

Inference of astrophysical parameters with a conditional Invertible Neural Network

Teresa Bister¹, Martin Erdmann¹, Ullrich Köthe², Josina Schulte¹

¹III. Physikalisches Institut A, RWTH Aachen University, Aachen, Germany

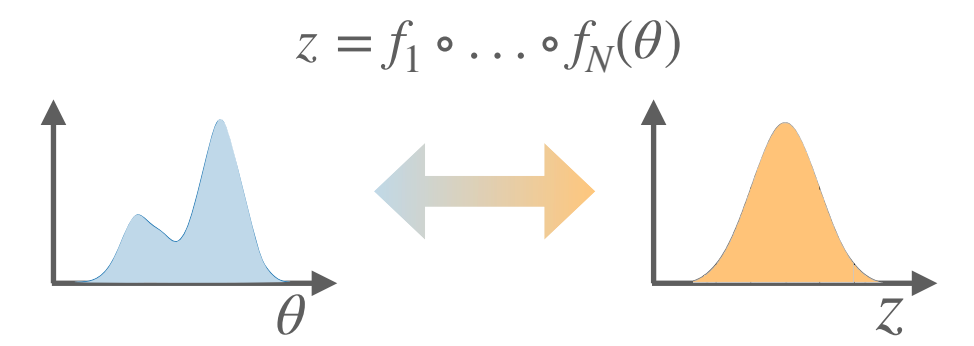
²University of Heidelberg, Interdisciplinary Center for Scientific Computing, Im Neuenheimer Feld 205, 69120 Heidelberg, Germany

✉ josina.schulte@rwth-aachen.de

Conditional normalizing flow

normalizing flow ([arXiv:1908.09257](https://arxiv.org/abs/1908.09257))

- model complex probability distribution

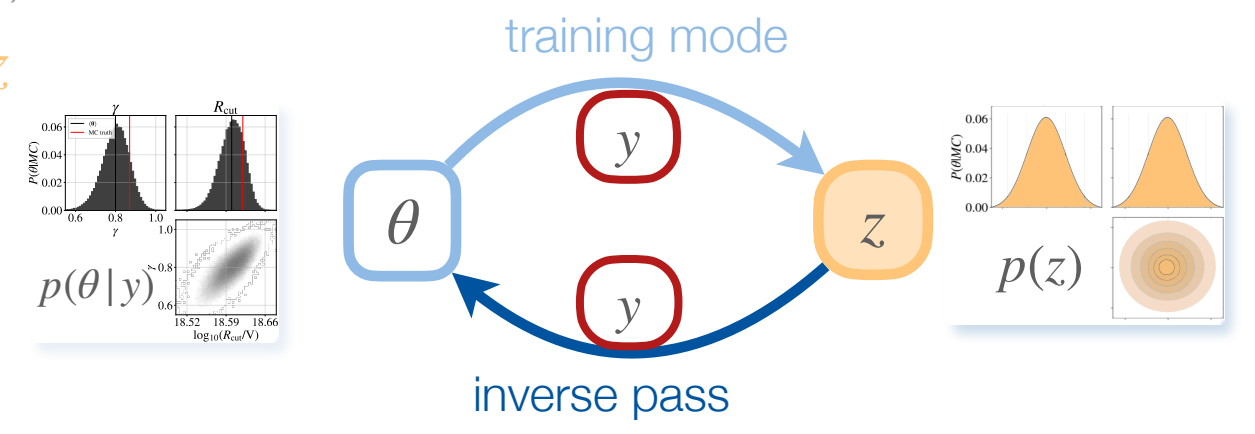


complex distribution (parameters of interest θ)

simple probability distribution (latents z)

conditional probability distribution ([arXiv:2003.06281](https://arxiv.org/abs/2003.06281))

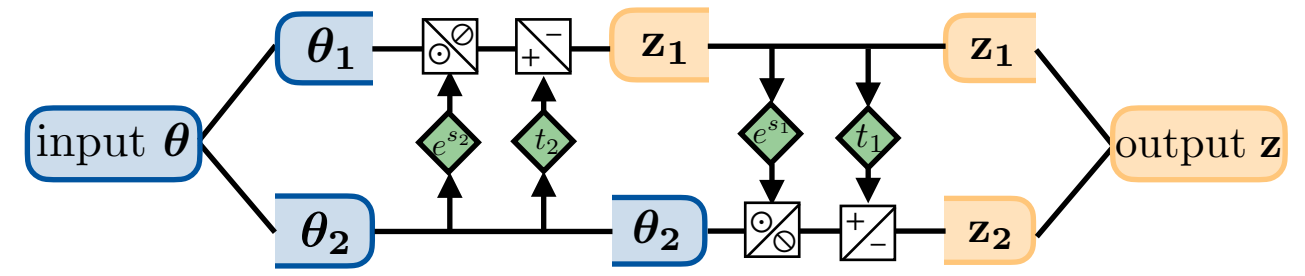
- mapping of parameters of interest θ to latents z under the condition of observables y
 - posterior distributions $p(\theta|y)$ for specific observed y
 - quantify uncertainty, reveal correlations



Conditional Invertible Neural Network

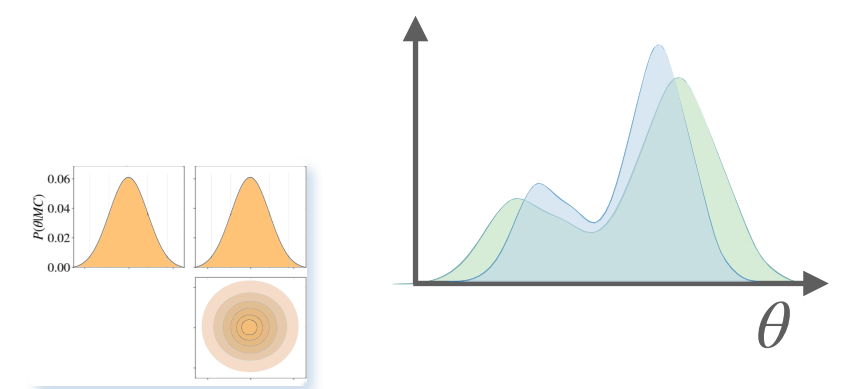
network architecture

- based on affine coupling layers ([arXiv:1605.08803](https://arxiv.org/abs/1605.08803))
 - efficiently calculable Jacobian
 - condition: ([arXiv:1907.02392](https://arxiv.org/abs/1907.02392))
 - concatenated to input
 - of scale & translation transformations s_i, t_i



suitable loss function

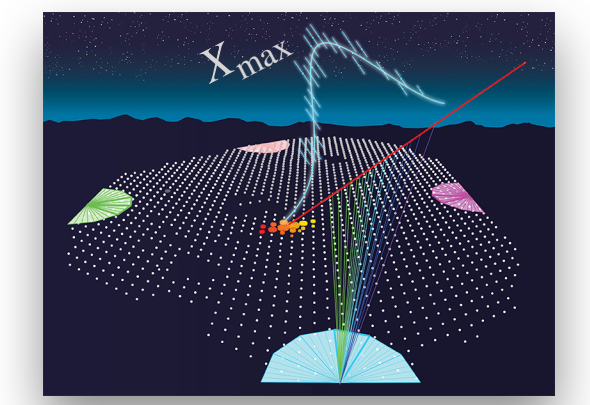
- Kullback-Leibler divergence
 - minimizes difference: true underlying posterior distribution & cINN posterior distribution
 - ensures convergence to correct posterior distributions
- enforce normal distribution for latents z



Scenario from astroparticle physics

extensive air showers

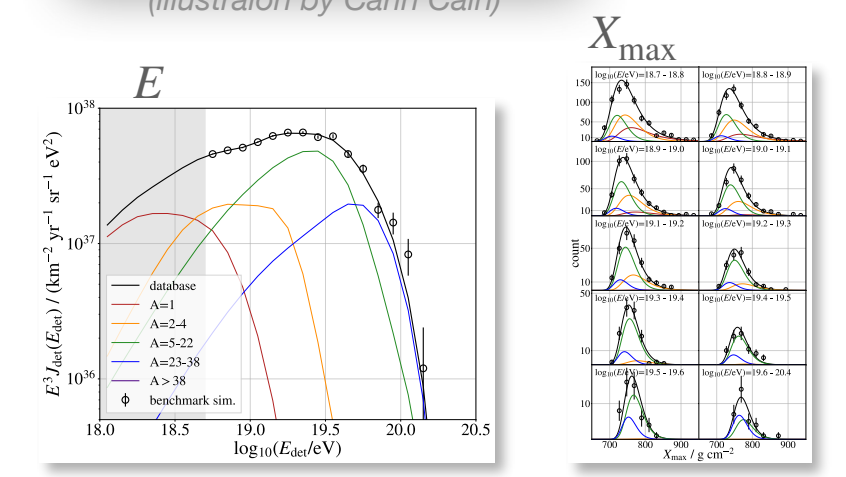
- induced by ultra-high-energy cosmic rays
- measurement at Pierre Auger Observatory
 - energy spectrum
 - depth of shower maximum X_{max} distributions (\propto UHECR mass composition)



(illustration by Carin Cain)

astrophysical model

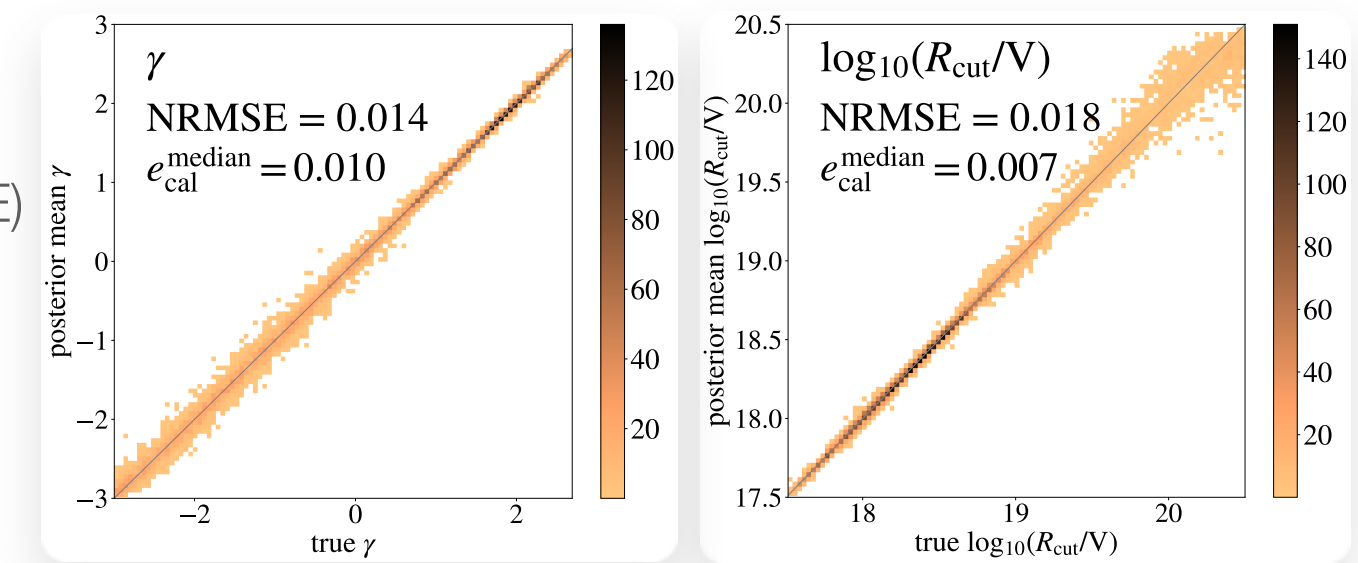
- 7 free parameters θ in astrophysical model describing sources
 - simulation of corresponding observables y
- binned detected energy spectrum (17 bins) & binned X_{max} distributions (10 x 24 bins)



cINN reconstruction quality

reconstruction quality → [arXiv:2110.09493](https://arxiv.org/abs/2110.09493)

- evaluation of 10,000 test datasets
- normalized root mean square error (NRMSE)
 - agreement of posterior mean with true value
- calibration error e_{cal}
 - estimation of correctness of widths of posterior distributions



→ good reconstruction quality & appropriate uncertainty estimation

comparison of posterior distributions

cINN ↔ Markov Chain Monte Carlo (MCMC)

- very similar posterior distributions
- evaluation with cINN computationally more efficient

