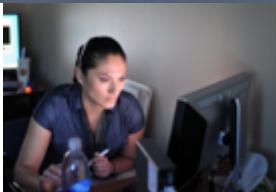




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# Neural-Network Based Collision Operators for the Boltzmann Equation



*PRESENTED BY*

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# Boltzmann Equation



$$\partial_t f + \mathbf{v} \cdot \nabla f + \mathbf{a} \cdot \nabla_{\mathbf{v}} f = C[f]$$

Particle Density   Velocity coordinate   Force   Collisions

- Defines statistical evolution of system
- Models rarefied gas dynamics:
  - Plasmas (Vlasov)
  - Upper atmosphere fluid dynamics
- Physically modeled in 6D
  - 3D coordinate space ( $\mathbf{x}$ )
  - 3D velocity space ( $\mathbf{v}$ )



Apollo command module

# Two Class of Numerical Methods

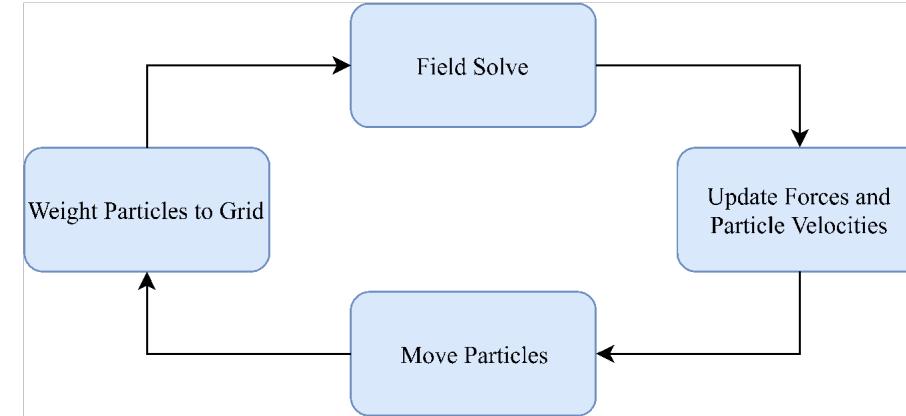


## 1. Particle-in-cell (PIC) methods

- Uses coordinate space mesh (3D)
- Particle evolution samples 'f'
- Collision operator handled using Direct Sim. Monte Carlo (DSMC)
- Fast, with sampling errors

## 2. “Continuum” simulation

- Uses FD/FEM/FV 6D coord/velocity space mesh
- Collision operator can be expensive
- No sampling, 6D mesh-based methods



# Collision Operator



$$C[f] = \iiint d\mathbf{v}_1 \iint dS B(\|\mathbf{v} - \mathbf{v}_1\|, \theta) (f(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{v}', t) f(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{v}'_1, t) - f(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{v}, t) f(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{v}_1, t))$$

Collision Operator: Convolutional integral over velocity space

- Each point in velocity space “talks” to every other point

In 3D:  $N^3$  points means naïve algorithm scales as  $N^6$

- For hard-sphere collisions FFT methods have been developed scaling like<sup>1</sup>

$N^3 \log(N)$

- Recent work for general methods has developed methods that scale as<sup>2,3</sup>

$N^4 \log(N)$

1. C. Mouhot, L. Pareschi, Fast algorithms for computing the Boltzmann collision operator, *Math. of Comp.* (2006)
2. I. M. Gamba, J. R. Haack, C. D. Hauck, J. Hu, A fast spectral method for the Boltzmann collision operator with general collision kernels, *SISC* (2017)
3. S. Jaiswal, A. A. Alexeenko, J. Hu, A discontinuous Galerkin fast spectral method for the full Boltzmann equation with general collision kernels, *JCP* (2019)

# Collision Operator: Our Machine Learning Approach

$$C[f] \approx \frac{1}{\tau} (f_M - f) + C_{\text{ML}}[f]$$

Learnable Parameter      Maxwellian      Neural network

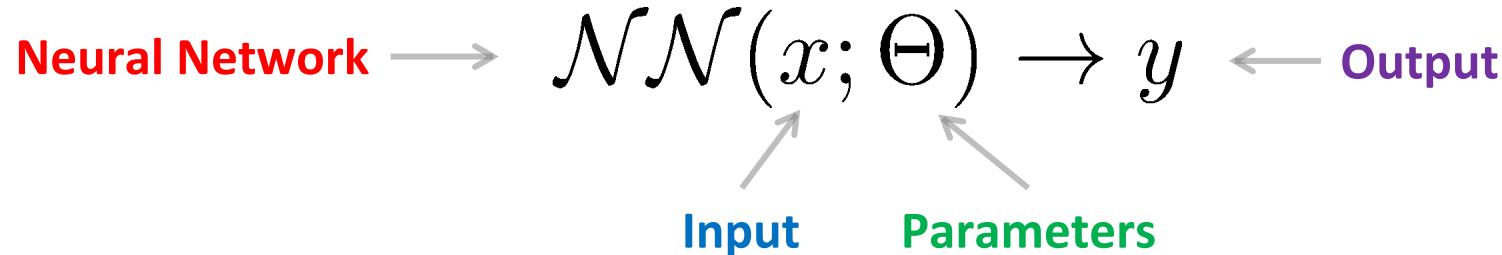
“Learn” perturbation to BGK operator

- BGK is damping around Maxwellian
- Will learn BGK parameter  $\tau$
- Perturbation will be a neural network
- Will “teach” the model using cross-sectional data from DSMC

# Neural Networks



A neural network is a parameterized model:



It is composed of multiple **layers**:

**Feature Vectors**

$$u_1 = A_0 x + b_0,$$
$$u_{i+1} = f(u_i; \{A_i, b_i\}) \quad i = 1 \dots L - 1,$$
$$y = A_L u_L;$$
$$\Theta = \{A_i, b_i\}_{i=0}^{L-1} \cup \{A_L\}$$

# Determining the Parameters



Neural network should map data according to the sampled **training set**:



Find  $\Theta$  minimizing the **loss** in the model over the **training set**:

A diagram showing the optimization equation for parameters: 
$$\min_{\Theta} \sum_{n=1}^N \text{Loss}(\mathcal{NN}(x_n; \Theta), y_n)$$
. The label 'Parameters' is positioned to the left of the equation, with an arrow pointing to the  $\Theta$  in the equation.

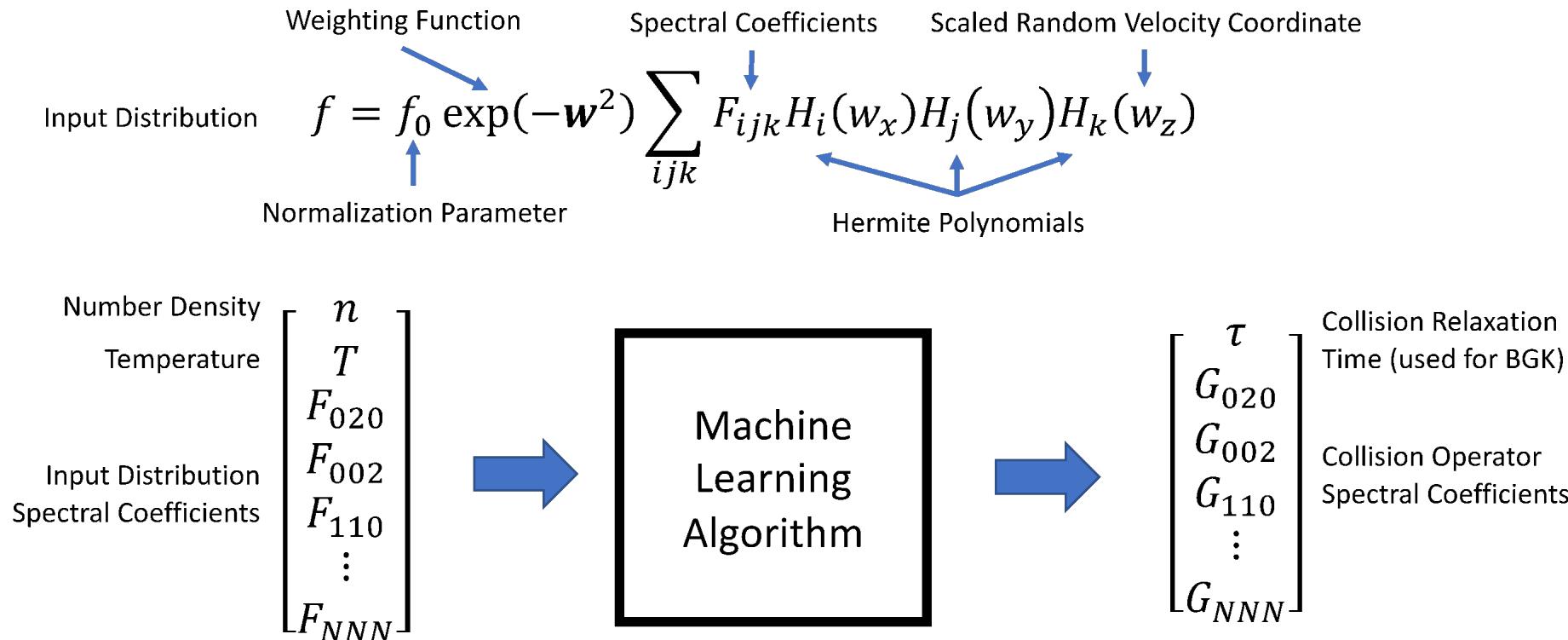
Loss function is model/data difference:

- $\text{Loss}(y^{model}, y^{data}) = \|y^{model} - y^{data}\|^2$
- $\text{Loss}(\vec{y}^{model}, \vec{y}^{data}) = \sum_{c=1}^{N_c} y_c^{data} \log(y_c^{model})$

# Feature Selection



Neural network inputs and outputs written in spectral form over velocity space



Spectral representation is designed and normalized to enforce the conservation of mass, momentum, and energy.

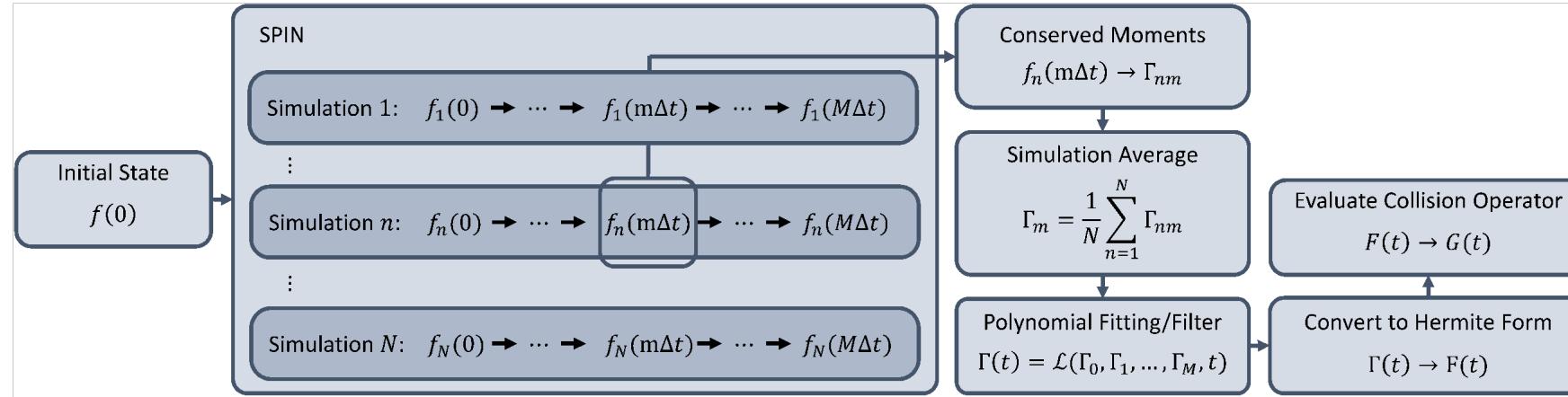
**Training and testing data is generated from “converged” DSMC data.**

# Training Data



Using a DSMC code:

1. Generate initial particle distribution
2. Run DSMC simulation with desired collisional kernel
3. Extract data pairs input (density distribution) to output (collisional response)



Comments:

- Leverages existing cross-section tables
- Expensive offline phase for generating data
- Accuracy of trained model will be limited to range of training data  
(neural networks are not magic, extrapolation is still hard ill-posed)

# Training Loss



$$\sqrt{\frac{1}{N_{\text{samples}}} \sum_{\text{samples}} (\tau - \bar{\tau})^2}$$

**Relaxation Time Loss**

+

$$\frac{\sum_{\text{samples}} \sum_{ijk} |g_{ijk} - \bar{g}_{ijk}| \Omega_{ijk}}{\sum_{\text{samples}} \sum_{ijk} \left| \bar{g}_{ijk} + \frac{\delta_{ijk}}{\gamma_{ijk}} \right| \Omega_{ijk}}$$

**Weighted Error for Hermite  
Coefficients**

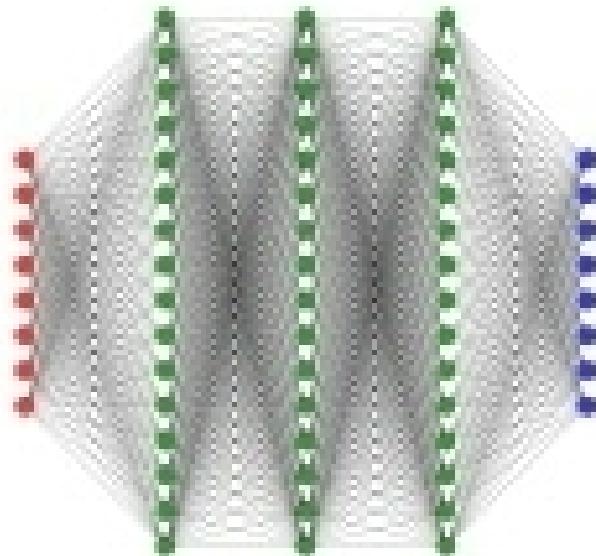
$$\Omega_{ijk} = \iiint_{-\infty}^{\infty} \left| \gamma_{ijk} H_i(w_x) H_j(w_y) H_k(w_z) \exp(-\mathbf{w}^2) \right| d^3 w$$

# Network Architectures



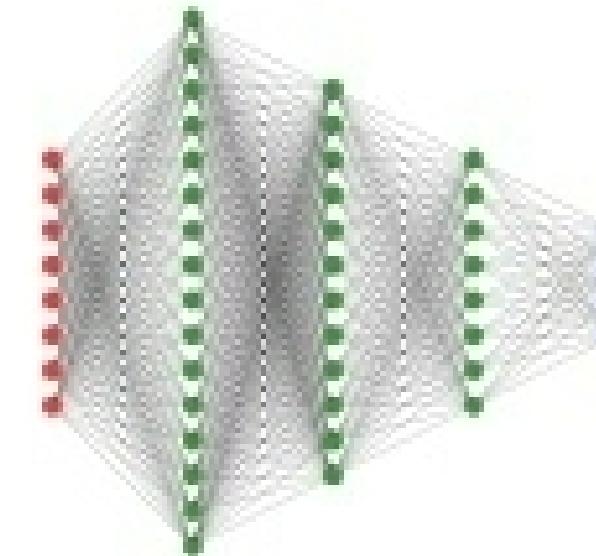
Vanilla neural networks with sigmoid activations, two flavors:

$$\mathcal{N}_{3,2}(8, 8)$$



Input/Output Spectral space is  
the same

$$\mathcal{N}_{3,2}(8, 4)$$

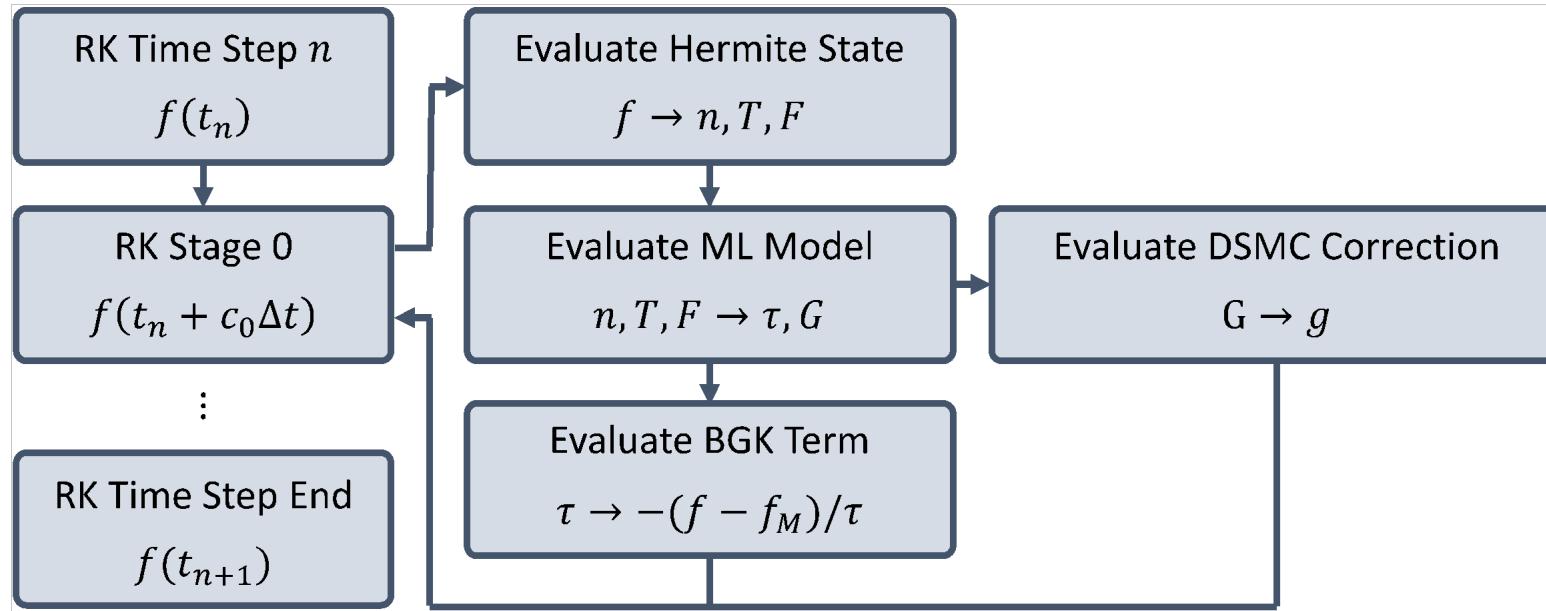


"Truncated": Output spectral  
space is smaller

Width Mult.      In size  
Hidden layers      Out size

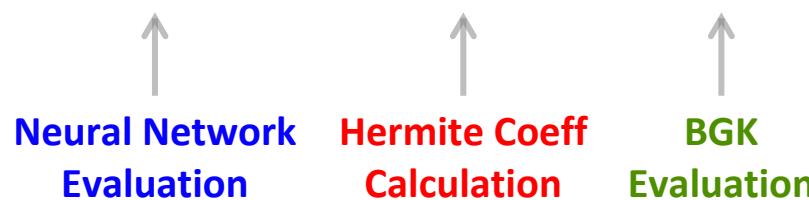
$$\mathcal{N}_{l,w}(i, o)$$

# Applying the network in a Boltzmann code



Run time (3D):

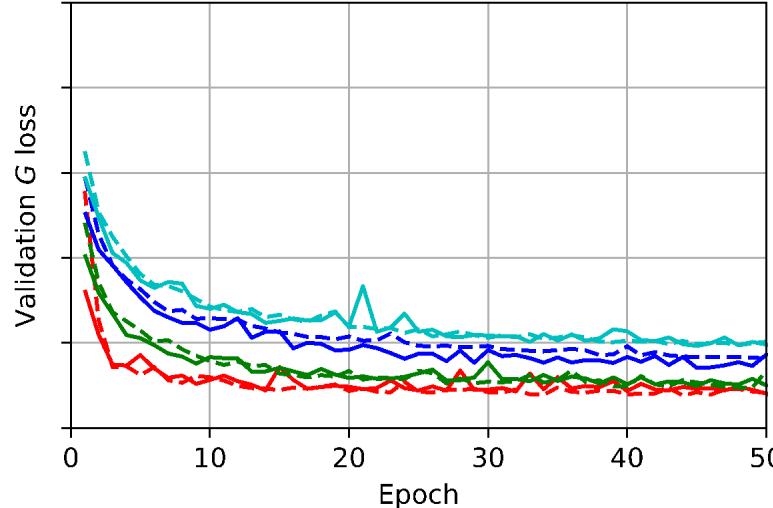
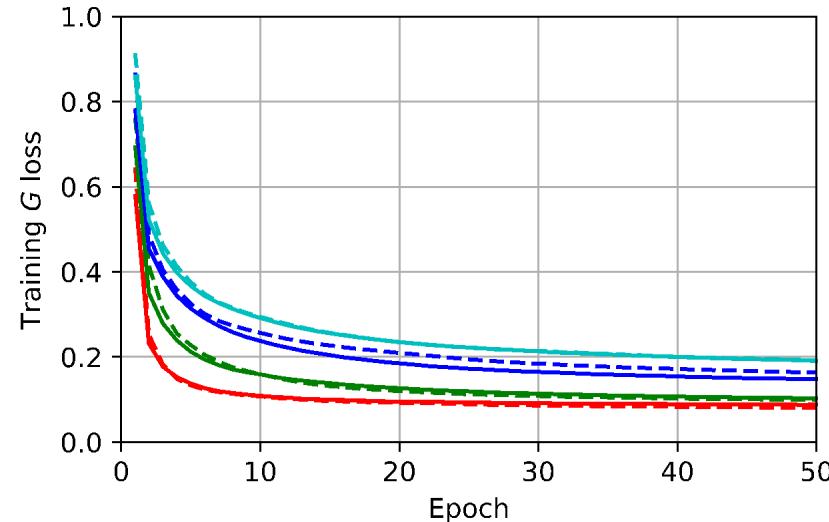
$$N_{\text{coeff}}^2 + (2N_{\text{coeff}} + 1)N^3$$



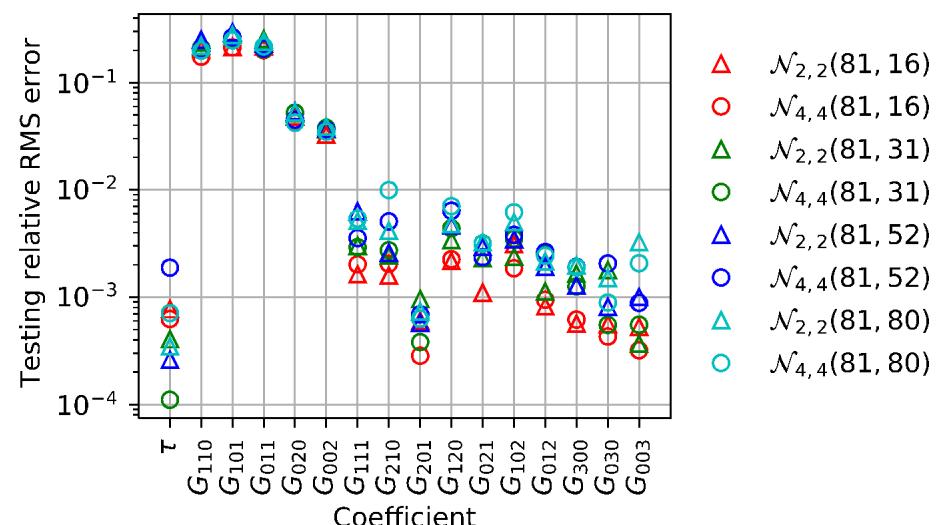
# Training and Testing



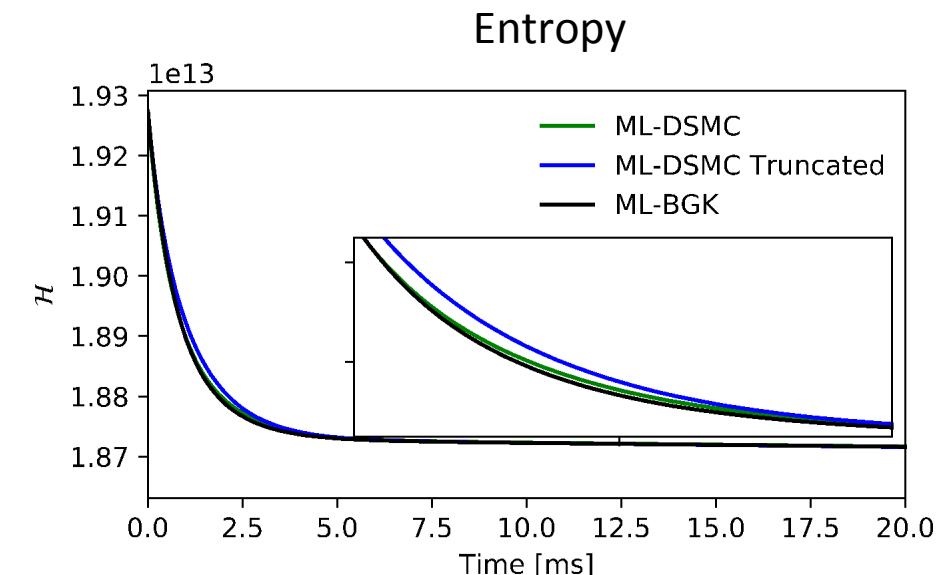
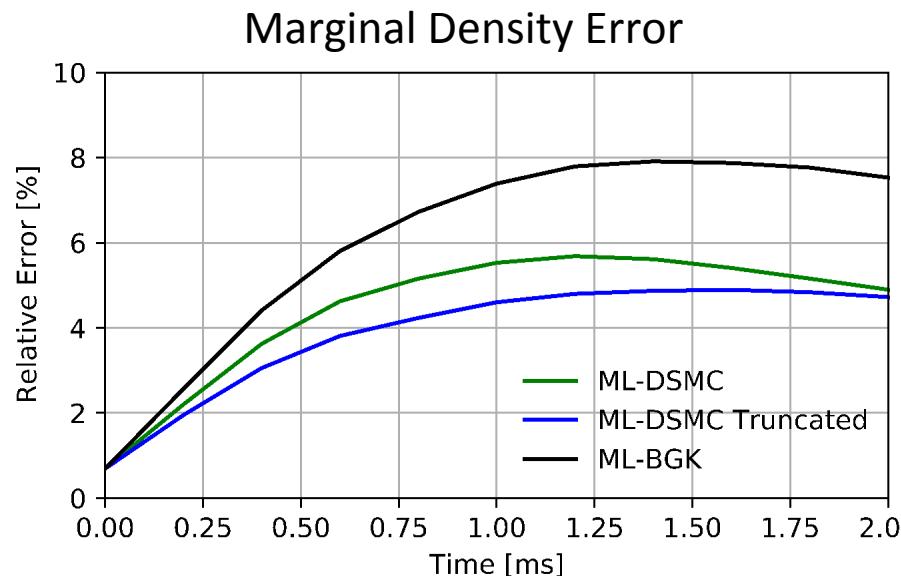
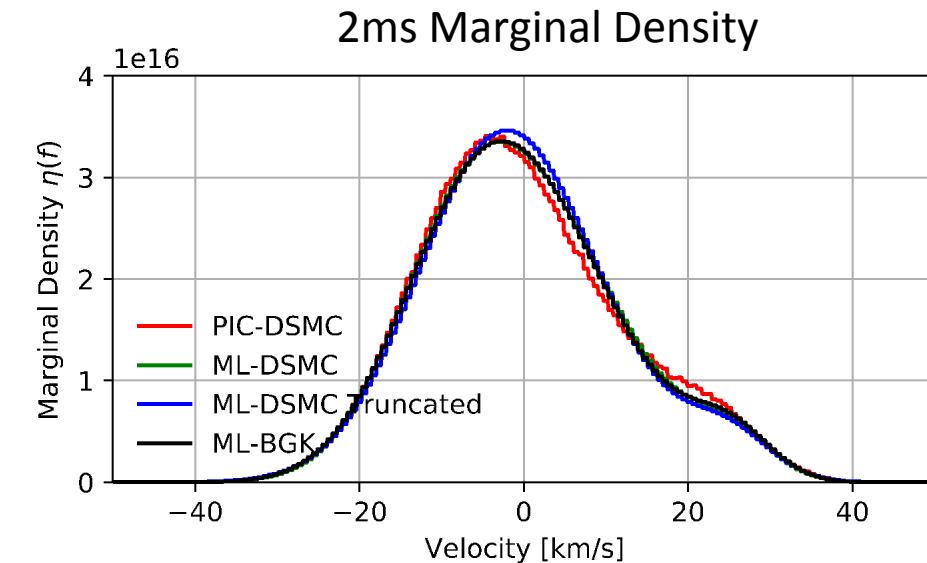
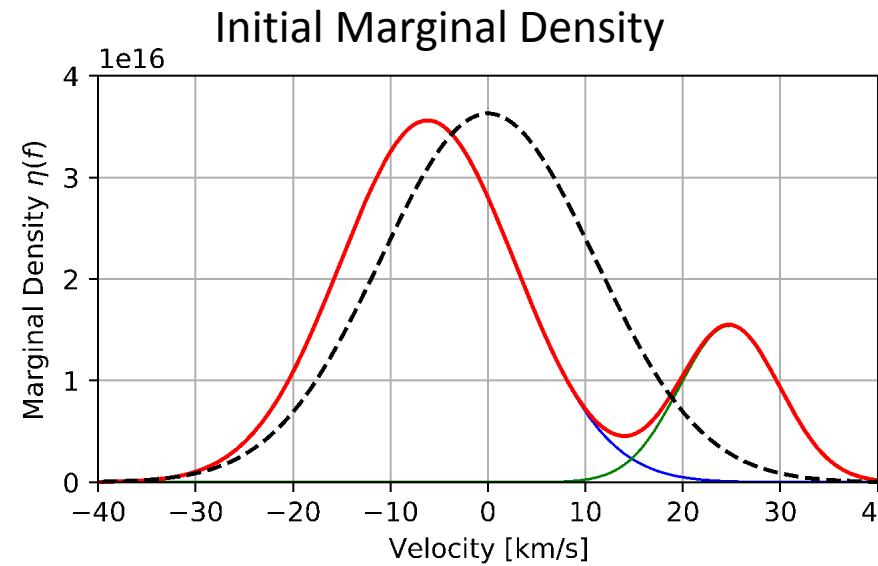
Using an Argon Maxwell-molecule



**Neural network trains well,  
no sign of overfitting, error  
is reasonable on test set**



# Bump on Tail

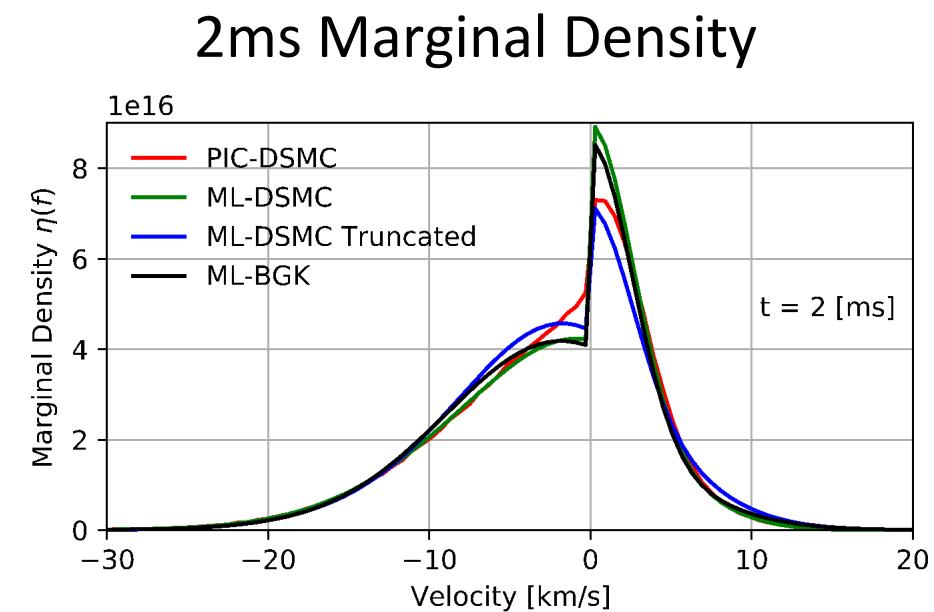
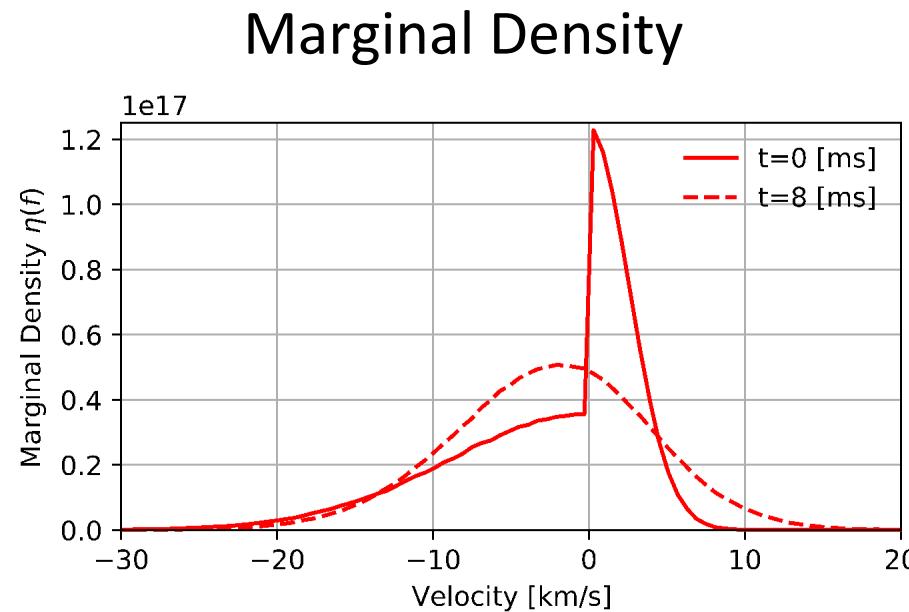


# Double Half Normal

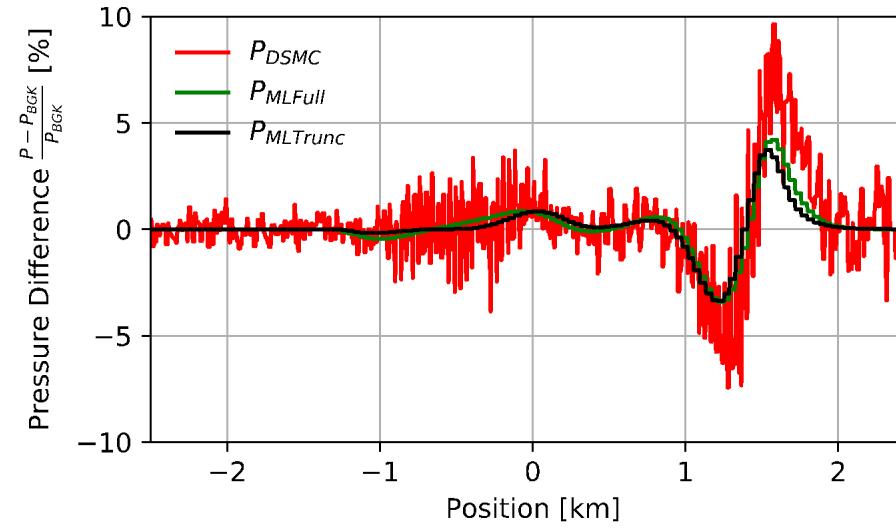
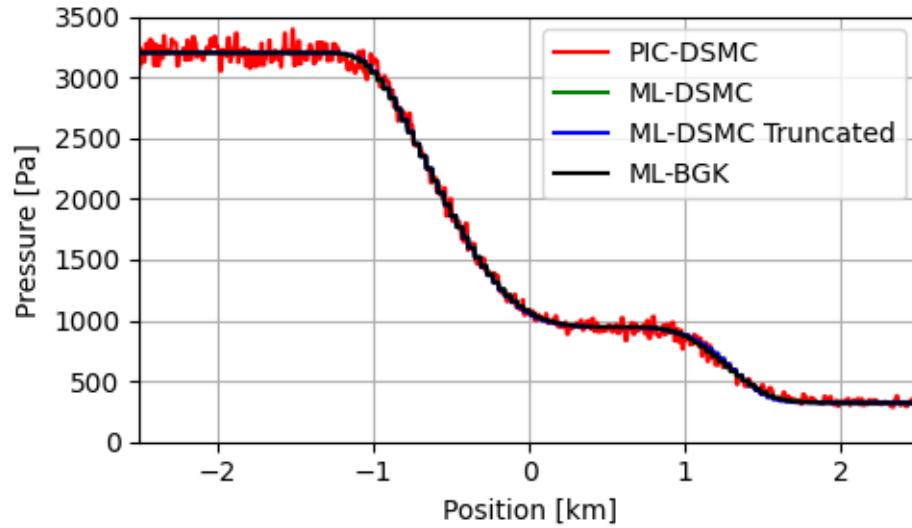


To test behavior in “novel” regimes (an extrapolation test):

- Is machine learned model accurate? No 😞
- Is machine learned model stable? Yes 😊



# Collisional Shock-Tube



Moderately collisional regime shows formation of shock front

- Good agreement in comparison to PIC (within noise)
- Difference to BGK, shows correction can be significant

# Final Thoughts



Presented a machine learned model for evaluating collisions

- Useful in the context of a continuum Boltzmann solver
  - Compares well to PIC simulation (shock tube)
  - Stable in extrapolation regime (double half normal)
  - Transient accuracy (bump on tail)
- Theoretical performance in line with other spectral approaches
- Model generated directly from a DSMC code

Presentation based on the Paper:

S. T. Miller, N. V. Roberts, E. C. Cyr, Neural-Network Based Collision Operators for the Boltzmann Equation, under review at JCP, 2021.