

# Modern Machine Learning for LHC Physics

Sapientia ex machina?

**Why should LHCP care about ML?**

# Why should LHCP care about ML?



“ LHCP should care about machine learning because it can improve data analysis, simulation and modeling, lead to new discoveries, and foster cross-disciplinary collaboration

---

ChatGPT

# Why ML in HEP?

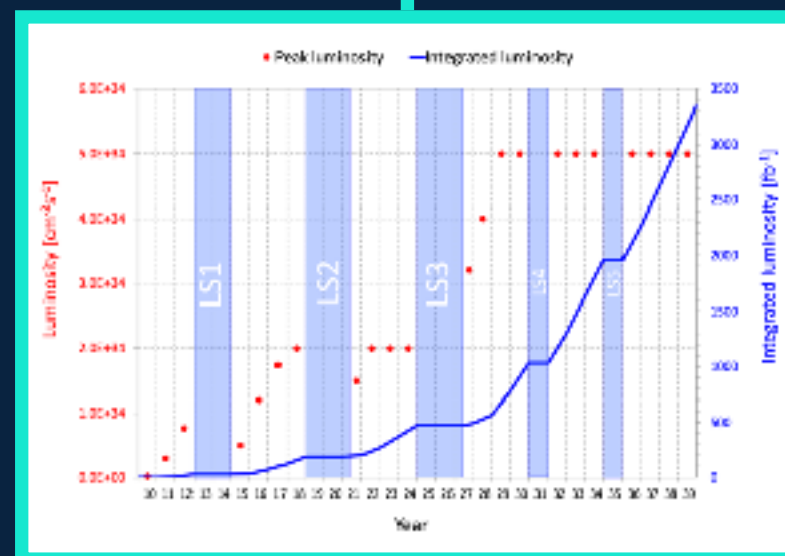
## Data volume

Large amounts of data

1. labeled (Simulation)
2. unlabeled (Detector)

**ML wants lots of data**

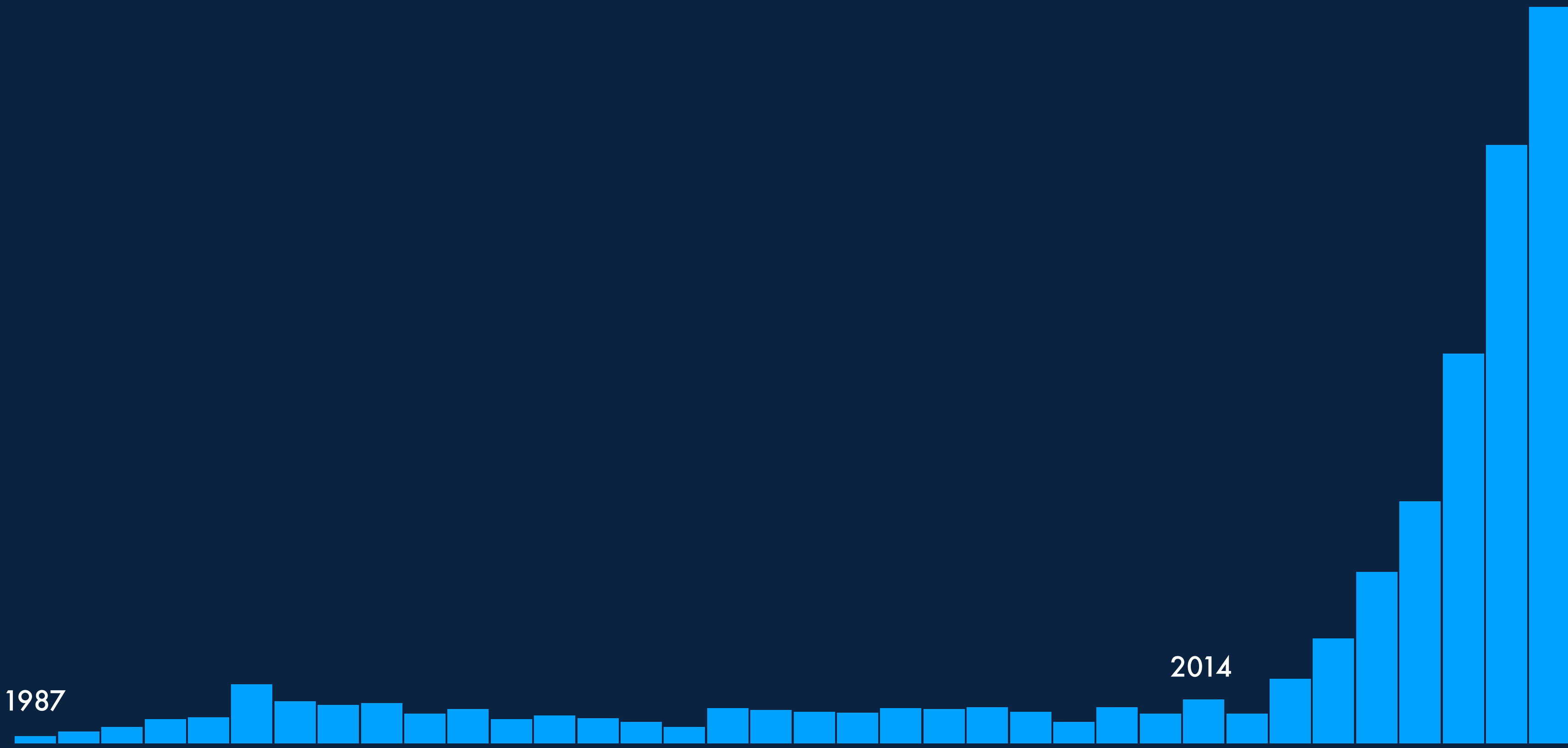
1



1987

2014

2022



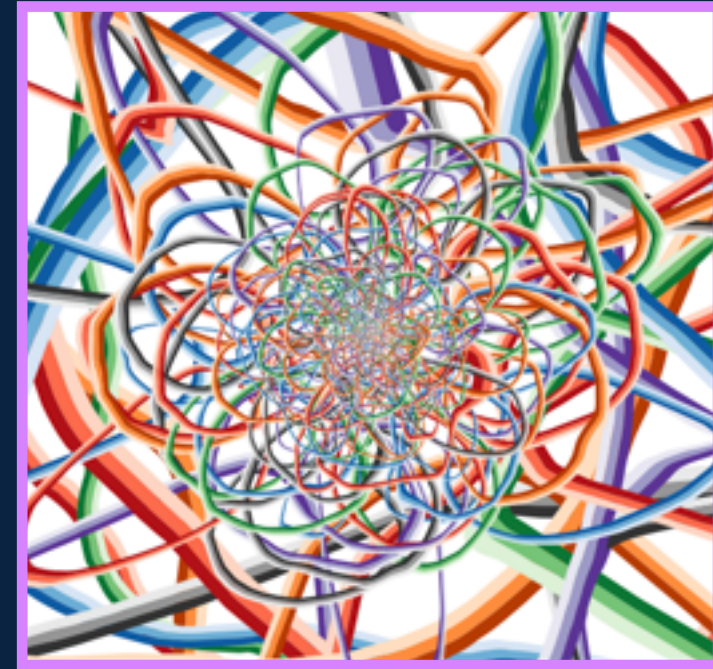
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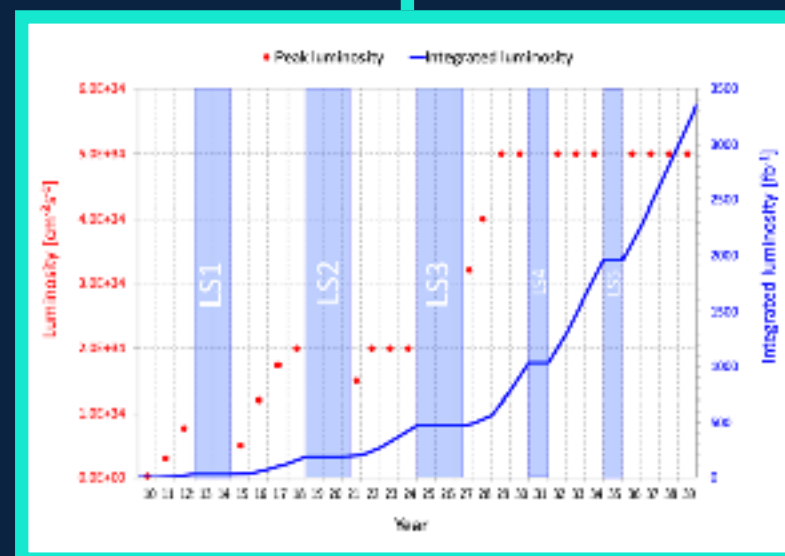
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## Complexity

High-dimensional & highly correlated data structure

**ML is expressive and flexible**



1987

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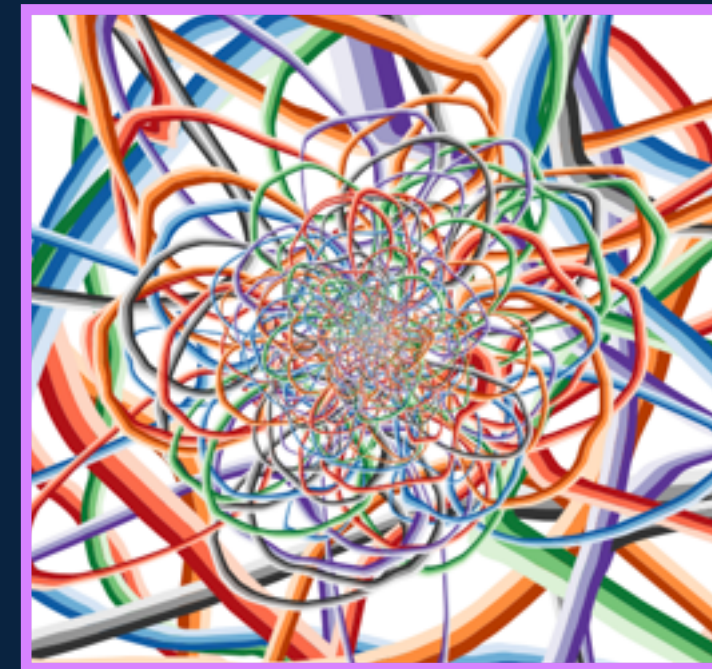
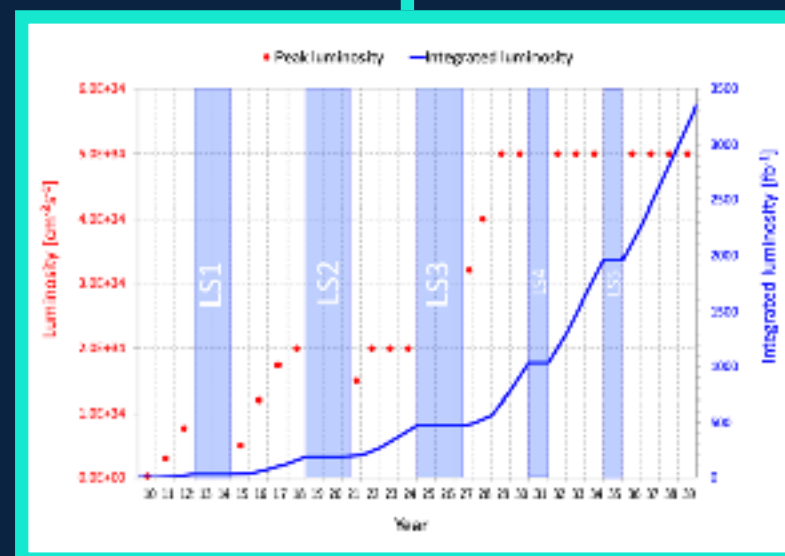
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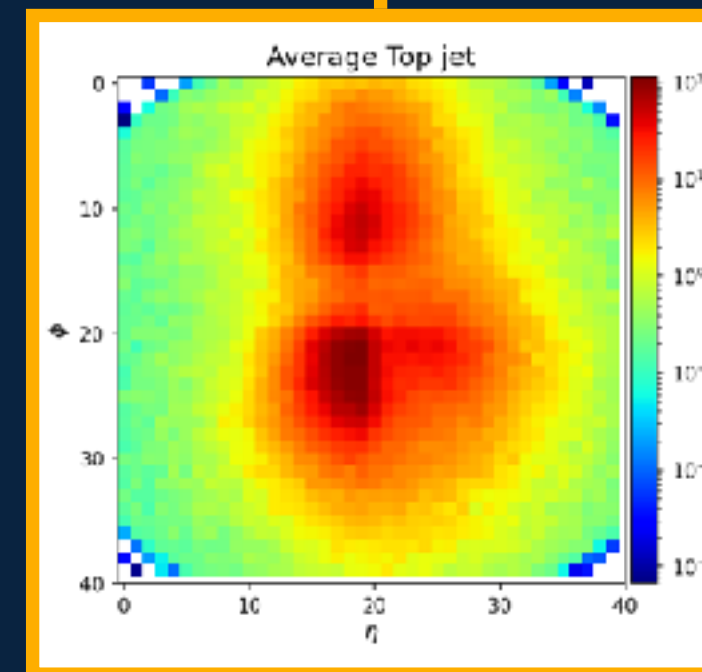
**ML is expressive and flexible**

## Signal detection

Rare and elusive signals among large backgrounds

**ML has high accuracy and sensitivity**

3



1987

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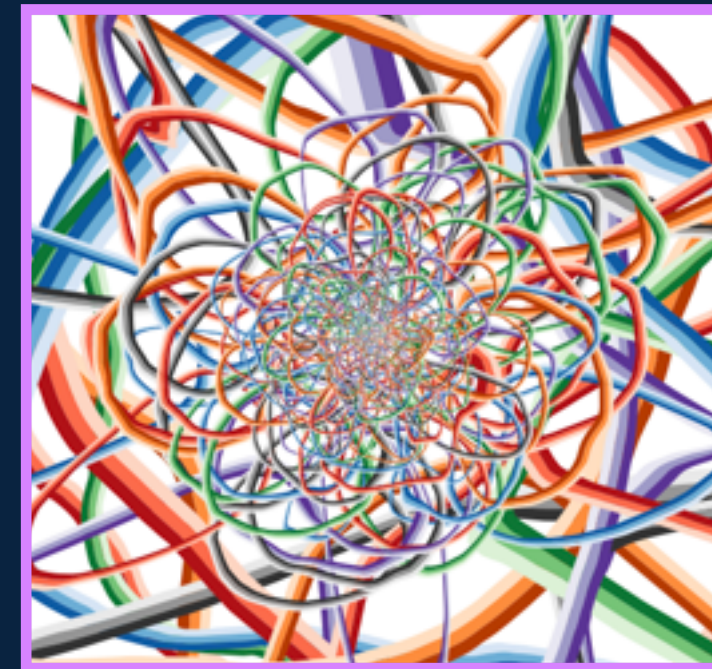
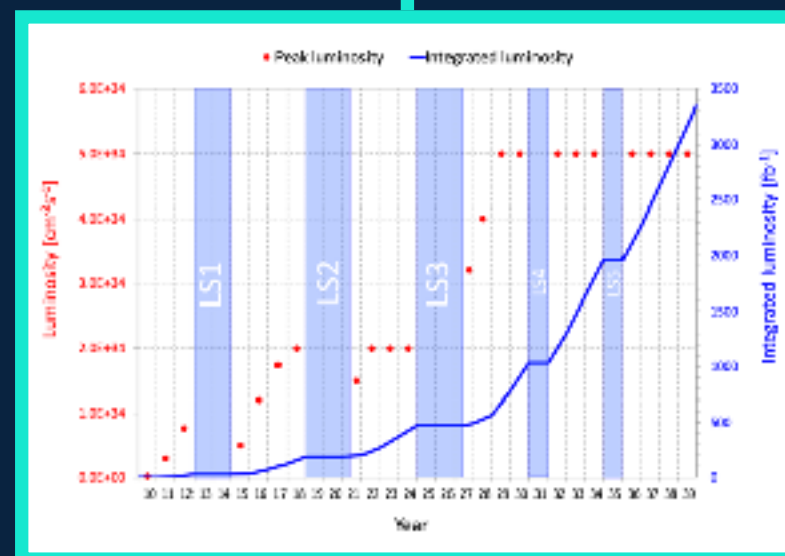
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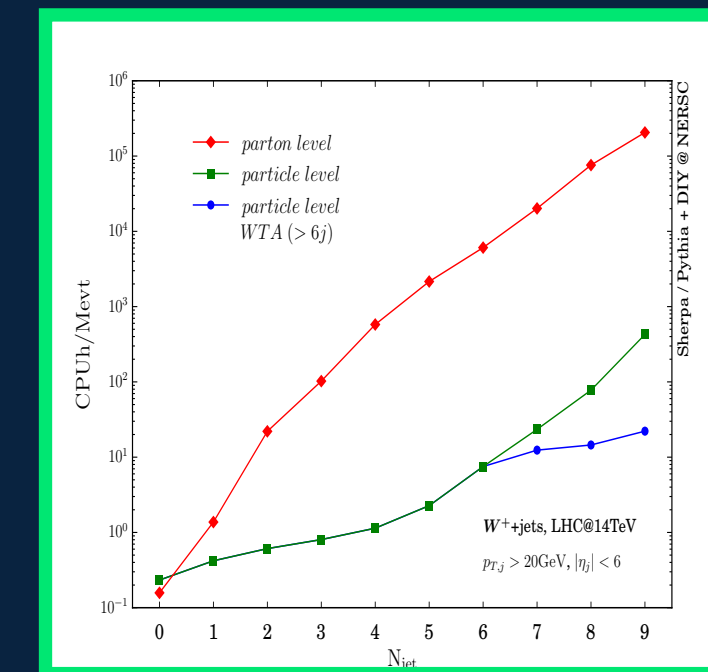
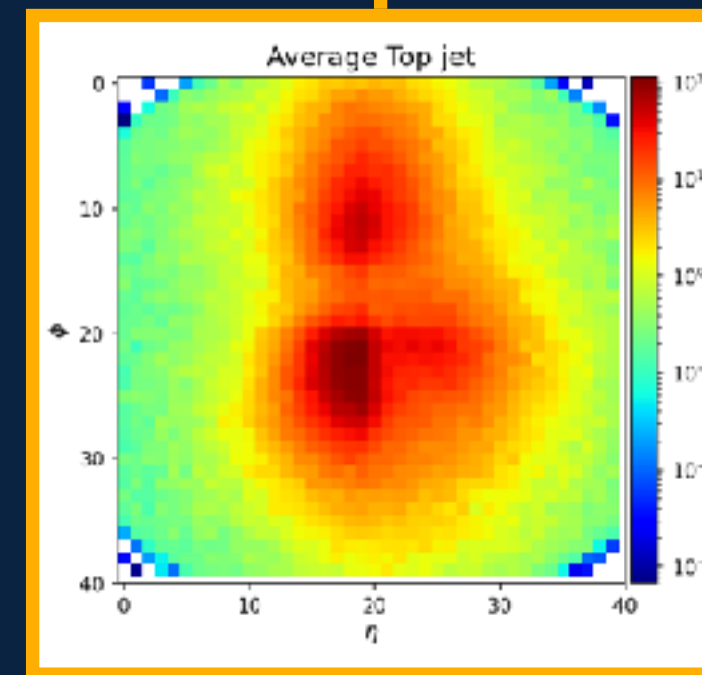
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4

## Computing Budget

Simulation & analysis is computationally expensive

**ML is fast**

1987

2014

2022



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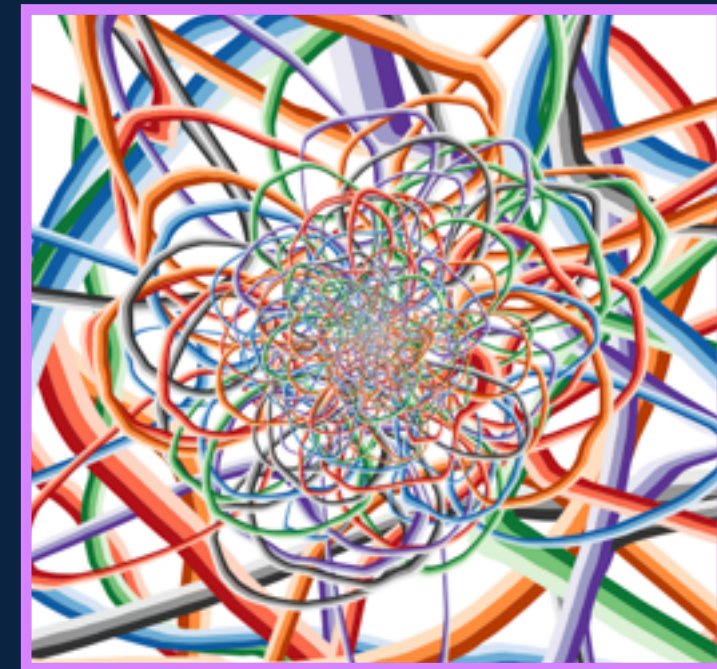
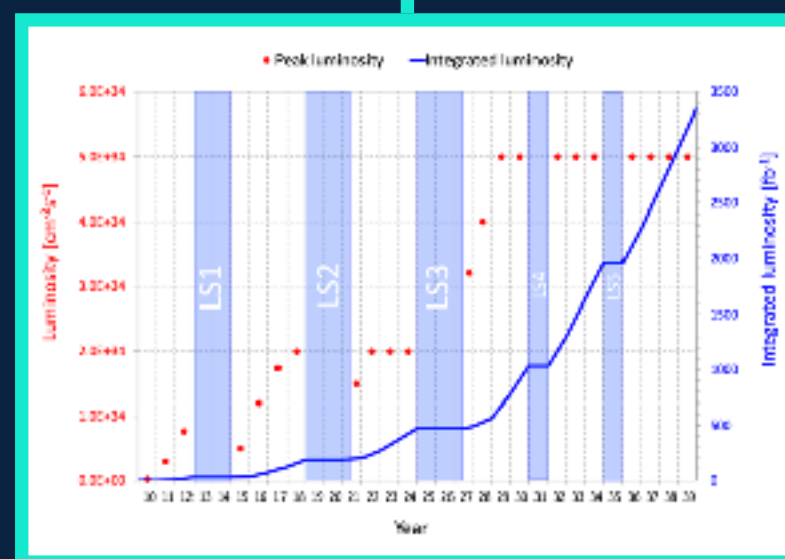
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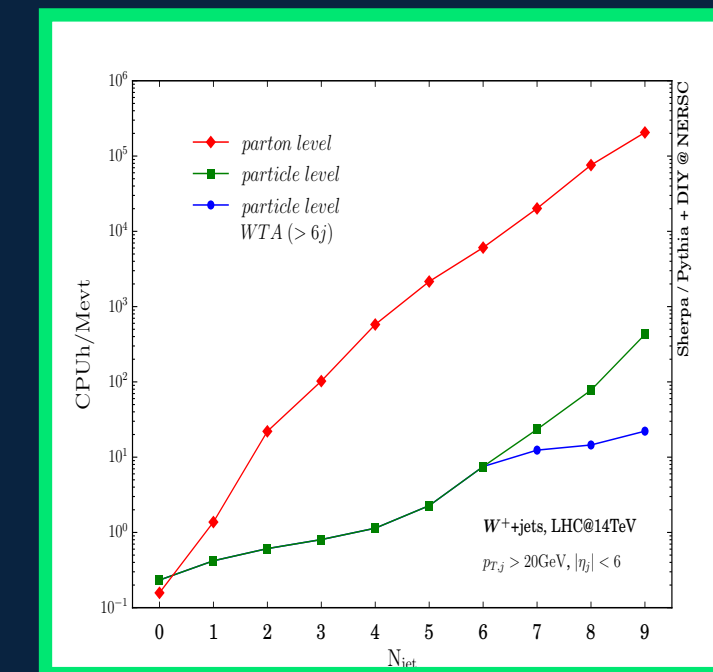
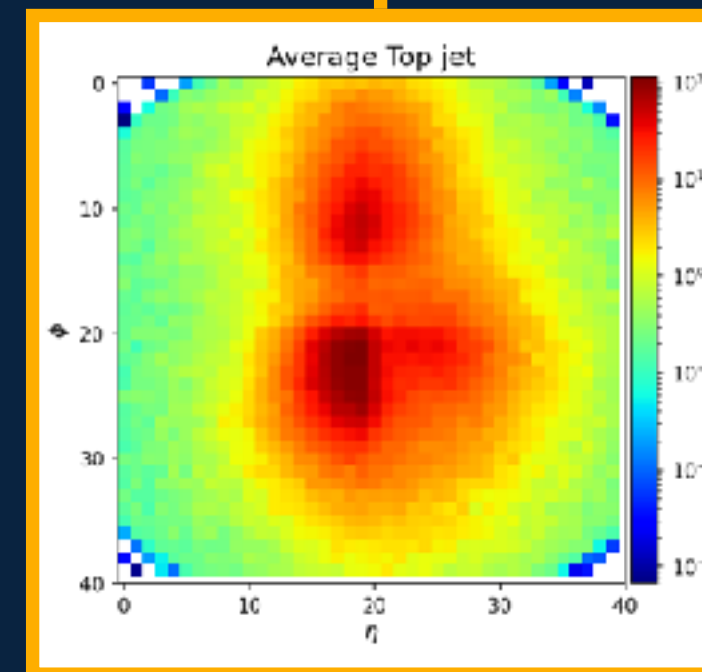
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## Increasing interest

> 150 paper/year  
Future of HEP?

**ML is fun!**

5



1987

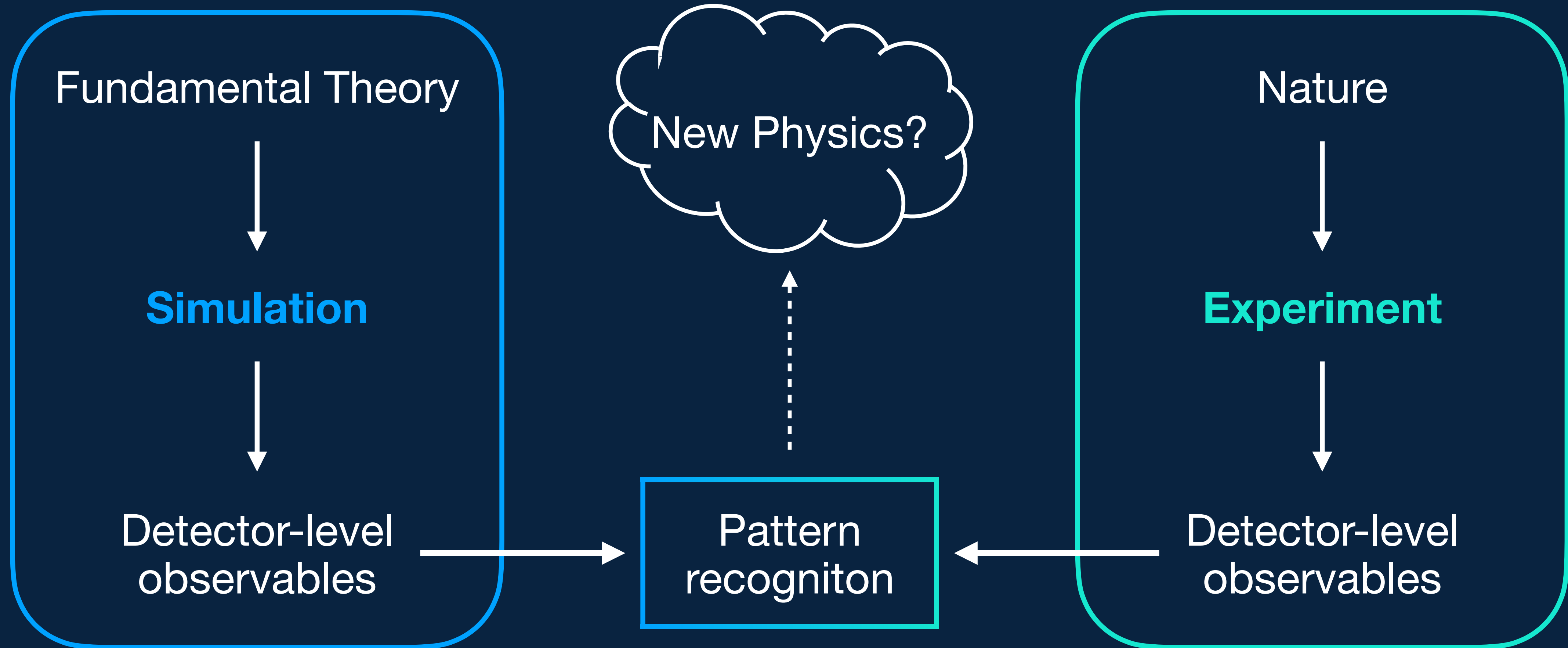
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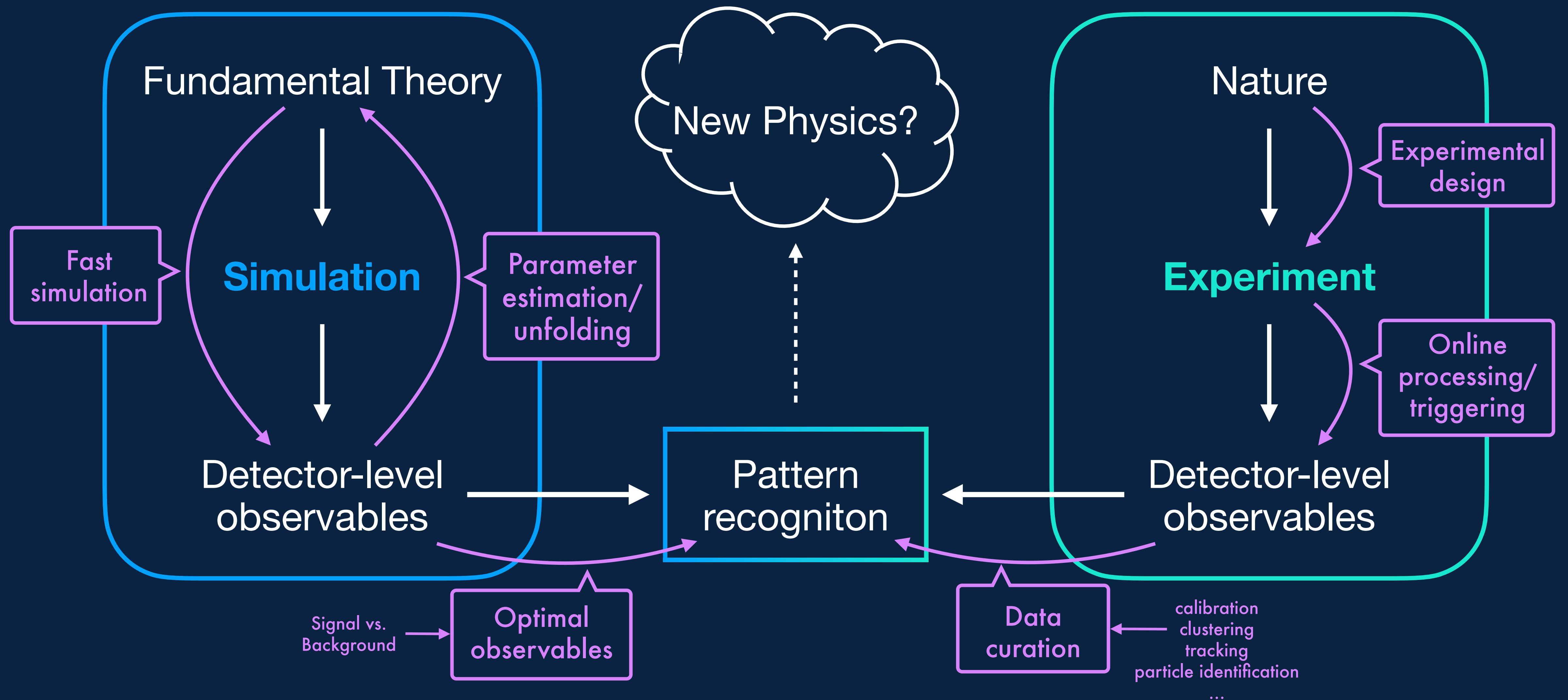


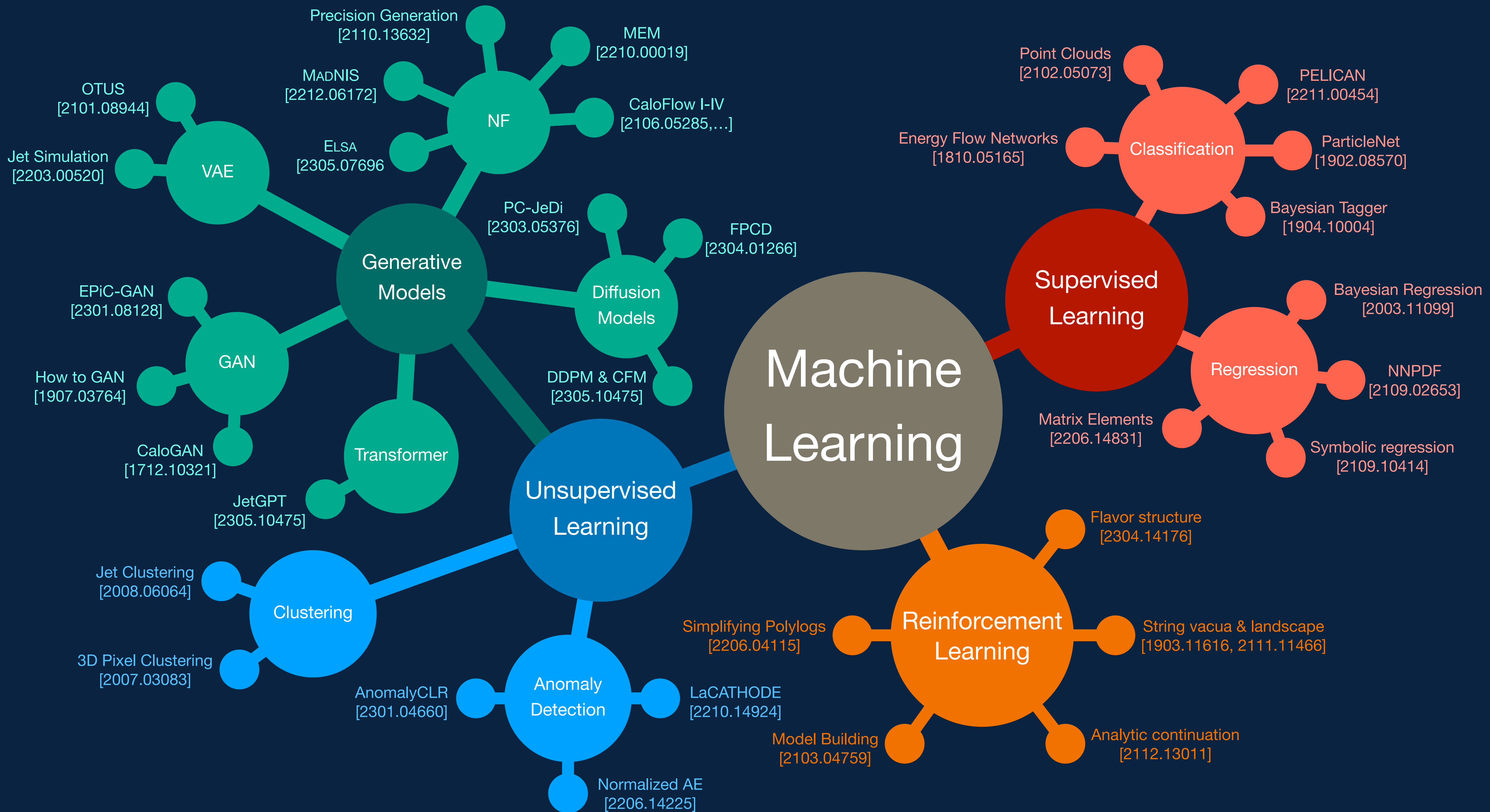


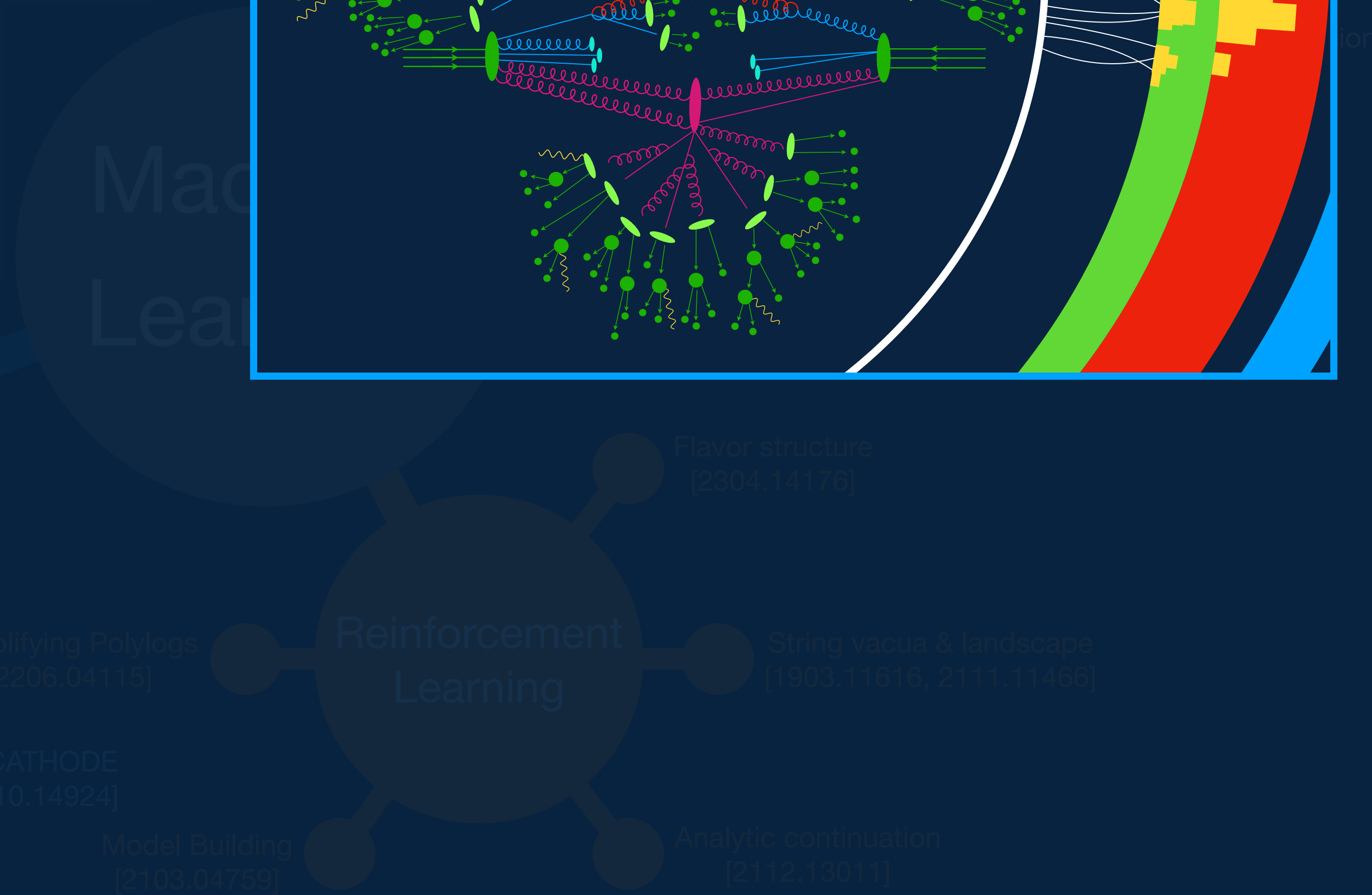
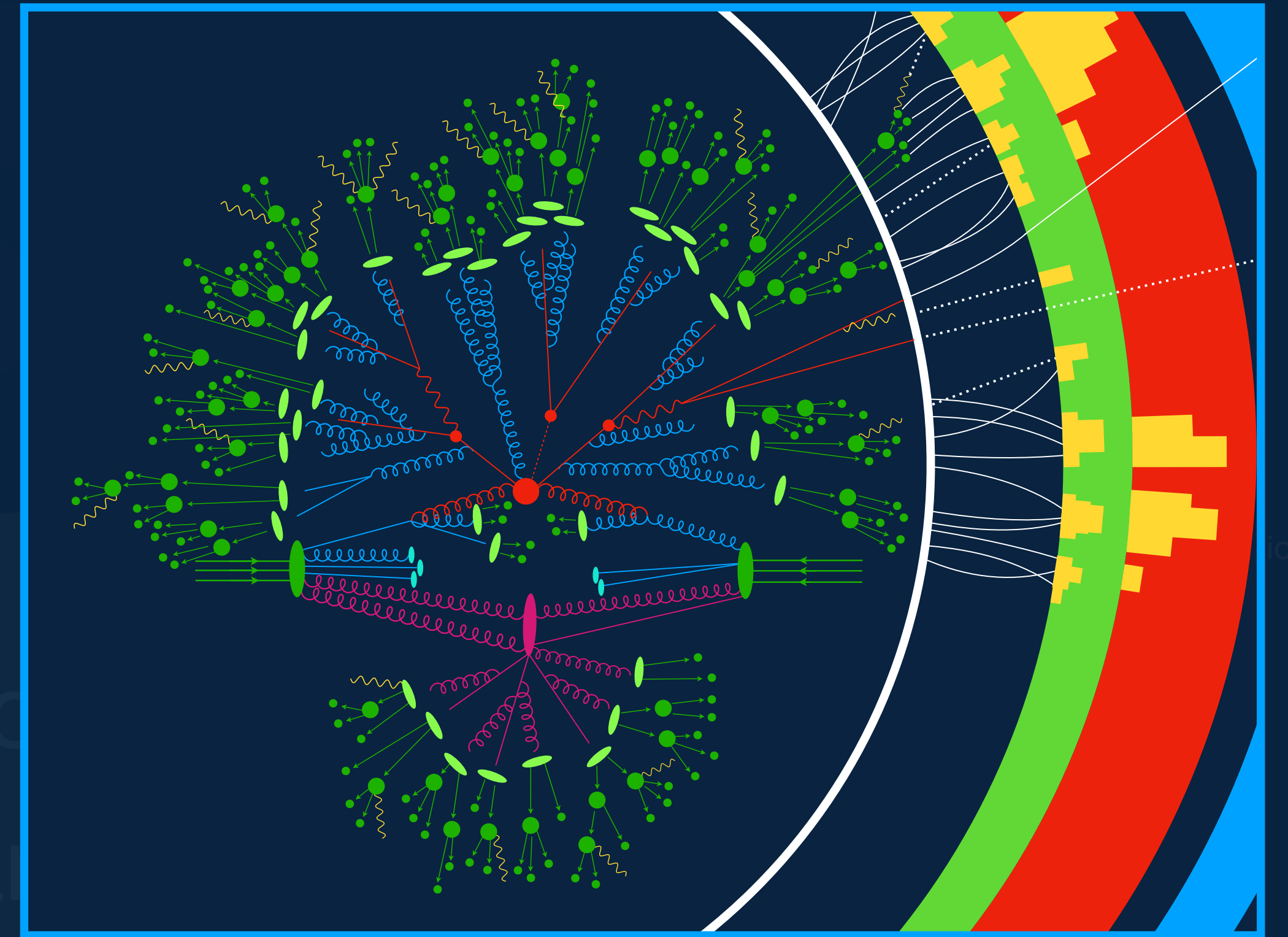
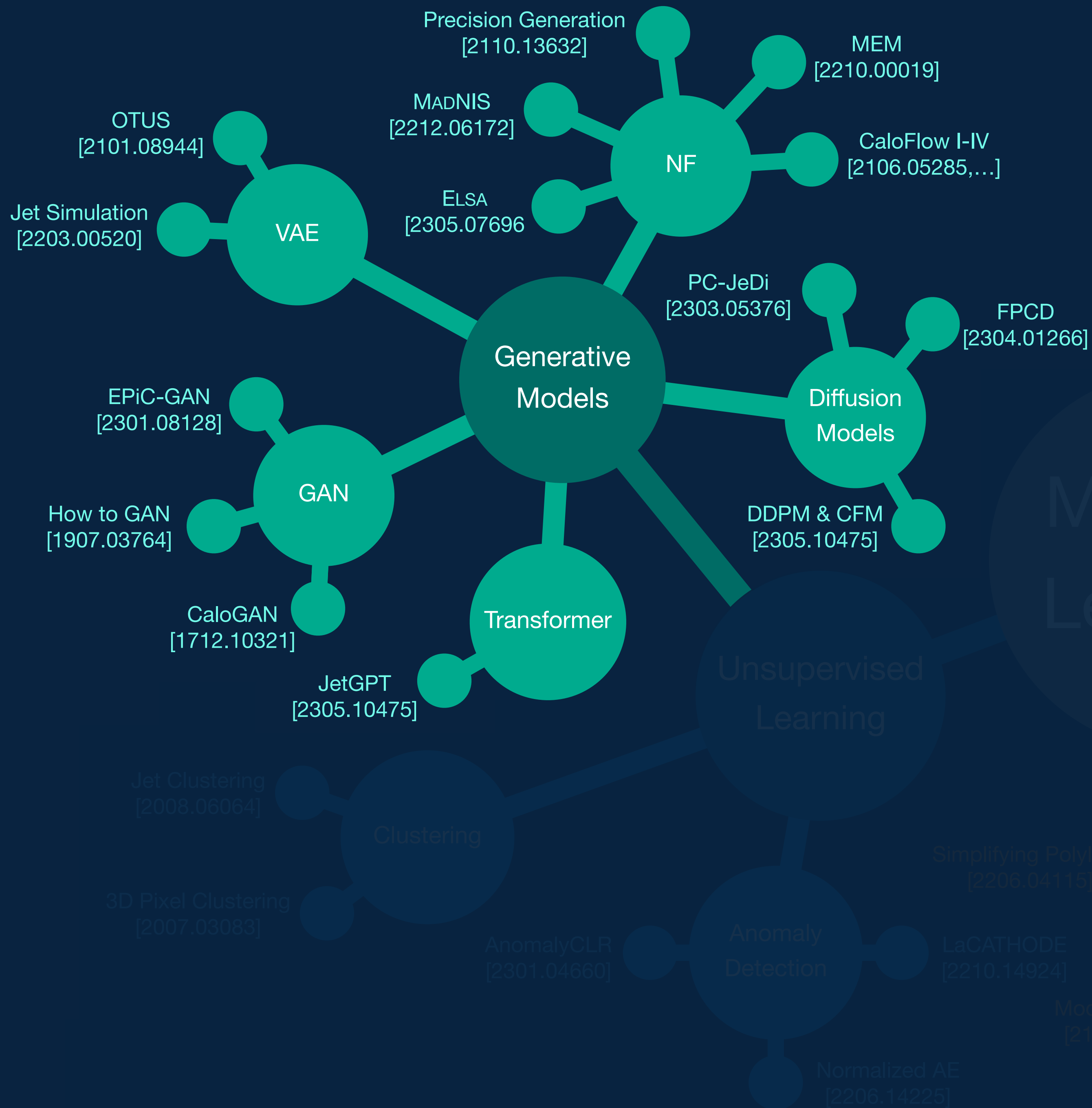
# LHC analysis (oversimplified)

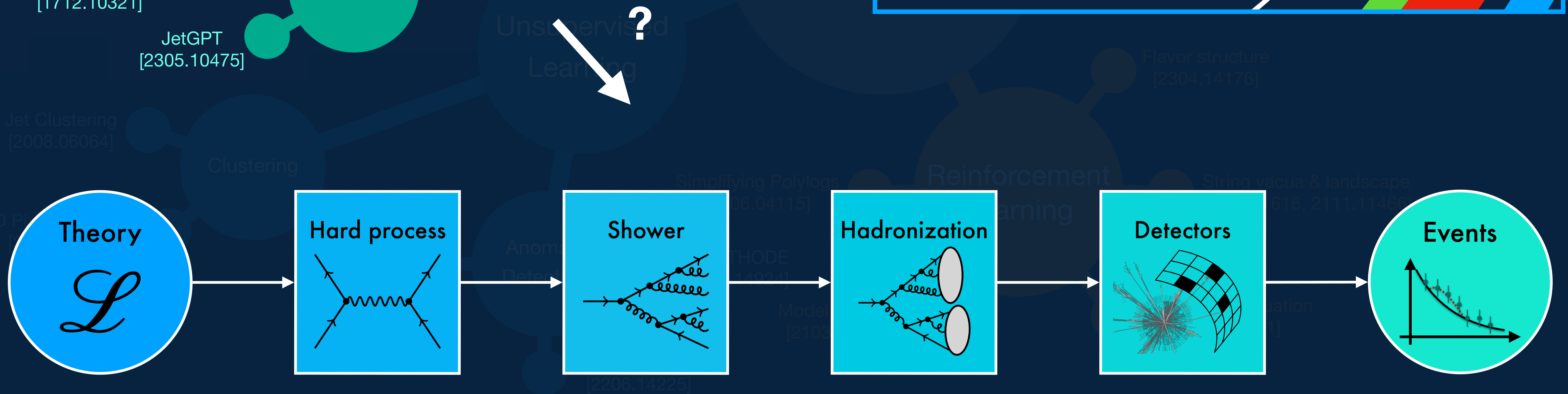
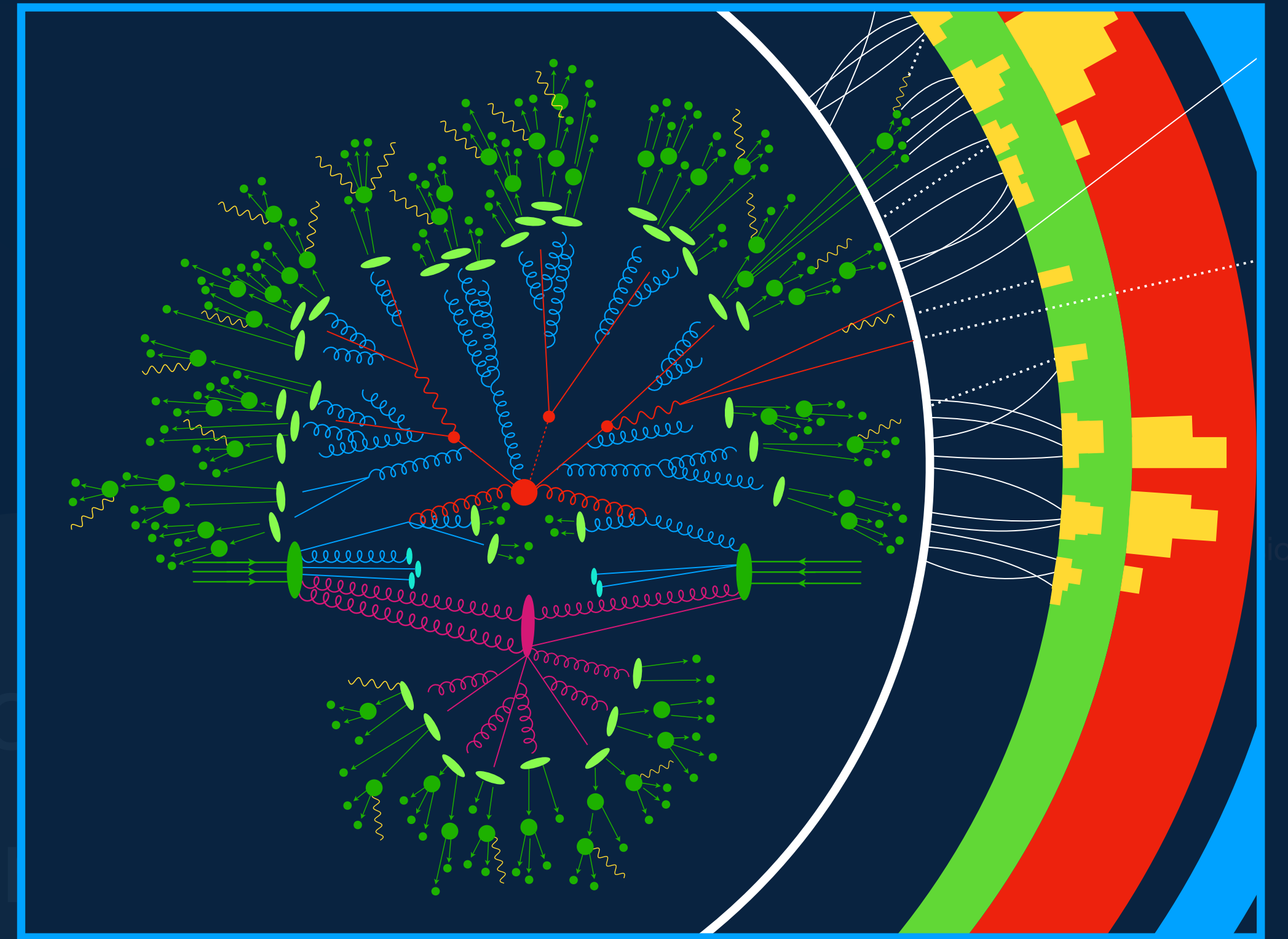
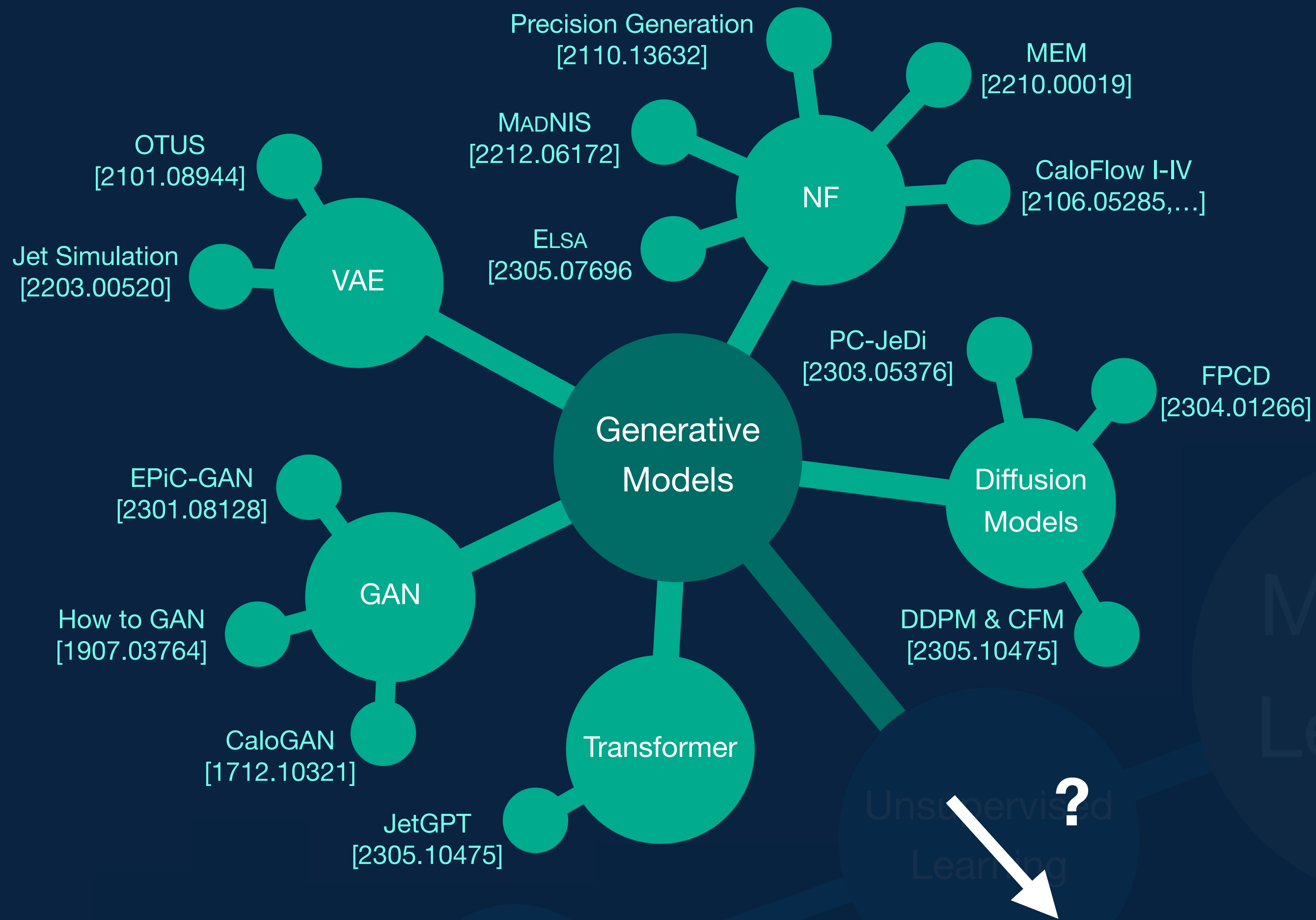


# LHC analysis + ML

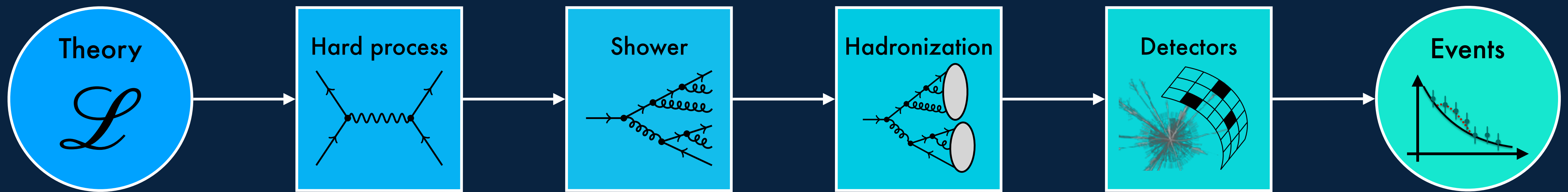




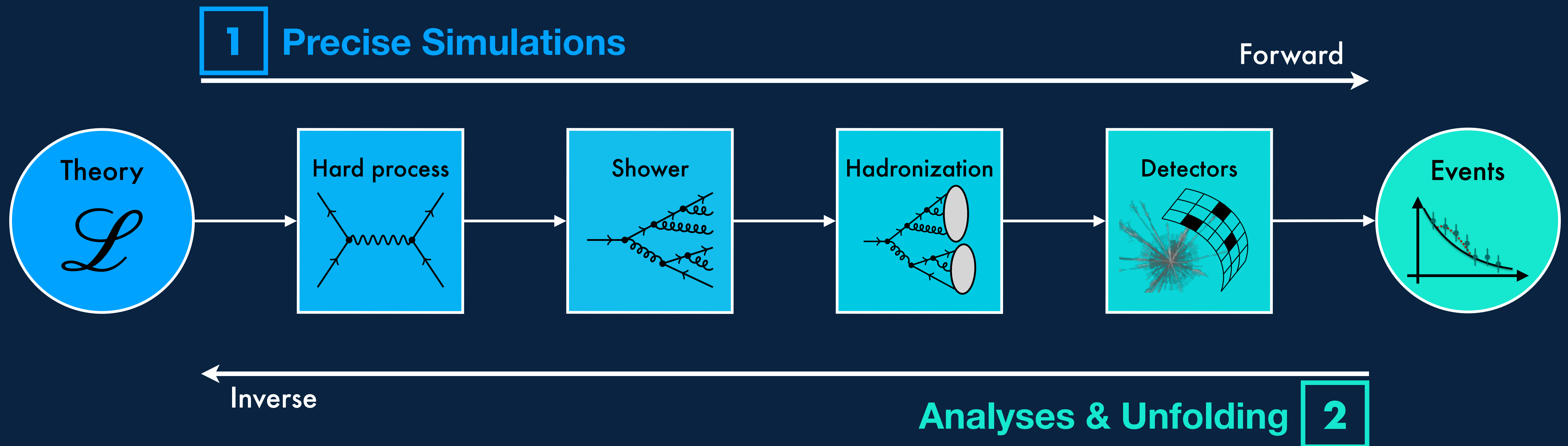




# ML aided simulation chain

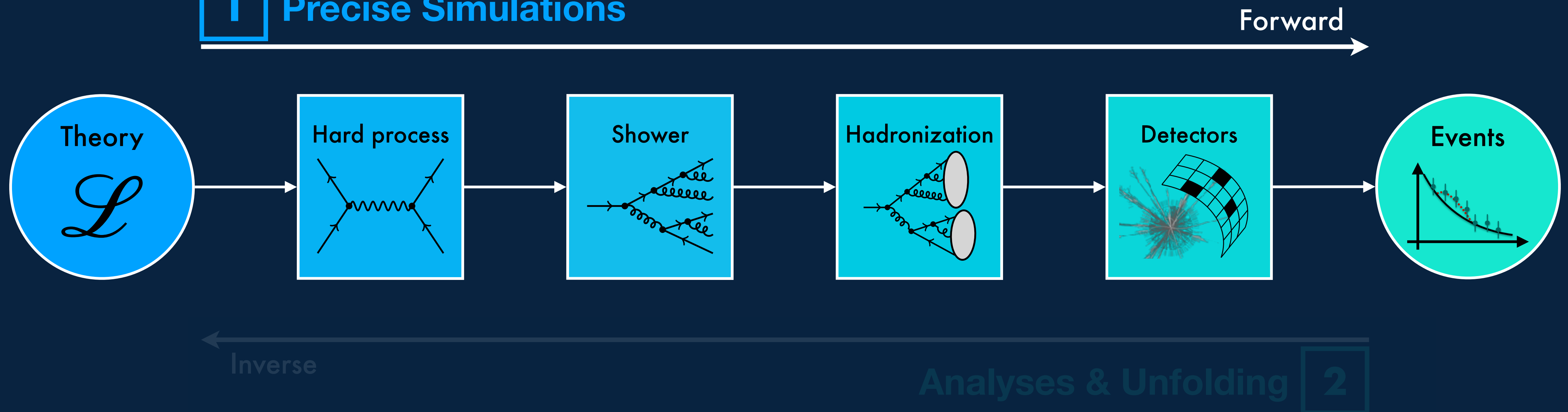


# ML aided simulation chain



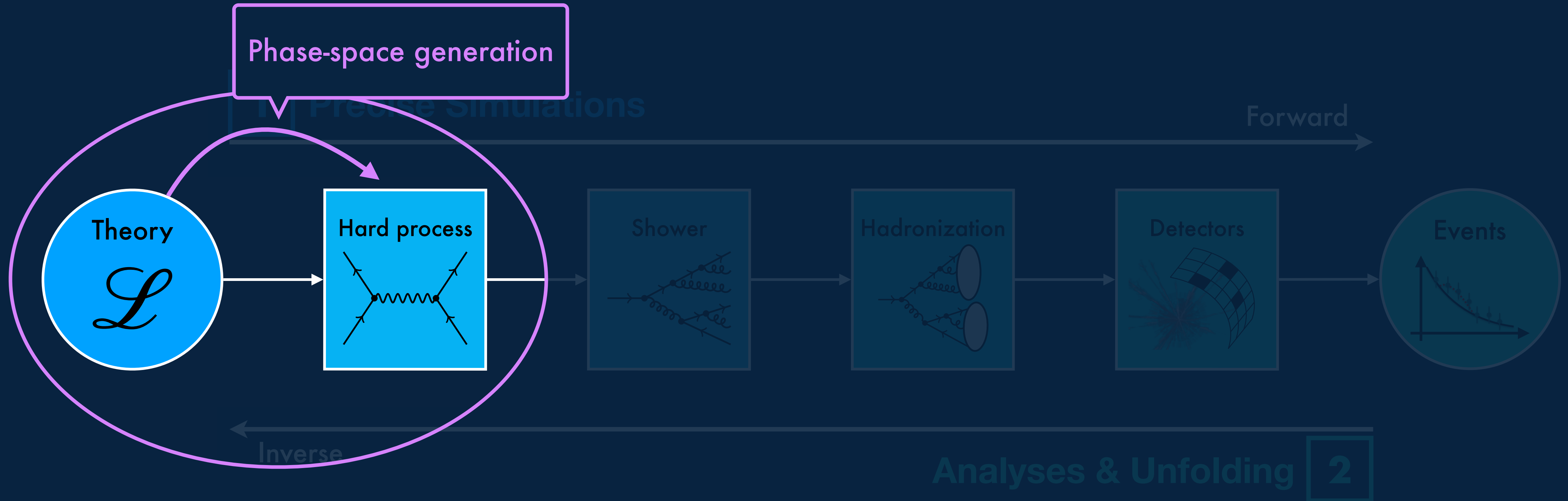
# ML improved simulations

## 1 Precise Simulations

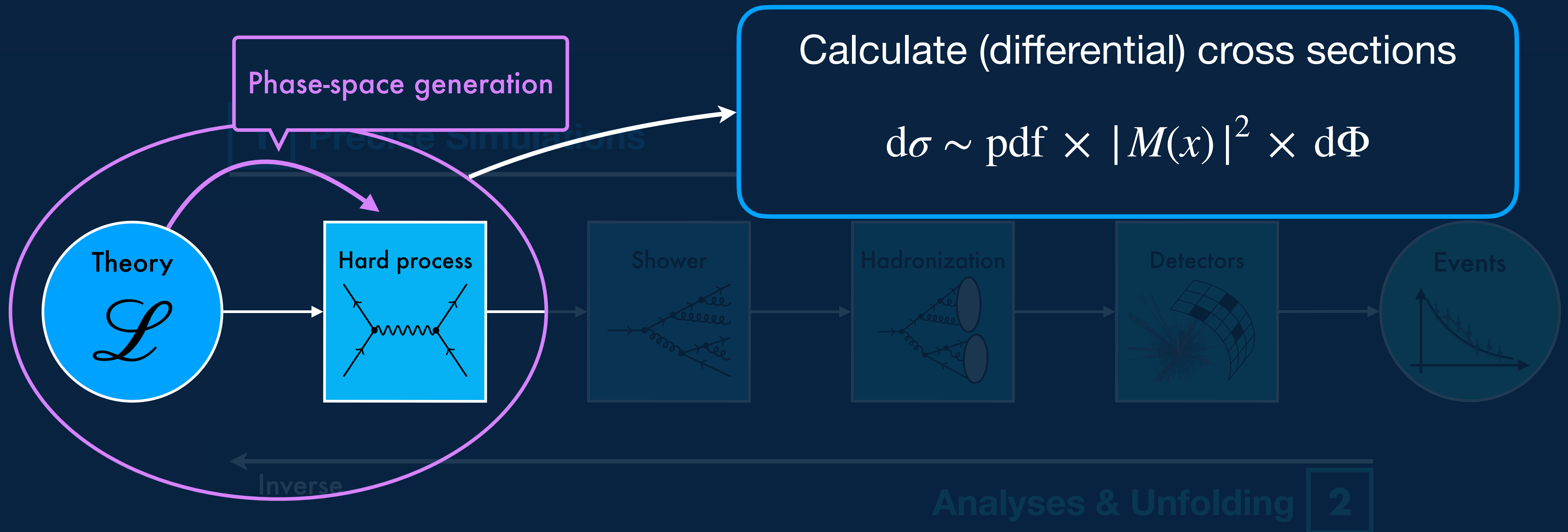




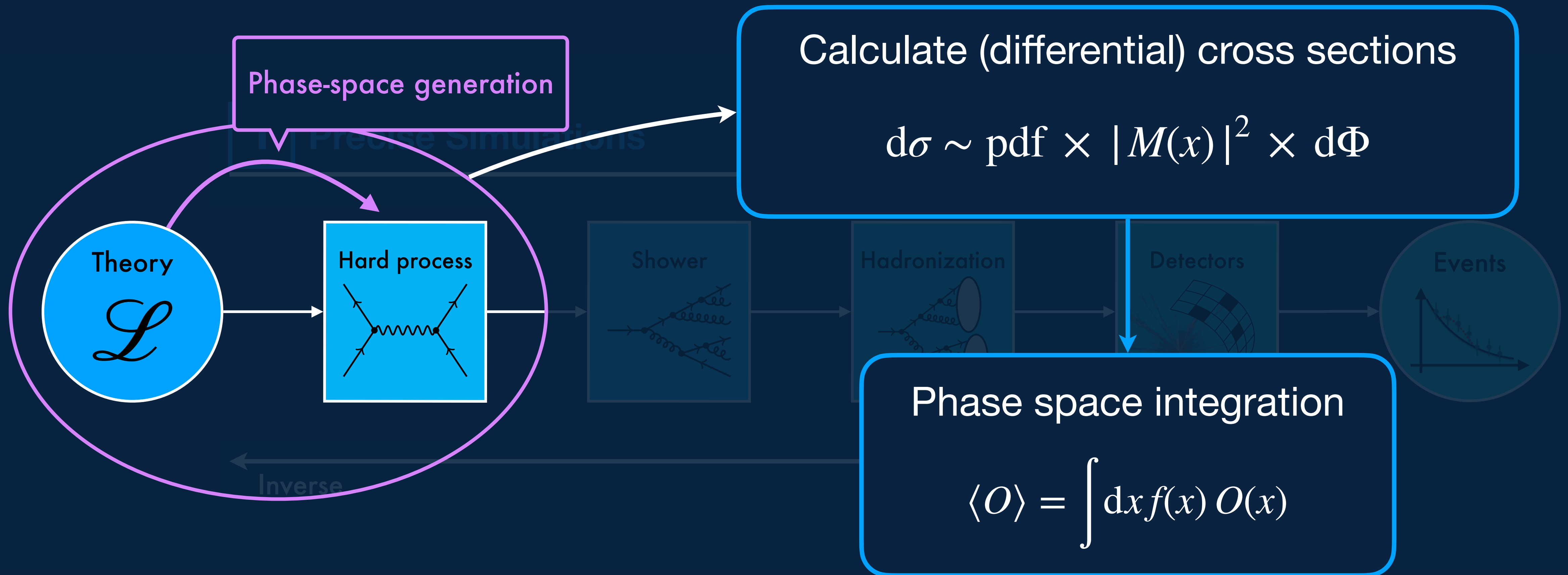
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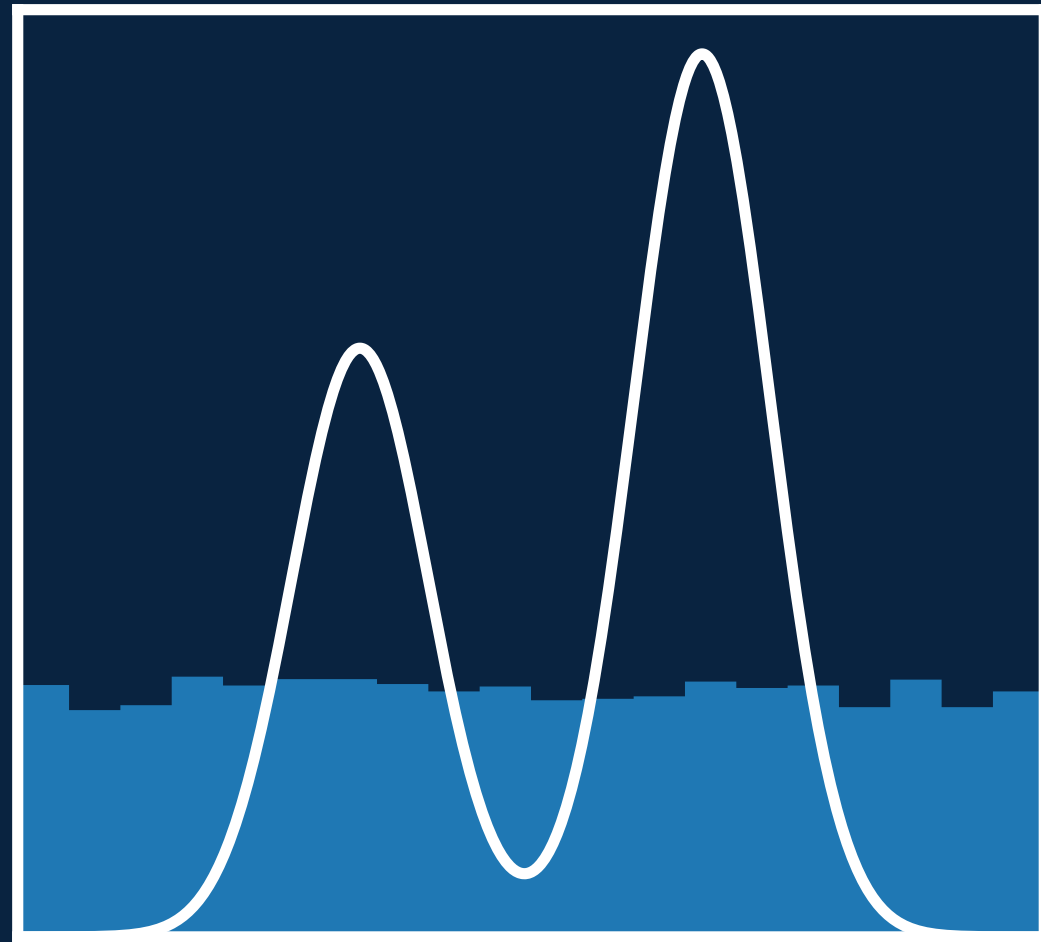


# ML improved simulations



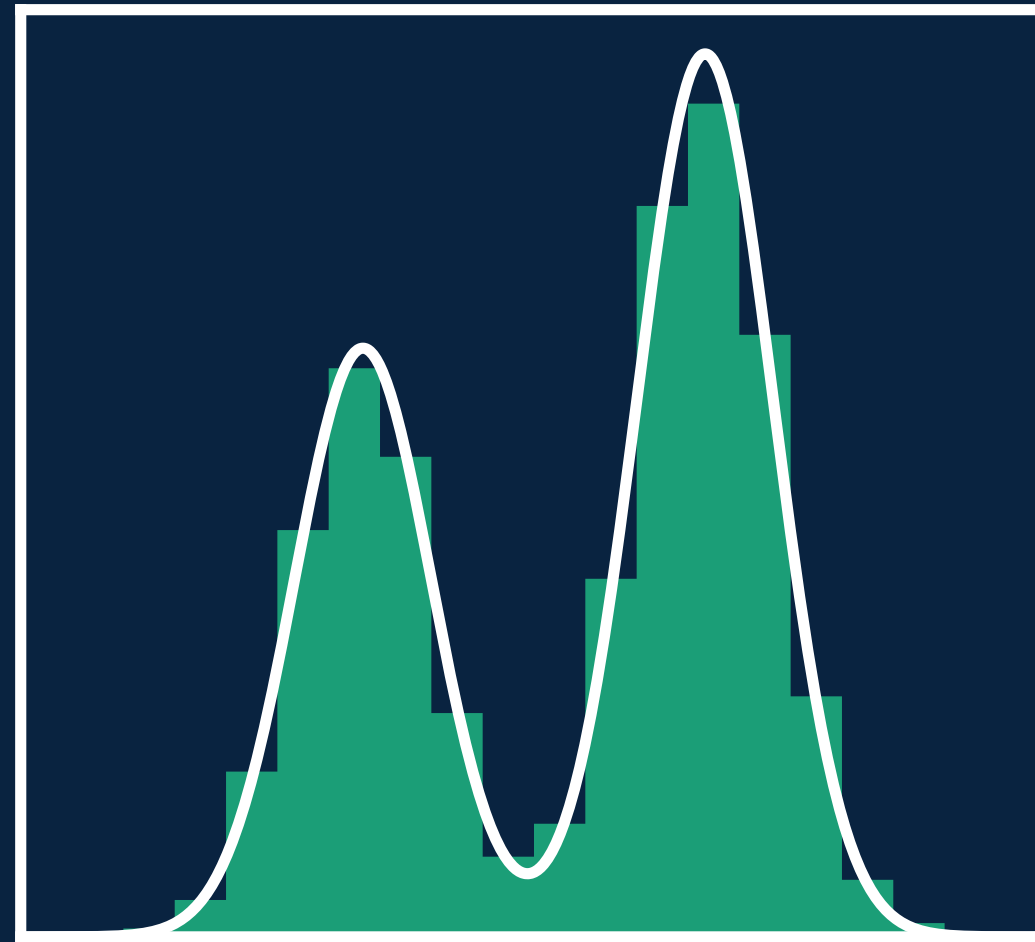
# Monte Carlo integration

$$I = \int dx f(x)$$



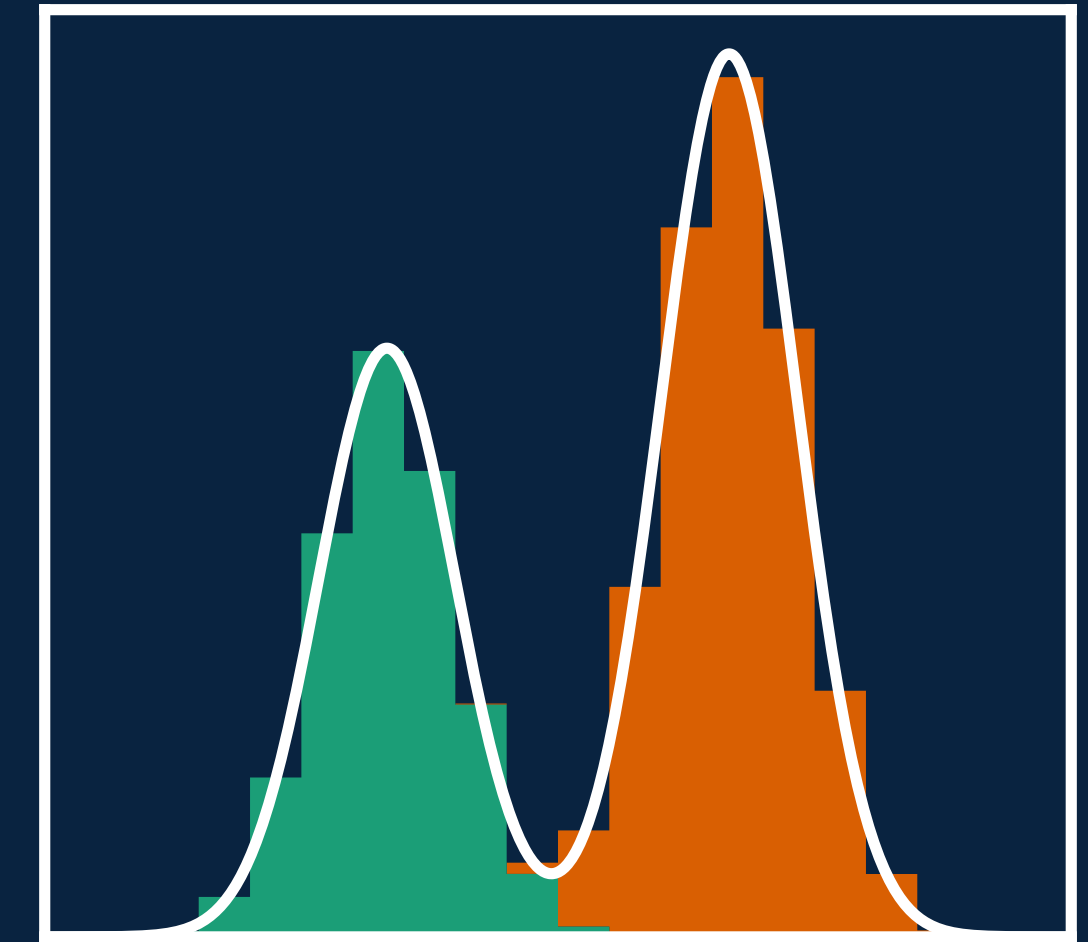
Flat sampling:  
inefficient

$$I = \langle f(x) \rangle_{x \sim \text{unif}}$$



Importance sampling:  
find  $g$  close to  $f$

$$I = \left\langle \frac{f(x)}{p(x)} \right\rangle_{x \sim p(x)}$$



Multi-channel:  
one map for each channel

$$I = \sum_i \left\langle \alpha_i(x) \frac{f(x)}{p_i(x)} \right\rangle_{x \sim p_i(x)}$$

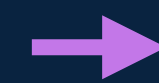
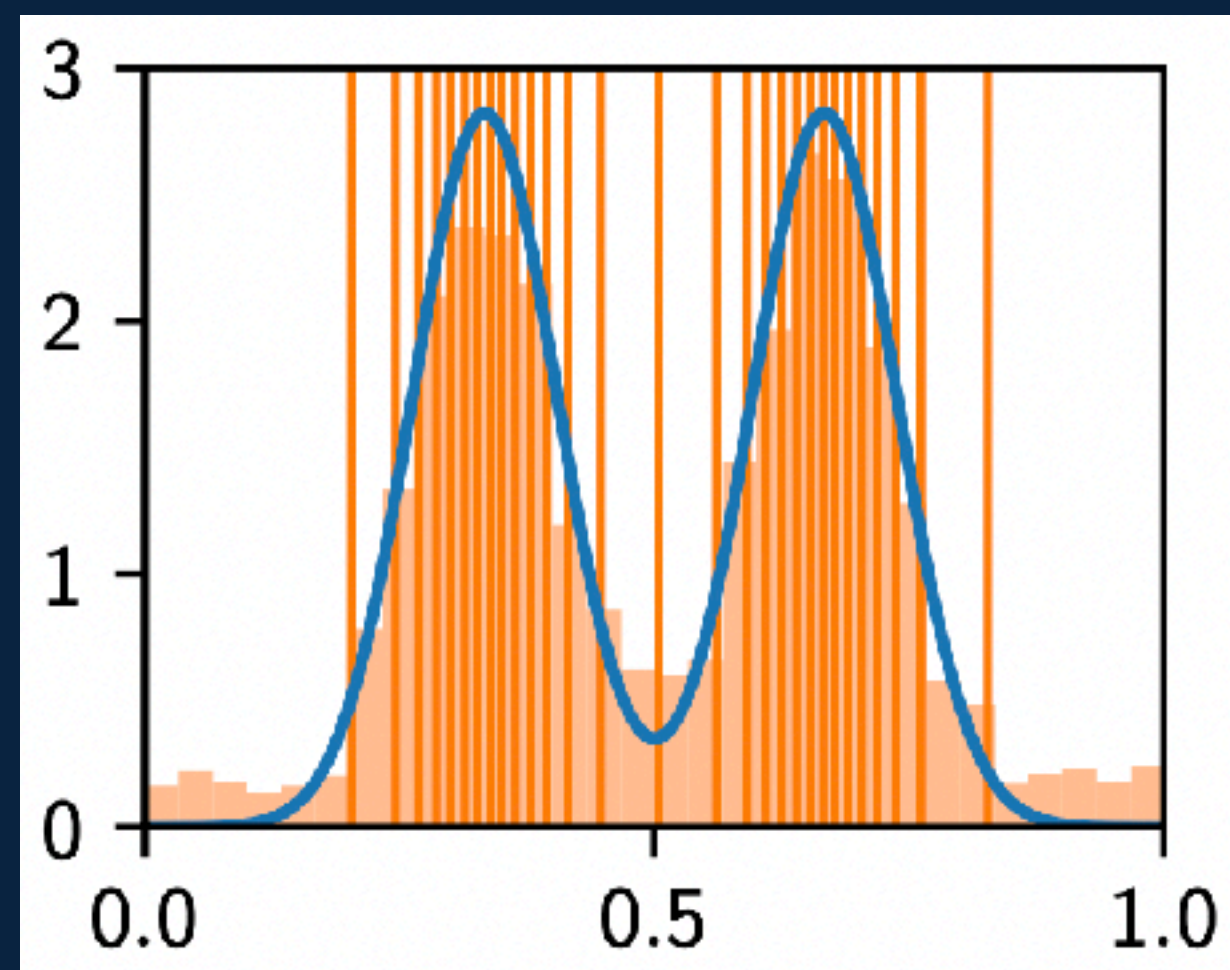
# Importance sampling — VEGAS

Factorize probability

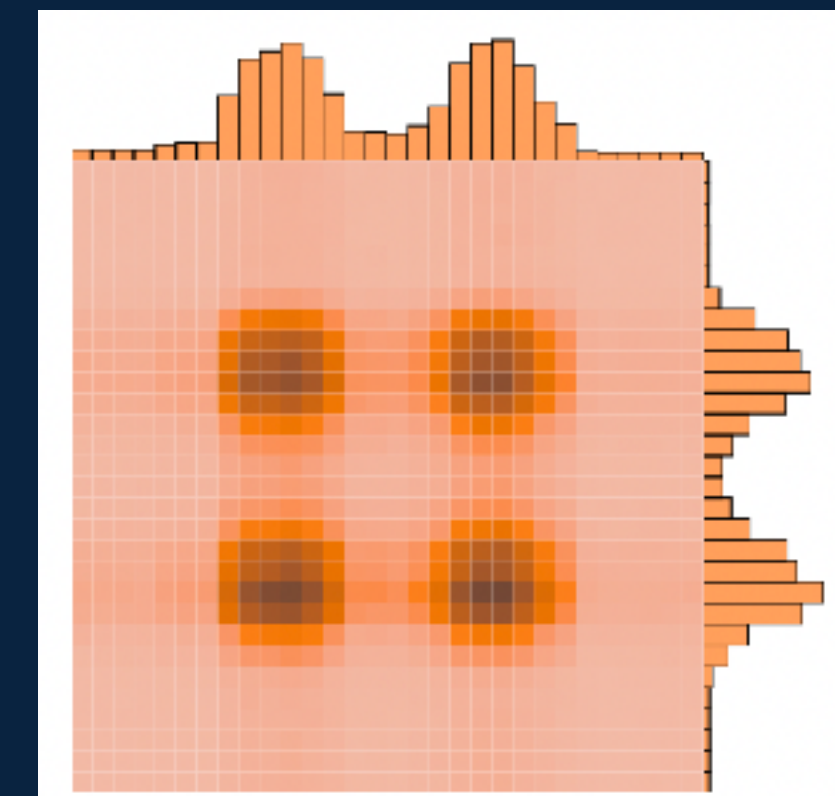
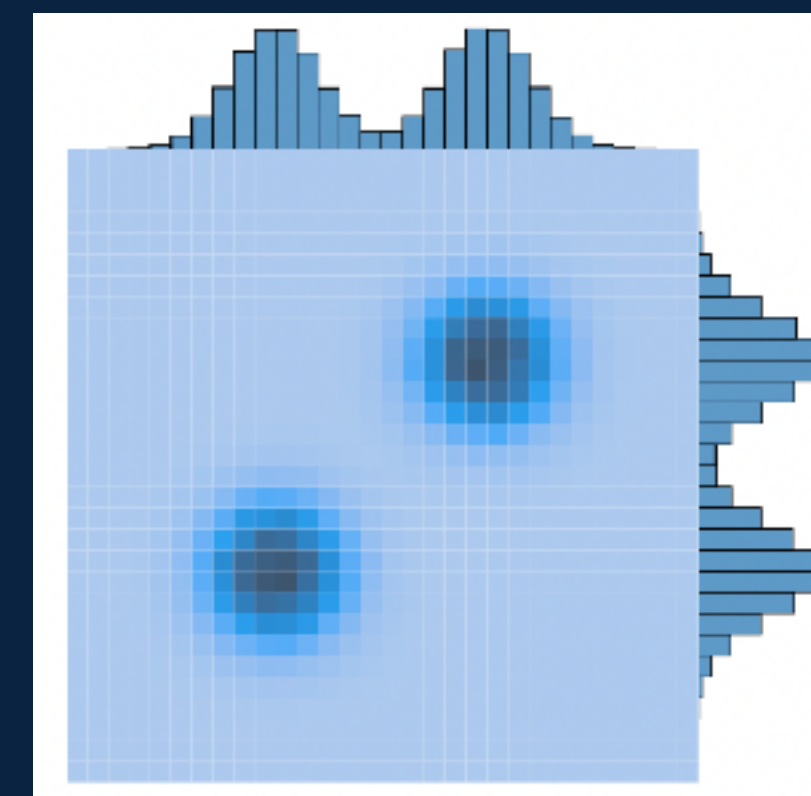
$$p(x) = p(x_1) \cdots p(x_n)$$



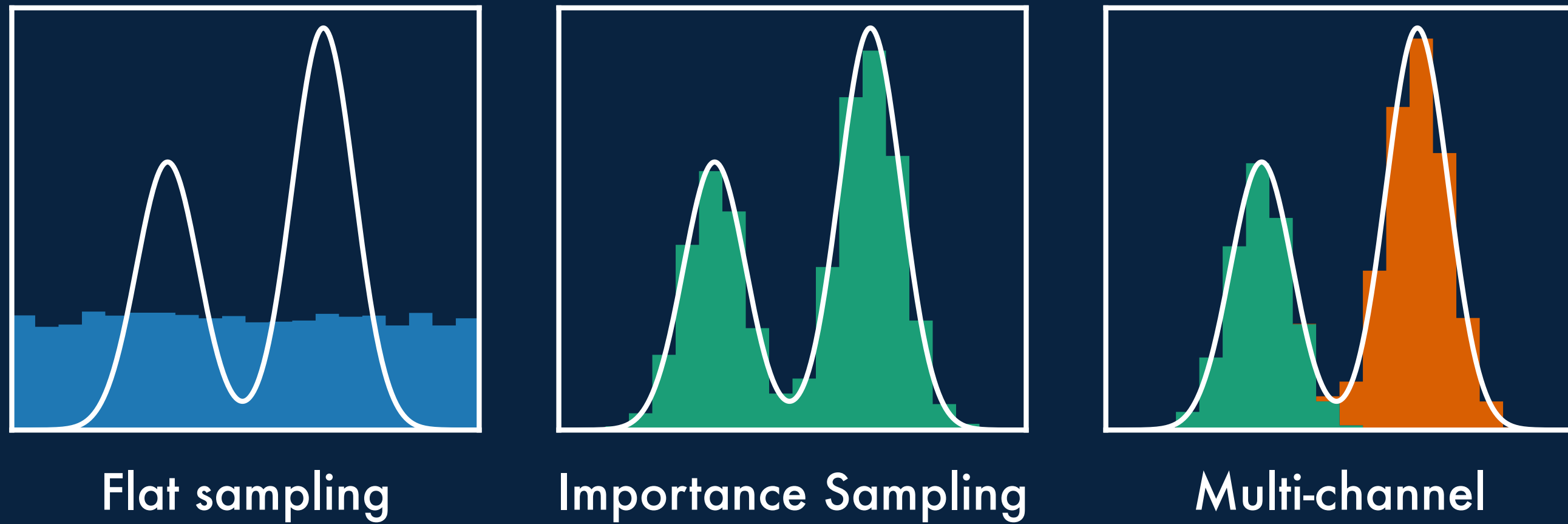
Fit bins with equal probability  
and varying width



- ⊕ Computationally cheap
- ⊖ High-dim and rich peaking functions  
→ **slow convergence**
- ⊖ Peaks not aligned with grid axes  
→ **phantom peaks**



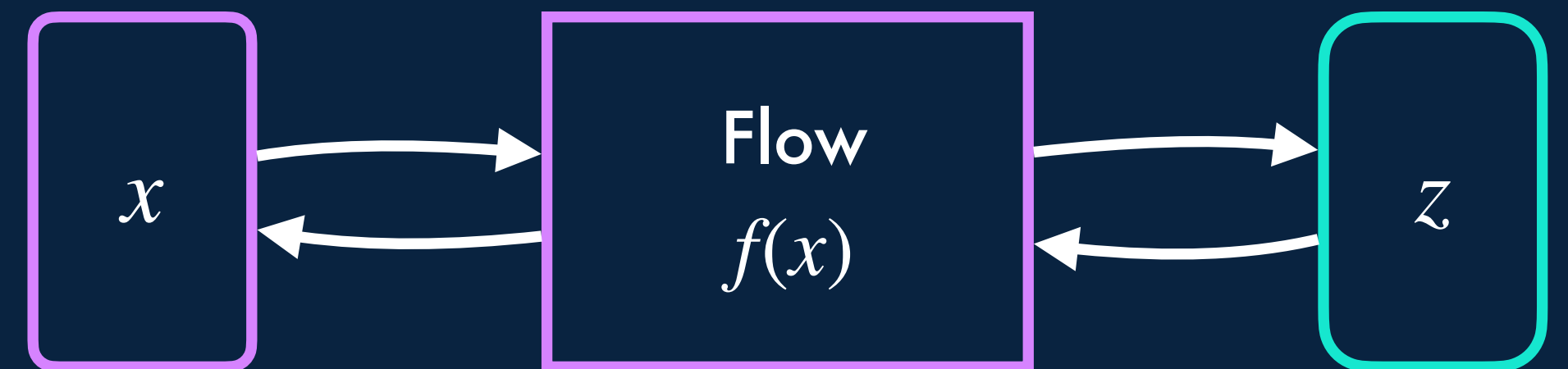
# MADNIS — Neural importance sampling



$$I = \sum_i \left\langle \alpha_i(x) \frac{f(x)}{p_i(x)} \right\rangle_{x \sim p_i(x)}$$

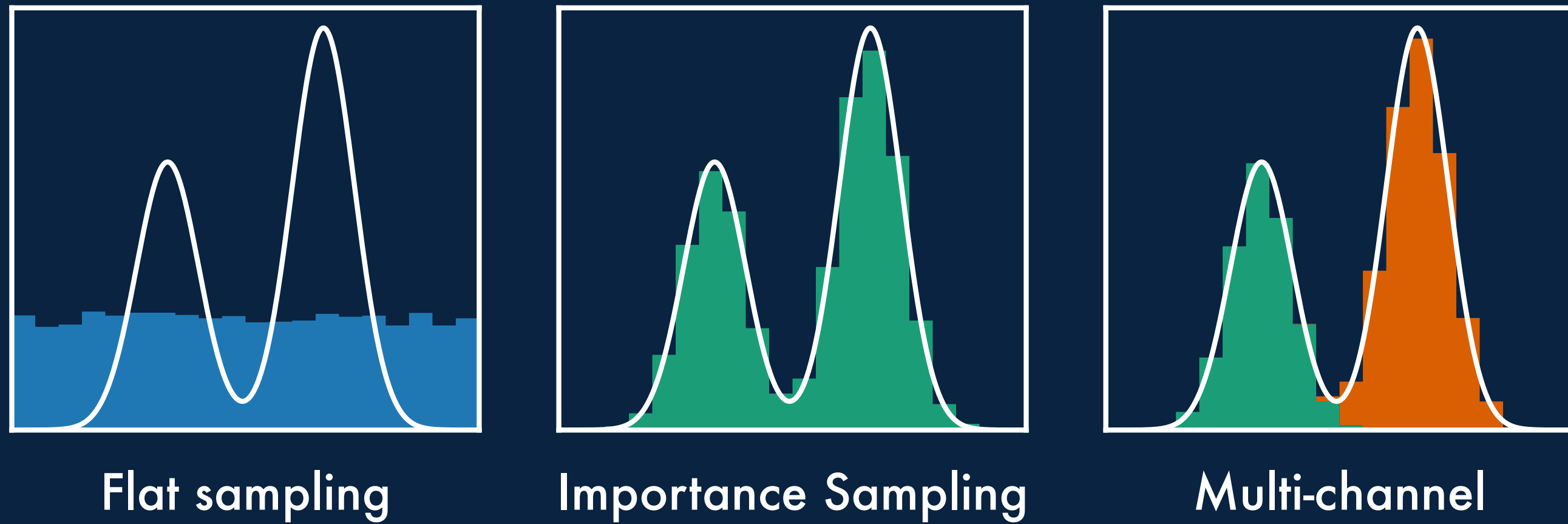
Parametrize with **NN**

Parametrize with **NF**



Sampling probability:  $p(x) = \left| \frac{\partial f(x)}{\partial x} \right|$

# MADNIS — Neural importance sampling

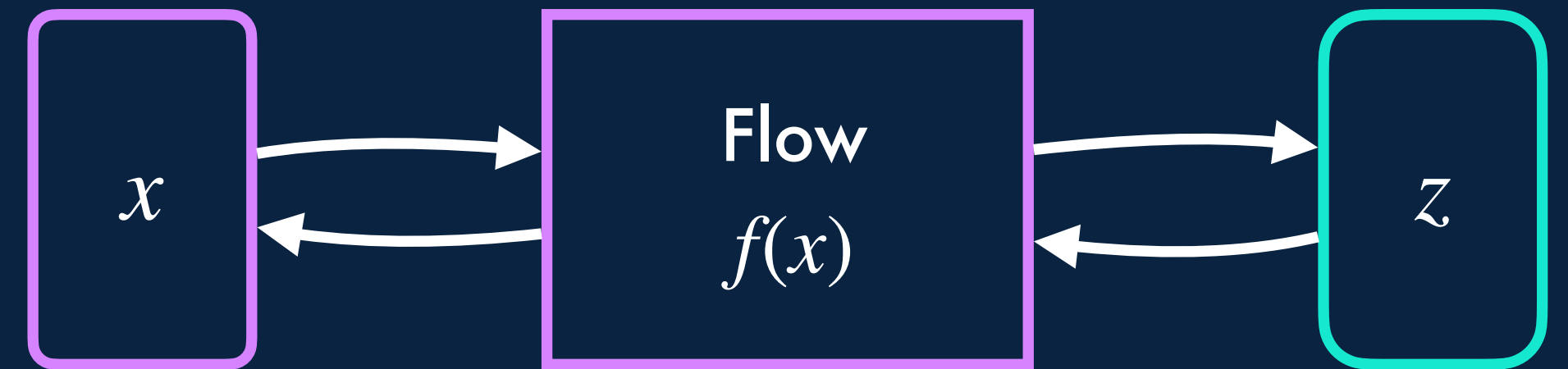


- ⊕ unbinned & no grids  
→ **no “phantom peaks”**
- ⊕ invertible & tractable Jacobians  
→ **fast training and eval**

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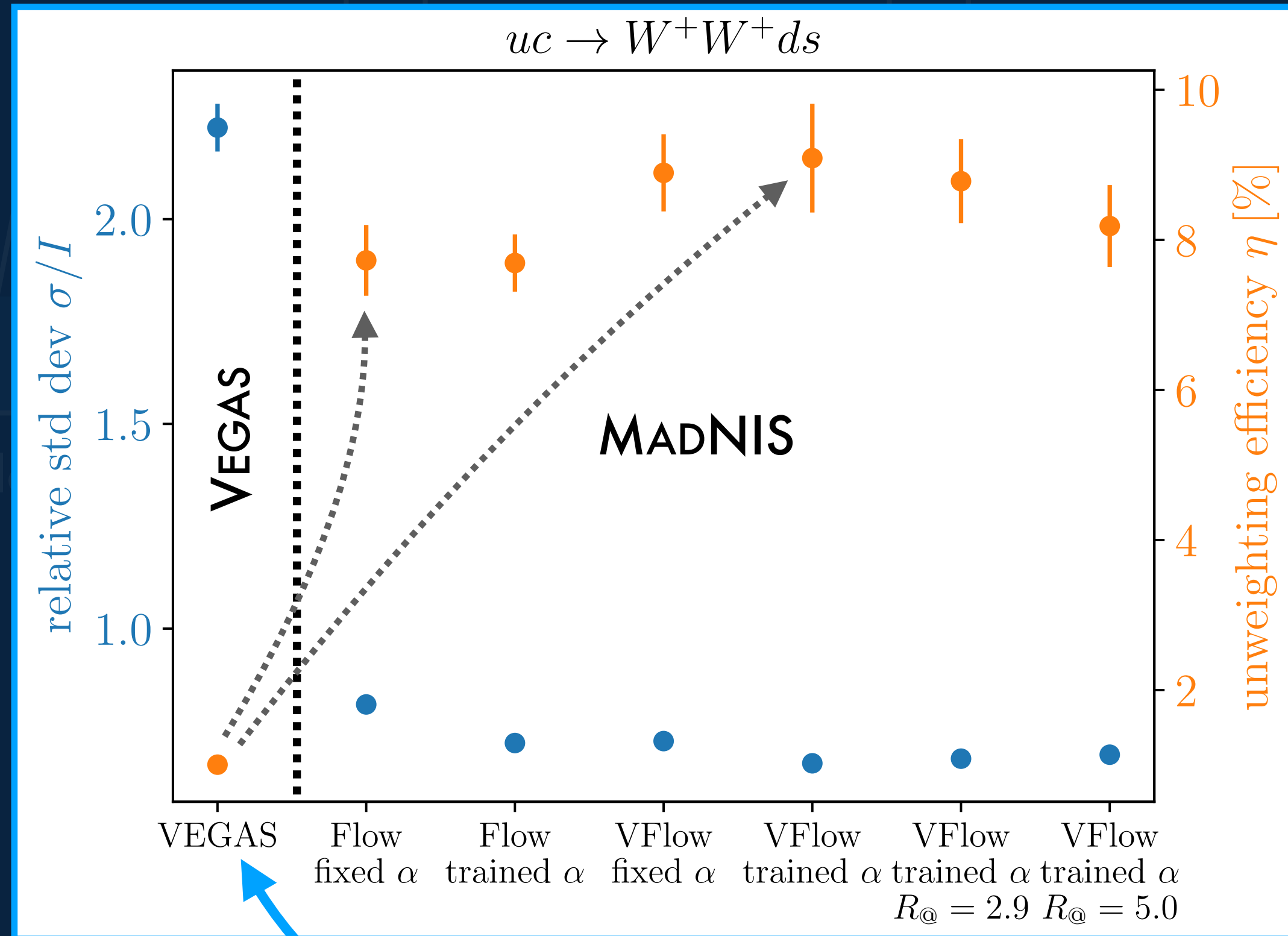
Parametrize with **NN**

Parametrize with **NF**



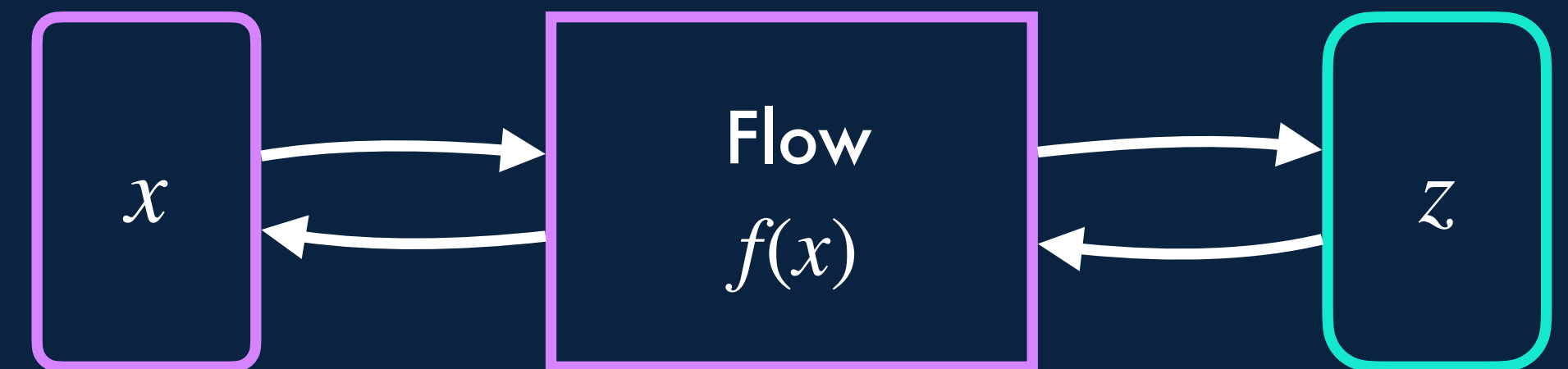
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# MADNIS — Neural importance sampling



Unweighting efficiency improved up to **factor ~10** compared to VEGAS

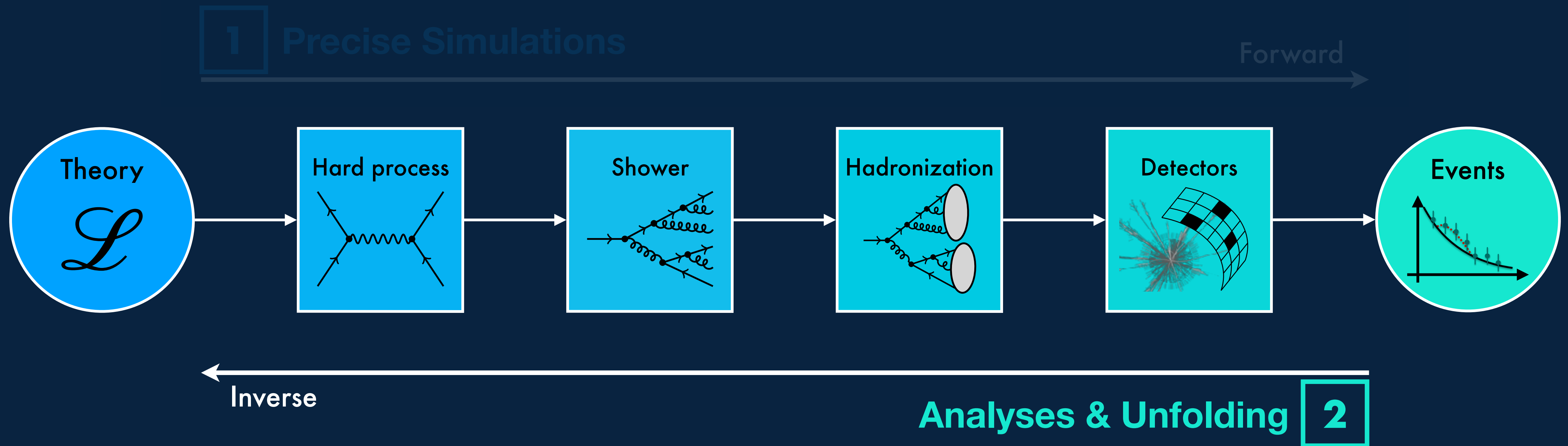
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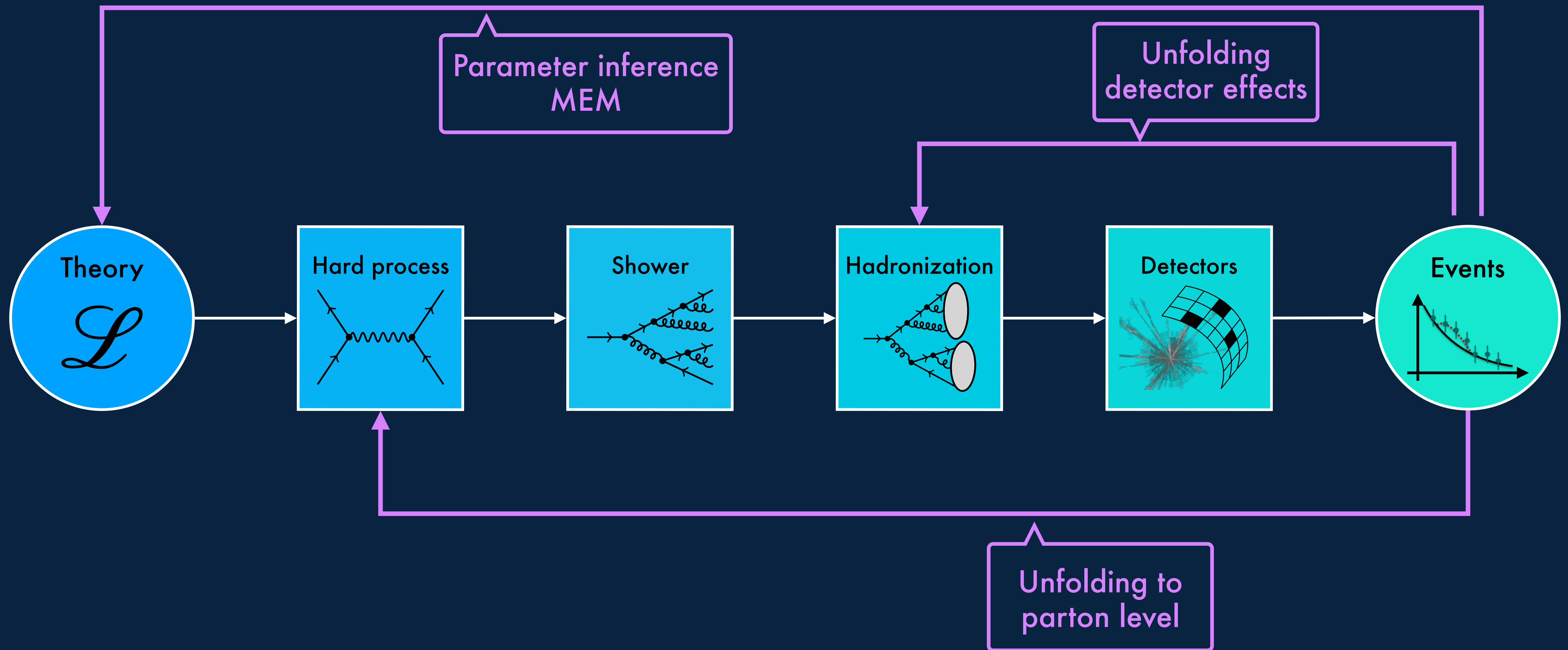
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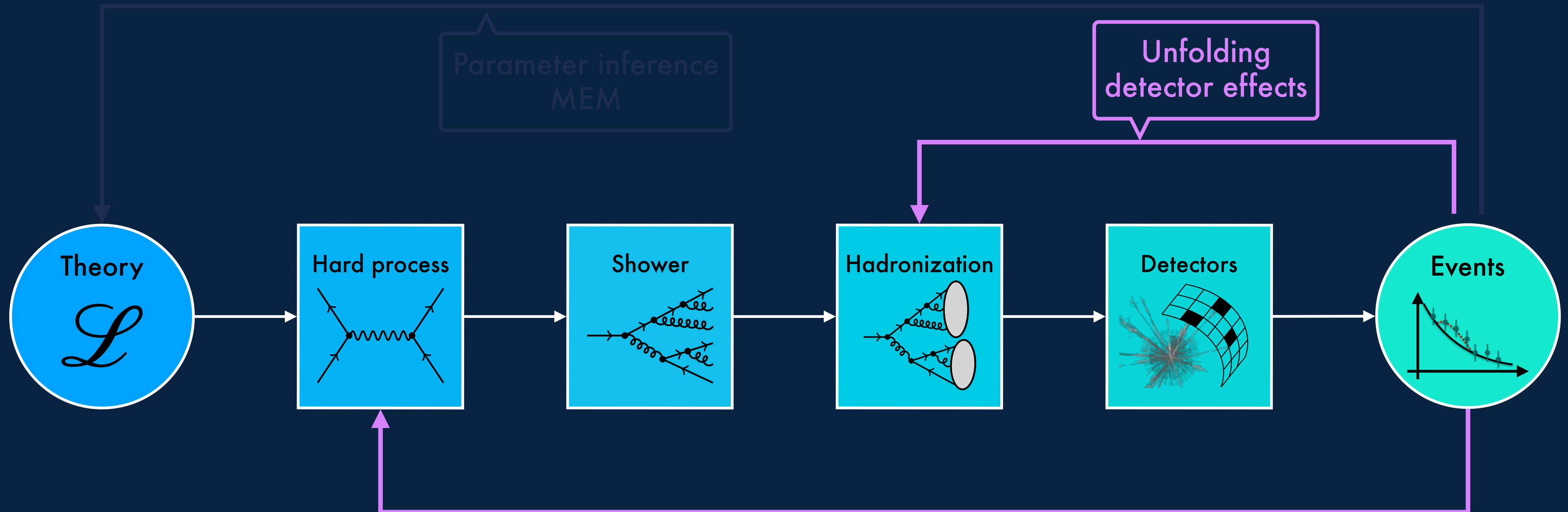
# Inverting the simulation chain



# Inverting the simulation chain



# Unfolding at the LHC



## Classifier based approach

OmniFold [1911.09107], Profiled Unfolding [2302.05390]

## Density based approach

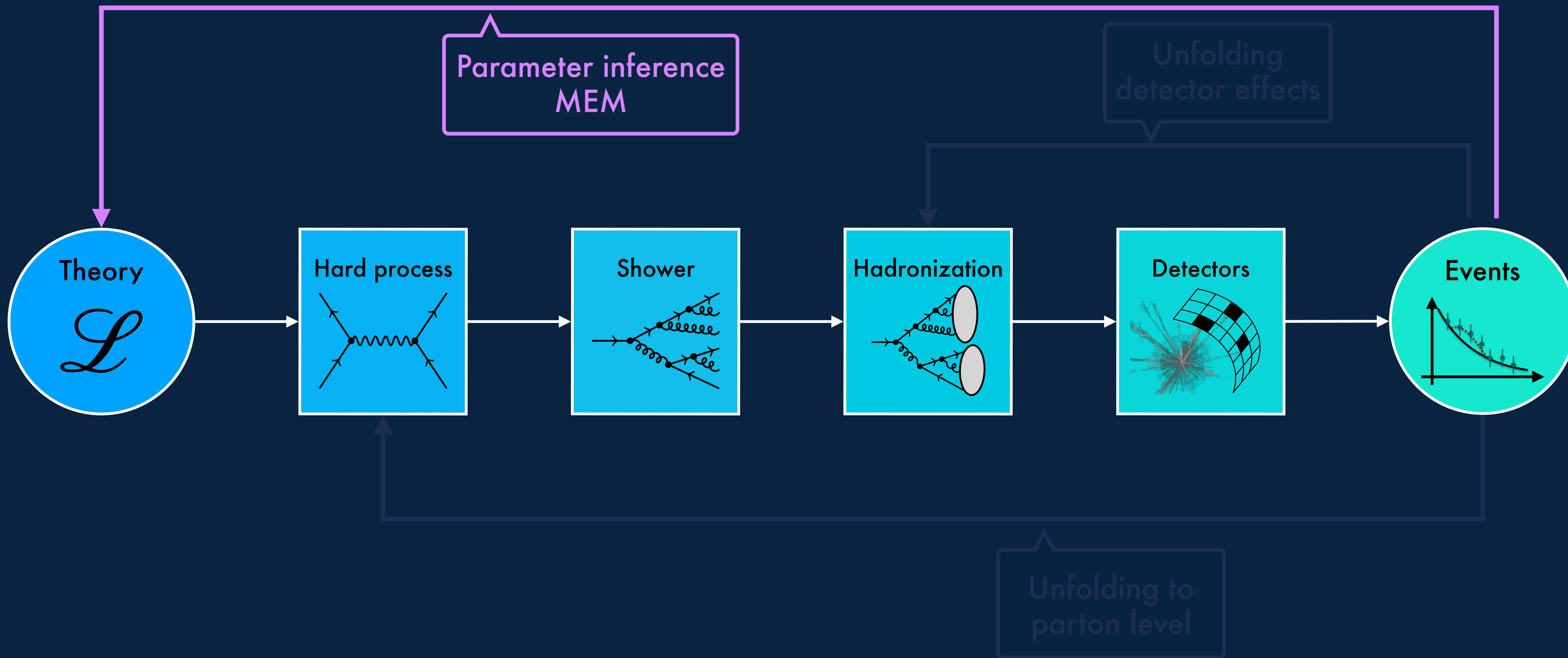
FCGAN [1912.00477], cINN [2006.06685],  
lcINN [2212.08674], OTUS [2101.08944]



**Detailed Comparison:**

*Arratia et al 2022 JINST 17 P01024 [2109.13243]*

# Inverting the simulation chain

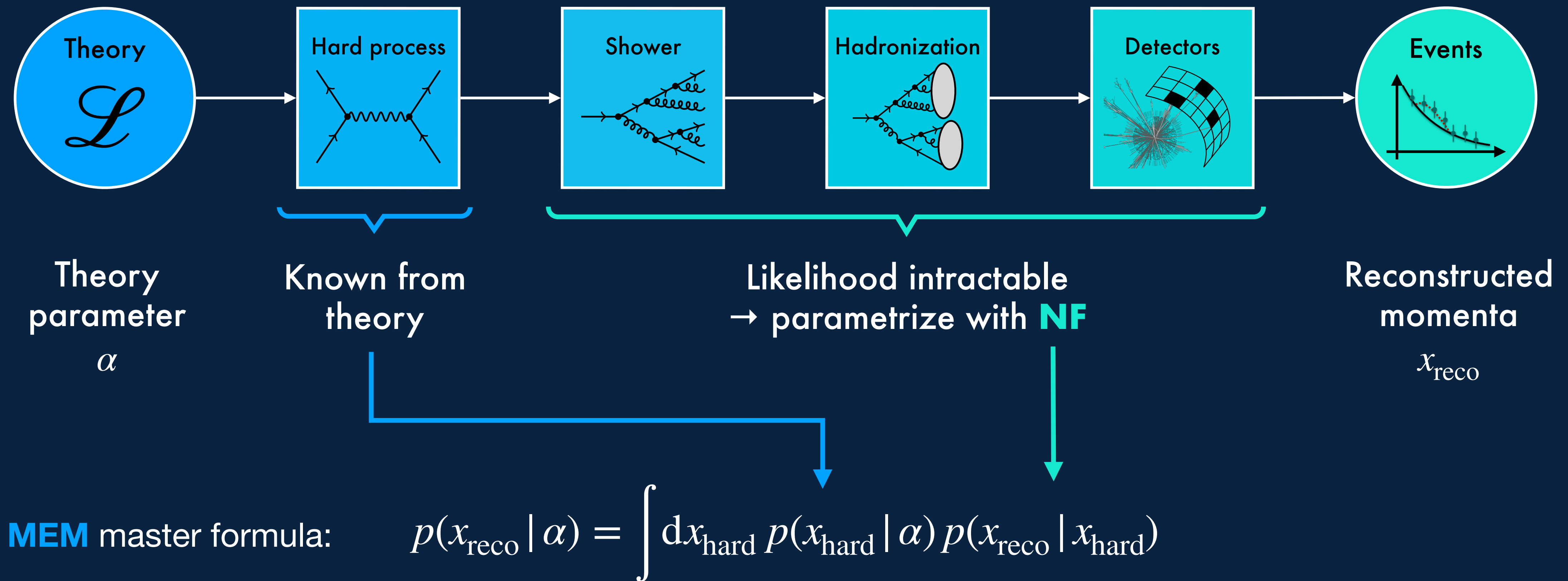


**Historically** → **Tevatron**

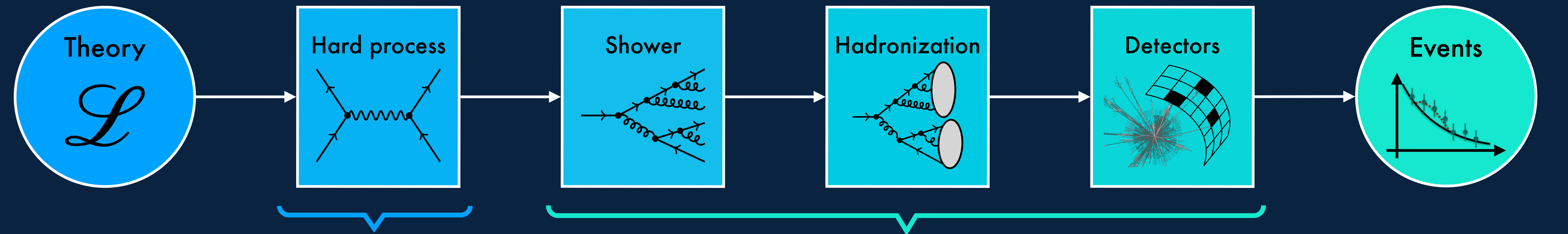
Top mass: D0 (98', 04'), CDF 06', Fiedler et al. [1003.1316]

Single-top: Review [1710.10699]

# Inference with normalizing flows



# Inference with normalizing flows



Theory parameter  
 $\alpha$

Known from theory

Likelihood intractable  
→ parametrize with **NF**

Reconstructed momenta  
 $x_{\text{reco}}$

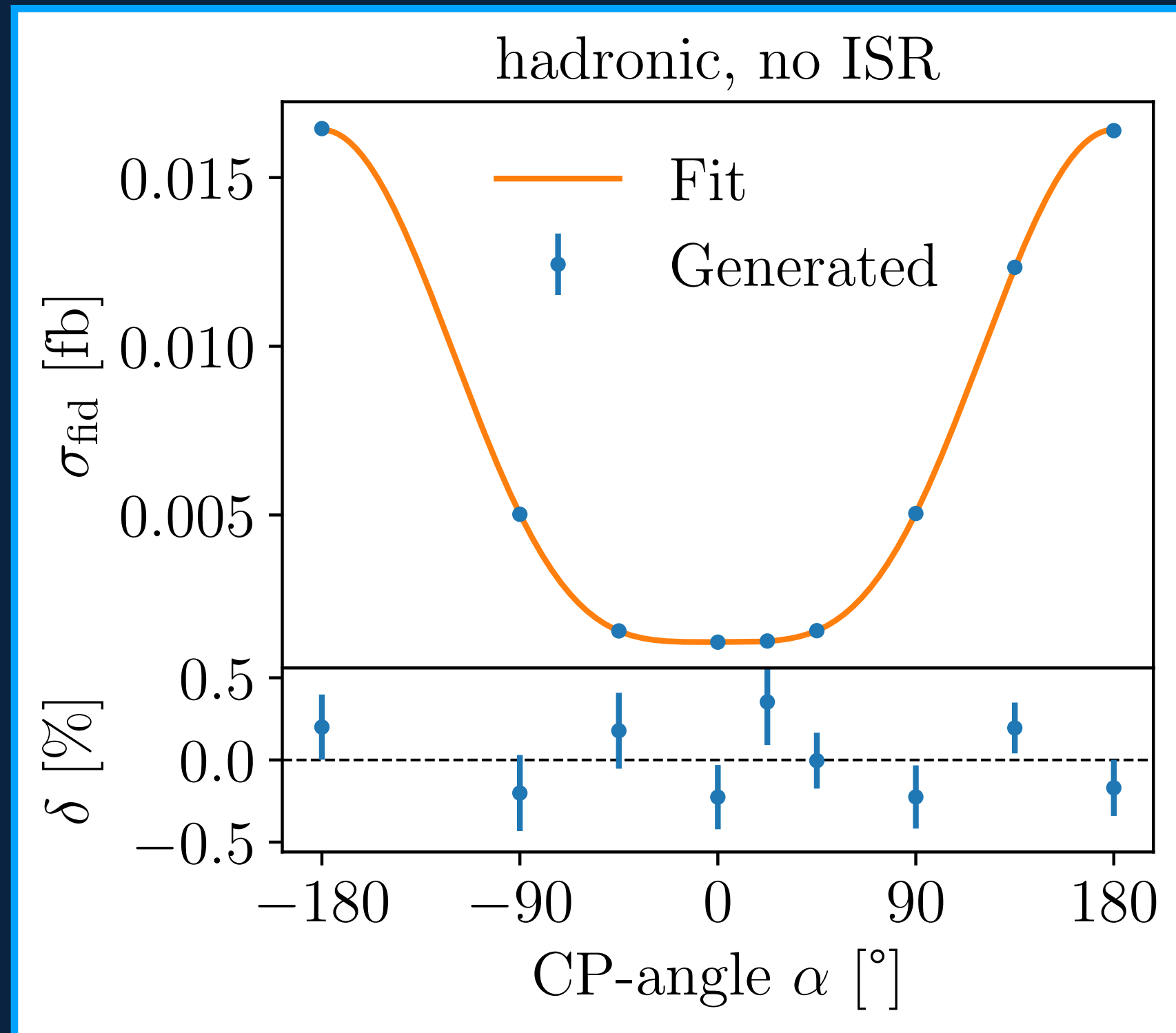
**MEM** master formula:

$$p(x_{\text{reco}} | \alpha) = \int dx_{\text{hard}} p(x_{\text{hard}} | \alpha) p(x_{\text{reco}} | x_{\text{hard}})$$

In practice → perform integral **numerically**

# Matrix element method

Heidelberg/Louvain [2210.00019, 23XX.xxxxx]



tHj production:

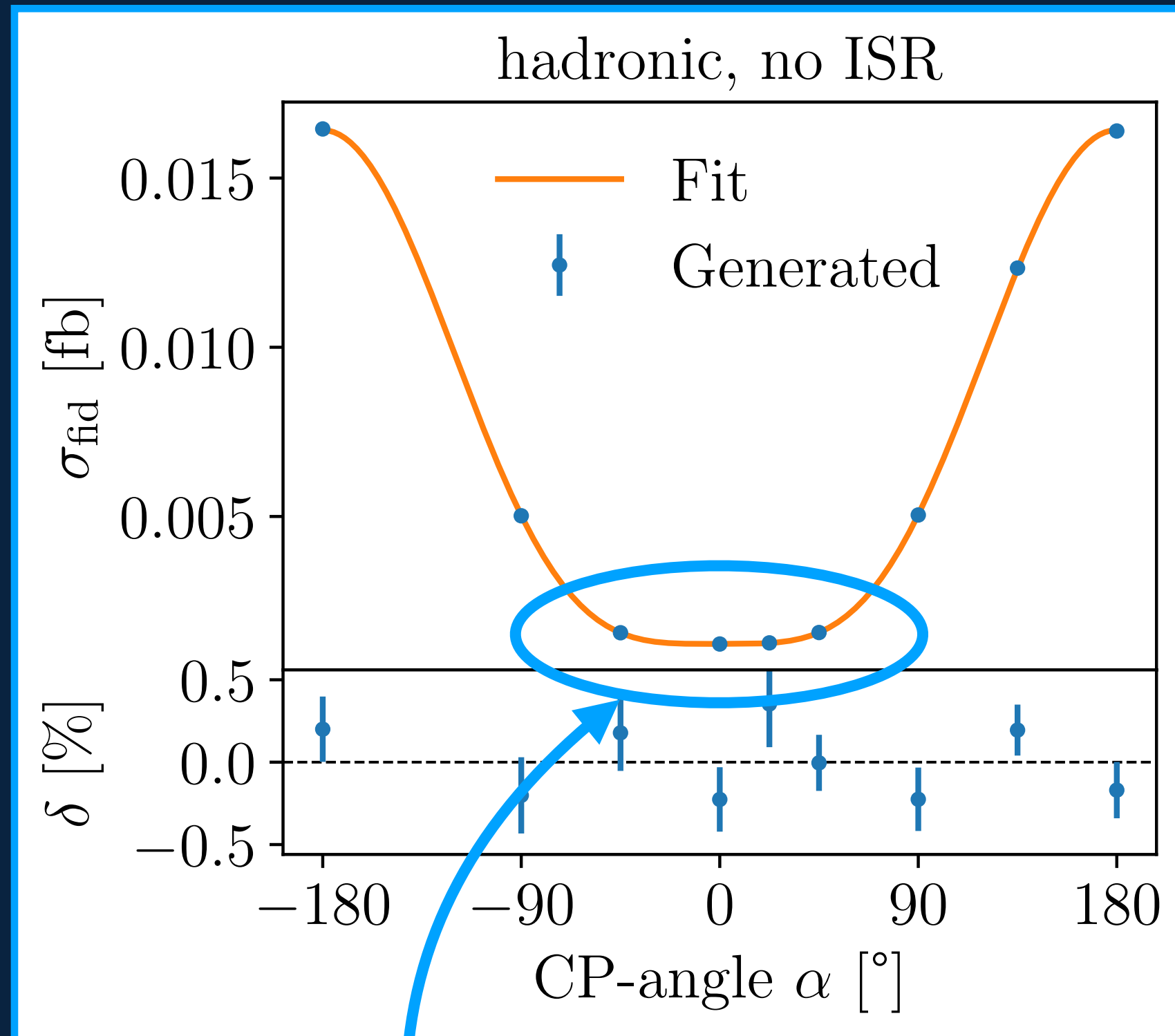
$$\begin{aligned} pp &\rightarrow tHj \\ &\rightarrow (bW) (\gamma\gamma) j \end{aligned}$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{t\bar{t}H} = -\frac{y_t}{\sqrt{2}} \left[ \cos \alpha \bar{t}t + \frac{2}{3} i \sin \alpha \bar{t}\gamma_5 t \right] H$$

Anomalous coupling  
with **CP-angle**  $\alpha$

# Matrix element method

Heidelberg/Louvain [2210.00019, 23XX.xxxxx]



Around SM ( $\alpha = 0$ ):

- ⊖ low total cross section (few events)
- ⊖ low variation of rate
- ⊕ kinematics sensitive

—————> ideal use case for **MEM**

**tHj production:**

$$pp \rightarrow tHj$$

$$\rightarrow (bW) (\gamma\gamma) j$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{t\bar{t}H} = -\frac{y_t}{\sqrt{2}} \left[ \cos \alpha \bar{t}t + \frac{2}{3} i \sin \alpha \bar{t}\gamma_5 t \right] H$$

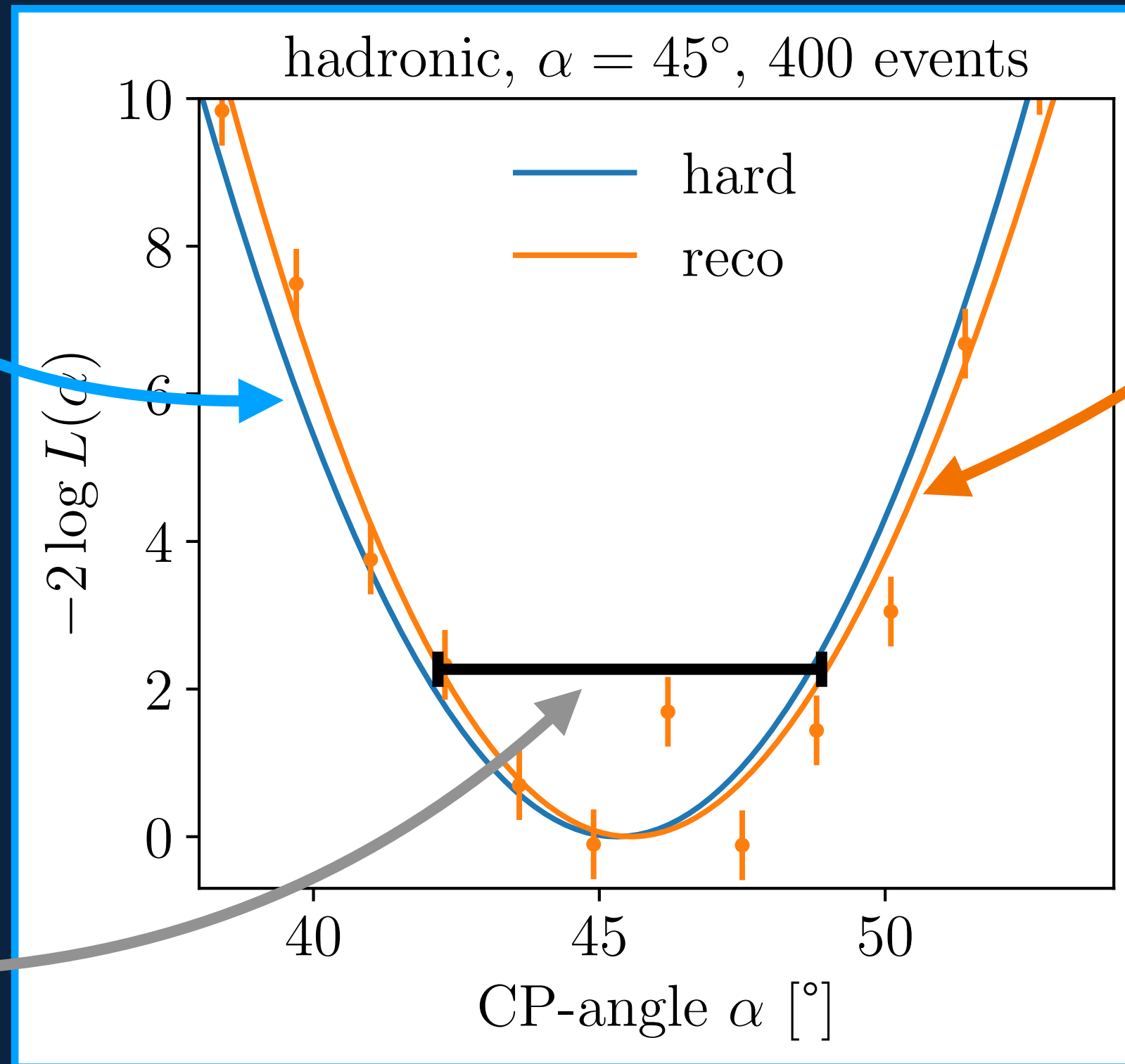
Anomalous coupling  
with **CP-angle**  $\alpha$



# Matrix element method

Hard-scattering truth for comparison

Heidelberg/Louvain [2210.00019, 23XX.xxxxx]



Result from MEM

Statistical uncertainty

tHj production:



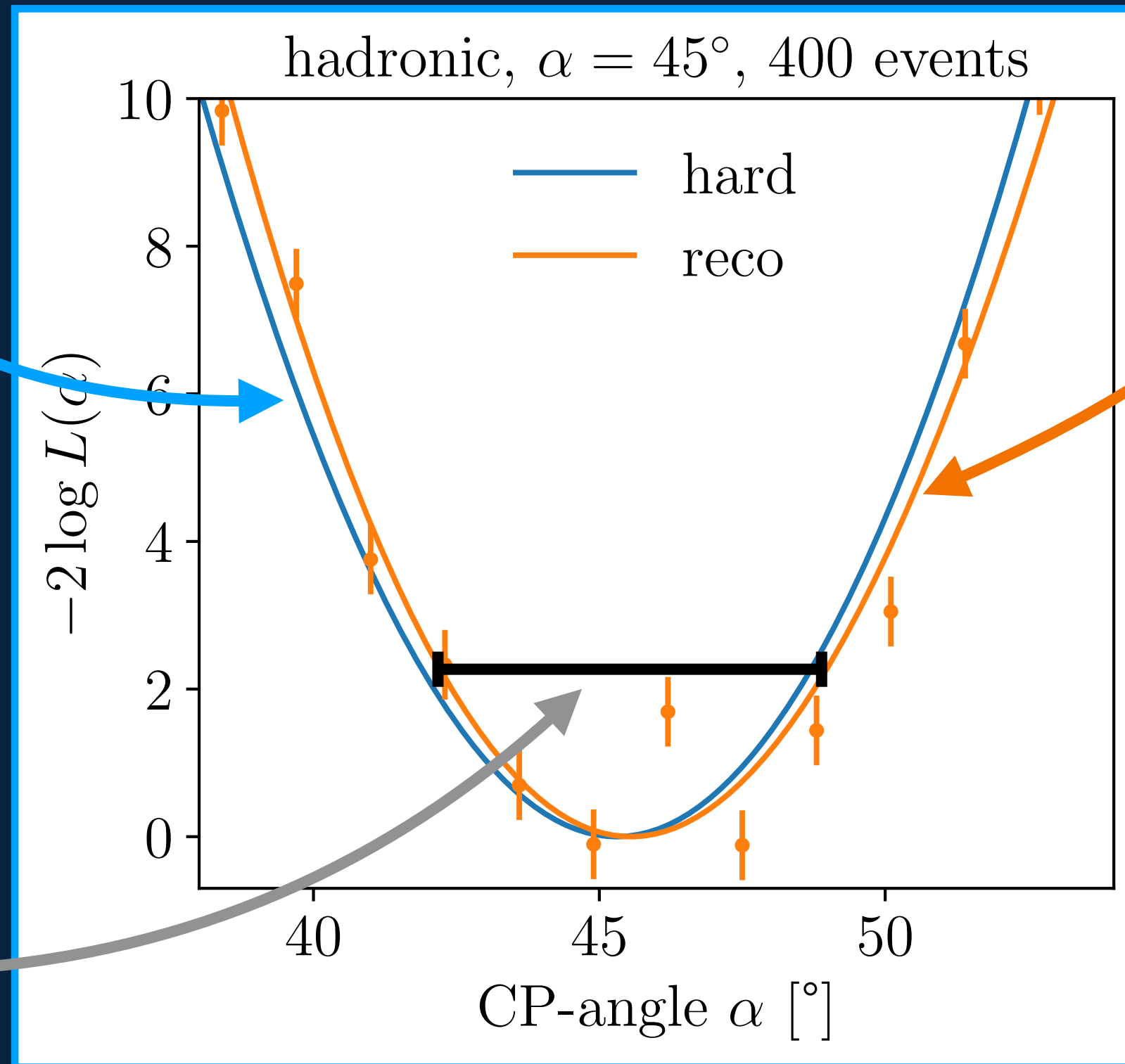
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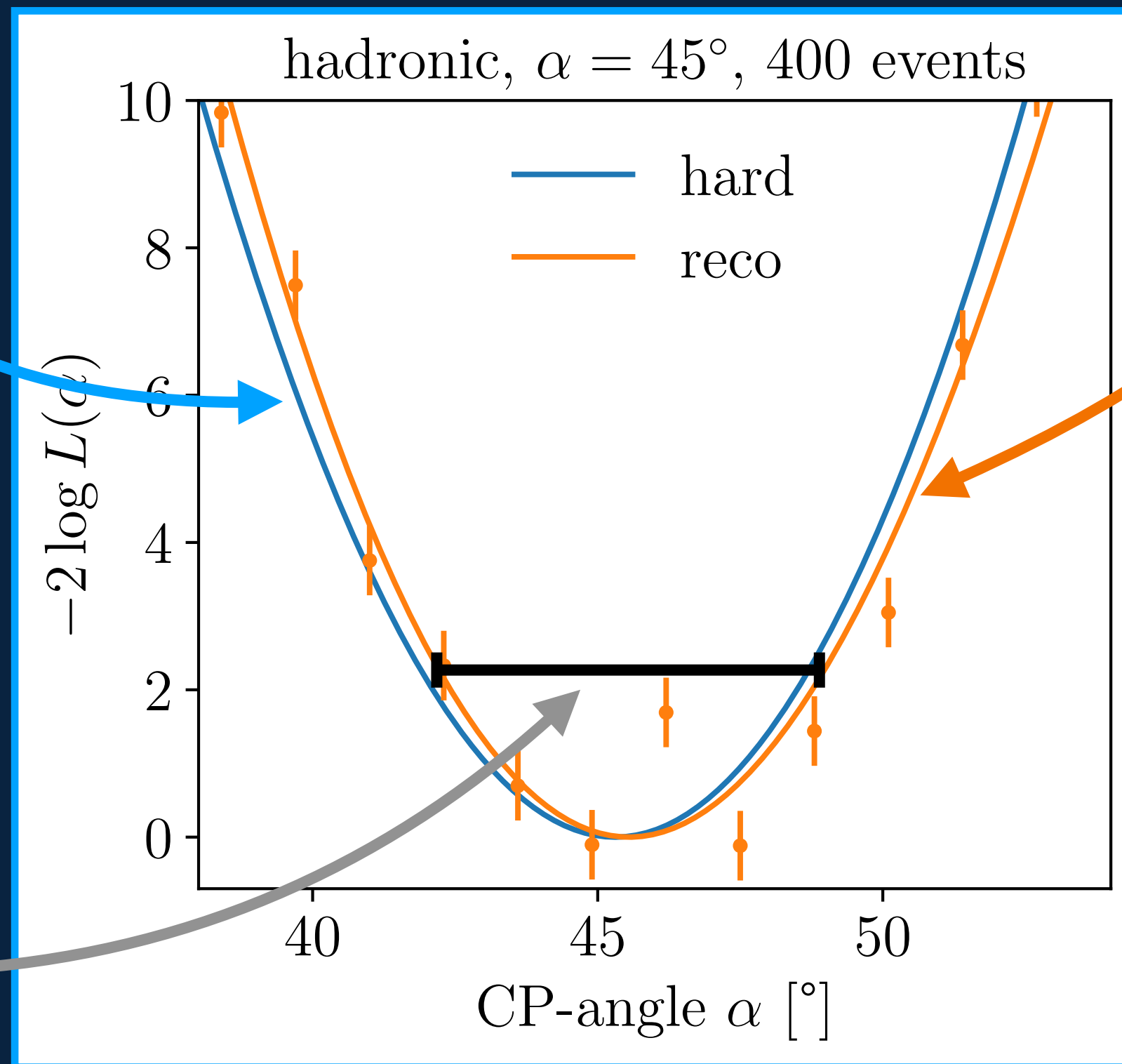
Anomalous coupling with **CP-angle**  $\alpha$

Uncertainties from training of neural network?  
→ Bayesian neural networks

# Matrix element method

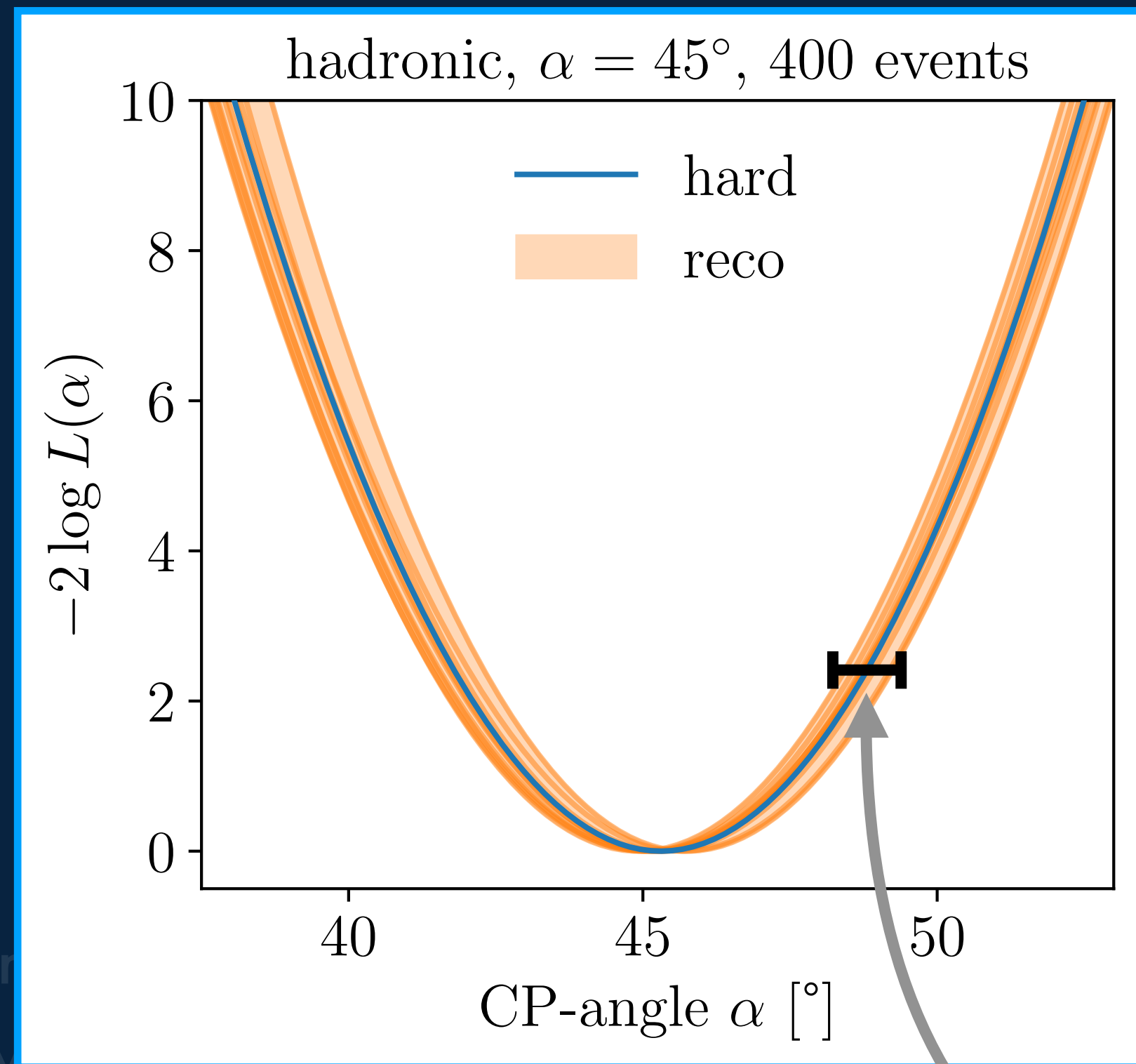
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Result from MEM

Statistical uncertainty



Systematic uncertainty from training

Uncertainties from training of neural network?  
→ Bayesian neural networks

# Summary and Outlook

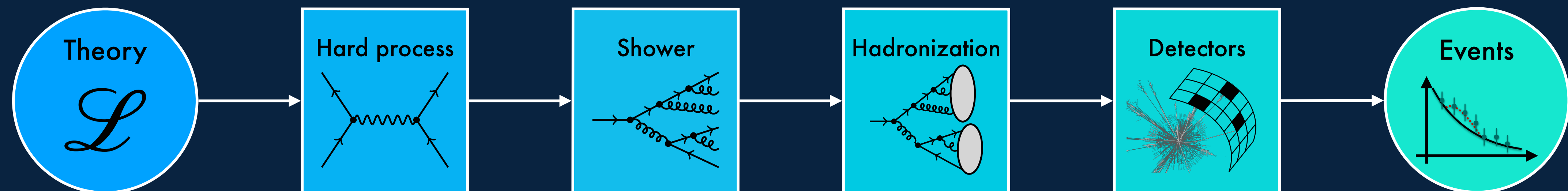


## Take-home message

- **Fast** and **precise** predictions with ML-based simulations
- Normalizing flows provide statistically **well-defined likelihoods** for inference
- Account for **uncertainties** with **Bayesian neural networks**

## Future exercises

- **Full integration** of ML-based simulations into standard tools → **MadGraph**,....
- Make everything run on the **GPU and differentiable** (MadJax - Heinrich et al. [[2203.00057](#)])
- Foster collaboration between **theory** and **experiment**



# Summary and Outlook



SciPost

SciPost Phys. 14, 079 (2023)

## Machine learning and LHC event generation

Anja Butter<sup>1,2</sup>, Tilman Plehn<sup>1</sup>, Steffen Schumann<sup>3</sup>, Simon Badger<sup>4</sup>, Sascha Caron<sup>5,6</sup>, Kyle Cranmer<sup>7,8</sup>, Francesco Armando Di Bello<sup>9</sup>, Etienne Dreyer<sup>10</sup>, Stefano Forte<sup>11</sup>, Sanmay Ganguly<sup>12</sup>, Dorival Gonçalves<sup>13</sup>, Eilam Gross<sup>10</sup>, Theo Heimel<sup>1</sup>, Gudrun Heinrich<sup>14</sup>, Lukas Heinrich<sup>15</sup>, Alexander Held<sup>16</sup>, Stefan Höche<sup>17</sup>, Jessica N. Howard<sup>18</sup>, Philip Ilten<sup>19</sup>, Joshua Isaacson<sup>17</sup>, Timo Janßen<sup>3</sup>, Stephen Jones<sup>20</sup>, Marumi Kado<sup>9,21</sup>, Michael Kagan<sup>22</sup>, Gregor Kasieczka<sup>23</sup>, Felix Kling<sup>24</sup>, Sabine Kraml<sup>25</sup>, Claudius Krauss<sup>26</sup>, Frank Krauss<sup>20</sup>, Kevin Kröniger<sup>27</sup>, Rahool Kumar Barman<sup>13</sup>, Michel Luchmann<sup>1</sup>, Vitaly Magerya<sup>14</sup>, Daniel Maitre<sup>20</sup>, Bogdan Malaescu<sup>2</sup>, Fabio Maltoni<sup>28,29</sup>, Till Martini<sup>30</sup>, Olivier Mattelaer<sup>28</sup>, Benjamin Nachman<sup>31,32</sup>, Sebastian Pitz<sup>1</sup>, Juan Rojo<sup>6,33</sup>, Matthew Schwartz<sup>34</sup>, David Shih<sup>25</sup>, Frank Siegert<sup>35</sup>, Roy Stegeman<sup>11</sup>, Bob Stienen<sup>5</sup>, Jesse Thaler<sup>36</sup>, Rob Verheyen<sup>37</sup>, Daniel Whiteson<sup>18</sup>, Ramon Winterhalder<sup>28</sup>, and Jure Zupan<sup>19</sup>

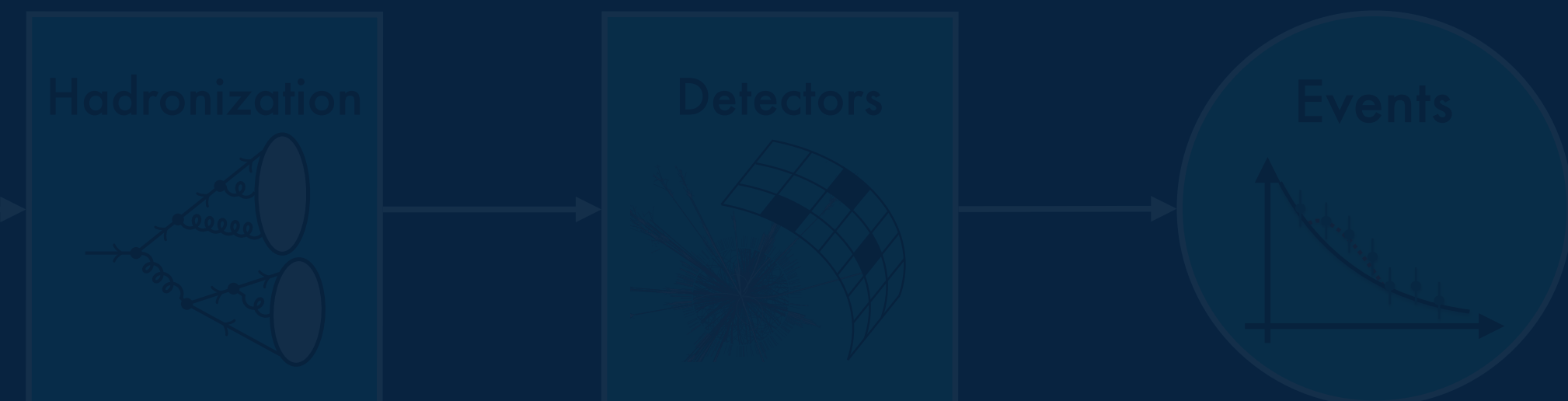
### Abstract

First-principle simulations are at the heart of the high-energy physics research program. They link the vast data output of multi-purpose detectors with fundamental theory predictions and interpretation. This review illustrates a wide range of applications of modern machine learning to event generation and simulation-based inference, including conceptual developments driven by the specific requirements of particle physics. New ideas and tools developed at the interface of particle physics and machine learning will improve the speed and precision of forward simulations, handle the complexity of collision data, and enhance inference as an inverse simulation problem.

collision data and enhance inference as an inverse simulation problem. New ideas and tools developed at the interface of particle physics and machine learning will improve the speed and precision of forward simulations, handle the complexity of collision data, and enhance inference as an inverse simulation problem.

## Future exercises

- **Full integration** of ML-based simulations into standard tools → **MadGraph,....**
- Make everything run on the **GPU and differentiable** (MadJax - Heinrich et al. [[2203.00057](#)])
- Foster collaboration between **theory** and **experiment**
- More details in our **Snowmass report**



# Summary and Outlook

## HEPML-LivingReview

### A Living Review of Machine Learning for Particle Physics

Modern machine learning techniques, including deep learning, is rapidly being applied, adapted, and developed for high energy physics. The goal of this document is to provide a nearly comprehensive list of citations for those developing and applying these approaches to experimental, phenomenological, or theoretical analyses. As a living document, it will be updated as often as possible to incorporate the latest developments. A list of proper (unchanging) reviews can be found within. Papers are grouped into a small set of topics to be as useful as possible. Suggestions are most welcome.

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The purpose of this note is to collect references for modern machine learning as applied to particle physics. A minimal number of categories is chosen in order to be as useful as possible. Note that papers may be referenced in more than one category. The fact that a paper is listed in this document does not endorse or validate its content - that is for the community (and for peer-review) to decide. Furthermore, the classification here is a best attempt and may have flaws - please let us know if (a) we have missed a paper you think should be included, (b) a paper has been misclassified, or (c) a citation for a paper is not correct or if the journal information is now available. In order to be as useful as possible, this document will continue to evolve so please check back before you write your next paper. If you find this review helpful, please consider citing it using `\cite{hepmlivingreview}` in HEPML.bib.

This review was built with the help of the HEP-ML community, the [INSPIRE REST API](#), and the moderators Benjamin Nachman, Matthew Feickert, Claudius Krause, and Ramon Winterhalder.

#### • Reviews

##### ◦ Modern reviews

- [Jet Substructure at the Large Hadron Collider: A Review of Recent Advances in Theory and Machine Learning \[DOI\]](#)
- [Deep Learning and its Application to LHC Physics \[DOI\]](#)
- [Machine Learning in High Energy Physics Community White Paper \[DOI\]](#)
- [Machine learning at the energy and intensity frontiers of particle physics](#)
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- More details in our **Snowmass report**
- Stay tuned for many other **ML4HEP applications**

Hadronization



Detectors



Events

