

Machine learning for first-principles theory calculations

Phiala Shanahan, MIT

Image Credit: 2018 EIC User's Group Meeting



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Machine learning for first-principles theory

Compute **exact** results from known theory
Use AI/ML to do it **faster**

e.g., calculations of the Standard Model, BSM model, EFT, ...

Require mathematical guarantees of exactness to preserve rigour of first-principles calculations

No room for approximations, errors, modelling, or any uncertainties which cannot be systematically improved

AI/ML algorithm **poorly trained** → Results **correct**, but **slower**

AI/ML algorithm **well trained** → Results **correct**, but **faster**

Machine learning for first-principles theory

Compute **exact** results from known theory
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1. Do the calculation the “same way” but faster

e.g., Tune parameters of existing algorithm using AI

[Free parameters of algebraic multigrid for solving linear systems,
automatic differentiation rather than stochastic optimisation]



Machine learning for first-principles theory

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2.

Transform the problem into a different one with better properties (computationally easier) but same solution

e.g., Preconditioning of any type

[Numerical solver e.g., matrix inversion, faster convergence after preconditioning]

e.g. Change-of-variables

[Deformation of path integral contour leaves observables unaltered but modifies variance]



Machine learning for first-principles theory

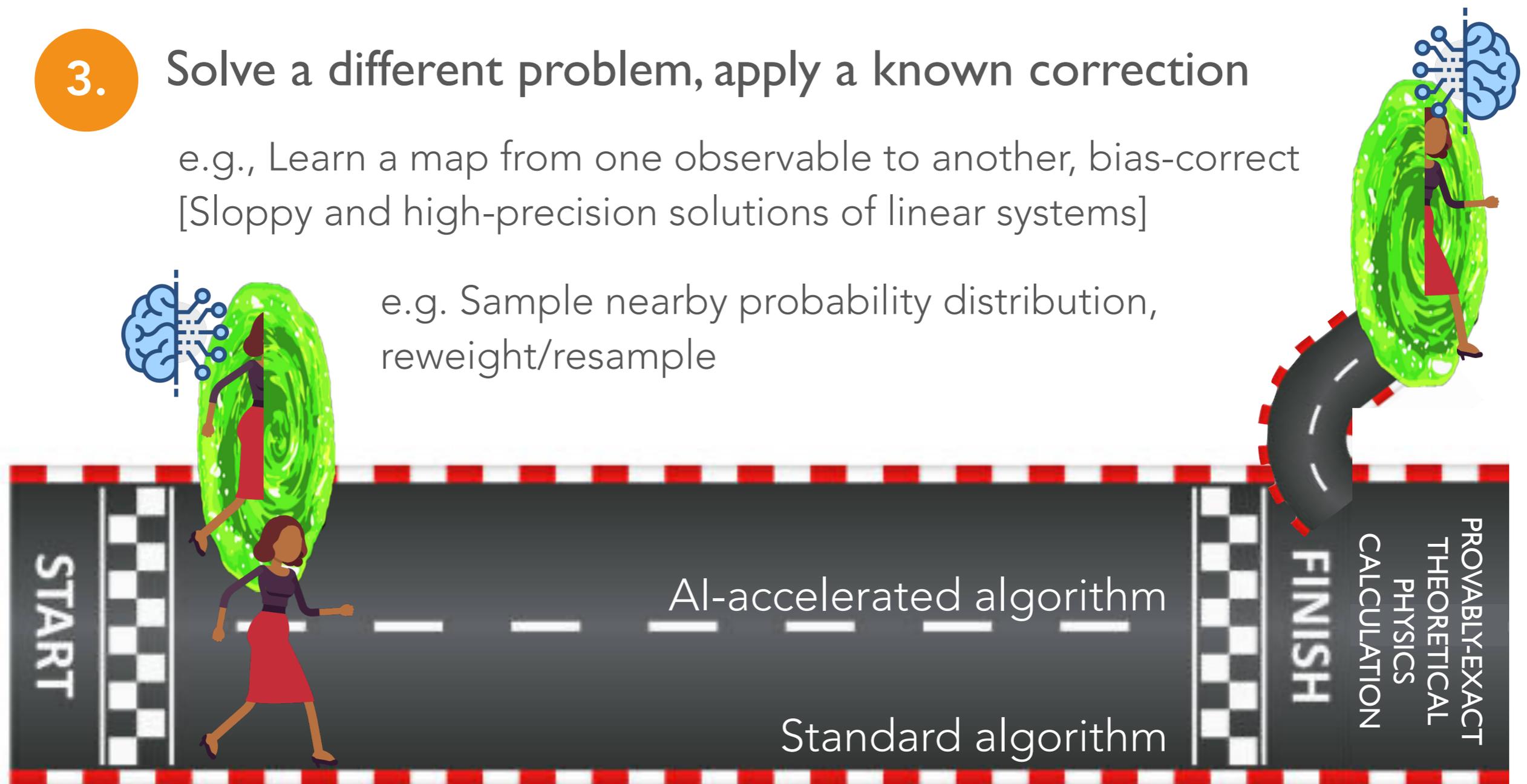
Compute **exact** results from known theory
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3.

Solve a different problem, apply a known correction

e.g., Learn a map from one observable to another, bias-correct
[Sloppy and high-precision solutions of linear systems]

e.g. Sample nearby probability distribution,
reweight/resample



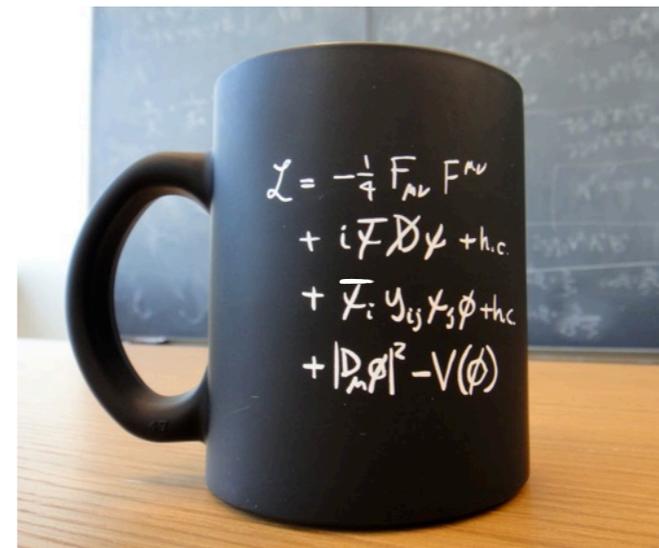
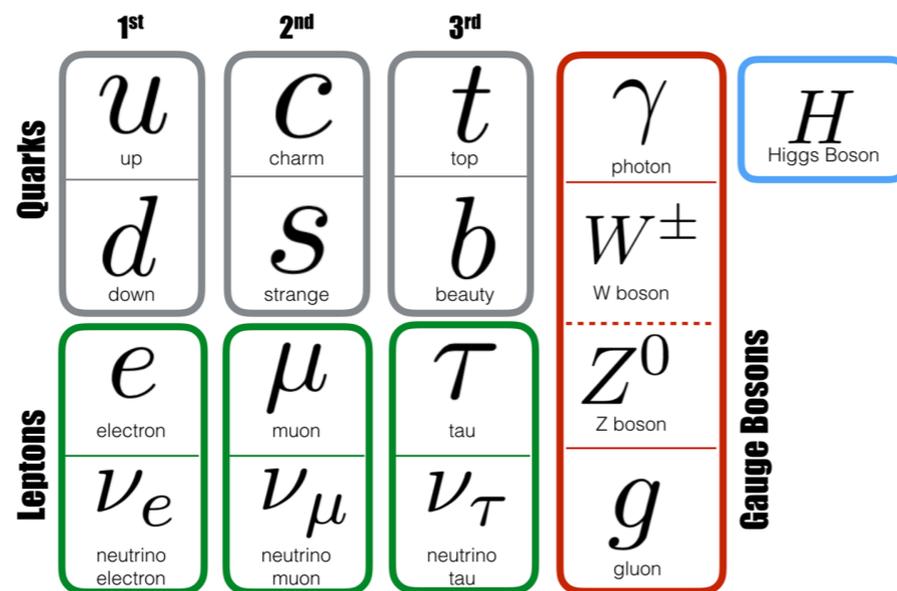
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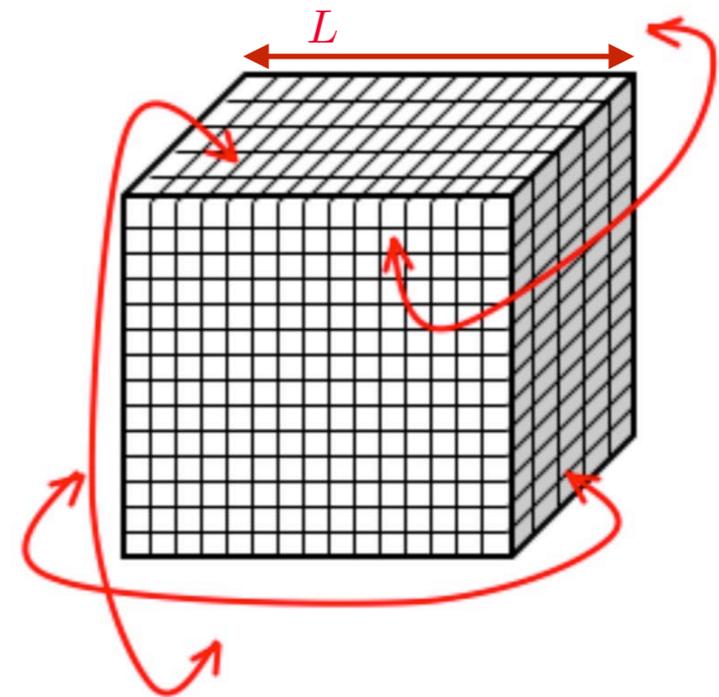
Now: Details of one example of this approach for lattice QCD calculations of the Standard Model



Lattice QCD

Numerical first-principles approach to non-perturbative QCD

- Euclidean space-time
 - Non-zero lattice spacing
 - Finite volume
- Some calculations use larger-than-physical quark masses (cheaper)



Approximate the QCD path integral by **Monte Carlo**

$$\langle \mathcal{O} \rangle = \frac{1}{Z} \int \mathcal{D}A \mathcal{D}\bar{\psi} \mathcal{D}\psi \mathcal{O}[A, \bar{\psi}\psi] e^{-S[A, \bar{\psi}\psi]} \rightarrow \langle \mathcal{O} \rangle \simeq \frac{1}{N_{\text{conf}}} \sum_i^{N_{\text{conf}}} \mathcal{O}([U^i])$$

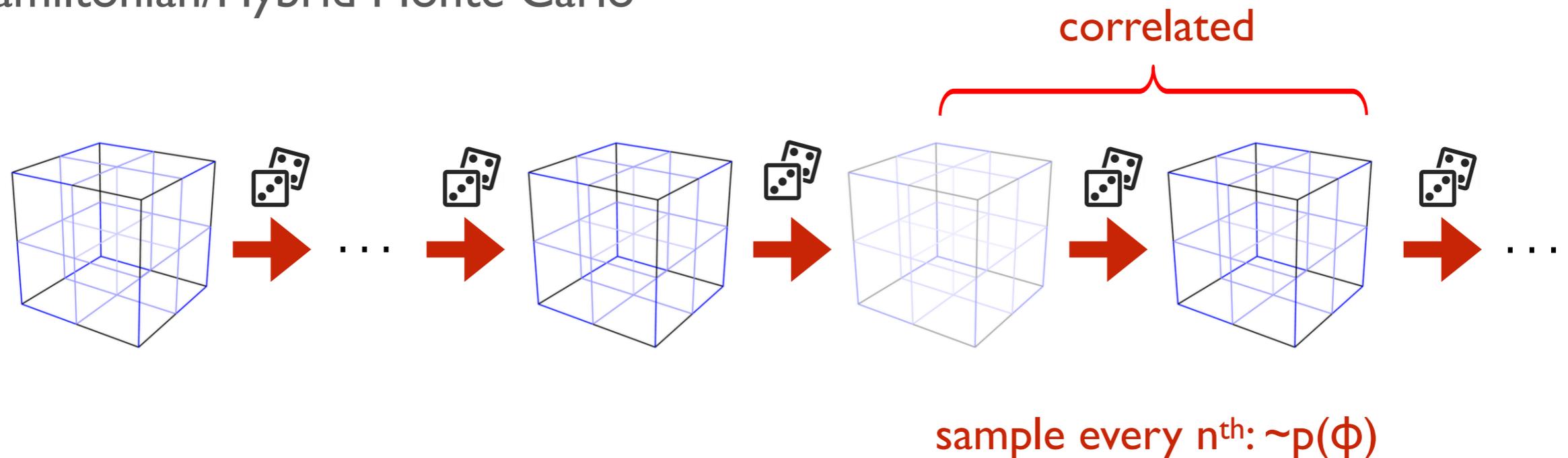
with field configurations U^i distributed according to $e^{-S[U]}$

Generate QCD gauge fields

Generate field configurations $\phi(x)$ with probability

$$P[\phi(x)] \sim e^{-S[\phi(x)]}$$

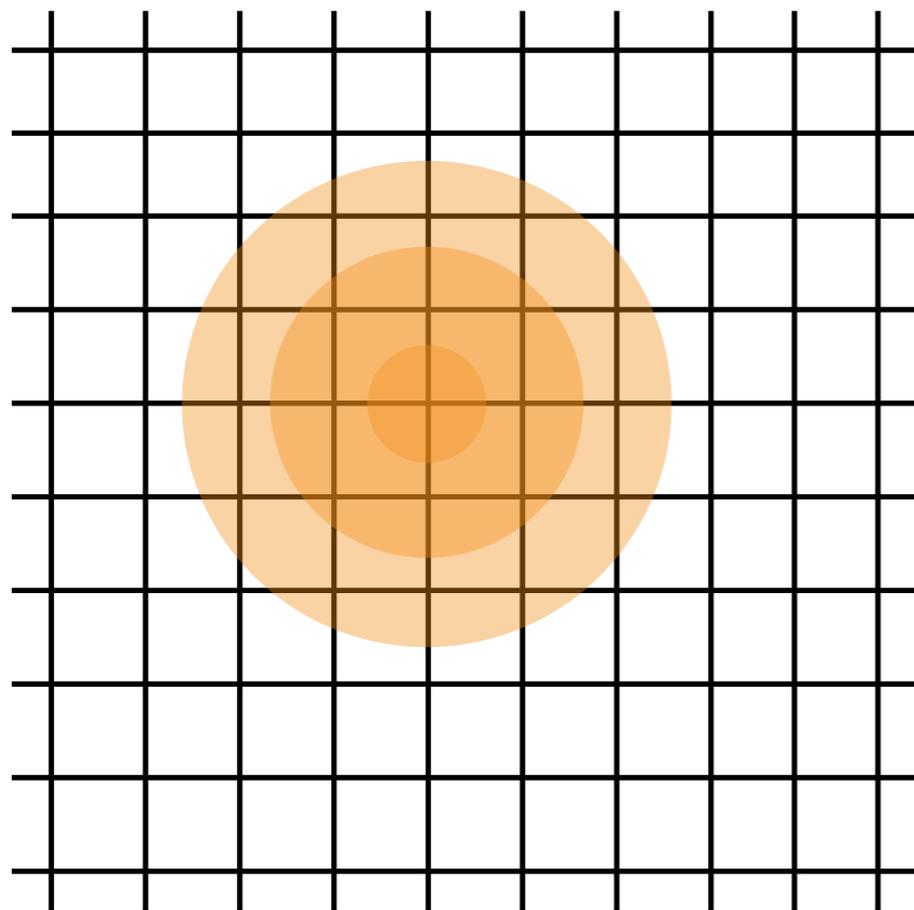
Hamiltonian/Hybrid Monte Carlo



Correlation length dictated by Markov chain 'auto-correlation time':
shorter autocorrelation time implies less computational cost

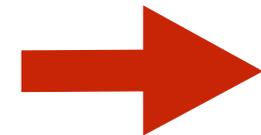
Generate QCD gauge fields

QCD gauge field configurations sampled via
Hamiltonian dynamics + Markov Chain Monte Carlo



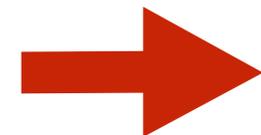
Updates diffusive

Lattice spacing



0

Number of updates
to change fixed
physical length scale



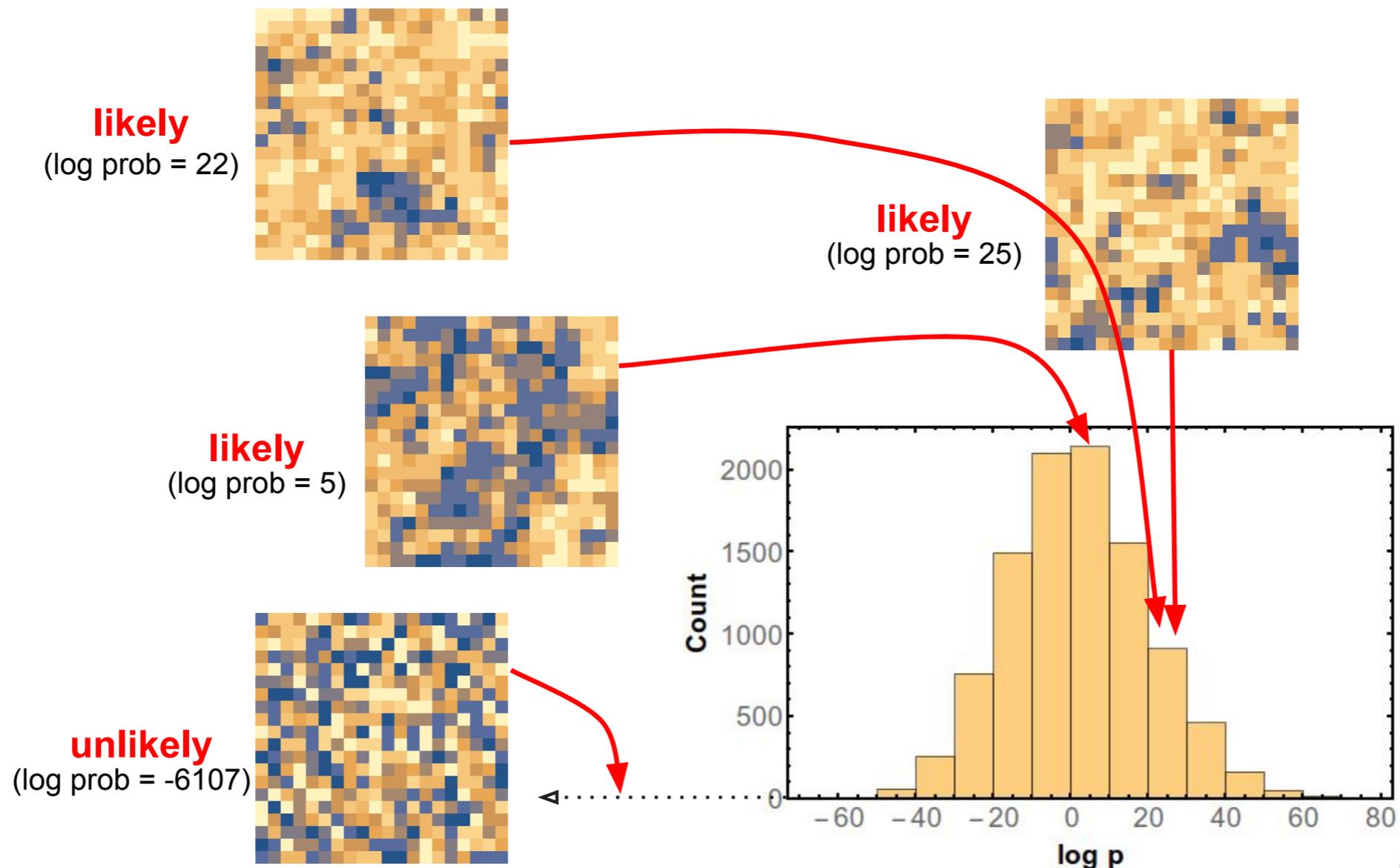
∞

“Critical slowing-down”
of generation of uncorrelated samples

Generate QCD gauge fields

Generate field configurations $\phi(x)$ with probability

$$P[\phi(x)] \sim e^{-S[\phi(x)]}$$



Generate QCD gauge fields

Generate field configurations $\phi(x)$ with probability

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Parallels with image generation problem

likely
(log prob = 22)

likely
(log prob = 5)

unlikely
(log prob = -6107)

likely

likely

unlikely

thispersondoesnotexist.com

[Karras, Lane, Aila / NVIDIA 1812.04948]

Machine learning QCD

Ensemble of lattice QCD gauge fields

- Ensemble of gauge fields has meaning
- $64^3 \times 128 \times 4 \times 9 \times 2$
 $\approx 10^9$ numbers
- ~ 1000 samples
- Long-distance correlations are important
- Gauge and translation-invariant with periodic boundaries

CIFAR benchmark image set for machine learning

- Each image has meaning
- 32×32 pixels $\times 3$ cols
 ≈ 3000 numbers
- 60000 samples
- Local structures are important
- Translation-invariance within frame

Machine learning QCD

Ensemble of lattice QCD gauge fields

f gauge fields has

CIFAR benchmark image set for machine learning

- Each image has meaning

- 32 x 32 pixels x 3 cols

- 10,000 numbers

Need custom ML for physics from the ground up
AB-INITIO AI



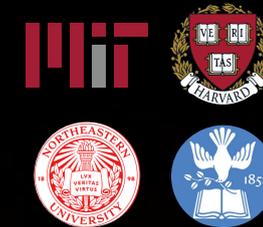
important

- Gauge and translation-invariant with periodic boundaries

trans



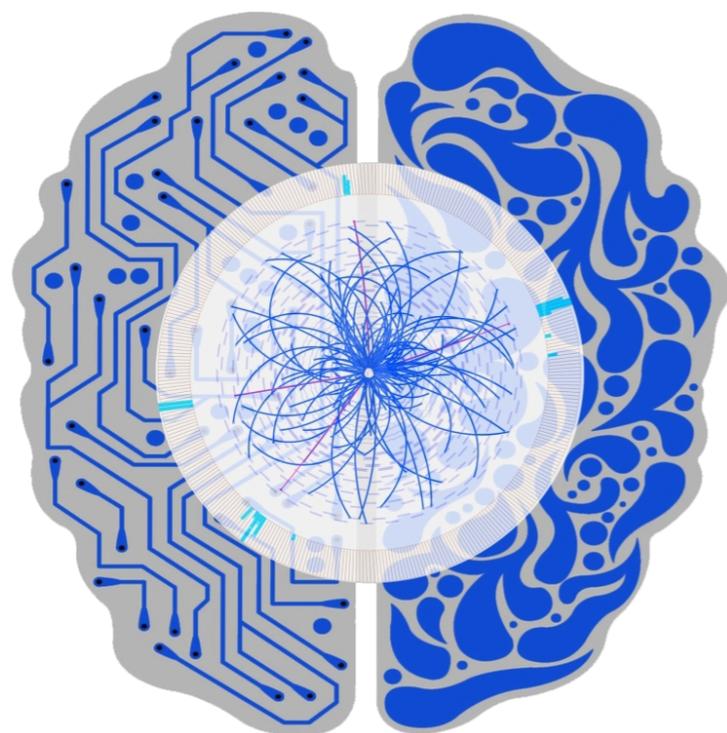
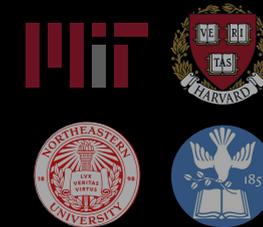
The NSF AI Institute for Artificial Intelligence and Fundamental Interactions (IAIFI /aI-faI/ iaifi.org)



Advance physics knowledge — from the smallest building blocks of nature to the largest structures in the universe — and galvanize AI research innovation



The NSF AI Institute for Artificial Intelligence and Fundamental Interactions (IAIFI /aI-faI/ iaifi.org)



Develop artificial intelligence based on physics principles *“Ab-Initio AI”*

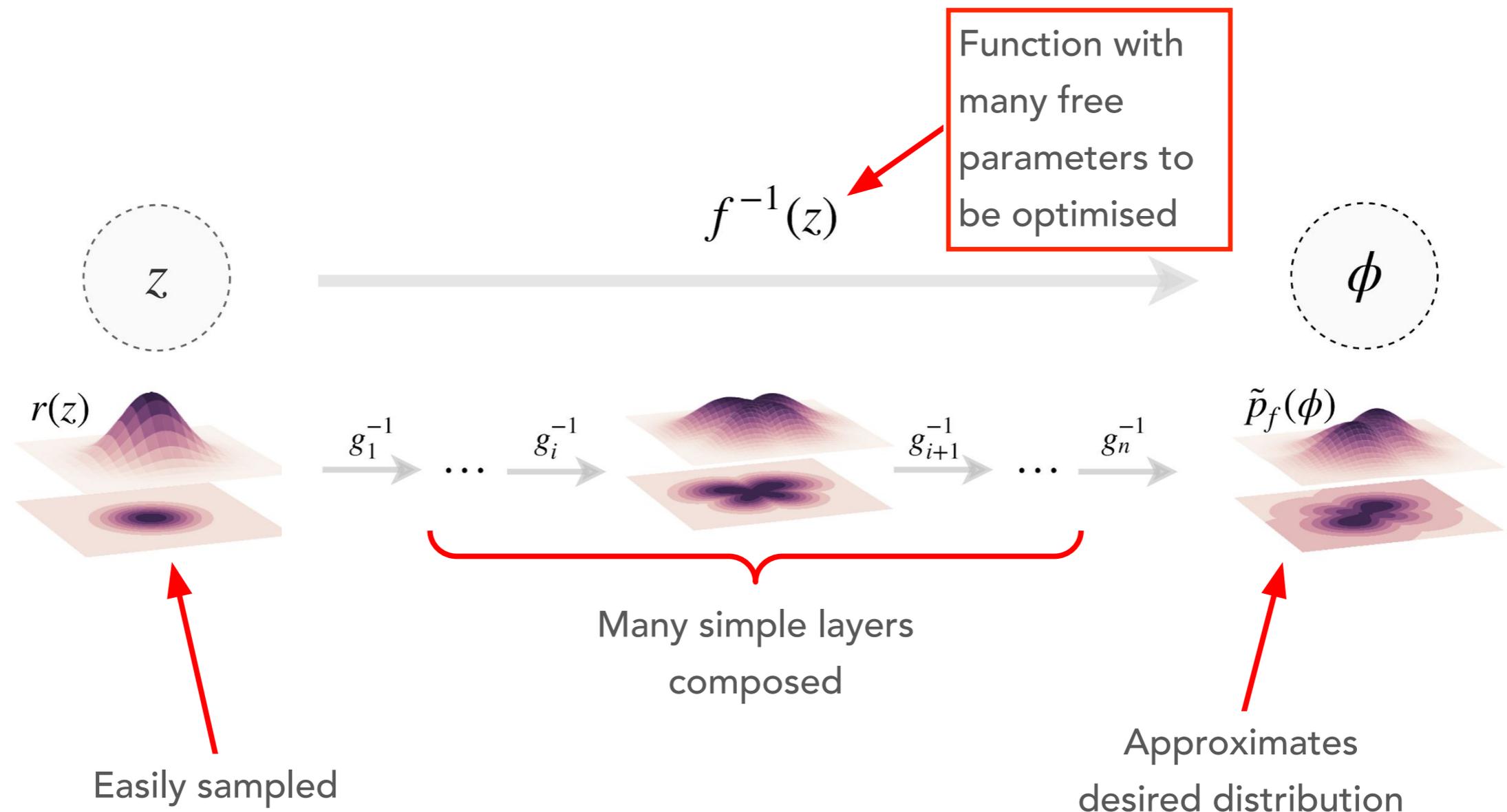
Symmetries, conservation laws, scaling relations, limiting behaviors, locality, causality, unitarity, gauge invariance, entropy, least action, factorization, unit tests, exactness, systematic uncertainties, reproducibility, verifiability, ...

Advance physics knowledge — from the smallest building blocks of nature to the largest structures in the universe — and galvanize AI research innovation

Generative flow models

Flow-based models learn a change-of-variables that transforms a known distribution to the desired distribution [Rezende & Mohamed 1505.05770]

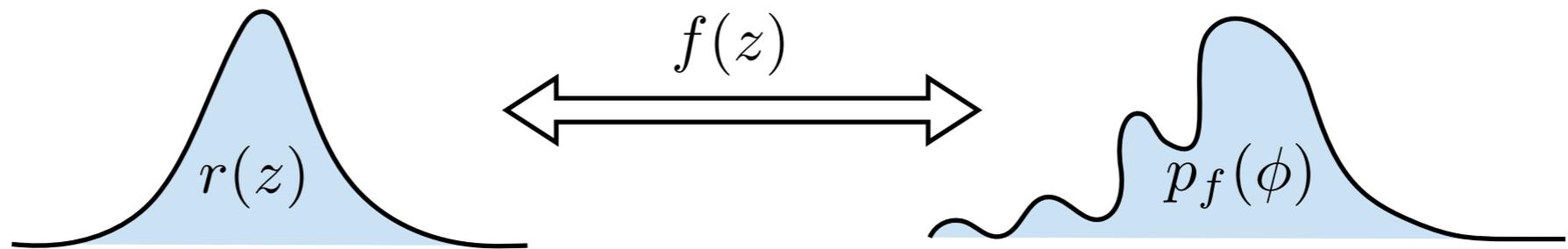
Can be made exact through accept/reject! [*Phys.Rev.D* 100 (2019), 034515]



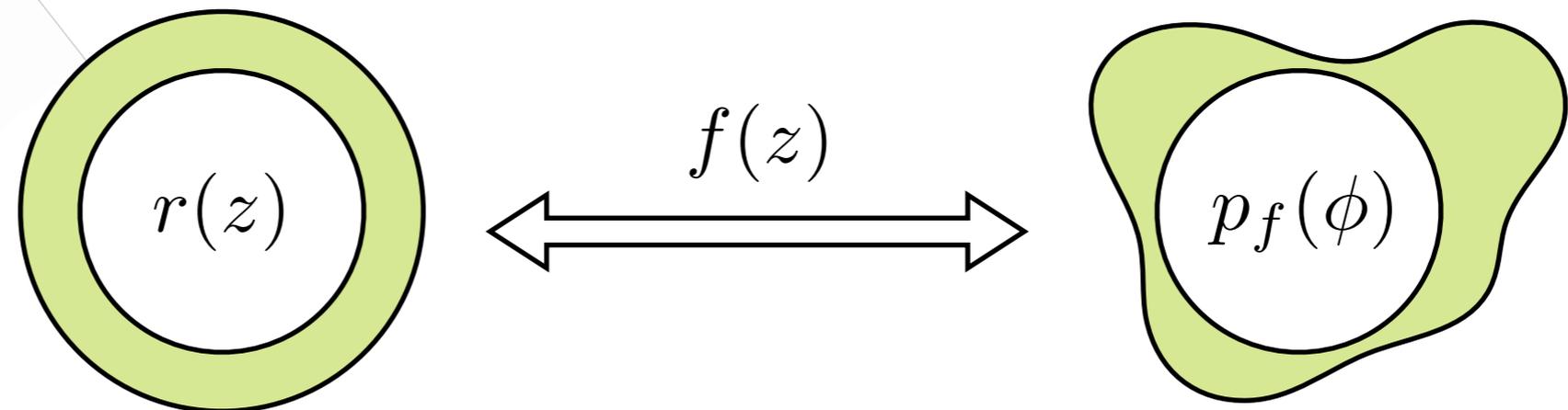
Flow models for QCD

Flows on compact, connected manifolds

Previously: Flows on real numbers

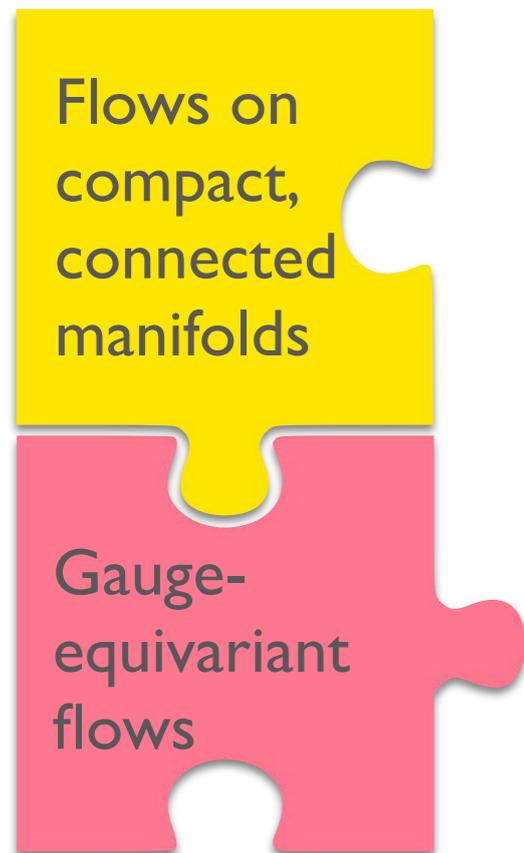


Need: Flows on compact, connected manifolds
e.g., circles, tori, spheres



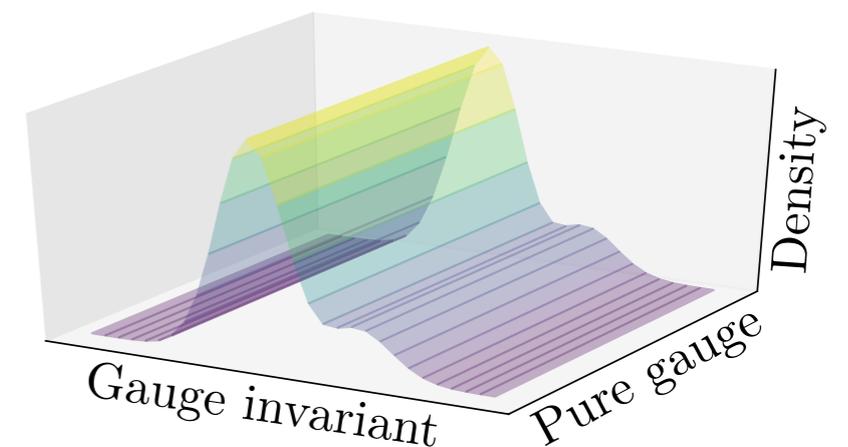
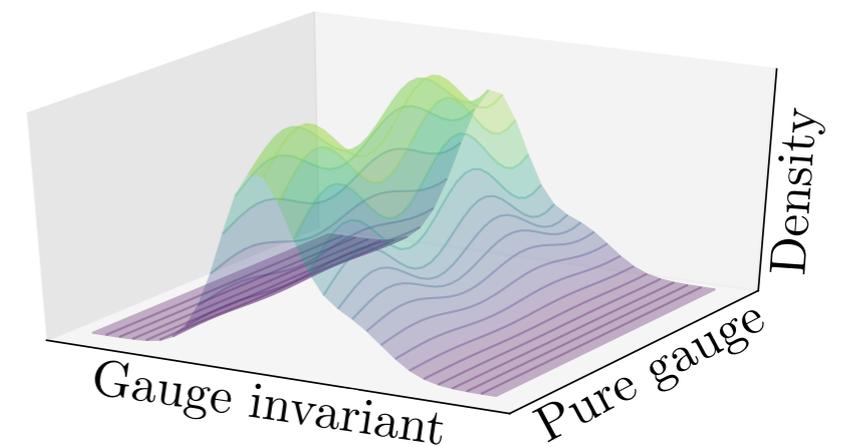
[PLMR 8083-8092 (2020)]

Flow models for QCD



Incorporating symmetries

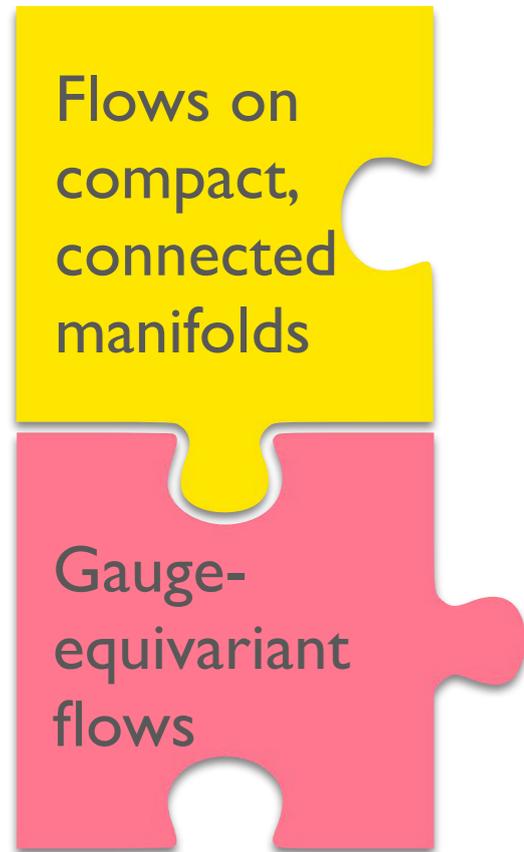
- Not essential for correctness of ML-generated ensembles
- BUT: Crucially important in training high-dimensional models especially with high-dimensional symmetries



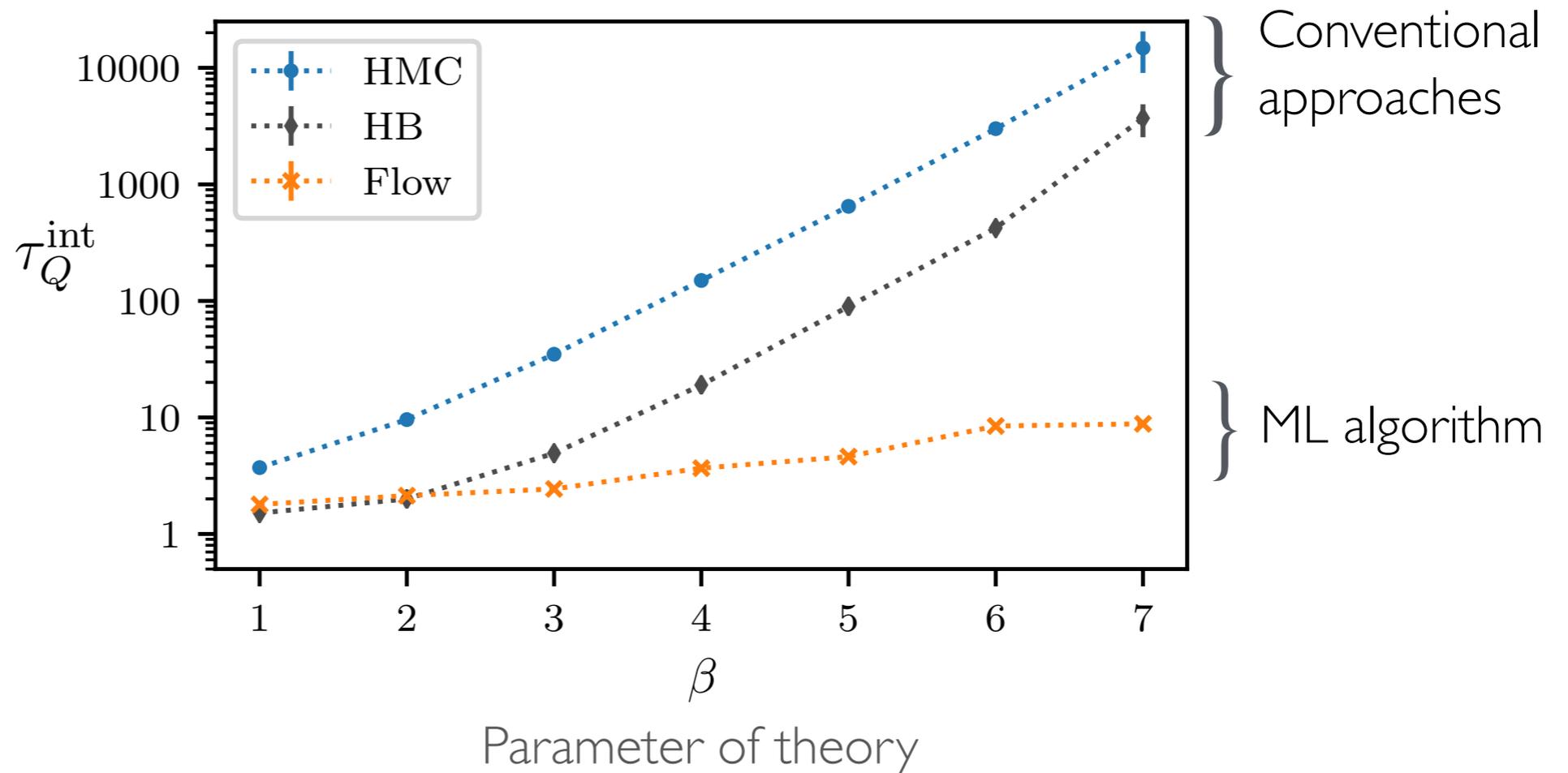
[*Phys.Rev.Lett.* 125, 121601 (2020), *Phys.Rev.D* 103, 074504 (2021)]

Flow models for QCD

First gauge theory application:
2D U(1) field theory

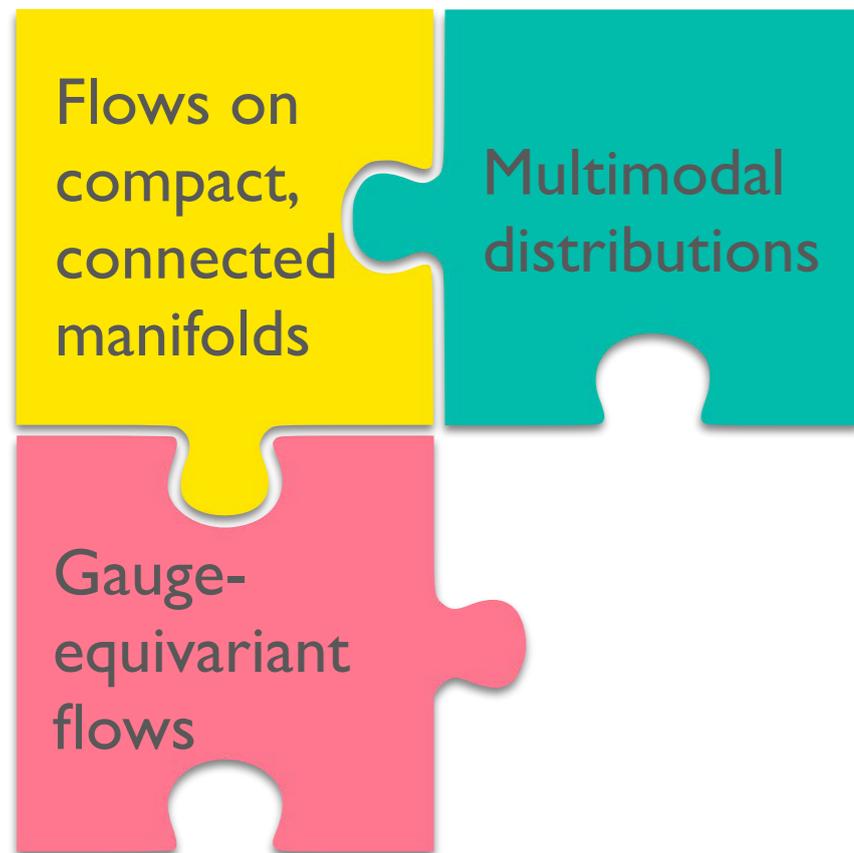


Cost per independent sample



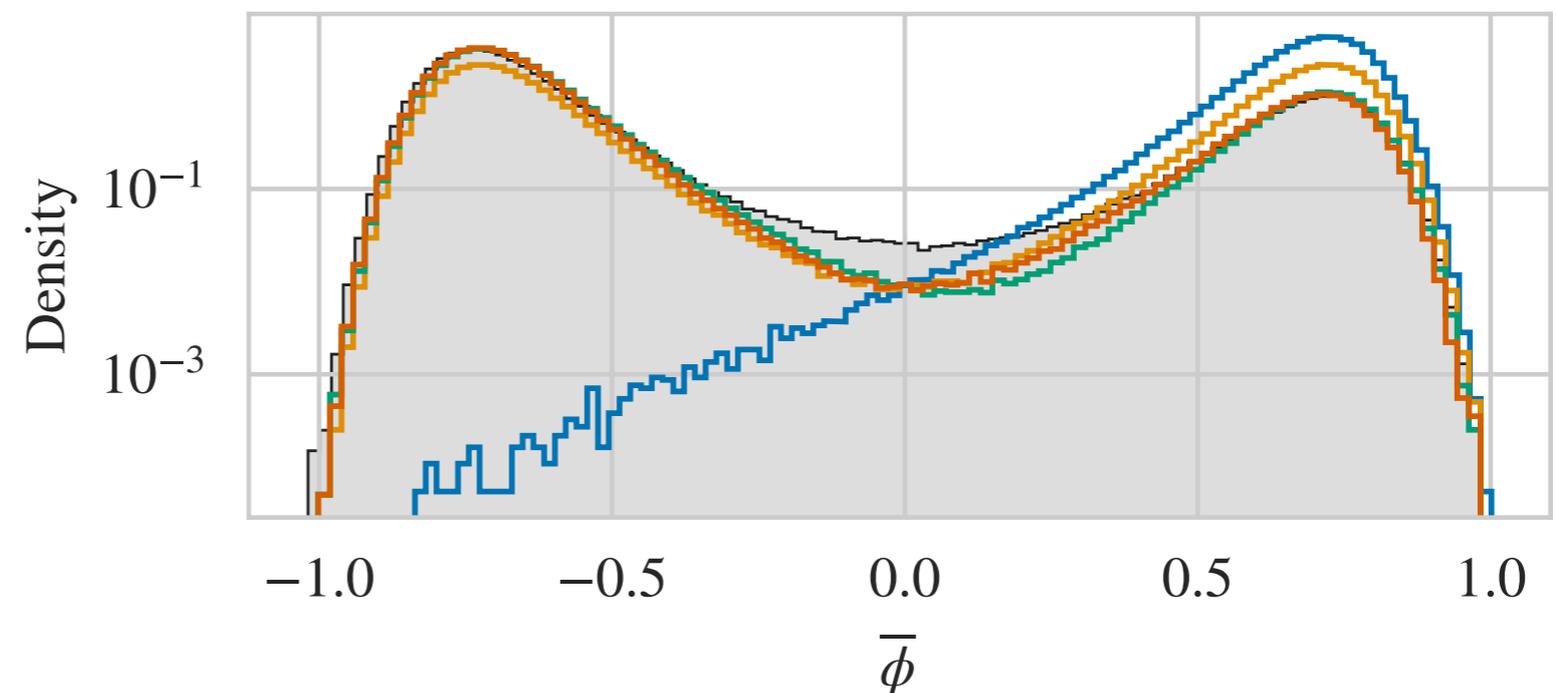
[Phys.Rev.Lett. 125, 121601 (2020)]

Flow models for QCD



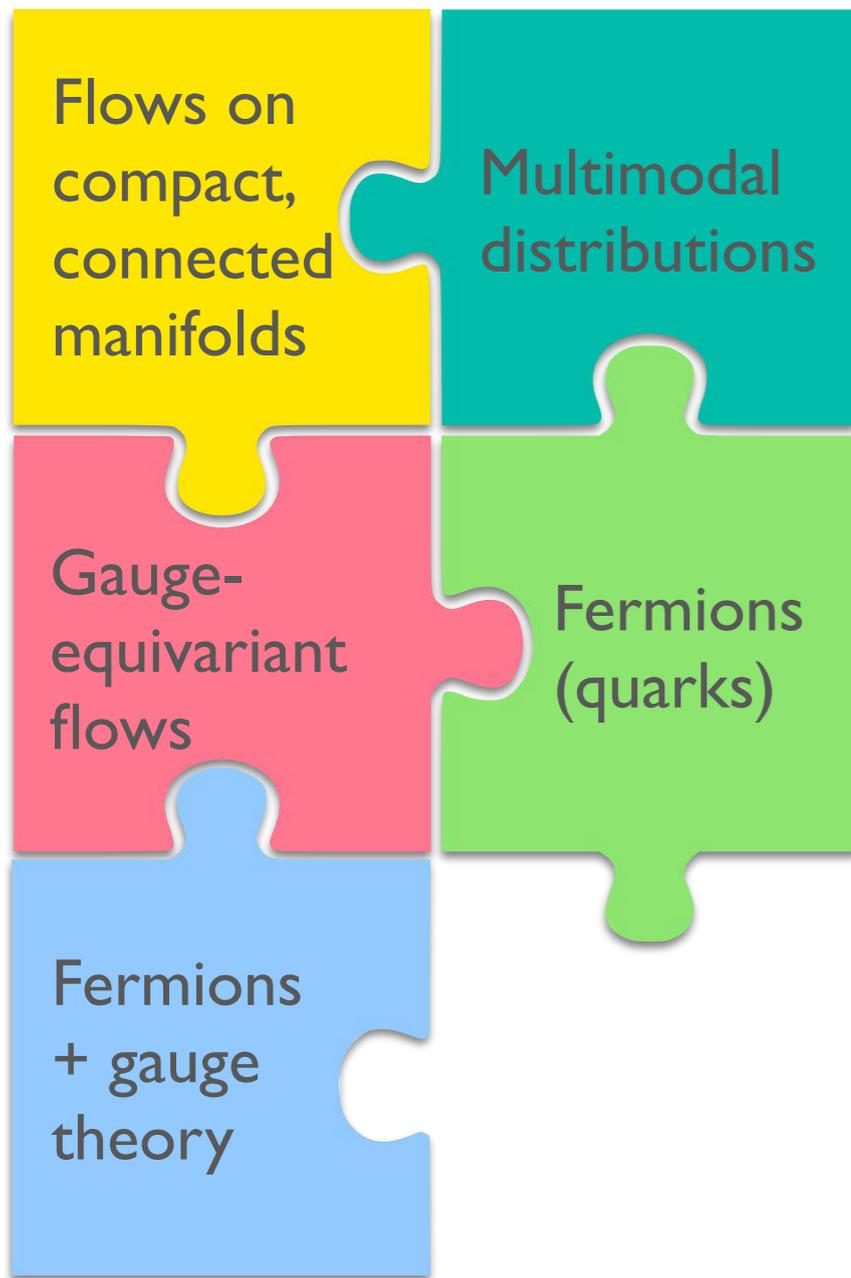
Systems with complex topologies

Need: Unbiased sampling from multi-modal distributions



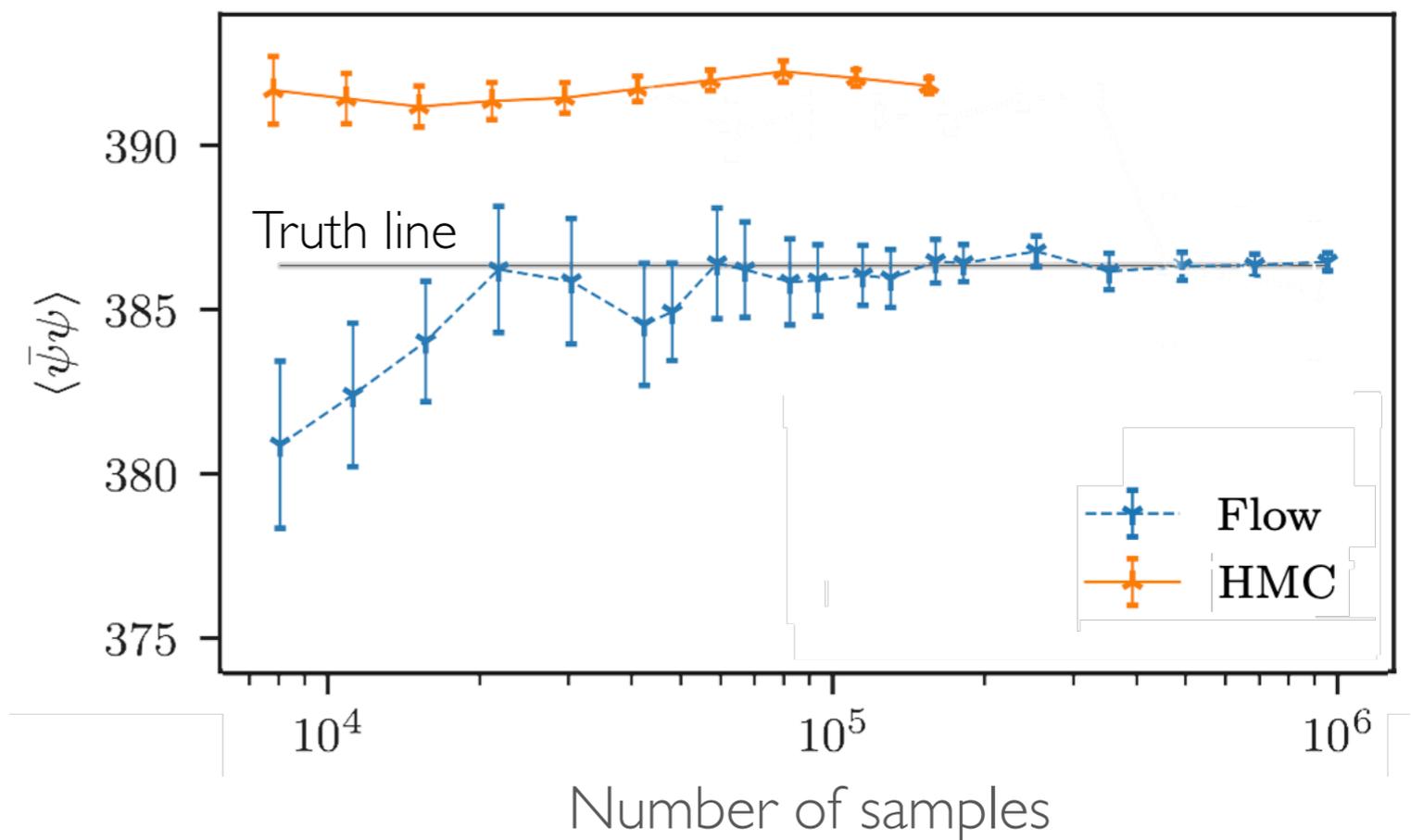
[2107.00734 (2021)]

Flow models for QCD



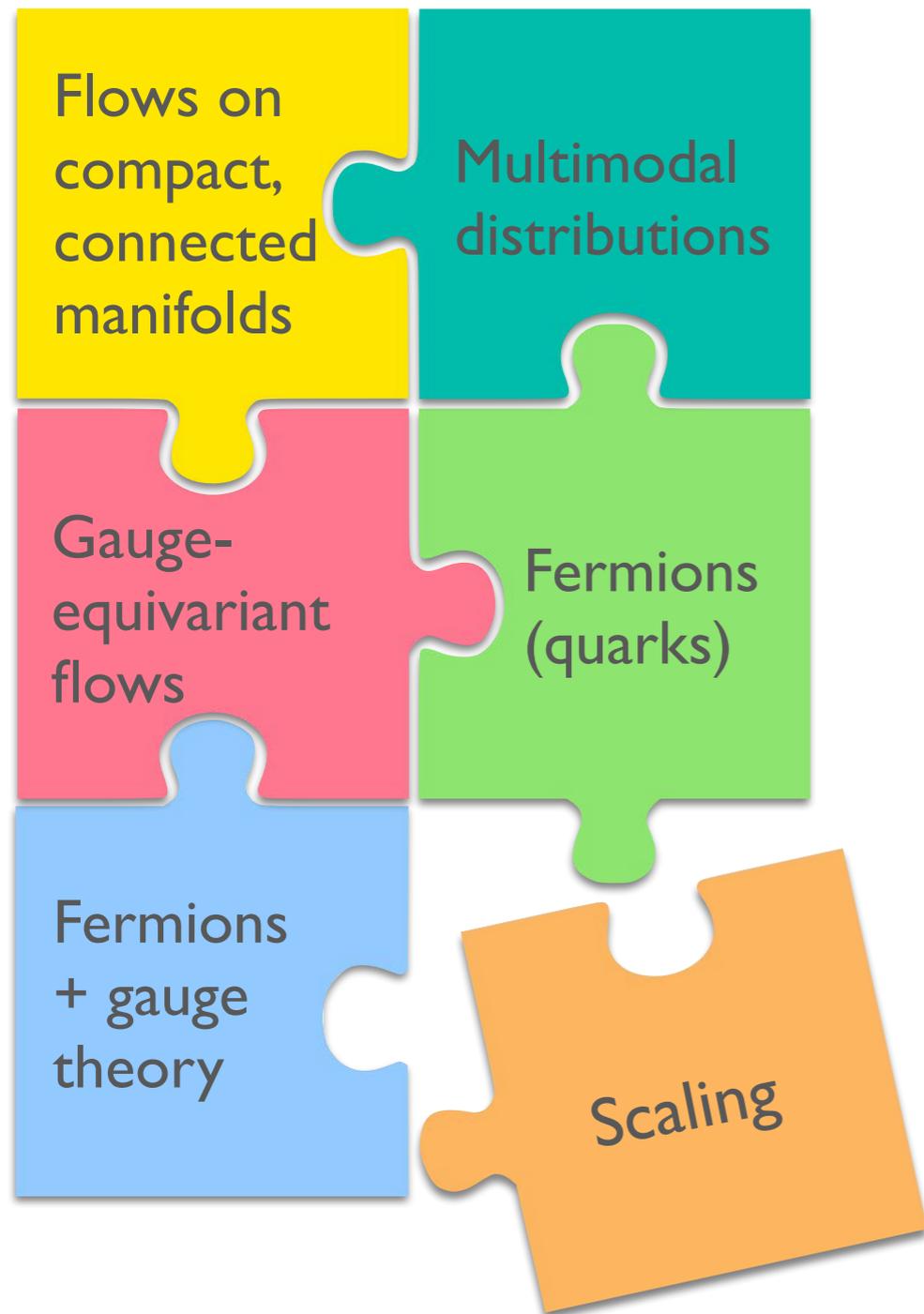
First gauge + fermion theory application:
2D Schwinger model

Measured value of observable

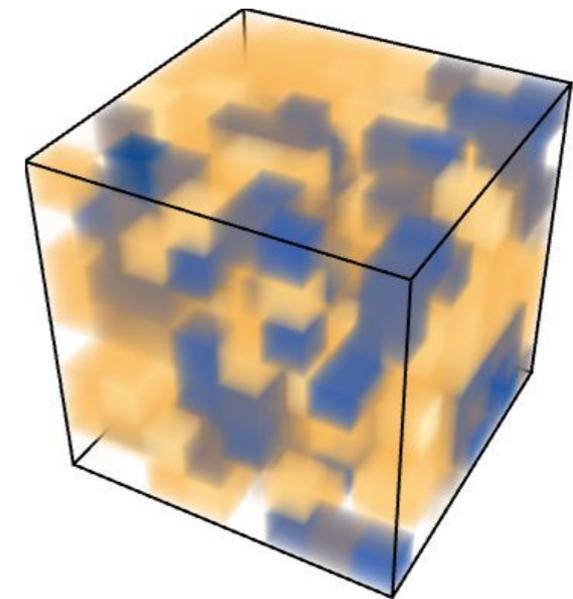
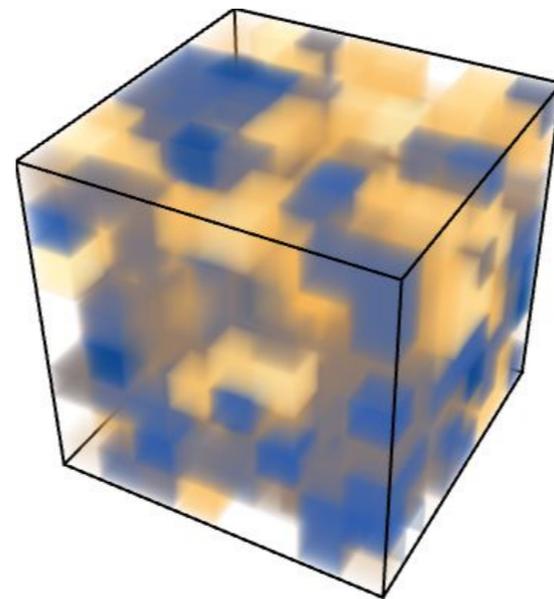


[*Phys.Rev.D* 104 (2021), 114507, arXiv:2202.11712 (2022)]

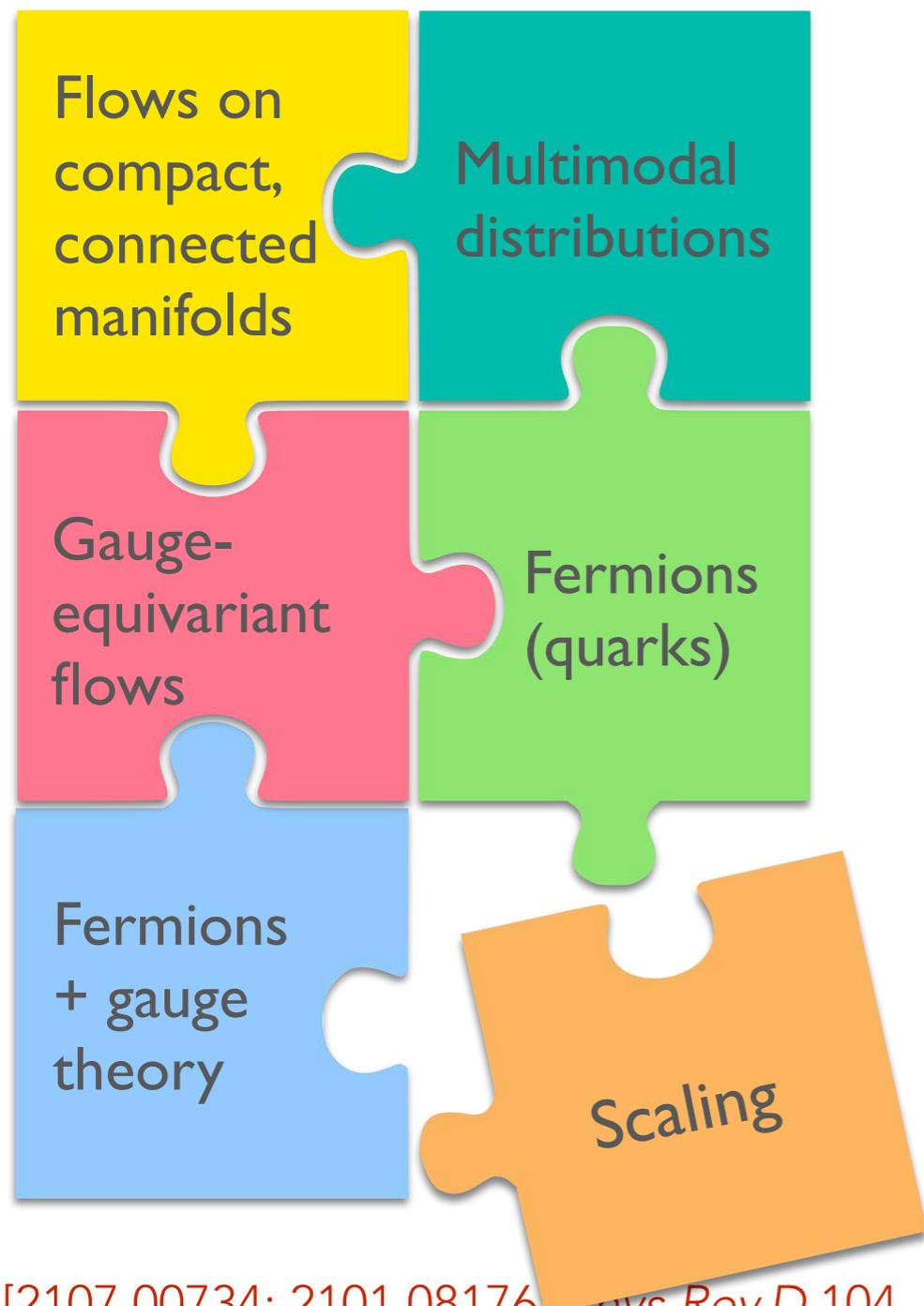
Flow models for QCD



Scale to state-of-the-art volumes (4D)



Flow models for QCD



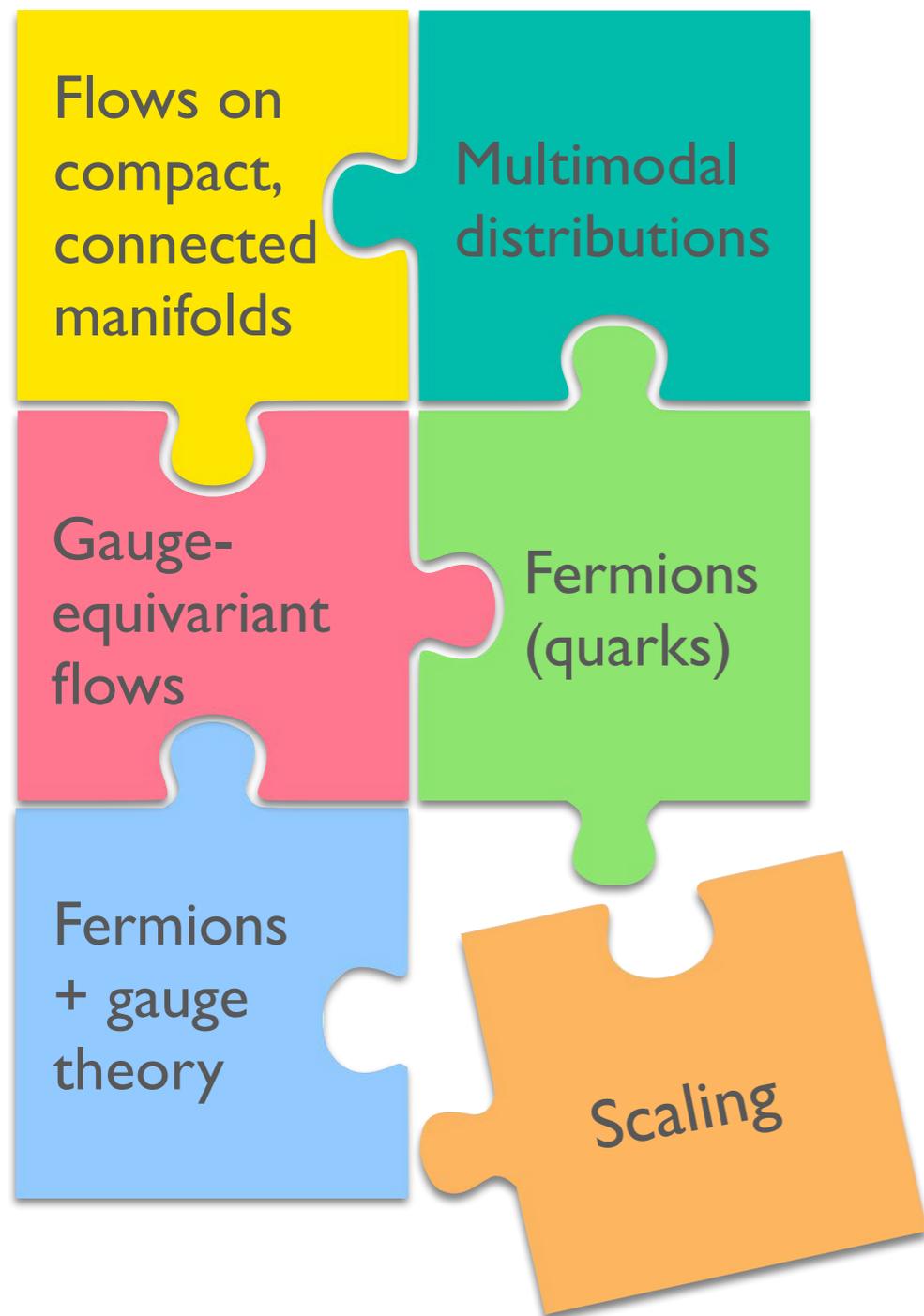
Machine learning for LQCD

- Provably-exact machine-learning-accelerated sampling algorithm
- Orders of magnitude more **efficient** than conventional algorithms overcoming critical slowing-down
- **Unbiased** results where traditional approaches fail

Deployment for state-of-the-art QCD
scheduled for Aurora 2023 first science time

[2107.00734; 2101.08176, *Phys.Rev.D* 104, 114507; *Phys.Rev.D* 103, 074504 (2021); *Phys.Rev.Lett.* 125, 121601; PMLR 8083-8092 (2020); *Phys.Rev.D* 100, 034515 (2019); *Phys.Rev.D* 97, 094506 (2018)]

Flow models for QCD



- Costs of fine lattice spacings contribute to systematic limitations for high-precision QCD predictions of proton structure, e.g.,
 - ▶ first-principles PDFs, TMDs
 - ▶ muon $g-2$
- Finer spacings needed for first controlled calculations of nuclei
 - ▶ theory input for intensity-frontier experiments, e.g., dark matter direct detection, DUNE
 - ▶ nuclear reactions incl. big bang nucleosynthesis pathway

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Require mathematical guarantees of exactness to preserve rigour of first-principles calculations

Potentially high-impact applications in development across theory areas, often require significant investment

- Developing new ML approaches from the ground up
- Engineering: scaling up to state-of-the-art HPC facilities

