

When a computer scientist meets a physicist



Gilles Louppe
g.louppe@uliege.be
November 29, 2024

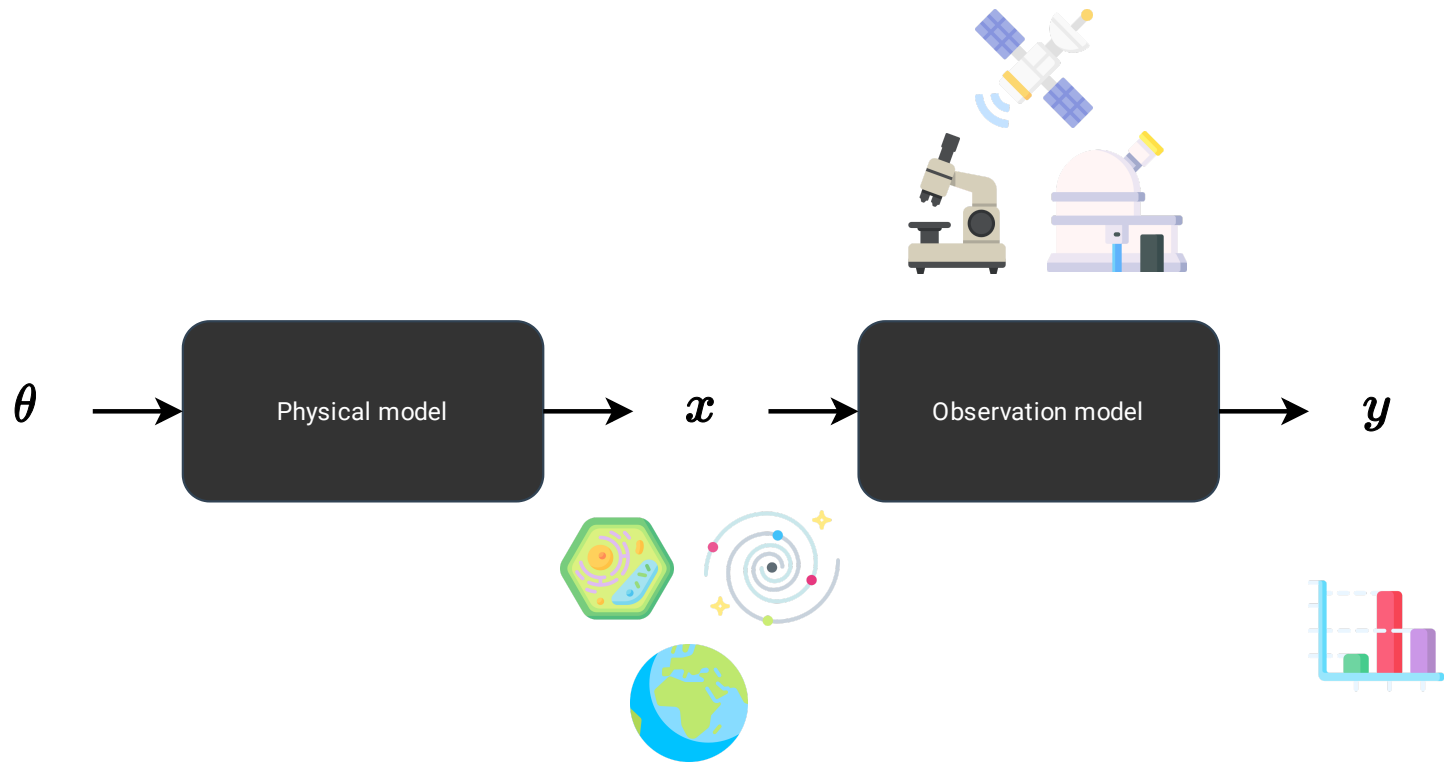
From a noisy observation $y...$

... can we recover images x ?

$$\dot{u} = -u \nabla u + \frac{1}{Re} \nabla^2 u - \frac{1}{\rho} \nabla p + f$$

$$0 = \nabla \cdot u$$

... or parameters $\theta = \{Re, \rho, f\}$?

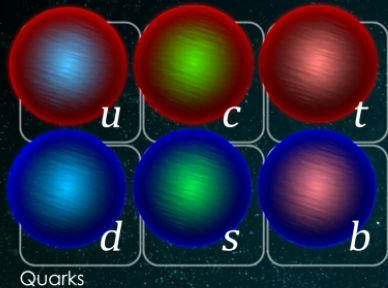


Goal: Estimate parameters θ or latents x from noisy or incomplete observations y .

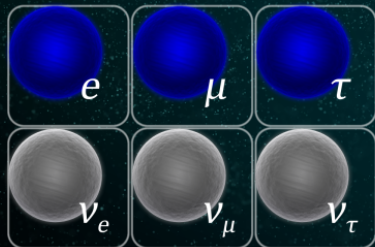
AI for particle physics at the LHC



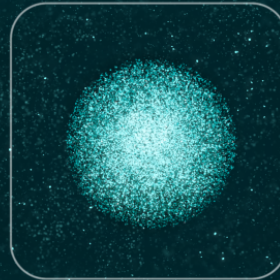
Kyle Cranmer
(New York University)



Quarks



Leptons

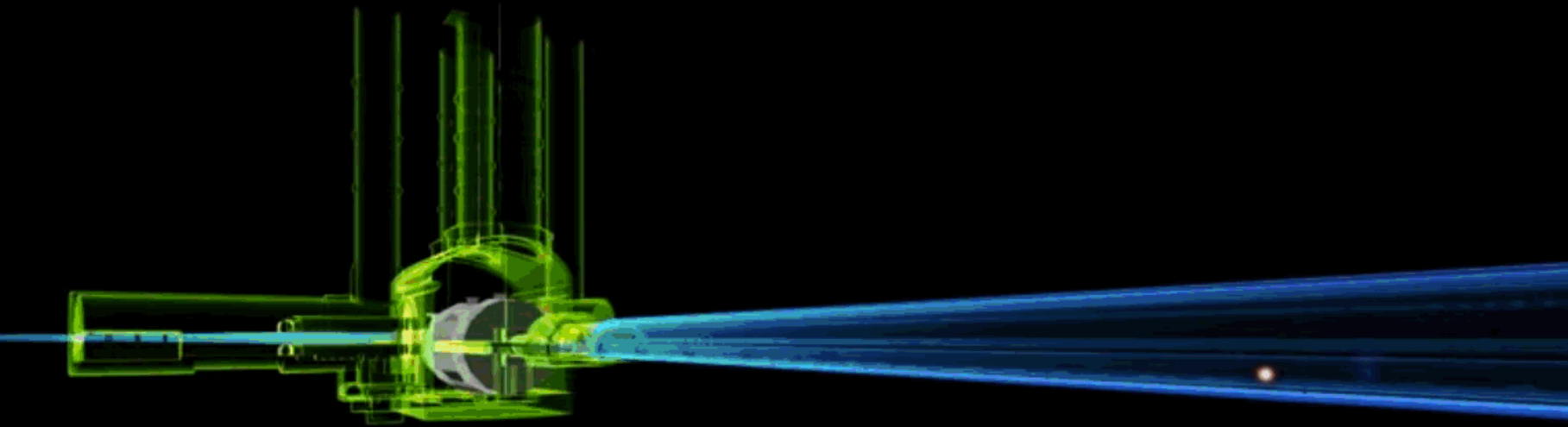


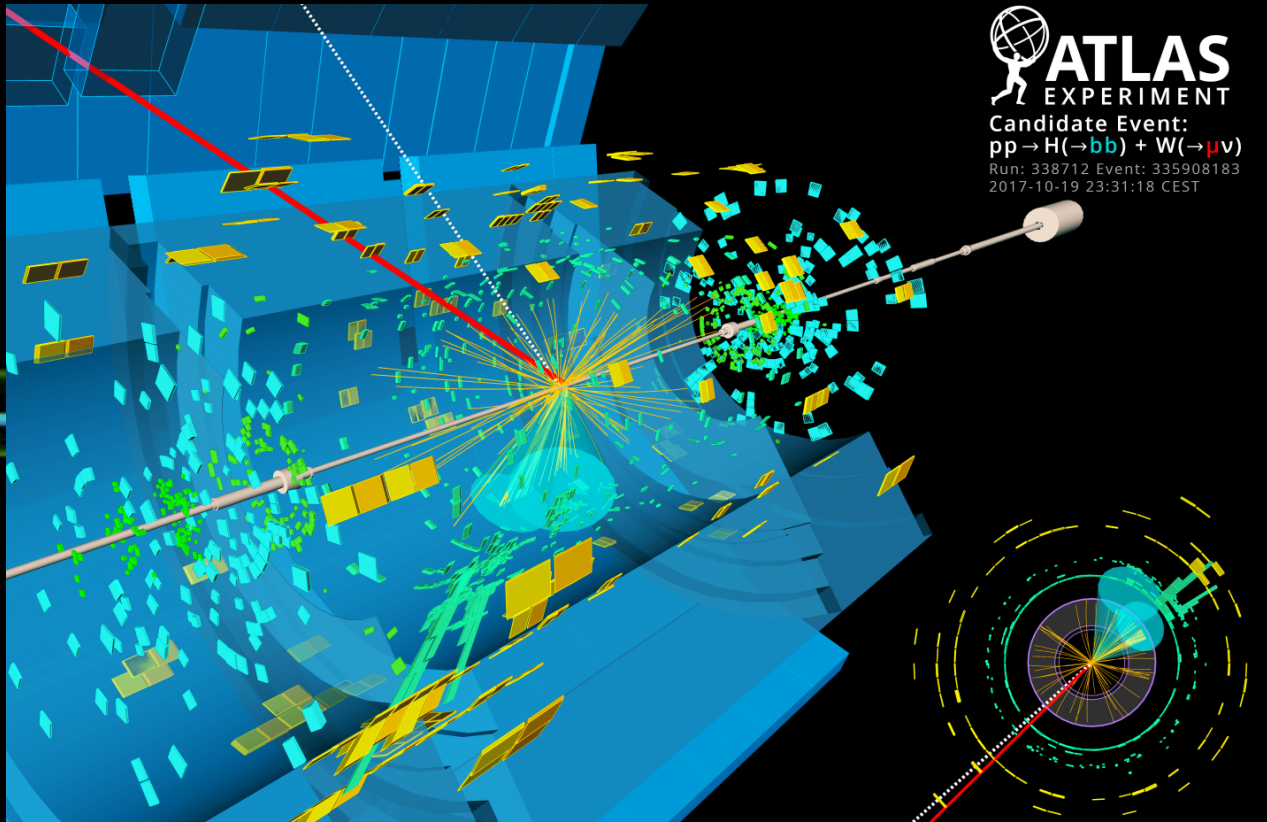
Higgs boson



Forces

$$\theta = \{m_e, m_\mu, m_\tau, \dots\}$$

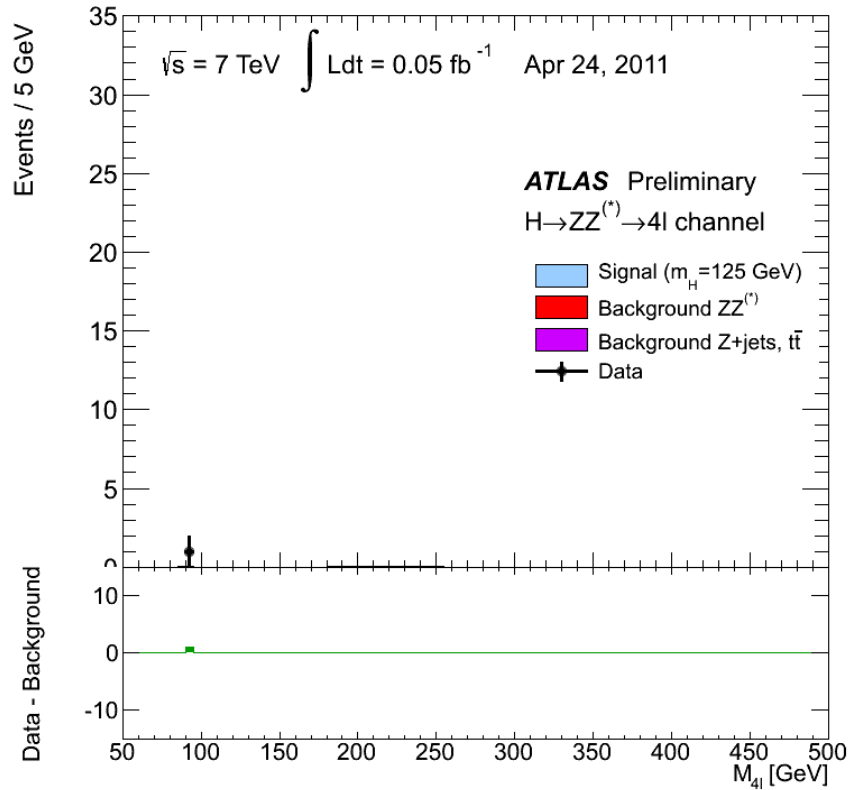




 **ATLAS**
EXPERIMENT
Candidate Event:
 $pp \rightarrow H(\rightarrow bb) + W(\rightarrow \mu\nu)$
Run: 338712 Event: 335908183
2017-10-19 23:31:18 CEST

$$\arg \max_{\theta} p(\mathbf{y}|\theta)?$$

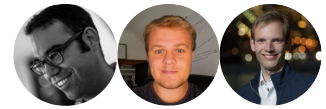
pre-2019



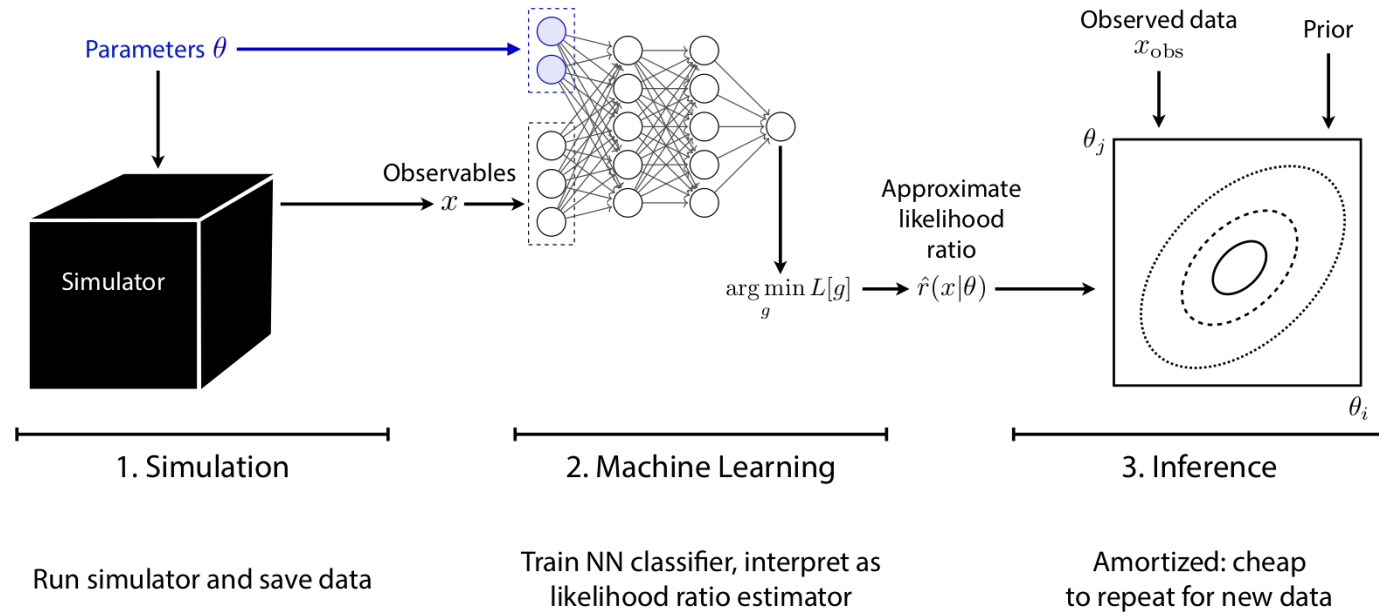
Reject the null hypothesis that the Higgs boson does not exist by a likelihood-ratio test $\lambda(\theta) = -2 \log p(\mathbf{x}|\theta)/p(\mathbf{x}|\hat{\theta})$, where the likelihood $p(\mathbf{x}|\theta)$ is approximated as $p(s(\mathbf{x})|\theta)$, for some summary statistic $s(\cdot)$.



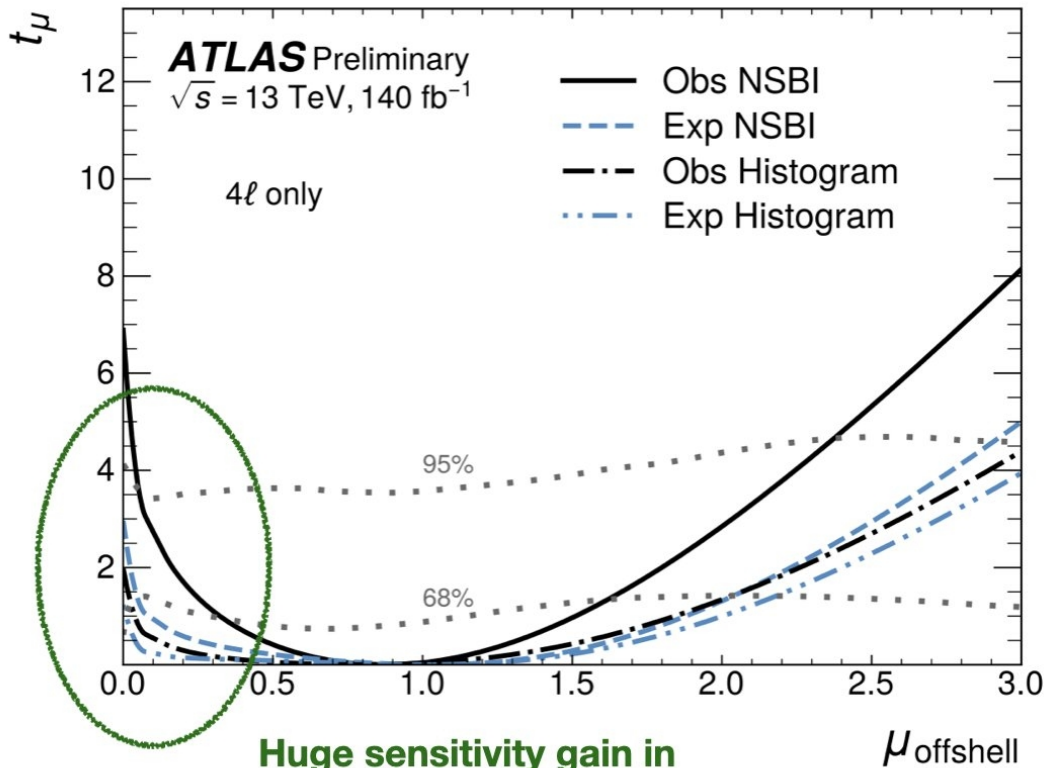
Wait a minute Kyle... how do we pick the right summary statistic s ?



Neural simulation-based inference



Learn the statistic $\mathbf{s}(\cdot)$ with a neural network approximating the likelihood ratio $r(\mathbf{x}|\theta) = p(\mathbf{x}|\theta)/p_{\text{ref}}(\mathbf{x})$.



Huge sensitivity gain in interference rich regions
 $\sqrt{\mu} \cdot p_I(x) \gg \mu \cdot p_S(x)$

Measurement of off-shell Higgs boson production in the $H^* \rightarrow ZZ \rightarrow 4l$ decay channel using a neural simulation-based inference technique with the ATLAS detector at $\sqrt{s} = 13 \text{ TeV}$

The ATLAS Collaboration

A measurement of off-shell Higgs boson production in the $H^* \rightarrow ZZ \rightarrow 4l$ decay channel is presented. The measurement uses the 140 fb^{-1} of integrated luminosity collected by the ATLAS detector during the Run 2 proton-proton collisions of the Large Hadron Collider at $\sqrt{s} = 13 \text{ TeV}$ and supersedes our previous result in this decay channel using the same dataset. The data analysis is performed using a neural simulation-based inference method, which yields per-event likelihood ratios using neural networks. The observed (expected) off-shell Higgs boson production signal strength in the $ZZ \rightarrow 4l$ decay channel is $0.97^{+0.14}_{-0.12}$ ($1.00^{+0.17}_{-0.15}$) at 68% CL. The previous result was not able to achieve expected sensitivity to quote a two-sided interval at this CL. The expected plus-side uncertainty is reduced by 10%. The evidence for off-shell Higgs boson production has an observed (expected) significance of 2.5σ (1.5σ) using the $ZZ \rightarrow 4l$ decay channel only. The expected significance score is 2.6 times that of our previous result using the same dataset. When combined with our most recent measurement in the $ZZ \rightarrow 2l2\gamma$ decay channel, the evidence for off-shell Higgs boson production has an observed (expected) significance of 3.3σ (2.6σ). The off-shell measurements are combined with the measurement of on-shell Higgs boson production to obtain constraints on the Higgs boson total width. The observed (expected) value of the Higgs boson width is $4.2^{+1.4}_{-1.1}$ ($4.1^{+1.2}_{-1.0}$) MeV at 68% CL.

© 2024 CERN for the benefit of the ATLAS Collaboration.
 Reproduction of this article or parts of it is allowed as specified in the CC-BY 4.0 license.

An implementation of Neural Simulation-Based Inference for Parameter Estimation in ATLAS

The ATLAS Collaboration

Neural Simulation-Based Inference (NSBI) is a powerful class of machine learning (ML)-based methods for statistical inference that naturally handles high-dimensional parameter estimation without the need to bin data into low-dimensional summary histograms. Such methods are promising for a range of measurements, including at the Large Hadron Collider (LHC), where no single observable may be optimal to scan over the entire theoretical phase space under consideration, or where binning data into histograms could result in a loss of sensitivity. This work develops an NSBI framework for statistical inference, using neural networks to estimate probability density ratios, which enables the application of NSBI to a full scale LHC analysis. It incorporates a large number of systematic uncertainties, quantifies the uncertainty coming from finite training statistics, develops a method to construct confidence intervals, and demonstrates a series of intermediate diagnostic checks that can be performed to validate the robustness of the method. As an example, the power and feasibility of the method are demonstrated on simulated data for a simplified version of an off-shell Higgs boson coupling measurement in the four-lepton final state. This NSBI framework is an extension of the standard statistical framework used by LHC experiments and can benefit a large number of physics analyses.

© 2024 CERN for the benefit of the ATLAS Collaboration.
 Reproduction of this article or parts of it is allowed as specified in the CC-BY 4.0 license.

Cosmological inference from stellar streams



Christoph Weniger
(University of Amsterdam)



What is the nature of dark matter?

$$\theta = m_{\text{WDM}}$$

Constraining dark matter with stellar streams

Palomar 5 (Pal5) stream

Pal5 was discovered in 2001 as the first thin stream formed from a globular cluster. Its current orbit takes it far over the galactic center.

Globular clusters

These hives typically hold 100,000 stars or fewer and give rise to long, thin streams.

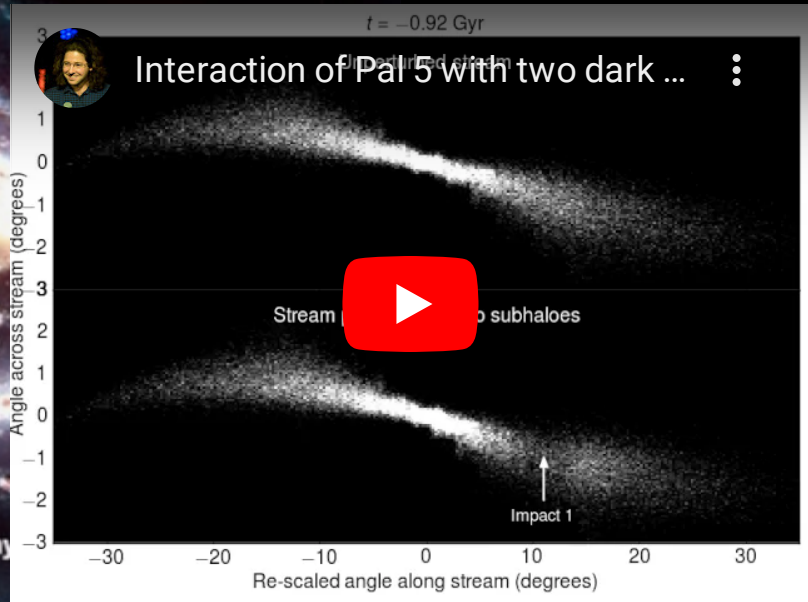
Gap

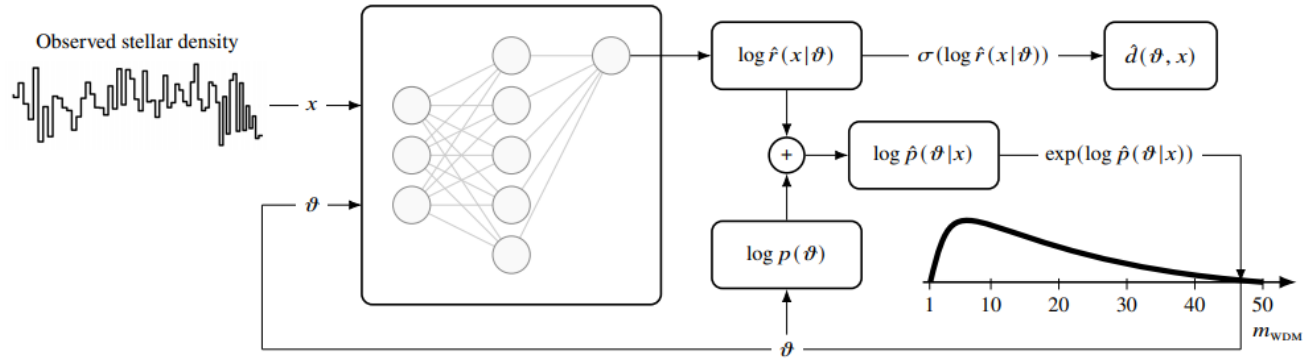
Sun

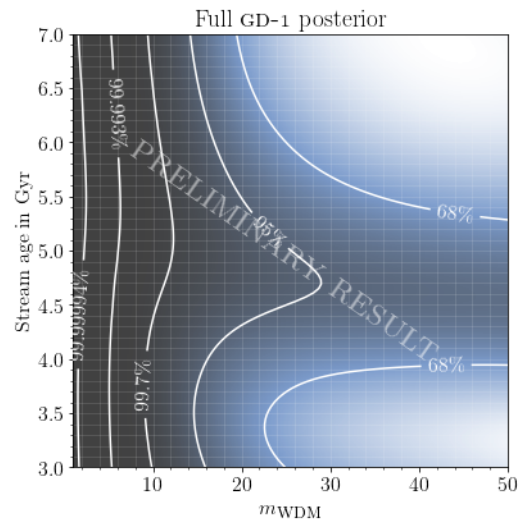
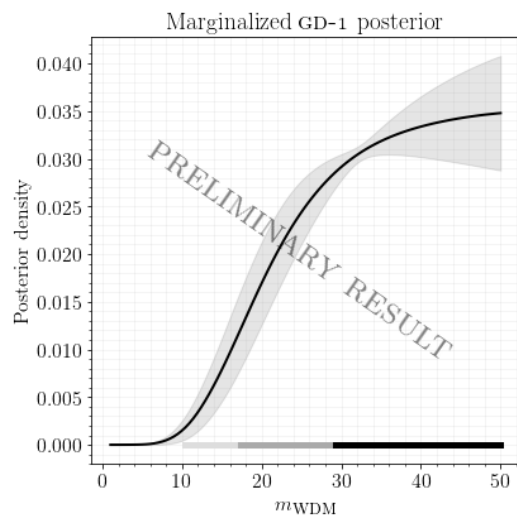
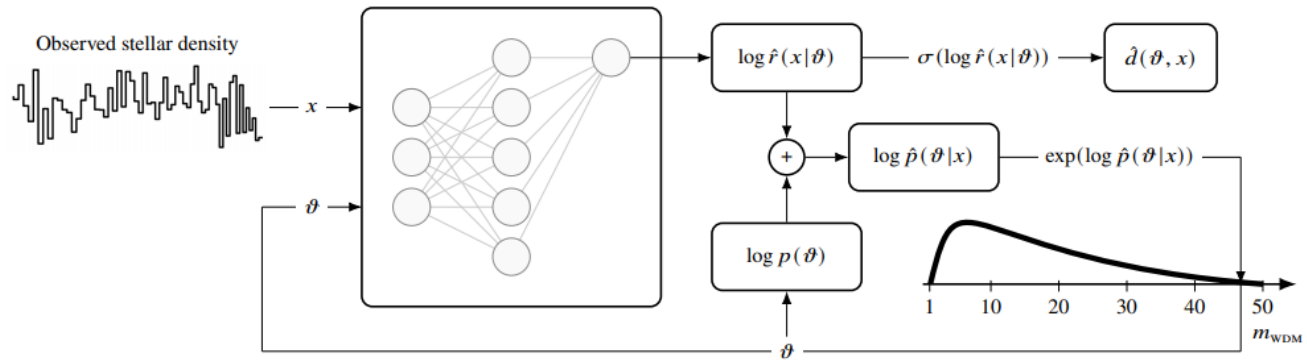
GD1 stream

Discovered in 2006, GD1 is the longest known thin stream, stretching across more than half the northern sky. It contains a gap that could be the scar of a dark matter collision 500 million years ago.

Milky Way





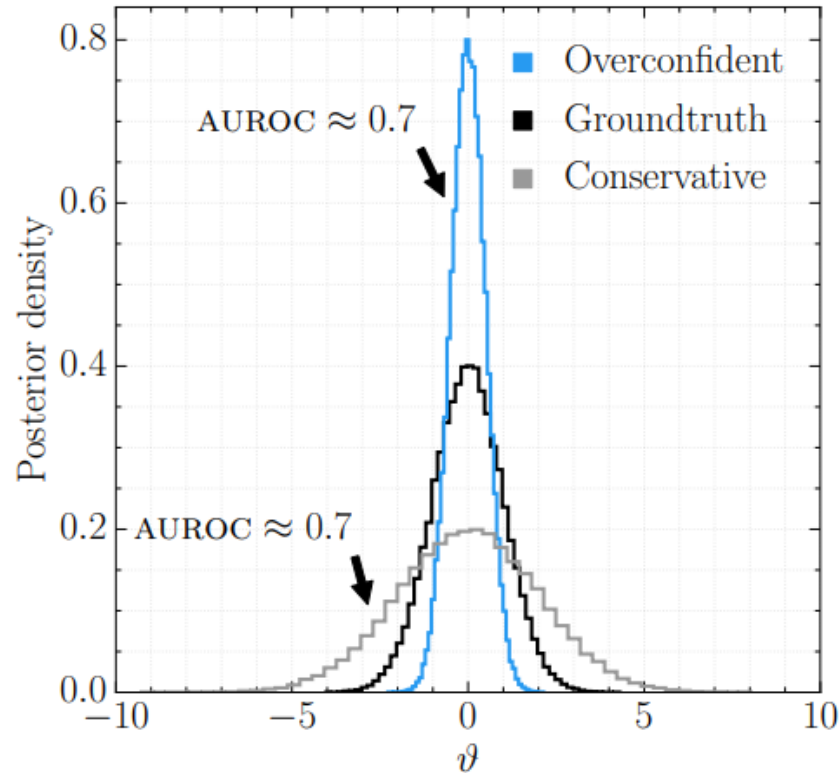


Preliminary results for GD-1 suggest a preference for CDM over WDM.

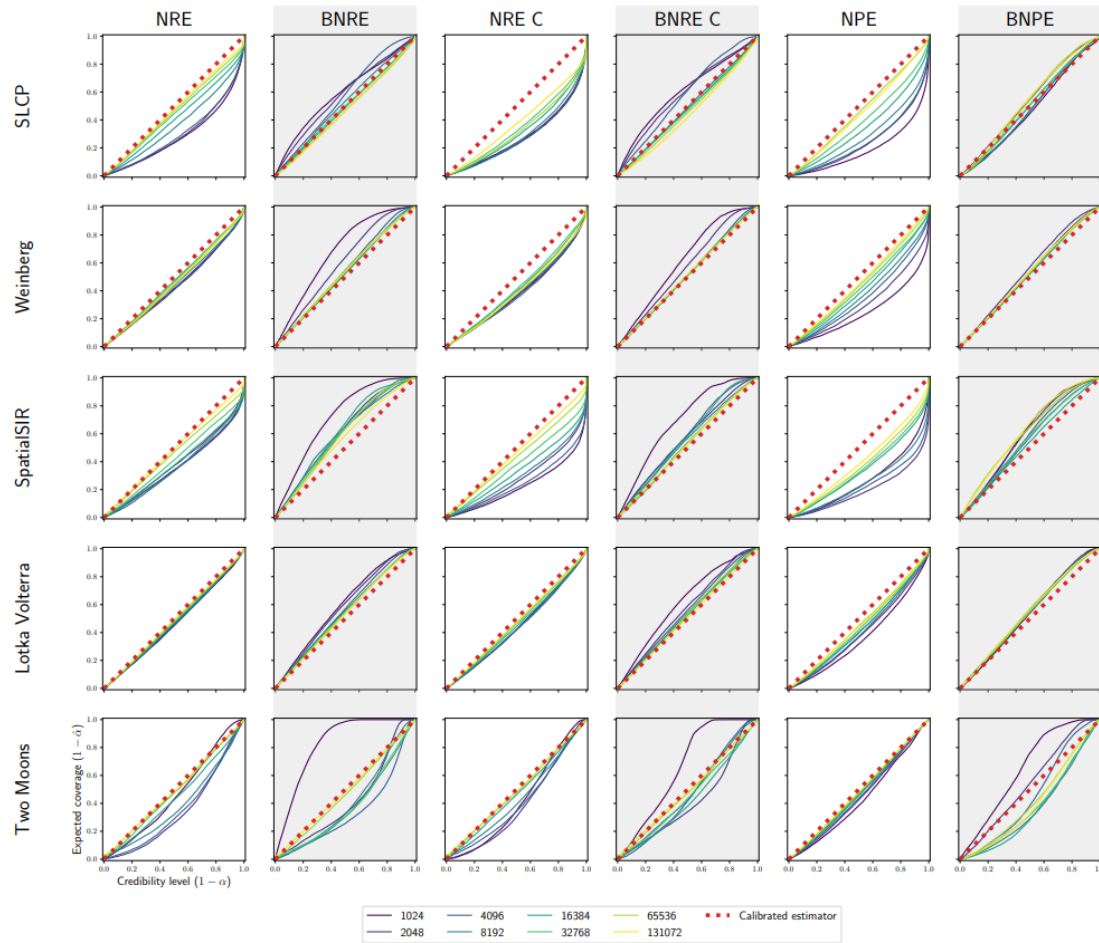
Wait a minute Gilles... I can't claim that in a paper!
Your neural network must be wrong!



Enforcing conservative posteriors



Posterior approximations can be either overconfident (dangerous and wrong) or underconfident (safe but inefficient).



Conservative posteriors can be enforced algorithmically!

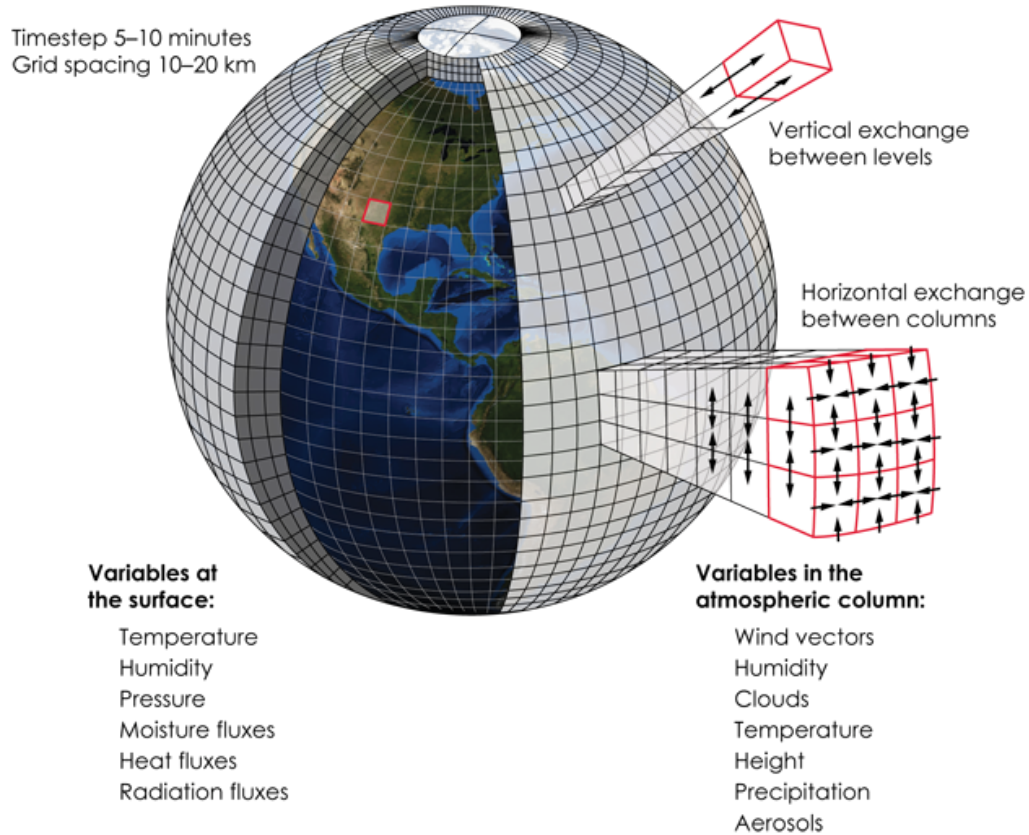
Data assimilation in weather and climate models



Marilaure Grégoire, Xavier Fettweis
(University of Liège)

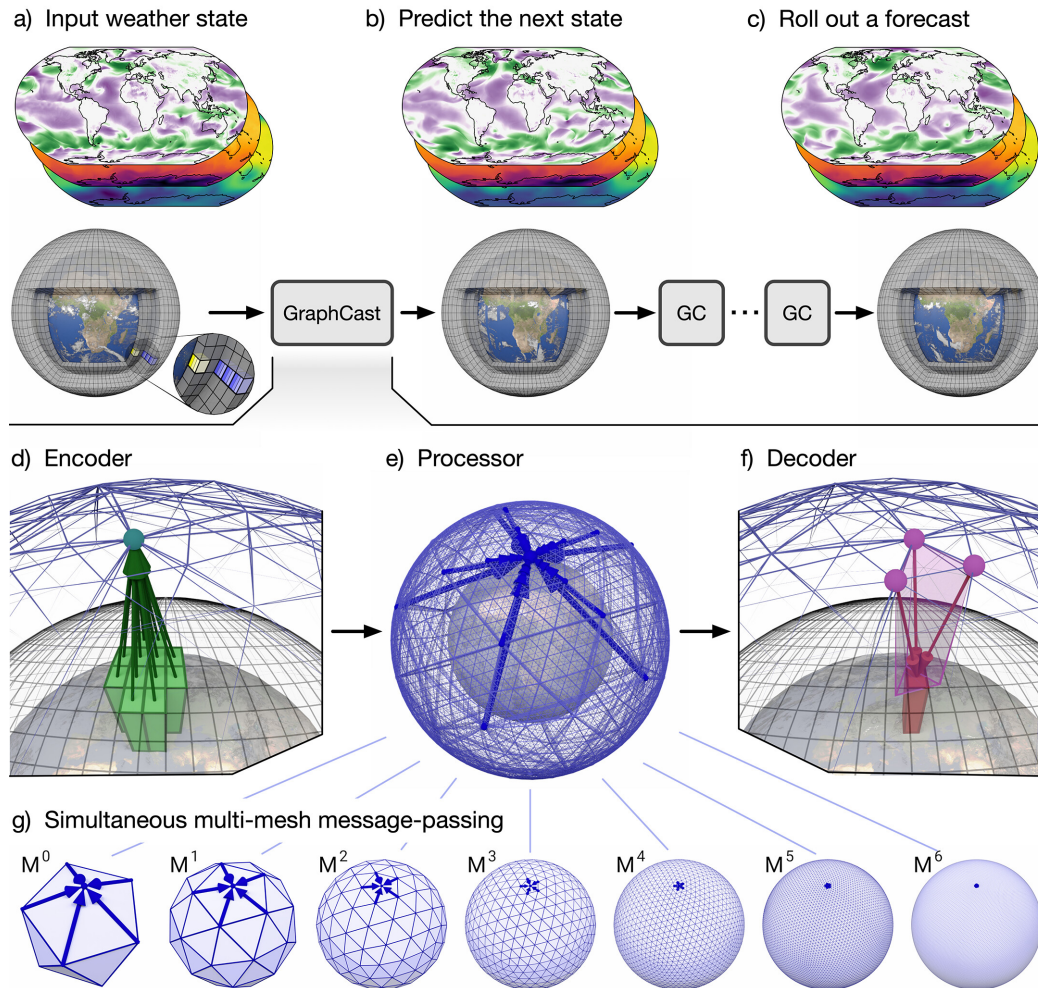


Weather forecast modeling



Assuming an initial state \mathbf{x}_0 , weather forecasts are obtained by propagating the state forward in time using a dynamical model $p(\mathbf{x}_{i+1} | \mathbf{x}_i)$ based on (costly) numerical simulations.

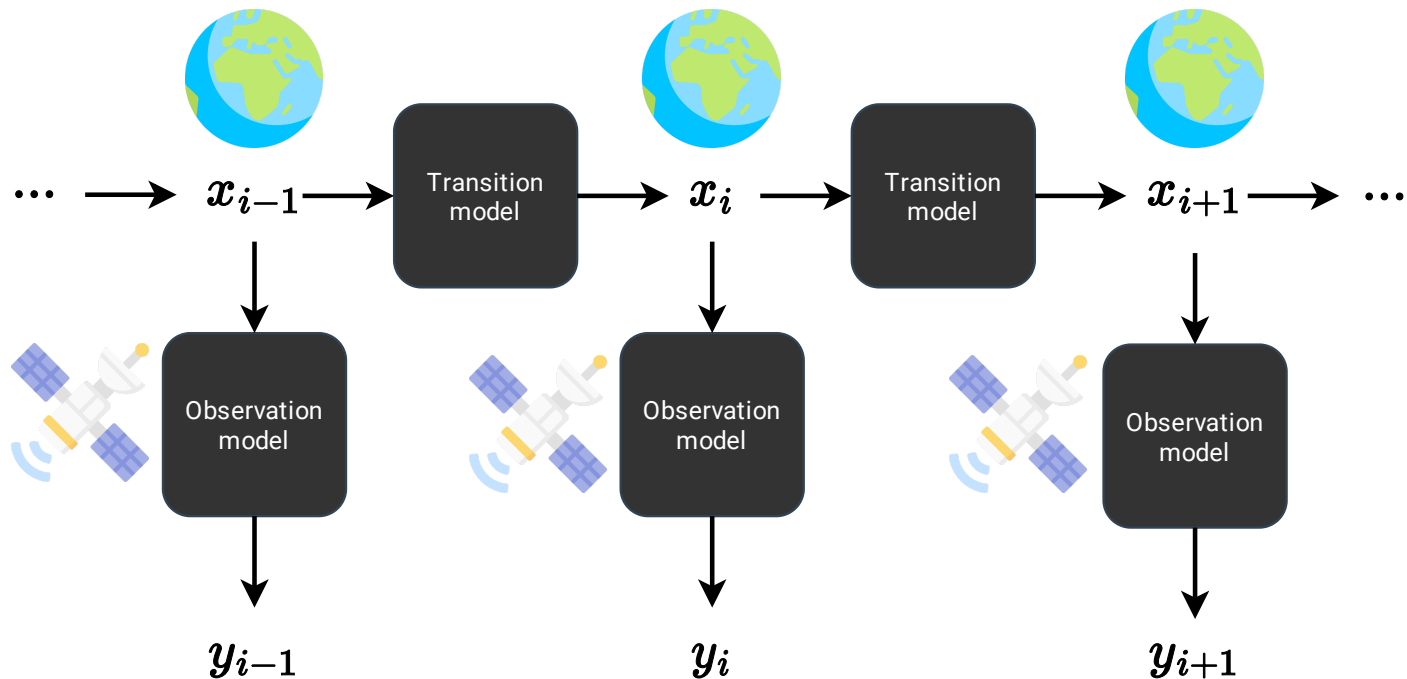
GraphCast (Google Deepmind) demonstrated that graph neural networks can be used for skilful weather forecasts, at a fraction of the computational cost.





Wait a minute... how do we know x_0 in the first place?

We only have noisy observations y !

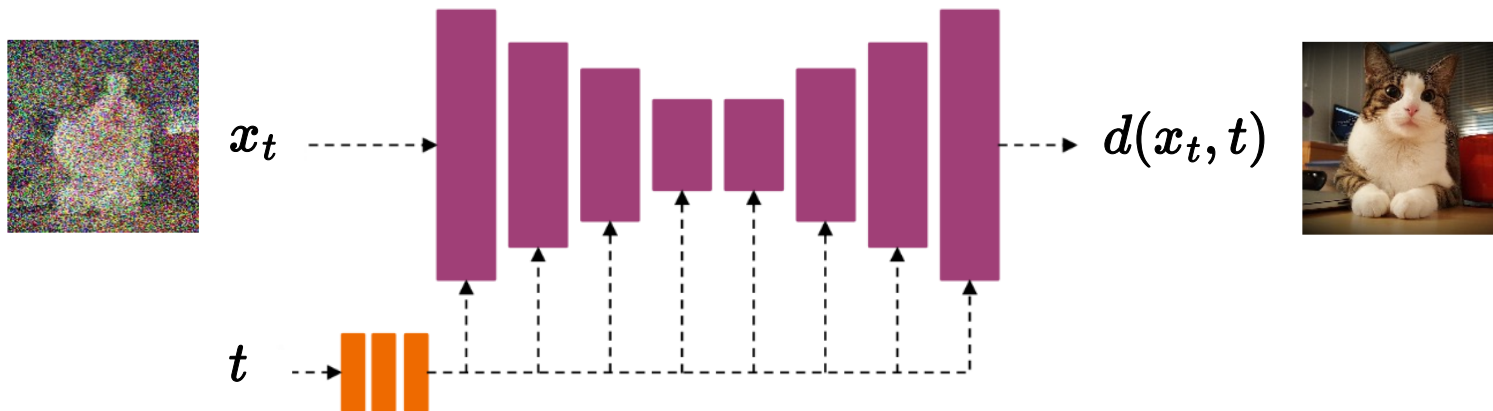
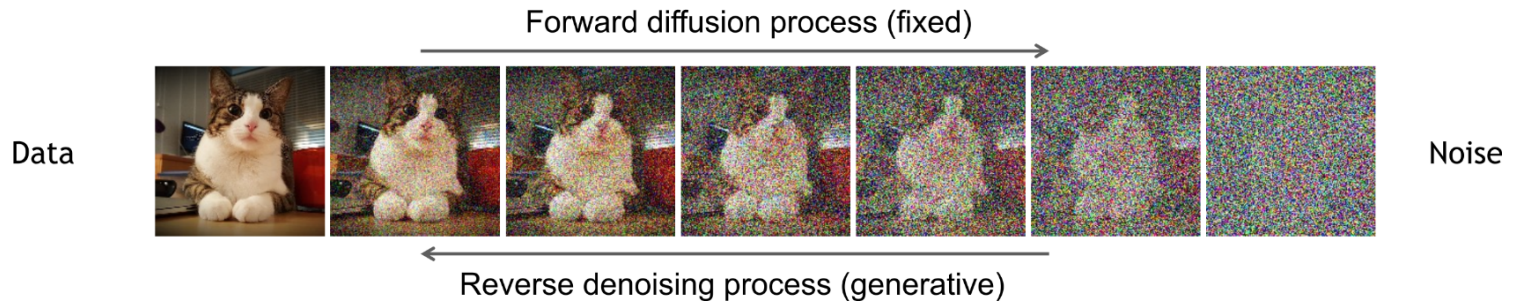


Data assimilation: Estimate plausible trajectories $x_{1:L}$ given one or more noisy observations y (or $y_{1:L}$) as the posterior

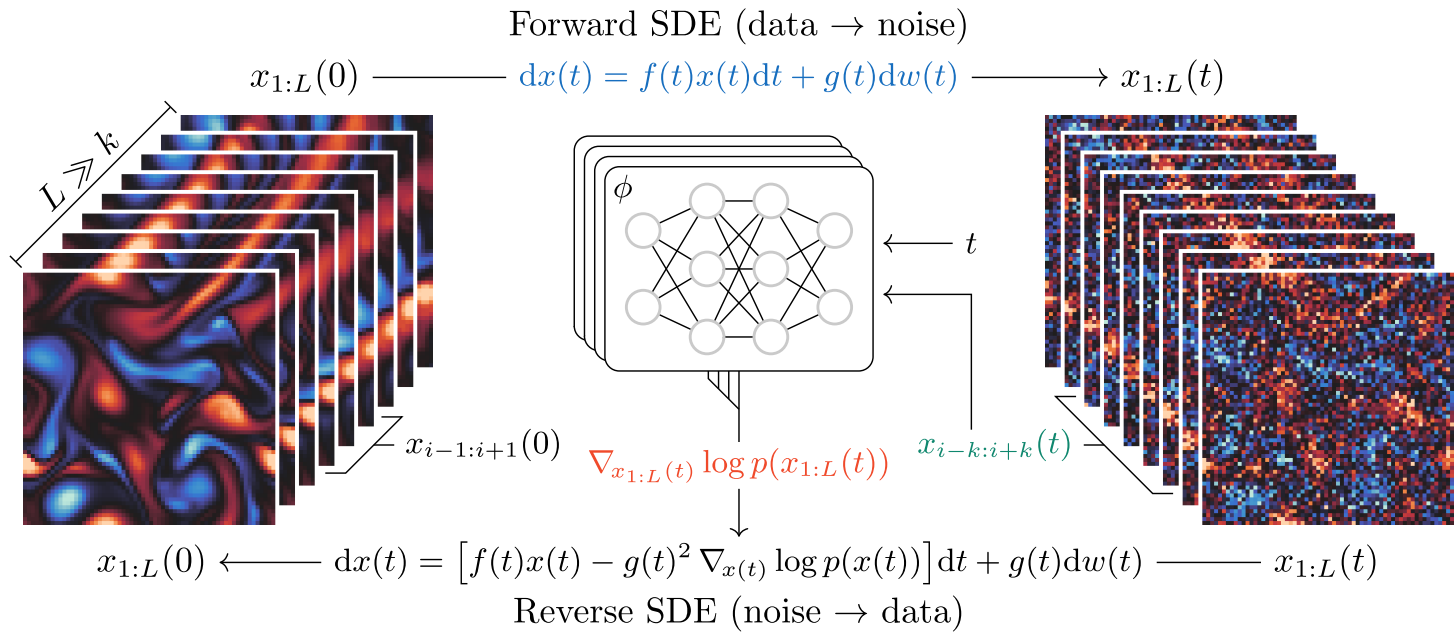
$$p(x_{1:L}|y) = \frac{p(y|x_{1:L})}{p(y)} p(x_0) \prod_{i=1}^{L-1} p(x_{i+1}|x_i).$$



Score-based data assimilation

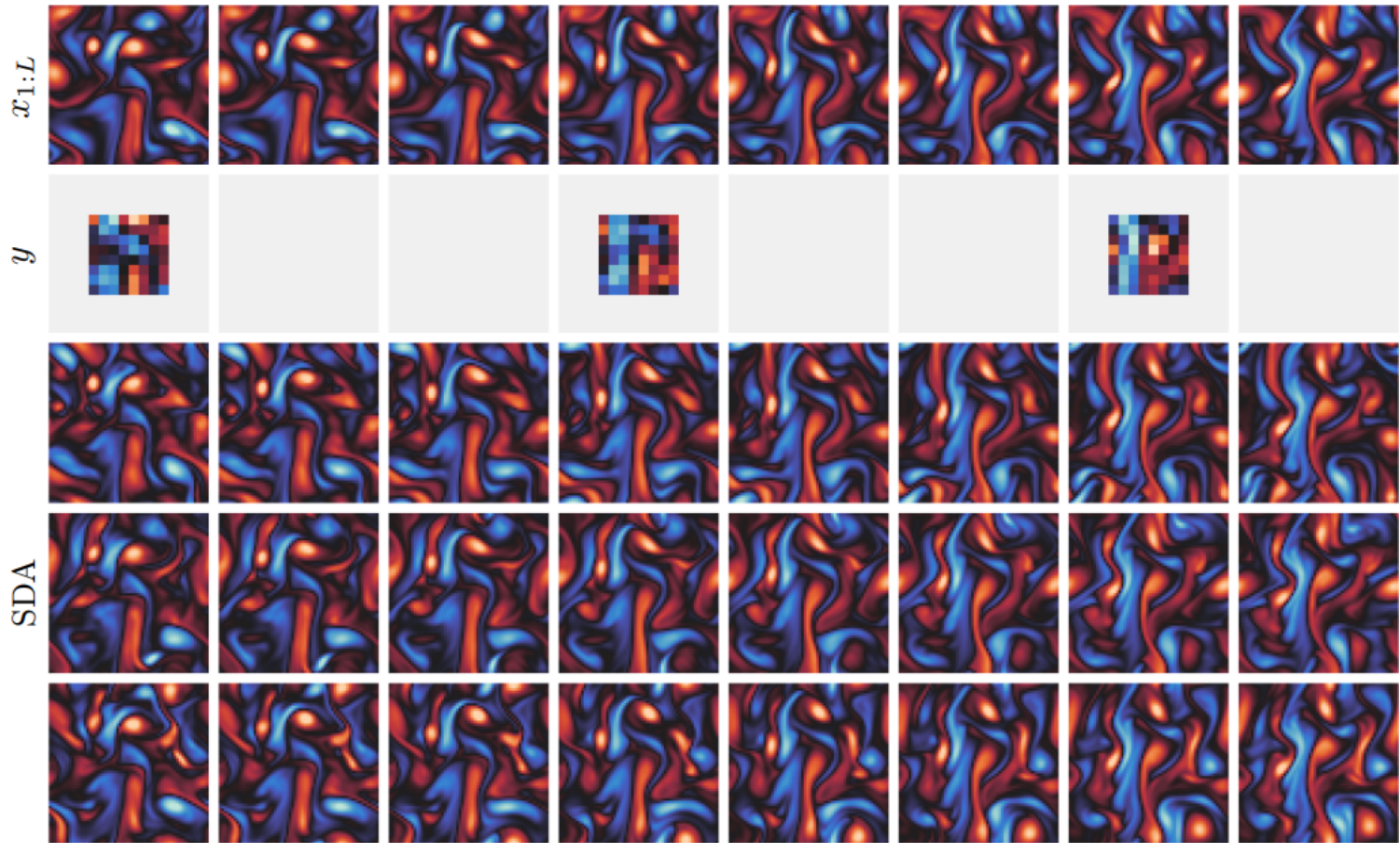


Diffusion models are deep generative models capable of producing data from pure noise.

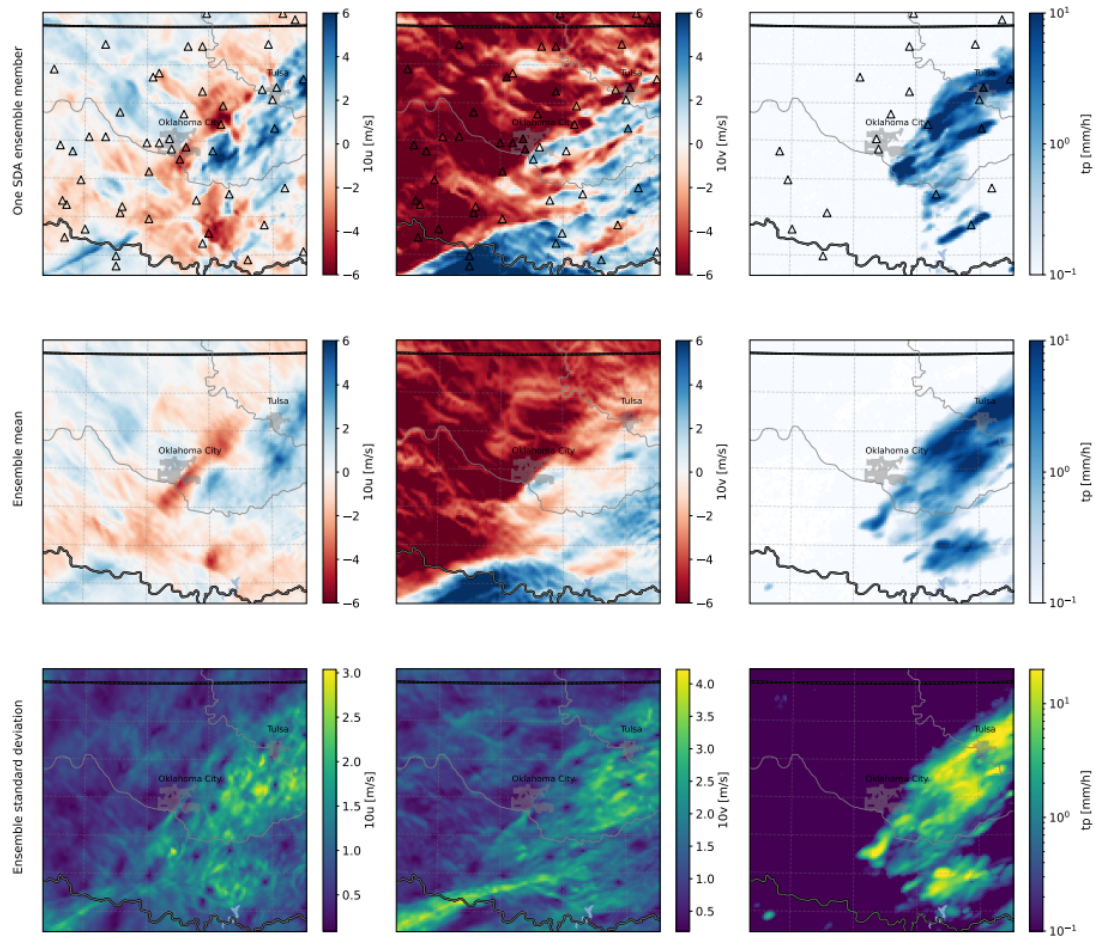


Our approach:

- Build a diffusion model $p(x_{1:L})$ of arbitrary-length trajectories.
- Use zero-shot posterior sampling to generate plausible trajectories from noisy observations y .



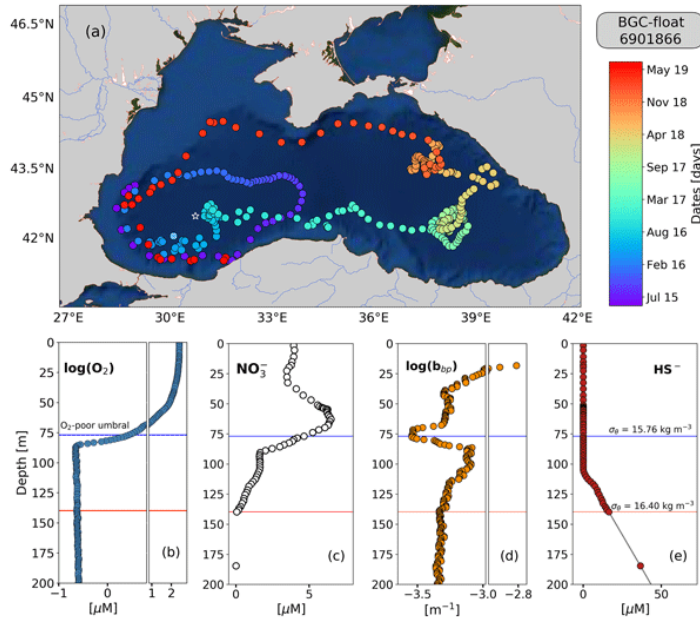
Sampling trajectories $x_{1:L}$ from
noisy, incomplete and coarse-grained observations y .



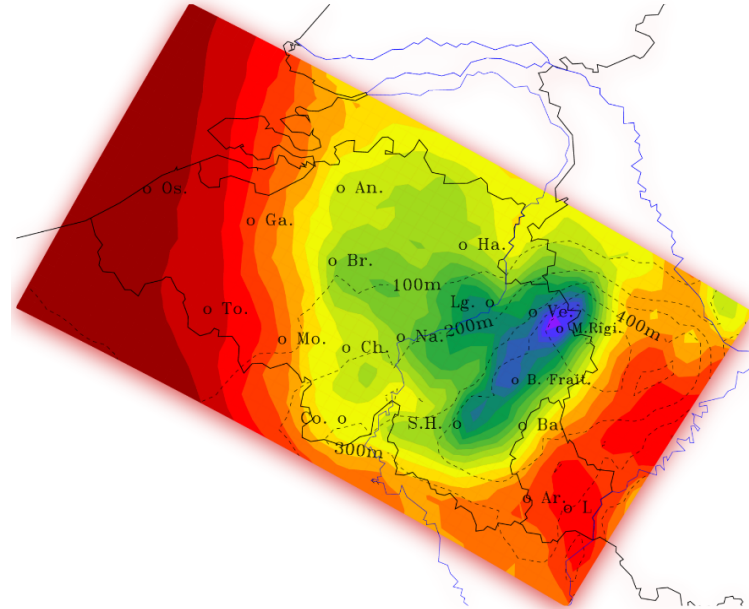
SDA can assimilate noisy weather observations to produce stochastic ensembles.



Score-based data assimilation for regional models (ongoing)



Assimilating satellite and float observations in ocean models (with Marilaure Grégoire).



Assimilating local observations in regional climate models (with Xavier Fettweis).



Earth-scale data assimilation at 0.25° resolution
with latent diffusion models (ongoing).



Conclusions

- AI can help us make sense of complex systems.
- AI unlocks problems we couldn't solve before!
- AI should be used in a principled way if we aim for scientific progress.
- Collaborations between computer scientists and scientists are key.

