

# Cognitive Simulations for Inertial Confinement Fusion

Computational Methods Roundtable

American Nuclear Society Annual Meeting  
June 14, 2021

**Kelli Humbird**



LLNL-PRES-823142

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 Lawrence Livermore  
National Laboratory

# A little bit about my journey from A&M Nuclear Engineer -> LLNL ICF design physicist

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I spent many years at Texas A&M

- BS Physics, BS Nuclear Engineering, TAMU, Dec 2013
- MS Nuclear Engineering, TAMU, May 2016 (adjoint methods for rad diffusion)

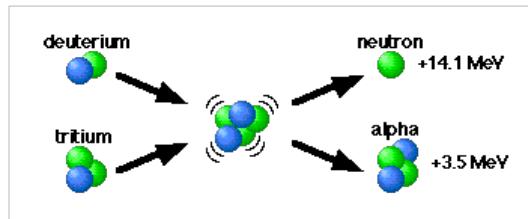
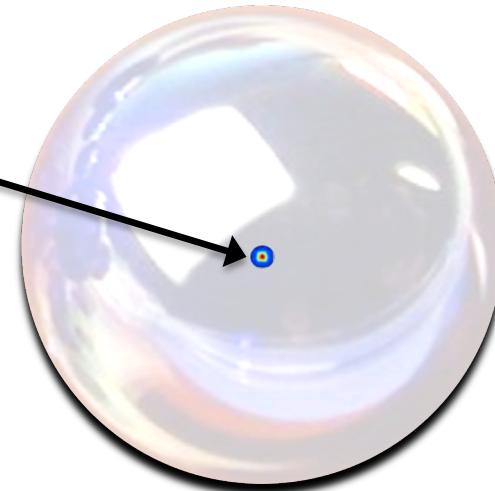
- Summer intern @ LLNL in 2016 – Machine learning for ICF
- Moved to LLNL for Livermore Graduate Scholars Program, 2017-2019
- Completed PhD in May 2019
  - “Machine learning guided discovery and design for ICF”
- Joined LLNL as a Design Physicist in May 2019
  - Currently work in inertial confinement fusion, weapons physics, post-detonation nuclear forensics, and even modeling the spread of COVID-19

# LLNL is home to the National Ignition Facility (NIF) -- a 2MJ laser used for Inertial Confinement Fusion research



# Inertial Confinement Fusion (ICF) compresses deuterium-tritium (DT) fuel to high density, temperature, and pressure

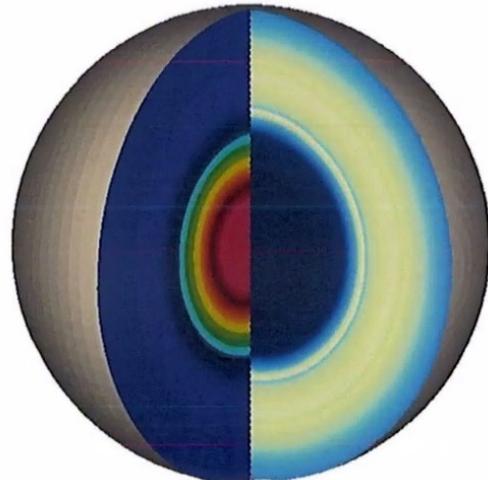
- Conditions for ignition:
  - Reduce volume by 30,000x
  - Pressures of hundreds of Gbar
  - Temperatures of  $10^6$  K
  - Density of 1000x liquid DT density
  - Ignite chain fusion reaction
  - Get more energy yield out than absorbed by the capsule



~2 mm diameter

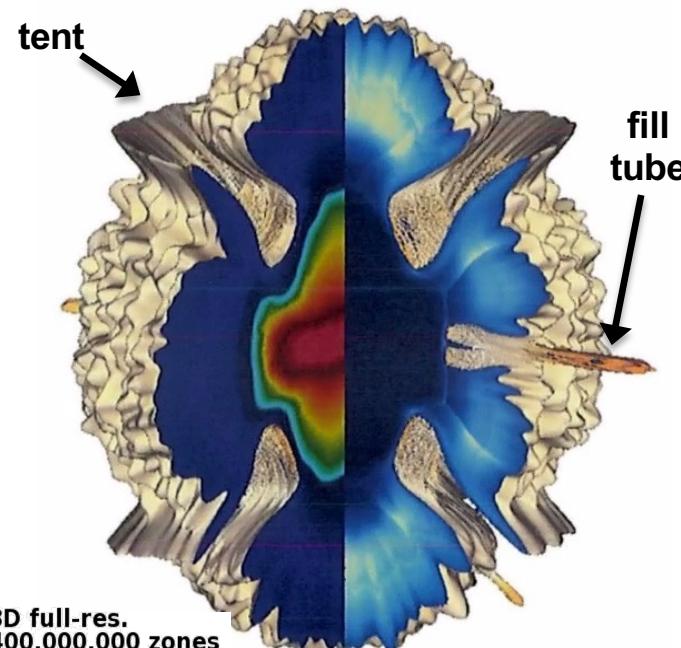
# Achieving a round, symmetric implosion is a critical challenge for ICF

Expectation



1D  
500 zones  
1 CPU  
5 minutes runtime

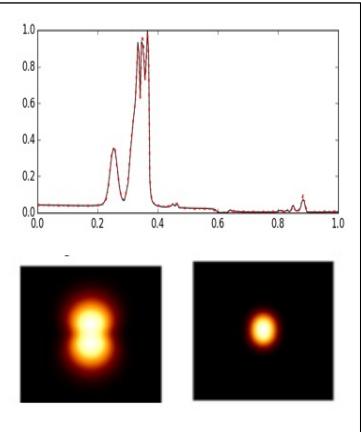
Reality



3D full-res.  
400,000,000 zones  
6144 CPUs  
1 month runtime

# Machine learning is improving how we simulate, design, and understand ICF implosions

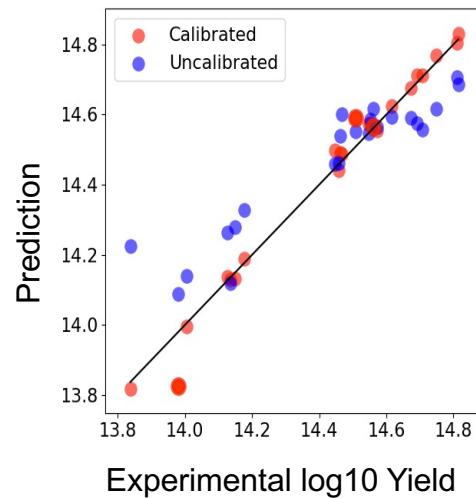
ML workflows for database generation



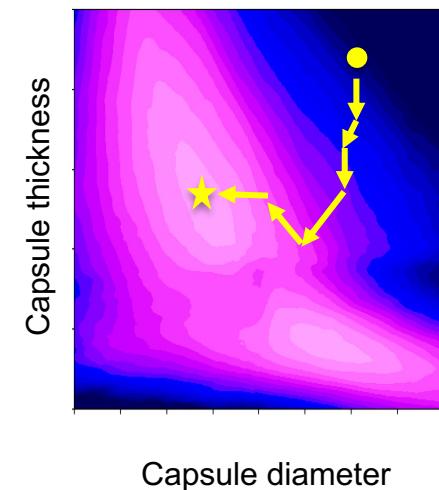
ML code acceleration & heterogeneous computing



Models that merge simulations and experiments



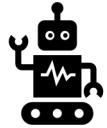
Rapid experimental design optimization



# Guiding questions

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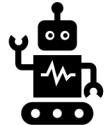
- What is machine learning?



# Guiding questions

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- **What is machine learning?**



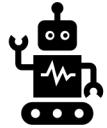
- **Why is this important for ICF?**



# Guiding questions

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- What is machine learning?
- Why is this important for ICF?
- Alexa, what's my next shot?

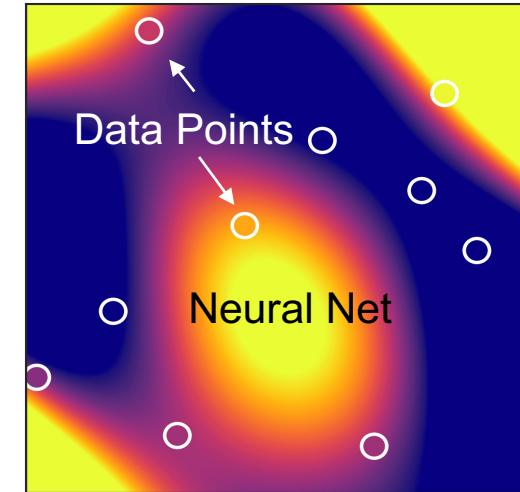


- What is machine learning?

# A machine learning algorithm improves its performance at a given task based on experience

- Task: predict a numerical value  $y^* = f(\mathbf{x})$  given numerical input
- Experience: data; examples;  $\{(y_1, \mathbf{x}_1), (y_2, \mathbf{x}_2), \dots, (y_n, \mathbf{x}_n)\}$
- Performance: nearness of a prediction to the true value
- Learning: improving performance with exposure to additional experience

$$\text{MSE} = \sum_{i=0}^n (y_i - f(\mathbf{x}_i))^2$$



We use ML models as fast approximations to expensive simulations

# Isn't that just curve fitting?

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# Isn't that just curve fitting?



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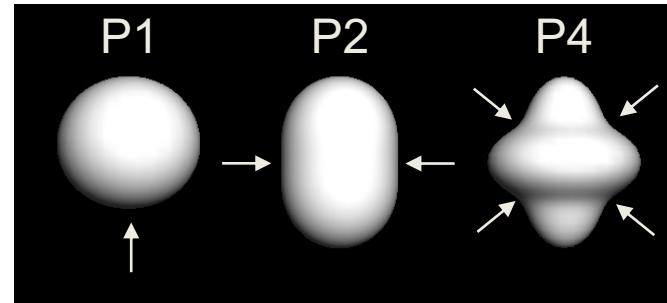
▲ nerdponx on July 17, 2017 | parent | favorite | on: The Limitations of Deep Learning  
Well said. It's just curve fitting.

- Why is it important for ICF?

- Why is it important for ICF?
  - Rapid design exploration
  - Acceleration of ICF simulations
  - Efficient data generation

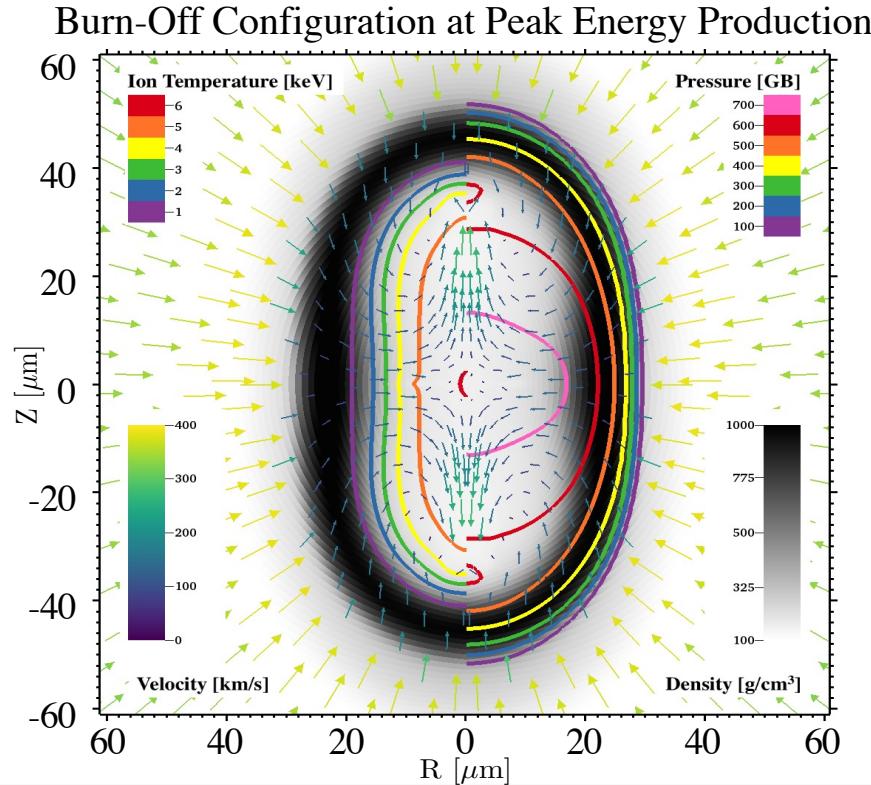
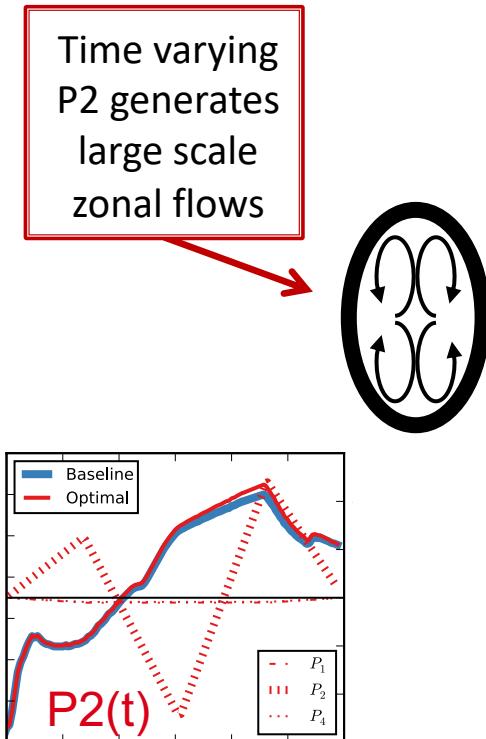
# In 2016 we generated the Trinity Open Science I Database - the largest database of ICF simulations ever created (at the time...)

- 3-shock HDC Ignition Design
  - HYDRA 2D Capsule (D. Ho)
- Varied 9 parameters
  - Time-varying drive asymmetry
    - Legendre Modes P1, P2, P4
  - Time-varying drive amplitude
  - Capsule gas fill density
- Successfully completed over **60k simulations**, 39 Million CPU Hours (Trinity @ LANL),  
5 PB Raw Data



Goal: build surrogate model and search 9D design space for a high performing implosion

# ML applied to this database led us to discover new physics in ICF implosions (“ovoid” implosions)

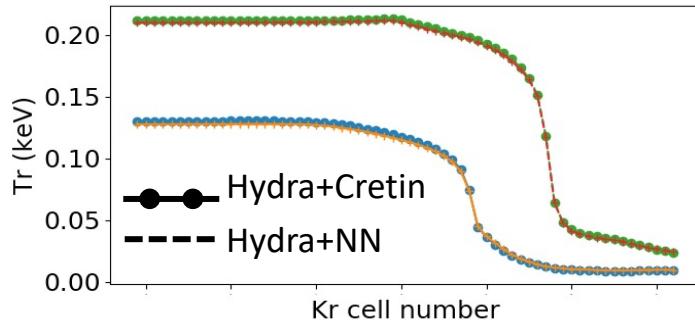


“Zonal flow generation in inertial confinement fusion implosions”,  
Peterson, Humbird, et al.  
Physics of Plasmas 24,  
032702 (2017).

Images: L. Peterson

# ML opacity calculations lead to 10X+ speed ups for ICF simulations

We trained an accurate neural net to emulate the atomic physics code Cretin



## Deep learning for NLTE spectral opacities

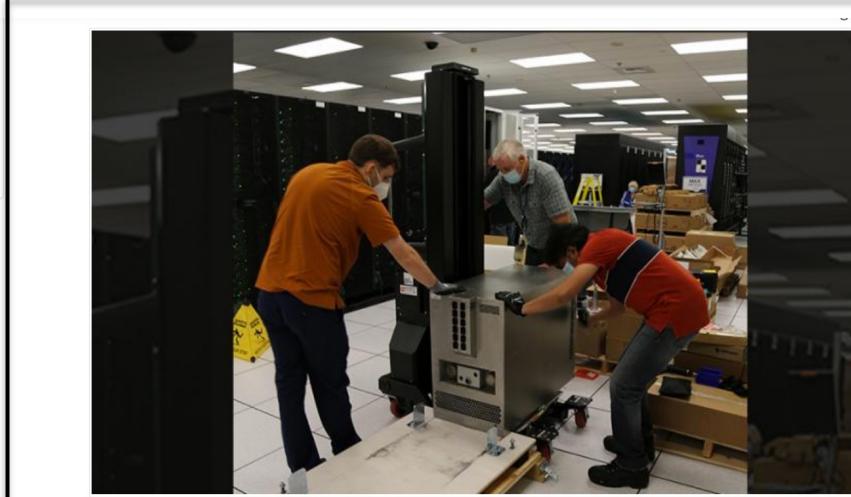
Cite as: Phys. Plasmas **27**, 052707 (2020); <https://doi.org/10.1063/5.0006784>

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G. Kluth , K. D. Humbird, B. K. Spears, J. L. Peterson , H. A. Scott , M. V. Patel , J. Koning, M. Marinak, L. Divol, and C. V. Young 

### COLLECTIONS

 This paper was selected as an Editor's Pick



[\(Download Image\)](#)

Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory and Silicon Valley-based Cerebras Systems have installed the company's CS-1 artificial intelligence (AI) computer into Lassen, making LLNL the first institution to integrate the cutting-edge AI platform with a large-scale supercomputer. The integration creates a radically new type of computing solution, enabling researchers to investigate novel, AI-driven approaches to predictive modeling and "cognitive simulation." Photo by Katrina Trujillo/LLNL.

**LLNL pairs world's largest computer chip from Cerebras with Lassen to advance machine learning, AI research**

# ML-accelerated High Performance Computing workflows enable rapid data generation

## Merlin + Sierra “JAG” database

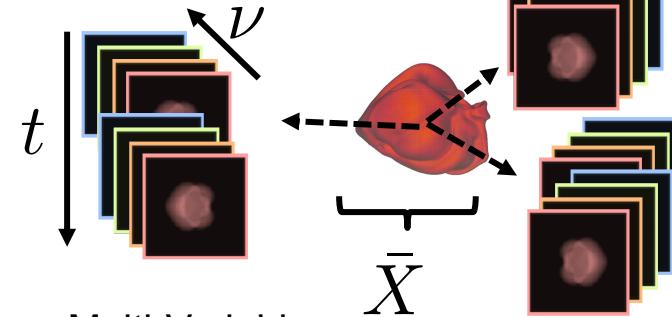
- 100 Million 3D thin-shell ICF Simulations
- Multi-modal physics-based data
- 4.8 Billion Hyperspectral Multi-View Images
- Timeseries
- Scalars



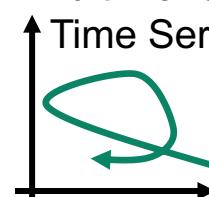
Merlin

[github.com/LLNL/merlin](https://github.com/LLNL/merlin)

Hyperspectral Images:  
Position, Energy and Time



Multi-Variable  
Time Series



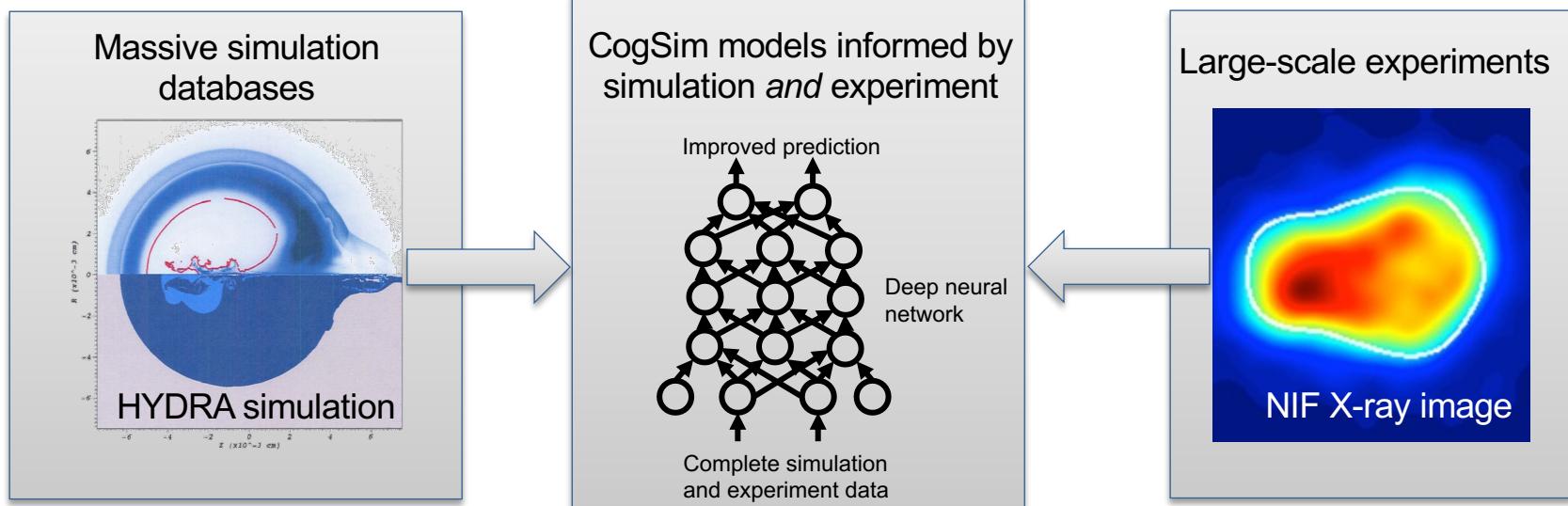
| Scalars |     |
|---------|-----|
| y1      | 7.8 |
| y2      | 0.1 |
| x0      | 4.7 |

[data-science.llnl.gov/open-data-initiative](http://data-science.llnl.gov/open-data-initiative)

We've shared this dataset to strain models and training methodologies

- Alexa, what's my next shot?

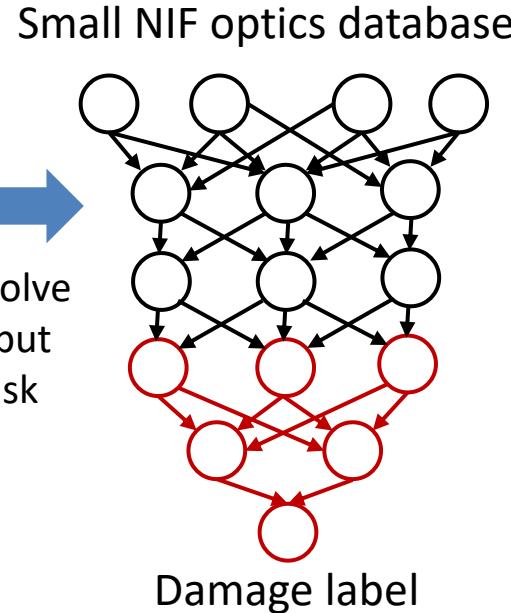
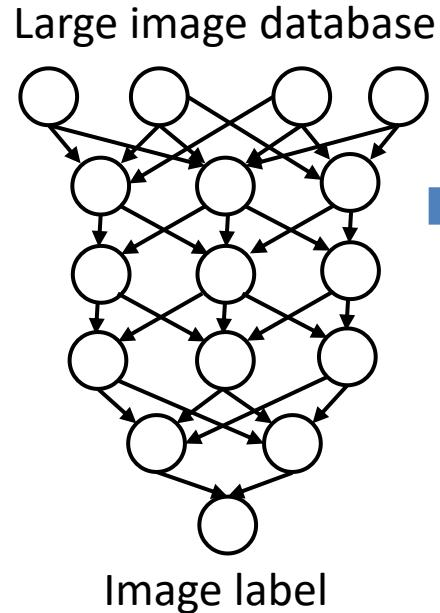
# Accelerated simulations + novel machine learning methods are enabling us to make the best use of simulation and experimental data



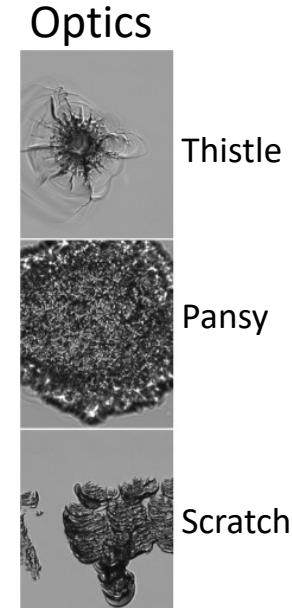
“Cognitive Simulations” are informed by simulation and experiment, and get more accurate as new data is acquired

# “Transfer learning” is when a network trained to solve one task is retrained to solve a different task with limited data

Ocean  
  
Car  
  
Dog  

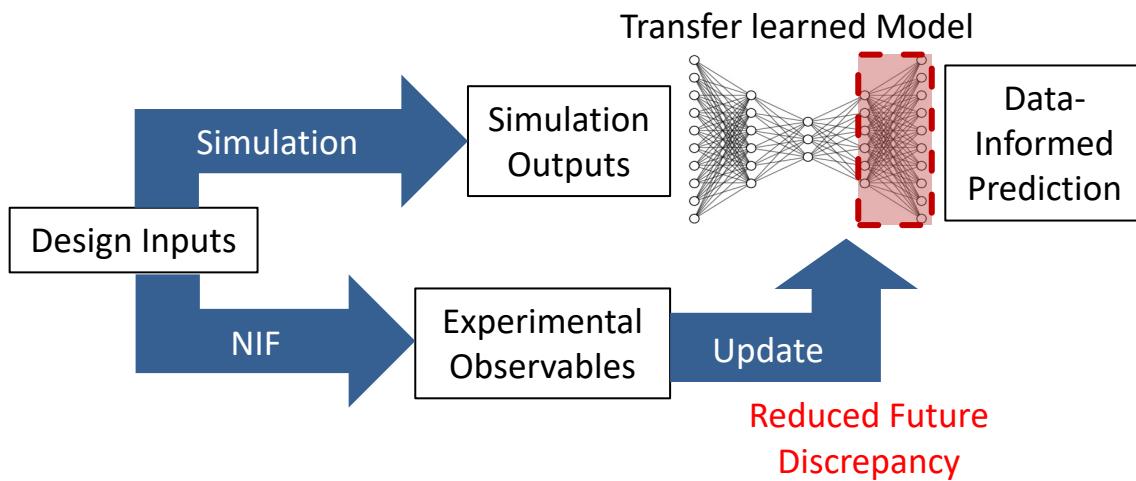



Retrain to solve  
different, but  
related task

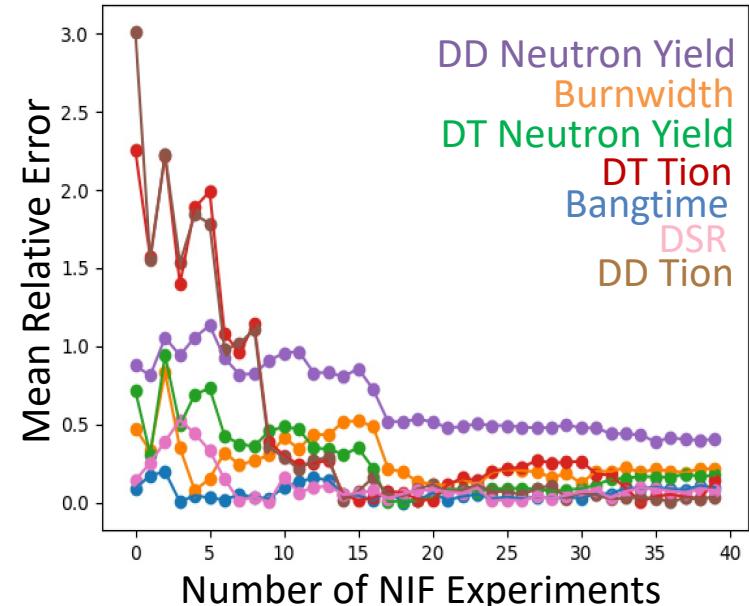


Can transfer learning be used to “transfer” between  
simulations and experiments?

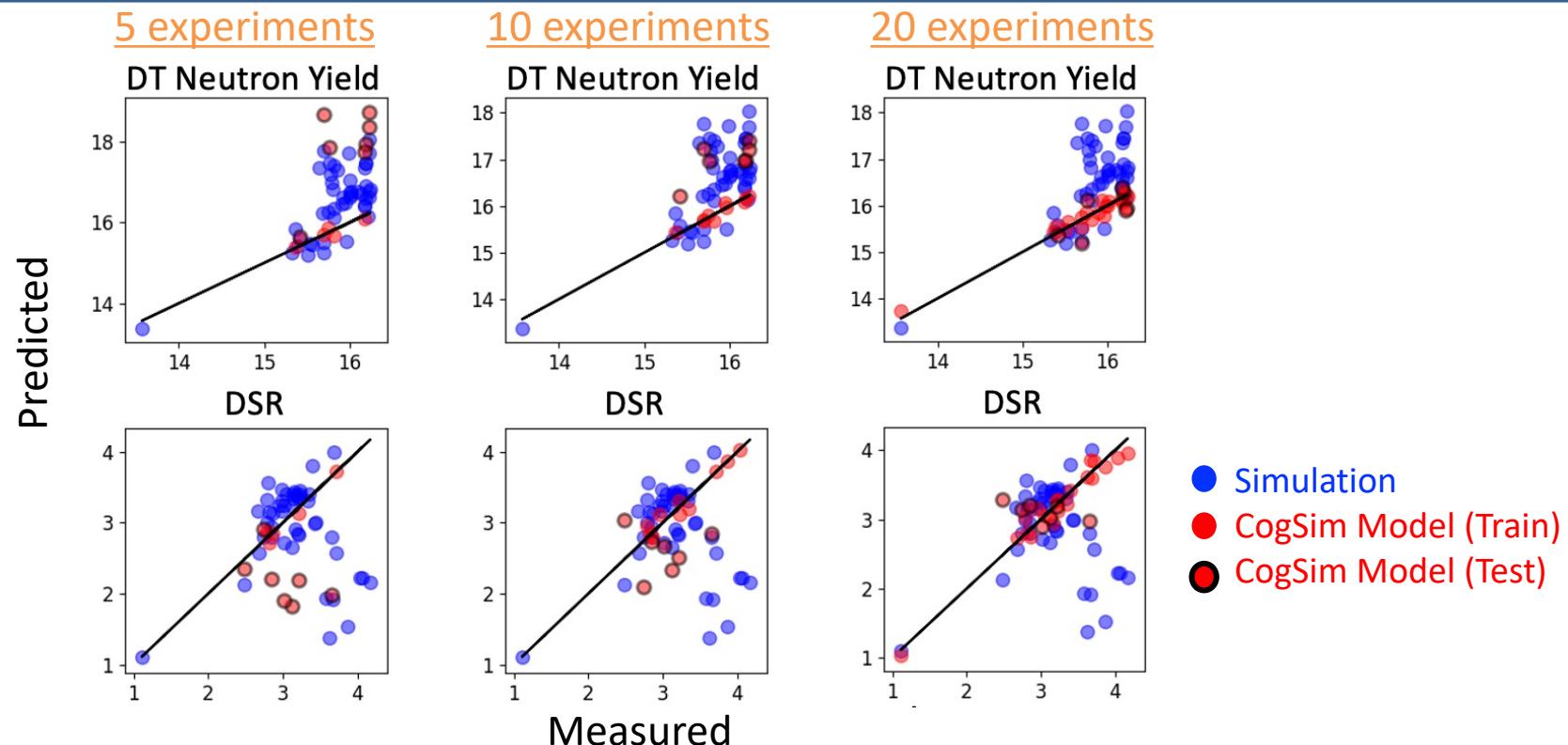
# We've adapted this technique to make “cognitive simulation” models of NIF experiments



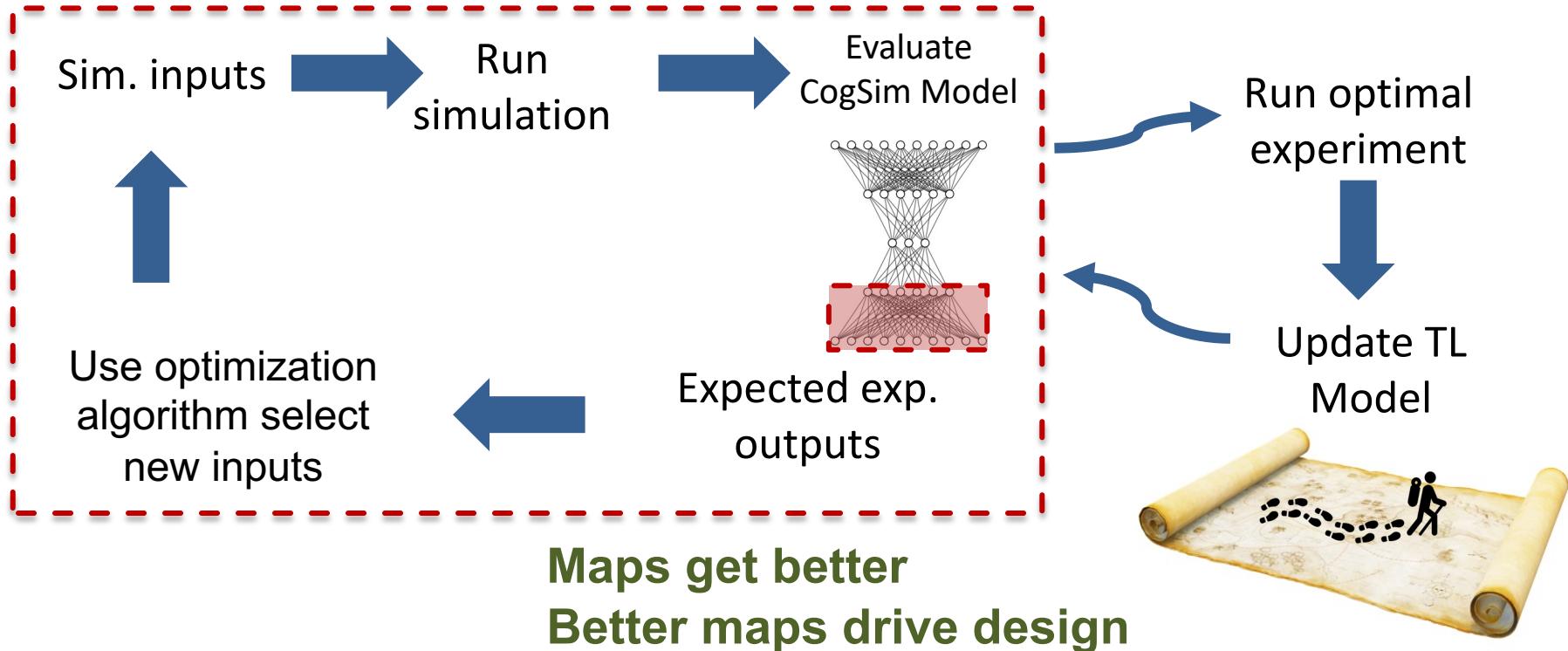
CogSim models are updated after each experiment, becoming increasingly accurate over time



# CogSim models get better as we add more experimental data

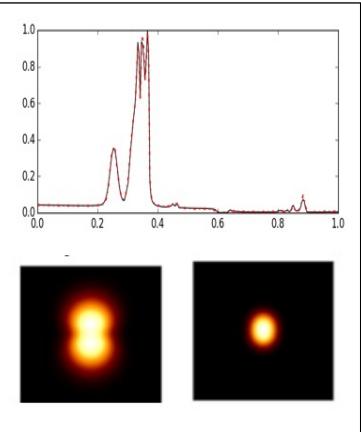


# We're developing the tools to run machine learning-guided experimental campaigns



# Machine learning is improving how we simulate, design, and understand ICF implosions

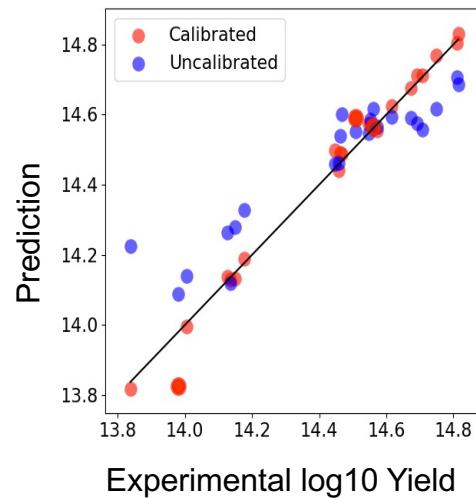
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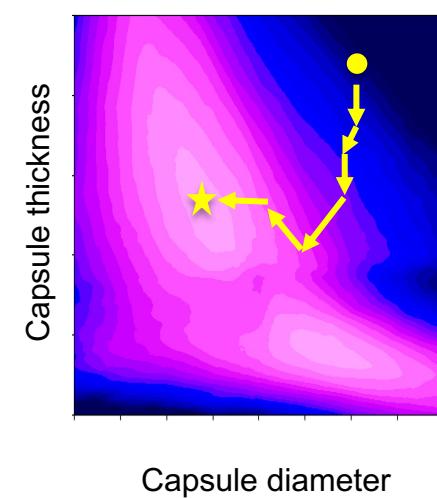
ML code acceleration & heterogeneous computing



Models that merge simulations and experiments



Rapid experimental design optimization



# I'm proud to be a part of a great team of researchers

- Brian Spears
- Luc Peterson
- Bogdan Kustowski
- Chris Young
- Jay Salmonson

- Jim Gaffney
- Michael Kruse
- Ryan Nora
- Debbie Callahan
- Omar Hurricane

7.478 ns



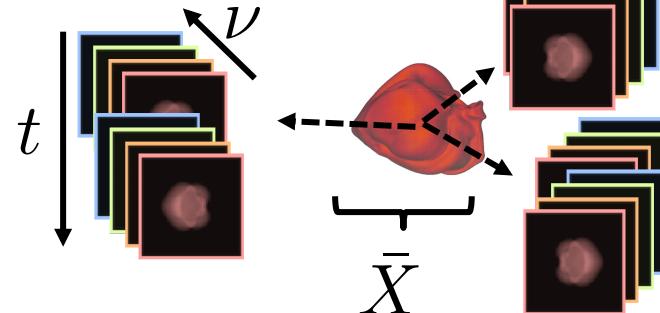
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# Merlin\* + Sierra: An unprecedented physics based dataset

- 100 Million 3D thin-shell ICF Simulations
- Oversampled 5D Space
- Multi-modal physics-based data
- 4.8 Billion Hyperspectral Multi-View Images
- Timeseries
- Scalars

Hyperspectral Images:  
Position, Energy and Time



Merlin

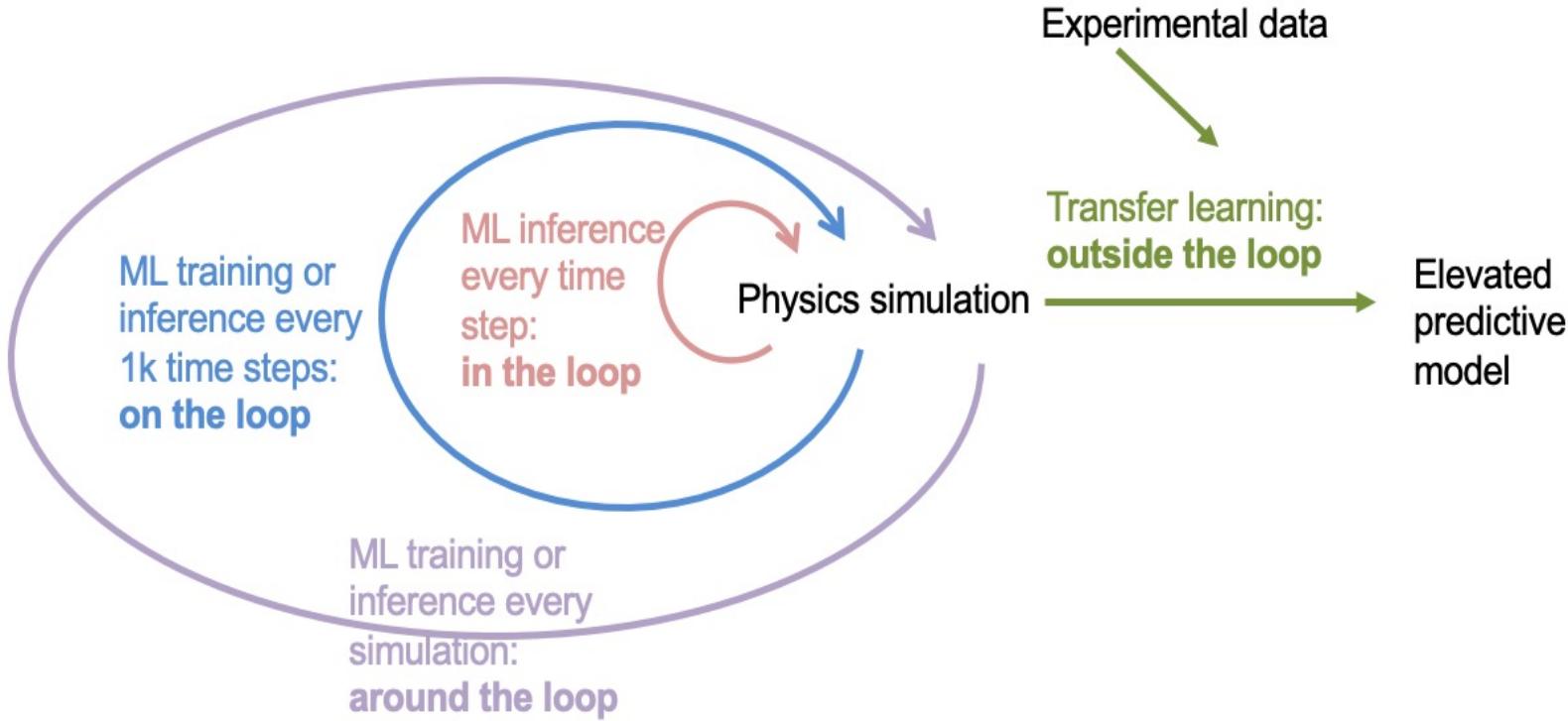
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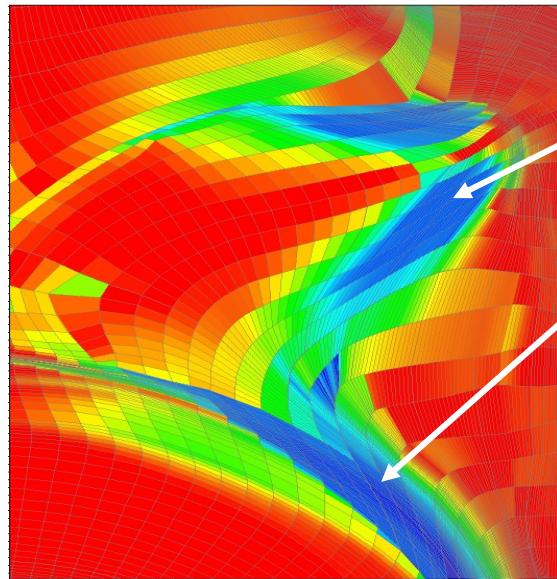
We've shared this dataset to strain models and training methodologies

# ML is enhancing our simulation and experimental capabilities at all levels of the design process

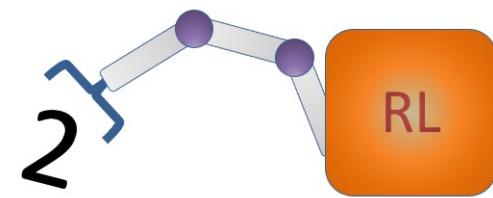
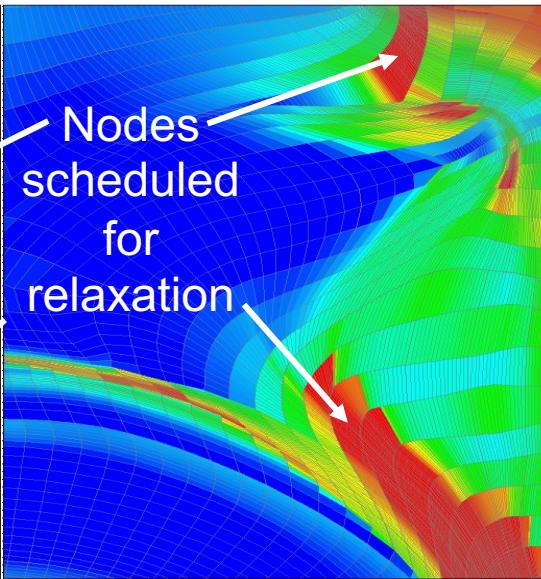


# Reinforcement learning is automating mesh management in ICF codes

Scaled Jacobian



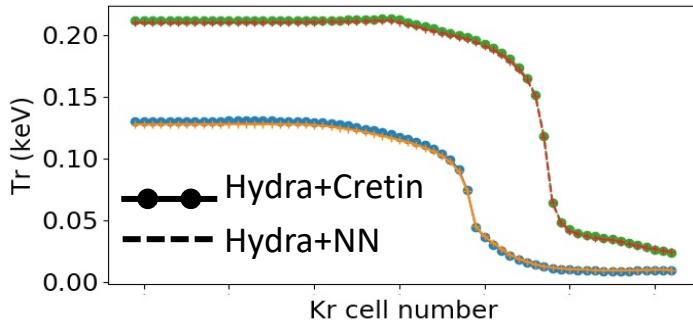
Condition Number



C. Yang, J. Salmonson, C. Young

# ML opacity calculations show potential for 10X+ speed ups for integrated ICF hohlraum simulations

We trained an accurate neural net to emulate the atomic physics code Cretin



## Deep learning for NLTE spectral opacities

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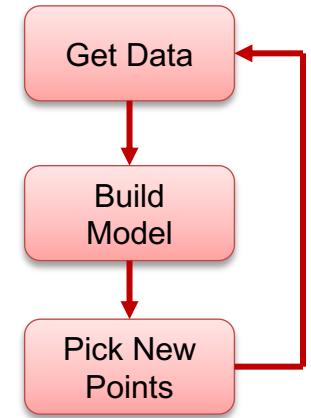
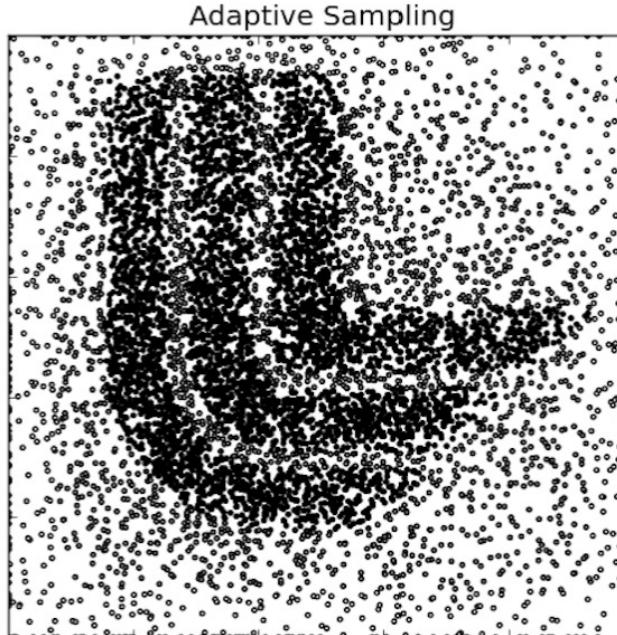
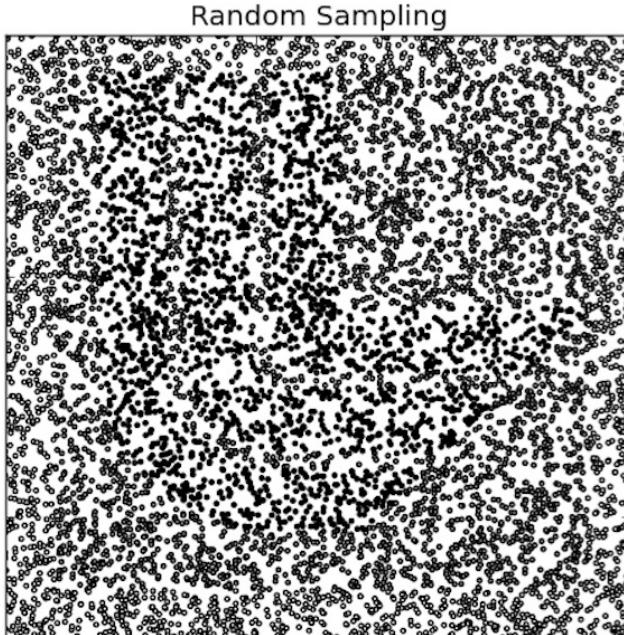


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**LLNL pairs world's largest computer chip from Cerebras with Lassen to advance machine learning, AI research**

# ML-driven sampling strategies enable us to run simulations that maximize information gain



Impala Active Learning  
Algorithm  
Peterson CODA 2018

Instead of relying on existing datasets to train our models we can actively seek out good new data