# Learned Models for Physical Simulation and Design

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### Simulation



### How can Machine Learning be useful for simulation?

Simulators that...

Part I

Part III

- Are more efficient
- Are **differentiable**; support efficient **engineering & design** optimization problems
- learn from **real-world data**



### **Learned Coarse Models for Efficient Turbulence Simulation**



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## Classical numerical solvers used for turbulence simulations are powerful but computationally expensive

### Can fully-learned simulators capture complex, chaotic turbulence accurately at lowresolutions?



## **Our Approach**

- 1. Use classical physics solvers to produce **high-resolution trajectories**
- 2. Downsample these trajectories in **space** and **time** to produce training data
- 3. Train a neural network to do next-step prediction on low-resolution frames





## **Our Approach**

- 1. Use classical physics solvers to produce **high-resolution trajectories**
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- 4. Evaluate on "rolled out" trajectories



**Evaluation:** 

## **Our Approach**

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### **U-shaped Stack of Dilated Convolutions**

**Dilated Convolution** Yu & Koltun (2015)



- Keep local structure
- Larger perceptual range

Same # parameters



### **U-shaped Stack of Dilated Convolutions**



Larger perceptual range

Same *#* parameters

7 dilated convolutions in sequence

Gradually increase and decrease range of communication



#### One model $\rightarrow$ 4 different domains

## **Domain Generality**

#### 1D Kuramoto-Sivashinsky (KS) Equation



#### 2D Incompressible Turbulence



#### 3D Uniform Compressible Decaying Turbulence



### **3D Mixing Layer Turbulence with Radiative Cooling**



## **Comparison to Coarsened Physics Based Simulator (Athena++)**



Slightly lower pixel-wise error than classical simulator at same (32<sup>3</sup>) resolution during training window

Much better spectral error Athena++ at same (32<sup>3</sup>) and higher (64<sup>3</sup>) resolution (ground truth: 128<sup>3</sup>)



## **Comparison to Coarsened Physics Based Simulator (Athena++)**



## **Running time**

- Athena++
  - Scales O(resolution<sup>4</sup>)
  - CPU only

- Learned model:
  - Up to 1000x faster than Athena at 128<sup>3</sup>

Time (s)
~4
~60
~1000
~20-30
~1



### **Learned Model Comparison**



Our models quantitatively outperform other, more specialized, parameterized models



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However, most learned models do qualitatively pretty well

**Stability** 



## **Energy RMS Error**

Models trained without noise can be unstable

### Using training noise improves stability but has higher one-step error

**Stability** 





## **Temporal Coarsening**

## **Energy RMS error** (trained with noise)

Learned simulators can be trained on larger timesteps.

Larger timesteps cause larger onestep loss but can lead to greater stability





### **Generalization to different initial conditions**



### **Part I: Conclusions**

- Domain-general coarse-grained learned simulators
  - Can capture a **variety** of types of challenging turbulence
  - Outperform classical models in terms of accuracy and speed
  - Especially for preserving high frequency information
- Stability
  - Training noise helps
  - Temporal downsampling helps
- Generalization
  - **Constraints** help with generalization to different initial conditions
  - Dataset augmentation helps with generalization to different box sizes
  - Generalization remains a challenge



## **Learned Models for Inverse Design**



Kelsey Tatiana Allen Guevara-Lopez



## **Learned Models for Inverse Design**



Allen Guevara-Lopez

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### Infrastructure



### Engineering





Allen\*, Smith\*, Tenenbaum, PNAS 2020



## **Learned Models for Inverse Design**



#### Infrastructure



**3D WaterCourse** 

GD

simulator evaluation

#### Engineering



## Allen Guevara-Lopez





"HappyGlass"

### **Airfoil Shape Optimization**



Allen\*, Smith\*, Tenenbaum, PNAS 2020

#### 2D Fluid Tools







Can learned simulators can be used to solve challenging physical design problems?

## **Design Evaluation & Optimization**



Parameterize a design space

#### Learned simulator produces a rollout

#### Evaluate reward



Across design iterations, design parameters are optimized to maximize reward.

## **Task Agnostic Model Training with GNNs**

#### **GNN** -based learned simulators

- work for many types of physics
- efficient, accurate, stable
- differentiable, permitting gradient-based design optimization
- generalize

Simulator is **pre-trained** on **next-step prediction** with data **qualitatively different** from scenes encountered during design.



### Generalization with GNN simulators





Pfaff<sup>\*</sup>, Fortunato<sup>\*</sup>, *et al*, ICLR 2021; Sanchez-Gonzalez<sup>\*</sup>, Godwin<sup>\*</sup>, Pfaff<sup>\*</sup>, Ying<sup>\*</sup>, *et al*, ICML 2020



## **Design Evaluation & Optimization**



Parameterize a design space

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## **Approaches to Design Optimization**







Sampling-based with blackbox forward models

> Cross-entropy method (De Boer et al, 2005)

Gradient-based with learned models

Gradient descent with ADAM (Kingma & Ba, 2014) Gradient-based with hand-crafted models

DAFoam, specialied for aerodynamics (He et al, 2020)



## **2D Fluid Tools**

100 - 1000 particles, 16-36 design dimensions



## **2D Fluid Tools**



## **3D WaterCourse**

2k - 4k particles, 625 design dimensions



Gradient-based optimization (GD) with the learned simulator can solve **high-dimensional design tasks** where a sampling-based approach (CEM) is intractable.

## **Airfoil Shape Optimization**

Comparable designs to specialized DAFoam\* Solver (16-48x faster on a single A100 GPU than DAFoam on an 8-core workstation)



Simple tricks like **model ensembles** can yield an extra level of accuracy.

Note the sharper wing tip, stronger S-shape



## **Stable Gradients over long rollouts**



Solutions from gradient-based optimization (GD) continue to improve up to 225 timesteps, and outperform sampling-based CEM up to 275 timesteps.

### **Part II: Conclusions**

- GNN-based learned simulators can support **general-purpose design** over a **variety of challenging physical domains** 
  - Problems feature **high dimensional, complex** state spaces and design spaces
  - Useful gradients over 100s of timesteps
- Task-agnostic training on data still permits **out-of-distribution** design
- Match the **accuracy of specialized solvers** on airfoil shape optimization
  - Solutions obtained efficiently
  - Model **ensembles** can achieve an extra level of high accuracy

### **Next directions**

- New domains with new, challenging types of physics
- Exploring more robust optimization procedures
  - Gradient descent suffers from zero or noisy gradients, local optima
- New models of dynamics and design spaces
  - Learned forward models that are better optimized for design tasks
  - Rich models of the design space that support hierarchical, compositional design





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Google Research

### **Check out the papers:**

*Learned Coarse Models for Efficient Turbulence Simulation.* Stachenfeld, Fielding, Kochkov, Cranmer, Pfaff, Godwin, Cui, Ho, Battaglia, Sanchez–Gonzalez (ICLR 2022). <u>arxiv.org/abs/2112.15275</u>

*Physical Design using Differentiable Learned Simulators.* Allen\*, Guevara-Lopez\*, Stachenfeld\*, Sanchez-Gonzalez, Battaglia, Hamrick, Pfaff (2022). <u>arxiv.org/abs/2202.00728</u>





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Density







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#### **Check out the papers:**

Pressure

*Learned Coarse Models for Efficient Turbulence Simulation.* Stachenfeld, Fielding, Kochkov, Cranmer, Pfaff, Godwin, Cui, Ho, Battaglia, Sanchez–Gonzalez (ICLR 2022). <u>arxiv.org/abs/2112.15275</u>

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