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# An Introduction to Uncertainty Quantification for Predictive Science Part I

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Prof. Panesi's UQ Class, Fall 2019  
September, 4th



# Motivations

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- ◆ Showing some UQ applications
  - Giving a road map of Predictive Science through examples;
- ◆ 2nd week of class ... too early for applications?
  - Overview of the UQ class' building blocks;
  - Stimulating ideas for the final project.

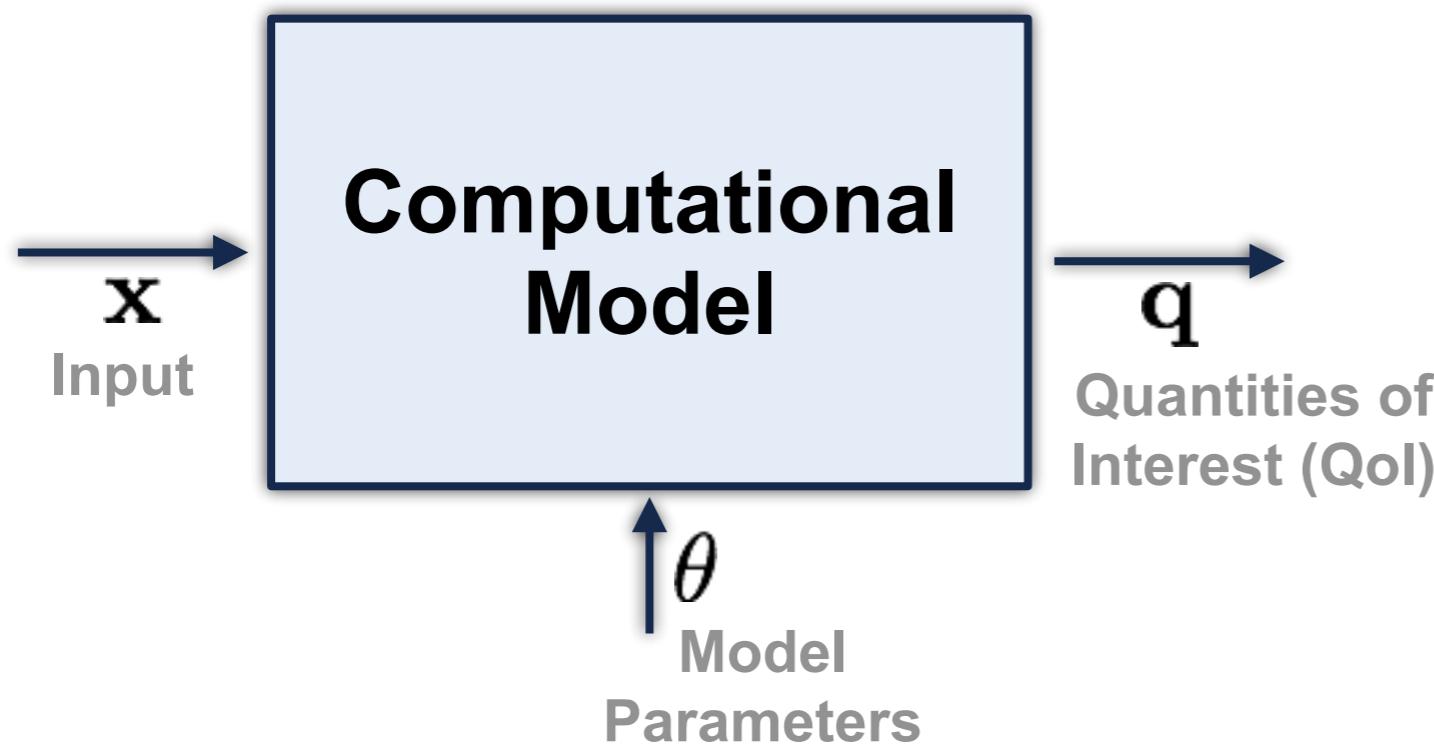
# Outline

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- ◆ Introduction
  - What is Predictive Science and why is it important for my research?
- ◆ A 1st Example: Mass-Spring-Damper System

# Introduction

“The ultimate purpose of most computational models is to make predictions, commonly in support of some decision-making process (e.g., for design or operation of some system).” [1]



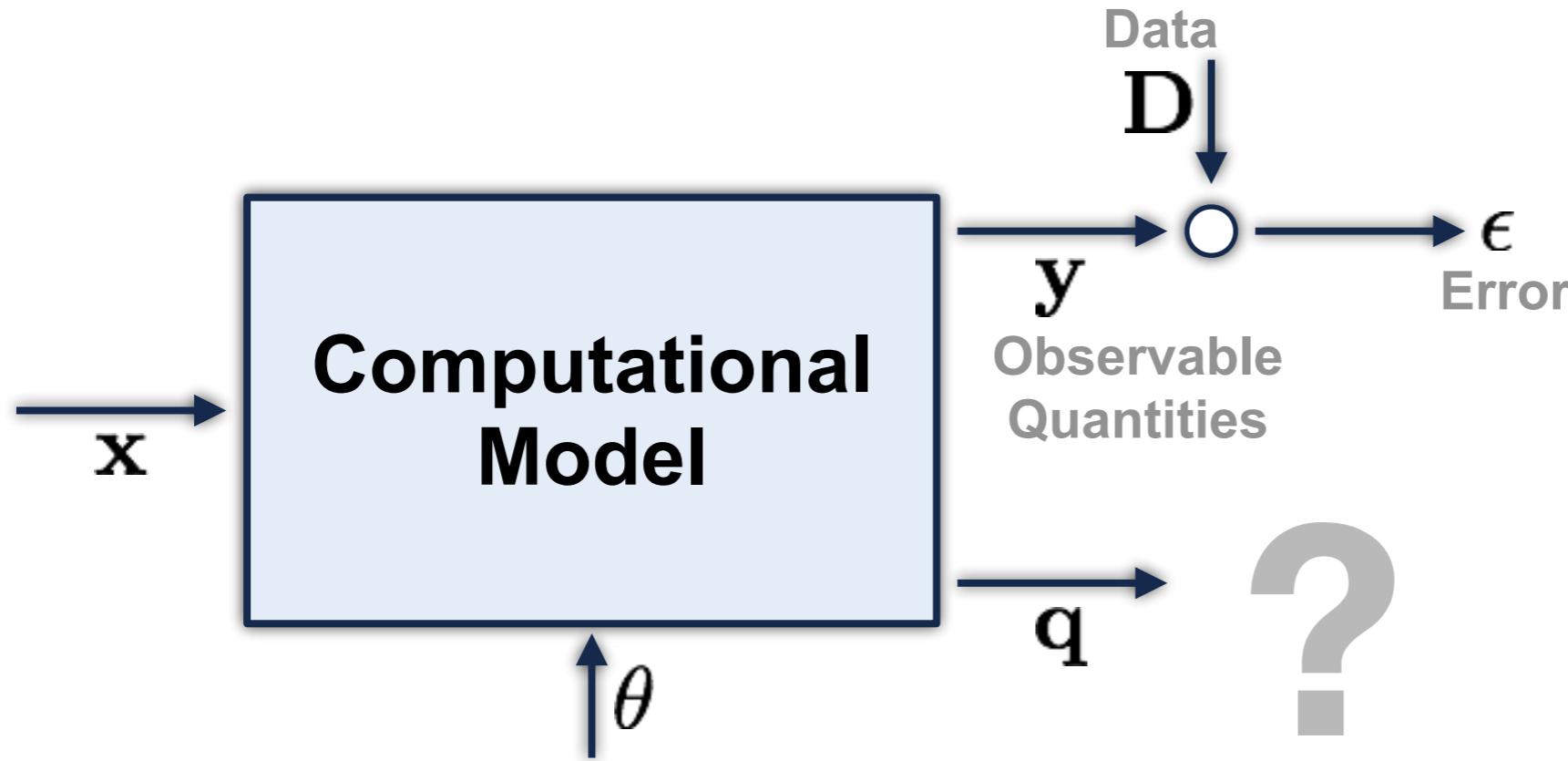
Reliability Assessment of the Computational Model

- **Verification:** Computer Simulation vs Mathematical Model
- **Uncertainty Quantification:** Determining uncertainties on the QoIs
- **Validation:** Deciding whether the model is a sufficient representation of reality for the purpose for which it will be used

[1] Oliver et al., “Validating Predictions of Unobserved Quantities”, Computer Methods in Applied Mechanics and Engineering, Vol. 283, 2015.

# Introduction

Generally, there is no observational data available for the QoIs for the scenarios of interest; this fact forces us to make extrapolative predictions.



In order to assess the validity of the model, classical approaches to validation compare some observable outputs to observations.

This only ensures that the model can predict:

- the observable quantities,
- under the conditions of the observations,
- under the assumption of no observation error.

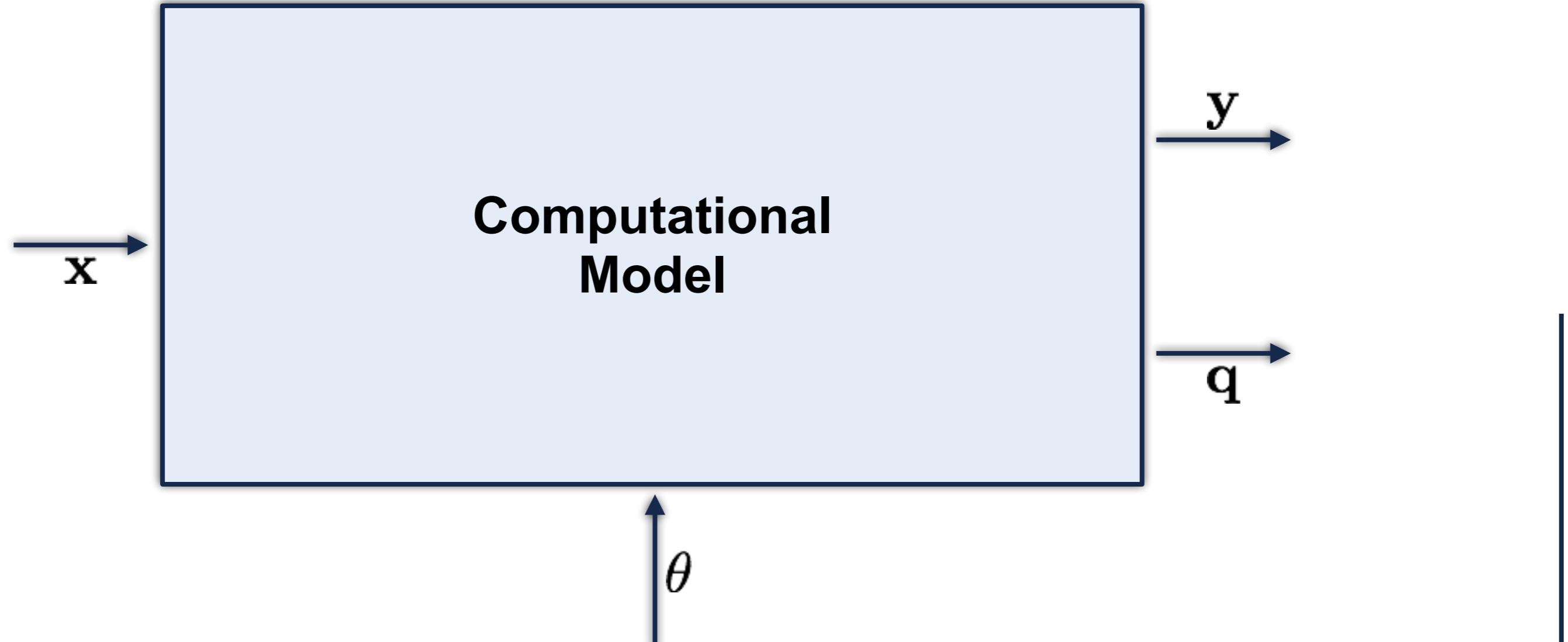
The need to extrapolate raises concerns about the reliability of predictions.

What entitles us to make such predictions?

# Introduction

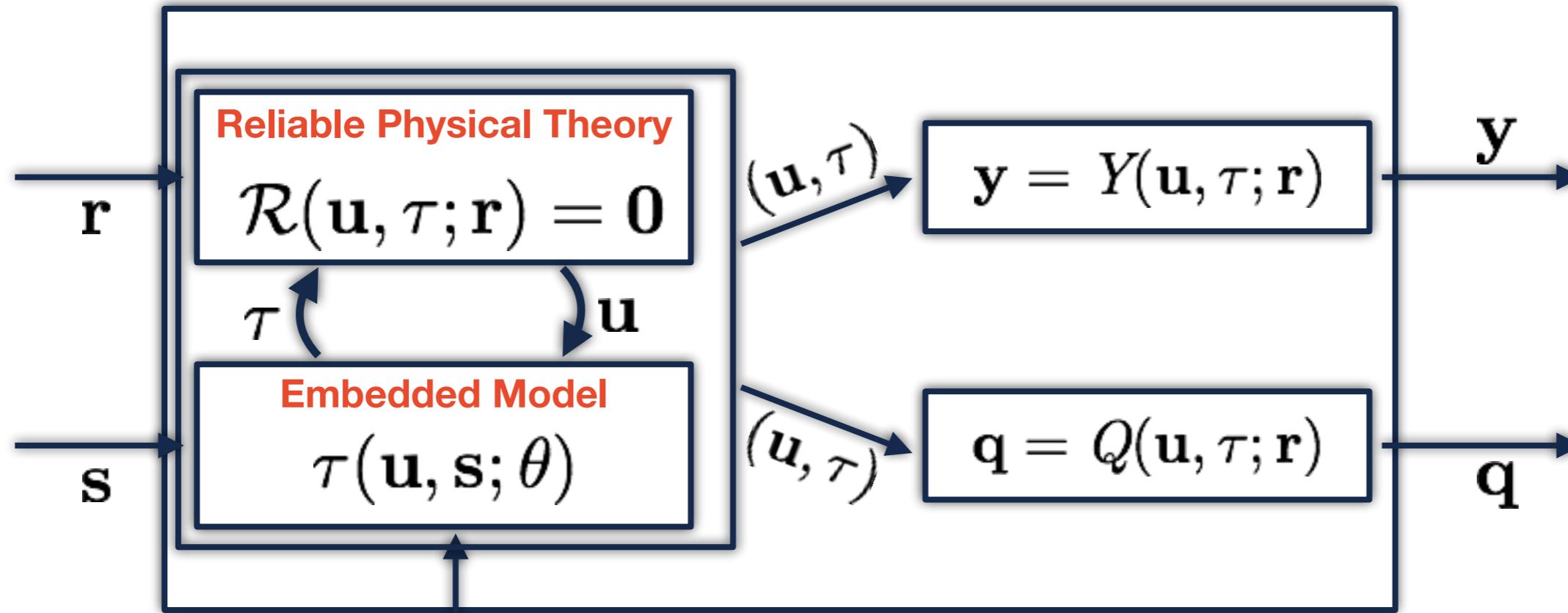
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The computational models are generally **physics based**, and they are constructed upon theories that are known to be highly reliable within well-defined domains of applicability.



# Introduction

The computational models are generally **physics based**, and they are constructed upon theories that are known to be highly reliable within well-defined domains of applicability.



$$\mathcal{R}()$$

Operator Expressing the Theory

$$\mathbf{u}$$

State Variables

$$\tau$$

Closure Variables

$$\theta$$

Parameters of the Embedded Model

$$\mathbf{r} \cup \mathbf{s} = \mathbf{x}$$

Input for the Scenario

# Introduction

Example: Mass-Spring-Damper, Real World System

Reliable Physical Theory

$$\mathcal{R}(\mathbf{u}, \tau; \mathbf{r}) = \mathbf{0}$$

$$m\ddot{x} + c\dot{x} + kx = 0$$

$$\mathbf{u} = \begin{bmatrix} x \\ \dot{x} \end{bmatrix} \quad \tau = \begin{bmatrix} c \\ k \end{bmatrix} \quad \mathbf{r} = \begin{bmatrix} m \\ x(0) \\ \dot{x}(0) \end{bmatrix}$$

Real World Embedded Model

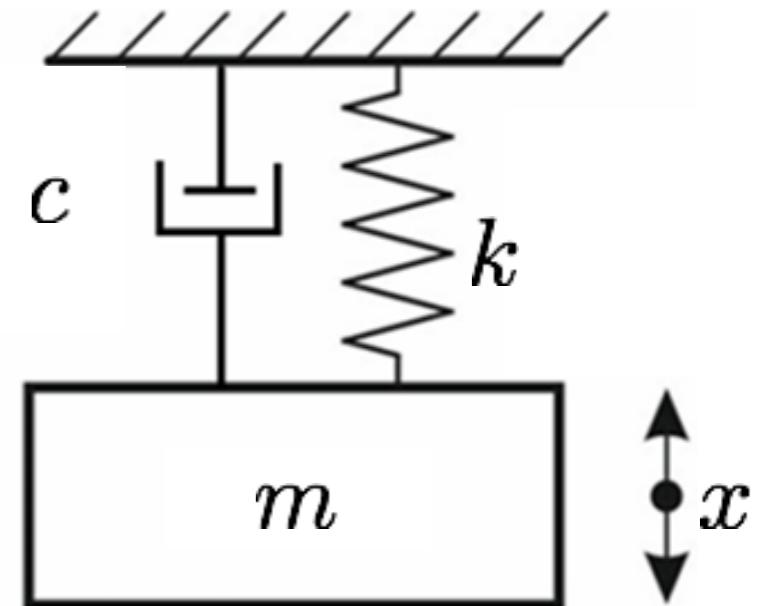
$$\tau = (\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}, \mathbf{s}, \theta)$$

$$k = \text{const}$$

$$c(T) = \exp\left(\frac{T_0}{T} - 1\right)$$

$$\dot{T} = c(T)\dot{x}^2 - \frac{T - T_0}{t_T}$$

$$\mathbf{v} = T \quad \mathbf{s} = \begin{bmatrix} T_0 \\ t_T \end{bmatrix} \quad \theta = k$$



$$\mathbf{y} = x$$
$$\mathbf{q} = \max(\dot{x})$$

# Introduction

Note: Displacement or velocity observations (e.g., from proximity sensor or vibrometer) can be represented by:

$$\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{C}^T \mathbf{u}$$

where:

$$\mathbf{C}^T = [1, 0] \text{ or } \mathbf{C}^T = [0, 1]$$

**Real World Embedded Model**

$$\tau = (\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}, \mathbf{s}, \theta)$$

$$k = \text{const}$$

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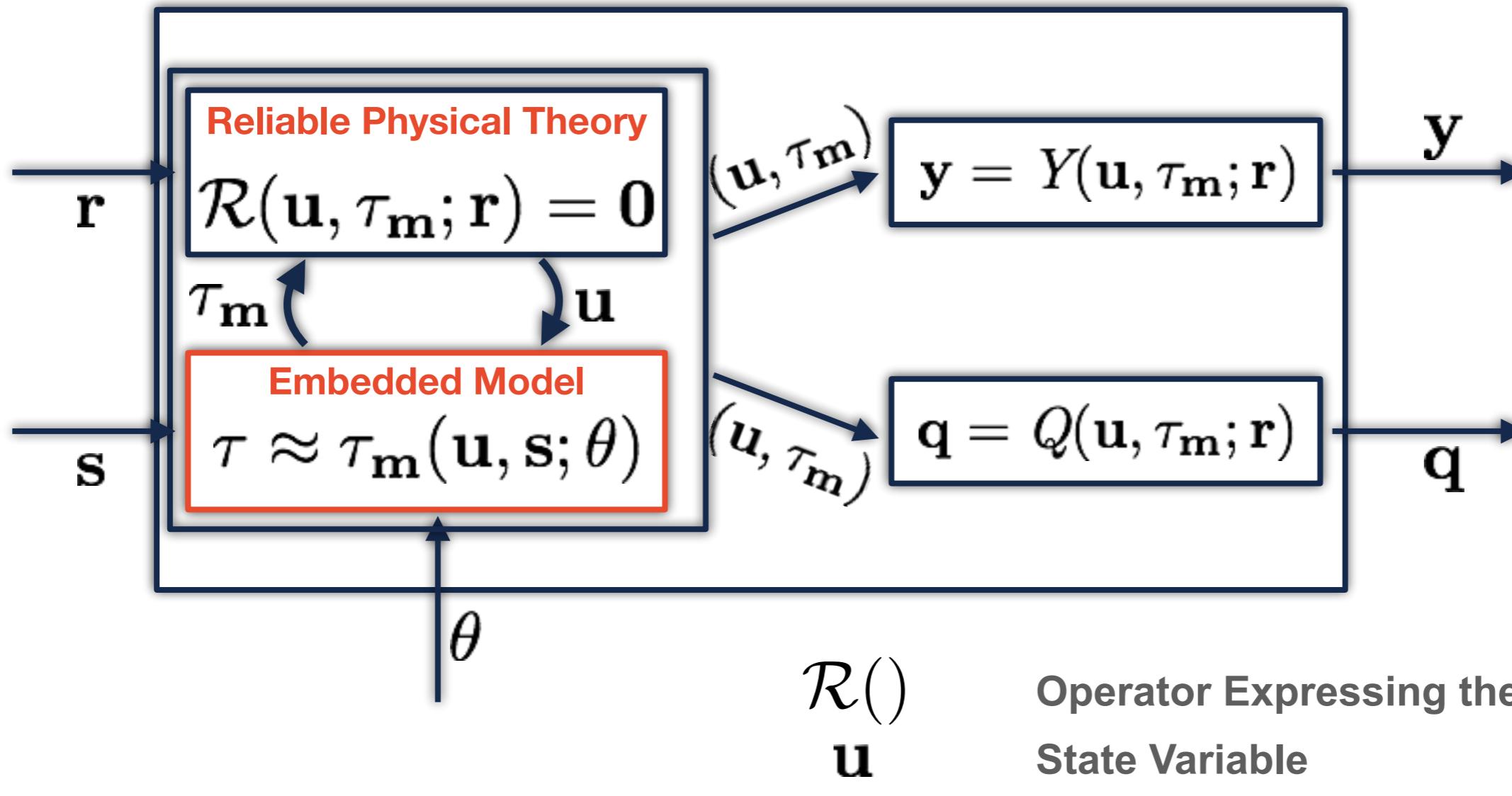
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# Introduction

If  $\tau$  were known in terms of  $(\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{r})$ , the system would be closed. However, it is often the case that the required relationship between  $\tau$  and  $(\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{r})$  is unknown or does not exist.



$$\mathcal{R}()$$

Operator Expressing the Theory

$$\mathbf{u}$$

State Variable

$$\tau_m$$

Closure Variables

$$\theta$$

Parameters of the Embedded Model

$$\mathbf{r} \cup \mathbf{s} = \mathbf{x}$$

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Reliable Physical Theory

Example: Mass-Spring-Damper, Approximated System

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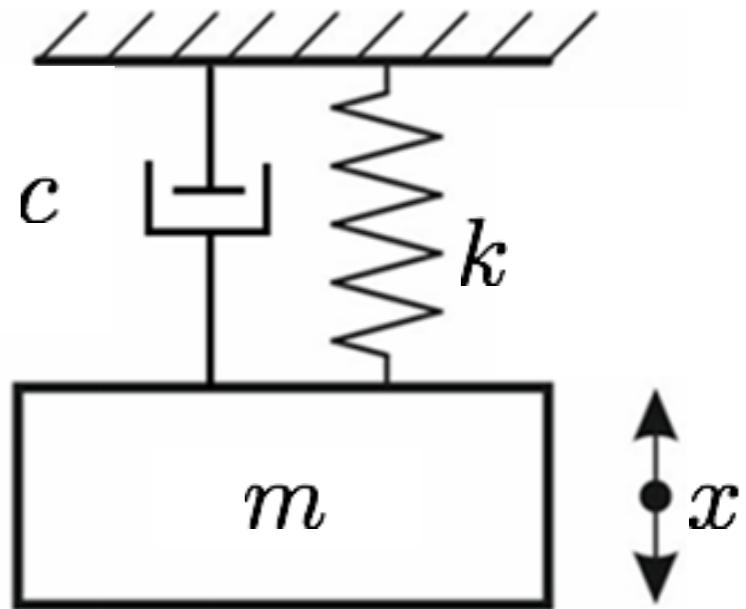
The true physics of the damper are not well-understood by the modeler

$$\tau_m = (\cancel{u}, \cancel{x}, \cancel{s}, \theta)$$

$$k = \text{const}$$
$$c = \text{const}$$

Approximated Embedded Model

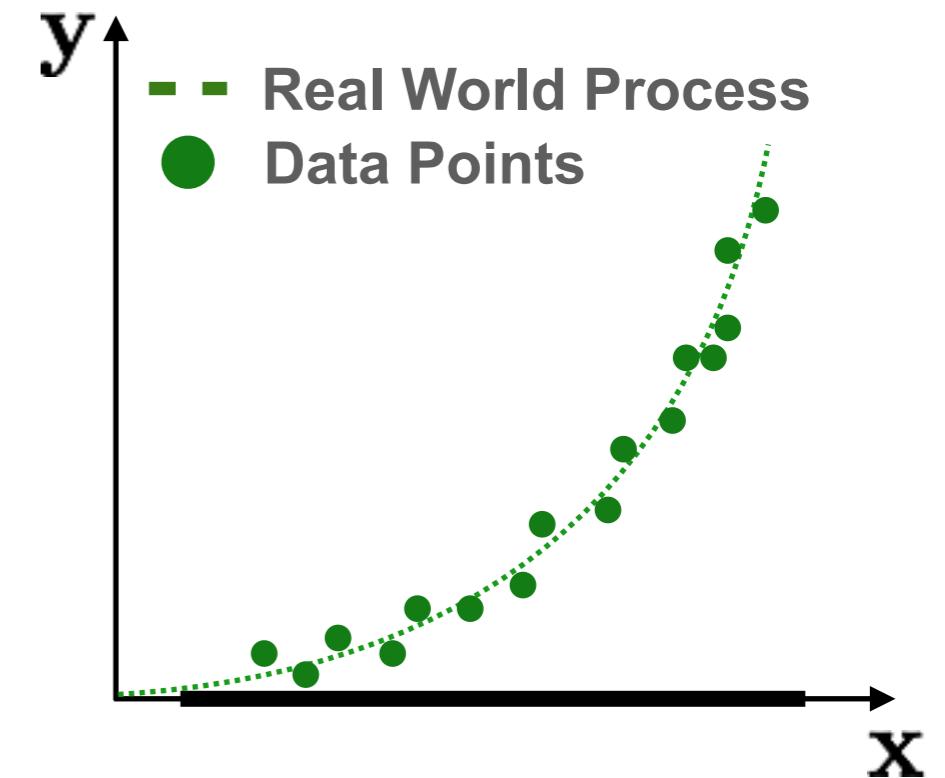
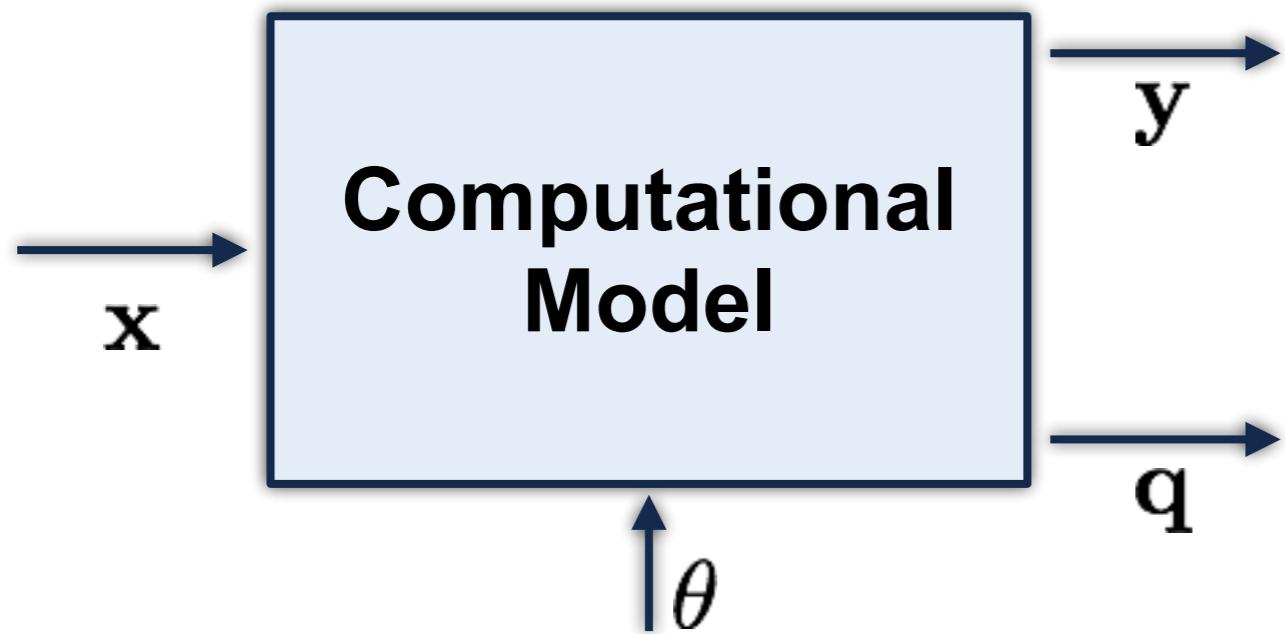
$$\theta = \begin{bmatrix} c \\ k \end{bmatrix}$$



$$\mathbf{y} = x$$
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# Classic Approach to Validation

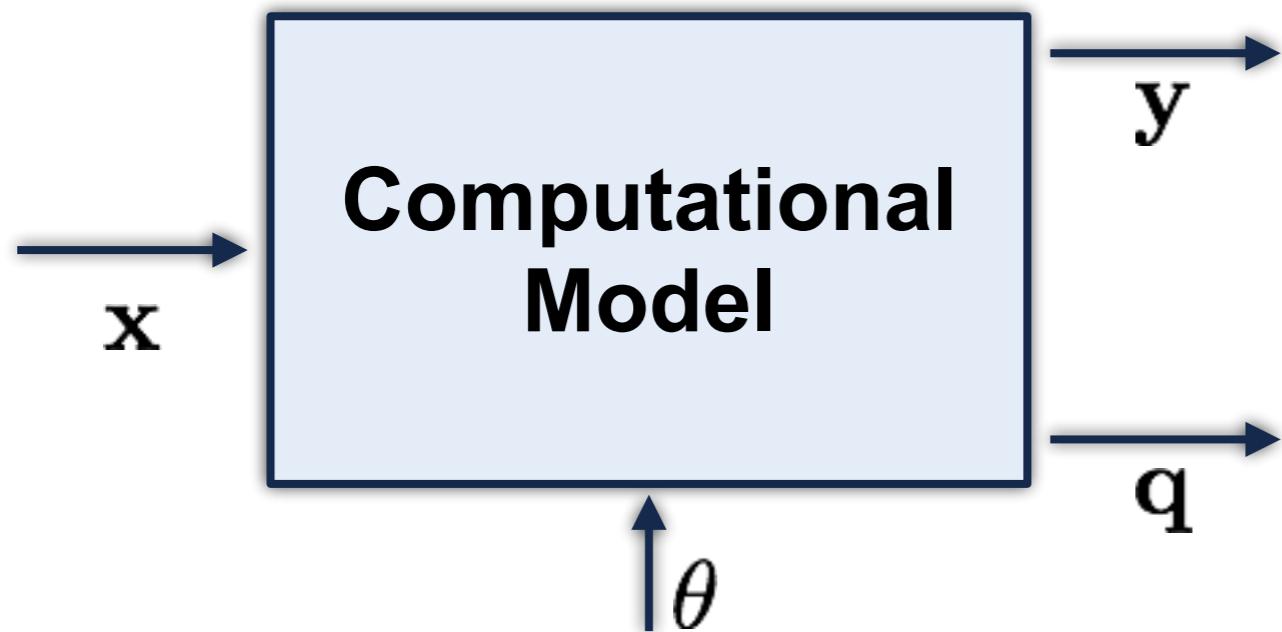
One approach [2] for taking into account the uncertainties on the predictions relies on “appending” a statistical model directly to the observable quantities:



[2] Kennedy, M.C. and O'Hagan, A., “*Bayesian Calibration of Computer Models*”, Journal of the Royal Statistical Society: Series B, Vol. 63, 2001.

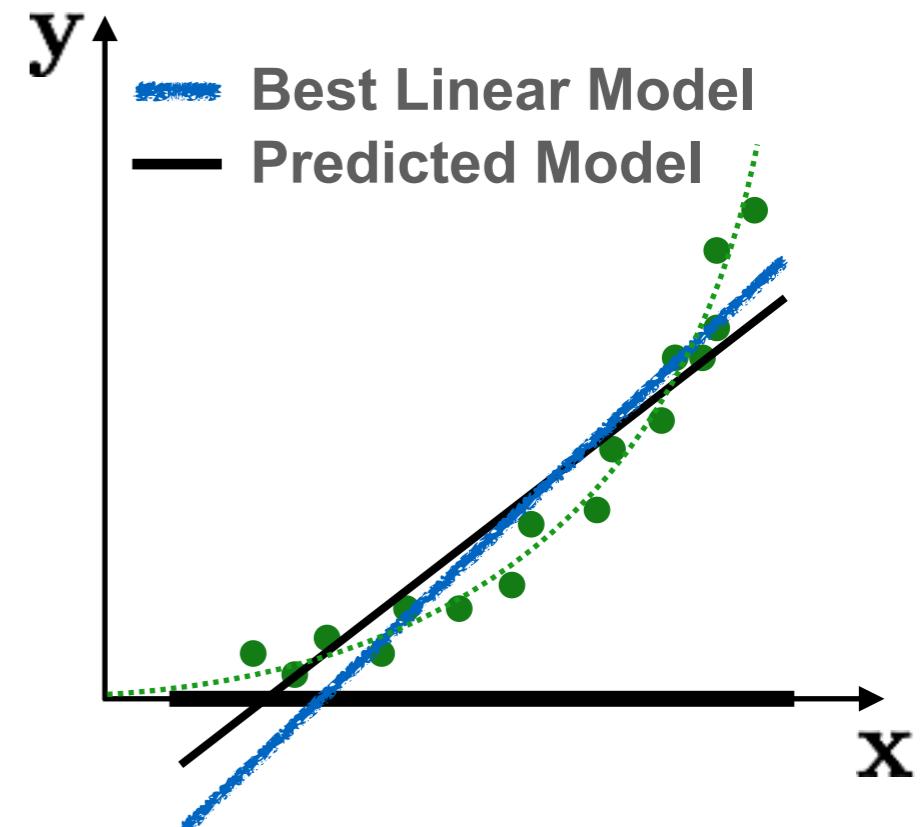
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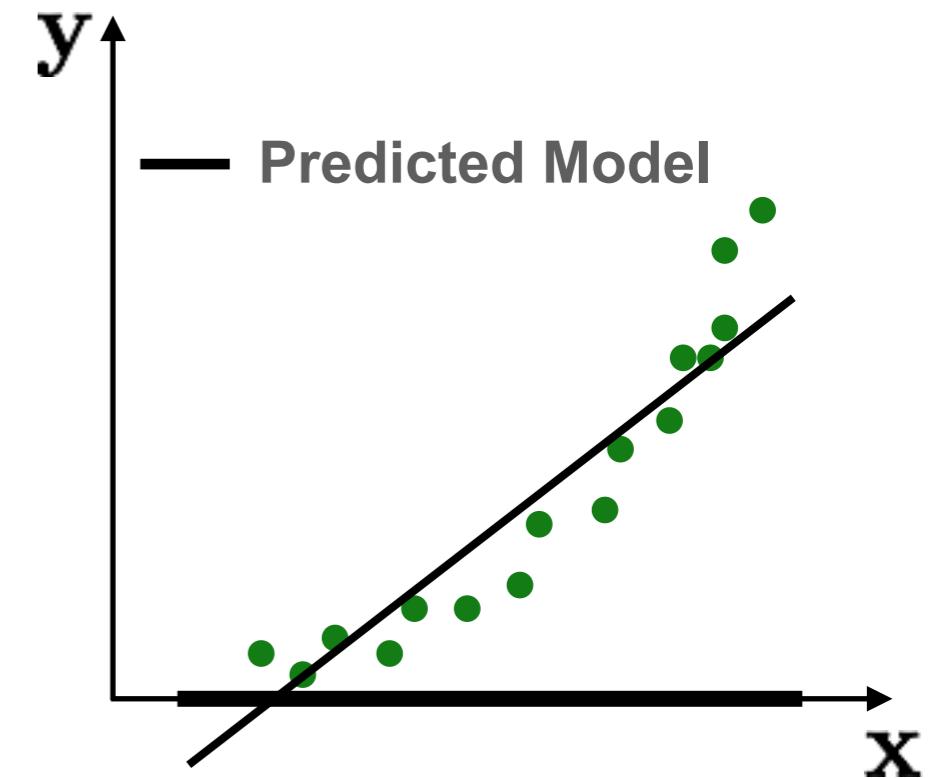
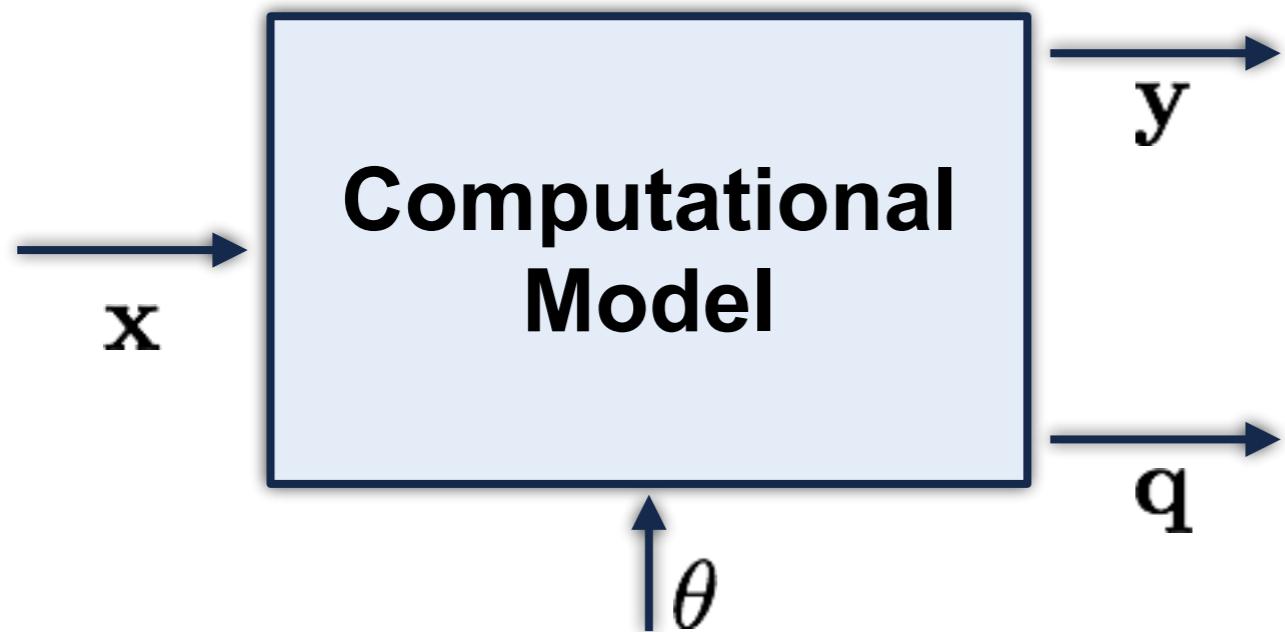
The causes of the difference between the true value of the real world process and the code-value are:

- Experimental or Measurement or Observation Error: ● vs - - -
- Model Uncertainty or Structural Inadequacy: - - - vs ●
- Parameter Uncertainty: — vs - - -



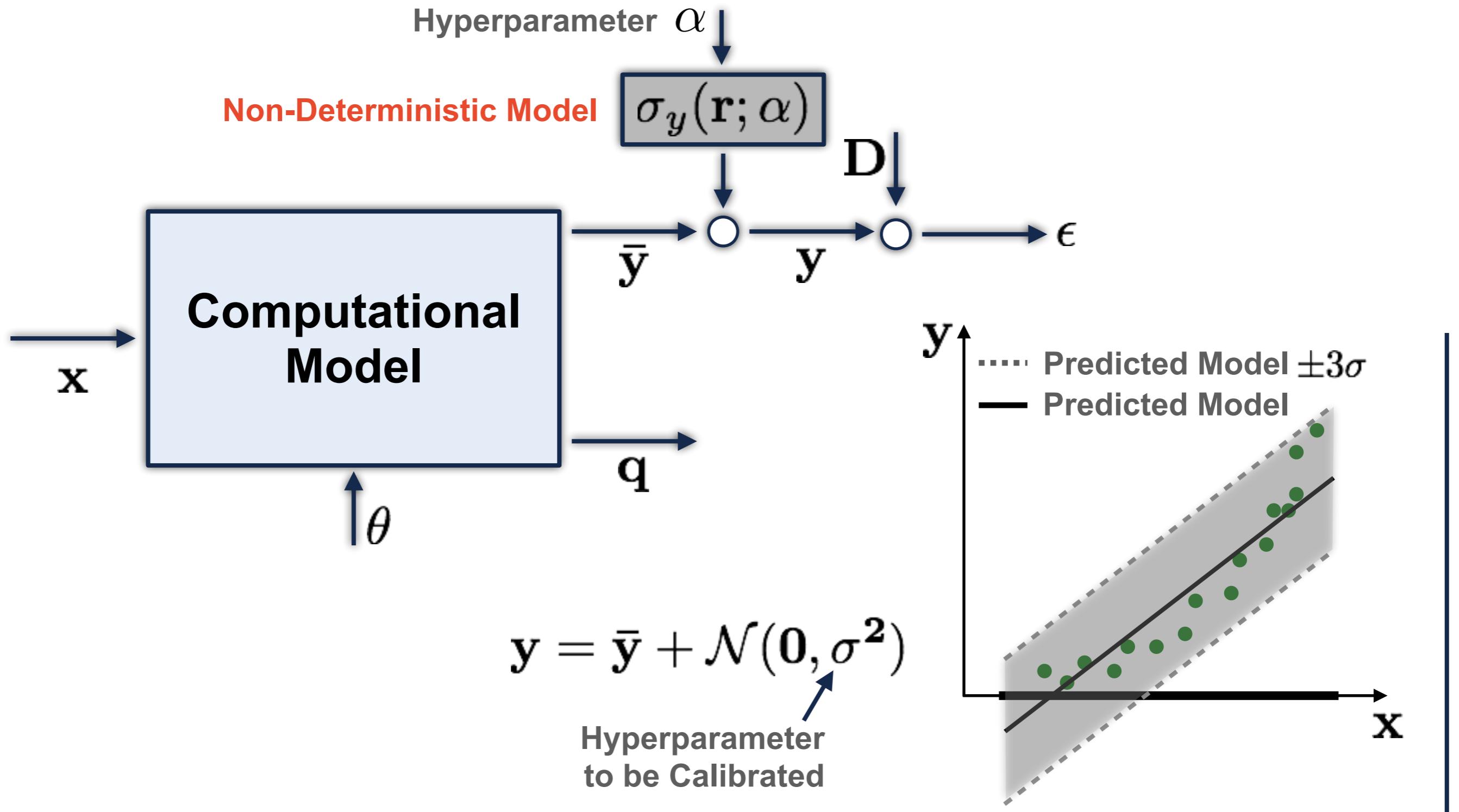
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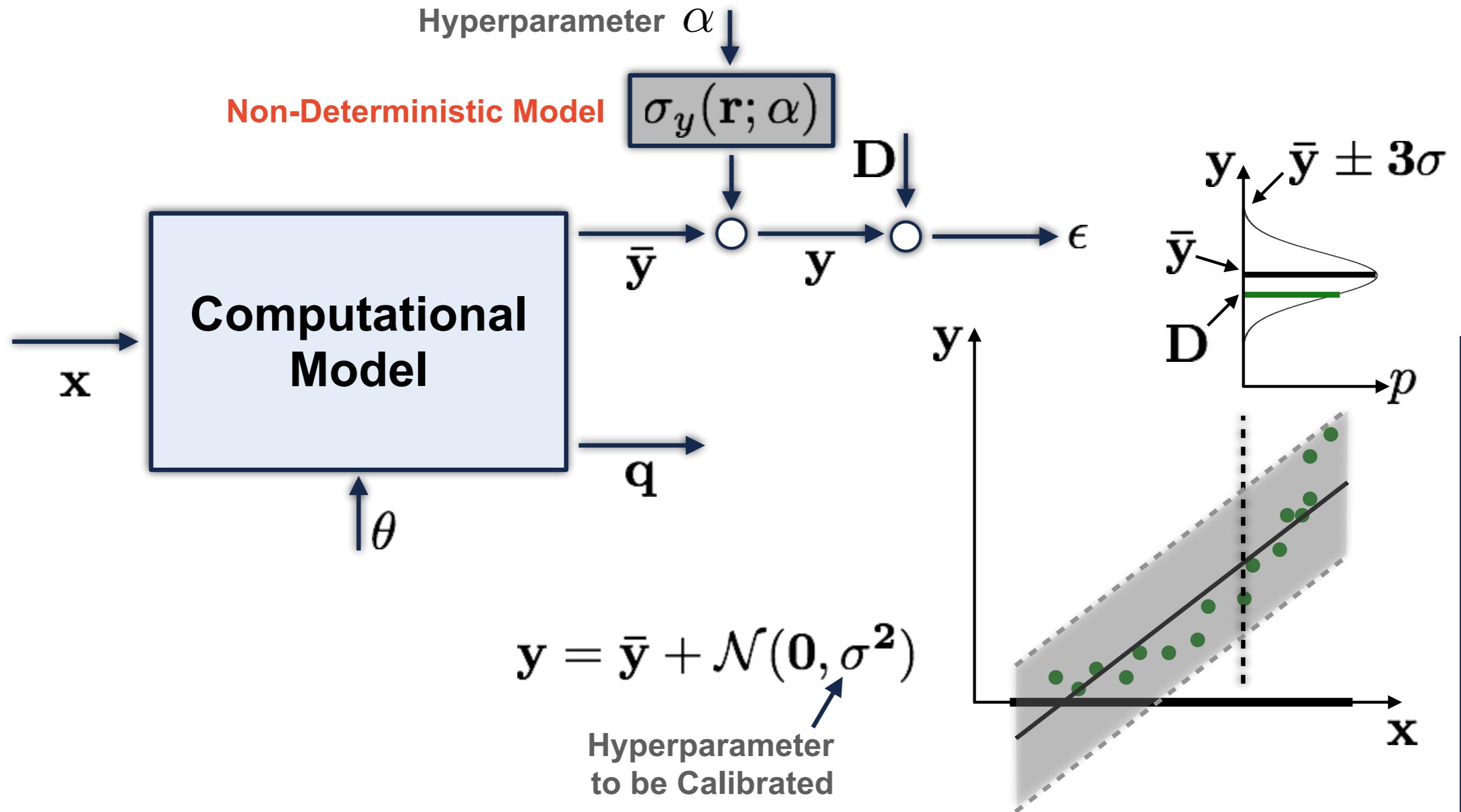
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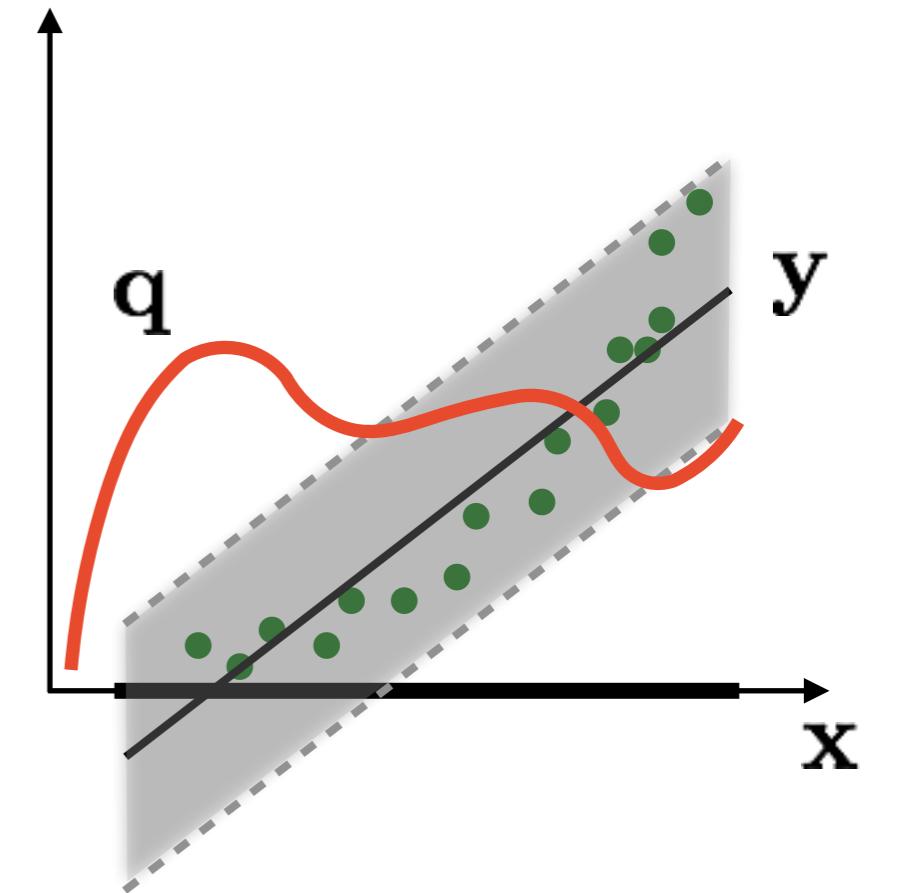
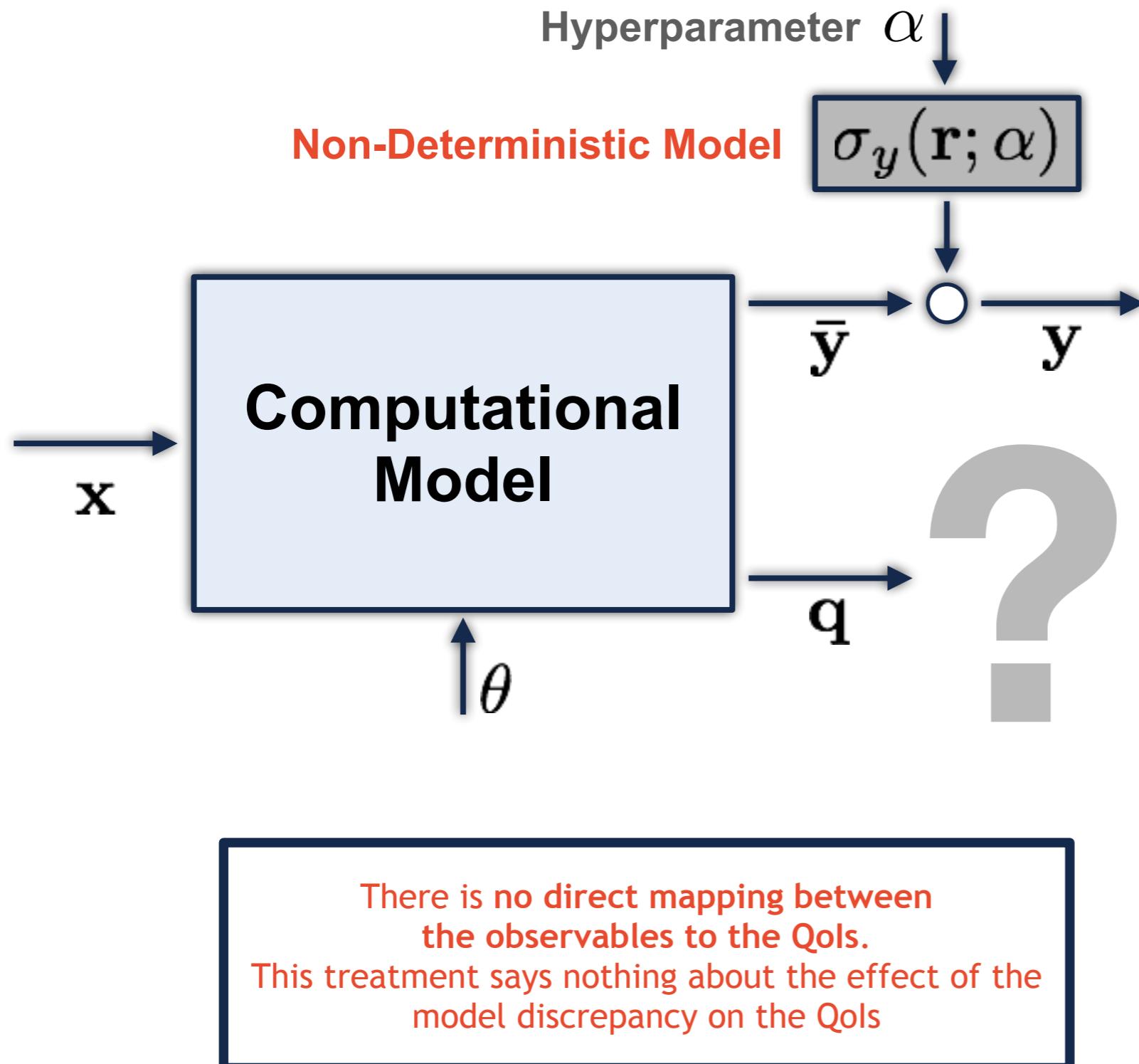
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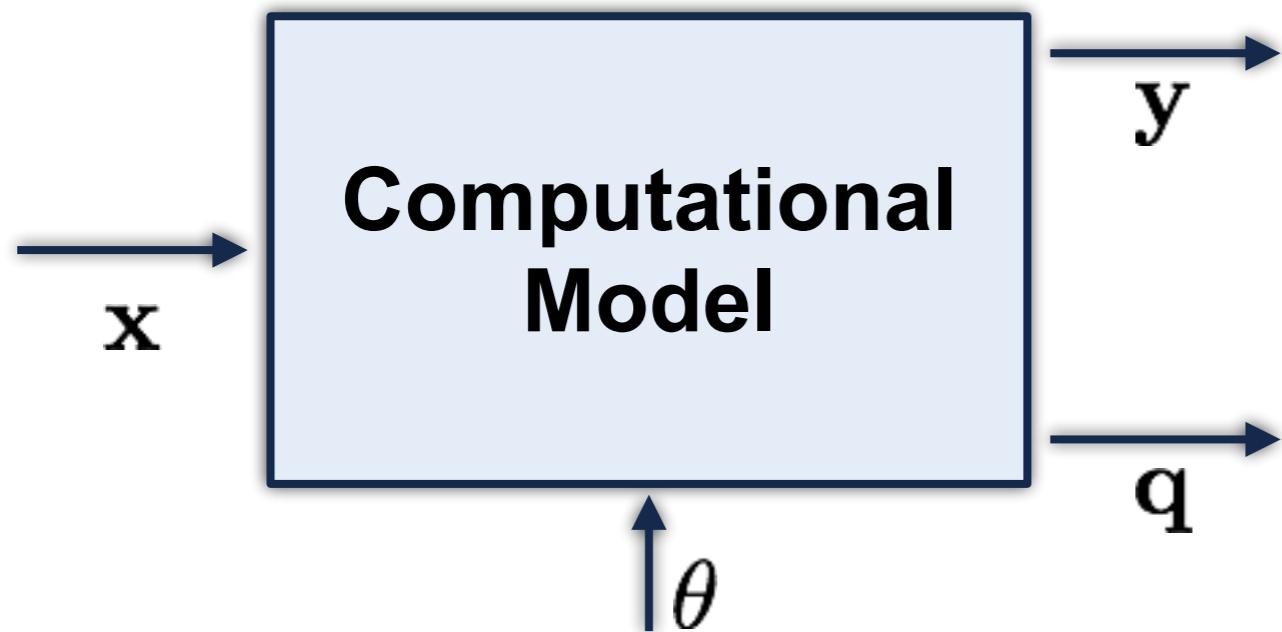
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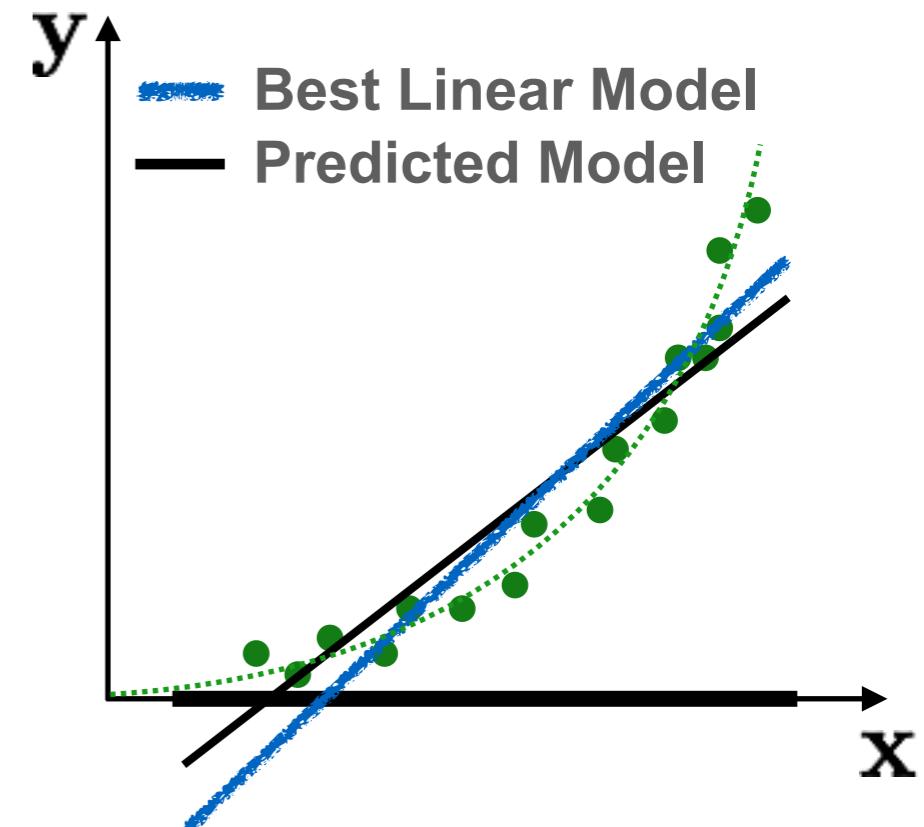
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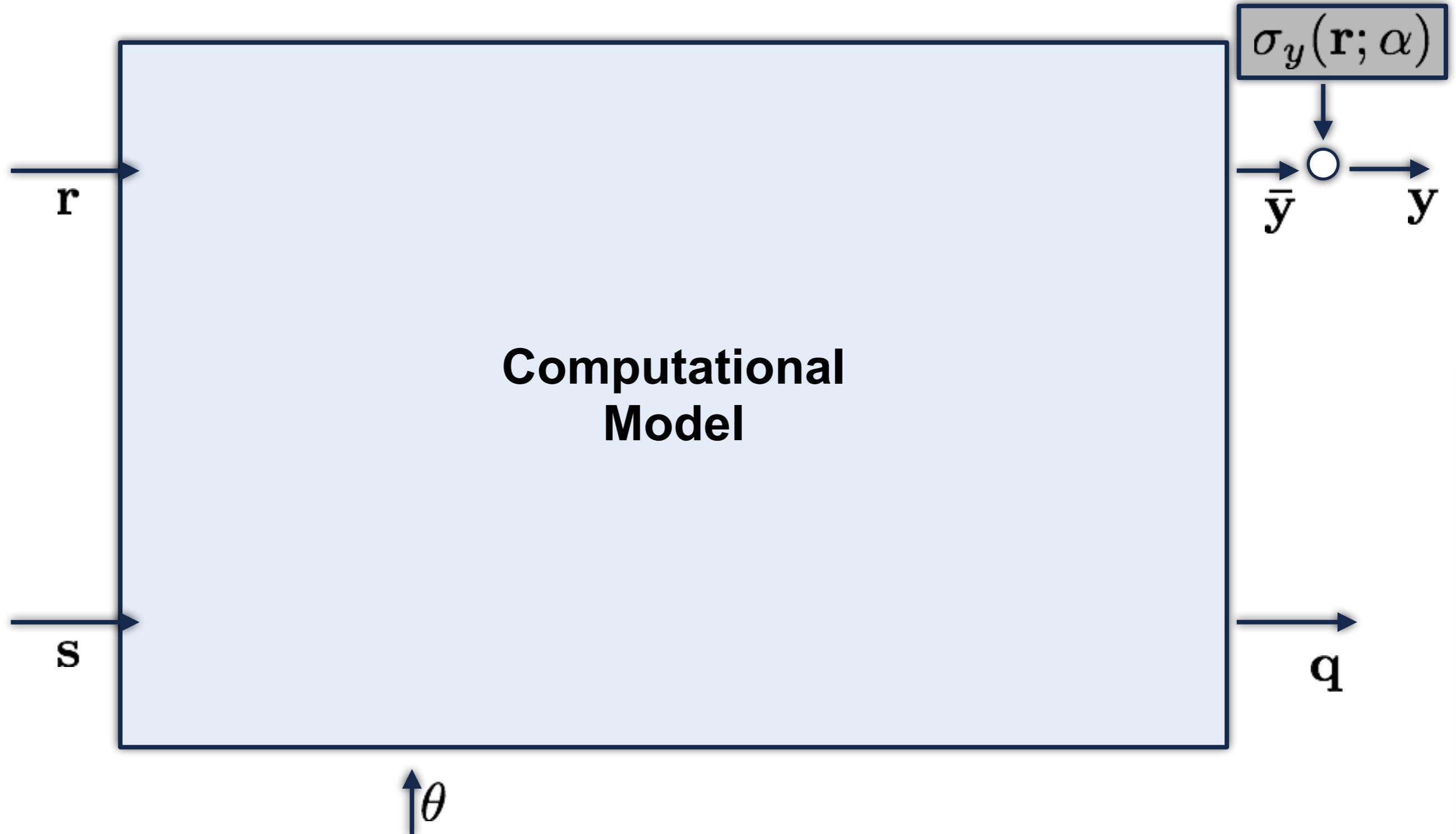
- Experimental or Measurement or Observation Error: ● vs - - -
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→ Due to Embedded Model!



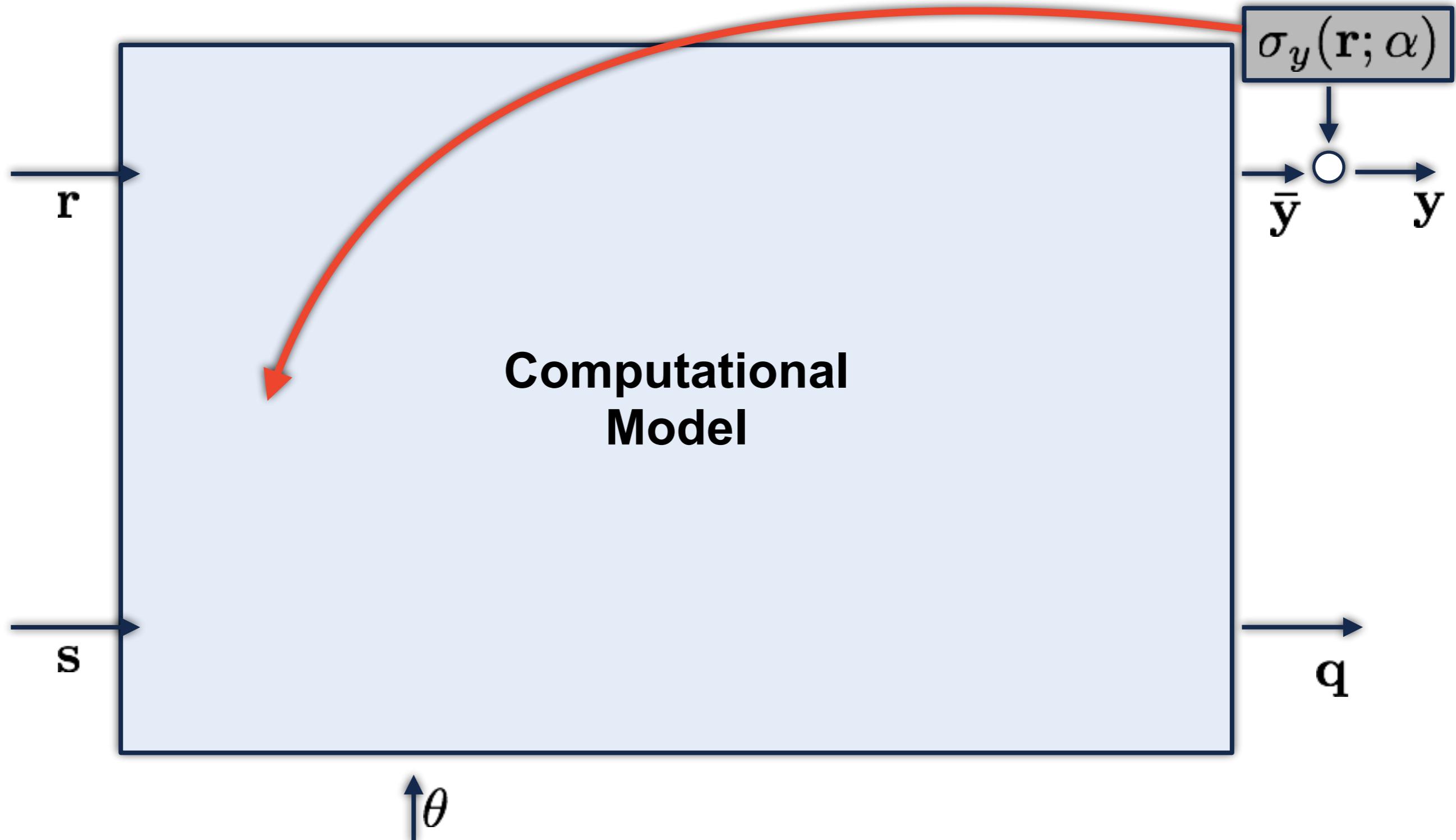
# The Predictive Validation Process

Alternatively, we can move the non-deterministic model upstream to the embedded component, which is the main source of uncertainty (generally).



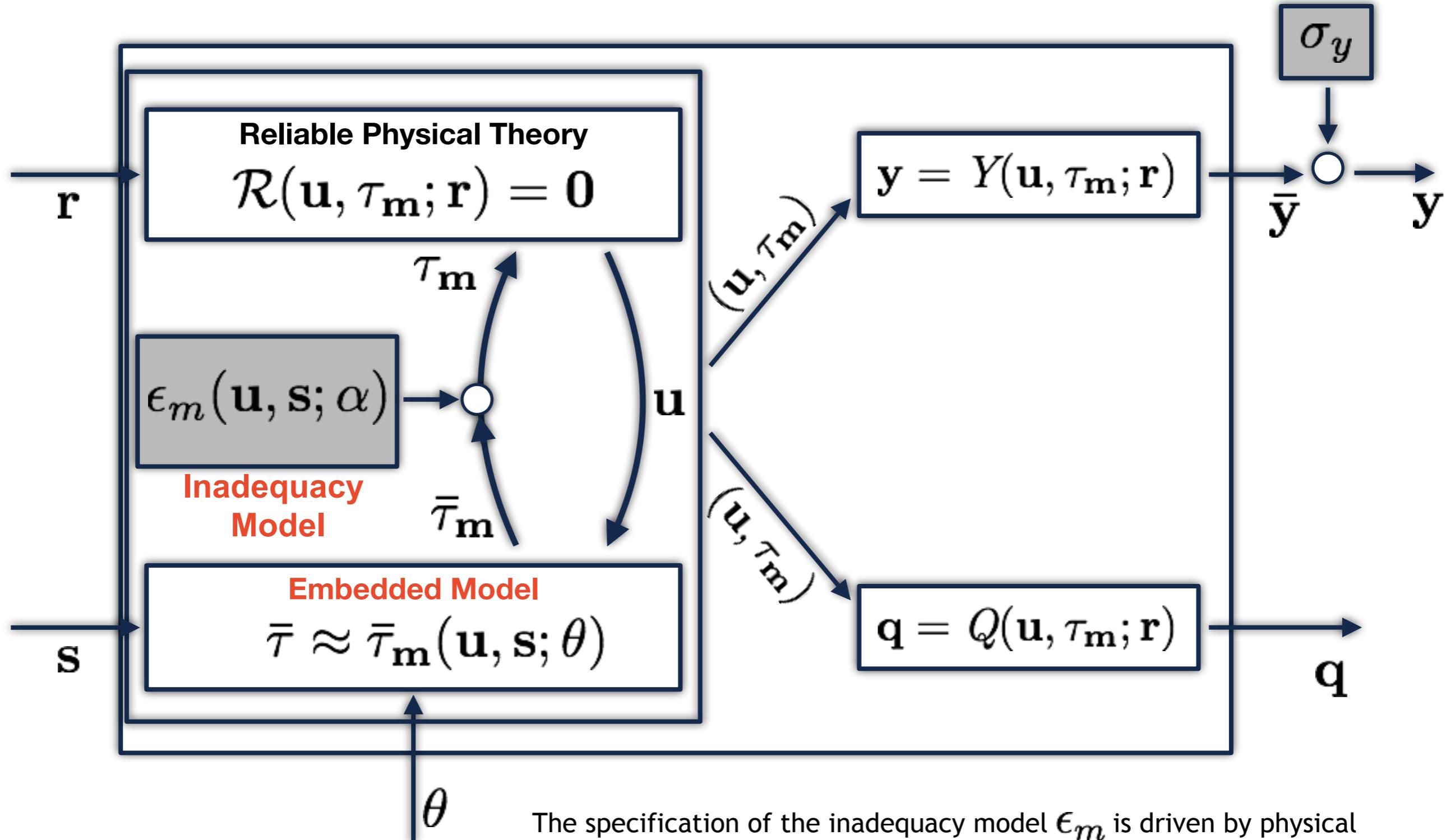
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Approximated  
Embedded Model

$$\bar{\tau}_m = (\cancel{u}, \cancel{x}, \cancel{s}, \theta)$$

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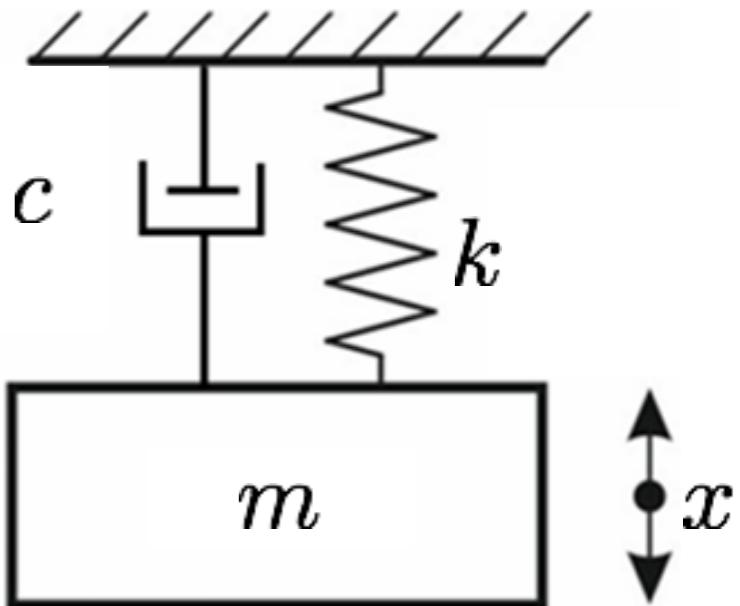
$$\theta = k$$

Inadequacy  
Model

$$\epsilon_m(\cancel{u}, \cancel{s}; \alpha)$$

$$c \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu_c, \sigma_c^2)$$

$$\alpha = \begin{bmatrix} \mu_C \\ \sigma_C \end{bmatrix}$$



$$\mathbf{y} = x$$
$$\mathbf{q} = \max(\dot{x})$$

# Introduction

Note: It is critical that parameters be identifiable (i.e., parameters can be uniquely determined from observations). For:

$$m\ddot{x} + c\dot{x} + kx = 0$$

the parameter sets:

$$\theta = [m, c, k] \text{ and } \theta = [1, c/m, k/m]$$

yield the same state values.

Approximated  
Embedded Model

$$\bar{\tau}_m = (\cancel{u}, \cancel{x}, \cancel{s}, \theta)$$

$$k = \text{const}$$

$$\theta = k$$

$$\epsilon_m(\cancel{u}, \cancel{s}; \alpha)$$

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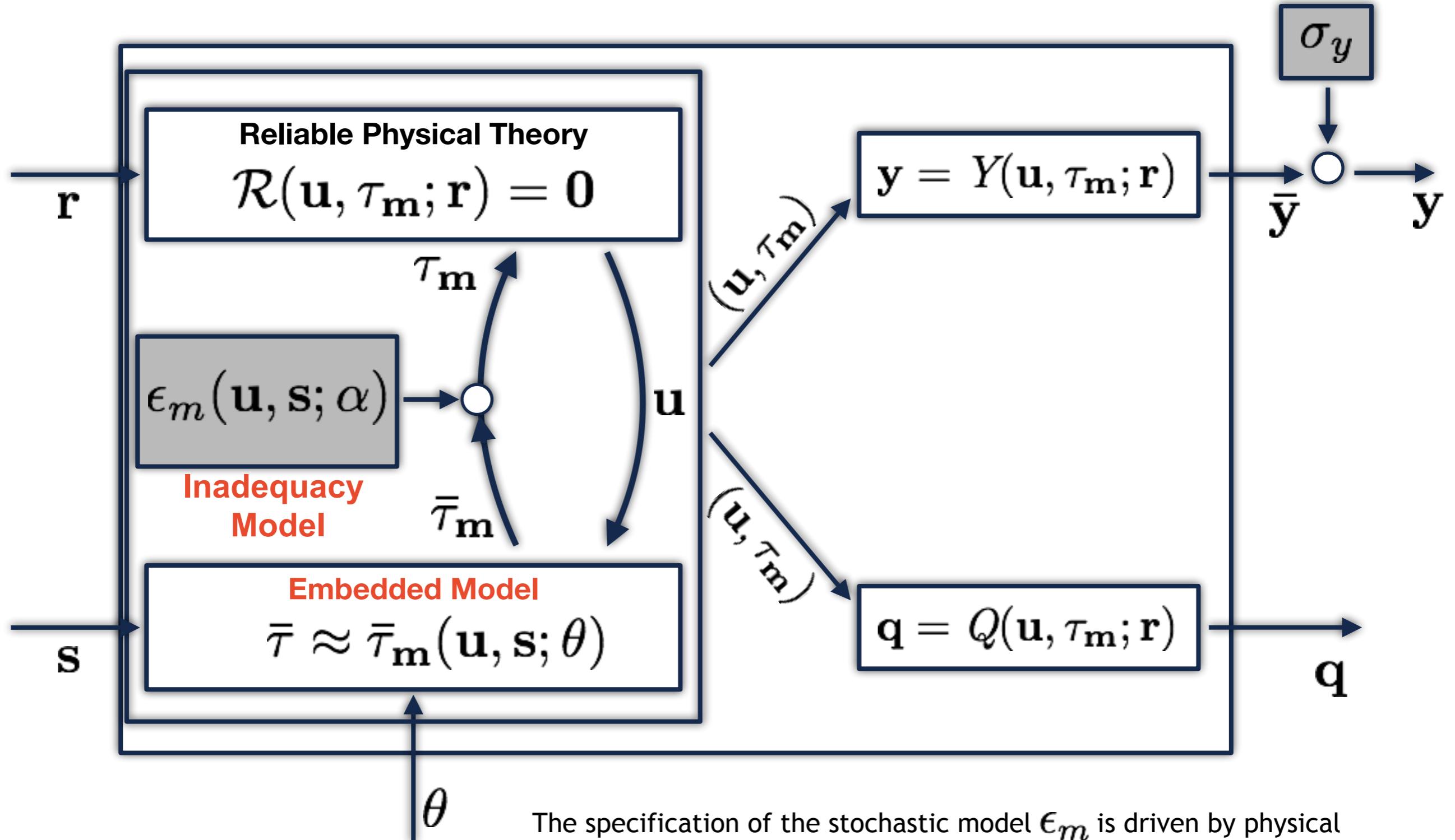
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# The 3-Steps Reliability Assessment

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(Or Predictive Estimation): The probabilistic quantification of predicted experimental and computational outcomes with identified and quantified uncertainties.  
It is comprised of 3 components:

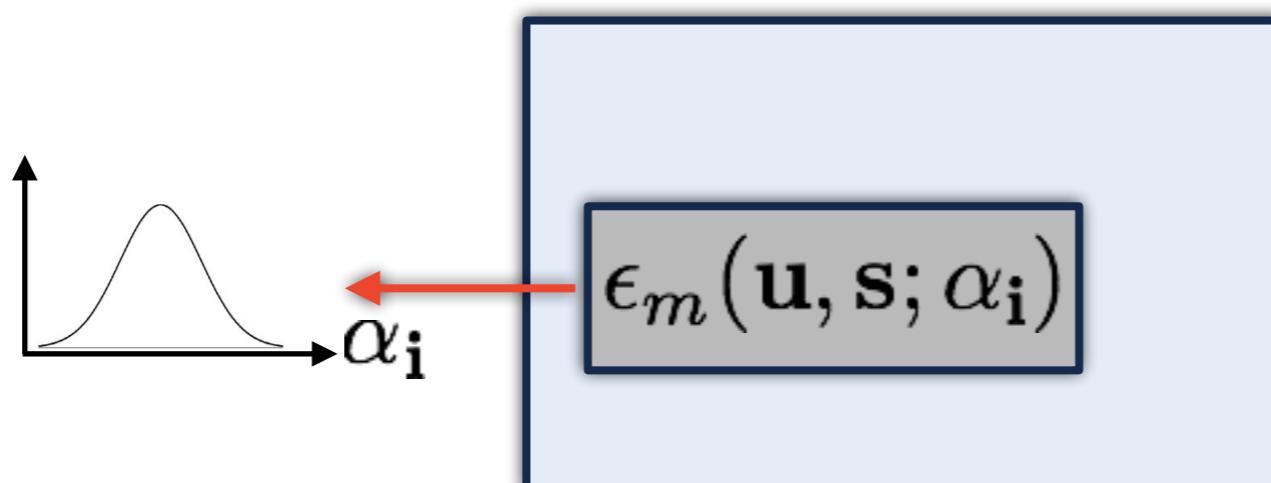
- **Model Calibration (or Inverse Problem)**
- **Validation (or Model Prediction)**
- **Predictive Assessment (or Estimation of the Validation Regime)**

# The 3-Steps Reliability Assessment

- **Model Calibration (or Inverse Problem)**

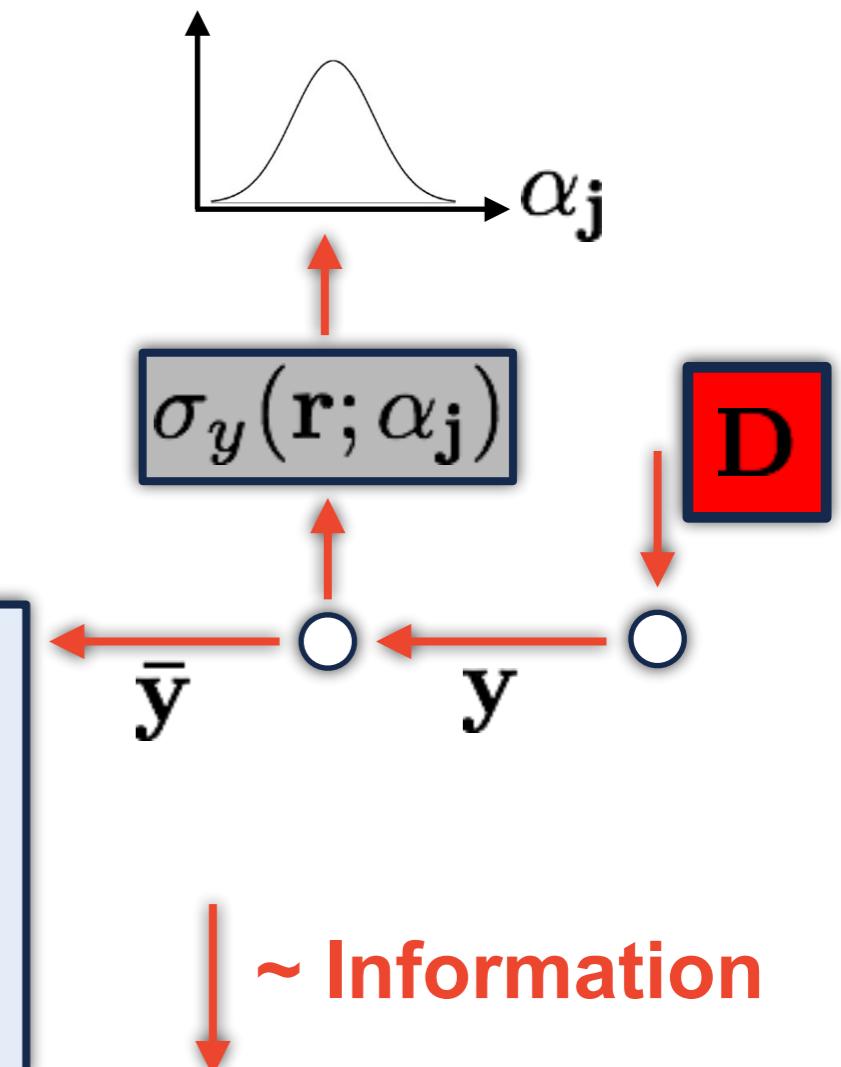
- Validation
- Predictive Assessment

The model is **informed by data**. Parameter values and their uncertainties are inferred from available observations by **solving an inverse problem**.



The use of probability to represent uncertainty naturally leads to the formulation of the calibration problem as Bayesian (Bayesian Inference):

$$p(\theta, \alpha | \mathbf{D}, \mathcal{M}) = \frac{\text{Likelihood} \quad \text{Prior}}{\int \text{Likelihood} \quad \text{Prior} \, d\theta d\alpha} \frac{\mathcal{L}(\theta, \alpha; \mathbf{D}, \mathcal{M}) p(\theta, \alpha | \mathcal{M})}{\int \mathcal{L}(\theta, \alpha; \mathbf{D}, \mathcal{M}) p(\theta, \alpha | \mathcal{M}) \, d\theta d\alpha}$$

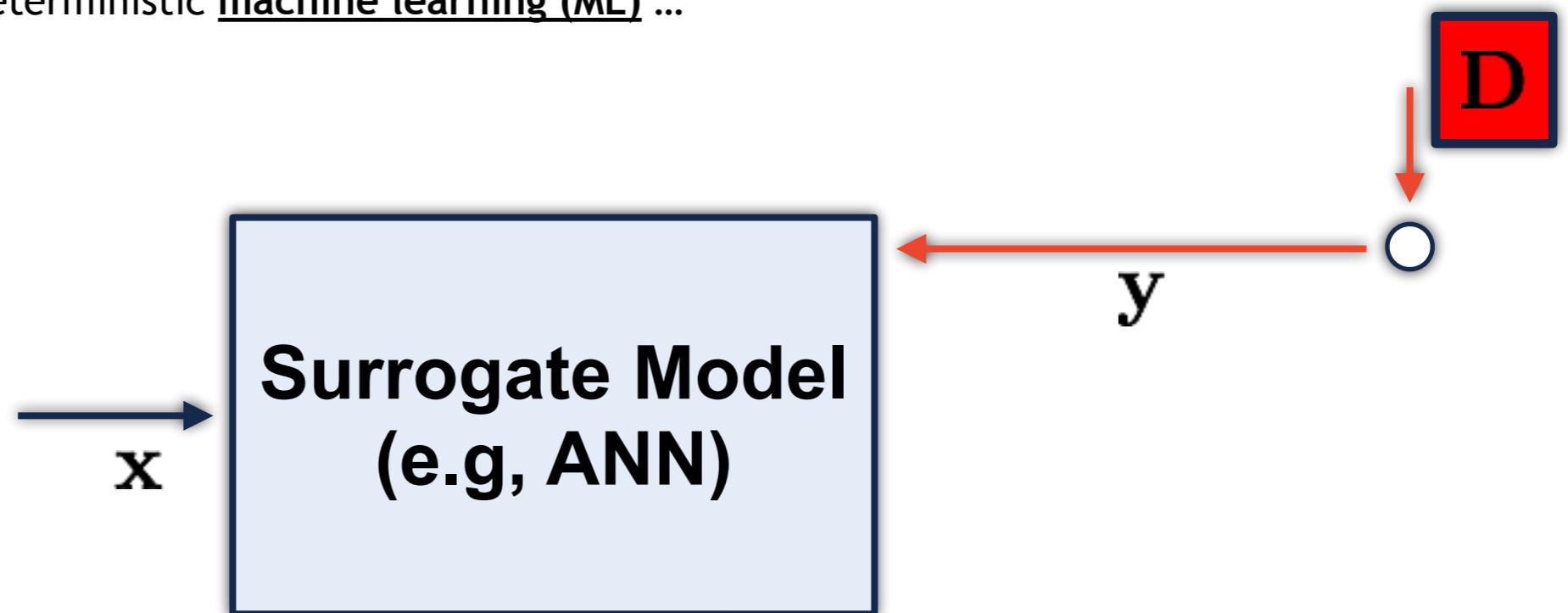


# The 3-Steps Reliability Assessment

- **Model Calibration (or Inverse Problem)**

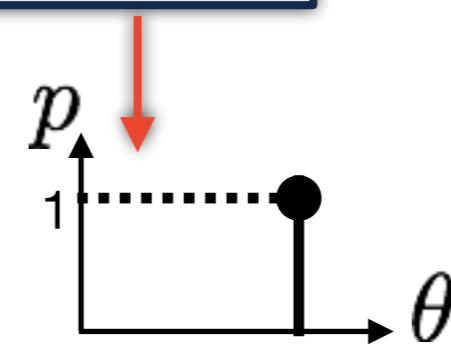
- Validation
- Predictive Assessment

Similar to training process in deterministic machine learning (ML) ...



..., but in classic ML:

- The parameters are not treated as random variables;
- The model is deterministic;
- The training happens by means of an optimization algorithm (e.g., ADAMS);

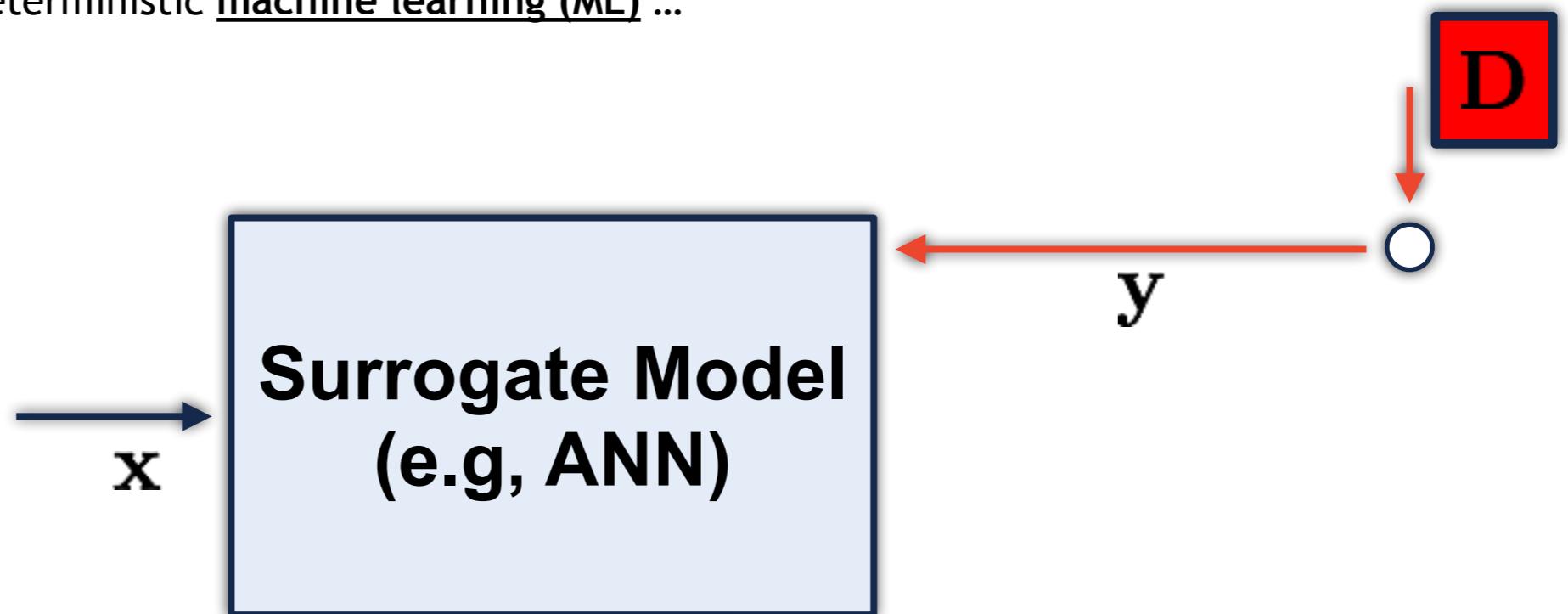


# The 3-Steps Reliability Assessment

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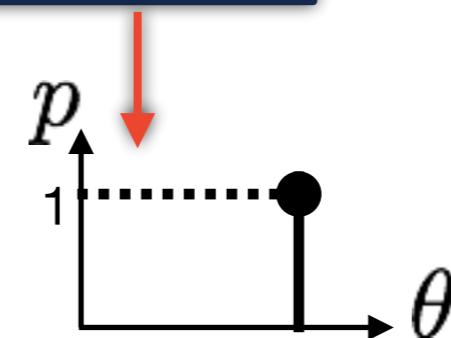
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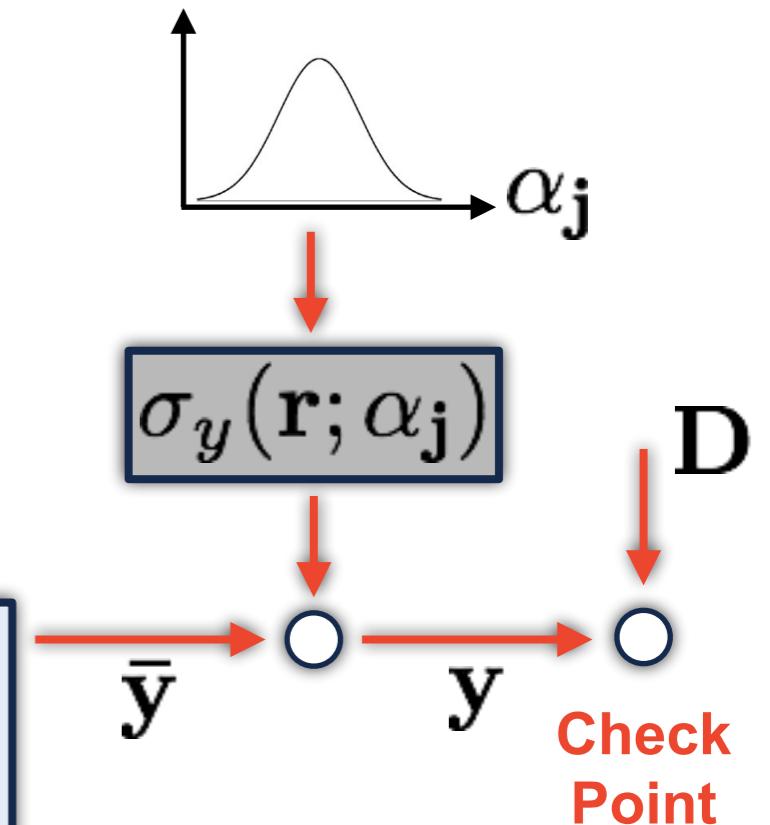
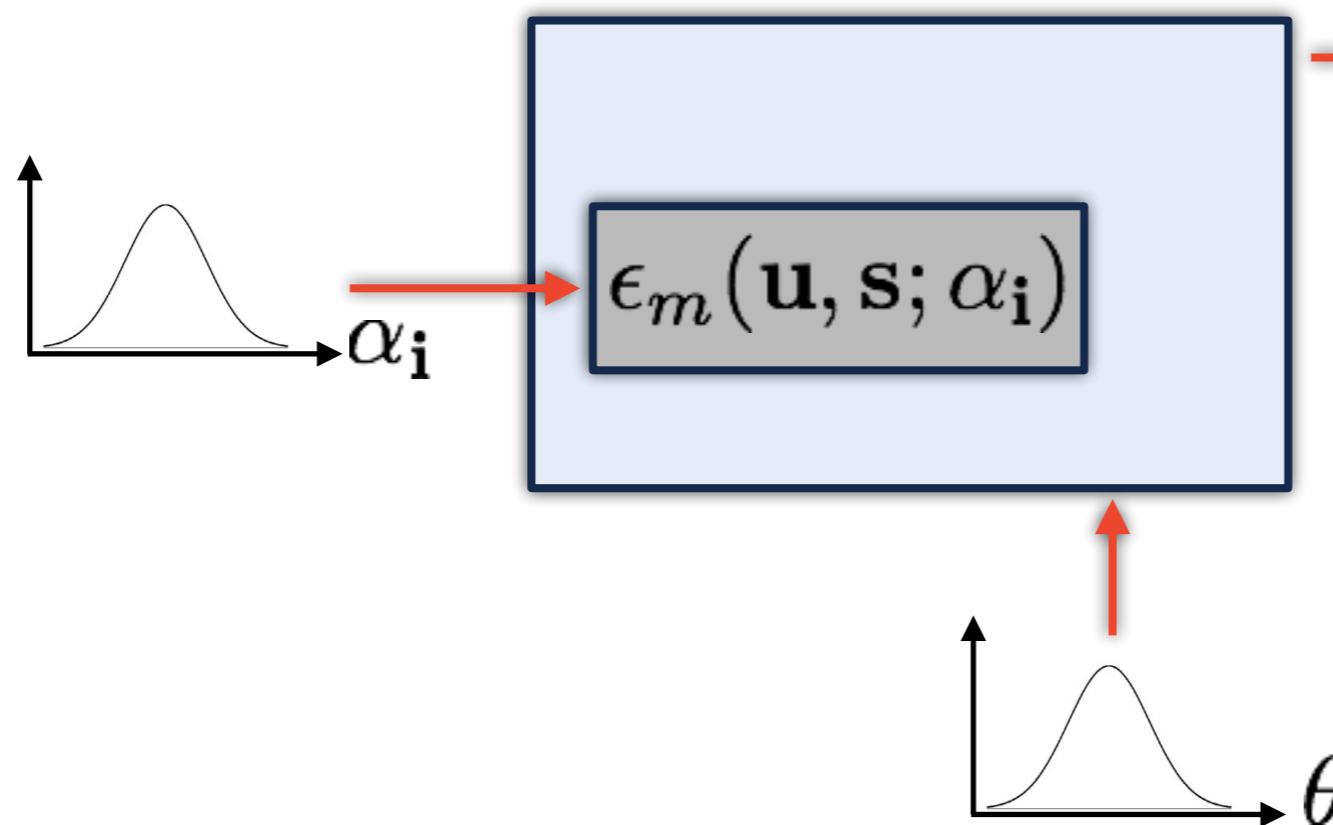
- The parameters are not treated as random variables;
- The model is deterministic;
- The training happens by means of an **optimization algorithm** (e.g., ADAMS);
- The **computational model is generally not expensive**;
- **Plenty of data available**.



# The 3-Steps Reliability Assessment

- Calibration
- **Validation (or Model Prediction)**
- Predictive Assessment

Outputs from a calibrated model are checked for consistency with available observation. We must assess whether the validation data are plausible according to the model.

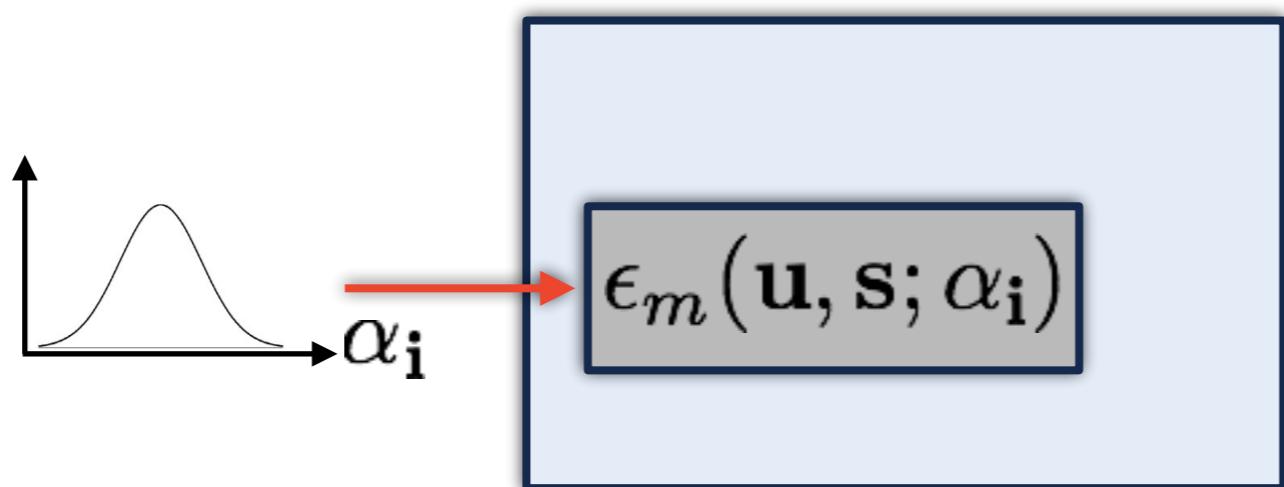


# The 3-Steps Reliability Assessment

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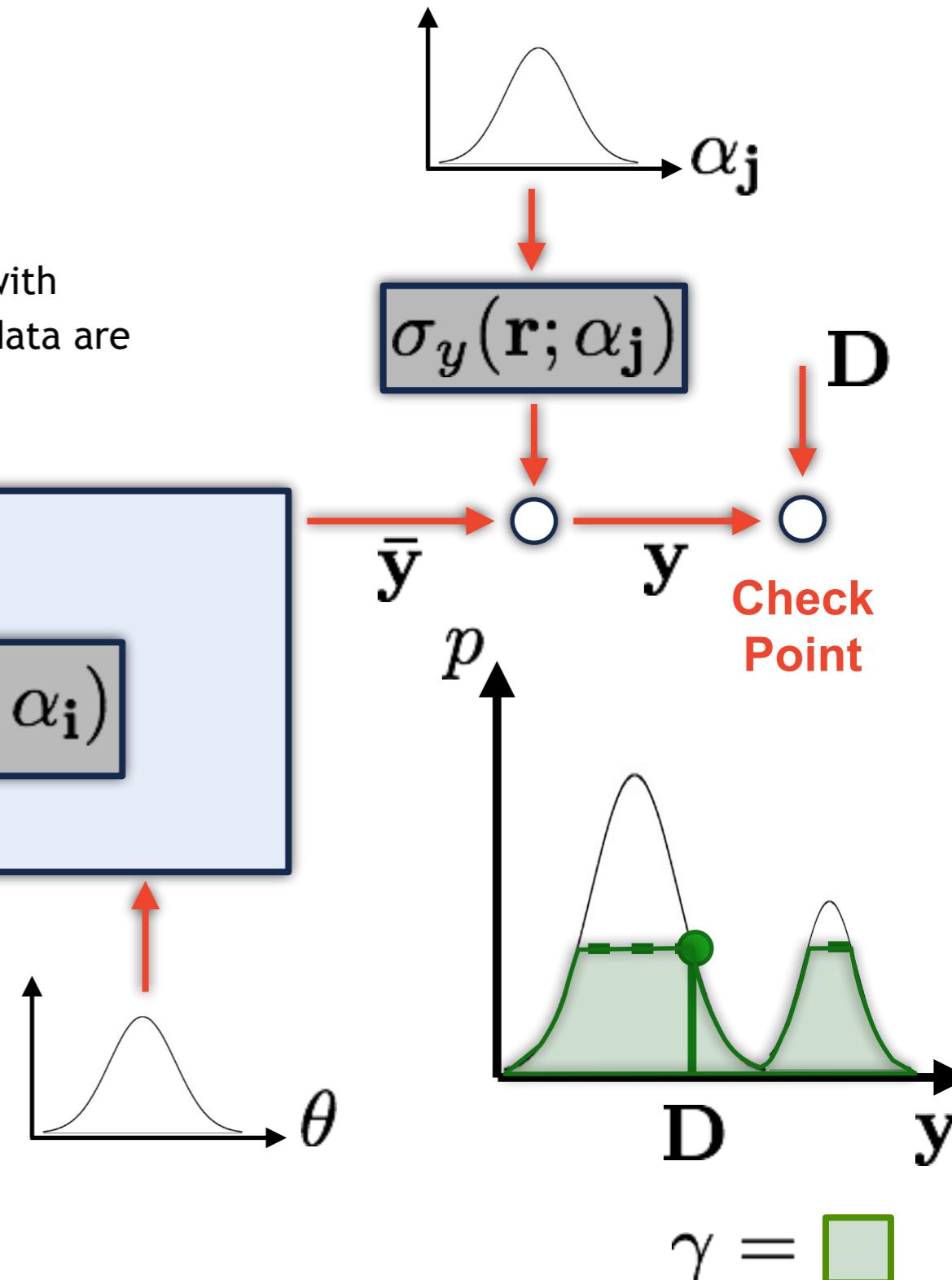
Outputs from a calibrated model are checked for consistency with available observation. We must assess whether the validation data are plausible according to the model.



There are number of possibilities for quantifying this plausibility, as the Bayesian credible intervals.

For example, we can use **highest posterior density (HPD)** credibility intervals.

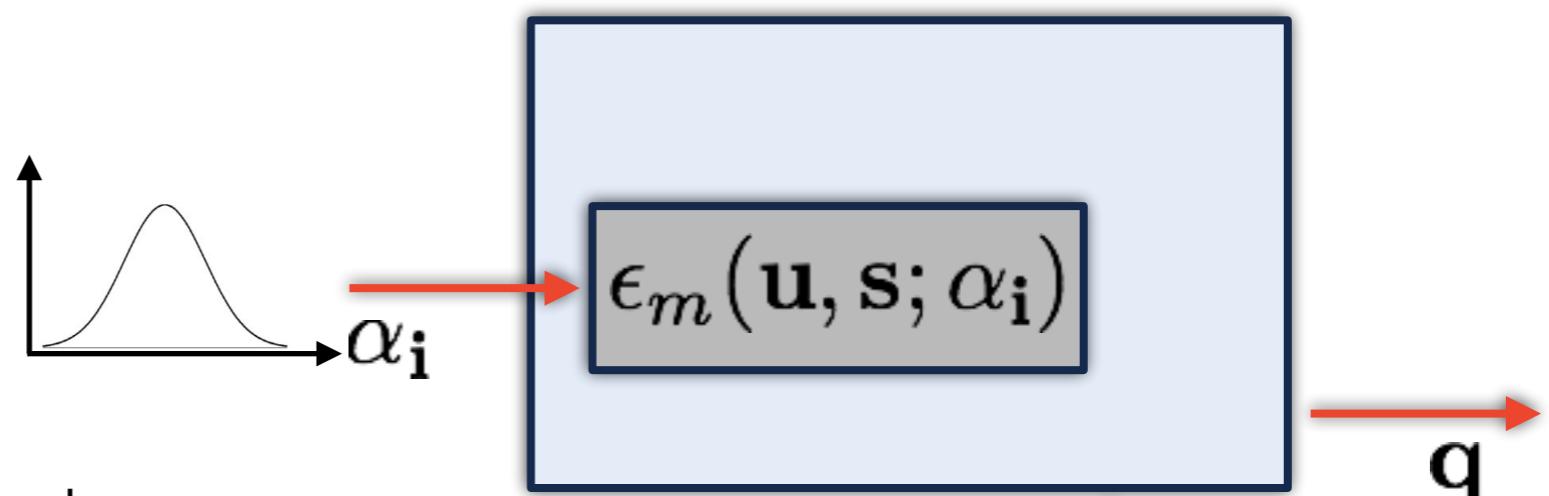
When  $\gamma$  is smaller than some tolerance (e.g., 1.e-3), the data are considered an implausible outcome of the model.



# The 3-Steps Reliability Assessment

- Calibration or Inverse Problem
- Validation
- **Predictive Assessment (or Estimation of the Validation Regime)**

Determines whether the calibration and validation phases were sufficiently informative and challenging to provide confidence in the reliability of the predictions of the Qols.



Two primary questions need to be addressed:

- Are Qols sensitive to aspects of the overall model that have not been effectively informed?
- Is the overall model being used outside the domain of applicability?

Moreover, is the prediction is determined to be credible, does it have sufficiently small uncertainty for our purposes?

# Why is Predictive Science Fascinating?

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- The big picture stands out (System Engineering Point of View)

- The black boxes must be opened (Scientific Understanding)

Choices need to be made for:

- Priors
  - Inadequacy Models
  - Domains of Applicability
  - Unknown Unknowns?
  - When to Ask for more Data, and What to Ask
- ...

- The curse of dimensionality is not an enemy (Recall to Efficiency)

- Sensitivity Analysis
  - Code Optimization
  - Model Reduction
- ...

# Probabilistic Programming

## Codes:

- SMUQ (UIUC), Fortran 2008

[https://www.politesi.polimi.it/bitstream/10589/118101/3/SimoneVenturi\\_MastersThesis.pdf](https://www.politesi.polimi.it/bitstream/10589/118101/3/SimoneVenturi_MastersThesis.pdf)

- Dakota (Sandia National Lab.s), C++

<https://dakota.sandia.gov/release-notes-headings/uncertainty-quantification-uq>

## Python Libraries:

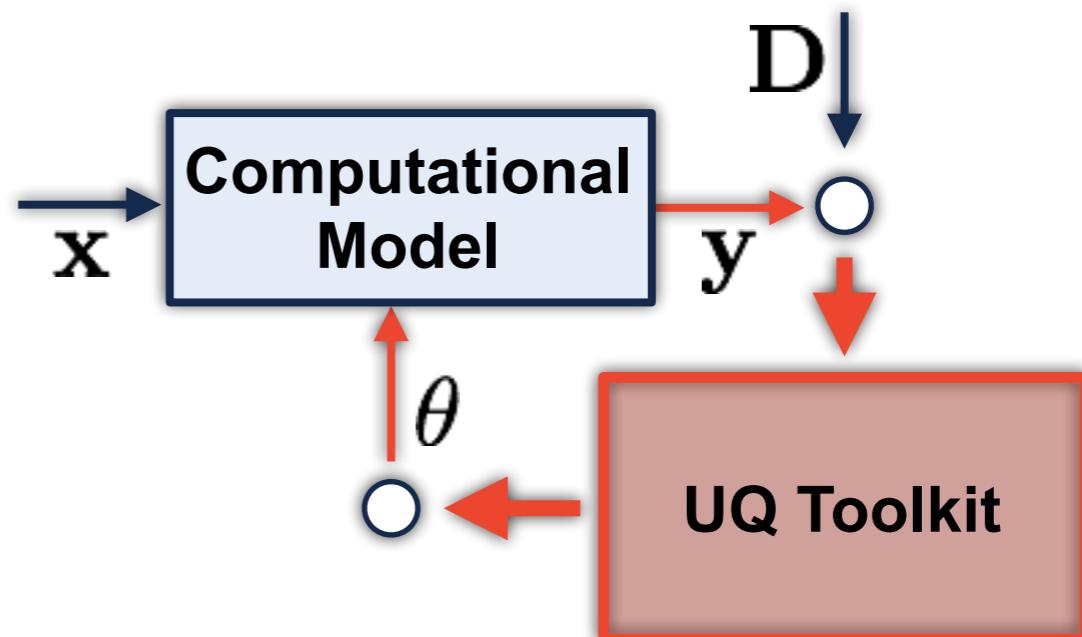
- PyMC3

<https://docs.pymc.io/>

- TensorFlow Probability

<https://www.tensorflow.org/probability>

Fusion Plasma Example: [https://youtu.be/Bb1\\_zlrjo1c](https://youtu.be/Bb1_zlrjo1c)



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## **Example 1:**

# **Mass-Spring-Damper System**

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# Case 1

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**Ideal Model:**

$$m\ddot{x} + c\dot{x} + kx = 0$$

$$\begin{cases} x(0) = 4.0 \\ \dot{x}(0) = 0.0 \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{cases} m = 1.0 \\ c = 0.5 \\ k = 3.0 \end{cases}$$

To the clean data points, we might add the noise  $\epsilon \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma_N^2)$

**Computational Model:**

$$m\ddot{x} + c\dot{x} + kx = 0$$

$$\begin{cases} x(0) = 4.0 \\ \dot{x}(0) = 0.0 \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{cases} m = 1.0 \\ c = ? \\ k = ? \end{cases}$$

**Case 1.1:**  $\sigma_N = 0.0$     $\sigma_L = 0.01$

**Case 1.2:**  $\sigma_N = 0.0$     $\sigma_L = ?$

**Case 1.3:**  $\sigma_N = 0.1$     $\sigma_L = ?$

Likelihood Function is a Gaussian with  $\sigma_L$

# Case 2

---

Ideal Model:

$$\begin{cases} m\ddot{x} + c\dot{x} + kx = 0 \\ \dot{T} = c(T)\dot{x}^2 - \frac{T-T_0}{t_T} \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{cases} x(0) = 4.0 \\ \dot{x}(0) = 0.0 \\ T(0) = T_0 = 20.0 \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{cases} m &= 1.0 \\ c(T) &= \exp\left(\frac{T_0}{T} - 1\right) \\ k &= 3.0 \\ t_T &= 1.0 \end{cases}$$

To the clean data points, we might add the noise  $\epsilon \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma_N^2)$

Computational Model:

$$m\ddot{x} + c\dot{x} + kx = 0$$

$$\begin{cases} x(0) = 4.0 \\ \dot{x}(0) = 0.0 \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{cases} m &= 1.0 \\ c &= ? \\ k &= ? \end{cases}$$

**Case 2.1:**  $\sigma_N = 0.0$     $\sigma_L = 0.01$

**Case 2.2:**  $\sigma_N = 0.0$     $\sigma_L = ?$

**Case 2.3:**  $\sigma_N = 0.1$     $\sigma_L = ?$

Likelihood Function is a Gaussian with  $\sigma_L$

# Case 3

Ideal Model:

$$\begin{cases} m\ddot{x} + c\dot{x} + kx = 0 \\ \dot{T} = c(T)\dot{x}^2 - \frac{T-T_0}{t_T} \\ x(0) = 4.0 \\ \dot{x}(0) = 0.0 \\ T(0) = T_0 = 20.0 \end{cases}$$

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Computational Model:

$$m\ddot{x} + c\dot{x} + kx = 0$$

$$\begin{cases} x(0) = 4.0 \\ \dot{x}(0) = 0.0 \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{cases} m &= 1.0 \\ c &= \mathcal{N}(\mu_C, \sigma_C) \\ \mu_C &= ? \\ \sigma_C &= ? \\ k &= ? \end{cases}$$

**Case 3.1:**  $\sigma_N = 0.0$     $\sigma_L = 0.01$

**Case 3.2:**  $\sigma_N = 0.0$     $\sigma_L = ?$

**Case 3.3:**  $\sigma_N = 0.1$     $\sigma_L = ?$

Likelihood Function is a Gaussian with  $\sigma_L$

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# Questions?

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