# Probabilistic Programming for Inverse Problems in Physical Sciences

















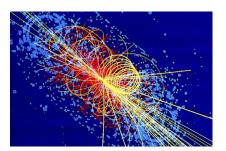
Atılım Güneş Baydin, Lukas Heinrich, Wahid Bhimji, Lei Shao, Saeid Naderiparizi, Andreas Munk, Jialin Liu, Bradley Gram-Hansen, Gilles Louppe, Lawrence Meadows, Philip Torr, Victor Lee, Prabhat, Kyle Cranmer, Frank Wood

Stanford SLAC AI Seminar 25 Sep 2020

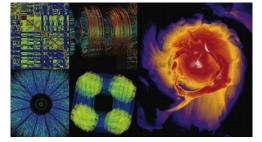


# Simulation and physical sciences

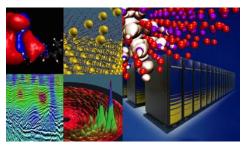
Computational models and simulation are key to scientific advance at all scales



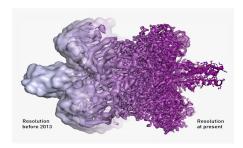
Particle physics



**Nuclear physics** 



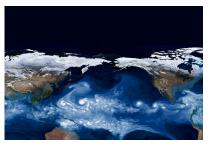
Material design



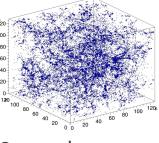
Drug discovery



Weather

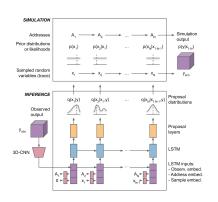


Climate science

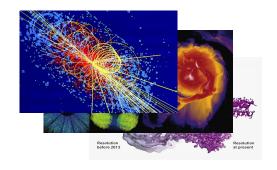


Cosmology

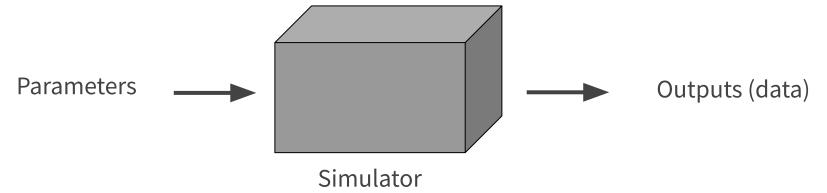
# Introducing a new way to use existing simulators

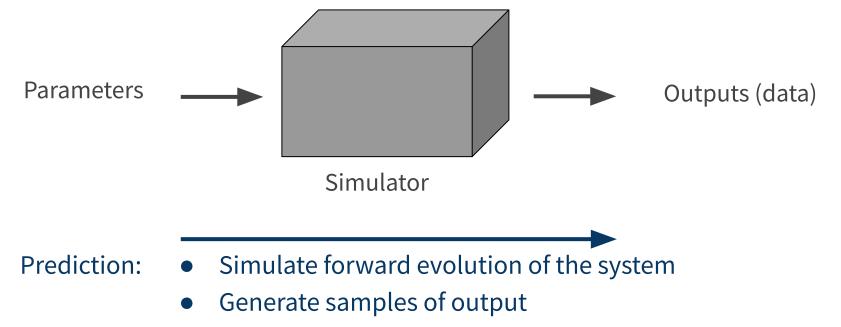


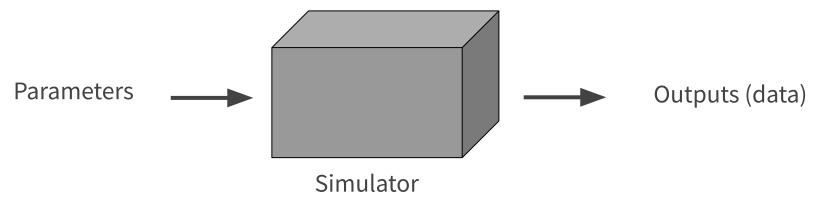
Probabilistic programming



Simulation

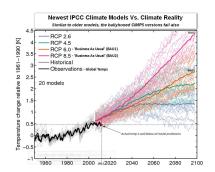


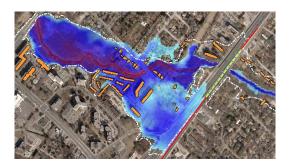


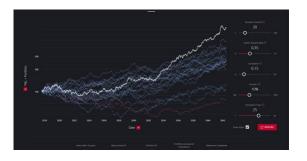


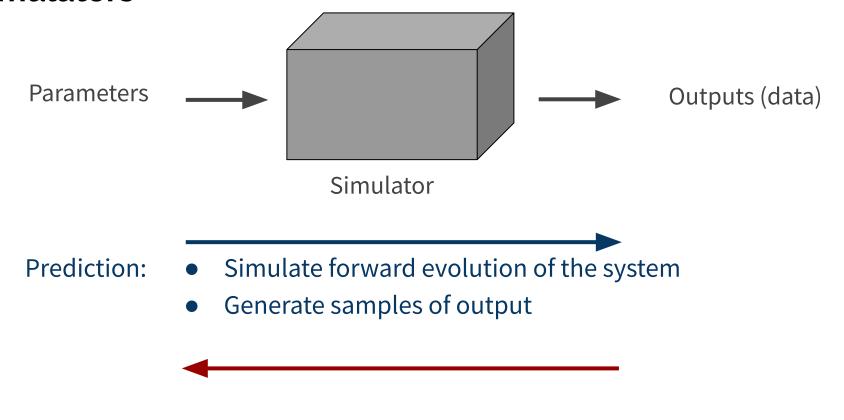
#### Prediction:

- Simulate forward evolution of the system
- Generate samples of output

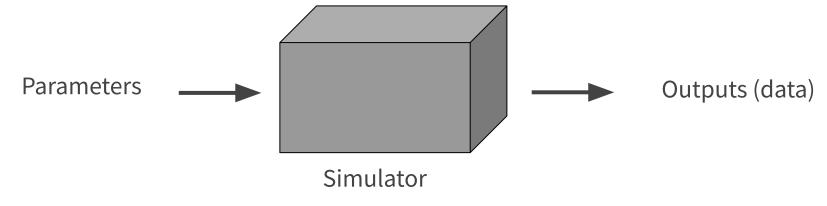








WE NEED THE INVERSE!

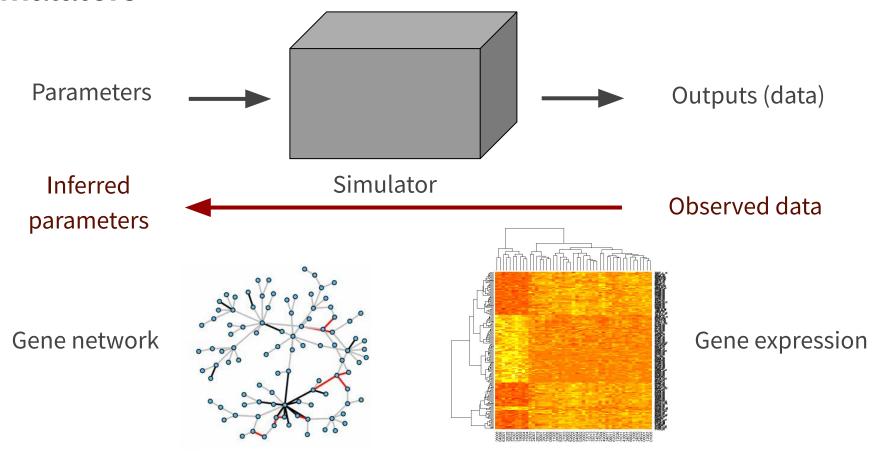


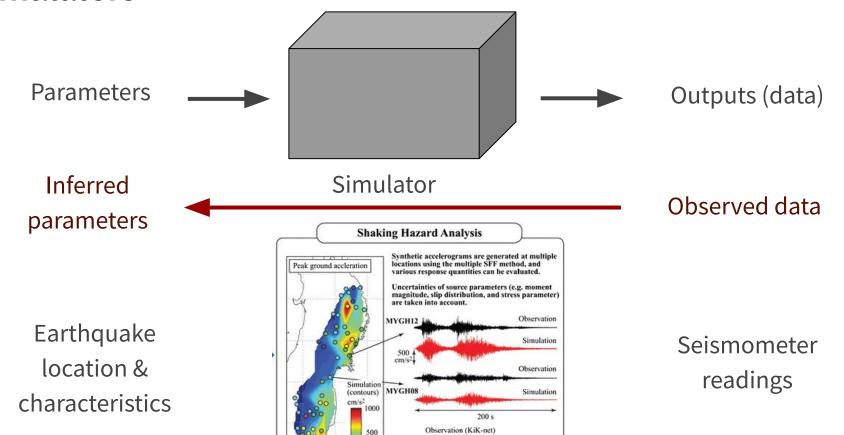
Prediction:

- Simulate forward evolution of the system
- Generate samples of output

Inference:

- Find parameters that can produce (explain) observed data
- Inverse problem
- Often a manual process

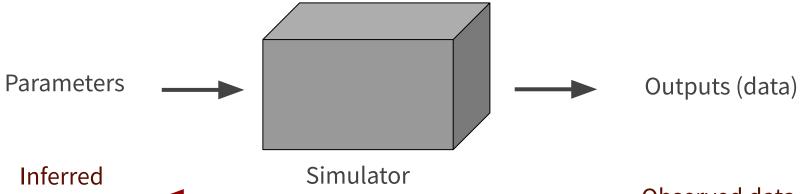




700 to 900 cm/s<sup>2</sup>

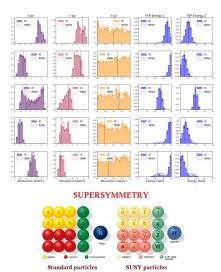
300 to 500 cm/s<sup>2</sup>

0 100 to 300 cm/s2



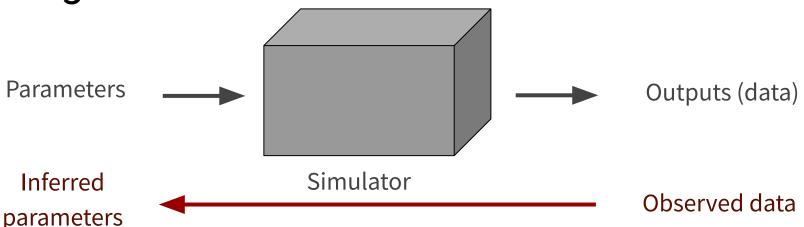
Event analyses & new particle discoveries

parameters



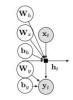
Observed data

Particle detector readings



## **Probabilistic programming** is a machine learning framework allowing us to

- write programs that define probabilistic models
- run automated Bayesian inference of parameters conditioned on observed outputs (data)



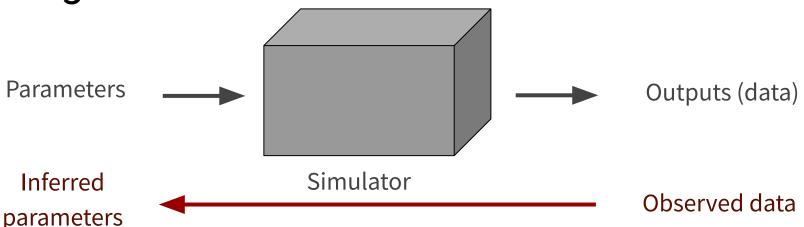
```
i def rm_cell(hprev, xt):
    return tf.tanh(tf.dot(hprev, Wh) + tf.dot(xt, Wx) + bh)
3    Wh = Normal(nu=tf.zeros([H, H]), signa=tf.cones([H, H]),
5    Wh = Normal(nu=tf.zeros([D, H]), signa=tf.cones([D, H]))
6    Wy = Normal(nu=tf.zeros([H, 1]), signa=tf.cones([H, 1]))
7    bh = Normal(nu=tf.zeros([H, signa=tf.cones([H, 1]))
8    by = Normal(nu=tf.zeros([H, signa=tf.cones([H, 1]))
90    va = tf.placeholder(tf.floet32, [None, D])
10    va = tf.placeholder(tf.floet32, [None, D])
11    h = tf.scan(rm.cell, x, initializer=tf.zeros([H))
12    y = Normal(nu=tf.natmol(h, Wy) + by, signa=1.0)
```





Edward





## **Probabilistic programming** is a machine learning framework allowing us to

- writ tf.tanh(tf.dot(hprev, Wh) + tf.dot(xt, Wx) + bh)
  - Has been limited to toy and small-scale problems run Normally requires one to **implement a probabilistic** con

model from scratch in the chosen language/system





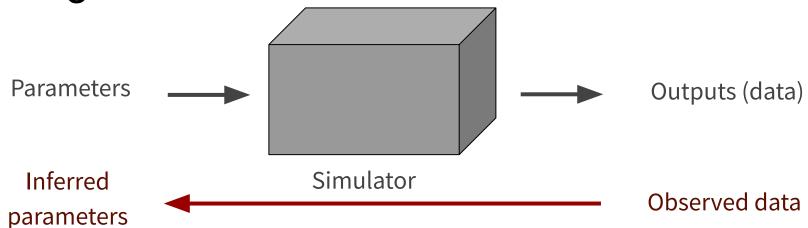


Stan

1 (mu=tf.zeros(H), sigma=tf.ones(H))

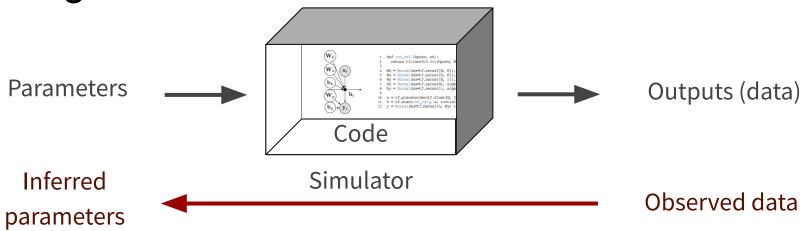
(mu=tf.zeros([H, H]), sigma=tf.ones([H, H])) (mu=tf.zeros([D, H]), sigma=tf.ones([D, H]))

an(rnn\_cell, x, initializer=tf.zeros(H)) 1 (mu=tf.matmul(h, Wy) + by, sigma=1.0)



#### Key idea:

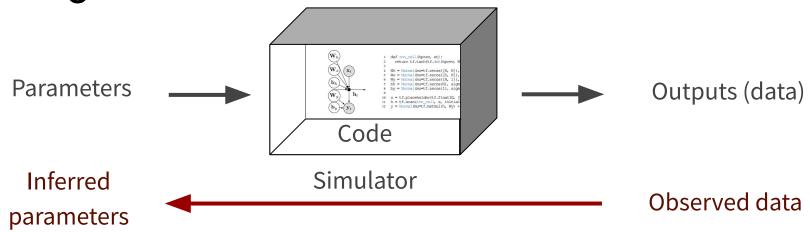
Many simulators are stochastic and they define probabilistic models by sampling random numbers



#### Key idea:

Many simulators are stochastic and they define probabilistic models by sampling random numbers

### Simulators are probabilistic programs!



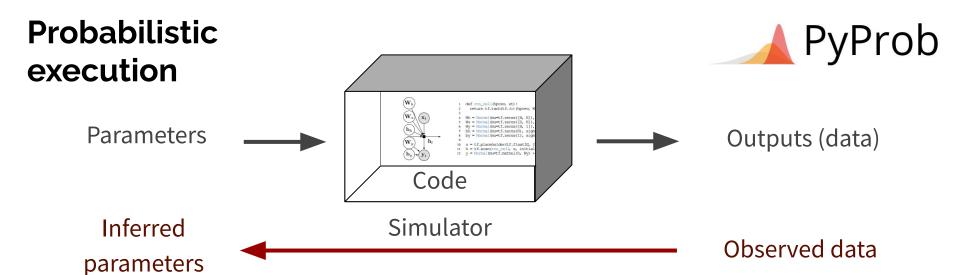
#### Key idea:

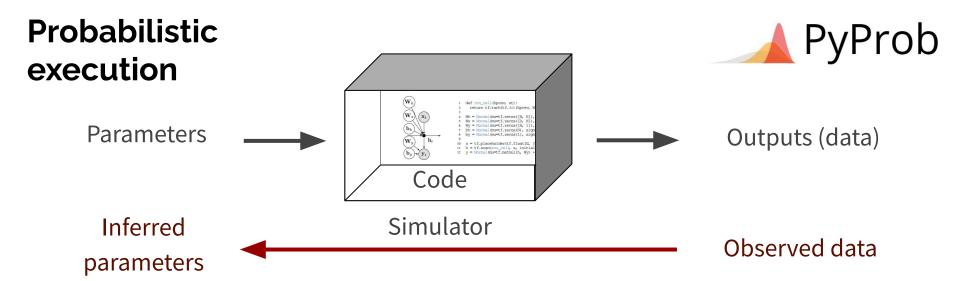
Many simulators are stochastic and they define probabilistic models by sampling random numbers

Simulators are probabilistic programs!
We "just" need an infrastructure to execute them as such



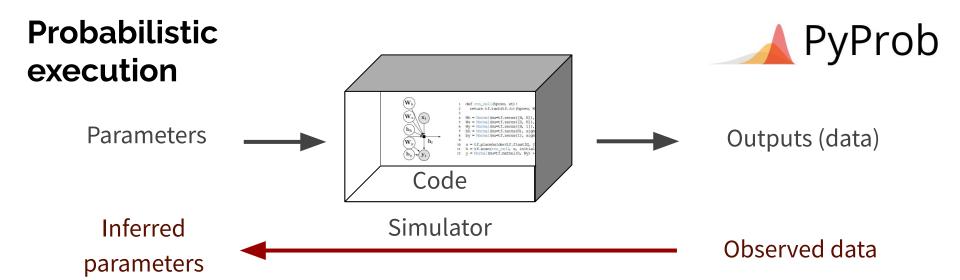
A new probabilistic programming system for existing simulators (in any language) based on PyTorch





- Run forward & catch all random choices ("hijack" all calls to RNG)
- Record an **execution trace**: a record of all parameters, random choices, outputs



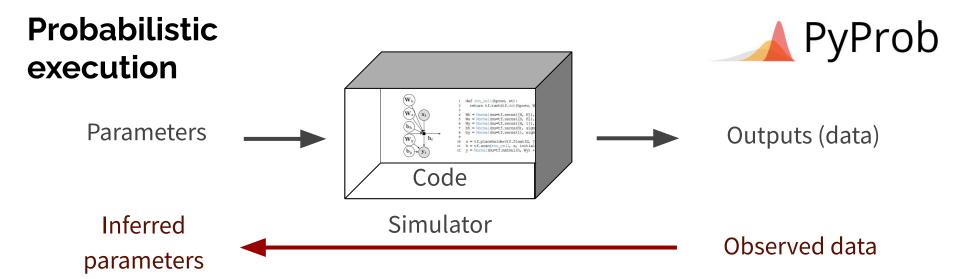


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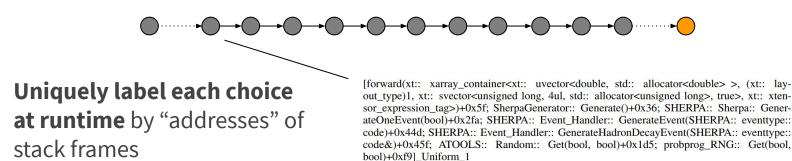


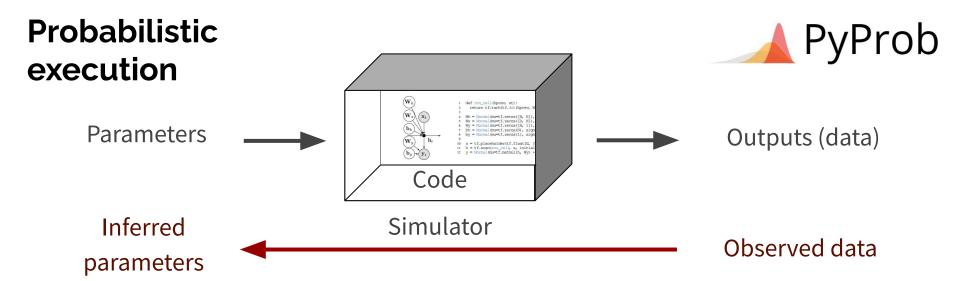


**P**robabilistic **P**rogramming e**X**ecution protocol C++, C#, Dart, Go, Java, JavaScript, Lua, Python, Rust and others



- Run forward & catch all random choices ("hijack" all calls to RNG)
- Record an execution trace: a record of all parameters, random choices, outputs

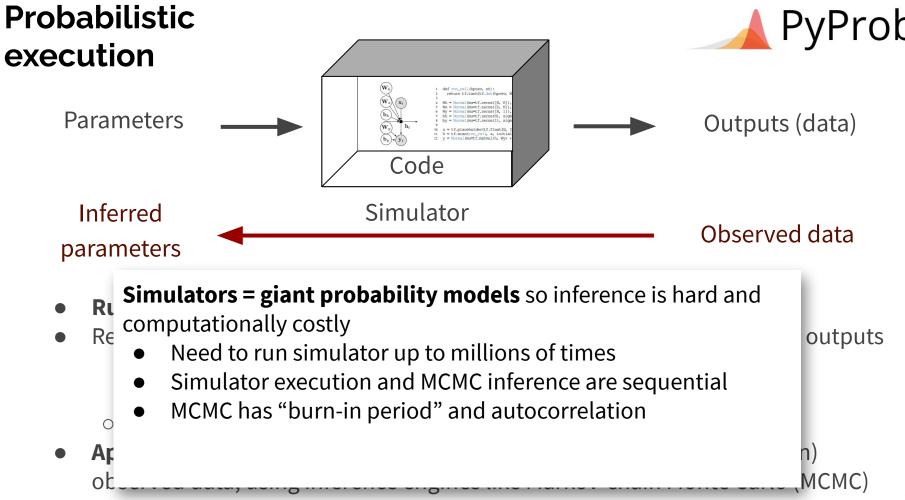


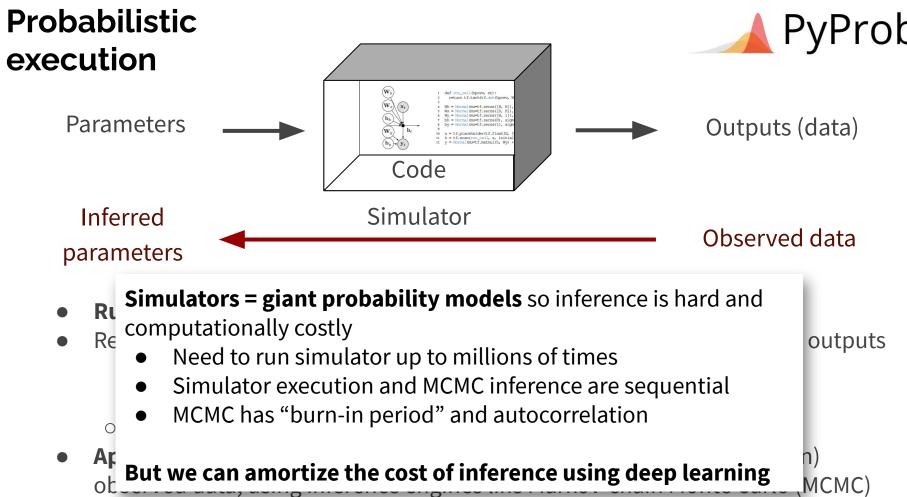


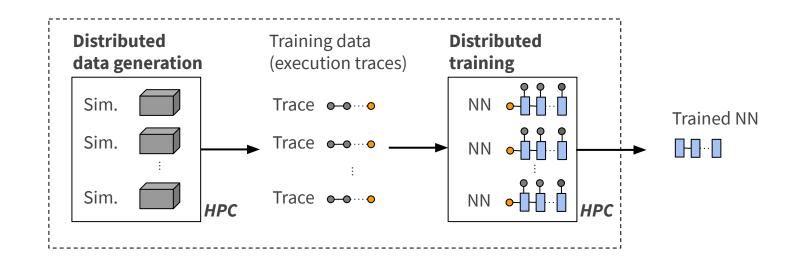
- Run forward & catch all random choices ("hijack" all calls to RNG)
- Record an execution trace: a record of all parameters, random choices, outputs



- Conditioning: compare simulated output and observed data
- Approximate the distribution of parameters that can produce (explain) observed data, using inference engines like Markov-chain Monte Carlo (MCMC)

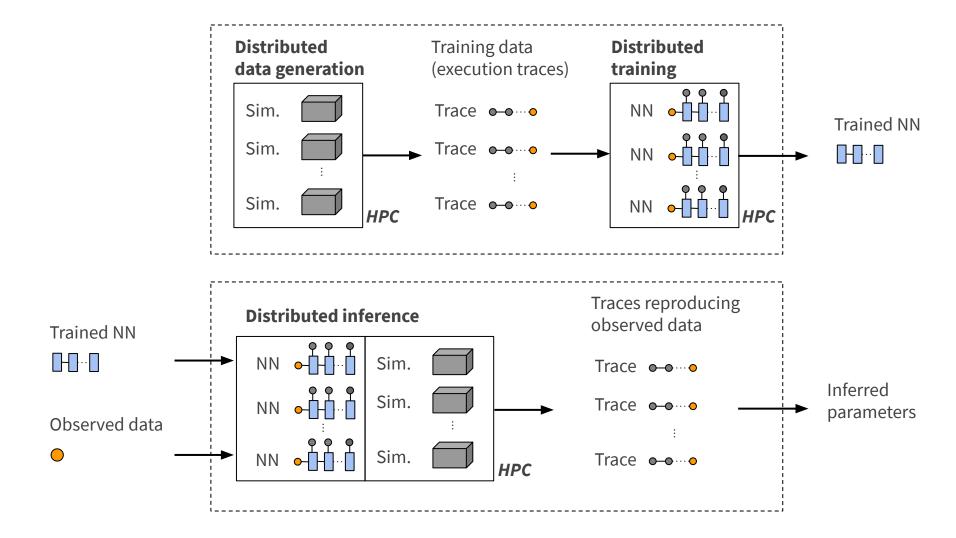






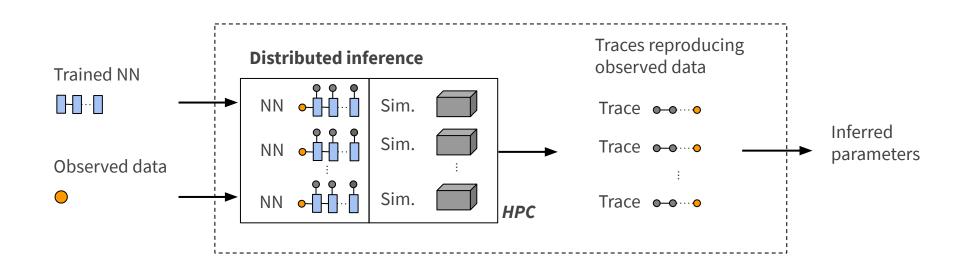
#### Training (recording simulator behavior)

- Deep recurrent neural network learns all random choices in simulator
- Dynamic NN: grows with simulator complexity
  - Layers get created as we learn more of the simulator
  - 100s of millions of parameters in particle physics simulation
- Costly, but amortized: we need to train only once per given model



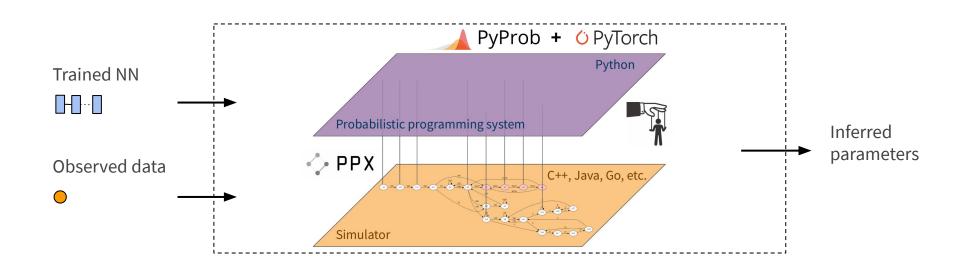
#### Inference (controlling simulator behavior)

- Trained deep NN makes intelligent choices given data observation
- Embarrassingly parallel distributed inference
- No "burn in period"
- No autocorrelation: every sample is independent



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# Probabilistic programming with simulators



https://github.com/pyprob/pyprob

Probabilistic programming system for simulators and HPC, based on PyTorch
 Distributed training and inference, efficient support for multi-TB distribution files
 Optimized memory usage, parallel trace processing and combination



https://github.com/pyprob/ppx

Probabilistic Programming eXecution protocol
 Simulator and inference/NN executed in separate processes and machines across network
 Using Google flatbuffers to support C++, C#, Dart, Go, Java, JavaScript, Lua, Python, Rust and others
 Probabilistic programming analogue to Open Neural Network Exchange (ONNX) for deep learning

**Pyprob\_cpp**, RNG front end for C++ simulators <a href="https://github.com/pyprob/pyprob\_cpp">https://github.com/pyprob/pyprob\_cpp</a>





Containerized workflow

Develop locally, deploy to HPC on many nodes for experiments

# etalumis → | ← simulate



Atılım Güneş Baydin



Lukas Heinrich



Wahid Bhimji



Lei Shao



Saeid Naderiparizi



Andreas Munk



Jialin Liu



Bradley Gram-Hansen



Gilles Louppe



Lawrence Meadows



Phil Torr



Victor Lee



Prabhat



Kyle Cranmer



Frank Wood







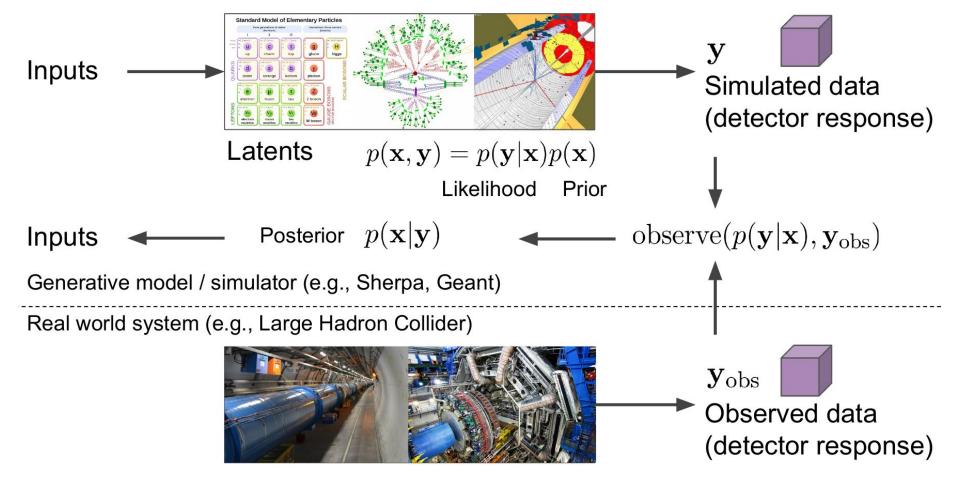






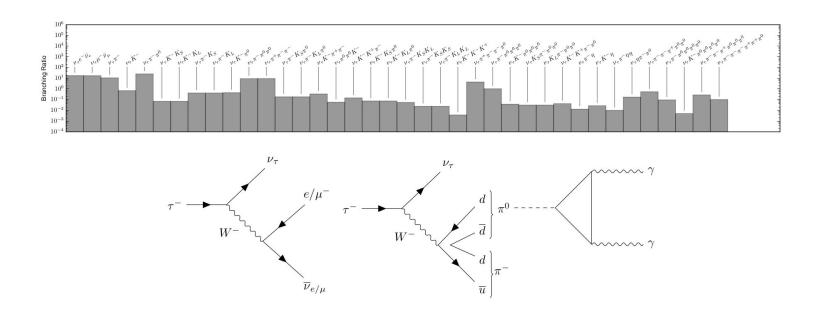






# Tau lepton decay

We study tau lepton decay using the state-of-the-art Sherpa simulator (C++) Coupled to a fast approximate calorimeter simulation in C++



# Latent variables in Sherpa

We found Sherpa to contain at least 25k addresses (latent variables)

*Note:* the **simulator defines an unlimited number of latents** due to Turing-complete host language (C++) and presence of many sampling loops

Address ID	Full address
A1	[forward(xt:: xarray_container <xt:: allocator<double="" std::="" uvector<double,="">&gt;, (xt:: layout_type)1, xt:: svector<unsigned 4ul,="" allocator<unsigned="" long="" long,="" std::="">, true&gt;, xt:: xtensor_expression_tag&gt;)+0x5f; SherpaGenerator:: Generate()+0x36; SHERPA:: Sherpa:: GenerateOneEvent(bool)+0x2fa; SHERPA:: Event_Handler:: GenerateEvent(SHERPA:: eventtype:: code)+0x44d; SHERPA:: Event_Handler:: GenerateHadronDecayEvent(SHERPA:: eventtype:: code&amp;)+0x45f; ATOOLS:: Random:: Get(bool, bool)+0x1d5; probprog_RNG:: Get(bool, bool)+0xf9]_Uniform_1</unsigned></xt::>
A6	[forward(xt:: xarray_container <xt:: allocator<double="" std::="" uvector<double,="">&gt;, (xt:: layout_type)1, xt:: svector<unsigned 4ul,="" allocator<unsigned="" long="" long,="" std::="">, true&gt;, xt:: xtensor_expression_tag&gt;)+0x5f; SherpaGenerator:: Generate()+0x36; SHERPA:: Sherpa:: GenerateOneEvent(bool)+0x2fa; SHERPA:: Event_Handler:: GenerateEvent(SHERPA:: event-type:: code)+0x44d; SHERPA:: Event_Handler:: GenerateHadronDecayEvent(SHERPA:: event-type:: code&amp;)+0x982; SHERPA:: Event_Handler:: IterateEventPhases(SHERPA:: eventtype:: code&amp;, double&amp;)+0x1d2; SHERPA:: Hadron_Decays:: Treat(ATOOLS:: Blob_List*, double&amp;)+0x975; SHERPA:: Decay_Handler_Base:: TreatInitialBlob(ATOOLS:: Blob*, METOOLS:: Amplitude2_Tensor*, std:: vector<atools:: allocator<atools::="" particle*="" particle*,="" std::=""> const&amp;)+0x1ab1; SHERPA:: Hadron_Decay_Handler:: CreateDecayBlob(ATOOLS:: Particle*)+0x4cd; PHASIC:: Decay_Table:: Select() const+0x9d7; ATOOLS:: Random:: GetCategorical(std:: vector<double, allocator<double="" std::=""> &gt; const&amp;, bool, bool)+0x1a5; probprog_RNG:: GetCategorical(std:: vector<double, allocator<double="" std::=""> &gt; const&amp;, bool, bool)+0x111]_Categorical(length_categories:38)_1</double,></double,></atools::></unsigned></xt::>
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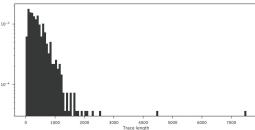
33

## Common trace types in Sherpa

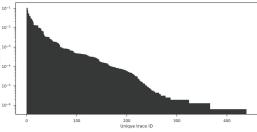
Approximately 450 trace types encountered

Trace type: unique sequencing of addresses (with different sampled values)

Freq.	Length	Addresses (showing controlled only)	10
0.106	72	A1, A2, A3, A5, A6, A32, A33, A31	, co
0.105	41	A1, A2, A3, A5, A6, A499, A31	Frequer
0.078	1,780	A1, A2, A3, A5, A6, A7, A8, A9, A10, A31	10
0.053	188	A1, A2, A3, A5, A6, A7, A8, A9, A10, A17, A18, A26, A31	
0.053	100	A1, A2, A3, A5, A6, A7, A8, A9, A10, A17, A18, A99, A100, A101, A102, A31	
0.039	56	A1, A2, A3, A5, A6, A499, A17, A18, A26, A31	
0.039	592	A1, A2, A3, A5, A6, A499, A17, A18, A99, A100, A101, A102, A31	
0.038	162	A1, A2, A3, A5, A6, A7, A8, A9, A10, A17, A500, A99, A100, A101, A102, A31	10
0.030	240	A1, A2, A3, A5, A6, A7, A8, A9, A10, A17, A18, A20, A21, A41, A42, A26, A99, A100, A101, A102, A31	10 Aneuck
0.029	836	A1, A2, A3, A5, A6, A7, A8, A9, A10, A17, A18, A20, A21, A41, A42, A99, A100, A101, A102, A26, A31	Fredue
0.027	643	A1, A2, A3, A5, A6, A7, A8, A9, A10, A17, A507, A99, A100, A101, A102, A31	10
0.023	135	A1, A2, A3, A5, A6, A7, A8, A9, A10, A17, A18, A20, A21, A41, A42, A44, A45, A26, A99, A100, A101, A102, A31	
0.023	485	A1, A2, A3, A5, A6, A7, A8, A9, A10, A17, A18, A20, A21, A41, A42, A44, A45, A99, A100, A101, A102, A26, A31	



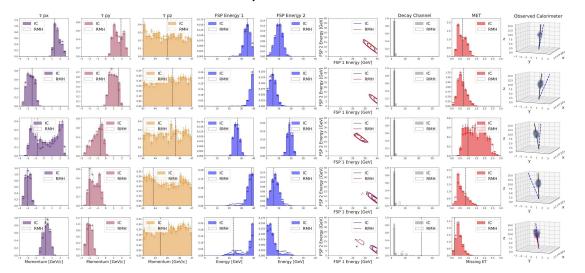
(a) Distribution of trace lengths (all addresses). Min: 13, max: 7,514, mean: 383.58.



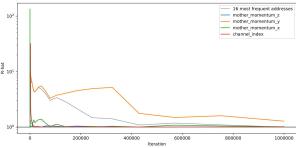
(c) Distribution of trace types, sorted in decreasing frequency.

#### Inference results

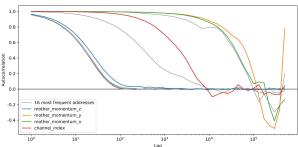
- Achieved MCMC (RMH) "ground truth"
- First tractable Bayesian inference for LHC physics
  - Posterior over full latent space (>25k latent variables)
  - Autocorrelation typically around 10<sup>5</sup>
- Amortized inference (IC) closely matches MCMC (RMH)
  - No autocorrelation, embarrassingly parallel
  - MCMC: 115 hours, IC: 30 minutes



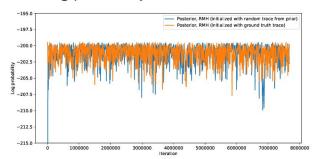
#### Gelman-Rubin convergence diagnostic



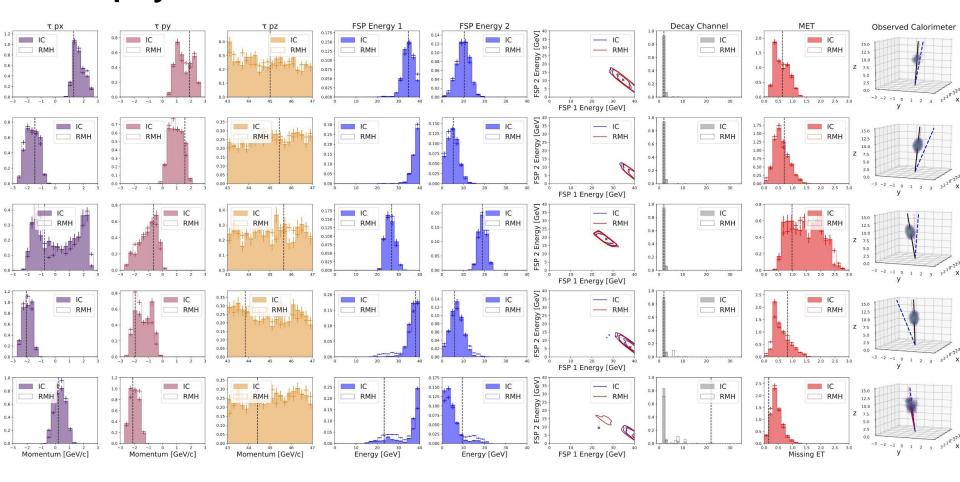
#### Autocorrelation

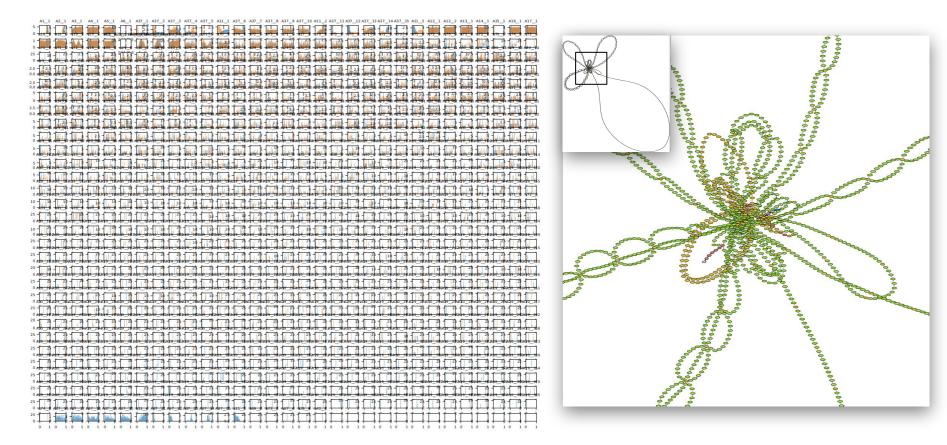


#### Trace log-probability

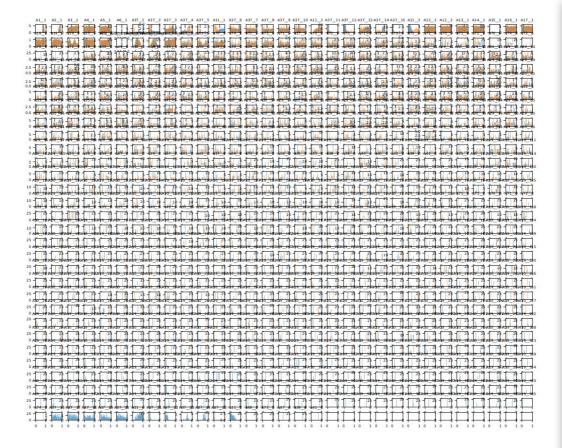


# More physics events





**Etalumis** gives access to all latent variables: allows answering any model-based question



**Etalumis** gives access to all latent variab any model-based question



The plot-ception saga continues!!!

Many congratulations to @lukasheinrich\_ for reclaiming his title of most plots in a single slide here at the first @INSIGHTS\_EU advanced statistics school held at @desy.

How will the competition respond?;)

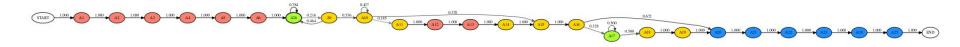
cc @atilimgunes @KyleCranmer



4:34 PM · Oct 29, 2019 · Twitter Web App

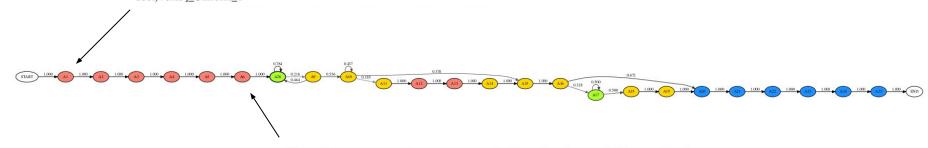
3 Retweets 20 Likes

Latent probabilistic structure of **10** most frequent trace types



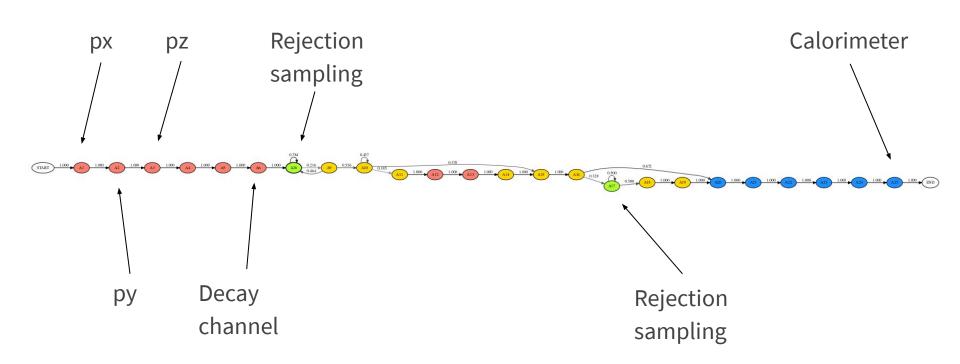
### Latent probabilistic structure of **10** most frequent trace types

[forward(xt:: xarray\_container<xt:: uvector<double, std:: allocator<double>>, (xt:: lay-out\_type)1, xt:: svector<unsigned long, 4ul, std:: allocator<unsigned long>, true>, xt:: xten-sor\_expression\_tag>)+0x5f; SherpaGenerator:: Generate()+0x36; SHERPA:: Sherpa:: GenerateOneEvent(bool)+0x2fa; SHERPA:: Event\_Handler:: GenerateEvent(SHERPA:: eventtype:: code)+0x44d; SHERPA:: Event\_Handler:: GenerateHadronDecayEvent(SHERPA:: eventtype:: code&)+0x45f; ATOOLS:: Random:: Get(bool, bool)+0x1d5; probprog\_RNG:: Get(bool, bool)+0xf9]\_Uniform\_1

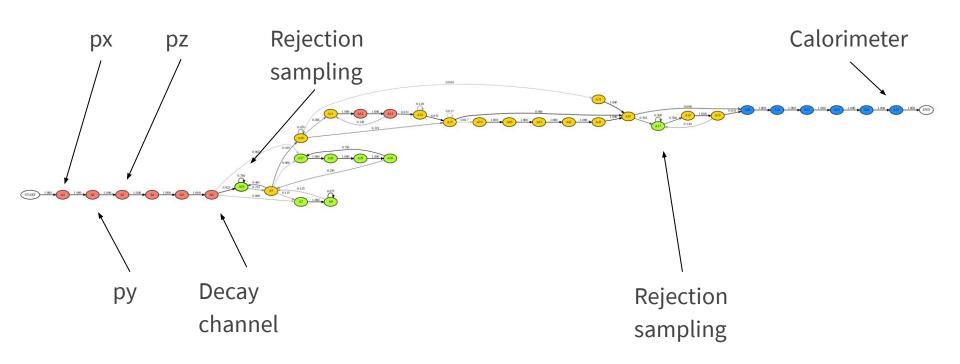


[forward(xt:: xarray\_container<xt:: uvector<double, std:: allocator<double> >, (xt:: layout\_type)1, xt:: svector<unsigned long, 4ul, std:: allocator<unsigned long>, true>, xt:: xtensor\_expression\_tag>)+0x5f; SherpaGenerator:: Generate()+0x36; SHERPA:: Sherpa:: GenerateOneEvent(bool)+0x2fa; SHERPA:: Event\_Handler:: GenerateEvent(SHERPA:: event-type:: code)+0x44d; SHERPA:: Event\_Handler:: IterateEventPhases(SHERPA:: eventtype:: code&)+0x982; SHERPA:: Event\_Handler:: IterateEventPhases(SHERPA:: eventtype:: code&)+0x982; SHERPA:: Hadron\_Decays:: Treat(ATOOLS:: Blob\_List\*, double&)+0x975; SHERPA:: Decay\_Handler\_Base:: TreatInitialBlob(ATOOLS:: Blob\*, METOOLS:: Amplitude2\_Tensor\*, std:: vector<ATOOLS:: Particle\*, std:: allocator<ATOOLS:: Particle\*>> const&)+0x1ab1; SHERPA:: Hadron\_Decay\_Handler:: CreateDecayBlob(ATOOLS:: Particle\*)+0x4cd; PHASIC:: Decay\_Table:: Select() const+0x9d7; ATOOLS:: Random:: GetCategorical(std:: vector<double, std:: allocator<double>> const&, bool, bool)+0x1a1]\_Categorical(length\_categories:38)\_1

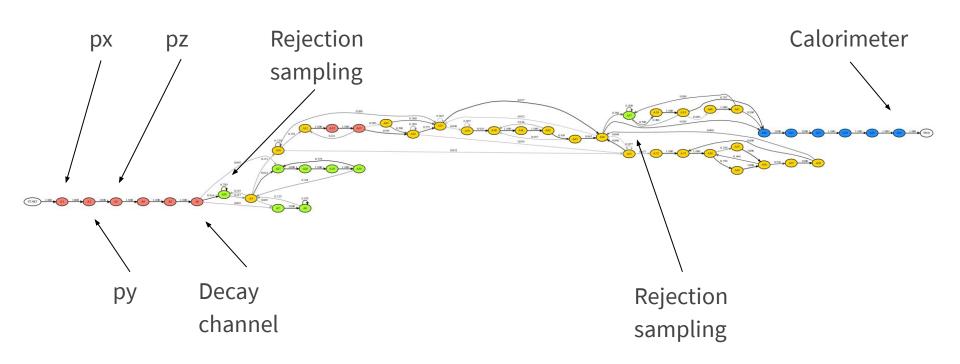
Latent probabilistic structure of **10** most frequent trace types



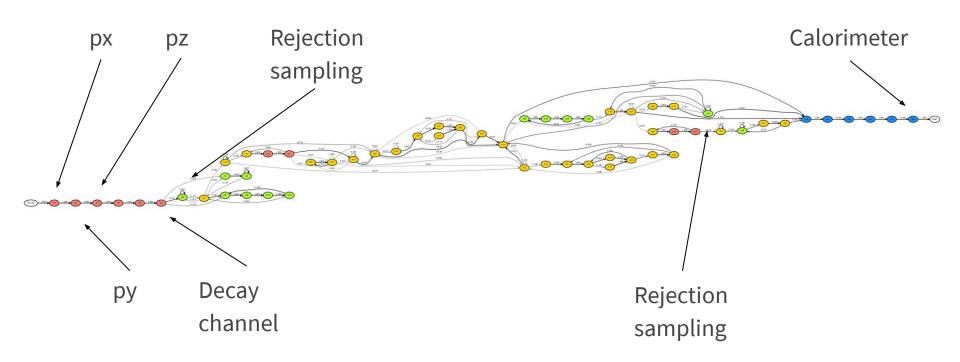
Latent probabilistic structure of **25** most frequent trace types



Latent probabilistic structure of **100** most frequent trace types



Latent probabilistic structure of **250** most frequent trace types



What's next?

# **Current and upcoming work**

- Autodiff through PPX protocol
- Learning simulator surrogates (approximate forward simulators)
- Rejection sampling loops (weighting schemes)
- Rare event simulation for compilation ("prior inflation")
- Batching of open-ended traces for NN training
- Distributed training of dynamic networks
  - Recently ran on 32k CPU cores on Cori (largest-scale PyTorch MPI)
- User features: posterior code highlighting, etc.
- Other simulators: astrophysics, epidemiology, computer vision

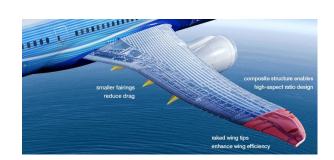
# Probabilistic programming is for the first time practical

for large-scale real-world science models

This is just the beginning ...

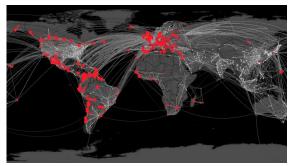


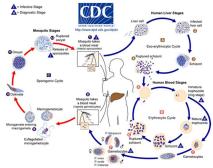
Spacecraft collision prevention
Collaboration with ESA



Simulation of composite materials

Munk et al. 2019, arXiv:1910.11950





Simulation-based inference in health

Schroeder de Witt et al. 2020. <u>arXiv:2005.07062</u> Gram-Hansen et al. 2019. <u>arXiv:1905.12432</u>



# Machine Learning and the Physical Sciences

Workshop at the 34th Conference on Neural Information Processing Systems (NeurIPS)

December 11, 2020



Atılım Güneş Baydin University of Oxford



Juan Felipe Carrasquilla Vector Institute / University of Waterloo



dji Bousso Dieng Dlumbia University



Karthik Kashinath NERSC, Berkeley Lab



Expecting your papers at the intersection of machine learning and physical sciences!

Paper deadline: 2 Oct 2020; workshop: 11 Dec 2020 <a href="https://ml4physicalsciences.github.io/">https://ml4physicalsciences.github.io/</a>



Gilles Louppe University of Liège



Brian Nord



Michela Paganini Facebook Al Research



Princeton University
IRIS-HEP



Anima Anandkumar Caltech / NVIDIA



Kyle Cranmer New York Universit



Shirley Ho Flatiron / Princeton



Prabhat NERSC, Berkeley Lab



# Thank you for listening

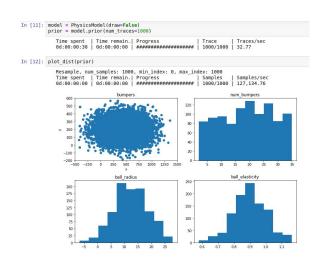


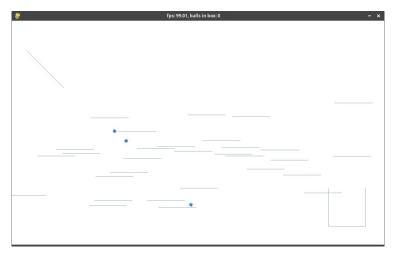
### Live demo

### Jupyter notebook:

https://github.com/gbaydin/mlhep2020/b lob/master/notebooks/probprog-physicsexample.ipynb

```
class PhysicsModel(Model):
    def init (self, draw=True, physics steps per frame=5):
        super(), init ('Physics')
        self. draw = draw
        self. physics steps per frame = physics steps per frame
    def forward(self):
        ball radius = max(5,int(pyprob.sample(Normal(12, 6), name='ball radius')))
        ball elasticity = float(pyprob.sample(Normal(0.9, 0.1), name='ball elasticity'))
        num bumpers = int(pyprob.sample(Uniform(2, 35), name='num bumpers'))
        bumpers = []
        for i in range(num bumpers):
            x = int(pyprob.sample(Normal(450, 250), name='bumper{}x'.format(i)))
            y = int(pyprob.sample(Normal(200, 100), name='bumper{}y'.format(i)))
            bumpers.append([x, v])
        p = PhysicsSim(bumpers=bumpers, ball radius=ball radius, ball elasticity=ball elas
        p.run()
        balls in box = len(p, balls in box)
        pyprob.observe(Normal(balls in box, 1), balls in box, name='balls in box')
model = PhysicsModel(draw=True, physics steps per frame=2)
trace = model.get trace()
```





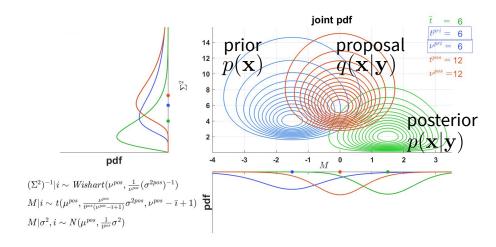
### References

Atılım Güneş Baydin, Lukas Heinrich, Wahid Bhimji, Lei Shao, Saeid Naderiparizi, Andreas Munk, Jialin Liu, Bradley Gram-Hansen, Gilles Louppe, Lawrence Meadows, Philip Torr, Victor Lee, Prabhat, Kyle Cranmer, Frank Wood. 2019. "Efficient Probabilistic Inference in the Quest for Physics Beyond the Standard Model." **NeurIPS 2019** 

Atılım Güneş Baydin, Lei Shao, Wahid Bhimji, Lukas Heinrich, Lawrence F. Meadows, Jialin Liu, Andreas Munk, Saeid Naderiparizi, Bradley Gram-Hansen, Gilles Louppe, Mingfei Ma, Xiaohui Zhao, Philip Torr, Kyle Cranmer, Victor Lee, Prabhat, Frank Wood. 2019. "Etalumis: Bringing Probabilistic Programming to Scientific Simulators at Scale." International Conference for High Performance Computing, Networking, Storage, and Analysis - **SC19** 

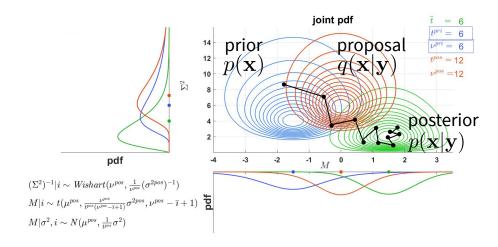
Extra slides

- Markov chain Monte Carlo
  - Probprog-specific:
    - LightweightMetropolis-Hastings
    - Random-walkMetropolis-Hastings
  - Sequential
  - Autocorrelation in samples
  - "Burn in" period
- Importance sampling
  - $\circ$  Propose from prior  $\,p({f x})$
  - Use learned proposal  $q(\mathbf{x}|\mathbf{y})$  parameterized by observations
  - No autocorrelation or burn in
  - Each sample is independent (parallelizable)
- Others: variational inference, Hamiltonian Monte Carlo, etc.

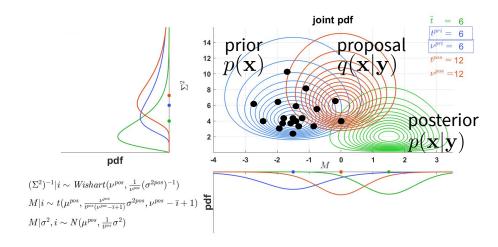


### Markov chain Monte Carlo

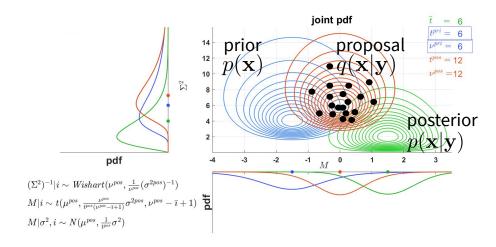
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# Probabilistic programming languages (PPLs)

- Anglican (Clojure)
- Church (Scheme)
- Edward, TensorFlow Probability (Python, TensorFlow)
- Pyro (Python, PyTorch)
- Figaro (Scala)
- Infer.NET (C#)
- LibBi (C++ template library)
- PyMC3 (Python)
- Stan (C++)
- WebPPL (JavaScript)

For more, see <a href="http://probabilistic-programming.org">http://probabilistic-programming.org</a>

# Calorimeter

For each particle in the final state coming from Sherpa:

- Determine whether it interacts with the calorimeter at all (muons and neutrinos don't)
- 2. Calculate the total mean number and spatial distribution of energy depositions from the calorimeter shower (simulating combined effect of secondary particles)
- 3. Draw a number of actual depositions from the total mean and then draw that number of energy depositions according to the spatial distribution

# Training objective and data for IC

Minimize

$$\mathcal{L}(\phi) = \mathbb{E}_{p(\mathbf{y})} \left[ \text{KL}(p(\mathbf{x}|\mathbf{y})||q(\mathbf{x}|\mathbf{y};\phi)) \right]$$

$$= \int_{\mathbf{y}} p(\mathbf{y}) \int_{\mathbf{x}} p(\mathbf{x}|\mathbf{y}) \log \frac{p(\mathbf{x}|\mathbf{y})}{q(\mathbf{x}|\mathbf{y};\phi)} d\mathbf{x} d\mathbf{y}$$

$$= -\mathbb{E}_{p(\mathbf{x},\mathbf{y})} \left[ \log q(\mathbf{x}|\mathbf{y};\phi) \right] + \text{const.}$$

- Using stochastic gradient descent with Adam
- Infinite stream of minibatches

$$\mathcal{D}_{\text{train}} = \left\{ \left( x_t^{(m)}, a_t^{(m)}, i_t^{(m)} \right)_{t=1}^{T^{(m)}}, \left( y_n^{(m)} \right)_{n=1}^N \right\}_{m=1}^M$$

sampled from the model  $p(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})$ 

# Gelman-Rubin and autocorrelation formulae

# Gelman-Rubin diagnostic $(\hat{R})$

- Compute m independent Markov chains
- Compares variance of each chain to pooled variance
- If initial states  $(\theta_{1i})$  are overdispersed, then  $\hat{R}$  approaches unity from above
- Provides estimate of how much variance could be reduced by running chains longer
- It is an estimate!

$$W = \frac{1}{m} \sum_{j=1}^{m} s_j^2$$

$$\bar{\theta} = \frac{1}{m} \sum_{j=1}^{m} \bar{\theta}_j$$

$$B = \frac{n}{m-1} \sum_{j=1}^{m} (\bar{\theta}_j - \bar{\bar{\theta}})^2$$

$$s_j^2 = \frac{1}{n-1} \sum_{i=1}^{m} (\theta_{ij} - \bar{\theta}_j)^2$$

$$\hat{Var}(\theta) = (1 - \frac{1}{n})W + \frac{1}{n}B$$

$$\hat{R} = \sqrt{\frac{\hat{Var}(\theta)}{W}}$$

From Eric B. Ford (Penn State): Bayesian Computing for Astronomical Data Analysis http://astrostatistics.psu.edu/RLectures/diagnosticsMCMC.pdf

# Gelman-Rubin and autocorrelation formulae

### Check Autocorrelation of Markov chain

Autocorrelation as a function of lag

$$\rho_{lag} = \frac{\sum_{i}^{N-lag} (\theta_{i} - \bar{\theta})(\theta_{i+lag} - \bar{\theta})}{\sum_{i}^{N} (\theta_{i} - \bar{\theta})^{2}}$$

- What is smallest lag to give an  $\rho_{lag} \approx 0$ ?
- One of several methods for estimating how many iterations of Markov chain are needed for effectively independent samples