

Navigating the Cosmos: An Overview of Bayesian and Machine Learning Approaches in Modern Cosmology

Debating the Potential of Machine Learning in Astrophysical Surveys
#2

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IAP, Paris / Flatiron institute, New York

Jens Jasche



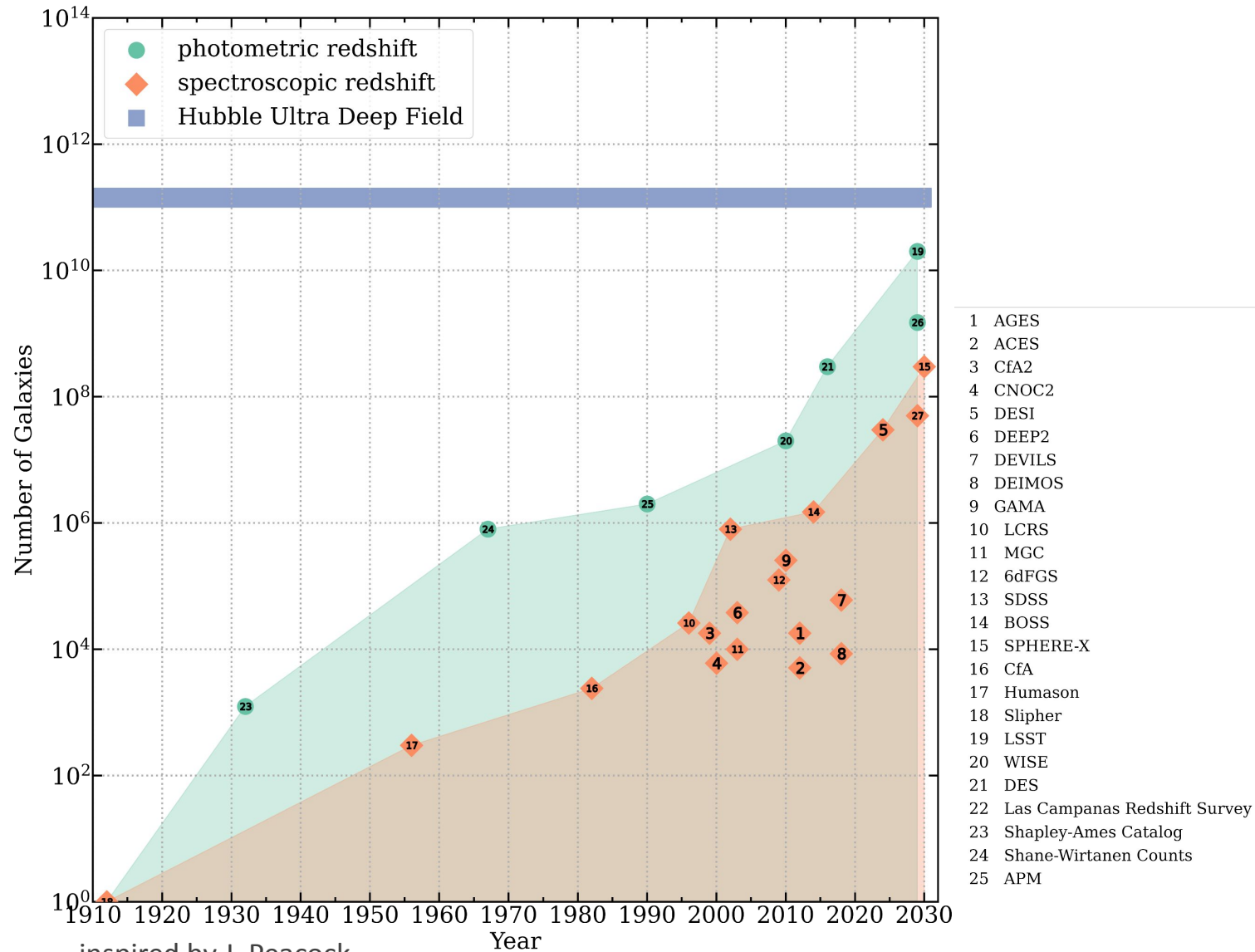
01

Motivation



Next-generation cosmological data is becoming available

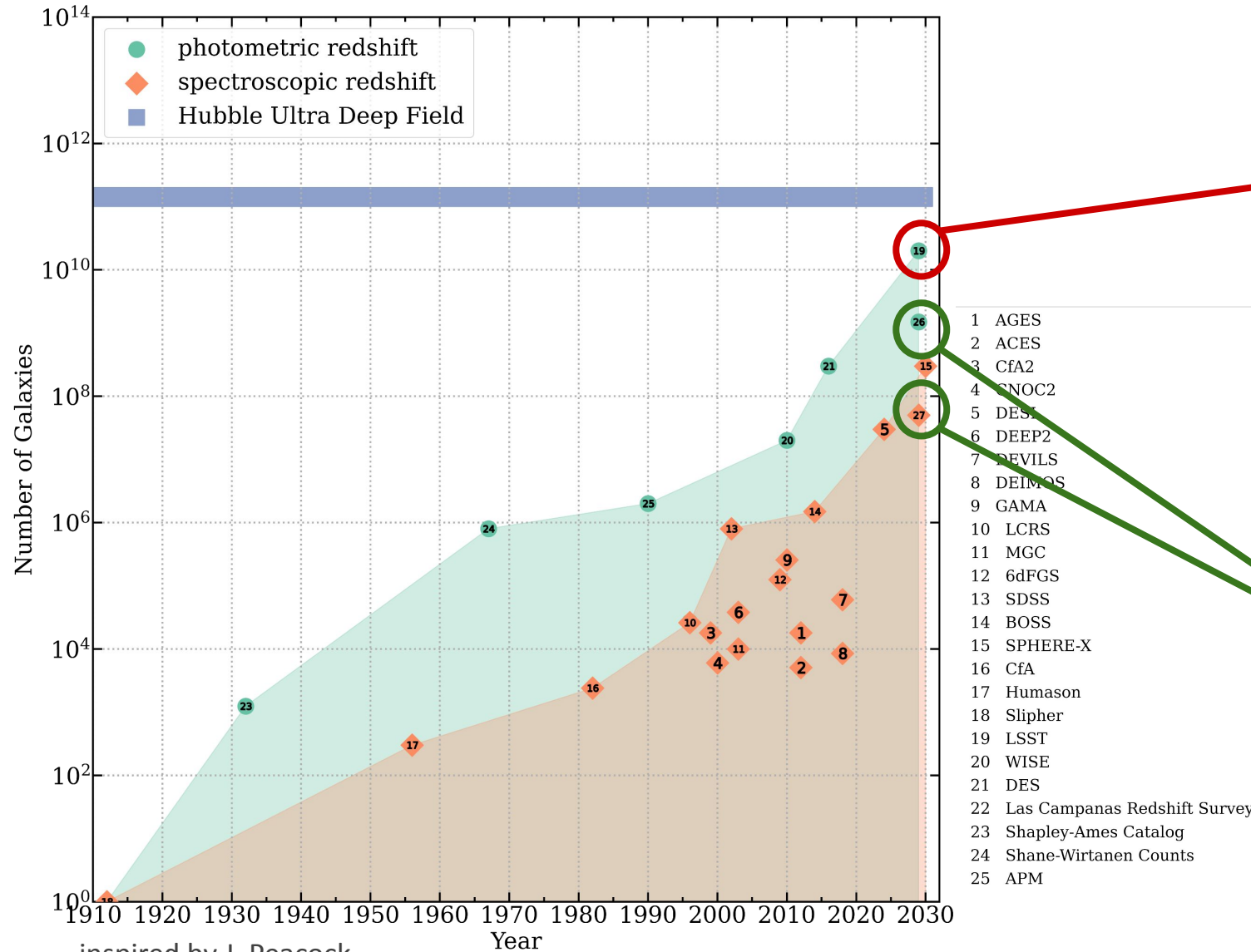
A CENTURY OF GALAXY SURVEYS



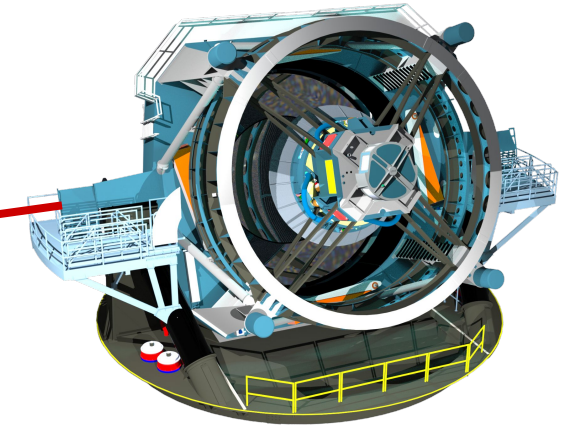


Next-generation cosmological data is becoming available

A CENTURY OF GALAXY SURVEYS



Large Synoptic Survey Telescope



ESA's Euclid Spacecraft

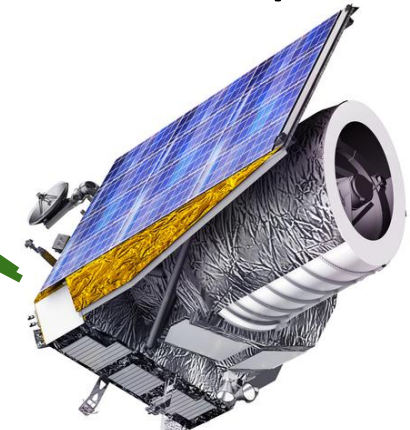


Image credit: ESA



The Promise of Bayesian inference for astrophysics ([Loredo 1992](#))

Challenges of Cosmological Inference:

- Cosmology an observational science.
- Phenomena are inaccessible to direct manipulation.
- Cosmological inferences are generally uncertain.

The Bayes Inference Device:

$$\pi(\mathbf{x}|\mathbf{d}) = \pi(\mathbf{x}) \frac{\pi(\mathbf{d}|\mathbf{x})}{\pi(\mathbf{d})}$$

- Guaranteed logically consistent knowledge update supported by data.
- Just Construct the data model and explore the parameter space.

[Bayes 1763](#)

[Cox 1946](#)

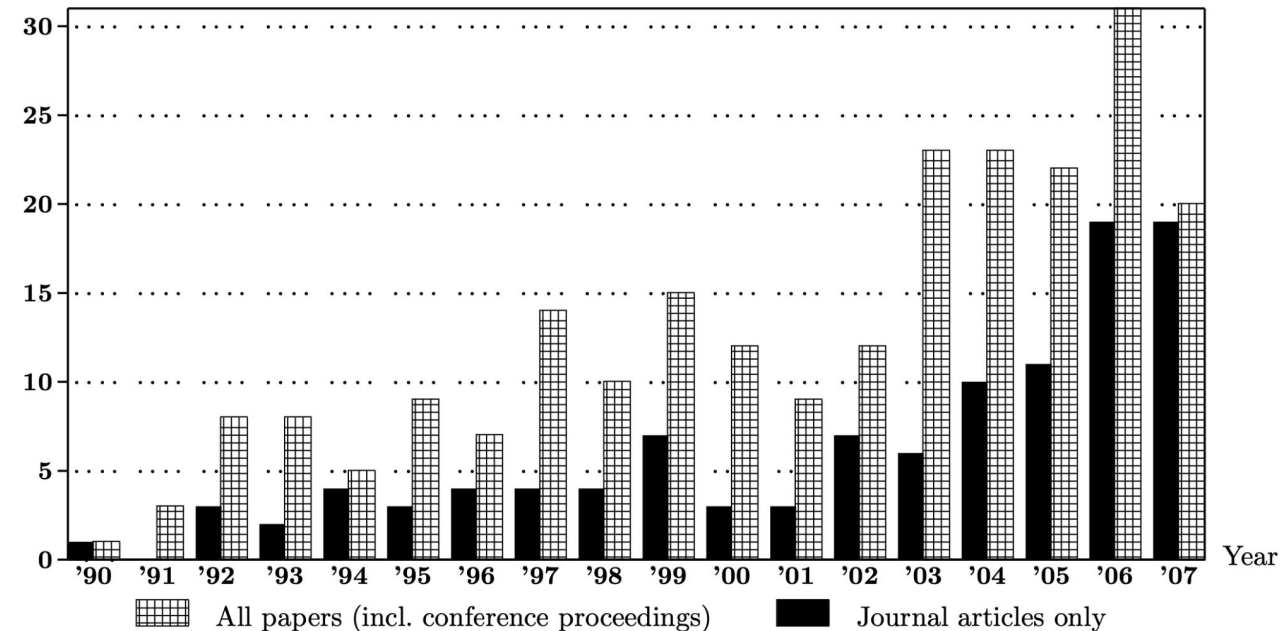


The Promise of Bayesian inference for Cosmology ([Trotta 2008](#))

Why did Bayes become prominent in cosmology?

- **Increased Data Sizes and Complexity**
 - new surveys arrived
- **Algorithmic Advances**
 - MH, HMC
- **Increased Computational Power**
- **Handling of Complex Models**
 - Ease of modeling (e.g. BHM)
- **Nuisance Parameter marginalization**

Number of Bayesian papers in cosmology and astrophysics



[Loredo 1992](#)

[Trotta 2008](#)

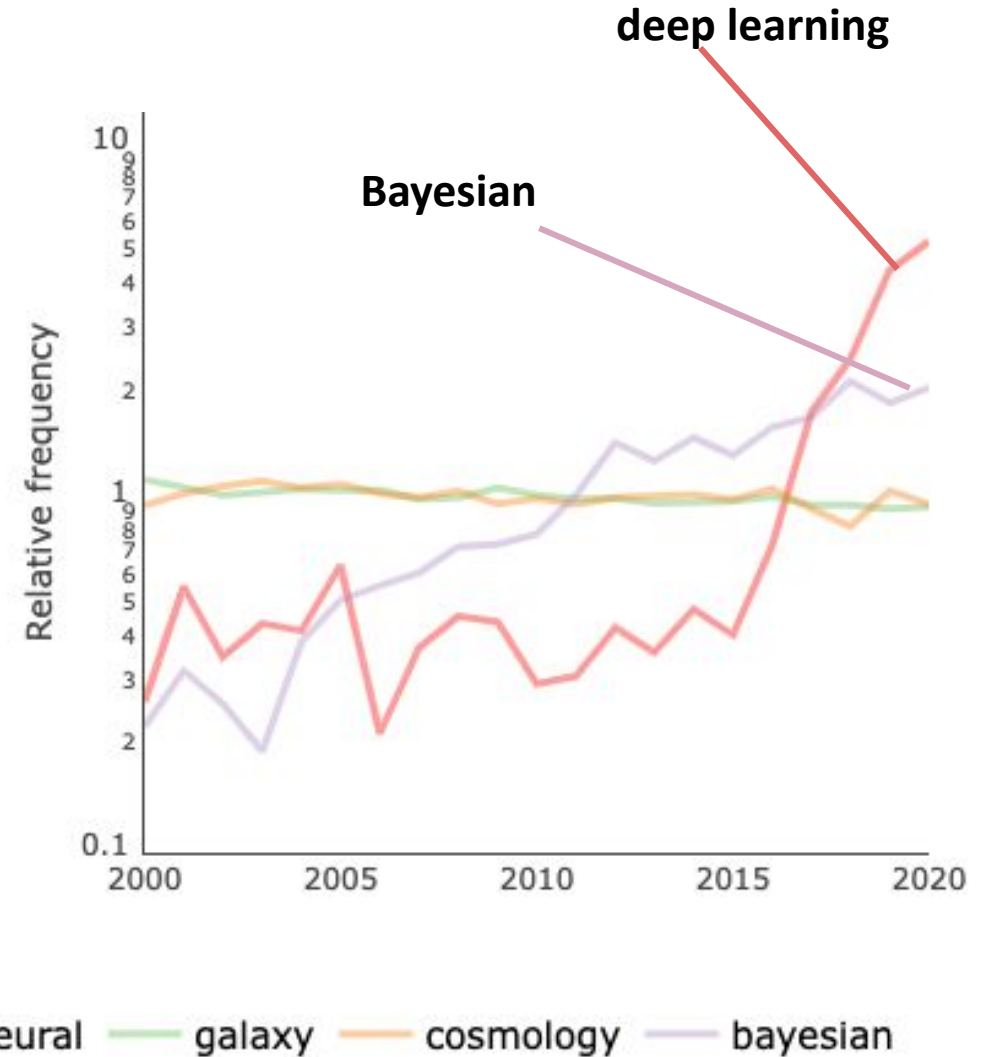
[Trotta 2017](#)



The Promise of Deep Learning for Cosmology ([Huertas-Company & Lanusse 2023](#))

Why did Deep Learning become prominent in cosmology?

- **Increased Data Sizes and Complexity**
 - new are surveys arriving
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 - e.g. supervised learning
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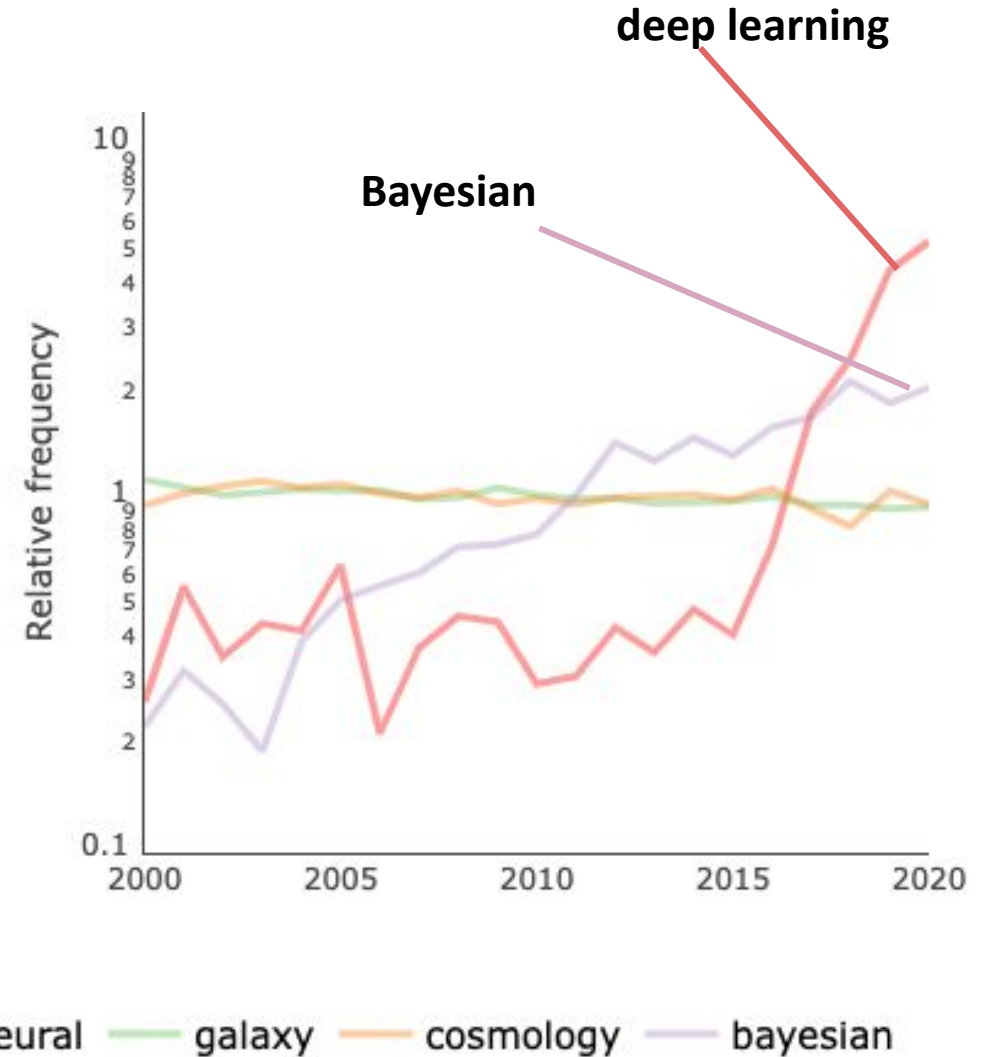
[Huertas-Company & Lanusse 2023](#)



The Promise of Deep Learning for Cosmology ([Huertas-Company & Lanusse 2023](#))

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- **Handling of Complex Models**
 - e.g. supervised learning
- **Nuisance Parameter marginalization**
- **Enhancing human data modeling**
 - No more manual feature engineering
 - Fully automatic feature learning
 - Data-driven, not algorithm-centered



[Huertas-Company & Lanusse 2023](#)

What is gravity?

- Expansion Dynamics

What are the sources of gravity?

- Cosmic Content
- Dynamic Structure Growth

What are the initial conditions?

- Early universe physics
- Origin of structure

$$G_{\mu\nu} = \kappa T_{\mu\nu}$$

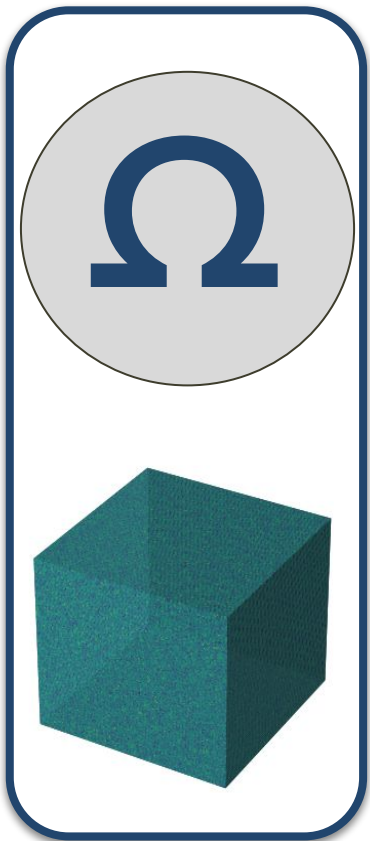
$$\nabla_{\nu} T^{\mu\nu} = 0$$

A set of “second order differential equations”.
Weinberg (2009)



Bayesian Forward modeling cosmic structure surveys

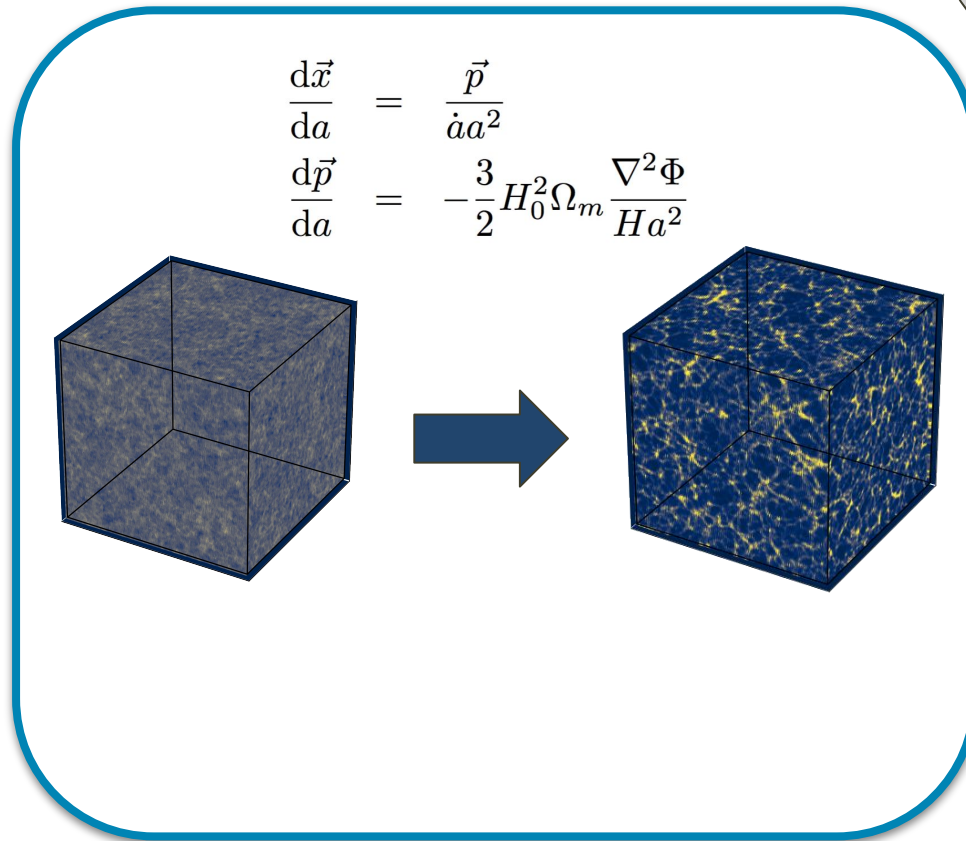
Prior Model



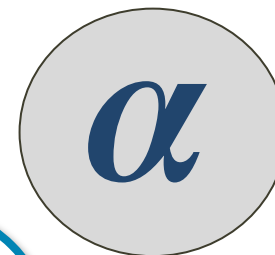
$$\pi(\mathbf{x}, \Omega)$$



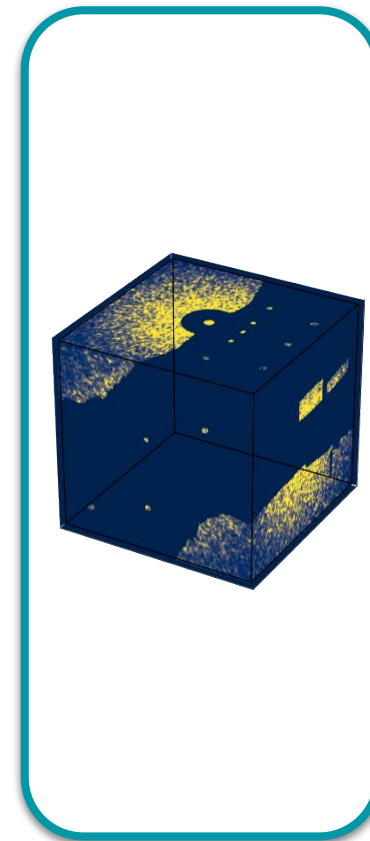
Structure Formation Model



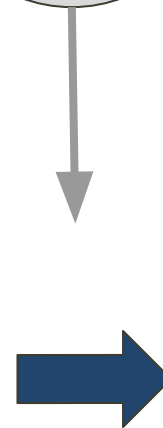
$$\pi(\rho_{\mathbf{m}} | \mathbf{x}, \Omega)$$



Data model



$$\pi(\mathbf{N}_{\mathbf{g}} | \rho_{\mathbf{m}}, \alpha, \Omega)$$

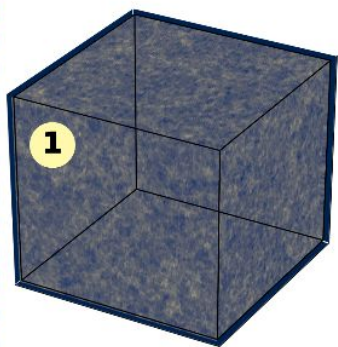




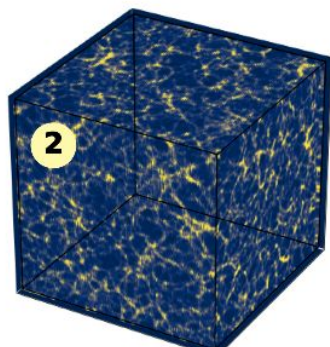
Bayesian Forward modeling cosmic structure surveys

Bayesian physical forward model

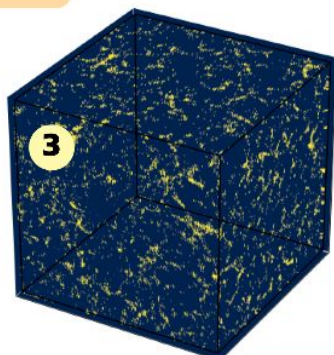
(1→2) Structure formation



1 Initial conditions

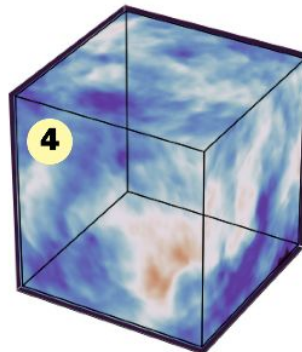


2 Evolved density field



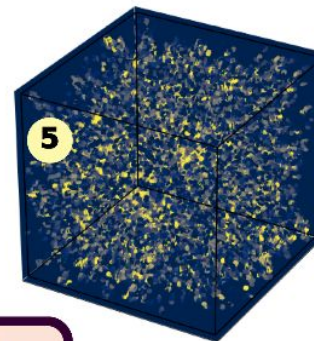
3 Galaxy field (comoving)

(2→3) Galaxy bias



4 Velocity field

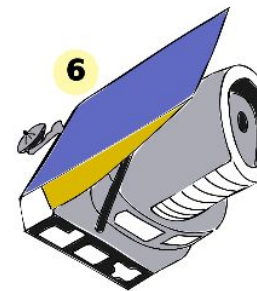
(3→4) Peculiar velocities → RSDs



5 Galaxy field (redshift)

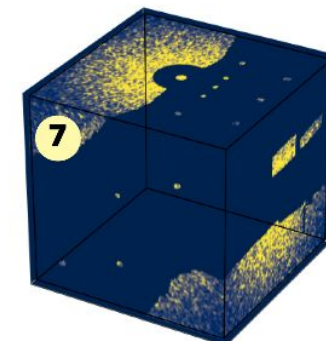
Cosmic expansion

(3→5) Redshift transform



6 Selection & Likelihood

Likelihood/posterior analysis



7 Observed galaxy distribution

→ Constrain primordial ICs

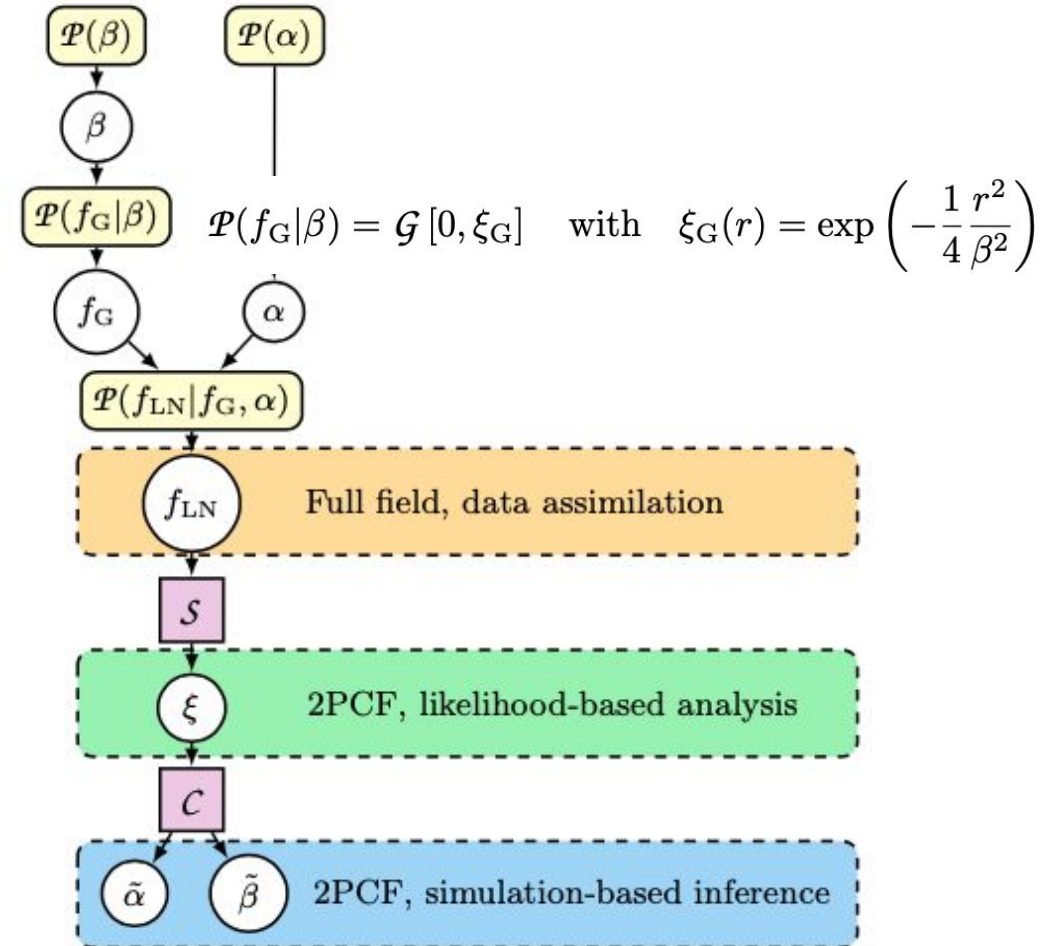
[Kostic et al. 2022](#)



How to optimally extract information from data?

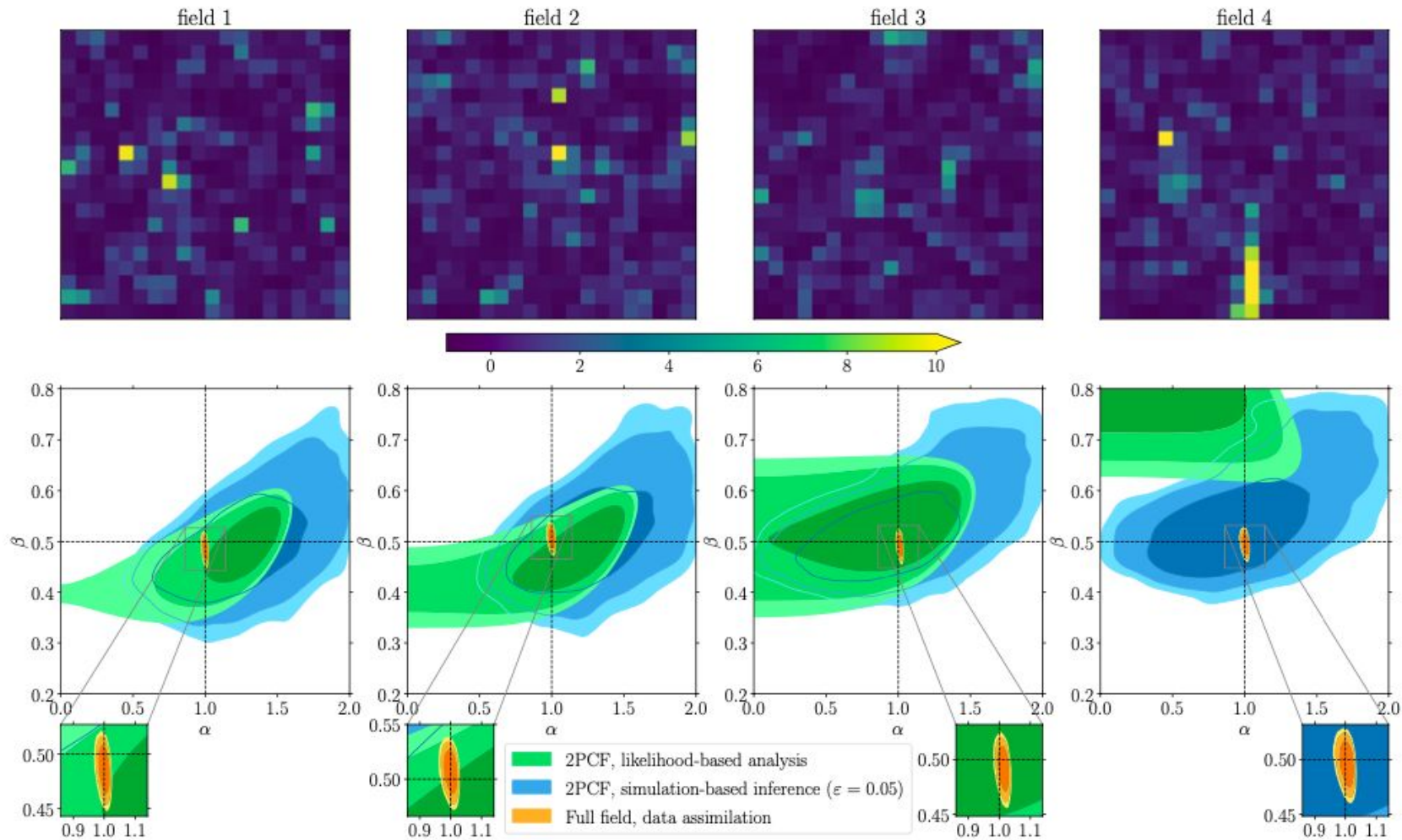
Compare 3 standard approaches:

- **Standard likelihood-based analysis (LBA)** of the two-point correlation function (2PCF), assuming a Gaussian distribution and fixed covariance matrix
- **Simulation-based inference (SBI)**, aka likelihood-free inference, ABC, based on the 2PCF
- **Field level data assimilation (DA)** technique, e.g. Bayesian forward modeling





Beyond summary statistics: Field-level inference



Field-level inference leverages additional data constraints, particularly higher-order statistics.

[Leclercq & Heavens 2021](#)

02

Field-Level Inference in Cosmic Structure Analysis



From the Cosmic Microwave Background to Cosmic Structures

A field-level approach to CMB analyses:

- Wiener Posterior

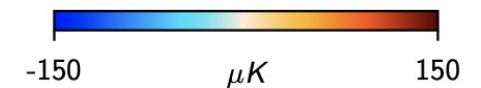
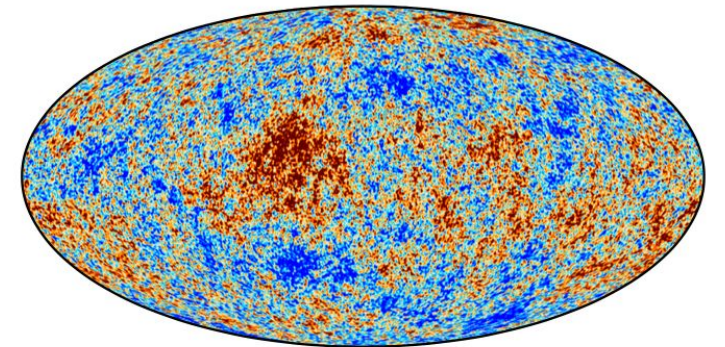
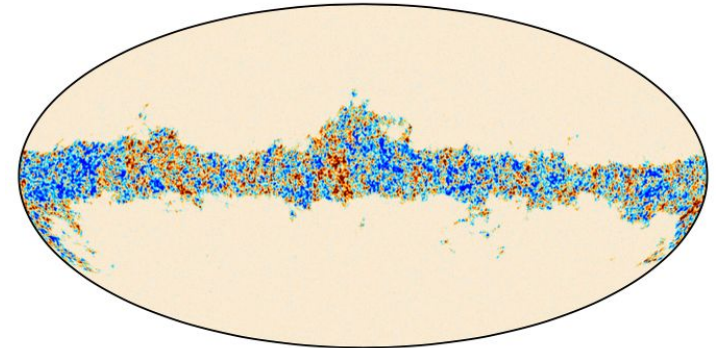
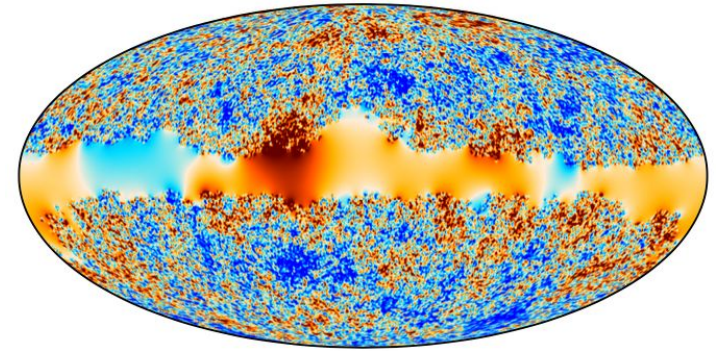
(see e.g. [Wandelt et al 2004](#), [Jewell al 2004](#), [Eriksen et al 2004](#), [Elsner & Wandelt et al 2012](#), [Thommesen et al 2020](#))

- Linear data modeling
- Gaussian Statistics:

$$P(s|d) \propto \exp \left(-\frac{1}{2} (s^\dagger S^{-1} s + (d - Rs)^\dagger N^{-1} (d - Rs)) \right)$$

- Wiener Filtering & Gibbs sampling

- Handle noise & incomplete data
- Uncertainty Quantification



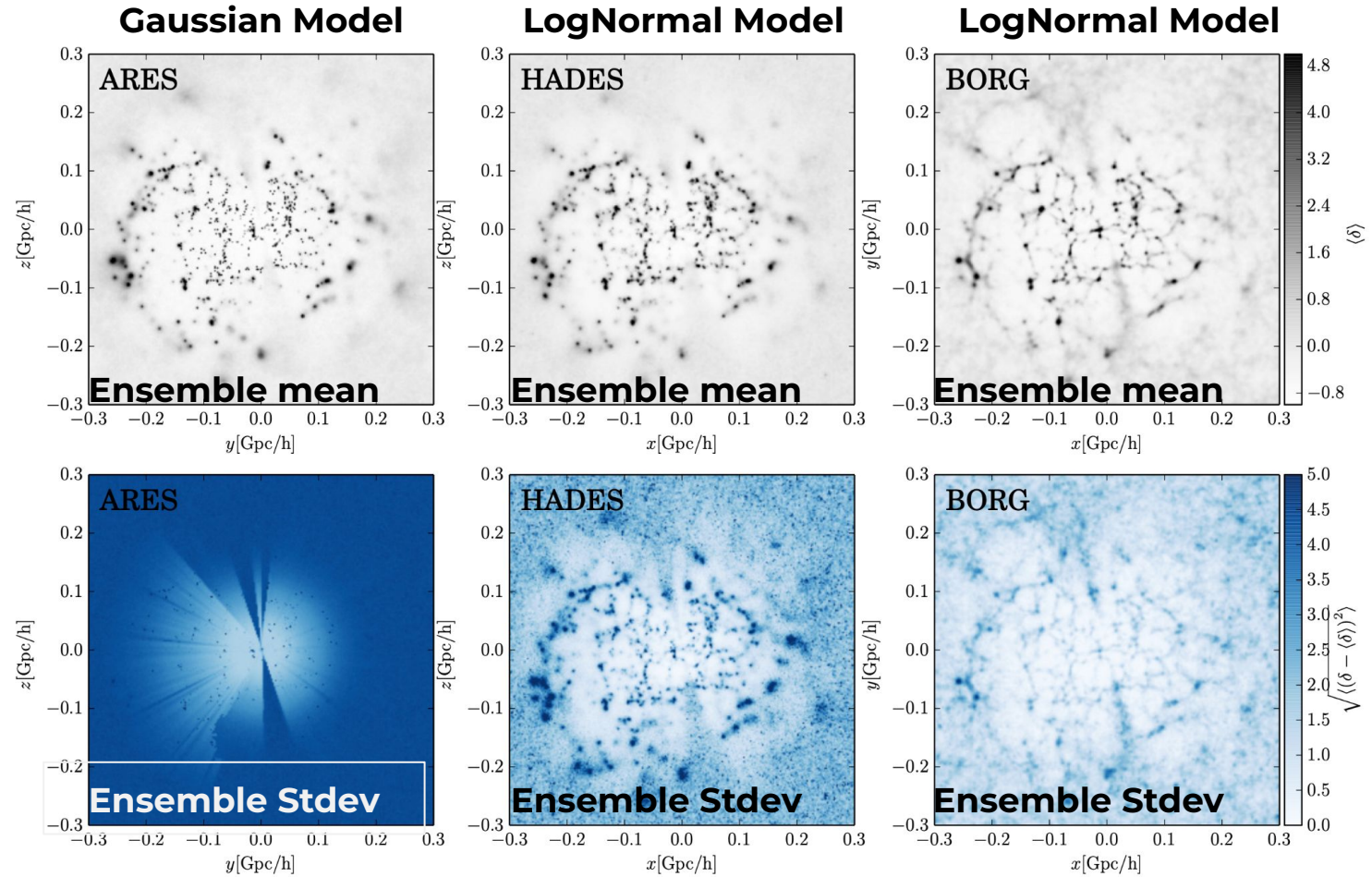
[Thommesen et al 2020](#)



Modeling cosmic structure data

Searching Cosmic Structure Posteriors:

- Gaussian / Wiener posterior
 - (see e.g. [Zaroubi et al 2002](#), [Erdođdu et al 2004](#), [Kitaura et al 2009](#), [Jasche et al 2010](#), [Grannet et al 2012](#))
- LogNormal
 - (see e.g. [Kitaura et al 2010](#), [Jasche et al 2010](#), [Ata et al 2015](#), [Böhm et al 2017](#), [Böhm et al 2017](#))
- Physics based model
 - (see e.g. [Jasche et al 2013](#), [Wang et al 2013](#), [Kitaura 2013](#), [Ata et al 2022](#), [Modi et al 2023](#))





Bayesian Origin Reconstruction from Galaxies (BORG)

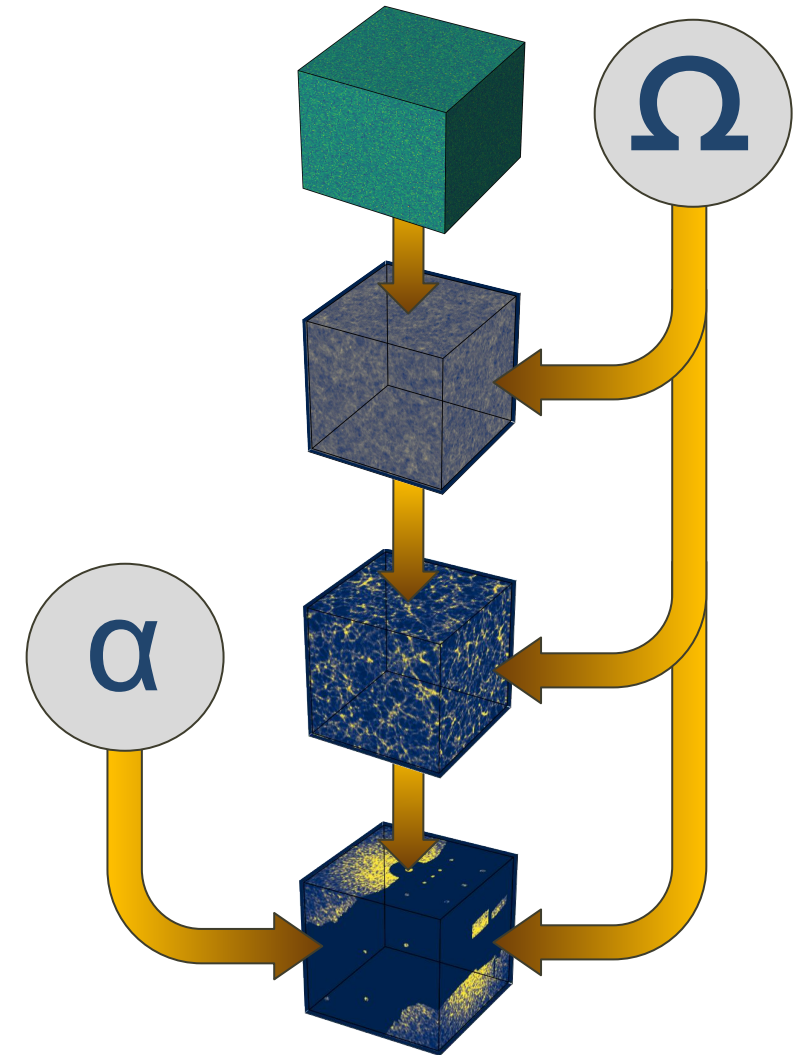
Large scale Structure Posterior via BHM

- "Ab initio" modeling of cosmic structures
 - Gaussian initial conditions to Non-Gaussian final conditions
- Numerical Structure Formation Models
 - e.g. LPT, PM and COLA
- Phenomenological likelihoods and galaxy biases
 - e.g. Poisson distribution, power-law bias

Large scale Bayesian inference via MCMC

- A High-dimensional problem: 10^6 to 10^9 parameter
- Hierarchical Bayes and block sampling
- Efficient Hamiltonian Monte Carlo technique
- Differentiable structure formation model

A BHM of the cosmic structure



[Jasche & Wandelt 2014](#)
[Jasche & Lavaux 2019](#)



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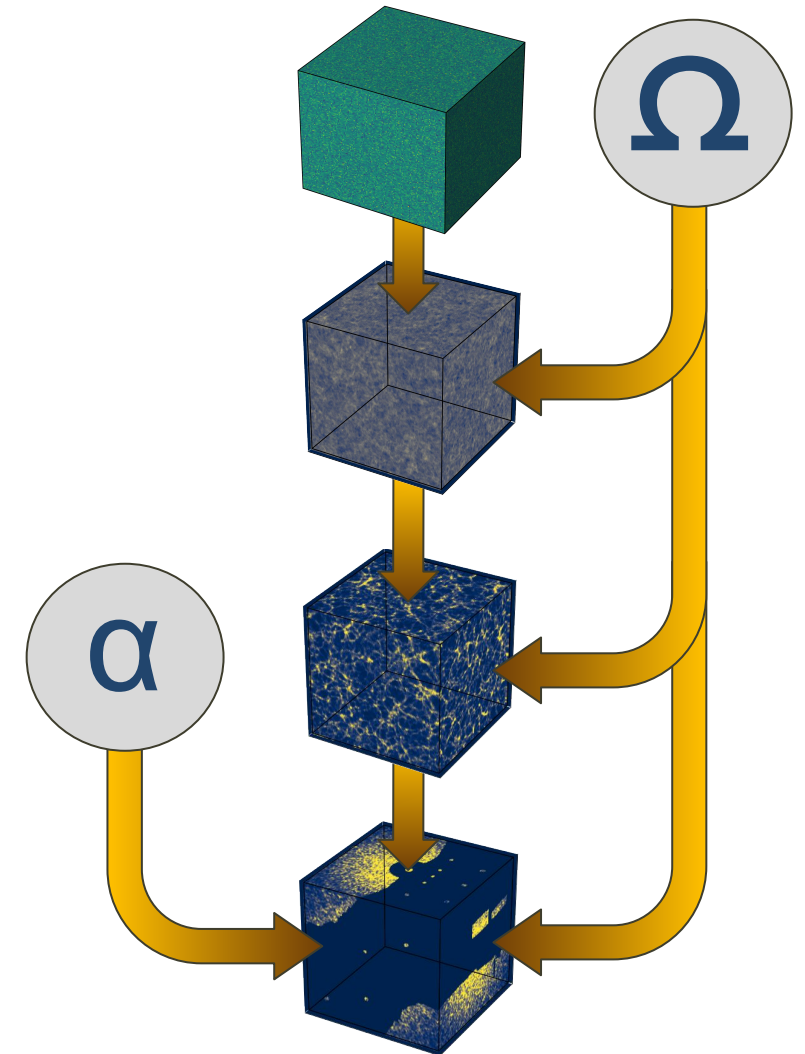
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[Jasche & Wandelt 2014](#)

[Jasche & Lavaux 2019](#)



BORG: A Bayesian Generative Model of the Cosmic Structure

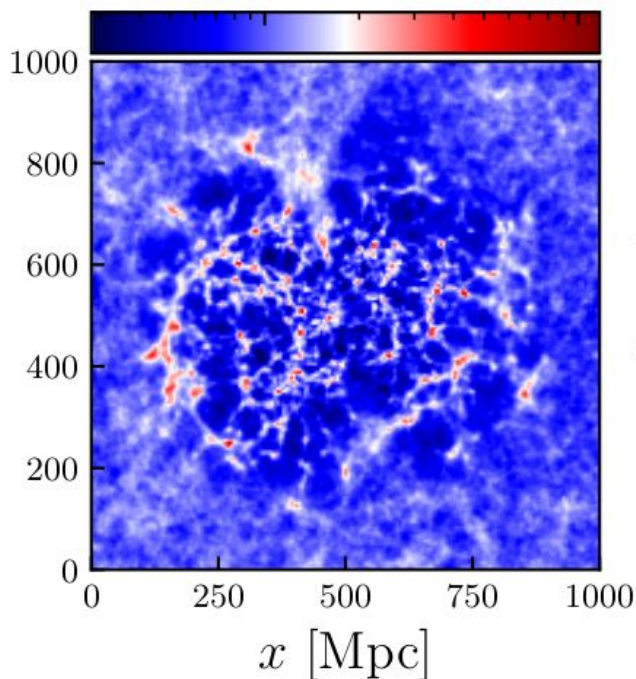
A numerical cosmic structure posterior distribution of the local super volume

- Using the 2M++ Galaxy Compilation ([Lavaux & Hudson 2011](#)).

Ensemble mean

$$\text{Mean} = 1 + \langle \delta \rangle$$

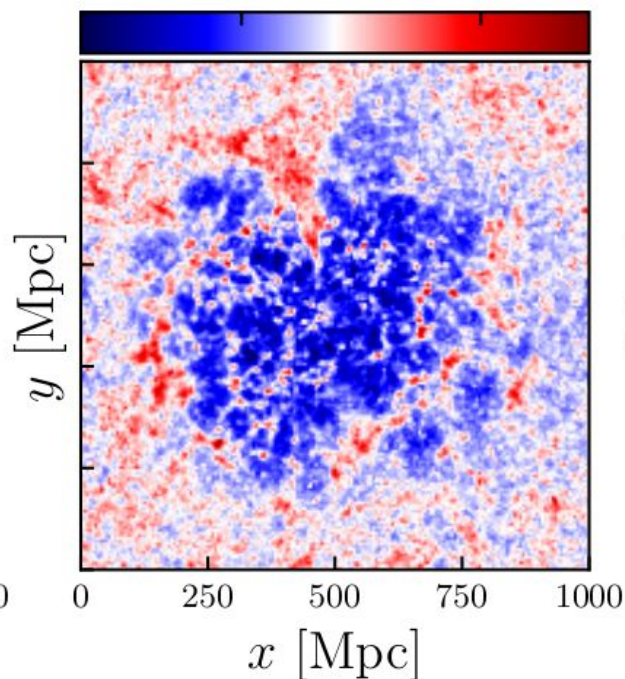
10^0 10^1



Ensemble standard deviation

$$\text{Var} = \langle (\delta - \langle \delta \rangle)^2 \rangle$$

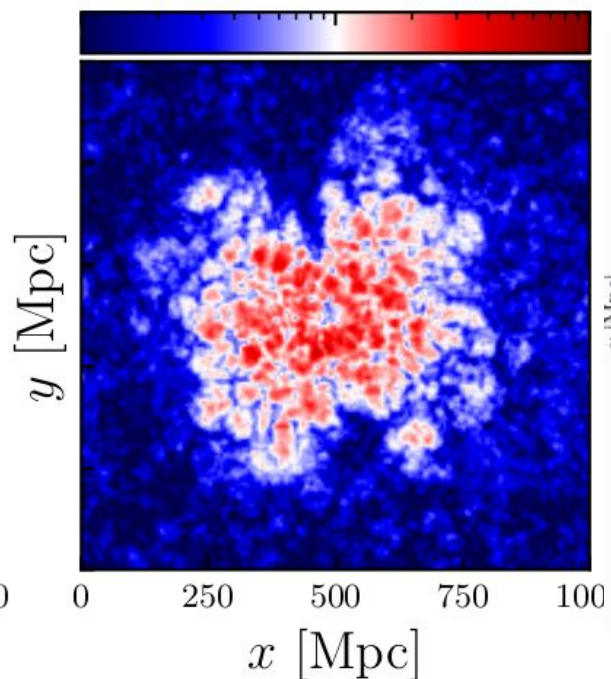
10^0 10^2



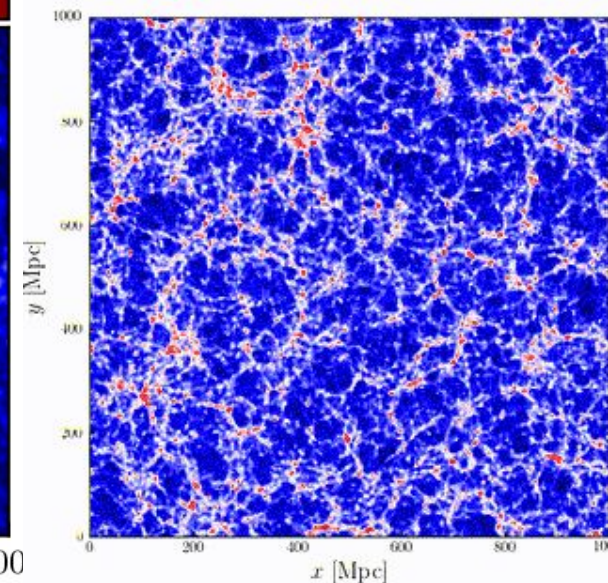
Signal To Noise

$$\text{SNR} = \langle |\delta| \rangle / \sqrt{\langle (\delta - \langle \delta \rangle)^2 \rangle}$$

10^{-1} 10^0 10^1



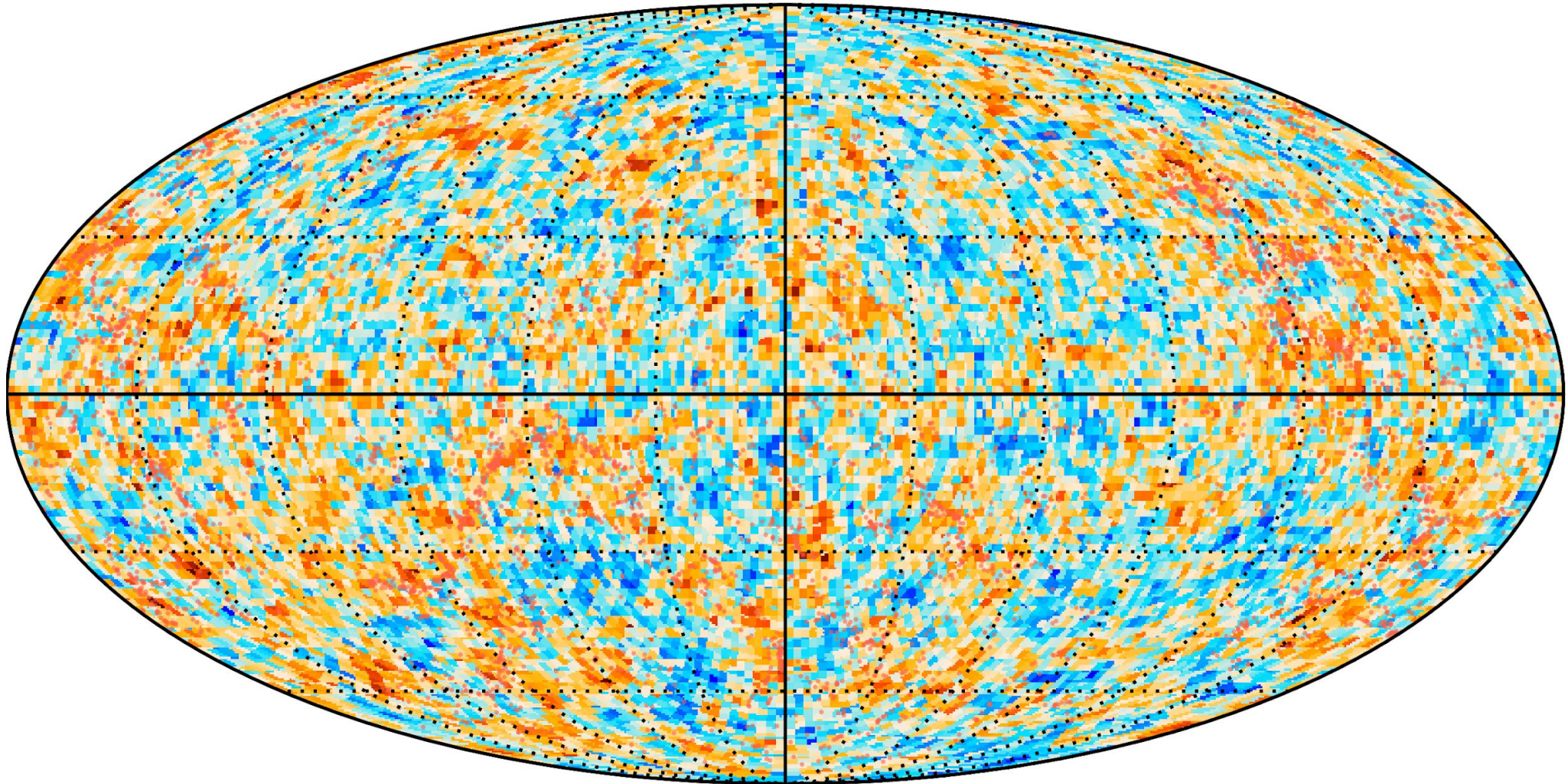
Generated Samples



[Jasche & Lavaux 2019](#)
[McAlpine \(in prep\)](#)

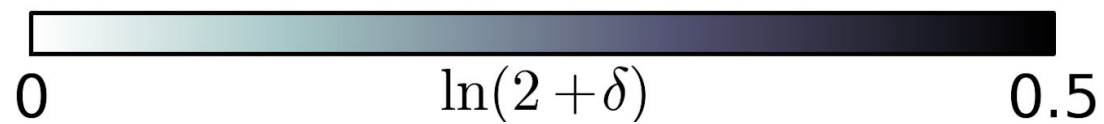
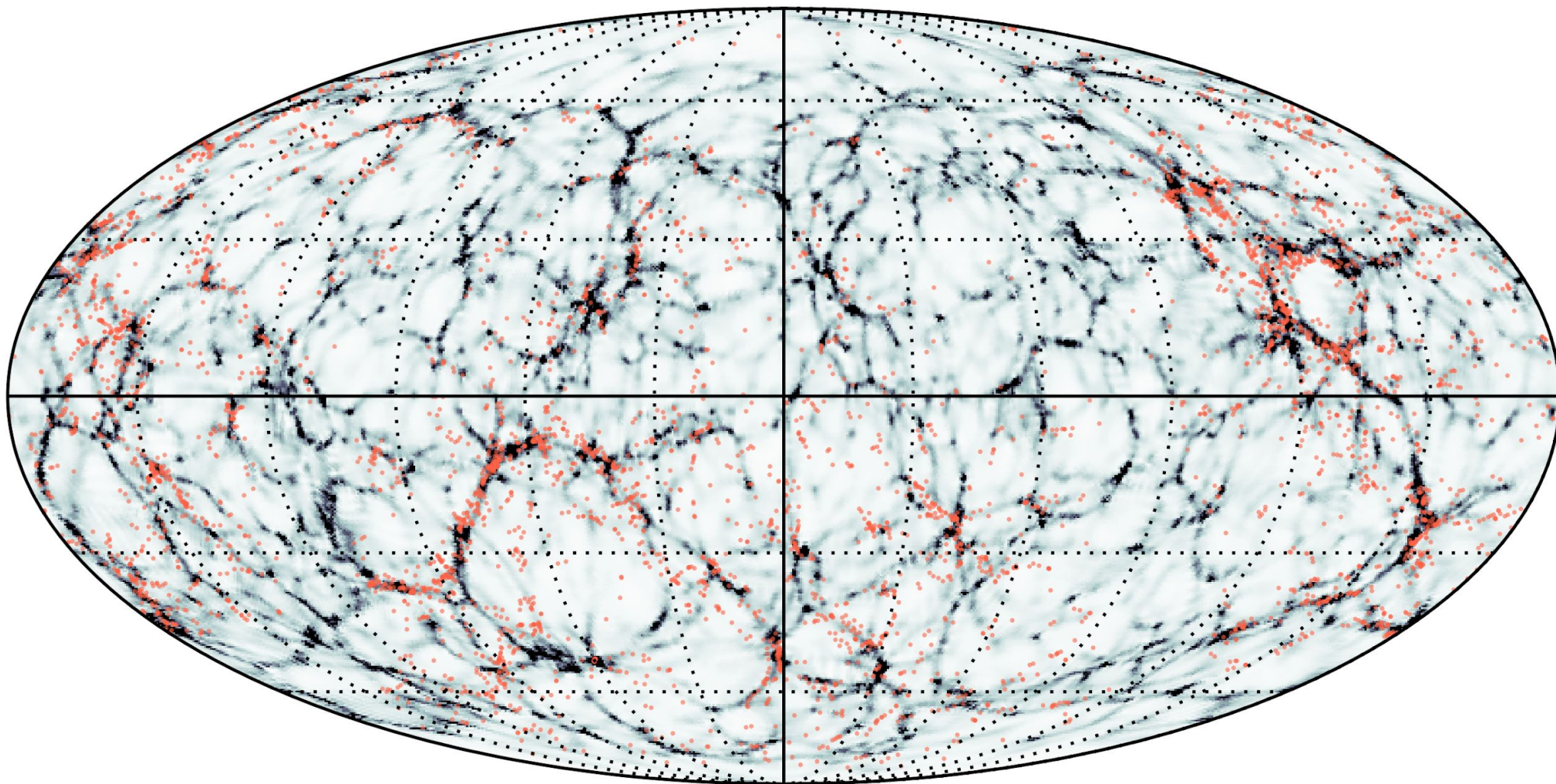


BORG: A Bayesian Generative Model of the Cosmic Structure





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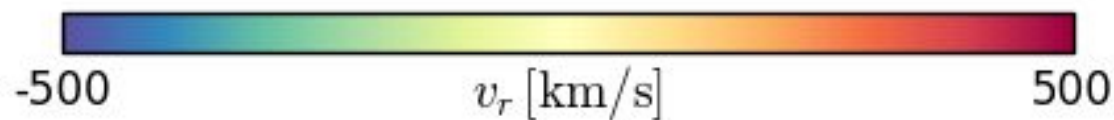
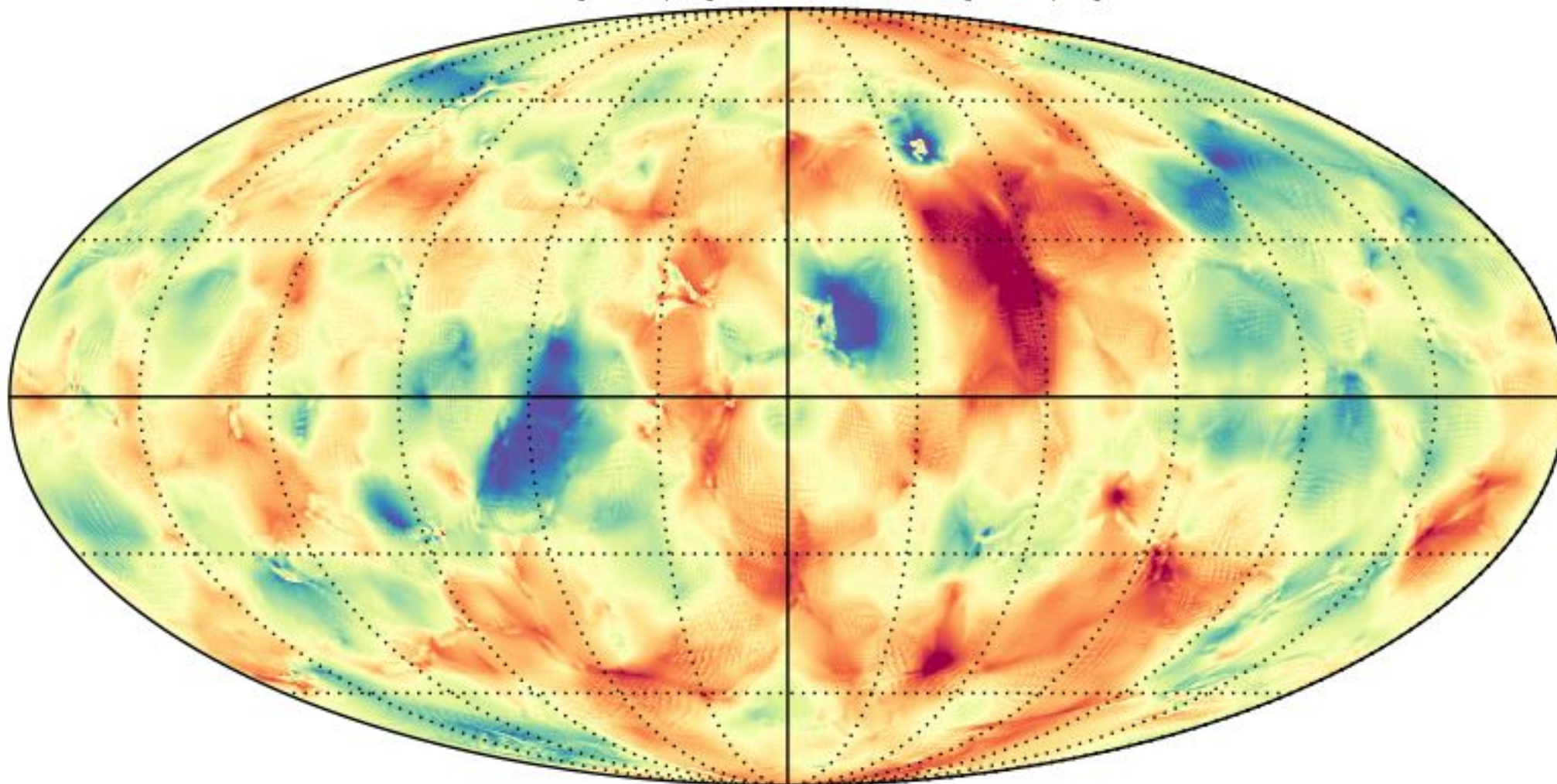


[Jasche & Lavaux 2019](#)



BORG: A Bayesian Generative Model of the Cosmic Structure

$96.77 [\text{Mpc}/h] < r < 106.45 [\text{Mpc}/h]$



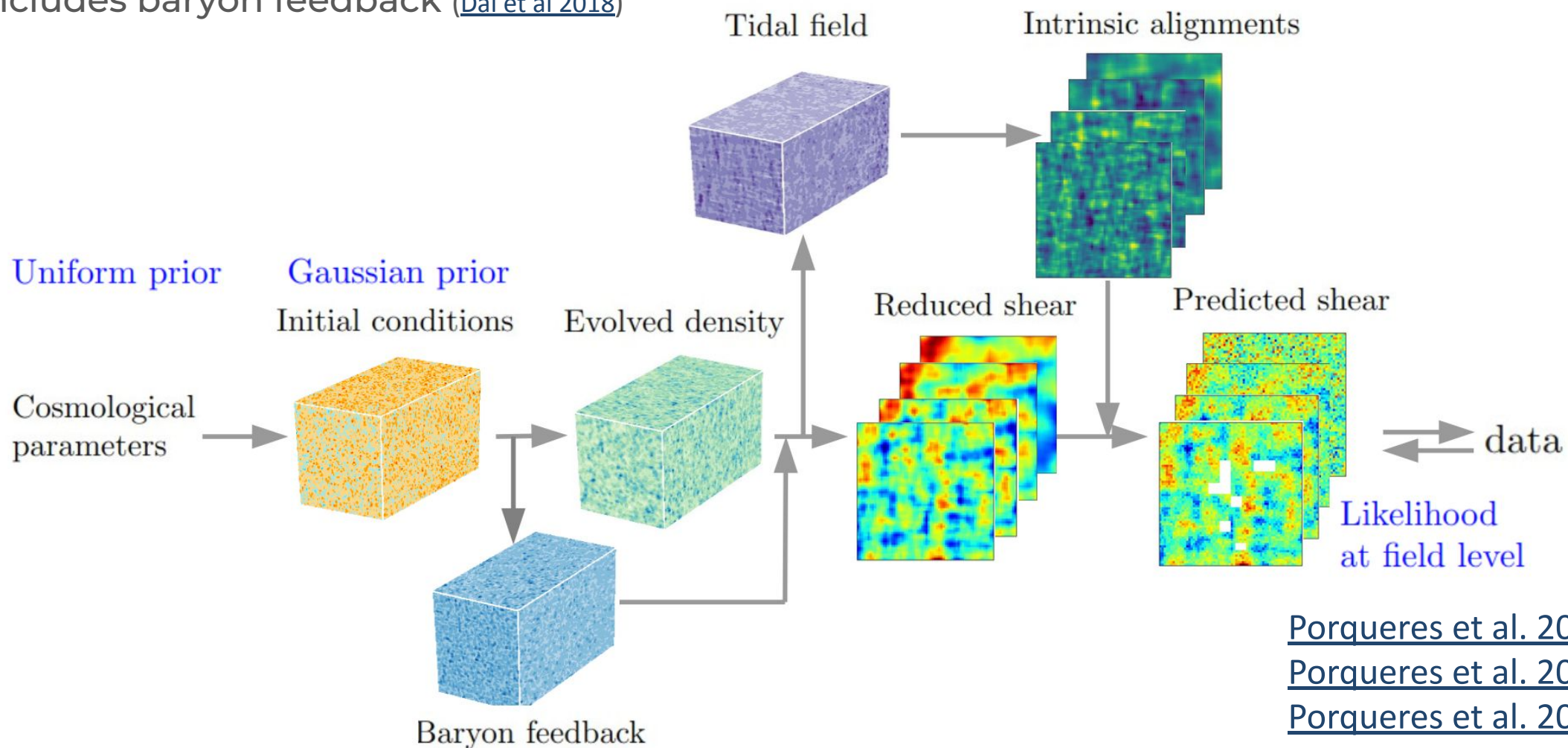
Jasche & Lavaux 2019



Field-level inference of cosmic shear with intrinsic alignments

BORG-WL

- Field-based Bayesian Hierarchical Model for cosmic shear
- Includes baryon feedback ([Dai et al 2018](#))



[Porqueres et al. 2021](#)
[Porqueres et al. 2022](#)
[Porqueres et al. 2023](#)



Field-level inference of cosmic shear with intrinsic alignments

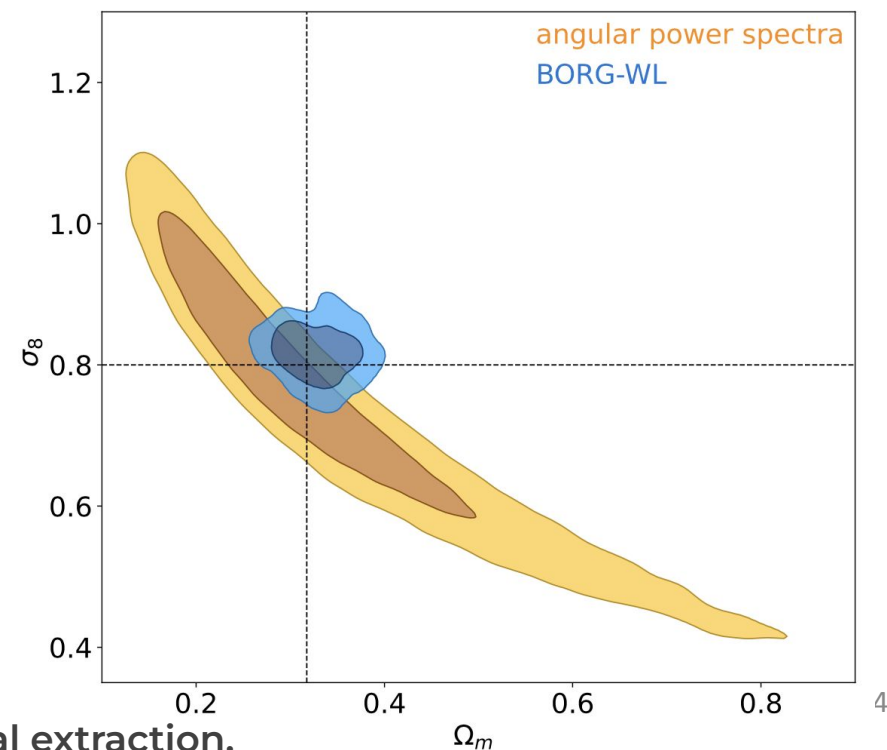
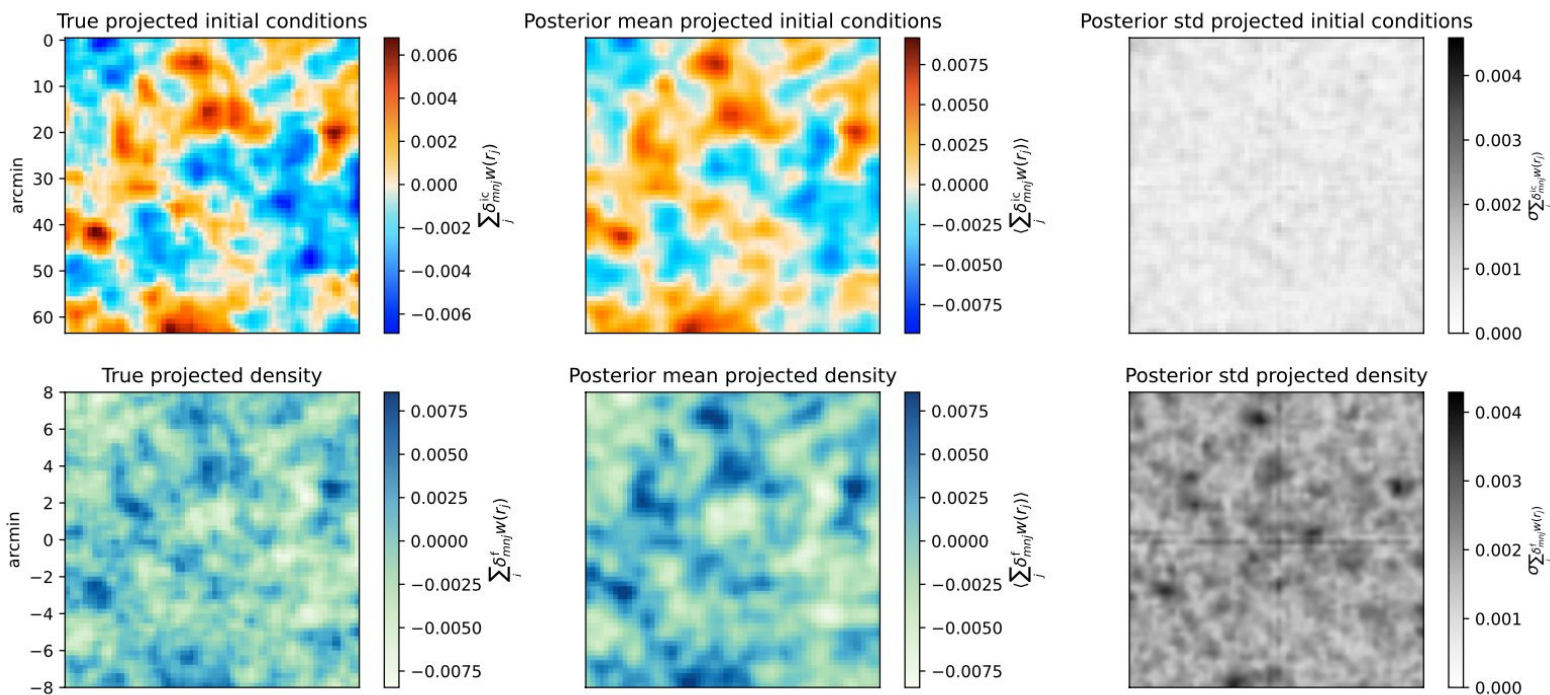
Joint inference of fields and cosmological parameter

- Lifting parameter degeneracies by jointly using:
 - matter power spectrum
 - geometry
 - tidal field
 - structure growth
 - distance-redshift relation

[Porqueres et al. 2021](#)

[Porqueres et al. 2022](#)

[Porqueres et al. 2023](#)

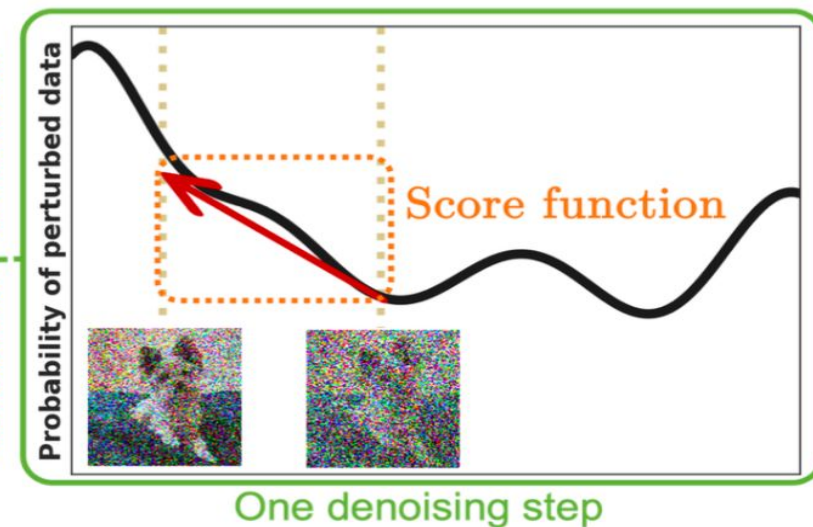
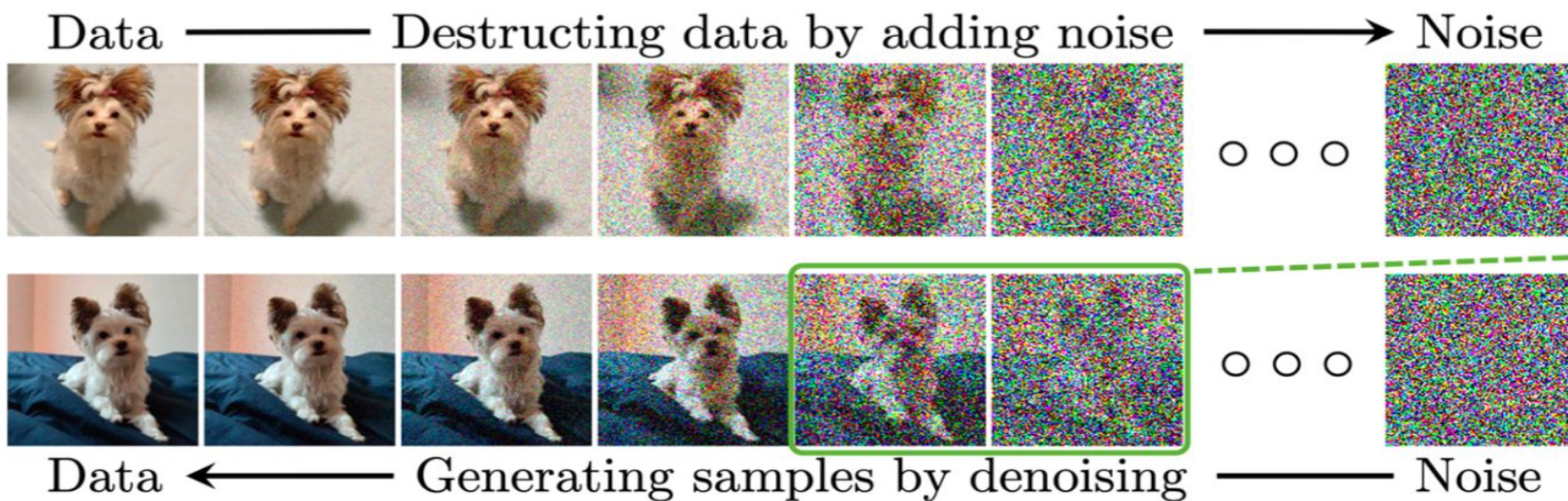


Also see e.g. [Loureiro et al 2023](#), [Boruah & Rozo 2023](#) for field-based weak lensing signal extraction.



Inferring Initial conditions without explicit posteriors

Posterior sampling using diffusion models



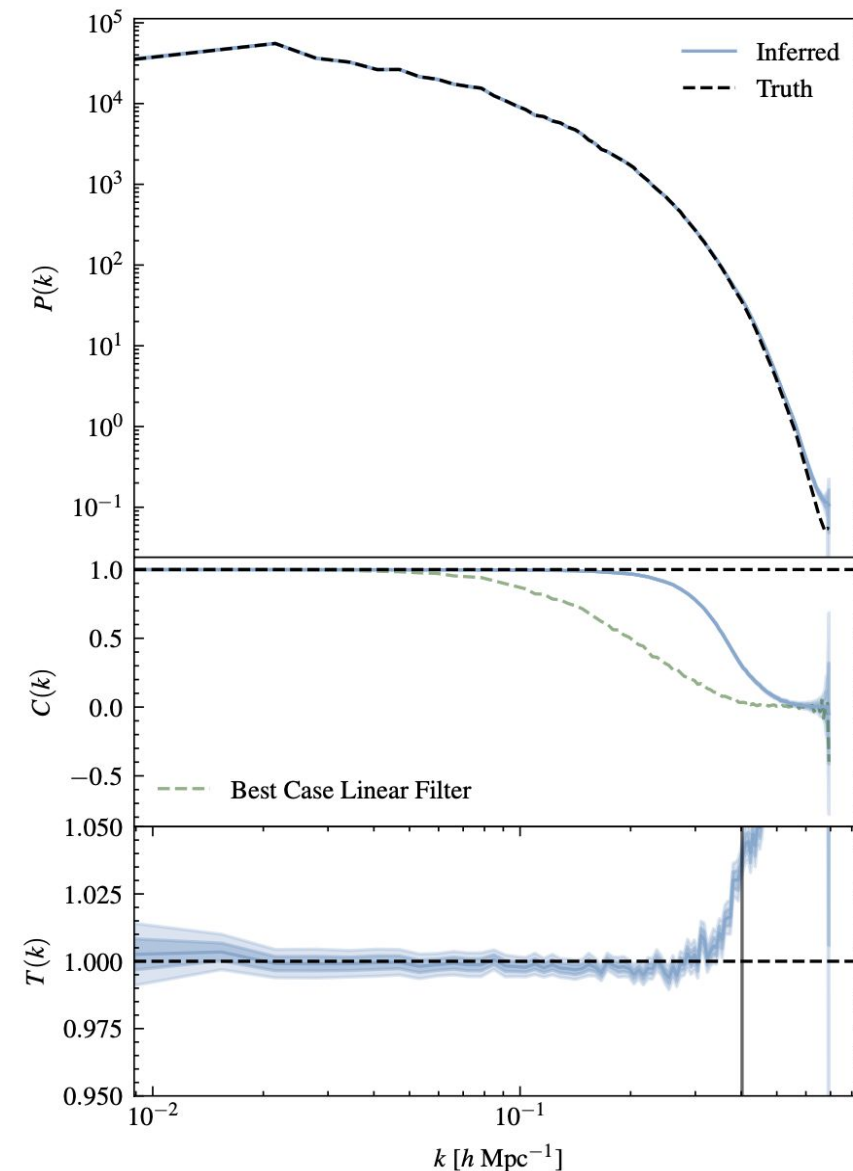
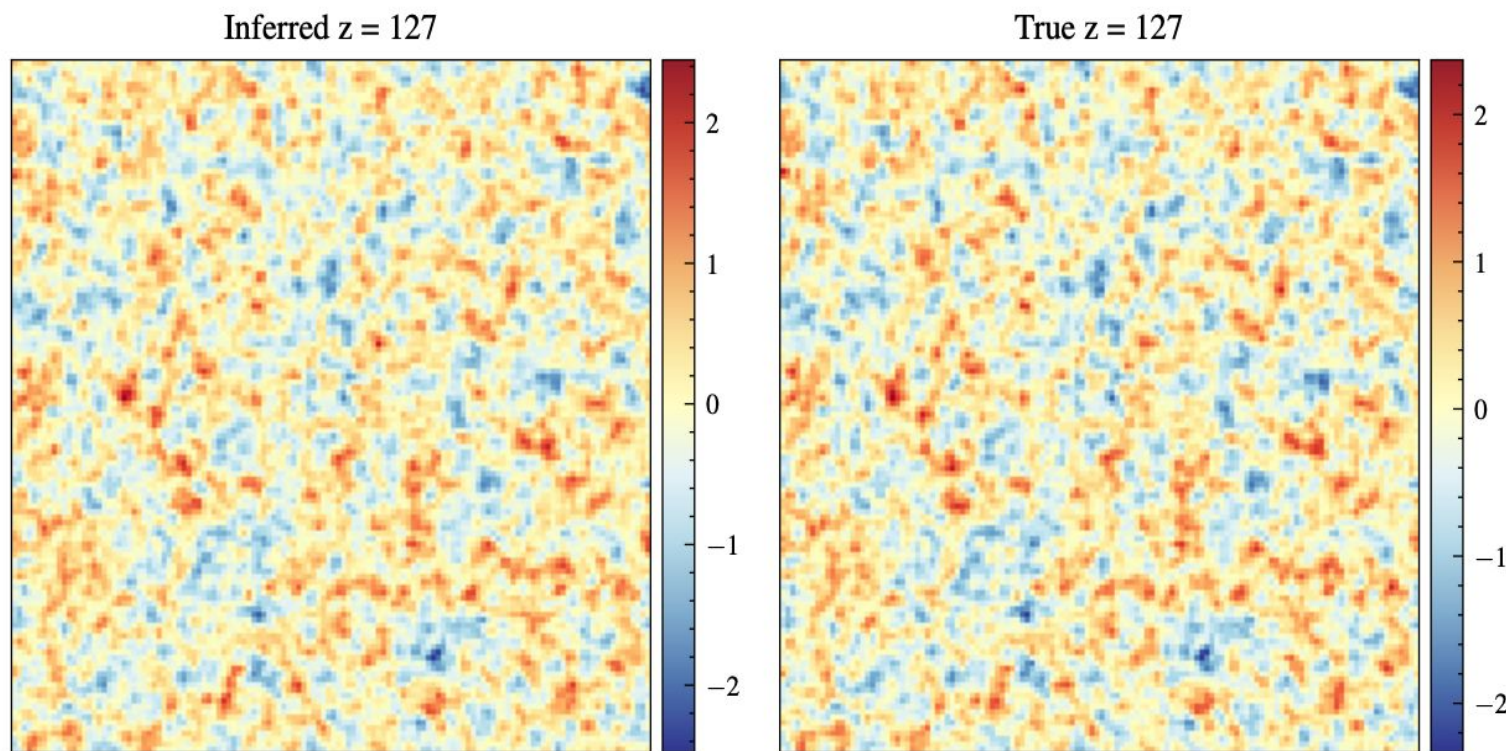
Yang et al 2022



Inferring Initial conditions without explicit posteriors

Posterior sampling using conditional score-based generative models

- No explicit likelihood and gradient needed
- Marginalization over cosmological parameter
- Computationally effective

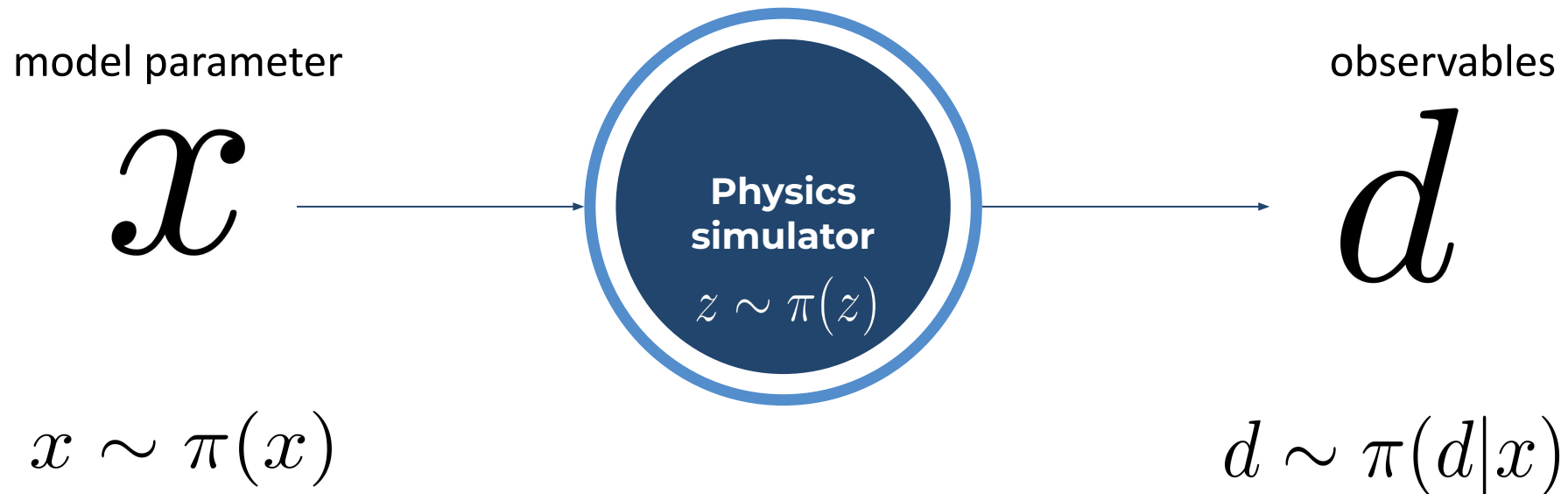


Also see e.g. [List et al 2023](#) for an alternative approach.

03

Implicit Likelihood Inference

Simulators define the likelihood $\pi(d|x)$ as implicit distributions:



This process generates samples from the joint distribution: $\mathcal{D} = \{x_i, d_i\} \sim \pi(x, d)$

e.g.:

[Hahn et al 2022](#)

[Alsing et al 2020](#)

[Cranmer et al 2020](#)

Constructing posterior distributions $\pi(x|d)$ via variational inference:

- Model the posterior distribution by a parametric conditional distribution $q_\phi(x|d)$
- Match $q \rightarrow \pi(x|d)$ by optimizing the Kullback–Leibler divergence:

$$\max_{\phi} \sum_i \log(q_\phi(x_i|d_i)) \quad \forall x_i, d_i \sim \pi(x, d)$$

- In the simplest case:

$$q \leftarrow \mathcal{N}(\mu, \sigma^2) \quad \text{with} \quad \mu = f_{\phi_1}(d) \quad \text{and} \quad \sigma^2 = g_{\phi_2}(d)$$

but more generally Normalizing Flows or Mixture Density Networks (MDNs).

e.g.:
[Makinen et al 2023](#)
[Lemos et al 2023](#)
[Hahn et al 2022](#)
[Alsing et al 2020](#)
[Cranmer et al 2020](#)

Steps of SBI:

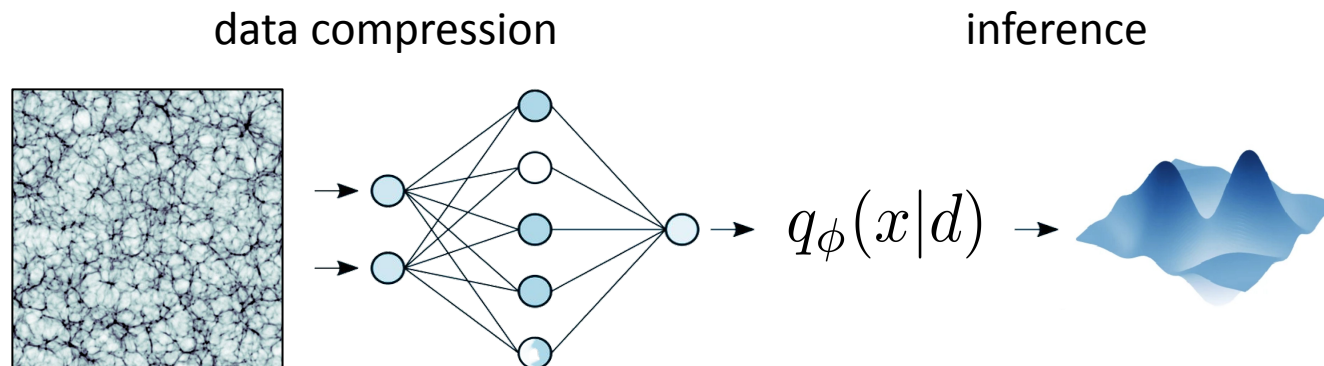
1. Create a training set $\mathcal{D} = \{x_i, d_i\} \sim \pi(x, d)$ (this may include data compression)

2. Choose a parametric model $q_\phi(x|d)$

3. Optimize parameter ϕ :

$$\max_{\phi} \sum_i \log(q_\phi(x_i|d_i))$$

4. Perform inference:



e.g.:

[Makinen et al 2023](#)

[Lemos et al 2023](#)

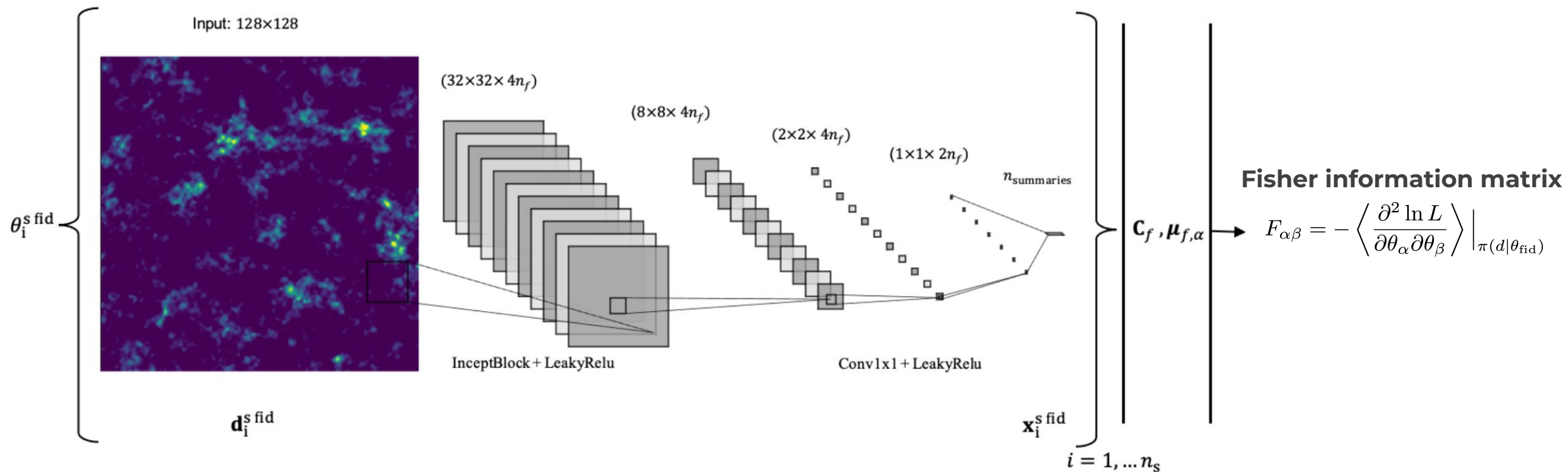
[Hahn et al 2022](#)

[Alsing et al 2020](#)

[Cranmer et al 2020](#)



Constructing informative Summary Statistics



- **Information Maximizing Networks**

- Compress data for dimensional reduction
- Optimal Score compression by optimizing Fisher-Information:

$$\mathcal{L} = - \ln \det \langle F \rangle_{\pi(d|\theta_{fid})}$$

e.g.:

[Alsing et al 2018](#)

[Alsing et al 2019](#)

[Charnock et al 2018](#)

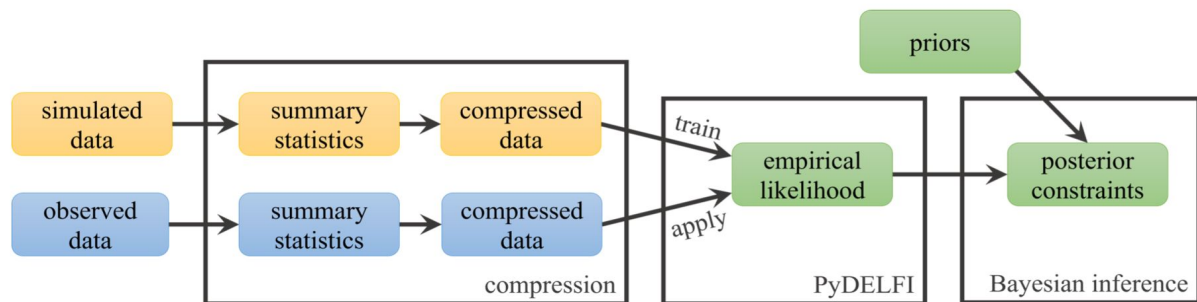
[Makinen et al 2021](#)

Also see e.g. [Heavens et al 2000](#), [Heavens et al 2023](#), [Akhmetzhanova et al 2023](#)

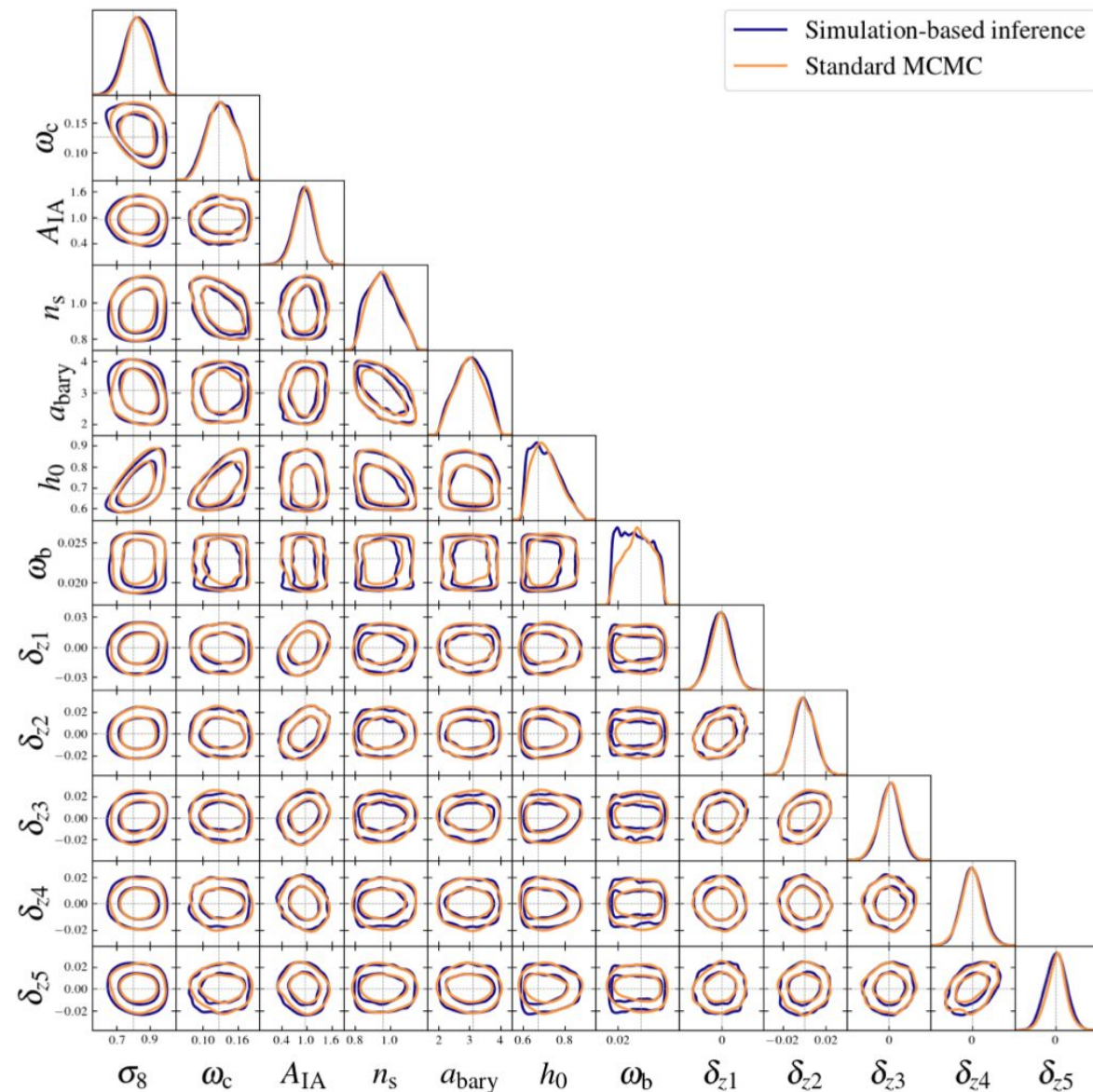


Simulation-based inference for cosmic shear with KiDS

Test SBI vs MCMC:



- Recovers the 12-dimensional KiDS posterior.
- Requires under 10,000 simulations.
- SBI is competitive to MCMC



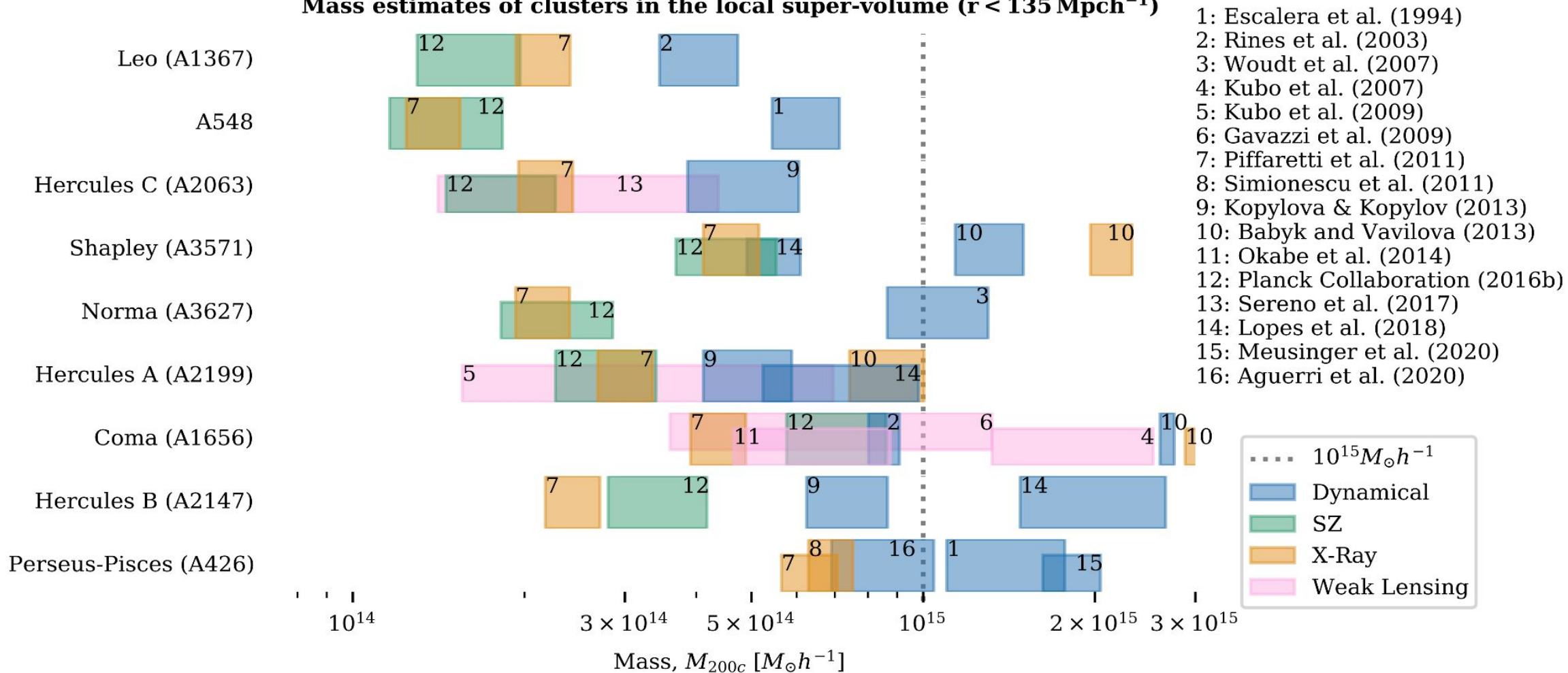
04

**Fast Emulation of Cosmological
Simulations**



Massive Galaxy Clusters in the Nearby Universe

Mass estimates of clusters in the local super-volume ($r < 135 \text{ Mpc}h^{-1}$)

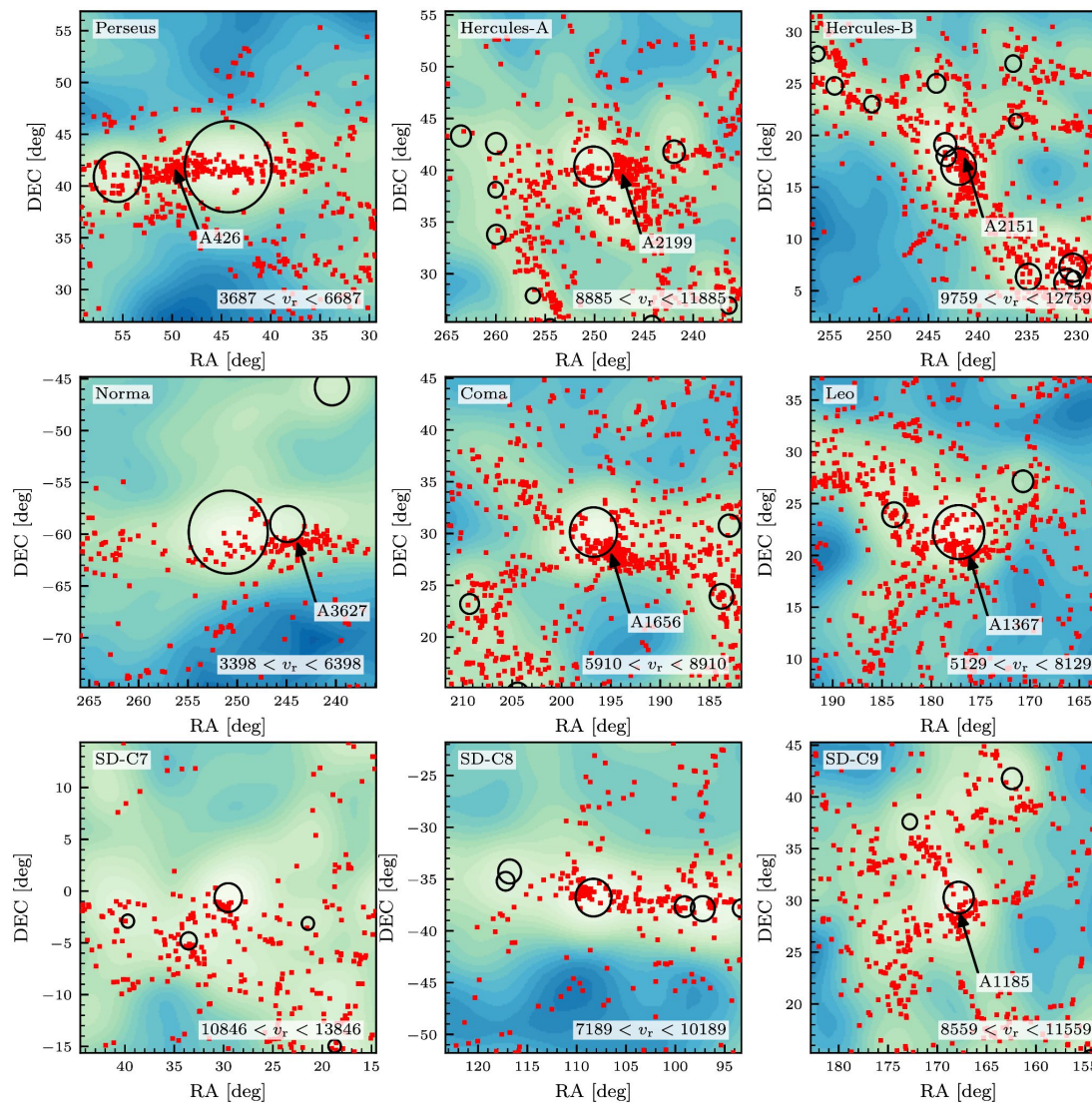




Massive Galaxy Clusters in the Nearby Universe

- **Significance of High-Mass Objects:**
 - Small volume contribution
 - Large impact on cosmology
- **Challenges in Cluster Mass Estimation:**
 - Intricate details
 - complex cosmic environments
 - Simplifying assumptions do not apply (e.g., sphericity, virial theorem)
- **Requires accurate modeling:**
 - Non-linear structure formation
 - **Fast and scalable models**

Local Universe Cluster Mugshots

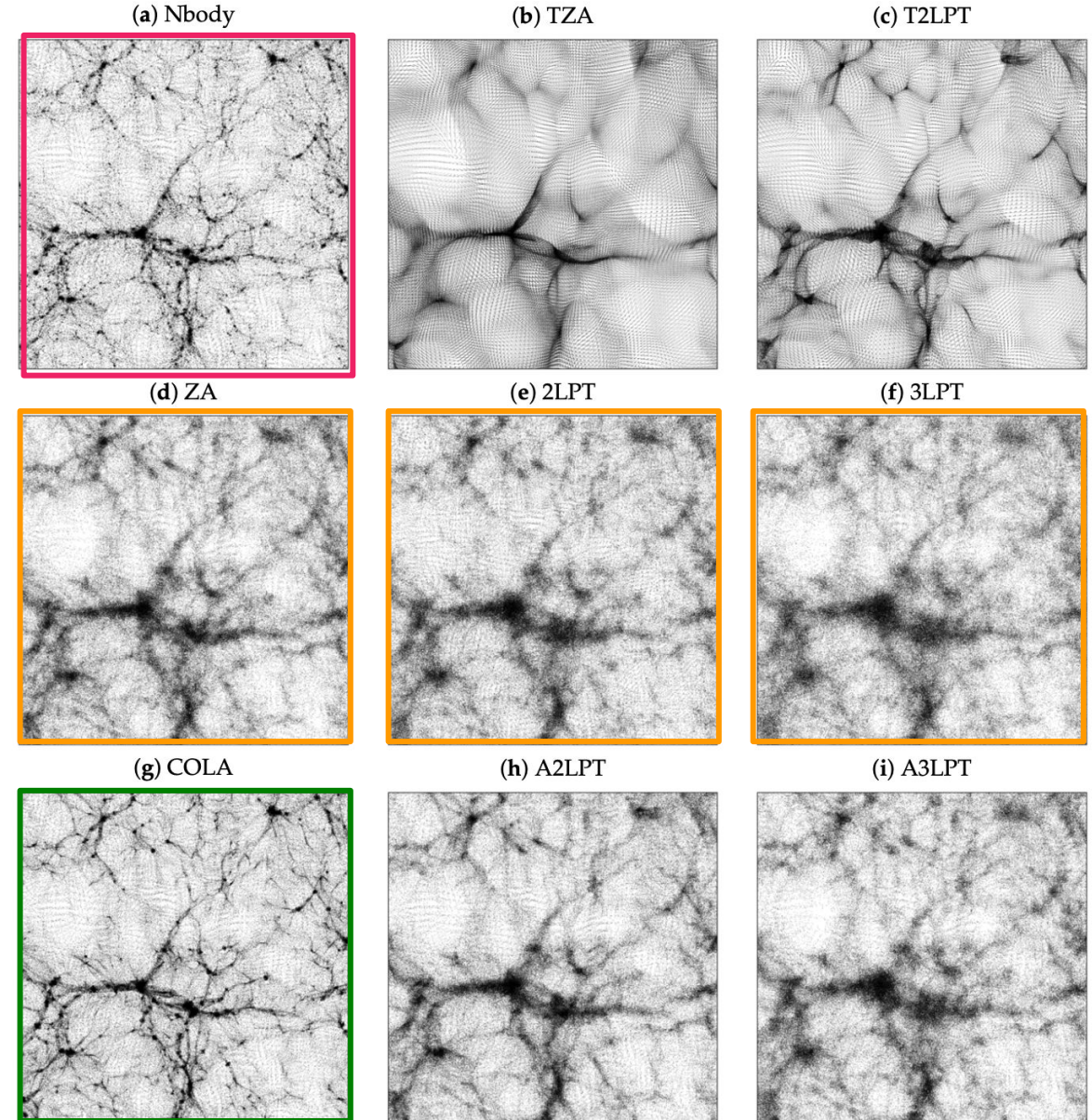




Fast Field-Level Emulation of Cosmological Simulations

A multitude of approximate models:

- Lagrangian / Eulerian perturbation theory
(see e.g. [Zel'dovich 1970](#), [Bernardeau 2002](#))
- Adhesion / Schrödinger mode
(see e.g. [Gurbatov et al 1985](#), [Coles & Spencer et al 2002](#))
- **Effective Field Theory of Cosmic Structures**
(see e.g. [Carrasco et al 2012](#), [Schmidt et al 2018](#))
- For more see e.g. [Monaco 2016](#)





Fast Field-Level Emulation of Cosmological Simulations

A multitude of approximate models:

- Lagrangian / Eulerian perturbation theory (see e.g. [Zel'dovich 1970](#), [Bernardeau 2002](#))
- Adhesion / Schrödinger mode (see e.g. [Gurbatov et al 1985](#), [Coles & Spencer et al 2002](#))
- **Effective Field Theory of Cosmic Structures** (see e.g. [Carrasco et al 2012](#), [Schmidt et al 2018](#))
- For more see e.g. [Monaco 2016](#)

Residual Correction Technique:

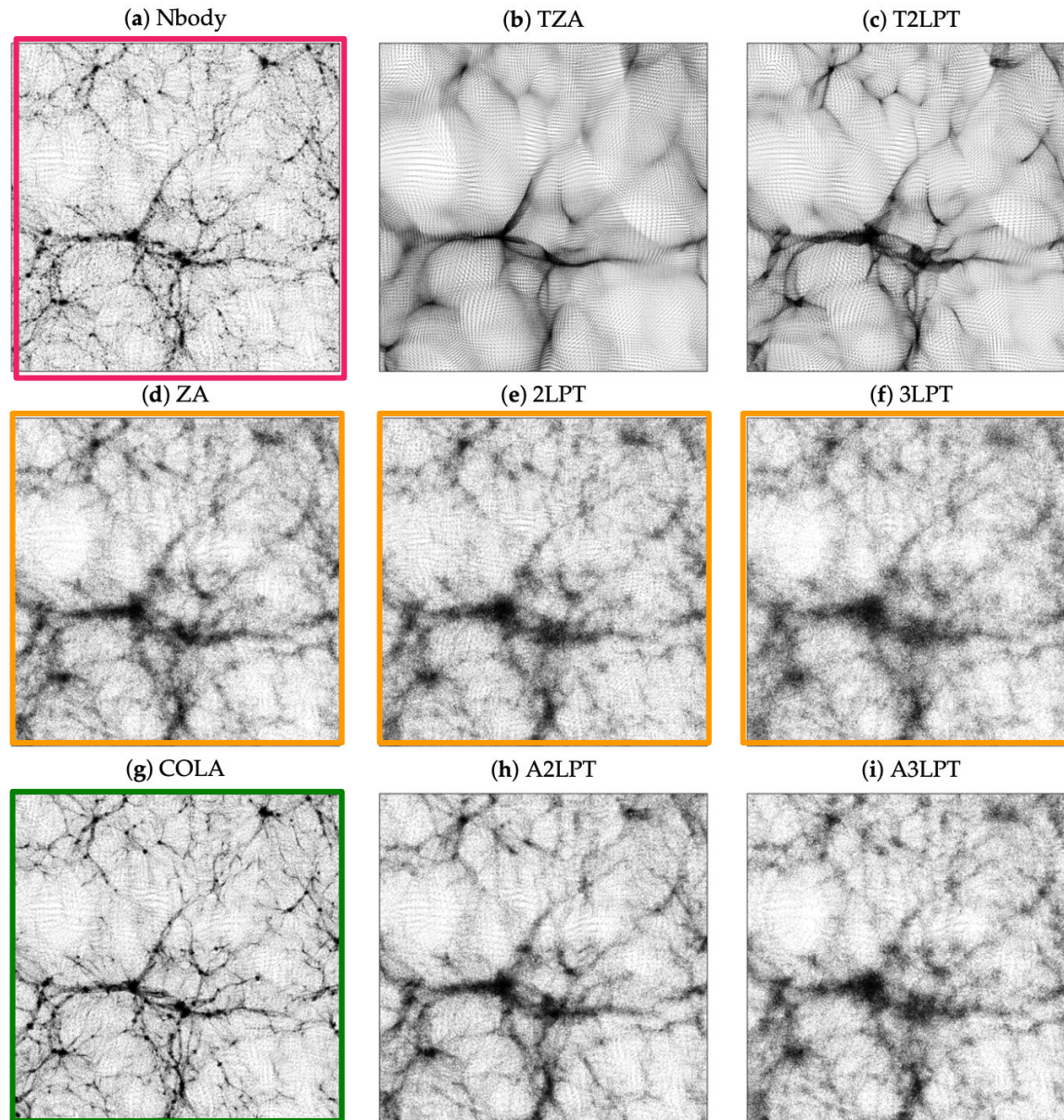
- **CO**moving Lagrangian **A**cceleration (COLA) ([Tassev et al 2013](#))

$$\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{x}_{\text{LPT}} + \underline{\mathbf{x}_{\text{res}}}$$

$$\mathbf{v} = \dot{\mathbf{x}}_{\text{LPT}} + \underline{\mathbf{v}_{\text{res}}}$$

$$\mathbf{F}(\mathbf{x}) = \ddot{\mathbf{x}}_{\text{LPT}} + \underline{\mathbf{F}_{\text{res}}(\mathbf{x})}$$

- ≈ 100 times faster than N-body simulations

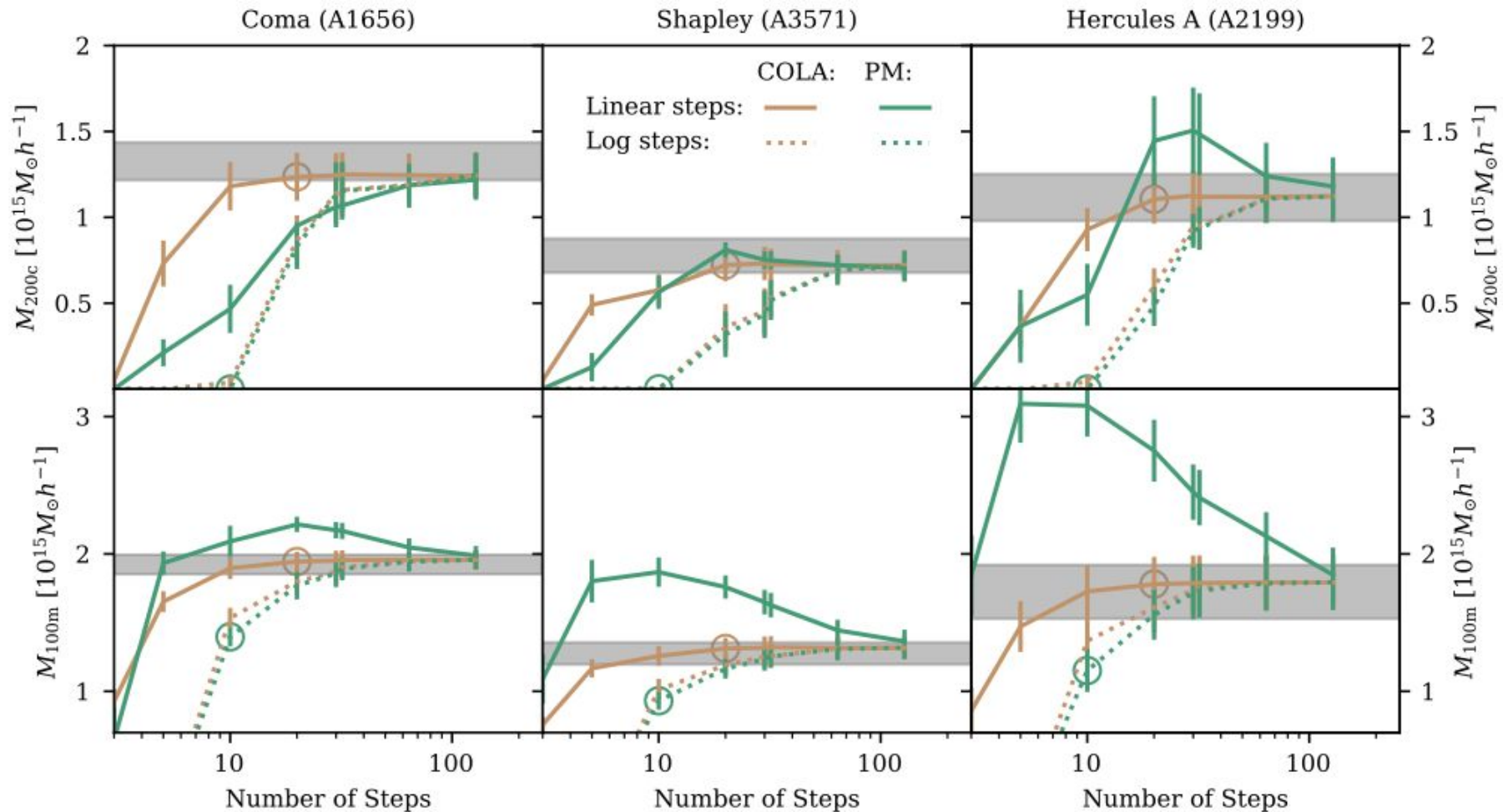




Fast Field-Level Emulation of Cosmological Simulations

Required approximation accuracy for field-level inference

- required COLA time steps to re-simulate cluster masses





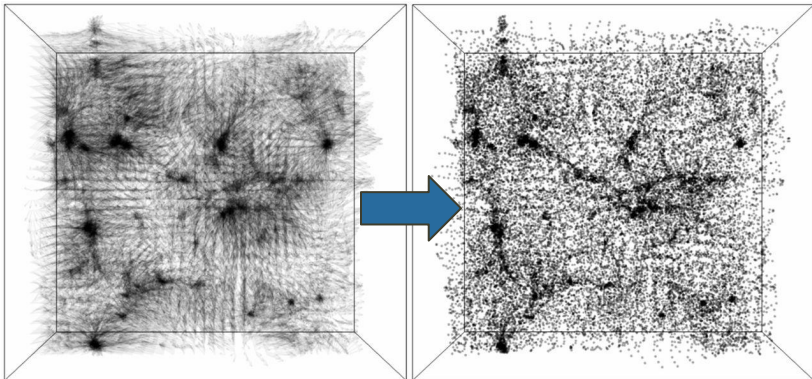
Fast Field-Level Emulation of Cosmological Simulations

Modeling residual displacements

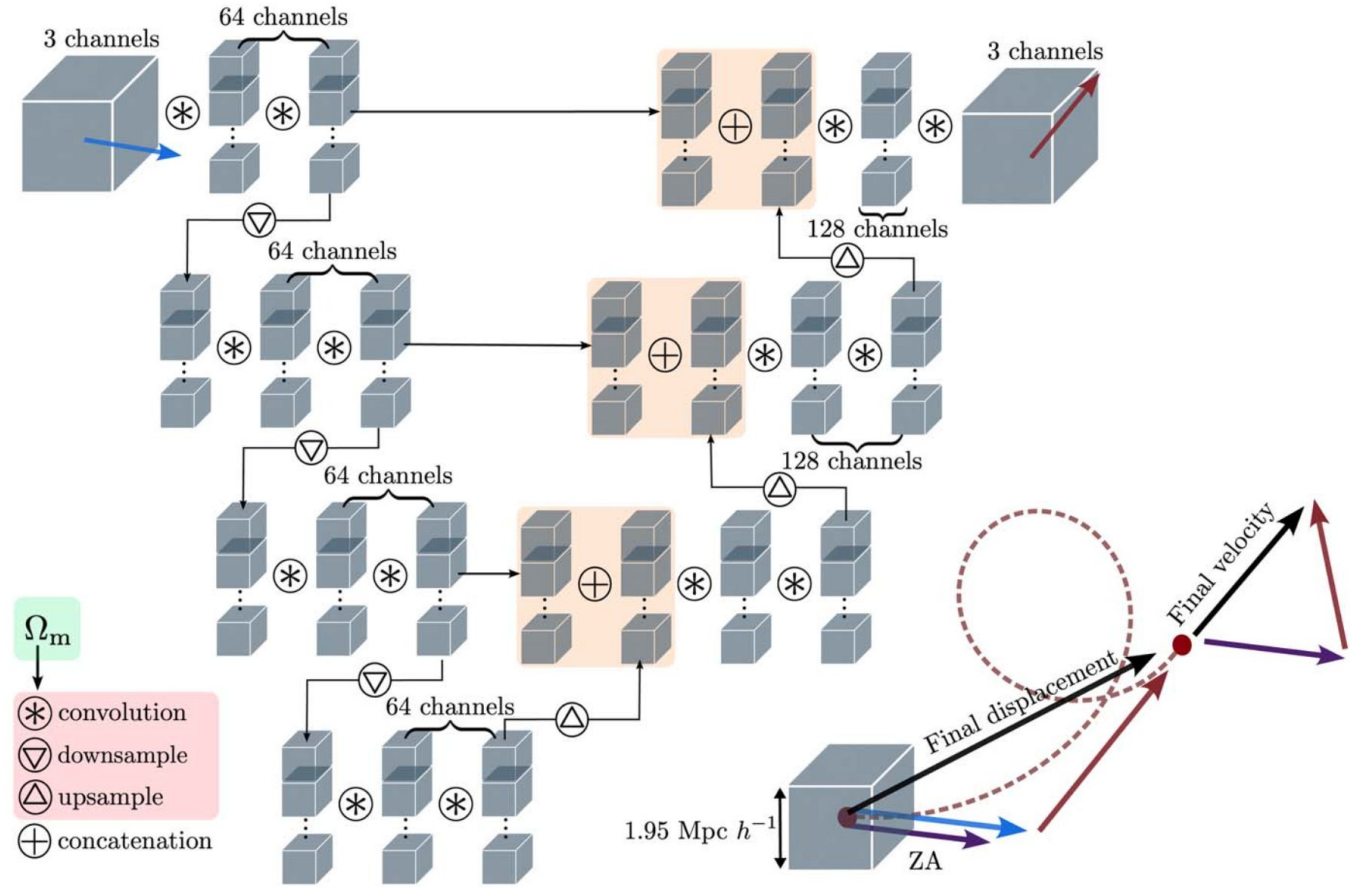
- Learns LPT residuals from paired simulations.

Deep neural network field-level emulator

- V-net (convolutional with skip connections)
- Cosmology encoded as style parameters
- Neural network enables differentiability
- Accurate alternative to 3D simulation.



Deep Density Displacement Model (D3M).



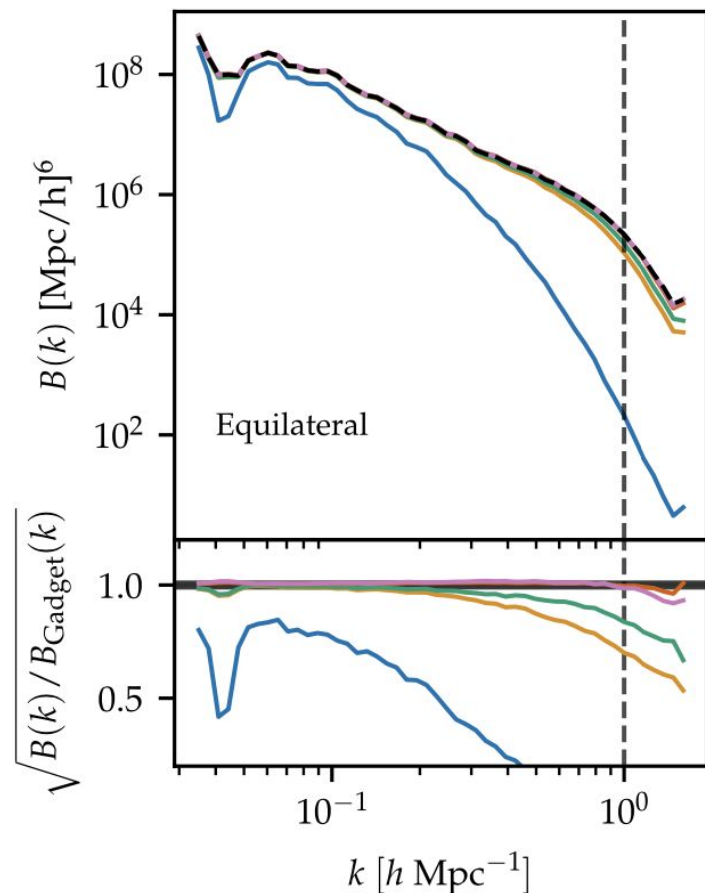
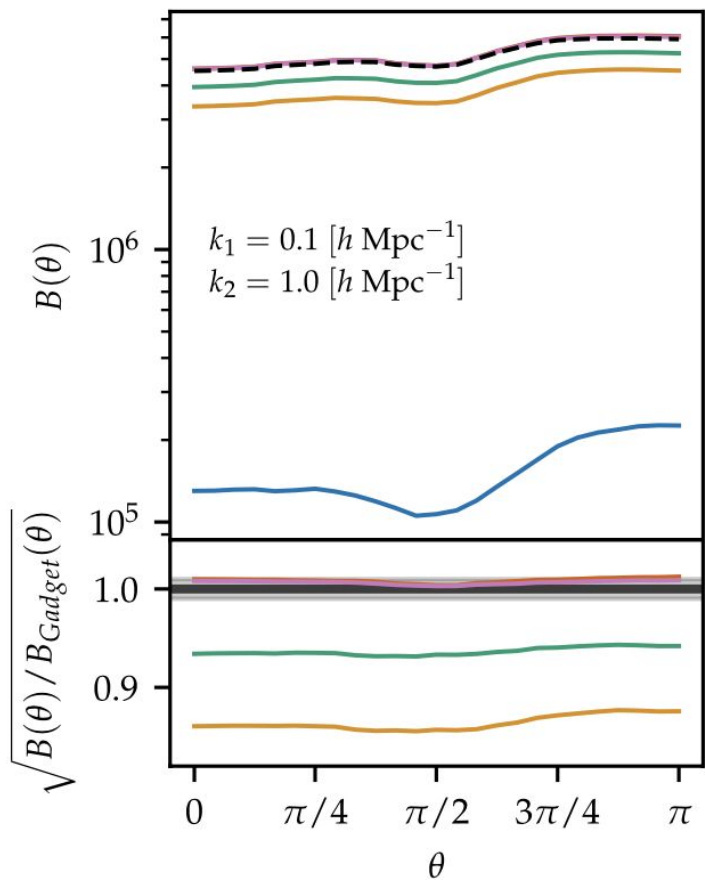
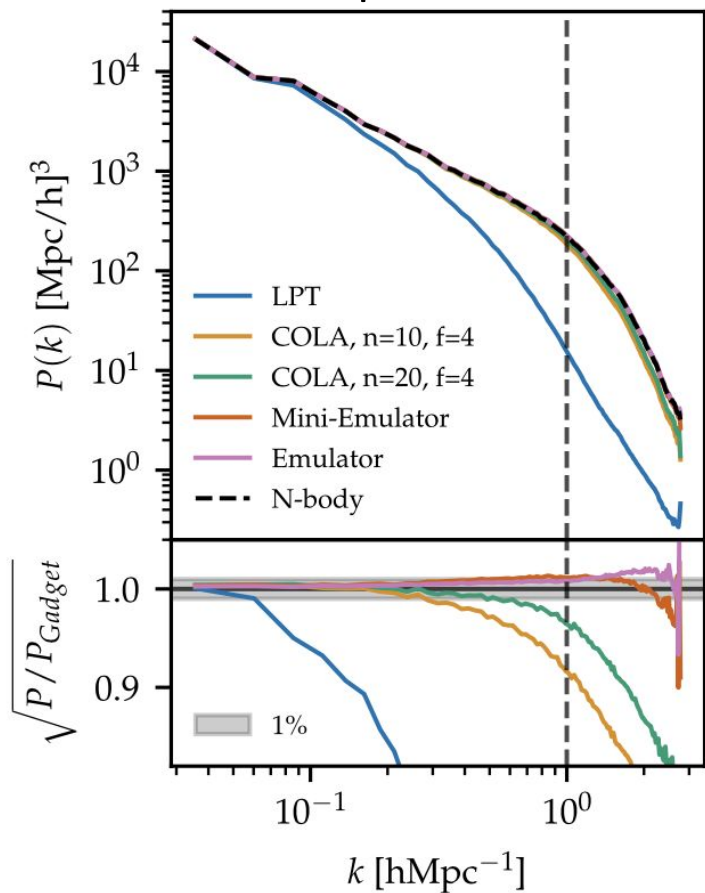
[He et al 2019](#)
[Jamieson et al 2023](#)



Fast Field-Level Emulation of Cosmological Simulations

Field-level Neural Network Emulator outperform traditional approximate models

- Power- and Bi-spectra



[He et al 2019](#)

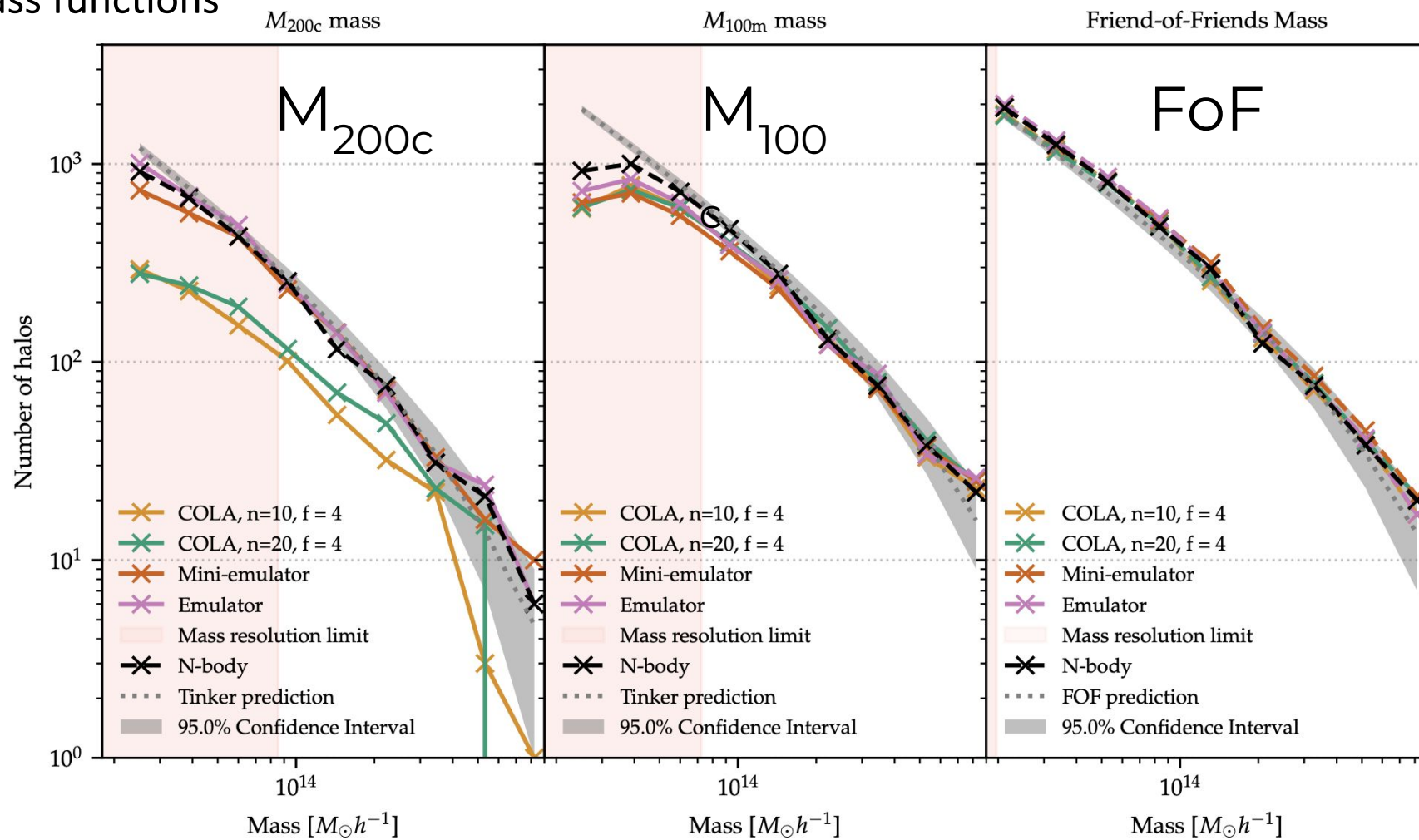
[Jamieson et al 2023](#)

[Doerer et al \(in prep\)](#)



Field-level Neural Network Emulator outperform traditional approximate models

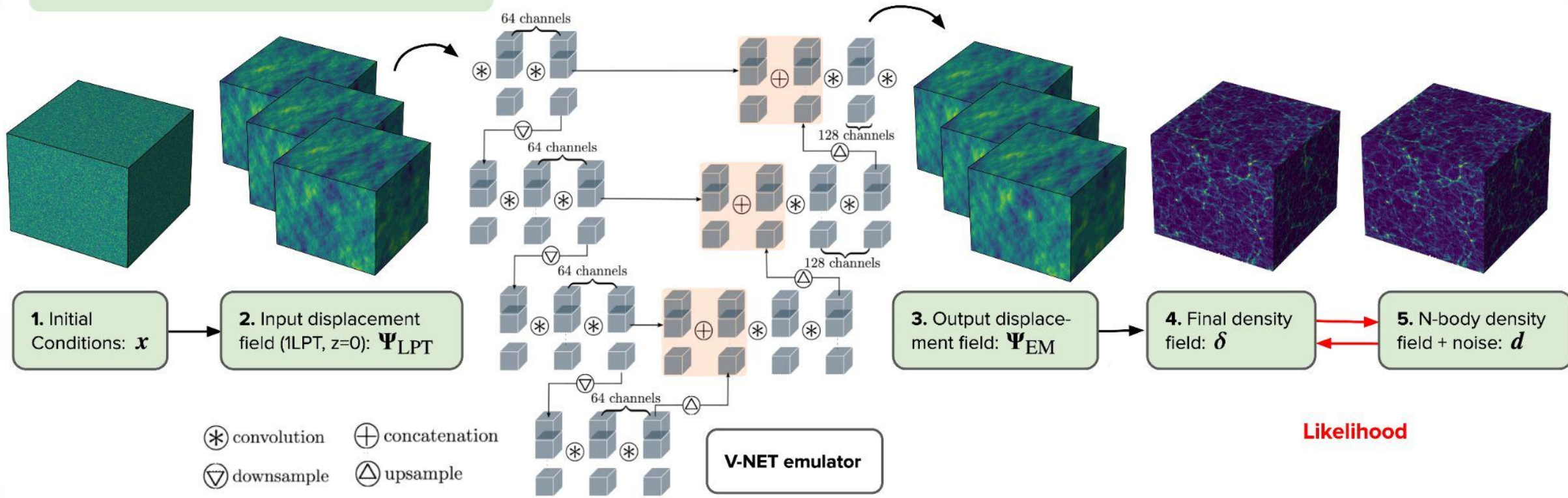
- Halo mass functions





Enabling efficient Bayesian Inference with Neural Emulators

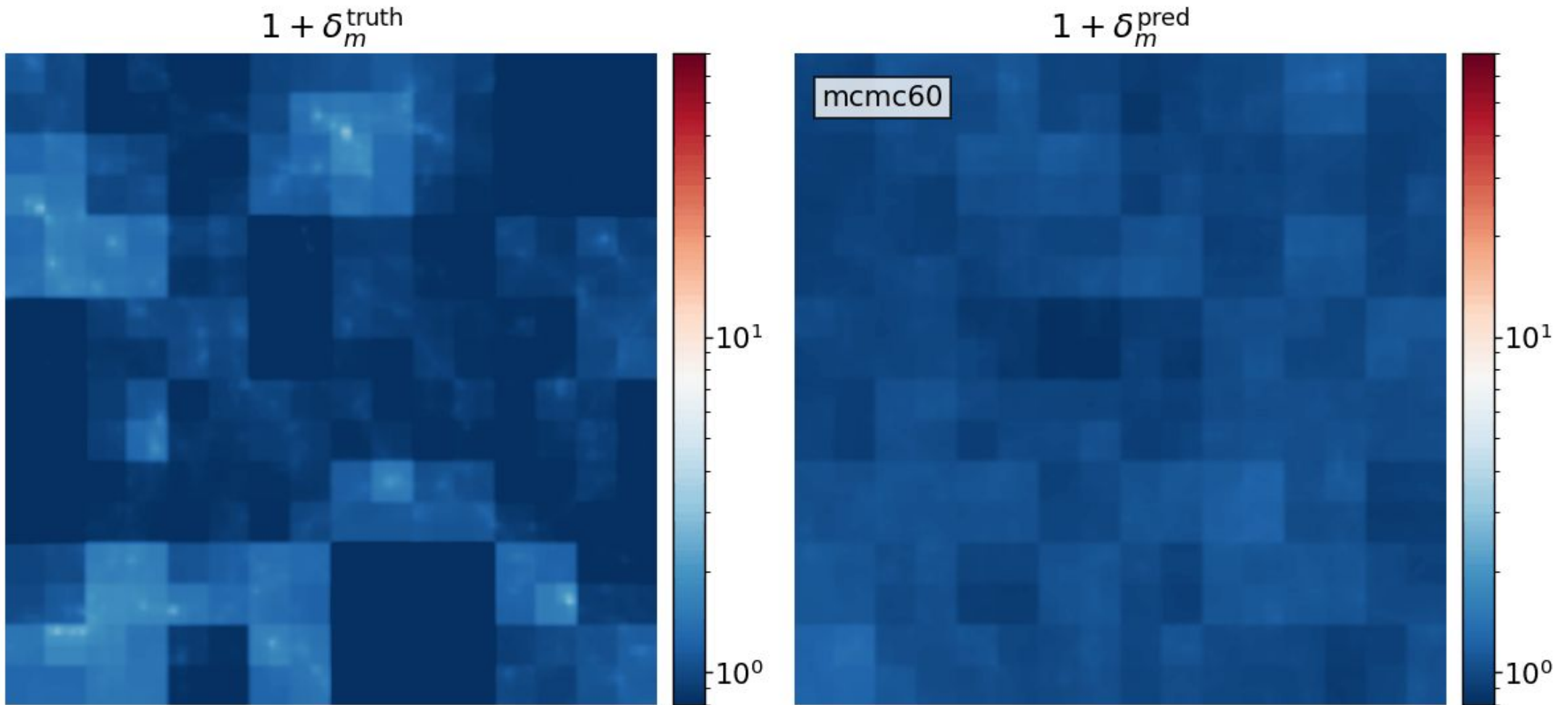
BORG-EM: BORG + Field-Level Emulator



Bayesian Origin Reconstruction from Galaxies (BORG) Image Design: D.K.Ramanah et al. (2019)



Enabling efficient Bayesian Inference with Neural Emulators



05

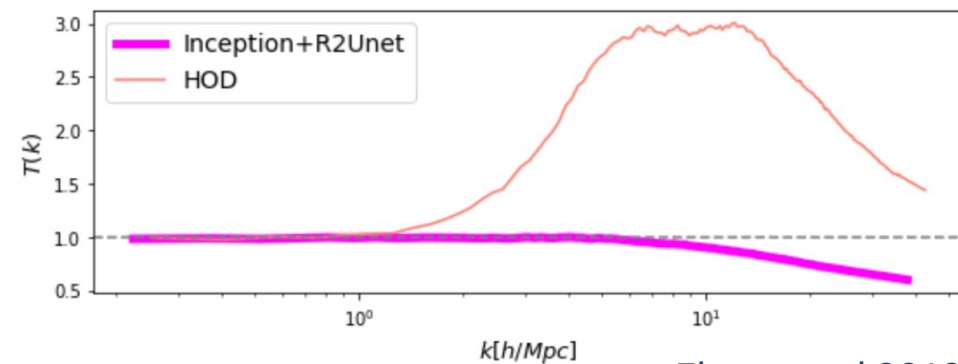
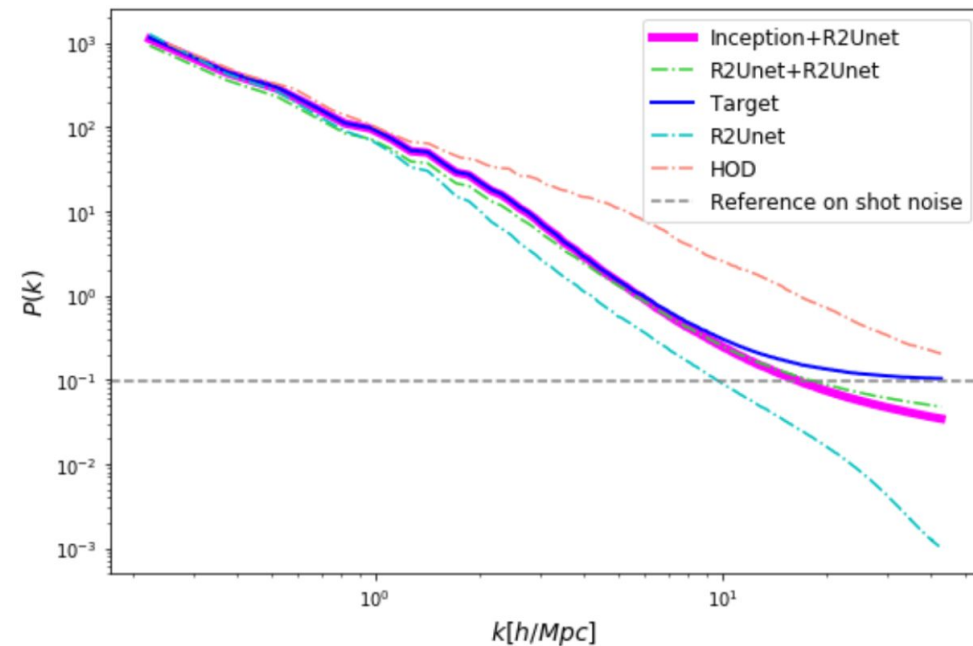
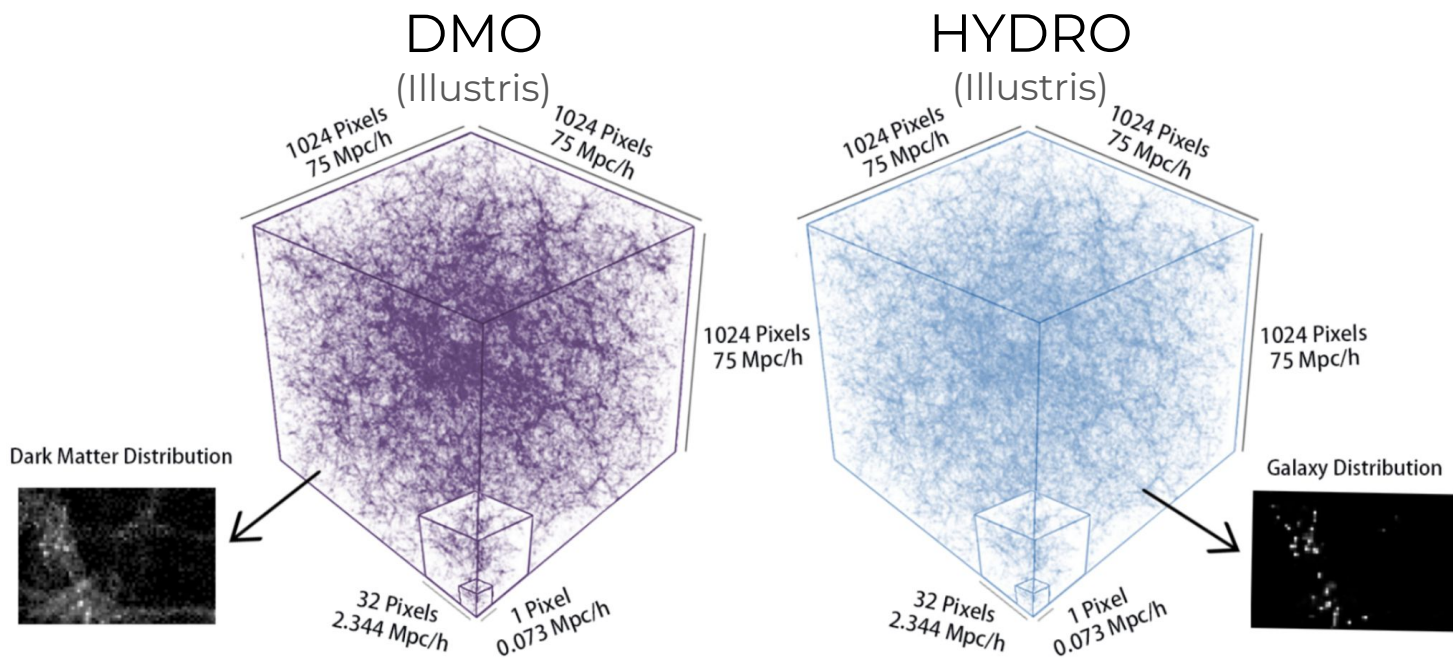
**Galaxy Bias, the Biggest
Bottleneck in Cosmological
Studies**



Modeling Galaxy bias with ML: Lagrangian Deep Learning

Translate Eulerian DM density to galaxy fields

- Map DMO 3D matter to galaxy fields in full hydro simulations
- Two-step learning process due to zero-inflation of data
- Unet achieves 10% level accuracy up to $k = 10 h\text{Mpc}^{-1}$

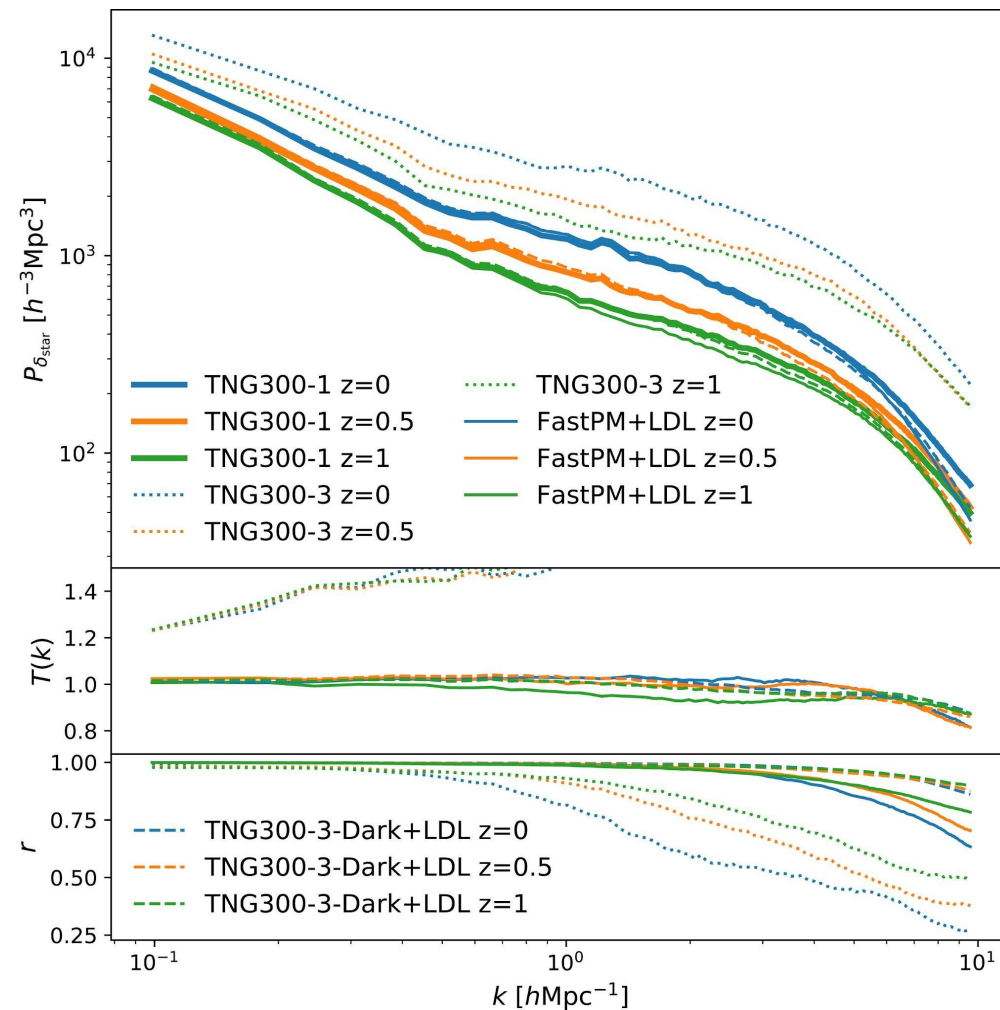
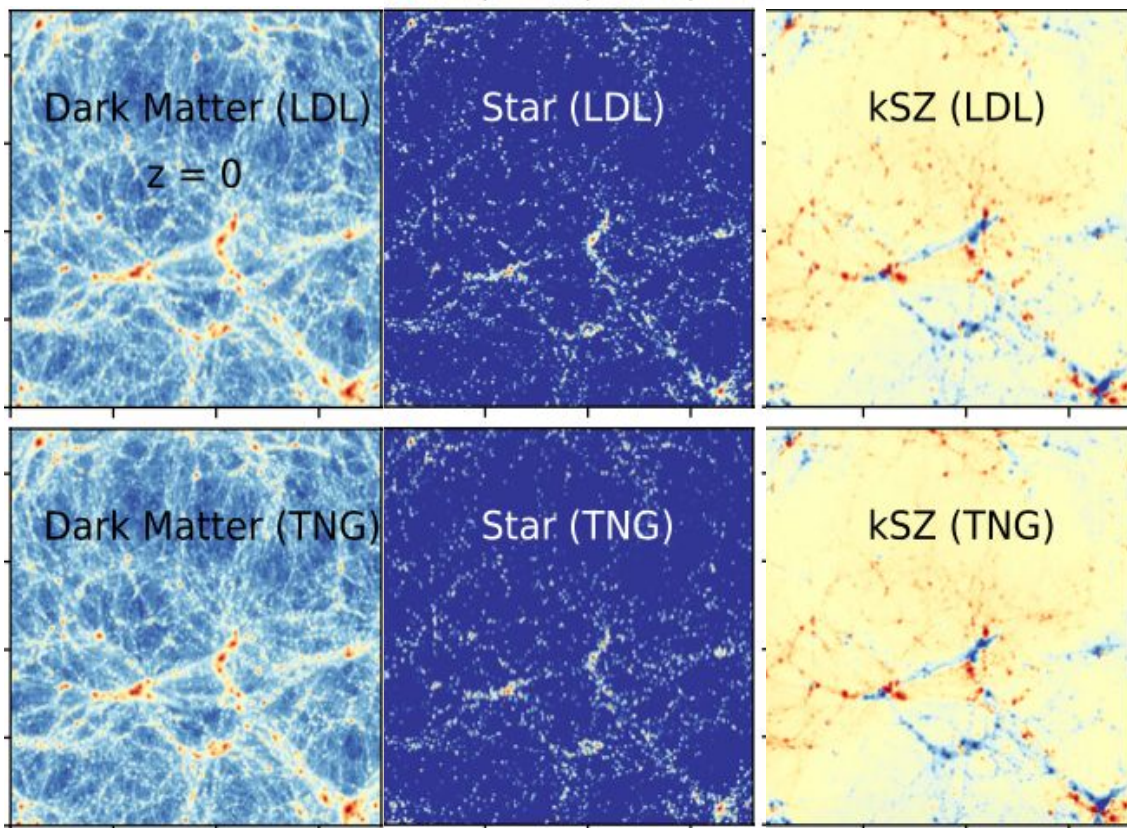


Zhang et al 2019



Generate astrophysical observables by displacing particles

- Leverage translational and rotational symmetries
- Stable, easy to train, and explicitly differentiable.
- **Order 10 parameters**





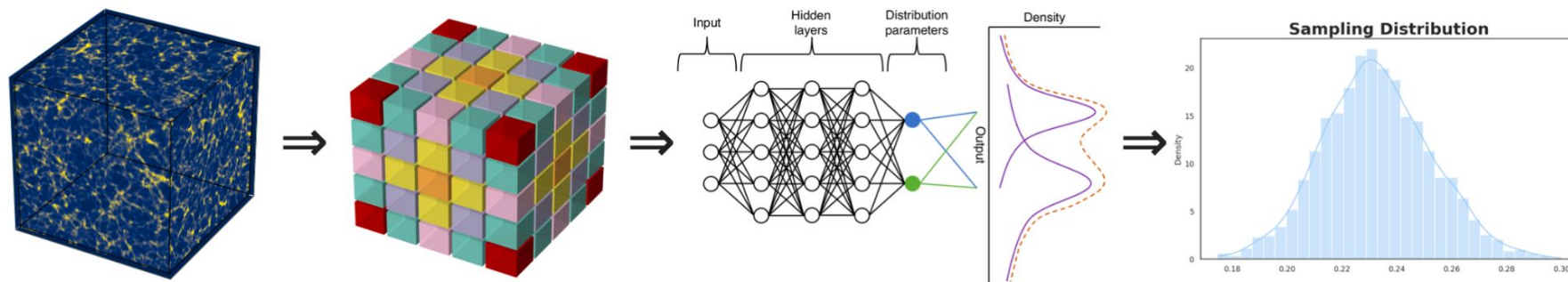
Translate Eulerian DM density to halo fields

- Encode Physical Symmetries
 - Translational invariance
 - Local rotational invariance
 - Locality

- Use non-local information
- Use isotropy

- Model non-linearity

- Generative process



$$\delta_m(x) \rightarrow \text{Convolve} \rightarrow \text{Transform} \rightarrow \text{Sample} \rightarrow n(M|\delta_m(x))$$

[Ding et al in prep](#)

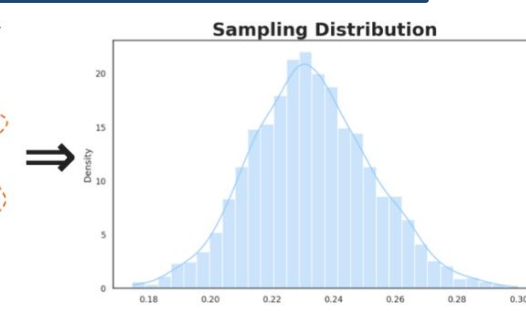
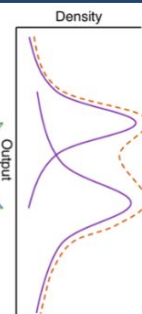
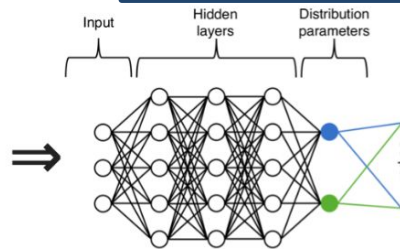
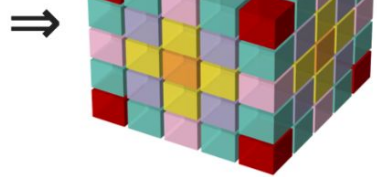
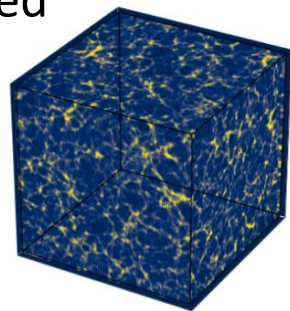
[Charnock et al 2020](#)

Also see [Dai & Seljak 2021](#) for an analogous Lagrangian approach.

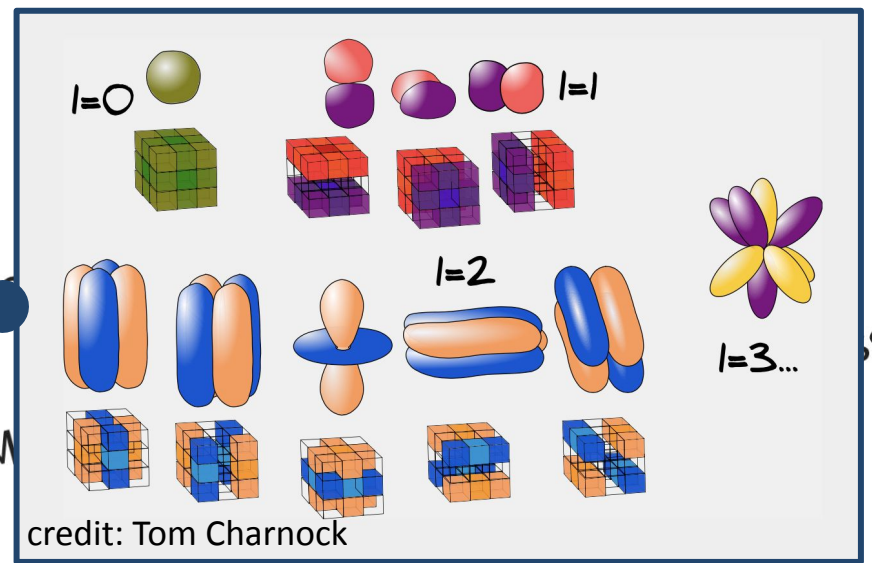


Translate Eulerian DM density to halo fields

- Encode Physical Symmetries
 - Translational invariance
 - Local rotational invariance
 - Locality
- **Only 17 parameters**
- Enables zero-shot learning
 - no training data needed



• Use non-local information
• Use isotropy



$$\delta_m(x) \rightarrow \text{Convolve} \rightarrow \text{Transform} \rightarrow \text{Sample} \rightarrow n(M|\delta_m(x))$$

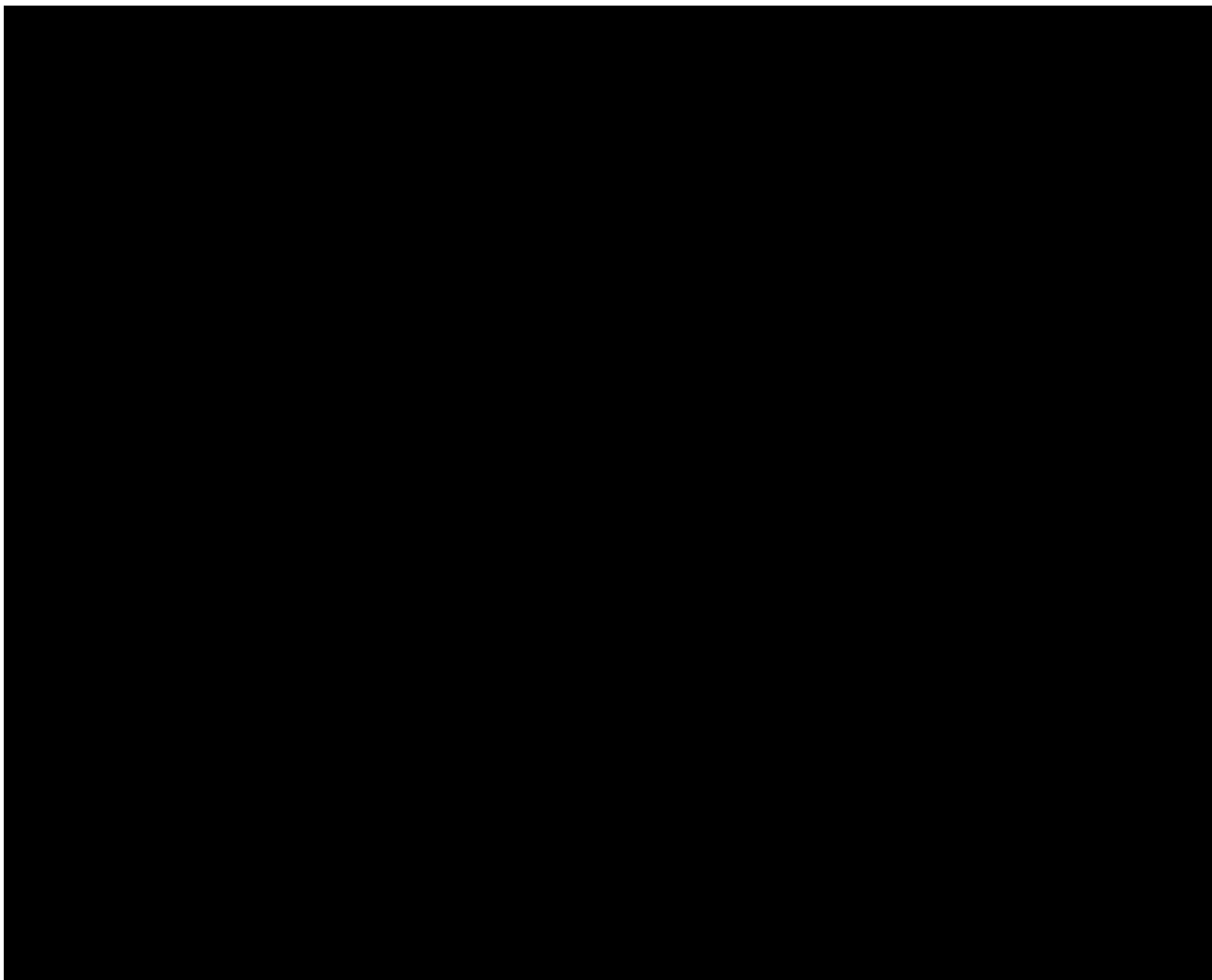


Modeling Galaxy bias with ML: Neural Physical Engine

Simultaneous Inference of Initial Conditions and Halo Fields

DM field at $z=0$

Data = Halo Catalog



Inferred NPE halo model

06

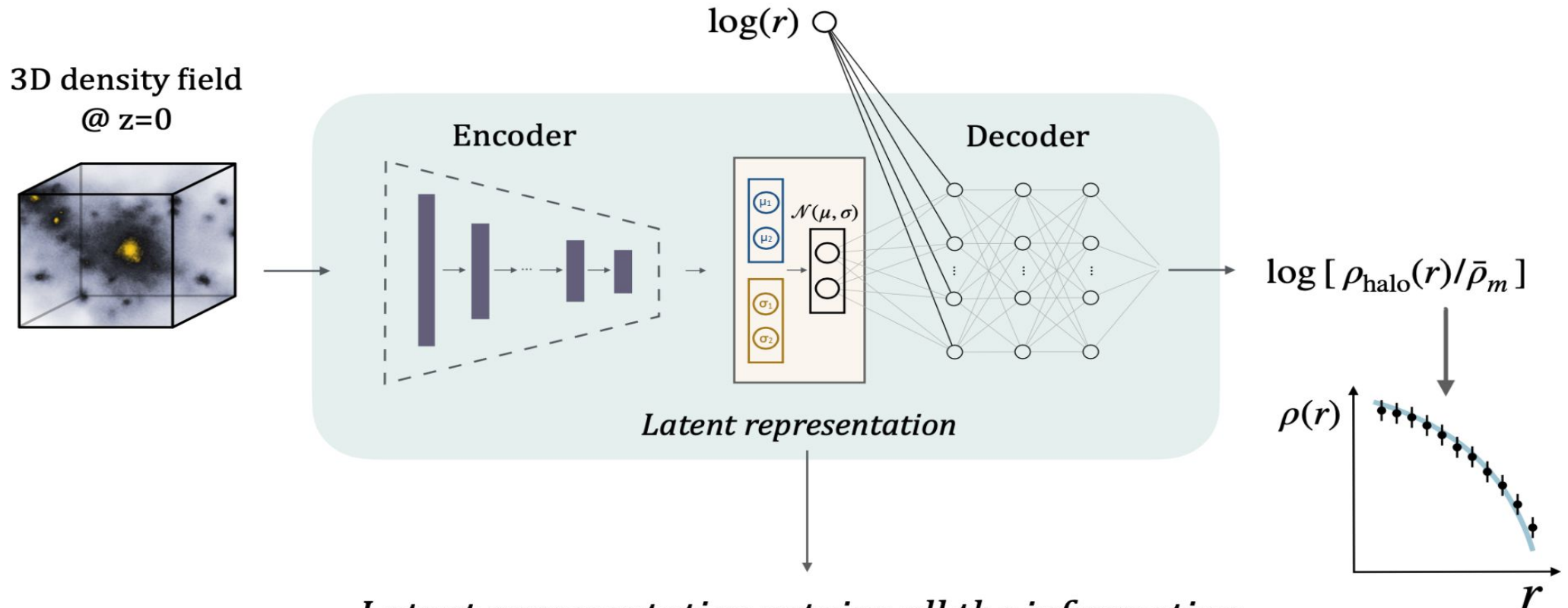
Learning to Learn from ML



Explainable AI: Dark Matter Halo density profiles

Learning Dark Matter Halo Density Profiles:

- Supervised encoder-decoder framework
- Compresses inputs into a low-dimensional latent representation.
- Outputs $\rho(r)$ for any desired value of radius r .



Latent representation retains all the information used by model to predict density profiles

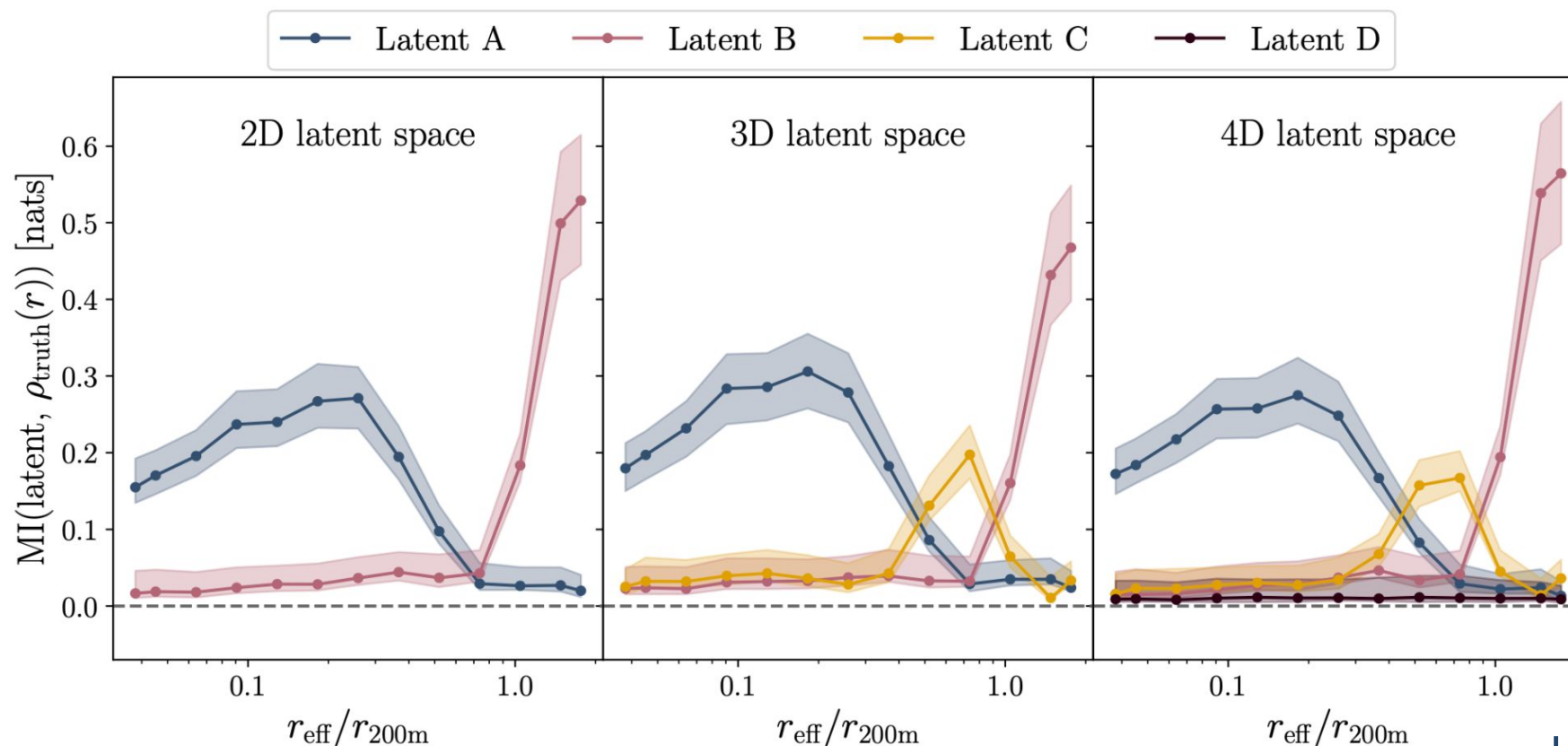
[Lucie-Smith et al 2023](#)
[Lucie-Smith et al 2022](#)



Explainable AI: Dark Matter Halo density profiles

Interpreting the latent representation using mutual information

- 2D: Accurately models density profiles up to the virial radius.
- 3D: Required for describing outer profiles beyond the virial radius.
- 4D+: Reveals infalling material in outer profiles and splashback boundaries.





Optimal machine-driven acquisition of future cosmological data

Predict remaining information content of 3D cosmic structures

- Optimally answer physics questions
- Propose optimal regions for follow-up observations

Fisher information:

Parameter Of Interest (POI)

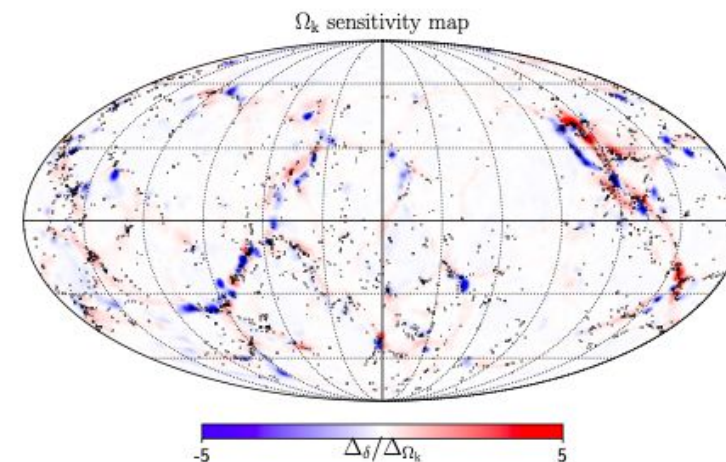
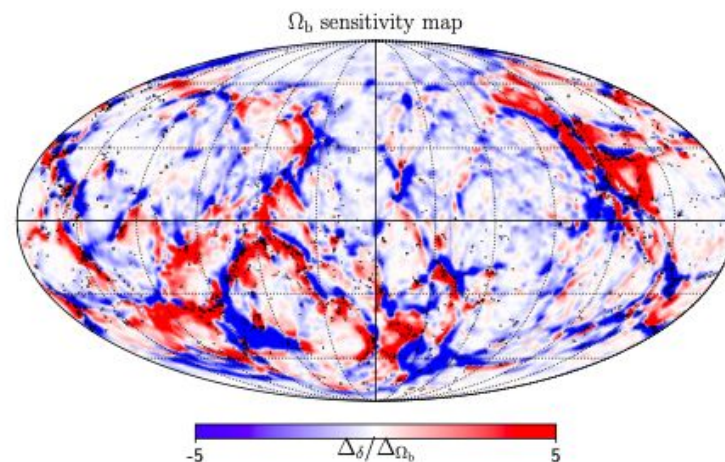
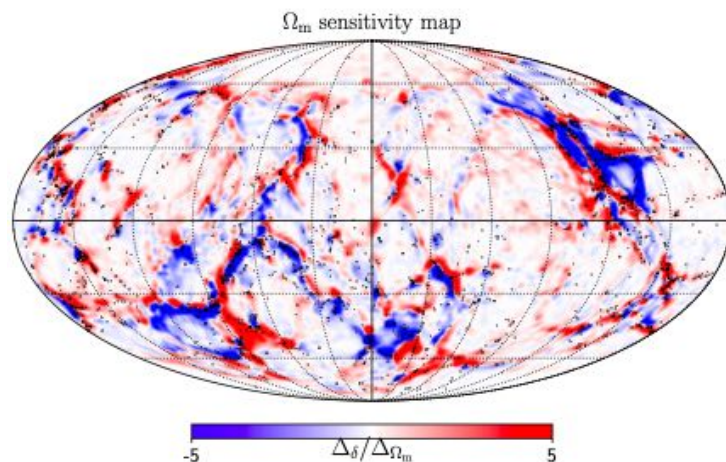
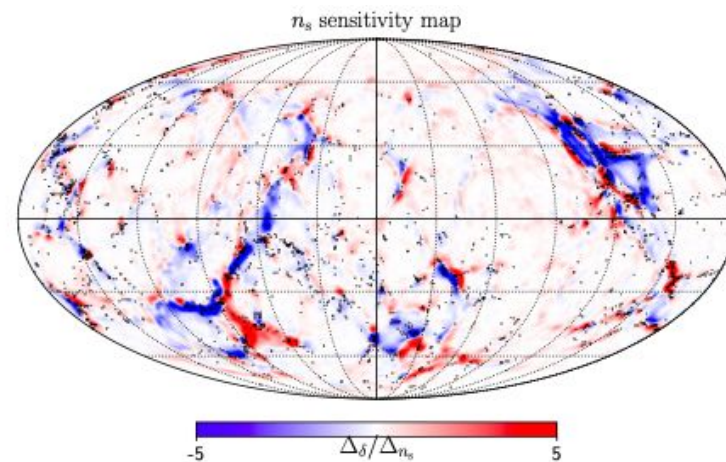
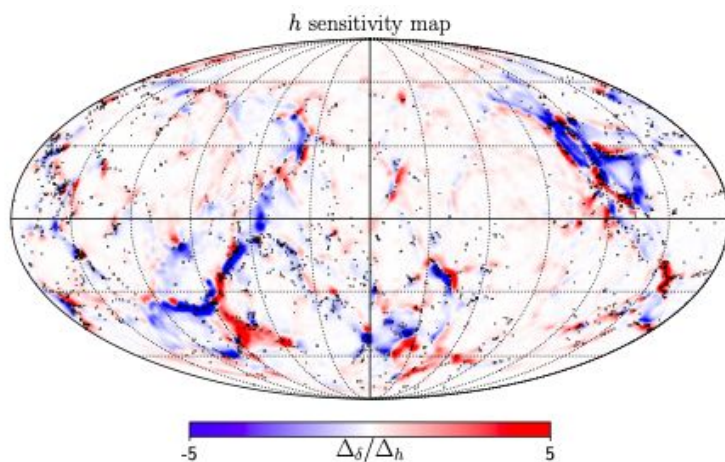
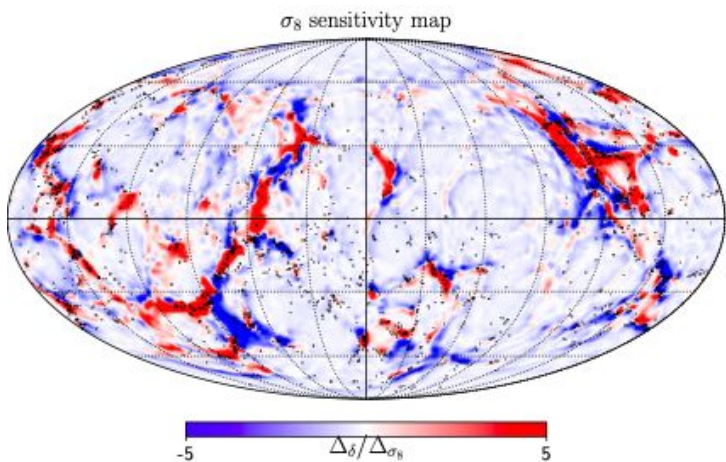
$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{I}(\theta|\phi) &= \mathbb{E}_{(d|\theta,\phi)} \left[\left(\frac{\partial \ln(\mathcal{L}(d|\theta, \phi))}{\partial \theta} \right)^2 \right] \\ &= \int \mathcal{D}d \left(\frac{\partial \ln(\mathcal{L}(d|\theta, \phi))}{\partial \theta} \right)^2 \mathcal{L}(d|\theta, \phi) \end{aligned}$$

Inferred Initial conditions

Parameter Sensitivity



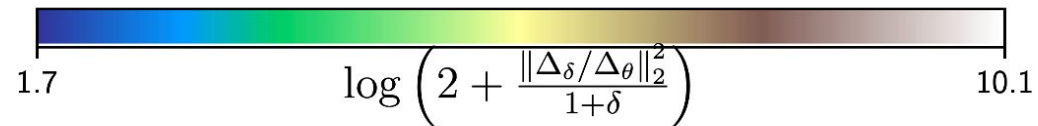
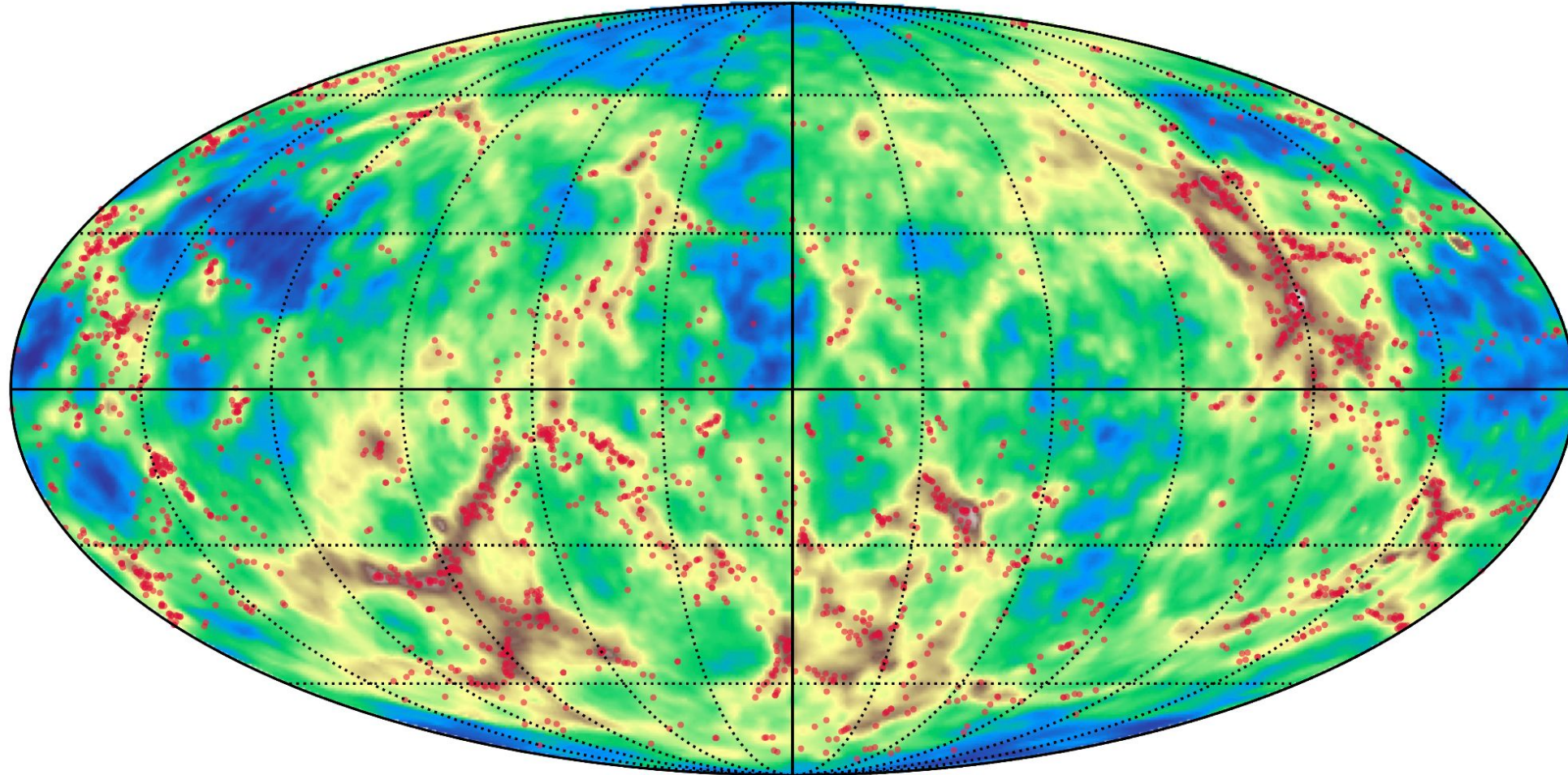
Parameter Sensitivities





A Fisher Information Map of the Universe

Fisher information map



07

Summary & Conclusion



Summary & Conclusions

- 1 **Cosmological data will no longer be scarce:**
 - Our capability to analyse data will limit knowledge gains
- 2 **Inference Technology:**
 - **Field-level Inference:**
 - Information Optimality
 - The complete characterization of cosmic structure (no compression)
 - **Implicit Likelihood Inference:**
 - Simulation Based Inference (no explicit likelihood)
 - Information Optimal Data Compression
 - A viable alternative to classical MCMC
- 3 **ML enhanced data modeling**
 - Accurate and fast Physics Emulators
 - Automatic feature design (e.g. information maximizing summaries)
- 4 **Current limitations:**
 - Handling of small-scale baryonic physics and galaxy biasing
 - Training data requirements
 - Accuracy, Size, Diversity, Representativeness