

# Neural Schrödinger Bridge for Minimum Effort Self-assembly

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Joint work with



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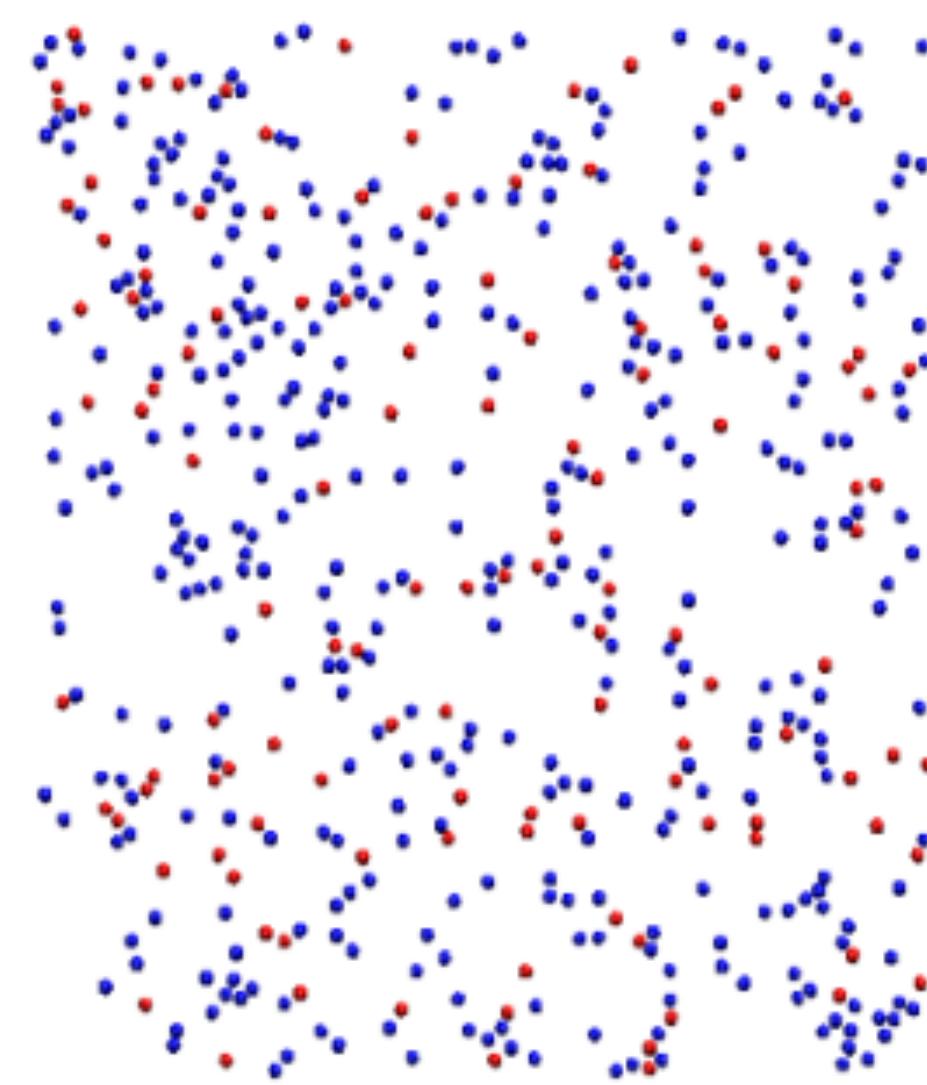
Abhishek Halder (UC Santa Cruz)



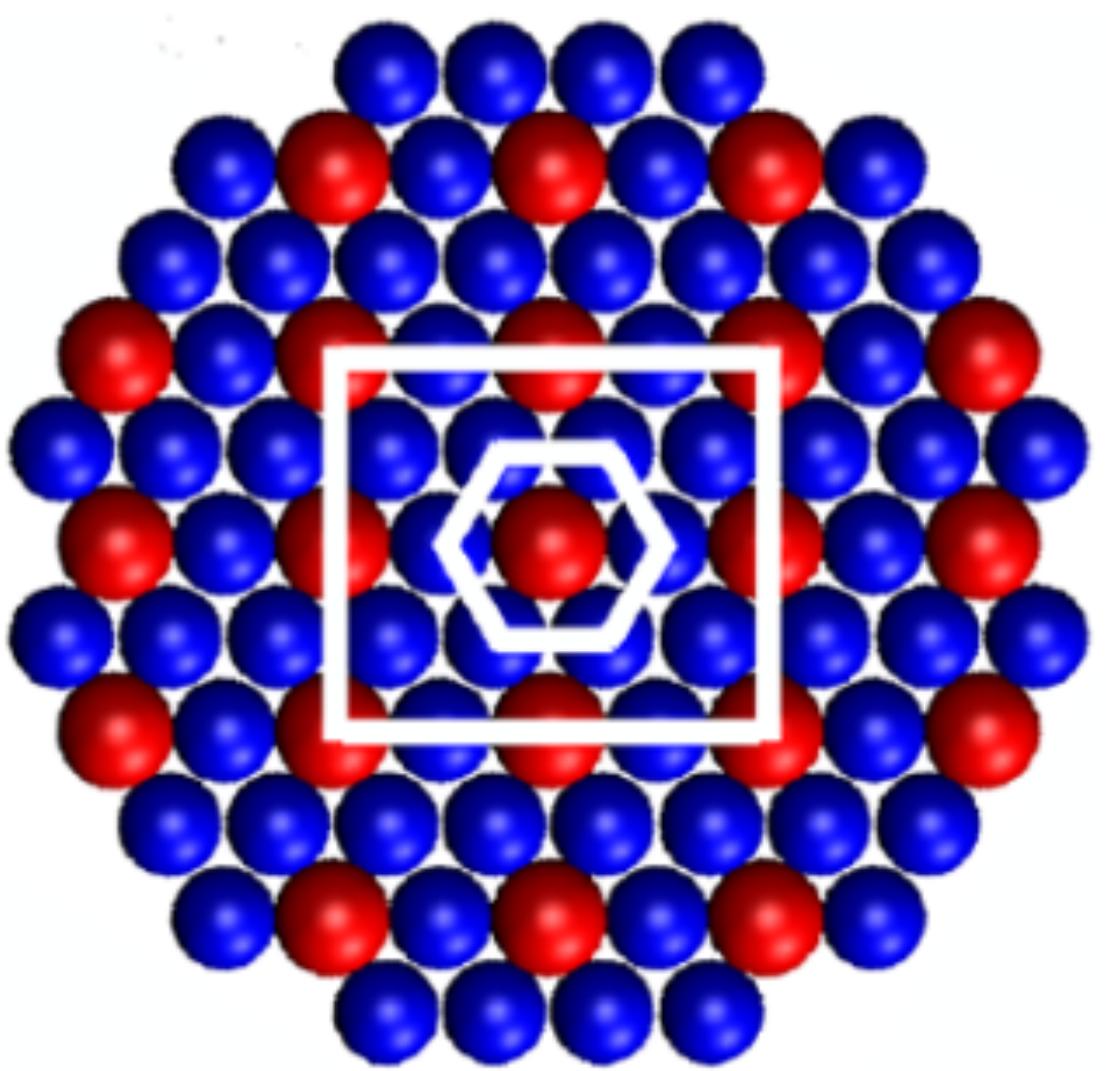
Ali Mesbah (UC Berkeley)

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# Controlled Self-assembly



Dispersed particles

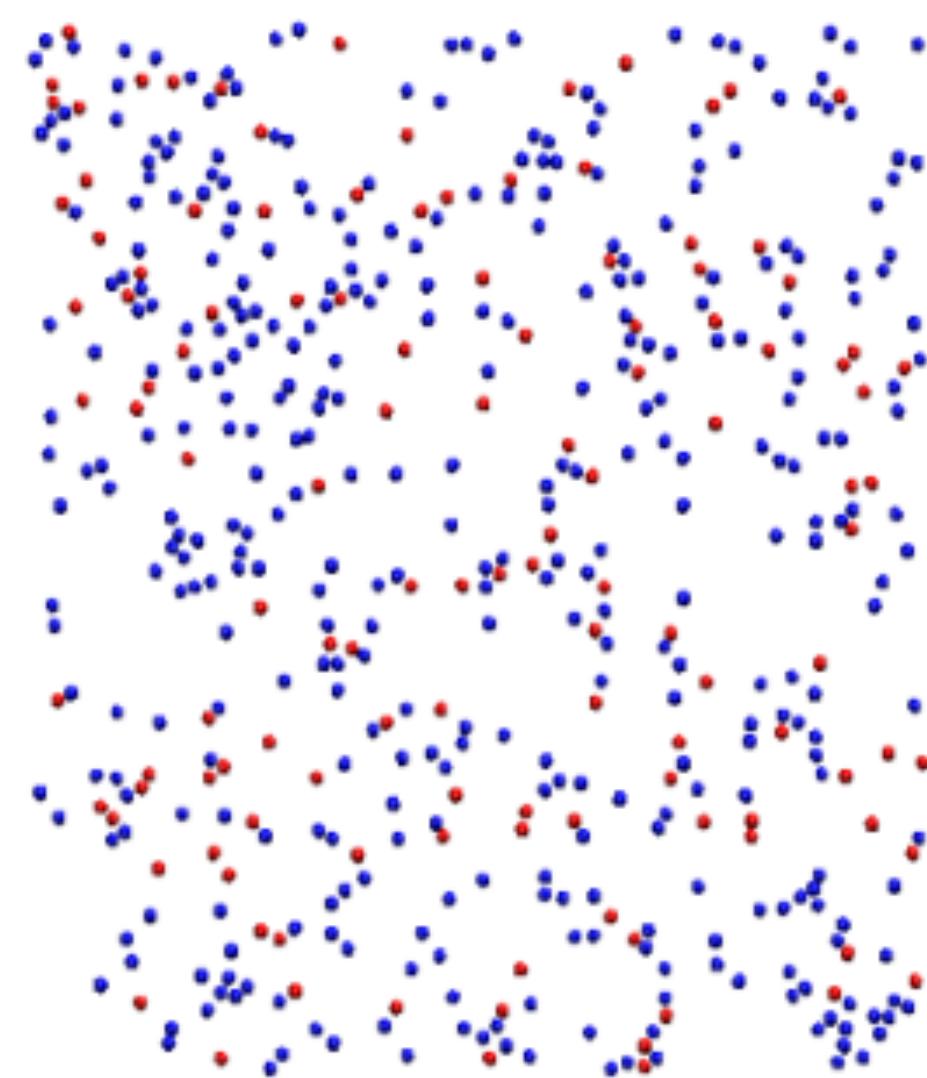


Ordered structure

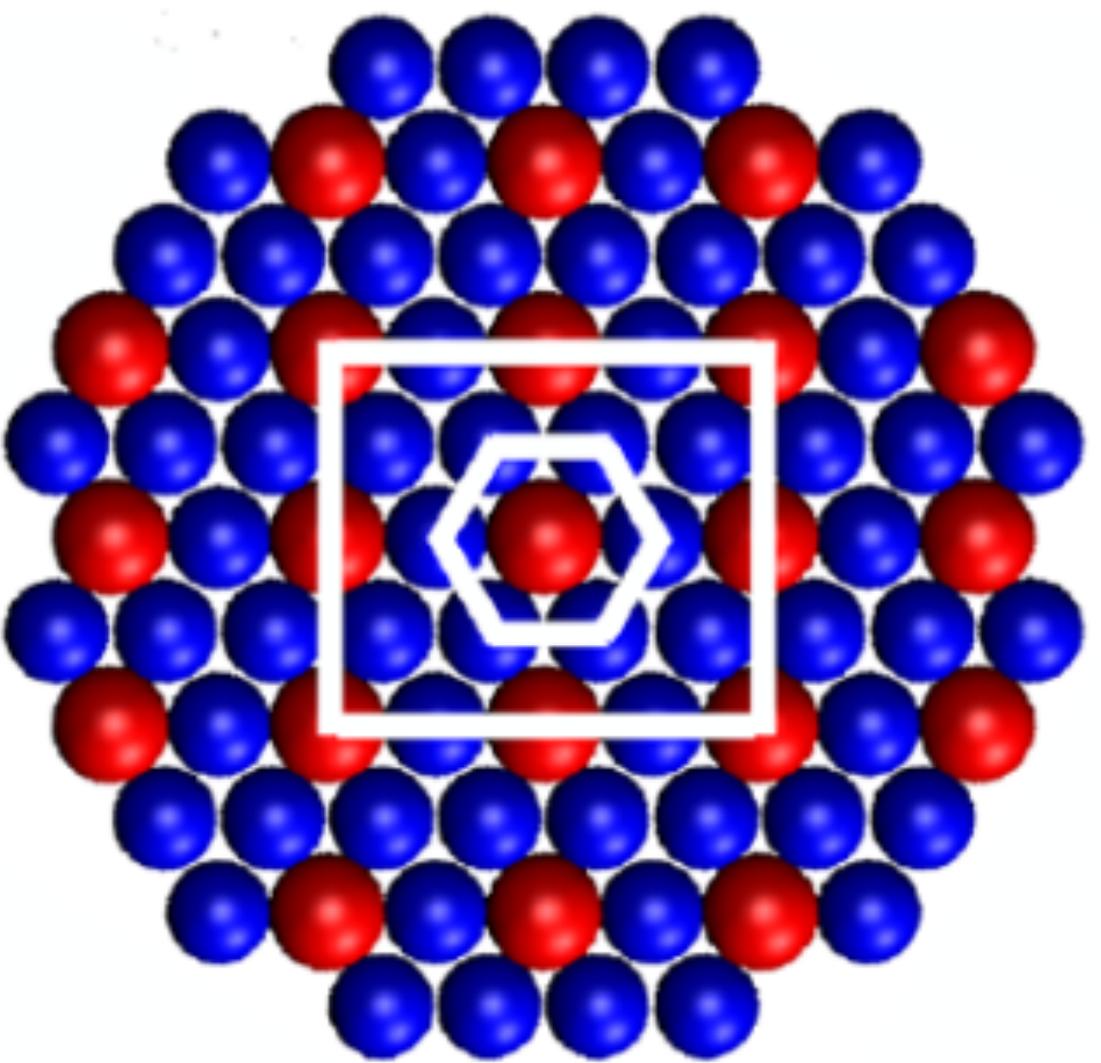
## Applications:

Precision (e.g., sub nm scale) manufacturing of materials with advanced electrical, magnetic or optical properties

# Controlled Self-assembly



Dispersed particles



Ordered structure

**Typical state variable:**  $\langle C_6 \rangle \in (0,6)$

Average number of hexagonally close packed neighboring particles in 2D assembly ↪ measure of crystallinity order

**Typical control variable:**  $u$

Electric field voltage

**Technical challenge:**

Nonlinear + noisy molecular dynamics



$\langle C_6 \rangle$  is a controlled stochastic process

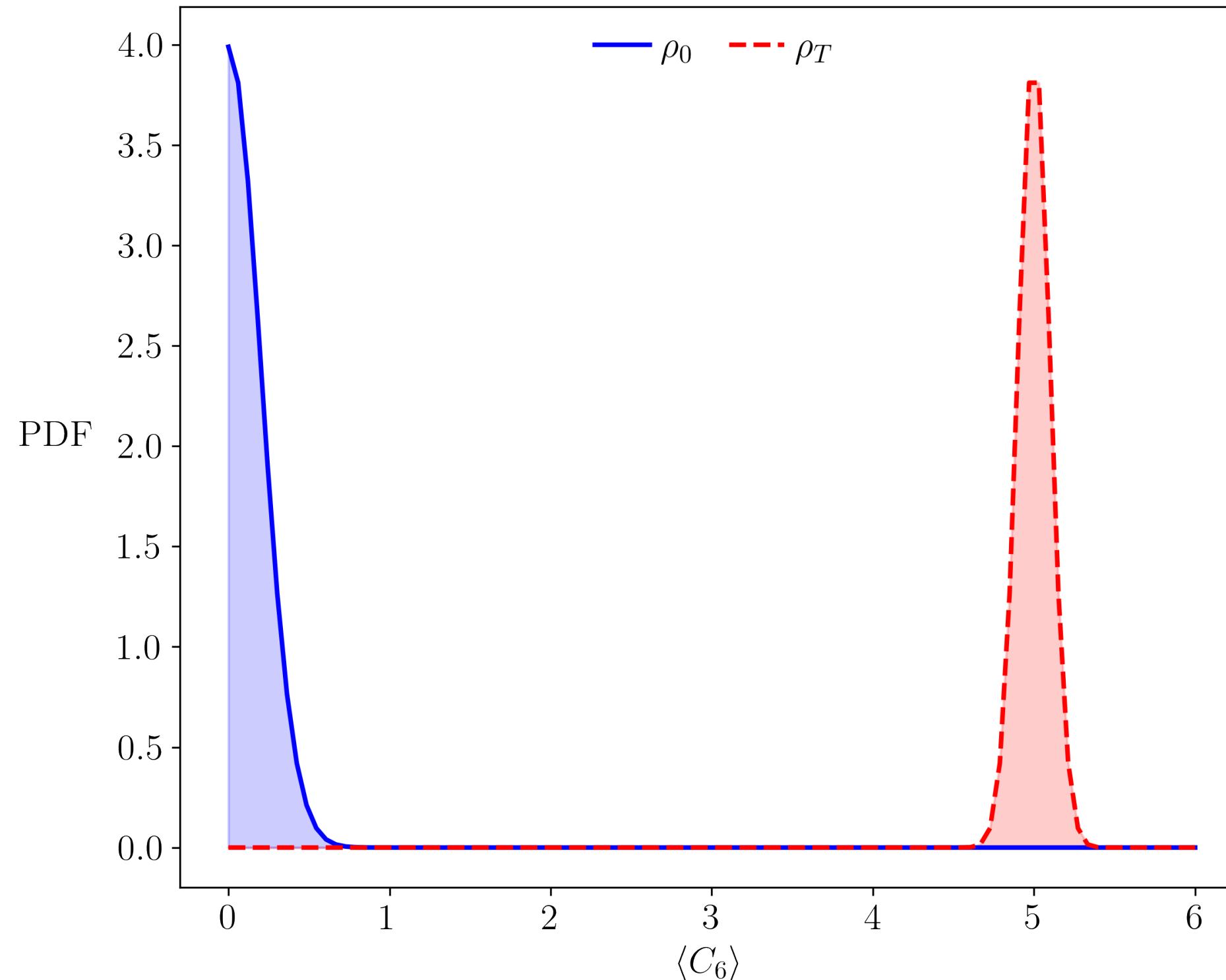
# Controlled Self-assembly as PDF Steering

**Intuition:**  $\langle C_6 \rangle \approx 0 \Leftrightarrow$  Crystalline disorder

$\langle C_6 \rangle \approx 5 \Leftrightarrow$  Crystalline order



**Steer the PDF of the stochastic state  $\langle C_6 \rangle$  from disordered at  $t = t_0 \equiv 0$  to ordered at  $t = T \equiv 200$  s**



Typical prescribed finite horizon for controlled self-assembly

**Endpoint PDF constraints:**  $\langle C_6 \rangle(t = t_0) \sim \rho_0$  (given)

$\langle C_6 \rangle(t = T) \sim \rho_T$  (given)

**Control policy to accomplish  
the PDF steering:**

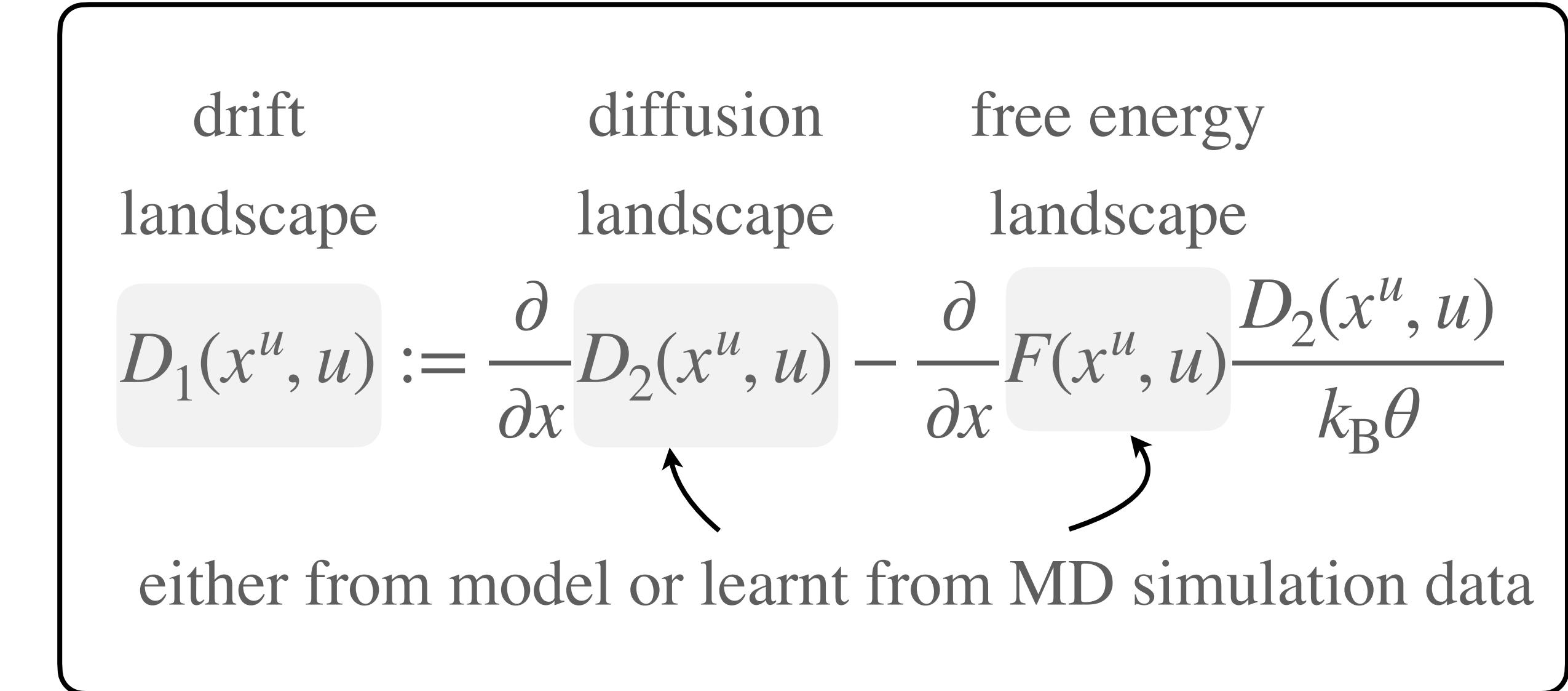
$$u = \pi(\langle C_6 \rangle, t)$$

Underdetermined

# Minimum Effort Self-assembly

**Proposed formulation:**

$$\inf_{u \in \mathcal{U}} \mathbb{E}_{\mu^u} \left[ \int_0^T \frac{1}{2} u^2 dt \right], \quad \mu^u \ll dx^u$$



subject to  $dx^u = D_1(x^u, u) dt + \sqrt{2D_2(x^u, u)} dw$ ,

$\langle C_6 \rangle$       standard Wiener process

$$x^u(t=0) \sim d\mu_0 = \rho_0 dx^u, \quad x^u(t=T) \sim d\mu_T = \rho_T dx^u$$

# Minimum Effort Self-assembly

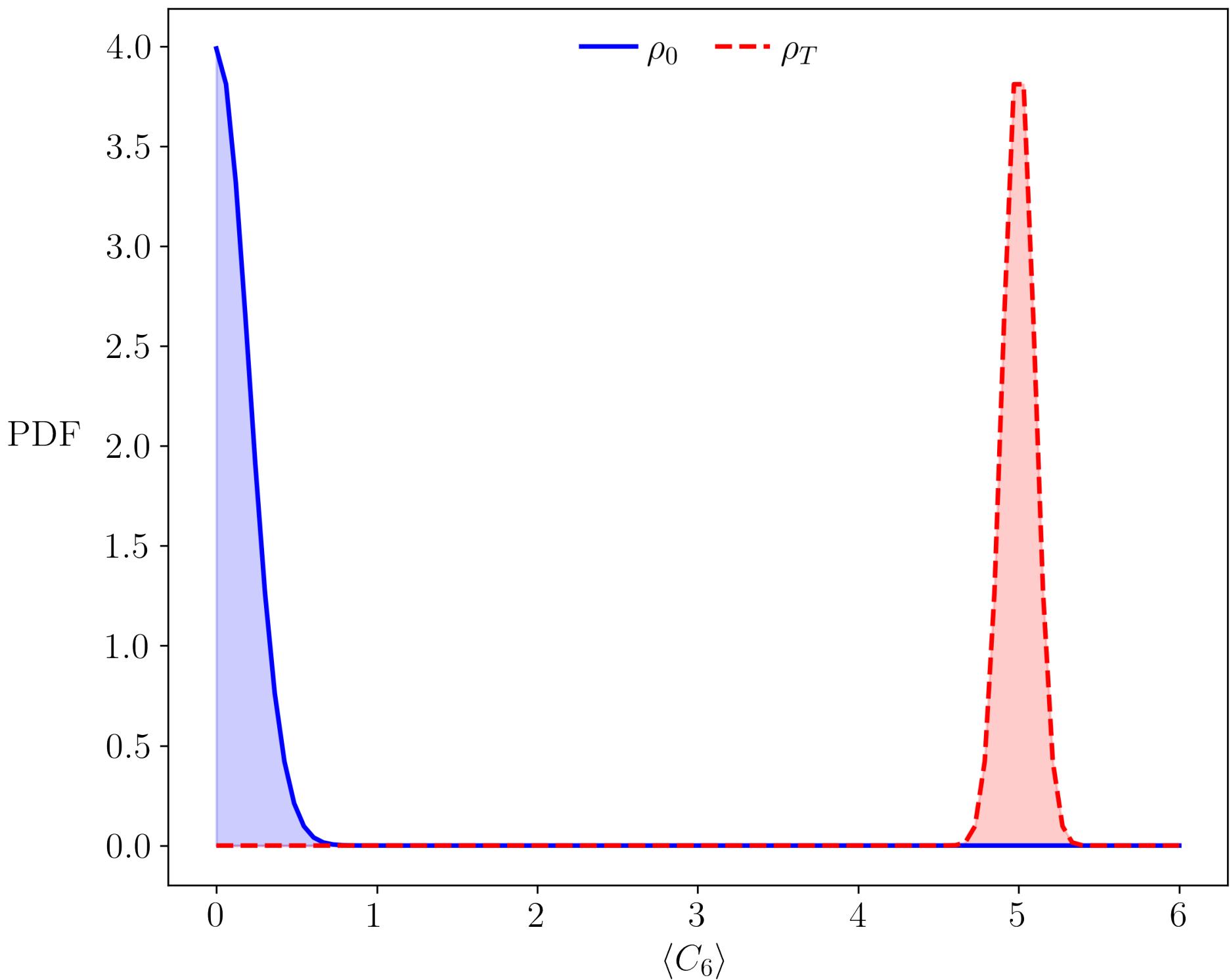
**Equivalent formulation:**

$$\inf_{(\rho^u, u)} \int_0^T \int_{\mathbb{R}} \frac{1}{2} u^2(x^u, t) \rho^u(x^u, t) dx^u dt$$

subject to  $\frac{\partial \rho^u}{\partial t} = - \frac{\partial}{\partial x^u} (D_1 \rho^u) + \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^{u2}} (D_2 \rho^u)$

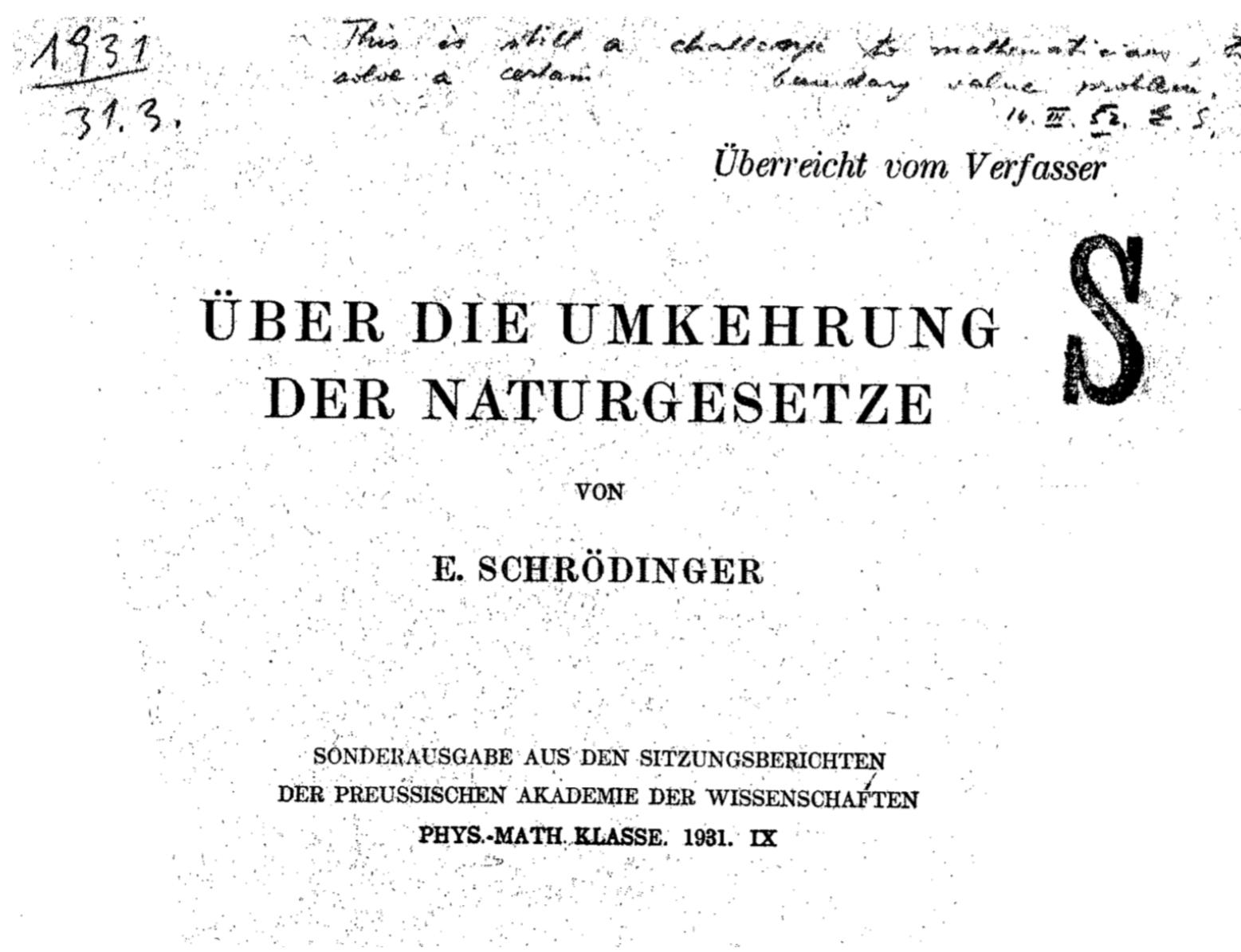
$$\rho^u(x^u, t = 0) = \rho_0, \quad \rho^u(x^u, t = T) = \rho_T$$

Guaranteed existence-uniqueness  
for compactly supported  $\rho_0, \rho_T$



# Generalized Schrödinger Bridge

Schrödinger bridge problem:  $D_1 \equiv u$  and  $D_2 \equiv \text{Identity}$



Sur la théorie relativiste de l'électron  
et l'interprétation de la mécanique quantique

PAR

E. SCHRÖDINGER

## I. — Introduction

J'ai l'intention d'exposer dans ces conférences diverses idées concernant la mécanique quantique et l'interprétation qu'on en donne généralement à l'heure actuelle ; je parlerai principalement de la théorie quantique relativiste du mouvement de l'électron. Autant que nous pouvons nous en rendre compte aujourd'hui, il semble à peu près sûr que la mécanique quantique de l'électron, sous sa forme idéale, *que nous ne possédons pas encore*, doit former un jour la base de toute la physique. A cet intérêt tout à fait général, s'ajoute, ici à Paris, un intérêt particulier : vous savez tous que les bases de la théorie moderne de l'électron ont été posées à Paris par votre célèbre compatriote Louis de BROGLIE.



In our setting: both  $D_1$  and  $D_2$  are nonlinear in state + non-affine in control

# Conditions for Optimality

$$\frac{\partial \psi}{\partial t} = \frac{1}{2} (\pi^{\text{opt}})^2 - \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial x} D_1 - \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial x^u \partial u} D_2$$

**HJB PDE**

$$\frac{\partial \rho^u}{\partial t} = - \frac{\partial}{\partial x^u} (D_1 \rho^u) + \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^u \partial u} (D_2 \rho^u)$$

**Controlled FPK PDE**

$$\pi^{\text{opt}}(x^u, t) = \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial x^u} \frac{\partial D_1}{\partial u} + \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial x^u \partial u} \frac{\partial D_2}{\partial u}$$

**Optimal policy**

$$\rho^u(x^u, t=0) = \rho_0, \quad \rho^u(x^u, t=T) = \rho_T$$

**Boundary conditions**

value function	optimally controlled PDF	optimal policy
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to be solved for the triple:  $\psi(x^u, t), \rho^u(x^u, t), \pi^{\text{opt}}(x^u, t)$

# Solve via PINN: Losses for Training

**Loss term for HJB PDE**

$$\mathcal{L}_\psi = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \left( \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial t} \Bigg|_{x_i} - \frac{1}{2} (\pi^{\text{opt}})^2 \Bigg|_{x_i^u} - + \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial x^u} D_1 \Bigg|_{x_i^u} - + \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial x^{u2}} D_2 \Bigg|_{x_i^u} \right)^2$$

**Loss term for FPK PDE**

$$\mathcal{L}_{\rho^u} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \left( \frac{\partial \rho^u}{\partial t} \Bigg|_{x_i^u} + \frac{\partial}{\partial x^u} (D_1 \rho^u) \Bigg|_{x_i^u} - \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^{u2}} (D_2 \rho^u) \Bigg|_{x_i^u} \right)^2$$

**Loss term for policy equation**

$$\mathcal{L}_{\pi^{\text{opt}}} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \left( \pi^{\text{opt}} \Big|_{x_i^u} - \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial x^u} \frac{\partial D_1}{\partial u} \Big|_{x_i^u} - \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial x^{u2}} \frac{\partial D_2}{\partial u} \Big|_{x_i^u} \right)^2$$

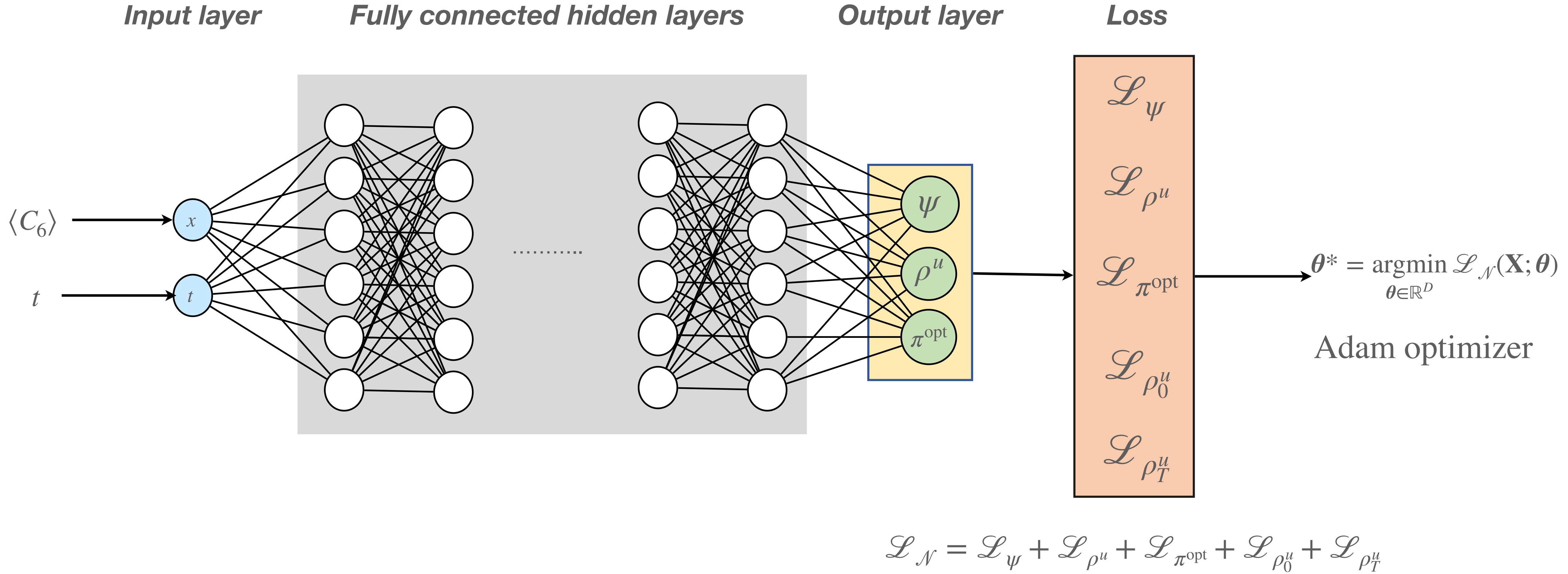
**Loss term for initial condition**

$$\mathcal{L}_{\rho_0^u} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \left( \rho^u \Big|_{t=0} - \rho_0^u(x) \right)^2$$

**Loss term for terminal condition**

$$\mathcal{L}_{\rho_T^u} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \left( \rho^u \Big|_{t=T} - \rho_T^u(x) \right)^2$$

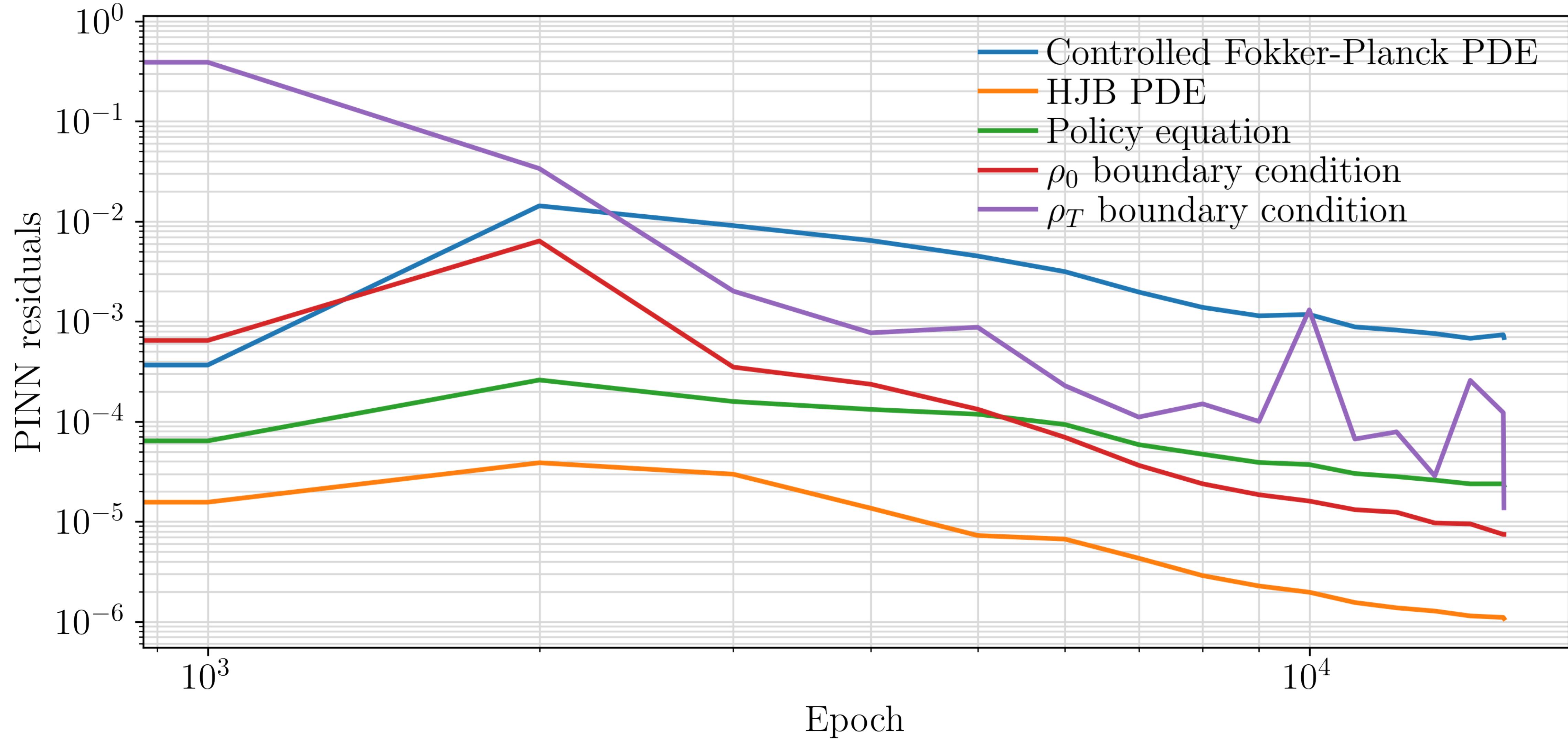
# PINN Architecture



[Lu Lu, et al, 2021] [Niaki, et al, 2021]

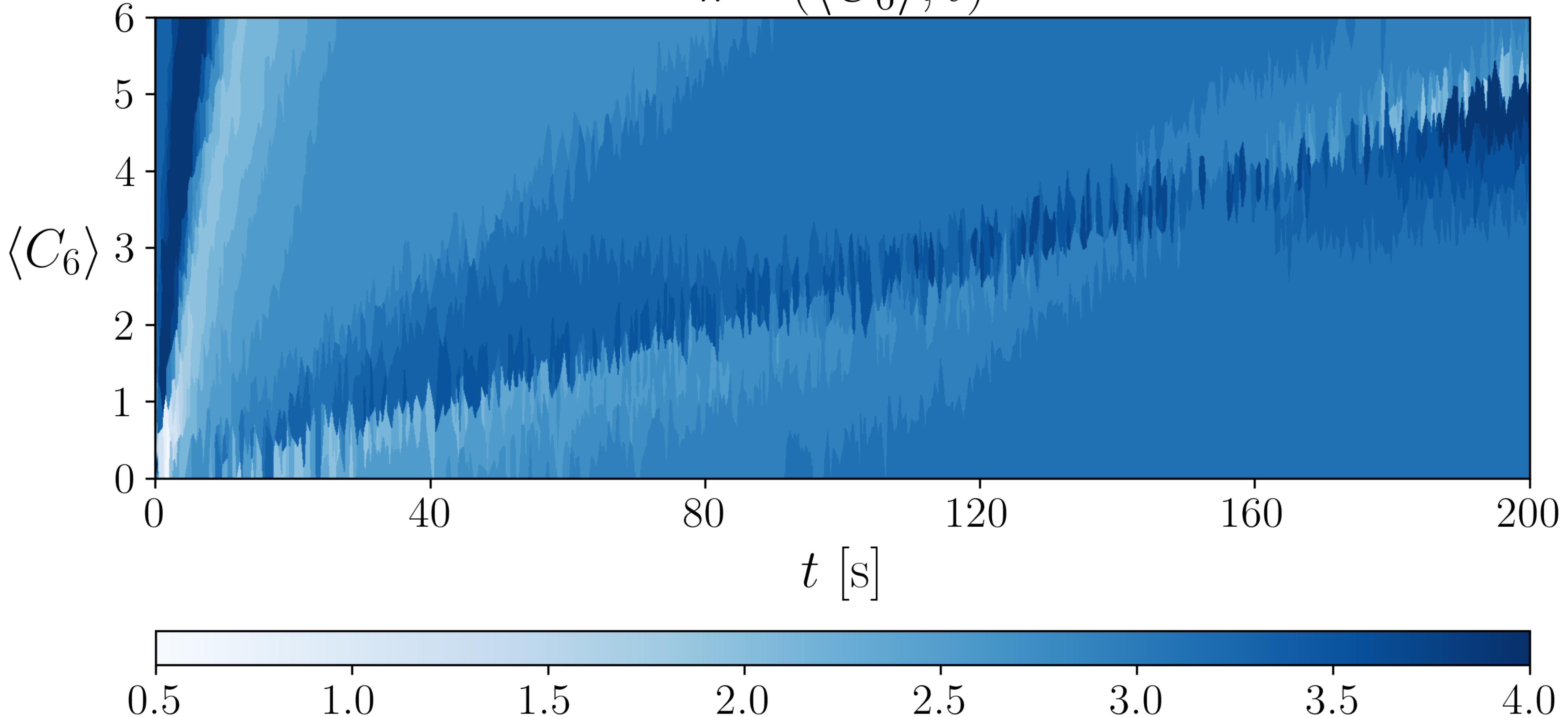
# Training of the PINN

Benchmark controlled self-assembly system: [Y Xue, et al, *IEEE Trans. Control Sys. Technology*, 2014]



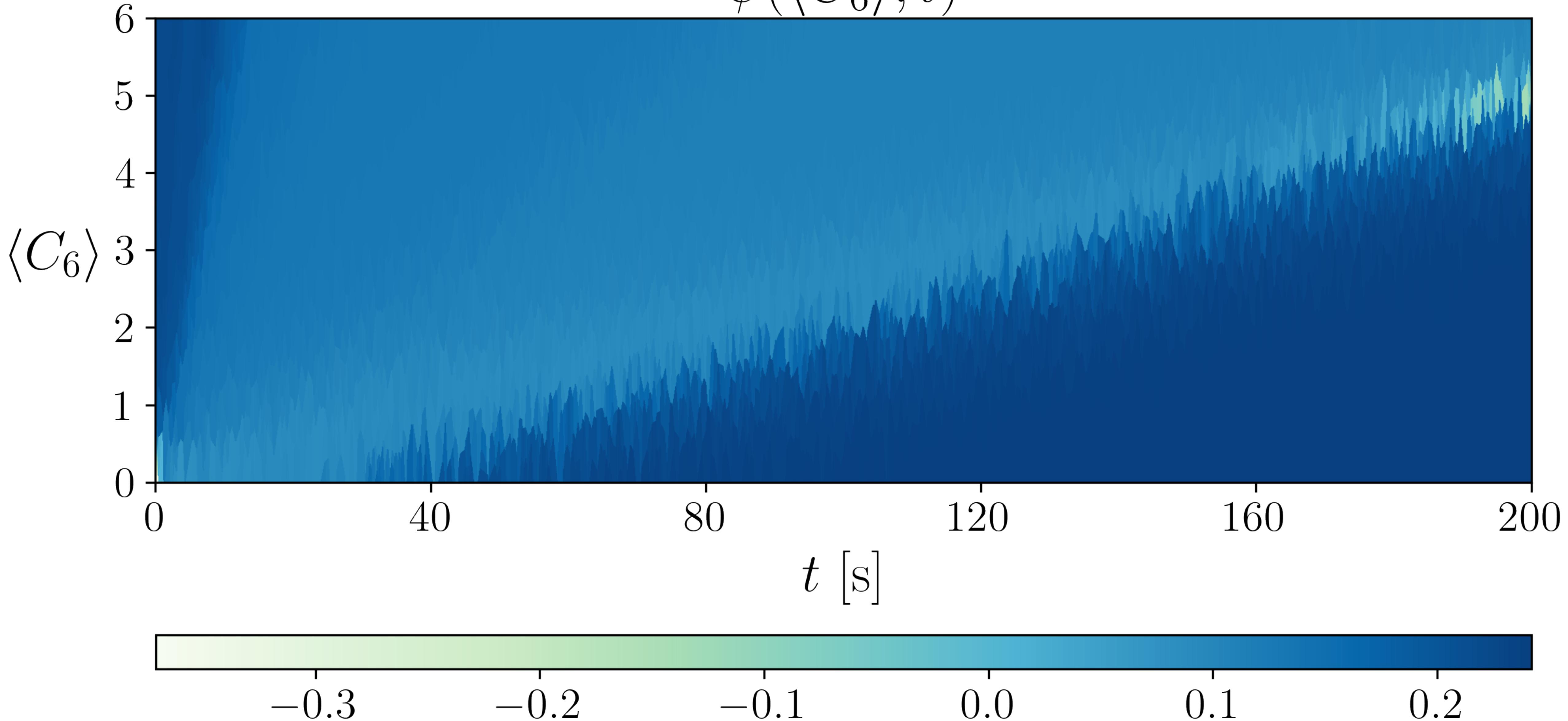
# Optimal Policy

$$\pi^{\text{opt}}(\langle C_6 \rangle, t)$$

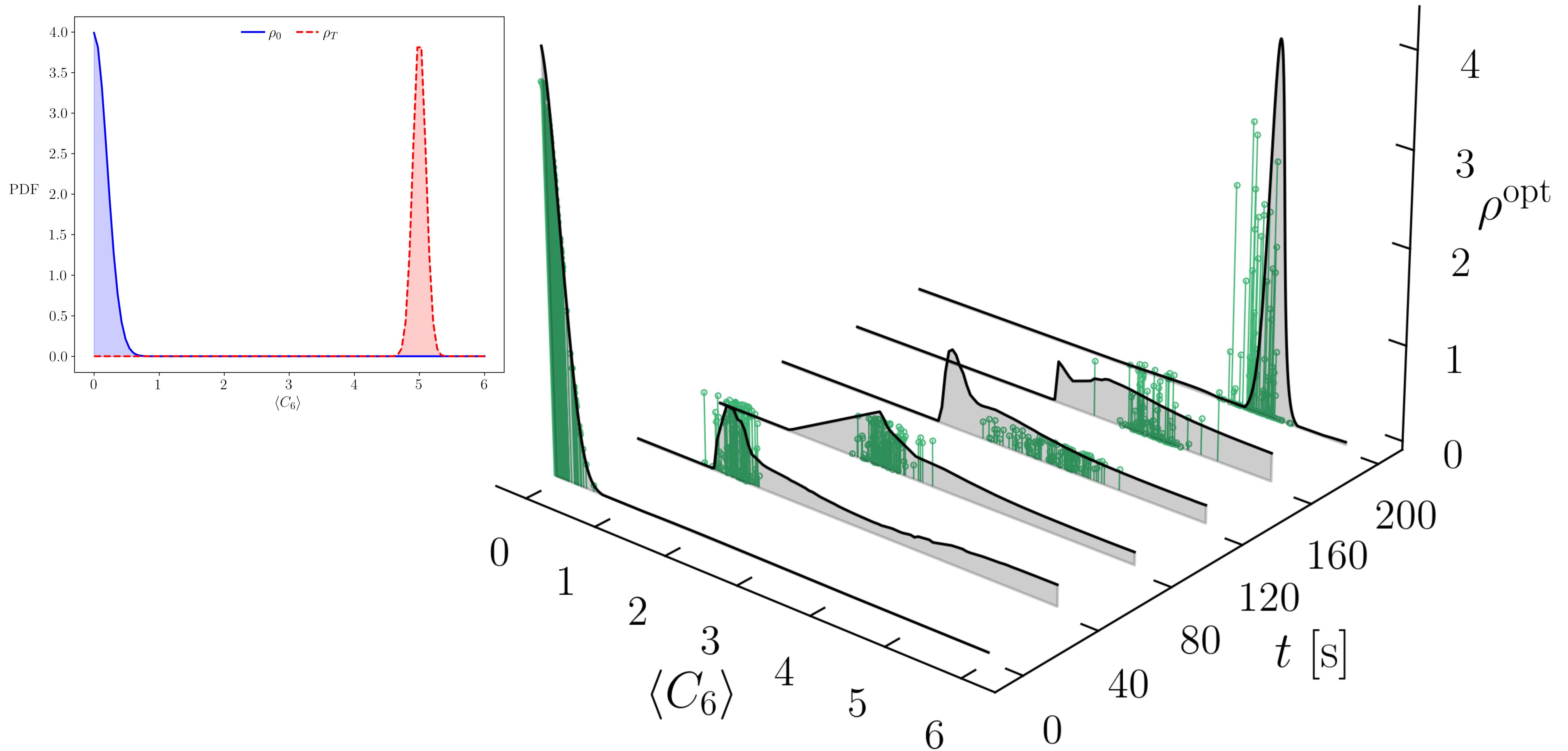


# Value Function

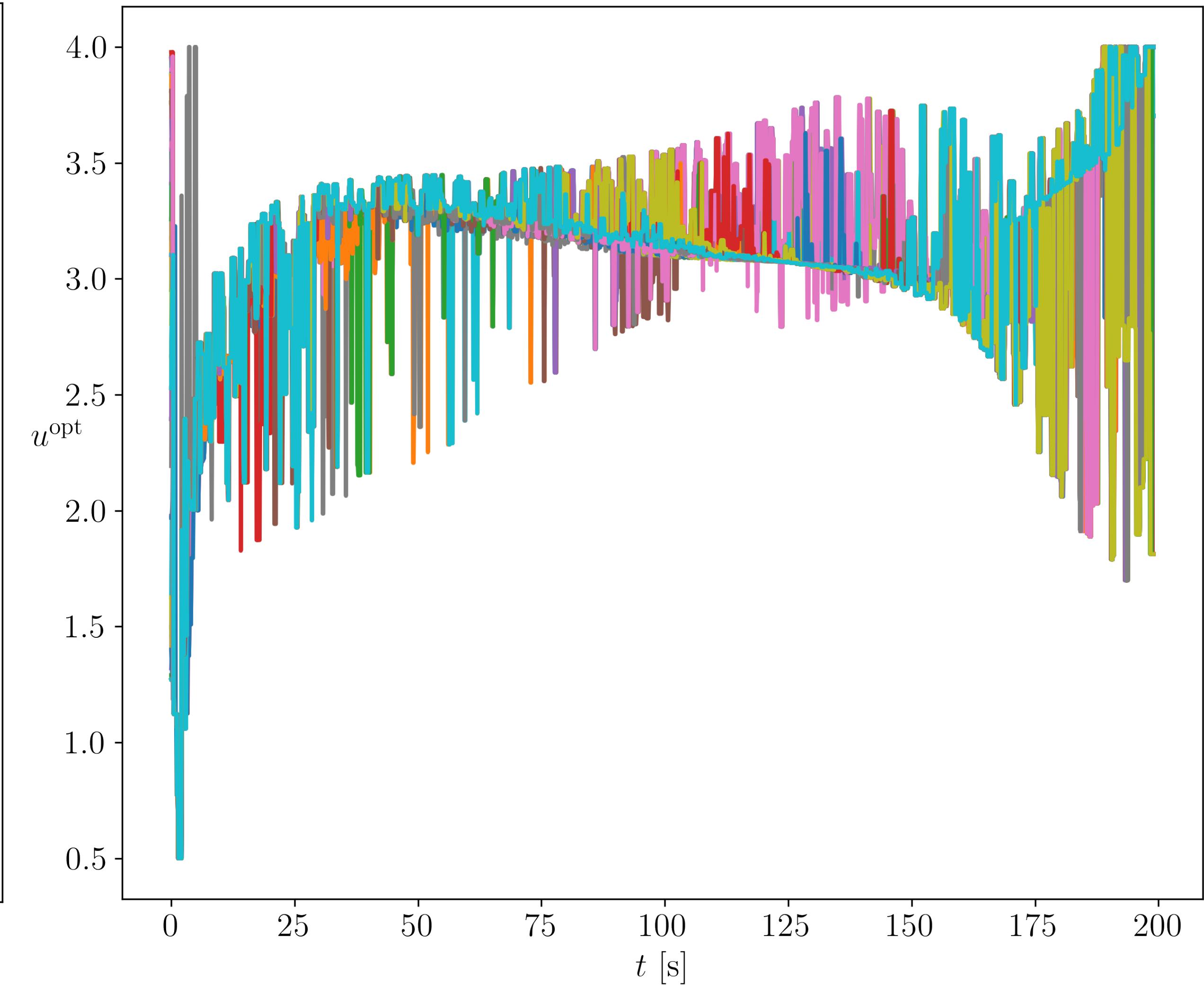
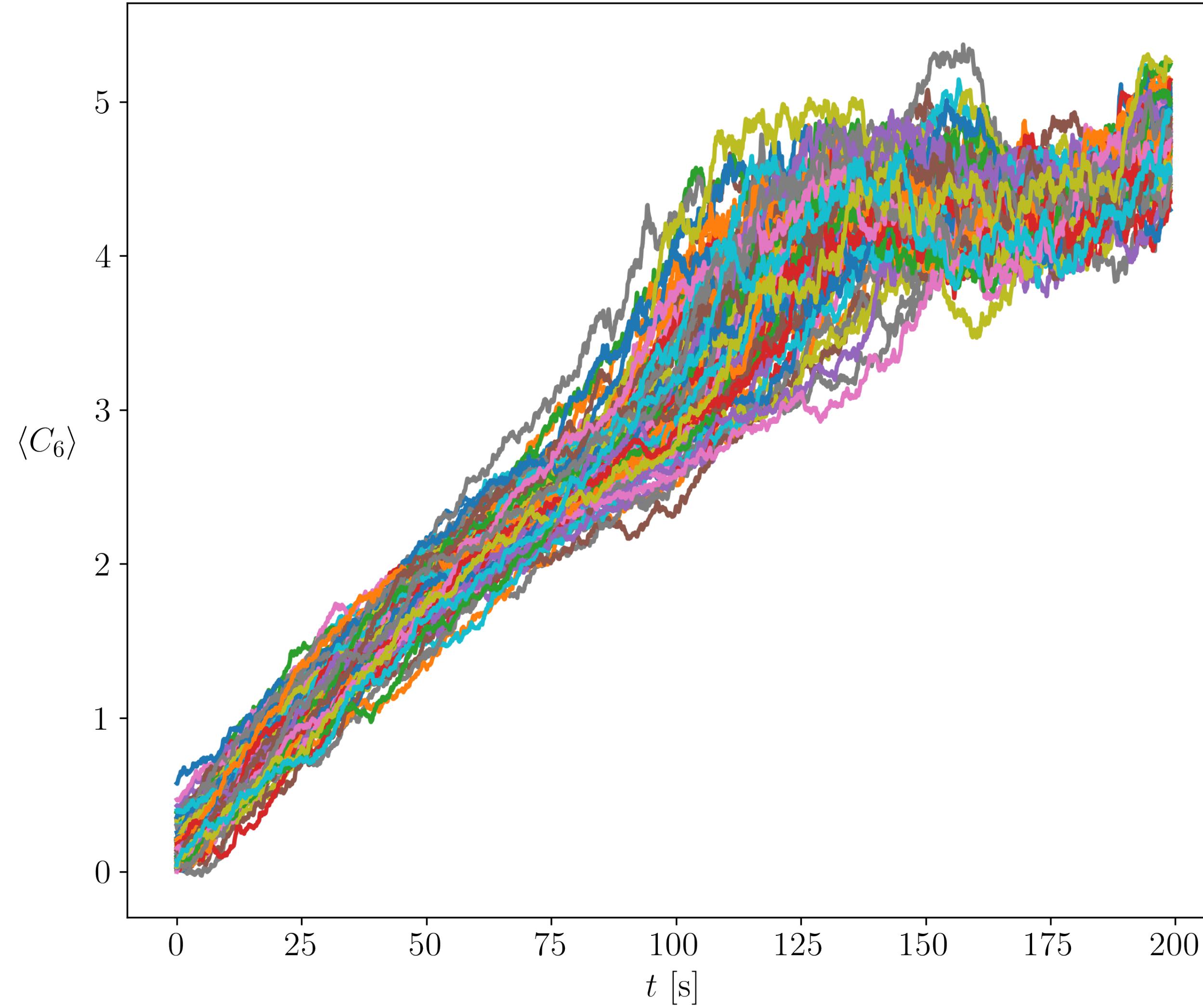
$$\psi(\langle C_6 \rangle, t)$$



# Optimally Controlled State PDFs



# Optimal State and Optimal Control Sample Paths



# Ongoing Efforts

**Learning from very high fidelity MD simulation data**

**Online learning and control**

**Robustness**

# Thank You

Acknowledgment:  2112755