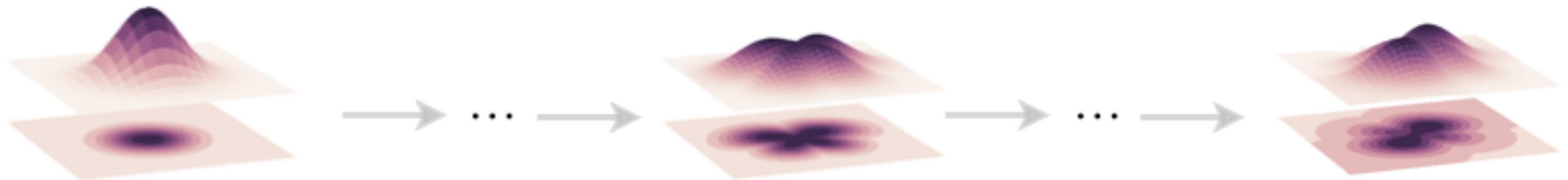
Normalizing Flows

$$z \sim \mathcal{N}(0, I)$$



$$\phi = g_{\theta}(z)$$

$$g_{\theta}(z) = (y^L \circ y^{L-1} \circ \dots \circ y^1)(z)$$



$$q_{\theta}(\phi) = q_0(g^{-1}(\phi)) \left| \det \left(\frac{\partial g}{\partial z} \right) \right|^{-1}$$

(Albergo, Kanwar, Shananah, 2019)

- Flow trained to **approximate the path integral distribution**
- **Exact density** q_{θ} \rightarrow **variational approximation** with free parameters θ (NNs)
- g_{θ} : **invertible, differentiable, tractable Jacobean**
- Training: minimize **reverse KL** divergence $\rightarrow KL(q_{\theta} || p) = \int \mathbb{D}[\phi] q_{\theta}(\phi) \ln \left(\frac{q_{\theta}(\phi)}{p(\phi)} \right)$

Estimation of Thermodynamic Observables

$$\hat{\phi} \sim q_{\theta} \quad \longrightarrow \quad \phi \sim p(\phi)$$

- Exact density q_{θ} allows to estimate the partition function by MC sampling:

$$Z = \int \mathcal{D}[\phi] \tilde{p}(\phi) = \int \mathcal{D}[\phi] q_{\theta}(\phi) \tilde{w}(\phi) \quad \text{where} \quad \tilde{w}(\phi) = \frac{\exp[-S(\phi)]}{q_{\theta}(\phi)}$$

$$\hat{\phi}_i \sim q_{\theta}$$

$$Z \approx \hat{Z} = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \tilde{w}(\hat{\phi}_i) \longrightarrow \hat{F} = -T \ln \hat{Z} \longrightarrow$$

$$\hat{p} = -\frac{\hat{F}}{V}$$
$$\hat{H} = \beta(U - \hat{F})$$

ϕ^4 real scalar field theory

ϕ^4 – theory

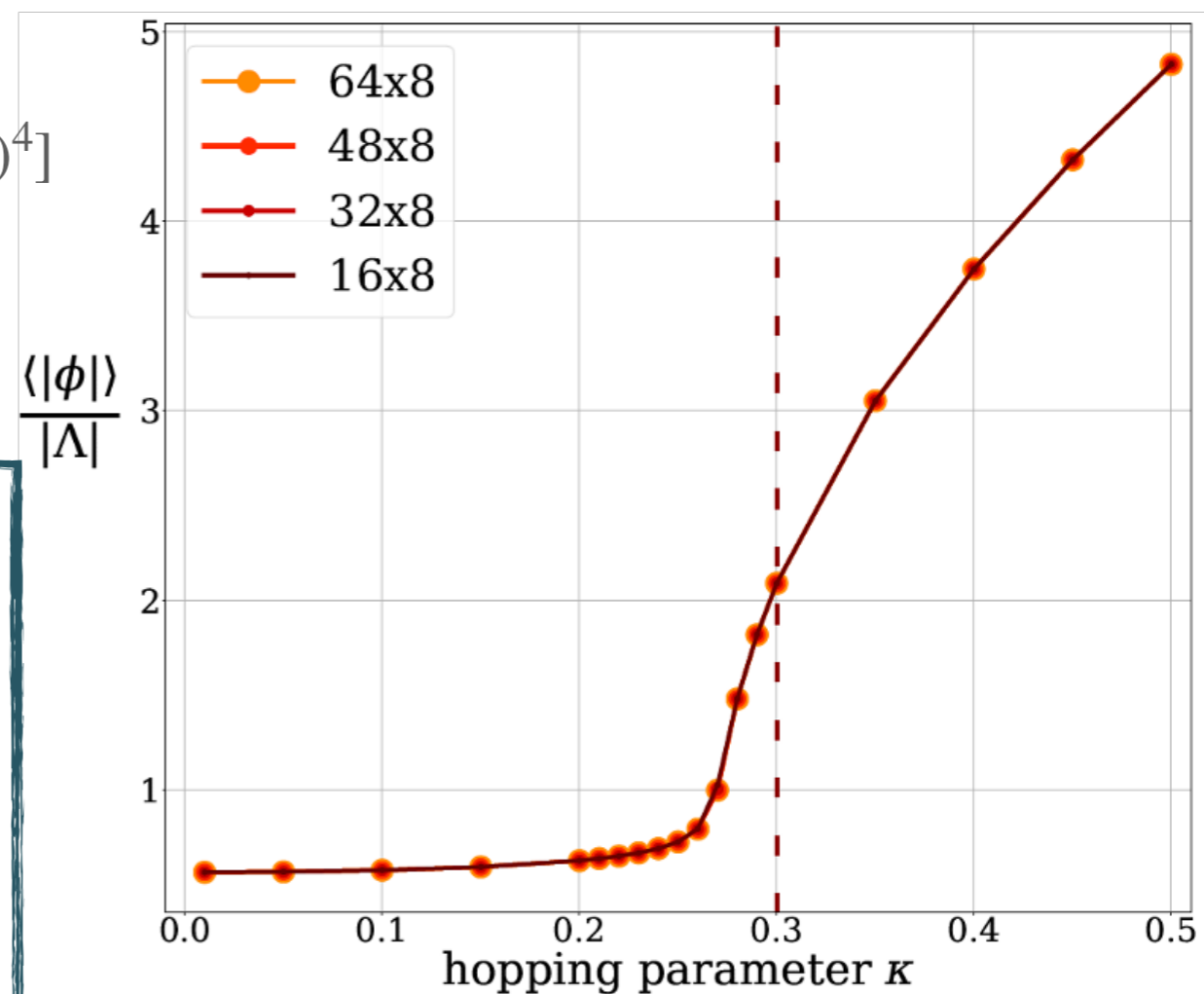
$$S = \sum_{x \in \Lambda} \left[-2\kappa \sum_{\mu=1}^d \phi(x)\phi(x + \hat{\mu}) + (1 - 2\lambda)\phi(x)^2 + \lambda\phi(x)^4 \right]$$

- Need to know F_0 to access F_t
- No direct estimates of Z and F_t
- Only differences $\Delta F_t = F_t - F_0 = -T \ln \frac{Z_t}{Z_0}$
- Integrate a trajectory through phase space

Source of large statistical errors
for MCMC based methods



Spontaneous Symmetry Breaking



Broken Phase: $\kappa = 0.3$

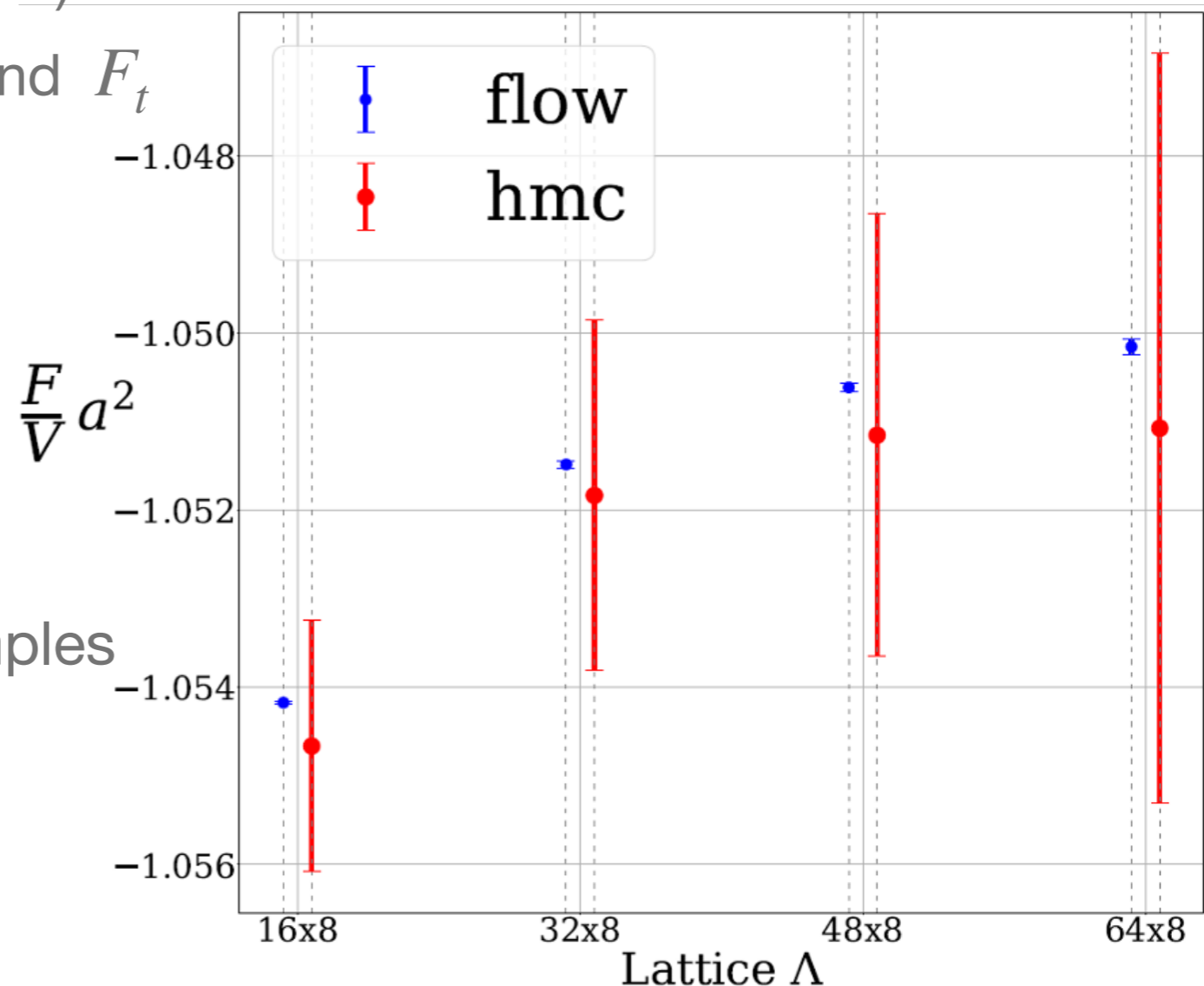
MCMC:

- Larger statistical errors (phase transition)
- **14** Markov HMC chains between F_0 and F_t
- **400k** samples per chain

NFLOW:

- Less sensitive to critical regime
- Importance sampling with 5.6M samples
- Expensive training, cheap sampling

- $\kappa = 0.3$
- $\lambda = 0.022$
- Different Volumes $|\Lambda| = N_s \times N_t$



Why is this advantageous?

1. **Smaller errors** and less sensitivity to the **critical regime**
2. **iid sampling** (\neq for MCMC: sequential sampling)
3. Sampling can efficiently be **parallelized**
4. **Direct, point-wise** estimation of thermodynamic quantities (e.g. Z, F, H, p)
 - No need of exact estimation for F_0
 - T-QCD application F_0 is approximated (not exact) \rightarrow additional systematic error

Future Directions

- Scaling to bigger lattices.
- Different theories
 - Boyda, Kanwar, ..., Shanahan, 2021 - $SU(N)$ Gauge equivariances
 - Albergo, Kanwar, ..., Shanahan, 2021 - Fermionic lattice field theories

Thanks for your attention!