

# Spatially compatible meshfree discretization through GMLS and graph theory

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# What does meshfree mean?

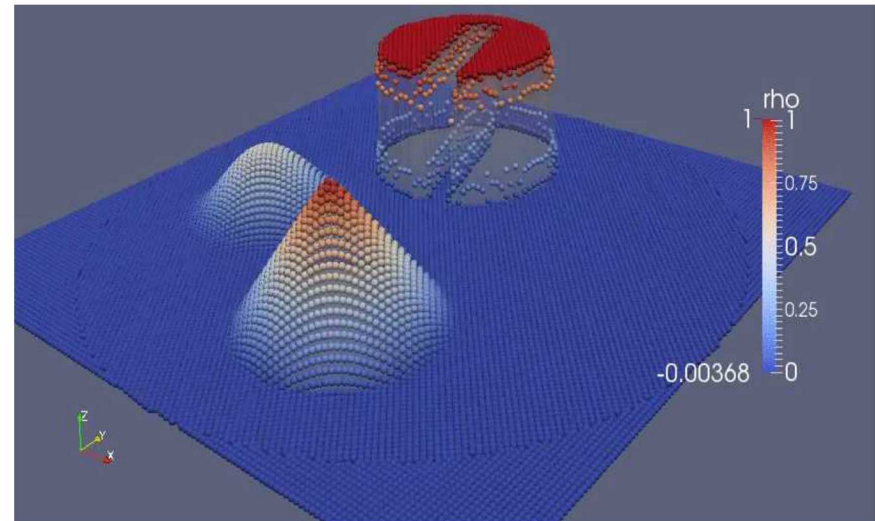
- Physics compatible FEM spaces defined via differential k-forms:
  - For a polygonal mesh in 3D

**Zero-form:**  $\delta_{\mathbf{x}_i} \circ \mathbf{u}$

**One-form:**  $\int_E \mathbf{u} \cdot d\mathbf{l}$

**Two-form:**  $\int_F \mathbf{u} \cdot d\mathbf{A}$

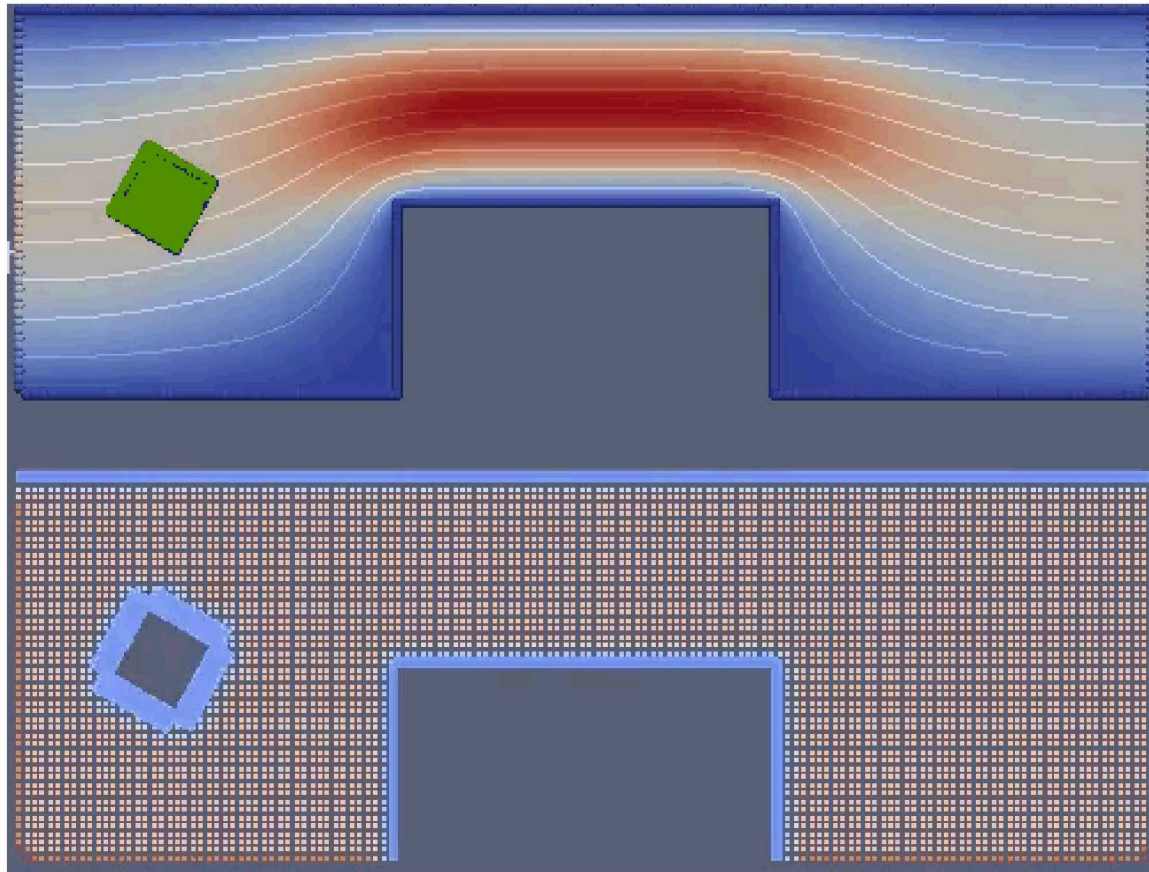
**Three-form:**  $\int_C \mathbf{u} dV$



## A meshfree method uses only zero-forms as degrees of freedom

- Easy to push points around if you don't care about preserving a mesh
- Exchange nice mathematical setting to get more descriptive models
  - No Stokes theorems, no natural bilinear forms

# Why meshfree? Large deformation problems



$$\begin{cases} -\nabla^2 \mathbf{u} + \nabla p = \mathbf{f} \\ \nabla \cdot \mathbf{u} = 0 \\ \mathbf{u}|_{\partial\omega} = \mathbf{U} + (\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{X}) \times \boldsymbol{\Omega} \\ \int_{\partial\omega} \boldsymbol{\sigma} \cdot d\mathbf{A} = 0 \end{cases}$$

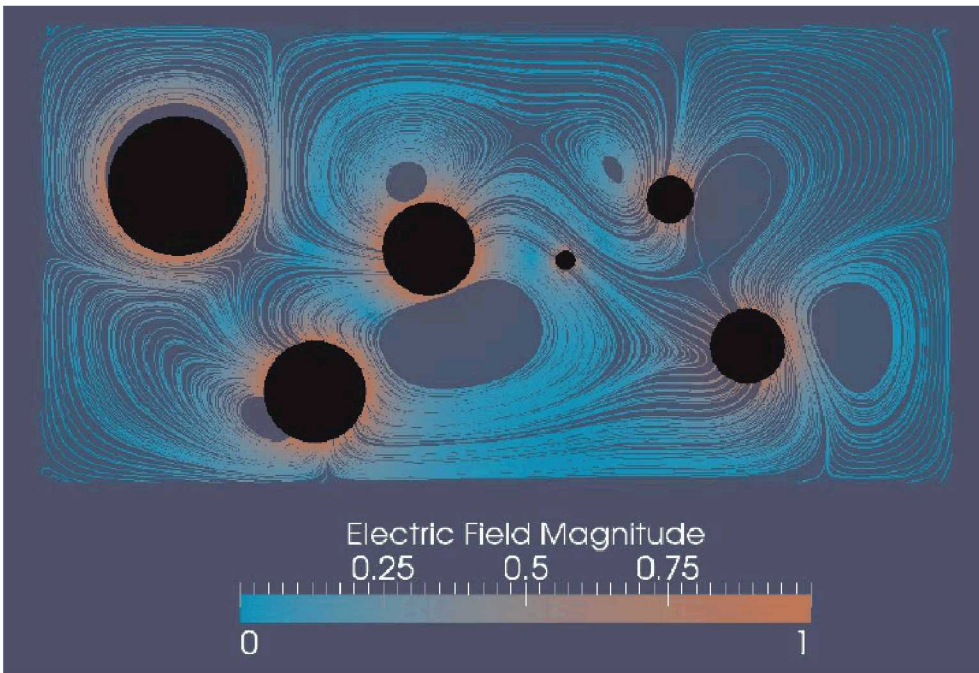
Trask, N., Maxey, M., Hu, X.  
A compatible high-order meshless  
method for the Stokes equations with  
applications to suspension flows  
*Journal of Computational Physics* (2018)

Hu, W., Trask, N., Hu, X., Pan, W.  
A spatially adaptive high-order meshless  
method for fluid–structure interactions.  
*Computer Methods in Applied Mechanics  
and Engineering* (2019)

Trivial treatment of large deformation problems – no remeshing + remap



# Why meshfree? Large deformation problems



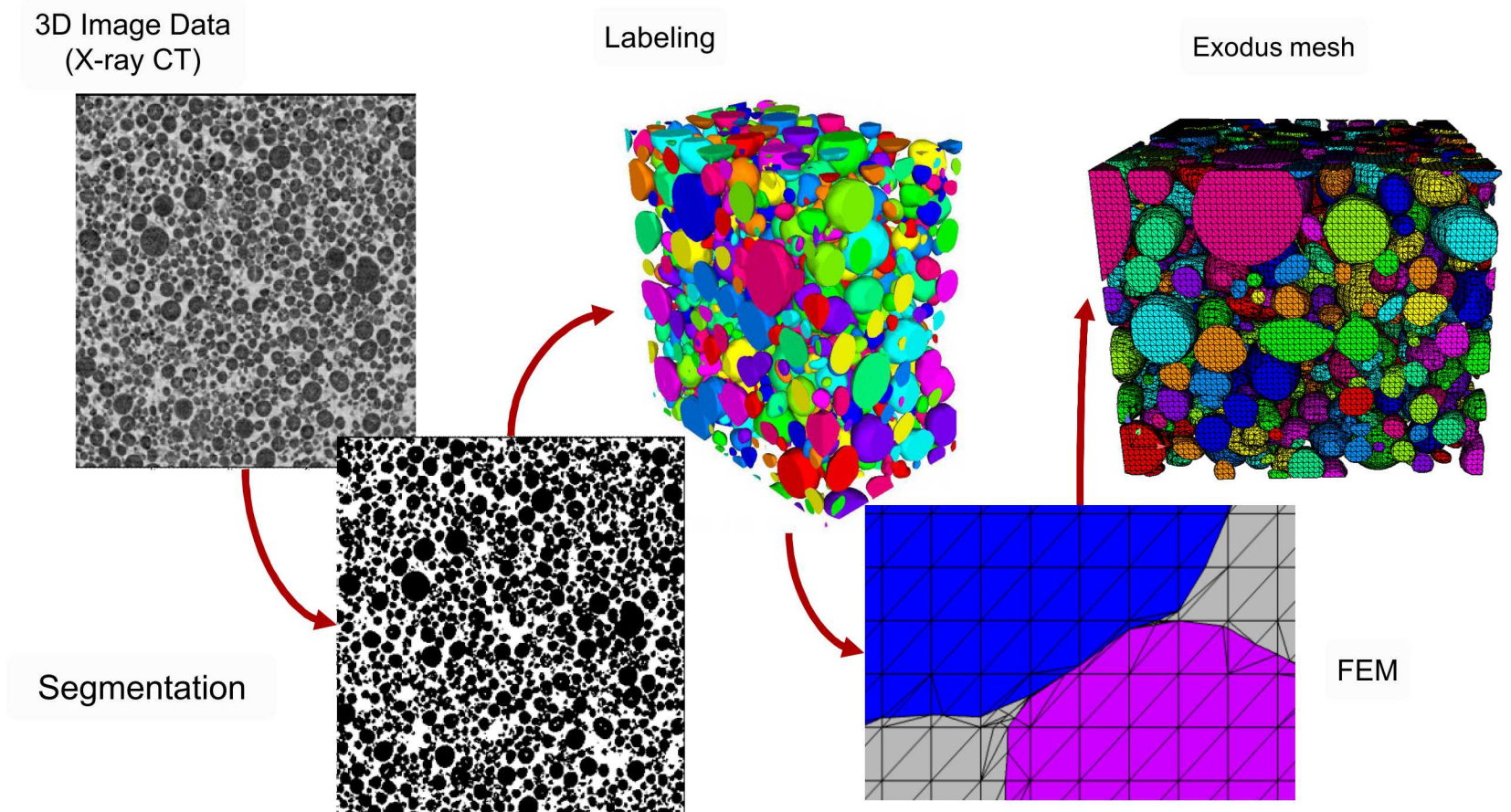
$$\begin{cases} -\nu \nabla^2 \mathbf{u} + \nabla p = -\rho_e(\phi) \nabla \phi \\ \nabla \cdot \mathbf{u} = 0 \\ \mathbf{u} = \mathbf{w} \\ \mathbf{u} = \mathbf{V}_i + (\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{X}_i) \times \boldsymbol{\Omega}_i \\ -l_c^2 \nabla^4 \phi + \nabla^2 \phi = -\frac{\rho_e(\phi)}{\epsilon} \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{cases} 0 = \int_{\partial \Omega_i} \bar{\bar{\sigma}} \cdot d\mathbf{A} \\ 0 = \int_{\partial \Omega_i} \bar{\bar{\sigma}} \times (\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{X}_i) \cdot d\mathbf{A} \end{cases}$$

$$\bar{\bar{\sigma}} = -\epsilon_0 \left( \mathbf{E} \otimes \mathbf{E} + E^2 \mathbf{I} \right) + -p \mathbf{I} + \frac{\nu}{2} (\nabla \mathbf{u} + \nabla \mathbf{u}^T)$$

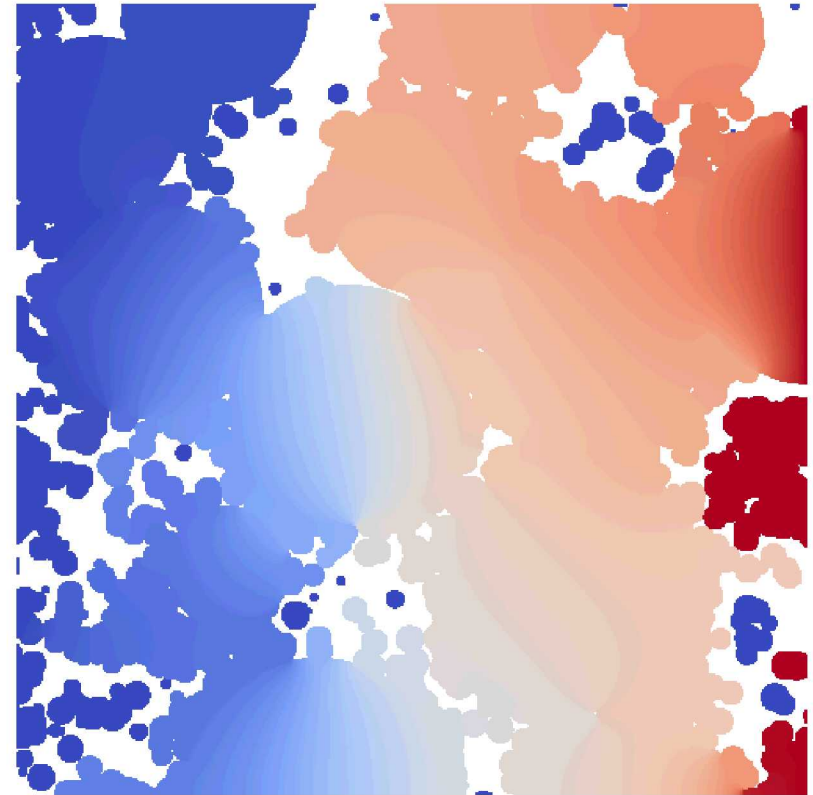
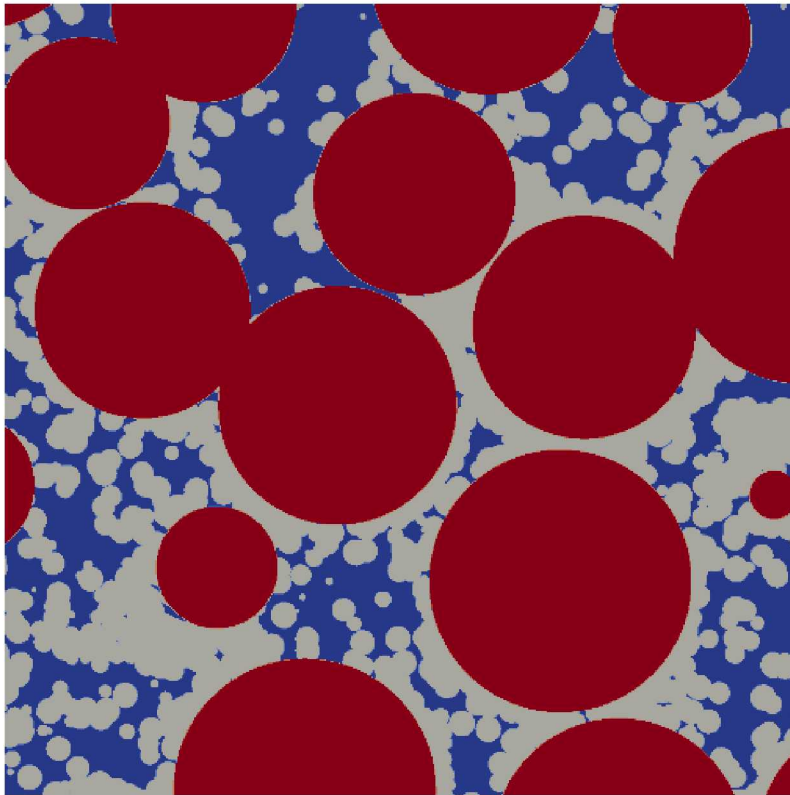
**Compatible meshfree discretization:** A framework for physics compatible discretization of multiphysics problems that mimics robustness of mimetic methods

# Why meshfree? Automatic geometry discretization



- For engineering problems **meshing constitutes 60-70% of time to solution** (SAND-2005-4647), which cannot be improved by moving to larger computers
  - Automating geometry discretization is fundamental to developing large throughput workflows based on either experimental data or UQ/optimization

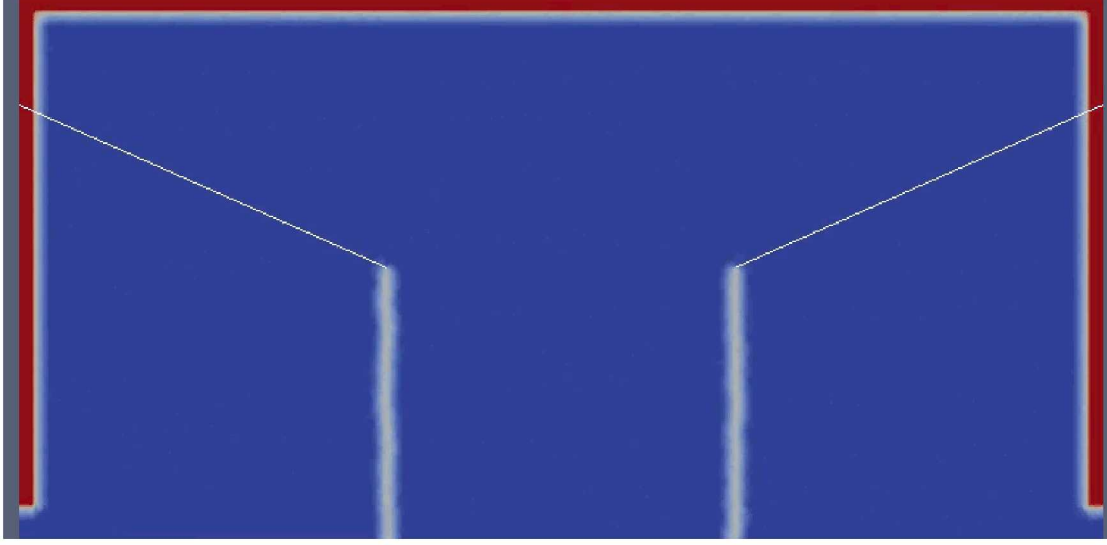
# Why meshfree? Automatic geometry discretization



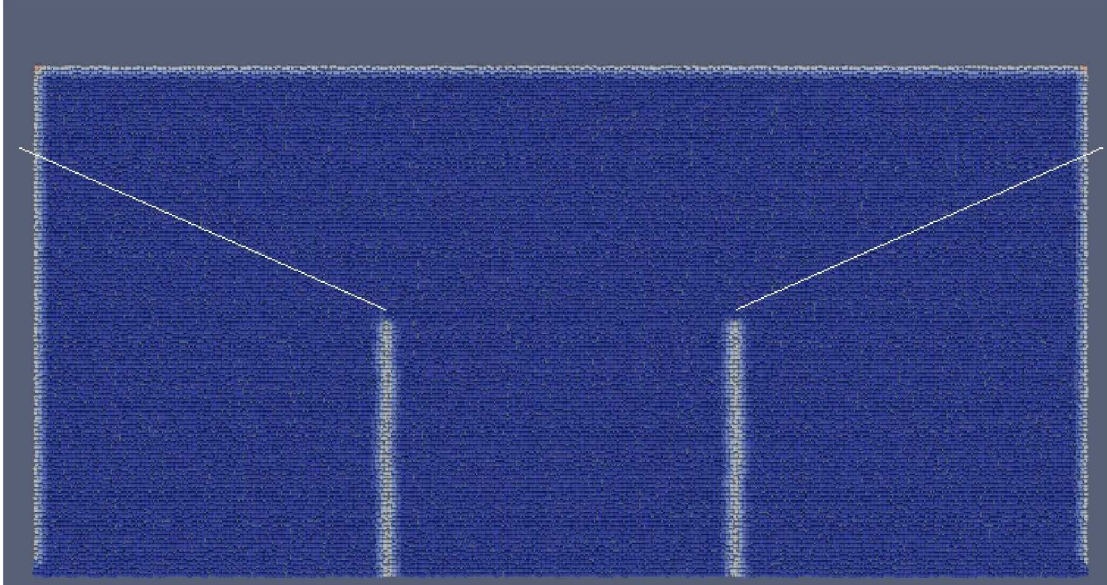
- Meshfree methods operate **directly on the degrees of freedom available in experiment**
- Placing a particle at each voxel of the CT scan is sufficient to obtain a high-fidelity simulation without human-in-the-loop meshing process



# Why meshfree? Fracture mechanics



**Automatic treatment of topology changes:**  
No need to reconnect elements, manage mesh quality, etc. as topology evolves as a function of solution



Trask, N., et al.  
"An asymptotically compatible meshfree quadrature rule for applications to peridynamics." *Computer Methods in Applied Mechanics and Engineering* 343 (2019): 151-165.

# Why meshfree? Differential geometry on evolving manifolds

To solve surface PDE, one may learn mapping between local charts and tangent space to access metric tensor, curvature, surface differential operators, etc.



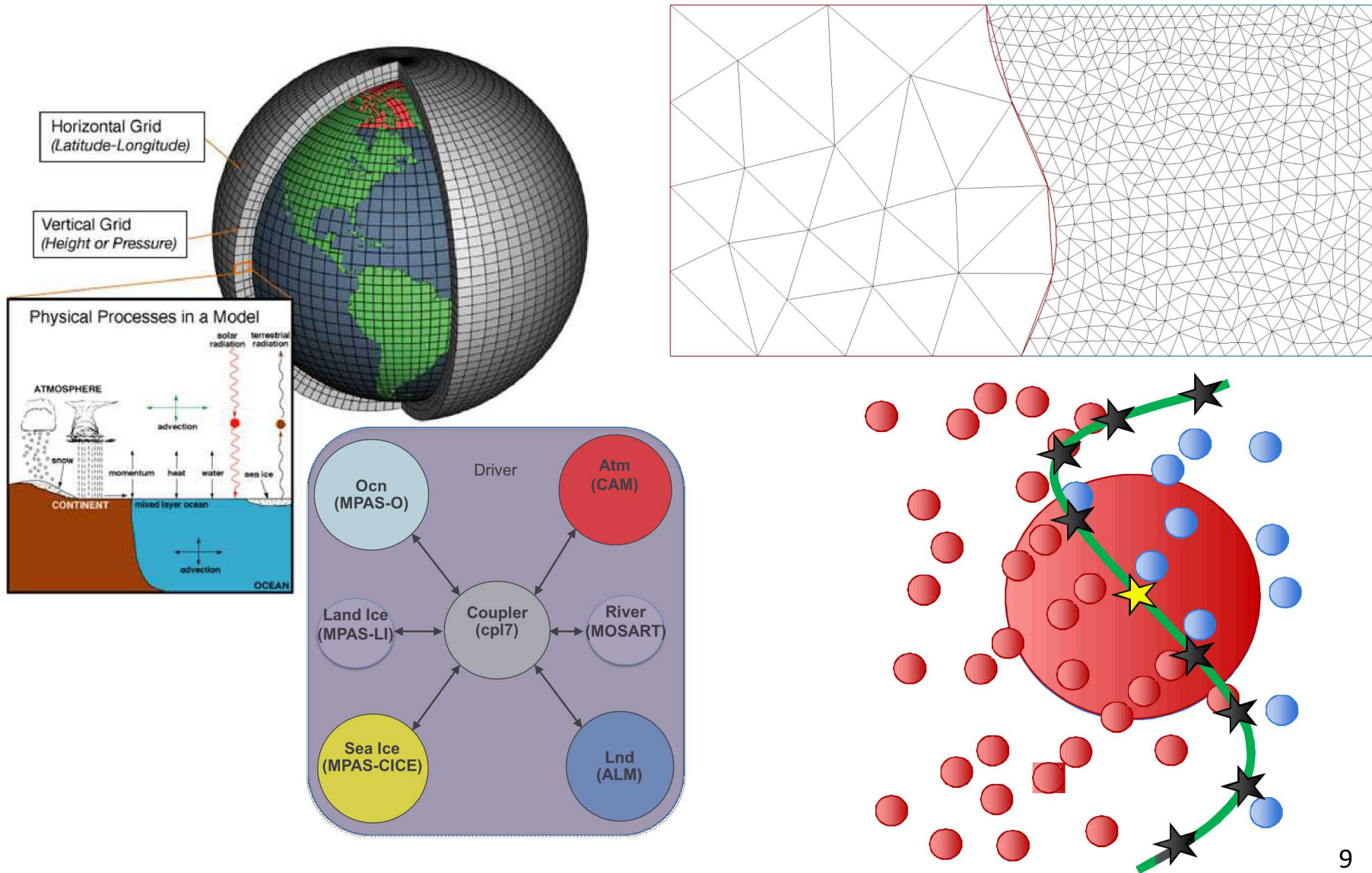
$$\begin{cases} \mu_m(-\delta \mathbf{d}\mathbf{v}^b + 2K\mathbf{v}^b) - \gamma \mathbf{v}^b - \mathbf{d}p &= -\mathbf{b}^b \\ -\delta \mathbf{v}^b &= 0. \end{cases}$$

Trask, Nathaniel, and Paul Kuberry. "Compatible meshfree discretization of surface PDEs." *Computational Particle Mechanics*(2019): 1-7.

Gross, B. J., Trask, N., Kuberry, P., & Atzberger, P. J. (2019). Meshfree Methods on Manifolds for Hydrodynamic Flows on Curved Surfaces: A Generalized Moving Least-Squares (GMLS) Approach. *arXiv preprint arXiv:1905.10469*.



# Why meshfree? Code couplers for E3SM



- Generalized moving least squares (GMLS)
  - An approximation theory framework for generating meshfree methods with rigorous accuracy guarantees
- Conservative meshless discretization
  - How can we construct conservative schemes if we don't have access to discrete Stokes theorems?
- Meshfree discretizations of nonlocal mechanics
  - Can we construct a meshfree discretization framework for integral operators for fracture mechanics?
- Meshfree machine learning
  - For scientific machine learning applications, can we use scattered data approximation theory to build learning frameworks appropriate for unstructured scientific data?

# Generalized moving least squares (GMLS)

Given  $u \in V$ , a framework for estimating operators  $\tau \in V^*$  by finding an optimal reconstruction over a subspace  $P \subset V$  which best matches unstructured samples

$$\Lambda := \{\lambda_i(u)\}_i$$

$$\tau(u) \approx \tau^h(u)$$

$$p^* = \operatorname{argmin}_{p \in P} \left( \sum_j \lambda_j(p) - \lambda_j(u) \right)^2 W(\tau, \lambda_j)$$

$$\tau^h(u) := \tau(p^*)$$

## Example:

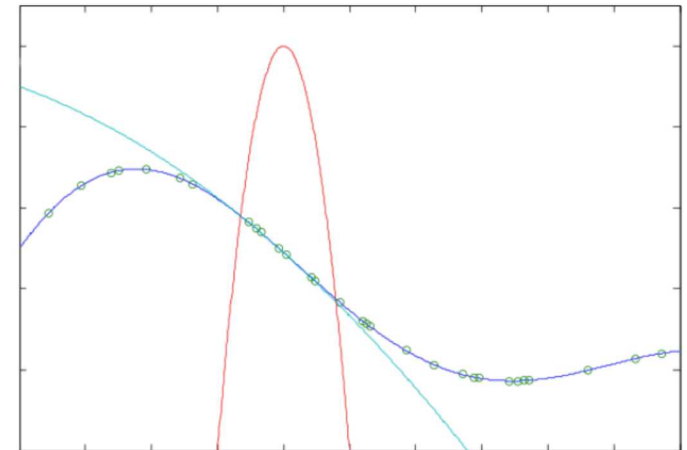
Approximate point evaluation of derivatives:

Target functional  $\tau_i = D^\alpha \circ \delta_{x_i} \in V^*$

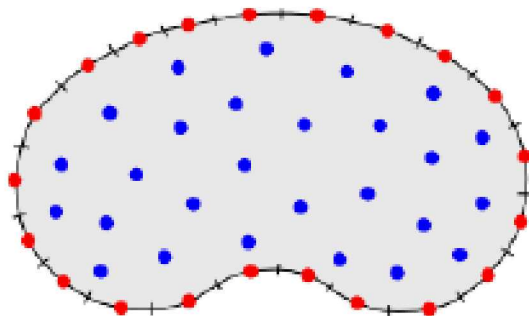
Reconstruction space  $P = \pi_m$

Sampling functional  $\lambda_j = \delta_{x_j} \in V^*$

Weighting function  $W = W(\|x_i - x_j\|)$







**Definition 0.1. Fill+separation distances** Given point cloud  $X = \{x_1, \dots, x_N\} \subset \Omega$ , define distances

$$h_X = \sup_{x \in \Omega} \min_{j \in X} \|x - x_j\|^2$$

$$q_X = \frac{1}{2} \min_{j \neq i} \|x_i - x_j\|^2$$

**Definition 0.2. Quasi-uniformity** A point cloud  $X$  is *quasi-uniform* with respect to  $c_{qu}$  if

$$q_X \leq h_X \leq c_{qu} q_X$$

**Proposition 0.1.** Suppose bounded  $\Omega$  and quasi-uniform  $X$  w.r.t.  $c_{qu} > 0$ . Then there exist  $c_1, c_2 > 0$  such that

$$c_1 N^{-\frac{1}{d}} \leq h_X \leq c_2 N^{-\frac{1}{d}}$$

# Classical MLS: quasi-interpolants

## [Wendland04]

**Definition 1. Local polynomial reproduction:** A process defining  $\forall x_i \in X$  an approximation  $u(x) = \sum_j \phi_j u(x_j)$  Is a local polynomial reproduction if there exist  $C_1, C_2 > 0$ .

1.  $\sum_j \phi_j P_j = P_j$  for all  $P \in V_h$
2.  $\sum_j |\phi_j| \leq C_1$  for all  $x \in \Omega$
3.  $\phi_j(x) = 0$  if  $\|x - x_j\|_2 > C_2 h_X$  and  $x \in \Omega$

**Theorem 1.** For bounded  $\Omega$ , define  $\Omega^* = \bigcup_{x \in \Omega} B(x, C_2 h_X)$ . If  $s_f$  is a local polynomial reproduction of order  $m$  and  $f \in C^{m+1}(\Omega^*)$  then

$$|f(x) - s_f(x)| \leq C h_X^{m+1} |f|_{C^{m+1}(\Omega^*)}$$

**Theorem 2.** Consider the GMLS process with  $\tau = \delta_x$ ,  $\lambda_j(u) = u(x_j)$ , and  $V = \Pi_m$ . If  $\Omega$  is compact and satisfies a cone condition, and  $X$  is quasi-uniform, then there exists a constant  $C > 0$  such that  $\text{supp}(W) = C h_X$  where the GMLS problem is solvable and forms a local polynomial reproduction.

# Classical MLS: derivative approximation

## [Mirzaei12]

**Definition 1. Local polynomial reproduction:** A process defining  $\forall x_i \in X$  an approximation  $D^\alpha u(x) = \sum_j \phi_j u(x_j)$  Is a local polynomial reproduction if there exist  $C_1, C_2 > 0$ .

1.  $\sum_j \phi_j P_j = D^\alpha P(x)$  for all  $P \in V_h$
2.  $\sum_j |\phi_j| \leq C_1 h_X^{-|\alpha|}$  for all  $x \in \Omega$
3.  $\phi_j(x) = 0$  if  $\|x - x_j\|_2 > C_2 h_X$  and  $x \in \Omega$

**Theorem 1.** For bounded  $\Omega$ , define  $\Omega^* = \bigcup_{x \in \Omega} B(x, C_2 h_X)$ . If  $s_f$  is a local polynomial reproduction of order  $m$  and  $f \in C^{m+1}(\Omega^*)$  then

$$|f(x) - s_f(x)| \leq C h_X^{m+1-|\alpha|} |f|_{C^{m+1}(\Omega^*)}$$

**Theorem 2.** Consider the GMLS process with  $\tau(u) = D^\alpha u(x)$ ,  $\lambda_j(u) = u(x_j)$ , and  $V = \Pi_m$ . If  $\Omega$  is compact and satisfies a cone condition, and  $X$  is quasi-uniform, then there exists a constant  $C > 0$  such that  $\text{supp}(W) = C h_X$  where the GMLS problem is solvable and forms a local polynomial reproduction.



## Basic technique:

$$\begin{aligned}
 |\tau_{\mathbf{x}}(u) - \tau_{\mathbf{x}}^h(u)| &\leq |\tau_{\mathbf{x}}(u) - \tau_{\mathbf{x}}(p)| + |\tau_{\mathbf{x}}(p) - \tau_{\mathbf{x}}^h(u)|, \quad (\forall p \in P) \\
 &\leq |\tau_{\mathbf{x}}(u) - \tau_{\mathbf{x}}(p)| + |\tau_{\mathbf{x}}^h(p - u)|, \quad \leftarrow \text{reconstruction property} \\
 &\leq |\tau_{\mathbf{x}}(u - p)| + \left| \sum_{i=1}^{N_p} \lambda_i(u - p) a_{\tau_{\mathbf{x}}}^i \right| \quad \leftarrow \text{GMLS definition} \\
 &\leq |\tau_{\mathbf{x}}(u - p)| + \max_{i \in I_{\mathbf{x}}} |\lambda_i(u - p)| \sum_{i \in I_{\mathbf{x}}} |a_{\tau_{\mathbf{x}}}^i|.
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\sum_{i \in I_{\mathbf{x}}} |a_{\tau_{\mathbf{x}}}^i| \leq C_W \|\tau_{\mathbf{x}}\|_{P^*} \|\Lambda_{\mathbf{x}}^{-1}\|$$

Holds for any target functional and approximation space:

$$|\tau_{\mathbf{x}}(u) - \tau_{\mathbf{x}}^h(u)| \leq |\tau_{\mathbf{x}}(u - p)| + C_W \|\tau_{\mathbf{x}}\|_{P^*} \|\Lambda_{\mathbf{x}}^{-1}\| \max_{i \in I_{\mathbf{x}}} |\lambda_i(u - p)|, \quad p \in P$$

# A general abstract framework

- All examples from beginning of talk fall into this framework

- Ex: Data transfer applications

$$\lambda_i^e(\mathbf{u}) := \frac{1}{|e_i|} \int_{e_i} \mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{t}_i \quad \lambda_i^f(\mathbf{u}) = \frac{1}{|f_i|} \int_{f_i} \mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{n}_i \quad \lambda_i^v(u) := \frac{1}{|V_i|} \int_{V_i} u(\mathbf{y}) d\mathbf{y}$$

- Ex: Solving different PDES

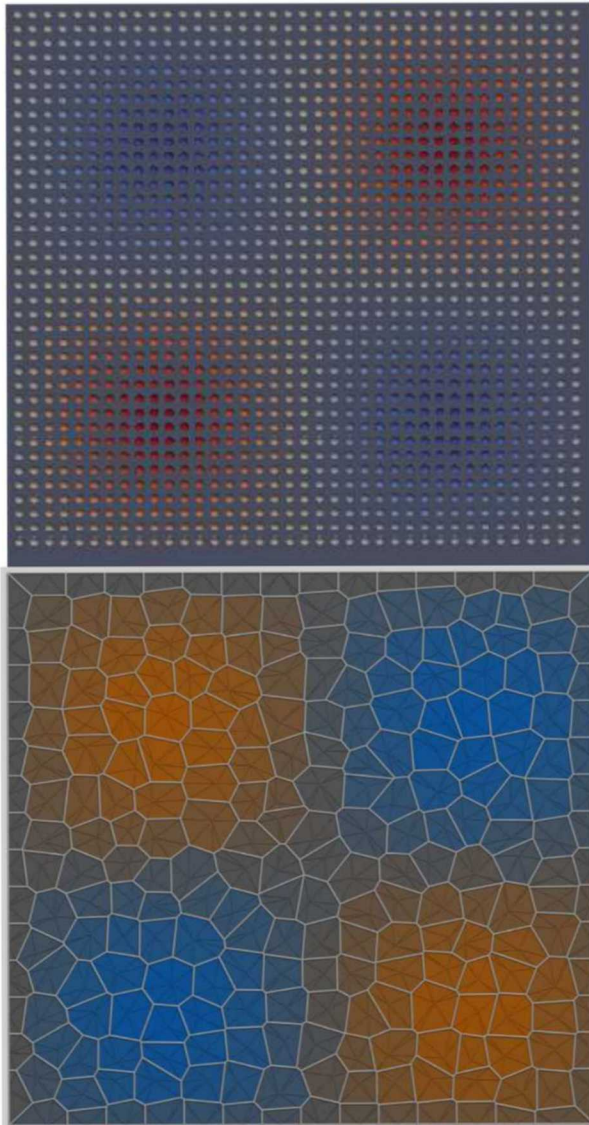
$$\tau(u) = \operatorname{div}(u) \quad \tau(u) = \int_{B(x)} K(x, y) u(y) - u(x) dy \quad \tau(u) = \int_{\partial\Omega} \sigma(u) \cdot d\mathbf{A}$$

- Ex: Handling divergence/curl constraints in saddle point problems

$$V_h = \{ \mathbf{v} \in (\Pi_m)^d \mid \nabla \cdot \mathbf{v} = 0 \}$$

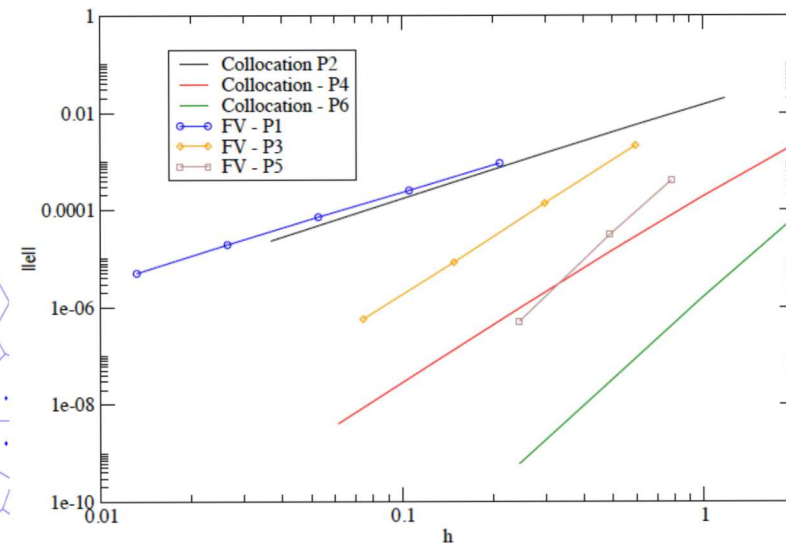
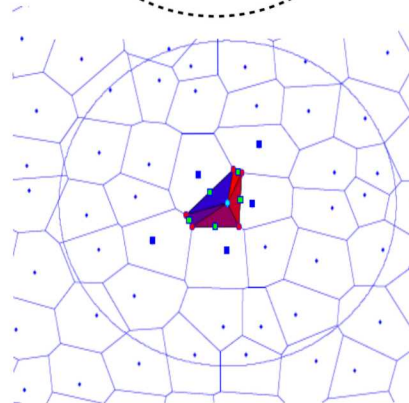
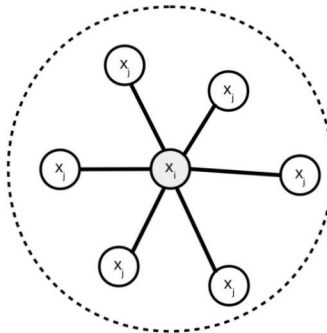
$$V_h = \{ \mathbf{v} \in (\Pi_m)^d \mid \nabla \times \mathbf{v} = 0 \}$$

# Solving PDEs with or without a mesh



To generate mesh free schemes for  $\nabla^2 \phi = f$ :

Target functional	$\tau_i$	Finite difference $\nabla^2 \phi(\mathbf{x}_i)$	Finite volume $\int_{face} \nabla \phi \cdot d\mathbf{A}$
Reconstruction space	$\mathbf{V}$	$P_m$	$P_m$
Sampling functional	$\lambda_j$	$\phi(\mathbf{x}_j)$	$\phi(\mathbf{x}_j)$
Weighting function	$W$	$W(\ \mathbf{x}_j - \mathbf{x}_i\ )$	$W(\ \mathbf{x}_j - \mathbf{x}_i\ )$





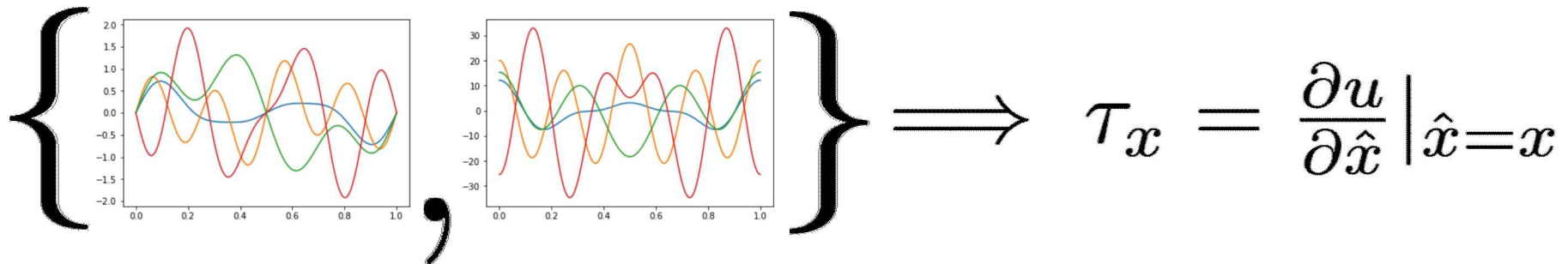
- Develop a mathematical framework for scientific machine learning (SciML) tasks
  - Data-driven model development
  - Surrogate models for optimization and UQ
  - Machine learning tools for solving numerical PDE
  - Numerical homogenization of multiscale physics
  - Development of closure models from multifidelity data
- Need tools appropriate for SciML setting
  - Augment small-data regime with domain expertise
  - Need to handle unstructured data characteristic of scientific computation (e.g. unstructured meshes vs. Cartesian grids)

# Operator regression: Problem statement

Given a collection of functions  $u_i \in V$ , a functional  $\tau_x \in V^*$ , and a domain  $\Omega$  can we infer  $\tau_x$  from observations of the form

$$\{u_i(x), \tau_x[u_i]\}_{i=1}^N?$$

**Example:**



# Operator regression: Problem statement

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can we infer  $\tau_x$  from observations of the form

$$\{u_i(x), \tau_x[u_i]\}_{i=1}^N?$$

Introduce a parametrized family of operators  $\mathcal{L}_\xi \in V^*$   
with hyperparameter  $\xi$  and solve the  $\ell_2$ -optimization problem

$$\mathcal{L} = \underset{\xi}{\operatorname{argmin}} \sum_i \|\tau_x[u_i] - \mathcal{L}_\xi[u_i]\|_{V^*}^2$$

We present learning frameworks corresponding to choice of parameterization:

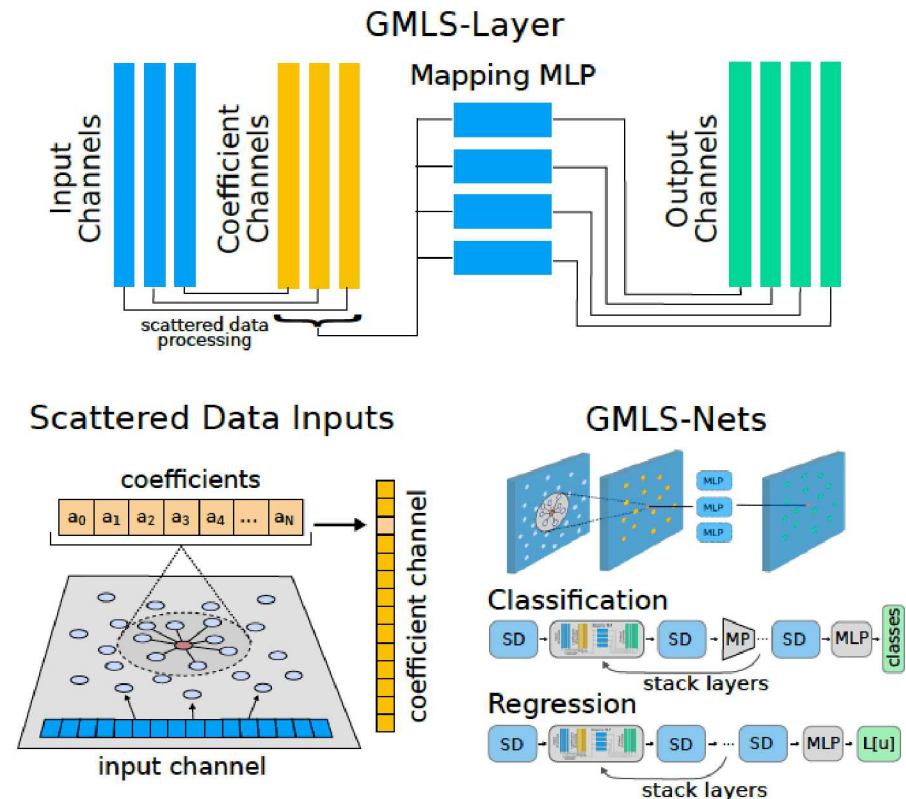
- **GMLS-Nets:** Use meshfree approximation theory to regress operators characterized by scattered samples of data
- **Fourier regression:** Characterize operators via parameterization of Fourier symbol
- **Nonlocal operator regression:** Characterize nonlocal operators via parameterization of nonlocal kernel



# GMLS-Nets: SciML architecture for unstructured data

w/ Ravi Patel (SNL), Paul Atzberger (UCSB)

- Assume a basis  $\Phi$ , so that  $p \in P \rightarrow p = a^T \Phi$
- GMLS thus provides an *optimal local encoding* of data in terms of the coefficient  $a$ , providing a low-dimensional encoding that may e.g. exploit physics
- Traditionally, GMLS estimates  $\tau(u) = a^T \tau(\Phi)$ , assuming one has knowledge of how the target functional. Instead we seek an operator  $q_\xi : a \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ , and use gradient descent to tune  $\xi$  to match data
- Functionally identical to convolutional networks - we get a stencil that reproduces the operator, but no restriction on e.g. Cartesian data, collar region, etc.

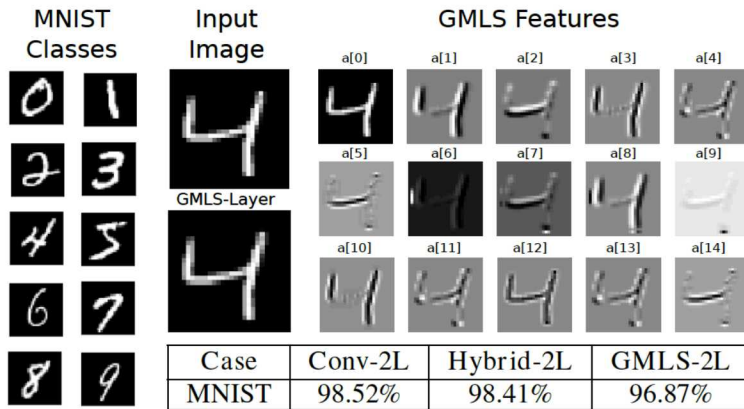


Recently submitted to neuroIPS (<https://arxiv.org/pdf/1909.05371.pdf>)

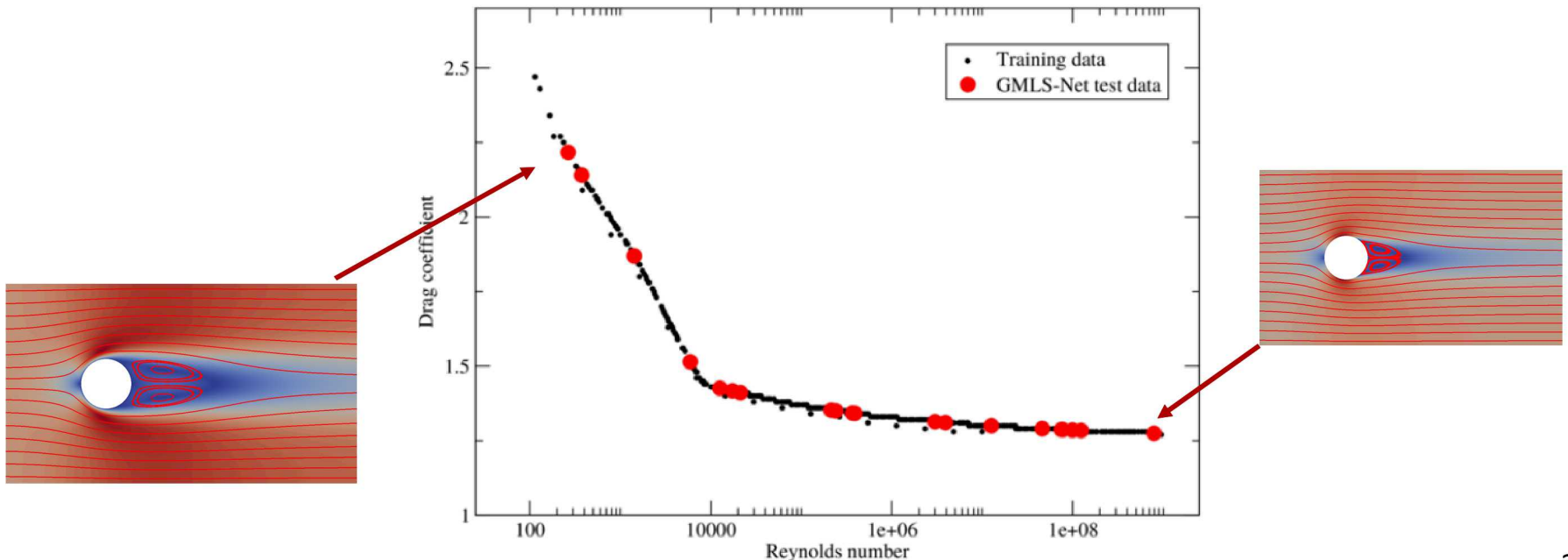
**Open-source software:** code and training sets publically available for:

- Tensorflow (<https://github.com/rgp62/gmls-nets>)
- PyTorch (<https://github.com/atzberg/gmls-nets>)

# GMLS-Nets: results



- Provides similar performance to convNets on MNIST due to similar feature extraction capability
- Generalizes convNets to unstructured scientific data:
  - Prediction of drag from cell center velocity field taken from FV data
  - No pressure/viscosity information: drag characterized entirely by flow

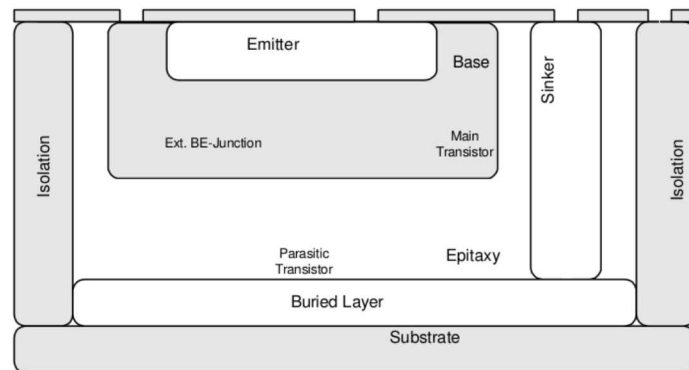


# Data driven circuit models

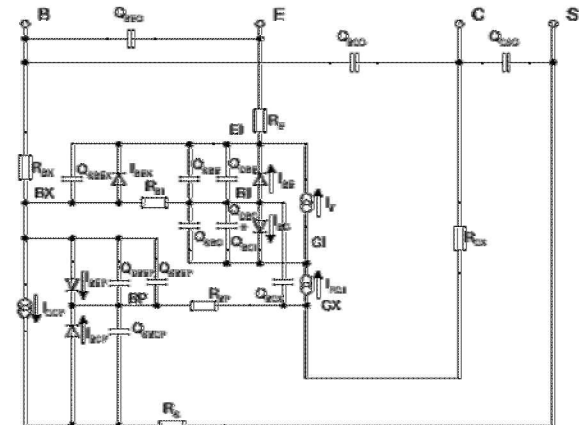
w/ P.Bochev

When analyzing systems consisting of large numbers of components, costly first principle PDE models are often abandoned in favor of efficient ODE-based network models

PDE-based drift-diffusion model



Circuit compact model



As an example, circuit models are empirically generated in a process that takes **~10 years** to develop for typical components and has no means to incorporate radiation effects.

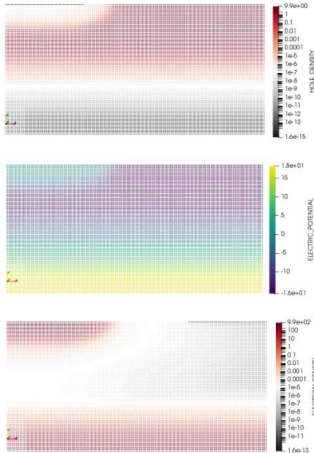
Can we leverage physics from PDE model to inform an automatically generated compact model?



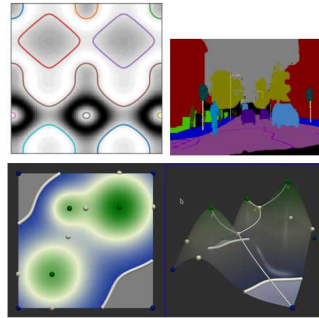
# Data driven circuit models

w/ P. Bochev

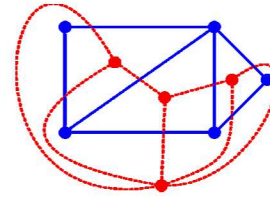
**Physics Priming (PP)**  
Perfunctory TCAD



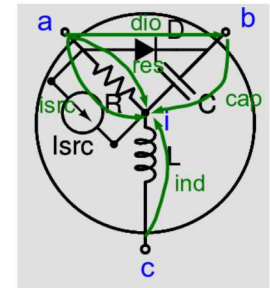
**Region Recognition (RR)**  
ML + TDA



**Topology  
Tailoring (TT)**



**Interaction  
Identification (II)**  
(seeded w/ established CMs)



Simulate high fidelity physics.

Identify significant regions (ML+ Topological Data Analysis)

Identify interactions between significant regions.

Prescribe electronics components to physical interactions.

Generate **positive feedback** in the machine learning process (supervised training).

**Train and Adapt**  
(using available  
experimental data)