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# Introduction to computational physics and computing $\pi$

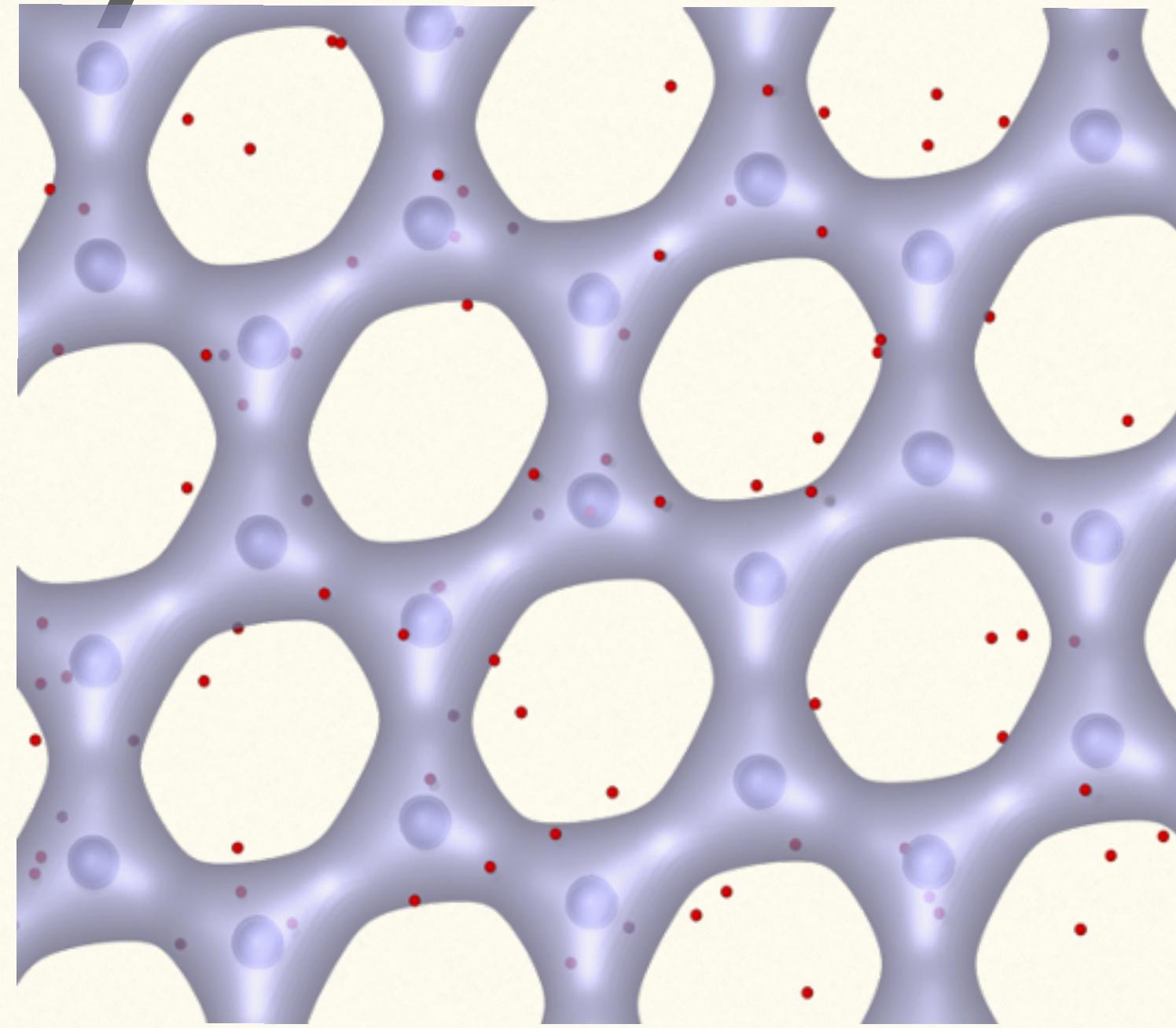
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PHYS 246 class I

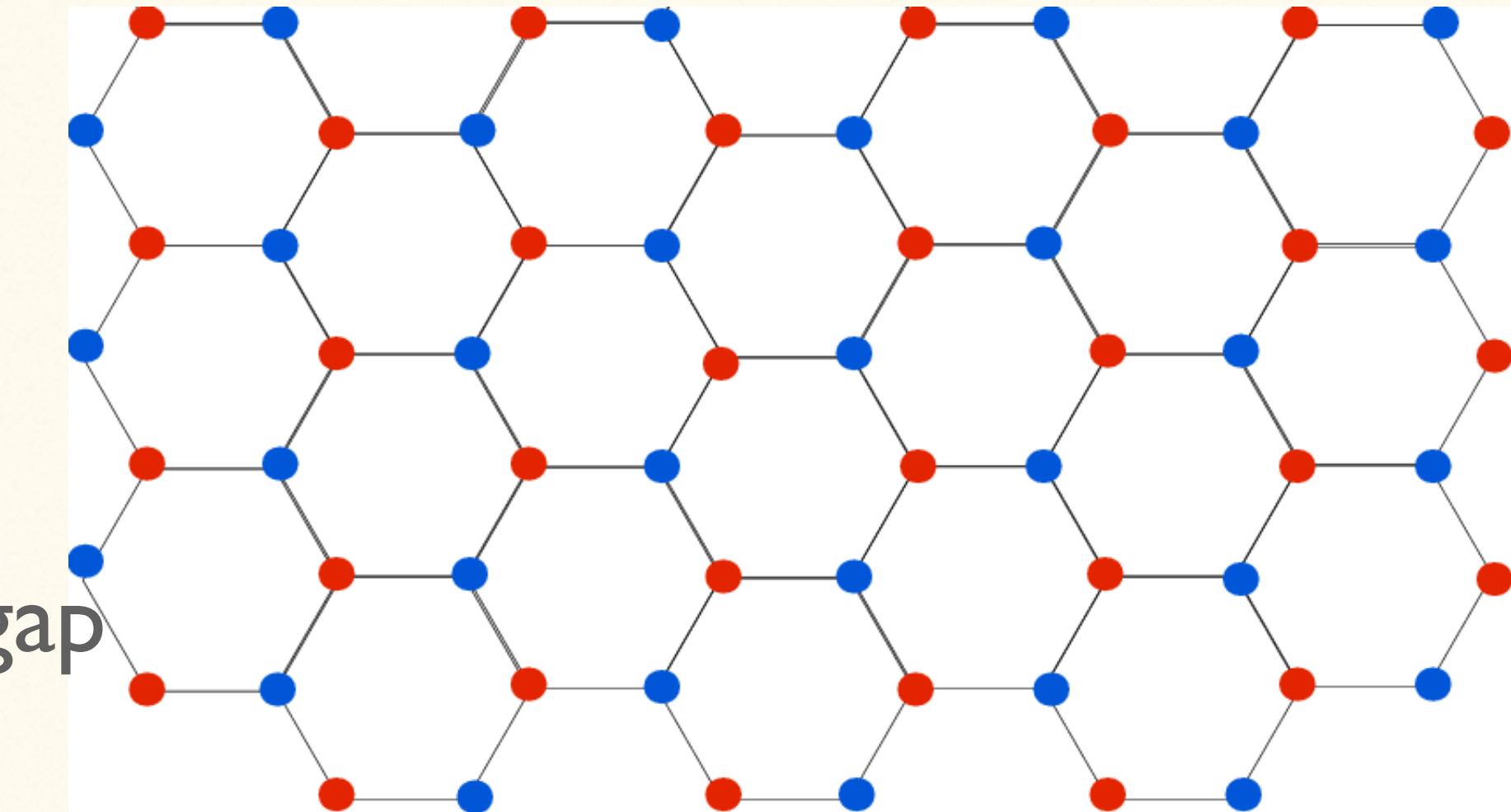
<https://lkwagner.github.io/IntroductionToComputationalPhysics/intro.html>

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# My research



Data to bridge the gap



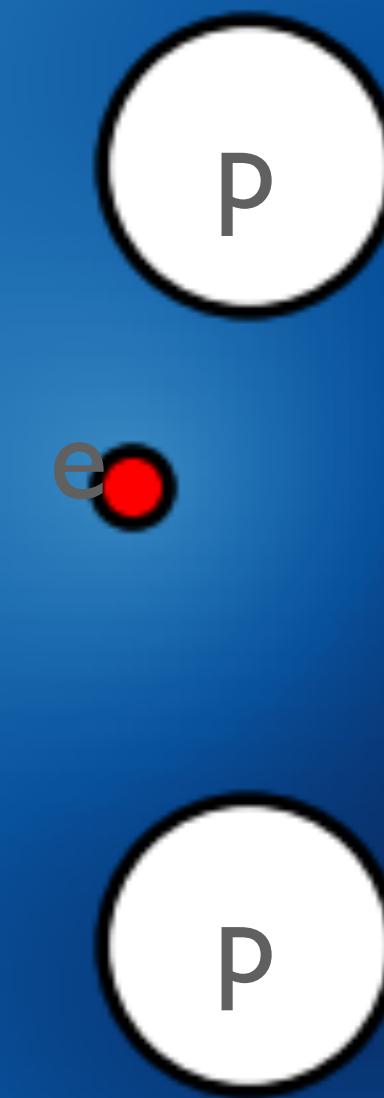
$$\hat{H} = - \sum_i \frac{\nabla_i^2}{2} - \sum_{i\alpha} \frac{Z_\alpha}{r_{i\alpha}} + \sum_{ij} \frac{1}{r_{ij}} + \dots$$

First principles calculations:  
universal physics for all  
condensed matter systems.

$$\hat{H} = \sum_{ij} t_{ij} c_i^\dagger c_j + \sum_{ijkl} V_{ijkl} c_i^\dagger c_j^\dagger c_k c_l$$

Effective models: specific,  
simpler models for a particular  
material

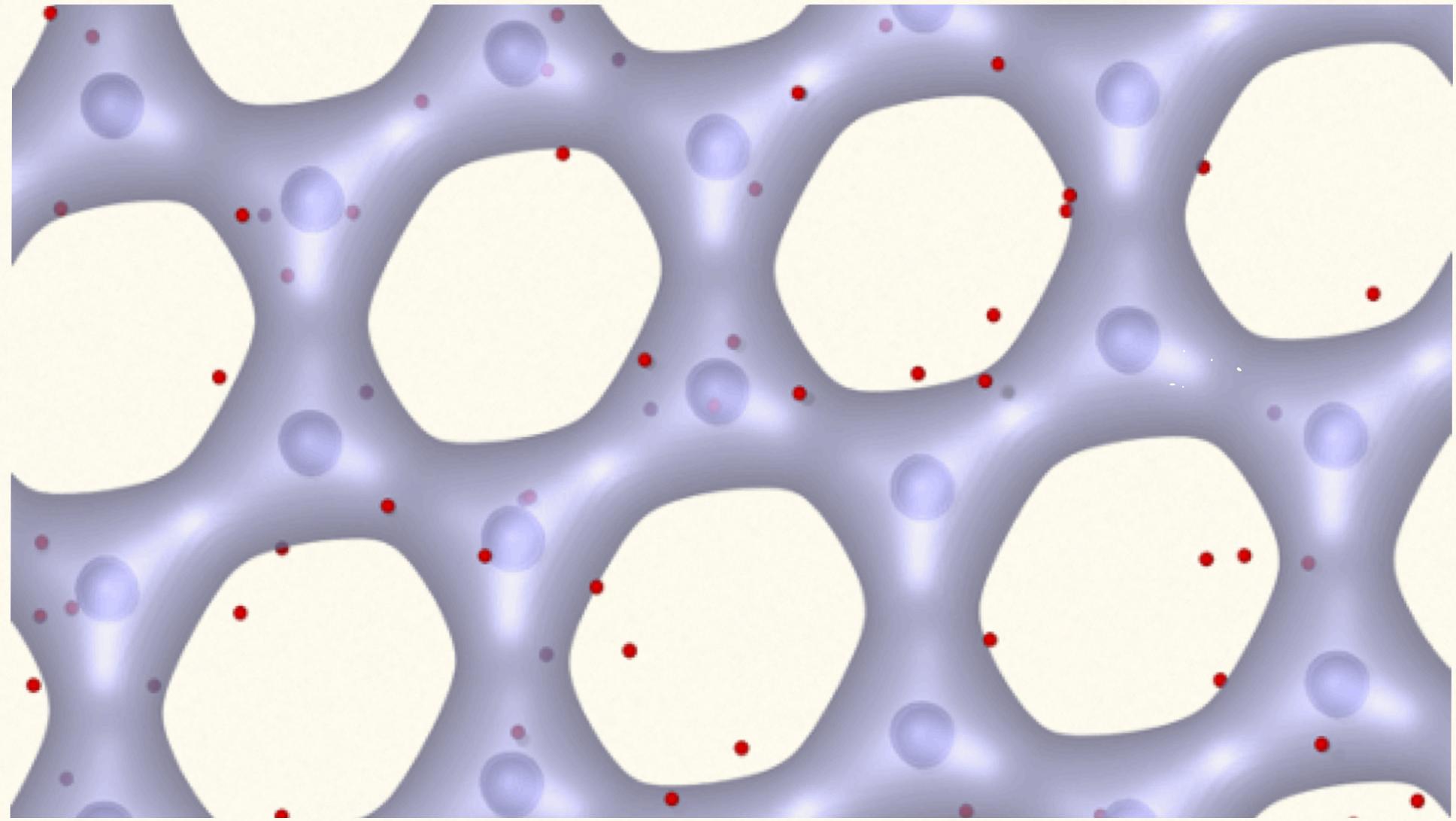
# Understanding many-body wave functions: weak correlation



Two electron and two protons

Conditional wave function:  
 $\Psi(x_1 | x_2, r_1, r_2)$

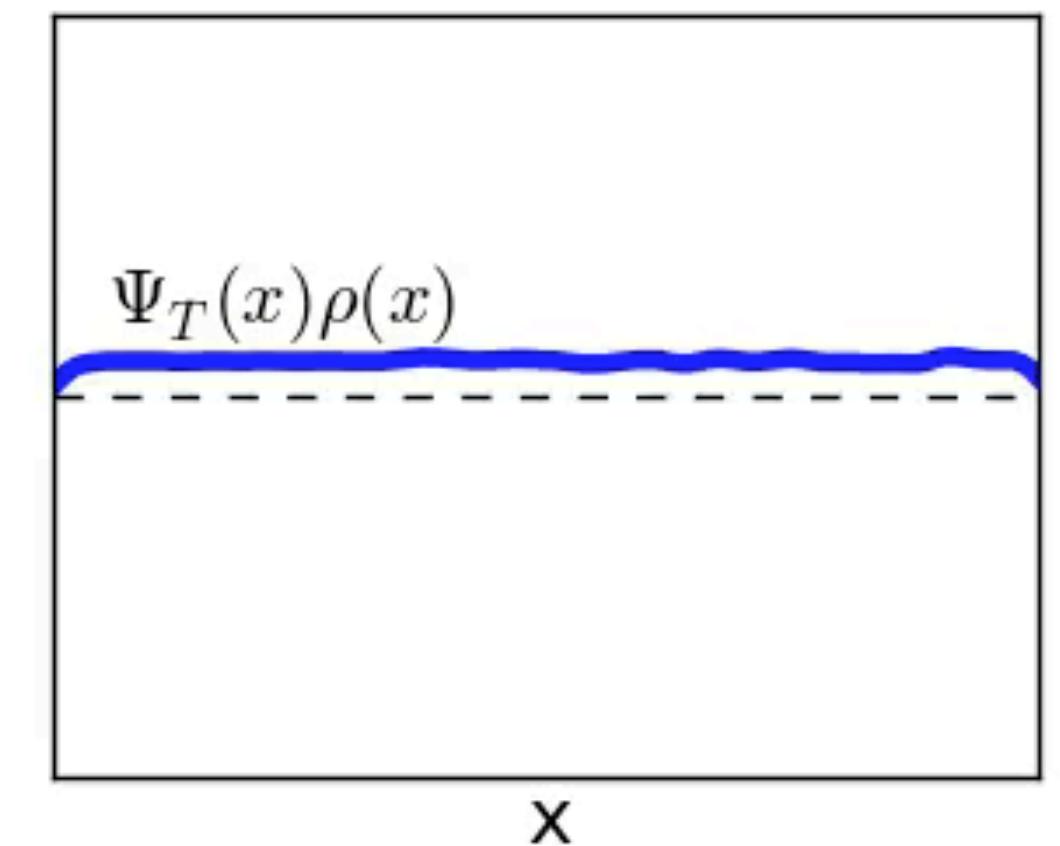
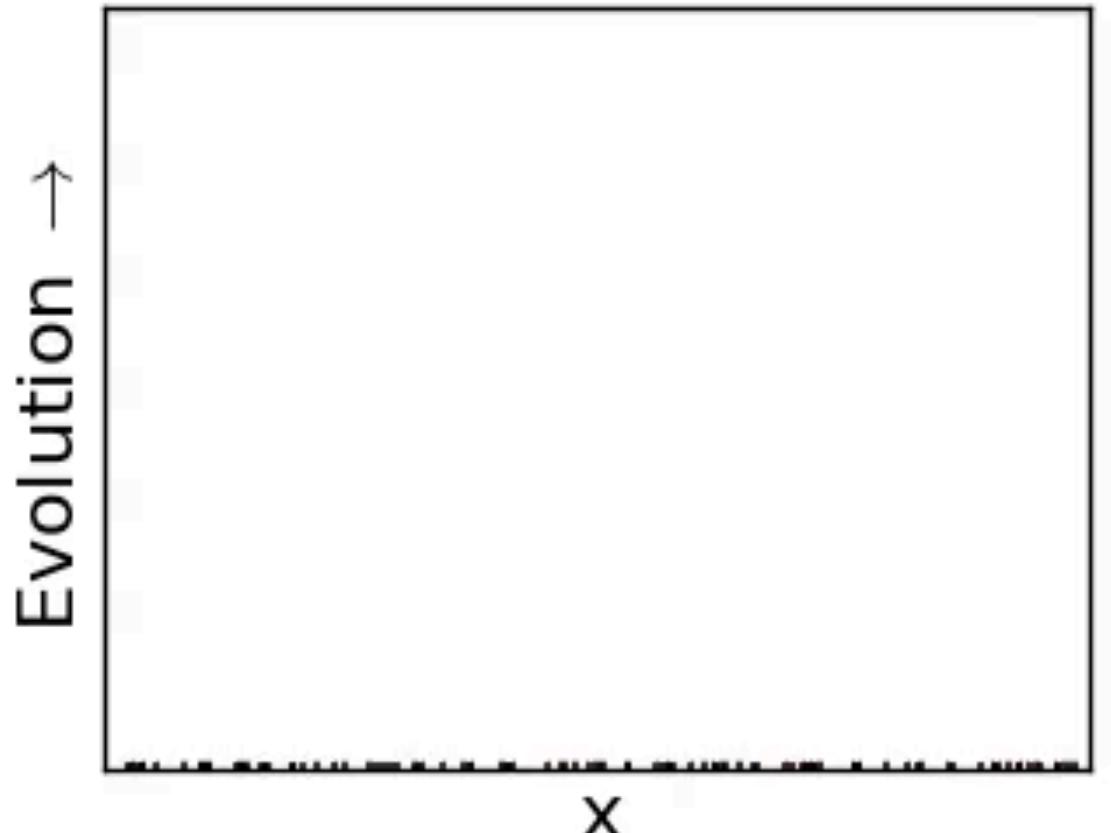
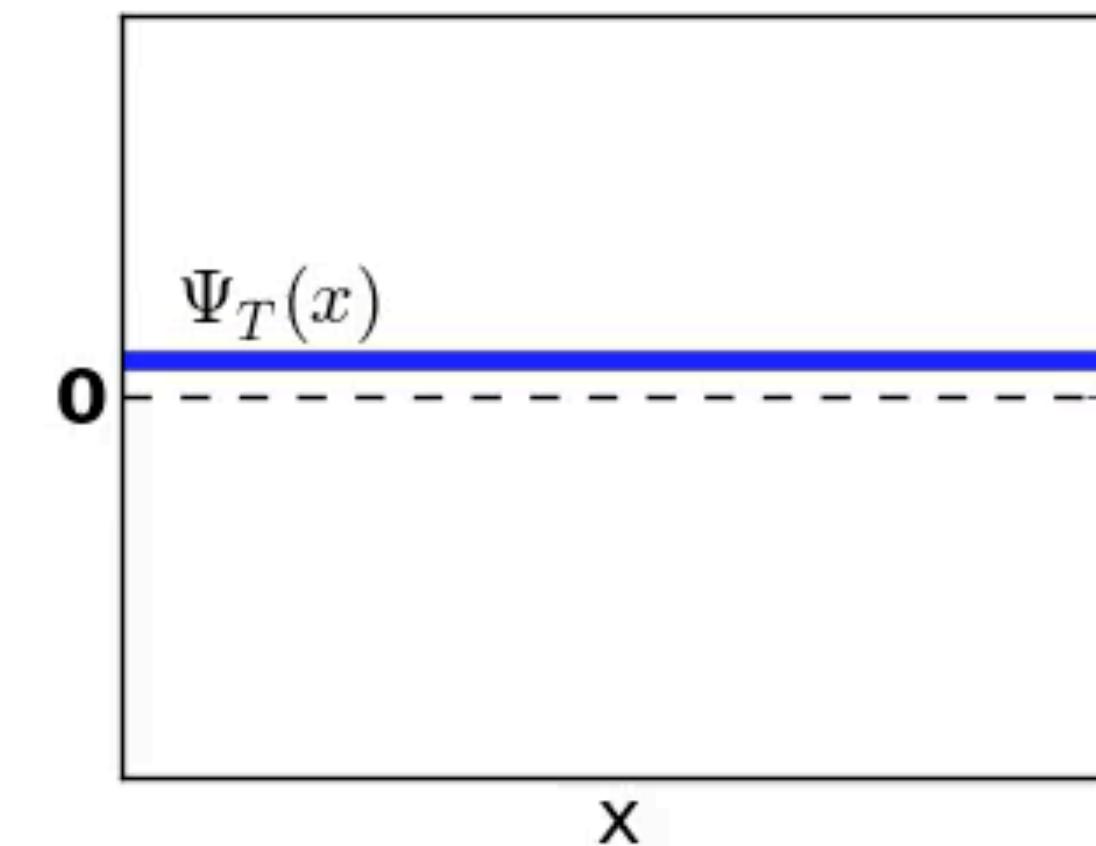
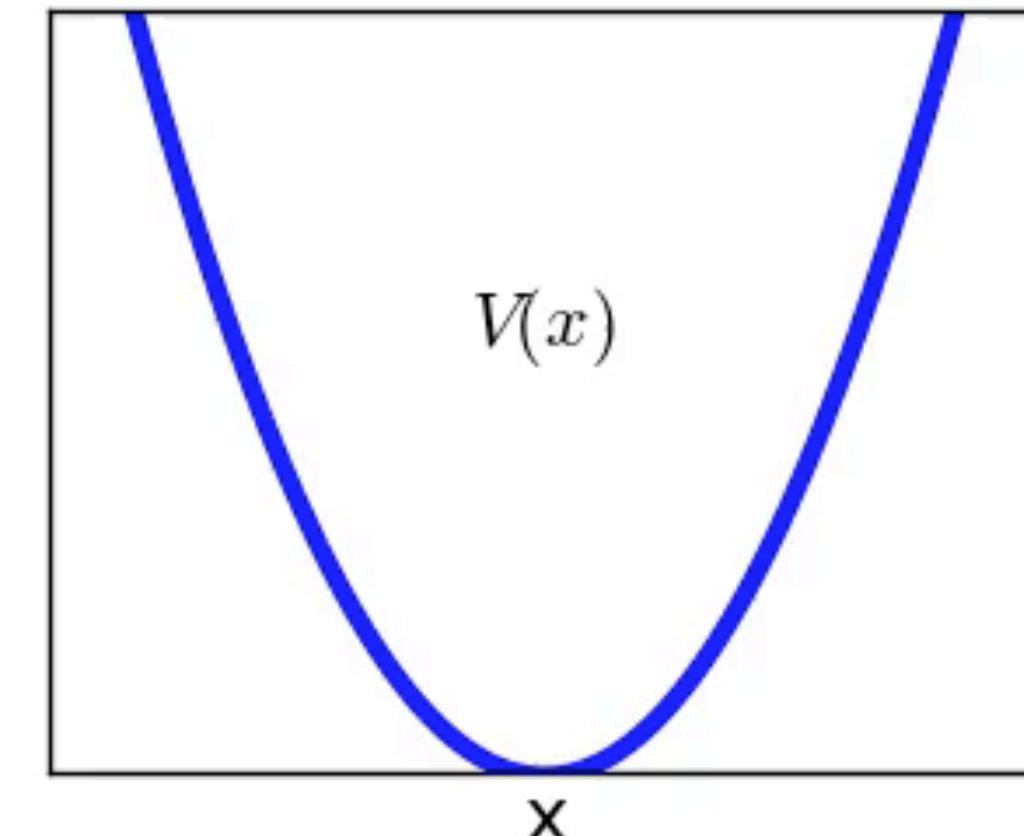
# Efficient description of correlation using Monte Carlo



Represent the wave function as a sum of  
“walkers”

$$\Psi(x) = \sum_i w_i \delta(x - x_i)$$

Weights and positions determined by a stochastic process.

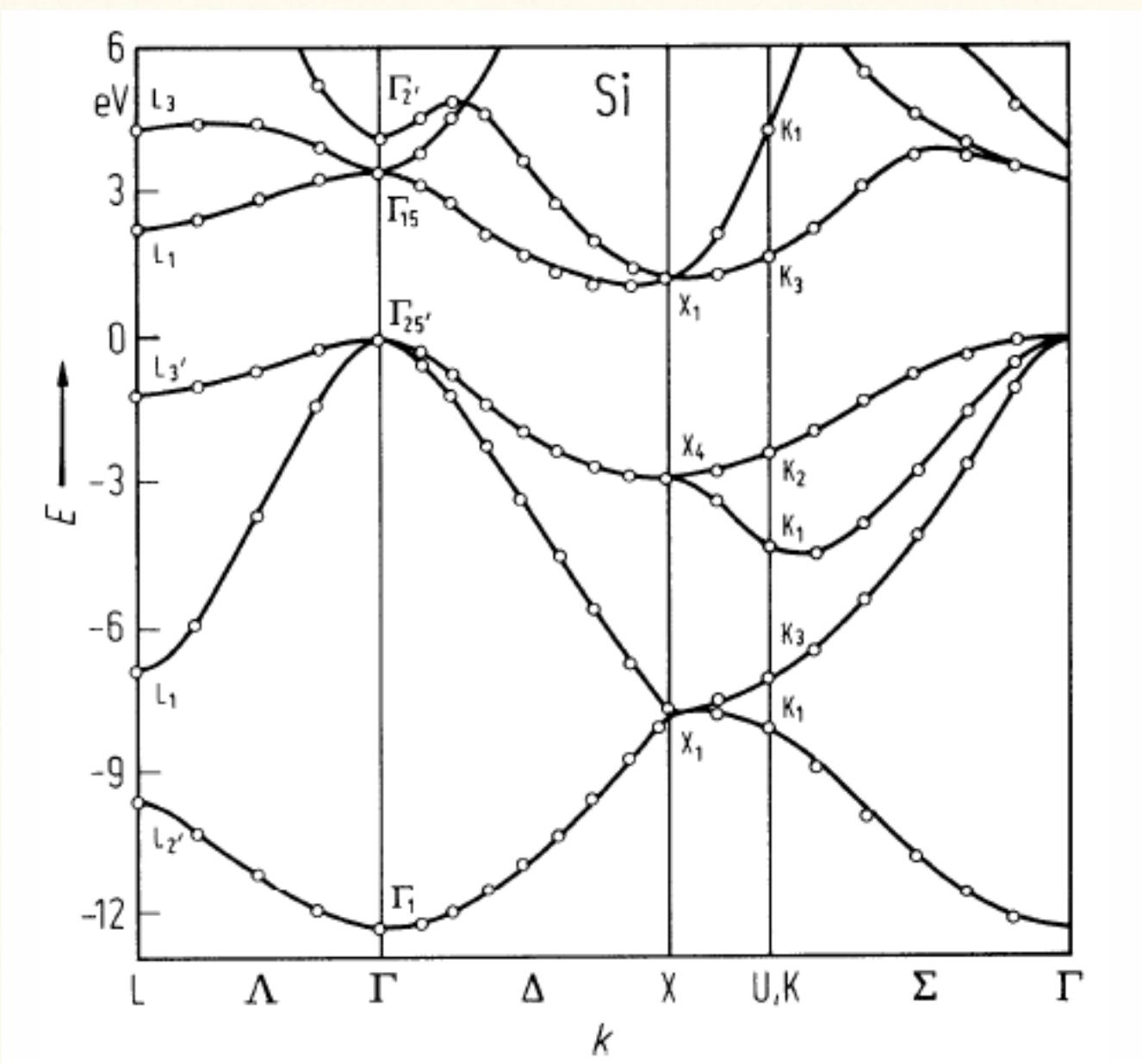


# Weak correlation is strong but can be coarse-grained out

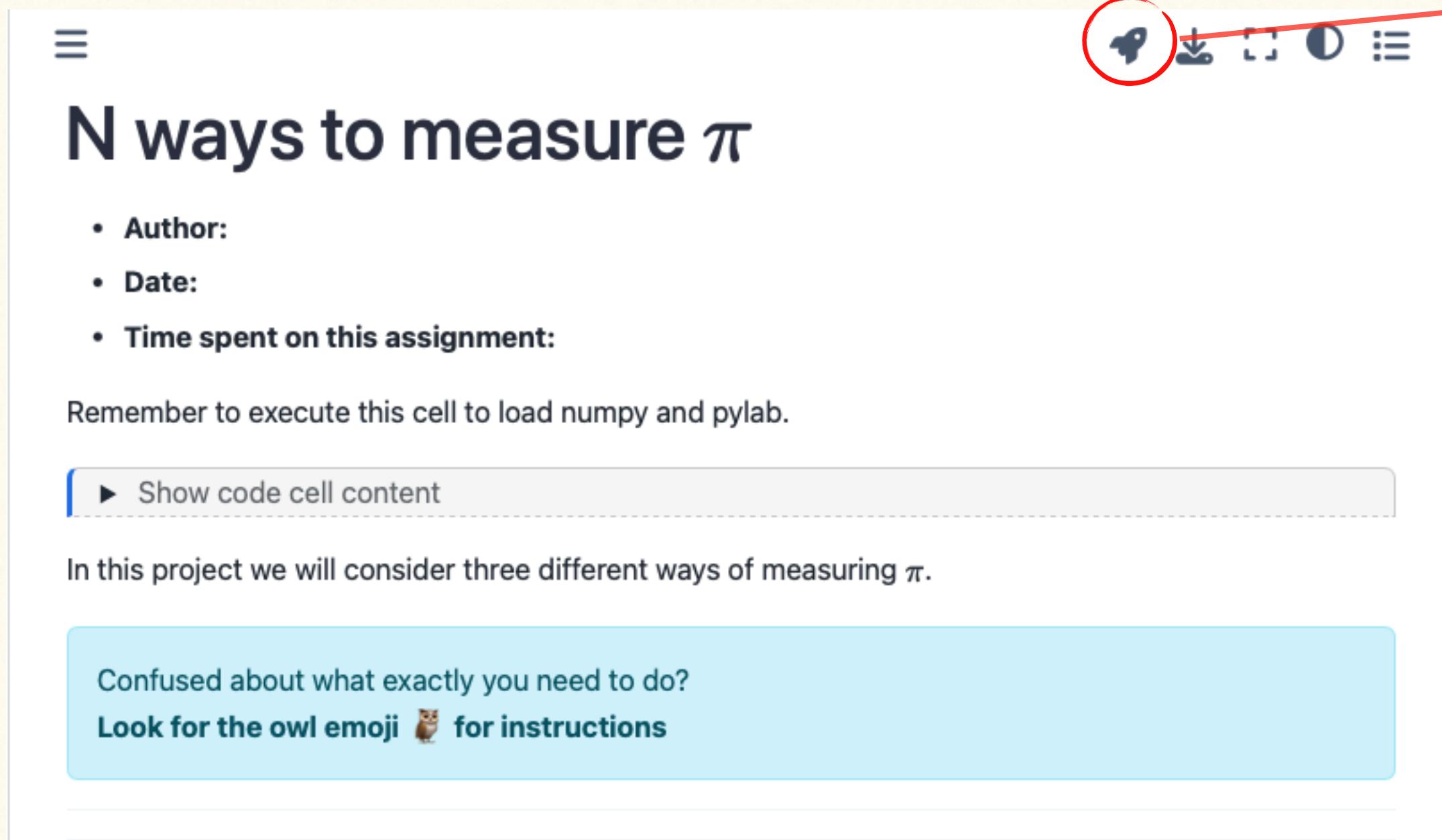
Silicon

Band gap ignoring electron correlations: 5 eV

Band gap in reality: 1.1 eV



# Getting started



N ways to measure  $\pi$

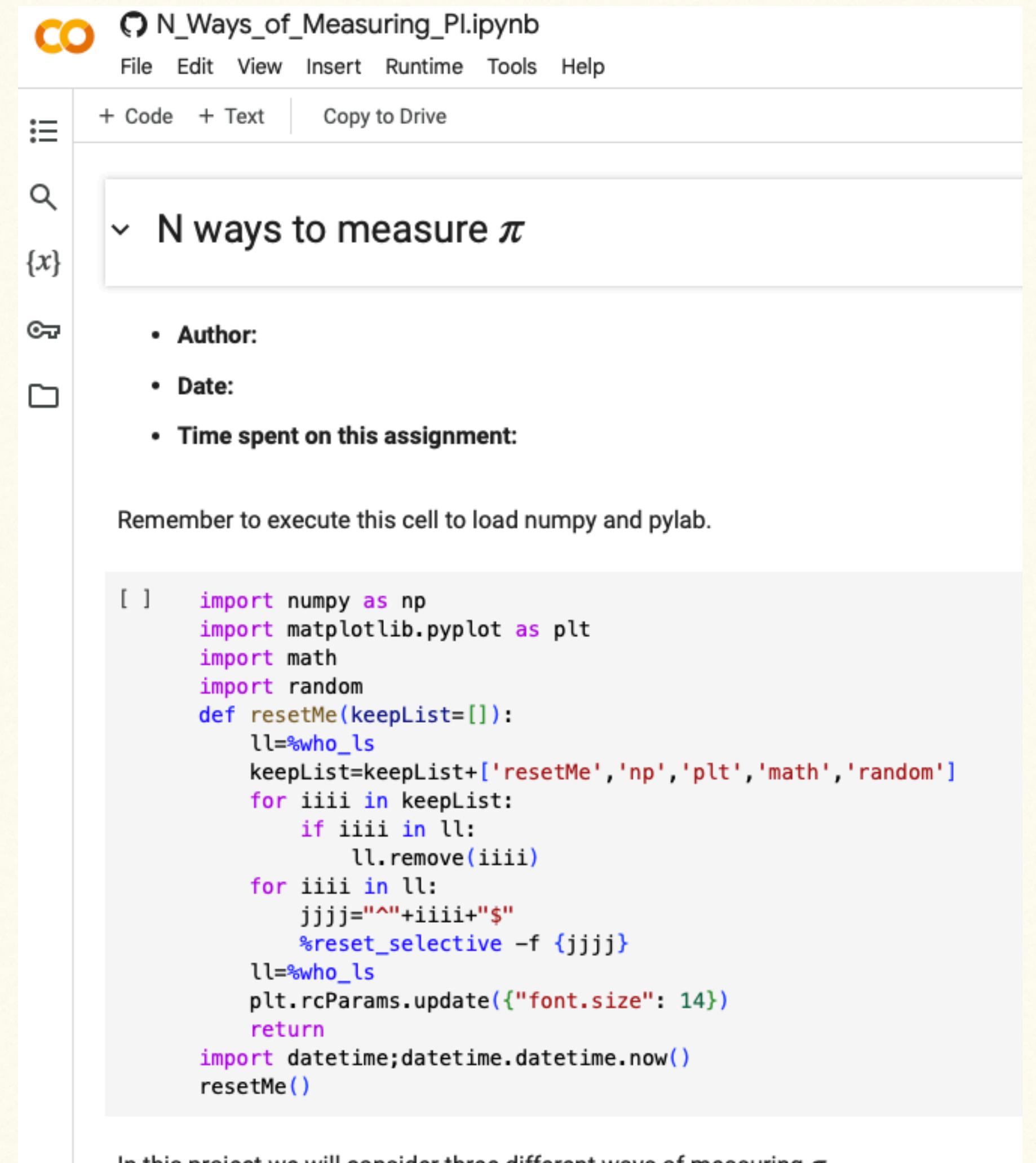
- Author:
- Date:
- Time spent on this assignment:

Remember to execute this cell to load numpy and pylab.

▶ Show code cell content

In this project we will consider three different ways of measuring  $\pi$ .

Confused about what exactly you need to do?  
Look for the owl emoji  for instructions



File Edit View Insert Runtime Tools Help

+ Code + Text Copy to Drive

☰ {x} 🔍

▼ N ways to measure  $\pi$

- Author:
- Date:
- Time spent on this assignment:

Remember to execute this cell to load numpy and pylab.

```
[ ] import numpy as np
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
import math
import random
def resetMe(keepList=[]):
    ll=%who_ls
    keepList=keepList+[resetMe,np,plt,math[random]
for iiii in keepList:
    if iiii in ll:
        ll.remove(iiii)
for iiii in ll:
    jjjj="^"+iiii+"$"
    %reset_selective -f {jjjj}
ll=%who_ls
plt.rcParams.update({"font.size": 14})
return
import datetime;datetime.datetime.now()
resetMe()
```

In this project we will consider three different ways of measuring  $\pi$ .

# Python notebooks

Runtime environment

```
s [1] x = 5
[2] x = 6
s [3] print(x)
→ 6
✓ 0s [2] x = 5
✓ 0s [1] x = 6
✓ 0s [3] print(x)
→ 5
```

# Submitting your work

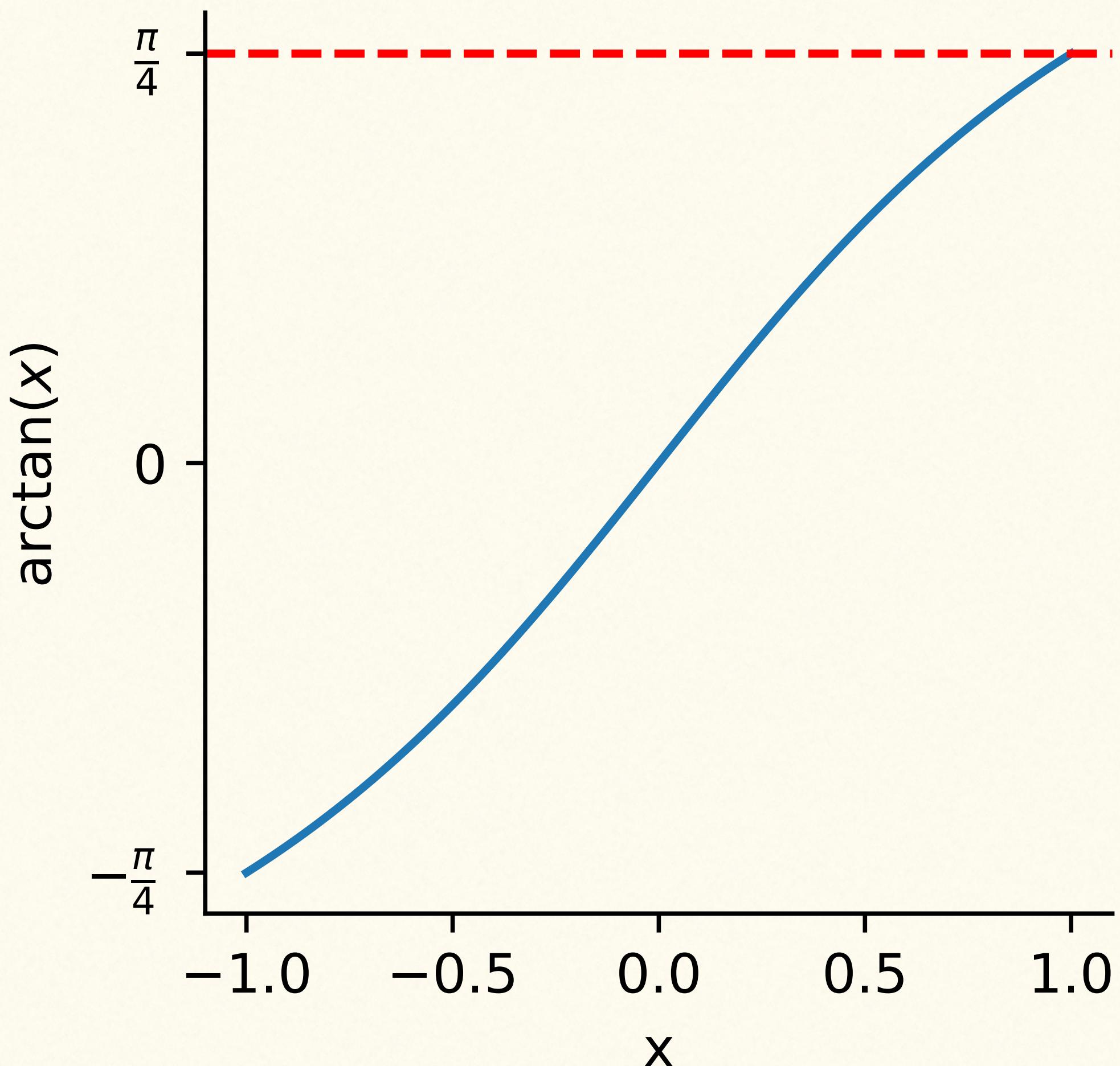
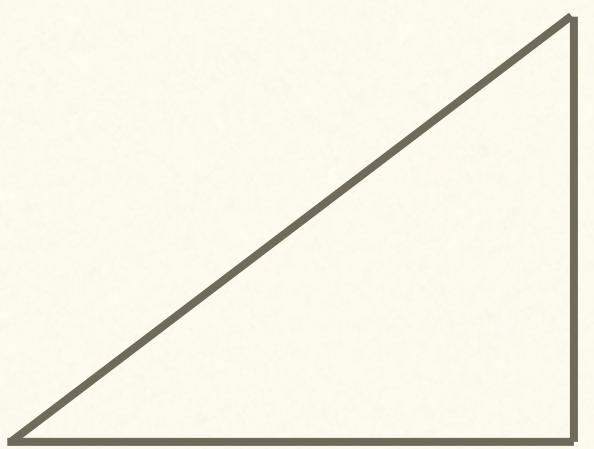
- Work is due one week after the class.
- You should be added to the canvas class.
- Upload a PDF (I'll send out detailed instructions over the email)
- Share your colab instance with us
- Remember to not change your colab instance once you submit your work!

# Methods to compute $\pi$

Note that  $\arctan(1) = \pi/4$

Expand in a Taylor series around 0:

$$\tan^{-1}(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^n}{2n+1} x^{2n+1}; -1 < x \leq 1$$



# Ramanujan

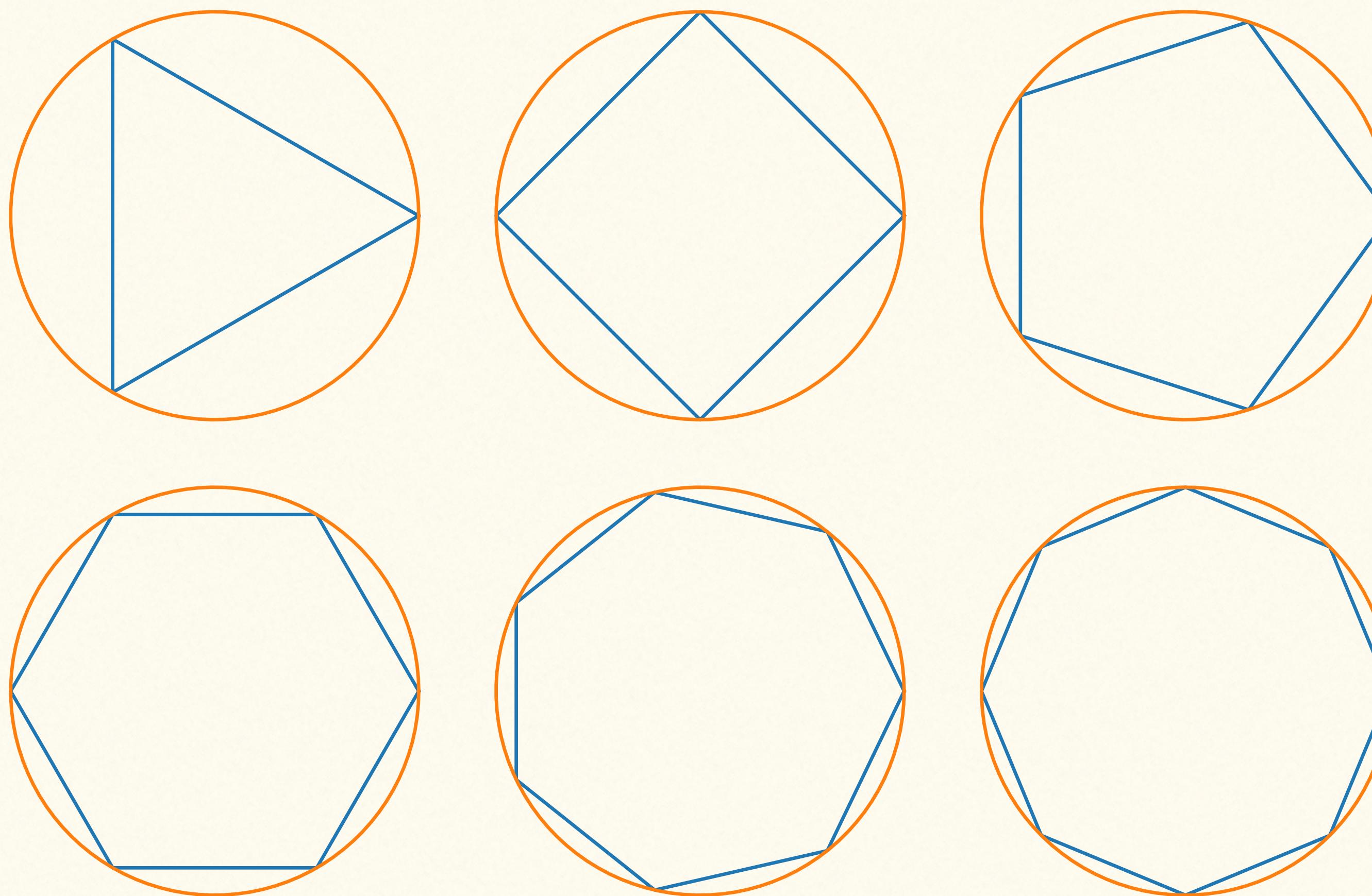
$$\frac{1}{\pi} = \frac{2\sqrt{2}}{9801} \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{(4k)!(1103 + 26390k)}{(k!)^4 396^{4k}}$$

Surprisingly difficult to show!

Detailed explanation here:

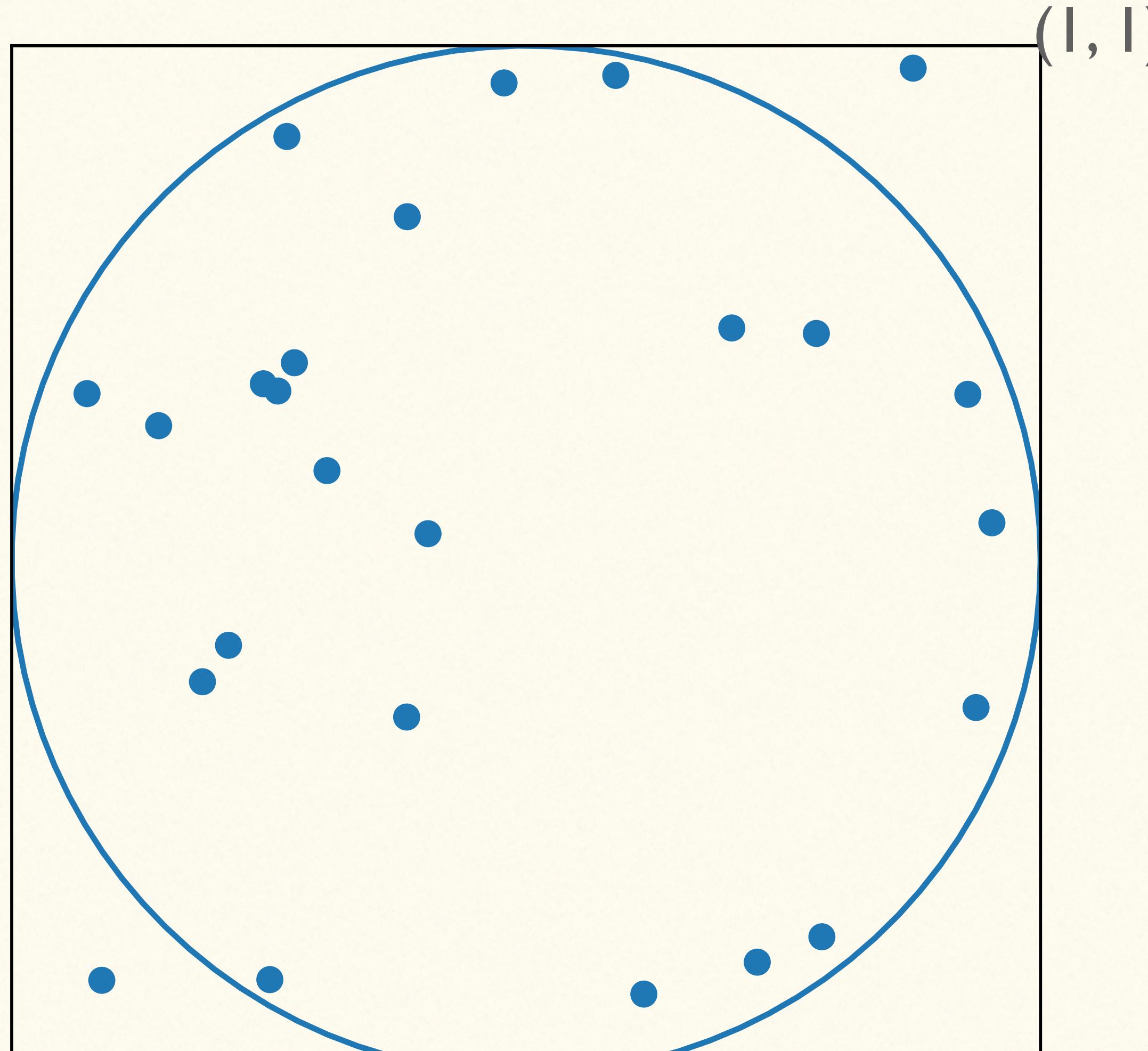
<https://paramanands.blogspot.com/2012/03/modular-equations-and-approximations-to-pi-part-1.html?m=0>

# Archimedes



The circumference of a polygon of degree  $N$  approaches that of a circle as  $N \rightarrow \infty$ .

# Monte Carlo (random numbers)



Area of the circle:  $\pi$

Area of the square: 4

Proportion of random throws that land within  
the circle:  $\pi/4$

# Averaging and uncertainty

Consider a random variable  $x$  with expectation value  $\langle x \rangle$  and standard deviation  $\sigma$ .

Construct a random variable  $x_n = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n x_i$  as the average of  $n$  samples of  $x$ .

Central limit theorem:

$$x_n \sim N(\langle x \rangle, \sigma_n), \text{ where } \sigma_n = \frac{\sigma}{\sqrt{n}}$$

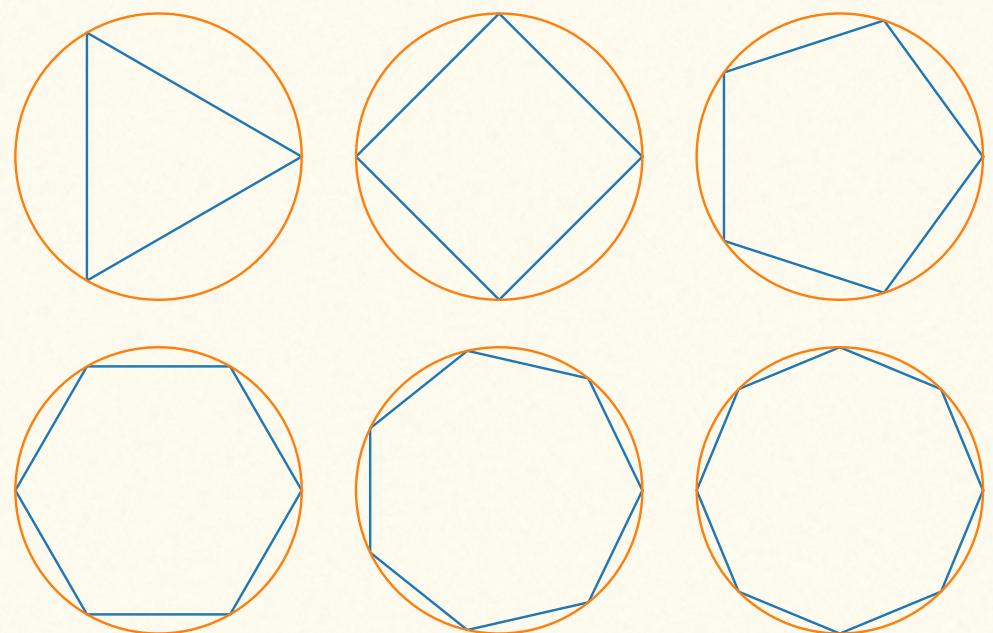
# Discussion question

We saw ~four methods to compute  $\pi$ .

What do you think the pluses and minuses might be for these methods?

How to evaluate them against one another?

$$\arctan(1) = \pi/4$$



$$\frac{1}{\pi} = \frac{2\sqrt{2}}{9801} \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{(4k)!(1103 + 26390k)}{(k!)^4 396^{4k}}$$

