



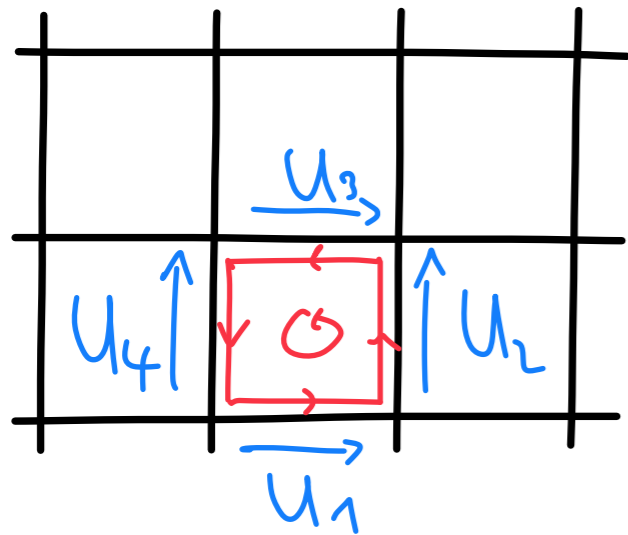
w.i.p. with Pim de Haan,  
Roberto Bondesan &  
Miranda Cheng

# Continuous flows for $SU(2)$

Exploring general flow architectures for pure Yang-Mills

# Lattice gauge theory

Wilson action



$$\text{Wilson action } S = -\frac{\beta}{N} \sum_x \text{Re} [W(x)]$$

Wilson loop trace

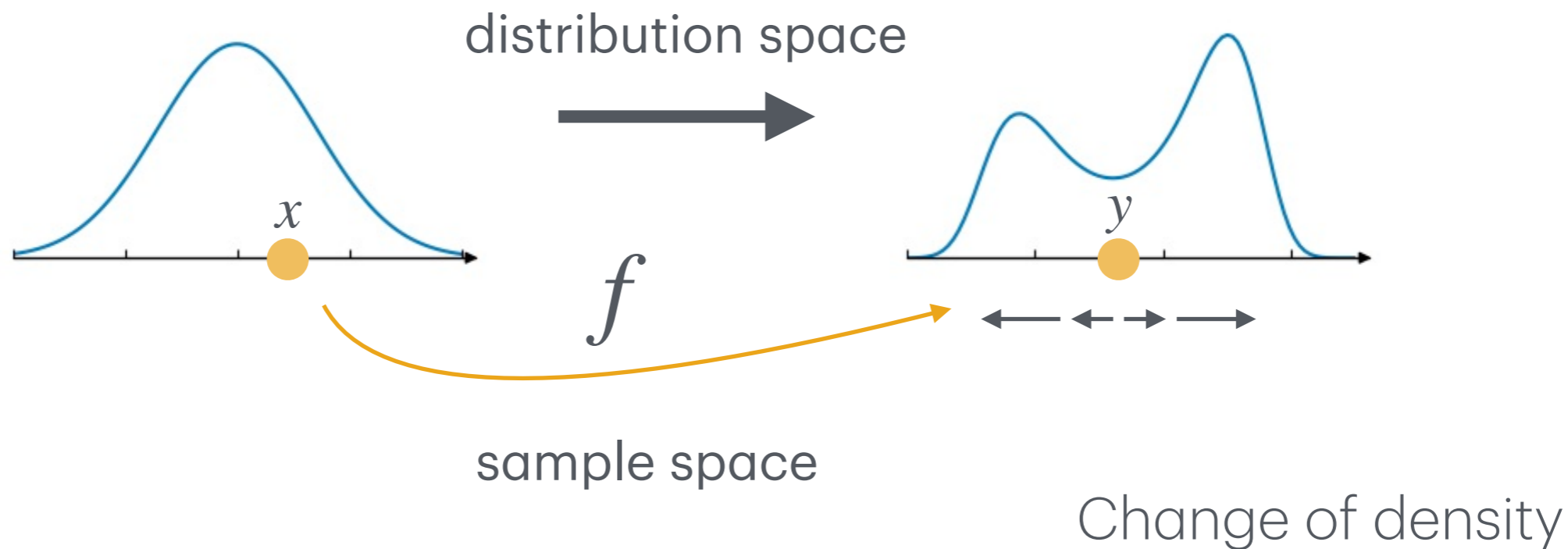
$$W = \text{tr}(U_1 U_2 U_3^\dagger U_4^\dagger)$$



Want to sample U-configurations  
 $\sim e^{-S[U]}$

# Change of variables

Transforming probability densities



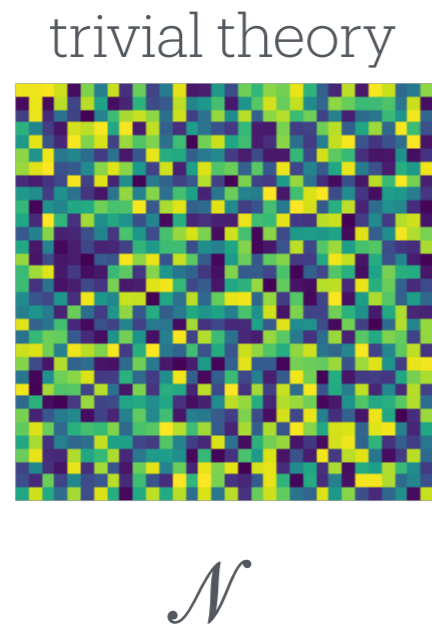
$$p(y) = p(f^{-1}(y)) \cdot \left| \det \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} \right|^{-1}$$

Source point

Change of density

# Normalizing flows

Learning  $f$



bijection  $f$

←————→

“Normalizing flow”



We want to **learn** a trivializing map  $f$ .

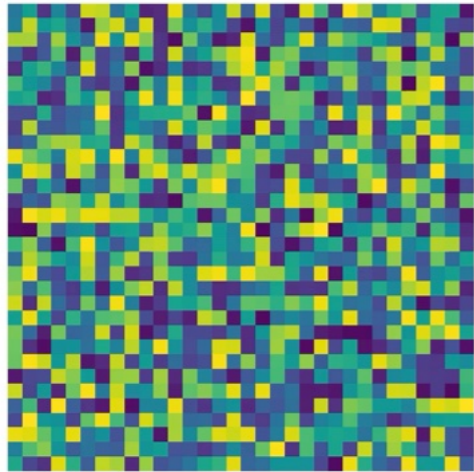
To compute model probability:

$$p(y) = p(f^{-1}(y)) \cdot \left| \det \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} \right|^{-1}$$

- $f$  must be bijective.

- Computing the det-Jacobian must be tractable.

# Continuous normalizing flows



Sample  $\phi^0 \sim \mathcal{N}$

Final proposal  $\phi^{t=1}$

$$\text{Solve } \frac{d}{dt}\phi = g_{\theta}(\phi, t)$$

- ODE always invertible, architecture of  $g_{\theta}$  unconstrained!
- ODE for  $p(\phi^t)$  given by divergence:

$$\frac{d}{dt} \log p(\phi) = -\nabla \cdot \dot{\phi}$$

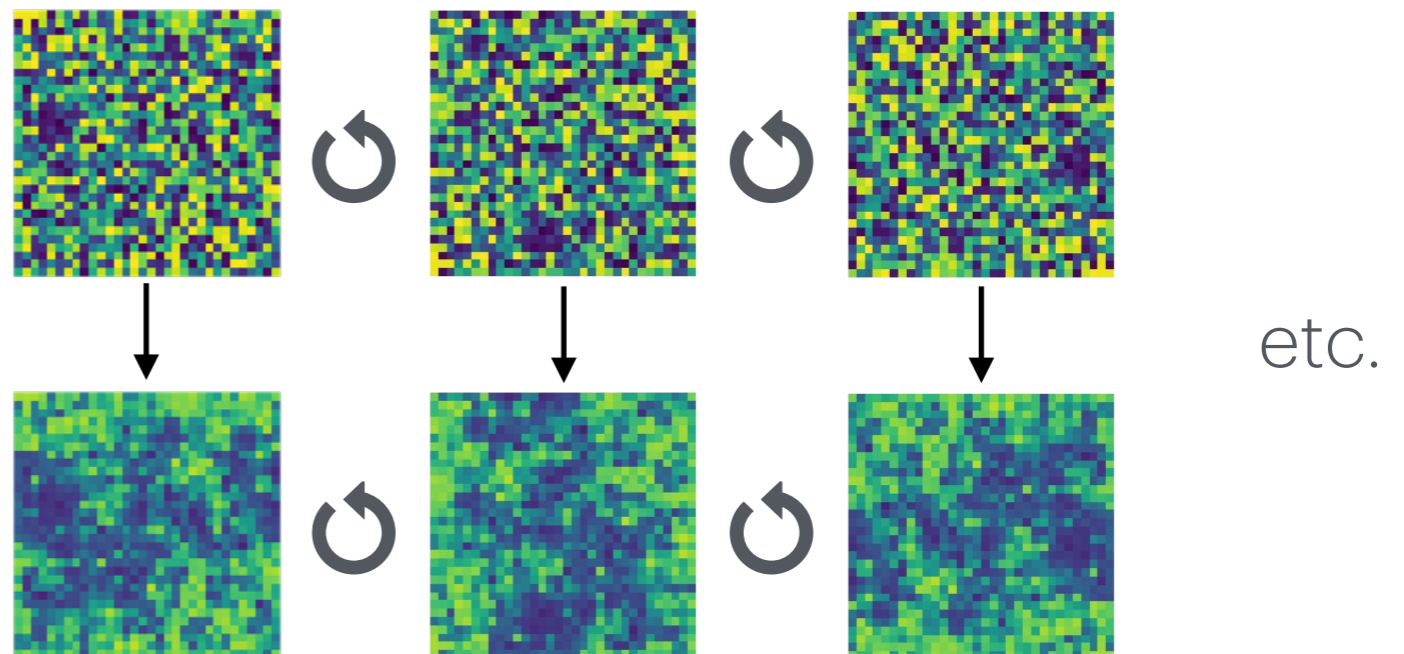
# Symmetries

And the need for equivariant flows

If action is invariant under transformation  $S(\phi) = S(g \cdot \phi)$

then  $p(\phi) = p(g \cdot \phi)$ , should be proposed equally likely.

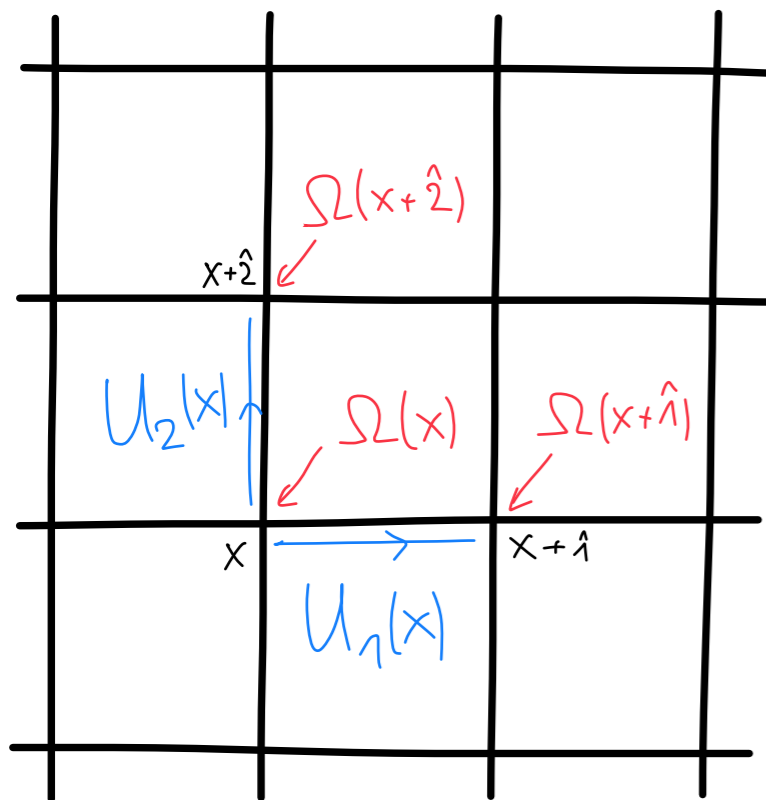
$$f_{\theta}(g \cdot \phi) = g \cdot f_{\theta}(\phi)$$



# Gauge symmetry

How objects transform

$$U_\mu(x) \mapsto \Omega(x) U_\mu(x) \Omega(x + \hat{\mu})^\dagger$$



Wilson loop

$$P_{12} = U_1(x) U_2(x + \hat{1}) U_1(x + \hat{2})^\dagger U_2(x)^\dagger$$

are **equivariant**  $P_{12} \mapsto \Omega(x) P_{12} \Omega(x)^\dagger$ .

Trace of Wilson loops

$W = \text{tr } P_{12}$  are **invariant**.

Gradients of invariants

e.g.  $V = \nabla_U W$  are **equivariant**

$$V \mapsto \Omega(x) V \Omega(x)^\dagger$$

# Discrete normalizing flows

How to define gauge equivariant flows

Map  $P_{\mu\nu} \mapsto P'_{\mu\nu} = f(P_{\mu\nu})$  to update edge in  $P_{\mu\nu}$  conditioned on unmodified invariant quantities.

Get an equivariant flow, if map transform under conjugation:

$$f(\Omega P \Omega^\dagger) = \Omega f(P) \Omega^\dagger$$

arxiv:2008.05456

## Sampling using $SU(N)$ gauge equivariant flows

Denis Boyda,<sup>1,\*</sup> Gurtej Kanwar,<sup>1,†</sup> Sébastien Racanière,<sup>2,‡</sup> Danilo Jimenez Rezende,<sup>2,§</sup>  
Michael S. Albergo,<sup>3</sup> Kyle Cranmer,<sup>3</sup> Daniel C. Hackett,<sup>1</sup> and Phiala E. Shanahan<sup>1</sup>

## Normalizing flows for lattice gauge theory in arbitrary space-time dimension

Ryan Abbott,<sup>1,2</sup> Michael S. Albergo,<sup>3</sup> Aleksandar Botev,<sup>4</sup> Denis Boyda,<sup>1,2</sup> Kyle Cranmer,<sup>5</sup>  
Daniel C. Hackett,<sup>1,2</sup> Gurtej Kanwar,<sup>6,1,2</sup> Alexander G.D.G. Matthews,<sup>4</sup> Sébastien Racanière,<sup>4</sup> Ali  
Razavi,<sup>4</sup> Danilo J. Rezende,<sup>4</sup> Fernando Romero-López,<sup>1,2</sup> Phiala E. Shanahan,<sup>1,2</sup> and Julian M. Urban<sup>1,</sup>

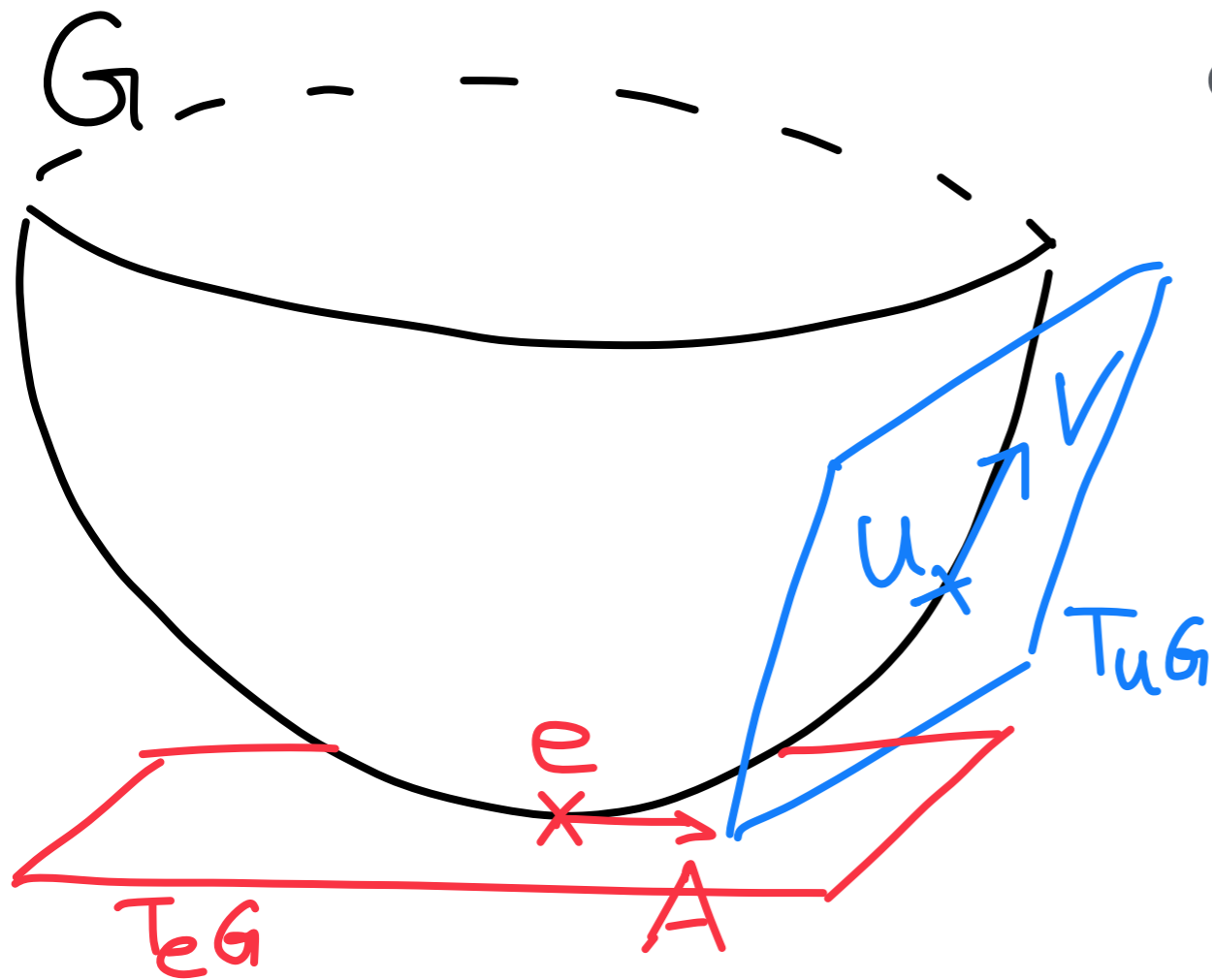
arxiv:2305.02402



# Continuous flows for gauge theories

# Lie groups

A brief reminder



We can parametrize the vector space at  $U$  via the Lie algebra:

$$V \in T_U G \quad A := VU^\dagger \in \mathfrak{g} = T_e G$$

$$V = AU$$

Transporting  $A$  to  
vector space at  $U$

Lie algebra is spanned by generators  $T^a$

In components,  $V = A^a T^a U$

# Continuous flows for $SU(N)$

Defining an ODE

In coordinates  $A^a$ , general vector at  $U$  is:  $V = (T^a A^a)U$ .

Path derivative  $\partial^a f(U) = \left. \frac{d}{ds} \right|_{s=0} f(e^{sT^a} U) = Df(T^a U)$ .

Then, the gradient is  $\nabla f(U) = \partial^a f(U) T^a U$ .

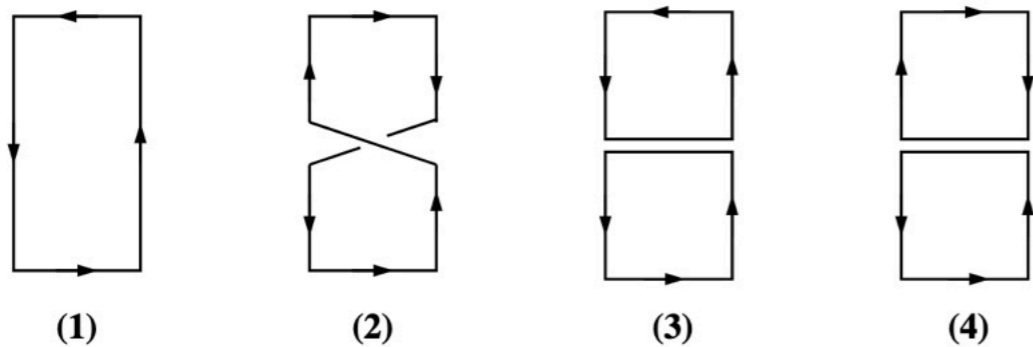
To define our flow, the network should output an algebra element:

$$\frac{d}{dt} U = A^a(U) T^a U$$

# Continuous flows for $SU(N)$

## Gradient flows

Define  $A^a = \partial^a \mathcal{S}$  as the gradient of some potential, given as sums and products of Wilson loops.



Can extend/do better by learning coefficients by gradient descent

Trivializing maps, the Wilson flow and  
the HMC algorithm

Martin Lüscher

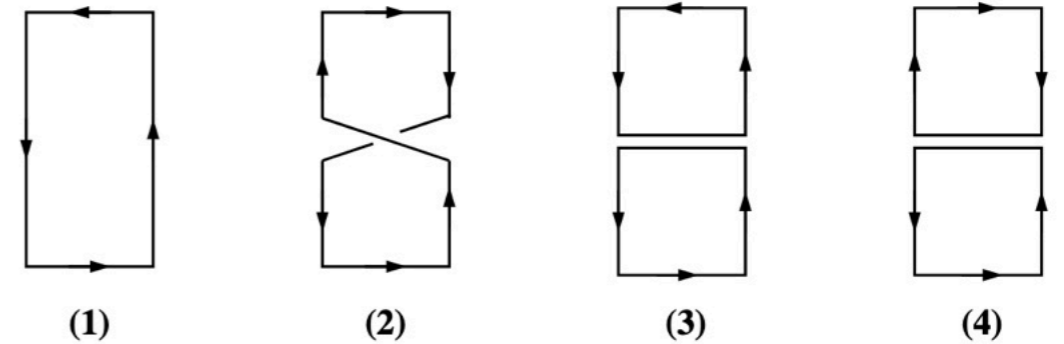
**Learning Trivializing Gradient Flows for Lattice Gauge Theories**

Simone Bacchio,<sup>1</sup> Pan Kessel,<sup>2,3</sup> Stefan Schaefer,<sup>4</sup> and Lorenz Vaitl<sup>2</sup>

Can we define a more  
general ML architecture?

# Network

Idea for construction



Equivariant  
vector field

“Basis” vectors:  
Built to be gauge  
equivariant

Superposition function:  
Built out of invariant  
quantities

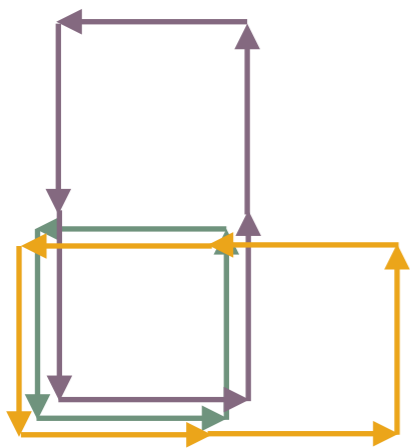
$$A_e^a(U) = \sum_k \partial_{U_e}^a W^{(k)} \cdot S_e^k(W^{(1)}, W^{(2)}, \dots)$$

- Spatial symmetries, need to be built into  $S$ .
- Divergence must not be too expensive.

# Network

Idea for construction

$$A_e^a(U) = \sum_k \partial_{U_e}^a W^{(k)} \cdot S_e^k(W^{(1)}, W^{(2)}, \dots)$$



$W_x^{(k)}$

Local "stack" of  
Wilson loops

$$S_e^k = C_{e,x}^{k,l} \text{NN}_x^l(\{W_x^{(m)}\})$$

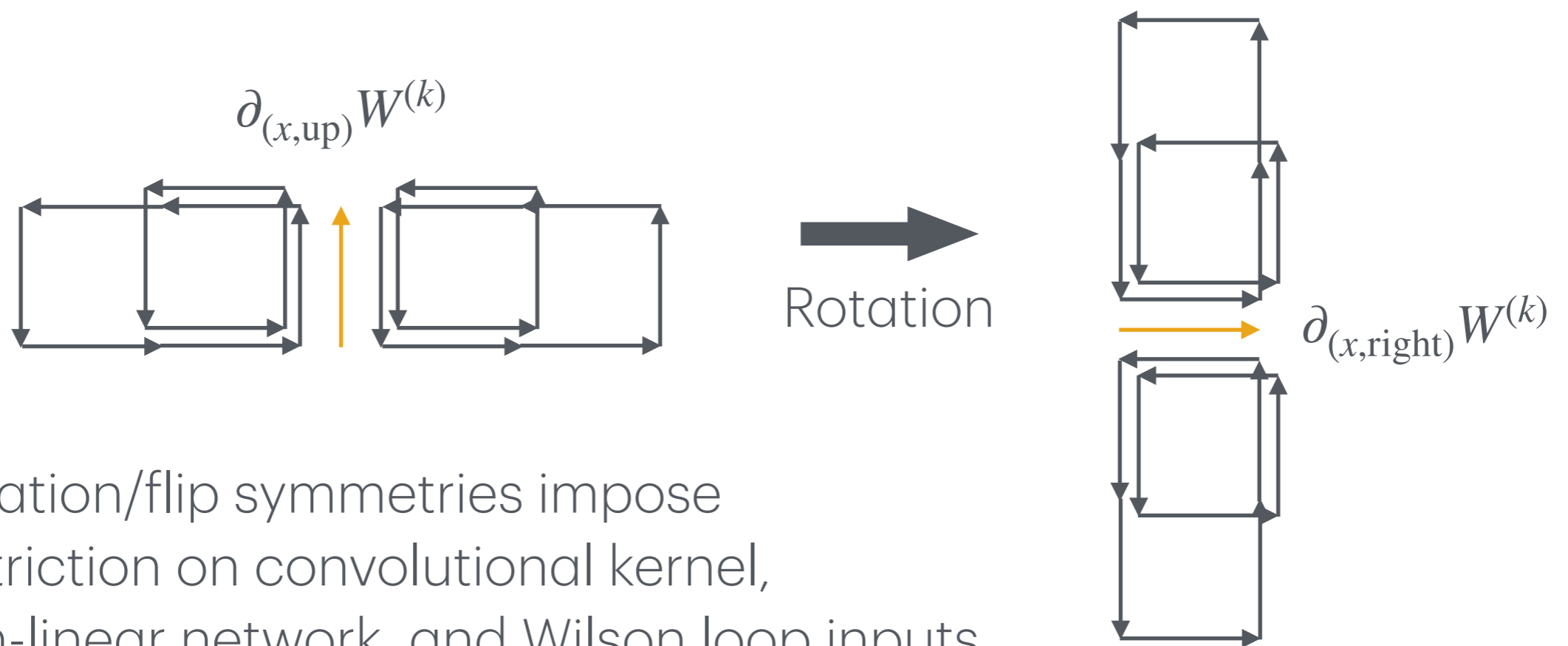
Arbitrary (non-  
linear) "local"  
neural network

(Equivariant)  
Convolution

# Spatial symmetries

Work in progress

$$A_e^a(U) = \sum_k \partial_{U_e}^a W^{(k)} \cdot S_e^k(W^{(1)}, W^{(2)}, \dots)$$



Rotation/flip symmetries impose restriction on convolutional kernel, non-linear network, and Wilson loop inputs.



# Divergence computation

To track density change

$$A_e^a = \sum_k \partial_e^a W^{(k)} \cdot S_e^k(\{W\})$$

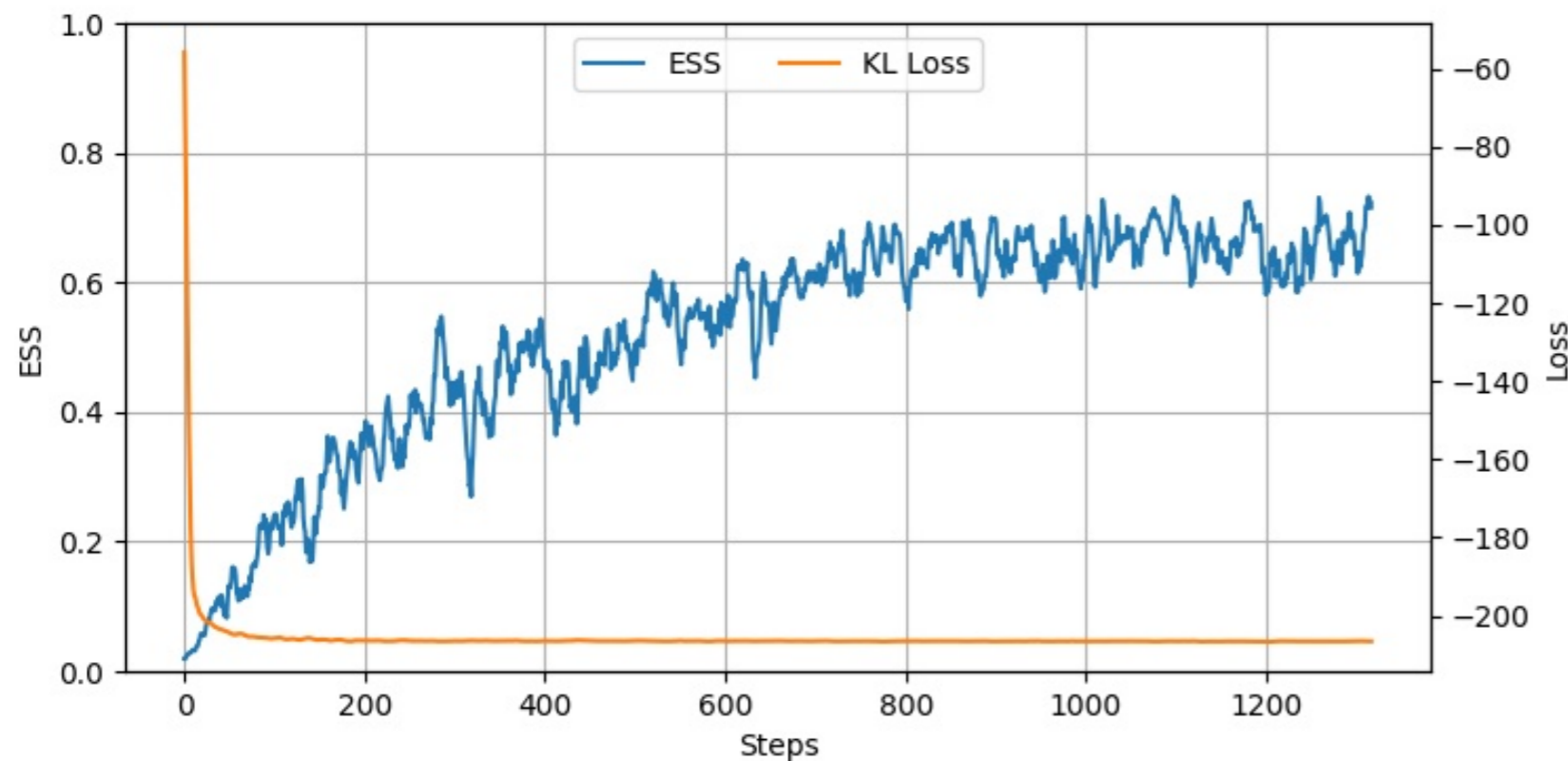
$$\partial_e^a A_e^a = \sum_k \partial_e^a \partial_e^a W^{(k)} \cdot S_e^k(\{W\}) + \partial_e^a W^{(k)} \cdot \partial_e^a S_e^k(\{W\})$$

$$\partial_e^a S_e^k = \sum_{l,x} C_{e,x}^{k,l} D(\text{NN}_x^l)(\{\partial_e^a W_x^{(m)}\})$$

- Computational cost scales in how “local” stack is (not lattice size).
- Can be computed efficiently via JAX’s forward differentiation.

# Success for SU(2)

So far, so good...



Reference results  
From [2008.05456, Boyda et al]

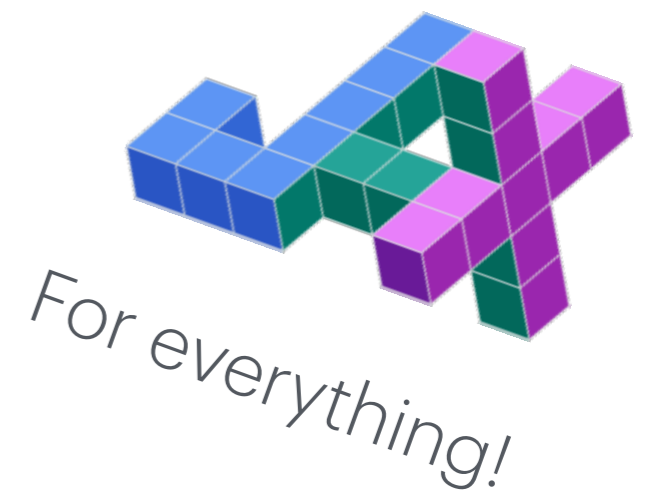
	SU(2)		
$\beta$	1.8	2.2	2.7
ESS(%)	91	80	56

> 10% point  
improvement

Promising results after  $\sim O(1h)$  training on a single GPU.

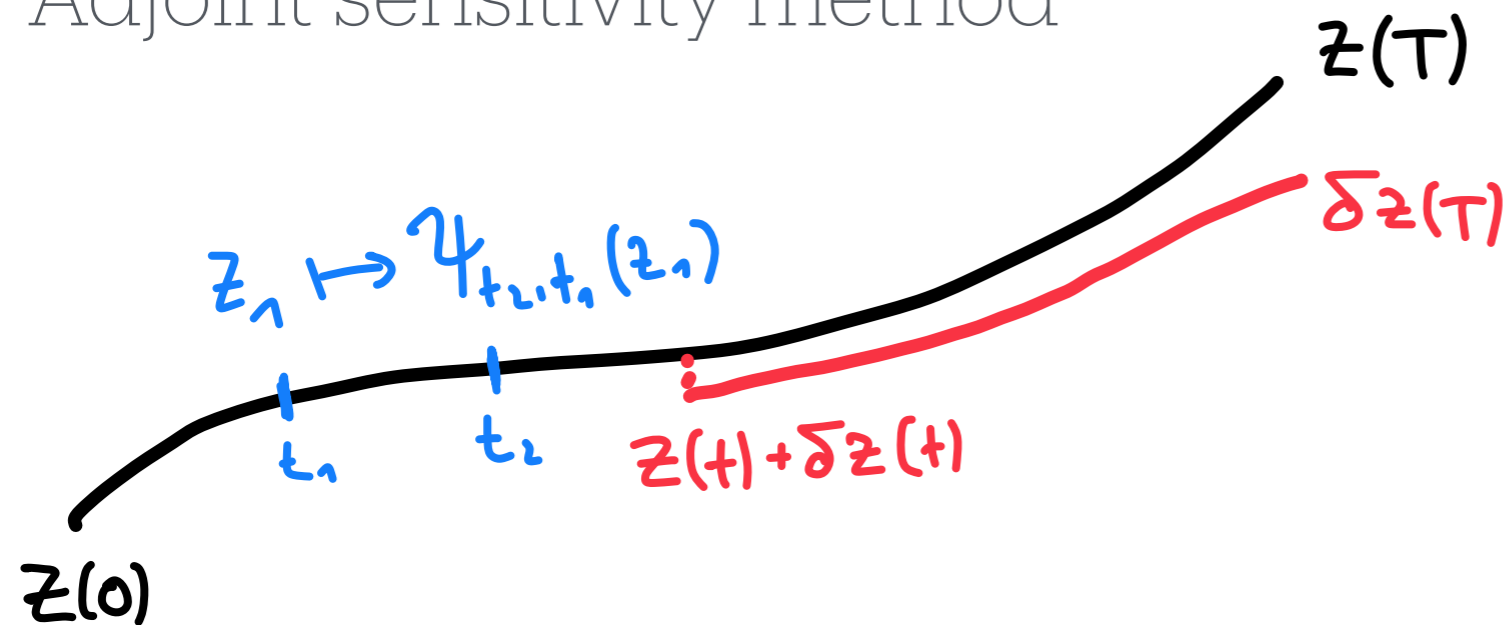
# Technical challenges

- Implement integration schemes for  $SU(N)$  & real d.o.f. simultaneously.
- Computation of the laplacian (JAX's JVP/VJP magic helps).
- Book-keeping of loops and gradients.
- Implemented general adjoint sensitivity method.



# Technical challenges

Adjoint sensitivity method



Continuous flow

$$\text{ODE } \dot{z} = f_{\theta}(z, t)$$

We have a loss function  $L : M \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ , so  $dL_z \in T_z^*M$

$$\text{Adjoint state: } a(t) = \psi_{T,t}^* dL_{z(T)}.$$

In words: maps  $\delta z(t)$  to  $\delta L$ .

“Compute gradients by back-integrating”

$$\frac{da(t)}{dt} = -a(t) \frac{\partial f_{\theta}(z, t)}{\partial z} \qquad \frac{dL}{d\theta} = - \int_T^0 a(t) \frac{\partial f(z, t)}{\partial \theta} dt$$

# Takeaways

And open questions

- Success for  $SU(2)$ . Still working on architecture (and optimization).
- Overcame technical hurdles, implementing everything in JAX.
  - Network can be modified without manual intervention.
  - How does it compare to dedicated libraries?
  - What are the training times of other methods?
- Many things to explore for network architectures.  
(e.g.: should be a strict superset of Lüscher's flow, could init there)