

# NSF: AI Institute for Artificial Intelligence and Fundamental Interactions IAIFI (“eye+φ”)

**Philip Harris**  
Experimental Physics coordinator

With Much Help from  
Jesse Thaler and Mike Williams



# NSF: National AI Research Institutes

## *5 Inaugural Institutes:*

NSF AI Institute for Research on Trustworthy AI in Weather, Climate, and Coastal Oceanography

NSF AI Institute for Foundations of Machine Learning

NSF AI Institute for Student-AI Teaming

NSF AI Institute for Molecular Discovery, Synthetic Strategy, and Manufacturing



**NSF AI Institute for Artificial Intelligence and Fundamental Interactions**

## *8 Themes for Next Round:*

AI Institute in Dynamic Systems

AI-Augmented Learning

AI to Advance Biology

AI-Driven Innovation in Agriculture and the Food System

Human-AI Interaction and Collaboration

AI Institute for Advances in Optimization

AI and Advanced Cyberinfrastructure

Advances in AI and Computer and Network Systems

# Artificial Intelligence $\Leftrightarrow$ Fundamental Interactions



# The NSF AI Institute for Artificial Intelligence and Fundamental Interactions (IAIFI)

“ $1-\phi$ ”



**A** Senior Investigators: 20 Physicists + 7 AI Experts  
Junior Investigators:  $\approx$ 20 PhD Students,  $\approx$ 7 IAIFI Fellows in steady state



Pulkit Agrawal  
Lisa Barsotti  
Isaac Chuang  
William Detmold  
Bill Freeman  
Philip Harris  
Kerstin Perez  
Alexander Rakhlin

Phiala Shanahan  
Tracy Slatyer  
Marin Soljatic  
Justin Solomon  
Washington Taylor  
Max Tegmark  
Jesse Thaler  
Mike Williams

Demba Ba  
Edo Berger  
Cora Dvorkin  
Daniel Eisenstein  
Doug Finkbeiner  
Matthew Schwartz  
Yaron Singer  
Todd Zickler

James Halverson  
Brent Nelson



Taritree Wongjirad

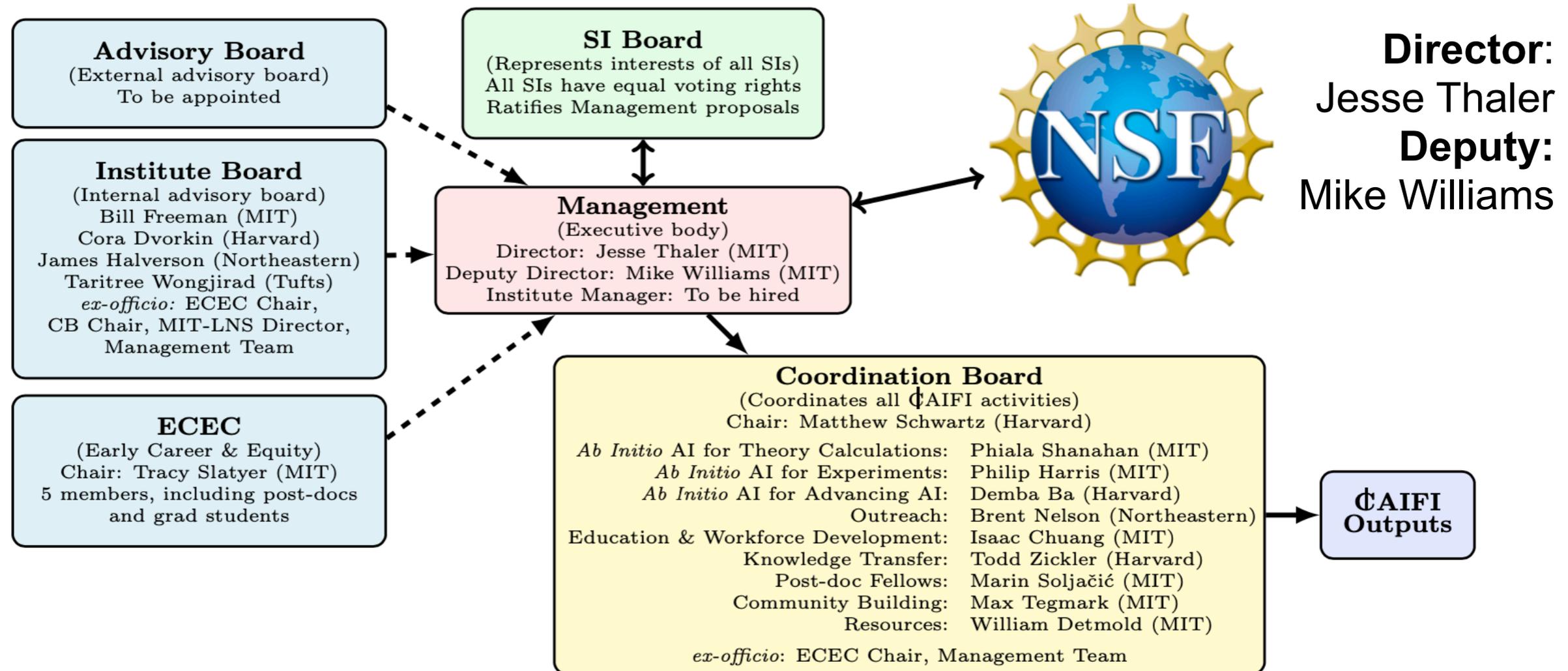
Boston Area: Critical Mass for Transformative Ab Initio AI Research

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Boston Area: **Critical Mass** for Transformative **Ab Initio AI** Research

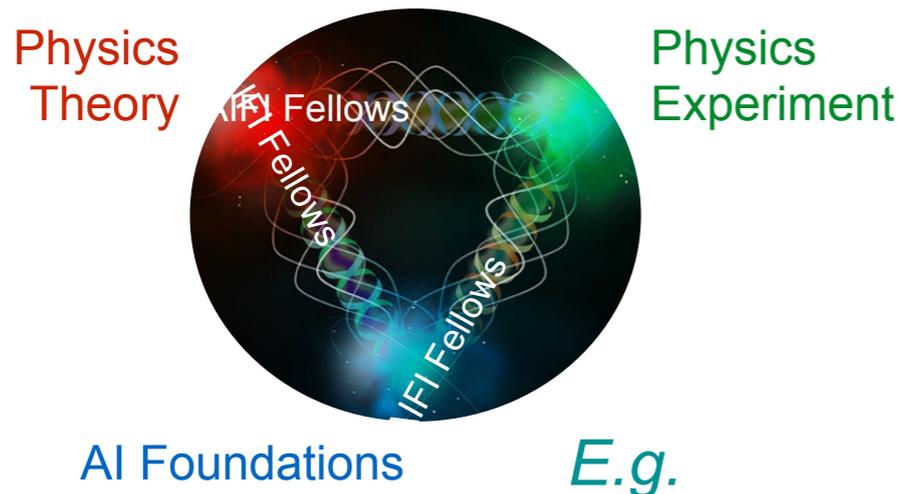
# The NSF AI Institute for Artificial Intelligence and Fundamental Interactions (IAIFI)

“1- $\phi$ ”



# AI

Advance physics knowledge — from the smallest building blocks of nature to the largest structures in the universe — and galvanize AI research innovation

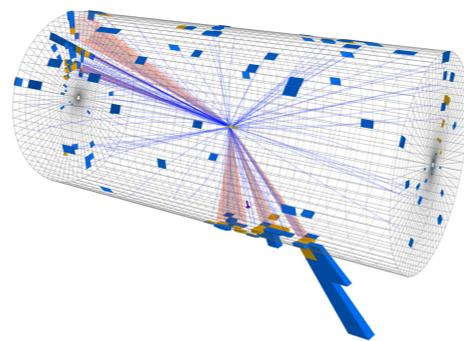


Training, education & outreach at Physics/AI intersection  
 Cultivate early-career talent (e.g. IAIFI Fellows)  
 Foster connections to physics facilities and industry  
 Build strong multidisciplinary collaborations  
 Advocacy for shared solutions across subfields

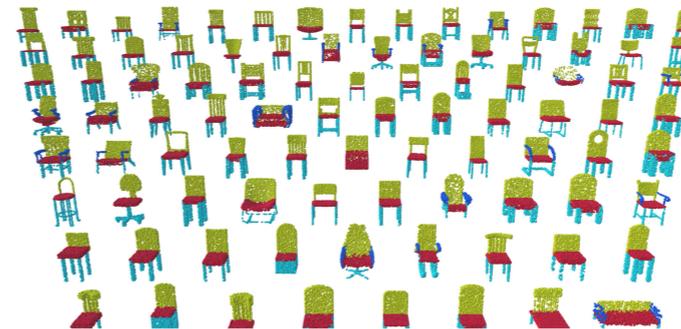
Analyzing Collisions



Geometric Data Processing



[Harris, Schwartz, JDT, Williams]



[Wang, Sun, Liu, Sarma, Bronstein, Solomon, TOG 2019]

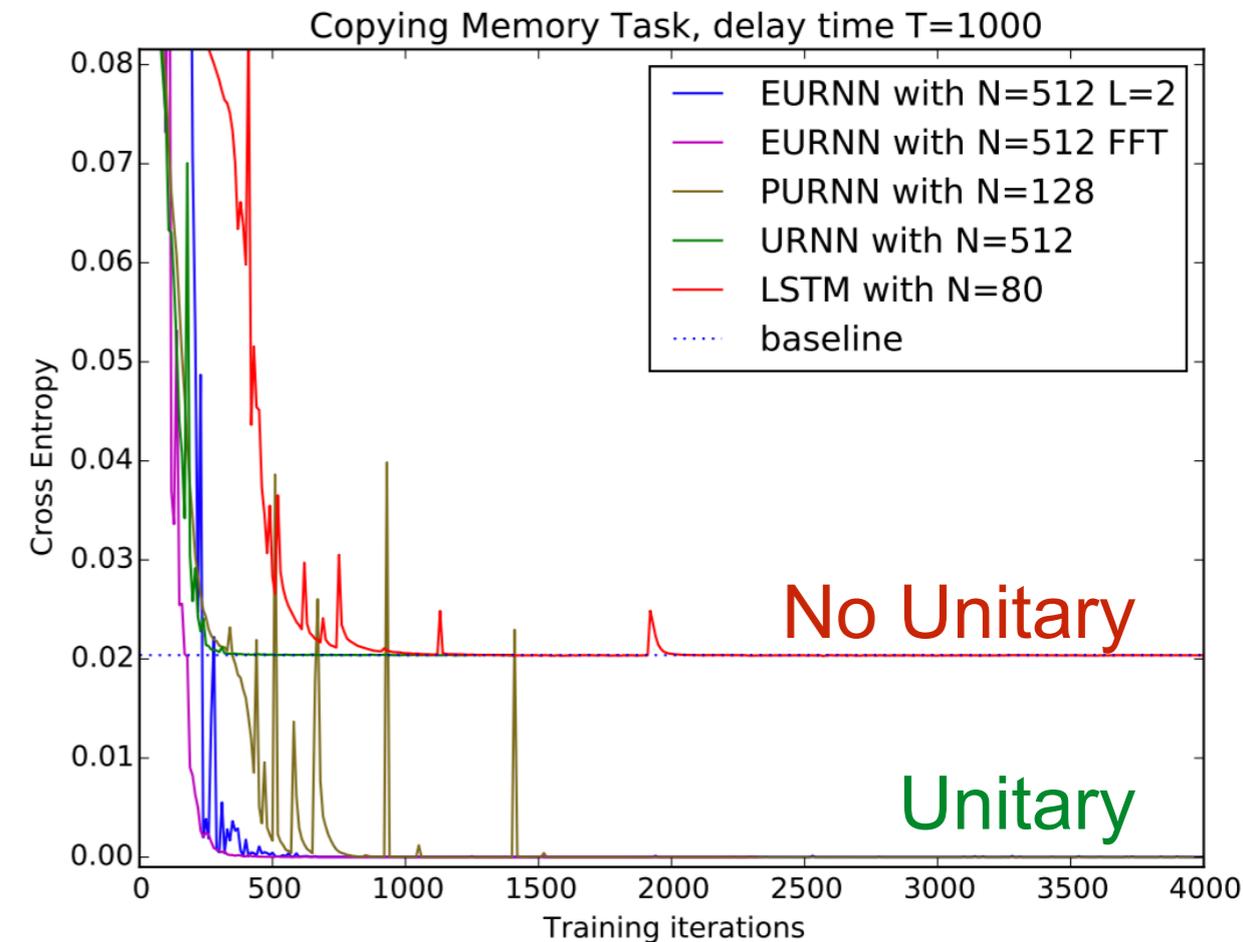
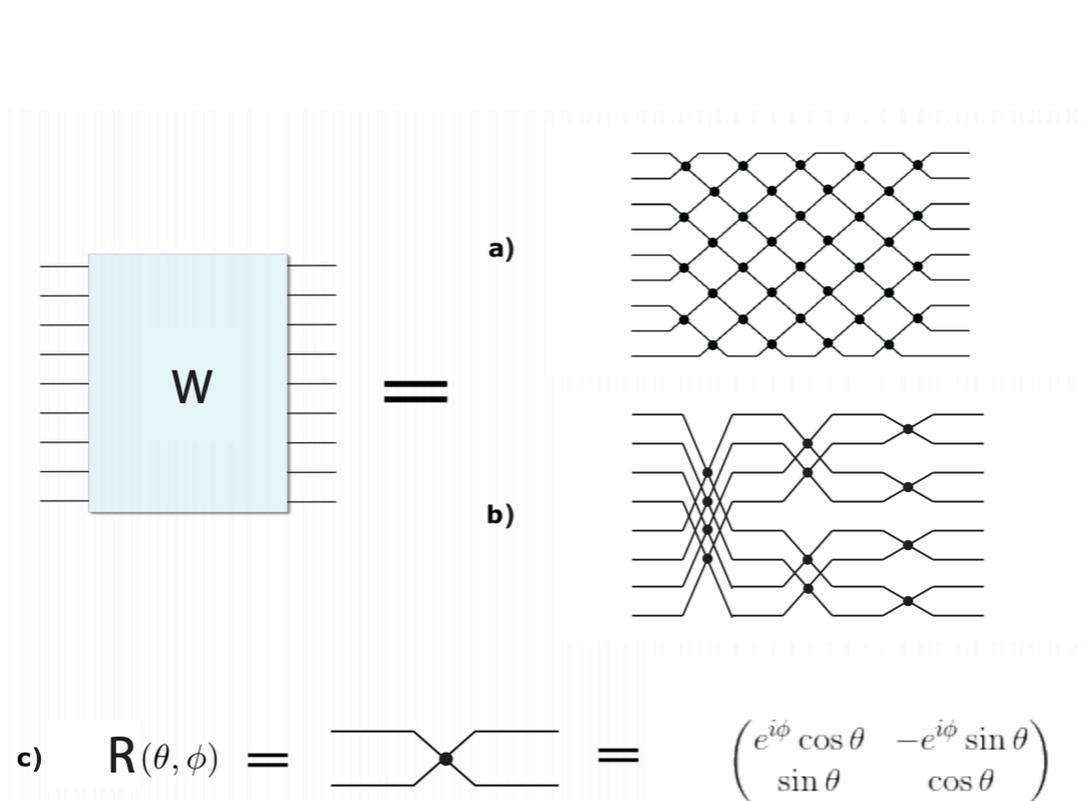
*“What is **Ab Initio Artificial Intelligence**?”*

**Machine learning architectures** that incorporate  
first principles, best practices, and domain knowledge  
from **fundamental physics**

# Physics going back to AI

Reconstruct dense matrices with unitary rotations

Eliminates the potential for unstable minimum



## Tunable Efficient Unitary Neural Networks (EUNN) and their application to RNNs

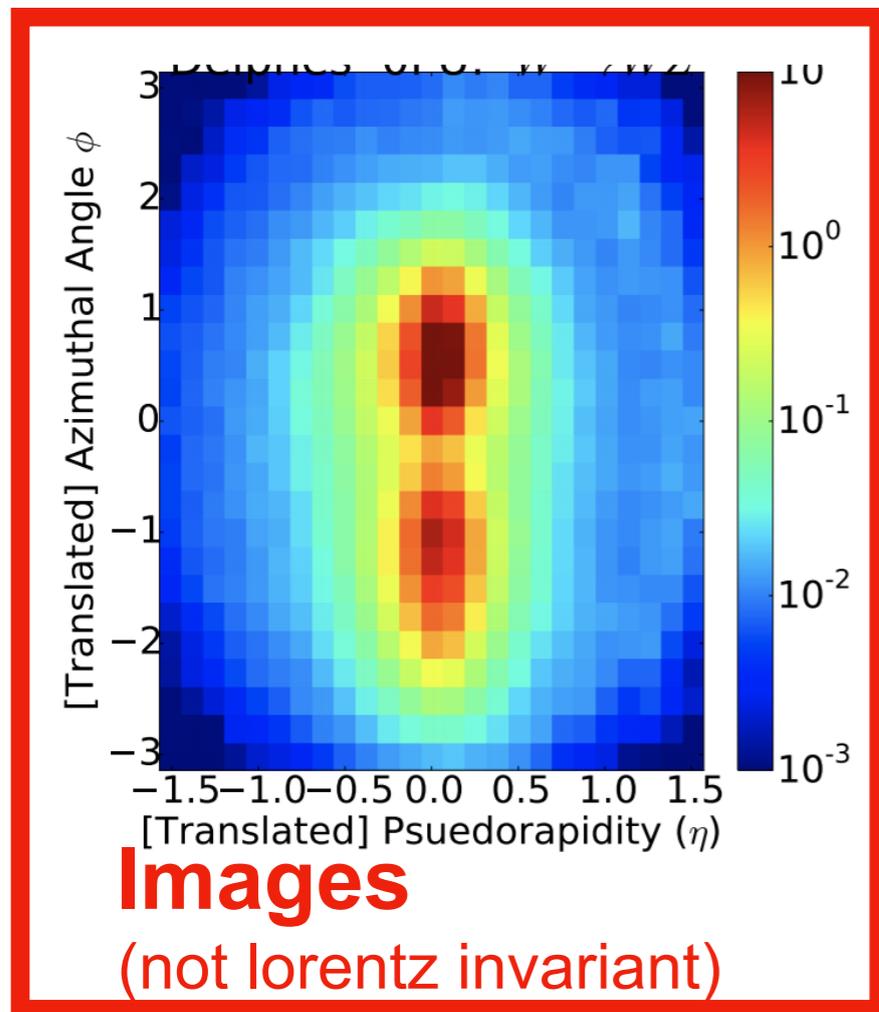
Li Jing<sup>\*1</sup> Yichen Shen<sup>\*1</sup> Tena Dubcek<sup>1</sup> John Peurifoy<sup>1</sup> Scott Skirlo<sup>1</sup> Yann LeCun<sup>2</sup> Max Tegmark<sup>1</sup>  
Marin Soljačić<sup>1</sup>

<https://arxiv.org/pdf/1612.05231.pdf>

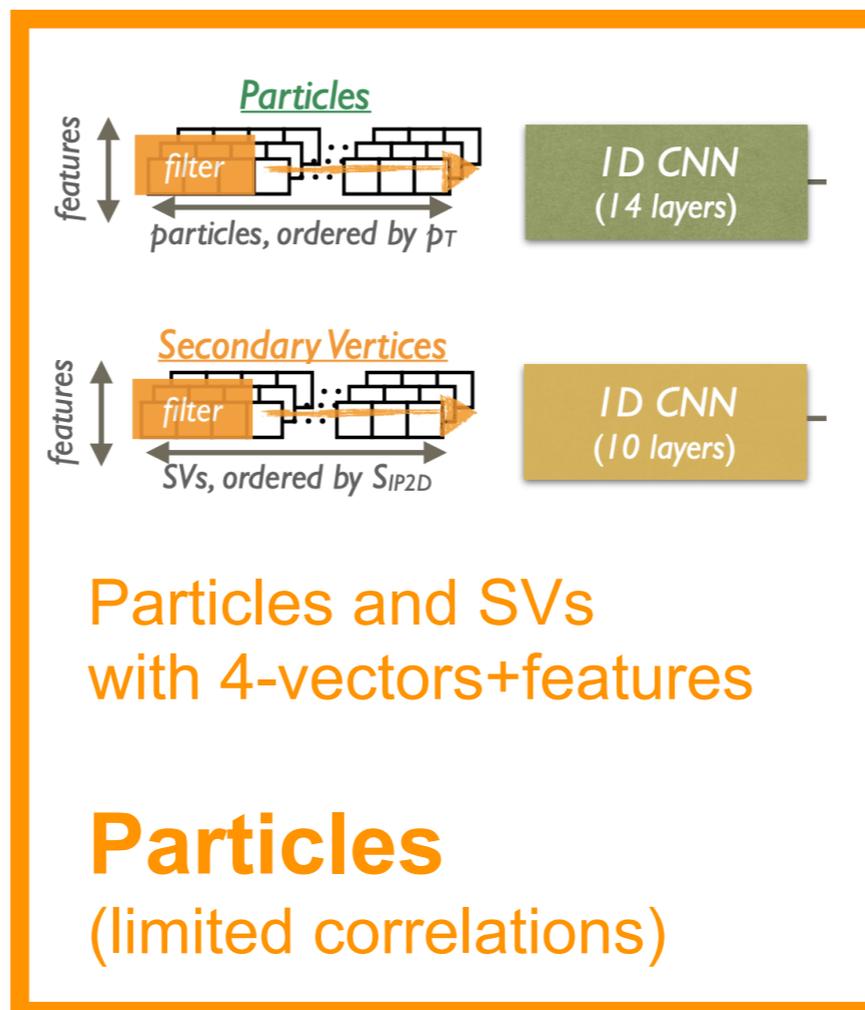
# AI going back to physics

Aim to incorporate physics fundamentals into AI

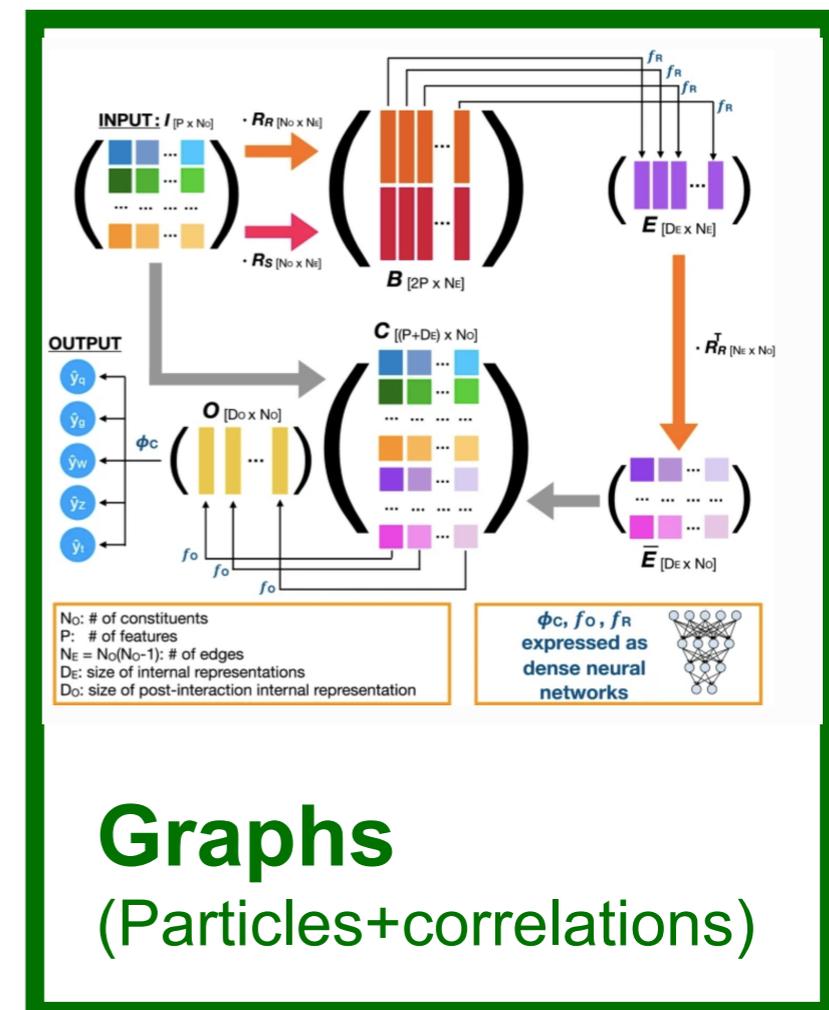
2016



2018



2020



Current collaboration results

Progressively moving towards use of more info

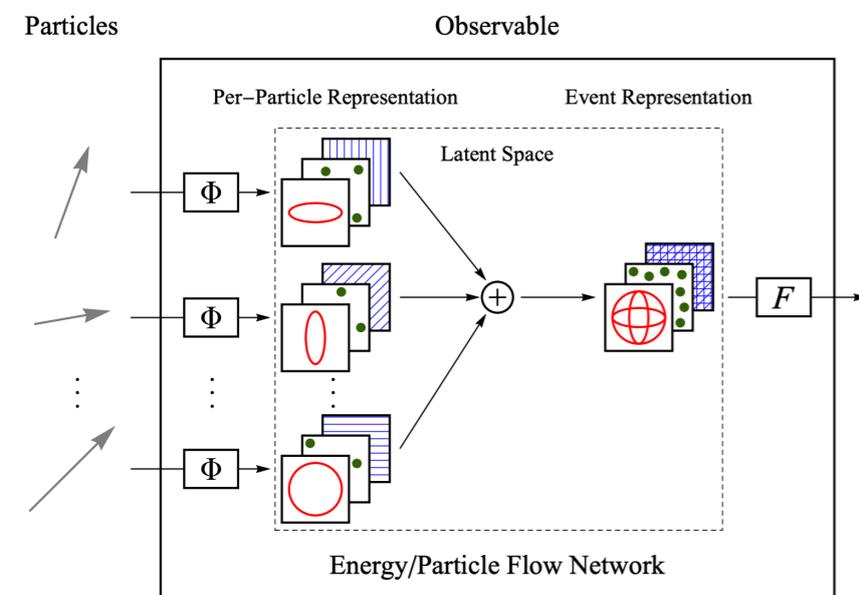
# AI<sup>2</sup>: Ab Initio Artificial Intelligence

Symmetries, conservation laws, scaling relations, limiting behaviors, locality, causality, unitarity, gauge invariance, factorization, unit tests, exactness, systematic uncertainties, ...

*ML incorporates first principles, best practices, and domain knowledge from physics*

Images: Convolutional Neural Networks Translational Equivariance  
Momentum Conservation

Particle Level Energy Flow Networks  $\Leftrightarrow$  Identical Particles (QM)  
Infrared/Collinear Safety (QFT)



$$\begin{aligned} & \text{AI} \\ & \times \text{AI} \\ & = \text{AI}^2 \end{aligned}$$

Tools to identify physics

Understanding of AI architectures

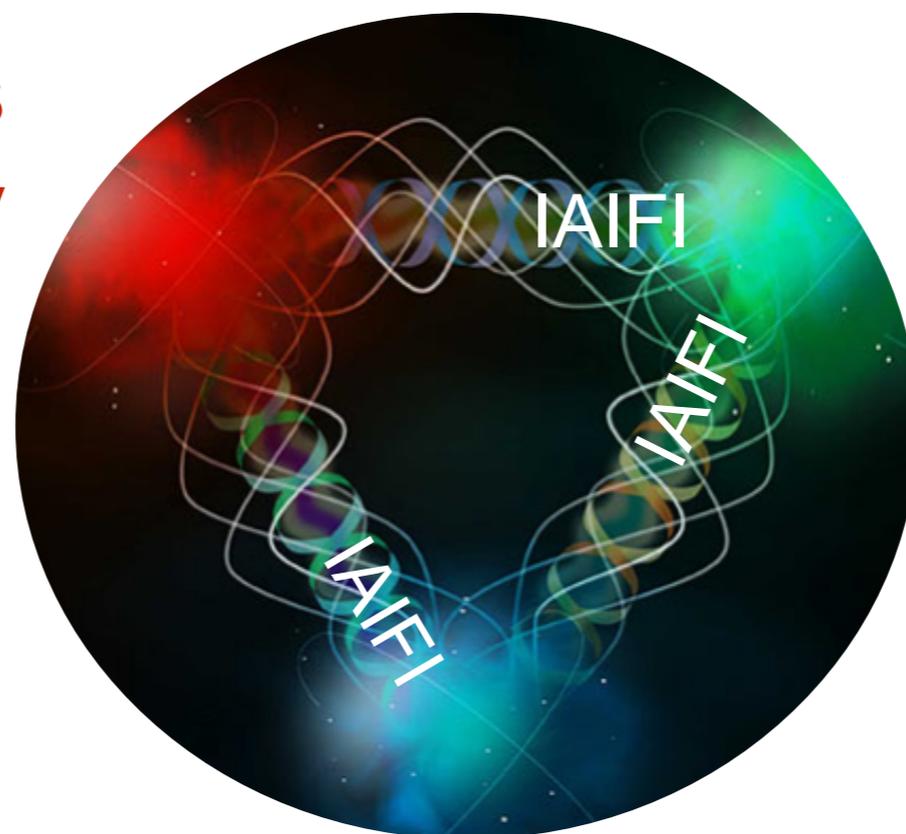
Cross-cutting AI across Physics

# IAIFI Research Highlights, Proposed Activities & Synergies

# IAIFI Postdoctoral Fellowships |

Recruit/train a talented and diverse group of early-career researchers  
*Spark interdisciplinary, multi-investigator, multi-subfield collaborations*

Physics  
Theory

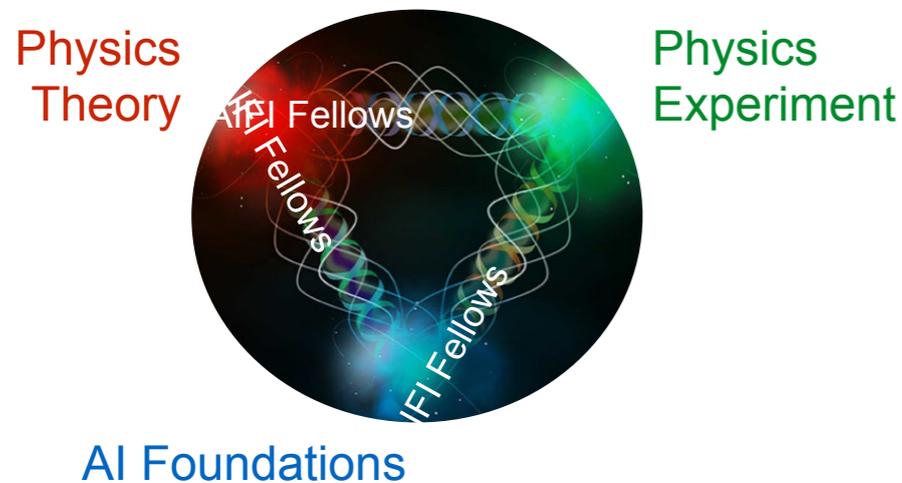


Physics  
Experiment

AI

*2021–2024 application deadline: October 20, 2020*

# IAIFI Research Plan |



## AI<sup>2</sup> for Theoretical Physics

Standard Model of Nuclear & Particle Physics  
 String Theory & Physical Mathematics  
 Astroparticle Physics  
 Automated Discovery of Physics Models

## AI<sup>2</sup> for Experimental Physics

Particle Physics Experiments  
 Gravitational Wave Interferometry  
 (Multi-Messenger) Astrophysics

## AI<sup>2</sup> for Foundational AI

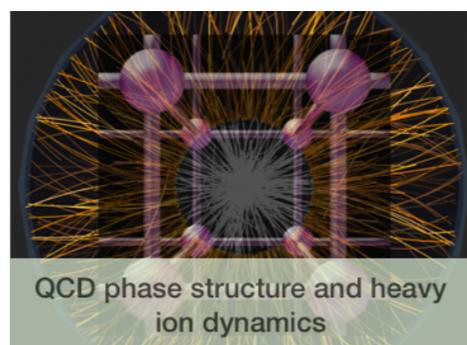
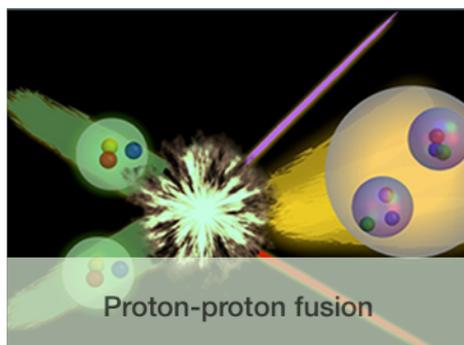
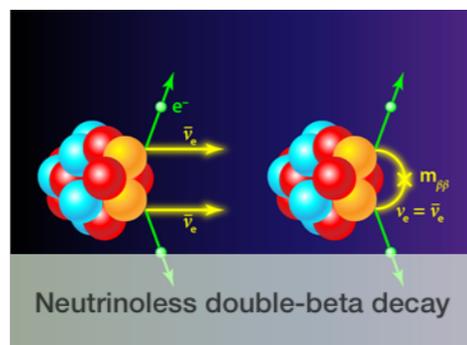
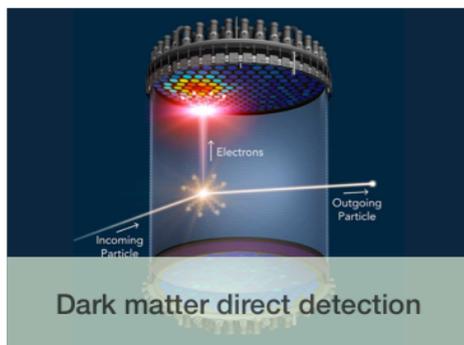
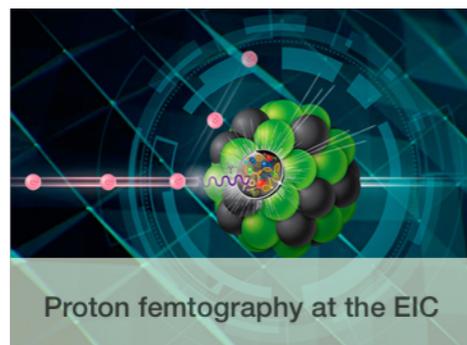
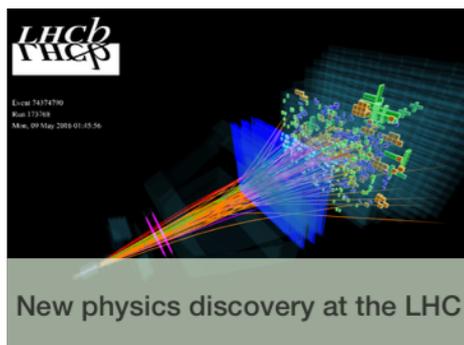
Symmetries & Invariance  
 Speeding up Control & Inference  
 Physics-Informed Architectures  
 Neural Networks Theory

# AI<sup>2</sup> for Theoretical Physics |

## E.g. Lattice Field Theory for Nuclear/Particle Physics

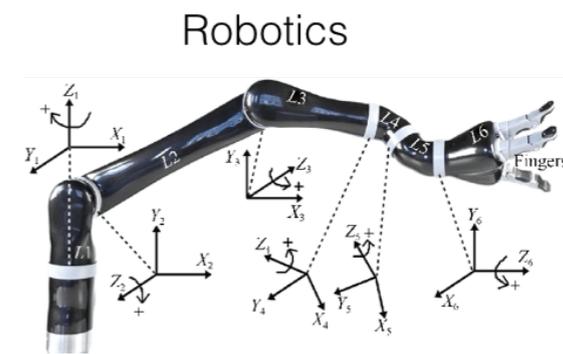
Equations governing the strong nuclear force are known, but precision computations are extremely demanding (>10% of open supercomputing in US)

Industry collaboration to develop custom AI tools



Custom generative models based on normalizing flows achieve **1000-fold acceleration** while preserving symmetries & guaranteeing exactness

Tools designed for physics find **interdisciplinary applications**

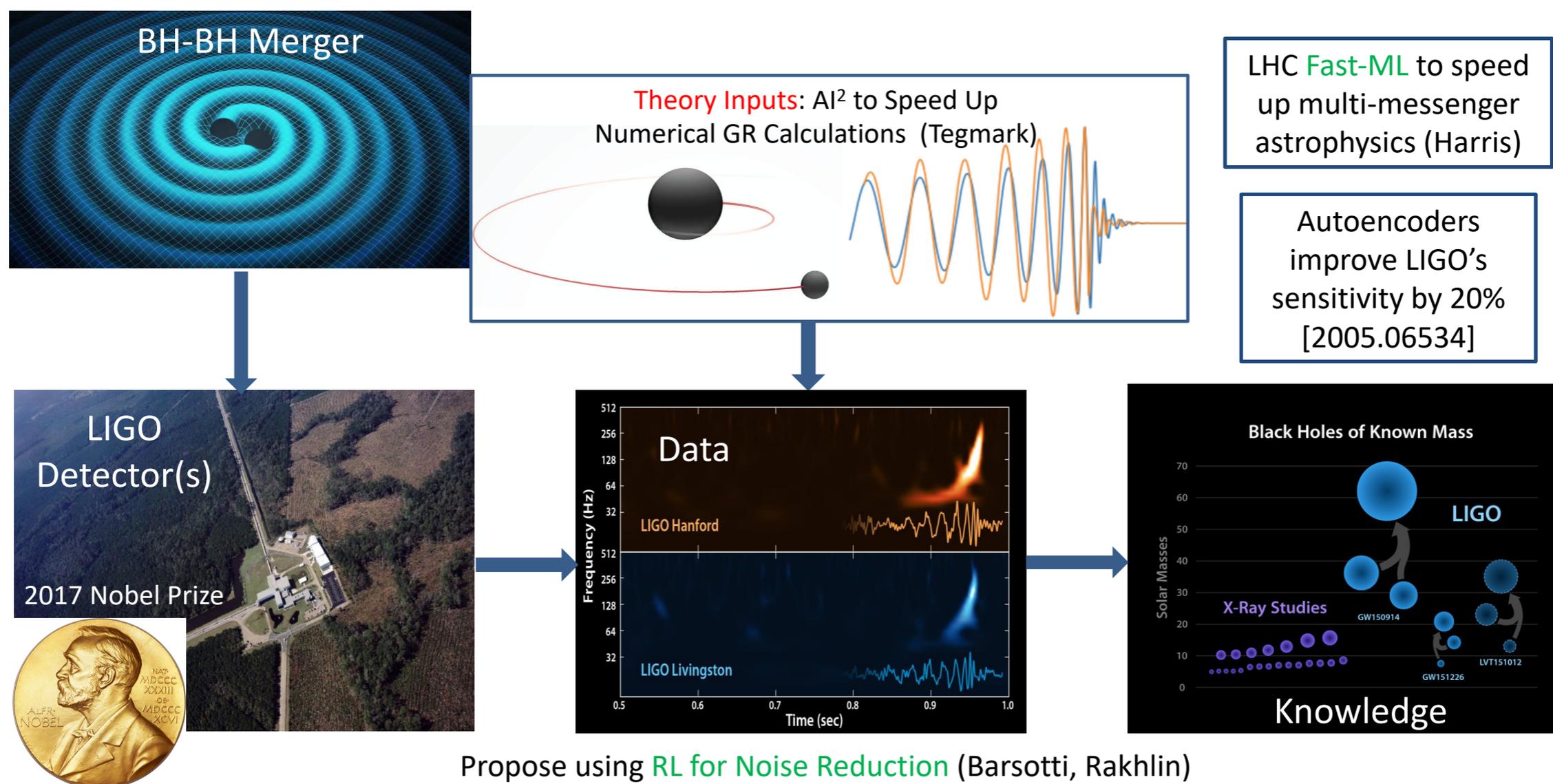


# AI<sup>2</sup> for Experimental Physics



## E.g. Gravitational Wave Interferometry at LIGO

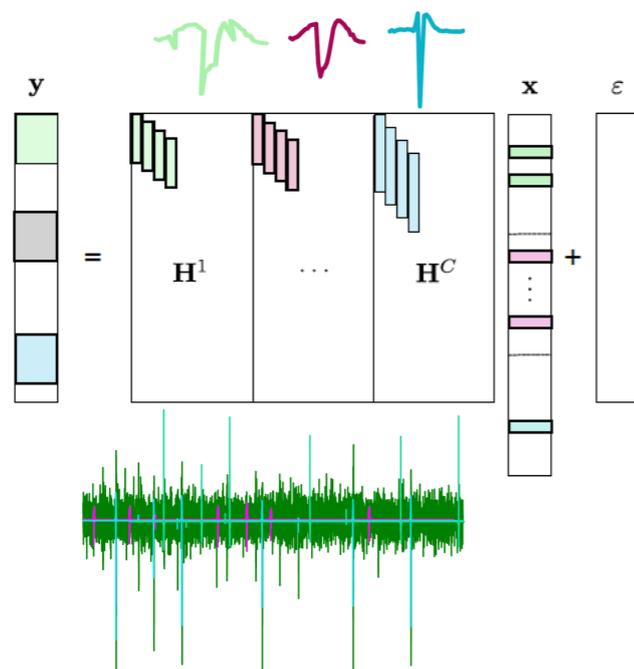
Potential to enhance the physics potential of flagship experiments via improved calibrations, better quantification of uncertainties, enhanced interpretability, and sub-microsecond inference



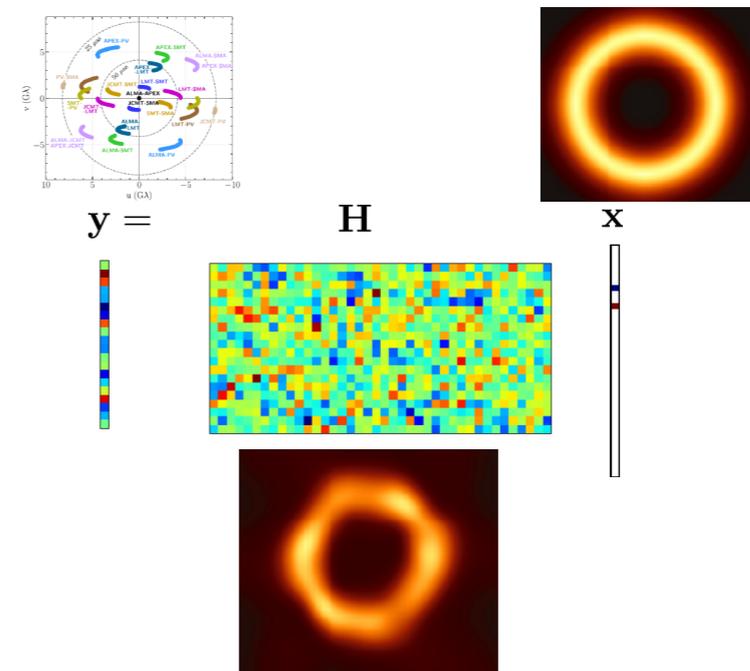
## Deconvolution Across Disciplines

*The unique features of physics applications and the power of physics principles offer compelling research opportunities to advance the field of AI research itself*

### Sparse Coding Networks and Neuronal Source Separation (Ba)



### Event Horizon Telescope and Black Hole Imaging (Freeman)



Capitalize on physics priors and interpretability for improved robustness  
Leverage tools from physics to explain ability of networks to generalize

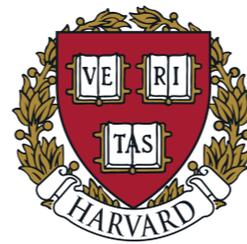
# *IAIFI For experimental Physics* + Computing challenges



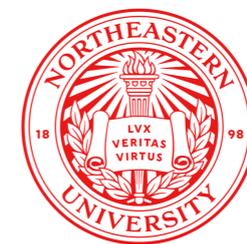
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Yaron Singer  
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James Halverson  
Brent Nelson



Taritree Wongjirad

Experimentalist Theorist Computing Other physics

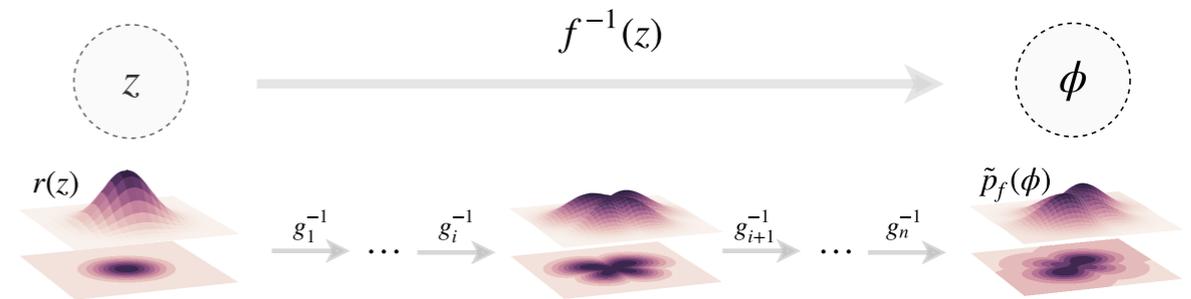
# Major Computing Challenges

A number of computing challenges are present within AIFI

Large Scale distributed GPUs

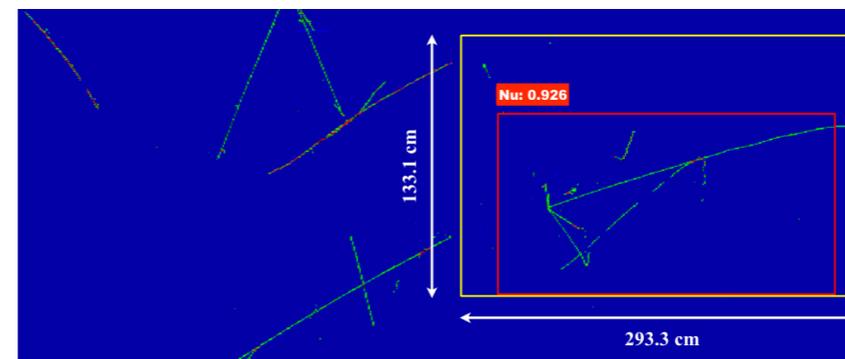
## Adaptive Sampling for Lattice QCD

[Albergo, Kanwar, **Shanahan**, PRD 2019; Rezende, Papamakarios, Racanière, Albergo, Kanwar, **Shanahan**, Cranmer, arXiv 2020]



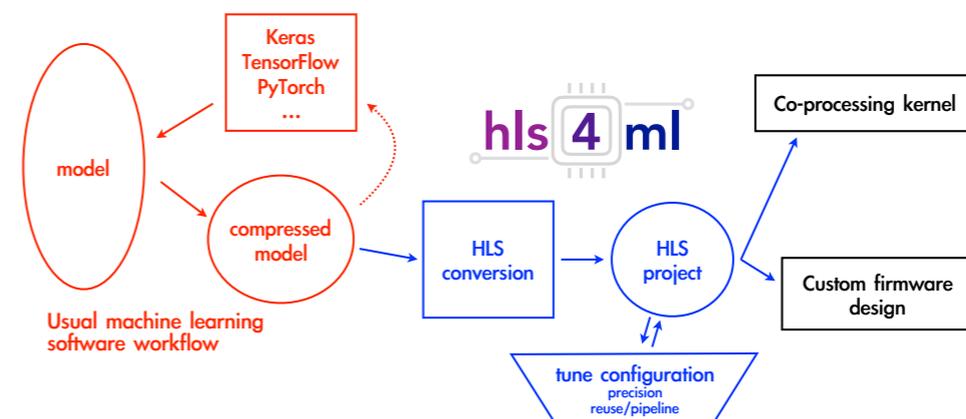
## LArTPC Object Classification

[MicroBooNE collaboration (incl. **Wongjirad**), JINST 2017]



## Sub-Microsecond LHC Inference

[Duarte, Han, **Harris**, Jindariani, Kreinar, Kreis, Ngadiuba, Pierini, Rivera, Tran, Wu, JINST 2018]



Processing of LHC/Neutrino Data

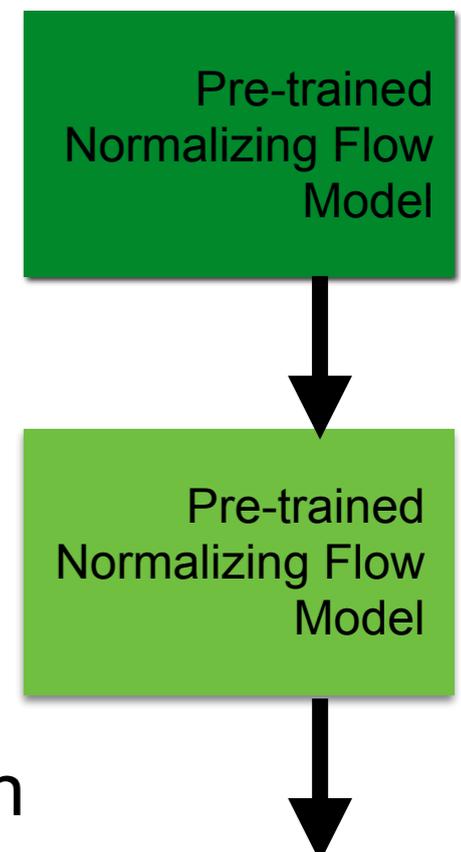
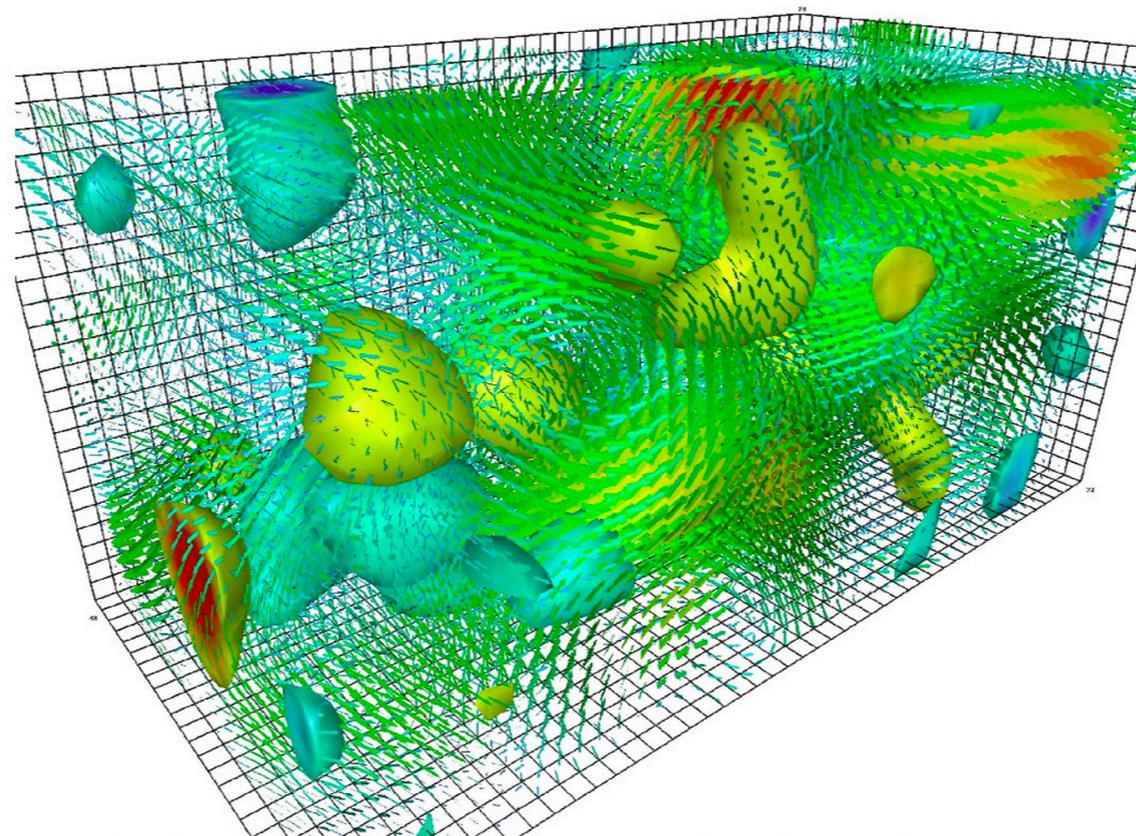
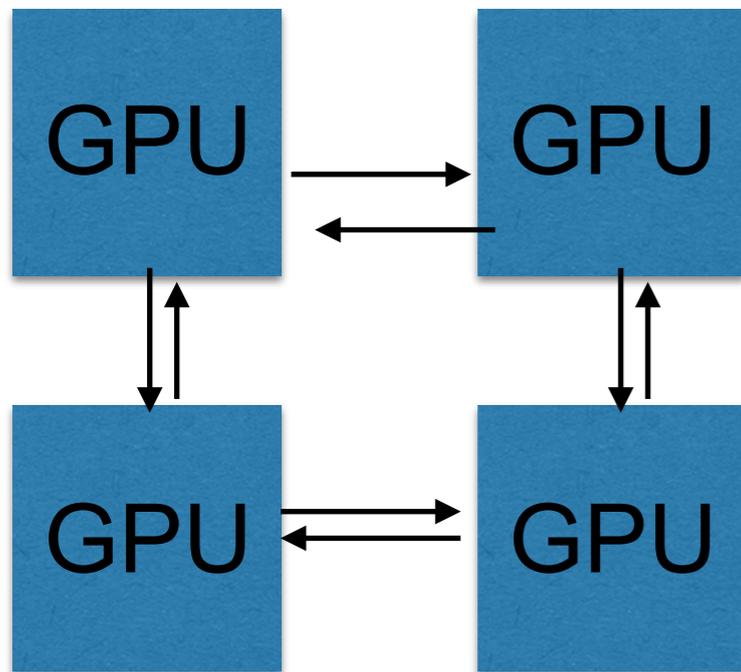
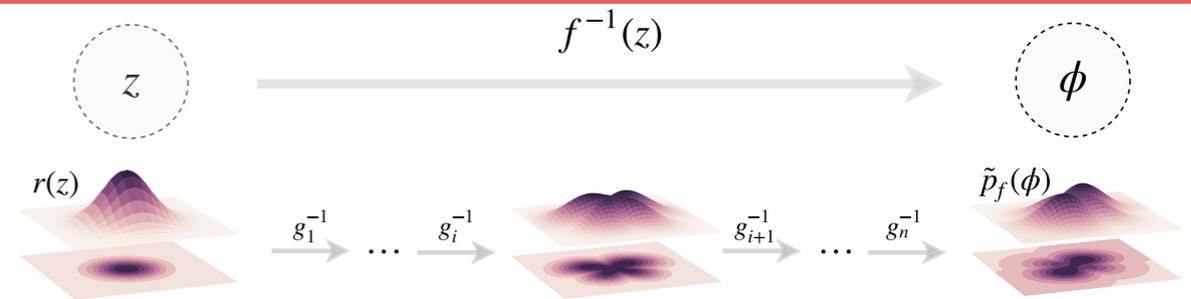
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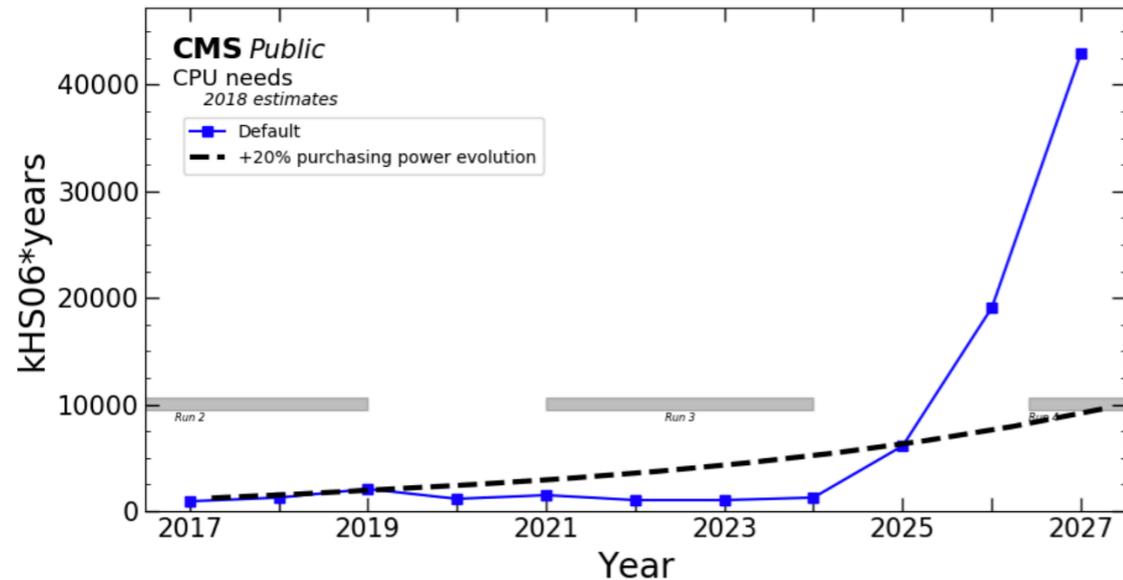
[Albergo, Kanwar, **Shanahan**, PRD 2019; Rezende, Papamakarios, Racanière, Albergo, Kanwar, **Shanahan**, Cranmer, arXiv 2020]



New ideas have emerged that allow for optimized computation

# Major Computing Challenges

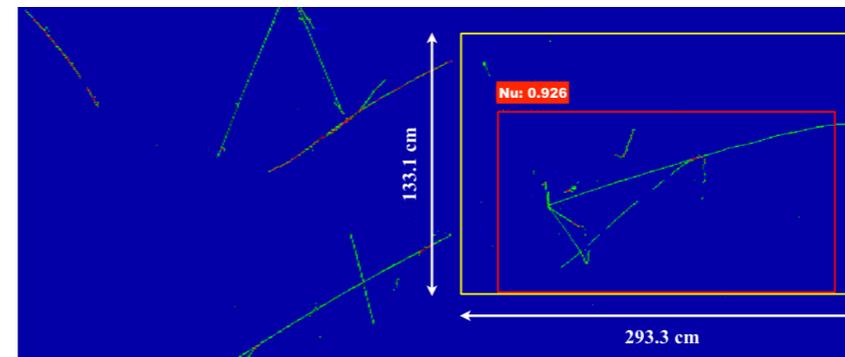
A number of computing challenges are present within AIFI



Demands at the LHC require significantly more computing power  
AI + coprocessors is a solution

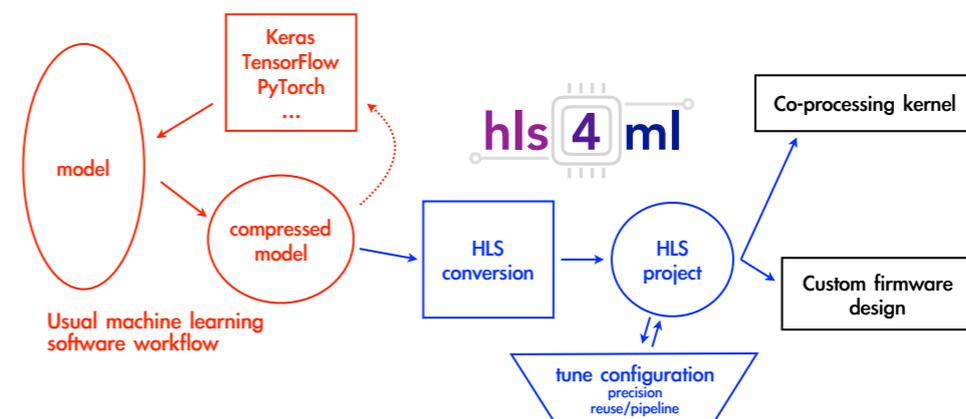
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[MicroBooNE collaboration (incl. [Wongjirad](#)), JINST 2017]



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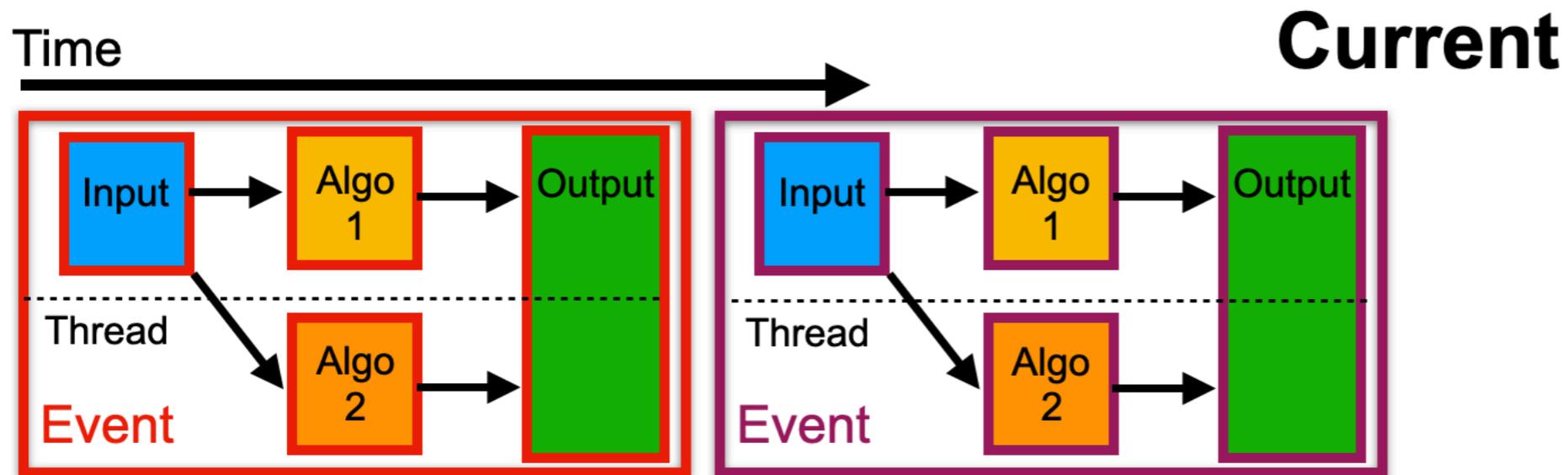
[Duarte, Han, [Harris](#), Jindariani, Kreinar, Kreis, Ngadiuba, Pierini, Rivera, Tran, Wu, JINST 2018]



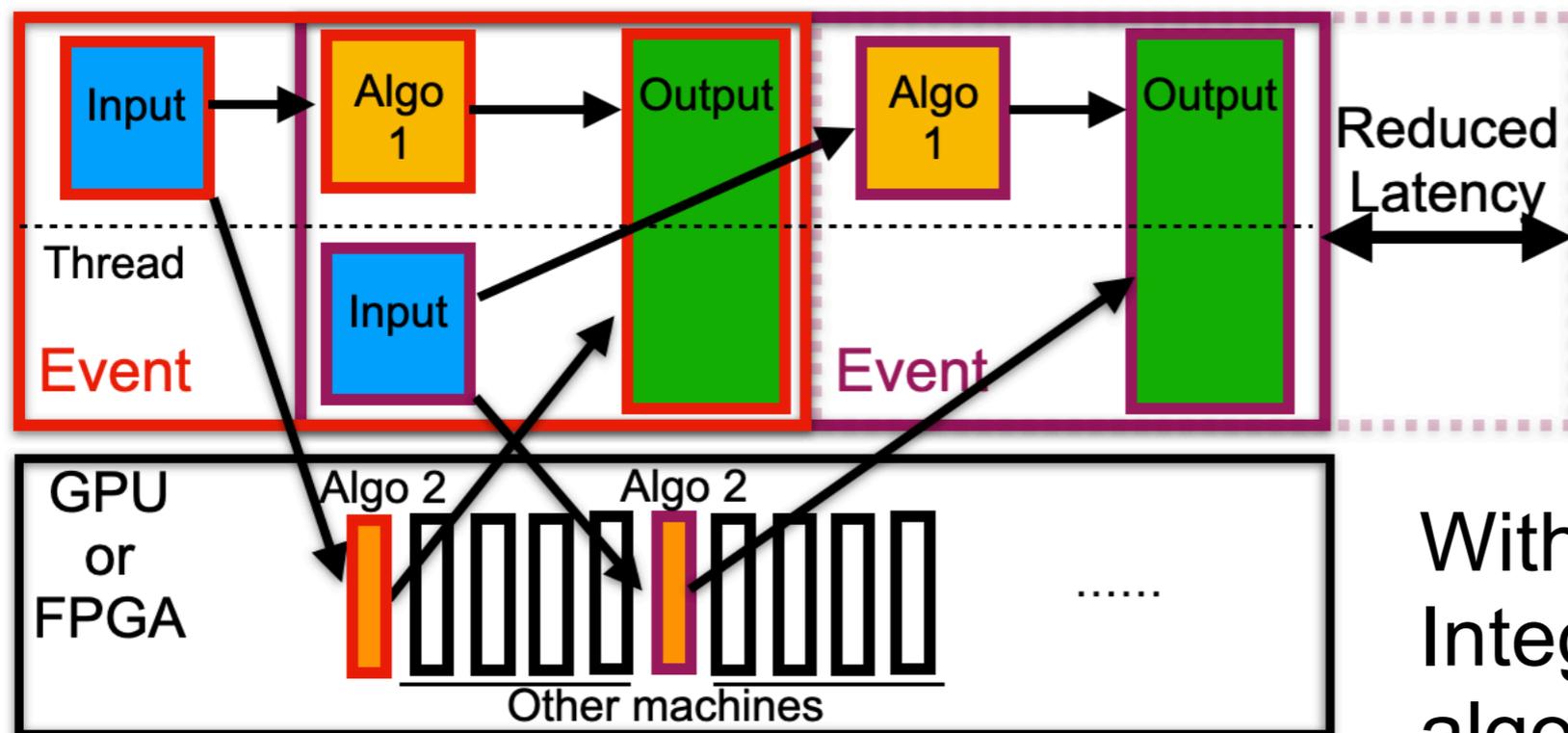
Processing of LHC/Neutrino Data

# IAIFI for Experimental Physics

Performing Deep Learning as a service



## Processor as-a-Service

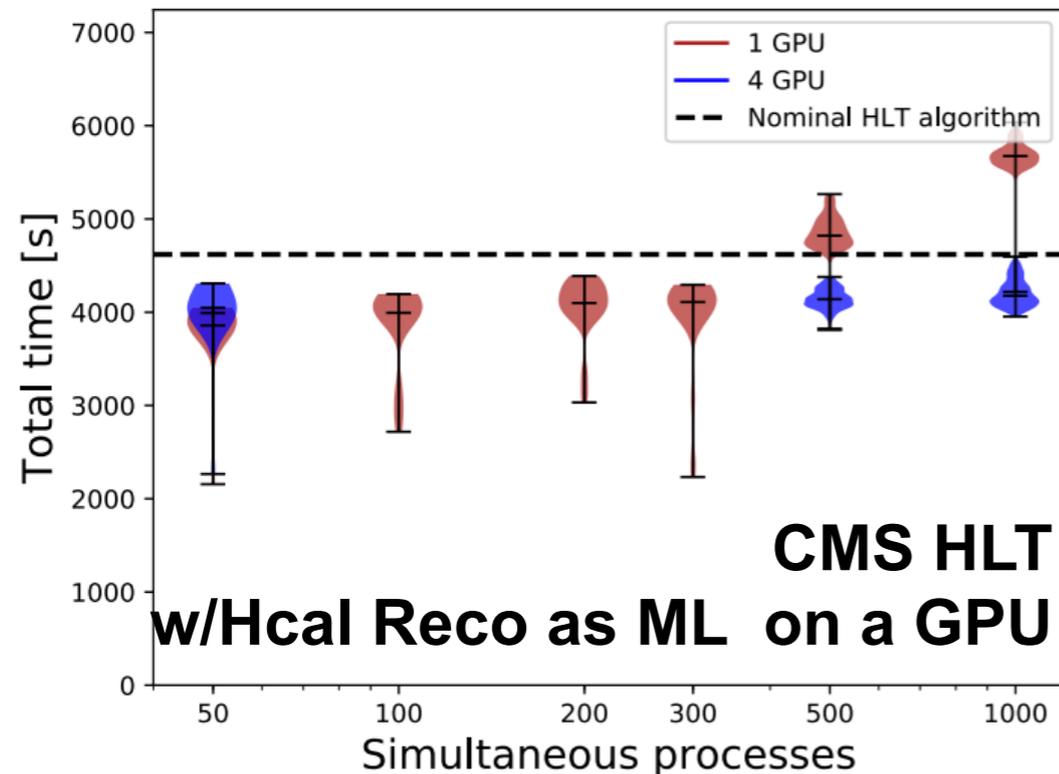


With LHC/Dune workflows  
Integrated ability to offload  
algorithms to a coprocessor

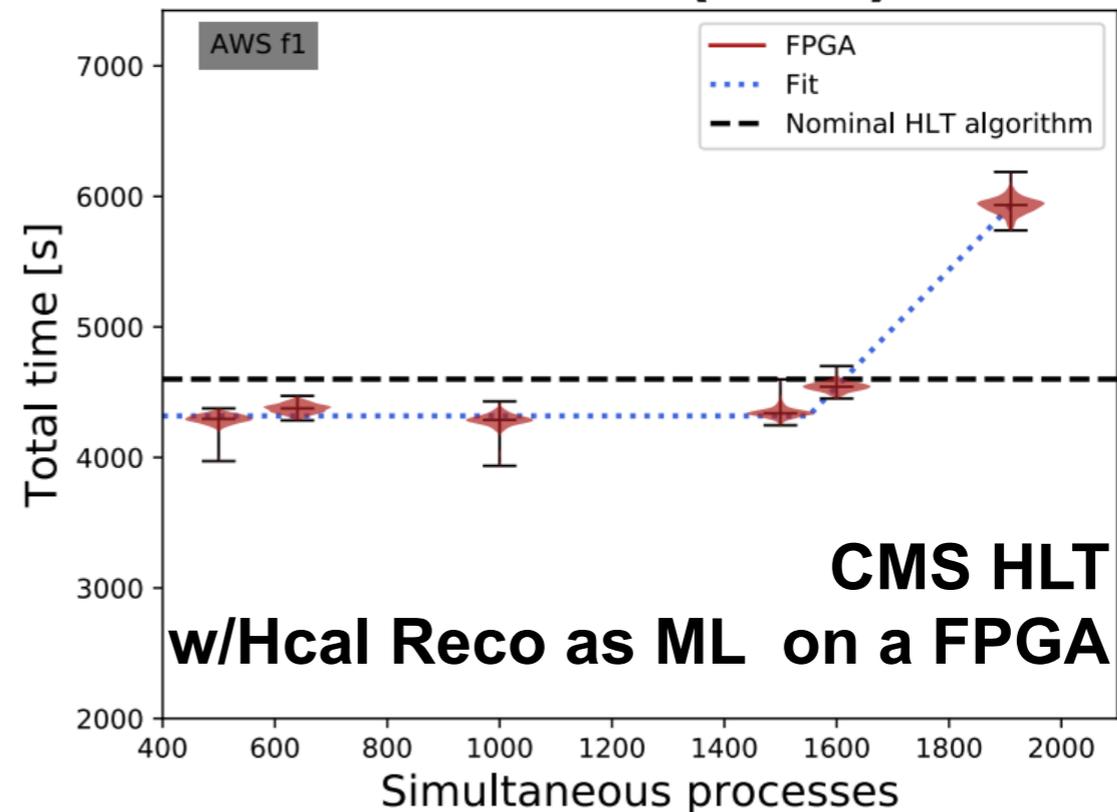
# IAIFI for Experimental Physics

## Recent results with High Level Trigger

### V100 GPU



### AWS f1 FPGA (VU9P)



<i>GPU/FPGA aaS</i>	<i>Gain w.r.t. CPU</i>
2 ms (GPU) 0.2 ms (FPGA)	8x (GPU) 80x (FPGA)
0.1 ms (GPU) in progress (FPGA)	750x
1-2 ms (GPU/FPGA)	500x

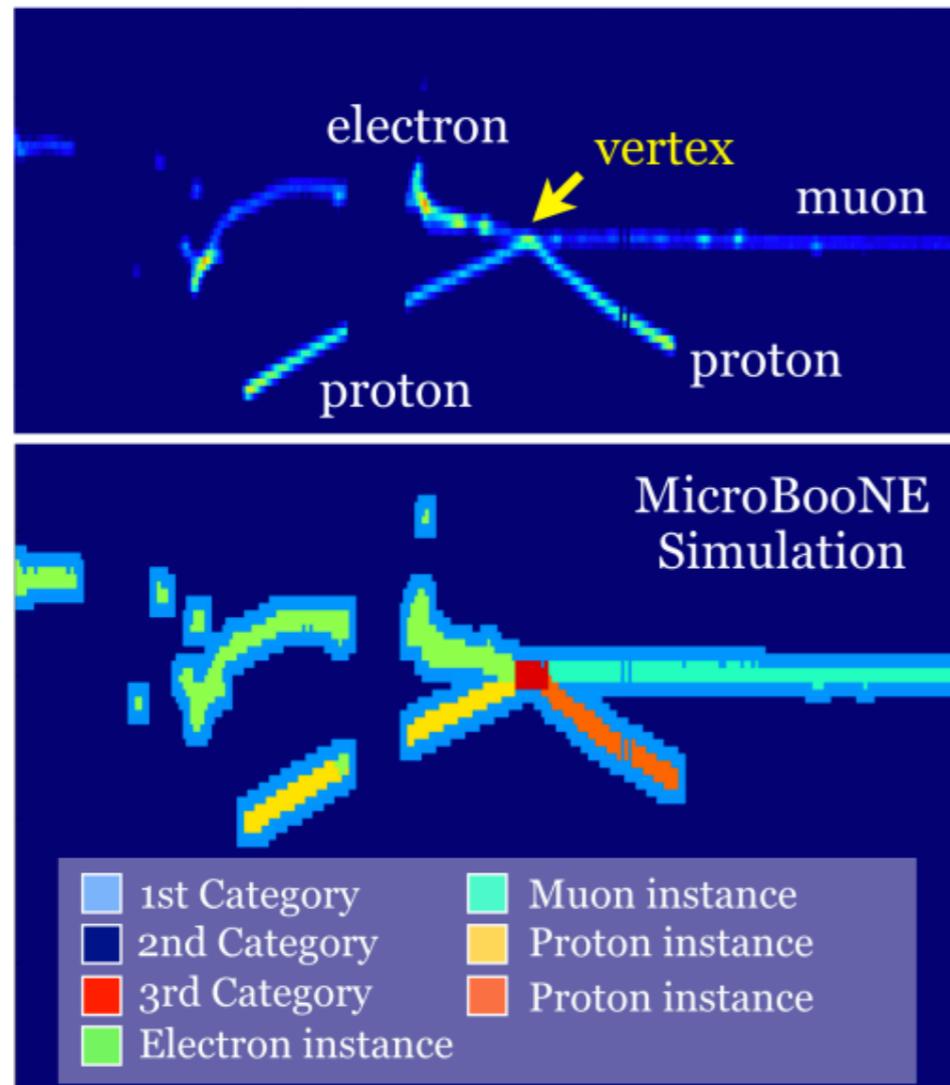
Constructing tools to integrate Deep Learning algorithms into LHC workflows....

Along with exploration of Algos

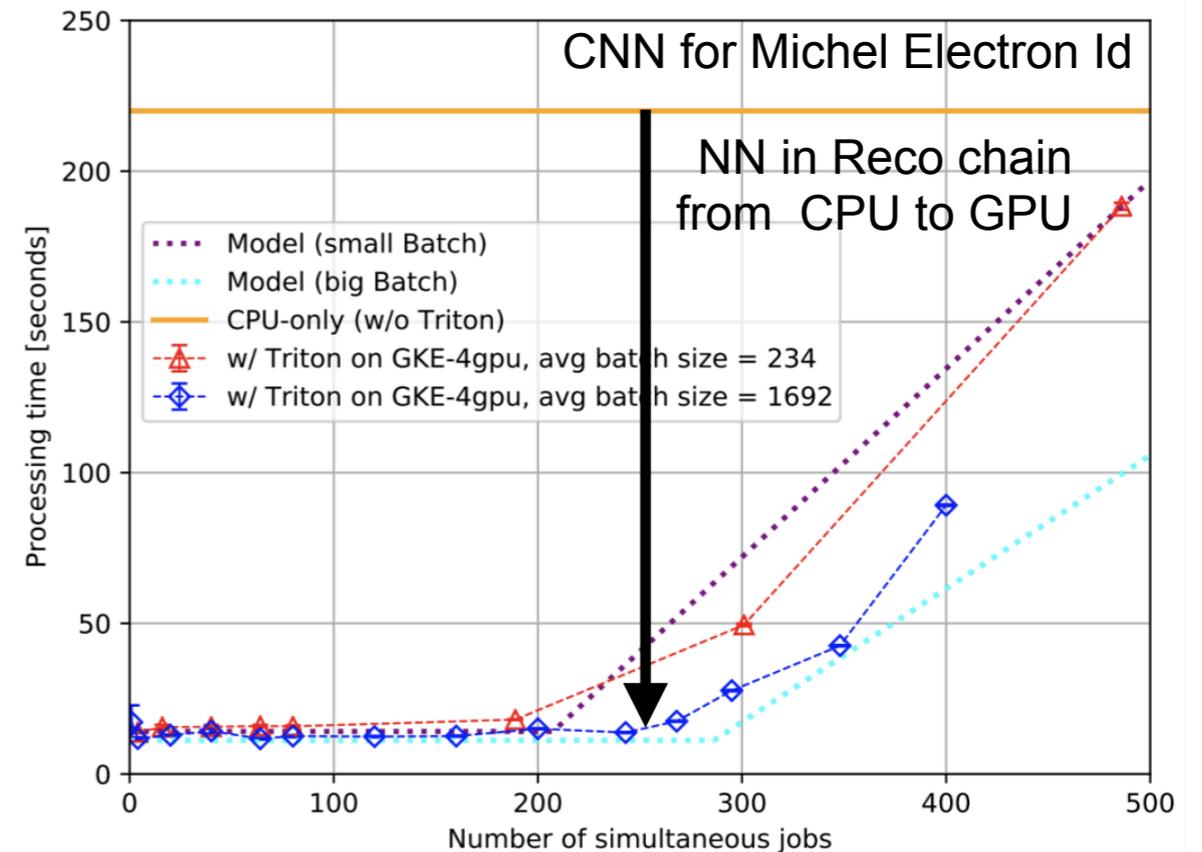
# IAIFI for Experimental Physics

## AI with Neutrino reconstruction

T. Wongjirad



UResNet and other related CNN models have led to improved reconstruction in neutrinos

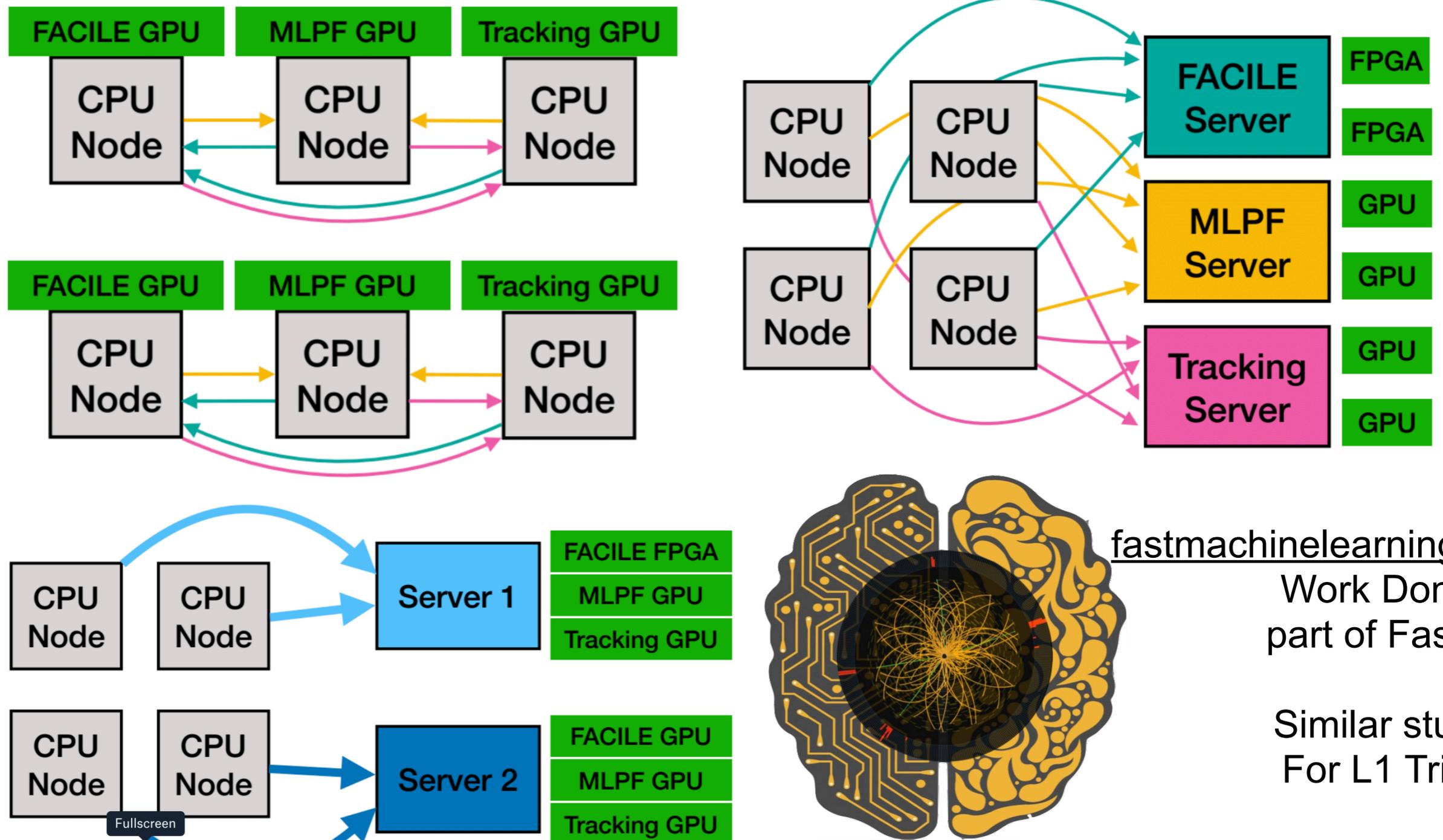


Integrating ML with GPU based tools can lead to significant speedups

Provided network performs optimized speed ups

# IAIFI for Experimental Physics

With the tools in FastML ( a broad range of functionality)  
How to integrate 3 different ML Algos in HLT?



With Experimental component :

- AI<sup>2</sup> focus is to ensure AI is solving problems
- A critical component of that is to ensure this goes to experiment
- With AIFI:
  - Aim to develop networks with physics principles
  - Algorithms are intended for use in Physics or AI community
- With Fast ML :
  - Aim is to deploy precepts of algorithm design to optimize algo
    - Exploiting symmetries
    - Also exploiting bit precision and NAS
  - Aim is to ensure algorithms can be sped up significantly
    - Put the infrastructure in place to do this

# IAIFI Activities & Synergies |

## Research Engagement

Regular Internal Meetings

External Seminar Speakers

Long-term Visitor Program

IAIFI Affiliates

Annual IAIFI Workshop (Summer 2022)

## Workforce Development

IAIFI Postdoctoral Fellowship (Fall 2021)

Cross-Disciplinary Mentoring

Interdisciplinary PhD Program

Annual PhD Summer School (Summer 2022)

## Digital Learning

Online Physics/AI Course Modules

Expansion of MITx MicroMasters Program

## Outreach

IAIFI Podcasts

K-12 Engagement

Festivals & Museums

## Broadening Participation

Early Career & Equity Committee

Summer Research Program

MicroFellowship Program

## Knowledge Transfer

Summer Internship Placement

Joint Research Initiatives

# IAIFI Activities & Synergies

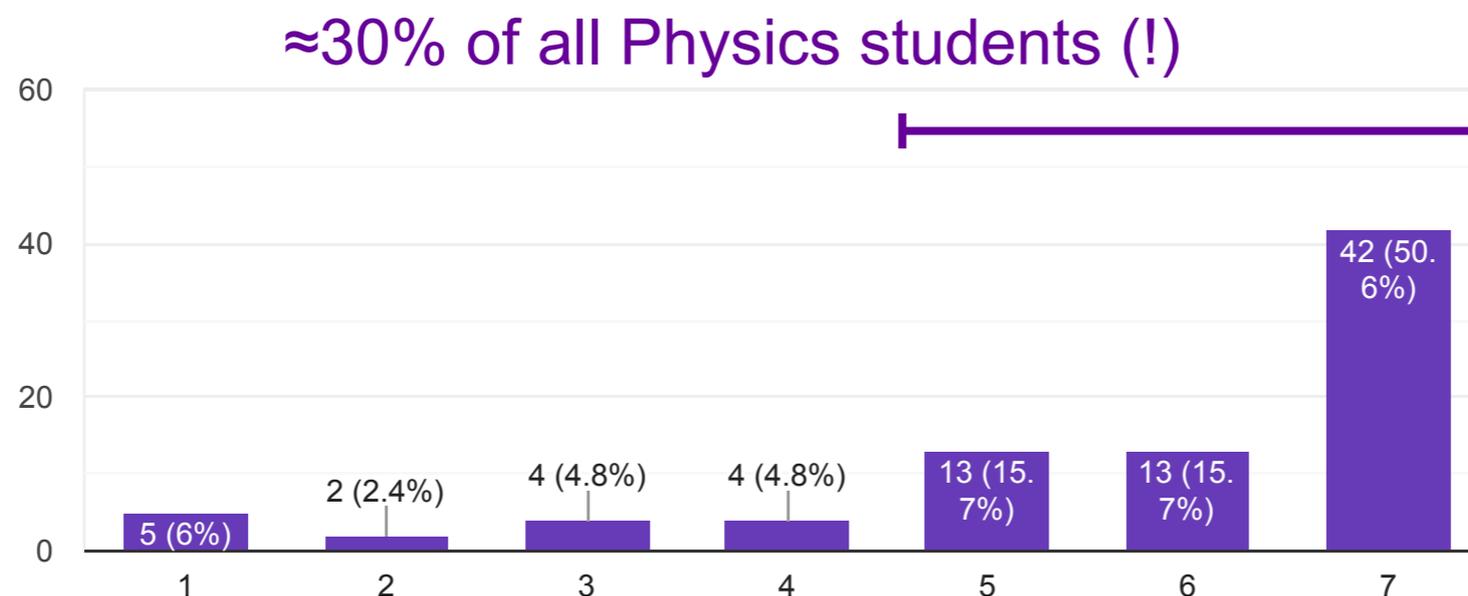


## Interdisciplinary PhD in Physics, Statistics & Data Science



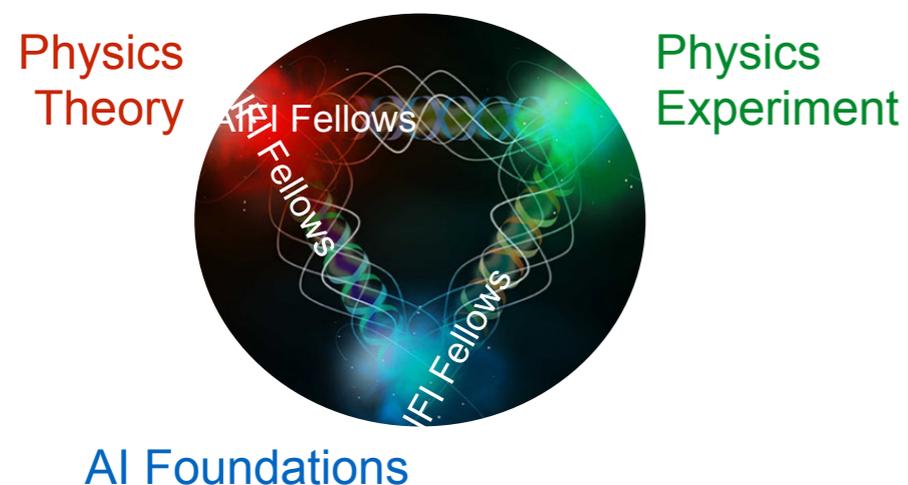
This interdisciplinary degree would have a number of requirements, in addition to the standard requirements for the MIT Physics PhD. How interested would you be in submitting and defending a PhD thesis that uses statistical methods in a substantial way?

83 responses



*Respondent #11: "I think ML is the most important thing happening in the world right now and should be incorporated into any STEM degree."*

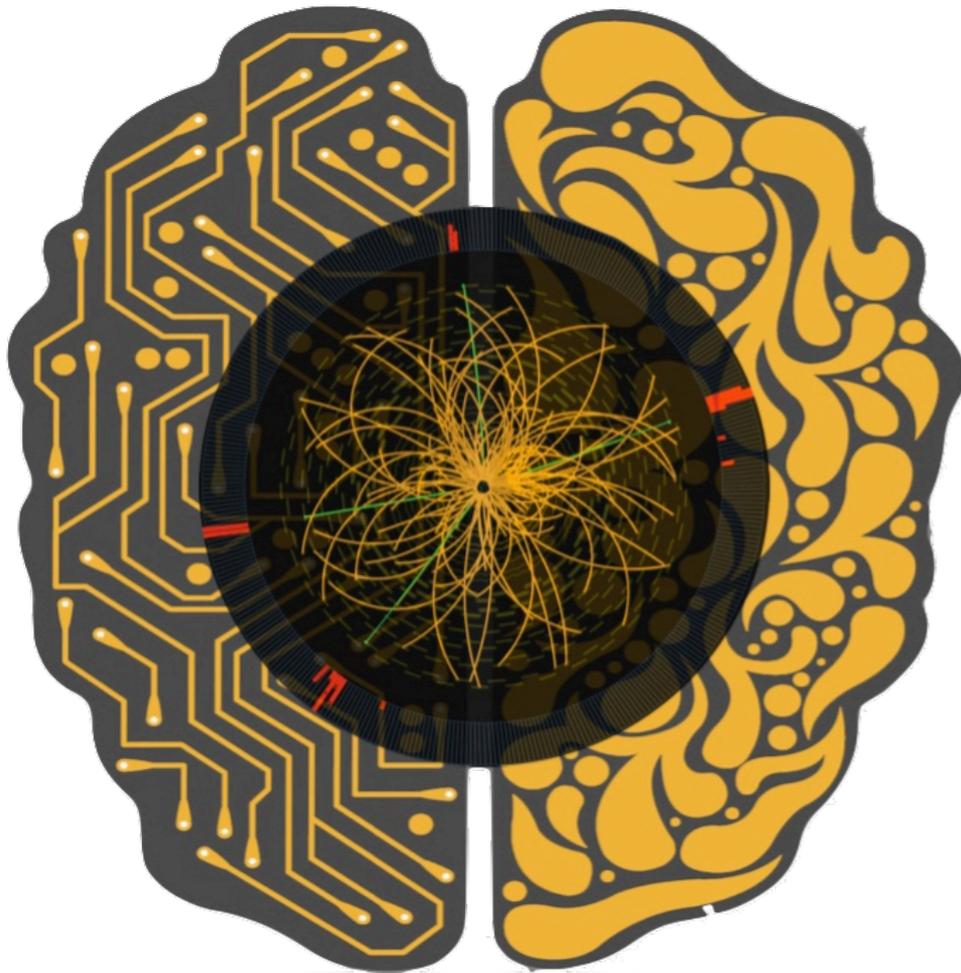
# IAIFI Outreach Plan



Training, education & outreach at Physics/AI intersection  
Cultivate early-career talent (e.g. IAIFI Fellows)  
Foster connections to physics facilities and industry  
Build strong **multidisciplinary collaborations**  
Advocacy for **shared solutions** across subfields

Backup

# FastMachineLearning.org



Group Founded by P. Harris and N. Tran (FNAL) <https://indico.cern.ch/event/822126/>

- Project now covers some LHC, DUNE, LIGO, Materials science....
- Collaboration is now > 40 members at 10 institutes (2 years old)
- Our aim : bring the fastest machine learning to science

# IAIFI for Experimental Physics

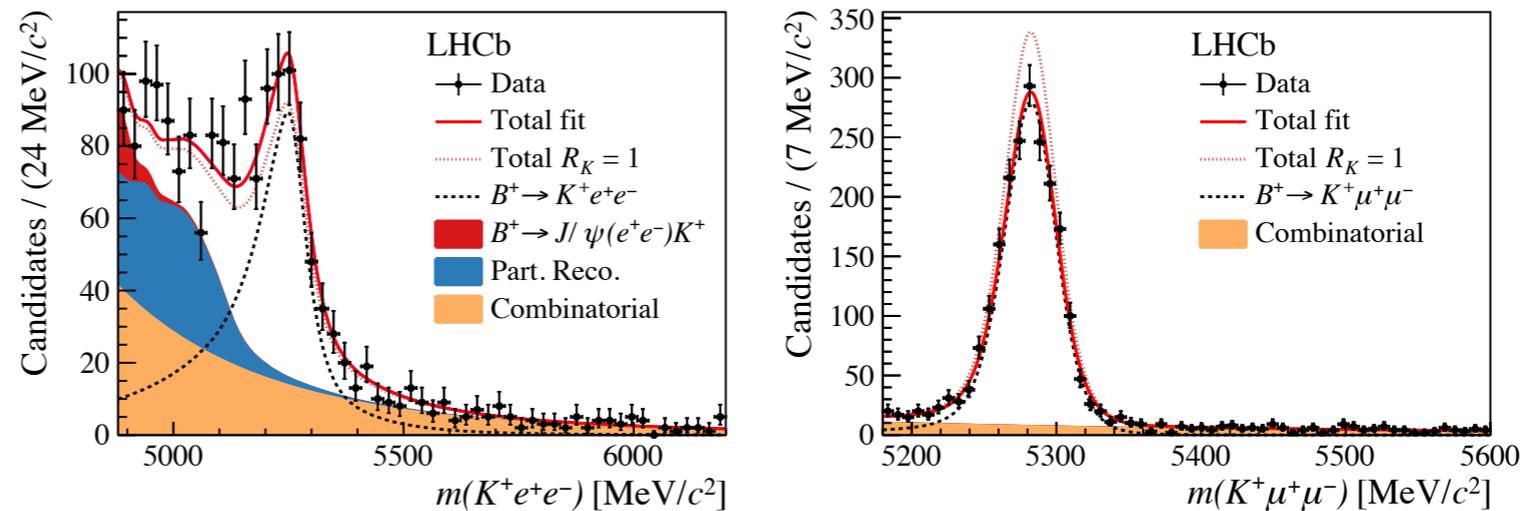
Strategy for experimental physics is about taking AI to data

E.g. Tests of Lepton  
Universality using the  
LHCb Software Trigger

[LHCb collaboration, PRL 2019]

[using Gligorov, Williams, JINST 2013;  
Likhomanenko, Ilten, Khairullin, Rogozhnikov,  
Ustyuzhanin, Williams, JPCS 2015]

Interpretable AI is enabling reliable real-time event selection at LHCb



type	$\epsilon_{4\text{-body}}$ (%)	$\epsilon_{5\text{-body}}$ (%)	instability (%)
cuts	$63.2 \pm 0.5$	$55.3 \pm 0.5$	$9 \pm 3$
BDT	$76.9 \pm 0.4$	$68.1 \pm 0.5$	$55 \pm 4$
BBDT	$73.8 \pm 0.4$	$68.9 \pm 0.5$	$10 \pm 3$

Traditional Cuts  
Traditional AI  
**Interpretable AI**