

# PLUMED Masterclass

## 21.2: PLUMED statistical errors in MD

Gareth Tribello

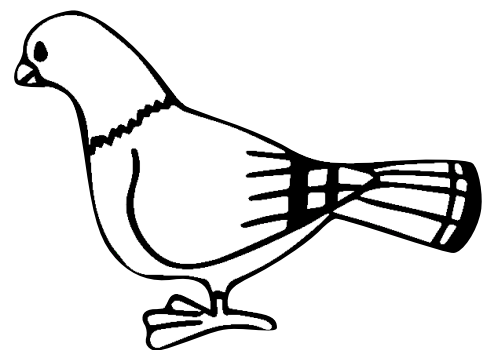
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# PLUMED

open-source  
freely-available  
C++ library

- enhanced-sampling methods
- free-energy methods
- analysis MD data



[www.plumed.org](http://www.plumed.org)



@plumed\_org



Gareth Tribello



Max Bonomi

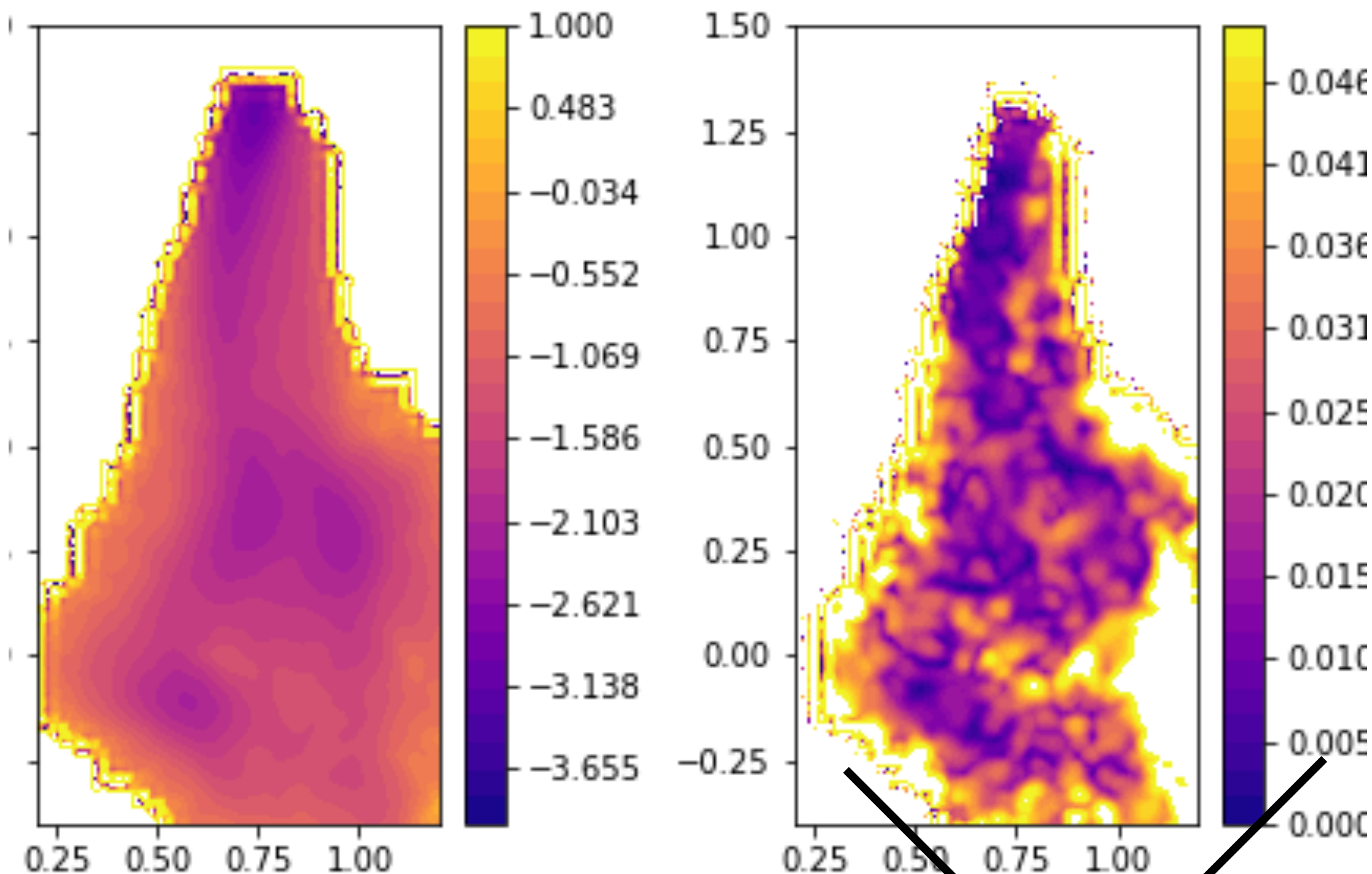


Carlo Camilloni



Giovanni Bussi

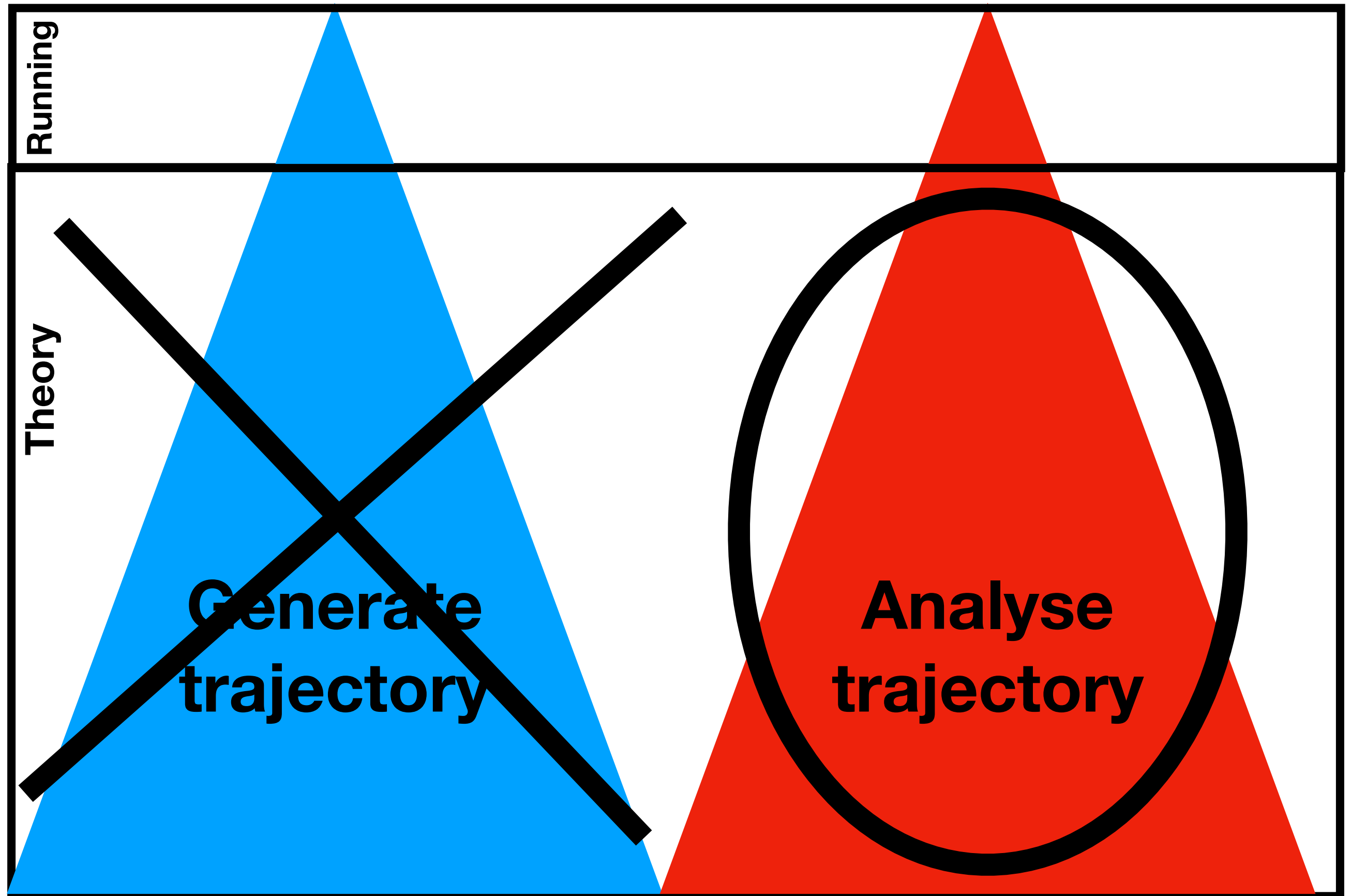
# The objective



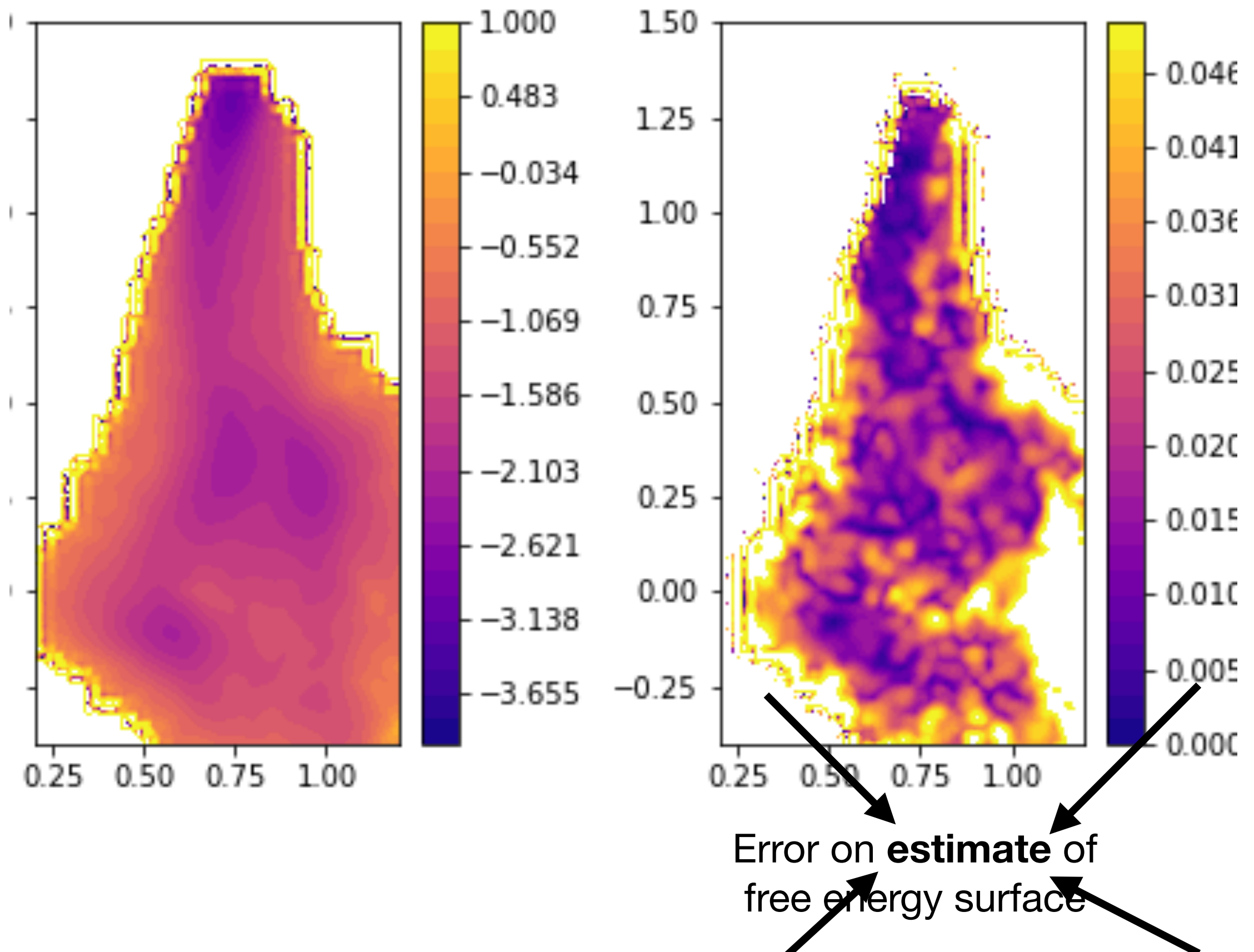
Free energy surface  
from metadynamics

Error on **estimate** of  
free energy surface

# The objective continued



# Why is the free energy we get from metadynamics an estimate?





$s(t)$

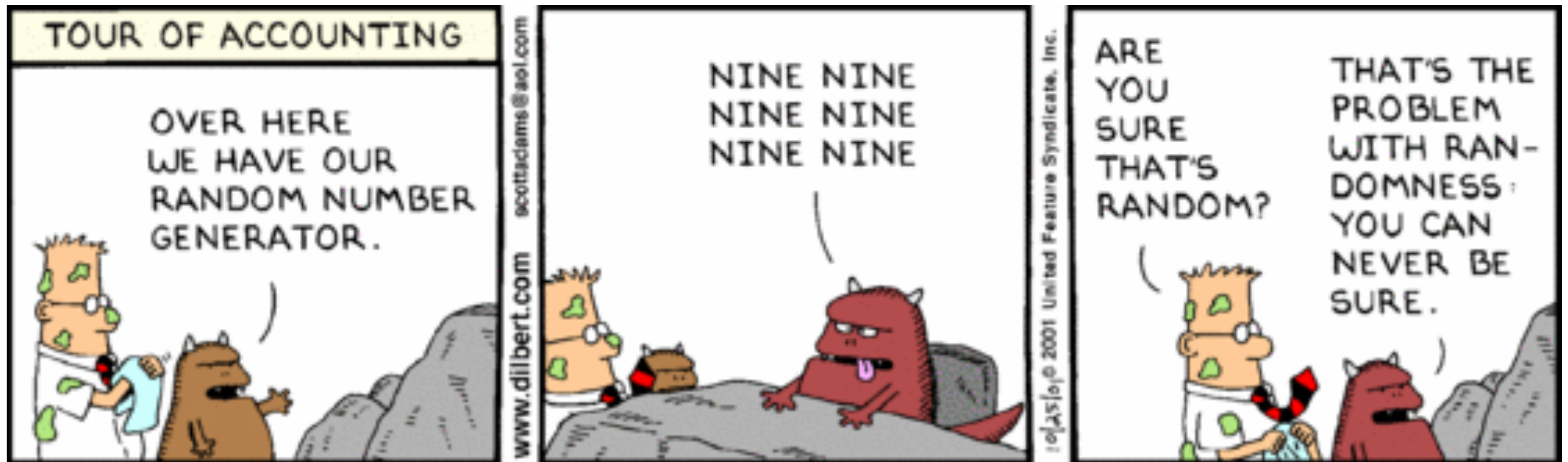
↓

**We treat the CV values during the trajectory as samples from a probability distribution**

↑

$$P(s) \propto e^{-\beta F(s)}$$

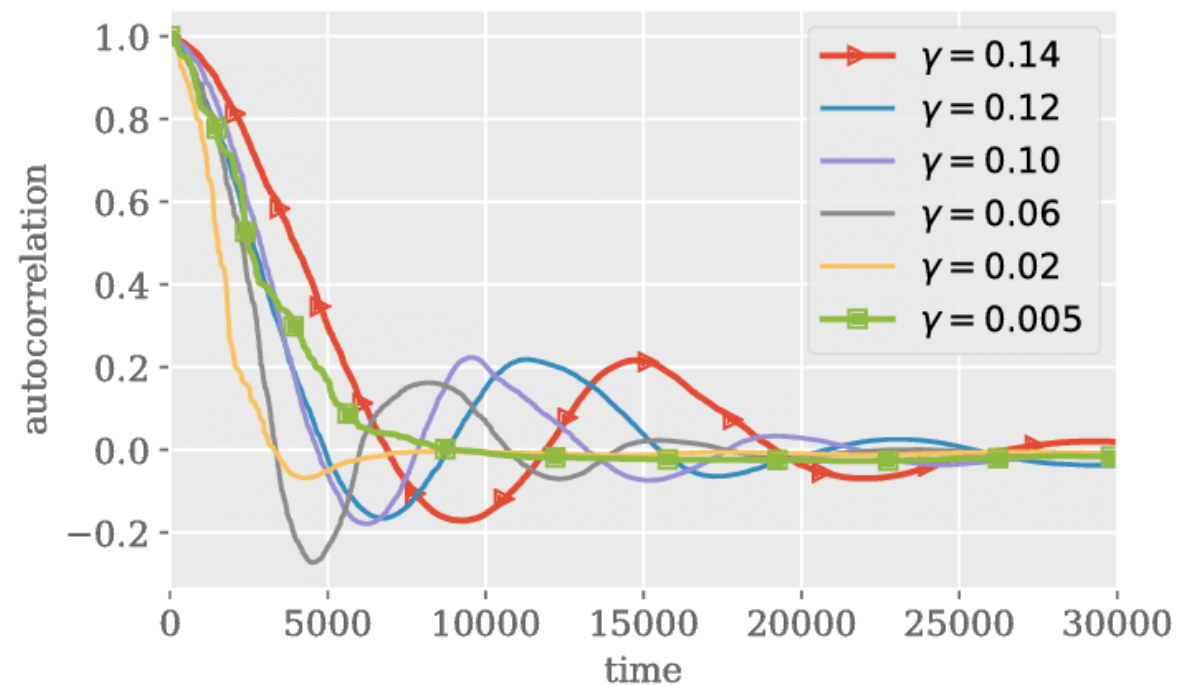
← Free energy



**You can find many good explanations of basic statistics online or in elementary textbooks**

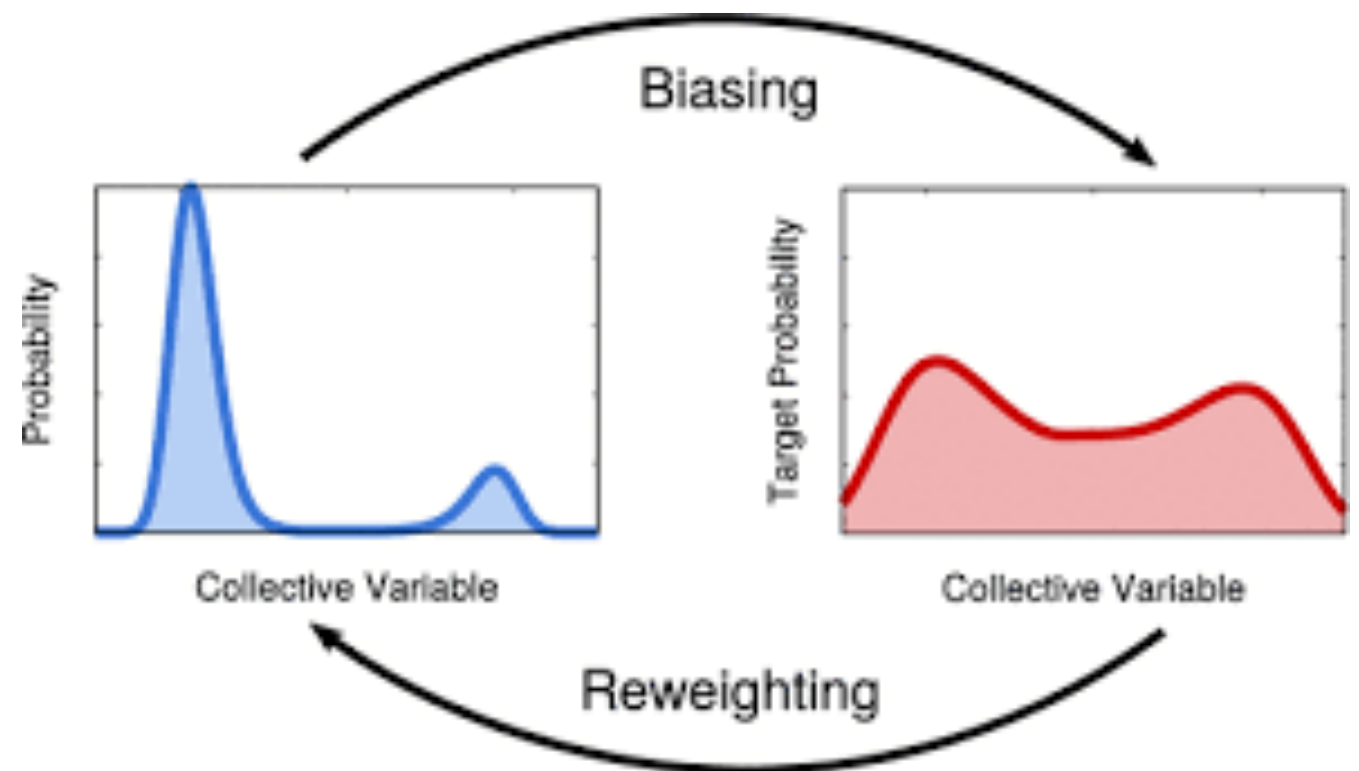


**The basic treatment of statistics in these books doesn't work for metadynamics for two big reasons**



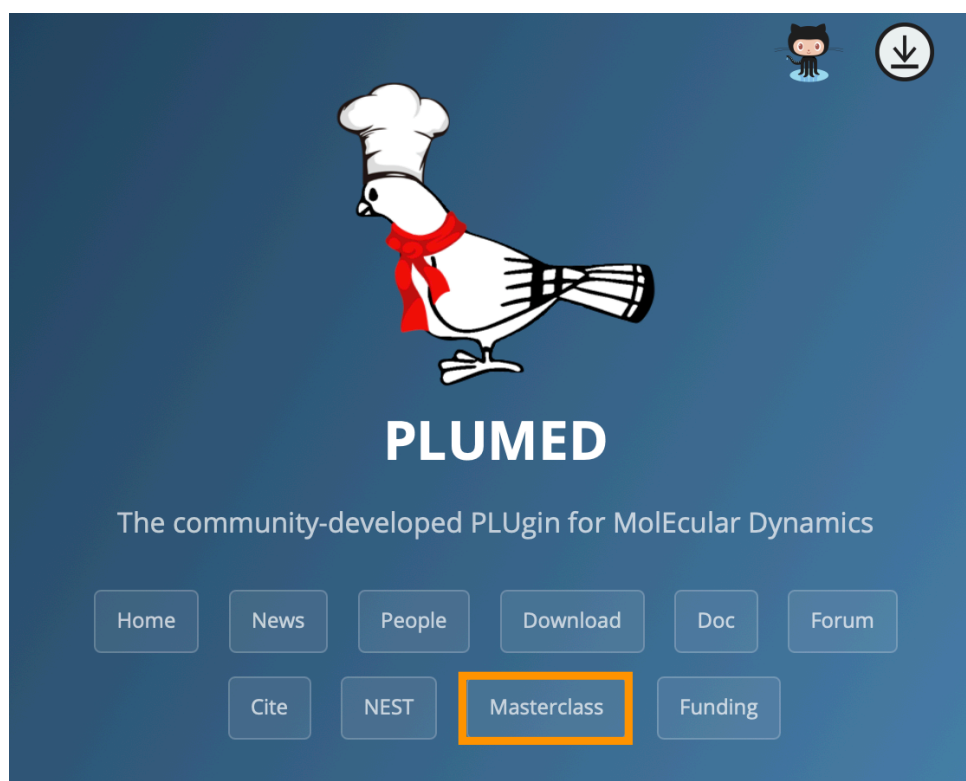
**There are correlations between the values the CV takes at different times during the simulation**

**We need to reweight the frames in order to undo the effect of the bias**





# Instructions



Class ▲	Topic	Lecture I	Lecture II	Instructor
21.1	PLUMED syntax and analysis	January 18, 2021	January 25, 2021	M. Bonomi
21.2	Statistical errors in MD	February 1, 2021	February 8, 2021	G. Tribello
21.3	Umbrella sampling	February 15, 2021	February 22, 2021	G. Bussi
21.4	Metadynamics	March 1, 2021	March 8, 2021	M. Bonomi
21.5	Replica exchange methods	March 15, 2021	March 22, 2021	G. Bussi
21.6	Dimensionality reduction	April 12, 2021	April 19, 2021	G. Tribello
21.7	Performance optimization	April 26, 2021	May 3, 2021	M. Bonomi
21.8	Poster session	May 10, 2021		

1. Go to [www.plumed.org](http://www.plumed.org)
2. Click on the **Masterclass** tab
3. Click on the **Topic** of class 21.2
4. 1 week to complete the exercises
5. Questions/discussions on Slack channel [masterclass-21-2](#)
6. Lecture I and II available on **YouTube**