

# **Computational particle physics**

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**Why I wish I had taken a course like FYS3150/4150**

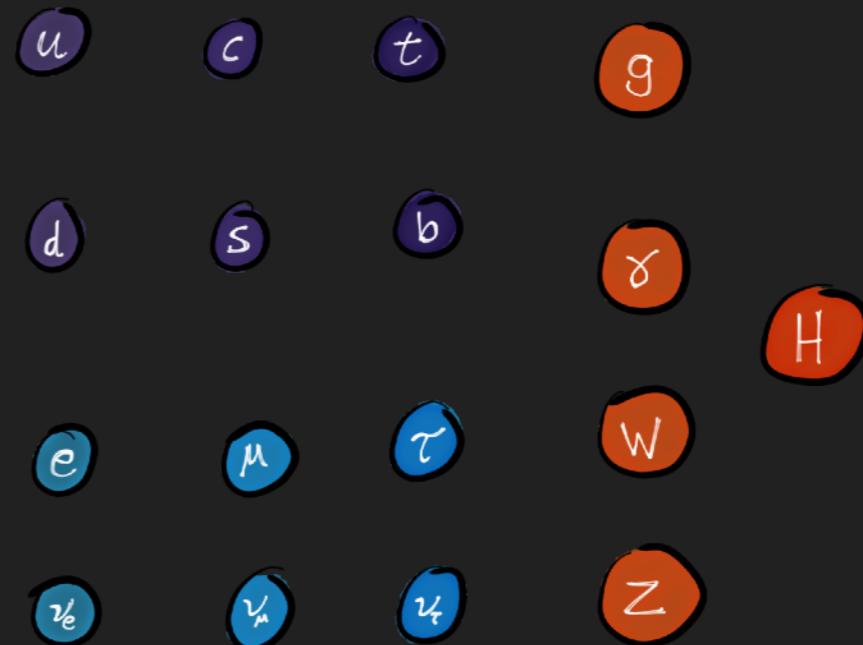
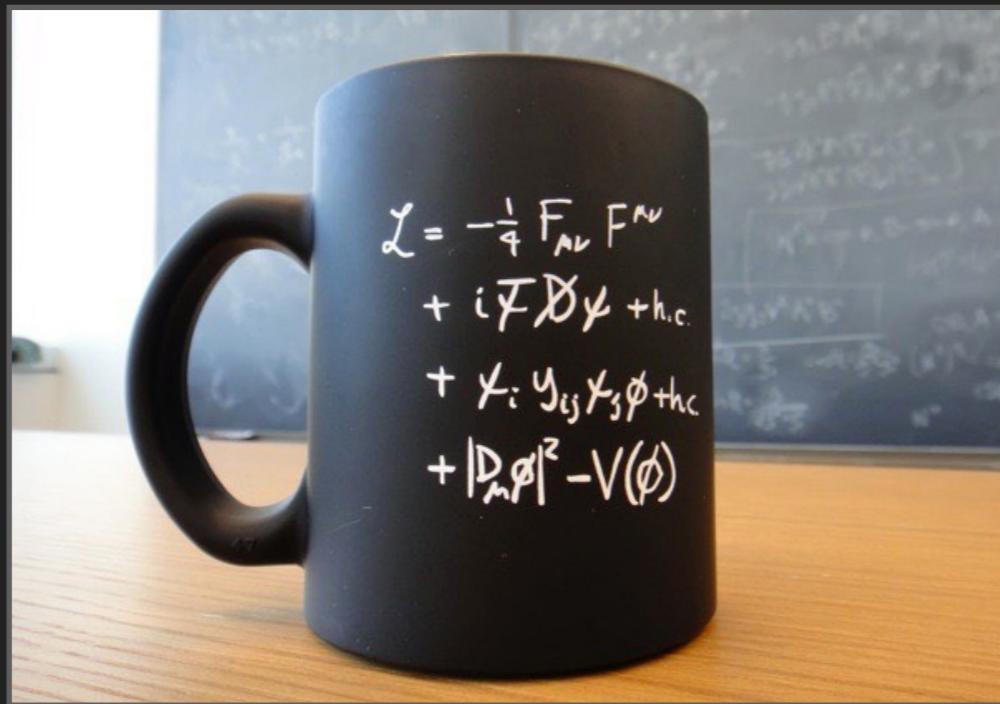
# Outline

- 1. Chasing new physics with global fits**
- 2. In high-dimensional parameter space  
no one can hear you scream...**
- 3. FYS3150 is everywhere!**

# **1. Chasing new physics...**

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{L} = & -\frac{1}{4} F_{\mu\nu} F^{\mu\nu} \\ & + i \bar{\psi} \not{D} \psi + h.c. \\ & + \bar{\chi}_i Y_{ij} \chi_j \phi + h.c. \\ & + |D_\mu \phi|^2 - V(\phi)\end{aligned}$$

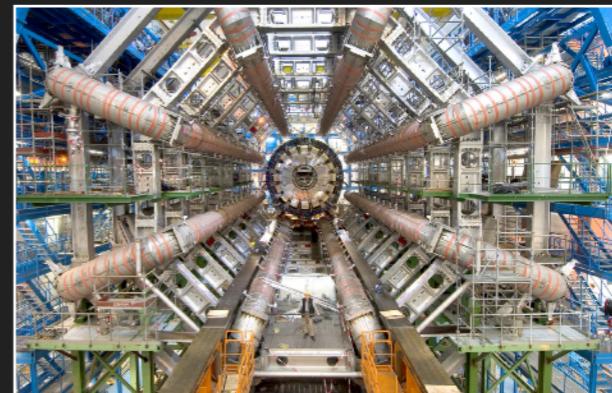
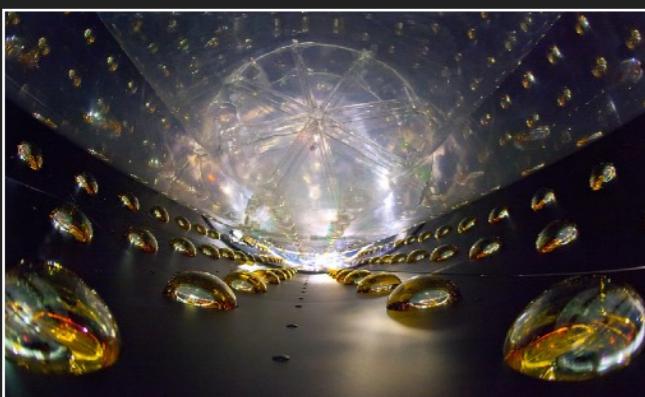
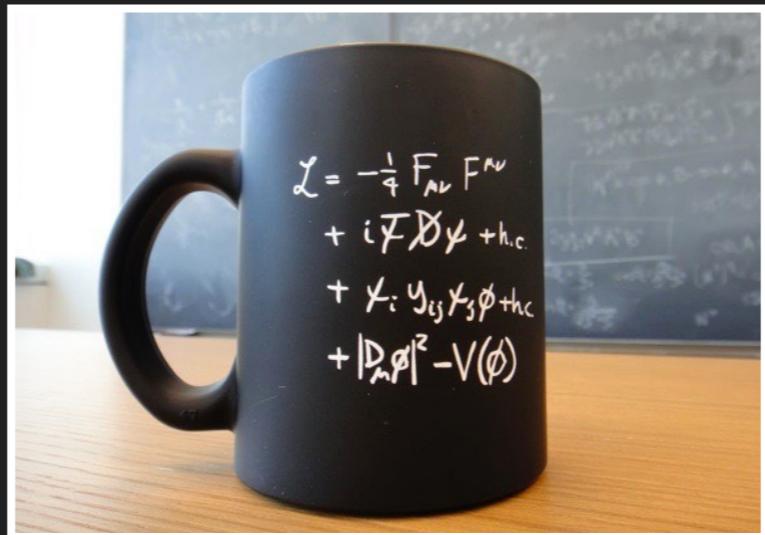
# Standard model, schmandard model...



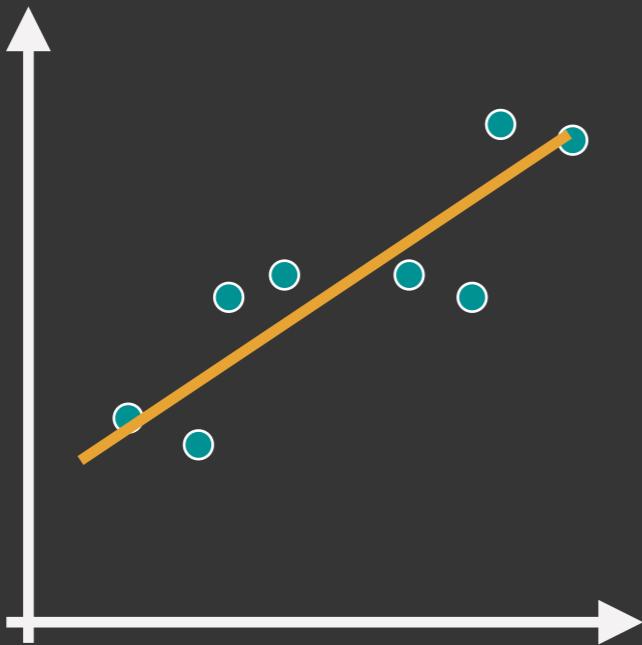
- What is dark matter? And dark energy?
- Why is the Higgs boson light?
- Why are the neutrinos *really* light?
- Why do the elementary particles come in three «generations»?
- How did the Universe end up with a tiny bit more matter (us) than antimatter?
- ...

Need some «new physics», a.k.a. «beyond-the-Standard-Model» (BSM) physics

**...with global fits**

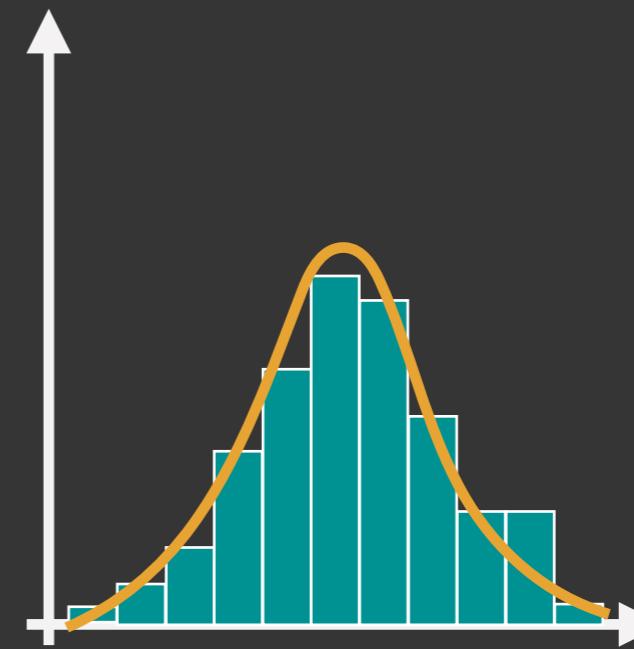


# Statistical fit

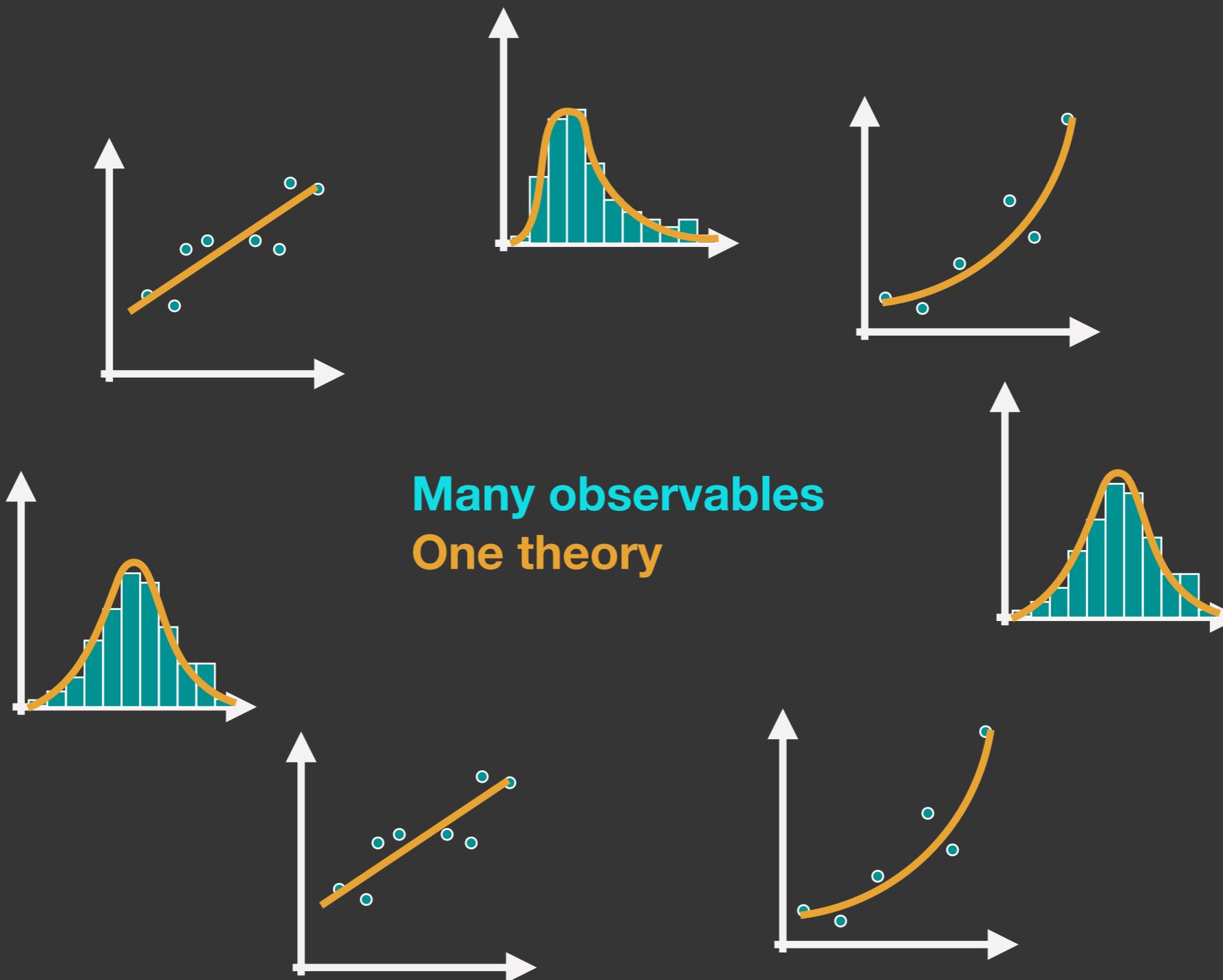


**Some observable**  
**Some model**

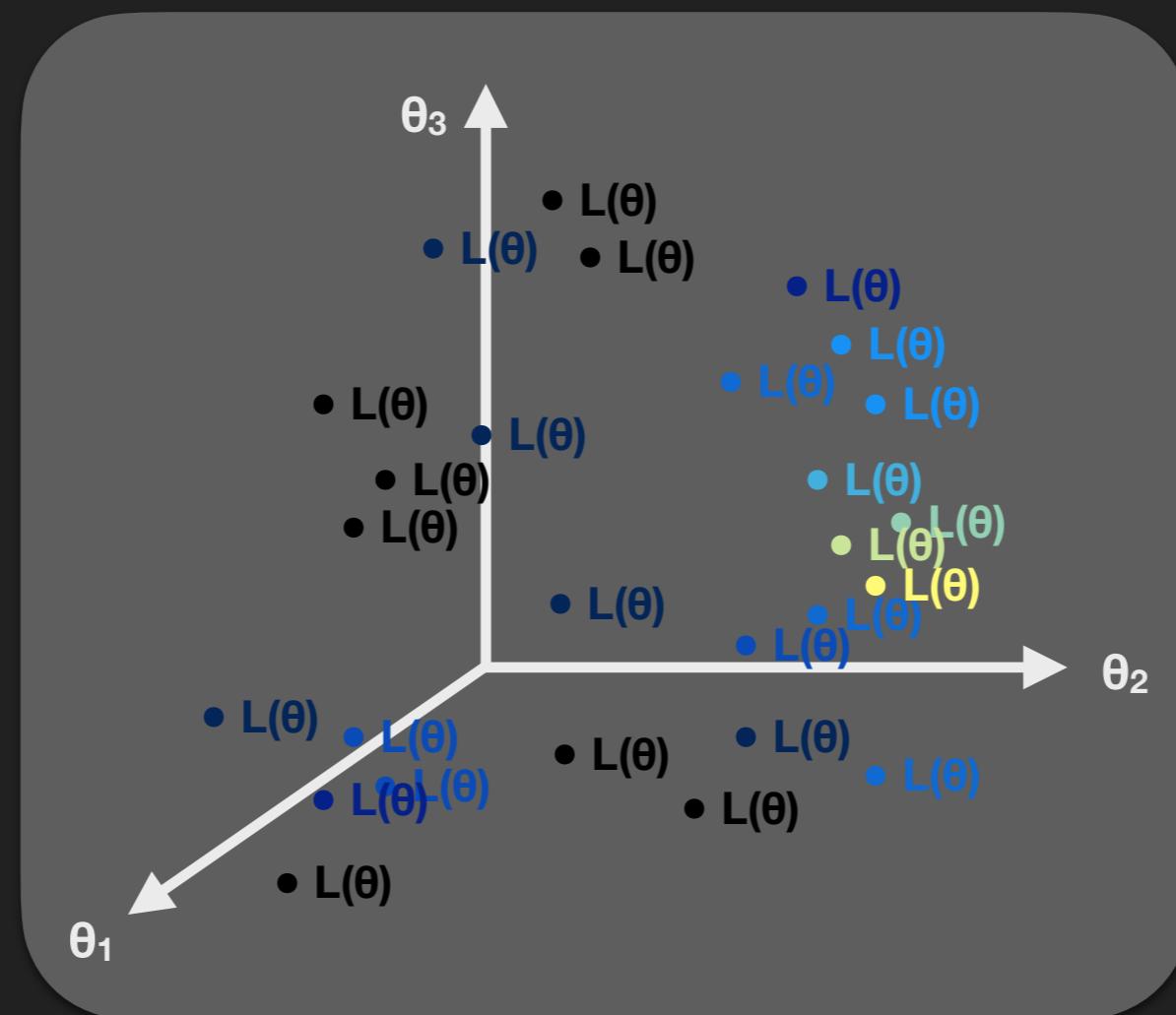
**Some other observable**  
**Some other model**



# Global fit



- Explore the model parameter space  $(\theta_1, \theta_2, \theta_3, \dots)$
- At every point  $\theta$ : calculate predictions( $\theta$ ) → evaluate likelihood  $L(\theta)$



- Region of highest  $L(\theta)$  or  $\ln L(\theta)$ : **model's best simultaneous fit to all data** (but not necessarily a *good* fit, or the most probable  $\theta\dots$ )



PUBLISHED FOR SISSA BY SPRINGER

RECEIVED: September 15, 2017  
REVISED: February 5, 2018  
ACCEPTED: March 18, 2018  
PUBLISHED: March 27, 2018

**Search for electroweak production of charginos and neutralinos in multilepton final states in proton-proton collisions at  $\sqrt{s} = 13$  TeV**

**CMS collaboration**

E-mail: cms-publication-committee-chair@cern.ch

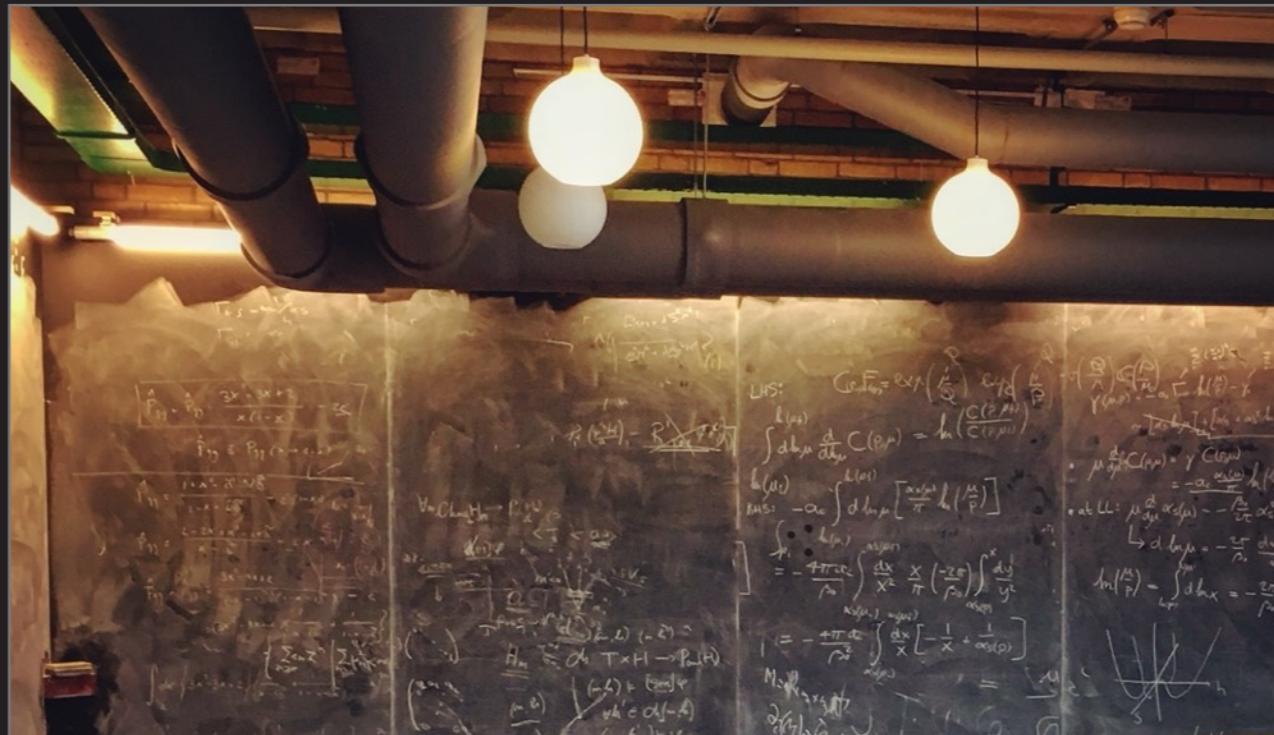
**ABSTRACT:** Results are presented from a search for the direct electroweak production of charginos and neutralinos in signatures with either two or more leptons (electrons or muons) of the same electric charge, or with three or more leptons, which can include up to two hadronically decaying tau leptons. The results are based on a sample of proton-proton collision data collected at  $\sqrt{s} = 13$  TeV, recorded with the CMS detector at the LHC, corresponding to an integrated luminosity of  $35.9\text{ fb}^{-1}$ . The observed event yields are consistent with the expectations based on the standard model. The results are interpreted in simplified models of supersymmetry describing various scenarios for the production and decay of charginos and neutralinos. Depending on the model parameters chosen, mass ranges between  $180\text{ GeV}$  and  $1150\text{ GeV}$  are excluded at  $95\%$  CL. These results significantly extend the parameter space probed for these particles in searches at the LHC. In addition, results are presented in a form suitable for alternative theoretical interpretations.

**KEYWORDS:** Hadron-Hadron scattering (experiments), Supersymmetry

ARXIV EPRINT: 1709.05406

OPEN ACCESS, Copyright CERN,  
for the benefit of the CMS Collaboration.  
Article funded by SCOAP<sup>3</sup>.

[https://doi.org/10.1007/JHEP03\(2018\)166](https://doi.org/10.1007/JHEP03(2018)166)



```
// Increment signal region counters: 2 same-sign leptons
if (preselection && nSignalLeptons==2 && nSignalTaus==0 && met>60 && conversion_veto)
    if (signalLeptons.at(0)->pid()*signalLeptons.at(1)->pid()>0) {
        if ((signalLeptons.at(0)->abspid()==11 && signalLeptons.at(0)->pT(>25) || (signal
            bool pp = false;
            bool mm = false;
            if(signalLeptons.at(0)->pid() > 0)pp = true;
            if(signalLeptons.at(0)->pid() < 0)mm = true;

            if (num_ISRjets==0) {

                // The 0 jet regions
                if(mT < 100 && pT_ll < 50 && met < 100) _numSR["SS01"]++;
                if(mT < 100 && pT_ll < 50 && met >= 100 && met < 150 && pp) _numSR["SS02"]++;
                if(mT < 100 && pT_ll < 50 && met >= 100 && met < 150 && mm) _numSR["SS03"]++;
                if(mT < 100 && pT_ll < 50 && met >= 150 && met < 200) _numSR["SS04"]++;
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                if(mT < 100 && pT_ll > 50 && met < 100) _numSR["SS06"]++;
                if(mT < 100 && pT_ll > 50 && met >= 100 && met < 150 && pp) _numSR["SS07"]++;
                if(mT < 100 && pT_ll > 50 && met >= 100 && met < 150 && mm) _numSR["SS08"]++;
                if(mT < 100 && pT_ll > 50 && met >= 150 && met < 200) _numSR["SS09"]++;
                if(mT < 100 && pT_ll > 50 && met > 200) _numSR["SS10"]++;
```



1. akvelles@r000u07l02:~ (ssh)

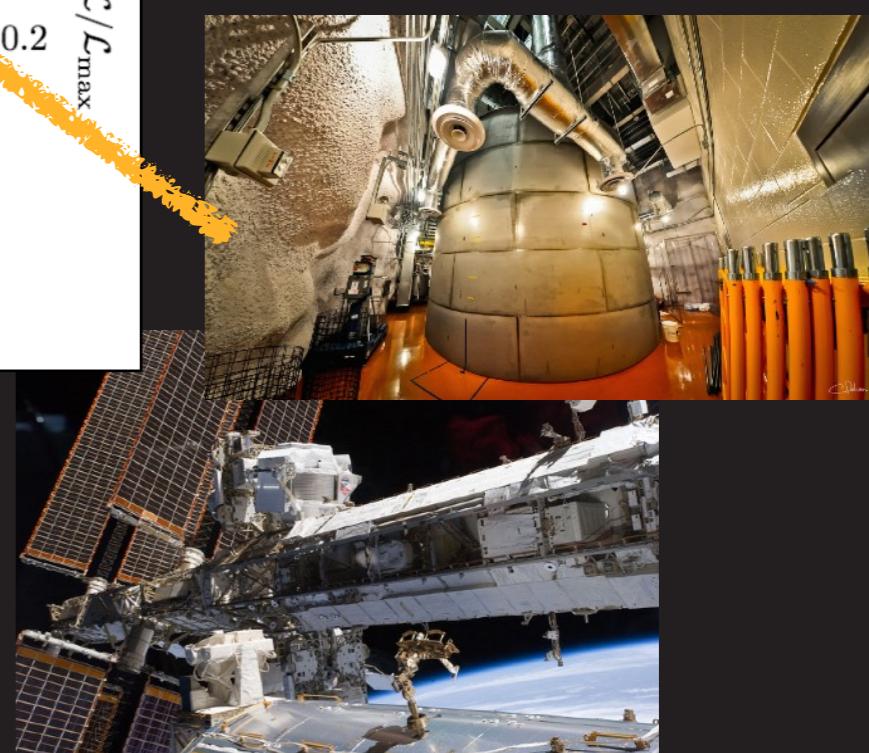
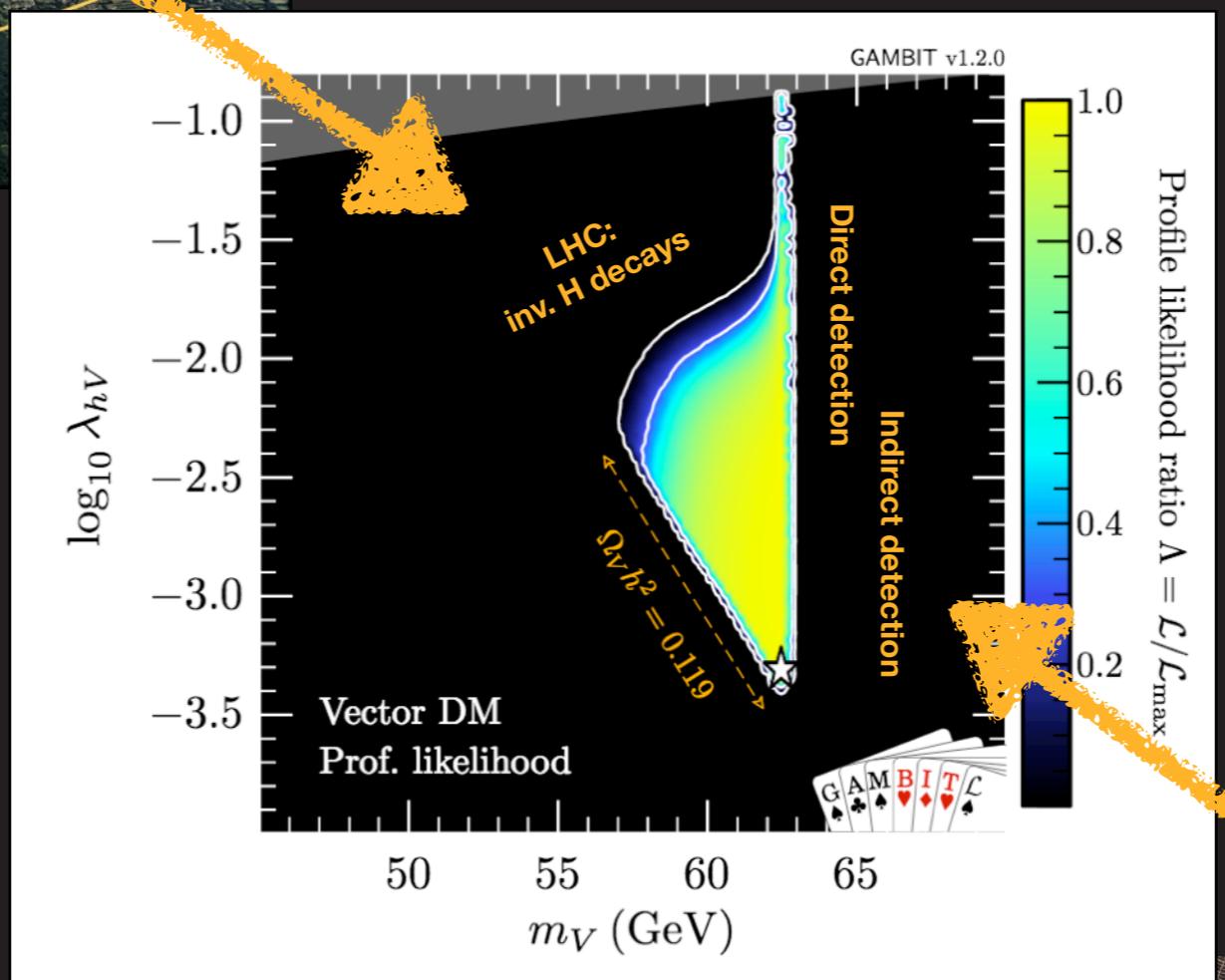
```
*****
* Welcome to MARCONI /
*   MARCONI-fusion @ CINECA - NeXtScale cluster - CentOS 7.2!
*
* KNL partition - 3600 Compute nodes with:
*   - 1*68-core Intel(R) Knights Landing @ 1.40GHz
*   - 16 GB MCDRAM + 96 GB RAM
* SKL partition - 1512+792 nodes with:
*   - 2*24-core Intel Xeon 8160 CPU @ 2.10GHz
*   - 192 GB DDR4 RAM
* Intel OmniPath (100Gb/s) high-performance network
* SLURM 18.08
*
* For a guide on Marconi:
* wiki.u-gov.it/confluence/display/SCAIUS/UG3.1%3A+MARCONI+UserGuide
* For support: superc@cineca.it
*****
* This system is in its complete configuration and is in full-production *
```

IN EVIDENCE:

- An automatic cleaning procedure for the \$CINECA\_SCRATCH is active, each day all files older than 40 days will be cancelled.
- A new version of "module" is installed and based on profiles. command to identify the correct profile ("modmap -h" for help)
- The modules of Intel and Intelmpi version 2017 have been moved profile to "archive". Consequently, all libraries and tools co 2017 Intel/Intelmpi and located under "base" and "advanced" pr been moved to "archive" profile.

```
perl: warning: Setting locale failed.
perl: warning: Please check that your locale settings:
    LANGUAGE = (unset),
    LC_ALL = (unset),
    LC_CTYPE = "UTF-8",
    LANG = (unset)
        are supported and installed on your system.
perl: warning: Falling back to the standard locale ("C").
manpath: can't set the locale; make sure $LC_* and $LANG are corr
-bash: warning: setlocale: LC_CTYPE: cannot change locale (UTF-8)
[akvelles@r000u07l02 ~]$
[akvelles@r000u07l02 ~]$
```





# GAMBIT: The Global And Modular BSM Inference Tool

[gambit.hepforge.org](http://gambit.hepforge.org)

[github.com/GambitBSM](https://github.com/GambitBSM)

EPJC 77 (2017) 784

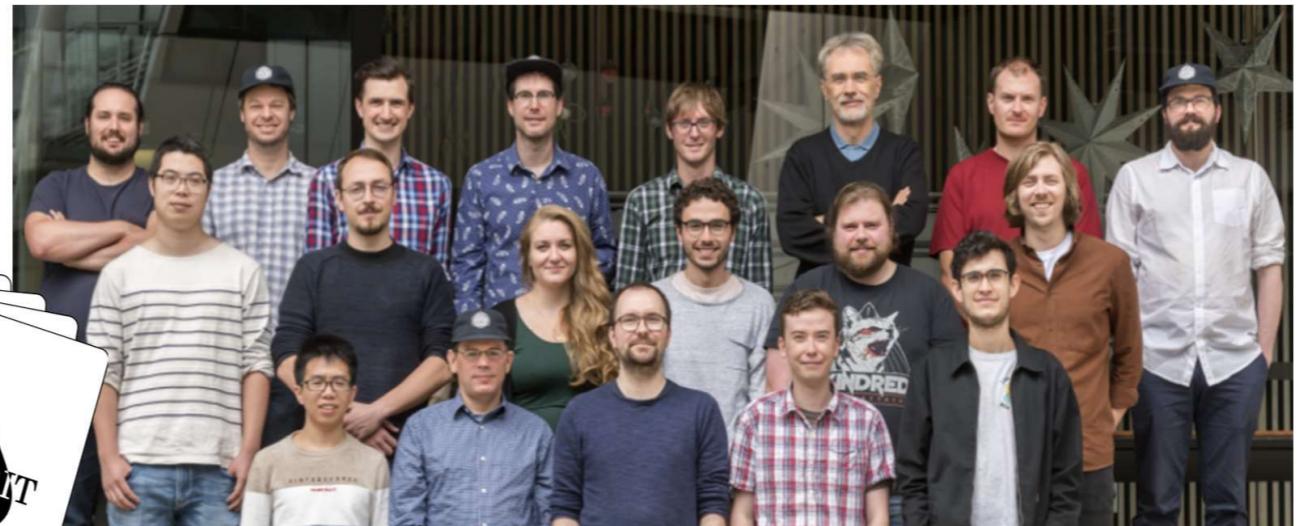
arXiv:1705.07908

- Extensive model database, beyond SUSY
- Fast definition of new datasets, theories
- Extensive observable/data libraries
- Plug&play scanning/physics/likelihood packages
- Various statistical options (frequentist /Bayesian)
- Fast LHC likelihood calculator
- Massively parallel
- Fully open-source



**Members of:** ATLAS, Belle-II, CLIC, CMS, CTA, Fermi-LAT, DARWIN, IceCube, LHCb, SHiP, XENON

**Authors of:** BubbleProfiler, Capt'n General, Contur, DarkAges, DarkSUSY, DDCalc, DirectDM, Diver, EasyScanHEP, ExoCLASS, FlexibleSUSY, gamLike, GM2Calc, HEPLike, IsaTools, MARTY, nuLike, PhaseTracer, PolyChord, Rivet, SOFTSUSY, SuperIso, SUSY-AI, xsec, Vevacious, WIMPSim

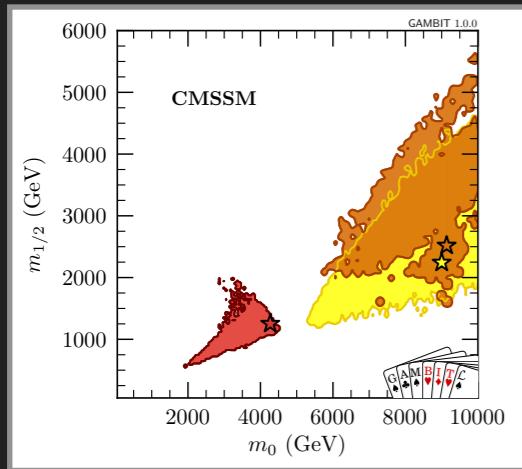


**Recent collaborators:** P Athron, C Balázs, A Beniwal, S Bloor, T Bringmann, A Buckley, J-E Camargo-Molina, C Chang, M Chrzaszcz, J Conrad, J Cornell, M Danninger, J Edsjö, T Emken, A Fowlie, T Gonzalo, W Handley, J Harz, S Hoof, F Kahlhoefer, A Kvellestad, P Jackson, D Jacob, C Lin, N Mahmoudi, G Martinez, MT Prim, A Raklev, C Rogan, R Ruiz, P Scott, N Serra, P Stöcker, W. Su, A Vincent, C Weniger, M White, Y Zhang, ++

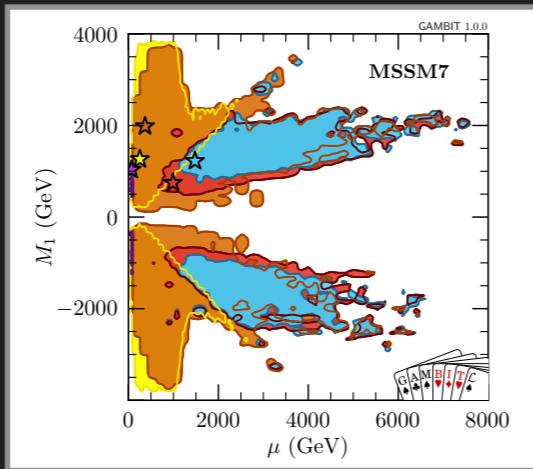
70+ participants in many experiments and numerous major theory codes

[gambitbsm.github.io](http://gambitbsm.github.io)

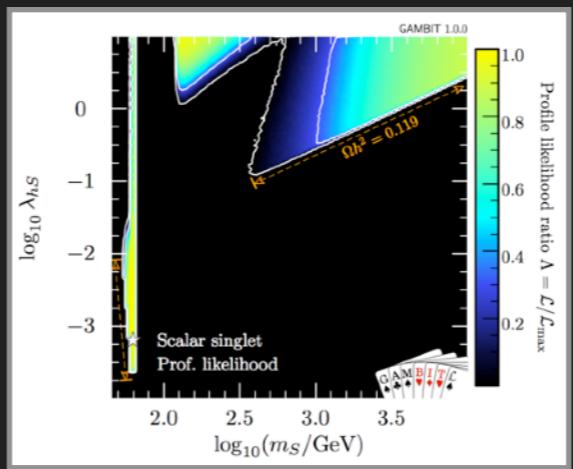
[www.mn.uio.no/fysikk/english/research/projects/gambit/](http://www.mn.uio.no/fysikk/english/research/projects/gambit/)



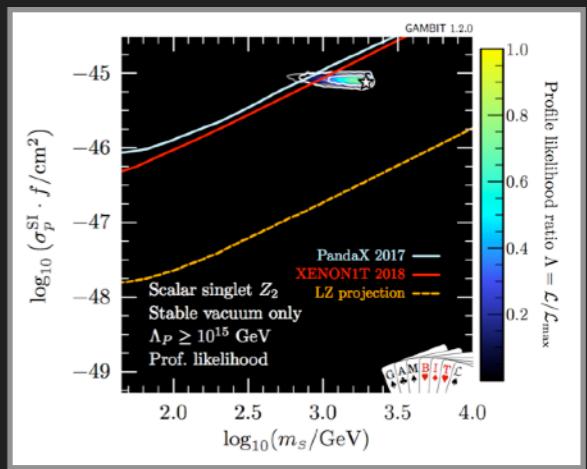
**GUT-scale SUSY:**  
1705.07935



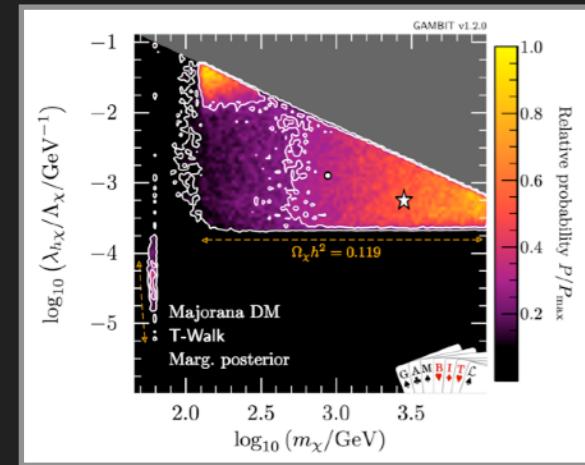
**MSSM7:** 1705.07917



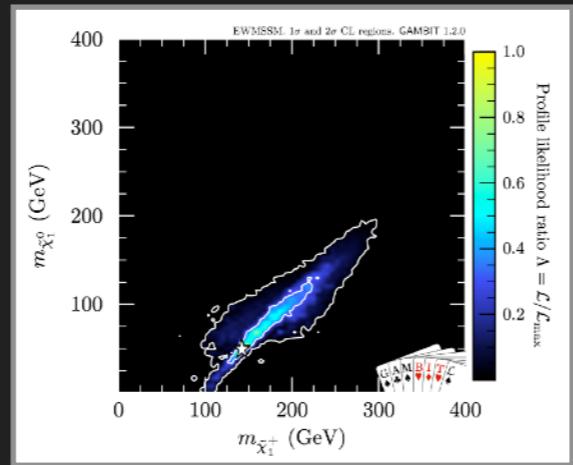
**Scalar Higgs portal DM:**  
1705.07931



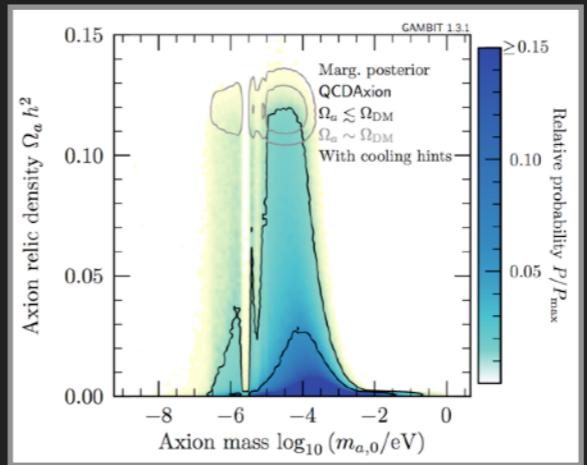
**Scalar Higgs portal DM w/  
vac. stability:** 1806.11281



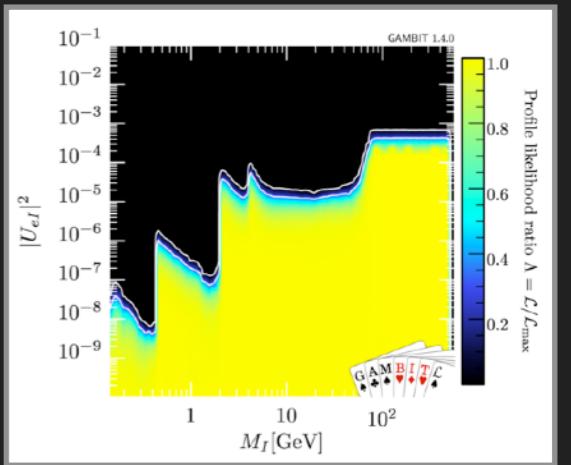
**Vector and fermion Higgs  
portal DM:** 1808.10465



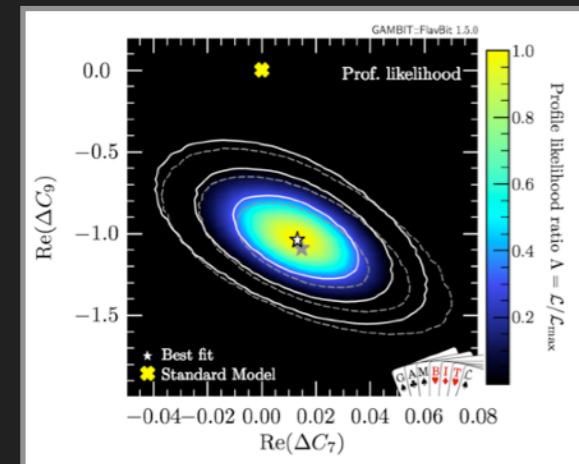
**EW-MSSM:** 1809.02097



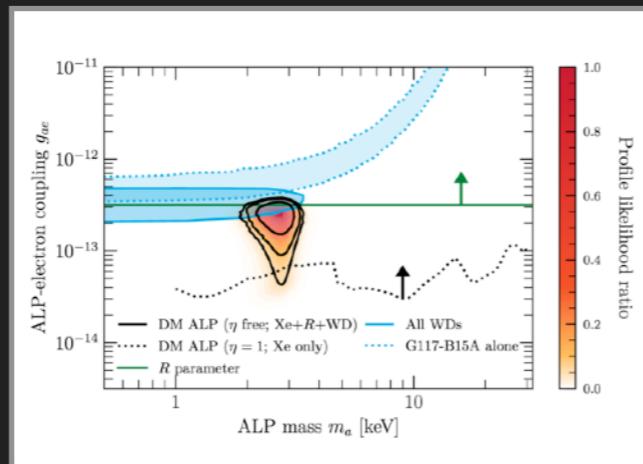
**Axion-like particles:**  
1810.07192



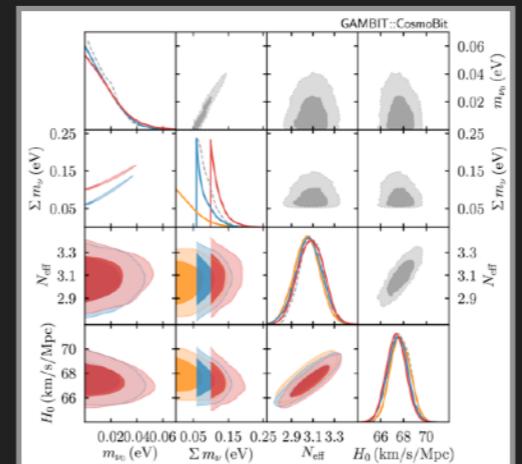
**Right-handed neutrinos:**  
1908.02302



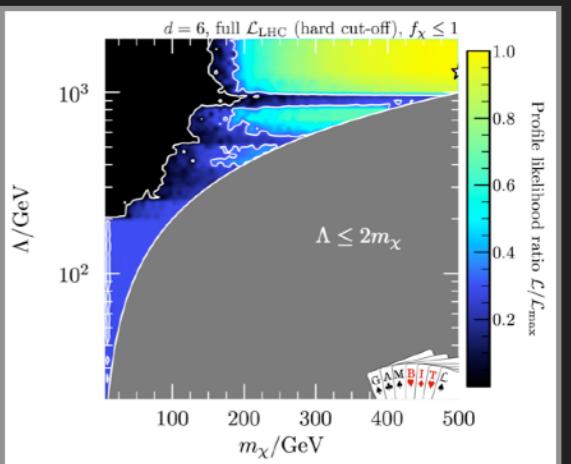
**Flavour EFT:** 2006.03489



**More axion-like particles:**  
2006.03489



**Neutrinos and cosmo:**  
2009.03287



**Dark matter  
EFTs:** 2106.02056



**2. In high-dimensional parameter space no one  
can hear you scream...**

[large number of observables]



[long calculation time per observable per parameter point]



[huge number of points required to explore parameter space]



[large number of observables]



[long calculation time per observable per parameter point]

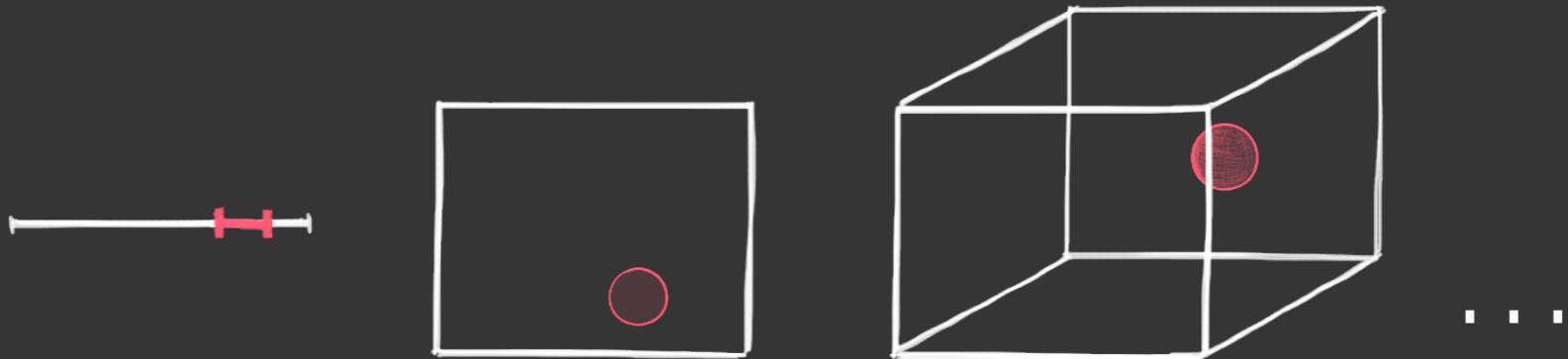


[huge number of points required to explore parameter space]



Finding interesting parameter regions gets harder with increasing number of dimensions...

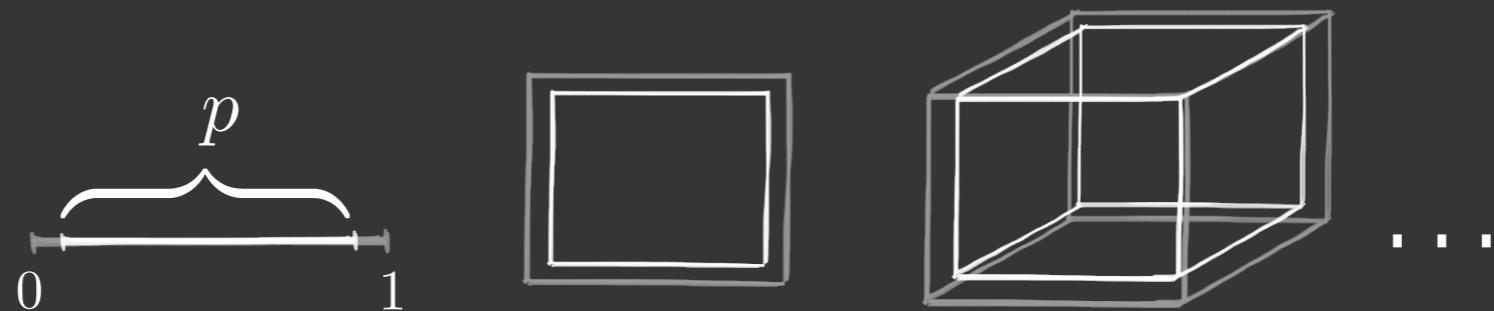
$$\lim_{D \rightarrow \infty} \frac{V_{\text{interesting}}}{V_{\text{total}}} = 0$$



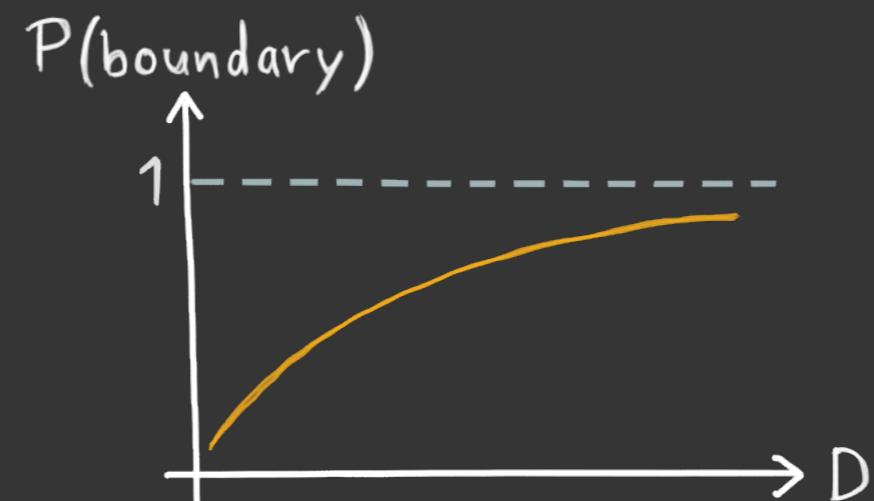
...so simply picking points «at random» will be **highly inefficient**...

...and it will mainly explore the **boundary** of the parameter space!

$$\vec{x} = (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_D) \quad x_i \sim U(0, 1)$$

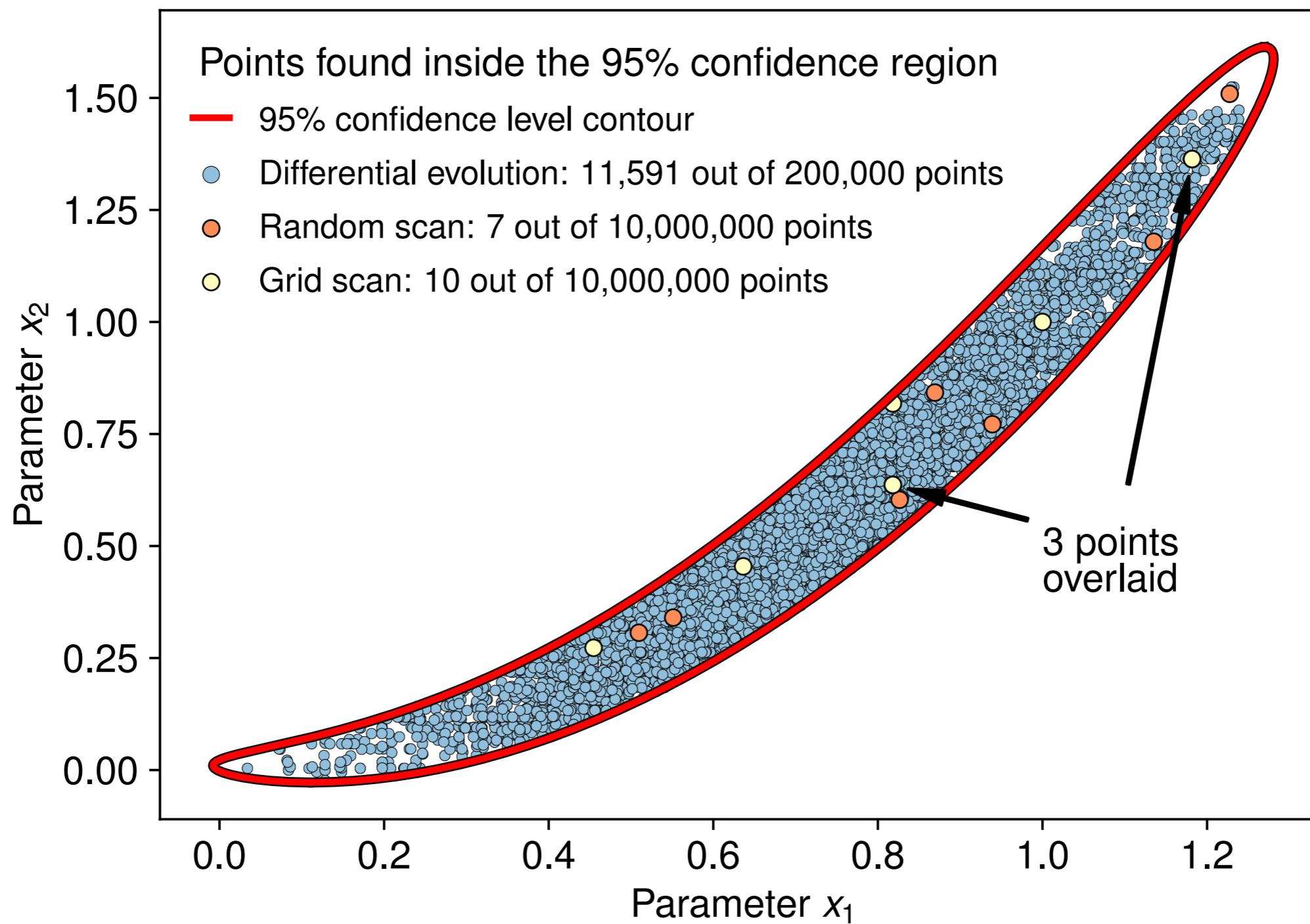


$$P(\text{boundary}) = 1 - P(\text{not boundary}) = 1 - p^D$$

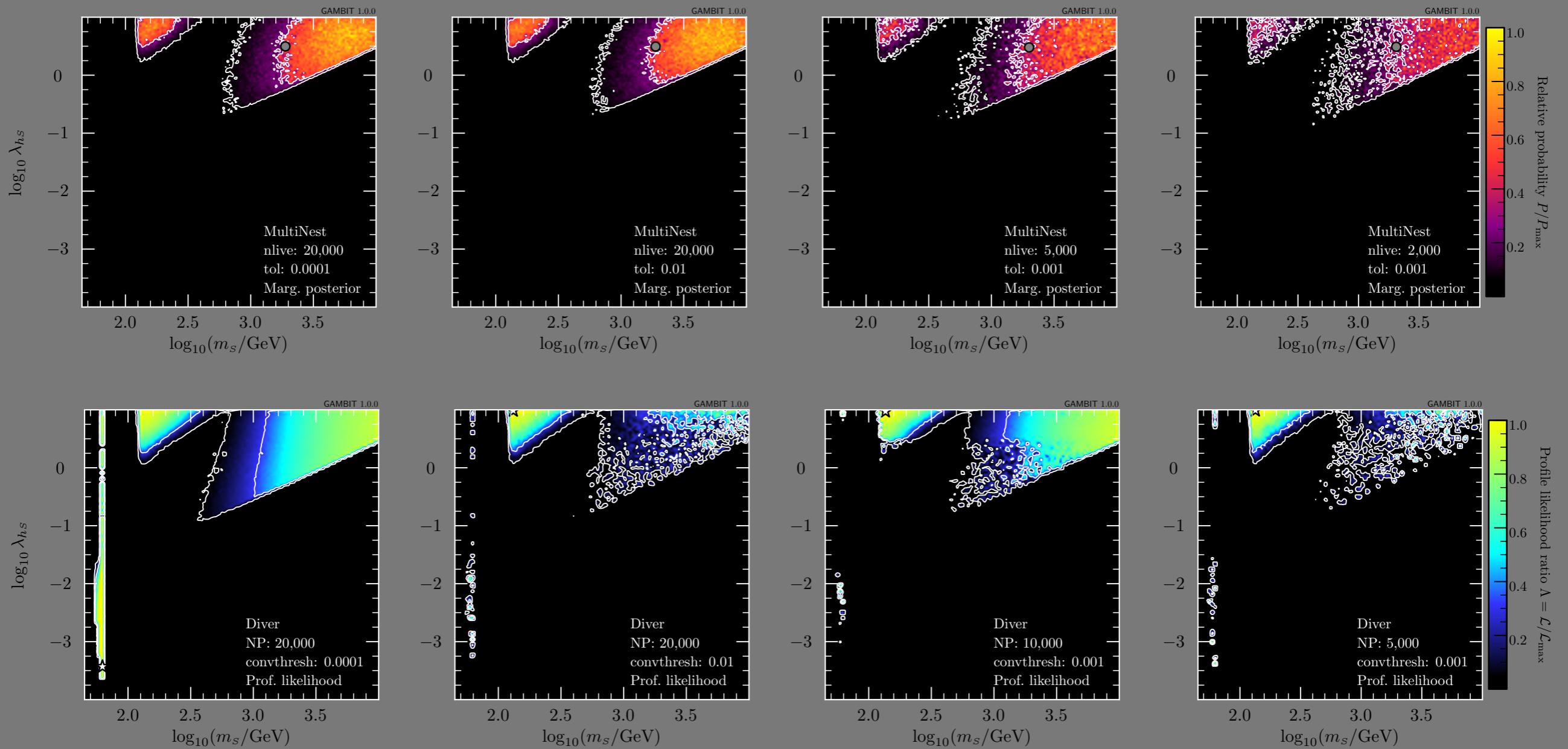


Need to use some **smart** sampling algorithms!

## Four-dimensional Rosenbrock function



arxiv:2012.09874



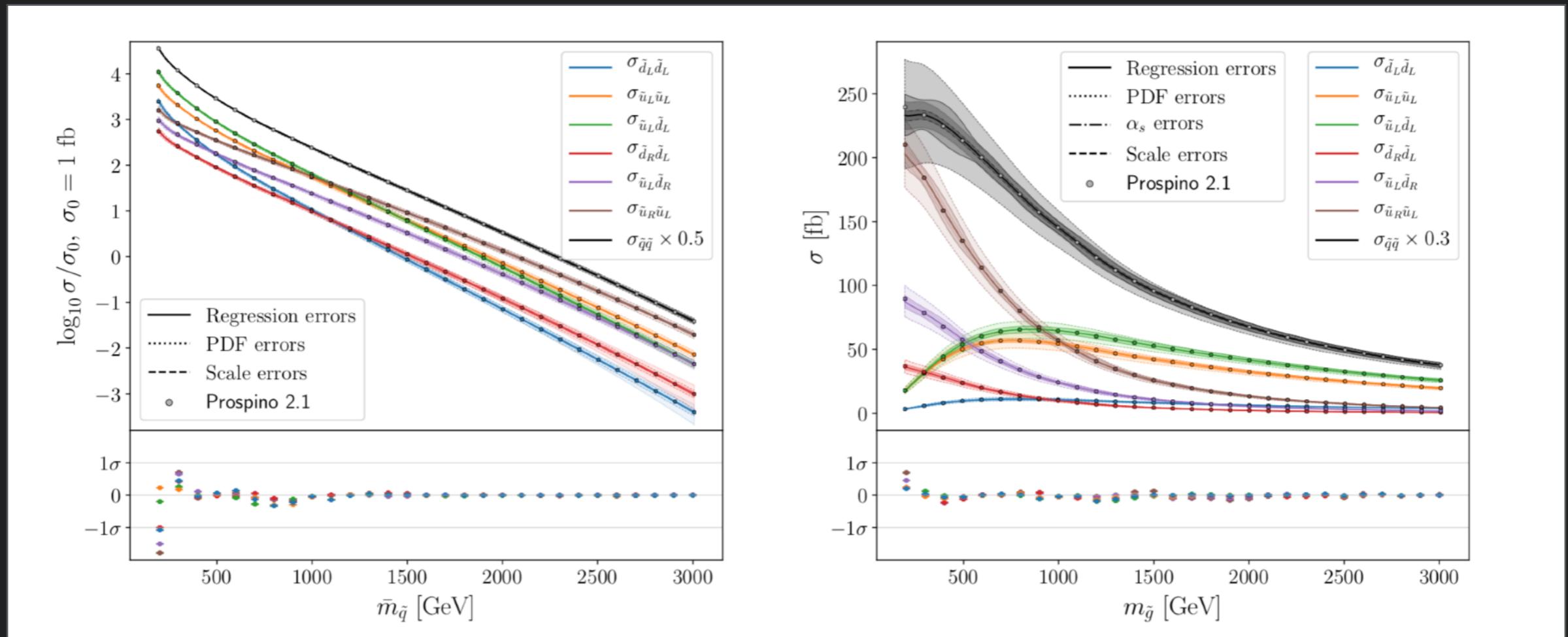
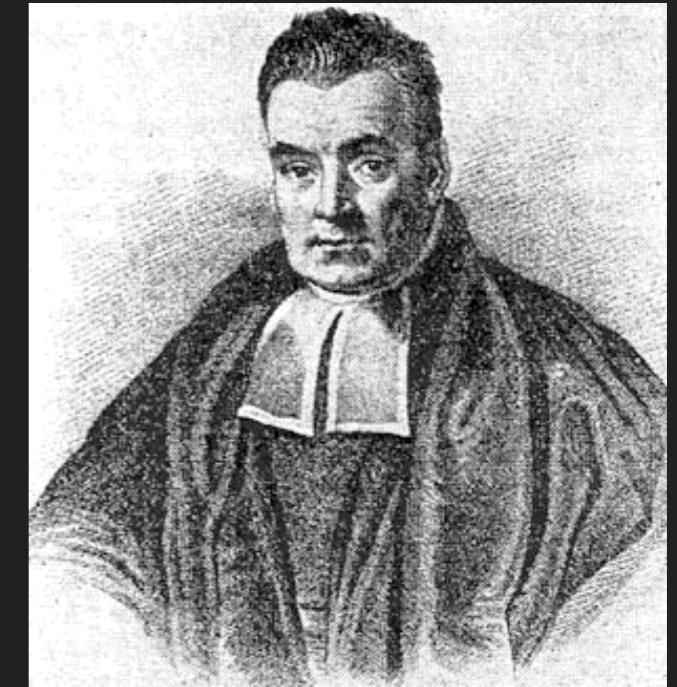
For comparisons of sampling algorithms, see [arxiv:1705.07959](https://arxiv.org/abs/1705.07959) and [arxiv:2101.04525](https://arxiv.org/abs/2101.04525)

Mostly used in GAMBIT: **differential evolution** (Diver), **nested sampling** (MultiNest, PolyChord w/ fast-slow)



- A typical BSM global fit requires **O(10M) parameter samples**
- Need **fast** theory predictions with **reliable uncertainty estimates**

- Rev. Thomas Bayes to the rescue!
- Bayesian probability distributions for *functions*?  
→ *Gaussian process regression!*
- Train fast approximations to replace the slow physics computations



### **3. FYS3150 is everywhere!**

- C++ (and C, Python, Fortran, bash scripts, ...)

```
// Increment signal region counters: 2 same-sign leptons
if (preselection && nSignalLeptons==2 && nSignalTaus==0 && met>60 && conversion_veto)
  if (signalLeptons.at(0)->pid()>signalLeptons.at(1)->pid()>0) {
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      bool pp = false;
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```

- Compilation, linking

- Proper code structure

- Parallelisation

- Git

- Debugging!

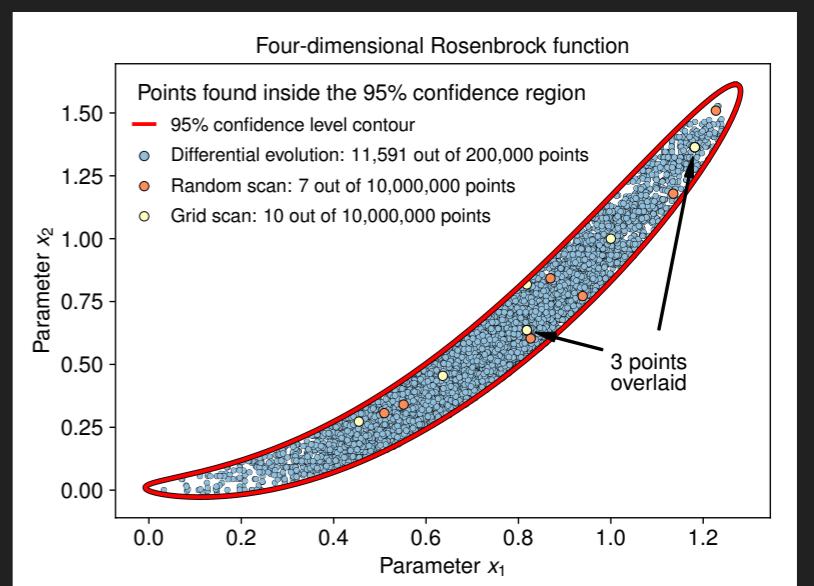
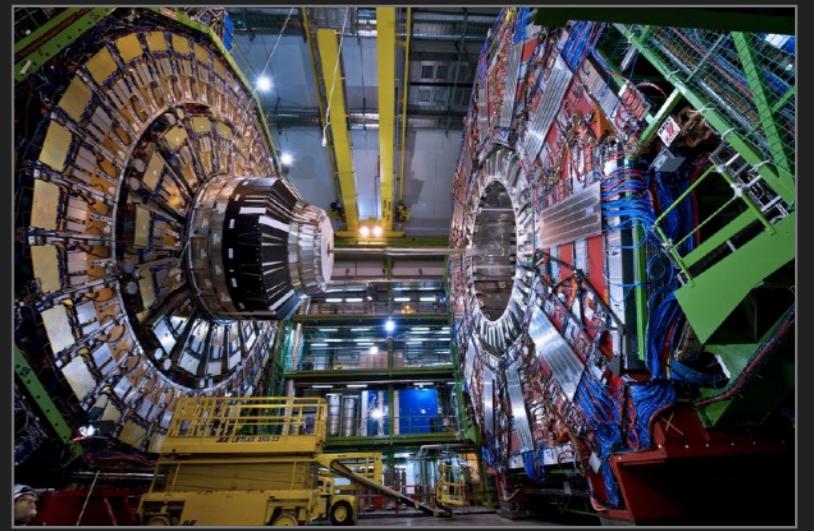
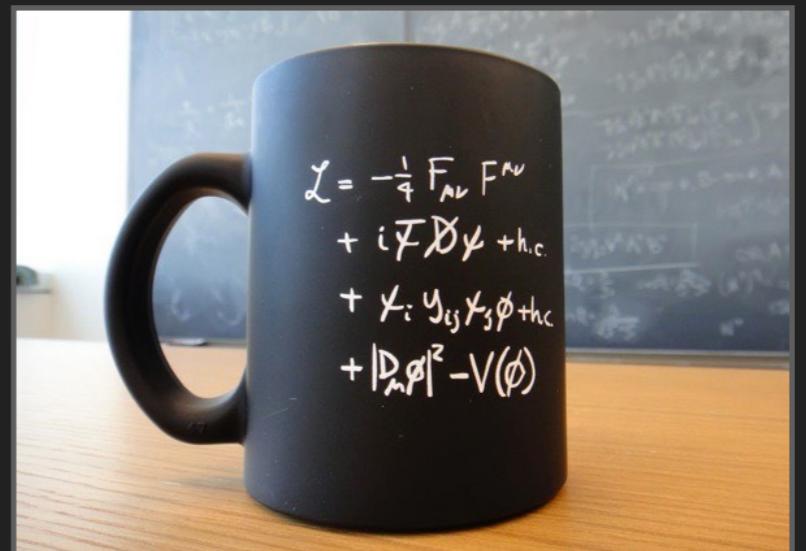
- Numerical errors

- Code optimisation

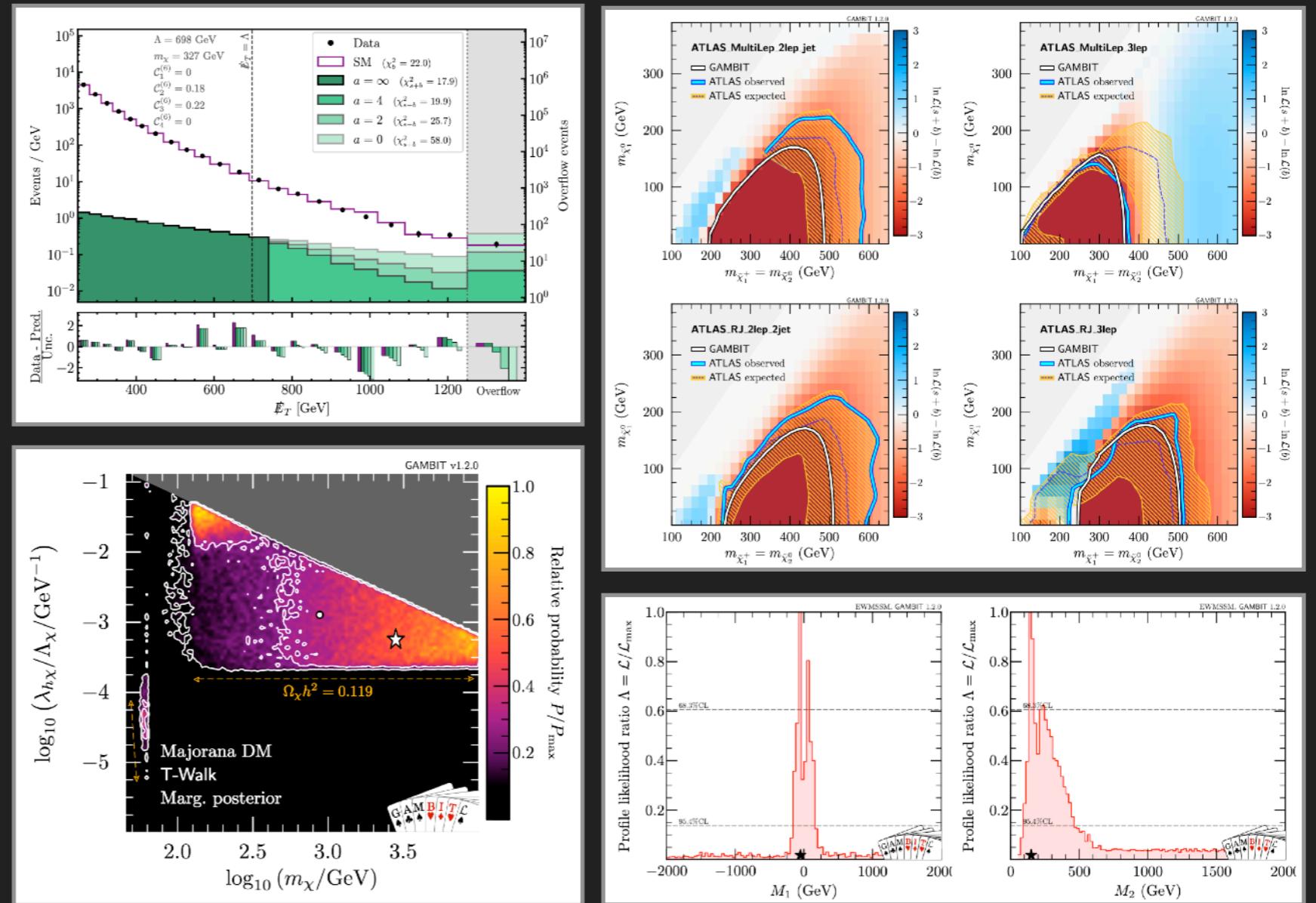


```
1. akvelles@r000u07l02:~ (ssh)
*****
* Welcome to MARCONI /
*   MARCONI-fusion @ CINECA - NeXtScale cluster - CentOS 7.2!
*
*   KNL partition - 3600 Compute nodes with:
*     - 1*68-core Intel(R) Knights Landing @ 1.40GHz
*     - 16 GB MCDRAM + 96 GB RAM
*   SKL partition - 1512:792 nodes with:
*     - 2*24-core Intel Xeon 8160 CPU @ 2.10GHz
*     - 192 GB DDR4 RAM
*   Intel OmniPath (100Gb/s) high-performance network
*   SLURM 18.08
*
*   For a guide on Marconi:
*   wiki.u-gov.it/confluence/display/SCAIUS/UG3.1%3A+MARCONI+UserGuide
*   For support: superc@cineca.it
*****
*   This system is in its complete configuration and is in full-production  *
```

- Predict particle masses?  
Solve numerical boundary value problem!
- Predict particle properties?  
Diagonalise a matrix numerically!
- Predict interaction probabilities?  
Numerical integration!
- Simulate particle interactions?  
Monte Carlo methods!
- Simulate detector effects?  
Monte Carlo methods!
- Explore the theory parameter space?  
Monte Carlo methods! (e.g. MCMC)
- Avoid being fooled by some data/simulations?  
Understand probability!



- Visualisation
- Scientific writing



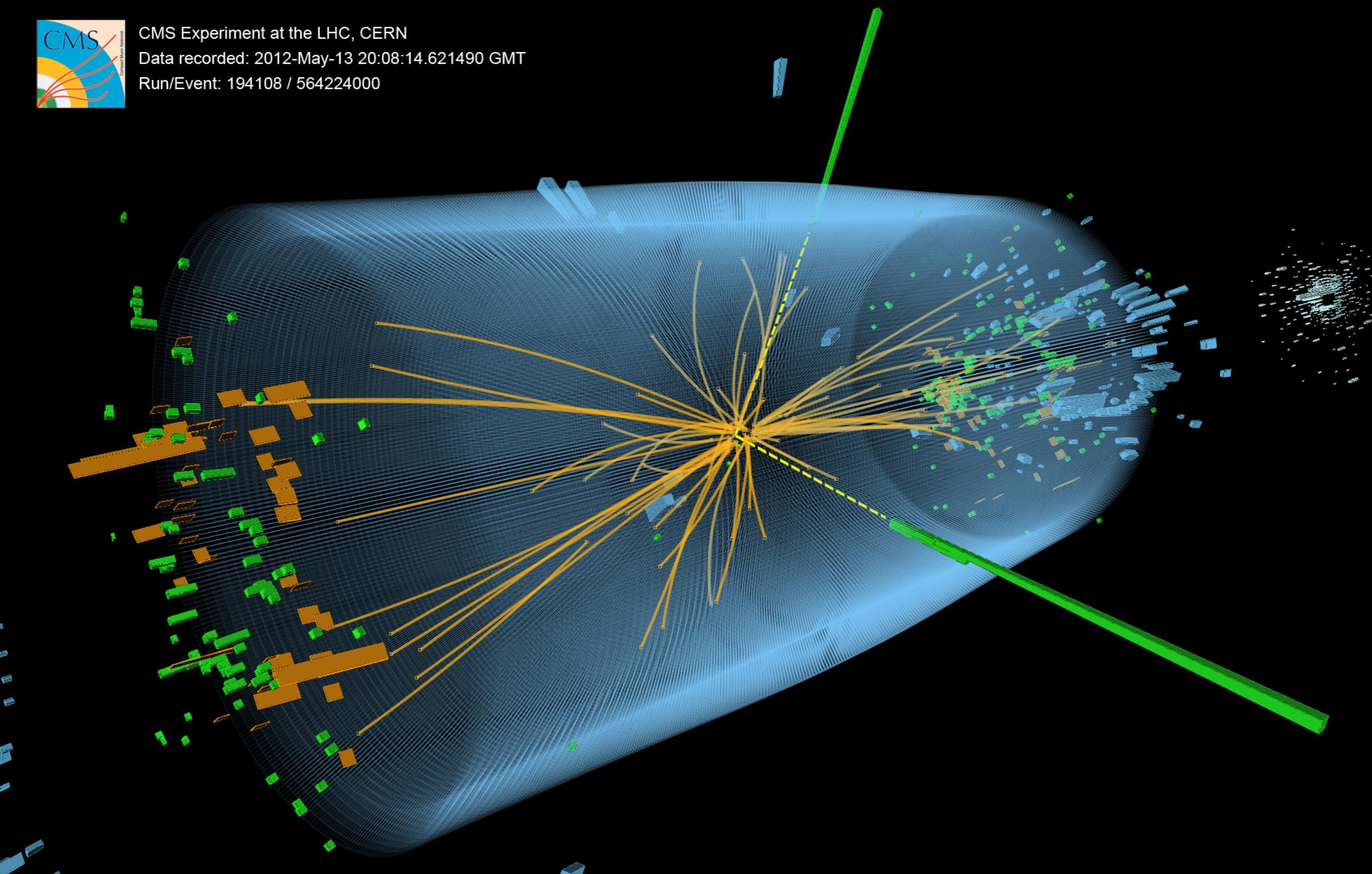


# Bonus tracks

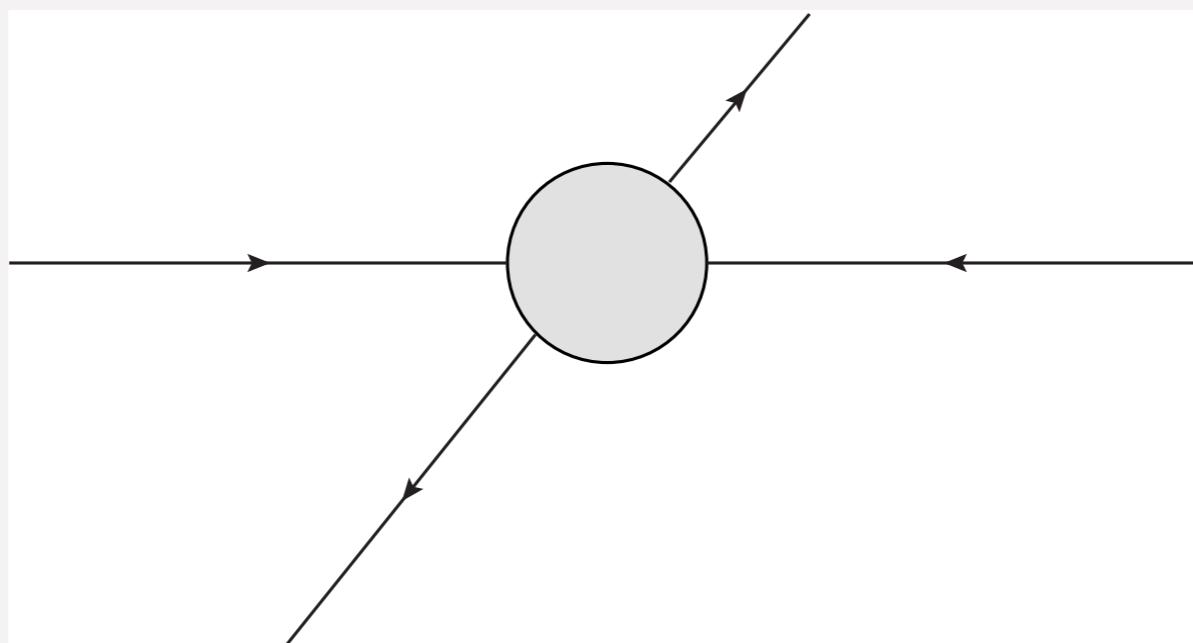
# 3. Modelling a collision at the LHC



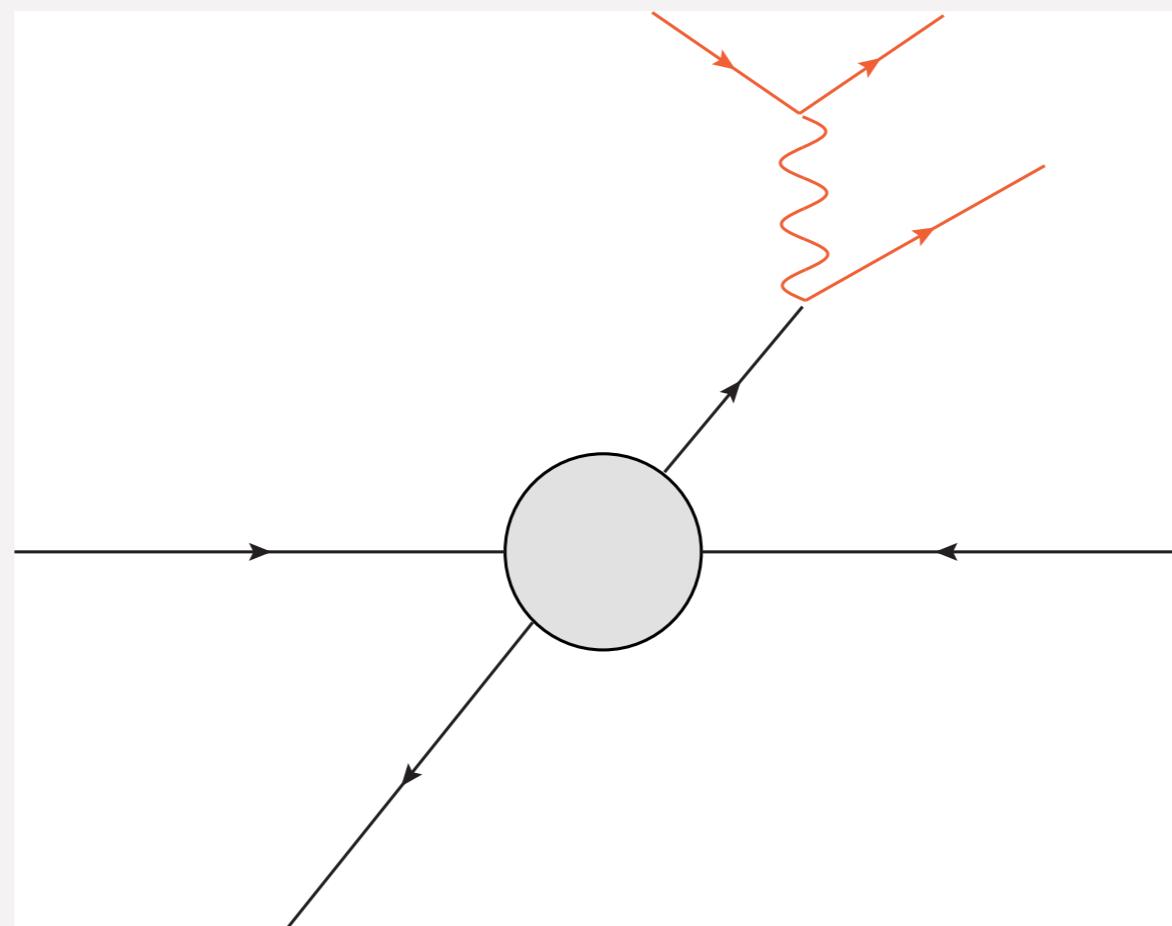
CMS Experiment at the LHC, CERN  
Data recorded: 2012-May-13 20:08:14.621490 GMT  
Run/Event: 194108 / 564224000



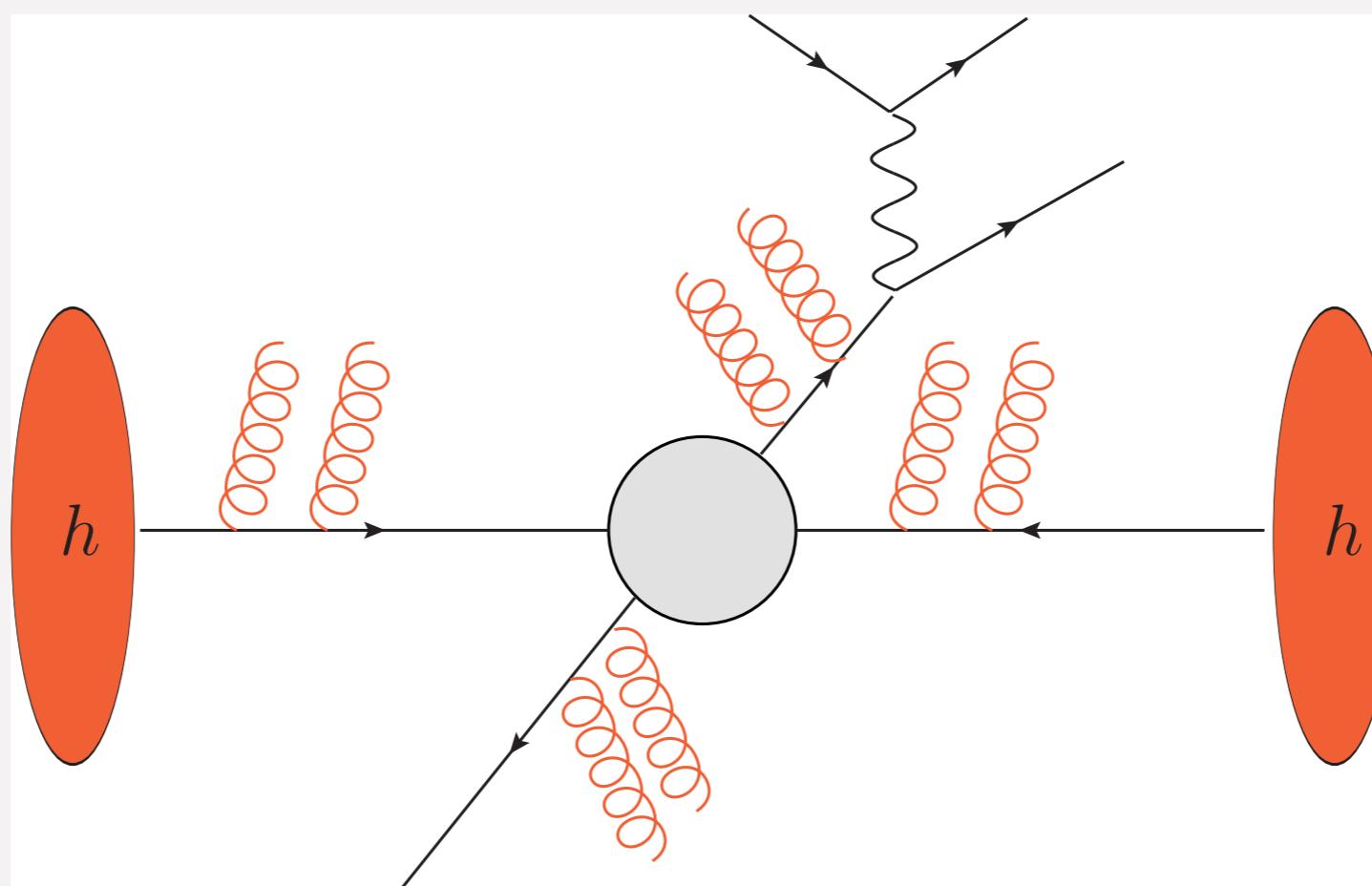
## Step 1: Generating «the hard process»



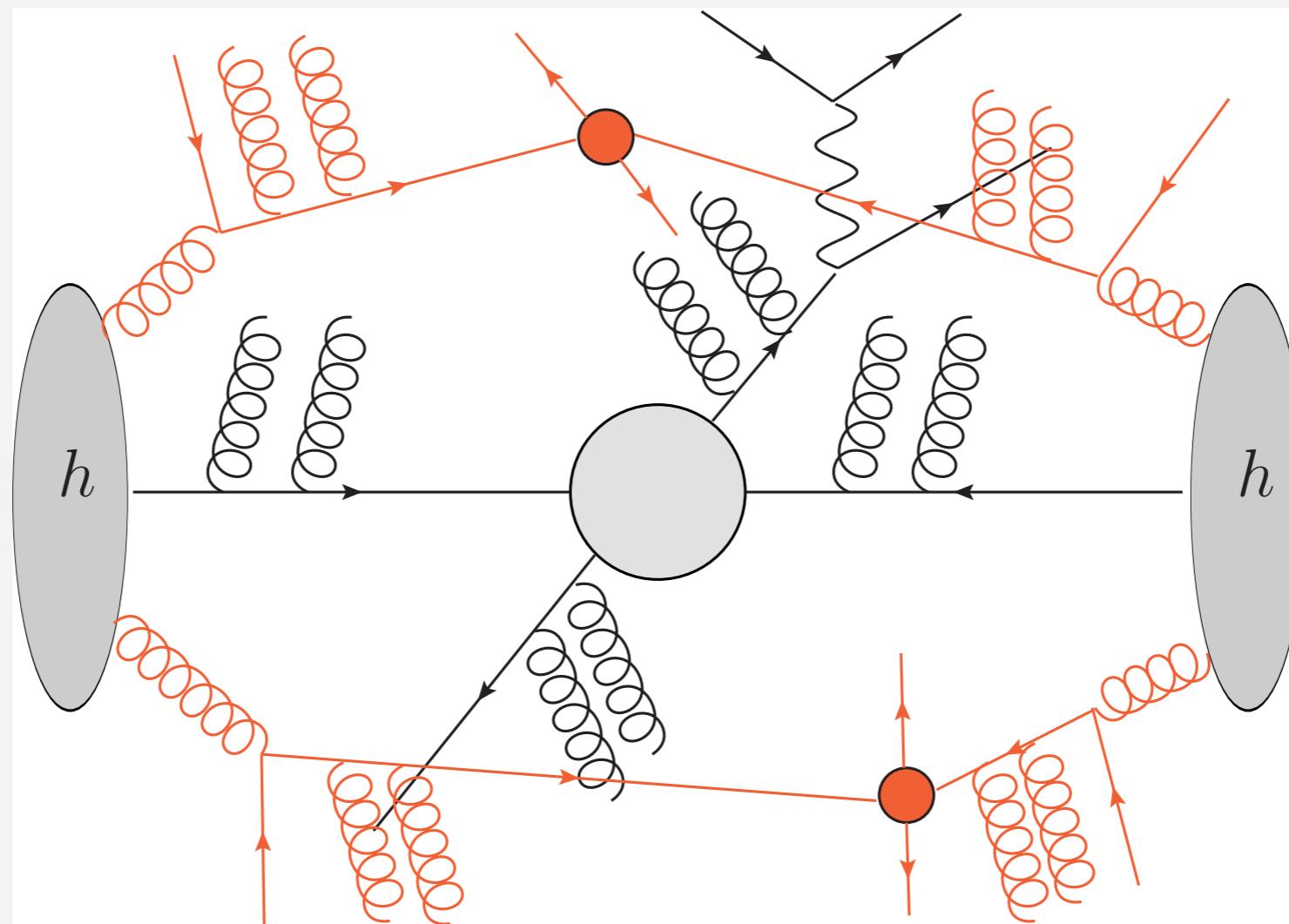
## Step 2: Decay of heavy, short-lived states («heavy resonance decay»)



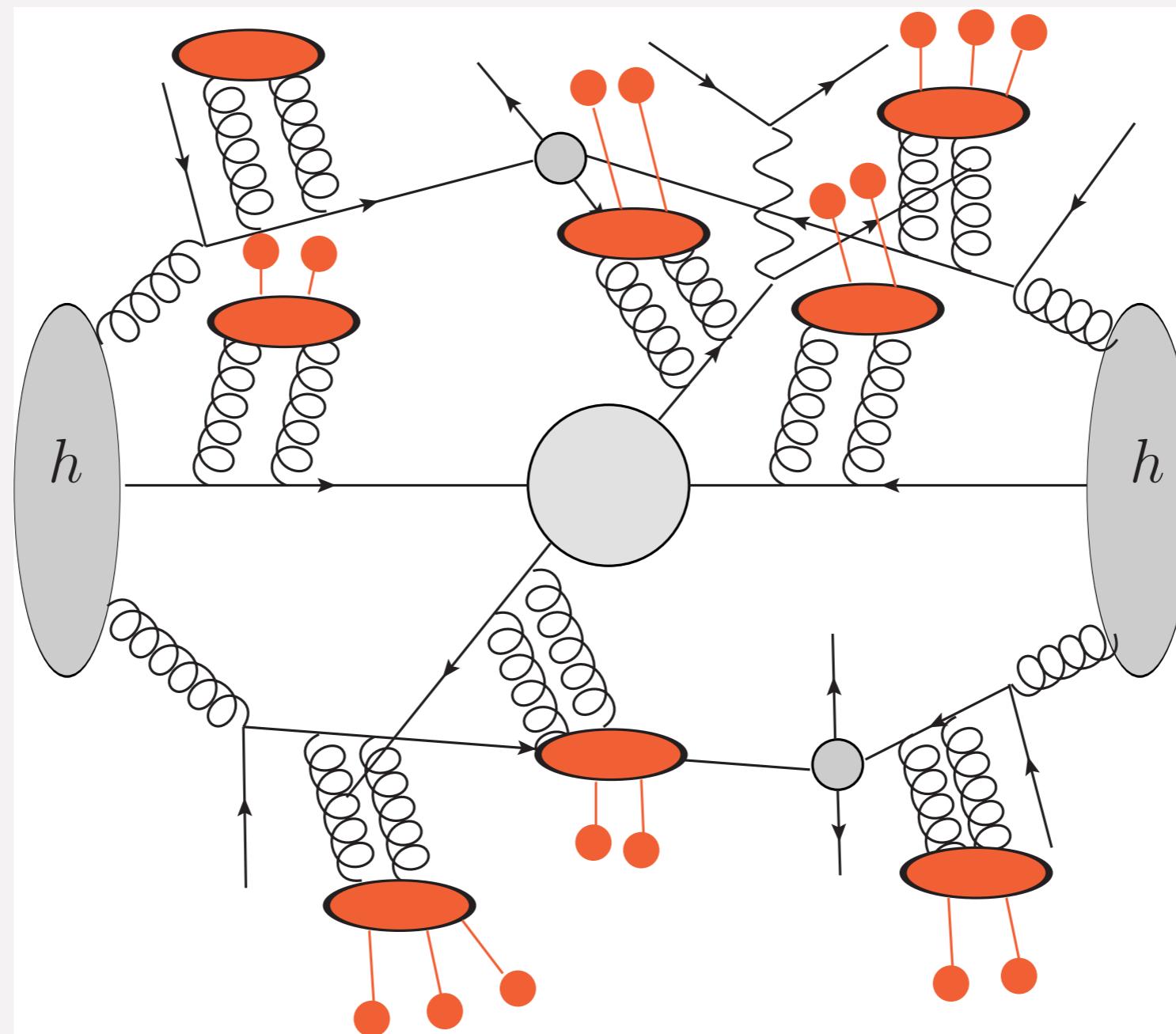
### Step 3: Initial and final state radiation («parton showers»)



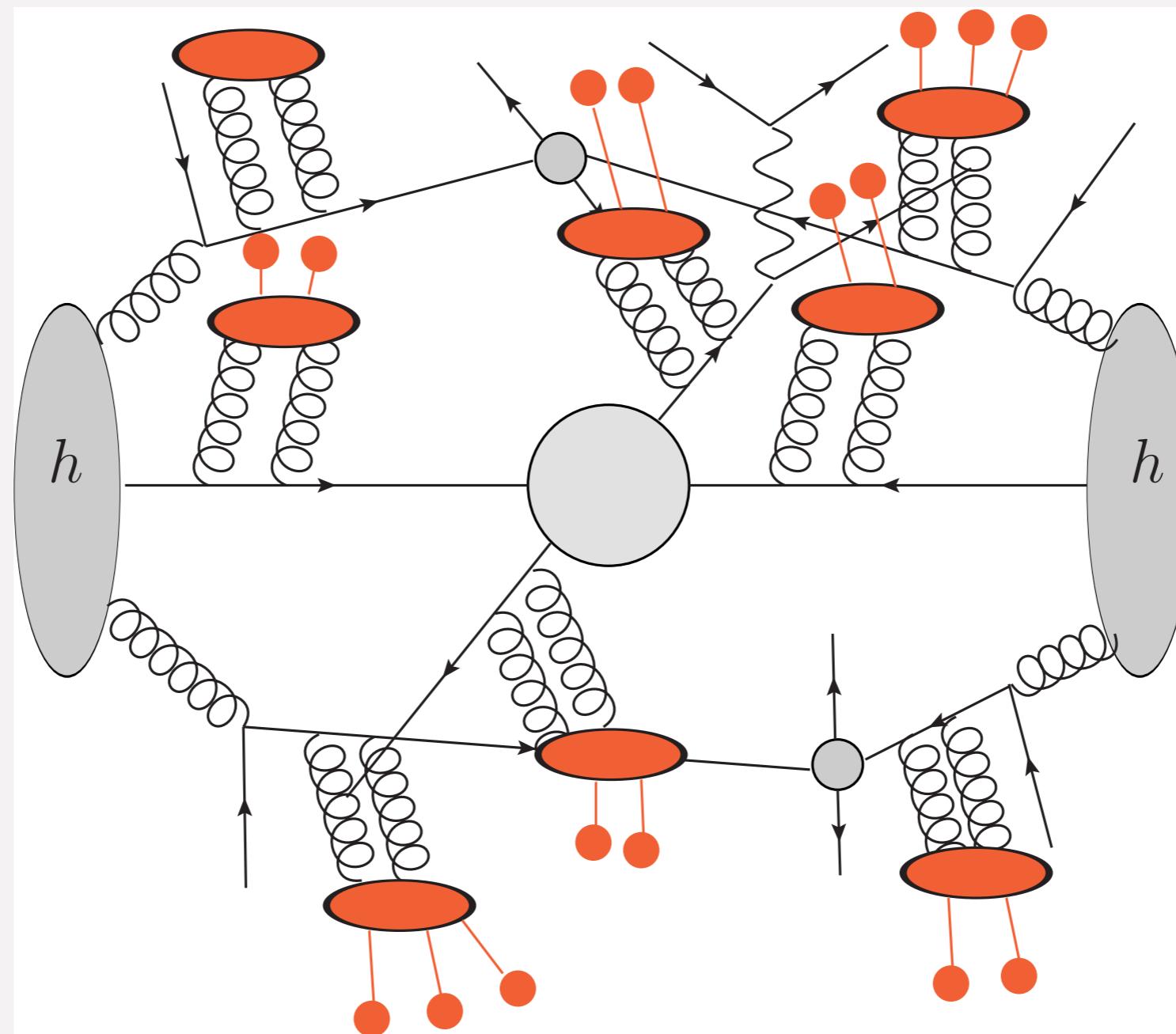
## Step 4: Secondary interactions («multi-parton interactions»)



## Step 5: Hadron formation and decays (non-perturbative)



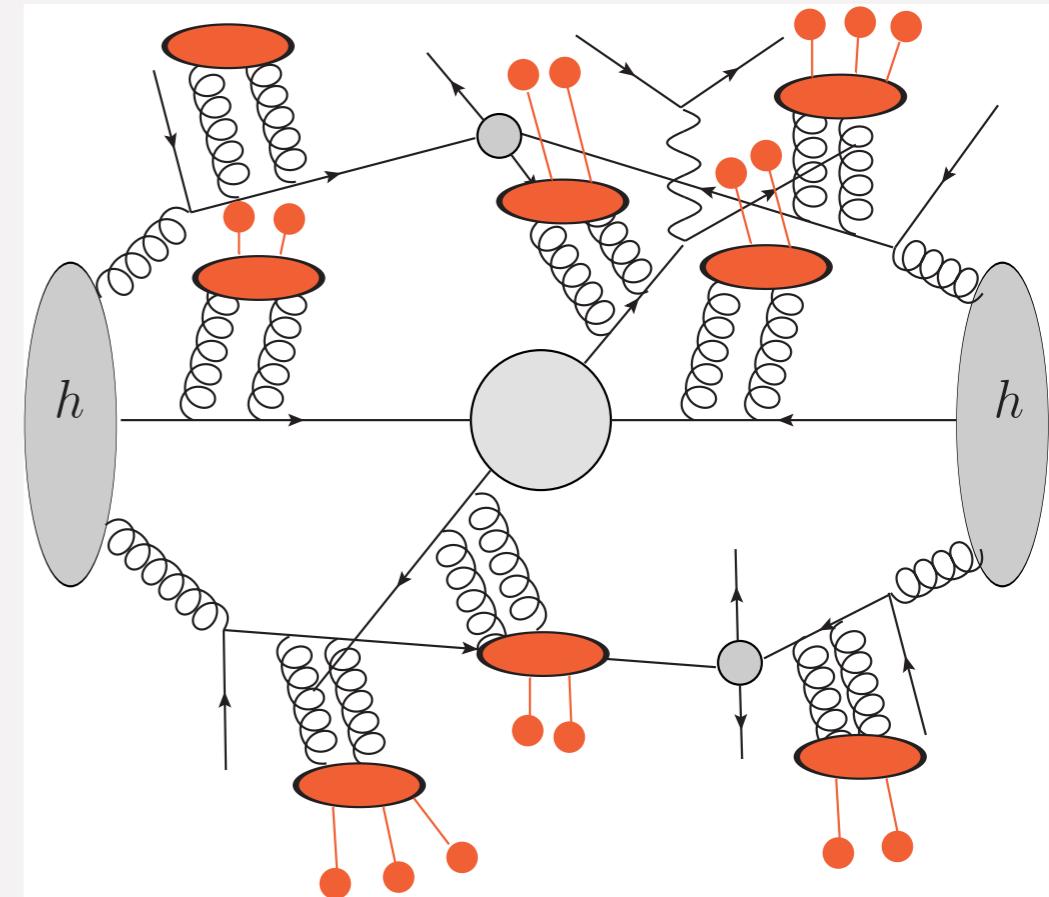
## Step 5: Hadron formation and decays (non-perturbative)



Many-dimensional  
phase space!

## Need random numbers to:

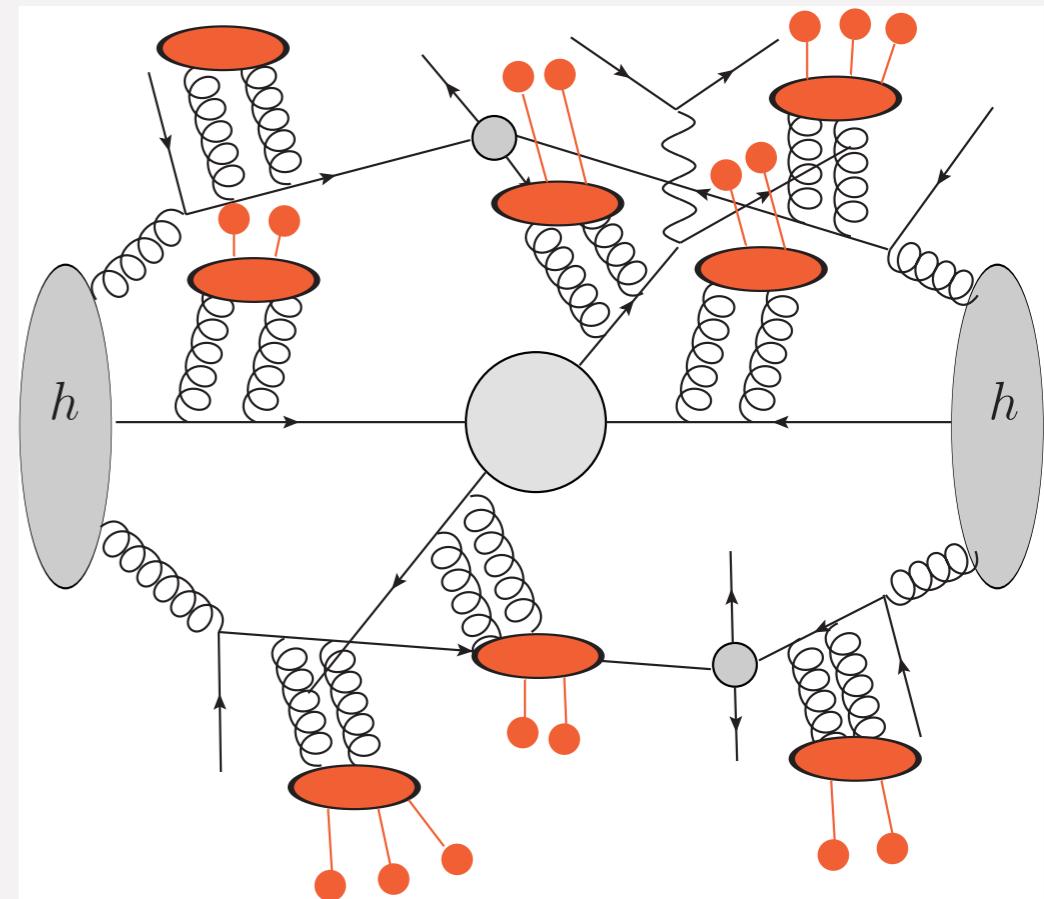
- select the hard process from all the allowed processes
- select momentum (fraction of proton momentum) for each incoming quark/gluon
- select scattering directions
- select decay process and kinematics for each unstable particle
- pick a branching pattern for initial and final state radiation (distributes the energy across more partons)
- hadron formation and decay kinematics
- particle-detector interactions
- ...



$$\begin{aligned} p(\text{obs}) &= \int p(\text{obs}, \text{unobs}) d(\text{unobs}) \\ &= \int p(\text{obs}|\text{unobs}) p(\text{unobs}) d(\text{unobs}) \end{aligned}$$

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- hadron formation and decay kinematics
- **particle-detector interactions**
- ...

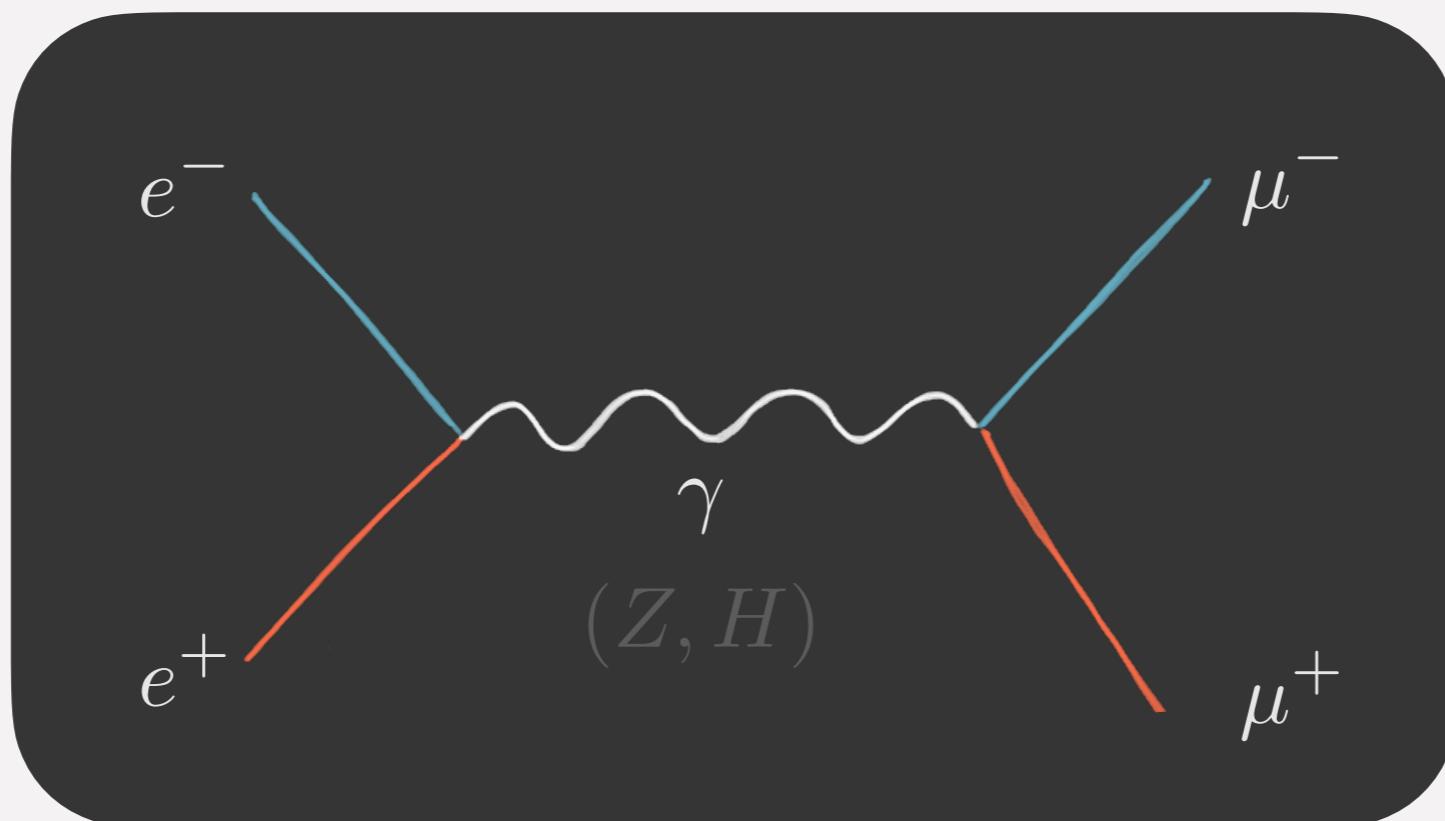


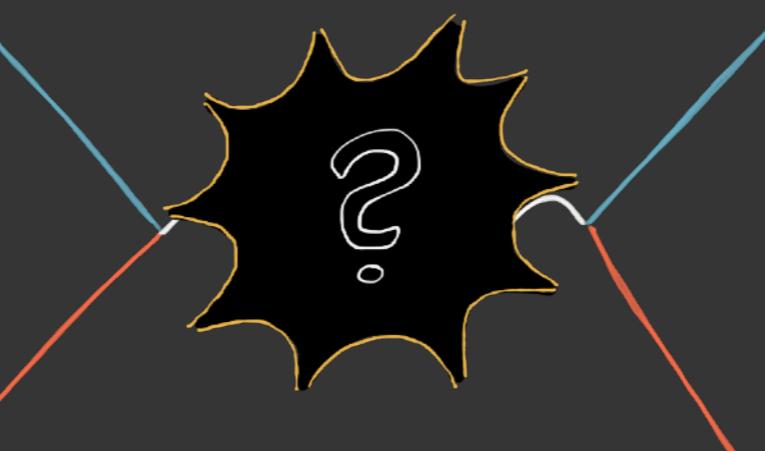
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# 4. Example: where did my muons go?

# The simplest process in particle physics?

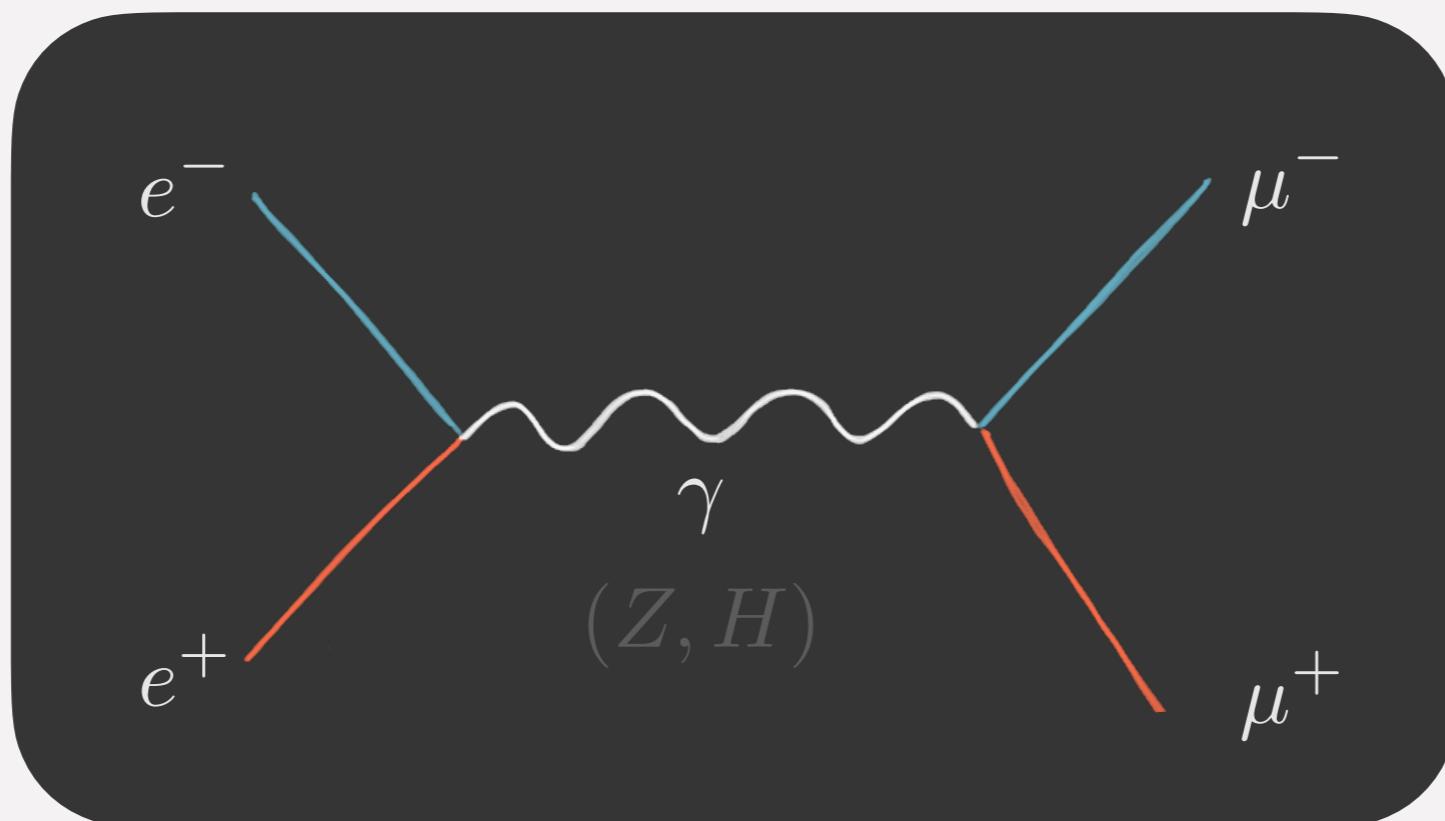
- Electron-positron pair annihilates and creates a muon-antimuon pair
- Only consider the process with a photon propagator (can also have Z and H)
- Only work at lowest order in perturbation theory





# The simplest process in particle physics?

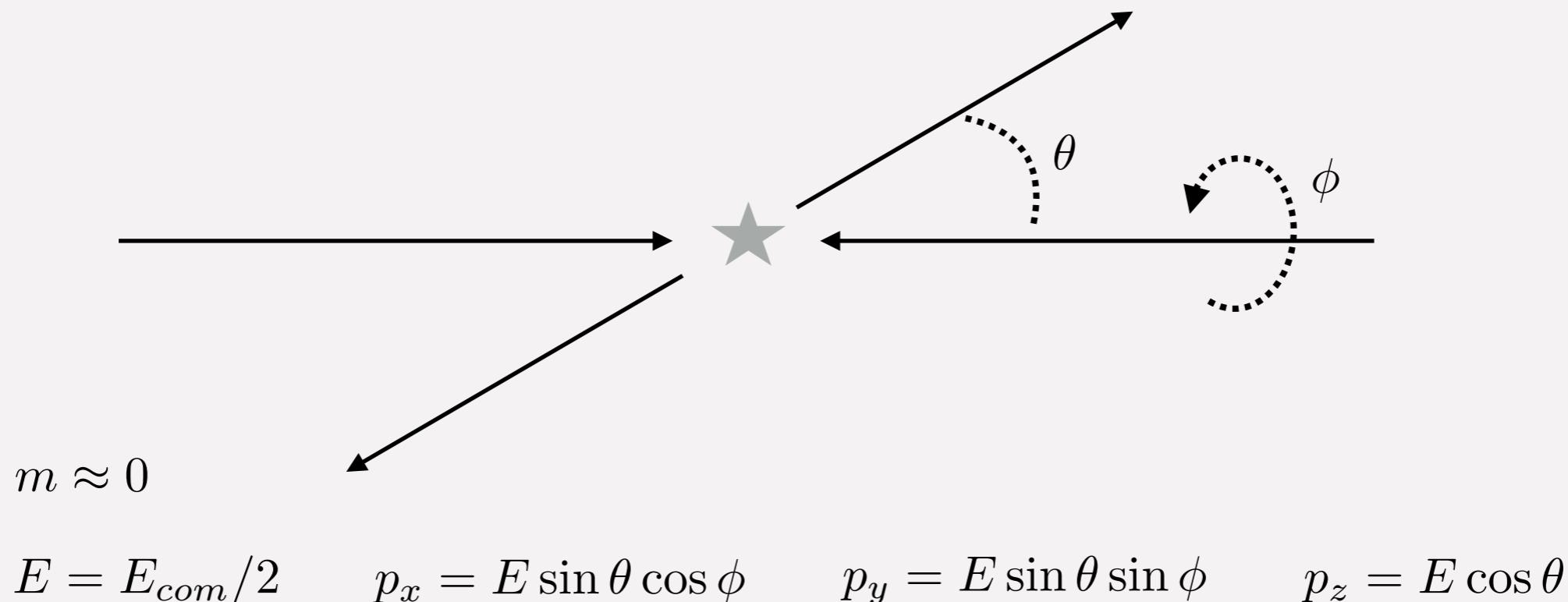
- Electron-positron pair annihilates and creates a muon-antimuon pair
- Only consider the process with a photon propagator (can also have Z and H)
- Only work at lowest order in perturbation theory
- **1) Generate the hard process 2) Simple detector simulation**



## Generating the hard process

- $2 \rightarrow 2$  process: the kinematics is fully determined by the direction of one outgoing muon
- QFT (QED) gives us the correct probability distribution for this direction
- Draw samples from this distribution, calculate all energies and momenta

$$\cos \theta \sim (1 + \cos^2 \theta) \quad \phi \sim U(0, 2\pi)$$



## Simple detector smearing:

- The outgoing particle has some «true» energy
- Our detector has some uncertainty — we will never measure exactly the true energy
- Simple model: the observed energy is drawn from a Gaussian centred on the true value

$$\begin{aligned} p(E_{\text{obs}}) &= \int p(E_{\text{obs}}, E_{\text{true}}) dE_{\text{true}} \\ &= \int p(E_{\text{obs}}|E_{\text{true}}) p(E_{\text{true}}) dE_{\text{true}} \\ &= \int \mathcal{N}(E_{\text{obs}}; E_{\text{true}}, \sigma_E) p(E_{\text{true}}) dE_{\text{true}} \end{aligned}$$

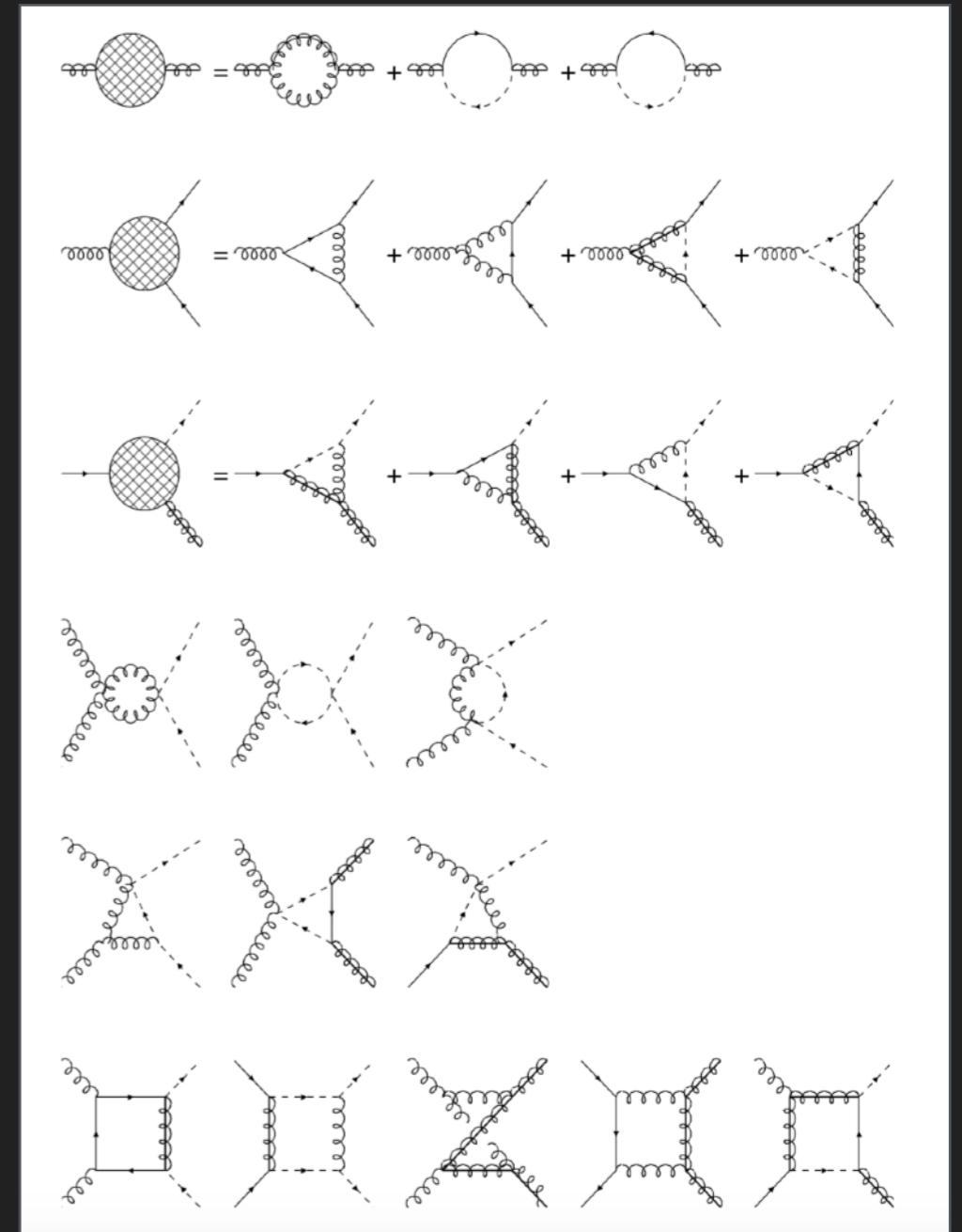
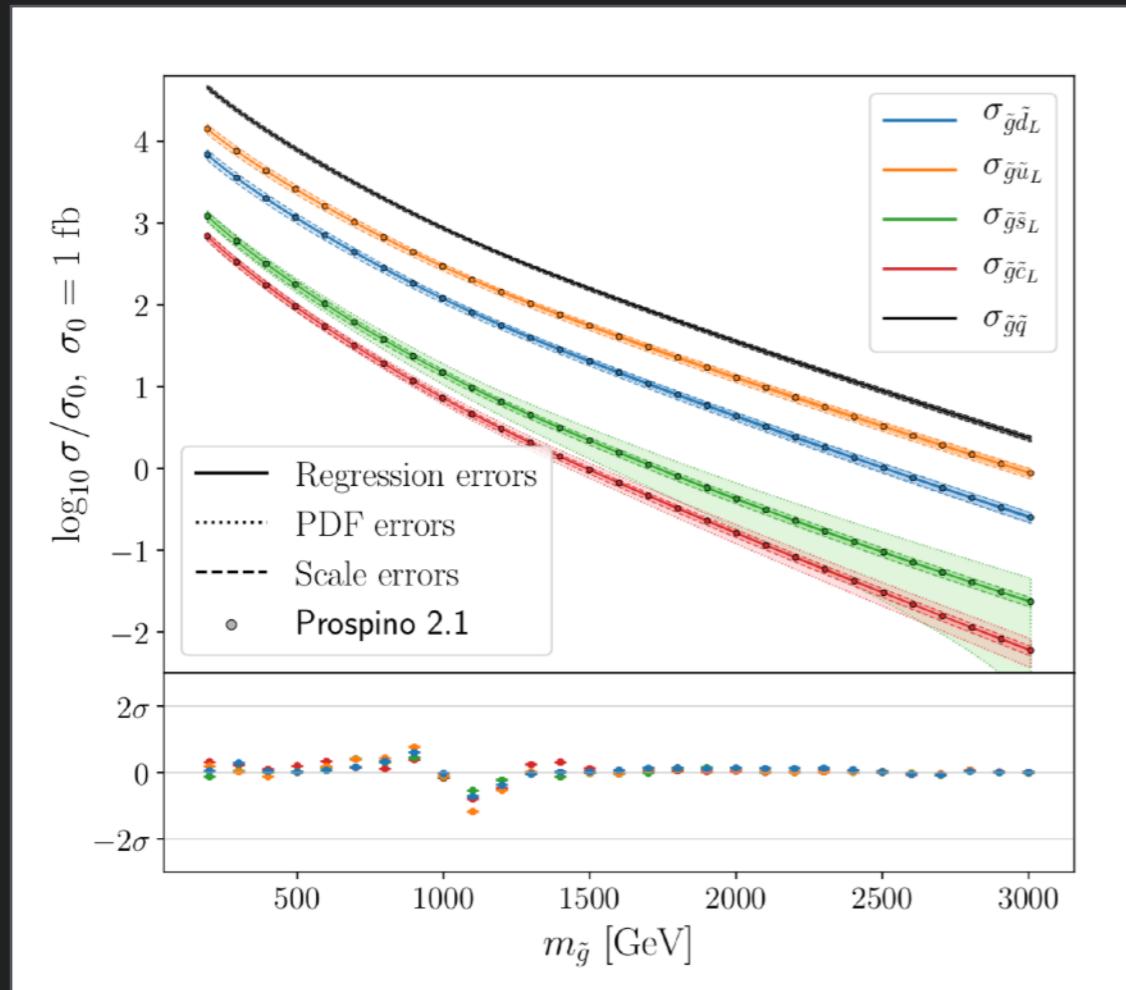




## **3. Rev. Bayes to the rescue!**

(Gaussian process regression)

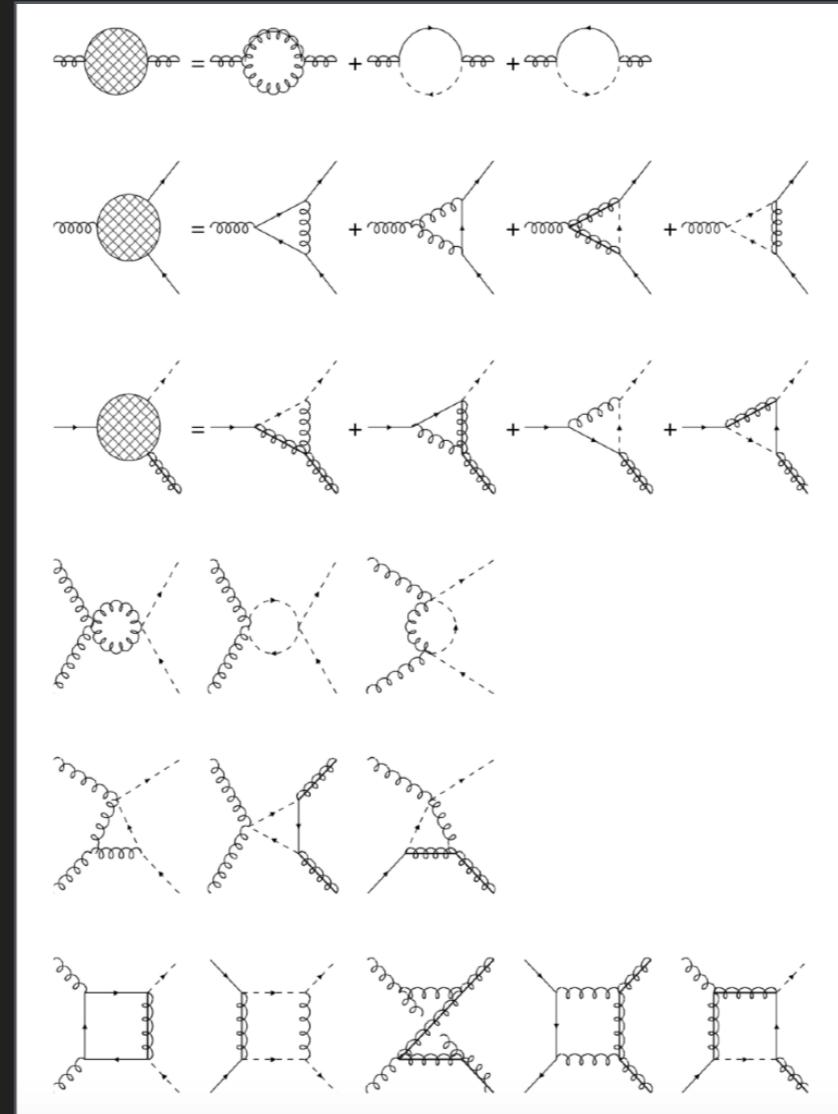
*One of the most CPU-expensive theory predictions:  
**High-accuracy production cross-sections (interaction probabilities)  
 for LHC predictions***



Evaluation time for a single parameter point:  
**~minutes/hours...**

*One of the most CPU-expensive theory predictions:*

## **High-accuracy production cross-sections (interaction probabilities) for LHC predictions**

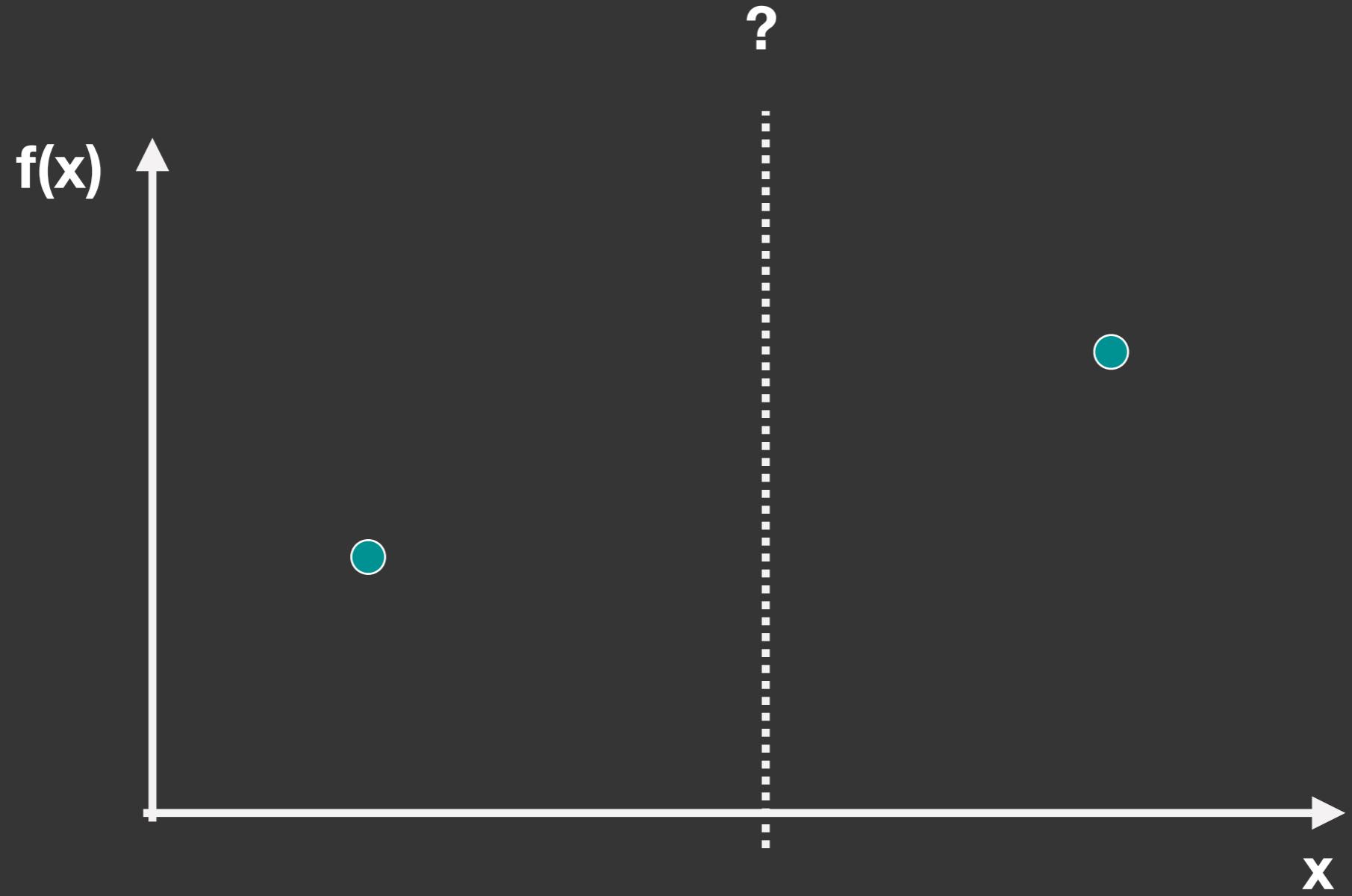


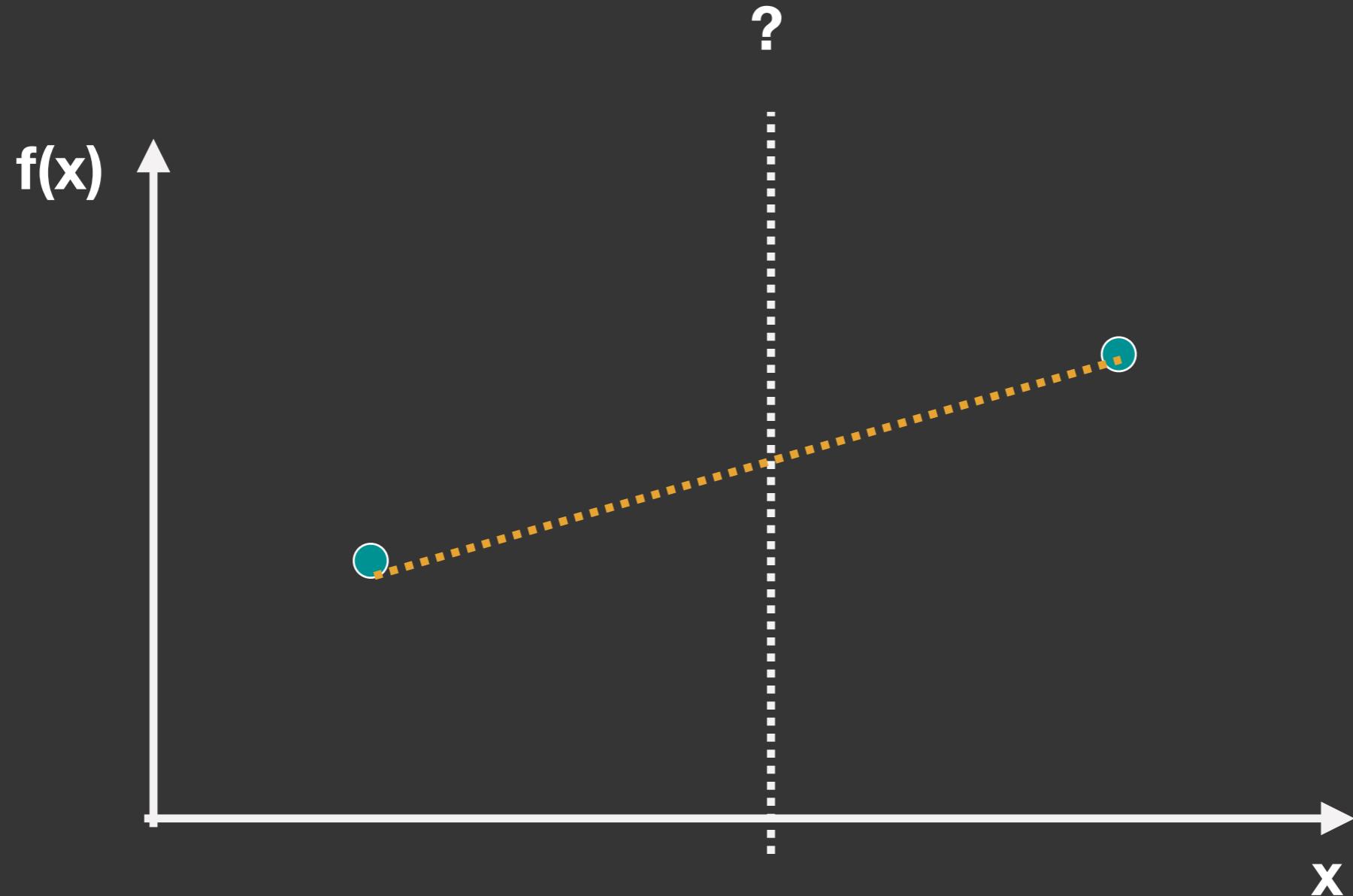
Evaluation time for a single parameter point:

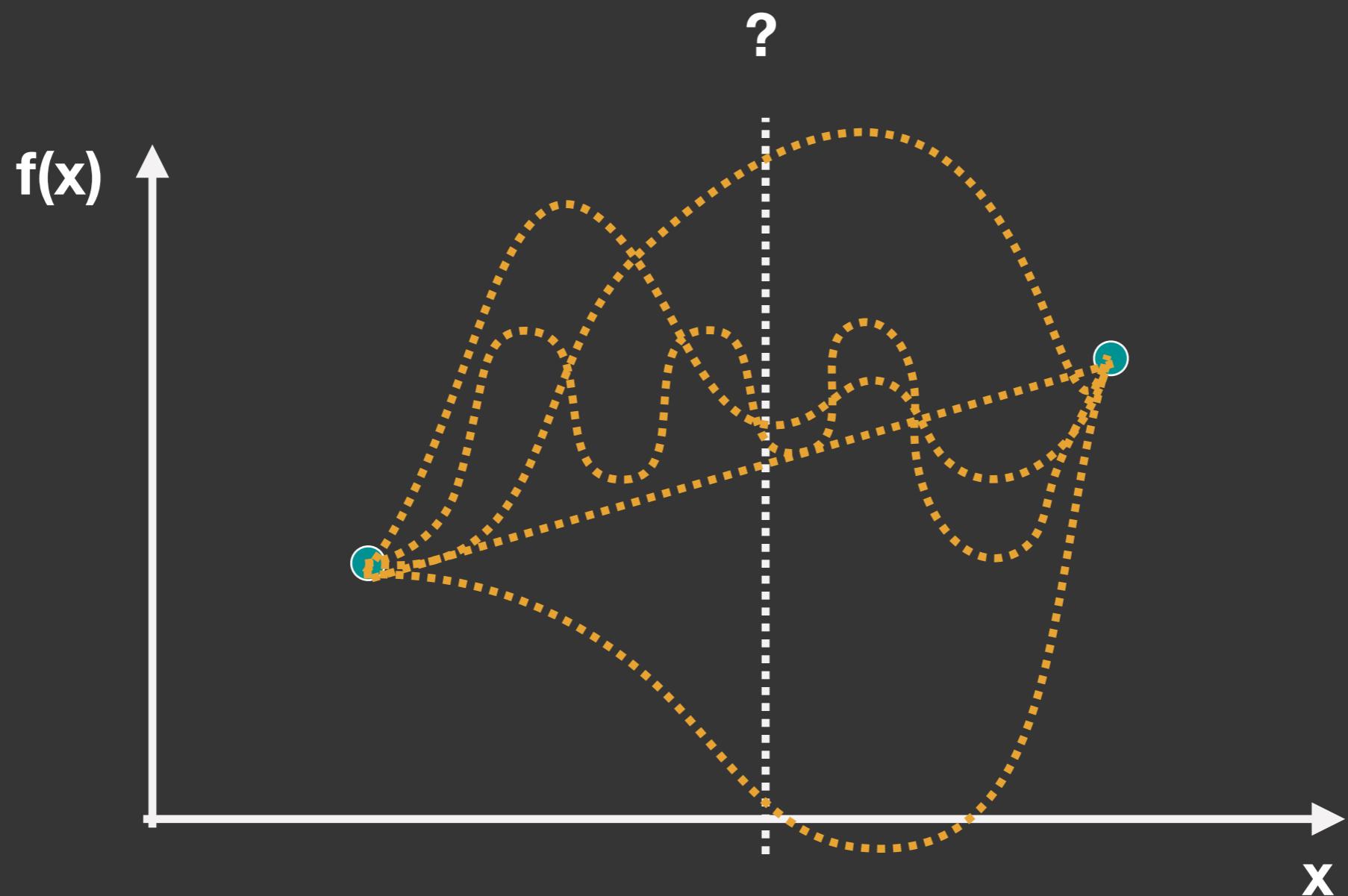
**~minutes/hours...**

Let's see if we can speed things up with some smart regression/interpolation...

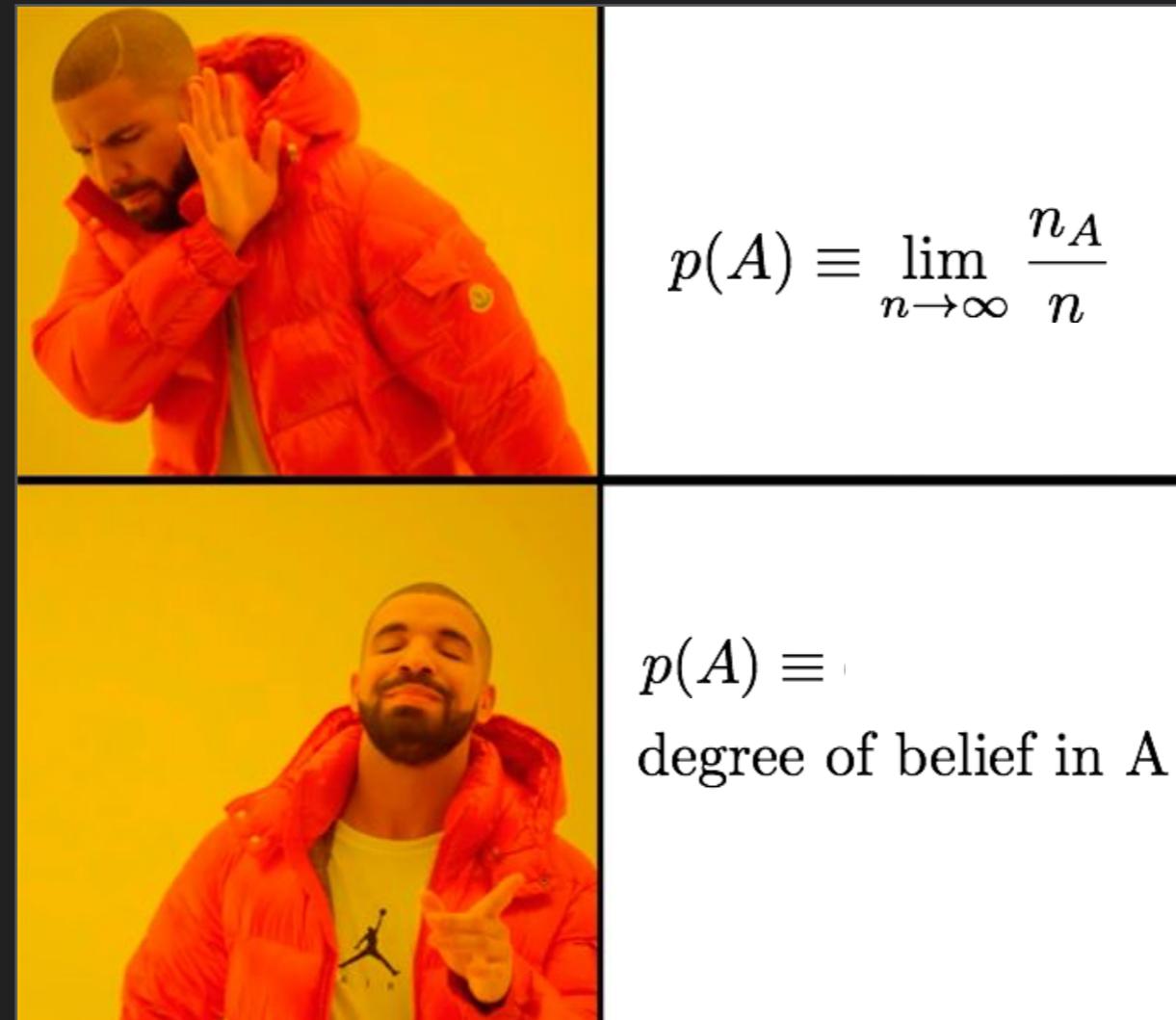








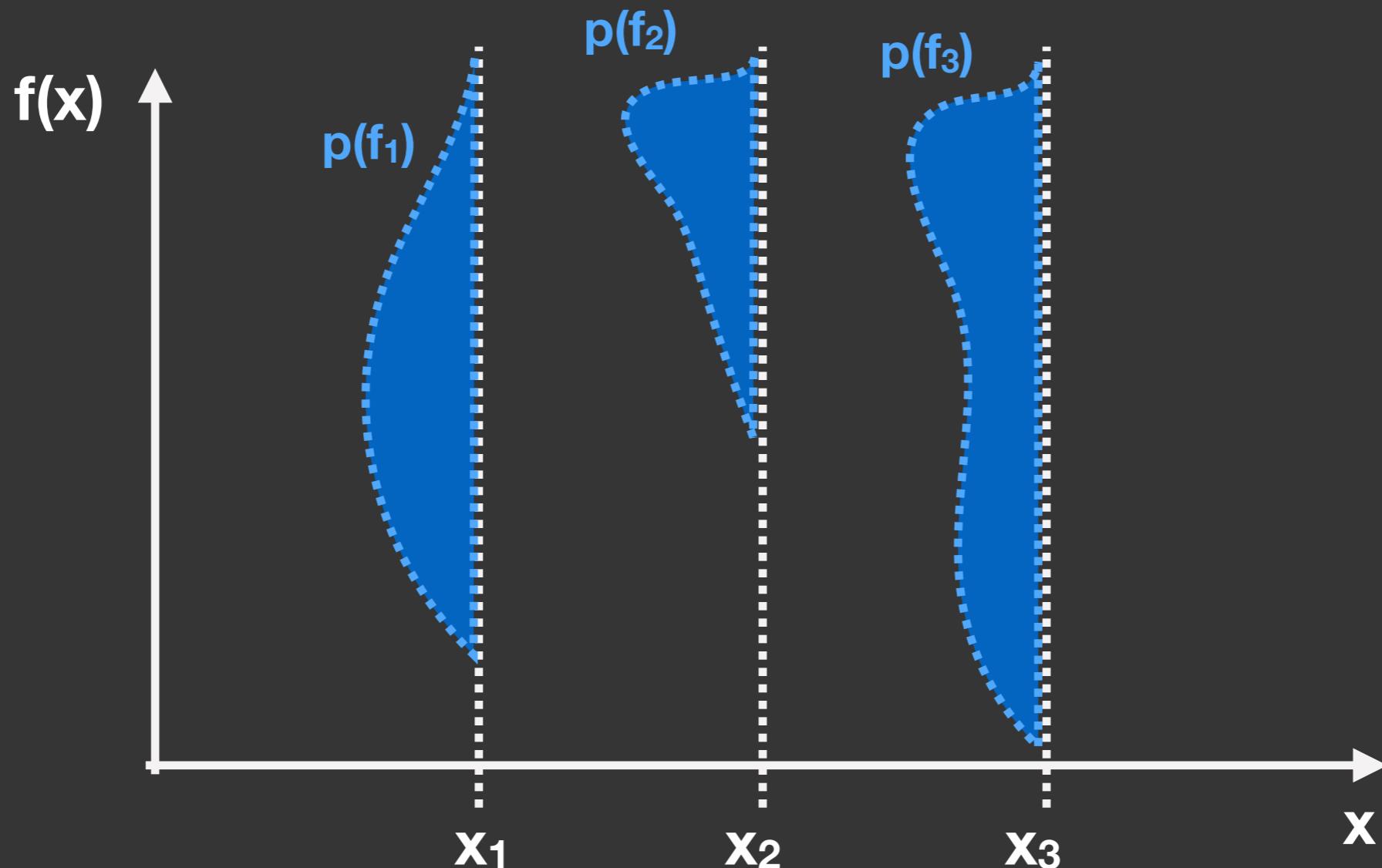
- Need to make an educated guess for the unknown **f** at any given **x**
- Being sensible **Bayesians**, we know we should **quantify our beliefs about f using probabilities**



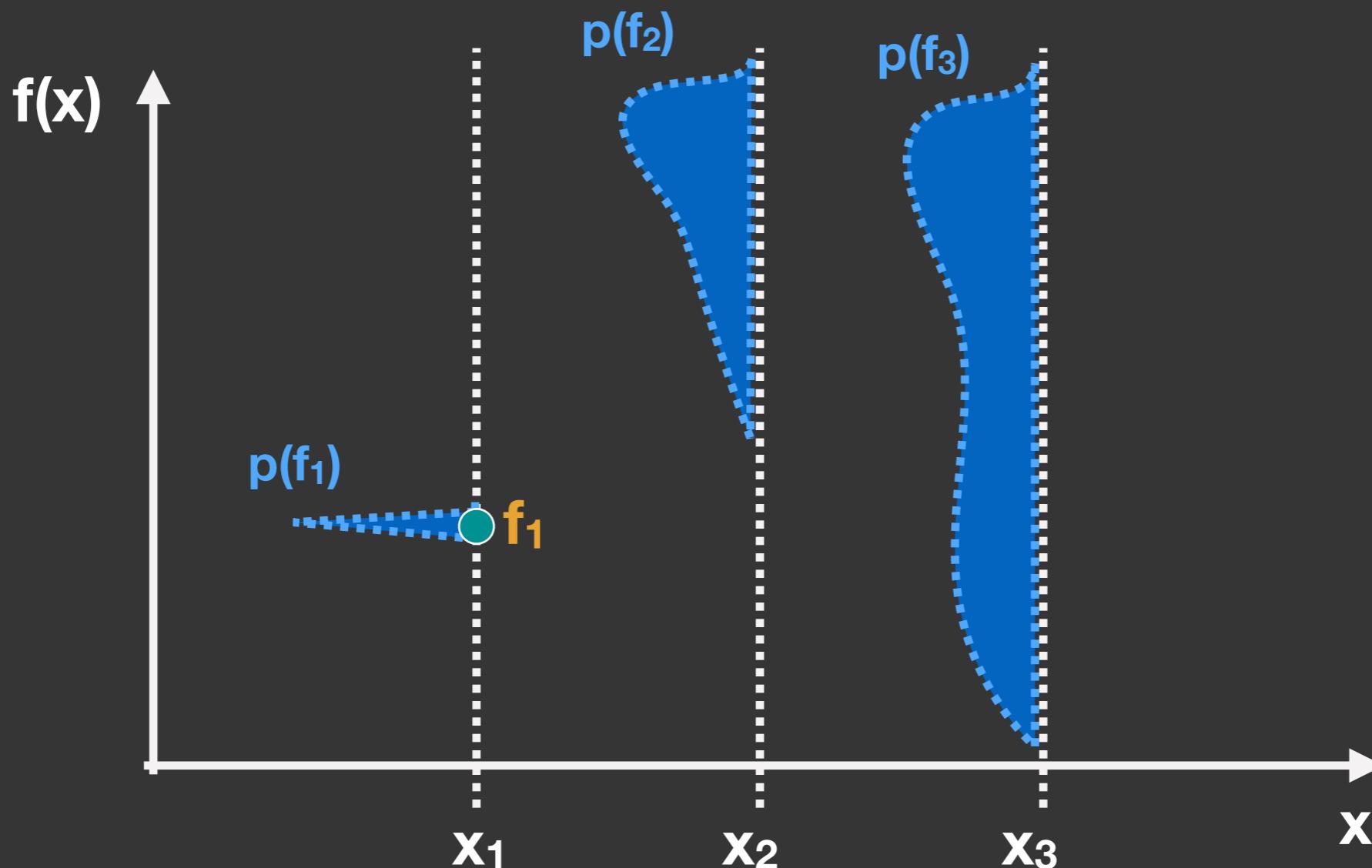
Consider three unknown function values:  $f_1$ ,  $f_2$ ,  $f_3$



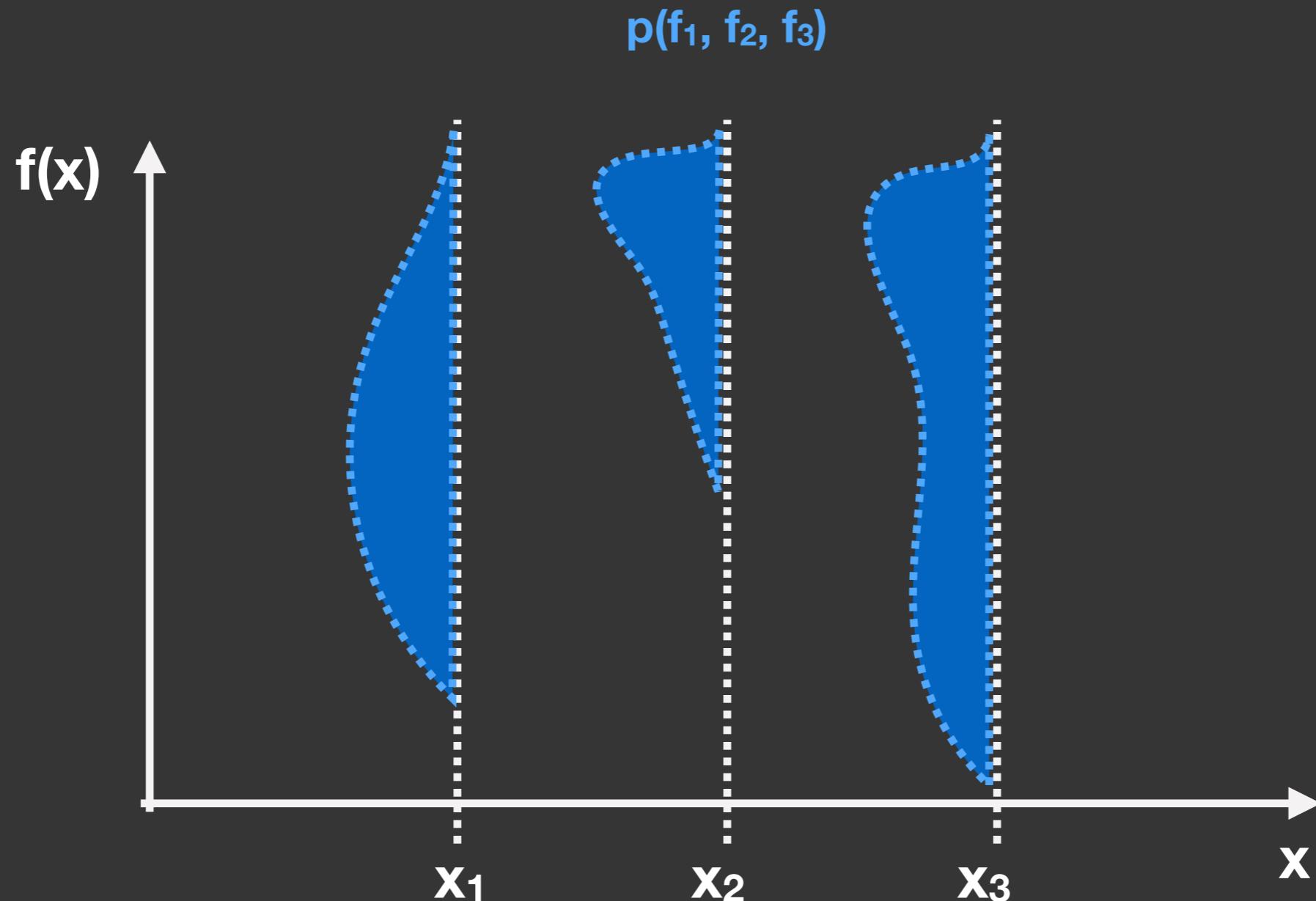
Could formulate three independent prior beliefs...



...but then learning what  $f_1$  is won't tell us anything about  $f_2$  or  $f_3$

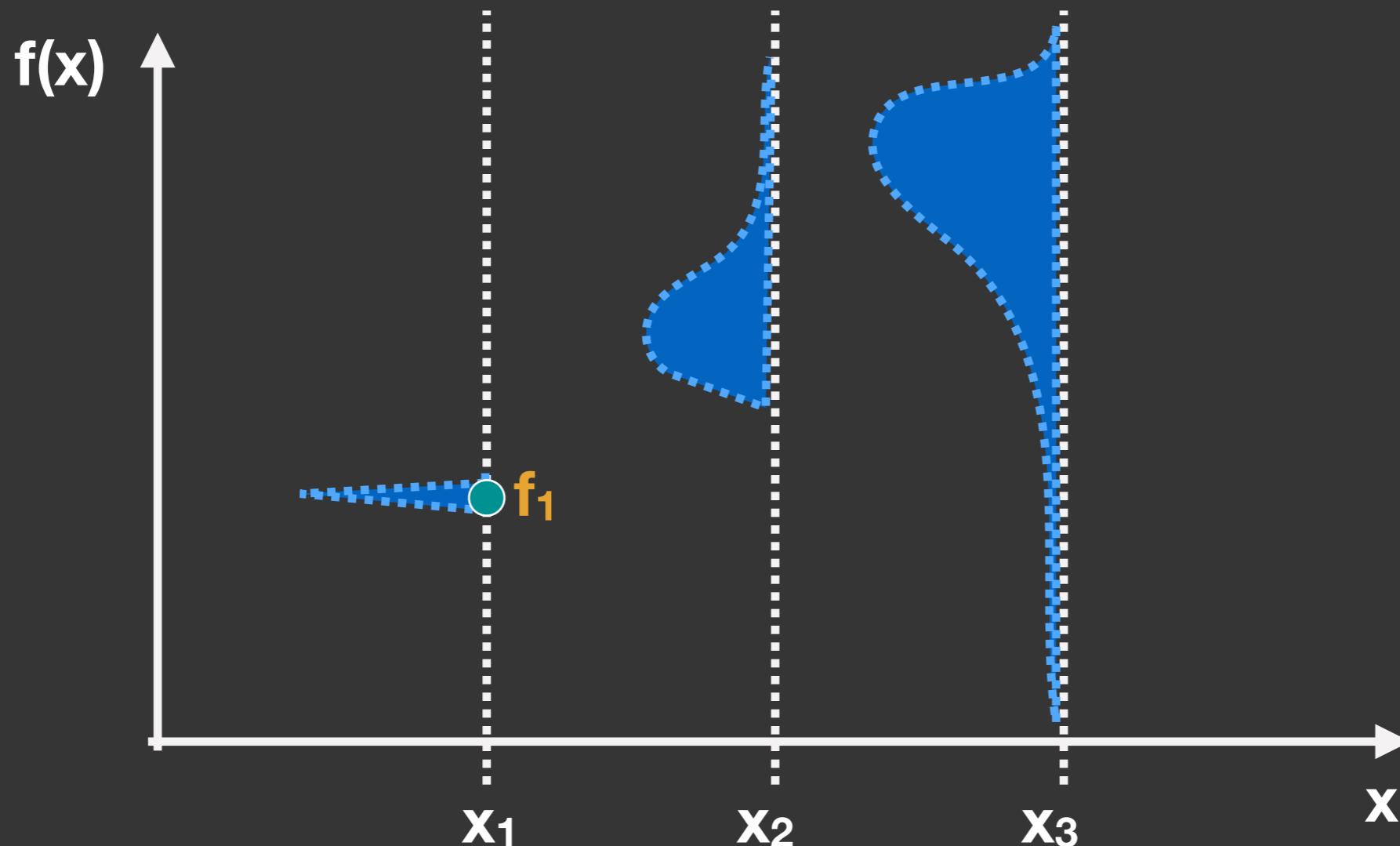


Need a **joint prior** → includes our belief about how  $f_1$ ,  $f_2$  and  $f_3$  are **correlated**

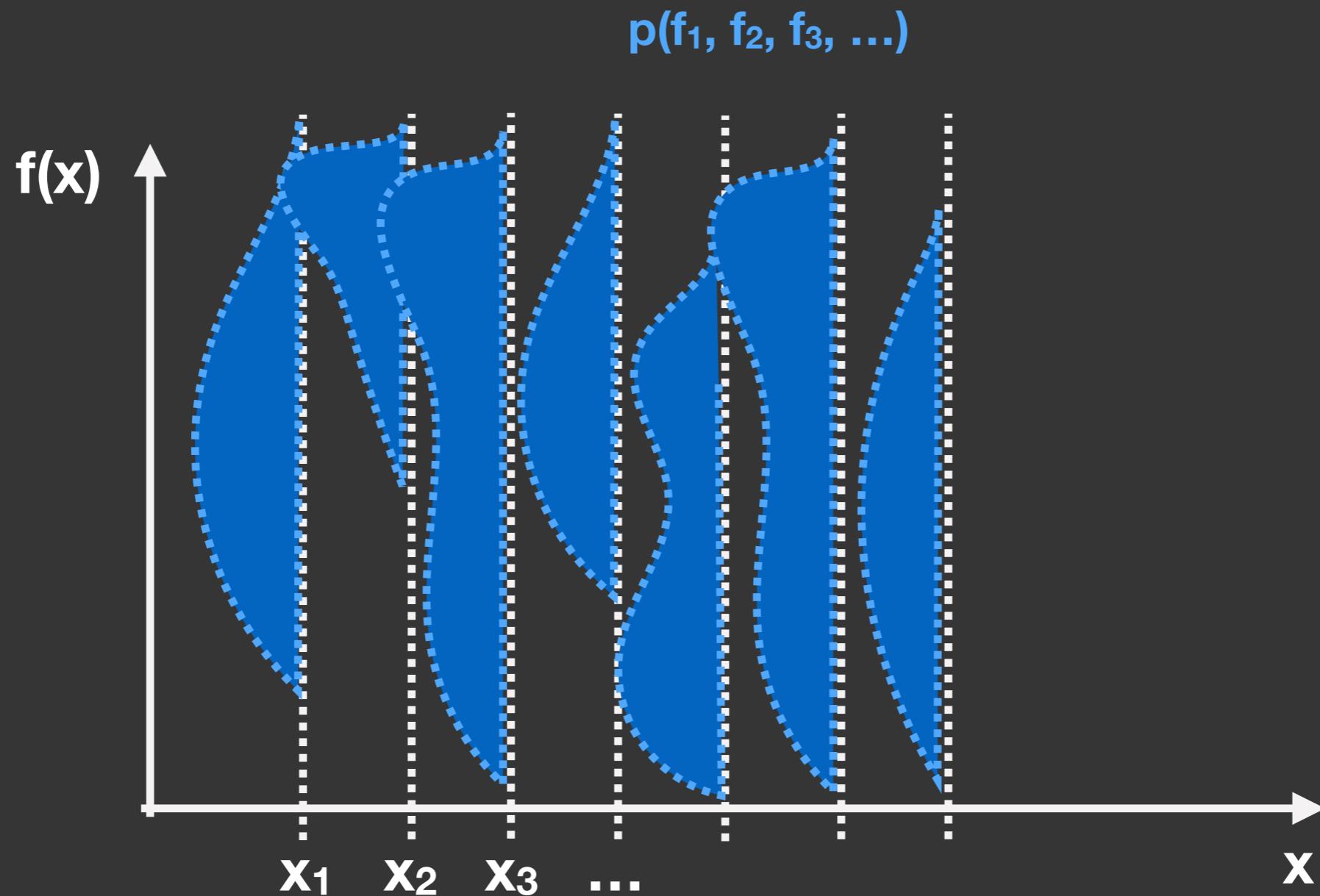


Now learning  $f_1$  tells us something about probable values for  $f_2$  and  $f_3$

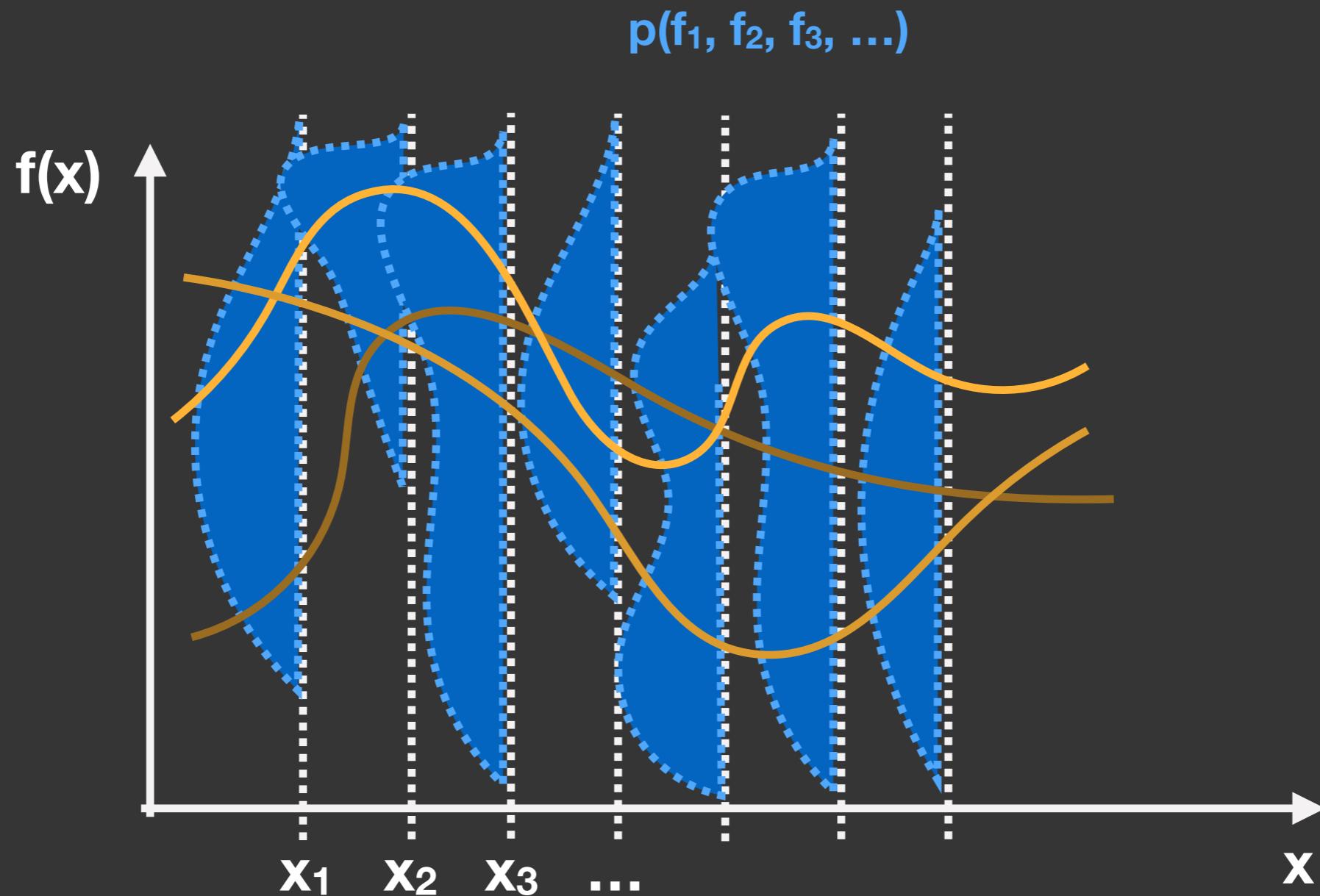
$$p(f_1, f_2, f_3) \rightarrow p(f_2, f_3 | f_1)$$



Limit of  $\Delta x \rightarrow 0$ : joint prior  $p(f_1, f_2, f_3, \dots) \rightarrow$  a prior on function space



Limit of  $\Delta x \rightarrow 0$ : joint prior  $p(f_1, f_2, f_3, \dots) \rightarrow$  a prior on function space



## The ideal solution:

- Incorporate all our prior knowledge about the problem in a joint prior  $p(f_1, f_2, f_3, \dots)$  of **any form we choose**
- Perform the **full, expensive calculation of  $f(x)$  for some of the  $x$ -values**
- For any other  $x$ -value  $x'$ : obtain our best guess for the corresponding  $f'$  in the form of the posterior  $p(f' | f_1, f_2, \dots)$

But doing this with arbitrary prior pdfs is not practically feasible...

# Gaussian processes

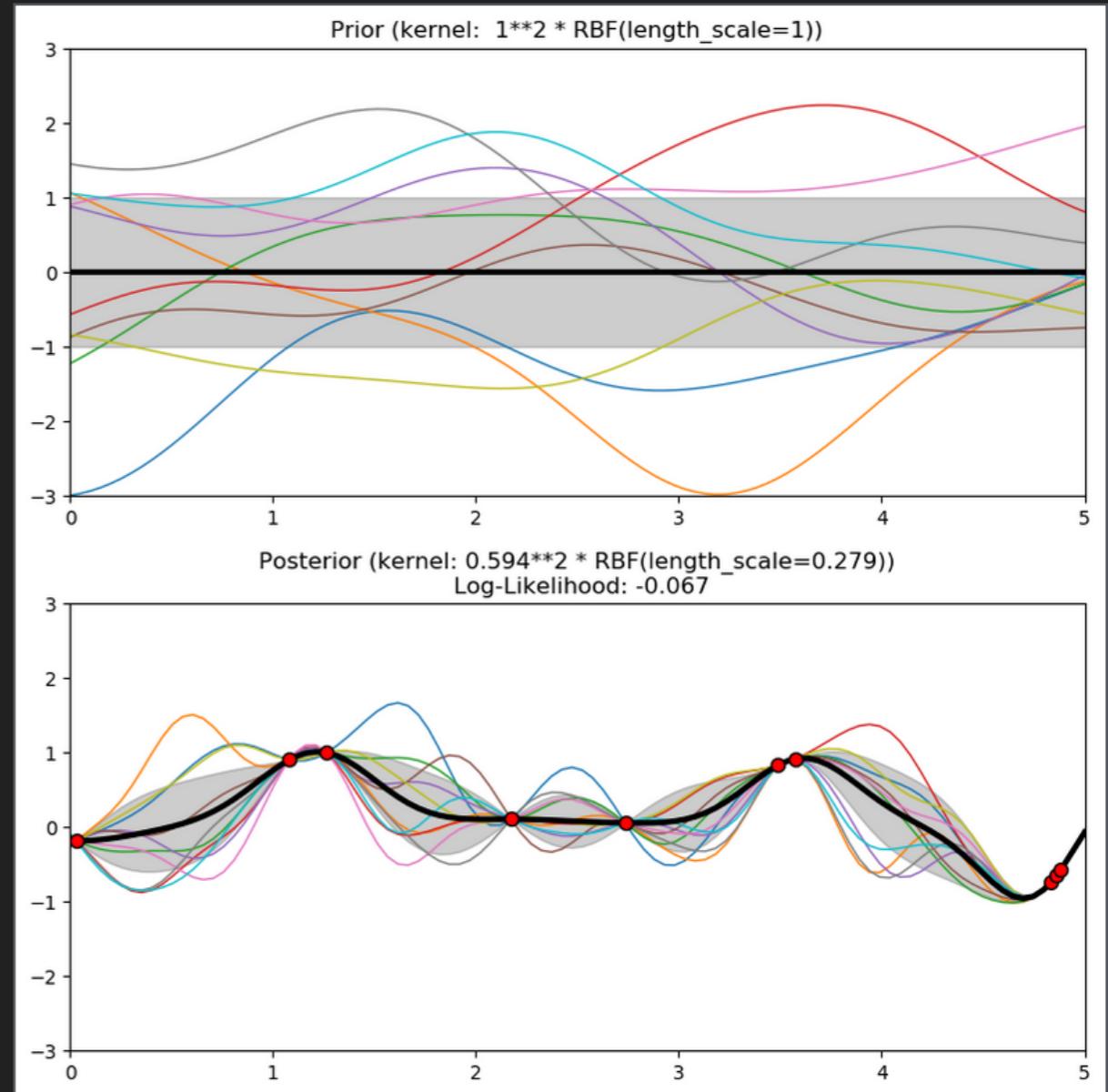
- **Gaussian process:** an infinite set of variables such that for any finite collection of these variables, the **joint pdf is a multivariate Gaussian distribution**
- Defined by **a mean** and **a covariance matrix**
- The multivariate Gaussian has some very important properties:
  - **marginalising** (intergrating) out some variables **gives another Gaussian**
  - **conditioning** on some variables **gives another Gaussian**

## What this means for regression

- Start from joint Gaussian prior
- Generally intractable pdf calculations now reduce to **analytical expressions** for a **new mean** and **a new covariance matrix**
- *In particular:* simple, closed-form expression to get the **posterior from the prior**,  
 $p(f_1, f_2, \dots, f') \rightarrow p(f' | f_1, f_2, \dots)$

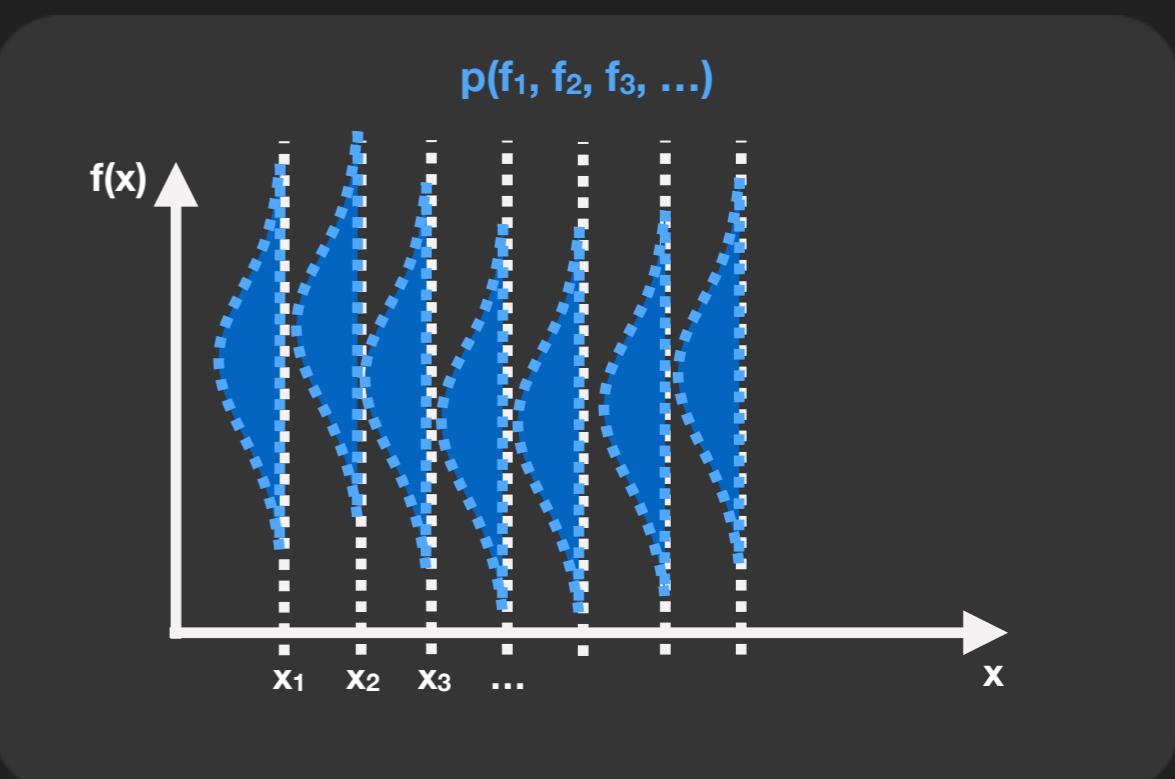
# Gaussian processes regression

- Use probabilistic inference to **learn a function from data** in an **interpretable**, yet **non-parametric** framework
- *A major advantage:* the probabilistic framework **automatically provides regression uncertainty**
- *Main drawback:* given N data points, must invert the  $N \times N$  covariance matrix  
→ **can't use too large datasets**  
(but there are ways to alleviate the problem)
- Standard GP reference: Rasmussen & Williams, *Gaussian Processes for Machine Learning*



# Choosing our Gaussian prior

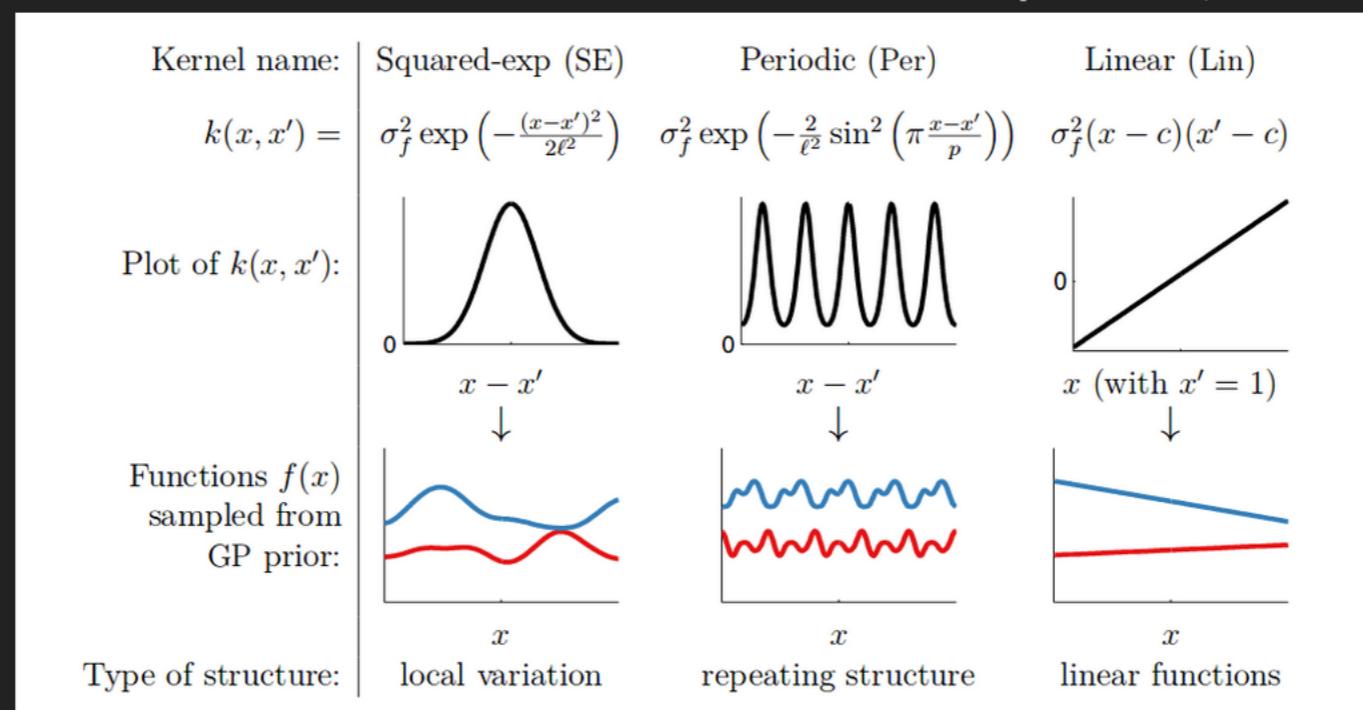
- Need to specify:
  - the means  $E[f_i]$
  - the covariance  $\text{cov}(f_i, f_j)$  for all pairs  $(f_i, f_j)$
- Do this indirectly by choosing
  - a mean function  $m(x)$ , such that  $E[f_i] = m(x_i)$
  - a covariance (kernel) function  $k(x, x')$  such that  $\text{cov}(f_i, f_j) = k(x_i, x_j)$
- The art of GP regression:
  - Choose/design  $k(x, x')$  to match what you expect about the unknown  $f(x)$



# MY KINGDOM FOR A GOOD KERNEL ...

The choice of kernel allows for great **flexibility**. But once chosen, it fixes the type of functions likely under the GP prior and determines the kind of structure captured by the model, e.g., periodicity and differentiability.

[D. Duvenaud, PhD thesis ]



# The covariance function hyperparameters

- Typically don't choose a fully specified  $k(x, x')$ , but rather some parameterised function  $k(x, x' ; \theta)$
- **To be fully consistent (Bayesian):** introduce prior  $p(\theta)$  and marginalise over  $\theta$  to obtain the posterior

$$p(f' | f_1, f_2, \dots) \propto \int p(f' | f_1, f_2, \dots, \theta) p(f_1, f_2, \dots | \theta) p(\theta) d\theta$$

...but this is computationally very expensive

- **Common approach:** Fix hyperparameters by **maximising the log-likelihood** (training step)

$$\log p(f_1, f_2, \dots | \theta)$$

Conceptually: adjust your prior until the belief it assigned to the known function values (training points) is maximised.

# xsec: the cross-section evaluation code

- A new **Python tool**
- **Pre-trained GPs** that evaluate BSM production cross-sections at **NLO** (hours → fractions of a second)
- For v1.0: BSM = supersymmetry (SUSY)
- All **strong SUSY** cross-sections in the **MSSM-24** for LHC @ 13 TeV
- Provides **pdf, scale** and  **$\alpha_s$**  uncertainties, in addition to the subdominant GP regression uncertainty
- pip installable, source code on github

README.md

## xsec: the cross-section evaluation code

[arxiv 2006.16273](#) [release v1.0.2](#) [pypi v1.0.2](#) [build passing](#) [python 2.7 | 3](#) [code style black](#) [license GPL-3.0](#)

`xsec` is a tool for fast evaluation of cross-sections, taking advantage of the power and flexibility of Gaussian process regression.

For a detailed description of the methodology, validation and instructions for usage, see <https://arxiv.org/abs/2006.16273>.

### Installation

#### Requirements

`xsec` is compatible with both Python 2.7 and 3. The following external Python libraries are required to run `xsec`:

- setuptools 20.7.0 or later
- numpy 1.16 or later
- scipy 1.0.0 or later
- joblib 0.12.2 or later
- dill 0.3.2 or later
- pyslha 3.2.3 or later

#### pip installation

`xsec` can be installed from PyPI using

```
pip install xsec
```

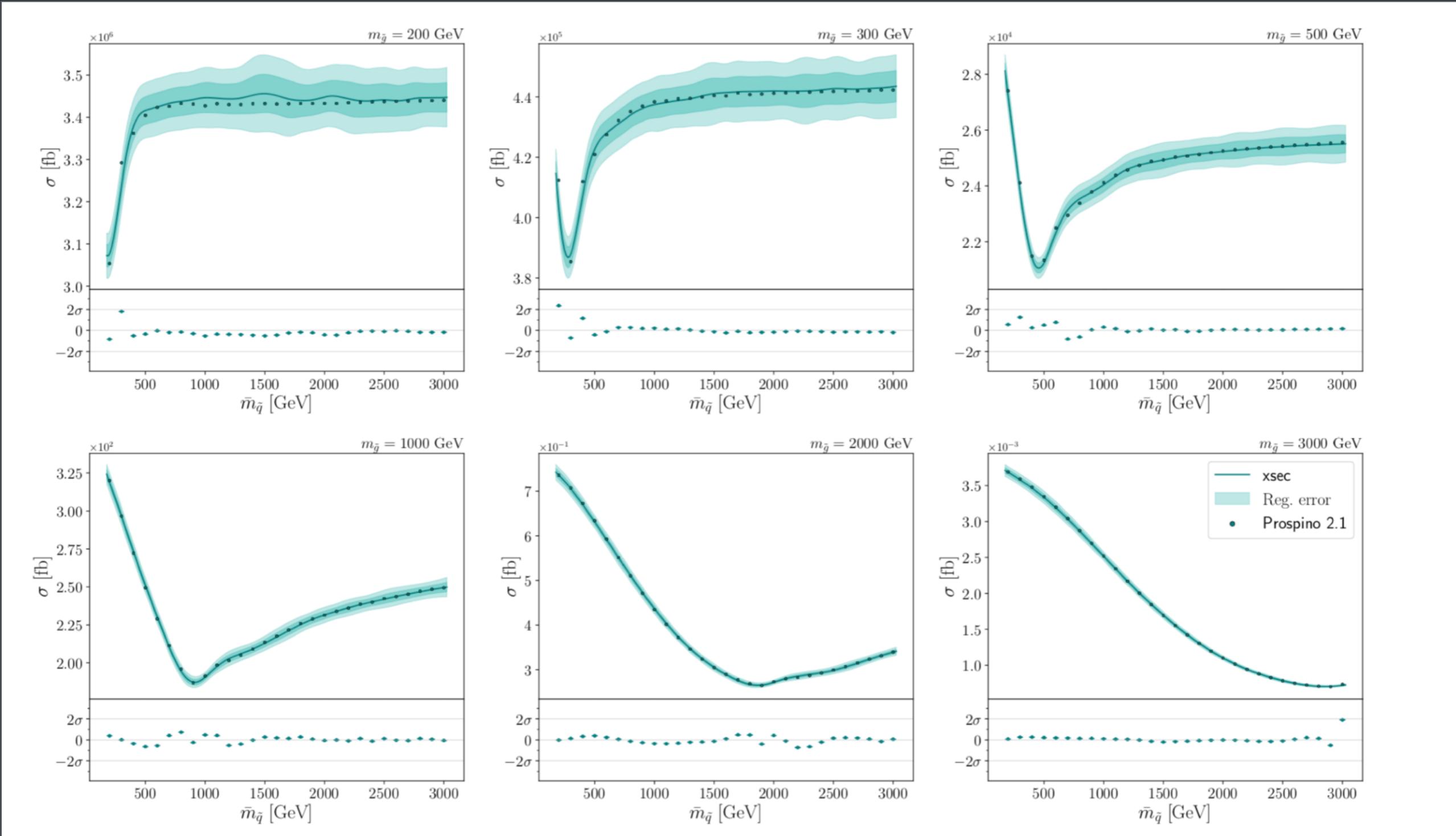
Optionally with the `--user` flag if your IT department is mean.

Alternatively, you can clone the repo from GitHub and install from there:

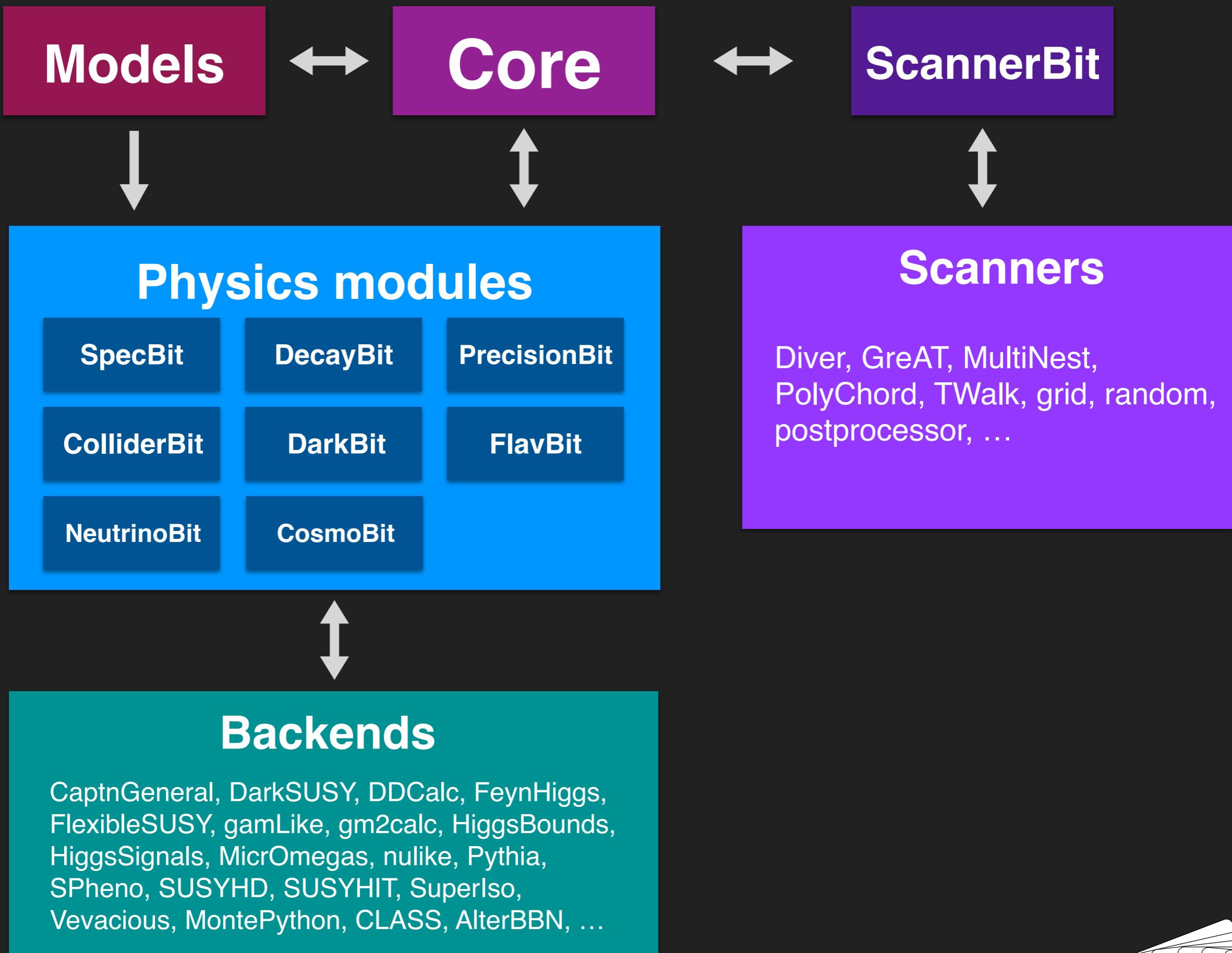
```
git clone https://github.com/jeriek/xsec.git  
pip install ./xsec
```

A. Buckley, AK, A. Raklev, P Scott, J.V. Sparre,  
J. Van den Abeele, I. A. Vazquez-Holm  
[arXiv:2006.16273]  
[github.com/jeriek/xsec](https://github.com/jeriek/xsec)

# gluino–gluino

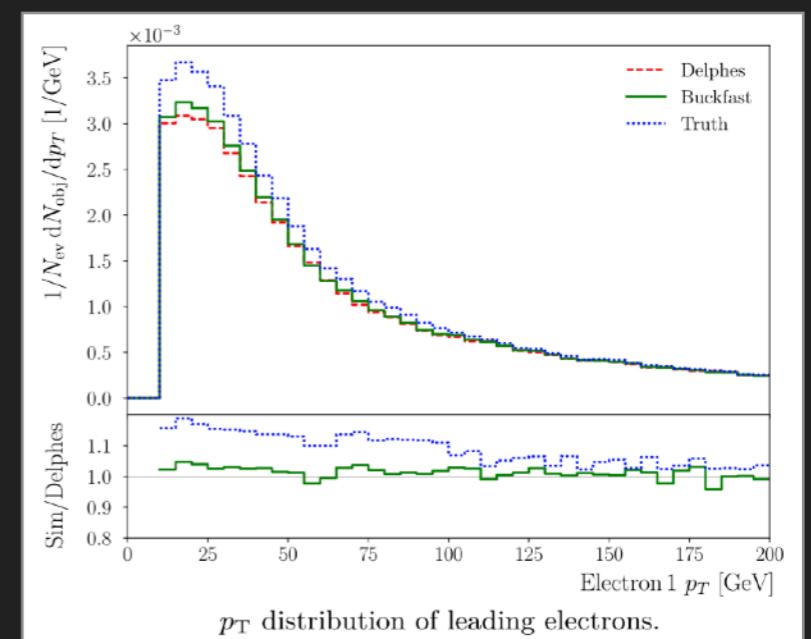
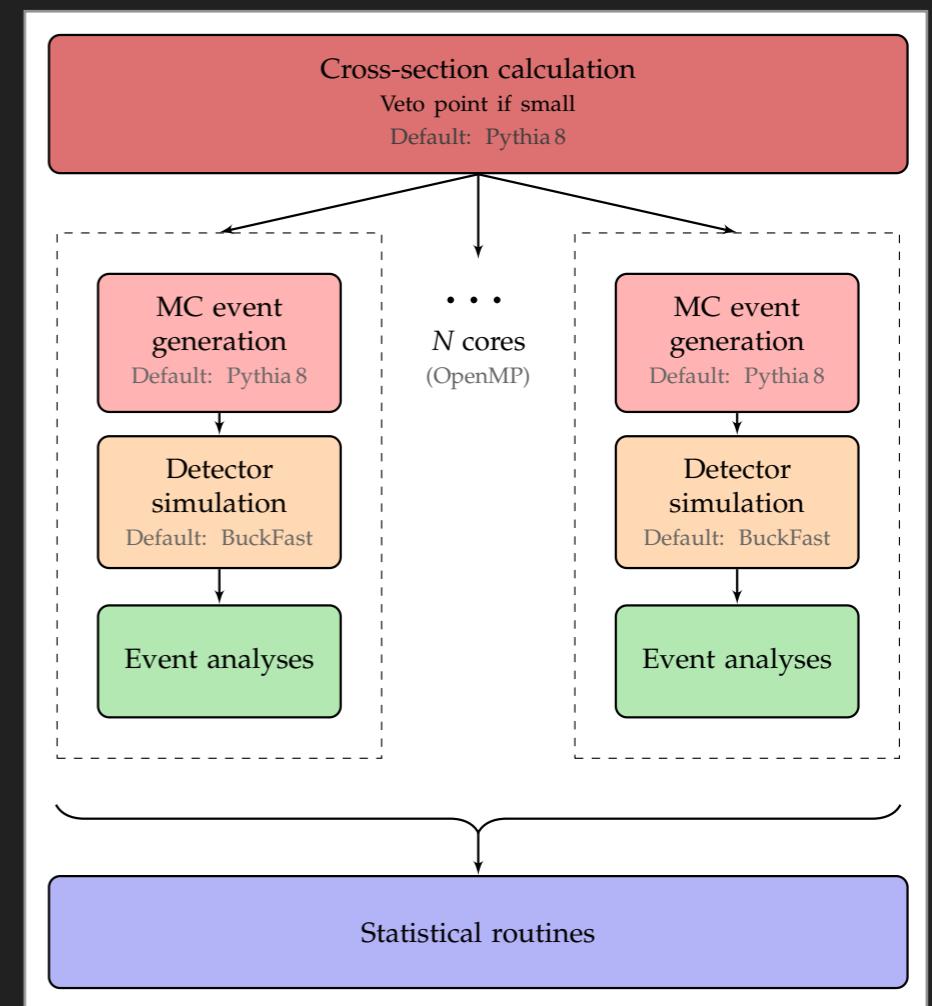






# ColliderBit

- **LHC particle searches:** Full Poisson likelihood from fast MC simulation of LHC searches
  - Parallelized MC event generation and analysis loop inside ColliderBit
  - Event generation with Pythia 8
  - Fast detector simulator: BuckFast (4-vector smearing)
- **Focus on speed**, as required for use in global fits
- **Extensive list ATLAS/CMS searches** and more being added...
- **LEP limits (SUSY):** Calculate  $\sigma \times BR$  and check against published limits



arXiv:1705.07919



# The basic steps of a BSM global fit

- Choose your **BSM model and parameterisation**
- Construct the **combined likelihood function** including observables from collider physics, dark matter, flavor physics, +++
- Use **sophisticated scanning techniques** to explore the likelihood function across the parameter space of the theory
- Test **parameter regions** in a statistically sensible way — not just single points (*parameter estimation*)
- Test **different theories the same way** (*model comparison*)

# Constructing a likelihood function

How to compare the predictions of a theory against *many* experimental results?

$$\text{Theory} \rightarrow f(\mathbf{x}; \theta)$$

$$\text{Experiment} \rightarrow \mathcal{L}(\theta) = f(\mathbf{x}_{\text{data}}; \theta)$$

$$\mathcal{L} = \mathcal{L}_{\text{Collider}} \mathcal{L}_{\text{Higgs}} \mathcal{L}_{\text{DM}} \mathcal{L}_{\text{EWPO}} \mathcal{L}_{\text{Flavor}} \dots$$

