

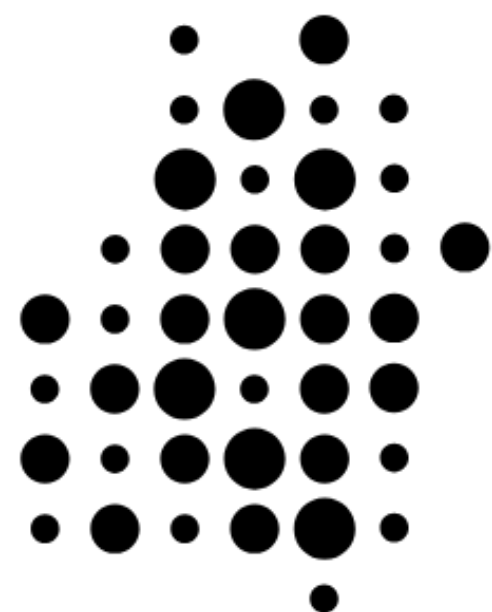
Forecasting Generative Amplification

Sascha Cassandra Diefenbacher, Heidelberg University

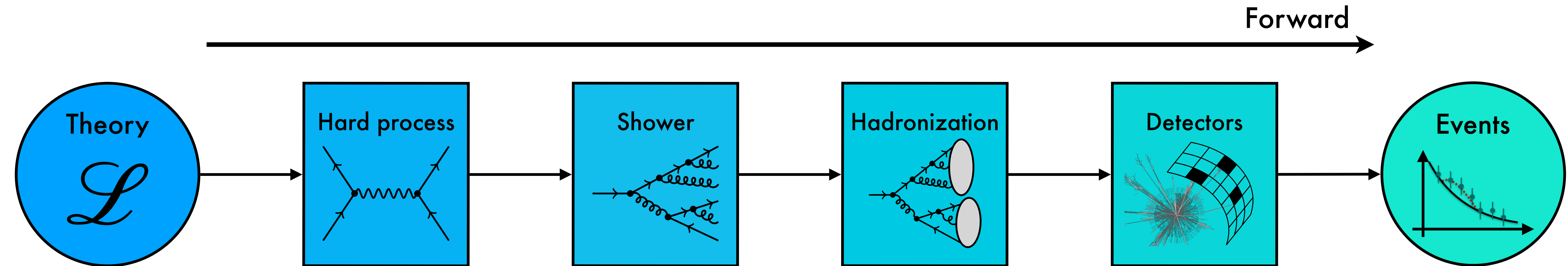
ML4Jets 2026, Vienna

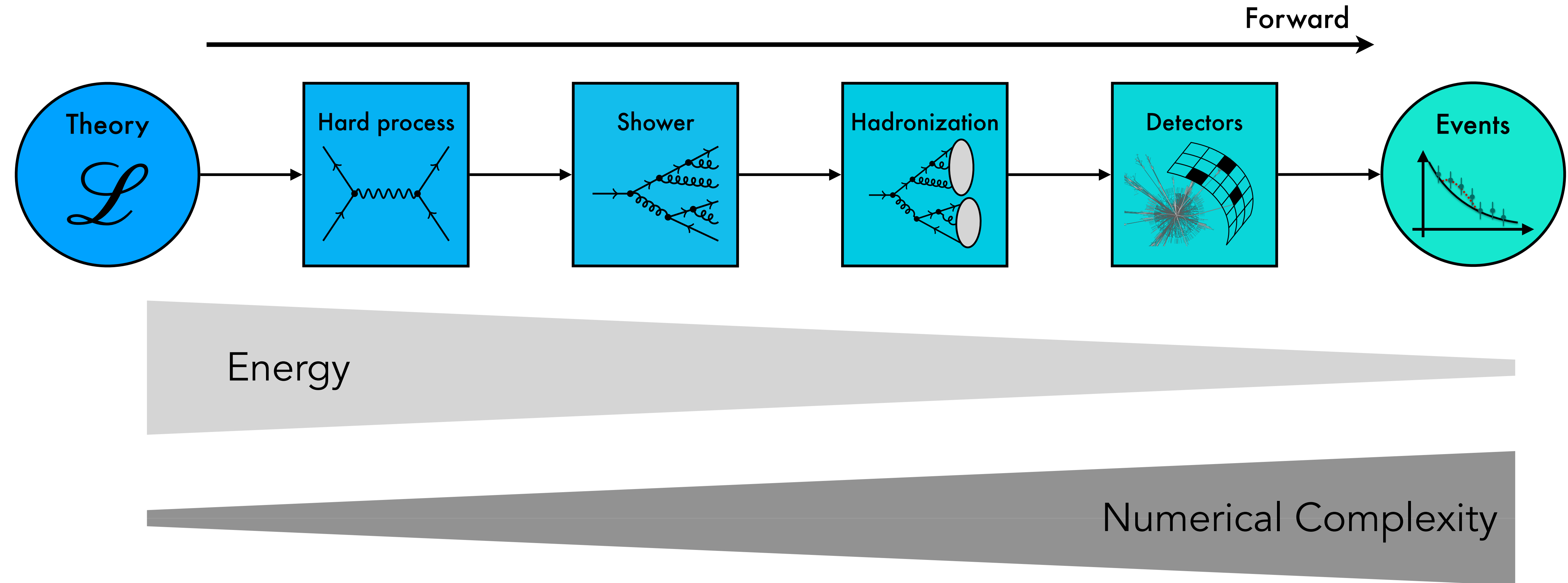
September 15th, 2026

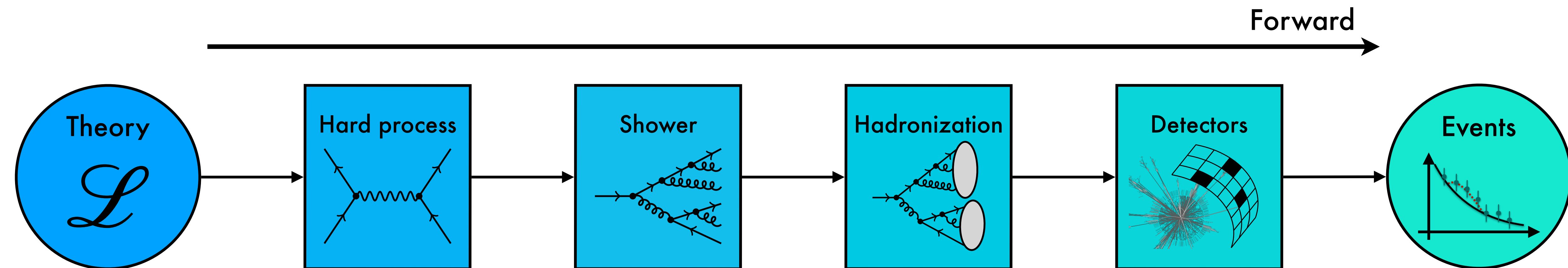
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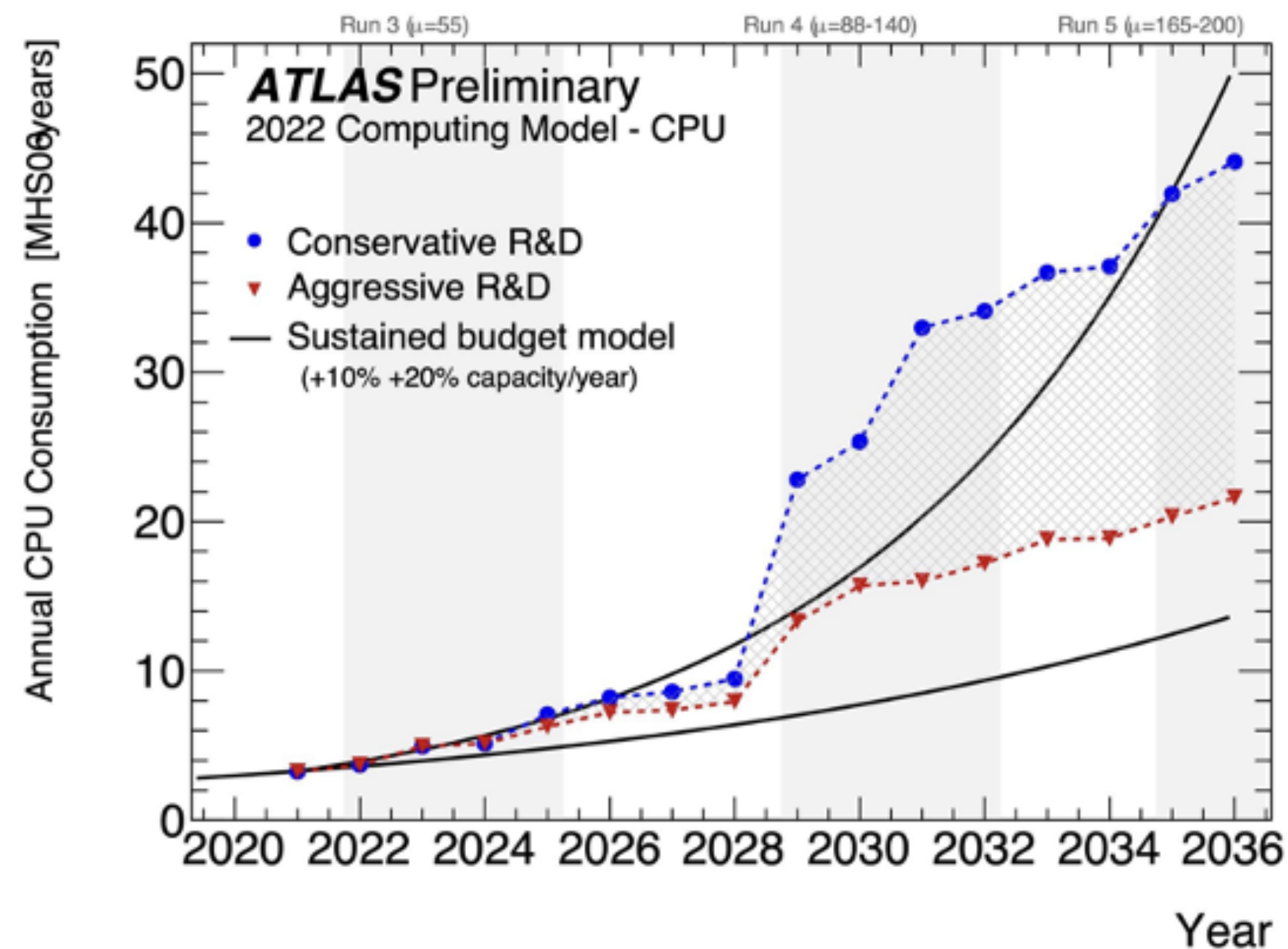
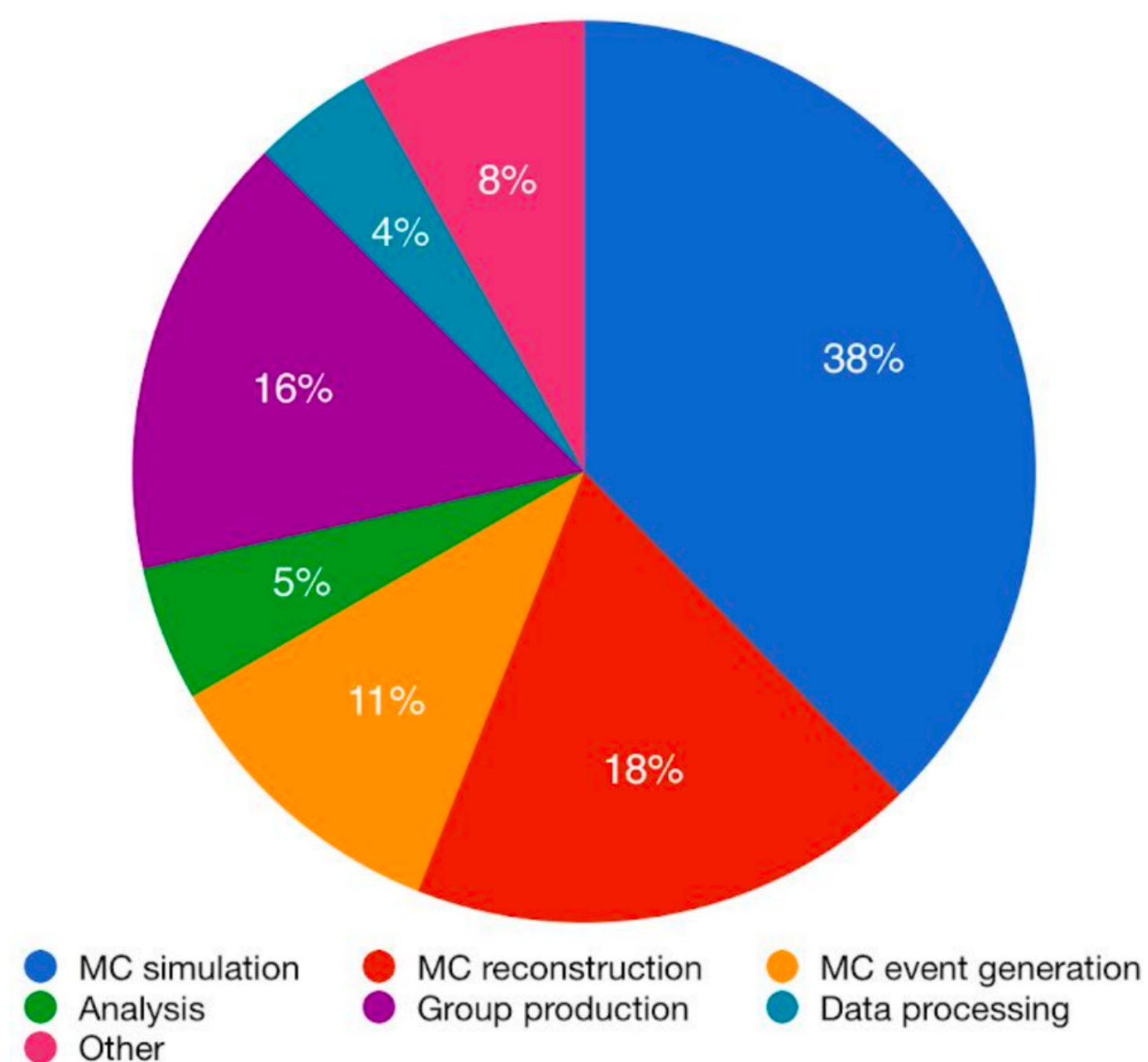






AllShowers

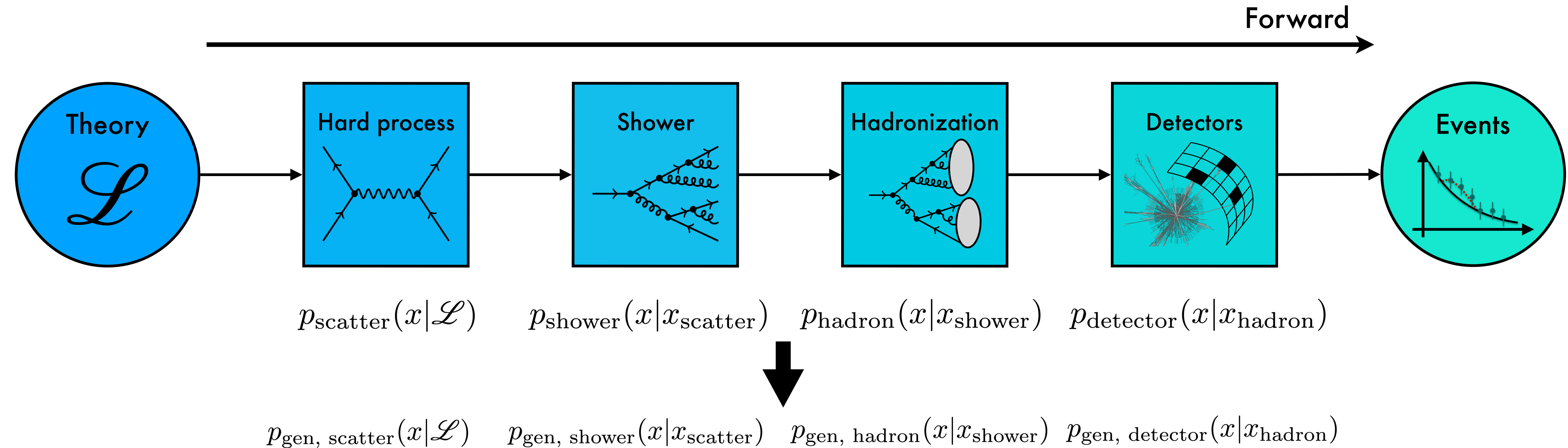
- ▶ First-principles precision simulations, accurate, expensive and slow
- ▶ Need more simulated data than recorded data
- ▶ Higher-rate experiments → need more and more precise simulation



- ▶ Simulation cost is computational bottleneck for future HEP experiments
- ▶ Need accelerated methods

Al-Turany et. al. JENA Computing Initiative WP2 Report: Software and Heterogeneous Architectures, [2503.09213](#)

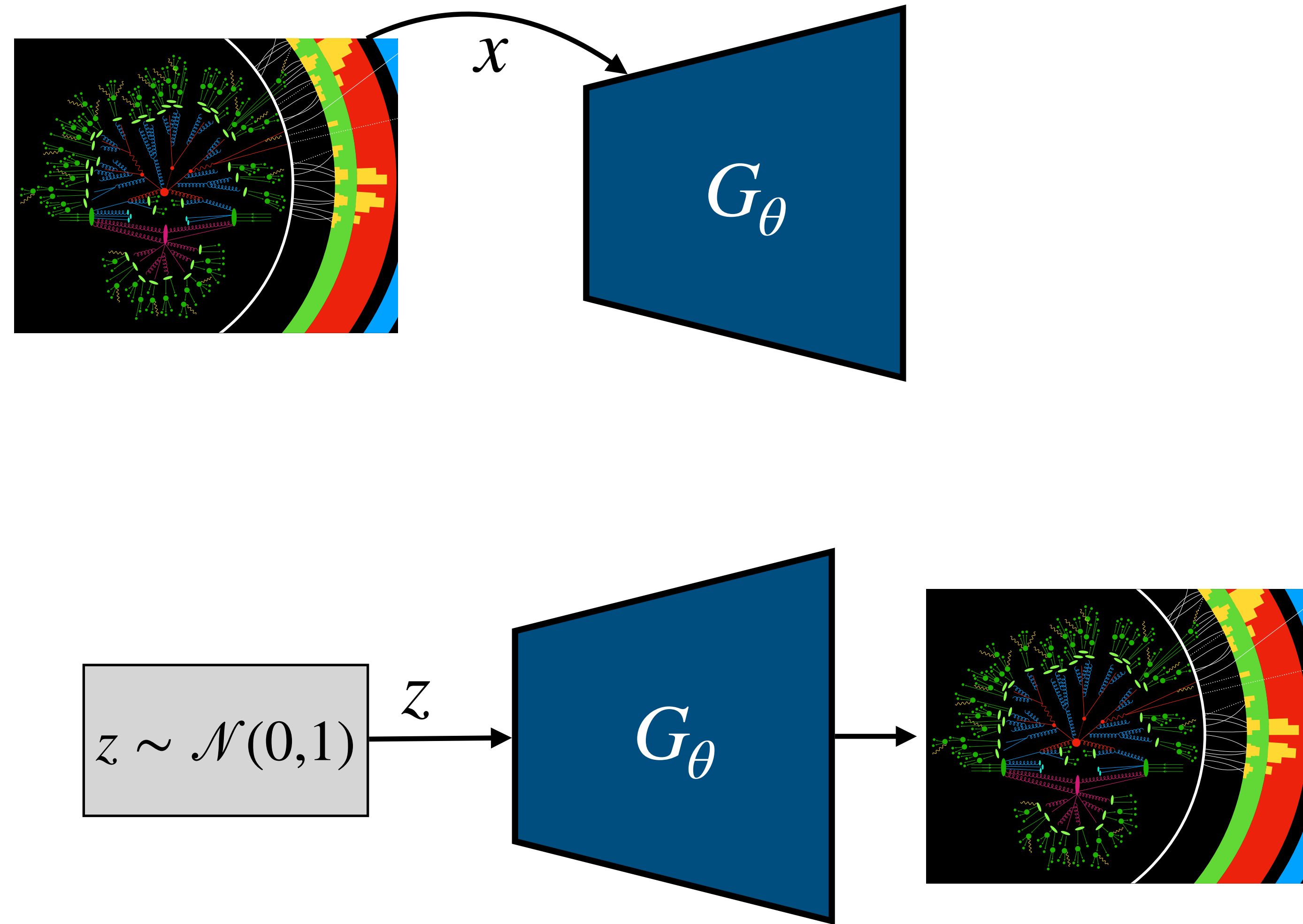
Catmore et. al. ATLAS HL-LHC Computing Conceptual Design Report, [CERN-LHCC-2020-015](#) ; [LHCC-G-178](#)



- Series of conditional densities, approximate with conditional generative networks
- Faster, more efficient, leverage data

Fast simulation

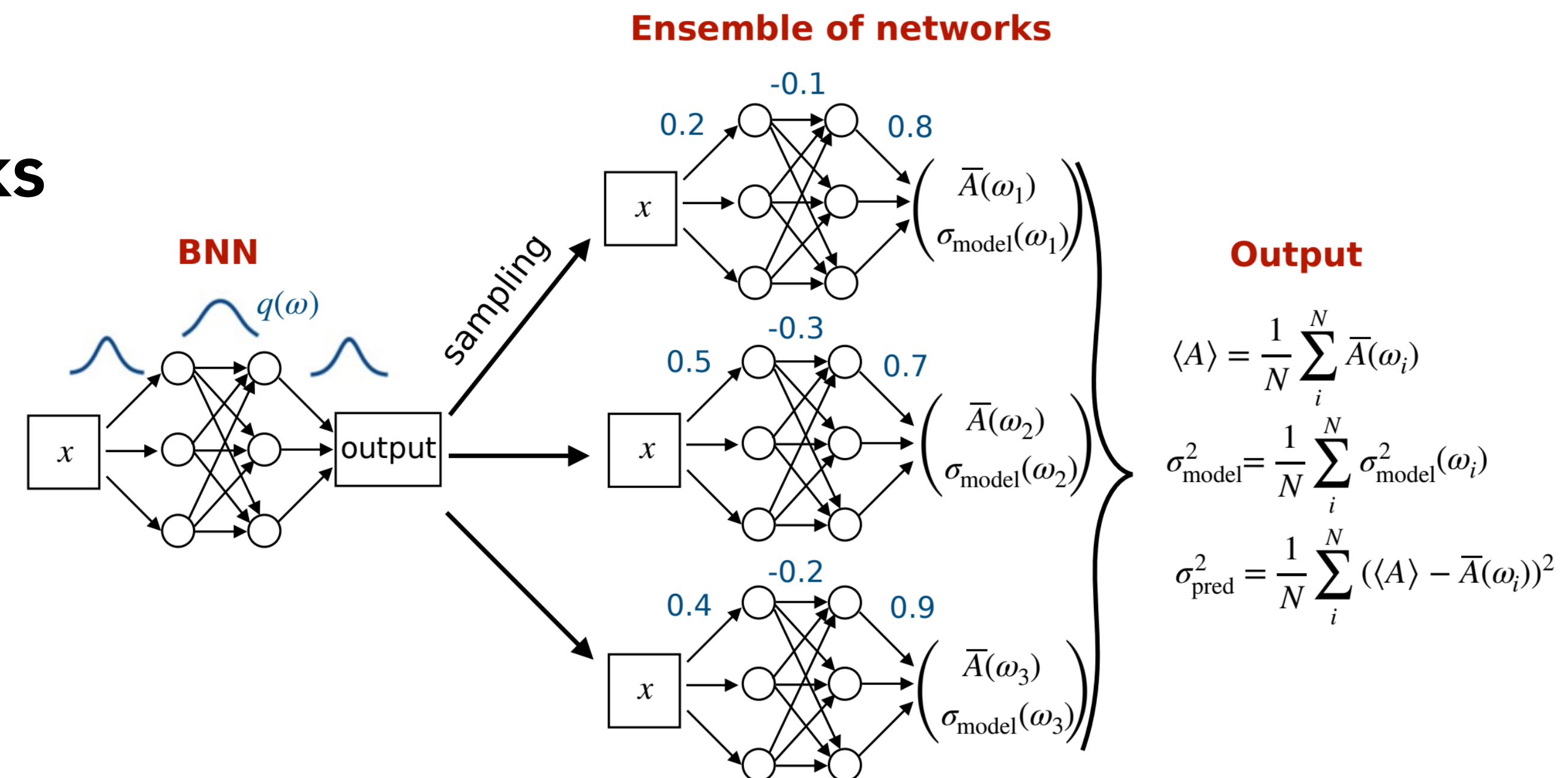
- ▶ Train on simulated data
- ▶ Sample from generative network
- ▶ Faster than classical simulation
 - ▶ GAN
 - ▶ Normalizing flow
 - ▶ Diffusion models
 - ▶ Autoregressive transformers



Physics needs uncertainty estimates

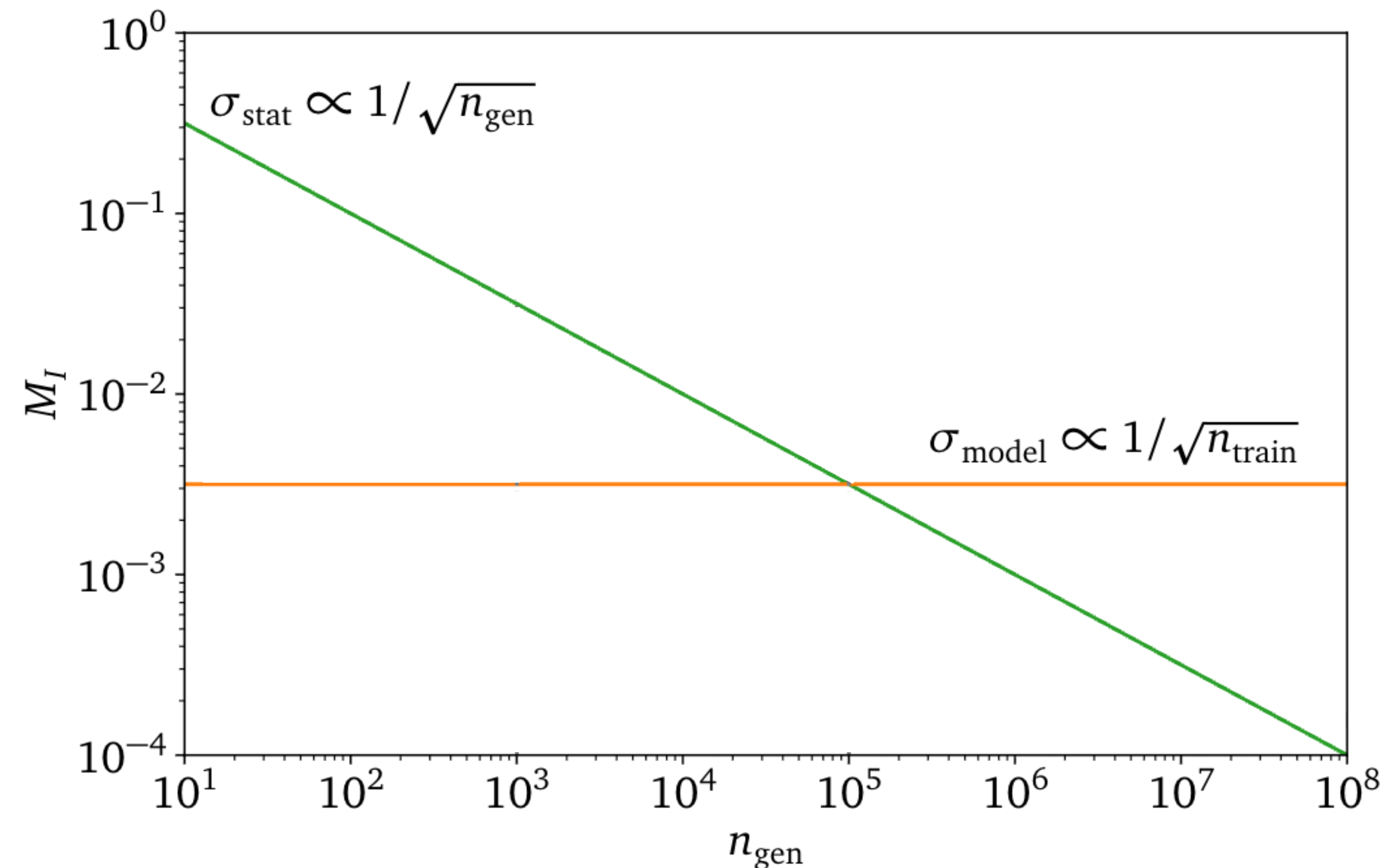
ML uncertainty quantification:

- ▶ Heteroscedastic losses, repulsive ensemble, **bayesian neural networks**
- ▶ Transferable to generative models with likelihood losses
- ▶ Bayesian normalizing flows
- ▶ Uncertainty on **density estimation**



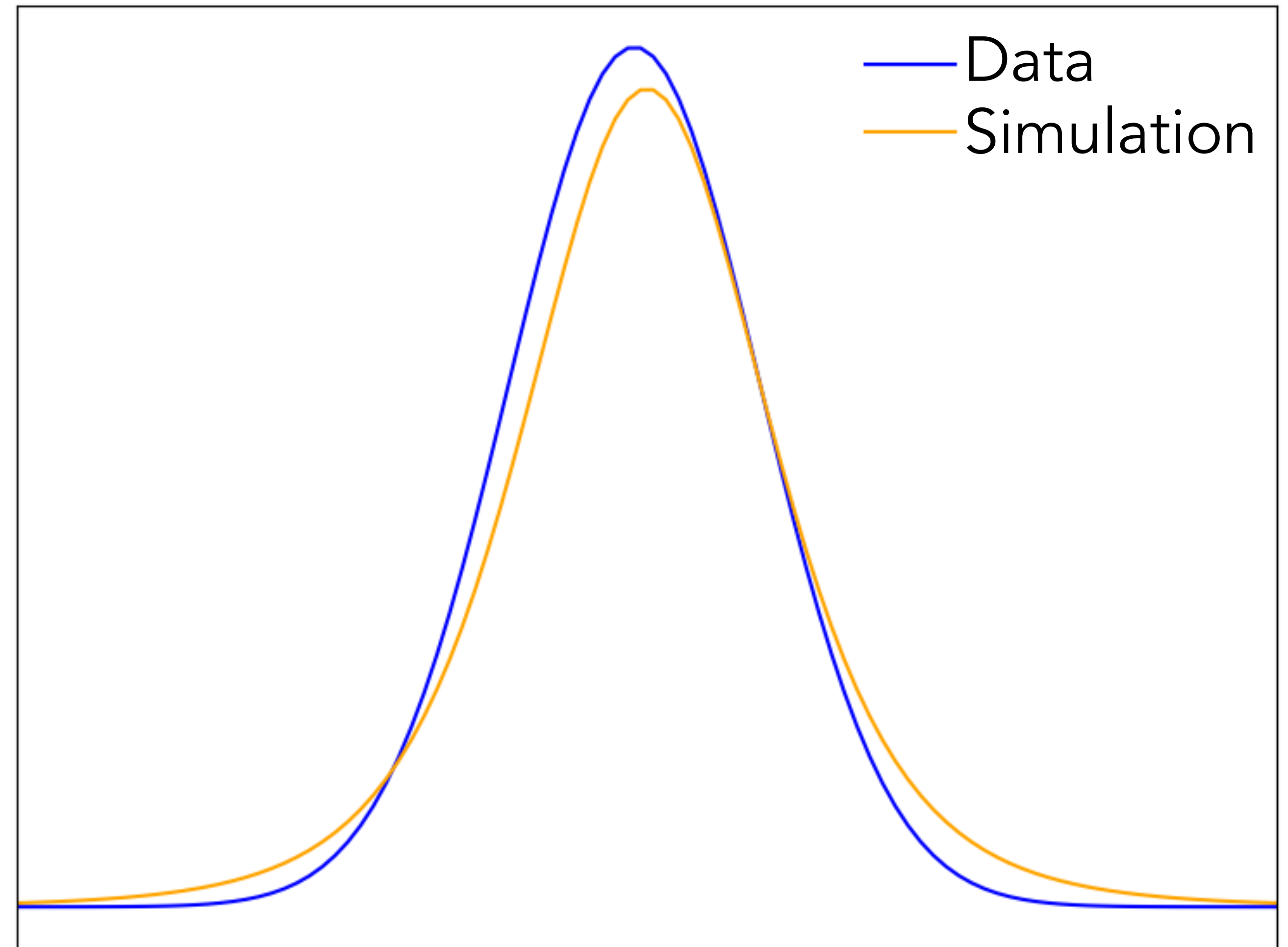
What uncertainty is learned?

- For Generative models:
- **Statistical uncertainty** σ_{stat}
 - Scales $\frac{a}{\sqrt{n_{\text{gen}}}}$
 - Infinitely reducible
- **Generalization uncertainty** σ_{model}
 - Scales $\frac{b}{\sqrt{n_{\text{train}}}}$
 - Irreducible by sampling



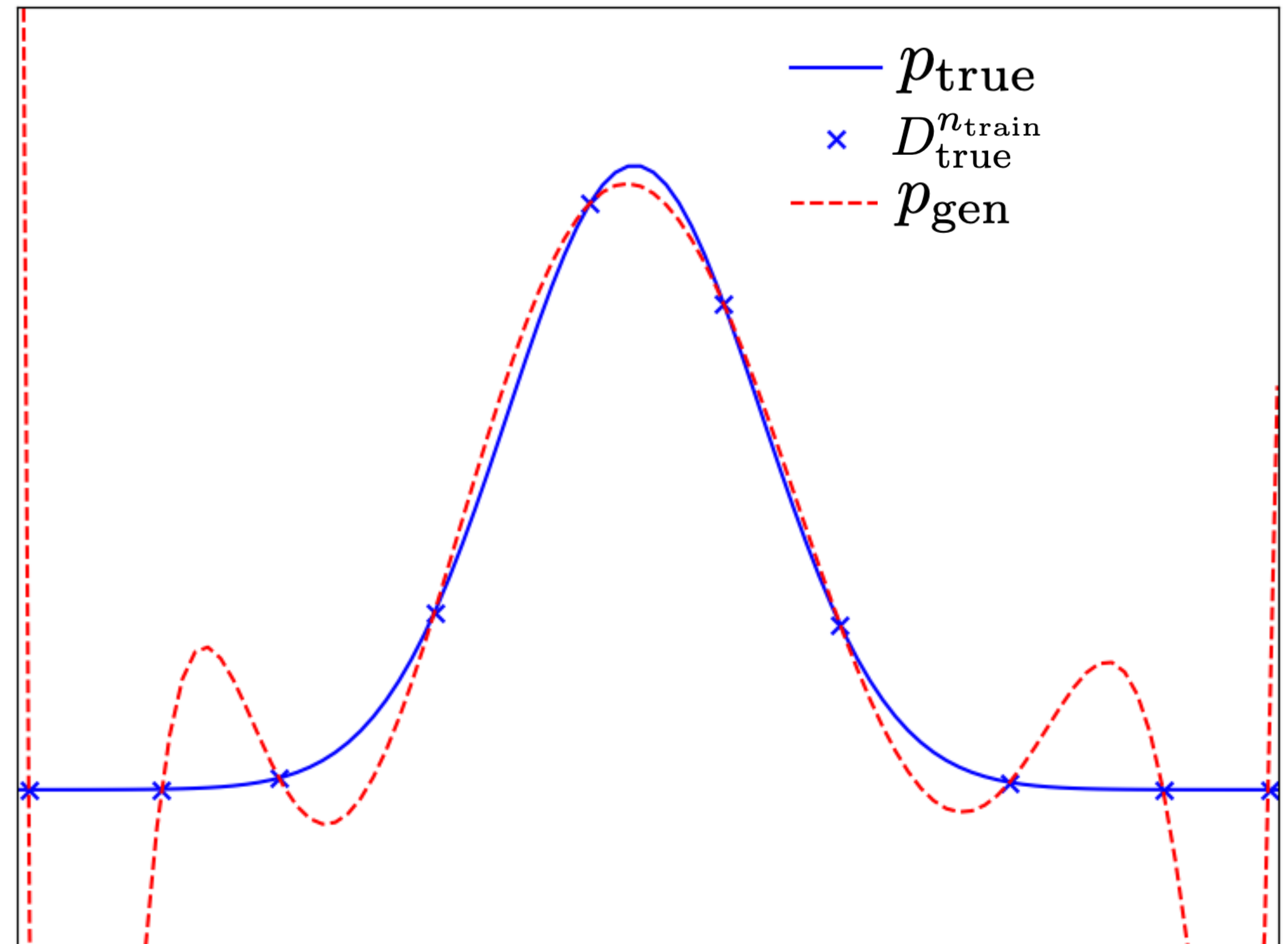
Generalization uncertainty

- Most applications:
 - Inference data $\neq$ training data
 - Extrapolation outside training



Generalization uncertainty

- ▶ Most applications:
 - ▶ Inference data $\neq$ training data
 - ▶ Extrapolation outside training
- ▶ Generative modeling:
 - ▶ Extrapolation in resolution



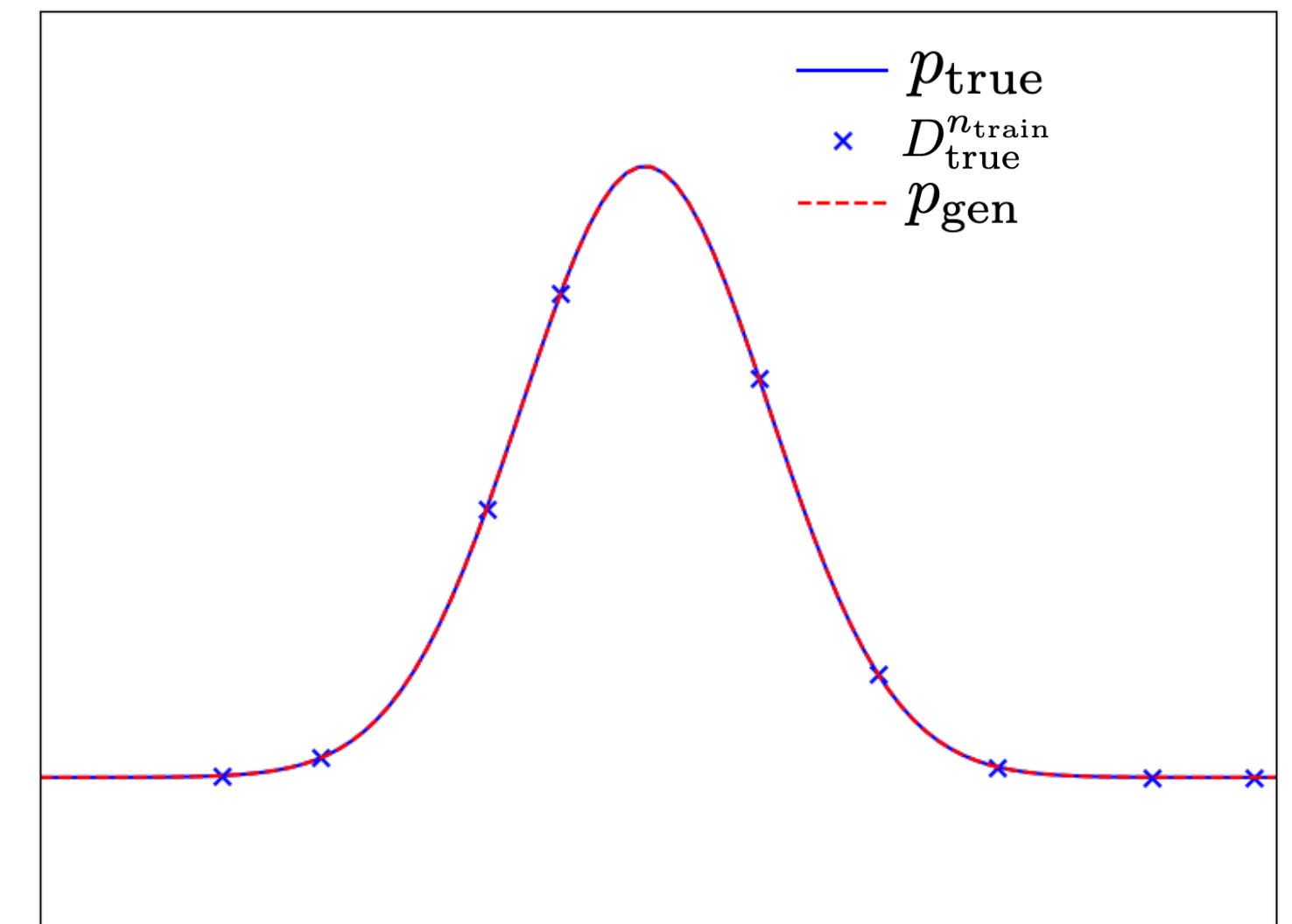
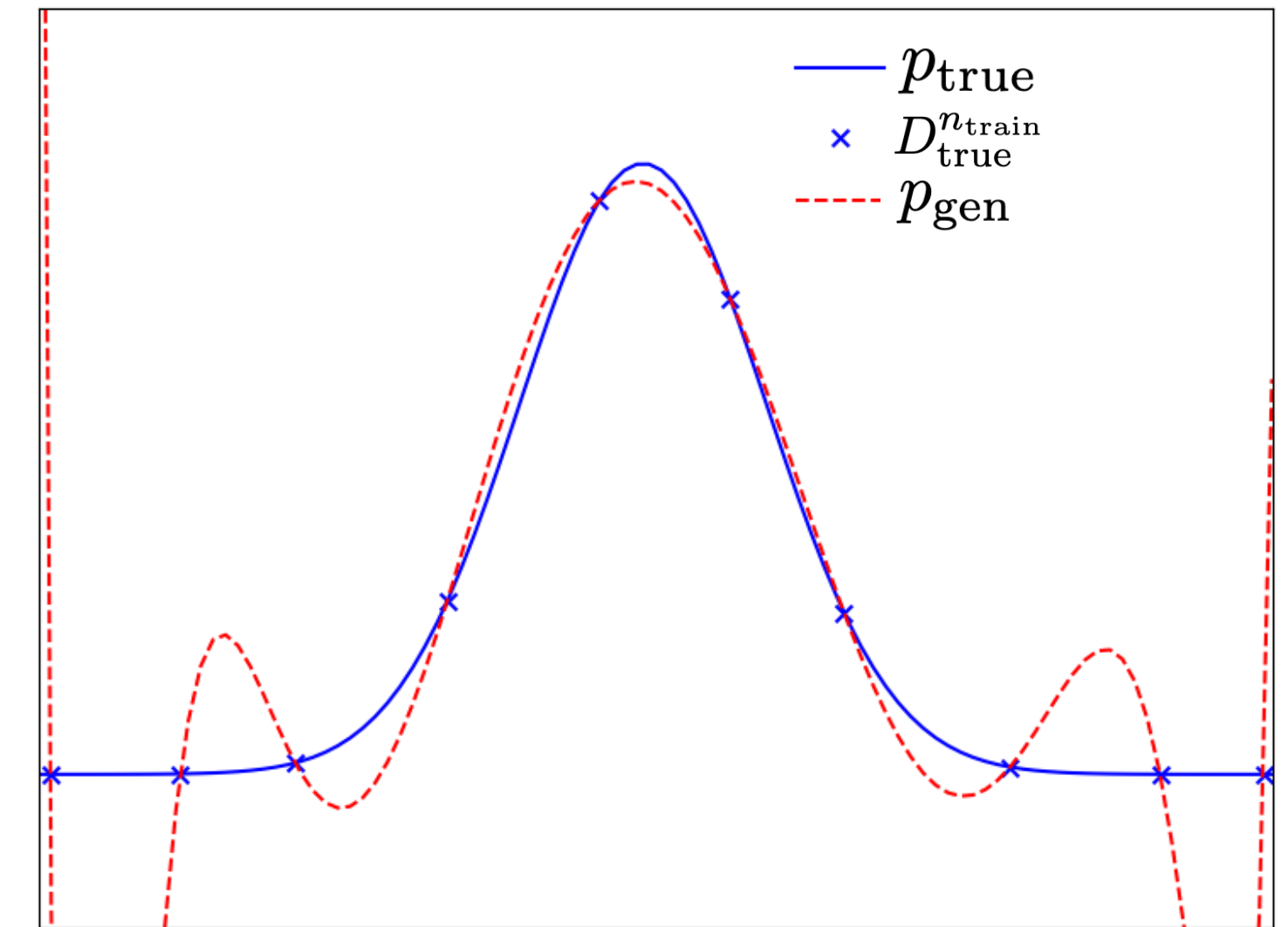
Fundamental question

- ▶ What happens if I exceed the training resolution?
- ▶ How many points n_{gen} can I draw?
- ▶ Generative simulation assumes $n_{\text{gen}} > n_{\text{train}}$
- ▶ Is this really true?

**“If I train a model on 1 million data points,
how many can I draw from that model?”**

—Louis Lyons

→ Amplification



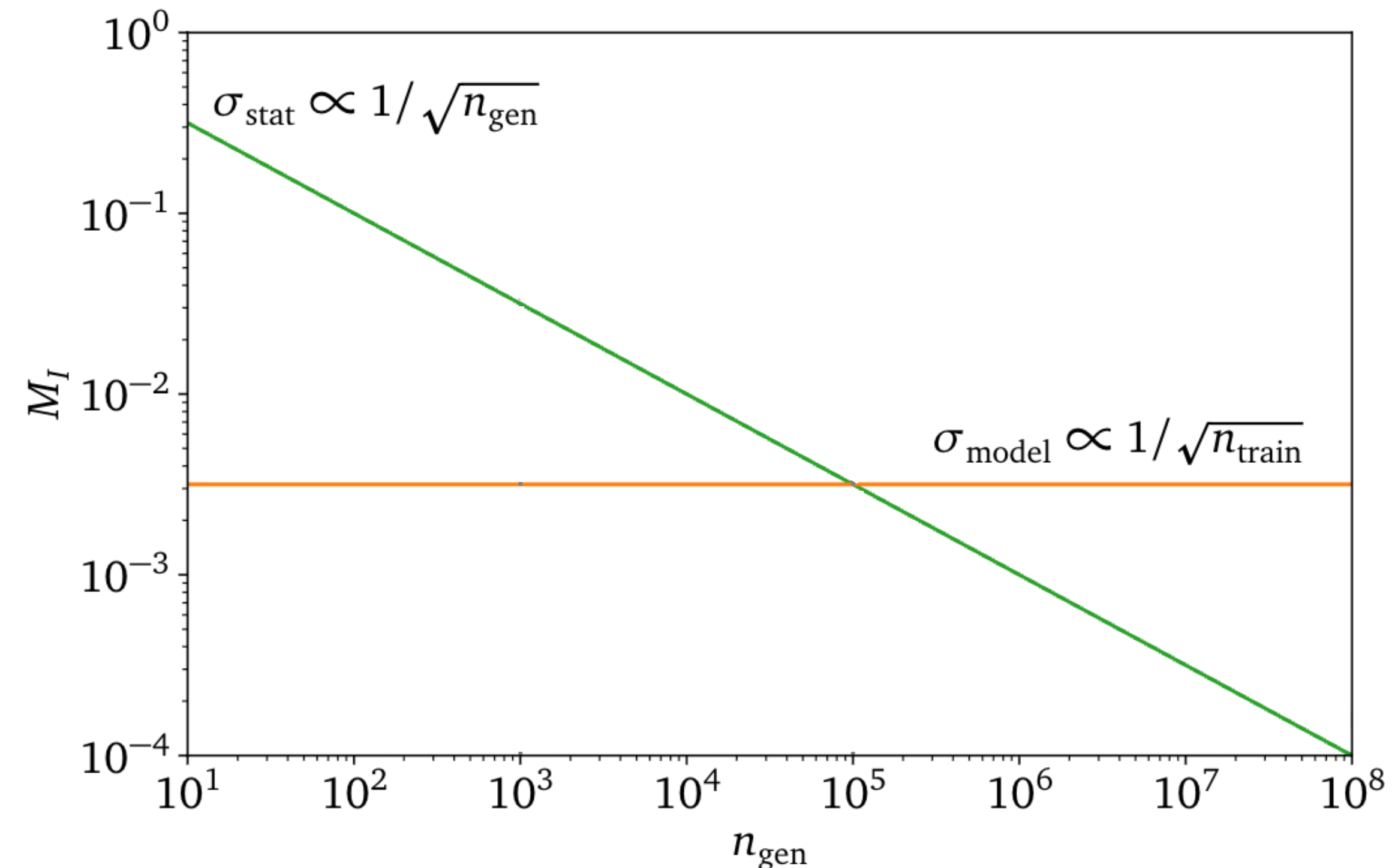
How many generative points can I sample from the model?

$$\sigma_{\text{gen}}^2 = \sigma_{\text{model}}^2 + \sigma_{\text{stat}}^2$$

$\sigma_{\text{model}} > \sigma_{\text{stat}}$: new points stop being useful

$$\sigma_{\text{stat}}(n) \Big|_{n=n_{\text{equiv}}} \stackrel{!}{=} \sigma_{\text{model}}$$

n_{equiv} : size of true data set with same stat. uncertainty as generalization uncertainty



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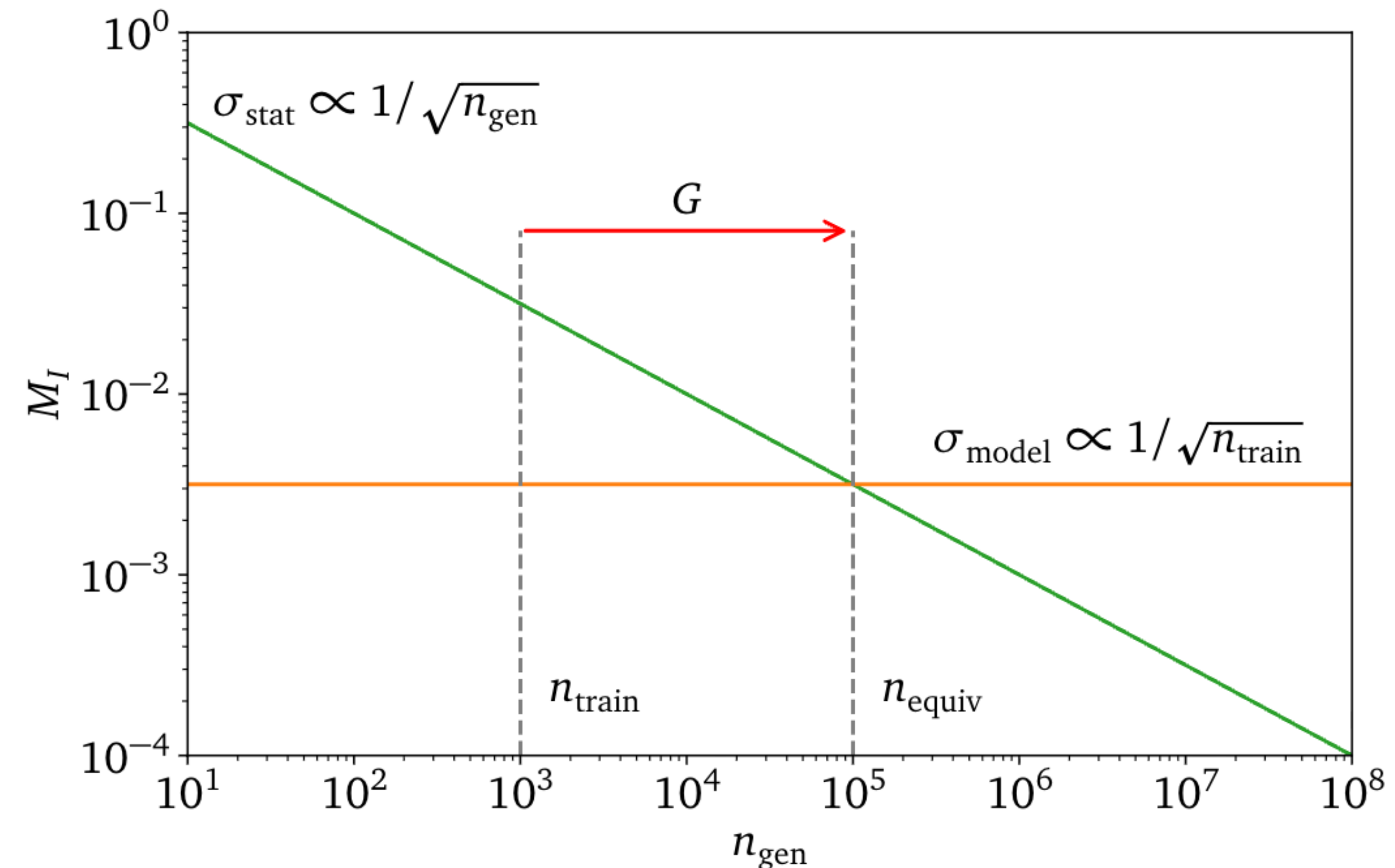
$$\sigma_{\text{stat}}(n) \Big|_{n=n_{\text{equiv}}} \stackrel{!}{=} \sigma_{\text{model}}$$

n_{equiv} : size of true data set with same stat. uncertainty as generalization uncertainty

$n_{\text{equiv}} \leq n_{\text{train}}$: No Amplification

$n_{\text{equiv}} > n_{\text{train}}$: Amplification

$$G = \frac{n_{\text{equiv}}}{n_{\text{train}}} : \text{Amplification factor}$$



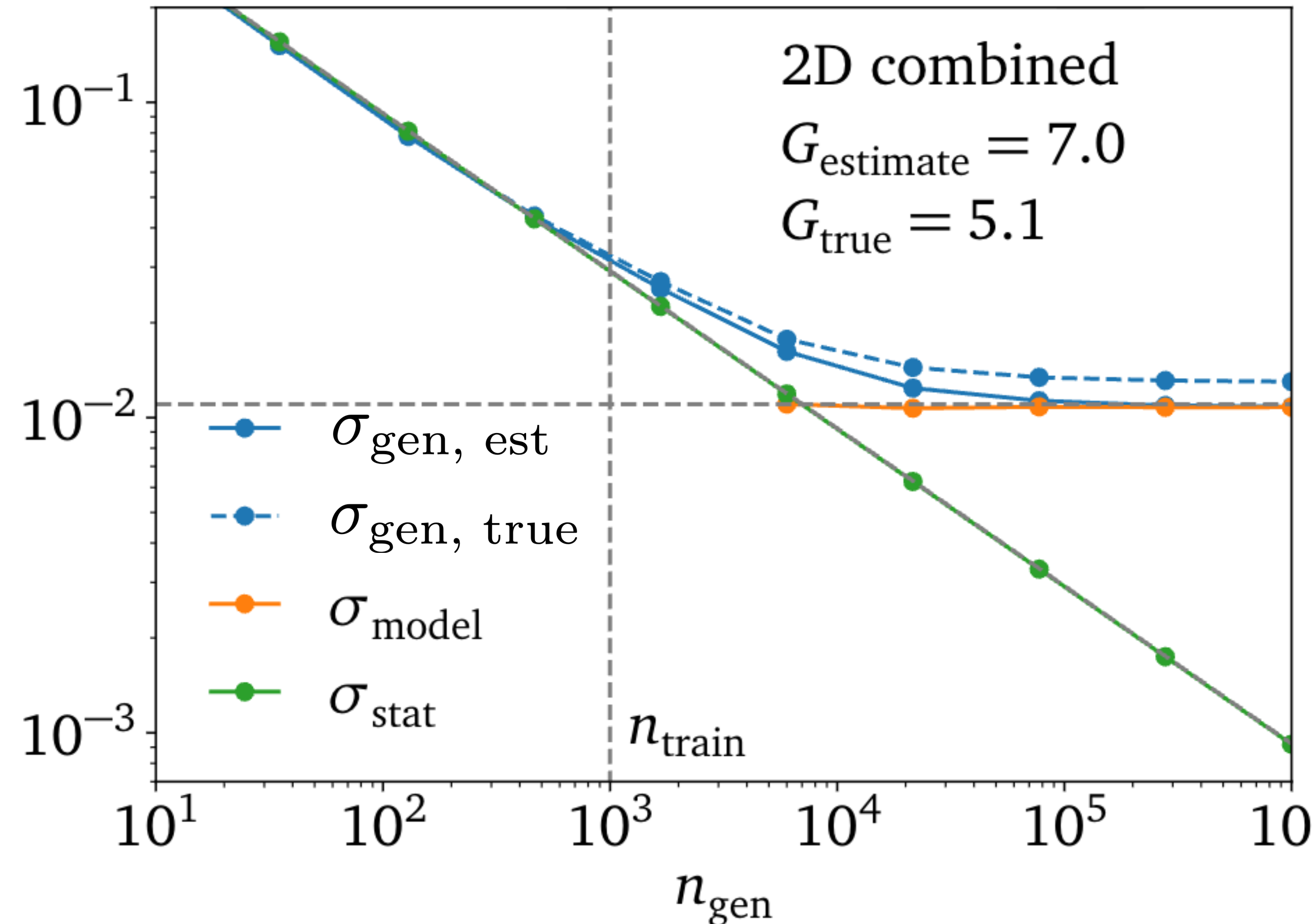
Example: Gaussian Ring Radius

- Plot σ_{gen}
- Get $\sigma_{\text{stat}}(n)$ from falling section
- Get σ_{model} from asymptotic part

$$\sigma_{\text{stat}}(n) \Big|_{n=n_{\text{equiv}}} \stackrel{!}{=} \sigma_{\text{model}}$$

$$G = \frac{n_{\text{equiv}}}{n_{\text{train}}}$$

- Estimated G agrees with truth



How to get σ_{gen} ?

► Uncertainty quantification?

► Only σ_{model} not σ_{stat}

→ Need metric $M [D_{\text{gen}}^n, p_{\text{true}}]$ agreement (generated) set vs. true density

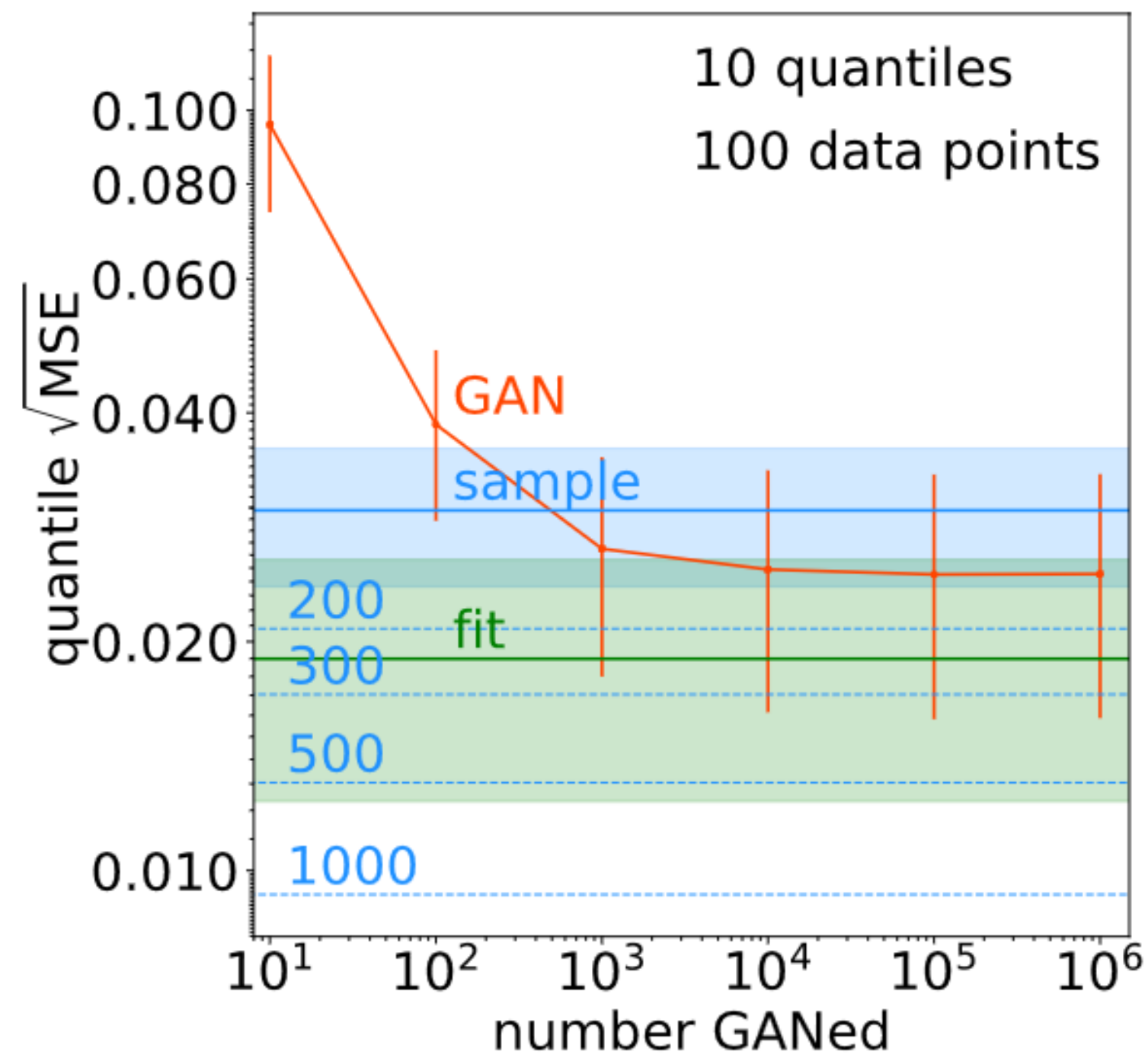
$$M [D_{\text{true}}^n, p_{\text{true}}] \approx \sigma_{\text{stat}}$$

$$M [D_{\text{gen}}^n, p_{\text{true}}] \Big|_{n_{\text{gen}} \rightarrow \infty} \rightarrow \sigma_{\text{model}}$$

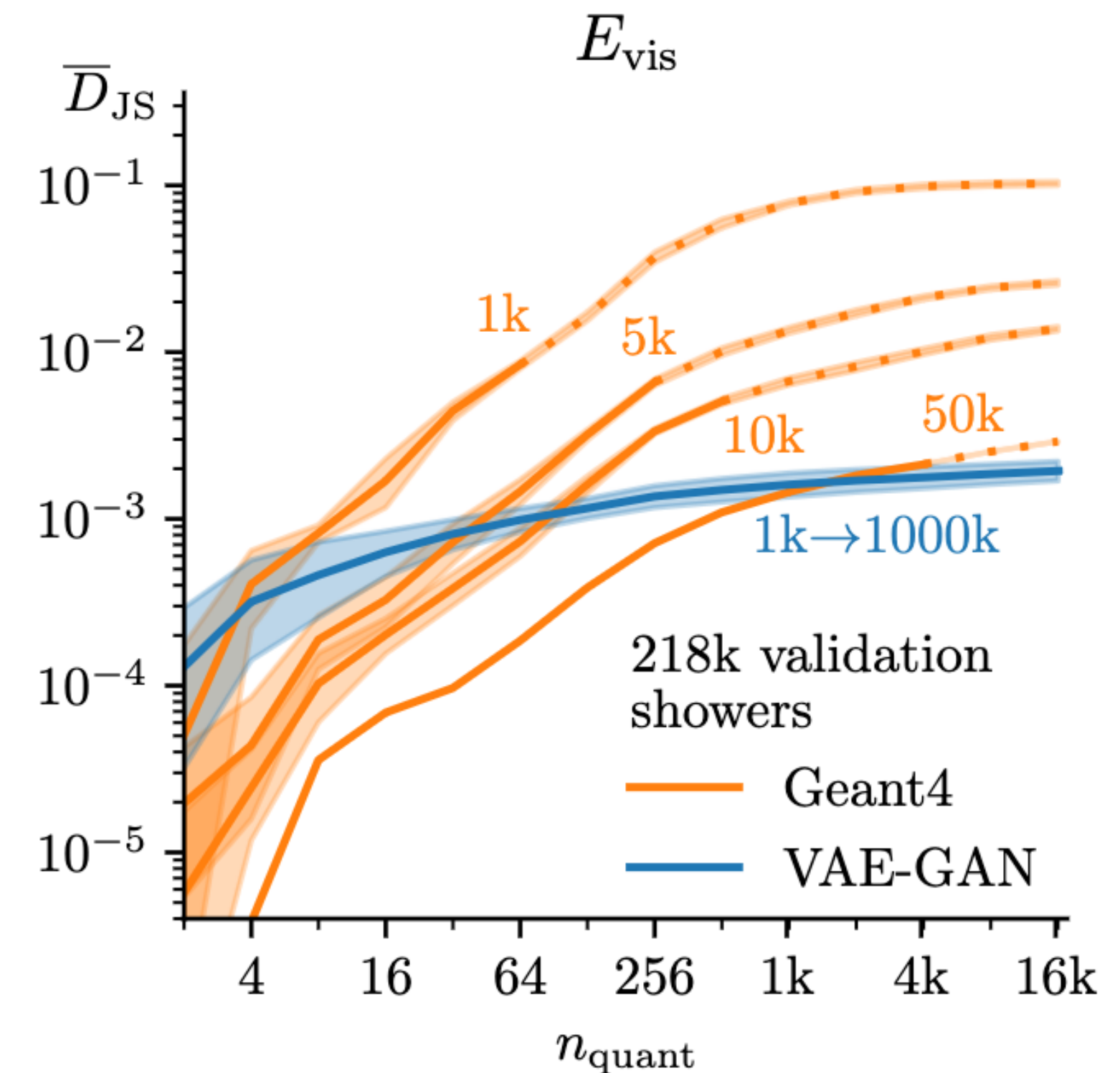
$$\begin{array}{ccc} \sigma_{\text{stat}}(n) \Big|_{n=n_{\text{equiv}}} & \stackrel{!}{=} & \sigma_{\text{model}} \\ & \Updownarrow & \\ M [D_{\text{true}}^n, p_{\text{true}}] \Big|_{n=n_{\text{equiv}}} & \stackrel{!}{=} & M [D_{\text{gen}}^n, p_{\text{true}}] \Big|_{n_{\text{gen}} \rightarrow \infty} \end{array}$$

Known p_{true}

► Explicit



► Holdout set



► Past amplification results, proof of principle, hard to apply in practice

First Metric: Averaging Amplification

- Fractions inside phase space region V

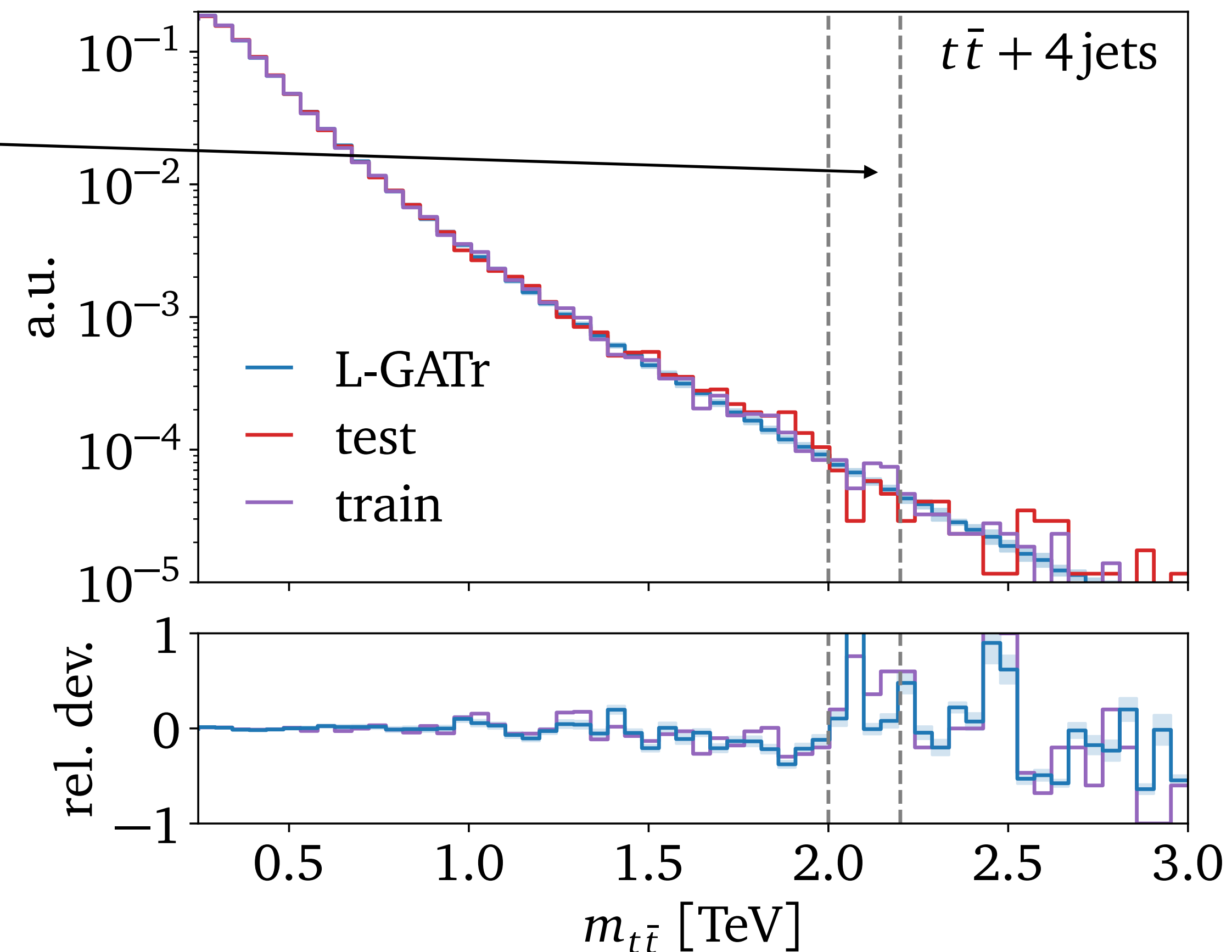
$$I = \int_V dx p_{\text{true}}(x)$$

$$\bar{I} = \frac{1}{n_{\text{gen}}} \sum_{x \in D_{\text{gen}}^{n_{\text{gen}}}} \mathbf{1}_{x \in V}$$

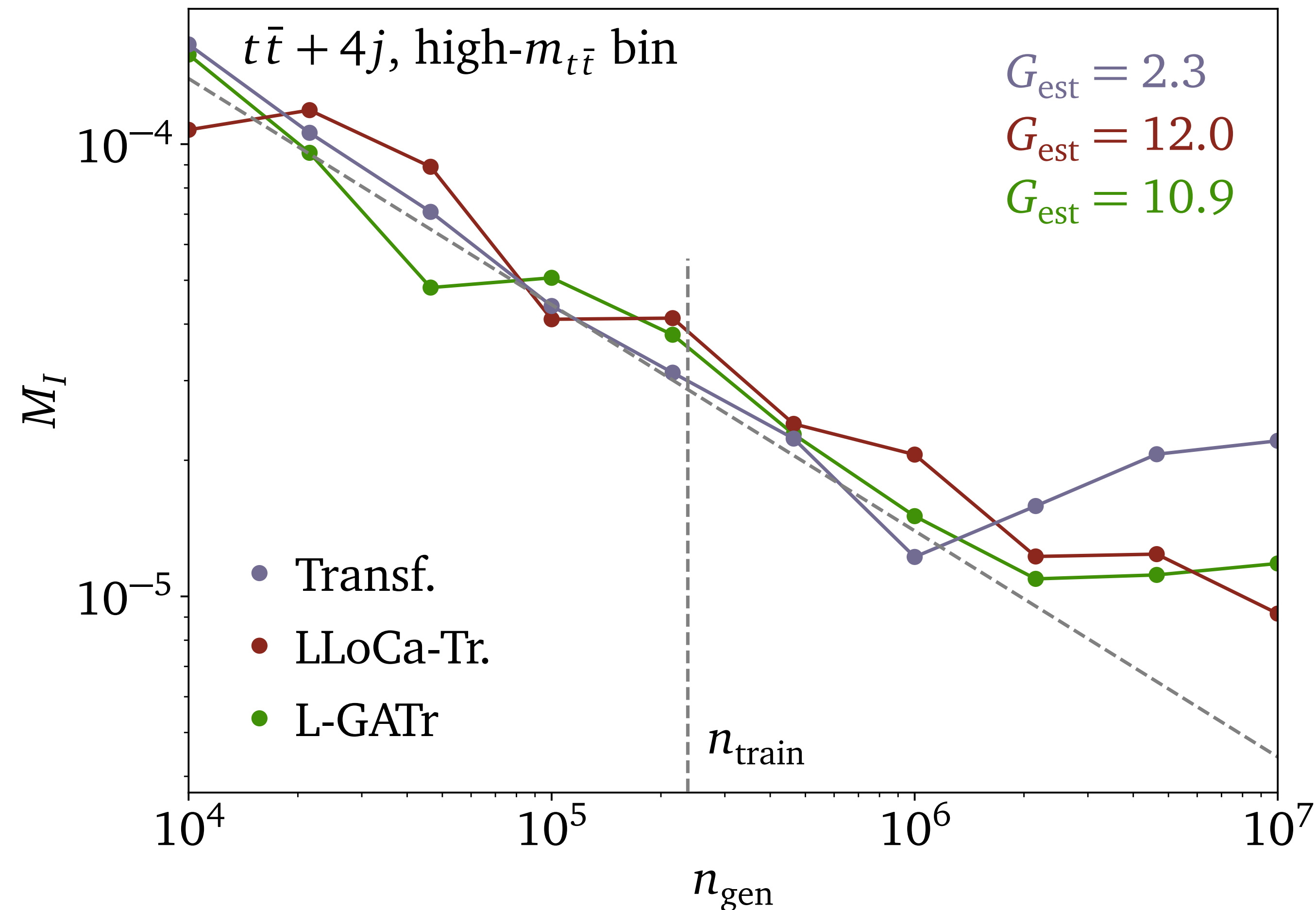
- Expected difference as metric

$$M_I [D_{\text{gen}}^{n_{\text{gen}}}, p_{\text{true}}] = \langle [I(p_{\text{true}}) - \bar{I}(D_{\text{gen}}^{n_{\text{gen}}})]^2 \rangle$$

- Estimate this variance via BNN



Example: Di-Top + 4 jet events



Second Metric: Differential Amplification

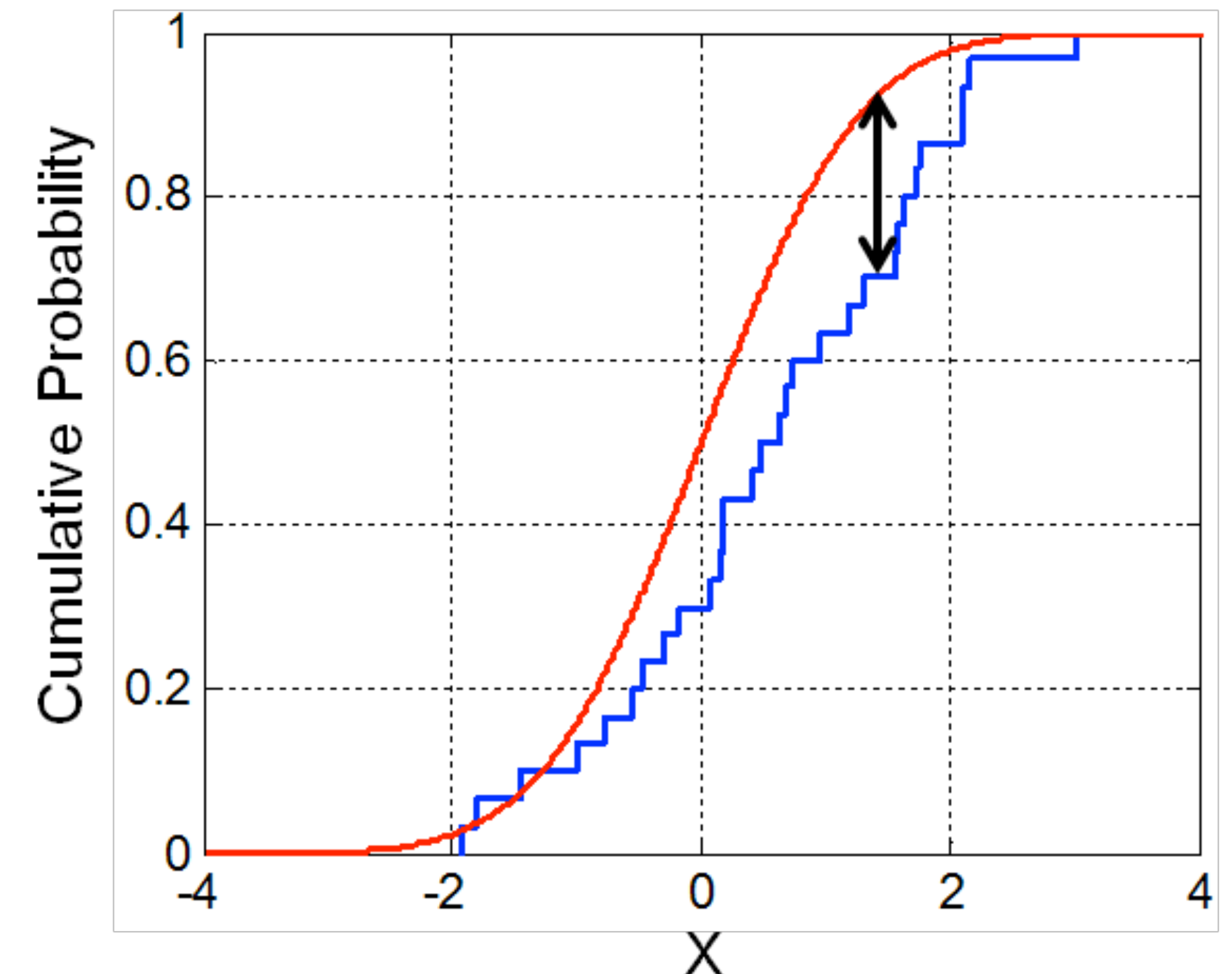
- Approximate unknown distribution with data sample

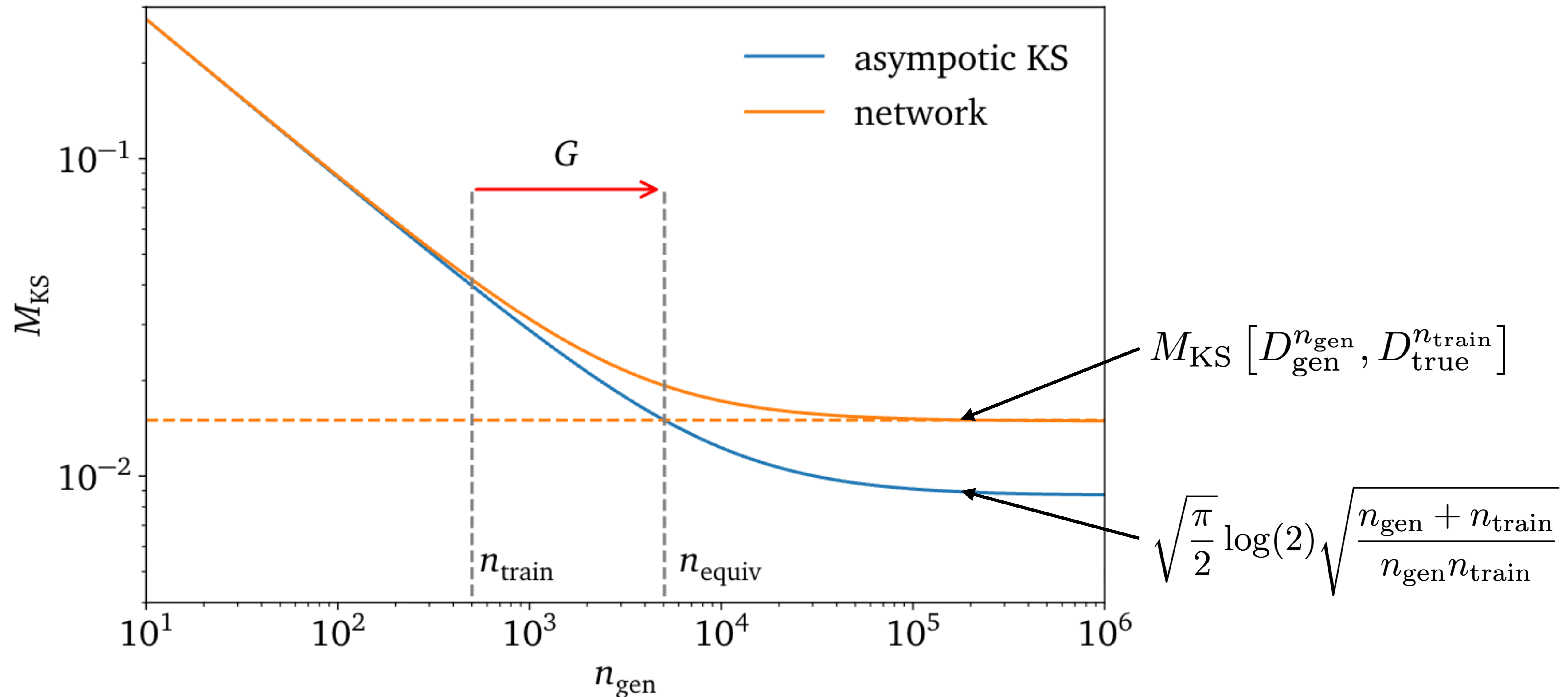
$$M[D_{\text{true}}^n, D_{\text{true}}^{n_{\text{train}}}] \approx M[D_{\text{true}}^n, p_{\text{true}}] \quad \text{with} \quad D_{\text{true}}^{n_{\text{train}}} \sim p_{\text{true}}$$

$$M[D_{\text{gen}}^{n_{\text{gen}}}, D_{\text{true}}^{n_{\text{train}}}] \approx M[D_{\text{gen}}^{n_{\text{gen}}}, p_{\text{true}}]$$

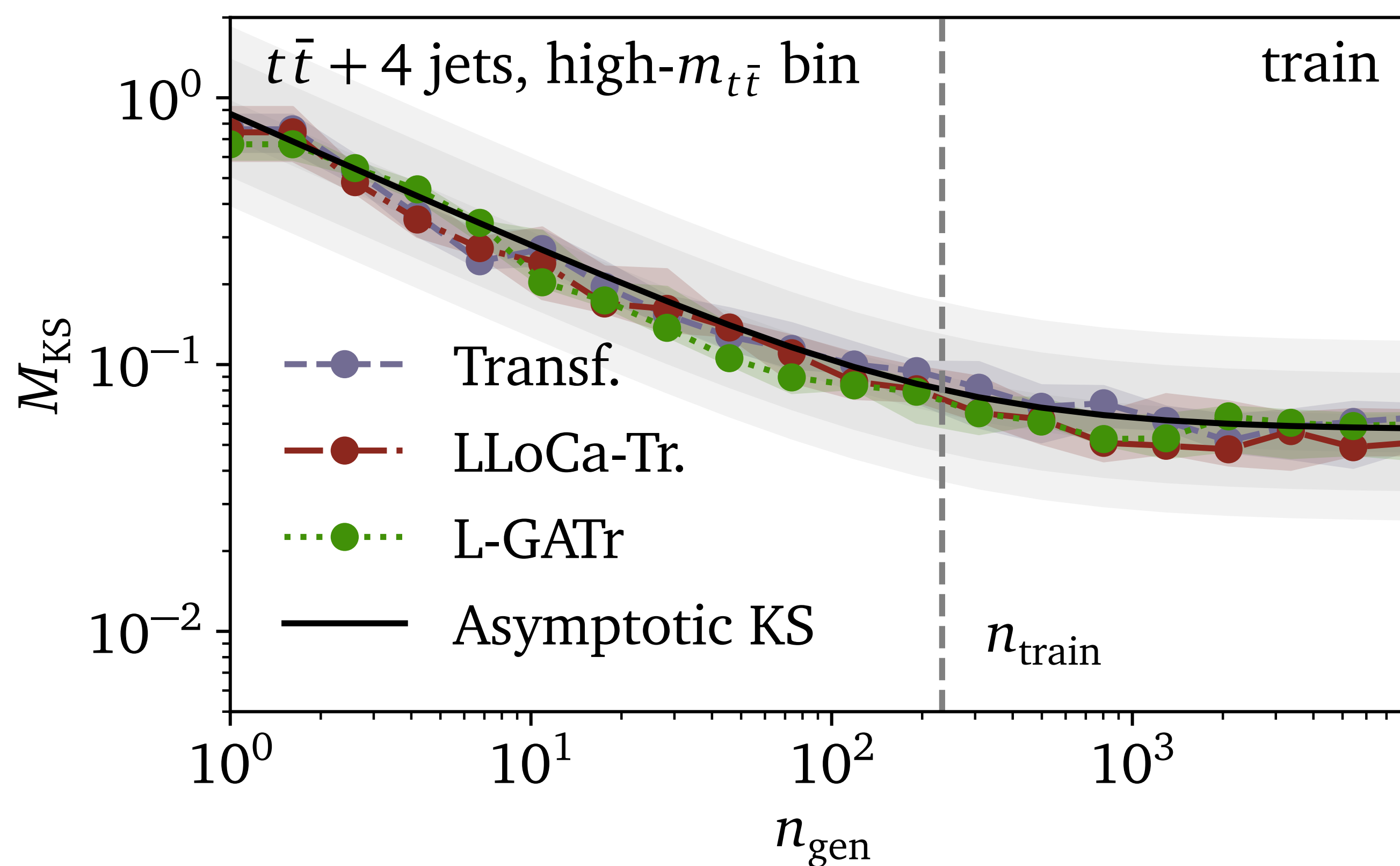
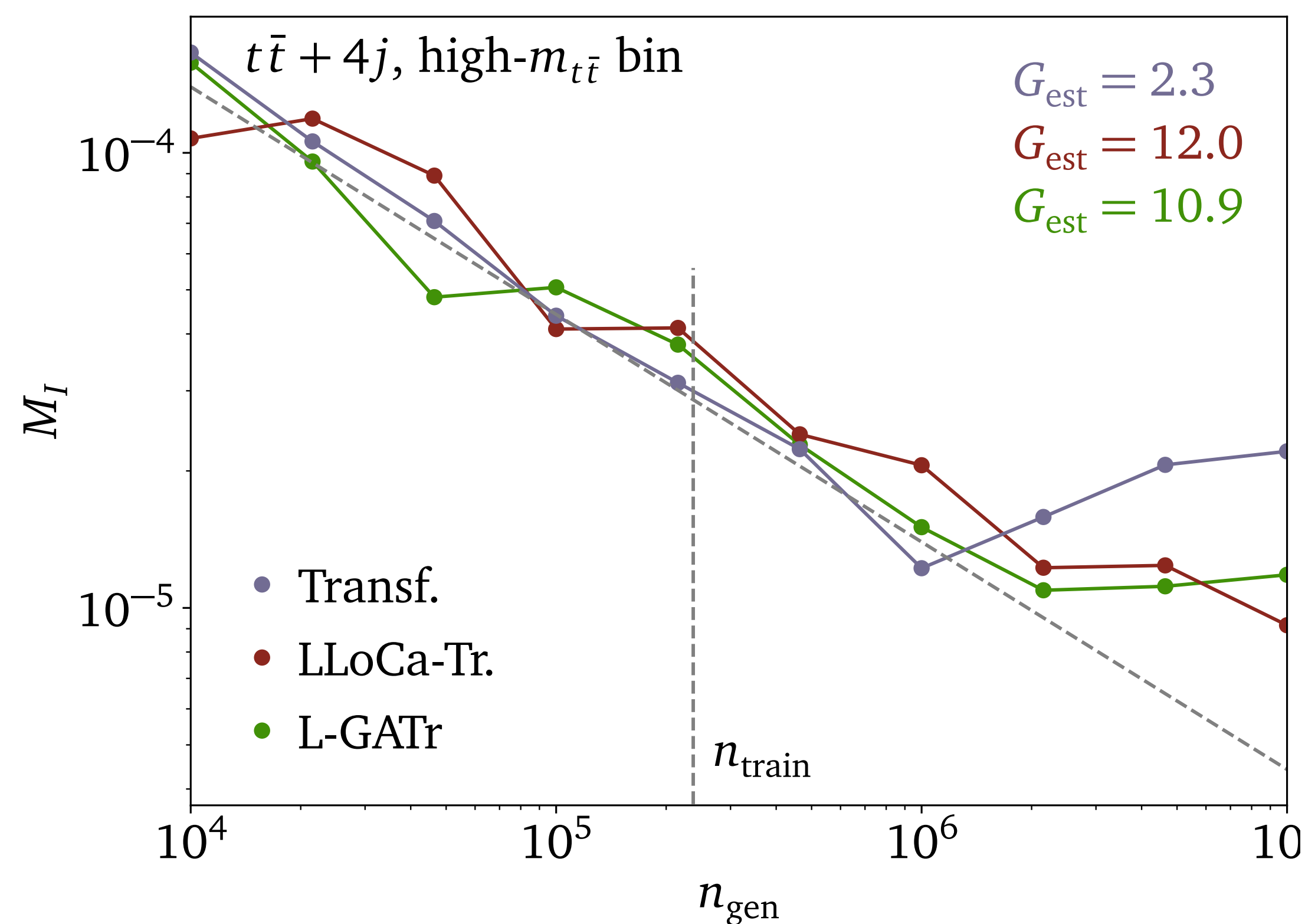
- Use two sample Kolmogorov Smirnov test
- Has analytical expectation value

$$\langle M_{\text{KS}} [D_{\text{true}}^n, D_{\text{true}}^m] \rangle = \sqrt{\frac{\pi}{2}} \log(2) \sqrt{\frac{n+m}{nm}}$$





Example: Di-Top + 4 jet events with both methods



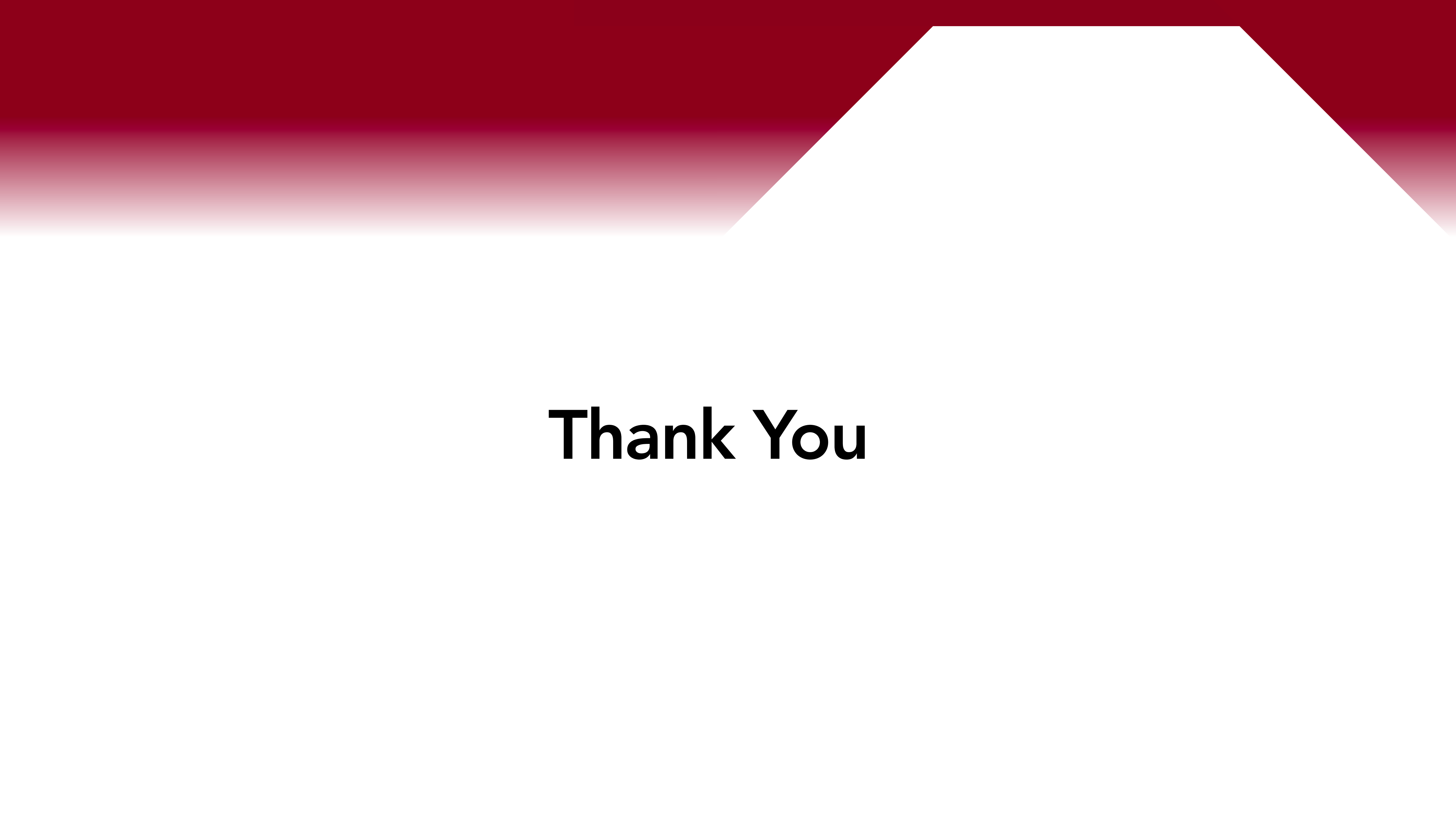
- ▶ **Amplification Investigation**

- ▶ Generative networks can sample beyond training data
- ▶ Quantify by how much
- ▶ Core to generative uncertainties

- ▶ **Enables generative approaches in HEP**

- ▶ Amplification key for generative simulations
- ▶ Simulation-based inference, generative unfolding need uncertainties

- ▶ **ML methods bring unprecedented precision**
 - ▶ LHC environment highly complex
 - ▶ $t\bar{t}H$, CP violation measurements impossible without
 - ▶ Directly enabled by ML
- ▶ **Fundamental physics understanding**
 - ▶ $t\bar{t}H$: early universe Higgs potential
 - ▶ CP violation: matter-antimatter asymmetry, baryogenesis



Thank You