

MACHINE LEARNING AS A DISCOVERY TOOL



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Accelerate Science Winter School
Cambridge University
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The Beginning



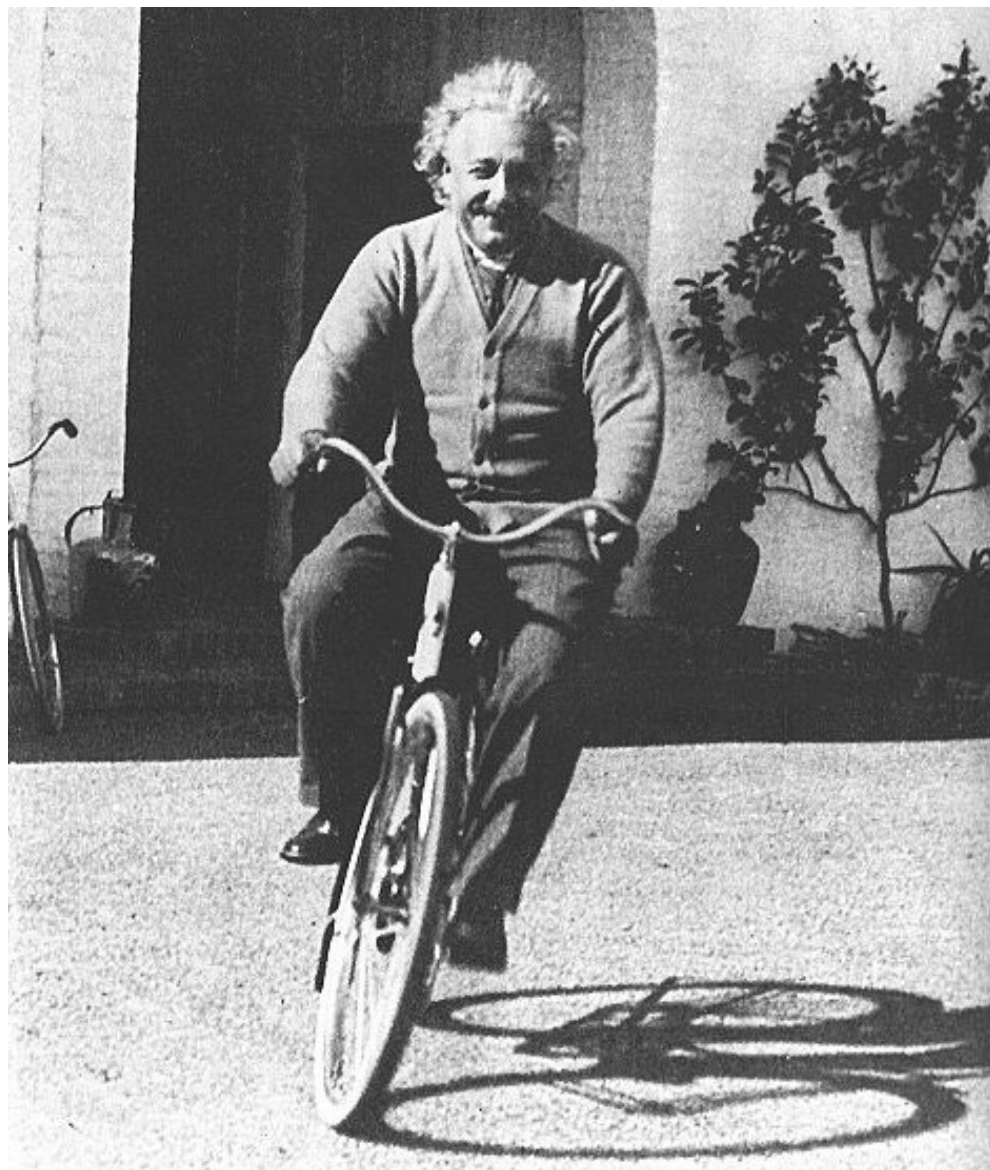
Image: Karen Carr

Fundamental Questions

- How did the Universe begin?
- Why is the world the way it is?
- Could it have been some other way?
- What is the fundamental explanation for space, time, and matter?

How We Do Physics

- Interrogate a theory at its limits and test it against other theories
- Investigate the tensions



A gedankenexperiment

Turn on the headlight of your bicycle

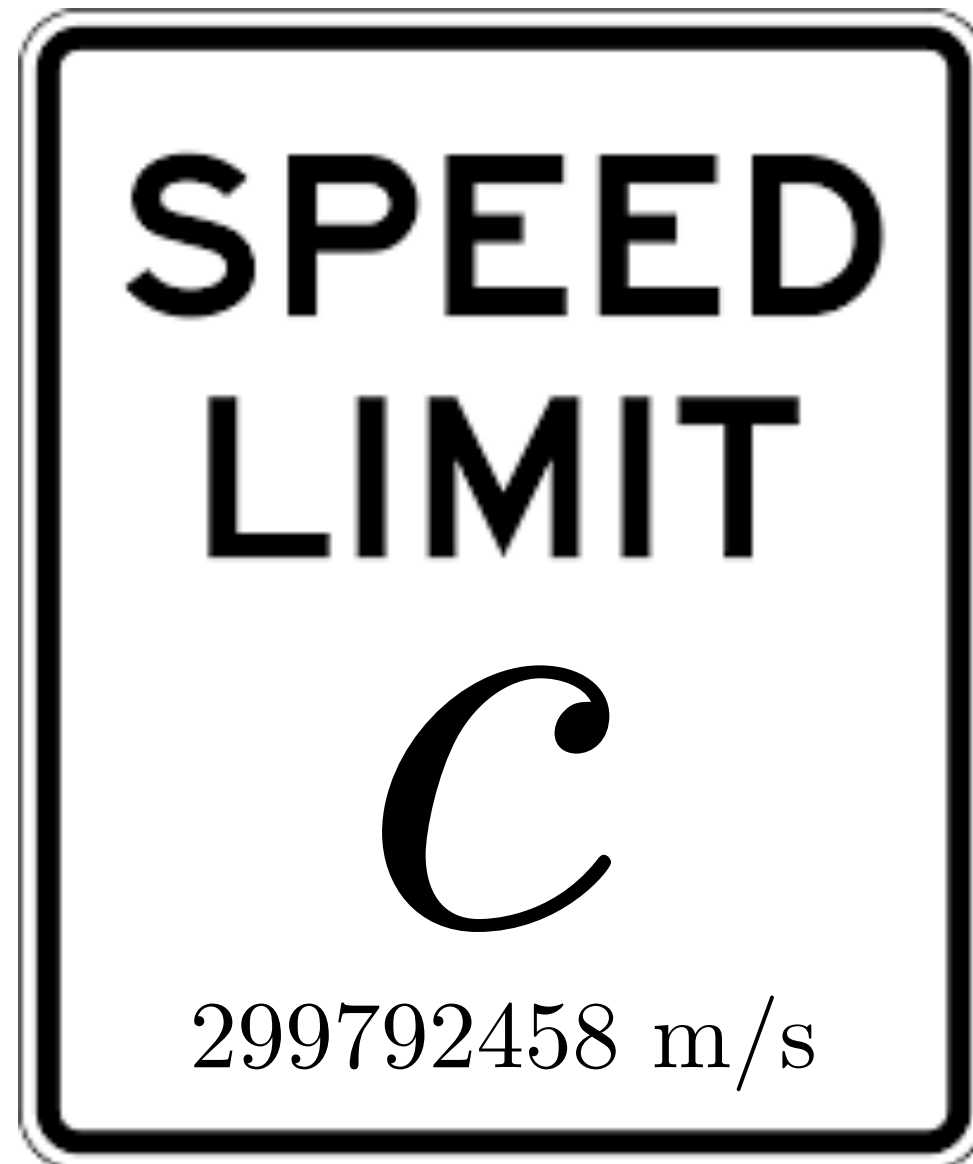
Suppose you bicycle faster than light

What do you see?

This thought experiment brings
Galileo and Maxwell into tension

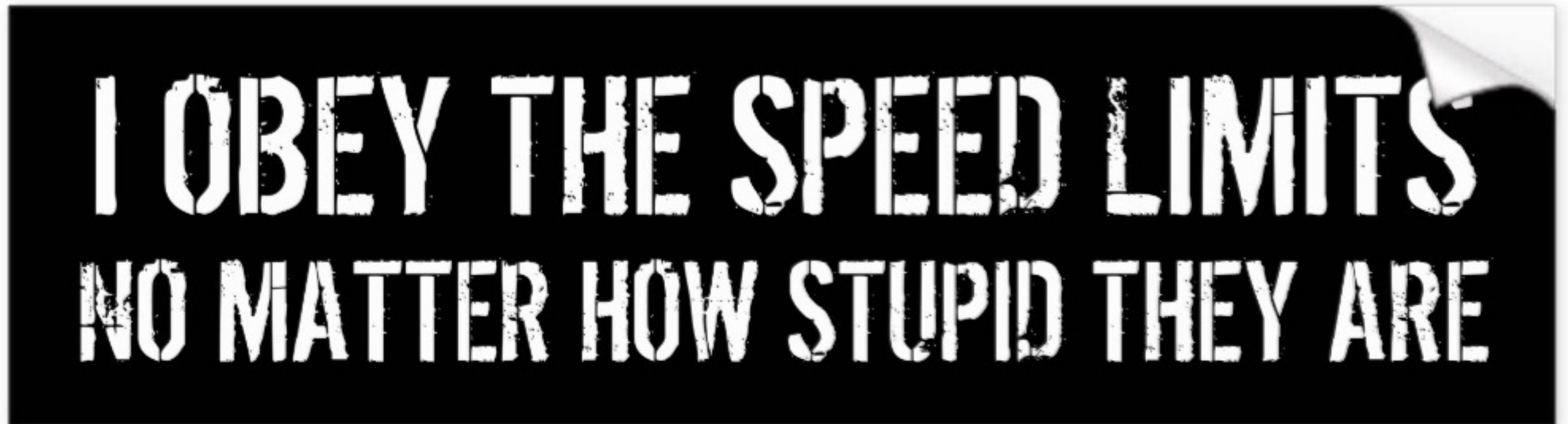
Special Relativity

- Every observer measures the same speed of light
- The Universe has a speed limit



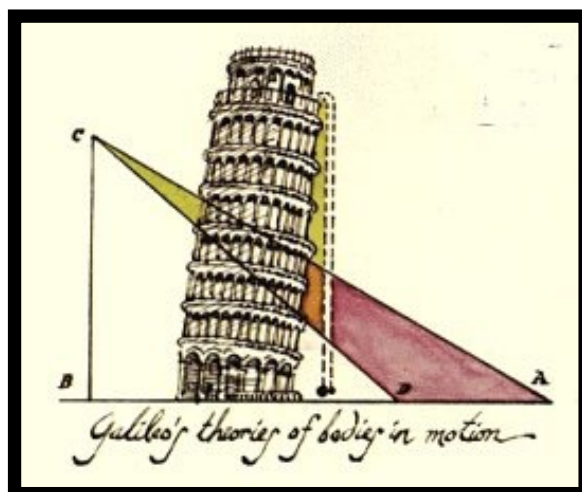
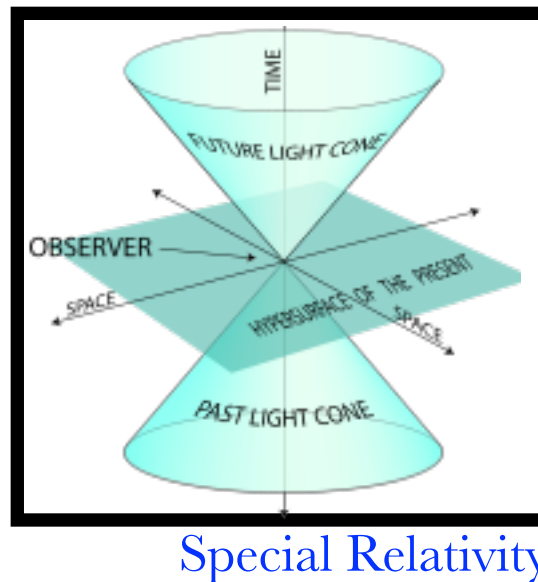
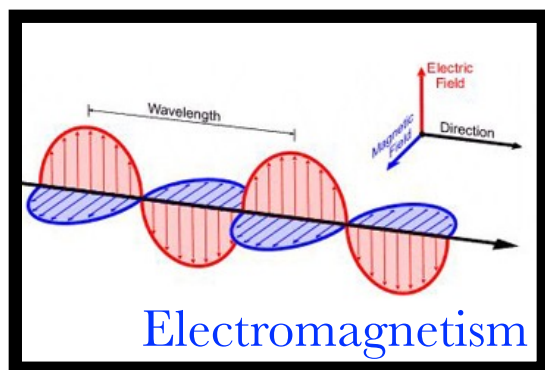
Special Relativity

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Theories Beget Theories

- By testing electromagnetism against Galilean mechanics, we arrive at the special theory of relativity

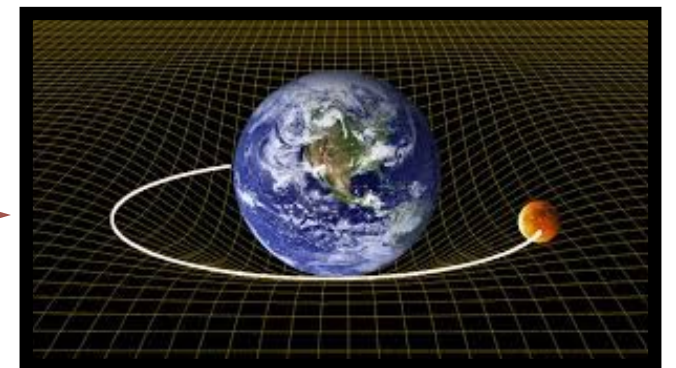
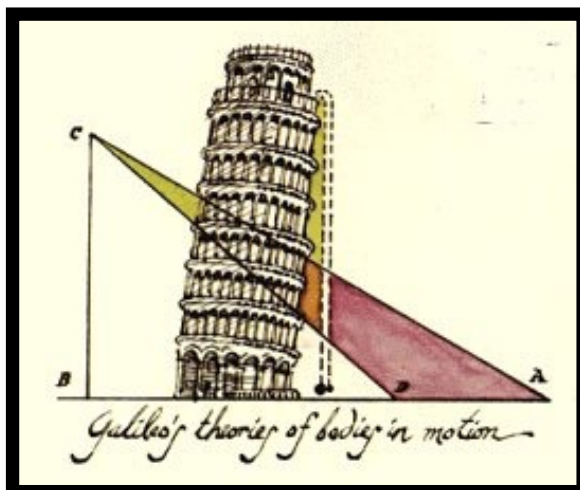
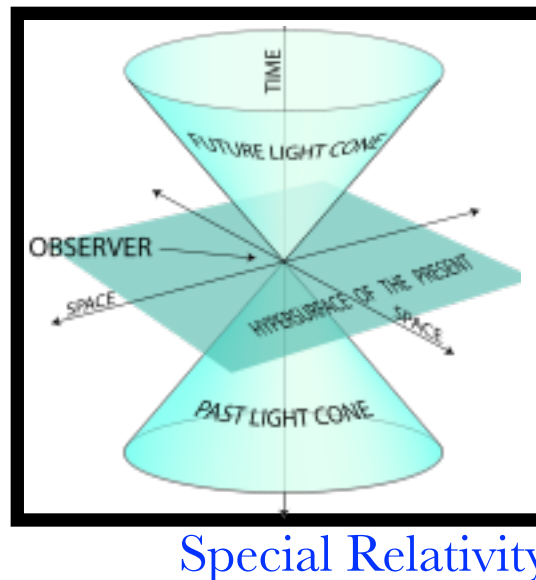
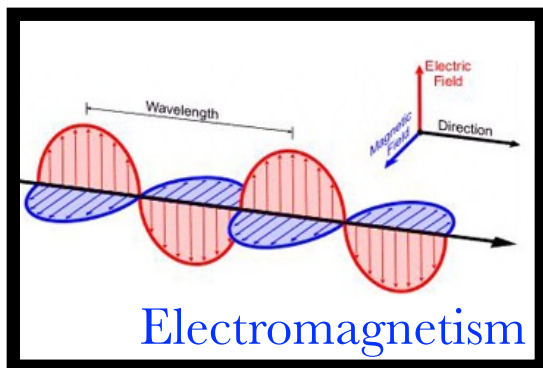


$$\vec{F} = m\vec{a}$$

$$\vec{F} = -\frac{G_N M m}{r^2} \hat{r}$$

Theories Beget Theories

- By testing electromagnetism against Galilean mechanics, we arrive at the special theory of relativity
- Let's continue on this path



add gravity

General Relativity

Another gedankenexperiment

What happens if the Sun suddenly disappeared?

Tension between Newton
and Einstein

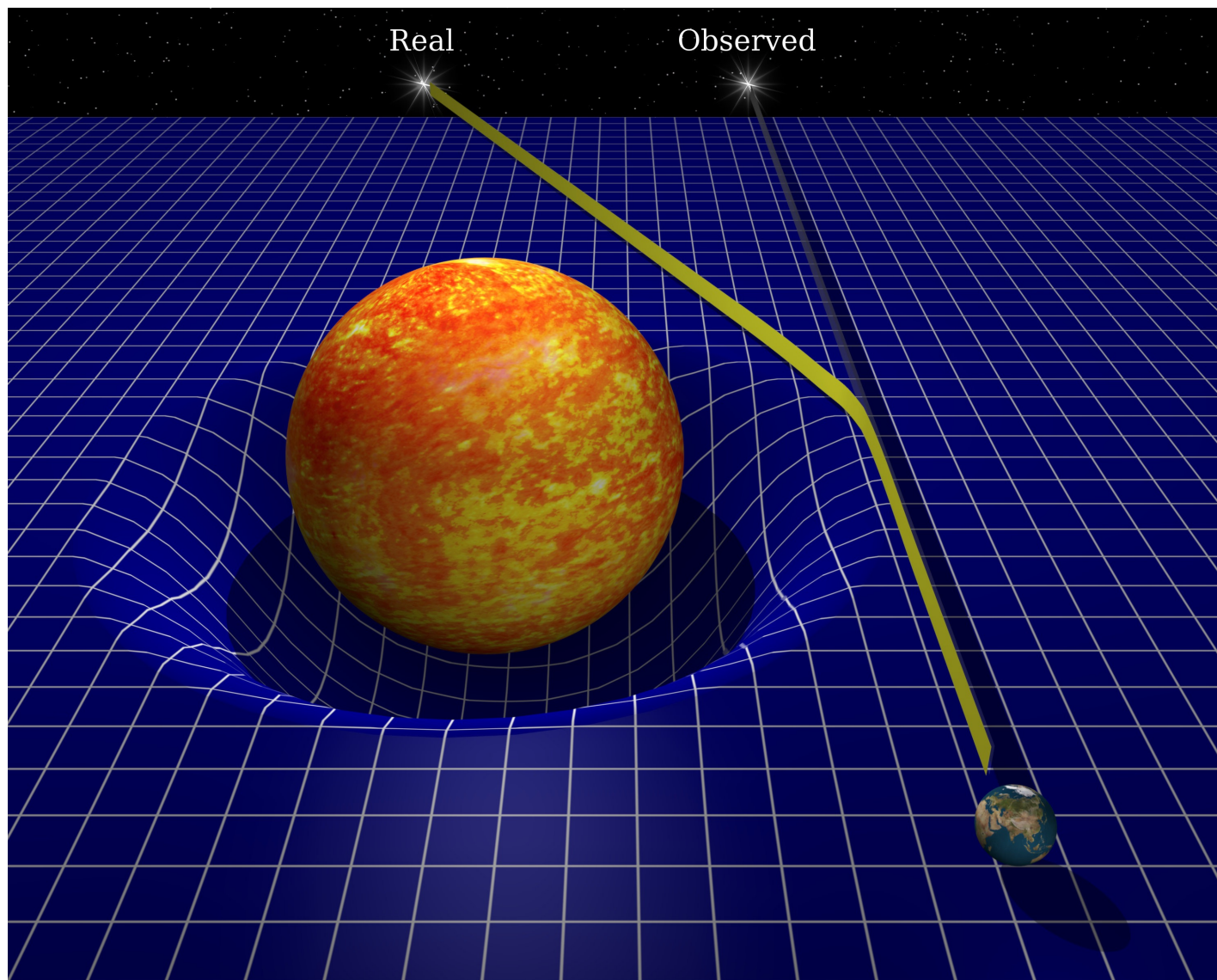
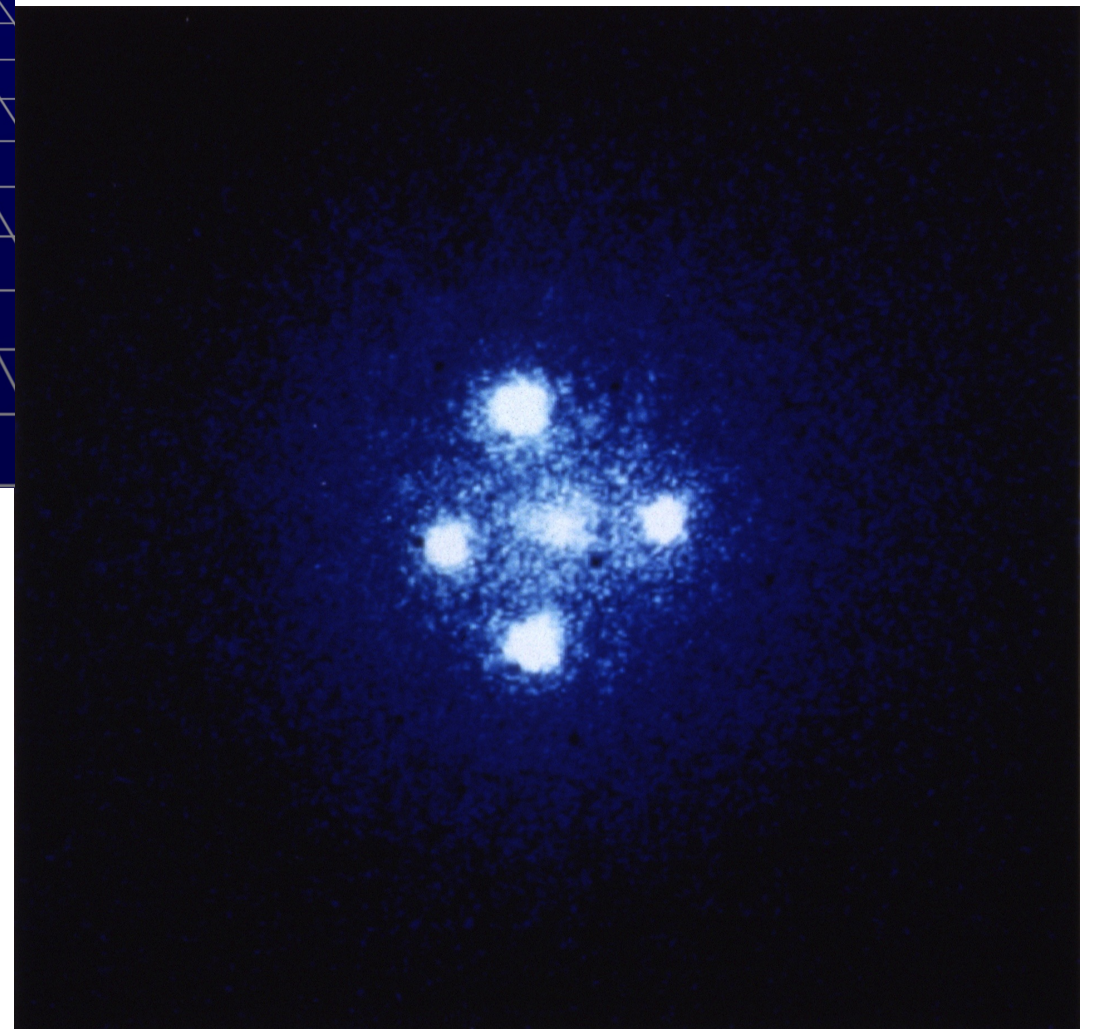


Image: Dave Jarvis

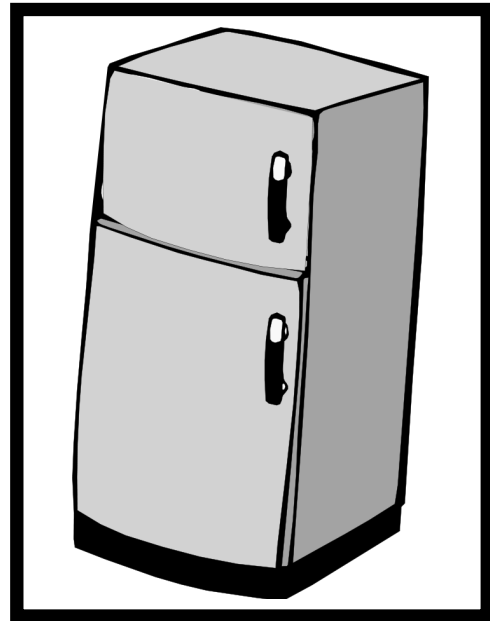
Force of gravity is geometry

Verified from microns to cosmic scales

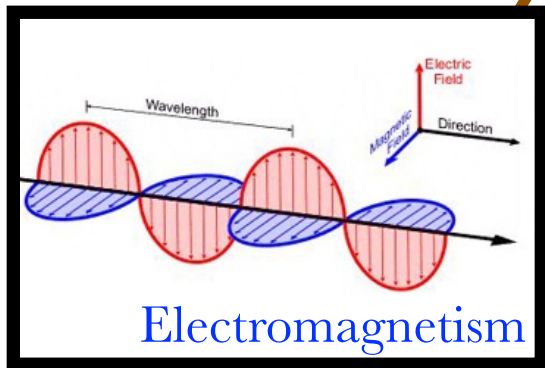
Image: ESA/NASA (HST)



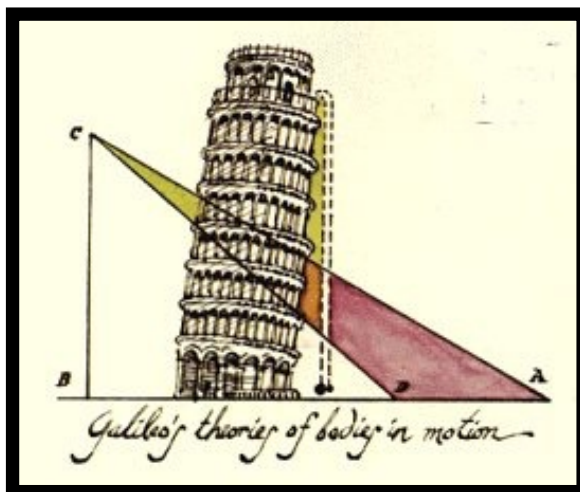
Theory Space



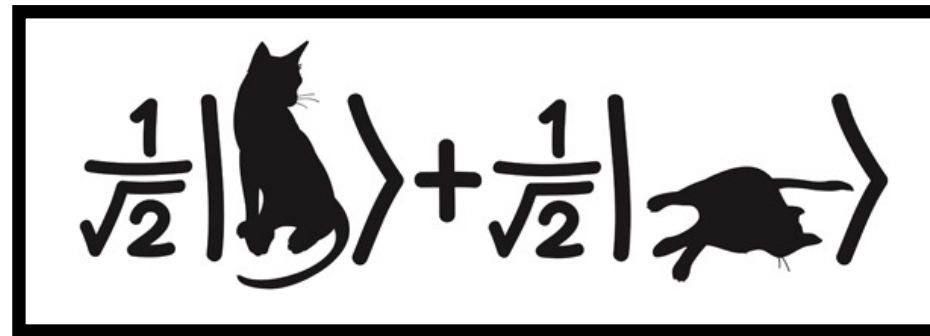
Thermodynamics



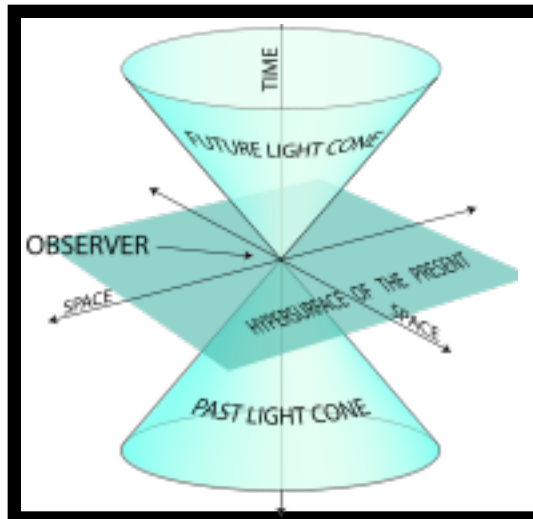
Electromagnetism



Galilean Mechanics



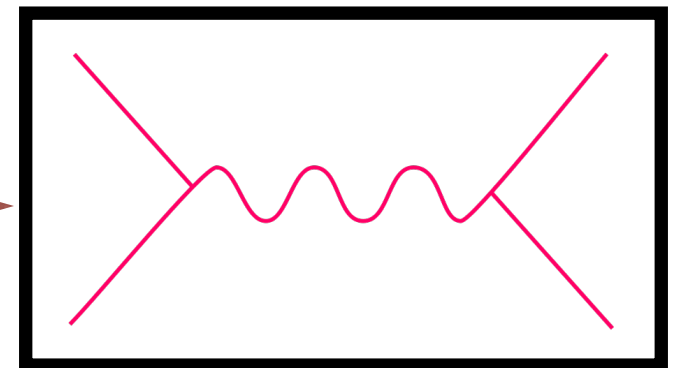
Quantum Mechanics



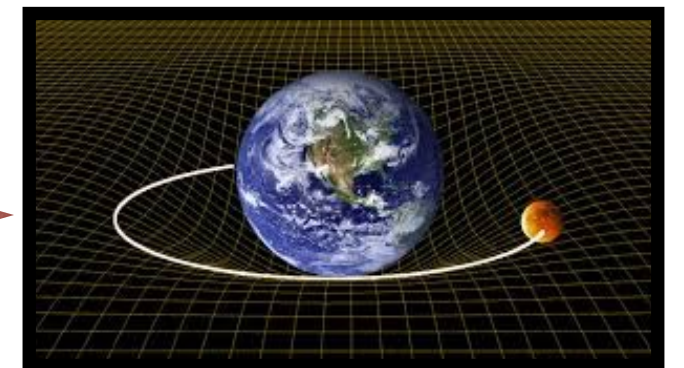
Special Relativity



Newtonian Mechanics



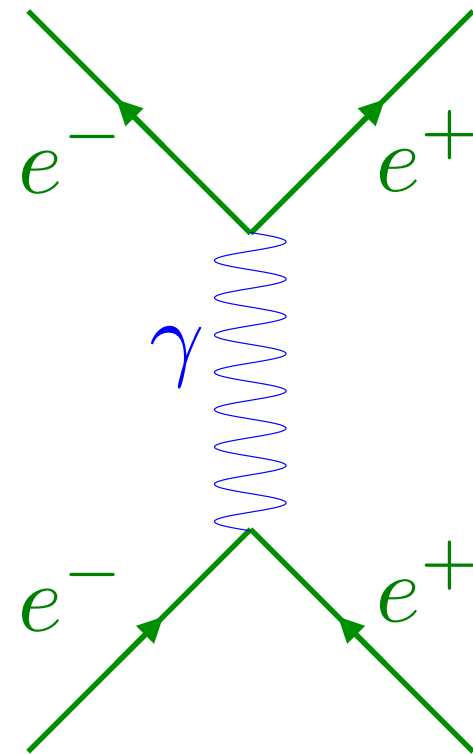
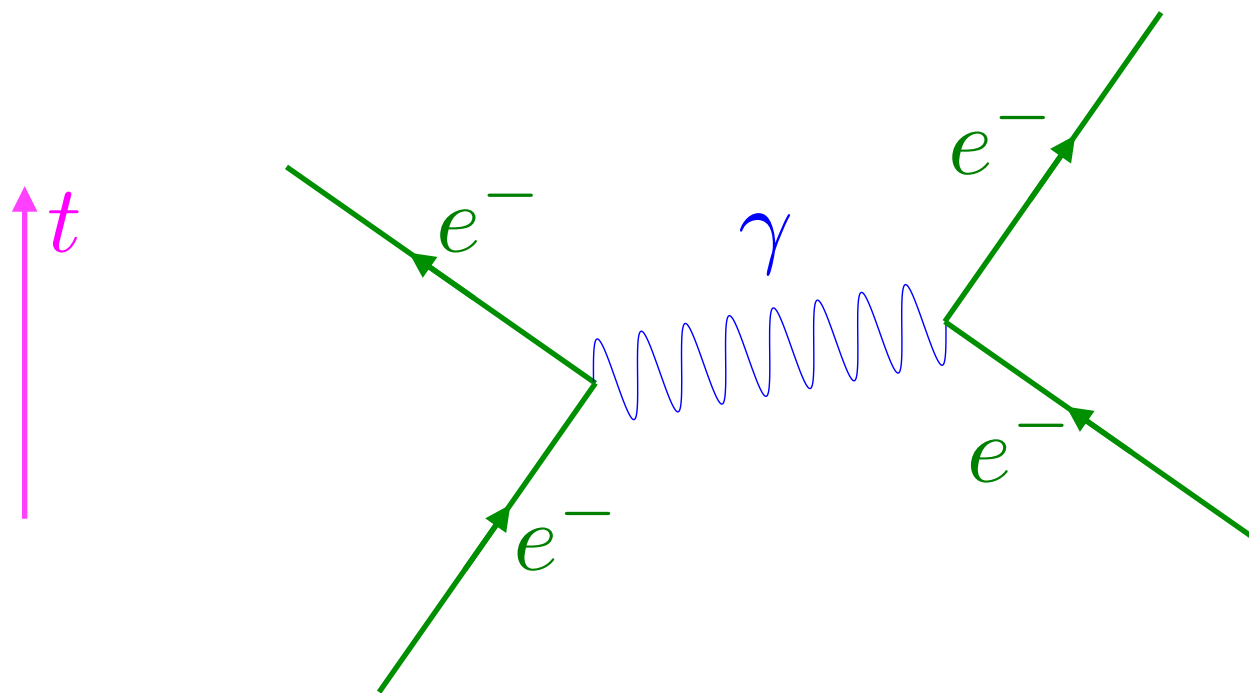
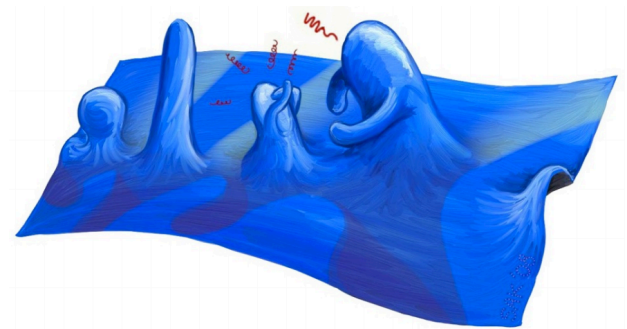
Quantum Field Theory



General Relativity

Quantum Field Theory

- A field has a value at every point in spacetime
- Particles are local excitations of these fields
- To define a quantum field theory, we must specify the fields and how they interact



- Electrons and positrons interact by exchanging photons, for example

Quantum Field Theory

- Fundamental forces are described by quantum field theory
- Standard Model

electromagnetism
weak force
strong force
Higgs effect

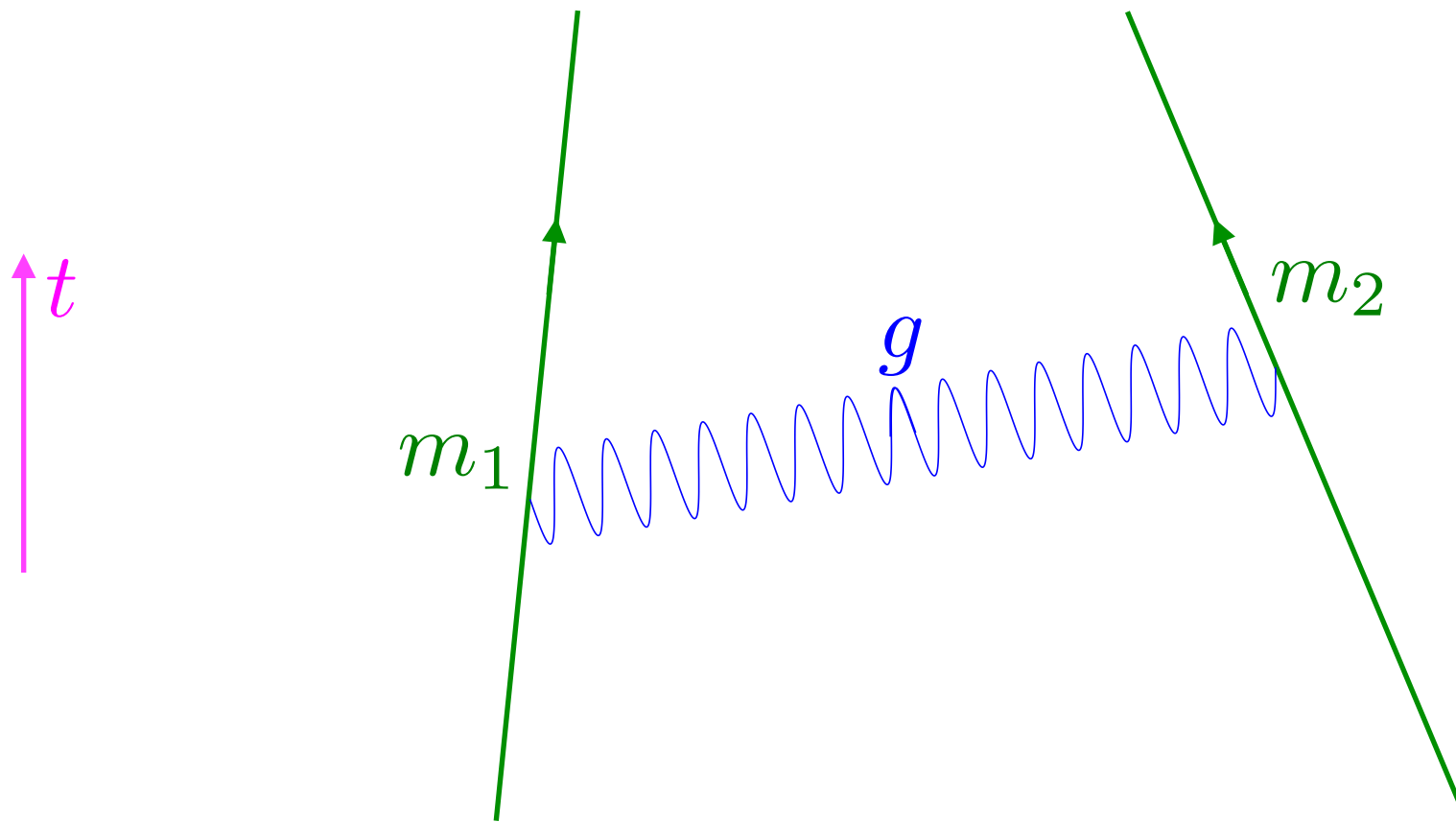
mass →	≈2.3 MeV/c ²	≈1.275 GeV/c ²	≈173.07 GeV/c ²	0	≈126 GeV/c ²
charge →	2/3	2/3	2/3	0	0
spin →	1/2	1/2	1/2	1	0
	u up	c charm	t top	g gluon	H Higgs boson
	≈4.8 MeV/c ²	≈95 MeV/c ²	≈4.18 GeV/c ²	0	
	-1/3	-1/3	-1/3	0	
	1/2	1/2	1/2	1	
QUARKS	d down	s strange	b bottom	γ photon	
	0.511 MeV/c ²	105.7 MeV/c ²	1.777 GeV/c ²	91.2 GeV/c ²	
	-1	-1	-1	0	
	1/2	1/2	1/2	1	
	e electron	μ muon	τ tau	Z Z boson	
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LEPTONS	ν_e electron neutrino	ν_μ muon neutrino	ν_τ tau neutrino	W W boson	GAUGE BOSONS

$$\alpha_{\text{exp}}^{-1} = 137.035999139(31)$$

$$\alpha_{\text{th}}^{-1} = 137.035999173(35)$$

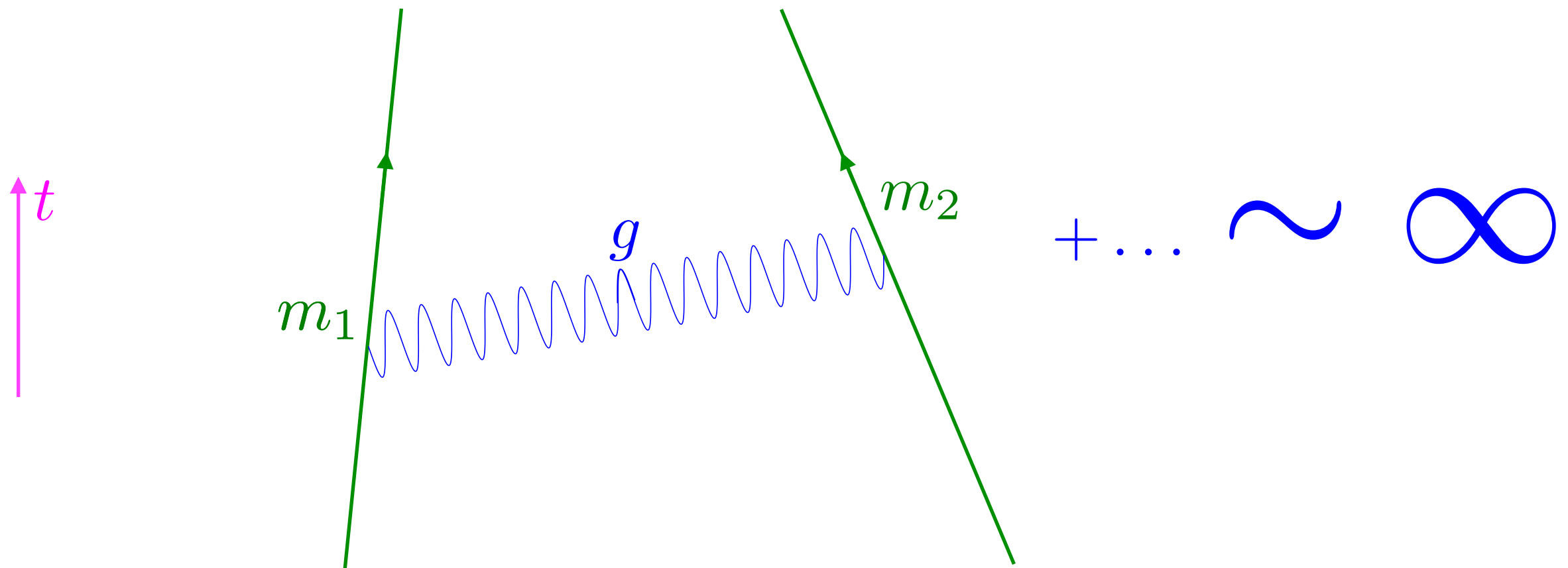
One Theory of Physics

- Gravity is a response to curvature, but we experience this as a force
- Matter couples to geometry via mass
- What happens if we treat geometry as a quantum field?



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What Went Wrong?

- General relativity explains the dynamical response of geometry to the presence of matter or energy and conversely the dynamical response of matter to the curvature of spacetime
- In a quantum Universe, things fluctuate due to the uncertainty principle

$$\sigma_x \sigma_p \geq \frac{\hbar}{2}$$

- Because spacetime itself fluctuates at the quantum level, one of the central assumptions of general relativity, that geometry is smooth, breaks down
- Quantum field theory is not the organizing principle

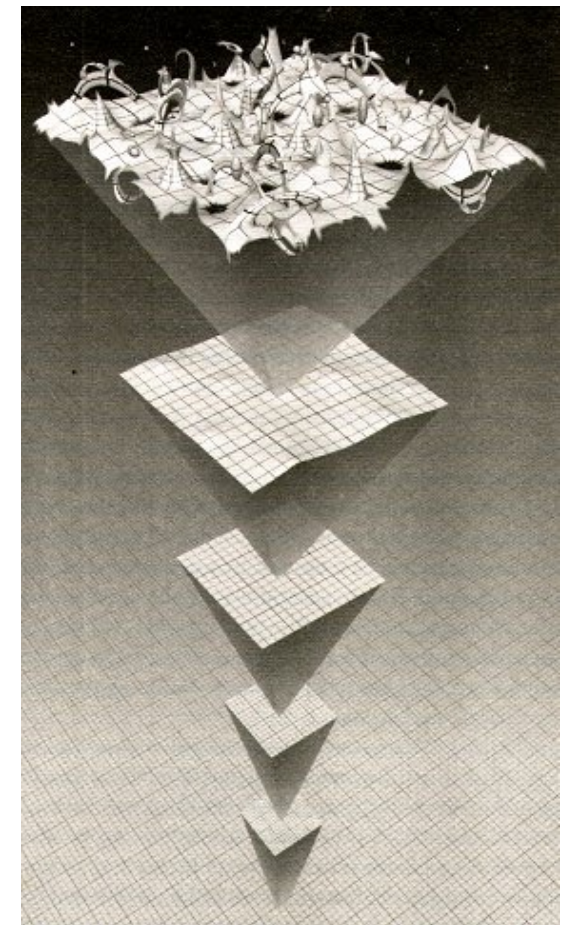
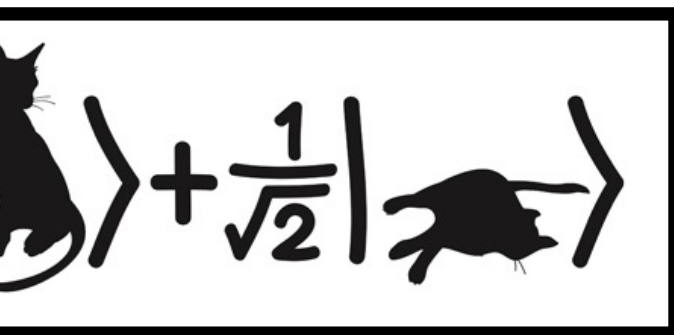
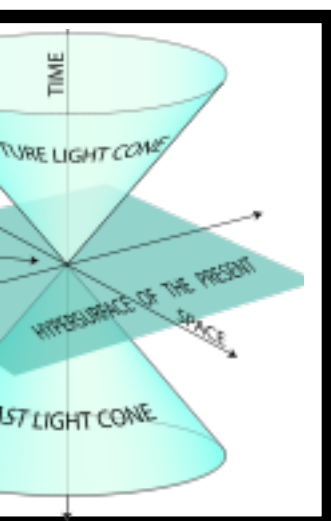


Image: Brian Greene

A New Hope



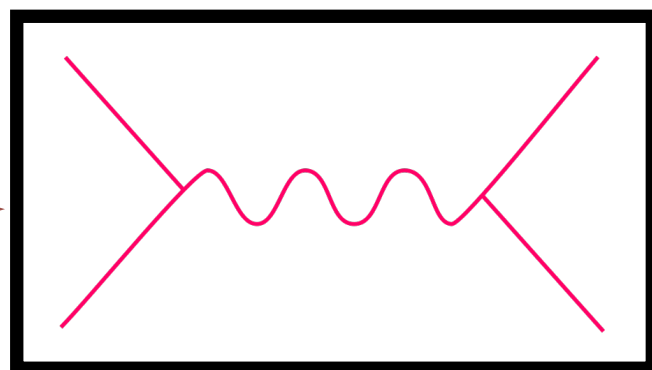
Quantum Mechanics



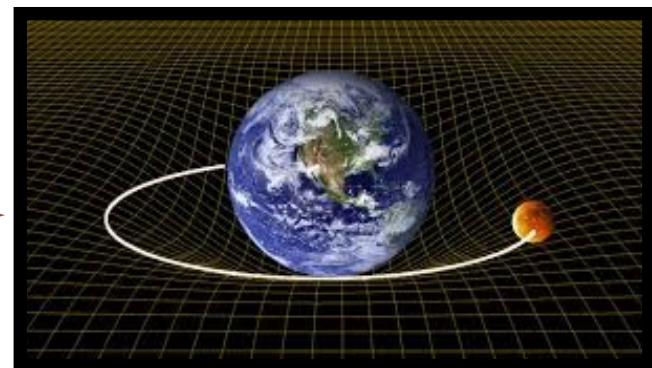
Special Relativity



Classical Mechanics



Quantum Field Theory

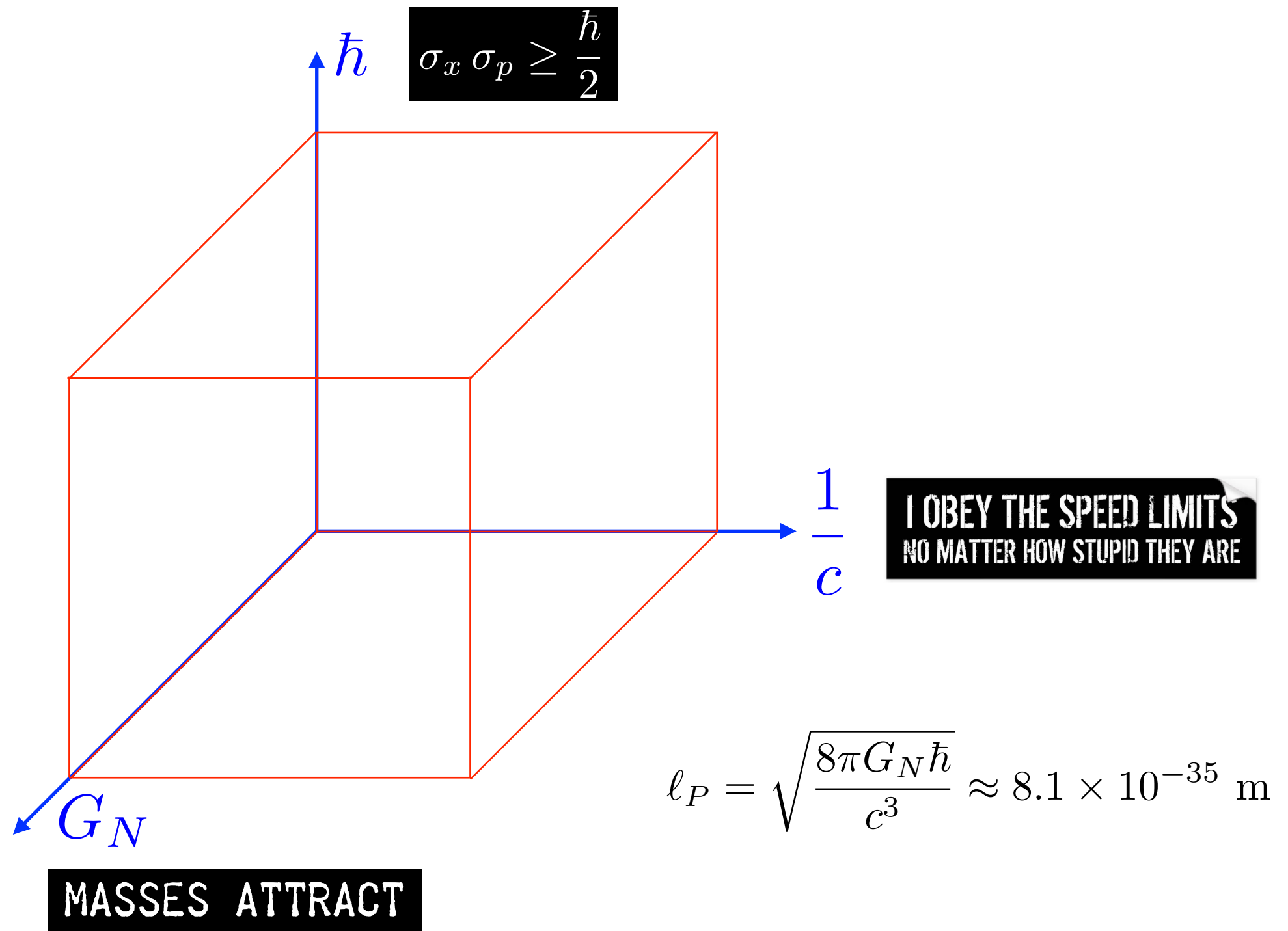


General Relativity

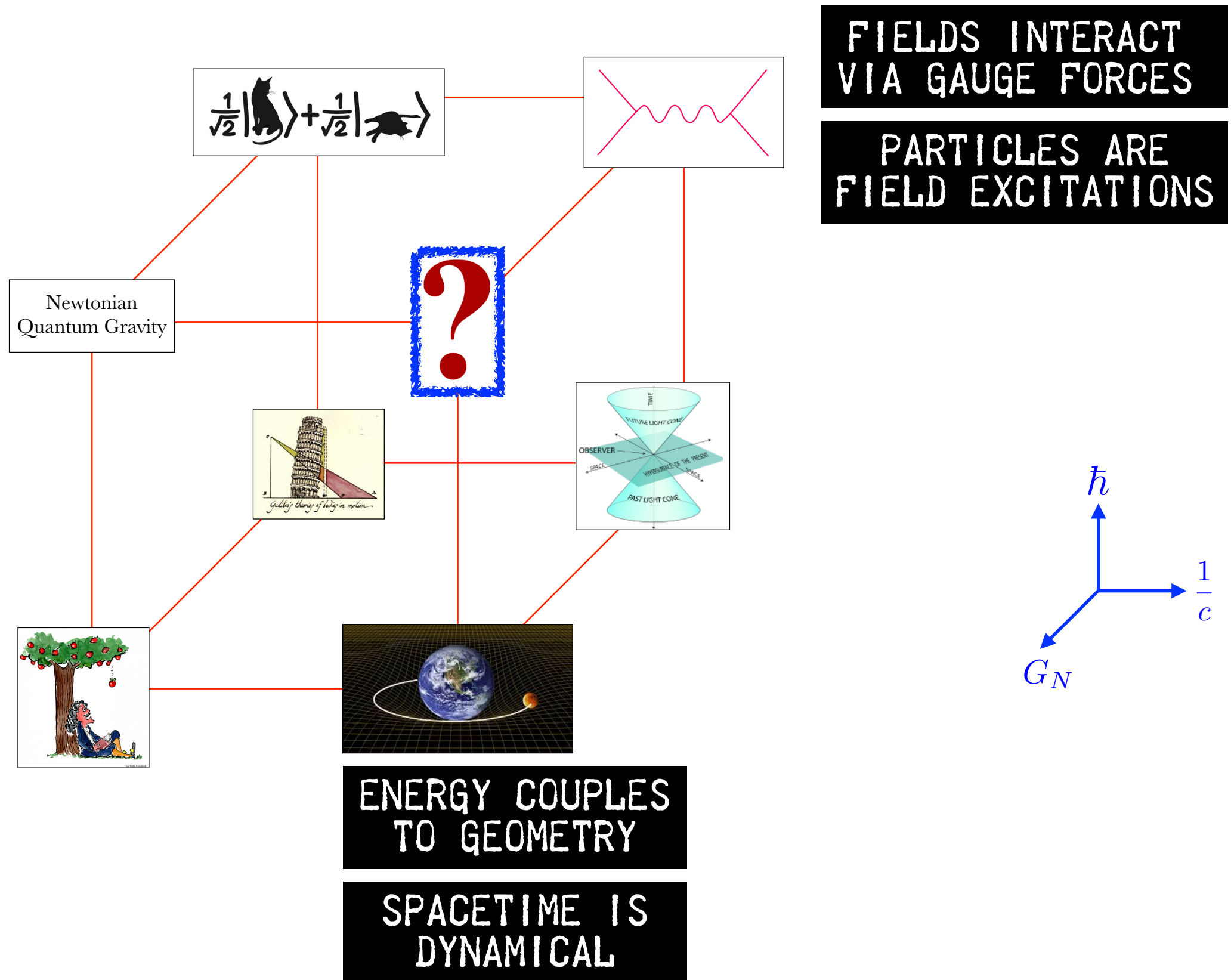


Quantum Gravity

Bronstein's Cube

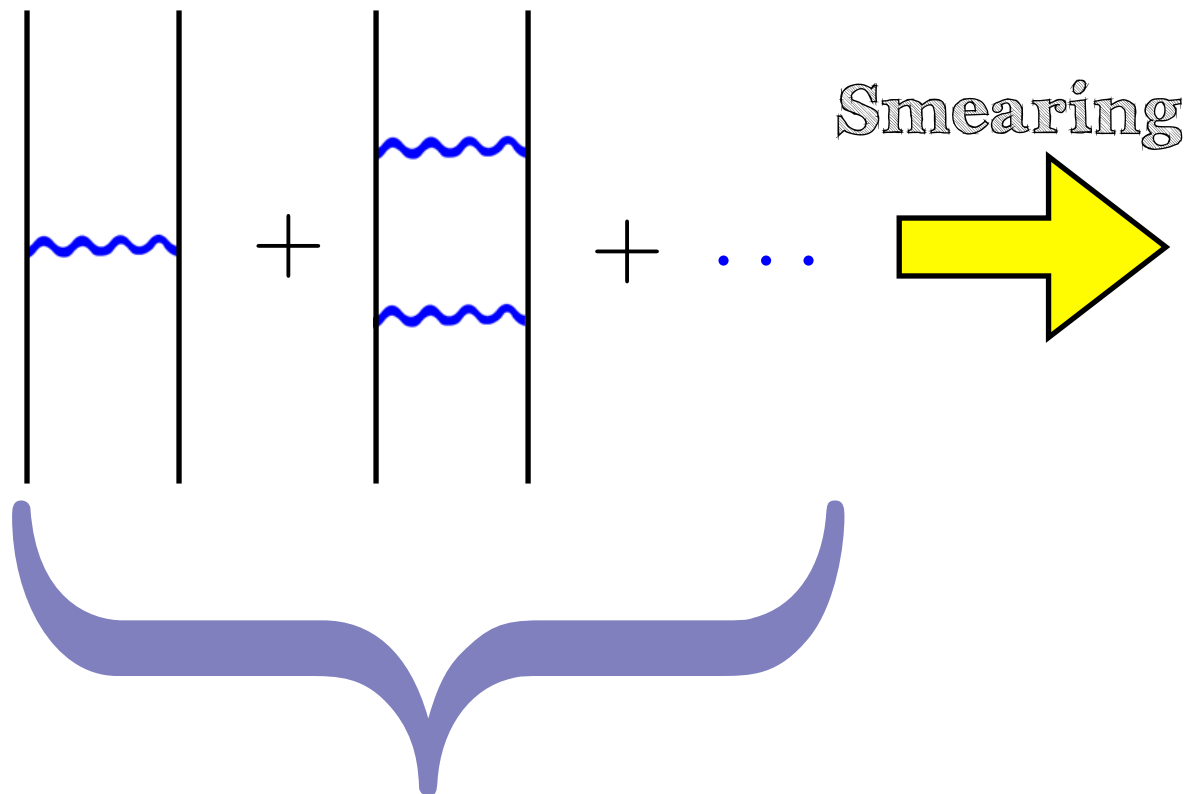


Bronstein's Cube



String Theory

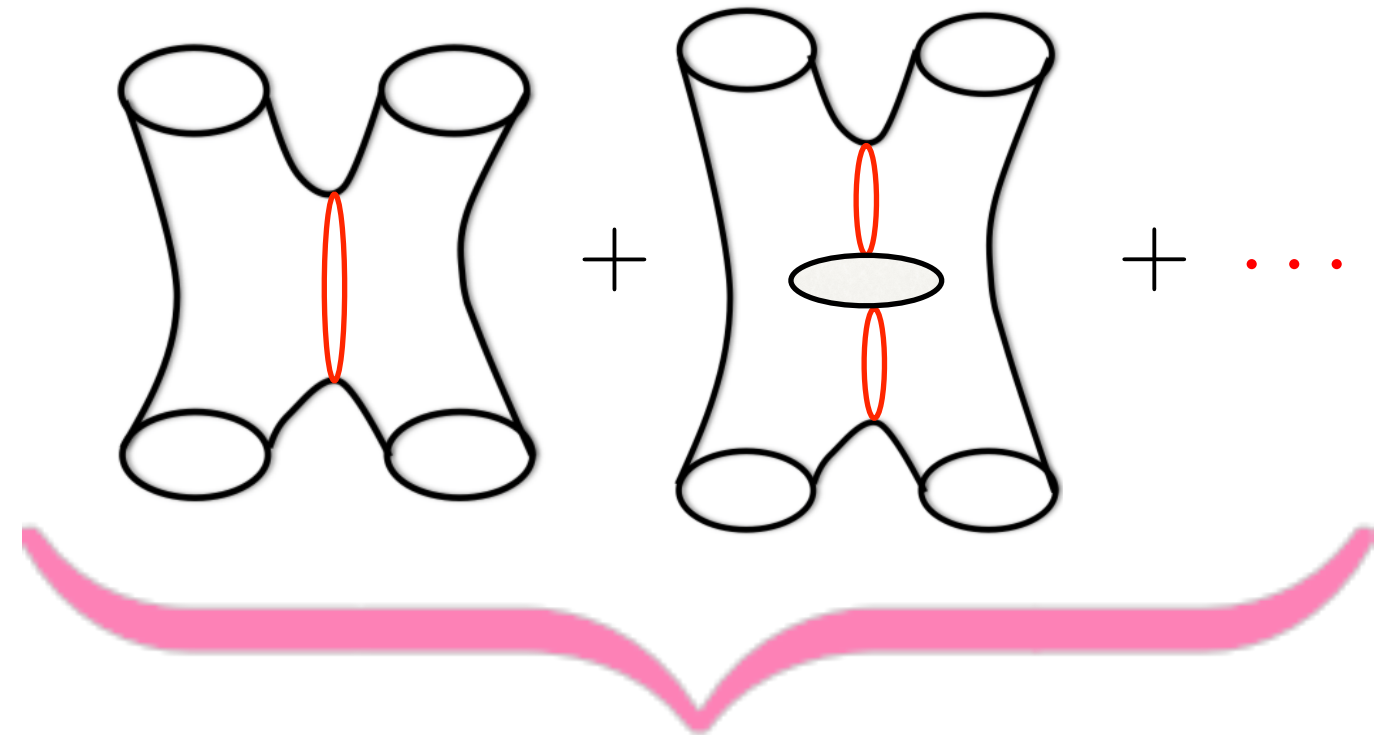
Gravity as a QFT



These are infinite

These are four dimensional

Gravity from String Theory



These are finite

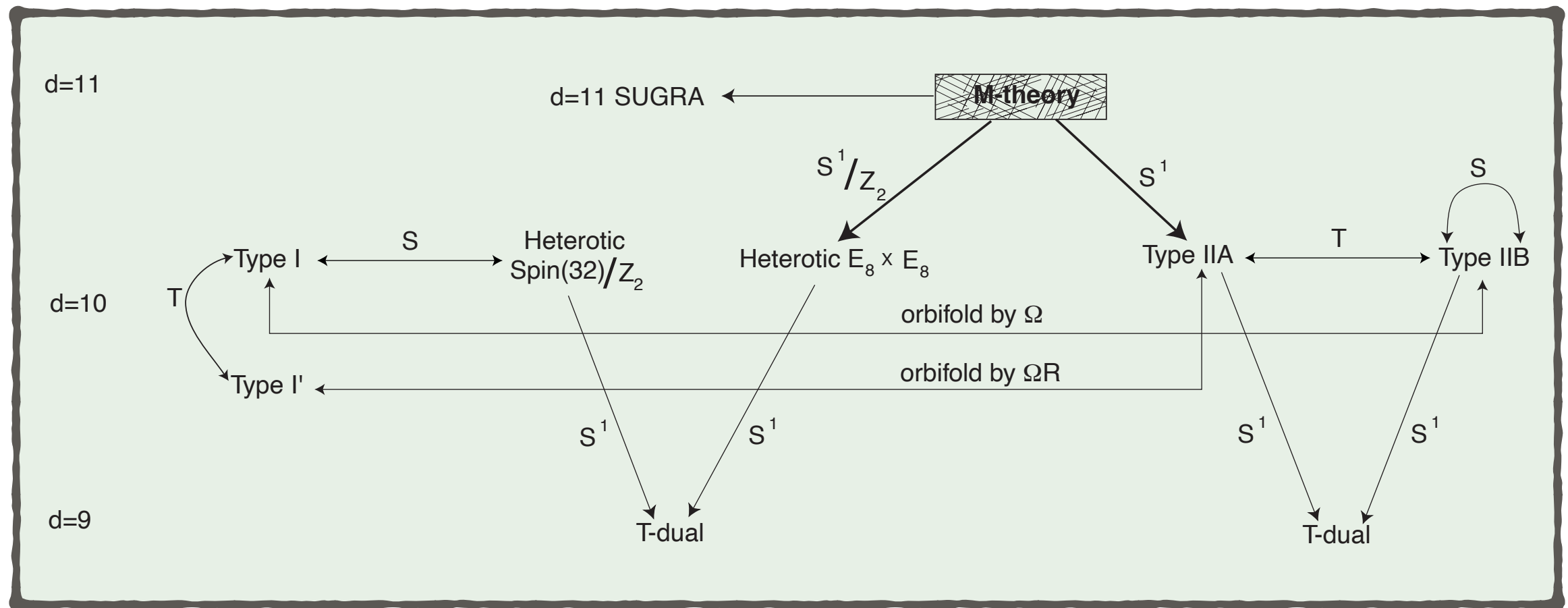
These are ten dimensional

[To prove the consistency of string theory we use the remarkable fact that $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} n \rightarrow -\frac{1}{12}$]

- $X^{\mu} : \Sigma \rightarrow \mathcal{M}$

Sigma model on the string worldsheet gives general relativity

String Theory



- String theory is in fact a web of interconnected theories in ten (or eleven or twelve) dimensions
- We experience only four dimensions. So how do we proceed?

The Forces of Nature

- Gravitational interactions described by Einstein

$$G_{\mu\nu} := R_{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{2}g_{\mu\nu}R + \Lambda g_{\mu\nu} = \frac{8\pi G_N}{c^4}T_{\mu\nu}$$

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Theorem [Coleman–Mandula]: symmetry group in 4 dimensions is Poincaré x internal

The Forces of Nature

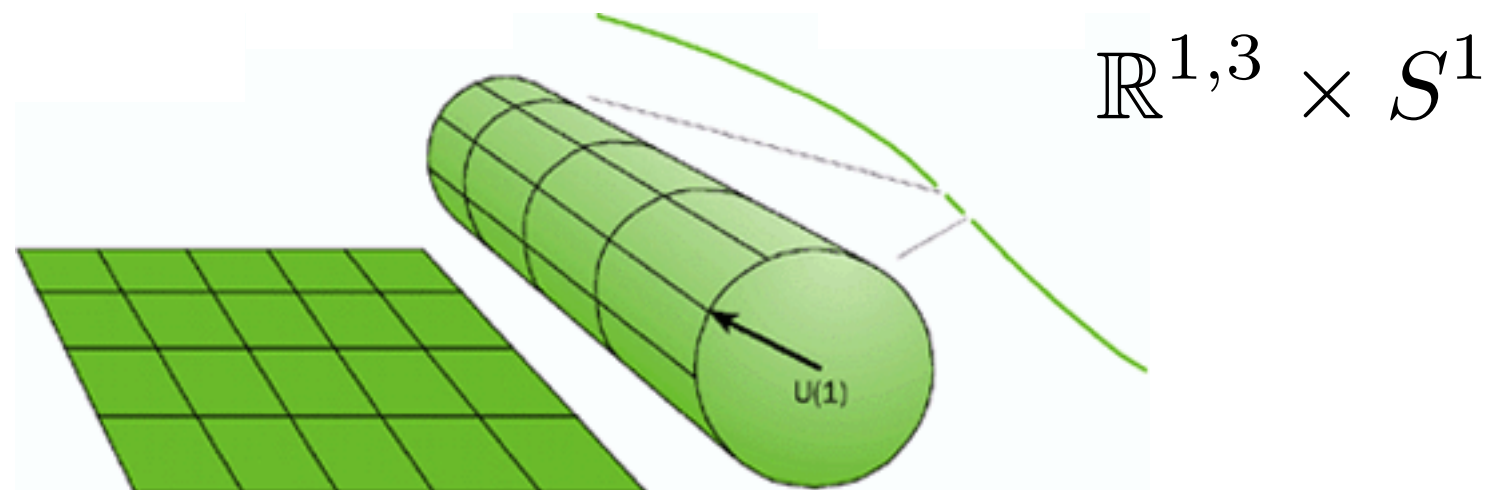
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Theorem [Coleman–Mandula]: symmetry group in 4 dimensions is Poincaré \times internal

- Clever loophole: internal symmetries may arise from higher dimensional geometry



Kaluza–Klein: 5d Einstein equations give 4d Einstein + Maxwell equations

Geometric Engineering

- Higher dimensional objects in string theory (branes) on which QFTs live
- Ten dimensional theory is consistent
- Ansatz for the geometry is $\mathcal{M}_{10} = \mathbb{R}^{1,3} \times \text{CY}_3$

- Properties of Calabi–Yau determine physics in four dimensions

Example: $N_g = \frac{1}{2}|\chi|$ in simplest heterotic compactification models



Candelas, Horowitz, Strominger, Witten (1985)
Greene, Kirklín, Miron, Ross (1986)

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dS₄
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The Real World

- String theory supplies a framework for quantum gravity
- We are beginning to understand black holes and holography
- String theory is also an organizing principle for mathematics
- Finding our universe among the myriad of possible consistent realizations of a four dimensional low-energy limit of string theory is the **vacuum selection problem**
- Most vacua are *false* in that they do not resemble Nature at all
- Among the landscape of possibilities, we do not have even one solution that reproduces all the particle physics and cosmology we know

The Unreal World

- The objective is to obtain the real world from a string compactification
- We would happily settle for a modestly unreal world

$\mathcal{N} = 1$ supersymmetry in 4 dimensions

$$G = SU(3)_C \times SU(2)_L \times U(1)_Y$$

Matter in chiral representations of G :

$$(\mathbf{3}, \mathbf{2})_{\frac{1}{6}}, (\bar{\mathbf{3}}, \mathbf{1})_{-\frac{2}{3}}, (\bar{\mathbf{3}}, \mathbf{1})_{\frac{1}{3}}, (\mathbf{1}, \mathbf{2})_{\pm\frac{1}{2}}, (\mathbf{1}, \mathbf{1})_1, (\mathbf{1}, \mathbf{1})_0$$

$$\text{Superpotential } W \supset \lambda^{ij} \phi \bar{\psi}_L^i \psi_R^j$$

Three copies of matter such that λ^{ij} not identical

Consistent with cosmology

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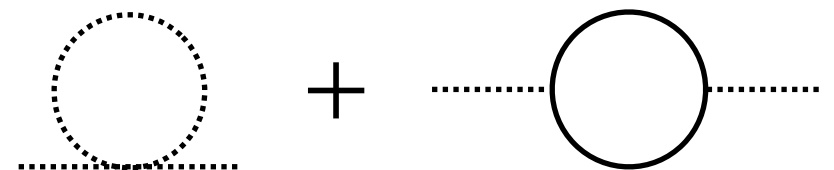
$\mathcal{N} = 1$ supersymmetry in 4 dimensions



No experimental evidence so far!

$$Q|\lambda\rangle \sim |\lambda \pm \frac{1}{2}\rangle$$

$$|\text{boson}\rangle \longleftrightarrow |\text{fermion}\rangle$$



$$m_H \ll m_P$$

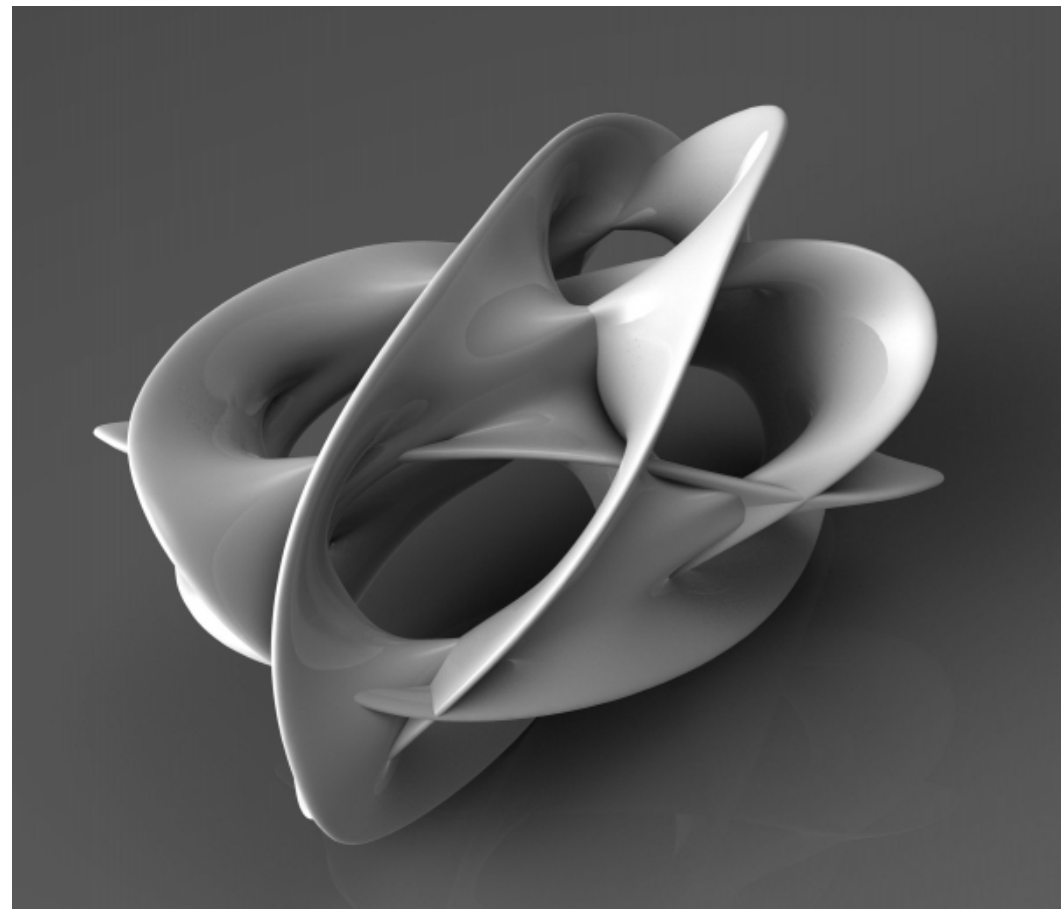
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Because it is Ricci flat, the Calabi–Yau geometry ensures 4d supersymmetry

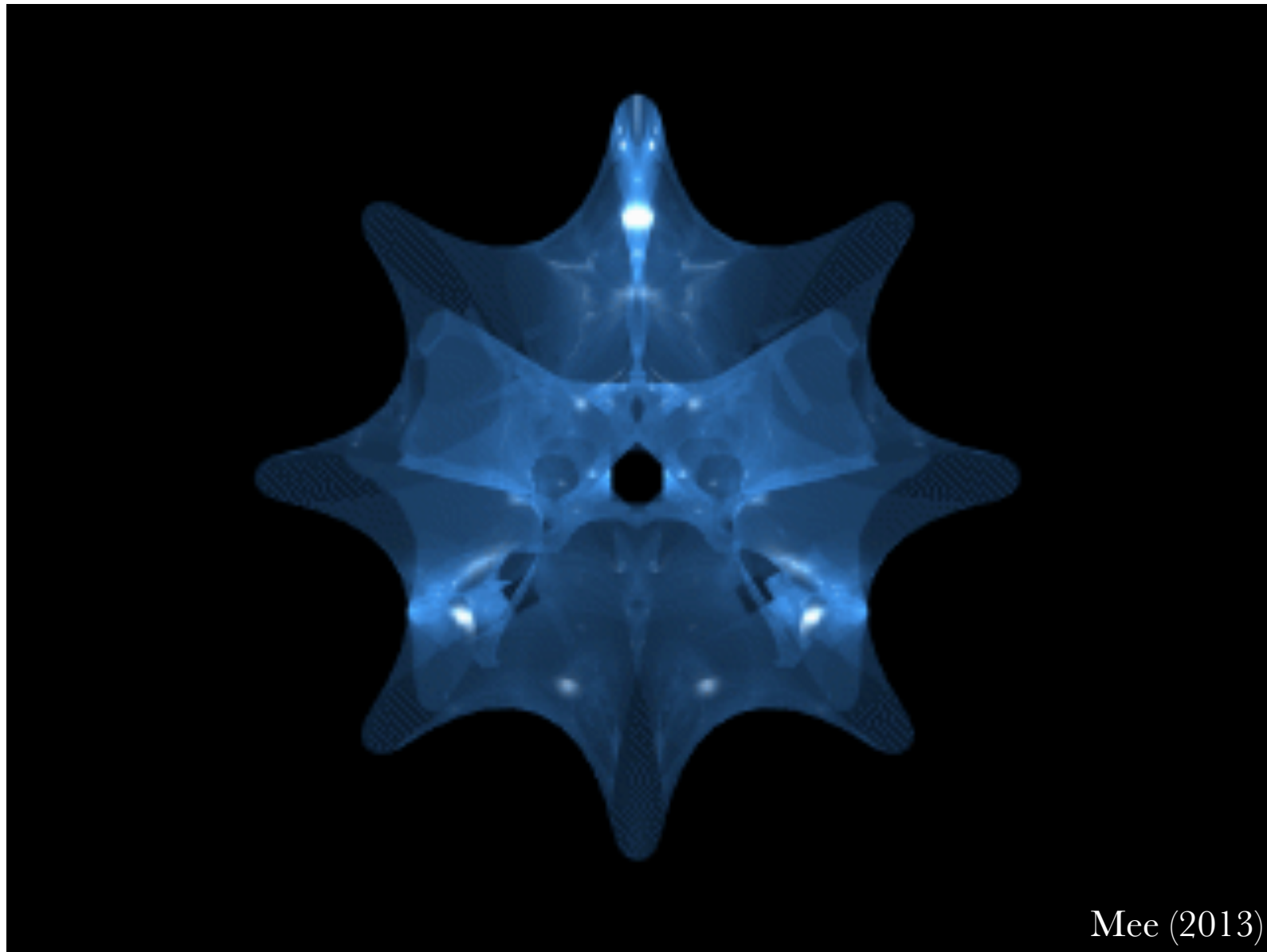
Use topological and geometric features of the Calabi–Yau to recover aspects of the real world



PREDICTING A CALABI-YAU's

TOPOLOGICAL INVARIANTS

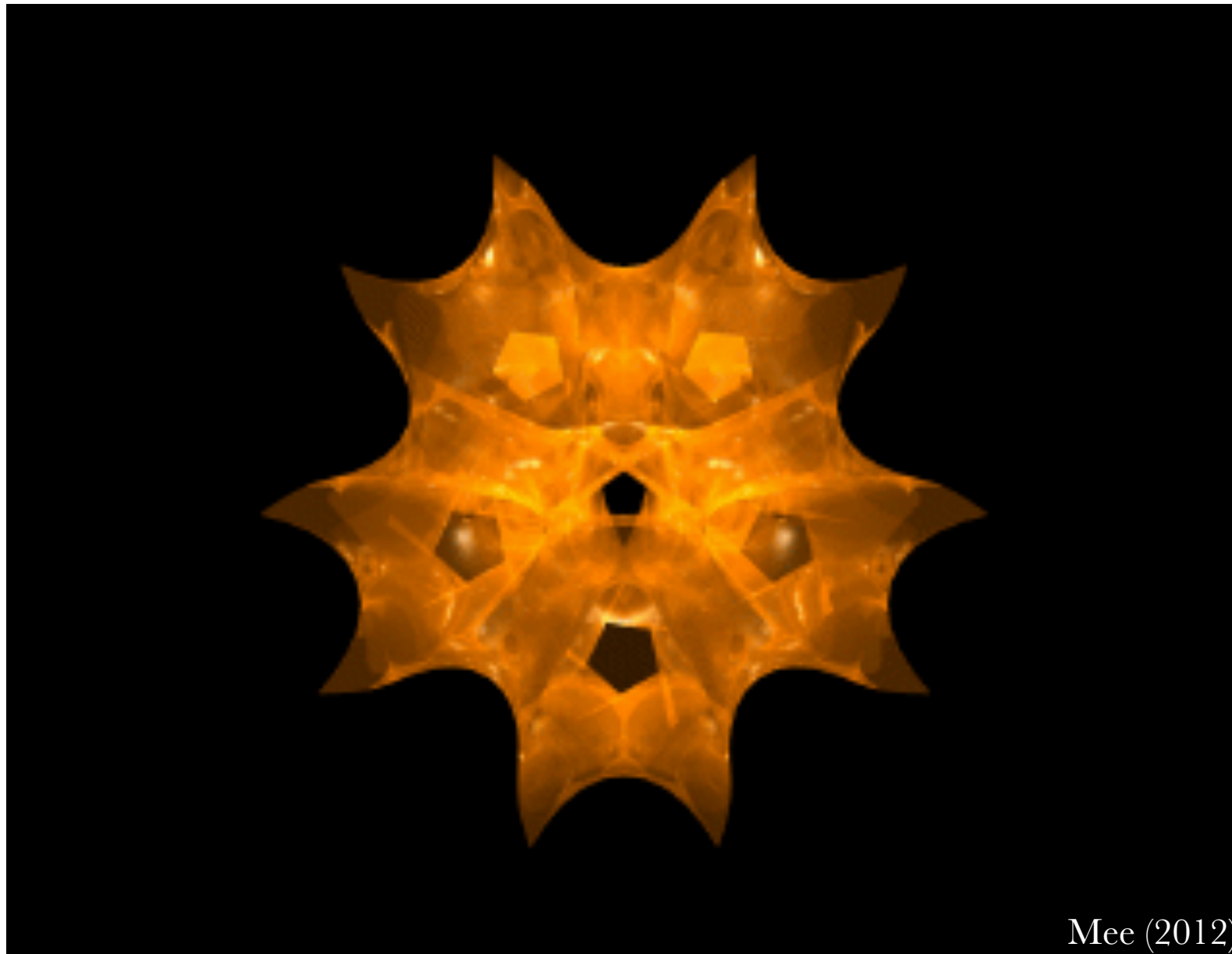
Calabi–Yau



Mee (2013)

$$w^4 + x^4 + y^4 + z^4 = 0 \subset \mathbb{P}^3$$

Calabi–Yau



$$u^5 + v^5 + x^5 + y^5 + z^5 = 0 \subset \mathbb{P}^4$$

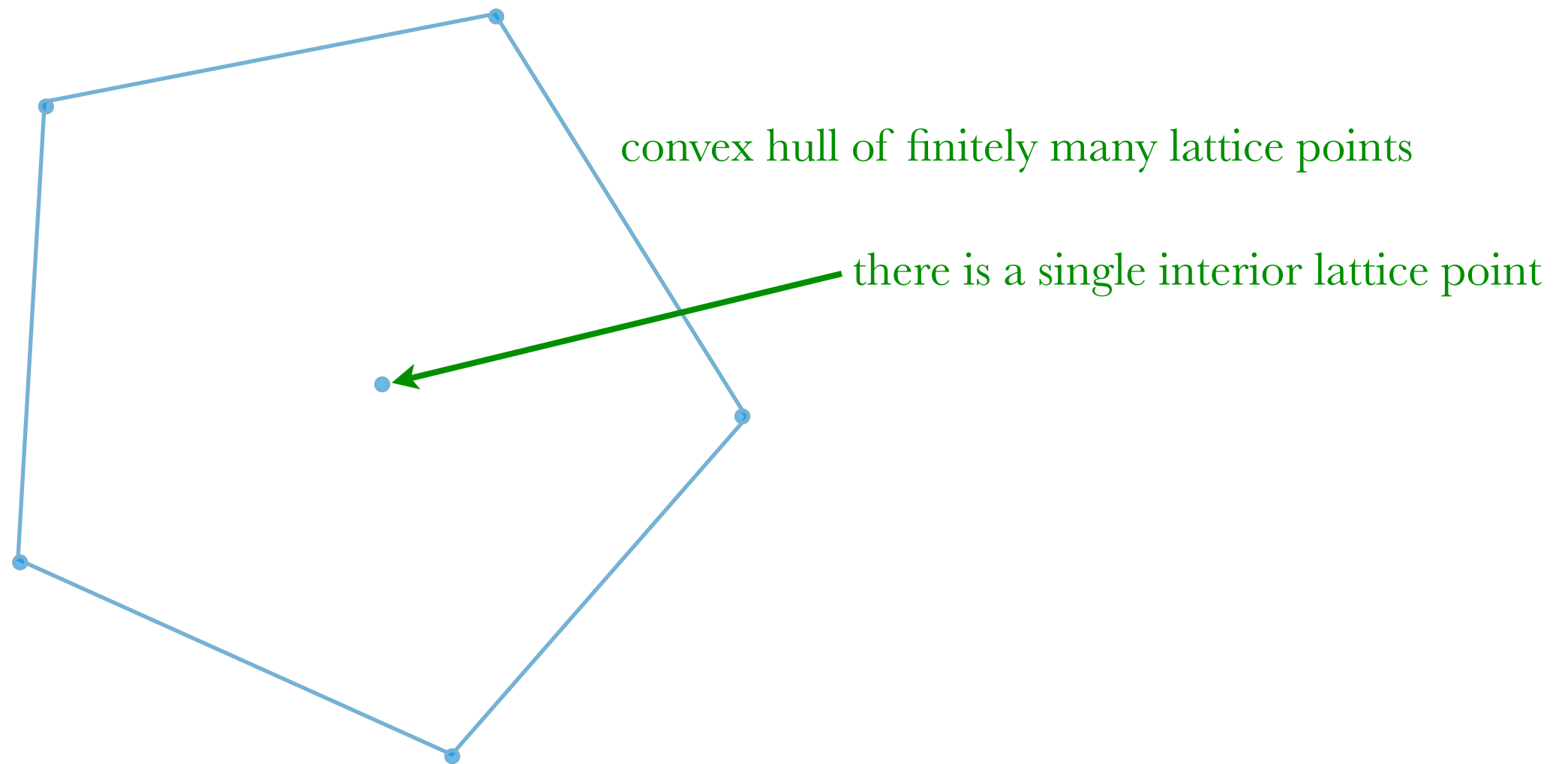
There is a nowhere vanishing holomorphic n -form

The canonical bundle is trivial

There is a Kähler metric with holonomy in $SU(n)$

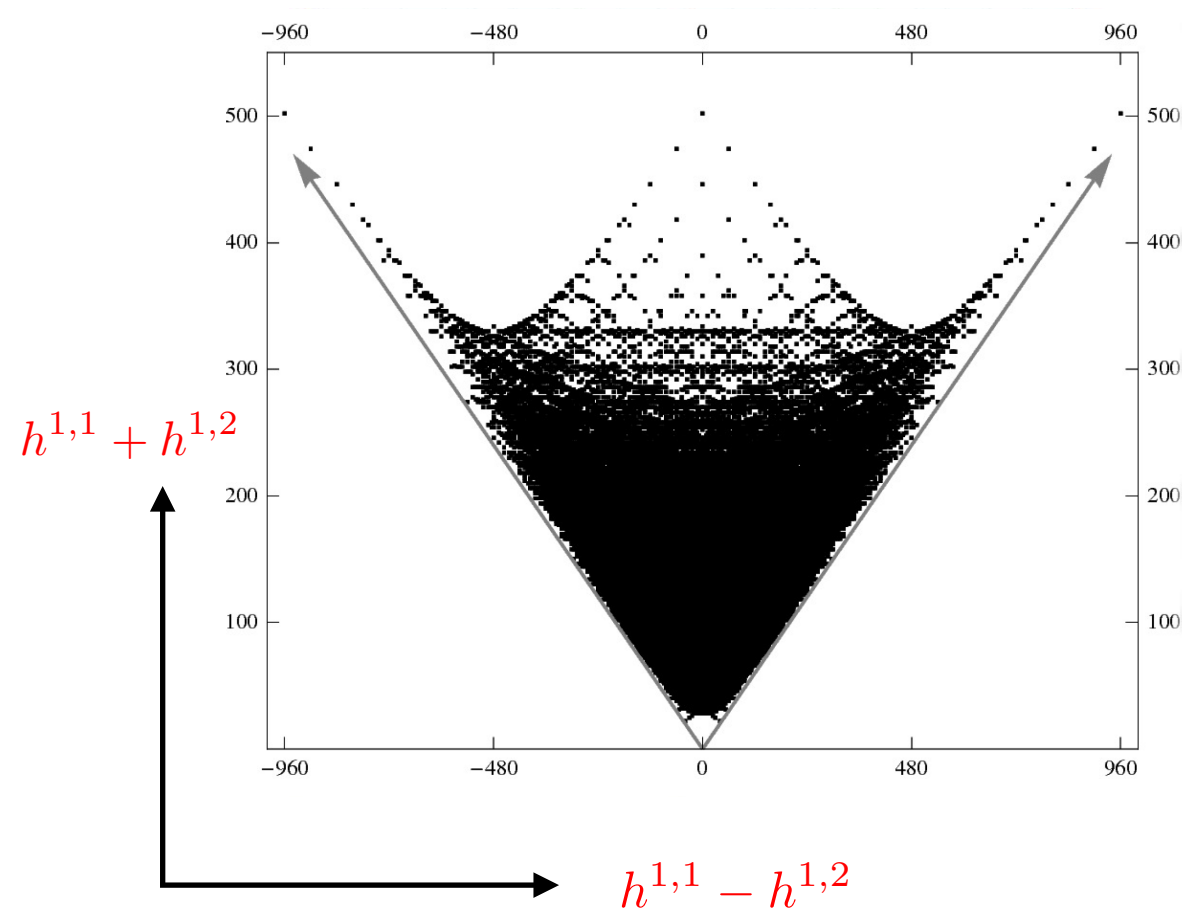
Reflexive Polytopes

- Starting from a reflexive polytope, one can build a toric Calabi–Yau via methods of Batyrev, Borisov



Reflexive Polytopes Catalogued

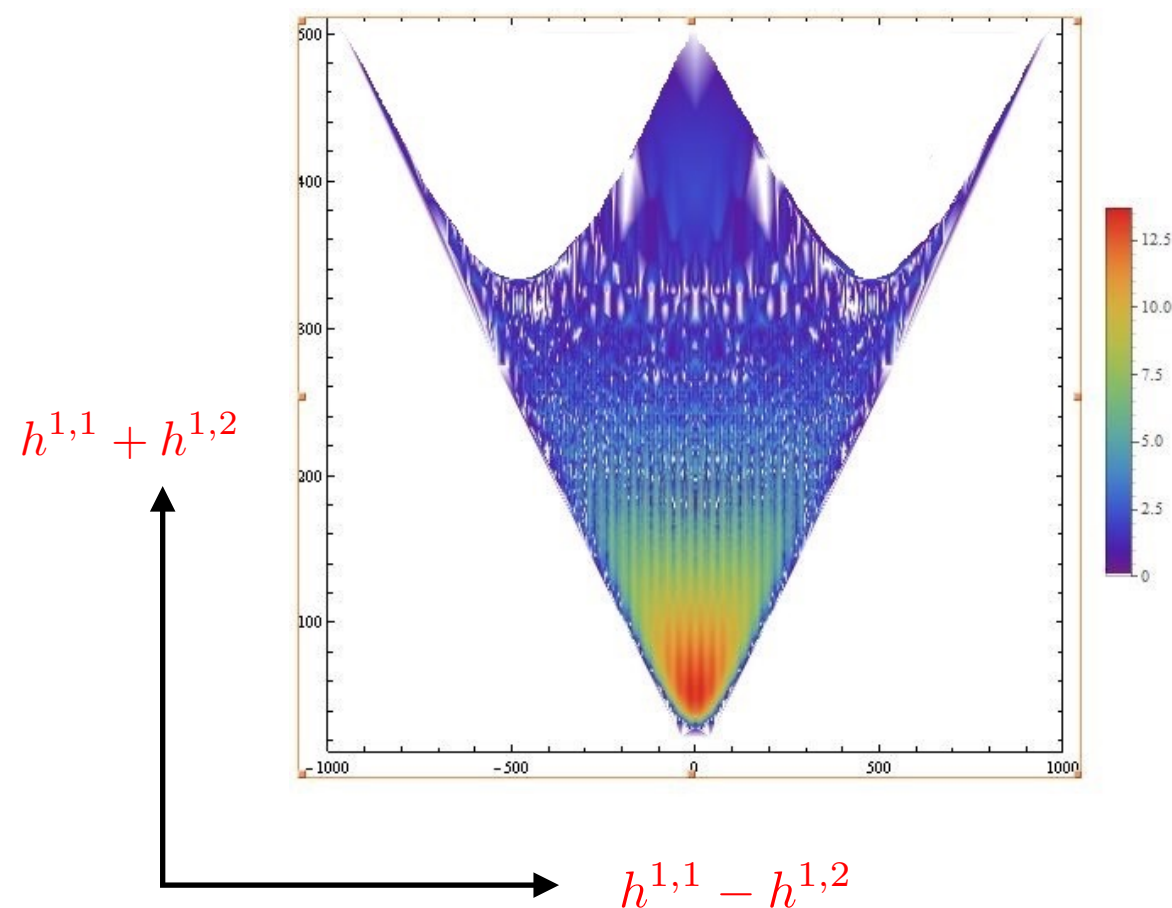
- Starting from a reflexive polytope, one can build a toric Calabi–Yau via methods of Batyrev, Borisov
- Kreuzer–Skarke obtained 473,800,776 reflexive polytopes that yield toric Calabi–Yau threefolds with 30,108 unique pairs of Hodge numbers



- Distribution of polytopes exhibits mirror symmetry

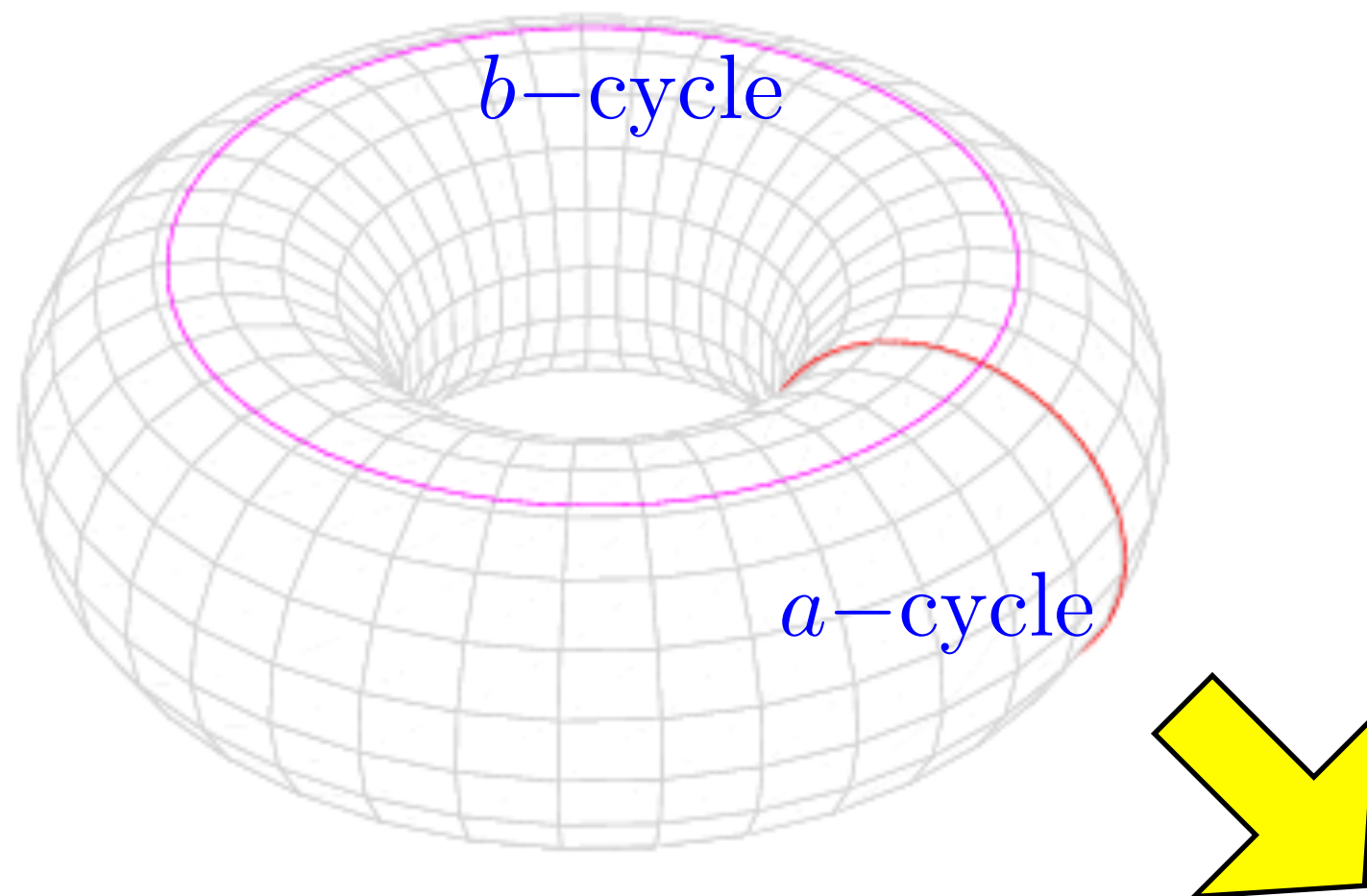
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- Distribution of polytopes exhibits mirror symmetry
- The peak of the distribution is at $(h^{1,1}, h^{1,2}) = (27, 27)$
There are 910,113 such polytopes
- Are there patterns in how the topological invariants are distributed?

Torus



Flat, but has non-trivial homotopy

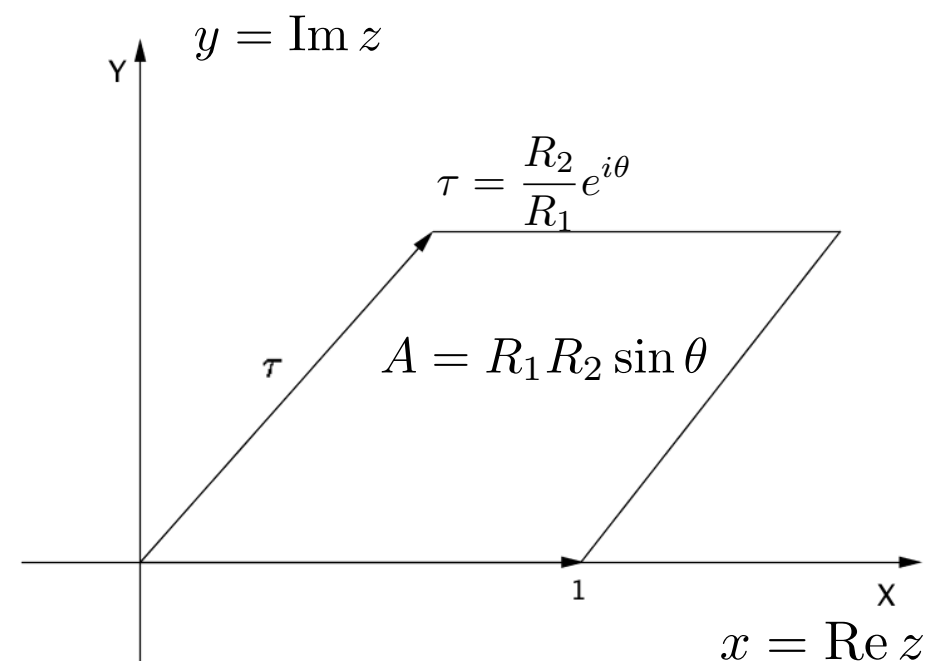
There are non-contractible cycles

Kähler parameter: area A

size

complex structure parameter: τ

shape



$$ds^2 = R_1^2 dx^2 + R_2^2 dy^2 + 2R_1 R_2 \cos \theta dx dy$$

Moduli of CY_3

- Geometrical moduli enumerated by number of embedded two-spheres and three-spheres

			1			b_0
		0		0		b_1
	0		$h^{1,1}$		0	b_2
1		$h^{1,2}$		$h^{2,1}$		b_3
	0		$h^{2,2}$		0	b_4
		0		0		b_5
			1			b_6

$$h^{p,q} = \dim H^{p,q}$$

$$b_k = \dim H^k = \sum_{p+q=k} h^{p,q}$$

$h^{p,q} = h^{q,p}$ (complex conjugation)

$h^{p,q} = h^{n-p,n-q}$ (Poincaré duality)

$$\chi = \sum_{p,q} (-1)^{p+q} h^{p,q}$$

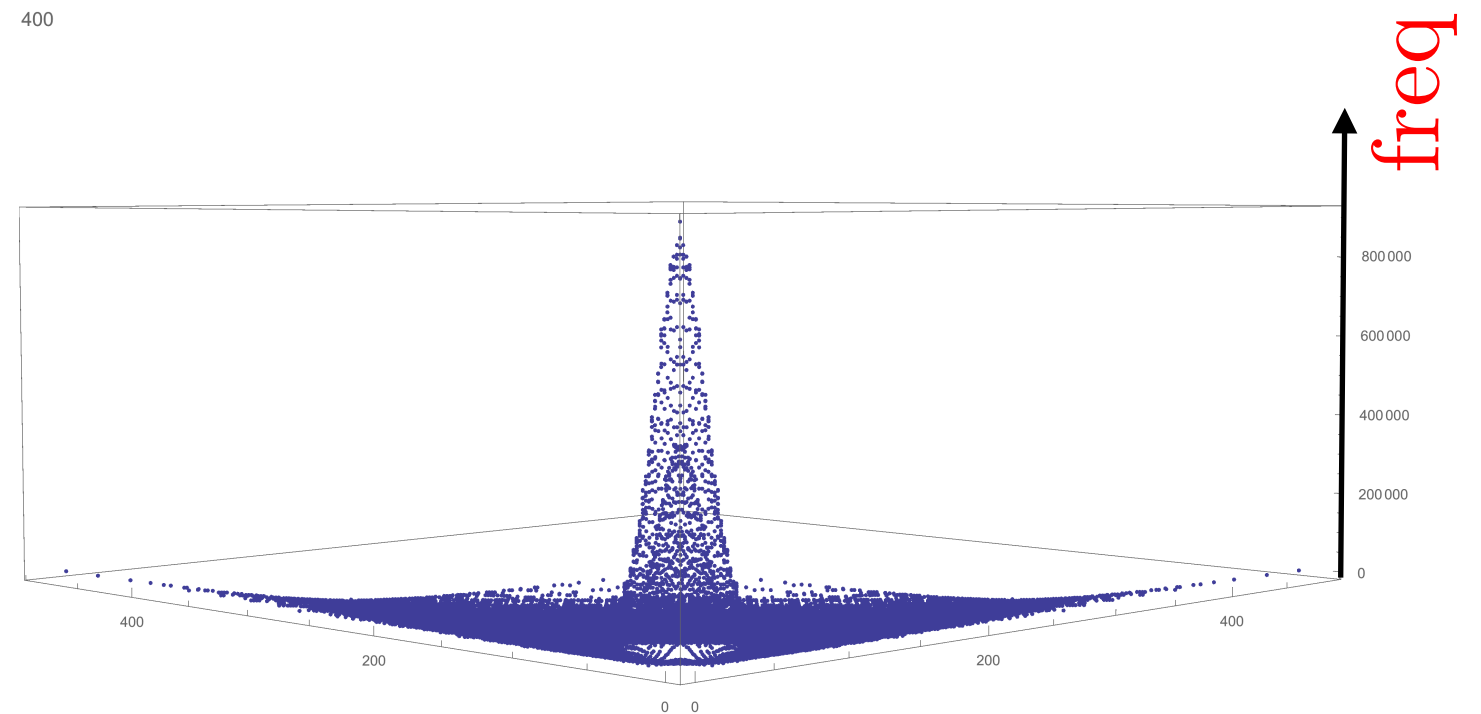
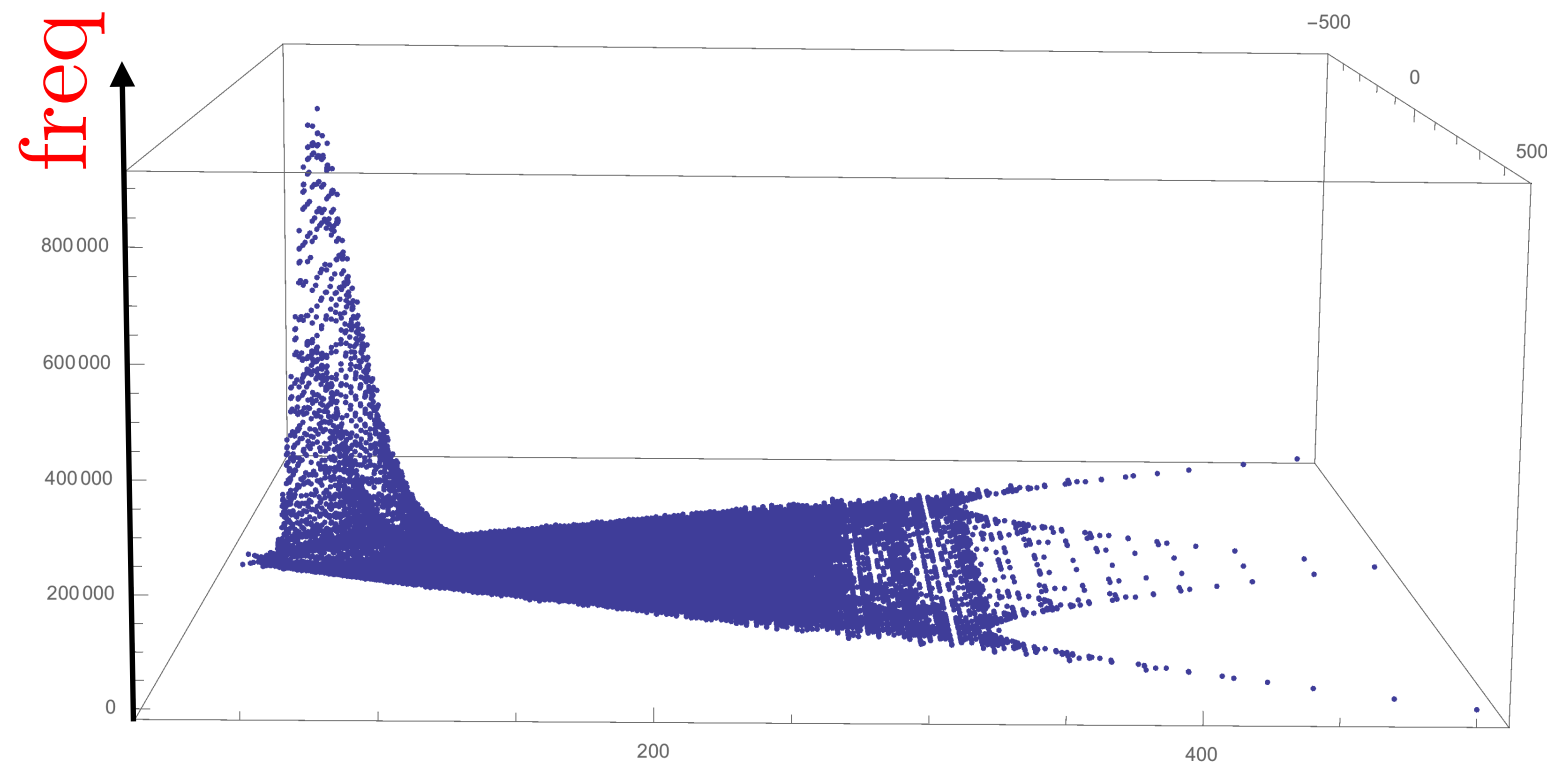
$h^{1,2} = \frac{b_3}{2} - 1$ **complex structure moduli**, counts the number of **three-cycles**

$h^{1,1} = b_2$ **Kähler moduli**, counts the number of two-cycles and four-cycles

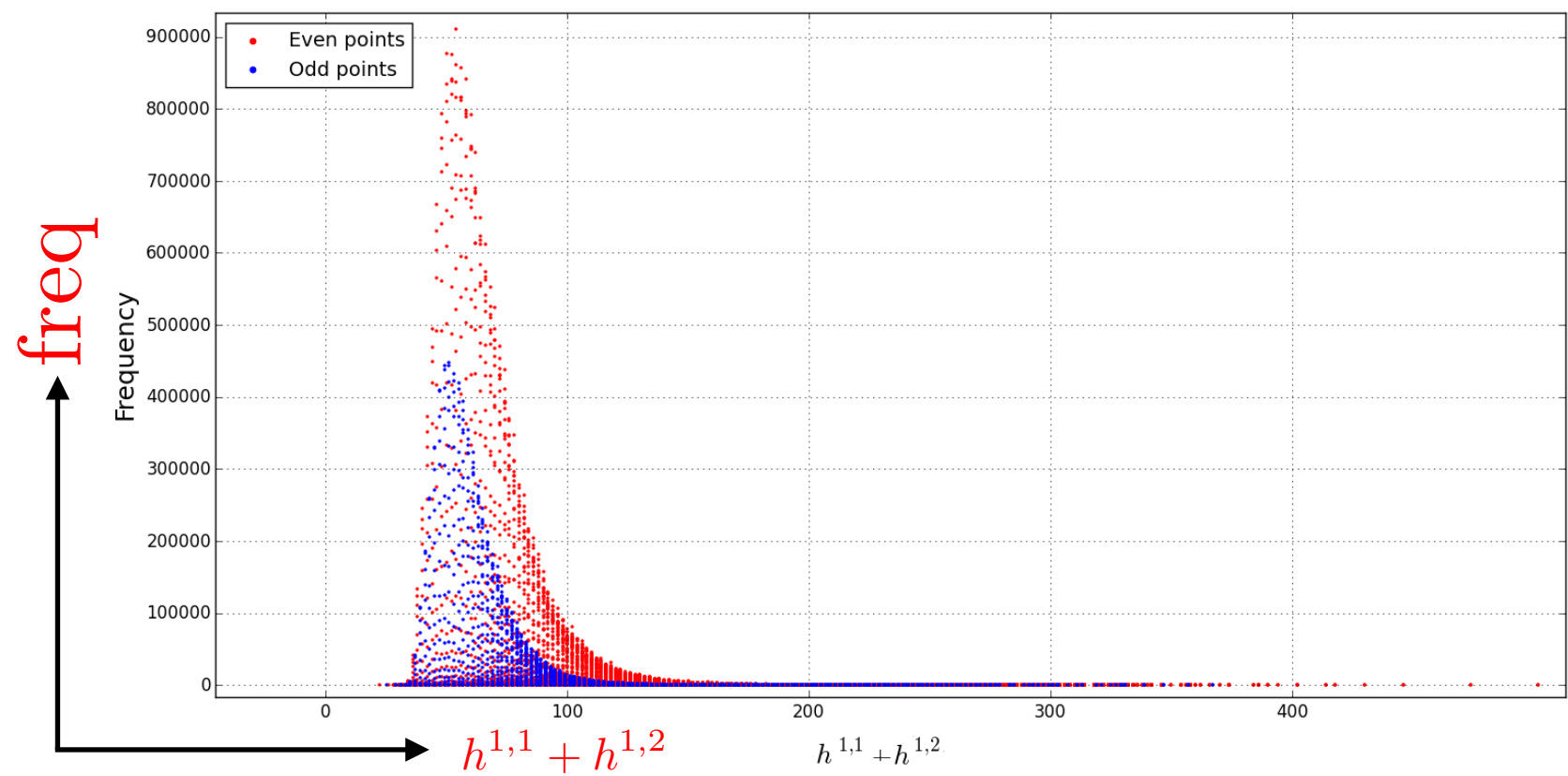
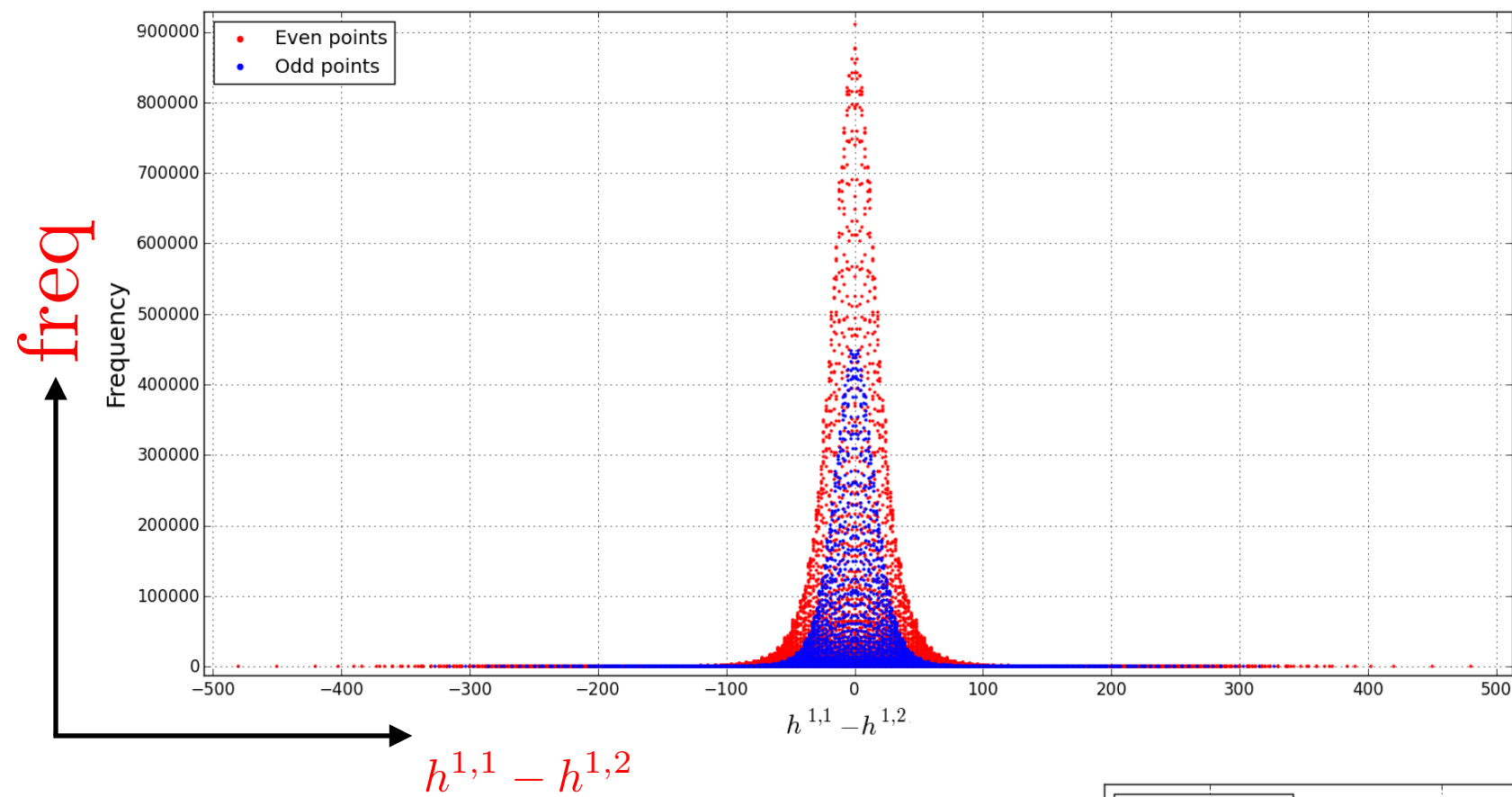
$$\chi = 2(h^{1,1} - h^{1,2}) \quad \textbf{Euler characteristic}, \quad N_g = \frac{1}{2}|\chi|$$

- **Mirror symmetry** says that we can rotate the Hodge diamond by $\pi/2$ and get a new Calabi–Yau with $h^{1,1} \leftrightarrow h^{1,2}$

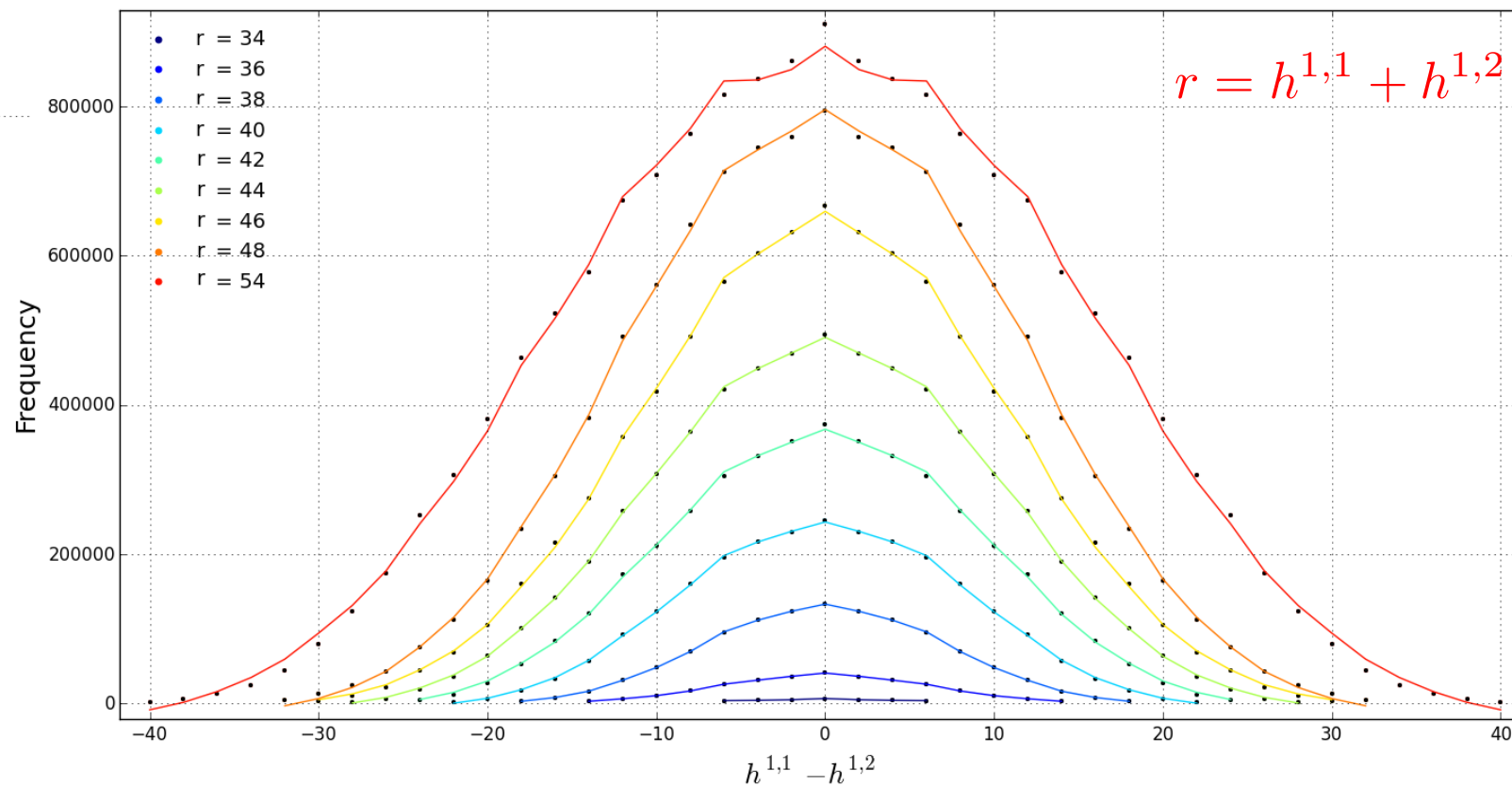
3d Plots of Polytope Data



Patterns in CY Distributions



Patterns in CY Distributions



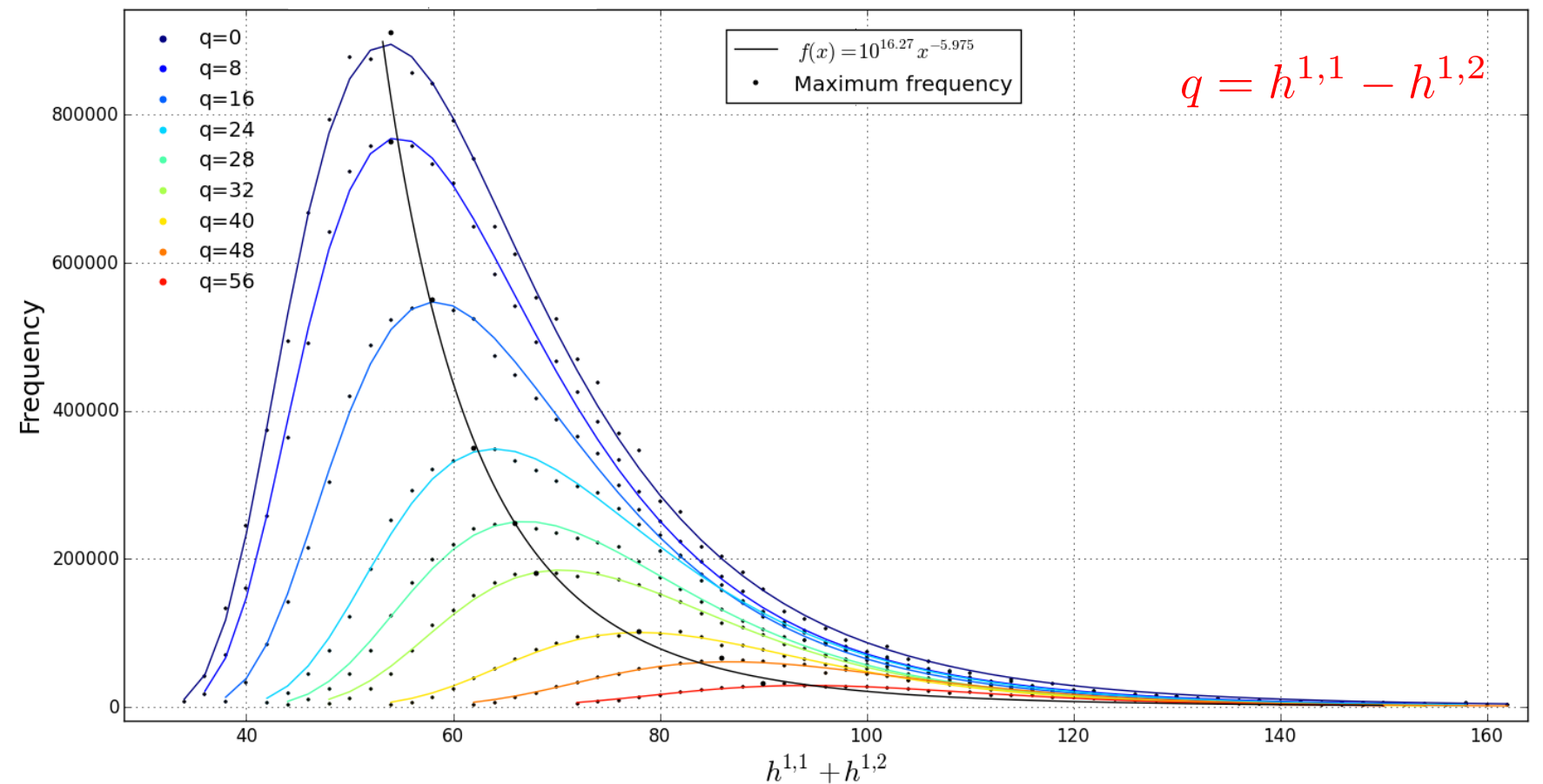
Pseudo-Voigt distribution

sum of Gaussian and Cauchy

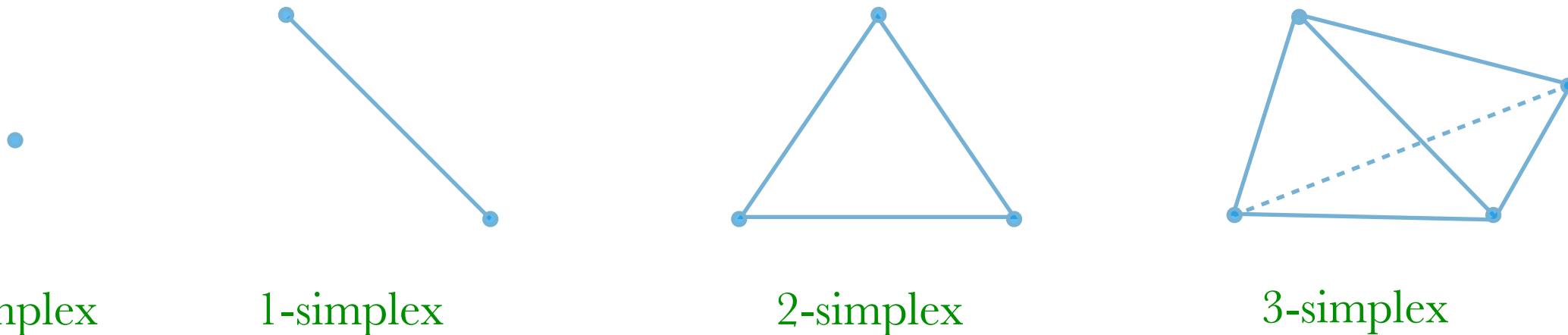
$$(1 - \alpha) \frac{A}{\sigma \sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-\frac{(x-\mu)^2}{2\sigma^2}} + \alpha \frac{A}{\pi} \left[\frac{\sigma^2}{(x - \mu)^2 + \sigma^2} \right]$$

Planck distribution

$$\frac{A}{x^n} \frac{1}{e^{b/(x-c)} - 1}$$

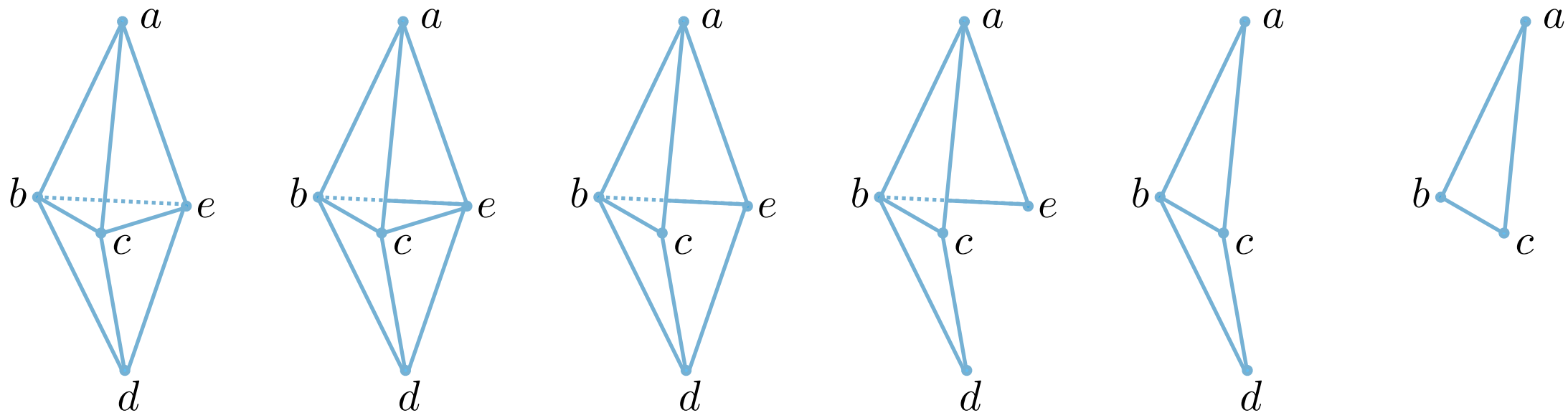


From Polytopes to Geometries



- A **triangulation** of \mathcal{P} is a partition into simplices such that:
 - the union of all simplices is \mathcal{P}
 - the intersection of any pair is a (possibly empty) common face
- From triangulation, we construct the Stanley–Reisner ring
- Unique rings correspond to different Calabi–Yau geometries
- For each, we have topological data, intersection form, Kähler cone

Example: S^2



$$I_{\Delta} = (ad, bce)$$

minimal non-faces

$$\mathbb{K}_{\Delta} = \mathbb{K}[a, b, c, d, e]/I_{\Delta}$$

Stanley–Reisner ring

Homeomorphic to two-sphere

From Polytopes to Geometries

- Every triangulation of a reflexive polytope can yield a Calabi–Yau
- We do not know how many toric Calabi–Yau geometries there are
- Different triangulations of the same polytope are expected, in general, to give different Calabi–Yau manifolds
- In principle, triangulations of different polytopes can give the same Calabi–Yau manifold
- The Calabi–Yau inherits topological invariants from the polytope
- 16 polytopes in \mathbb{R}^2 give rise to elliptic curves (Calabi–Yau onefolds)
4319 polytopes in \mathbb{R}^3 give rise to K3 (Calabi–Yau twofolds)
473800776 polytopes in \mathbb{R}^4 give rise to at least 30108 Calabi–Yau threefolds

A Calabi–Yau Database

Toric CY Database

Wiki Page

Contact Info

Toric Calabi-Yau Database

This database is based on [arXiv:1411.1418](#). Please [cite us](#).
Constructed with support from the National Science Foundation under grant NSF/CCF-1048082, EAGER: CiC: A String Cartography.

Basic Query

Advanced Query

Enter search parameters:

Format: Integers

Polytope ID #:

Format: Integers

h11:

h21:

Euler #:

Favorable?:

Fundamental Group:

Format: Integers

Polytope #:

Geometry # (within polytope):

Triangulation # (within geometry):

Triangulation # (within polytope):

Format: Integers

of Geometries (within polytope):

of Triangulations (within geometry):

of Triangulations (within polytope):

Format: Integers

of Newton Polytope Vertices:

of Newton Polytope Points:

of Dual Polytope Vertices:

of Dual Polytope Points:

Format: $\{\{\dots\},\{\dots\},\dots,\{\dots\}\}$
(Mathematica matrix)

(Resolved) Weight Matrix:

Newton Polytope Vertex Matrix:

Dual Polytope (Resolved) Vertex Matrix:

CY 2nd Chern Numbers:

Intersection Polynomial or Tensor:

Select Polytope Properties:

☐ Polytope ID #
☐ Polytope #
☐ H11
☐ H21
☐ Euler #
☐ Favorable?
☐ # of Newton Polytope Vertices
☐ # of Newton Polytope Points
☐ Newton Polytope Vertex Matrix
☐ # of Dual Polytope Vertices
☐ # of Dual Polytope Points
☐ Dual Polytope Vertex Matrix
☐ Dual Polytope Resolved Vertex Matrix
☐ Weight Matrix
☐ Resolved Weight Matrix
☐ Toric to Basis Divisor Transformation Matrix
☐ Basis from Toric Divisors
☐ Basis to Toric Divisor Transformation Matrix
☐ Toric from Basis Divisors
☐ Fundamental Group
☐ # of Geometries (within polytope)
☐ # of Triangulations (within polytope)

Select CY Geometry Properties:

☐ Geometry # (within polytope)
☐ # of Triangulations (within geometry)
☐ CY 2nd Chern Class (Basis)
☐ CY 2nd Chern Numbers
☐ CY Intersection Polynomial (Basis)
☐ CY Intersection Tensor (Basis)
☐ CY Mori Cone Matrix
☐ CY Kahler Cone Matrix
☐ Toric Swiss Cheese Solutions
☐ Explicit Swiss Cheese Solutions

Select Triangulation-Specific Properties:

☐ Triangulation # (within geometry)
☐ Triangulation # (within polytope)
☐ Triangulation
☐ Stanley-Reisner Ideal
☐ Ambient Chern Classes (Toric)
☐ Ambient Chern Classes (Basis)
☐ CY 2nd Chern Class (Toric)
☐ CY 3rd Chern Class (Toric)
☐ CY 3rd Chern Class (Basis)
☐ Ambient Intersection Polynomial (Toric)
☐ Ambient Intersection Tensor (Toric)
☐ Ambient Intersection Polynomial (Basis)
☐ Ambient Intersection Tensor (Basis)
☐ CY Intersection Polynomial (Toric)
☐ CY Intersection Tensor (Toric)
☐ Phase Mori Cone Matrix
☐ Phase Kahler Cone Matrix

Count Only:

Match: Polytopes
(0 = Unconstrained)

Search!

<https://rossealtman.com>

Altman, Gray, He, VJ, Nelson (2014)

CICY_s

- Zero locus of a set of homogeneous polynomials over combined set of coordinates of projective spaces

$$X = \begin{matrix} \mathbb{P}^{n_1} \\ \vdots \\ \mathbb{P}^{n_\ell} \end{matrix} \left(\begin{matrix} q_1^1 & \cdots & q_K^1 \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ q_1^\ell & \cdots & q_K^\ell \end{matrix} \right)_\chi$$

configuration matrix

$$\sum_r n_r - K = 3 \quad \text{complete intersection threefold}$$

$$\sum_a q_a^r = n_r + 1, \quad \forall r \in \{1, \dots, \ell\}$$

$$c_1 = 0$$

- K equations of multi-degree $q_a^r \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}$ embedded in $\mathbb{P}^{n_1} \times \cdots \times \mathbb{P}^{n_\ell}$

- Example:** quintic $\mathbb{P}^4(5)_{-200}$

$$4 - 1 = 3$$

$$5 = 4 + 1$$

- Other examples:

$$\mathbb{P}^5(3, 3)_{-144}, \quad \mathbb{P}^5(4, 2)_{-176}, \quad \mathbb{P}^6(3, 2, 2)_{-144}, \quad \mathbb{P}^7(2, 2, 2, 2)_{-128}$$

CICYs

- Tian–Yau manifold: $\begin{matrix} \mathbb{P}^3 \\ \mathbb{P}^3 \end{matrix} \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 3 & 1 \end{pmatrix}_{-18} \iff \begin{matrix} a^{\alpha\beta\gamma} w_\alpha w_\beta w_\gamma & = & 0 \\ b^{\alpha\beta\gamma} z_\alpha z_\beta z_\gamma & = & 0 \\ c^{\alpha\beta} w_\alpha z_\beta & = & 0 \end{matrix}$
 $h^{1,1} = 14, \quad h^{1,2} = 23$

freely acting \mathbb{Z}_3 quotient gives manifold with $\chi = -6$

central to early string phenomenology

- Transpose is Schön's manifold, also Calabi–Yau

$$\begin{matrix} \mathbb{P}^2 \\ \mathbb{P}^2 \\ \mathbb{P}^1 \end{matrix} \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 0 \\ 0 & 3 \\ 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \chi = 0$$

$$h^{1,1} = h^{1,2} = 19$$

$$\frac{1}{3} \cdot 5 \cdot (5 - 5^3) = -200$$

$$\frac{1}{3} \cdot (4 \times 2) \cdot (6 - 4^3 - 2^3) = -176$$

$$\frac{1}{3} \cdot (3 \times 3) \cdot (6 - 3^3 - 3^3) = -144$$

- Can compute χ from configuration matrix

⋮

CICYs

- We have: 7890 configuration matrices

Candelas, He, Hübsch, Lutken, Lynker,
Schimmrigk, Berglund (1986-1990)

1×1 to 12×15 with $q_a^r \in [0, 5]$

266 distinct Hodge pairs $0 \leq h^{1,1} \leq 19$, $0 \leq h^{1,2} \leq 101$

70 distinct Euler characters $\chi \in [-200, 0]$

195 have freely acting symmetries, 37 different finite groups

from \mathbb{Z}_2 to $\mathbb{Z}_8 \rtimes H_8$

Braun (2010)

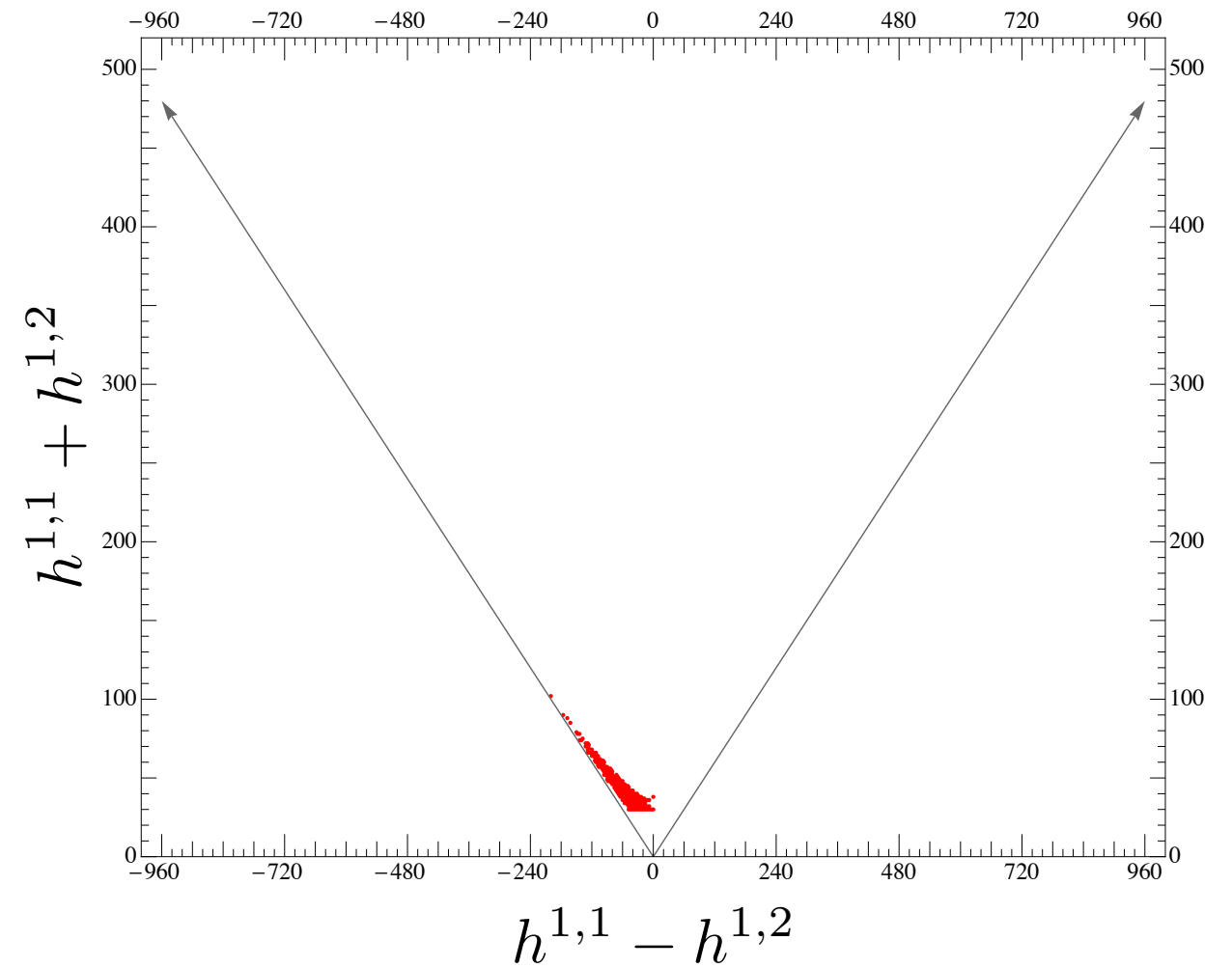
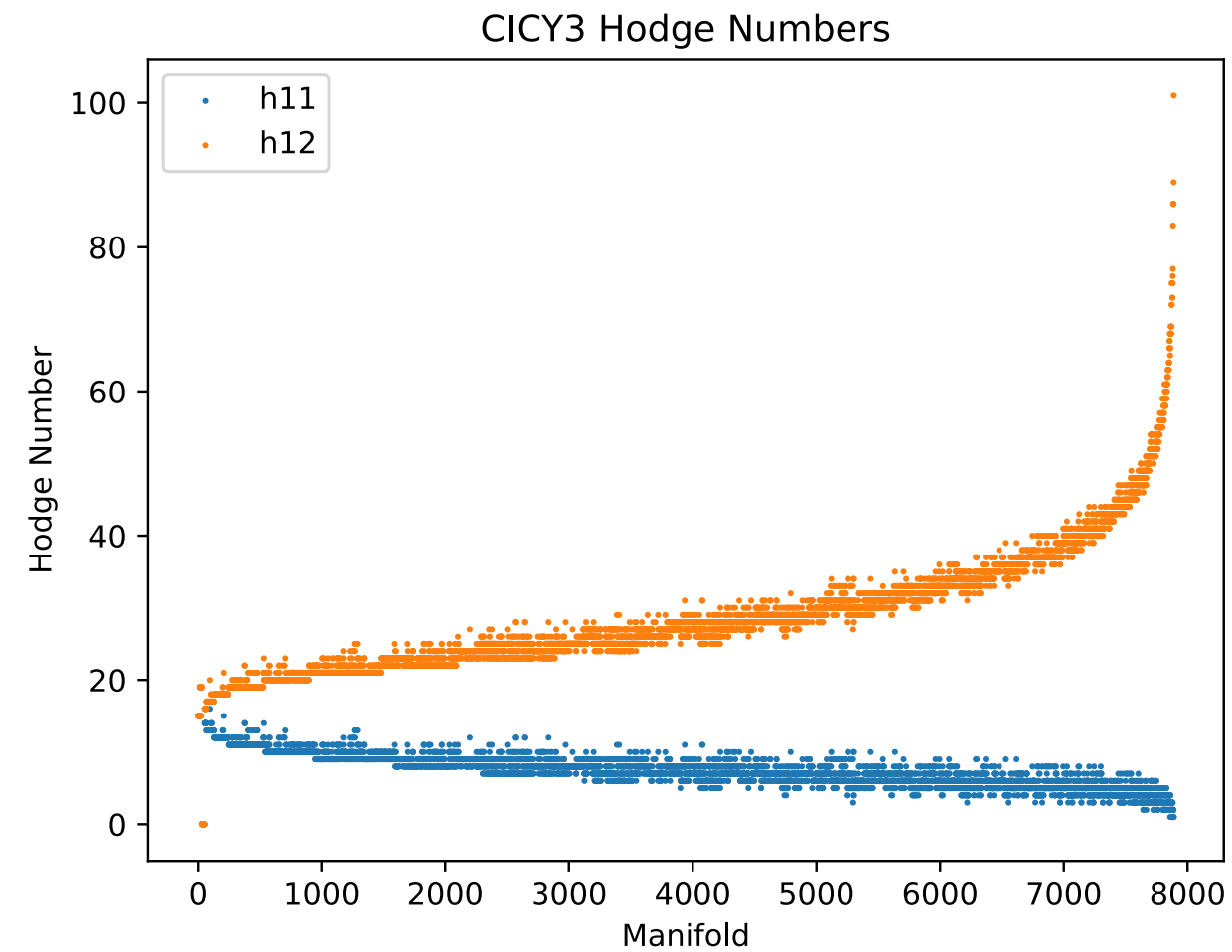
- By comparison, for fourfolds, there are 921497 CICYs

$$4h^{1,1} - 2h^{1,2} + 4h^{1,3} - h^{2,2} + 44 = 0$$

Most of these are elliptically fibered

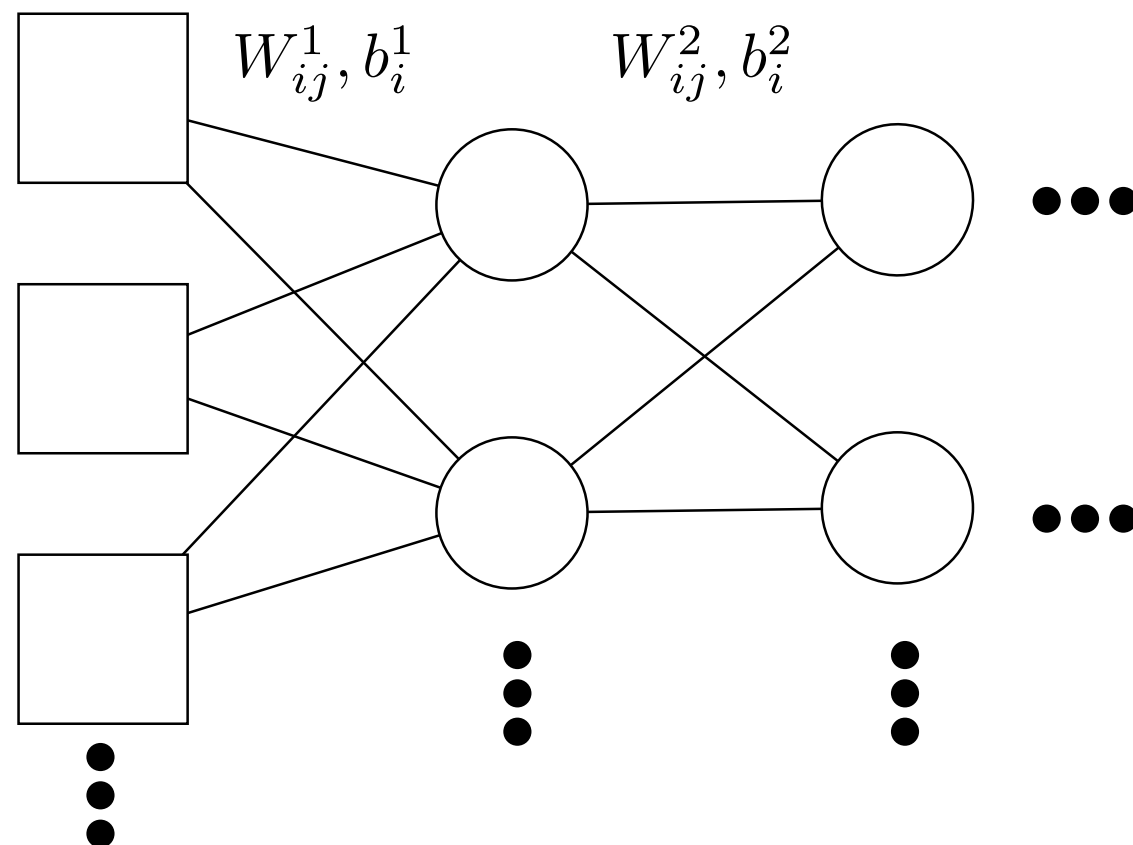
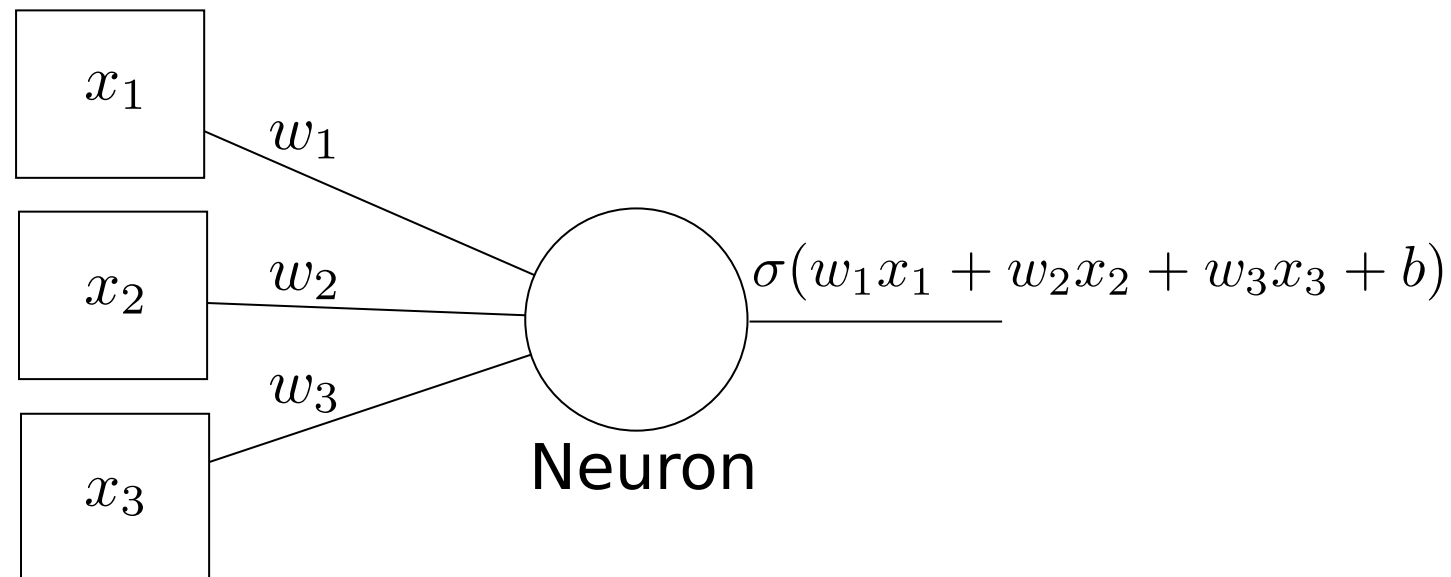
Gray, Haupt, Lukas (2013)

CICY Hodge Numbers



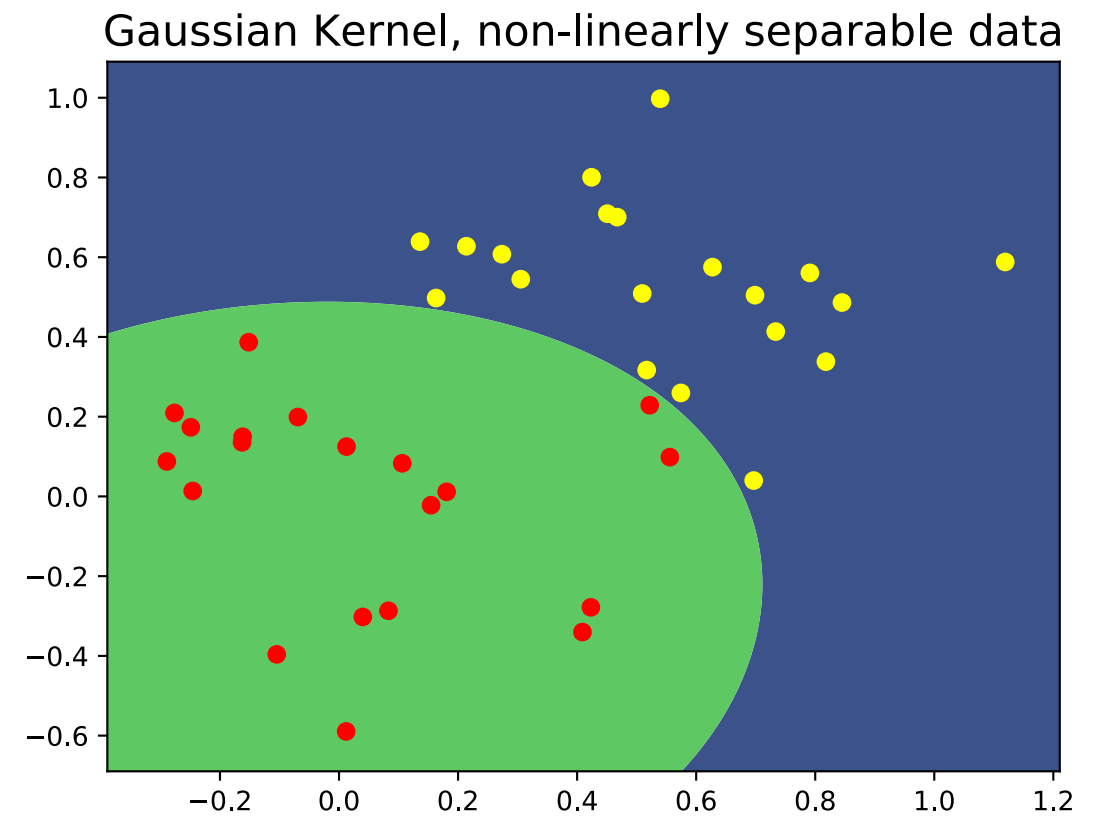
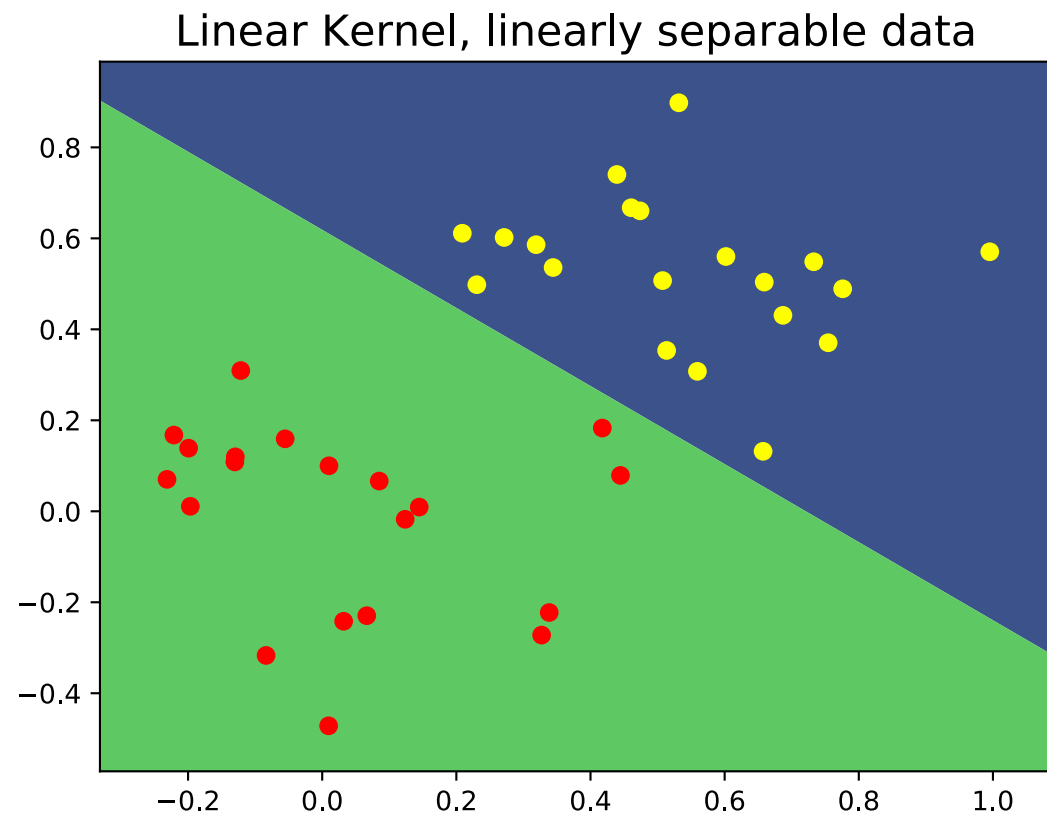
Feedforward Neural Networks

Input vector



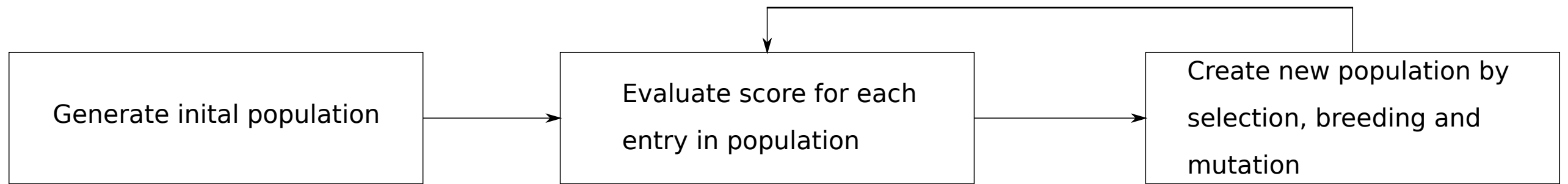
Schematic representation of feedforward neural network. The top figure denotes the perceptron (a single neuron), the bottom, the multiple neurons and multiple layers of the neural network.

Support Vector Machines



SVM separation boundary calculated using our cvxopt implementation with a randomly generated data set.

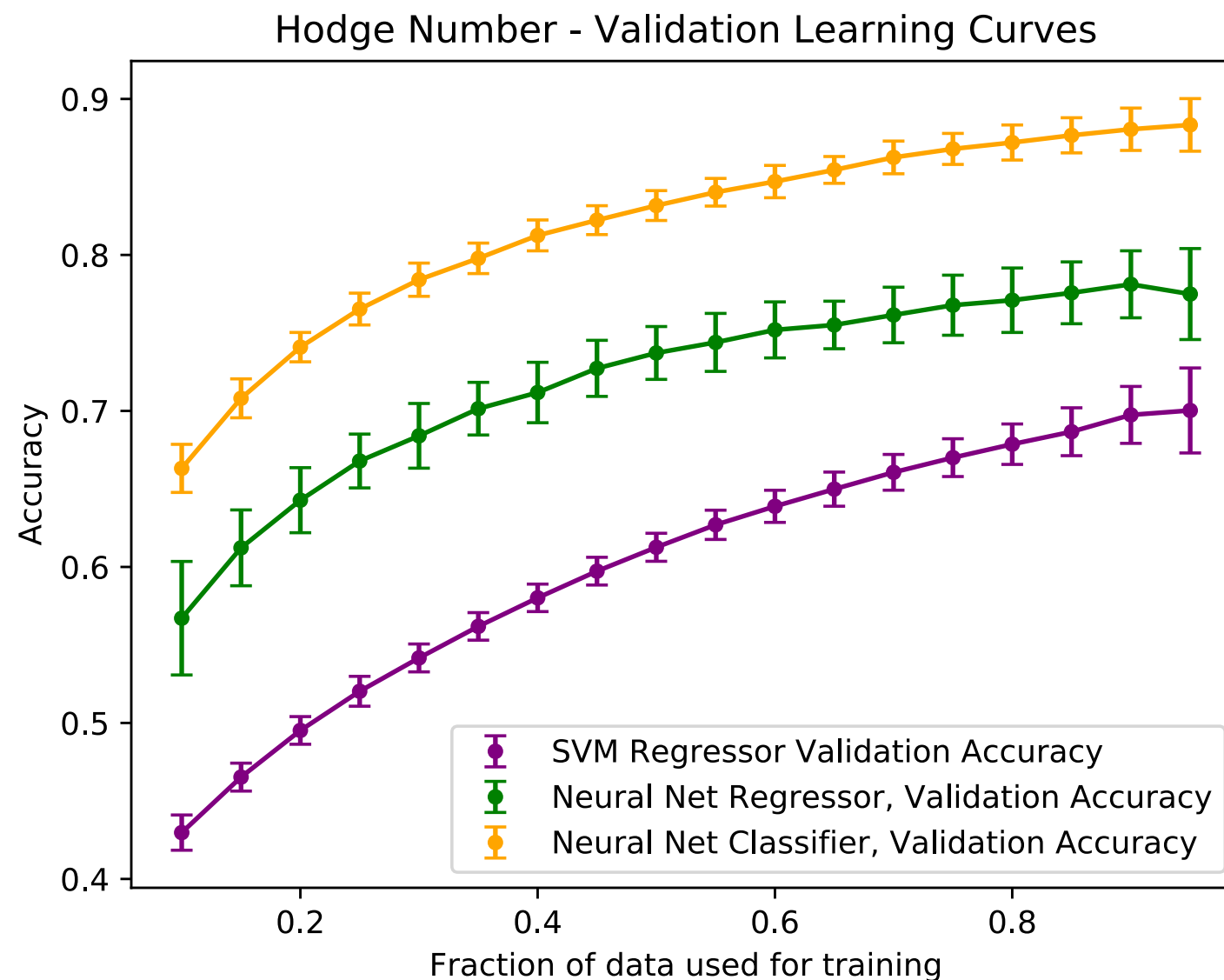
Genetic Algorithms



Used to fix hyperparameters (*e.g.*, number of hidden layers and neurons in them, activation functions, learning rates and dropout) in neural network.

Machine Learning $h^{1,1}$

- Since we know $\chi = 2(h^{1,1} - h^{1,2})$ from intersection matrix, we choose to machine learn $h^{1,1} \in [0, 19]$
- Previous efforts discriminated large and small $h^{1,1}$
- Use Neural Network classifier/regressor and SVM regressor



Machine Learning $h^{1,1}$

	Accuracy	RMS	R^2	WLB	WUB
SVM Reg	0.70 ± 0.02	0.53 ± 0.06	0.78 ± 0.08	0.642	0.697
NN Reg	0.78 ± 0.02	0.46 ± 0.05	0.72 ± 0.06	0.742	0.791
NN Class	0.88 ± 0.02	-	-	0.847	0.886

$$\text{RMS} := \left(\frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N (y_i^{\text{pred}} - y_i)^2 \right)^{1/2} \quad R^2 := 1 - \frac{\sum_i (y_i - y_i^{\text{pred}})^2}{\sum_i (y_i - \bar{y})^2}$$

$$\omega_{\pm} := \frac{p + \frac{z^2}{2n}}{1 + \frac{z^2}{n}} \pm \frac{z}{1 + \frac{z^2}{n}} \left(\frac{p(1-p)}{n} + \frac{z^2}{4n^2} \right)^{1/2}$$

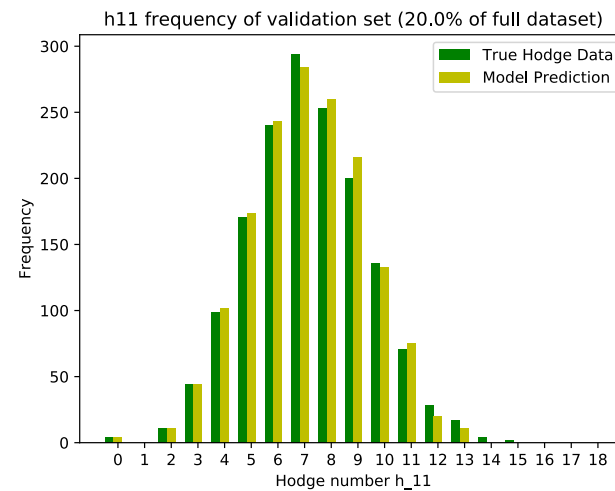
Wilson upper/lower bounds
(WUB/WLB)

y_i	actual value
\bar{y}	average value
y_i^{pred}	predicted value
p	probability of successful prediction
z	probit
n	number of samples

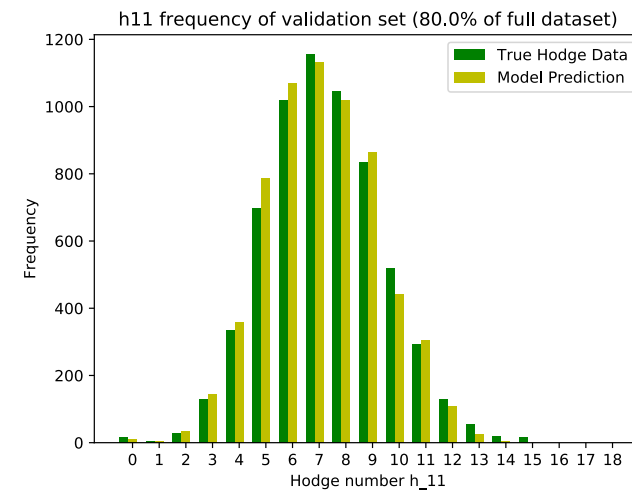
Machine Learning $h^{1,1}$

NN classifier

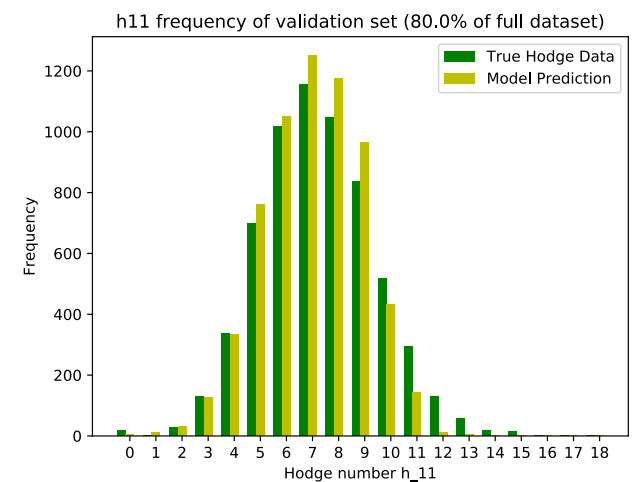
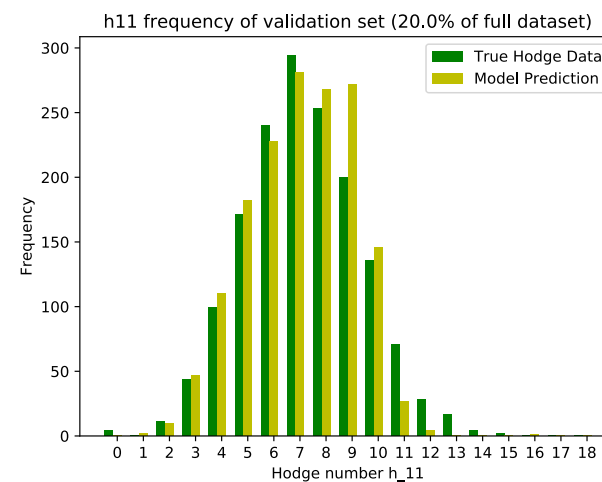
20%



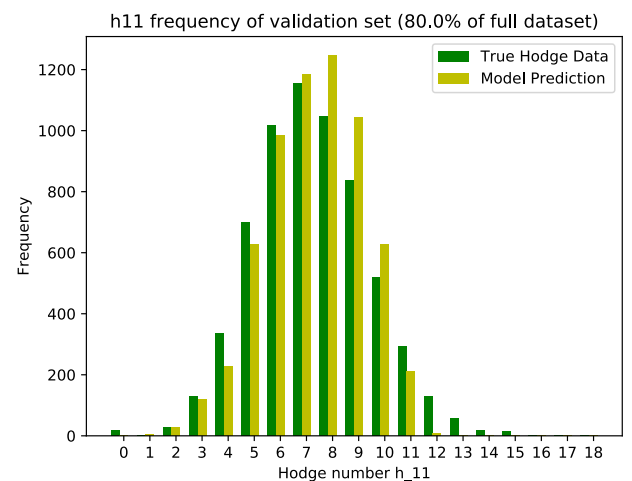
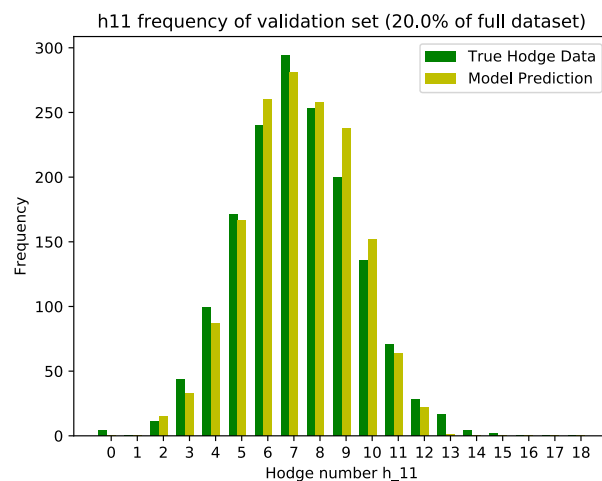
80%



NN regressor



SVM regressor



Quo Vadis?

The Good

During the last 10-15 years, several international collaborations have computed geometrical and physical quantities and compiled them in vast databases that partially describe the string landscape

The Bad

Computations are hard, especially for a comprehensive treatment: dual cone algorithm (exponential), triangulation (exponential), Gröbner basis (double exponential), how to construct stable bundles over Calabi–Yau manifolds constructed from half a billion polytopes?

The Possibly Beautiful

Borrow techniques from “Big Data”

Machine Learning CICYs

- Subsequent work on topology of CICYs

Bull, He, VJ, Mishra (2019)

Erbin, Finotello (2020)

- Metrics on CICYs

— not known analytically

— needed, *e.g.*, to compute mass of electron

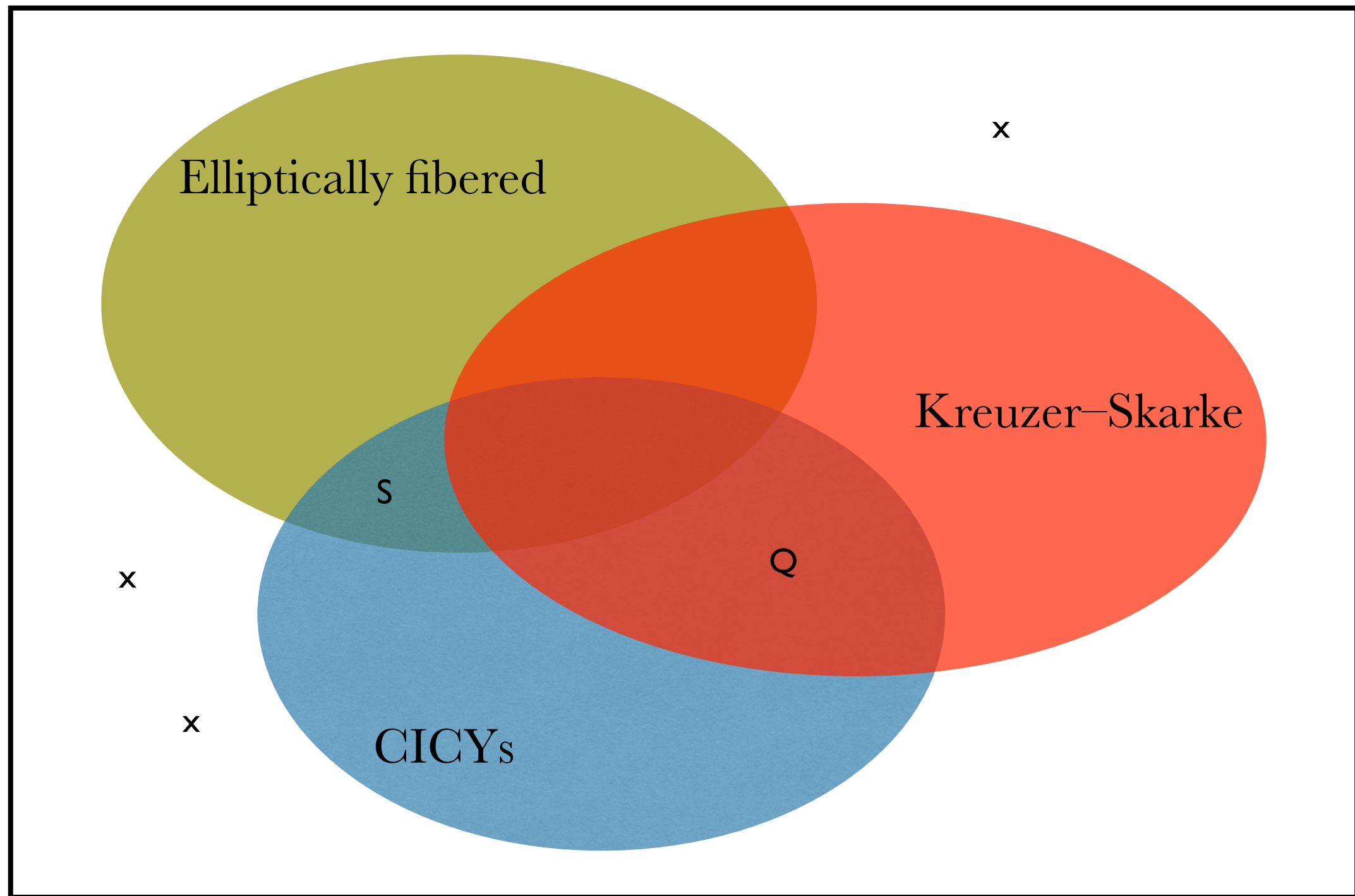
Ashmore, Ovrut, He (2019)

Anderson, Gerdes, Gray, Krippendorf, Raghuram, Rühle (2020)

Douglas, Lakshminarasimhan, Qi (2020)

VJ, Mayorga Peña, Mishra (2020)

Calabi–Yau Threefolds



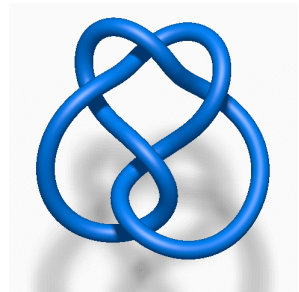
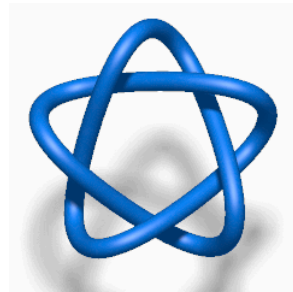
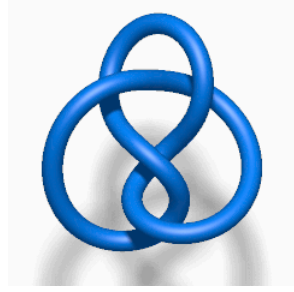
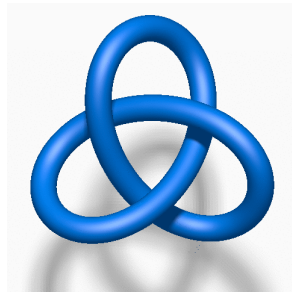
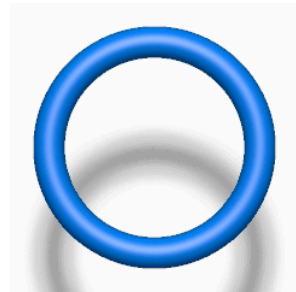
- Reid's fantasy: space of Calabi–Yaus is connected

KNOT

THEORY

Dramatis Personae

Knot: $S^1 \subset S^3$; *e.g.*,



unknot
 0_1

trefoil
 3_1

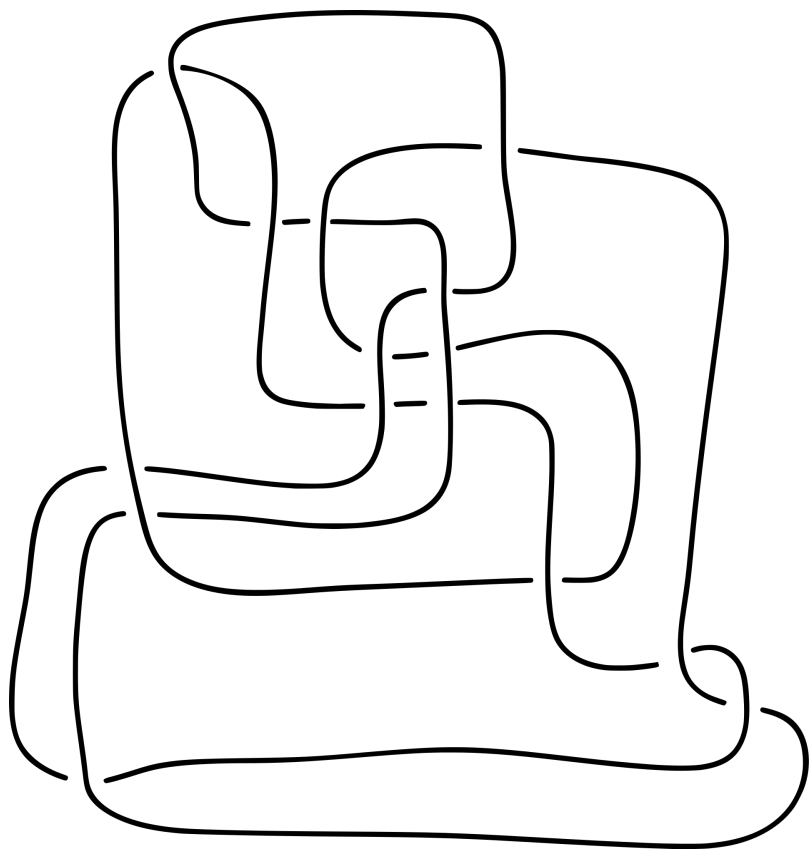
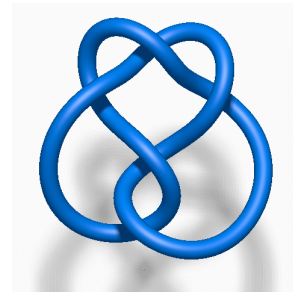
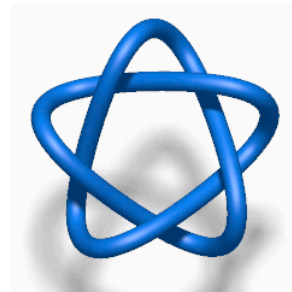
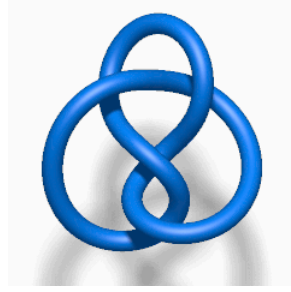
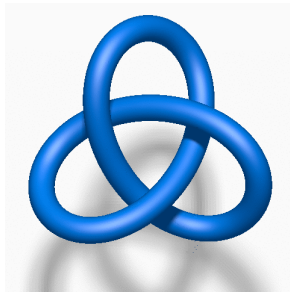
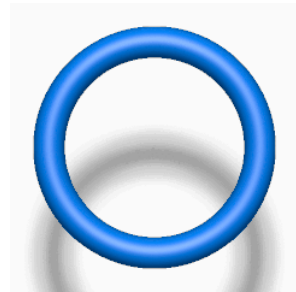
figure-eight
 4_1

cinquefoil
 5_1

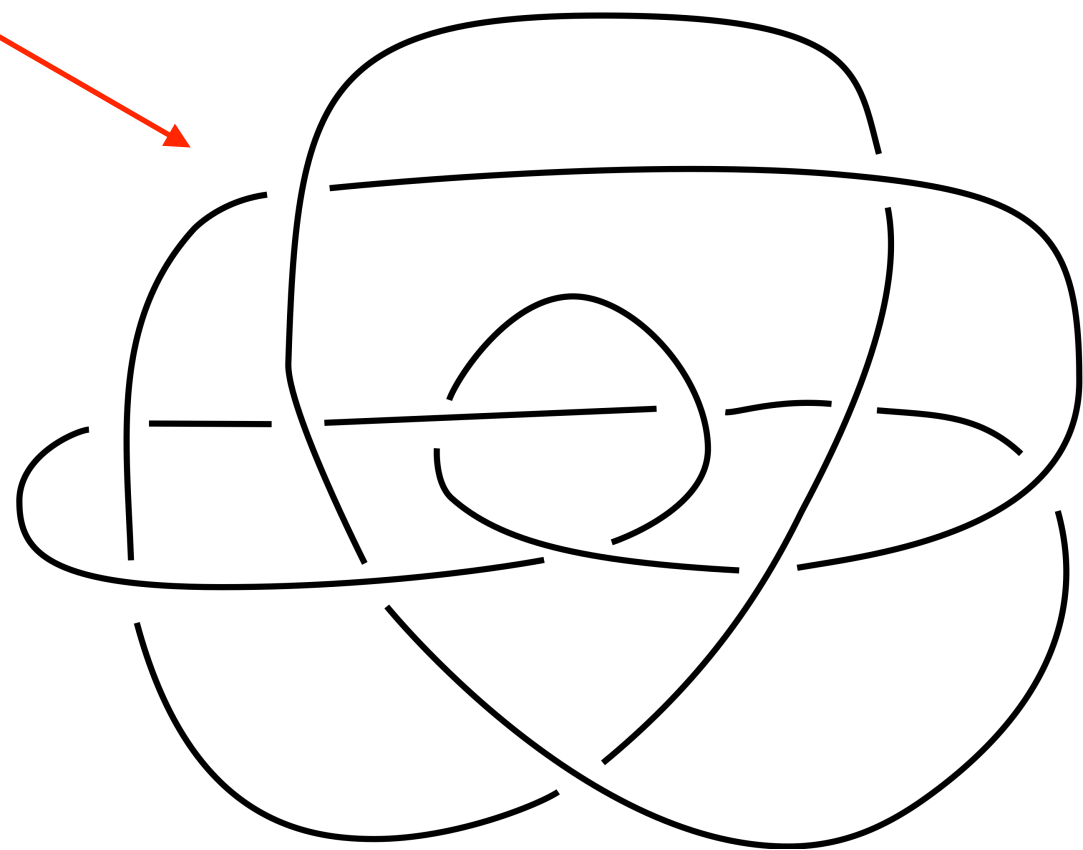
three-twist
 5_2

Dramatis Personae

Knot: $S^1 \subset S^3$; e.g.,



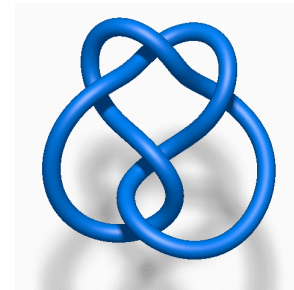
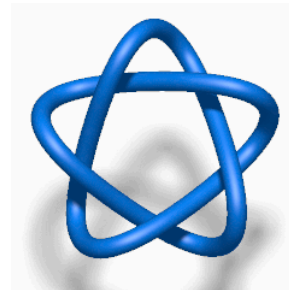
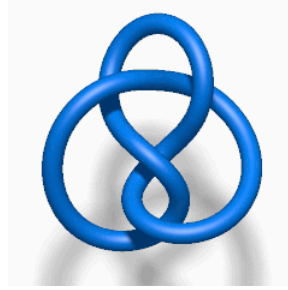
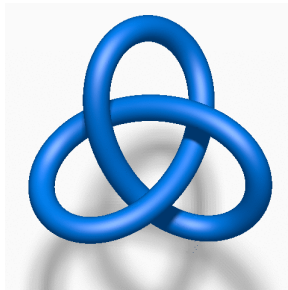
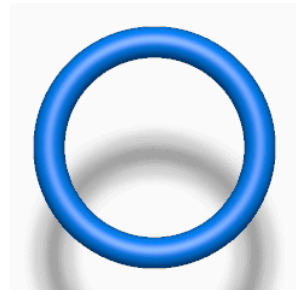
Thistlethwaite unknot



Ochiai unknot

Dramatis Personae

Knot: $S^1 \subset S^3$; e.g.,



Jones polynomial: $J(K; q) = (-q^{\frac{3}{4}})^{w(K)} \frac{\langle K \rangle}{\langle \bigcirc \rangle}$ $\langle \times \rangle = q^{\frac{1}{4}} \langle \frown \rangle + \frac{1}{q^{\frac{1}{4}}} \langle \smile \rangle$
 $w(K) = \text{overhand} - \text{underhand}$

$$J(\bigcirc; q) = 1$$

Jones (1985)

topological invariant: independent of how the knot is drawn

Question: how to calculate these?

Answer: quantum field theory!

Chern–Simons Theory

- What is the simplest non-trivial quantum field theory?
 - Chern–Simons theory in three dimensions
- Focus on **topology** instead of geometry



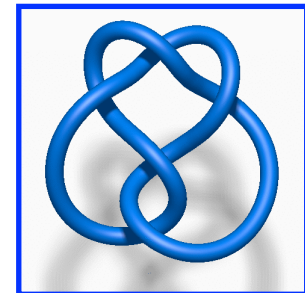
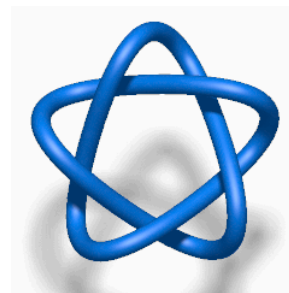
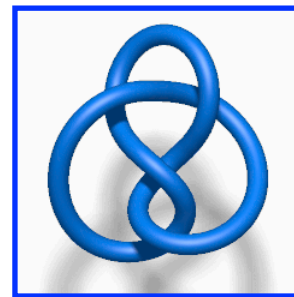
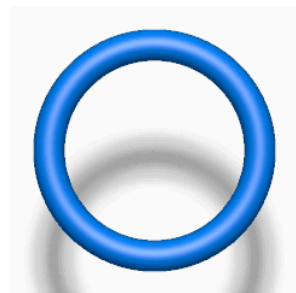
genus 0



genus 1

Dramatis Personae

Knot: $S^1 \subset S^3$; e.g.,



Jones polynomial: $J(K; q) = (-q^{\frac{3}{4}})^{w(K)} \frac{\langle K \rangle}{\langle \bigcirc \rangle}$ $\langle \times \rangle = q^{\frac{1}{4}} \langle \frown \rangle + \frac{1}{q^{\frac{1}{4}}} \langle \smile \rangle$
 $w(K) = \text{overhand} - \text{underhand}$

vev of Wilson loop operator along K in

\square for $SU(2)$ Chern–Simons on S^3

Jones (1985)
Witten (1989)

$$J_2(4_1; q) = q^{-2} - q^{-1} + 1 - q + q^2, \quad q = e^{\frac{2\pi i}{k+2}}$$

Hyperbolic volume: volume of $S^3 \setminus K$ is another knot invariant

computed from tetrahedral decomposition of knot complement

Thurston (1978)
Mostow (1968)

Dramatis Personae

Volume conjecture:

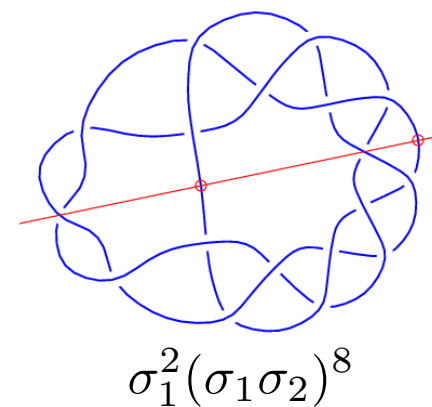
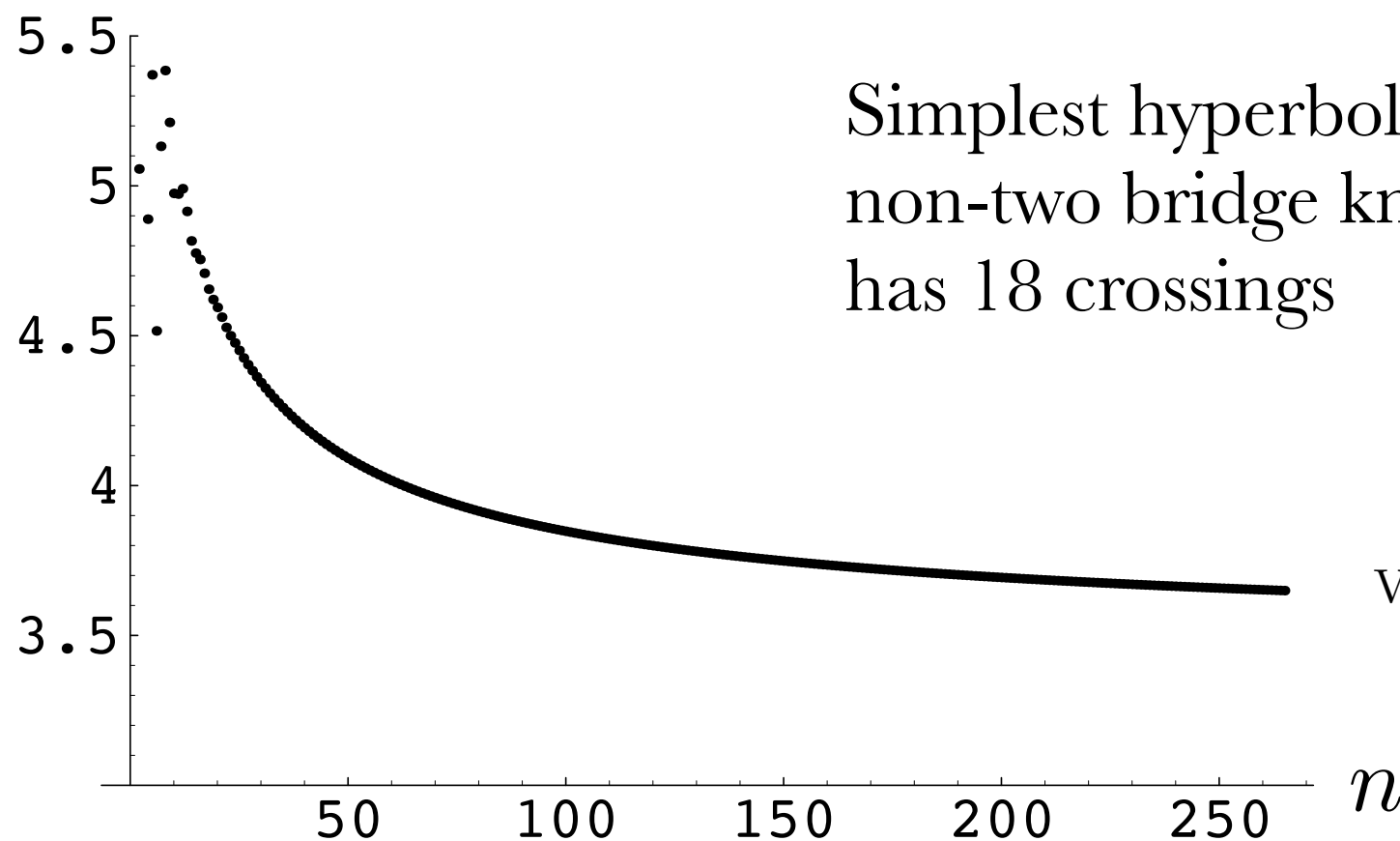
$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{2\pi \log |J_n(K; \omega_n)|}{n} = \text{Vol}(S^3 \setminus K)$$

$$\omega_n = e^{\frac{2\pi i}{n}}$$

In fact, we take $n, k \rightarrow \infty$

Kashaev (1997)
Murakami x 2 (2001)
Gukov (2005)

LHS



$$\text{Vol}(S^3 \setminus K_0) = 3.474247 \dots$$

Behavior is not monotonic!

Garoufalidis, Lan (2004)

Dramatis Personae

Volume conjecture:

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{2\pi \log |J_n(K; \omega_n)|}{n} = \text{Vol}(S^3 \setminus K)$$

$$\omega_n = e^{\frac{2\pi i}{n}}$$

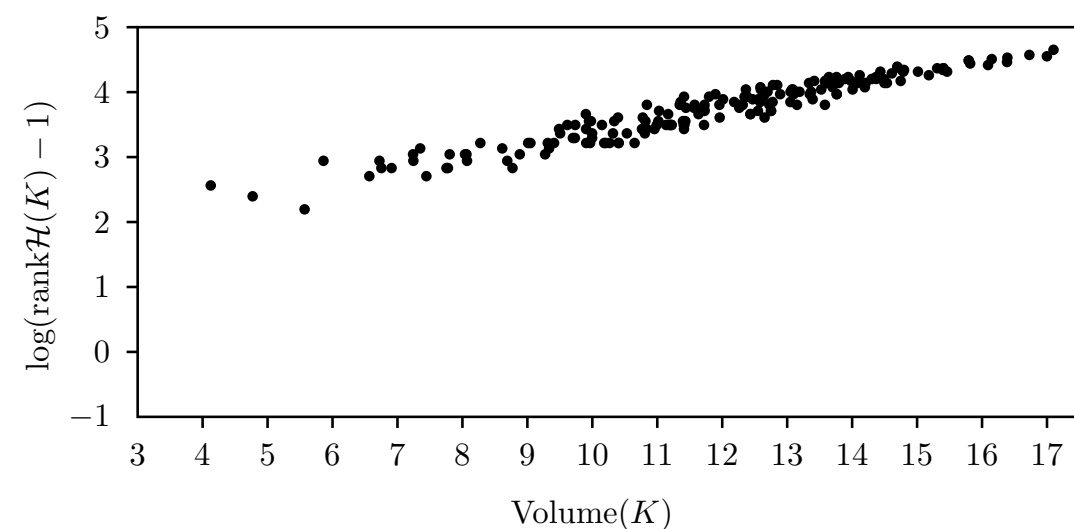
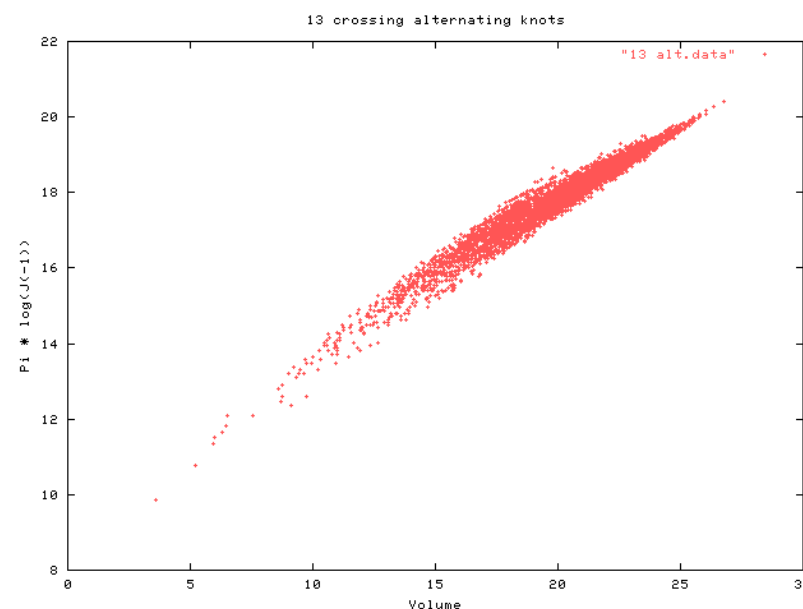
Kashaev (1997)
Murakami x 2 (2001)
Gukov (2005)

Khovanov homology: a homology theory \mathcal{H}_K whose graded Euler characteristic is $J_2(K; q)$; explains why coefficients are integers

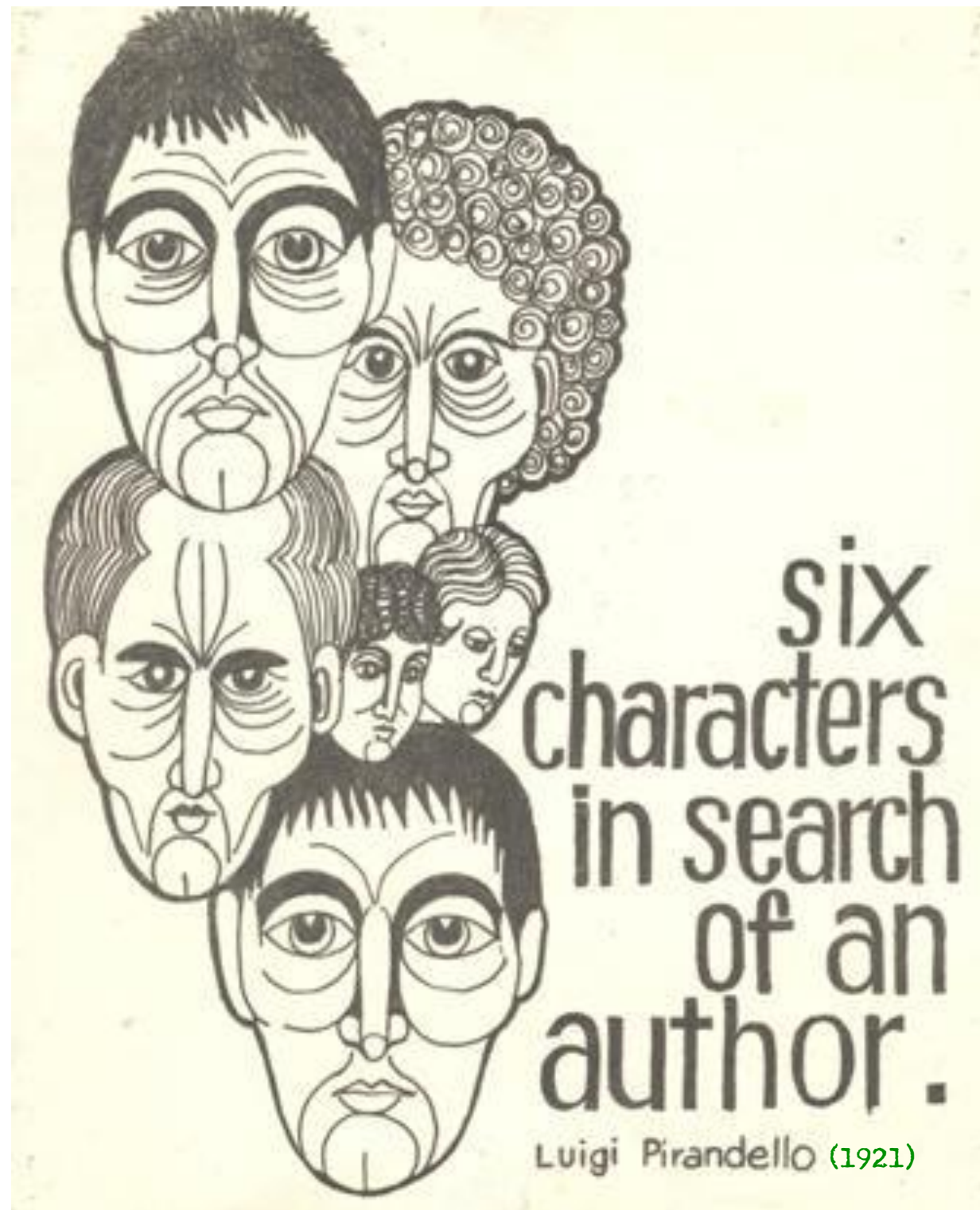
Khovanov (2000)
Bar-Natan (2002)

$$\log |J_2(K; -1)|, \quad \log(\text{rank}(\mathcal{H}_K) - 1) \propto \text{Vol}(S^3 \setminus K)$$

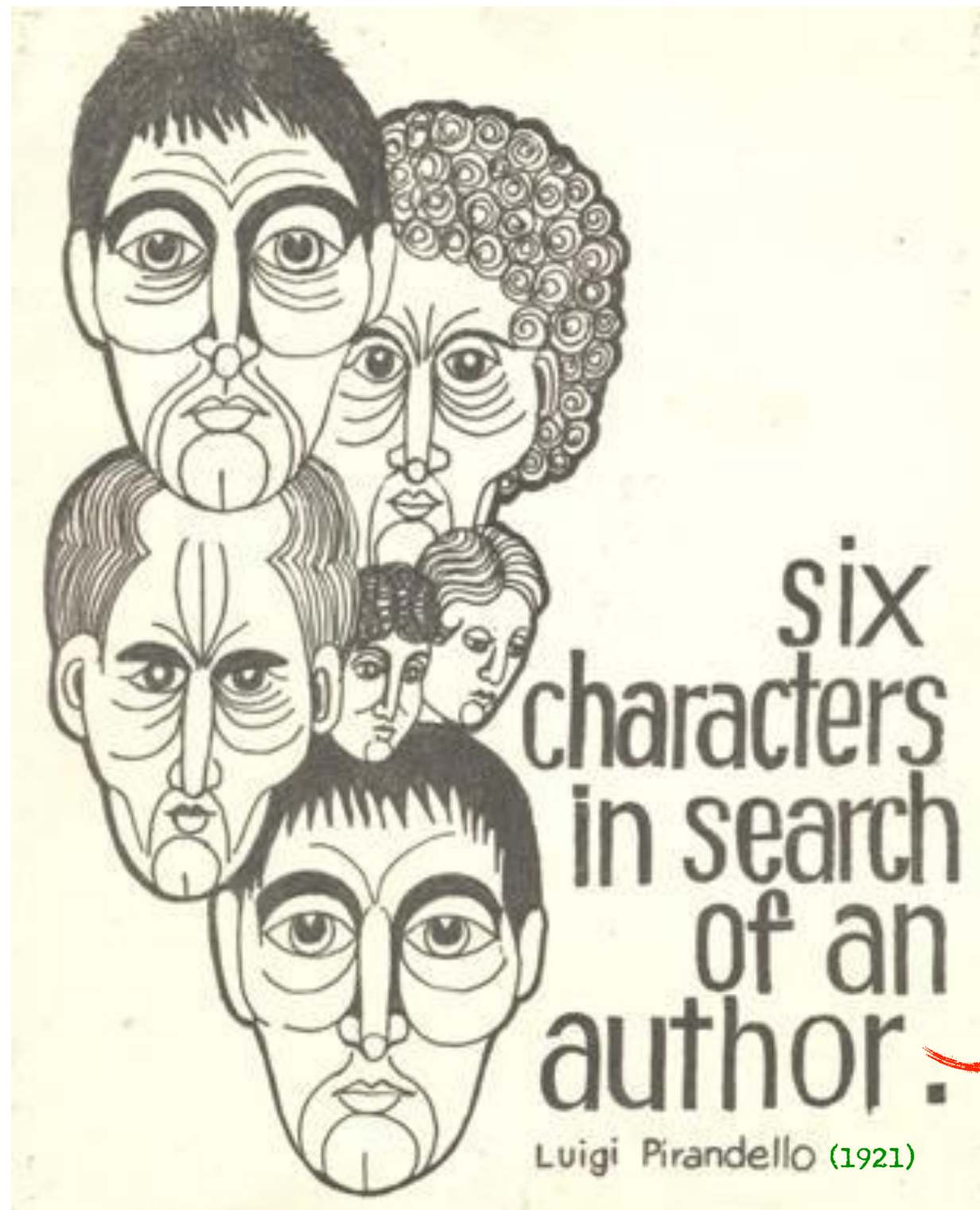
Dunfield (2000)
Khovanov (2002)



Dramatis Personae



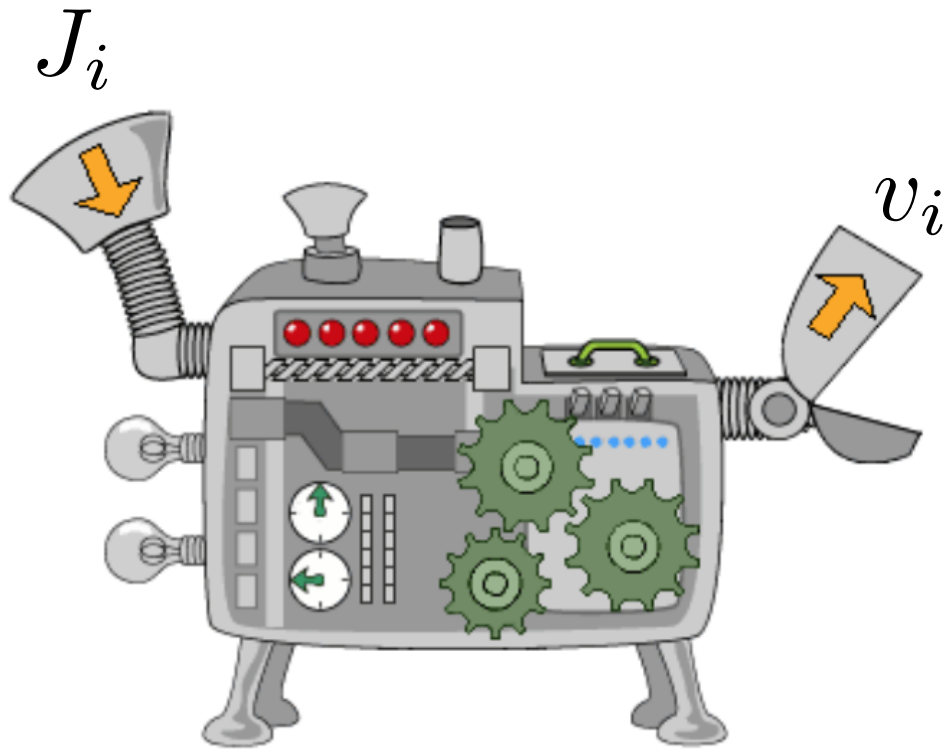
Dramatis Personae



neural network



Neural Network

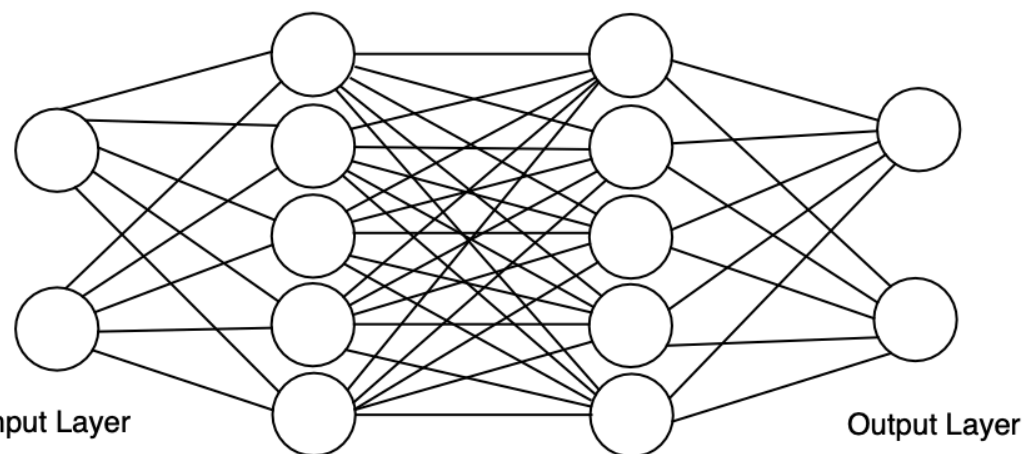


$$\{J_1, \dots, J_n\} \longrightarrow \{v_1, \dots, v_n\}$$

$$J_i \in T$$

$$\{J'_1, \dots, J'_m\} \longrightarrow ???$$

$$J'_i \in T^c$$



$$\vec{J} \quad 100 \times 18 \quad 100 \times 100 \quad \sum_{a=1}^{100}$$

12000 hyperparameters

Jones polynomials are represented as 18-vectors

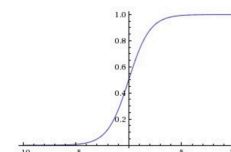
$$\vec{J}_K = (\text{min}, \text{max}, \text{coeffs}, 0, \dots, 0)$$

Two layer neural network in Mathematica

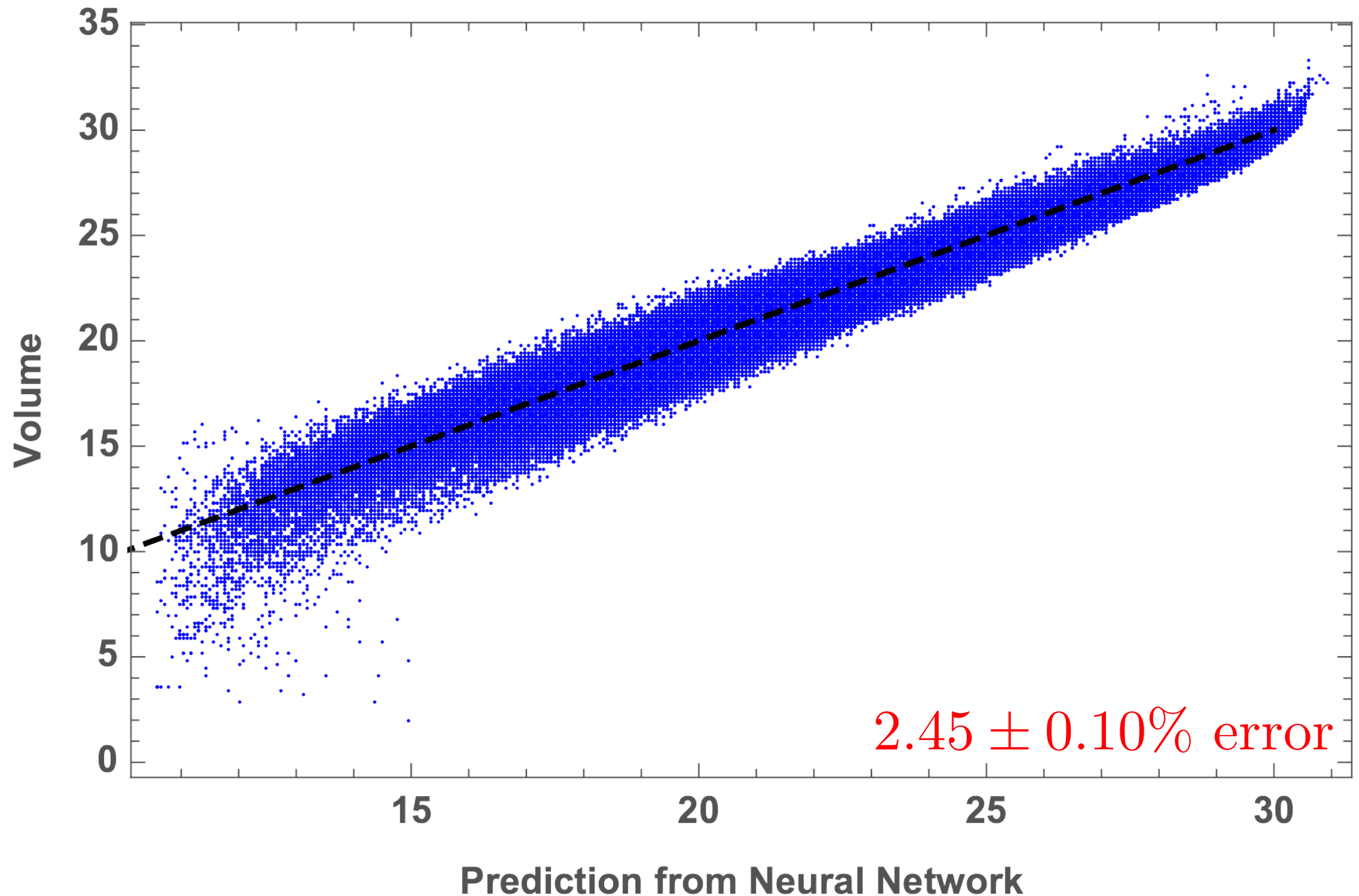
$$f_{\theta}(\vec{J}_K) = \sum_a \sigma \left(W_{\theta}^2 \cdot \sigma(W_{\theta}^1 \cdot \vec{J}_K + \vec{b}_{\theta}^1) + \vec{b}_{\theta}^2 \right)^a$$

Logistic sigmoids for the hidden layers

$$\sigma(x) = \frac{1}{1 + e^{-x}}$$



Neural Network



trained on 10% of the 313,209 knots up to 15 crossings

Result

$$v_i = f(J_i) + \text{small corrections}$$

- J_i does not uniquely identify a knot
e.g., 4_1 and K11n19 have same Jones polynomial, different volumes
- 174,619 unique Jones polynomials
2.83% average spread in volumes for a Jones polynomial
intrinsic mitigation against overfitting
- Same applies to 1,701,913 hyperbolic knots up to 16 crossings
(database compiled from **Knot Atlas** and SnapPy)

Result

$$v_i = f(J_i) + \text{small corrections}$$

- Neural network does better than more refined topological invariants
- Beyond the volume conjecture in Chern–Simons
Jones polynomial (quantum) \longleftrightarrow volume (classical) $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{weak coupling limit of} \\ SL(2, \mathbb{C}) \text{ Chern–Simons} \\ \text{strong coupling limit of} \\ SU(2) \end{array} \right.$
- Failed experiments (*e.g.*, learning Chern–Simons invariant) also teach us something — maybe about the need for underlying homology theory

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{2\pi \log J_n(K; e^{2\pi i/n})}{n} = \text{Vol}(S^3 \setminus K) + 2\pi^2 i \text{CS}(S^3 \setminus K)$$

cf. Calabi–Yau Hodge numbers,
line bundle cohomology, etc.

Result

$$v_i = f(J_i) + \text{small corrections}$$

- Universal Approximation Theorem: feedforward neural network, sigmoid activation function, single hidden layer with finite number of neurons can approximate continuous functions on compact subsets of \mathbb{R}^n

Cybenko (1989)
Hornik (1991)

- Surprise here is simplicity of architecture that does the job
- Ours is in fact the best result in this direction
- We want a **not** machine learning knot result, however

Entr'acte

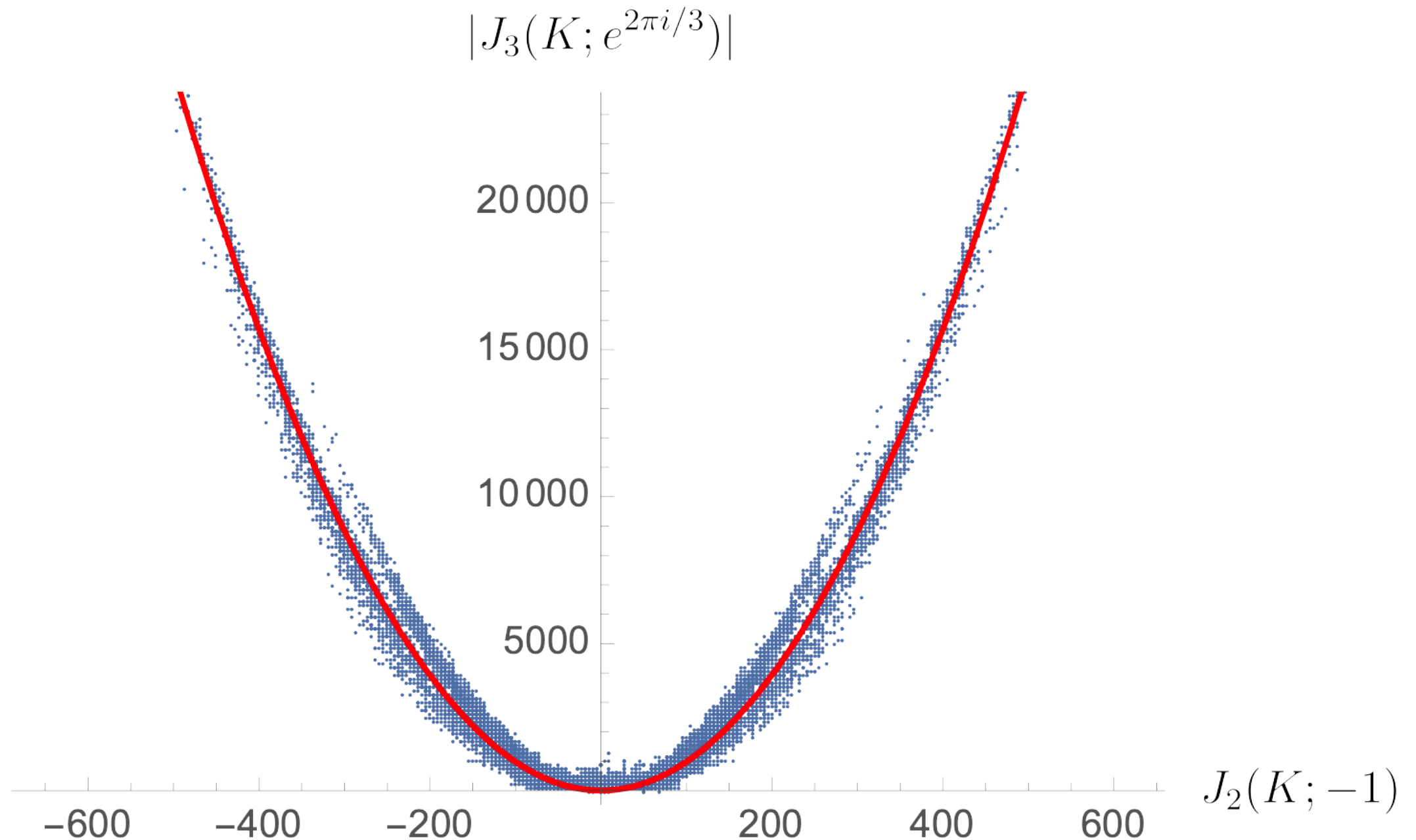
$$v_i = f(J_i) + \text{small corrections}$$

We seek to reverse engineer the neural network
to obtain an analytic expression for
the volume as a function of the Jones polynomial

To interpret the formula, we use machinery of
analytically continued Chern–Simons theory

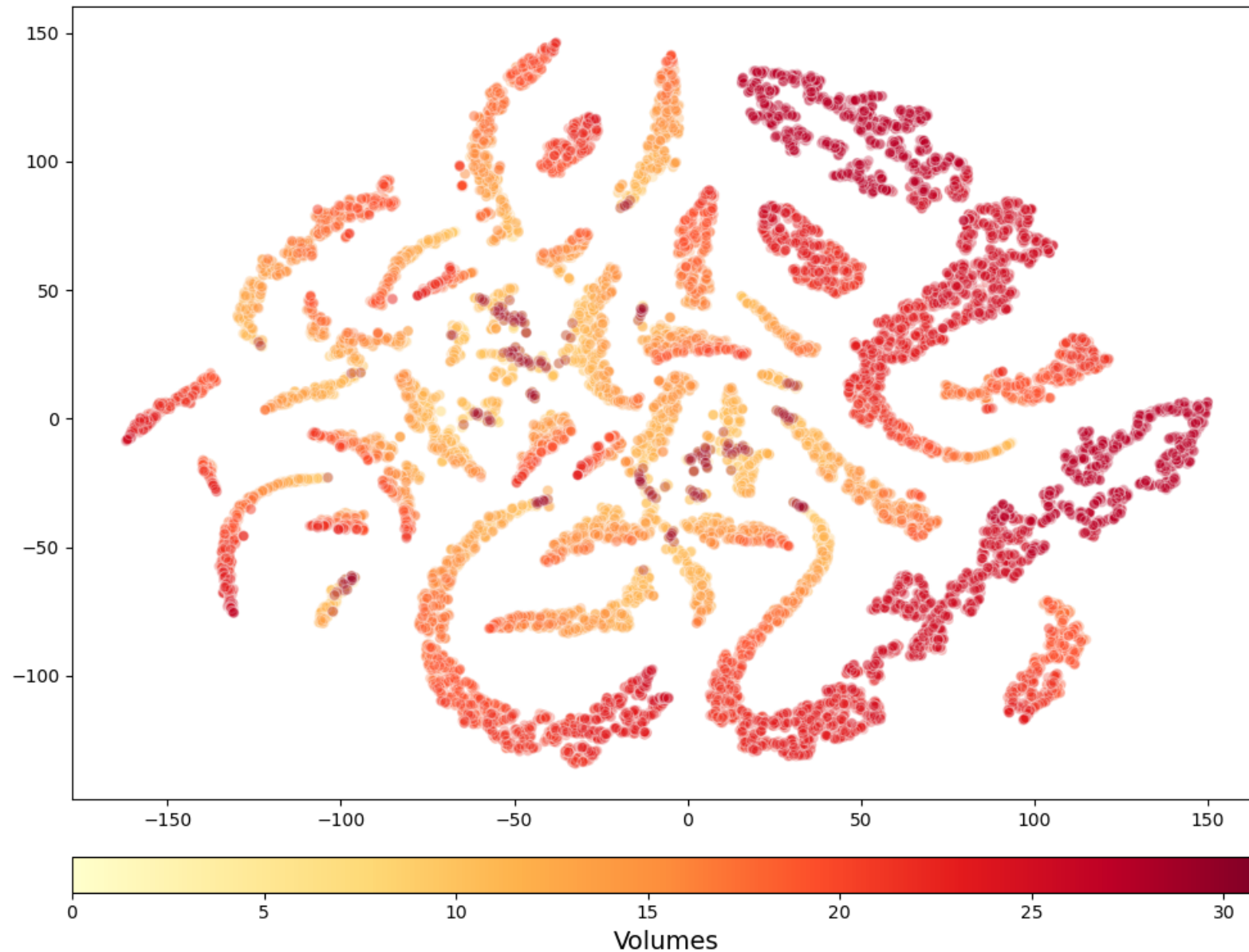
Towards the Volume Conjecture

- The volume conjecture: $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{2\pi \log |J_n(K; \omega_n)|}{n} = \text{Vol}(S^3 \setminus K)$



- 11,921 colored Jones polynomials at $n = 3$

t-SNE



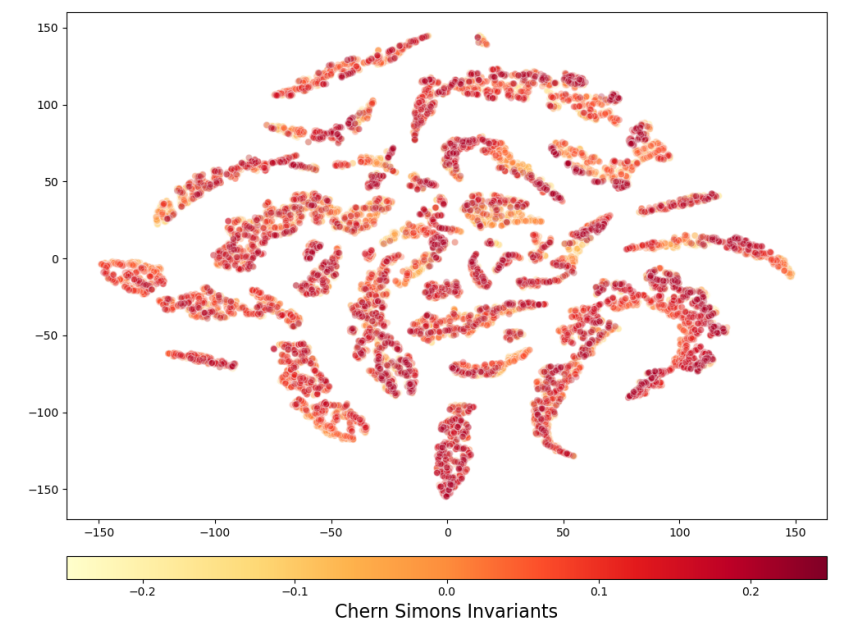
Volume is learnable from coefficients

Chern–Simons invariant probably is not

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{2\pi \log J_n(K; \omega_n)}{n}$$

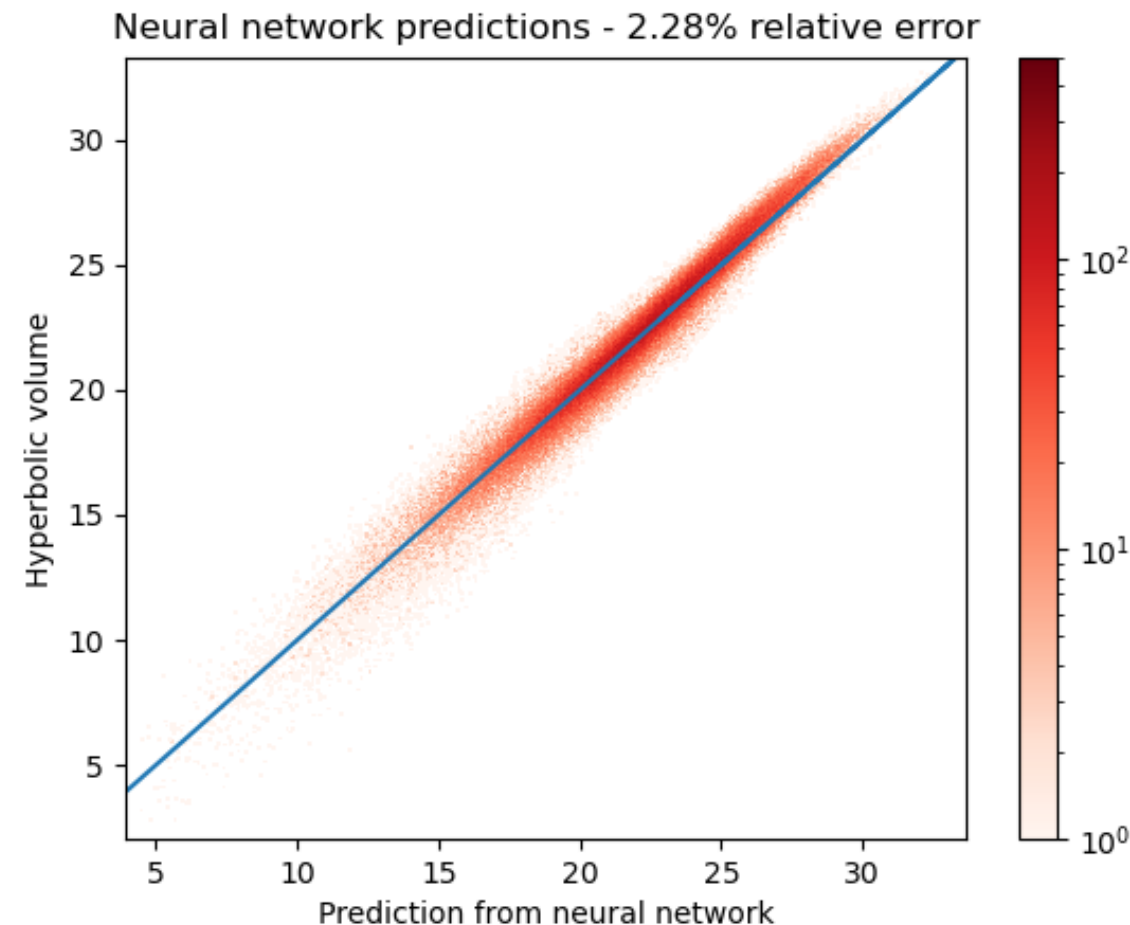
$$= \text{Vol}(S^3 \setminus K)$$

$$+ 2\pi^2 i \text{CS}(S^3 \setminus K)$$



No Degrees Needed

- Suppose we drop the degrees and provide only the coefficients; Jones polynomial is no longer recoverable from the input vector
- Results are unchanged!



N.B.: we have switched to Python 3 using GPU-Tensorflow with Keras wrapper
two hidden layers, 100 neurons/layer, ReLu activation, mean squared loss, Adam optimizer

Jones Evaluations

- Physics in Chern–Simons theory that leads to volume conjecture may also be responsible for information in $J_2(K; q)$
- Consider evaluations of Jones polynomial at roots of unity
- In particular, fix $r \in \mathbb{Z}$ and evaluate $j_p^r := J_2(K; e^{2\pi i p / (r+2)})$
- The input vector

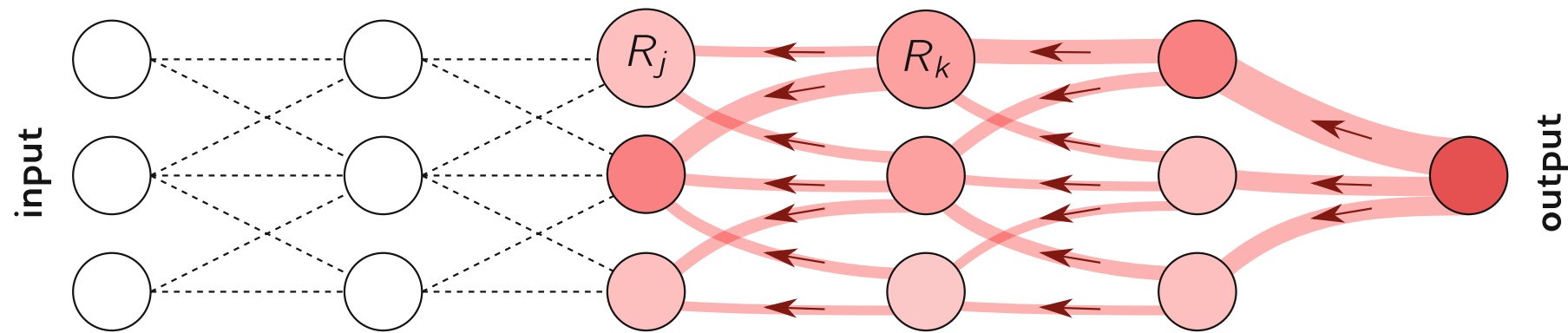
$$\mathbf{v}_{\text{in}} = (\text{Re}(j_0^r), \text{Im}(j_0^r), \dots, \text{Re}(j_{\lfloor (r+2)/2 \rfloor}^r), \text{Im}(j_{\lfloor (r+2)/2 \rfloor}^r))$$

does not degrade neural network performance

- In fact, we only need to feed in the magnitudes: $\mathbf{v}_{\text{in}} = (|j_0^r|, \dots, |j_{\lfloor (r+2)/2 \rfloor}^r|)$
- Consistent with degrees not mattering

Layer-wise Relevance Propagation

- To determine which inputs carry the most weight, propagate backward starting from output layer employing a conservation property



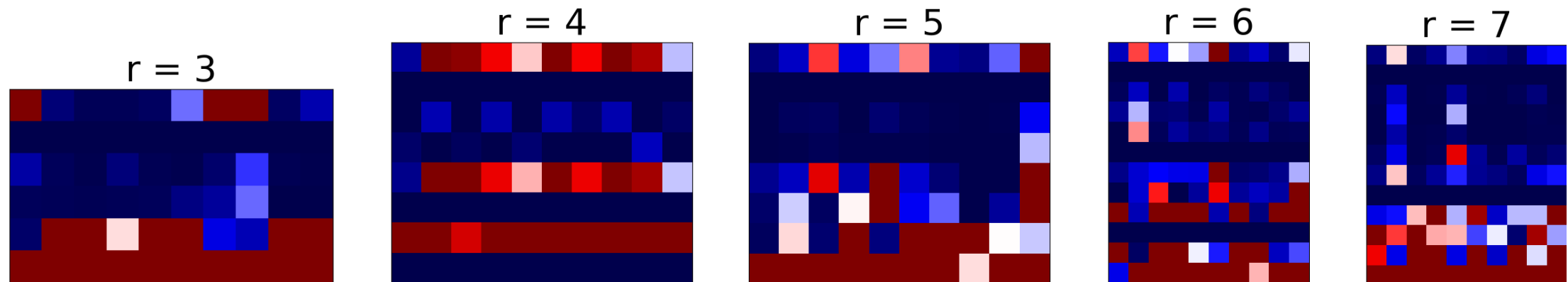
Montavon et al. (2019)

- Compute relevance score for a neuron using activations, weights, and biases

$$R_j^{m-1} = \sum_k \frac{a_j^{m-1} W_{jk}^m + b_k^m}{\sum_l a_l^{m-1} W_{lk}^m + b_k^m} R_k^m, \quad \sum_k R_k^m = 1$$

j^{th} neuron in layer $m - 1$

Layer-wise Relevance Propagation



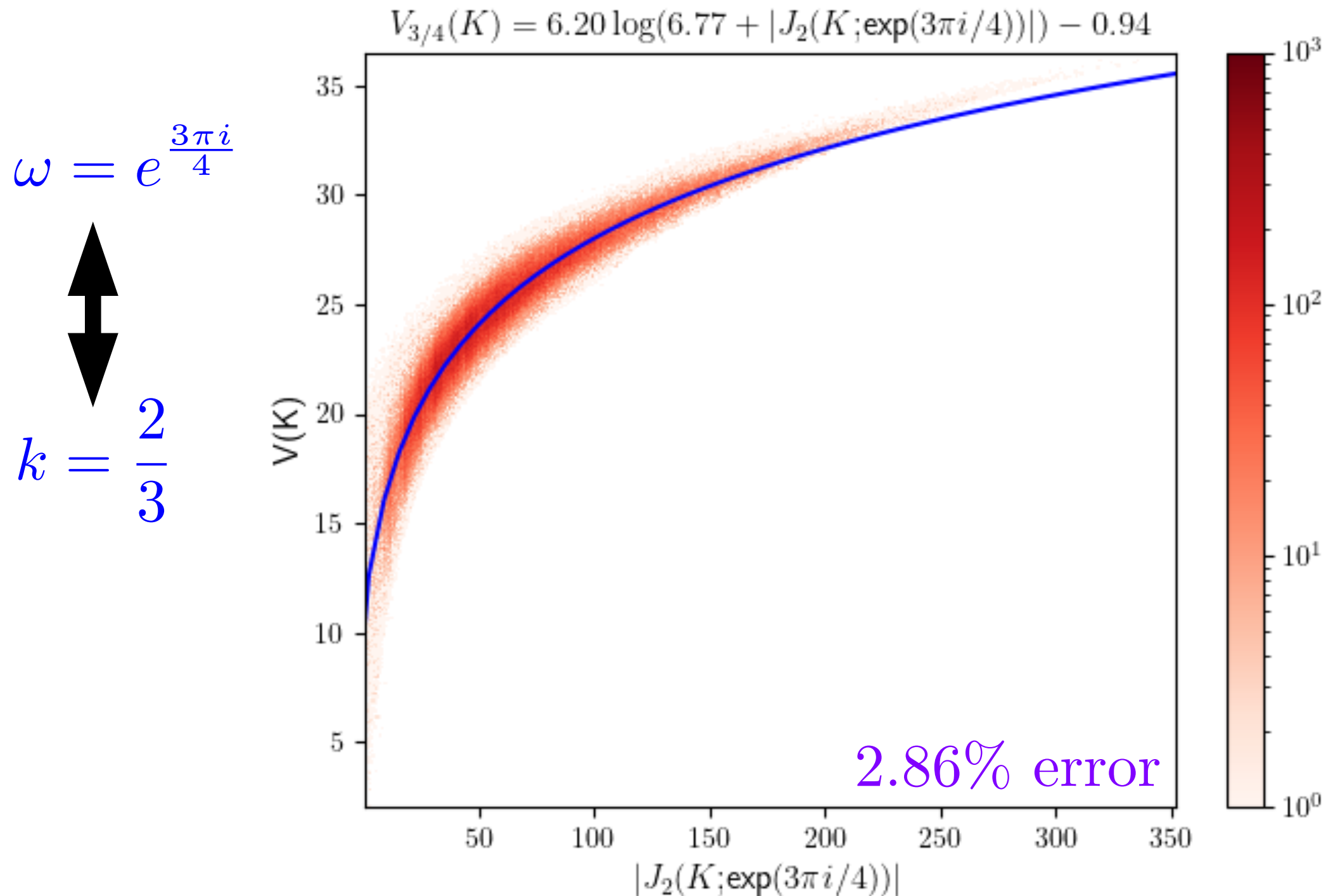
- Each column is a single input corresponding to evaluations of the Jones polynomial at phases $e^{\frac{2\pi ip}{r+2}}$, $0 \leq 2p \leq r+2$, $p \in \mathbb{Z}$
- Ten different knots
- We show the relevances (red is most relevant) and notice that the same input features light up

Relevant Phases

r	Error	Relevant roots	Fractional levels	Error (relevant roots)
3	3.48%	$e^{4\pi i/5}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	3.8%
4	6.66%	-1	0	6.78%
5	3.48%	$e^{6\pi i/7}$	$\frac{1}{3}$	3.38%
6	2.94%	$e^{3\pi i/4}, -1$	$\frac{2}{3}, 0$	3%
7	5.37%	$e^{8\pi i/9}$	$\frac{1}{4}$	5.32%
8	2.50%	$e^{3\pi i/5}, e^{4\pi i/5}, -1$	$\frac{4}{3}, \frac{1}{2}, 0$	2.5%
9	2.74%	$e^{8\pi i/11}, e^{10\pi i/11}$	$\frac{3}{4}, \frac{1}{5}$	2.85%
10	3.51%	$e^{2\pi i/3}, e^{5\pi i/6}, -1$	$1, \frac{2}{5}, 0$	4.39%
11	2.51%	$e^{8\pi i/13}, e^{10\pi i/13}, e^{12\pi i/13}$	$\frac{5}{4}, \frac{3}{5}, \frac{1}{6}$	2.44%
12	2.39%	$e^{5\pi i/7}, e^{6\pi i/7}, -1$	$\frac{4}{5}, \frac{1}{3}, 0$	2.75%
13	2.52%	$e^{2\pi i/3}, e^{4\pi i/5}, e^{14\pi i/15}$	$1, \frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{7}$	2.43%
14	2.58%	$e^{3\pi i/4}, e^{7\pi i/8}, -1$	$\frac{2}{3}, \frac{2}{7}, 0$	2.55%
15	2.38%	$e^{12\pi i/17}, e^{14\pi i/17}, e^{16\pi i/17}$	$\frac{5}{6}, \frac{3}{7}, \frac{1}{8}$	2.4%
16	2.57%	$e^{2\pi i/3}, e^{7\pi i/9}, e^{8\pi i/9}, -1$	$1, \frac{4}{7}, \frac{1}{4}, 0$	2.45%
17	2.65%	$e^{14\pi i/19}, e^{16\pi i/19}, e^{18\pi i/19},$	$\frac{5}{7}, \frac{3}{8}, \frac{1}{9}$	2.46%
18	2.49%	$e^{4\pi i/5}, e^{9\pi i/10}, -1$	$\frac{1}{2}, \frac{2}{9}, 0$	2.52%
19	2.45%	$e^{2\pi i/3}, e^{16\pi i/21}, e^{6\pi i/7}, e^{20\pi i/21}$	$1, \frac{5}{8}, \frac{1}{3}, \frac{1}{10}$	2.43%
20	2.79%	$e^{8\pi i/11}, e^{9\pi i/11}, e^{10\pi i/11}, -1$	$\frac{3}{4}, \frac{4}{9}, \frac{1}{5}, 0$	2.4%

$$e^{ix} = e^{\frac{2\pi i}{k+2}}$$

Phenomenological Function



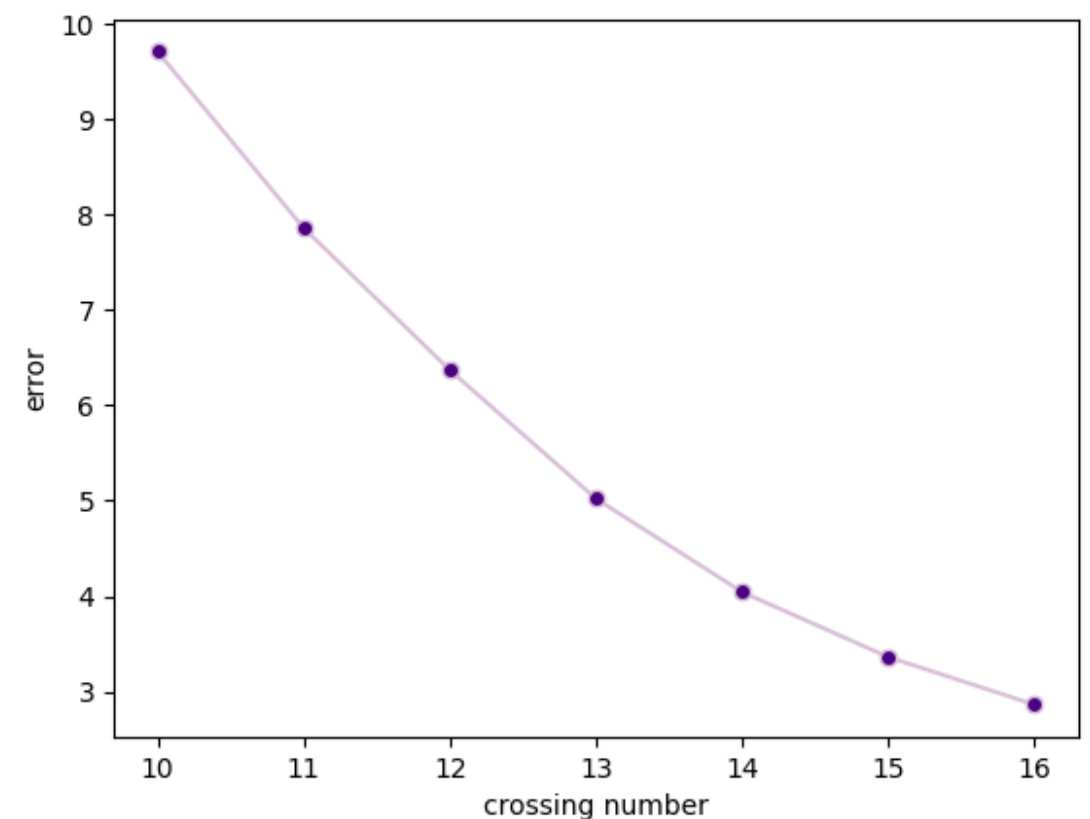
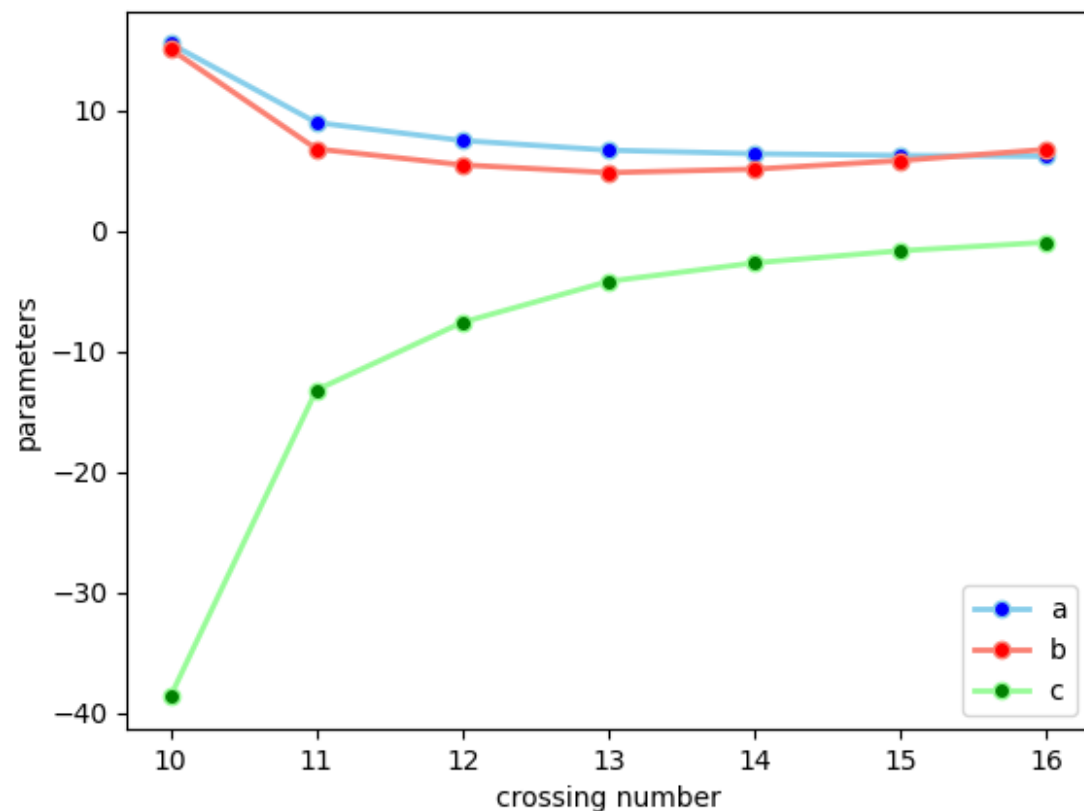
- Parameters fixed via curve fitting routines in **Mathematica**

Phenomenological Function

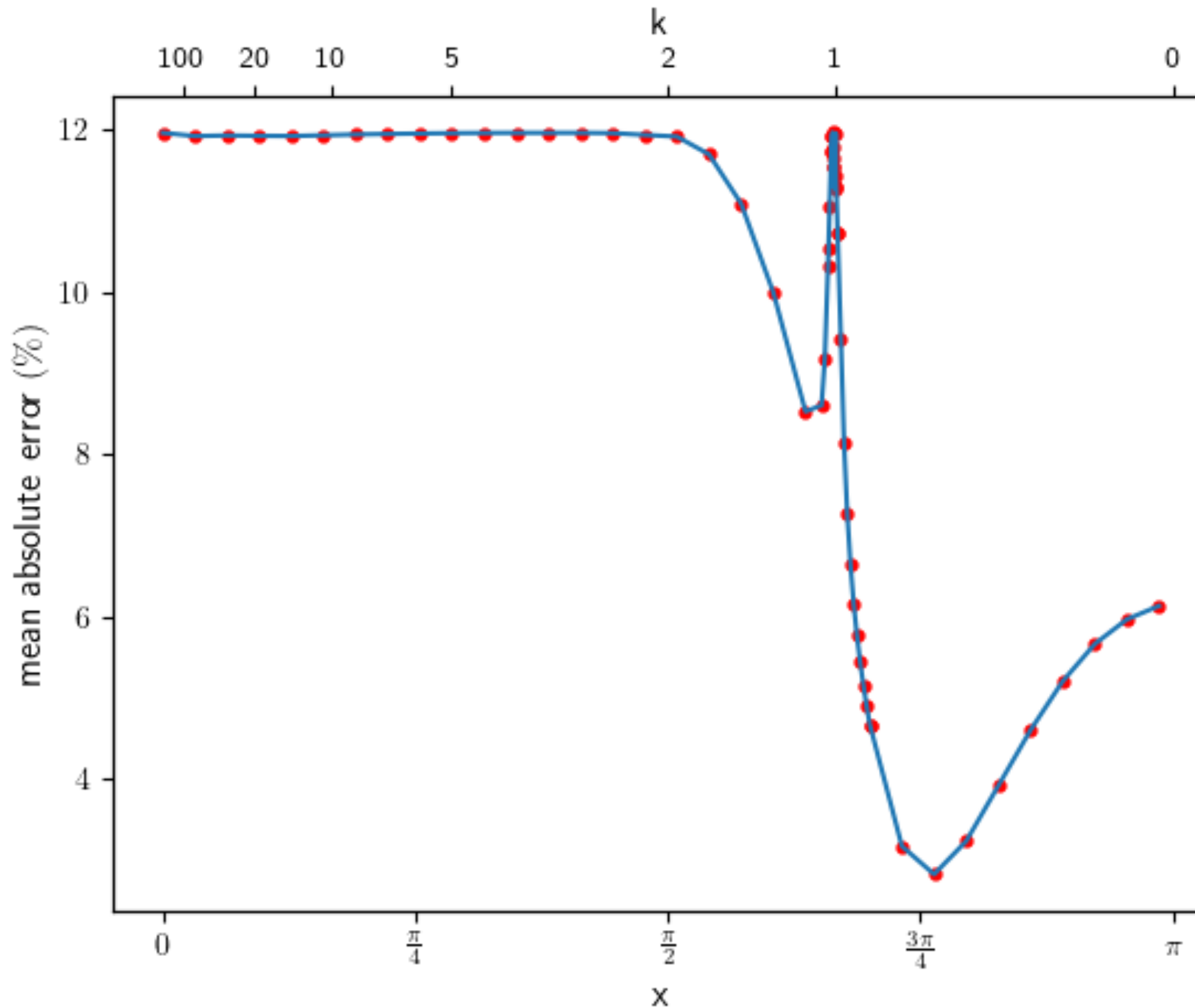
$$V_{3/4}(S^3 \setminus K) = 6.20 \log(|J_2(K; e^{\frac{3\pi i}{4}})| + 6.77) - 0.94$$

2.86% error compared to **2.28% error** for neural network
corresponds to Chern–Simons level $k = \frac{2}{3}$

- Parameters of fit robust as a function of crossing number



The Shape of Things



A Better Formula

- Our reverse engineered function gave 2.86% error compared to 2.28% error for neural network; the latter is essentially intrinsic
- Can we do better with a formula? If so, how much better?
- Define a new error measure

$$\sigma = \frac{\text{variance of (actual volume - predicted volume)}}{\text{variance of volumes in dataset}}$$

[suggested to us in correspondence with Fischbacher, Munkler]

σ -measure is shift/rescaling invariant

- Can ask what fraction of variance is left unexplained

A Better Formula

$$\sigma = \frac{\text{variance of (actual volume - predicted volume)}}{\text{variance of volumes in dataset}}$$

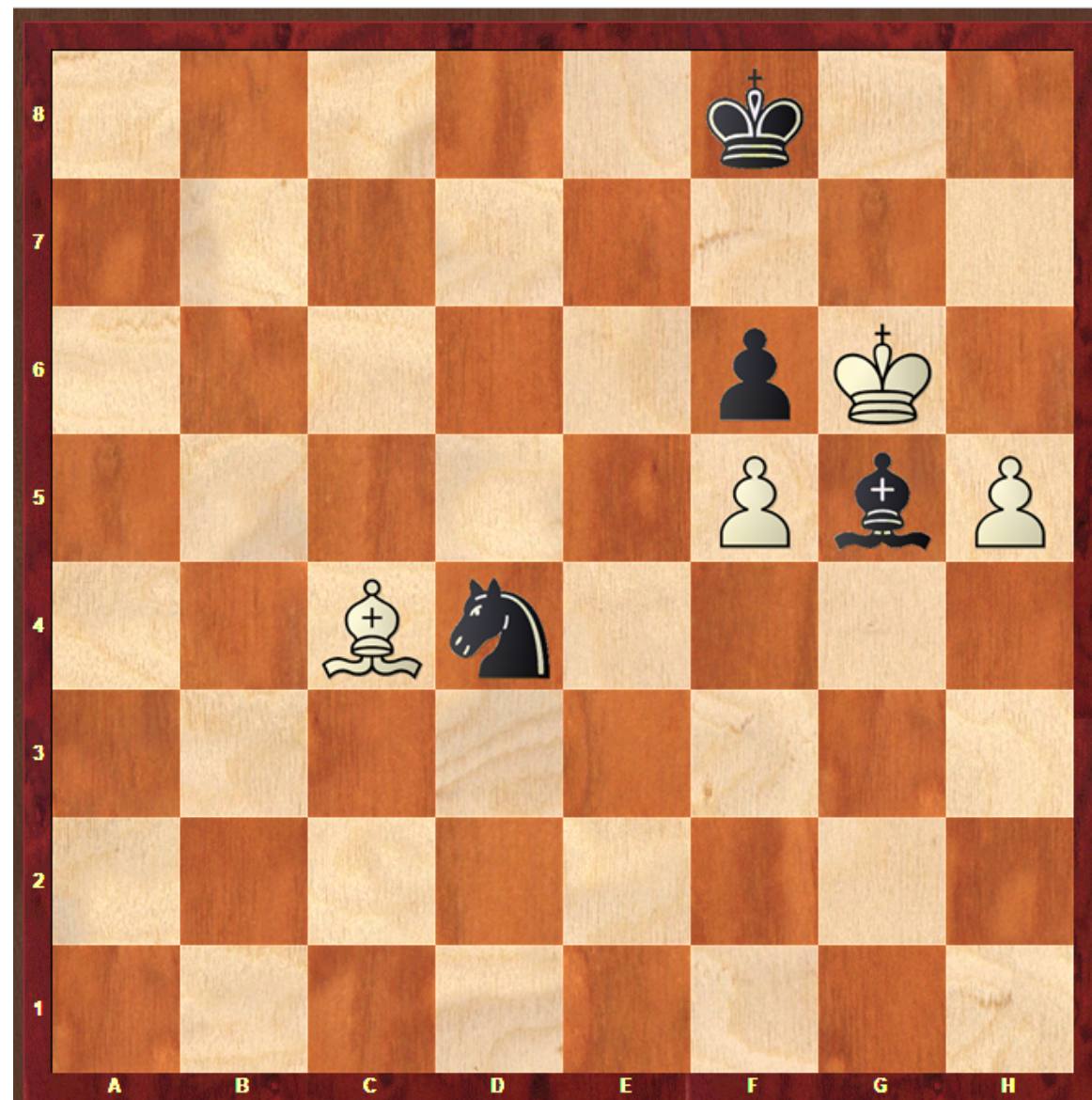
- By this measure, the neural network gives $\sigma = 0.033$
while our functional approximation gives $\sigma = 0.068$
- If we just assign the average volume to every knot in the dataset, $\sigma = 1$;
this corresponds to plateau
- There is room for improvement, but it is remarkable that a function with only three fit parameters works so well

Some Philosophy

The Future

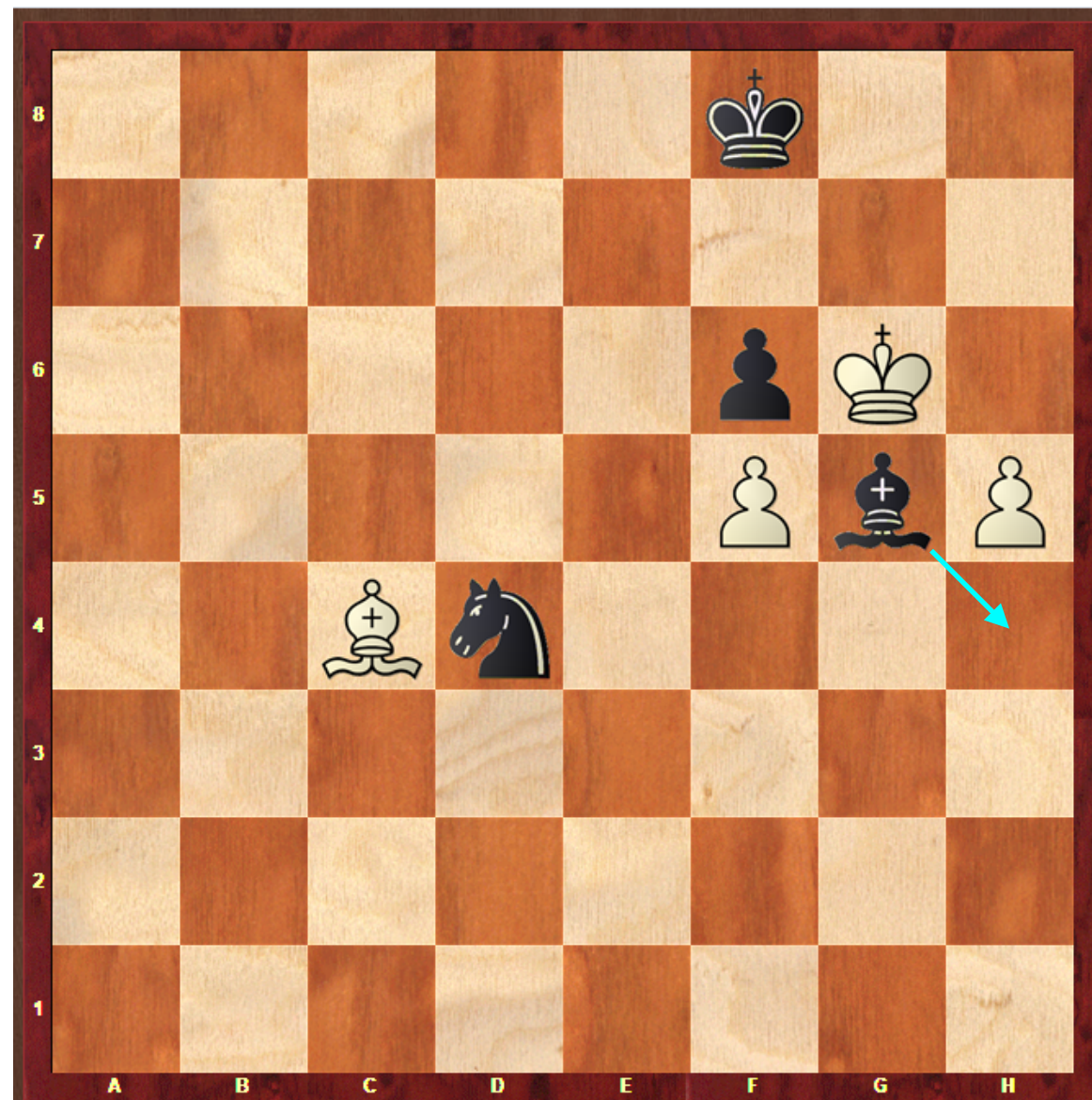
- Machine learning identifies associations
- Want to convert this to analytics — *i.e.*, how does the machine learn?
- What problems in physics and mathematics are machine learnable?
- Can a machine do interesting science?

Stockfish/Sesse



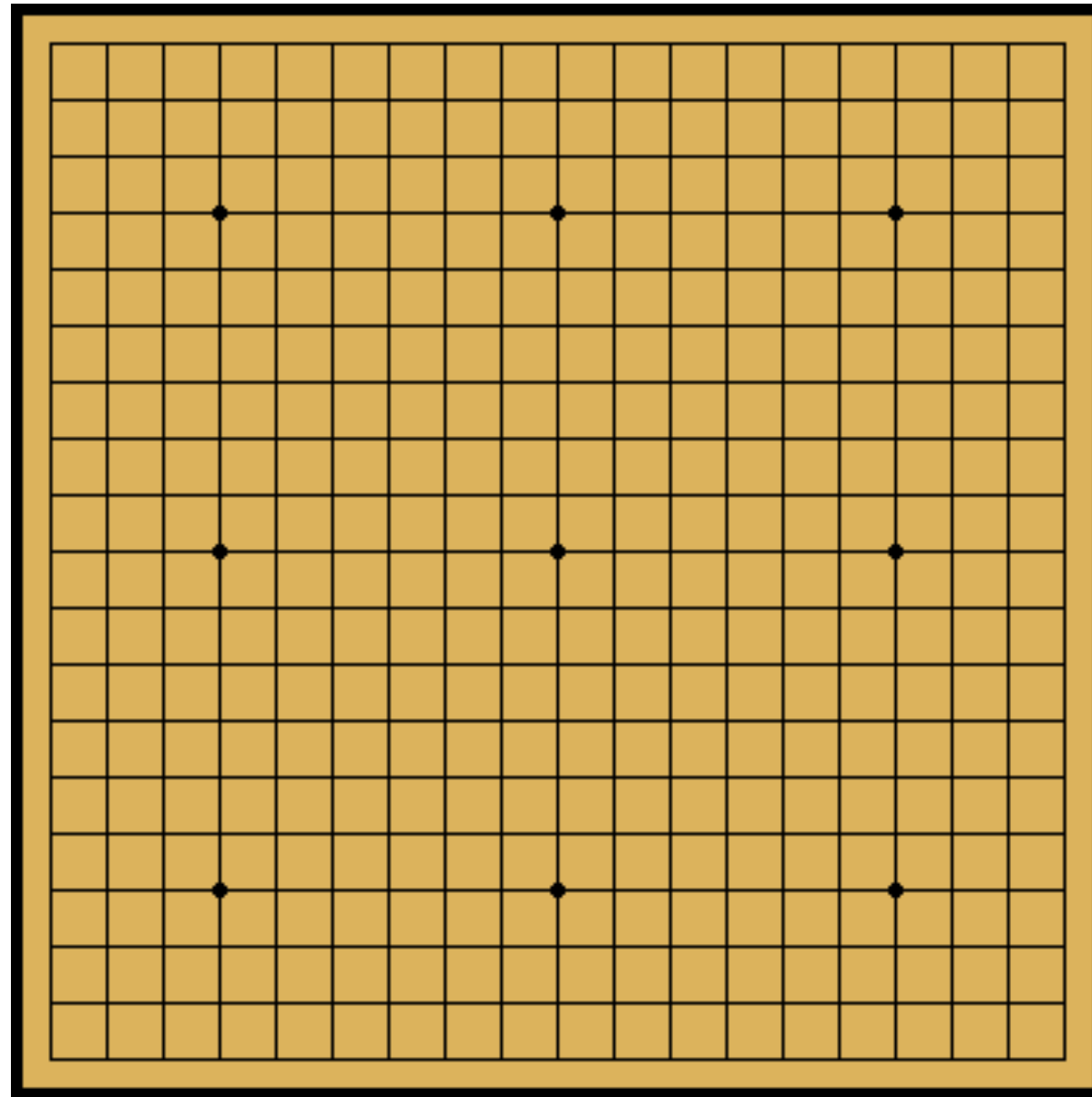
- Carlsen–Caruana, Game 6, World Chess Championship 2018
- Black to move and mate in 36

Stockfish/Sesse



- Carlsen–Caruana, Game 6, World Chess Championship 2018
- Black to move and mate in 36

AlphaZero



- Trained to play Go via self play and it crushes all human players
- Invents new **jōseki**

Challenge

- How does a black box learn semantics without knowing syntax?
 - Generally unpublished failed experiments indicate what doesn't work
 - Knowing that there are approximate functions can we find analytic expressions by opening the black box?
- Can artificial intelligence do interesting research?
 - *cf.* new jōseki in go AlphaGo Zero (2017)
 - Proofs in real analysis Ganesalingam, Gowers (2013)
 - Proof assistants Voevodsky (2014)

hep-th

- Use machine learning to classify papers into **arXiv** categories
- 65% success at exact subject, 87% success at formal vs. phenomenology
- Mapping words to vectors contextually, we discover syntactic identities

Paris – France + Italy = Rome

king – man + woman = queen

hep-th

- Use machine learning to classify papers into **arXiv** categories
- 65% success at exact subject, 87% success at formal vs. phenomenology
- Mapping words to vectors contextually, we discover syntactic identities

Paris – France + Italy = Rome

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- An idea generating machine for **hep-th**:

symmetry + black hole = Killing

symmetry + algebra = group

black hole + QCD = plasma

spacetime + inflation = cosmological constant

string theory + Calabi–Yau = M–theory + G_2

THANK YOU!