

# From Configurations to Correlators

– Lect. 2 : Machine Learning in Measurements

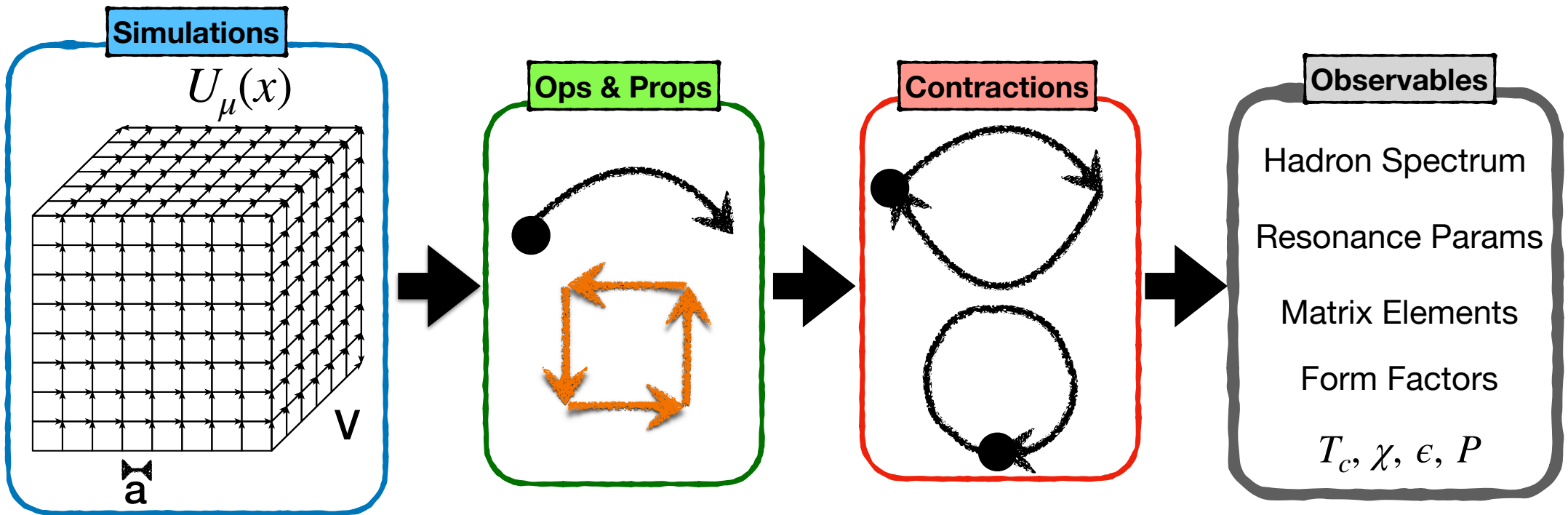
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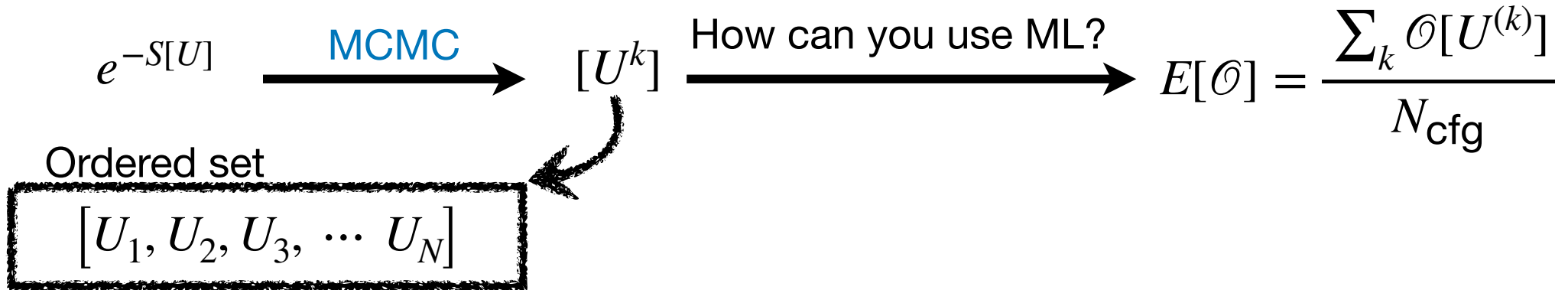
29th October, 2025

# Machine learning in **Measurements**



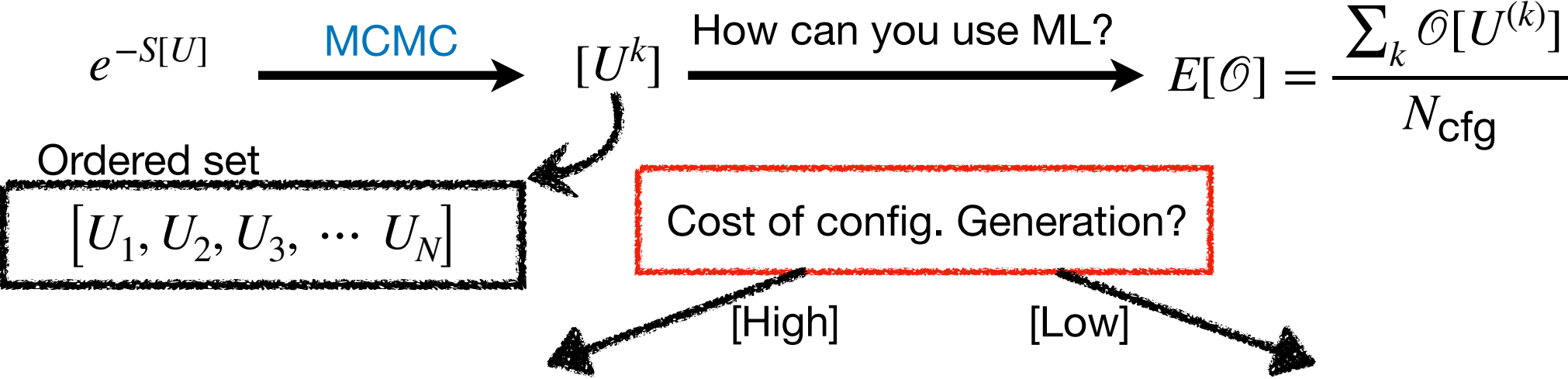
$$\langle \mathcal{O} \rangle_{a,V,n_f} = \frac{1}{\mathcal{Z}} \int \mathbb{D}[U]^V \mathbb{D}[\psi\bar{\psi}]^{Vn_f} \mathcal{O}(U, \psi, \bar{\psi}) e^{-S(a; U, \psi, \bar{\psi})}$$

# Machine learning in **Measurements** : Prerequisite



- \* ML methods expect independent, identically distributed samples
- \* Sequential MCMC generates dependent, identically distributed samples.
- \* Need Bias correction.

# Machine learning in **Measurements** : Prerequisite



# Machine learning in **Measurements** : Prerequisite

$$e^{-S[U]} \xrightarrow{\text{MCMC}} [U^k] \xrightarrow{\text{How can you use ML?}} E[\mathcal{O}] = \frac{\sum_k \mathcal{O}[U^{(k)}]}{N_{\text{cfg}}}$$

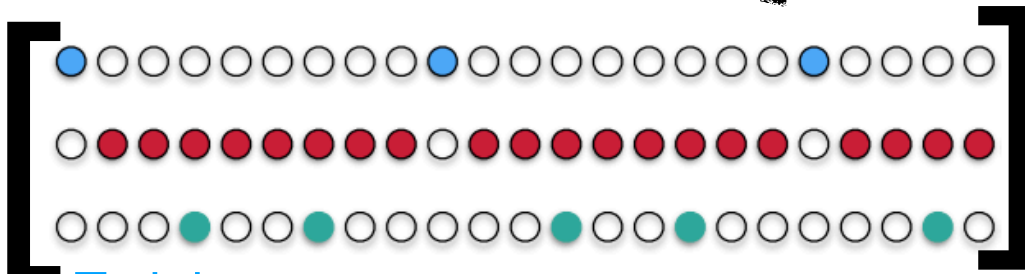
Ordered set

$[U_1, U_2, U_3, \dots, U_N]$

Cost of config. Generation?

[High]

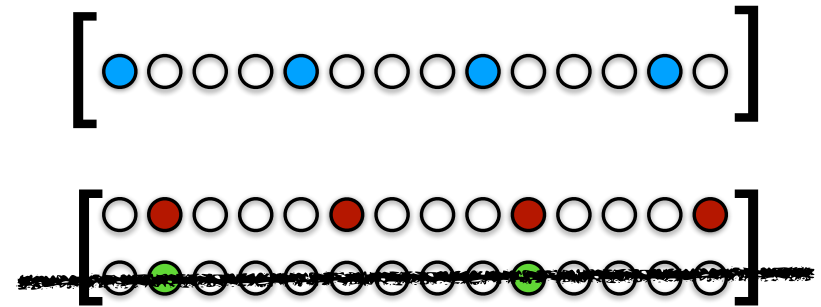
[Low]



Training

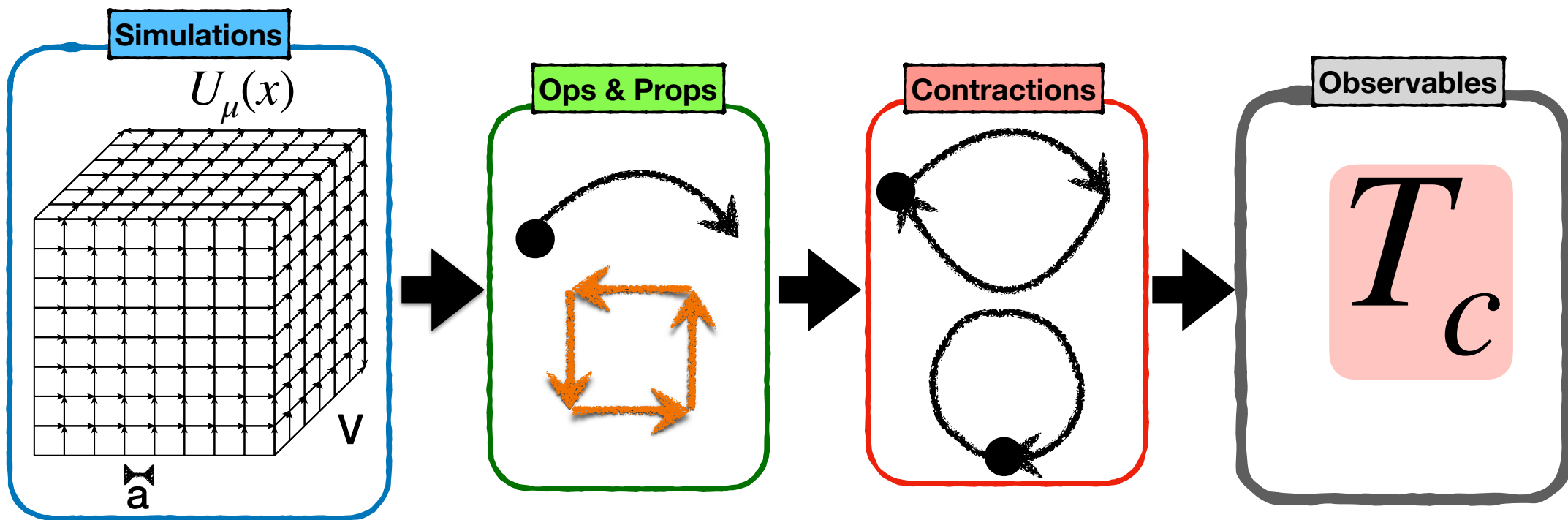
Prediction/Testing

Bias Correction



Prediction/Testing

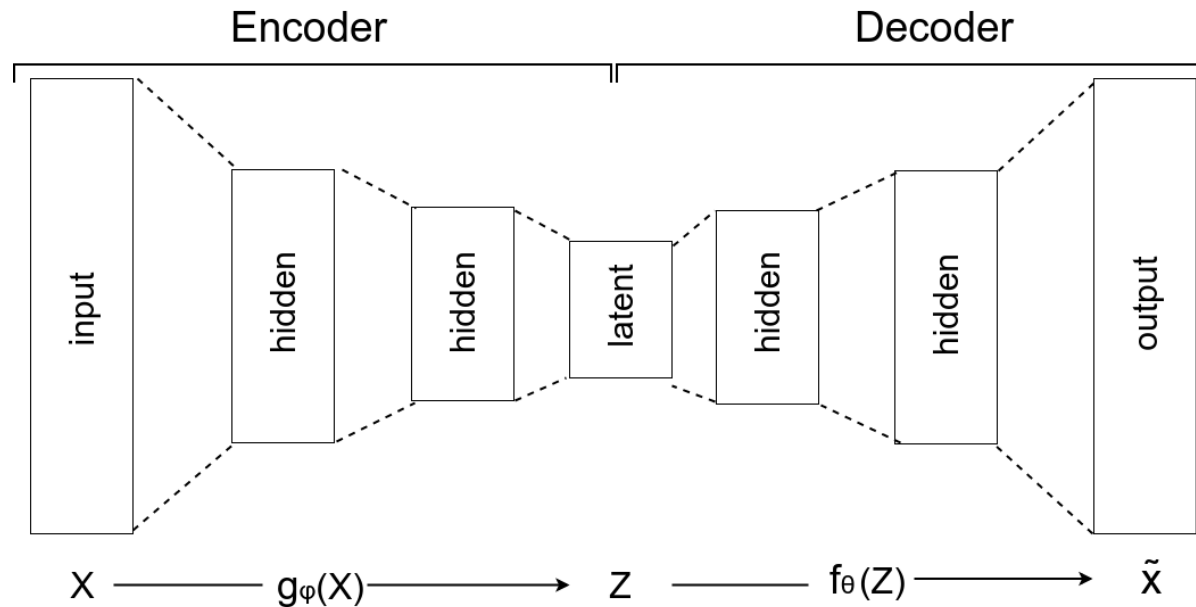
Training



# Identify Phase transitions

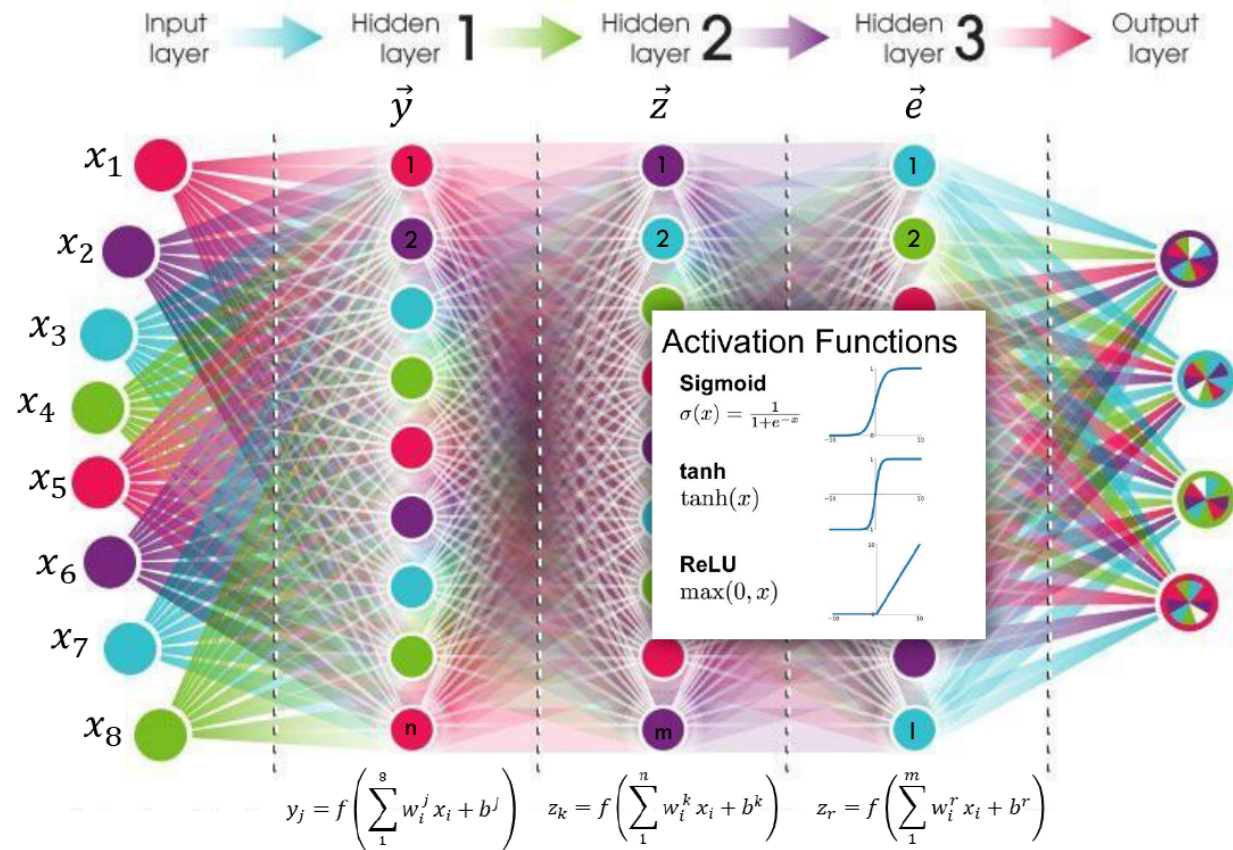
- \* Variational Autoencoder, unsupervised.
- \* Learn parameters of  $X = P(\phi)$  distribution.

[Arxiv:1903.03506]

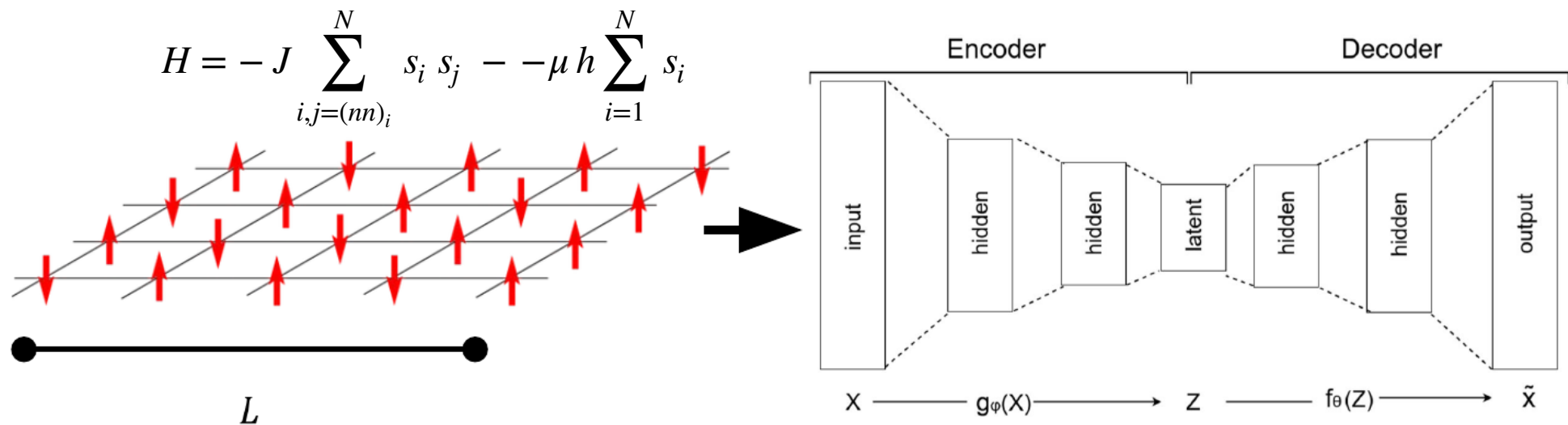


# Typical Neural Network

1. Input layer
2. Hidden layer
3. Hidden layer
4. Hidden layer
5. .
6. .
7. .
8. .
9. .
- .....
10. Output layer



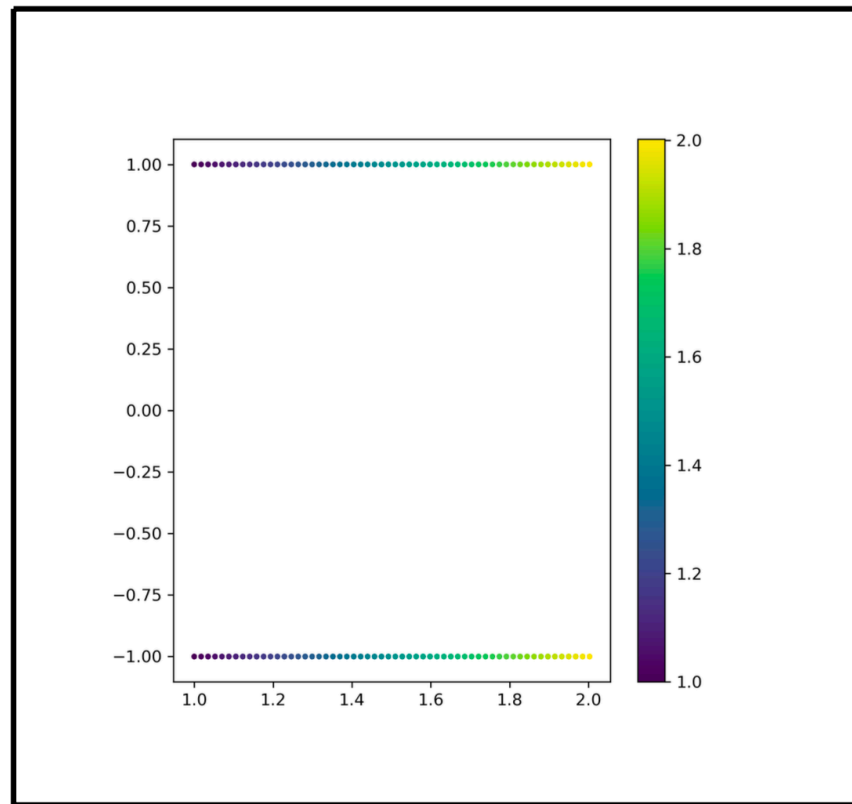
# Identify Phase transitions: Ising Model



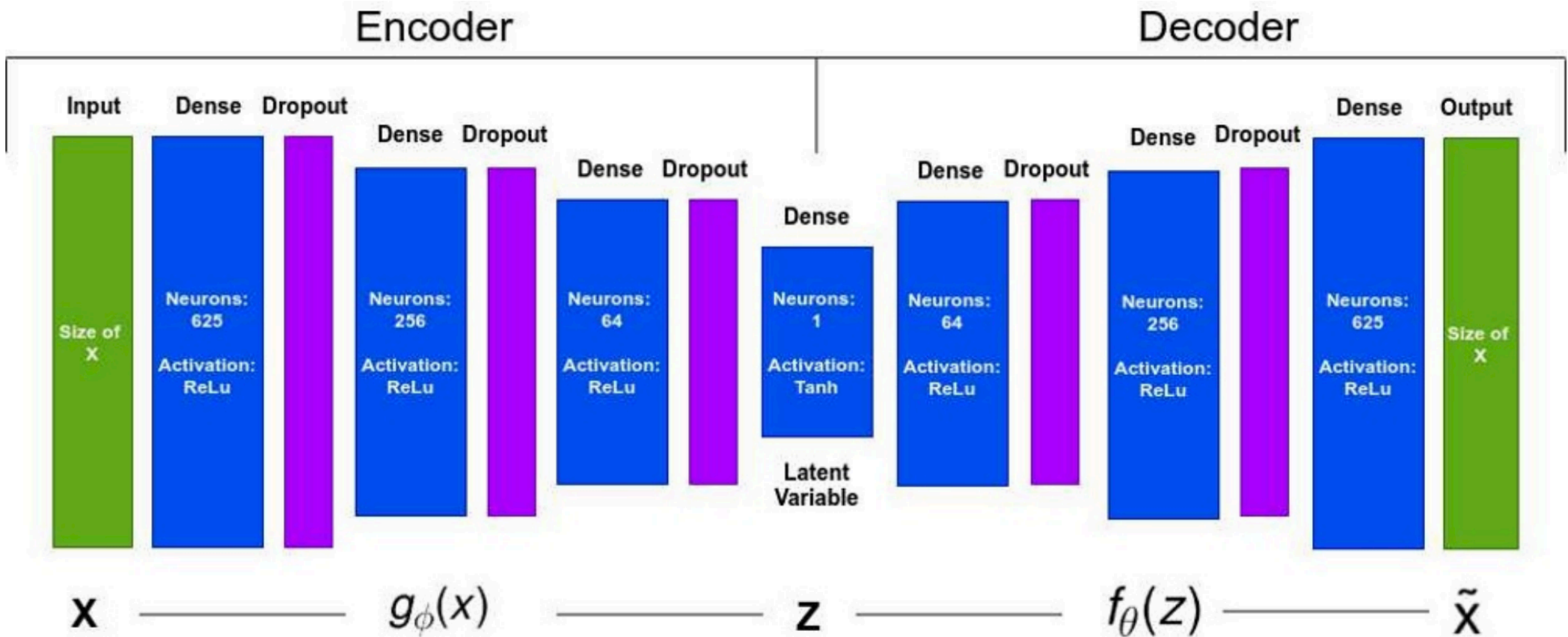
$$\text{MSE}(\theta, \phi) = \frac{1}{n_{\text{data}}} \sum_{i=1} \left( X_i - f_\theta \left( g_\phi \left( X_i \right) \right) \right)^2$$

## Can we do away with layers/Activation functions?

- Imagine 0 layers, 1 latent dimension.  $T = 1, 2.25, 4$ . Identity Activation function.
- Typical Latent dimension for  $T=1-2$ .

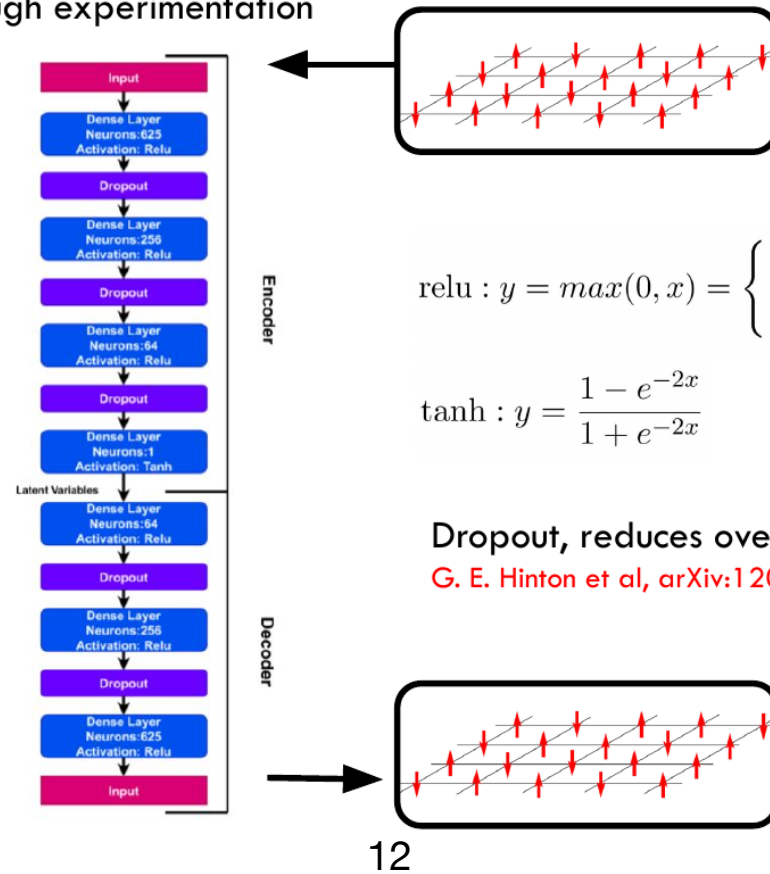


# Ising model with Autoencoder



# Ising model with Autoencoder

- Eight layers
- Fully connected (Dense)
- **Single** latent dimension
- Through experimentation



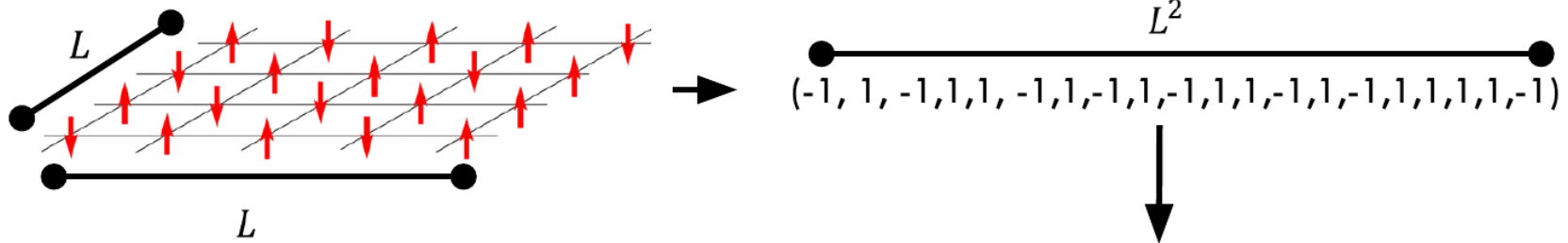
$$\text{relu} : y = \max(0, x) = \begin{cases} x, & \text{if } x > 0 \\ 0 & \text{if } x \leq 0 \end{cases}$$

$$\text{tanh} : y = \frac{1 - e^{-2x}}{1 + e^{-2x}}$$

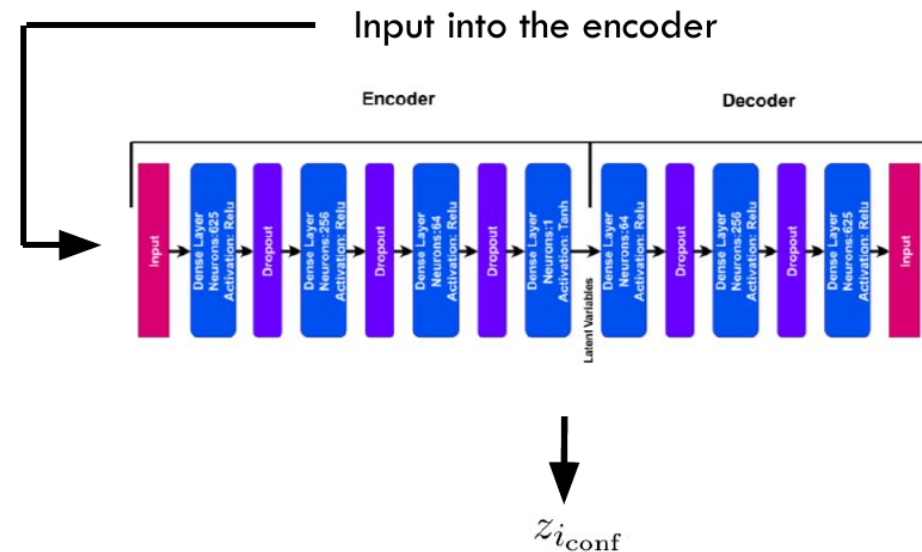
Dropout, reduces overfitting  
 G. E. Hinton et al, arXiv:1207.0580.

# Ising model with Autoencoder

- Each configuration is re-expressed in the form of a vector:



- In other words, each configuration is assigned a number, the latent dimension, which includes all the physically necessary information so that the decoder re-creates the actual configuration

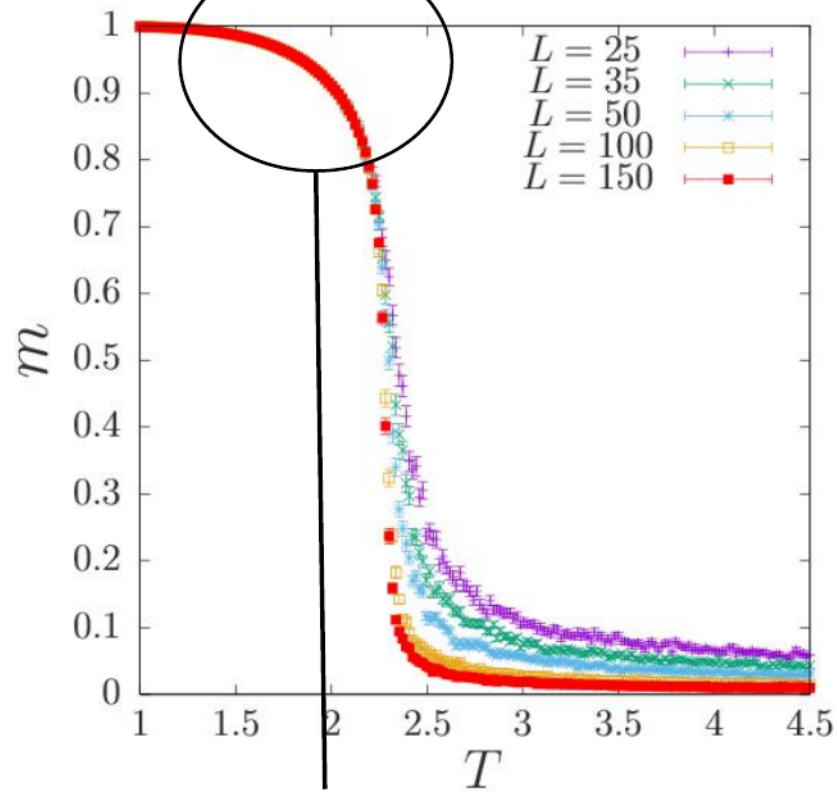


$z_{i\text{conf}}$

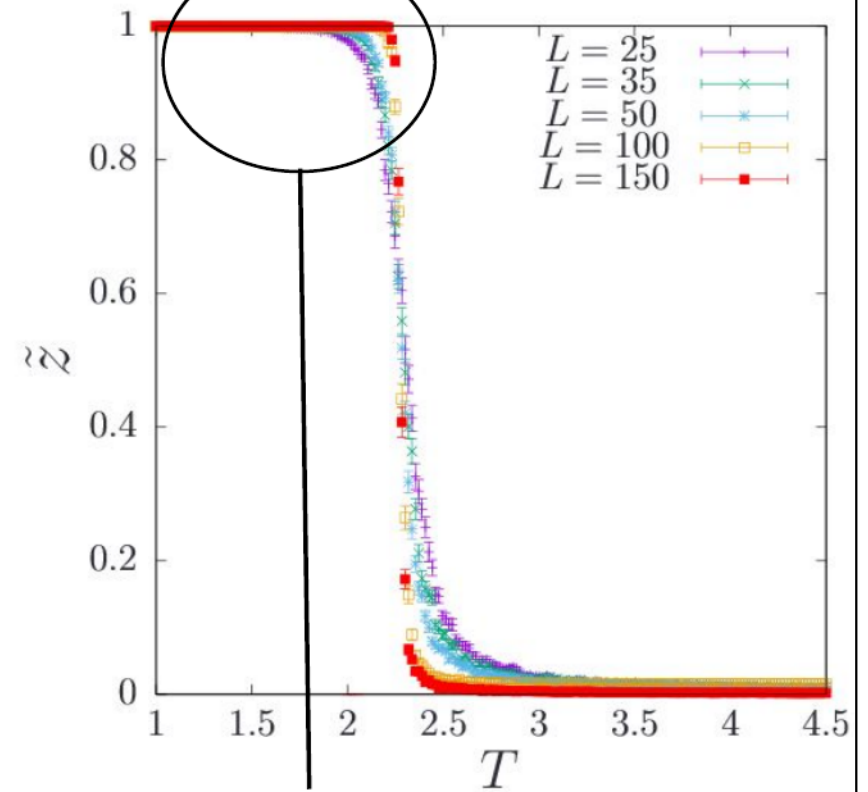
Latent Dimension

# Ising model with Autoencoder

Compare with magnetization:



Second order

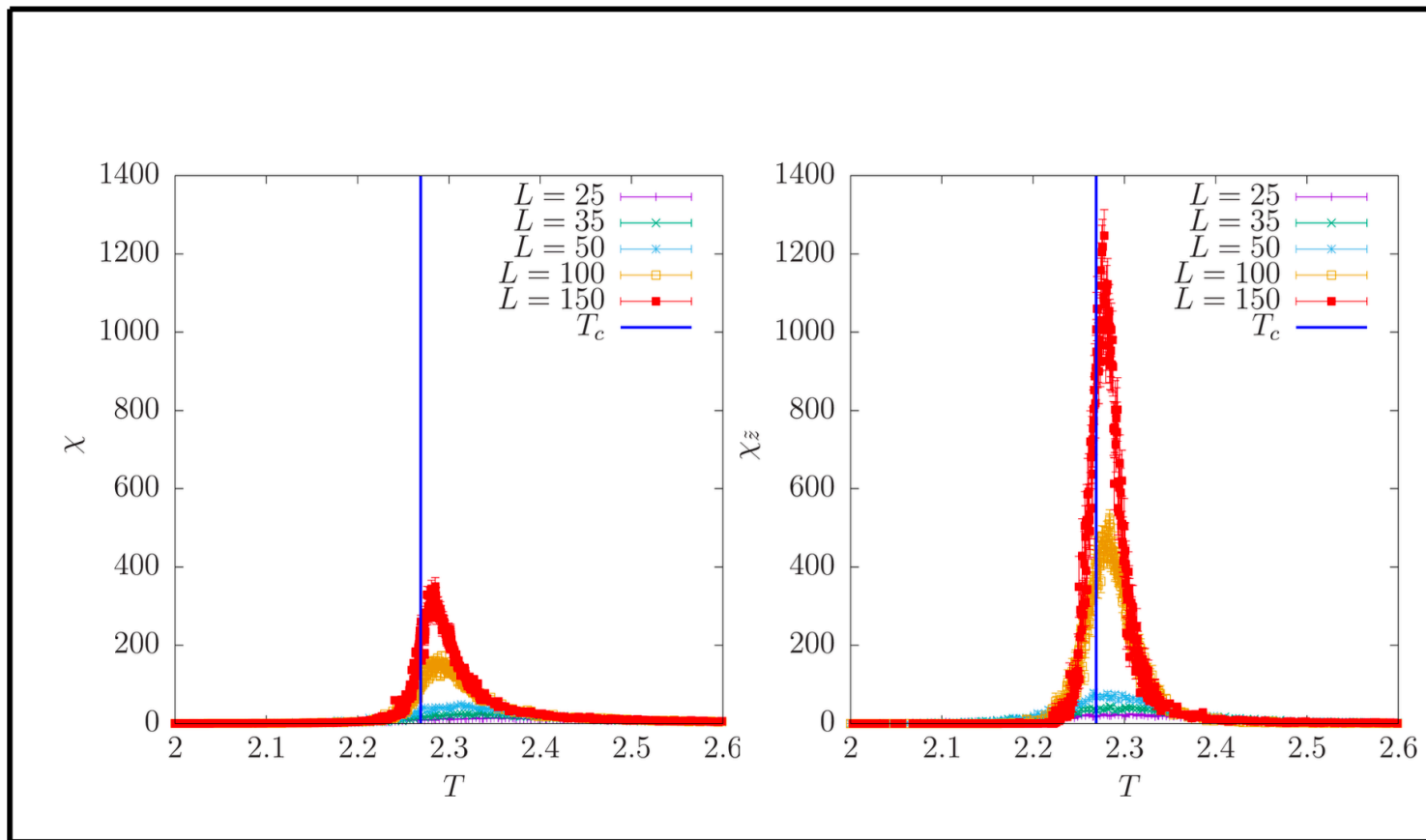


As if First order

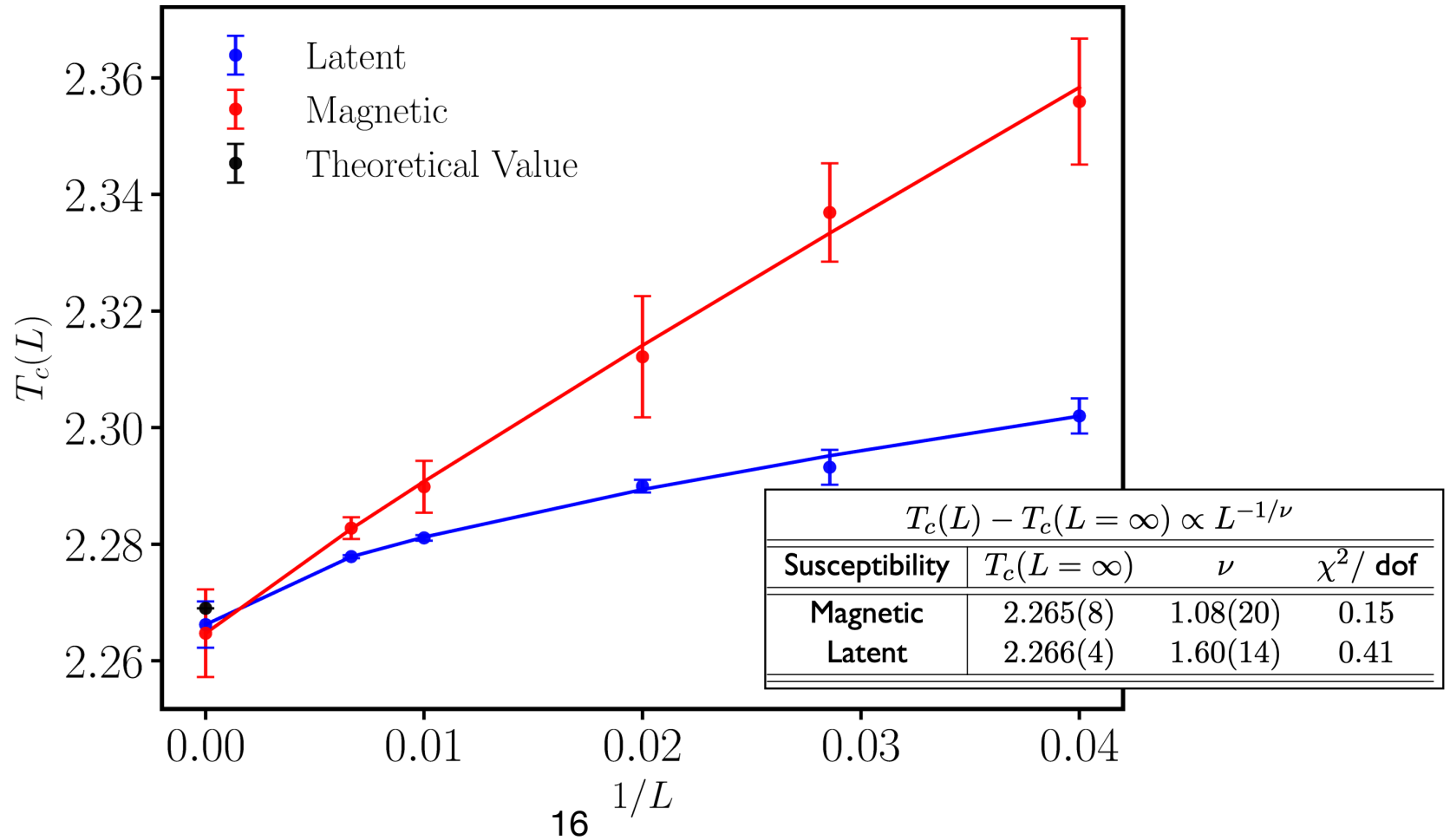
# Susceptibility & Latent Susceptibility

$$\chi = \frac{L^2}{T} (\langle m^2 \rangle - \langle m \rangle^2)$$

$$\chi_{\tilde{z}} = \frac{L^2}{T} (\langle \tilde{z}^2 \rangle - \langle \tilde{z} \rangle^2)$$

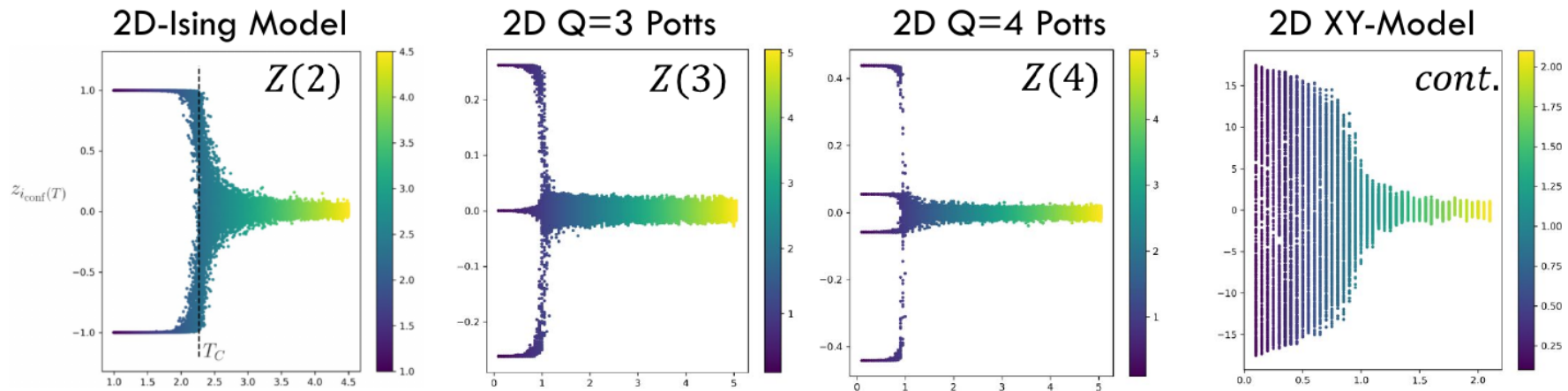


# Ising model with Autoencoder



# Autoencoder for identifying phase transitions

$$Z(G) = \{z \in G \mid \forall g \in G, zg = gz\}$$



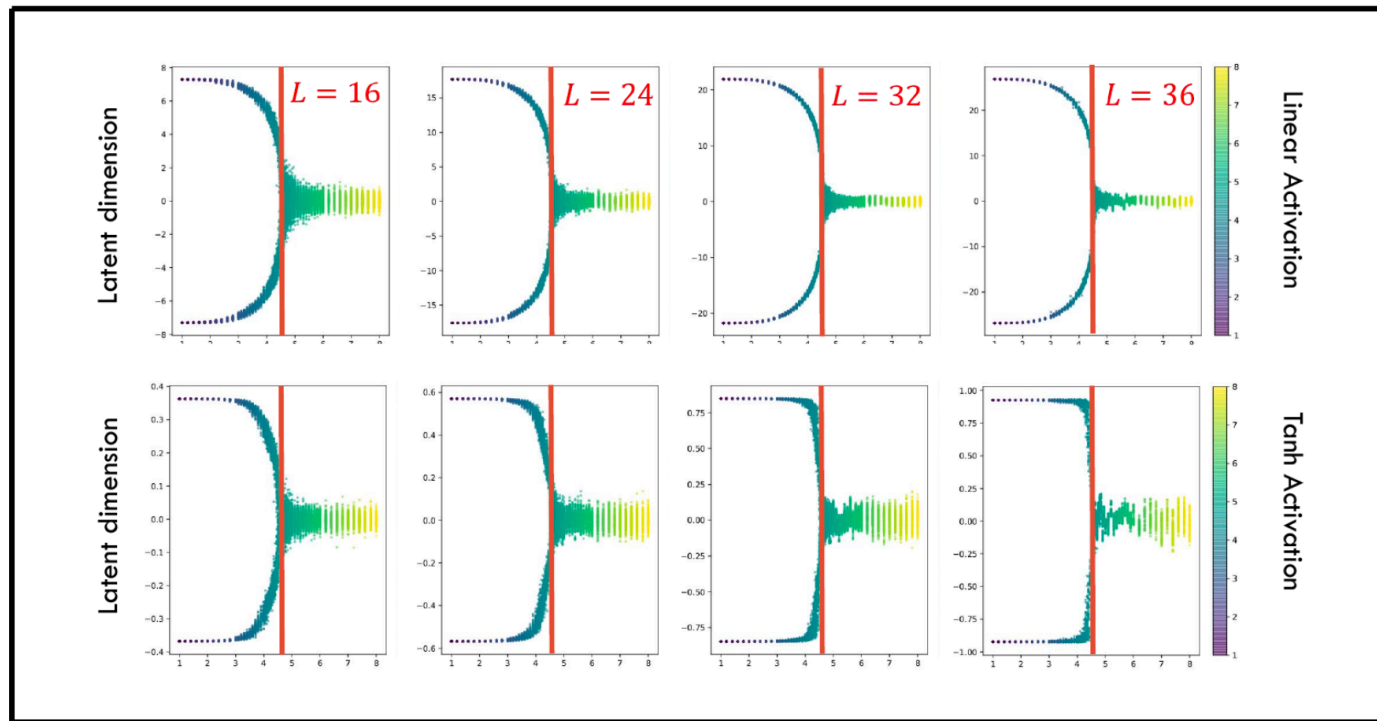
## \* Drawback

\* Doesn't reproduce the correct physics, but can identify critical Temperature.

# 3D Ising Model

$T_C = 4.511$ , Second order.

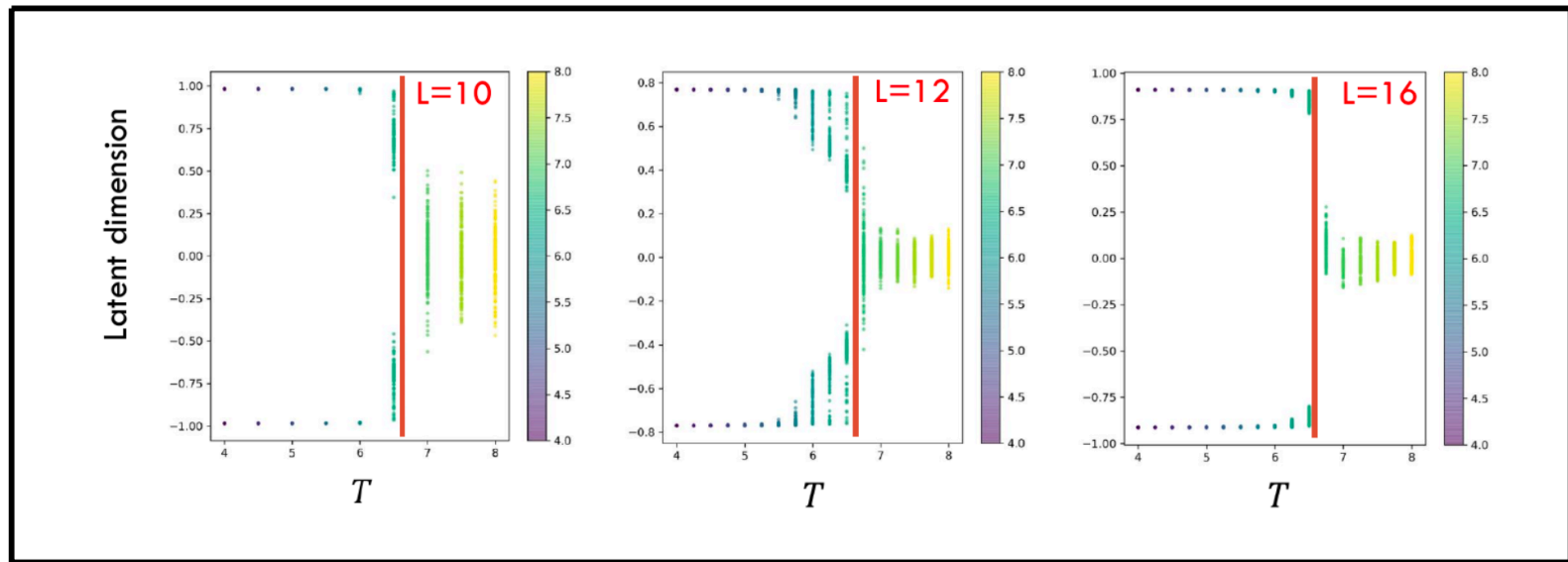
[Talapov & Blöte 1996]

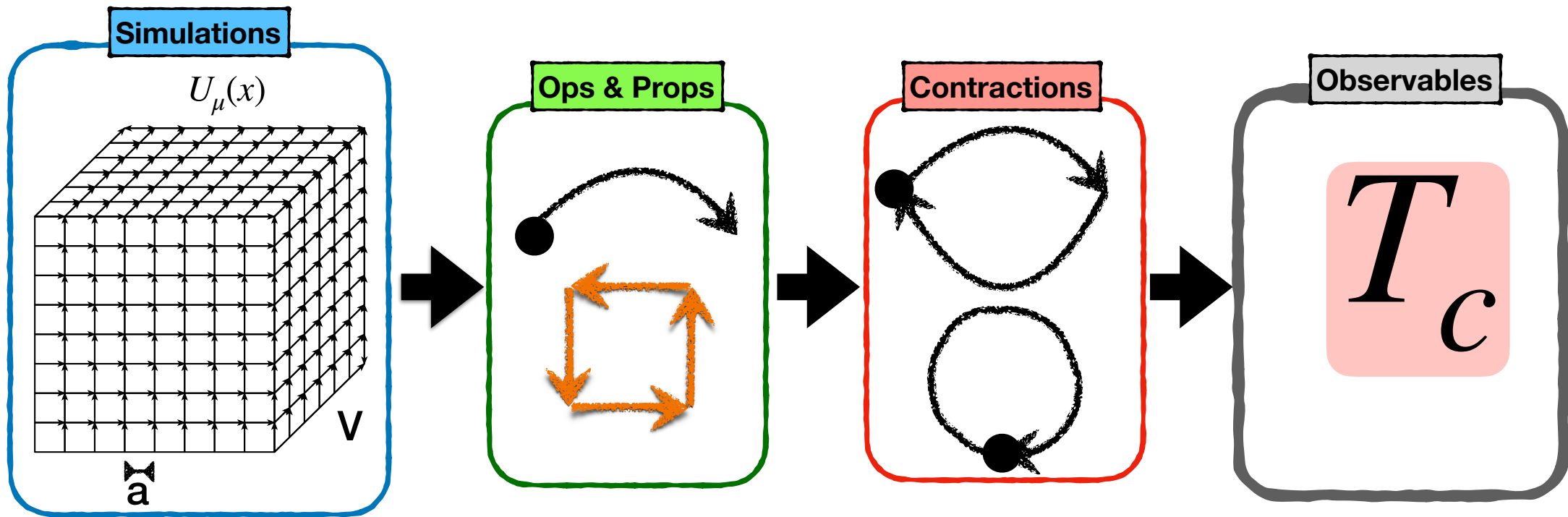


# 4D Ising Model

$$T_C = 6.65.$$

[Lundow & Markström 2012]





[Arxiv:1903.03506]

4D SU(3) Gauge theory, Polyakov Loop [Arxiv:2111.05216]

Supervised [Arxiv:1705.05582]

# Control Variates

[Arxiv:2307.14950]

- If one define  $\tilde{O} \equiv O - f$ , where  $\langle f \rangle = 0$ ,

$$\langle \tilde{O} \rangle = \langle O \rangle$$

- Its variance is

$$\text{Var}(\tilde{O}) = \text{Var}(O) + \langle f^2 \rangle - 2\langle Of \rangle$$

- $\text{Var}(\tilde{O}) \leq \text{Var}(O)$  if

$$\langle f^2 \rangle - 2\langle Of \rangle \leq 0$$

- Perfect control variates exist:  $f_P = O - \langle O \rangle$

It can be written as a gradient of a function.

# Control Variates

- In general, it is **hard to find observables with the expectation value zero**.
- It was suggested to use lattice Schwinger-Dyson equation.

$$\int D\phi \frac{\delta}{\delta\phi} (g e^{-S(\phi)}) = 0$$

- If  $g : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ ,

$$f(\phi) = \sum_i \left( \frac{\partial g}{\partial \phi_i} - g \frac{\partial S}{\partial \phi_i} \right)$$

is a control variate with a proper boundary condition.

- Similarly, for  $g : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ ,  $f(\phi) = \nabla \cdot g - g \cdot \nabla S$

# Control Variates

- Ansatz for control variates from the knowledge of free theory was suggested

$$g(\phi) = \sum_x a_x \phi_x + \dots \quad \text{and} \quad f = \sum_i \left( \frac{\partial g}{\partial \phi_i} - g \frac{\partial S}{\partial \phi_i} \right)$$

- Instead of using educated guess, **parametrize g as a neural network**

$$g(\phi) = NN(\phi)$$

# Control Variates , Imposing symmetry

- $f(T_x[\phi]) = f(\phi)$  should be imposed.

  
translation operator

$$\leftrightarrow g(T_y[\phi])_x = g[\phi]_{x+y} \text{ (covariance)}$$

- Define a function  $g_0 : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$



$$g(\phi)_x \equiv g_0(T_x[\phi]) \quad \text{and} \quad f(\phi) = \nabla \cdot g - g \cdot \nabla S$$

- It can be easily shown that  $g(\phi)$  is translational covariant.


# Control Variates: Minimize variance

- Natural choice of loss function is the variance:

$$L(w) = \langle (O - f)^2 \rangle - \langle O - f \rangle^2$$

 neural network parameters  =  $\langle O \rangle^2$


- However, if overfitting happens,  $O(\phi_i) = f(\phi_i)$  for all training samples  $i$ ,

 very common in ML, dangerous

$$\bar{f} = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N f(\phi) = \bar{O} \neq 0$$

- Add tunable parameter  $\mu$  to avoid overfitting:

$$L(w, \mu) = \langle (O - f - \mu)^2 \rangle$$

 not used for estimation

# Wilson loops in 2D U(1) lattice gauge theory

- Model:

$$Z = \int \prod_i dU_i \exp \left( -\beta \sum_i (1 - \cos(P_i)) \right)$$

$$\text{where } \beta = \frac{2}{g^2}, P_i = U_1 U_2 U_3^\dagger U_4^\dagger$$

- Observable: Wilson loop

$$O(A) = \prod_j P_j = \exp(i \sum_j \theta_j^P)$$

# 2D U(1) lattice gauge theory with open BC & Max.Gauge

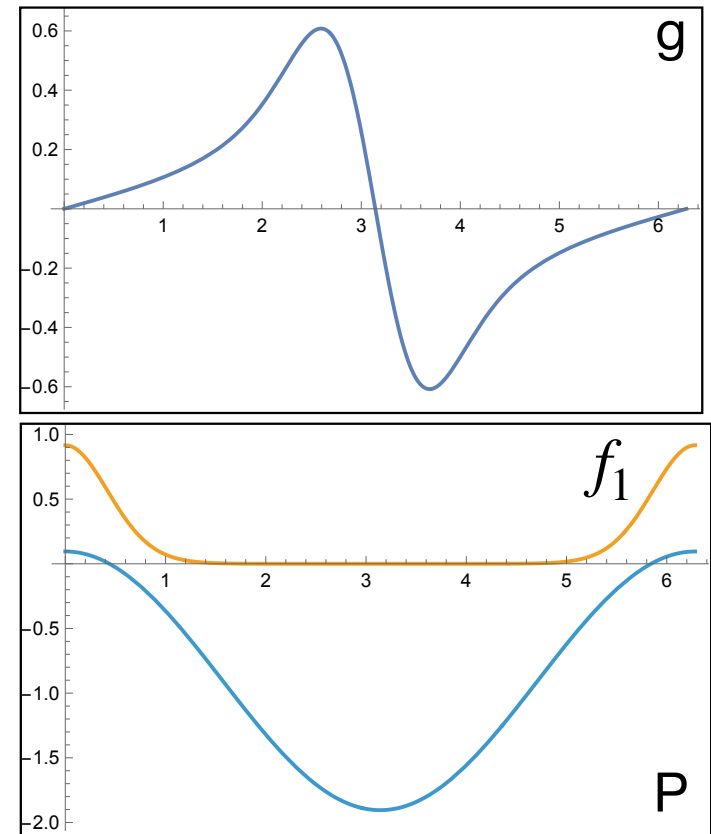
- Integration measure can be written in terms of plaquette variables, and action and observable are separable:

$$Z = \int \prod_i dP_i \exp \left( \beta \sum_i \cos(P_i) \right)$$

- Ansatz:

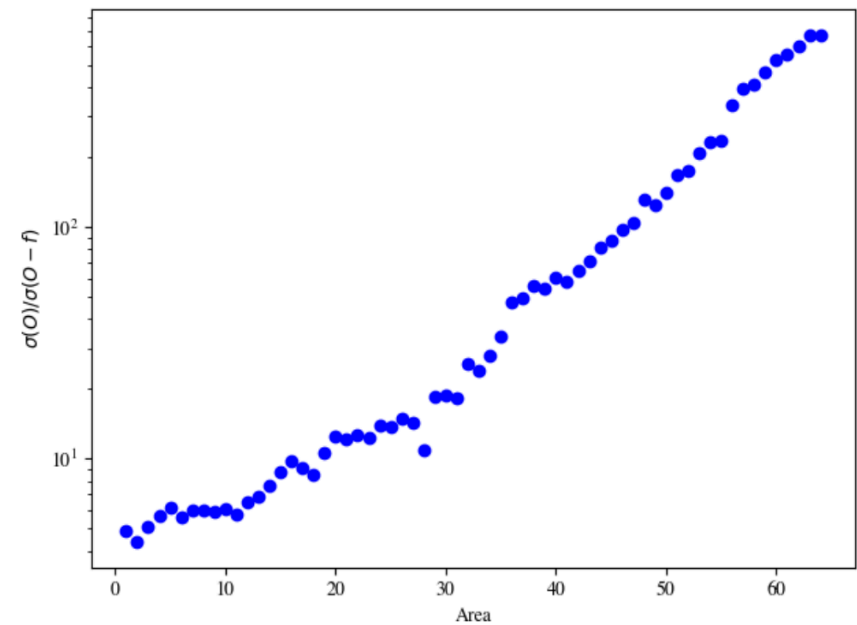
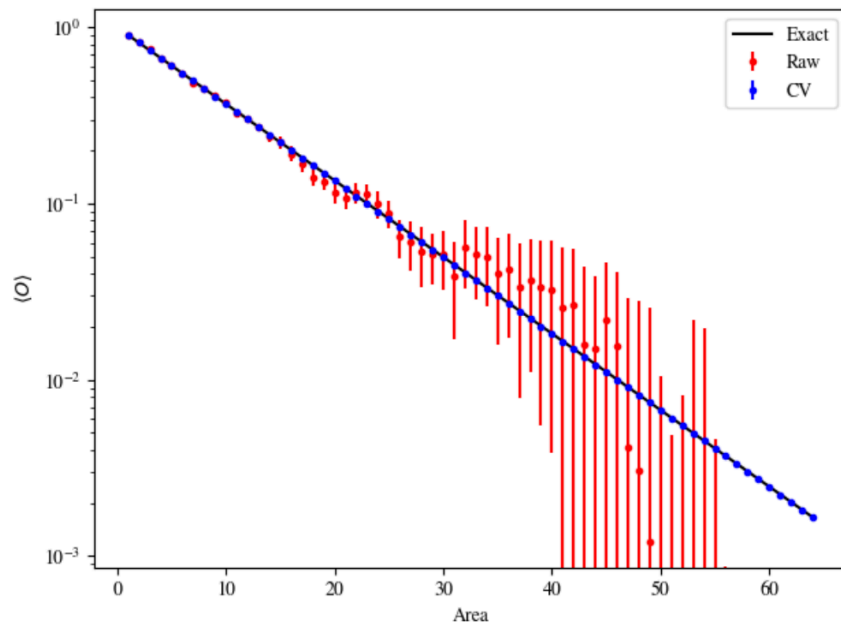
$$f(\phi) = \exp(i \sum_j \phi_j) - \prod_j \left( \exp(i\phi_j) - f_1(\phi_j) \right)$$

$$\text{with } f_1(\phi) = \frac{dg}{d\phi} - g \frac{dS}{d\phi} \rightarrow \langle f_1 \rangle = 0 \Rightarrow \langle f \rangle = 0$$



# Wilson loops in 2D U(1) lattice gauge theory

•  $\langle O(A) \rangle = \mu^A$  where  $\mu \equiv \frac{I_1(\beta)}{I_0(\beta)}$

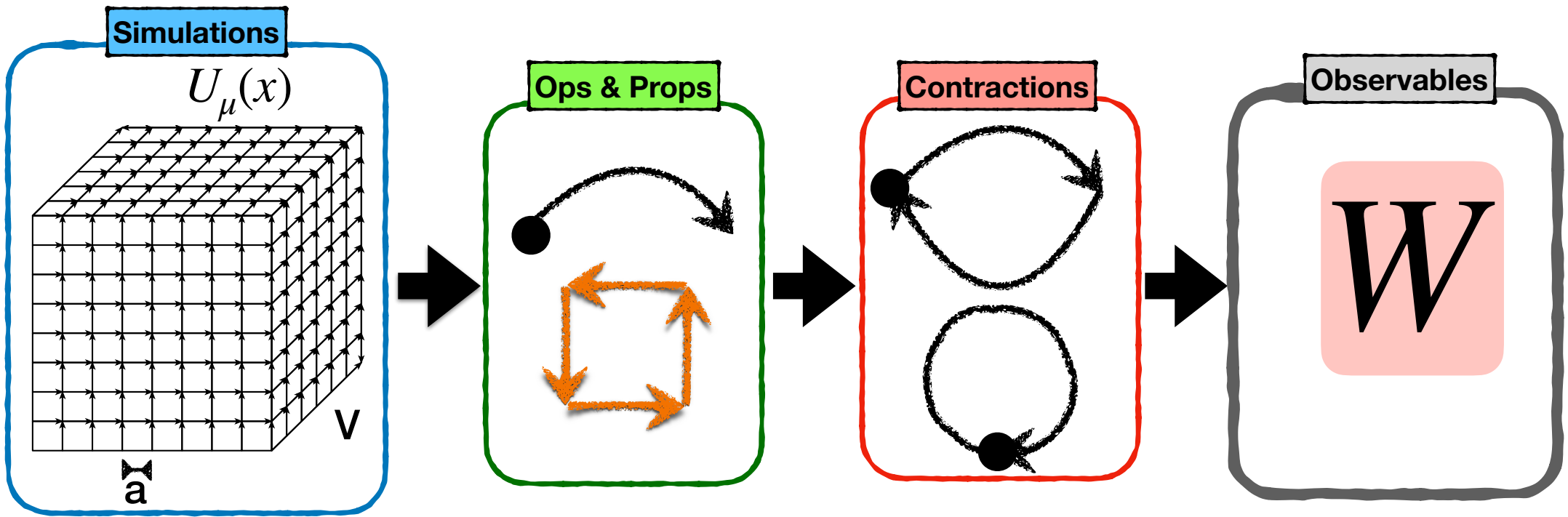


$\beta = 5.555$

# Control Variates Outlook

- \* Control Variates existence guaranteed. Need more investigation.
- \* Volume scaling yet to be figured out. Should be cheaper than ensemble methods.
- \* Symmetries need to be encoded.





Contour deformation [arxiv:2003.05914](https://arxiv.org/abs/2003.05914)

# Outlook

- \* Machine learning techniques are getting proof of principle verification.
- \* Need dedicated packages for lattice gauge theories.
- \* In the propagator measurements, significant input needed for preconditioners.
- \* Quantitative studies of phase transitions based on a synergistic relation between machine learning and statistical mechanics: explore new systems.
- \* ML targeted hardware helps lattice calculations.
- \* And if you want to learn automatic differentiation (heart of all ML). Check <https://github.com/srijitpaul/iKAN>

# Safety