



Steering incoherent emission from metasurfaces with machine learning

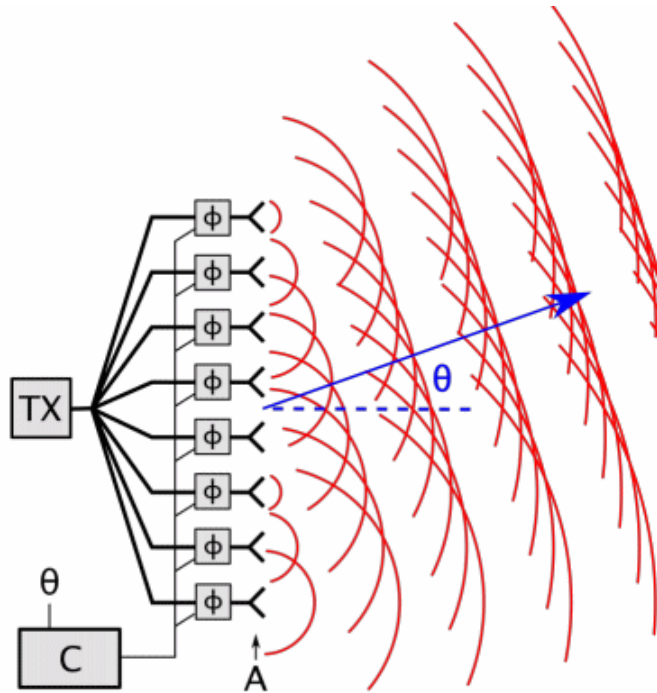
Saaketh Desai, Remi Dingreville, Prasad Iyer, Igal Brener

Center for Integrated Nanotechnologies

Sandia National Laboratories

Sandia National Laboratories is a multission laboratory managed and operated by National Technology & Engineering Solutions of Sandia, LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Honeywell International Inc., for the U.S. Department of Energy's National Nuclear Security Administration under contract DE-NA0003525.

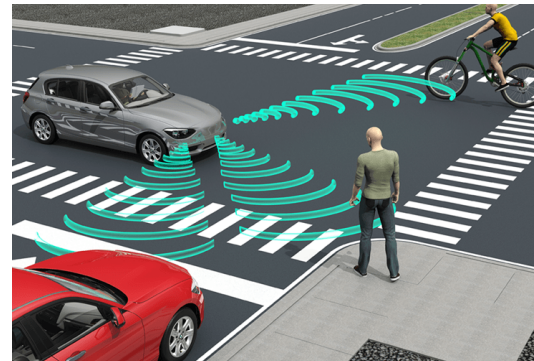
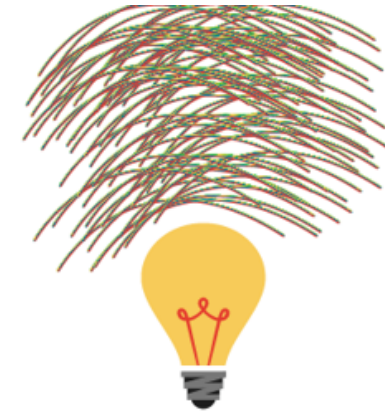
Controlling incoherent emission is challenging



Phased array optics control emission from coherent sources



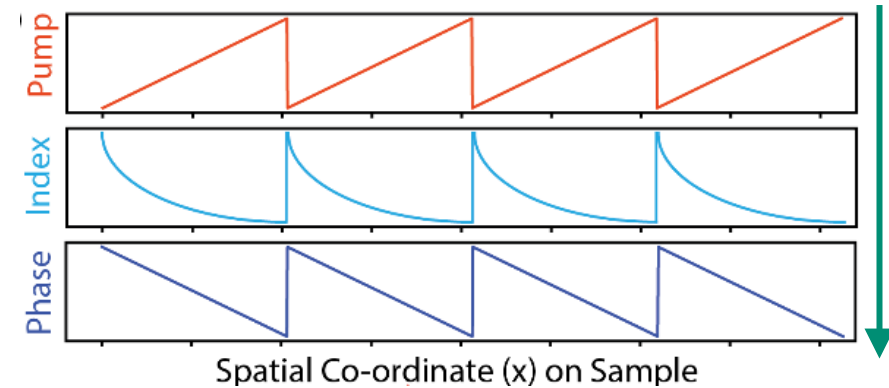
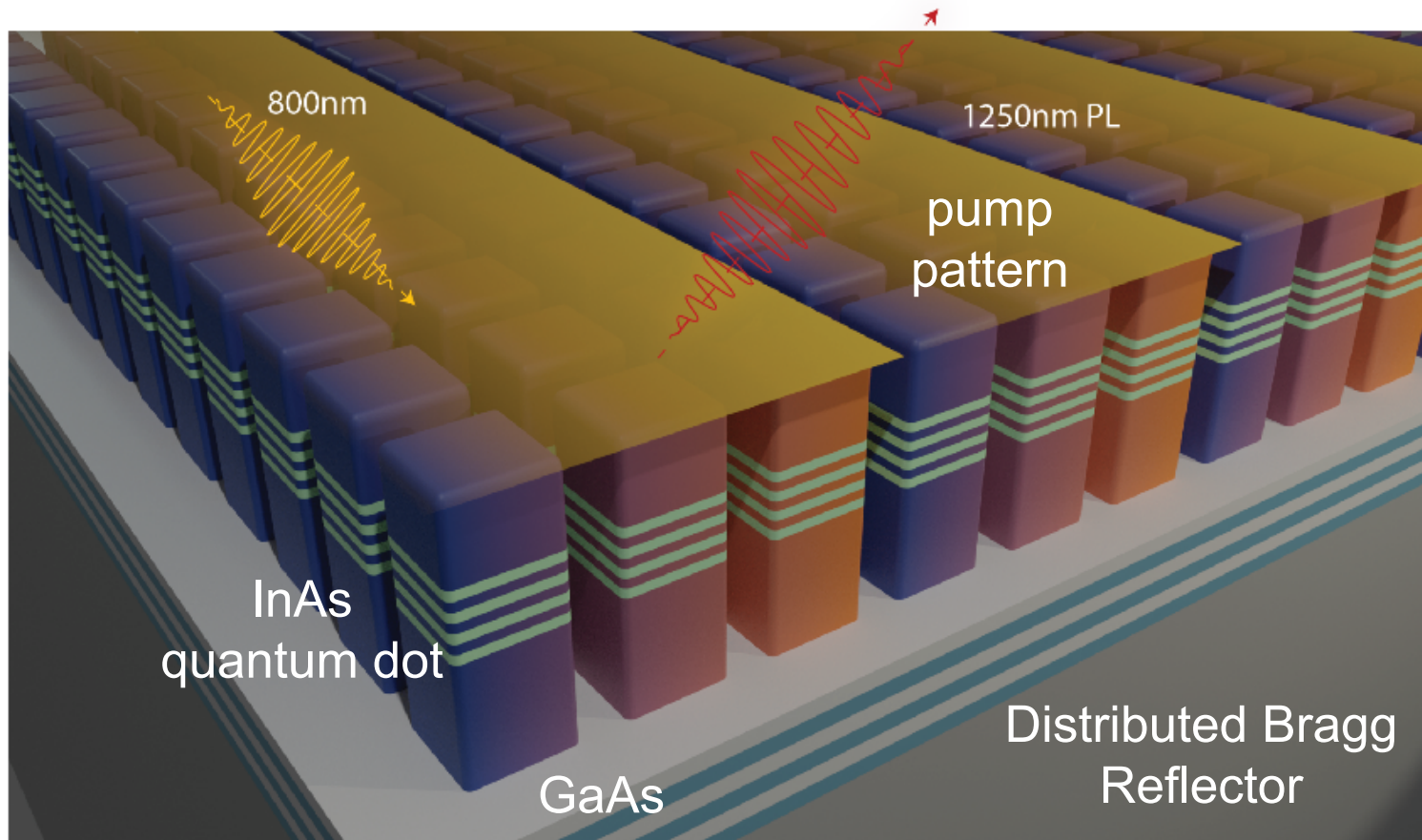
holographic display



remote sensing

How do we control incoherent sources such as LEDs?

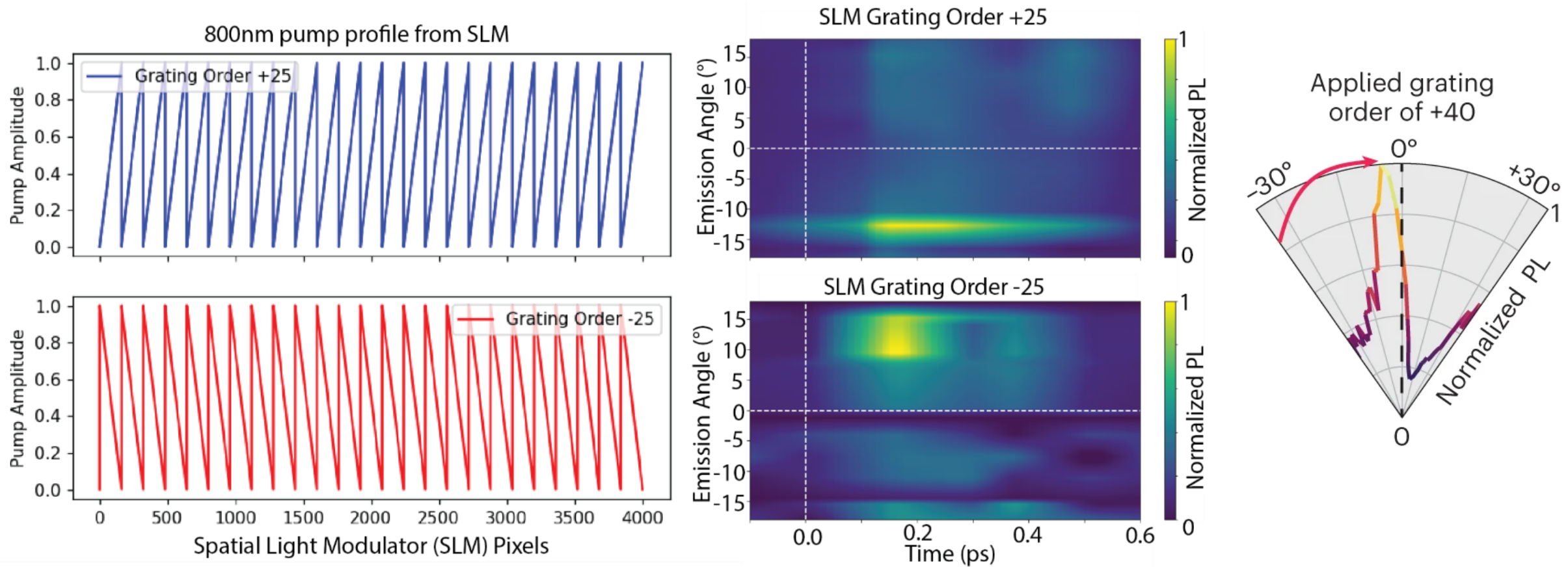
How can we steer incoherent emission?



PP Iyer et. al. *Nature Photonics* (2023)

Spatially varying refractive index profiles steer incoherent emission from metasurfaces

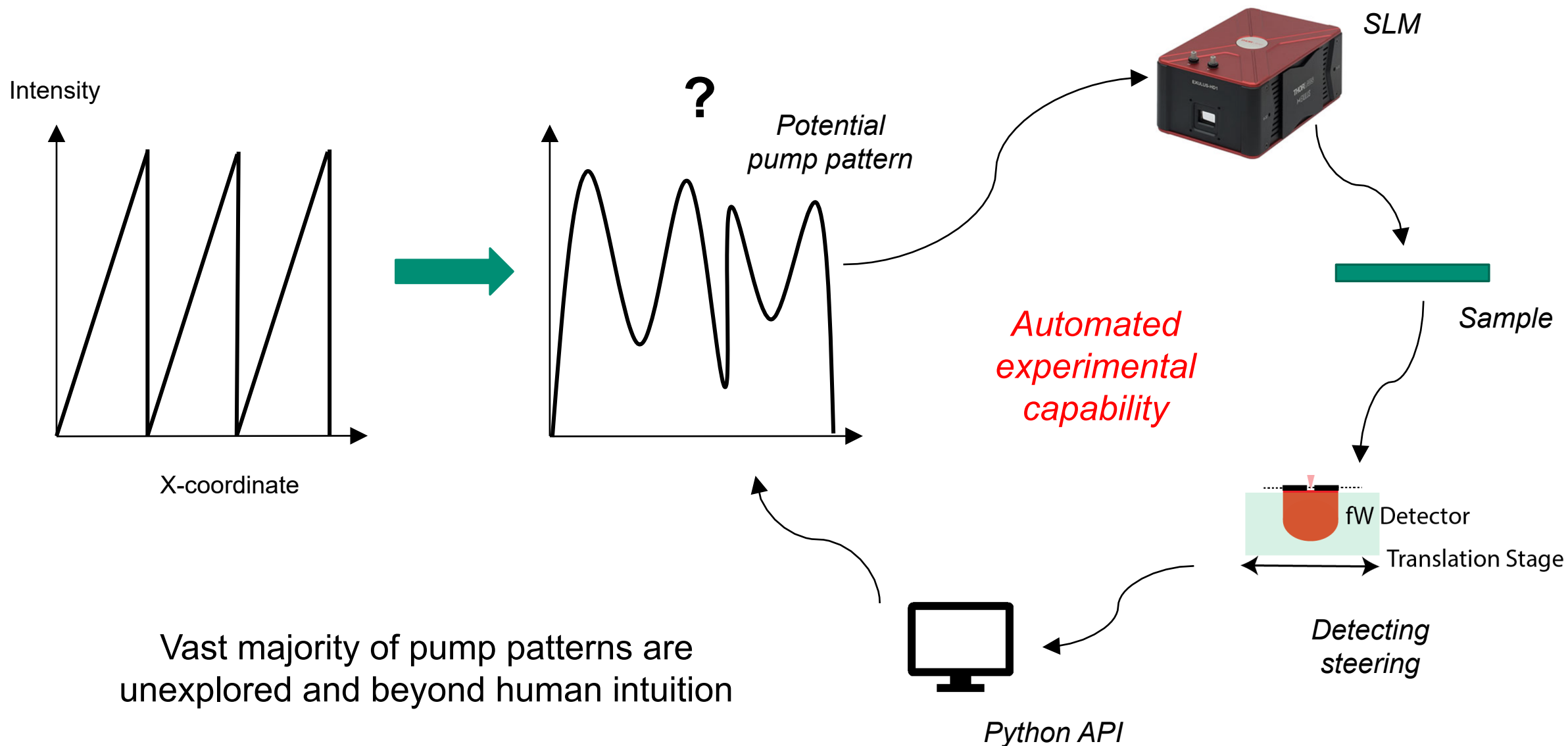
What affects the direction of beam steering?



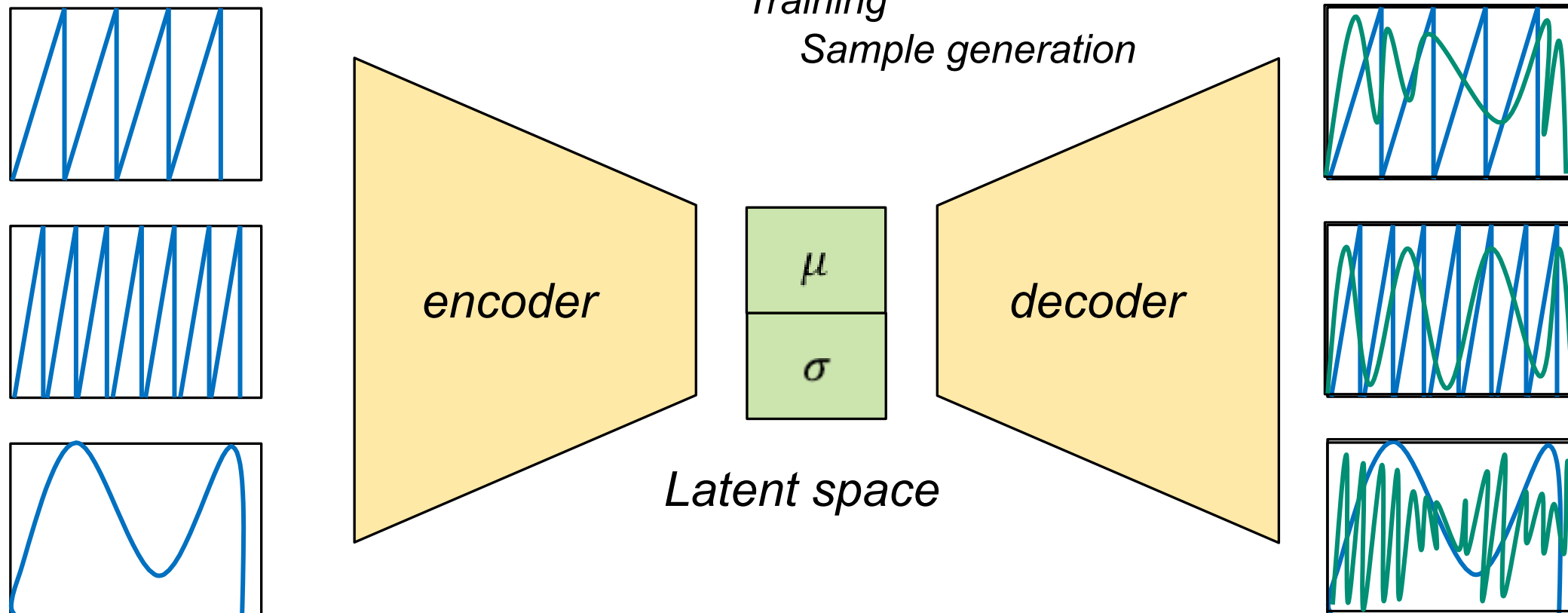
PP Iyer et. al. *Nature Photonics* (2023)

Periodicity of pump patterns decides emission (steering) angle

Steering towards you?



Variational autoencoders can generate a wide variety of patterns



$$\text{Objective} = - (\text{Reconstruction loss} + \text{Regularization term})$$

*Evidence
lower bound
(ELBO) loss*

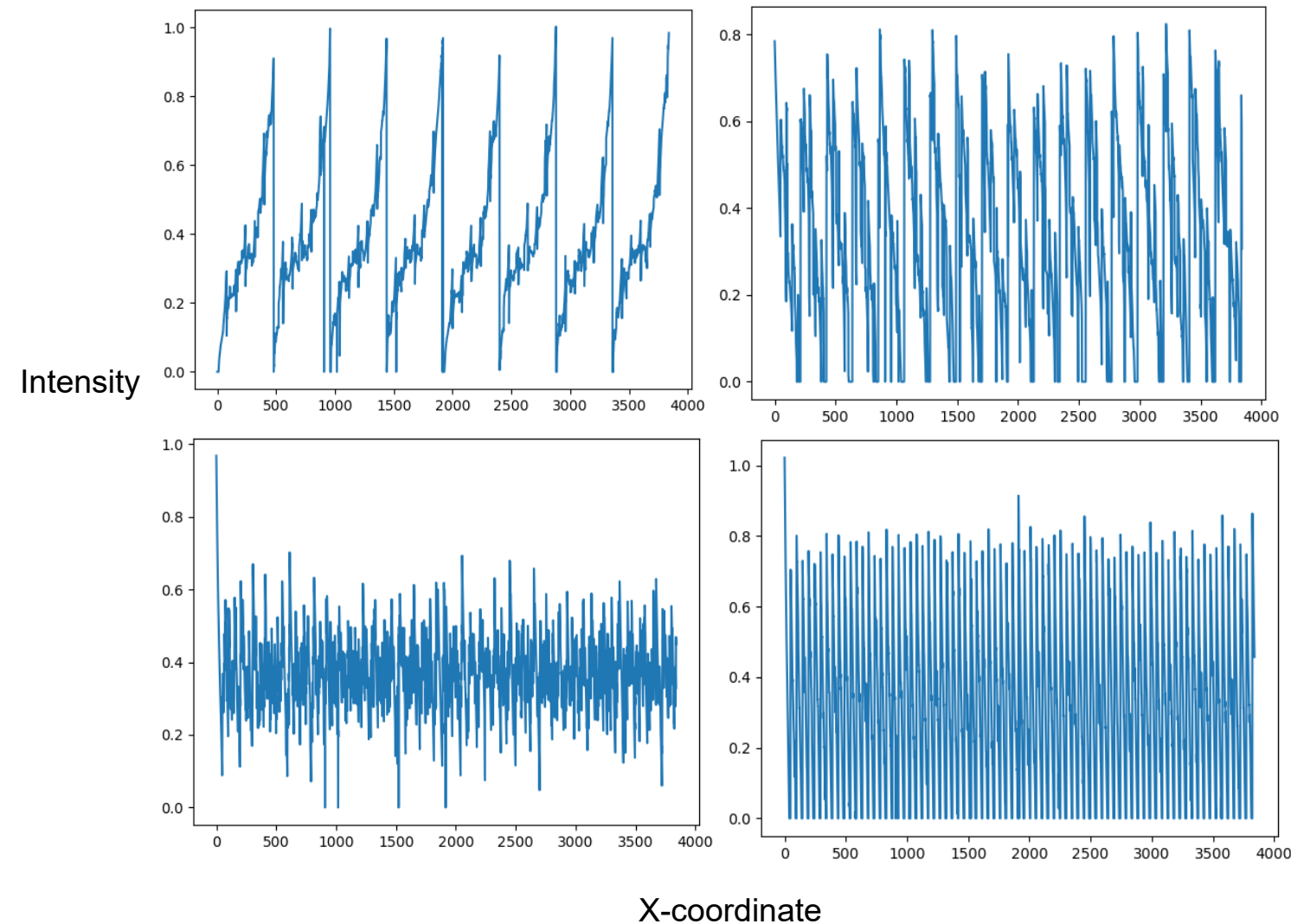
*Helps generate
high quality
patterns*

*Ensures small changes
in latent space give
similar images*

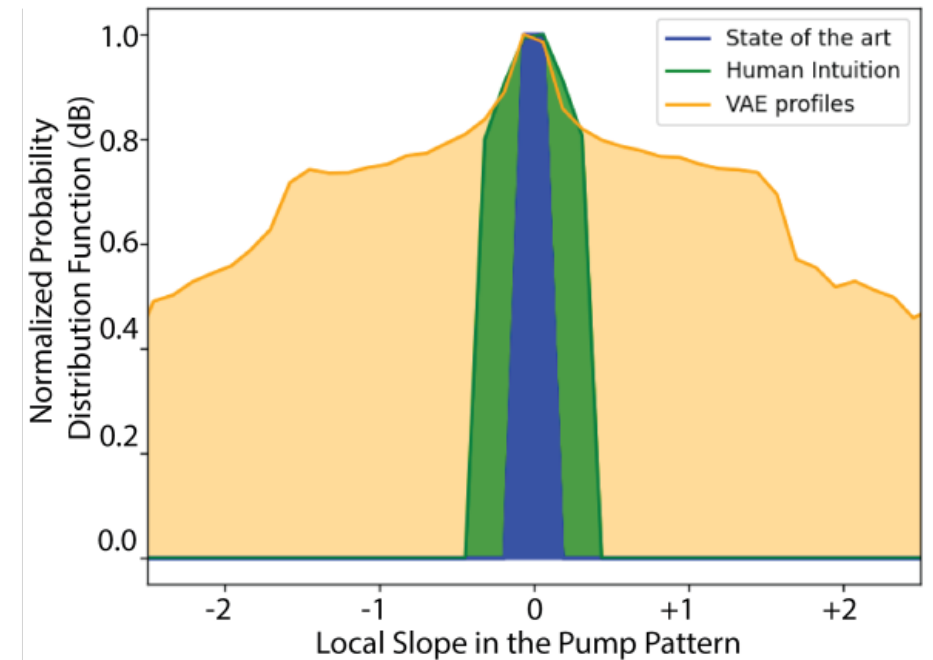
Generative capability of the VAE



Patterns generated by the VAE

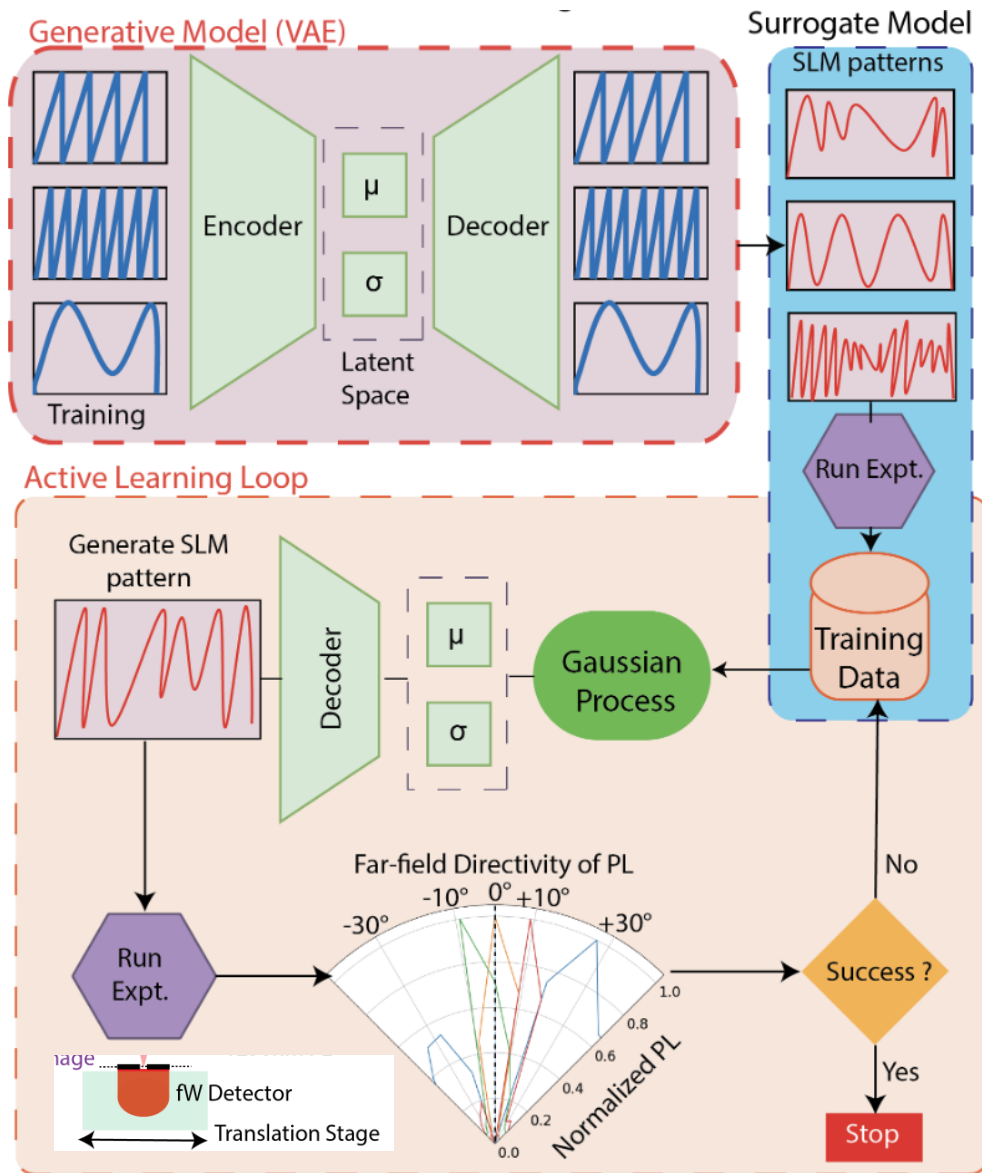


Generative Capability of the VAE



VAE patterns significantly expand on human intuition

Bayesian optimization to find beam steering candidates



Bayesian optimization on latent space of VAE can efficiently find patterns with high beam steering



Measure of success

Intensity at a specific angle

$$Directivity = \frac{I(\theta_i)}{\sum_{j=1}^n I(\theta_j)}$$

Sum of intensities at all angles

Search for patterns with Maximum Expected Improvement on Directivity

Finding optimal patterns for various steering angles

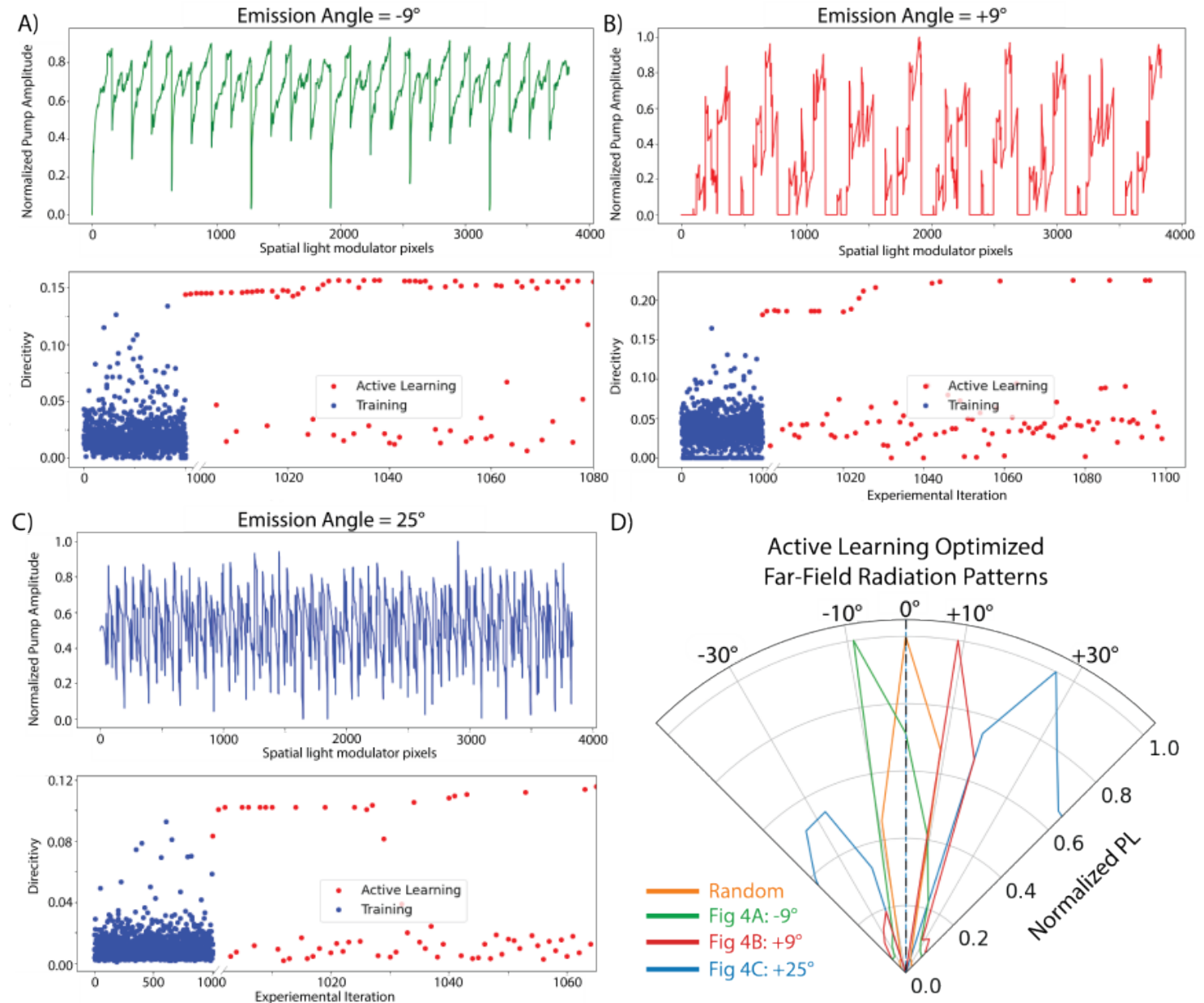


Intensity at a
specific angle

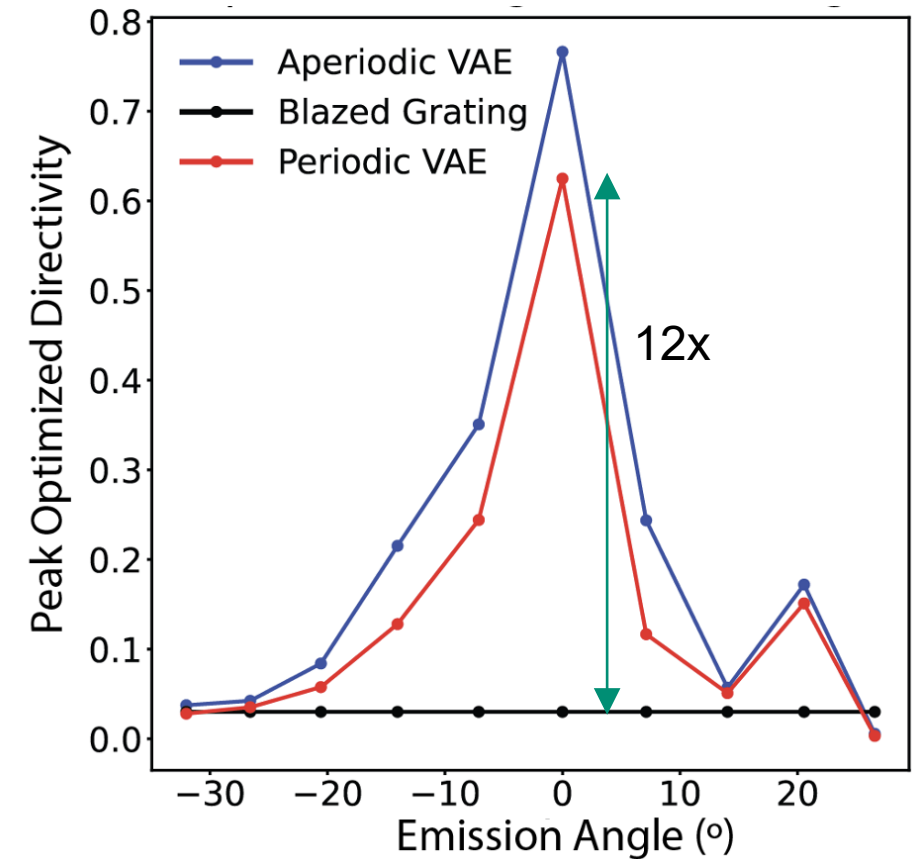
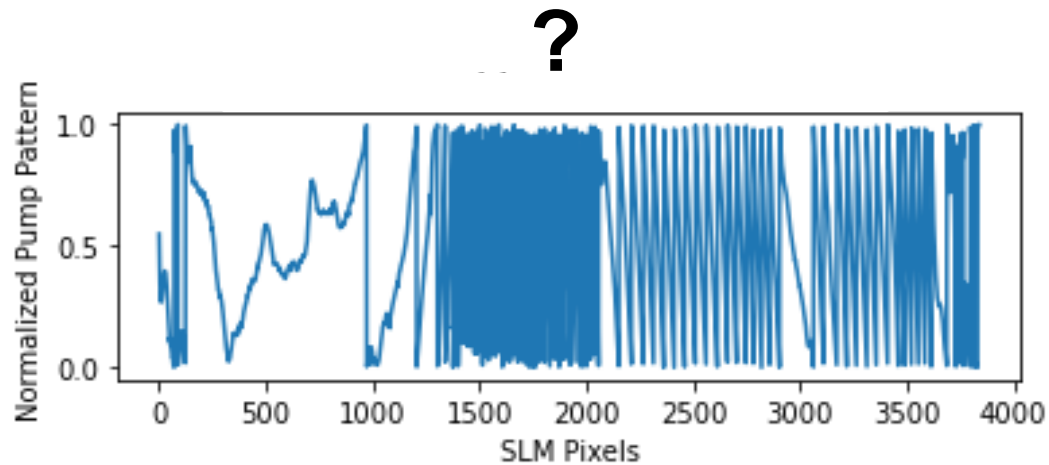
$$Directivity = \frac{I(\theta_i)}{\sum_{j=1}^n I(\theta_j)}$$

Sum of
intensities at
all angles

Pump patterns beyond human
intuition result in beam steering at
various angles



Expanding the search to aperiodic patterns

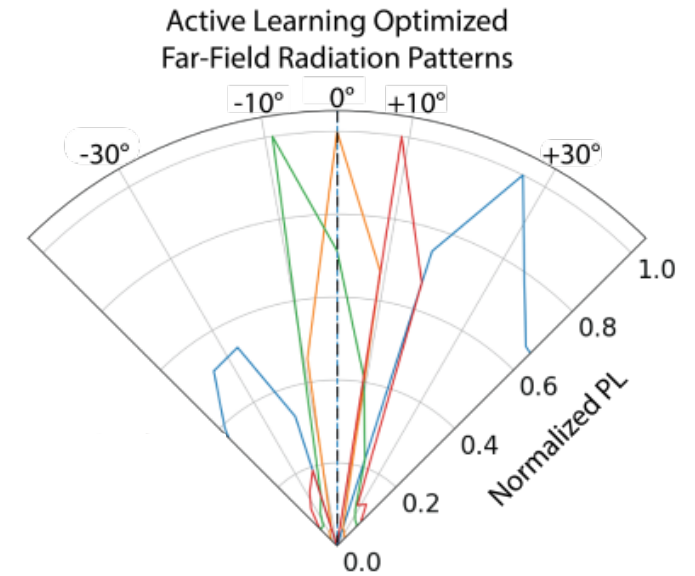


Aperiodic patterns can be even more efficient at beam steering

Summary



- Coupled a generative model with Bayesian optimization to discover pump patterns that achieve optimal steering
- Discovered pump patterns show 12x better steering than human intuition based patterns
- What is the search space?: Use active learning to identify patterns that “inform” us about the underlying physics
- Interpreting the search space?: Relate pump patterns to beam steering via an equation derived from data

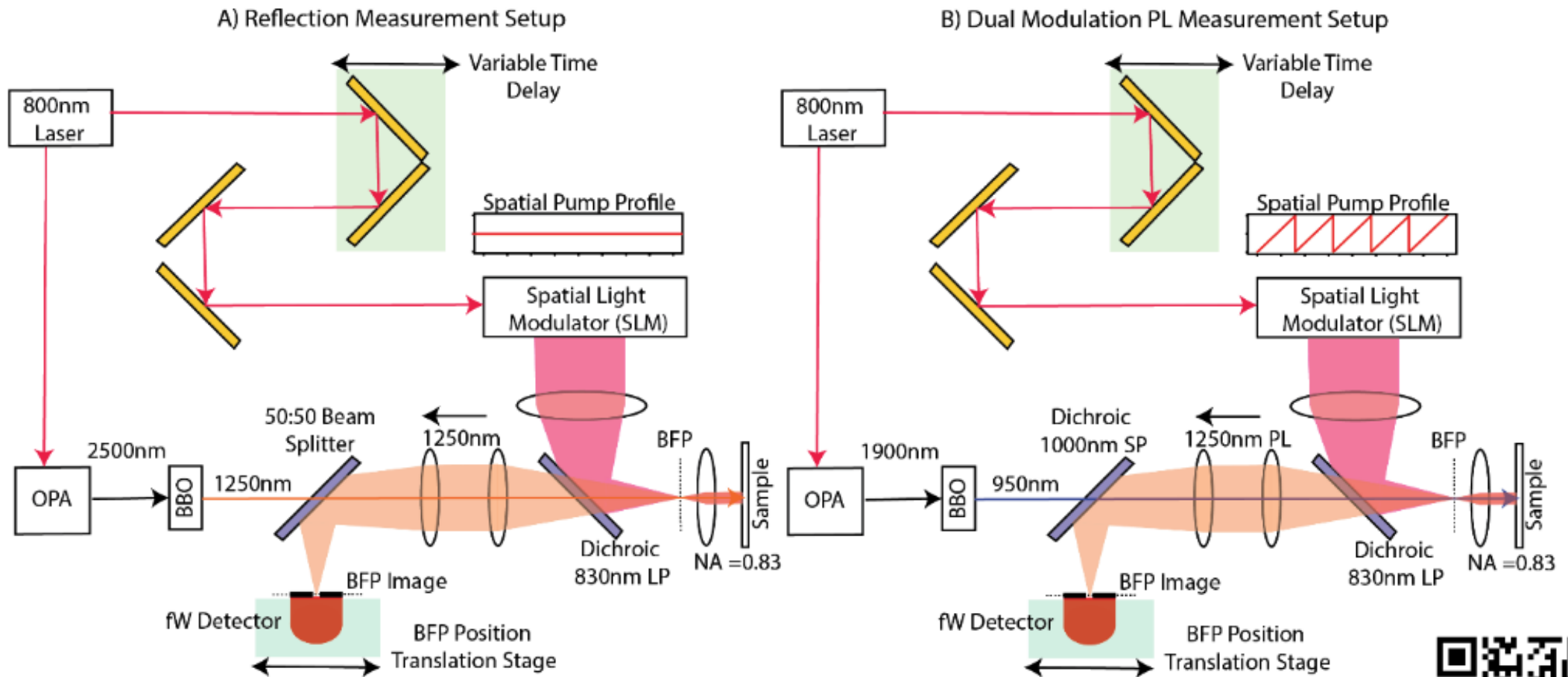




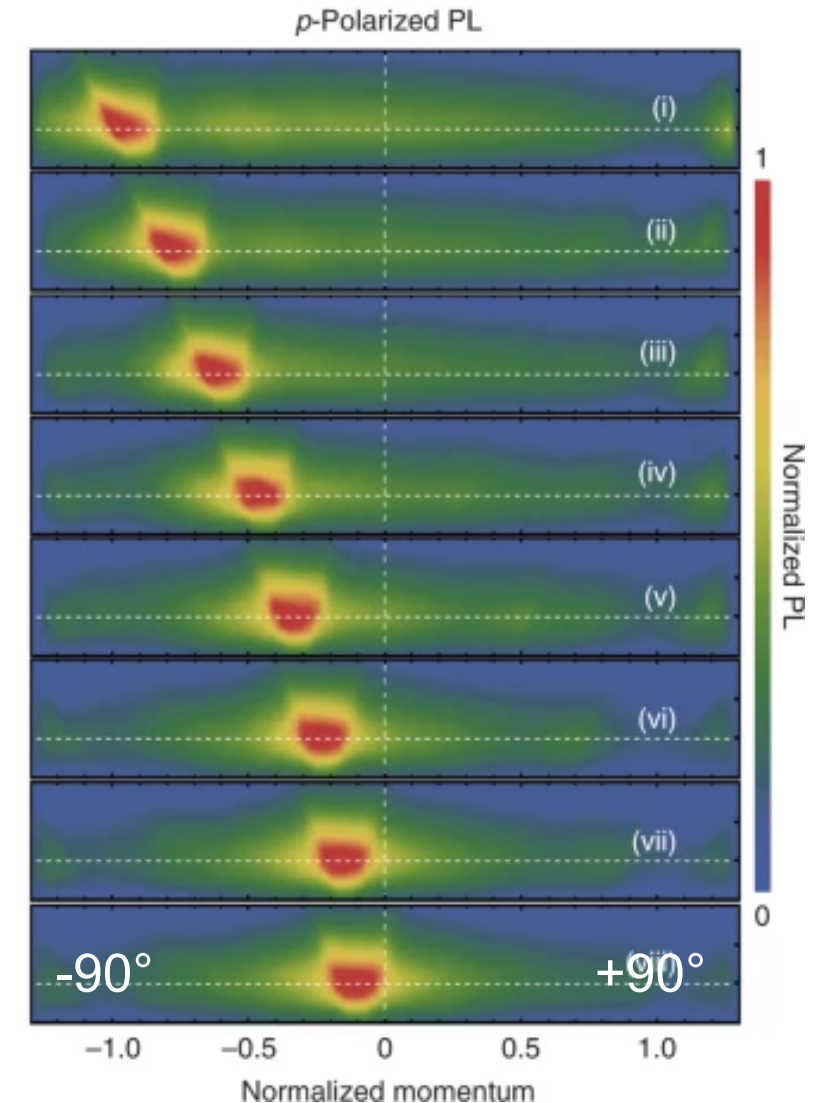
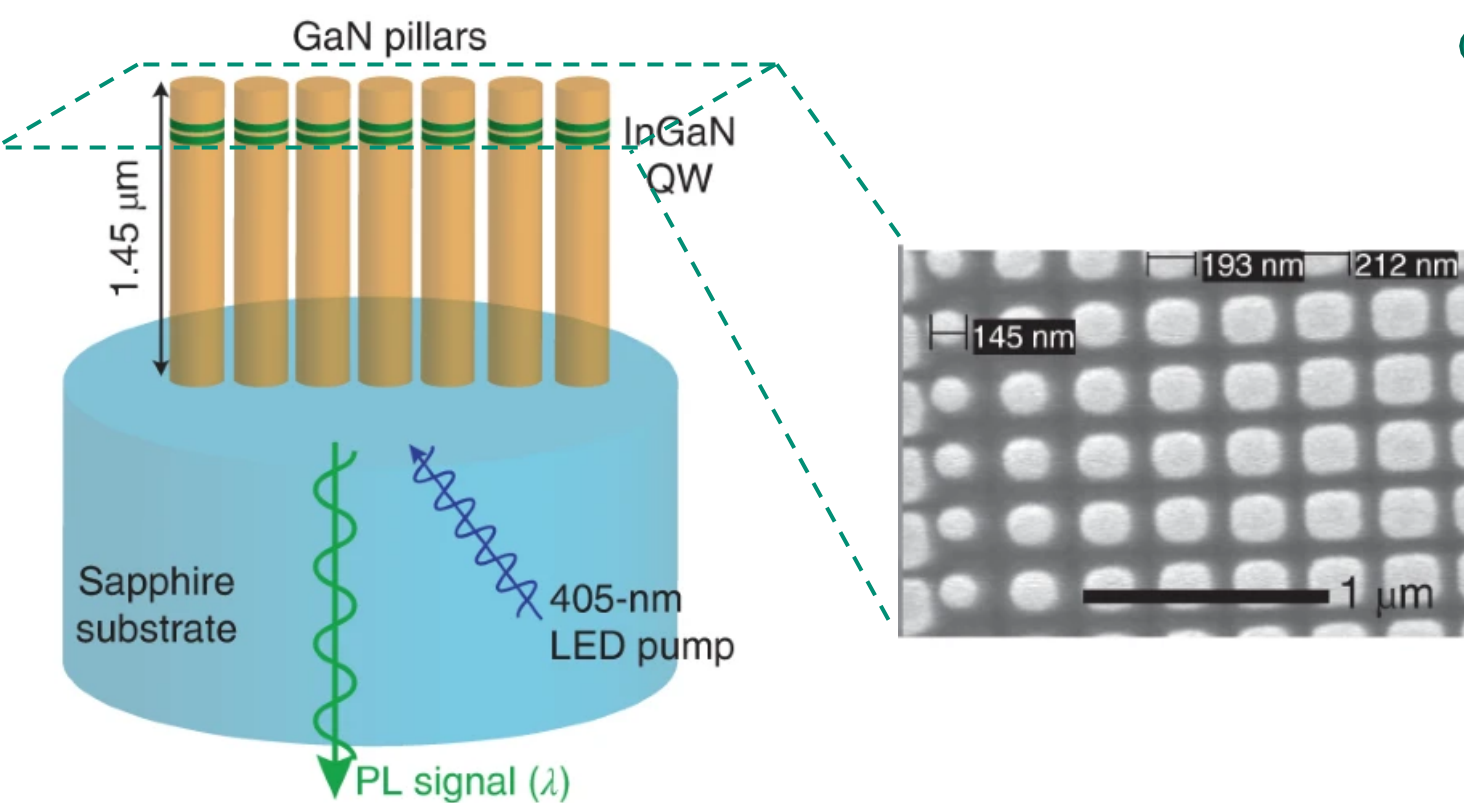
Backup slides



Measurement setup

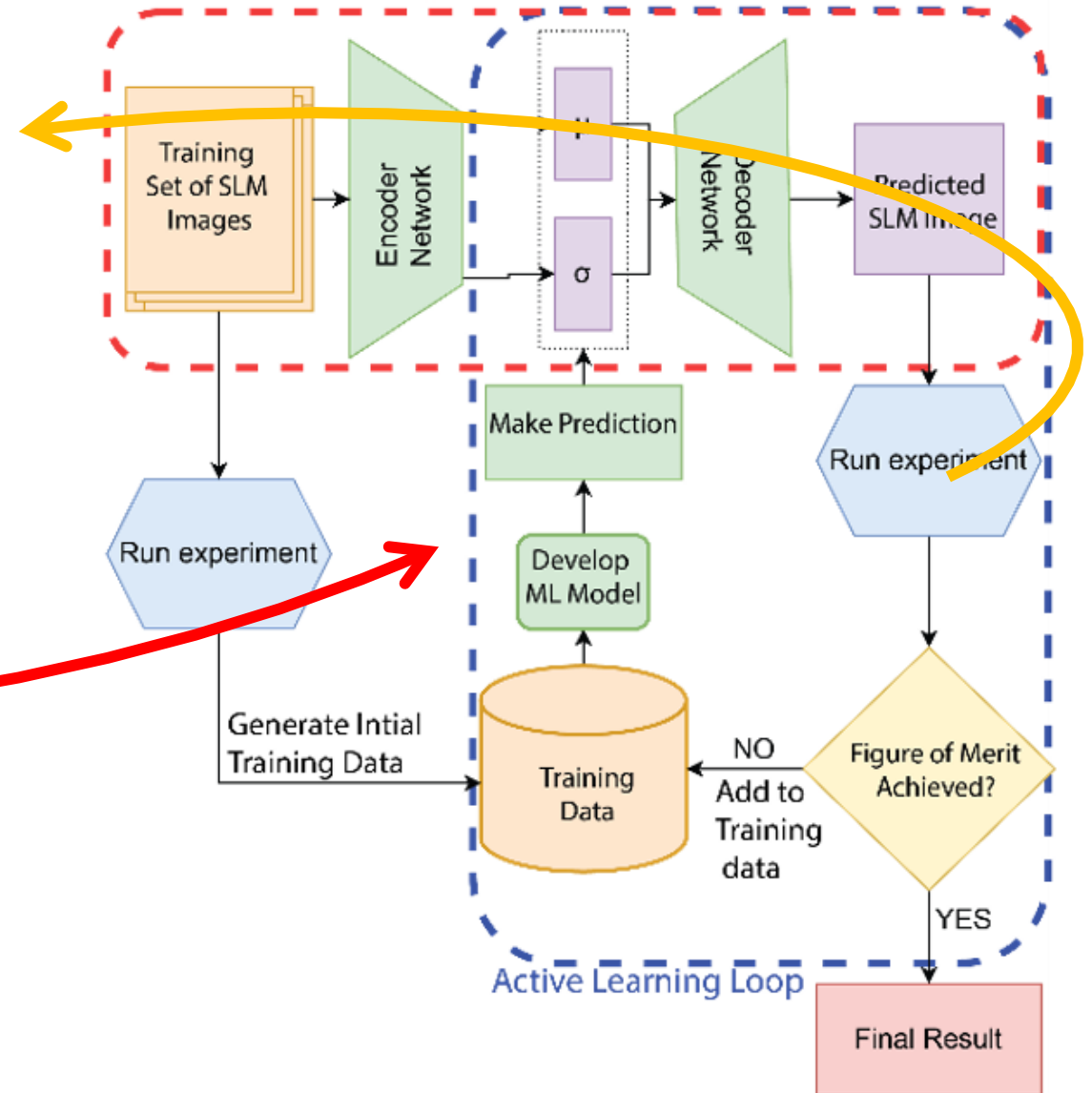
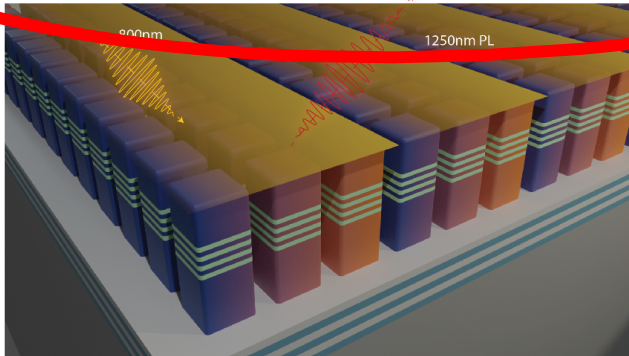
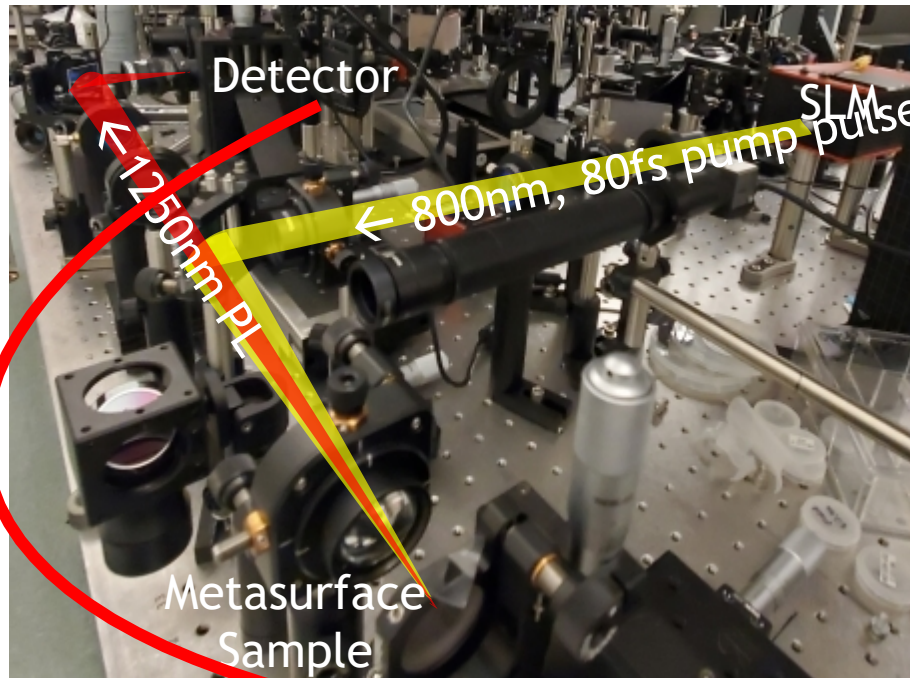


Static metasurfaces can control incoherent emission



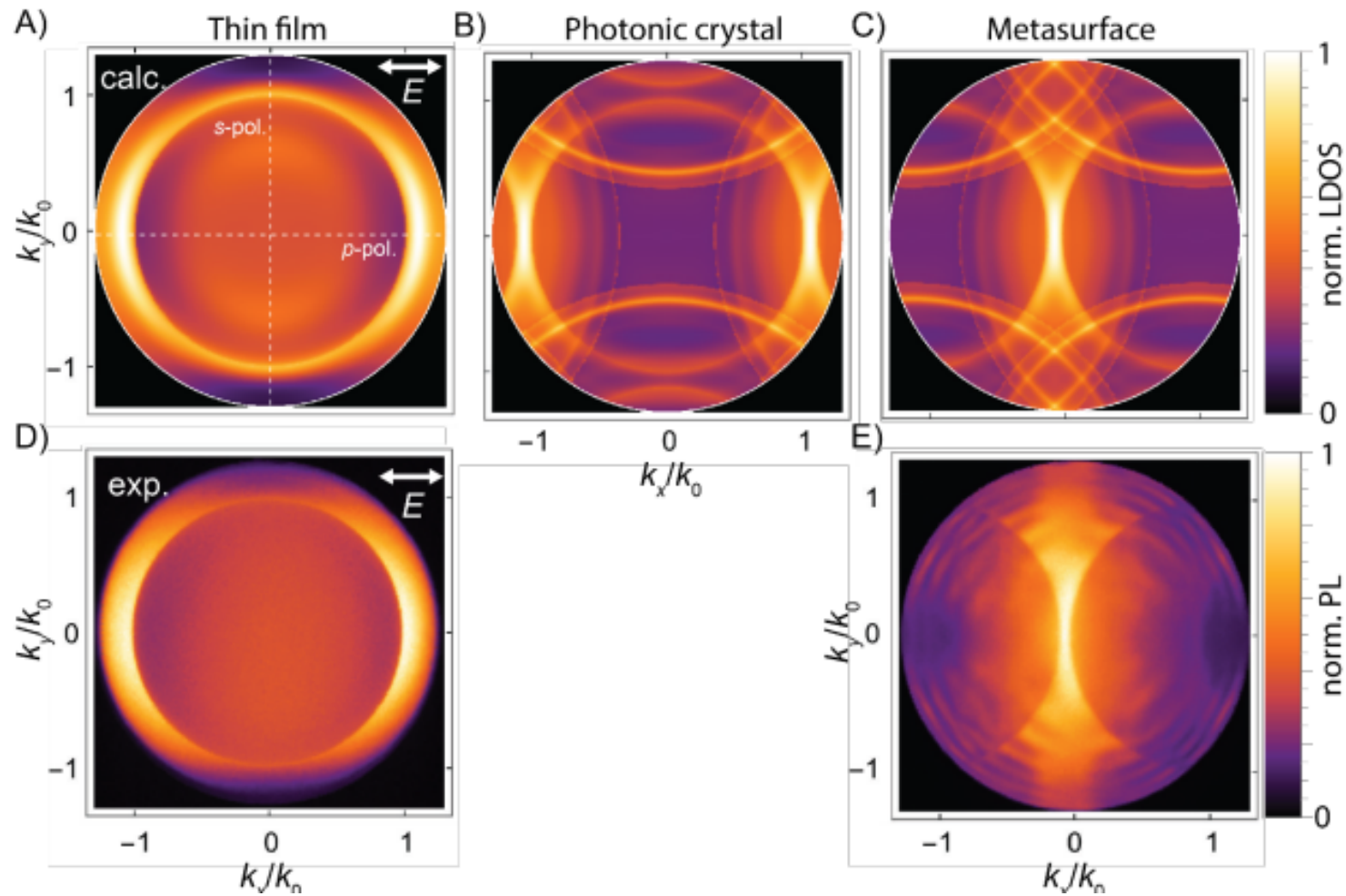
Pillar width periodicity controls beam steering

Bayesian optimization to find beam steering candidates



Bayesian optimization on latent space of VAE can efficiently find patterns with high beam steering

Why does this work?

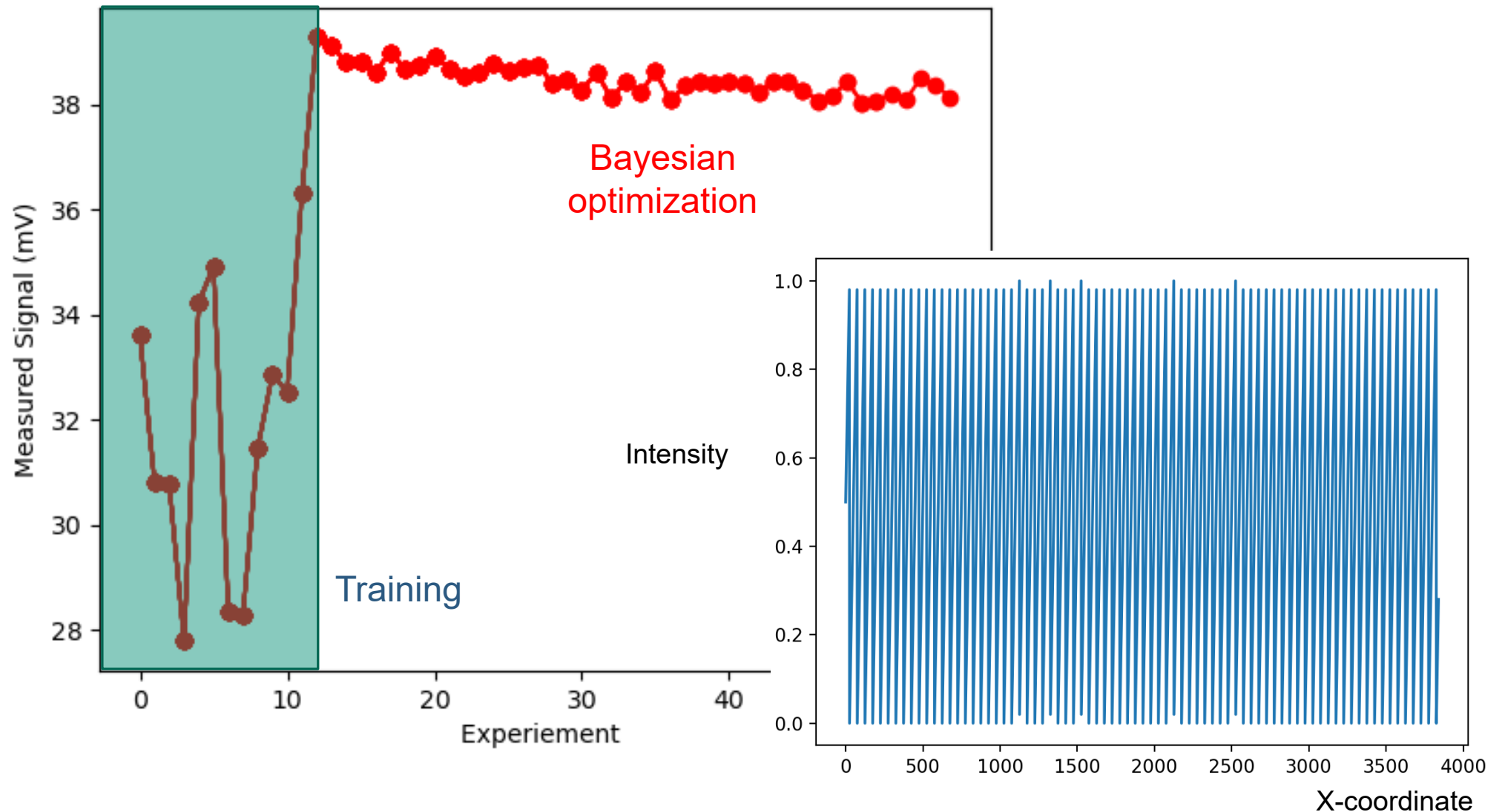


Source: [Volkswagen](#)

Source: [EPC](#)

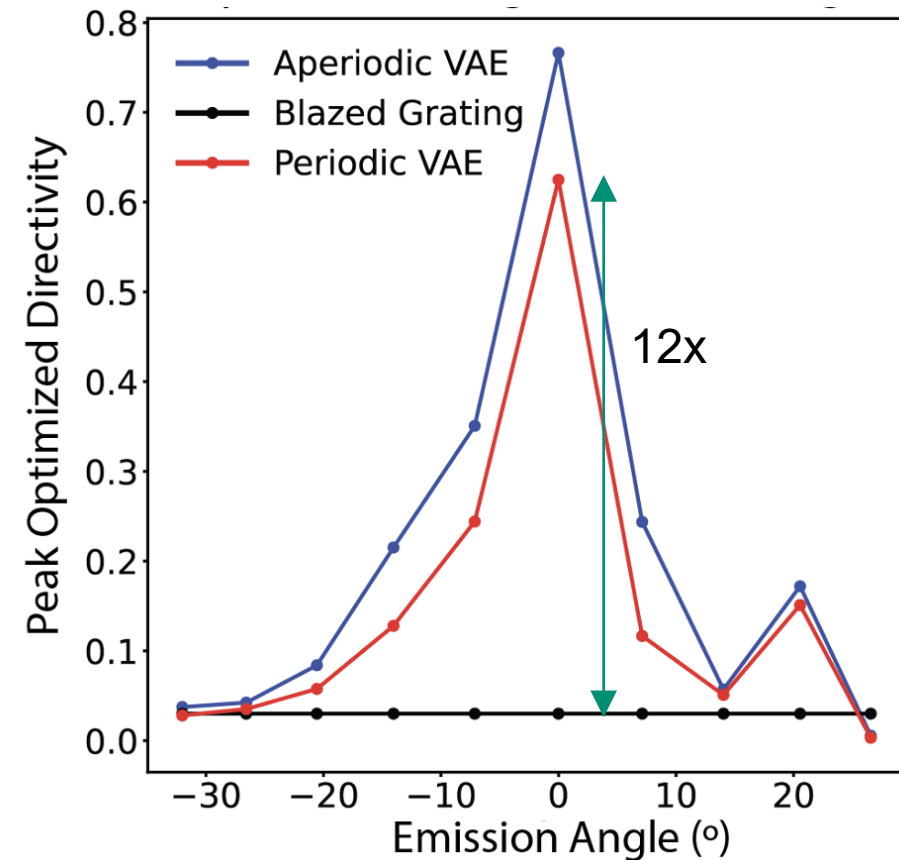
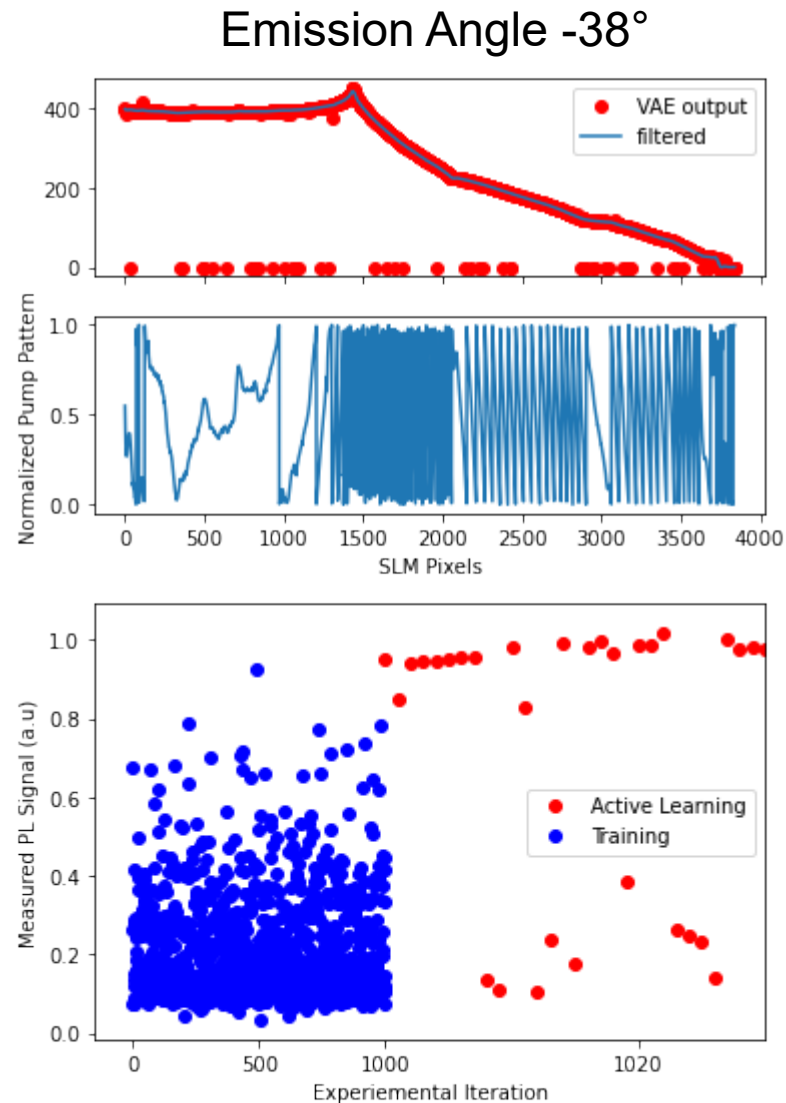
Dynamic pump patterns modify local density of states of emitters

Rediscovering a known result



Bayesian optimization rediscovers grating order of 80 to have maximum output

Expanding the search to aperiodic patterns



Aperiodic patterns can be even more efficient at beam steering

Summary/What's next?



- Coupled a generative model with Bayesian optimization to discover pump profiles that achieve optimal steering
- What is the search space?: Use active learning to identify patterns that “inform” us about the underlying physics
- Interpreting the search space?: Relate pump patterns to beam steering via an equation derived from data