Two Tales, One Resolution for Physics-Informed Inference-time Scaling

Debiasing and Precondition

Yiping Lu

Northwestern | McCORMICK SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING

Lexing Ying (Stanford)

Jose Blanchet (Stanford)

Shihao Yang (Gatech)

Ruihan Xu (Uchicago)

My Journey

- Undergrad: Peking University: 2015-2019
  - Work with Prof. Bin Dong and Prof. Liwei Wang
- Ph.D. Stanford University: 2019-2023
  - Work with Prof. Lexing Ying and Jose E

PDE-NET: LEARNING PDES FROM DATA

Zichao Long*, **Yiping Lu***
School of Mathematical Sciences
Peking University, Beijing, China
{zlong,luyiping9712}@pku.edu.cn

Xianzhong Ma*
School of Mathematical Sciences, Peking University
Beijing Computational Science Research Center
Beijing, China
xianzhongma@pku.edu.cn

Bin Dong
Beijing International Center for Mathematical Research, Peking University
Center for Data Science, Peking University
Beijing Institute of Big Data Research
Beijing, China
dongbin@math.pku.edu.cn

Beyond Finite Layer Neural Networks:
Bridging Deep Architectures and Numerical Differential Equations

Yiping Lu [1] **Aoxiao Zhong** [2] **Quanzheng Li** [2 3 4] **Bin Dong** [5 6 4]

Abstract

Deep neural networks have become the state-of-the-art models in numerous machine learning tasks. However, general guidance to network architecture design is still missing. In our work, we bridge deep neural network design with numerical differential equations. We show that many effective networks, such as ResNet, PolyNet, FractalNet and RevNet, can be interpreted as different numerical discretizations of differential equations. This finding brings us a brand new perspective on the design of effective deep architectures. We can take advantage of the rich knowledge in numerical analysis to guide us in designing new and potentially more effective deep networks. As an example, we propose a linear multi-step architecture (LM-architecture) which is inspired by linear multi-step methods solving ordinary differential equations. Numerical analysis theory helps us to establish stability and accuracy conditions for LM-architecture. LM-architecture is an effective structure that can be used on any ResNet-like networks. In particular, we demonstrate that LM-ResNet and LM-ResNet can achieve significantly better accuracy than ResNet and ResNet with comparable numbers of trainable parameters on CIFAR and ImageNet datasets. Comprehensive experiments on deep residual networks with wide range of depth show that LM-ResNet and LM-ResNet converges faster than ResNet and ResNet while maintaining a similar performance. This can be explained mathematically using the concept of modified equation from numerical analysis. Last but not least, we also establish a connection between stochastic control and noise injection in the training process which helps to improve generalization of the networks. Furthermore, by relating stochastic training strategy with stochastic dynamic system, we can easily apply stochastic training to the networks with the LM-architecture. As an example, we introduced stochastic depth to LM-ResNet and achieve significant improvement over the original LM-ResNet on CIFAR10.

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Machine Learning For Elliptic PDEs: Fast Rate Generalization Bound, Neural Scaling Law and Minimax Optimality

Yiping Lu*, Haoxuan Chen†, Jianfeng Lu ‡, Lexing Ying§, and Jose Blanchet ¶

Abstract. In this paper, we study the statistical limits of deep learning techniques for solving elliptic partial differential equations (PDEs) from random samples using the Deep Ritz Method (DRM) and Physics-Informed Neural Networks (PINNs). To simplify the problem, we focus on a prototype elliptic PDE: the Schrödinger equation on a hypercube with zero Dirichlet boundary condition, which is applied in quantum-mechanical systems. We establish upper and lower bounds for both methods, which improve upon concurrently developed upper bounds for this problem via a fast rate generalization bound. We discover that the current Deep Ritz Method is sub-optimal and propose a modified version of it. We also prove that PINN and the modified version of DRM can achieve minimax optimal bounds over Sobolev spaces. Empirically, following recent work which has shown that the deep model accuracy will improve with growing training sets according to a power law, we supply computational experiments to show similar-behavior of dimension dependent power law for deep PDE solvers.

Minimax Optimal Kernel Operator Learning via Multilevel Training

Jikai Jin,[*,1] Yiping Lu,[*,2] Jose Blanchet,[*,3] and Lexing Ying[*,4]

[1]School of Mathematical Sciences, Peking University, BeiJing, China
[2]ICME, Stanford University, CA, USA
[3]Management Science & Engineering, Stanford University, CA, USA
[4]Department of Mathematics, Stanford University, Stanford, CA, USA
*Corresponding author. Email: jkjin@pku.edu.cn; yplu@stanford.edu; jose.blanchet@stanford.edu; lexing@stanford.edu

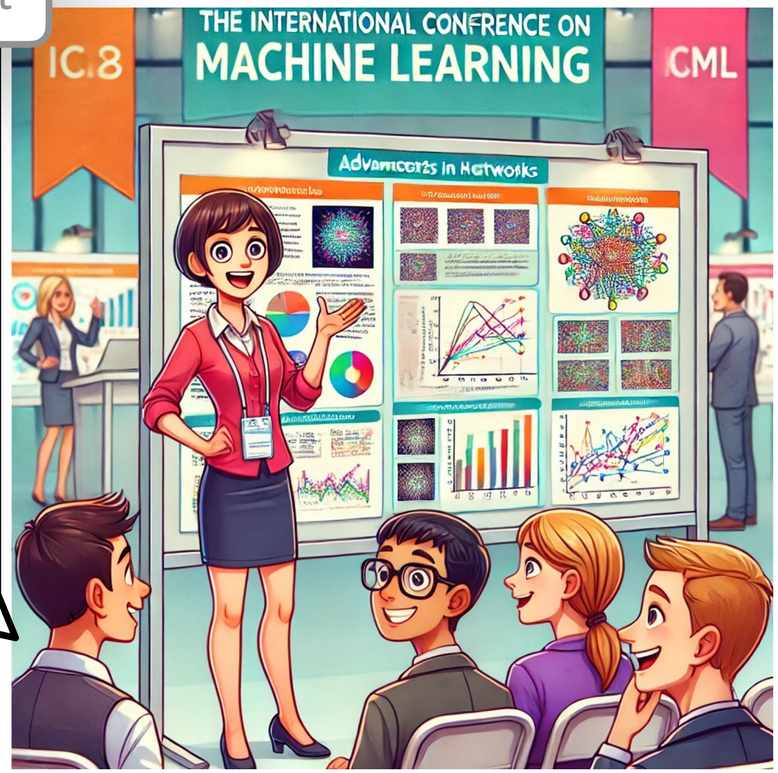
Do you trust your theorem?

Big Constant

Theorem If you randomly collect ( ) data, then you can achieve ( ) accuracy with your AI!

Relu network is optimal for function regression
PINN is optimal for differential equation solving
Diffusion Model is optimal for density estimation
Transformer is optimal for in-context learning
…

Global optimization, the structure of target function, The smoothness of ReLU, lower bound of $p(x)$…



Does Optimal results really gives me guarantee?

Consider How you use ChatGPT…

What is the most efficient route from Times Square to Chelsea Market that minimizes walking?

Option 1: Subway

1. **Walk to a Nearby Subway Entrance:** Head to the Times Sq–42nd Street station.
2. **Board the E Train:** Catch an E train heading downtown (toward World Trade Center).
3. **Ride to 8th Avenue–14th Street Station:** Get off at this station (roughly 4 stops).
4. **Walk to Chelsea Market:** Exit the station and walk east on 14th Street for a few blocks until you reach Chelsea Market at 75 9th Avenue.

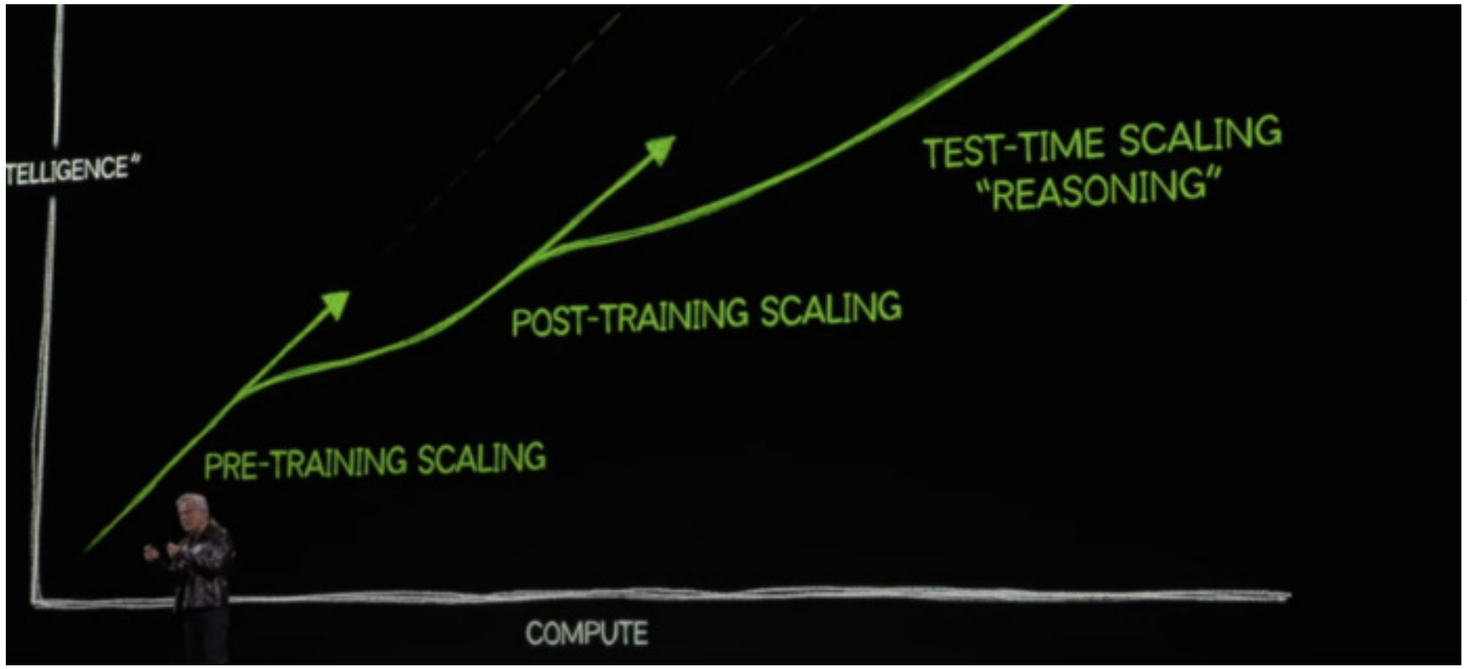
double-check with a map

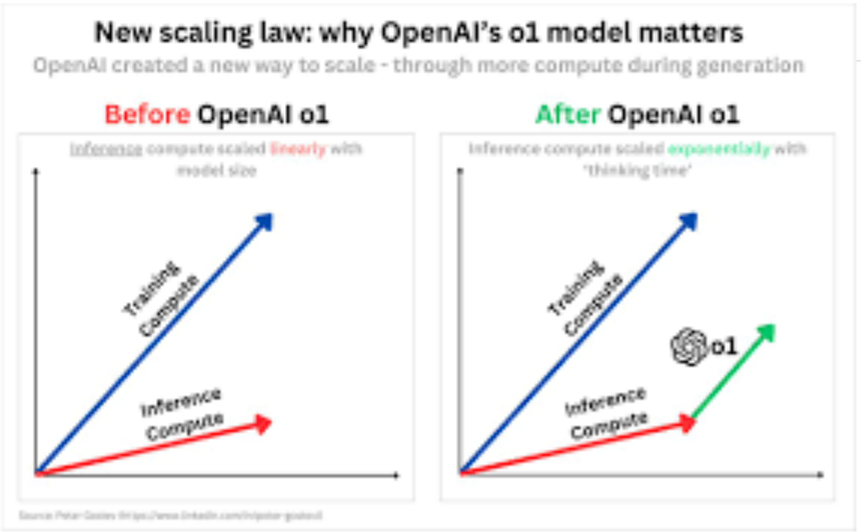
1. **At Times Square:** Enter the Times Square–42nd Street station.
2. **Board the 1 Train:** Hop on a downtown 1 train (the red line).
3. **Ride to 14th Street:** Stay on until you reach the 14th Street station.
4. **Exit Appropriately:** Use the exit that leads toward 9th Avenue—this drop-off point is just a short walk from Chelsea Market (located at 75 9th Ave).

Port Authortiy

2 stops for A
3 stops for C/E

Inference Time Scaling Law





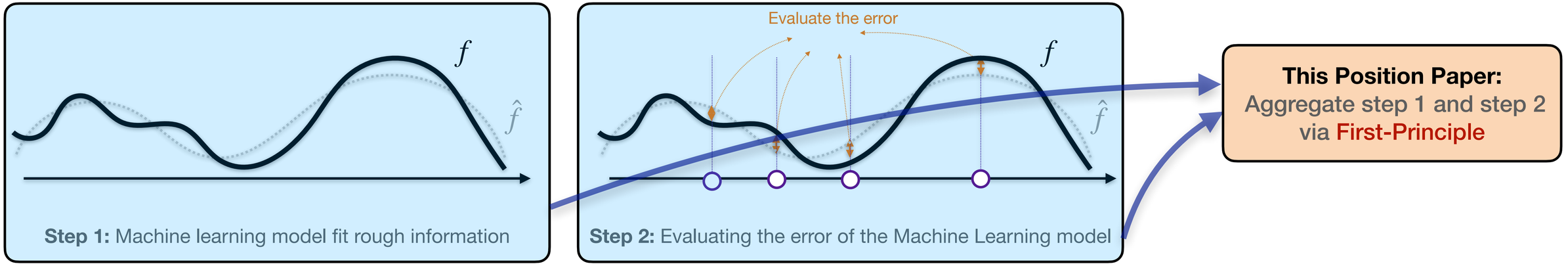
How can we perform Inference-Time Scaling for Scientific Machine Learning?

With trustworthy garuntee

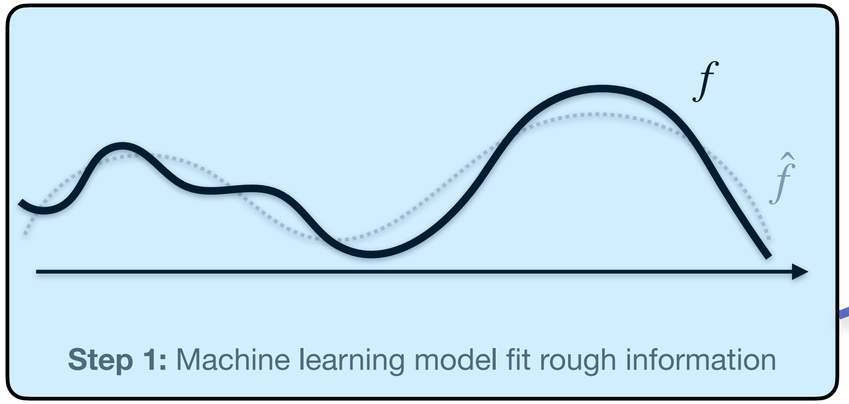
Tale 1: Debiasing

Hybrid Scientific Computing and Machine Learning

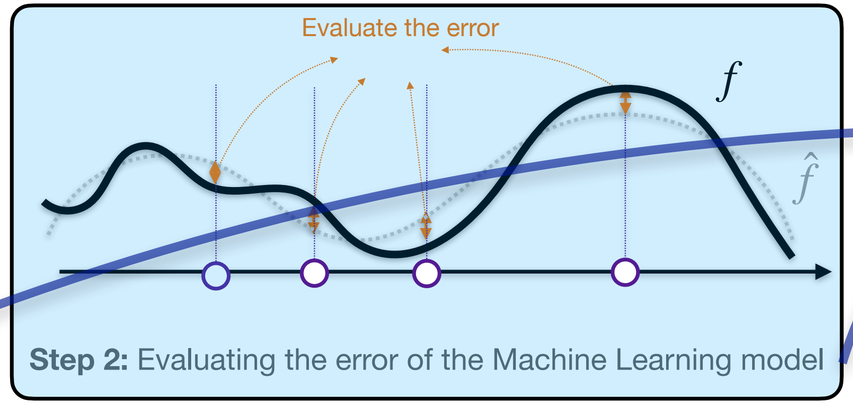
Physics-Informed Inference Time Scaling



Physics-Informed Inference Time Scaling



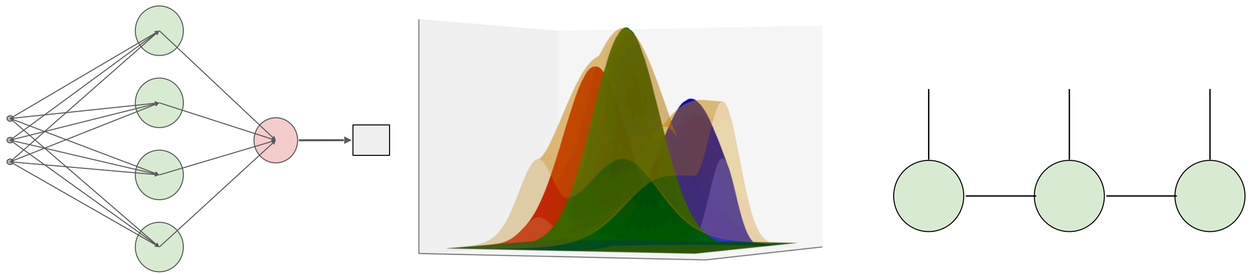
Step 1: Machine learning model fit rough information



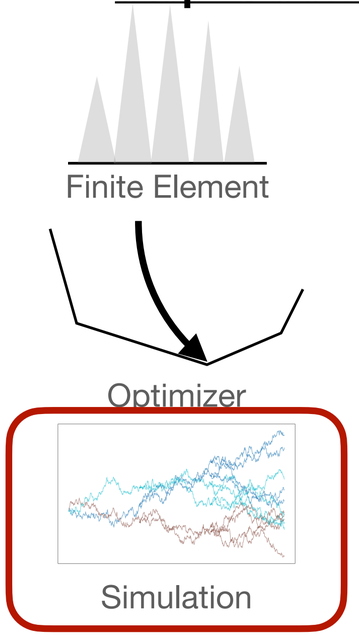
Step 2: Evaluating the error of the Machine Learning model

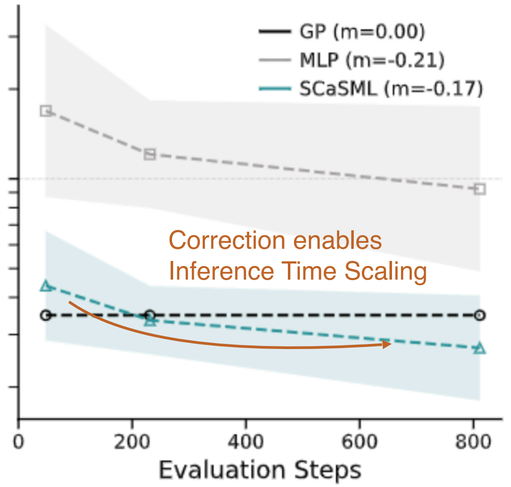
This Position Paper:
Aggregate step 1 and step 2
via First-Principle

Step 1. Train a Surrogate (ML) Model



Step 2. Correct with a Trustworthy Solver





Our Framework

Step 1: Sceintific Computing as Machine Learning

$$\{X_1, \cdots, X_n\} \sim \mathbb{P}_\theta \to \hat{\theta} \to \Phi(\hat{\theta})$$

Scientific Machine Learning

Example 1

$$\theta = f, \quad X_i = (x_i, f(x_i))$$

Function fitting

Example 2

$$\theta = \Delta^{-1} f, \quad X_i = (x_i, f(x_i))$$

Solving $\Delta u = f$

Solving PDE

Example 3

$$\theta = A, \quad X_i = (x_i, Ax_i)$$

Estimation $\hat{A}$ via Randomized SVD

Our Framework

Step 2: Consider a Downstream Application

$$\{X_1, \cdots, X_n\} \sim \mathbb{P}_\theta \to \hat{\theta} \to \Phi(\hat{\theta})$$

Scientific Machine Learning — Downstream application

Example 1 $\theta = f, \quad X_i = (x_i, f(x_i))$ $\Phi(\theta) = \int f(x)dx$

Example 2 $\theta = \Delta^{-1} f, \quad X_i = (x_i, f(x_i))$ $\Phi(\theta) = (\Delta^{-1} f)(x)$

Example 3 $\theta = A, \quad X_i = (x_i, Ax_i)$ $\Phi(\theta) = \text{tr}(A), \text{eigs}(A)$

Our Framework

$$\{X_1, \cdots, X_n\} \sim \mathbb{P}_\theta \rightarrow \hat{\theta} \rightarrow \Phi(\hat{\theta})$$

Scientific Machine Learning

Downstream application

AIM: Unbiased prediction even with biased machine learning estimator

AIM: Compute $\Phi(\hat{\theta}) - \Phi(\theta)$ during Inference time

Using (stochastic) simulation to calibrate the (scientific) machine learning output !

Our Framework

$$\{X_1, \cdots, X_n\} \sim \mathbb{P}_\theta \to \hat{\theta} \to \Phi(\hat{\theta})$$

Scientific Machine Learning — Downstream application

AIM: Unbiased prediction even with biased machine learning estimator

How to estimate $\Phi(\hat{\theta}) - \Phi(\theta)$?

Physics-Informed! (Structure of Φ)

Why it is easier than directly estimate $\Phi(\theta)$? *Variance Reduction*

Our Framework

$$\{X_1, \cdots, X_n\} \sim \mathbb{P}_\theta \to \hat{\theta} \to \Phi(\hat{\theta})$$

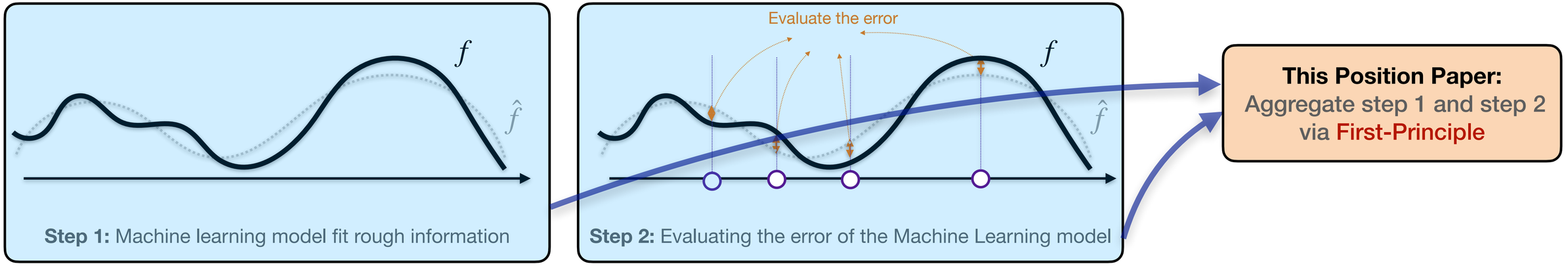
Scientific Machine Learning

Downstream application

AIM: Unbiased prediction even with biased machine learning estimator

- Qudrature Rule
- PDE Solver
- Eigenvalue Solver

Debiasing a Machine Learning Solution



$$\{X_1, \cdots, X_n\} \sim \mathbb{P}_\theta \rightarrow \hat{\theta} \rightarrow \Phi(\hat{\theta})$$

Scientific Machine Learning

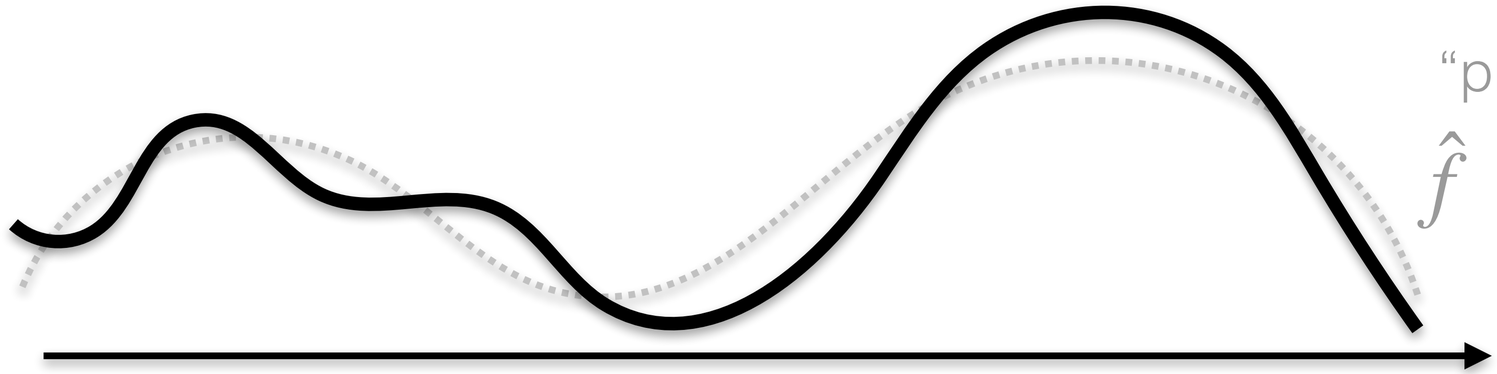
Downstream application

Example 1

$$\theta = f, \quad X_i = (x_i, f(x_i)) \qquad \Phi(\theta) = \int f^q(x)dx$$

Temperature, overall velocity…

Debiasing a Machine Learning Solution



"piece-wise polynomial"->Simpson Rule

$$\{X_1, \cdots, X_n\} \sim \mathbb{P}_\theta \to \hat{\theta} \to \Phi(\hat{\theta})$$

Scientific Machine Learning

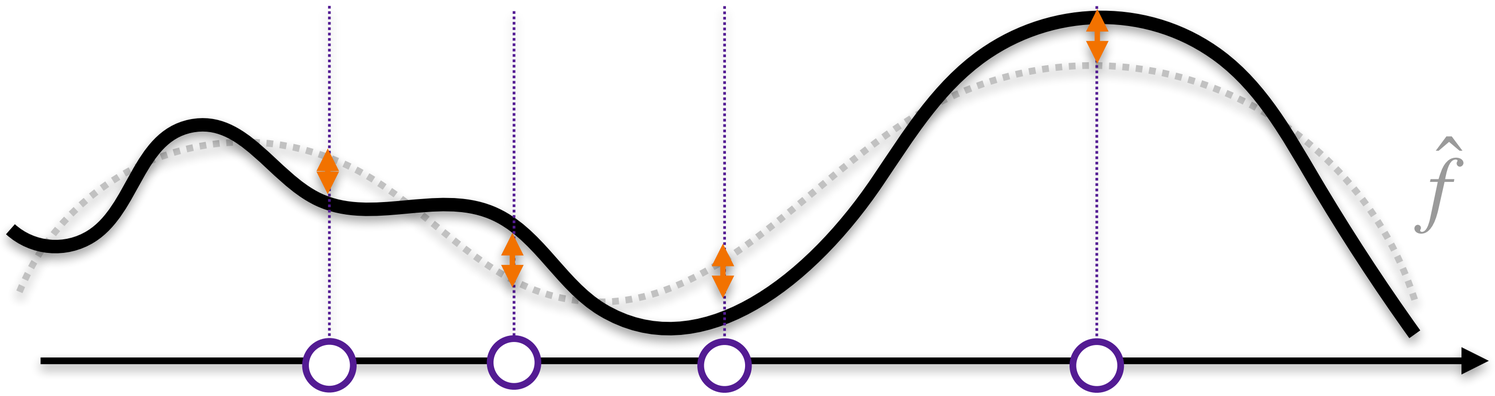
Downstream application

Example 1

$$\theta = f, \quad X_i = (x_i, f(x_i)) \qquad \Phi(\theta) = \int f^q(x)dx$$

Temperature, overall velocity…

Debiasing a Machine Learning Solution



Our Approah

Estimate $\mathbb{E}_P f \approx \mathbb{E}_P \hat{f}$

$+\mathbb{E}_{\hat{P}} f - \hat{f}$

An estimate to $\Phi(\hat{\theta}) - \Phi(\theta)$

$$\{X_1, \cdots, X_n\} \sim \mathbb{P}_\theta \to \hat{\theta} \to \Phi(\hat{\theta})$$

Scientific Machine Learning

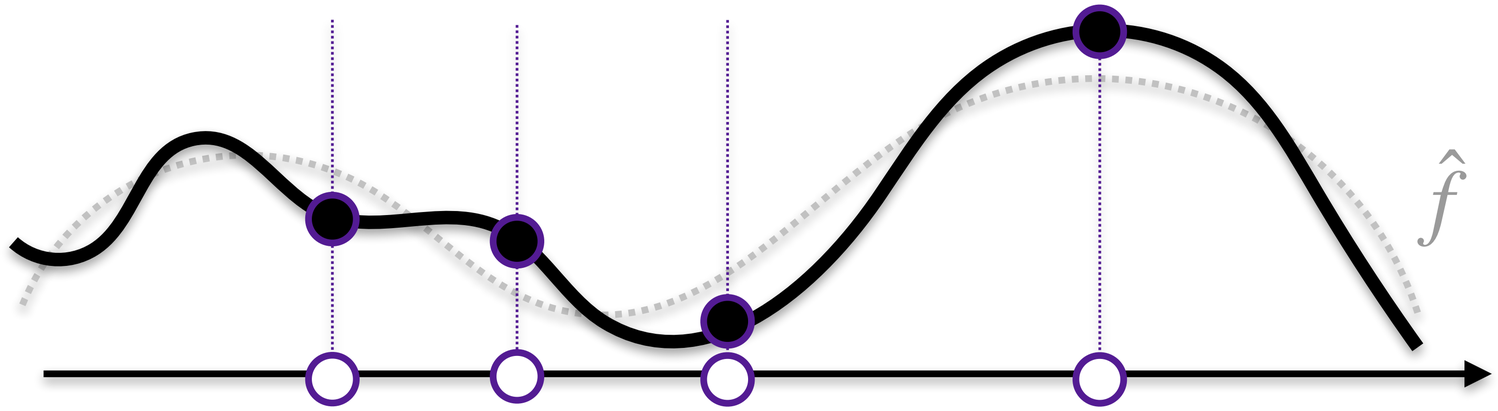
Downstream application

Example 1

$$\theta = f, \quad X_i = (x_i, f(x_i)) \qquad \Phi(\theta) = \int f^q(x)dx$$

Temperature, overall velocity…

Debiasing a Machine Learning Solution



Monte Carlo?

Estimate $\mathbb{E}_P f \approx \mathbb{E}_{\hat{P}} f$

$$\{X_1, \cdots, X_n\} \sim \mathbb{P}_\theta \to \hat{\theta} \to \Phi(\hat{\theta})$$

Scientific Machine Learning

Downstream application

Example 1

$$\theta = f, \quad X_i = (x_i, f(x_i))$$

$$\Phi(\theta) = \int f^q(x) dx$$

Temperature, overall velocity…

Debiasing a Machine Learning Solution

Regression-adjusted Control Variates | Doubly Robust Estimator | Multi-fidelity monte carlo | …

- Investigated the optimality of the SCaSML Framework
  - Jose Blanchet, Haoxuan Chen, Yiping Lu, Lexing Ying. When can Regression-Adjusted Control Variates Help? Rare Events, Sobolev Embedding and Minimax Optimality Neurips 2023

- Extend to nonlinear functional estimation using iterative methods **Later**

$$\{X_1, \cdots, X_n\} \sim \mathbb{P}_\theta \to \hat{\theta} \to \Phi(\hat{\theta})$$

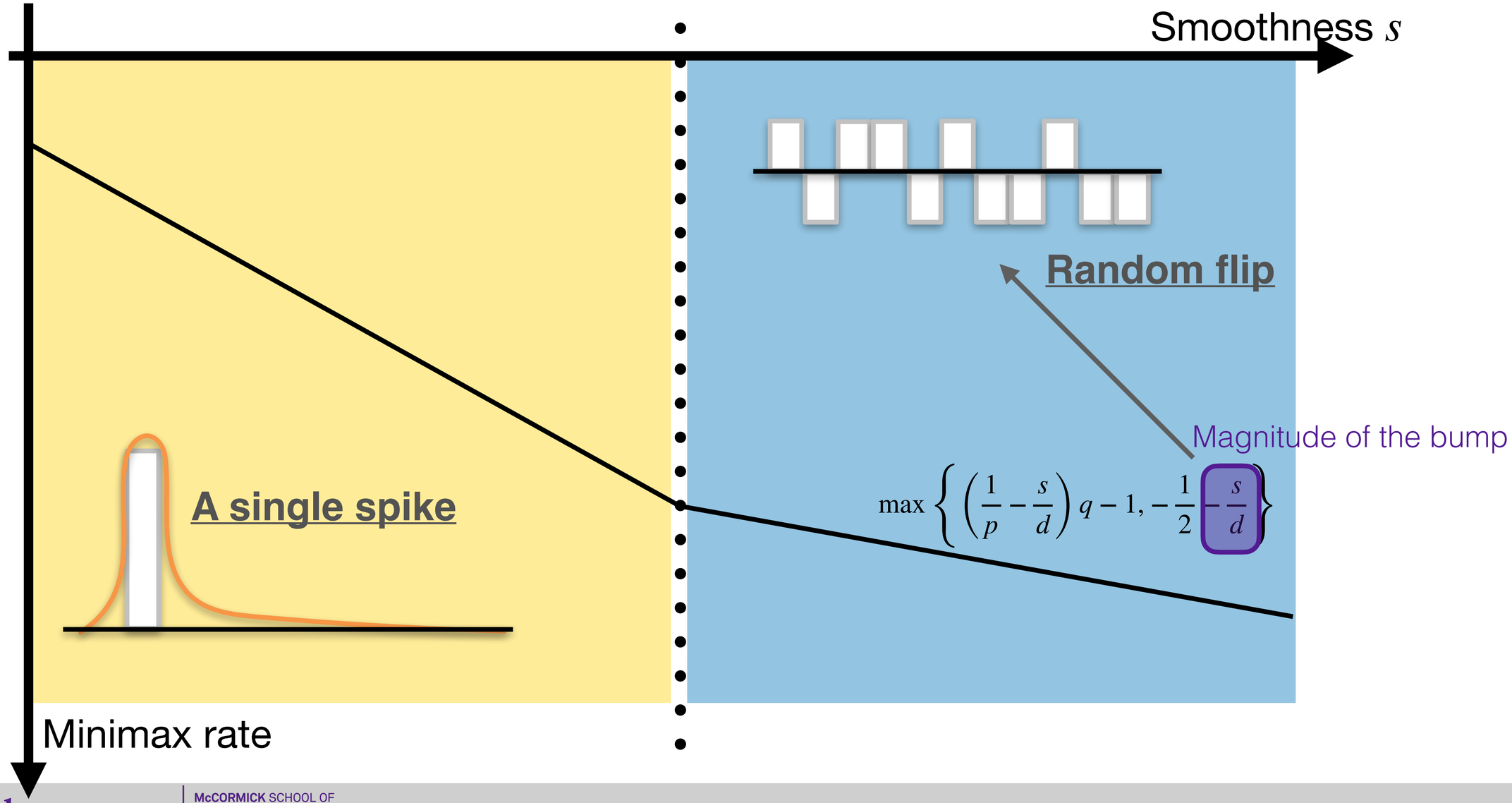
Scientific Machine Learning — Downstream application

Example 1 $\theta = f, \quad X_i = (x_i, f(x_i))$ $\Phi(\theta) = \int f^q(x)dx$

Temperature, overall velocity…

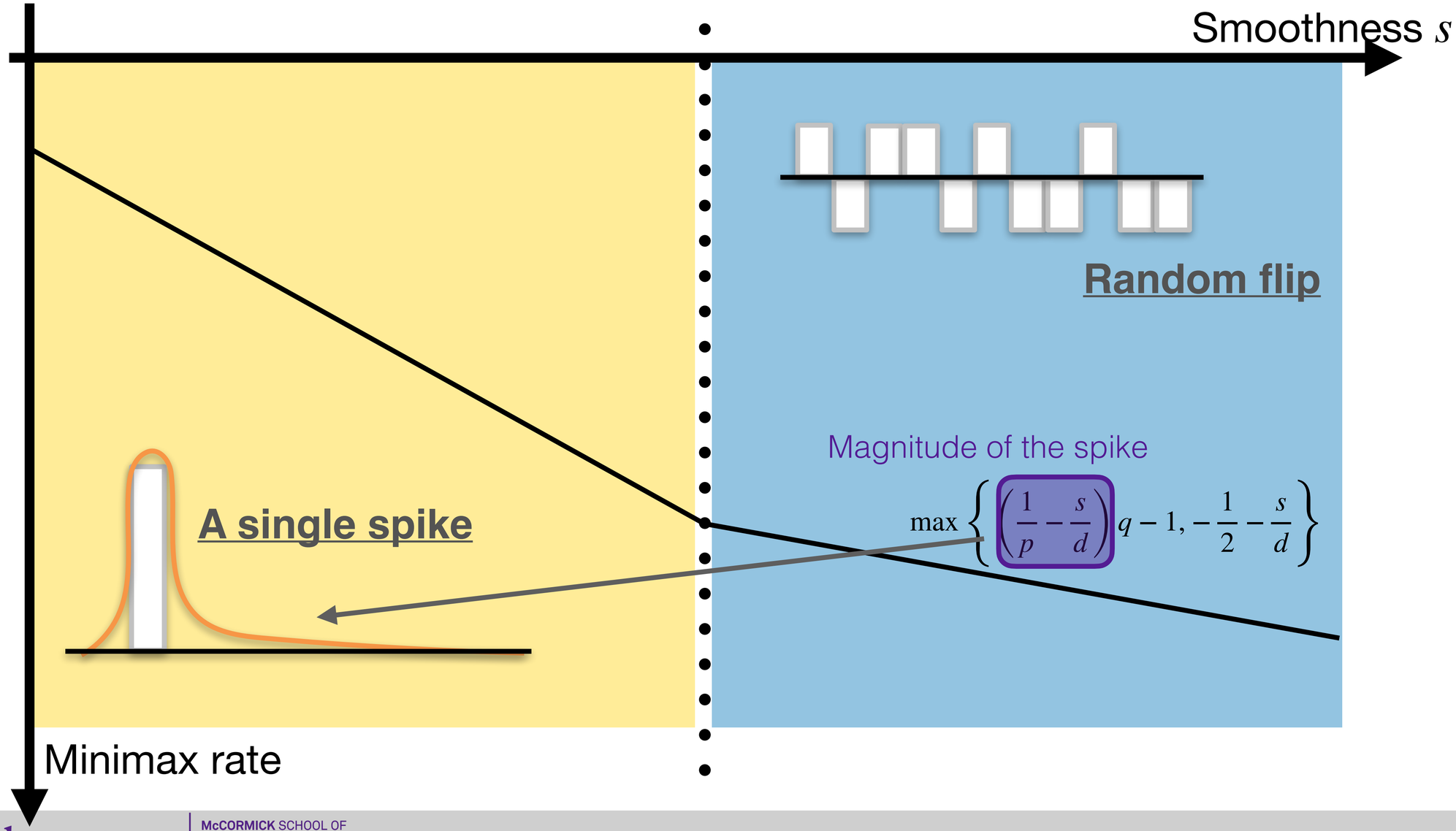
Lower Bound

Hardest Examples



Yiping Lu yiping.lu@northwestern.edu

Hardest Examples

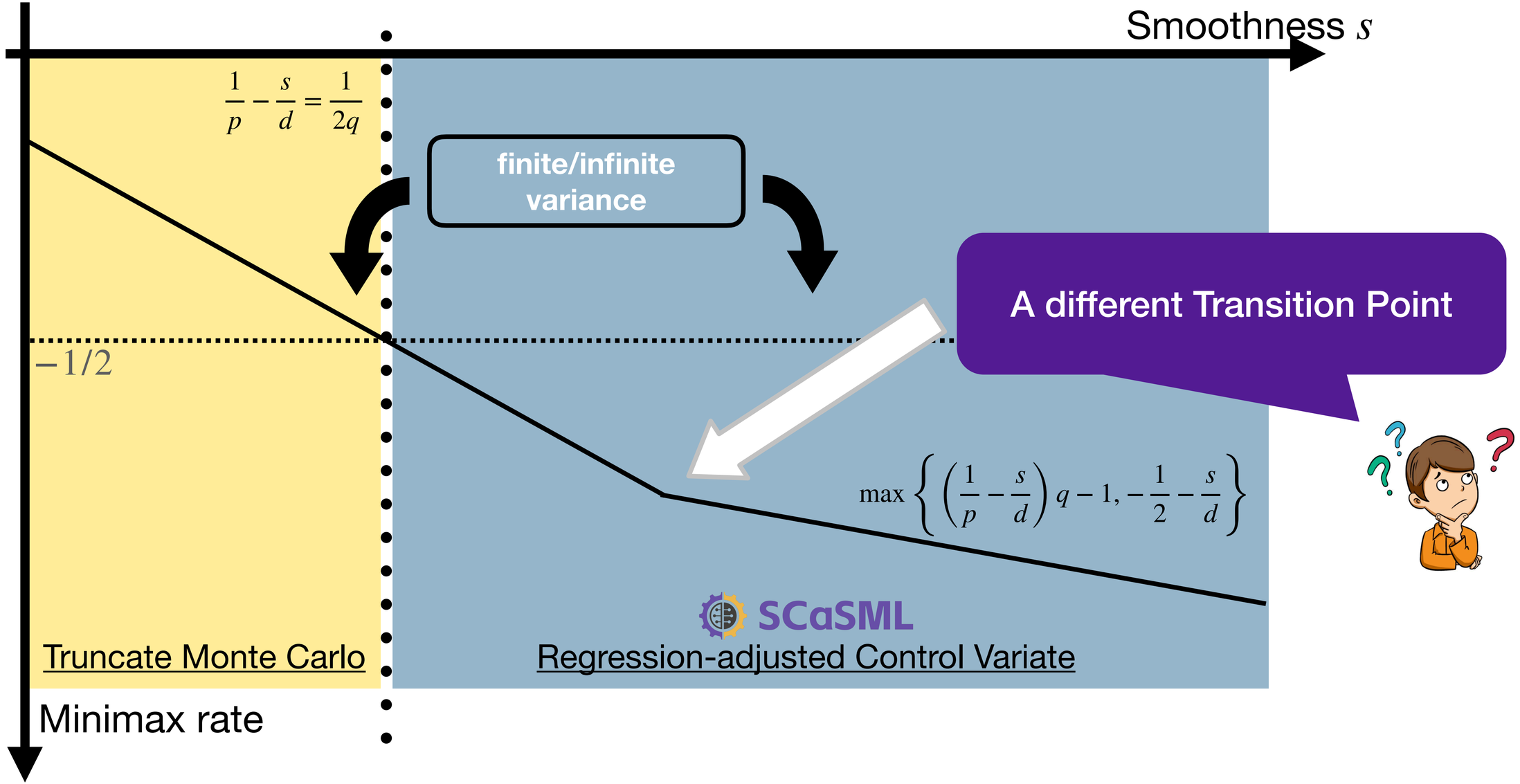


Yiping Lu yiping.lu@northwestern.edu

Optimal Algorithms

Easiest Understanding

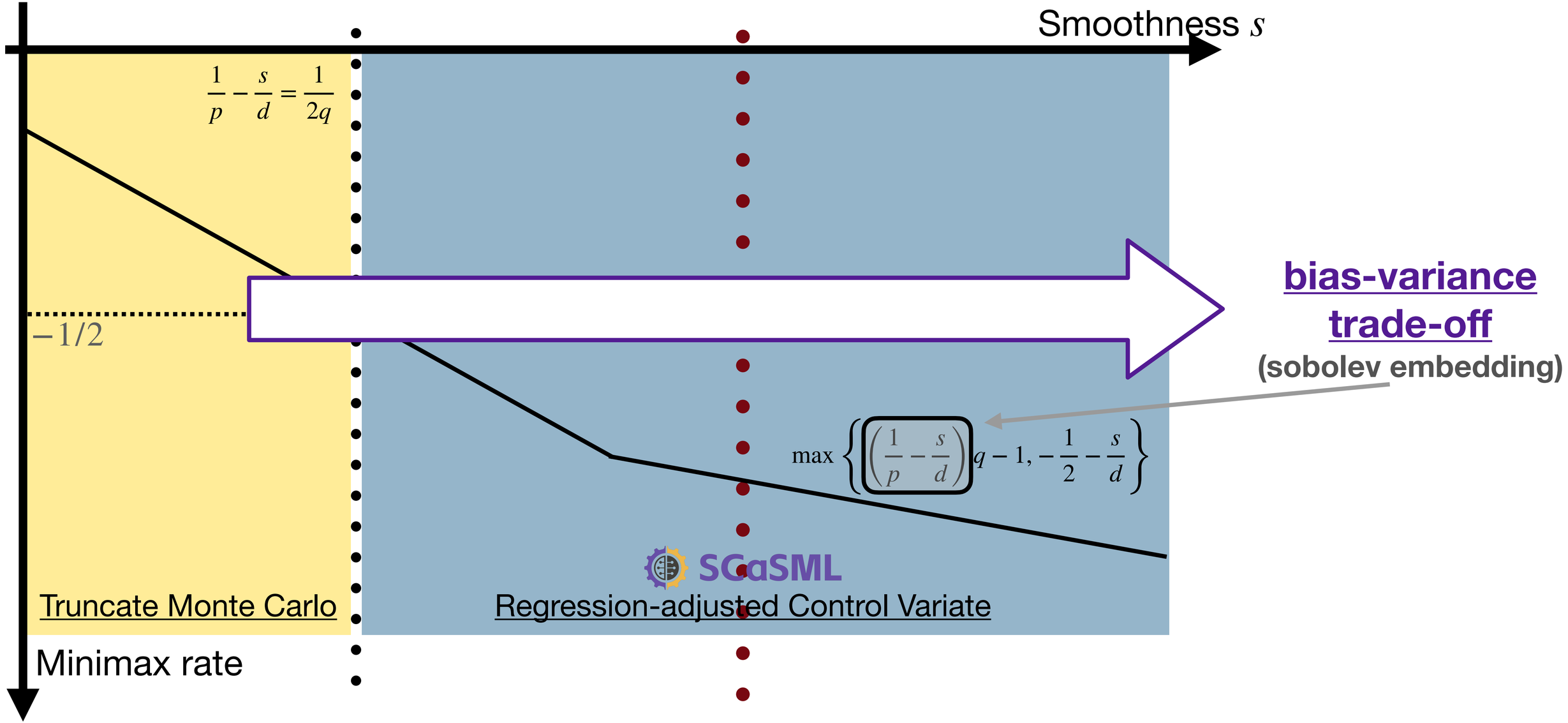
SCaSML



Yiping Lu yiping.lu@northwestern.edu

Easiest Understanding

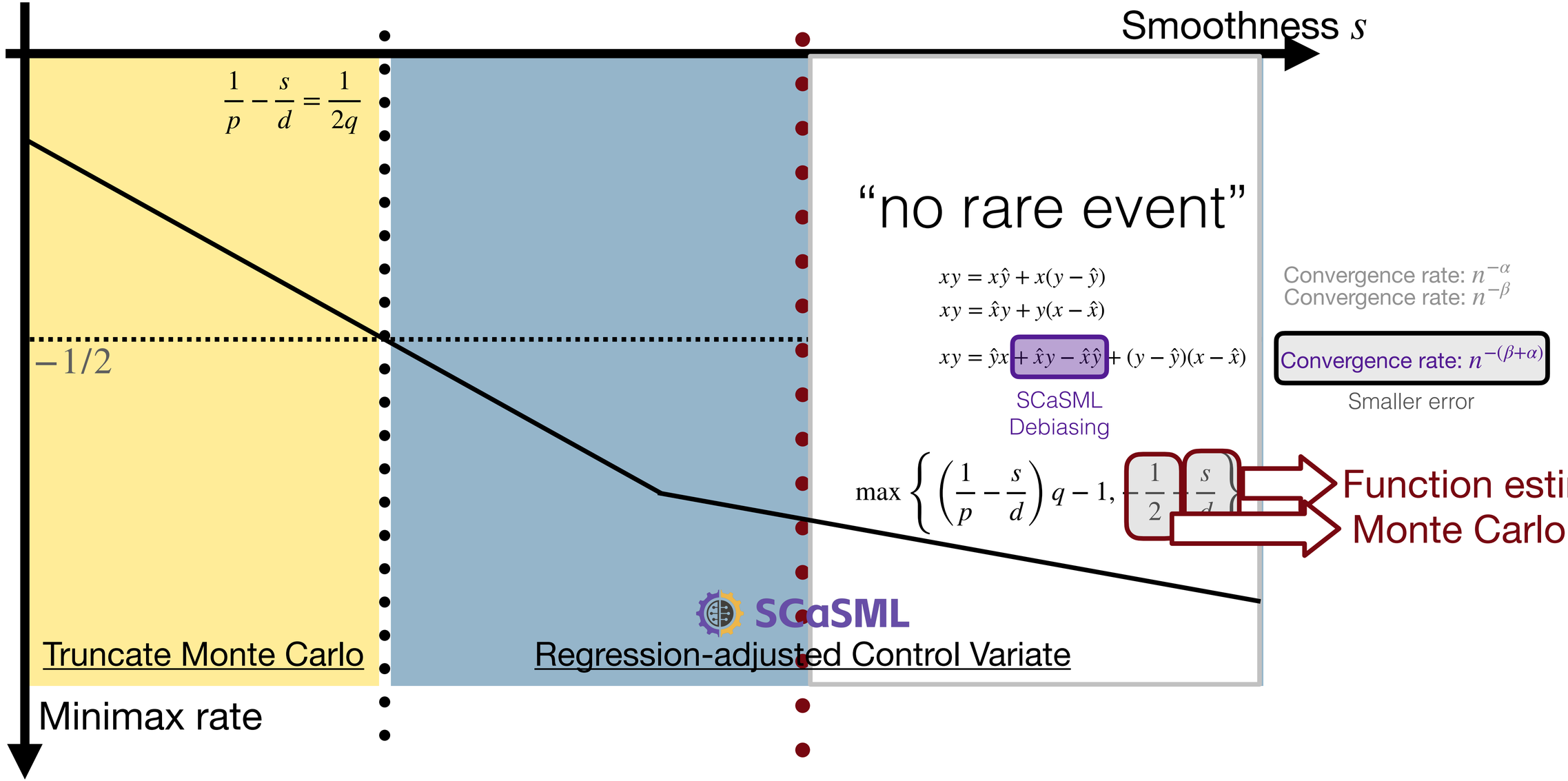
SCaSML



Yiping Lu yiping.lu@northwestern.edu

Easiest Understanding

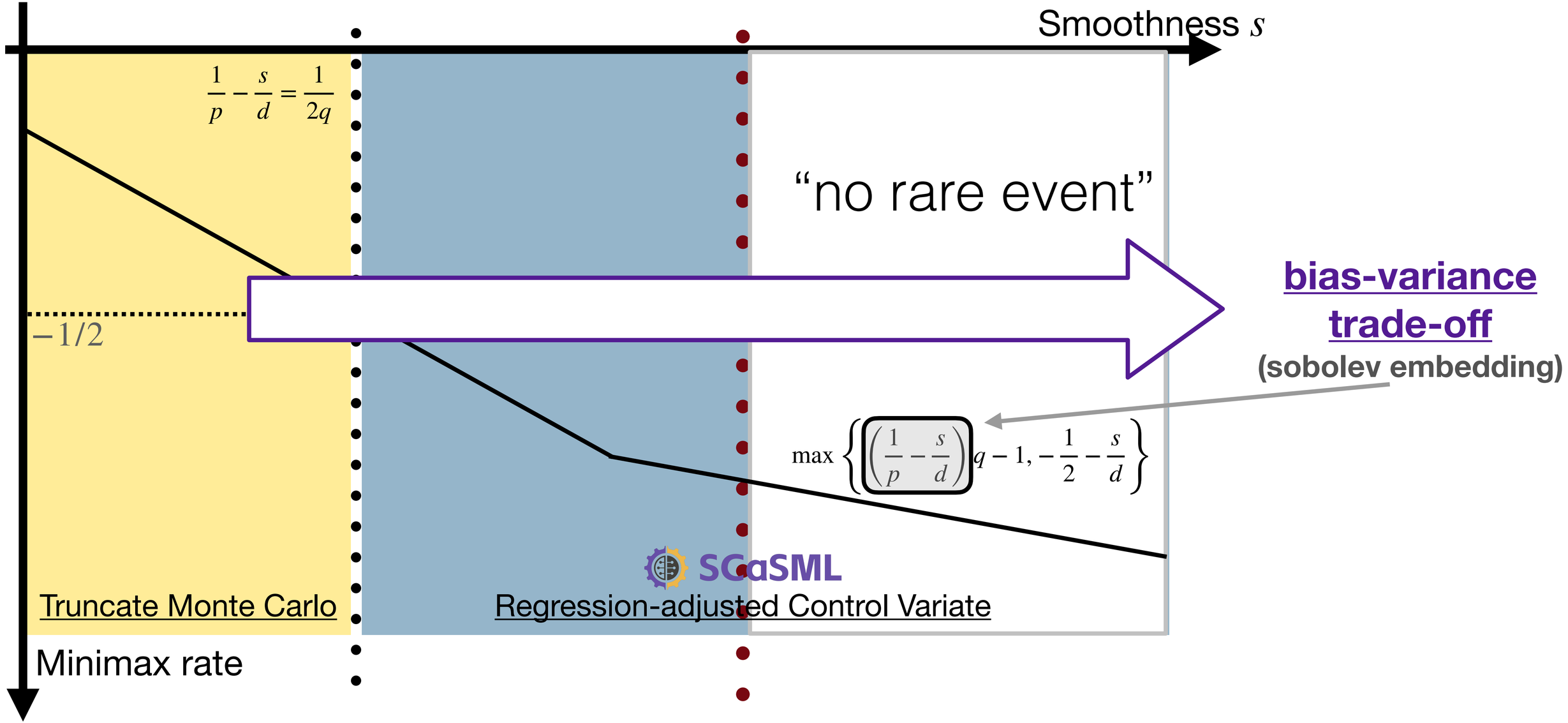
SCaSML



Yiping Lu yiping.lu@northwestern.edu

Easiest Understanding

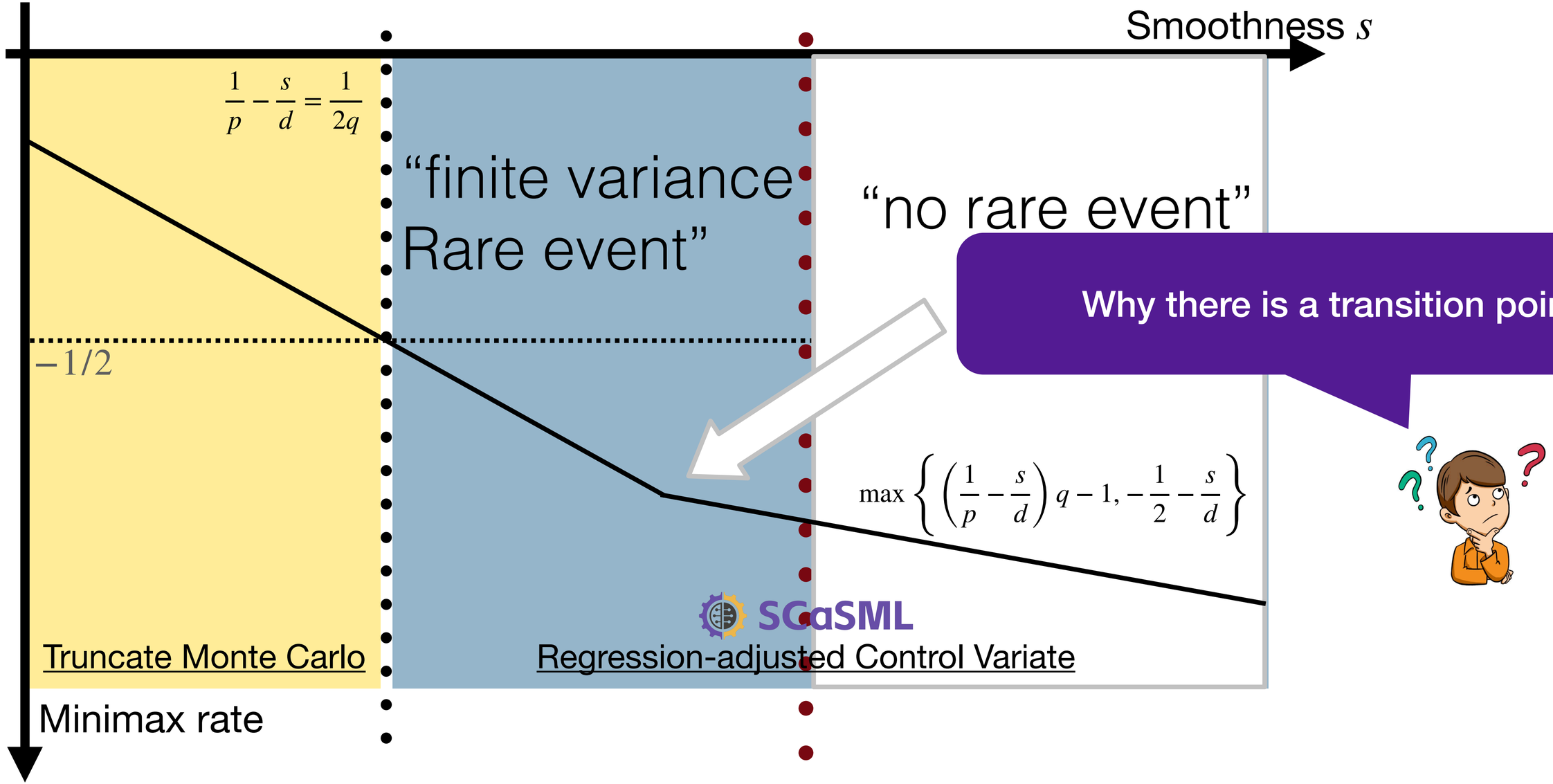
SCaSML



Yiping Lu yiping.lu@northwestern.edu

Why…

SCaSML



Yiping Lu yiping.lu@northwestern.edu

Analysis of Error propagation

SCaSML

SCaSML estimate of $\mathbb{E}_P f^q, f \in W^{s,p}$

Step 1 Using half of the data to estimate $\hat{f}$

Step 2 $\mathbb{E}_P f^q = \mathbb{E}_P(\hat{f}^q) + \mathbb{E}_P(f^q - \hat{f}^q)$

How does step2 variance depend on estimation error?

Hardness = The variance of the debasing step

Yiping Lu yiping.lu@northwestern.edu

Analysis of Error propagation

SCaSML

SCaSML estimate of $\mathbb{E}_P f^q, f \in W^{s,p}$

Step 1 Using half of the data to estimate $\hat{f}$

Step 2 $\mathbb{E}_P f^q = \mathbb{E}_P(\hat{f}^q) + \mathbb{E}_P(f^q - \hat{f}^q)$

Low order term

$f^{q-1}(f-\hat{f})$ + $(f-\hat{f})^q$

"influnce function" (gradient) Error propagation

How does step2 variance depend on estimation error?

Yiping Lu yiping.lu@northwestern.edu

Analysis of Error propagation

SCaSML

SCaSML estimate of $\mathbb{E}_P f^q, f \in W^{s,p}$

Step 1 Using half of the data to estimate $\hat{f}$

Step 2 $\mathbb{E}_P f^q = \mathbb{E}_P(\hat{f}^q) + \mathbb{E}_P(f^q - \hat{f}^q)$

Low order term

$f^{q-1}(f - \hat{f}) + (f - \hat{f})^q$

"influnce function" (gradient) Error p

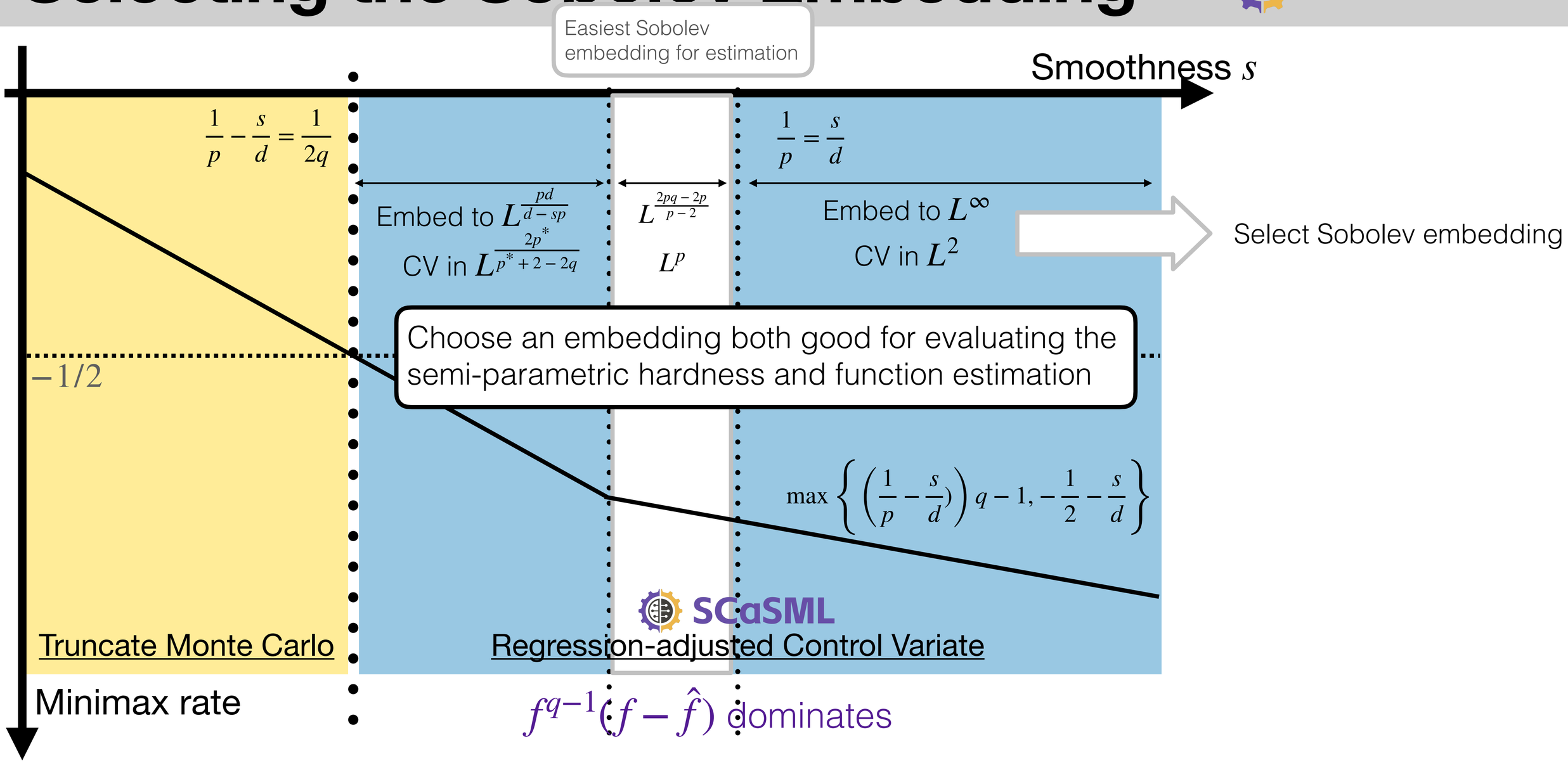
Embed f^{q-1} and $f - \hat{f}$ into "dual" space

How to select the Sobolev emebedding?

Yiping Lu yiping.lu@northwestern.edu

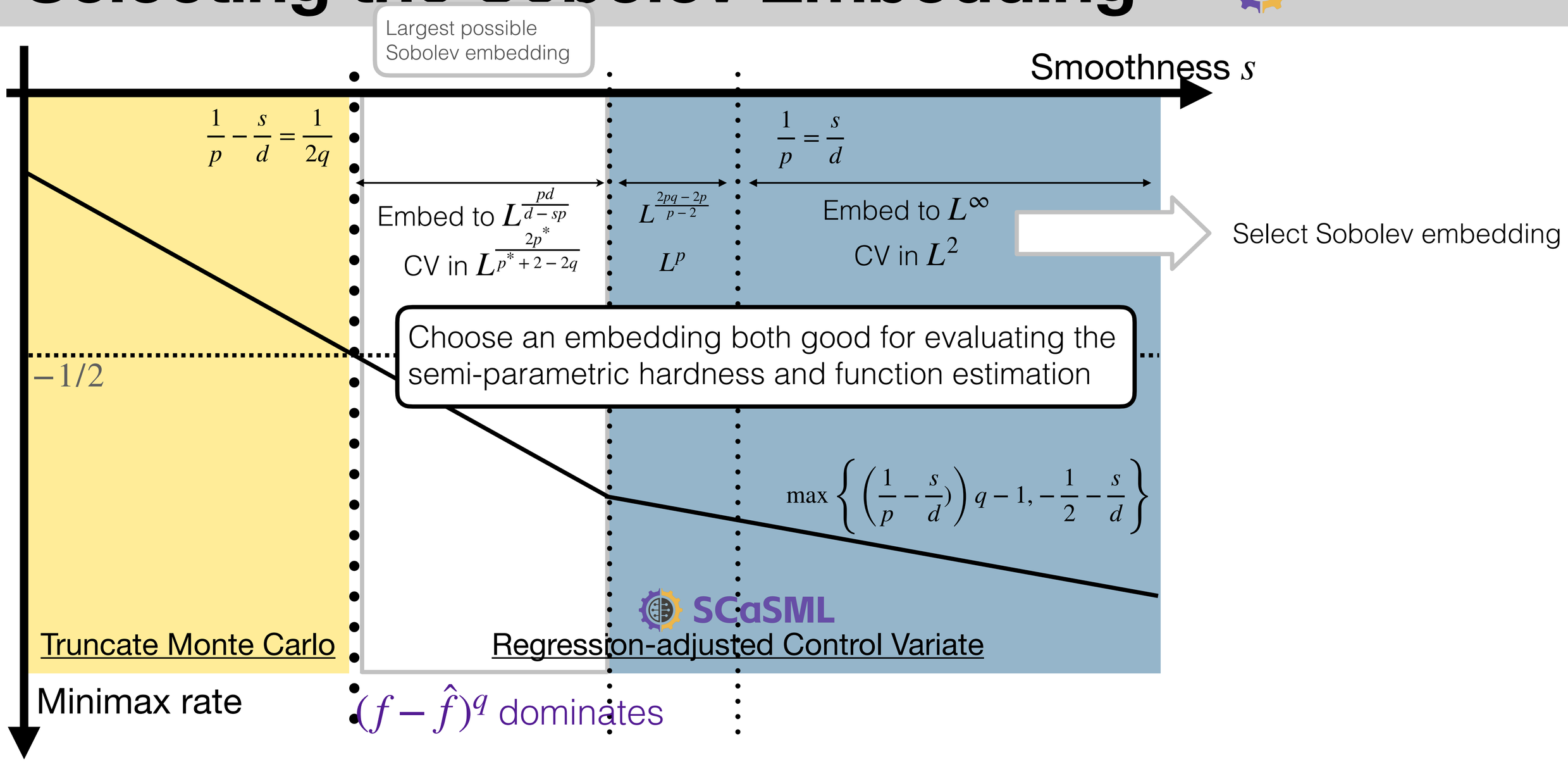
Selecting the Sobolev Embedding

SCaSML



Yiping Lu yiping.lu@northwestern.edu

Selecting the Sobolev Embedding

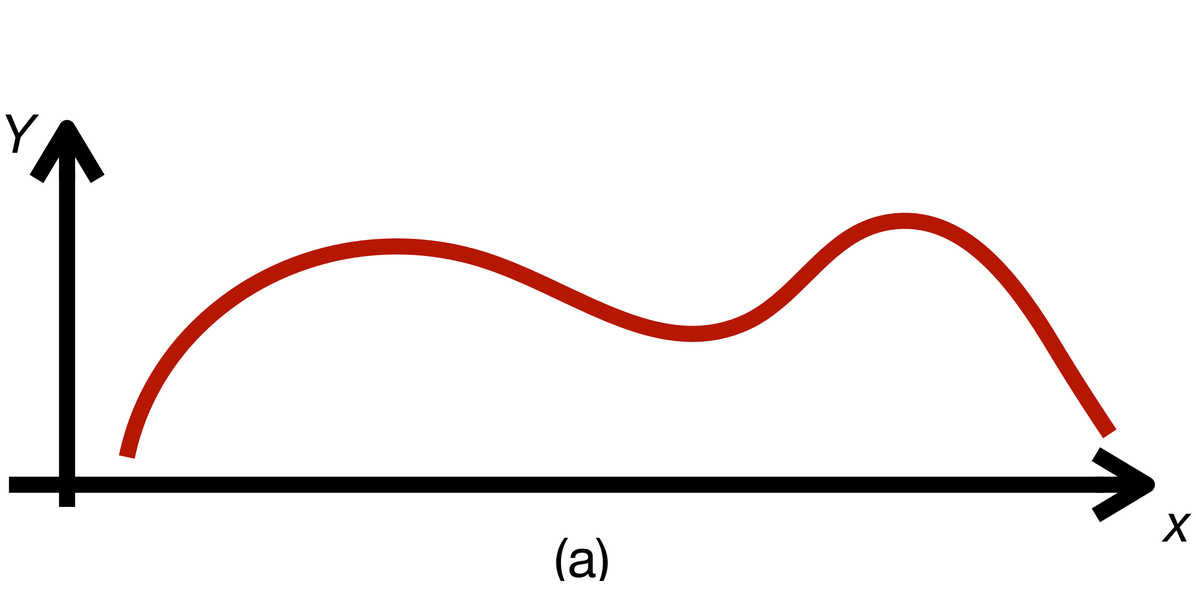


Yiping Lu yiping.lu@northwestern.edu

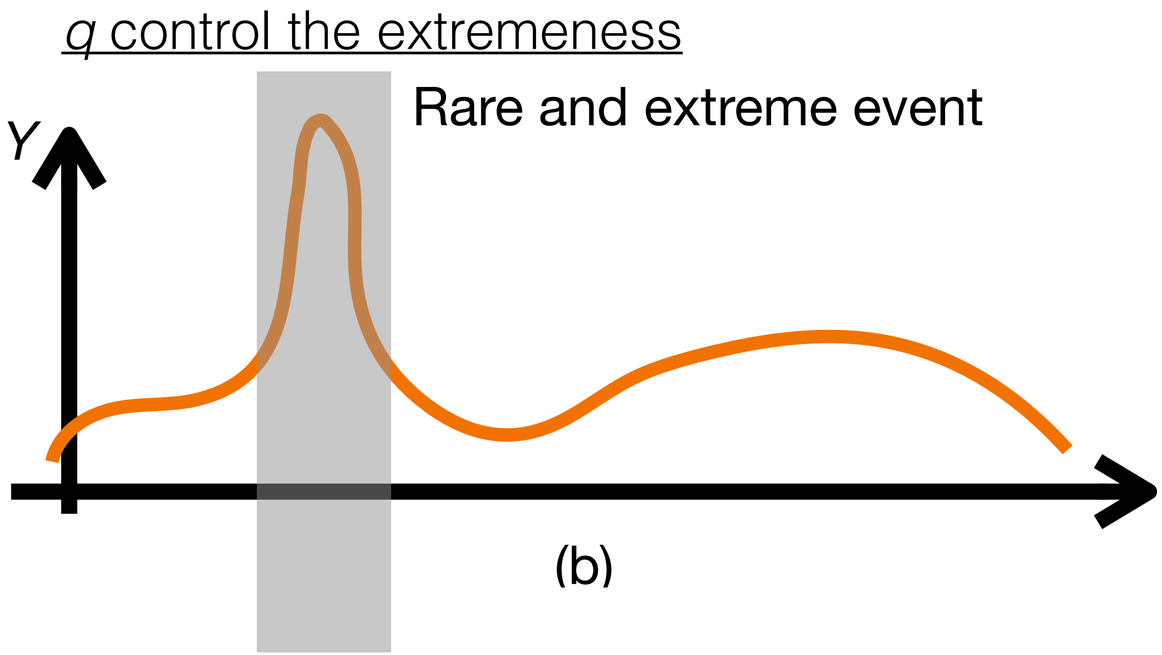
Take Home Message on the Theory

SCaSML

a) Statistical optimal regression is the optimal control variate
b) It helps only if there isn't a hard to simulate (infinite variance)
Rare and extreme event



q control the extremeness



Yiping Lu yiping.lu@northwestern.edu

Neurips 2023

When can Regression-Adjusted Control Variates Help?

Rare Events, Sobolev Embedding and Minimax Optimality

Jose Blanchet
Department of MS&E and ICME
Stanford University
Stanford, CA 94305
jose.blanchet@stanford.edu

Haoxuan Chen
ICME
Stanford University
Stanford, CA 94305
haoxuanc@stanford.edu

Yiping Lu
Courant Institute of Mathematical Sciences
New York University
New York, NY 10012
yiping.lu@nyu.edu

Lexing Ying
Department of Mathematics and ICME
Stanford University
Stanford, CA 94305
lexing@stanford.edu

PDE Solver

High Dimensional PDE-Solving

Let's consider $\Delta u = f$

$$\{X_1, \cdots, X_n\} \sim \mathbb{P}_\theta \to \theta \to \Phi(\theta)$$

$X_i = (x_i, \Delta u(x_i))$ — PDE R.h.s

u — PDE solution

Mean/Variance/$u(x)$

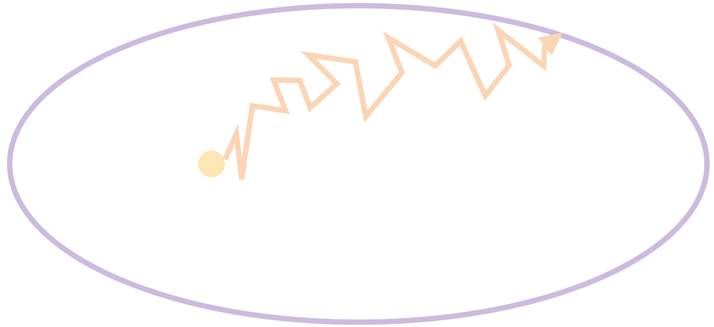
PINN/DRM/Neural Galerkin

$$(u - \hat{u})(x) = \mathbb{E} \int (f - \hat{f})(X_t) dt$$

$$\Delta u = f$$

$$\Delta \hat{u} = \hat{f}$$

$$\Delta(u - \hat{u}) = f - \hat{f}$$



High Dimensional PDE-Solving

Let's consider $\Delta u = f$

$$\{X_1, \cdots, X_n\} \sim \mathbb{P}_\theta \to \theta \to \Phi(\theta)$$

$X_i = (x_i, \Delta u(x_i))$ — PDE R.h.s

u — PDE solution

Mean/Variance/$u(x)$

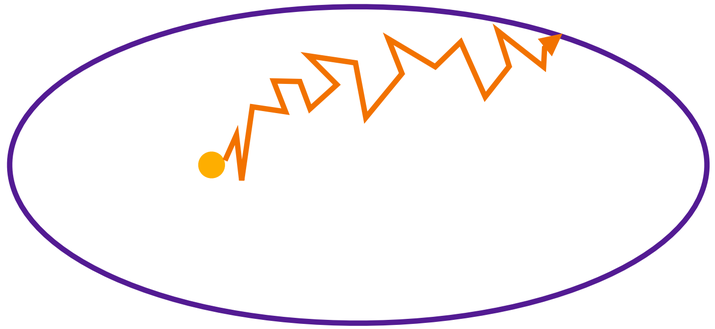
PINN/DRM/Neural Galerkin

$$(u - \hat{u})(x) = \mathbb{E} \int (f - \hat{f})(X_t) dt$$

$\Delta u = f$

$\Delta \hat{u} = \hat{f}$

$$\Delta(u - \hat{u}) = f - \hat{f}$$



Works for Semi-linear PDE

$$\frac{\partial U}{\partial t}(x,t) + \Delta U(x,t) + f(U(x,t)) = 0$$

Keeps the structure to enable brownian motion simulation

Can you do simulation for nonlinear equation?

Δ is linear!

Works for Semi-linear PDE

$$\frac{\partial U}{\partial t}(x,t) + \Delta U(x,t) + f(U(x,t)) = 0$$

Keeps the structure to enable brownian motion simulation

NN

$$\frac{\partial \hat{U}}{\partial t}(x,t) + \Delta \hat{U}(x,t) + f(\hat{U}(x,t)) = g(x,t)$$

$g(x,t)$ is the error made by NN

Works for Semi-linear PDE

$$\frac{\partial U}{\partial t}(x,t) + \Delta U(x,t) + f(U(x,t)) = 0$$

Keeps the structure to enable brownian motion simulation

NN

$$\underbrace{\frac{\partial \hat{U}}{\partial t}(x,t) + \Delta \hat{U}(x,t) + f(\hat{U}(x,t)) = g(x,t)}$$

$g(x,t)$ is the error made by NN

Subtract two equations

Keeps the linear structure

$$\frac{\partial (U-\hat{U})}{\partial t}(x,t) + \Delta (U-\hat{U})(x,t)) + \underbrace{f(t,\hat{U}(x,t)+U(x,t)-\hat{U}(x,t)) - f(t,\hat{U}(x,t))}_{G\left(t,(U-\hat{U})(x,t)\right)} = g(x,t)\,.$$

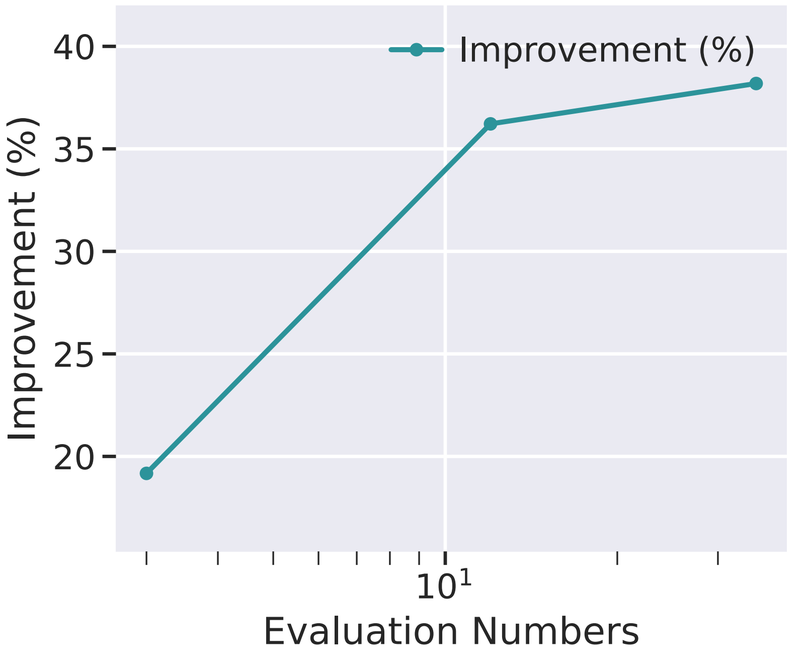
Numerical Results

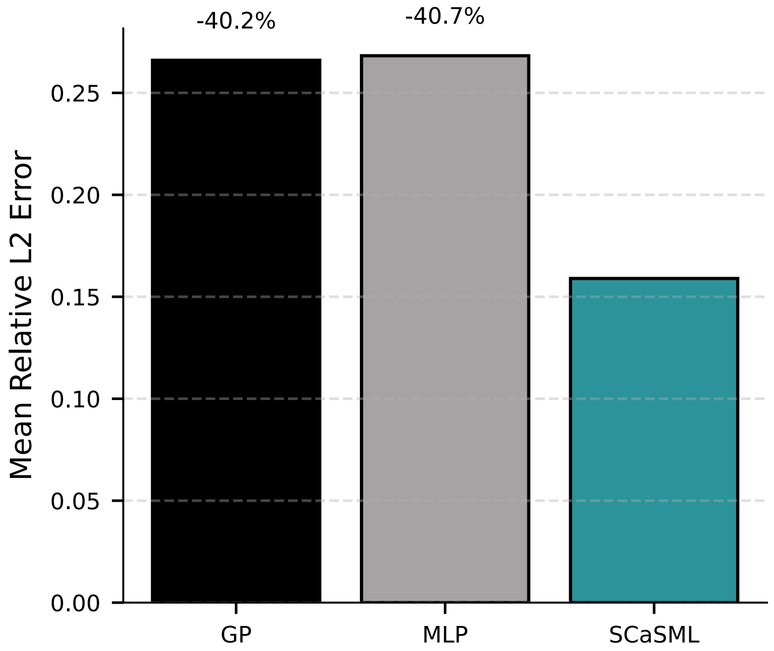
		Time (s)			Relative L^2 Error			L^∞ Error			L^1 Error		
		SR	**MLP**	**SCaSML**	**SR**	**MLP**	**SCaSML**	**SR**	**MLP**	**SCaSML**	**SR**	**MLP**	**SCaSML**
LCD	10d	2.64	11.24	23.75	5.24E-02	2.27E-01	**2.73E-02**	2.50E-01	9.06E-01	**1.61E-01**	3.43E-02	1.67E-01	**1.78E-02**
	20d	1.14	7.35	17.59	9.09E-02	2.35E-01	**4.73E-02**	4.52E-01	1.35E+00	**3.28E-01**	9.47E-02	2.37E-01	**4.52E-02**
	30d	1.39	7.52	25.33	2.30E-01	2.38E-01	**1.84E-01**	4.73E+00	1.59E+00	**1.49E+00**	**1.75E-01**	2.84E-01	1.91E-01
	60d	1.13	7.76	35.58	3.07E-01	2.39E-01	**1.32E-01**	3.23E+00	2.05E+00	**1.55E+00**	5.24E-01	4.07E-01	**2.06E-01**
VB-PINN	20d	1.15	7.05	13.82	1.17E-02	8.36E-02	**3.97E-03**	3.16E-02	2.96E-01	**2.16E-02**	5.37E-03	3.39E-02	**1.29E-03**
	40d	1.18	7.49	16.48	3.99E-02	1.04E-01	**2.85E-02**	8.16E-02	3.57E-01	**7.16E-02**	1.97E-02	4.36E-02	**1.21E-02**
	60d	1.19	7.57	19.83	3.97E-02	1.17E-01	**2.90E-02**	8.10E-02	3.93E-01	**7.10E-02**	1.95E-02	4.82E-02	**1.24E-02**
	80d	1.32	7.48	21.99	6.78E-02	1.19E-01	**5.68E-02**	1.89E-01	3.35E-01	**1.79E-01**	3.24E-02	4.73E-02	**2.49E-02**
VB-GP	20d	1.97	10.66	65.46	1.47E-01	8.32E-02	**5.52E-02**	3.54E-01	**2.22E-01**	2.54E-01	7.01E-02	3.50E-02	**1.91E-02**
	40d	1.68	10.14	49.38	1.81E-01	1.05E-01	**7.95E-02**	4.01E-01	3.47E-01	**3.01E-01**	9.19E-02	4.25E-02	**3.43E-02**
	60d	1.01	7.25	35.14	2.40E-01	2.57E-01	**1.28E-01**	3.84E-01	9.50E-01	**7.10E-02**	1.27E-01	9.99E-02	**6.11E-02**
	80d	1.00	7.00	38.26	2.66E-01	3.02E-01	**1.52E-01**	3.62E-01	1.91E+00	**2.62E-01**	1.45E-01	1.09E-01	**7.59E-02**
LQG	100d	1.54	8.67	26.95	7.96E-02	5.63E+00	**5.51E-02**	7.78E-01	1.26E+01	**6.78E-01**	1.40E-01	1.21E+01	**8.68E-02**
	120d	1.25	8.17	27.46	9.37E-02	5.50E+00	**6.64E-02**	9.02E-01	1.27E+01	**8.02E-01**	1.73E-01	1.22E+01	**1.05E-01**
	140d	1.80	8.27	29.72	9.79E-02	5.37E+00	**6.78E-02**	1.00E+00	1.27E+01	**9.00E-01**	1.91E-01	1.23E+01	**1.11E-01**
	160d	1.74	9.07	32.08	1.11E-01	5.27E+00	**9.92E-02**	1.38E+00	1.28E+01	**1.28E+00**	2.15E-01	1.23E+01	**1.79E-01**
DR	100d	1.62	7.75	60.86	9.52E-03	8.99E-02	**8.87E-03**	7.51E-02	6.37E-01	**6.51E-02**	1.13E-02	9.74E-02	**1.11E-02**
	120d	1.26	7.28	65.66	1.11E-02	9.13E-02	**9.90E-03**	7.10E-02	5.74E-01	**6.10E-02**	1.40E-02	9.97E-02	**1.23E-02**
	140d	2.38	7.82	76.90	3.17E-02	8.97E-02	**2.94E-02**	1.79E-01	8.56E-01	**1.69E-01**	3.96E-02	9.77E-02	**3.67E-02**
	160d	1.75	7.42	82.40	3.46E-02	9.00E-02	**3.23E-02**	2.08E-01	8.02E-01	**1.98E-01**	4.32E-02	9.75E-02	**4.02E-02**

Inference-Time Scaling

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t}u + \left[\sigma^2 u - \frac{1}{d} - \frac{\bar{\sigma}^2}{2}\right](\nabla \cdot u) + \frac{\bar{\sigma}^2}{2}\Delta u = 0$$

have closed-form solution $g(x) = \dfrac{\exp(T + \sum_i x_i}{1 + \exp(T + \sum_i x_i)}$

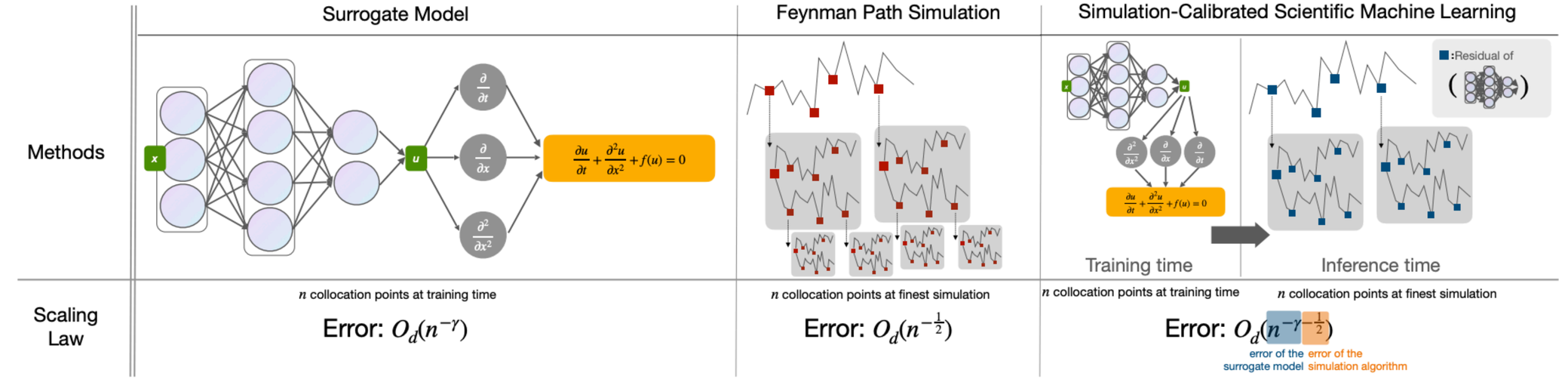




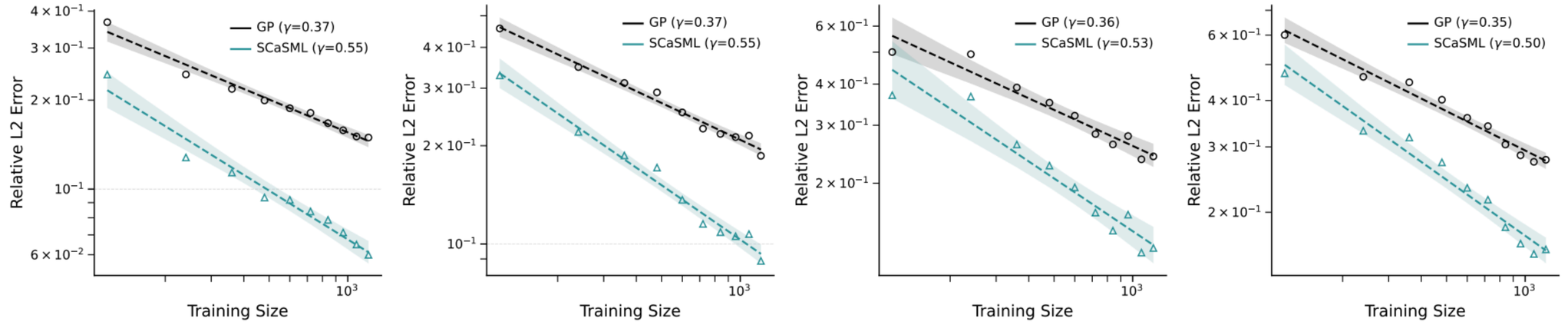
Method	Convergence Rate
PINN	$O(n^{-s/d})$
MLP	$O(n^{-1/4})$
ScaSML	$O(n^{-1/4-s/d})$

Better Scaling Law

a)



b)



(a) $d = 20$ (b) $d = 40$ (c) $d = 60$ (d) $d = 80$

Physics-Informed Inference Time Scaling via Simulation-Calibrated Scientific Machine Learning

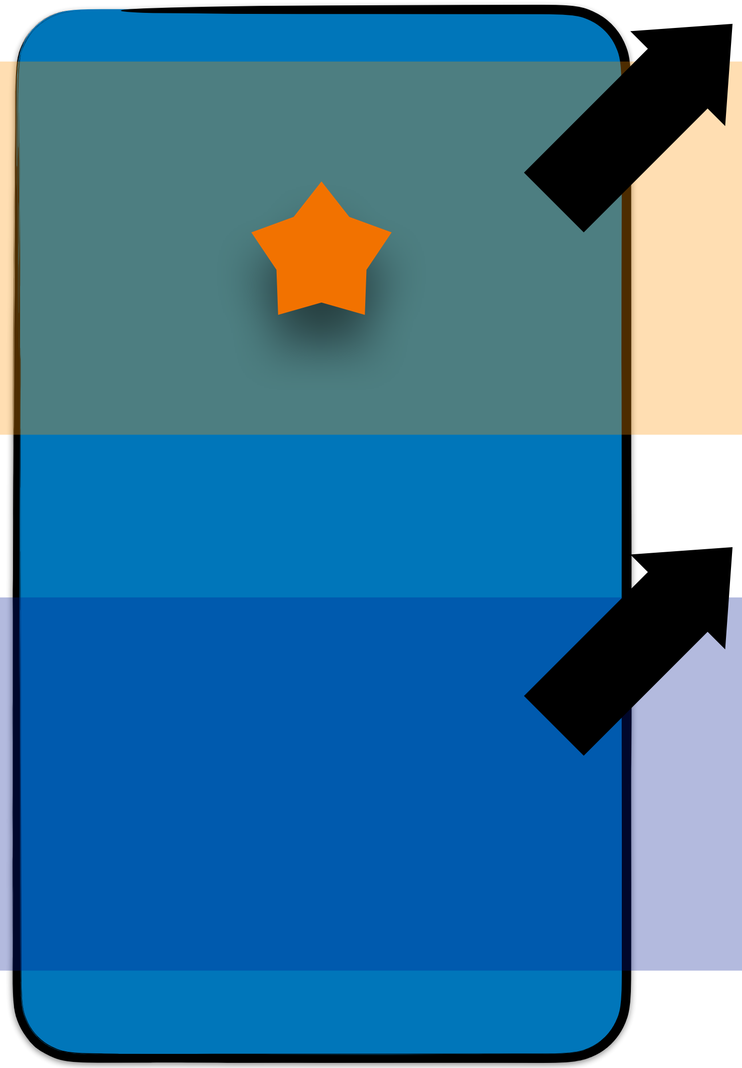
Zexi Fan[1], Yan Sun [2], Shihao Yang[3], Yiping Lu*[4]

[1] Peking University [2] Visa Inc. [3] Georgia Institute of Technology [4] Northwestern University

fanzexi_francis@stu.pku.edu.cn,yansun414@gmail.com,
shihao.yang@isye.gatech.edu,yiping.lu@northwestern.edu

https://2prime.github.io/files/scasml_techreport.pdf

Our Aim Today : A Marriage



When Neural Network is good

Machine Learning

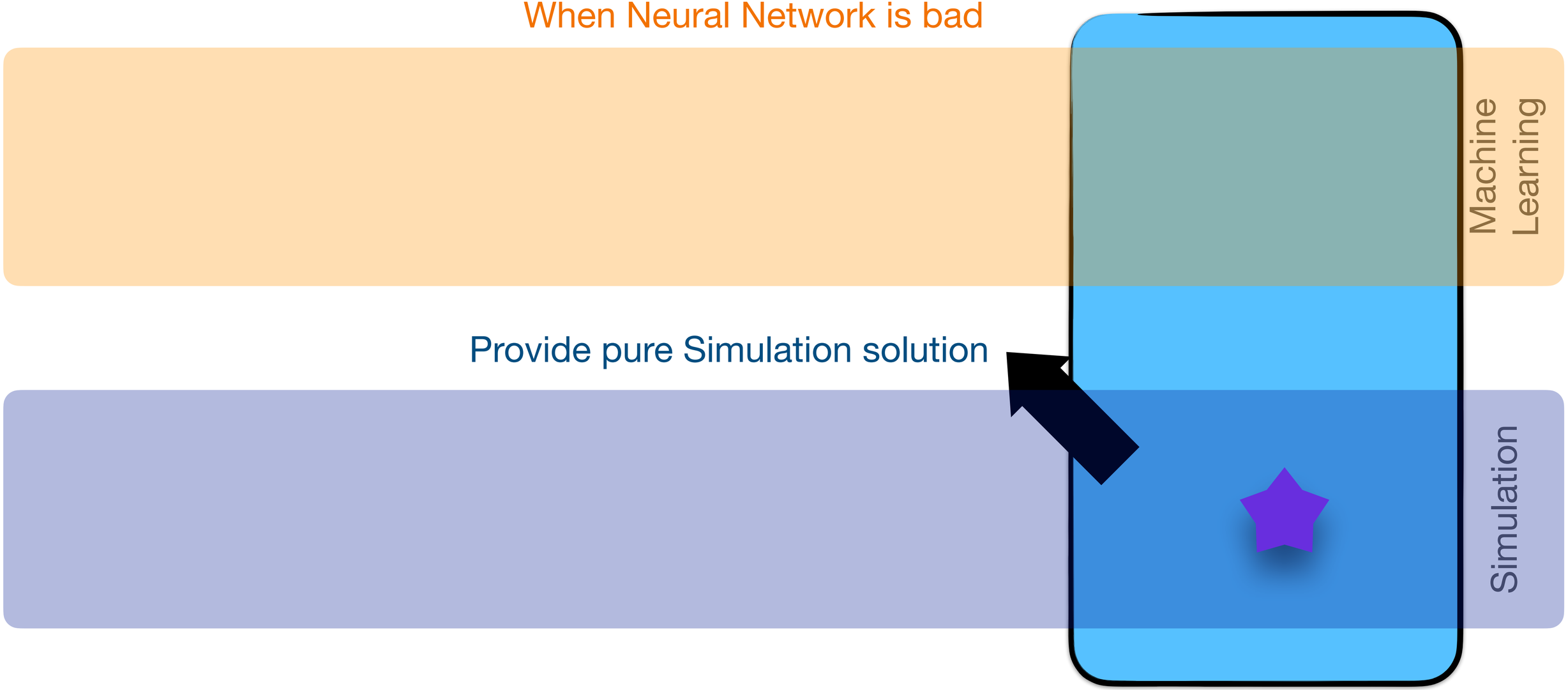
No Simulation cost is needed

Simulation

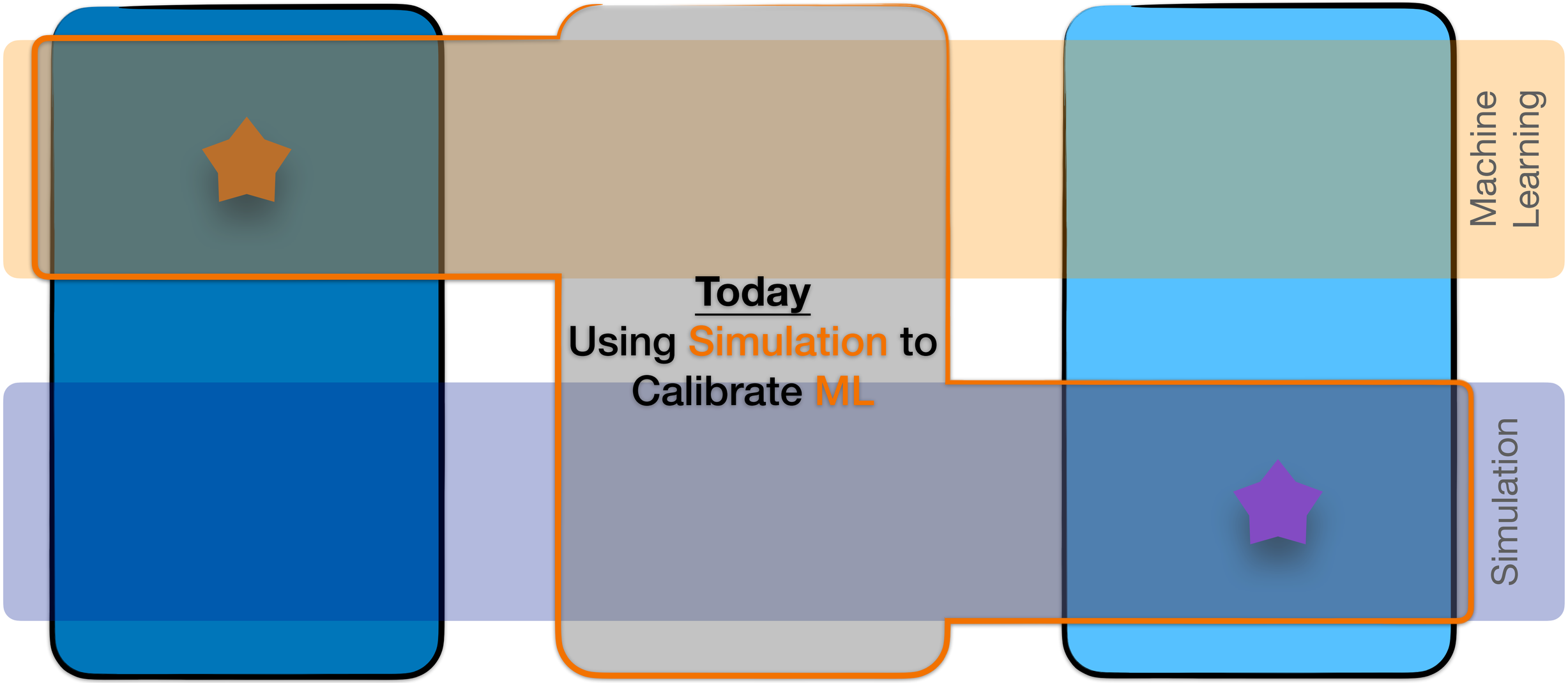
Our Aim Today : A Marriage

When Neural Network is bad

Provide pure Simulation solution



Our AIM Today: A Marriage



More Examples…

$$\{X_1, \cdots, X_n\} \sim \mathbb{P}_\theta \to \hat{\theta} \to \Phi(\hat{\theta})$$

Scientific Machine Learning — Downstream application

Example 1 $\theta = f, \quad X_i = (x_i, f(x_i)) \qquad \Phi(\theta) = \int f^q(x)dx$

Example 2 $\theta = \Delta^{-1} f, \quad X_i = (x_i, f(x_i)) \qquad \Phi(\theta) = \theta(x)$

Example 3 $\theta = A, \quad X_i = (x_i, Ax_i) \qquad \Phi(\theta) = \mathrm{tr}(A)$

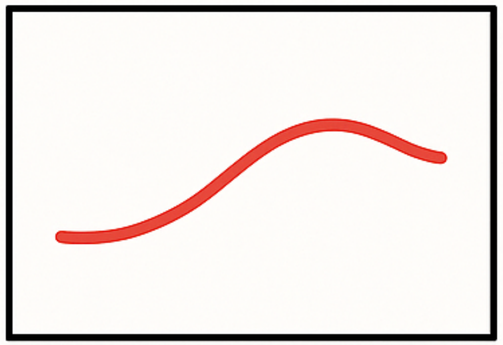
Estimation $\hat{A}$ via Randomized SVD — Estimate $\mathrm{tr}(A - \hat{A})$ via Hutchinson's estimator

Lin 17 Numerische Mathematik and Mewyer-Musco-Musco-Woodruff 20

Application in graph theory, quantum …

A multiscale view

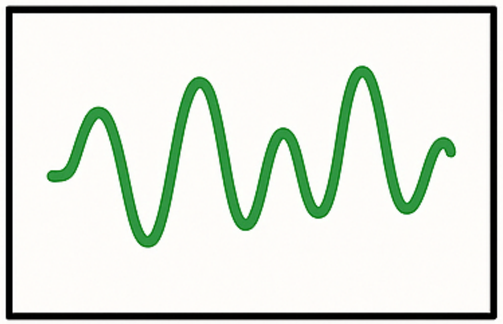
Capture via surrogate model



Coarse Scale

+

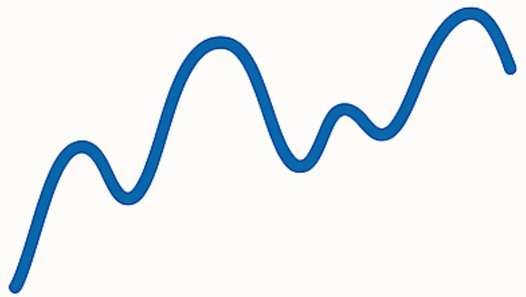
Capture via Monte-Carlo



Fine Scale

=

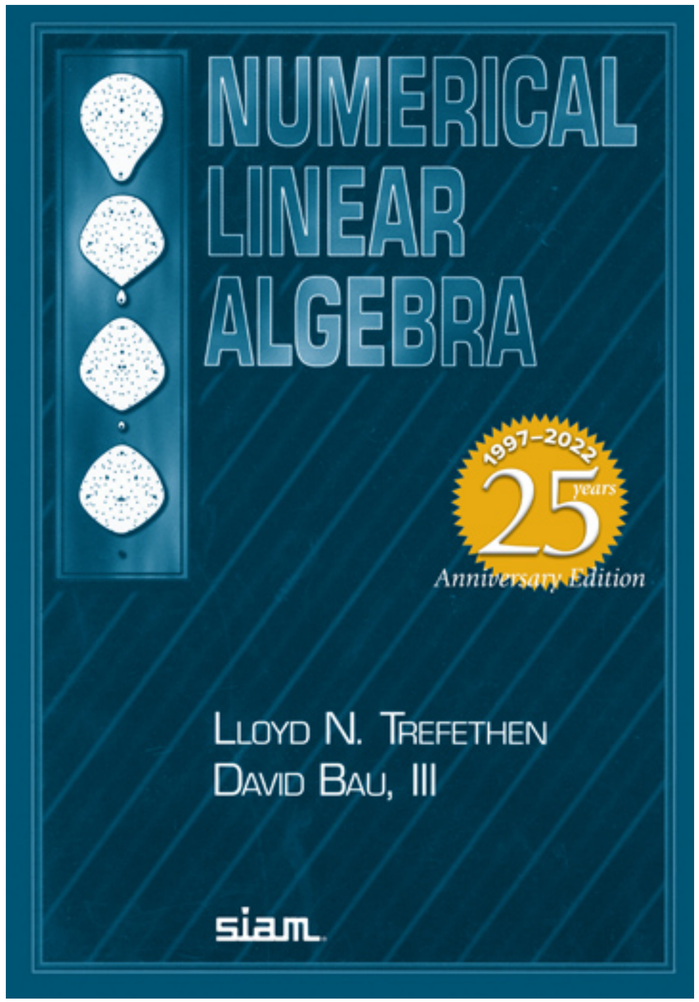
True Function



Tale 2: Pre-condition

with a surprising connection with debiasing

Tale 2: Preconditioning



"In ending this book with the subject of preconditioners, we find ourselves at the philosophical center of the scientific computing of the future."

— **L. N. Trefethen and D. Bau III**, `Numerical Linear Algebra` [TB22]

Nothing will be more central to computational science in the next century than the art of transforming a problem that appears intractable into another whose solution can be approximated rapidly.

What is precondition

- Solving $Ax = b$ is equivalent to solving $B^{-1}Ax = B^{-1}b$

A New Way to Implement Precondition

- Debiasing is a way of solving $Ax = b$
  - Using an approximate solver $Bx_1 = b$

Error depends on $||A^{-1}(A - B)||$

A New Way to Implement Precondition

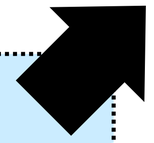
- Debiasing is a way of solving $Ax = b$
  - Using an approximate solver $Bx_1 = b$
  - $x - x_1$ satisfies the equation $A(x - x_1) = b - Ax_1$
  - Using the approximate solver to approximate $x - x_1$ via $Bx_2 = b - Ax_1$

Easy to solve for $b - Ax_1$ is small

A New Way to Implement Precondition

- Debiasing is a way of solving $Ax = b$
  - Using an approximate solver $Bx_1 = b$

Iterative Refinement Algorithm



- $x - \sum_{i=1}^{t} x_i$ satisfies the equation $A(x - \sum_{i=1}^{t} x_i) = b - A\sum_{i=1}^{t} x_i$
- Using the approximate solver to approximate $x - \sum_{i=1}^{t} x_i$ via $Bx_{i+1} = b - A\sum_{i=1}^{t} x_i$

A New Way to Implement Precondition

- Debiasing is a way of solving $Ax = b$
  - Using an approximate solver $Bx_1 = b$

Iterative Refinement Algorithm

- $x - \sum_{i=1}^{t} x_i$ satisfies the equation $A(x - \sum_{i=1}^{t} x_i) = b - A\sum_{i=1}^{t} x_i$
- Using the approximate solver to approximate $x - \sum_{i=1}^{t} x_i$ via $Bx_{i+1} = b - A\sum_{i=1}^{t} x_i$

$$x_{i+1} = (I - B^{-1}A)x_i + B^{-1}b$$

Preconditioned Jacobi Iteration

This Talk: A New Way to Implement Precondition

Via Debiasing

- **Step 1:** Aim to solve (potentially nonlinear) equation $A(u) = b$

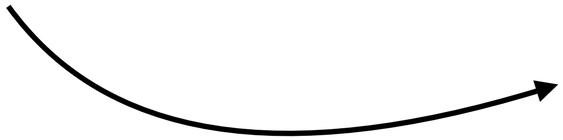
use Machine Learning

- **Step 2:** Build an approximate solver $A(\hat{u}) \approx b$

Unrealiable approximate solver as preconditioner

  - Via machine learning/sketching/finite element….

- **Step 3:** Solve $u - \hat{u}$



Connection with control variate, doubly robust estimator, Multifidelity Monte Carlo

AIM: Debiasing a Learned Solution = Using Learned Solution as preconditioner!

Randomized NLA as Machine Learning

AIM: using matrix-vector multiplication to compute eigenvalue/least square problem

$$\{X_1, \cdots, X_n\} \sim \mathbb{P}_\theta \to \theta \to \Phi(\theta)$$

$X_i = (x, Ax)$ — A

$$\Phi(A) = \begin{cases} A^{-1}b \\ \text{Eigenvalue of } A \end{cases}$$

"Randomized Numerical Linear Algebra"/Sketching

"Sketch-and-Solve"

Randomized NLA as Machine Learning

AIM: using matrix-vector multiplication to compute eigenvalue/least square problem

$$\{X_1, \cdots, X_n\} \sim \mathbb{P}_\theta \to \theta \to \Phi(\theta)$$

$X_i = (x, Ax)$ $\qquad$ A

$$\Phi(A) = \begin{cases} A^{-1}b \\ \text{Eigenvalue of } A \end{cases}$$

Structure here: Φ is the solution of a fixed point equation

$$\Phi(\hat{\theta}) - \Phi(\theta) - \nabla\Phi(\hat{\theta})(\hat{\theta} - \theta) = O(\epsilon^2)$$

"A Newton Step"

Radomized estimation $\qquad$ Exact estimation

(In)exact Sub-sample Newton Method/Sketch-and-Precondtion

Relationship with Inverse Power Methods

(Approximate) Inverse Power Method	Our Method
$X_{n+1} = (\lambda I - A)^{\dagger} X_n$	$X_{n+1} = \underbrace{(\lambda I - \hat{A})^{\dagger}}_{\nabla \Phi(\hat{\theta})} \underbrace{(A - \hat{A}) X_n}_{(\theta - \hat{\theta})}$

Ruihan Xu, **Yiping Lu**. What is a Sketch-and-Precondition Derivation for Low-Rank Approximation? Power Error or Power Estimation?

Relationship with Inverse Power Methods

(Approximate) Inverse Power Method	Our Method
$X_{n+1} = (\lambda I - A)^{\dagger} X_n$	$X_{n+1} = (\lambda I - \hat{A})^{\dagger} (A - \hat{A}) X_n$
Replace with an approximate solver $\hat{A}$ changes the fixed point	Ture eigenvector is the fix point for every approximate solver $\hat{A}$

Ruihan Xu, **Yiping Lu**. What is a Sketch-and-Precondition Derivation for Low-Rank Approximation? Power Error or Power Estimation?

Relationship with Inverse Power Methods

(Approximate) Inverse Power Method	Our Method
$X_{n+1} = (\lambda I - A)^{\dagger} X_n$	$X_{n+1} = (\lambda I - \hat{A})^{\dagger} (A - \hat{A}) X_n$
Replace with an approximate solver $\hat{A}$ changes the fixed point	Ture eigenvector is the fix point for every approximate solver $\hat{A}$

How you construct such iteration?
What is the rule of $\hat{A}$?

Take Hoem Message 1:
Power the Residual but not Power the vector

Ruihan Xu, **Yiping Lu**. What is a Sketch-and-Precondition Derivation for Low-Rank Approximation? Power Error or Power Estimation?

Why better than Directly DMD

“Sketch-and-Solve” VS “Sketch-and-Precondition”

	Sketch-and-Solve	Sketch-and-Precondition
Least Square		Sketch-and-precondition, Sketch-and-project, Iterataive Sketching, ….
Low rank Approx	Idea 1: plug in a SVD Solver: Random SVD Idea 2: plug in a inverse power method	 ***Our Work!***
	Use sketched matrix $\hat{A}$ as an approximation to A	Use sketched matrix $\hat{A}$ as an precondition to the probelm

Sorry… but I can’t see the relationship….

Ruihan Xu, **Yiping Lu**. What is a Sketch-and-Precondition Derivation for Low-Rank Approximation? Power Error or Power Estimation?

Why better than Directly DMD

"Sketch-and-Solve" VS "Sketch-and-Precondition"

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Least Square		Sketch-and-precondition, Sketch-and-project, Iterataive Sketching, ….
Low rank Approx	Idea 1: plug in a SVD Solver: Random SVD Idea 2: plug in a inverse power method	 ***Our Work!***

Use sketched matrix $\hat{A}$ as an approximation to A

Use sketched matrix $\hat{A}$ as an precondition to the probelm

We only sketch the Hessian

Idea: using (approximate) Newton method to solve the Lagrange from

$$\min_{u} u^\top A u - \lambda(x^\top x - 1)$$

Thus Our convergence is linear-quadratic

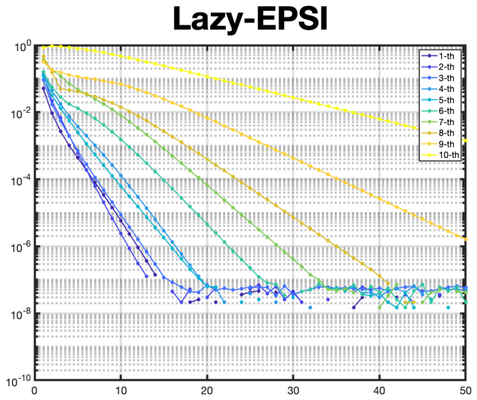
Contraction coefficient improves when sketching quality increases

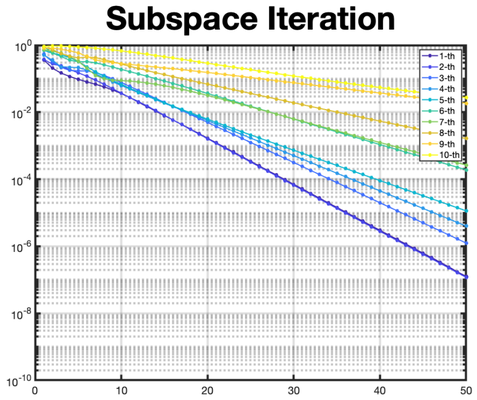
Ruihan Xu, **Yiping Lu**. What is a Sketch-and-Precondition Derivation for Low-Rank Approximation? Power Error or Power Estimation?

Look back to literature

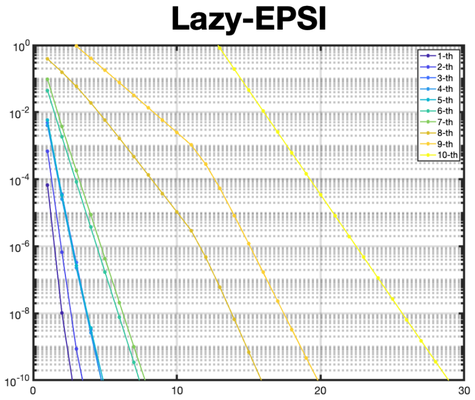
	Overparameterized Least Square	**Low Rank Approximation**	
Sketch-and-Solve	[Sar06, DMMS11]	[LWM+07, HMST11]	approximate in geometry-preserving, lower-dimensional space.
Randomized Initialization		[Gu15, MM15]	Initialize an (iterative) algorithm at a random point to make a favorable trajectory
Sketch-and-Precondition	[RT08, AMT10] [MSM14, DR24]	**This work**	boosting solver convergence while preserving the original problem's accuracy

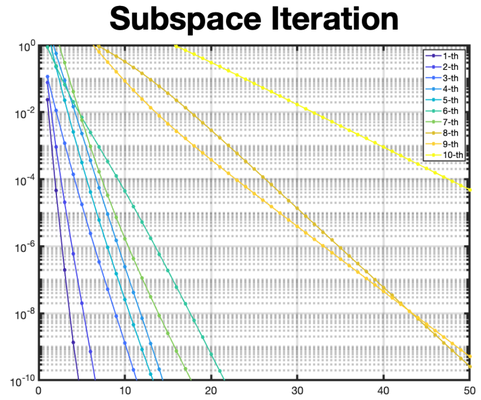
Eigenvalue Computation



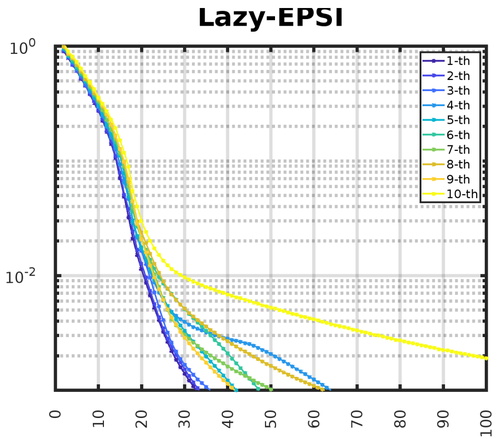


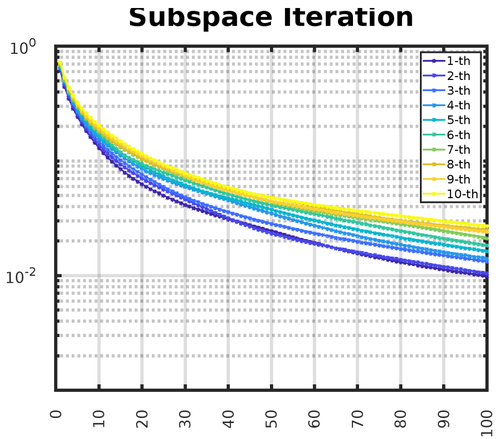
Random ill-conditioned matrix



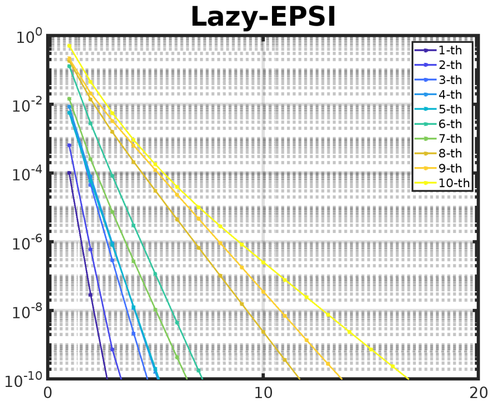


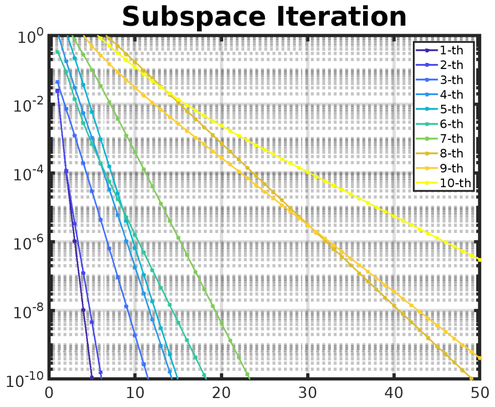
Amazon (SNAP)





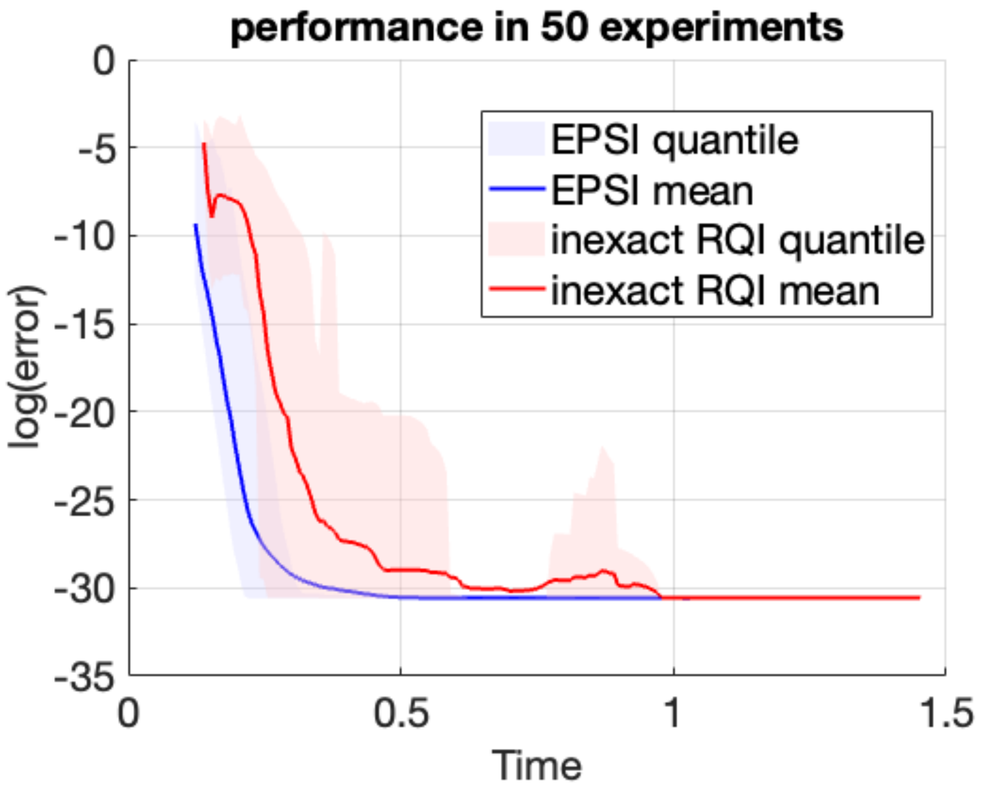
PDE (Laplacian)

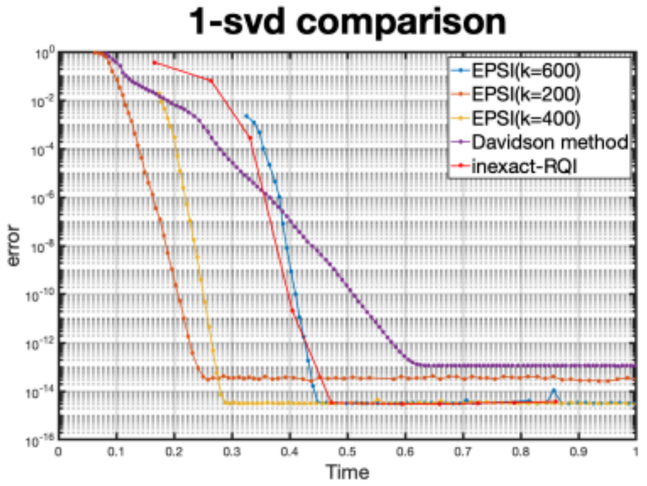




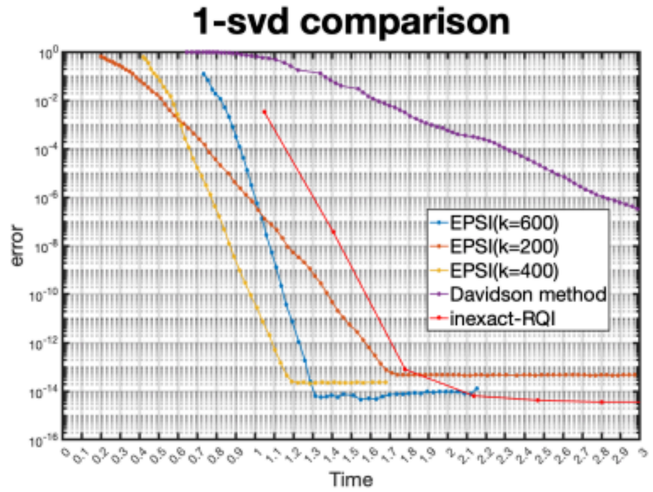
Web Stanford (SNAP)

Runing Time





(b) $n = 2000, \kappa = 10^{-6}$



(c) $n = 4000, \kappa = 10^{-6}$

What is a Sketch-and-Precondition Derivation for Low-Rank Approximation? Inverse Power Error or Inverse Power Estimation?

Ruihan Xu * Yiping Lu †

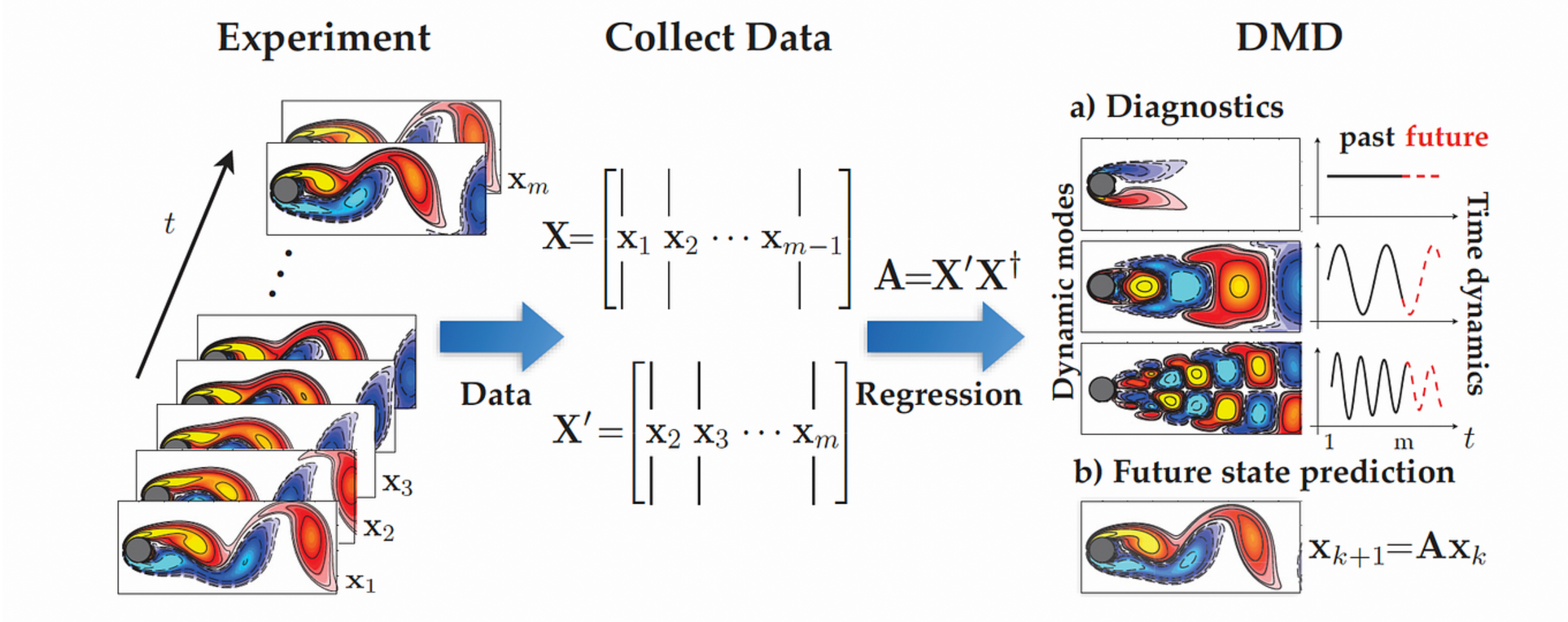
Abstract

Randomized sketching accelerates large-scale numerical linear algebra by reducing computational complexity. While the traditional sketch-and-solve approach reduces the problem size directly through sketching, the sketch-and-precondition method leverages sketching to construct a computational friendly preconditioner. This preconditioner improves the convergence speed of iterative solvers applied to the original problem, maintaining accuracy in the full space. Furthermore, the convergence rate of the solver improves at least linearly with the sketch size. Despite its potential, developing a sketch-and-precondition framework for randomized algorithms in low-rank matrix approximation remains an open challenge. We introduce the *Error-Powered Sketched Inverse Iteration* (`EPSI`) Method via run sketched Newton iteration for the Lagrange form as a sketch-and-precondition variant for randomized low-rank approximation. Our method achieves theoretical guarantees, including a convergence rate that improves at least linearly with the sketch size.

Another Supersing Fact…

Iteration lies in the Krylov Subspace

- enable dynamic mode decomposition
- Online fast update
- Much better than DMD



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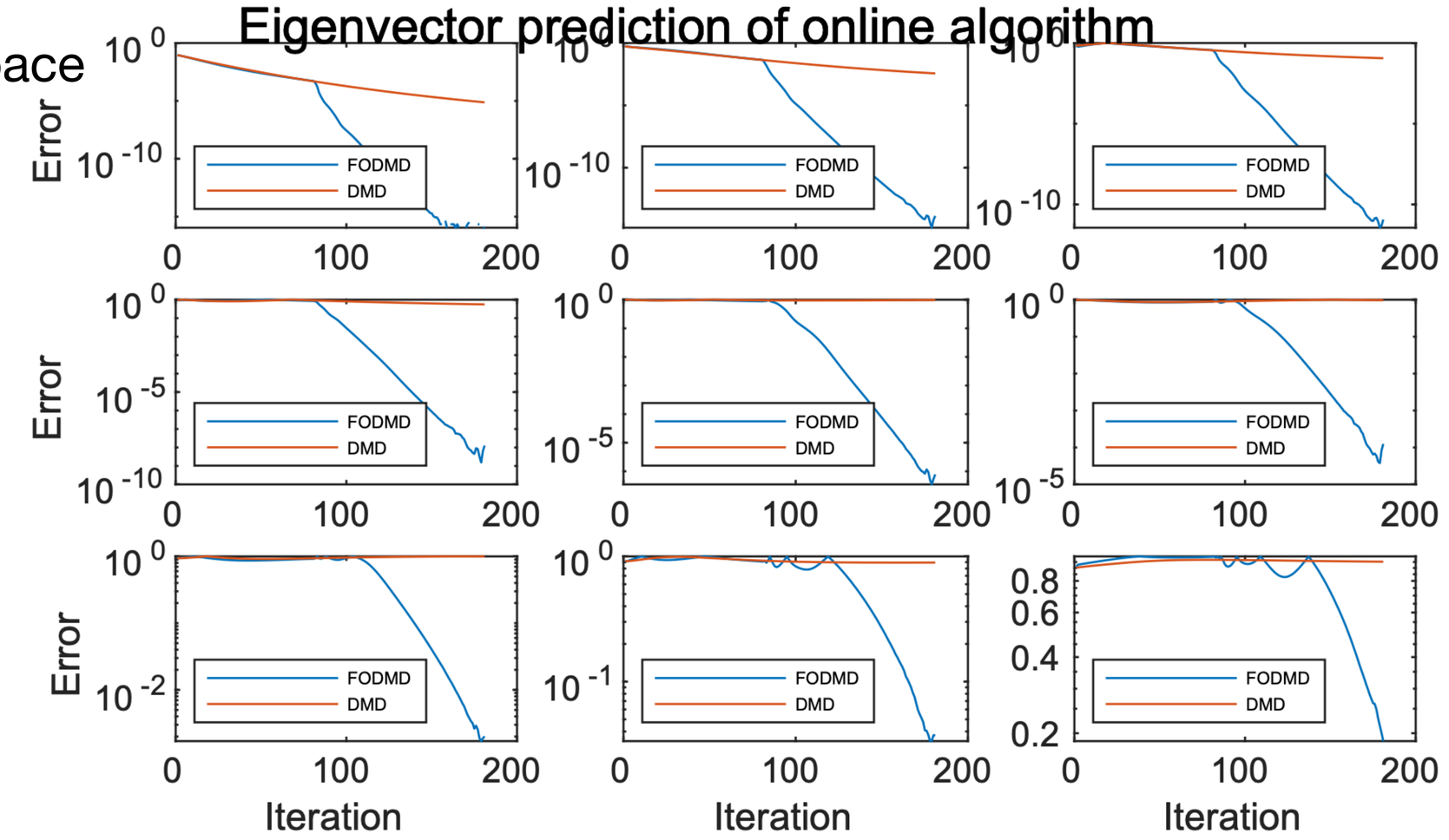
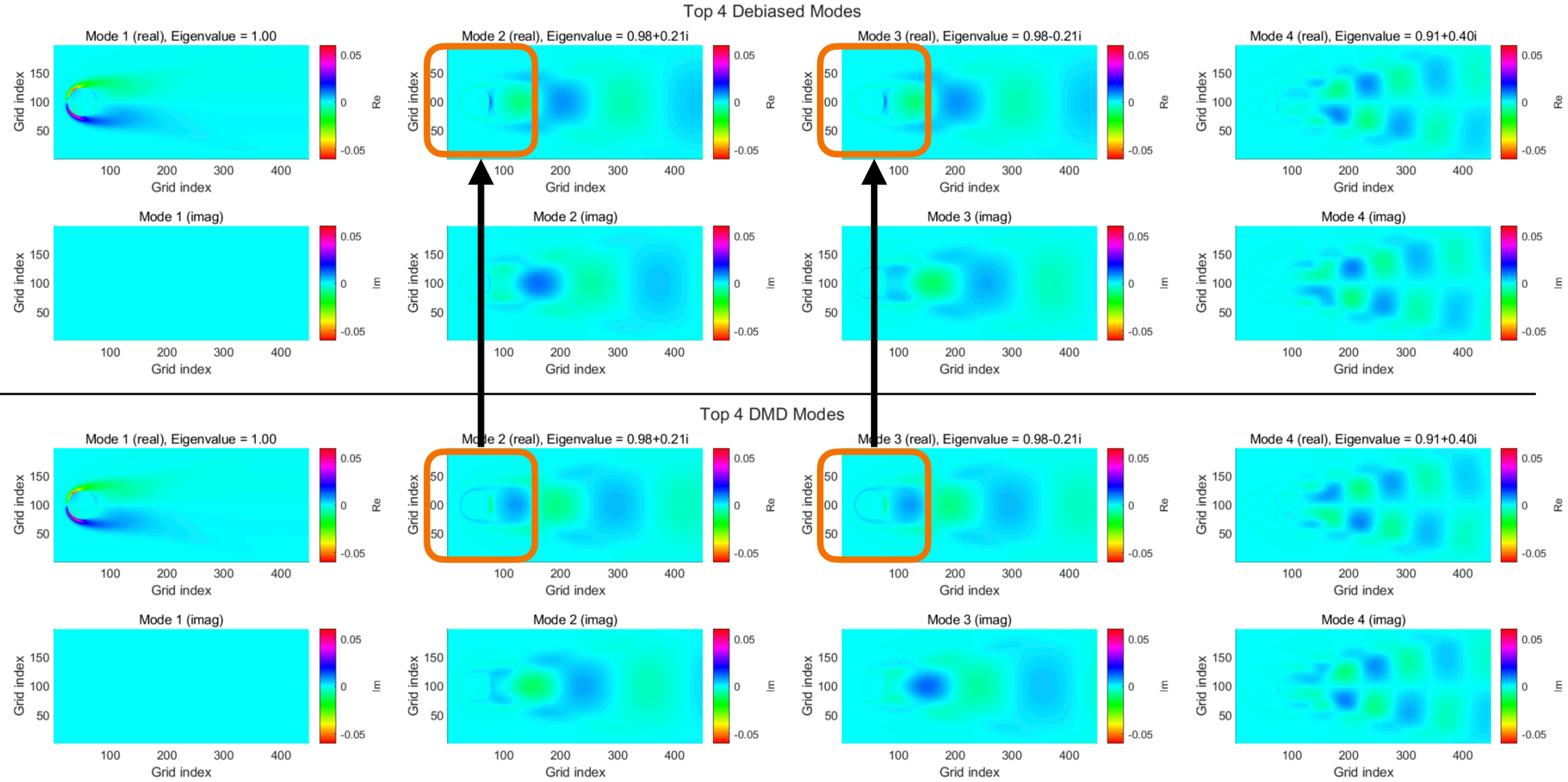


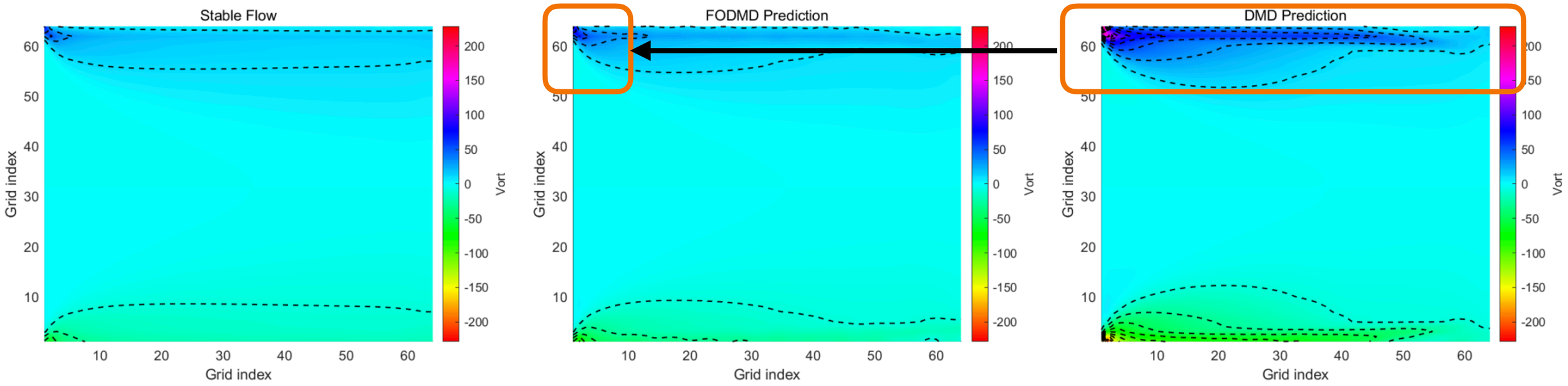
Mode for Cylinder Wake

After Debias

Original DMD



Prediction of Tube Flow



Open Question

Multiple Eigenvectors

Algorithm 2 Lazy-EPSI for Computing the First k Singular Vectors

Require: A, the input matrix; $k \in \mathbb{Z}^+$, the number of components; $q_{\max} \in \mathbb{Z}^+$, the maximum number of iterations.

for $q = 1$ to $q_{\max}$ **do**
  $U \leftarrow [\,]$ ▷ Initialize U as an empty matrix.
  EPSI Iteration: Update first k eigenspace estimation U
  for $i = 1$ to k **do**
    $\hat{\sigma}_i \leftarrow \frac{(u_q^i)^\top A u_q^i}{(u_q^i)^\top u_q^i}$ ▷ Compute rayleigh quotient estimation $\hat{\sigma}_i$ for the ith eigenvector.
    $\hat{u}_{q+1}^i \leftarrow \left((I - UU^\top)\hat{A}(I - UU^\top) - \hat{\sigma}_i I\right)^{-1}((I - UU^\top)\hat{A}(I - UU^\top) - A)u_q^i$ ▷ Update $\hat{u}_{q+1}^i$.
    $U \leftarrow [U, \hat{u}_{q+1}^i]$ ▷ Append $\hat{u}_{q+1}^i$ to U.
  end for
  Orthogonalization step: Use Estimated Eigenvector as Rangefinder
  $\Pi \leftarrow UU^\dagger$ ▷ Compute the projection matrix Π.
  $A_U \leftarrow \Pi A \Pi$ ▷ Compute the projected matrix A_U.
  $[u_{q+1}^1, u_{q+1}^2, \ldots, u_{q+1}^k] \leftarrow \mathrm{SVD}(A_U)$ ▷ Perform SVD to update u_{q+1}^i.
end for
return U ▷ Return the updated matrix U.

Update using EPSI

Project the matrix to Subspace and perform SVD

One more thing…

Iterative debiasing

Easier for numerical stability computation
Algorithms can do online computation

Newton Methods

Easier for convergence analysis

AISTATS 2025

Randomized Iterative Solver as Iterative Refinement A Simple Fix Towards Backward Stability

Ruihan Xu
University of Chicago

Yiping Lu
Northwestern University

Abstract

Iterative sketching and sketch-and-precondition are well-established randomized algorithms for solving large-scale over-determined linear least-squares problems. In this paper, we introduce a new perspective that interprets Iterative Sketching and Sketching-and-Precondition as forms of Iterative Refinement. We also examine the numerical stability of two distinct refinement strategies: iterative refinement and recursive refinement, which progressively improve

tive tools for developing approximate matrix factorizations. These methods are remarkable for their simplicity and efficiency, often producing surprisingly accurate results.

In this paper, we consider randomized algorithms to solve the overdetermined linear least-squares problem

$$x = \arg\min_{y \in \mathbb{R}^n} \|b - Ay\| \quad (A \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}, b \in \mathbb{R}^m) \tag{1}$$

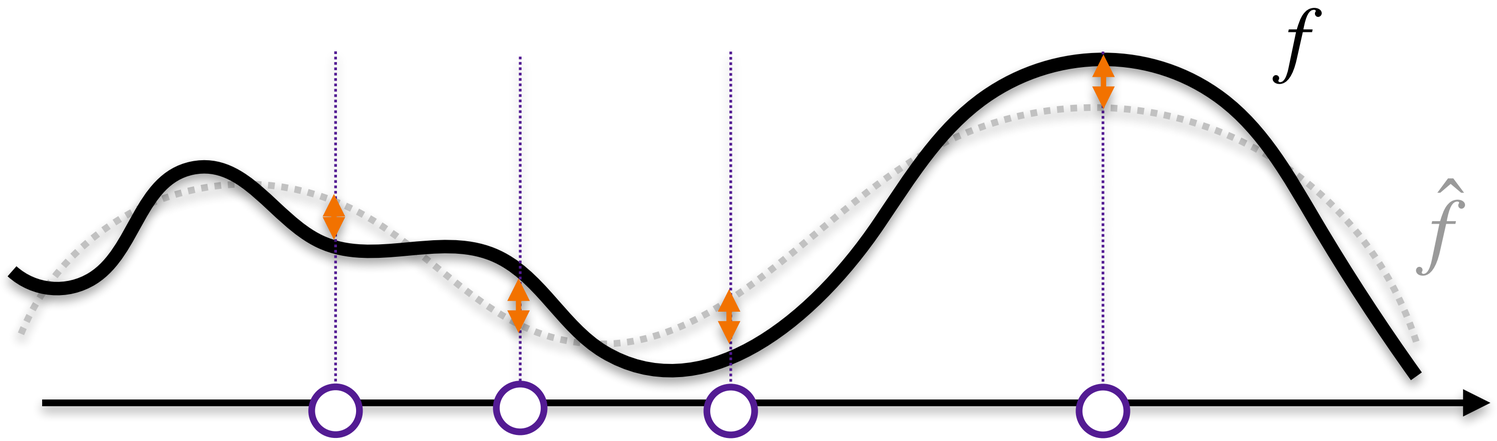
What is SCaSML about?

SCaSML

$$\{X_1, \cdots, X_n\} \sim \mathbb{P}_\theta \to \theta \to \Phi(\theta)$$

Step 1: Using Machine Learning to fit the rough function/environment

Step 2: Using validation dataset to know how much mistake machine learning algorithm has made



Step 3: Using Simulation algorithm to estimate $\Phi(\theta) - \Phi(\hat{\theta})$

Examples Later!

Using ML surrogate during inference time to improve ML solution

Yiping Lu yiping.lu@northwestern.edu