

# Exploring the BSM parameter space with Simulation-Based Inference method

Arpita Mondal

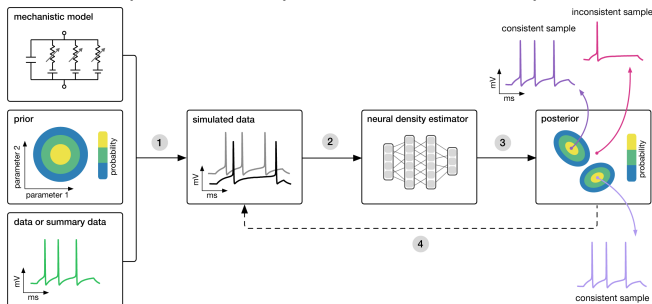
Based on arXiv:2502.11928 (hep-ph), JHEP 12 (2025) 138



21<sup>th</sup> April, 2026

# Motivation to Simulation-Based Inference

- ✓ Understanding BSM physics theories in the context of experimental results is the cornerstone of much research in HEP community
- ✓ Mapping out regions of parameter space that produce given observables is especially difficult for theories with many free parameters - ex. MSSM
- ✓ Exploration  $\rightarrow$  define space of interest, uniformly sample, accept the points satisfy theoretical/experimental constraints
- ✓ Number of required samples grows exponentially with dimension, becomes computational expensive, complex likelihood to compute



- Amortized → once trained, they can provide posterior for any new observation without additional simulations, making them particularly efficient for repeated inference tasks
- Sequential → effectively concentrates computational effort on the most relevant regions, reducing wasted evaluations
- Based on Bayes theorem,  $p(\boldsymbol{\theta}|\mathbf{x}) = \frac{p(\boldsymbol{\theta})p(\mathbf{x}|\boldsymbol{\theta})}{p(\mathbf{x})}$
- Neural Posterior Estimation (NPE): one directly trains the density estimator to learn the posterior,  $p(\boldsymbol{\theta}|\mathbf{x}) \propto q_{\phi}(\boldsymbol{\theta}|\mathbf{x})$
- Neural Likelihood Estimation (NLE): trains to get likelihood and then we get posterior,  $p(\boldsymbol{\theta}|\mathbf{x}) \propto p(\boldsymbol{\theta})q_{\phi}(\mathbf{x}|\boldsymbol{\theta})$
- Neural Ratio Estimation (NRE): trains to learn the likelihood-to-evidence ratio,  $r(\mathbf{x}, \boldsymbol{\theta}) = \frac{p(\mathbf{x}|\boldsymbol{\theta})}{p(\mathbf{x})}$  and then we get posterior,  $p(\boldsymbol{\theta}|\mathbf{x}) \propto p(\boldsymbol{\theta})r(\mathbf{x}|\boldsymbol{\theta})$
- $\phi$  contains the hyperparameters of Neural Network

## Exploring parameter space of pMSSM using SBI method

- ✓ Model → phenomenological MSSM (pMSSM), 19 parameter space
- ✓ Simulator → FeynHiggs & micrOMEGAS
- ✓ Focus on Higgs sector (mass & coupling strength),  $B$ -hadron decay branching ratios
- ✓ The tree-level Higgs mass depends on  $\tan \beta$  and  $M_A$ .
- ✓ Radiative correction to the tree level mass and this correction depends on many other pMSSM parameters like  $A_t$ ,  $\mu$  and soft SUSY breaking parameters.

# Exploring parameter space of pMSSM using SBI method

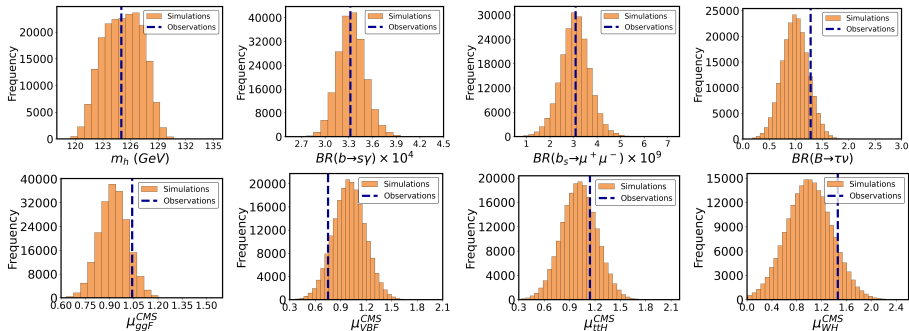
- ✓ Model → phenomenological MSSM (pMSSM), 19 parameter space
  - ✓ Simulator → FeynHiggs & micrOMEGAS
  - ✓ Focus on Higgs sector (mass & coupling strength),  $B$ -hadron decay branching ratios
  - ✓ The tree-level Higgs mass depends on  $\tan\beta$  and  $M_A$ .
  - ✓ Radiative correction to the tree level mass and this correction depends on many other pMSSM parameters like  $A_t$ ,  $\mu$  and soft SUSY breaking parameters.
- 
- |  |                          |
|--|--------------------------|
| ✓ $M_1 = 500$ GeV                                  | ✓ $M_2 = (550-5000)$ GeV |
| ✓ $M_3 = m_{\tilde{t}} = m_{\tilde{q}} = 4000$ GeV | ✓ $\mu = (550-5000)$ GeV |
| ✓ $A_l = A_d = A_u = A_c = 0$                      | ✓ $\tan\beta = 1-60$     |
| ✓ Most relevant five parameter                     | ✓ $M_A = (100-5000)$ GeV |
|  | ✓ $ A_t  = (0-8000)$ GeV |

## Sample preparation

- We have simulated  $\sim 200,000$  samples
- To make this similar with practical data, we add some noise to each observable
- New sample  $f'(x) = f(x) + \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma^2)$ ,  $f(x)$  is actual sample
- The best-fit point of each observables must be within the distribution

# Sample preparation

- We have simulated  $\sim 200,000$  samples
- To make this similar with practical data, we add some noise to each observable
- New sample  $f'(x) = f(x) + \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma^2)$ ,  $f(x)$  is actual sample
- The best-fit point of each observations must be within the distribution



# Ablation Study

Fixed Part		Efficiency with varying hyperparameter							
MAF 1 layer NT=20, TBS=512 LR=0.0001	HF value	2	10	50	100	400	600	800	1000
	Efficiency (%)	96.67	97.29	98.70	99.34	99.51	98.88	97.68	96.88
MAF 1 layer HF=400, TBS=512 LR=0.0001	NT value	1	2	5	10	20	40	70	100
	Efficiency (%)	96.4	97.10	97.80	98.88	99.51	99.56	99.60	99.62
MAF 1 layer HF=400, NT=20 LR=0.0001	TBS value	16	32	64	128	256	512	1024	2048
	Efficiency (%)	98.09	98.87	99.16	99.27	99.45	99.51	98.96	97.60
MAF 1 layer HF=400, NT=20 TBS=512	LR value	0.00001	0.0001	0.001	0.01	0.1	0.3	0.5	1.0
	Efficiency (%)	98.68	99.51	99.56	99.27	99.05	98.78	98.06	97.60
HF=400, NT=20 TBS=512, LR=0.0001	MAF layer	1		2		3		4	
	Efficiency (%)	99.51		99.32		99.02		99.60	

- HF : Hidden Feature, NT: number of transforms or blocks, LR: Learning Rate, TBS: Training Batch size, MAF: density estimator

# Ablation Study

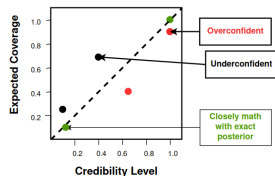
Fixed Part		Efficiency with varying hyperparameter							
MAF 1 layer NT=20, TBS=512 LR=0.0001	HF value	2	10	50	100	400	600	800	1000
	Efficiency (%)	96.67	97.29	98.70	99.34	99.51	98.88	97.68	96.88
MAF 1 layer HF=400, TBS=512 LR=0.0001	NT value	1	2	5	10	20	40	70	100
	Efficiency (%)	96.4	97.10	97.80	98.88	99.51	99.56	99.60	99.62
MAF 1 layer HF=400, NT=20 LR=0.0001	TBS value	16	32	64	128	256	512	1024	2048
	Efficiency (%)	98.09	98.87	99.16	99.27	99.45	99.51	98.96	97.60
MAF 1 layer HF=400, NT=20 TBS=512	LR value	0.00001	0.0001	0.001	0.01	0.1	0.3	0.5	1.0
	Efficiency (%)	98.68	99.51	99.56	99.27	99.05	98.78	98.06	97.60
HF=400, NT=20 TBS=512, LR=0.0001	MAF layer	1		2		3		4	
	Efficiency (%)	99.51		99.32		99.02		99.60	

- HF : Hidden Feature, NT: number of transforms or blocks, LR: Learning Rate, TBS: Training Batch size, MAF: density estimator

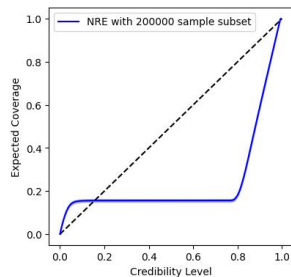
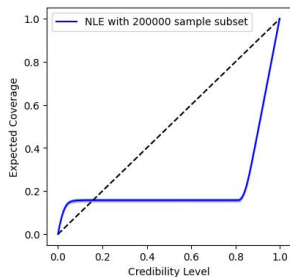
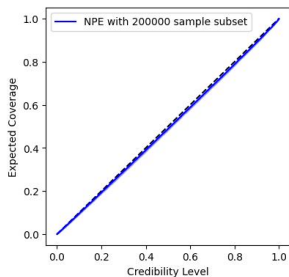
Features	NPE	NLE	NRE
Density function used (1 layer)	MAF	MAF	ResNET
Density function features	"hidden_features"=400 "num_transforms"=20	"hidden_features"=200 "num_transforms"=20	"hidden_features"=200 "num_blocks"=20
Common hyperparameters			
Batch size = 512, Learning rate = $10^{-4}$			

# Validation Process - TARP test

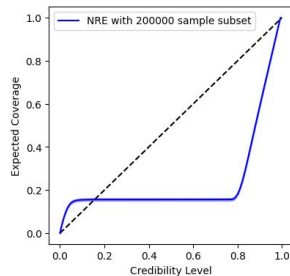
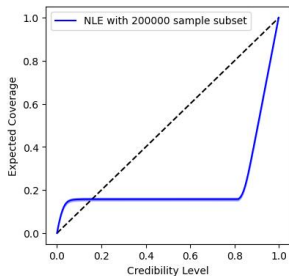
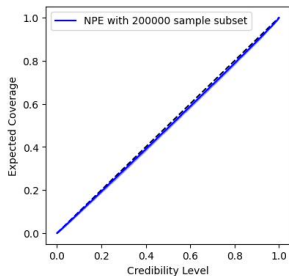
- Take a test point  $\mathbf{x}_{\text{test}}^i \rightarrow$  true parameter  $\theta_{\text{test}}^i$
- Choose a random reference point ( $\theta_r^i$ ) from a Uniform distribution in the range  $[0, 1]$ .
- Draw  $N_p$  points from estimated posterior  $\{\theta_{\text{predicted}}^{i,p}\}_{p=1}^{p=N_p}$ .
- Next we calculate the euclidean distance between the reference point  $\theta_r^i$  and  $\theta_{\text{predicted}}^{i,p}$ :  $\{d(\theta_{\text{predicted}}^{i,p}, \theta_r^i)\}_{p=1}^{p=N_p}$ .
- We also calculate distance  $d(\theta_{\text{test}}^i, \theta_r^i)$  between true parameter ( $\theta_{\text{test}}^i$ ) and the reference point.
- Compute the fraction of the points  $\{d(\theta_{\text{predicted}}^{i,p}, \theta_r^i)\}_{p=1}^{p=N_p}$  with distance smaller than  $d(\theta_{\text{test}}^i, \theta_r^i)$ . This fraction is called the credibility level
- Steps are repeated for all the  $N_{\text{test}}$  points in the test dataset.
- Draw the histogram with  $c_i$ . The cumulative distribution of  $c$  multiplied with the bin width of the histogram is called the Expected Coverage Probability (ECP)



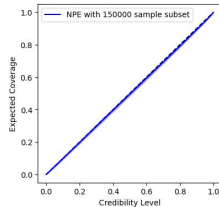
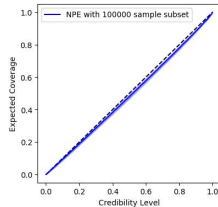
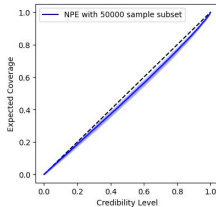
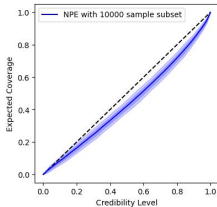
# Results of TARP test



# Results of TARP test

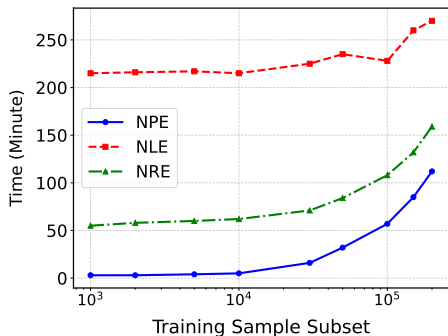
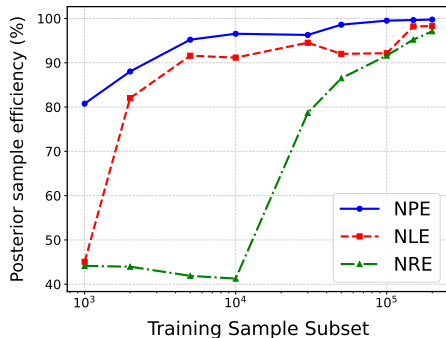


- ✿ NPE works better
- ✿ Find minimum no of samples  $\rightarrow$  train with 1000, 2000, . . . , 200000
- ✿ 100,000 sample is enough for NPE method



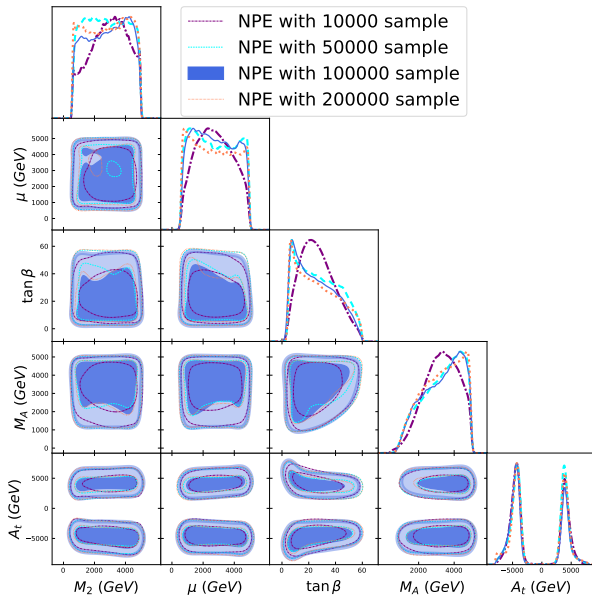
# Posterior sample efficiency

$$\text{Posterior efficiency (\%)} = \frac{\text{No of posterior samples within } 3\sigma \text{ range of observable}}{\text{Total number of posterior samples drawn}} \times 100$$

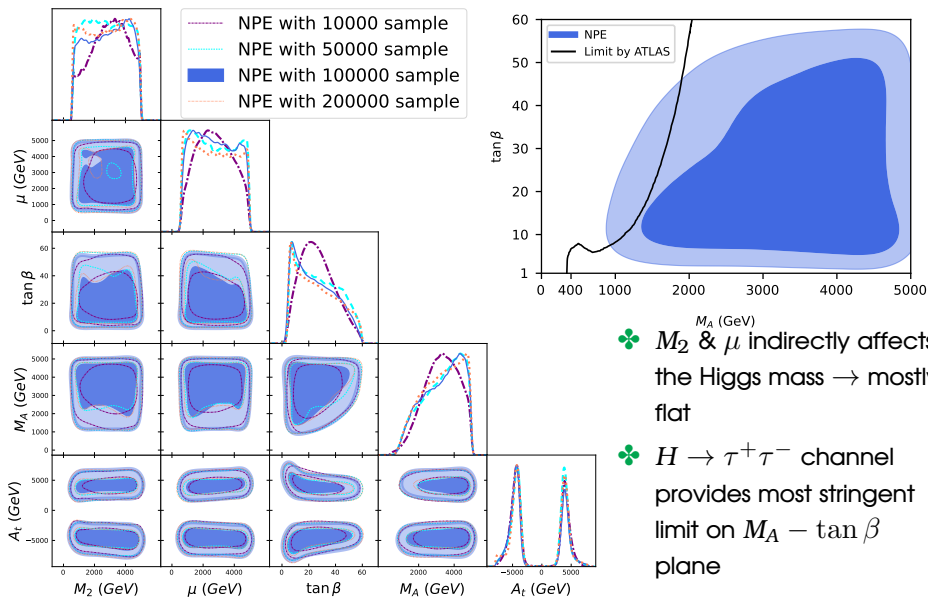


- ★ Posterior sample efficiency saturates at 100,000 samples for NPE
- ★ NPE requires only 50% of total sample
- ★ NLE & NRE require larger sample set and still cannot achieve similar efficiency
- ★ NLE (NRE) takes ~ 4 (2) times longer than the NPE

# Posterior distribution



# Posterior distribution

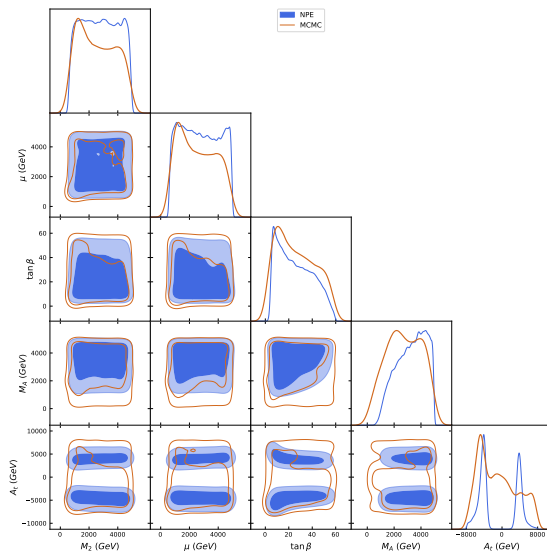


✿  $M_2$  &  $\mu$  indirectly affects the Higgs mass  $\rightarrow$  mostly flat

✿  $H \rightarrow \tau^+ \tau^-$  channel provides most stringent limit on  $M_A - \tan \beta$  plane

✿  $1\sigma$  region is still allowed

# Performance Comparison: NPE Algorithm vs. MCMC Method

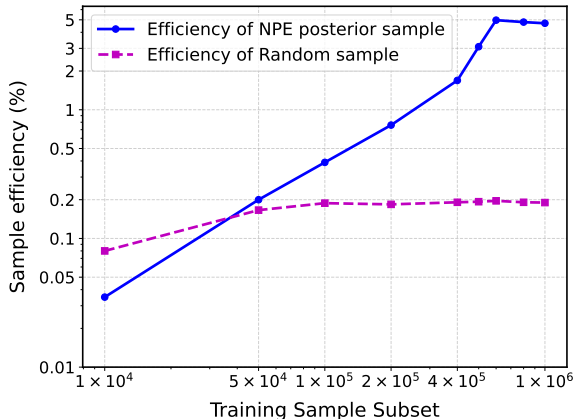


- MCMC run takes roughly 72 hours to complete, whereas the NPE method, using a subset of  $1 \times 10^5$  sample subset, completes in only 24 hours.

# NPE with Dark Matter constraints

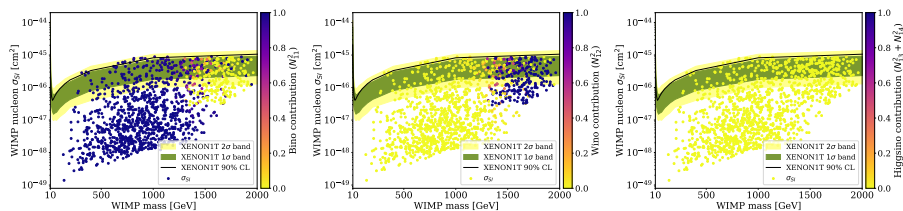
- Relic density of DM from Planck 2018, Spin-independent and spin dependent nucleon cross-sections from XENON1T, PICO-60 & PANDAX-4T

- $M_1 = 100-2000$
- $M_2 = 100-5000$
- $M_3 = 2500-5000$
- $\mu = 100-5000$
- $M_A = 100-5000$
- $\tan \beta = 1-60$
- $\tilde{l} = 1000-5000$
- $\tilde{q} = 2000-5000$
- $|A_t| = 0-8000$



- Efficiency of random sample  $\sim 0.2\%$
- Efficiency of NPE sample  $\sim 5\%$ , 25 times of the efficiency of random sample

# Impact of DM constraints on NPE posterior sample



- $\tilde{\chi}_1^0$  is the WIMP DM here
- For all posterior sample we compute the observables and put all the constraints
- Evidently, the higgsino-dominated scenario is completely ruled out by the XENON1T data
- the wino-dominated scenario is allowed only in the higher mass range, i.e., for DM masses in excess of 1400 GeV.
- The bino-dominated DM scenario is still allowed in the low mass region

## Summary

- We have considered three amortized SBI method to show the efficiency of parameter space scan
- We considered pMSSM focusing on the Higgs sector only first
- We showed through validation test (TARP), sample efficiency and computational time NPE only works much better than NLE & NRE methods
- We also have compared this NPE method with MCMC and showed that NPE works with lesser sample set and much faster than MCMC
- We also employed NPE for larger parameter space with DM constraints
- Showed that with NPE the posterior sample efficiency by increases 25 times for 10 million sample set
- From SBI-predicted posterior, we get wino-like DM at higher mass region  $\sim 1400$  GeV, but in the lower we can still get bino-like DM

*Thank  
you*

