



UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI
DI GENOVA



The NFlikelihood:
Unsupervised Machine Learning LHC likelihoods with Normalizing Flows.

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Introduction

- **Likelihood functions (full statistical models)** parametrise the full information of an LHC analysis; whether it is New Physics (NP) search or an SM measurement.
- Their **preservation** is a key part of the **LHC legacy**.

Usage:

- Resampling
- Reinterpretation with different statistical approaches.
- Reinterpretation in the context of different NP models.
- ...

Challenges:

- LHC likelihoods are often high-dimensional complex distributions.
- We want precise descriptions that can be efficiently reinterpreted.

Important steps forward:

- ATLAS started publishing full likelihoods of NP searches [ATL-PHYS-PUB-2019-029](#).
- Release of the pyhf package to construct statistical models [10.21105/joss.02823](#), L Heinrich, M Feickert, G Stark
- Theorists have started profiting from this [arXiv:2012.08192](#), [arXiv:2206.14870](#) SModelS/MadAnalys collab.
- Supervised learning with DNN likelihood [arxiv:1911.03305](#) A Coccaro, M. Perini, L Silvestrini, R Torre

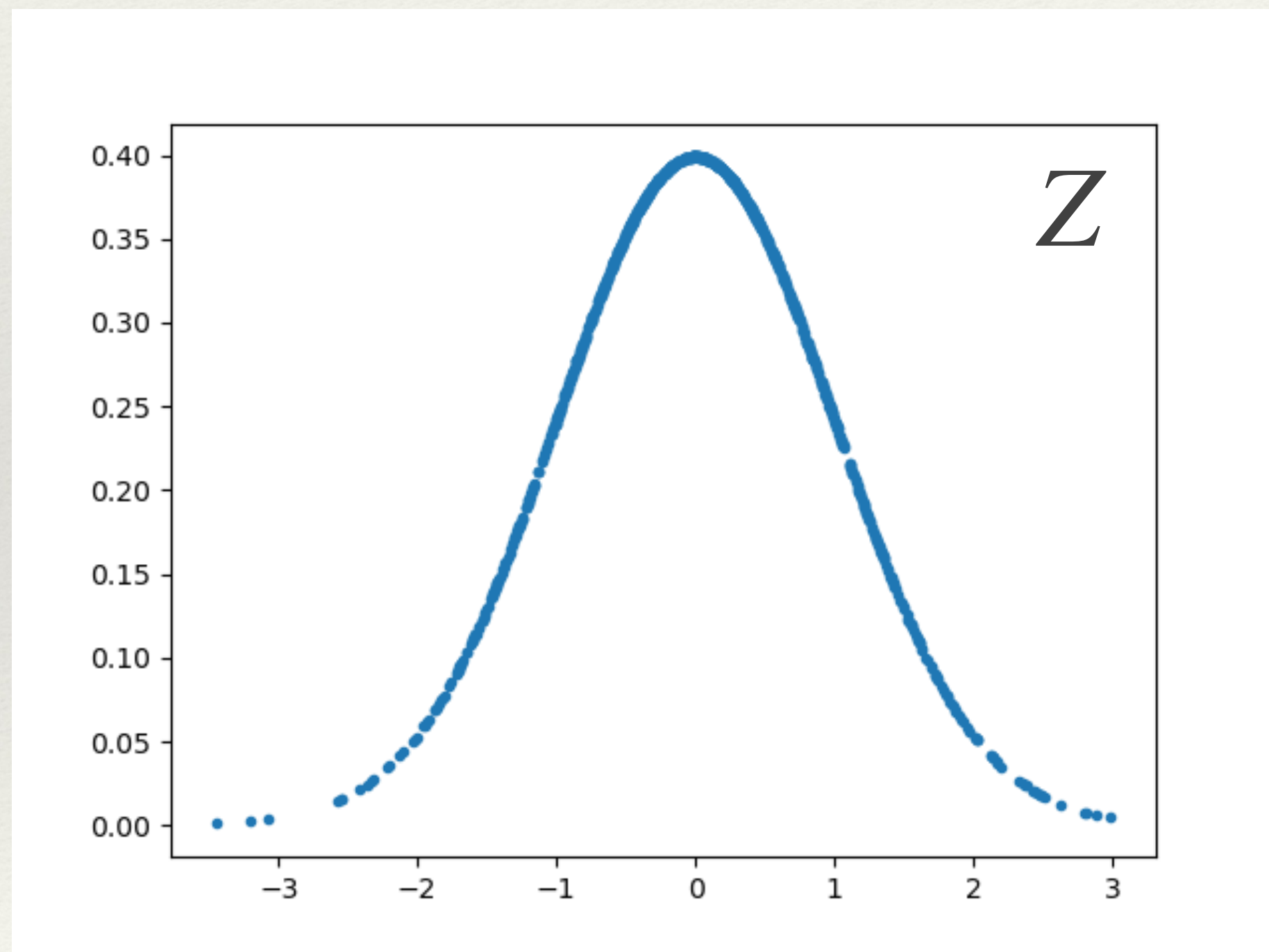
Our approach:

Unsupervised Learning with Normalizing Flows

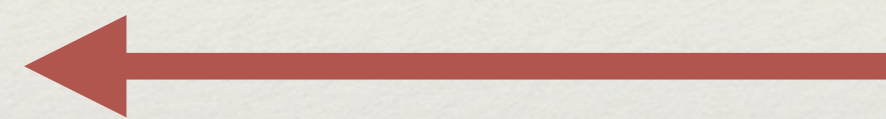
Intro to NFs.

BASIC PRINCIPLE:

Following the change of variables formula, perform a series of **bijective, continuous, invertible** transformations on a *simple* probability density function (pdf) to obtain a *complex* one.

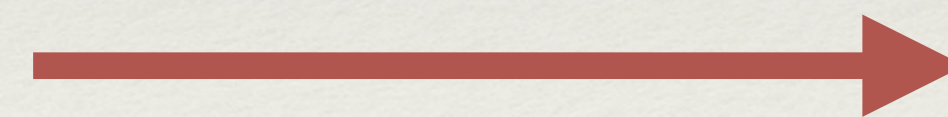


Normalizing direction

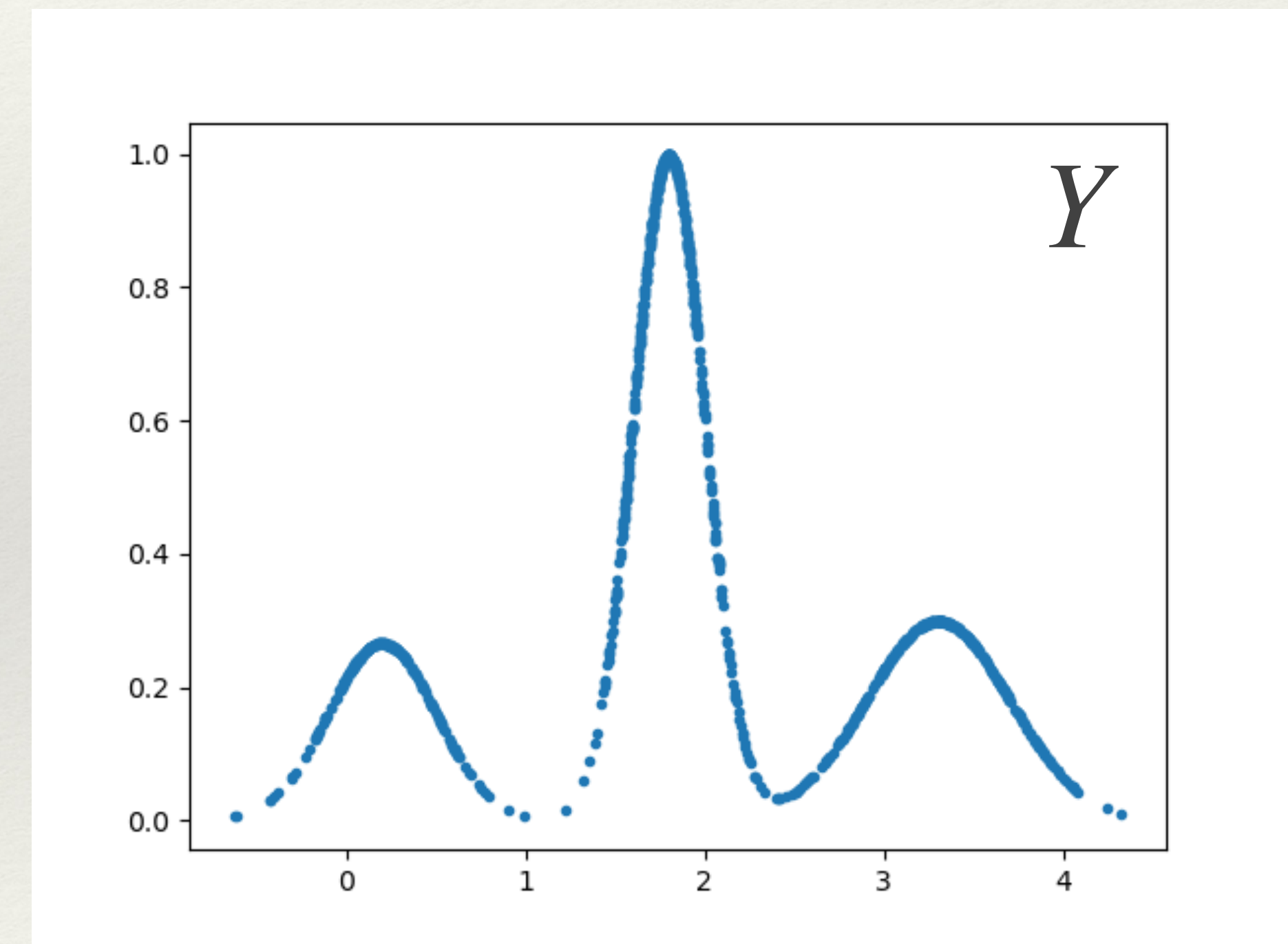


$$Z = f(Y)$$

Generative direction



$$Y = g(Z)$$



Choosing the transformations

THE OBJECTIVE:

To perform the right transformations to accurately estimate the complex underlying distribution of some observed data.

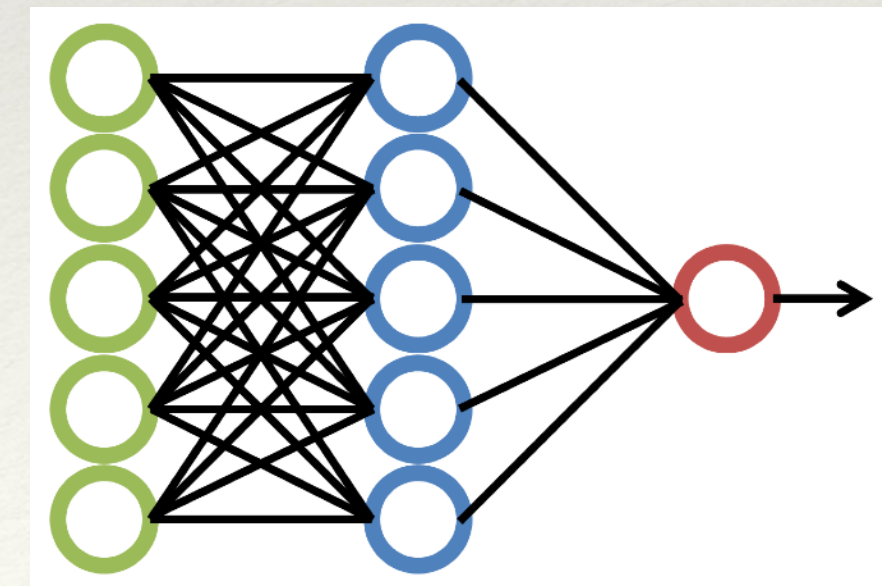
THE RULES OF THE GAME:

- The transformations must be invertible
- They should be sufficiently expressive
- And computationally efficient (including Jacobian)



THE STRATEGY

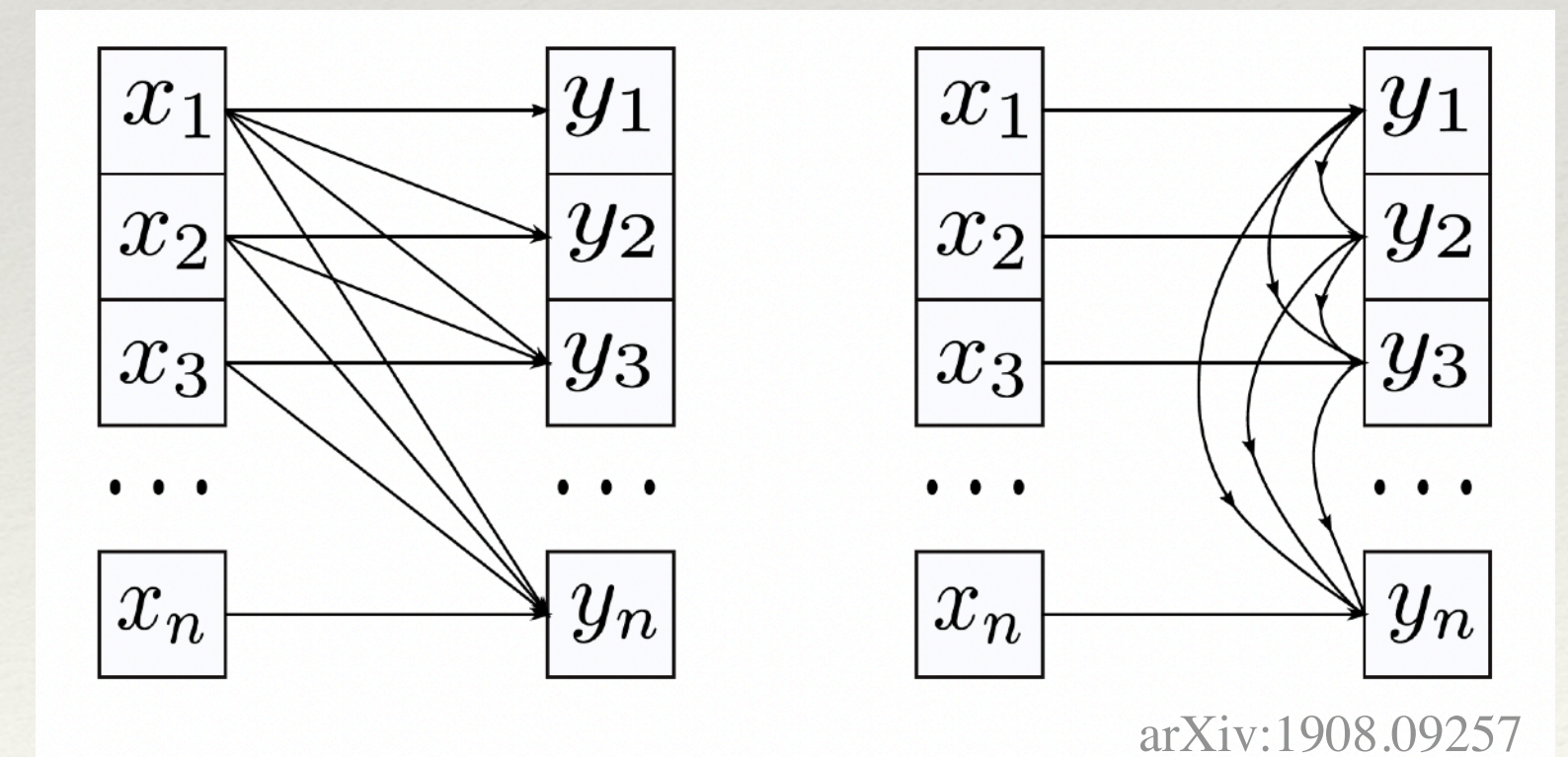
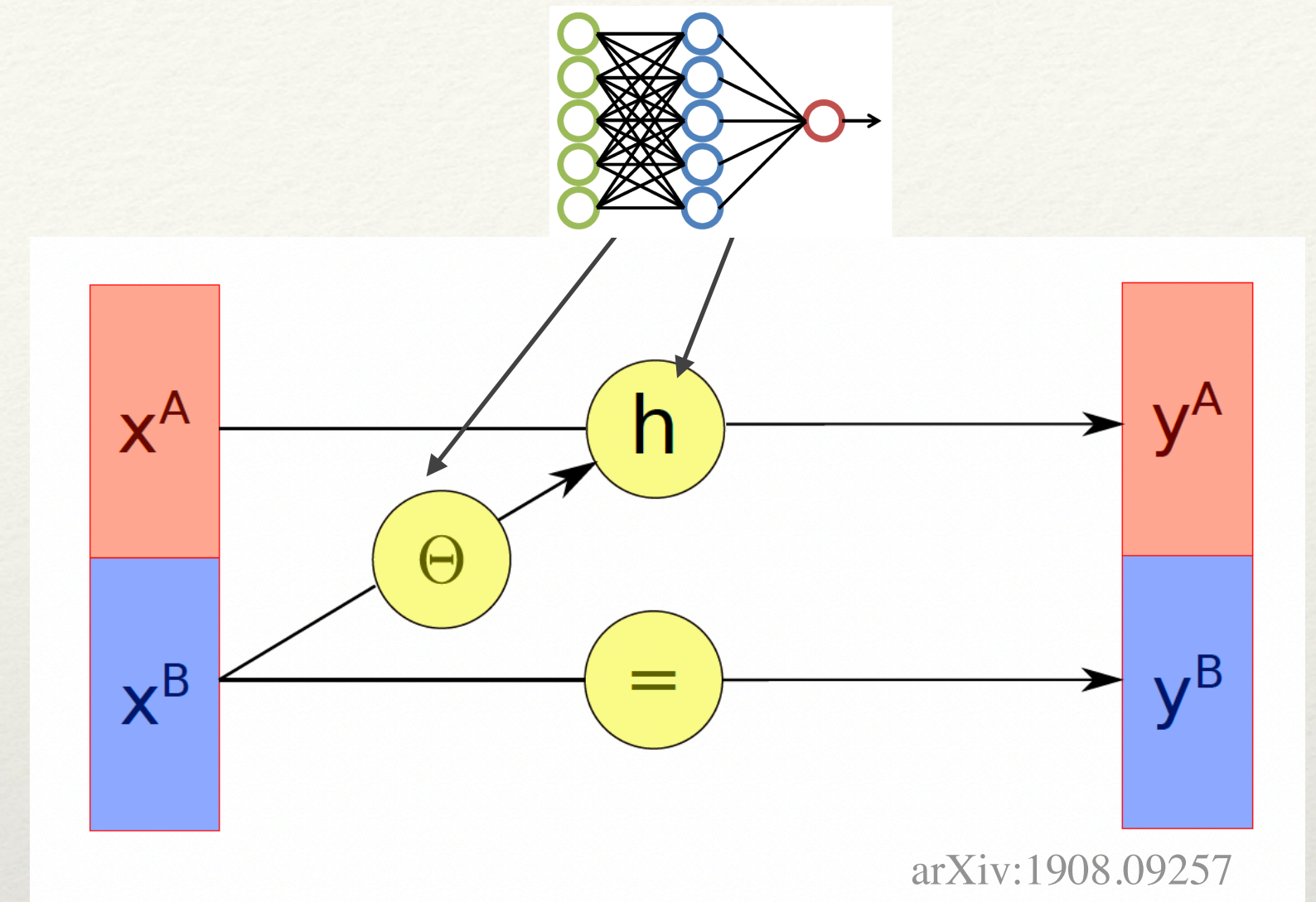
Let *Neural Networks* learn the parameters of *Autoregressive Normalizing Flows*.



Autoregressive Flows

- Dimension x^i is transformed with bijectors trained with $y_{1:i-1}$
- Bijector parameters are trained with Autoregressive NNs.
- The Jacobian J is triangular.
- **Jacobian is easily computed!**
- **Direct sampling OR density estimation.**
- **Expressive transformations.**

The loss function:
 $-\log(p_{AF}(real_{dist}))$



Autoregressive Flows

MAF

Masked Autoregressive Flow

arXiv:1705.07057

Affine

$$y(x; \mu, b) = \mu \cdot x + b$$

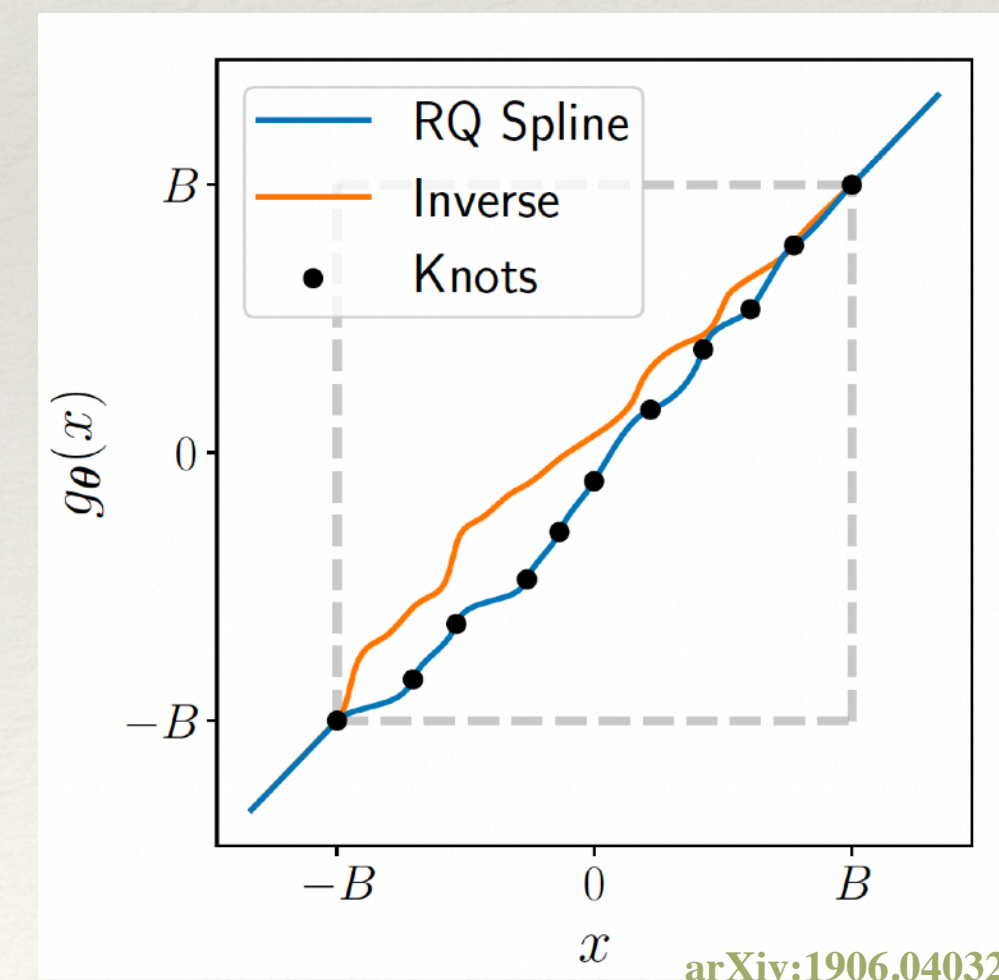
A-RQS

Neural Spline Flows

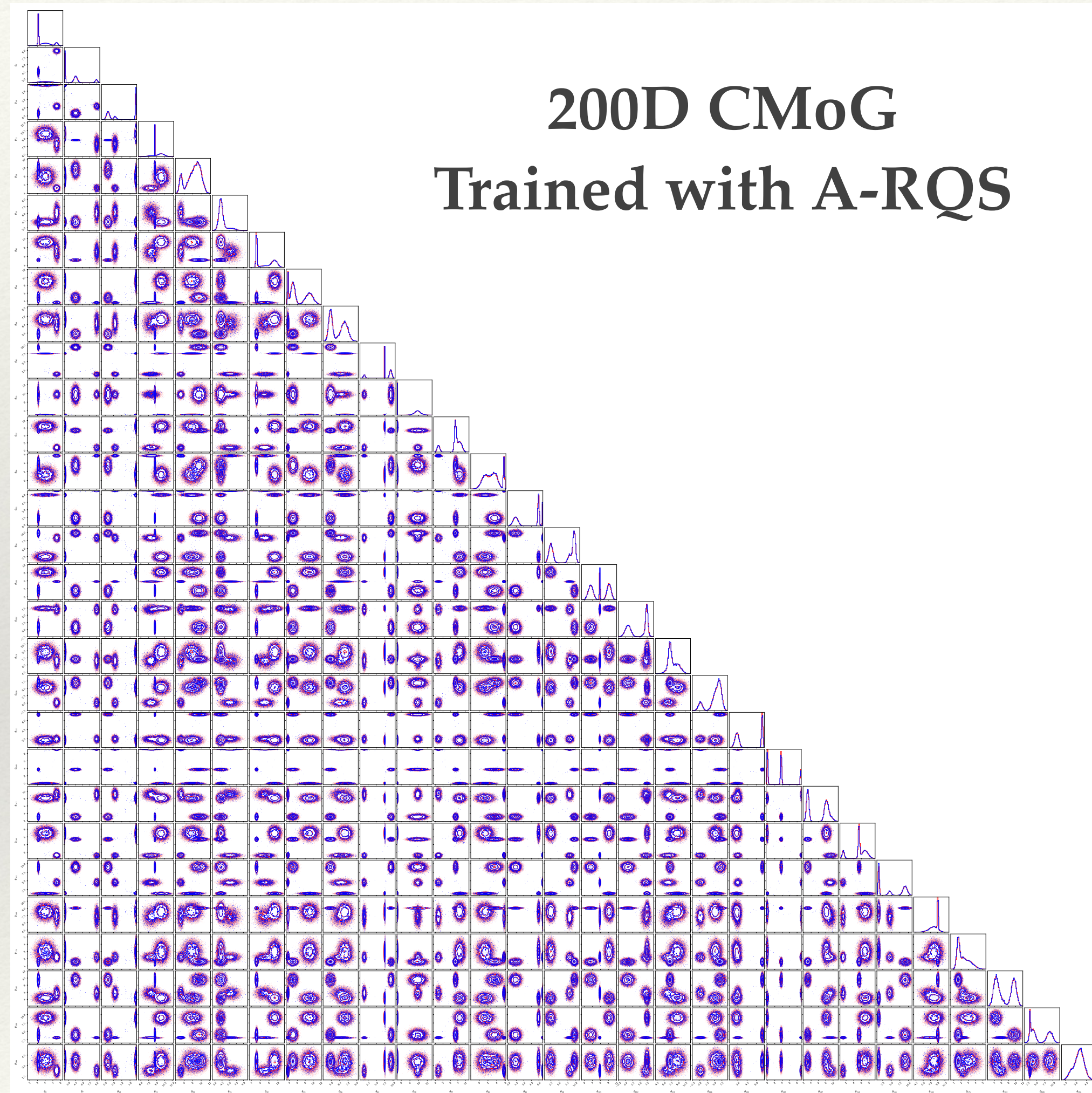
arXiv:1906.04032

Rational Quadratic Spline

BIJECTORS



Normalizing Flows in High Dimensions



NFs scale very well to High Dimensions:

[arXiv:2202.09188](https://arxiv.org/abs/2202.09188), [arXiv:2302.12024](https://arxiv.org/abs/2302.12024) (Coccaro, Letizia, Torre, HRG)

Great potential in HEP, Astro, Lattice

- Numerical integration ([arXiv:2001.05486](https://arxiv.org/abs/2001.05486), [arXiv:2001.05478](https://arxiv.org/abs/2001.05478))
- Unfolding ([arXiv:2006.06685](https://arxiv.org/abs/2006.06685))
- Calorimeter shower simulation ([arXiv:2106.05285](https://arxiv.org/abs/2106.05285), [arXiv:2211.15380](https://arxiv.org/abs/2211.15380))
- Event generation ([arXiv:2001.10028](https://arxiv.org/abs/2001.10028), [arXiv:2110.13632](https://arxiv.org/abs/2110.13632))
- Anomaly detection ([arXiv:2001.04990](https://arxiv.org/abs/2001.04990))
- Astro/Cosmo ([arXiv:2104.12789](https://arxiv.org/abs/2104.12789), [arXiv:2105.0332](https://arxiv.org/abs/2105.0332))
- Lattice ([arXiv:2101.08176](https://arxiv.org/abs/2101.08176), [arXiv:2210.03139](https://arxiv.org/abs/2210.03139))

Non-exhaustive list...

better type 'Normalizing Flows' on InspireHEP and see for yourself!

Evaluation metrics.

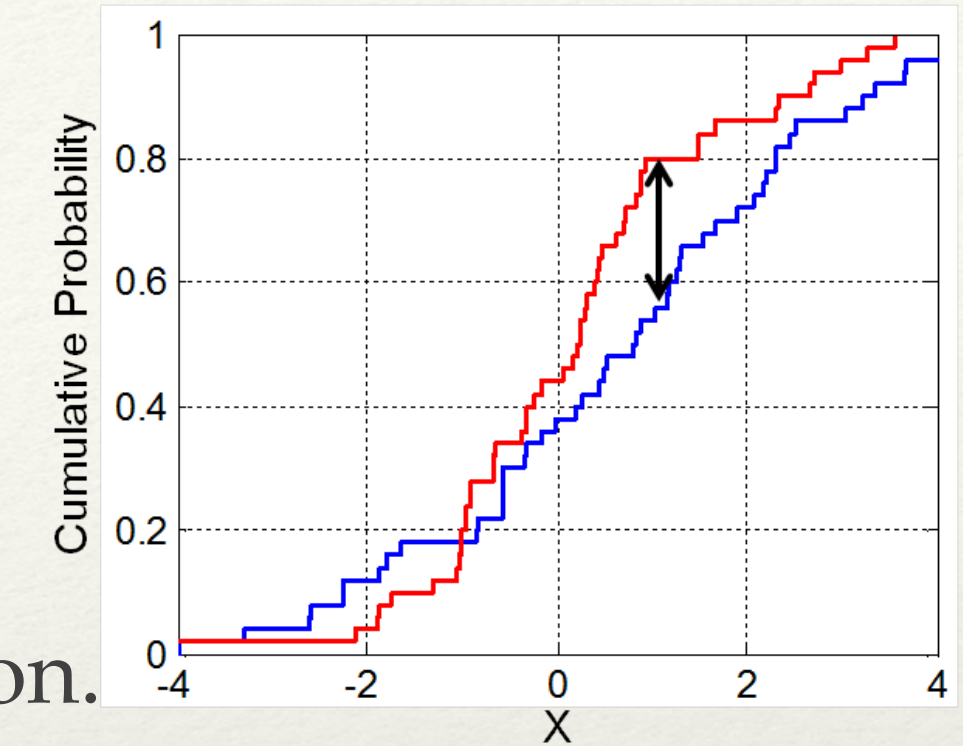
- Two-sample 1D Kolgomonov - Smirnov test (ks test):

$$D_{n,m} = \sup_x |F_n(x) - F_m(x)|$$

-Computes the p-value for two sets of 1D samples coming from the same *unknown* distribution.

-We average over ks test estimations and compute the median over dimensions.

-Optimal value 0.5



https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kolmogorov-Smirnov_test

-HDPIe:

Highest Posterior Density Interval (HDPI) on a posterior density for fixed probability. We computed the **HPDI relative error width (HPDIe)** at the σ , 2σ and 3σ intervals between each 1D marginal of the true and predicted distributions. At each dimension, we computed the median of relative errors between each corresponding interval. The result is summarized as the median over all dimensions.

The NFLikelihood.

(HRG, R. Torre, arXiv:2305.xxxxx)

LHC likelihoods in a nutshell

Bayes theorem:

$$P(\Theta, x) = P_x(x | \Theta)\pi_{\Theta}(\Theta) = P_{\Theta}(\Theta | x)\pi_x(x)$$

LHC Statistical model:

$$P(\mu, \theta; \text{data}) = \prod_{k=1}^{n_c} P[n_i; \mu \epsilon_{i,k}(\vec{\theta}) N_{S,i,k}(\vec{\theta}) + B_{i.k}(\vec{\theta})] \prod_{j=1}^{n_{\text{syst}}} G(\theta_j^{\text{obs}}; \theta_j; 1)$$

Parameters of Interest (signal strength, etc.) (points to μ)
Nuisance parameters (uncertainties) (points to θ)
(Observed) data (points to n_i)
(Auxiliary) data (points to θ_j^{obs})

Test Statistic:

$$t(\mu) = -2 \log \frac{L(\mu; \hat{\theta}(\mu))}{L(\hat{\mu}, \hat{\theta}(\hat{\mu}))}$$

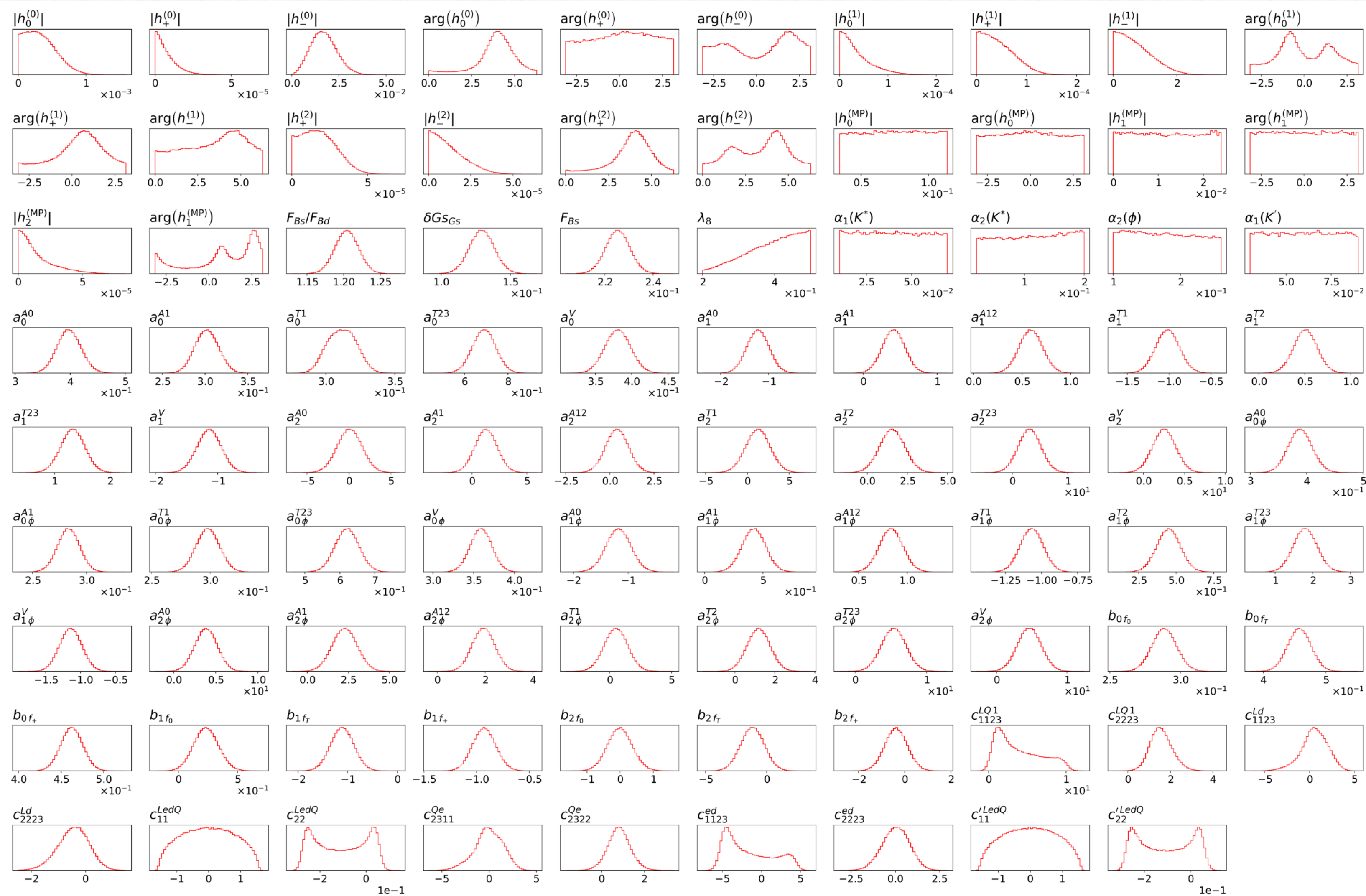
Best-fits:

$$L(\hat{\mu}; \hat{\theta})$$

Where μ are observables

best-fit $\theta(\mu)$

Even $P(\Theta | x = \text{obs})$ can be challenging...



CHALLENGES:

- High-dimensionality
- Truncated distributions
- Multimodal dimensions
- “Noisy” dimensions
- Correlations
- Wide/different ranges

Example Likelihoods

$$P(\Theta | x = \text{obs})$$

LHC-like new physics search Likelihood.

- 1 parameter of interest (signal strength)
- 94 nuisance parameters.
- Ref. [arXiv:1809.05548](#)

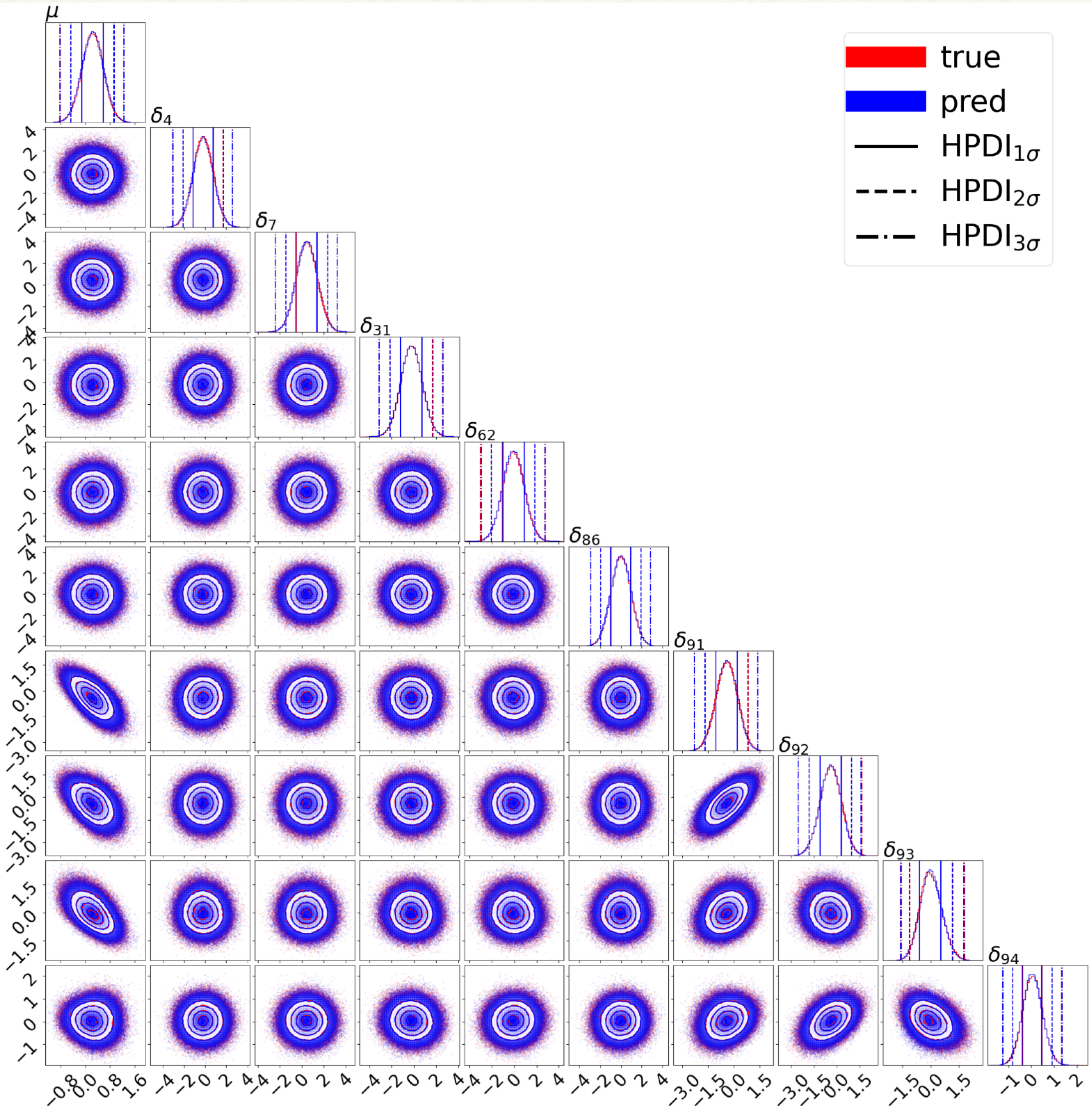
ElectroWeak fit Likelihood

- EW observables.
- Including recent measurements of top mass (CMS) and W mass (CDF).
- 8 parameters of interest (Wilson coefficients of SMEFT operators)
- 32 nuisance parameters.
- Ref. [arXiv:2204.04204](#)

Flavor fit likelihood.

- Flavor observables related to $b \rightarrow sl^+l^-$ transitions
- 12 parameters of interest (Wilson coefficients of SMEFT operators)
- 77 nuisance parameters.
- Ref. [arXiv:1903.09632](#)

LHC-like new physics search Likelihood.



Test sample : 300k

Hyperparameters for Toy-Likelihood

# of samples	hidden layers	# of bijec.	algorithm	spline knots	range	L1 factor	patience	max # of epochs
$2 \cdot 10^5$	3×64	MAF	2	-	-	0	20	200

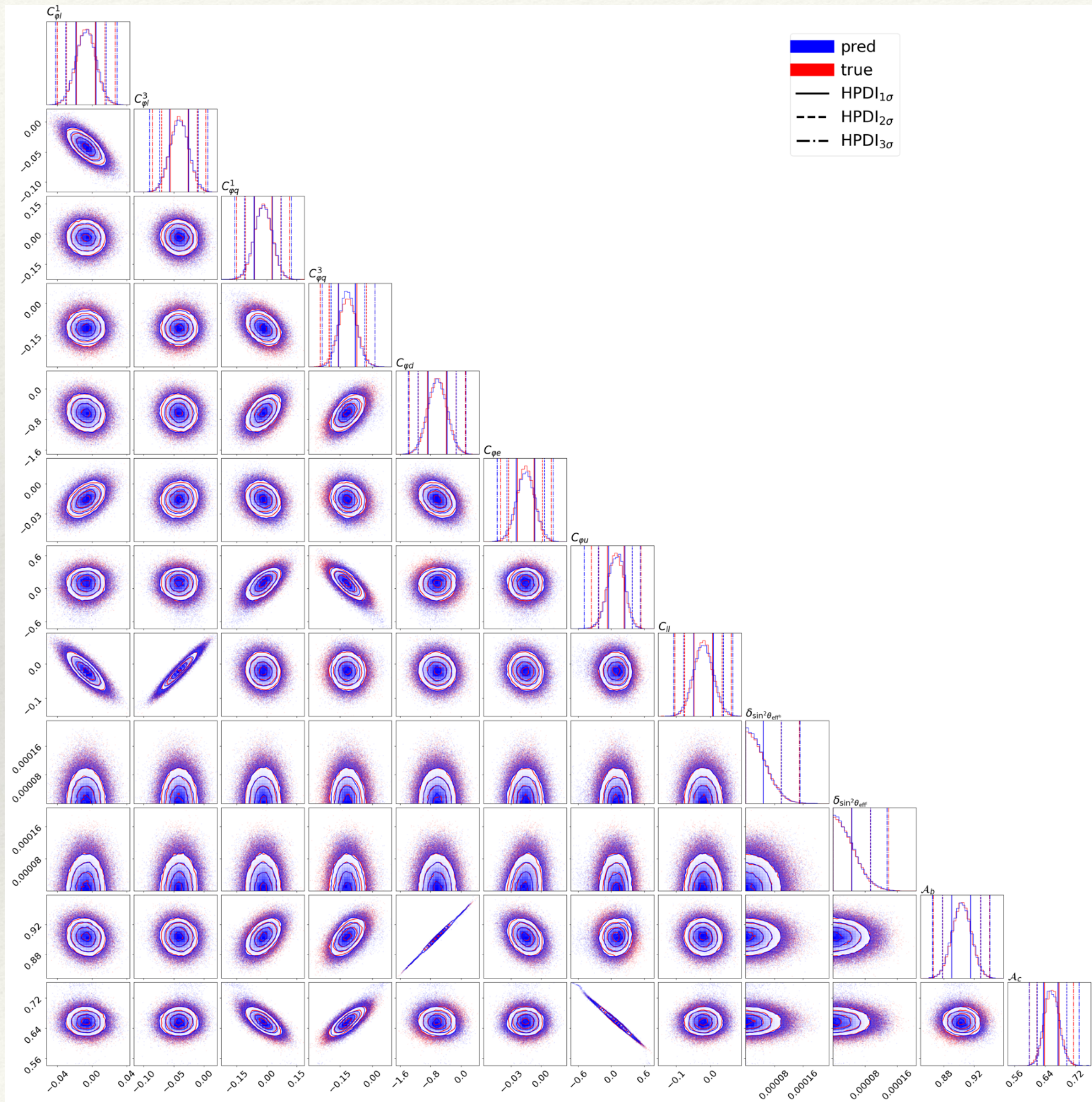
Results for Toy-Likelihood

# of samples	Median KS-test	Median W-distance	Frobenius norm	HPDIe _{1σ}	HPDIe _{2σ}	HPDIe _{3σ}	time (s)
$2 \cdot 10^5$	0.496	$5.39 \cdot 10^{-3}$	0.217	$2.179 \cdot 10^{-2}$	$9.738 \cdot 10^{-3}$	$1.059 \cdot 10^{-2}$	300

Results for Toy-Likelihood POI

POI	KS-test	HPDIe _{1σ}	HPDIe _{2σ}	HPDIe _{3σ}
μ	0.5127	0.02184	0.009431	0.01584

ElectroWeak fit Likelihood



Test sample : 100k

Hyperparameters for the EW-Likelihood

# of samples	hidden layers	# of bijec.	algorithm	spline knots	range	L1 factor	patience	# of epochs
$2 \cdot 10^5$	2	3×128	A-RQS	4	-6	0	20	800

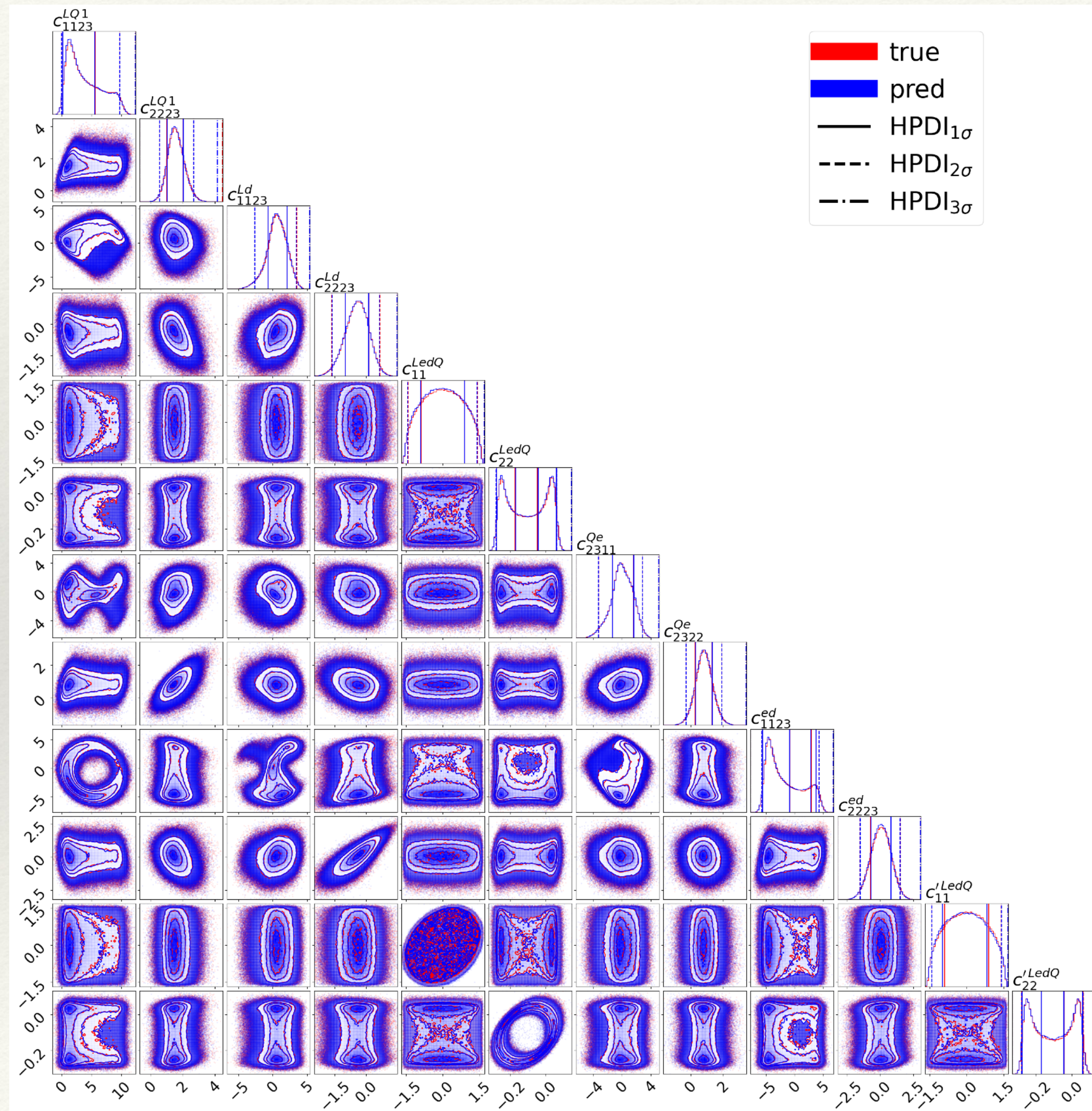
Results for the EW-Likelihood

# of samples	Median KS-test	Median W-distance	Frobenius norm	HPDIe _{1σ}	HPDIe _{2σ}	HPDIe _{3σ}	time (s)
$2 \cdot 10^5$.489	$5.59 \cdot 10^{-5}$	1.154	$8.57 \cdot 10^{-4}$	$8.88 \cdot 10^{-4}$	$2.93 \cdot 10^{-3}$	7255

Results for EW-Likelihood

POI	KS-test	HPDIe _{1σ}	HPDIe _{2σ}	HPDIe _{3σ}
$C_{\phi l}^1$	0.4662	0.06708	0.06345	0.07149
$C_{\phi l}^3$	0.3741	0.02977	0.0945	0.7034
$C_{\phi q}^1$	0.4251	0.04999	0.03841	0.04914
$C_{\phi q}^3$	0.2404	0.05101	0.1361	0.01995
$C_{\phi d}$	0.495	0.02929	0.01275	0.05298
$C_{\phi e}$	0.2719	0.06732	0.7391	0.1454
$C_{\phi u}$	0.2643	0.1912	0.01737	0.1953
C_l	0.4288	0.1558	0.0752	0.06005

Flavor fit Likelihood



Test sample : 500k 15

Hyperparameters for the Flavor-Likelihood

# of samples	hidden layers	# of bijec.	algorithm	spline knots	range	L1 factor	patience	max # of epochs
10^6	3×1024	2	A-RQS	8	-5	$1e^{-4}$	50	12000

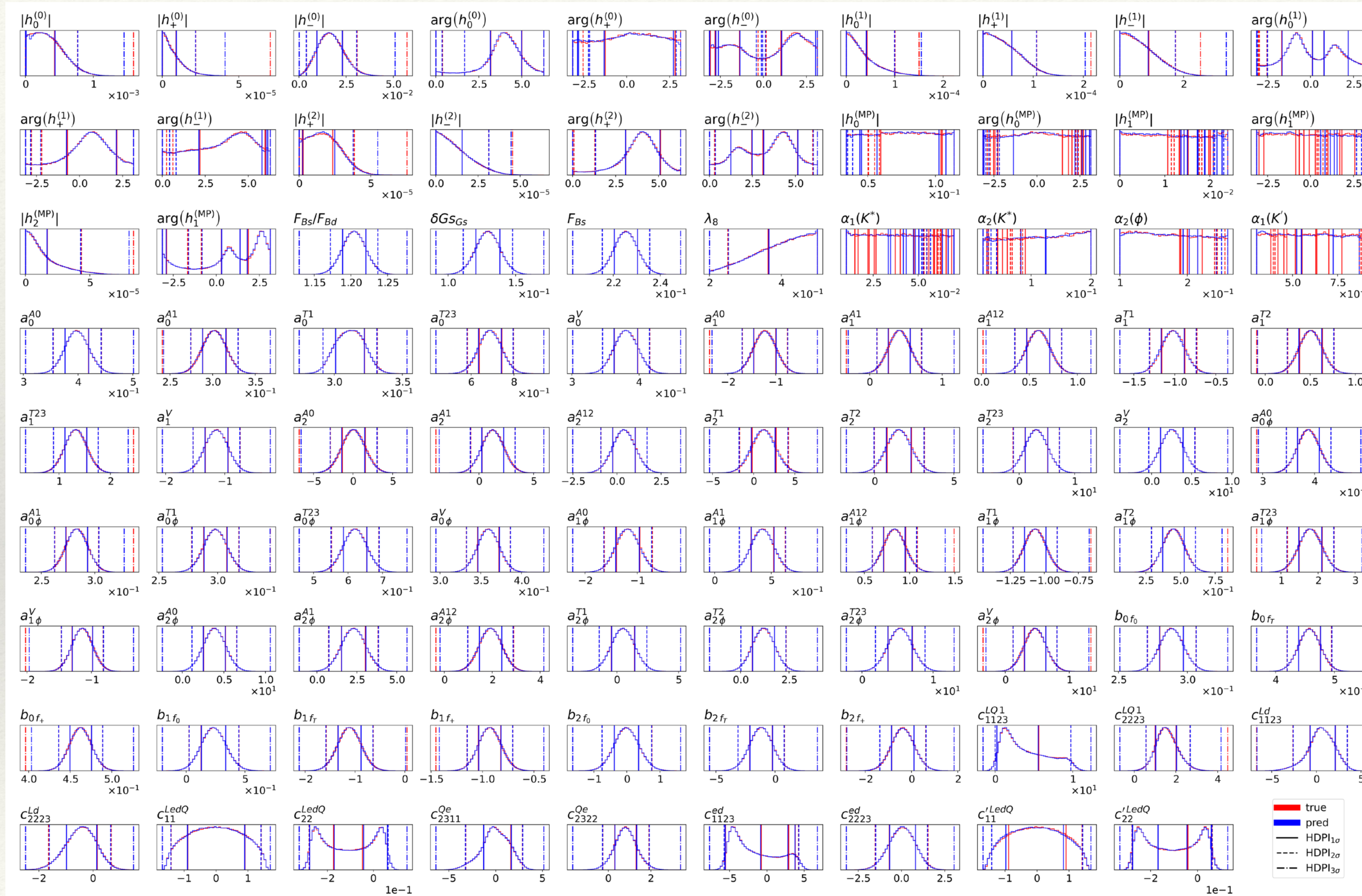
Results for the Flavor-Likelihood

# of samples	Median KS-test	Median W-distance	Frobenius norm	HPDIe $_{1\sigma}$	HPDIe $_{2\sigma}$	HPDIe $_{3\sigma}$	time (s)
10^6	0.455	$2.71 \cdot 10^{-3}$	0.2801	$8.67 \cdot 10^{-3}$	$7.346 \cdot 10^{-3}$	$1.42 \cdot 10^{-7}$	20212

Results for Flavor-Likelihood POIs

POI	KS-test	HPDIe $_{1\sigma}$	HPDIe $_{2\sigma}$	HPDIe $_{3\sigma}$
c_{1123}^{LQ1}	0.4346	0.007251	1.83e-05	4.731e-08
c_{2223}^{LQ1}	0.4736	0.01249	0.00162	0.03575
c_{1123}^{Ld}	0.486	0.01466	0.006628	0.002338
c_{2223}^{Ld}	0.4138	0.0513	0.02446	2.398e-08
c_{11}^{LedQ}	0.5362	0.00738	0.004683	5.387e-08
c_{22}^{LedQ}	0.5161	0.02799	0.001639	2.155e-09
c_{2311}^{Qe}	0.4476	0.01389	0.007458	1.419e-07
c_{2322}^{Qe}	0.382	0.02132	0.02496	0.0004609
c_{1123}^{ed}	0.4789	0.04076	0.00333	5.602e-08
c_{2223}^{ed}	0.4436	0.008685	0.016	1.502e-08
c_{11}^{LedQ}	0.3203	0.09194	0.007041	8.011e-08
c_{22}^{LedQ}	0.4157	0.03001	0.008749	4.374e-08

Flavor fit Likelihood



Conclusions

- Normalizing Flows show great capacity of learning complex high dimensional functions. Specially, the A-RQS.
- NFs can accurately and efficiently model LHC likelihoods.

Outlook

- Paper in preparation (2305.xxxxx).
- Check out N4HEP project: <https://github.com/NF4HEP>
- Deeper look into evaluation metrics, e.g. classifier likelihood ratio-test.
- Study NFs for data augmentation, uncertainties of NFs, framework agnostic NF models.
- Extended and systematic usage of NFlikelihoods.
- Learning full statistical models with Conditional NFs.

THANK YOU!