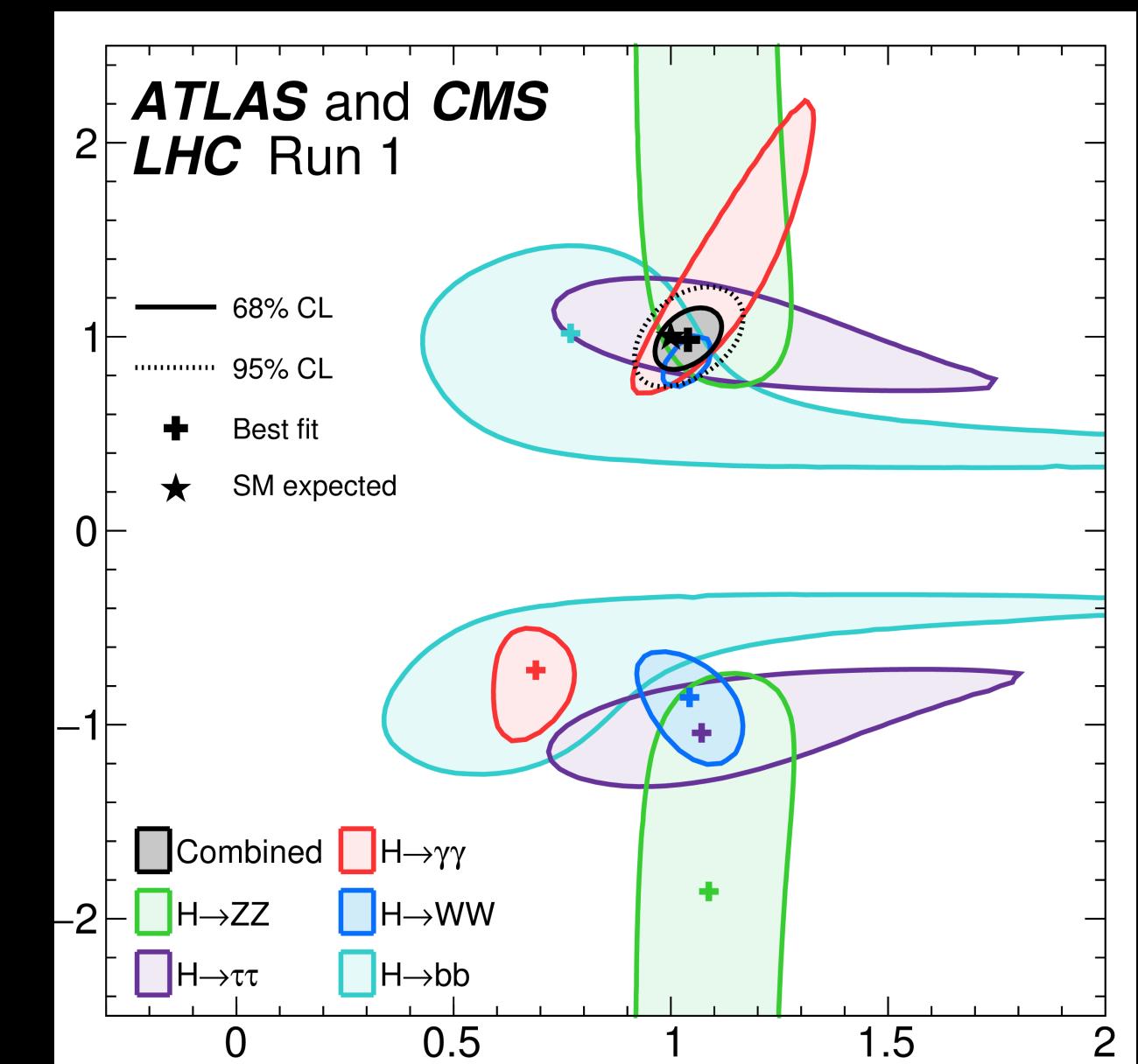
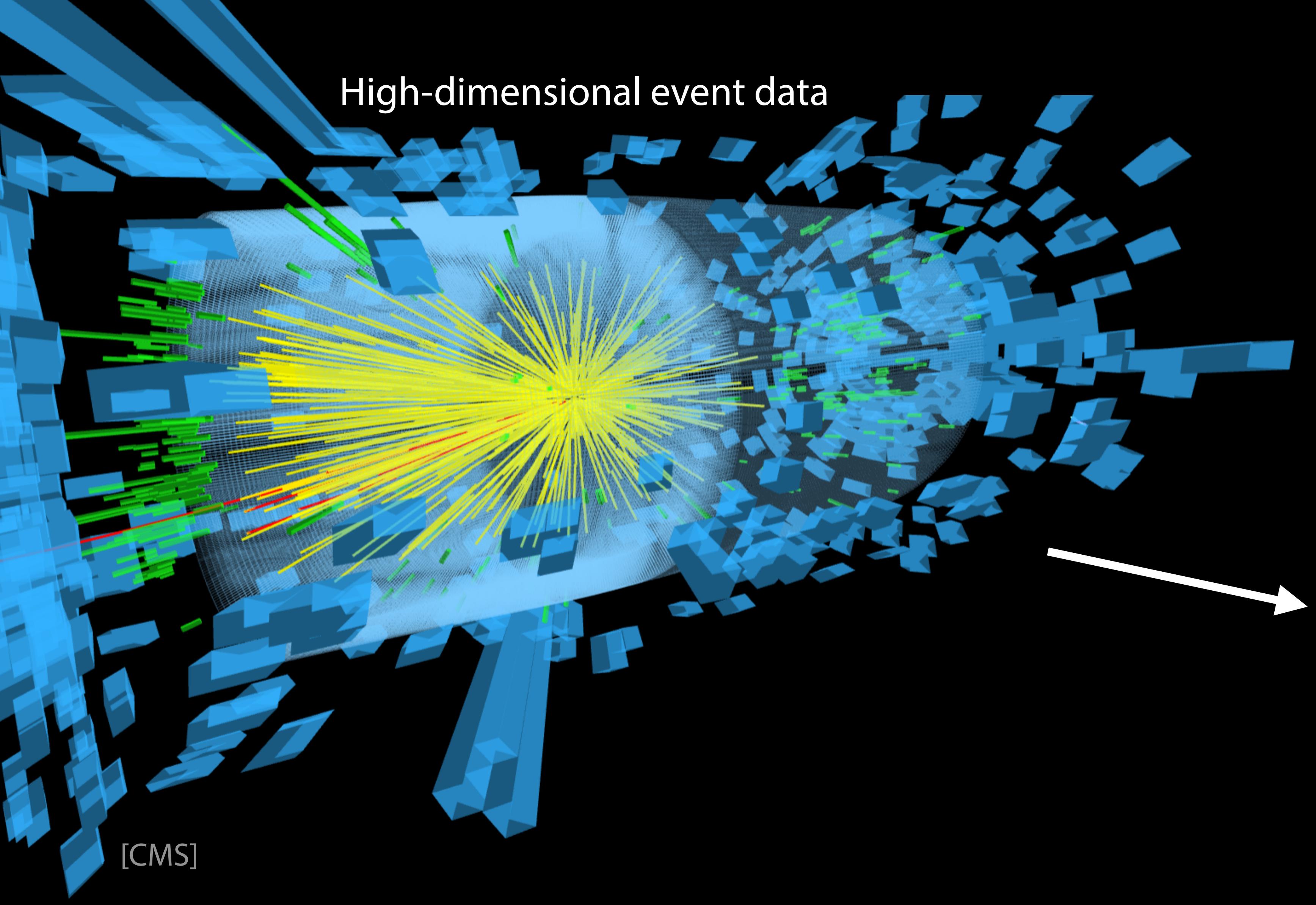


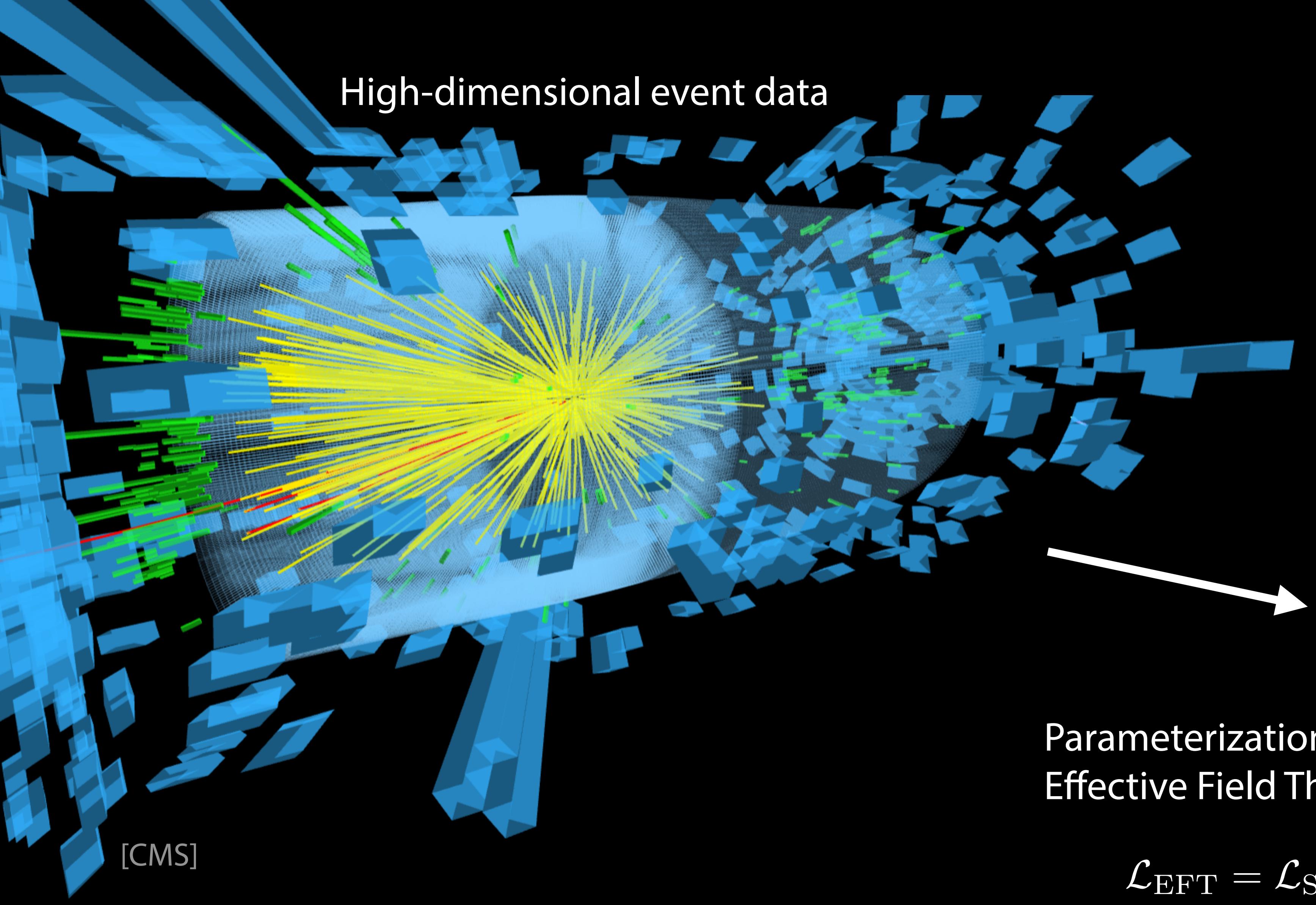
# How machine learning can help us get the most out of high-precision particle physics models

Johann Brehmer  
New York University

DESY-HU theory seminar  
November 12, 2020



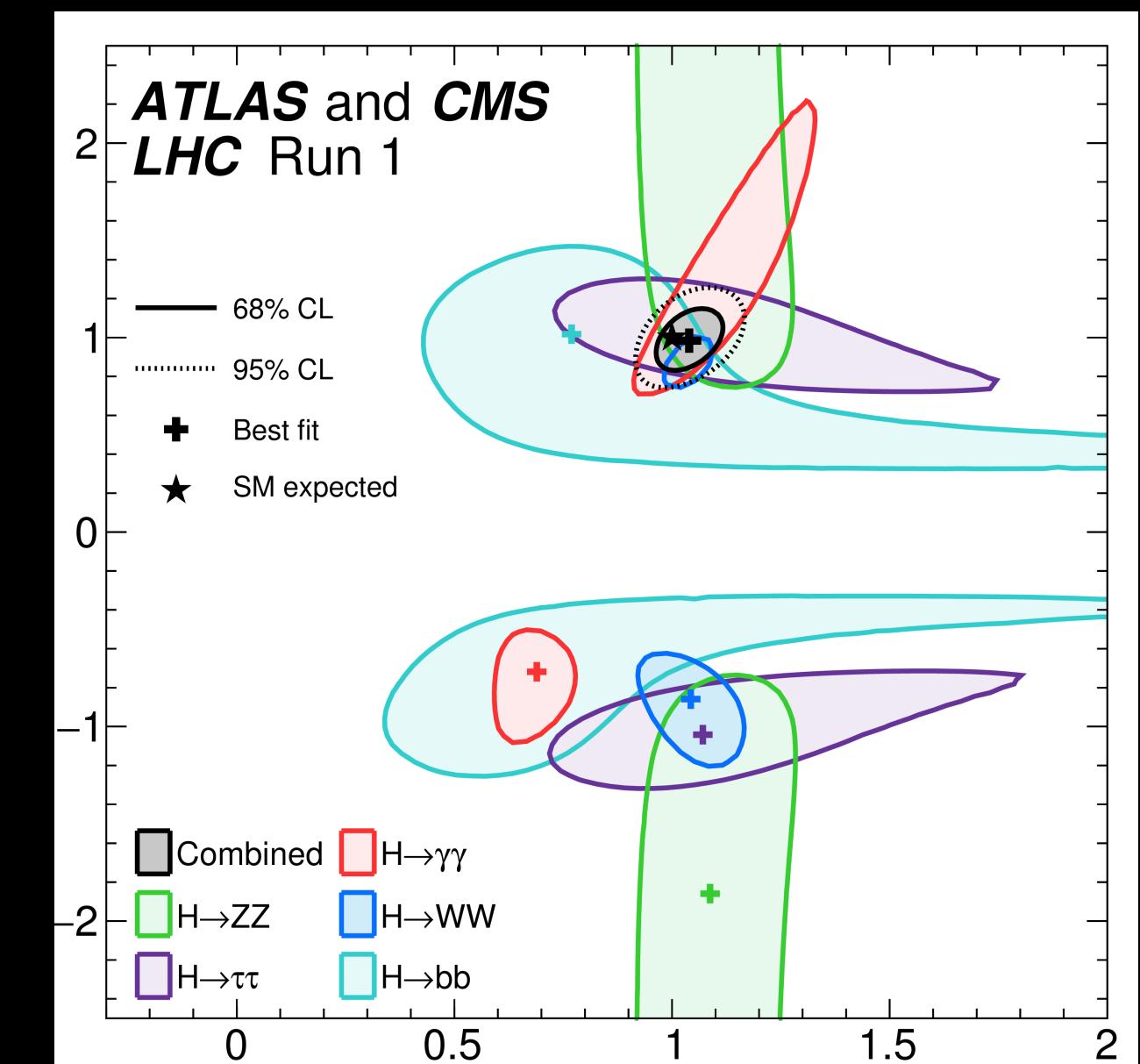
Precision constraints on  
new physics



Parameterization e.g. in  
Effective Field Theory:

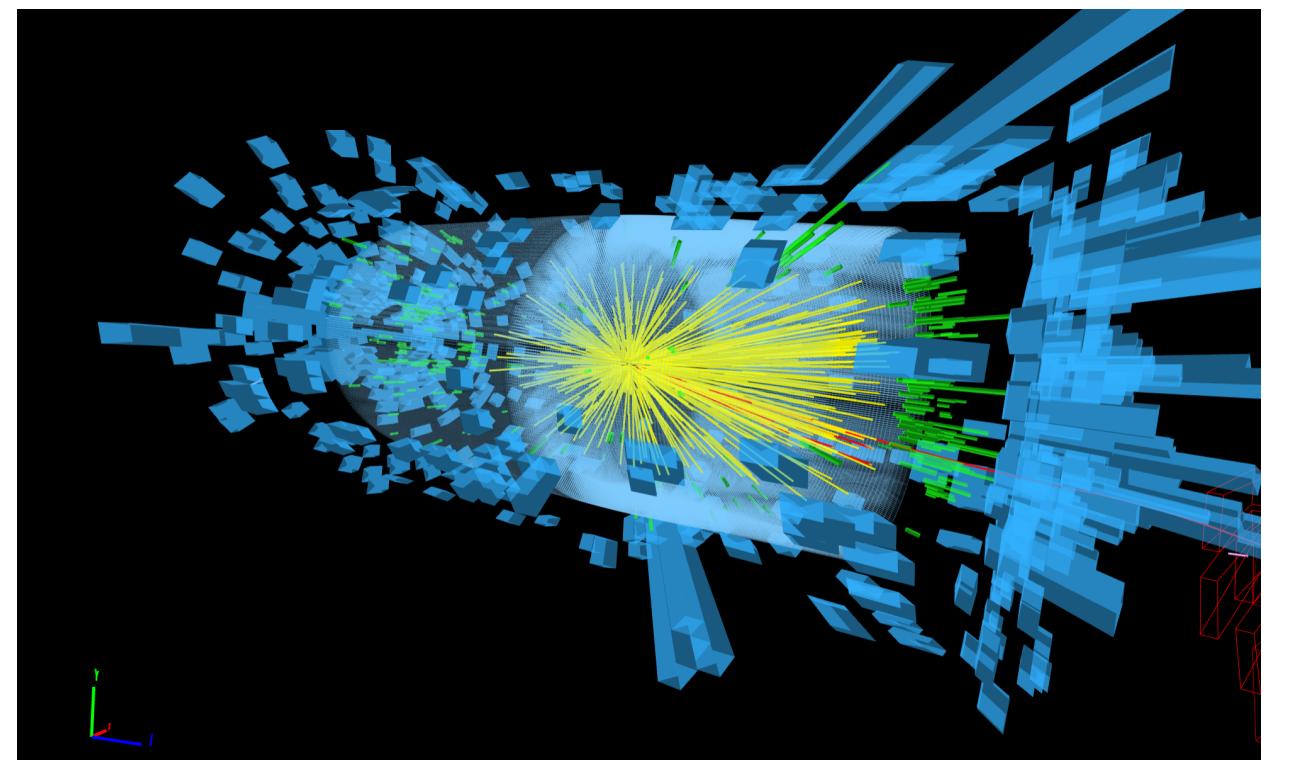
$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{EFT}} = \mathcal{L}_{\text{SM}} + \sum_i \frac{f_i}{\Lambda^2} \mathcal{O}_i + \dots$$

10s to 100s “universal”  
parameters to measure

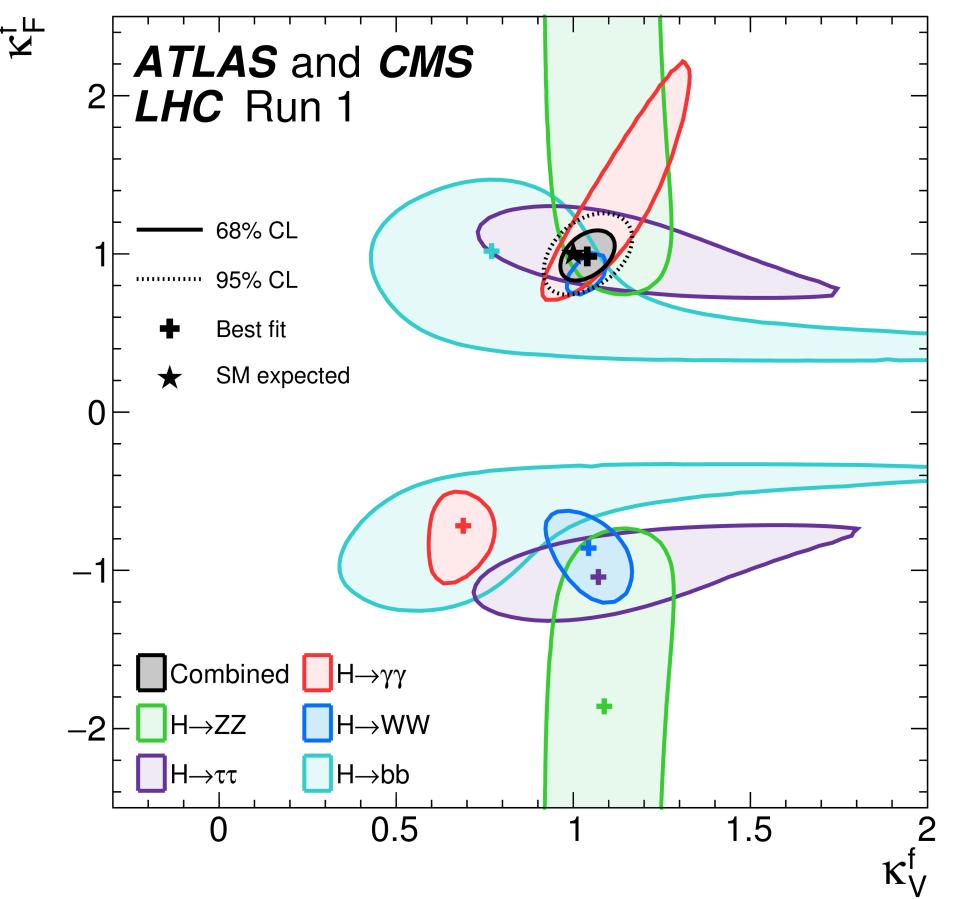


Precision constraints on  
new physics

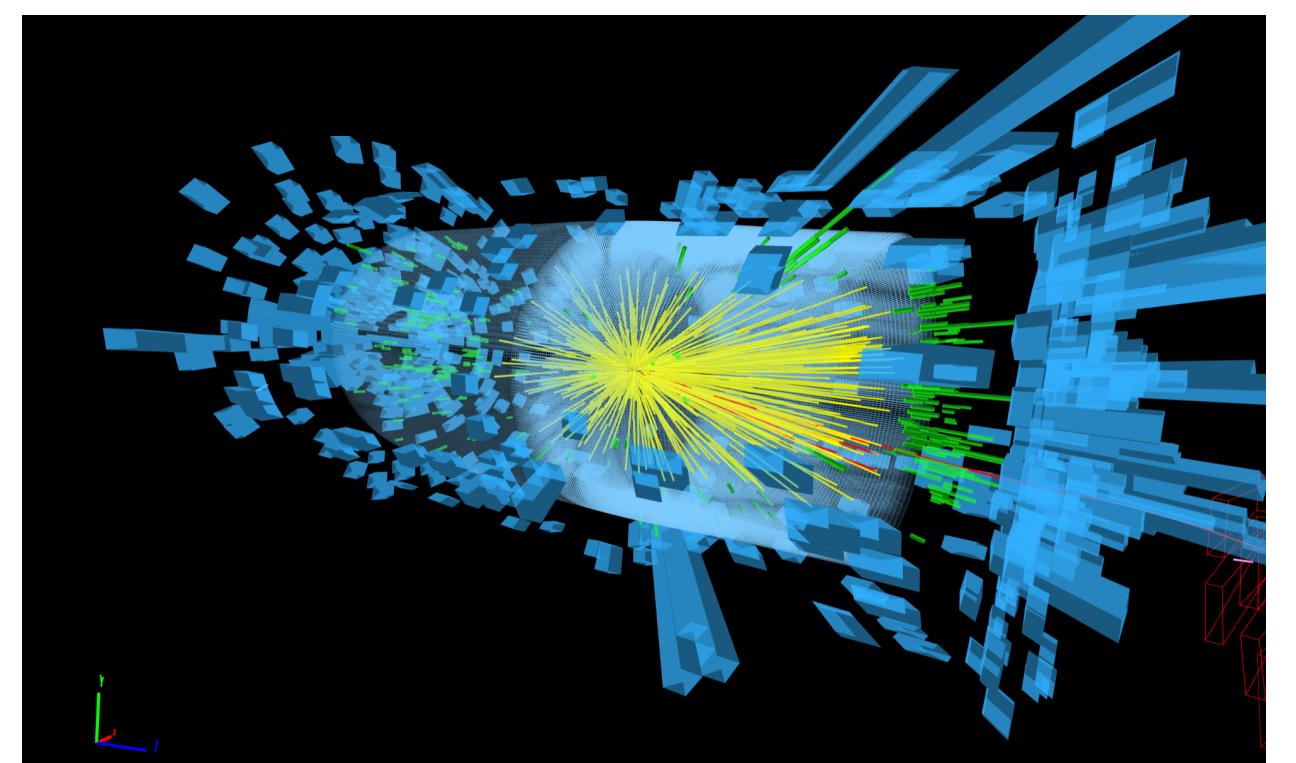
systematic expansion of  
new physics around  
Standard Model



High-dimensional  
event data  $x$



Constraints on  
parameters  $\theta$

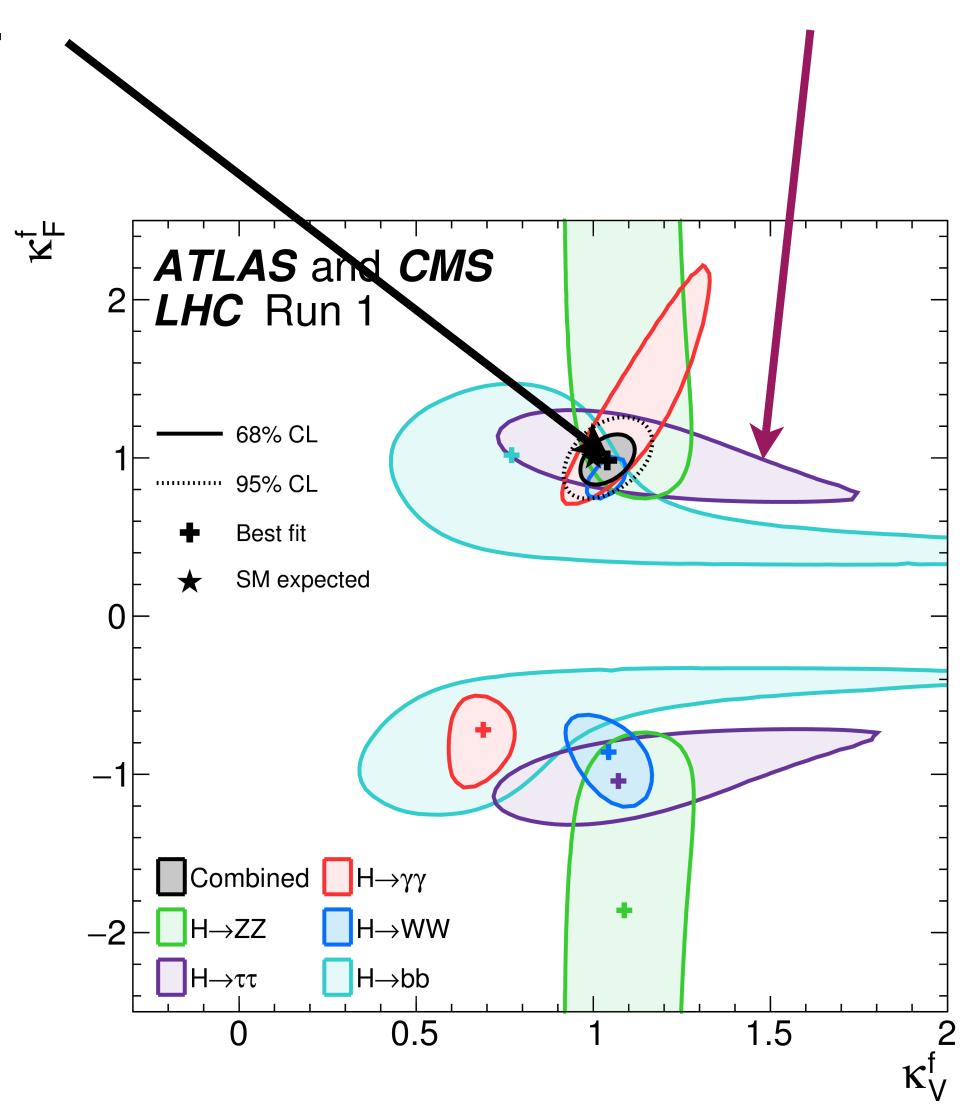


High-dimensional  
event data  $x$

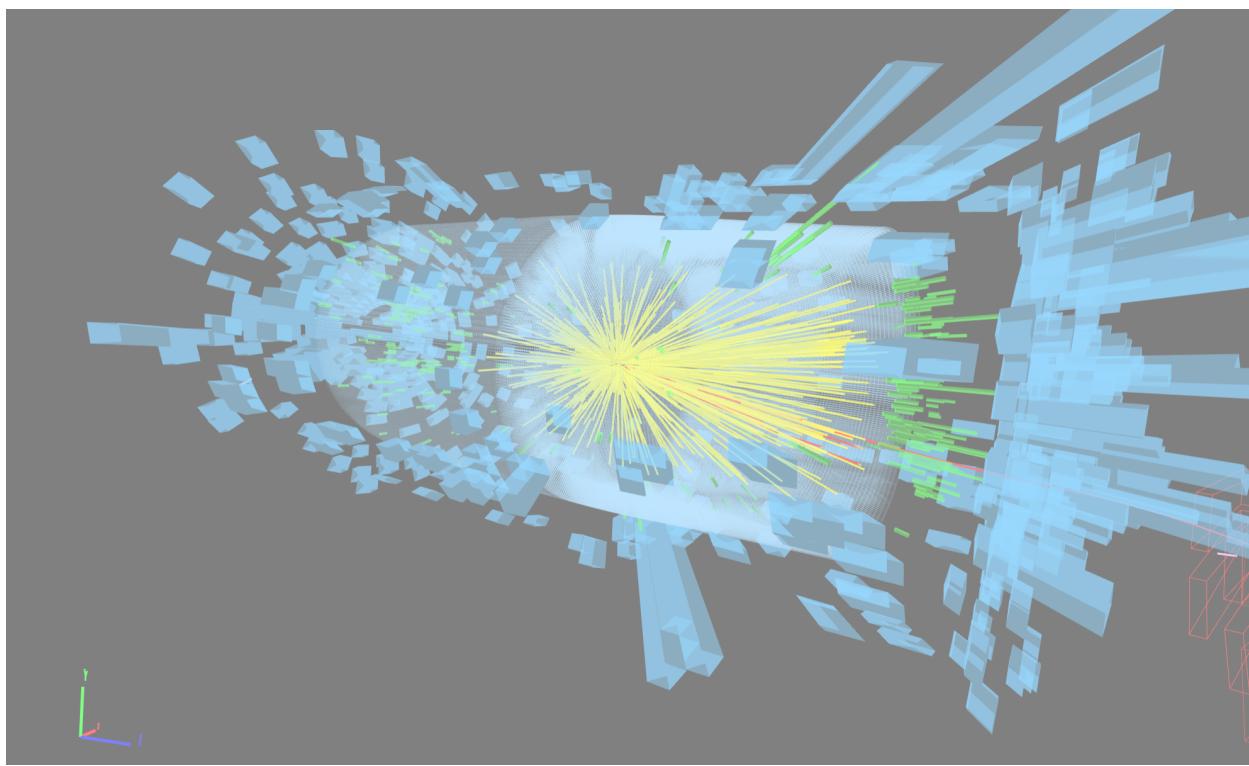


Likelihood function  
 $p(x|\theta)$

Maximum-likelihood  
estimator



Constraints on  
parameters  $\theta$

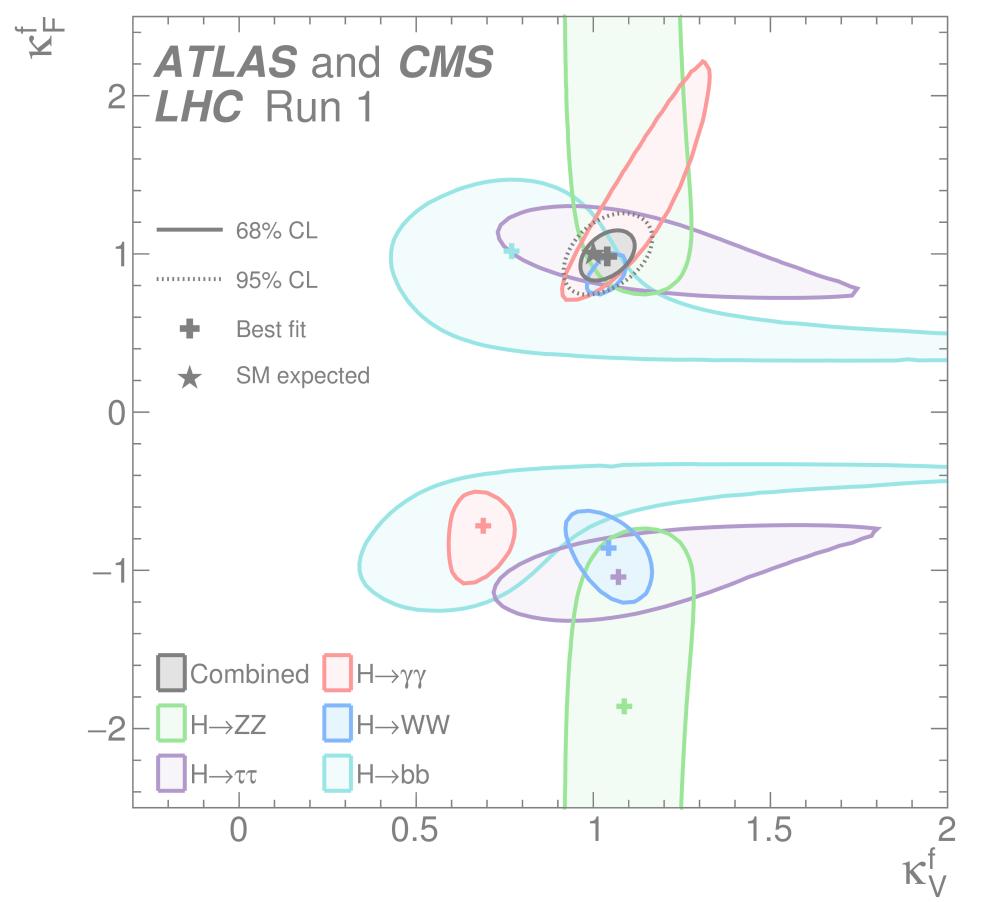


High-dimensional  
event data  $x$

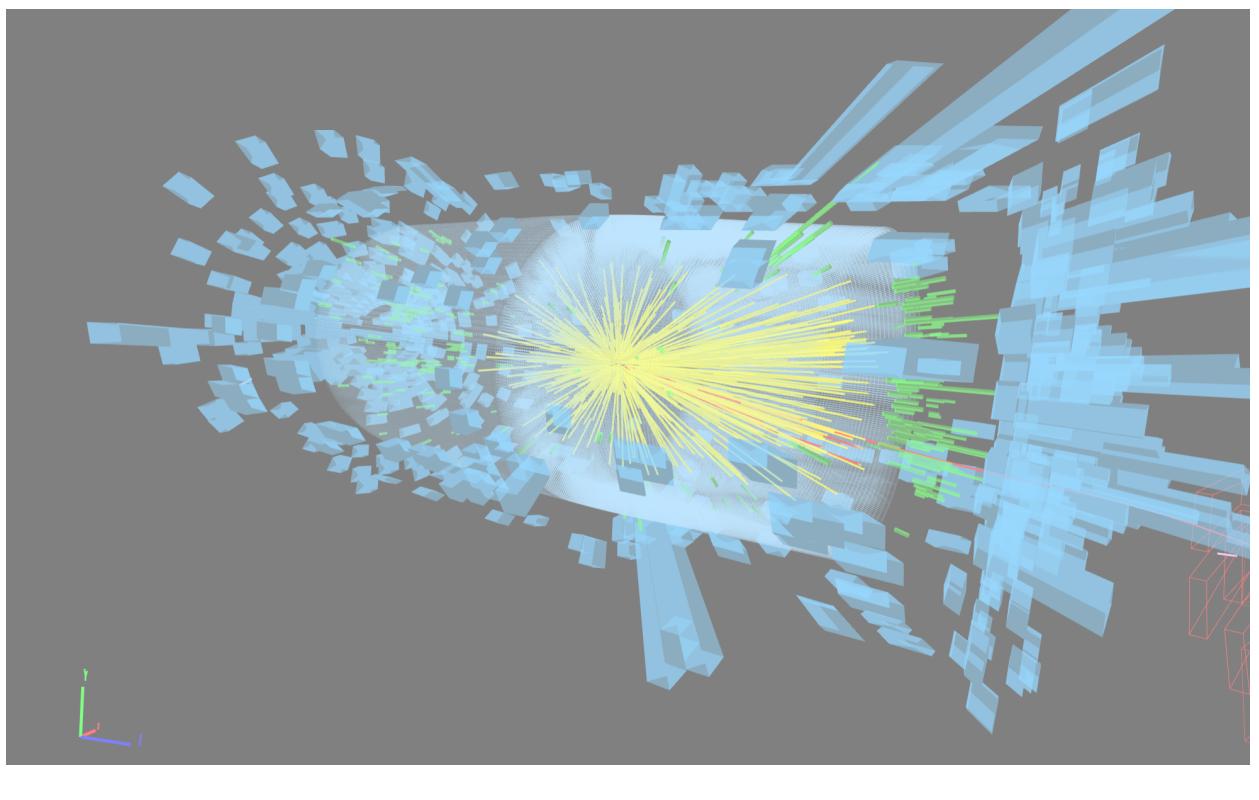
Surprisingly, when we want to use high-dimensional data and have to deal with the detector response, we do not have a good way to calculate the likelihood.



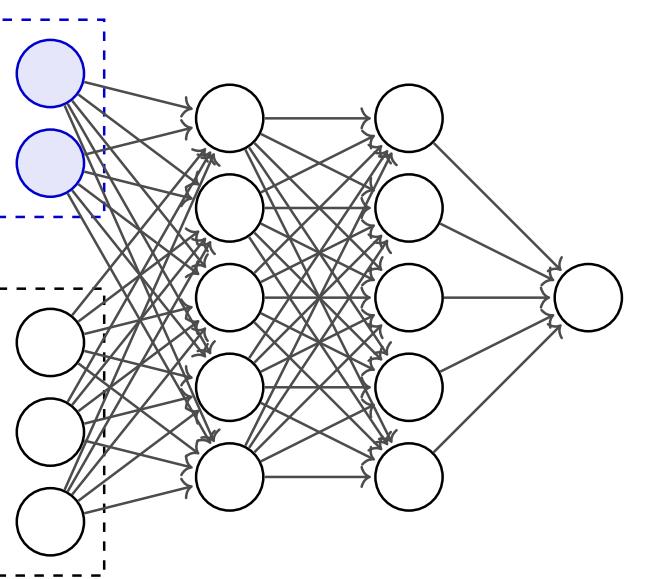
Likelihood function  
 $p(x|\theta)$



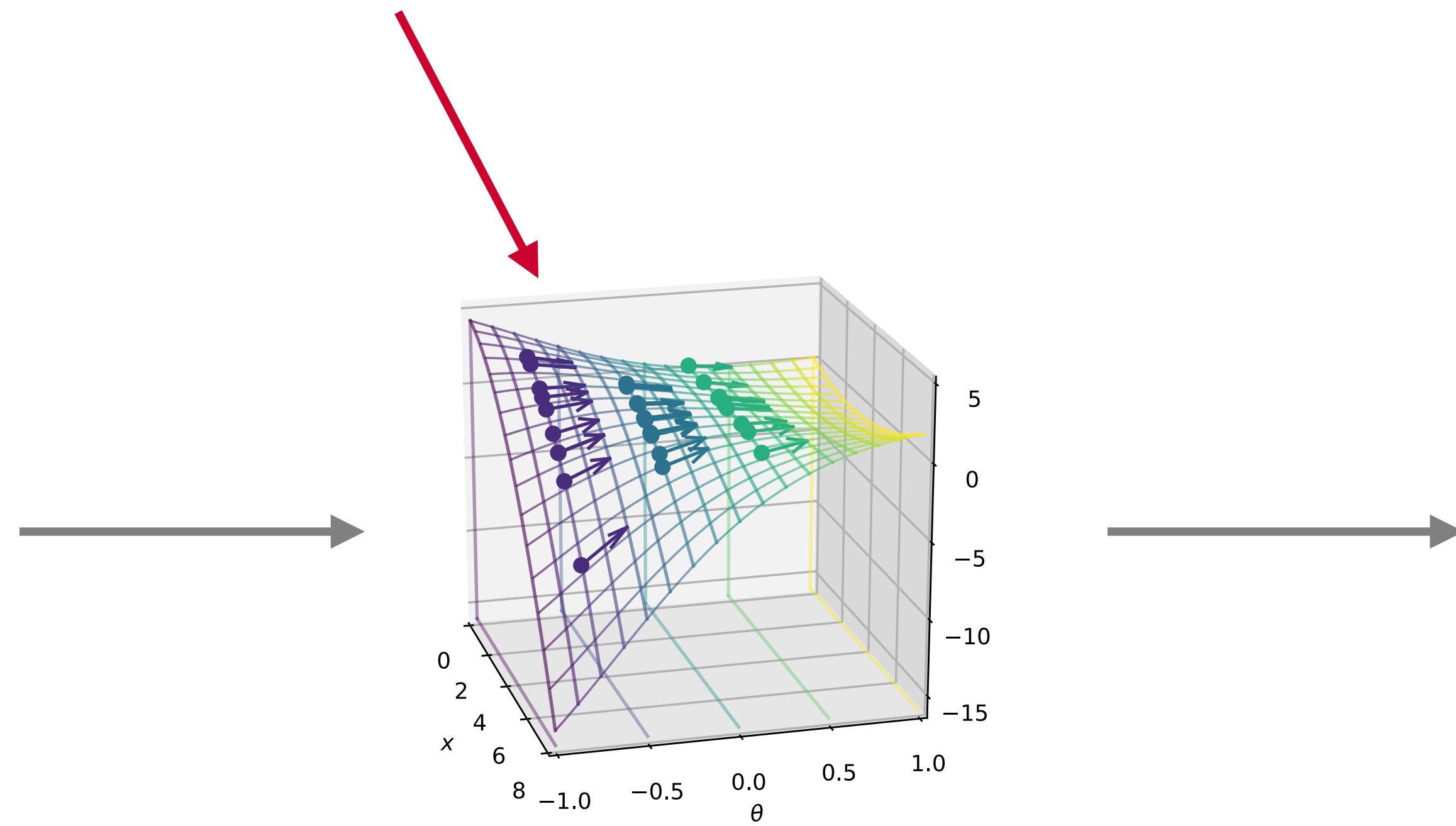
Constraints on  
parameters  $\theta$



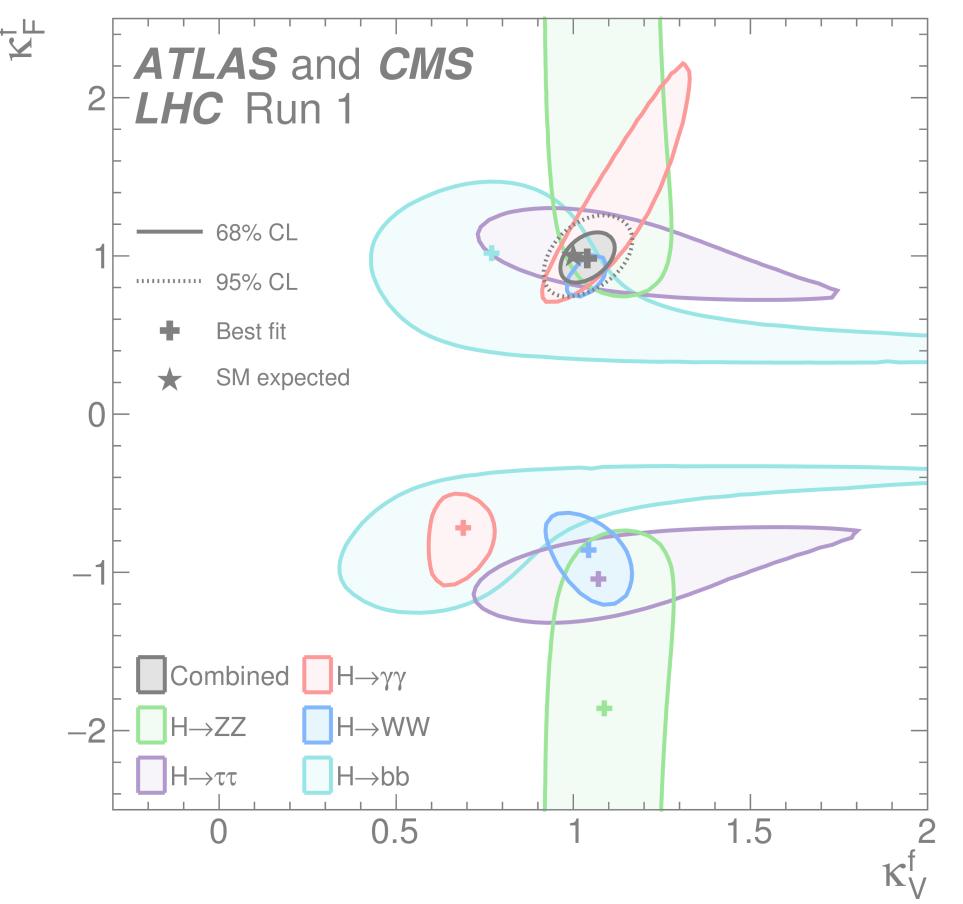
High-dimensional  
event data  $x$



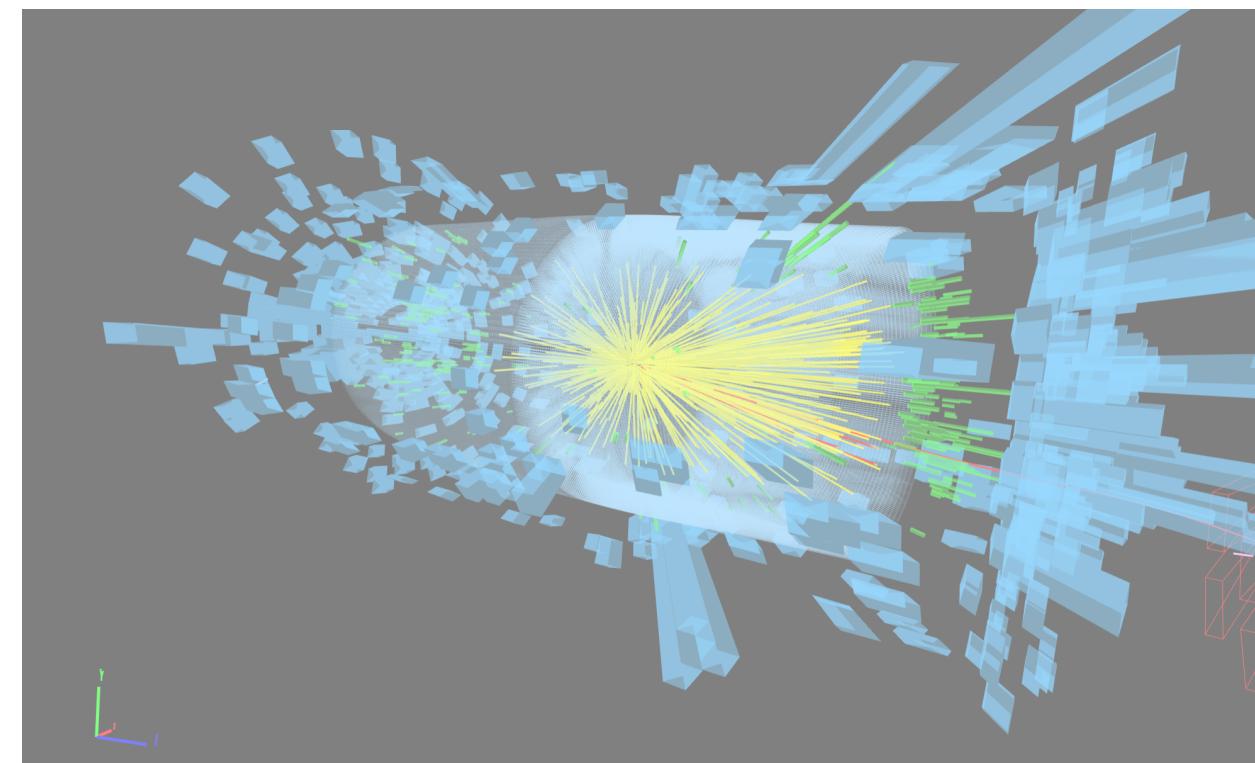
Machine learning



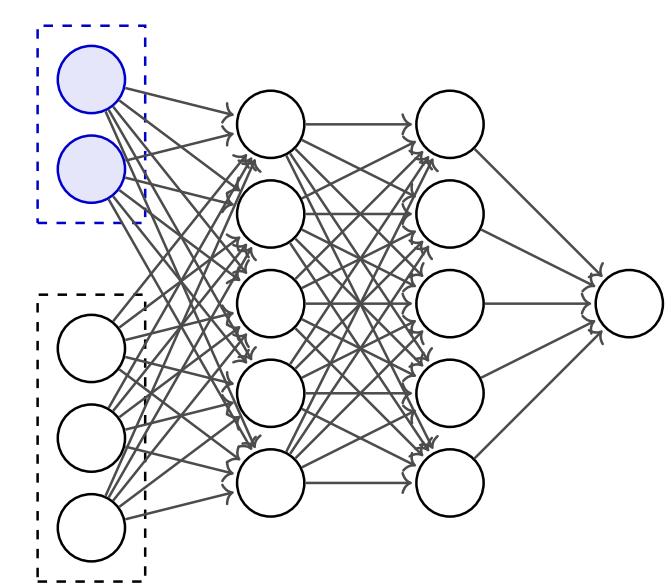
Estimator of the  
likelihood  $p(x|\theta)$



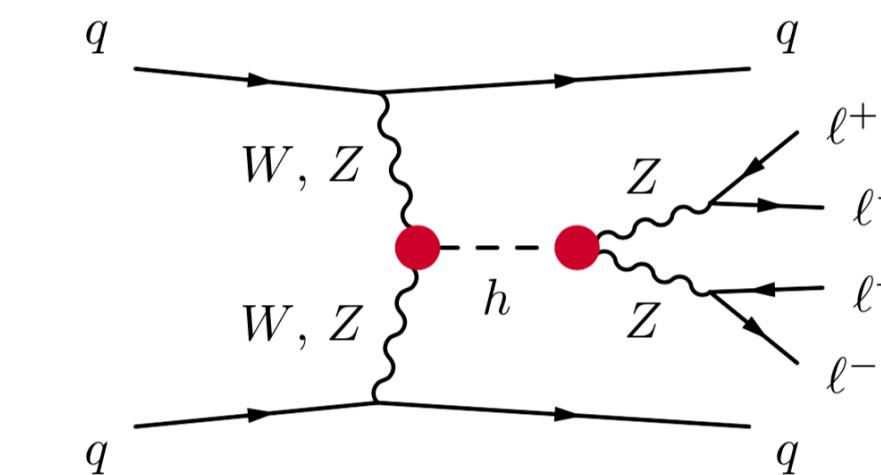
Constraints on  
parameters  $\theta$



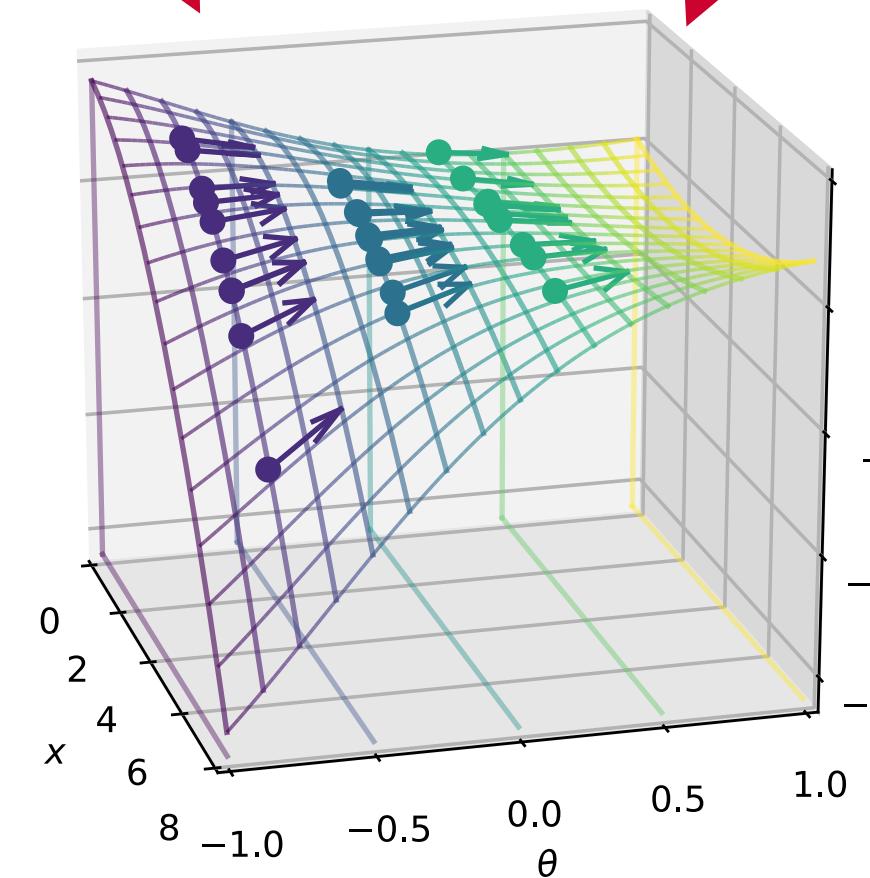
High-dimensional  
event data  $x$



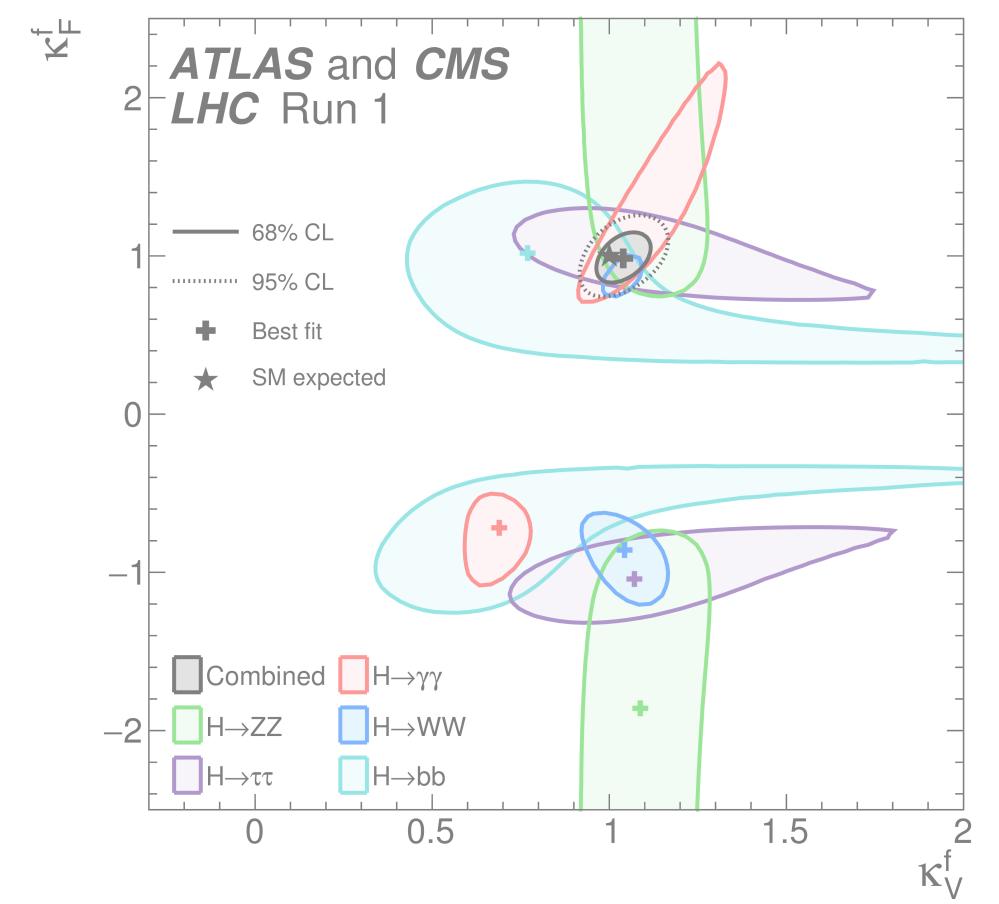
Machine learning



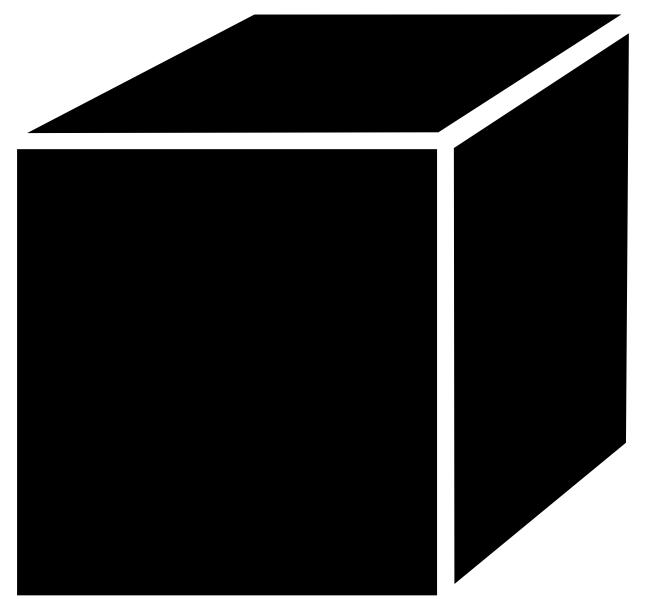
Physics insight:  
matrix element information



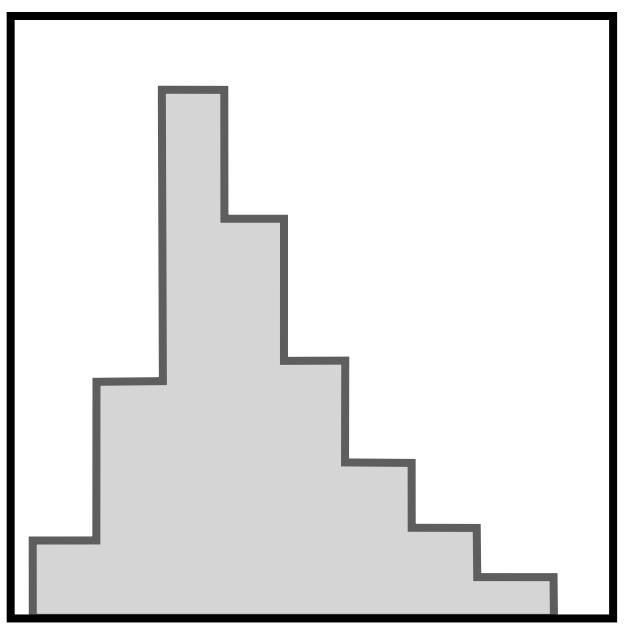
Estimator of the  
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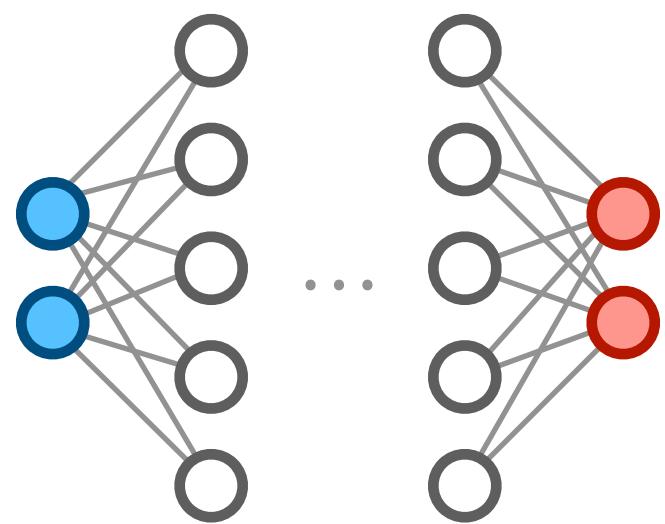
Constraints on  
parameters  $\theta$



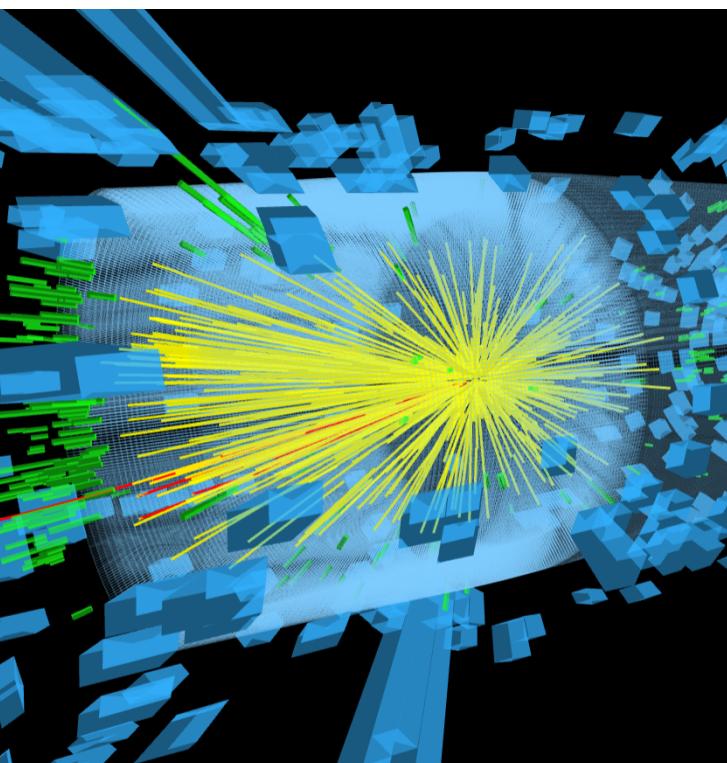
1. The simulation-based inference problem



2. Why has that not stopped us before?



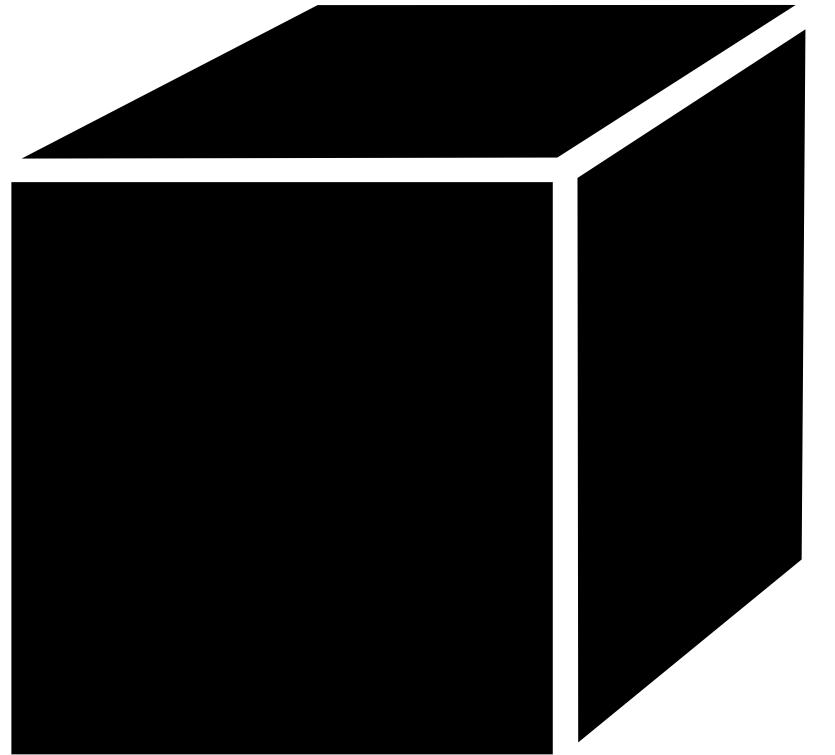
3. Machine learning methods



4. Examples



5. Beyond the LHC



## 1. Particle physics measurements as a simulation-based inference problem

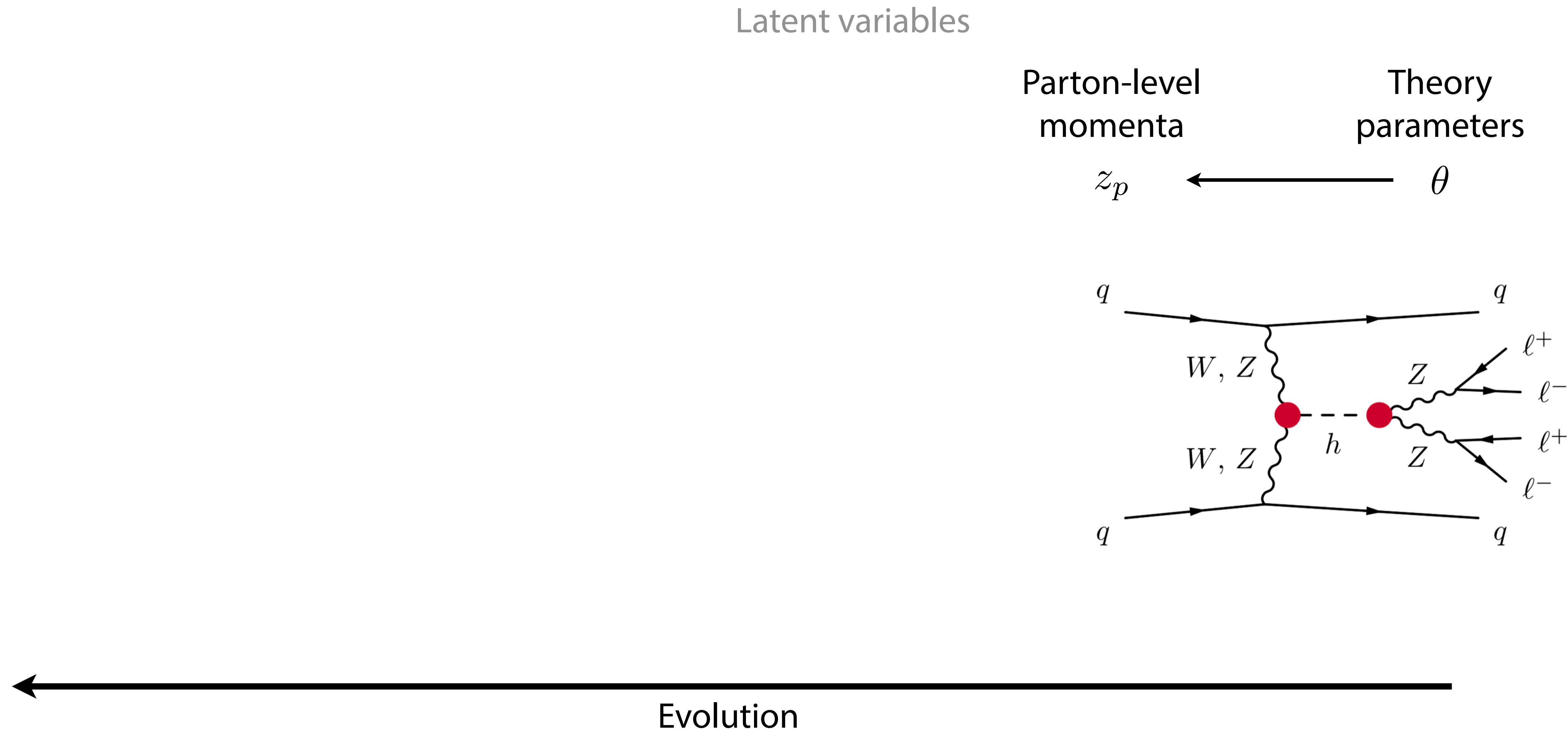
# Modelling particle physics processes

Theory  
parameters  
 $\theta$

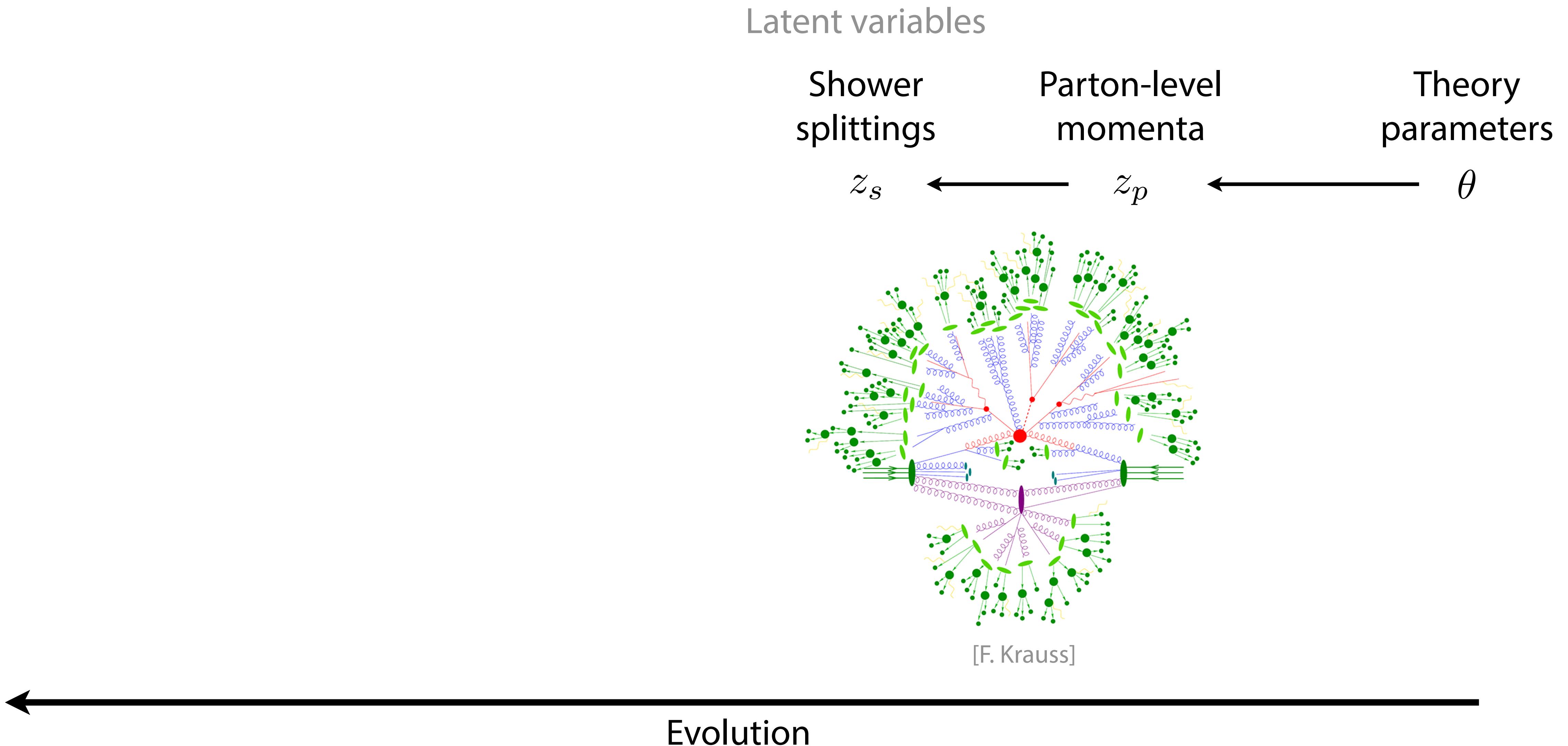


Evolution

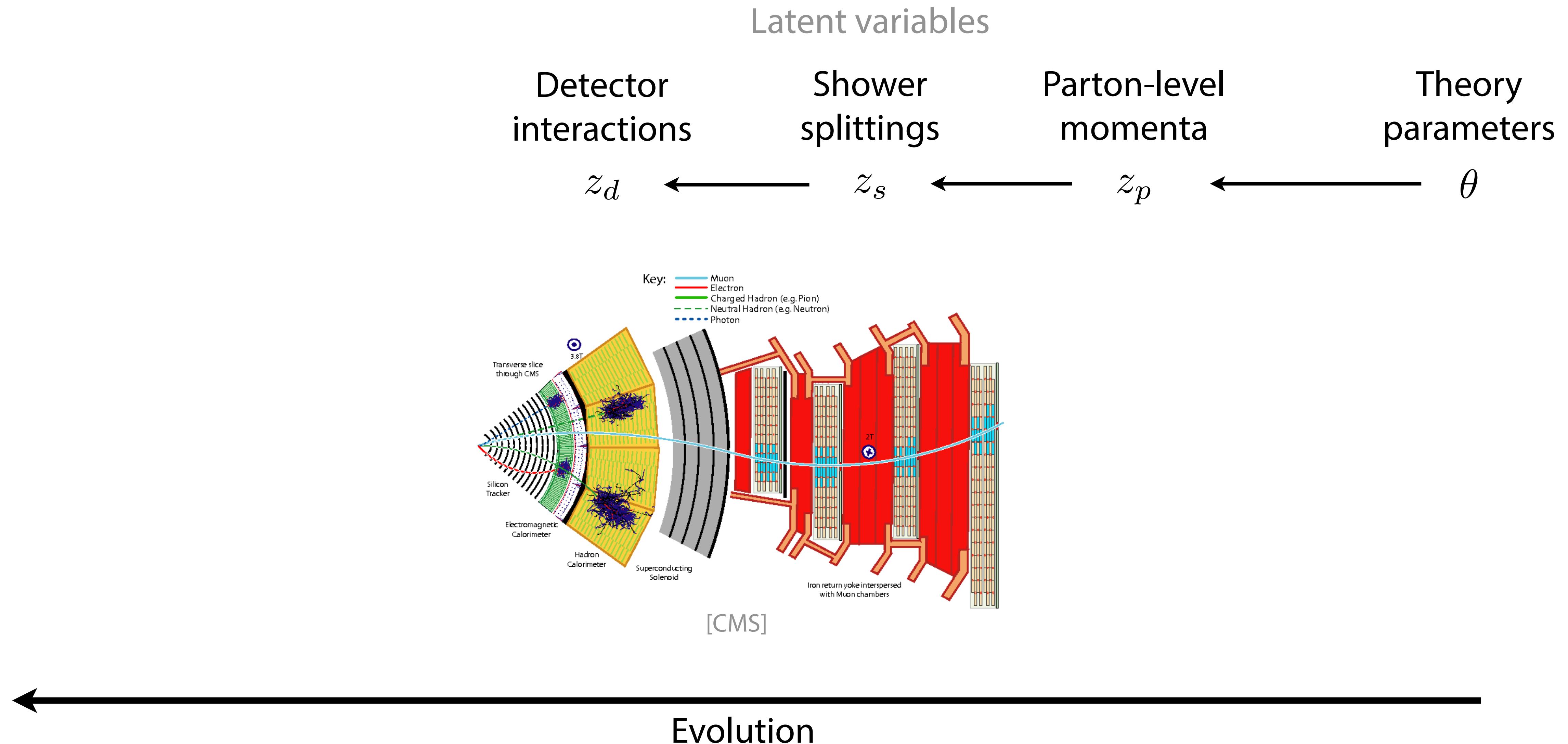
# Modelling particle physics processes



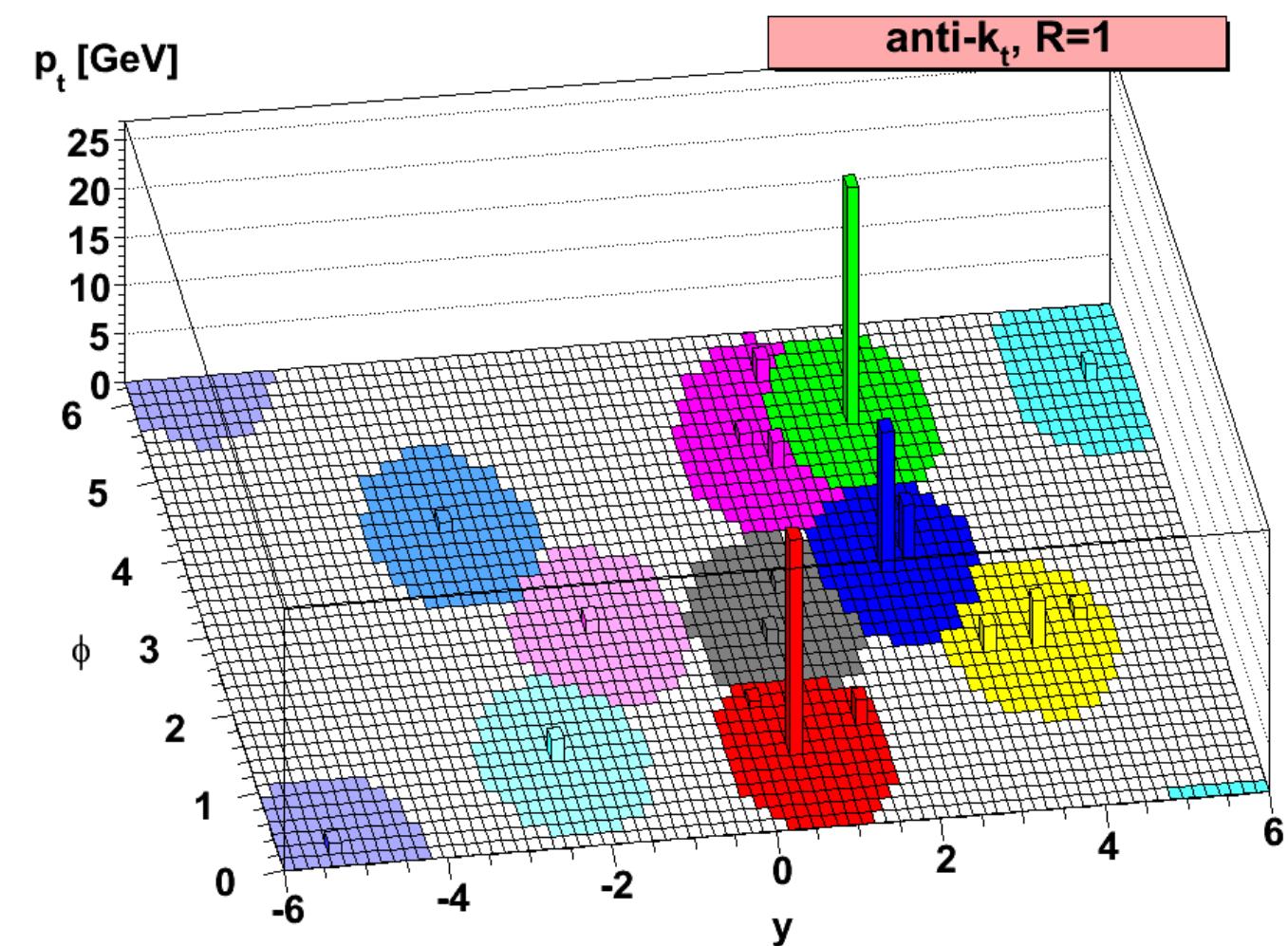
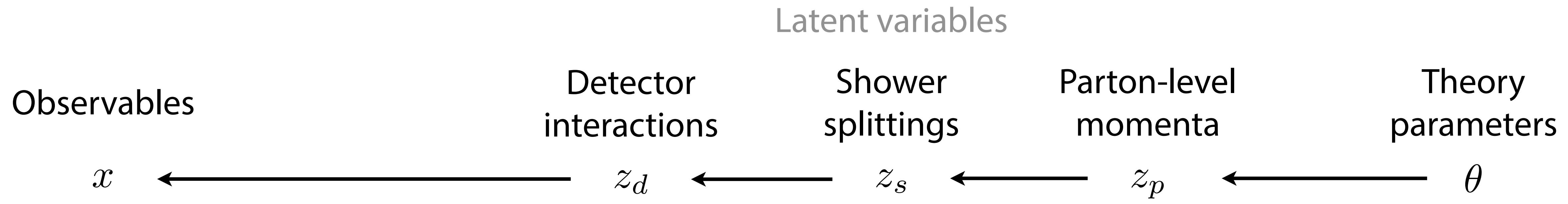
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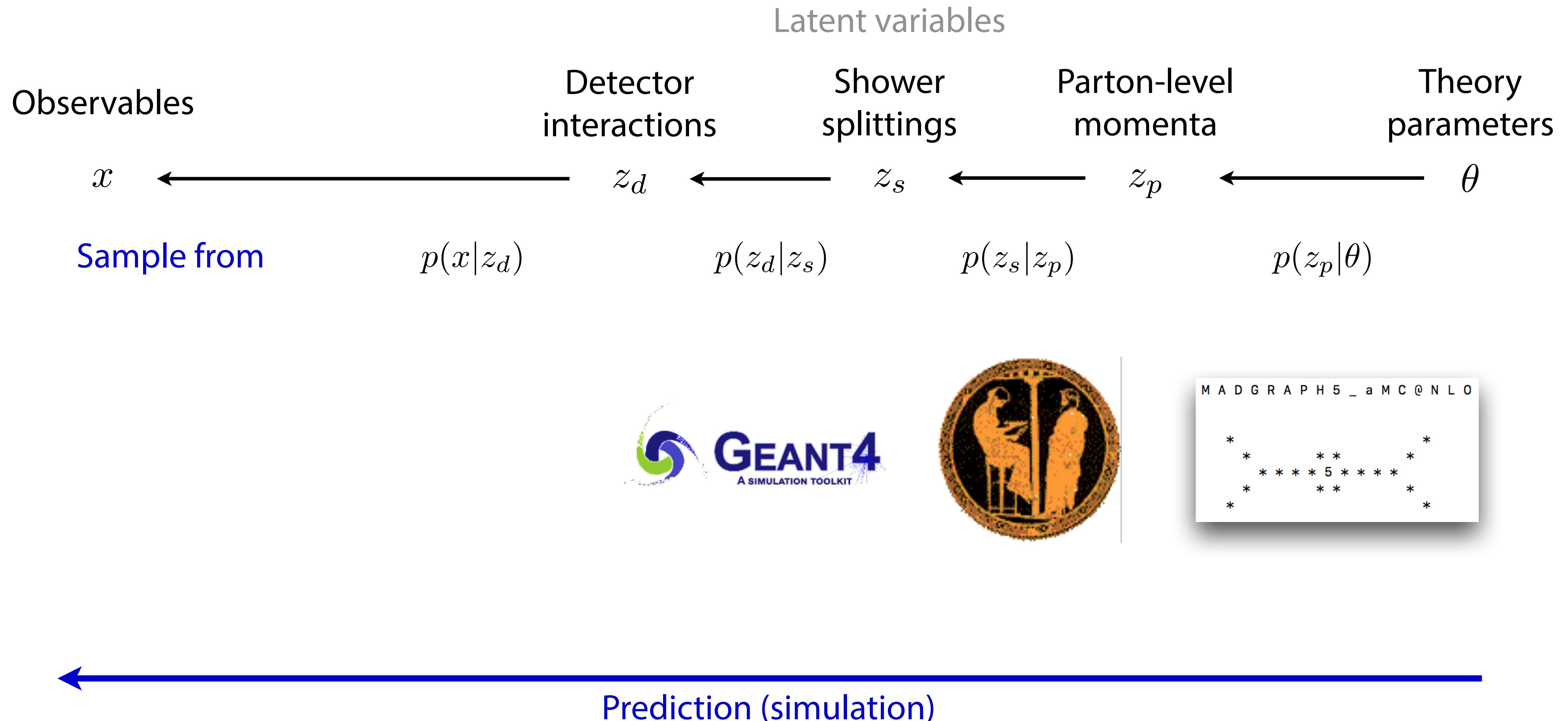


[M. Cacciari, G. Salam, G. Soyez 0802.1189]

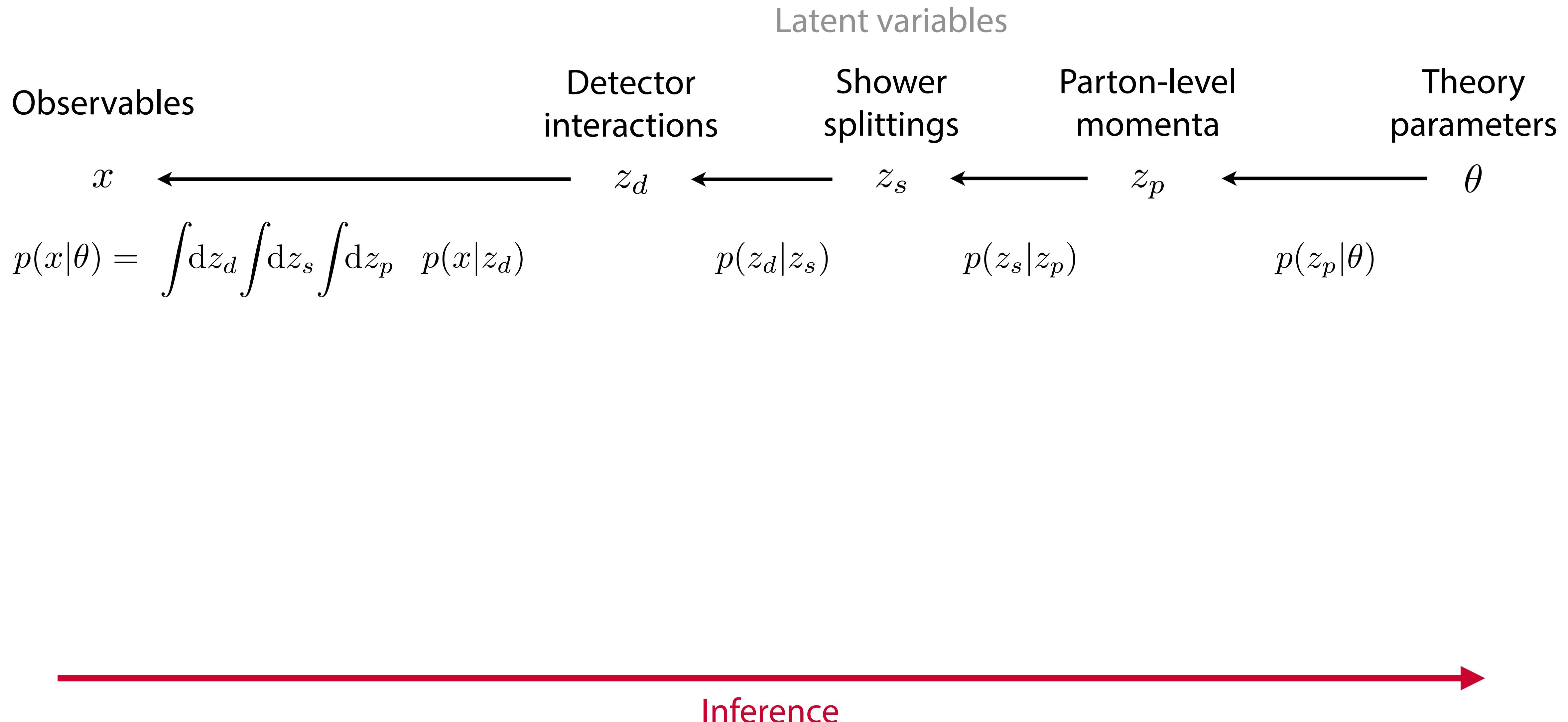


Evolution

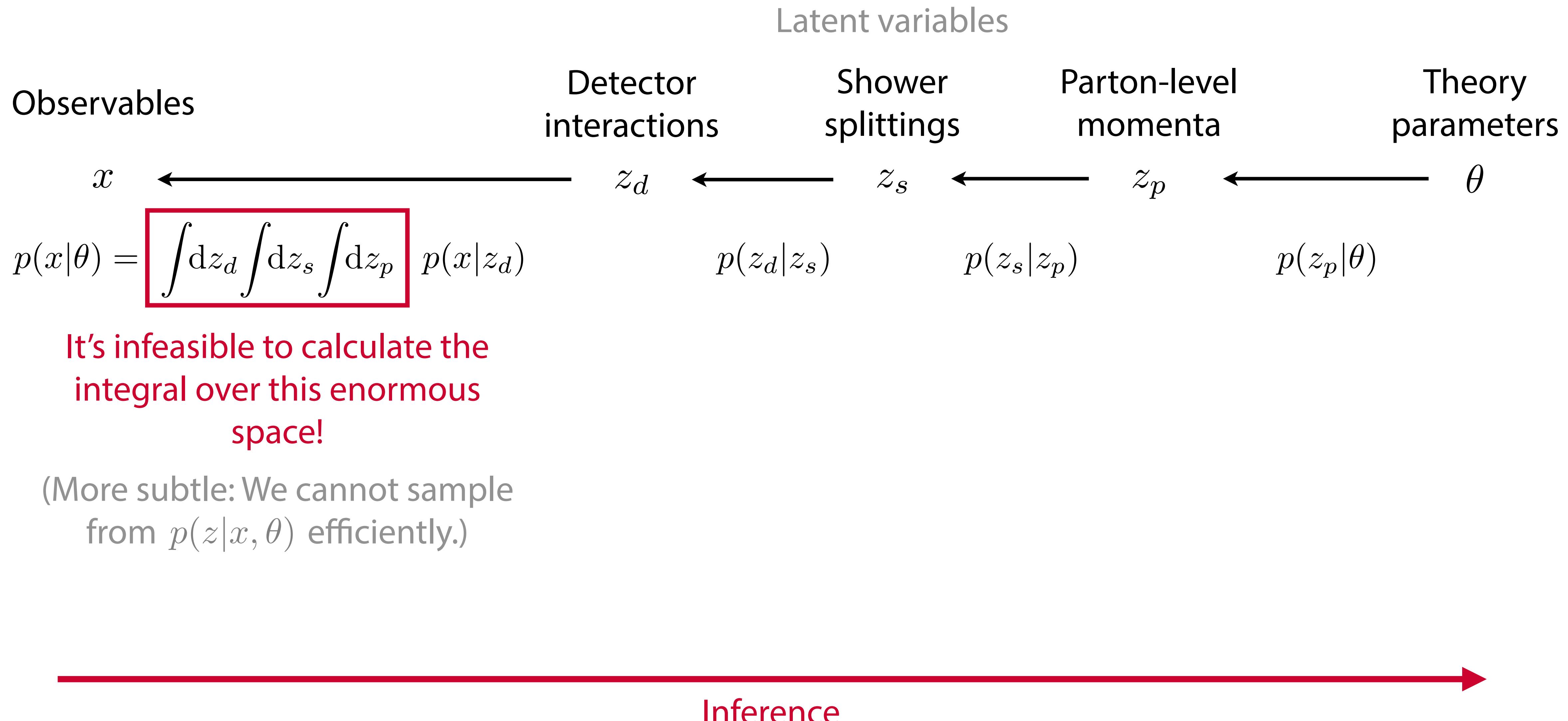
# Modelling particle physics processes



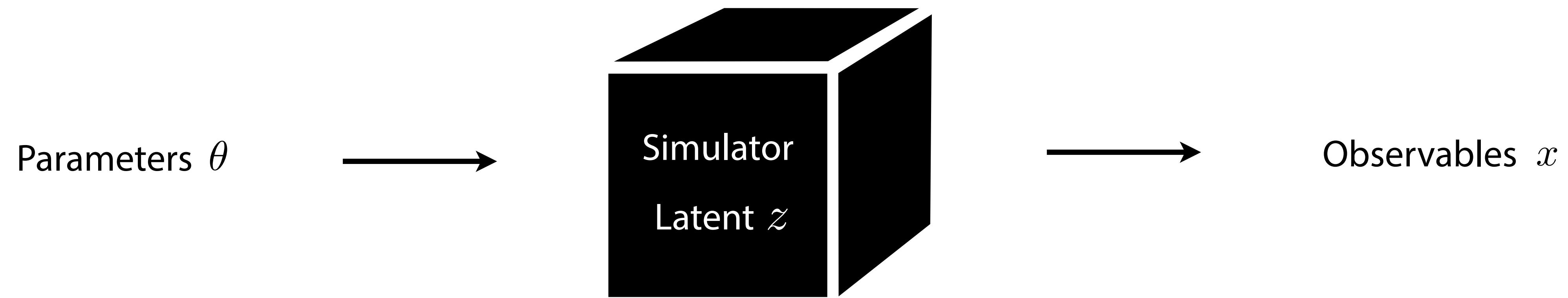
# Modelling particle physics processes



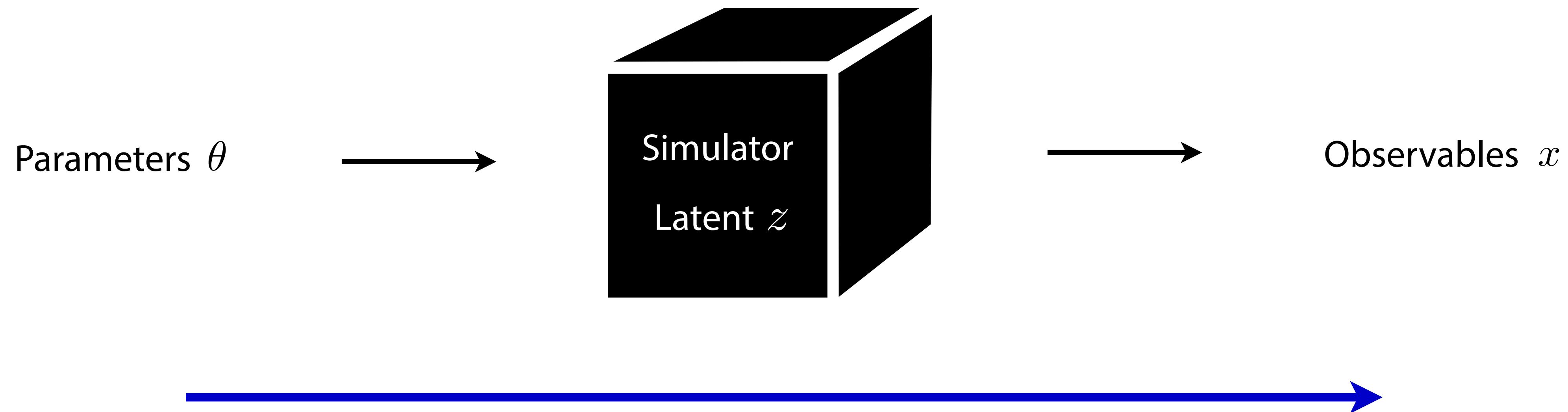
# Modelling particle physics processes



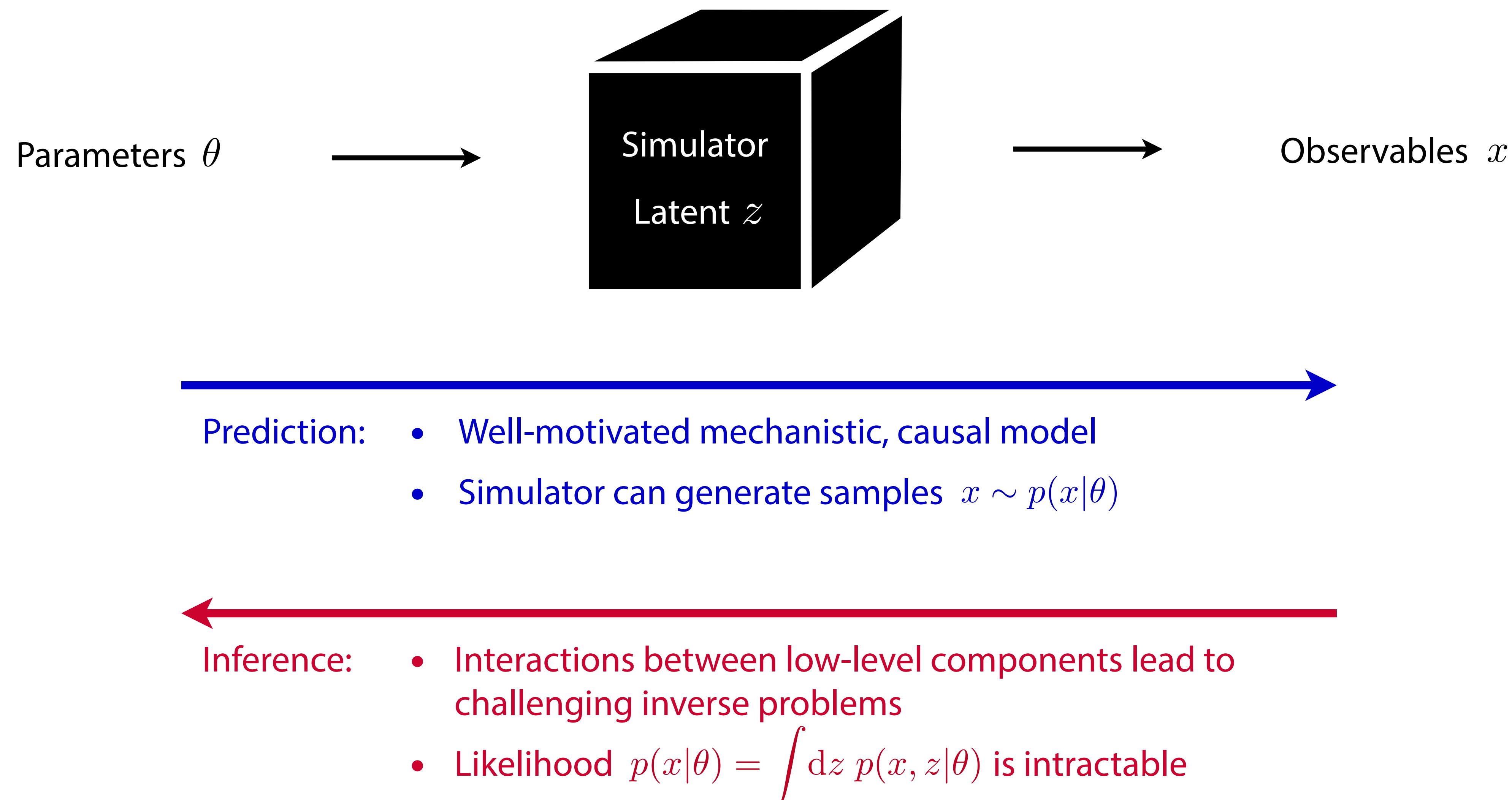
# The problem of simulation-based (“likelihood-free”) inference



# The problem of simulation-based (“likelihood-free”) inference



# The problem of simulation-based (“likelihood-free”) inference



# Three problem statements

Given

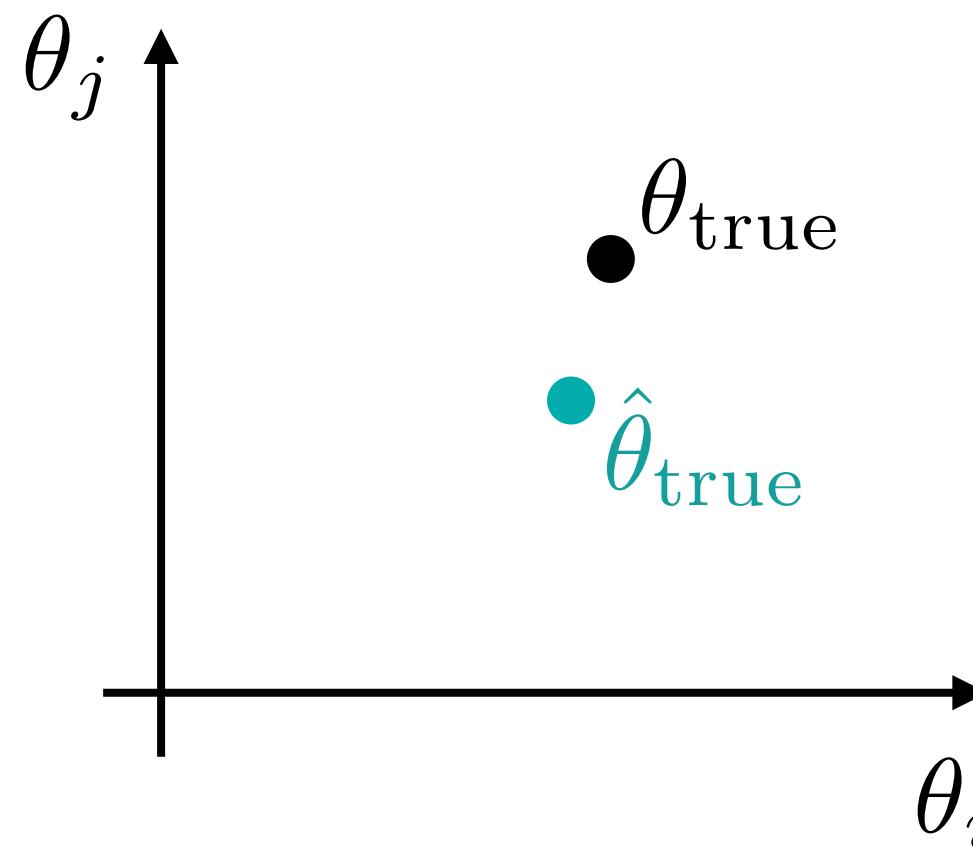
- a simulator that lets you generate  $N$  samples  $x_i \sim p(x_i|\theta_i)$  (for parameters  $\theta_i$  of our choice),
- observed data  $x_{\text{obs}} \sim p(x_{\text{obs}}|\theta_{\text{true}})$ , and
- a prior  $p(\theta)$ ,

# Three problem statements

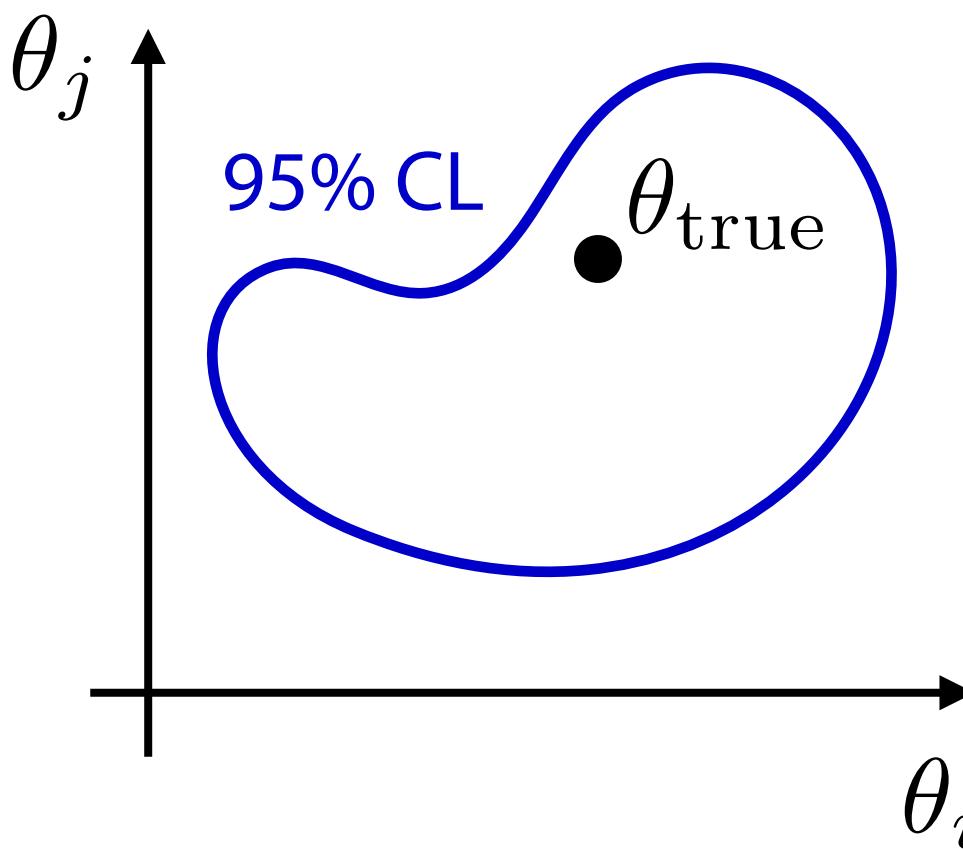
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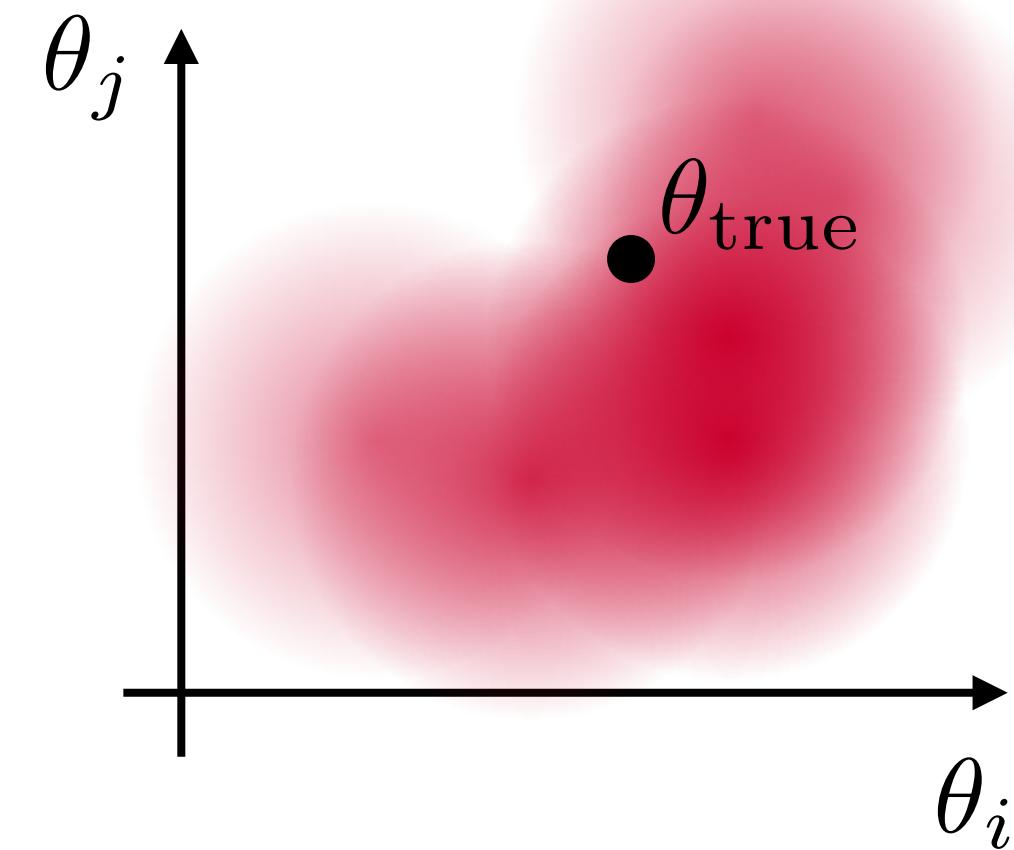
a) estimate  $\hat{\theta}_{\text{true}}$   
(e.g. MLE)

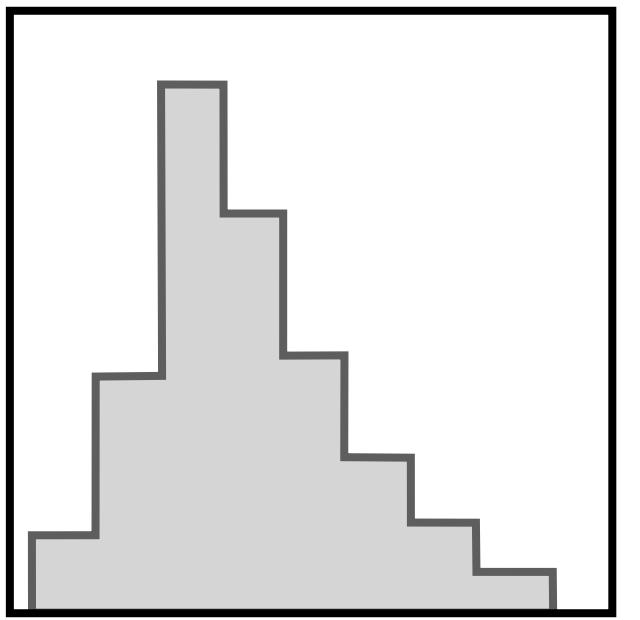


b) construct confidence sets  
(e.g. likelihood ratio tests)



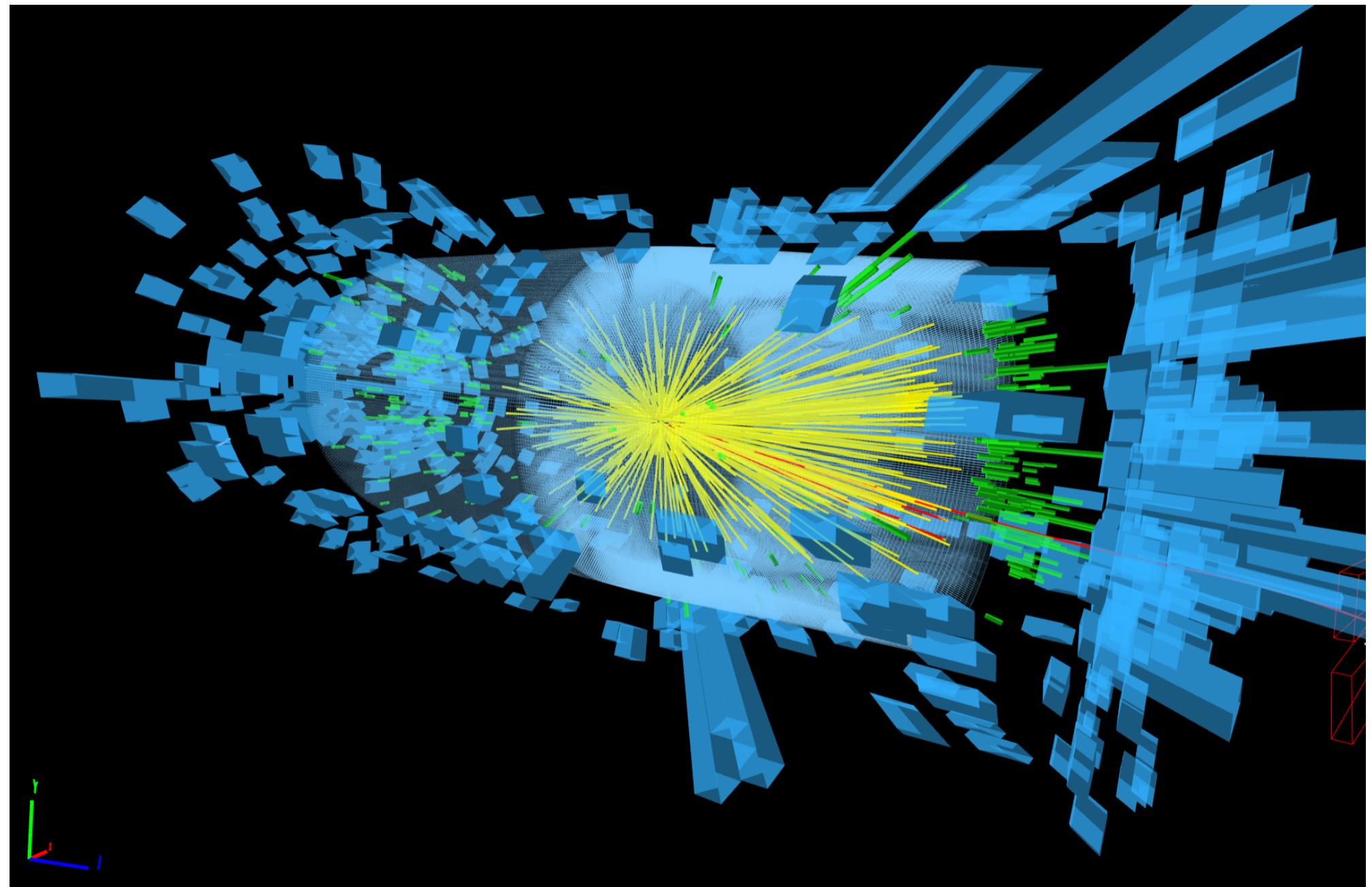
c) estimate the posterior  
(or sample from posterior)





2. Why has that not stopped us before?

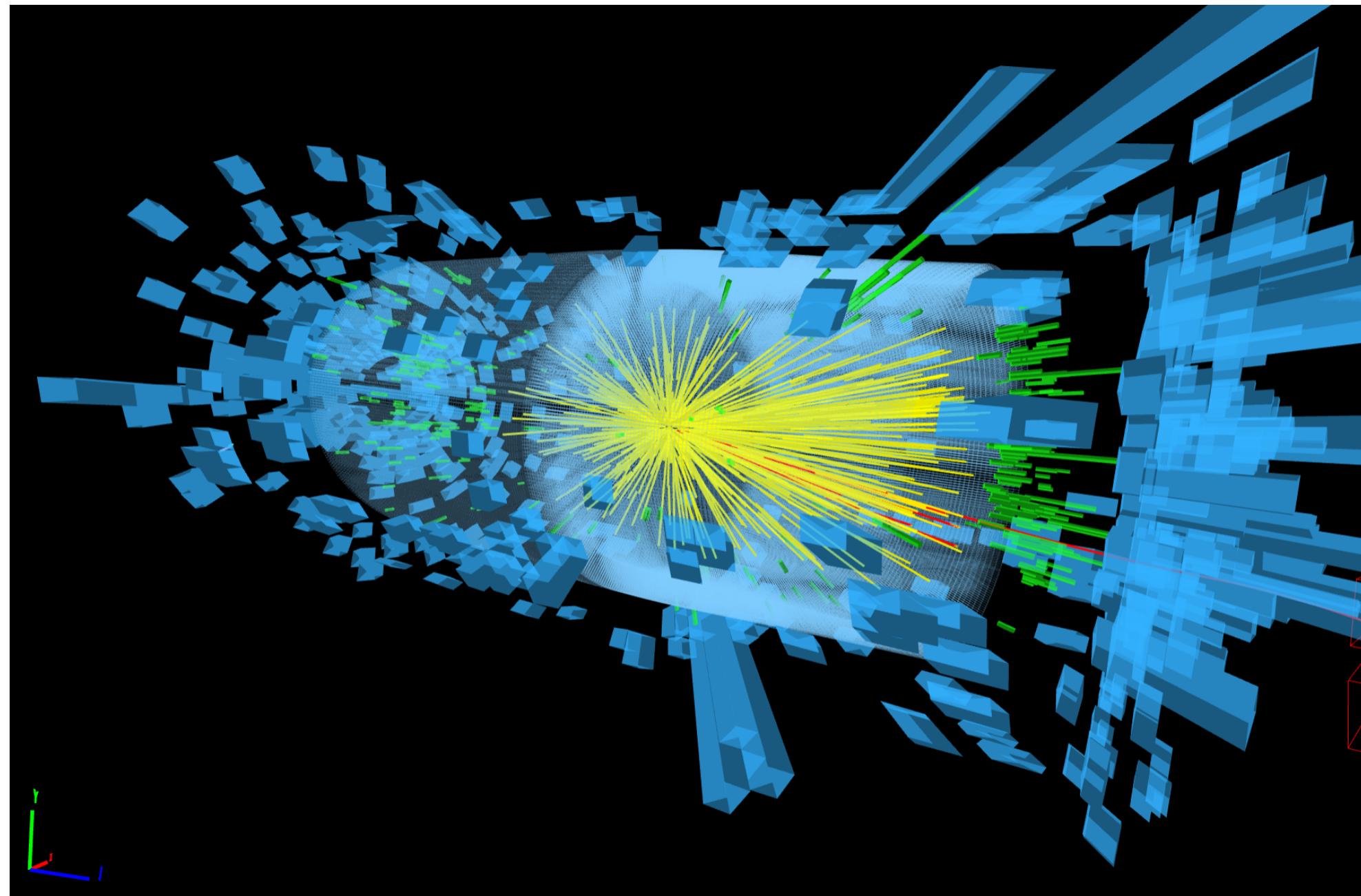
# Solve it with summary statistics



High-dimensional event data  $x$

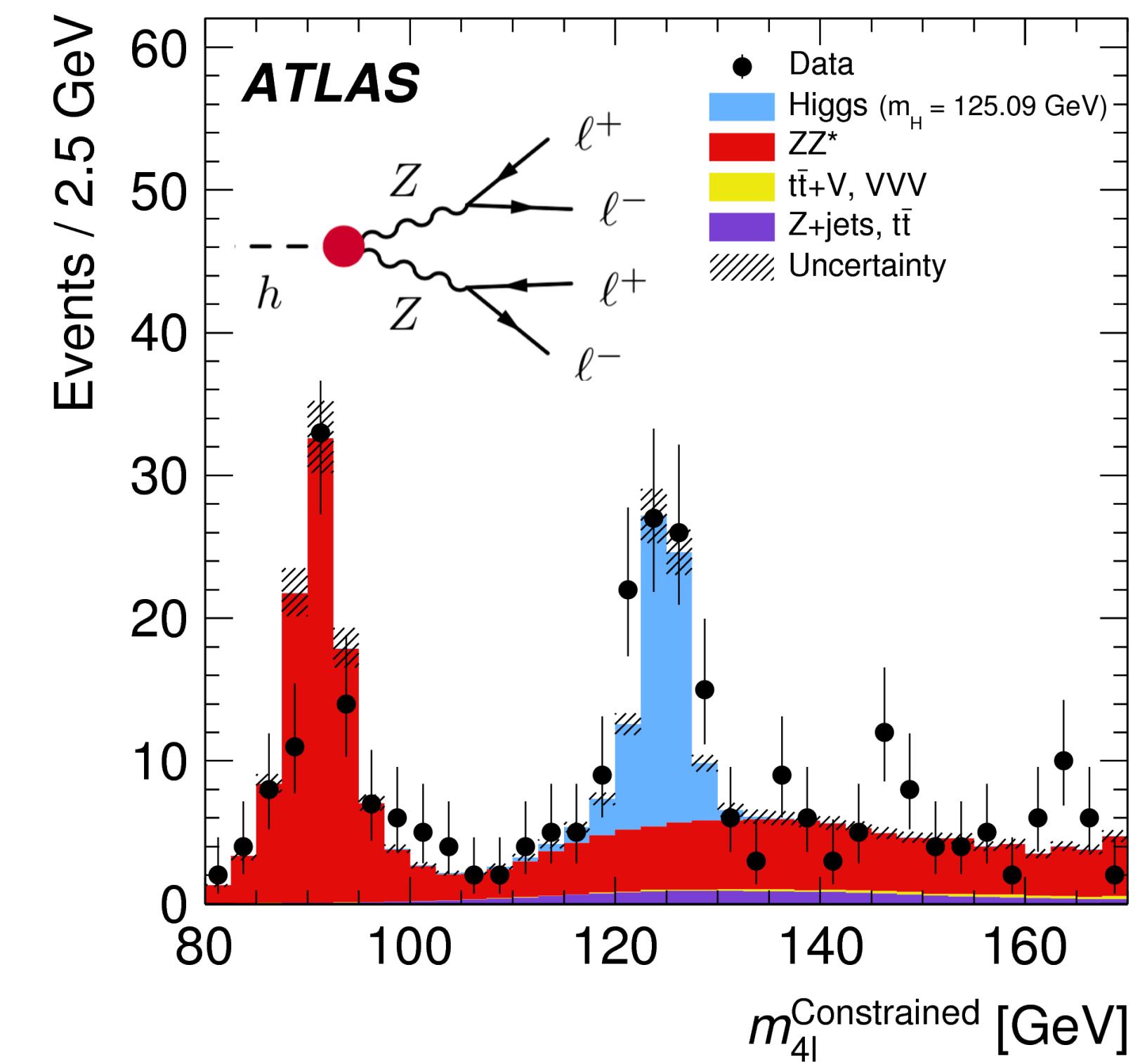
$p(x|\theta)$  cannot be calculated

# Solve it with summary statistics



High-dimensional event data  $x$

$p(x|\theta)$  cannot be calculated



One or two summary statistics  $x'$

$p(x'|\theta)$  can be estimated  
with histograms, KDE, ...

# Summary statistics for LHC measurements?

- In many LHC problems there is no single good summary statistics: compressing to any  $x'$  loses information!

[JB, K. Cranmer, F. Kling, T. Plehn 1612.05261;  
JB, F. Kling, T. Plehn, T. Tait 1712.02350]

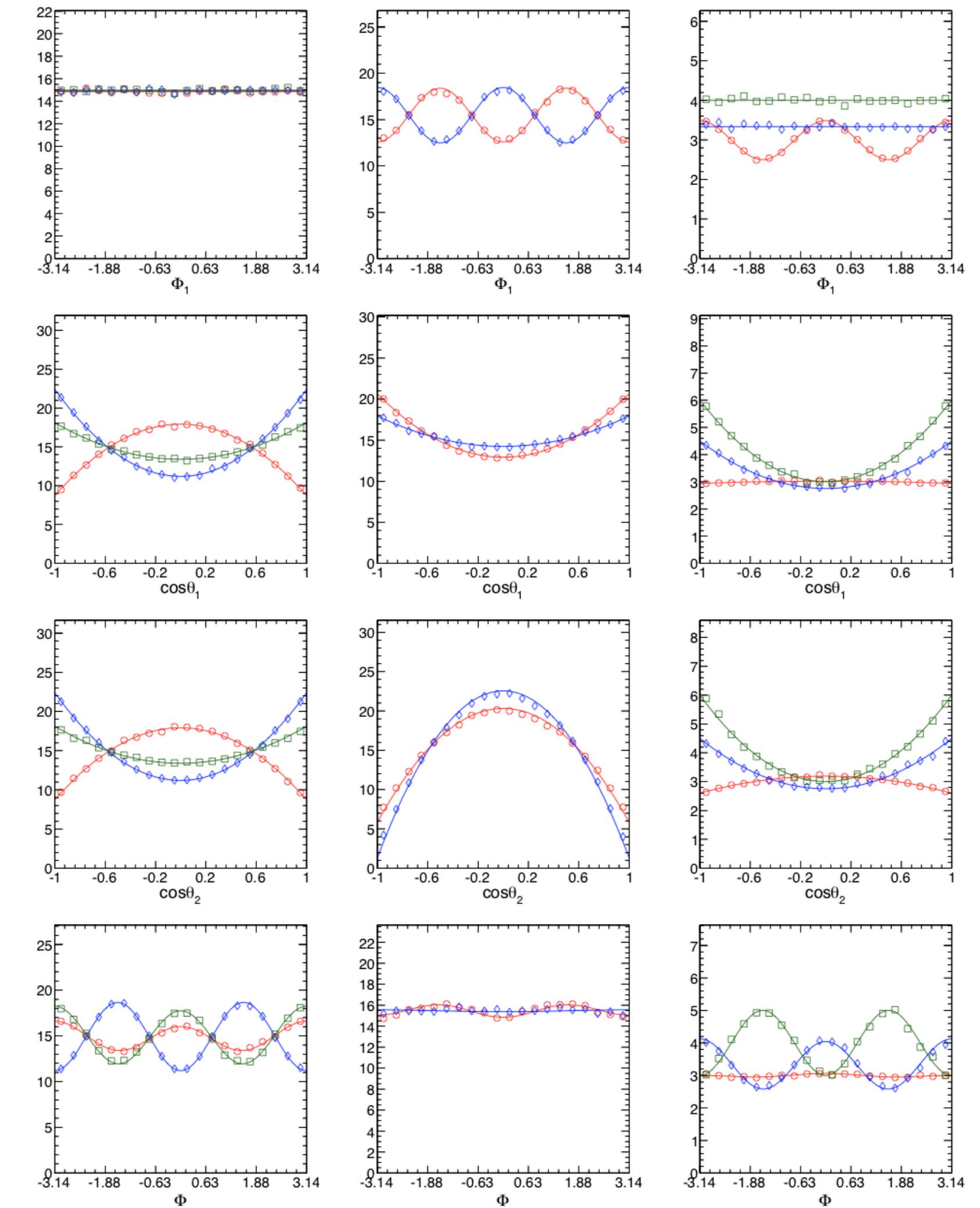
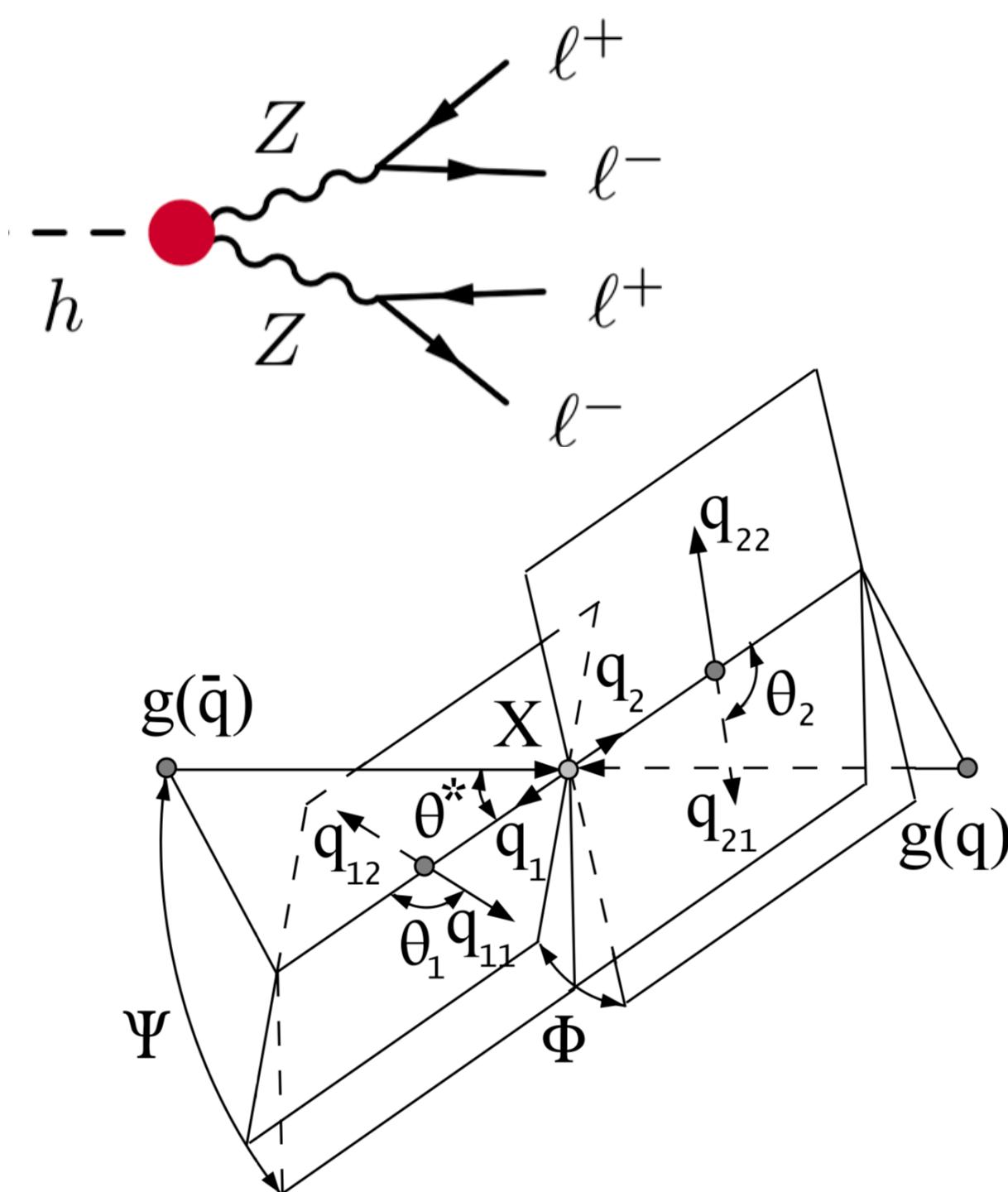
- Ideally: analyze all trustworthy high-level features (reconstructed four-momenta...), or some form of low-level features, including correlations (“fully differential cross section”)

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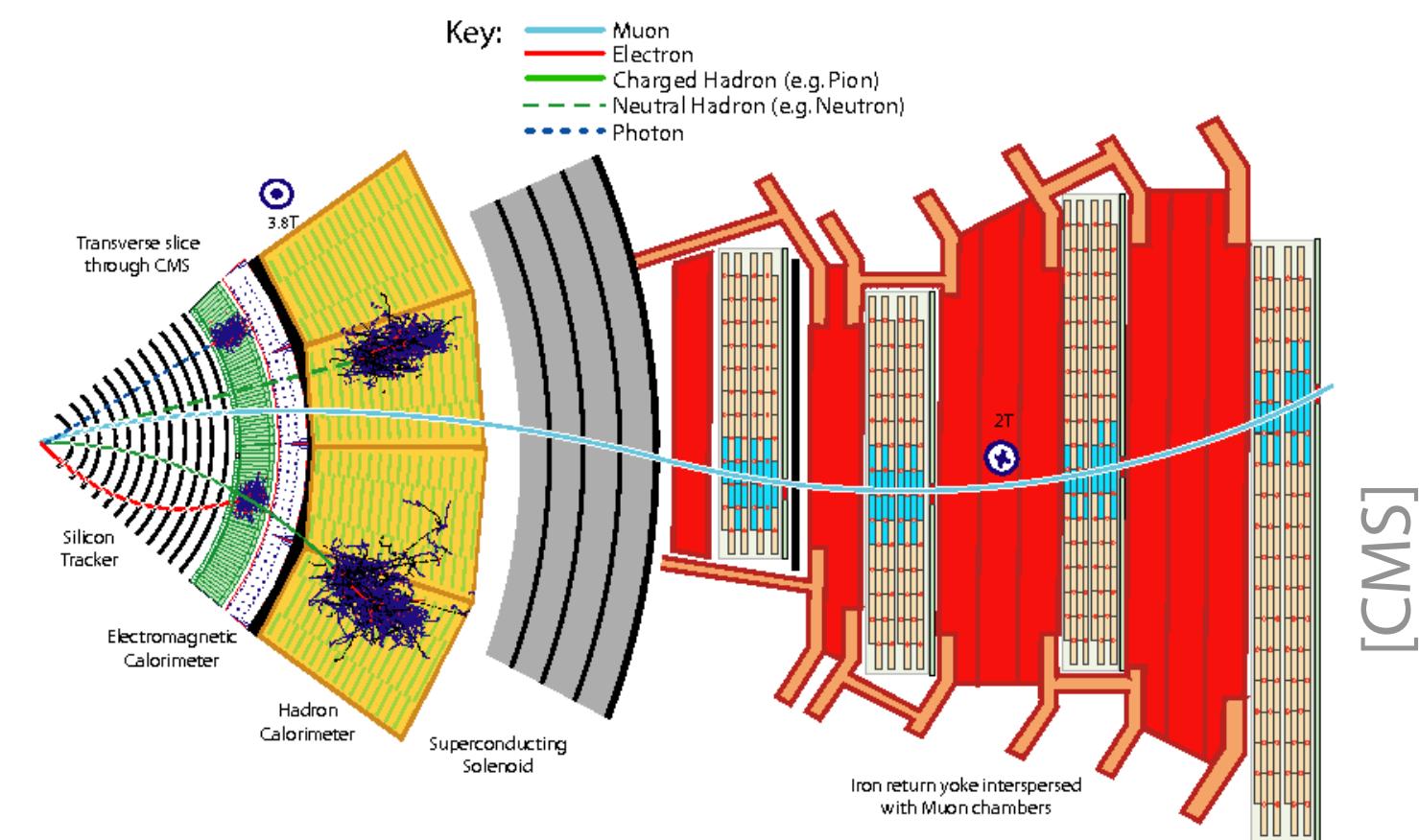


[Bolognesi et al. 1208.4018]

# Solve it by approximating the integral

- Problem: high-dim. integral over shower / detector trajectories

$$p(x|\theta) = \int dz_d \int dz_s \int dz_p p(x|z_d) p(z_d|z_s) p(z_s|z_p) p(z_p|\theta)$$



# Solve it by approximating the integral

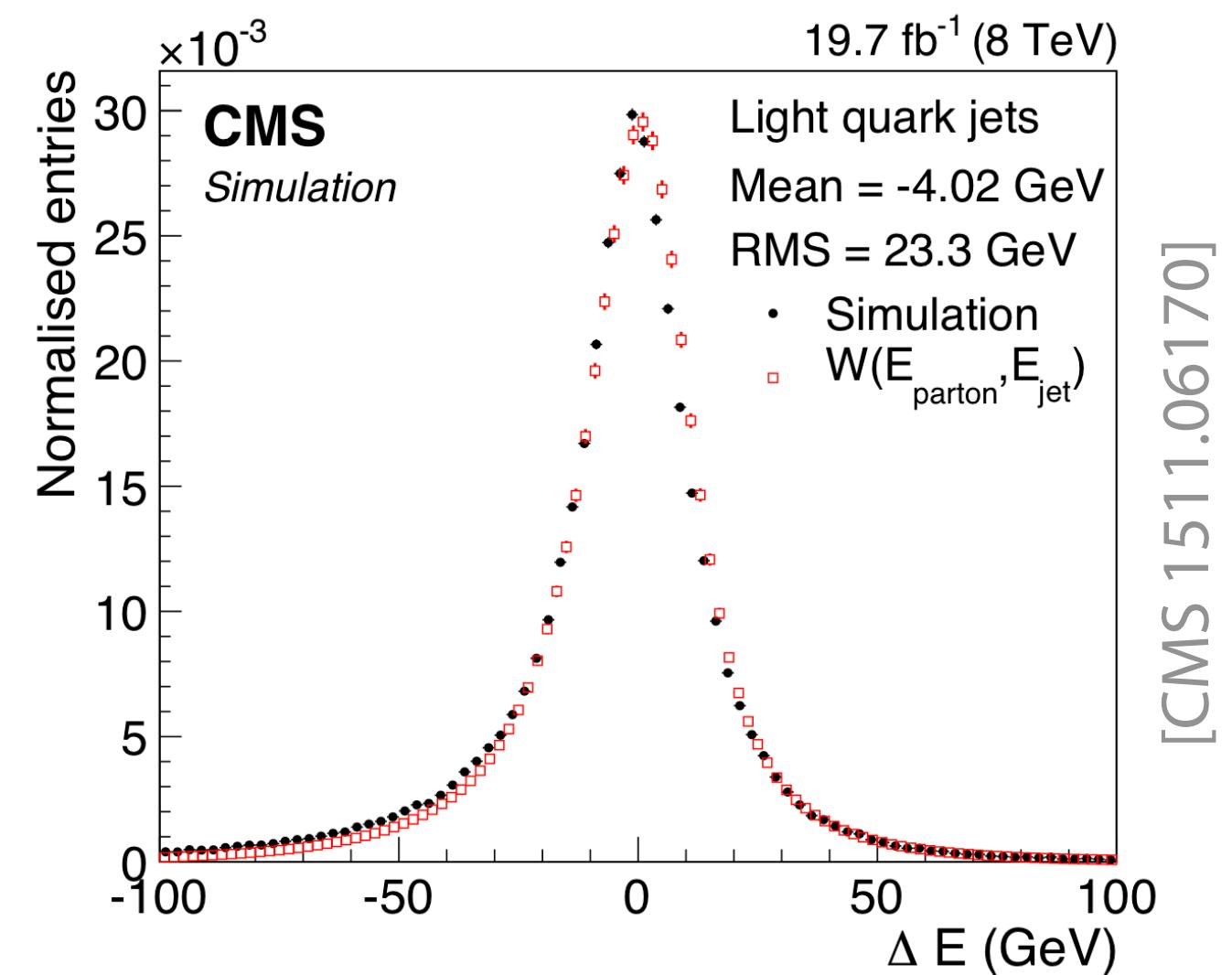
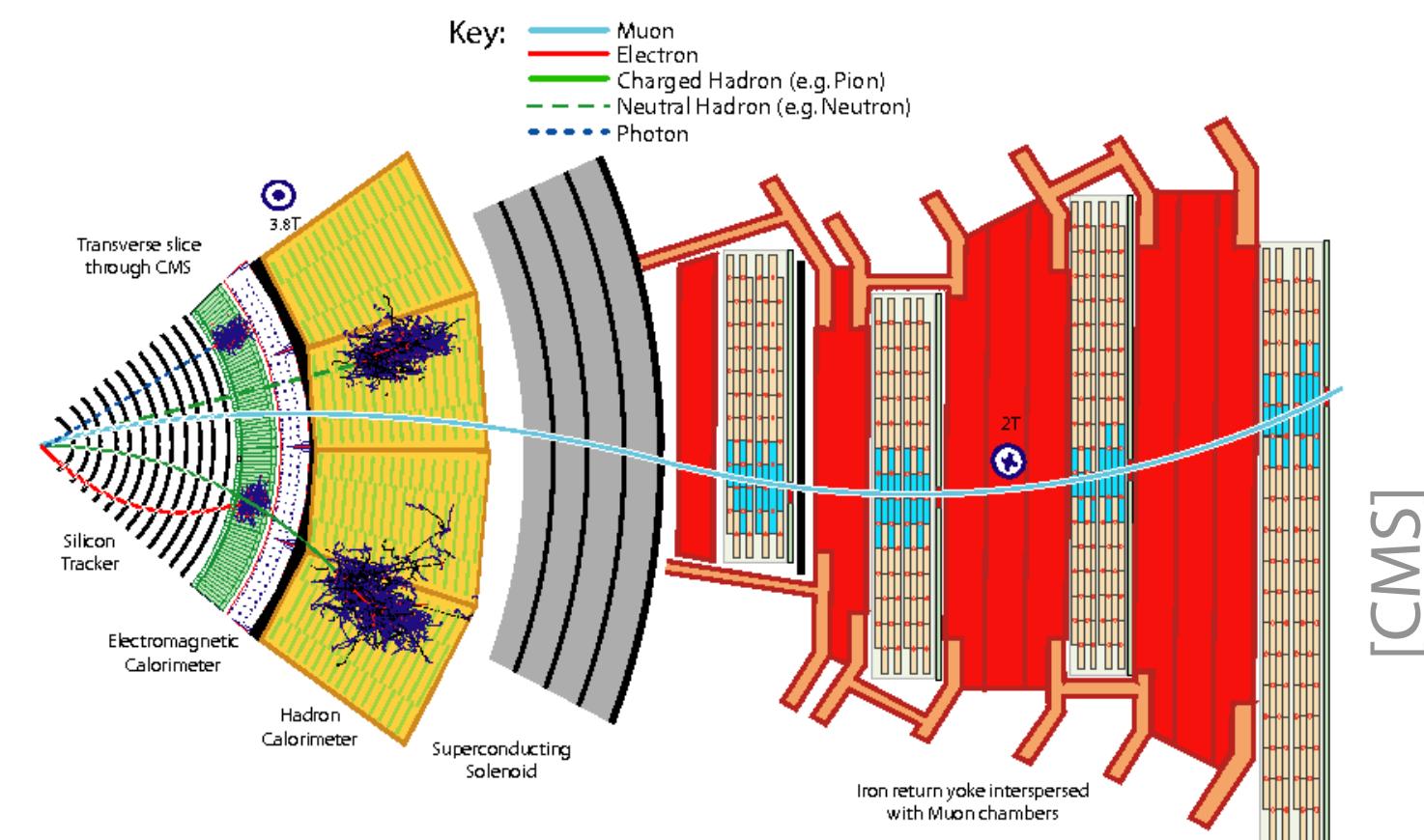
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- Matrix Element Method (and similarly Optimal Observables): [K. Kondo 1988]

- approximate **shower + detector effects** into **transfer function**  $\hat{p}(x|z_p)$
- explicitly calculate remaining integral

$$\hat{p}(x|\theta) = \int dz_p \hat{p}(x|z_p) p(z_p|\theta)$$



# Solve it by approximating the integral

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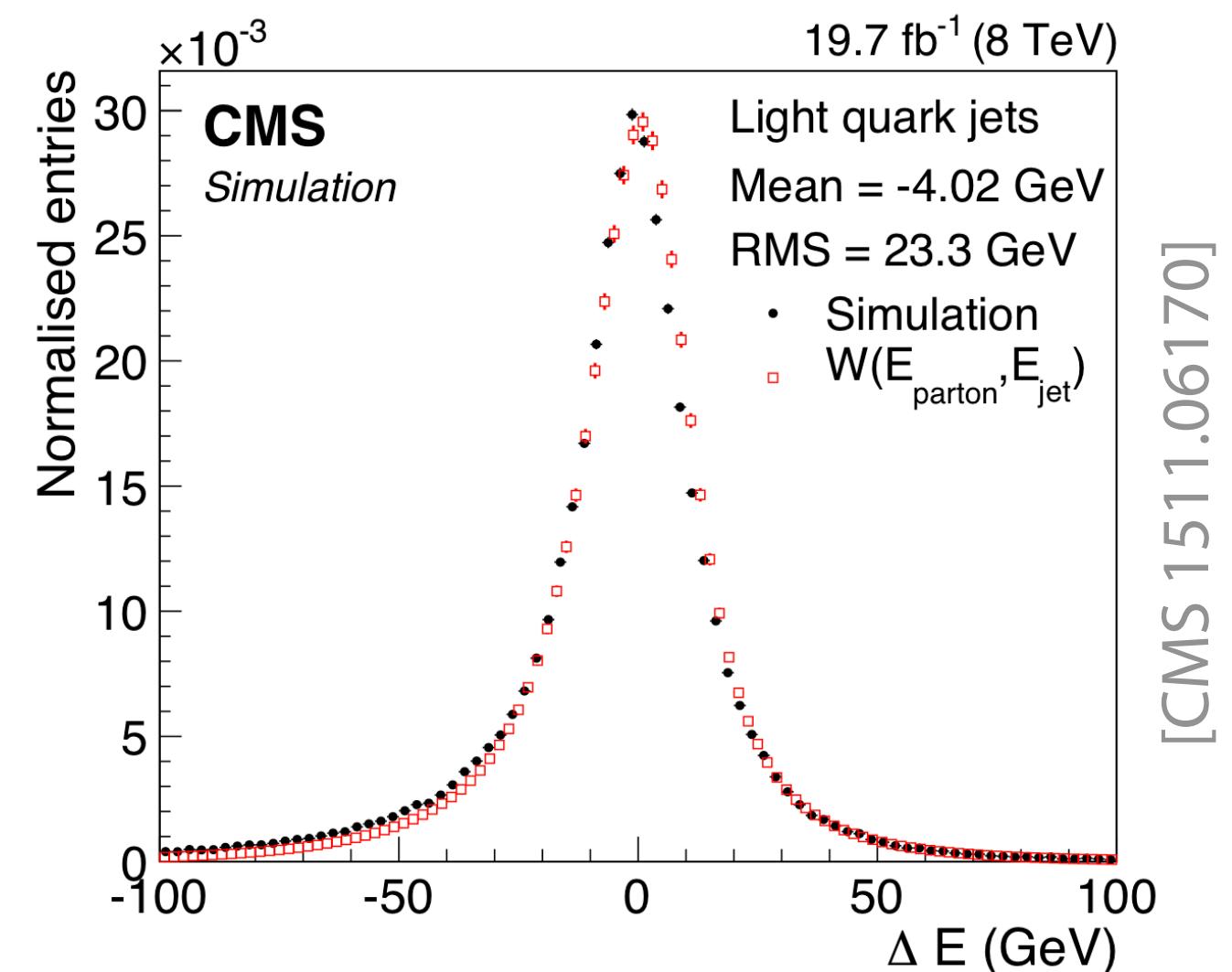
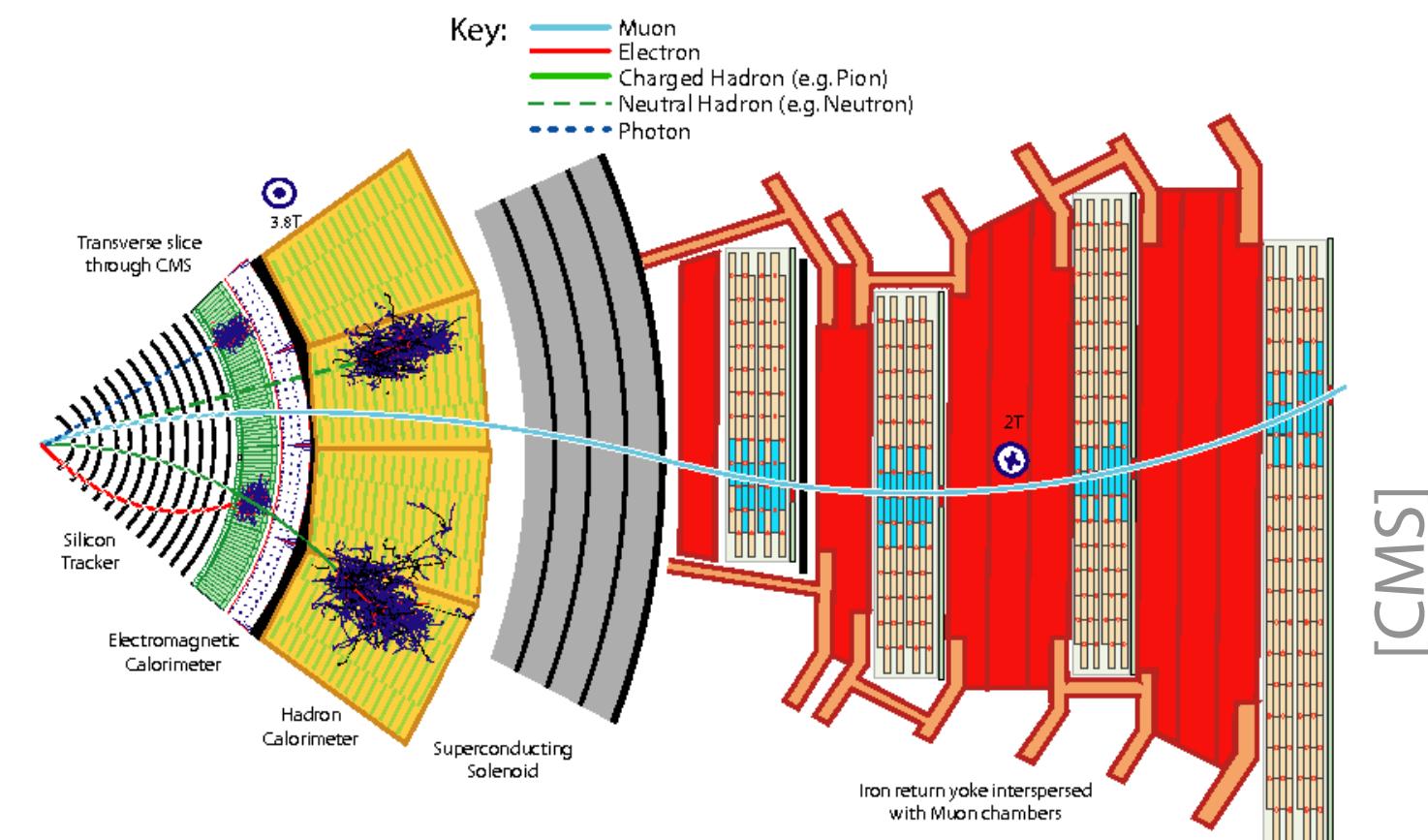
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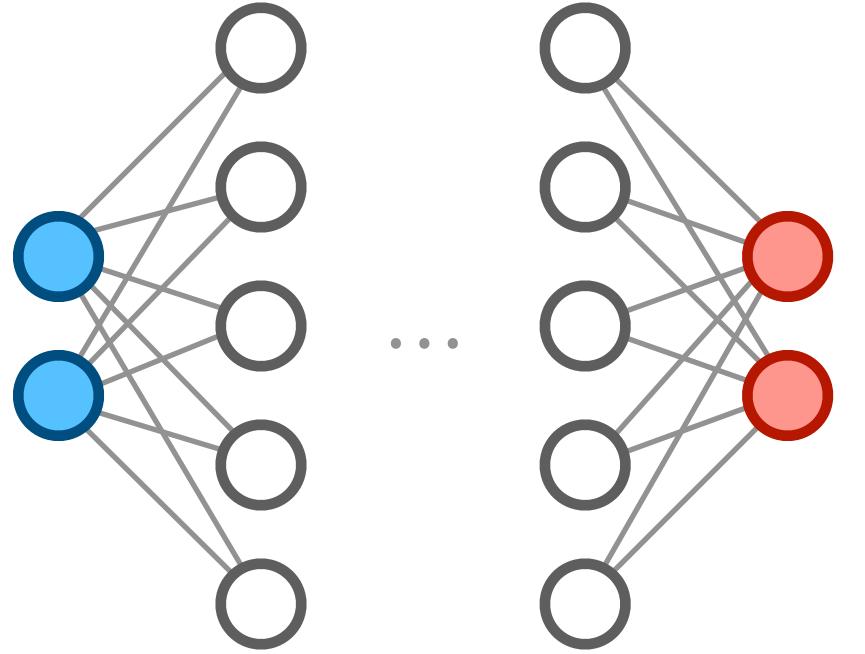
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$$\hat{p}(x|\theta) = \int dz_p \hat{p}(x|z_p) p(z_p|\theta)$$

⇒ Uses matrix-element information, no summary statistics necessary, but:

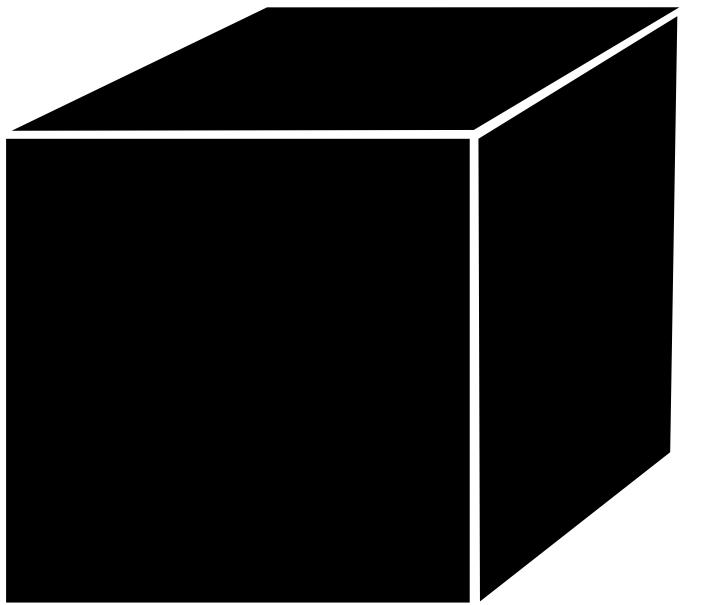
- ad-hoc transfer functions (what about extra radiation?)
- evaluation still requires calculating an expensive integral





### 3. Machine learning solutions

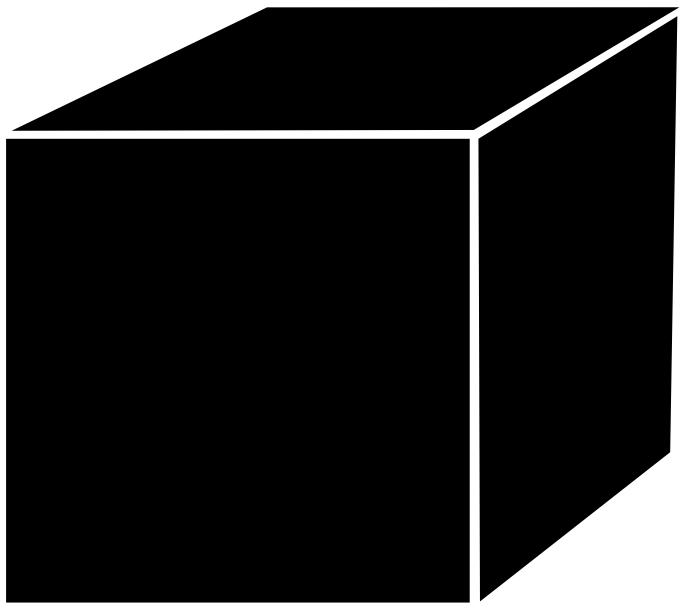
# Get the best of two worlds



Simulators: focus on understanding

- based on mechanistic, causal model
- interpretable parameters

# Get the best of two worlds

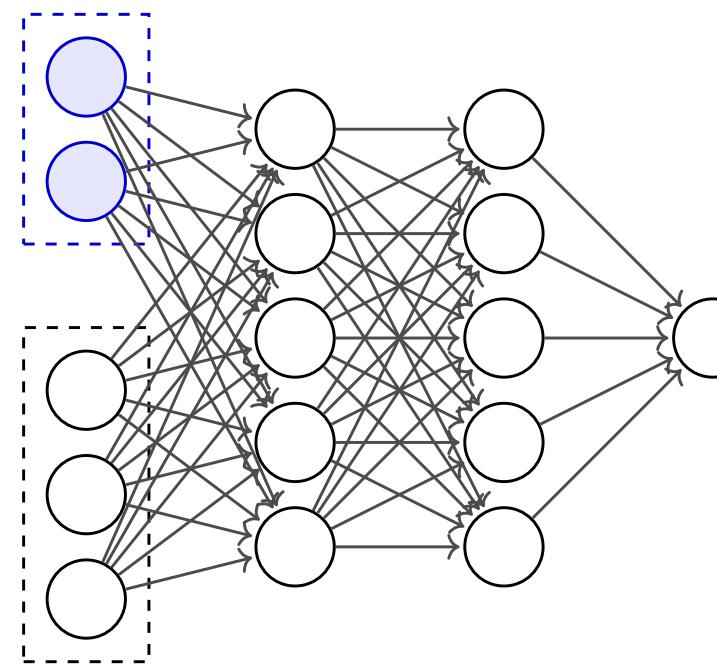


Simulators: focus on understanding

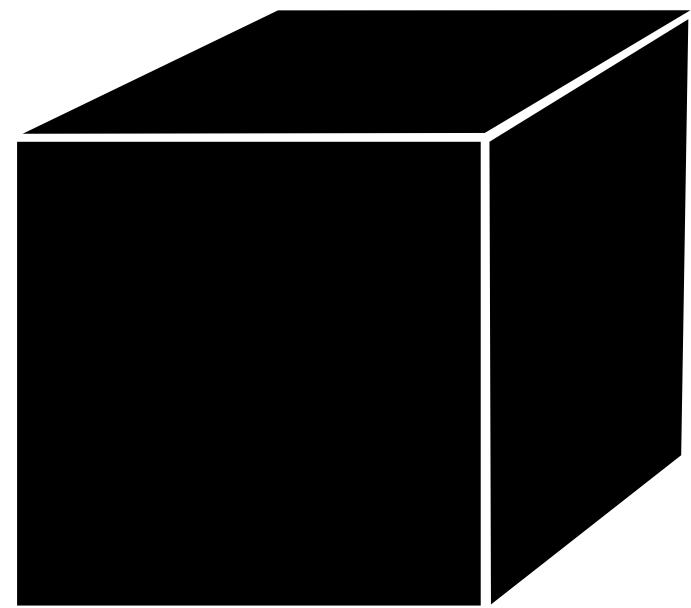
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Machine learning models: focus on performance

- good at learning representations from data
- good inductive biases (images, sequences, graphs, symmetries, hierarchical structures...)
- differentiable, often invertible, probabilistic: well-suited for inference / fitting



# Get the best of two worlds

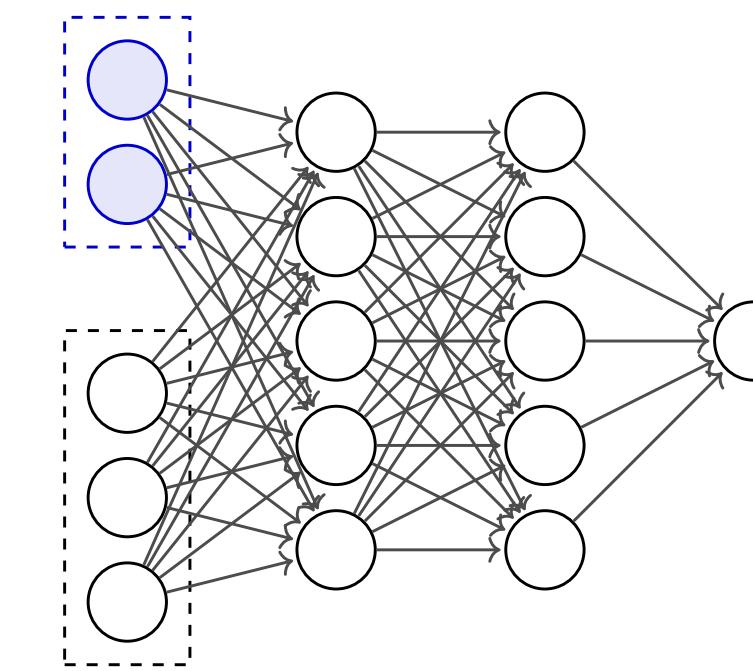


Can we use ML  
models to fit  
simulators to data?

Simulators: focus on understanding

- based on mechanistic, causal model
- interpretable parameters

Can we inject  
domain knowledge  
into ML models?

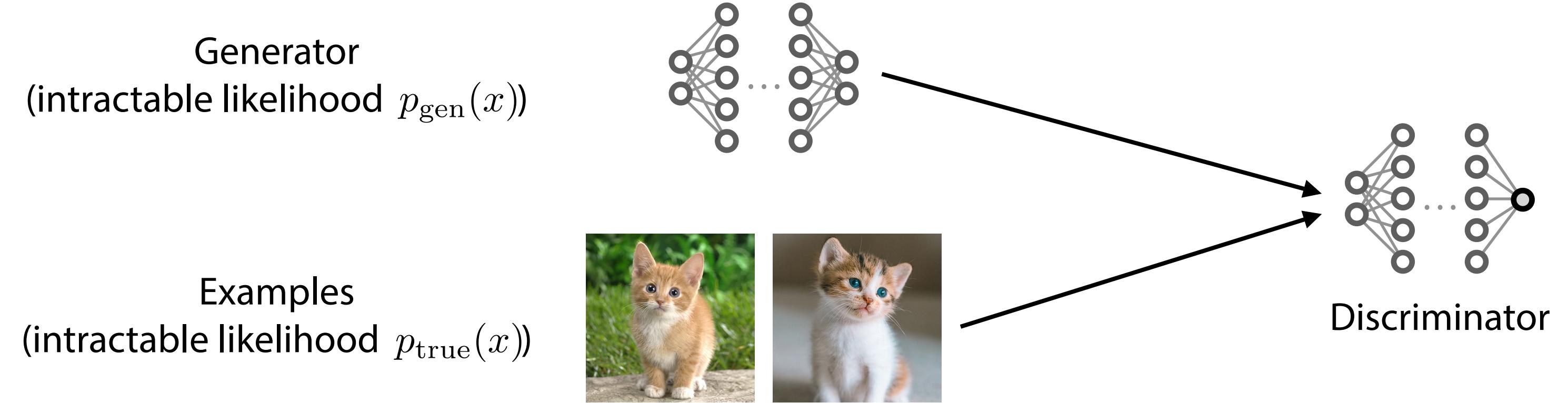


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# Idea 1: the likelihood ratio trick

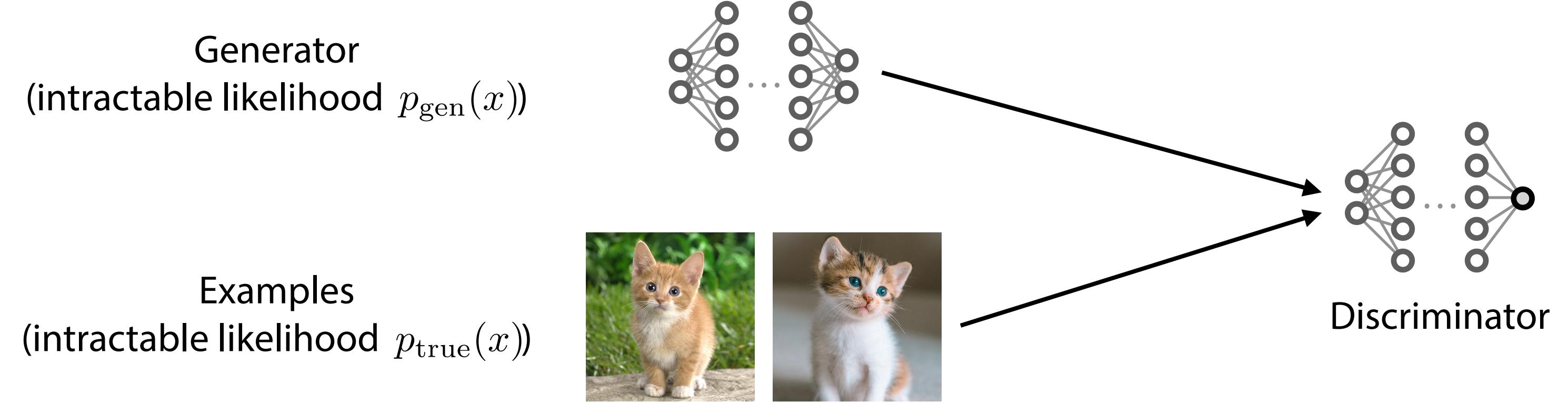
- Generative Adversarial Networks (GANs):



[I. Goodfellow et al. 1406.2661]

# Idea 1: the likelihood ratio trick

- Generative Adversarial Networks (GANs):



[I. Goodfellow et al. 1406.2661]

Discriminator learns decision function

$$s(x) \rightarrow \frac{p_{\text{true}}(x)}{p_{\text{gen}}(x) + p_{\text{true}}(x)}$$

# Idea 1: the likelihood ratio trick

- Generative Adversarial Networks (GANs)

Generator  
(intractable likelihood  $p_g(x)$ )



Examples  
(intractable likelihood  $p_t(x)$ )

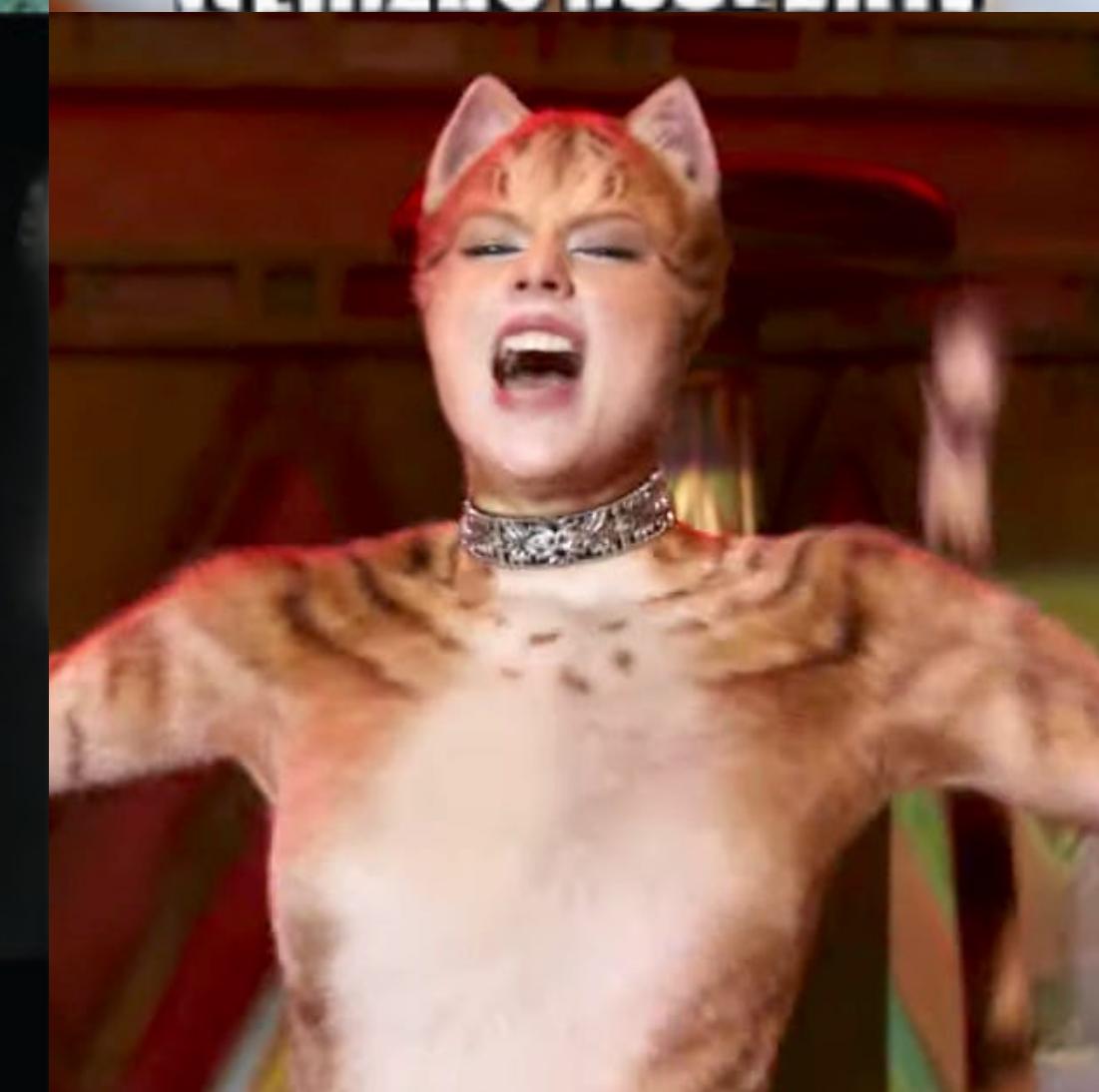
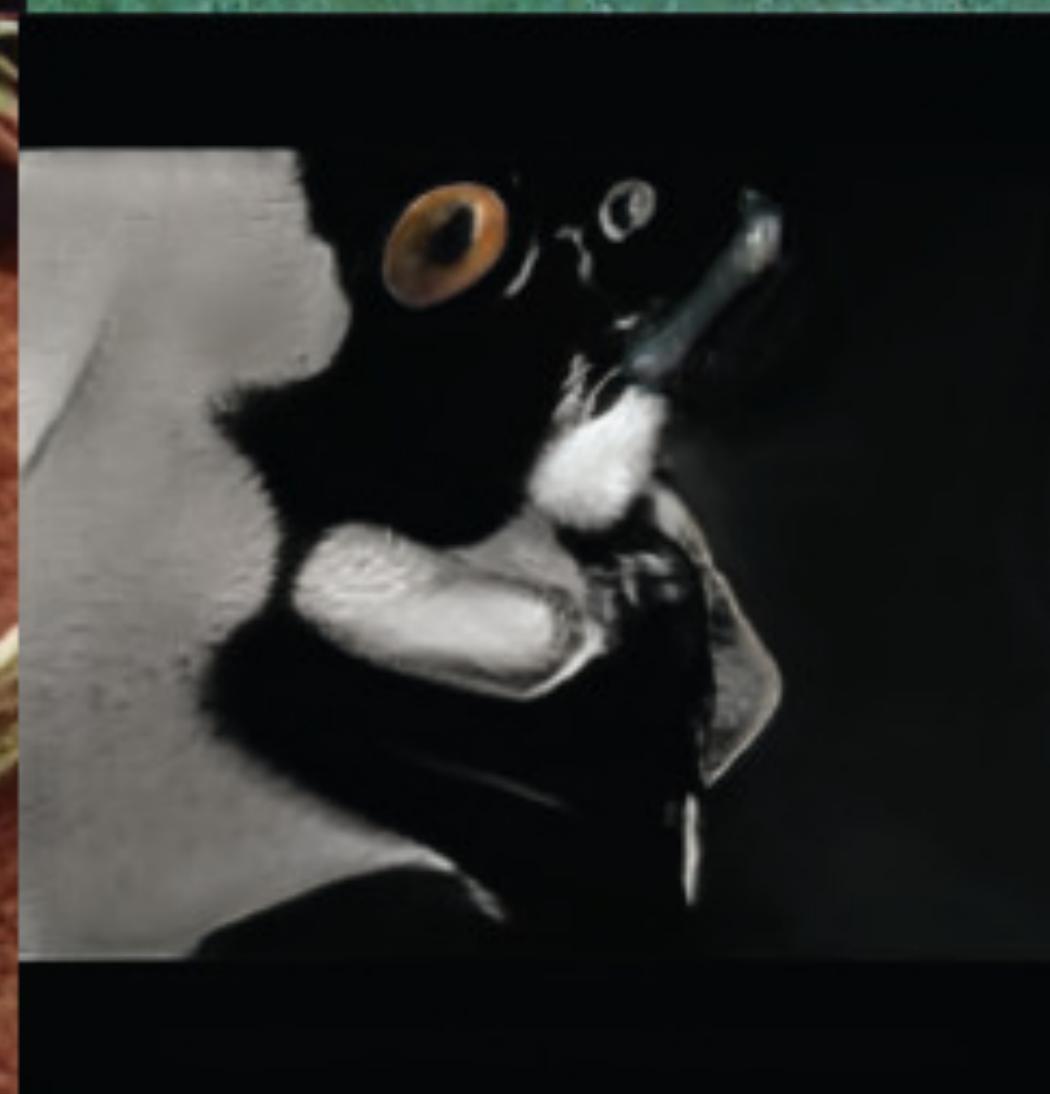


[Goodfellow et al. 1406.2661]

$$\text{decision function} = \frac{p_{\text{true}}(x)}{p_{\text{true}}(x) + p_{\text{true}}(x)}$$

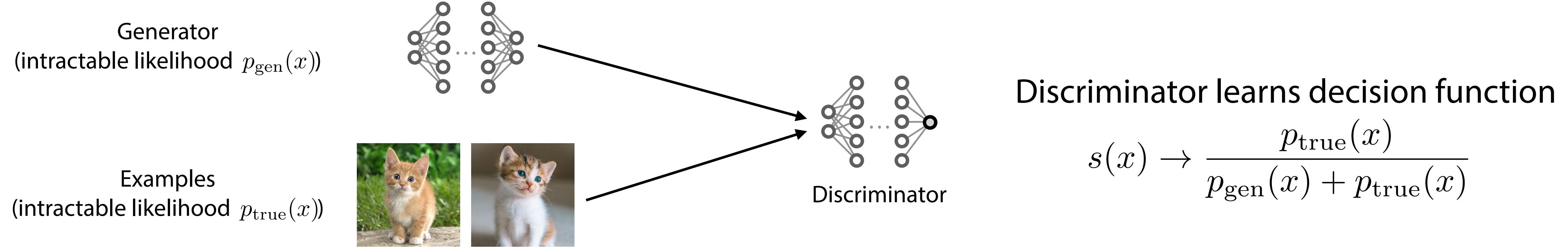


[Nvidia, Universal Pictures]

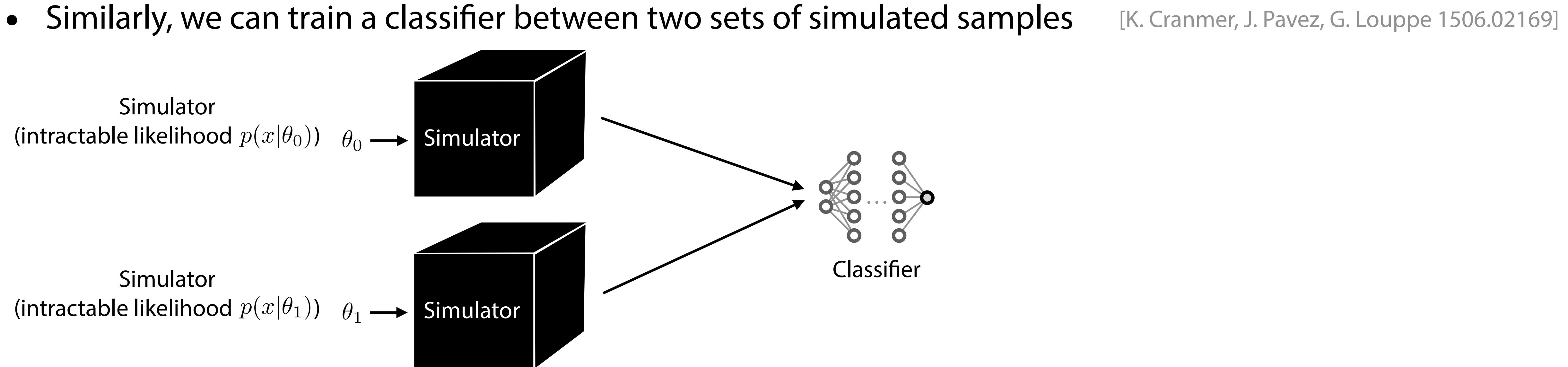


# Idea 1: the likelihood ratio trick

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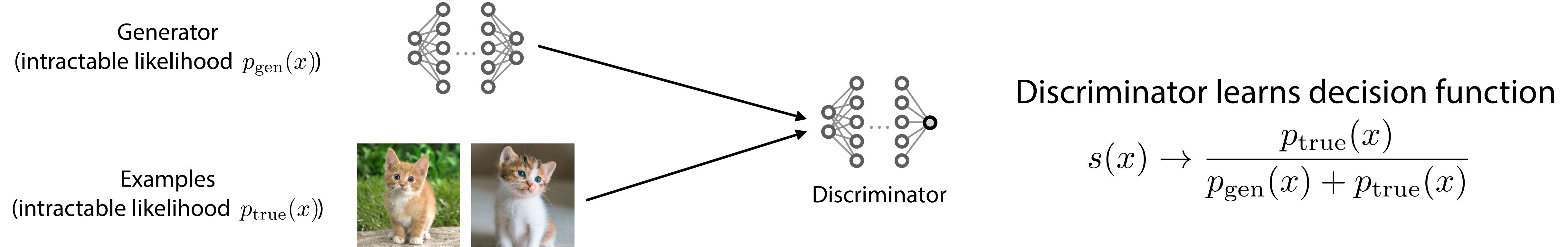


- Similarly, we can train a classifier between two sets of simulated samples



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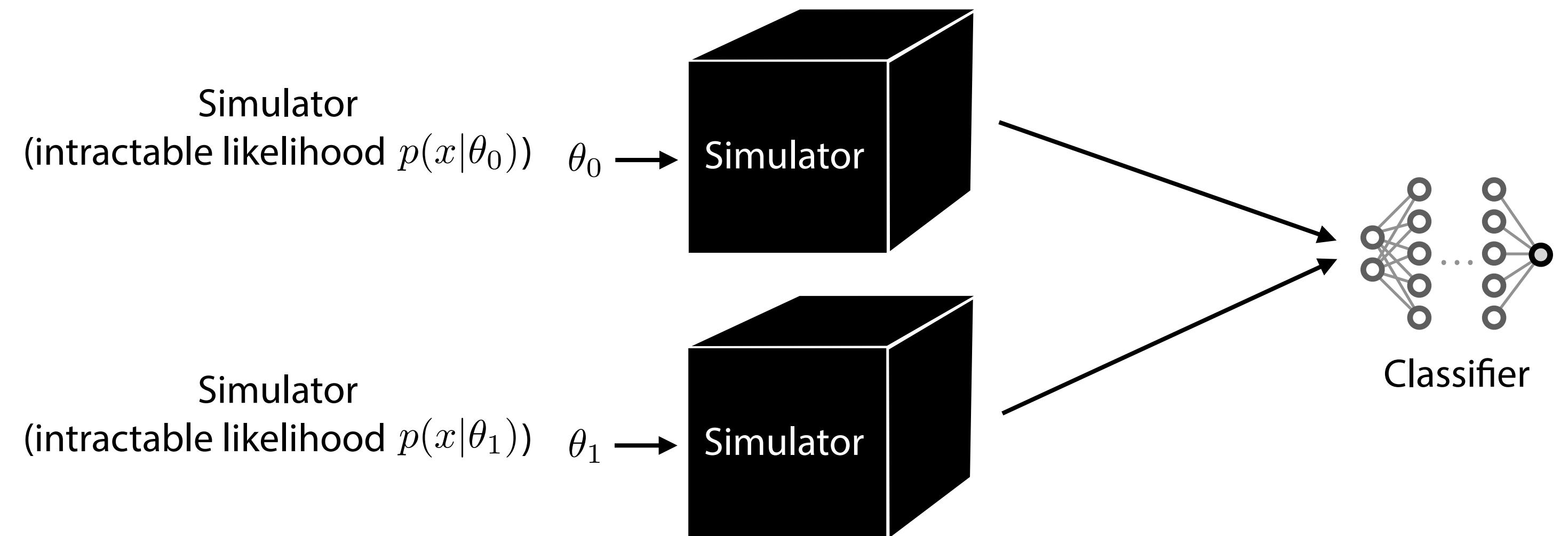


[I. Goodfellow et al. 1406.2661]

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- Similarly, we can train a classifier between two sets of simulated samples



[K. Cranmer, J. Pavez, G. Louppe 1506.02169]

Classifier learns decision function

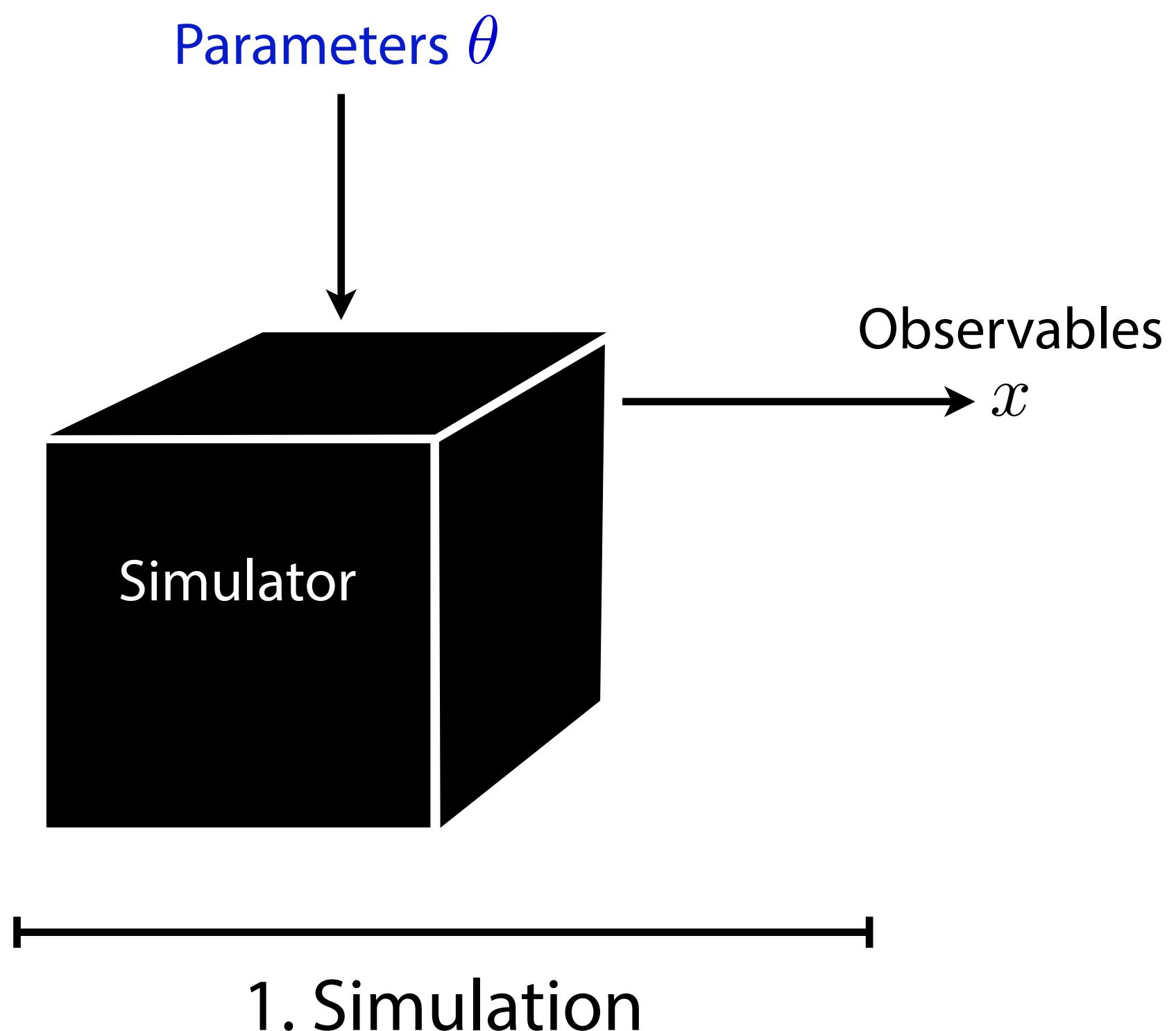
$$s(x) \rightarrow \frac{p(x|\theta_1)}{p(x|\theta_0) + p(x|\theta_1)}$$

⇒ Estimator for likelihood ratio

$$\hat{r}(x) = \frac{1 - s(x)}{s(x)} \rightarrow \frac{p(x|\theta_0)}{p(x|\theta_1)}$$

# Inference by likelihood ratio trick

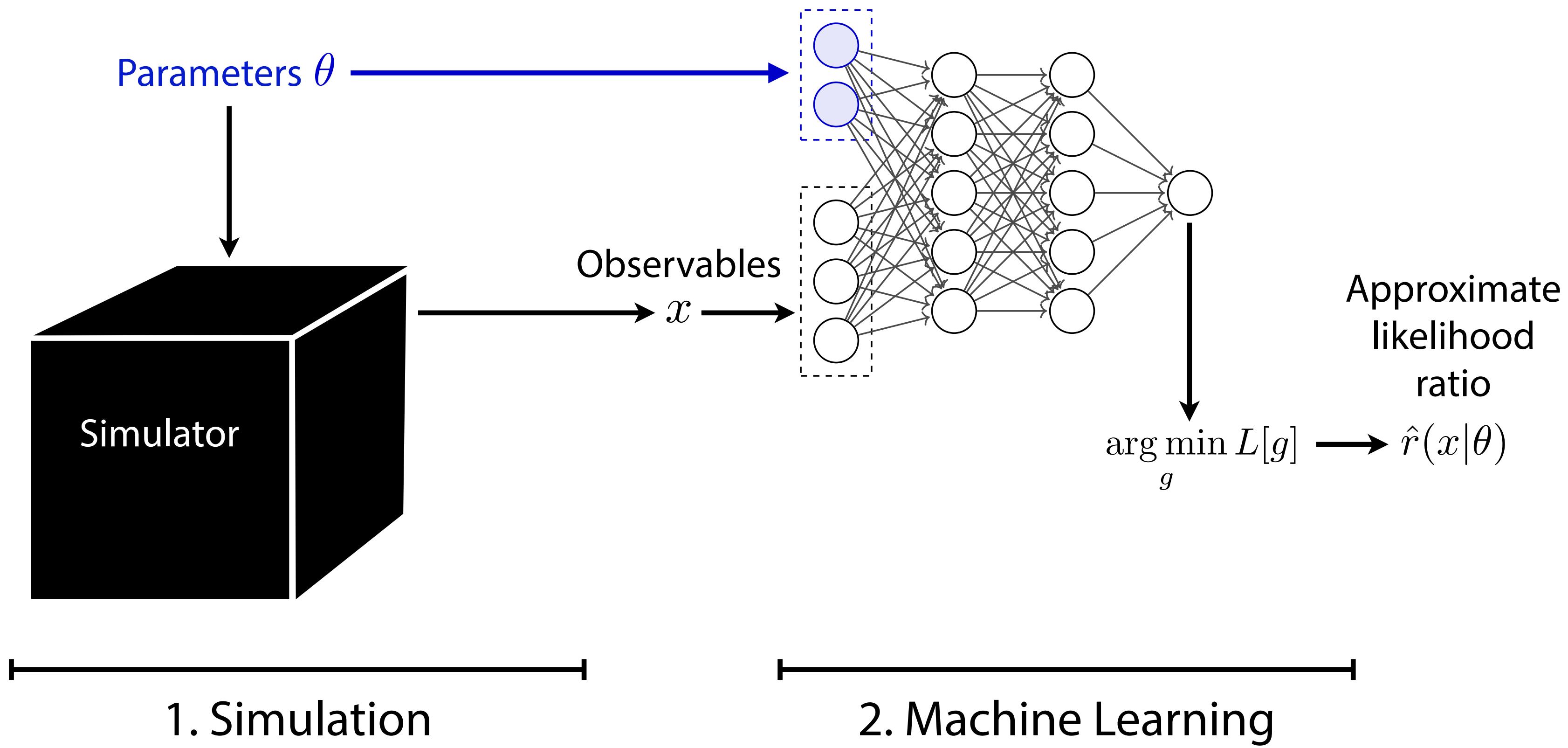
[K. Cranmer, J. Pavez, G. Louppe 1506.02169]



Run simulator and save data

# Inference by likelihood ratio trick

[K. Cranmer, J. Pavez, G. Louppe 1506.02169]

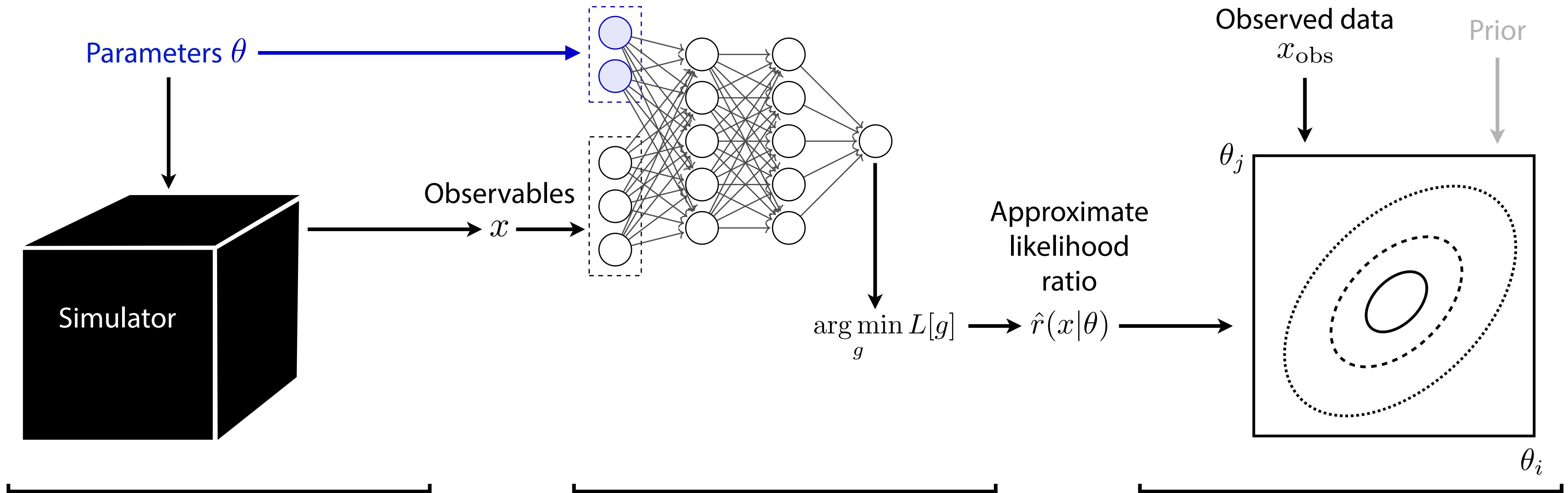


Run simulator and save data

Train NN classifier, interpret as likelihood ratio estimator

# Inference by likelihood ratio trick

[K. Cranmer, J. Pavez, G. Louppe 1506.02169]



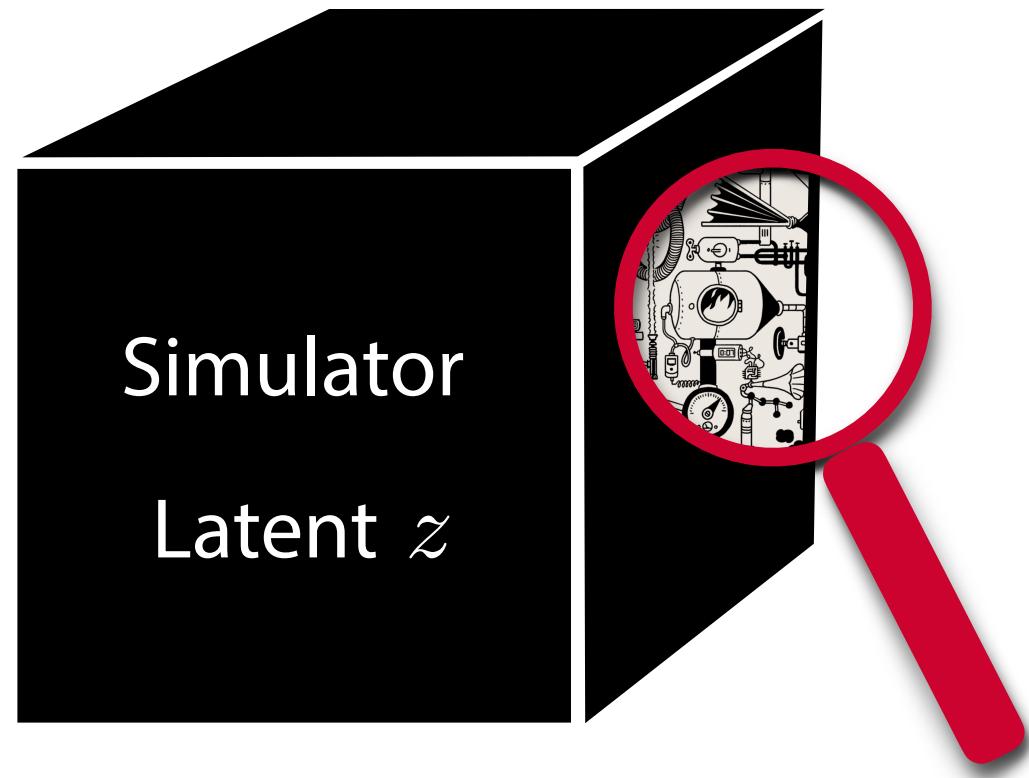
Run simulator and save data

Train NN classifier, interpret as likelihood ratio estimator

Amortized: cheap to repeat for new data

# Idea 2: “mining gold”

[JB, G. Louppe, J. Pavez, K. Cranmer 1805.12244, 1805.00013, 1805.00020]



We cannot compute  $p(x|\theta) = \int dz p(x, z|\theta)$ ,  
but for each simulated event we can compute

- the **joint likelihood ratio**

$$r(x, z|\theta) = \frac{p(x, z|\theta)}{p_{\text{ref}}(x, z)} \sim \frac{|\mathcal{M}|^2(z|\theta)}{|\mathcal{M}|_{\text{ref}}^2(z)}$$

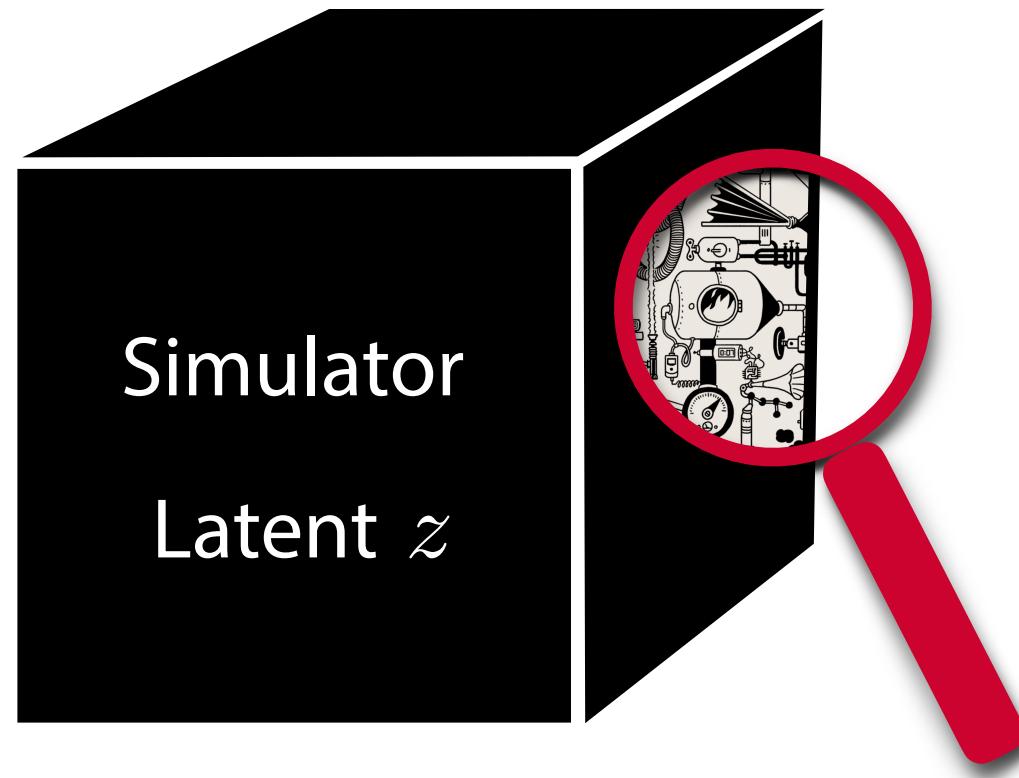
- the **joint score**

$$t(x, z|\theta) = \nabla_{\theta} \log p(x, z|\theta) \sim \frac{\nabla_{\theta} |\mathcal{M}|^2(z|\theta)}{|\mathcal{M}|^2(z|\theta)}$$

(Both depend on the truth-level four-momenta  $z$ )

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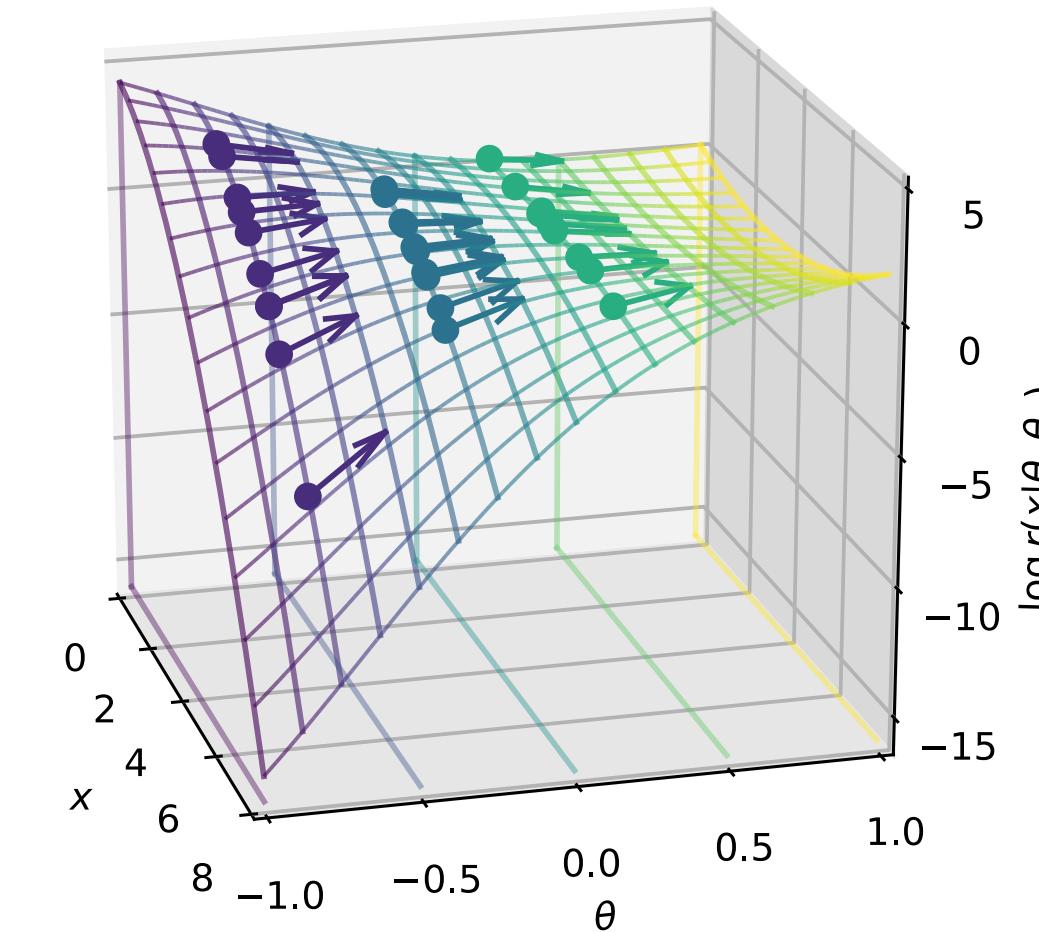
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(Both depend on the truth-level four-momenta  $z$ )



Why are they useful? One can show that

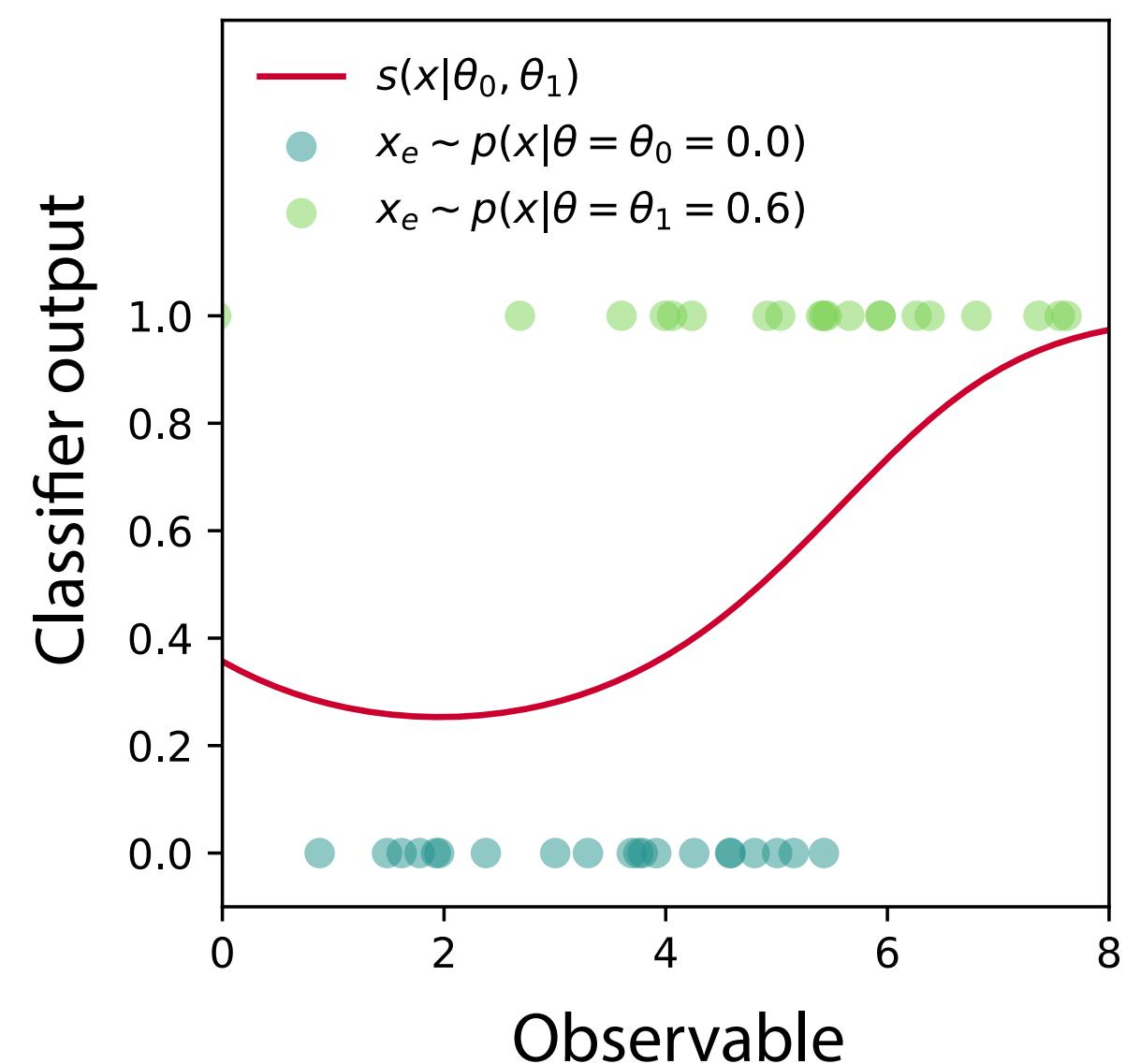
- the **joint likelihood ratio** is an unbiased estimator of the likelihood ratio
- the **joint score** provides unbiased gradient information

⇒ use them as labels in supervised NN training!

# Mining gold adds information

[JB, G. Louppe, J. Pavez, K. Cranmer  
1805.12244, 1805.00013, 1805.00020]

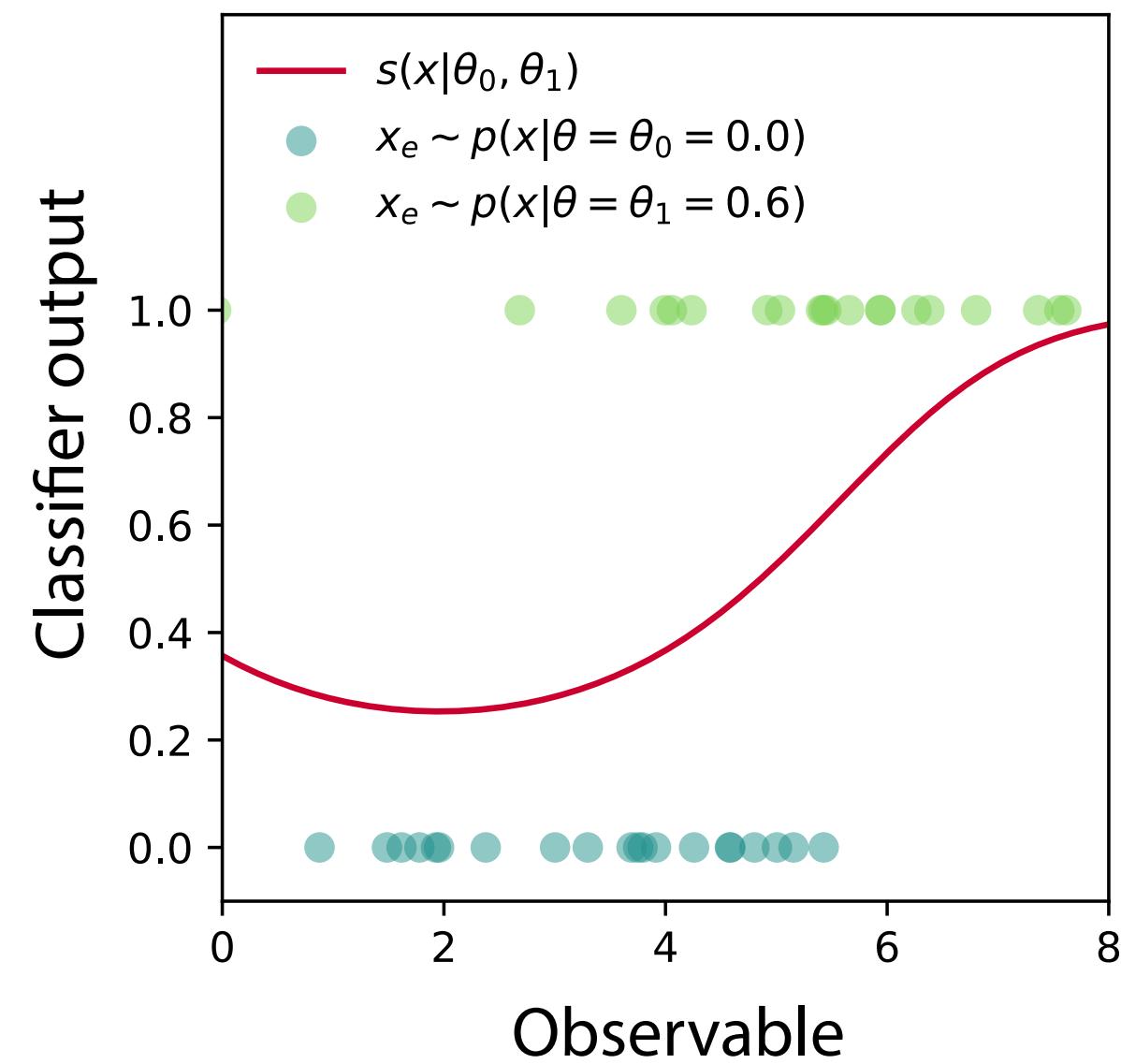
## Likelihood ratio trick



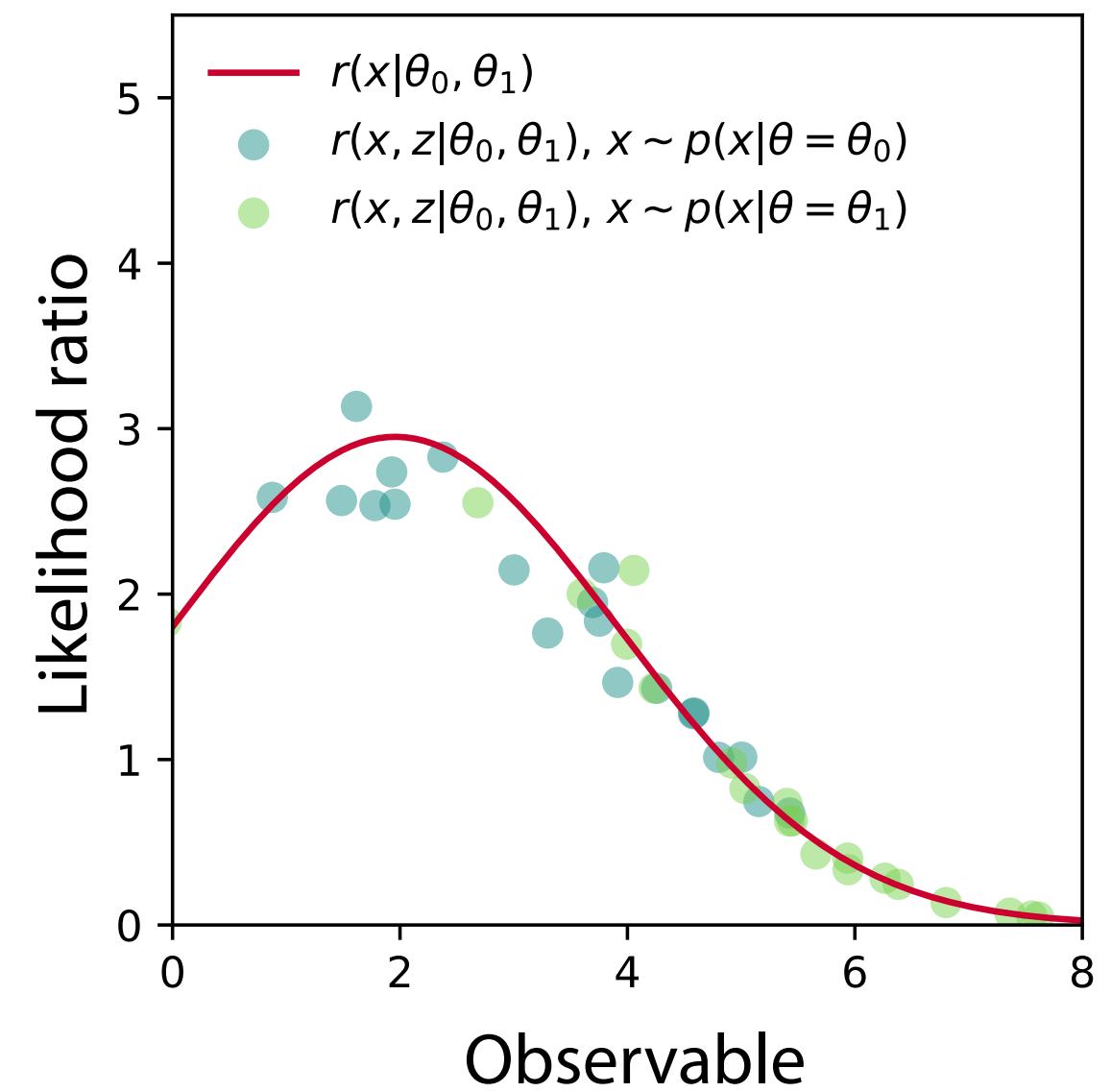
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Likelihood ratio trick



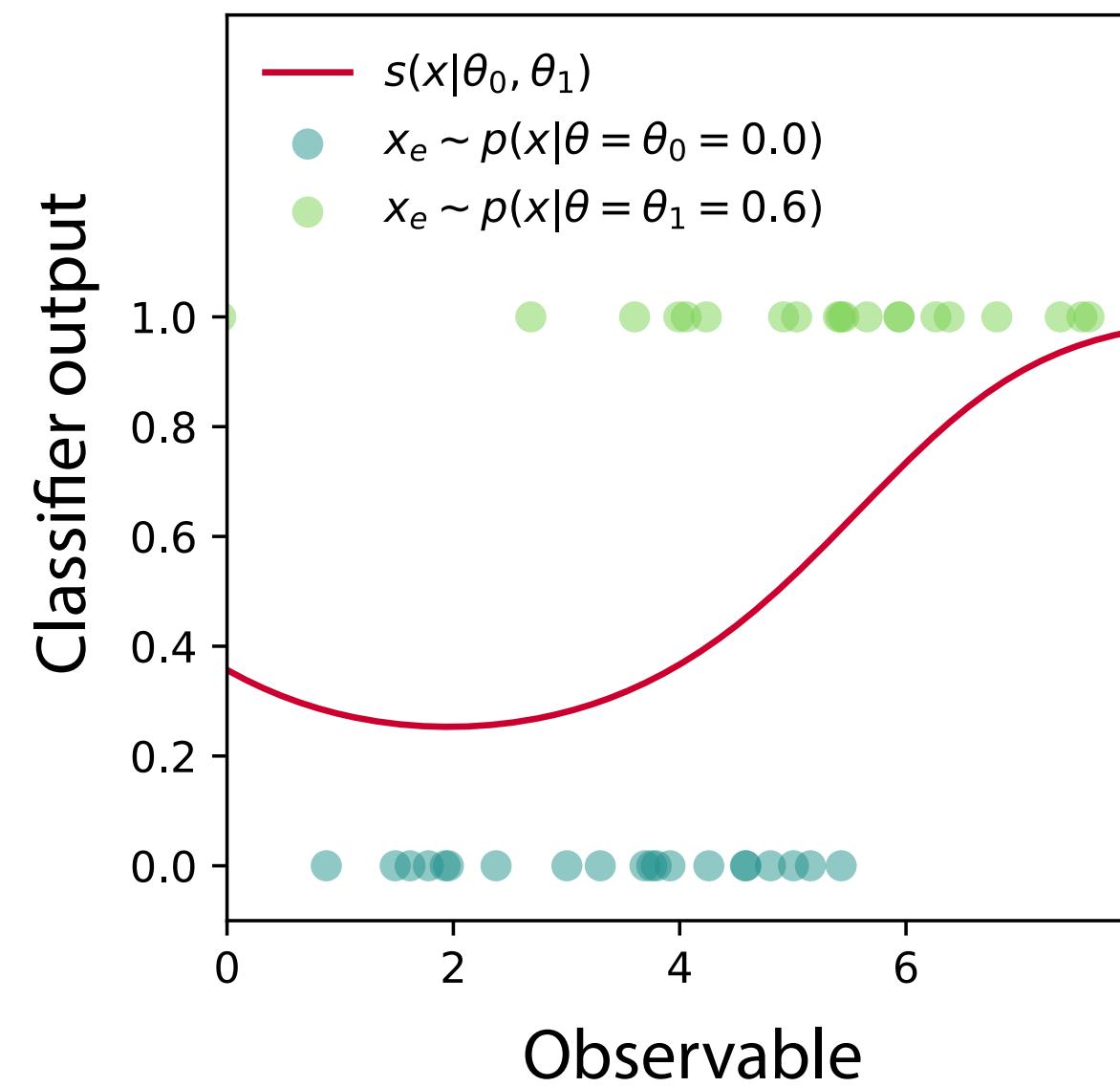
+ joint likelihood ratio



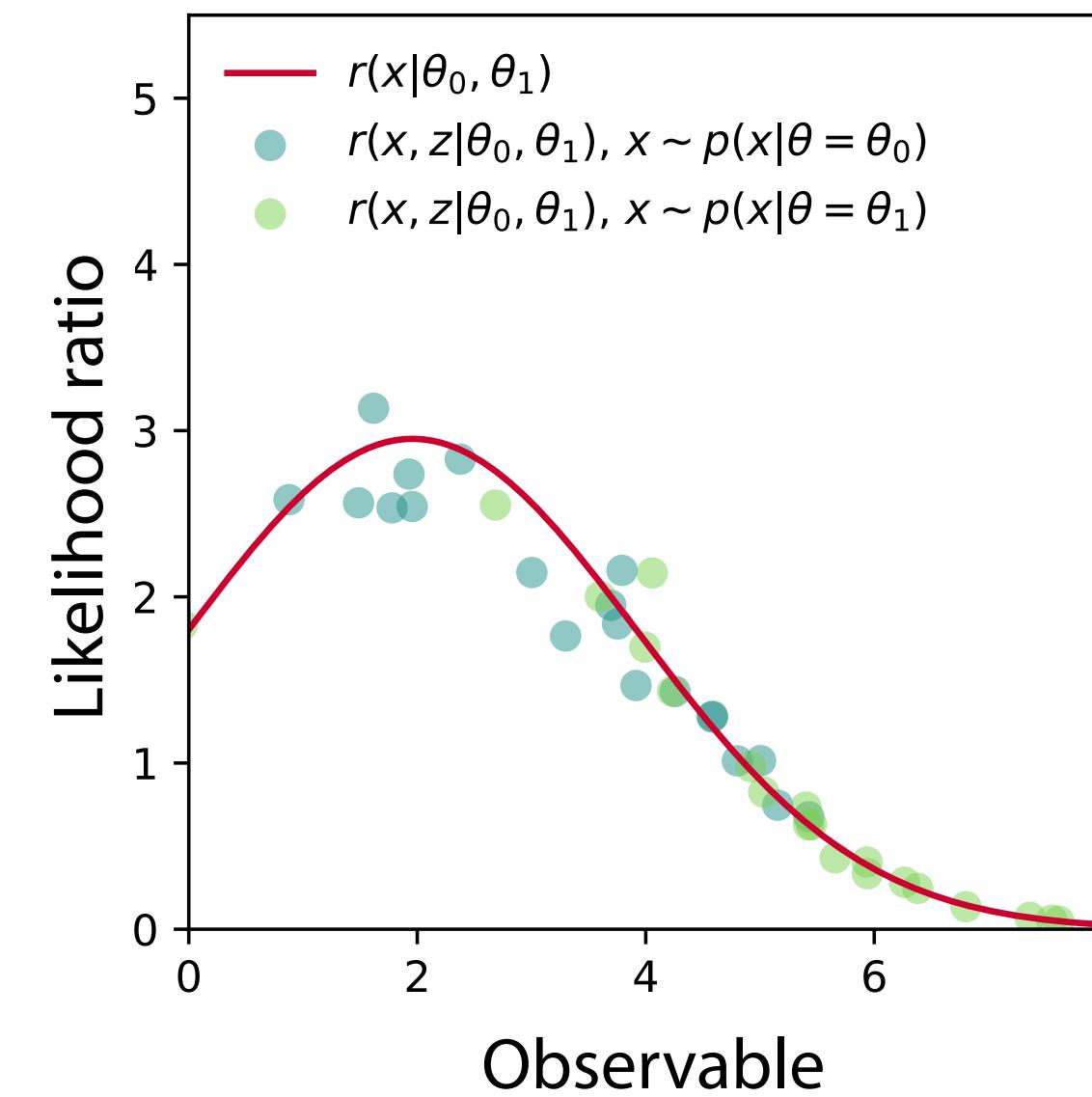
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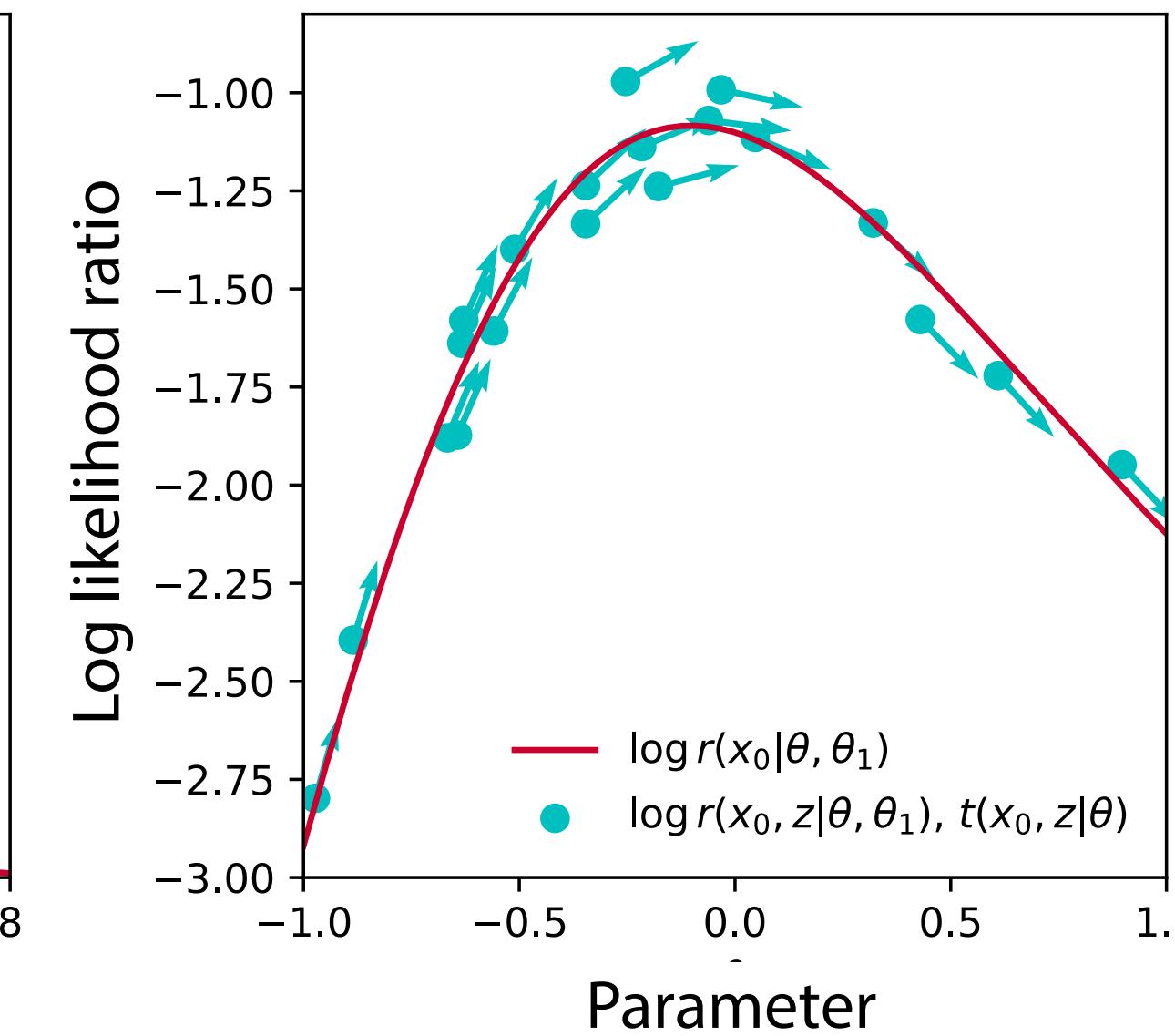
Likelihood ratio trick



+ joint likelihood ratio



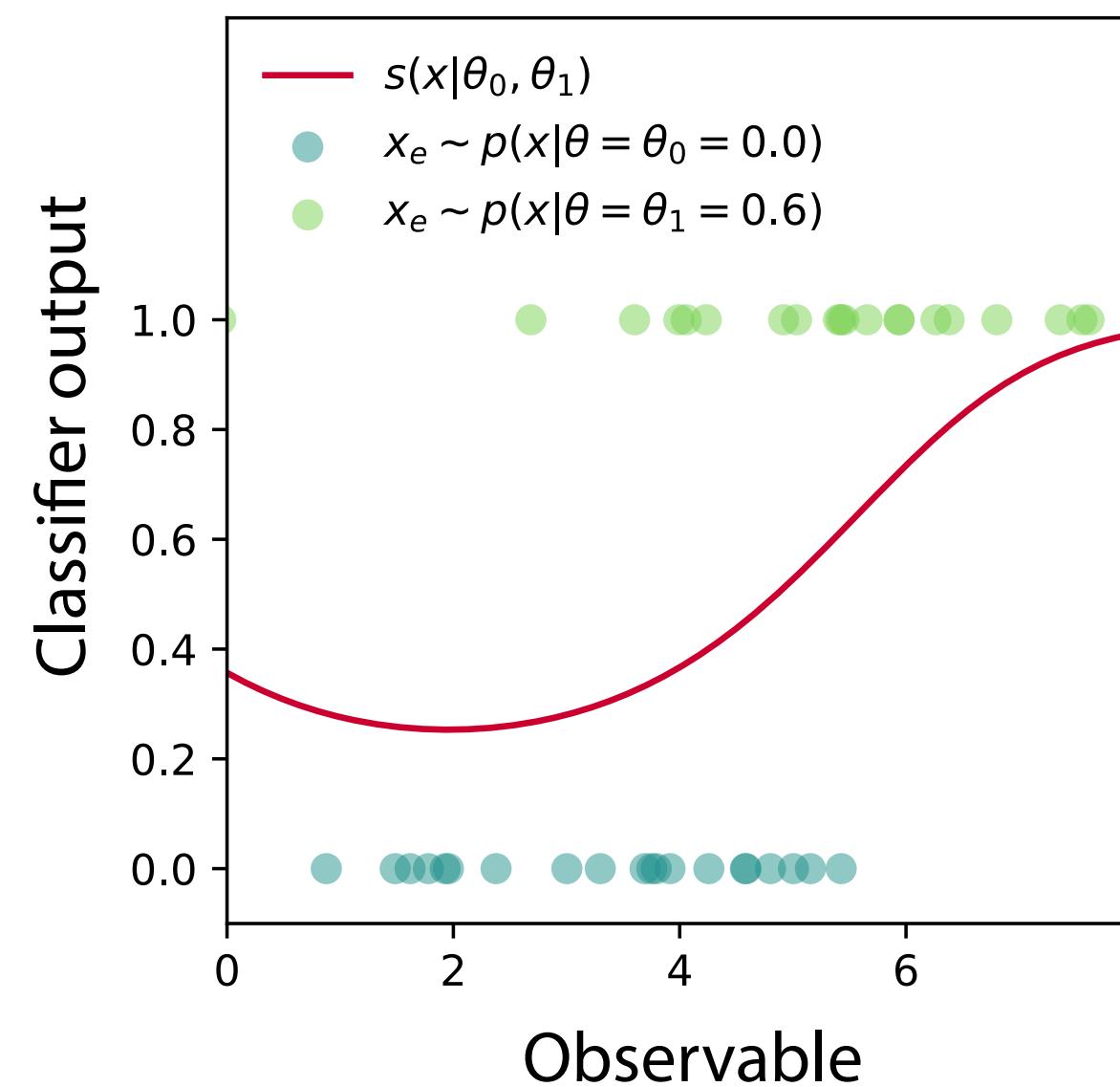
+ joint score



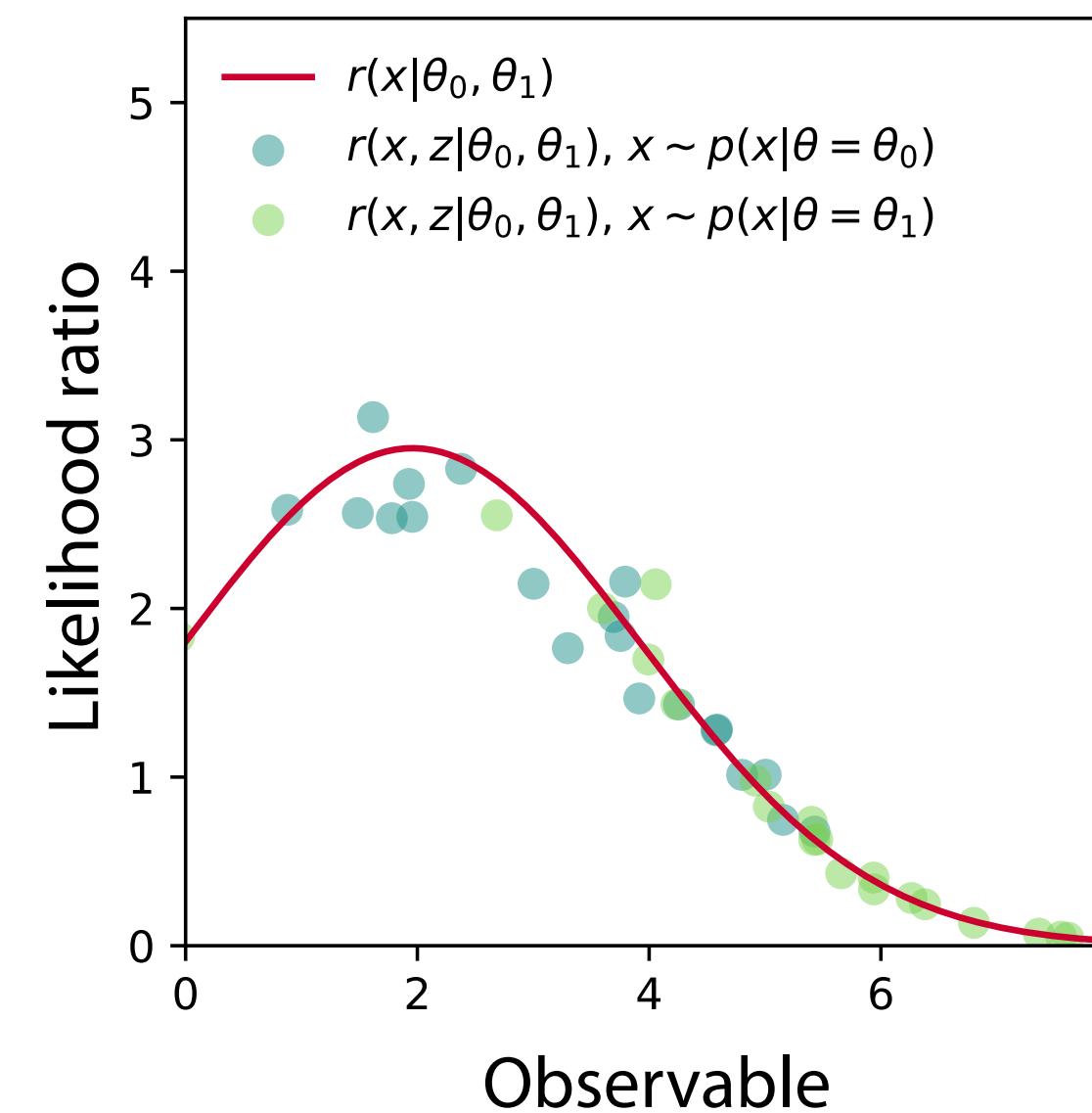
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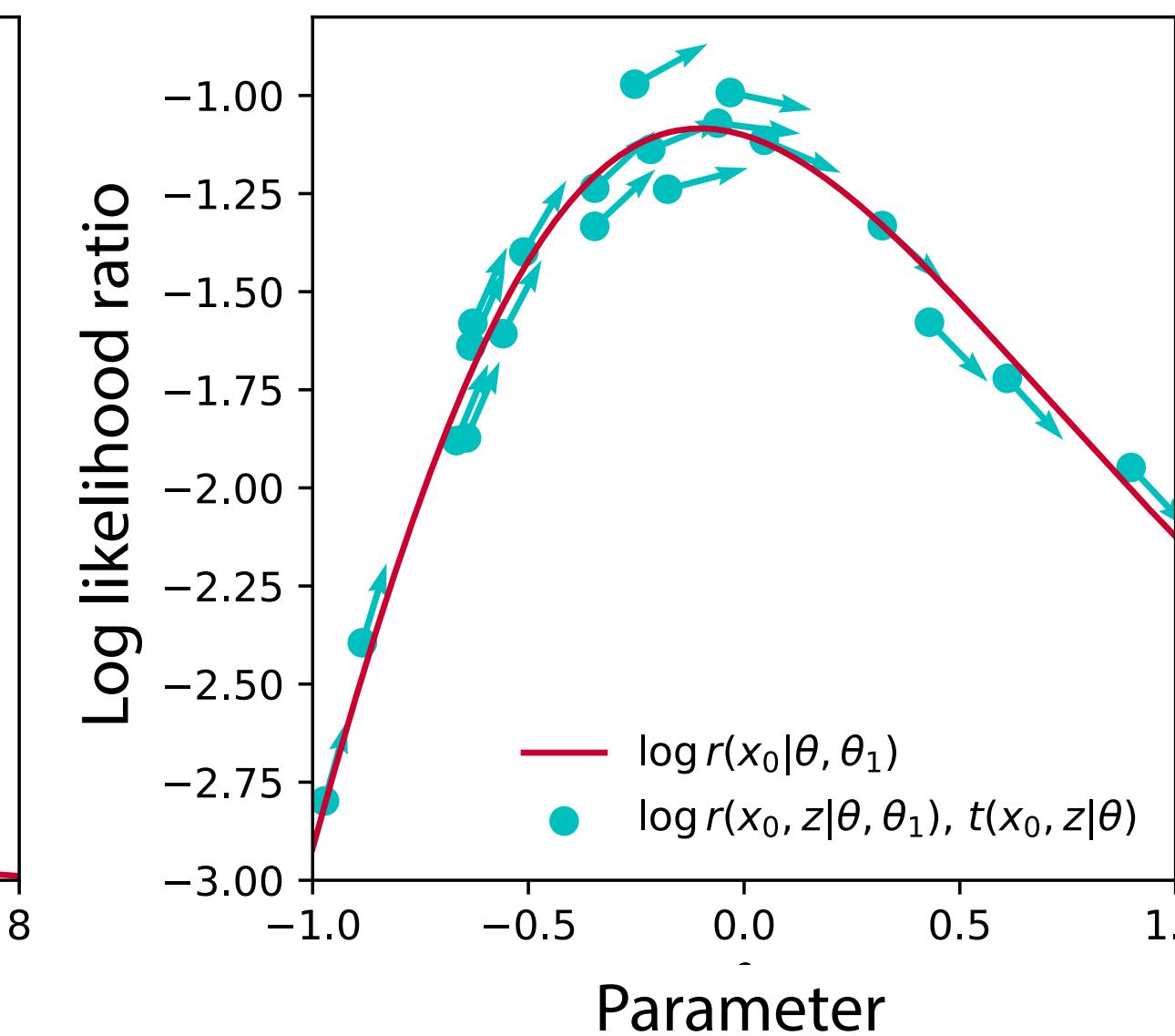
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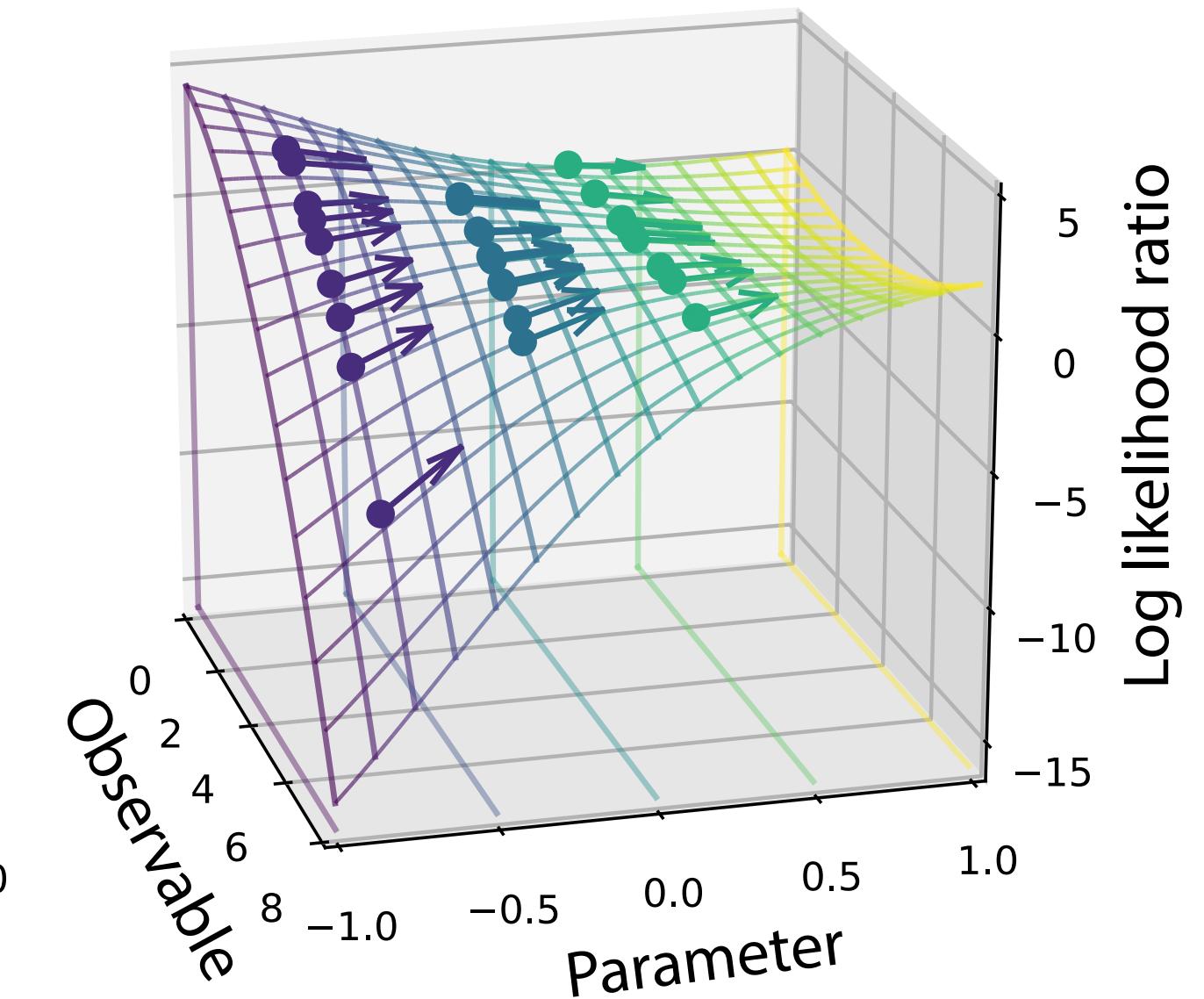
+ joint likelihood ratio



+ joint score



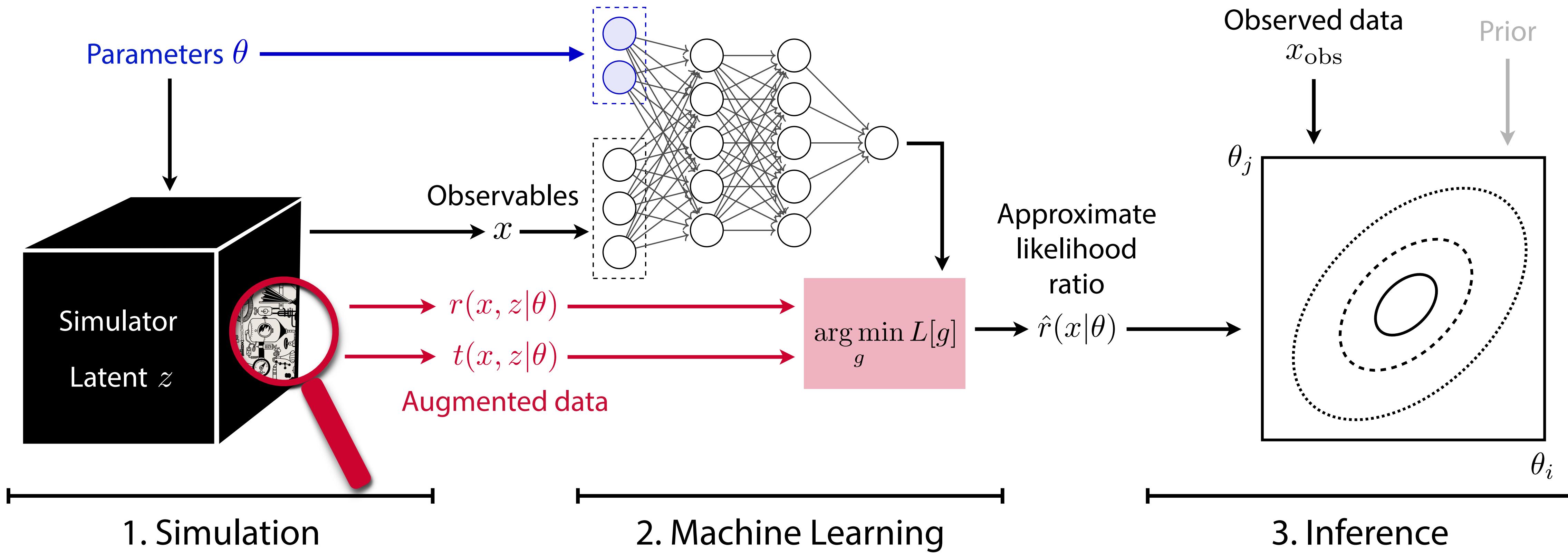
= RASCAL



Using more information = more sample-efficient inference

# RASCAL

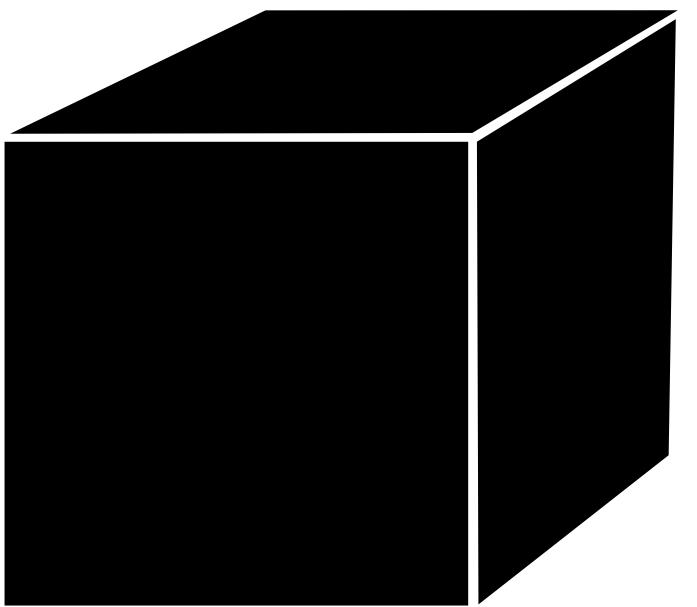
[JB, G. Louppe, J. Pavez, K. Cranmer  
1805.12244, 1805.00013, 1805.00020]



# Simulation-based inference method zoo

Method	Approximations	Upfront cost	Evaluation
Summary statistics:			
Likelihood for summary stats ("histograms")	Reduction to summary stats	Fast	Fast
Approximate Bayesian Computation	Reduction to summary stats	Depends	Depends
Matrix elements:			
Matrix Element Method	Transfer fns	Fast	Slow
Optimal Observables	Transfer fns, optimal only locally	Fast	Slow
Neural networks:			
Neural likelihood	NN	Needs many samples	Fast
Neural posterior	NN	Needs many samples	Fast
Neural likelihood ratio	NN	Needs many samples	Fast
Neural networks + matrix elements:			
Neural likelihood (ratio) + gold mining (RASCAL)	NN	Needs less samples	Fast
Neural optimal observables (SALLY)	NN, optimal only locally	Needs less samples	Fast

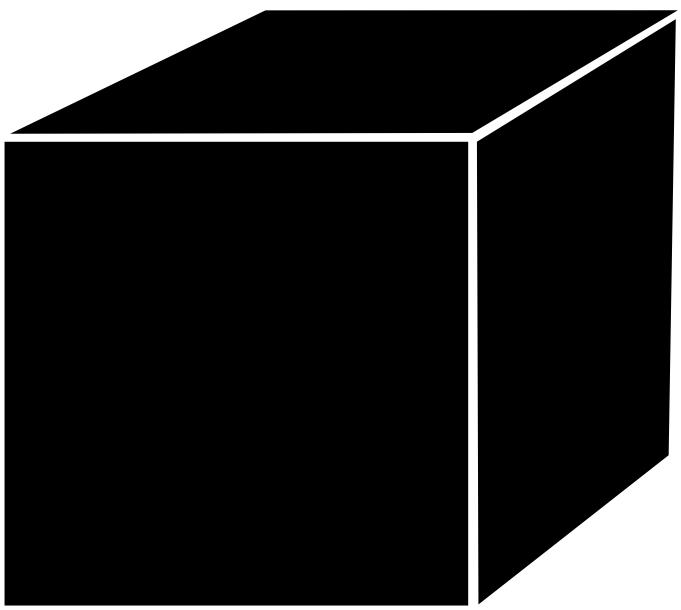
# Systematics



Can you trust the simulator?

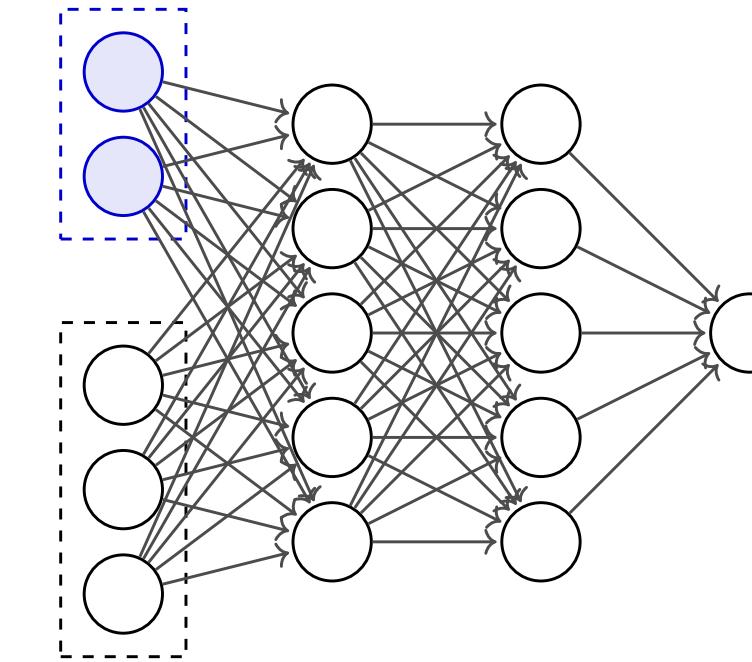
- Model uncertainties explicitly:  
nuisance parameters + profiling / marginalization
- Make analysis robust:  
ideas from domain adaptation, algorithmic fairness  
[G. Louppe, M. Kagan, K. Cranmer 1611.01046; J. Alsing, B. Wandelt 1903.01473; P. de Castro, T. Dorigo 1806.04743]

# Systematics



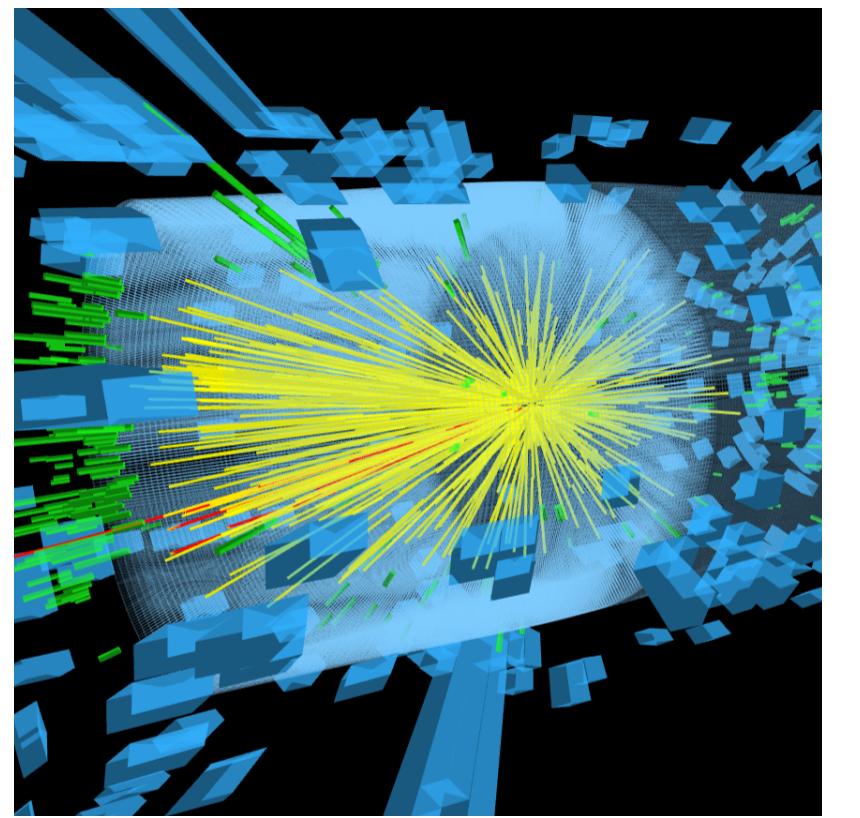
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Can you trust the neural network?

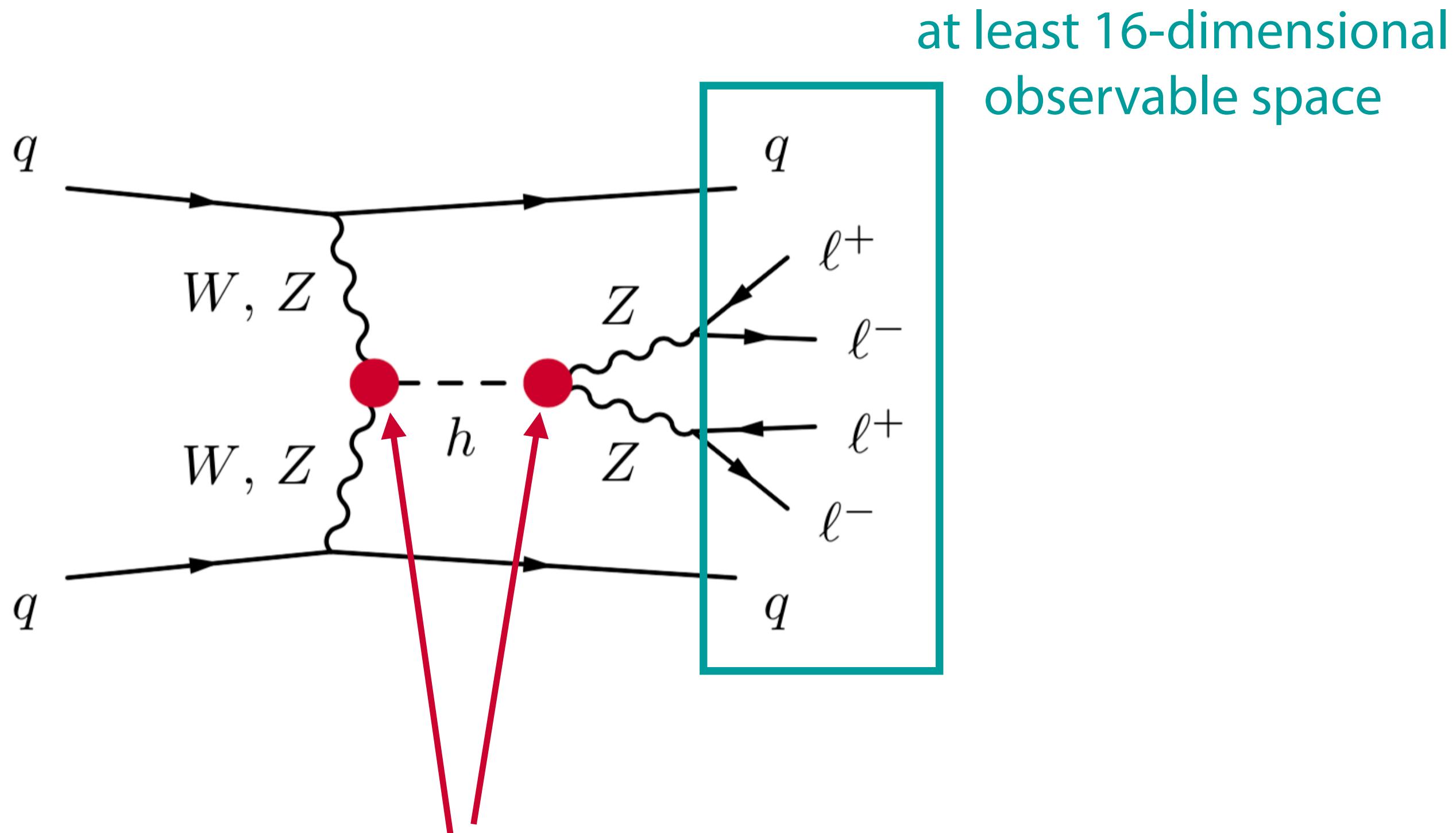
- Sanity checks: expectation values, “critic” tests
- Calibrate NN output
- Neyman construction with toys  
(badly trained network can lead to suboptimal limits, but not to wrong limits)  
[JB, G. Louppe, J. Pavez, K. Cranmer 1805.00020]



## 4. Examples

# Proof of concept: Higgs production in weak boson fusion

[JB, K. Cranmer, G. Louppe, J. Pavez  
1805.00013, 1805.00020]



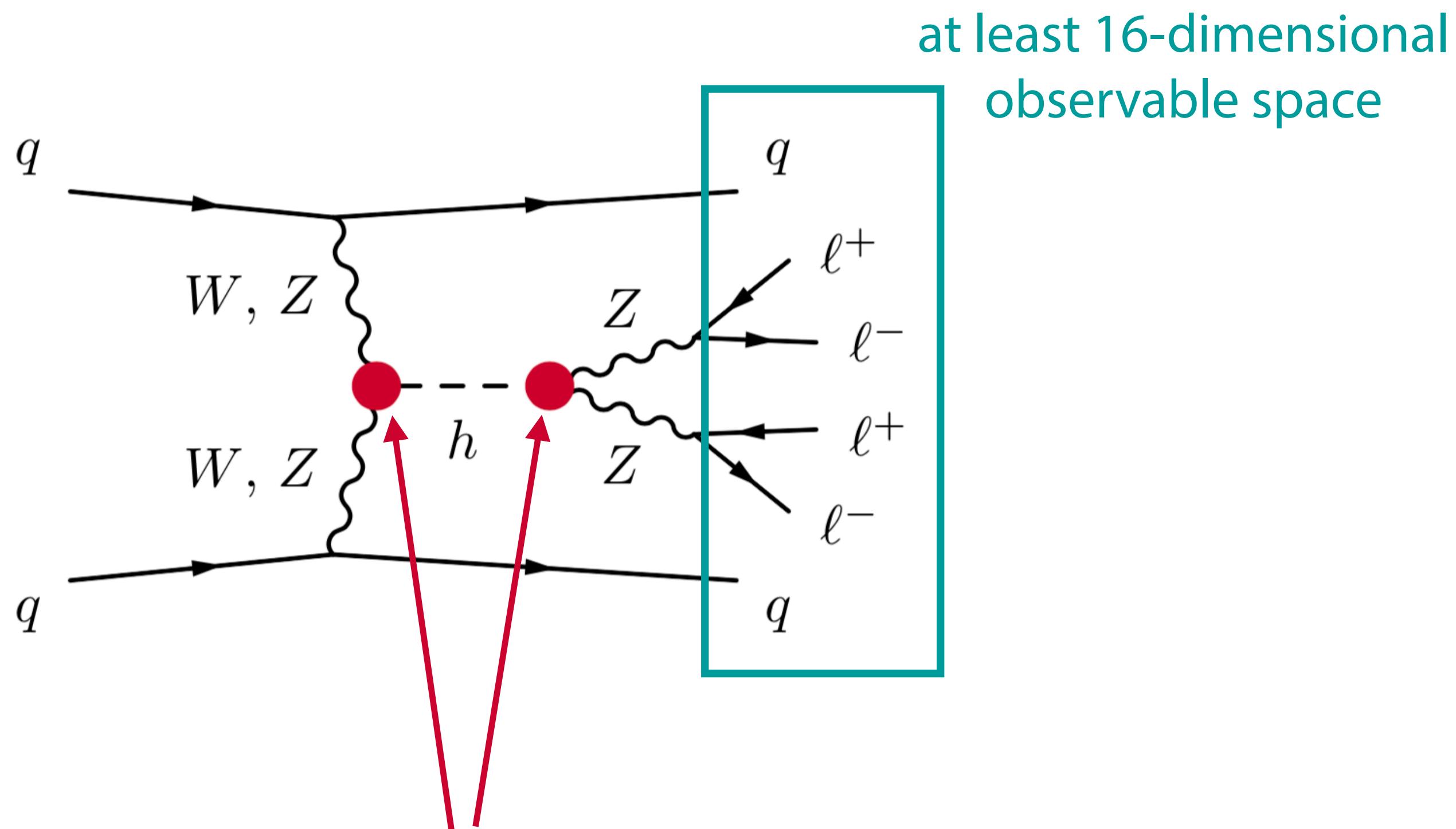
Exciting new physics might hide here!

We parameterize it with two EFT coefficients:

$$\mathcal{L} = \mathcal{L}_{\text{SM}} + \underbrace{\left[ \frac{f_W}{\Lambda^2} \frac{i g}{2} (D^\mu \phi)^\dagger \sigma^a D^\nu \phi W_{\mu\nu}^a \right]}_{\mathcal{O}_W} - \underbrace{\left[ \frac{f_{WW}}{\Lambda^2} \frac{g^2}{4} (\phi^\dagger \phi) W_{\mu\nu}^a W^{\mu\nu a} \right]}_{\mathcal{O}_{WW}}$$

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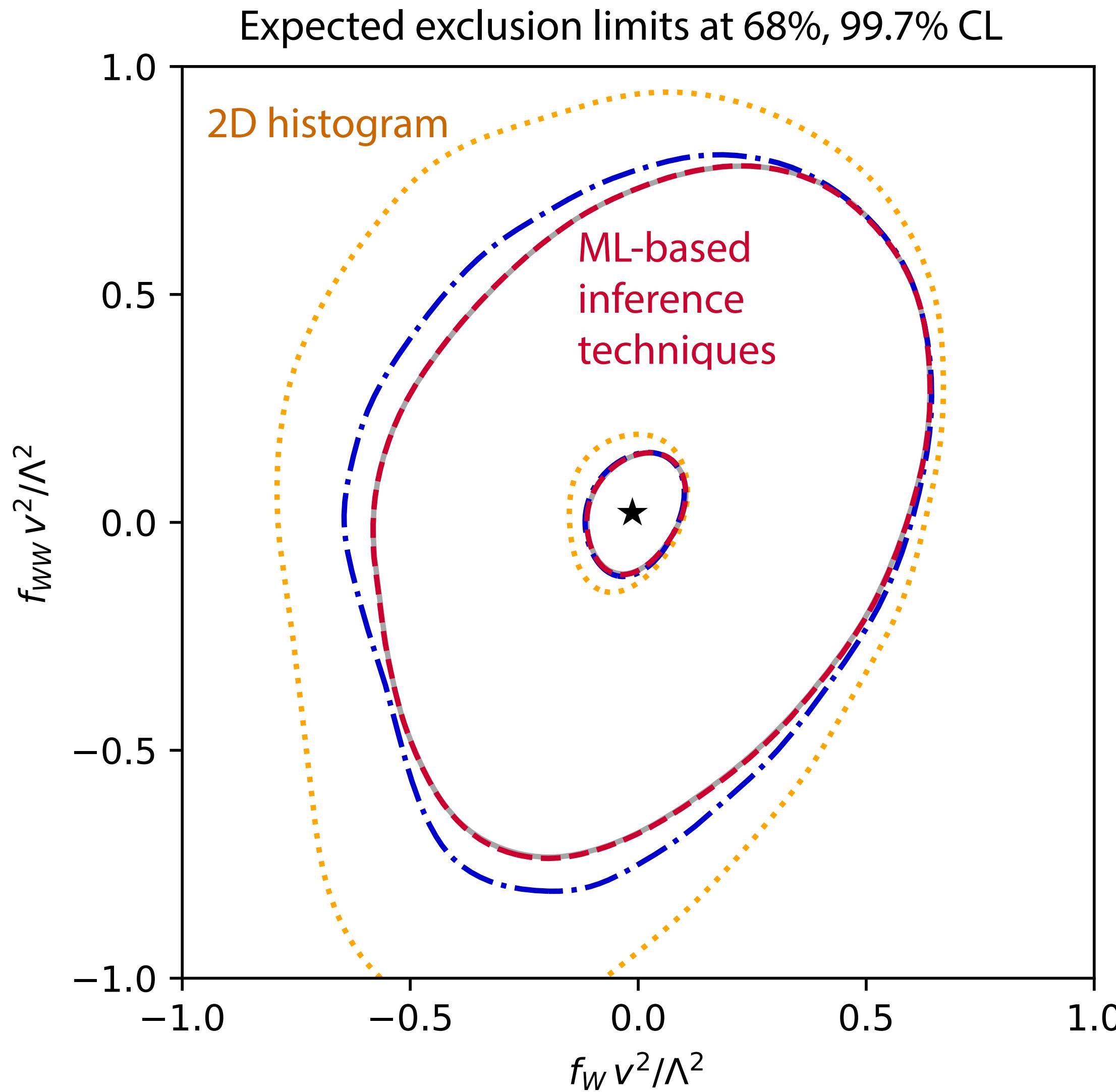
Goal: constrain the two EFT parameters

- new inference methods
- baseline: 2d histogram analysis of jet momenta & angular correlations

Two scenarios:

- Simplified setup in which we can compare to true likelihood
- “Realistic” simulation with approximate detector effects

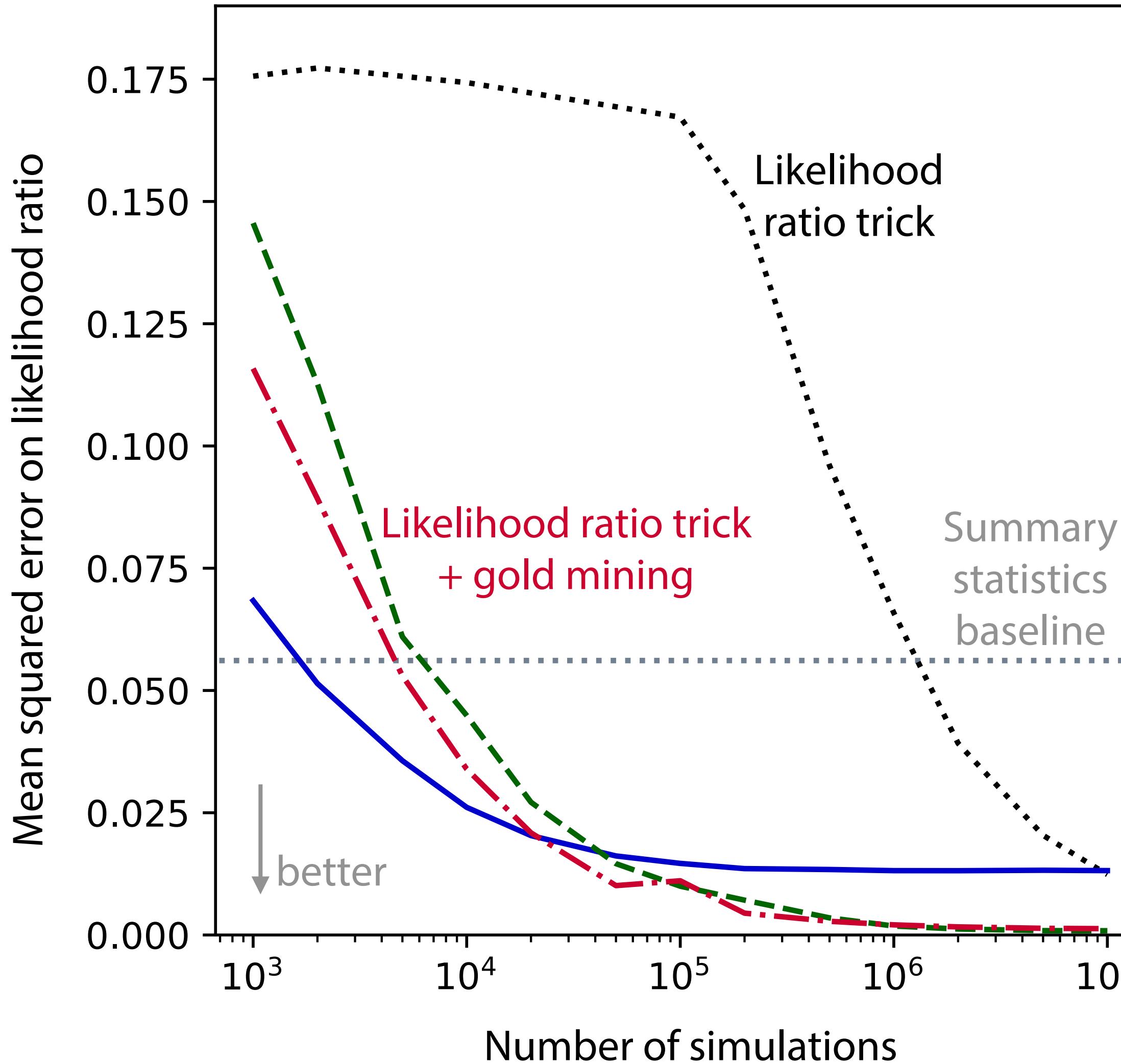
# Stronger limits...



In some regions of parameter space, the ML-based inference techniques improve the sensitivity as much as taking 90% more data would!

[JB, K. Cranmer, G. Louppe, J. Pavez 1805.00013; 1805.00020;  
M. Stoye, JB, K. Cranmer, G. Louppe, J. Pavez 1808.00973]

# ...with less training data



With enough training data, the ML algorithms get the likelihood function right.

Using more information from the simulator improves sample efficiency substantially.

[JB, K. Cranmer, G. Louppe, J. Pavez 1805.00013; 1805.00020;  
M. Stoye, JB, K. Cranmer, G. Louppe, J. Pavez 1808.00973]

# Constraining operators in ttH effectively

[JB, F. Kling, I. Espejo, K. Cranmer 1907.10621]

- Pheno-level analysis of

$$pp \rightarrow t\bar{t} h \rightarrow (b\ell^+) (\bar{b}\ell^-) (\gamma\gamma) E_T^{\text{miss}}$$

with MadGraph + Pythia + Delphes

- Inference on three EFT operators:

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{O}_u &= -\frac{1}{v^2}(H^\dagger H)(H^\dagger \bar{Q}_L)u_R, \quad \mathcal{O}_G = \frac{g_s^2}{m_W^2}(H^\dagger H)G_{\mu\nu}^a G_a^{\mu\nu}, \\ \mathcal{O}_{uG} &= -\frac{4g_s}{m_W^2}y_u(H^\dagger \bar{Q}_L)\gamma^{\mu\nu}T_a u_R G_{\mu\nu}^a\end{aligned}$$

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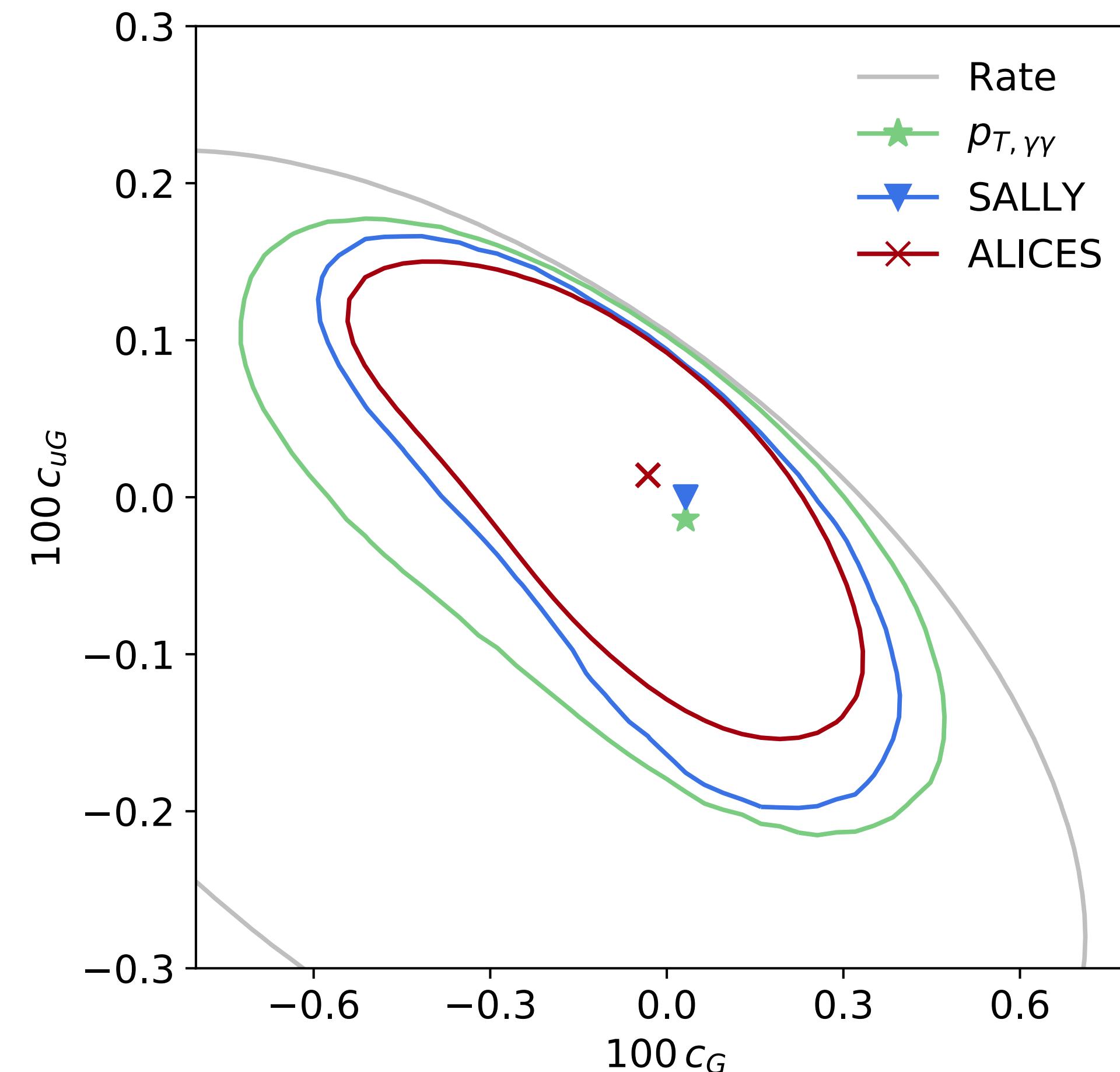
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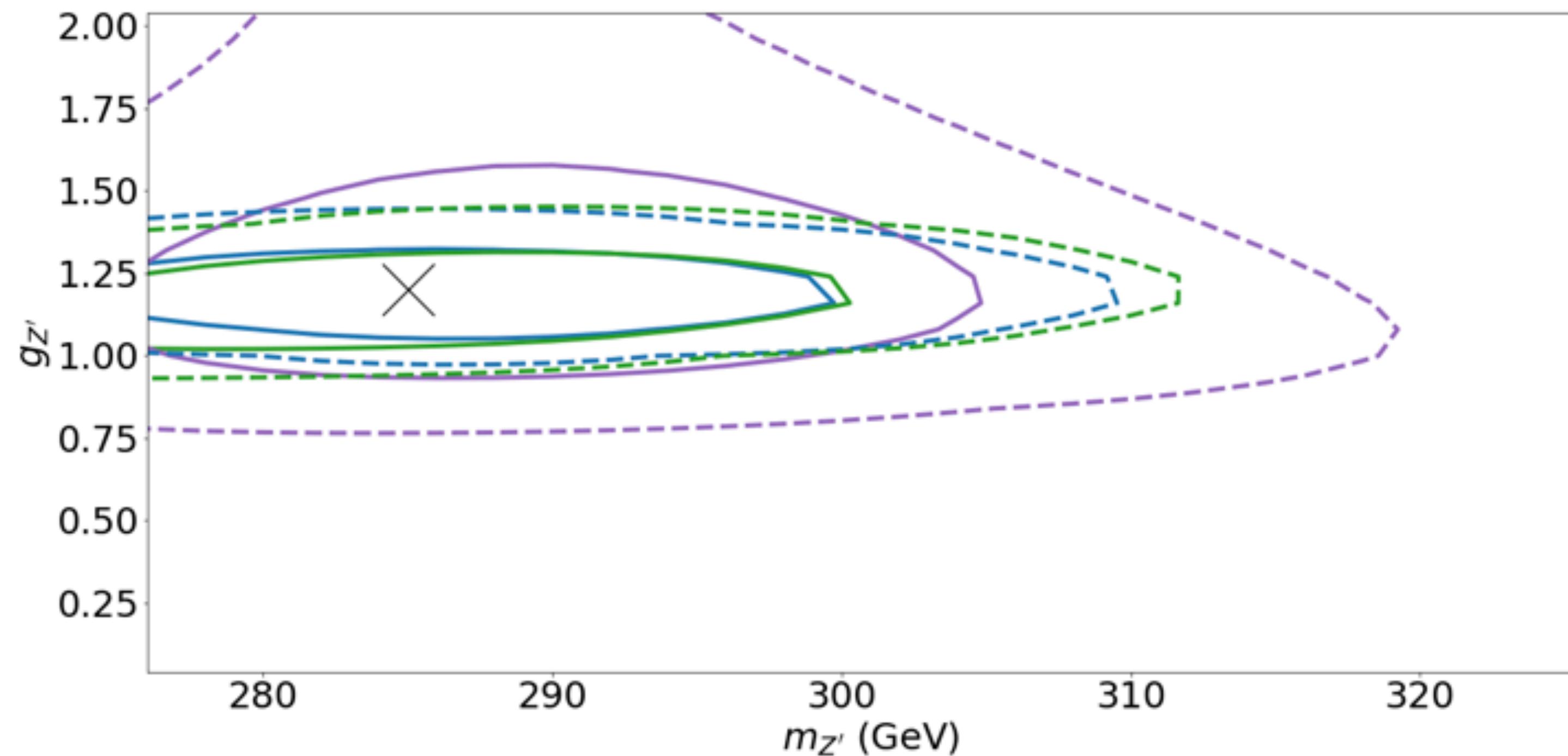
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- New **inference techniques** improve expected HL-LHC limits compared to **histogram baseline**:



# Hunting $Z' \rightarrow jj$

[J. Hollingworth, D. Whiteson 2002.04699]



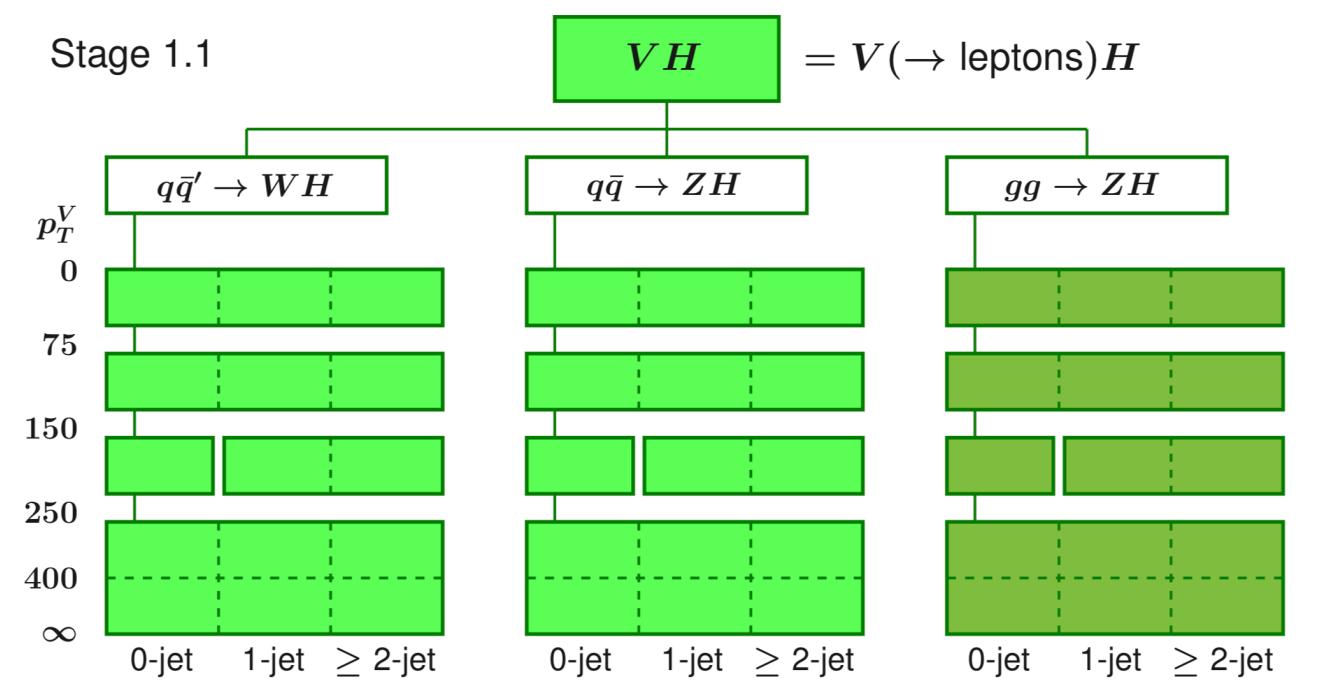
Multivariate analysis with new  
ML-based inference techniques  
leads to better expected limits  
than  $m_{jj}$  analysis

# Benchmarking STXS in WH

[JB, S. Dawson, S. Homiller, F. Kling, T. Plehn 1908.06980]

- Simplified Template Cross-Sections (STXS) define observable bins that are supposed to capture as much information on NP as possible

[N. Berger et al. 1906.02754; HXSWG YR4]



- Let's check! How much information on

$$\tilde{\mathcal{O}}_{HD} = \mathcal{O}_{H\square} - \frac{\mathcal{O}_{HD}}{4} = (\phi^\dagger \phi) \square (\phi^\dagger \phi) - \frac{1}{4} (\phi^\dagger D^\mu \phi)^* (\phi^\dagger D_\mu \phi)$$

$$\mathcal{O}_{HW} = \phi^\dagger \phi W_{\mu\nu}^a W^{\mu\nu a}$$

$$\mathcal{O}_{Hq}^{(3)} = (\phi^\dagger i \overleftrightarrow{D}_\mu^a \phi) (\overline{Q}_L \sigma^a \gamma^\mu Q_L) ,$$

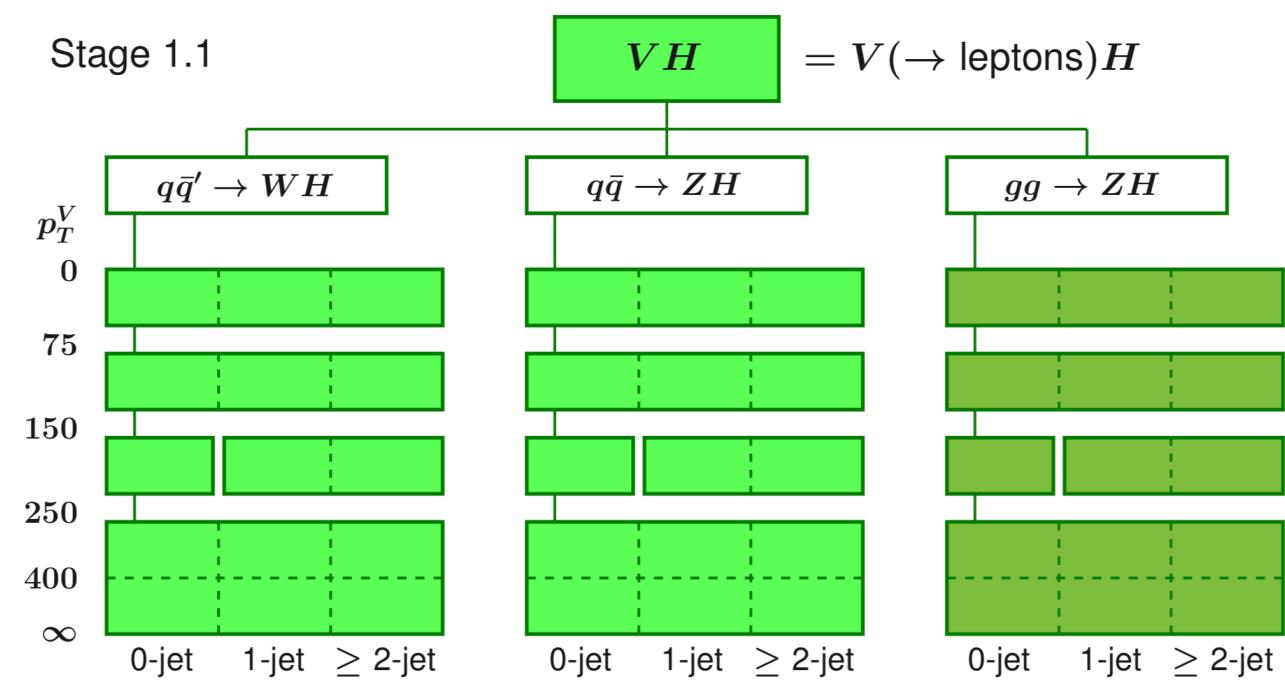
can we extract from  $pp \rightarrow WH \rightarrow \ell\nu b\bar{b}$  ?

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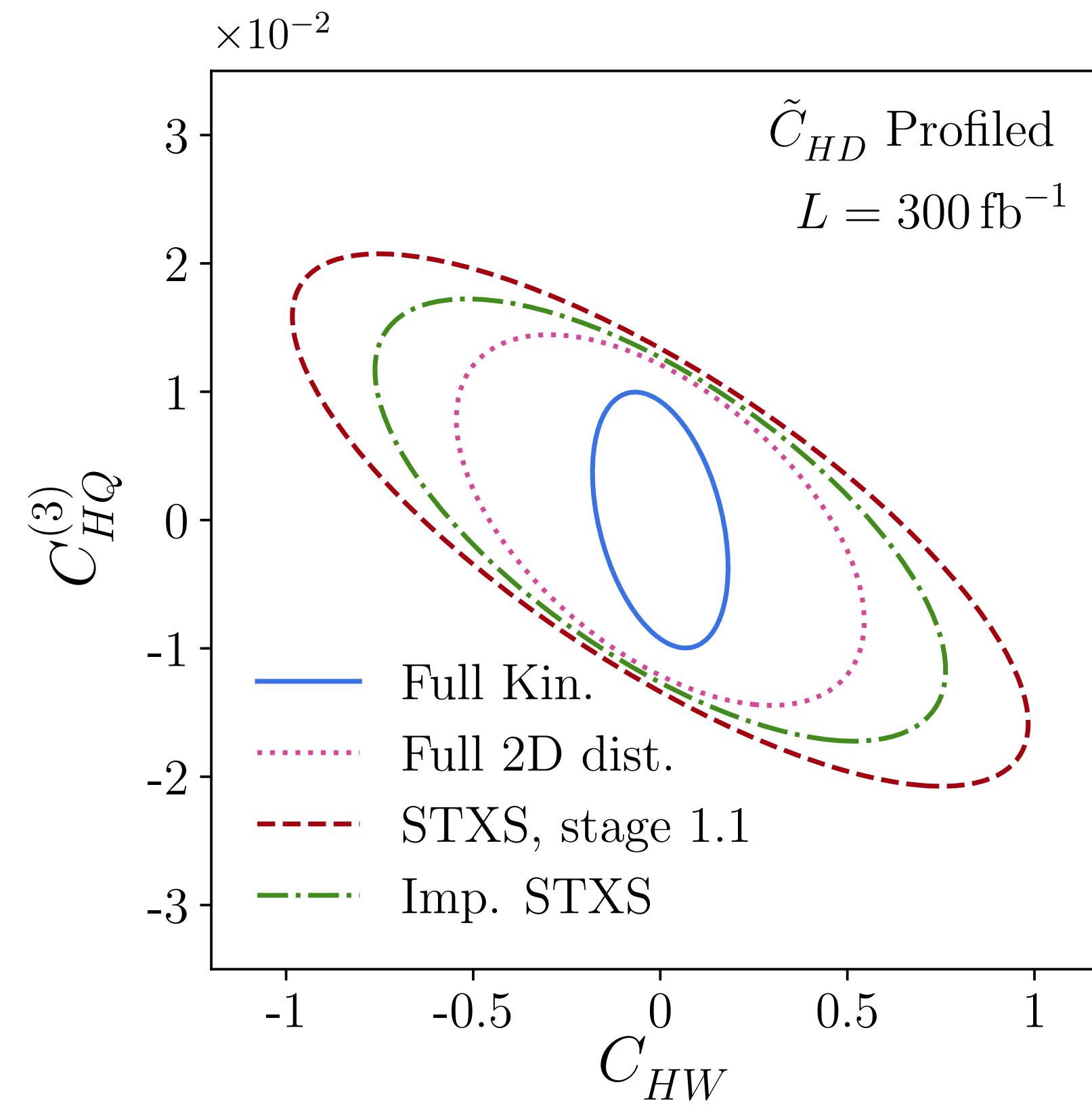
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can we extract from  $pp \rightarrow WH \rightarrow \ell\nu b\bar{b}$ ?

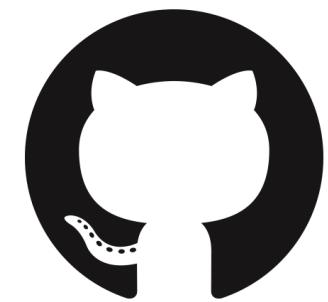
- Results: STXS are indeed sensitive to operators, adding a few more bins improve them, but a multivariate analysis is still stronger



# Automation

[JB, F. Kling, I. Espejo, K. Cranmer 1907.10621]

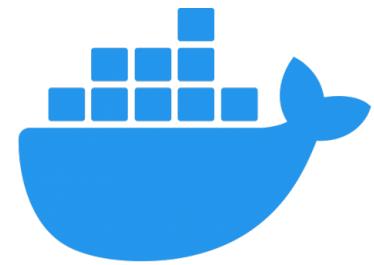
Our open-source Python package **MadMiner** makes it straightforward  
to apply these ML-based inference techniques



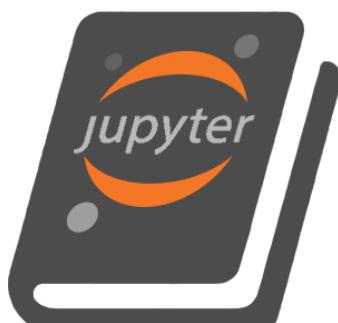
[github.com/diana-hep/madminer](https://github.com/diana-hep/madminer)



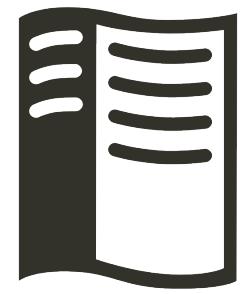
`pip install madminer`



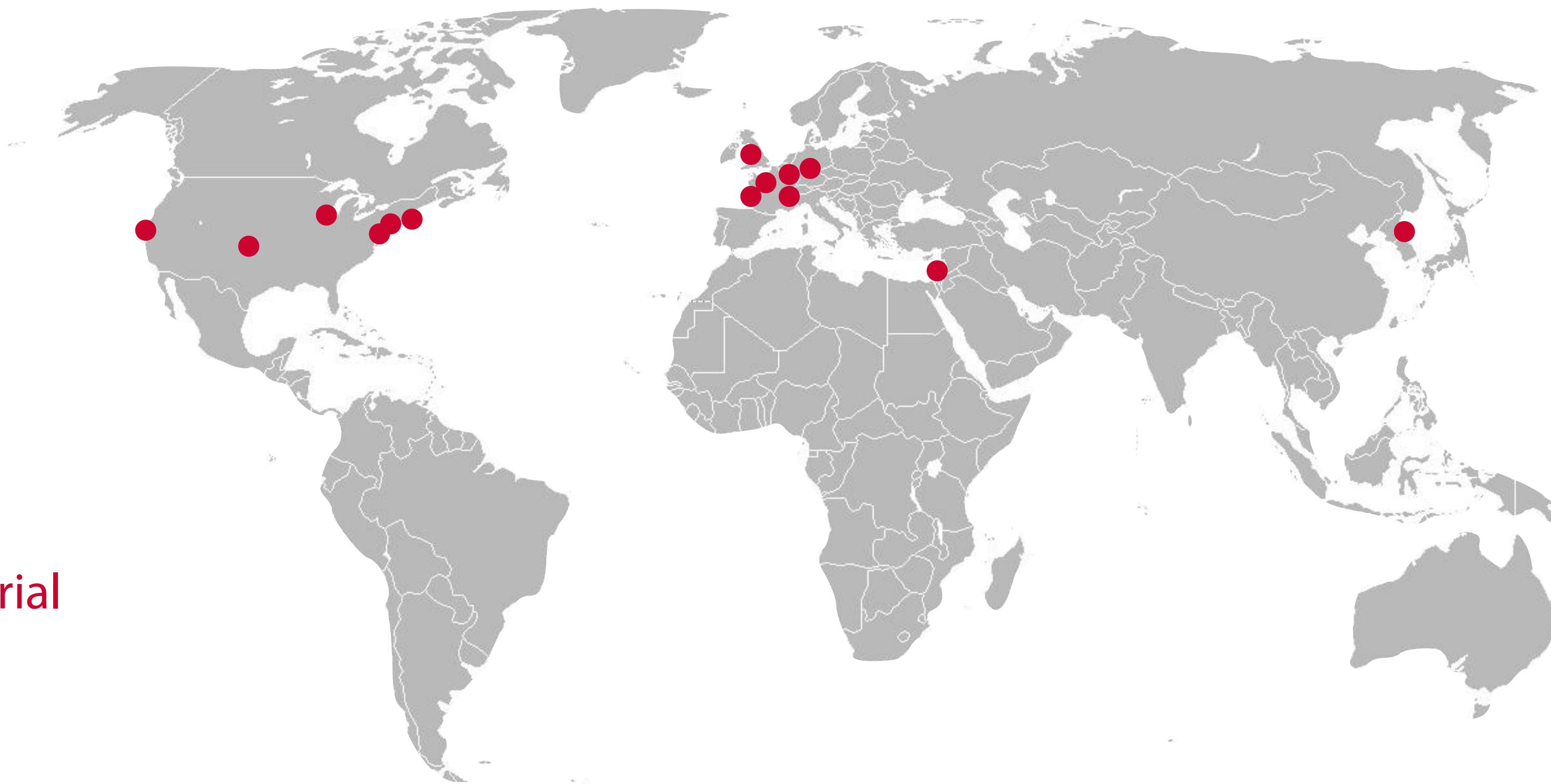
[hub.docker.com/u/madminertool](https://hub.docker.com/u/madminertool)

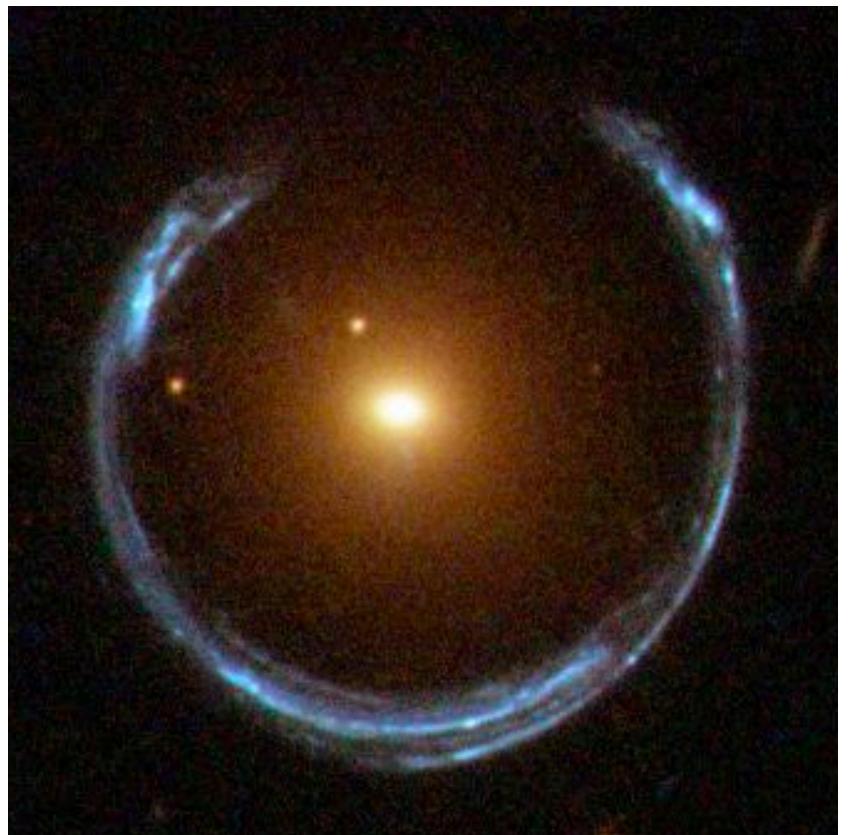


[cranmer.github.io/madminer-tutorial](https://cranmer.github.io/madminer-tutorial)



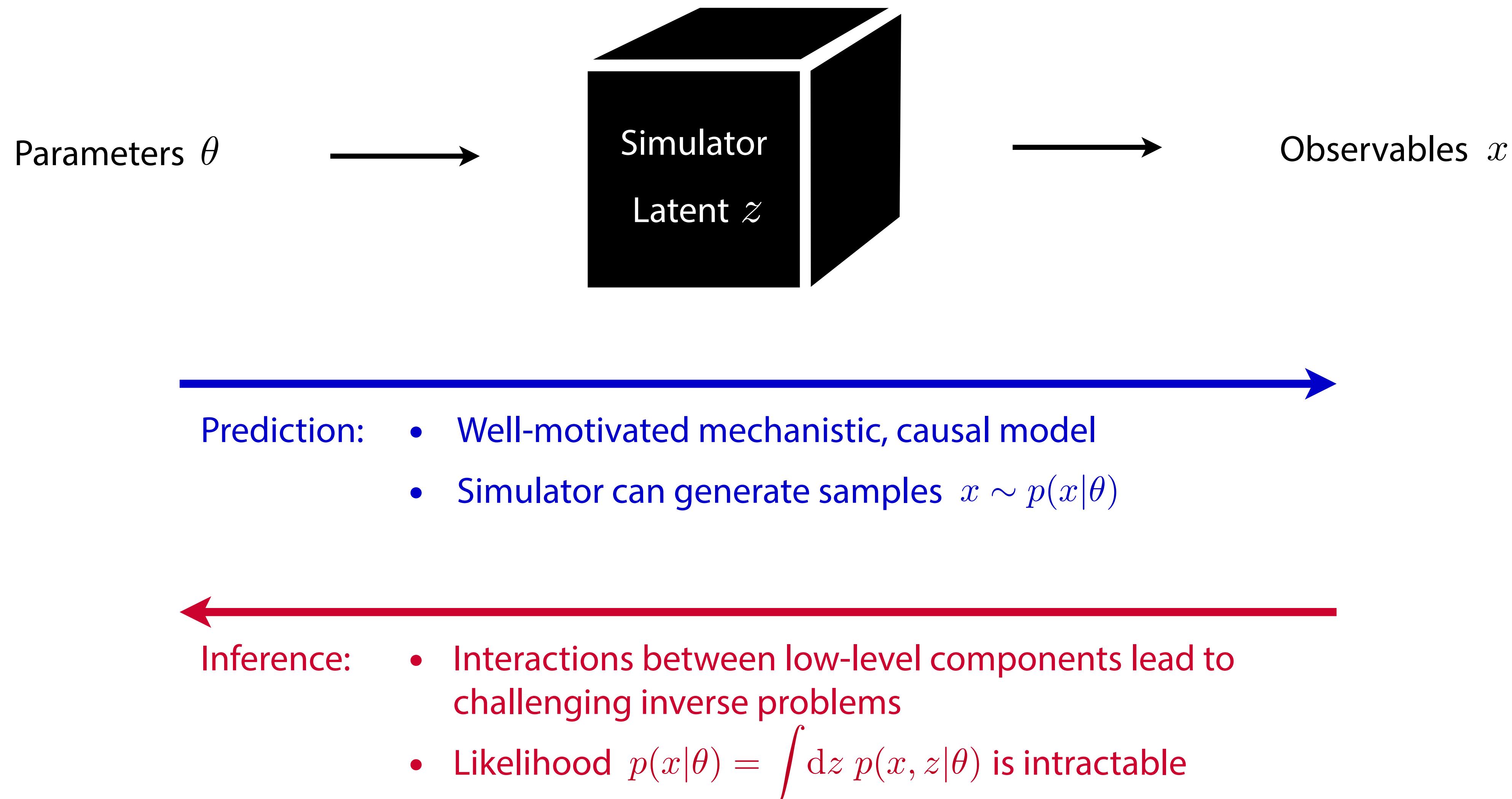
[madminer.readthedocs.io](https://madminer.readthedocs.io)



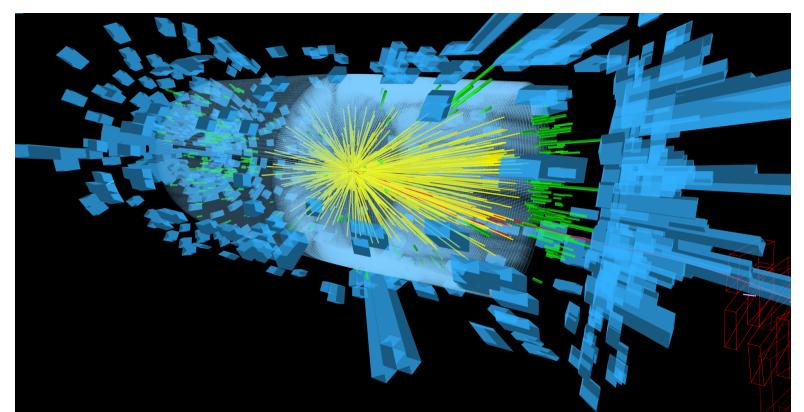


## 5. Beyond the LHC

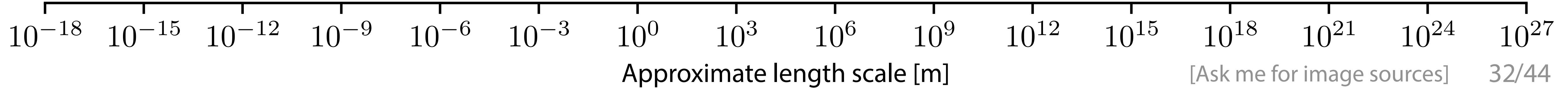
# Simulation-based (“likelihood-free”) inference problems...



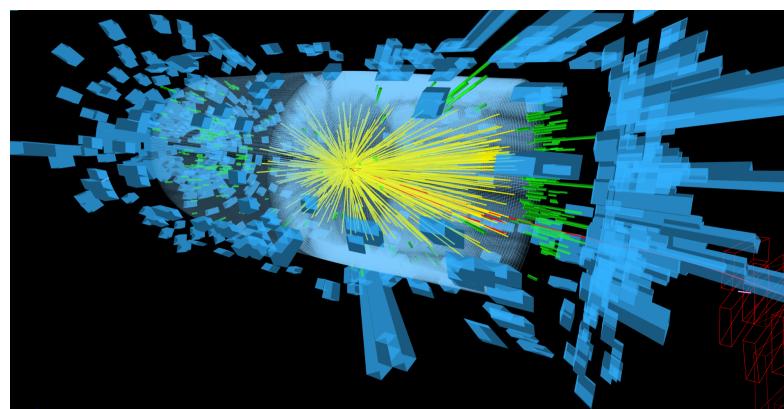
# ... appear in many fields of science



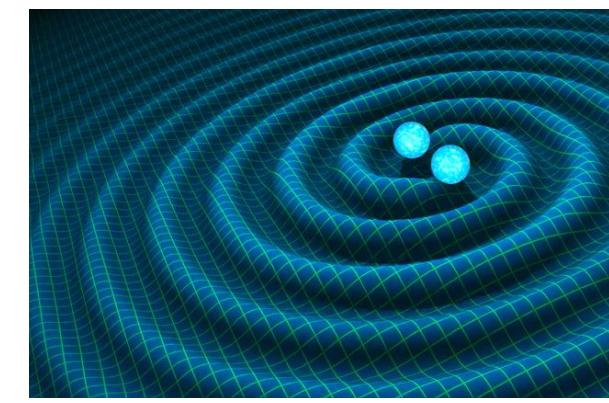
Collider experiments



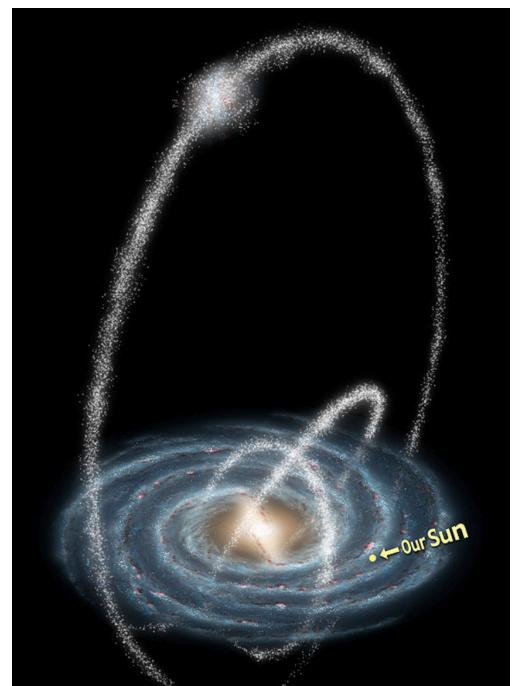
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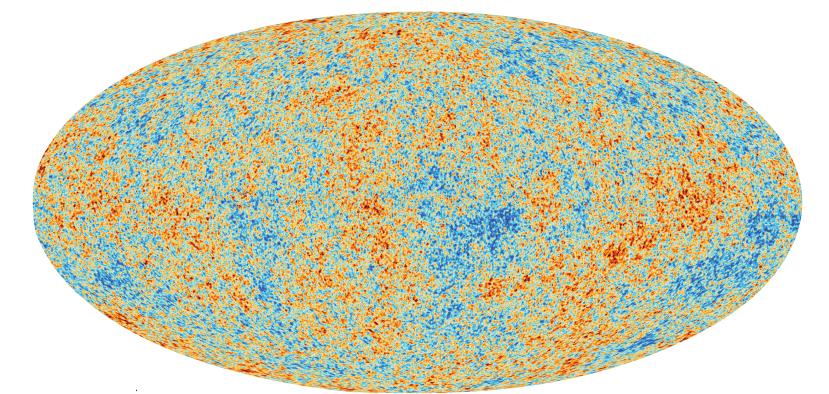
Collider experiments



Gravitational waves



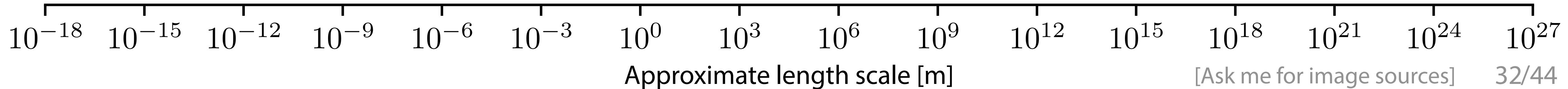
Stellar streams



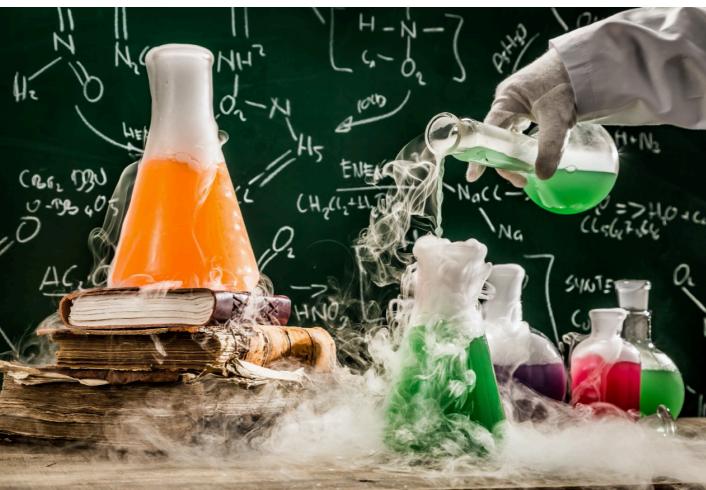
Evolution of the Universe



Gravitational lensing



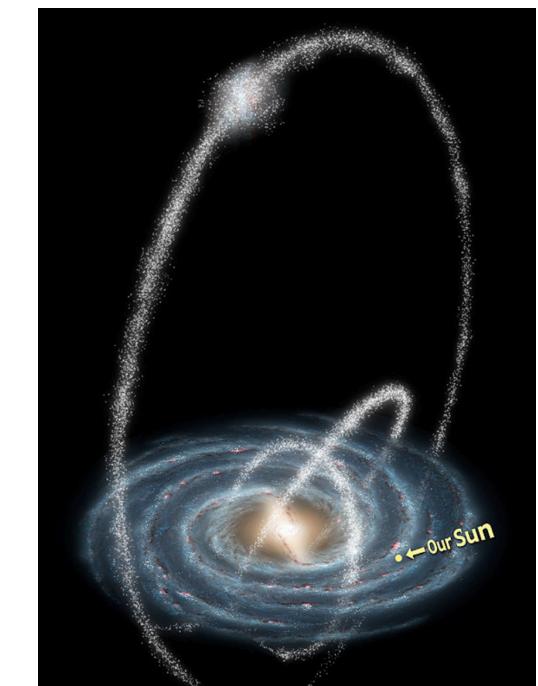
# ... appear in many fields of science



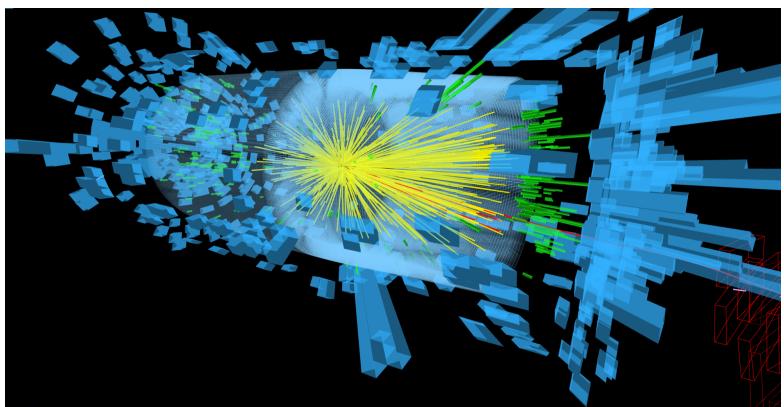
Chemical reactions



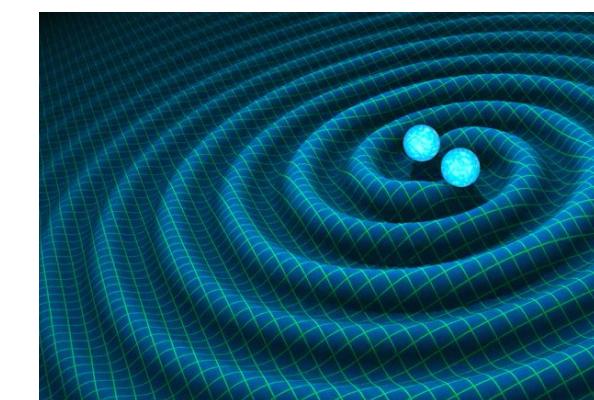
Flames



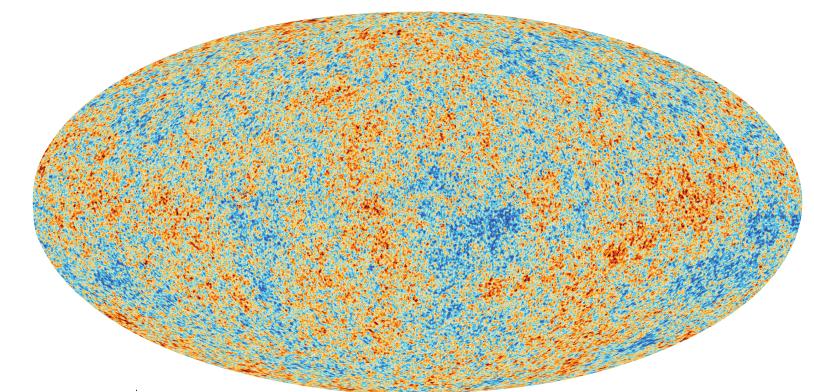
Stellar streams



Collider experiments



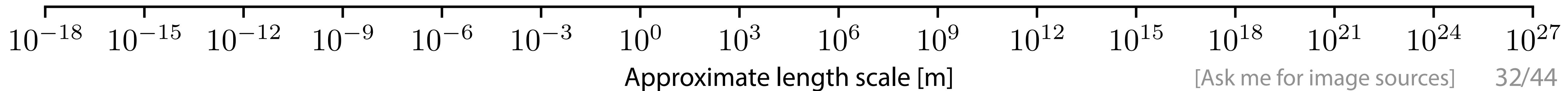
Gravitational waves



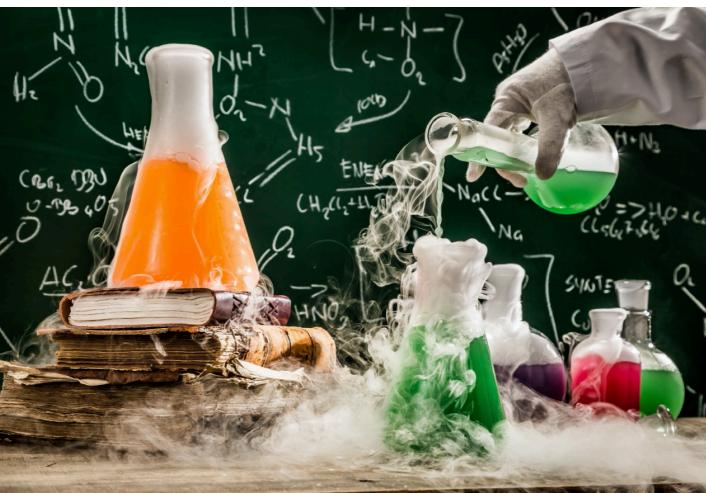
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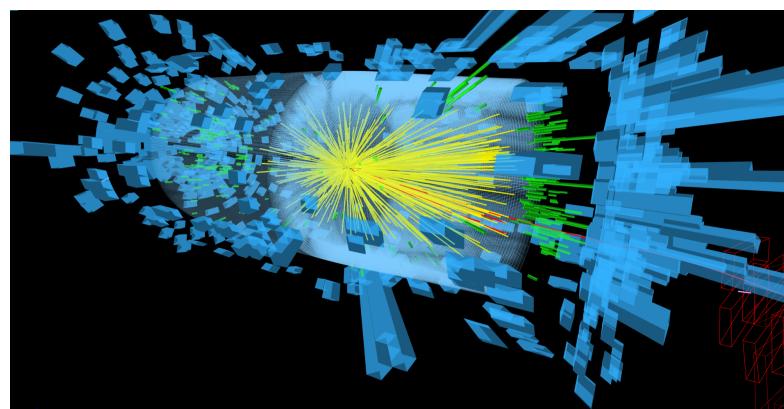
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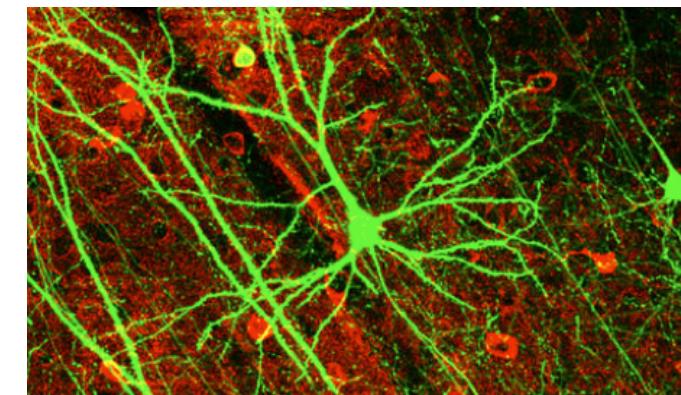
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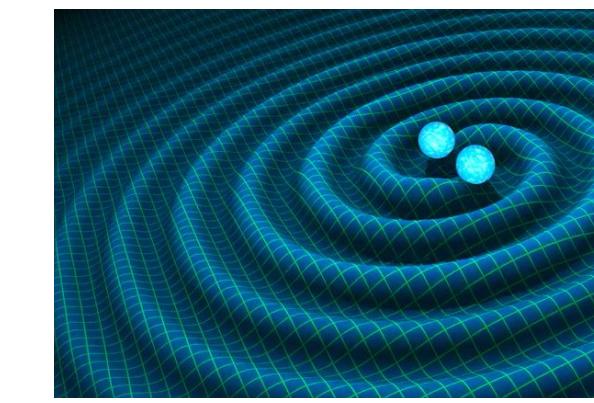
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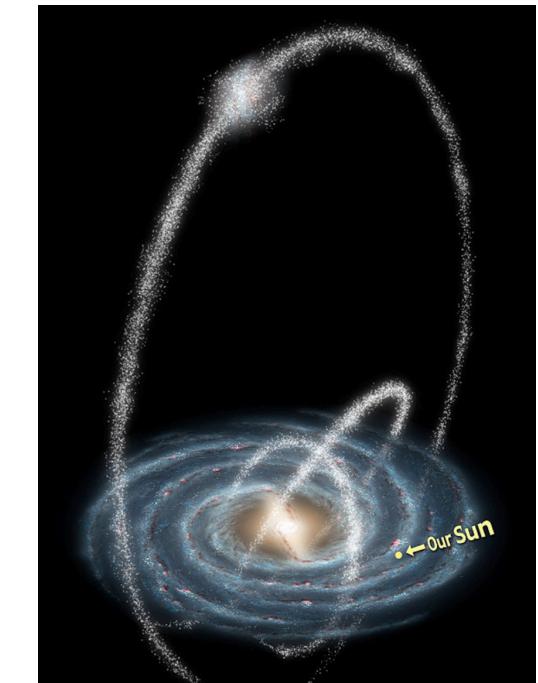
Collider experiments



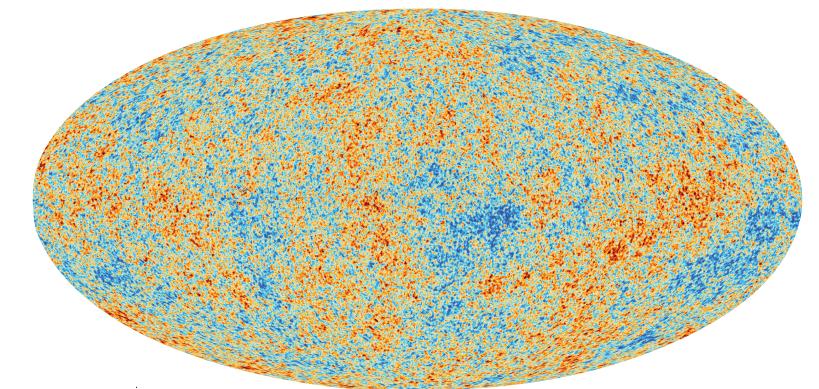
Neurons



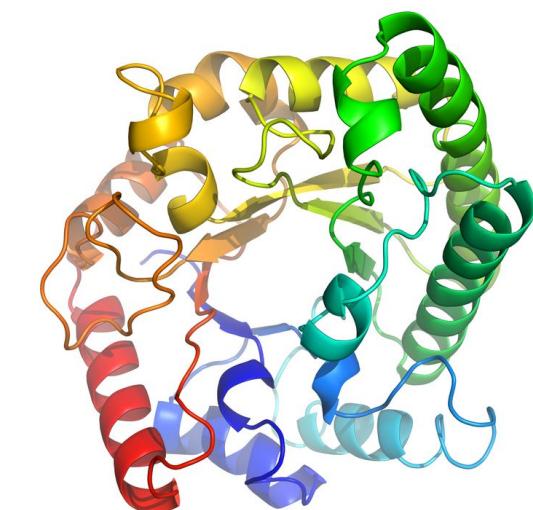
Gravitational waves



Stellar streams



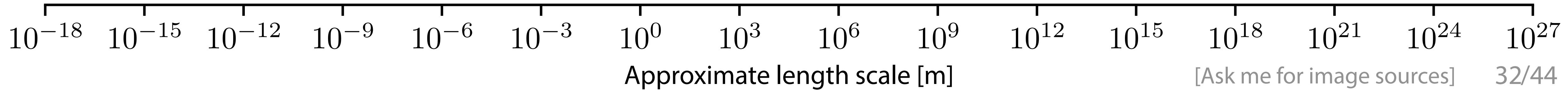
Evolution of the Universe



Protein networks



Gravitational lensing



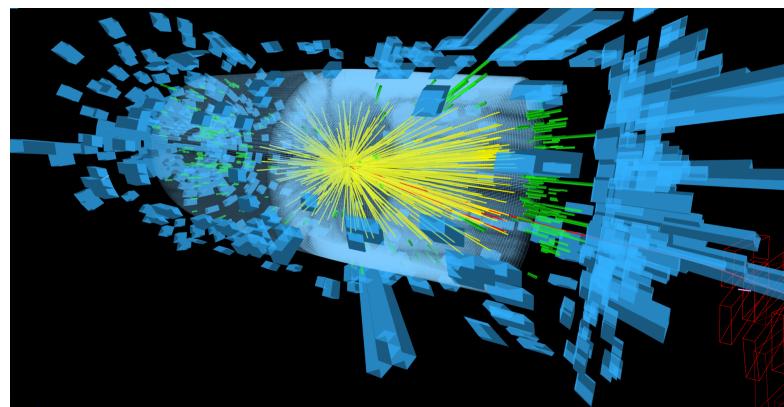
# ... appear in many fields of science



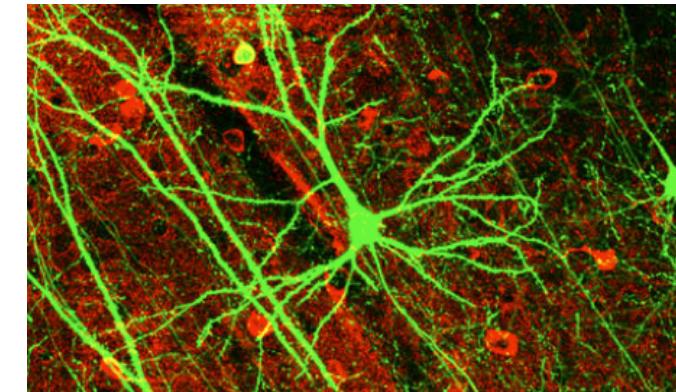
Chemical reactions



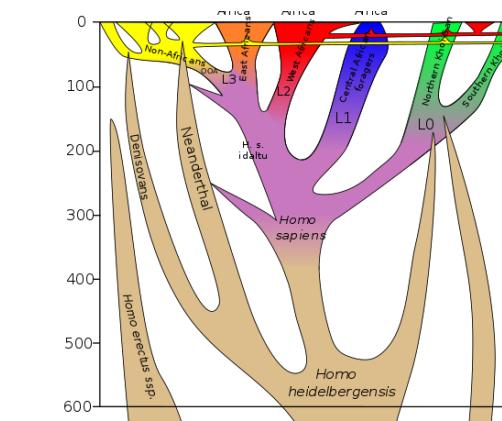
Flames



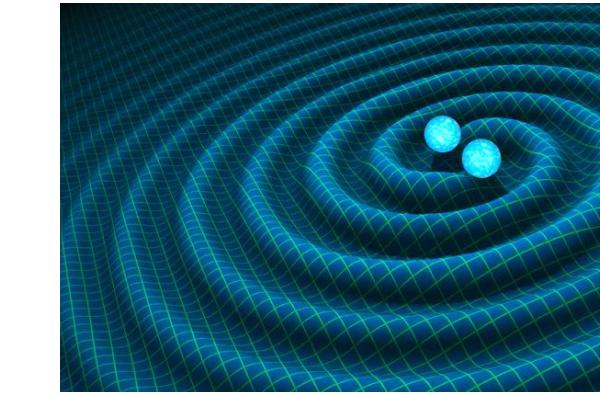
Collider experiments



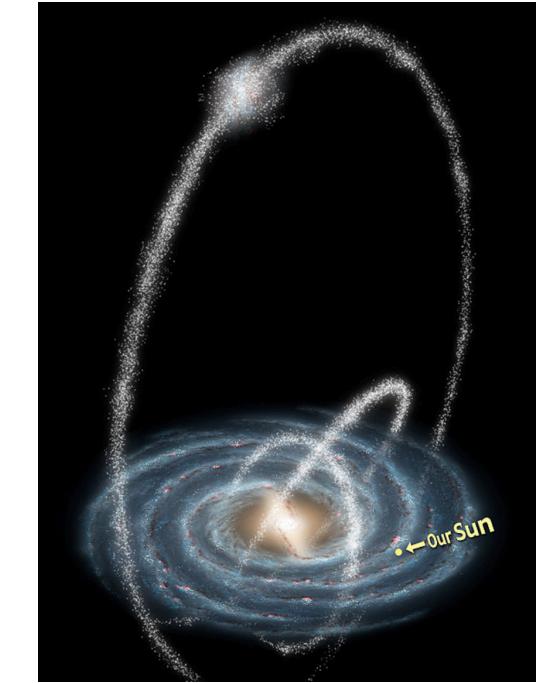
Neurons



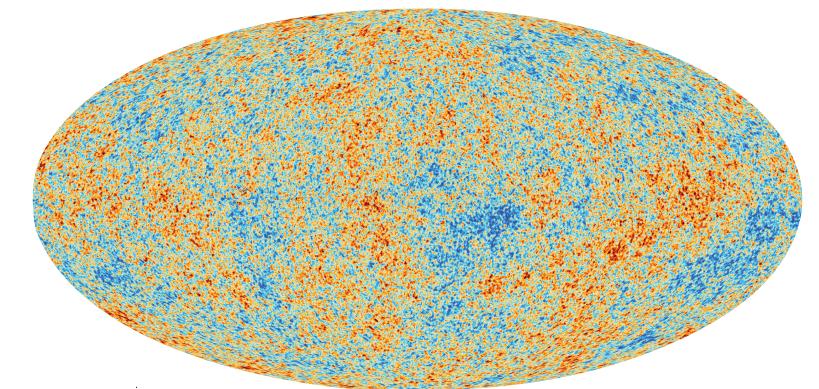
Evolution



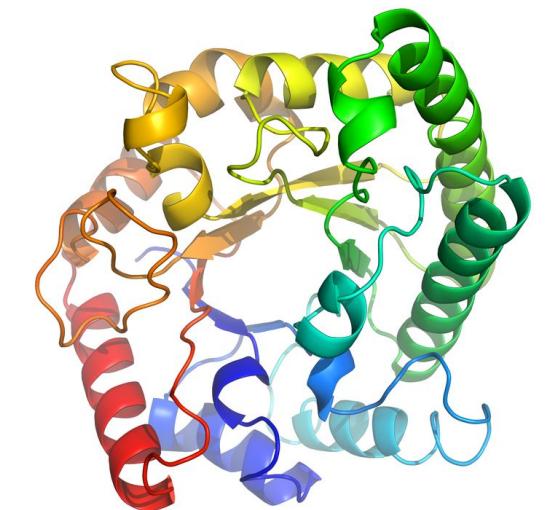
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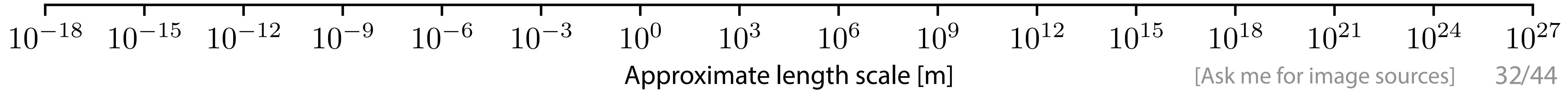
Protein networks



Ecological systems



Gravitational lensing



[Ask me for image sources]

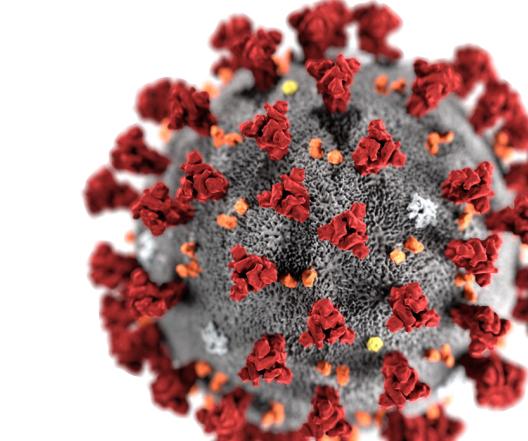
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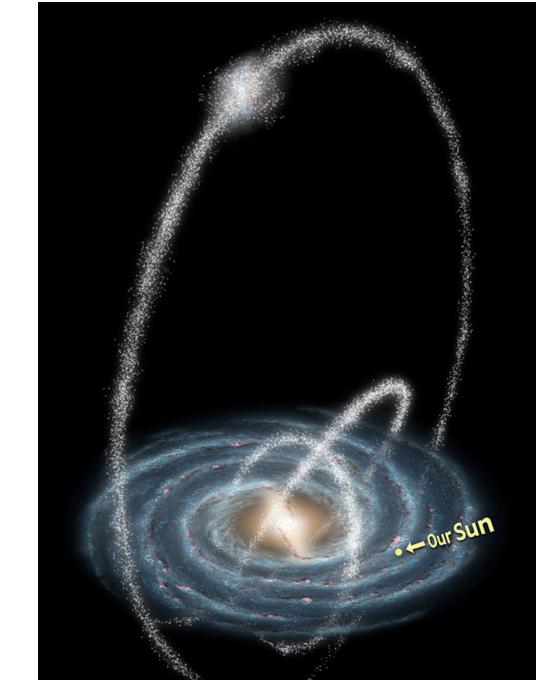
Chemical reactions



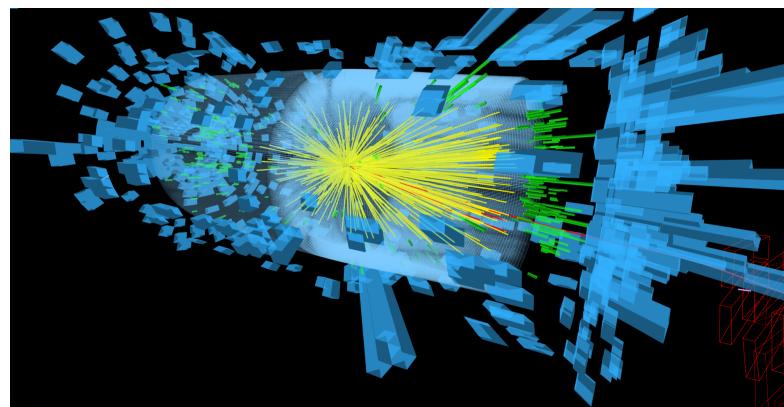
Flames



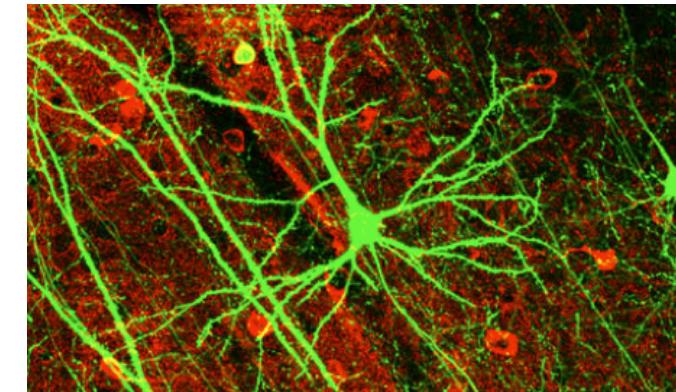
Epidemics



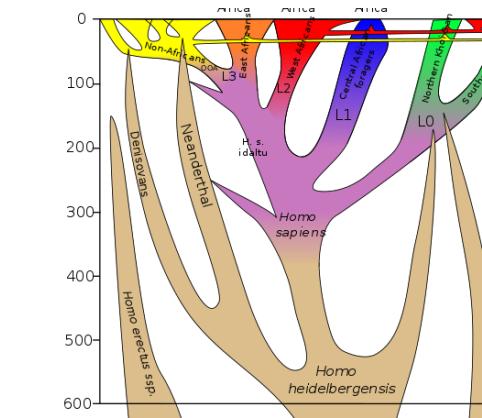
Stellar streams



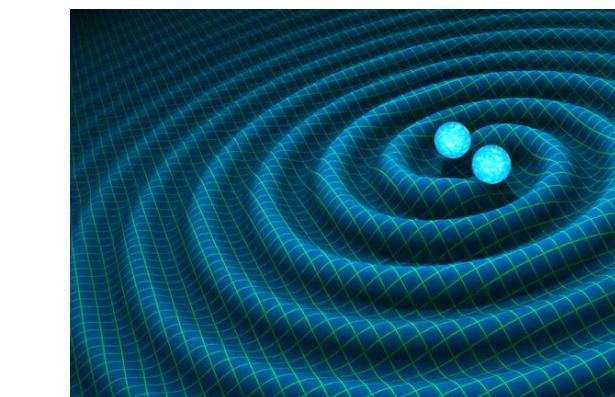
Collider experiments



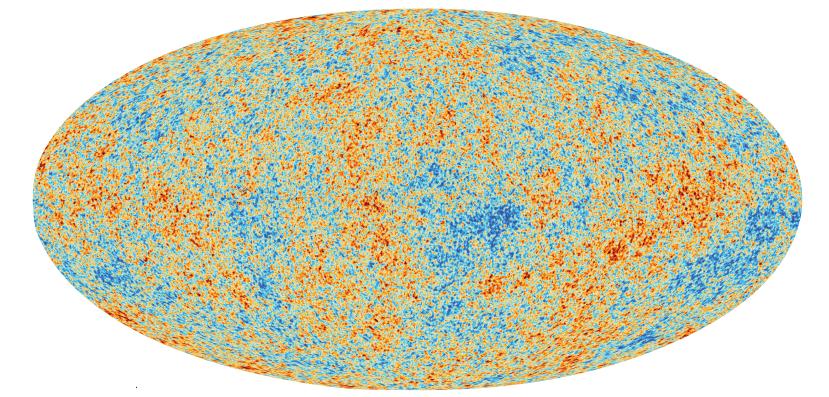
Neurons



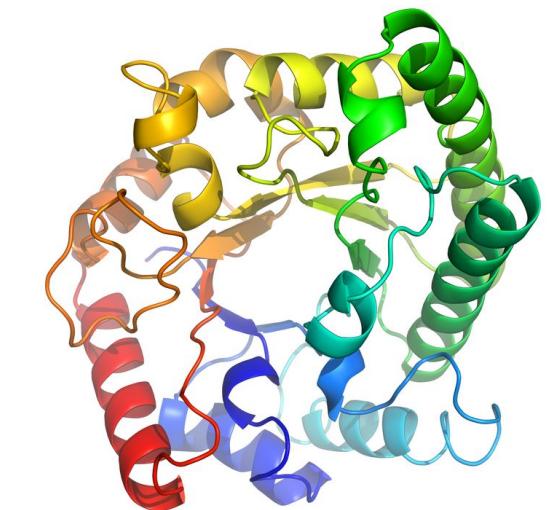
Evolution



Gravitational waves



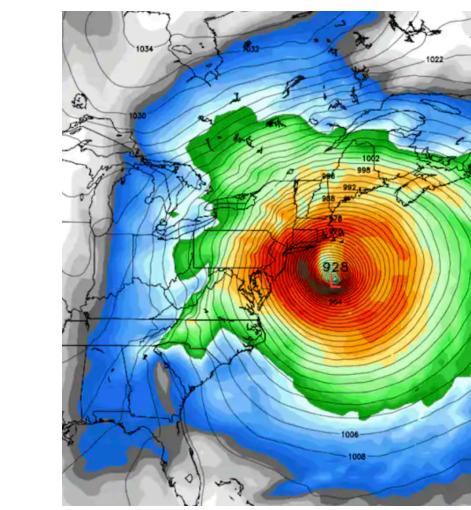
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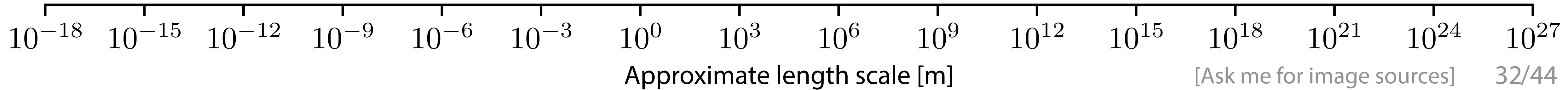
Ecological systems



Weather and climate



Gravitational lensing



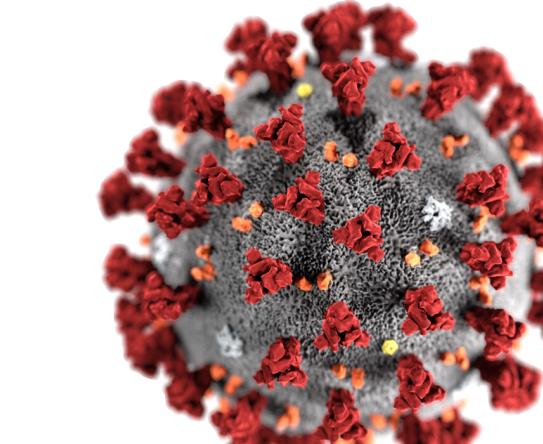
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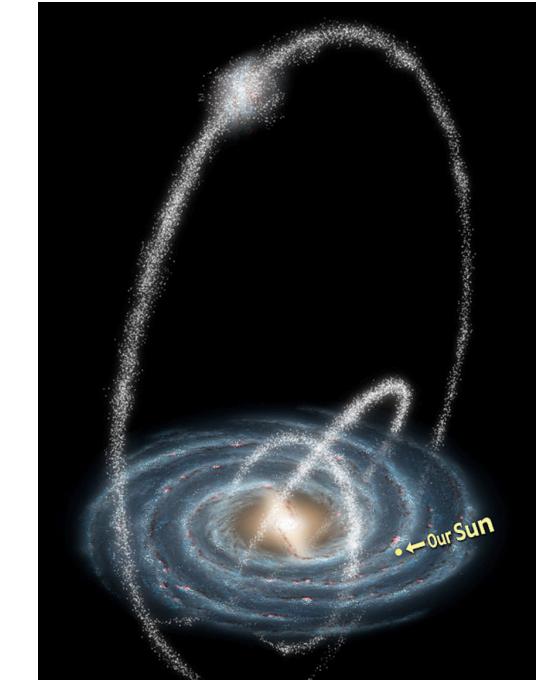
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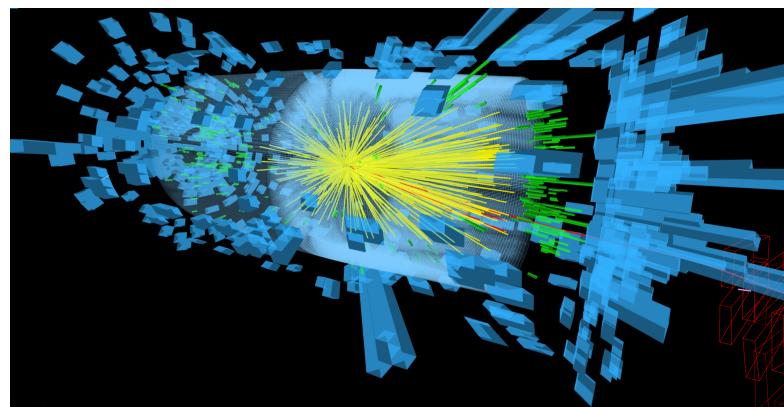
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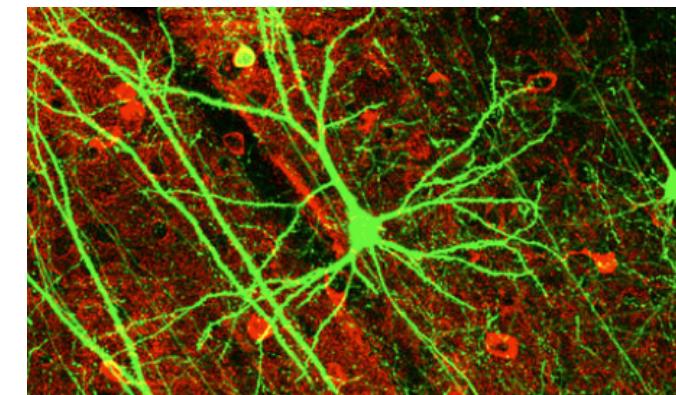
Epidemics



Stellar streams



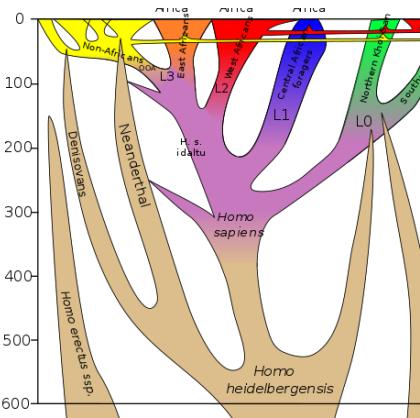
Collider experiments



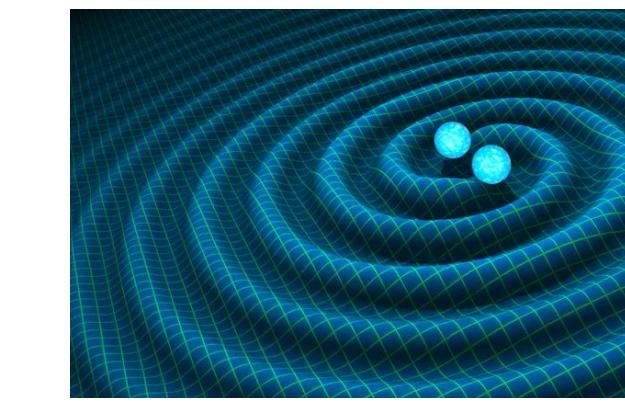
Neurons



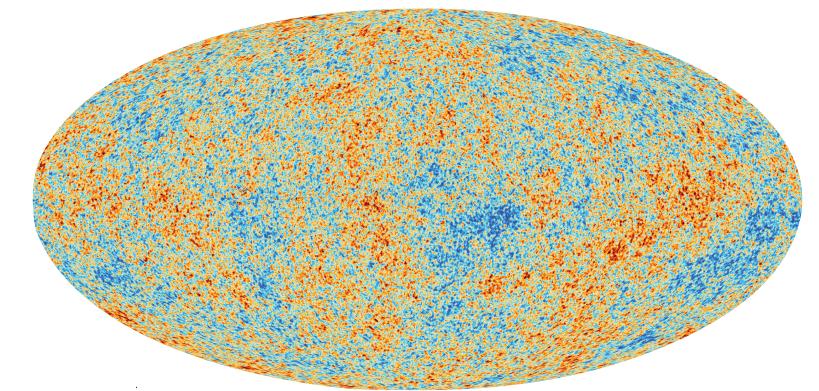
Robotics



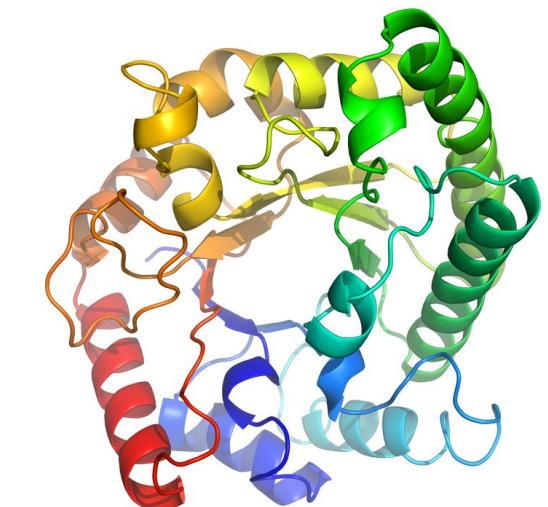
Evolution



Gravitational waves



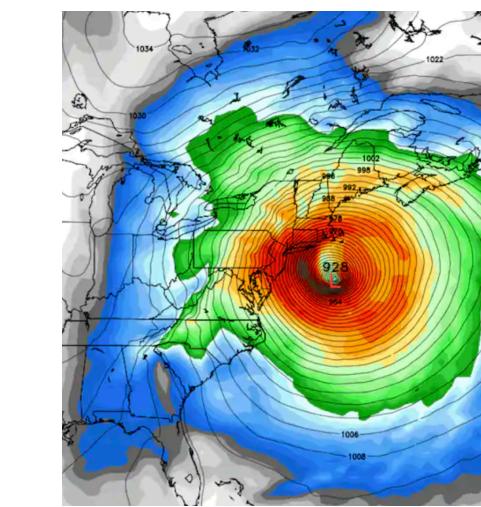
Evolution of the Universe



Protein networks



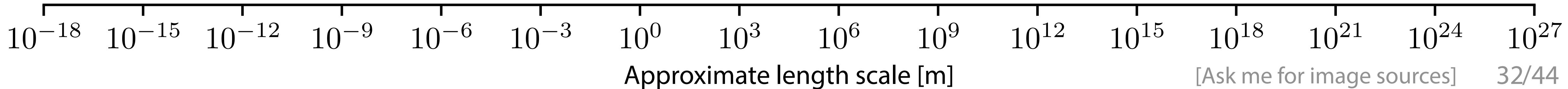
Ecological systems



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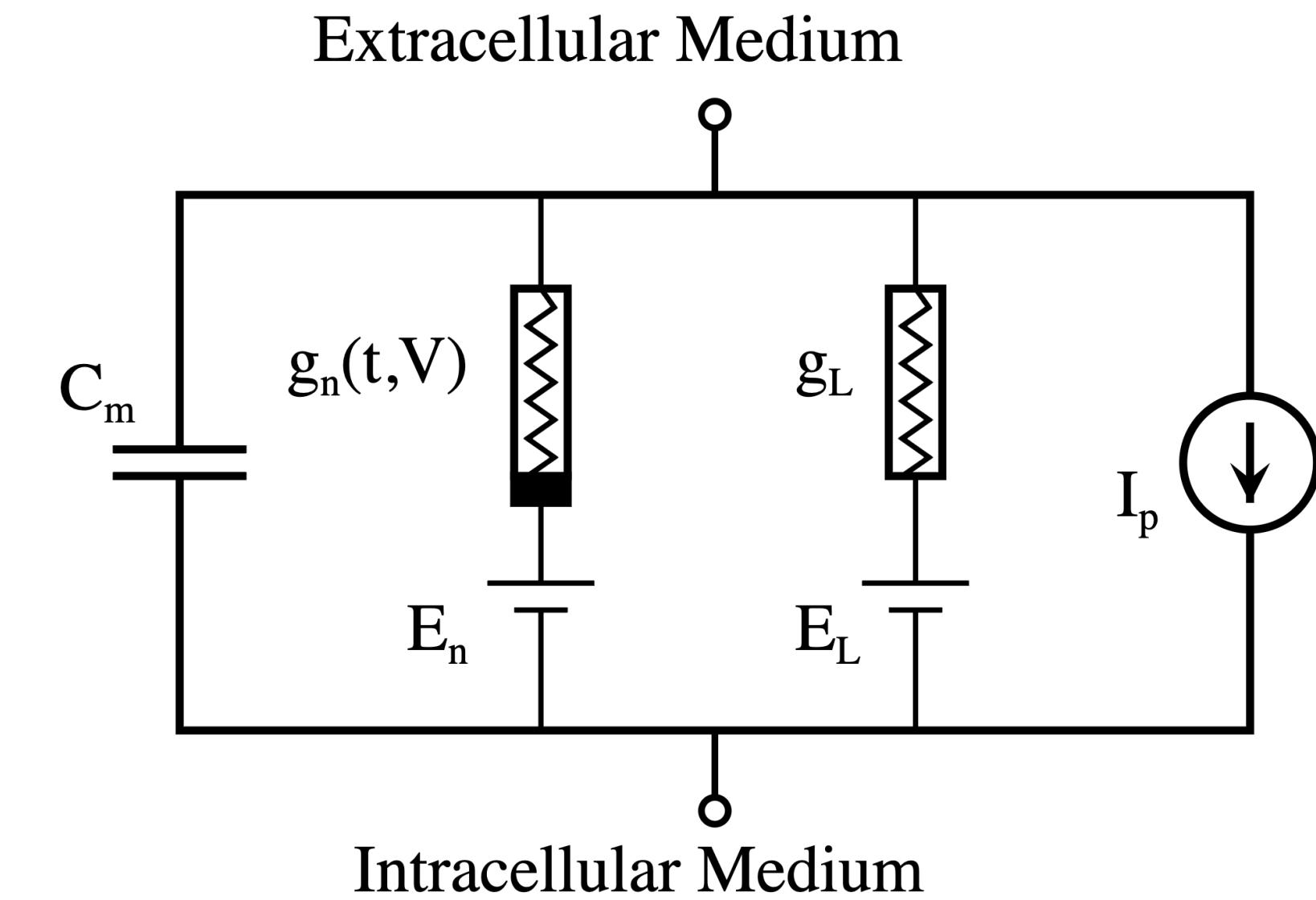
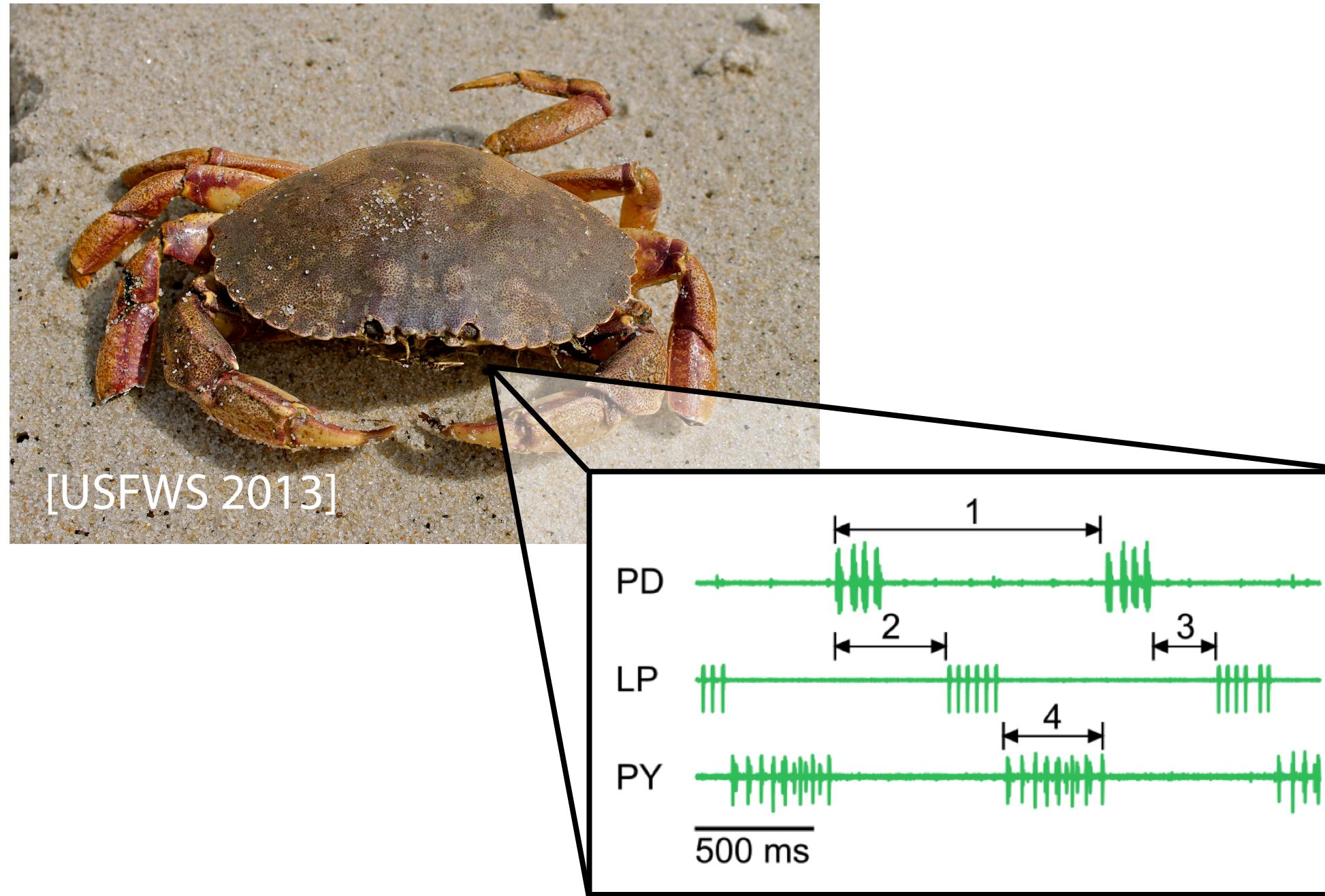


[Ask me for image sources]

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# Neuroscience example

[P. Gonçalves et al., bioRxiv:10.1101.838383]

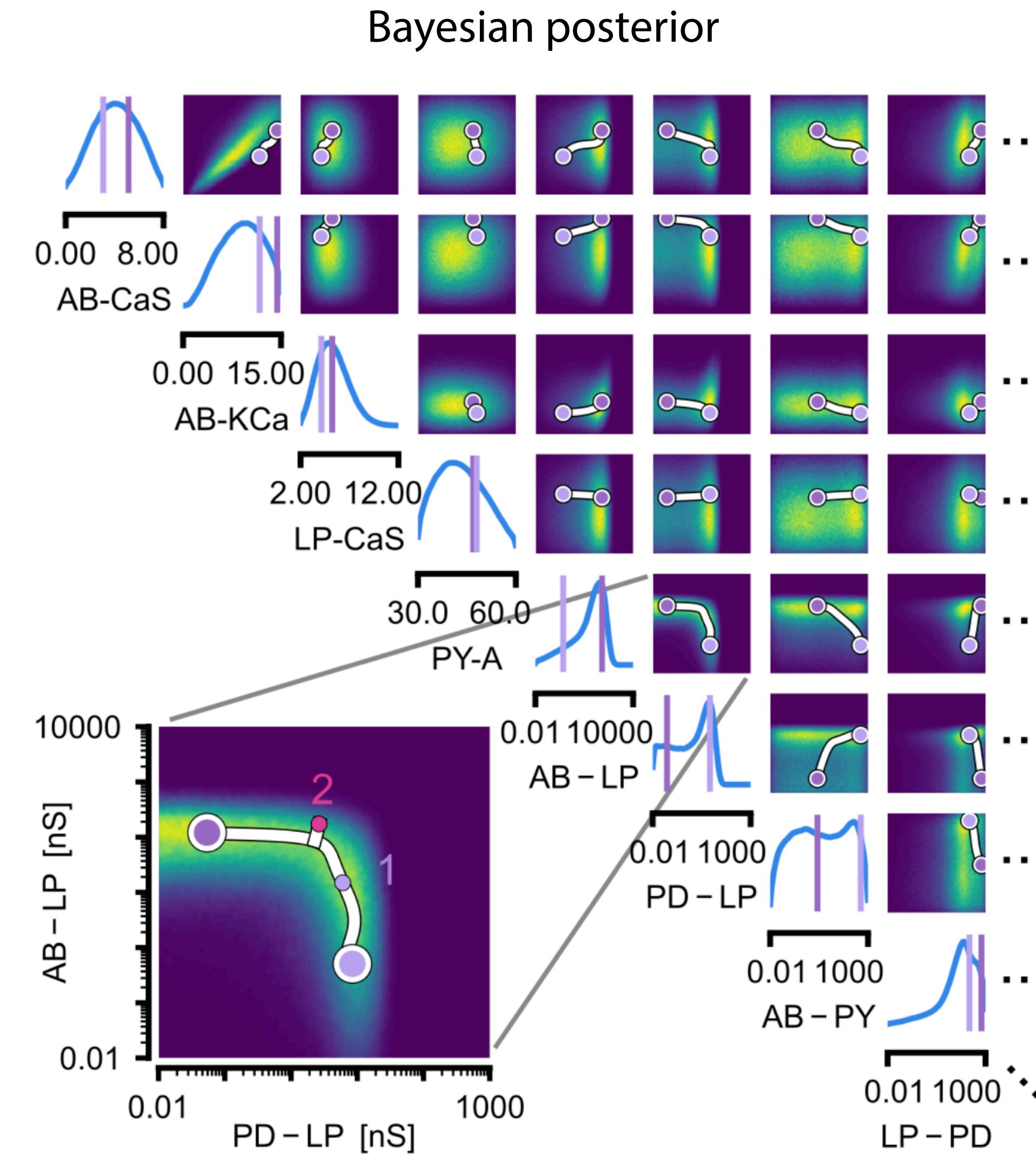


Activity recordings in stomatogastric ganglion  
nerve cells in Jonah Crabs

Goal: infer 31 parameters of Hodgkin-Huxley model of neuron dynamics

# Crab results

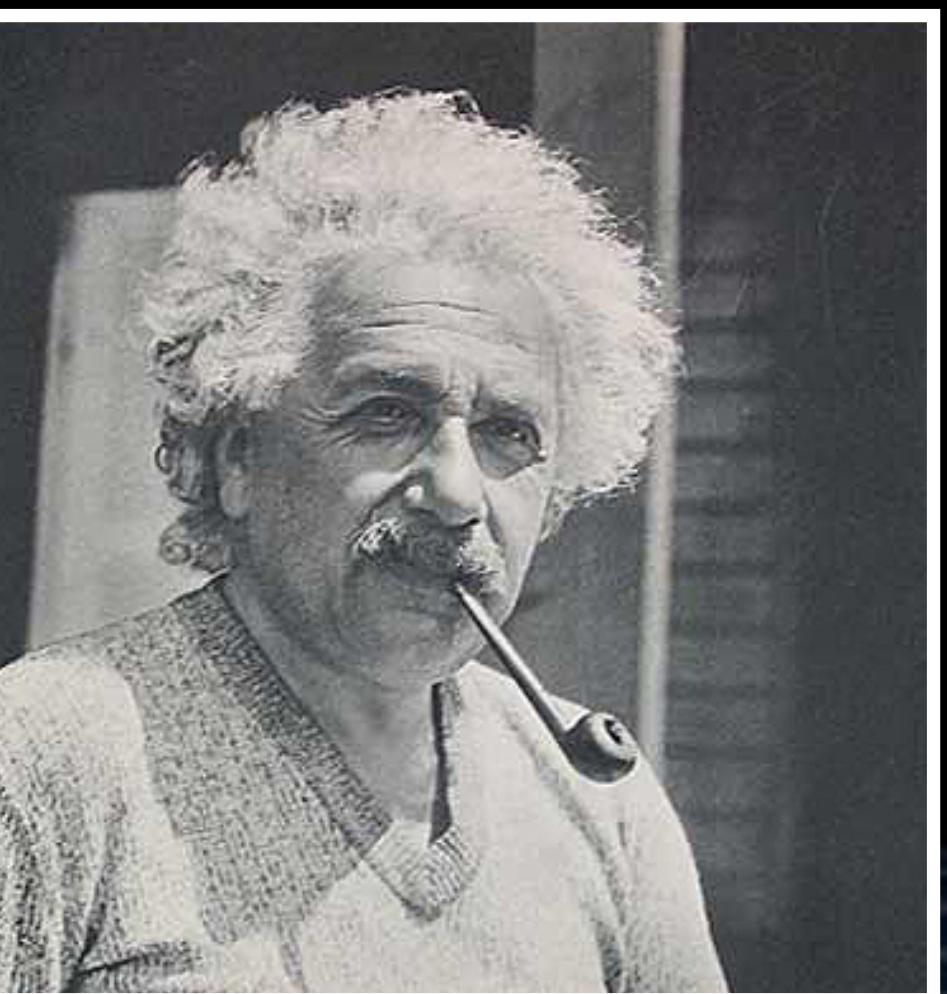
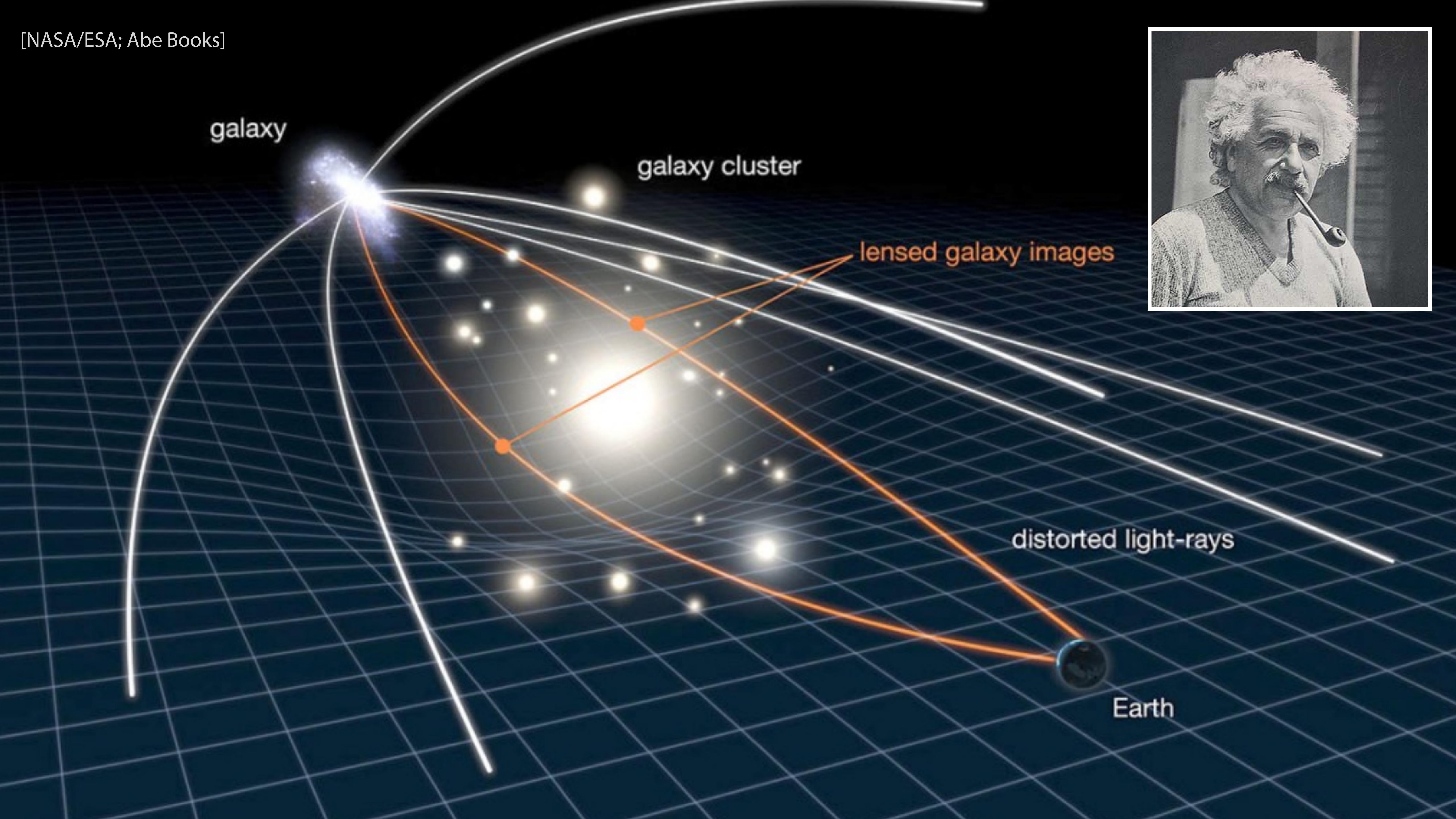
[P. Gonçalves et al., bioRxiv:10.1101.838383]

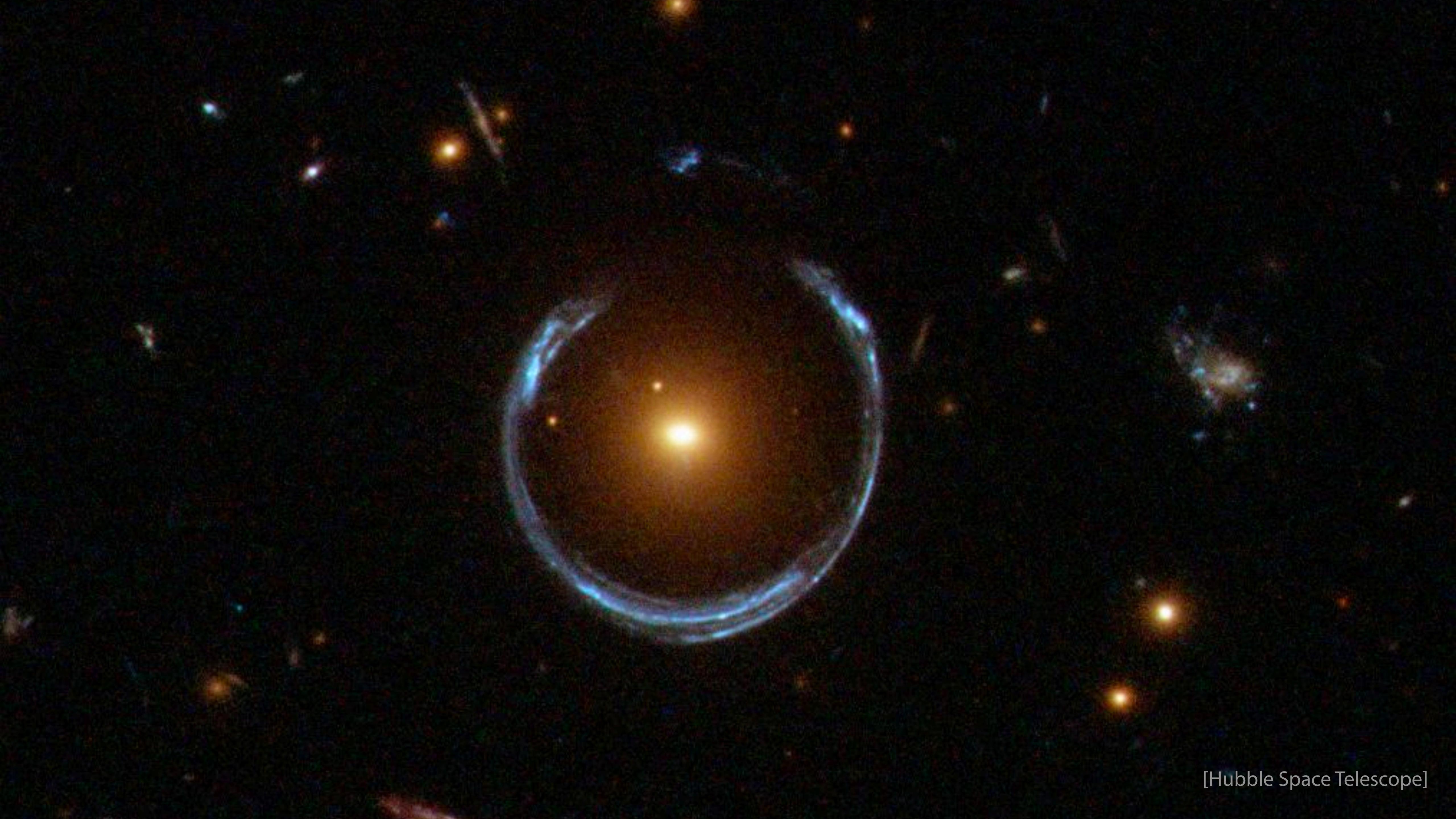


# Gravitational lensing example



[NASA/ESA; Abe Books]

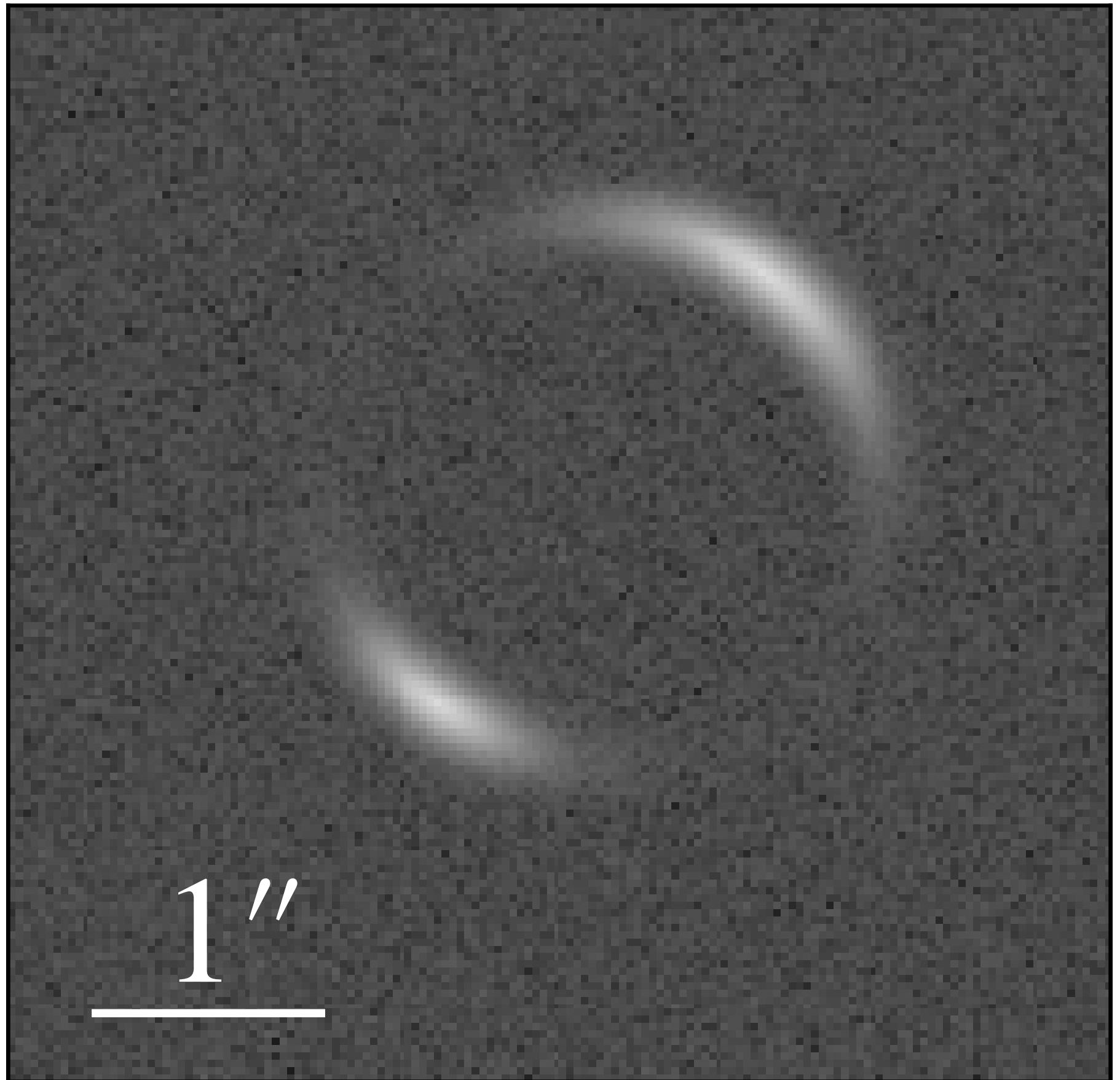




[Hubble Space Telescope]

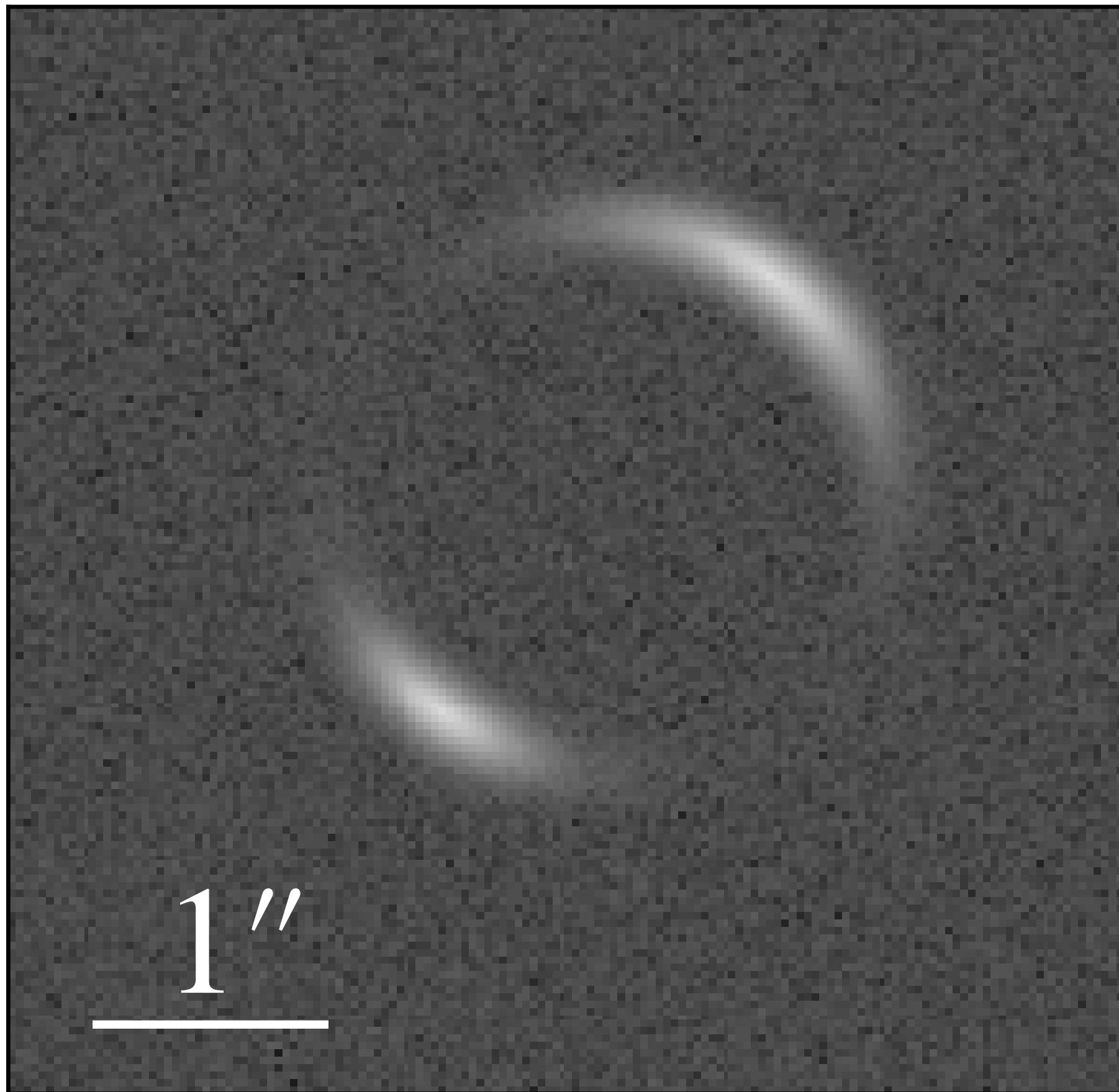
# Subhalos affect strong lensing

Smooth halo only

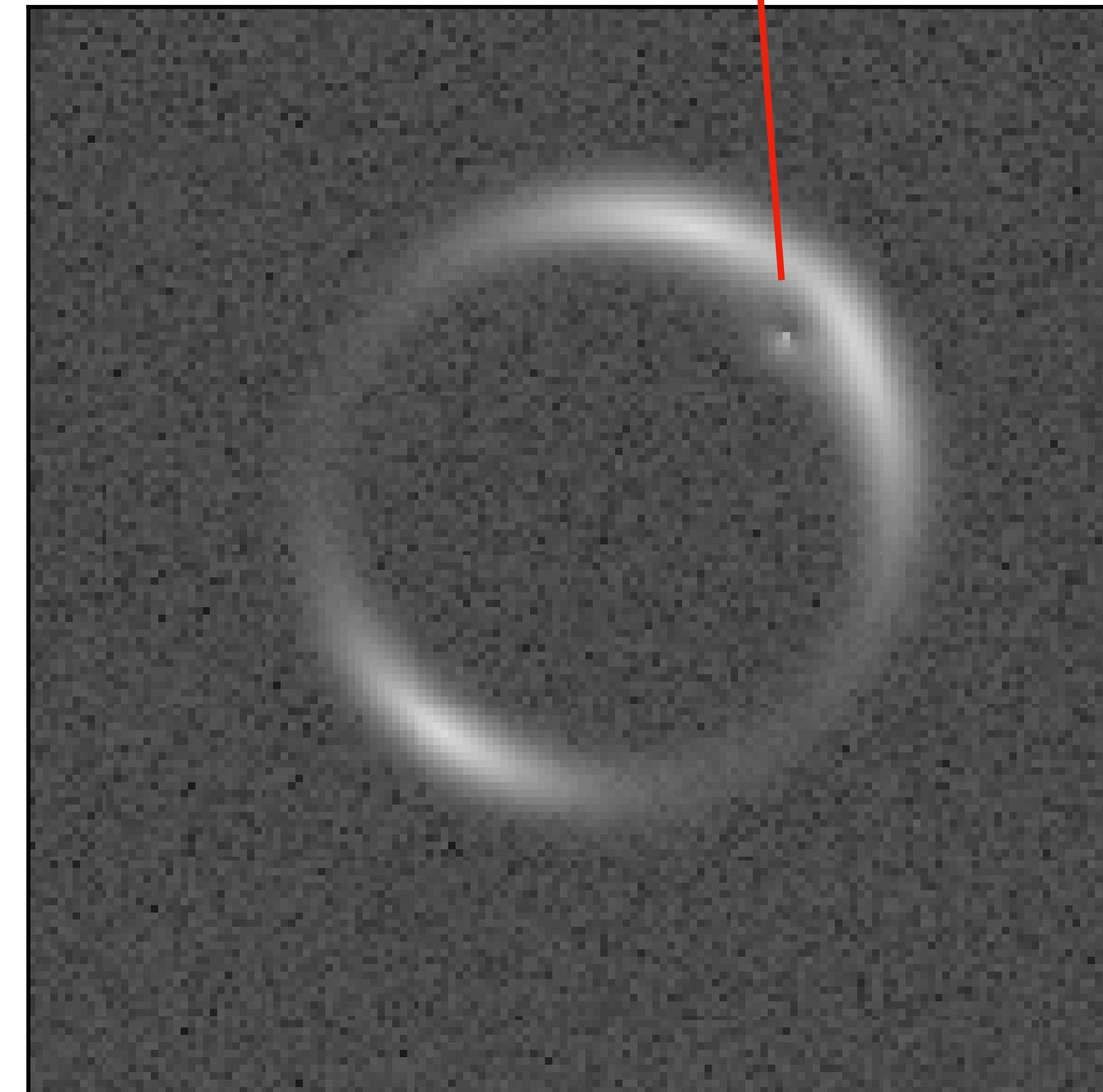


# Subhalos affect strong lensing

Smooth halo only

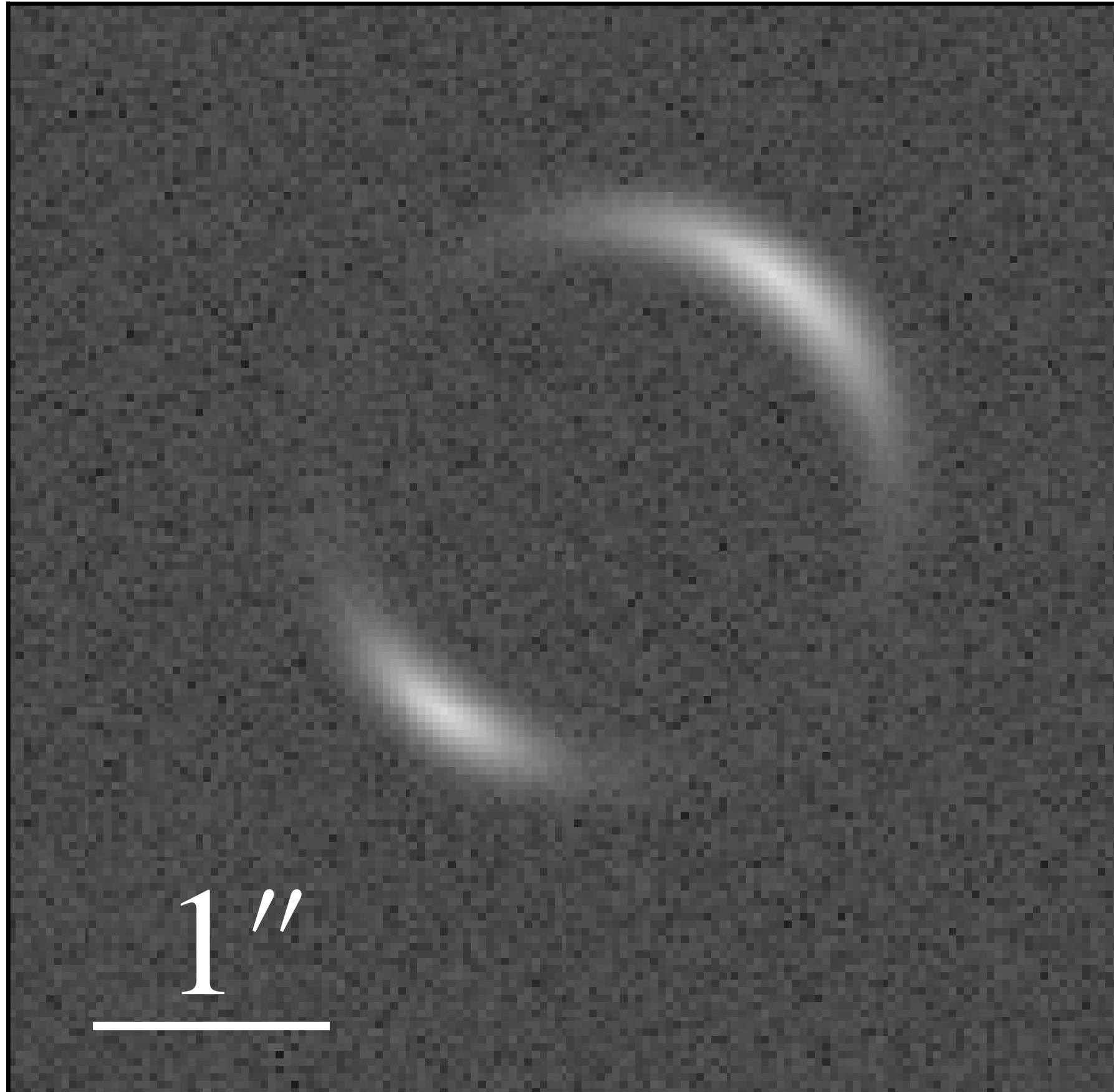


Smooth halo + **subhalo**

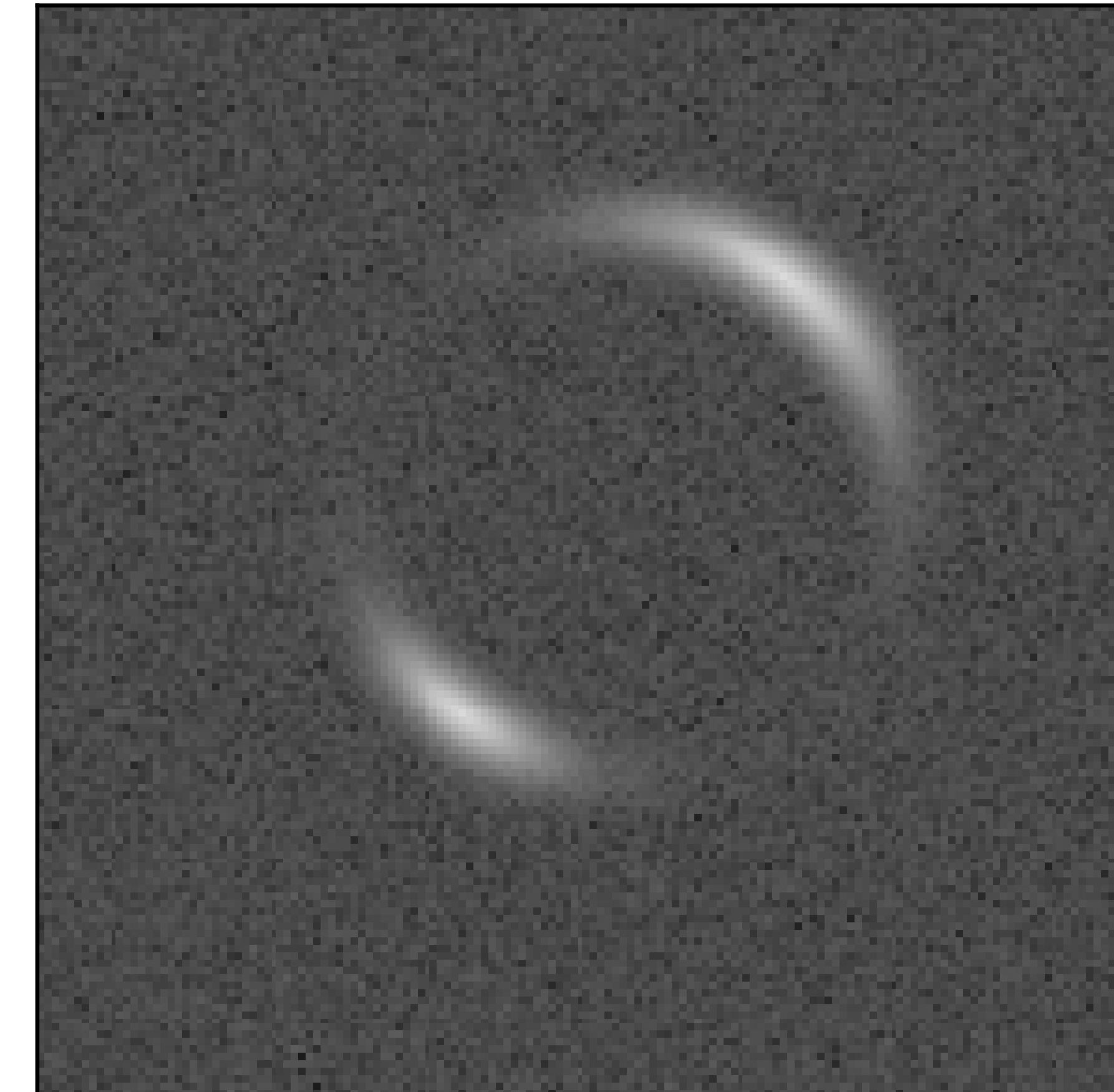


# Subhalos affect strong lensing... realistically

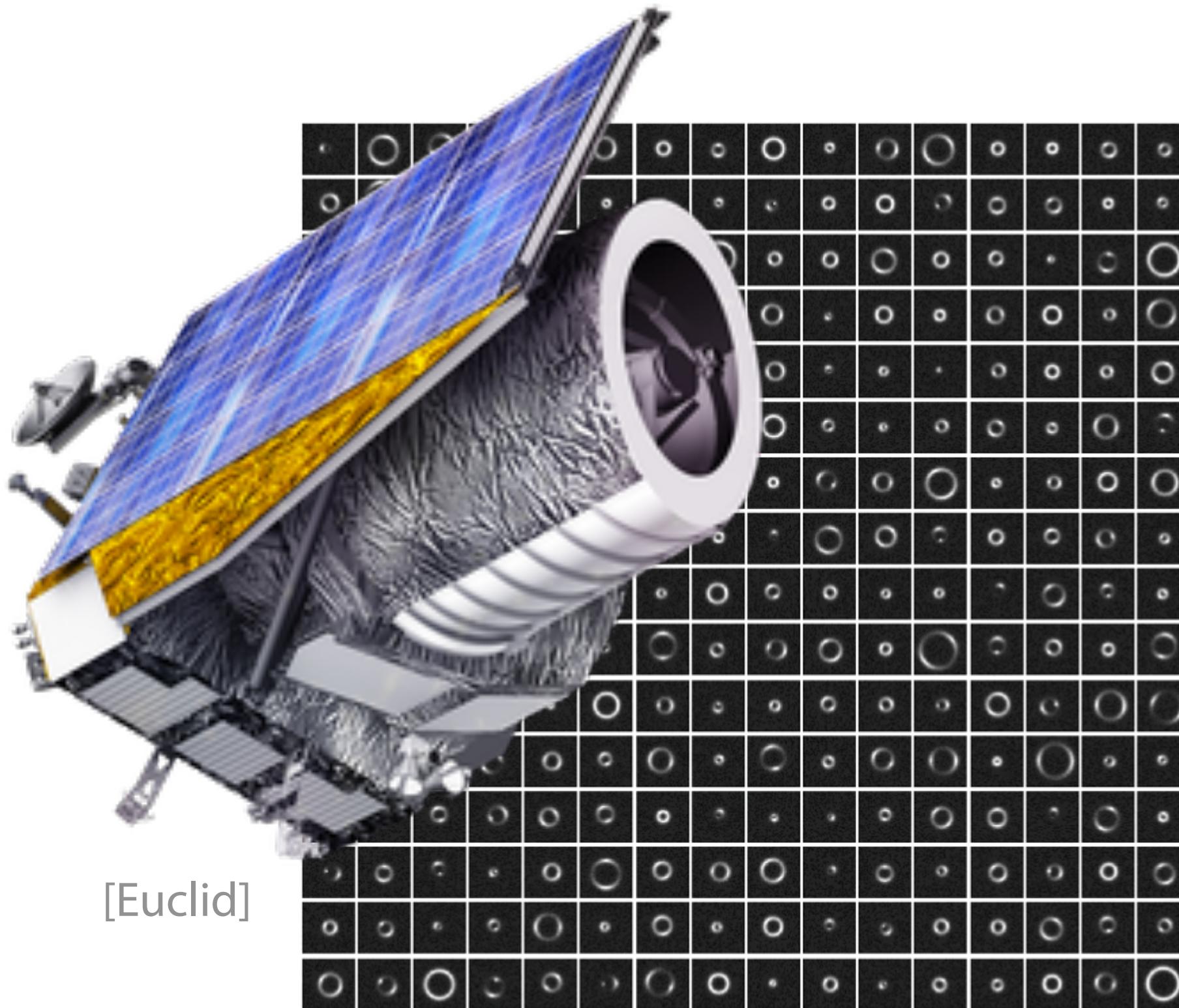
Smooth halo only



Smooth halo + subhalos

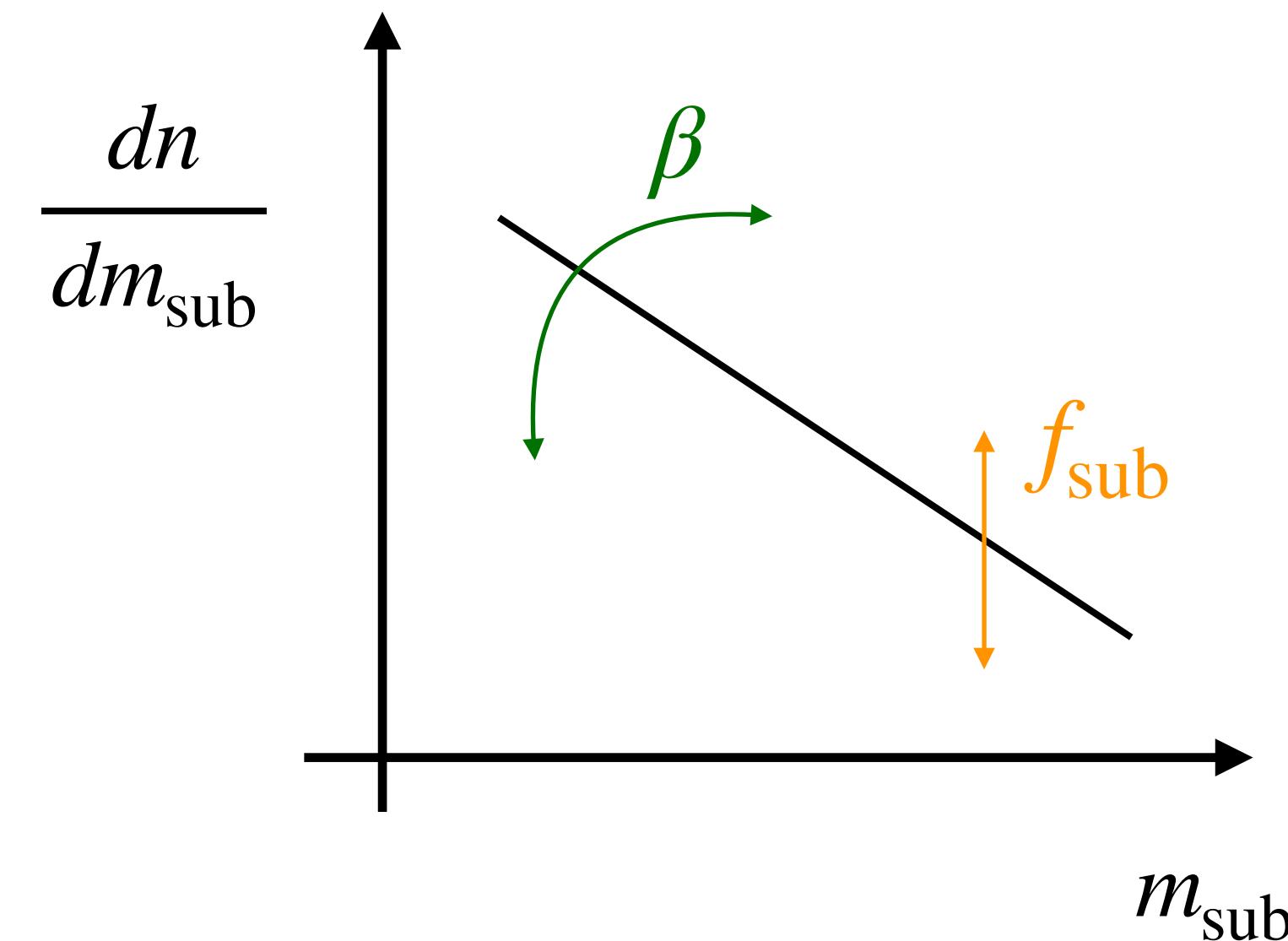


# Scalable inference for small subhalos



[Euclid]

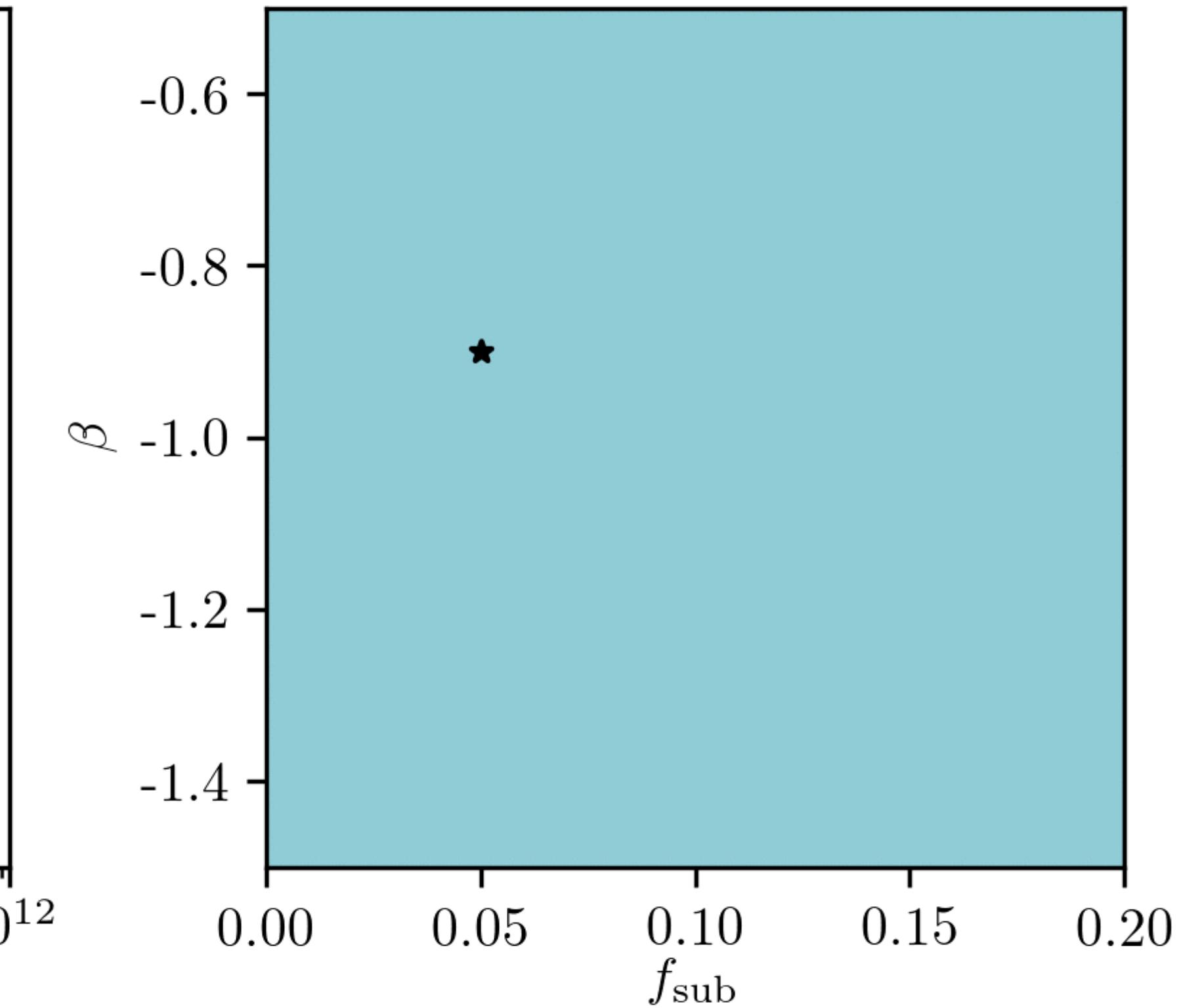
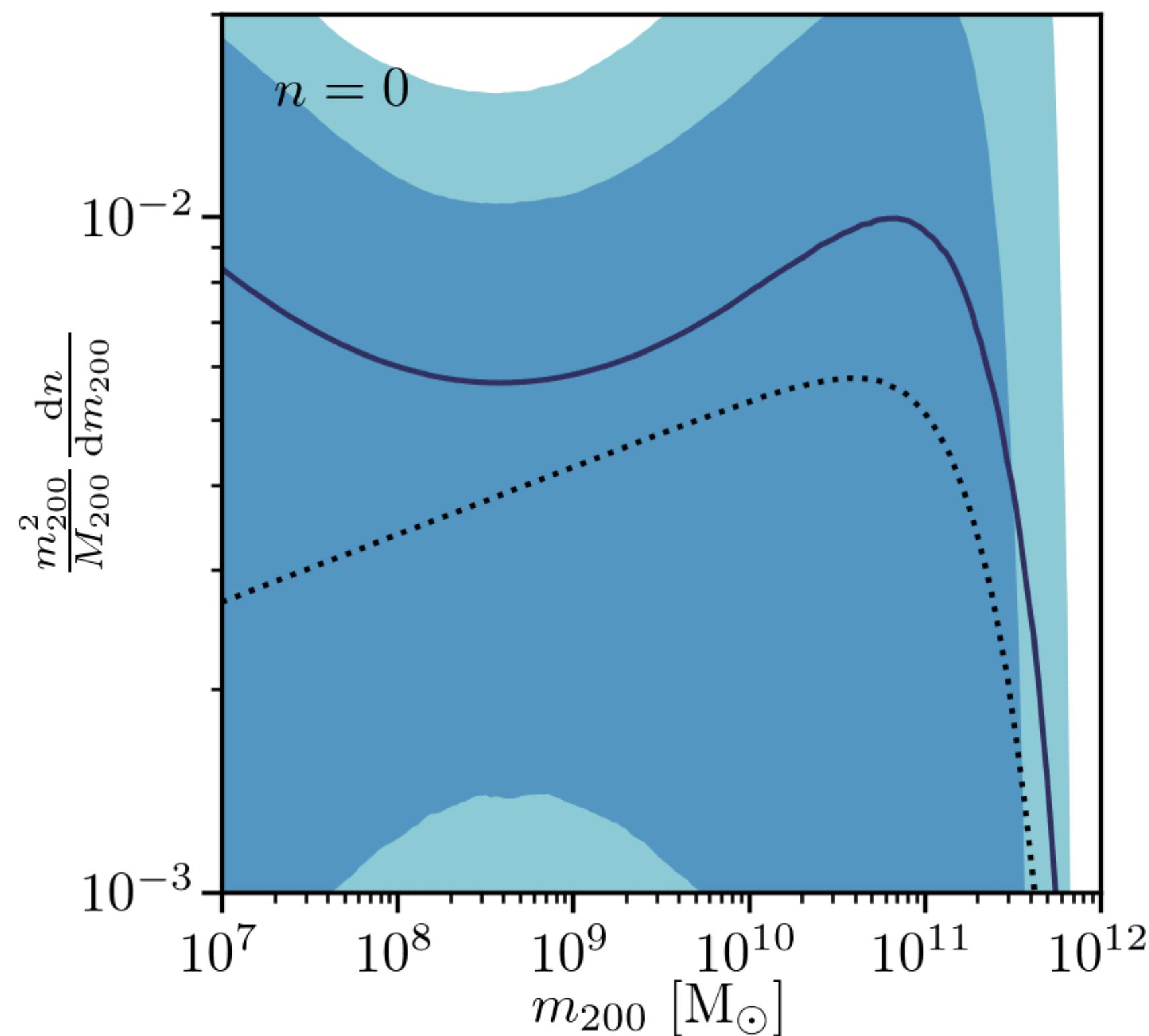
Near-future telescopes and satellites will collect hundreds of lensing images [Collett et al 1507.02657]



Goal: infer DM properties from all images and all clumps at once

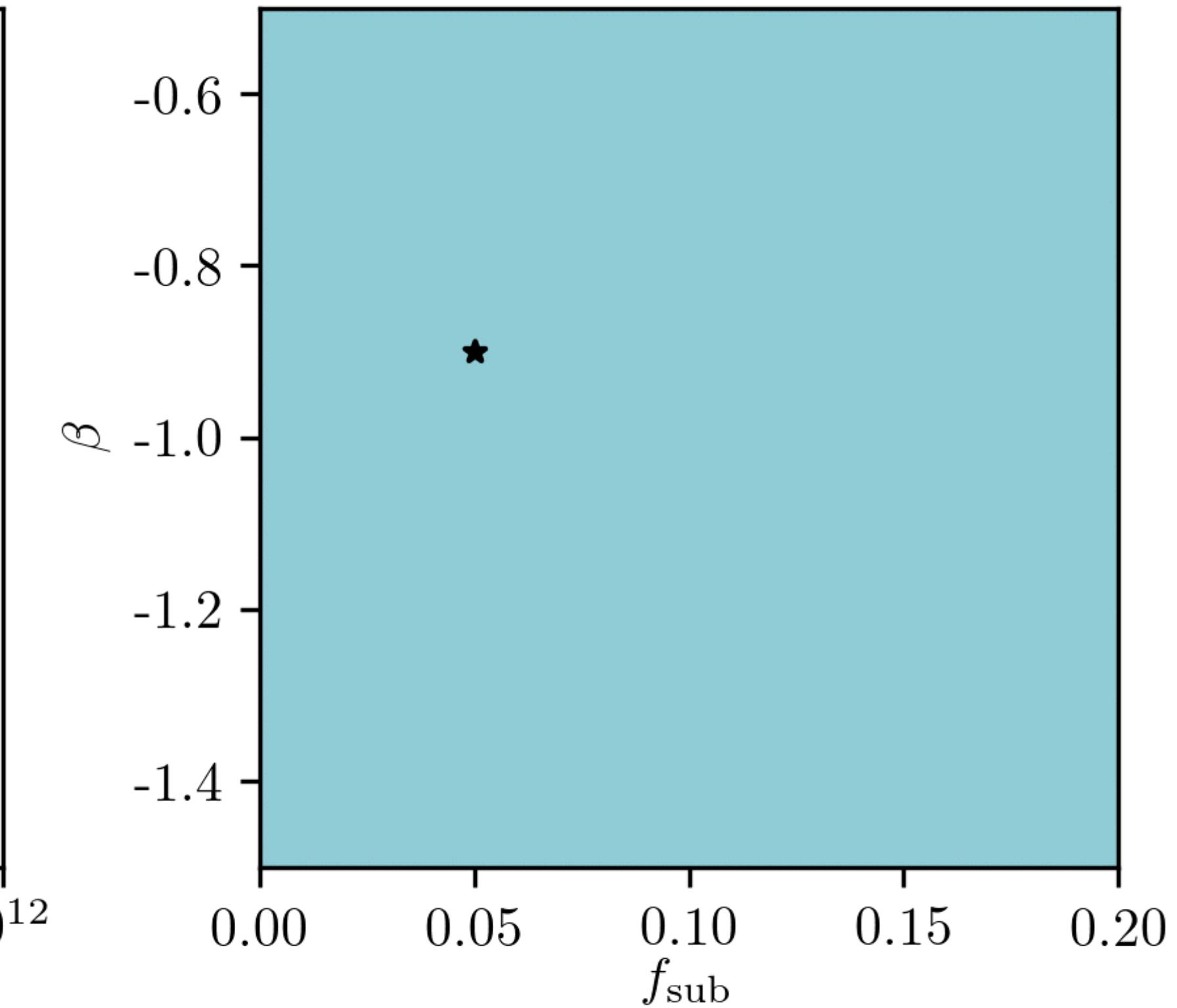
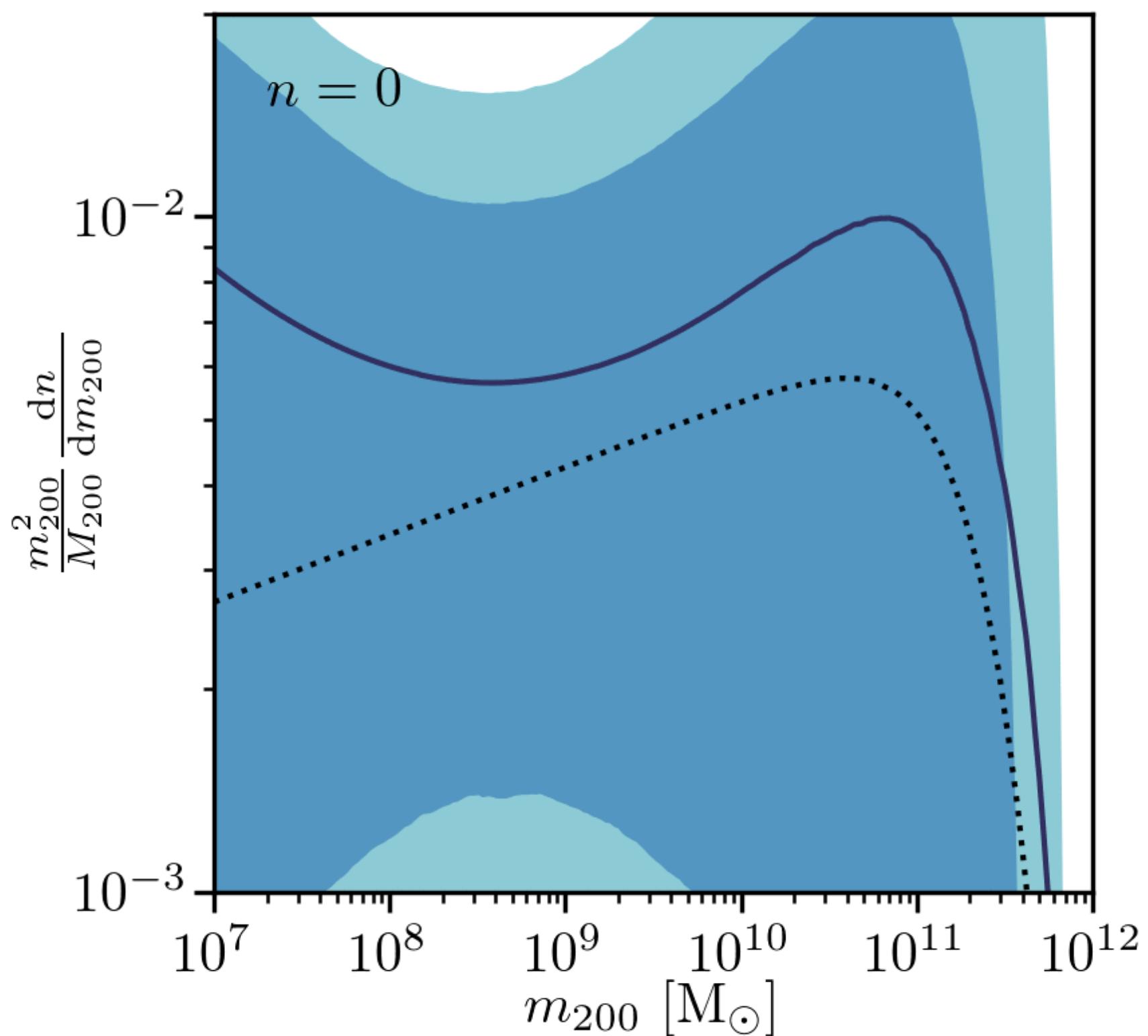
# ML-based Bayesian inference

[JB, S. Mishra-Sharma, J. Hermans, G. Louuppe, K. Cranmer 1909.02005]



# ML-based Bayesian inference

[JB, S. Mishra-Sharma, J. Hermans, G. Louuppe, K. Cranmer 1909.02005]





Kyle Cranmer



Gilles Louppe



Juan Pavez



Markus Stoye



Felix Kling



Irina Espejo



Sinclert Perez



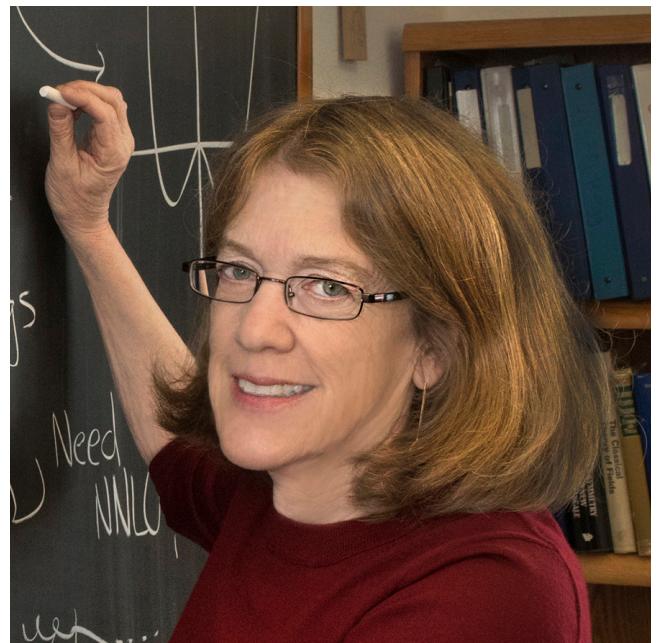
Sid Mishra-Sharma



Joeri Hermans



Tilman Plehn



Sally Dawson



Sam Homiller



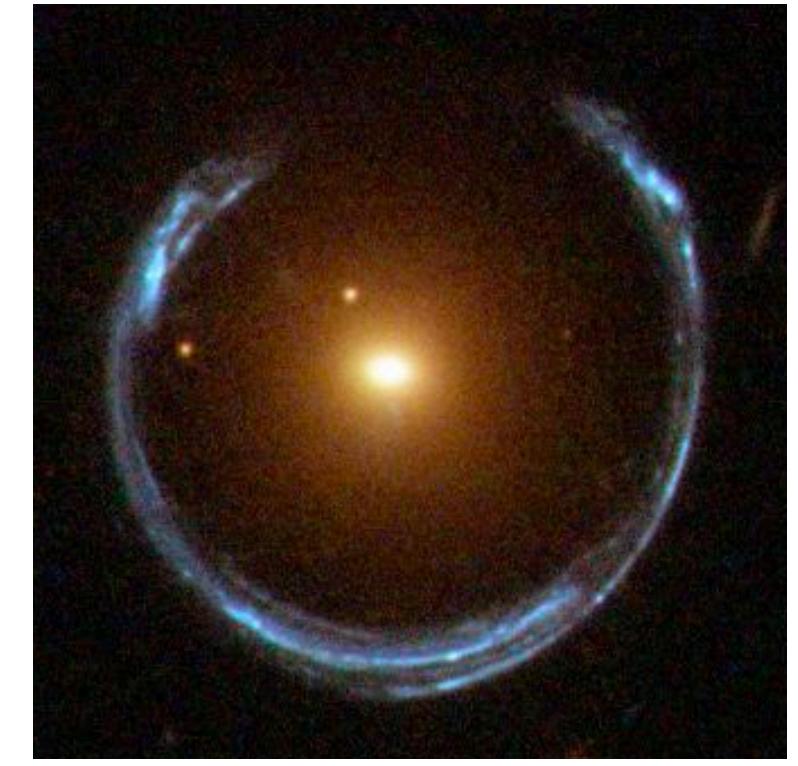
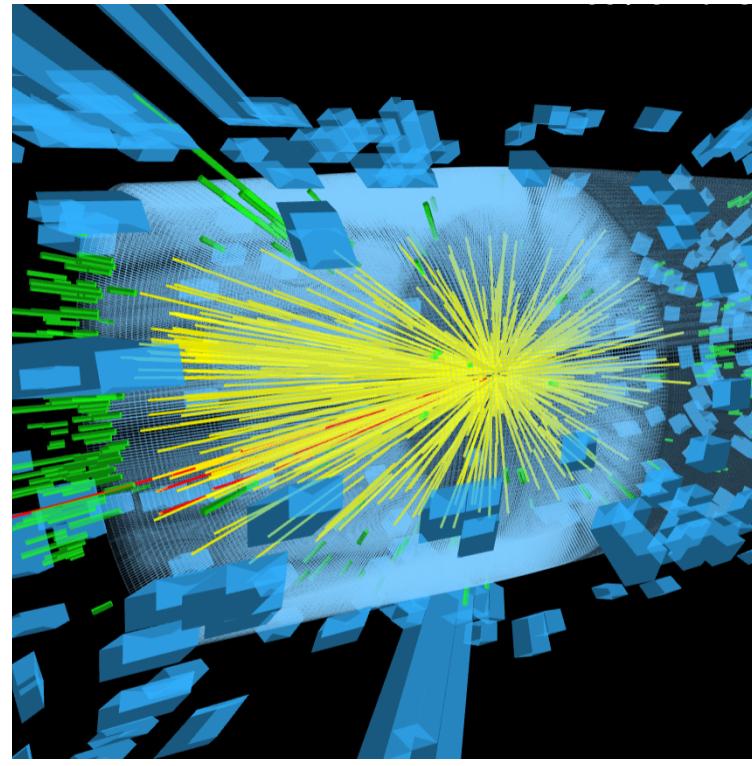
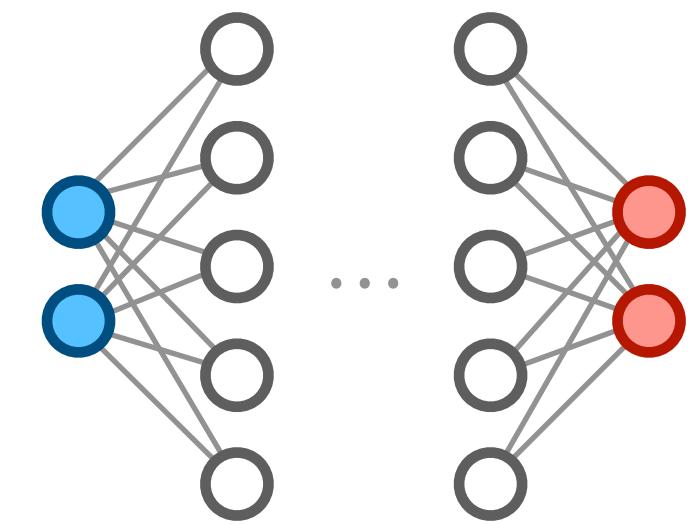
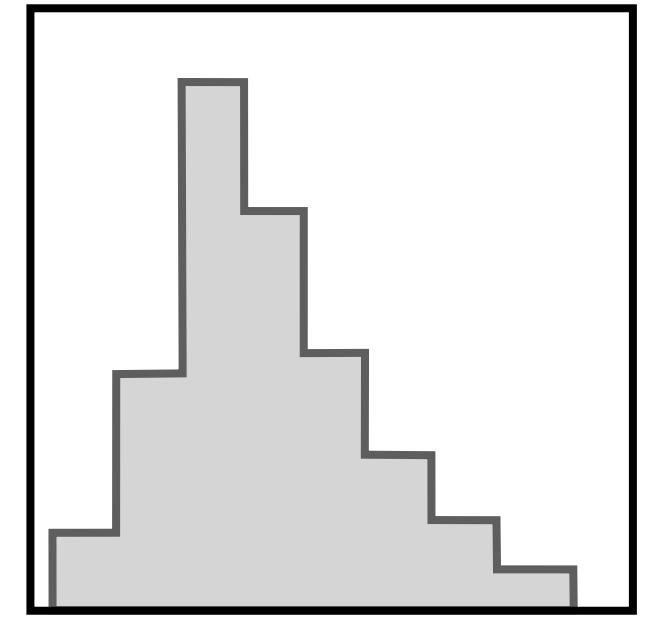
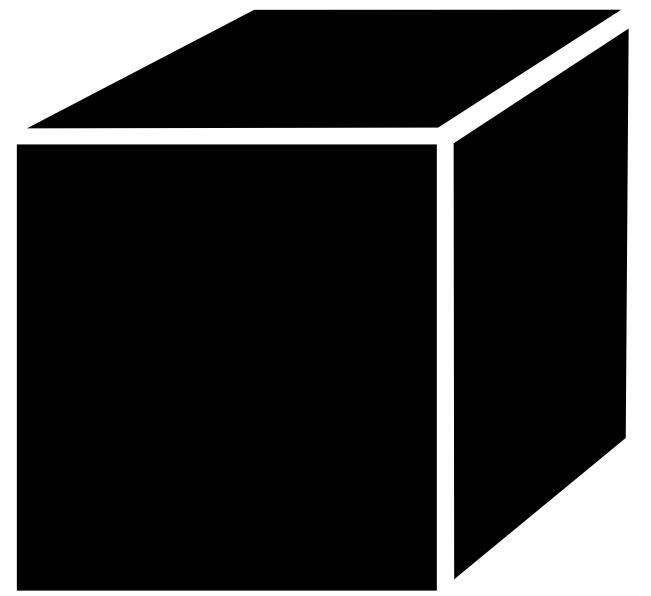
Zubair Bhatti

Parts of this talk were inspired by great presentations by Kyle Cranmer, Gilles Louppe, Sid Mishra-Sharma, and Jakob Macke



The SCAILFIN Project  
[scailfin.github.io](http://scailfin.github.io)





Simulators make precise predictions, but inference is challenging.

Scientists have side-stepped this problem with summary statistics.

Machine learning enables powerful inference methods, especially when we inject domain information.

They work in problems from the smallest...

... to the largest scales.

# Selected references

## Reviews

K. Cranmer, **J. Brehmer**, G. Louppe:  
“The frontier of simulation-based inference”  
PNAS, 1911.01429

**J. Brehmer** and K. Cranmer:  
“Simulation-based inference methods for particle physics”  
2010.06439

## Simulation-based inference methods

**J. Brehmer**, G. Louppe, J. Pavez, K. Cranmer:  
“Mining gold from implicit models to improve likelihood-free inference”  
PNAS, 1805.12244

M. Stoye, **J. Brehmer**, K. Cranmer, G. Louppe, J. Pavez:  
“Likelihood-free inference with an improved cross-entropy estimator”  
NeurIPS workshop, 1808.00973

## Particle physics

**J. Brehmer**, K. Cranmer, G. Louppe, J. Pavez:  
“Constraining Effective Field Theories with machine learning”  
PRL, 1805.00013

**J. Brehmer**, K. Cranmer, G. Louppe, J. Pavez:  
“A guide to constraining Effective Field Theories with machine learning”  
PRD, 1805.00020

**J. Brehmer**, F. Kling, I. Espejo, K. Cranmer:  
“MadMiner: Machine learning-based inference for particle physics”  
CSBS, 1907.10621, <https://github.com/diana-hep/madminer>

**J. Brehmer**, K. Cranmer, F. Kling, and T. Plehn:  
“Better Higgs Measurements Through Information Geometry”  
PRD, 1612.05261

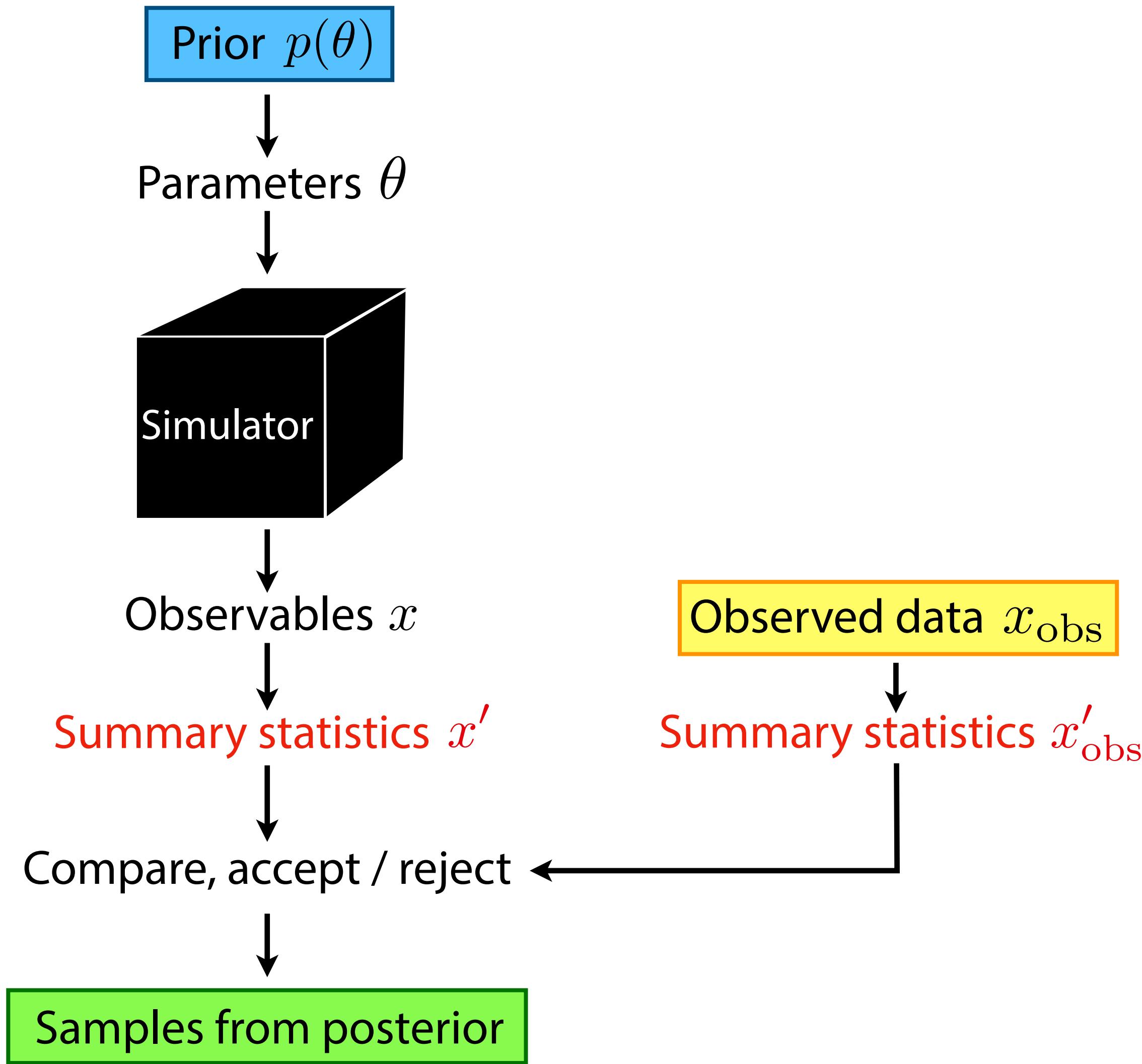
## Astrophysics

**J. Brehmer**, S. Mishra-Sharma, J. Hermans, G. Louppe, K. Cranmer  
“Mining for Dark Matter Substructure: Inferring subhalo population properties from strong lenses with machine learning”  
ApJ, 1909.02005

Bonus material: simulation-based inference

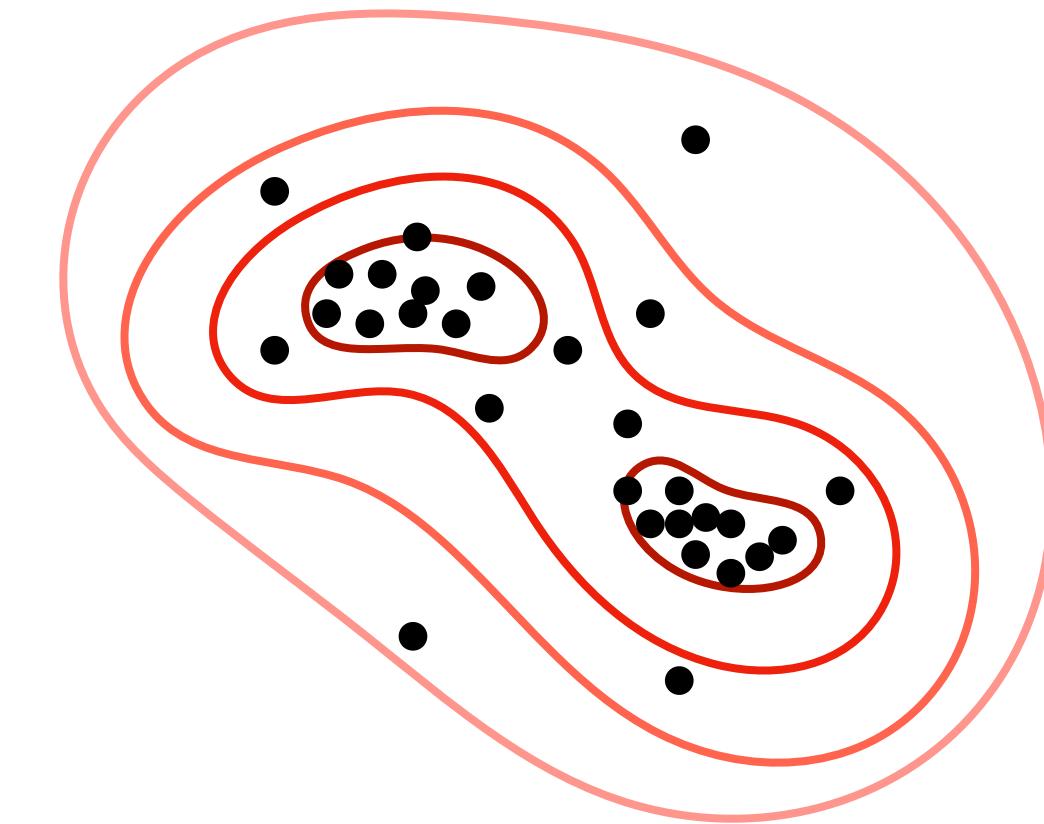
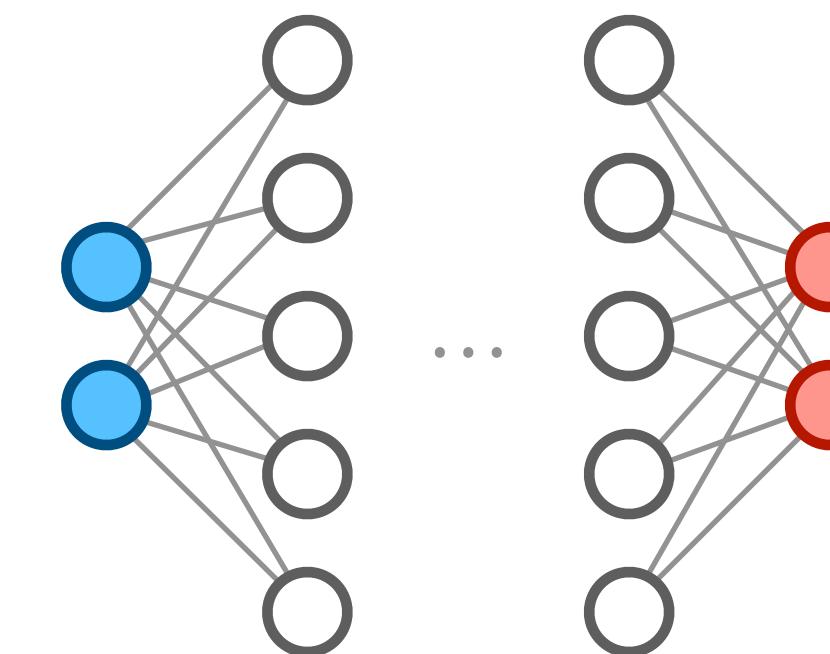
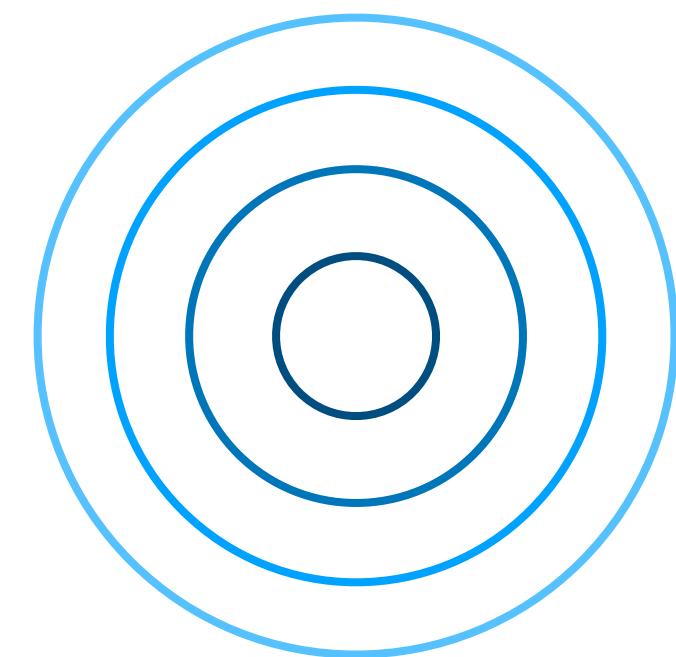
# Approximate Bayesian Computation (ABC)

[D. Rubin 1984]



- Compression to summary statistics and acceptance threshold reduce quality of inference
- Rejection algorithm can be very sample inefficient

# High-dimensional density estimation with normalizing flows



Simple base density

$$u \sim \pi(u)$$

NN: transformation  $x = f(u)$

- one-to-one and invertible
- differentiable
- $f^{-1}$  and  $\det \nabla f$  are tractable

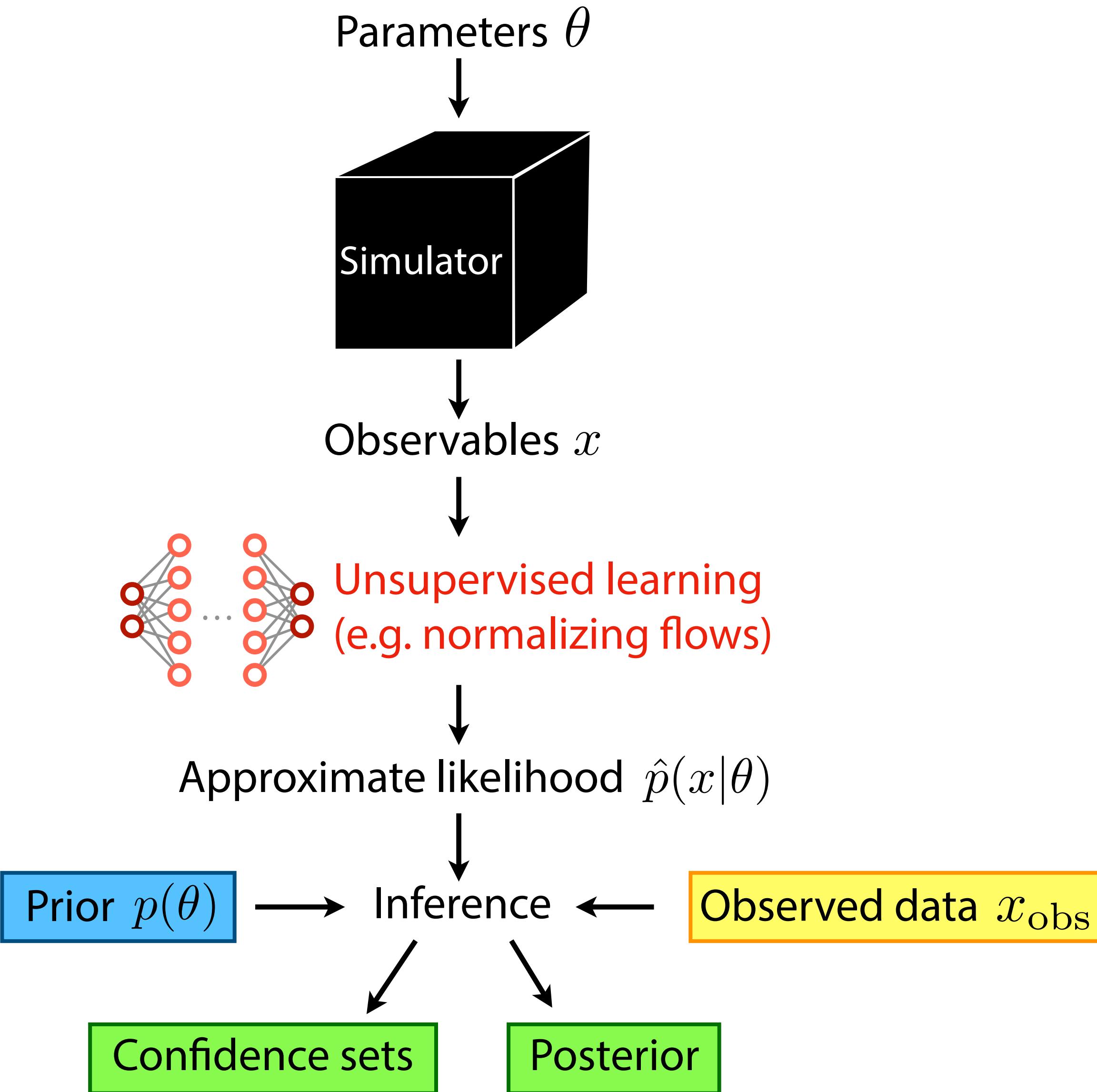
Target density is given by

$$\hat{p}(x) = \pi(f^{-1}(x)) |\det \nabla f|^{-1}$$

Train transformation by  
maximizing  $\log \hat{p}(x)$

Transformation can depend on  $\theta$   
to model conditional density  $\log \hat{p}(x|\theta)$

# Inference with neural likelihood estimation



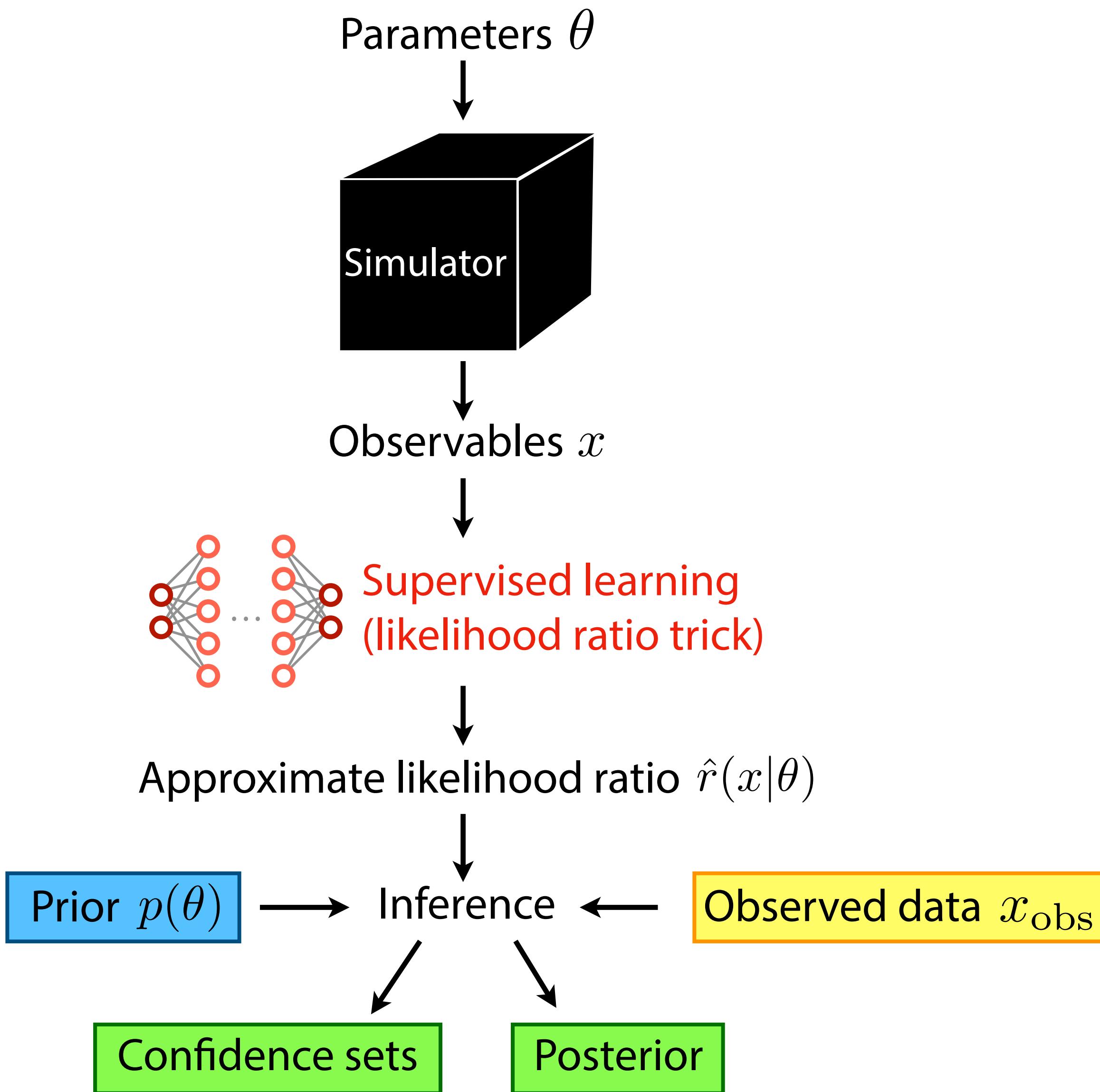
[G. Papamakarios, D. Sterratt, I. Murray 1805.07226;  
J.-M. Lueckmann, G. Bassetto, T. Karaletsos, J. Macke 1805.09294]

- Conditional neural density estimator (e.g. normalizing flow) as tractable surrogate for simulator likelihood
- Scales well to high-dimensional data (no compression to summary stats necessary)
- Amortized: After upfront simulation + training phase, inference is efficient for new data or prior
- Related alternative: learn posterior  $\hat{p}(\theta|x_{\text{obs}})$

[G. Papamakarios et al 1605.06376;  
J.-M. Lueckmann et al 1711.01861]

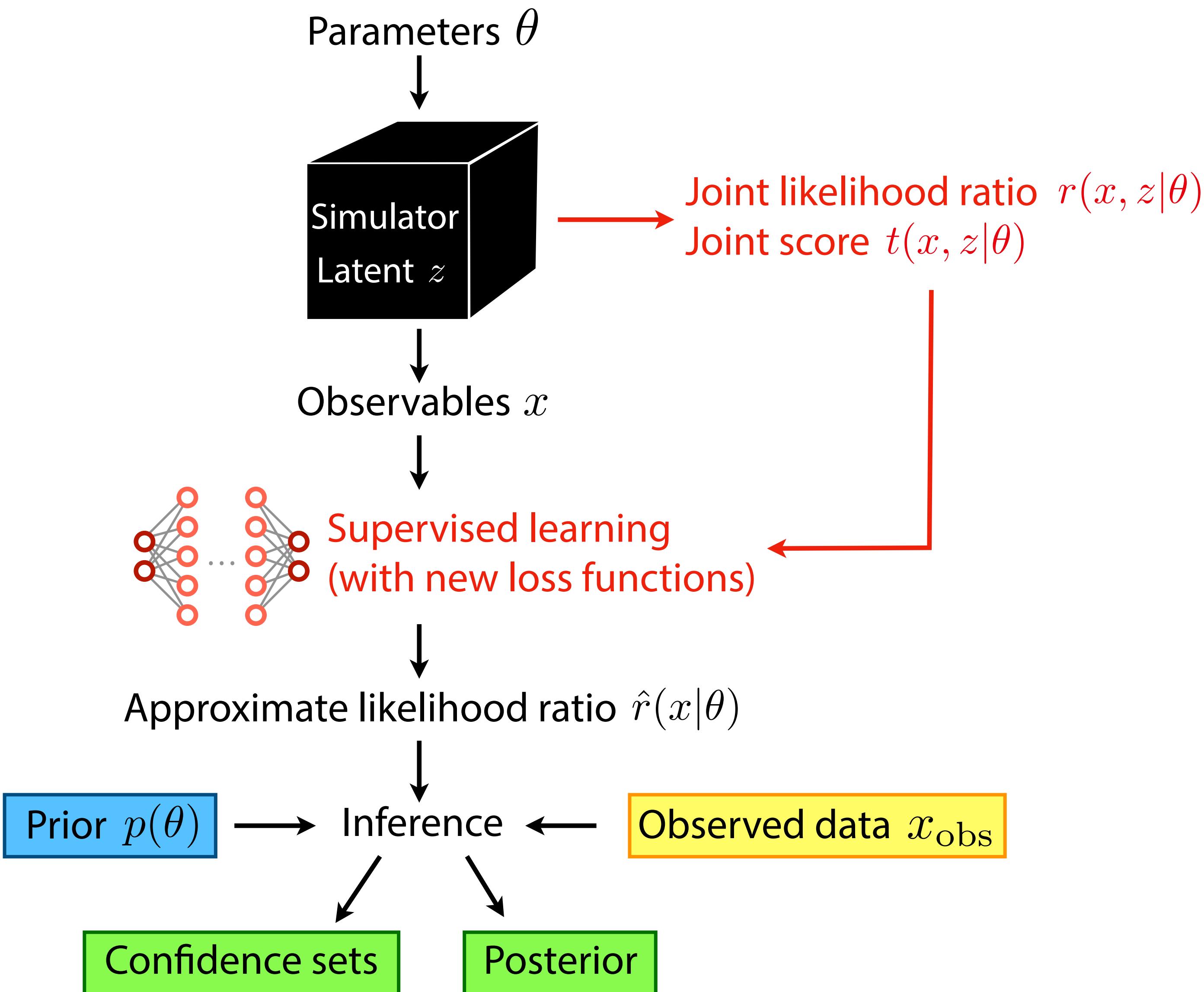
# Inference by likelihood ratio trick

[K. Cranmer J. Pavez, G. Louppe 1506.02169]

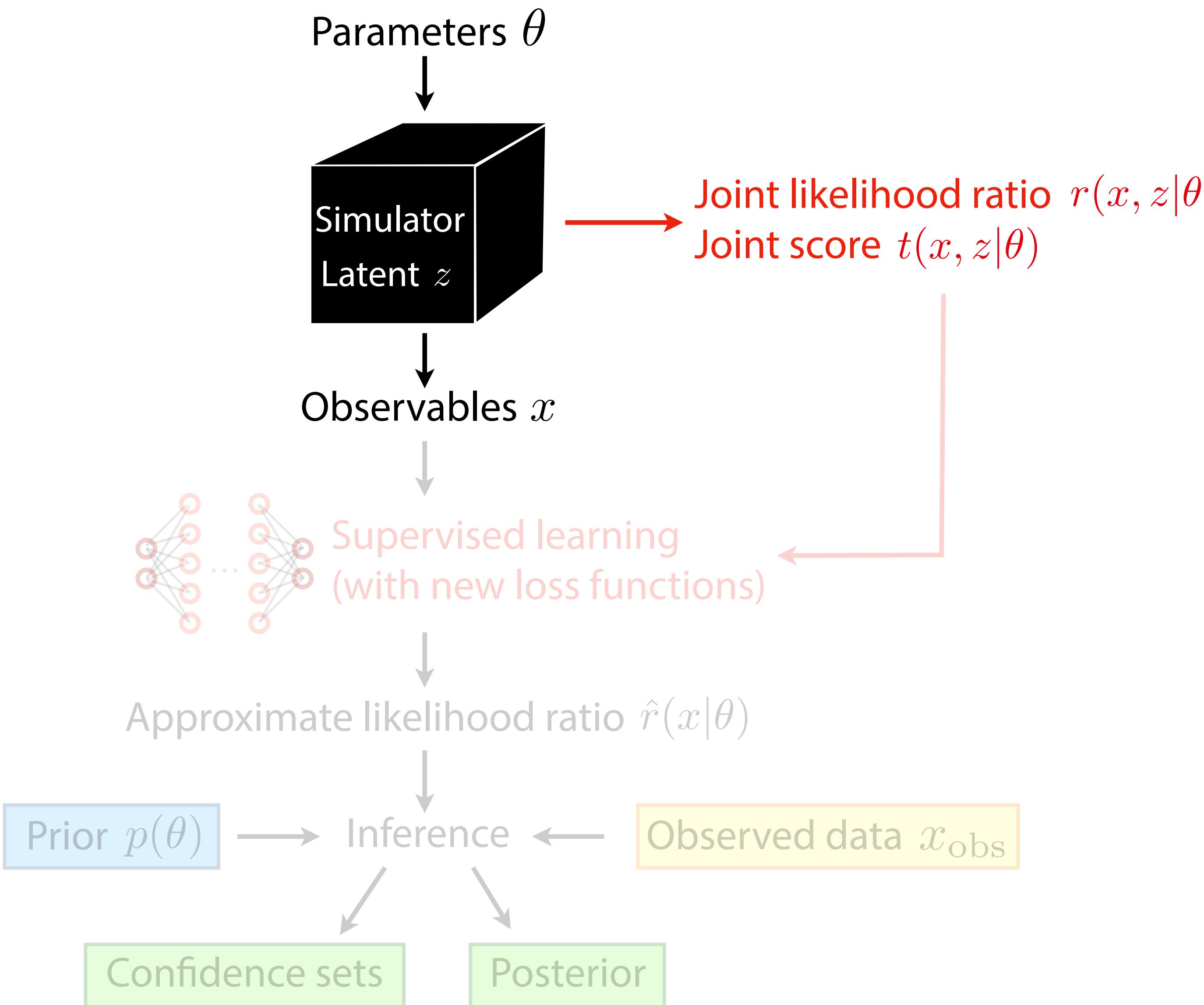


- For inference, likelihood and likelihood ratio are interchangeable
- Advantage: Learning the likelihood ratio can be a simpler task than learning the likelihood
- Disadvantage: Cannot sample from likelihood ratio

# Mining gold



# Step 1: Extracting more information from simulations

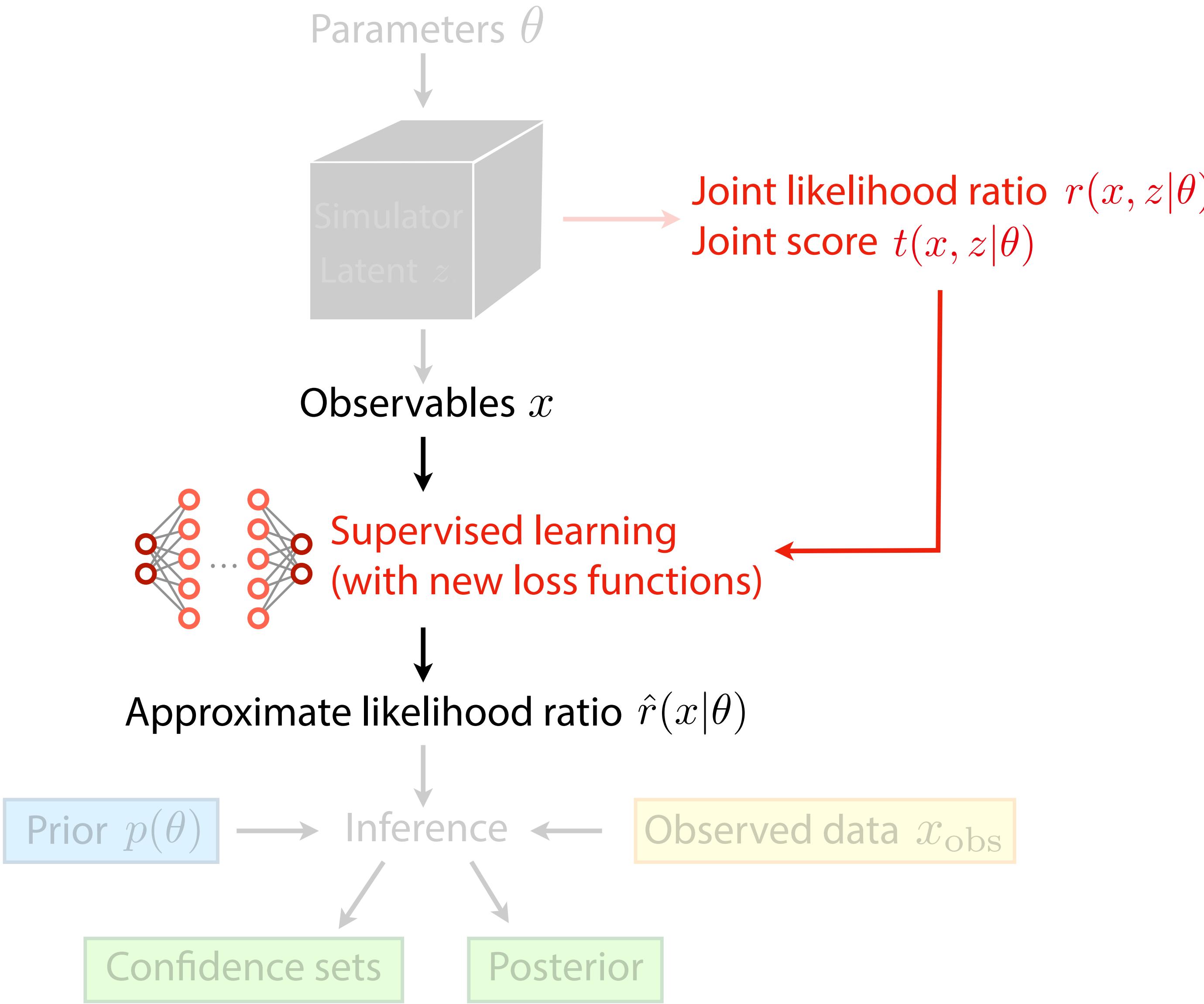


For each simulated event, calculate

- joint likelihood ratio  $r(x, z|\theta) = \frac{p(x, z|\theta)}{p_{\text{ref}}(x, z)}$
- joint score  $t(x, z|\theta) = \nabla_{\theta} \log p(x, z|\theta)$

How much more or less likely would this simulated sample (fixing all latent variables) be when changing the parameters?

# Step 2: Machine learning



- Train a neural network  $g(x, \theta)$  on loss functionals like

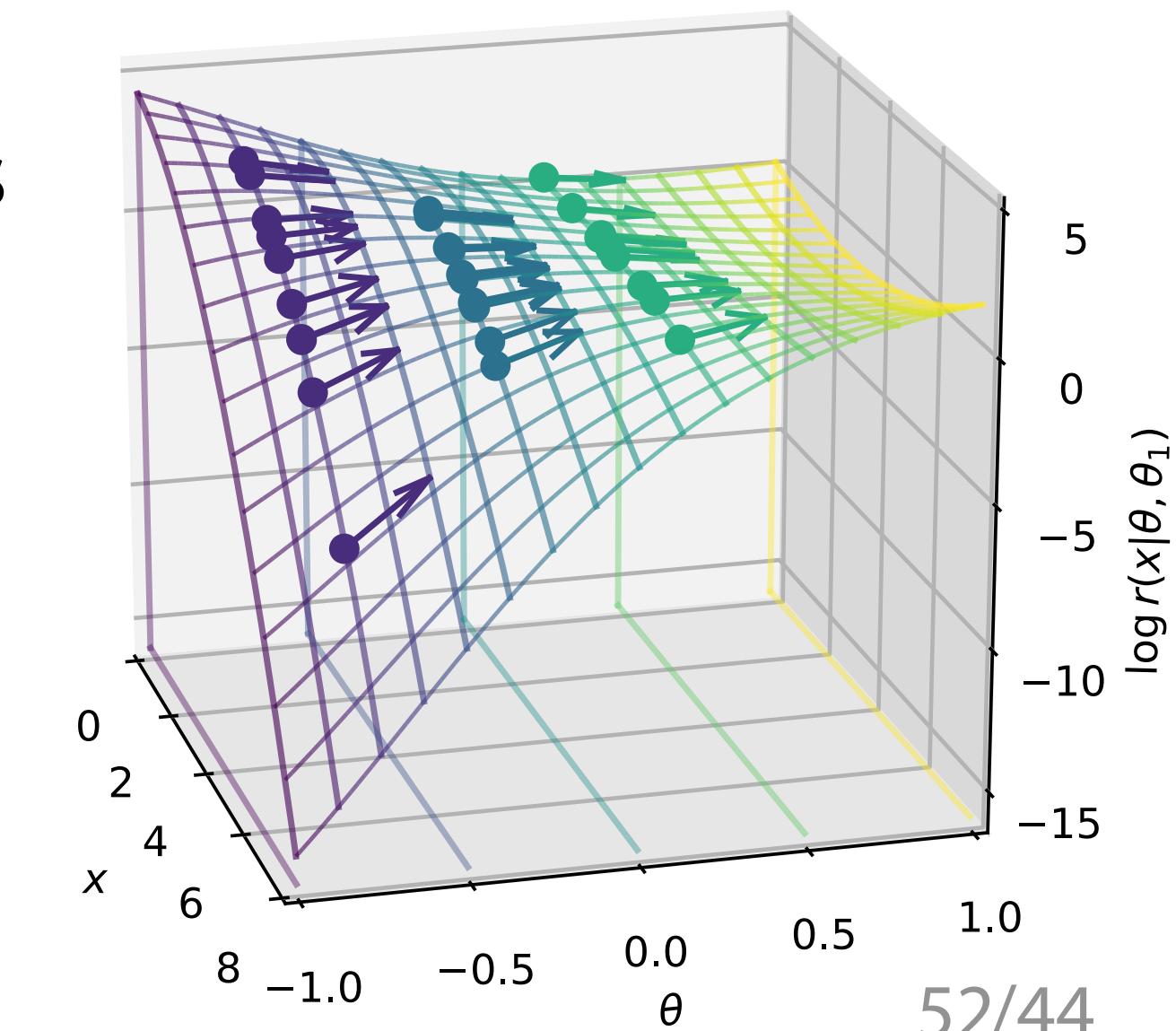
$$L[g] = \frac{1}{N} \sum_i |g(x_i, \theta_i) - r(x_i, z_i|\theta_i)|^2$$

- The network will converge to

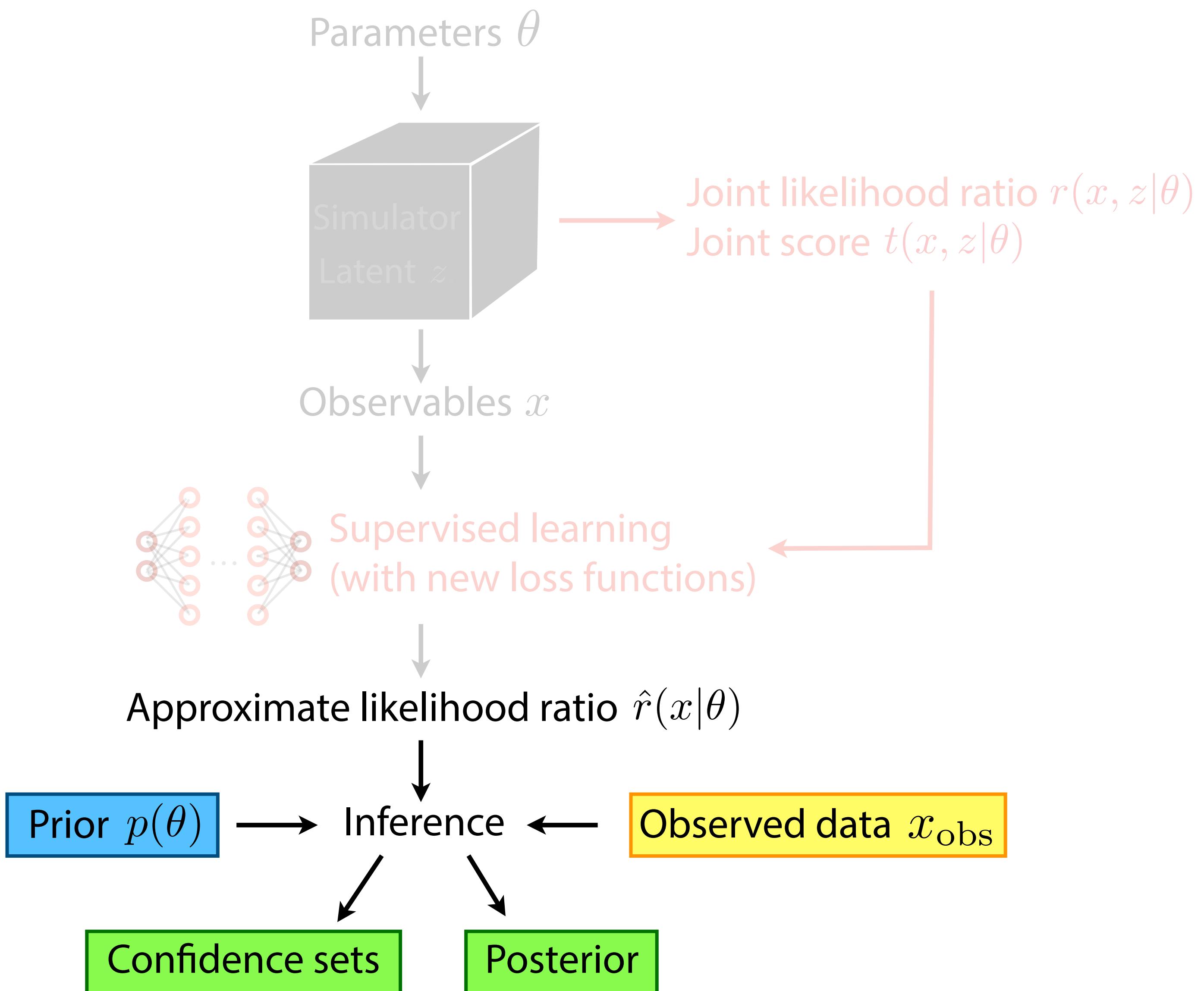
$$g(x, \theta) \rightarrow \arg \min L[g] = r(x|\theta) = \frac{p(x|\theta)}{p_{\text{ref}}(x)} !$$

(for sufficient training data, NN capacity, efficient optimization)

- RASCAL:  
Joint score adds gradient information  
 $\Rightarrow$  three orthogonal pieces of information



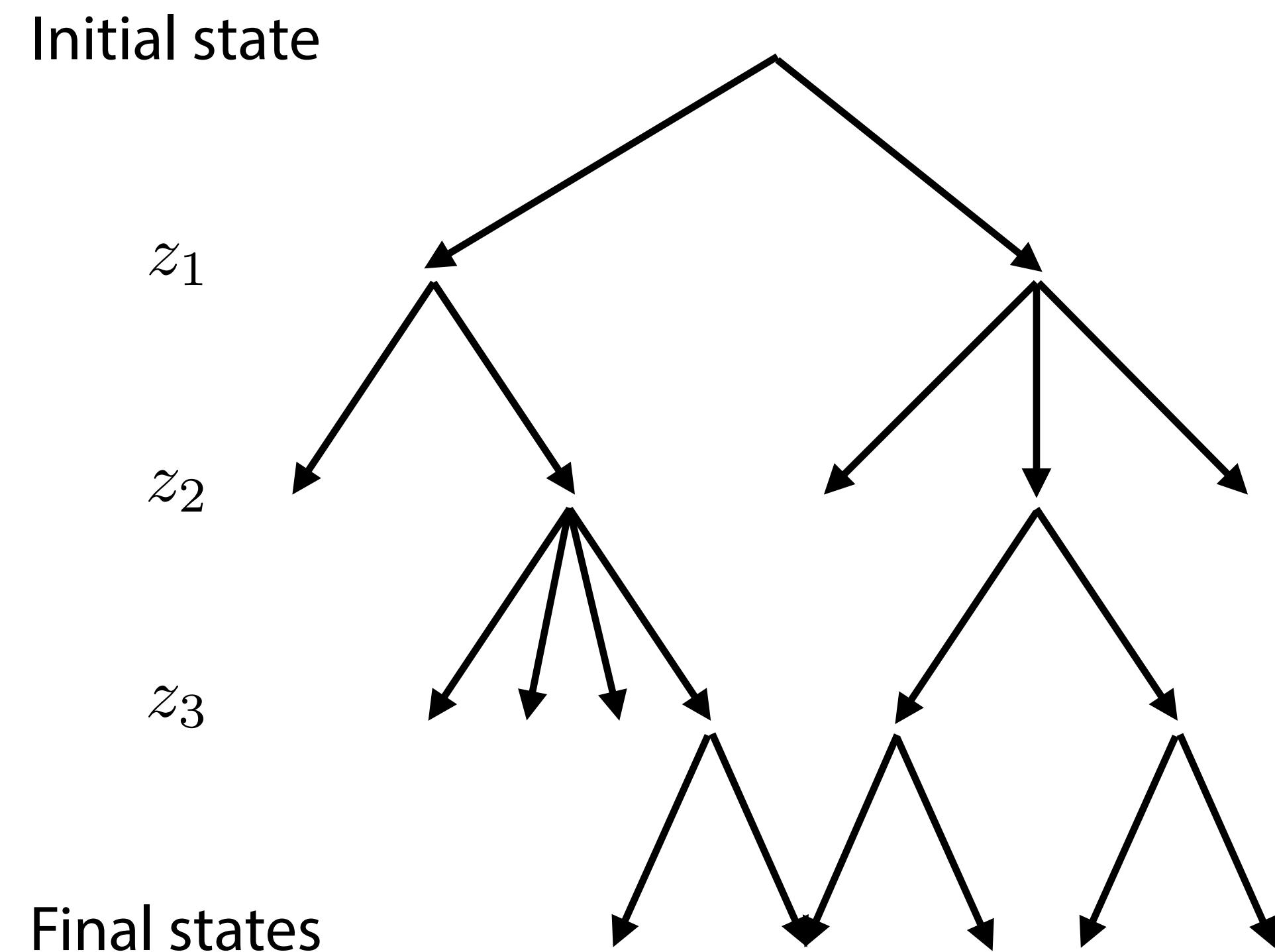
# Step 3: Inference



# Mining gold from any simulation

- Computer simulation typically evolve along a tree-like structure of successive random branchings
- The probabilities of each branching  $p_i(z_i|z_{i-1}, \theta)$  are often clearly defined in the code:

```
if random() > 0.1 + 2.5 * model_parameter:  
    do_one_thing()  
else:  
    do_another_thing()
```



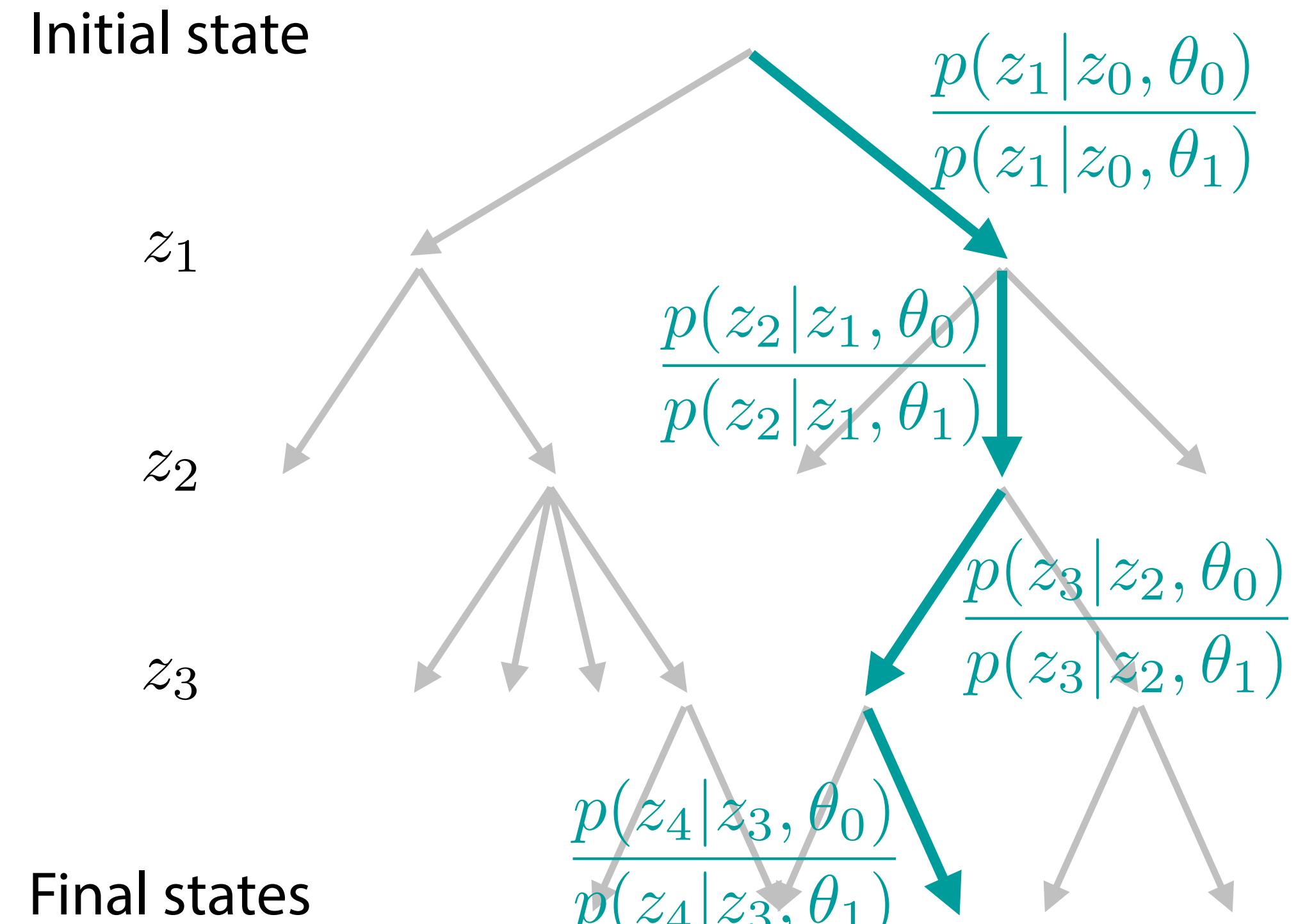
# Mining gold from any simulation

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if random() > 0.1 + 2.5 * model_parameter:  
    do_one_thing()  
else:  
    do_another_thing()
```

- For each run of the simulator, we can calculate the probability **of the chosen path** for different values of the parameters, and the “**joint likelihood ratio**”:

$$r(x, z|\theta_0, \theta_1) = \frac{p(x, z|\theta_0)}{p(x, z|\theta_1)} = \prod_i \frac{p(z_i|z_{i-1}, \theta_0)}{p(z_i|z_{i-1}, \theta_1)}$$



# The value of gold

Expectation value of the joint likelihood ratio:

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbb{E}_{z \sim p(z|x, \theta_1)} [\textcolor{teal}{r}(x, z|\theta_0, \theta_1)] &= \int dz p(z|x, \theta_1) \frac{p(x, z|\theta_0)}{p(x, z|\theta_1)} \\ &= \int dz \frac{p(x, z|\theta_1)}{p(x|\theta_1)} \frac{p(x, z|\theta_0)}{p(x, z|\theta_1)} \\ &= \textcolor{red}{r}(x|\theta_0, \theta_1)\end{aligned}$$

With  $\textcolor{teal}{r}(x, z|\theta_0, \theta_1)$ , we define a functional like

$$L_r[\hat{r}(x|\theta_0, \theta_1)] = \int dx \int dz p(x, z|\theta_1) \left[ (\hat{r}(x|\theta_0, \theta_1) - \textcolor{teal}{r}(x, z|\theta_0, \theta_1))^2 \right].$$

It is minimized by

$$r(x|\theta_0, \theta_1) = \underset{\hat{r}(x|\theta_0, \theta_1)}{\arg \min} L_r[\hat{r}(x|\theta_0, \theta_1)] !$$

(And we can sample from  $p(x, z|\theta)$  by running the simulator.)

# Machine learning = applied calculus of variations

So to get a good estimator of the likelihood ratio, we need to minimize a functional numerically:

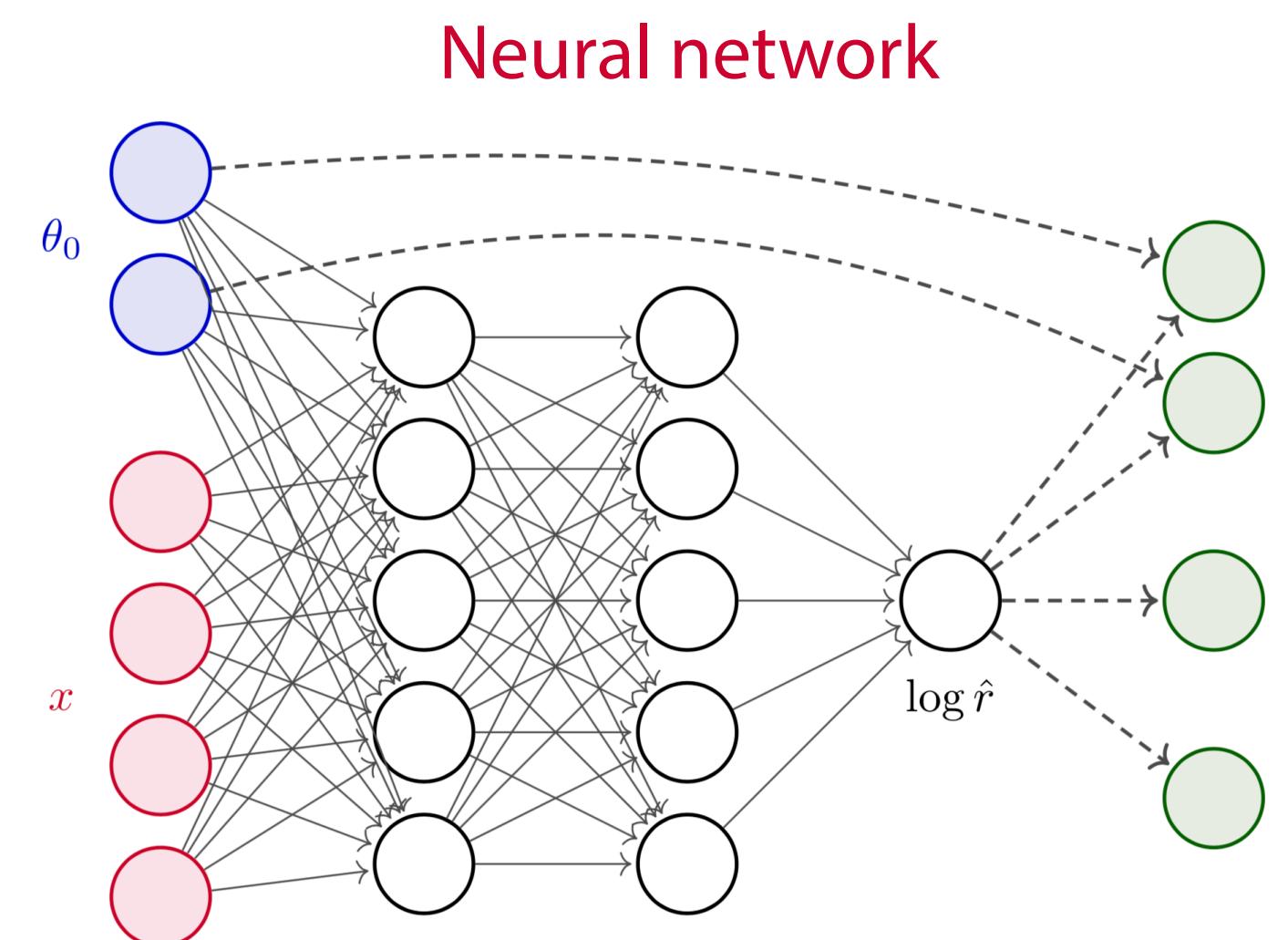
The diagram illustrates the process of finding the minimum of a functional. It starts with a "Variational family"  $r(x|\theta_0, \theta_1)$ , which is connected by a downward-pointing arrow to the word "Extremization". From "Extremization", another downward-pointing arrow leads to the expression  $\arg \min \hat{L}_r[\hat{r}(x|\theta_0, \theta_1)]$ . This expression represents the functional with an integral being minimized.

A sufficiently expressive neural network  
efficiently trained in this way  
with enough data will learn  
the likelihood ratio function  $r(x|\theta_0, \theta_1)$ !

# Machine learning = applied calculus of variations

So to get a good estimator of the likelihood ratio, we need to minimize a functional numerically:

This is where machine learning comes in!



Neural network

$$r(x|\theta_0, \theta_1) = \arg \min_{\hat{r}(x|\theta_0, \theta_1)} L_r[\hat{r}(x|\theta_0, \theta_1)]$$

Variational family  
Extremization  
Functional with integral  
Loss function with finite sum over samples  
Stochastic gradient descent

A sufficiently expressive neural network efficiently trained in this way with enough data will learn the likelihood ratio function  $r(x|\theta_0, \theta_1)$ !

# The local model

[see also J. Alsing, B. Wandelt 1712.00012; J. Alsing, B. Wandelt, S. Freeney 1801.01497;  
P. de Castro, T. Dorigo 1806.04743; J. Alsing, B. Wandelt 1903.01473]

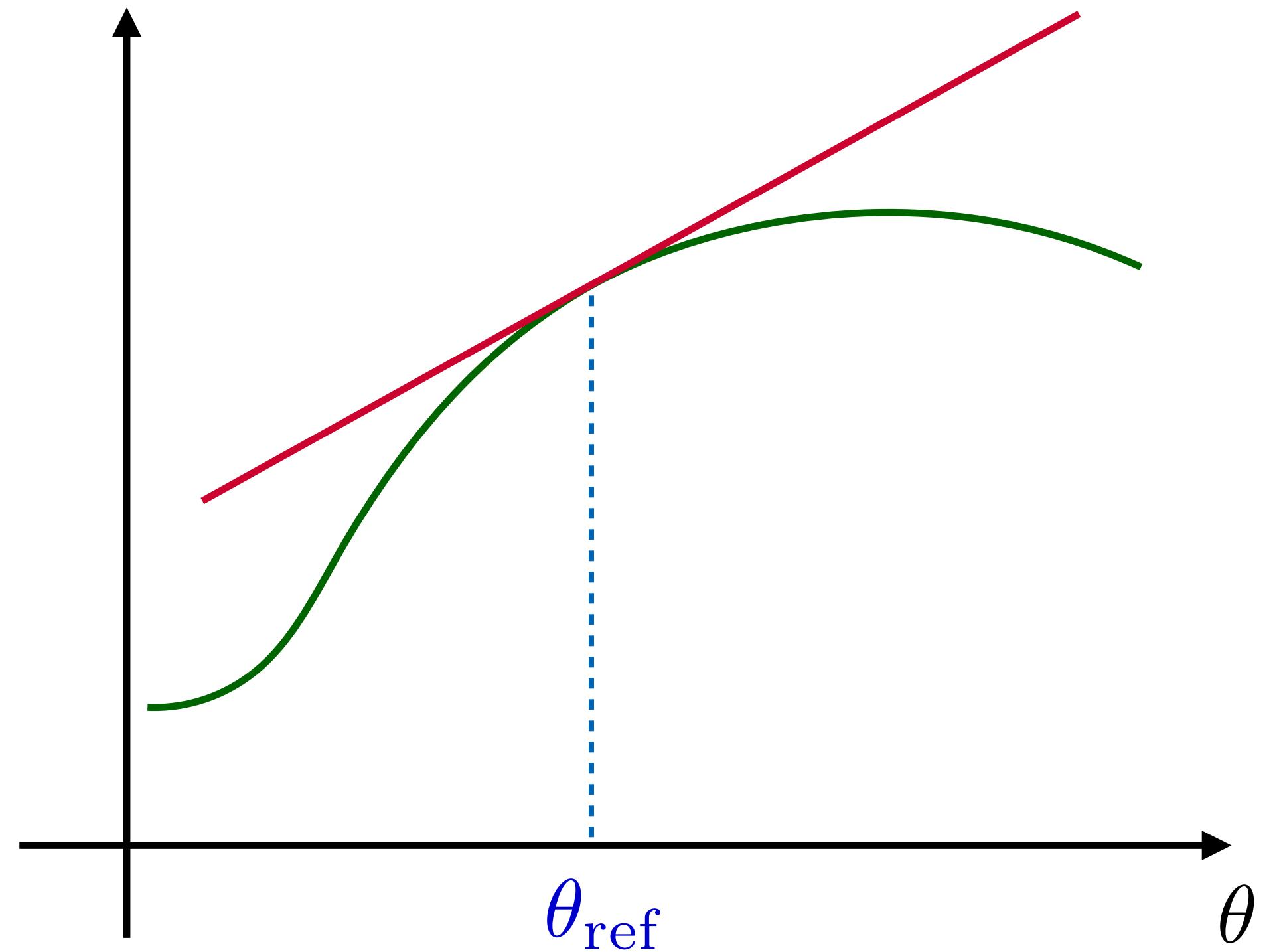
Taylor expansion of  $\log p(x|\theta)$  around  $\theta_{\text{ref}}$ :

$$\begin{aligned}\log p(x|\theta) &= \log p(x|\theta_{\text{ref}}) \\ &+ \underbrace{\nabla_{\theta} \log p(x|\theta) \Big|_{\theta_{\text{ref}}} \cdot (\theta - \theta_{\text{ref}})}_{\equiv t(x|\theta_{\text{ref}})} \\ &+ \mathcal{O}((\theta - \theta_{\text{ref}})^2)\end{aligned}$$

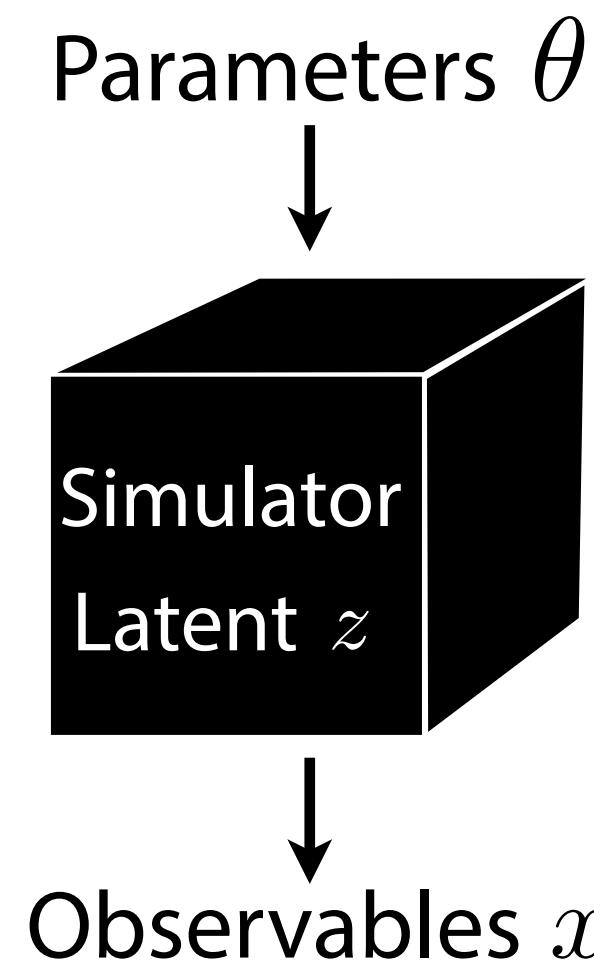
In the neighborhood of  $\theta_{\text{ref}}$ :

- the **score vector**  $t(x|\theta_{\text{ref}})$  is the sufficient statistics
- knowing  $t(x|\theta_{\text{ref}})$  is just as powerful as knowing the full function  $\log p(x|\theta)$
- $t(x|\theta_{\text{ref}})$  is the most powerful observable

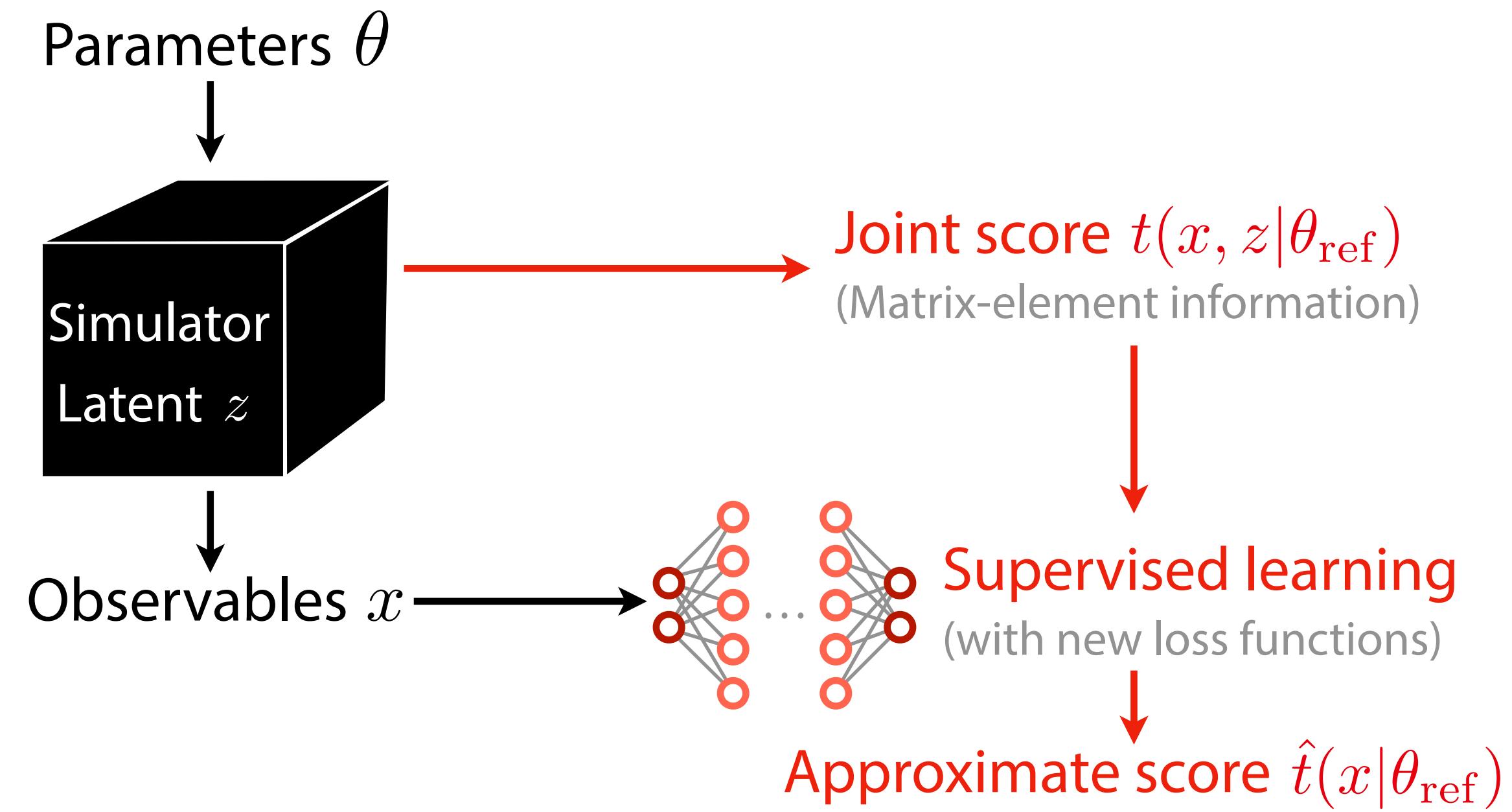
The score itself is intractable. But we can use the same trick as for the likelihood ratio!



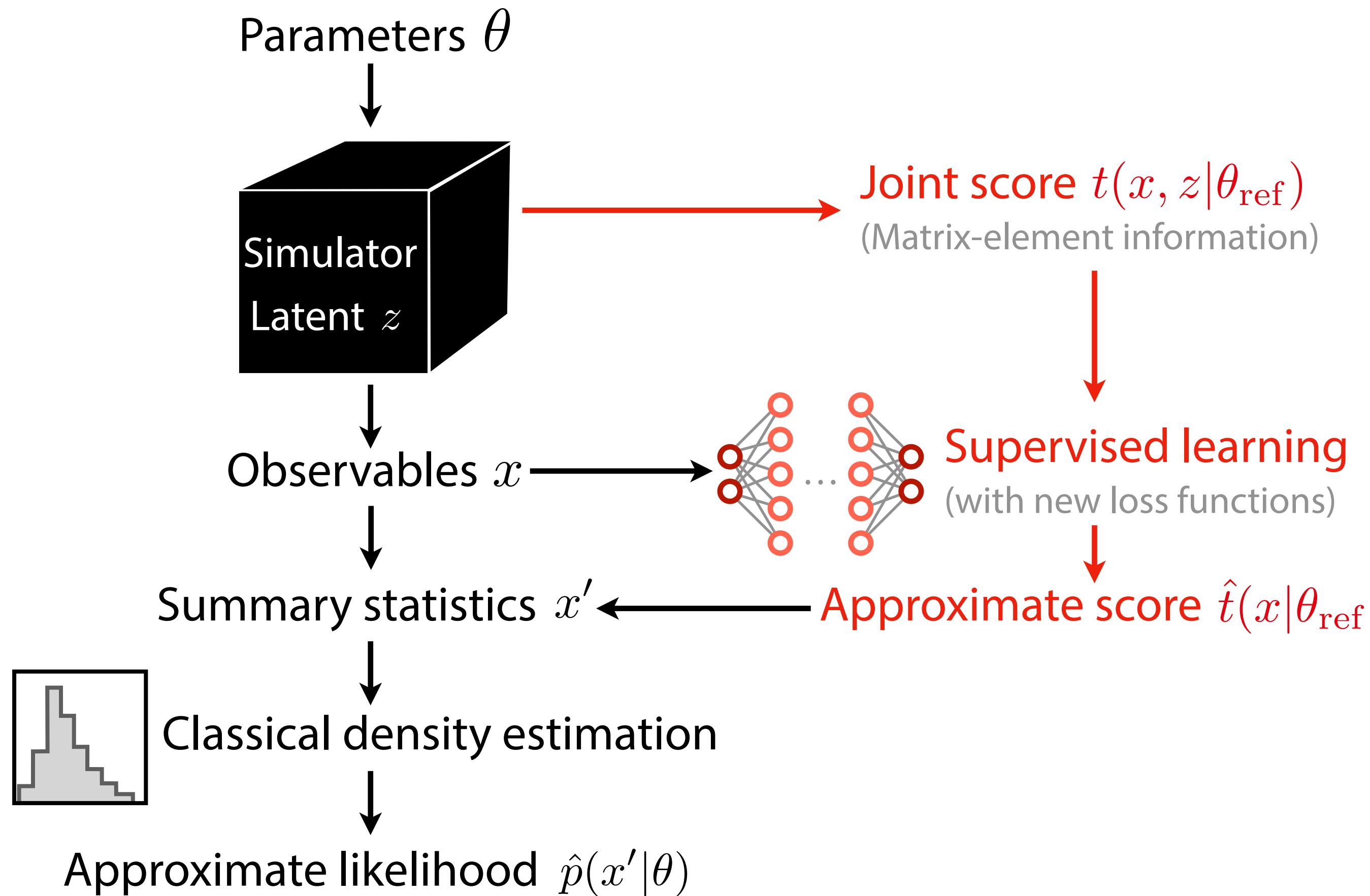
# Neural optimal observables (SALLY)



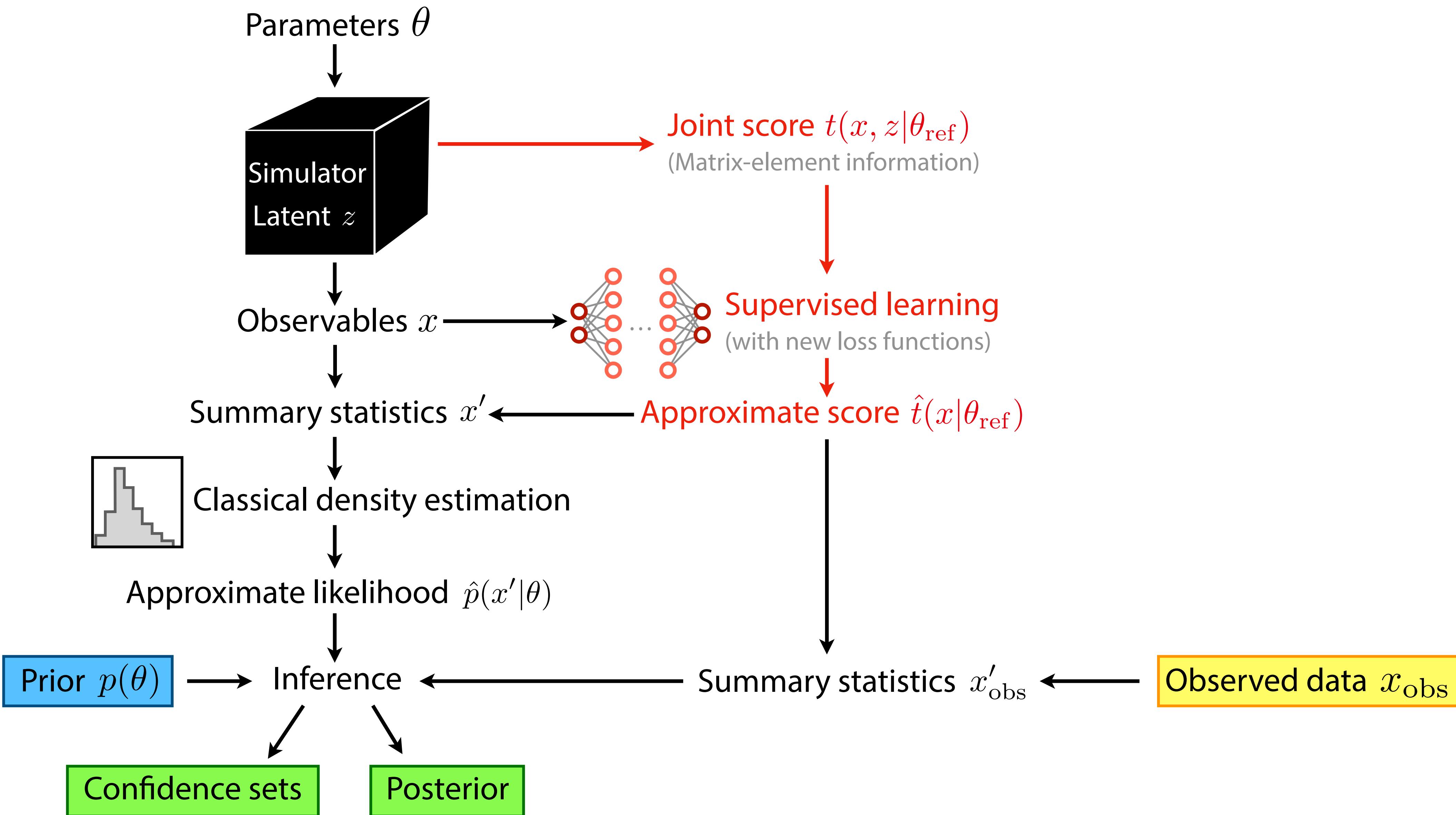
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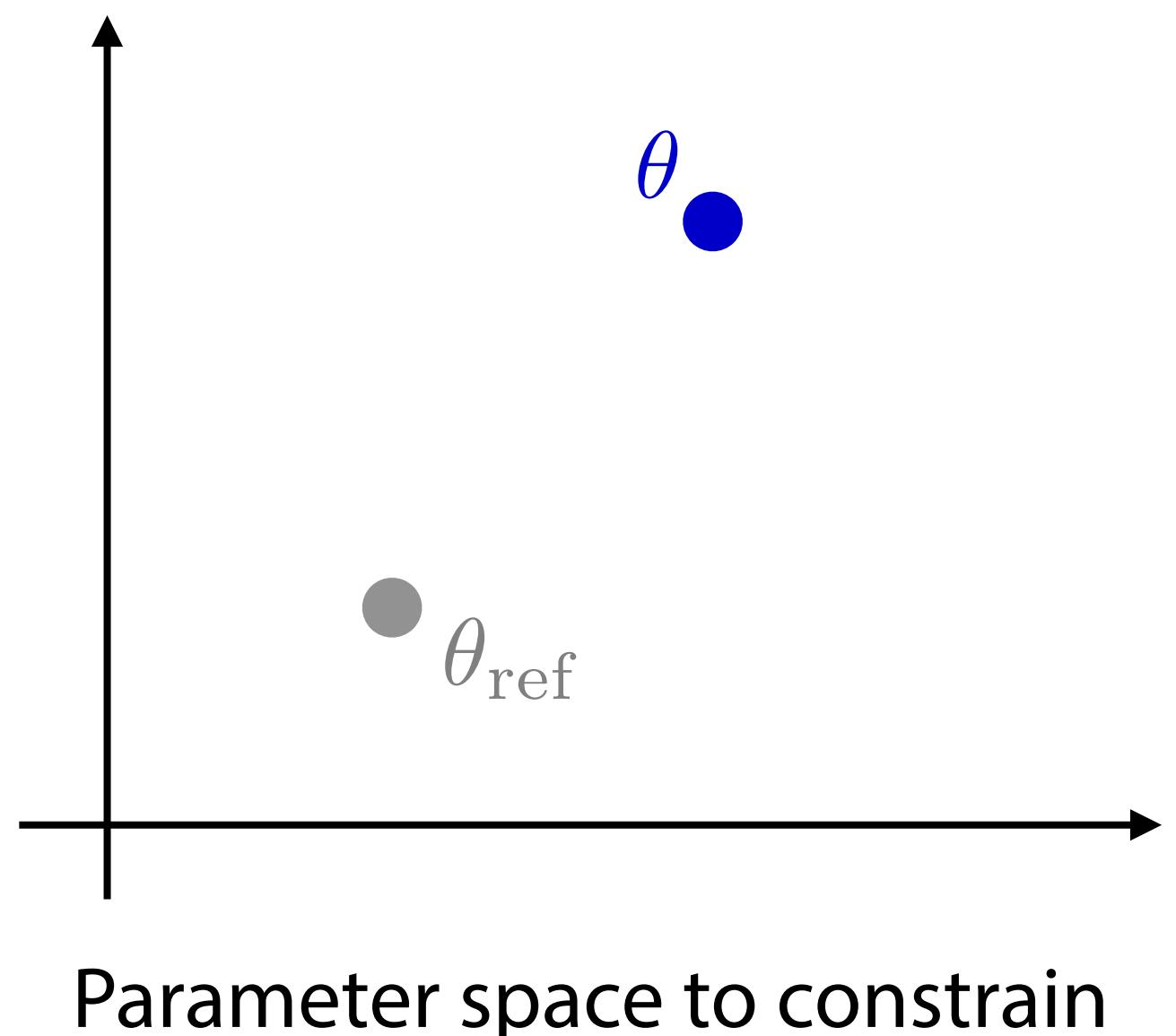
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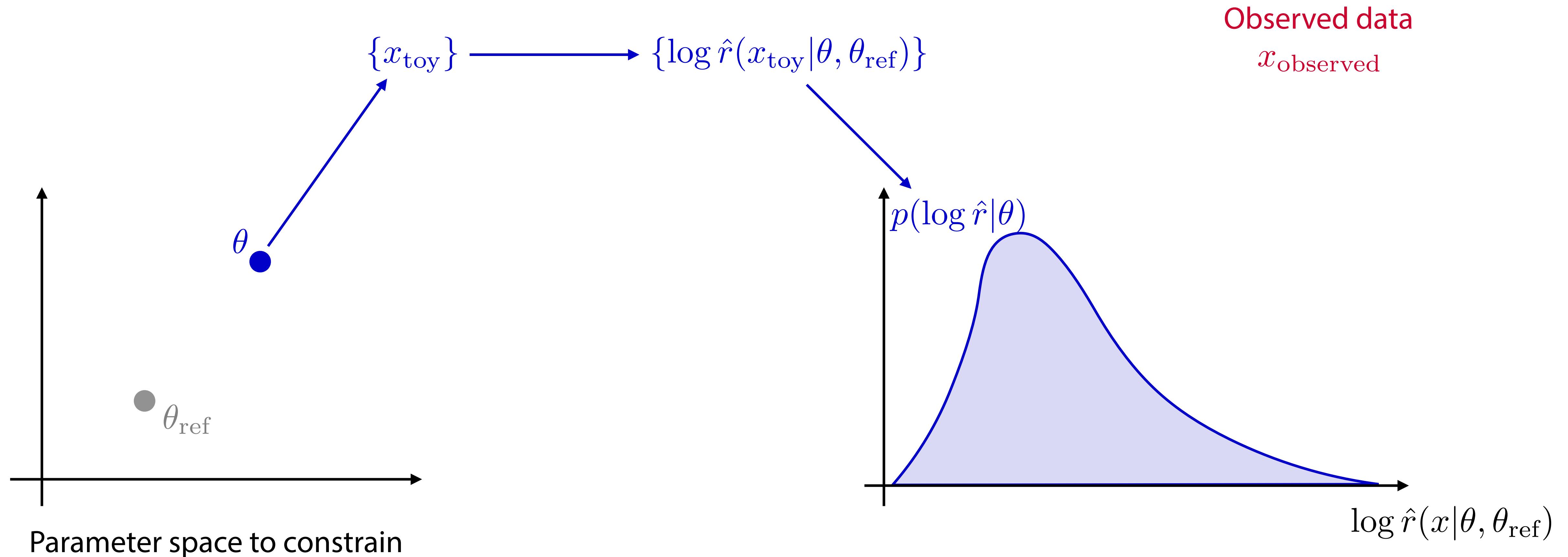


# Frequentist inference

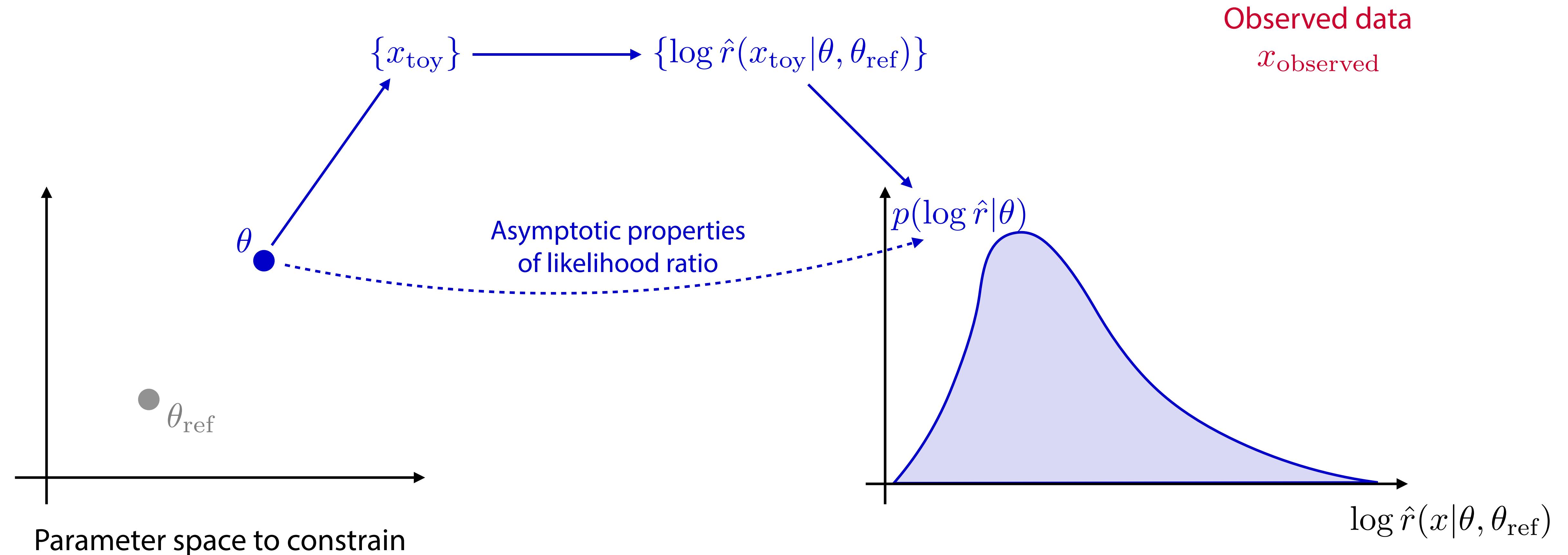


Observed data  
 $x_{\text{observed}}$

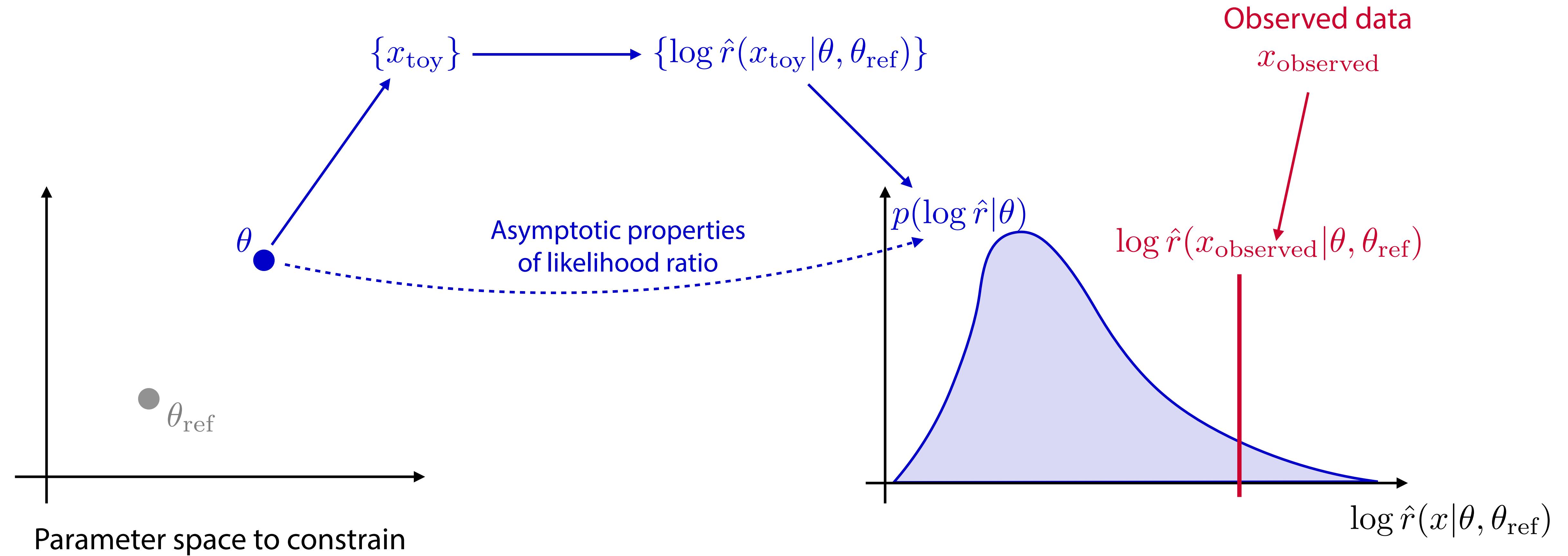
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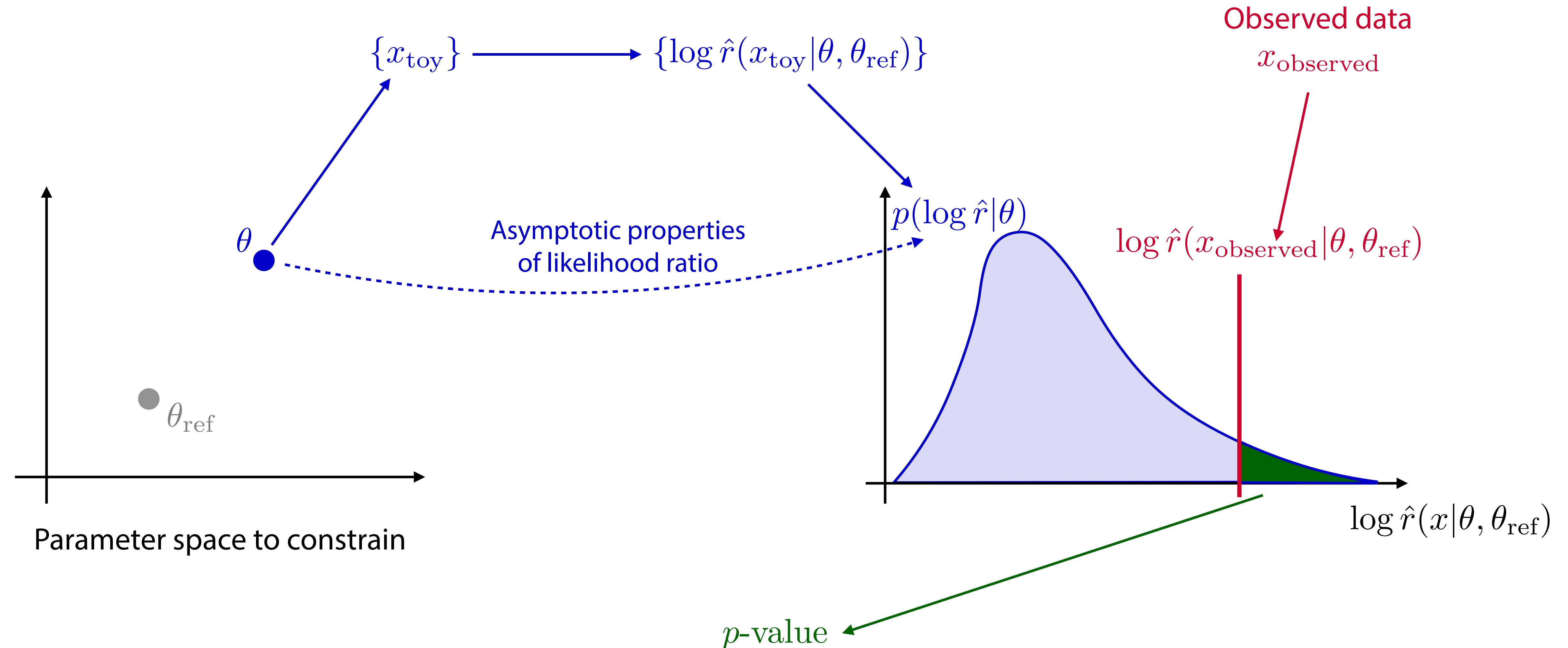
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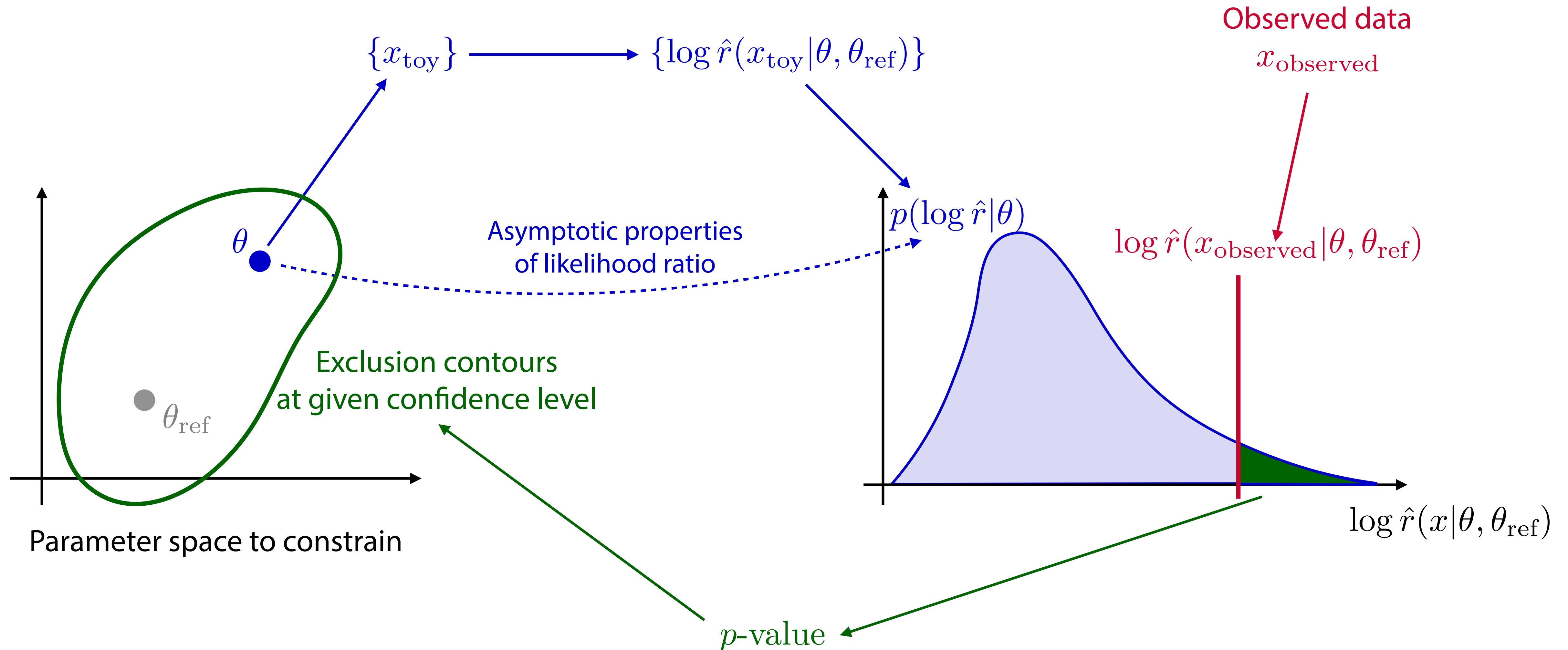
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# Frequentist inference

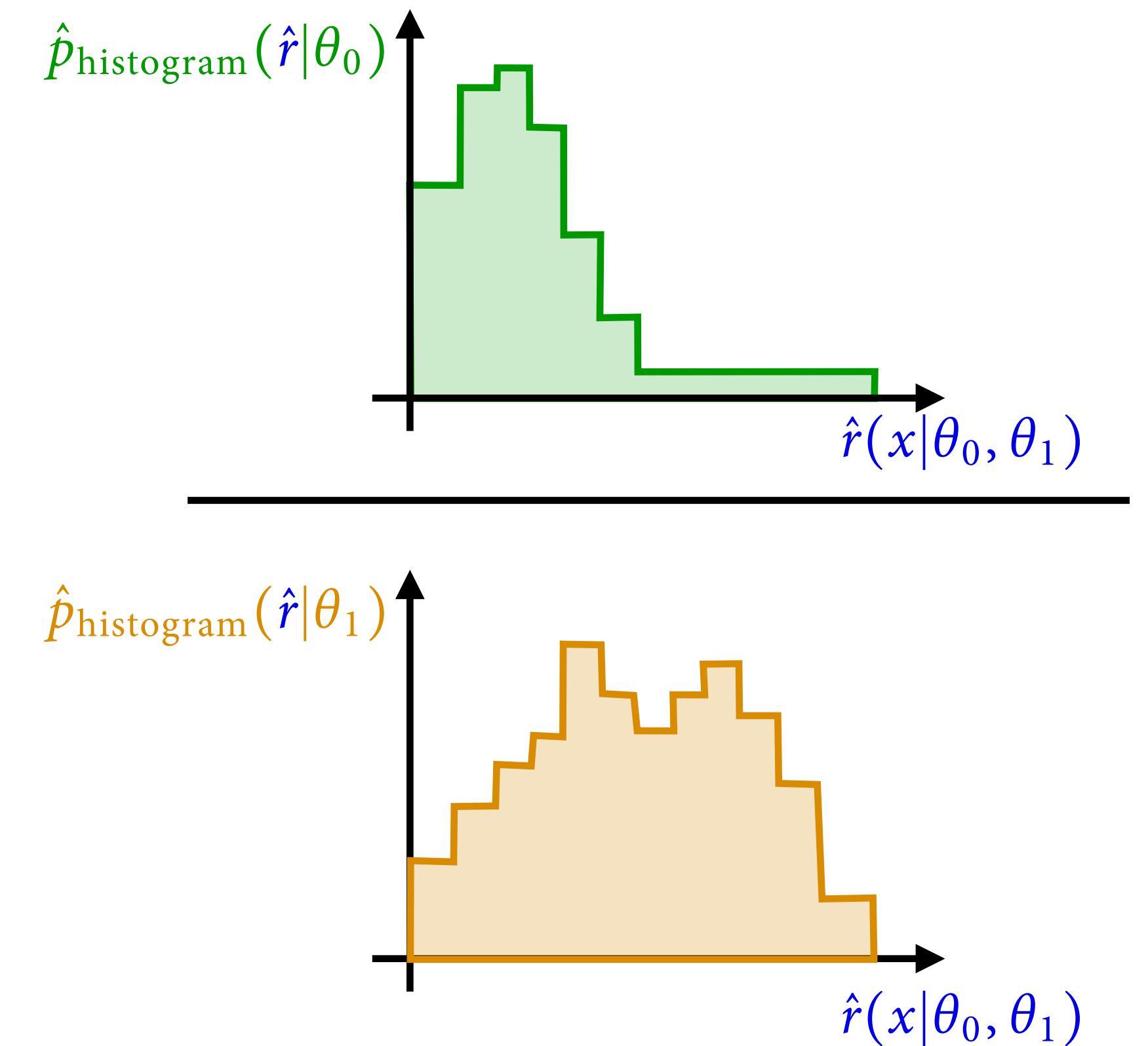


# Calibration

[K. Cranmer J. Pavez, G. Louppe 1506.02169]

What if the NN likelihood ratio estimator  $\hat{r}(x|\theta_0, \theta_1)$  is off? Calibrate!

$$\hat{r}_{\text{calibrated}}(x|\theta_0, \theta_1) = \frac{\hat{p}_{\text{histogram}}(\hat{r}(x|\theta_0, \theta_1)|\theta_0)}{\hat{p}_{\text{histogram}}(\hat{r}(x|\theta_0, \theta_1)|\theta_1)}$$



Bonus material: particle physics

# LHC footnotes

- Full LHC likelihood:  $p_{\text{full}}(\{x\}|\theta) = \text{Pois}(n|L\sigma(\theta)) \prod_{\text{events } x} p(x|\theta)$

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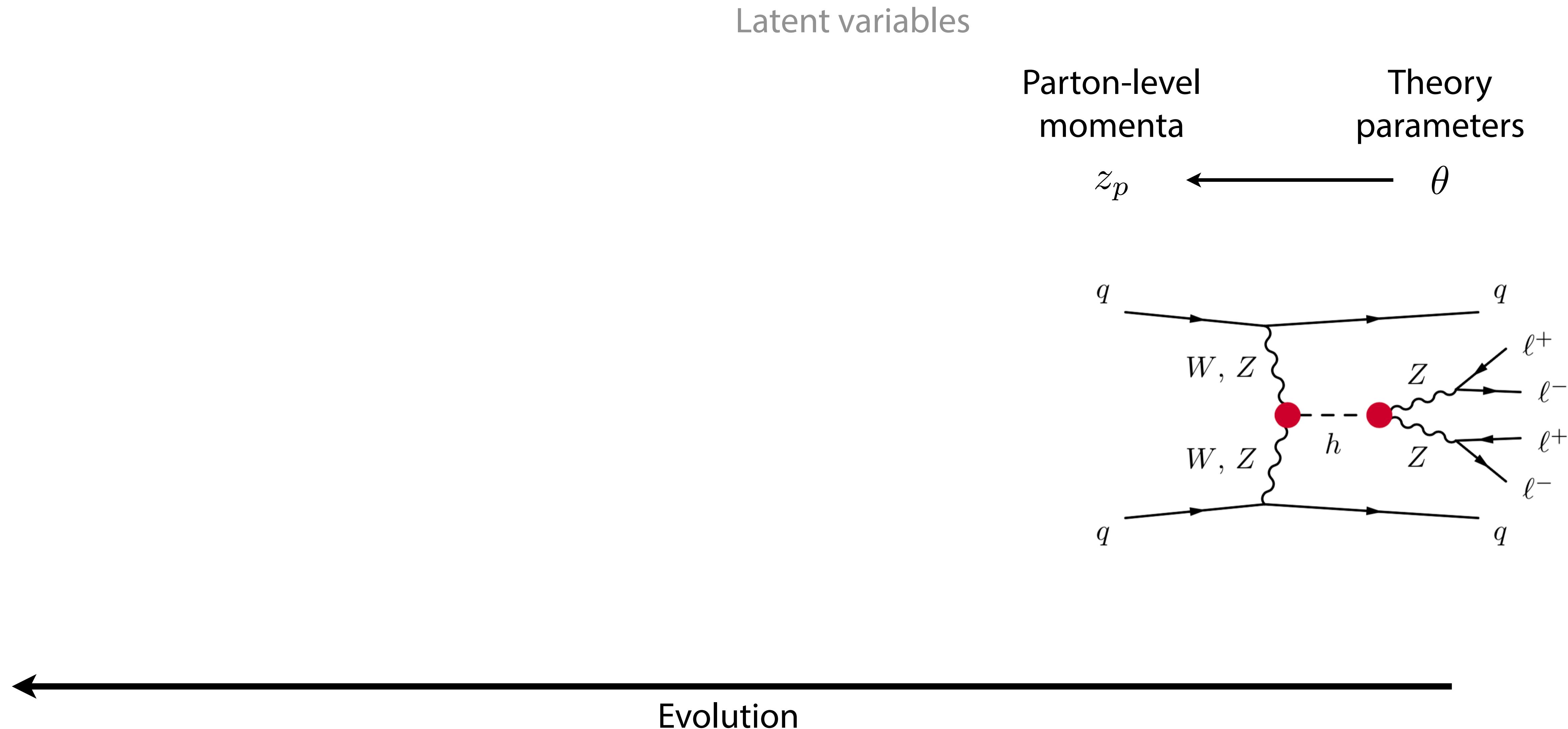
# Modelling particle physics processes

Theory  
parameters  
 $\theta$

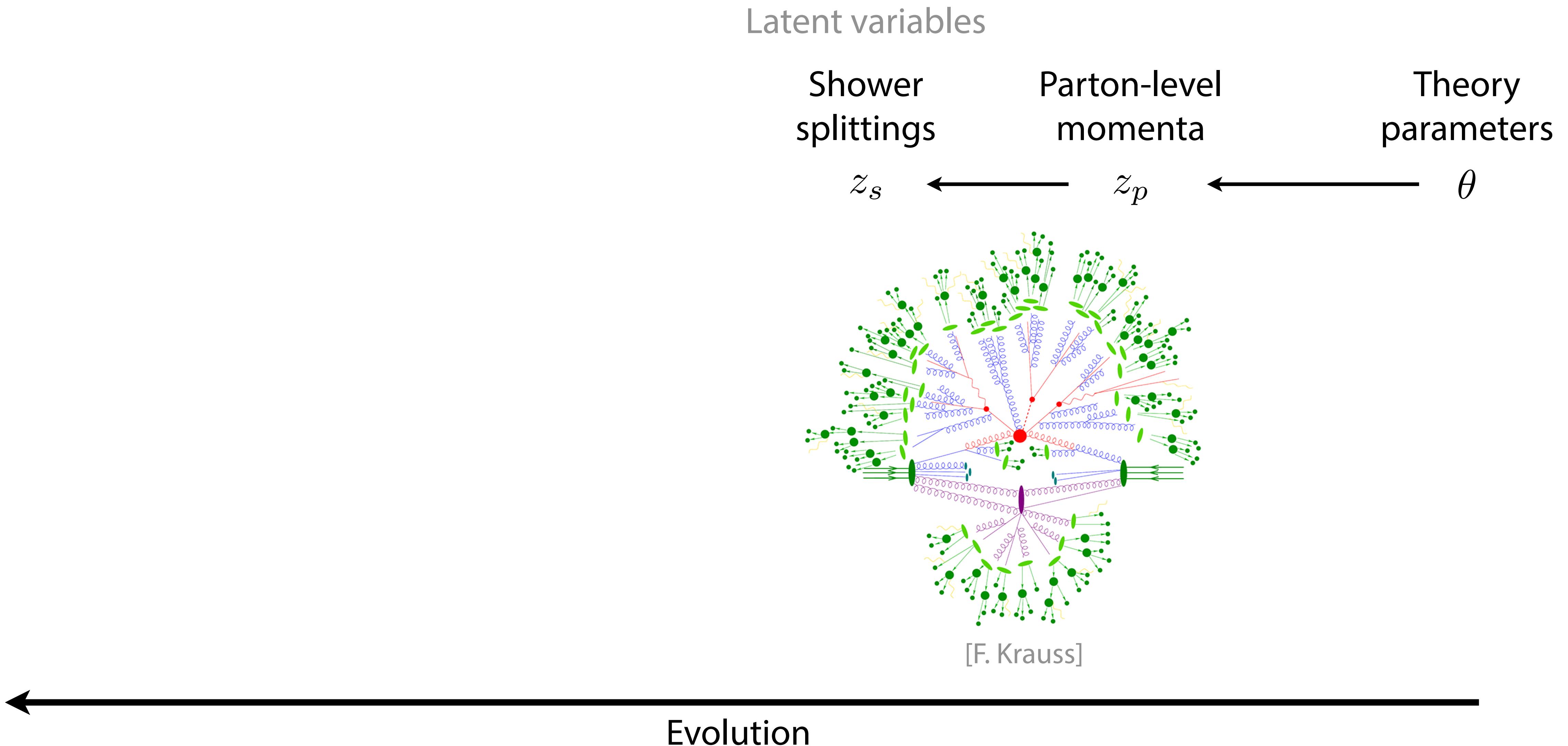


Evolution

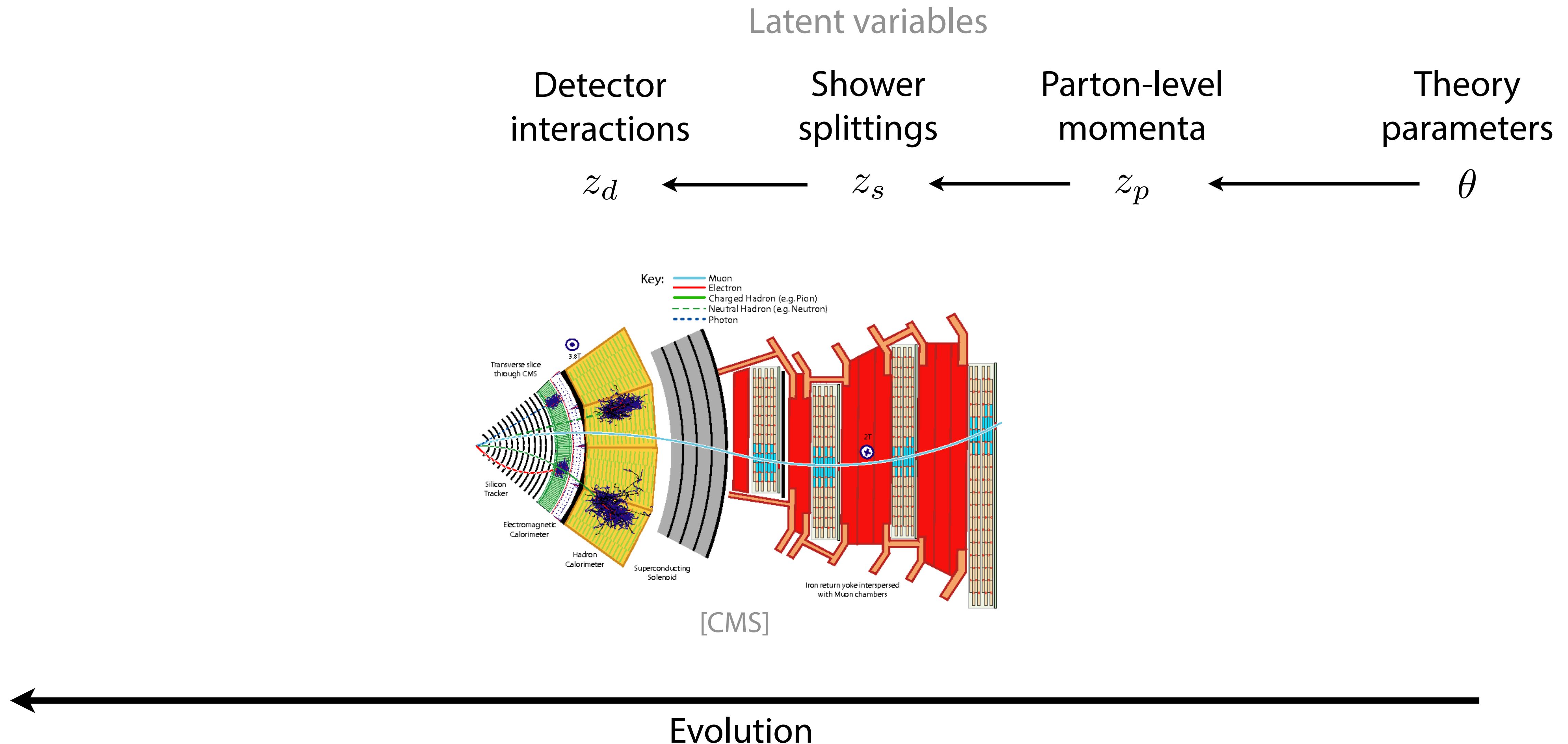
# Modelling particle physics processes



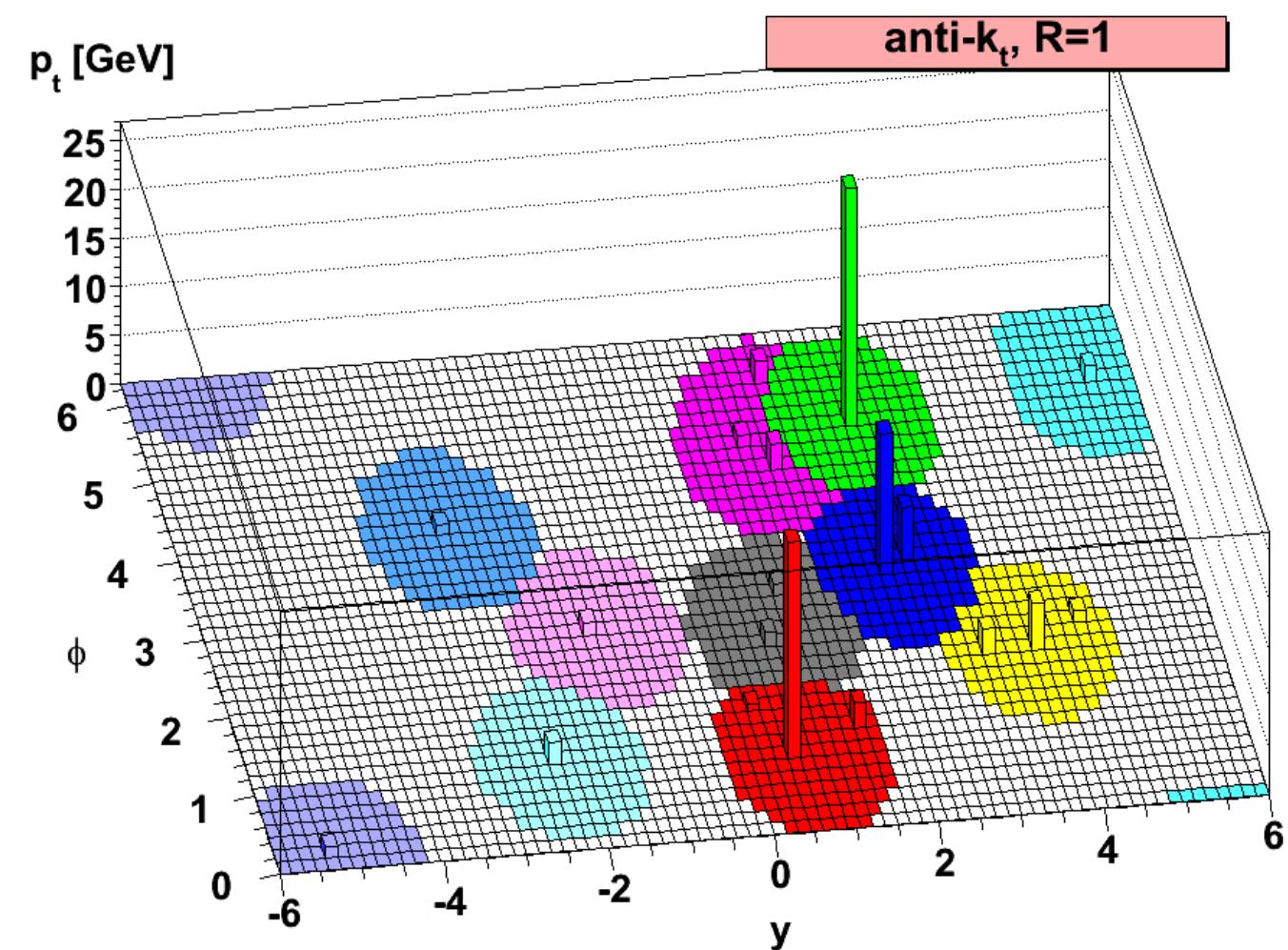
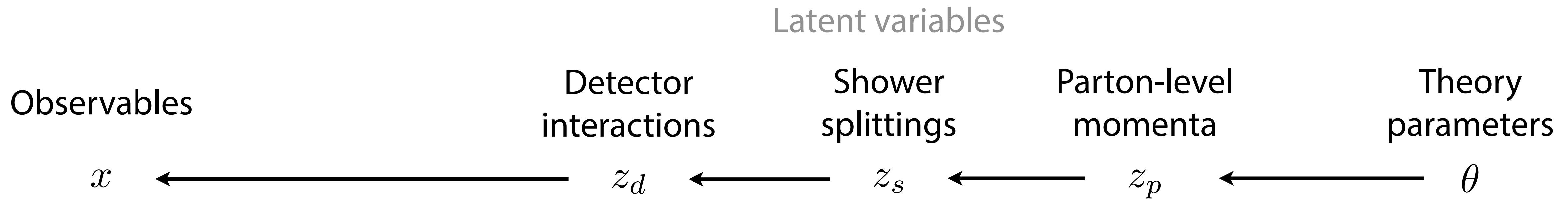
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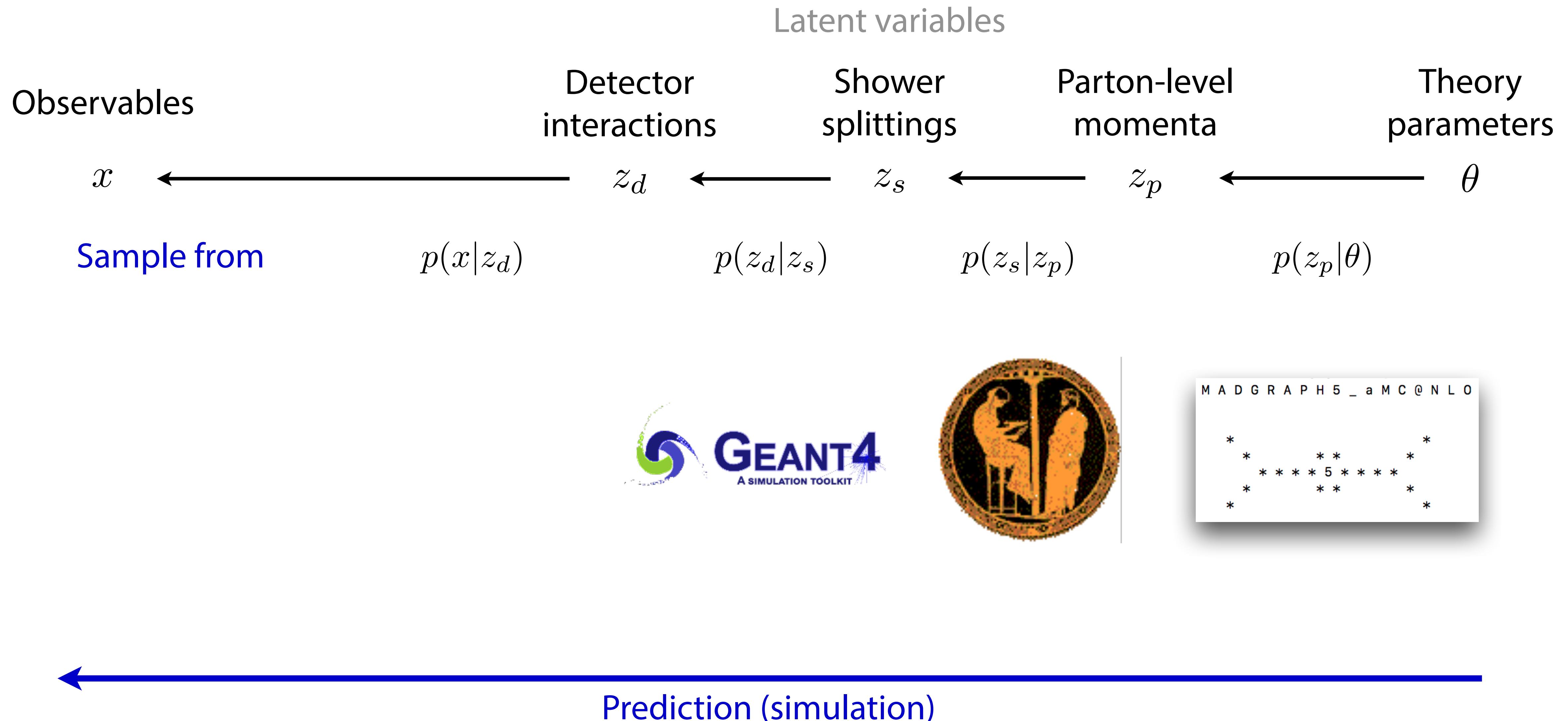
# Modelling particle physics processes



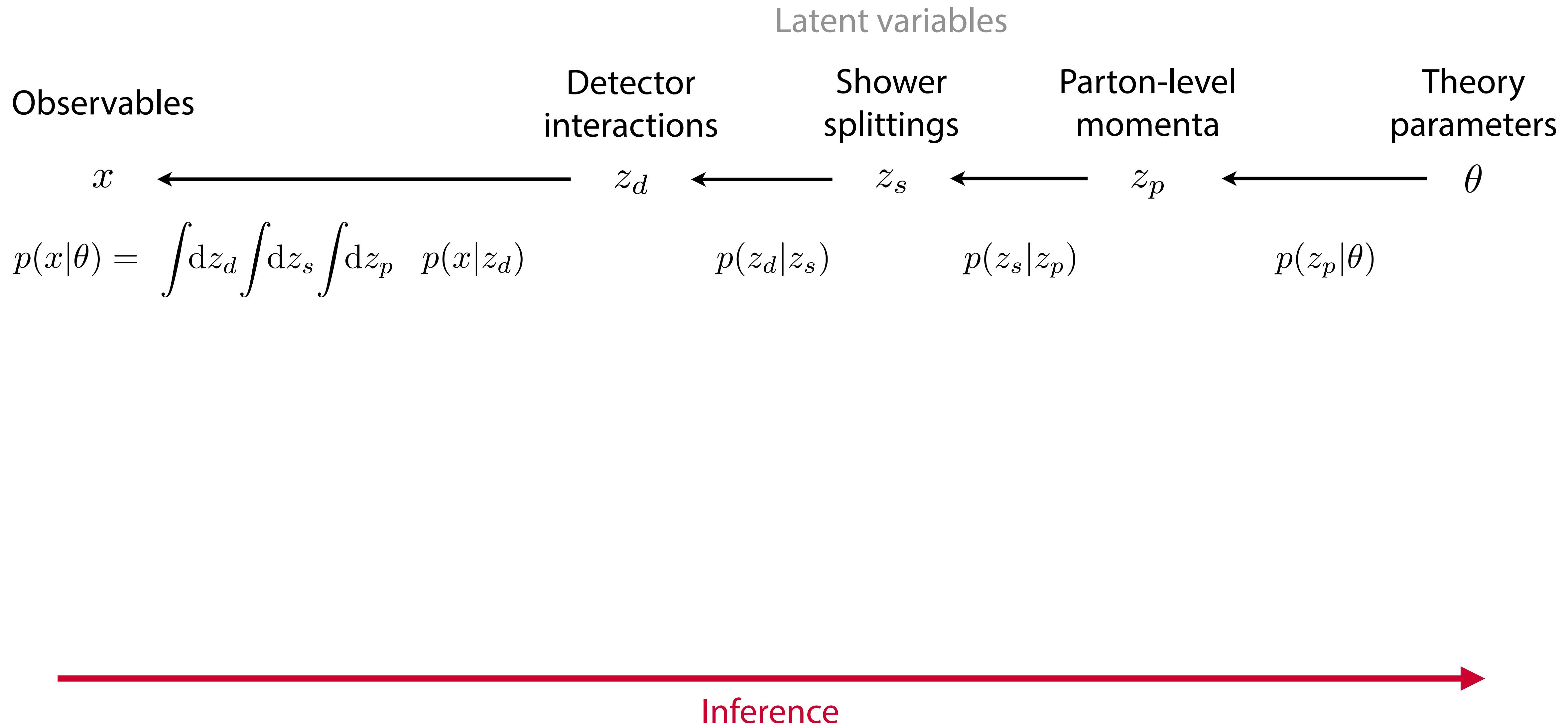
[M. Cacciari, G. Salam, G. Soyez 0802.1189]

Evolution

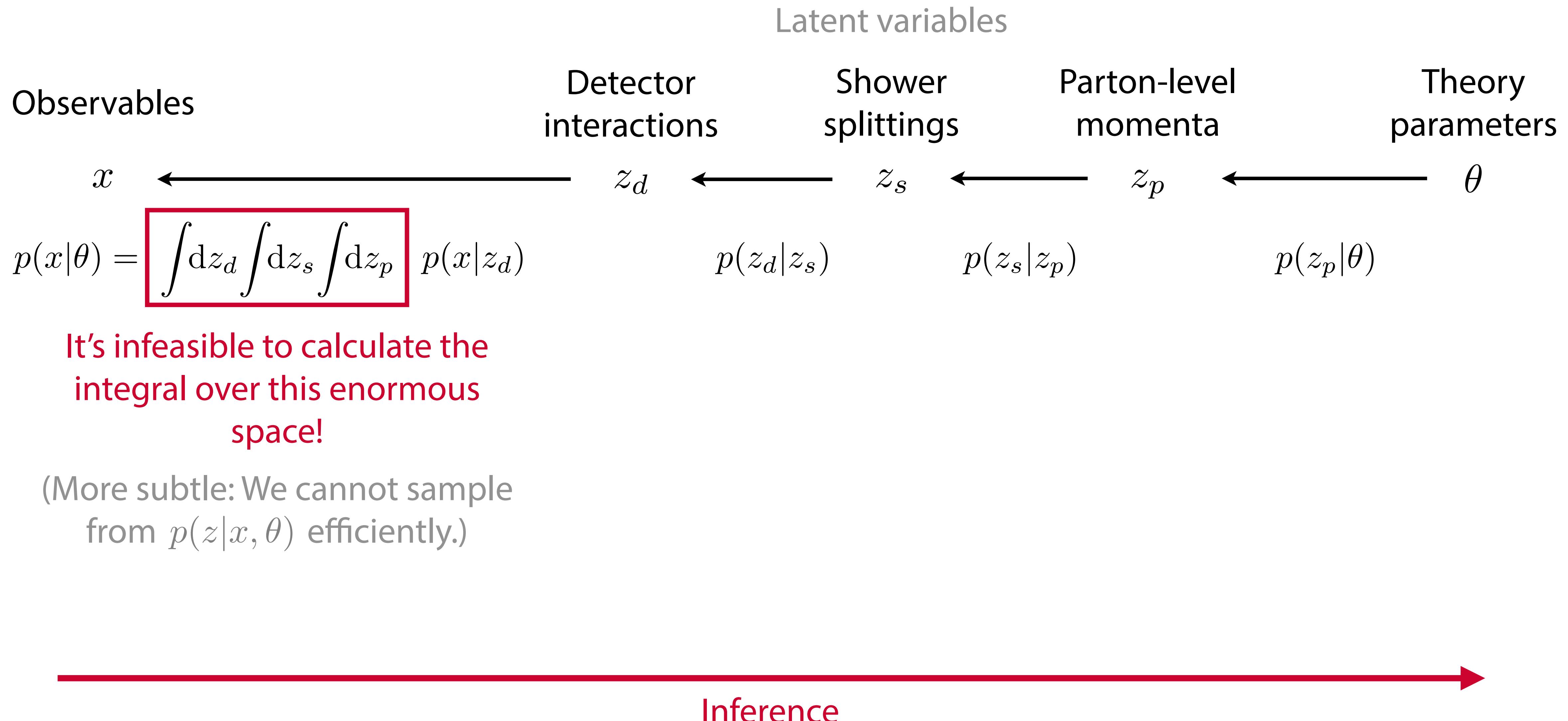
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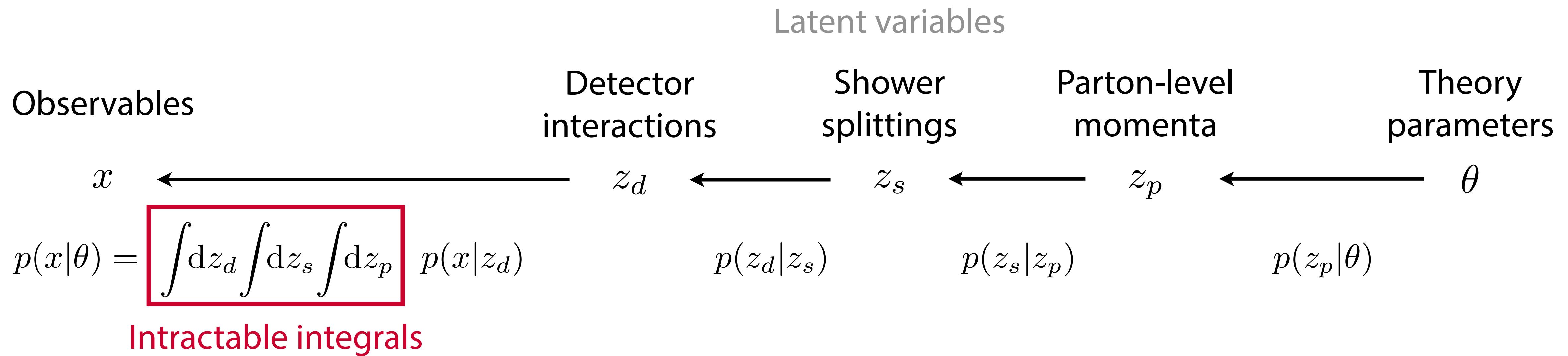
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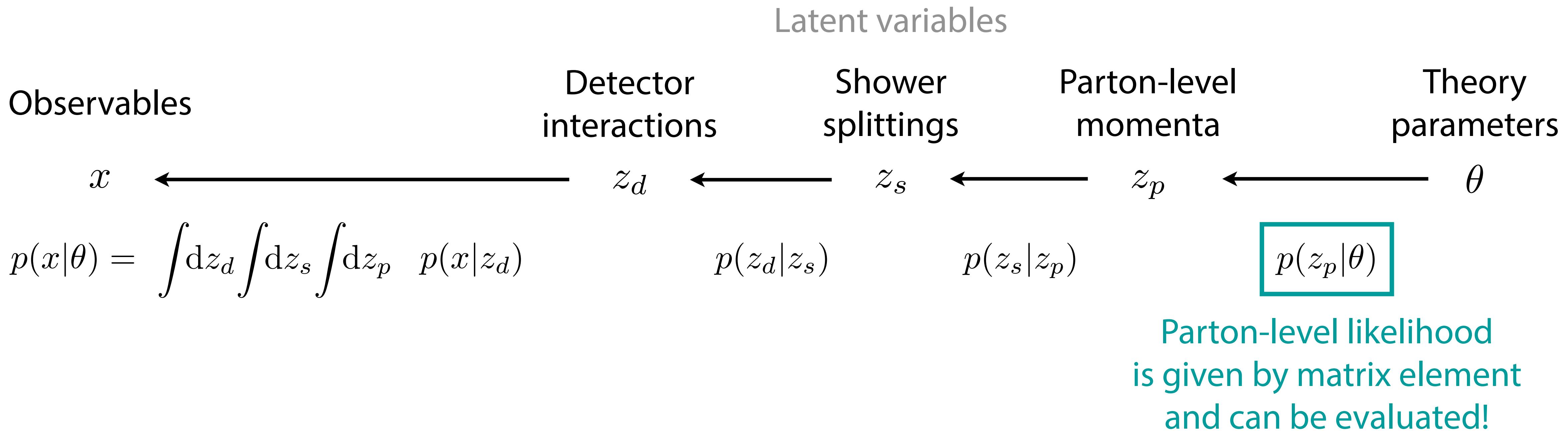
# Modelling particle physics processes



# Mining gold from the simulator



# Mining gold from the simulator



⇒ For each simulated event, we can calculate the **joint likelihood ratio** which depends on the specific evolution of the simulation:

$$r(x, z | \theta_0, \theta_1) \equiv \frac{p(x, z_d, z_s, z_p | \theta_0)}{p(x, z_d, z_s, z_p | \theta_1)} = \frac{p(x|z_d)}{p(x|z_d)} \frac{p(z_d|z_s)}{p(z_d|z_s)} \frac{p(z_s|z_p)}{p(z_s|z_p)}$$

$$\frac{p(z_p|\theta_0)}{p(z_p|\theta_1)} \sim \frac{|\mathcal{M}(z_p|\theta_0)|^2}{|\mathcal{M}(z_p|\theta_1)|^2}$$

# The value of gold

We can calculate the **joint likelihood ratio**

$$r(x, z | \theta_0, \theta_1) \equiv \frac{p(x, z_d, z_s, z_p | \theta_0)}{p(x, z_d, z_s, z_p | \theta_1)}$$

("How much more likely is this simulated event, including all intermediate states, for  $\theta_0$  compared to  $\theta_1$ ?)



We want the **likelihood ratio function**

$$r(x | \theta_0, \theta_1) \equiv \frac{p(x | \theta_0)}{p(x | \theta_1)}$$

("How much more likely is the observation  $x$  for  $\theta_0$  compared to  $\theta_1$ ?)

# The value of gold

We can calculate the joint likelihood ratio

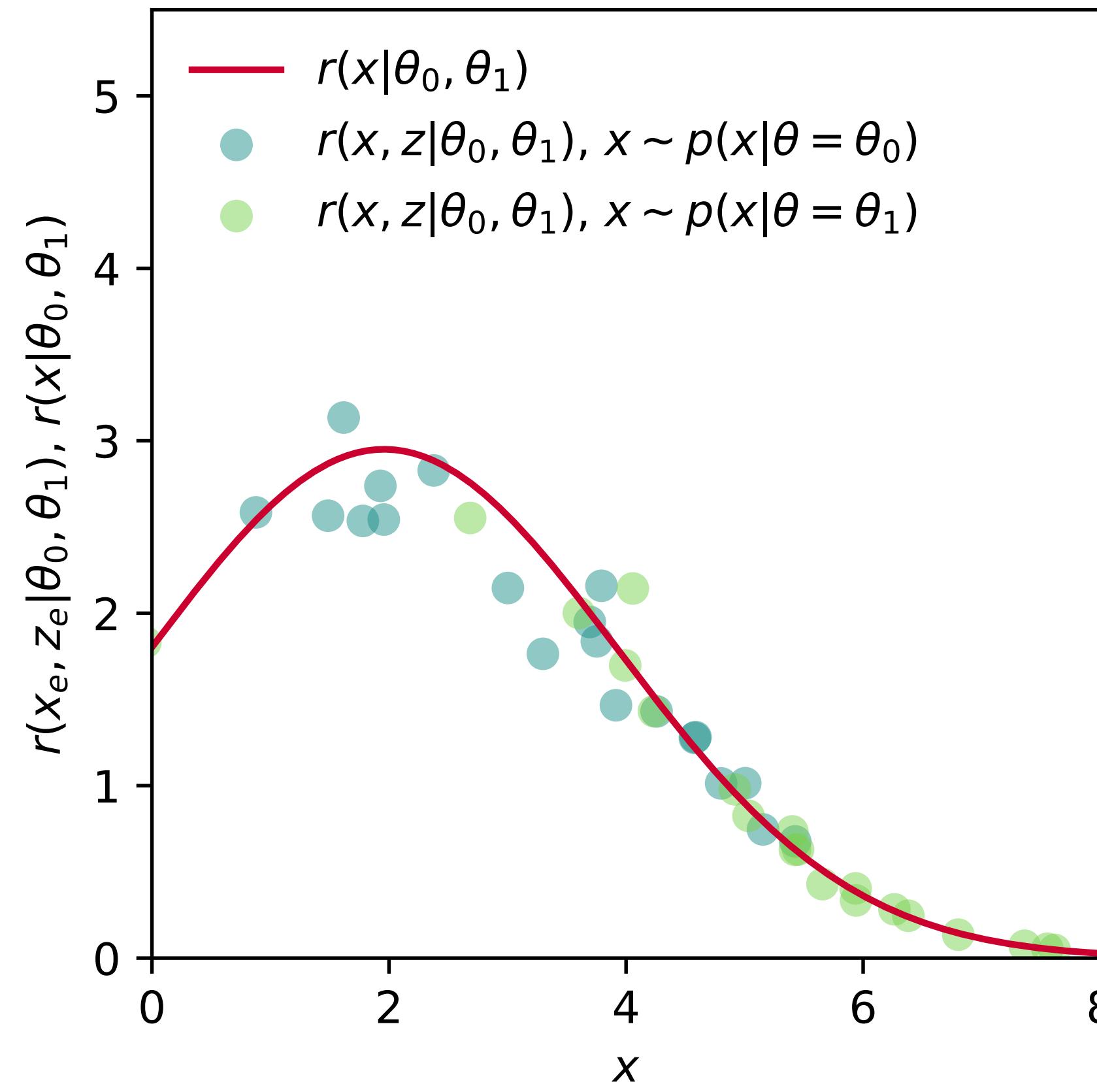
$$r(x, z | \theta_0, \theta_1) \equiv \frac{p(x, z_d, z_s, z_p | \theta_0)}{p(x, z_d, z_s, z_p | \theta_1)}$$



$r(x, z | \theta_0, \theta_1)$  are scattered around  $r(x | \theta_0, \theta_1)$

We want the likelihood ratio function

$$r(x | \theta_0, \theta_1) \equiv \frac{p(x | \theta_0)}{p(x | \theta_1)}$$



# The value of gold

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With  $r(x, z|\theta_0, \theta_1)$ , we define a functional like

$$L_r[\hat{r}(x|\theta_0, \theta_1)] = \int dx \int dz p(x, z|\theta_1) \left[ (\hat{r}(x|\theta_0, \theta_1) - r(x, z|\theta_0, \theta_1))^2 \right].$$

It is minimized by

$$r(x|\theta_0, \theta_1) = \arg \min_{\hat{r}(x|\theta_0, \theta_1)} L_r[\hat{r}(x|\theta_0, \theta_1)]!$$

(And we can sample from  $p(x, z|\theta)$  by running the simulator.)

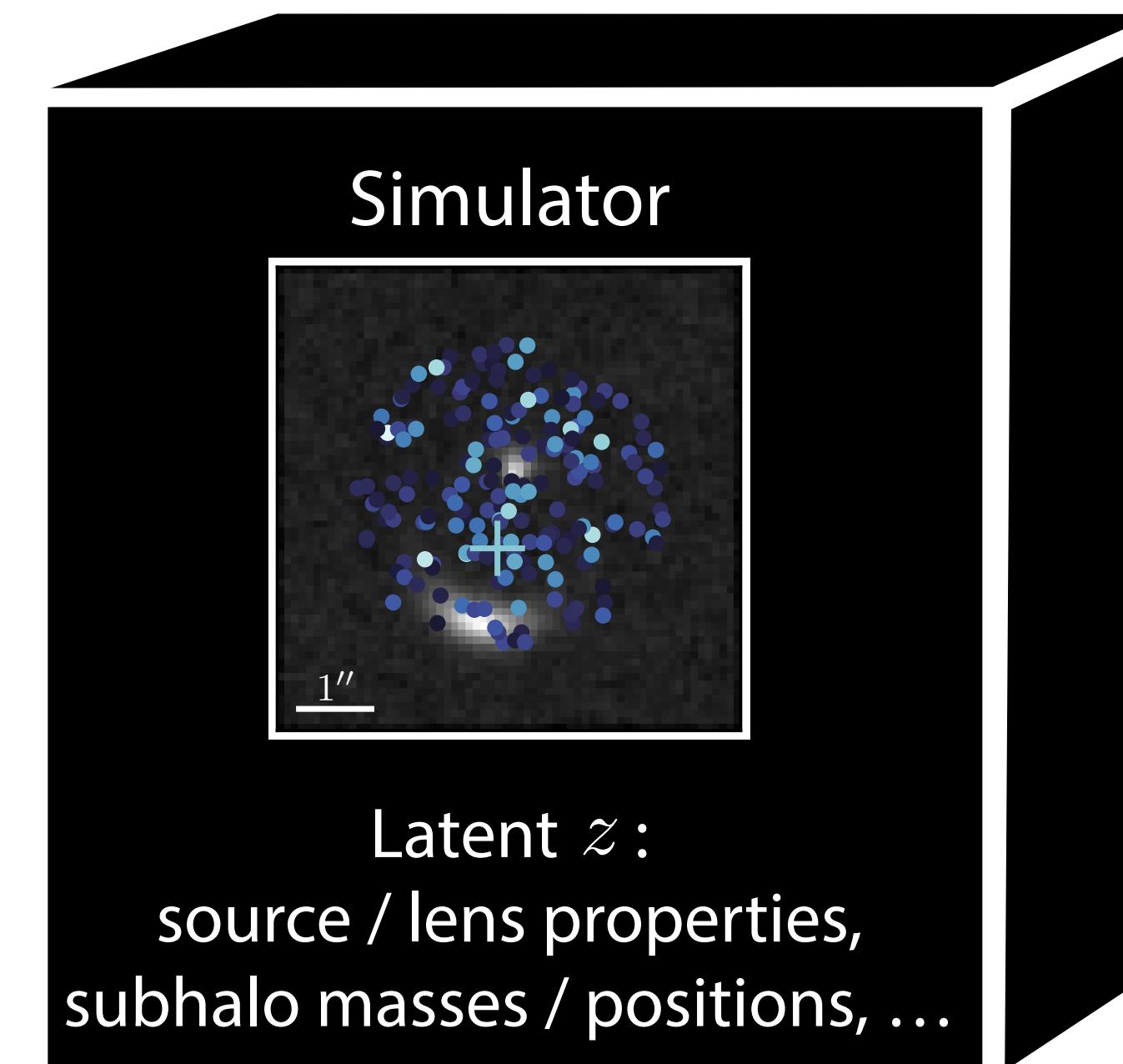
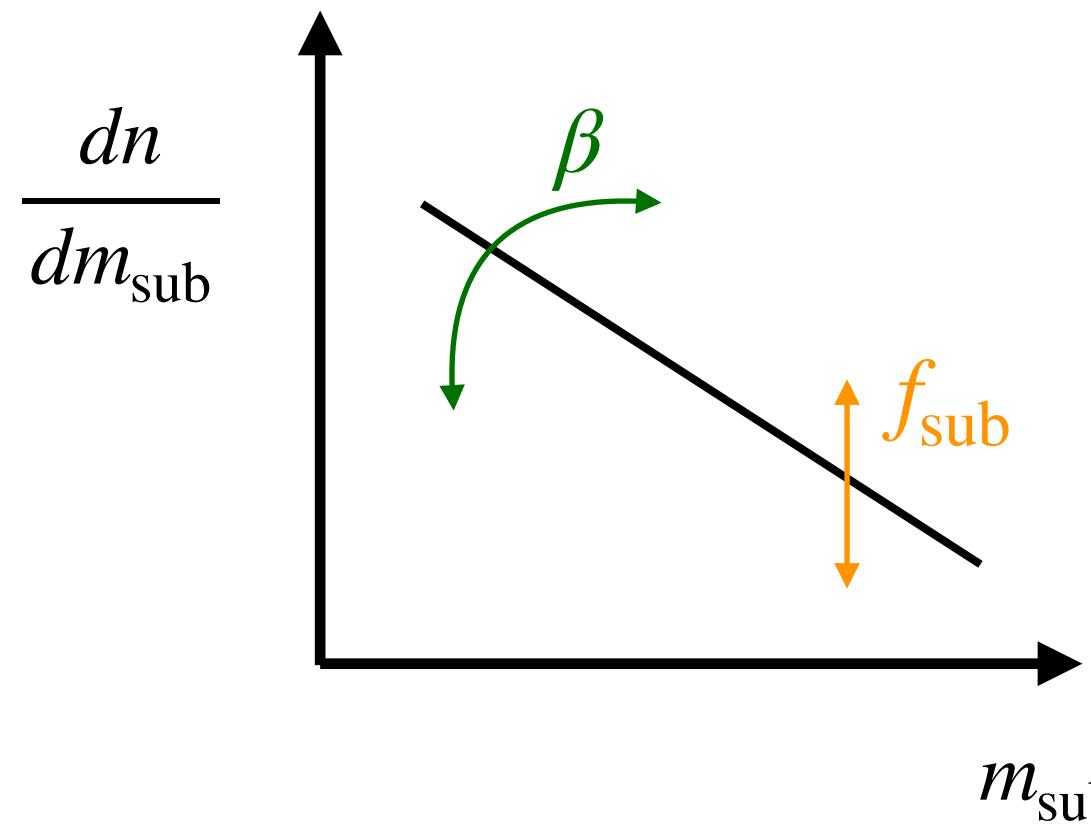
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Bonus material: gravitational lensing

# Overview

2 parameters  $\theta = (\beta, f_{\text{sub}})$



64<sup>2</sup> observables  $x$

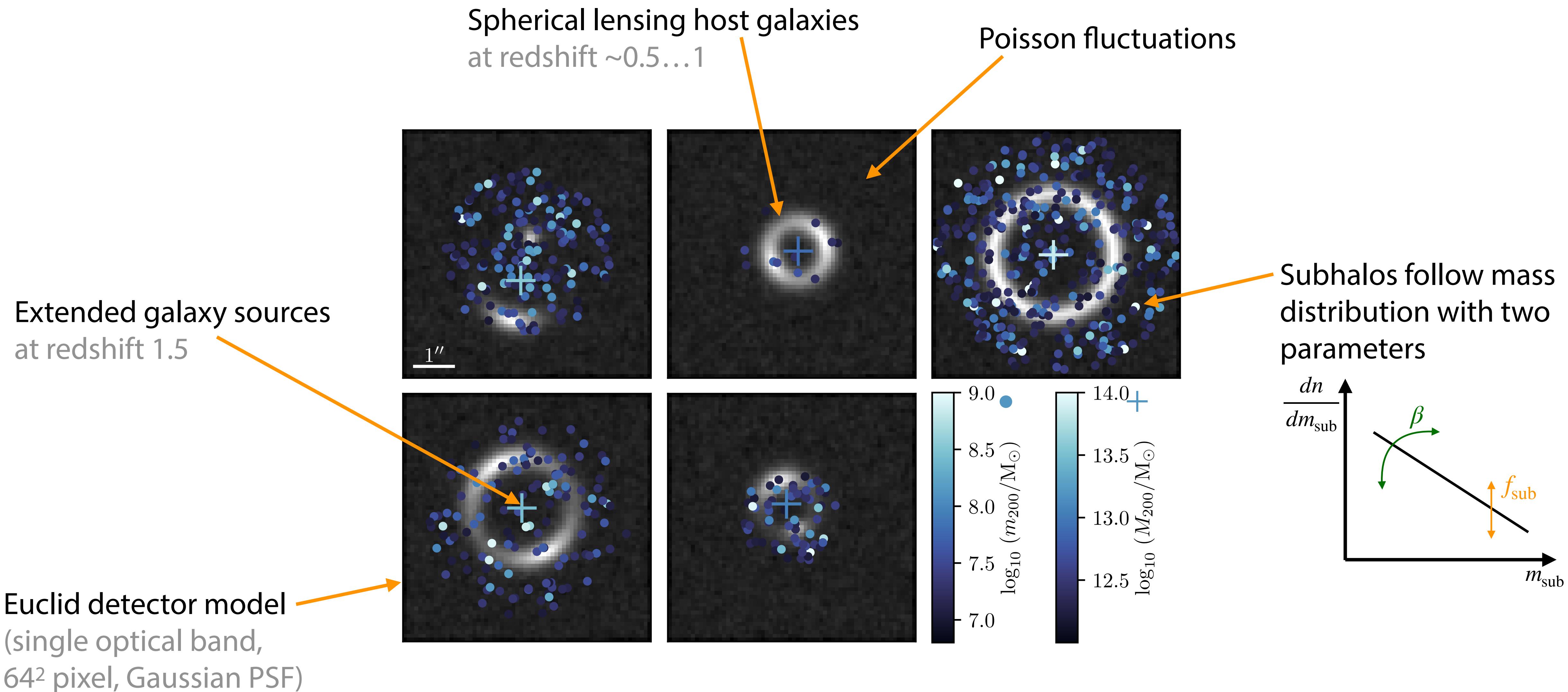


Prediction: We construct a simulator that can sample  $x \sim p(x|\theta)$

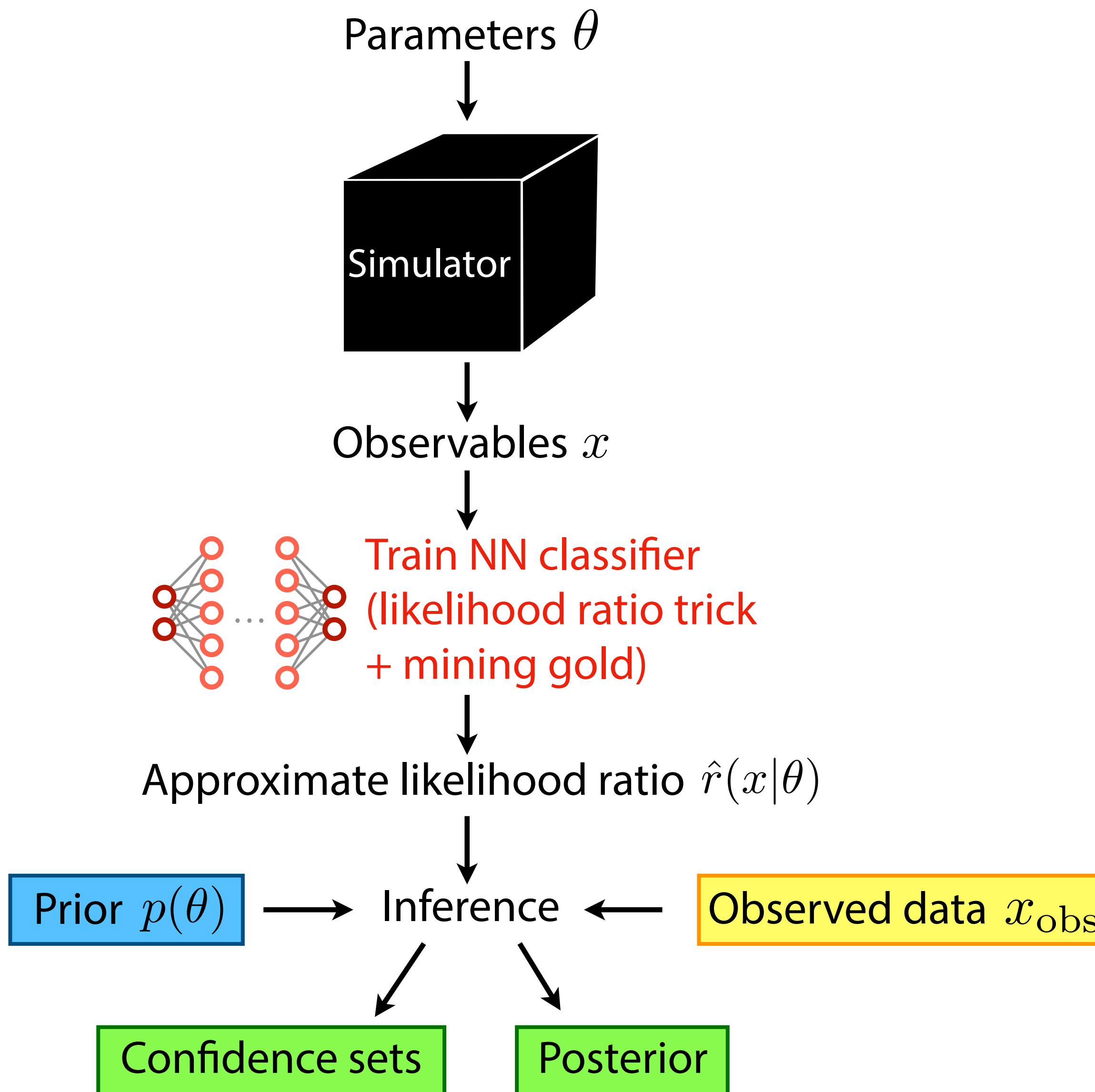
Inference: We train neural likelihood ratio estimators  $\hat{r}(x|\theta)$

# Proof-of-principle simulator

[following T. Collett 1507.02657]



# Inference setup



Training data:  $10^6$  lensed images with  
 $0 \leq f_{\text{sub}} \leq 0.2, -1.5 \leq \beta \leq -0.5$

Convolutional neural network (modified ResNet-18)  
trained on ALICES loss  
[M. Stoye, JB, J. Pavez, G, Louppe, K. Cranmer 1808.00973]

Calibration of network output

Synthetic “observed” data set:  $f_{\text{sub}} = 0.05, \beta = -0.9$

Bayesian & frequentist inference

# LHC footnotes

- Full LHC likelihood:

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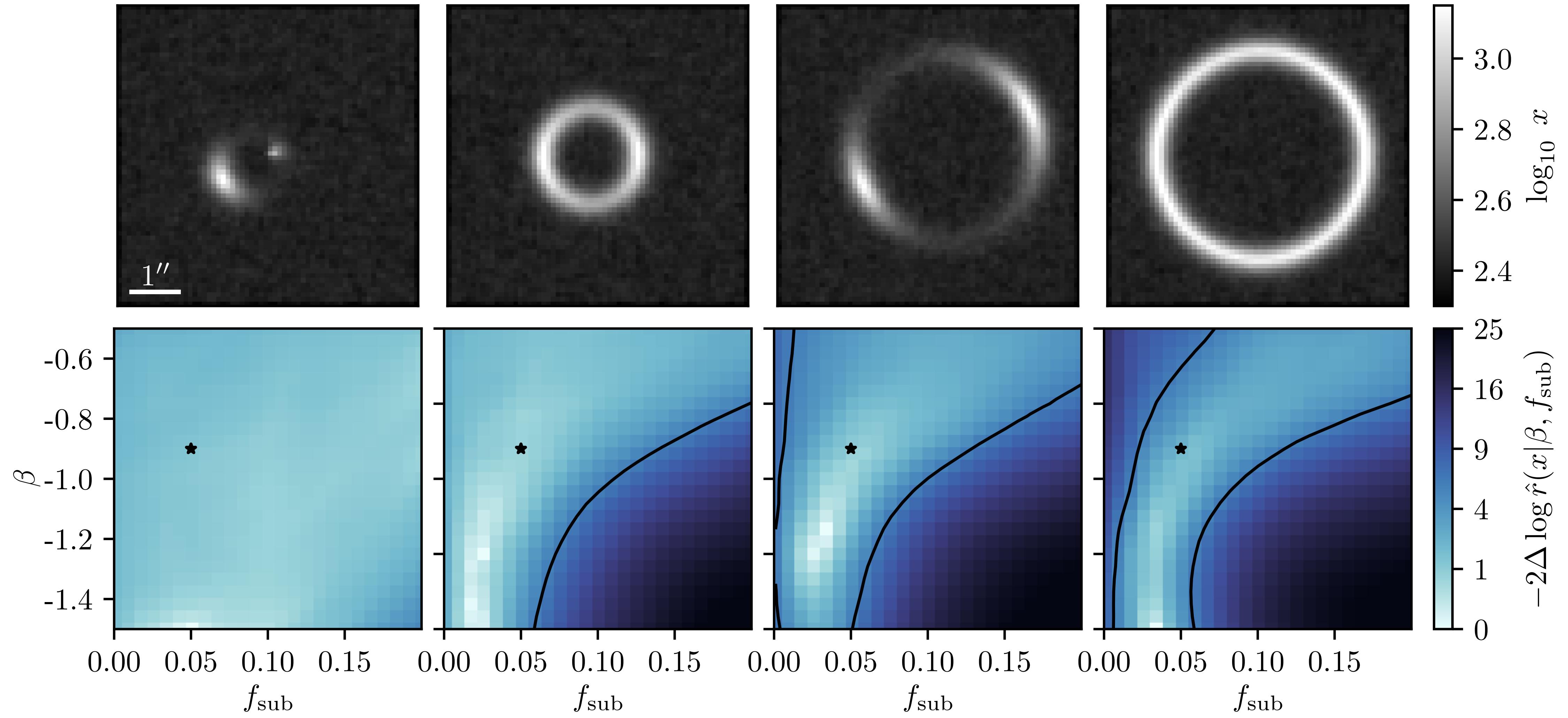
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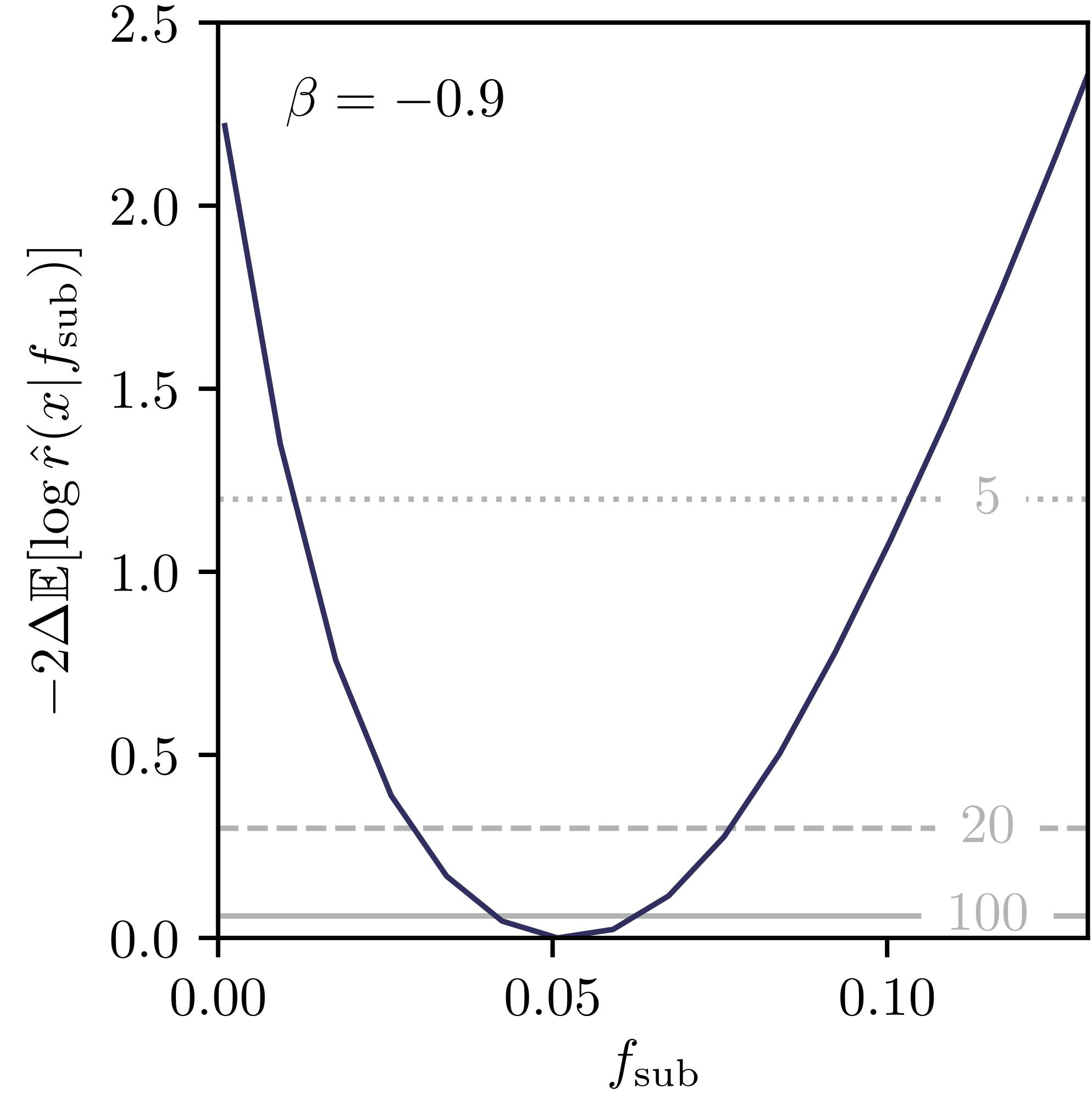
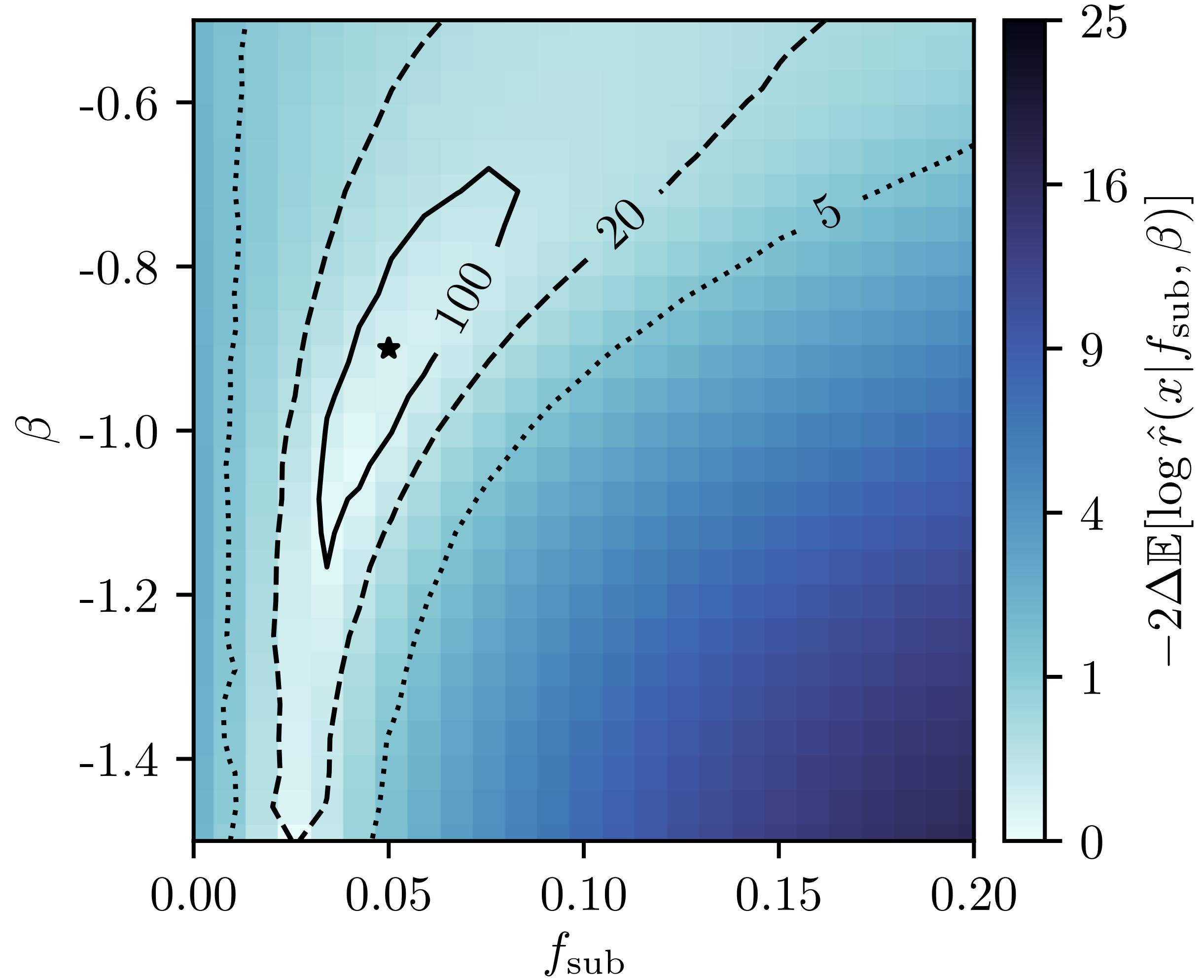
- Event selection:

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# Inferring parameters from individual images

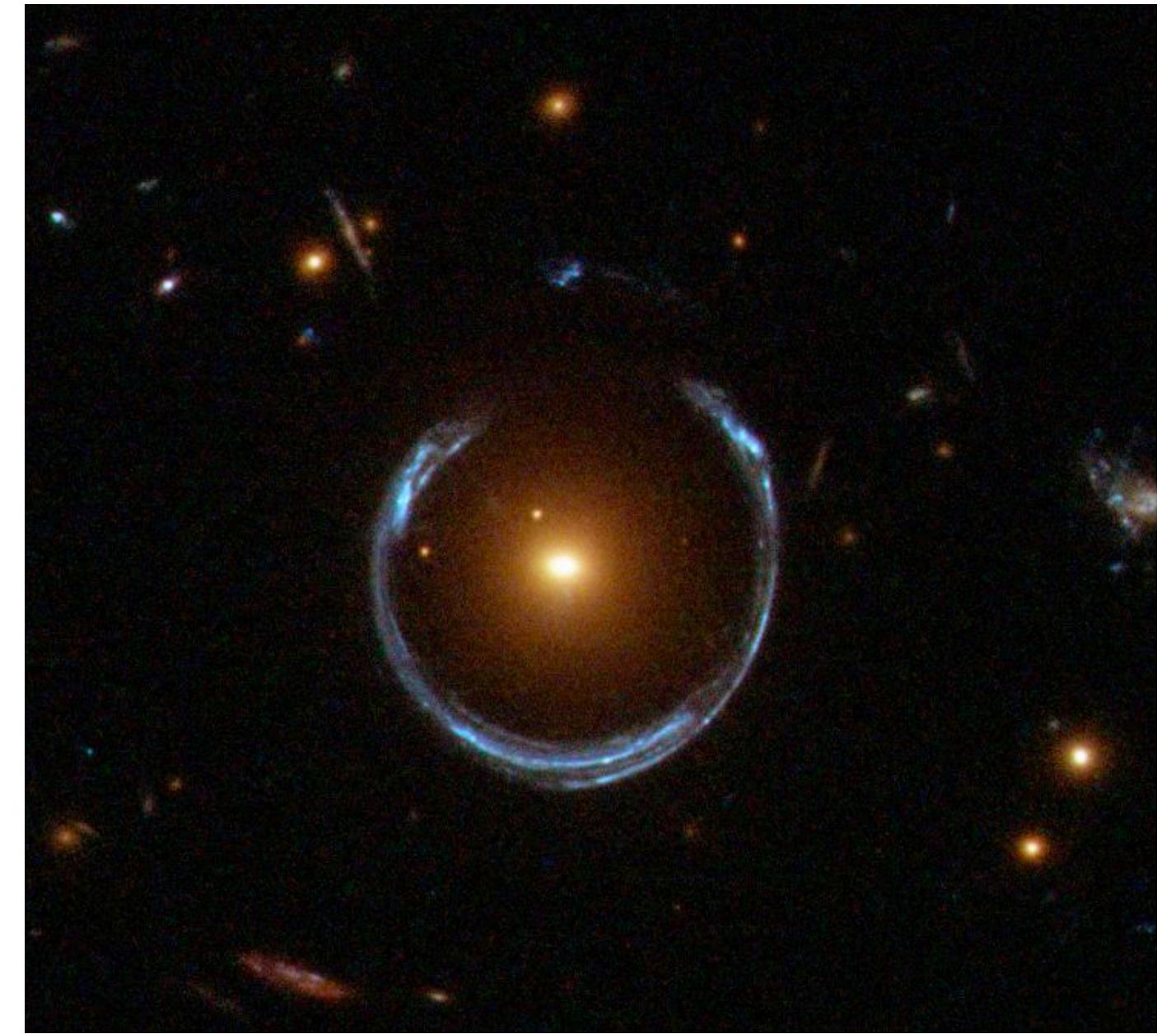


# Expected likelihood ratio map



# All the things we didn't do

- More involved subhalo mass function
  - Warm DM with DM mass as parameter
- Realistic simulators
  - More diverse source and host galaxies (e.g. data-driven)
  - Realistic subhalo modelling (tidal disruption, redshift dependence...)
  - Line-of-sight substructure
  - Realistic observation model (variable exposure / PSF, multiple bands...)
- Use auxiliary information during inference
- Evaluation on real data



[ESA/Hubble/NASA]

⇒ Our method should scale to a realistic setting, but will require more simulations and careful sanity checks

Bonus material:  $\mathcal{M}$ -flows

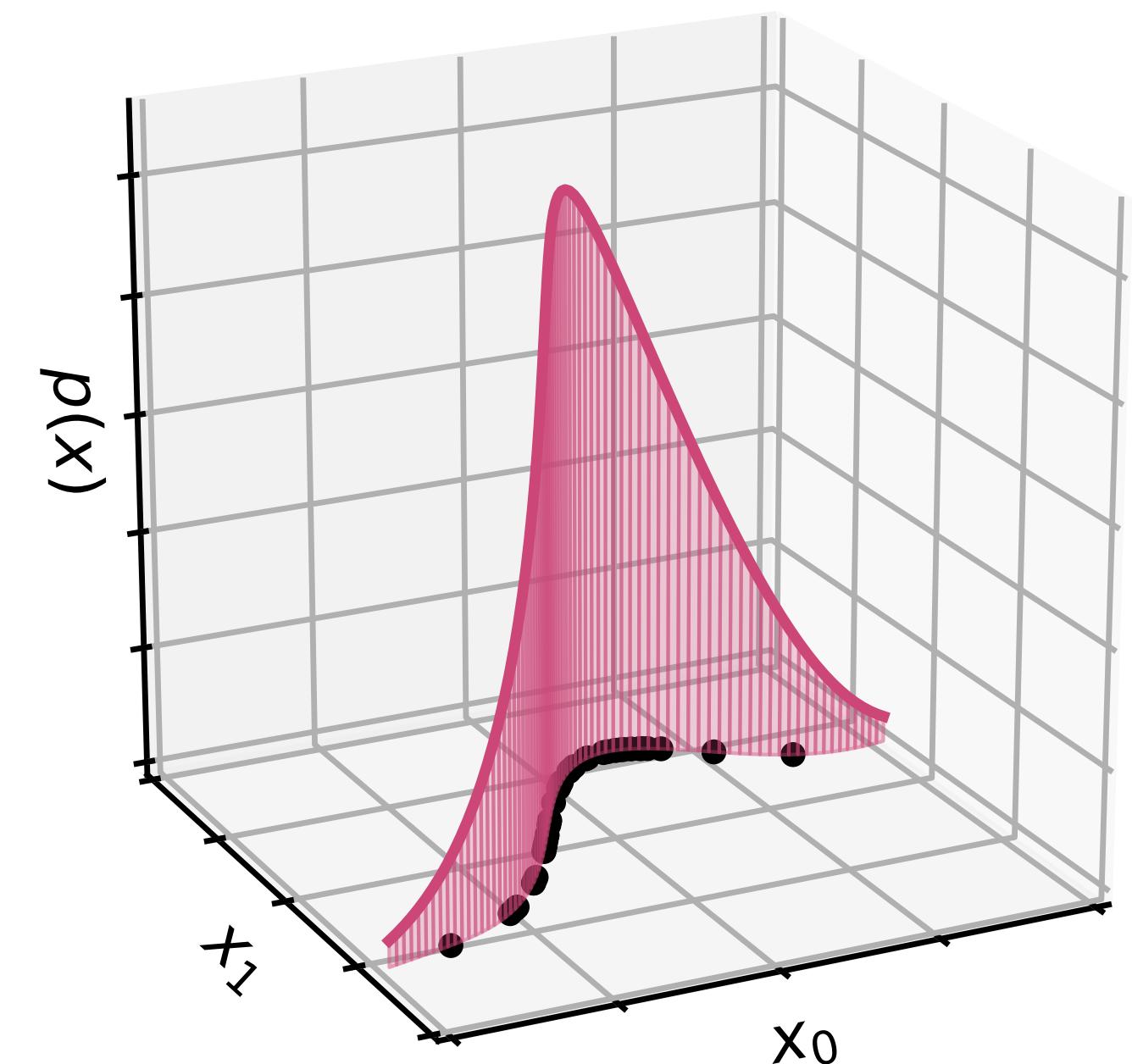
# $\mathcal{M}$ -flows

[JB, K. Cranmer 2003.13913]

Often data is restricted to a lower-dimensional manifold embedded in the data space

$\mathcal{M}$ -flows are a new probabilistic / generative model that

- describe data as a tractable probability density on a lower-dimensional manifold
- learn manifold and density from data



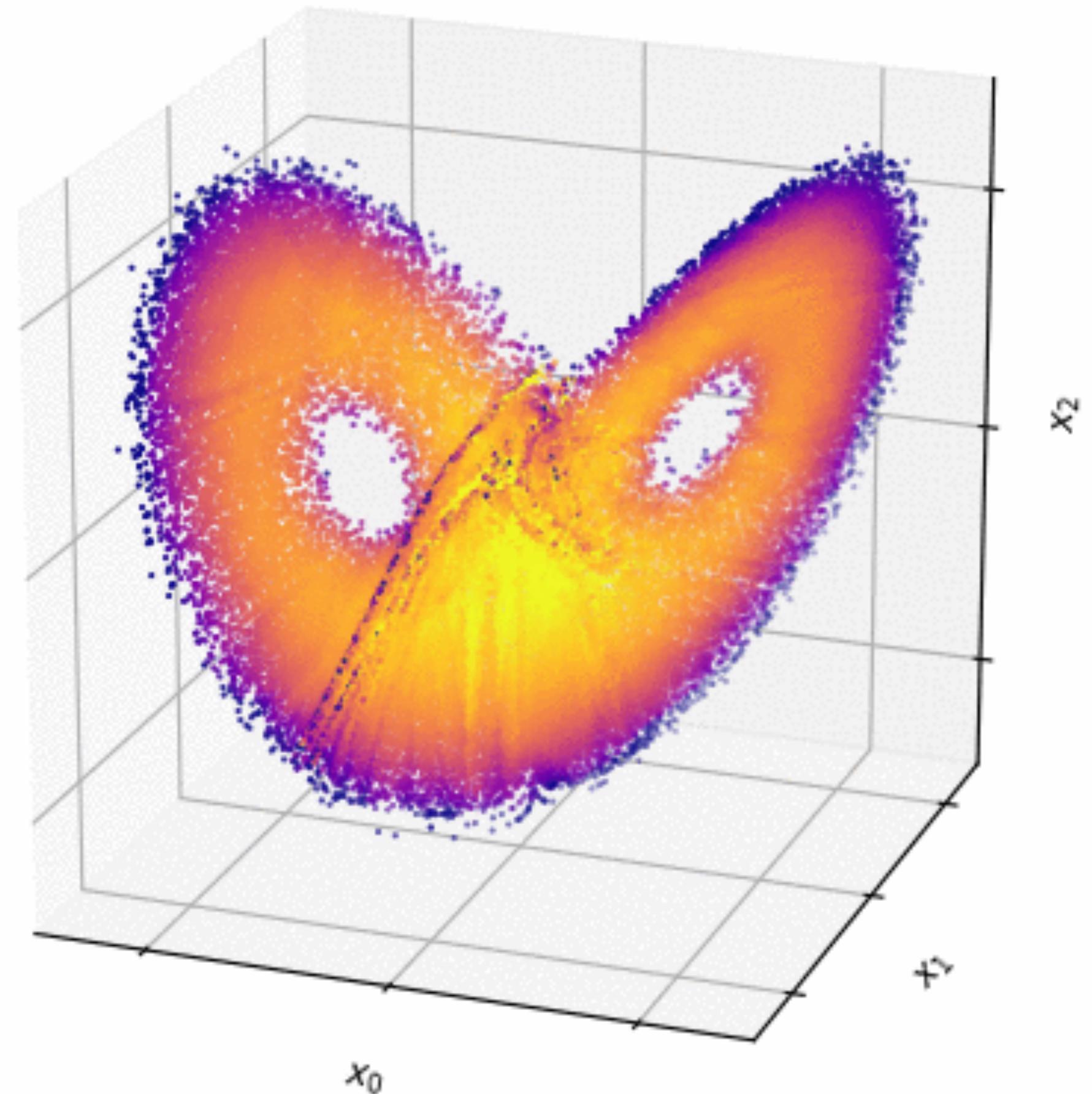
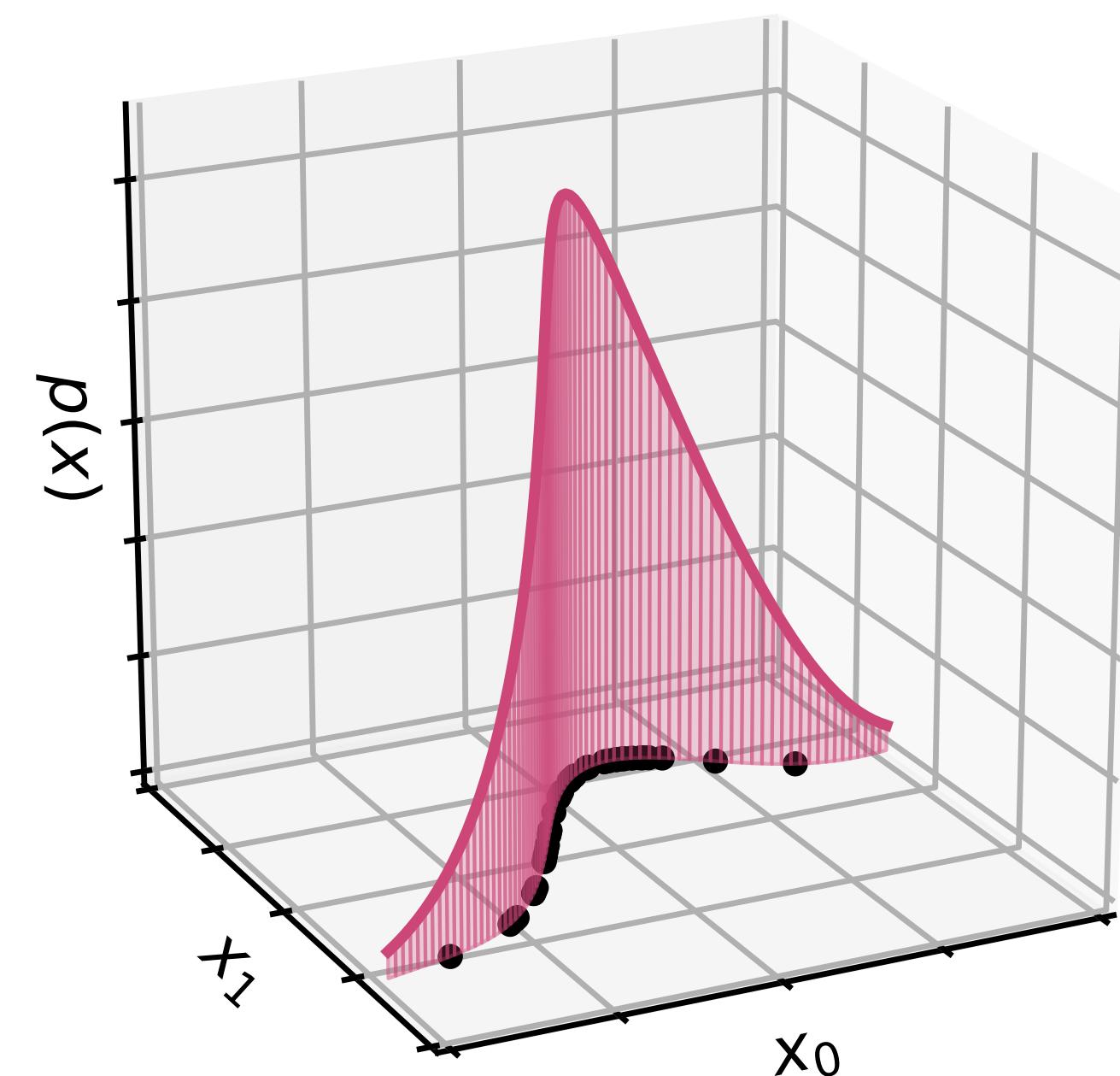
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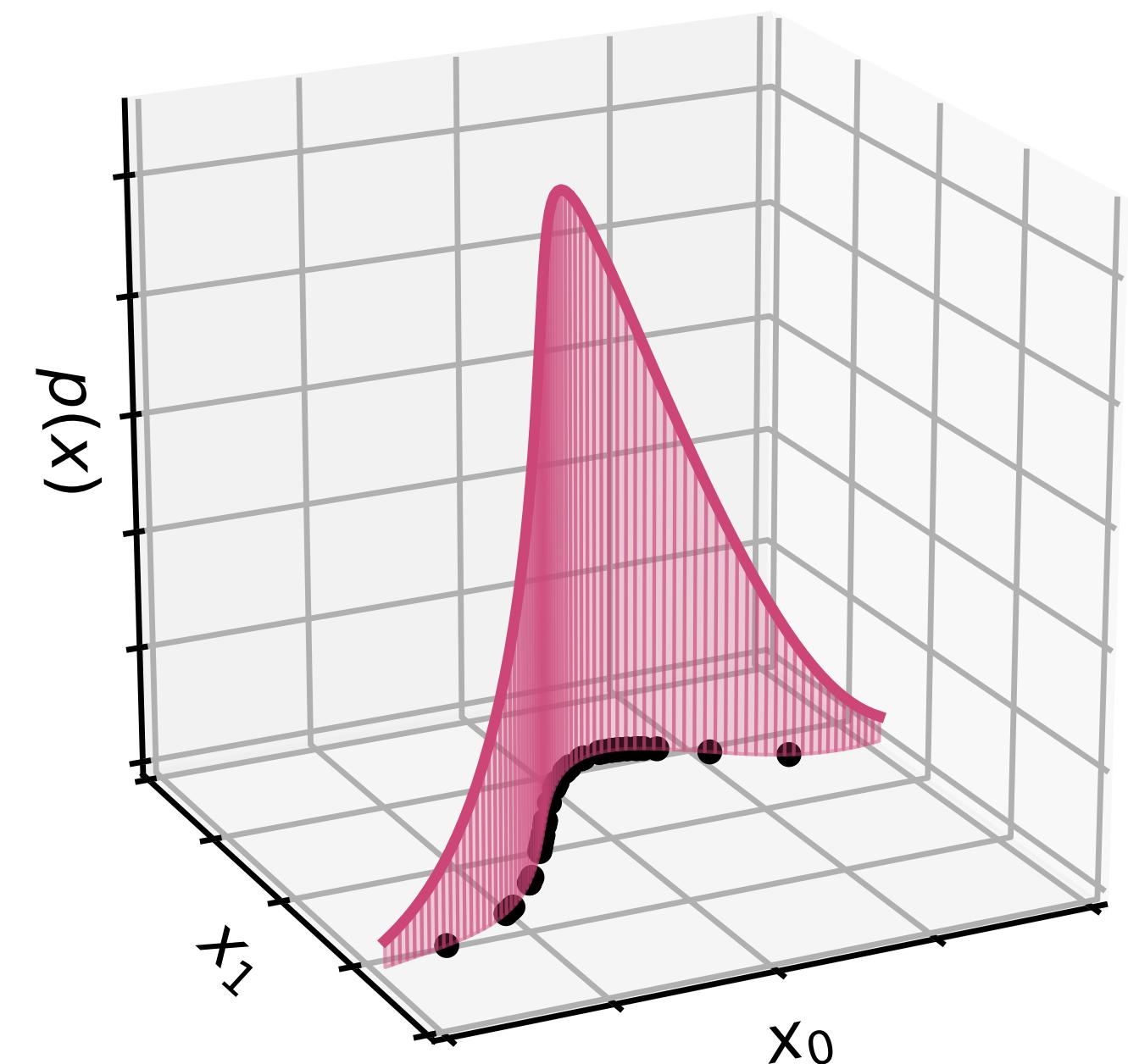
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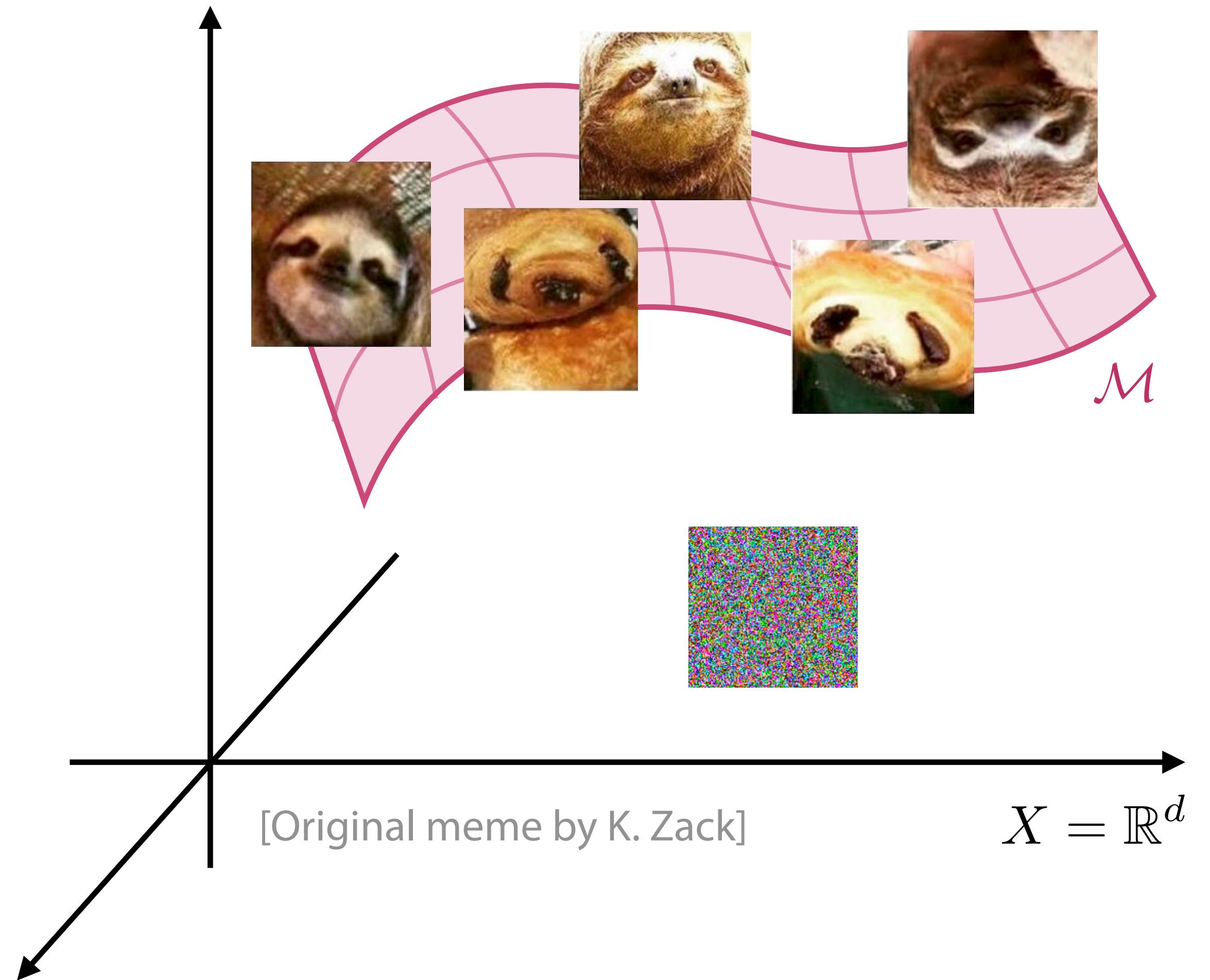
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# The manifold hypothesis

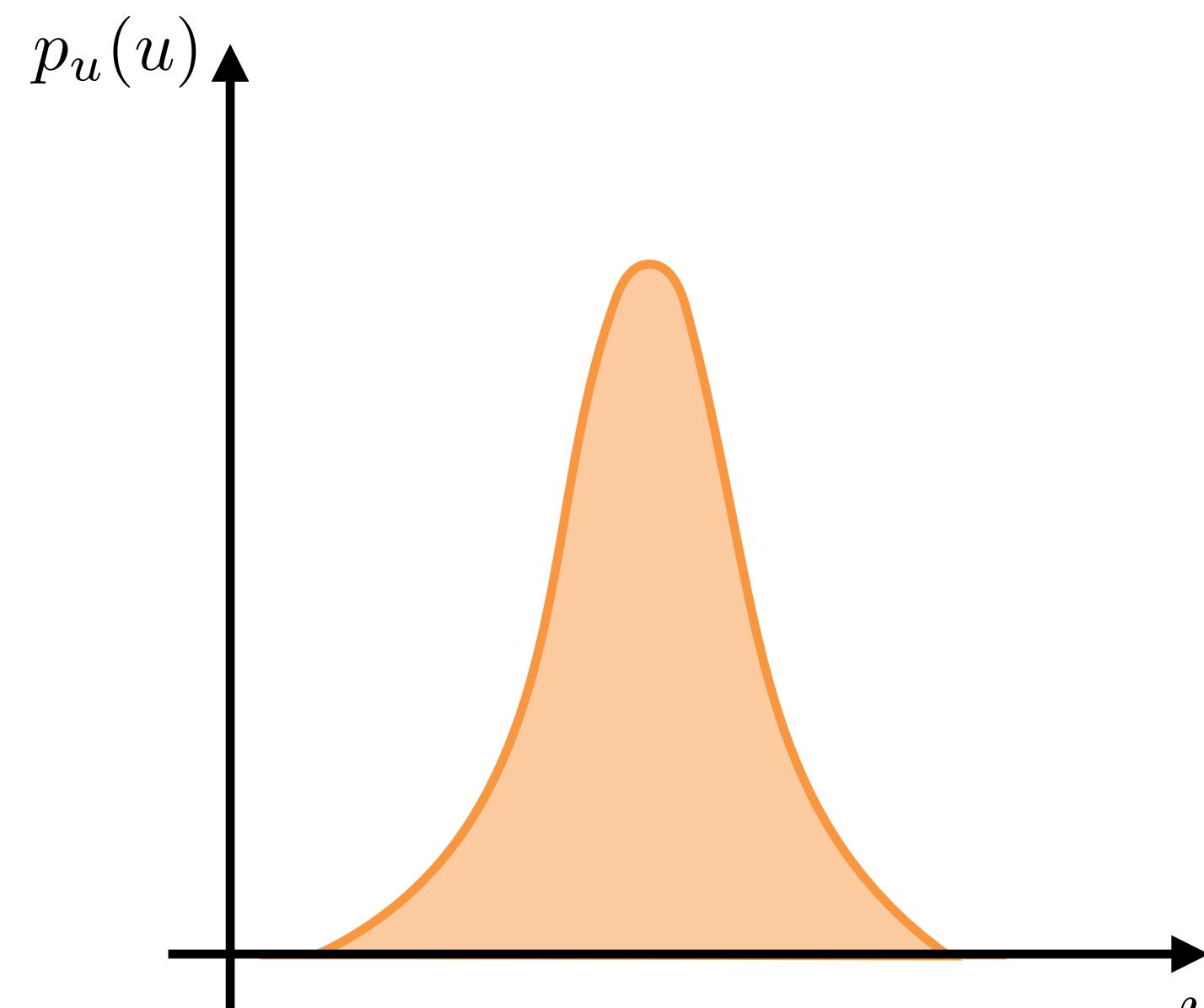
Data often live on a *n*-dimensional manifold embedded in the *d*-dimensional ambient space

- Robot arms, molecules: limited degrees of freedom
- Particle physics: energy-momentum conservation, on-shell conditions, redundant observables
- Many other high-dimensional datasets (e.g. images): empirical evidence for (approximate) data manifold [L. Cayton 2005; ...]



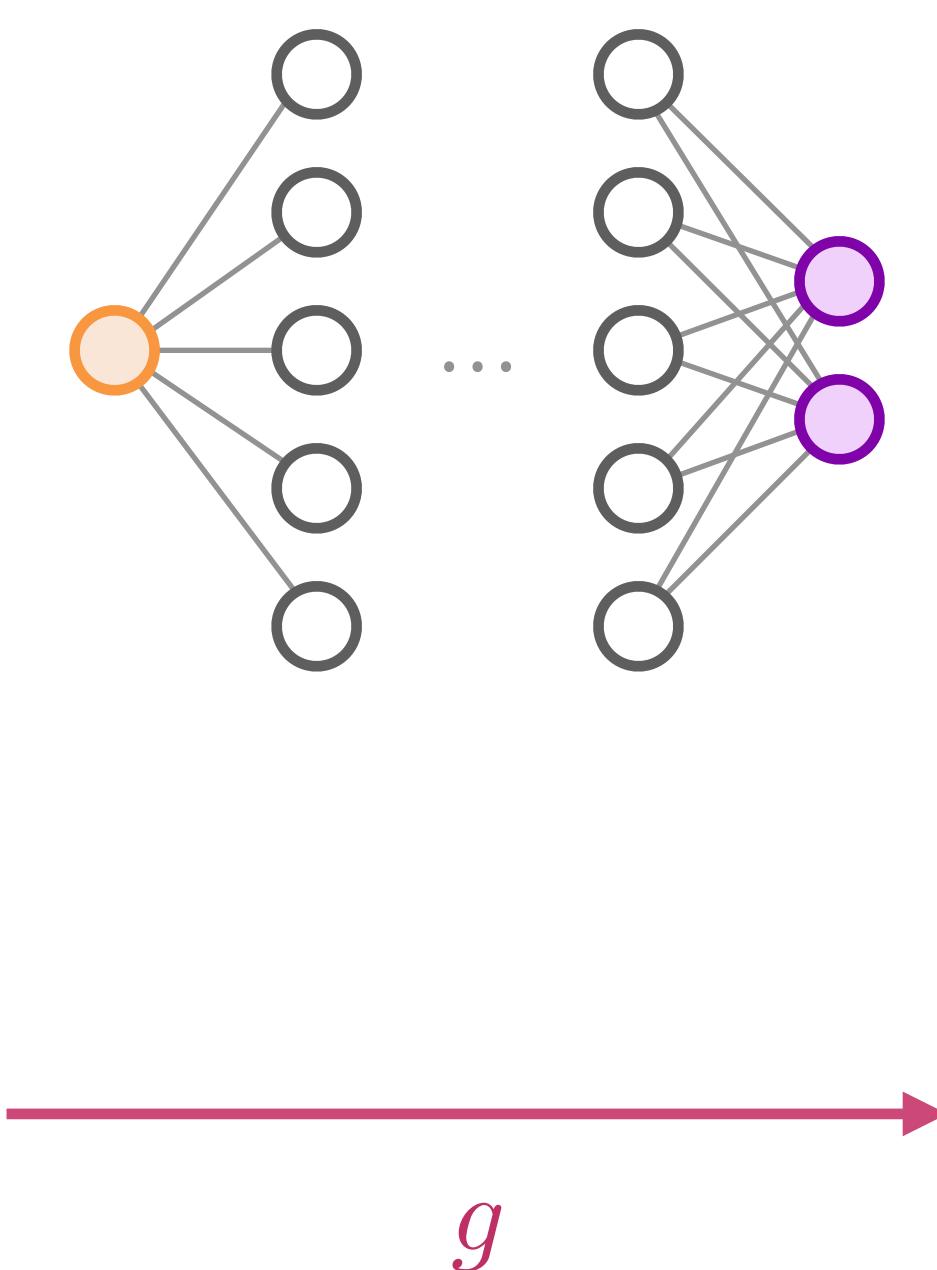
# Generative adversarial networks (GANs)

[I. Goodfellow et al 1406.2661]

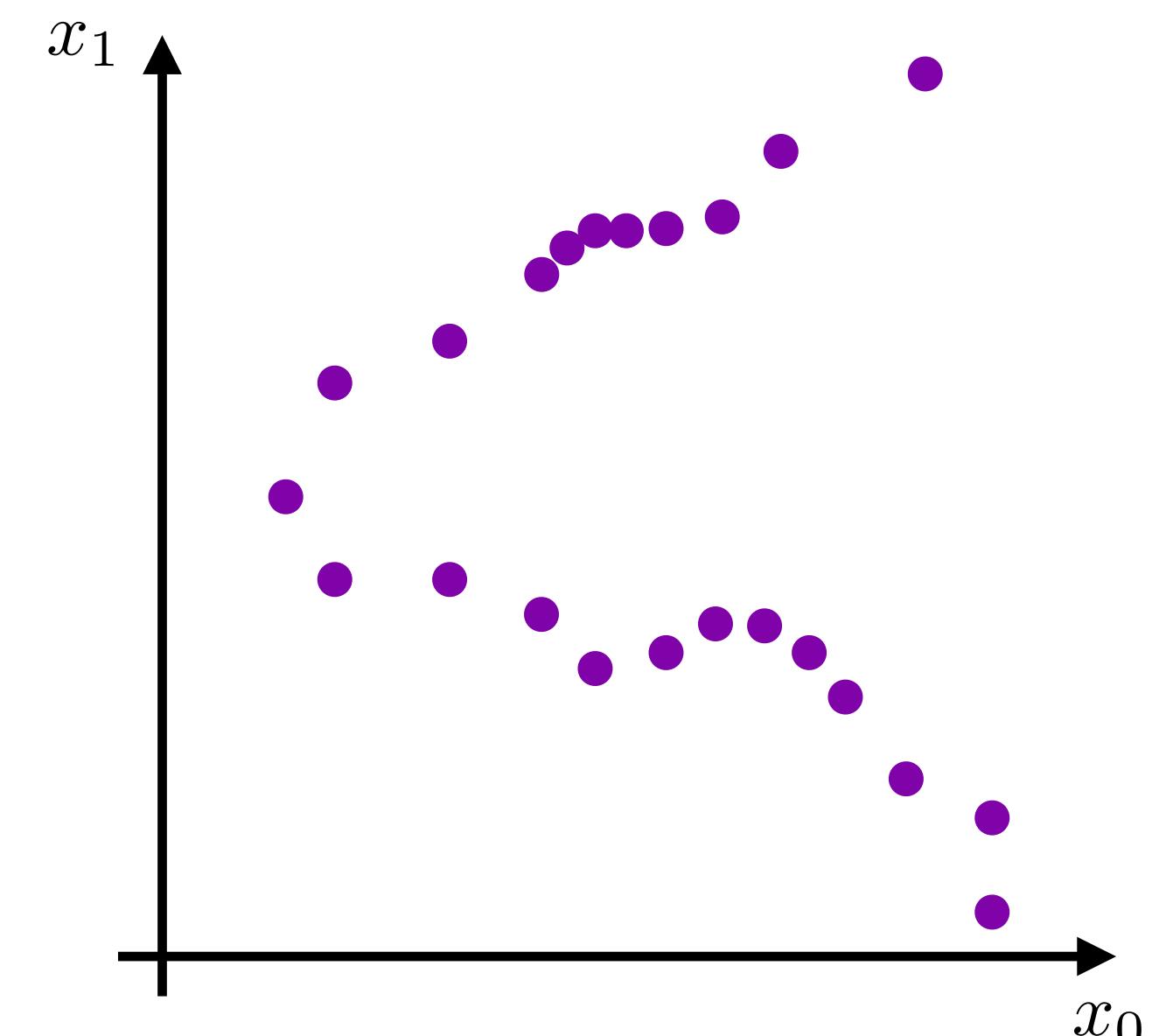


$$u \sim p_u(u)$$

$n$ -dim. latent variables



unconstrained NN



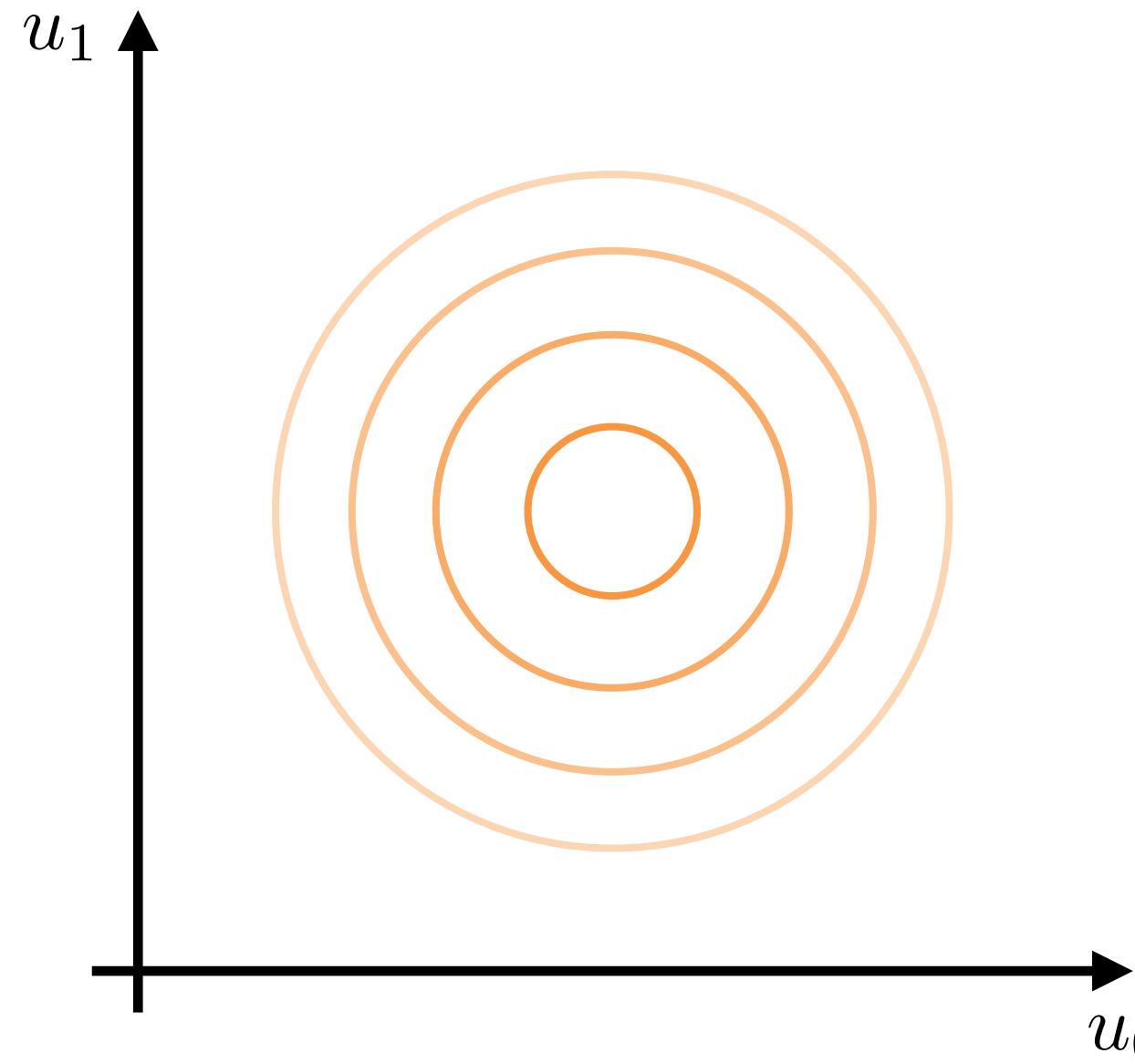
$x$

implicit density over  $\mathcal{M}$

$p_{\mathcal{M}}(x)$  intractable

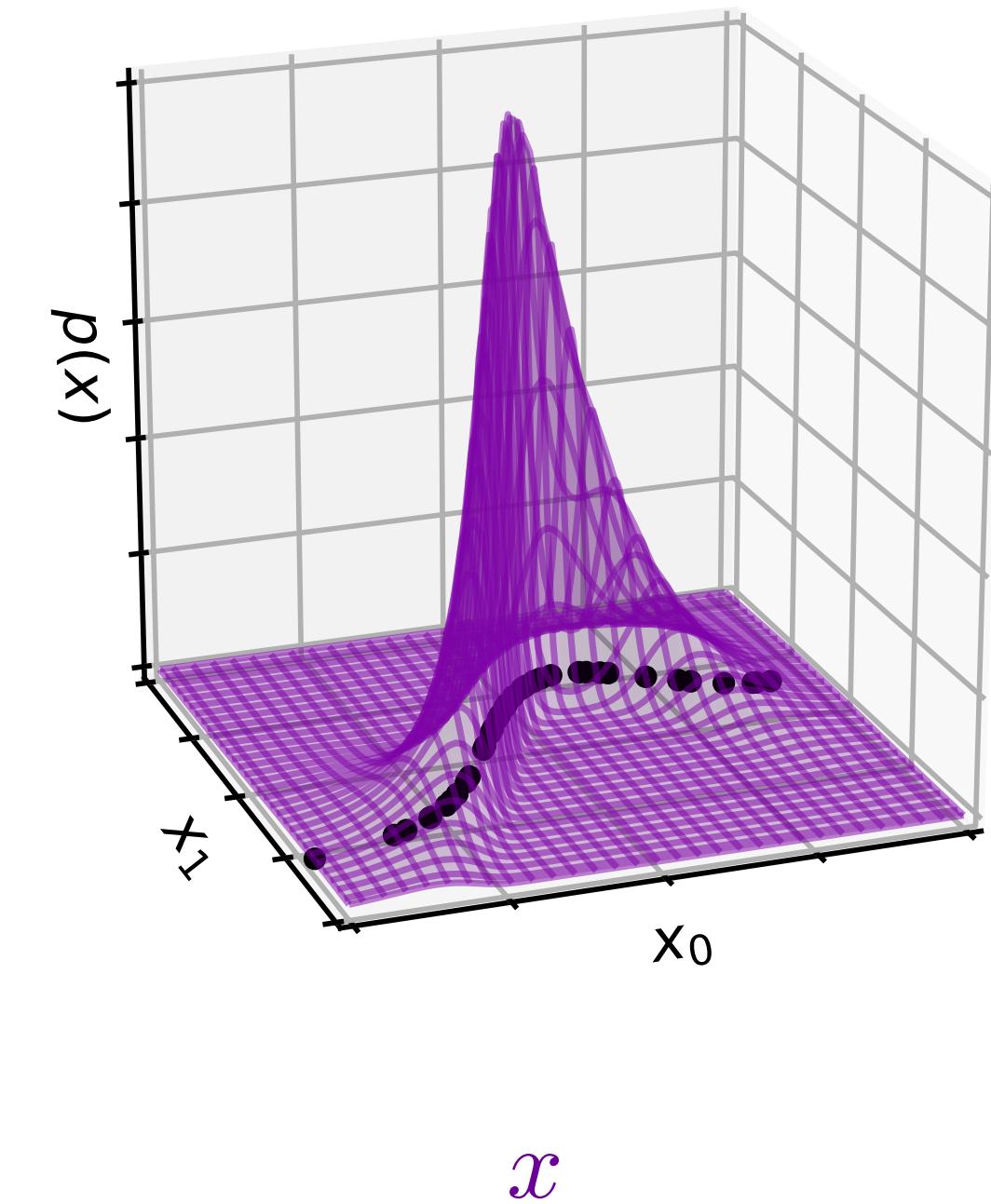
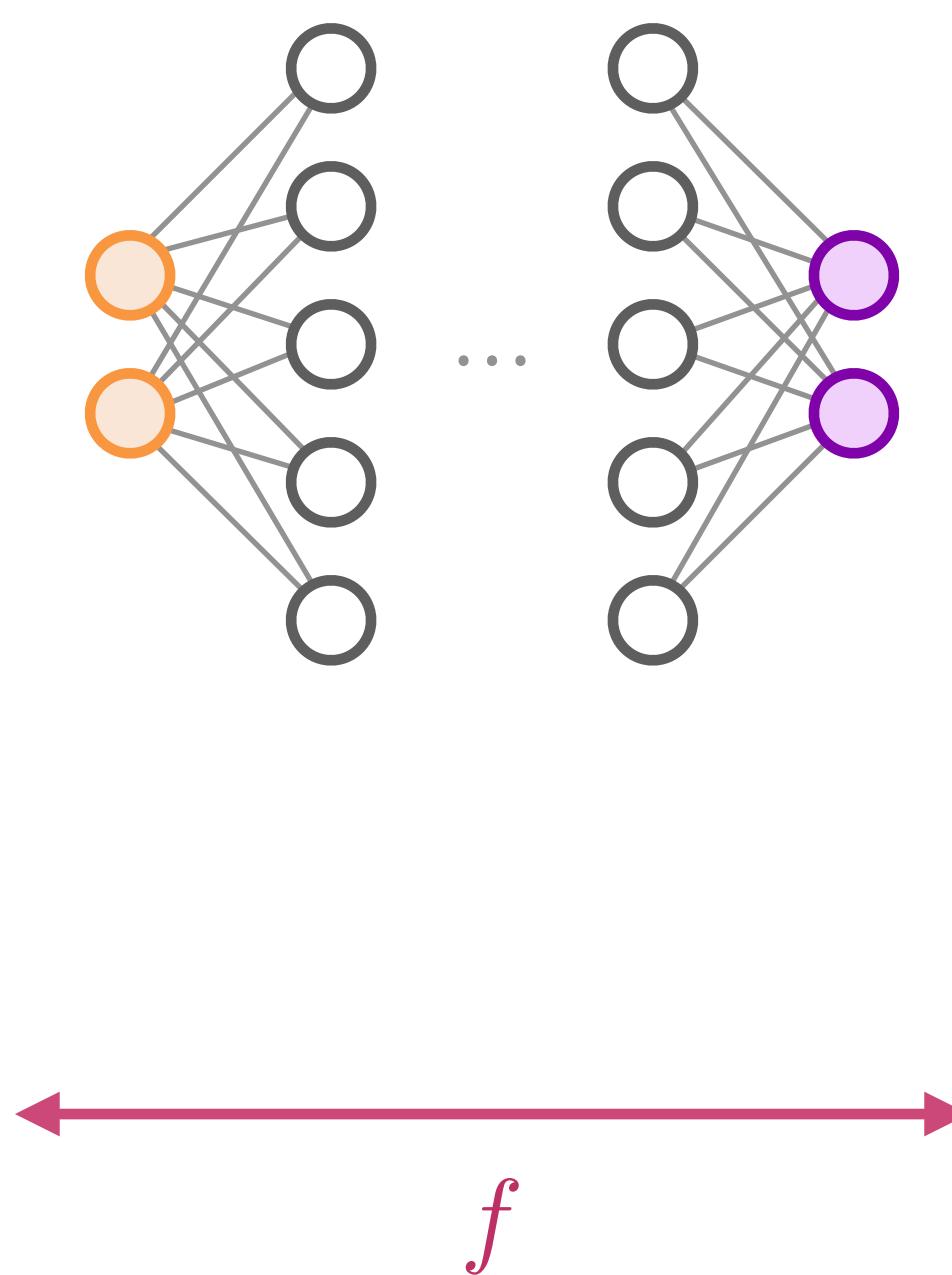
# Normalizing flows in the ambient data space

[G. Papamakarios et al 1912.02762]



$$u \sim p_u(u)$$

$d$ -dim. latent variables

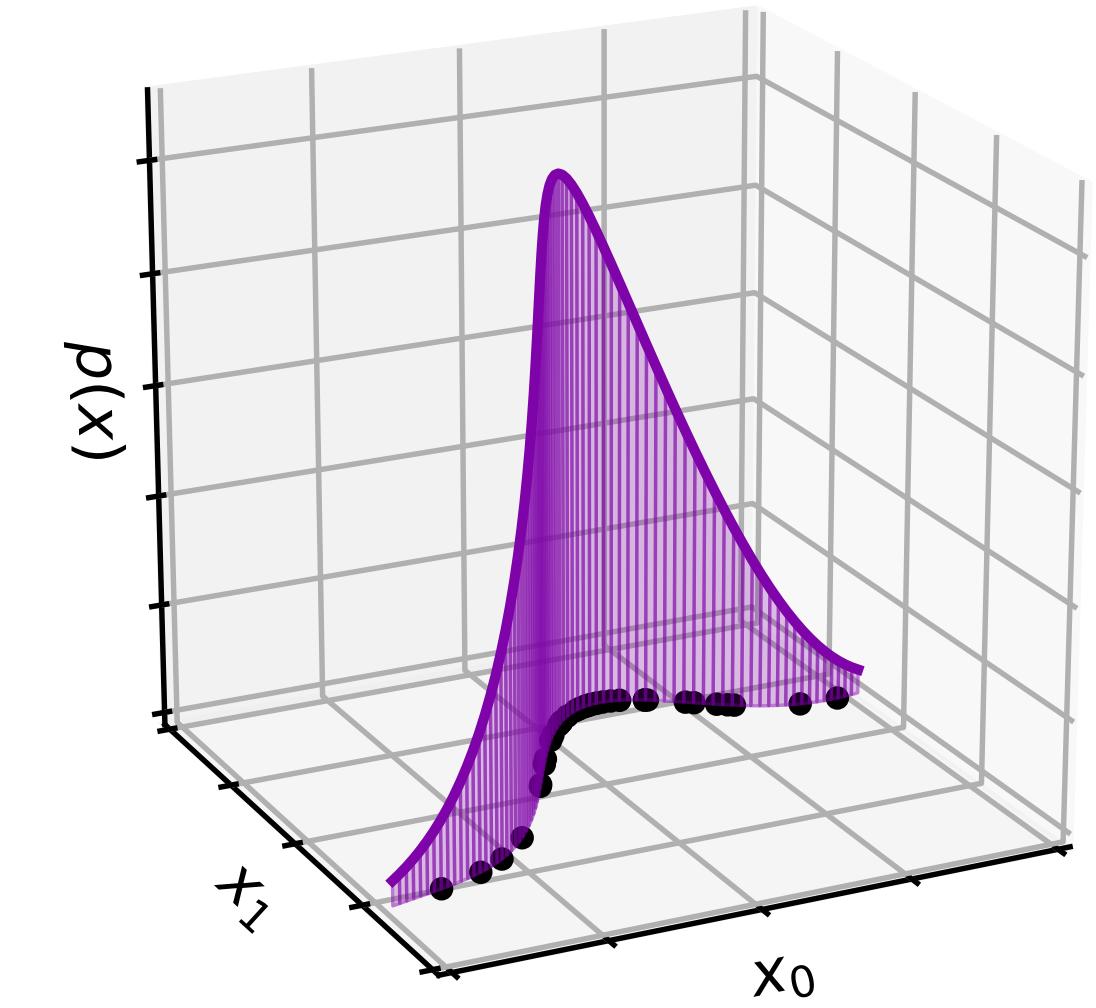
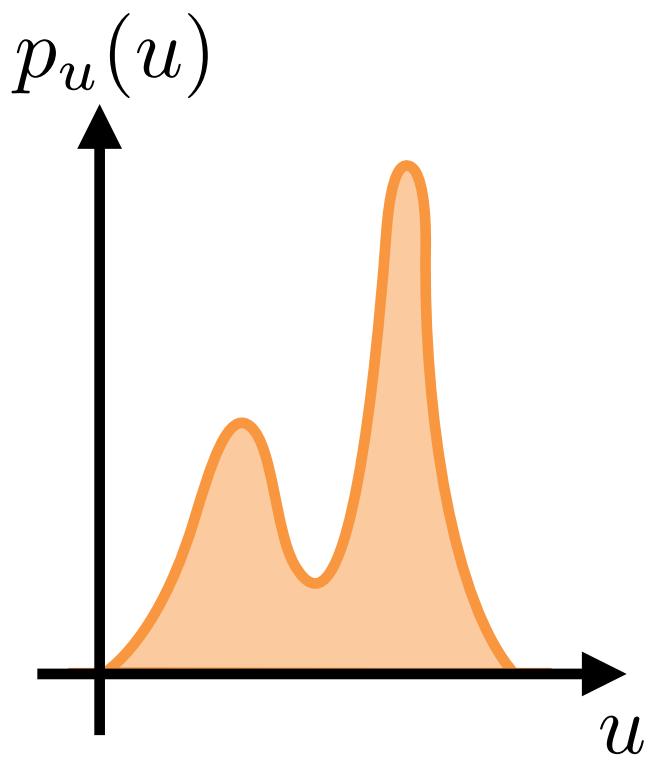
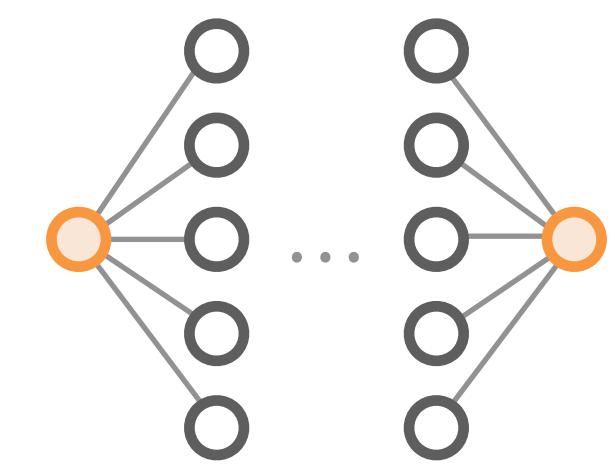
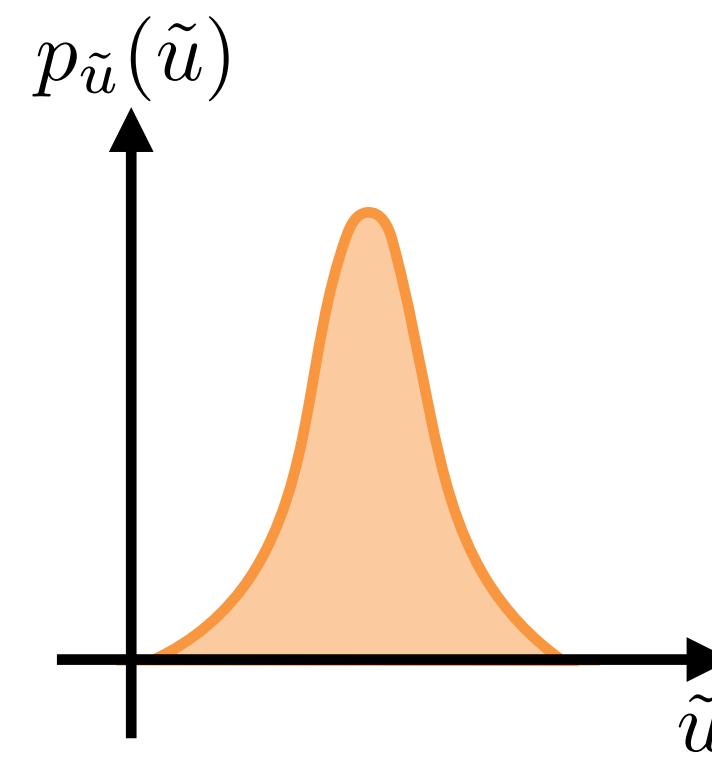


tractable density over  
ambient data space

$$p_x(x) = p_u(f^{-1}(x)) |\det J_f(f^{-1}(x))|^{-1}$$

# Flows on a prescribed manifold

[M. Gemici et al 1611.02304; D. Rezende et al 2002.02428]



$$\tilde{u} \sim p_{\tilde{u}}(\tilde{u})$$

$$\xleftarrow{h}$$

$$u$$

$$\xleftarrow{g^*}$$

*n*-dim. latents

invertible NN

*n*-dim. latents

prescribed chart

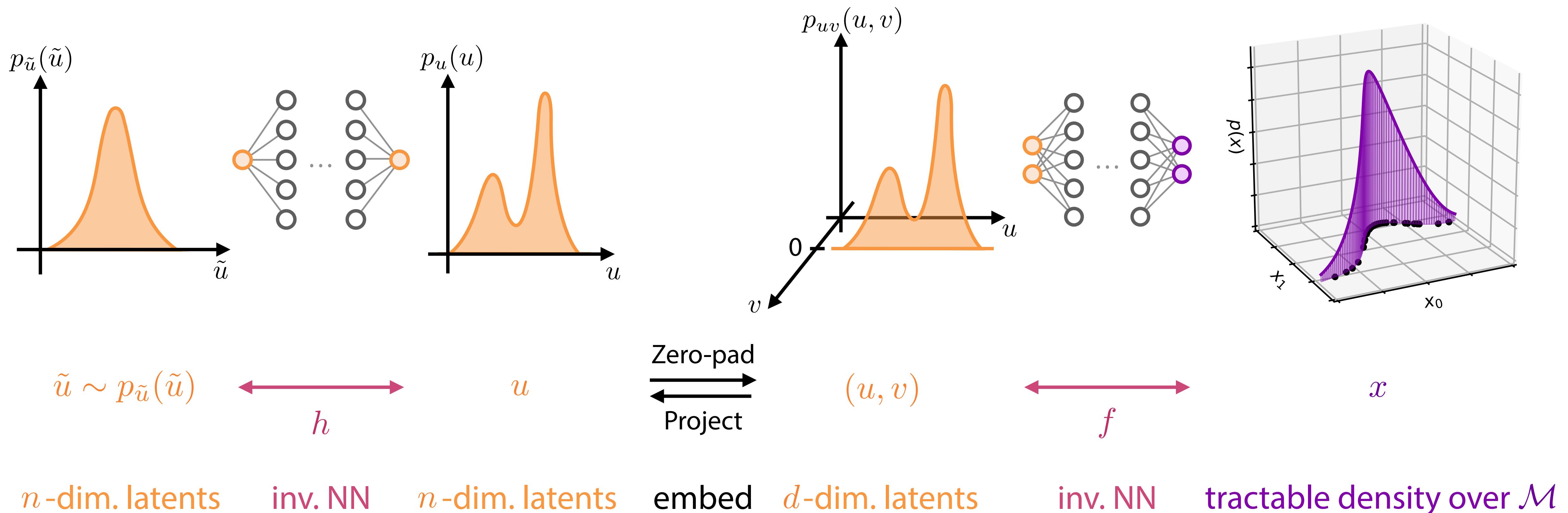
tractable density over  $\mathcal{M}^*$

$$p_{\mathcal{M}^*}(x) = p_{\tilde{u}}(\tilde{u}) |\det J_h(\tilde{u})|^{-1}$$

$$\cdot |\det [J_{g^*}^T(u) J_{g^*}(u)]|^{-\frac{1}{2}}$$

# $\mathcal{M}$ -flows

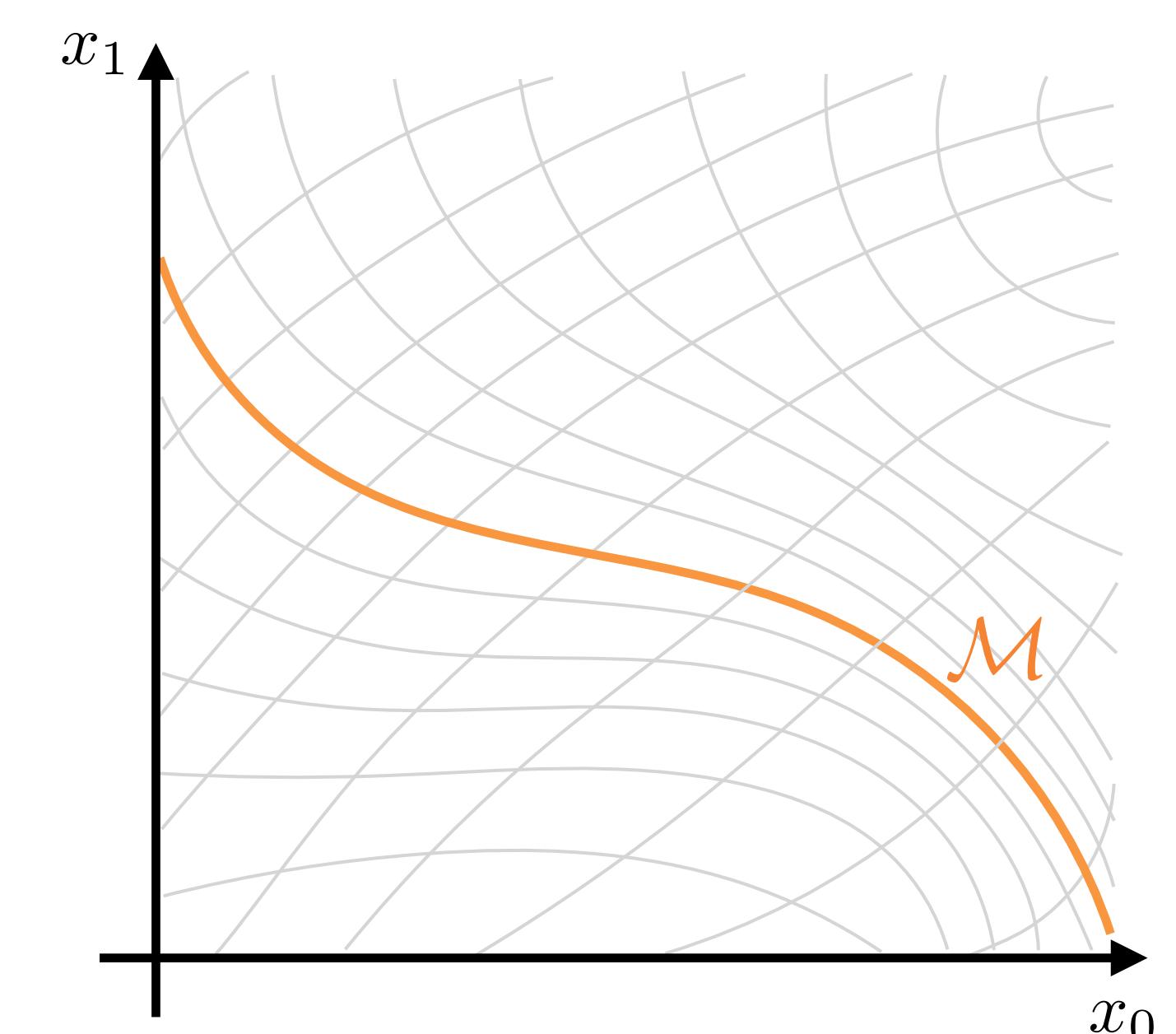
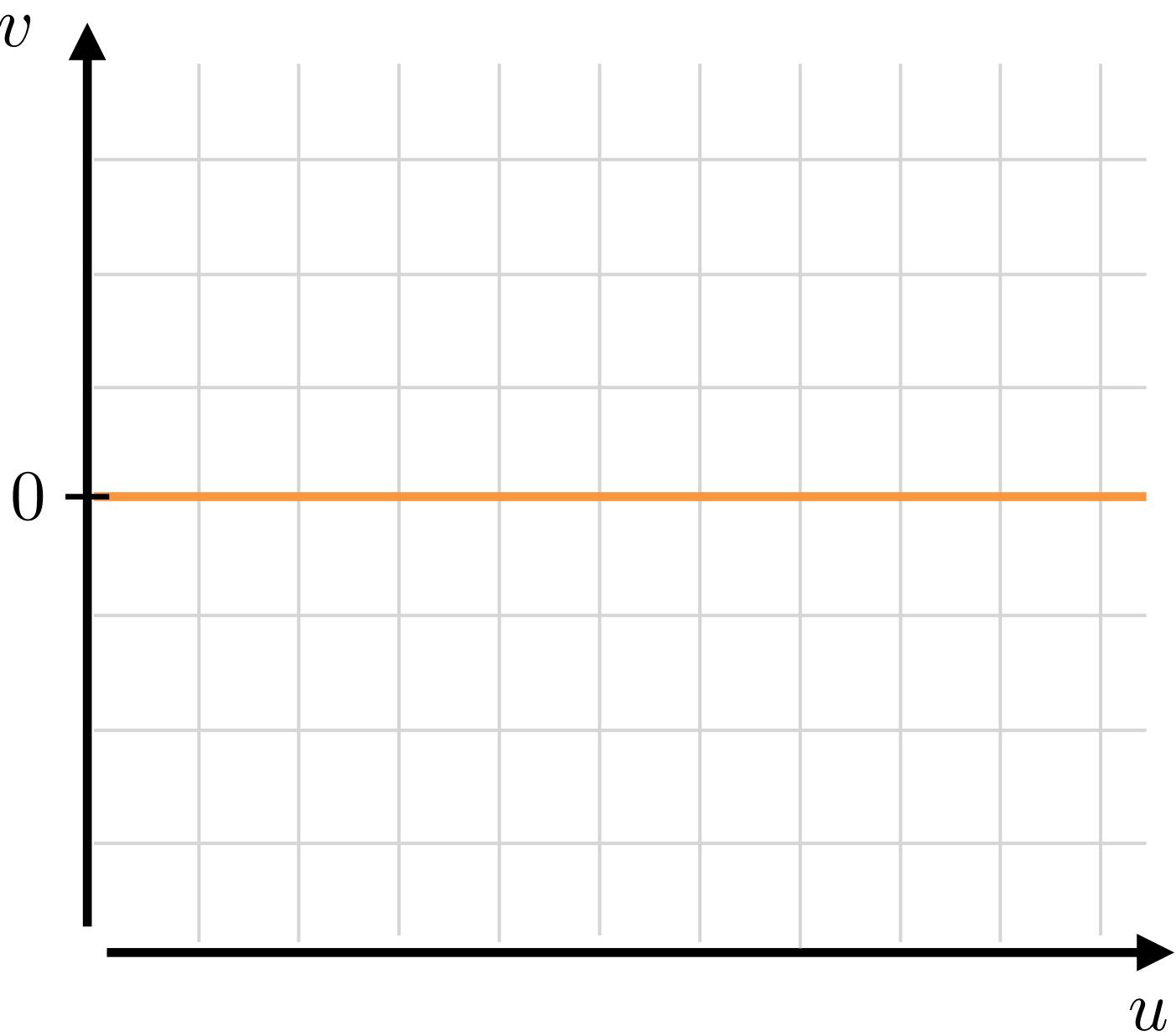
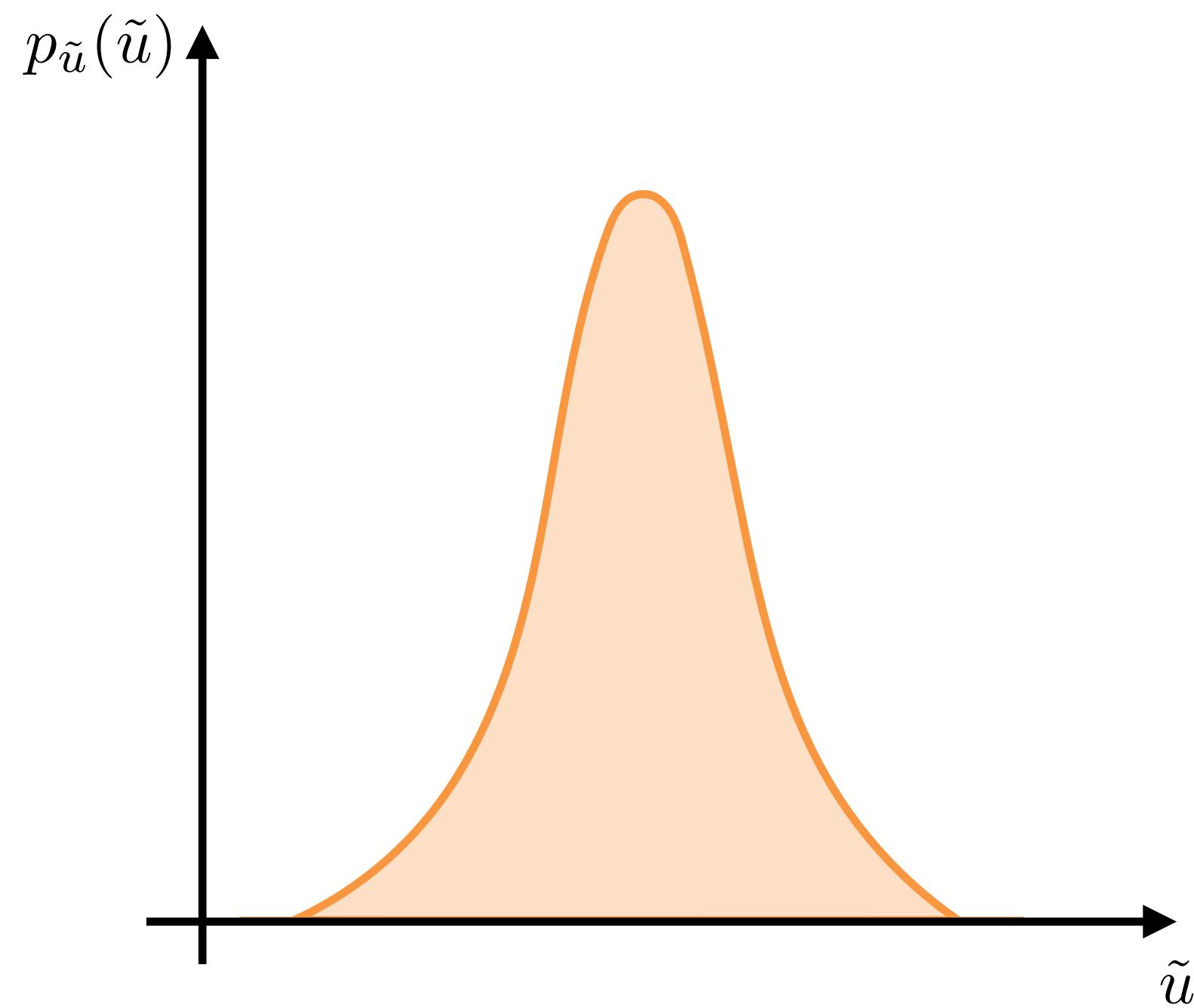
[JB, Kyle Cranmer 2003.13913]



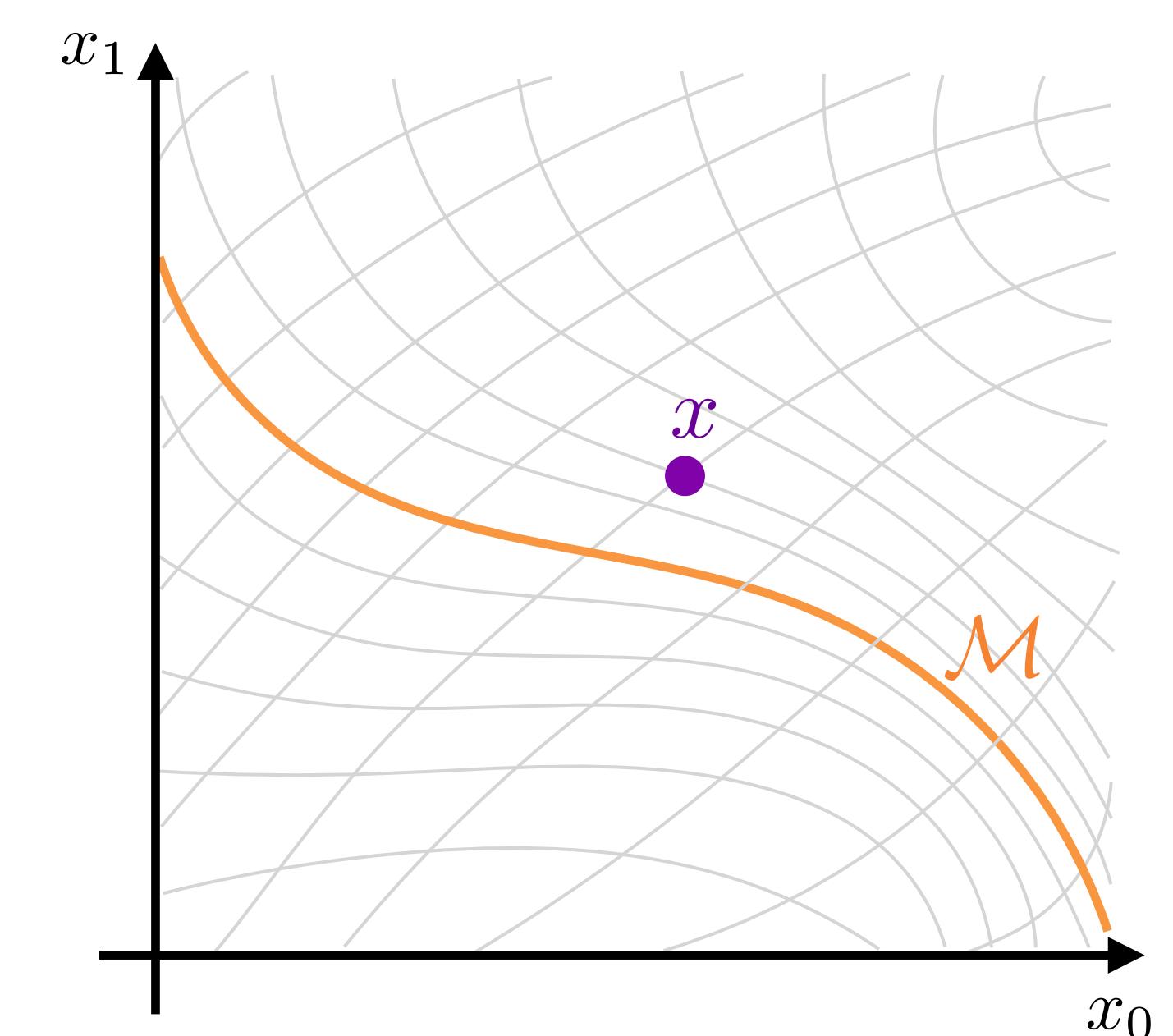
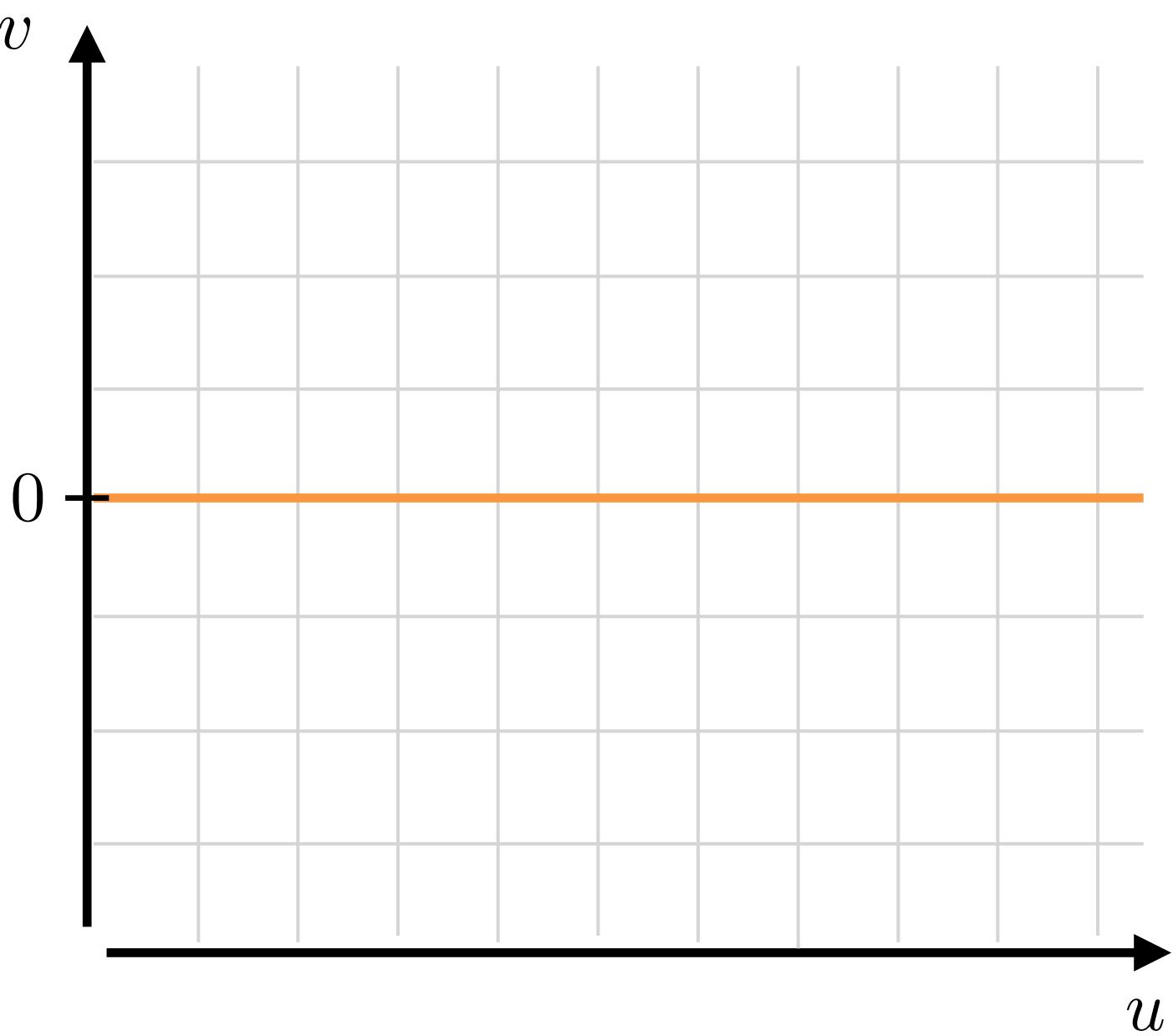
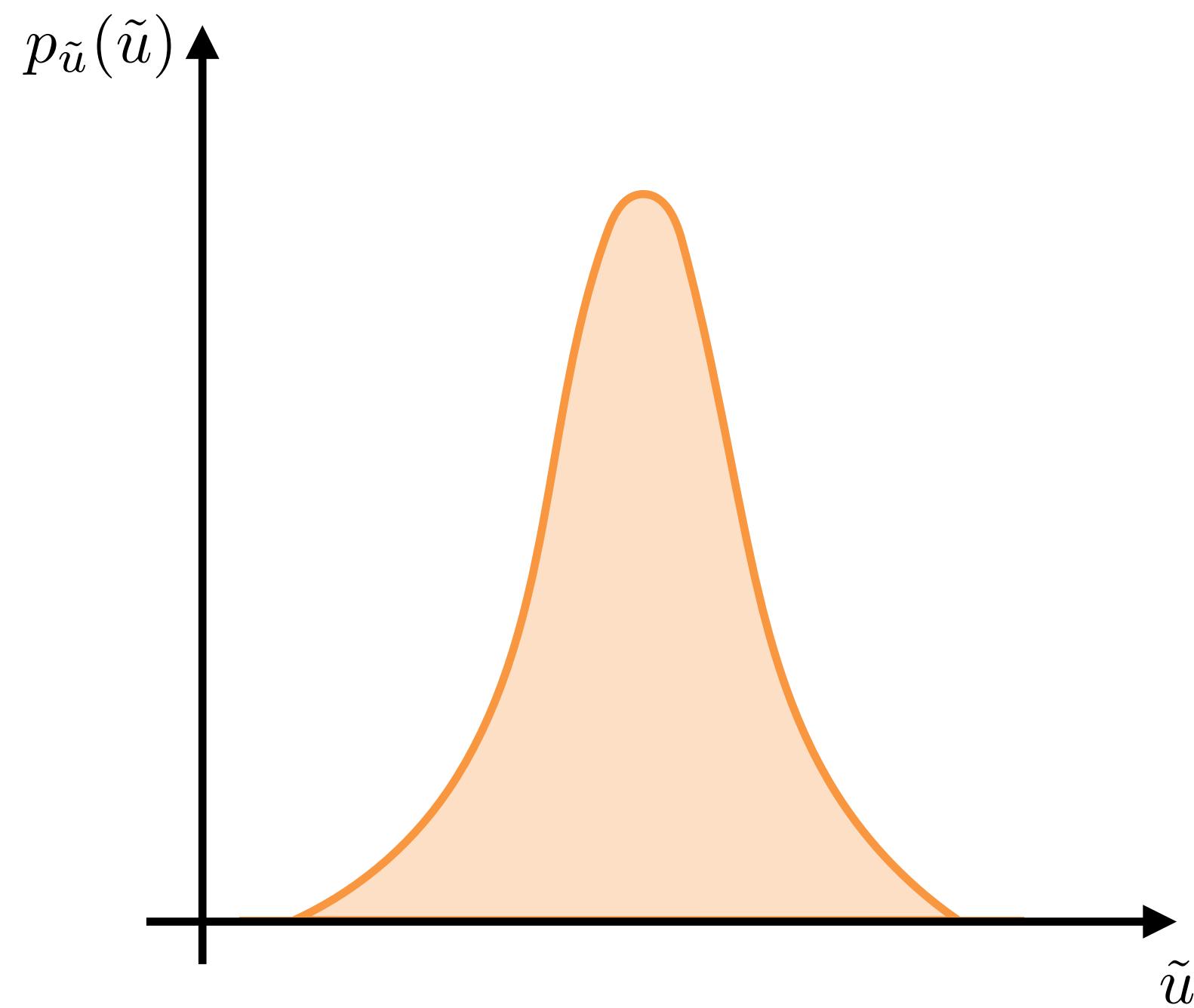
$$p_{\mathcal{M}}(x) = p_{\tilde{u}}(\tilde{u}) |\det J_h(\tilde{u})|^{-1}$$

$$\cdot \left| \det \left[ (\mathbb{1} \ 0) J_f(u)^T J_f(u) \begin{pmatrix} \mathbb{1} \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \right] \right|^{-\frac{1}{2}}$$

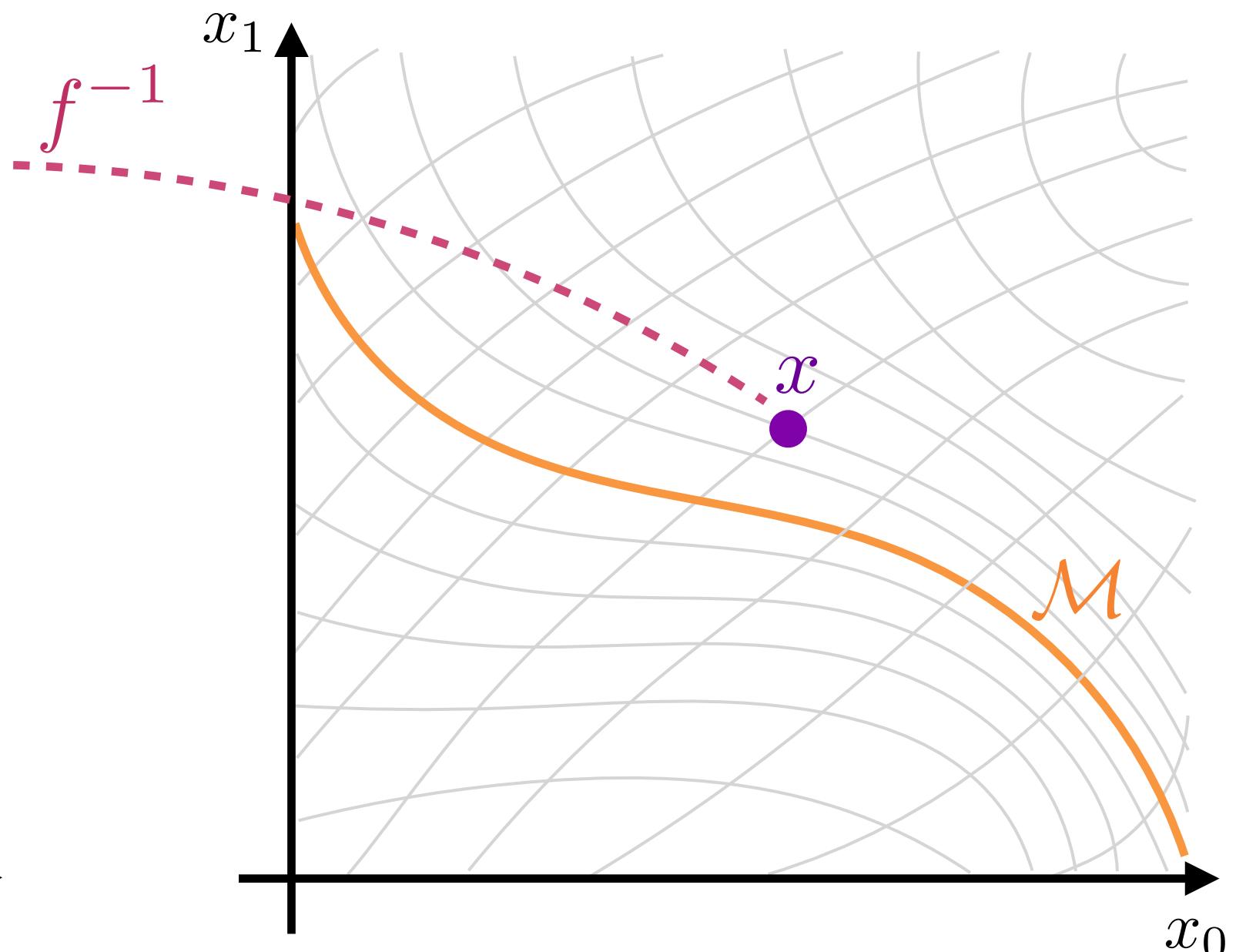
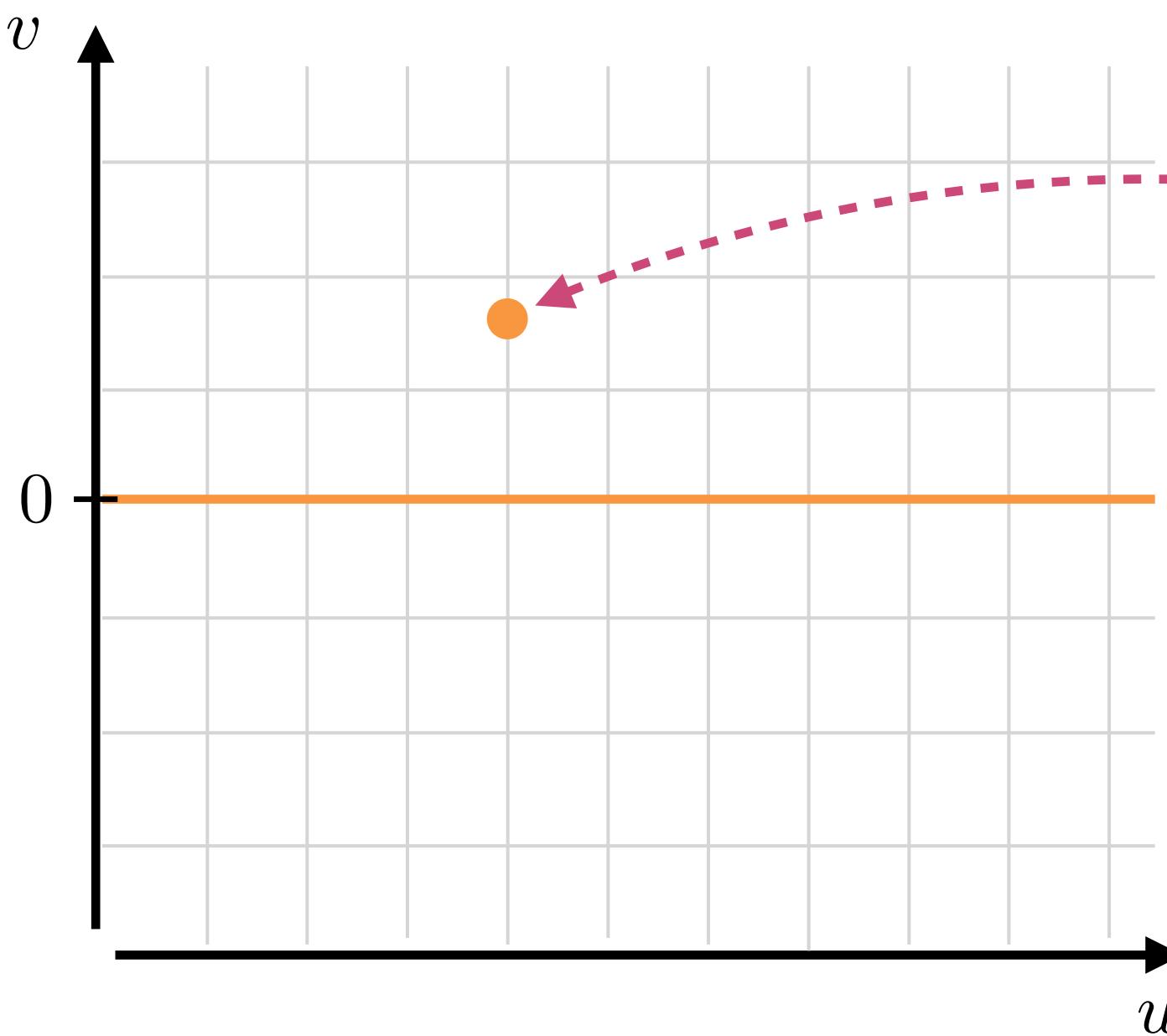
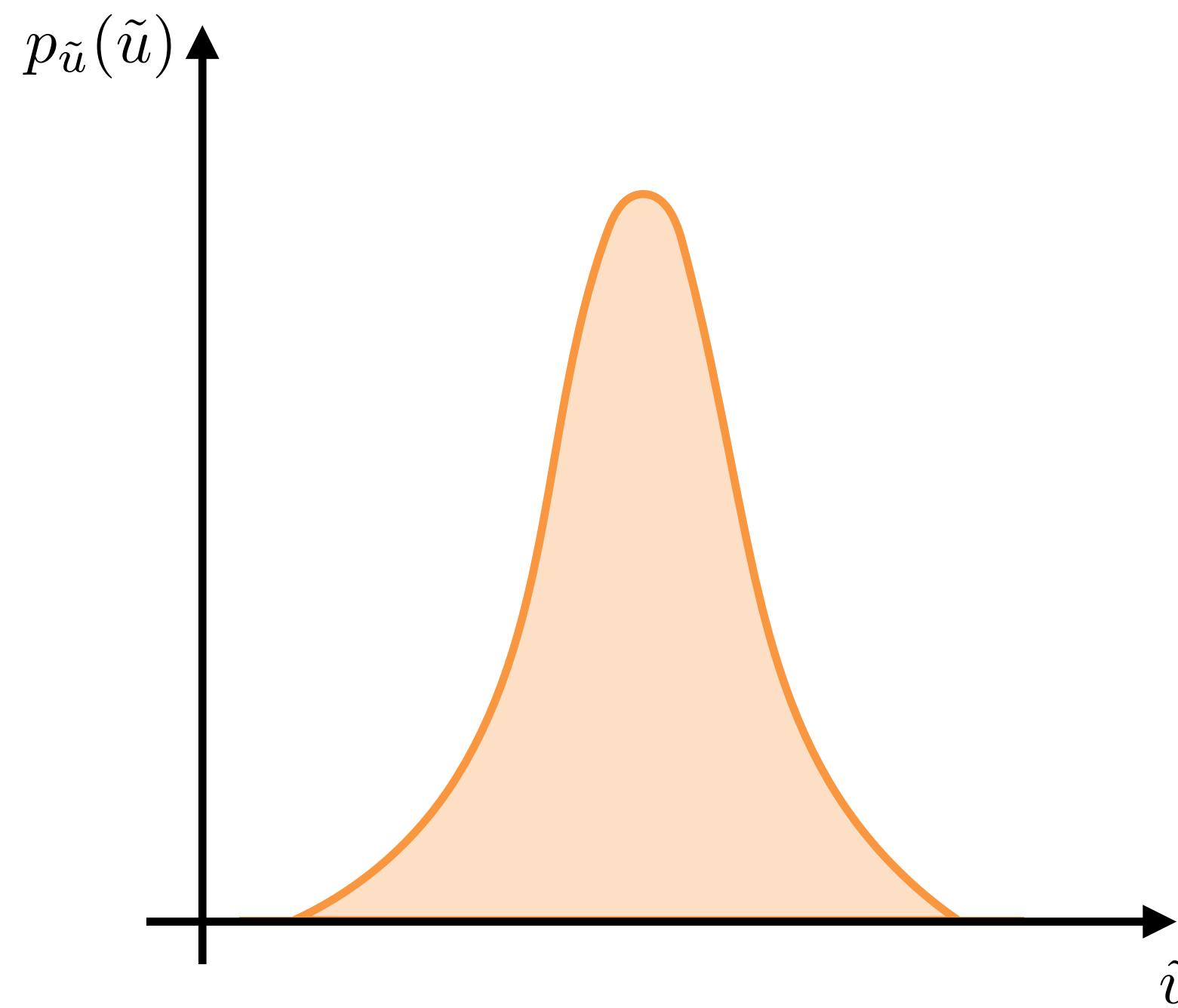
# Evaluating data on or off the manifold



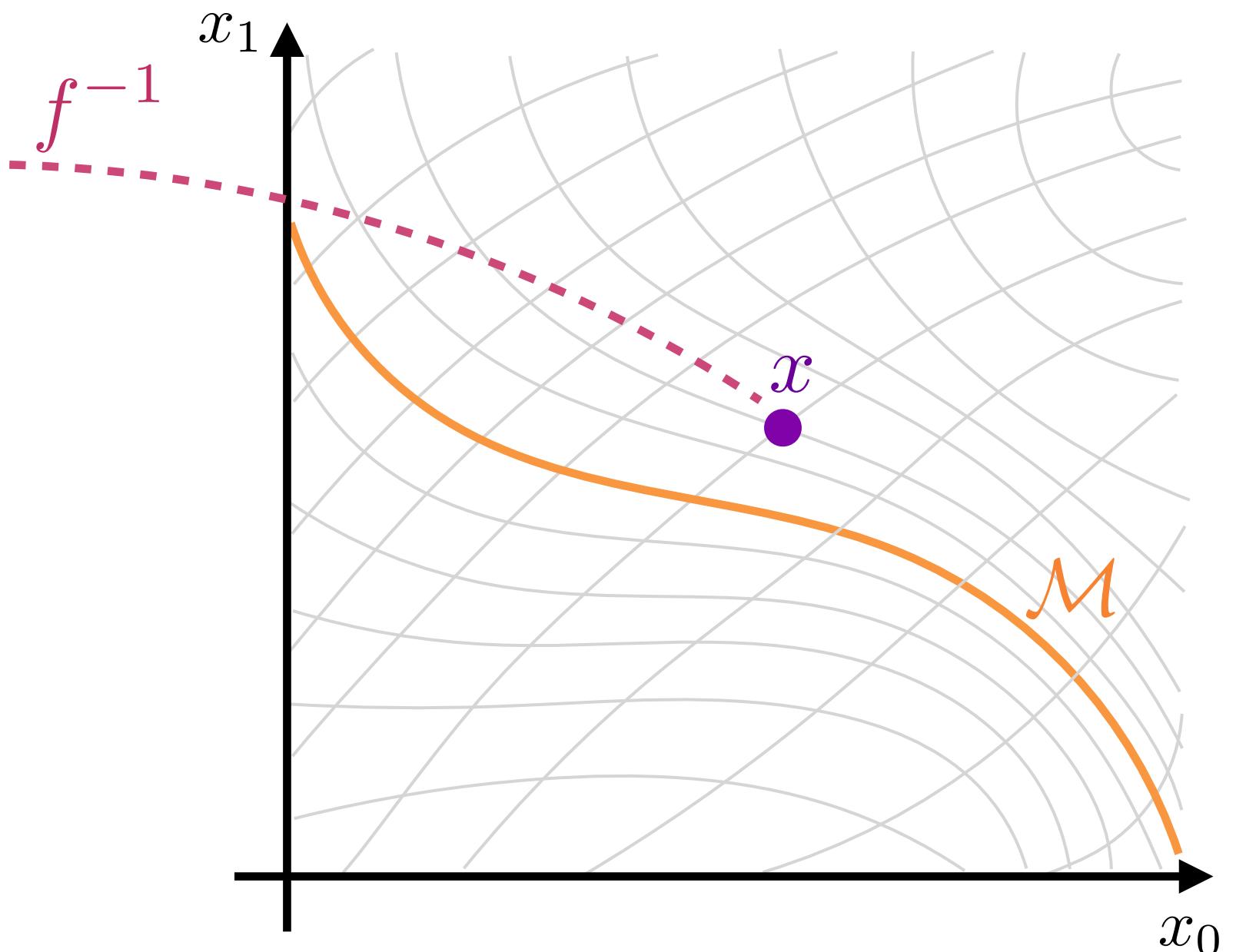
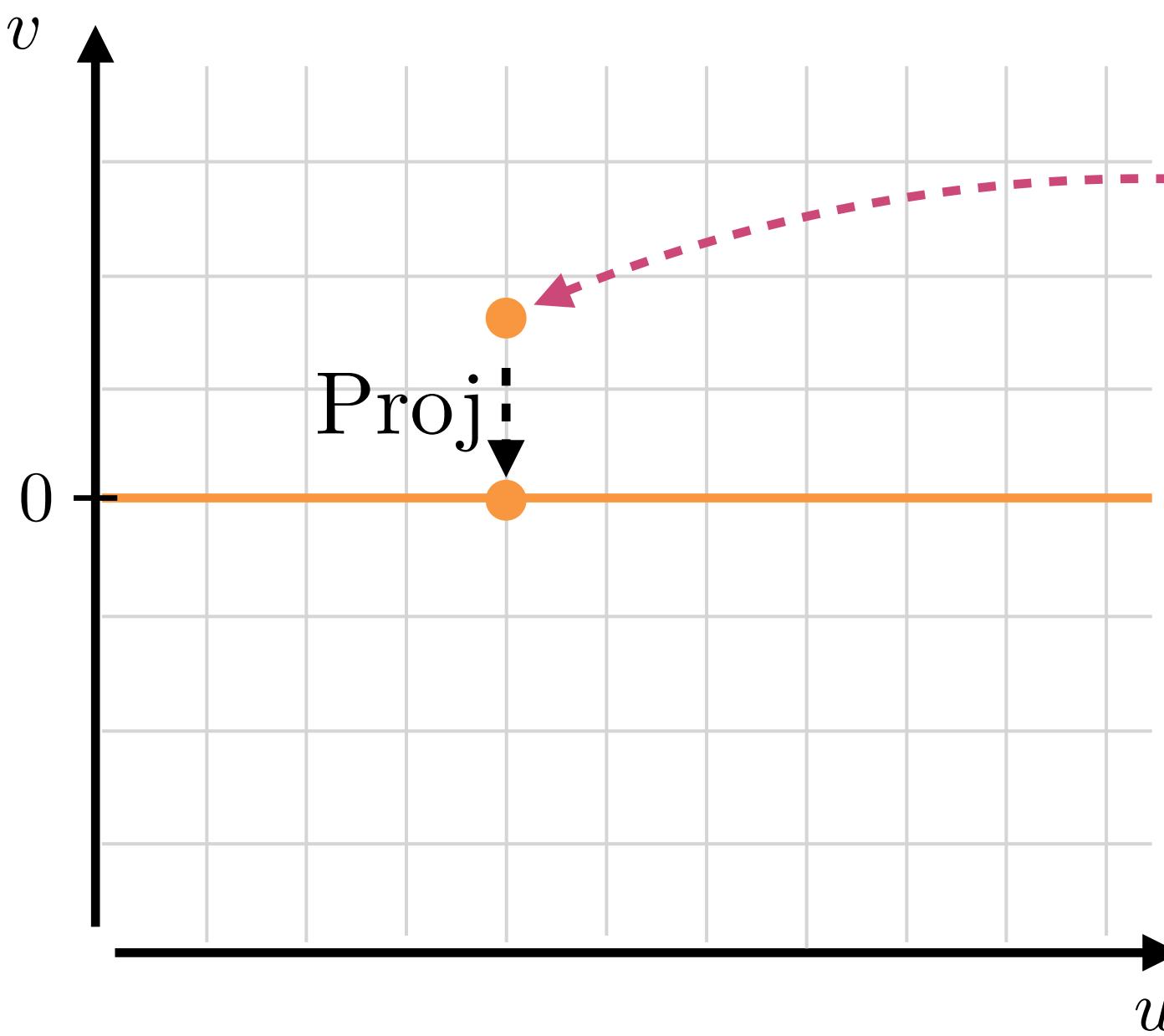
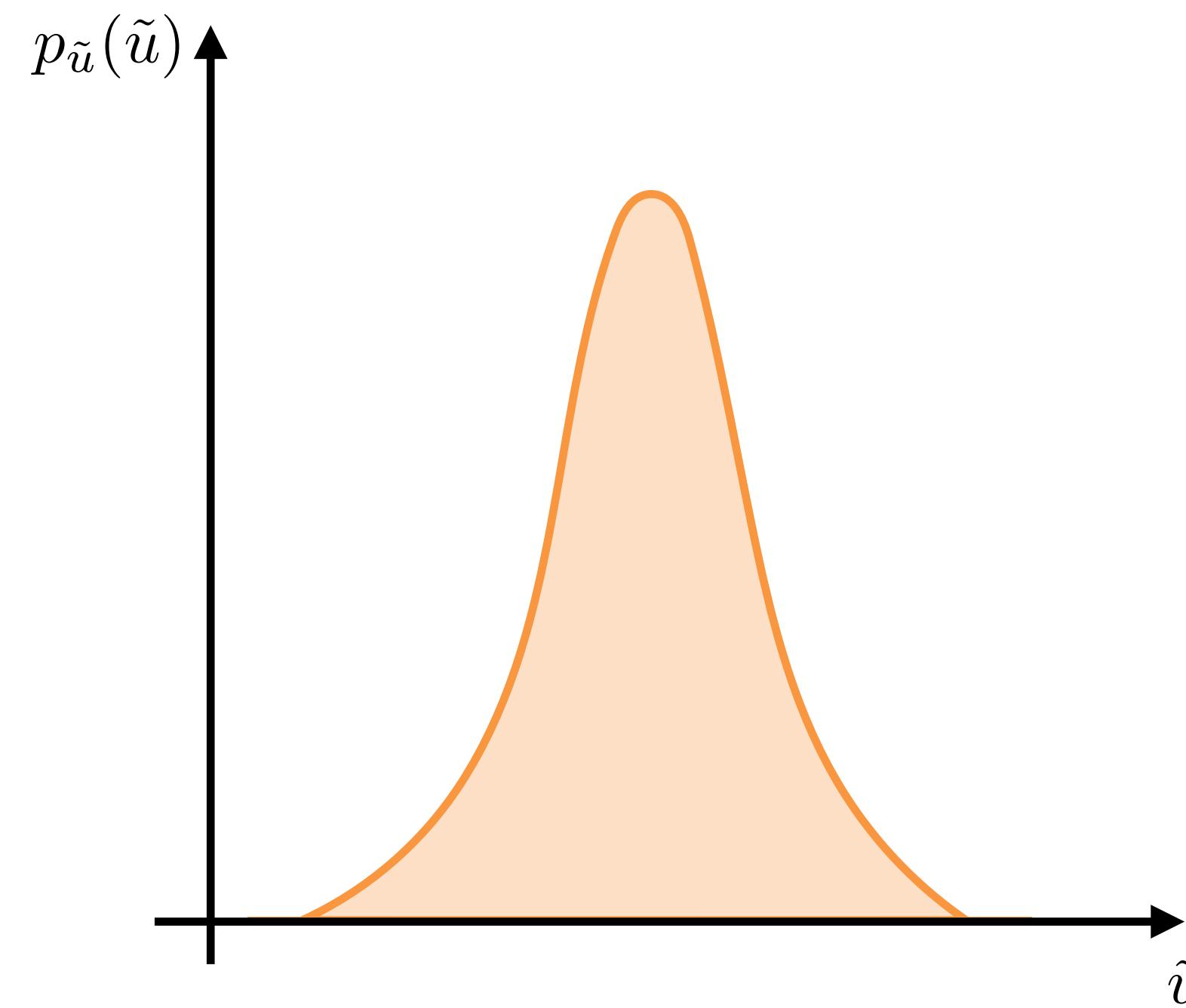
# Evaluating data on or off the manifold



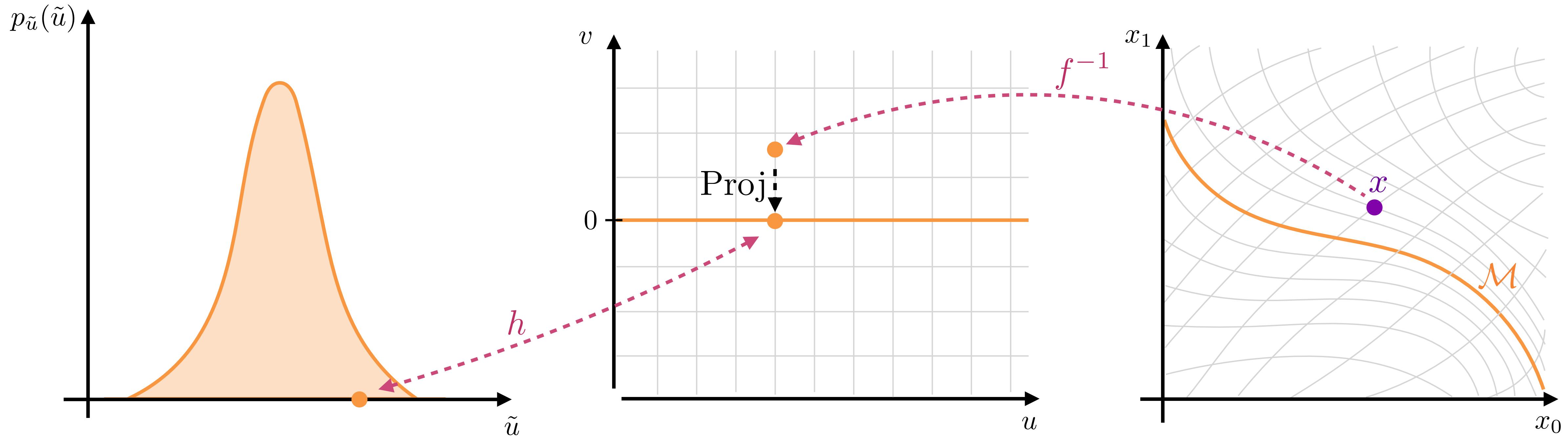
# Evaluating data on or off the manifold



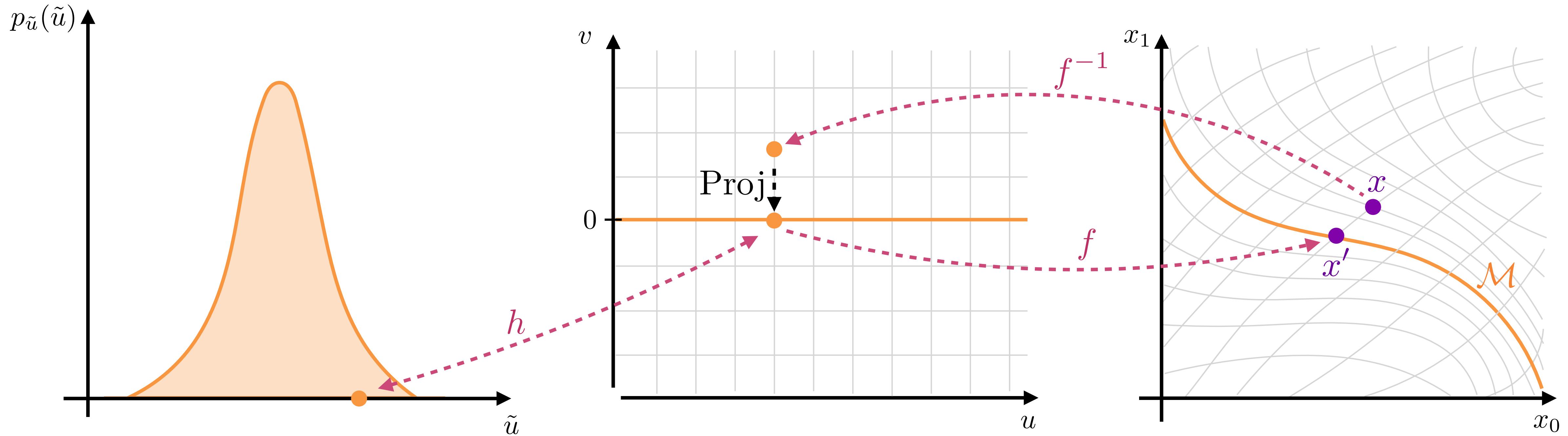
# Evaluating data on or off the manifold



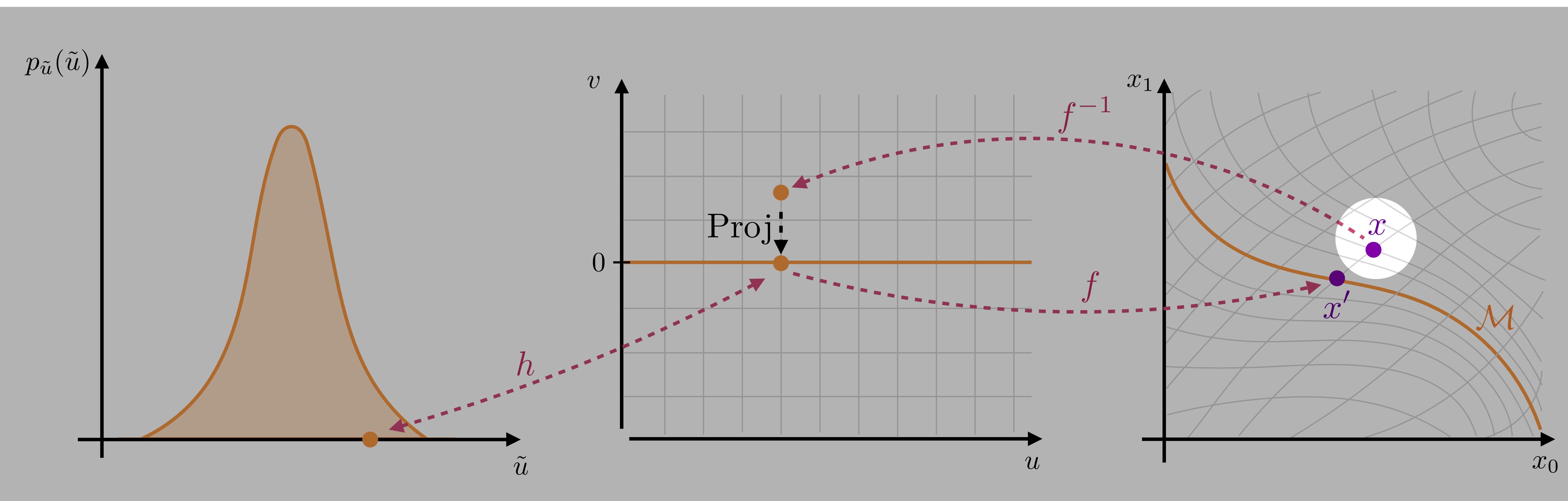
# Evaluating data on or off the manifold



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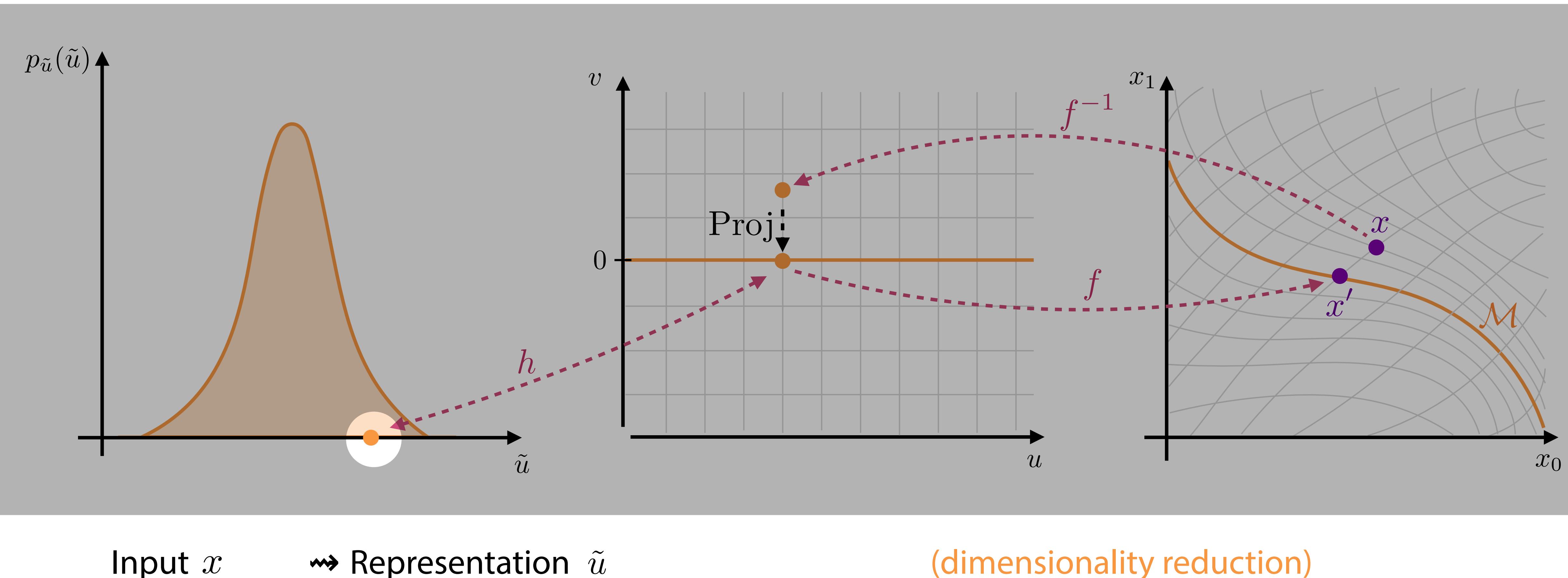


# Evaluating data on or off the manifold

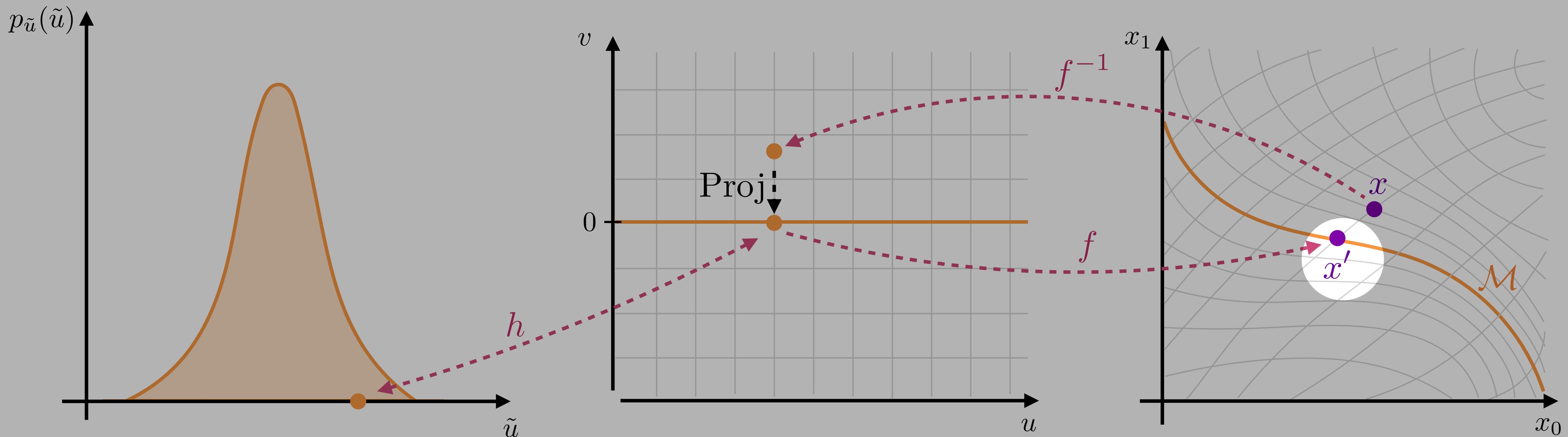


Input  $x$

# Evaluating data on or off the manifold



# Evaluating data on or off the manifold



Input  $x$

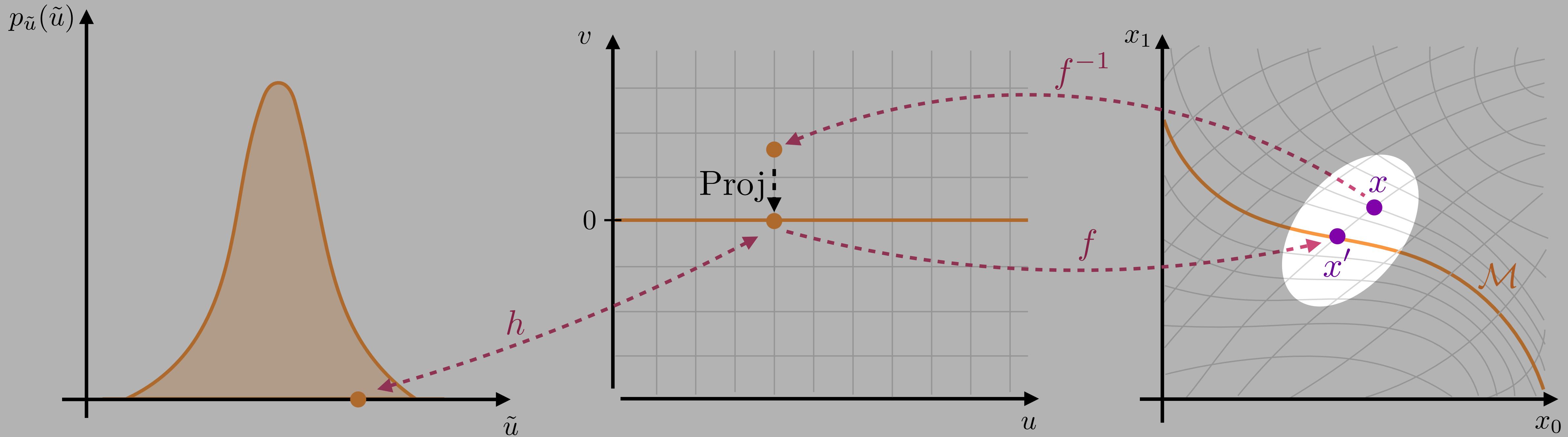
↔ Representation  $\tilde{u}$

↔ Projection to manifold  $x'$

(dimensionality reduction)

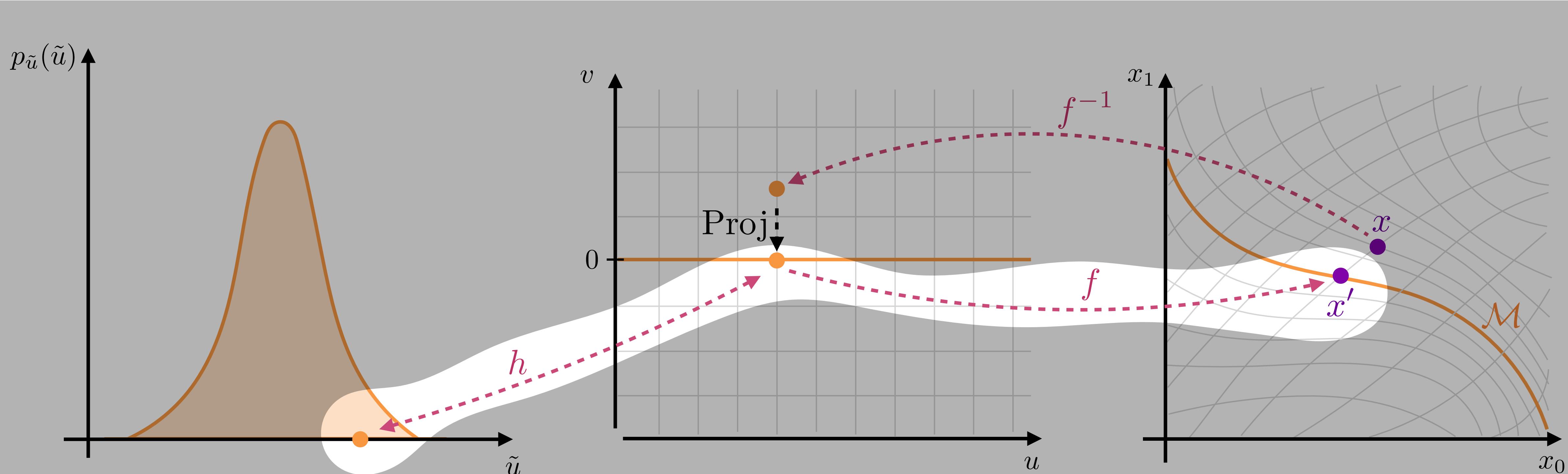
(denoising)

# Evaluating data on or off the manifold



- |           |                                     |                            |
|-----------|-------------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Input $x$ | ↔ Representation $\tilde{u}$        | (dimensionality reduction) |
|           | ↔ Projection to manifold $x'$       | (denoising)                |
|           | ↔ Reconstruction error $\ x - x'\ $ | (training, OOD detection)  |

# Evaluating data on or off the manifold



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|-----------|---|----------------------------|
| Input $x$ | ↔ Representation $\tilde{u}$                        | (dimensionality reduction) |
|           | ↔ Projection to manifold $x'$                       | (denoising)                |
|           | ↔ Reconstruction error $\ x - x'\ $                 | (training, OOD detection)  |
|           | ↔ Likelihood after projection $p_{\mathcal{M}}(x')$ | (training, inference)      |

# Generative models vs. the data manifold

Model	Manifold	Chart	Generative	Tractable density	Restr. to manifold
Ambient flow (AF)	no	no	✓	✓	no
Flow on prescr. manifold	prescribed	prescribed	✓	✓	✓
GAN	learned	no	✓	no	✓
VAE	learned	no	✓	only ELBO	(no)
$\mathcal{M}$ -flow	learned	learned	✓	✓ (potentially slow)	✓

# Maximum likelihood is not enough

Likelihood defined after projection to  $\mathcal{M}$ ,  
which is defined through NN weights  $\phi_f$

Family of likelihoods  $p_{\phi_f}(x|\phi_h)$   
rather than one likelihood  $p(x|\phi_f, \phi_h)$

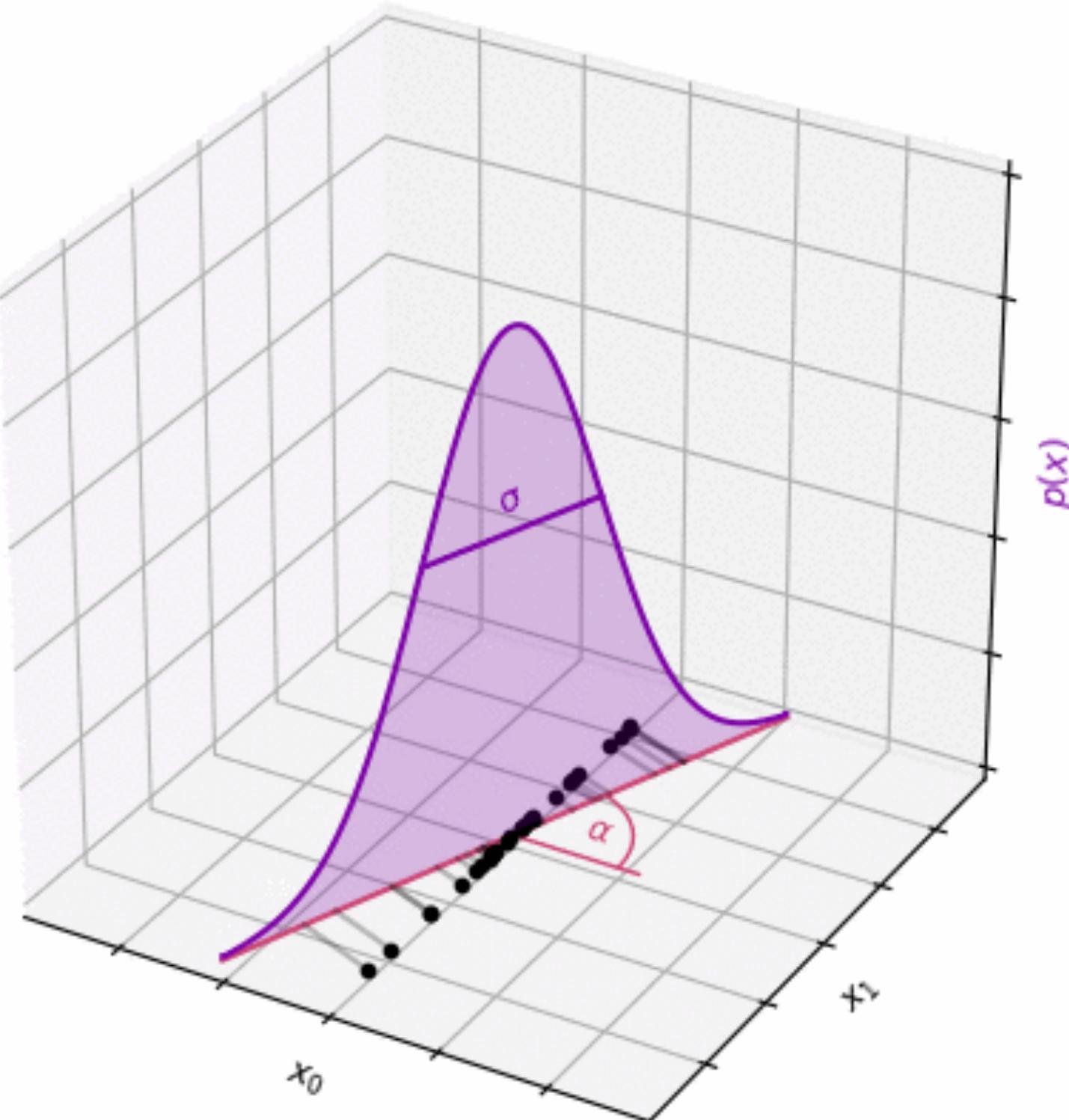
⇒ Learning  $\phi_f$  by maximum  
likelihood is unstable

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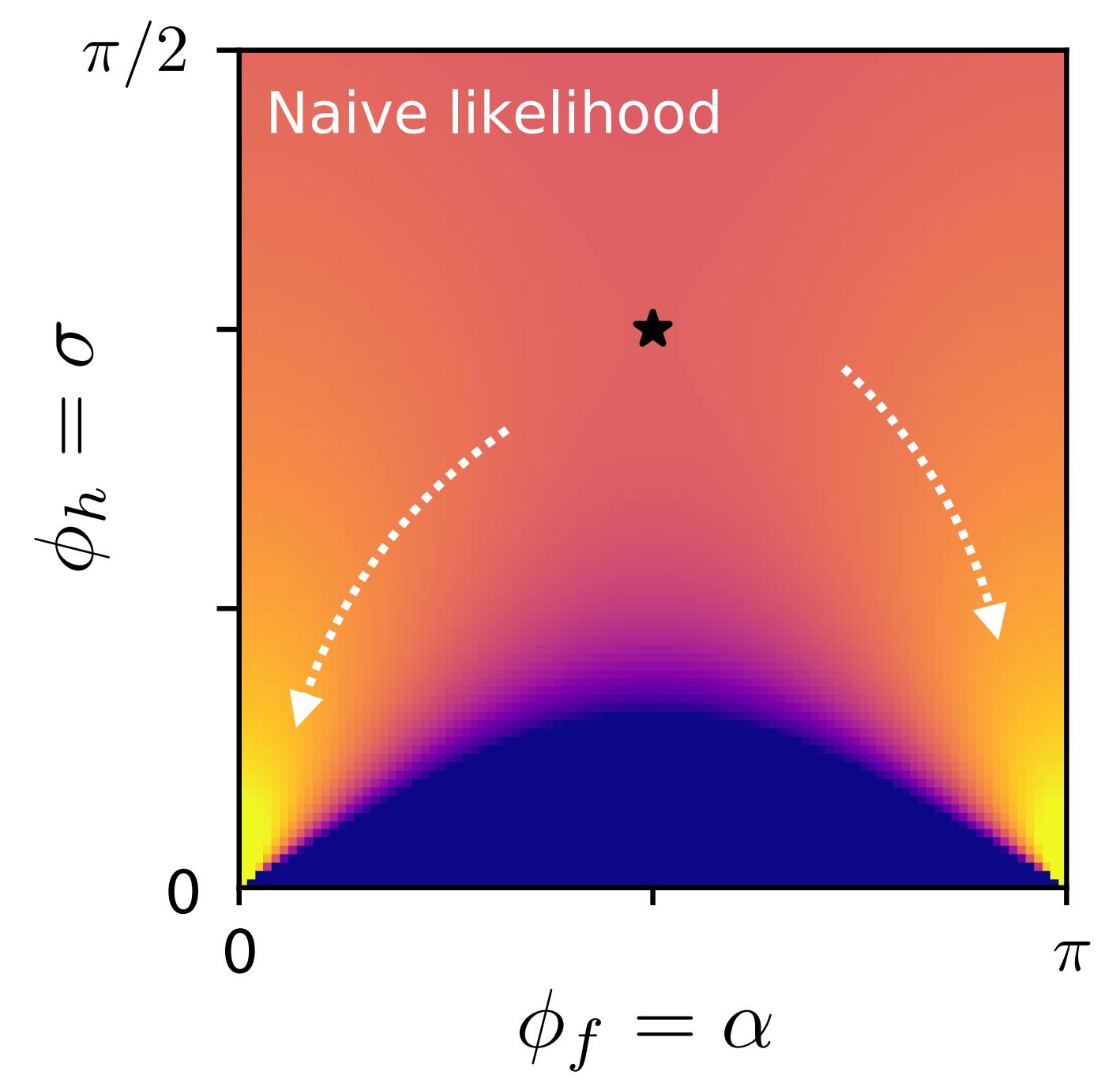
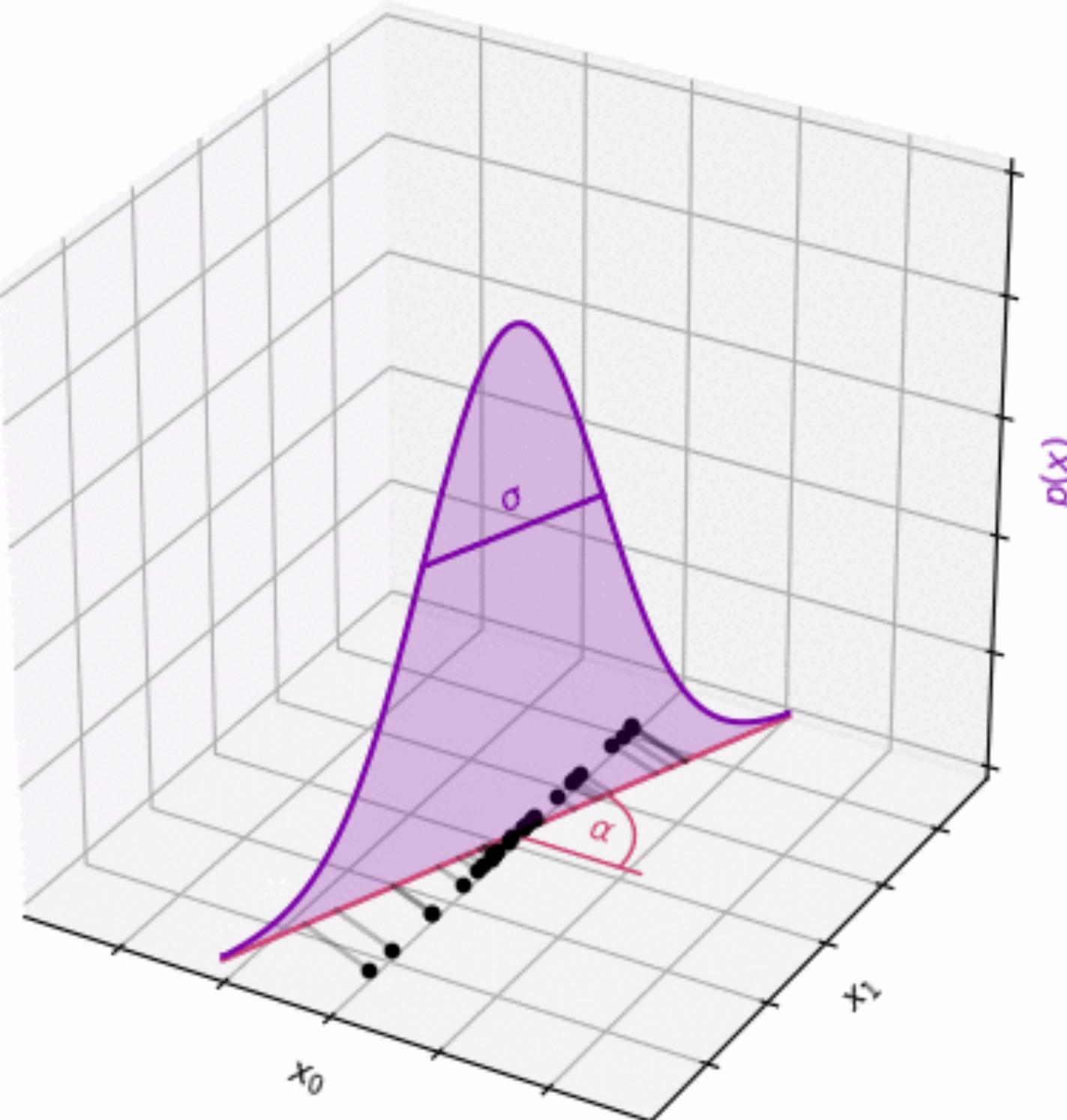


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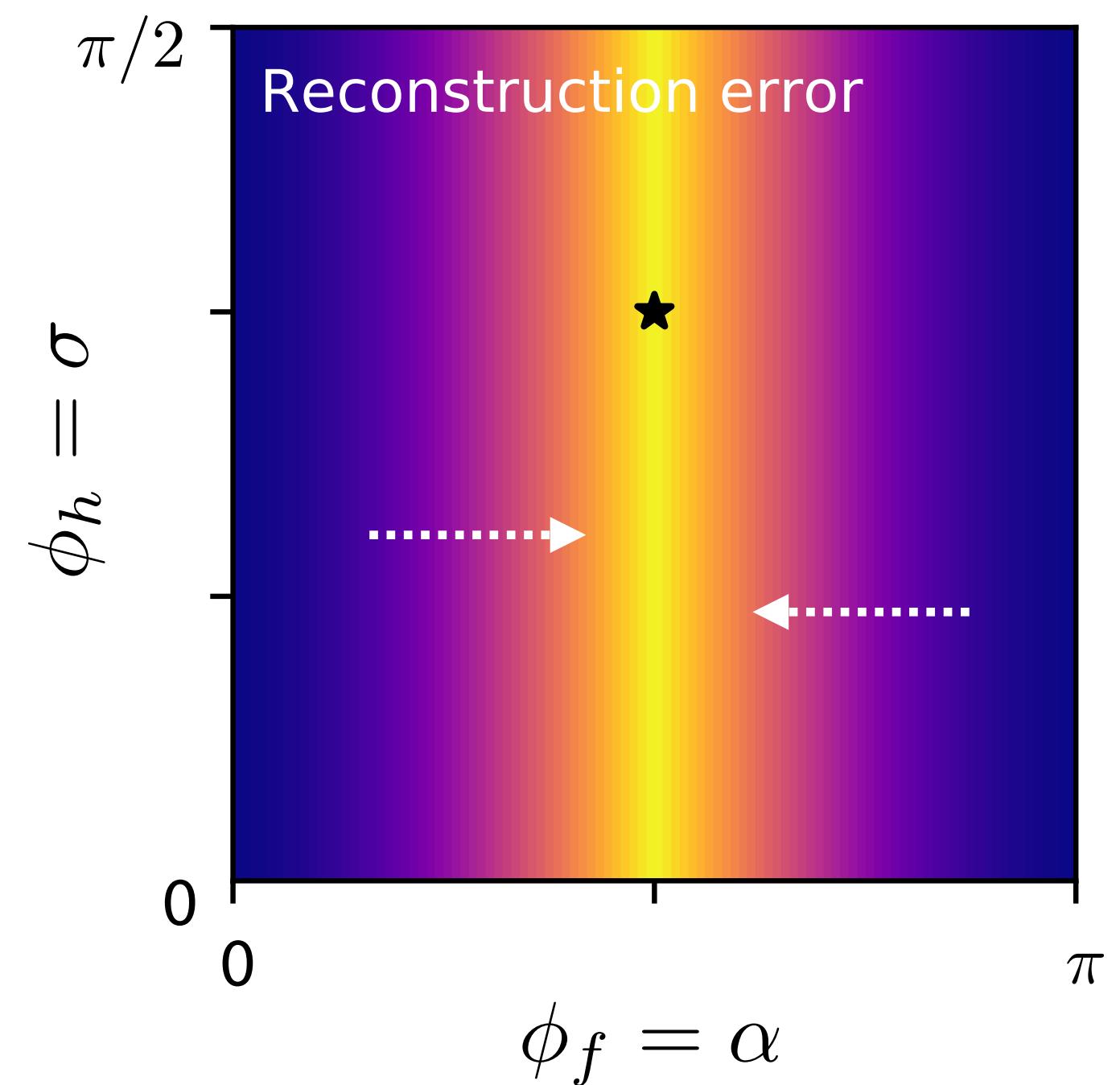
⇒ Learning  $\phi_f$  by maximum  
likelihood is unstable



# M/D training

Solution: separate training in two phases!

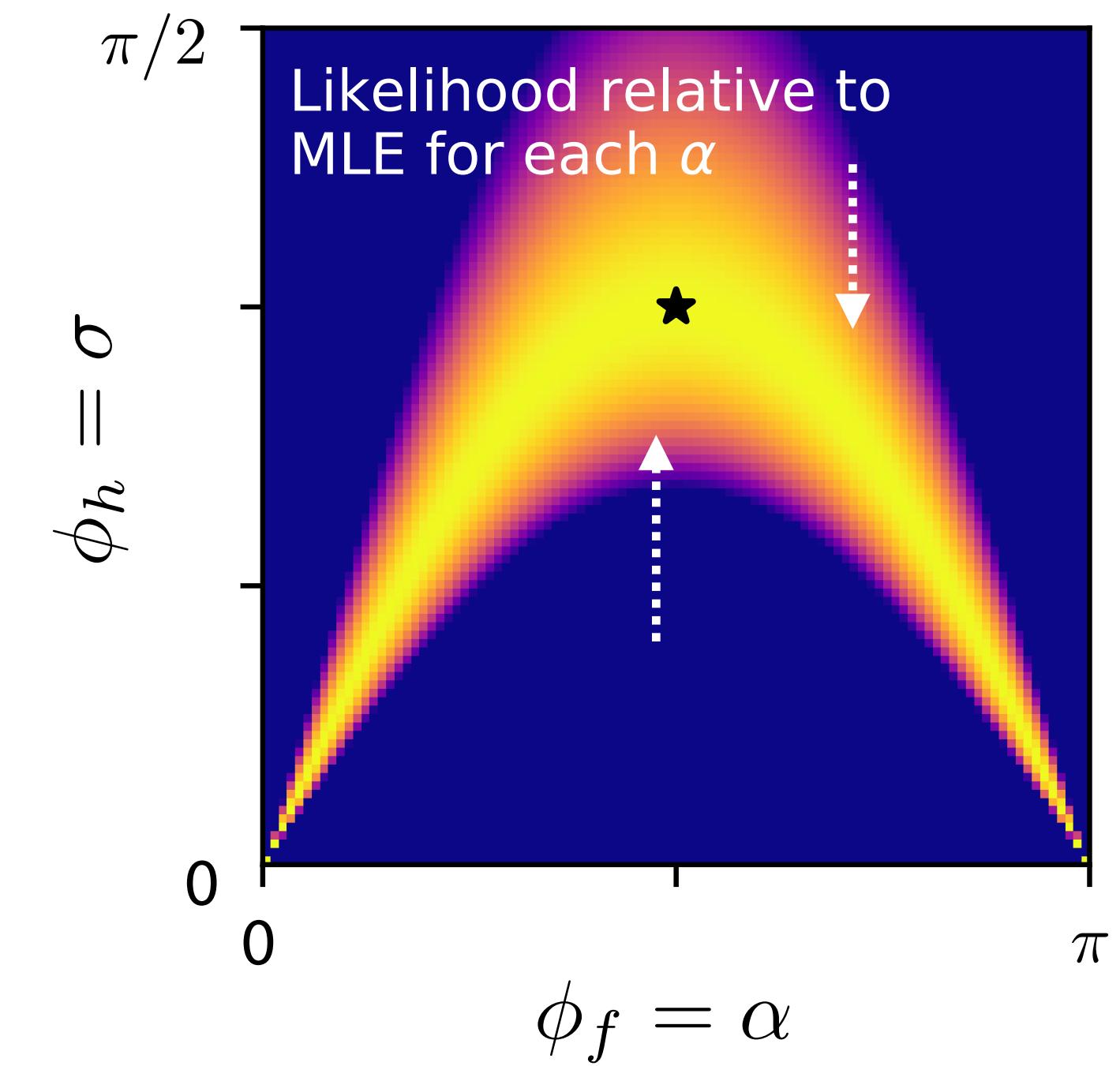
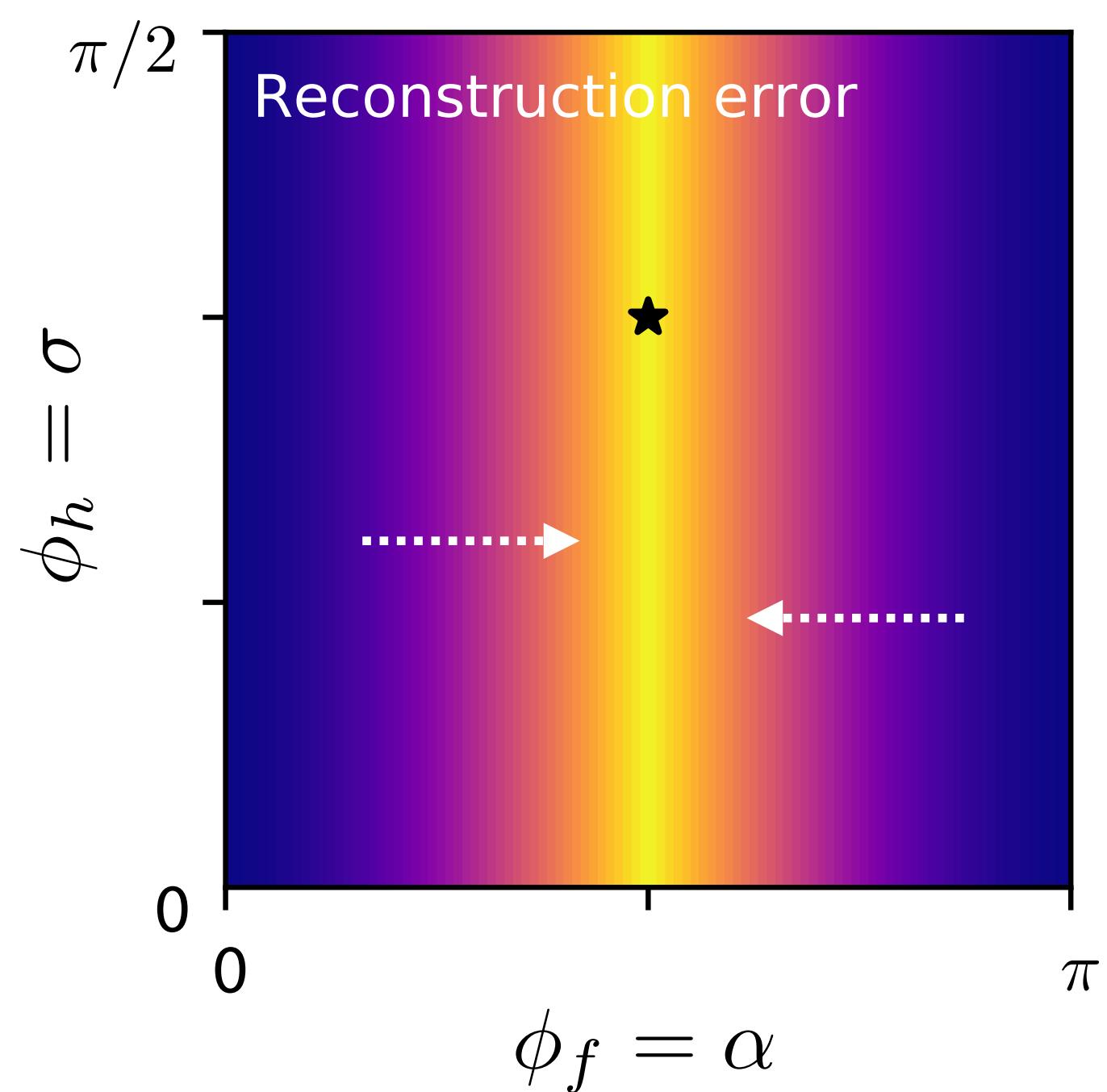
- **Manifold phase:**  
update  $\phi_f$  (and thus  $\mathcal{M}$ ) by minimizing  $\|x - x'\|$



# M/D training

Solution: separate training in two phases!

- **Manifold phase:**  
update  $\phi_f$  (and thus  $\mathcal{M}$ ) by minimizing  $\|x - x'\|$
- **Density phase:**  
update  $\phi_h$  (and thus  $p_{\mathcal{M}}(x)$ ) by maximum likelihood  
(keeping  $\mathcal{M}$  fixed)



# A second problem... and an accidental solution

The likelihood becomes expensive to evaluate for high-dimensional  $x$ :

$$\log p_{\mathcal{M}}(x) = \log p_{\tilde{u}}(h^{-1}(u)) - \log \det J_h(h^{-1}(u)) - \frac{1}{2} \log \det \left[ (\mathbb{1} \ 0) J_f^T(u) J_f(u) \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \right]$$

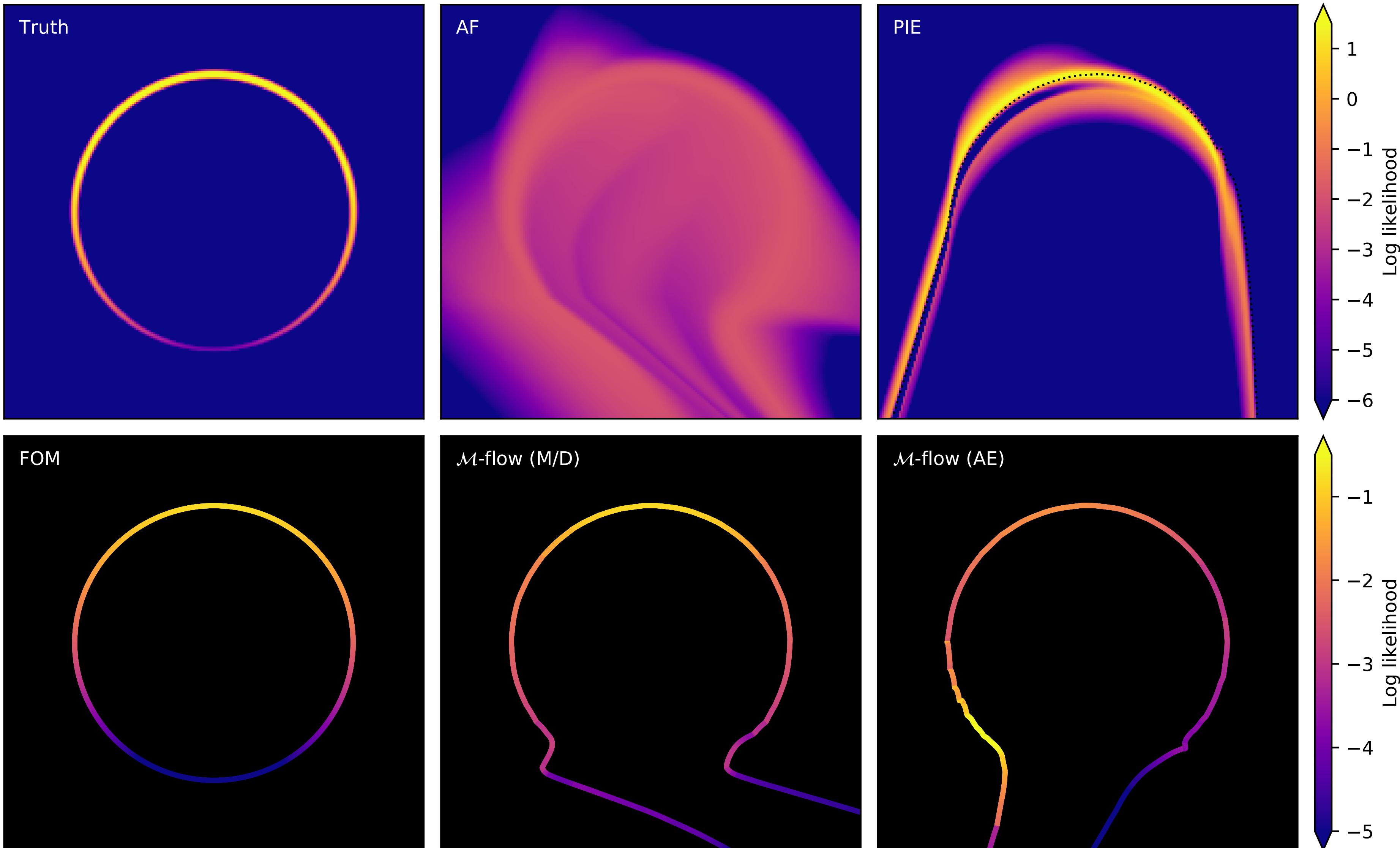
Cannot separate determinant of product of non-square matrices

M/D training sidesteps this problem: density phase only requires gradient

$$\nabla_{\phi_h} (\log p_{\mathcal{M}}(x)) = \nabla_{\phi_h} (\log p_{\tilde{u}}(h^{-1}(u))) - \nabla_{\phi_h} (\log \det J_h(h^{-1}(u))) - \underbrace{\nabla_{\phi_h} \frac{1}{2} \log \det \left[ (\mathbb{1} \ 0) J_f^T(u) J_f(u) \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \right]}_{=0},$$

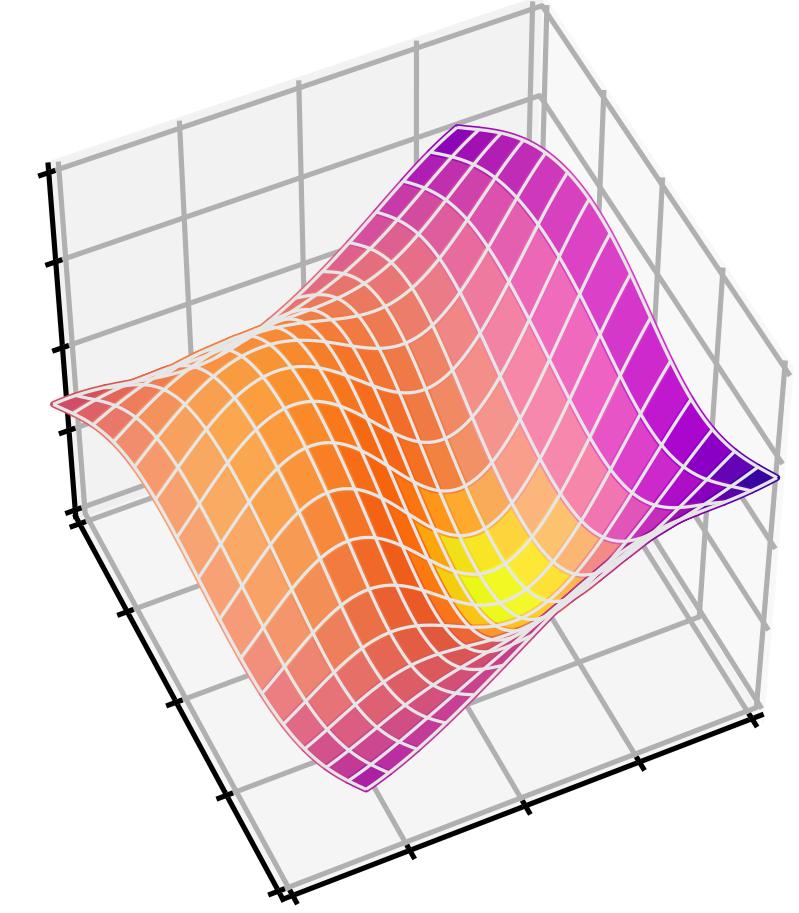
which can be computed efficiently!

# Gaussian on a circle

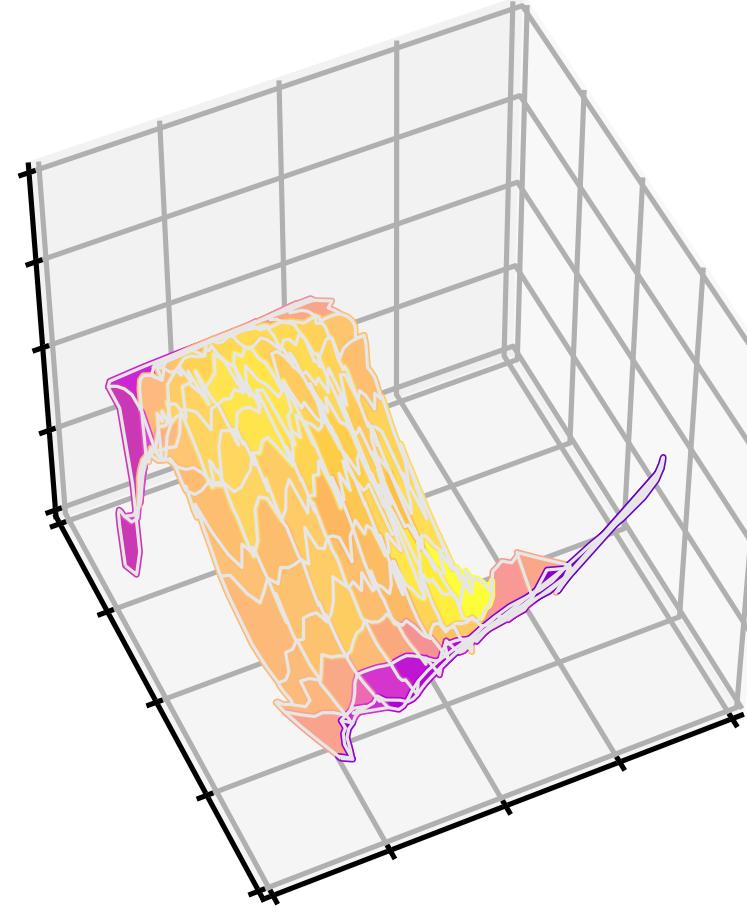


# Mixture model on a polynomial surface

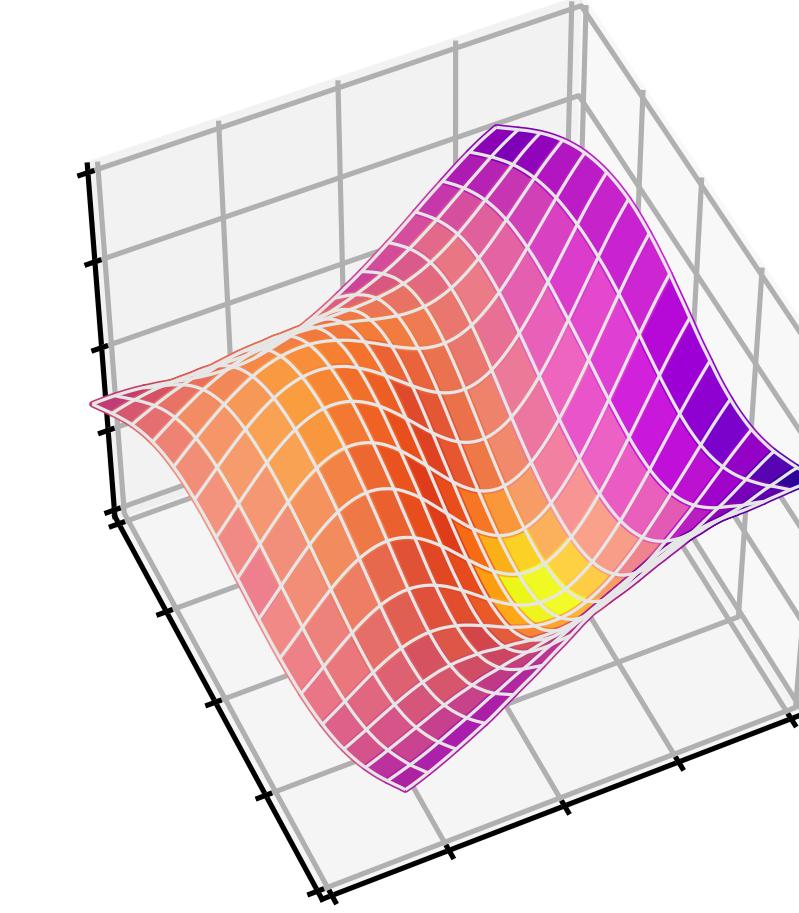
Ground truth,  $\theta = 0$



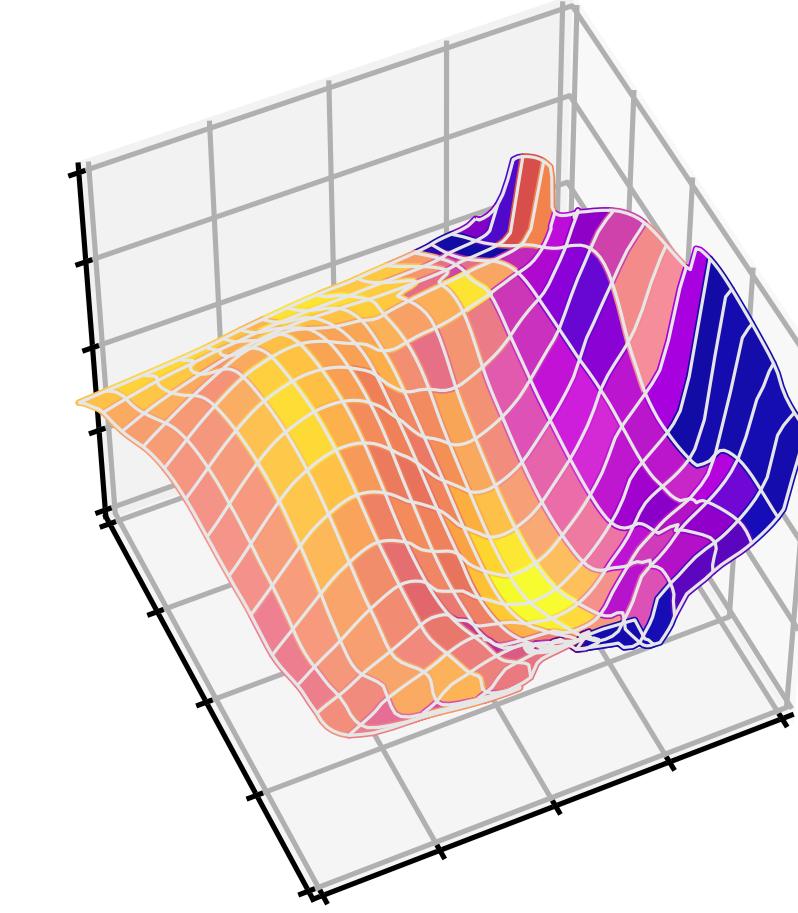
PIE,  $\theta = 0$



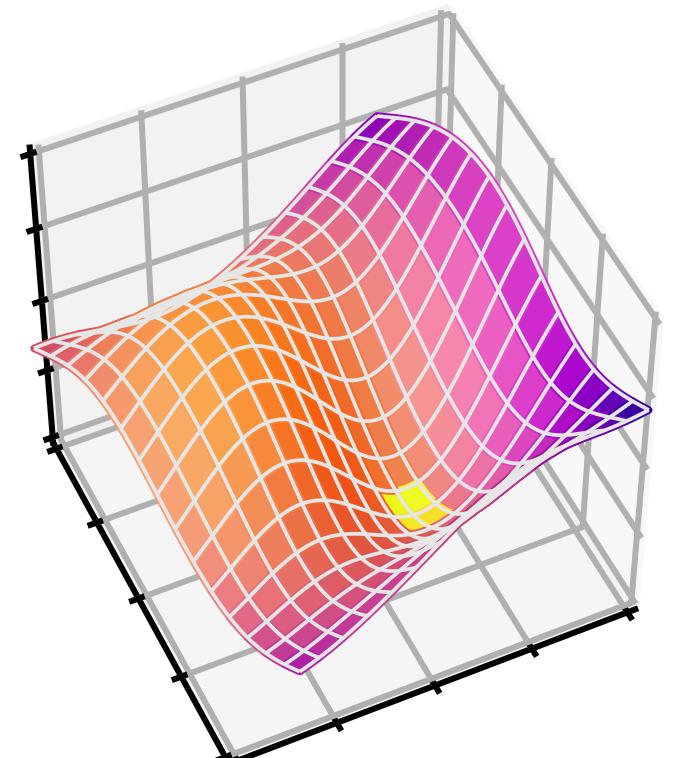
$\mathcal{M}$ -flow (M/D),  $\theta = 0$



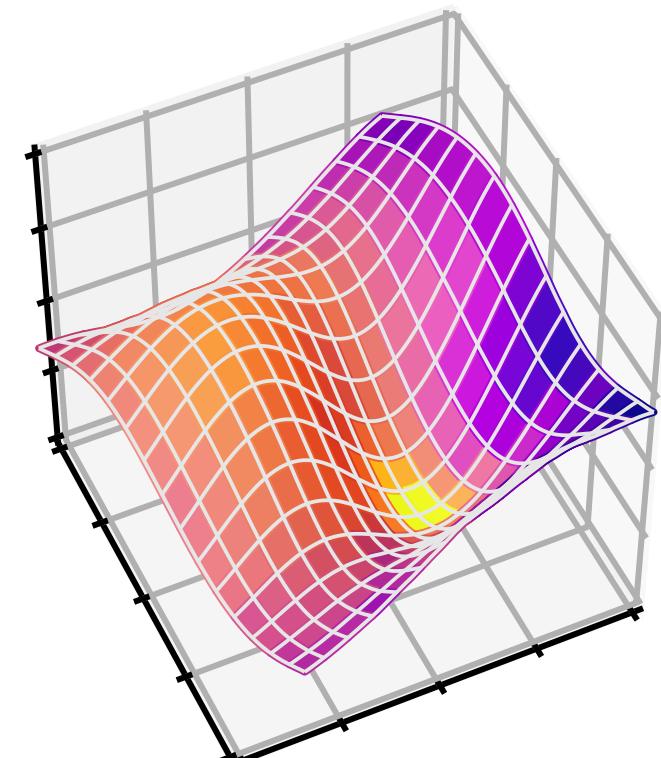
$\mathcal{M}$ -flow (OT),  $\theta = 0$



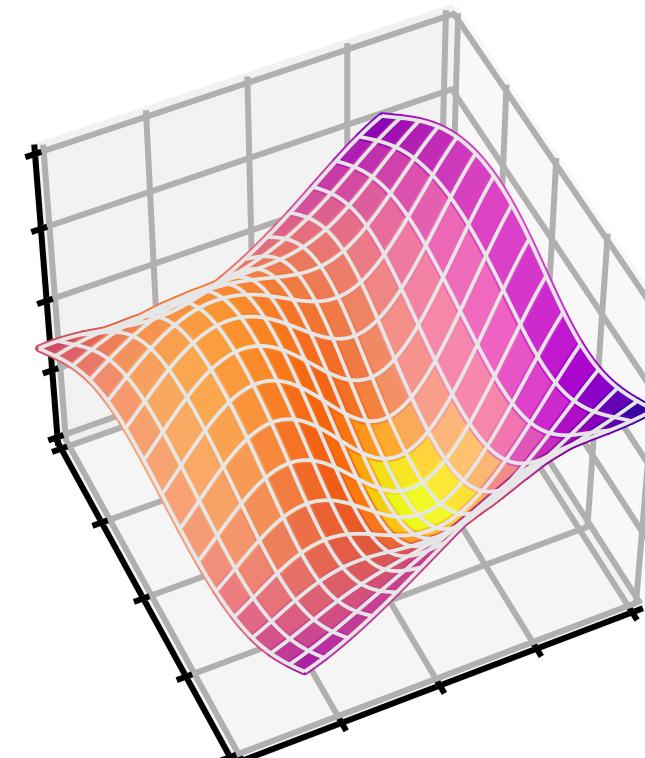
Ground truth,  $\theta = -1$



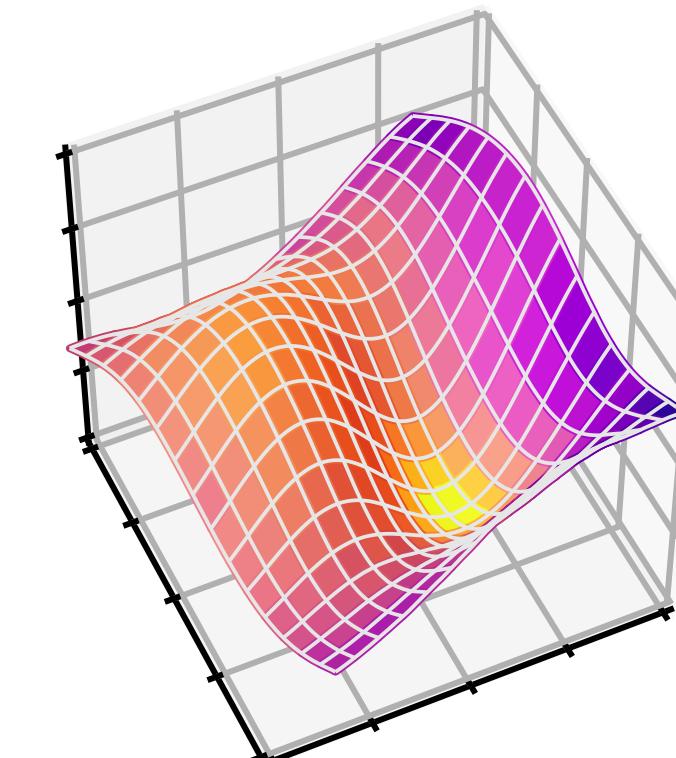
$\mathcal{M}$ -flow,  $\theta = -1$



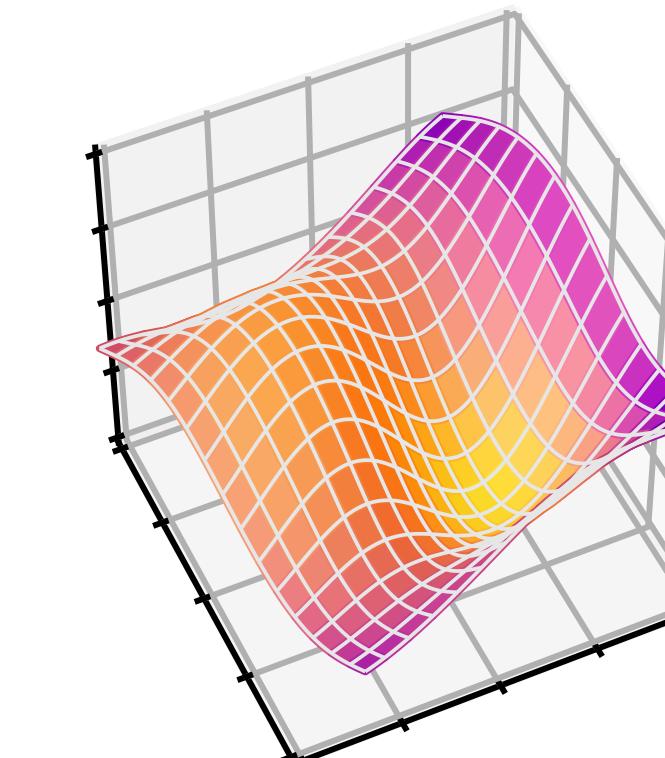
Ground truth,  $\theta = 0$



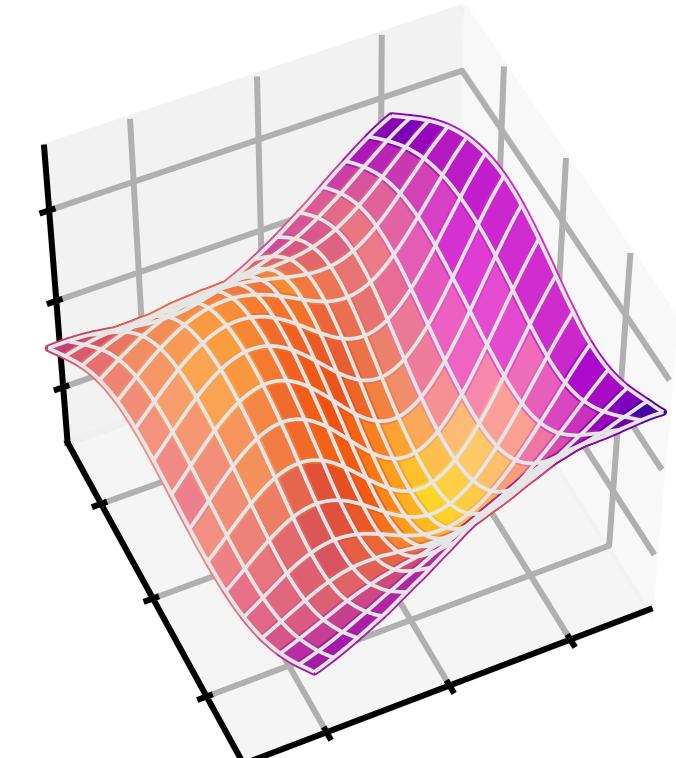
$\mathcal{M}$ -flow,  $\theta = 0$



Ground truth,  $\theta = 1$

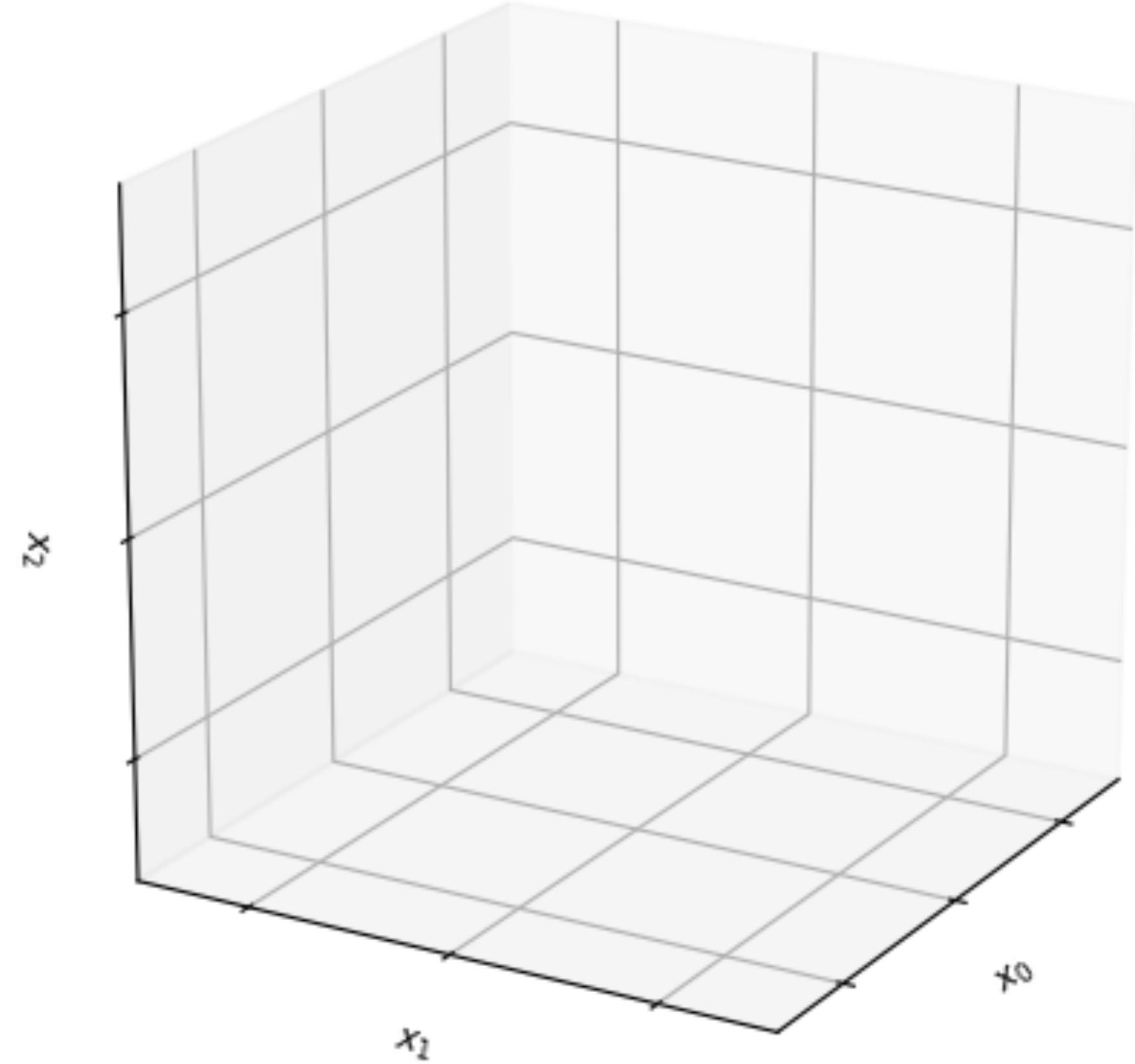


$\mathcal{M}$ -flow,  $\theta = 1$



# Lorenz attractor

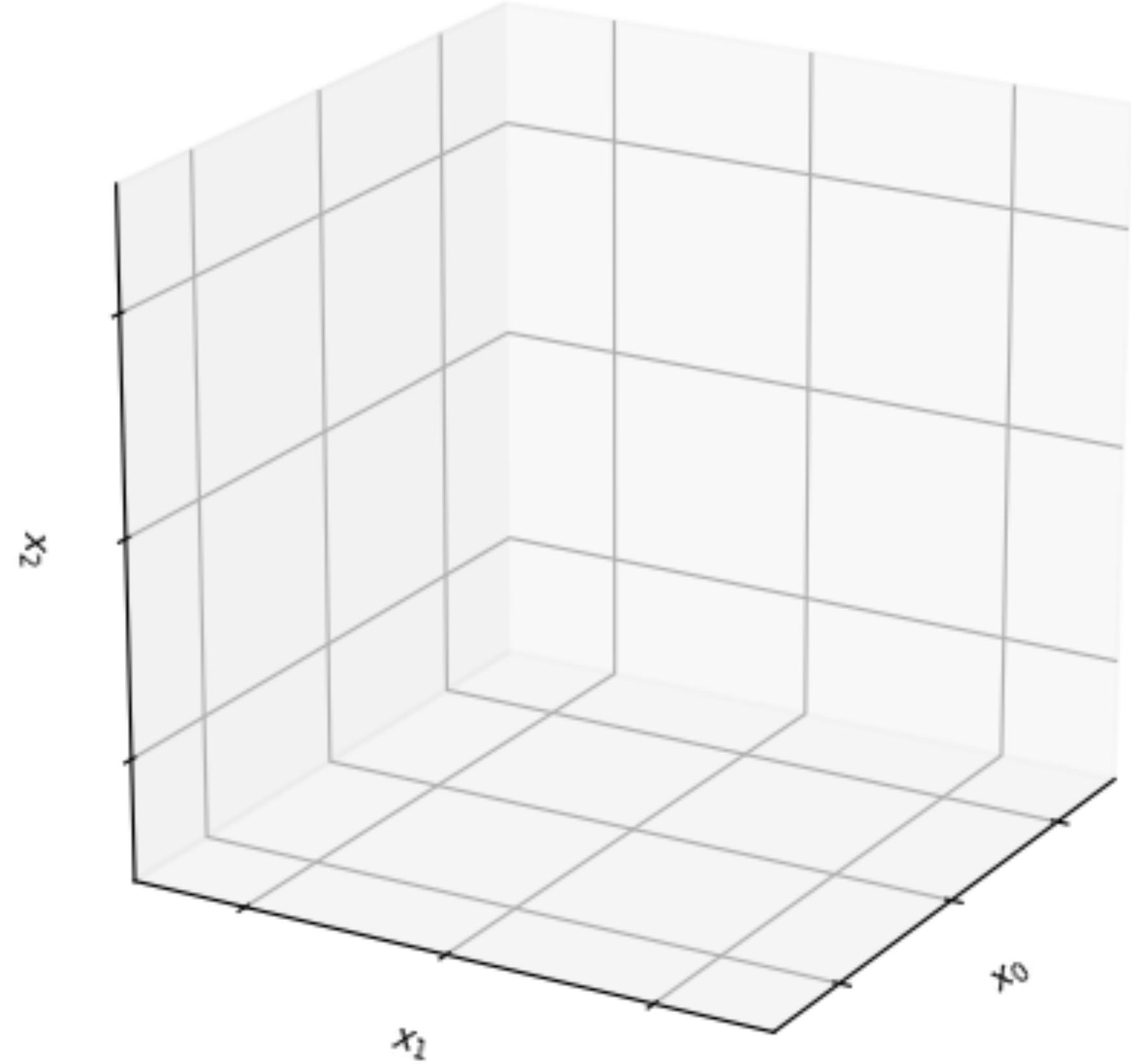
[E. Lorenz 1963]



$$\frac{dx_0}{dt} = \sigma(x_1 - x_0), \quad \frac{dx_1}{dt} = x_0(\rho - x_2) - x_1, \quad \frac{dx_2}{dt} = x_0x_1 - \beta x_2.$$

# Lorenz attractor

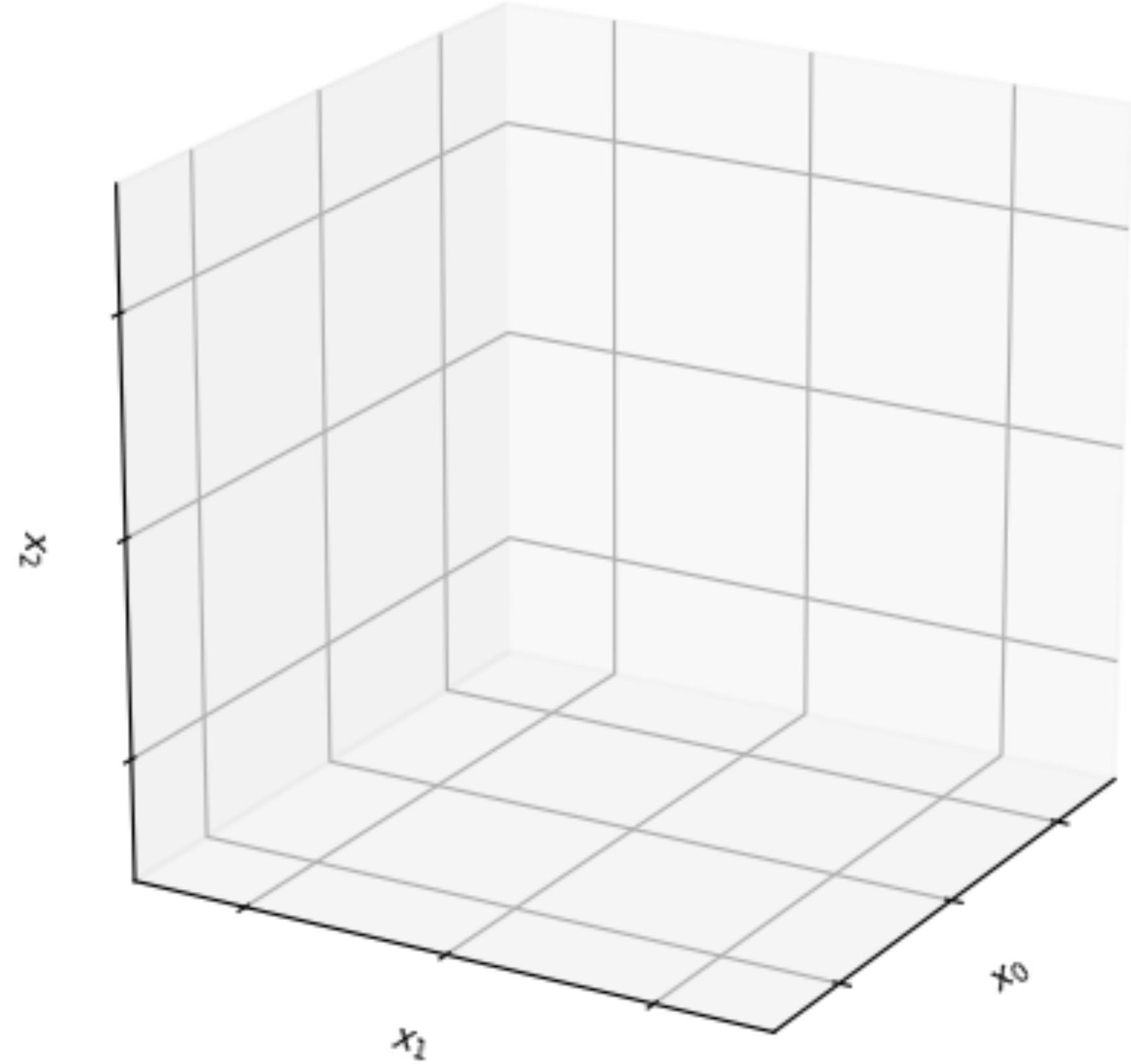
[E. Lorenz 1963]



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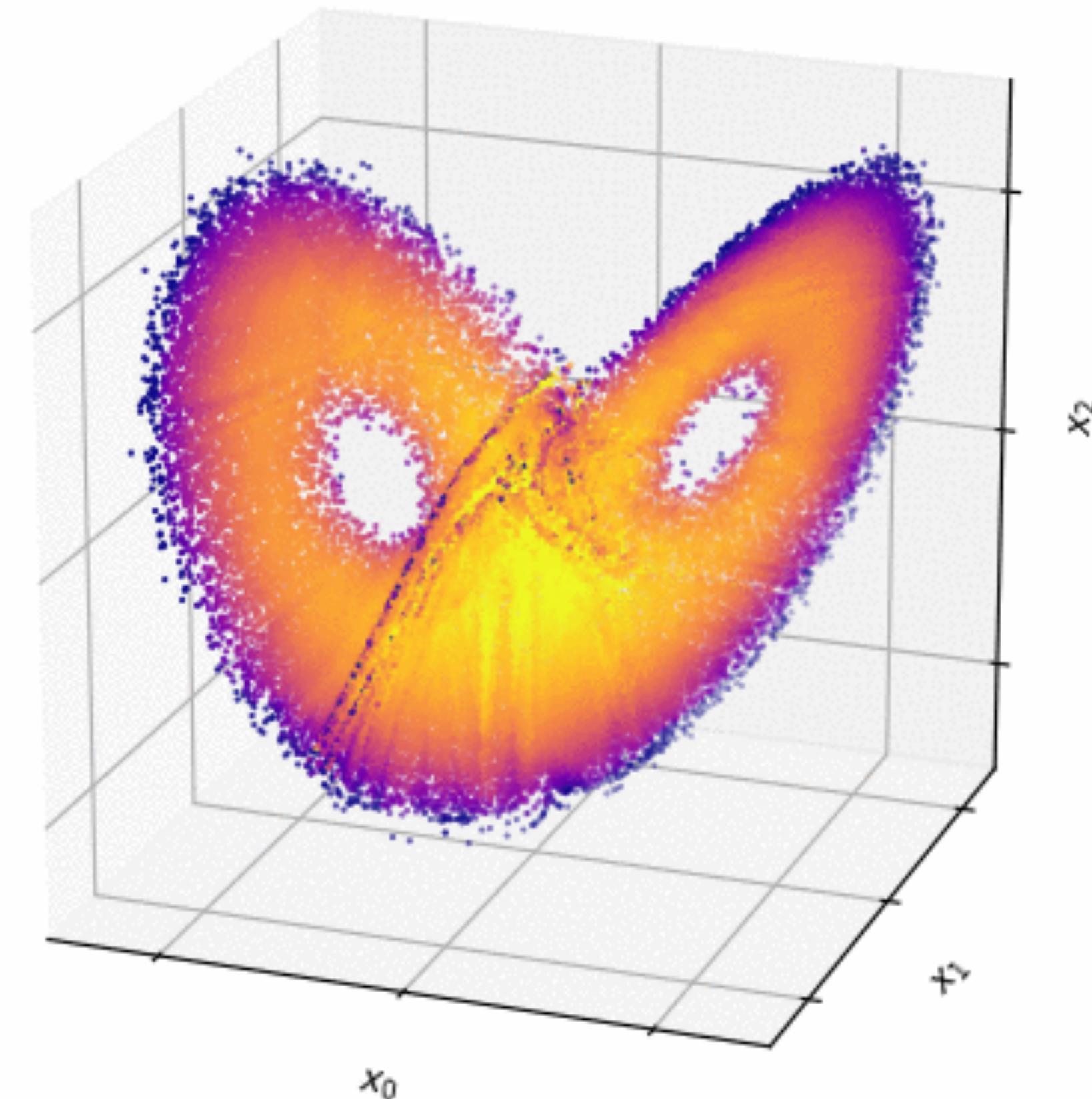
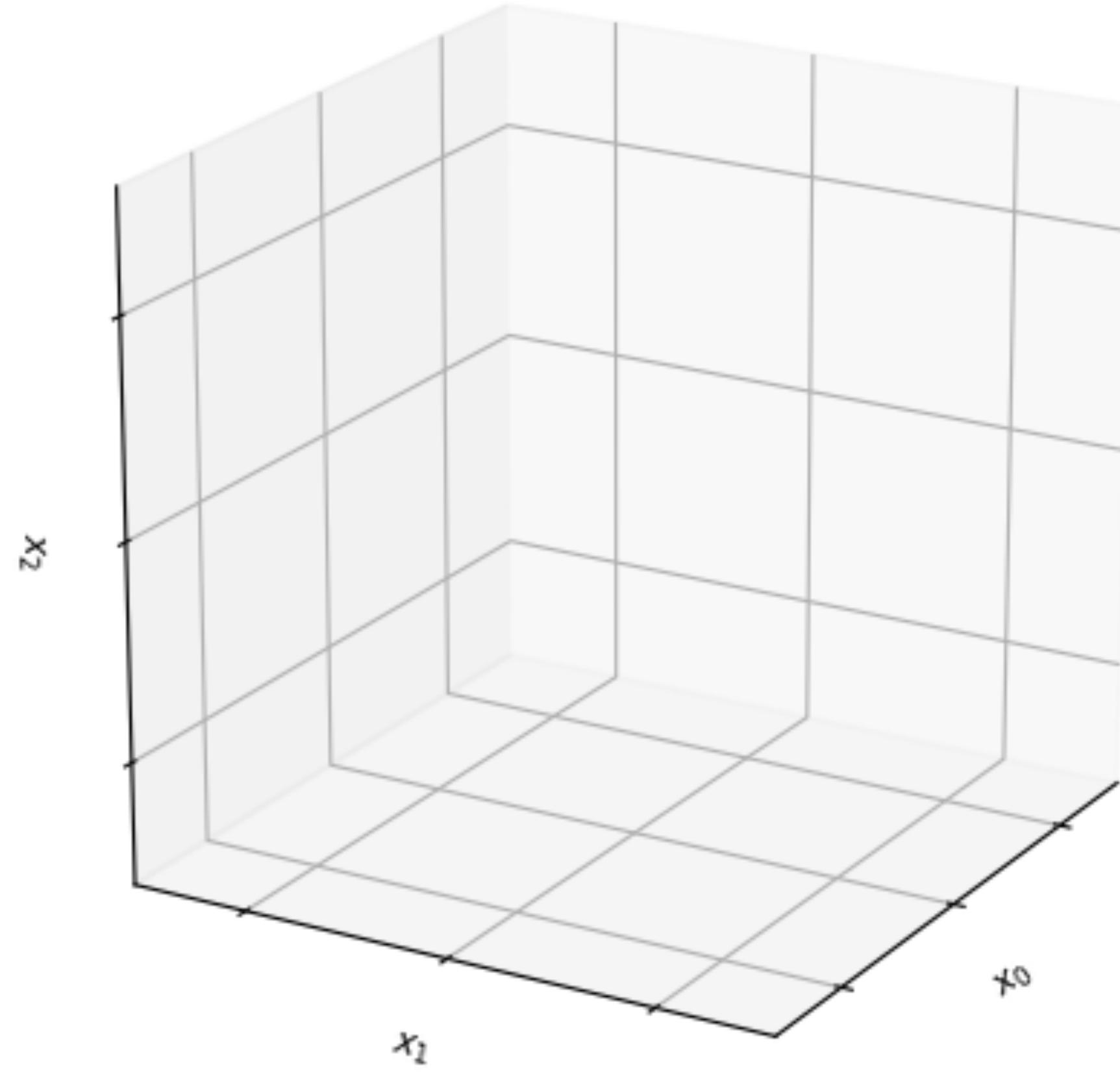
[E. Lorenz 1963]



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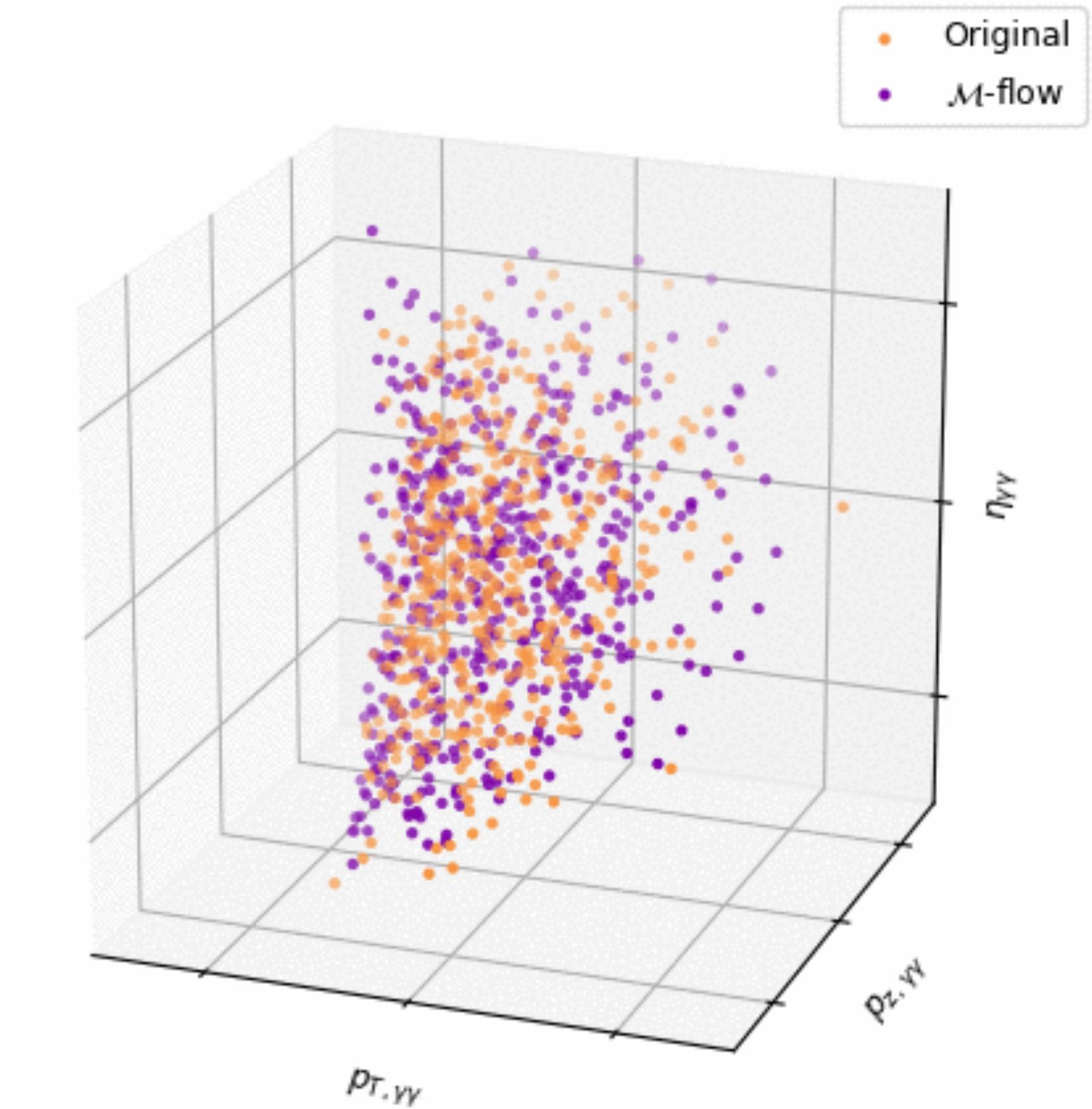
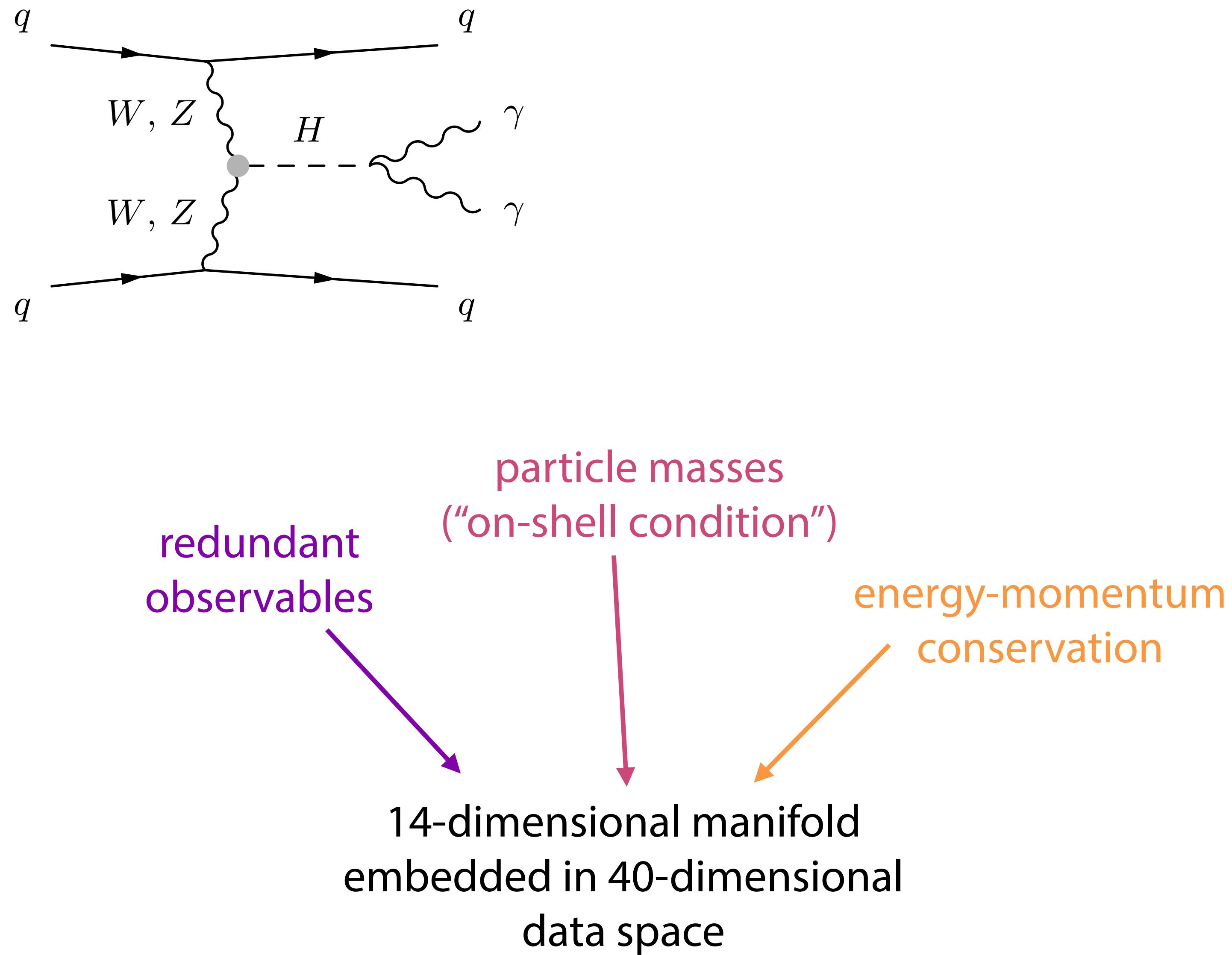
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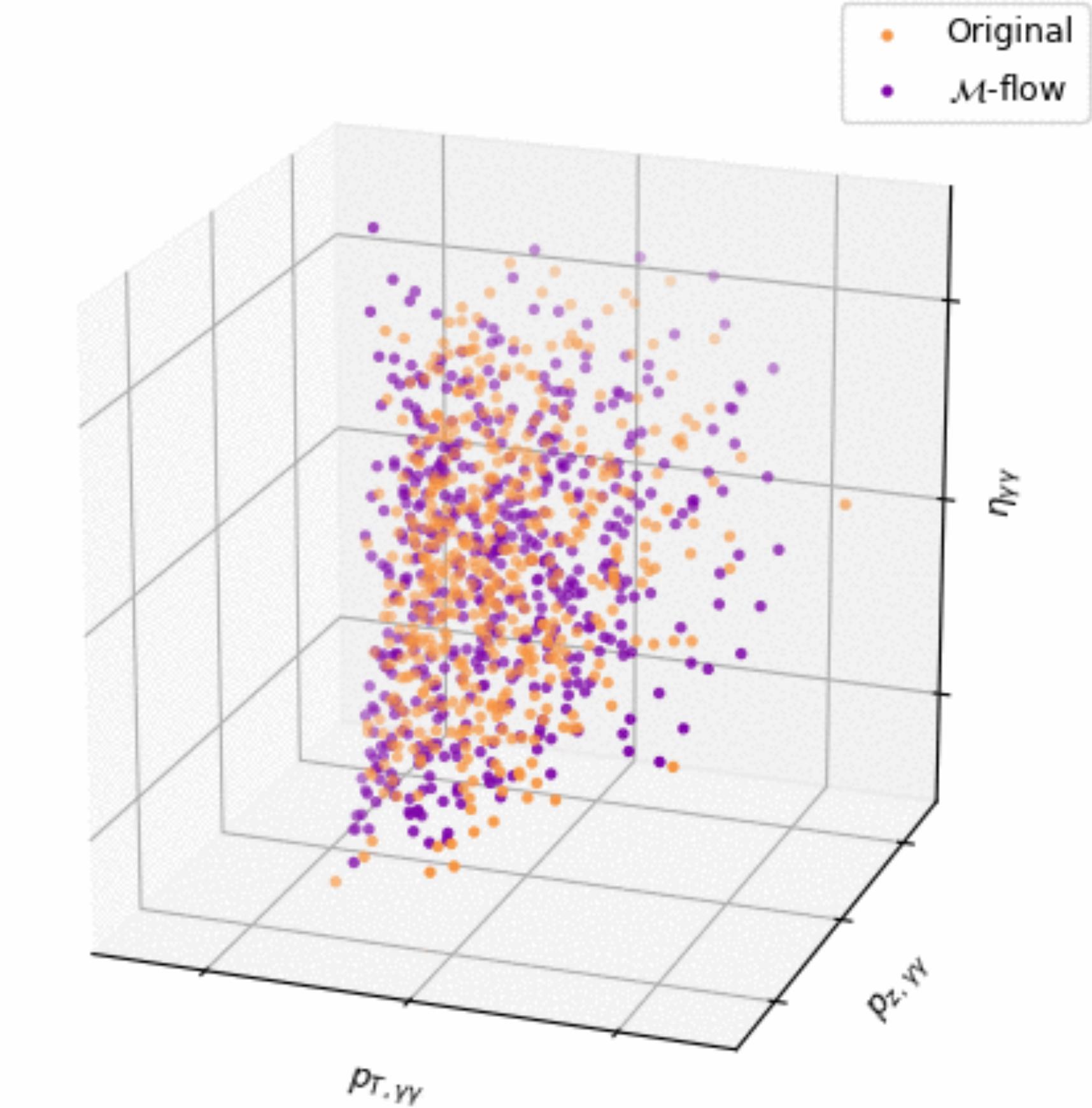
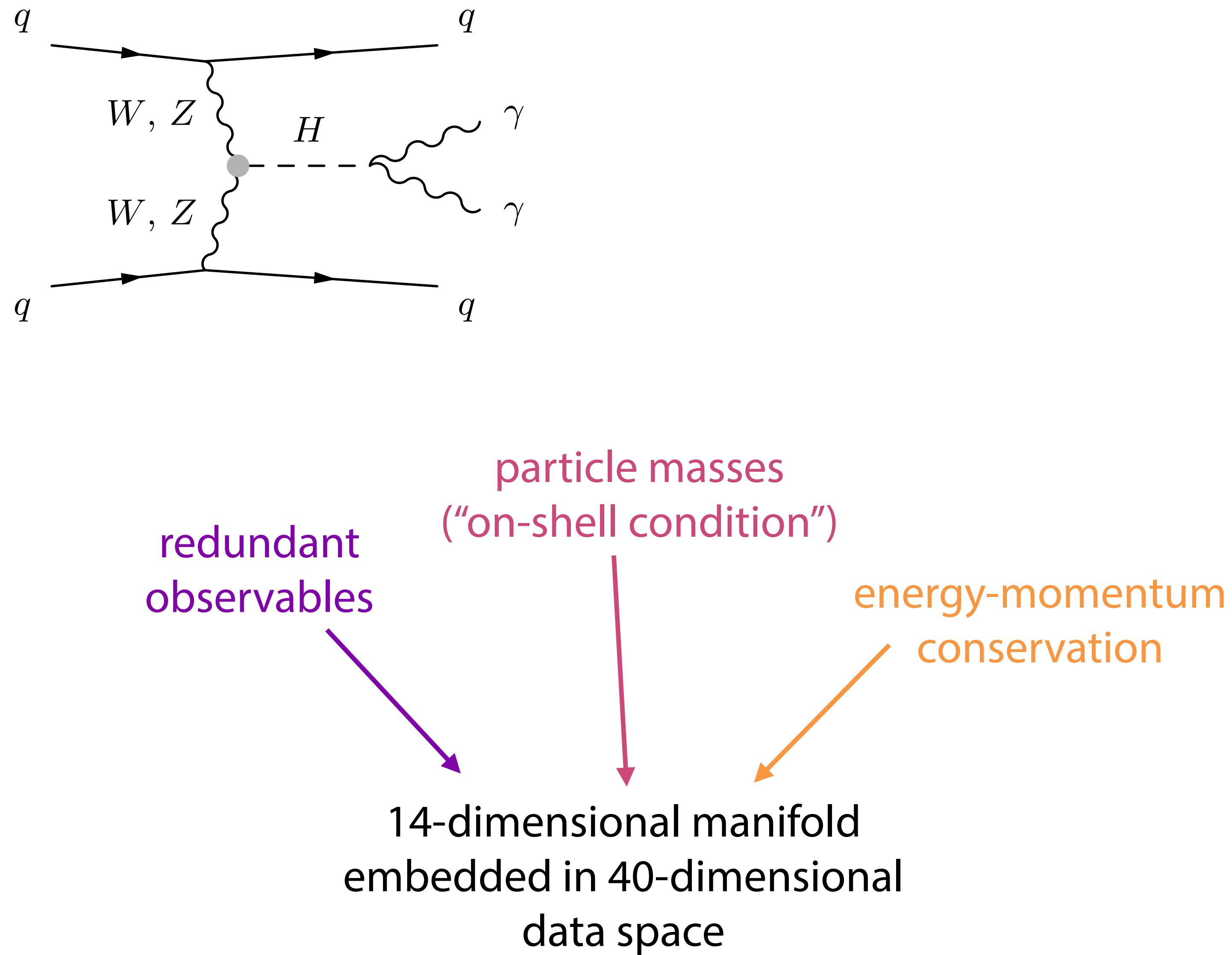


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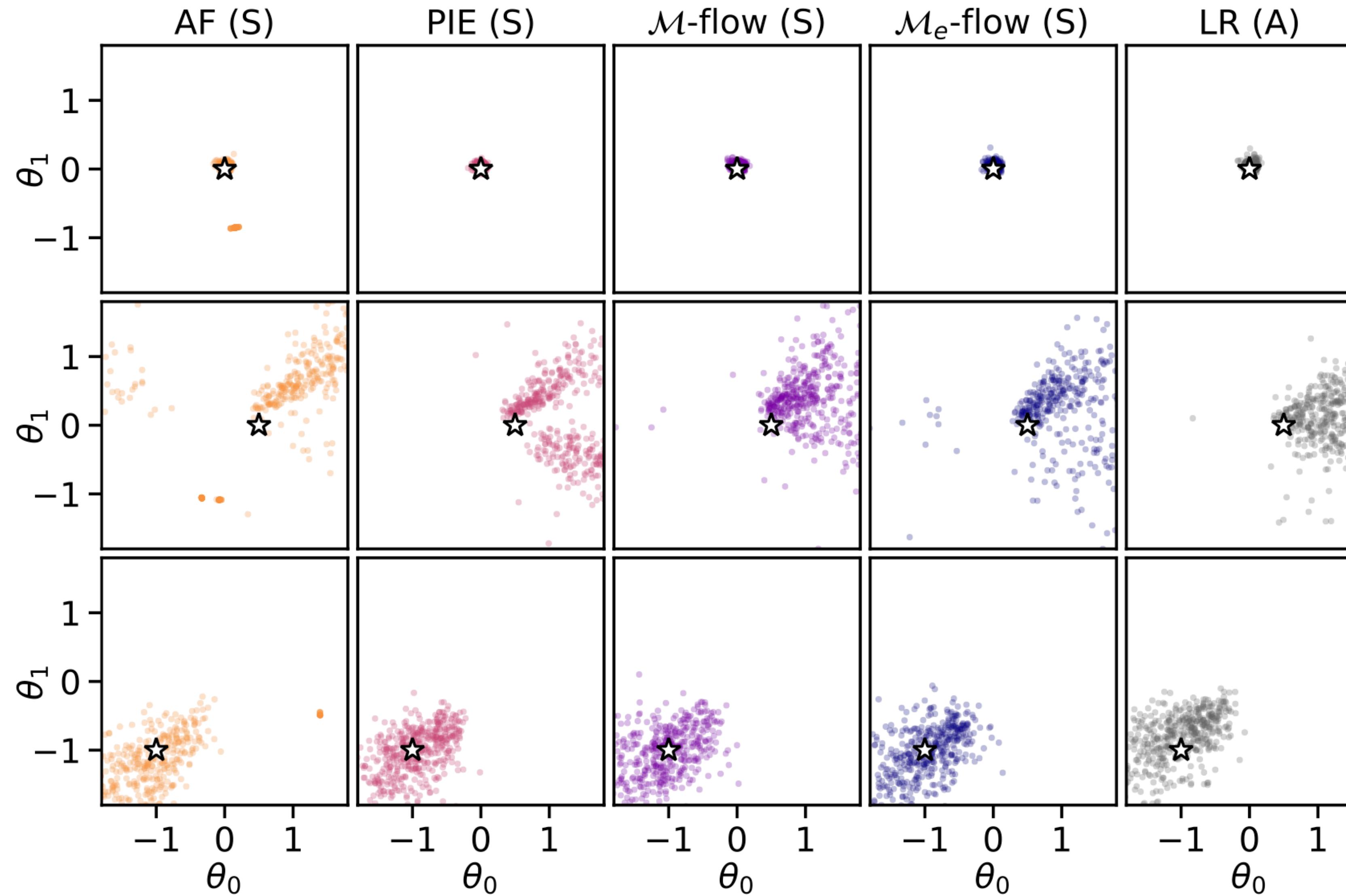
# Particle physics: structure



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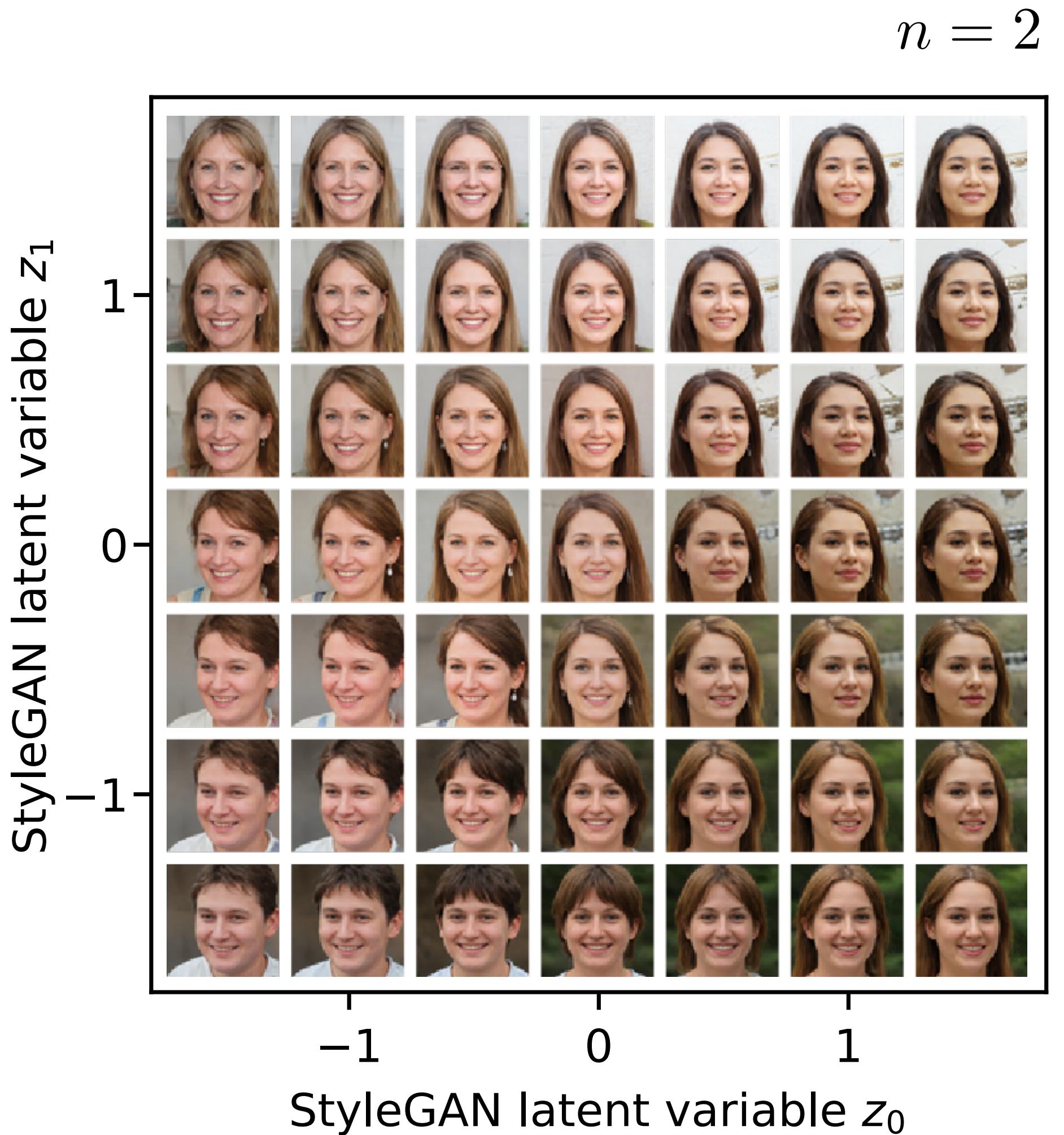
# Particle physics: results



# Image manifolds

Q: How to make image datasets where we **know** that data lives on an  $n$ -dimensional manifold?

A: take a pretrained GAN model, sample  $n$  of its latent variables, and keep all others fixed



# Samples

Test data



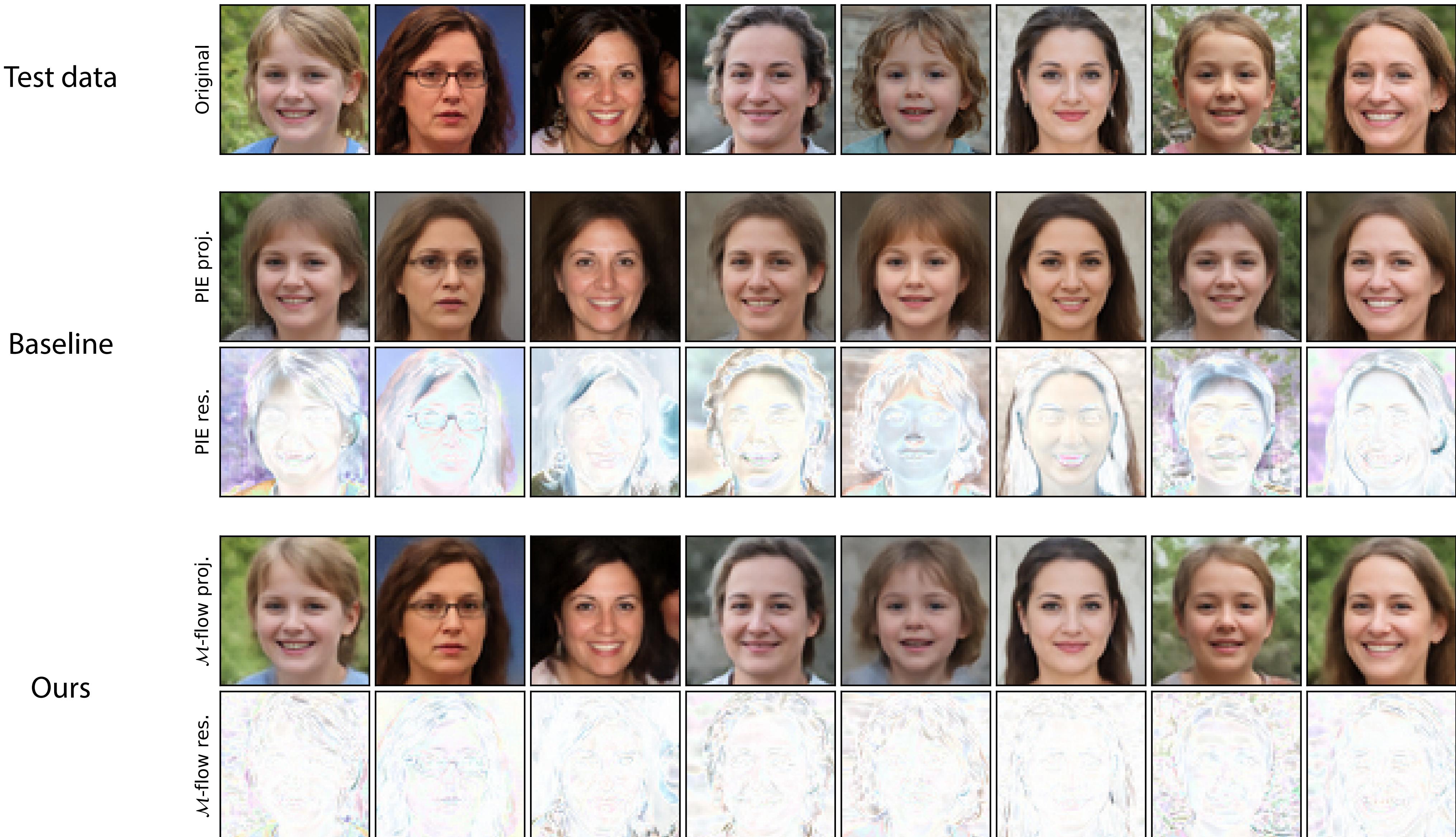
Baselines



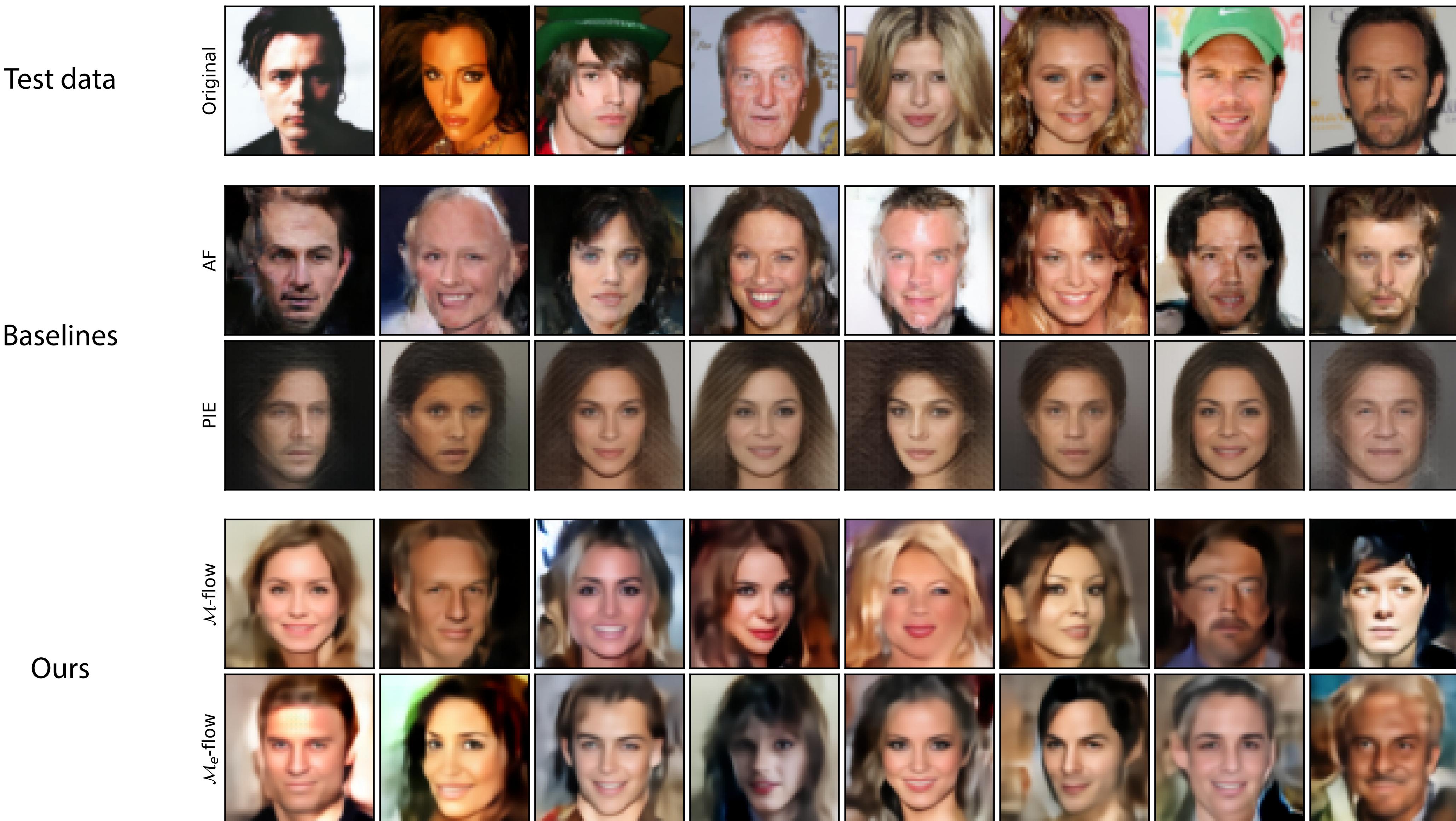
Ours



# Projections to learned manifolds



# Real-world images: CelebA samples



# CelebA projections

Test data



Baseline



Ours

