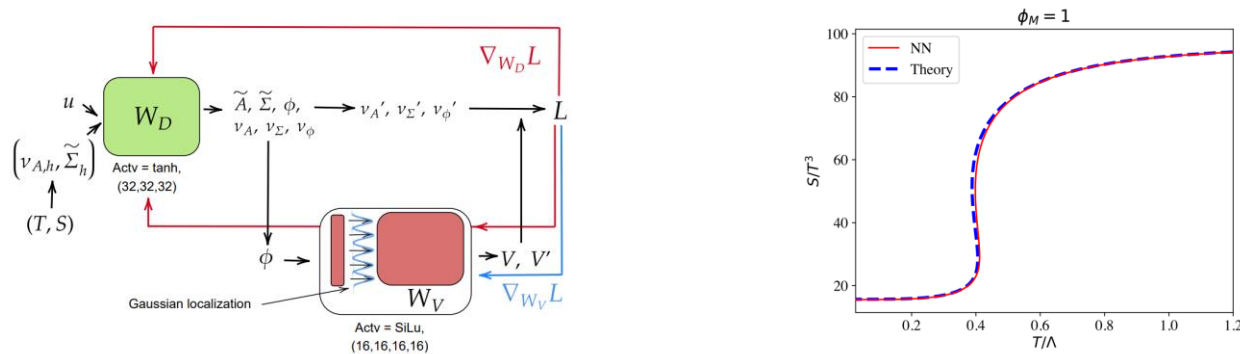


# Solving an inverse problem using neural networks

## Yago Bea

University of Barcelona



Based on: 2403.14763

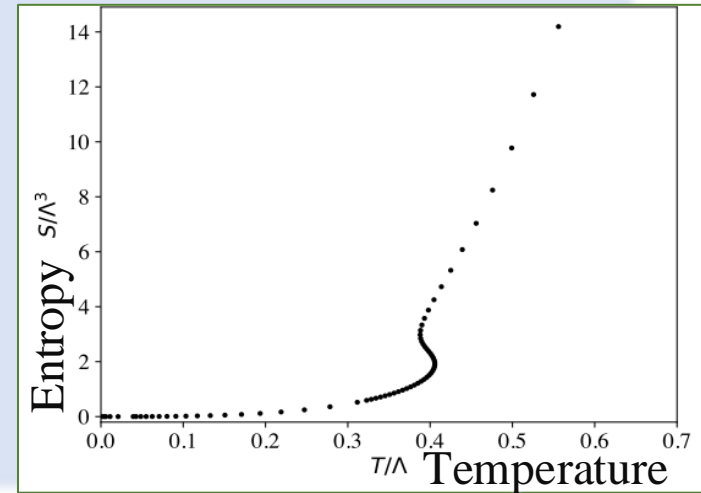
With Raul Jiménez, David Mateos, Shuheng Liu,  
Pavlos Protopapas, Pedro Tarancón and Pablo Tejerina

# Main idea

Einstein eqs.

$$S = \frac{2}{\kappa_5^2} \int dx^5 \sqrt{-g} \left[ \frac{1}{4} R - \frac{1}{2} (\nabla \phi)^2 - V(\phi) \right]$$

Direct problem



# Main idea

Gravity 4+1

Einstein eqs.

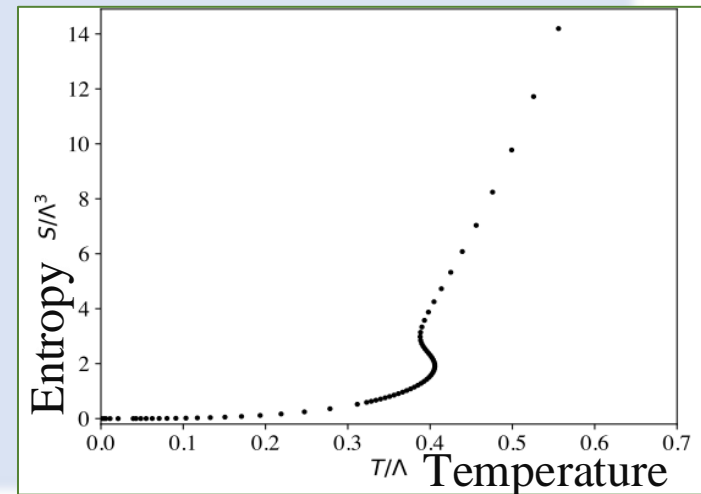
$$S = \frac{2}{\kappa_5^2} \int dx^5 \sqrt{-g} \left[ \frac{1}{4} R - \frac{1}{2} (\nabla\phi)^2 - V(\phi) \right]$$

**Holography**

Direct problem

QFT 3+1

Equation of state



# Main idea

Gravity 4+1

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$$S = \frac{2}{\kappa_5^2} \int dx^5 \sqrt{-g} \left[ \frac{1}{4} R - \frac{1}{2} (\nabla\phi)^2 - V(\phi) \right]$$

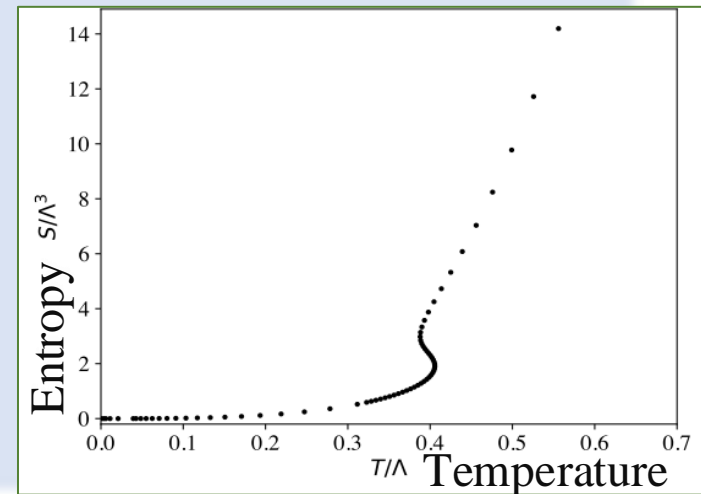
**Holography**

Direct problem

Inverse problem

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# Main idea

Gravity 4+1

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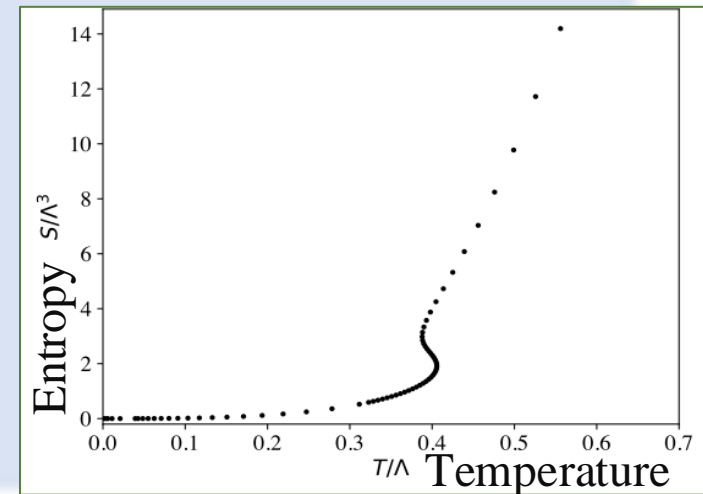
**Holography**

QFT 3+1

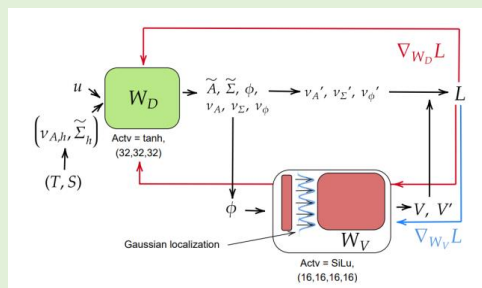
Equation of state

Direct problem

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$$S = \frac{2}{\kappa_5^2} \int dx^5 \sqrt{-g} \left[ \frac{1}{4} R - \frac{1}{2} (\nabla\phi)^2 - V(\phi) \right]$$



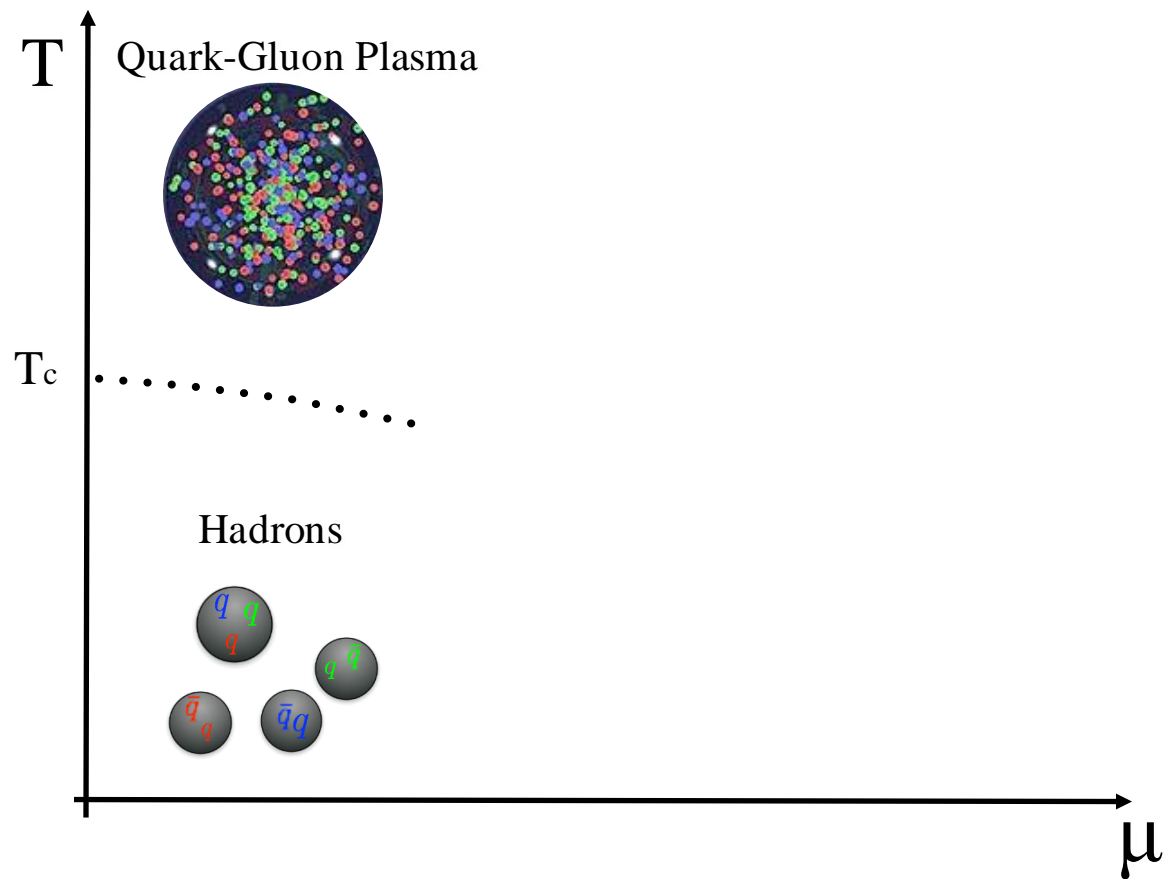
**Neural Networks**

→ We use NN to solve a problem not addressed before

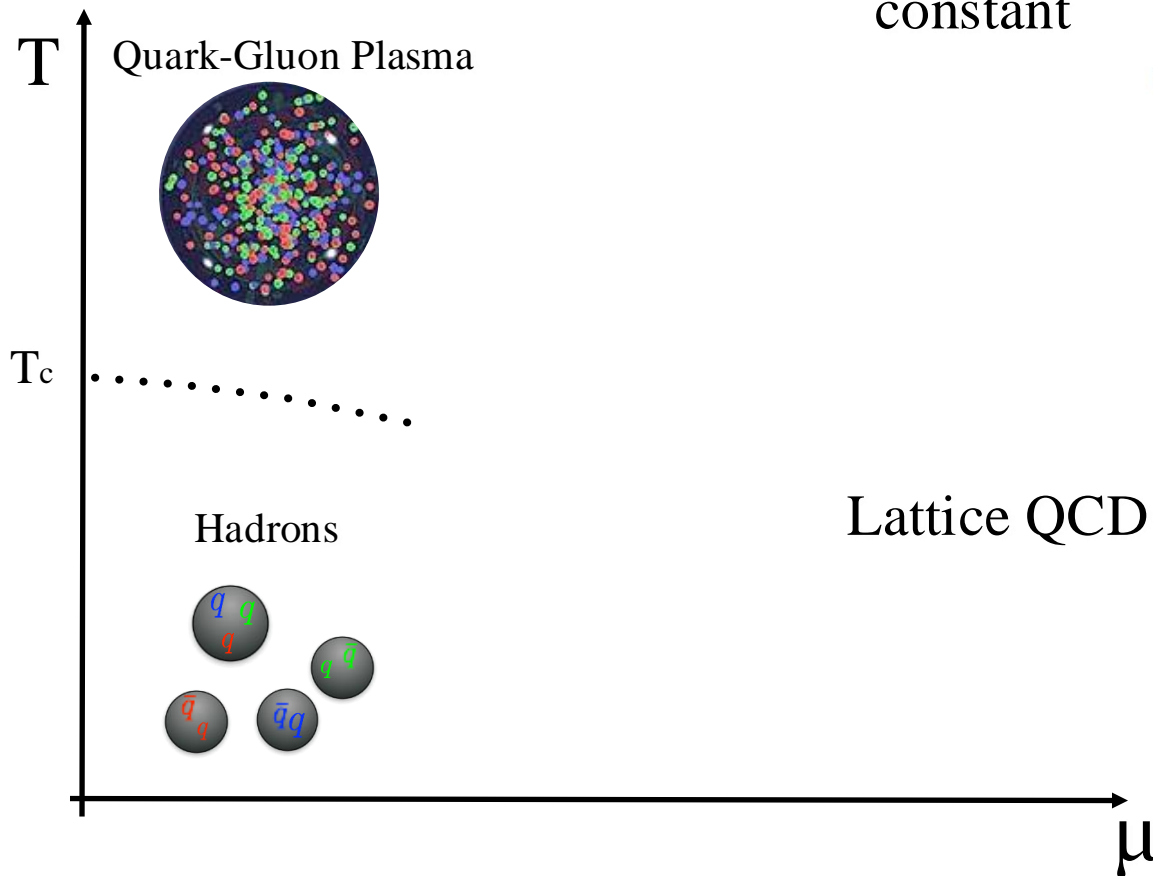
# Holography: motivation

# QCD & Holography

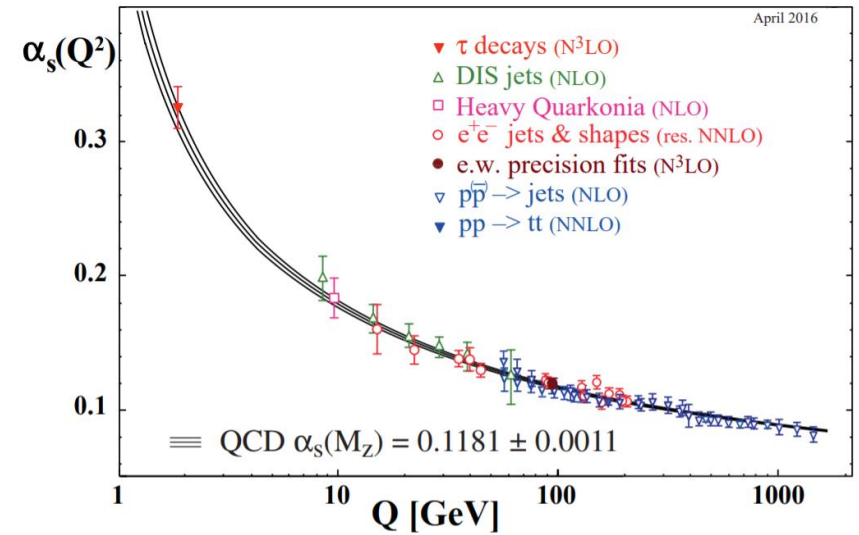
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# QCD & Holography



QCD  
coupling  
constant



Lattice QCD



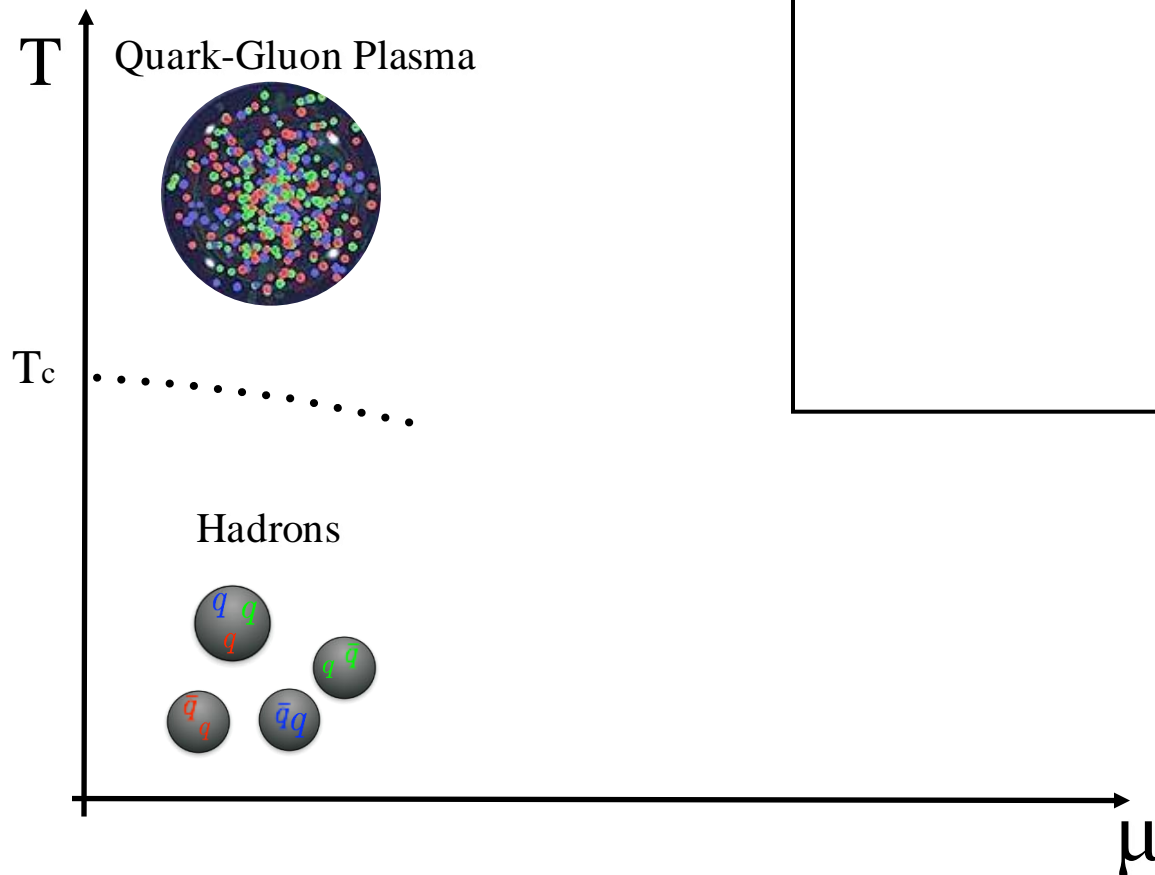


# QCD & Holography

---

## Holography

- Strongly coupled QFT
- Out of equilibrium physics



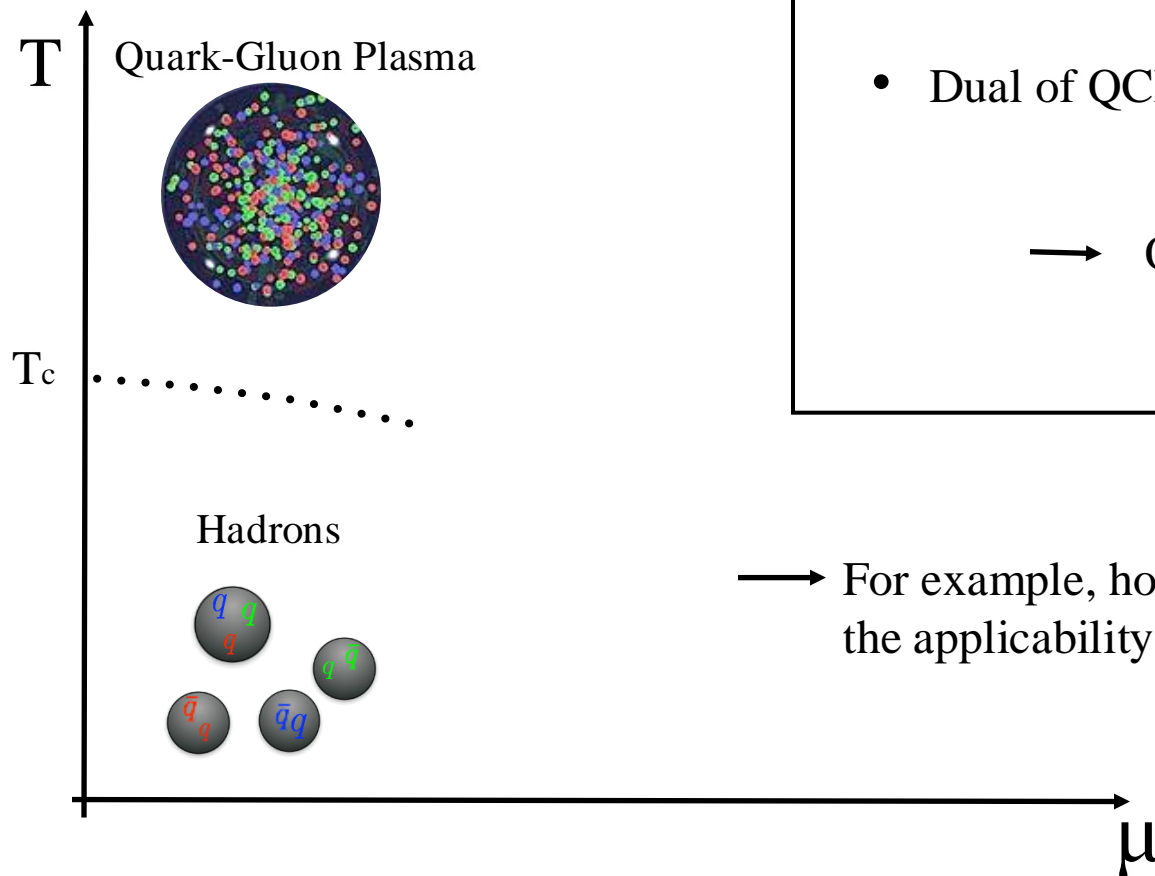
# QCD & Holography

---

## Holography

- Strongly coupled QFT
- Out of equilibrium physics
- Dual of QCD not known...

→ Qualitative insights



→ For example, holography as a laboratory to study the applicability of hydrodynamics.

# Holography: Our model

---

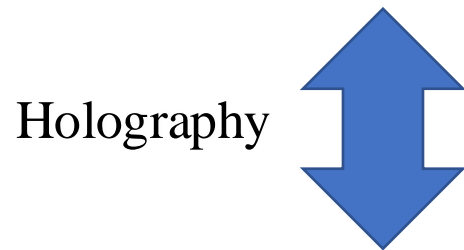
- Gravity in 4+1 dim :

$$S \sim \int d^{3+1}x \sqrt{-g} (R - 2\Lambda)$$

# Holography: Our model

---

- CFT on Minkowski in 3+1 dim
- Decoupled sector of the stress tensor  $T^{\mu\nu}$



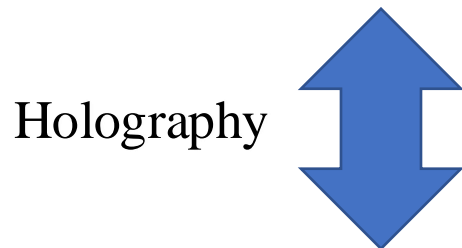
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# Holography: Our model

---

- QFT on Minkowski in 3+1 dim
- Decoupled sector of the stress tensor  $T^{\mu\nu}$  and  $\mathcal{O}$



We want to make contact with phenomenology so we proceed to break conformality:

→ We introduce a scalar field

- Gravity in 4+1 dim :

$$S \sim \int d^{3+1}x \sqrt{-g} \left( R - \frac{1}{2} (\partial\phi)^2 - V(\phi) \right)$$

# Holography: Our model

---

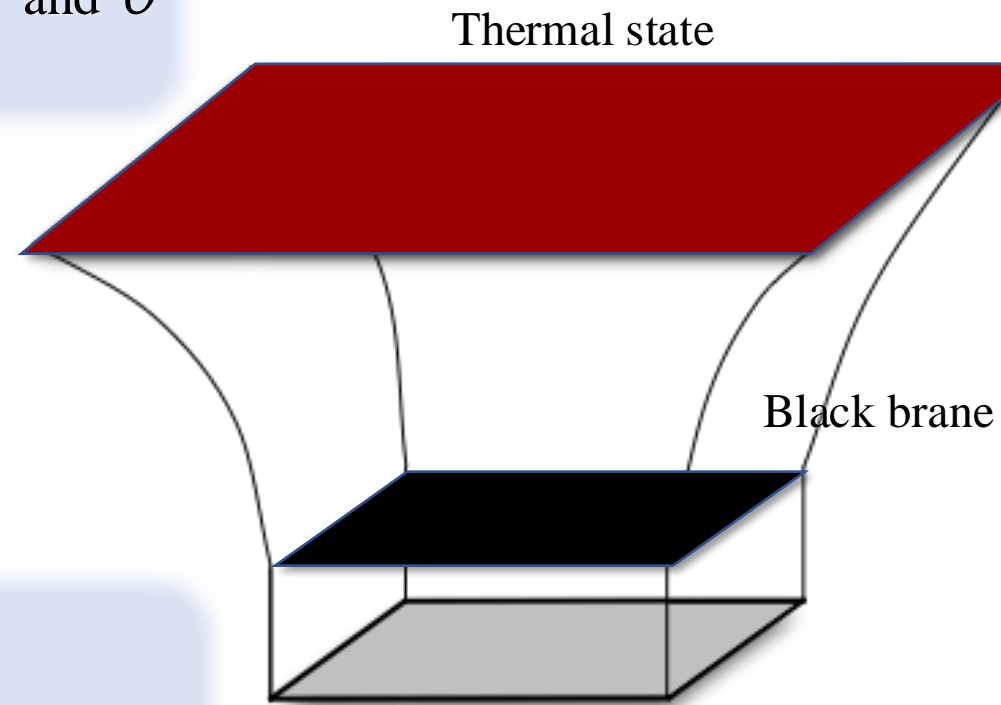
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Holography



- Gravity in 4+1 dim :

$$S \sim \int d^{3+1}x \sqrt{-g} \left( R - \frac{1}{2} (\partial\phi)^2 - V(\phi) \right)$$



# Holography: Our model

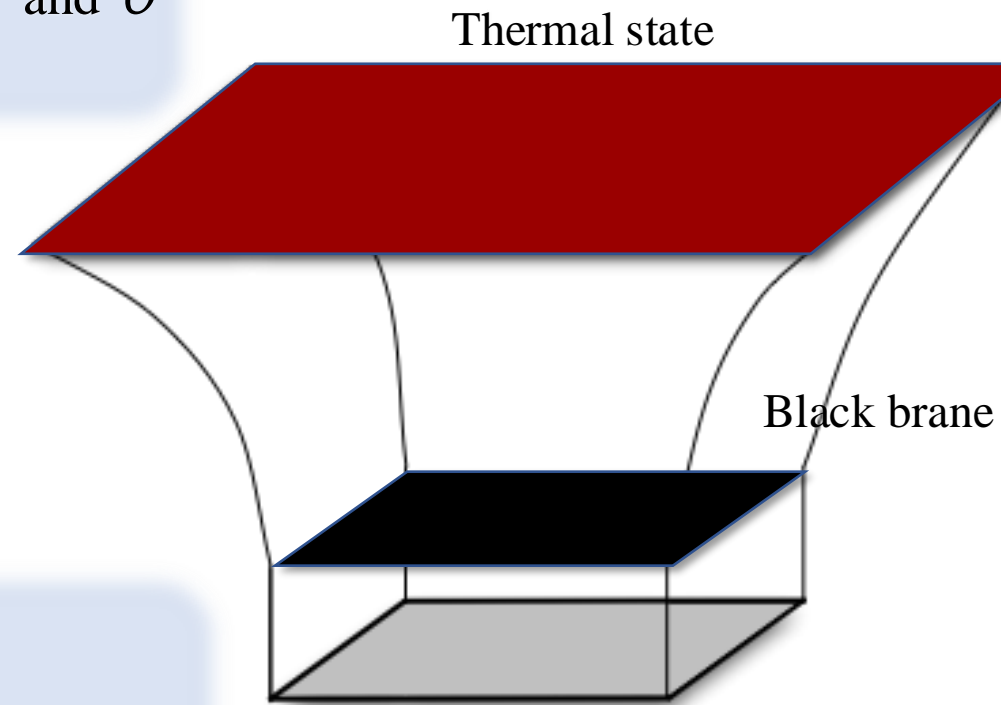
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Holography



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Bekenstein-Hawking entropy  $S$   
Hawking temperature  $T$

# Holography: Our model

- QFT on Minkowski in 3+1 dim
- Decoupled sector of the stress tensor  $T^{\mu\nu}$  and  $\mathcal{O}$

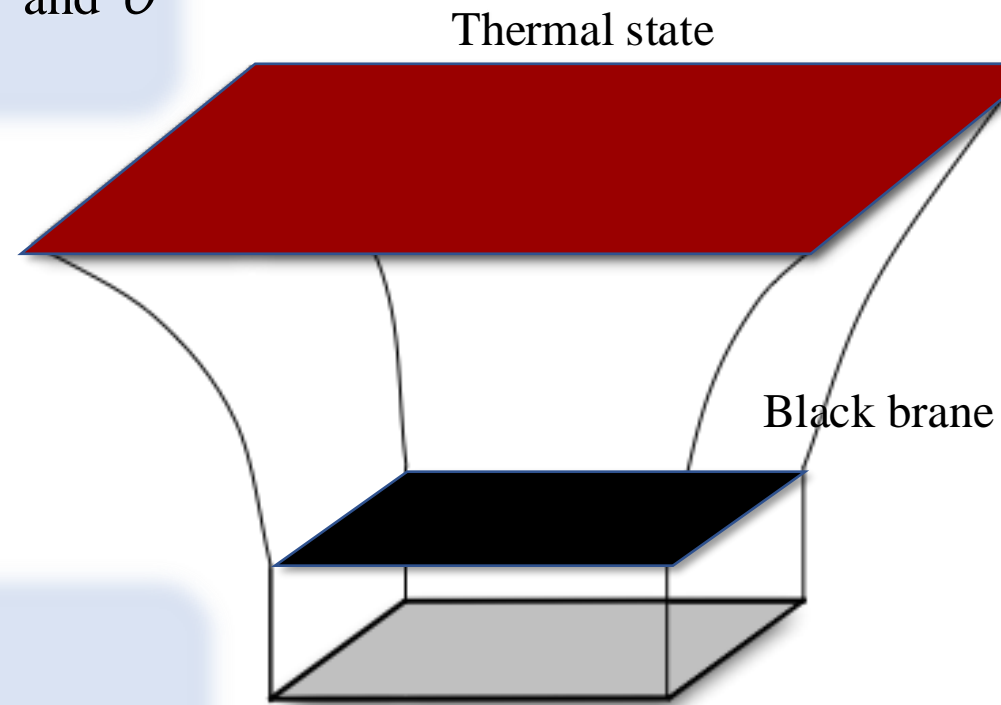
Holography



- Gravity in 4+1 dim :

$$S \sim \int d^{3+1}x \sqrt{-g} \left( R - \frac{1}{2} (\partial\phi)^2 - V(\phi) \right)$$

By constructing all black branes, we reconstruct the equation of state  $S(T)$



Bekenstein-Hawking entropy  $S$   
Hawking temperature  $T$



# Holography: Our model

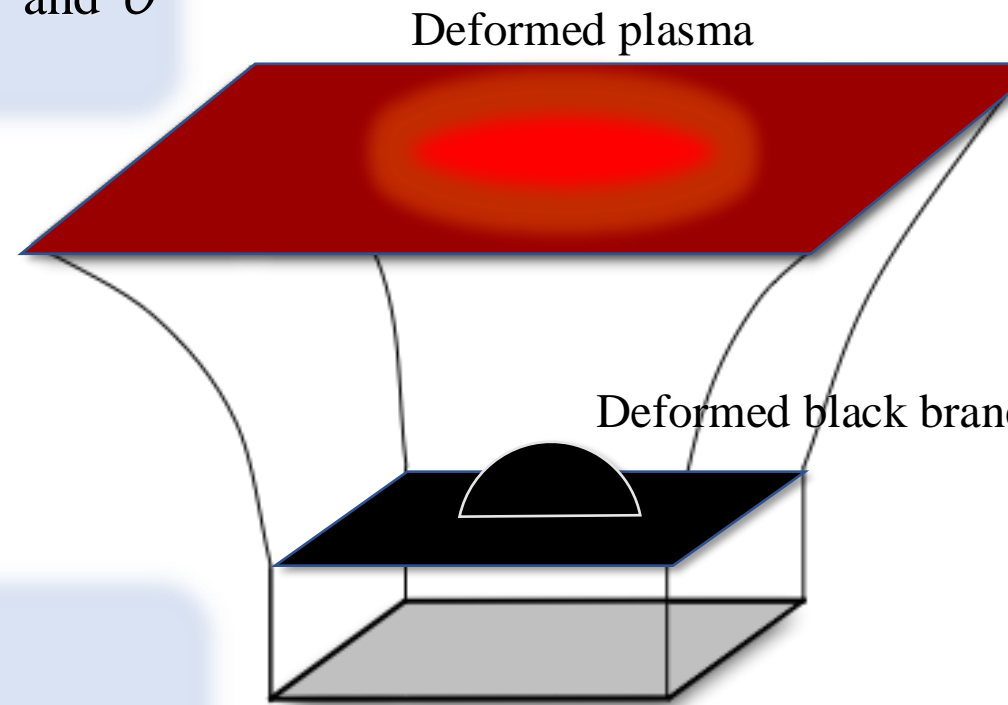
- QFT on Minkowski in 3+1 dim
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Holography



- Gravity in 4+1 dim :

$$S \sim \int d^{3+1}x \sqrt{-g} \left( R - \frac{1}{2} (\partial\phi)^2 - V(\phi) \right)$$



# Holography: Our model

- QFT on Minkowski in 3+1 dim
- Decoupled sector of the stress tensor  $T^{\mu\nu}$  and  $\mathcal{O}$

Real-time quantum dynamics

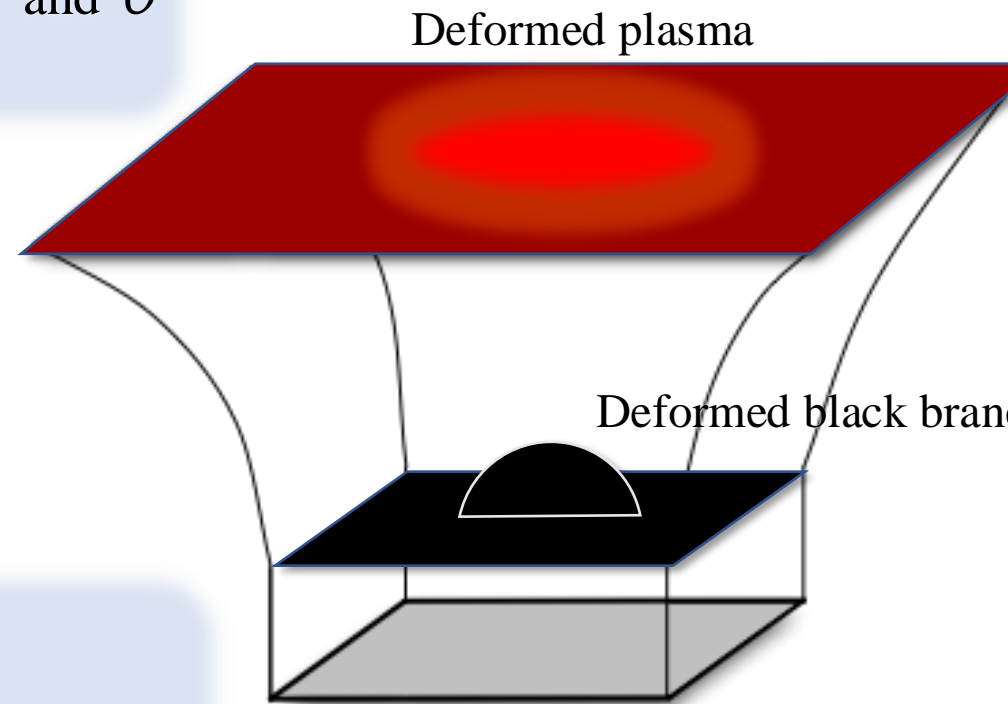
Numerical  
Relativity

Holography

Dynamical classical gravity

- Gravity in 4+1 dim :

$$S \sim \int d^{3+1}x \sqrt{-g} \left( R - \frac{1}{2} (\partial\phi)^2 - V(\phi) \right)$$



# Holography: Our model

---

- QFT on Minkowski in 3+1 dim
- Decoupling

- We have explored the real time dynamics in different context by using holography
- Applications in QGP, phase transitions, cosmology

Numerical  
Relativity



- Gravity

$S \sim$

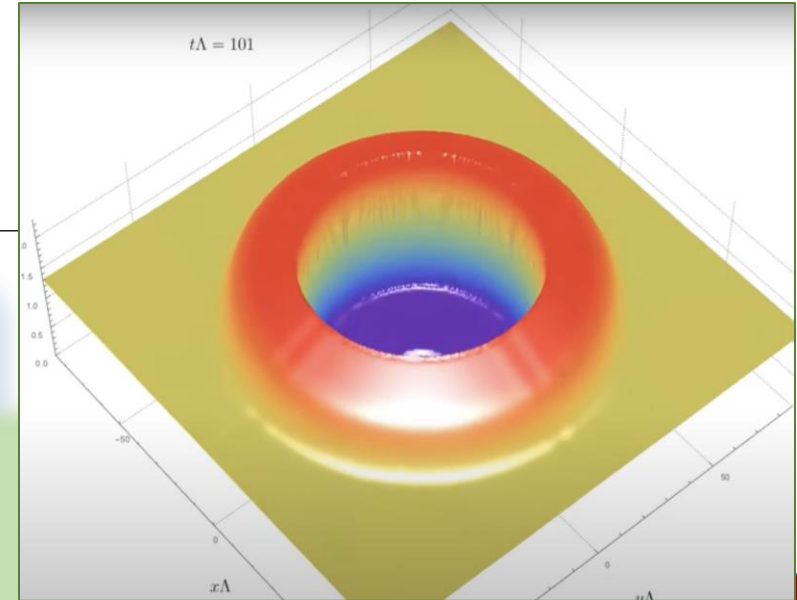
asma

formed black bran



# Holography: Our model

- QFT on Minkowski in 3+1 dim
- Decoupl



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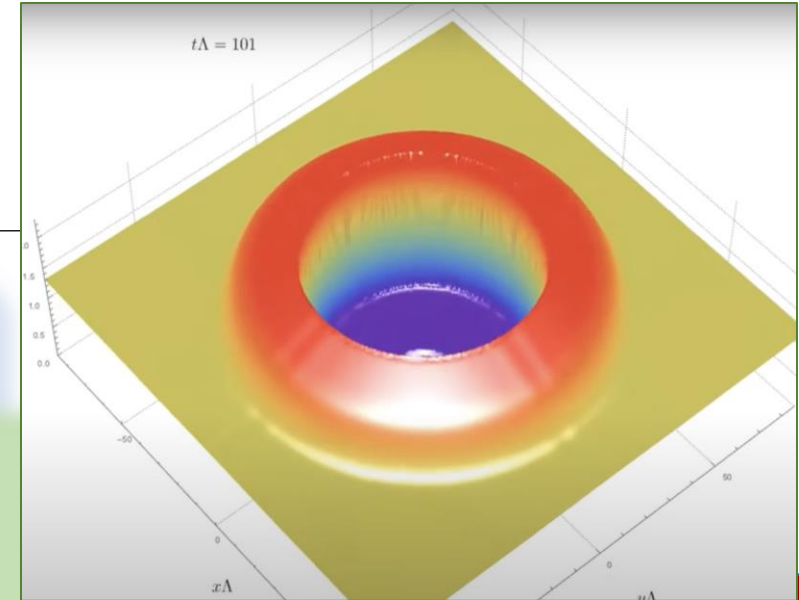
Numerical  
Relativity

- Gravity
- $S$

formed black bran

# Holography: Our model

- QFT on Minkowski in 3+1 dim
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- We would like to perform evolutions in a holographic theory with a given eq. of state

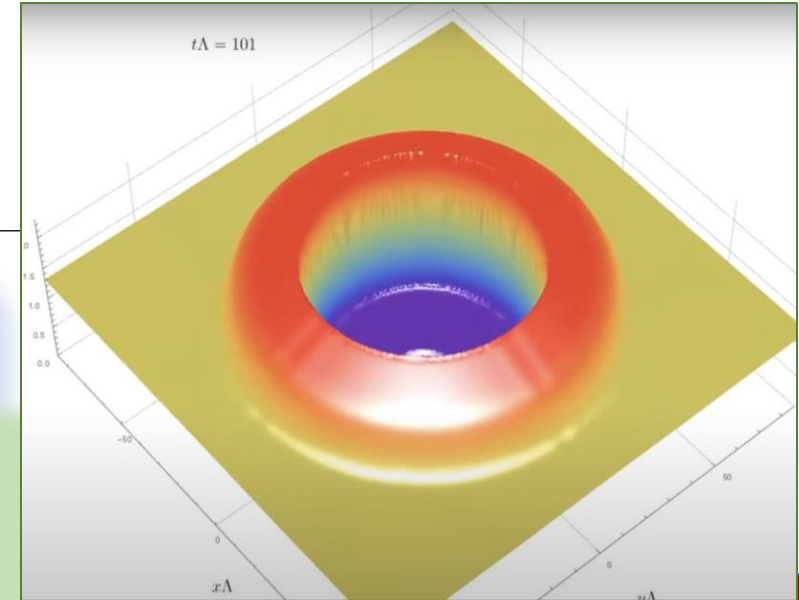
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$S$

formed black bran

# Holography: Our model

- QFT on Minkowski in 3+1 dim
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- We have explored the real time dynamics in different context by using holography
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Numerical  
Relativity

- Gravity

S

- We would like to perform evolutions in a holographic theory with a given eq. of state
- This is why we want to find the potential that gives rise to a given eq. of state → inverse problem

formed black bran

# Holography: A simple model

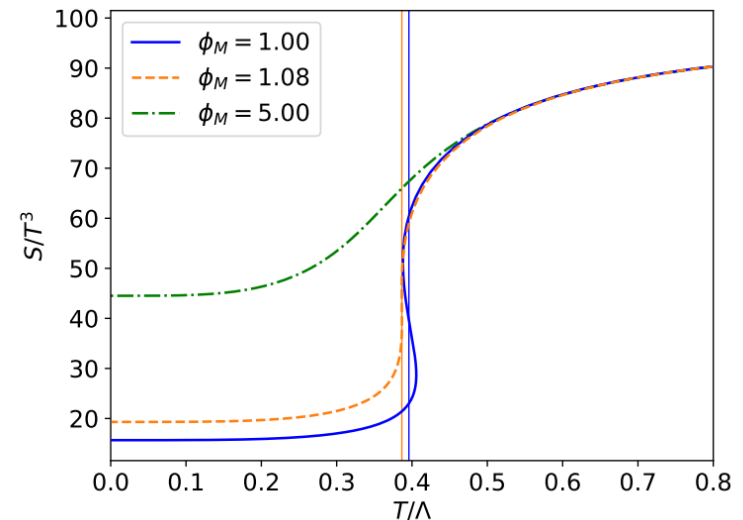
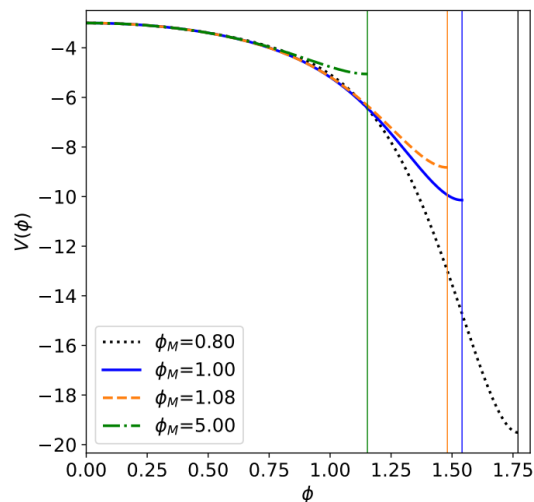
$$S = \frac{2}{\kappa_5^2} \int dx^5 \sqrt{-g} \left[ \frac{1}{4} R - \frac{1}{2} (\nabla\phi)^2 - V(\phi) \right]$$

$$V_{\text{theory}}(\phi) = -\frac{4}{3} \mathcal{W}(\phi)^2 + \frac{1}{2} \mathcal{W}'(\phi)^2,$$

$$\mathcal{W}(\phi) = -\frac{3}{2} - \frac{\phi^2}{2} - \frac{\phi^4}{4\phi_M^2} + \frac{\phi^6}{10}.$$

Bea, Mateos '18

- Simple, smooth at IR, captures first order/2nd order/crossover
- RG flow from CFT at the UV to a CFT at the IR



# Holography: A simple model

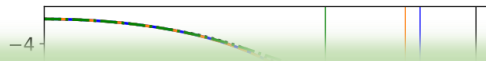
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Bea, Mateos '18

- Simple, smooth at IR, captures first order/2nd order/crossover
- RG flow from CFT at the UV to a CFT at the IR



- This model has been used in several contexts in holography:  
→ cosmology, dynamics of phase transitions...

Casalderrey-Solana, Mateos, Serantes '23

Ares, Henriksson, Hindmarsh, Hoyos, Jokela '21

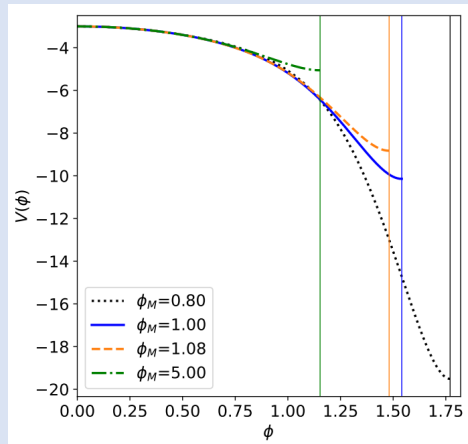
Bea, Casalderrey-Solana, Gianakopoulos, Mateos, Sanchez-Garitaonandia, Zilhao '21



# The inverse problem

Einstein eqs.

$$S = \frac{2}{\kappa_5^2} \int dx^5 \sqrt{-g} \left[ \frac{1}{4} R - \frac{1}{2} (\nabla\phi)^2 - V(\phi) \right]$$



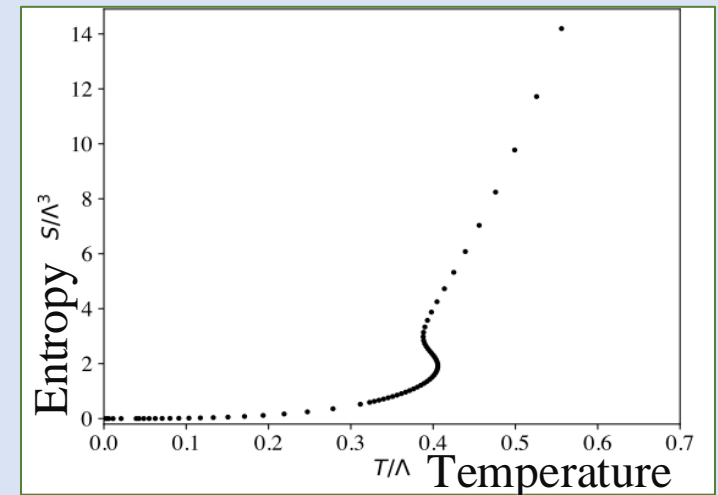
Direct problem



Inverse problem



Equation of State



→ We address the inverse problem by using **Neural Networks**

# Neural Networks

# Neural Networks

---

I will present neural networks from the perspective of our problem

# Neural Networks

---

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We use **Physics Informed Neural Networks**, **PINNs**

# Neural Networks

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I will present neural networks from the perspective of our problem

We use **Physics Informed Neural Networks**, **PINNs**

- The Neural Network is informed by the physical equations
- In our case, Einstein's equations

# Neural Networks

---

I will present neural networks from the perspective of our problem

We use **Physics Informed Neural Networks**, **PINNs**

- The Neural Network is informed by the physical equations
- In our case, Einstein's equations

Other uses: training on known solutions (“supervised training”; “recognizing faces”)  
...but not in our work

# Neural Networks

---

For our purposes, we can understand a NN as a **function**:



# Neural Networks

---

For our purposes, we can understand a NN as a **function**:



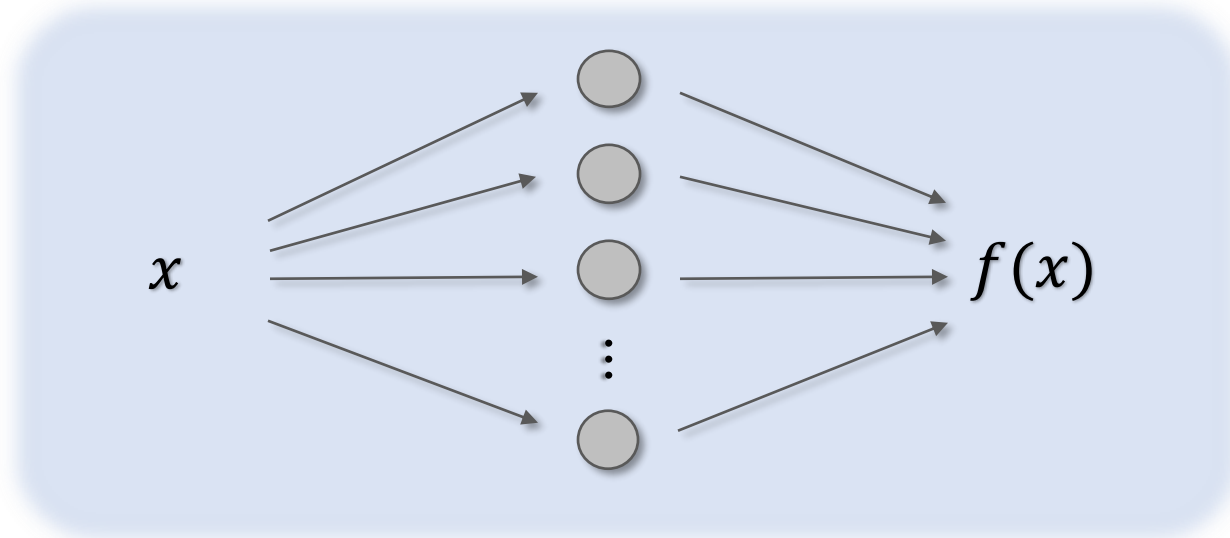
- $\text{Cos}(x)$
- $\text{Exp}(x)$
- A solution to our equations



# Neural Networks

---

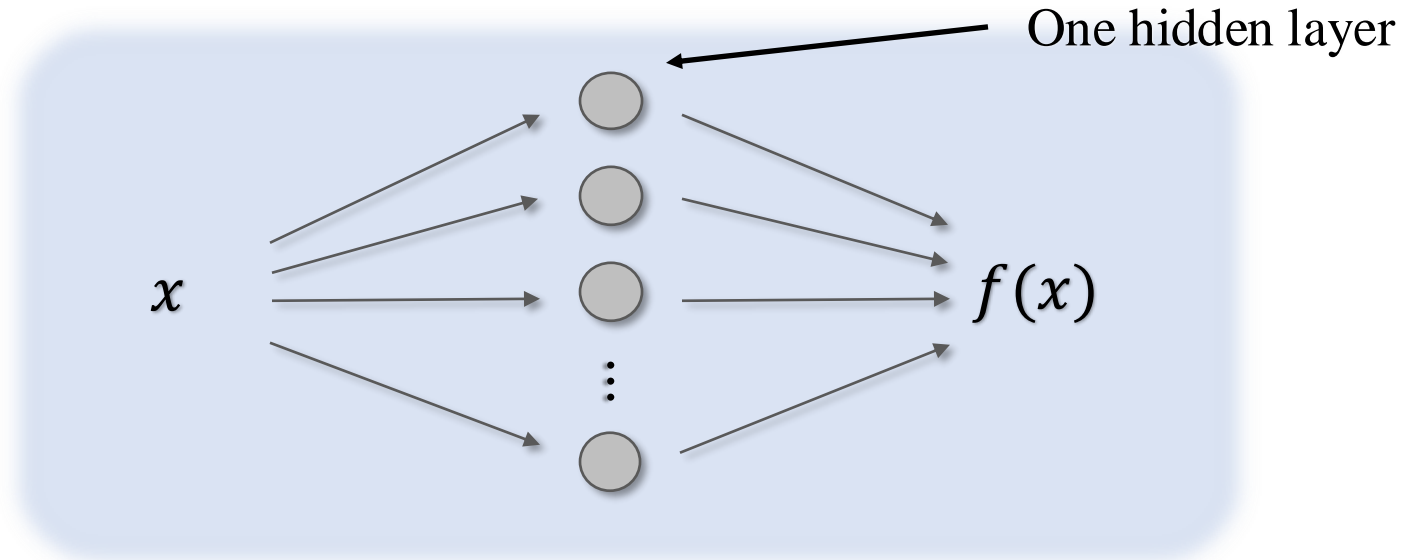
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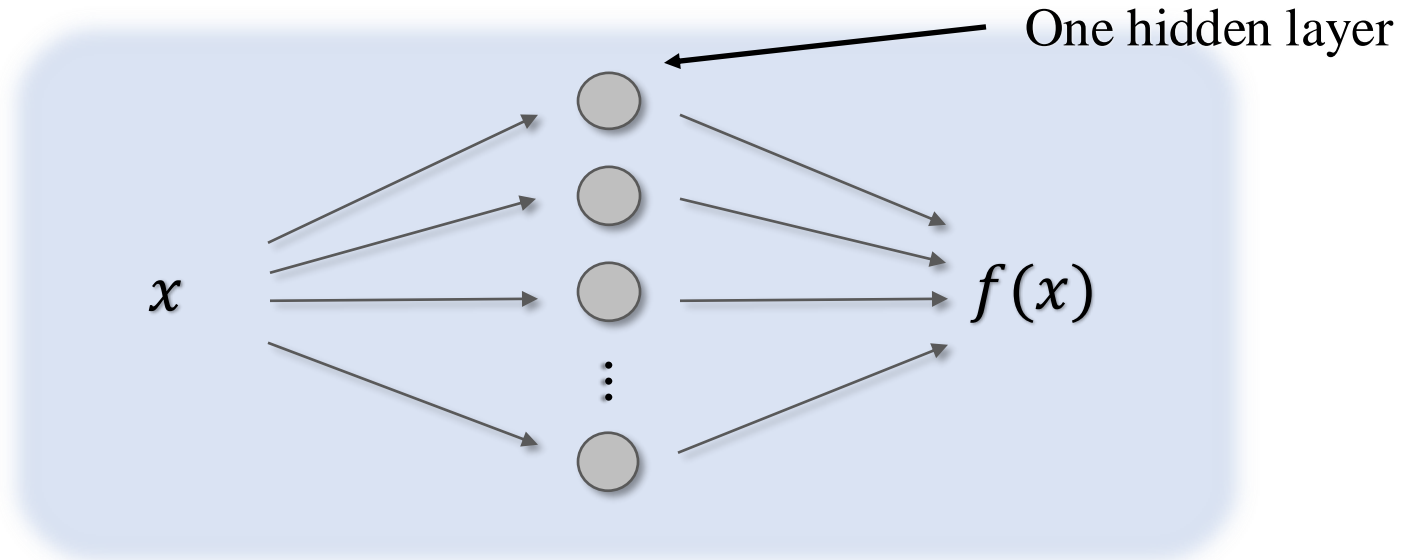
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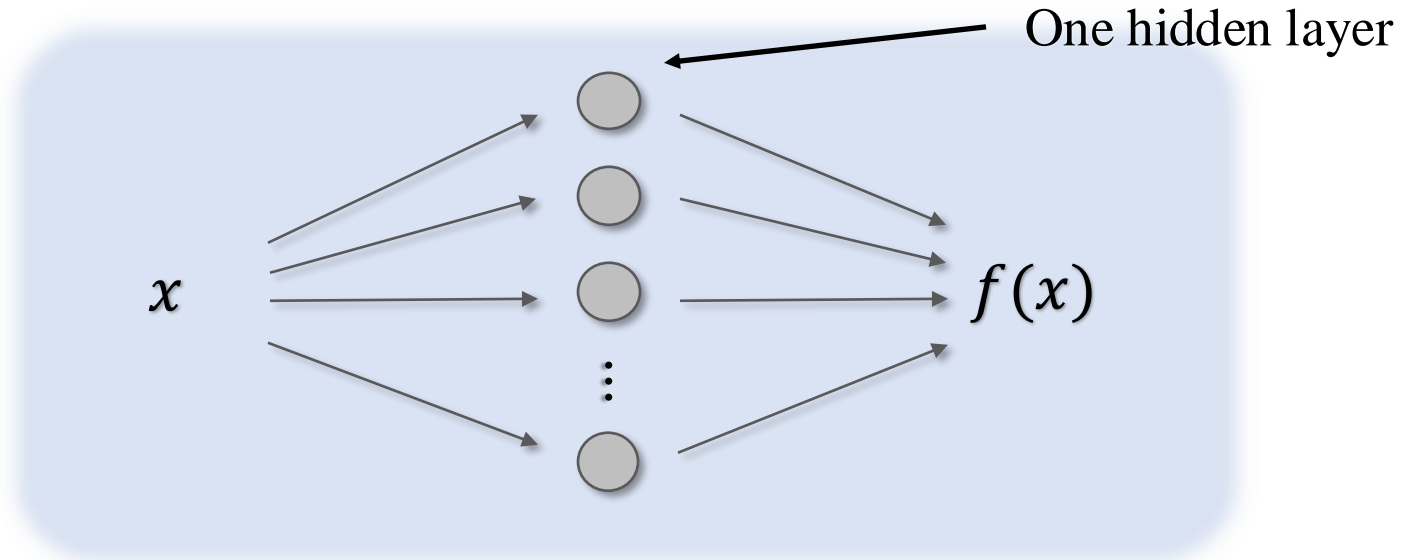



In each neuron   $x_i$

# Neural Networks

---

For our purposes, we can understand a NN as a **function**:



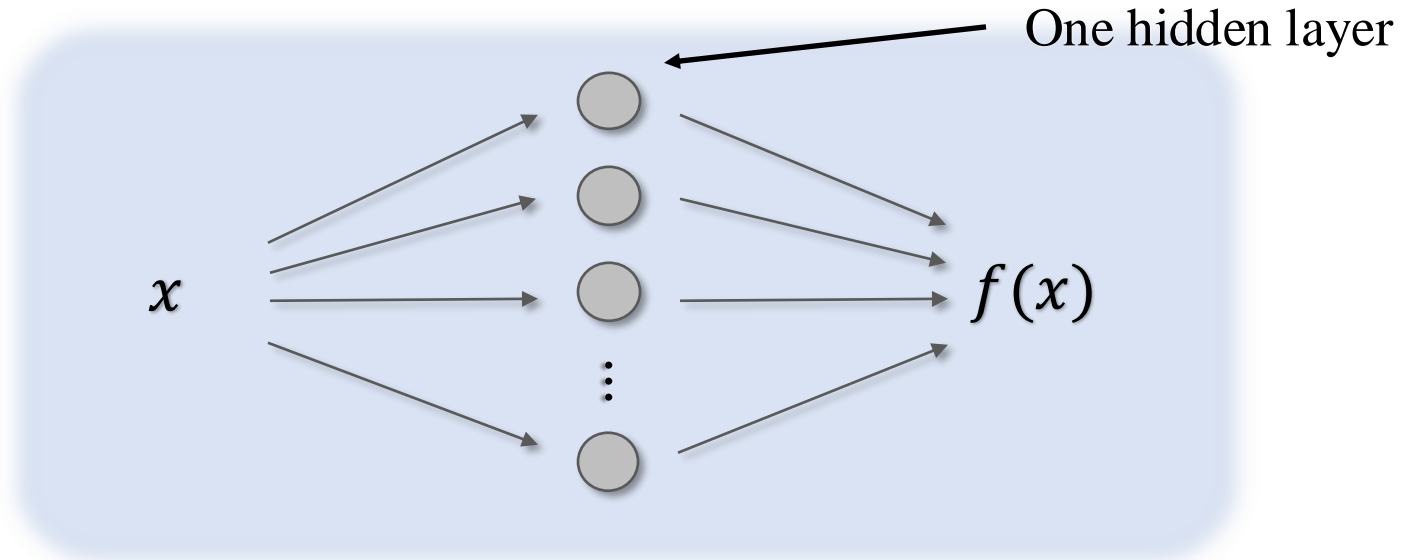
In each neuron   $W_{ij}x_i$

Linear transformation (weights)

# Neural Networks

---

For our purposes, we can understand a NN as a **function**:



In each neuron 

$$W_{ij}x_i + b_j$$

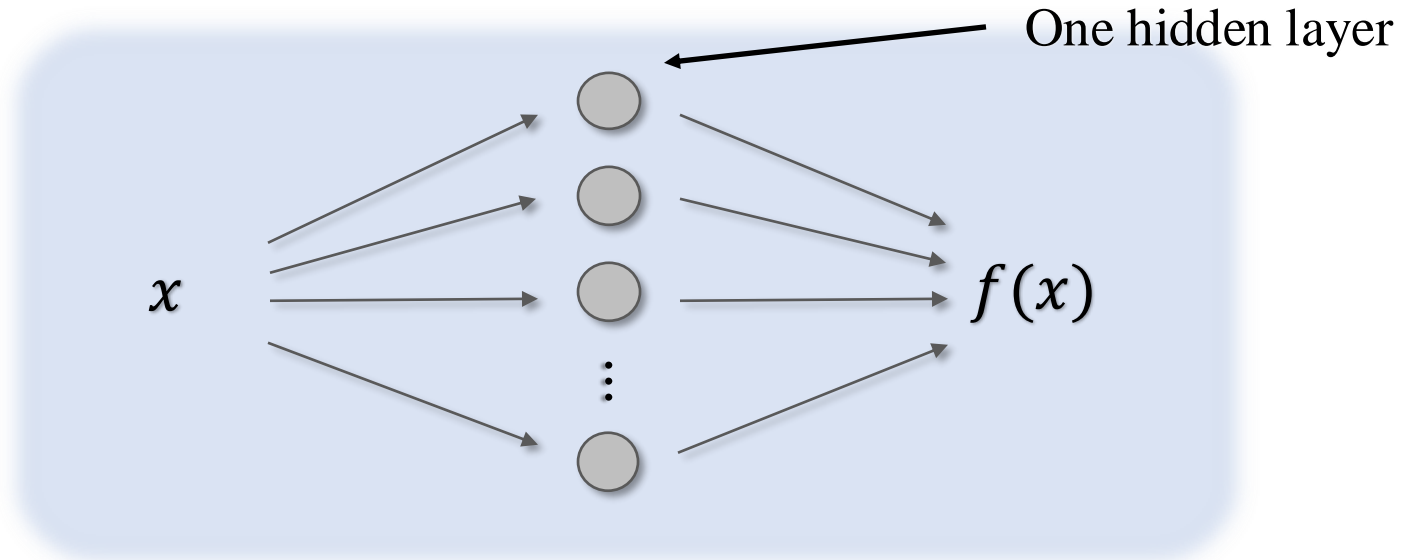
Linear transformation (weights)


Shift (biases)

# Neural Networks

---

For our purposes, we can understand a NN as a **function**:



In each neuron   $Tanh(W_{ij}x_i + b_j)$

Activation function  $\nearrow$

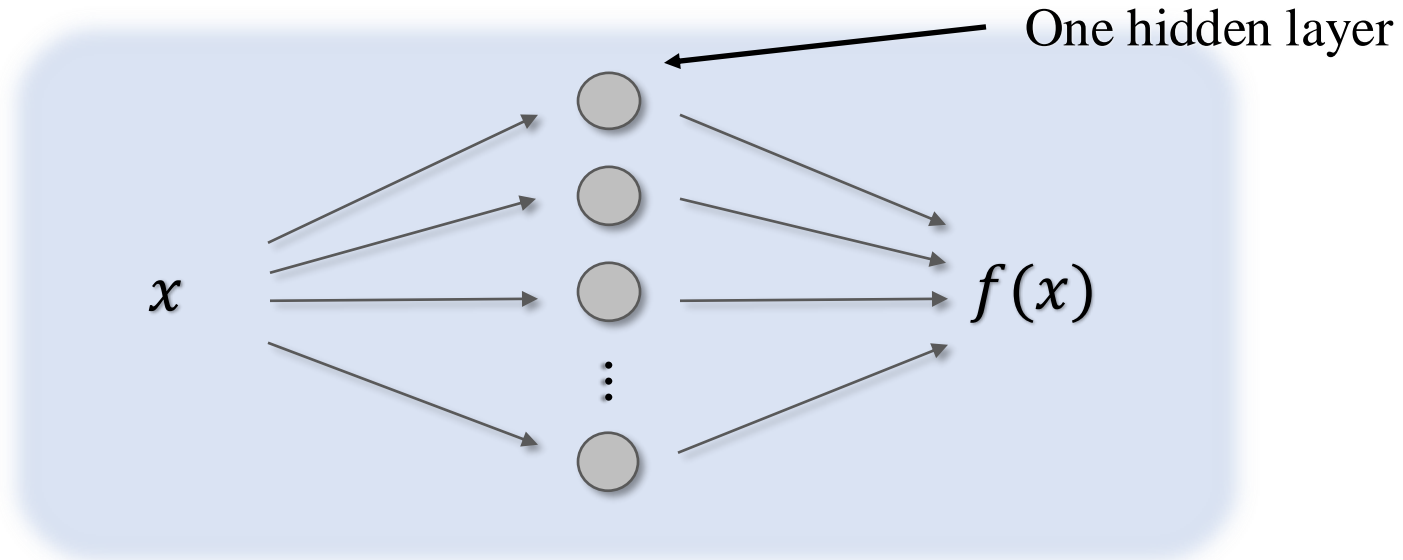
Linear transformation (weights)  $\nearrow$


Shift (biases)  $\nearrow$

# Neural Networks

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In each neuron   $Tanh(W_{ij}x_i + b_j)$

Activation function  $\nearrow$

Linear transformation (weights)  $\nearrow$

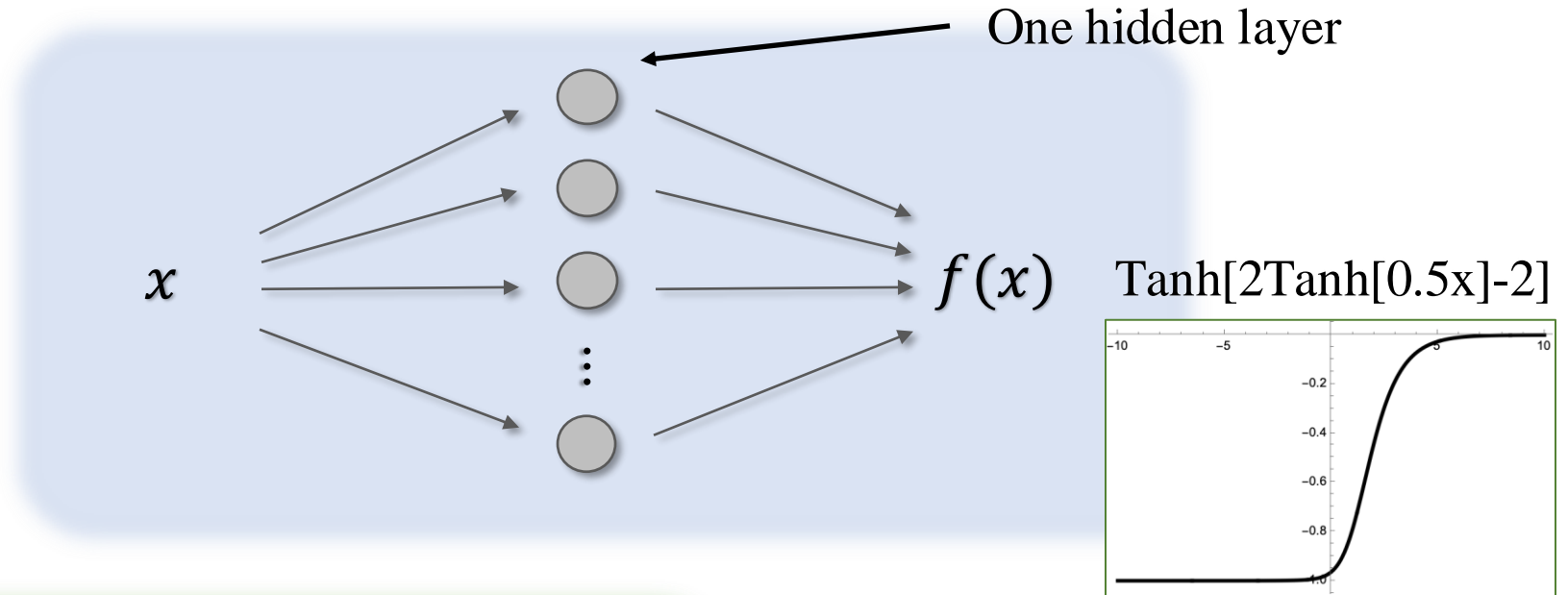
Shift (biases)  $\nearrow$




Internally is **analytical**  
Just a combination of tanh's...

# Neural Networks

For our purposes, we can understand a NN as a **function**:



In each neuron   $\text{Tanh}(W_{ij}x_i + b_j)$

Activation function

Linear transformation (weights)

Shift (biases)

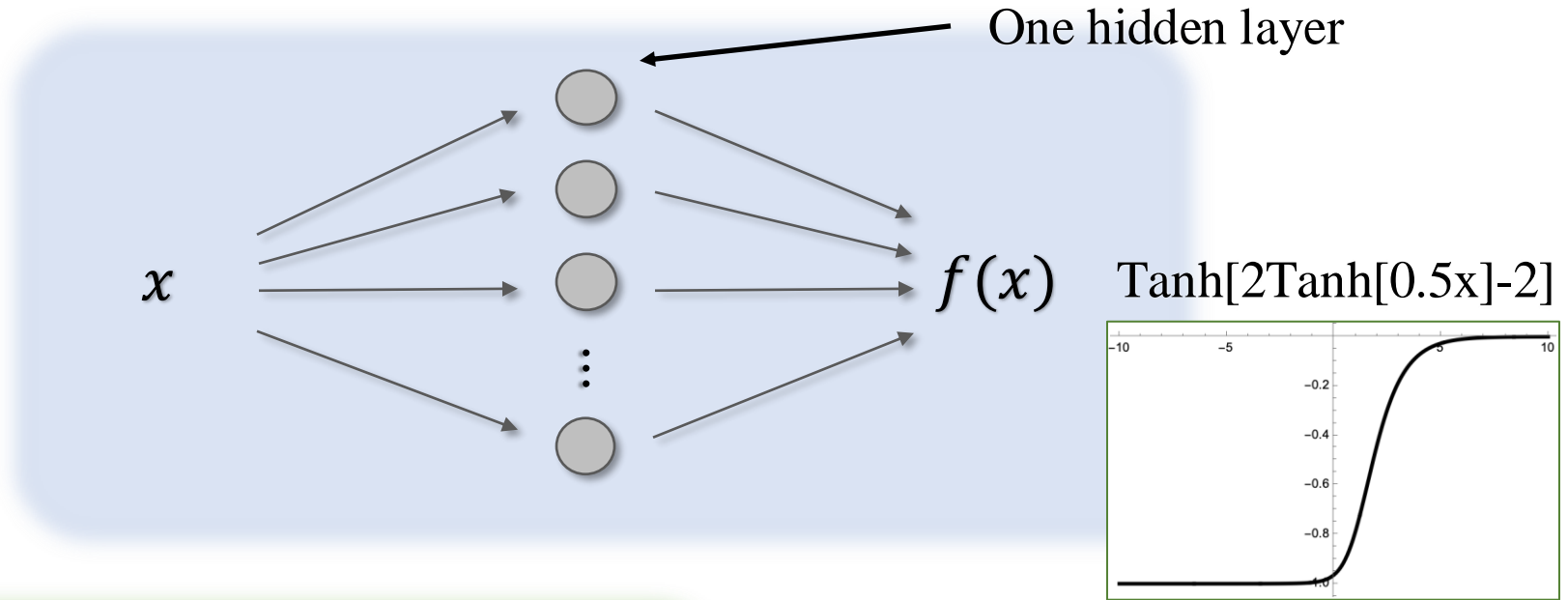
The text explains the components of a neuron's activation function. It shows the formula  $\text{Tanh}(W_{ij}x_i + b_j)$  with arrows pointing to each part: 'Activation function' points to 'Tanh', 'Linear transformation (weights)' points to  $W_{ij}x_i$ , and 'Shift (biases)' points to  $b_j$ . A green arrow points from this text to the right.


Internally is **analytical**  
Just a combination of tanh's...



# Neural Networks

For our purposes, we can understand a NN as a **function**:



In each neuron   $\text{Tanh}(W_{ij}x_i + b_j)$

Activation function

Linear transformation (weights)

Shift (biases)

The text is enclosed in a light green rounded rectangle. It describes the internal operation of a neuron. A gray circle represents the neuron. The equation  $\text{Tanh}(W_{ij}x_i + b_j)$  is shown. Arrows point from the labels to the corresponding parts of the equation: 'Activation function' points to 'Tanh', 'Linear transformation (weights)' points to  $W_{ij}x_i$ , and 'Shift (biases)' points to  $+ b_j$ .



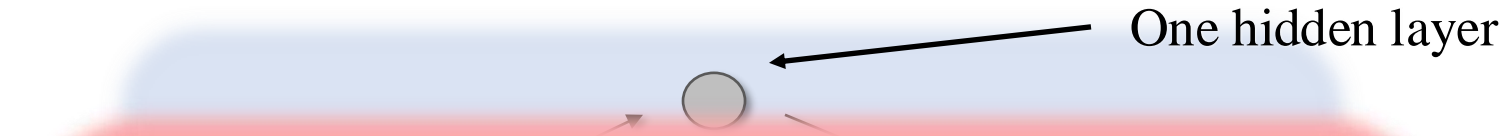
Internally is **analytical**  
Just a combination of tanh's...

Finite but large number of parameters  
(in our case 15.000)

# Neural Networks

---

For our purposes, we can understand a NN as a **function**:



But.....why is this useful?

In each n

Activati

Linear transformation (weights)

Shift (biases)

analytical

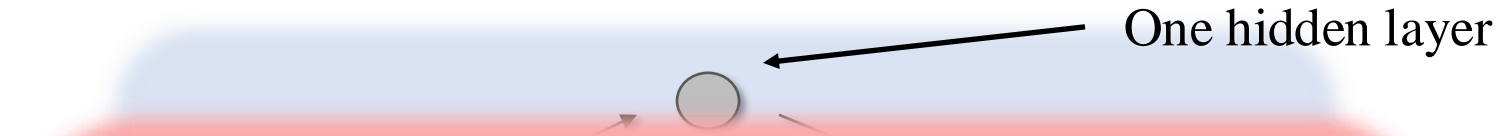
on of tanh's...

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# Neural Networks

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For our purposes, we can understand a NN as a **function**:



But.....why is this useful?

Two main pillars of NN:

In each n

Activati

Linear transformation (weights)

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**analytical**

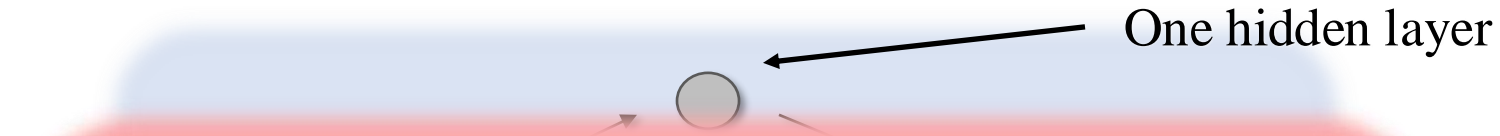
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# Neural Networks

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For our purposes, we can understand a NN as a **function**:



But.....why is this useful?

Two main pillars of NN:

- a NN can approximate any continuous function

In each n

analytical

on of tanh's...

Activati

Linear transformation (weights)

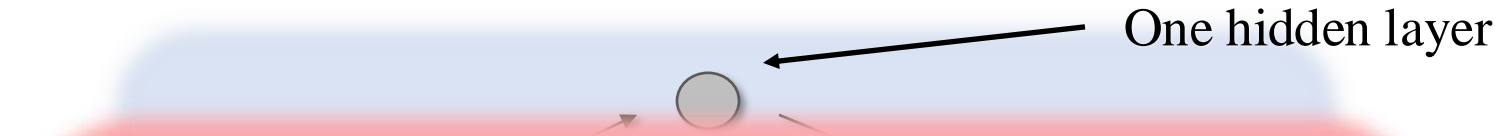
Shift (biases)

Finite but large number of parameters  
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# Neural Networks

---

For our purposes, we can understand a NN as a **function**:



But.....why is this useful?

Two main pillars of NN:

- a NN can approximate any continuous function
- NN can learn

In each n

analytical

on of tanh's...

Activati

Linear transformation (weights)

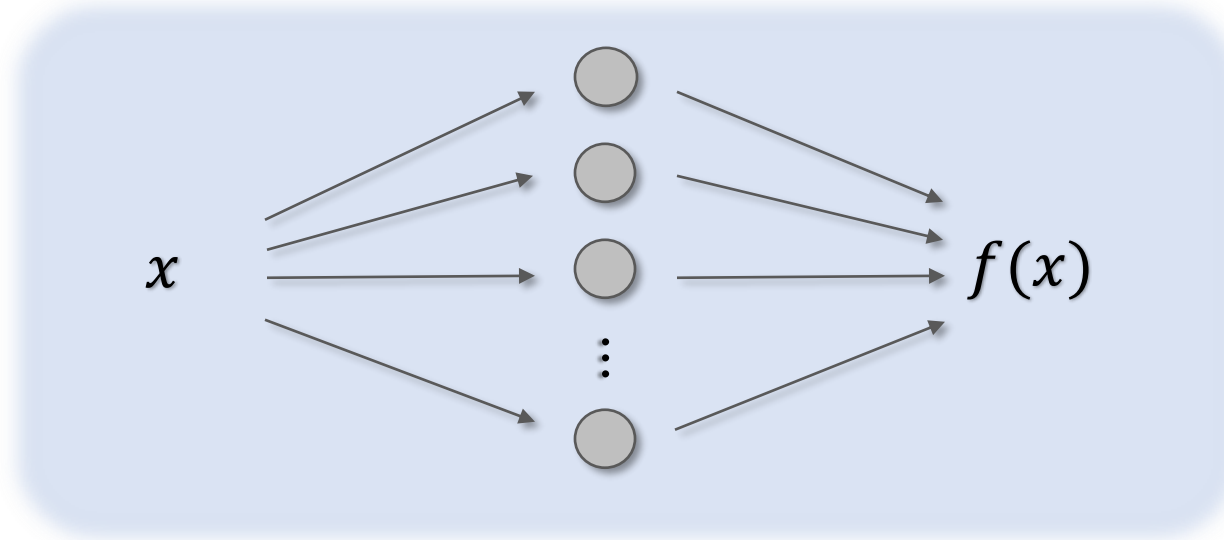
Shift (biases)

Finite but large number of parameters  
(in our case 15.000)

# Universal approximation theorems

---

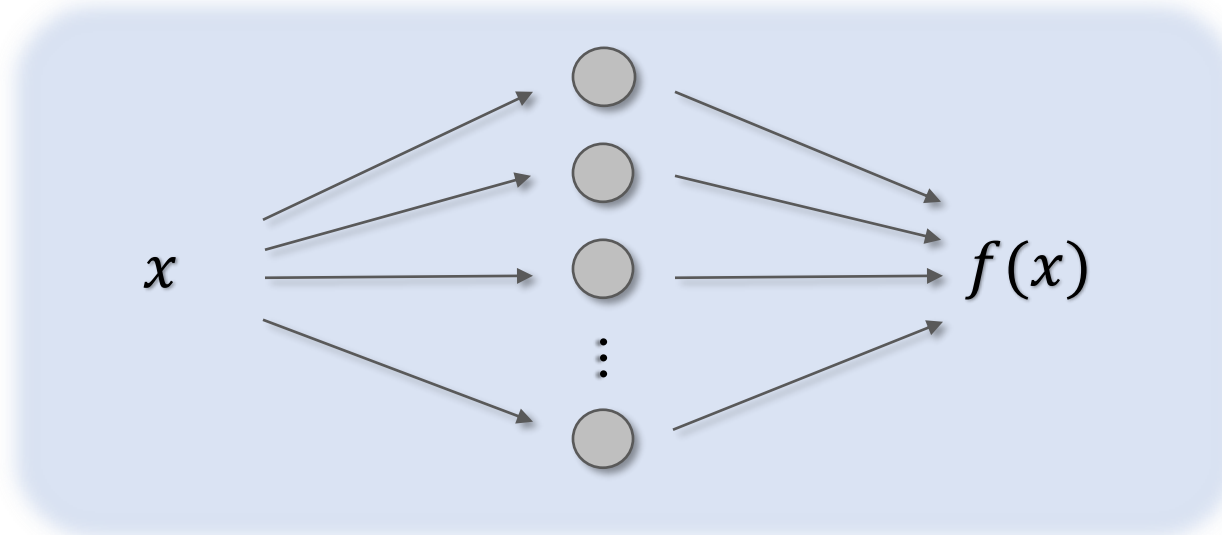
NN are supported on mathematical theorems



# Universal approximation theorems

---

NN are supported on mathematical theorems



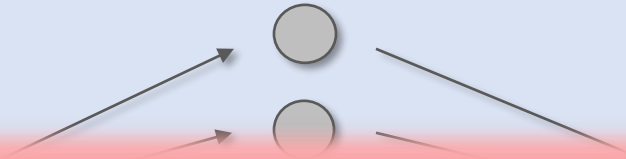
## Universal approximation theorem

“With enough neurons, we can recover a given function to a certain accuracy”

# Universal approximation theorems

---

NN are supported on mathematical theorems



This means, that, in particular, that a NN can represent a solution to our equations

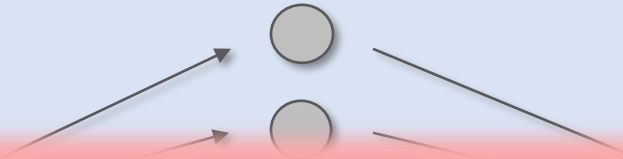
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# Universal approximation theorems

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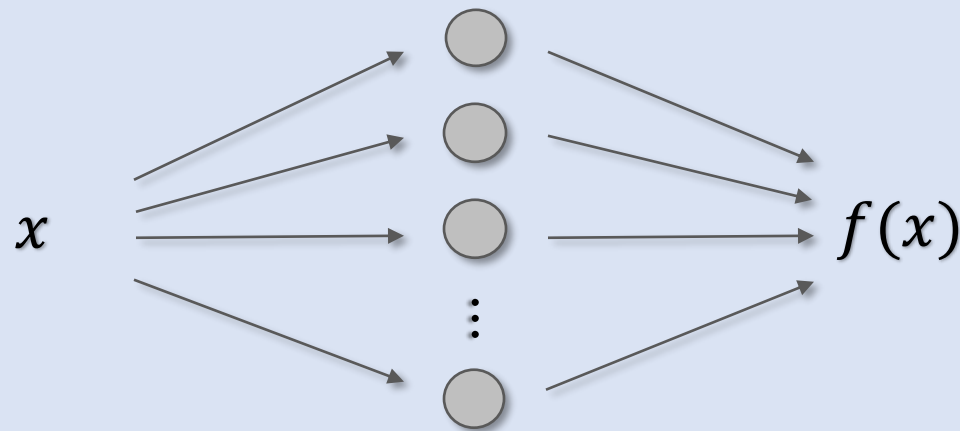
But.... how do we get to that NN?

“With enough neurons, we can recover a given function to a certain accuracy”

# Definition of Loss

---

We now want this NN to be a solution to our equations



Loss function  $L := (\text{residual of Einstein's equations})^2$

We want to minimize the loss function

This is our definition of PINNs

# Neural Networks: learning process

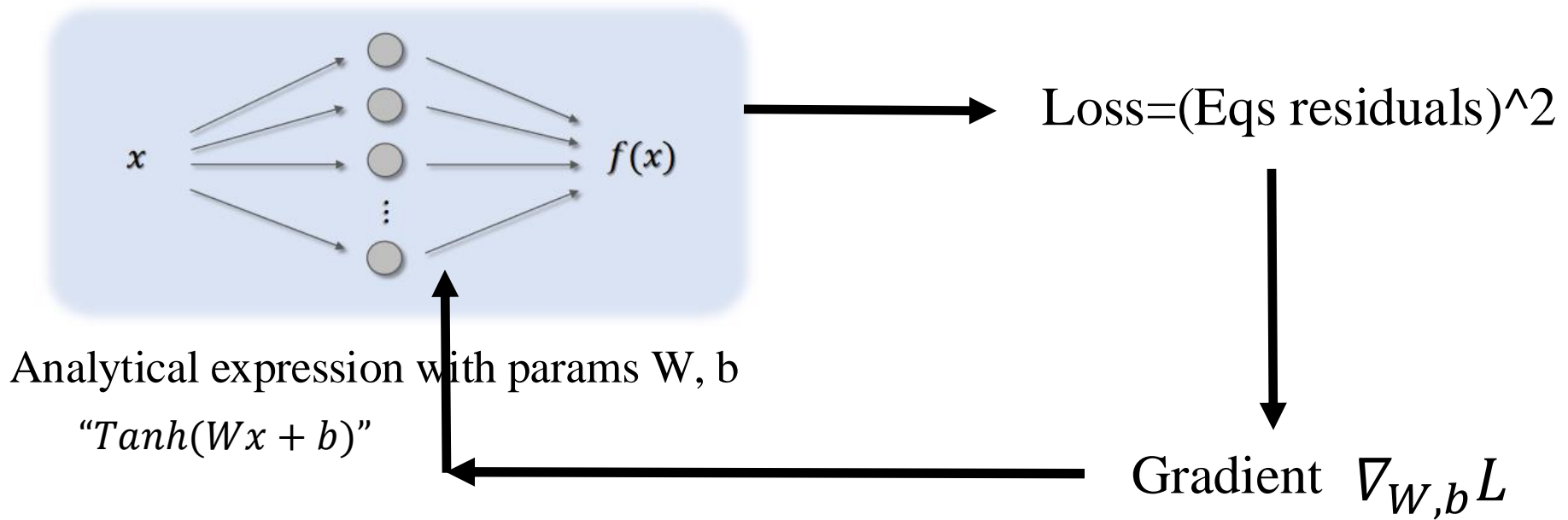
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But..... how does it learn?

# Neural Networks: learning process

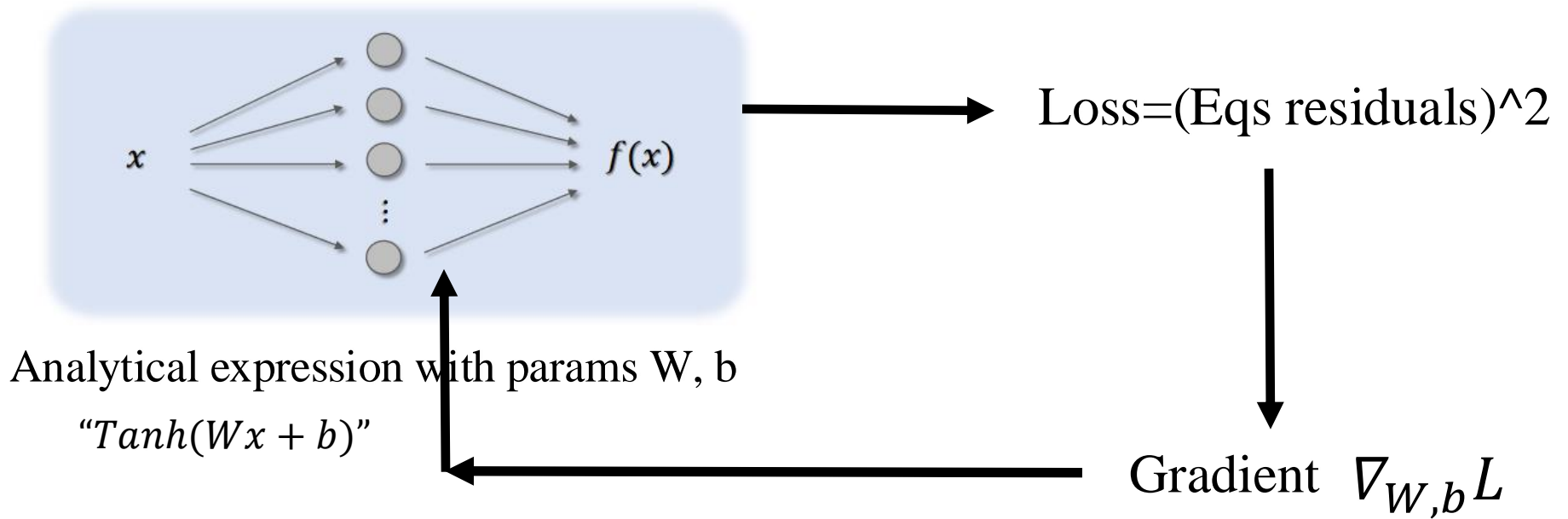
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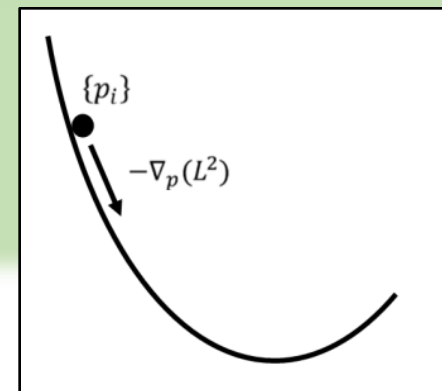


# Neural Networks: learning process

But..... how does it learn?



**Gradient descent**



# Our set up

---

## Einstein-Klein Gordon

$$S = \frac{2}{\kappa_5^2} \int dx^5 \sqrt{-g} \left[ \frac{1}{4} R - \frac{1}{2} (\nabla \phi)^2 - V(\phi) \right]$$

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Metric ansatz

$$ds^2 = -A dt^2 + \Sigma^2 (dx^2 + dy^2 + dz^2) - \frac{2}{u^2} dt du$$

$A(u), \Sigma(u), \phi(u) \longrightarrow$  Unknown functions

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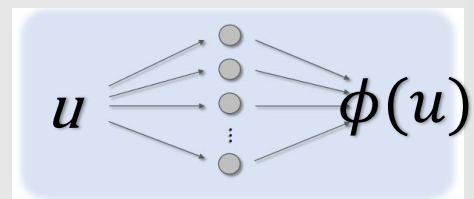
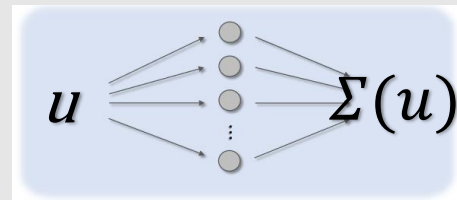
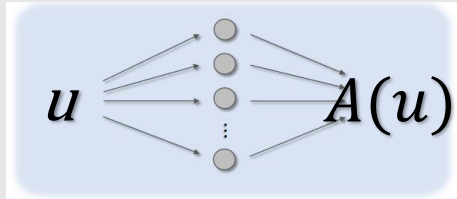
$u \longrightarrow$  Holographic variable

$$u \in [0, 1]$$



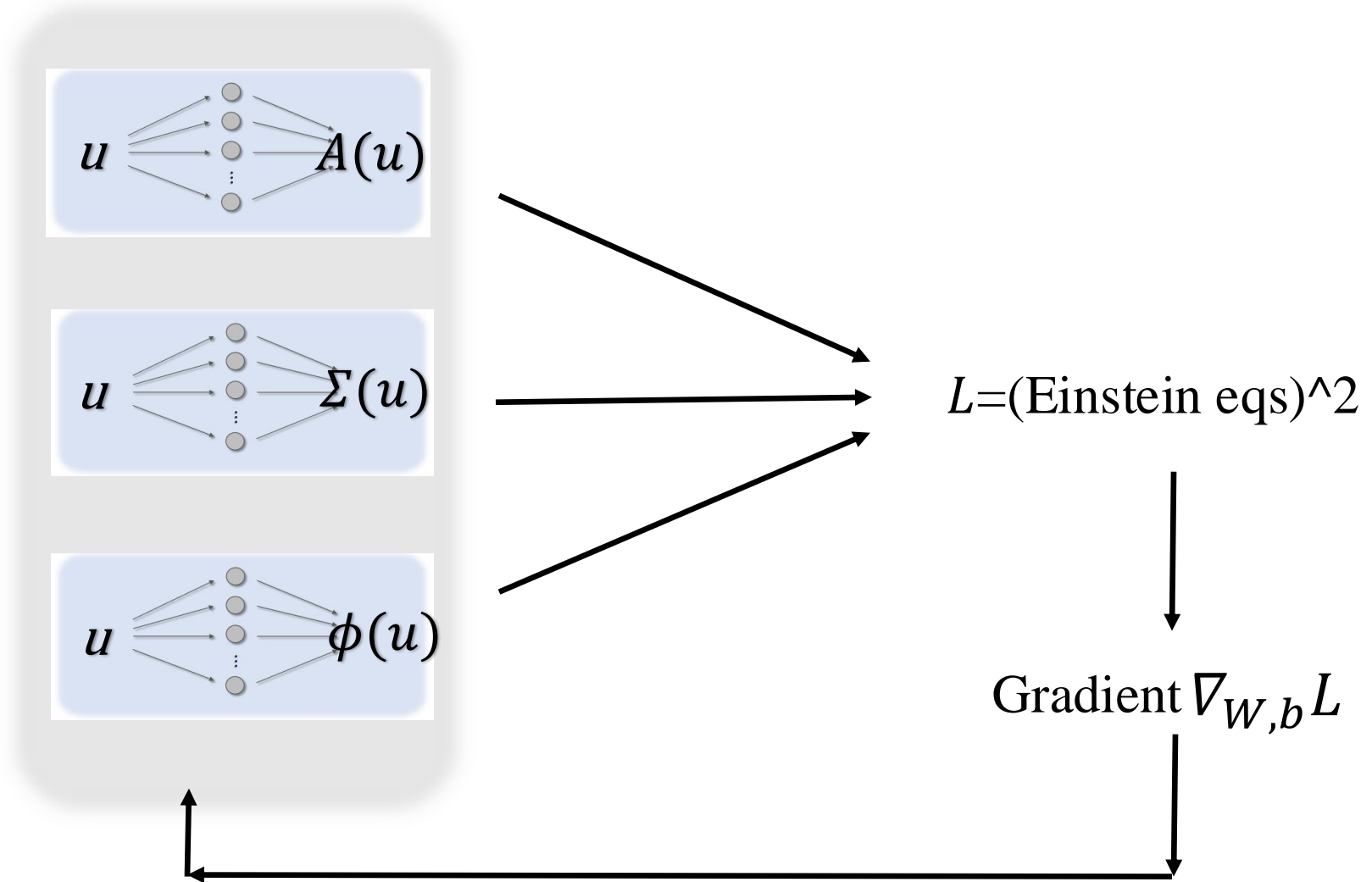
# The direct problem

---



# The direct problem

---



# The direct problem

---

we solve the direct problem as a **test**

$u$

$u$

$u$

$s)^2$

$bL$

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$u$  -We fix the potential  $V(\varphi)$

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we solve the direct problem as a **test**

- $u$  - We fix the potential  $V(\varphi)$
- Run for ~million iterations

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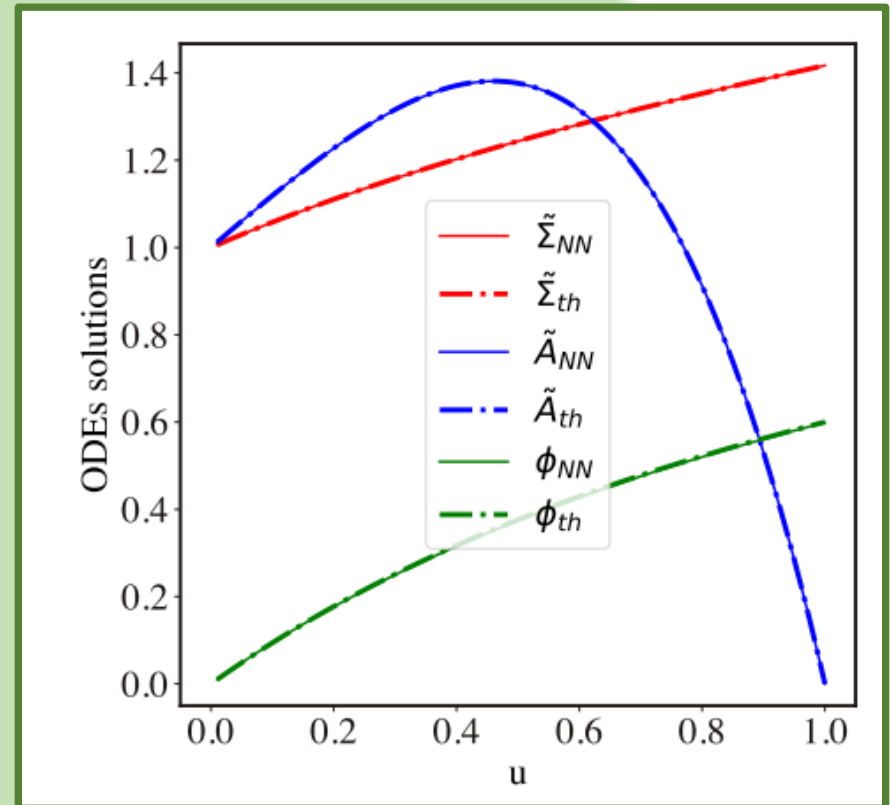
$u$

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$u$

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$u$

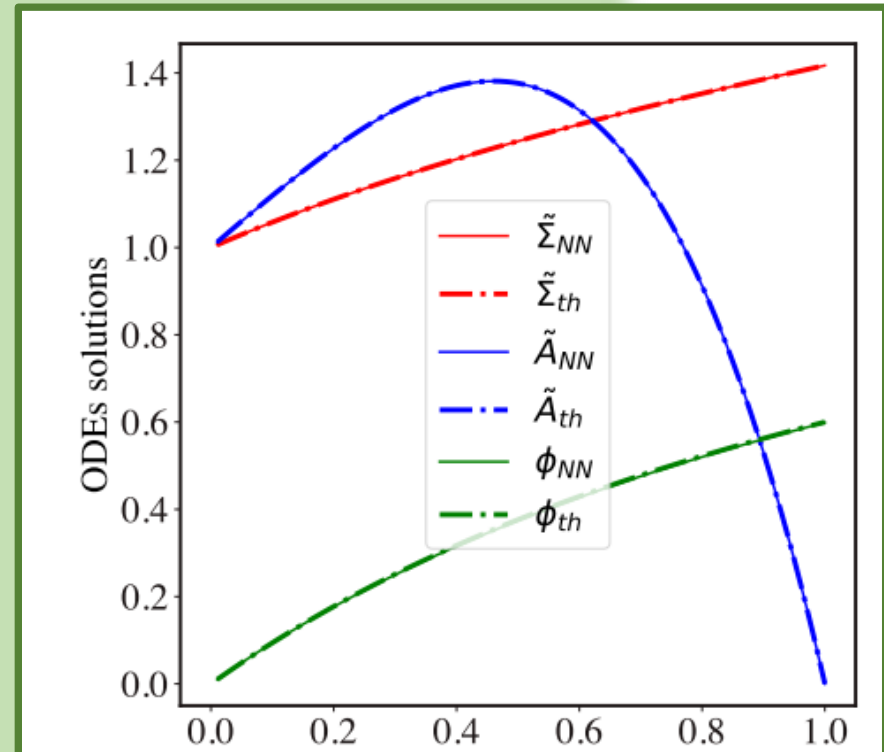


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we solve the direct problem as a **test**

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- $u$  - Compare with traditional methods

$u$



Direct problem works very well!



# The direct problem

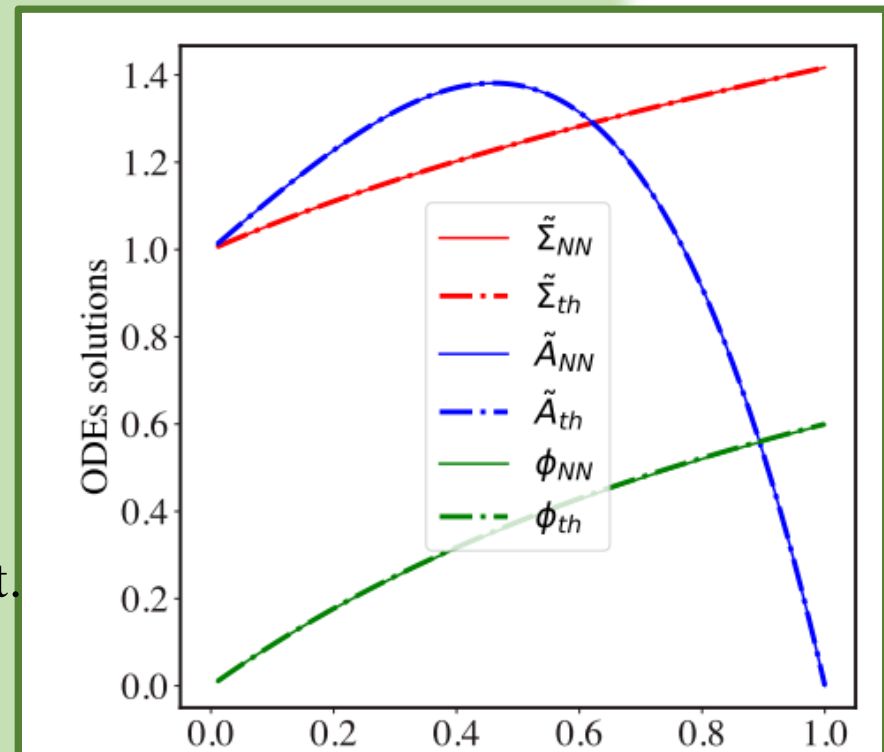
we solve the direct problem as a **test**

$u$  -We fix the potential  $V(\varphi)$   
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-This corresponds to one black brane solution, i.e., one (T,S) point.

$u$  -We have control on the solution:  
more iteration, reduce the loss



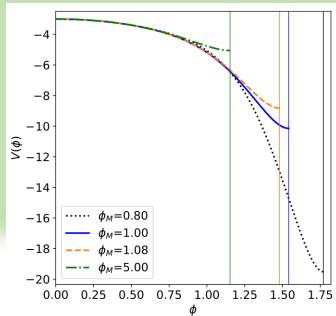
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# The inverse problem

We are given the potential  $V(\phi)$   
We construct the thermodynamics  $S(T)$

Einstein eqs.

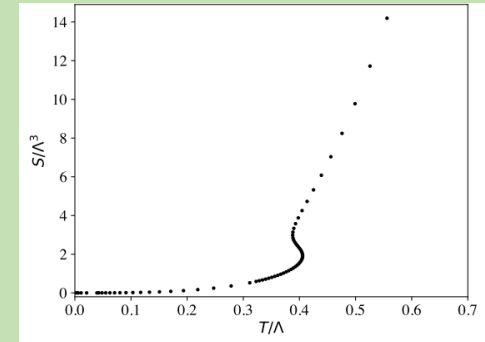
$$S = \frac{2}{\kappa_5^2} \int dx^5 \sqrt{-g} \left[ \frac{1}{4} R - \frac{1}{2} (\nabla\phi)^2 - V(\phi) \right]$$



Direct problem



Equation of state

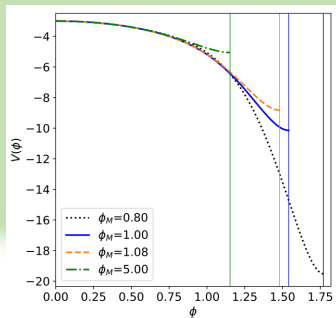


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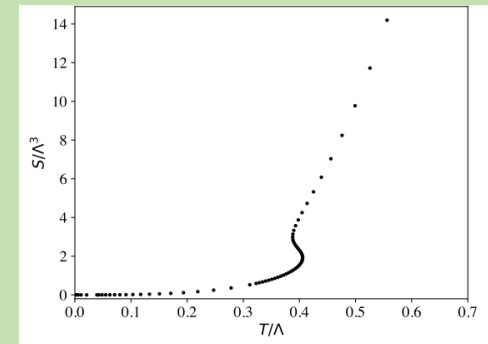
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Inverse problem



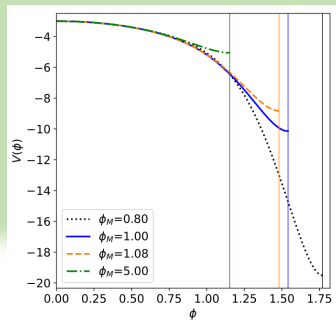
We are given an equation of state  $S(T)$   
and we want to reconstruct  $V(\phi)$

→ This corresponds to reconstructing the theory

# The inverse problem

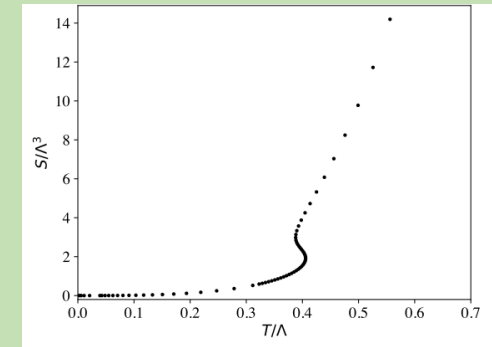
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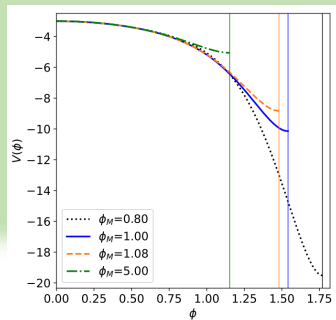
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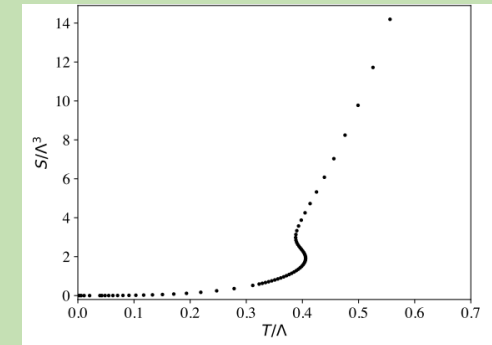
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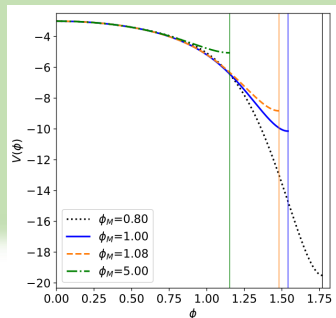


-Sampling of the eq. of state  $S(T)$ ,  $\sim 70$  points

# The inverse problem

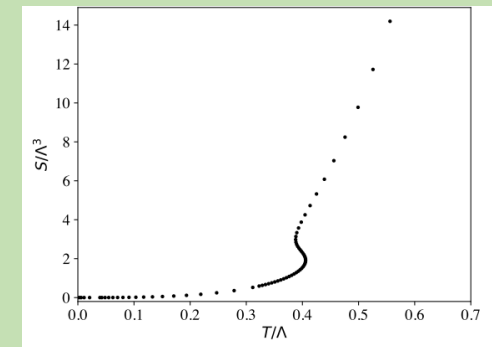
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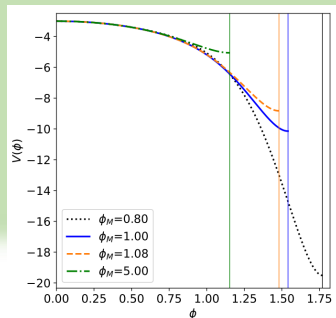
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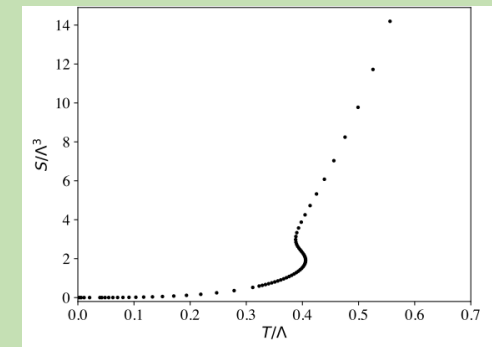
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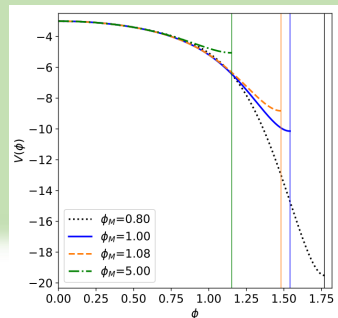
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→ bundle solution

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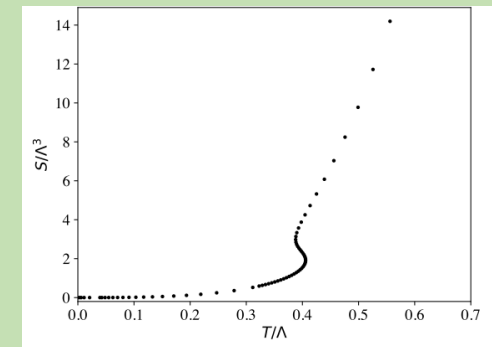
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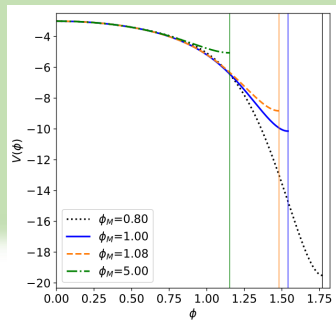
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- Each point in the sampling corresponds to a black brane
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  - bundle solution
- We introduce an additional NN for  $V(\phi)$  (now it is an unknown)



# The inverse problem

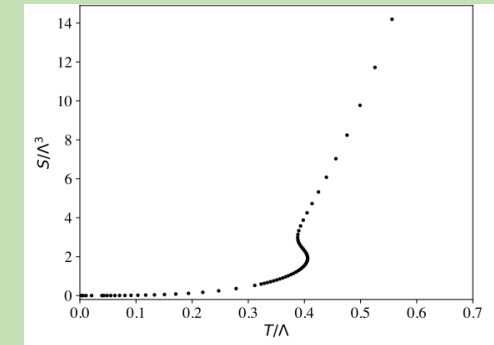
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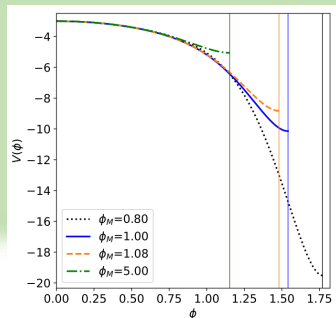


-Loss =  $\sum (\text{residuals Einstein eqs})^2$  (sum over branes)

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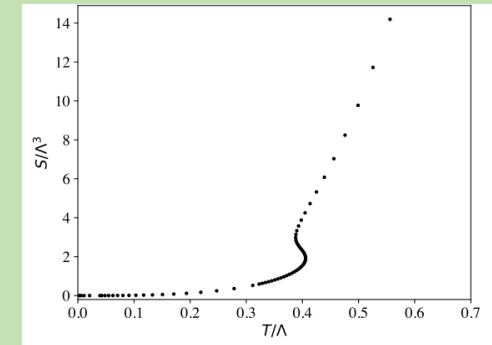
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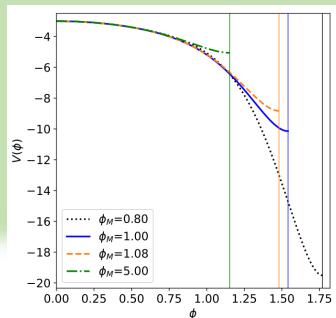
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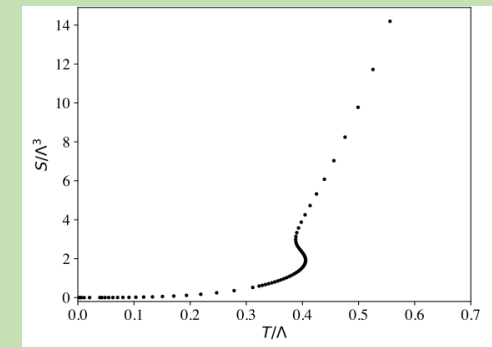
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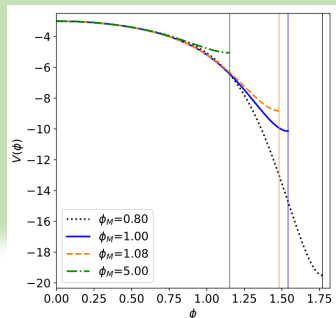
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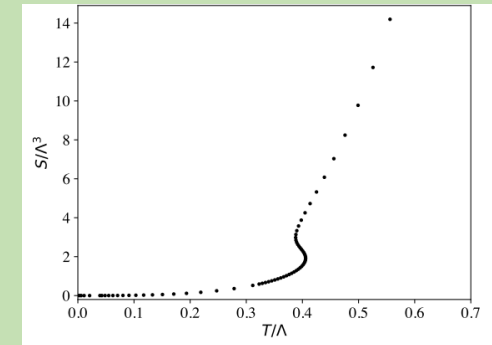
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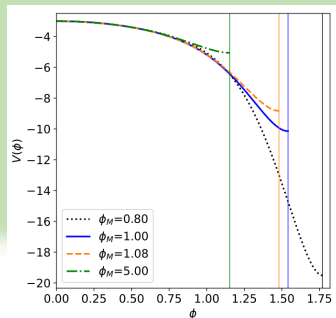
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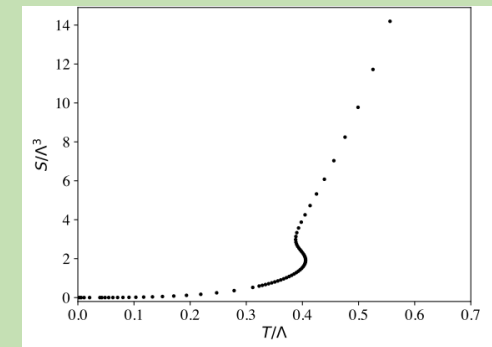
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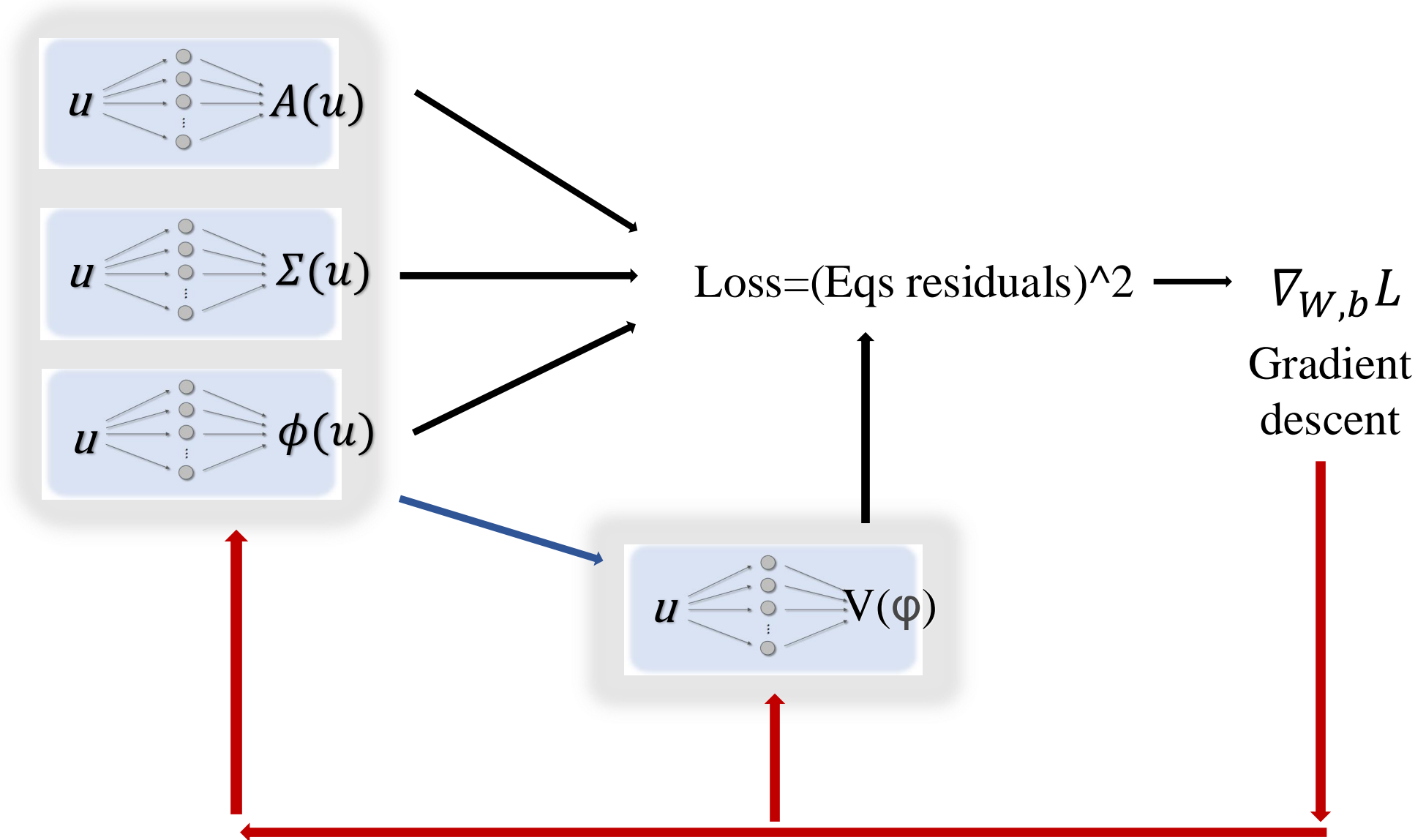
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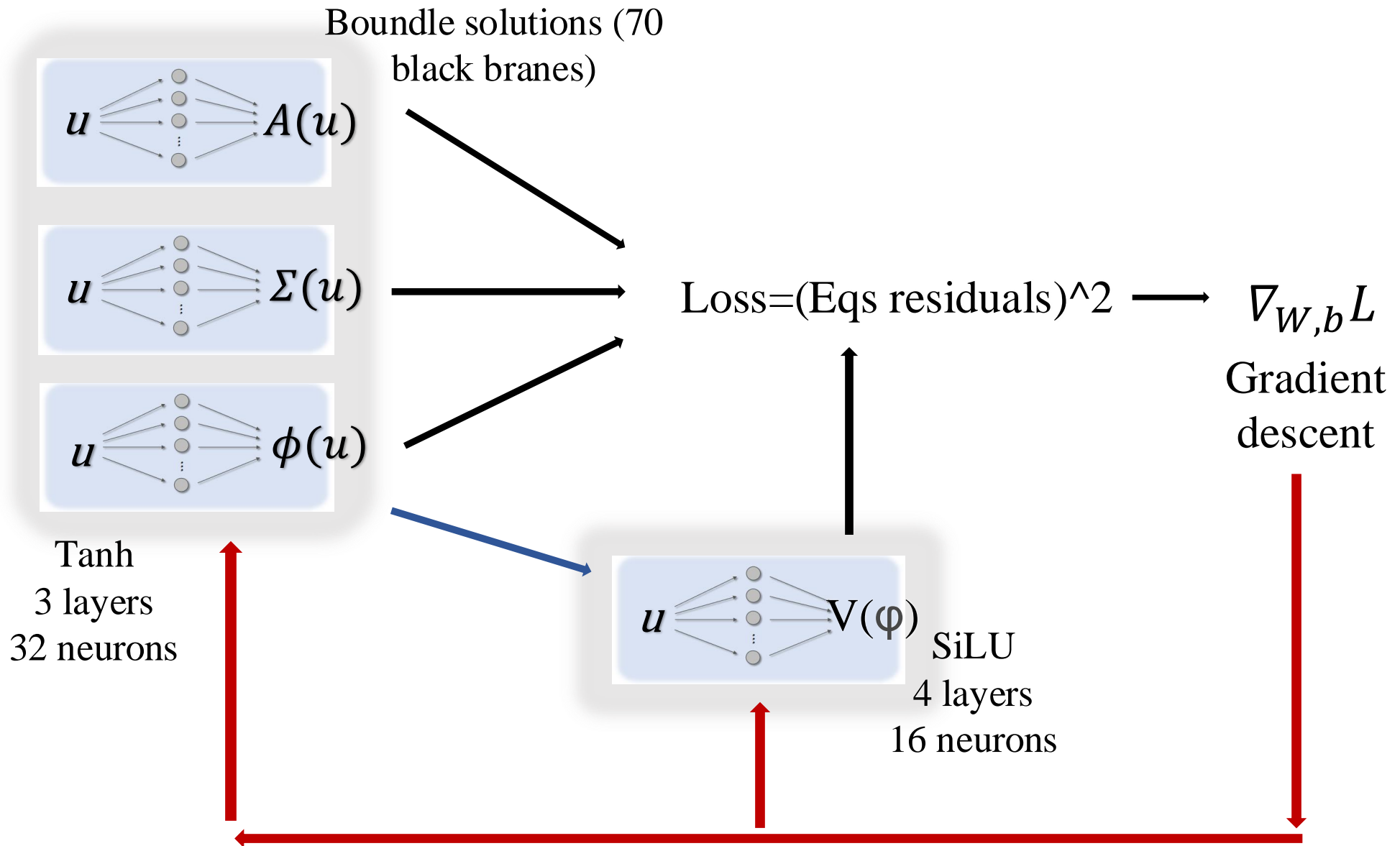
-The range of  $\phi$ 's is found by the NN

# Architecture summary

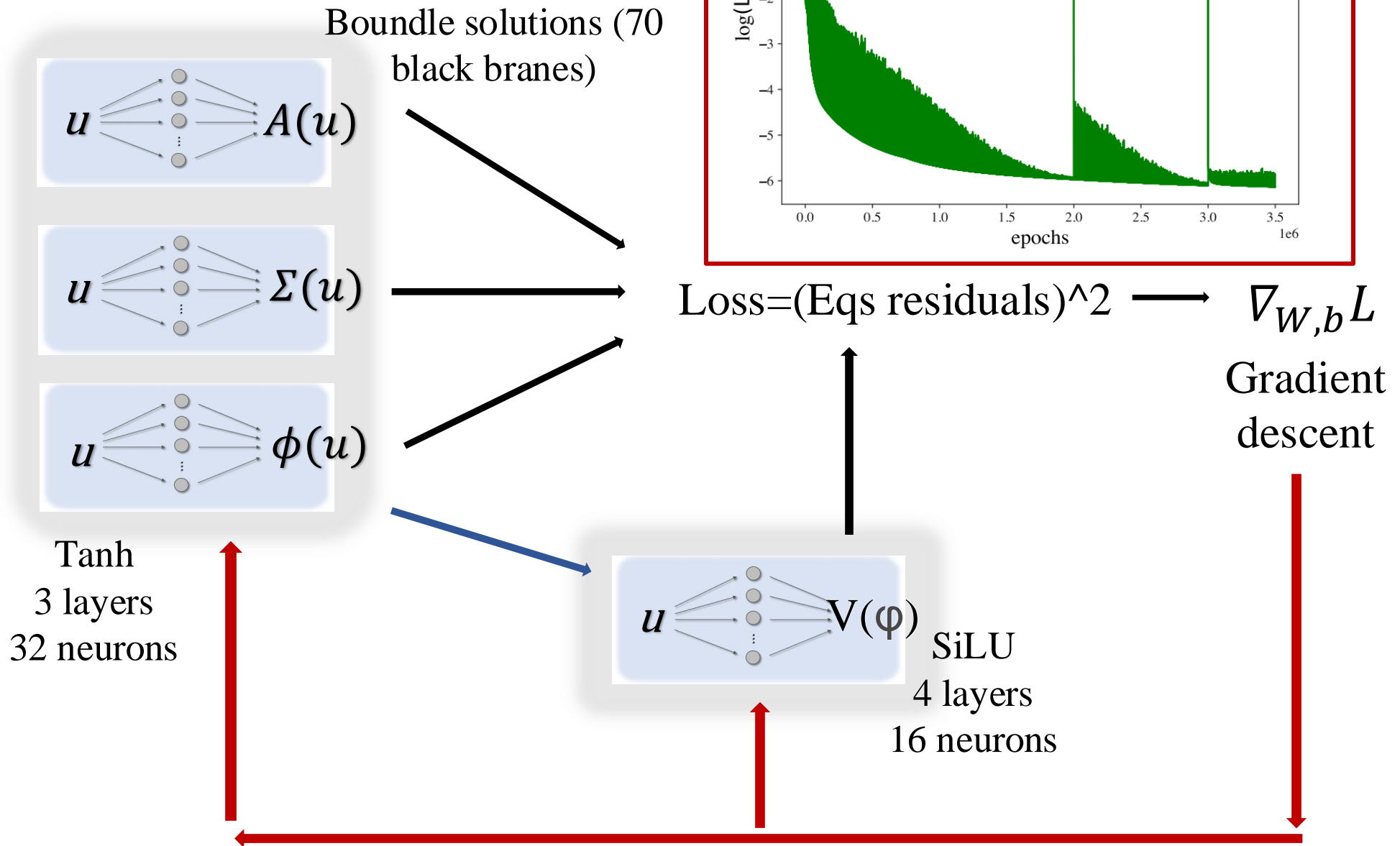
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# Architecture summary



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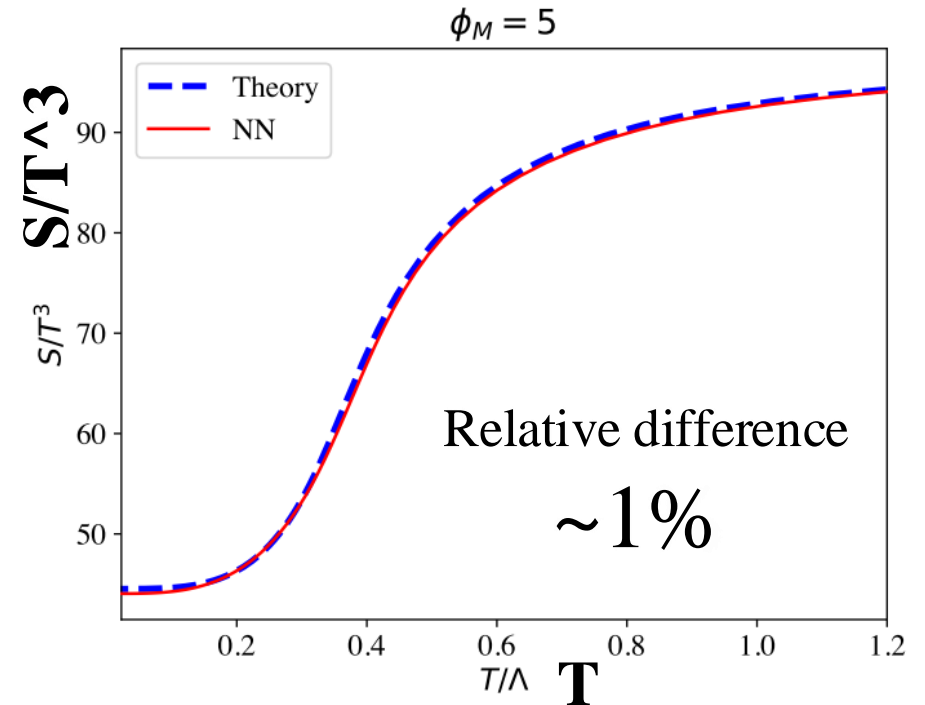
# Main results

# Solving the inverse problem

Crossover

second order

first order



## Main conclusion

We have solved the inverse problem using NN within  $\sim 1\%$ ,  
not solved before with other methods

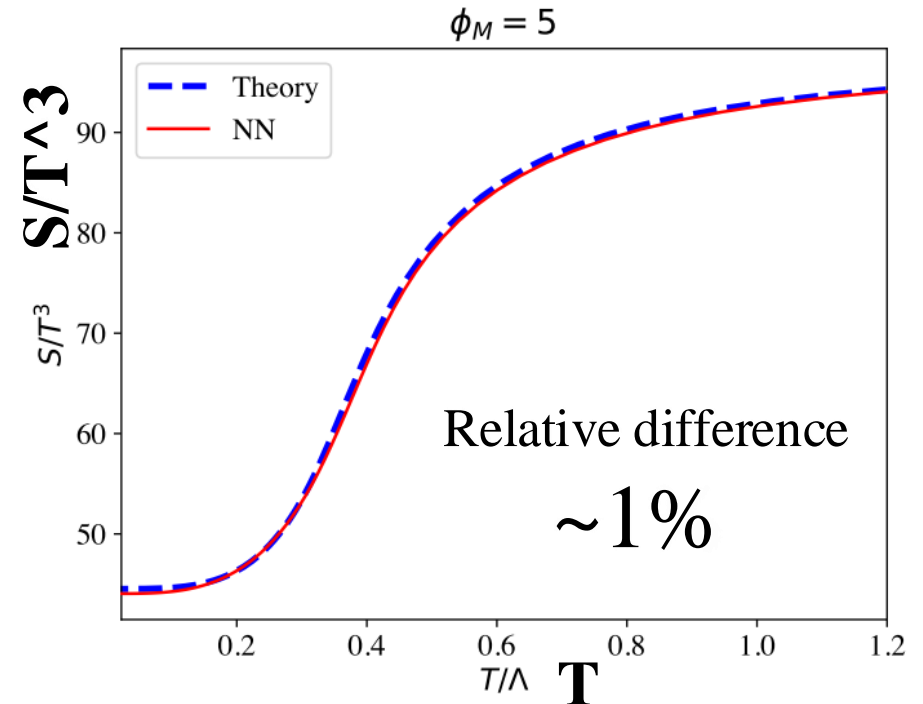
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second order

first order

As we know the original potential,  
we can perform a further check:



## Main conclusion

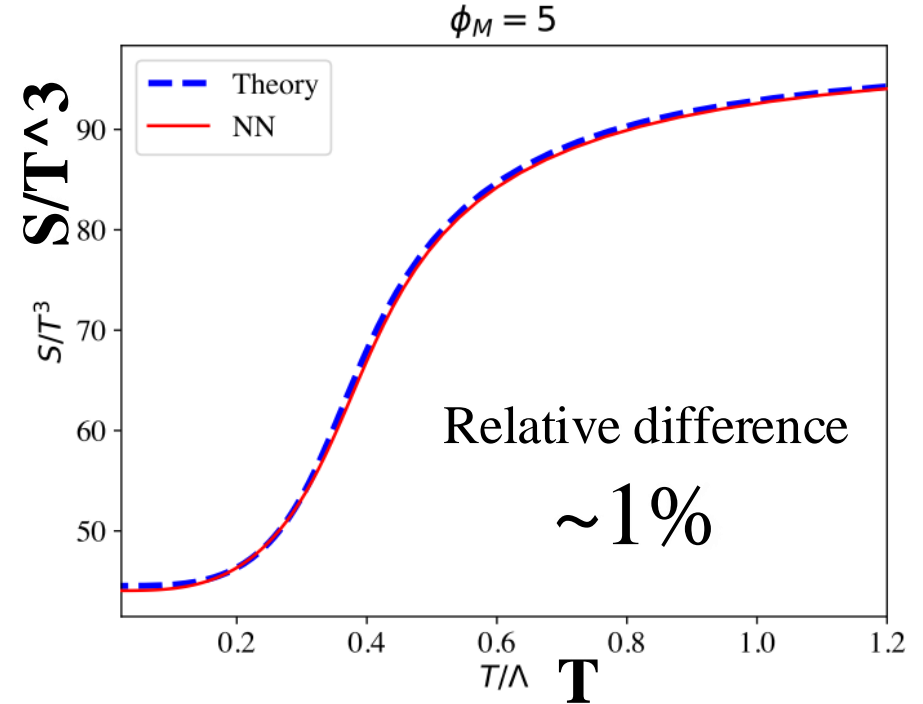
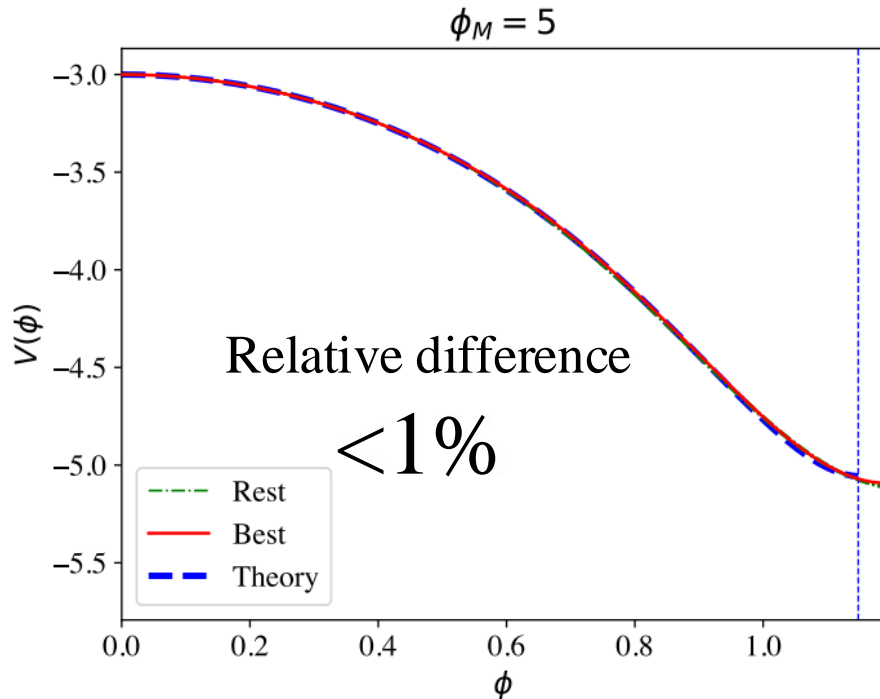
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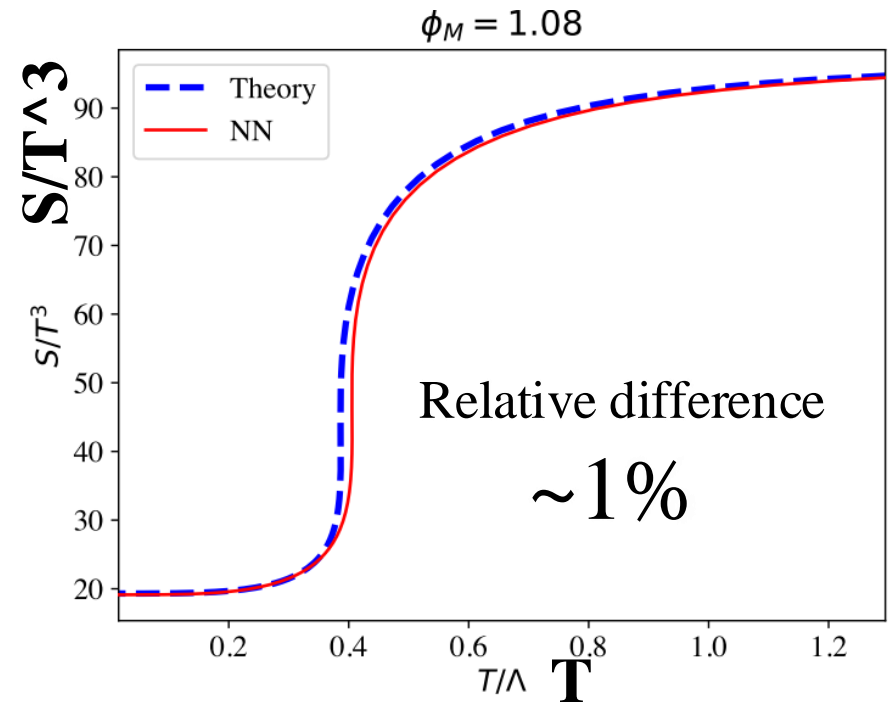
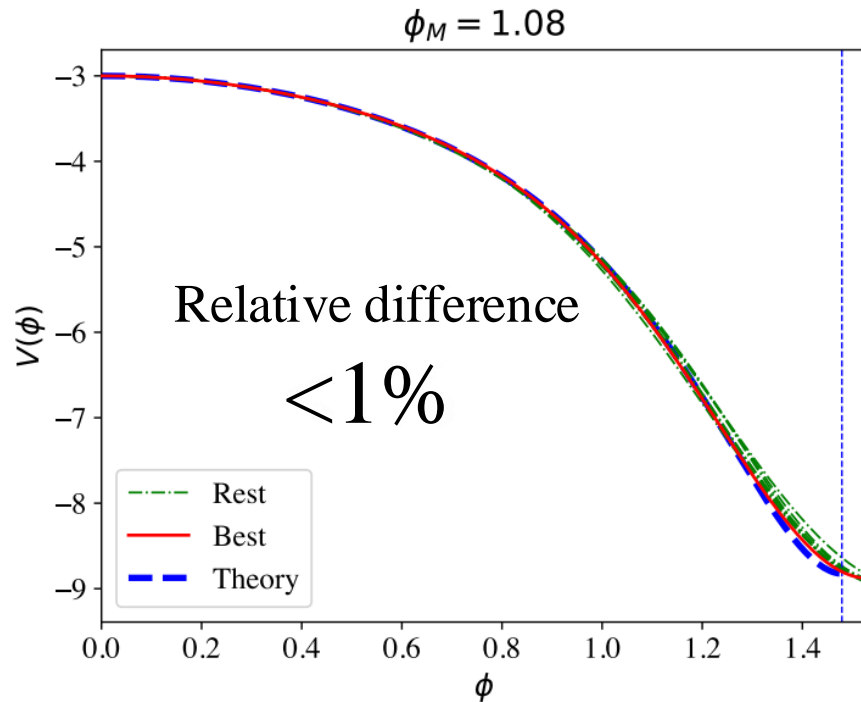
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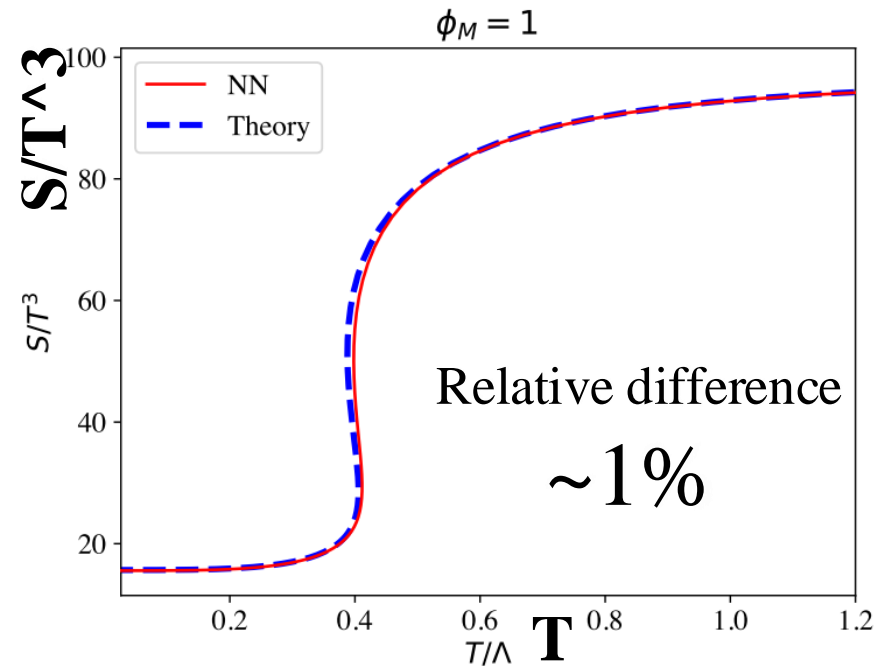
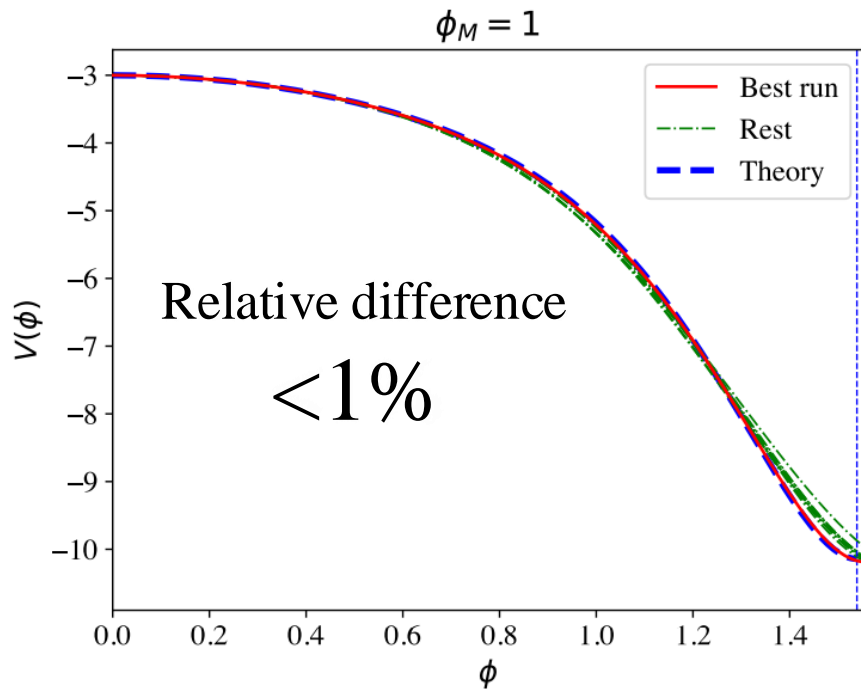
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Additional comments

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- Choose specific architecture, number of neurons, layers, etc
- Sampling in  $u$  (holographic variable)
- Sampling in the  $S(T)$  curve

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→ There is some stochasticity:

- Random initial data (10 runs)
- Stochastic gradient descent

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→ Our method is general and applicable in generic inverse problems

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- Choose s
- Sampling
- Sampling

Thank you!

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# Backup Slides

# Future directions

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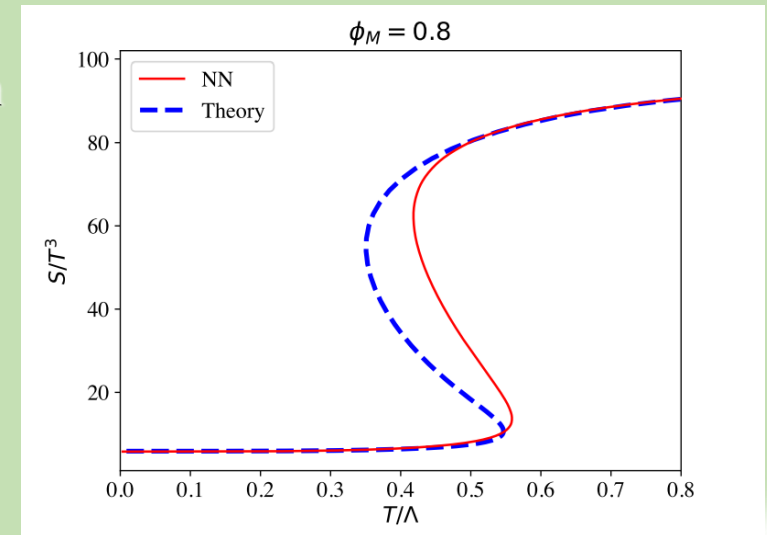
This is just a first paper, a lot of room for improvement and extensions

→ Next step: improve accuracy

We are currently increasing the number of neurons and layers

We want to improve the resolution in problems with large separation of scales

→ We are also exploring transfer learning



# Our potential

---

$$S = \frac{2}{\kappa_5^2} \int dx^5 \sqrt{-g} \left[ \frac{1}{4} R - \frac{1}{2} (\nabla \phi)^2 - V(\phi) \right]$$

$$V_{\text{theory}}(\phi) = -\frac{4}{3} \mathcal{W}(\phi)^2 + \frac{1}{2} \mathcal{W}'(\phi)^2,$$

$$\mathcal{W}(\phi) = -\frac{3}{2} - \frac{\phi^2}{2} - \frac{\phi^4}{4\phi_M^2} + \frac{\phi^6}{10}.$$

# Einstein equations

---

$$E_1 = \nu_\Sigma - \tilde{\Sigma}' , \quad (4.3a)$$

$$E_2 = \nu_A - \tilde{A}' , \quad (4.3b)$$

$$E_3 = \nu_\phi - \phi' , \quad (4.3c)$$

$$E_4 = \nu'_\Sigma + \frac{2}{3}\tilde{\Sigma}\nu_\phi^2 , \quad (4.3d)$$

$$E_5 = u^2 \tilde{\Sigma}\nu'_A + \frac{8}{3}V(\phi)\tilde{\Sigma} + \nu_A \left( 3u^2 \nu_\Sigma - 5u \tilde{\Sigma} \right) + \tilde{A} \left( 8\tilde{\Sigma} - 6u \nu_\Sigma \right) , \quad (4.3e)$$

$$E_6 = u^2 \tilde{\Sigma} \tilde{A} \nu'_\phi - \tilde{\Sigma} \frac{dV}{d\phi} + \nu_\phi \left( -3u \tilde{A} \tilde{\Sigma} + u^2 \tilde{\Sigma} \nu_A + 3u^2 \nu_\Sigma \tilde{A} \right) , \quad (4.3f)$$

$$E_7 = \left( u \nu_\Sigma - \tilde{\Sigma} \right) \left( u^2 \tilde{\Sigma} \nu_A + 2u^2 \tilde{A} \nu_\Sigma - 4u \tilde{A} \tilde{\Sigma} \right) - \frac{2}{3}u \tilde{\Sigma}^2 \left( u^2 \tilde{A} \nu_\phi^2 - 2V(\phi) \right) . \quad (4.3g)$$



# Boundary conditions

---

$$\tilde{A}|_{u=0} = 1 ,$$

$$\tilde{\Sigma}|_{u=0} = 1 ,$$

$$\phi|_{u=0} = 0 ,$$

$$\nu\phi|_{u=0} = 1 ,$$

$$\tilde{A}|_{u=1} = 0 ,$$

$$\nu_A|_{u=1} = -4\pi T ,$$

$$\tilde{\Sigma}|_{u=1} = (S/\pi)^{1/3} .$$

# Libraries

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We have chosen the `Adam` optimizer<sup>2</sup> for the optimization process, which uses stochastic gradient descent with information about higher-order momenta (see [49] for details).

The described NN system has been implemented in the `Python` language through the open source `neurodiffEq` library [50], built on `PyTorch`.

[49] D.P. Kingma and J. Ba, *Adam: A method for stochastic optimization*, 2017.

[50] F. Chen, D. Sondak, P. Protopapas, M. Mattheakis, S. Liu, D. Agarwal et al., *NeurodiffEq: A python package for solving differential equations with neural networks*, *Journal of Open Source Software* **5** (2020) 1931.

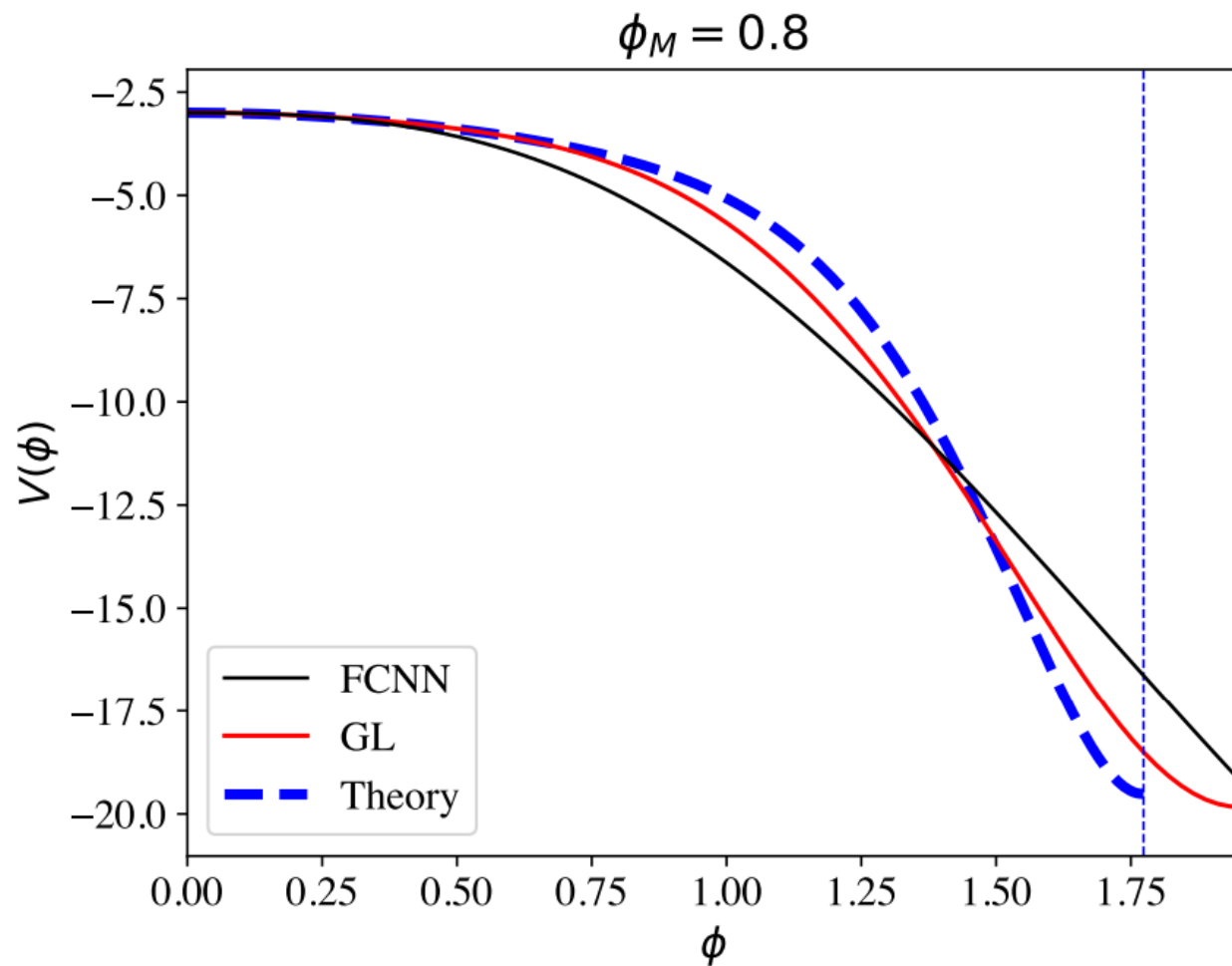
# Computational considerations

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Training and discovery of a solution with sub-per cent precision in the potential and per cent precision in the recovered equation of state requires about 8-16 hours and a couple of million epochs in a dedicated NVidia A40 GPU. As explained above, we performed ten

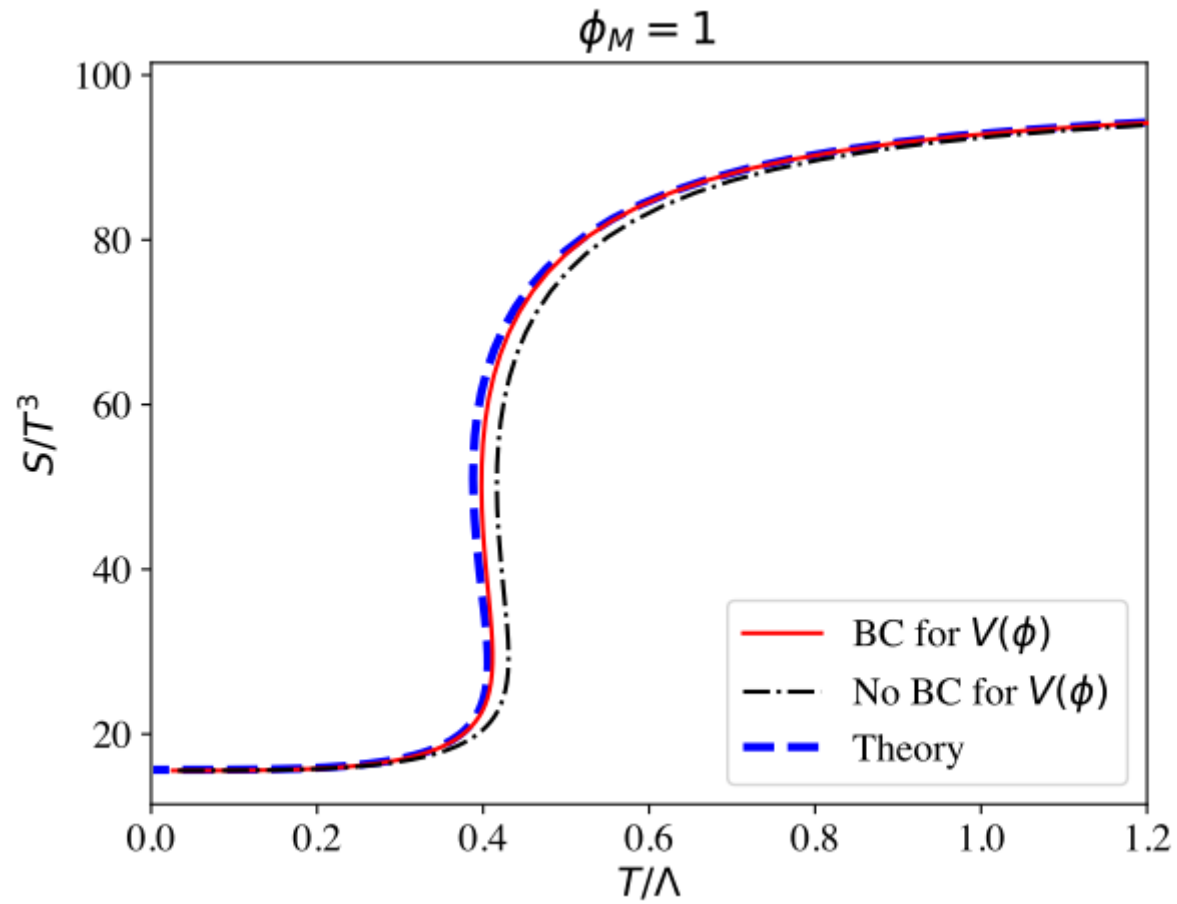
# Gaussian localization vs fully connected

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# Additional loss

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# References NN in holography

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The only papers that reconstruct the theory:

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