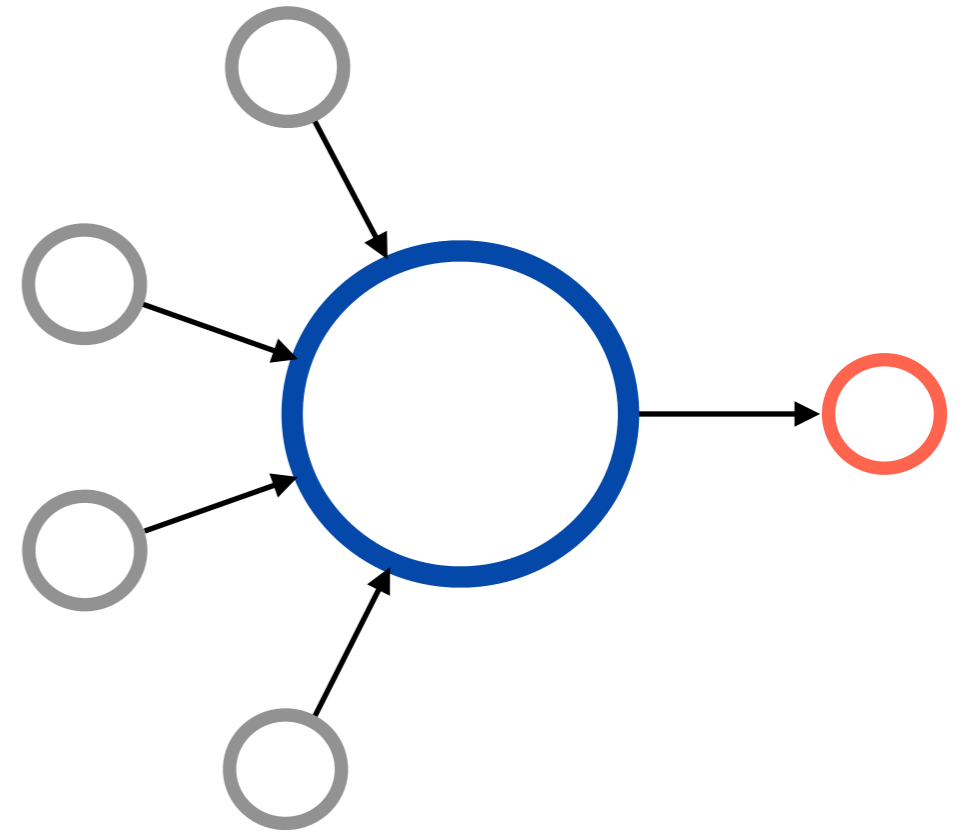


Hierarchical Neural SBI over Event Ensembles



L. Heinrich (TU Munich), S. Mishra-Sharma (MIT),
C. Pollard (Warwick), P. Windischhofer (Chicago)

AI and the Uncertainty Challenge in Fundamental Physics, Paris, 28.11.2023



THE UNIVERSITY OF
CHICAGO

Scientific data analysis in a nutshell

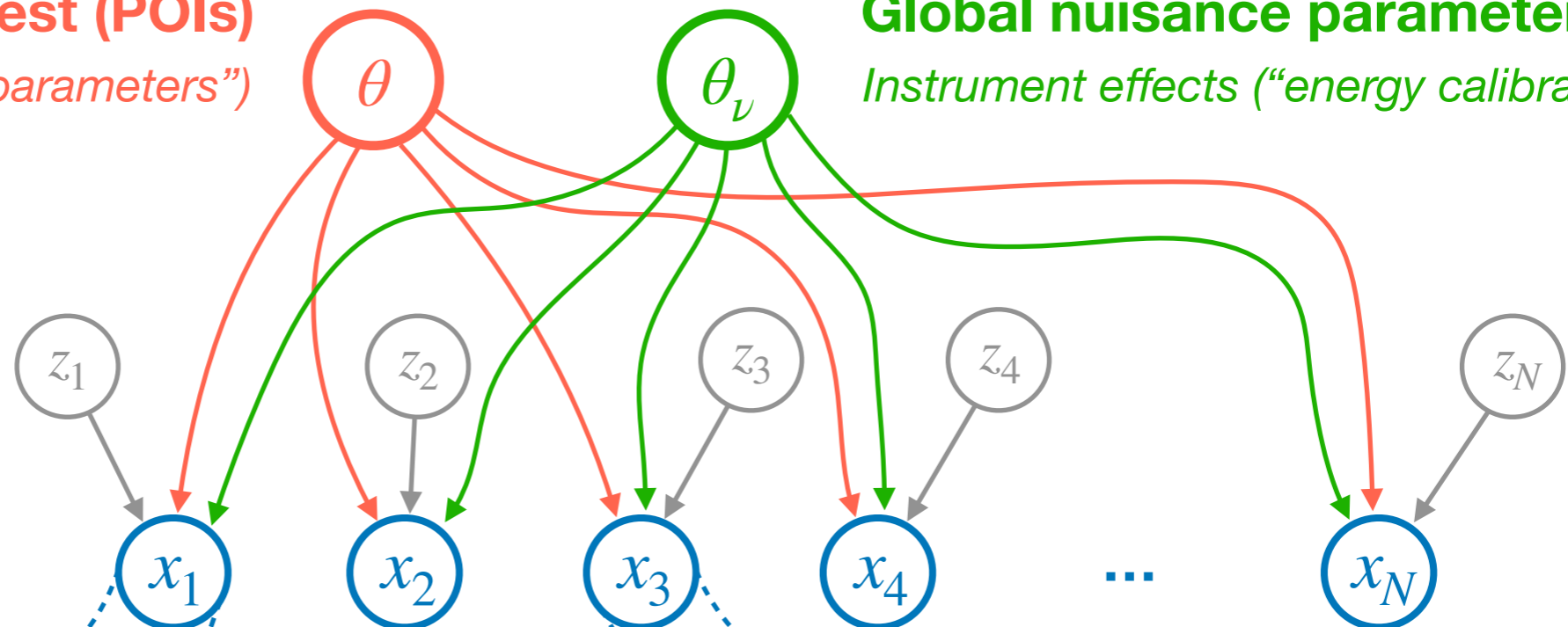
Scientific data sets often have a hierarchical structure

Parameters of interest (POIs)
Inference target (“physics parameters”)

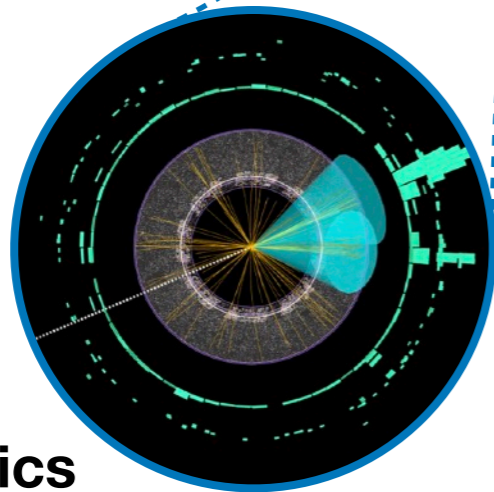
Global nuisance parameters
Instrument effects (“energy calibration”)

Local nuisance parameters
Per-event structure (“decay channel”)

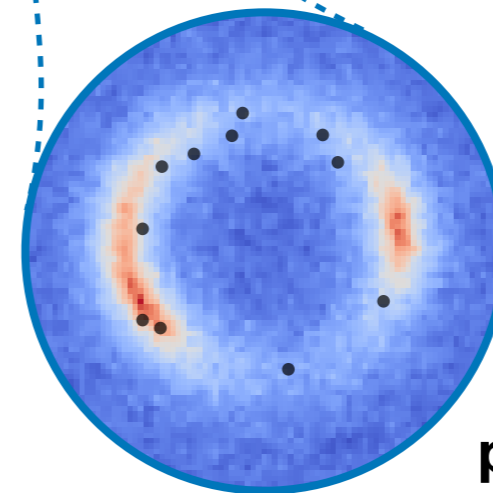
Events x_i



Particle physics



Astro-physics



Scientific data analysis in a nutshell

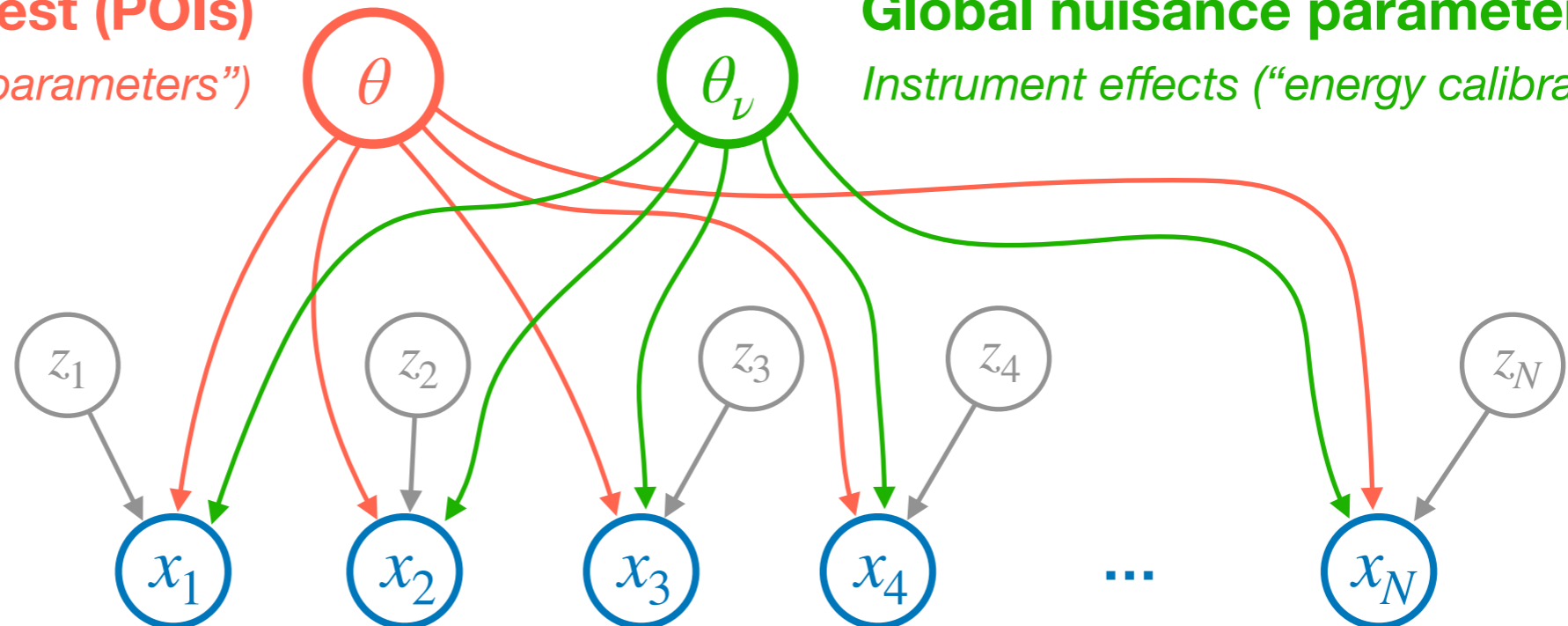
Scientific data sets often have a hierarchical structure

Parameters of interest (POIs)
Inference target (“physics parameters”)

Global nuisance parameters
Instrument effects (“energy calibration”)

Local nuisance parameters
Per-event structure (“decay channel”)

Events x_i



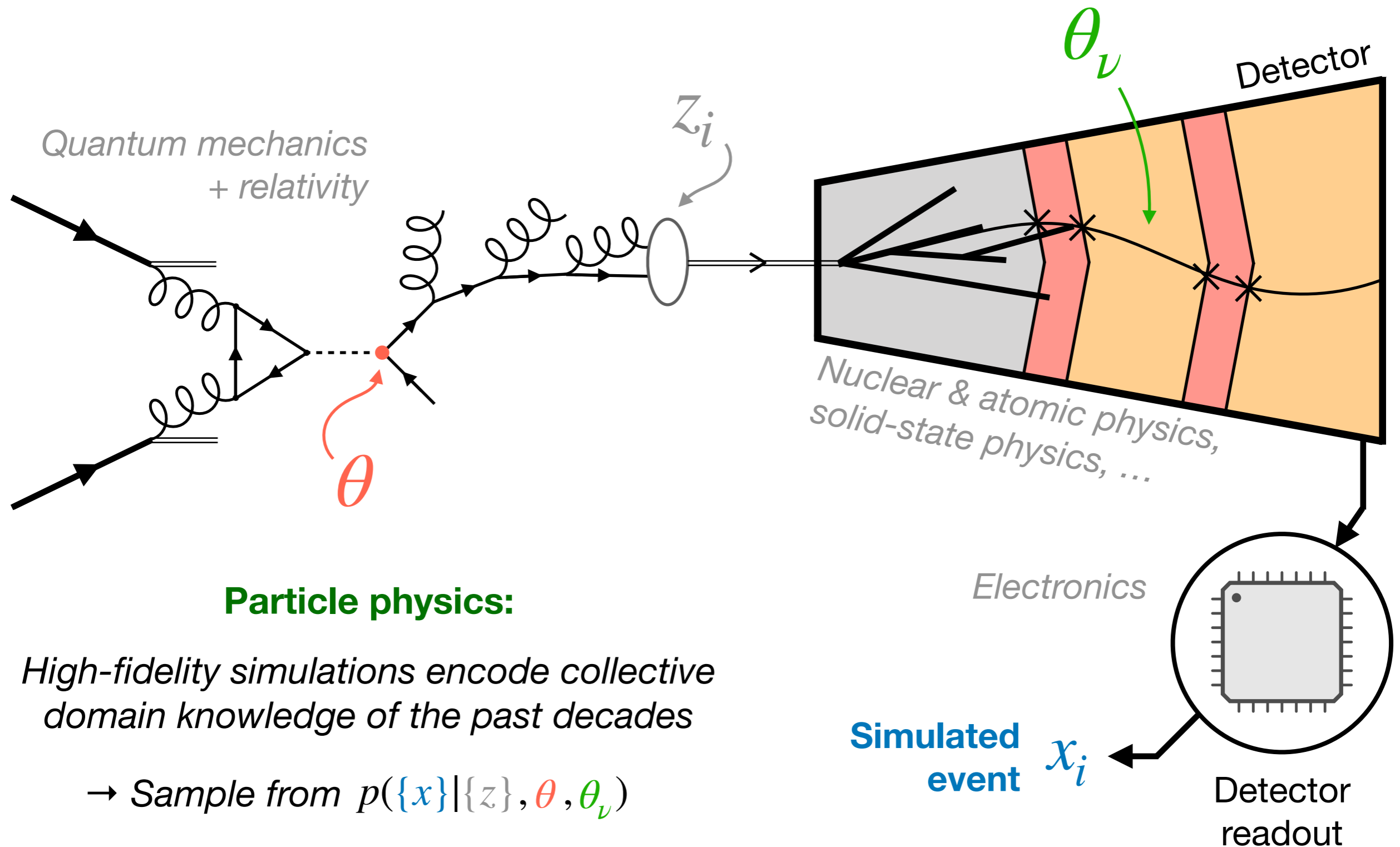
Dataset-wide likelihood:

$$p(\{x\}|\{z\}, \theta, \theta_\nu) = \sum_{N=0}^{\infty} p(N|\theta) \prod_{i=1}^N p(x_i|z_i, \theta, \theta_\nu)$$

Dataset cardinality
(e.g. Poisson rate)

Events are conditional IID

Simulation-driven science



Particle physics:

High-fidelity simulations encode collective domain knowledge of the past decades

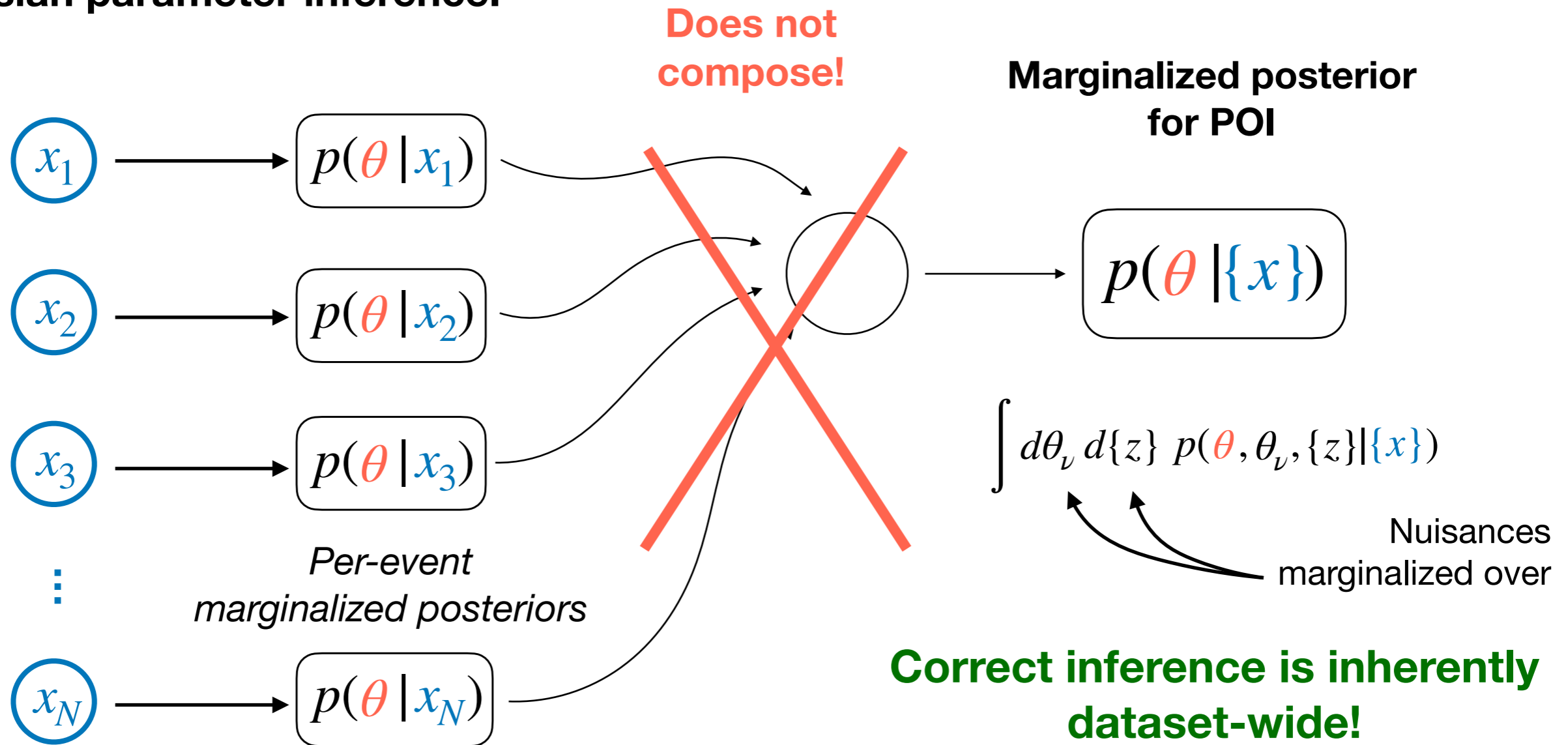
→ Sample from $p(\{x\}|\{z\}, \theta, \theta_\nu)$

Simulation-based inference shines!

Parameter inference

$$p(\{x\}|\{z\}, \theta, \theta_\nu) = \sum_{N=0}^{\infty} p(N|\theta) \prod_{i=1}^N p(x_i|z_i, \theta, \theta_\nu)$$

Bayesian parameter inference:

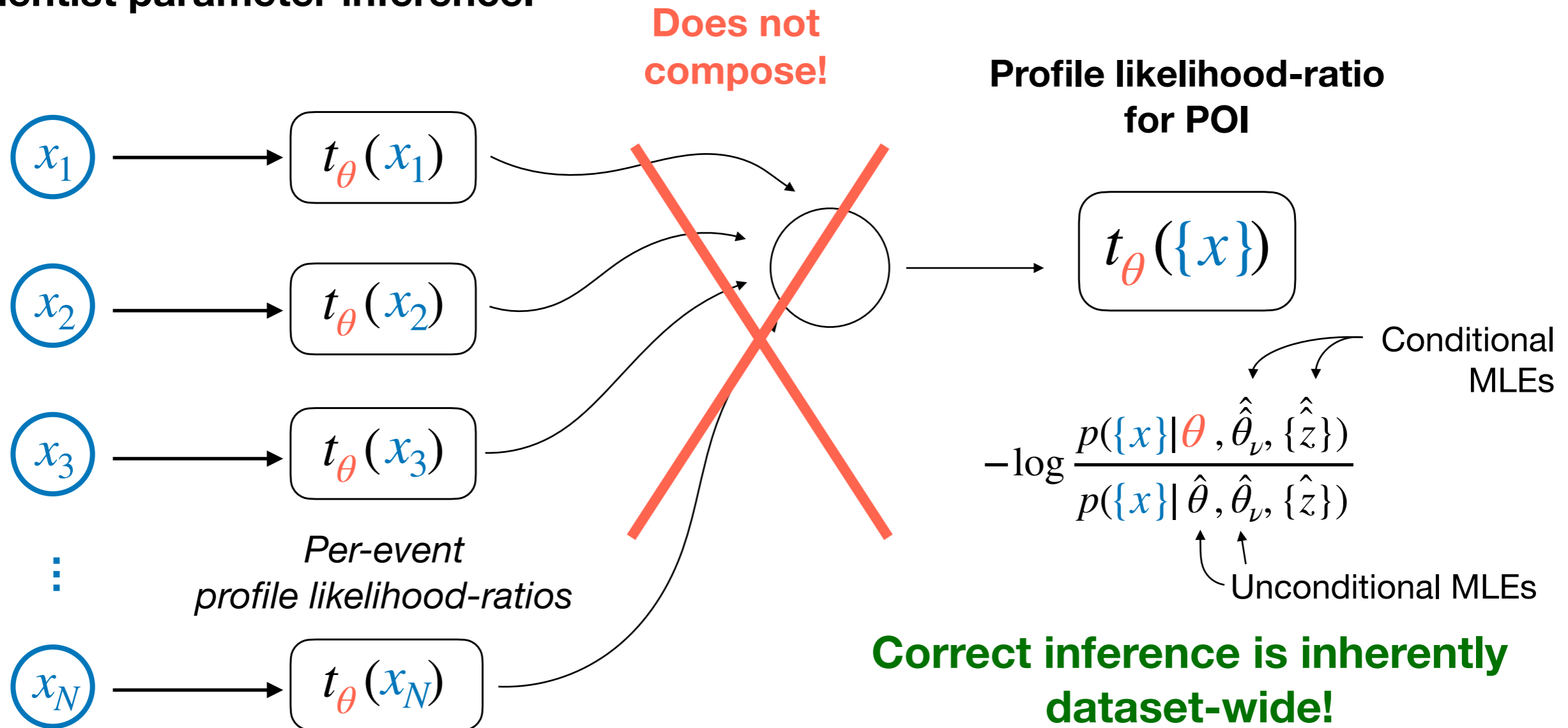


(In the presence of global nuisance parameters)

Parameter inference

$$p(\{x\}|\{z\}, \theta, \theta_\nu) = \sum_{N=0}^{\infty} p(N|\theta) \prod_{i=1}^N p(x_i|z_i, \theta, \theta_\nu)$$

Frequentist parameter inference:



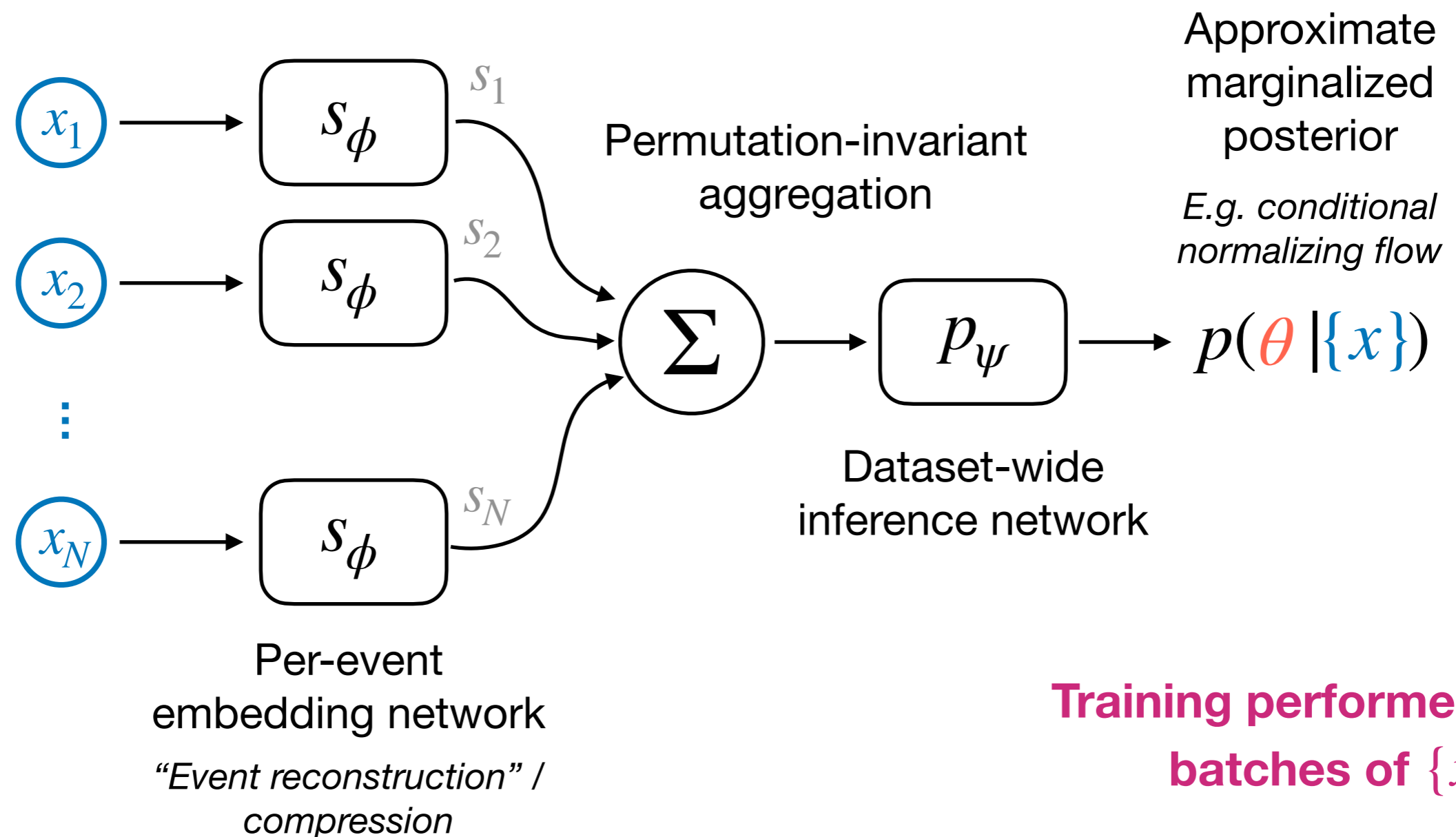
Our question:

Can SBI teach us anything about dataset-wide parameter inference?

Our approach

Use deep set for dataset-wide SBI

Varying cardinality, local + global nuisance parameters



Training performed on batches of $\{x\}, \theta$

Example: varying cardinality

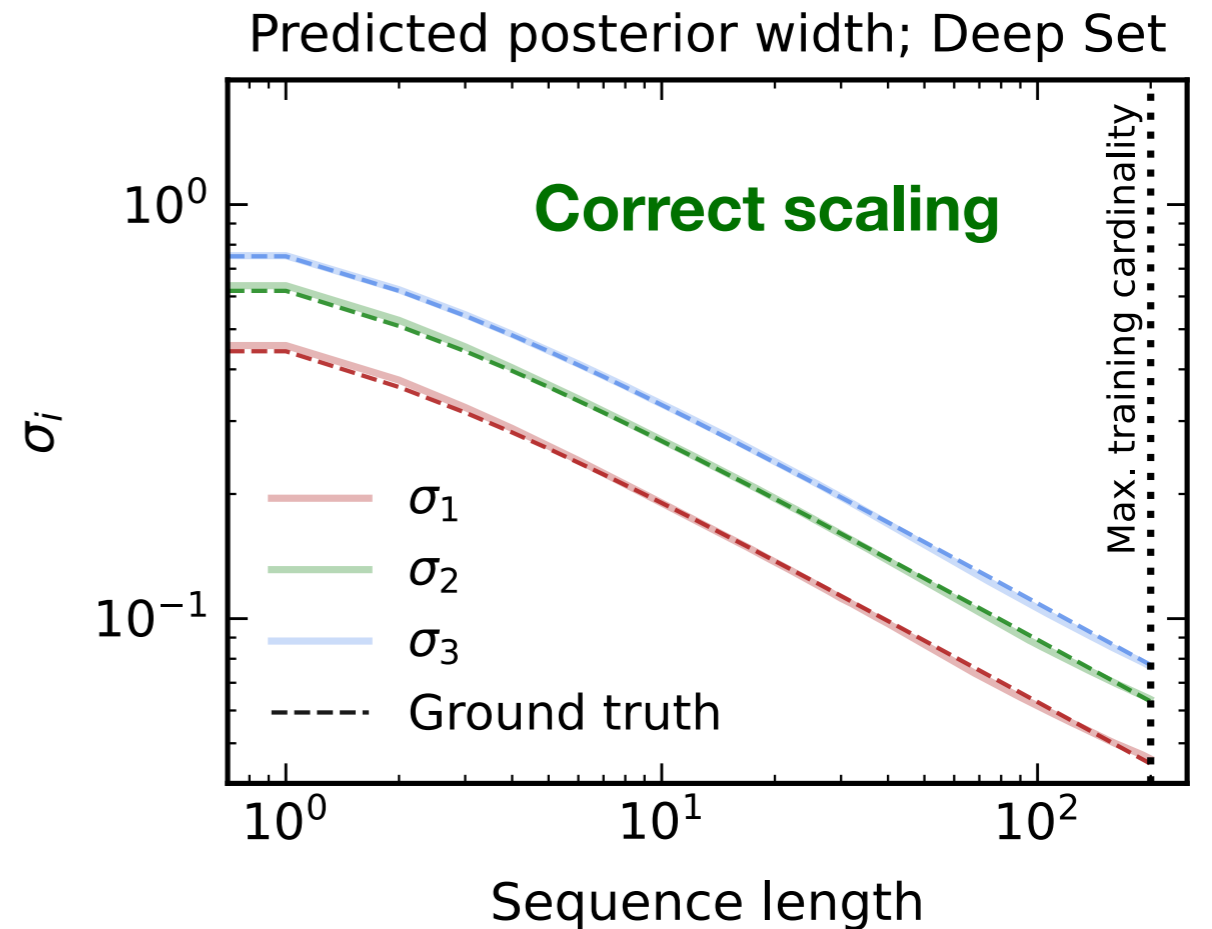
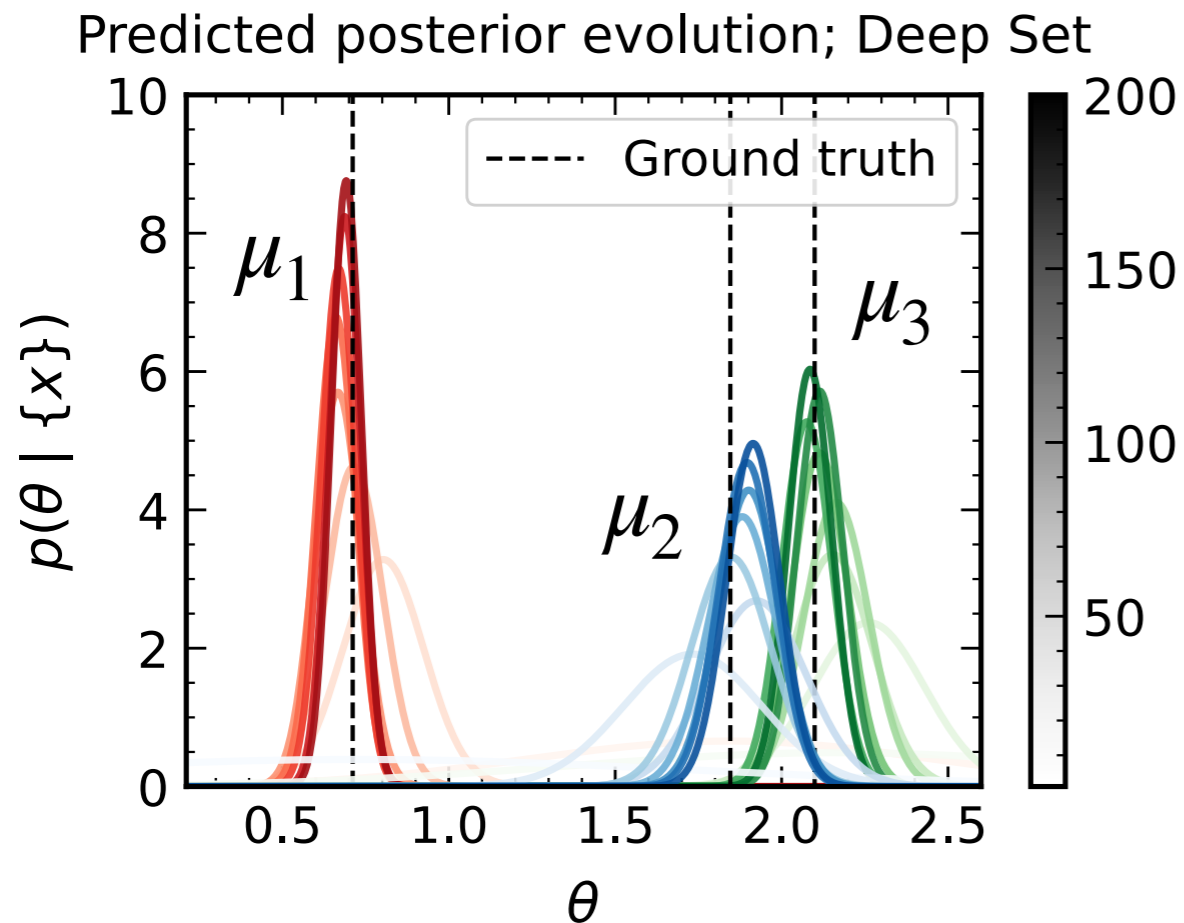
Infer mean vector from events x_i drawn from 3-dim normal distribution

$$x_i \sim \text{No}(\mu_{\text{true}}, \Sigma_{\text{true}})$$

Unknown mean vector (Diagonal) covariance matrix assumed known

$$\theta = \{\mu_1, \mu_2, \mu_3\}$$

Inferred parameters of interest

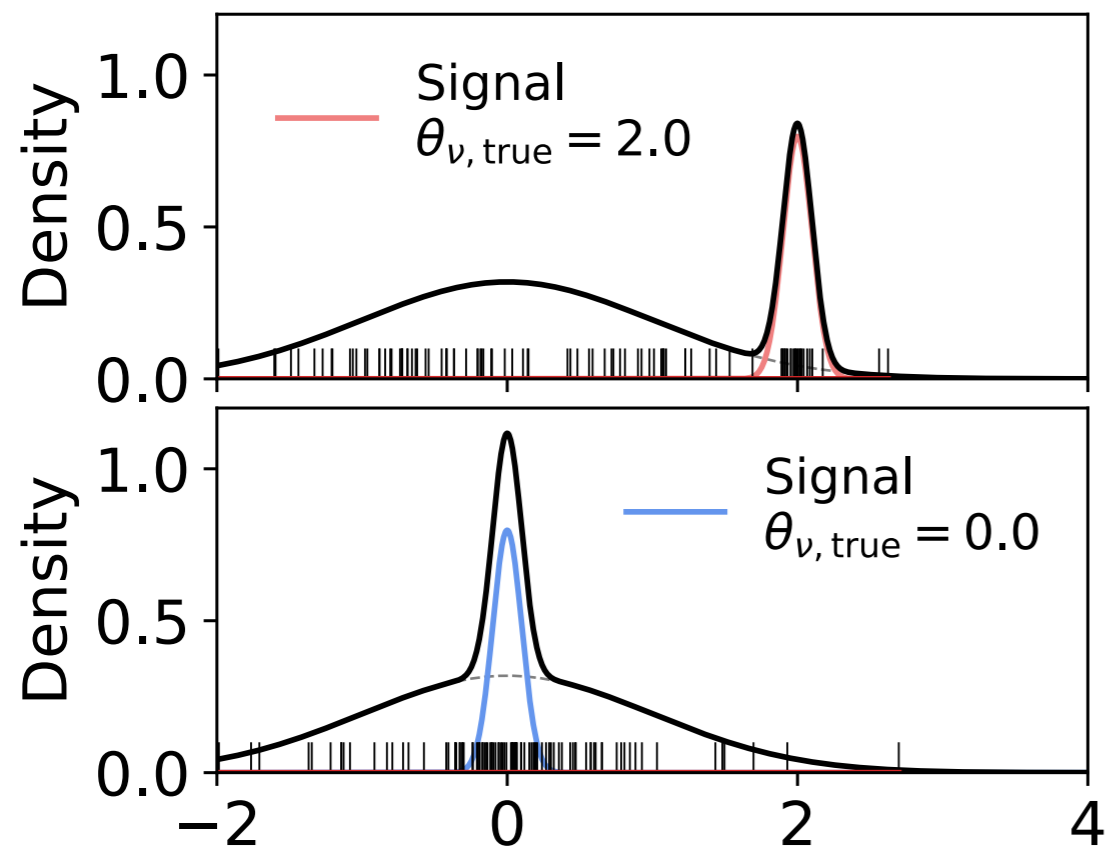


Example: “bump hunt”

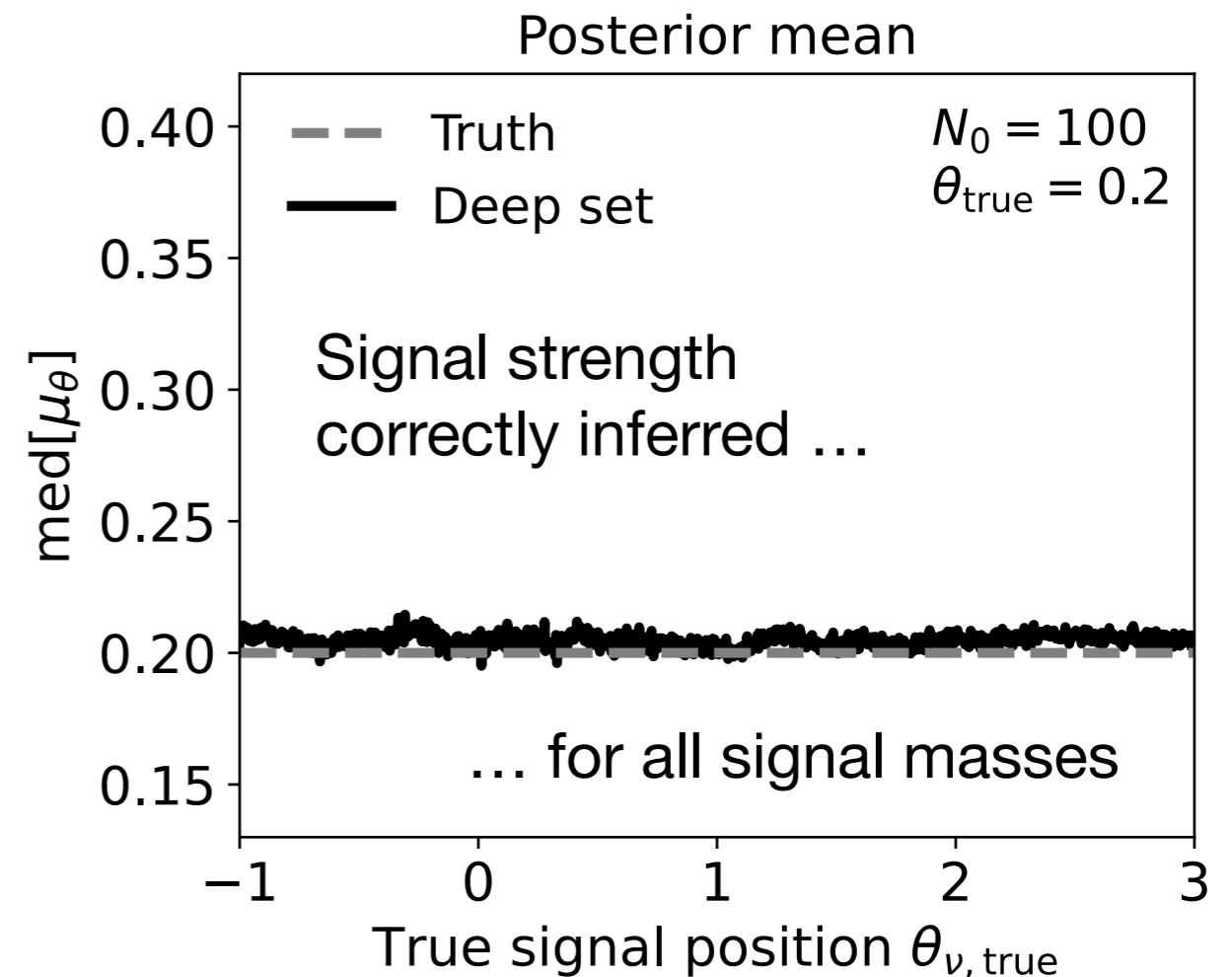
Narrow “signal” with unknown mass on top of broad “background”

*Find posterior on signal fraction, marginalized over signal mass
(global nuisance parameter)*

----- Background $N_0 = 100$
— Signal + background $\theta_{\text{true}} = 0.2$



x
↖ Invariant mass-like variable

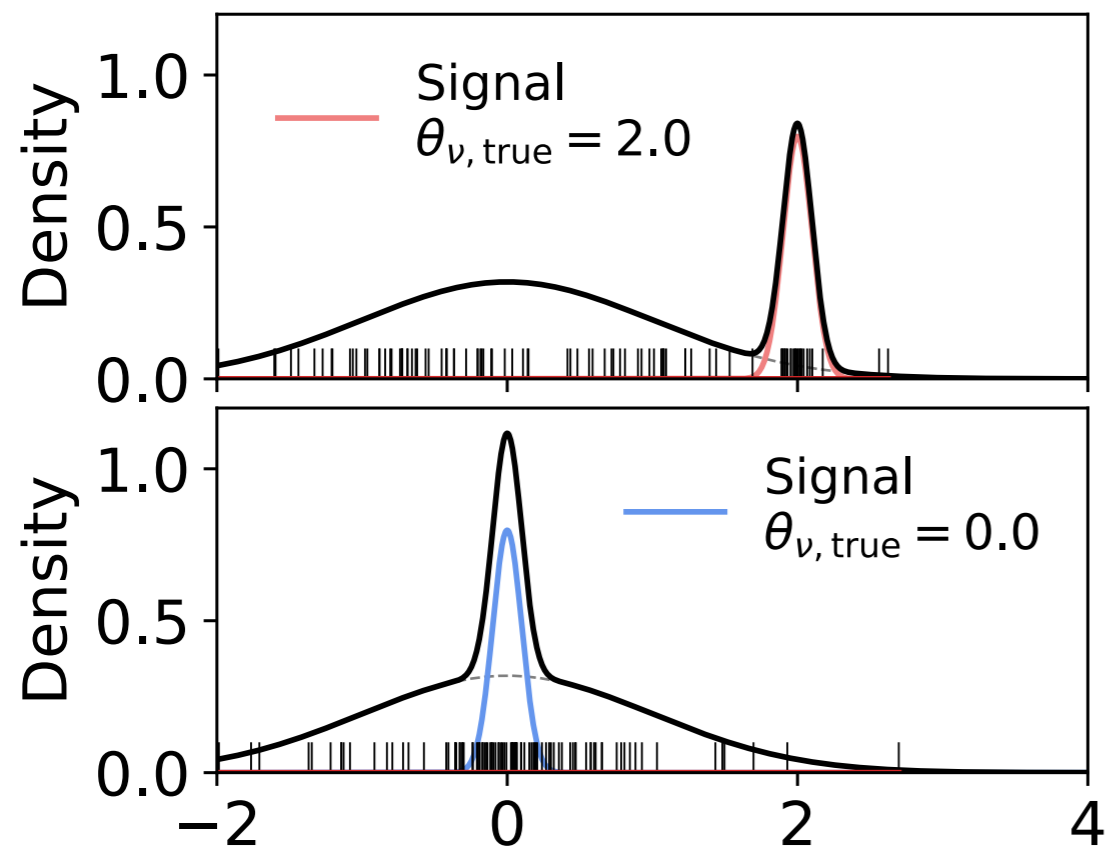


Example: “bump hunt”

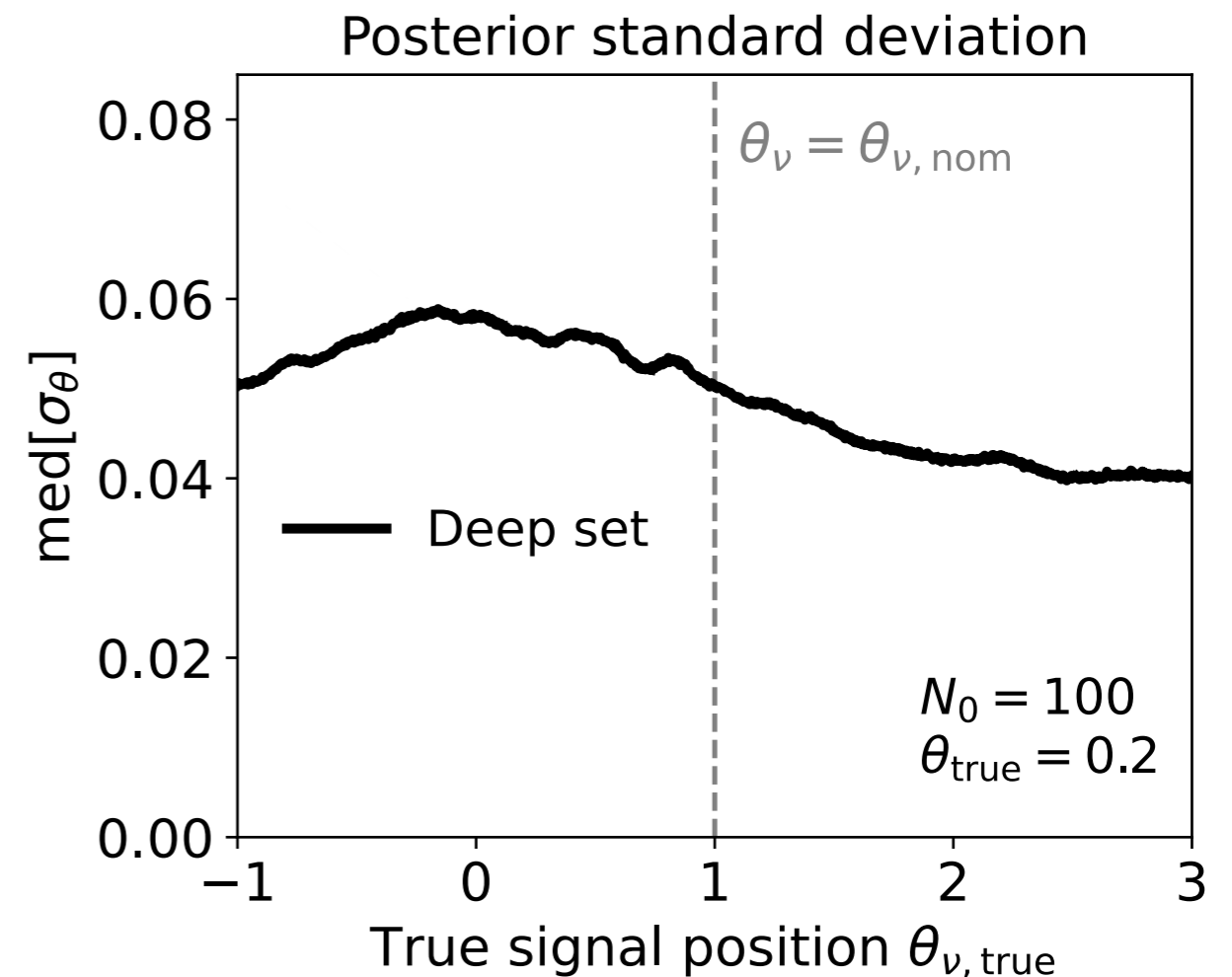
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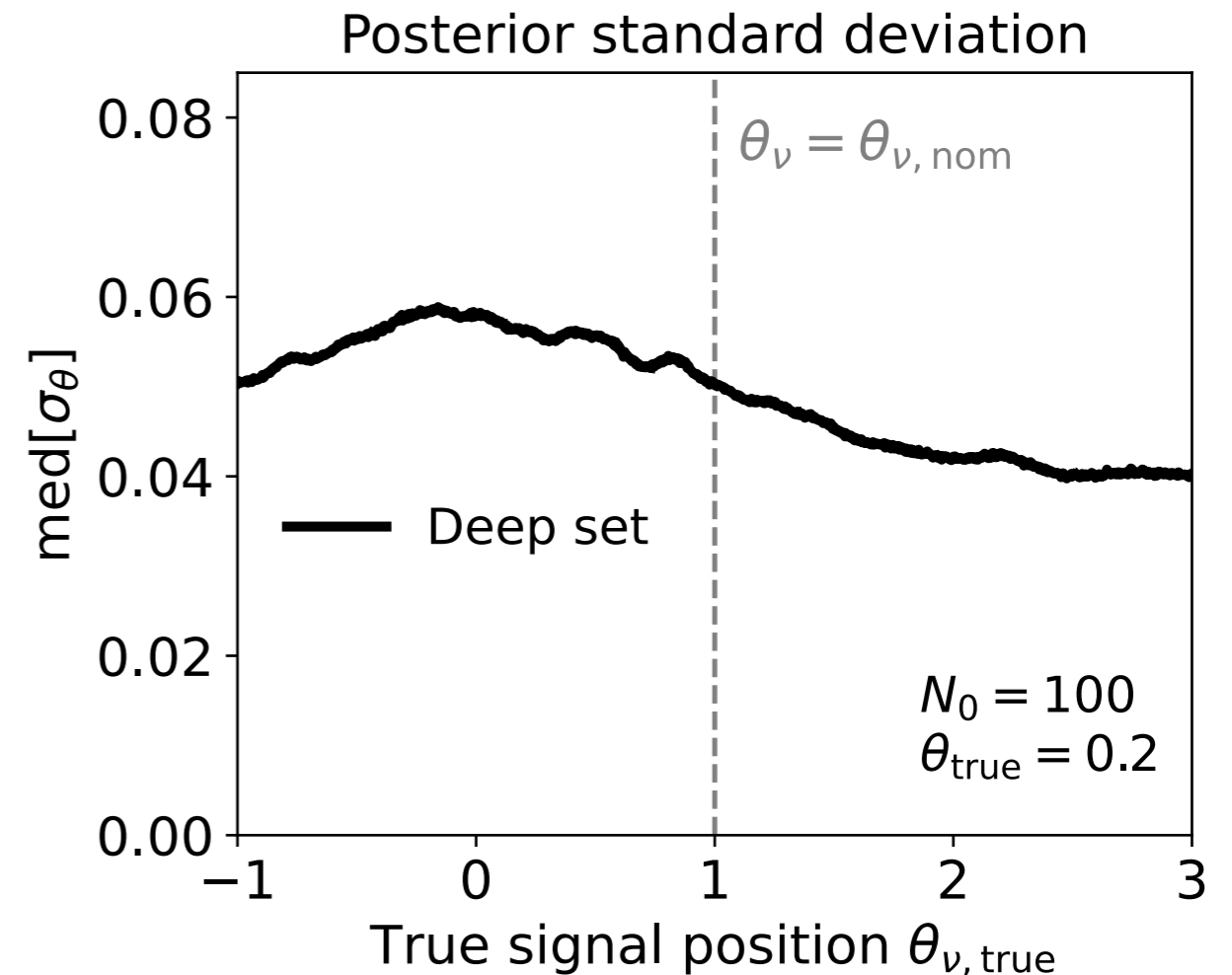
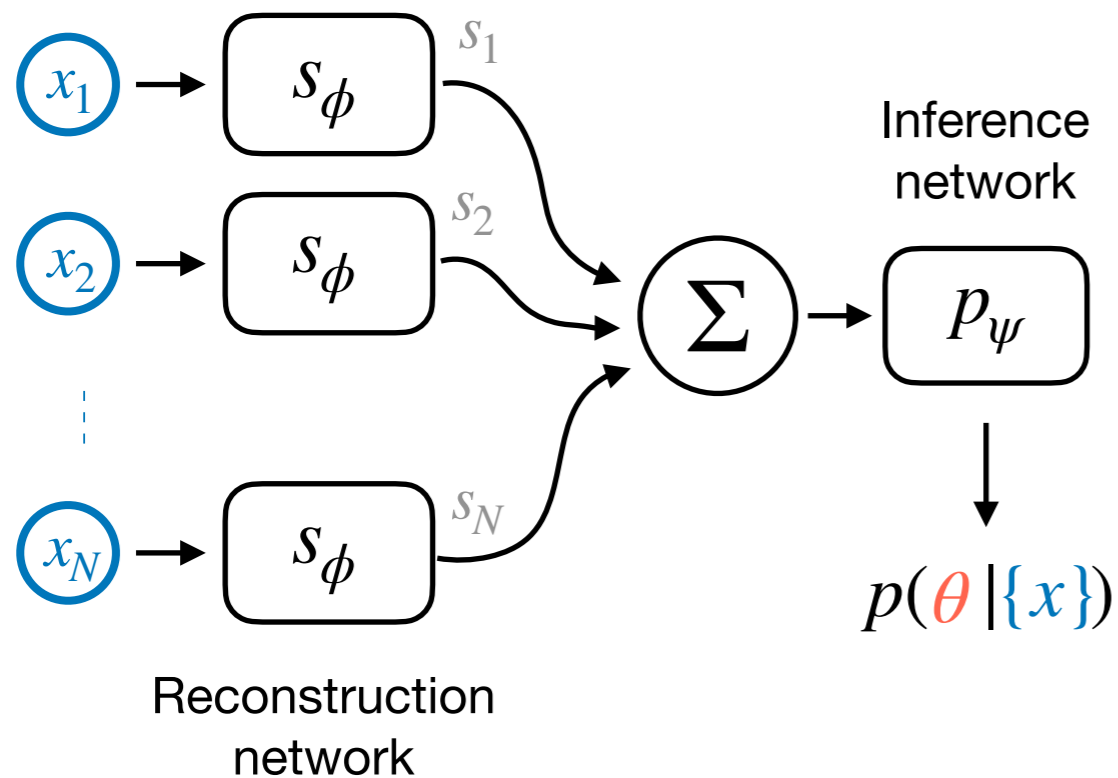
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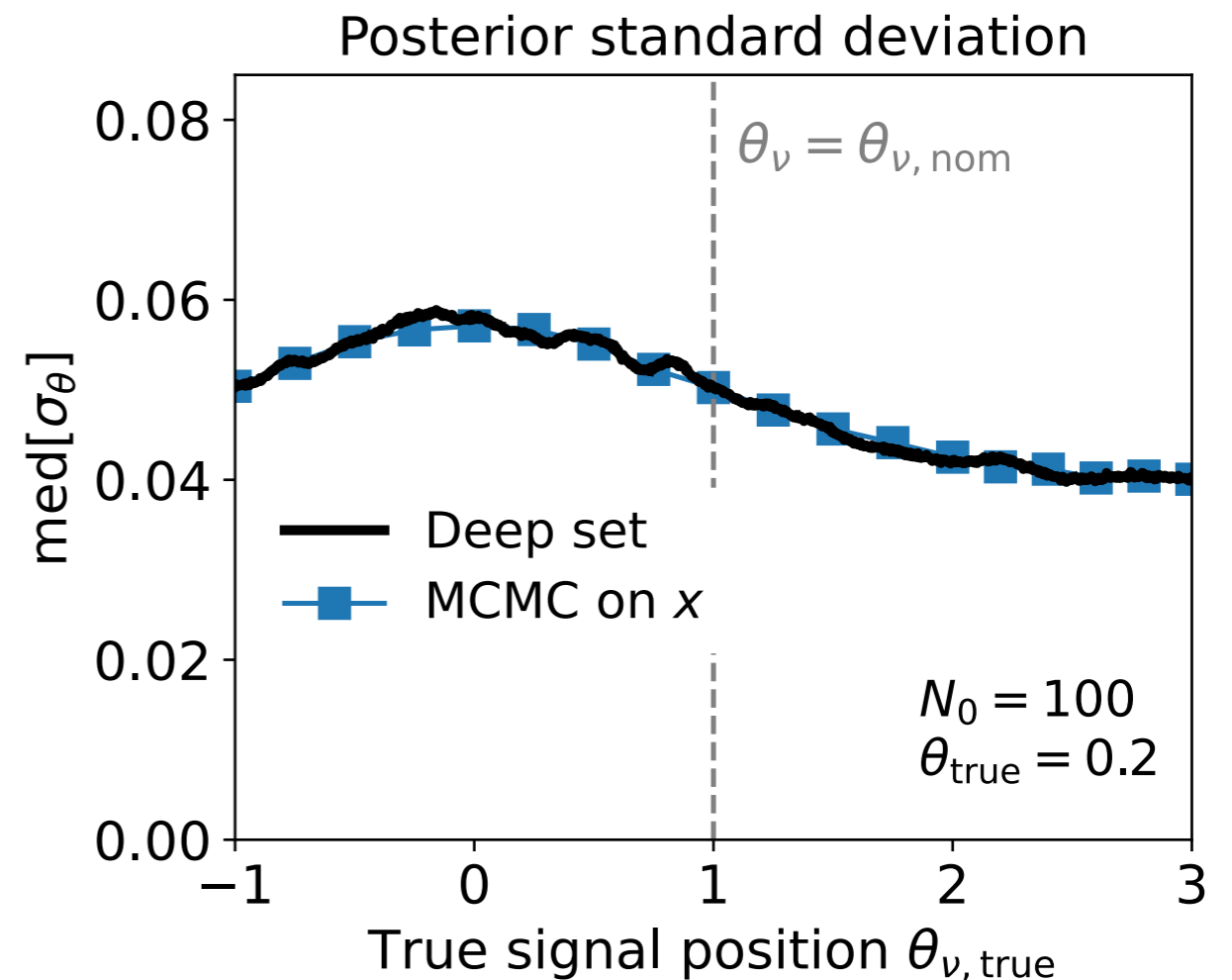
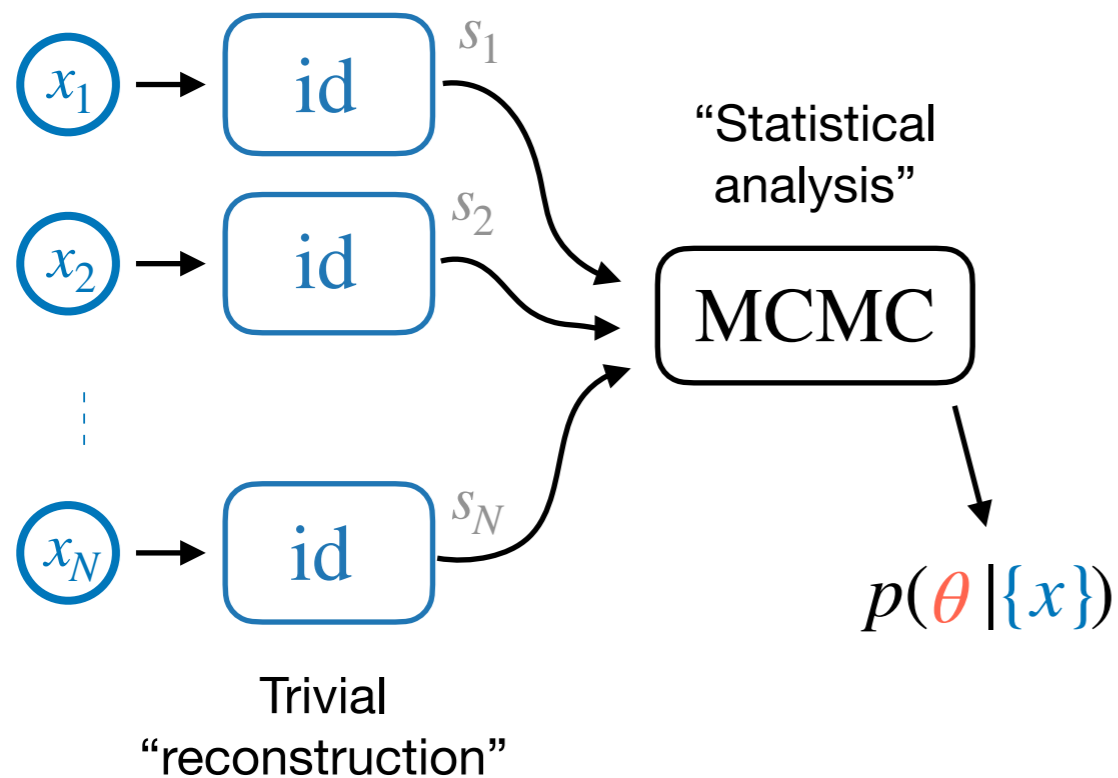


Example: “bump hunt”

Narrow “signal” with unknown mass on top of broad “background”

Find posterior on signal fraction, marginalized over signal mass
(global nuisance parameter)

“Ground truth”: MCMC on full
per-event information



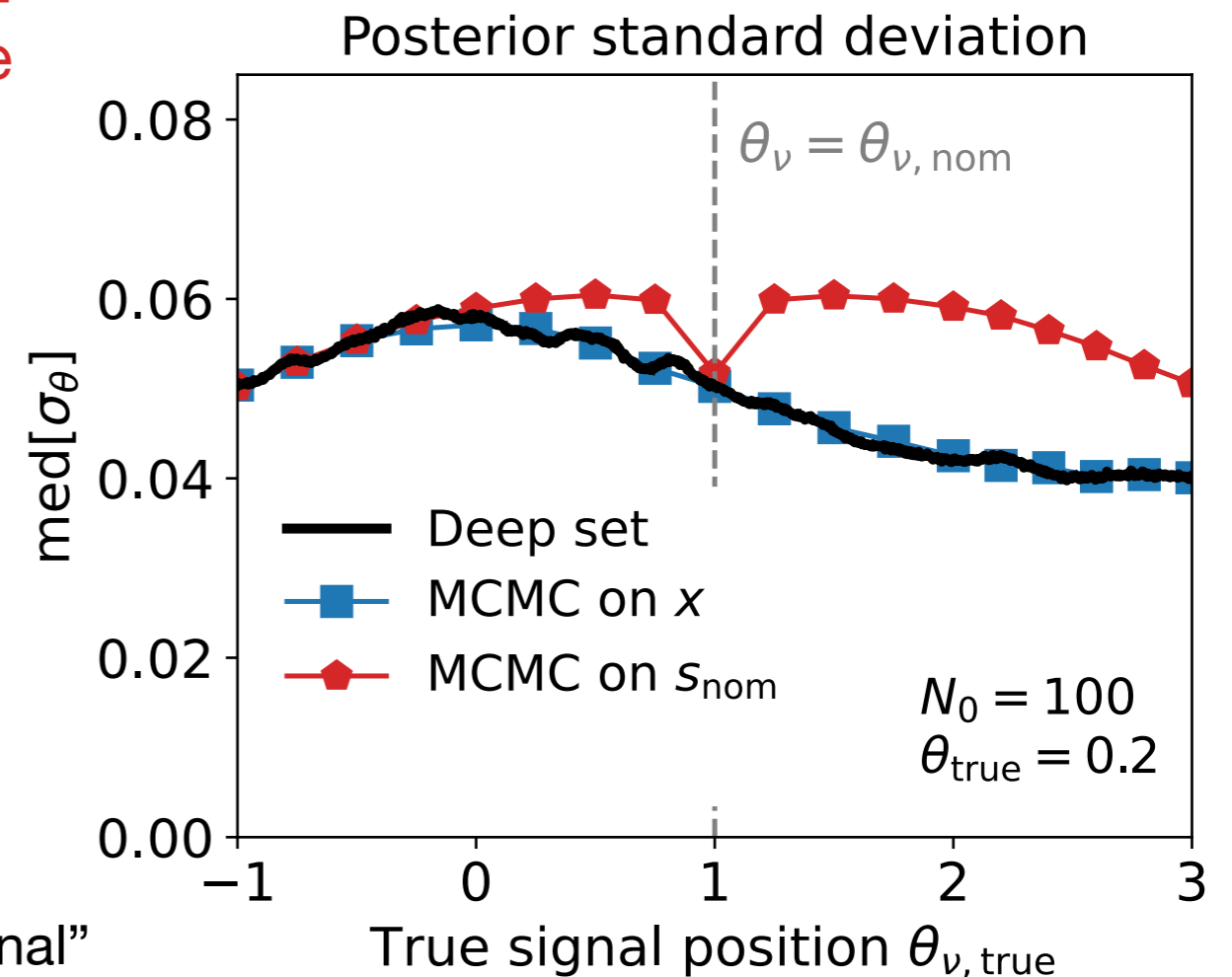
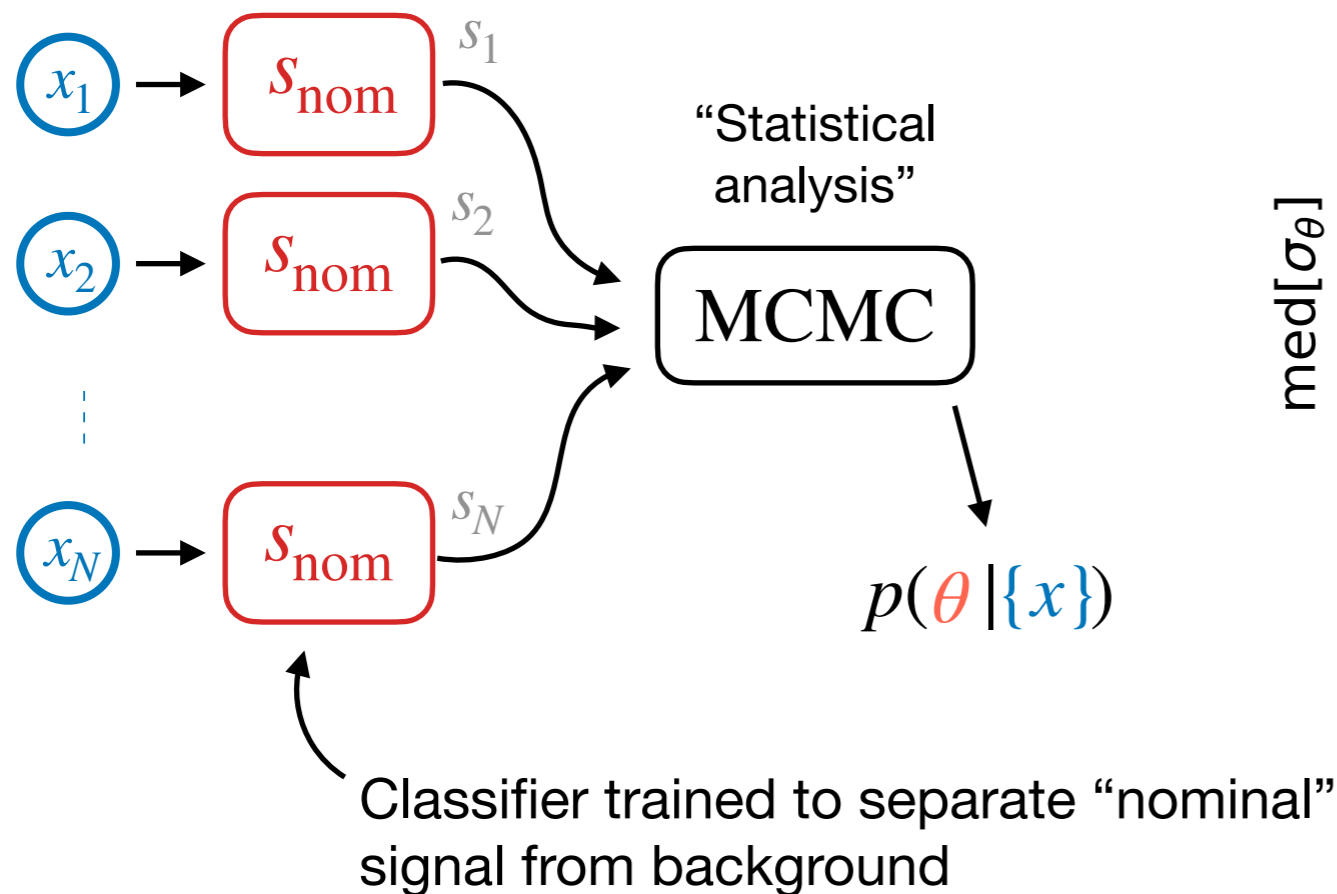
Deep set achieves optimal accuracy!

Example: “bump hunt”

Narrow “signal” with unknown mass on top of broad “background”

Find posterior on signal fraction, marginalized over signal mass
(global nuisance parameter)

Common practice in HEP:
Use classifier output for inference

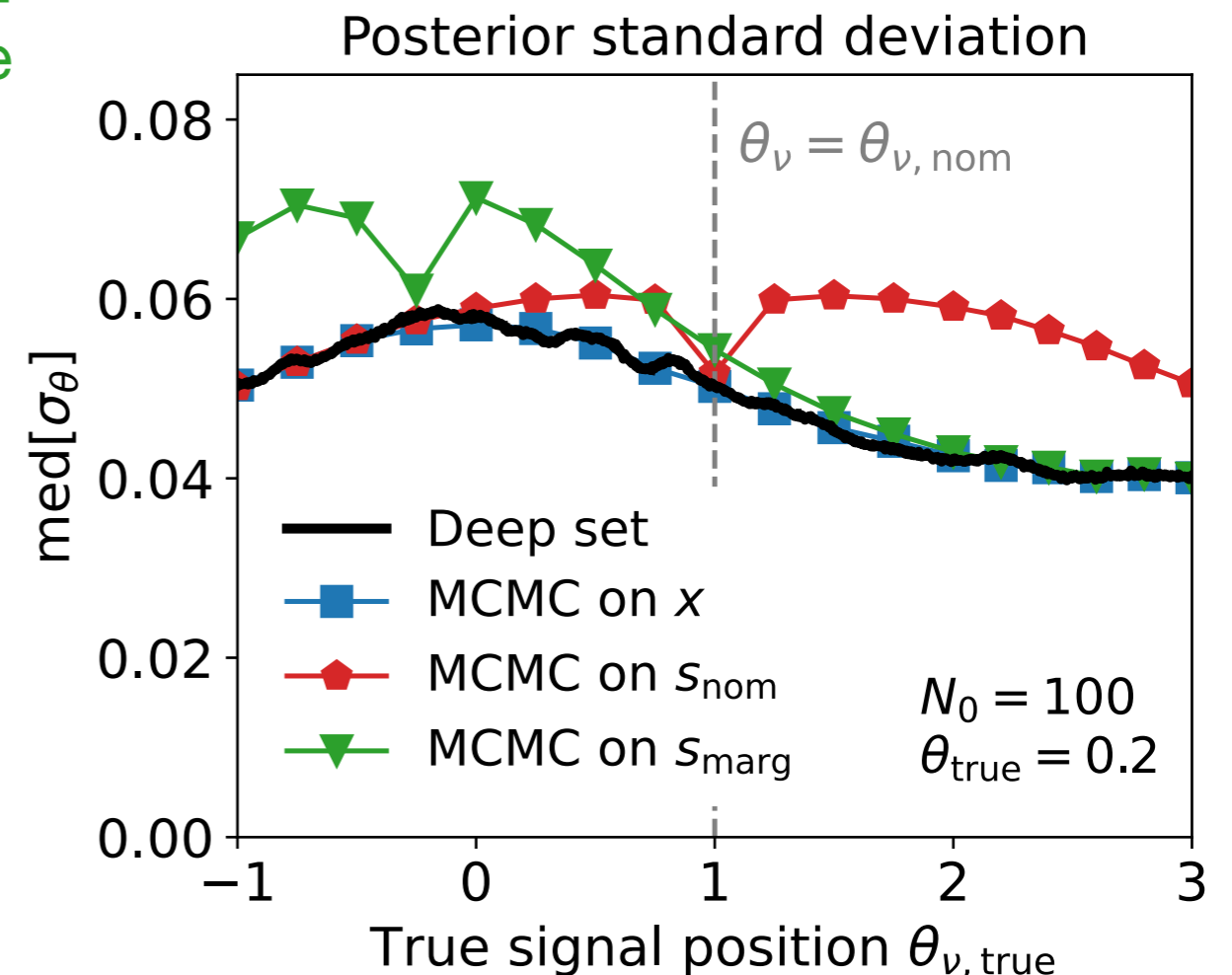
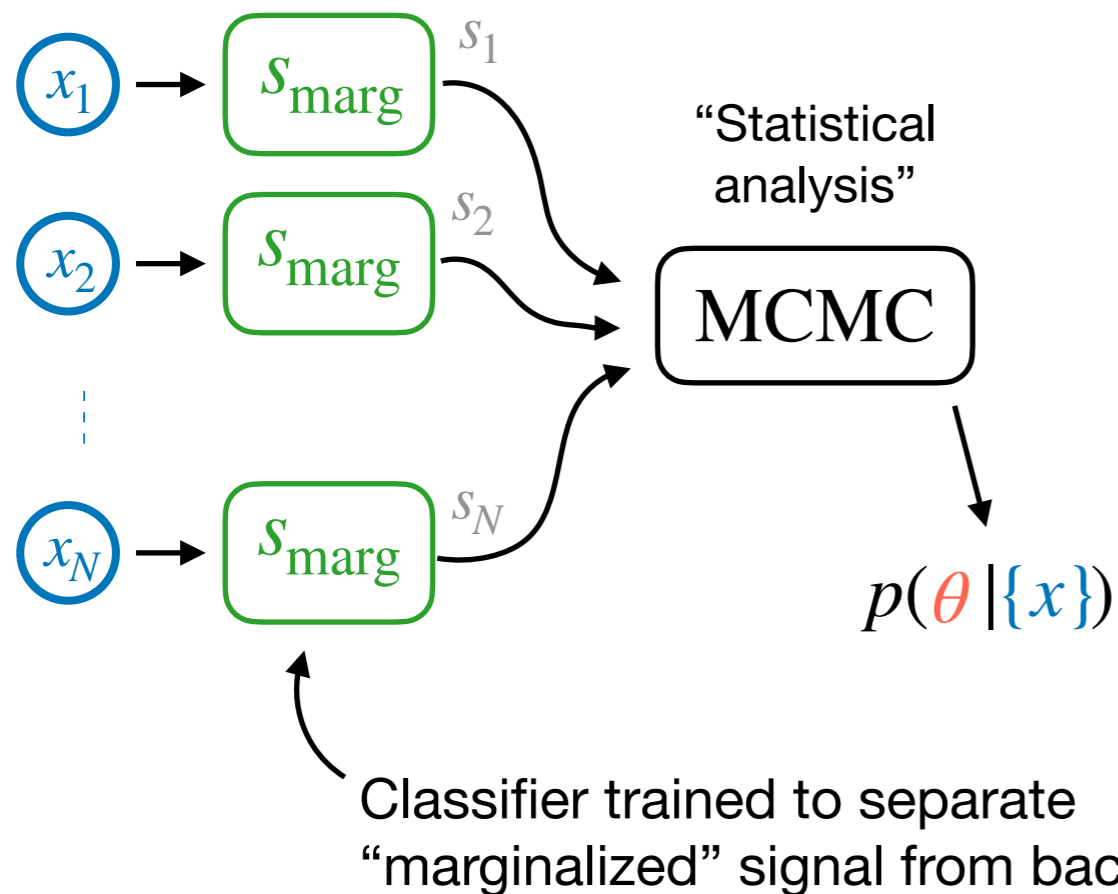


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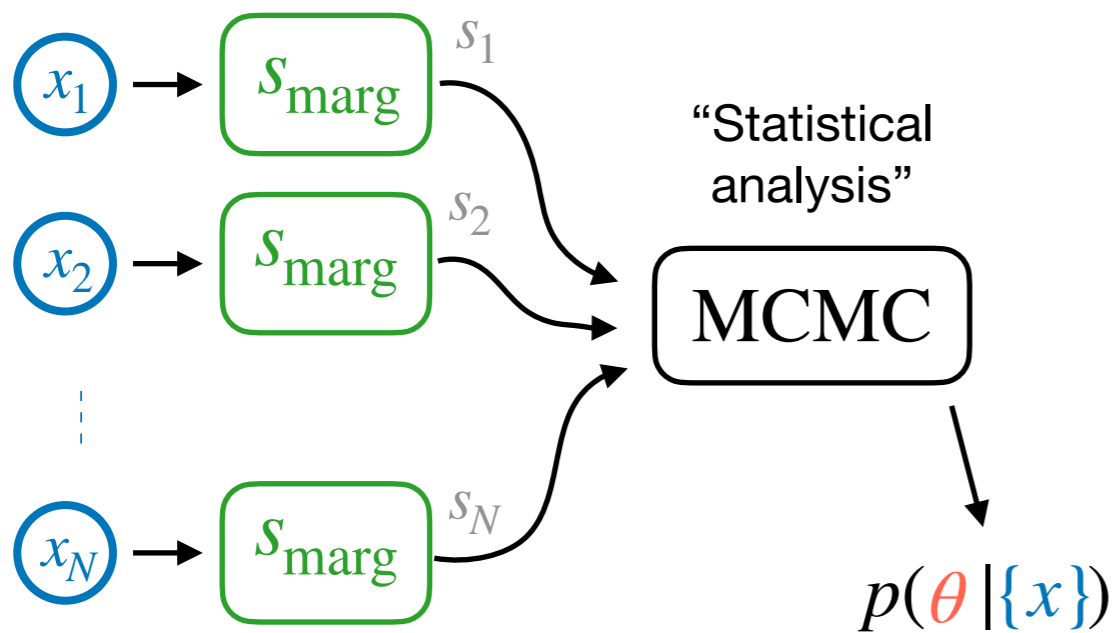
Narrow “signal” with unknown mass on top of broad “background”

To avoid information loss, need classifier to be parameterized w.r.t. all nuisance parameters

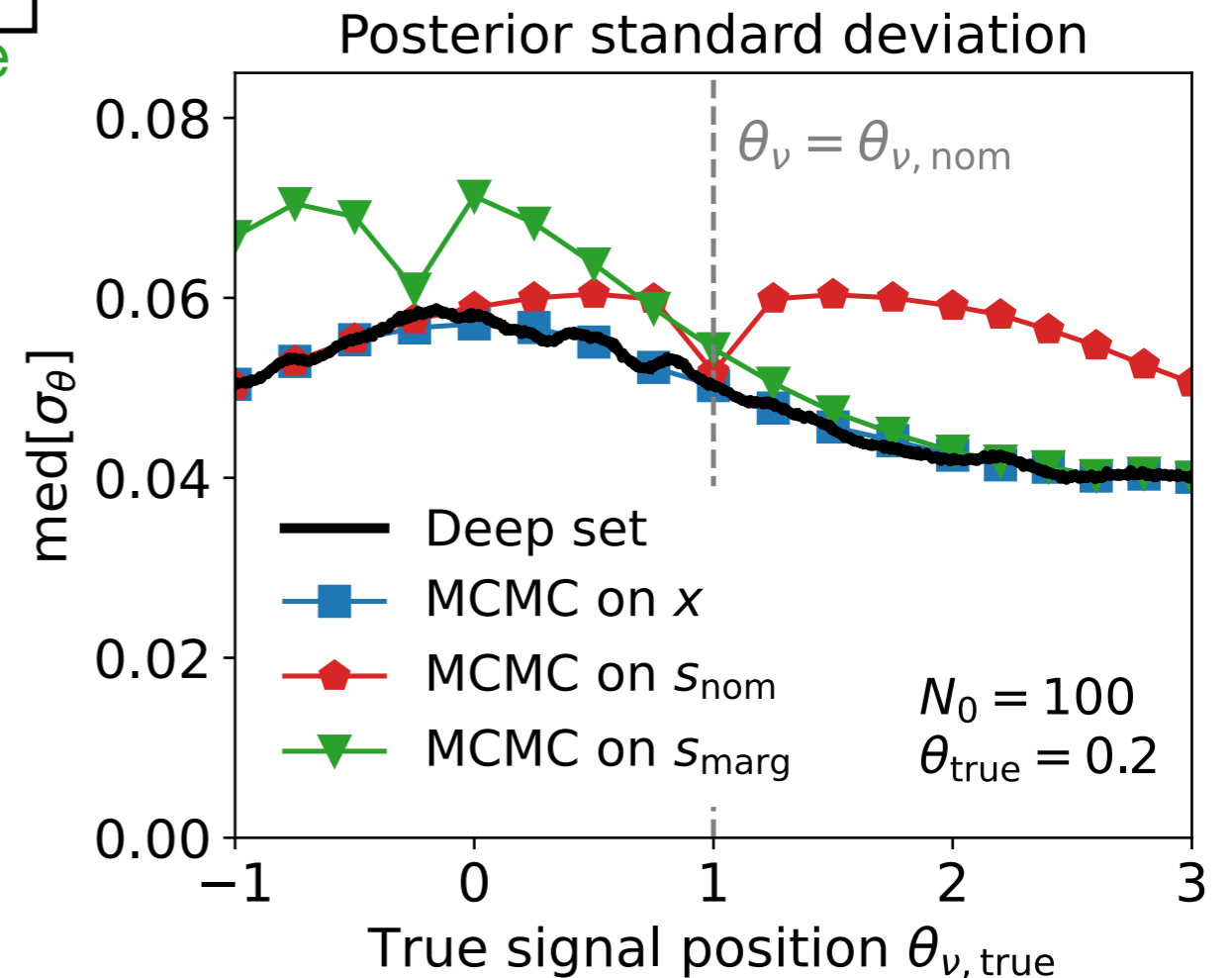
(possibly intractably many!)

(marginalized over signal mass parameter)

Use classifier output for inference



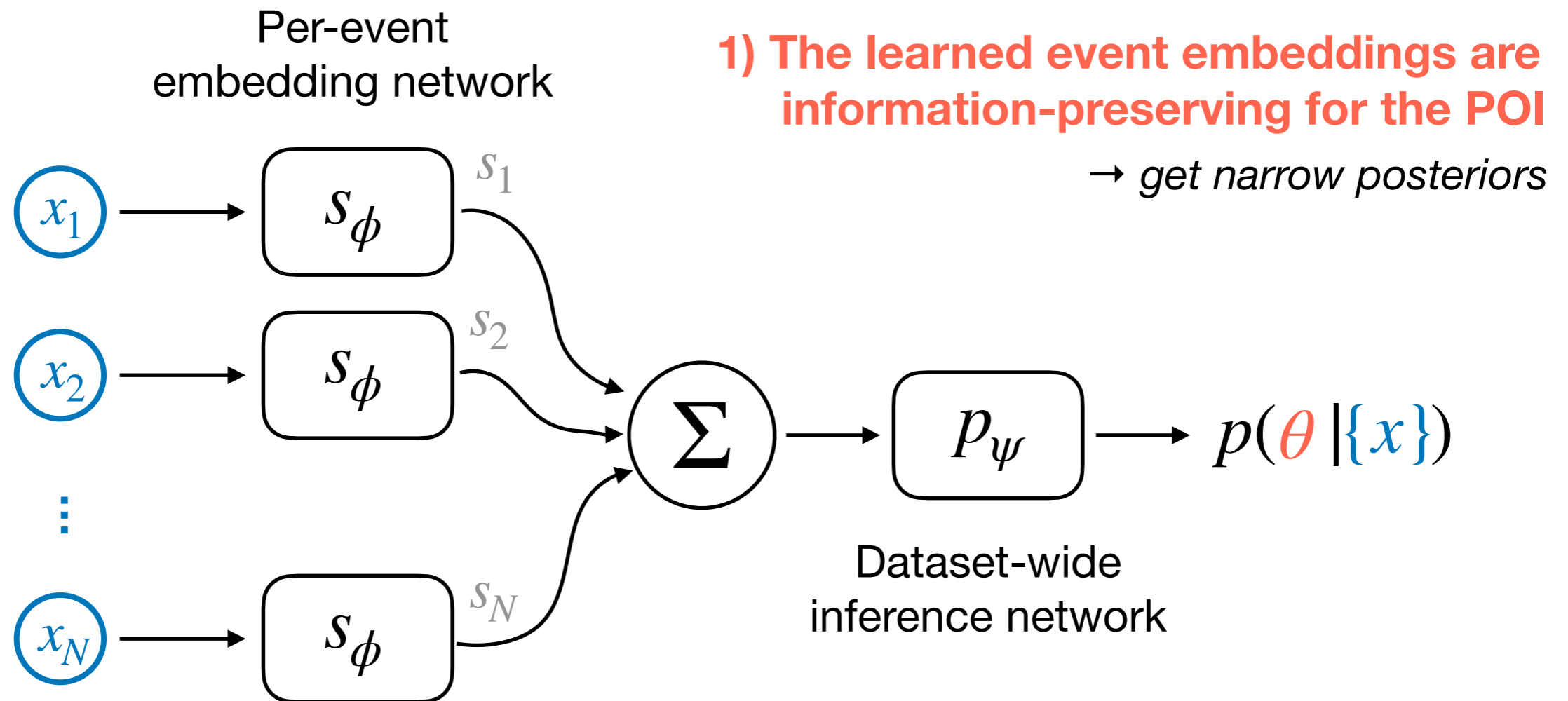
Classifier trained to separate “marginalized” signal from background



What is happening here?

Deep set can learn arbitrary permutation-invariant functions

→ sufficiently expressive to aggressively amortize the “reconstruction” + inference task

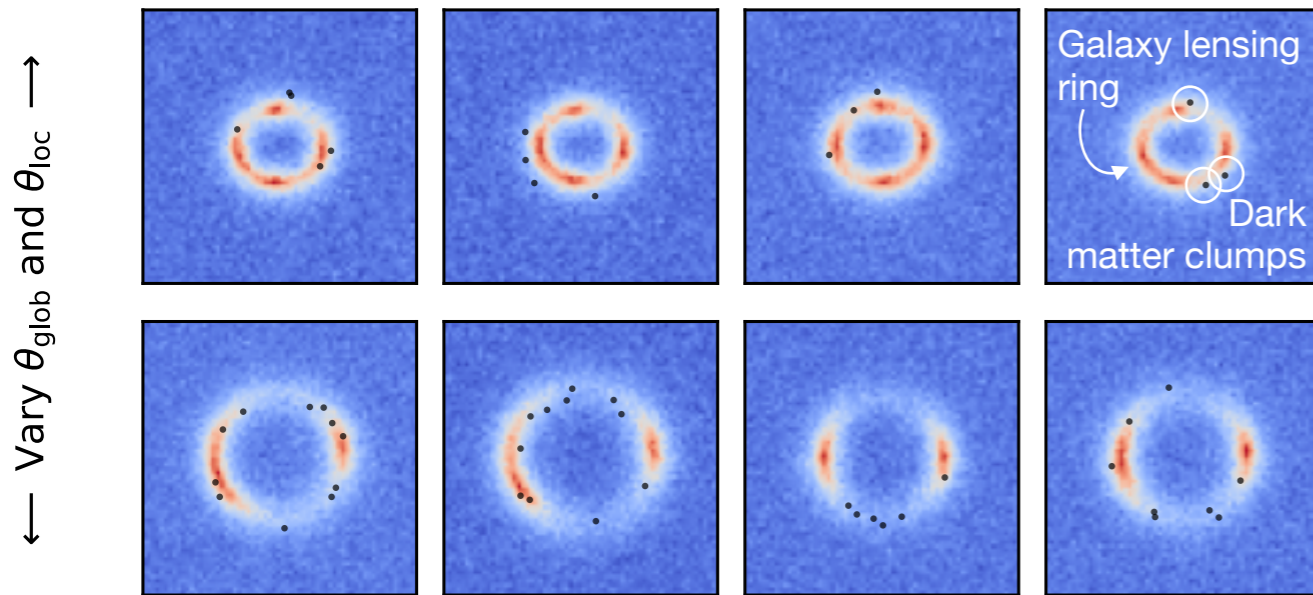


2) The embeddings are guaranteed to compose under addition!

→ cheap to update posterior estimate with new data

More complicated example: strong lensing

← Different latent realizations $z_{\text{sub}} \sim p(z_{\text{sub}} | \theta_{\text{glob}}, \theta_{\text{loc}})$ →



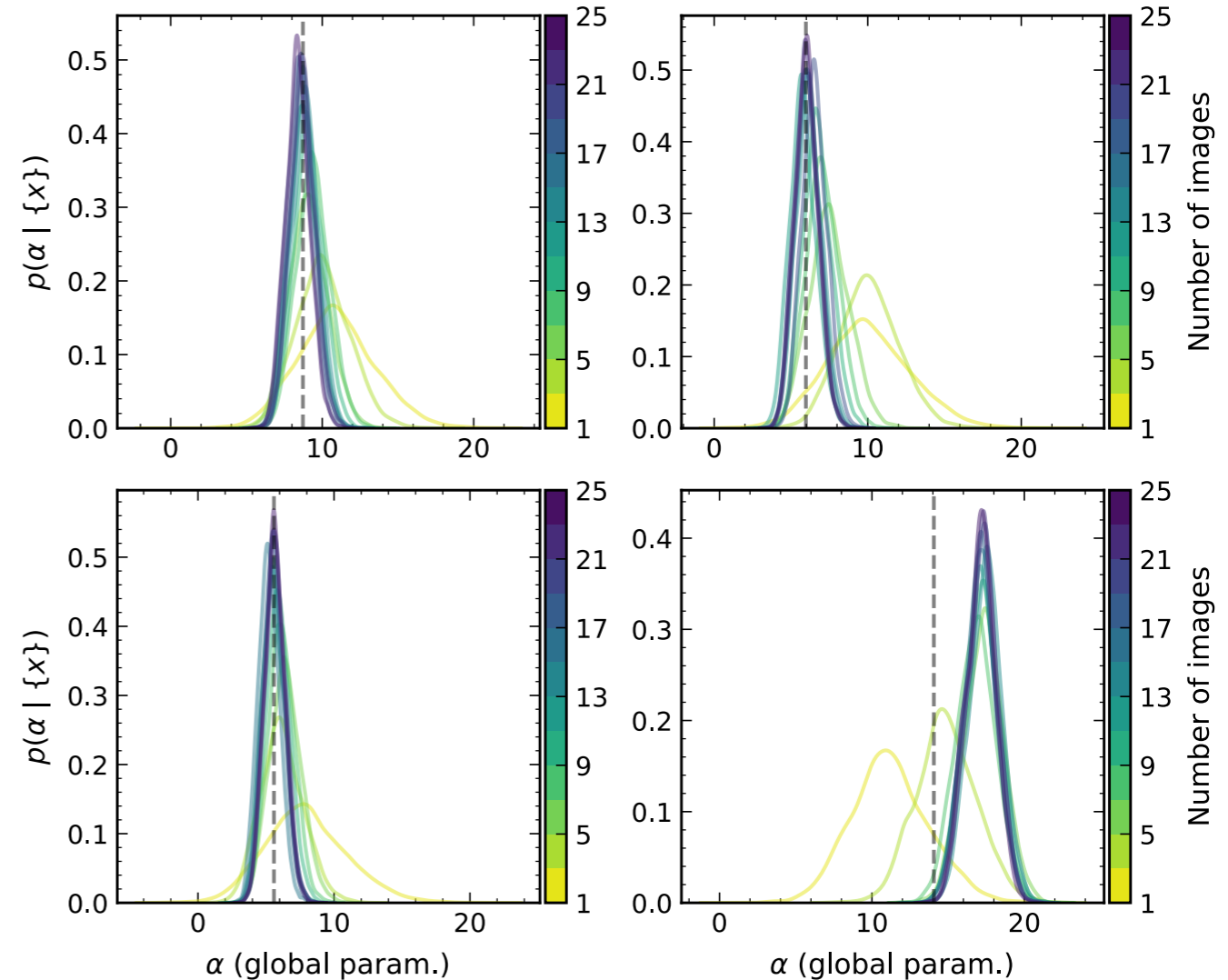
**Strong gravitational lensing
+ dark matter clumps**

Global parameters: dark matter clump population parameters

Local parameters: per-image lensing & realization of dark matter clumps

No tractable likelihood!

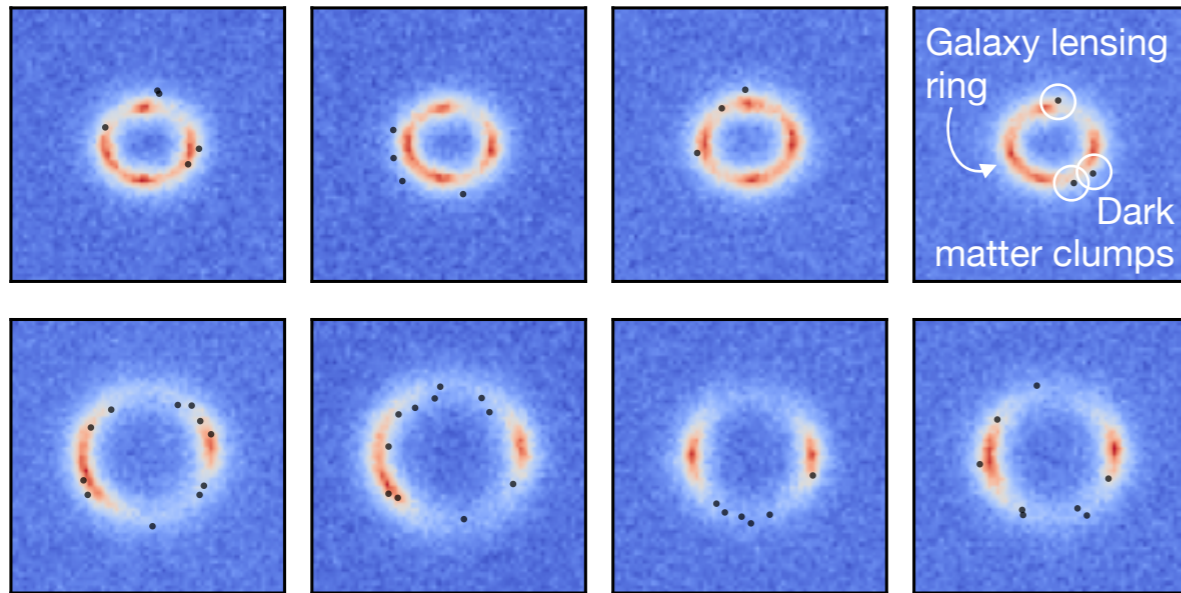
**Recover true parameter values
as $N \rightarrow \infty$**



“Substructure fraction”

More complicated example: strong lensing

← Different latent realizations $z_{\text{sub}} \sim p(z_{\text{sub}} | \theta_{\text{glob}}, \theta_{\text{loc}})$ →



← Vary θ_{glob} and θ_{loc} →

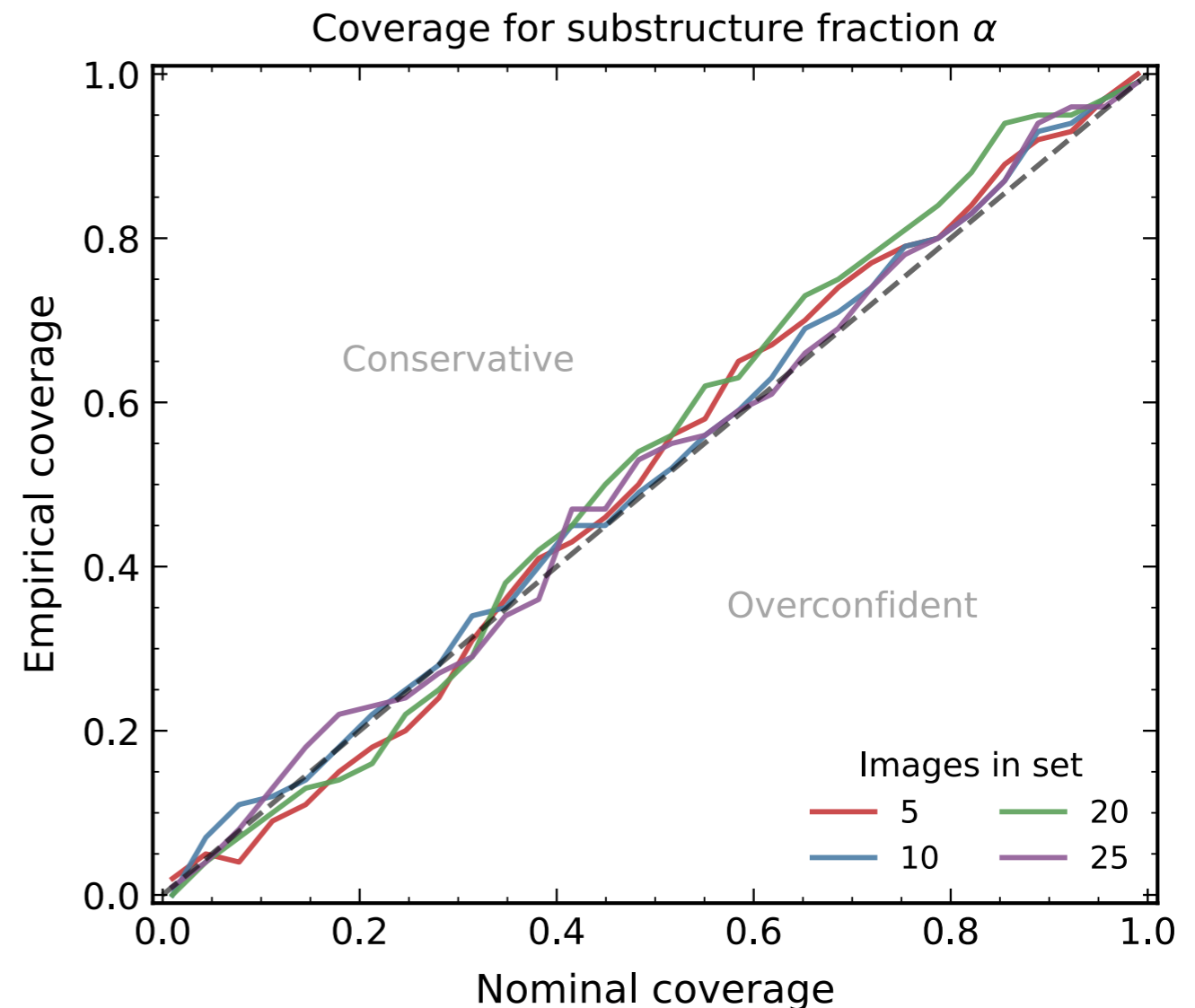
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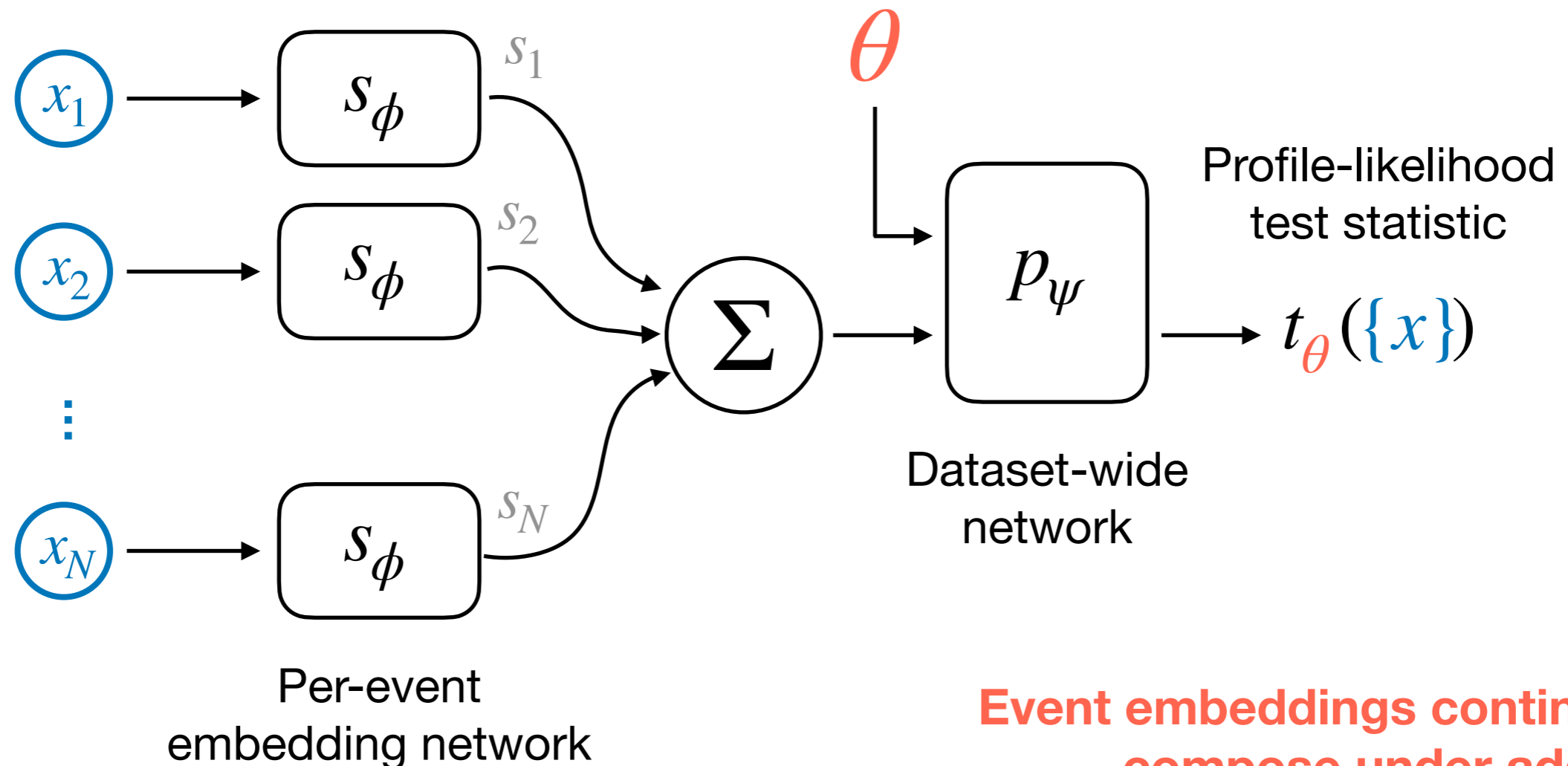
Uncertainty estimates reliable



Frequentist-style inference also works

Deep set can learn arbitrary permutation-invariant functions

→ sufficiently expressive to aggressively amortize the “reconstruction” + inference task



Event embeddings continue to compose under addition

→ *cheap to update test statistic with new data*

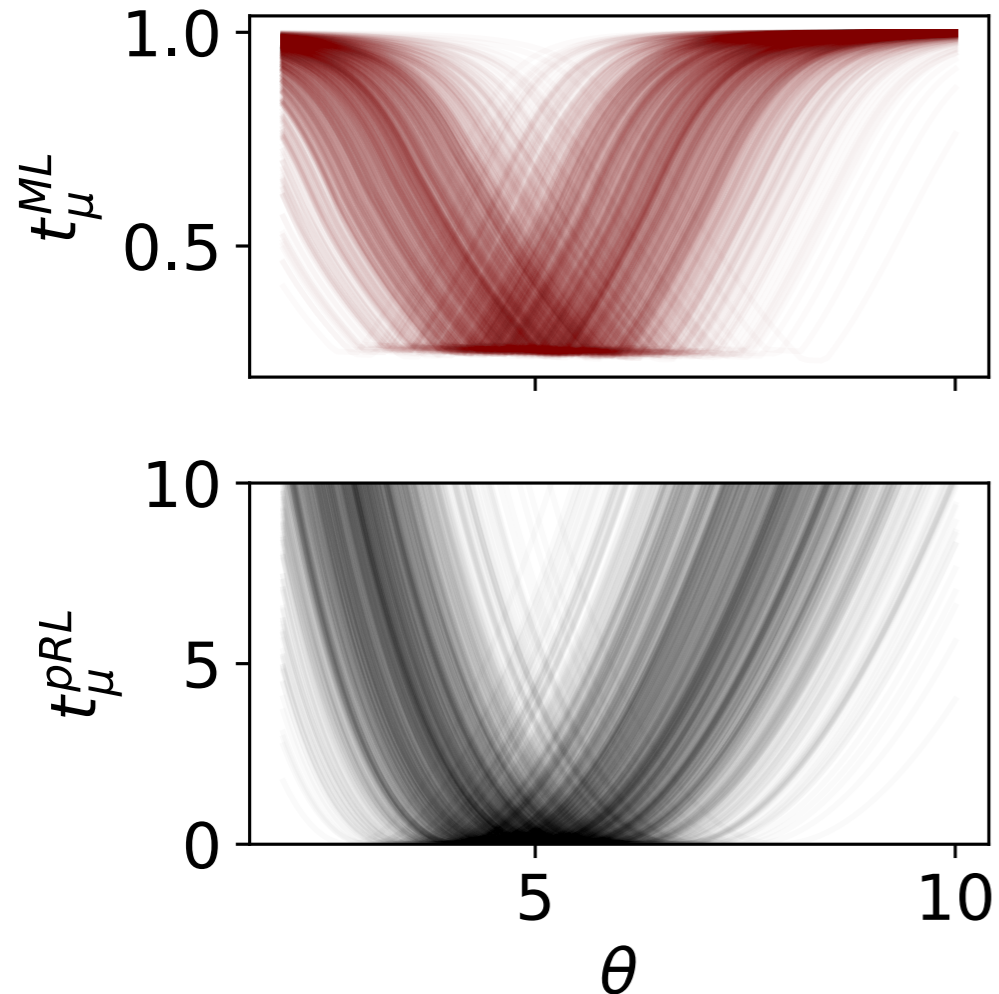
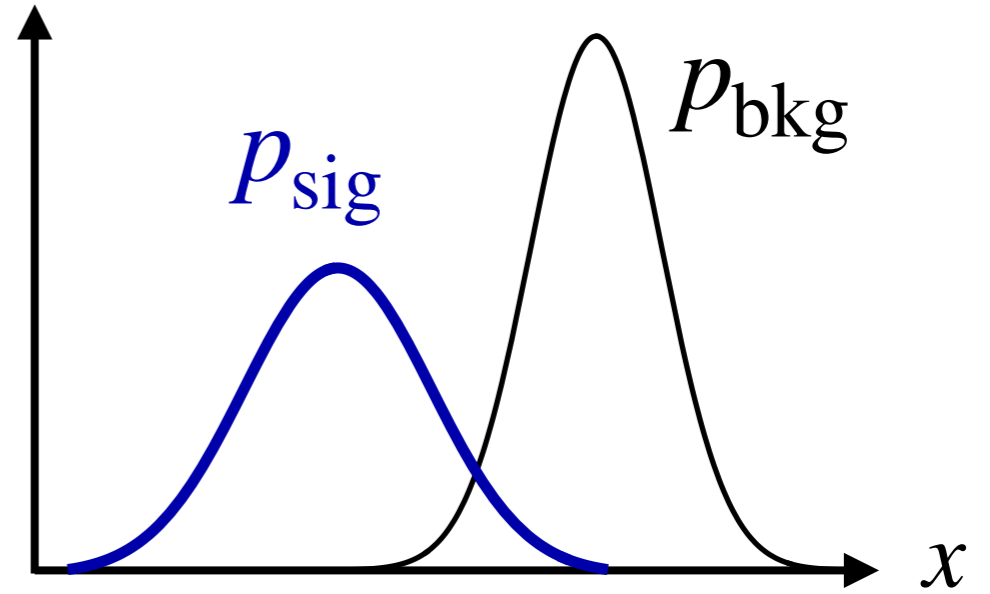
Frequentist-style “on/off problem”

Mixture of Gaussians with different strengths

$$p(x) = \mu_{\text{sig}} p_{\text{sig}}(x) + \mu_{\text{bkg}} p_{\text{bkg}}(x)$$

θ
Parameter of interest

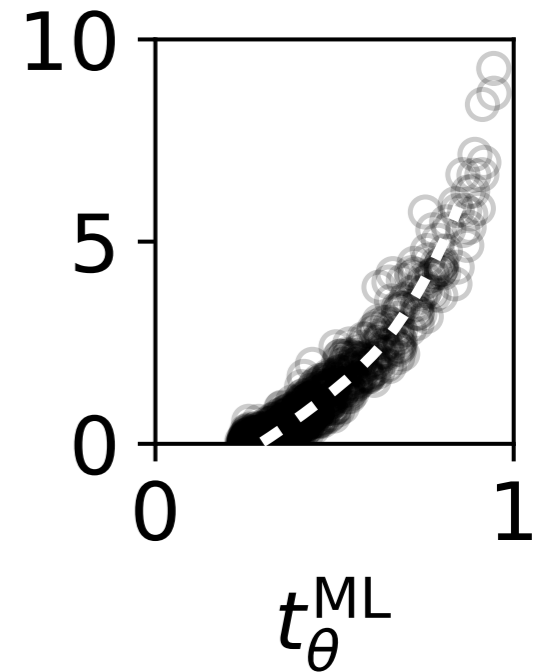
θ_{ν}
Global nuisance parameter



Learned test statistic

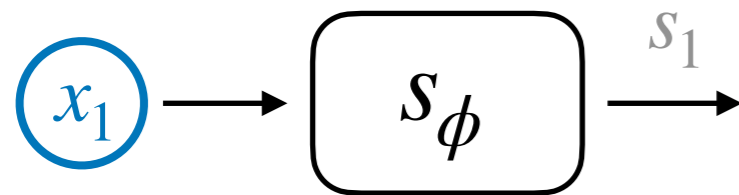
Bijjective

True profile-likelihood test statistic



Summary and outlook

Dataset-wide SBI works reliably in the presence of local and global nuisance parameters *(as others have also shown!)*



Learned event embedding is information-preserving for parameter of interest ...
(Without requiring parameterization in terms of nuisance parameters!)

... composes under addition ...

(Trivial to update inference on larger dataset!)

... and enables Bayesian and Frequentist amortized parameter inference.

$$t_{\theta}(\{x\})$$
$$p(\theta | \{x\})$$

But: requires training on *batches of datasets*

- How to go beyond a few 10^3 events / dataset?
- How to interpret event embedding beyond training cardinality?
 - Effects of deficiencies in simulation?

More information: [[arXiv:2306.12584](https://arxiv.org/abs/2306.12584)]