

Scientific AI for the Physical Sciences



Jason D. McEwen

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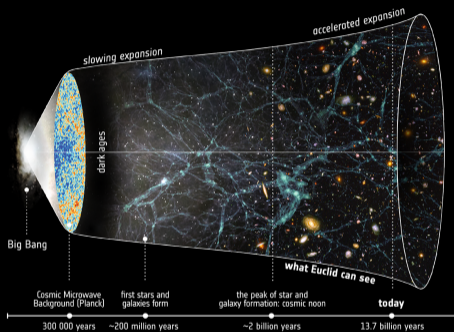
SciAI Group, Mullard Space Science Laboratory (MSSL)

Centre for Data Intensive Science & Industry (DISI)

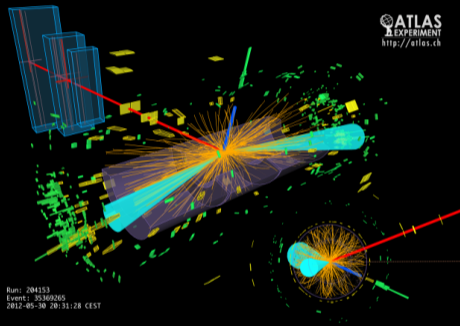
University College London (UCL)

ICML @ London 2024

Towards a fundamental understanding of our Universe

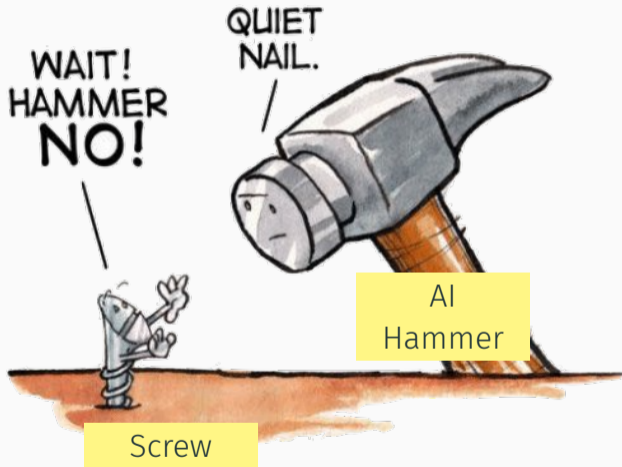


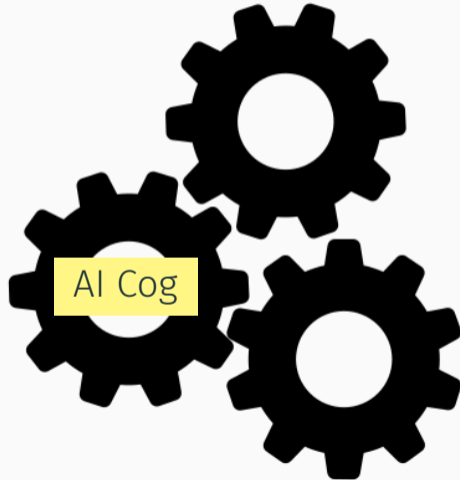
Astrophysics & Cosmology



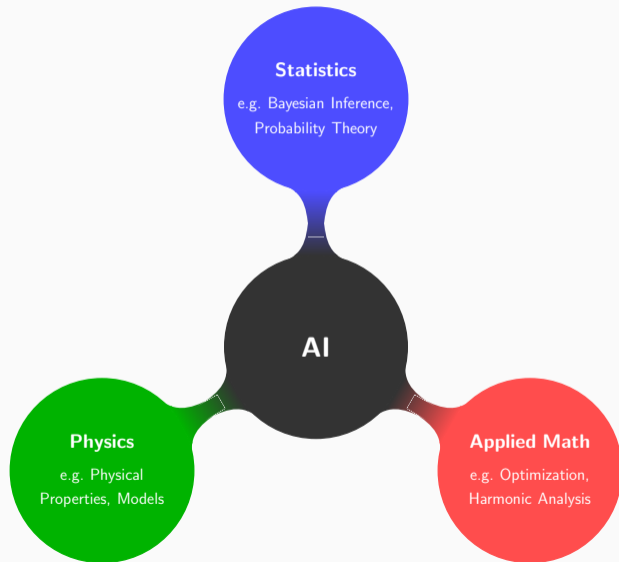
High Energy Physics

The AI hammer

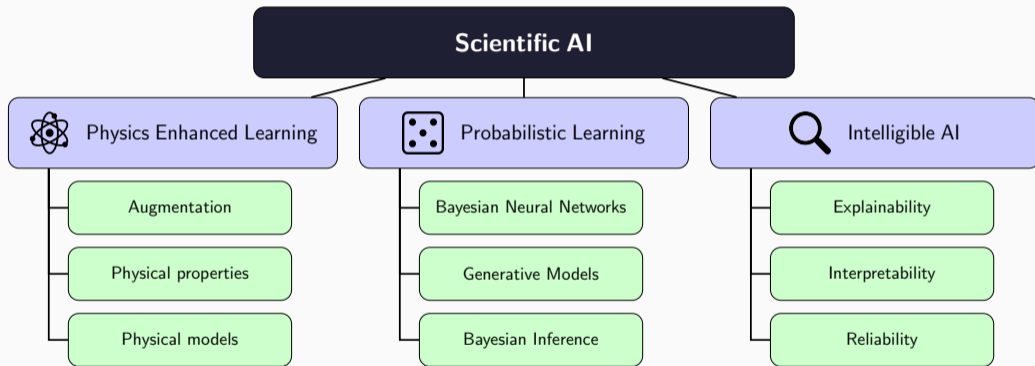




Merging paradigms



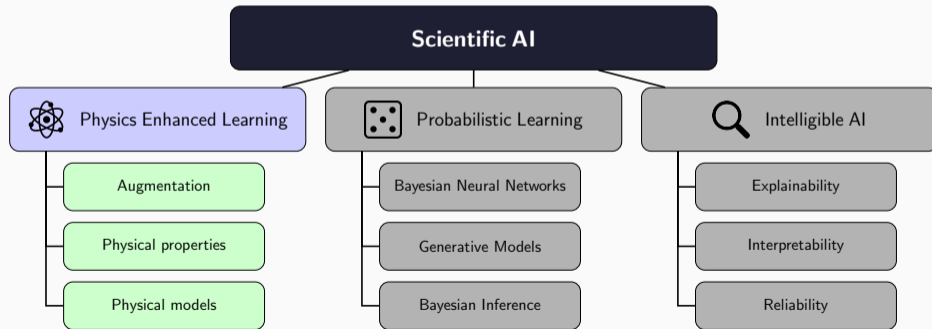
Scientific AI for the physical sciences



Physics Enhanced Learning

Embed physical understanding of the world into machine learning models.

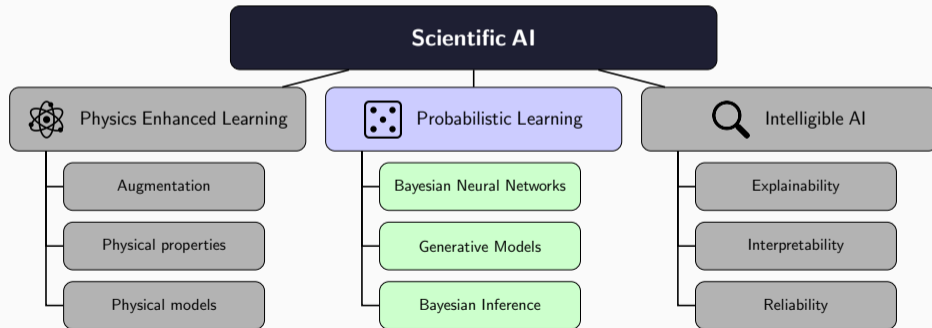
(See review by Karniadakis *et al.* 2021.)



Probabilistic Learning

Embed a probabilistic representation of data, models and/or outputs.

(See Murray 2022.)

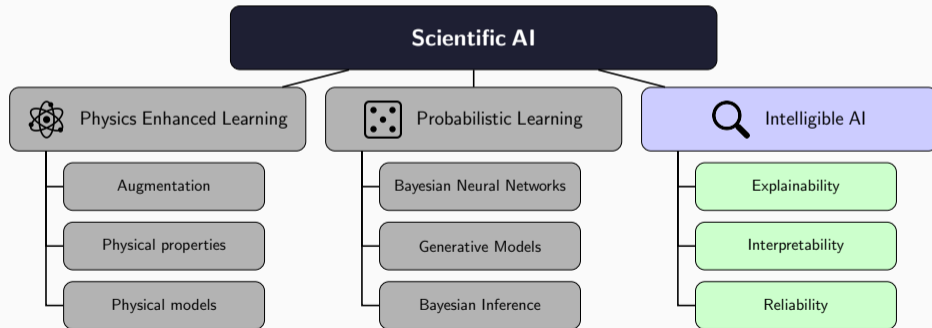


Scientific AI for the physical sciences

Intelligible AI

Machine learning methods that are able to be understood by humans.

(See Weld & Bansal 2018, Ras *et al.* 2020.)



Some (very!) brief case studies

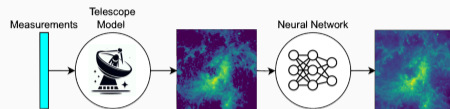
1. Differentiable Physics
2. Geometric & Equivariant Deep Learning
3. Generative Models for Textures
4. Accelerated Bayesian Inference
5. Denoising Diffusion MCMC for Imaging

Differentiable Physics

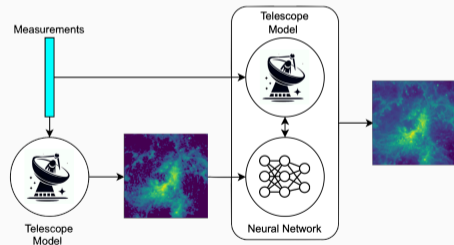


▷ Differentiable physical models

- ▶ Radio interferometric telescope
(Mars *et al.* 2023, 2024)
 - ↪ Reconstruction quality \uparrow ($\sim 20\text{dB}$)
 - ↪ Computation time \downarrow ($\sim 600\times$)
- ▶ Weak gravitational lensing
(Whitney *et al.* in prep.)
- ▶ JAX-Cosmo, CosmoPower-JAX
(Campagne *et al.* 2023, Spurio Mancini *et al.* 2021, Piras *et al.* 2023)



Classical AI model



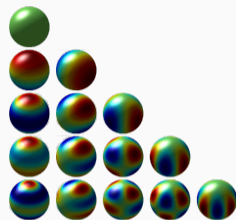
Hybrid physics-enhanced AI model

Differentiable physics allows hybrid physics-enhanced AI models.

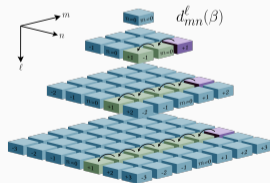


▷ Differentiable mathematical methods

- ▶ Spherical harmonic transforms
(Price & McEwen 2024; `s2fft` code)
⇒ Computation time ↓ (~400×)
- ▶ Spherical wavelet transforms
(Price *et al.* 2024; `s2wav` code)
⇒ Computation time ↓ (~300×)



Spherical harmonics



Initialise Recursion

$$d_{m,n}^{\ell}(\beta) = \sqrt{\frac{(2\ell)!}{(\ell+n)!(\ell-n)!}} \left(-\sin\frac{\beta}{2}\right)^{\ell-n} \left(\cos\frac{\beta}{2}\right)^{\ell+n}$$

Execute Recursion

$$d_{m-1,n}^{\ell}(\beta) = \lambda_m a_{m-1} d_{m,n}^{\ell}(\beta) - \frac{a_{m-1}}{a_m} d_{m+1,n}^{\ell}(\beta)$$

where $\lambda_m = \frac{n-m\cos\beta}{\sin\beta}$ and $a_m = \frac{2}{\sqrt{(\ell-m)!(\ell+m+1)}}$

Avoid Singularities

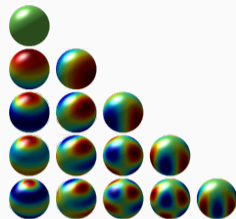
$$d_{m,0}^{\ell}(0) = \delta_{m,0} \text{ and } d_{m,n}^{\ell}(\pi) = (-1)^{\ell+m} \delta_{m,-n}$$

Differentiable and GPU-friendly recursions



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Spherical harmonics

See poster



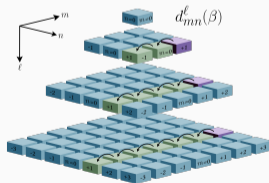
Matt Price



Alicja Polanska



Jess Whitney



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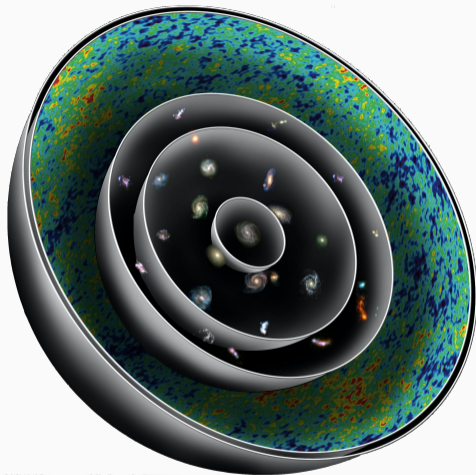
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Differentiable and GPU-friendly recursions

Geometric & Equivariant Deep Learning

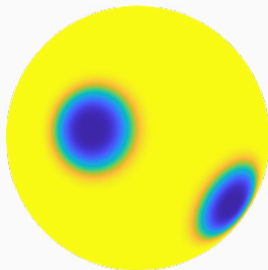


Cosmological observations made on the celestial sphere.



Categorization of spherical CNN frameworks

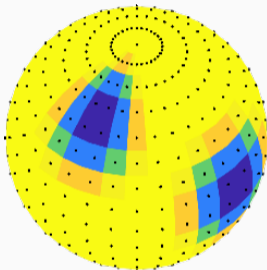
Continuous



- ✓ Equivariant
- ✗ Not Scalable

(Cohen et al. 2018, Esteves et al. 2018, Kondor et al. 2018, Cobb et al. 2021, McEwen et al. 2022, ...)

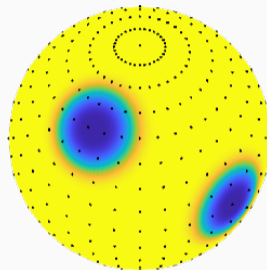
Discrete



- ✗ Not Equivariant
- ✓ Scalable

(Jiang et al. 2019, Zhang et al. 2019, Perraudin et al. 2019, Cohen et al. 2019, ...)

Discrete-Continuous (DISCO)

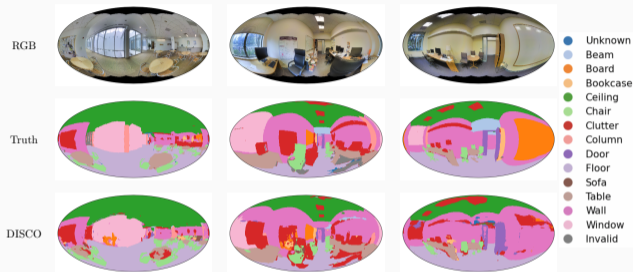


- ✓ Equivariant
- ✓ Scalable

(Ocampo, Price & McEwen 2023; s2ai code)



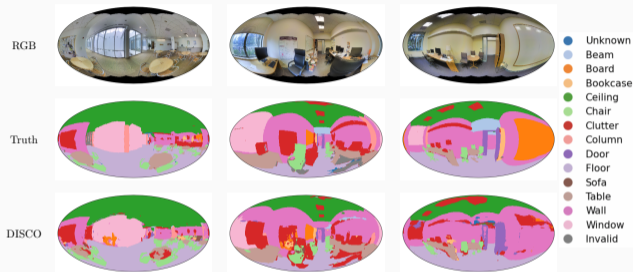
- ▷ 10^9 saving in compute and 10^4 saving in memory (for 4k spherical image).
- ▷ SOTA performance on variety of benchmark problems (classification, depth estimation, semantic segmentation).



Semantic segmentation for 2D3DS data-set.



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See poster

Semantic segmentation for 2D3DS data-set.



Jason McEwen

Kevin Mulder



Matt Price

Generative Models for Textures



Standard machine learning techniques:

- ▷ **require substantial training data** (which we often do not have);
- ▷ **suffers covariate shift** (*i.e.* change in physical model);
- ▷ **fails to capture symmetries** of data (unless encode in model architecture).



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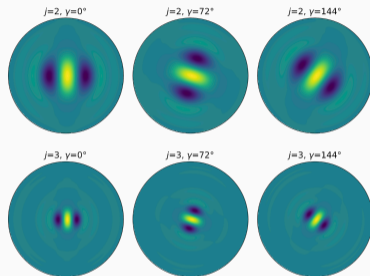
⇒ **Statistical characterization and generative modelling.**

- ▷ **Wavelet scattering networks** inspired by CNNs but designed rather than learned filters (Mallat 2012).
- ▷ Extend to **spherical scattering networks** (McEwen et al. 2022).



Spherical scattering propagator for scale j :

$$U[j]f = |f \star \psi_j|.$$



Orthographic plot of spherical wavelets.

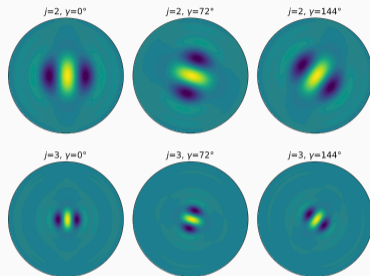


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Spherical cascade of propagators:

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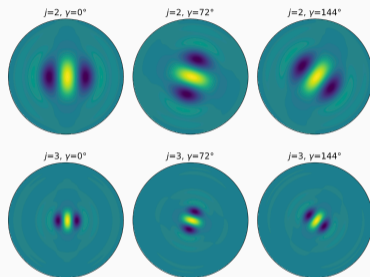
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Spherical cascade of propagators:

$$U[p]f = ||f \star \psi_{j_1} | \star \psi_{j_2} | \dots \star \psi_{j_d} |.$$

Scattering coefficients:

$$S[p]f = ||f \star \psi_{j_1} | \star \psi_{j_2} | \dots \star \psi_{j_d} | \star \phi.$$



Orthographic plot of spherical wavelets.



Isometric Invariance

Let $\zeta \in \text{Isom}(\mathbb{S}^2)$, then there exists a constant C such that for all $f \in L^2(\mathbb{S}^2)$,

$$\|\mathcal{S}_{\mathbb{P}_D} f - \mathcal{S}_{\mathbb{P}_D} V_{\zeta} f\|_2 \leq C L^{5/2} (D+1)^{1/2} \lambda^0 \|\zeta\|_{\infty} \|f\|_2.$$

Difference in representation.

Scattering network representation is invariant to isometries up to a scale.



Stability to Diffeomorphisms

Let $\zeta \in \text{Diff}(\mathbb{S}^2)$. If $\zeta = \zeta_1 \circ \zeta_2$ for some isometry $\zeta_1 \in \text{Isom}(\mathbb{S}^2)$ and diffeomorphism $\zeta_2 \in \text{Diff}(\mathbb{S}^2)$, then there exists a constant C such that for all $f \in L^2(\mathbb{S}^2)$,

$$\|\mathcal{S}_{\mathbb{P}^D} f - \mathcal{S}_{\mathbb{P}^D} V_{\zeta} f\|_2 \leq CL^2 [L^2 \|\zeta_2\|_{\infty} + L^{1/2}(D+1)^{1/2} \lambda^{j_0} \|\zeta_1\|_{\infty}] \|f\|_2.$$

Difference in representation.

Scattering network representation is stable to small diffeomorphisms about isometry.



Generative models of astrophysical fields with scattering transforms on the sphere

(Mousset, Allys, Price, *et al.* McEwen 2024; `s2scat` code)

Scattering covariance statistics:

1. $S_1[\lambda] f = \mathbb{E} [|f \star \psi_\lambda|]$.
2. $S_2[\lambda] f = \mathbb{E} [|f \star \psi_\lambda|^2]$.
3. $S_3[\lambda_1, \lambda_2] f = \text{COV} [f \star \psi_{\lambda_2}, |f \star \psi_{\lambda_1}| \star \psi_{\lambda_2}]$.
4. $S_4[\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \lambda_3] f = \text{COV} [|f \star \psi_{\lambda_1}| \star \psi_{\lambda_3}, |f \star \psi_{\lambda_2}| \star \psi_{\lambda_3}]$.



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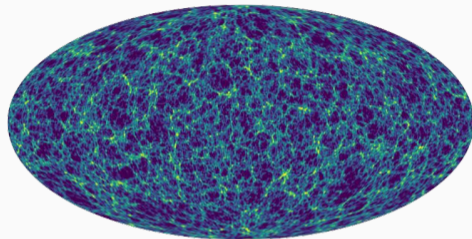
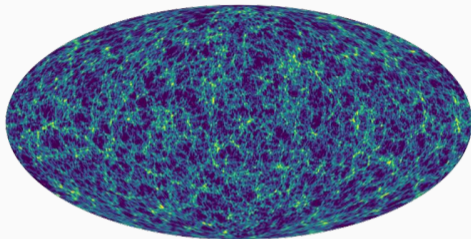
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Generative modelling by **matching set of scattering covariance statistics** $\mathcal{S}(f)$ with a (single) target simulation:

$$\min_f \| \mathcal{S}(f) - \mathcal{S}(f_{\text{target}}) \|^2.$$



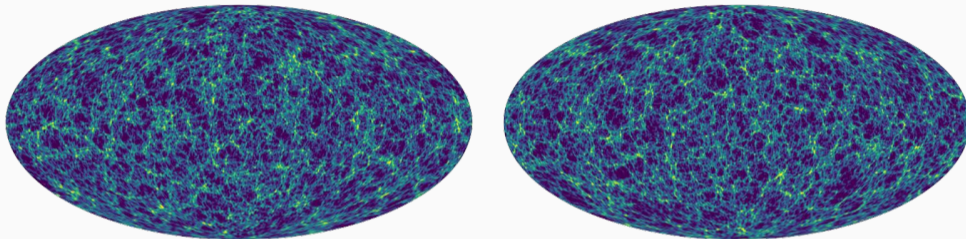
Which field is emulated and which simulated?



Logarithm (for visualization) of cosmological weak lensing field.



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Logarithm (for visualization) of cosmological weak lensing field.

See poster



Matt Price

Accelerated Bayesian Inference



Bayes' theorem

$$p(\theta | \mathbf{y}, M) = \frac{p(\mathbf{y} | \theta, M) p(\theta | M)}{p(\mathbf{y} | M)}$$

posterior

likelihood

prior

evidence

for parameters θ , model M and observed data \mathbf{y} .



Bayes' theorem

$$\underbrace{p(\theta | \mathbf{y}, M)}_{\text{posterior}} = \frac{\overbrace{p(\mathbf{y} | \theta, M)}^{\text{likelihood}} \overbrace{p(\theta | M)}^{\text{prior}}}{\underbrace{p(\mathbf{y} | M)}_{\text{evidence}}} = \frac{\overbrace{\mathcal{L}(\theta)}^{\text{likelihood}} \overbrace{\pi(\theta)}^{\text{prior}}}{\underbrace{z}_{\text{evidence}}},$$

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For **parameter estimation**, typically draw samples from the posterior by *Markov chain Monte Carlo (MCMC)* sampling.



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For **parameter estimation**, typically draw samples from the posterior by *Markov chain Monte Carlo (MCMC)* sampling.

For **model selection**, must compute **Bayesian evidence** (marginal likelihood):

$$z = p(\mathbf{y} | M) = \int d\theta \mathcal{L}(\theta) \pi(\theta) .$$



Leverage recent machine learning developments and underlying technology.

Four pillars of a new paradigm (Piras *et al.* 2024):



Leverage recent machine learning developments and underlying technology.

Four pillars of a new paradigm (Piras *et al.* 2024):

1. **Emulation**, *e.g.* CosmoPower-JAX
(Spurio Mancini *et al.* 2021, Piras *et al.* 2023).
2. **Differentiable and probabilistic programming**, *e.g.* JAX, NumPyro.
3. **Scalable MCMC** that exploit gradients, *e.g.* NUTS.
4. **Decoupled and scalable Bayesian model selection**, *e.g.* learned harmonic mean that leverages normalizing flows
(McEwen *et al.* 2021, Spurio Mancini *et al.* 2022, Polanska *et al.* 2024, Piras *et al.* 2024; **harmonic** code) .



- ▷ Requires **posterior samples only**
 - ↪ Evidence almost for free
- ▷ **Agnostic to sampling** technique
 - ↪ Leverage efficient samplers
 - ↪ Simulation-based inference (SBI)
 - ↪ Variational inference
- ▷ Scale to **high-dimensions**
 - ↪ Normalizing flows

Accelerated Bayesian inference (Piras *et al.* 2024)

37 parameter cosmic shear analysis of LCDM vs w_0w_a CDM

- ▷ CAMB + PolyChord ↪ **8 months on 48 CPU cores**
- ▷ CosmoPower-JAX + NumPyro/NUTS + **Harmonic**
 - ↪ **2 days on 12 GPUs**

157 parameter 3x2pt analysis of LCDM vs w_0w_a CDM

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See poster



Alicja Polanska



Matt Price

Denoising Diffusion MCMC for Imaging



Classical high-dimensional imaging problems often consider Gaussian likelihood and sparsity-promoting prior (e.g. in wavelet representation Ψ):

$$p(\mathbf{y} | \mathbf{x}) \propto \exp\left(-\|\mathbf{y} - \Phi\mathbf{x}\|_2^2 / (2\sigma^2)\right)$$

Likelihood

$$p(\mathbf{x}) \propto \exp\left(-\|\Psi^\dagger\mathbf{x}\|_1\right)$$

Prior

Often compute **MAP estimator** (variational regularisation) by convex optimization:

$$\arg \max_x \log p(\mathbf{x} | \mathbf{y}) = \arg \min_x \left[\underbrace{\|\mathbf{y} - \Phi\mathbf{x}\|_2^2}_{\text{Data fidelity}} + \underbrace{\lambda \|\Psi^\dagger\mathbf{x}\|_1}_{\text{Regulariser}} \right]$$

⇒ Alternatively, sample posterior to **quantify uncertainties** (parameter estimation and model selection).



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Proximal nested sampling (Cai, McEwen & Pereyra 2021):

- ▷ Constrained nested sampling formulation;
- ▷ Langevin diffusion MCMC sampling;
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Proximal nested sampling Markov chain:

$$\mathbf{x}^{(k+1)} = \mathbf{x}^{(k)} + \frac{\delta}{2} \nabla \log \pi(\mathbf{x}^{(k)}) - \frac{\delta}{2\lambda} [\mathbf{x}^{(k)} - \text{prox}_{\chi_{\mathcal{B}_\tau}}(\mathbf{x}^{(k)})] + \sqrt{\delta} \mathbf{w}^{(k+1)} .$$



Handcrafted priors (e.g. promoting sparsity in a wavelet basis) are **not expressive enough**
⇒ **learn data-driven prior given by denoising model** (McEwen *et al.* 2023).



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Tweedie's formula

Consider noisy observations $\mathbf{z} \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{x}, \sigma^2 I)$ of \mathbf{x} sampled from some underlying prior.

Tweedie's formula gives the posterior expectation of \mathbf{x} given \mathbf{z} as

$$\mathbb{E}(\mathbf{x} | \mathbf{z}) = \mathbf{z} + \sigma^2 \nabla \log p(\mathbf{z}),$$

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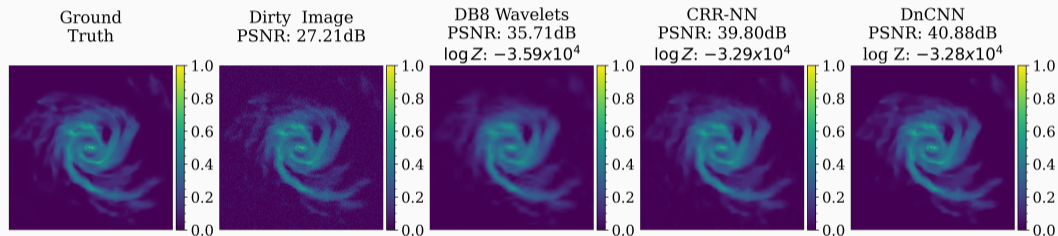
where $p(\mathbf{z})$ is the marginal distribution of \mathbf{z} .

- ▷ Can be interpreted as a denoising strategy.
- ▷ Score of **regualised prior related to learned denoiser** by

$$\nabla \log \pi_\epsilon(\mathbf{x}) = \epsilon^{-1}(D_\epsilon(\mathbf{x}) - \mathbf{x}).$$

Consider simple Galaxy denoising inverse problem with:

- ▷ **hand-crafted prior** based on sparsity-promoting wavelet representation;
- ▷ **data-driven priors** based on a deep neural networks.



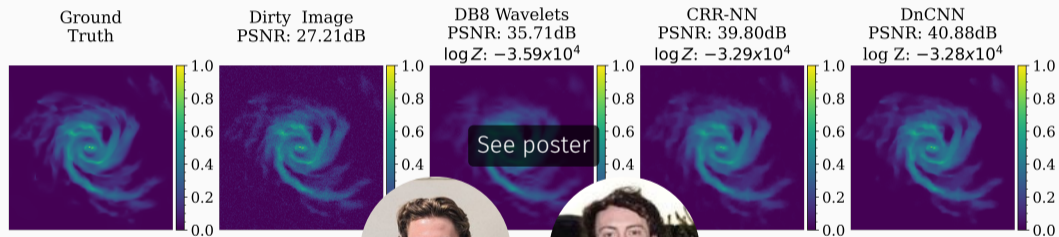
Which model best?

- ▷ SNR \Rightarrow **data-driven priors best** but **require ground-truth**;
- ▷ Bayesian evidence \Rightarrow **data-driven priors best** (**no ground-truth knowledge**).



Consider simple Galaxy denoising inverse problem with:

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Which model best?

- ▷ SNR \Rightarrow **data-driven priors** but **require ground-truth**;
- ▷ Bayesian evidence = **Henry Aldridge prior** (**no ground-truth knowledge**).

Summary

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