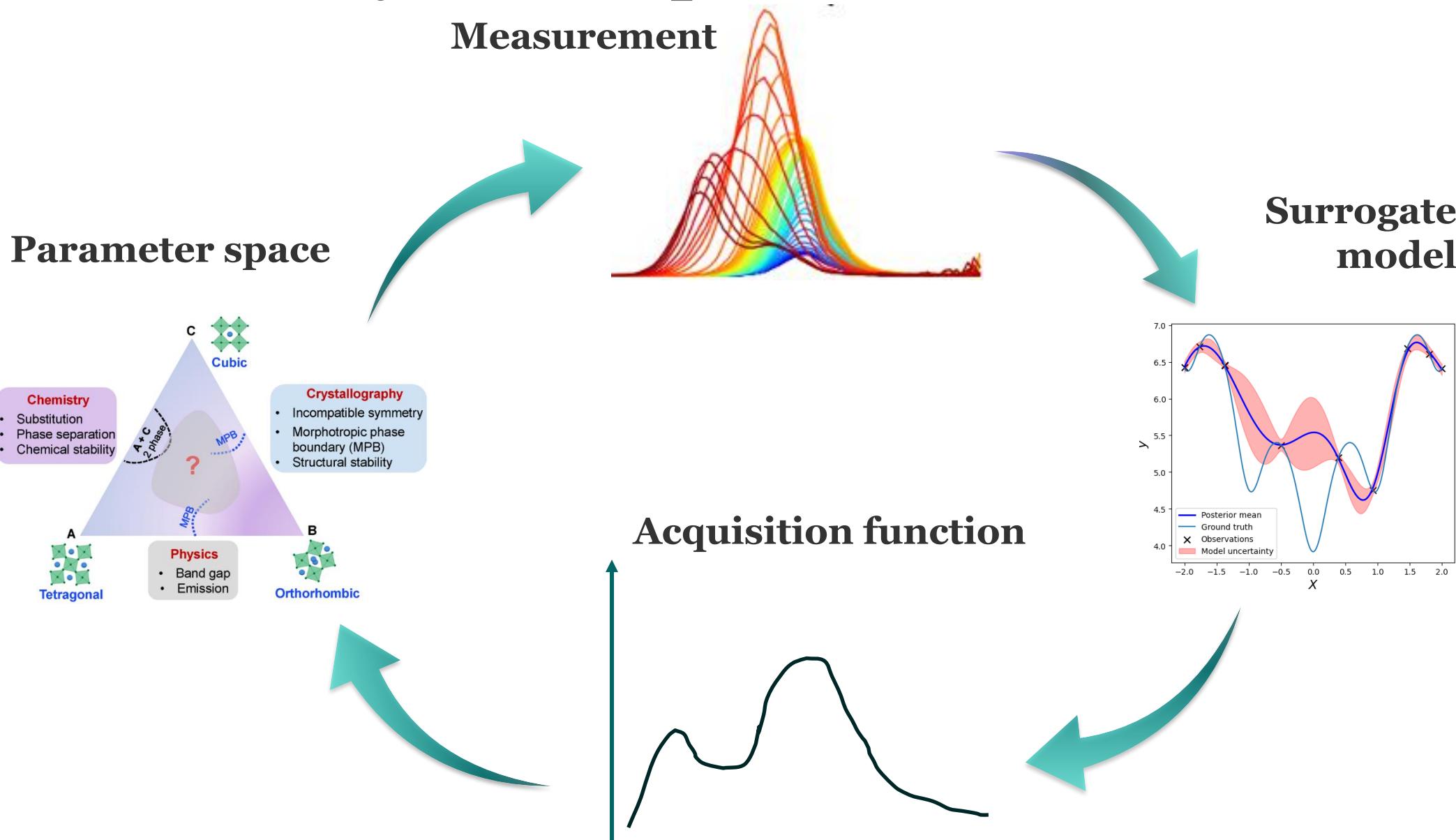


# Causality and Dual BO

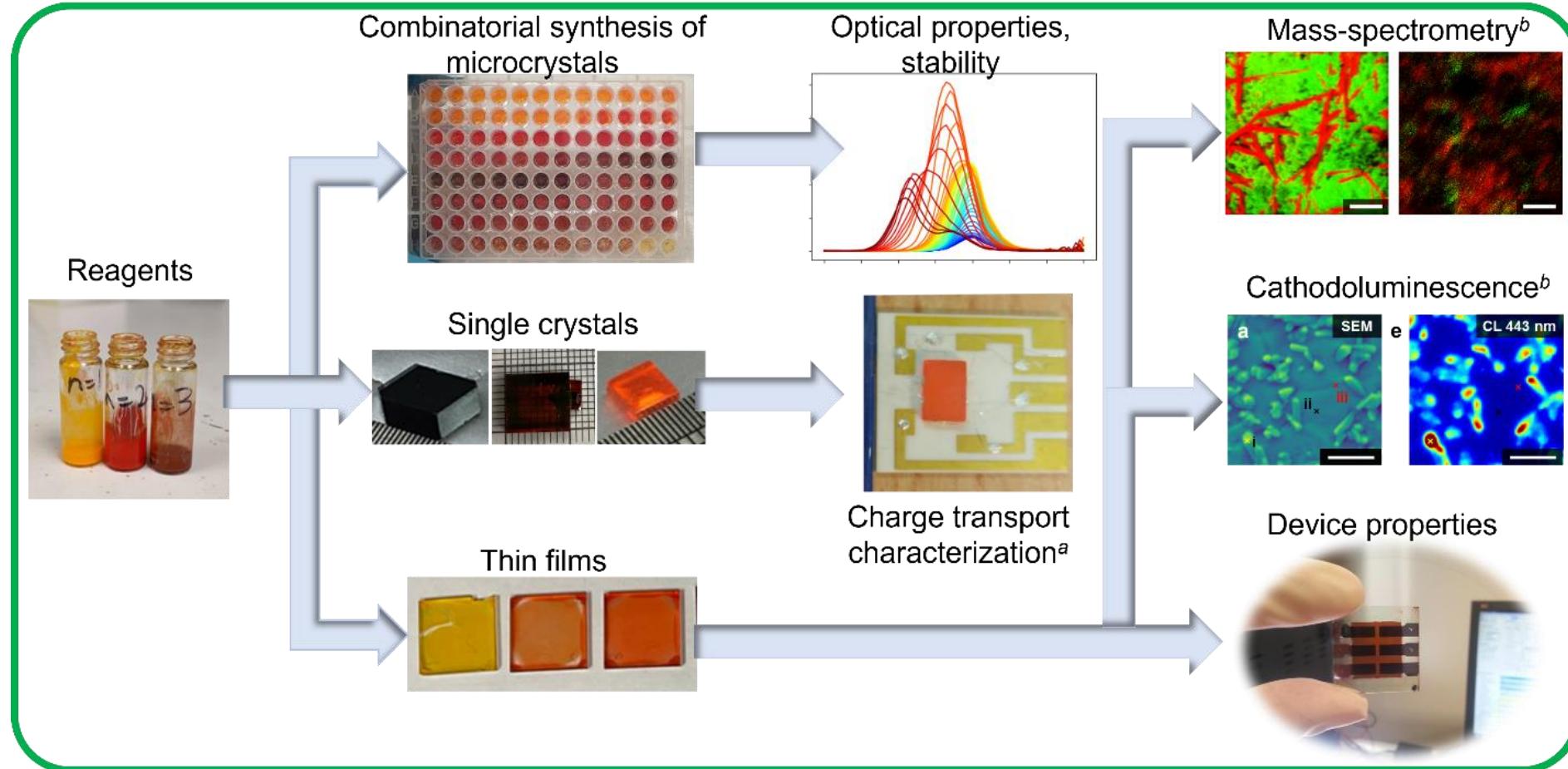
Sergei V. Kalinin

# Classical Bayesian Optimization



Implicitly, we postulate that **cost** and **gain** are constant along the iterative cycle

# What is A Workflow?



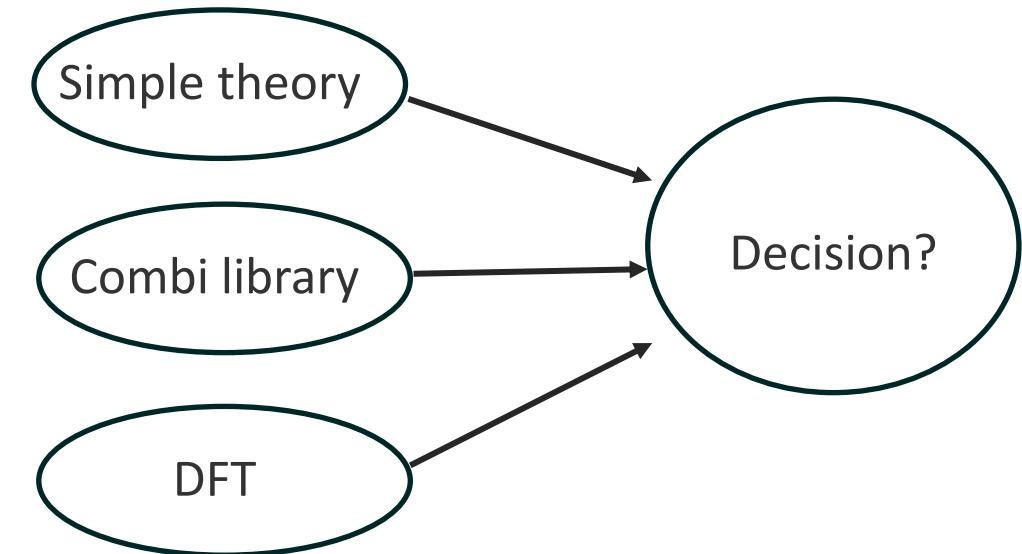
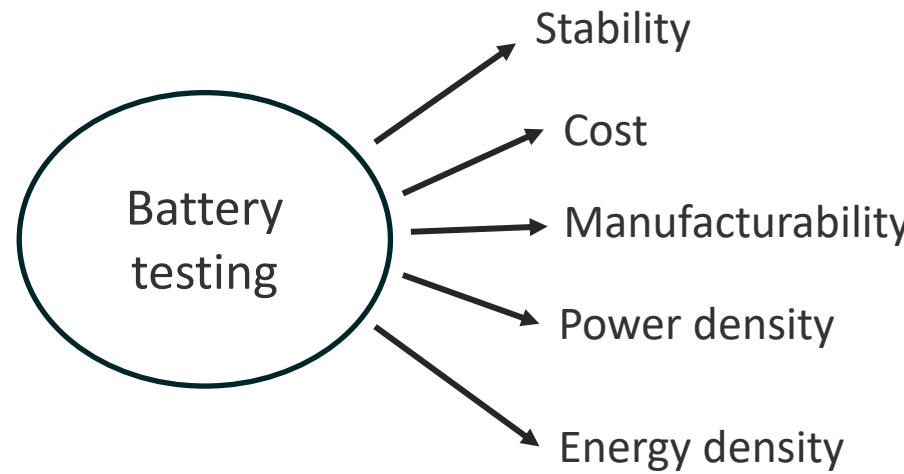
**Workflow:** ideation, orchestration, implementation

- Domain specific language
- Dynamic planning: latencies and costs
- Reward and value functions
- Are they optimal?
- Can we design them better?
- Can they be changed dynamically?

# Building non-linear workflows

- Multi-Objective Bayesian Optimization
- Multifidelity Gaussian Processes
- Multitask Gaussian Processes
- Workflows with multidimensional data
- Co-orchestration multiple research tools
- Co-navigation of theory and experiment
- Perspectives

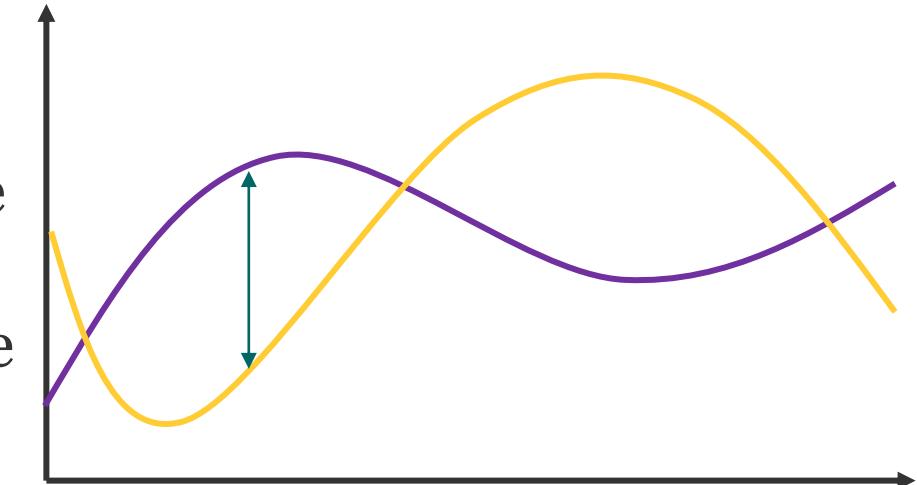
# The real world is more complex!



1. We need to balance multiple functionalities
2. Integrate multiple sources of data and make decisions considering costs, latencies, and beliefs

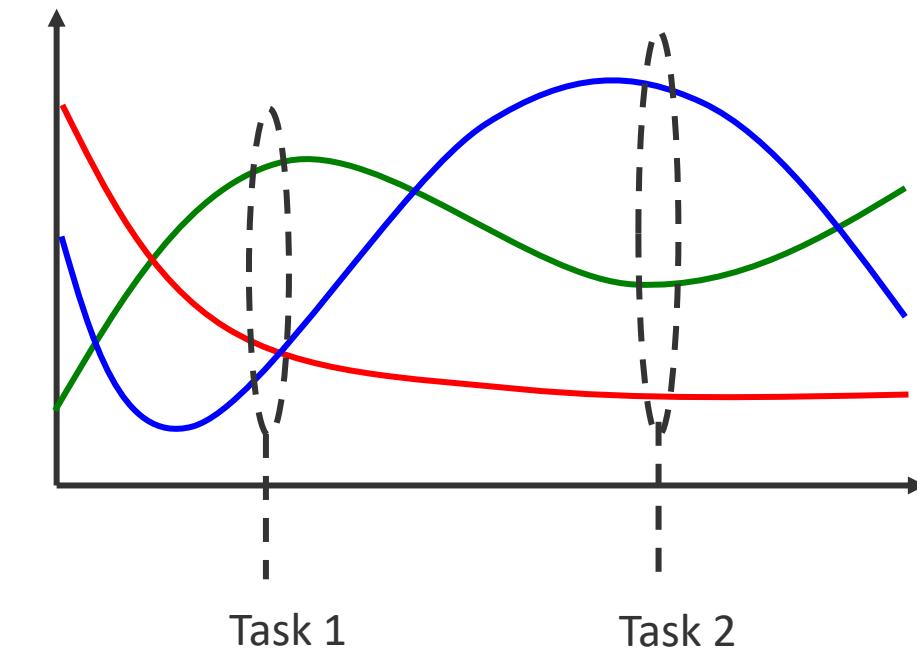
## Multifidelity (structured) GP:

- We have the easy to evaluate function with probabilistic model and expensive to evaluate function
- The easy function is a proxy for expensive one and has some correlative relationship to it
- We create policy that balances evaluation costs



## Multitask GP:

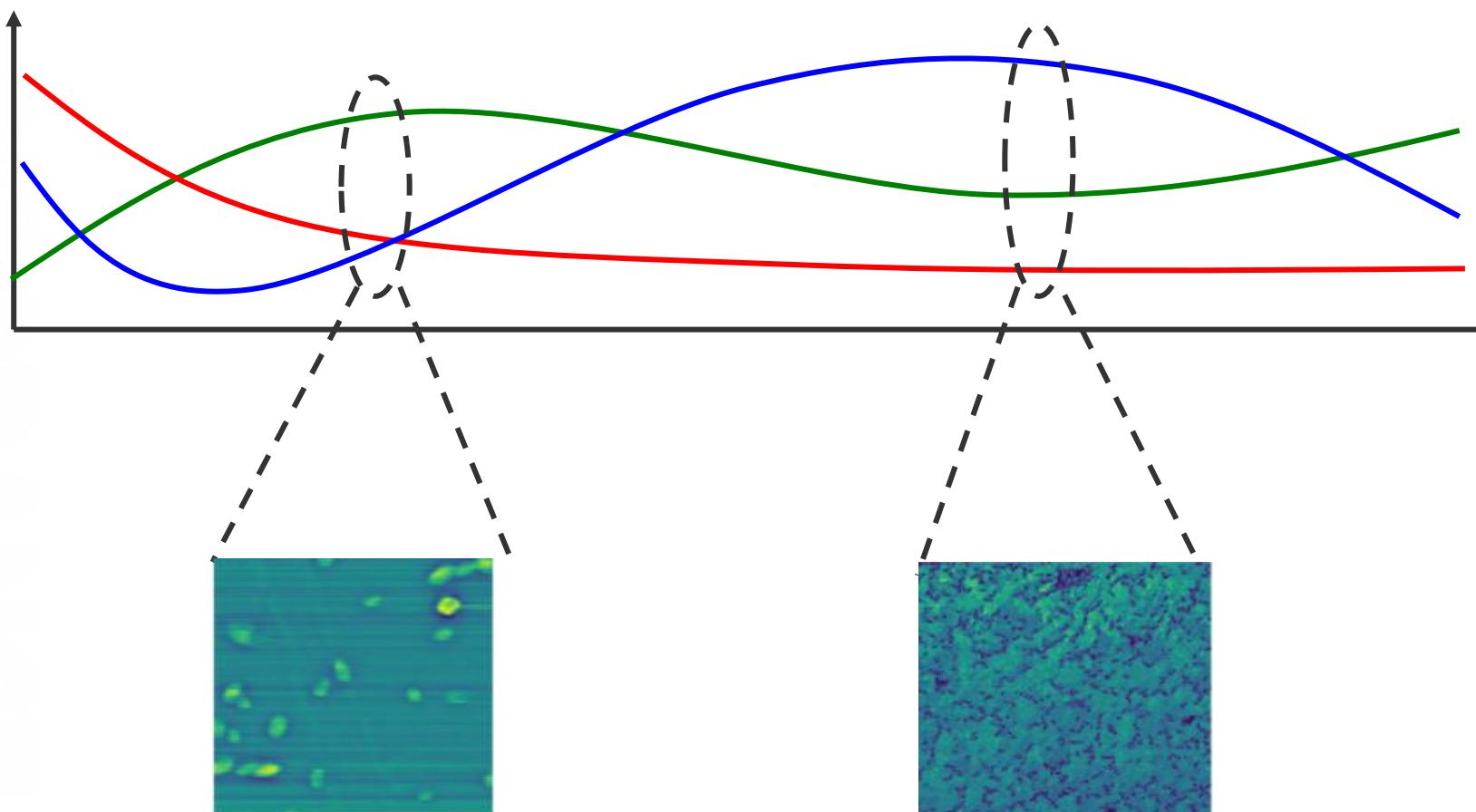
- We have multiple observables in different spaces
- And common **latent model** that emits them
- Can find minima in the expensive space suggested by cheap(er) function



# General combinatorial library exploration



Bi<sub>2</sub>FeO<sub>3</sub>      Linear est. 7%Sm Bi<sub>2</sub>FeO<sub>3</sub>      20%Sm Bi<sub>2</sub>FeO<sub>3</sub>



Compositional library  
(can be 1D or 2D,  
encoding from binary to  
quaternary diagrams).  
Composition  $c(x)$  or  $c(x,y)$   
is assumed to be known

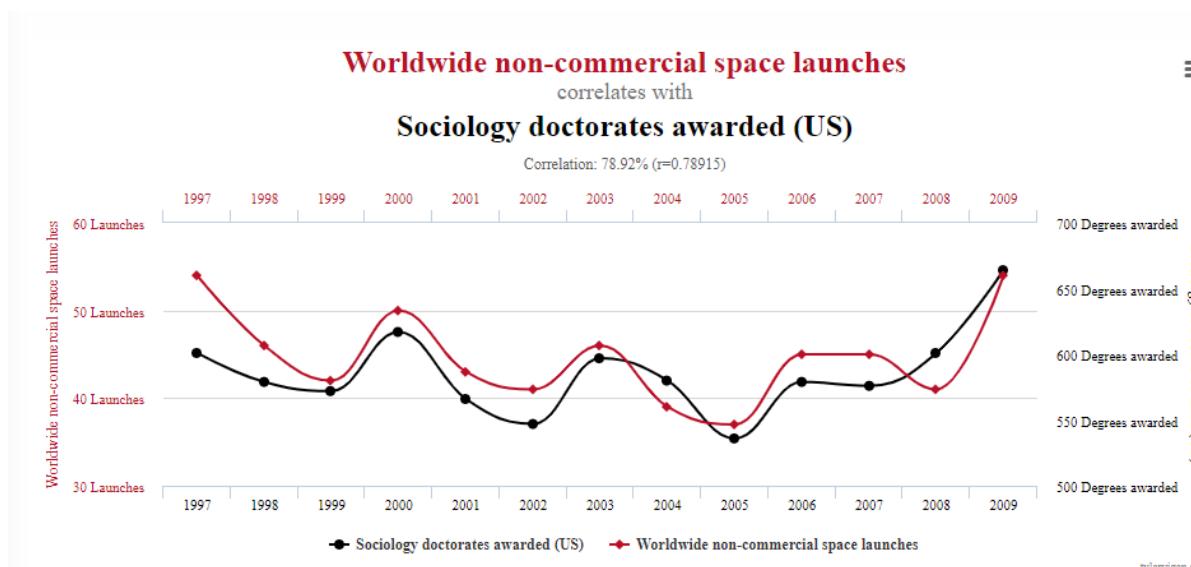
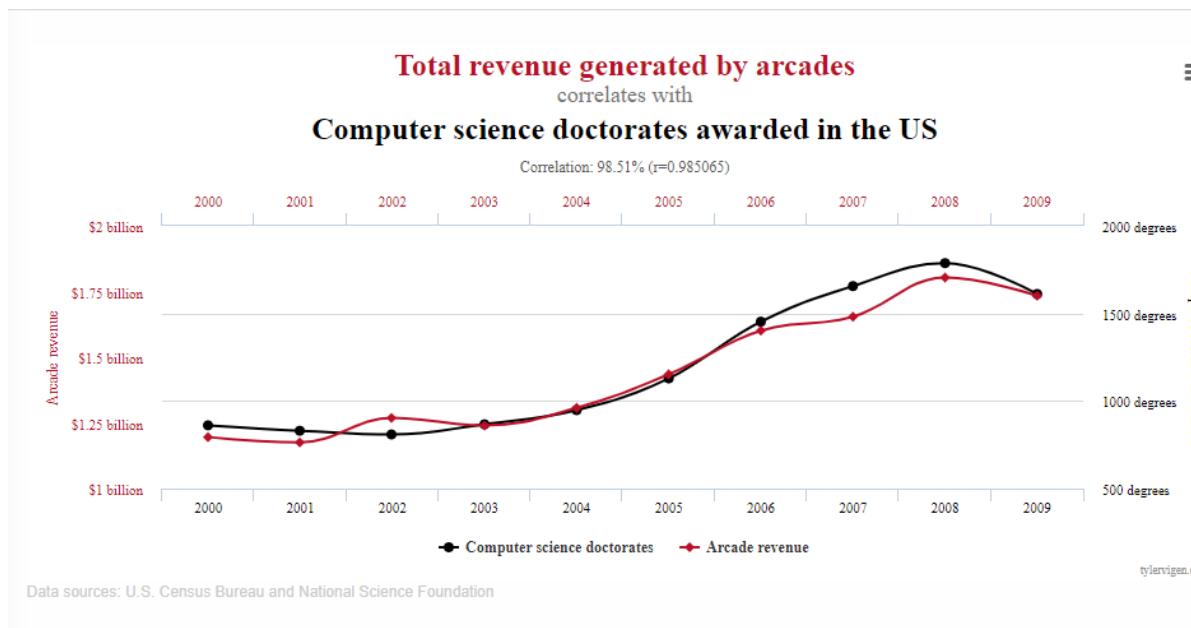
Non-observable latent  
variables that represent  
materials functionality. These  
form GP or sGP as a function  
of concentration (and via it,  
space)

The latent variables emit the  
observational data in the form  
of images or spectra (via  
second GP or decoder)

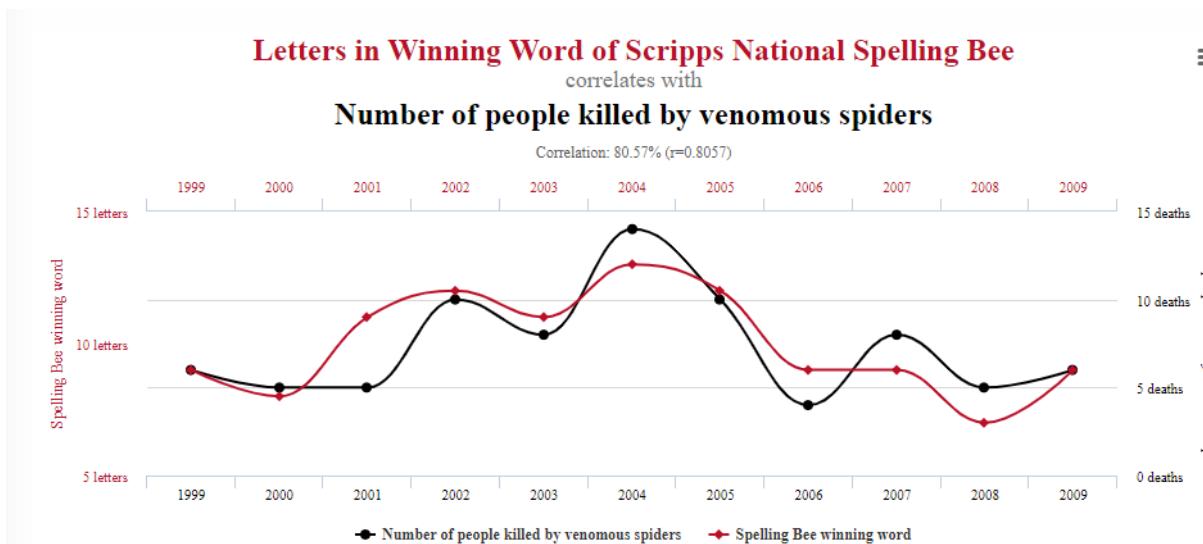
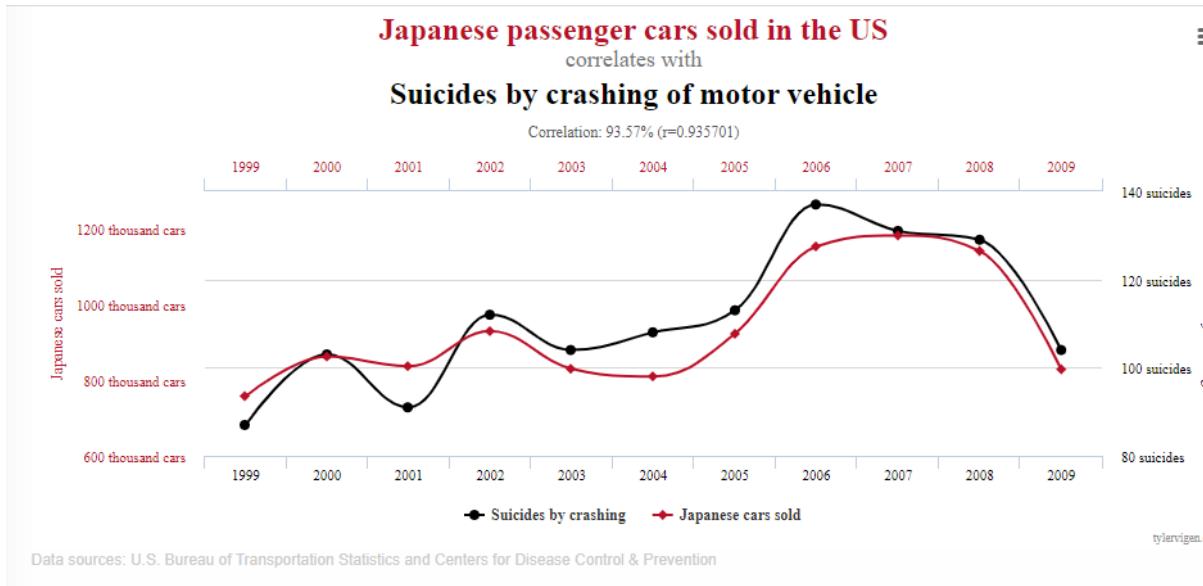
# Experimental Instantiations

1. **Scenario I:** Data in full (microRaman across the combinatorial library, or grid measurement of topography or domains by PFM).
  - a. Can use the simple VAE or GMM to find latents (or even PCA)
  - b. However, VAE or GMM will not capture the spatial effects in  $sGP(c(x,y))$
2. **Scenario II:** Active learning with one high dimensional imaging/spectroscopy method.
  - a. Normal GP/sGP/HL if measured property is scalar (if we have good scalarizer for image/spectra)
  - b. If it is active learning on images/spectra we **do not have way to do it.**
3. **Scenario III:** Active learning if we have full low dimensionality proxy data and active learning for low dimensional data. This is multifidelity GP and sGP
4. **Scenario IV:** Active learning when we have full high dimensional proxy data and use active learning for another high dimensional data (use Raman results to select places for STEM or PFM)
5. **Scenario V:** Co-navigation between 2 active high-dimensional data sets (meaning that measurements that emit from latents are different).

# Correlation and causation

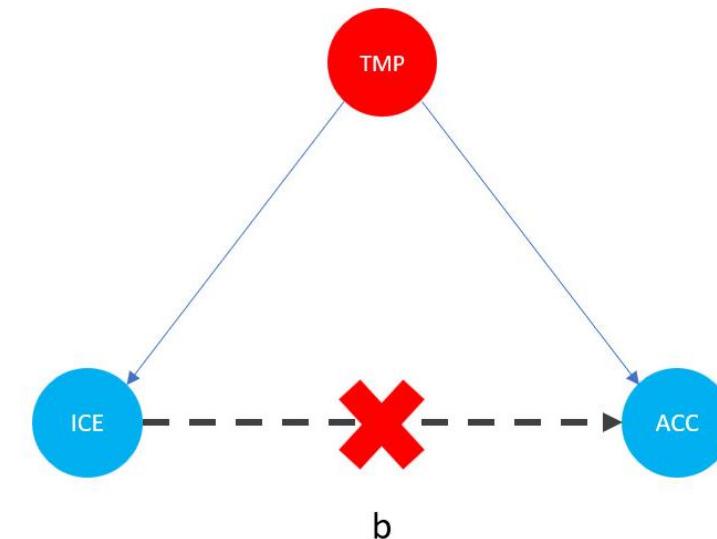
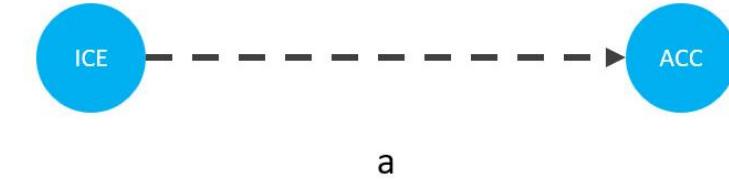
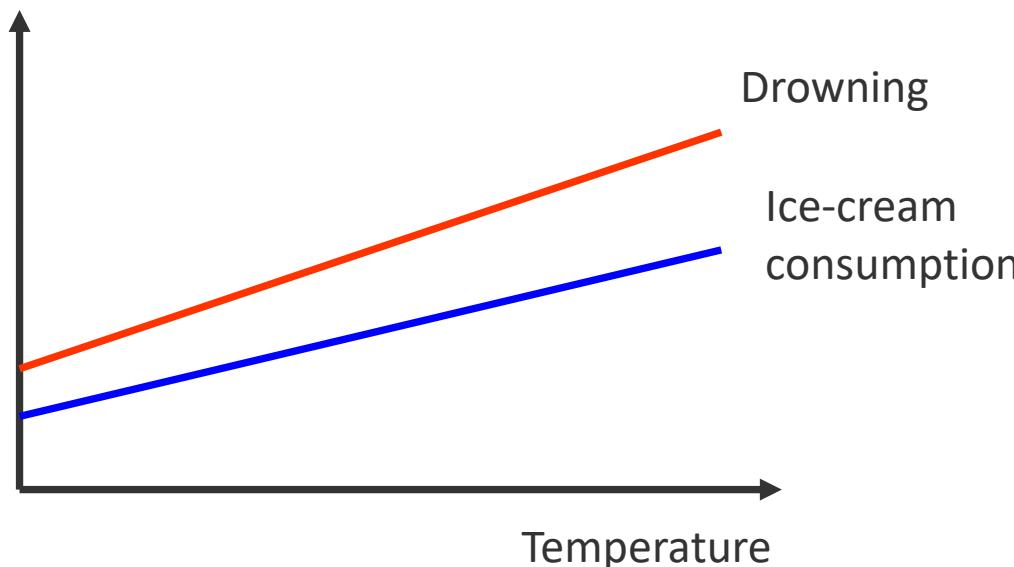
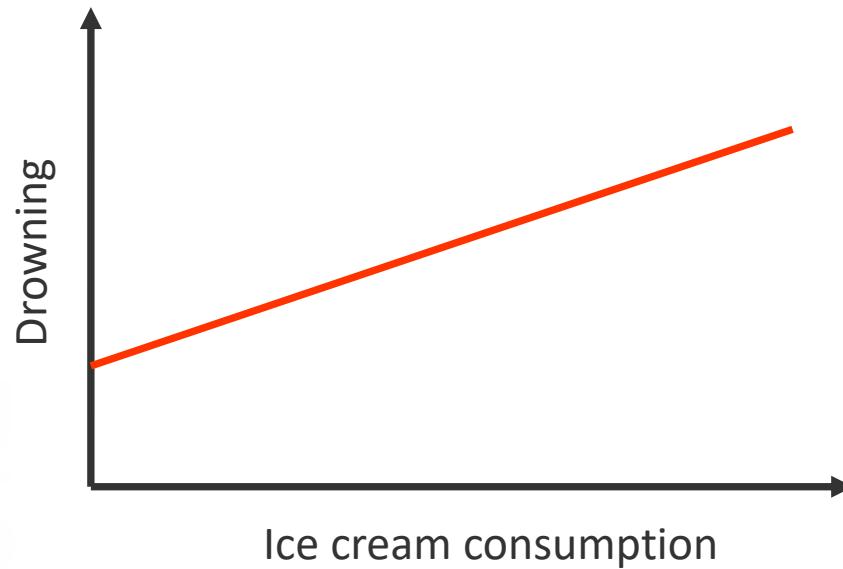


# Correlation and causation



<https://www.tylervigen.com/spurious-correlations>

# Ice-cream and drowning



# Treatment effects

$$\tau_i = Y_i(1) - Y_i(0)$$

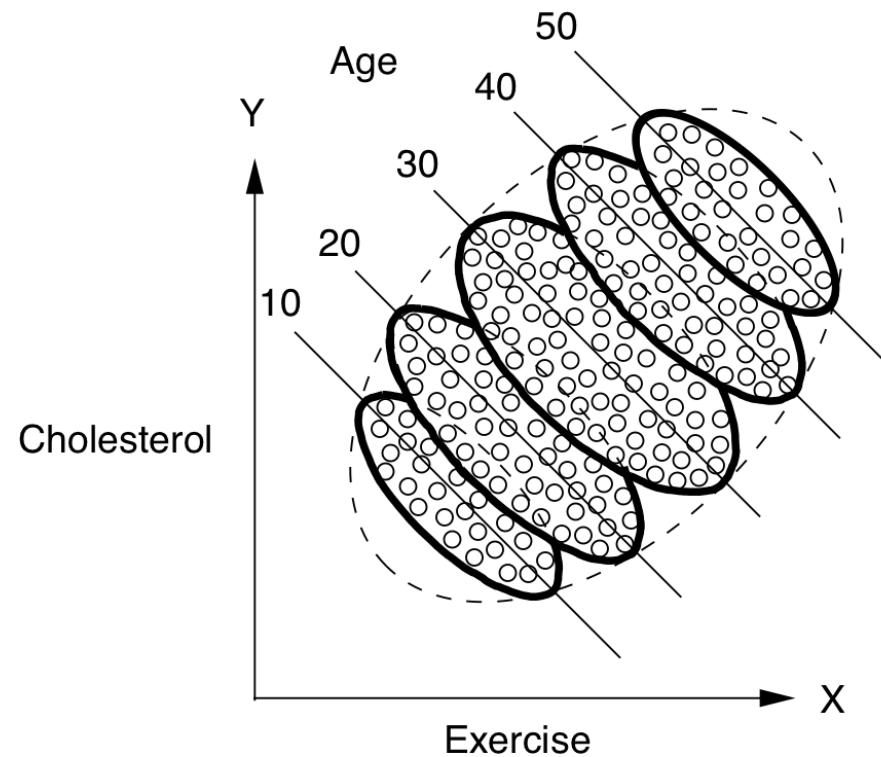
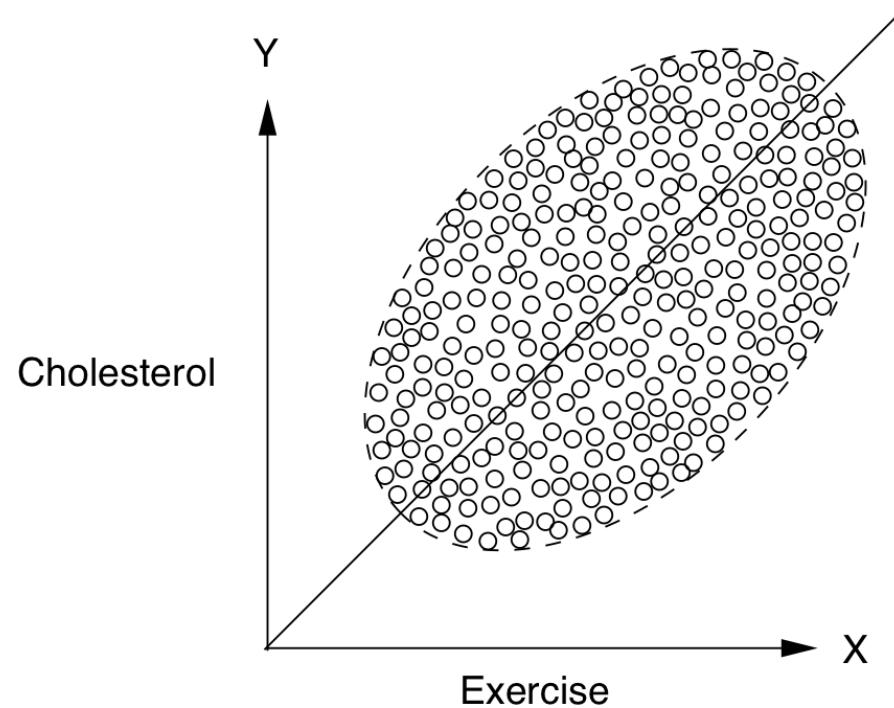
- $\tau_i$  is the treatment effect for person  $i$
- $Y_i(1)$  is the outcome for person  $i$  when they received the treatment T
- $Y_i(0)$  is the outcome for the same person  $i$  given they did not receive the treatment

**Very fundamental approach in:**

- Marketing
- Medicine
- And so on

But... How can the same person be treated and not treated?

# Simpson paradox



Exercise is helpful in every age group but harmful for a typical person.

Is exercise helpful or not?

# Simpson paradox

Drug	A		B	
Blood clot	Yes	No	Yes	No
Total	27	95	23	99
Percentage	22%	78%	19%	81%

Drug	A		B	
Blood clot	Yes	No	Yes	No
Female	24	56	17	25
Male	3	39	6	74
Total	27	95	23	99
Percentage	22%	78%	18%	82%
Percentage (F)	30%	70%	40%	60%
Percentage (M)	7%	93%	7.5%	92.5%

- Simpson's paradox appears when data partitioning (which we can achieve by controlling for the additional variable(s) in the regression setting) significantly changes the outcome of the analysis.
- In the real world, there are usually many ways to partition your data.
- You might ask: okay, so how do I know which partitioning is the *correct* one?

# Berkeley discrimination lawsuit

In the early 1970s, the University of California, Berkeley was sued for gender discrimination over admission to graduate school. Of the 8,442 male applicants for the fall of 1973, 44 percent were admitted, but only 35 percent of the 4,351 female applicants were accepted.

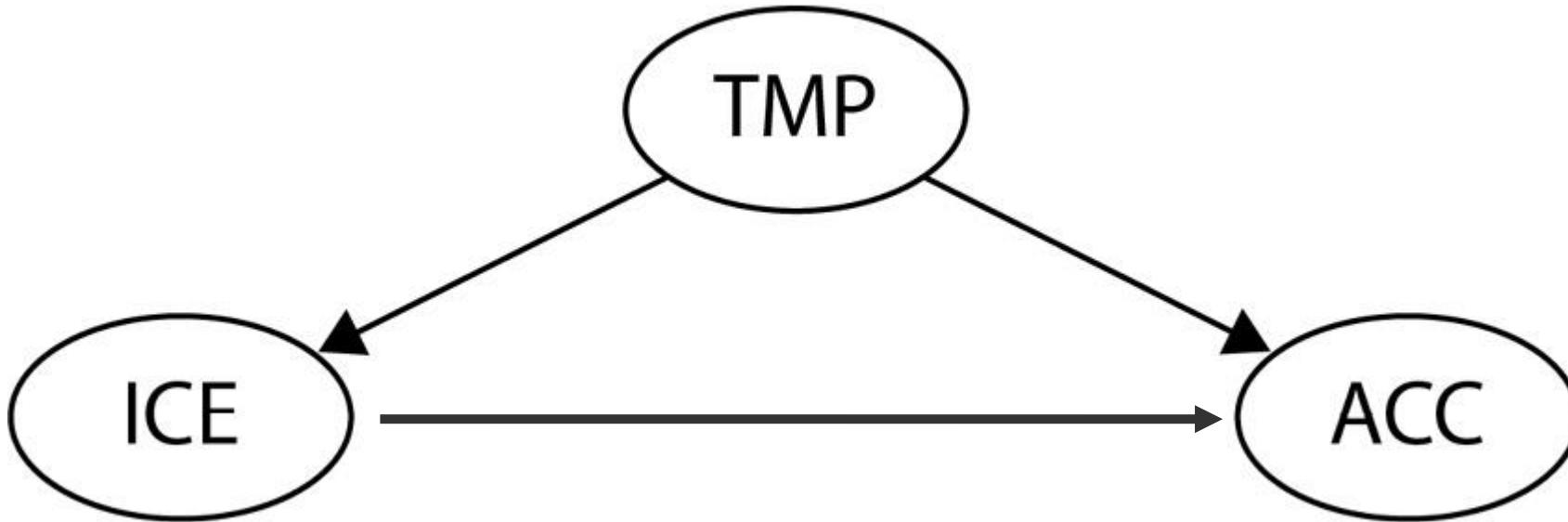
**Table 1: Data From Six Largest Departments of 1973 Berkeley Discrimination Case**

Department	Men		Women	
	Applicants	Admitted	Applicants	Admitted
A	825	62%	108	82%
B	560	63%	25	68%
C	325	37%	593	34%
D	417	33%	375	35%
E	191	28%	393	24%
F	272	6%	341	7%

Source: Bickel, Hammel, and O'Connell (1975); table accessed via Wikipedia at [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Simpson%27s\\_paradox](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Simpson%27s_paradox)

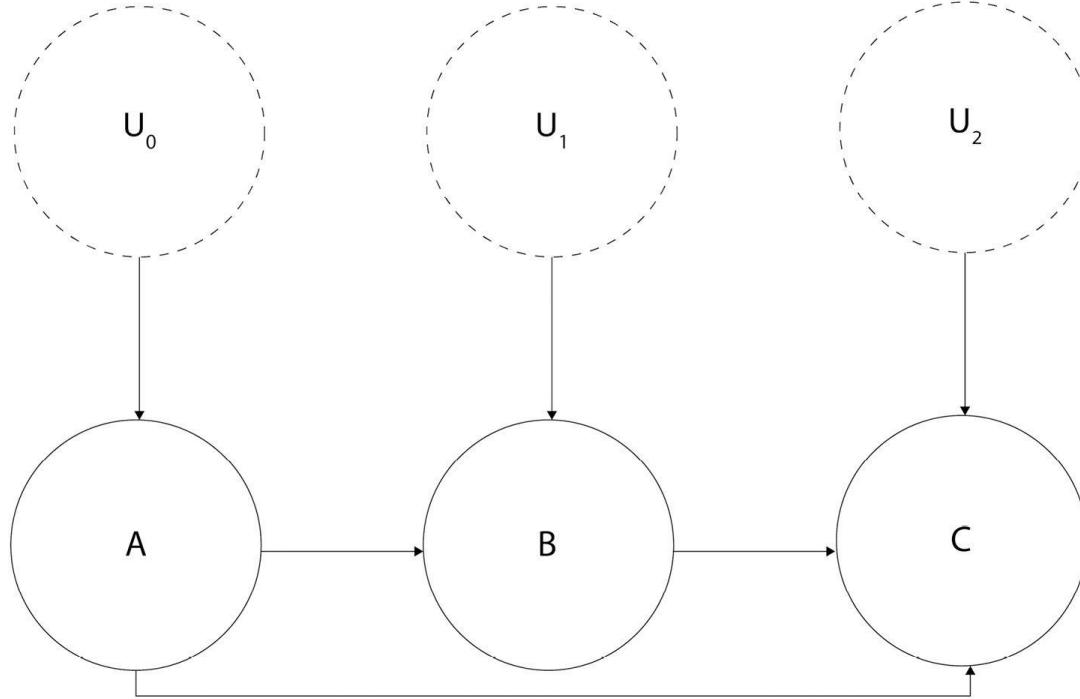
In the Berkeley case, the “paradox” occurred because women disproportionately applied to departments with low acceptance rates, as shown in the table above, while men disproportionately applied to departments with high acceptance rates.

# How can we even approach such problems?



- Observations give us correlations between temperature, ice cream consumption, and accident rate
- What we need to know is the causal links between these characteristics. Does change in ice cream consumption affect temperature or accident rate?
- But we cannot make an experiment!

# Causal graphs



$$A := f_A(U_0)$$

$$B := f_B(A, U_1)$$

$$C := f_C(A, B, U_2)$$

- Here, `:=` is an **assignment operator**, also known as a **walrus operator**. We use it to emphasize that the relationship that we're describing is *directional* (or asymmetric), as opposed to the regular equal sign that suggests a symmetric relation.
- And  $f_A$ ,  $f_B$ ,  $f_C$  represent arbitrary functions (they can be as simple as a summation or as complex as you want).

# Do-operator

**Conditioning:**

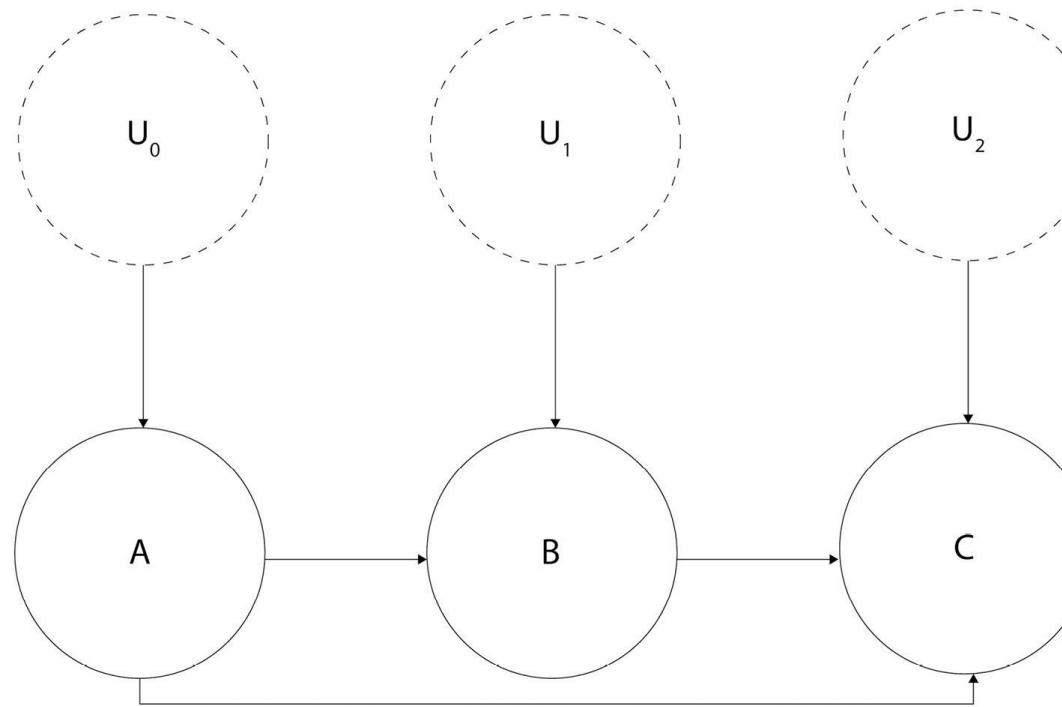
$$P(X = x | Y = y)$$

**Intervention:**

$$P(Y = 1 | do(X = 0))$$

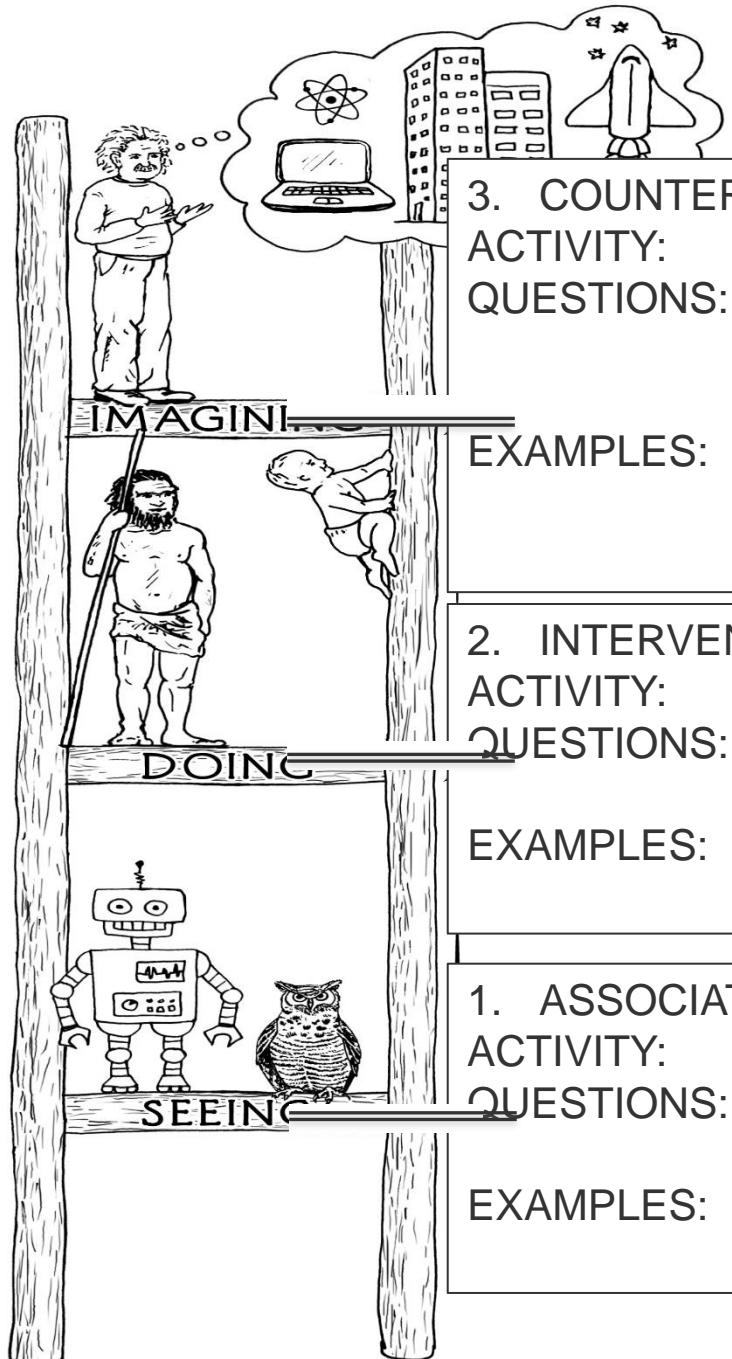
- Conditioning only modifies our *view* of the data, while intervening affects the distribution by *actively* setting one (or more) variable(s) to a *fixed value* (or a distribution).
- This is very important – intervention *changes* the system, but conditioning *does not*.
- You might ask, what does it mean that *intervention changes the system*? Great question!

# Properties of do - operator



- The change in B will influence the values of its descendants
- B will become independent of its ancestors

# Ladder of causation



## 3. COUNTERFACTUALS

ACTIVITY: Imagining, Retrospection, Understanding

QUESTIONS: *What if I had done . . . ? Why?*

(Was it X that caused Y? What if X had not occurred? What if I had acted differently?)

EXAMPLES:

Was it the aspirin that stopped my headache?

Would Kennedy be alive if Oswald had not killed him?

What if I had not smoked the last 2 years?

## 2. INTERVENTION

ACTIVITY: Doing, Intervening

QUESTIONS: *What if I do . . . ? How?*

(What would Y be if I do X?)

EXAMPLES:

If I take aspirin, will my headache be cured?

What if we ban cigarettes?

## 1. ASSOCIATION

ACTIVITY: Seeing, Observing

QUESTIONS: *What if I see . . . ?*

(How would seeing X change my belief in Y?)

EXAMPLES:

What does a symptom tell me about a disease?

What does a survey tell us about the election results?

# How can we learn causality

- **Causal discovery** and **causal structure learning** are umbrella terms for various kinds of methods used to uncover causal structure from observational or interventional data.
- **Expert knowledge** is a term covering various types of knowledge that can help define or disambiguate causal relations between two or more variables. Depending on the context, expert knowledge might refer to knowledge from randomized controlled trials, laws of physics, a broad scope of experiences in a given area, and more.
- **Combining causal discovery and expert knowledge:** Some causal discovery algorithms allow us to easily incorporate expert knowledge as a priority. This means that we can either *freeze* certain edges in the graph or *suggest* the existence or direction of these edges.

# Independence and conditional independence

- Notation for independence involves the symbol,  $\perp\!\!\!\perp$  (usually called *double up tack*), whose form visually encodes the notion of orthogonality.
- We can express the fact that  $X$  and  $Y$  are independent in the following way:

$$P(X, Y) = P(X)P(Y) \quad X \perp\!\!\!\perp Y$$

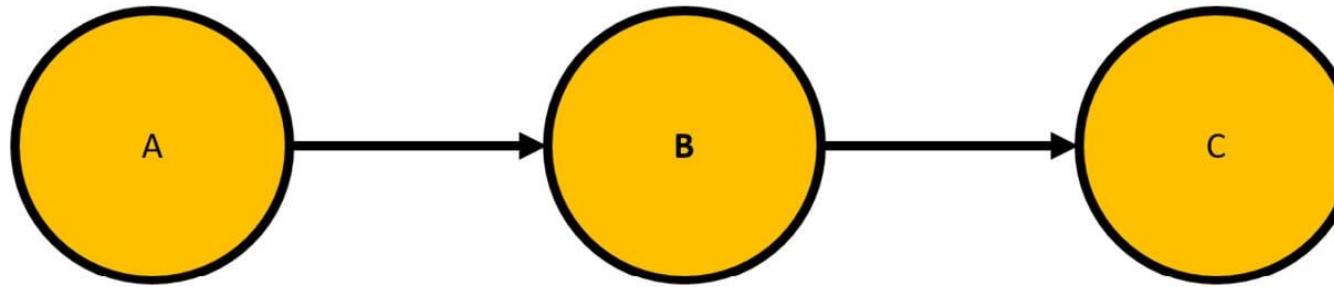
- The concept of independence plays a vital role in statistics and causality.
- Its generalization – **conditional independence** – is even more important. We say that  $X$  and  $Y$  are conditionally independent given  $Z$ , when  $X$  does not give us any new information about  $Y$  assuming that we observed  $Z$ .
- 

$$P(X, Y|Z) = P(X|Z)P(Y|Z) \quad X \perp\!\!\!\perp Y|Z$$

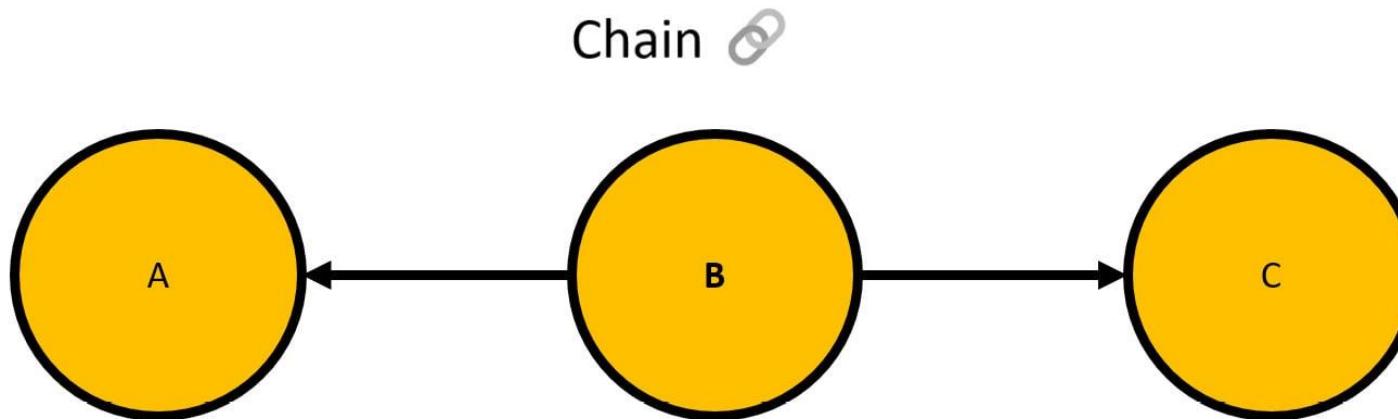
# Conditional and unconditional independence

- We say that two nodes are *unconditionally* (or marginally) *independent* in the graph when there's *no open path* that connects them *directly* or *indirectly*.
- We say that two nodes,  $X$  and  $Y$ , are *conditionally independent* given (a set of) node(s)  $Z$  when  $Z$  blocks *all open paths* that connect  $X$  and  $Y$ .

# Chains and forks



$$A \perp\!\!\!\perp_C C | B$$

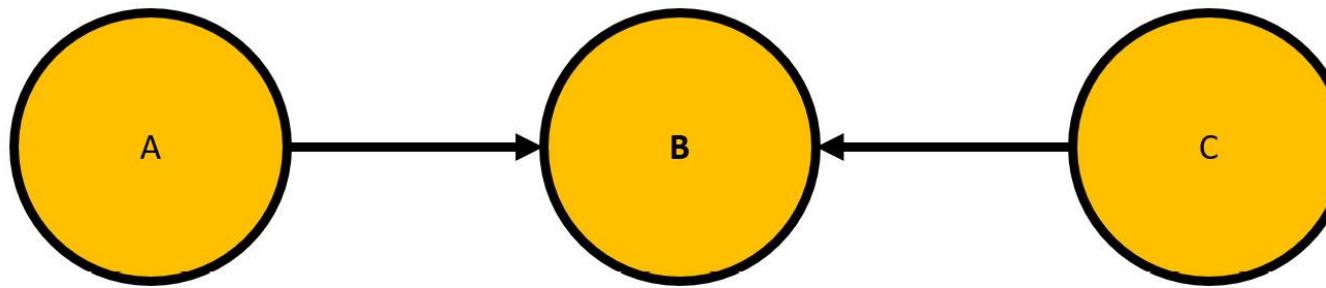


$$A \perp\!\!\!\perp_C C | B$$

Chain

Fork

# Colliders



$$\begin{aligned} A &\perp\!\!\!\perp C \\ A &\not\perp\!\!\!\perp C \mid B \end{aligned}$$

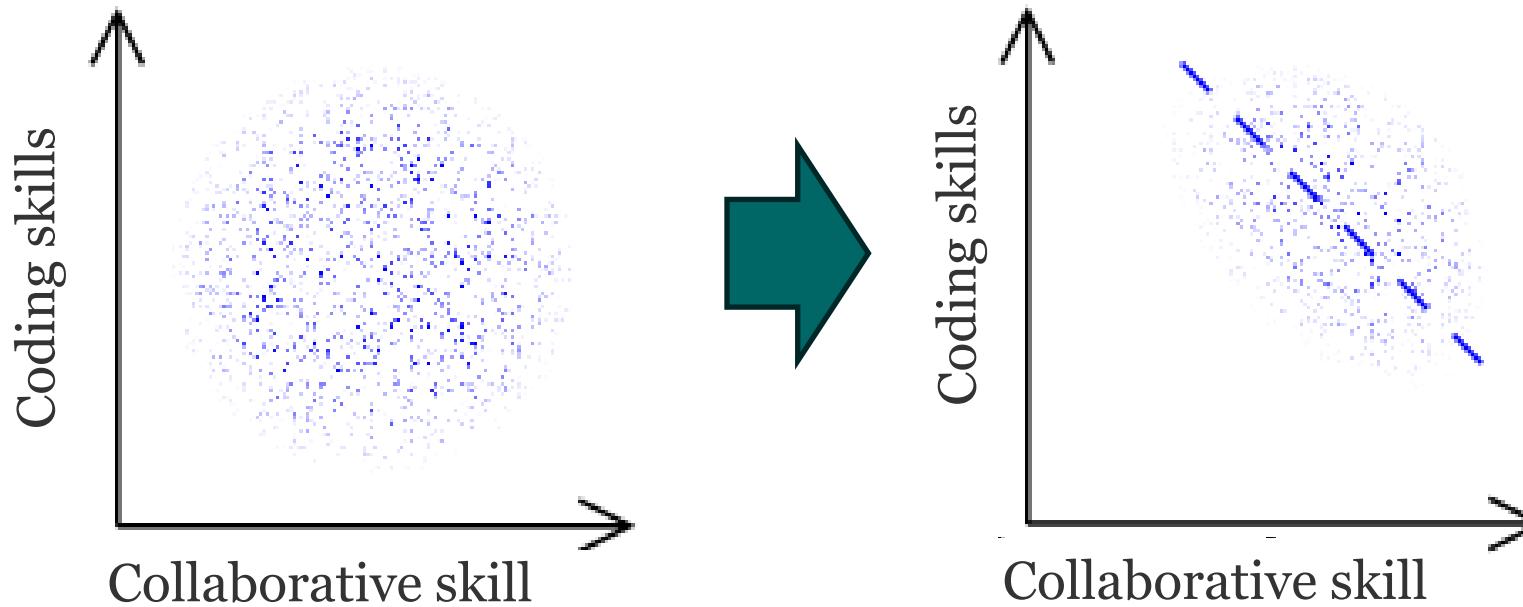
Collider

Imagine that both A and C randomly generate integers between 1 and 3. Let's also say that B is a sum of A and C. Now, let's take a look at values of A and C when the value of B is 4. The following are the combinations of A and C that lead to B = 4:

- A = 1, C = 3
- A = 2, C = 2
- A = 3, C = 1

Although A and C are unconditionally independent (there's no correlation between them as they randomly and independently generate integers), they become correlated when we observe C !

# Colliders and Berkson paradox



Many companies might hire people based on their skills and their personality traits. Imagine that company  $X$  quantifies a person's coding skills on a scale from one to five. They do the same for the candidate's ability to cooperate and hire everyone who gets a total score of at least seven. Assuming that coding skills and ability to cooperate are independent in the population (which doesn't have to be true in reality), you'll observe that in company  $X$ , people who are better coders are less likely to cooperate on average, and those who are more likely to cooperate have fewer coding skills. You could conclude that being non-cooperative is related to being a better coder, yet this conclusion would be incorrect in the general population.

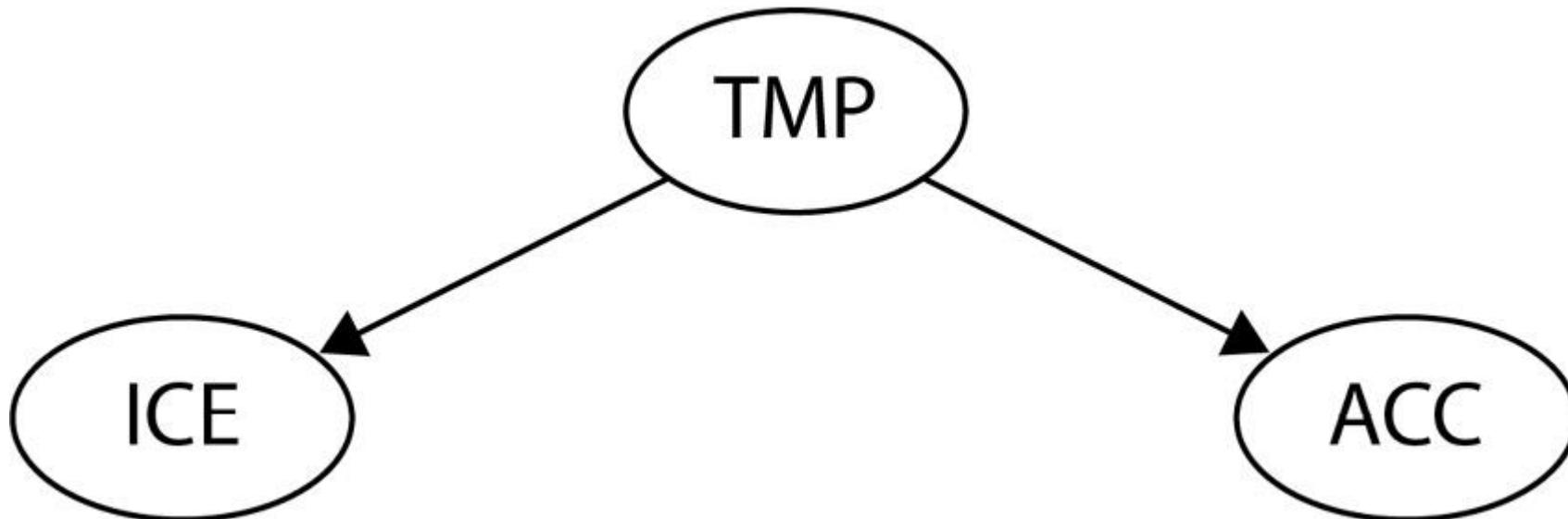
# Estimator, estimate, and estimand

- 1. Estimand:** The quantity or parameter that is intended to be estimated. It represents the true value of the parameter in the population. Suppose you're interested in the average height of adult men in a particular country. The actual average height of all adult men in that country is the estimand.
- 2. Estimate:** The approximation or value obtained from the data to estimate the estimand. This is derived from a sample and used to infer information about the population. For example, from a sample of 1,000 adult men in the same country, you calculate an average height of 5 feet 9 inches. This value (5 feet 9 inches) is your estimate of the average height (the estimand).
- 3. Estimator:** A rule, formula, or algorithm by which you derive the estimate from the data. It is a function of the sample data and is used to produce an estimate of the estimand. Here, the formula for calculating the mean (average) from a set of numbers is an estimator. When you apply this formula to your sample data, you obtain the estimate.

# Estimator, estimate, and estimand

- **Estimand:** What you want to know (the actual, often unknown, value).
- **Estimate:** What you got from your sample data.
- **Estimator:** How you got it (the method or formula used).

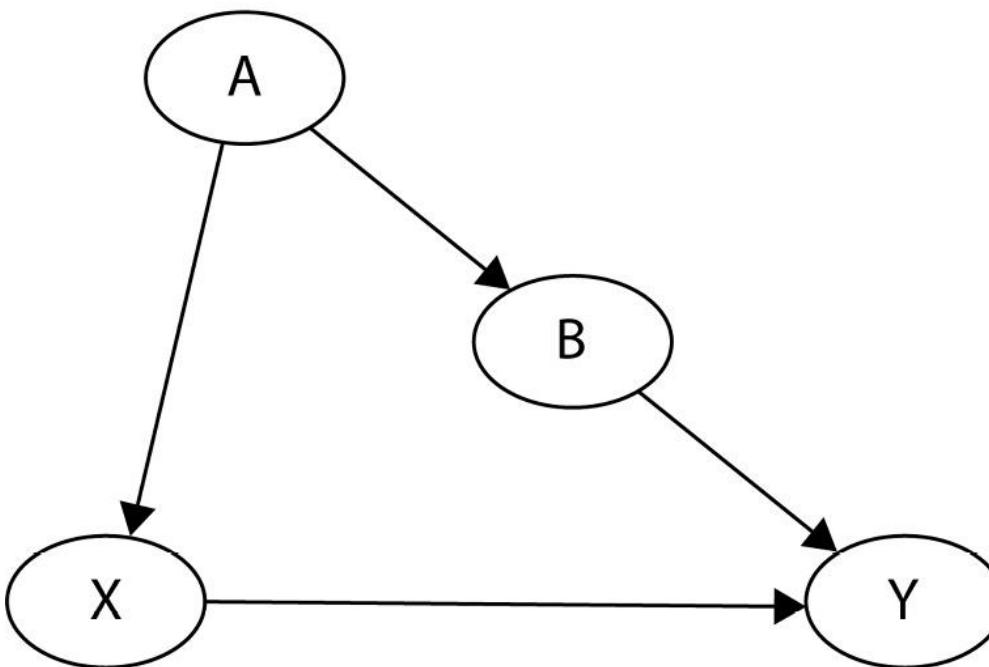
# Adjustment



$$ACC \sim ICE + TMP$$

$$P(ACC|do(ICE)) = \sum_{tmp} P(ACC|ICE, TMP)P(TMP)$$

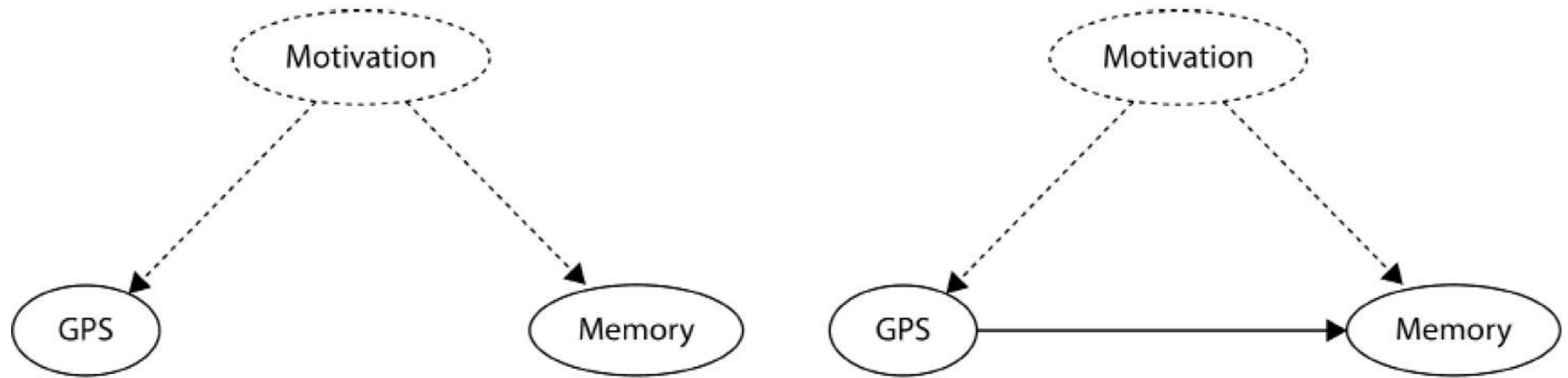
# Back door criterion



$$\begin{aligned} P(Y = y|do(X = x)) &= \sum_a P(Y = y|X = x, A = a)P(A = a) \\ &= \sum_b P(Y = y|X = x, B = b)P(B = b) \end{aligned}$$

We can estimate effect even if one of A, B is unobserved!

# Front door criterion and mediation



**Observation:** People that use GPS more have less good memory

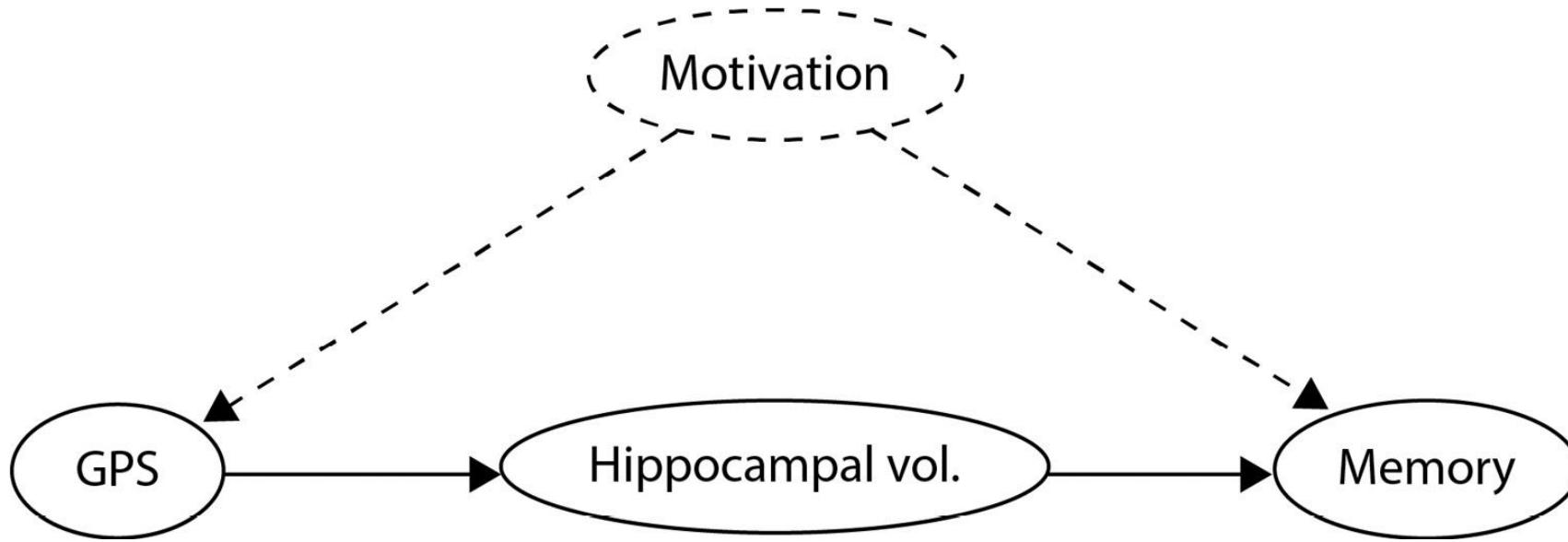
**Hypothesis 1:** Usage of GPS precludes memory development

**Hypothesis 2:** There is a common (unobserved) factor that affects both GPS usage and memory

# Mediation

- The influence of one variable  $X$  on another  $Y$  is *mediated* by a third variable,  $Z$  (or a set of variables,  $Z$ ), when at least one path from  $X$  to  $Y$  goes through  $Z$ .
- $Z$  *fully mediates* the relationship between  $X$  and  $Y$  when the only path from  $X$  to  $Y$  goes through  $Z$ .
- If there are paths from  $X$  to  $Y$  that do not pass through  $Z$ , the mediation is *partial*.

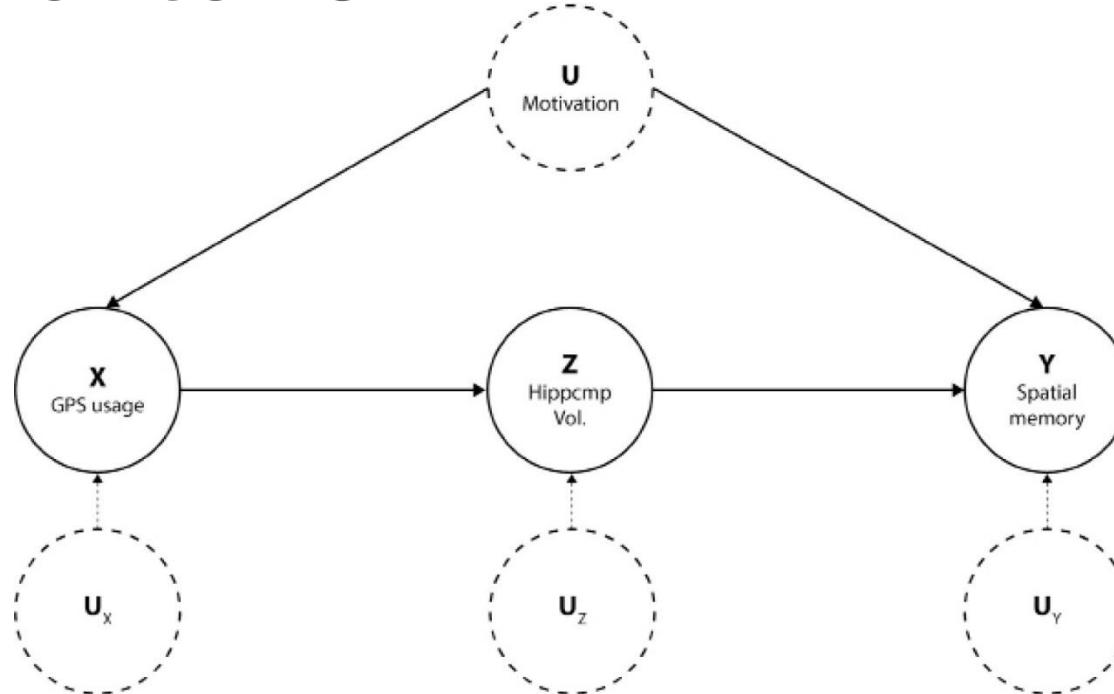
# Front door criterion



- We assume that hippocampal volume fully mediates the effects of GPS usage on a decline in spatial memory.
- The second important assumption we make is that motivation can only affect *hippocampal volume indirectly through GPS usage*.

If motivation would be able to influence hippocampal volume *directly*, front-door would be of no help. Luckily enough, the assumption that motivation cannot directly change the volume of the hippocampus seems reasonable (though perhaps you could argue against it!).

# Front door criterion



$$P(Y = y|do(X = x)) = \sum_z P(Z = z|X = x) \sum_{x'} P(Y = y|X = x', Z = z)P(X = x')$$

- Fit a model,  $Z \sim X$
- Fit a model,  $Y \sim Z + X$
- Multiply the coefficients from model 1 and model 2

# Do-calculus

- *Rule 1:* When an observation can be ignored:

$$P(Y = y | do(X = x), Z = z, W = w) = P(Y = y | do(X = x), W = w) \text{ if } (Y \perp\!\!\!\perp Z | X, W)_{G_x}$$

- *Rule 2:* When intervention can be treated as an observation:

$$P(Y = y | do(X = x), do(Z = z), W = w) = P(Y = y | do(X = x), Z = z, W = w) \text{ if } (Y \perp\!\!\!\perp Z | X, W)_{G_{xz}}$$

- *Rule 3:* When intervention can be ignored:

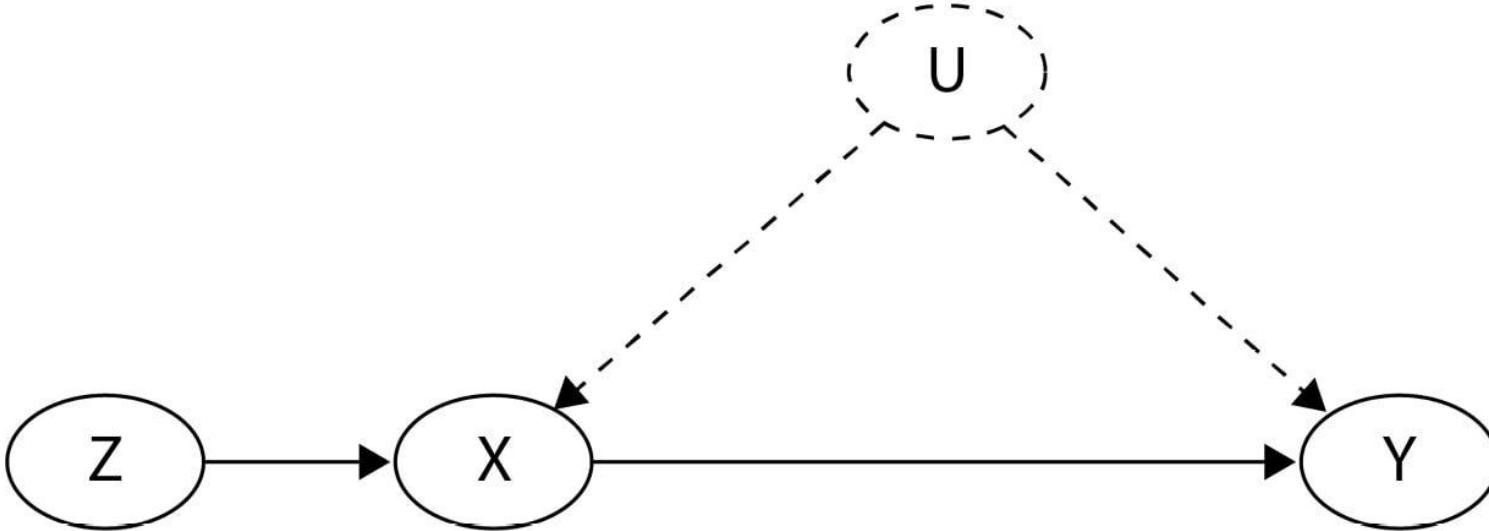
$$P(Y = y | do(X = x), do(Z = z), W = w) = P(Y = y | do(X = x), W = w) \text{ if } (Y \perp\!\!\!\perp Z | X, W)_{G_{x,z(w)}}$$

Given a DAG  $G$ , we can say that  $G_x$  is a modification of  $G$ , where we removed all the *incoming* edges to the node  $X$ . We will call  $G_x$  a modification of  $G$ , where we removed all the *outgoing* edges from the node  $X$ . For example, will denote a DAG,  $G_{xz}$ , where we removed all the incoming edges to the node  $X$  and all the outgoing edges from the node  $Z$ .

- **Good news:**
- **Not so good news:**
- **Super good news:**

do-calculus exists and is complete  
it can be quite incomprehensible and takes a while to learn  
now there are codes (DoWhy) that allow us to apply it

# Instrumental Variables



We're interested in estimating the causal effect of X on Y .

- Cannot use the back-door criterion here because U is unobserved.
- Cannot use the front-door criterion because there's no mediator between X and Y .

Instrumental Variables: require a special variable called an *instrument*, Z, to be present in a graph. An *instrument* needs to meet the following three conditions:

- The instrument, Z, is associated with X
- The instrument, Z, doesn't affect Y in any way except through X
- There are no common causes of Z and Y

We want to study the effect of education (years of schooling) on earnings. However, the level of education might be influenced by many factors like family background, which also affect earnings. This correlation between the unobserved factors (like family background) and education can bias the results if you simply run a linear regression of earnings on education.

We need an instrument that is correlated with education but does not directly affect earnings except through education. Let's say we choose "proximity to college" as instrument.

### **Two-Stage Least Squares (2SLS) Regression:**

1. Regress the potentially endogenous variable (education) on the instrument (proximity to college). This predicts the values of education that are not influenced by the unobserved confounders.

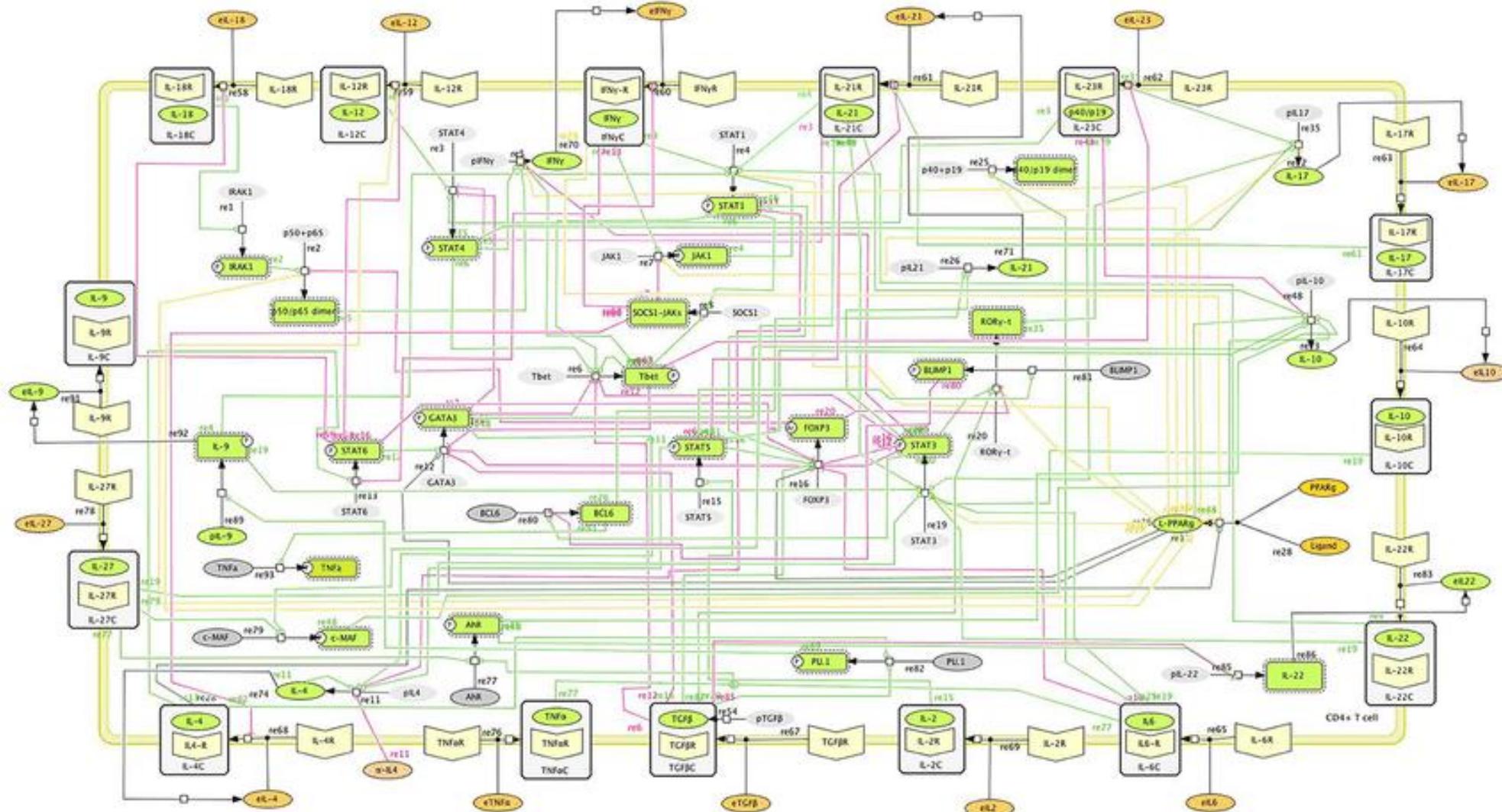
$$\text{Education} = \alpha + \beta * \text{ProximityToCollege} + \varepsilon$$

2. Regress the outcome (earnings) on the predicted values of education from the first stage

$$\text{Earnings} = \gamma + \delta * \text{PredictedEducation} + \zeta$$

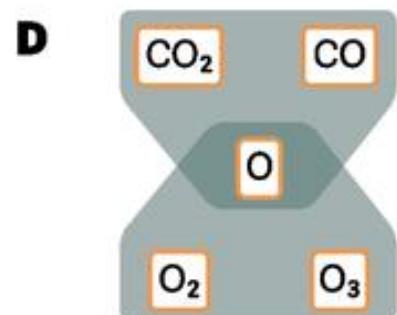
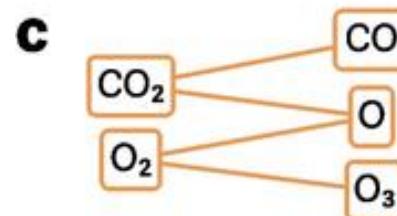
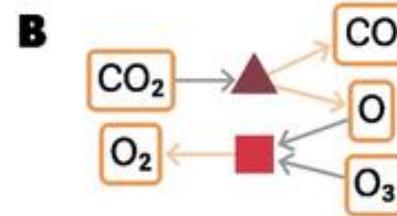
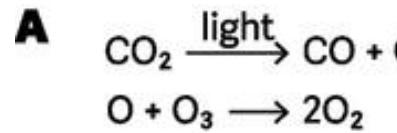
3. The coefficient  $\delta$  on PredictedEducation in the second stage gives the estimated causal effect of education on earnings. This helps to isolate the variation in education that is independent of the unobserved confounders that also affect earnings.

# Biochemical reaction networks

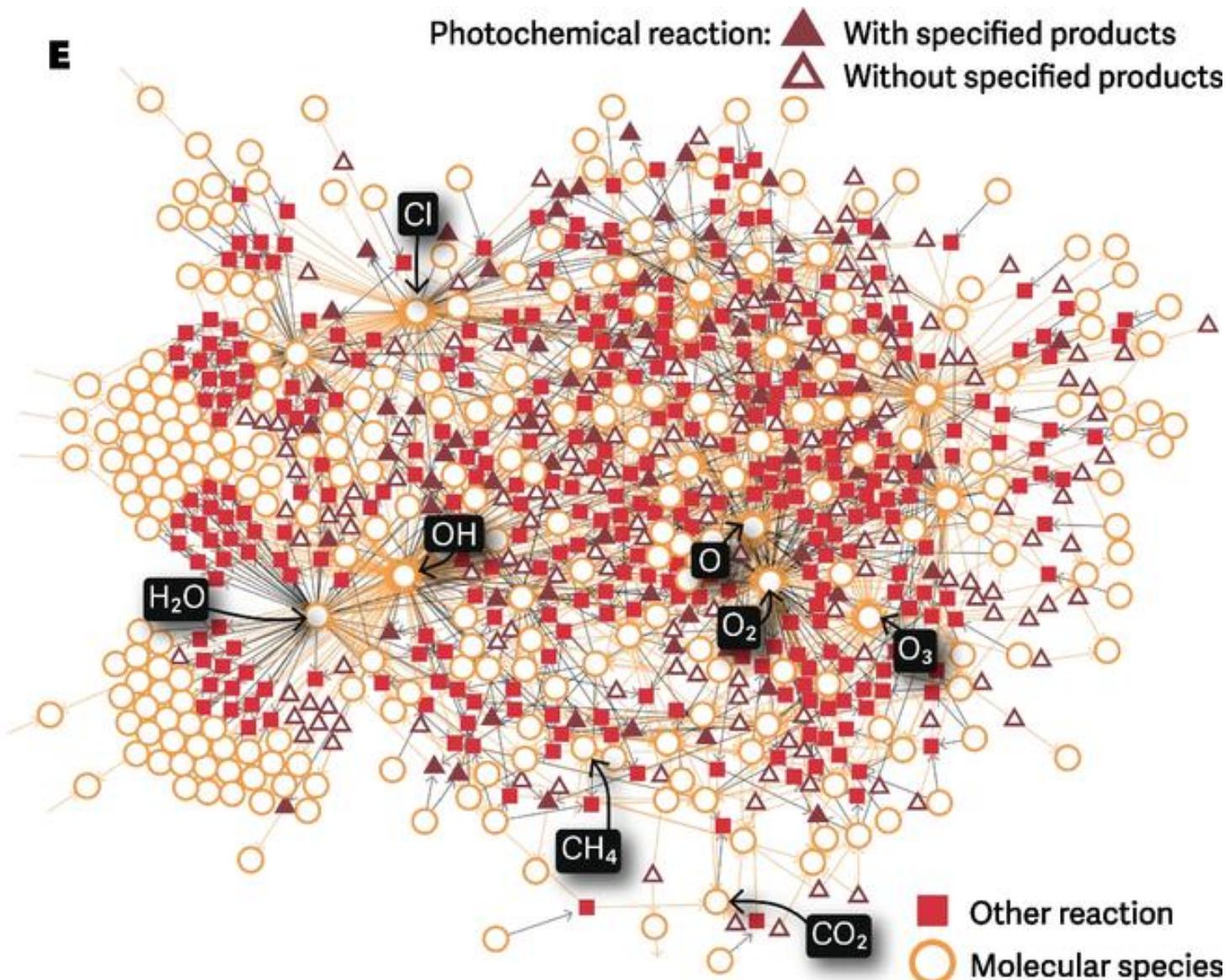


[https://www.researchgate.net/figure/Main-intracellular-differentiation-pathways-of-a-single-CD4-T-cell-Systems-Biology\\_fig2\\_267753905](https://www.researchgate.net/figure/Main-intracellular-differentiation-pathways-of-a-single-CD4-T-cell-Systems-Biology_fig2_267753905)

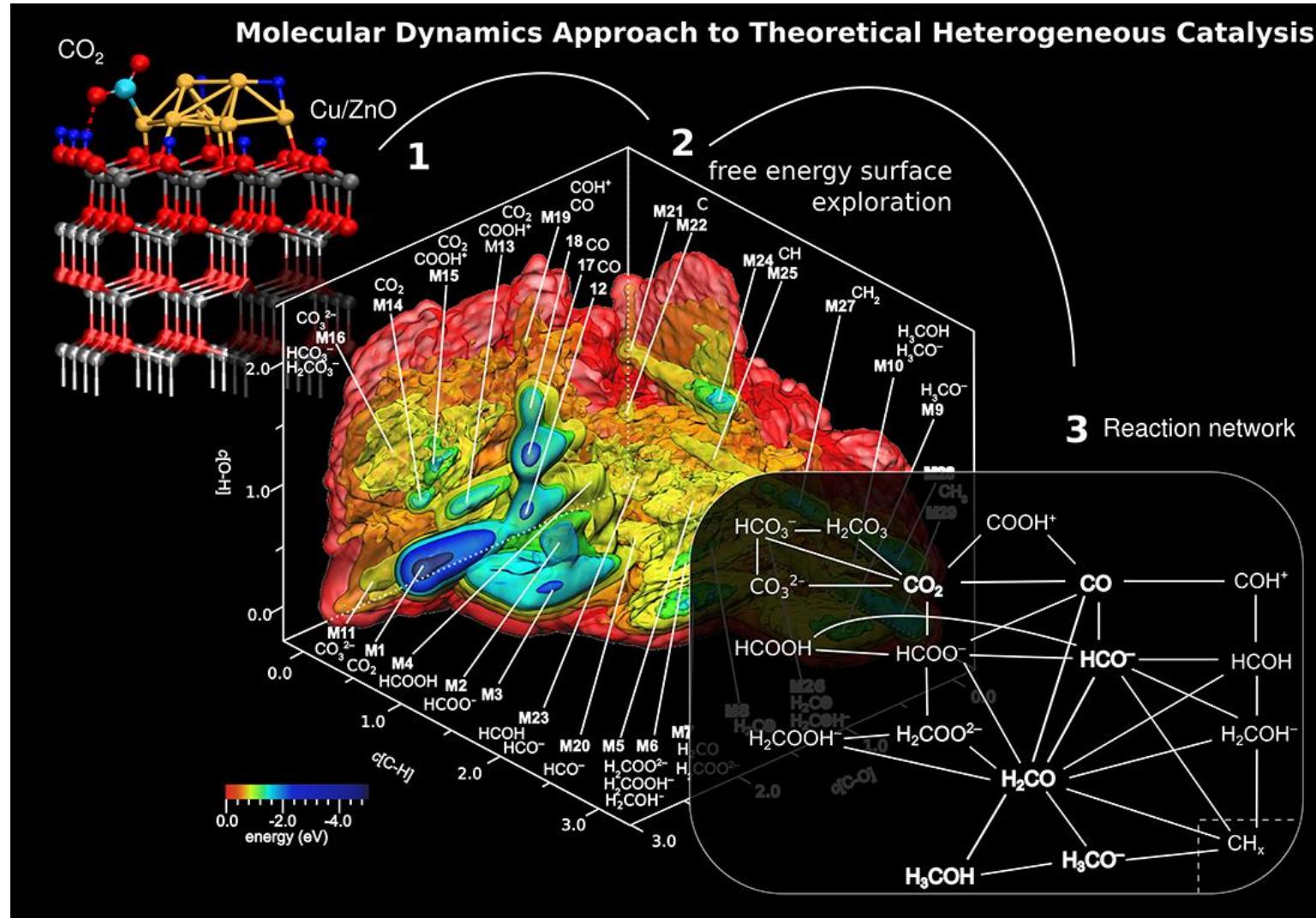
# Atmospheric reaction networks



**E**



# Catalysis



<https://www.gauss-centre.eu/results/materials-science-and-chemistry/theoretical-heterogeneous-catalysis-from-advanced-ab-initio-molecular-dynamics-simulations>

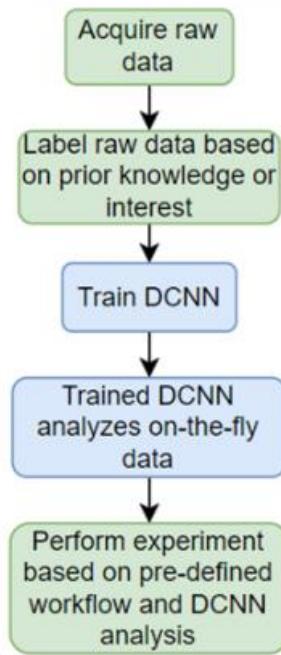
# Why causal inference is difficult?

- unmeasured confounders
- measurement error, or discretization of data
- mixtures of different causal structures in the sample
- feedback
- reversibility
- the existence of a number of models that fit the data equally well
- an enormous search space
- low power of tests of independence conditional on large sets of variables
- selection bias
- missing values
- sampling error
- complicated and dense causal relations among sets of variables,
- complicated probability distributions

# Orchestrating Multiple Experiments

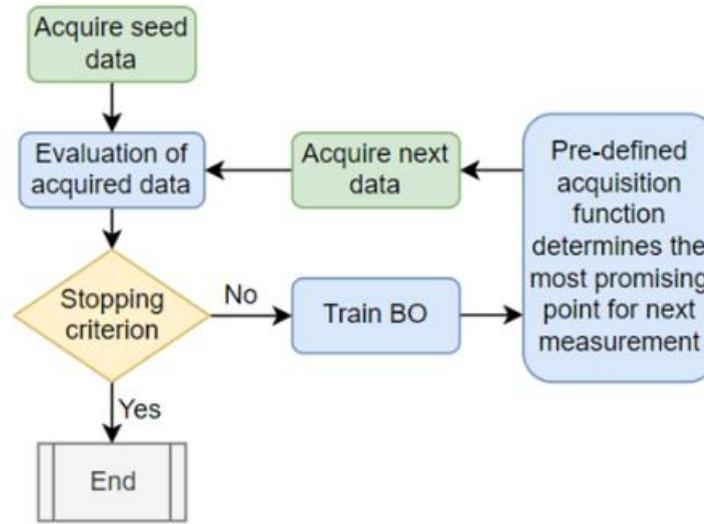
# Types of automated experiment

## Direct



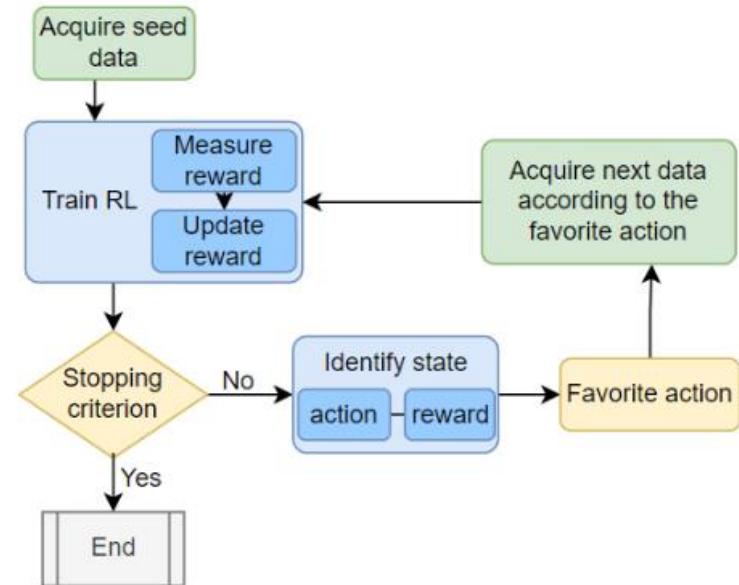
- Fixed policies
- Need DCNNs stable wrt. out of distribution shift

## Myopic discovery



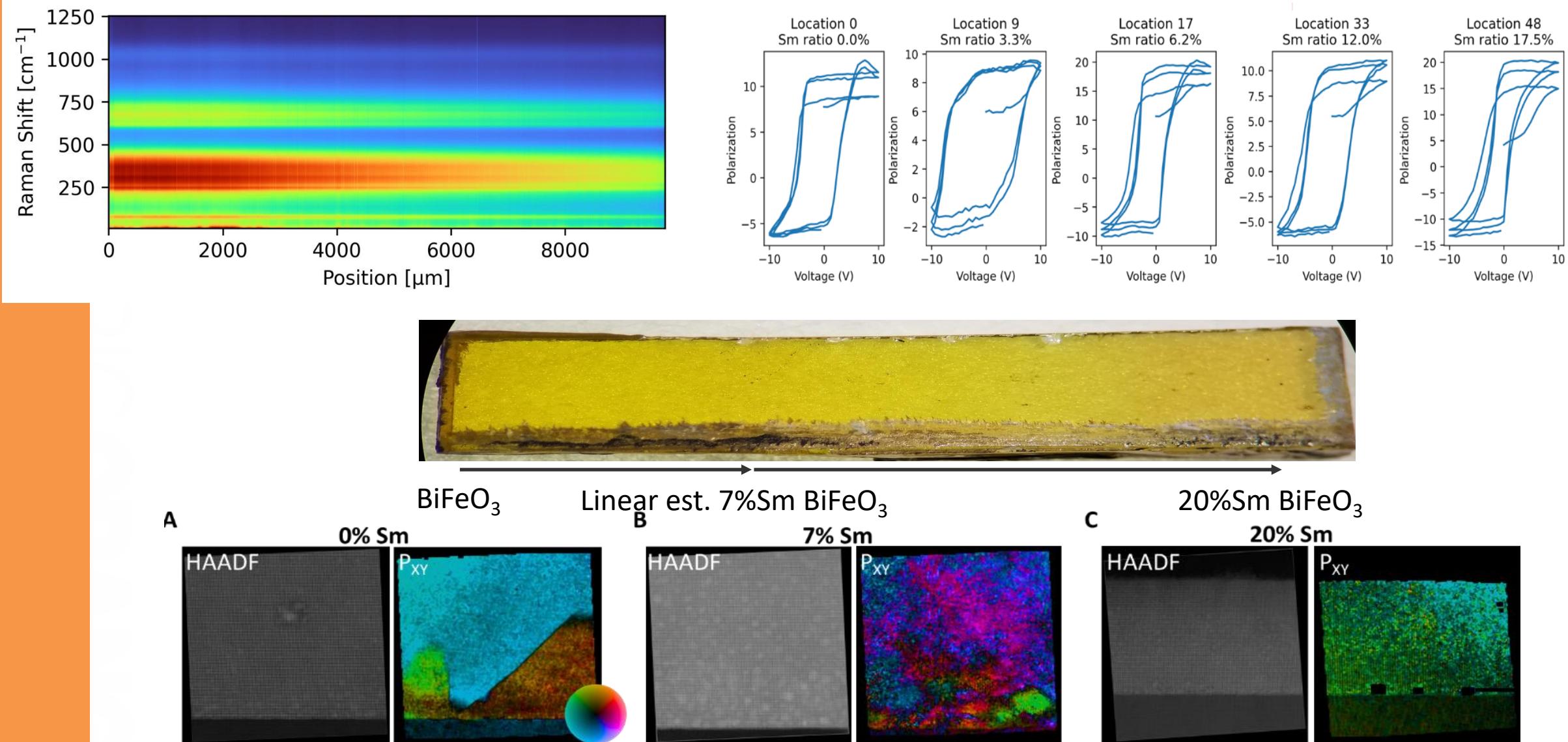
- Adjustable policies
- One step planning
- Can be implemented via Bayesian workflows
- Can be human in the loop

## Multistage discovery



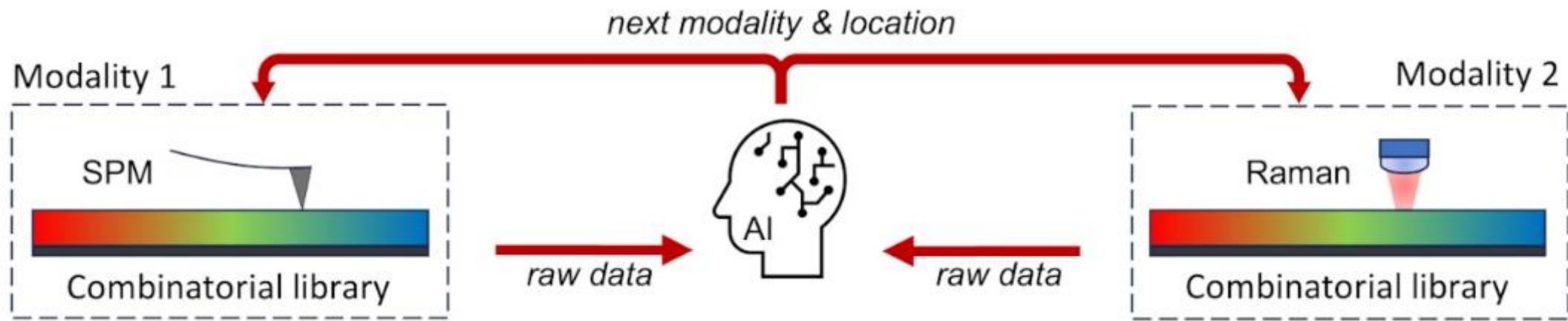
- Adjustable policies
- Multi-step planning
- Requires heuristic to start
- Requires **reward function**

# Active Multimodal Experiment

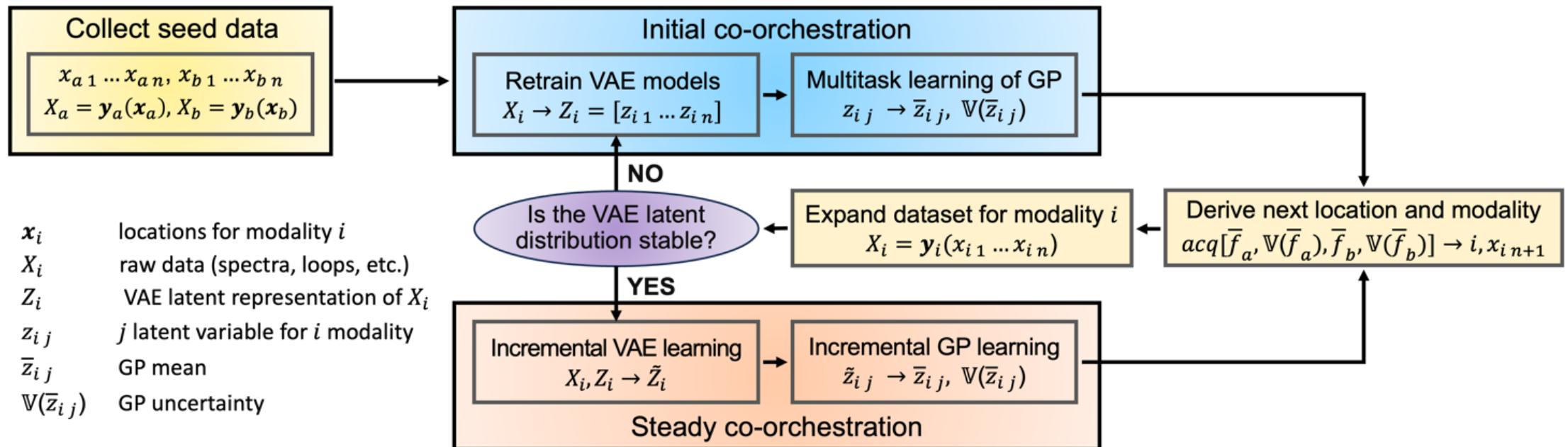


- **Scenario I:** using known proxies to guide active learning of one parameter
- **Scenario II:** orchestrating 2 experiments with complementary information

# Co-orchestrating complex observables

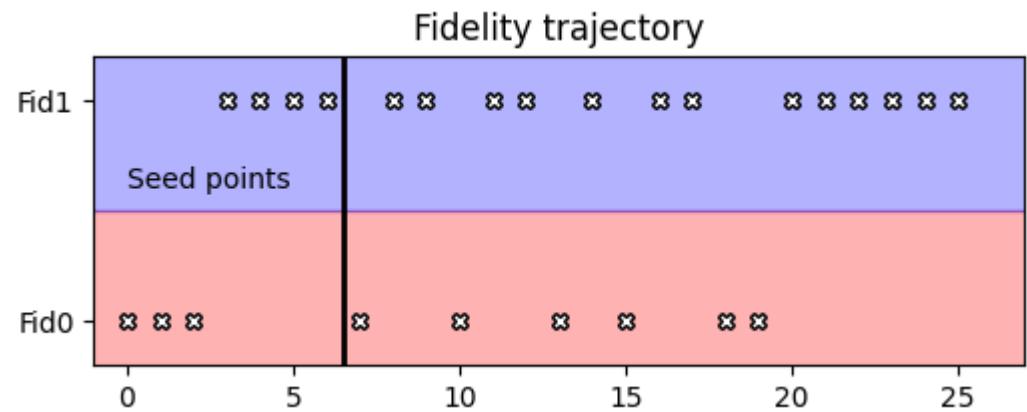
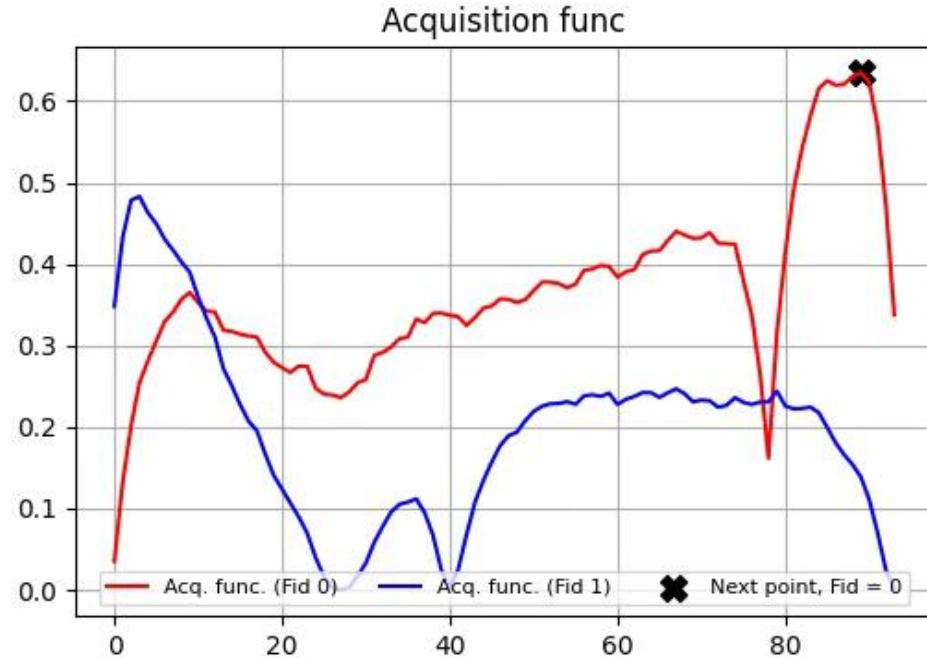
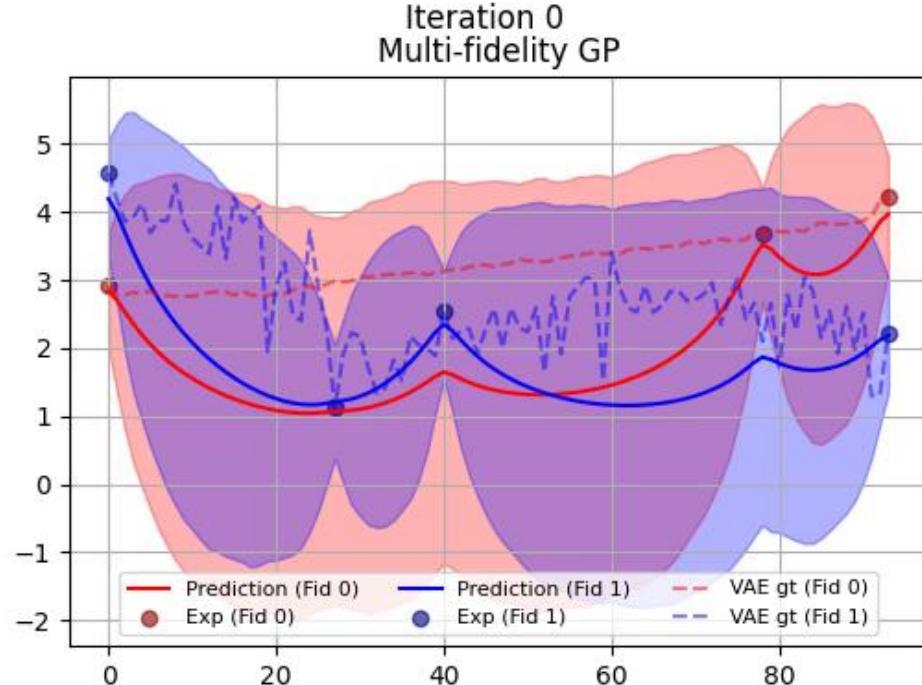


# Co-orchestrating complex observables



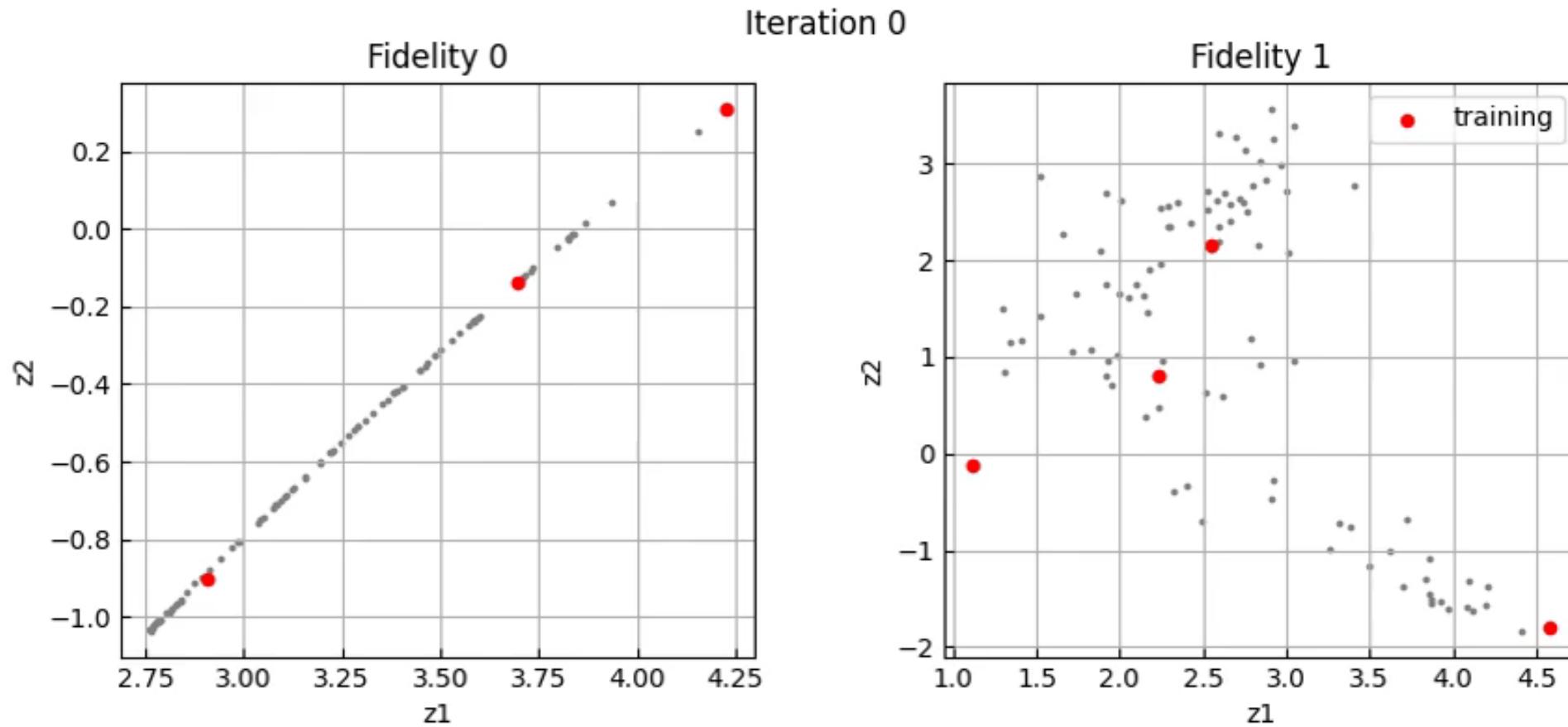
- Workflow combining dynamic VAE embeddings with multitask GP or sGP over latent space
- Representation learning control to bias latent variables and ensure VAE convergence
- Here, one channel is **Raman** and another is **PFM hysteresis loops**

# Co-orchestrating complex observables



- Co-orchestration of the Raman and PFM experiments on the pre-acquired data
- Learned are:
  - **decoding functions**
  - spatial distribution of **latent variables**,
  - (symmetric) **correlation kernel**
- **Next challenge: causal structure in kernels**

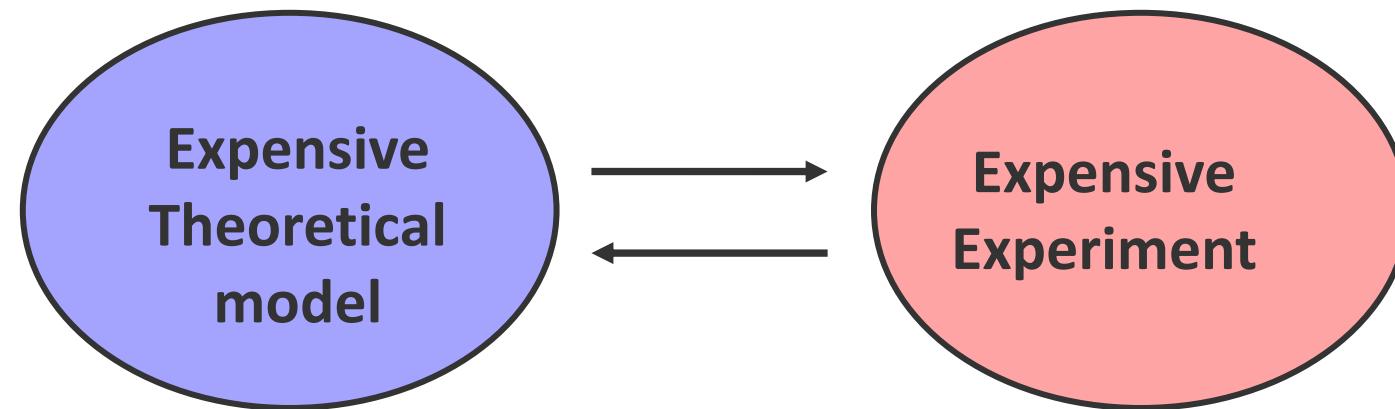
# Co-orchestrating complex observables



- Workflow combining dynamic VAE embeddings with multitask GP or sGP over latent space
- Representation learning control to bias latent variables and ensure VAE convergence
- Here, one channel is **Raman** and another is **PFM hysteresis loops**

# Theory in the Loop workflows: Bayesian co-Navigation

**Next step: co-navigation **theory** and **experiment** space  
via human supervised policies**



1. Human-in-the-loop automated experiment
2. Policy tuning:
  - Exploration-exploitation balance
  - Fidelity of theory
  - Local physical model

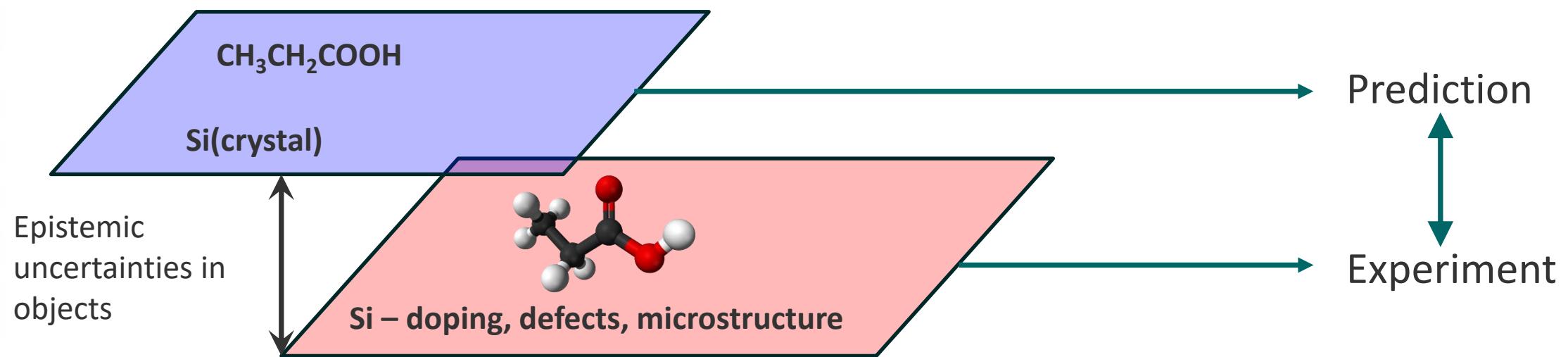
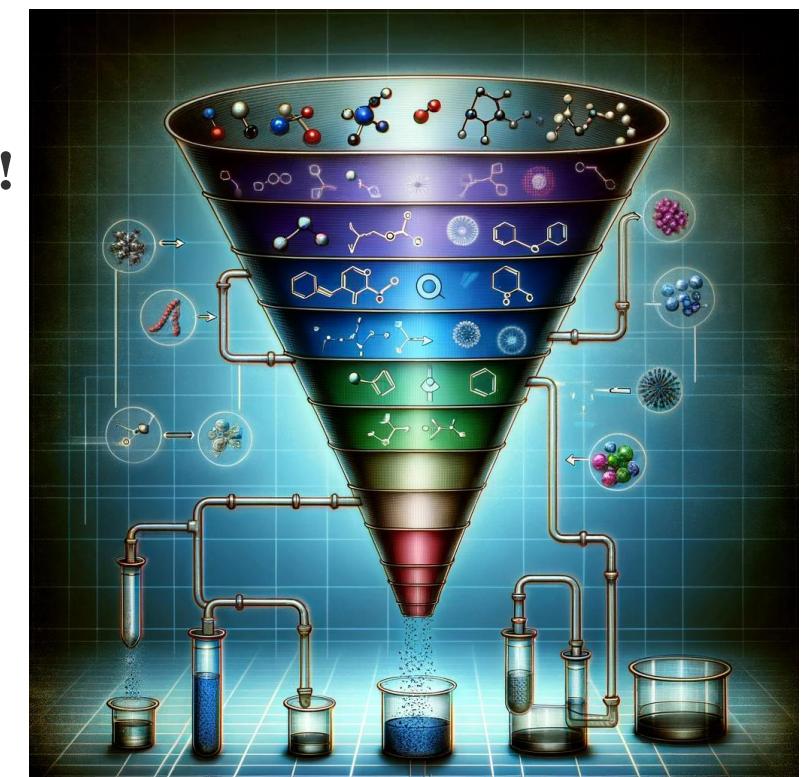
# Theory-experiment matching

**Theory in the loop in SDL requires feedback to theory!**

- Local fast models
- Potentially informed by immutable oracle (e.g. DFT)
- Long term: multiple models can be used to update oracle

**Building theory in the loop requires identifying:**

- Model structure and parameter space
- Object spaces in theory and experiment: **range** and **epistemic mismatch**
- Measures of theory-experiment matching



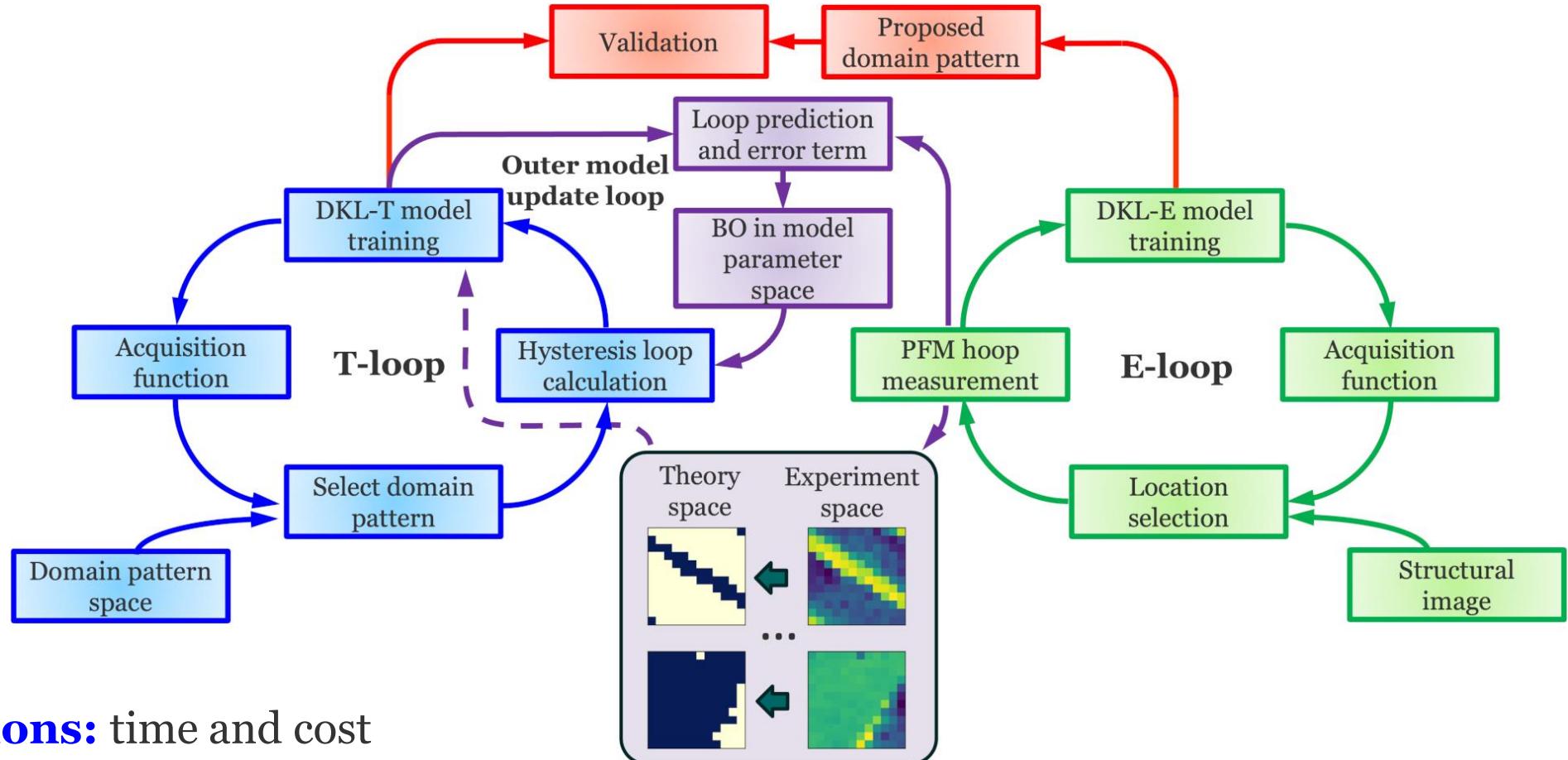
# Co-navigation for theory-experiment matching

**Problem:** adopting a **theoretical model** to reduce the disparity with observed experimental outcomes can demand **significant resources** and **time**.

**Idea:** integrate theoretical and experiment discovery into the active learning workflow to ***in-situ*** adjust the theoretical model based on feedback from the experiment to describe the specific experimental system

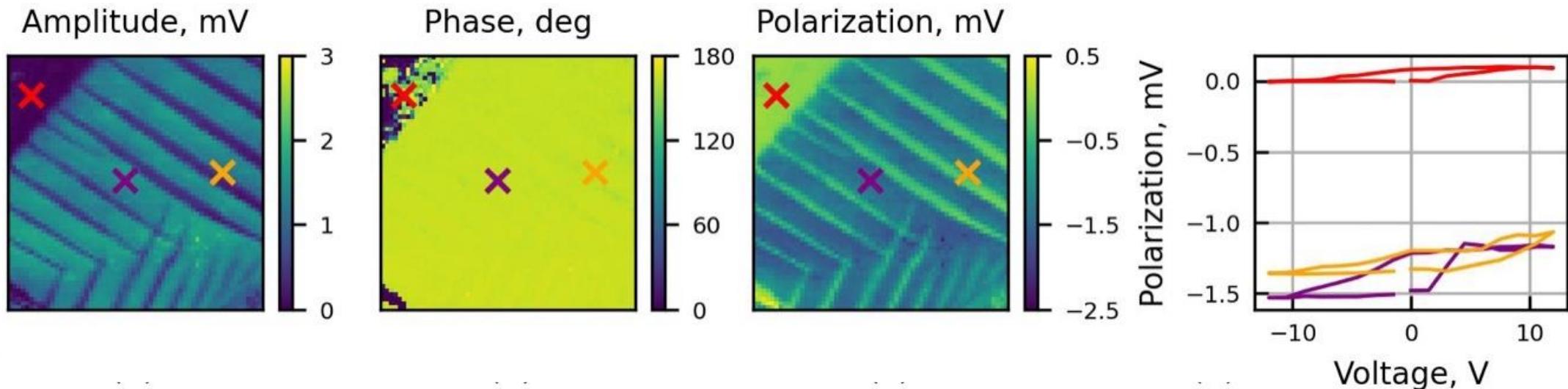
# Co-navigation for theory-experiment matching

- Continuous training of the surrogate model for theory (**T-loop**)
- Co-training surrogate model for experiment (**E-loop**)
- Theory update based on error function over support of interest (**Outer theory update loop**)



- **Cost functions:** time and cost of experiment and simulation
- **Gain:** predictive uncertainty

# Experiment: BEPS hysteresis loops



## Sample

- Chemical vapor deposition
- **PbTiO<sub>3</sub>** film on KTaO<sub>3</sub>
- Conductive SrRuO<sub>3</sub> sublayer

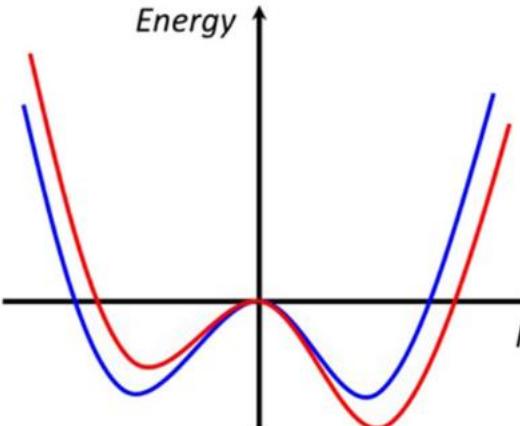
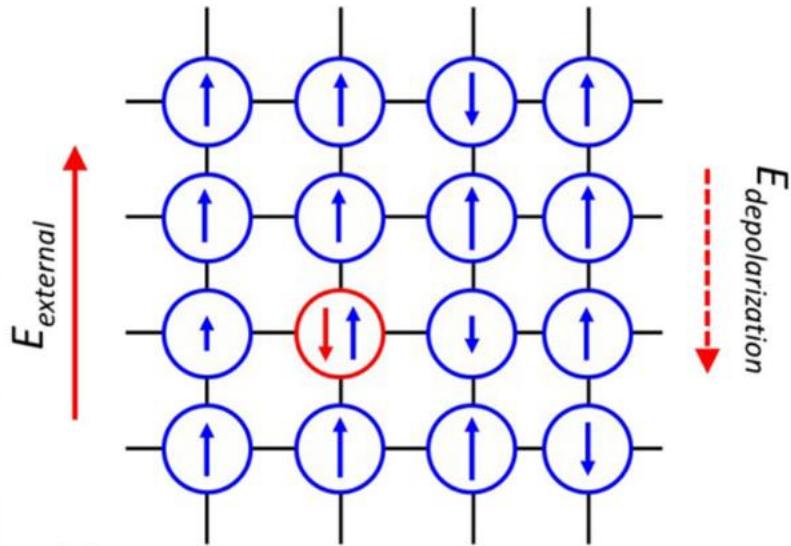
## Domain structure

- In-plane ***a*-domains**
- Out-of-plane ***c*-domains**
- Ferroelastic domain walls

- Experimental object space consists of the local domain arrangement pattern from the structural image
  - Surrogate DKL model is training to predict the loop by the domain arrangement in vicinity of the tip
- 
- The diagram shows two examples of the training process. On the left, a small square image of a domain pattern is followed by a green line graph representing its polarization response. An arrow points from the image to the graph. On the right, a larger square image of a domain pattern is followed by a green line graph representing its polarization response. Another arrow points from the image to the graph.

# Theory: FerroSim spin-lattice model

Ferroelectric material is represented as a **2D lattice** comprising local polarizations  $p$  at each site.



\*Kalinin, S. V., et al., Journal of Applied Physics, 128(2), 2020.

Total free energy:

$$F = \sum_{ij} \left[ F_{ij} + K \sum_{k,l} (p_{i,j} - p_{i+k,j+l})^2 \right]$$

$\gamma$  relates to the domain wall motion rates

Dynamics of spins:

$$\gamma \frac{dp_{ij}}{dt} = -\frac{\partial F}{p_{ij}}$$

Local free energy in GLD form:

$$F_{ij} = \frac{\alpha}{2} p_{ij}^2 + \frac{\beta}{4} p_{ij}^4 - E_{loc}(i,j) p_{ij}$$

Local electric field:

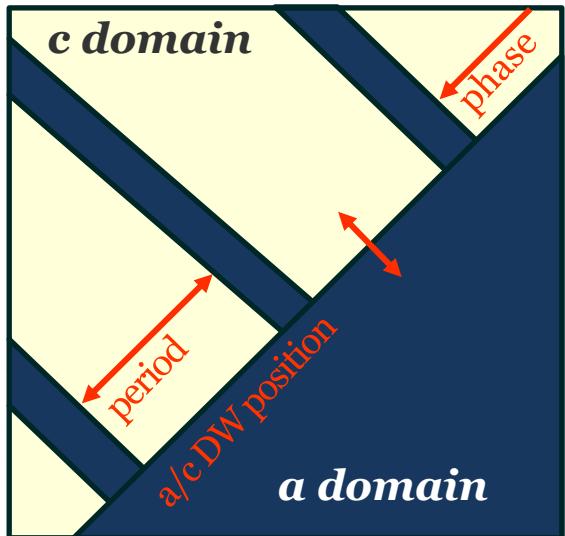
$$E_{loc}(i,j) = E_{ext} + E_{dep} + E_d(i,j)$$

- Applied external field:  $E_{ext}$
- Depolarization:  $E_{dep} = -\alpha_{dep} < p >$
- Defect field:  $E_d(i,j)$

Model Hyperparameters:

- $K$  – nearest neighbor coupling coefficient
- $\alpha_d$  - depolarization constant

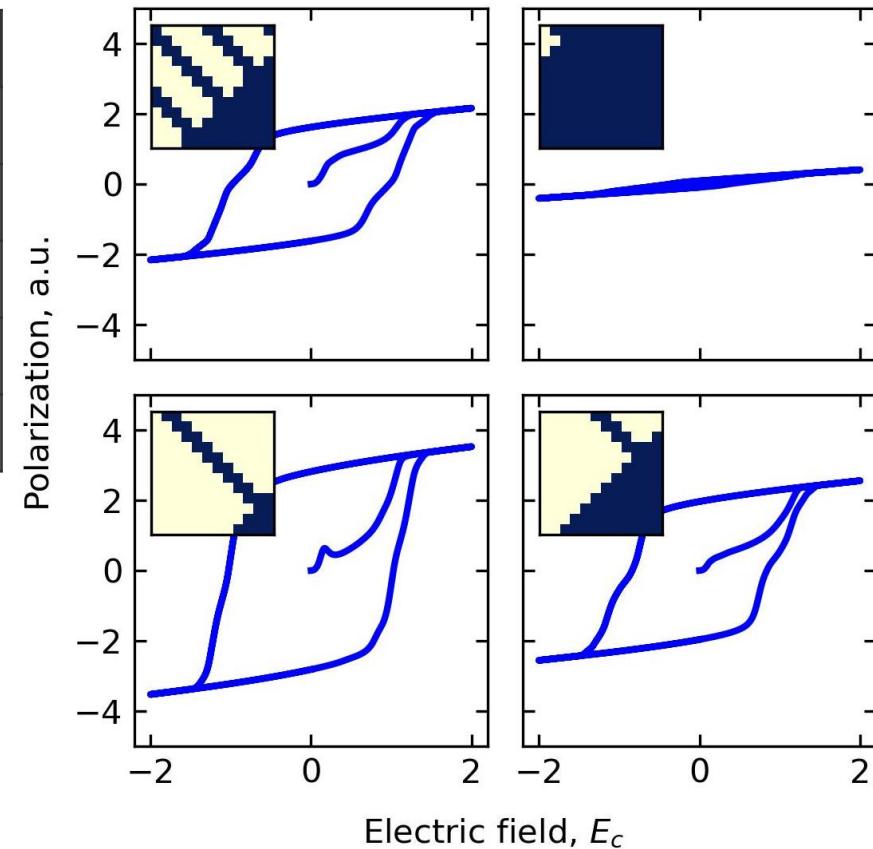
# Theory: Theoretical object space



	c-domain	a-domain
$E_d$	(0,0)	$(0, 30E_c)$
$K$	hyperparameter	0
$E_{ext}$	$(2E_c, 0)$	
$\alpha_d$	hyperparameter	
$\gamma$	100	

$E_c$  – coercitive field

- **Lattice:** 12x12
- **Parametrization:**
  - DW position
  - Period of striped structure
  - Phase of striped structure

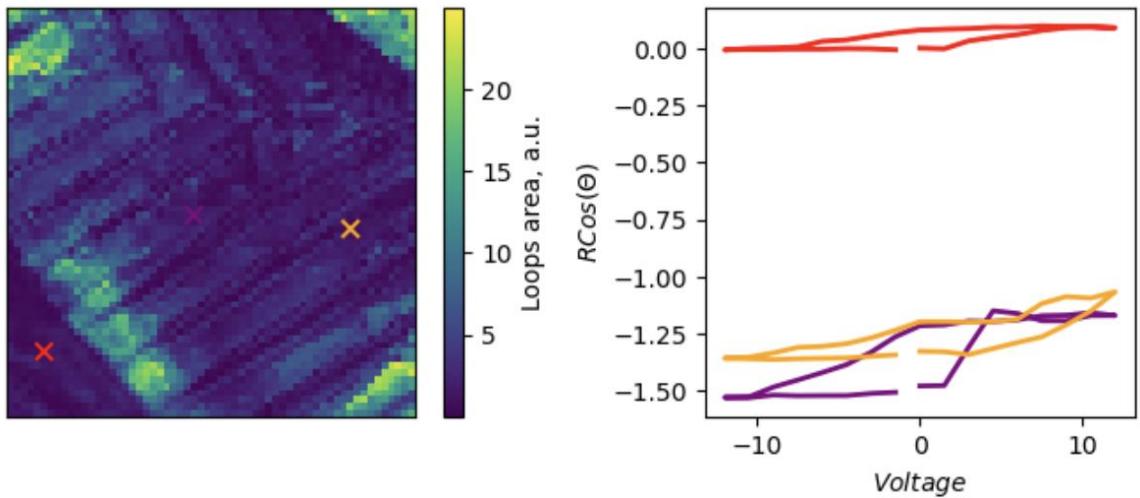


# Outer theory update loop

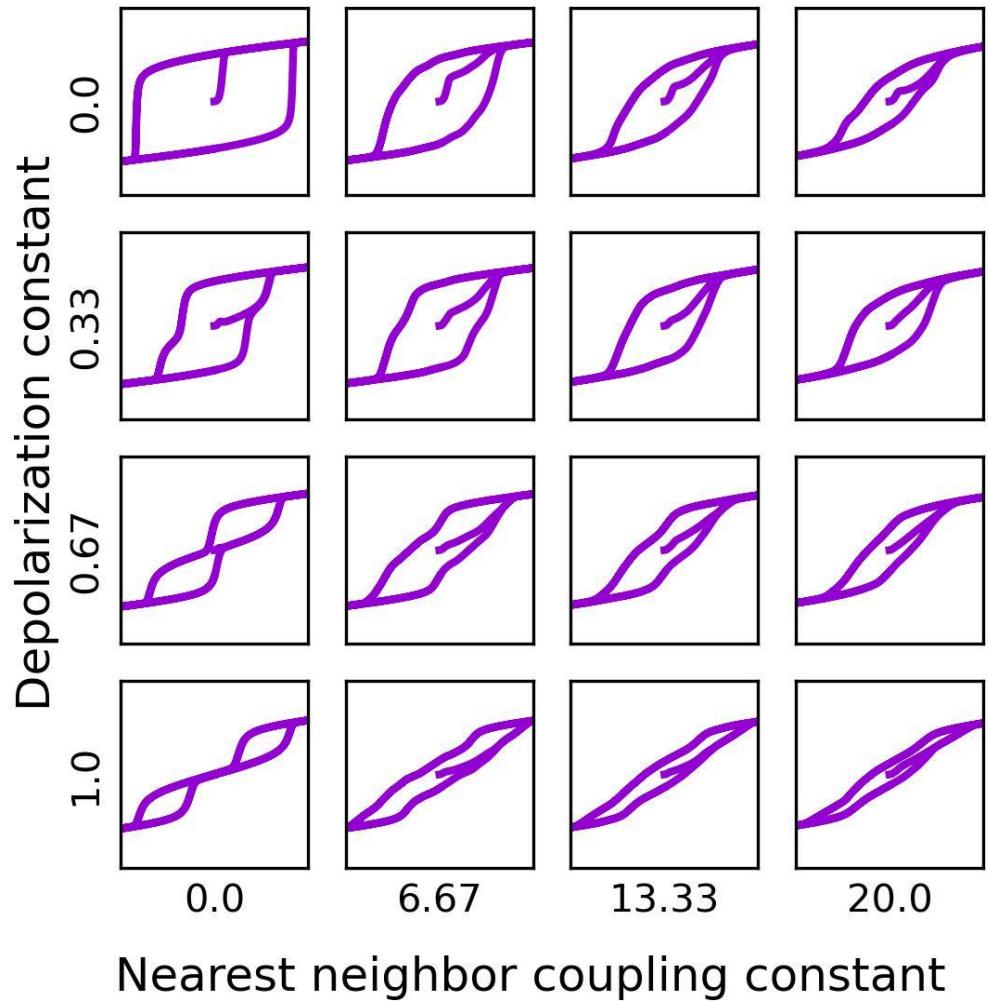
Strives to converge towards optimal hyperparameter configuration to minimize the disparity between experimental and theoretical outcomes.

- Minimization of the MSE between areas of measured and predicted loops
- UCB acquisition function

Experimental ground truth



Object space

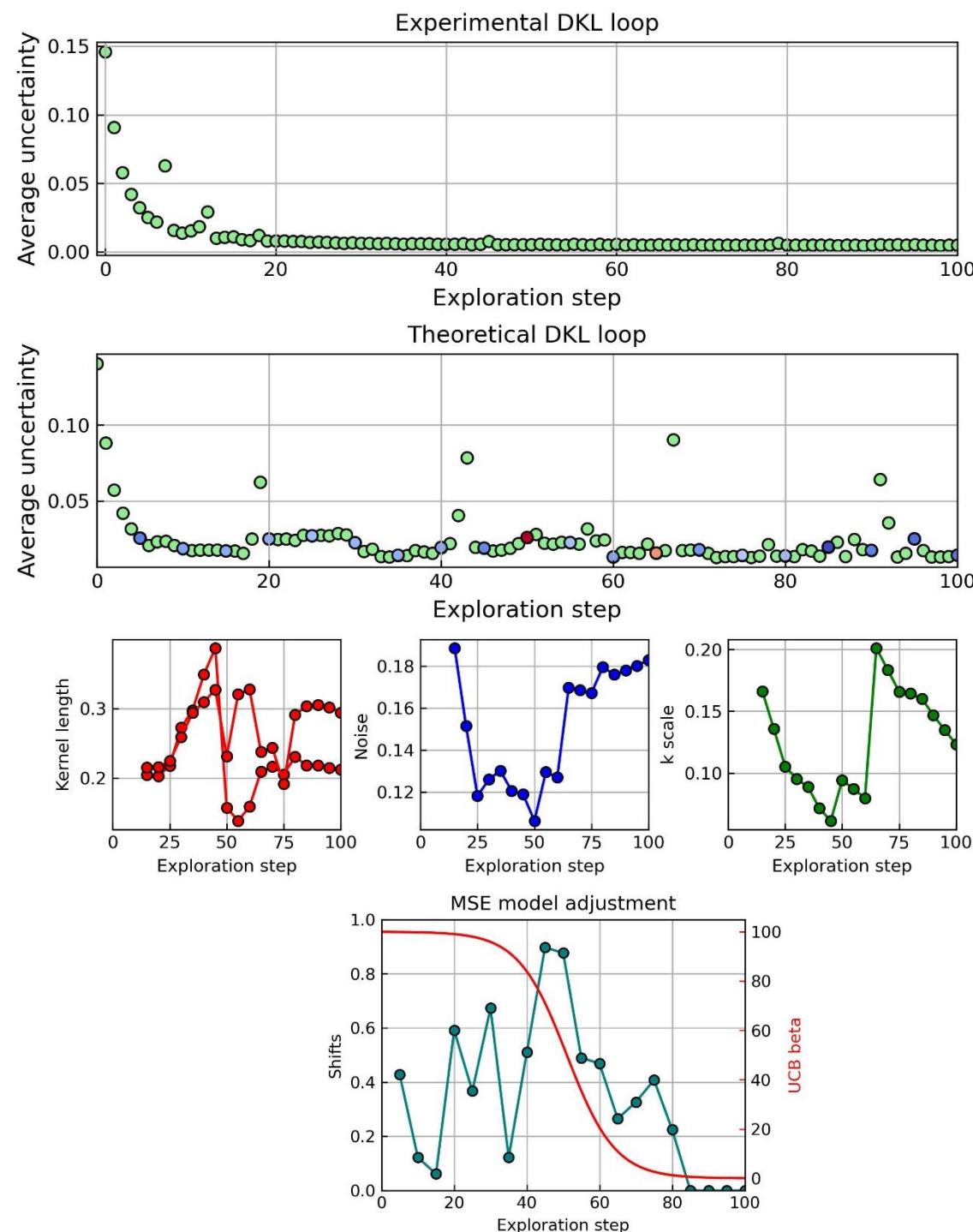
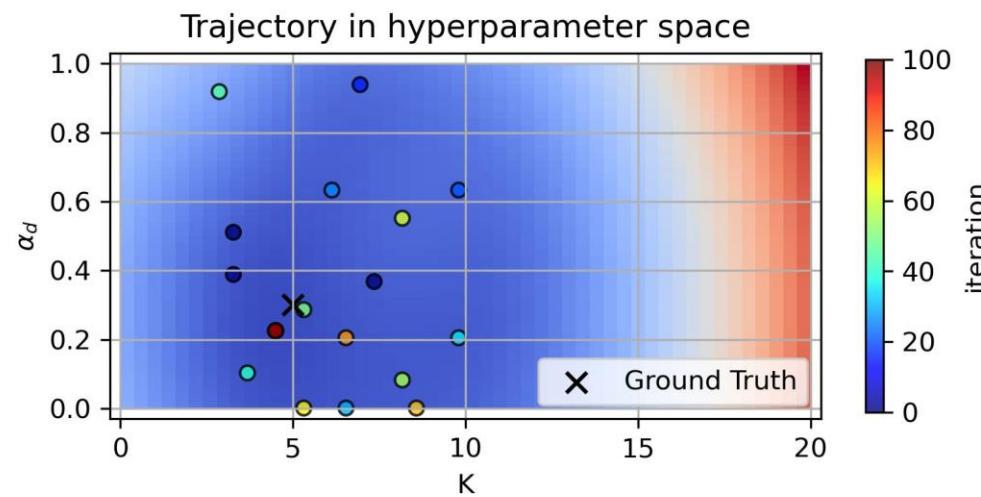


Nearest neighbor coupling constant

# Theory-theory

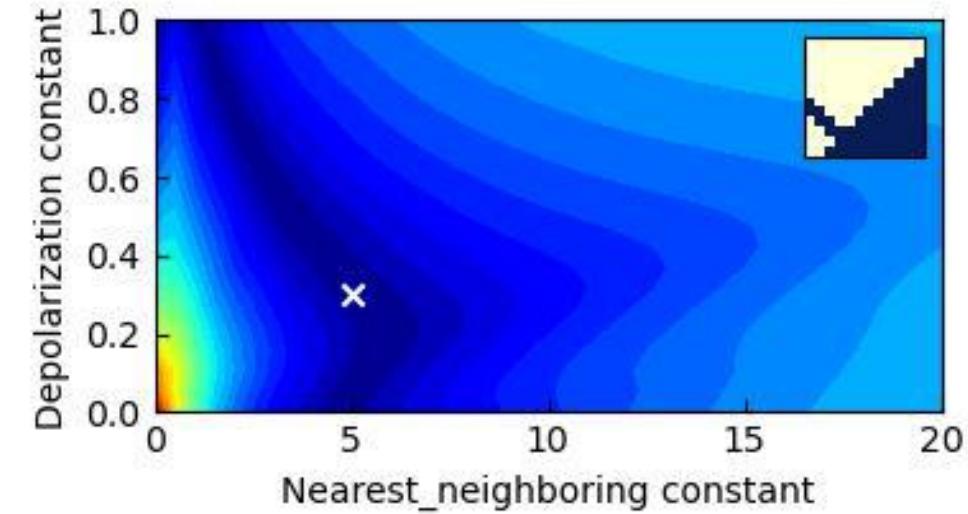
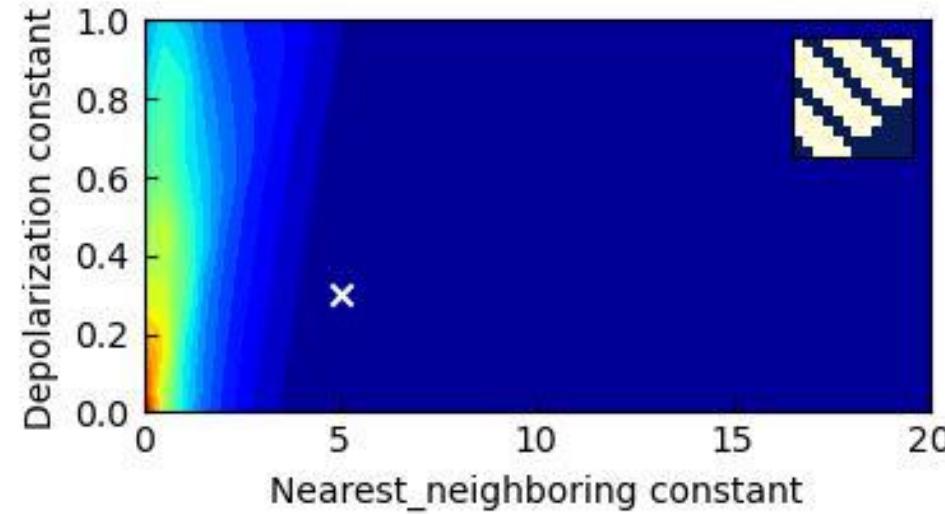
## Priors:

- N iterations = 101
- $N_{th}$  seeds = 5
- $N_{exp}$  seeds = 10
- DKL theory tail = 15
- Exp/Theory ratio = 1
- Mean function = max(MSE)
- UCB kernel length = **Gamma(2,5)**
- UCB beta decay =  $100 - 0.01$  (sigmoid)
- Mean function =  $\alpha(x - x_0) + \beta(y - y_0)$



# Ground truth

MAE for different domain patterns

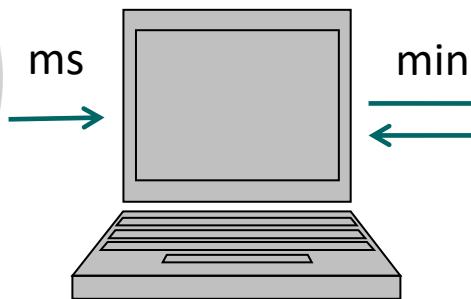


# Classical Instrumental Research (2016)

**SPM:** 100,000+ platforms worldwide:

Large weakly connected instrumental network

**(S)TEM:** ~100s top level machines,  
much stronger integrated community

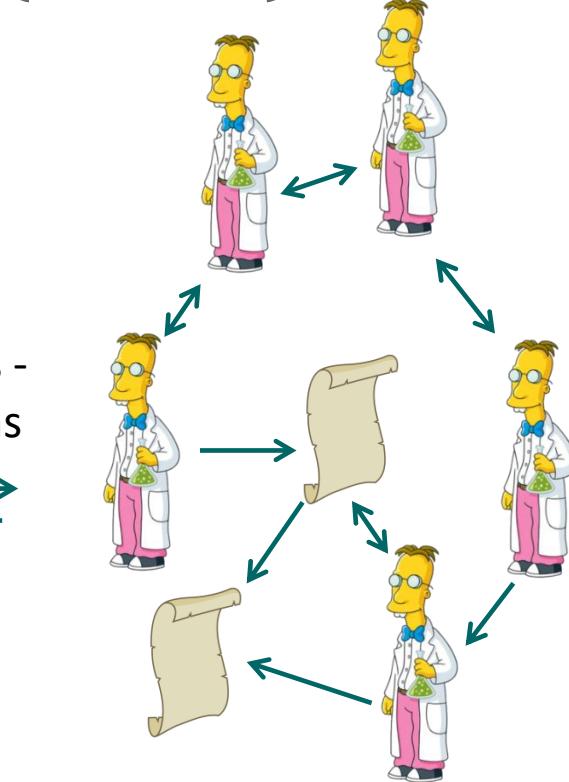


**Instrument**

**Control/data  
acquisition**



Weeks -  
months



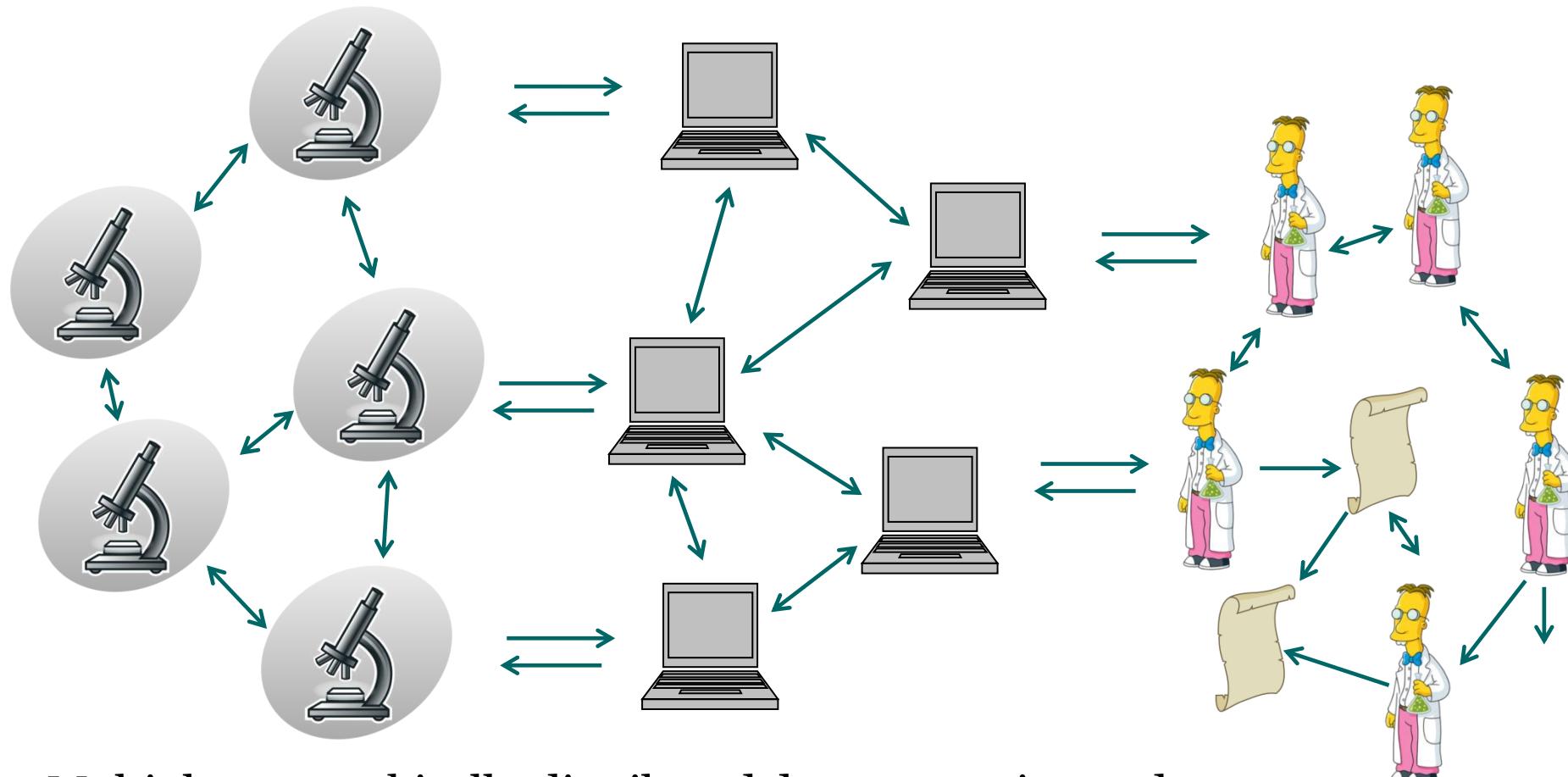
**Researcher**

**Community**

- Social networking/education
- Publications/citations

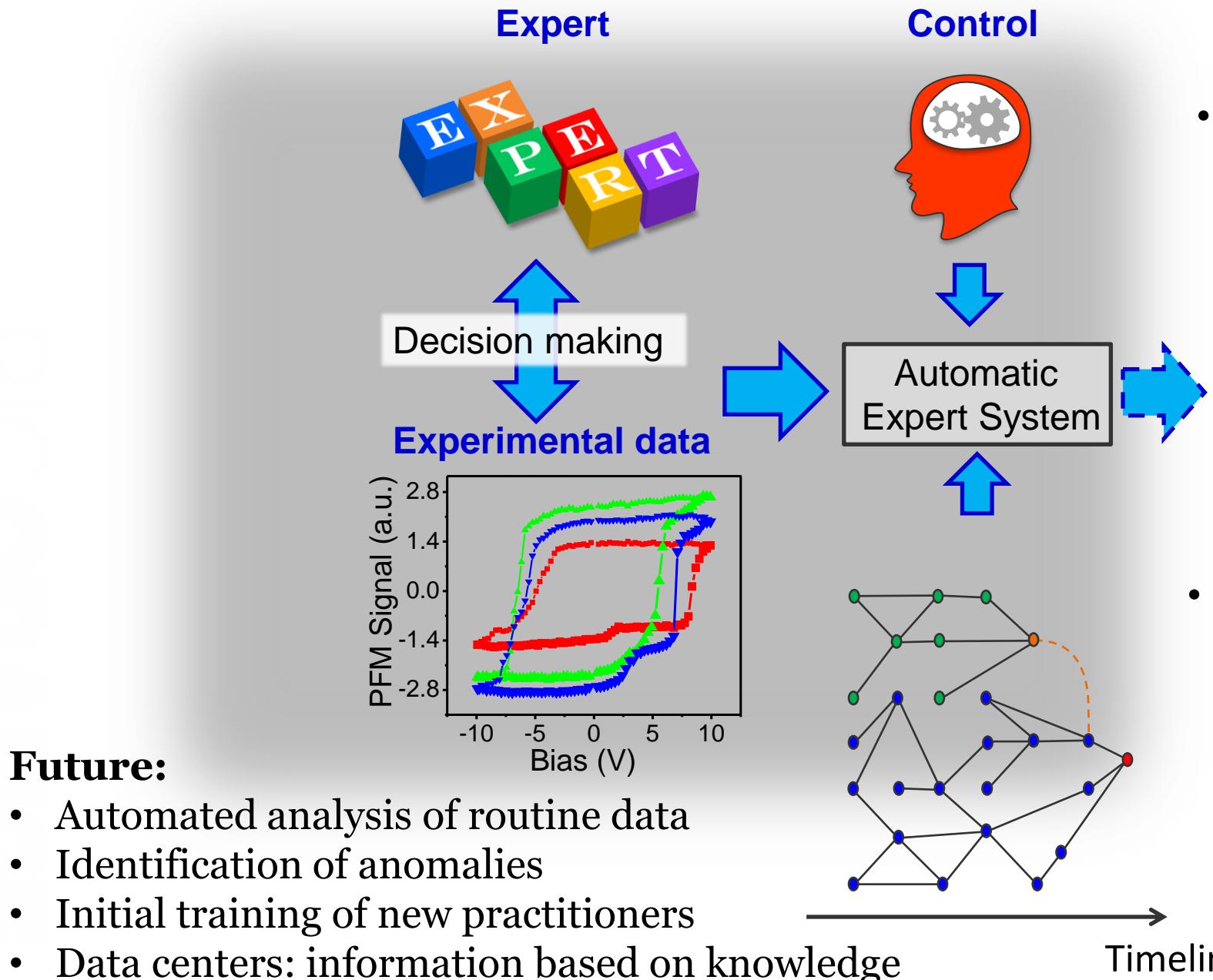
1. Only small fraction of data stream from the instrumentation is captured
2. Only small fraction of captured data is analyzed, interpreted, and put in the context
3. Human-machine interaction during acquisition is often slow and can be non-optimal
4. Human interpretation of data is limited: bias and ignoring serendipity
5. Information propagation and concept evolution in scientific community is slow

# Step 1: Cloud Integration (2016)



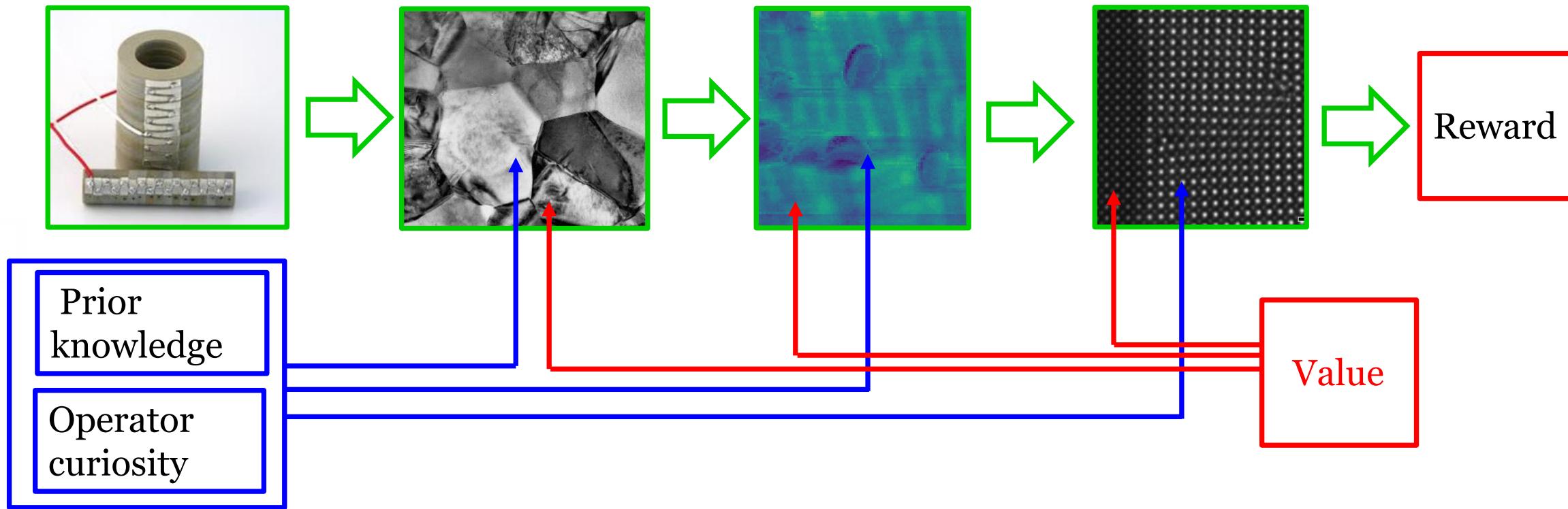
1. Multiple geographically-distributed data generation node
2. Full capture of instrumental data stream /compression/curation
3. Coordination of protocols and data/metadata across the cloud
4. Cloud-based processing and dimensionality reduction
5. Community-wide analytics

# Step 2: Cloud Analytics (2016)



- **Synthesis of expertise:** factor in human expert knowledge
- **Context search:** published results data mining/social networks

# Step 3: Workflow Design (2022)



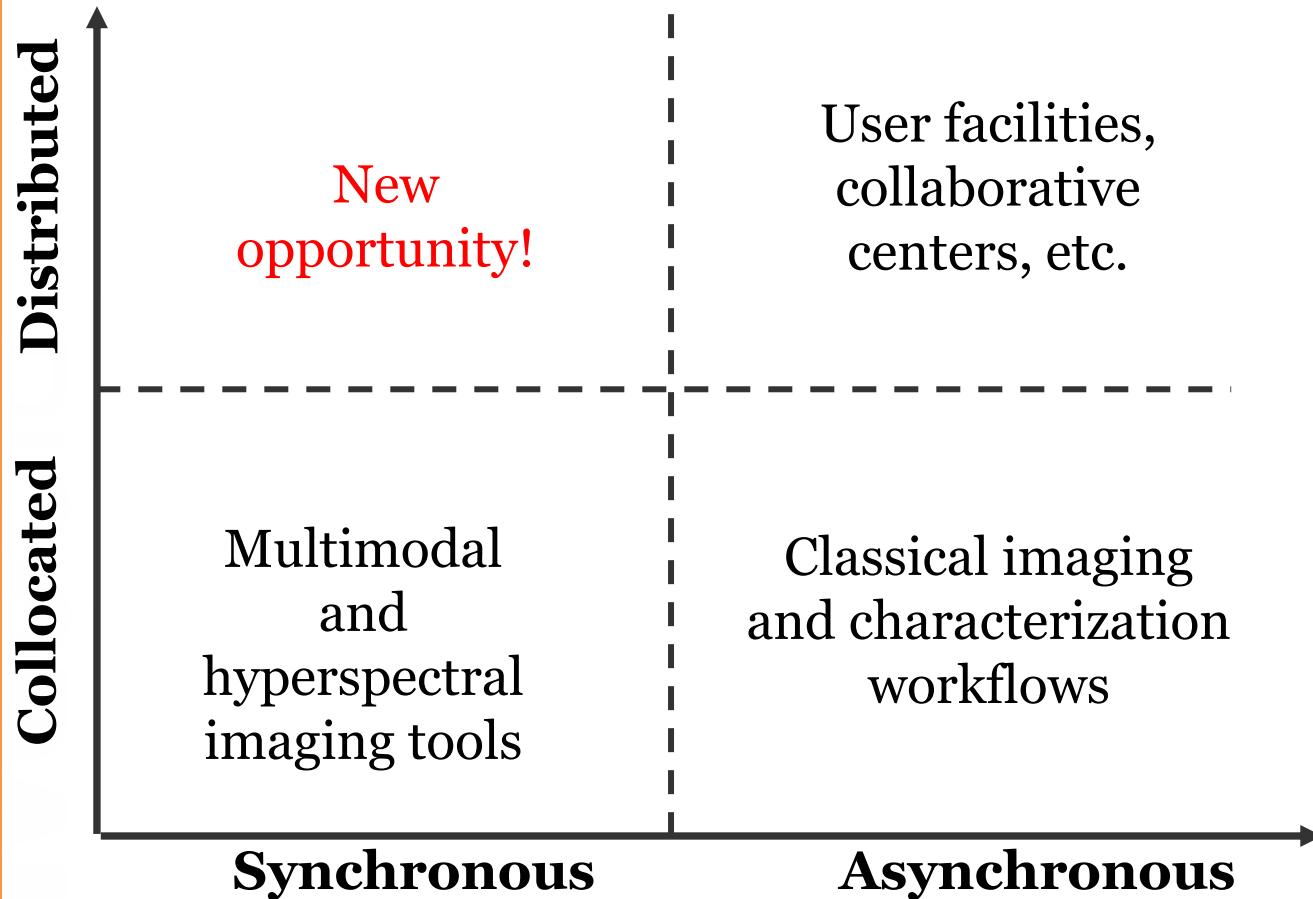
## Traditional experiment:

1. Always based on workflows
2. Ideated, orchestrated, and implemented by humans
3. The “gain of value” during the workflow implementation is uncertain

## Value of the step is key element:

- Either based on prior knowledge
- Or defined in a sense of the reinforcement learning Q-function

# Cloud Labs: Facilities of the Future



Emerald Cloud Lab,  
SF and CMU

1. Combined human-machine workflow implementation
2. Computer orchestrating agent
3. How would beyond human workflows be ideated?

# Reward Driven Workflow Design

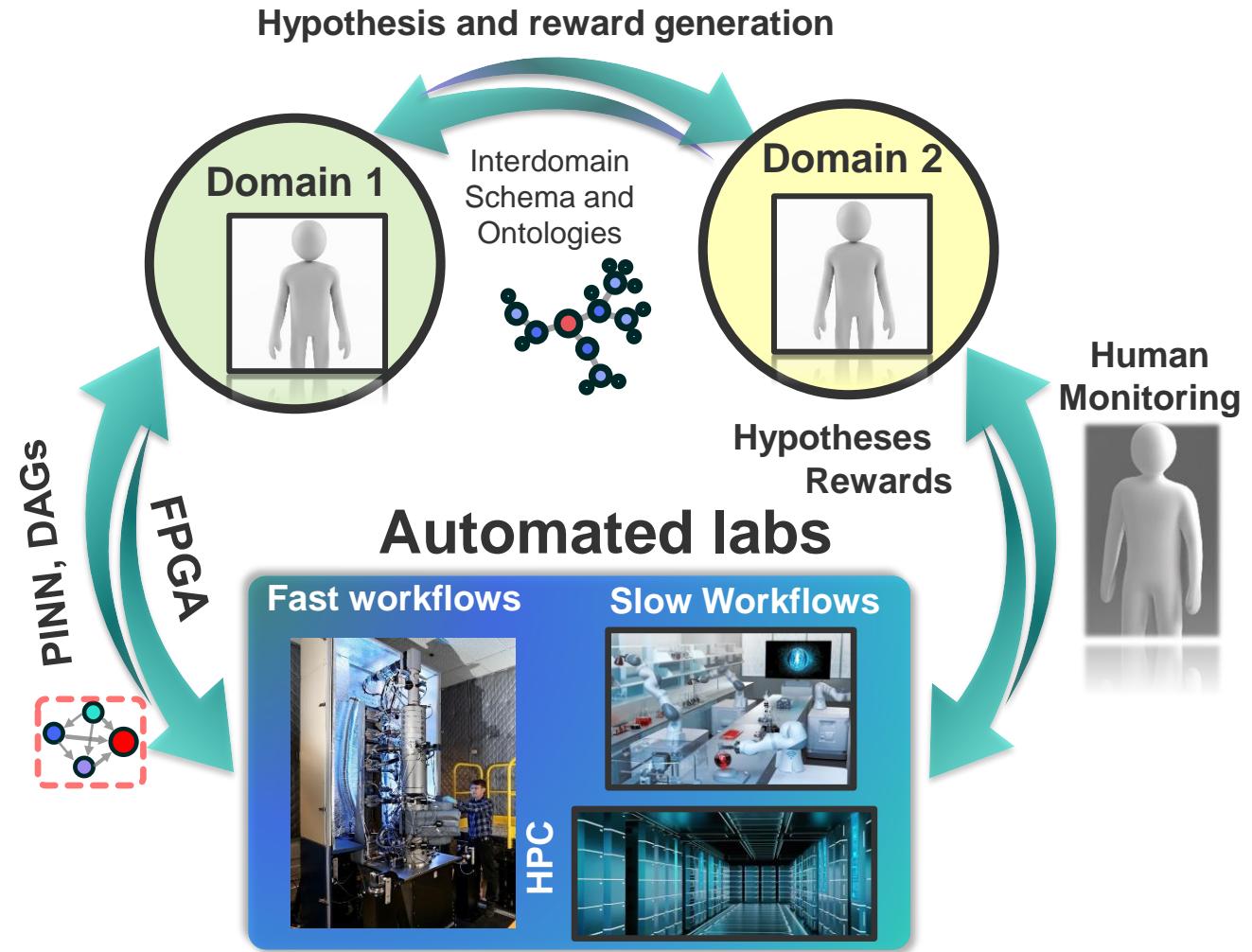
1. Development of the labs capable of **orchestrating predefined workflows** based on human and robotic agents.
2. **Workflow design** based on AI and human decision making, meaning specific series of synthesis and characterization steps described via executable hyperlanguage.
3. **Defining domain-specific reward functions.** Why are we running experiments? Ultimately, we need to quantify (in the style of Bell's equation) what is the benefit of the specific step in the workflow, and how does it accomplish or affects exploration and exploitation goals.
4. **Integration of reward functions from dissimilar domains.** For example, how does better microscope help us learn physics of specific material? Why would the specific DFT calculation help us understand experimental data?
5. **Creating experimentally falsifiable hypothesis** from the domain specific body of knowledge that can be incorporated in the exploratory part of automated workflows.
6. **Hypothesis generation beyond human** (an AGI question).

# Integration across human domains

Simple GP-BO, structured GP with probabilistic physical models, and multifidelity GP can be used for fully autonomous workflows and account for real times/costs of experiments.

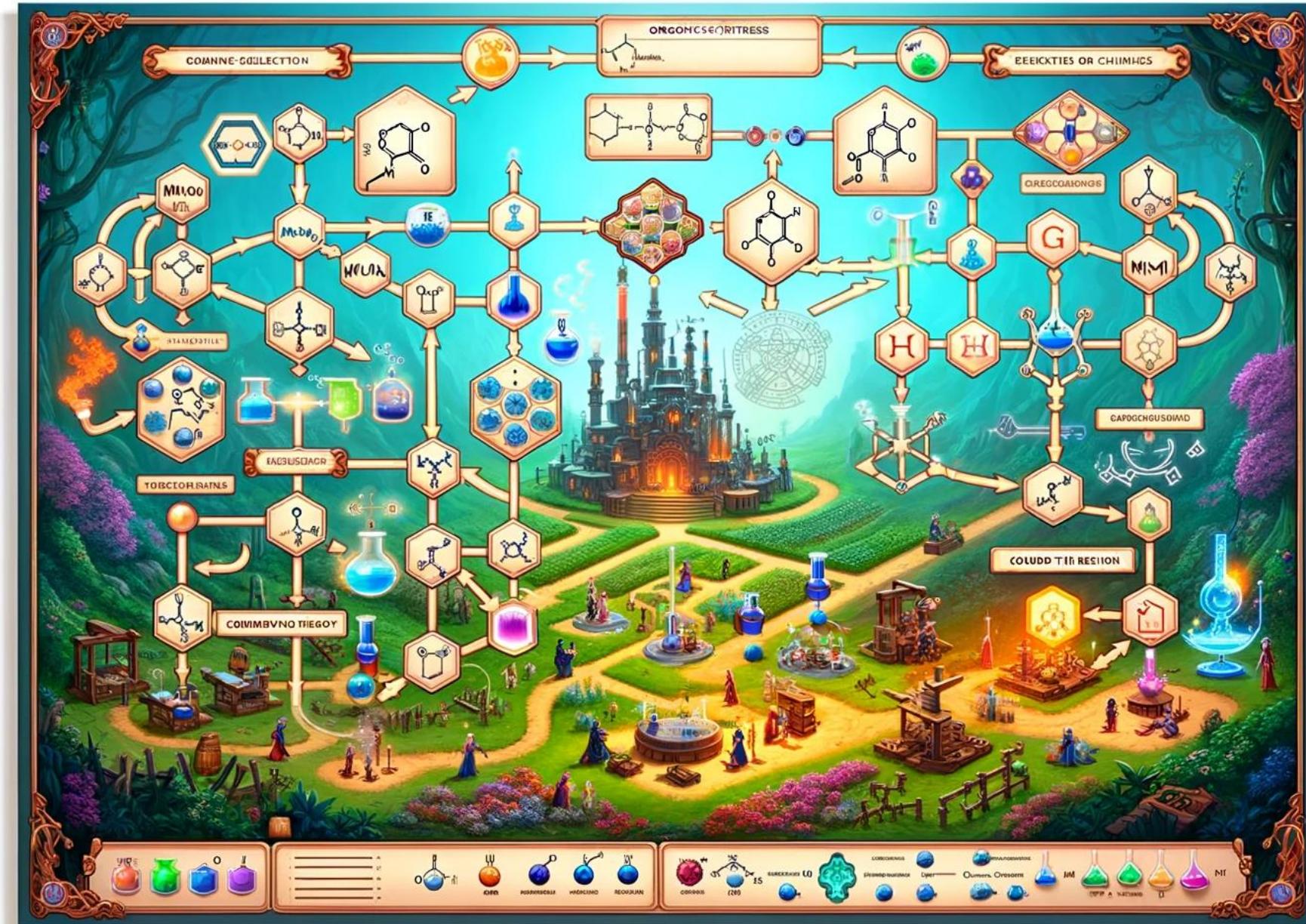
Multi-task GP-BO, multifidelity sGP-BO, and more complex methods require human intervention:

- **All methods:** reward and objective functions
- **Interactive BO:** balance of exploration-exploitation and strength of fidelity- and physics priors
- **Asymmetric MF BO:** belief in parameters, causal structure between observables
- **A\* and Decision trees:** human heuristics for roll-outs
- **Experiment planning:** hypotheses making



# Homo Ludens: Gamification of SDLs

- Collaborative Environment between humans and NPCs
  - Role Specialization
  - Quests and Objectives
  - Dynamic Interaction and Adaptation:
  - Skill and Experience Growth
  - Real-time Decision
  - Interactive World
  - Automated Tasks and Challenges
  - Resource Management
  - Progress Tracking and Rewards

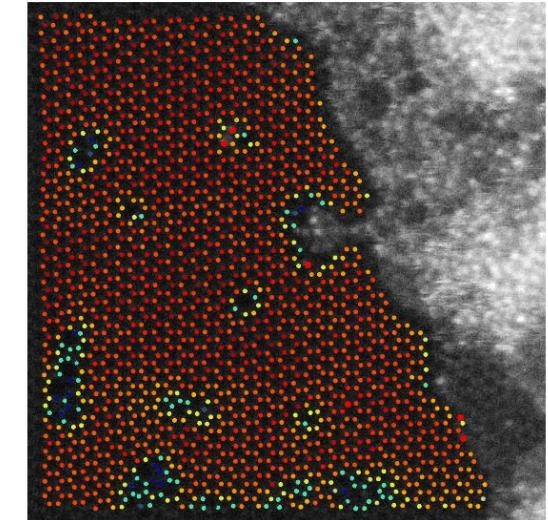


**And technology**

*“New directions in science are launched by new tools much more often than by new concepts. The effect of a concept-driven revolution is to explain old things in new ways. The effect of a tool-driven revolution is to discover new things that have to be explained.”*

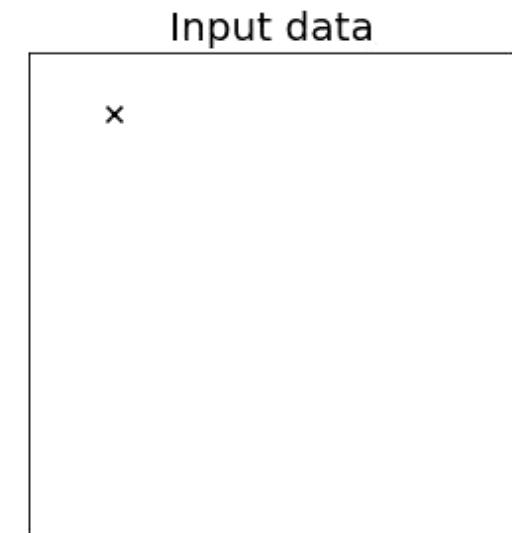
*Freeman Dyson*

**AtomAI:** general deep learning applications to experimental imaging data  
<https://github.com/pycroscopy/atomai>



**GPax:** physics-informed Gaussian processes and deep kernel learning (JAX)  
<https://github.com/ziatdinovmax/gpax>

**pyroVED:** invariant variational autoencoders for image and spectral analysis (PyTorch)  
<https://github.com/ziatdinovmax/pyroved>



# Concluding:

- **Machine learning is great, but**
  - Requires domain expertise
  - Ease of use for deployment
  - Some ML knowledge
- **ML transition to domain areas:**
  - Reward functions
  - Workflow design
  - Hyperlanguage
- **Human in the loop – hAE**
  - Explainability
  - Interventions
  - Alignment

Sergei V. Kalinin  
[sergei2@utk.edu](mailto:sergei2@utk.edu)



Connect!



**YouTube**

**Twitter: Sergei\_imaging**