

# COMPUTATIONALLY EFFICIENT METHODS FOR UNCERTAINTY QUANTIFICATION IN SEISMIC INVERSION



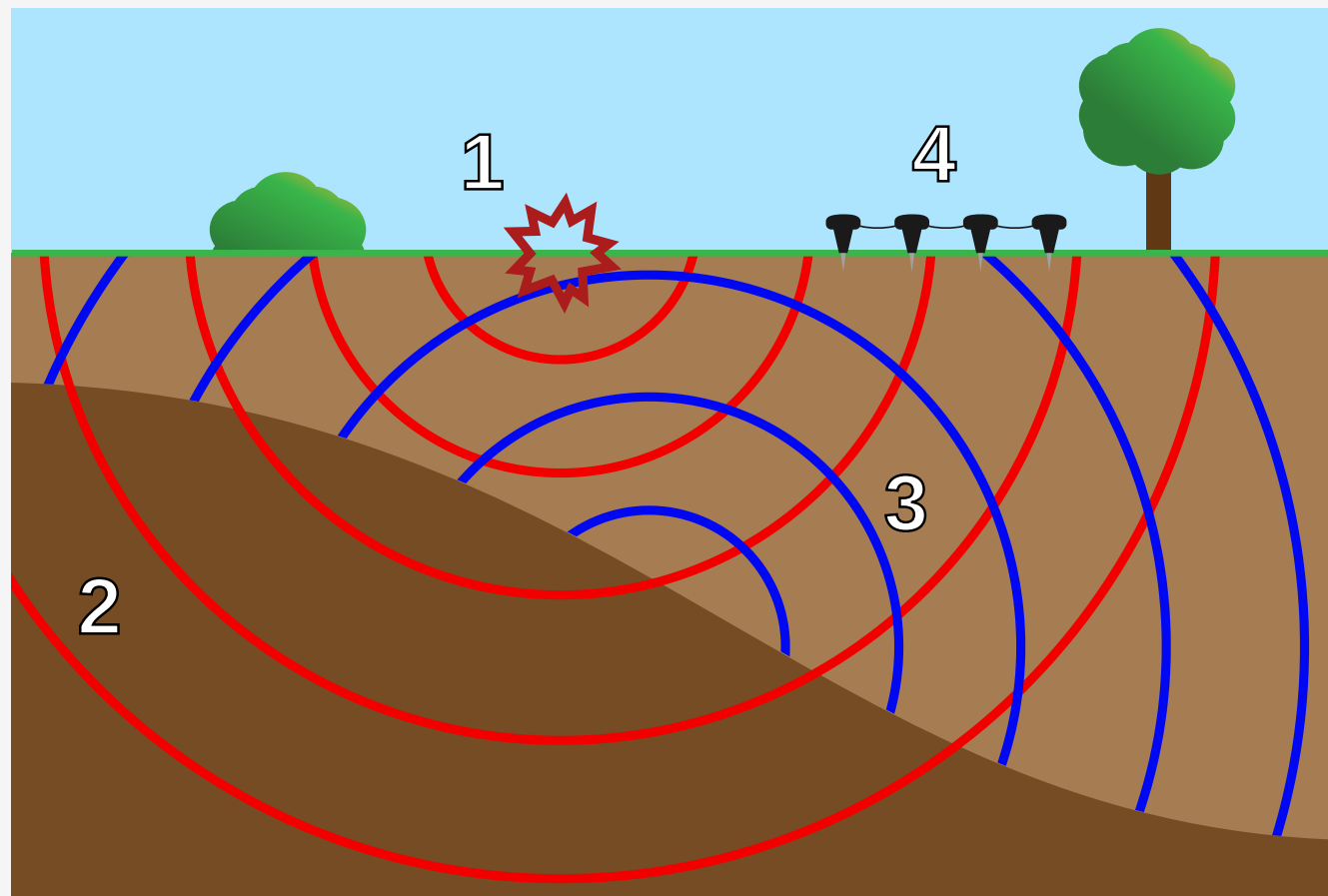
Georgia K. Stuart

The Department of Mathematical Sciences  
The University of Texas at Dallas

*28 September 2020*



# EXPLORATION SEISMOLOGY



1. A **seismic disturbance**.
2. **Seismic waves** propagating through the subsurface.
3. **Reflected seismic waves** created by the change in material.
4. **Geophones** that record the direct (red) and

# FULL WAVEFORM INVERSION (FWI)



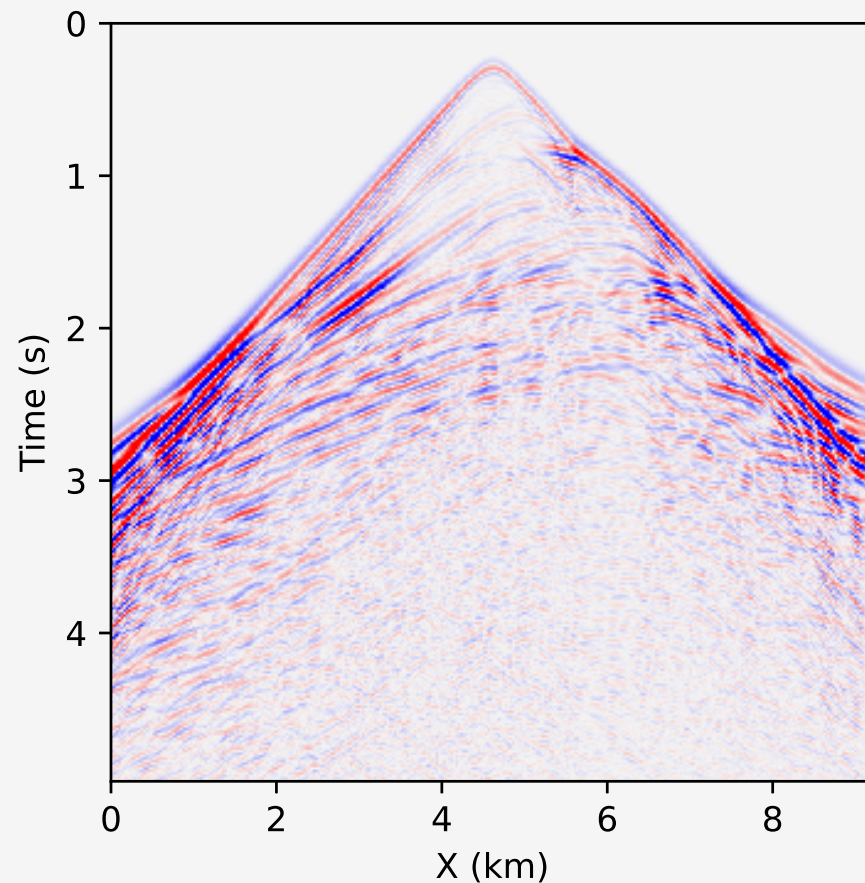
↯ In Full Waveform Inversion (FWI), the goal is to minimize an objective function, e.g.:

$$\frac{1}{2} \|F(\theta) - D\|^2$$

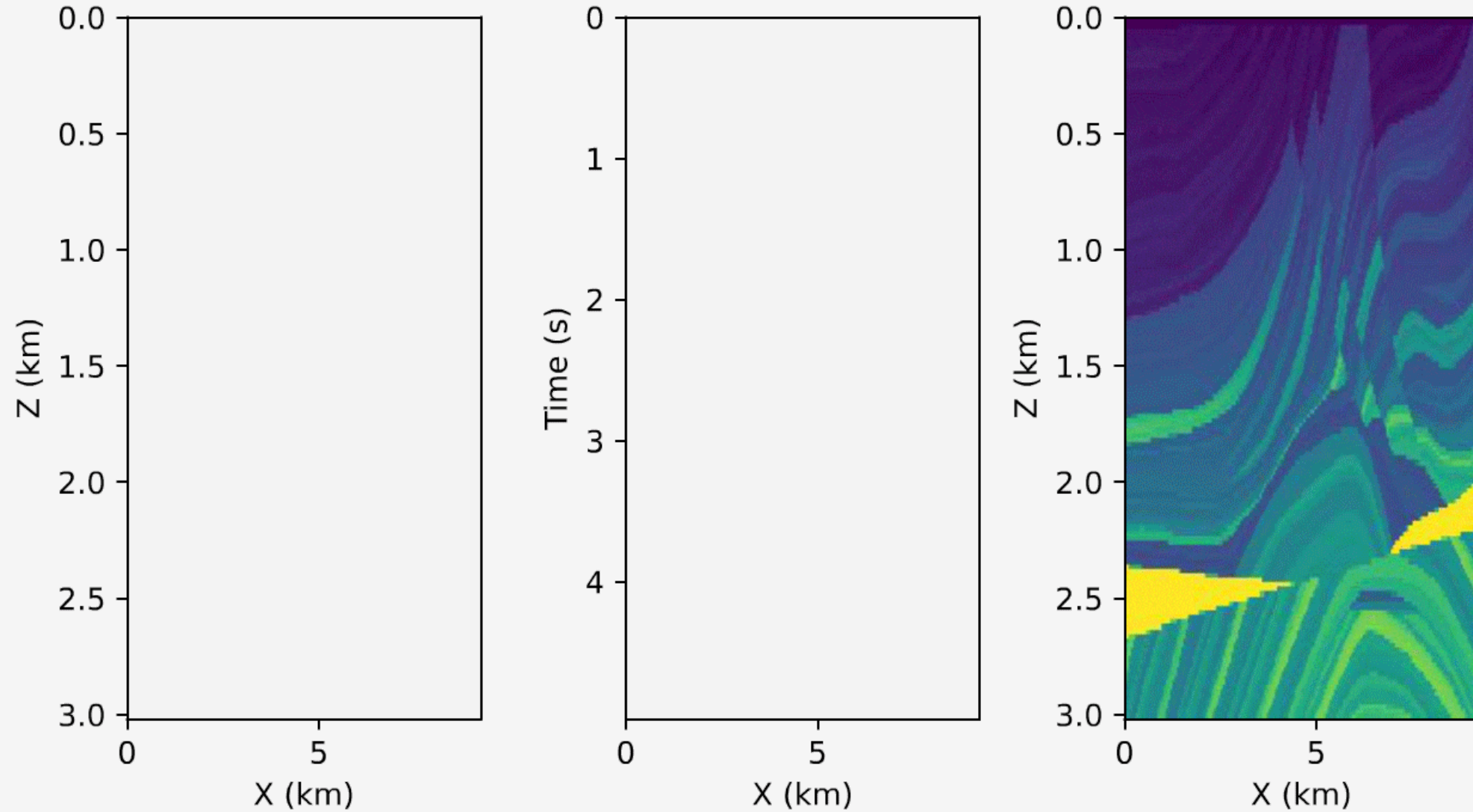
where  $\theta$  describes the velocity field,  $D$  is the observed seismic data, and  $F$  is the wave solver.

↯ We use the 2D constant-density acoustic wave equation:

$$\frac{1}{\rho} \frac{\partial^2 p}{\partial t^2} - \Delta p = f$$



# WAVE DATA

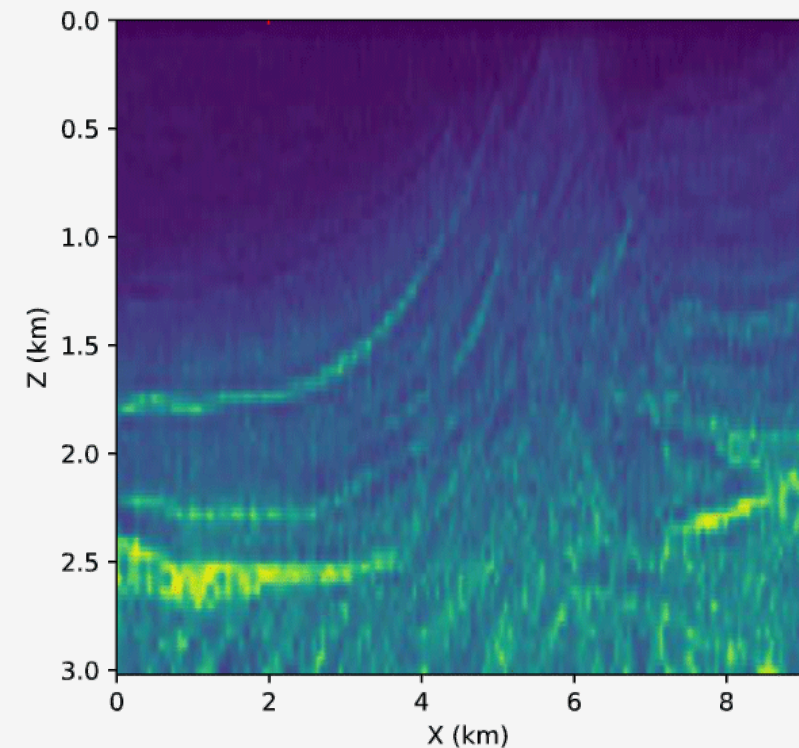


**Figure:** Left: an acoustic wave propagating through the velocity field on the right. Center: Receiver data by time. Right: the velocity profile.

# UNCERTAINTY QUANTIFICATION AND FWI



- ↯ Traditional FWI methods result in a **single velocity field**.
- ↯ UQ methods result in **distributions of velocity fields**.
- ↯ UQ indicates where we have **more or less certainty** about the estimate from FWI.



# BAYES' RULE

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# MARKOV CHAIN MONTE CARLO (MCMC)



↯ We assume the **likelihood function** has the form

$$\pi(D|\theta) = \exp \left( -\frac{\|F(\theta) - D\|^2}{2\sigma^2} \right)$$

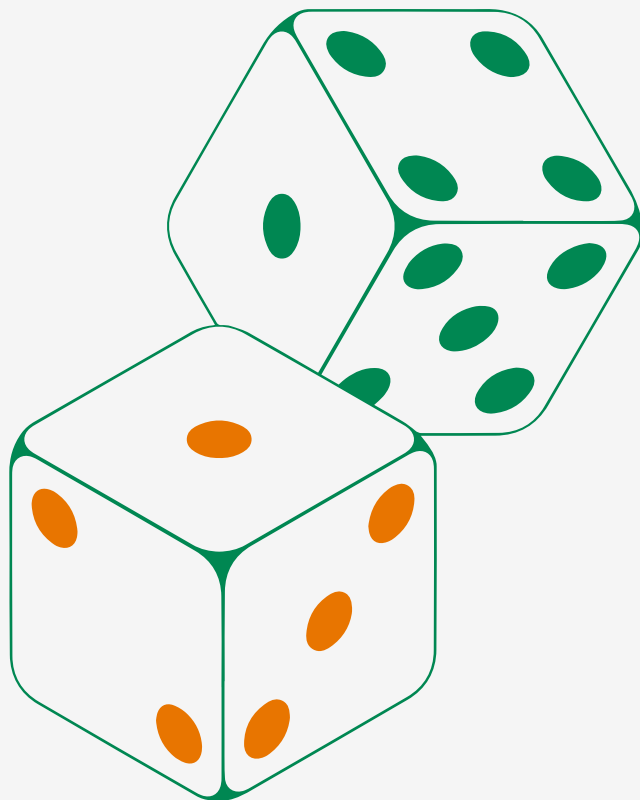
where  $F(\theta)$  is the simulated data,  $D$  is the observed data, and  $\sigma$  is the precision parameter.

↯ The **prior distribution** can take many forms, e.g. uniform or Gaussian.

↯ However, the **posterior is not necessarily Gaussian**.



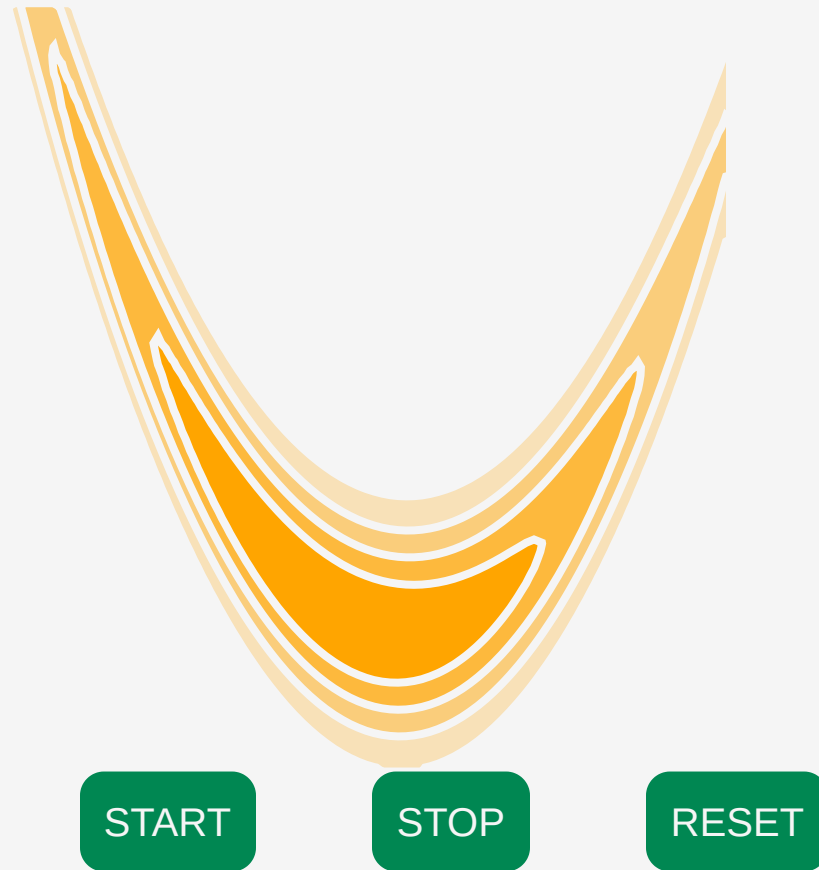
# MARKOV CHAIN MONTE CARLO (MCMC)



- ↯ **Deterministic** approaches to Bayesian FWI require **many assumptions**.
- ↯ **Stochastic** approaches require fewer assumptions.
- ↯ **Markov chain Monte Carlo** methods sample from the posterior distribution **without assumptions on the shape of the distribution**.

# MARKOV CHAIN MONTE CARLO (MCMC)

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# THE PROBLEM WITH MCMC



- ↯ MCMC can take **many models** (tens of thousands to millions) to converge.
- ↯ Each model must be run through a forward simulator (**wave equation**).
- ↯ A single chain can take **a week or more** on a cluster.
- ↯ Often **80% to 90%** of the samples are rejected!

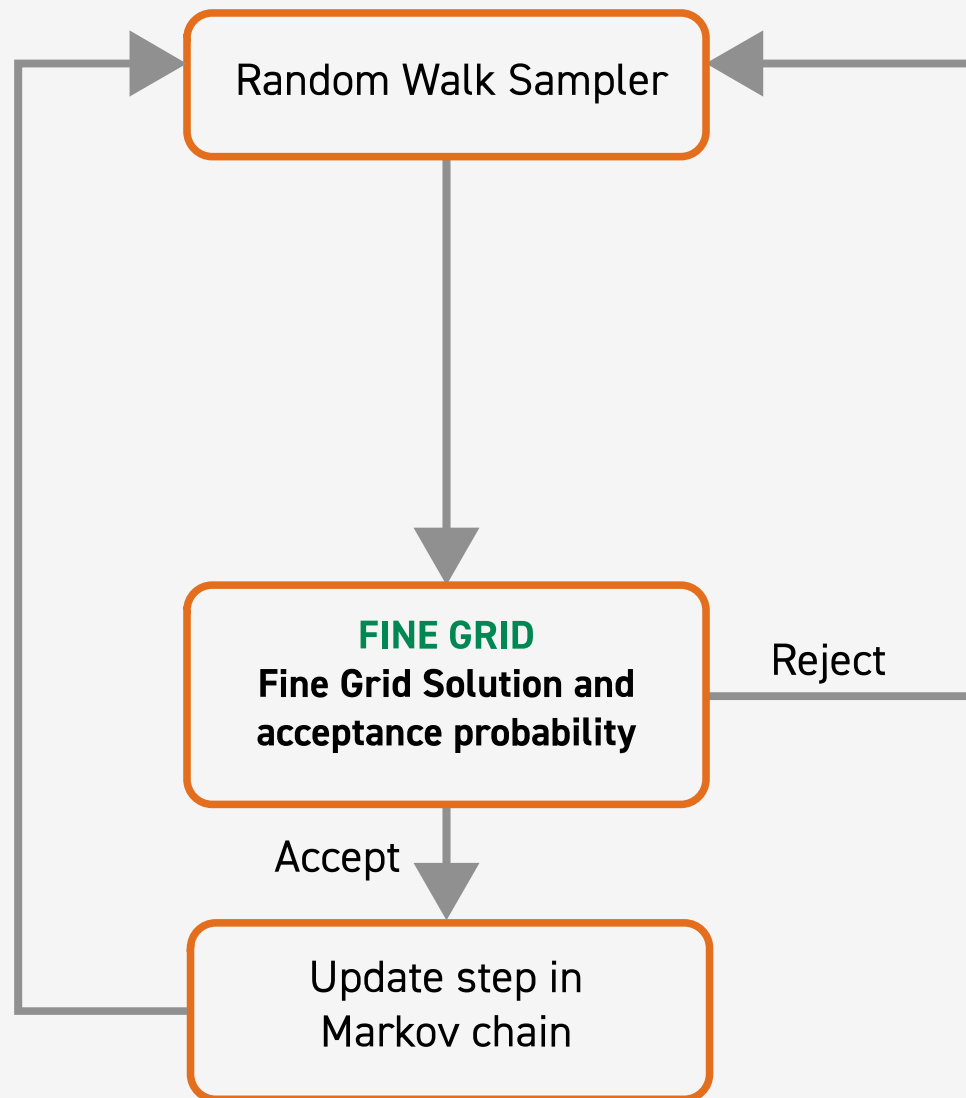


HOW CAN WE REDUCE  
THE COMPUTATIONAL  
COST OF MCMC  
METHODS FOR FWI?

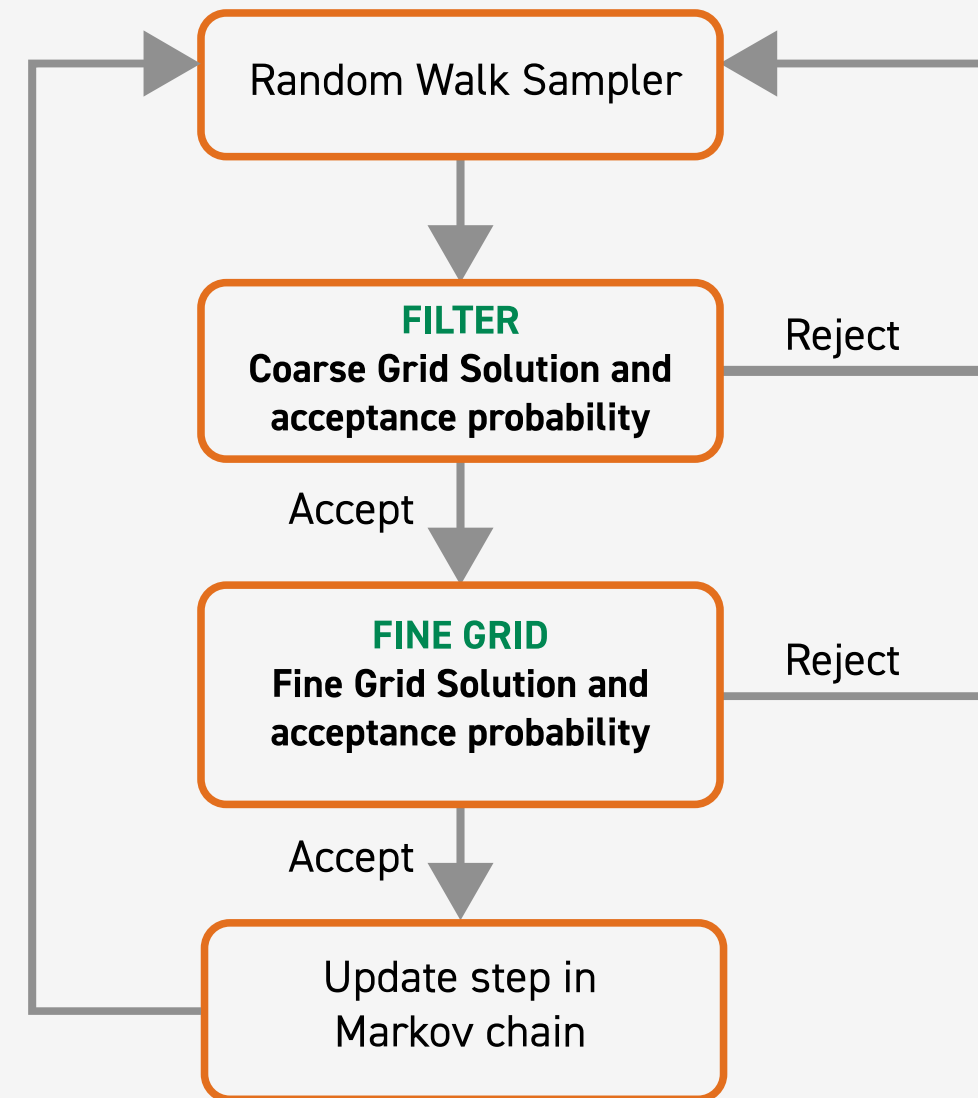
# TWO-STAGE MARKOV CHAIN MONTE CARLO



## ONE STAGE MCMC



## TWO-STAGE MCMC



- ⚡ Modeling wave propagation can be **computationally expensive**.
- ⚡ **Operator upscaling**<sup>1</sup> decomposes the solution into two parts:
  1. **Fine grid** problem on independent subdomains
  2. Small **coarse grid** problem over the whole domain
- ⚡ In this upscaling technique **we do NOT upscale the model**.

(1) Vdovina et al. (2005), Korostyshevskaya and Minkoff (2006), Vdovina and Minkoff (2008)

# OPERATOR UPSCALING



1. Write the acoustic wave equation as a system in space by introducing **acceleration,  $\vec{v}$**

$$\vec{v} = -\nabla p$$
$$\frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial^2 p}{\partial t^2} = -\nabla \cdot \vec{v} + f$$

2. Solve in parallel for fine grid pressure and acceleration over each **independent** coarse block. **No communication** is required at this stage.

3. Solve for coarse grid

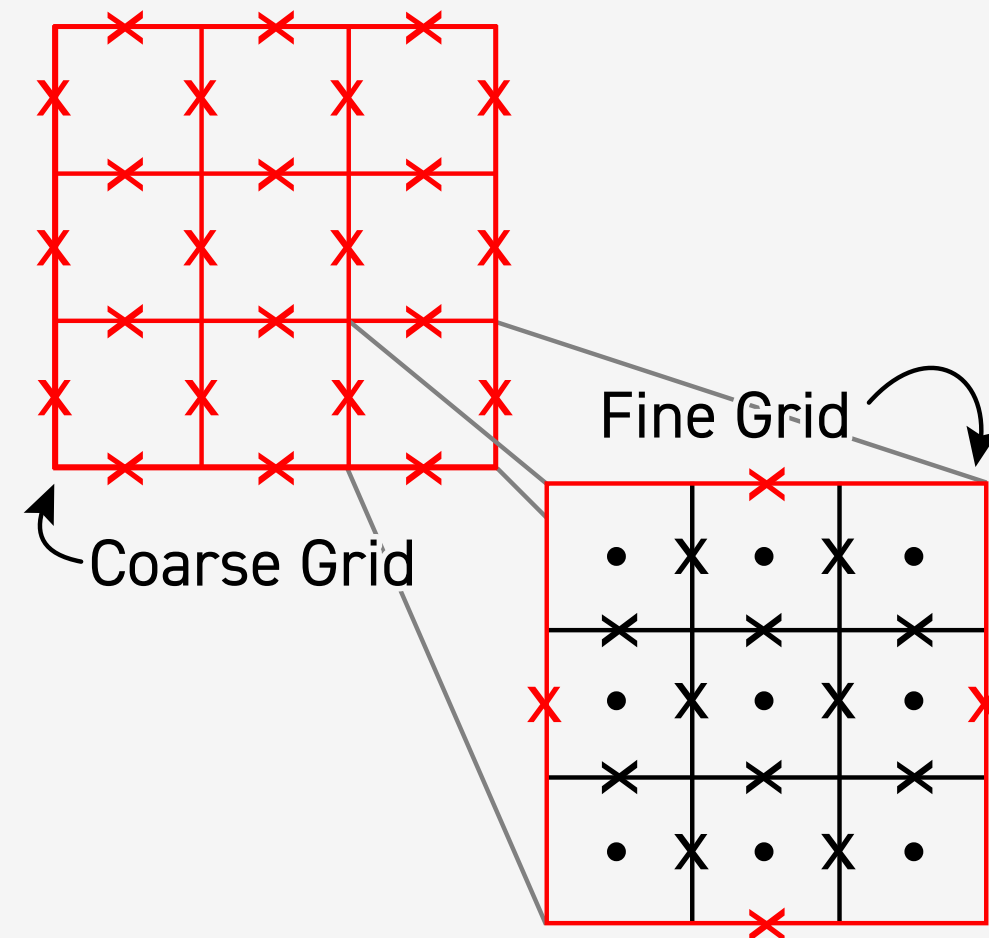
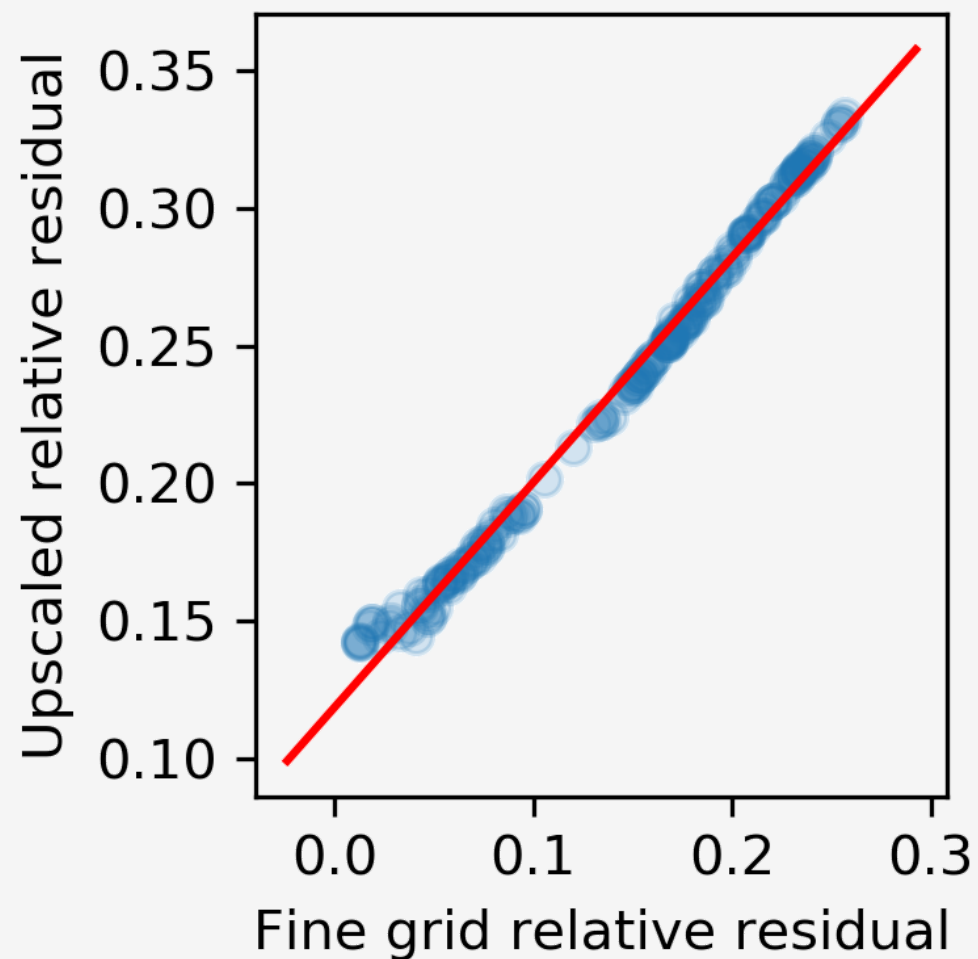


Figure: A picture of the coarse grid (red) and

# UPSCALING AND FINE GRID CORRELATION

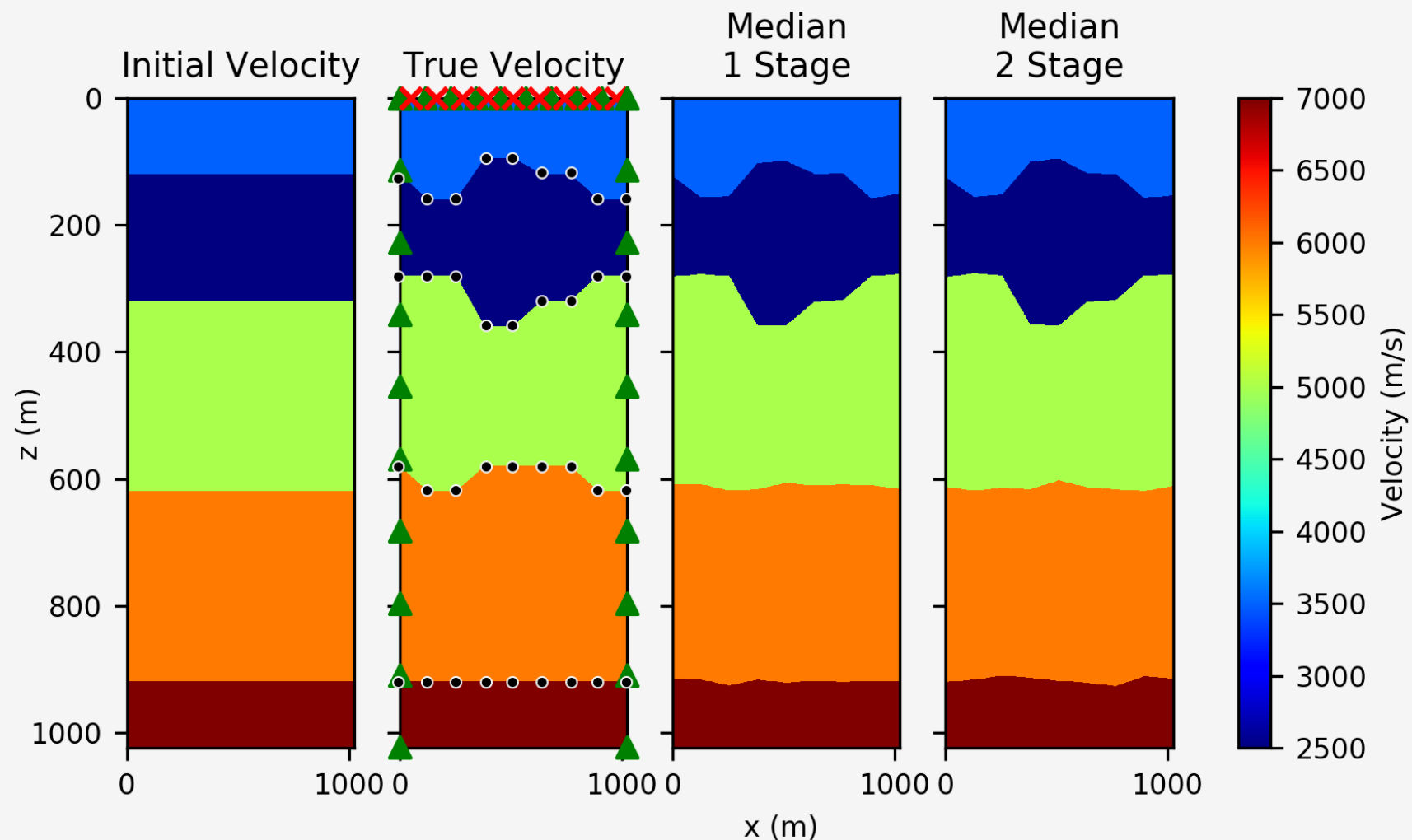


↗ We see a **strong linear relationship** between the fine grid relative residuals and the upscaled relative residuals for a layered velocity model.

↗ This indicates that the upscaling filter is a **good surrogate** for the fine grid solver.



# RESULTS: TWO-STAGE MCMC WITH UPSCALING



**Figure:** A comparison of the initial velocity, true velocity, median of the posterior from one-stage MCMC, and the median of the posterior distribution from two-stage MCMC. The true velocity shows the location of a line of sources (red X's), receivers (green triangles), and the unknown nodes that describe the interfaces (black dots). Published in Stuart (2019b).

# RESULTS: TWO-STAGE MCMC WITH UPSCALING

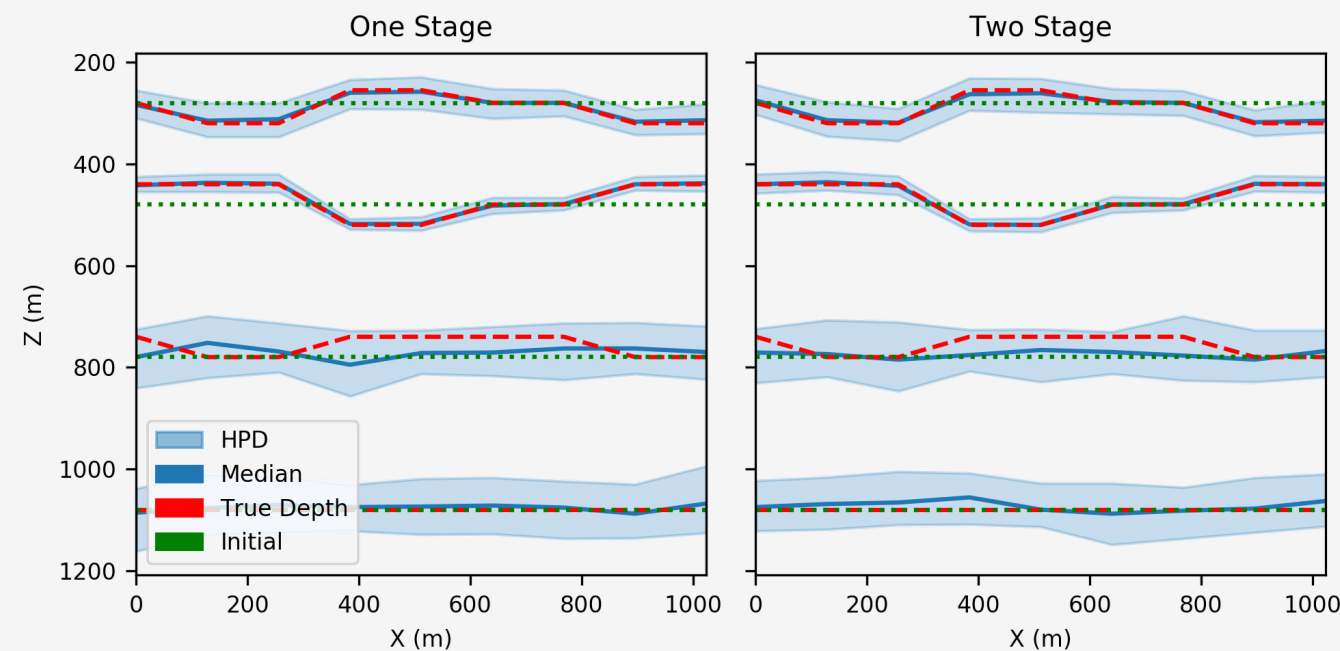


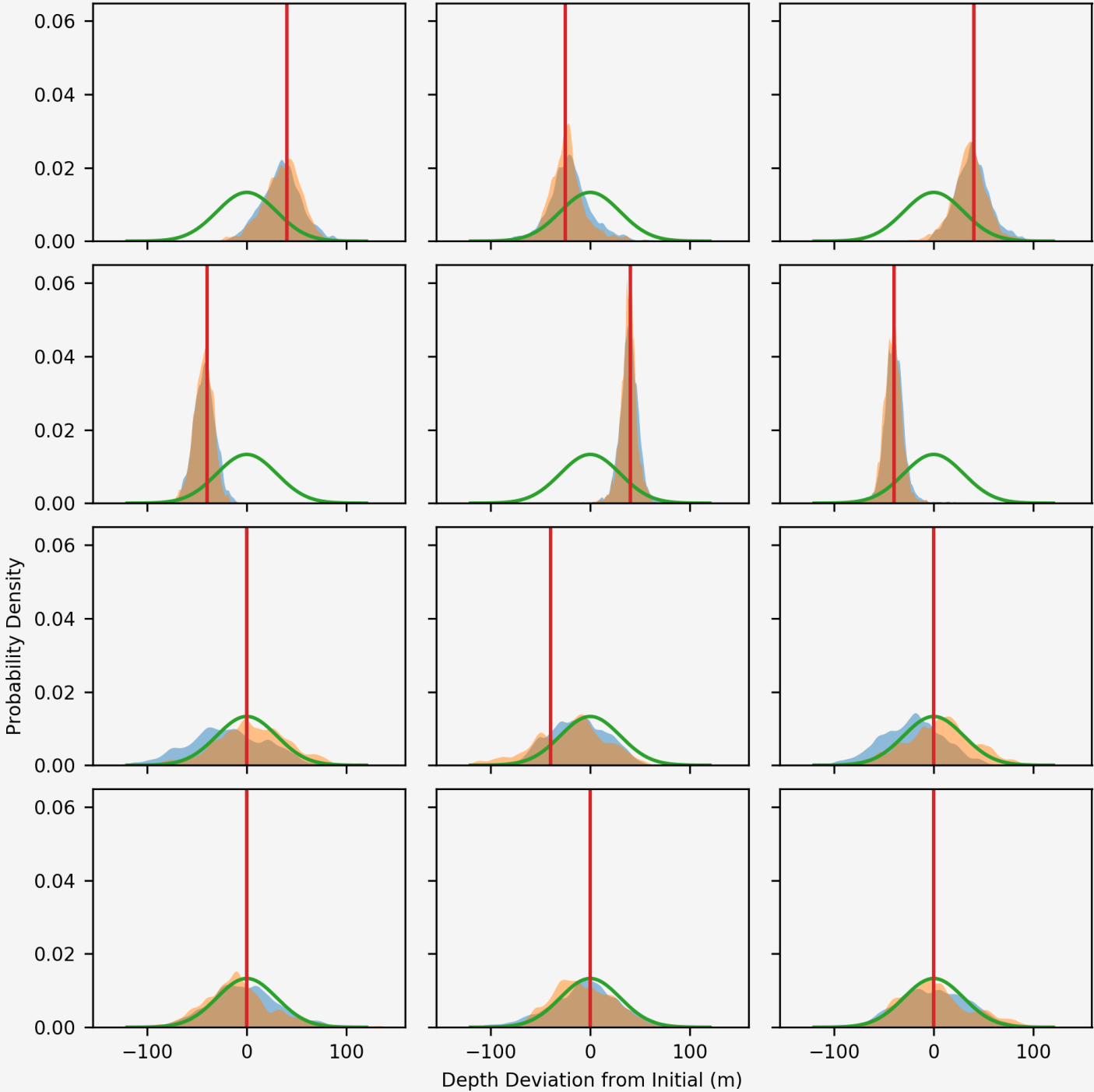
Figure: A comparison between one-stage MCMC highest posterior density (HPD) intervals and two-stage MCMC HPD intervals.

⚡ Acceptance rate **increased** from 10% to 40%.

⚡ Time per sample **decreased** by 22% (40% in other experiments).

⚡ Time per rejection **decreased** by 33%.

# RESULTS: TWO-STAGE MCMC WITH UPSCALING



# NEURAL NETWORK FILTER

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# RESULTS: TWO-STAGE MCMC WITH NEURAL NET

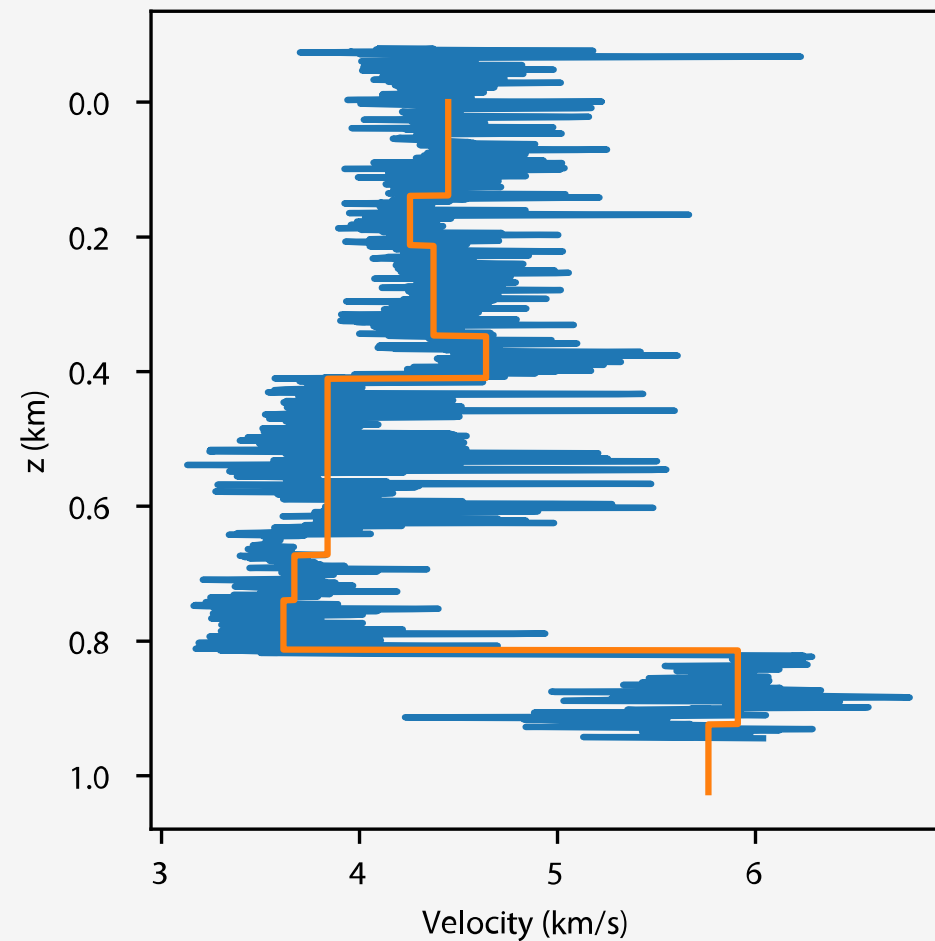


Figure: Well log from the Midland, TX basin (blue, courtesy of Pioneer Natural Resources and 9-layer block (orange).

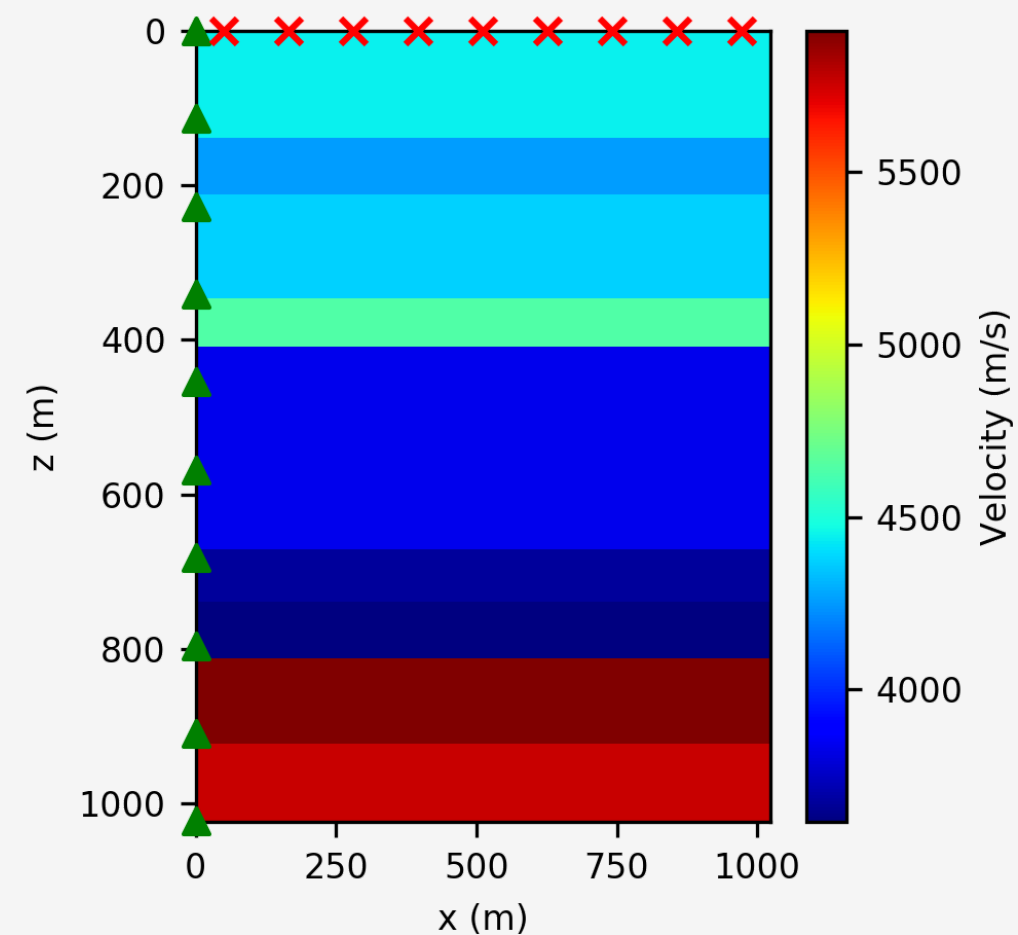


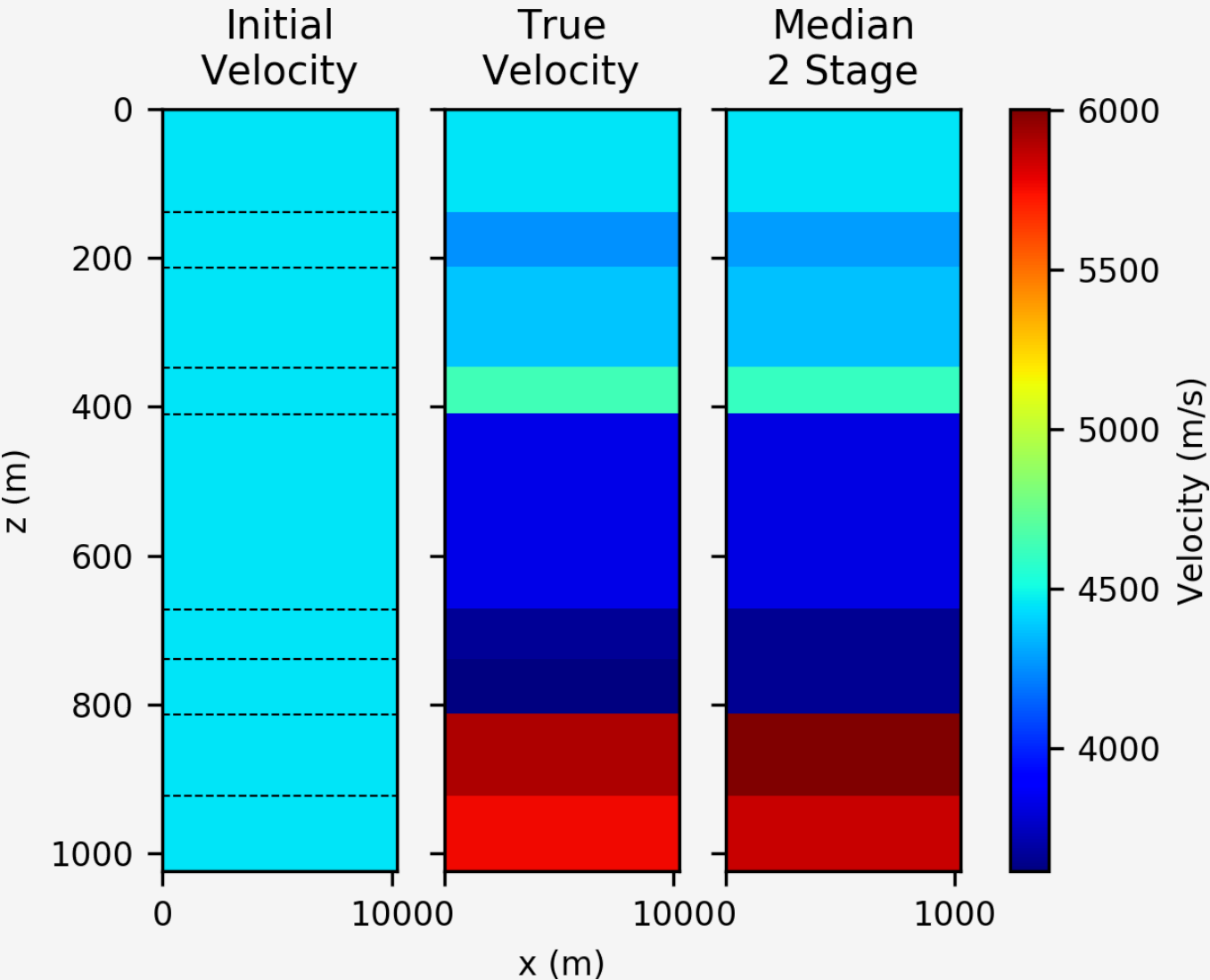
Figure: Flat layered experimental setup with nine unknowns (Stuart et al. 2019a)

# RESULTS: TWO-STAGE MCMC WITH NEURAL NET



**Figure:** The fine grid residual norm vs. neural network filter residual norm with continuous learning.

# RESULTS: TWO-STAGE MCMC WITH NEURAL NET



✓ All timings include generating the training set and training the neural network.

✓ Acceptance rate increased from 29% to 86%.

✓ Time-per-trial decreased by 65%.

✓ Time-per-

# RESULTS: TWO-STAGE MCMC WITH NEURAL NET

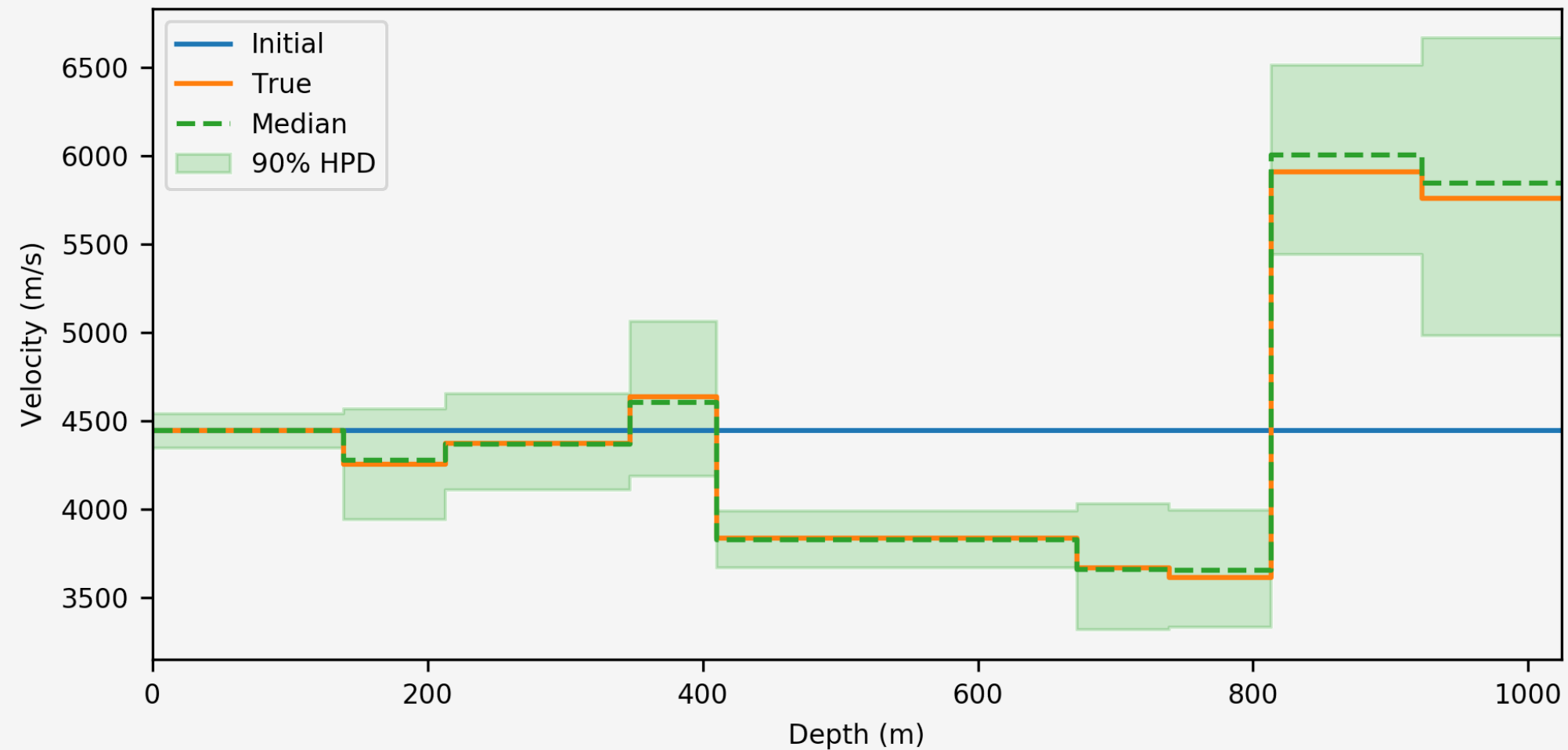


Figure: A vertical slice of the initial (blue), true (orange), and median (green dashed) velocity fields. With 90% highest posterior density intervals.

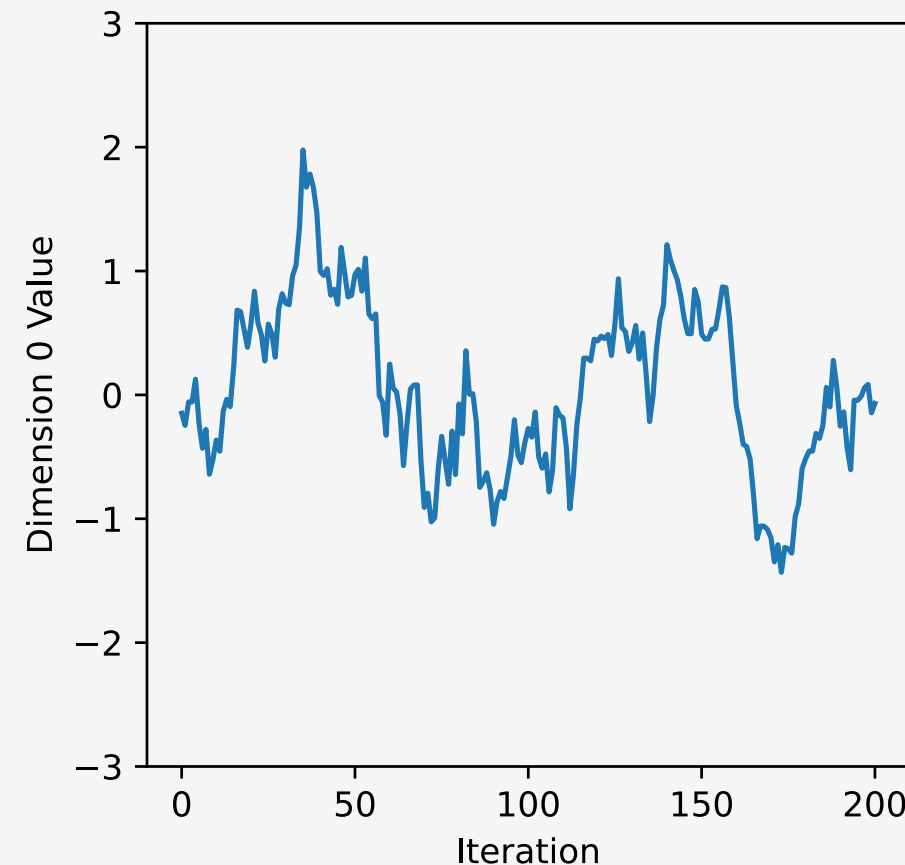


# TROUBLE: THE RANDOM WALK SAMPLER



- ↗ In **theory**, MCMC will converge to the target distribution.
- ↗ In **practice**, methods based on random walk sampling (RWS) can handle a limited number of unknowns (**< 100 in our experience**)
- ↗ RWS produces samples that are highly **correlated**.<sup>1</sup>

(1) Neal (2011)



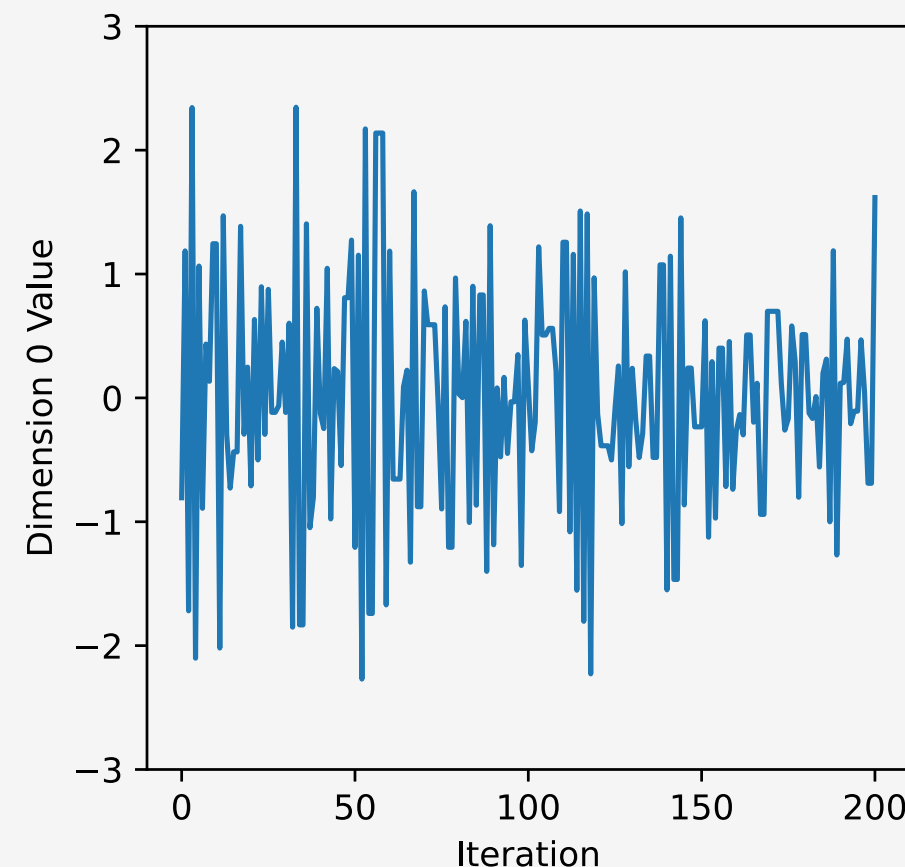
**Figure:** A view of one dimension of a 100-dimensional Gaussian sampled with Metropolis-Hastings MCMC.

THE RANDOM WALK  
SAMPLER PRACTICALLY  
LIMITS THE NUMBER OF  
UNKNOWN WE CAN USE

# HAMILTONIAN MONTE CARLO (HMC)



- ↗ HMC uses **Hamiltonian Mechanics** and **gradient information** of the posterior distribution to draw samples that are less correlated.
- ↗ This results in an algorithm that can handle **higher dimensions** and **converges in fewer samples**.



**Figure:** A view of one dimension of a 100-dimensional Gaussian sampled with HMC.

Potential  
Energy

Kinetic Energy


$$H(q, p) = U(q) + K(p)$$

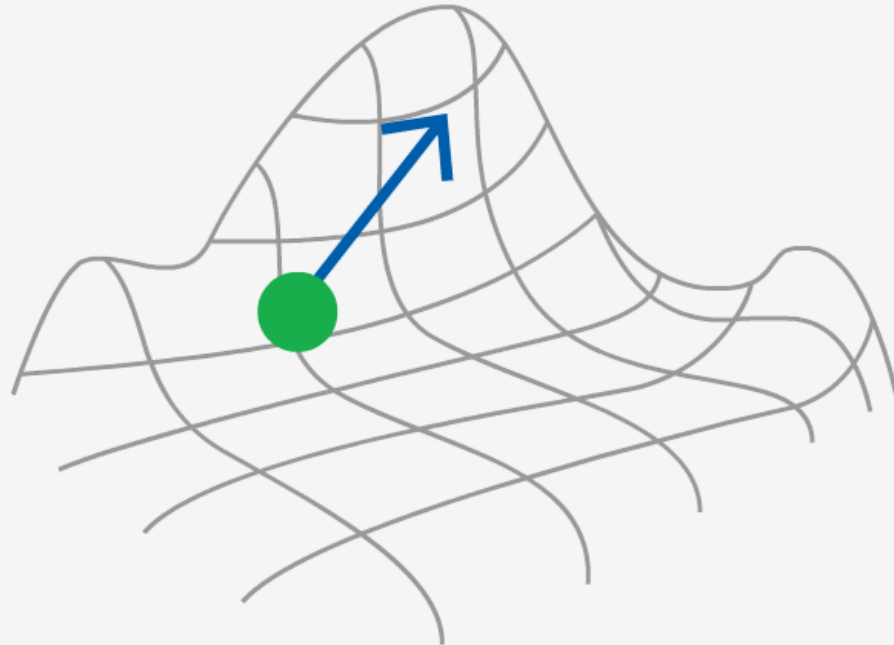
Hamiltonian

Position

Momentum

# HAMILTON'S EQUATIONS

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# HAMILTON'S EQUATIONS AND THE POSTERIOR DISTRIBUTION



- ↯ The posterior distribution is embedded in the potential energy by way of the **canonical distribution**.

$$U(q) = -\log[\pi(q|D)] = -\log[\pi(q)\pi(D|q)]$$

where  $\pi(q|D)$  is the **posterior distribution**,  $\pi(q)$  is the **prior distribution**, and  $\pi(D|q)$  is the **likelihood function**.

- ↯ For Hamilton's equations, we need to take the **gradient of the log likelihood**.

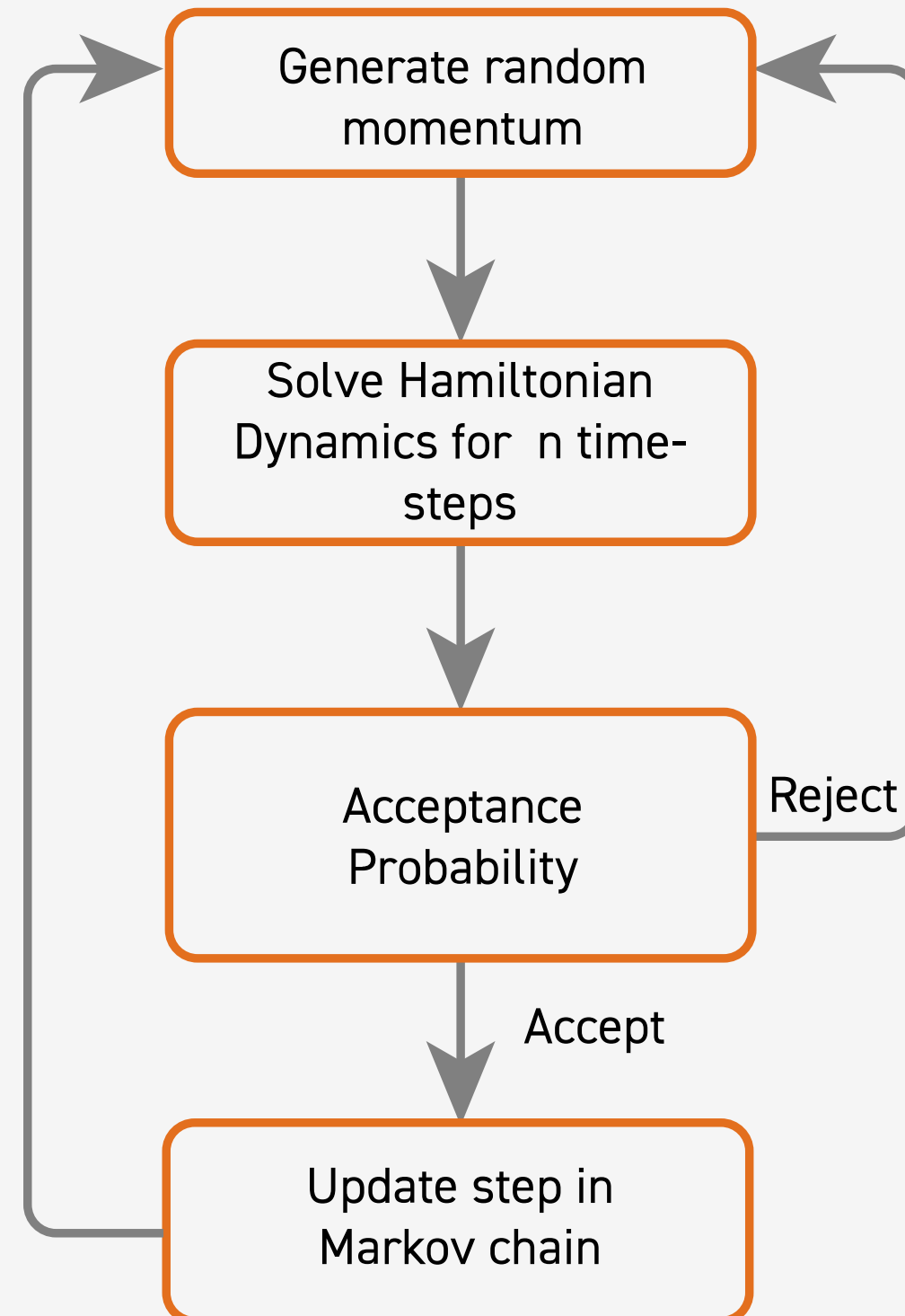
$$-\nabla \log[\pi(D|q)] = \nabla \frac{\|F(q) - D\|^2}{2\sigma^2}$$

# HMC FLOWCHART

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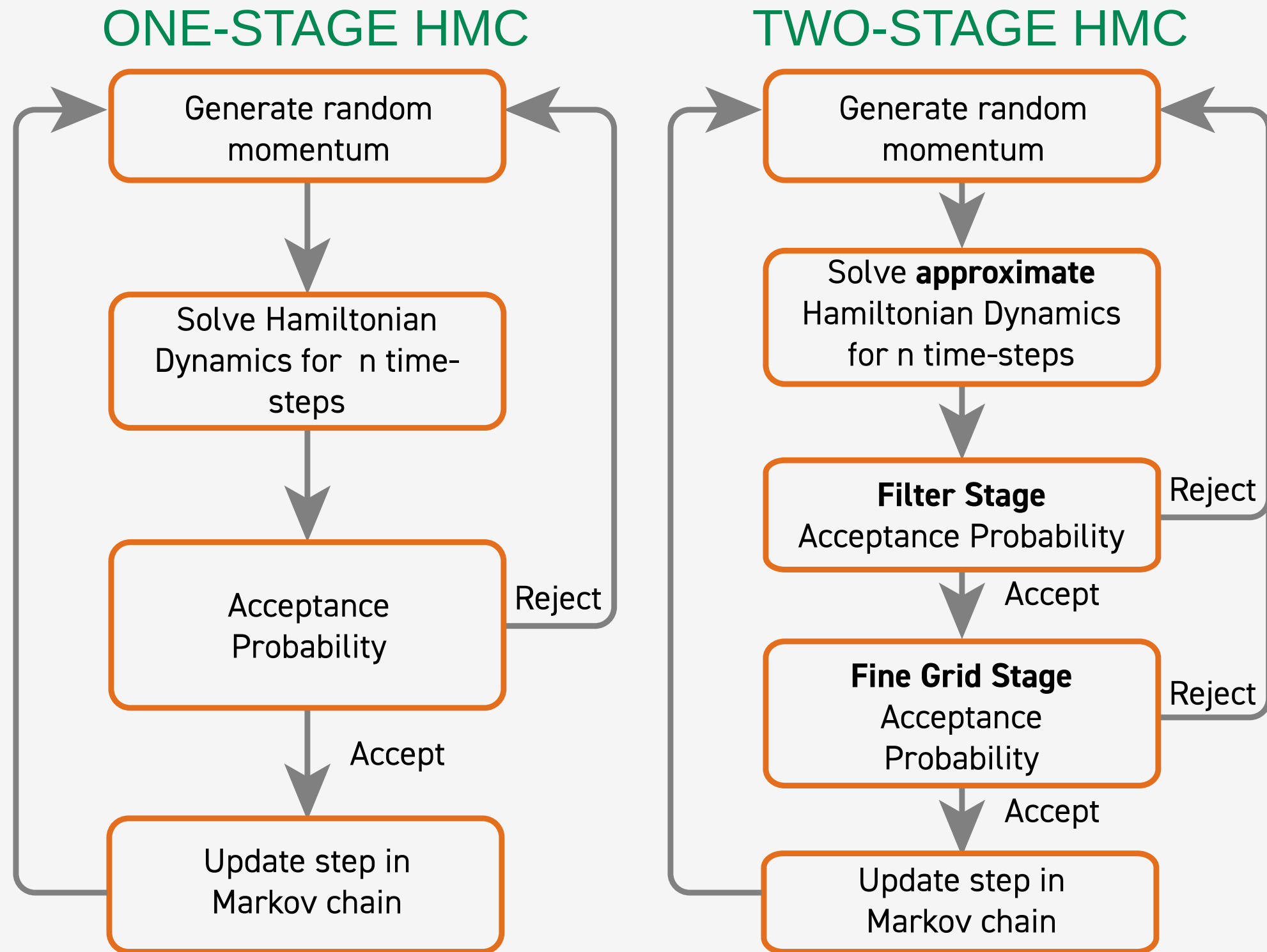
# HMC DEMO AND FLOWCHART





HAMILTONAIN MONTE  
CARLO REQUIRES  
NUMEROUS EXPENSIVE  
GRADIENT  
CALCULATIONS TO  
PRODUCE EACH SAMPLE.

# TWO-STAGE HMC

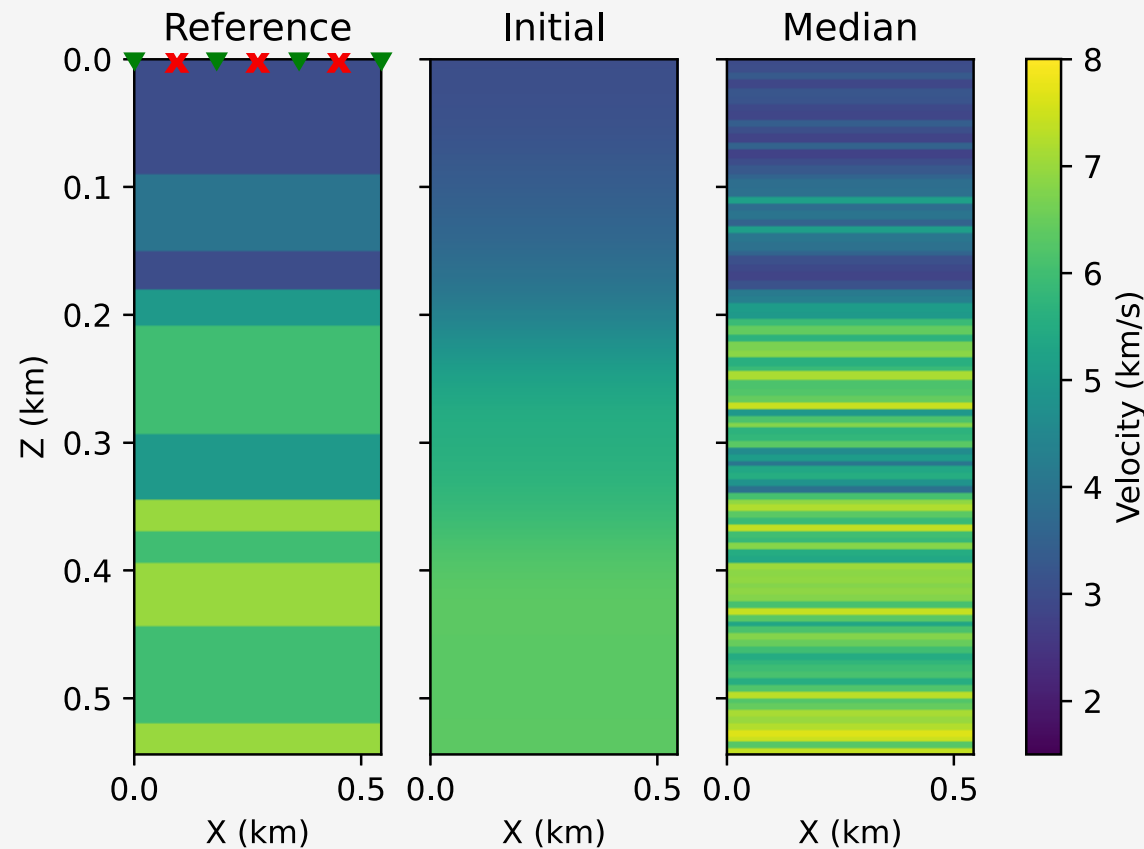


# NEURAL NETWORK-ENHANCED TWO-STAGE HMC (NNHMC)

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# RESULTS: NNHMC

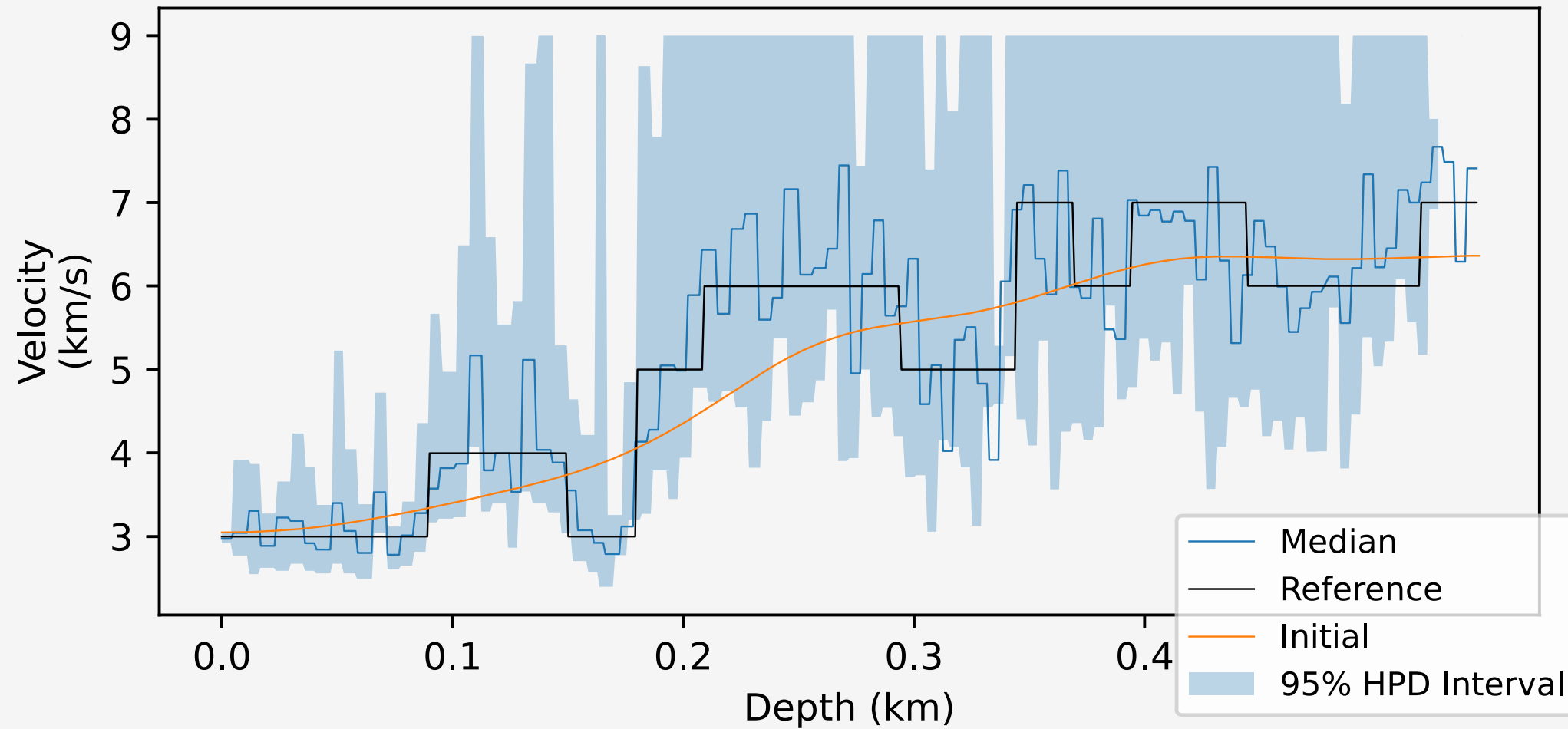


⚡ All timings include generating the training set and training the neural network.

⚡ Time-per-trial decreased by 85%.

**Figure:** The initial (left), true (middle), and median (right) velocity fields for the 100-unknown neural net two-stage HMC experiment. On the left image, red x's represent a line of sources and green triangles represent a line of receivers.

# RESULTS: NNHMC



**Figure:** A one-dimensional slice of the median (blue), reference (black), and initial (orange) velocity fields, with 95% HPD interval shown with blue shading.

# RESULTS: NNHMC

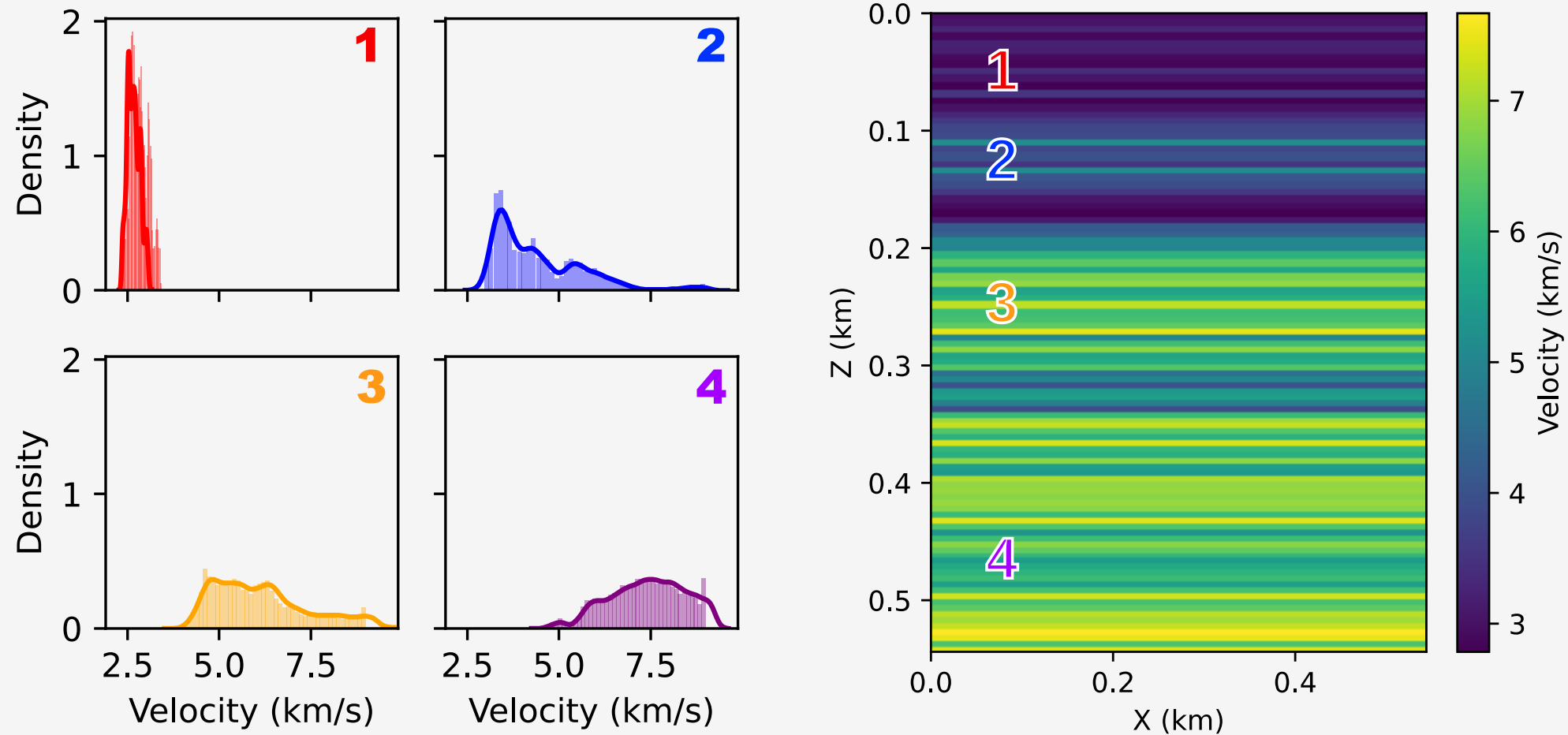


Figure: Four representative posterior distributions (left) from the marked locations (right).

HMC REQUIRES USER-  
SPECIFIED PARAMETERS  
TO DISCRETIZE THE  
HAMILTONIAN DYNAMICS

# THE NO-U-TURN SAMPLER (NUTS)



↯ The **No-U-Turn Sampler (NUTS)** modifies HMC to have an adaptive trajectory length  $L$ .

↯ **Eliminates costly tuning runs** for the trajectory length in the leapfrog algorithm.

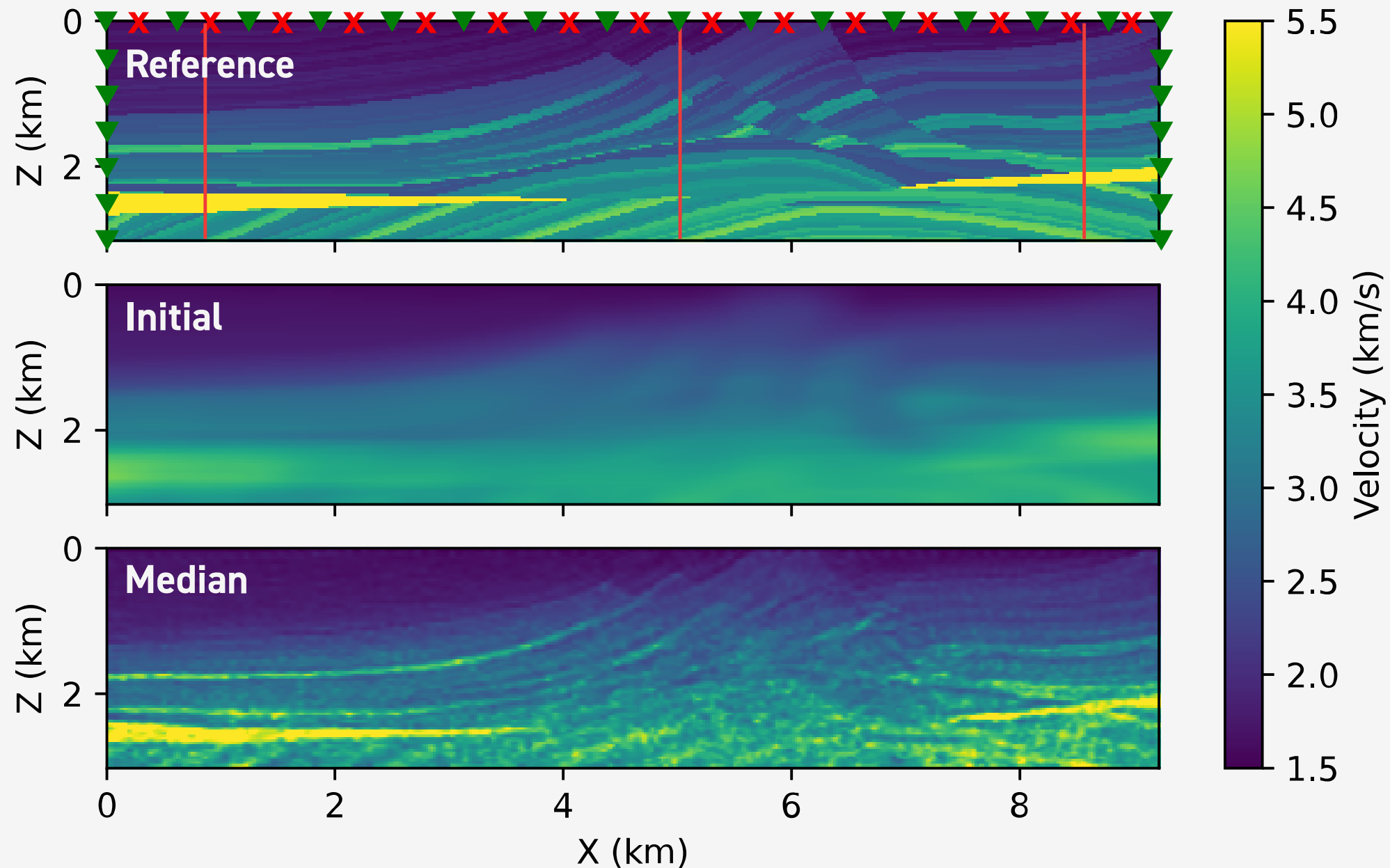
↯ From the starting point (blue dot), we **we randomly select a forward trajectory** (yellow dot) or a **backward trajectory** (green dots).

↯ The number of leapfrog steps **doubles** with each recursive NUTS iteration.



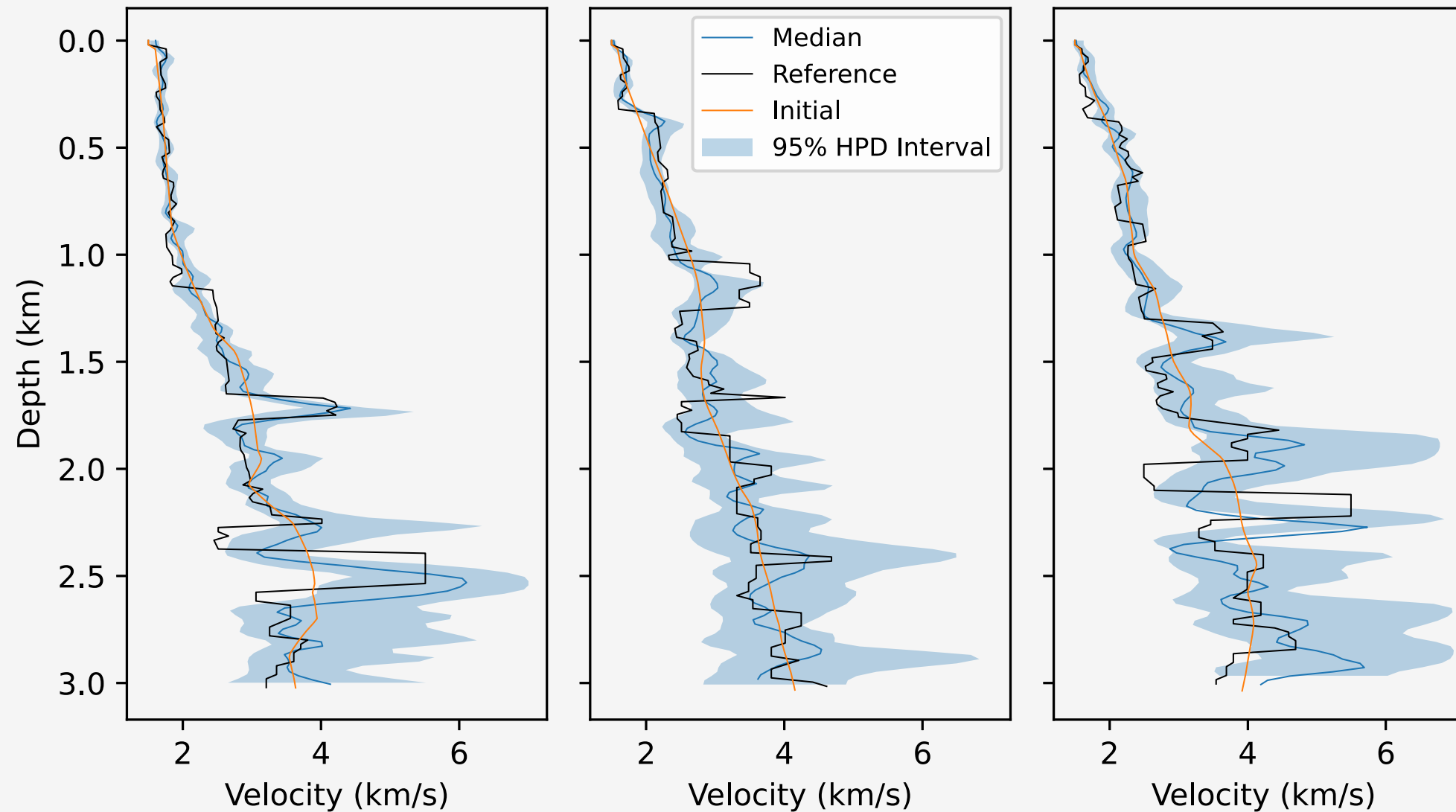


# NUMERICAL EXPERIMENT: NUTS



**Figure:** Top: the reference velocity field with markings for sources (red X's) and receivers (green triangles) and red lines to mark the location of the vertical slices (next slide). Middle: The initial velocity field. Bottom: the median velocity field.

# NUMERICAL EXPERIMENT: NUTS



**Figure:** Vertical slices of the median (blue), reference (black), and initial (orange) velocity fields at locations shown on the previous slide. The blue shaded region marks the 95% HPD intervals

# NUMERICAL EXPERIMENT: NUTS

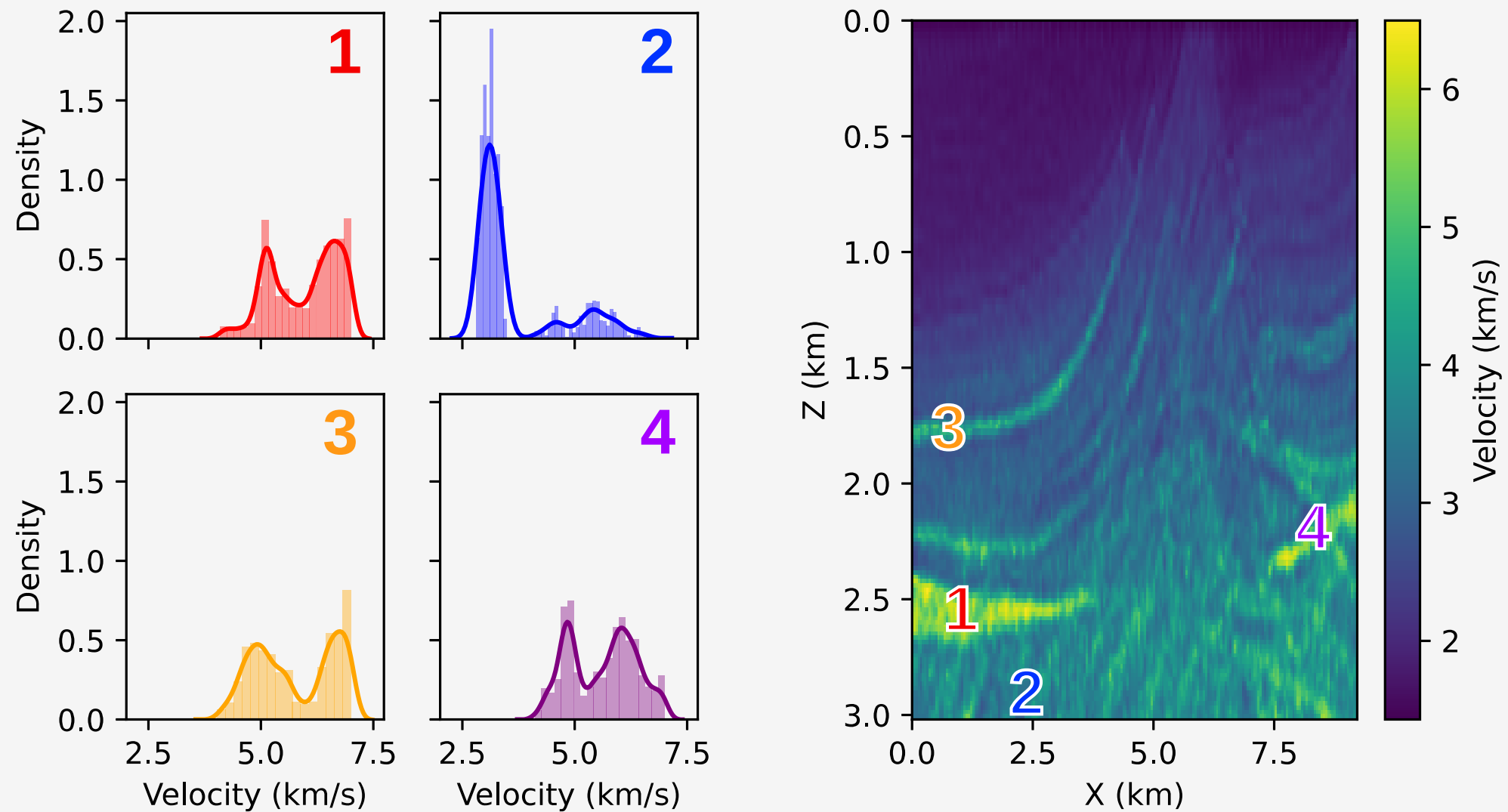


Figure: Four representative posterior distributions (left) at the marked locations shown on the right figure.

- ⌚ Two-stage MCMC and HMC is an effective way to quickly reject unacceptable samples and to reduce runtime of the **expensive MCMC and HMC procedures**.
- ⌚ **Operator upscaling** is a highly accurate surrogate that closely replicates the fine-grid receiver data.
- ⌚ A **neural net** is an extremely inexpensive surrogate that can do a good job of approximating the exponent of the **likelihood function** and the **likelihood gradient**.
- ⌚ **Neural-Net Enhanced HMC** reduces the run-time of the HMC algorithm by **over 80%** for our experiment.
- ⌚ **The No-U-Turn sampler** optimizes the leapfrog trajectory length for HMC.

# FUTURE WORK

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# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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