

# Applications of Machine Learning to Lattice Quantum Field Theory

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(work in collaboration with G. Aarts and D. Bachtis)

# Overview

- Augmenting physical knowledge with Machine Learning
- Methods and models
- Quantitative characterization of phase transitions with Machine Learning
- Deriving new observables with Machine Learning
- Inverting the renormalization group flow with Machine Learning
- Summary and perspectives

# Machine Learning for Phase Transitions

Recent and current problems investigated include

- Can a Machine Learning algorithm detect a phase transition?
- Which algorithms are “better”?
- Can we find the order parameter?
- Can we reconstruct the symmetry that drives the transition?
- To which precision can we determine the transition temperature?
- With which accuracy can we measure quantities such as critical exponents?
- Can we see the *features* (e.g, topological excitations) that are relevant for the transition?
- Can machine learning invert the Renormalisation Group flow?

# The Ising Model in D=2 dimensions

- Popular testbed for new numerical approaches, as it has analytic solution at  $h = 0$
- Variables: spins  $\sigma_i = \pm 1$  distributed on a  $L^2$  grid
- Hamiltonian

$$\mathcal{H} = -\mathcal{J} \sum_{\langle i,j \rangle} \sigma_i \sigma_j - h \sum_i \sigma_i, \quad \mathcal{J} > 0$$

$\mathbb{Z}_2$  symmetry  $\sigma_i \mapsto -\sigma_i$

- Partition function at temperature  $T$

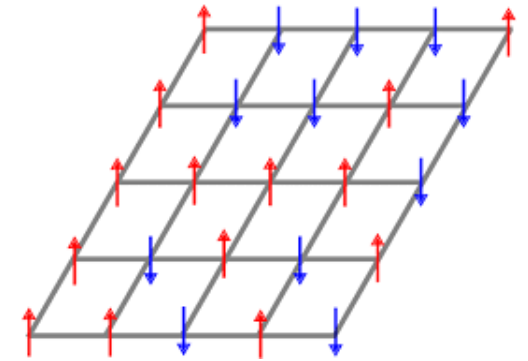
$$Z(\beta, h) = \sum_{\{\sigma_i = \pm 1\}} e^{-\beta \mathcal{H}} = e^{-\beta F}, \quad \beta = (kT)^{-1}$$

For  $h = 0$  phase transition at  $T_c = \frac{2}{k(\log(1+\sqrt{2}))} = 2.2691853 \dots$

- Phase transition driven by spontaneous breaking of  $\mathbb{Z}_2$  symmetry, with order parameter

$$m = \frac{1}{L^2 Z} \sum_{\{\sigma_i = \pm 1\}} \sigma_i e^{-\beta \mathcal{H}} = \frac{1}{L^2} \langle \sum_i \sigma_i \rangle$$

For  $L \rightarrow \infty$ ,  $m \neq 0$  for  $T < T_c$ , while  $m = 0$  for  $T > T_c$



# The Ising critical point

- At  $L = \infty$  the magnetic susceptibility has a divergence at  $T_c$ :

$$\chi = \frac{1}{L^2} \left( \left\langle \left( \sum_i \sigma_i \right)^2 \right\rangle - \left\langle \sum_i \sigma_i \right\rangle^2 \right) \underset{T \rightarrow T_c^\pm}{\propto} |T - T_c|^{-\gamma}$$

- At finite volume, the latter singularity gets smoothed down into a peak  $\chi_{\max}(T_c(L))$  and

$$|T_c(L) - T_c| \propto L^{-\frac{1}{\nu}}, \quad \chi_{\max}(T_c(L)) \propto L^{\frac{\gamma}{\nu}}$$

- Finite size scaling: extract  $\gamma$  and  $\nu$  from the variation with  $L$  of  $\chi_{\max}(T_c(L))$

The other critical exponents can be derived from scaling relations

Fisher Law:  $\gamma = \nu(2 - \eta),$

Widom Law:  $\gamma = \beta(\delta - 1),$

Rushbrooke Law:  $\alpha + 2\beta + \gamma = 2,$

Josephson Law:  $\nu d = 2 - \alpha,$

# The self-interacting scalar field in $D=2$

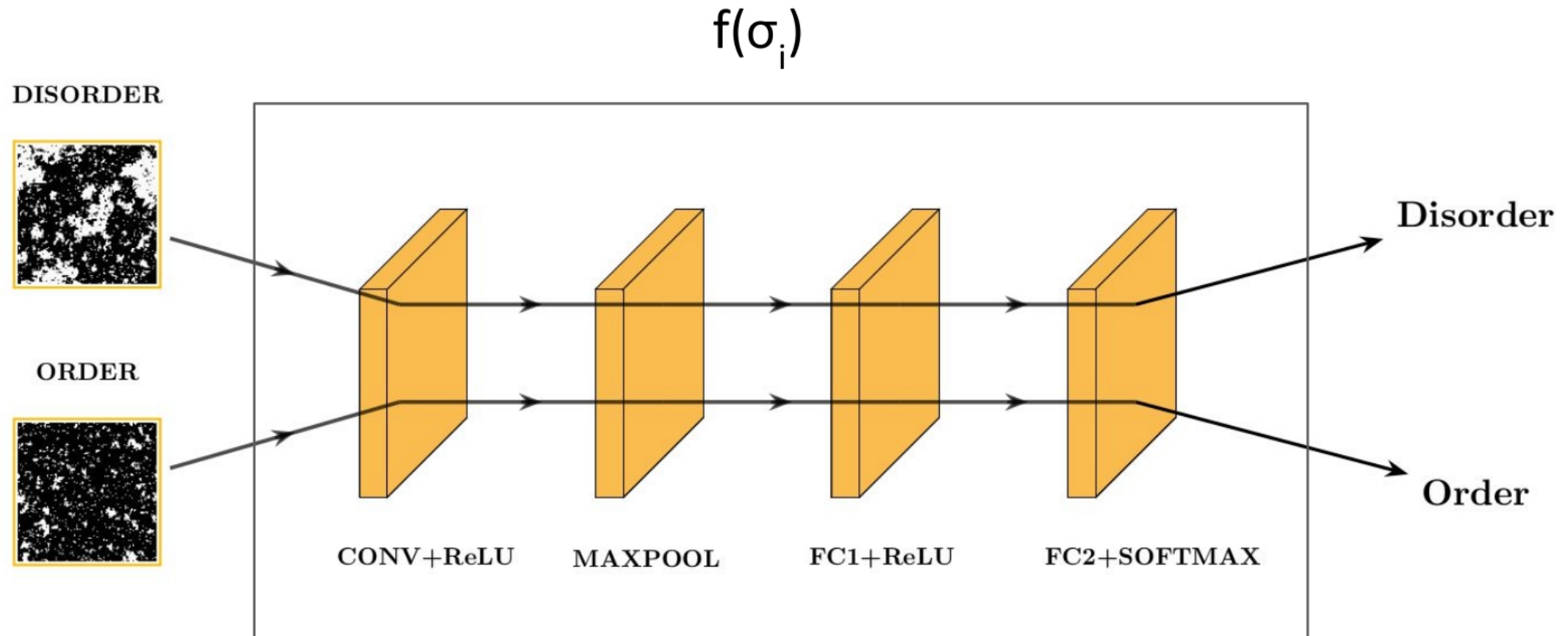
- Action

$$S = -\kappa_L \sum_{\langle ij \rangle} \phi_i \phi_j + \frac{(\mu_L^2 + 4\kappa_L)}{2} \sum_i \phi_i^2 + \frac{\lambda_L}{4} \sum_i \phi_i^4$$

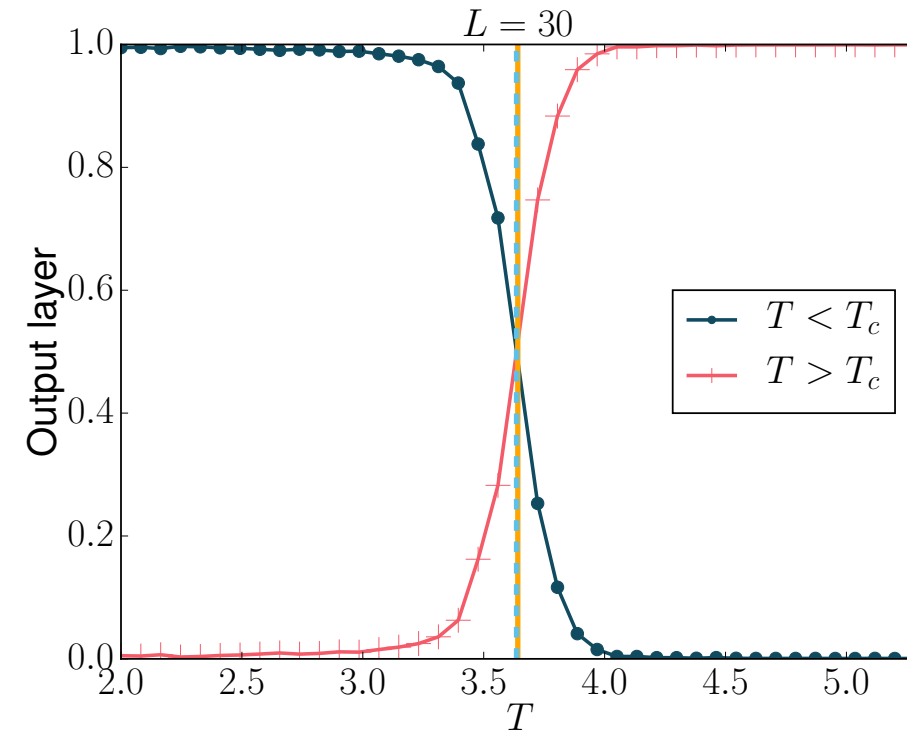
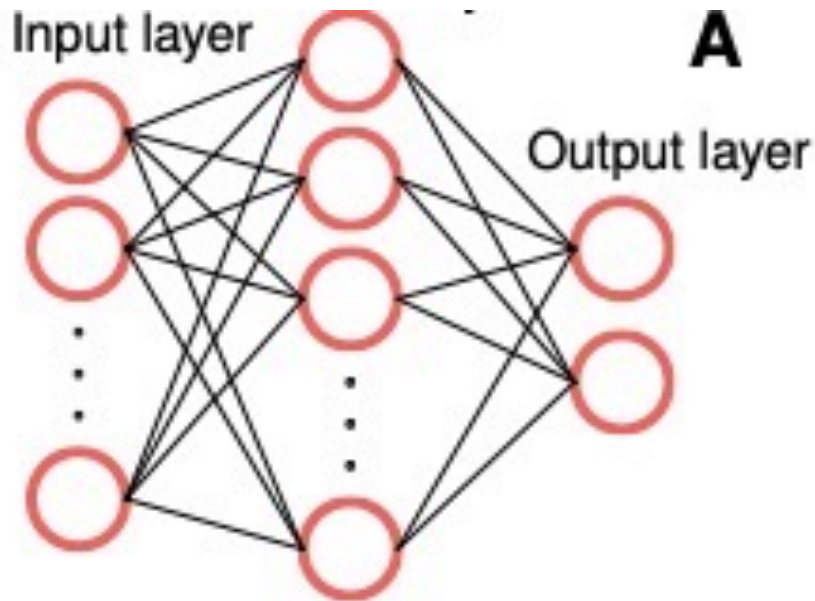
- We fix  $\kappa_L = 1$  and find a line of critical points, depending on the ratio  $\lambda_L / \mu_L^2$
- We consider the reference critical values

$$\lambda_L = 0.7, \quad \mu_L^2 = -0.95153(16)$$

# Convolutional Neural Networks



# Exposing the phase structure



- Neural Network trained on a square lattice
- Critical temperature on the triangular lattice determined at the permille level (finite size shift?)

[Carrasquilla and Melko, Nature Physics volume 13, pages 431–434 (2017), arXiv:1605.1735]



# Summary of other results

[C. Giannetti, B. Lucini and D. VDACCHINO, Nucl.Phys.B 944 (2019) 114639, arXiv:1812.06726]



- Critical exponents reproduced with very good accuracy

Method	$T_c$	$\nu$	$\chi_r^2$	$\gamma/\nu$	$\chi_r^2$
Reweighting	2.26922(33)	1.004(48)	0.36	1.7634(68)	0.46
	2.26925(11)	1 (exact)	0.3	7/4 (exact)	0.66
SVM	2.26968(66)	0.95(18)	0.79	1.733(10)	1.54
	2.26954(25)	1 (exact)	0.65	7/4 (exact)	2.06

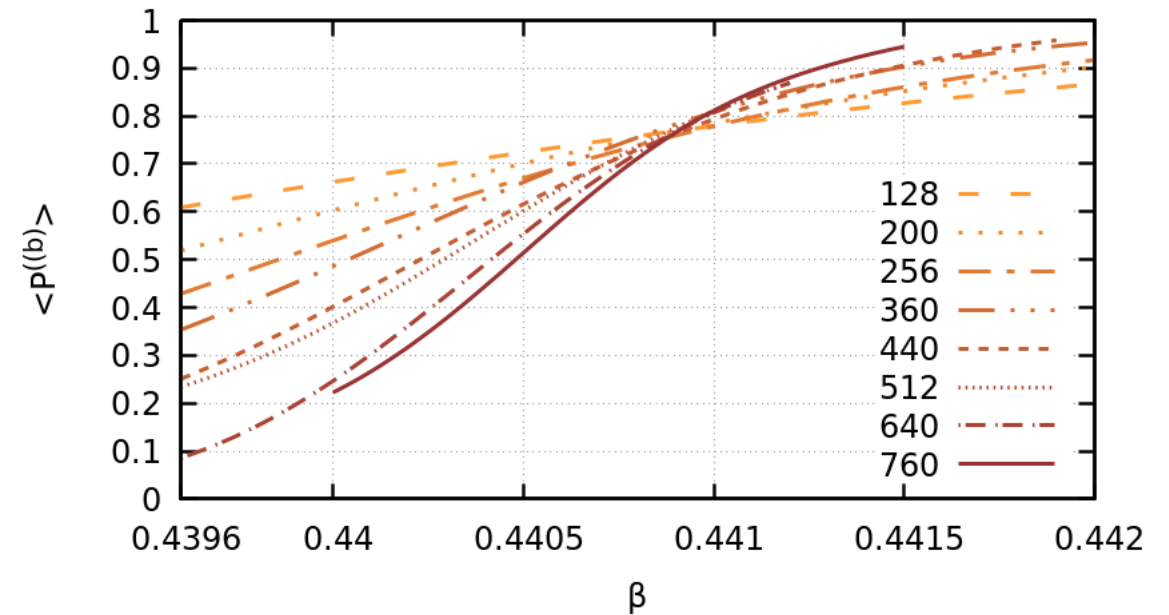
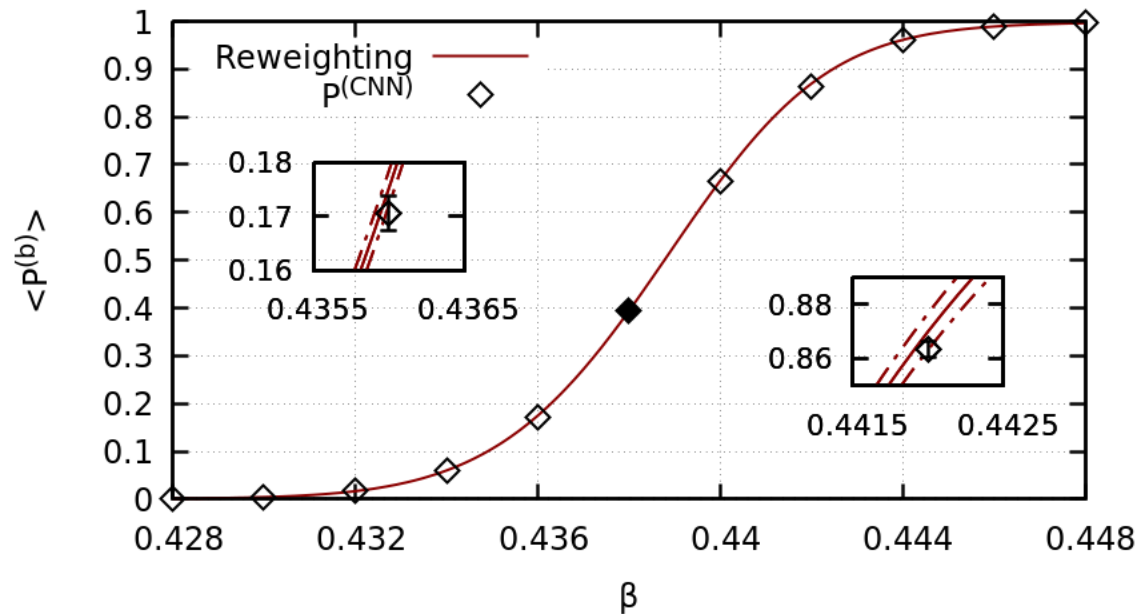
- The machine learning method (SVM) finds the (square of the) magnetization as the decision function
- The symmetry is encoded in the kernel transformation
- Independence of the (sensibly chosen) training temperatures

# Probability of classification as an observable

NN trained away from the phase transition:  $\beta \leq 0.41$  and  $\beta \geq 0.47$

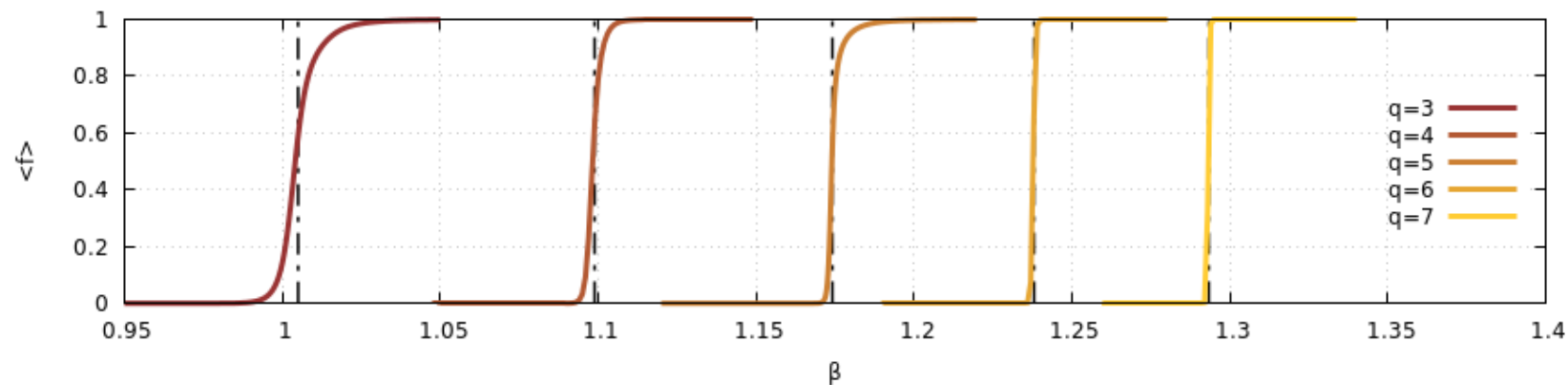
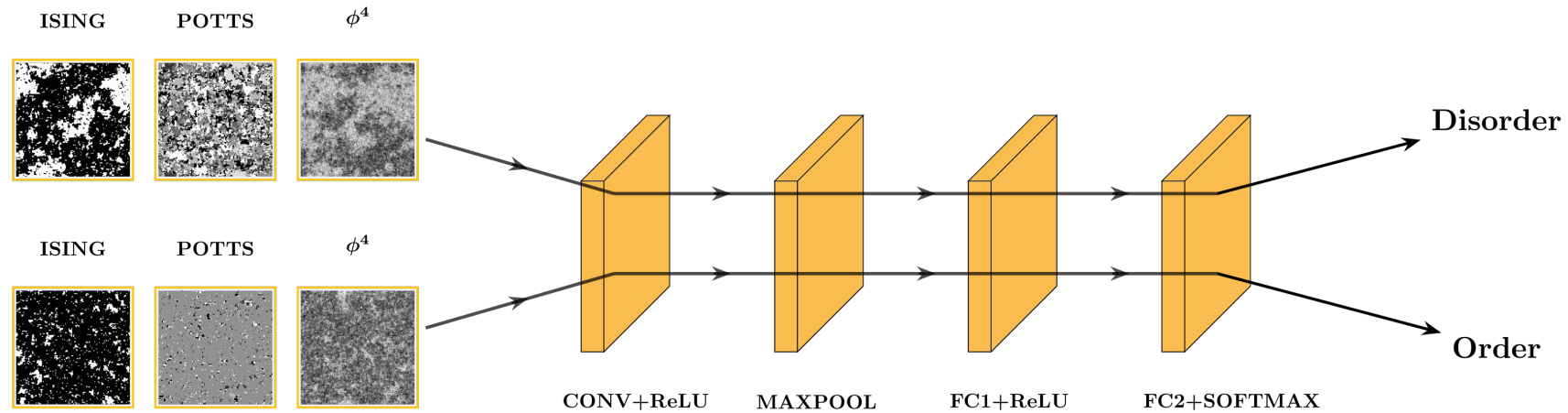
The probability of classification reweighted using a single point agrees with direct measurement

➡ this probability is a thermodynamic observable!



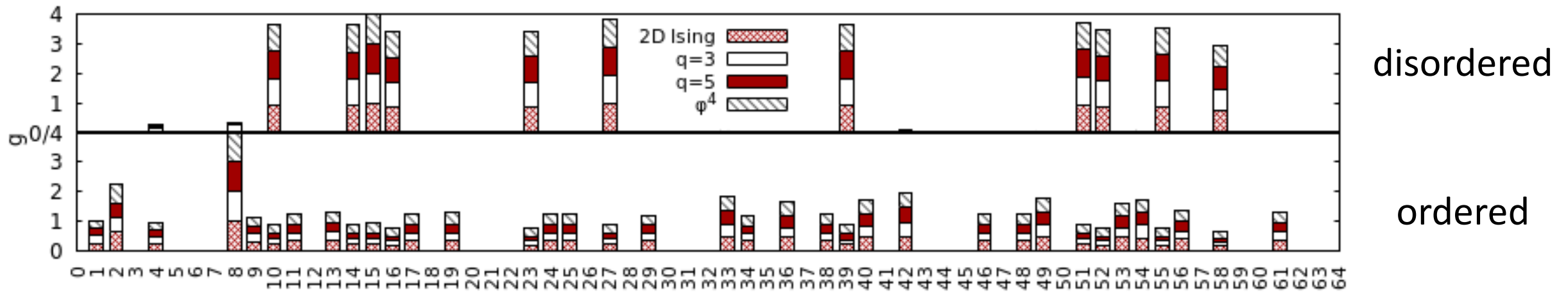
# Transfer learning

[D. Bachtis, G. Aarts and B. Lucini, Phys.Rev.E 102 (2020) 5, 053306, arXiv:2007.00355]



A Convolutional Neural Network trained on Ising 2D can locate the order-disorder transition in other spin models

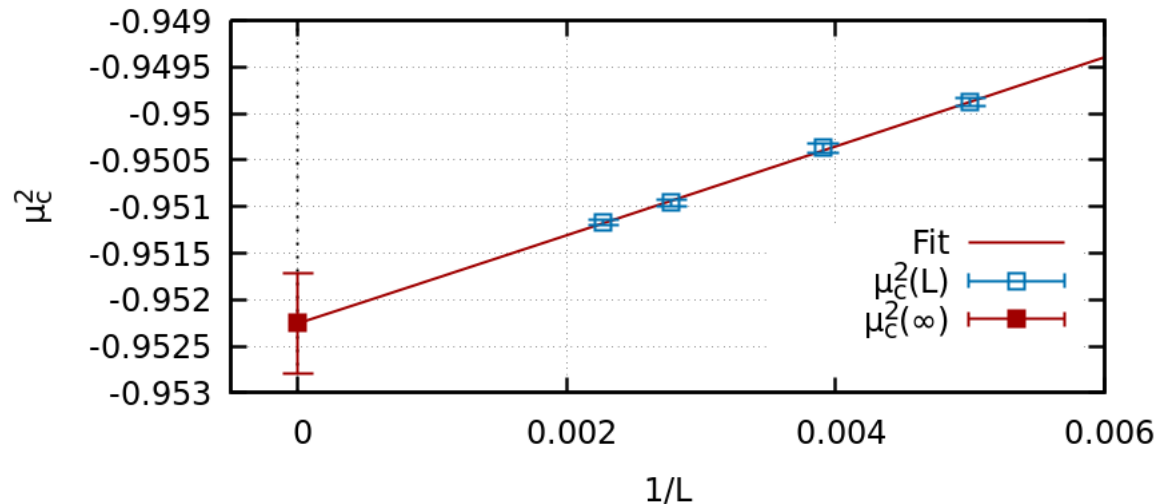
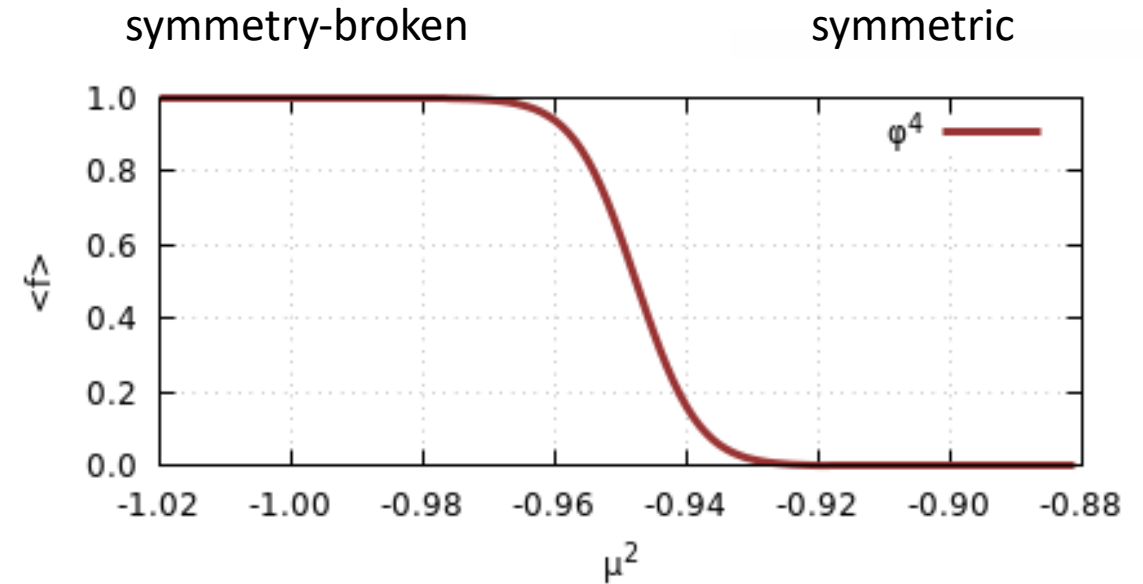
# Towards interpretability: activation functions in NN



Universal features distinguish ordered and disordered phases, irrespective of e.g. order of transition

# $\phi^4$ scalar field theory

- reweight in mass parameter,  $\mu^2$
- identify regions where phase is clear
- retrain NN using  $\mu^2 < -1.0$  and  $\mu^2 > -0.9$
- repeat finite-size scaling analysis as in 2d Ising model



	$\mu_c^2$	$\nu$	$\gamma/\nu$
CNN+Reweighting	-0.95225(54)	0.99(34)	1.78(7)

- same universality class as 2d Ising model
- critical mass in agreement with results obtained with standard methods (Binder cumulant, susceptibility)

# Coupling $f$ to the Hamiltonian

Define an observable variable  $Y$  conjugated to  $f$  and write an extended Hamiltonian

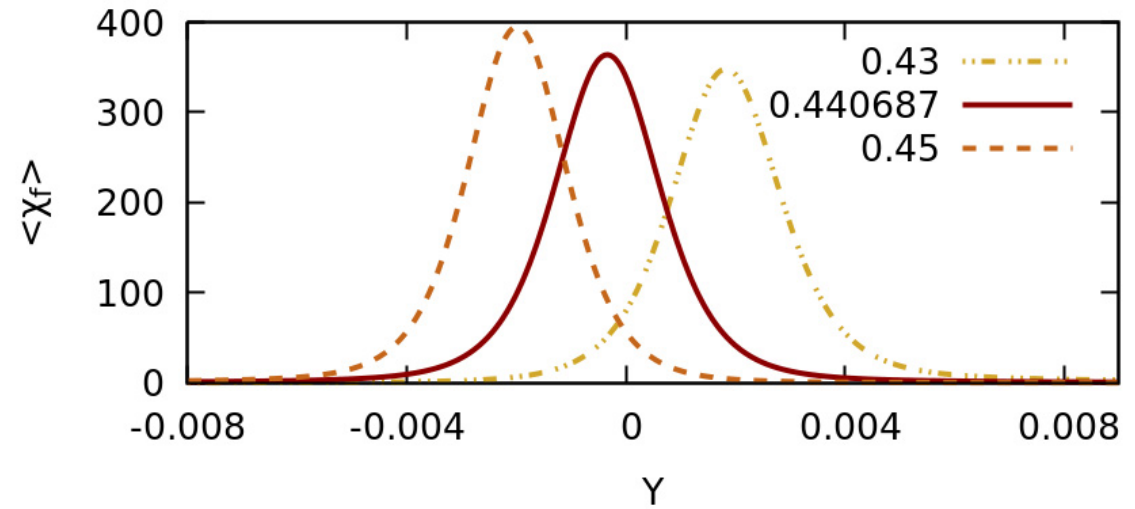
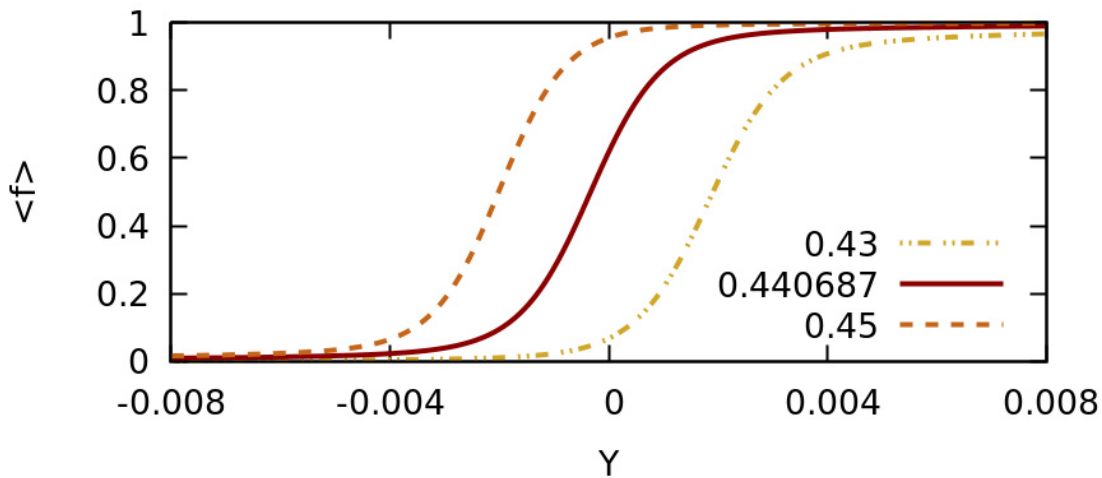
$$E_Y = E - V f Y.$$

Now  $f$  can be computed using path integral methods

$$\langle f \rangle = \frac{1}{\beta V} \frac{\partial \ln Z_Y}{\partial Y} = \frac{\sum_{\sigma} f_{\sigma} \exp[-\beta E_{\sigma} + \beta V f_{\sigma} Y]}{\sum_{\sigma} \exp[-\beta E_{\sigma} + \beta V f_{\sigma} Y]}$$

Note that  $Y$  define a new direction for reweighting and that reweighting in this direction does not require the knowledge of  $E_Y$

# Induced phase transition



Critical exponents calculated with Renormalisation Group methods

	$\beta_c$	$\nu$	$\theta_Y, \theta$
RG+NN	0.44063(21)	1.01(2)	$\theta_Y = 0.534(3)$
Exact	$\ln(1 + \sqrt{2})/2$	1	$\theta = 8/15$

**f allows access to the magnetic critical exponent  $\theta$**

# The Inverse Renormalisation Group

[D. Bachtis, G. Aarts, F. Di Renzo, and B. Lucini, *Phys. Rev. Lett.*, 128:081603 (2022)]

Purpose: generating configurations on larger lattices starting from smaller ones near criticality with negligible computational cost

Not a new idea, e.g.

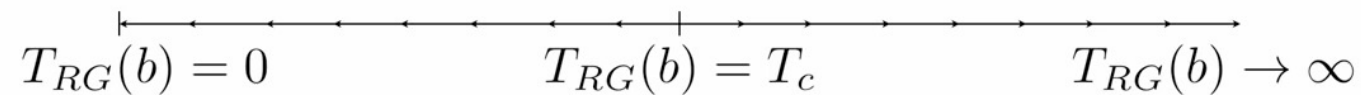
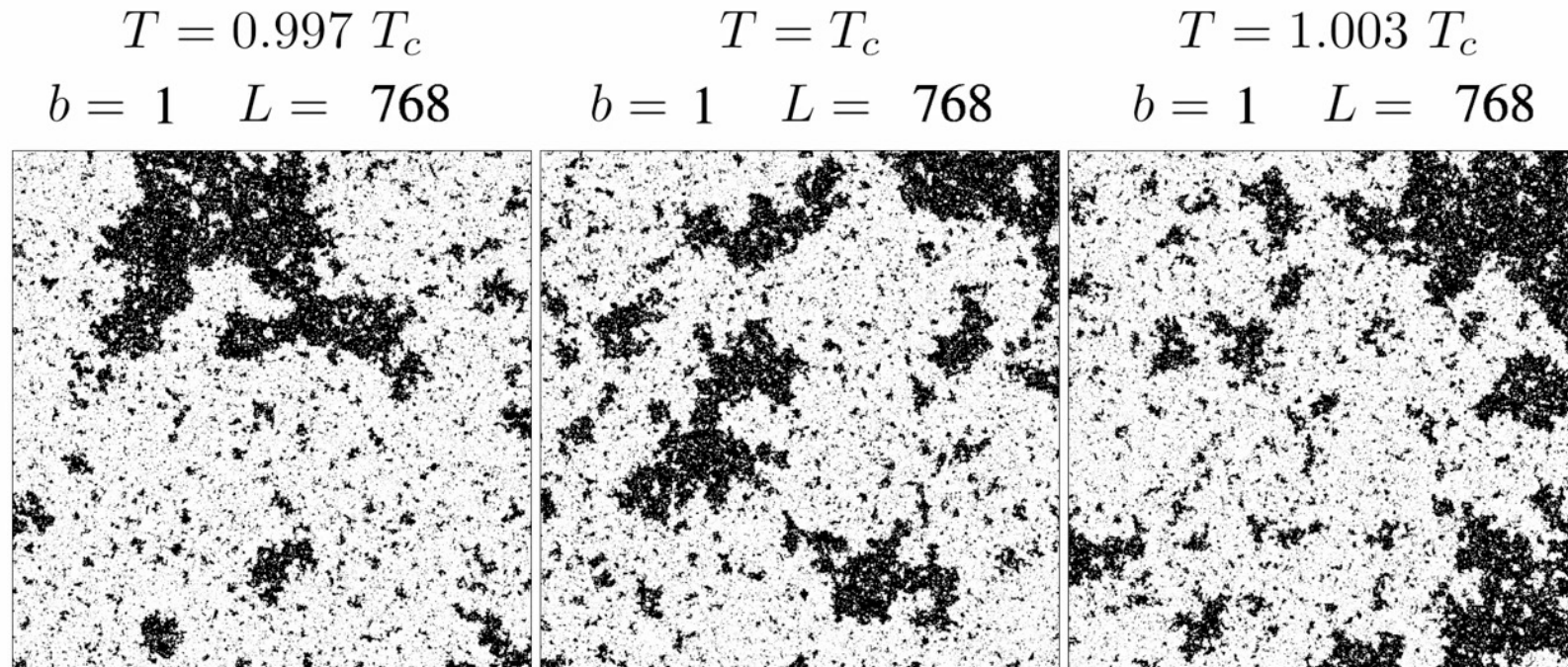
- R.H. Swendsen, *Phys. Rev. Lett.*, 42:859–861 (1979)
- D. Ron, R.H. Swendsen, and A. Brandt, *Phys. Rev. Lett.*, 89:275701 (2002)
- S. Efthymiou, M.J.S. Beach, and R.G. Melko, *Phys. Rev. B*, 99:075113, (2019)
- S.-H. Li and L. Wang, *Phys. Rev. Lett.*, 121:260601 (2018)
- K. Shiina, H. Mori, Y. Tomita, H.K. Lee, and Y. Okabe, *Scientific Reports*, 11(1):9617 (2021)

Our work presents the first IRG calculation for a Quantum Field Theory



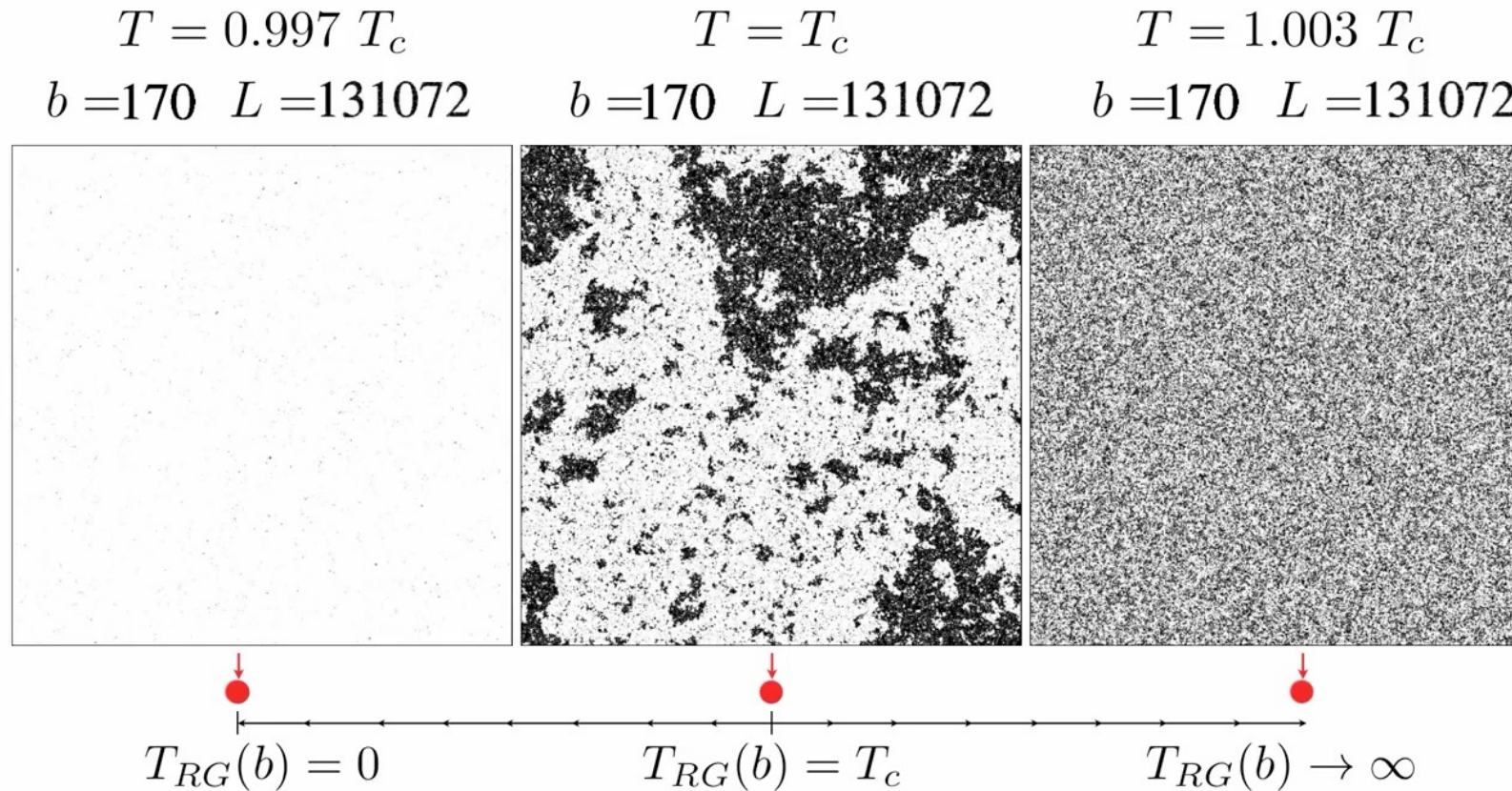
# How the Renormalisation Group works

[Adapted from <https://blog.douglashton.net/2012/04/the-renormalisation-group/>, video released under [CC BY-SA 4.0](#)]



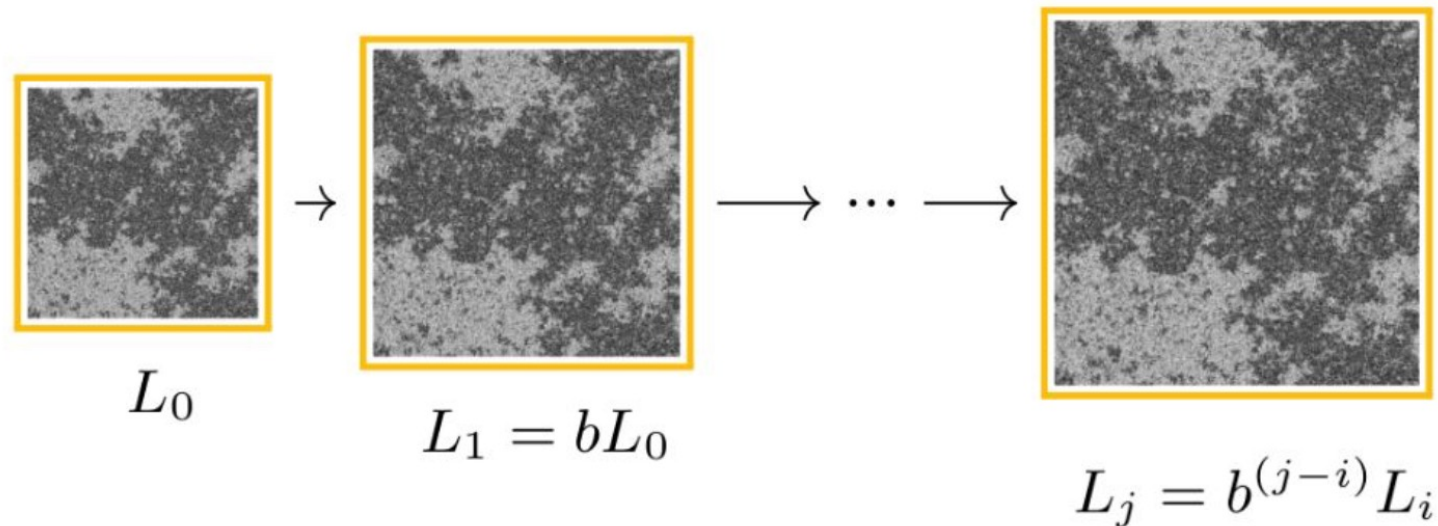
# How we expect the IRG to work

[Adapted from <https://blog.douglashton.net/2012/04/the-renormalisation-group/>, video released under [CC BY-SA 4.0](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-sa/4.0/)]



# Benefits of the IRG

- Overcome critical slowing down  $\tau \propto \xi^z$
- More precise calculations of observables at criticality
- Better insights on the infrared dynamics of the model
- Can grow the lattice size indefinitely





# Known problem: the RG is not invertible

To invert the RG, we would need to grow the number of degrees of freedom, but the process is not unique

E.g., for a blocked spin equal to +1 possibilities (majority rules) include

+1	+1	-1	+1	-1	+1	-1	+1	...
+1	-1	+1	+1	+1	-1	+1	-1	

Even worse for the scalar field, e.g.

0.01	0.36	-421.1	90.1	...
0.02	0.01	0.5	330.9	

compatible with a blocked spin value 0.4

# What we mean by inverting the RG then?

- We start from a set of configuration generated via a Monte Carlo on a lattice of size  $L$
- Using a Machine Learning algorithm, from those we derive a set of configurations on a lattice  $L' = b L$  (typically,  $b=2$ )
- We assume that the ensemble at  $L'$  as distributed according to the Boltzmann measure at  $L$
- This enables us to compute (and to reweight!) observables at  $L'$
- Using crossing of curves, we compute critical quantities

Advantage: numerical effort done on small lattices, hence relatively cheap

Critical to the process: blocking method, ML algorithm and assumption of Boltzmann distribution

# The blocking method

- Given a block  $B$  with generic point  $i$ , consider

$$\phi_B^+ = \frac{\sum_{i \in B} \phi(i) \theta(\phi(i))}{\sum_{i \in B} \theta(\phi(i))} \quad \text{and} \quad \phi_B^- = \frac{\sum_{i \in B} \phi(i) \theta(-\phi(i))}{\sum_{i \in B} \theta(-\phi(i))}$$

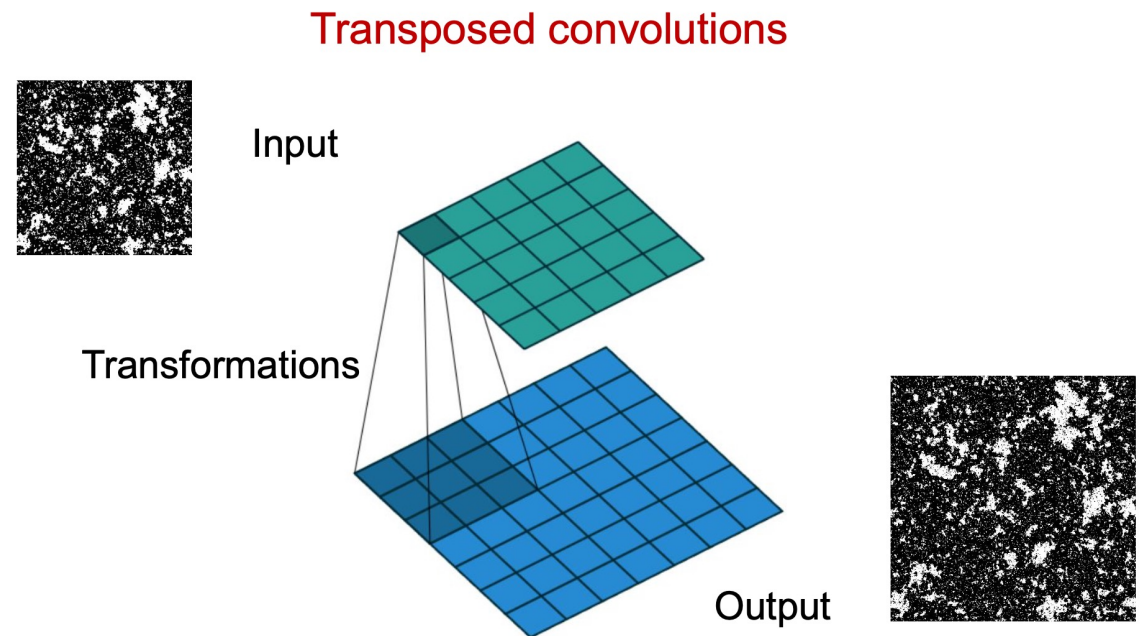
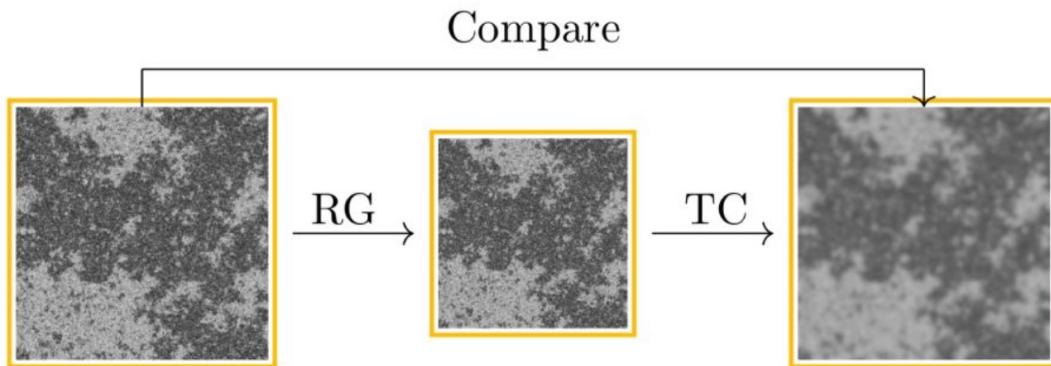
- Now, set

$$\phi_B = \phi_B^+ \theta(\phi_B^+ + \phi_B^-) + \phi_B^- \theta(-\phi_B^+ - \phi_B^-)$$

- This is equivalent to the majority rule in the Ising model

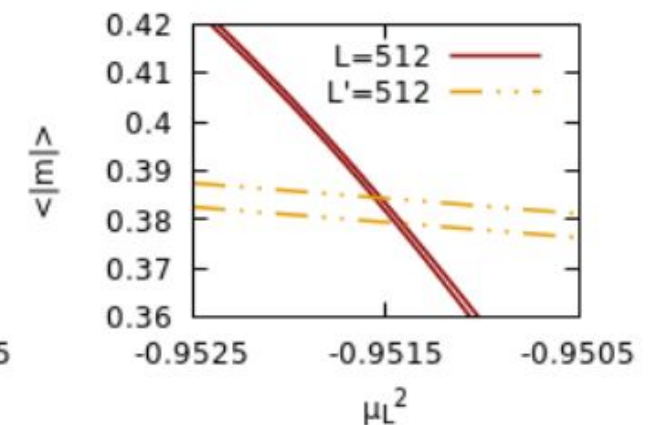
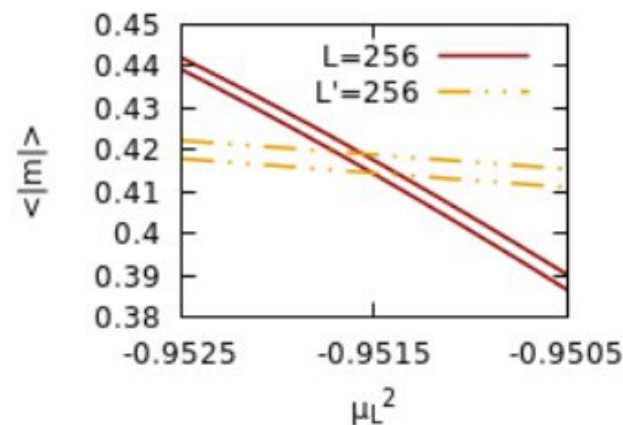
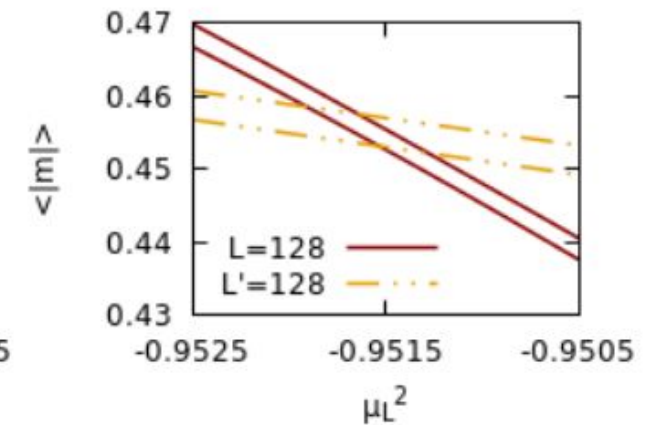
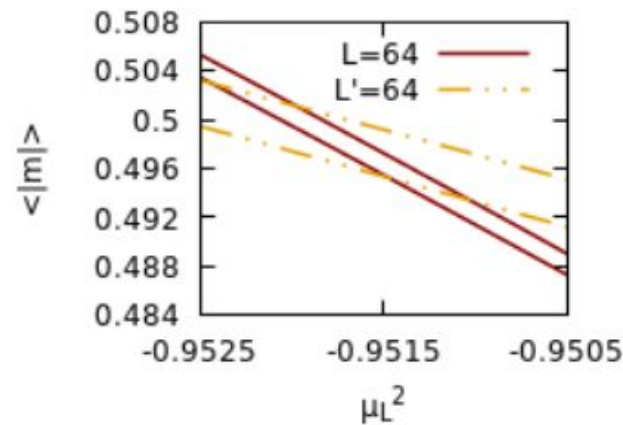
# Lattice augmentation with Machine Learning

Central concept: transposed convolution



# Determining the direction of the RG flow

- Comparison with directly simulated lattices show that in the augmented system **the coupling flows towards the critical point**
- Plotting two different lattice sizes (no need for direct simulation!) the crossing identifies an estimate for the critical coupling





# Determining critical quantities

We can rewrite the scaling relationships for the magnetisation

$$m_i \sim |t_i|^\beta \qquad m_j \sim |t_j|^\beta$$

in terms of the correlation length

$$m_i \sim \xi_i^{-\beta/\nu} \qquad m_j \sim \xi_j^{-\beta/\nu}$$

to obtain the operational definition of the critical exponent ratio

$$\frac{\beta}{\nu} = -\frac{\ln \left. \frac{dm_j}{dm_i} \right|_{K_c}}{\ln \frac{\xi_j}{\xi_i}} = -\frac{\ln \left. \frac{dm_j}{dm_i} \right|_{K_c}}{(j-i) \ln b}$$

Similarly, from  $\chi$  we get  $\gamma/\nu$

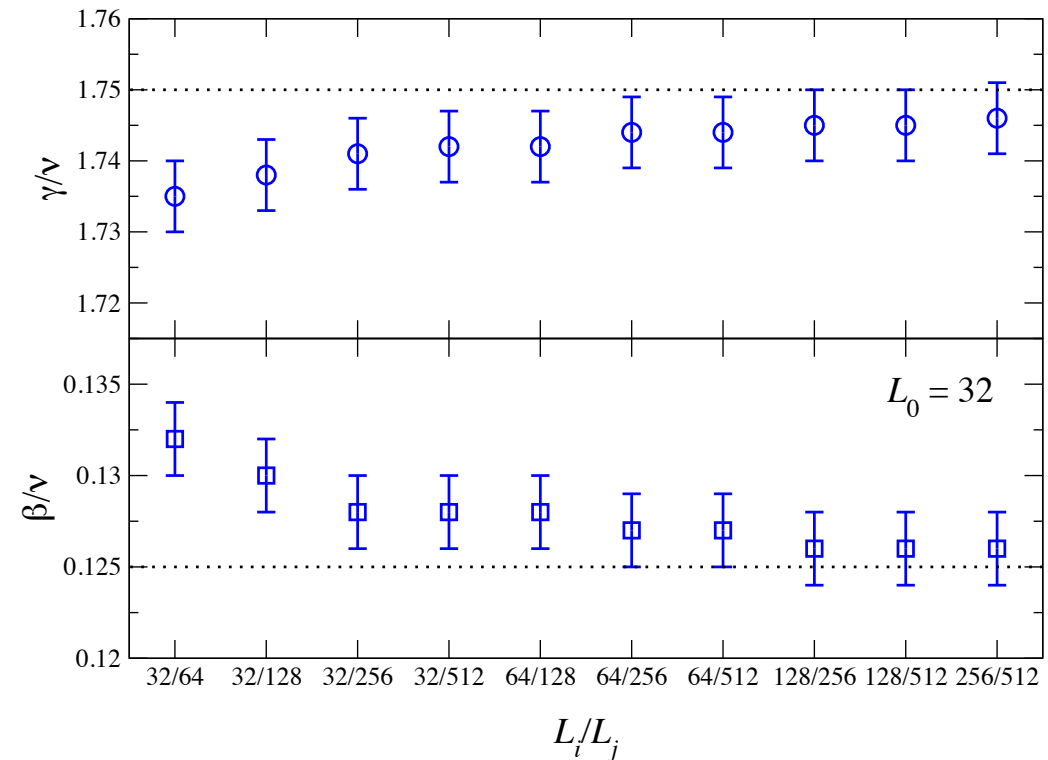
# Critical exponents

Method: configurations obtained with a simulation for  $L=32$  and IRG augmentation up to  $L=512$

Ratios of critical exponents extracted for pairs of lattices

Expected asymptotic approach to Ising values clearly observed

All with no critical slowing down!



# Conclusions and Outlook



- Machine Learning offers a novel angle to look at phase transitions
- It enables precise calculations of critical properties with no assumed knowledge on the underlying symmetry
- Machine Learning exposes novel observables, whose behaviour can offer insights on the dynamics of the phase transition
- A powerful demonstrator of the potential of Machine Learning is the Inverse Renormalisation Group
- Future work focusing on interpretability
- Related work ongoing to derive more efficient and interpretable Machine Learning methods from Quantum Field Theories

[e.g., D. Bachtis, G. Aarts and B. Lucini, Phys.Rev.D 103 (2021) 7, 074510, arXiv:2107.00466]

# License notice



The video on the RG in slide 17 is adapted from <https://blog.dougashton.net/2012/04/the-renormalisation-group/> removing the explanatory first part.

The video on the IRG in slide 18 is obtained playing backward the video in slide 17.

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