



SAMPLING NEUTRONS WITH ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

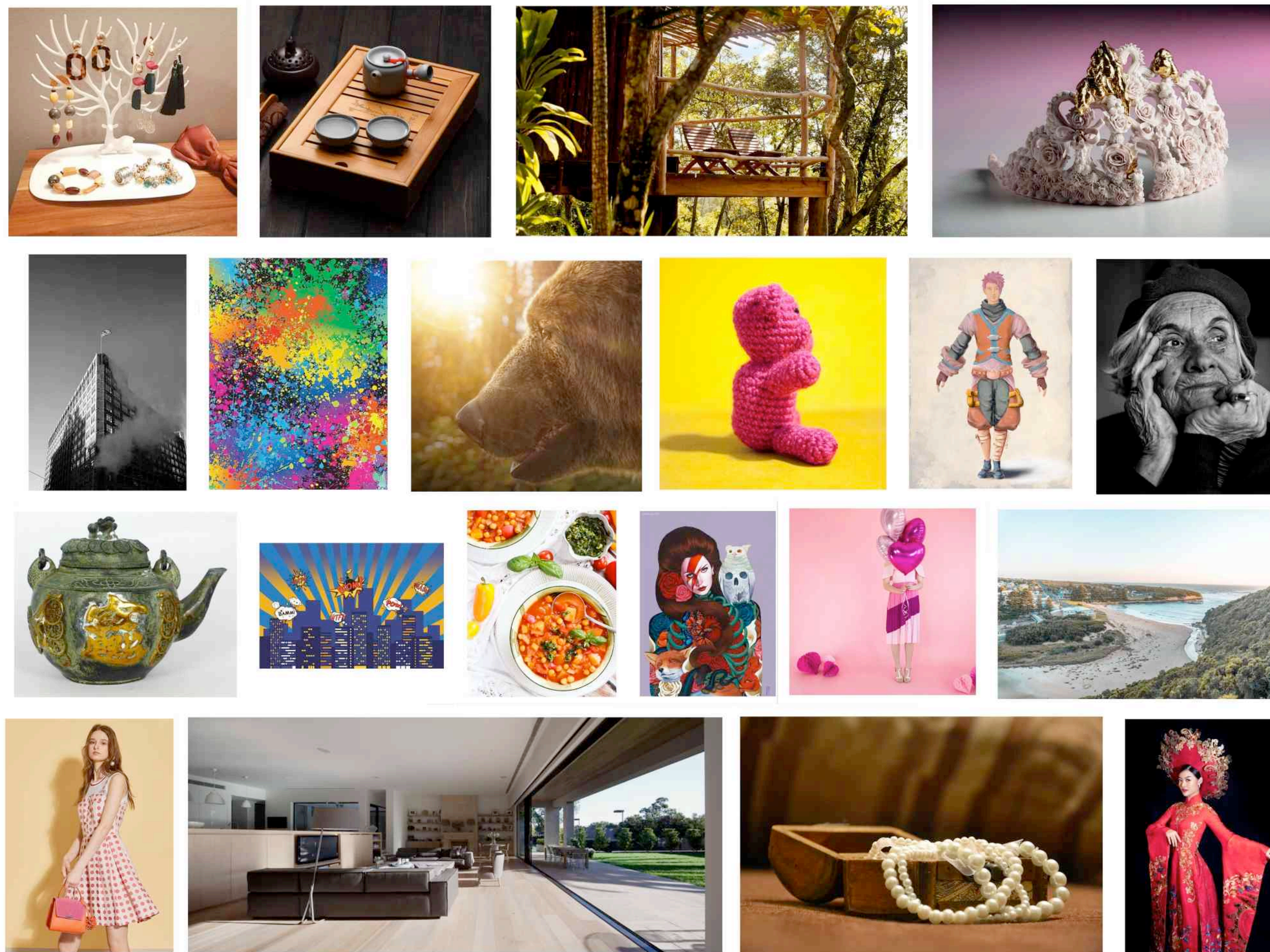
José I. Robledo

Jülich Supercomputing Centre (JSC)

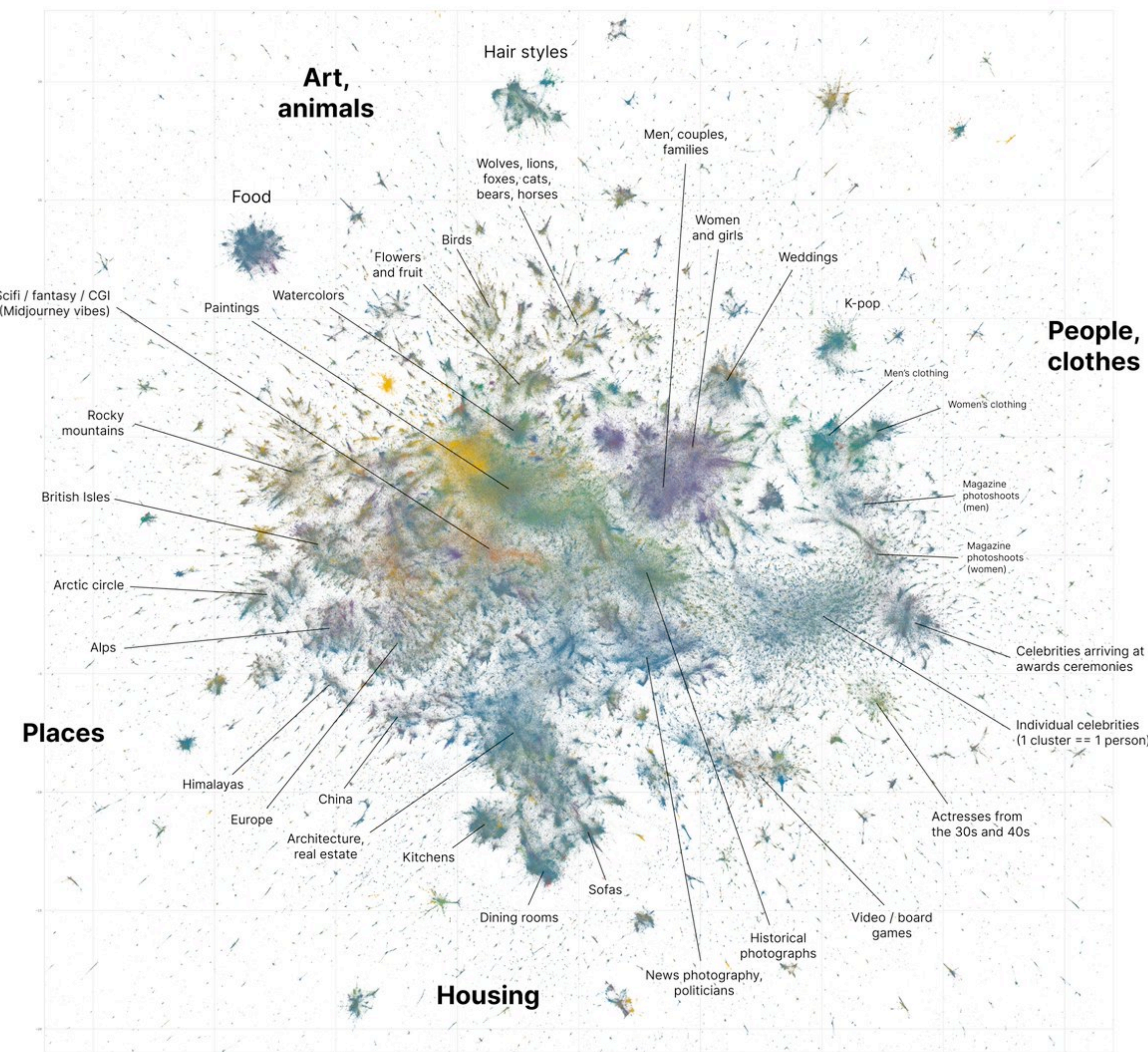
Jülich Centre for Neutron Science (JCNS)

Forschungszentrum Jülich (FZJ)

INTRODUCTION



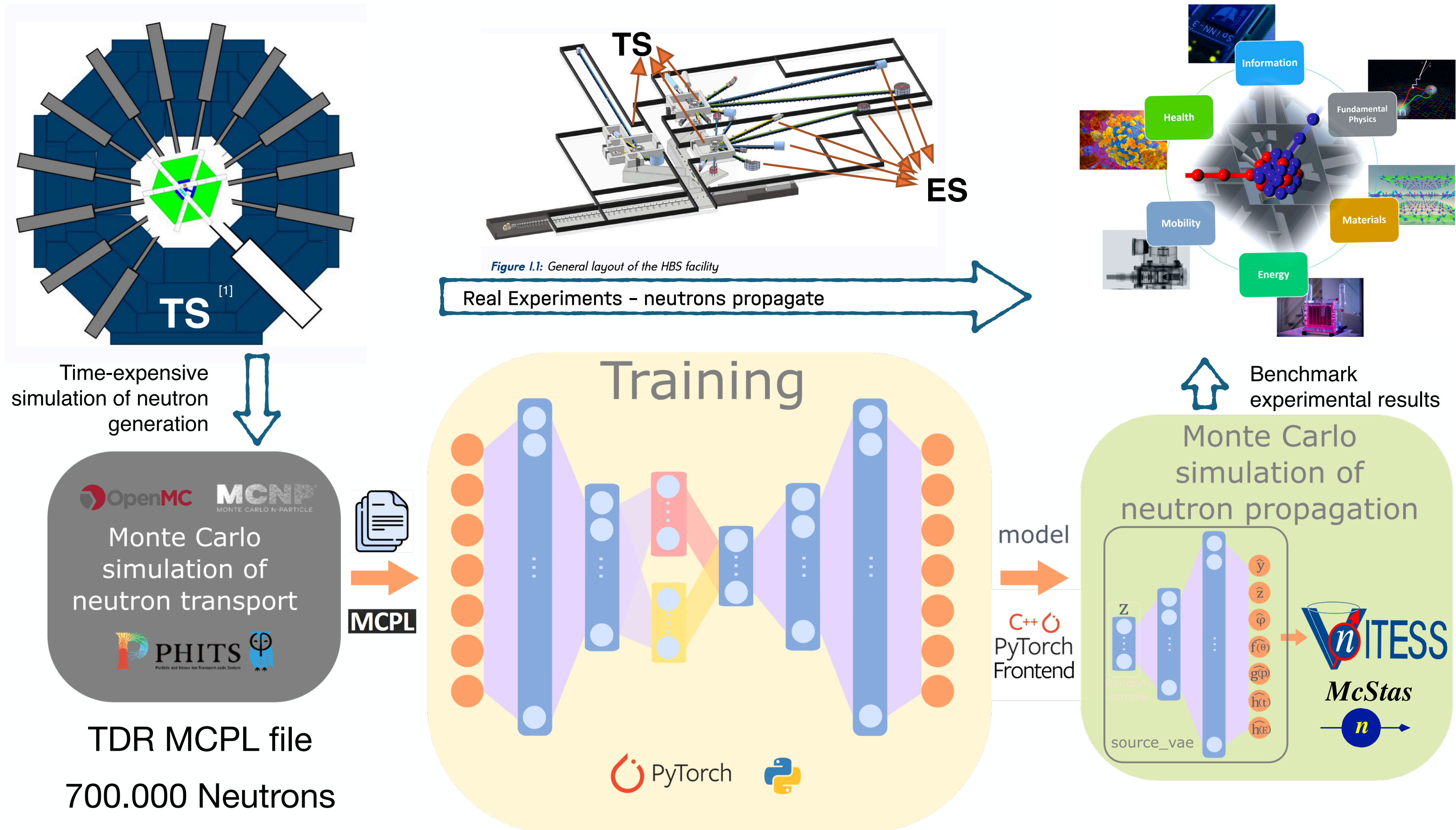
All captions from LAION-Aesthetics with score > 6 (n=12M)
Embedded with CLIP, UMAP to 2d



Why can't we generate neutrons?

<https://laion.ai/blog/laion-pop/>

INTRODUCTION



TRAINING DATA: MCPL FILES



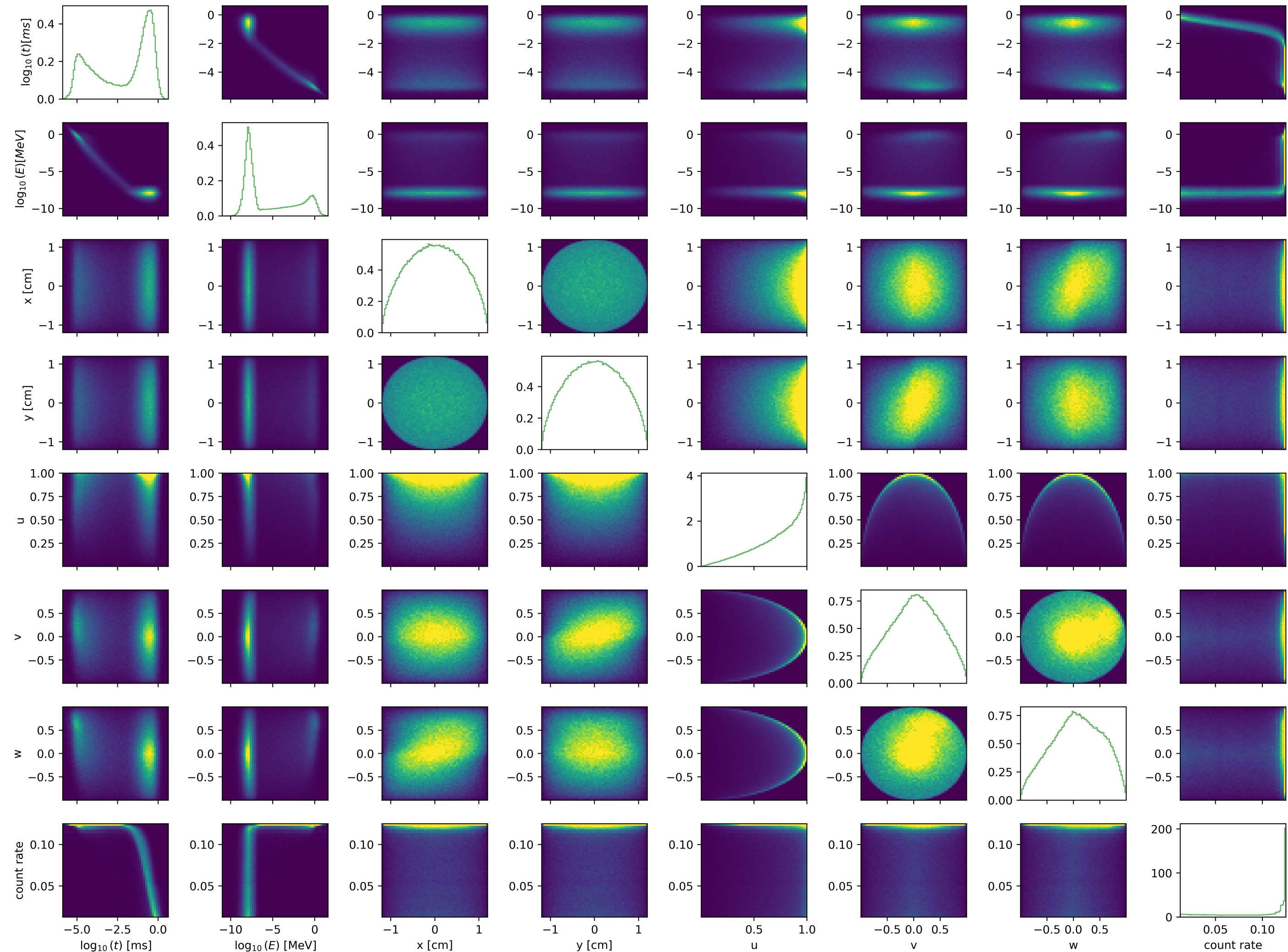
PyTorch DataLoader

Variables

- y [cm] and z [cm]
- u , v , and w
- count rate (weight)
- $\log_{10}(t)$ [ms]
- $\log_{10}(E)$ [MeV]

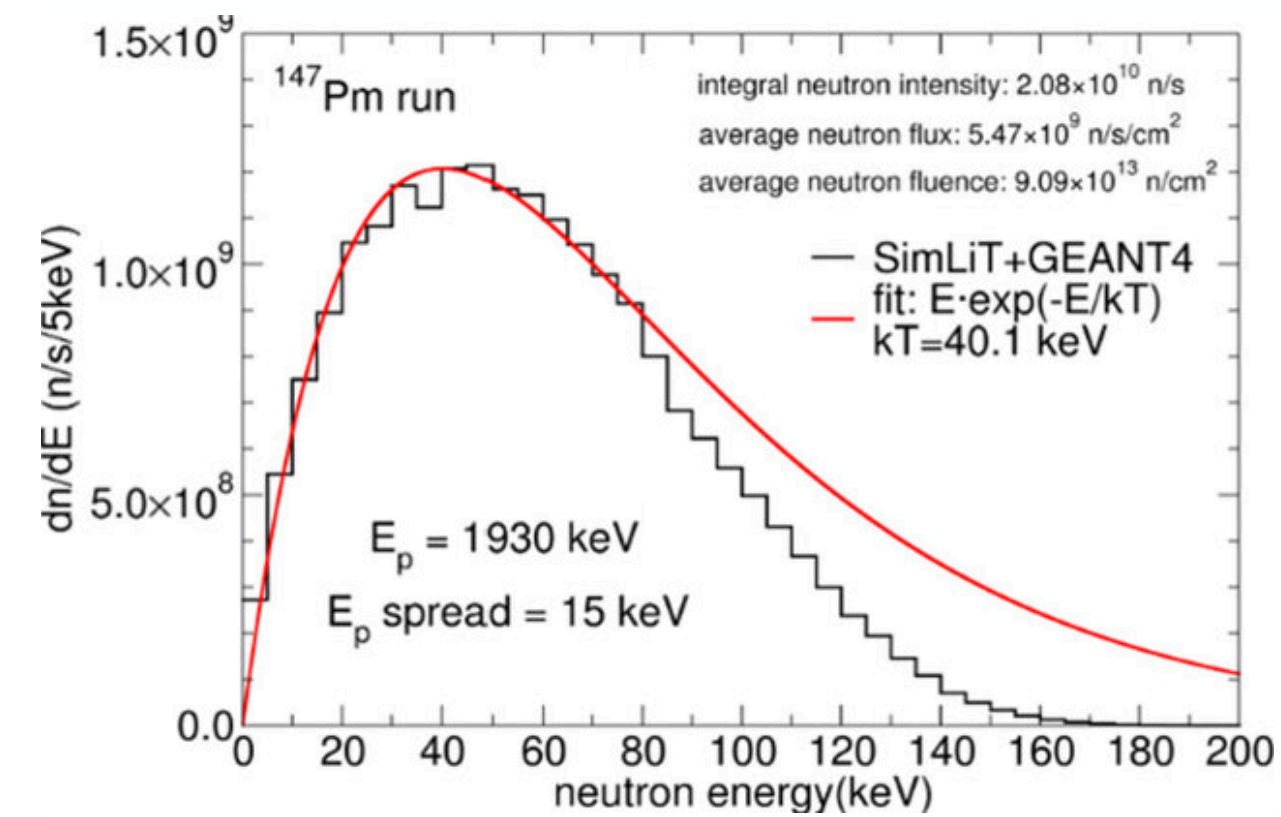
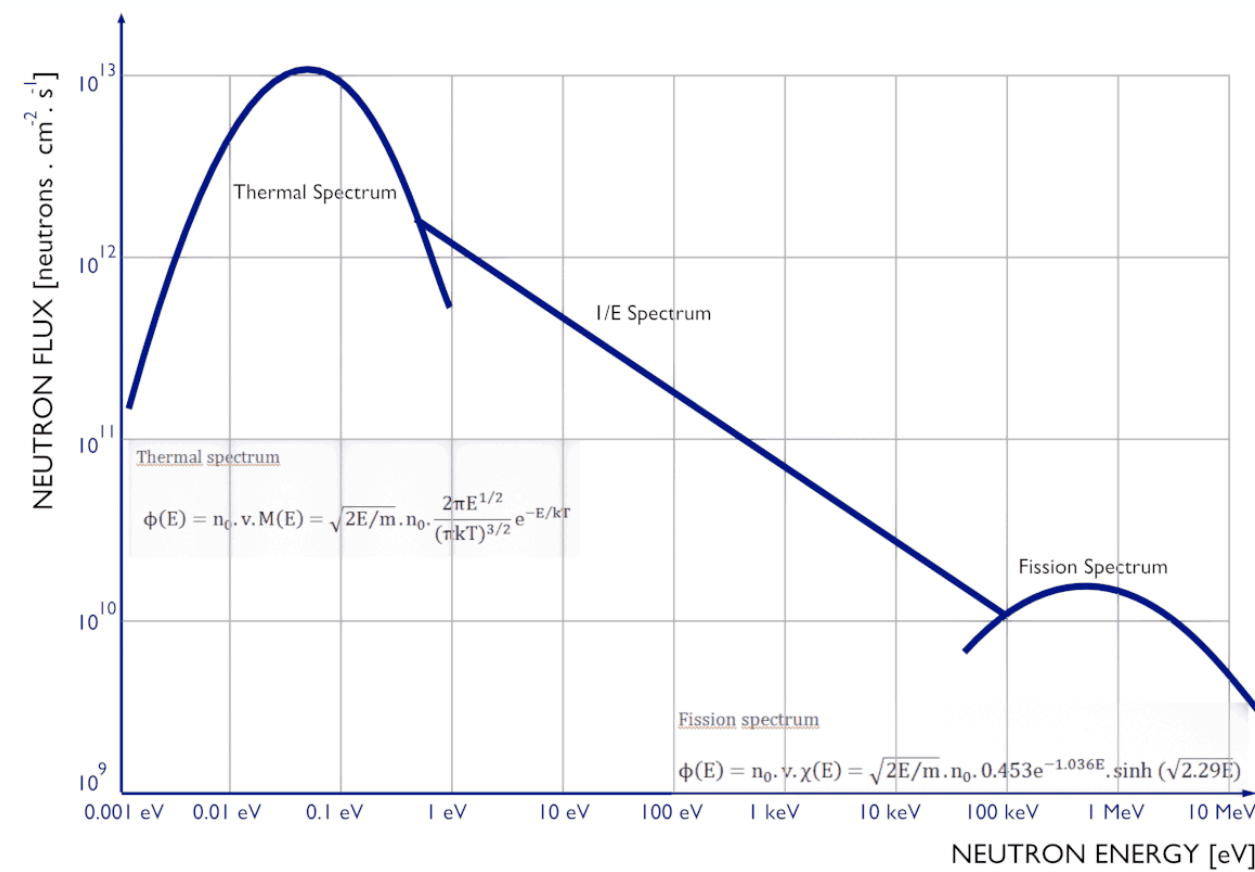
	pos_y	pos_z	u	v	w	count_rate	TOF	E
0	-1.157290	-0.156233	0.974585	-0.203838	-0.092924	0.124997	0.000059	9.301730e-02
1	-0.675784	0.331821	0.534119	-0.218695	0.816633	0.074287	0.157121	8.421972e-08
2	0.598687	-0.840697	0.647142	0.740285	-0.182169	0.074748	0.156539	8.232719e-08
3	0.775426	-0.258992	0.508785	0.752556	0.418089	0.075199	0.156472	1.423273e-07
4	-0.778382	0.114899	0.702195	-0.399447	-0.589376	0.122384	0.007535	5.222545e-08
...
676553	-0.711618	-0.400495	0.916834	-0.103239	-0.385690	0.124989	0.000039	8.381045e-03
676554	-0.052427	0.881021	0.818265	0.572754	-0.048949	0.124998	0.000005	2.565348e-01
676555	-0.042421	0.981967	0.545910	-0.667388	0.506533	0.025299	1.222780	2.869063e-09
676556	0.244454	-0.181313	0.743137	-0.051606	0.667146	0.080170	0.105039	2.322999e-08
676557	-1.063570	-0.350045	0.633484	-0.657062	-0.408617	0.032235	0.657213	6.777769e-09

676558 rows x 8 columns



CURRENT APPROACHES TO SOURCE ESTIMATION

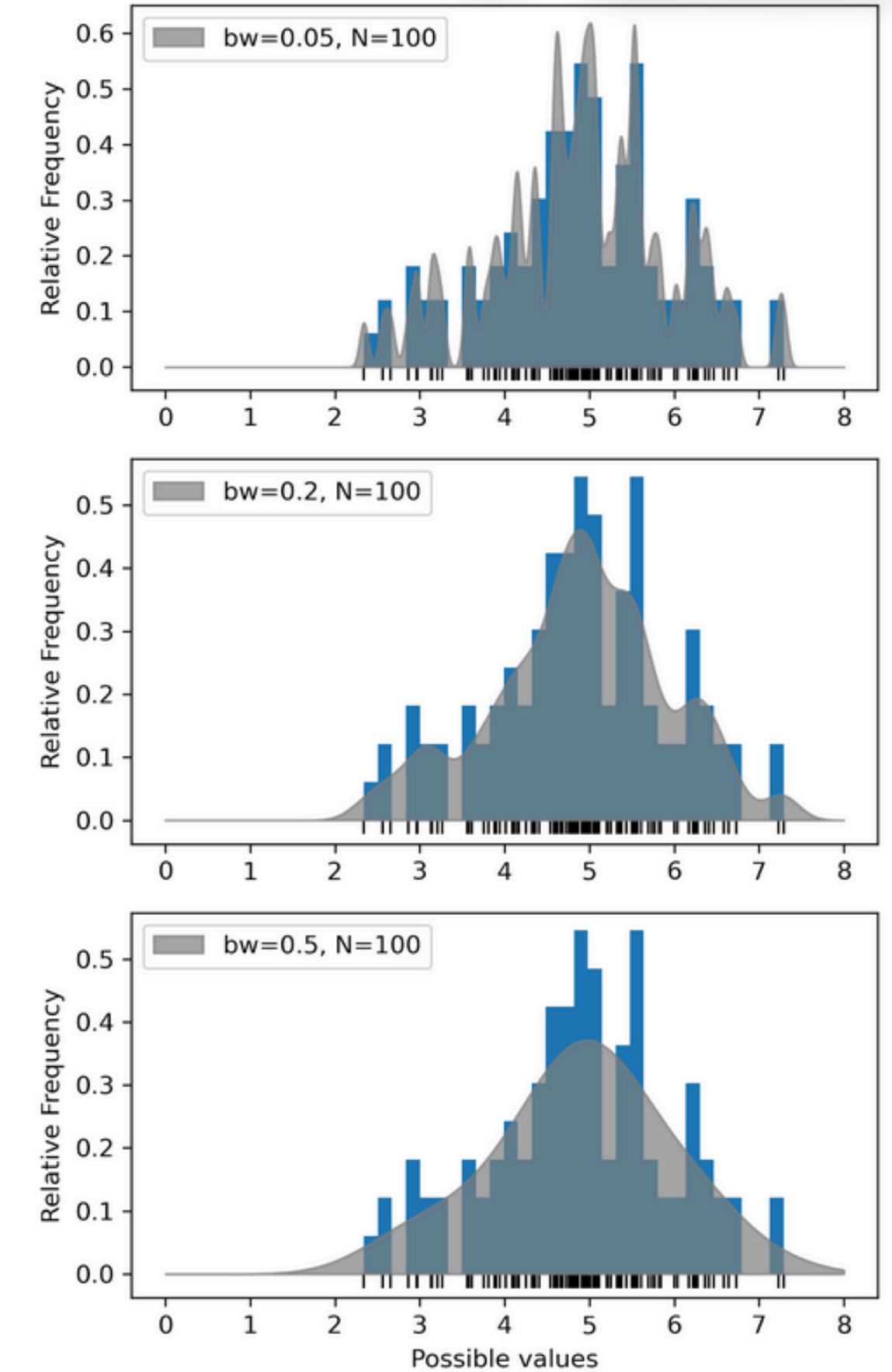
- Analytical approximation based on theory / fitting to observed data



- Kernel Density Estimation

KDSource

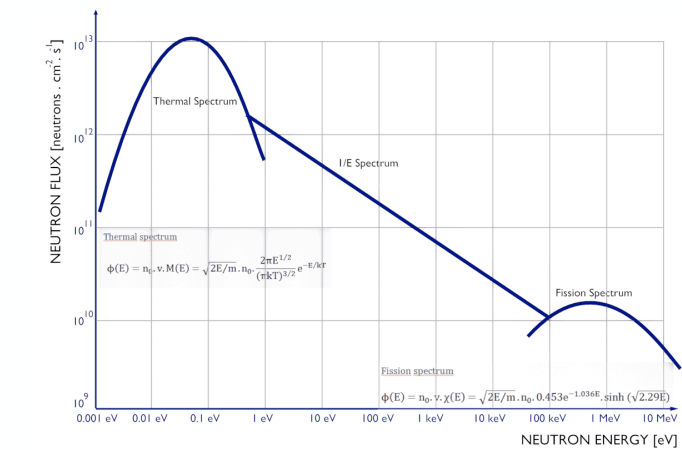
$$\hat{f}(\mathbf{x}) = \hat{f}(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_D) = \sum_{i=1}^N w_i \left\{ \prod_{j=1}^D \frac{1}{h} K\left(\frac{x_j - (\tilde{p}_i)_j}{h}\right) \right\}$$



Schmidt, N. S. et al. (2022), KDSource, a tool for the generation of Monte Carlo particle sources using kernel density estimation. *Annals of nuclear energy*, 177, 109309.

PROS & CONS

- Analytical approximation based on theory / fitting to observed data
 - Reliable when assumptions are adequate (Theoretical foundation)
 - It is an approximation and assumptions are needed
 - simple and fast for sampling
 - lack features specific to individual cases
 - Fitting parameters are characteristic of the distribution (interpretability)
- Kernel Density Estimation
 - Non-parametric approach, making it adaptable (flexibility)
 - Although, hyper-parameter: Bandwidth and kernel
 - Data-driven, potentially providing a better representation of the distribution
 - Computational cost for high dimensional spaces
 - Fast sampling
 - Data dependency for sampling



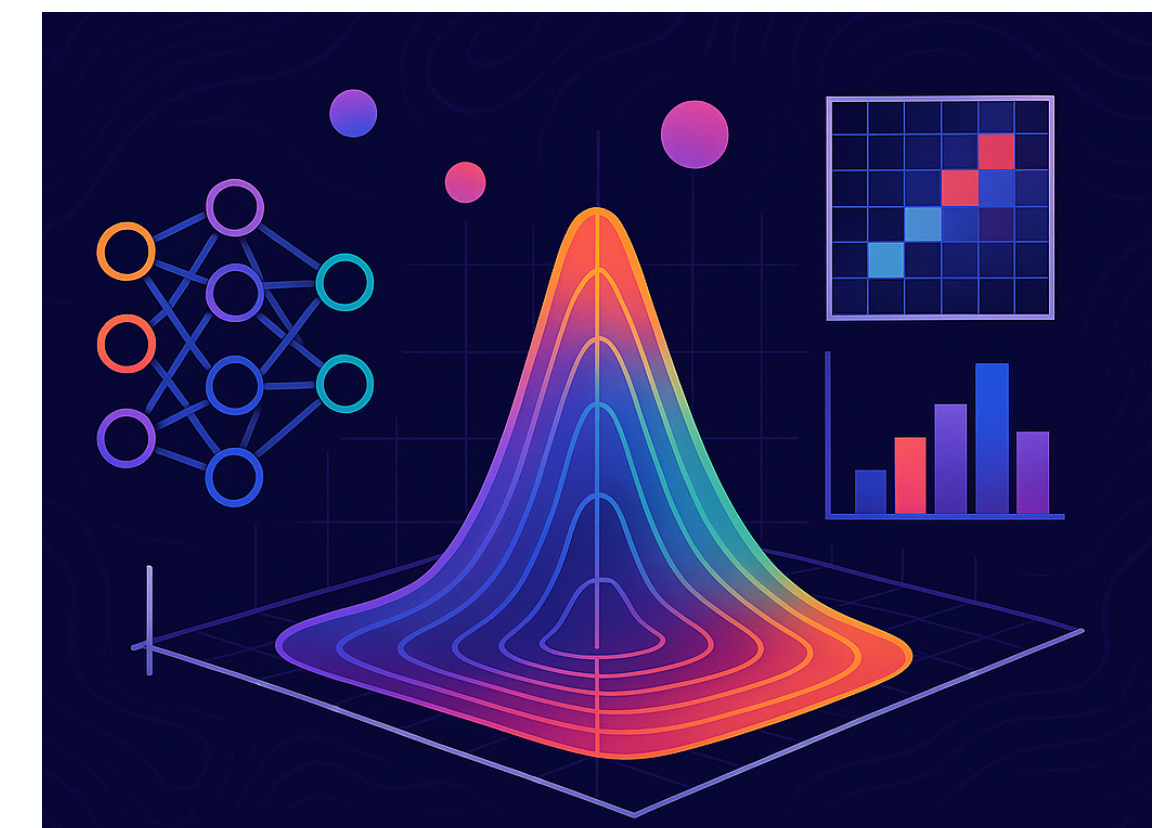
KDSource

GENERATIVE MODELS

- **Objective:** Learn the underlying patterns and distributions of a dataset and generate new data points that resemble the original

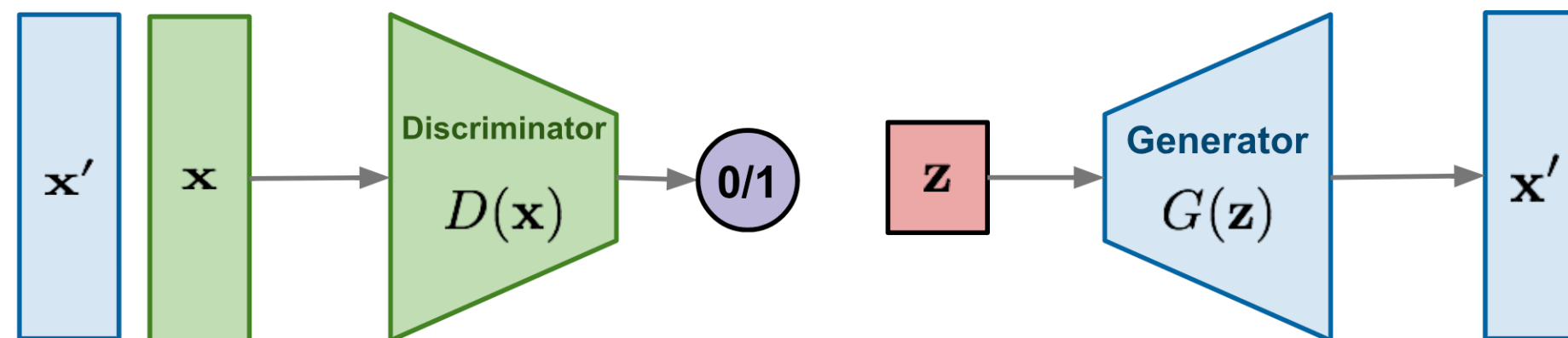
We can use generative models to learn the multivariate phase-space distribution of neutrons from a Monte Carlo Particle List (MCPL file)

- *Easy to generate new neutrons to propagate inside tracing software.*
- *capable of learning and generating data with complex patterns and structures between phase-space variables! (High fidelity and realism)*
- *Not limited to specific types of data (Flexibility)*
- *Once trained, no need to keep the original dataset used to train it.*
- *High-computational cost for training*
- *Large datasets*
- *Lack of interpretability*
- *Depending on model size, slow for sampling*

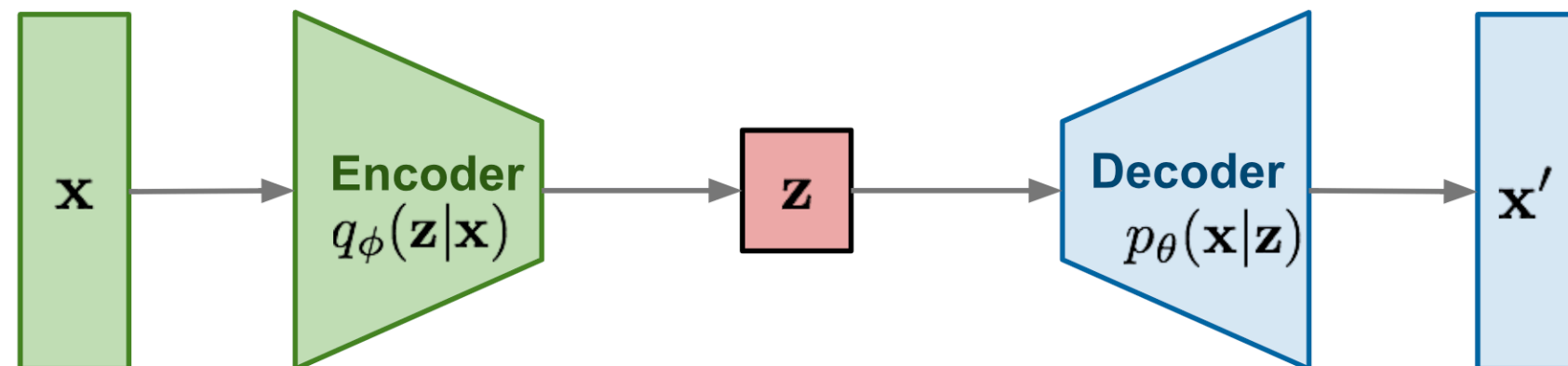


GENERATIVE MODELS

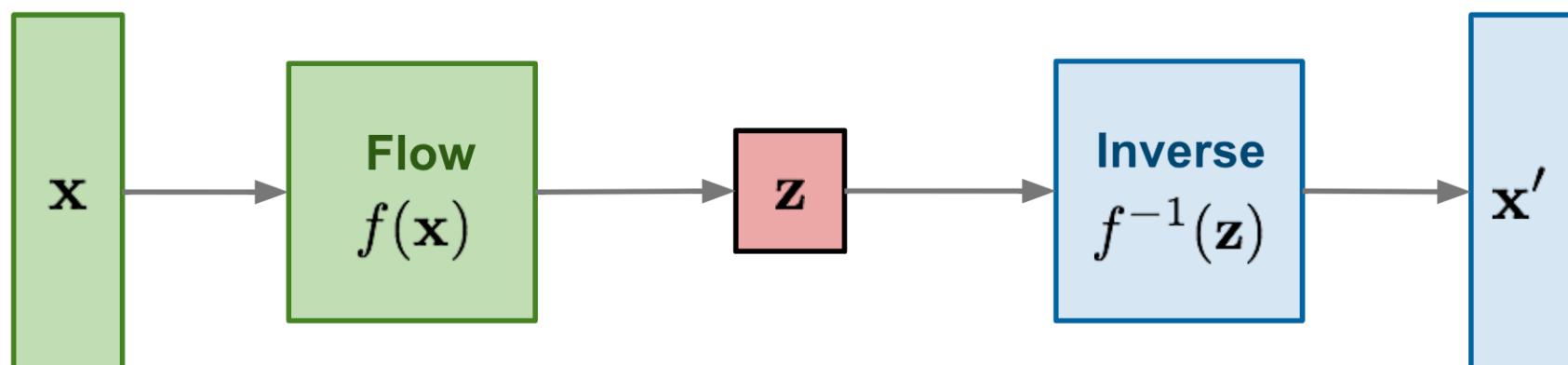
GAN: minimax the classification error loss.



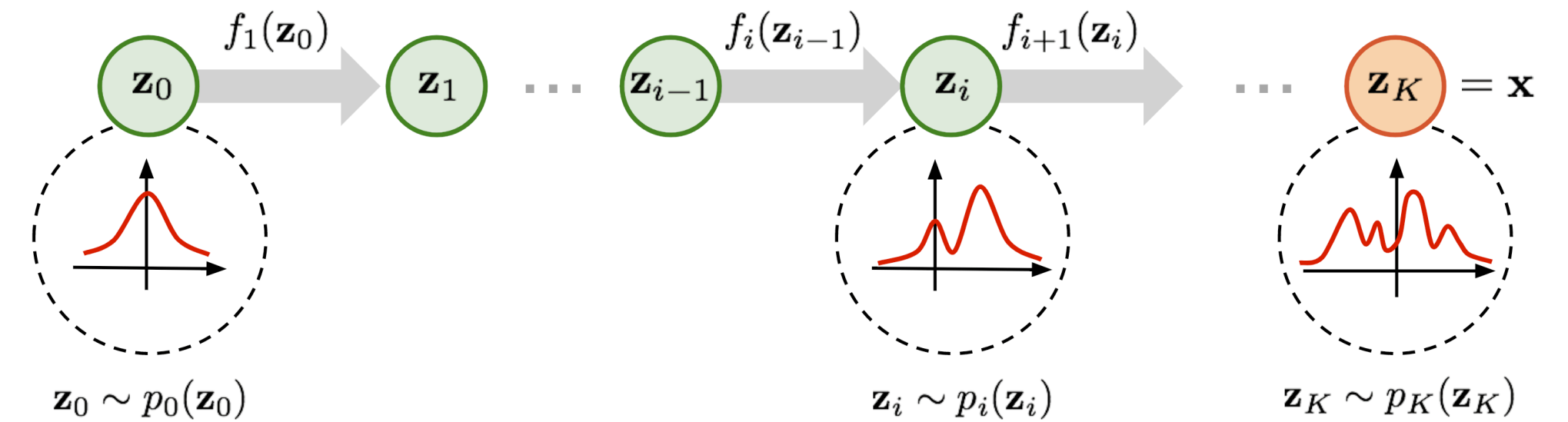
VAE: maximize ELBO.



Flow-based generative models: minimize the negative log-likelihood



Normalizing Flows



$$p_x(x) = p_z(z) \left| \frac{dz}{dx} \right|$$

Inference

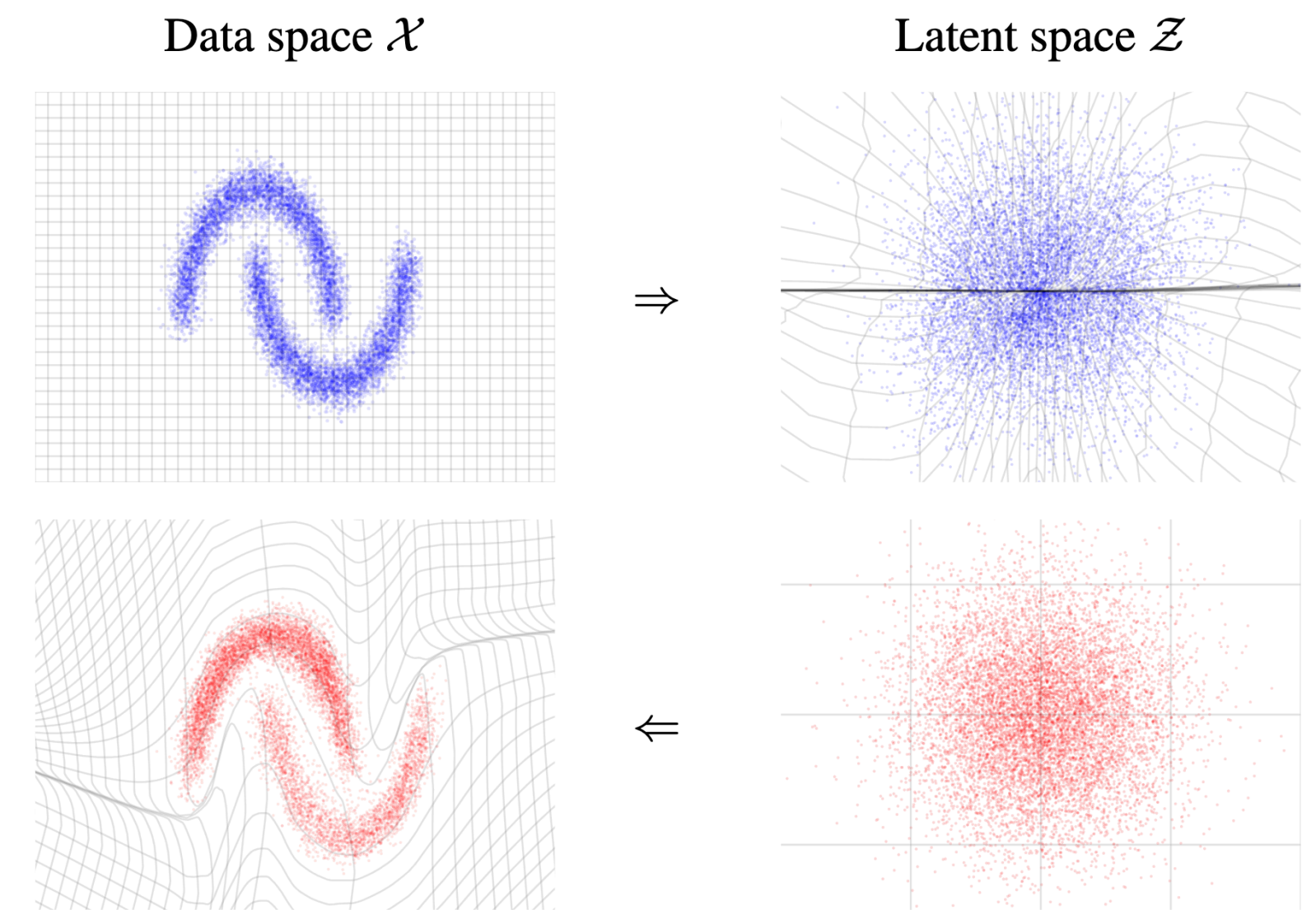
$$x \sim \hat{p}_X$$

$$z = f(x)$$

Generation

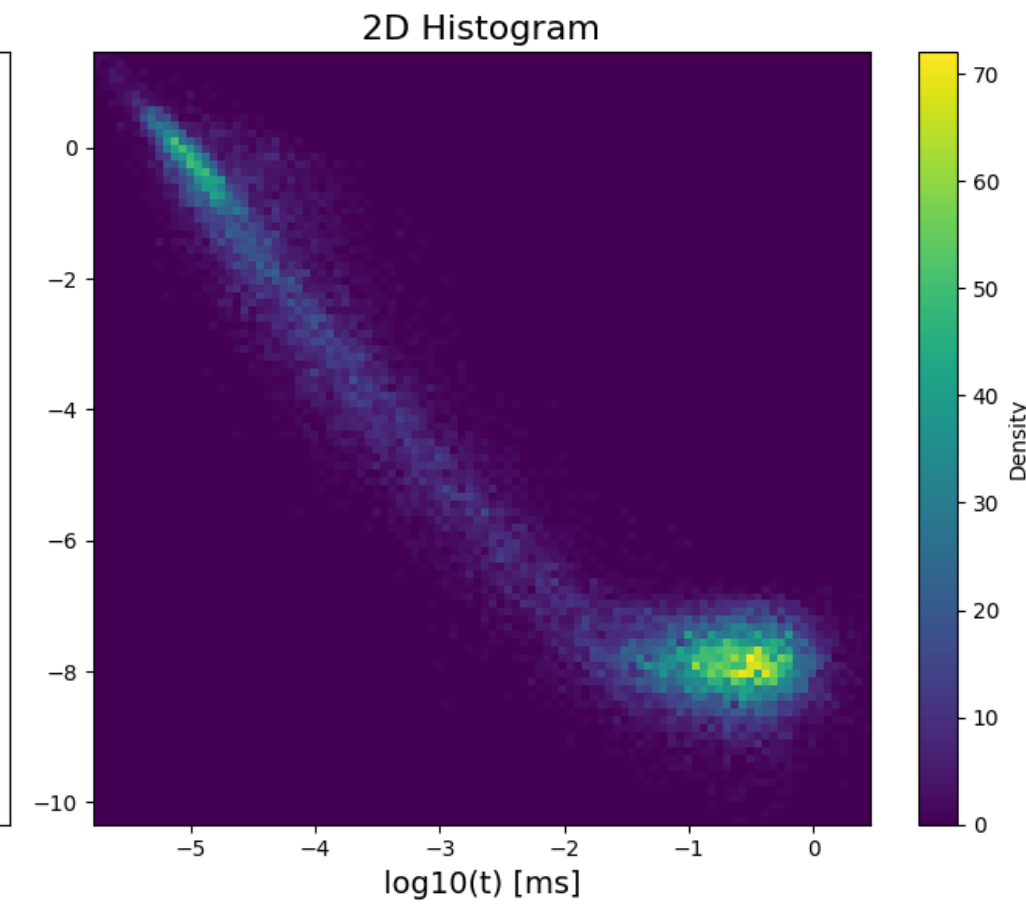
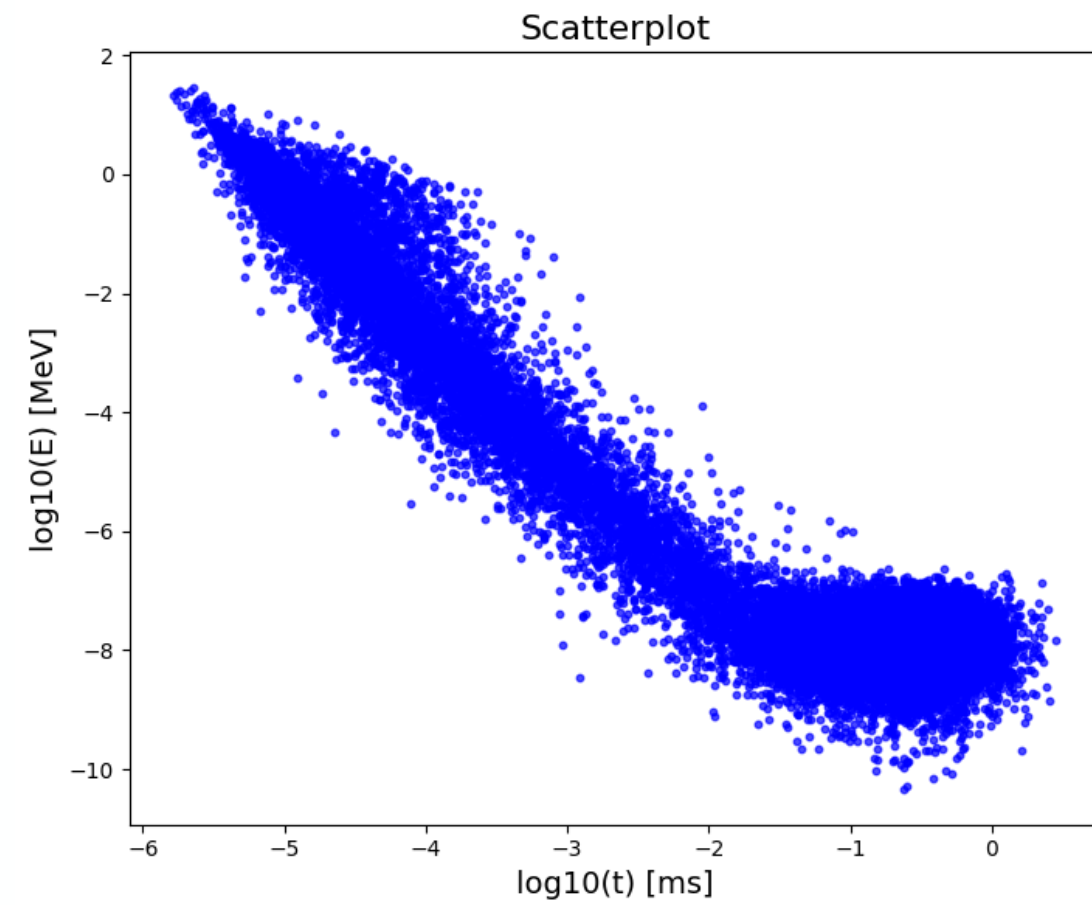
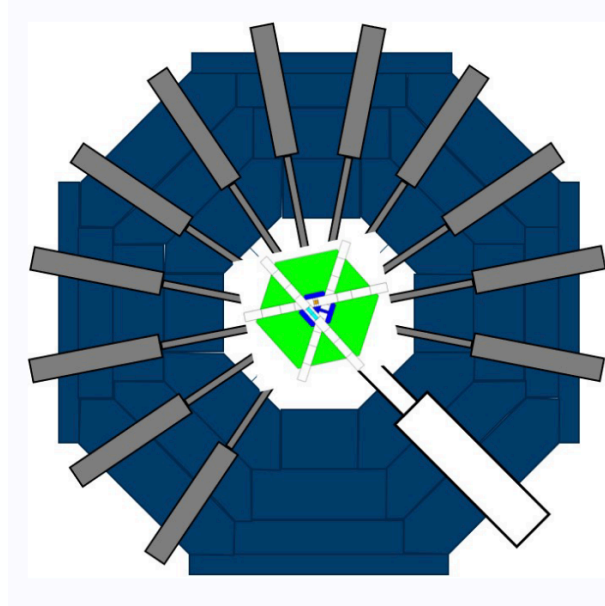
$$z \sim p_Z$$

$$x = f^{-1}(z)$$

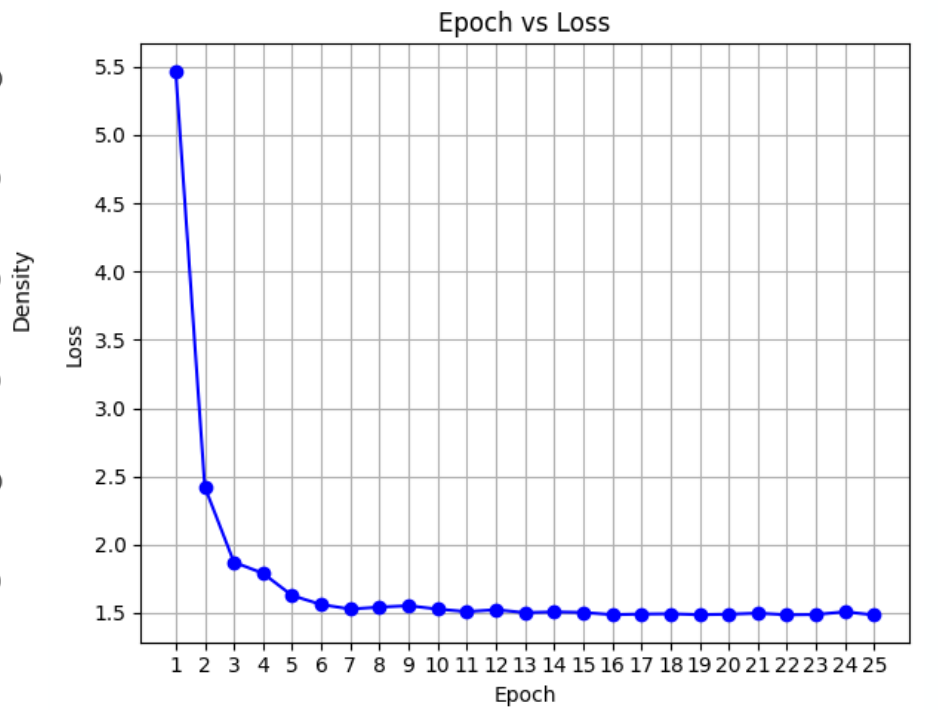
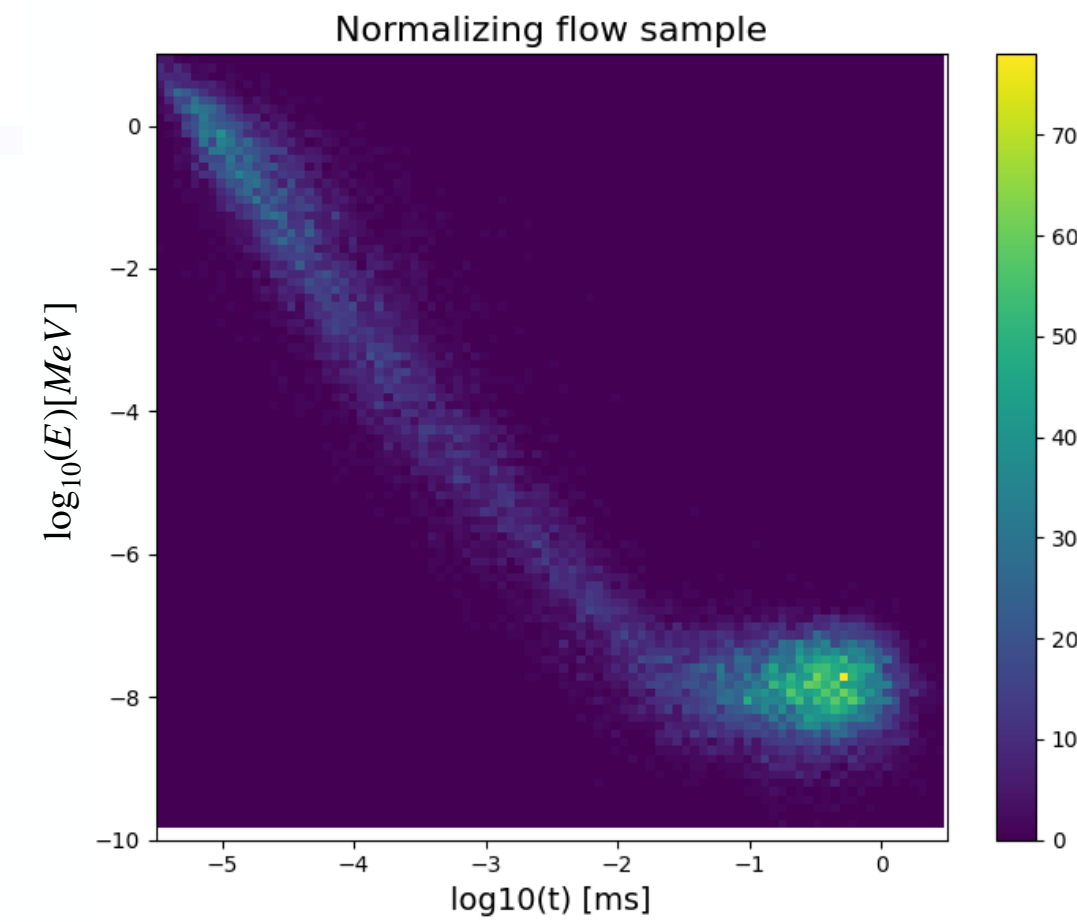


TOY EXAMPLE ON 2D

20.000 neutrons, only time and energy



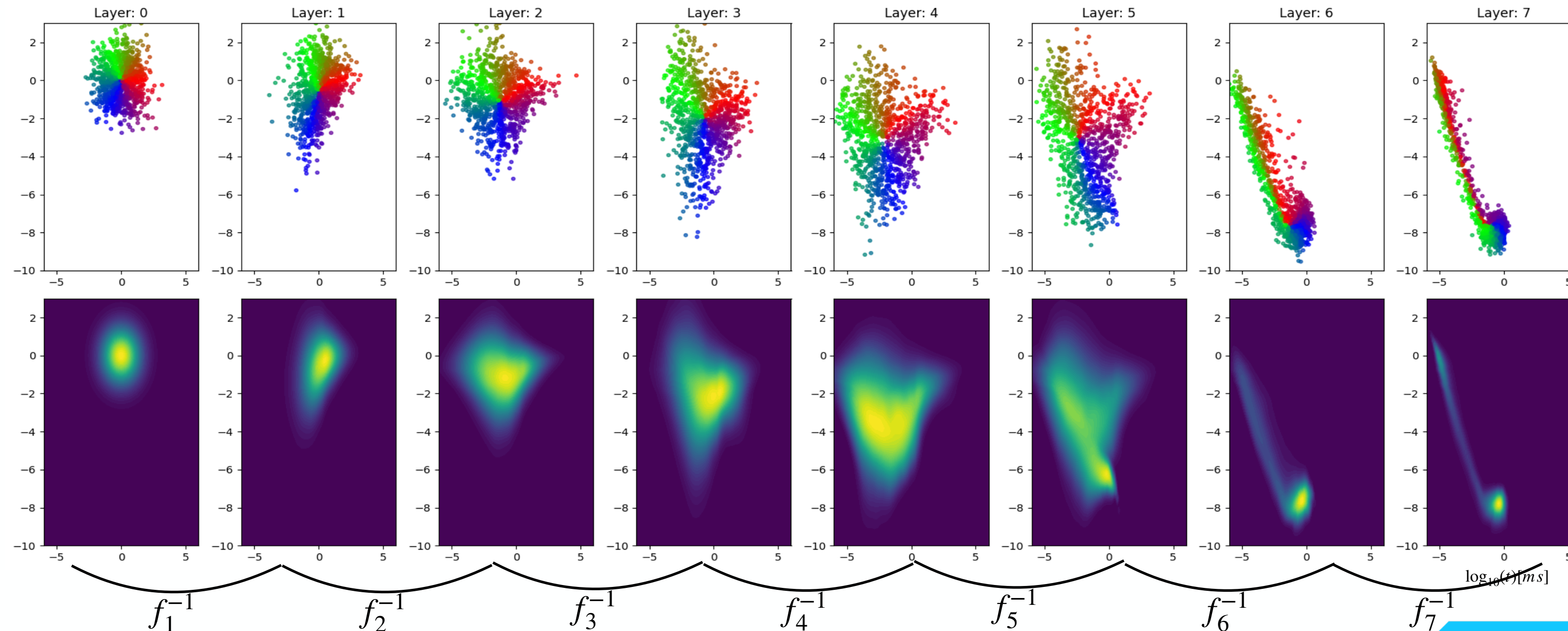
After 25 epochs
➔
Sampling 20000



Invertible transformations

2D Normal distribution

Easy to sample



Artificial sample

VITESS

New source_AI module



C++ Frontend

Model needs to be jit
compiled

Xcontrol /Users/robledo/Documents/hai/hai_gen_neutron

File Edit Plot Configure Tools Options Help

Instrument: test_nflow VITESS Version 3.7 Click parameter names for help!

Check Dryrun Start Visualization Stop Kill

Input file Browse BrowseN

output file no_file Browse BrowseN

parameter directory /Users/robledo/Documents/hai/hai_gen_neutron Browse NewDir Save

random seed 1 random number ran3 minimal weight 1.0e-25 gravity on helper threads 0

1 source_ai 1

2 mon1_energy 2

3 writeout 3

4 guide 4

5 detector 5

6 mon1_energy 6

7 mon2_pos 7

8 writeout 8

9 --inactive-- 9

Module 1 source_ai

Variational Autoencoder Source - Experimental

Model file nflow_coupling_model.pt Browse BrowseN Edit

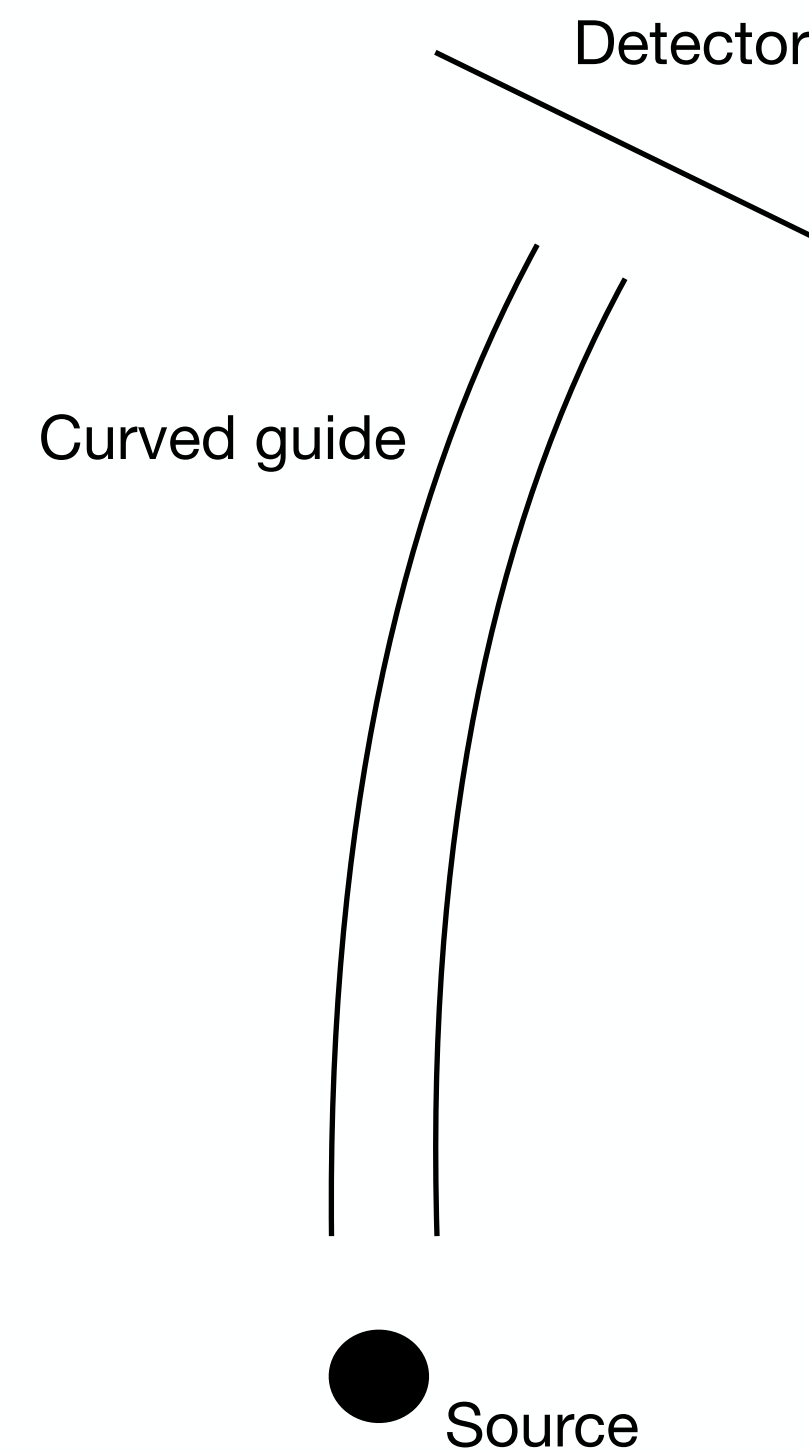
Number of neutrons 67656 Bunches 10

Model type nflow

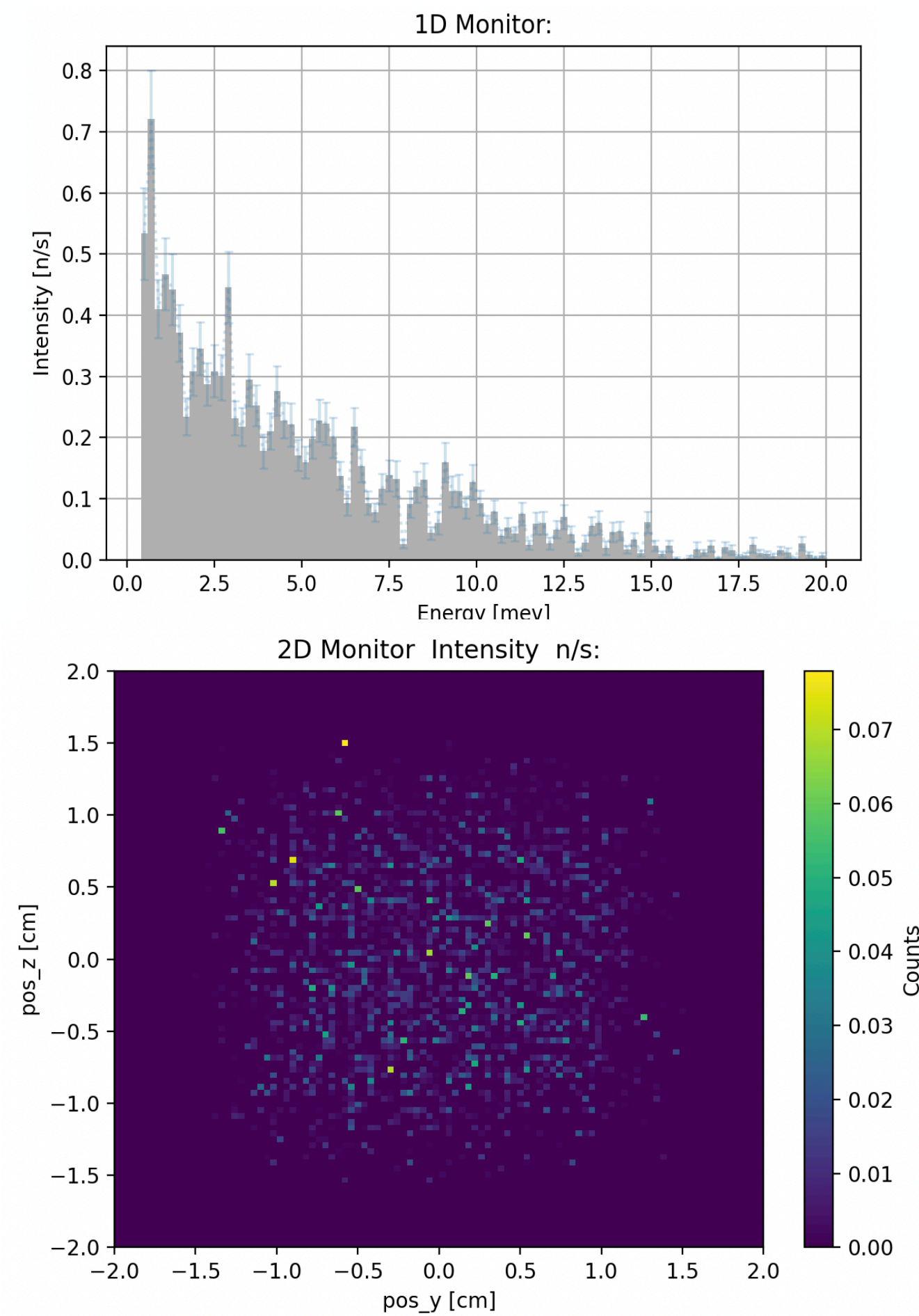
Maximize Clear Save

default parameter file directory has been set to /Users/robledo/Documents/hai/hai_gen_neutron
--- !dubious input in test_nflow.gui ignored (gSet rA {}) ---

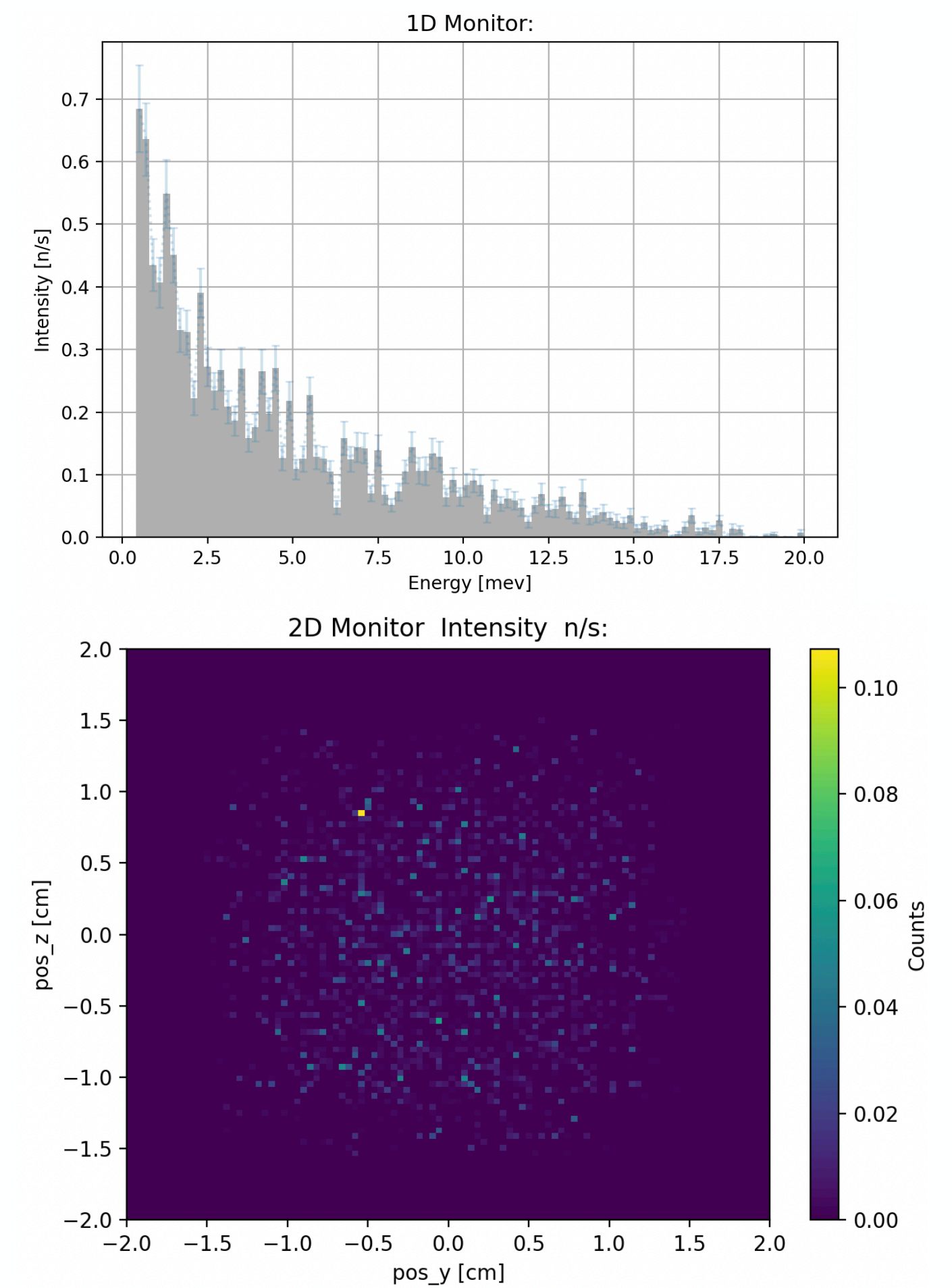
SAMPLING ON VITESS



mcpl



NFlow



MCSTAS

```
import np2mcpl

# Load model
model = torch.load("nflows_model.model", map_location=torch.device('cpu'), weights_only=False)

# sample model
samples = model.sample(int(1e7))

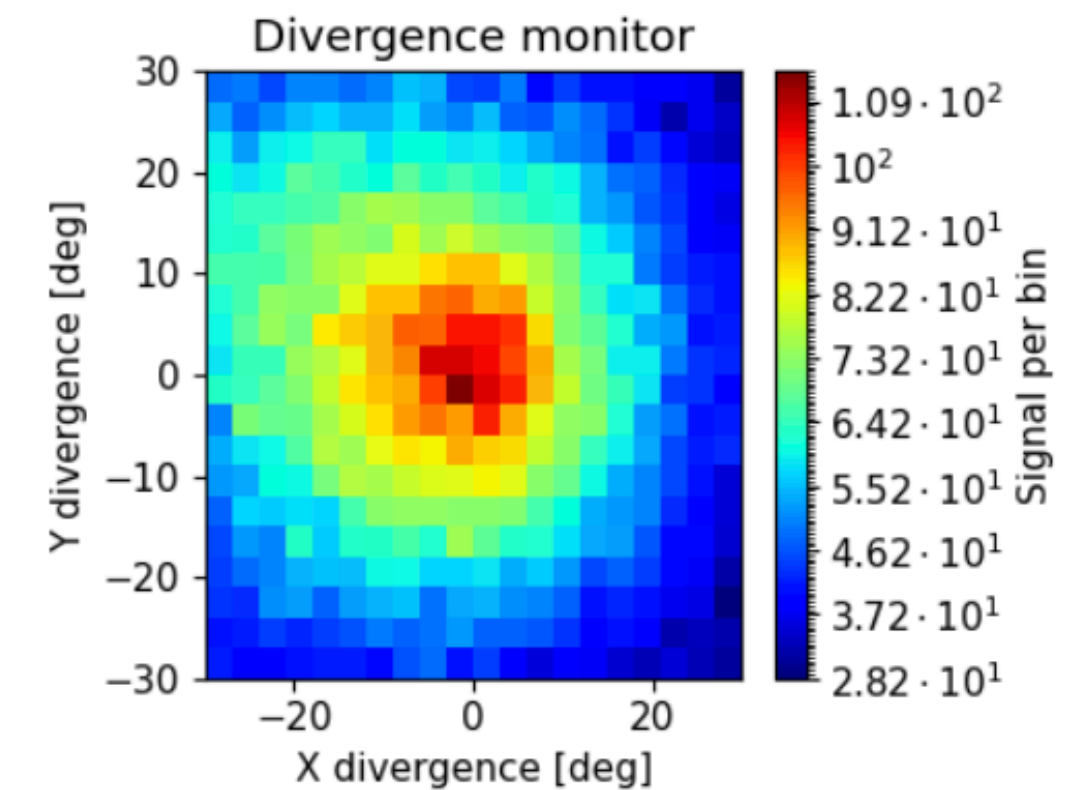
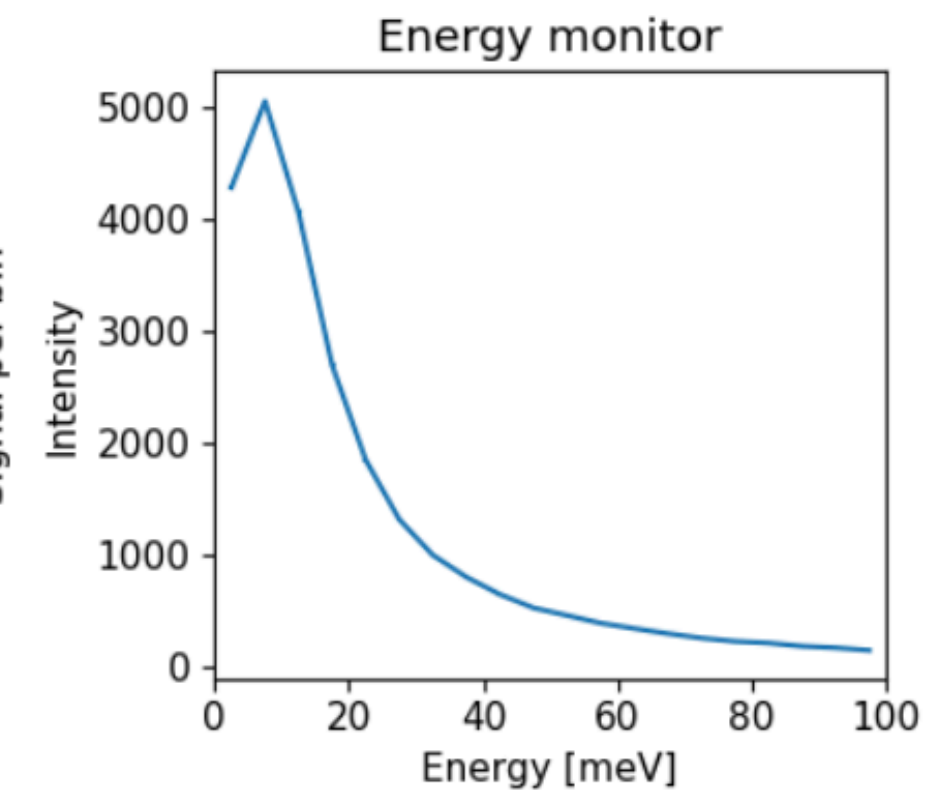
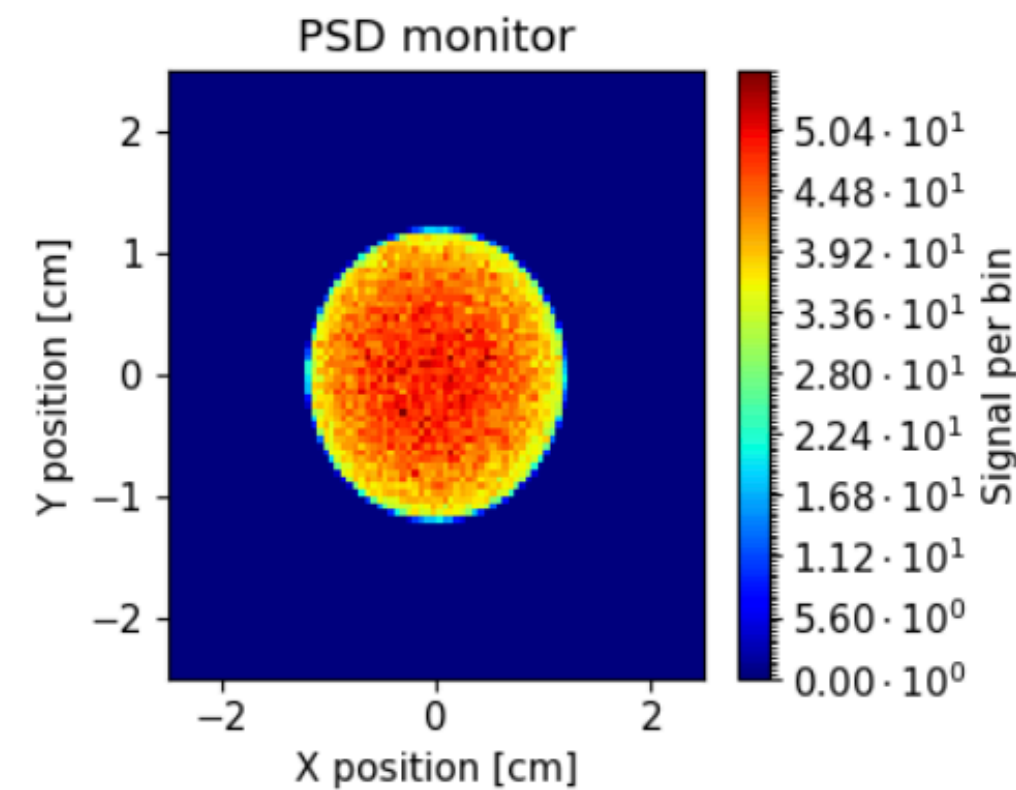
# Transform to adapt to mcpl format if necessary

...

# Save data
np2mcpl.save("output", samples)

# Load data
import mcstasscript as ms
instrument = ms.McStas_instr("sample_normalizing_flow")
source = instrument.add_component("source", "MCPL_input")
source.filename = "output.mcpl.gz"

PSD = instrument.add_component("PSD", "PSD_monitor")
PSD.set_AT([0, 0, 0.2], RELATIVE=source)
PSD.set_parameters(xwidth=1, yheight = 1, filename="PSD.dat")
data = instrument.backengine()
ms.make_sub_plot(data)
```

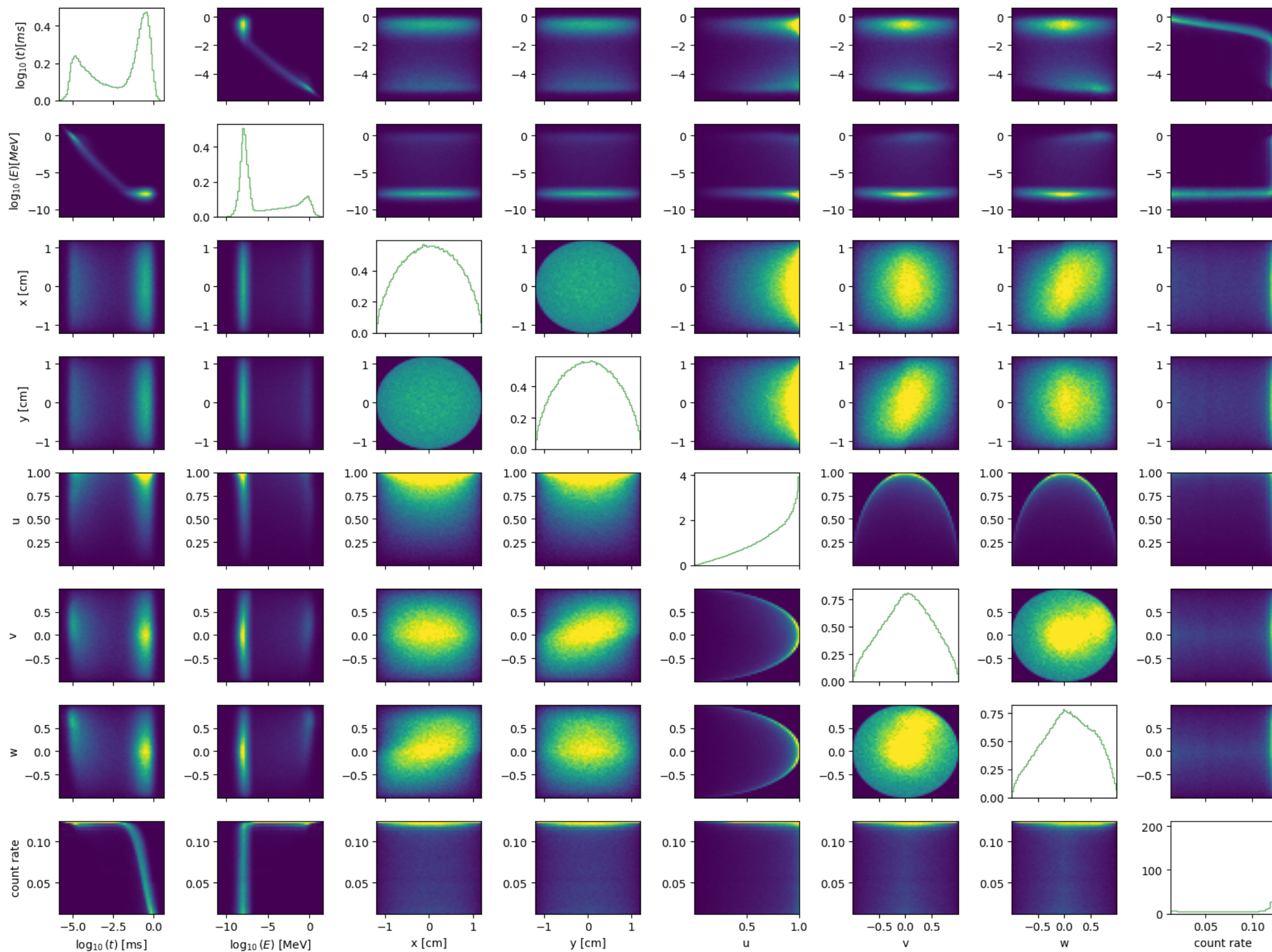


Same procedure can be done in **vitess-python**

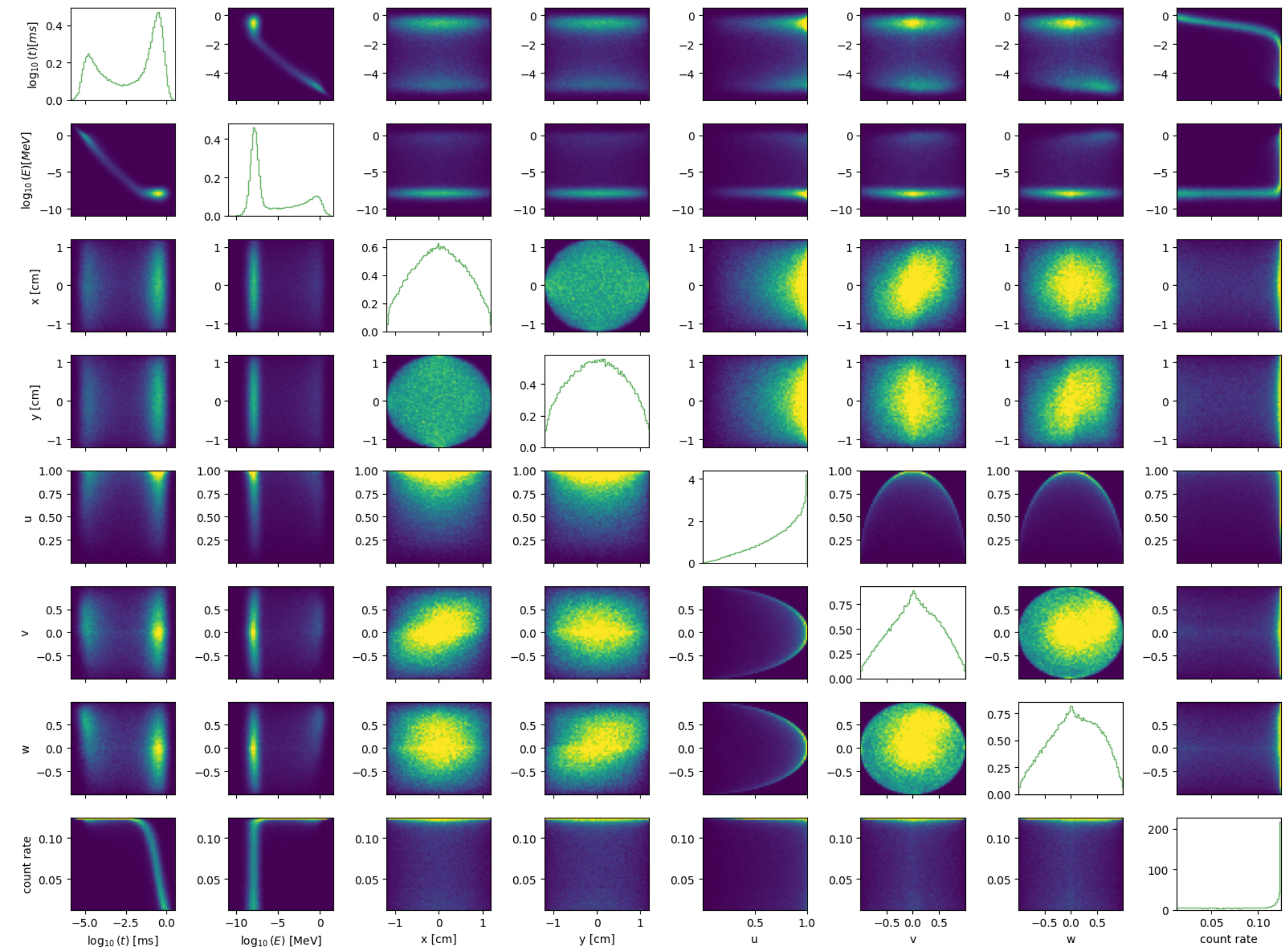
Poster: “**Vitess-Python: A Python API for VITESS Instruments**” - Fabian Beule

Comparison between NFlow and MCPL

MCPL histograms



NFlow histograms



Comparison between NFlow and MCPL

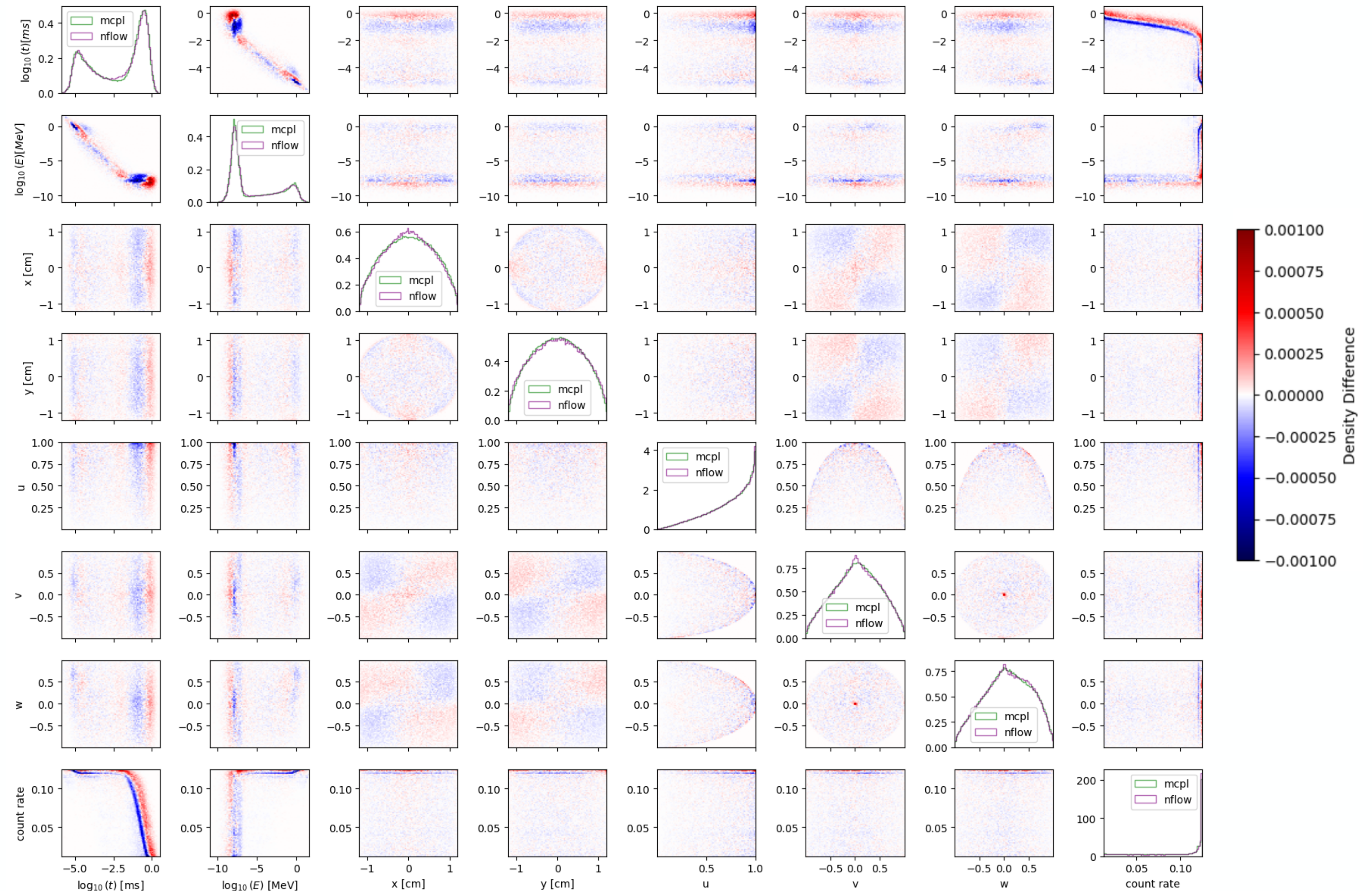
Blue: under-estimate

Red: over-estimate

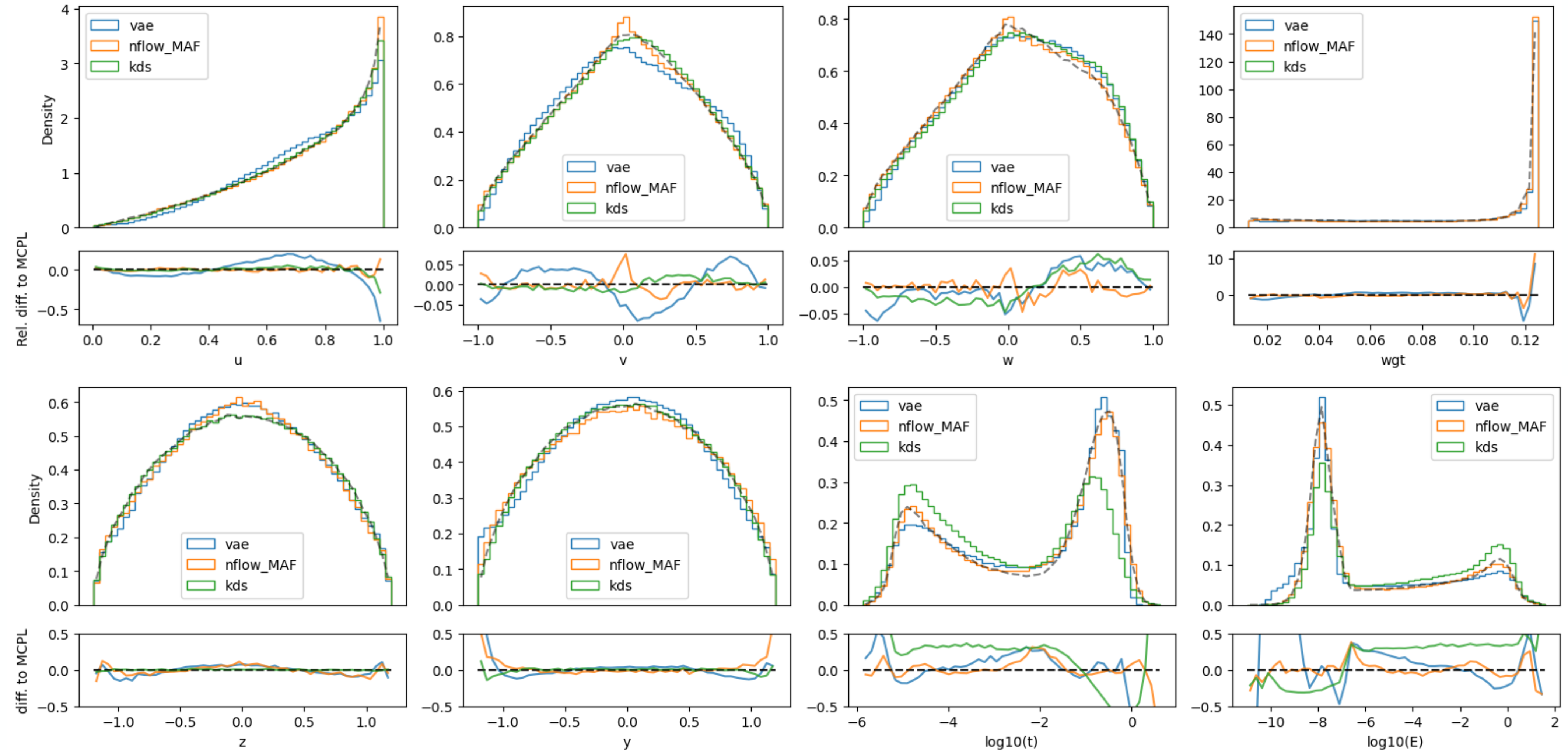
model can be stored
in a file consisting of
few KB

easily loadable
through PyTorch API

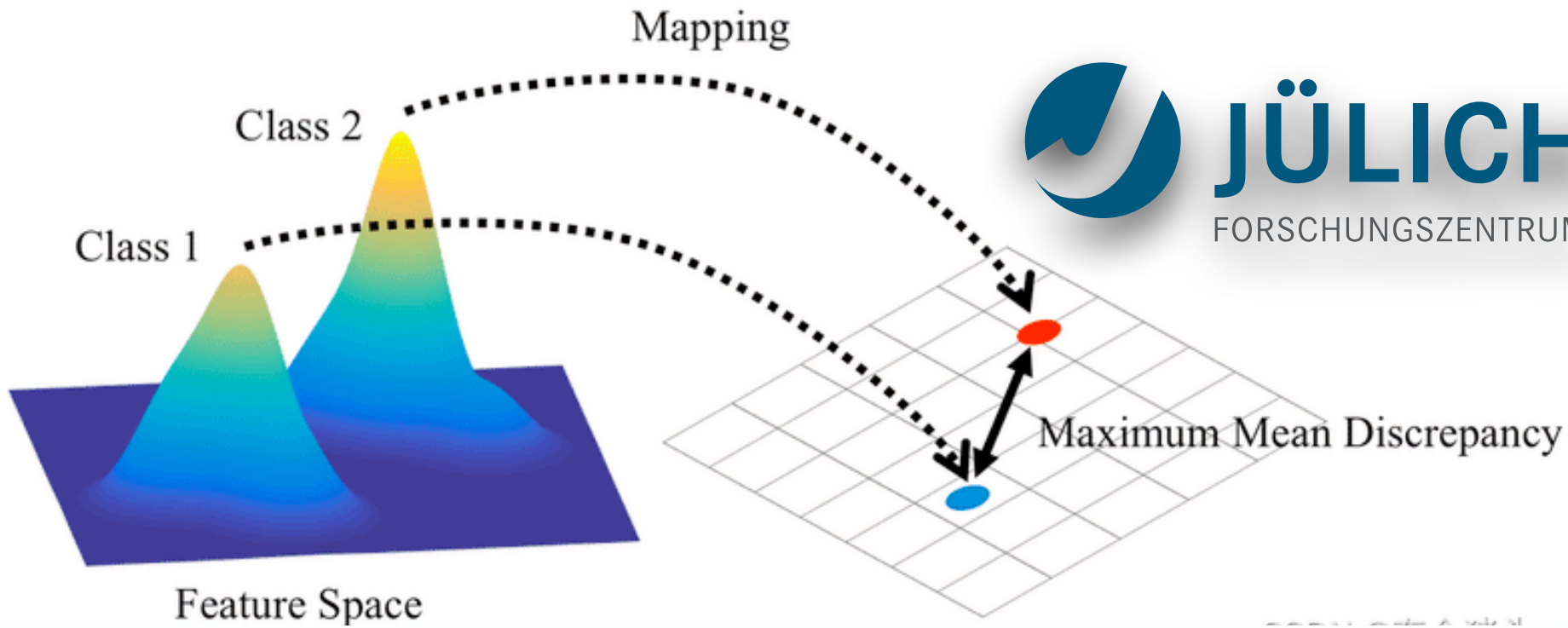
we can sample from
the latent space



COMPARISON BETWEEN MODELS



QUANTIFYING DIFFERENCES



Statistical measure: Maximum mean discrepancy (MMD)

Determine if two datasets are likely to have been drawn from the same distribution by embedding probability distributions into a Reproducing Kernel Hilbert Space (RKHS) and then calculating the distance between the means of these embeddings.

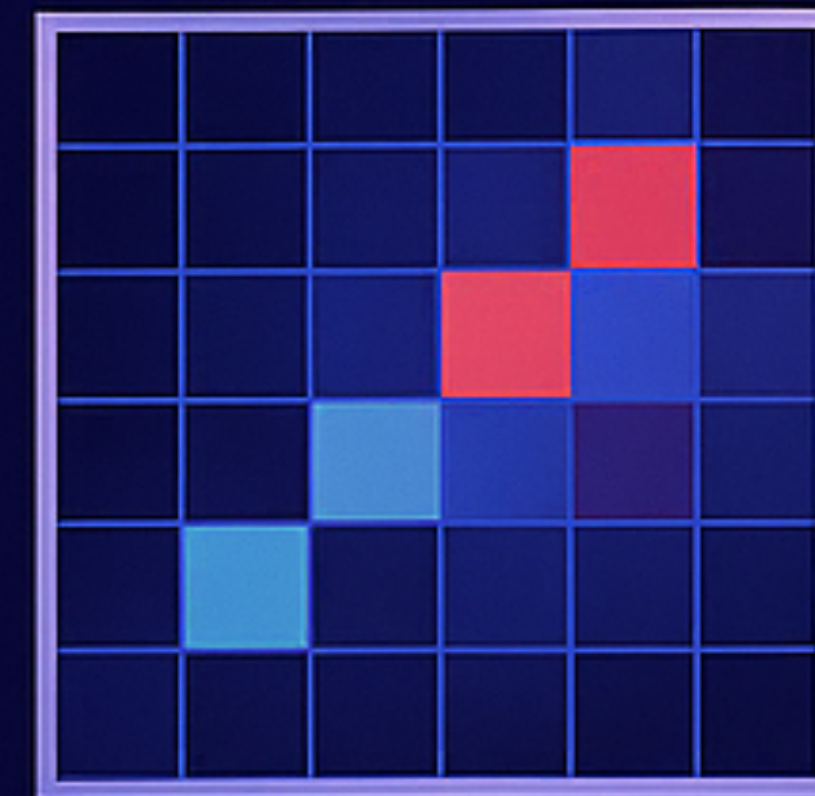
Model	Average MMD *
MCPL	0.00015 ± 0.00016
MAF NFlow	0.00053 ± 0.00010
Coupling Flow	0.00171 ± 0.00015
VAE	0.00308 ± 0.00017
KDSource	0.08014 ± 0.00143
Uniform	0.15231 ± 0.00149

* sample size = 10000, average over 10 samples

Model	Sampling time / 700.000 n (s)
KDSource	2
VAE	8
NFlow	7

SUMMARY

- Generative models can learn multivariate probability distributions from data
- MCPL files make great training data!
- Normalizing Flows show great potential in learning neutron phase-space variable distributions, but they can estimate poorly if distributions have sharp features.
- These sources can already be used in Vitess and McStas, and are easily extensible to other Monte Carlo software.
- There are multiple architectures of NFs, as well as VAEs and GANs. Exploring which model does best is still an art. Physical constraints can be added inside the loss function.
- Metrics for comparing multivariate distributions should be taken into account for model selection.



Thank you for your attention! Questions?

Jose Robledo

Forschungszentrum Jülich