

Building Digital Twins of the Universe with the DiRAC HPC facility

Mark Wilkinson
Director, STFC DiRAC HPC Facility

RIKEN-CCS Café Presentation
25th February 2025



The DiRAC HPC Facility

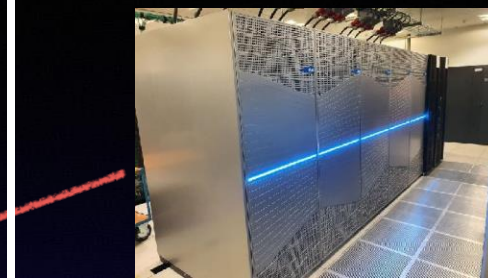
Memory Intensive “COSMA8” (Durham)

- 528 TB RAM
- Large-scale cosmological simulations



Extreme Scaling “Tursa” (Edinburgh)

- 704 Nvidia A100 GPUs
- Large lattice-QCD simulations



EVIDEN
an atos business

Data Intensive “DiaL” (Leicester)

- Heterogeneous architecture for complex simulation and modelling workflows



**Hewlett Packard
Enterprise**

Data Intensive “CSD3” (Cambridge)

- Heterogeneous architecture for complex simulation and modelling workflows

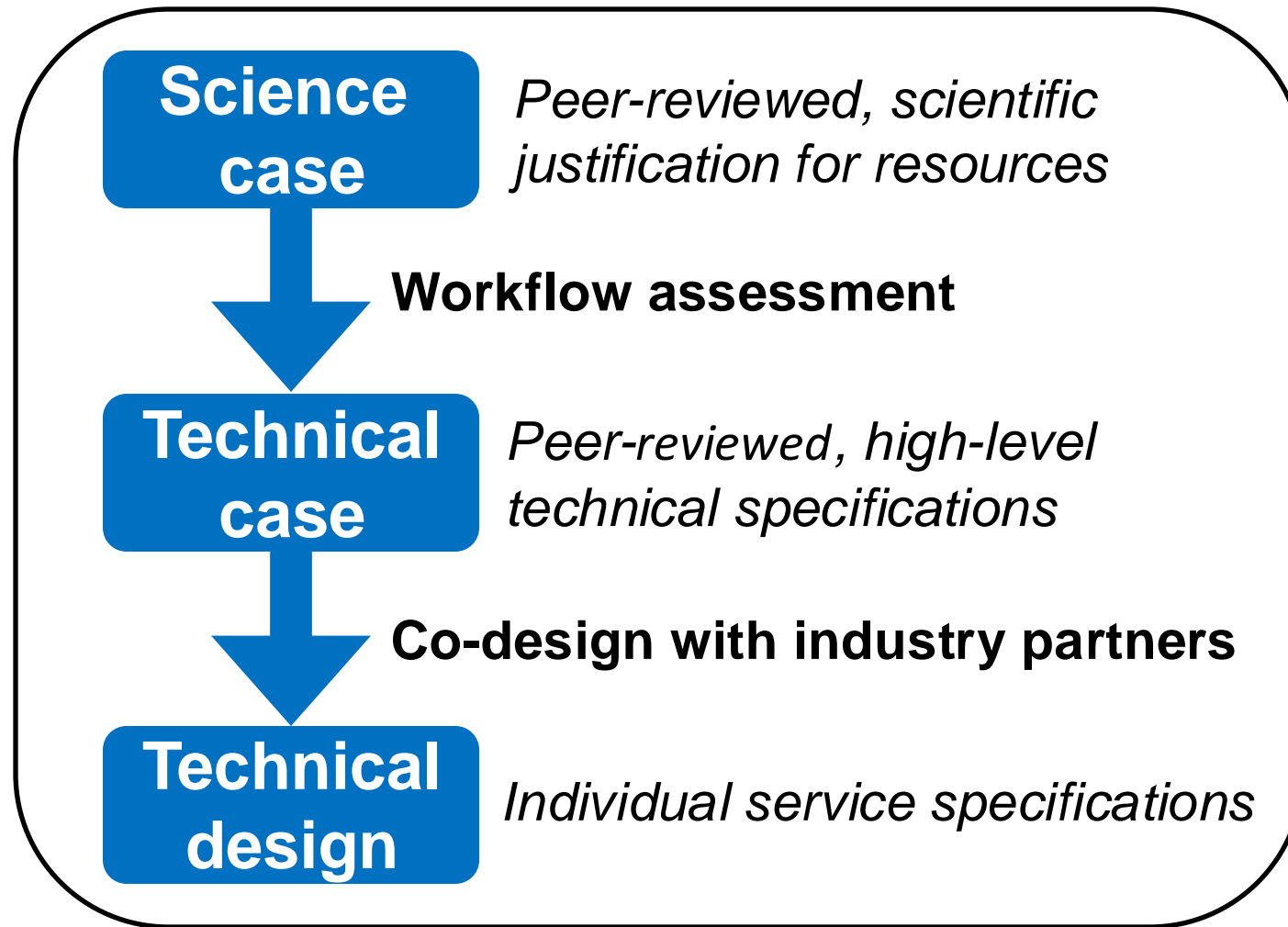


DELL EMC



Project Office (UCL)

Applying the scientific method to HPC/AI service design

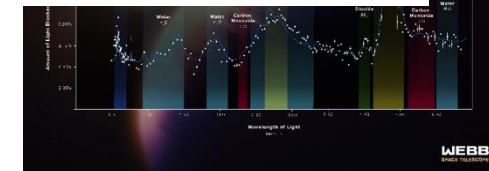
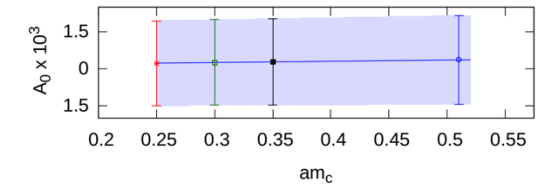
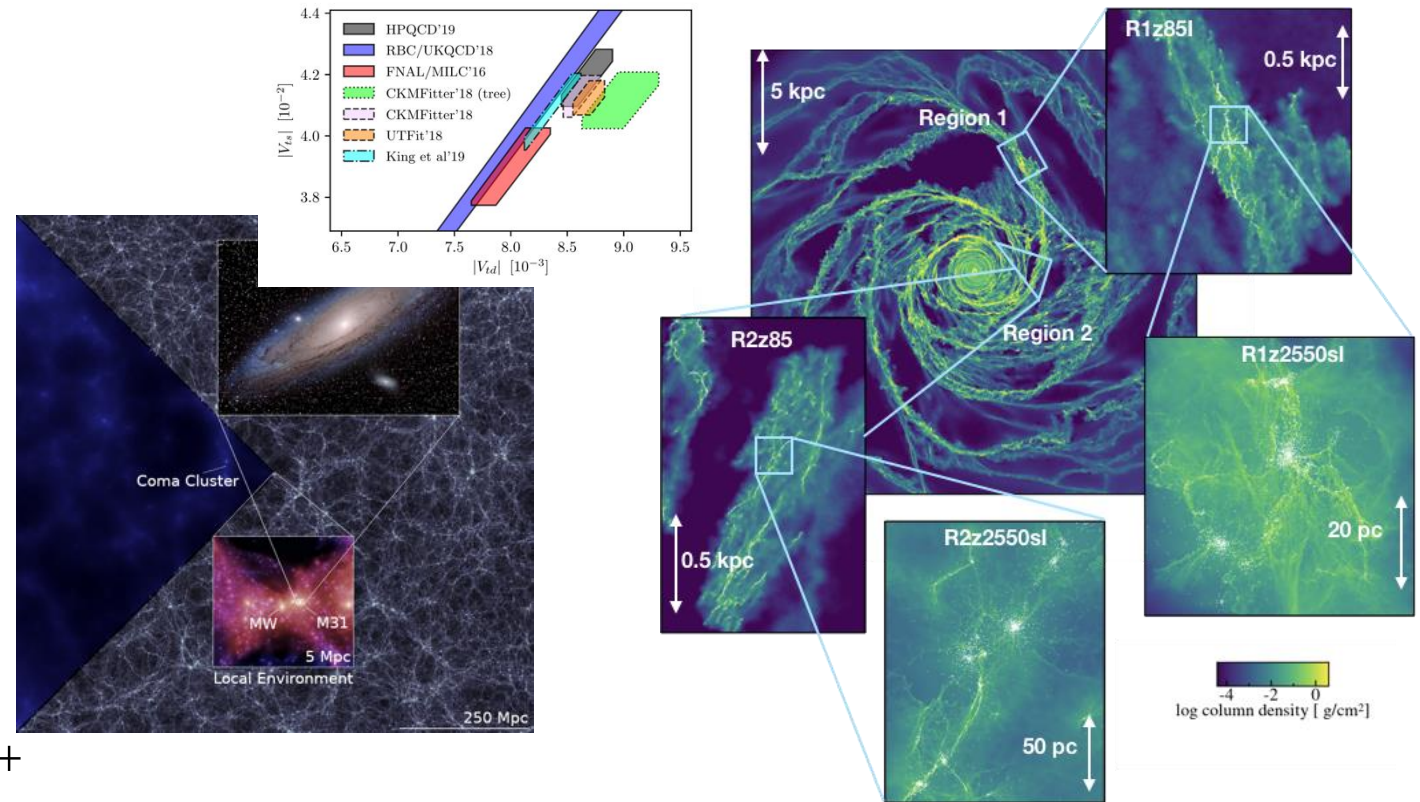


- Science case determines *both* scale and design of DiRAC services

DiRAC Science Programme 2024-28

DiRAC

- Capability calculations include:
 - Galaxy formation
 - Lattice Quantum Field Theory
- Data Intensive calculations:
 - Gravitational waves
 - Gaia modelling
 - Precision cosmology
 - Planetary atmospheres
- Data challenges growing rapidly
 - Individual simulations generate 10Pb+
- Increasing use of AI/ML techniques to enhance simulation methods
 - At least 50% of fields are using or exploring AI over next 4 years.
 - DiRAC simulation data can be used to train AI models.
- STFC facilities also use AI extensively for data acquisition, data processing, data analysis



Co-design: the importance of people

- Investment in people is vital for productive HPC services
- DiRAC services require specialist technical support for hardware and users
- RSE team supports code improvement and re-factoring, energy efficiency, co-design, procurement & training

Evolution of Grid code (Boyle et al.) performance on Tursa relative to Tesseract

Stage	1 node	% inc.	16 nodes	% inc.	speed up 512 tess
Measured	9.2	-	5.3	-	1.1
Committed	9.2	-	5.83	10%	1.22
Acceptance	9.65	5%	6.15	16%	1.28
Commissioning	12	30%	8.8	66%	1.83
Peak	12.9	40%	9.9	87%	2.06

*James
Richings et al.*

- Tursa Extreme Scaling service (DiRAC@Edinburgh) provides 5x the performance of its CPU-based predecessor for lattice QCD codes but uses just 50% of the power.
- Cosma8 Memory Intensive service (DiRAC@Durham) is 4x more efficient for cosmological simulations than comparable systems in Europe
- Clocking down of A100 GPUs on Tursa: ~5% performance loss for Grid code with ~15% energy saving

Combining AI and simulation in cosmology

Craig Bower, Corentin Houpert, Azam Khan, Shiqi Su, Ali Zahir
Ashiq Anjum, Martin Bourne, Debora Sijacki, Mark Wilkinson

BASE-II

Blueprinting AI For Science at Exascale

Jeyan Thiyagalingam

Paul Calleja, Marion Samler, Mark Wilkinson, Jeremy Yates



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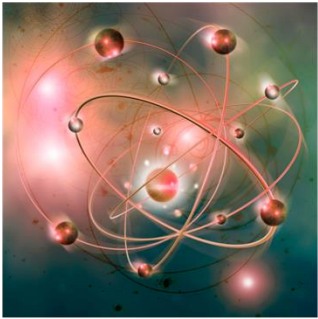
Scientific Computing

The logo for ExCALIBUR 10, featuring the text 'ExCALIBUR' in white and '10' in white inside a red circle, all on a black background.

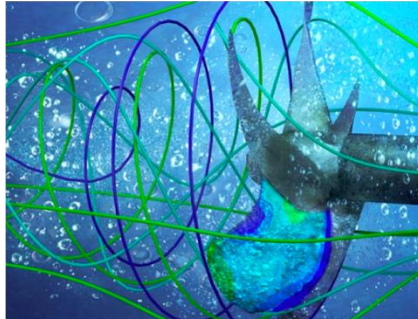
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Surrogate models for cosmology

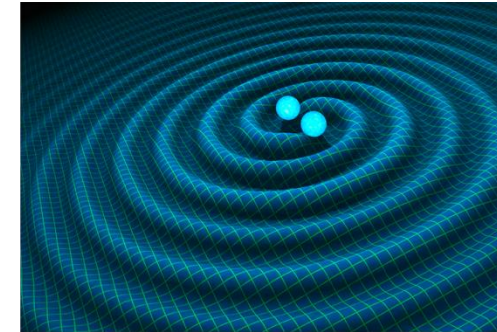
- Our world is governed by PDEs at all scales



$$i\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \Psi = \hat{H} \Psi$$



$$\rho \left(\frac{\partial \mathbf{v}}{\partial t} + \mathbf{v} \cdot \nabla \mathbf{v} \right) = -p + \nabla \cdot \mathbb{T} + \mathbf{f}$$



$$G_{\mu\nu} + \Lambda g_{\mu\nu} = \frac{8\pi G}{c^4} T_{\mu\nu}$$



Planck Scale

Human Scale

Universe Scale



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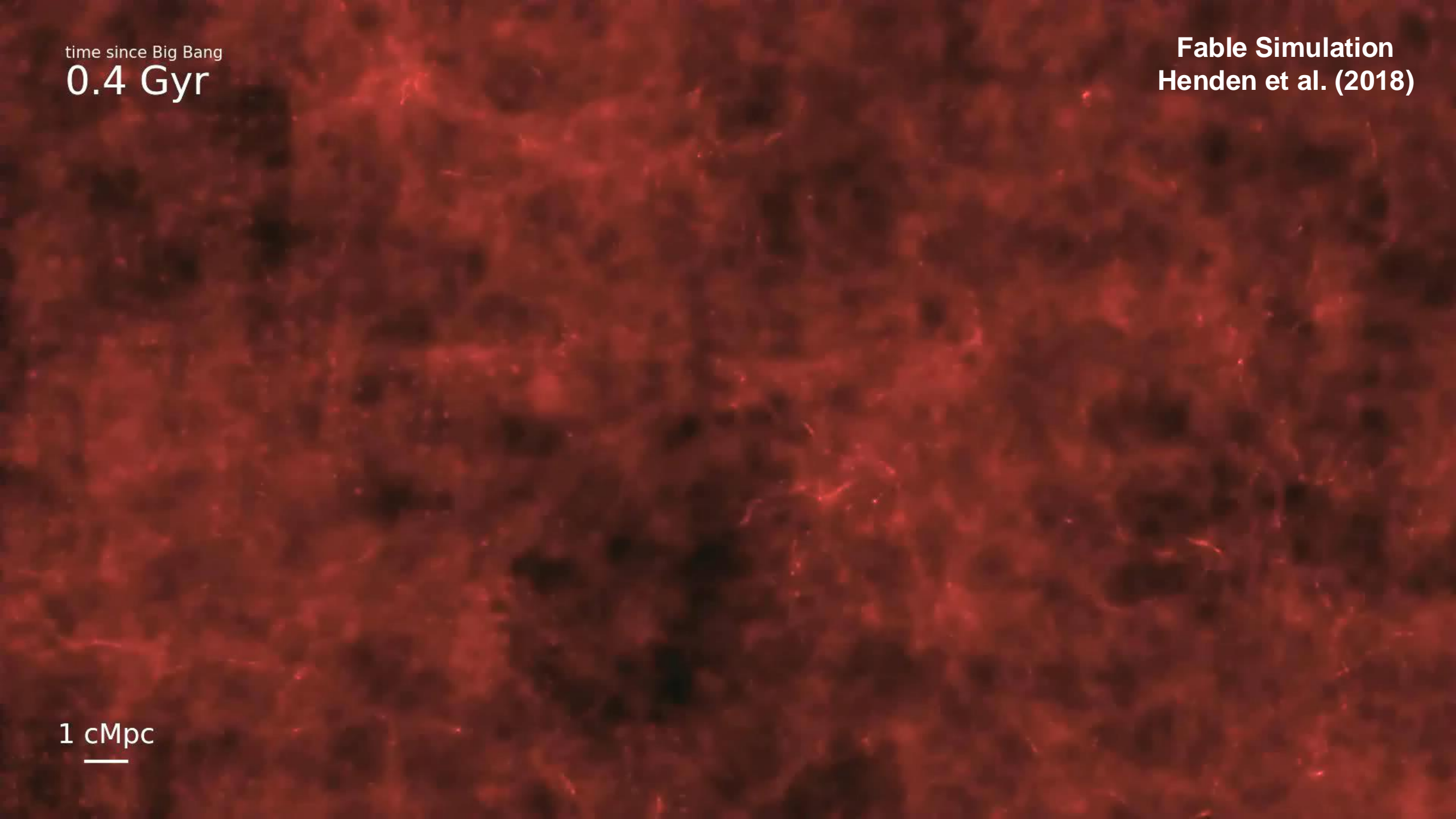
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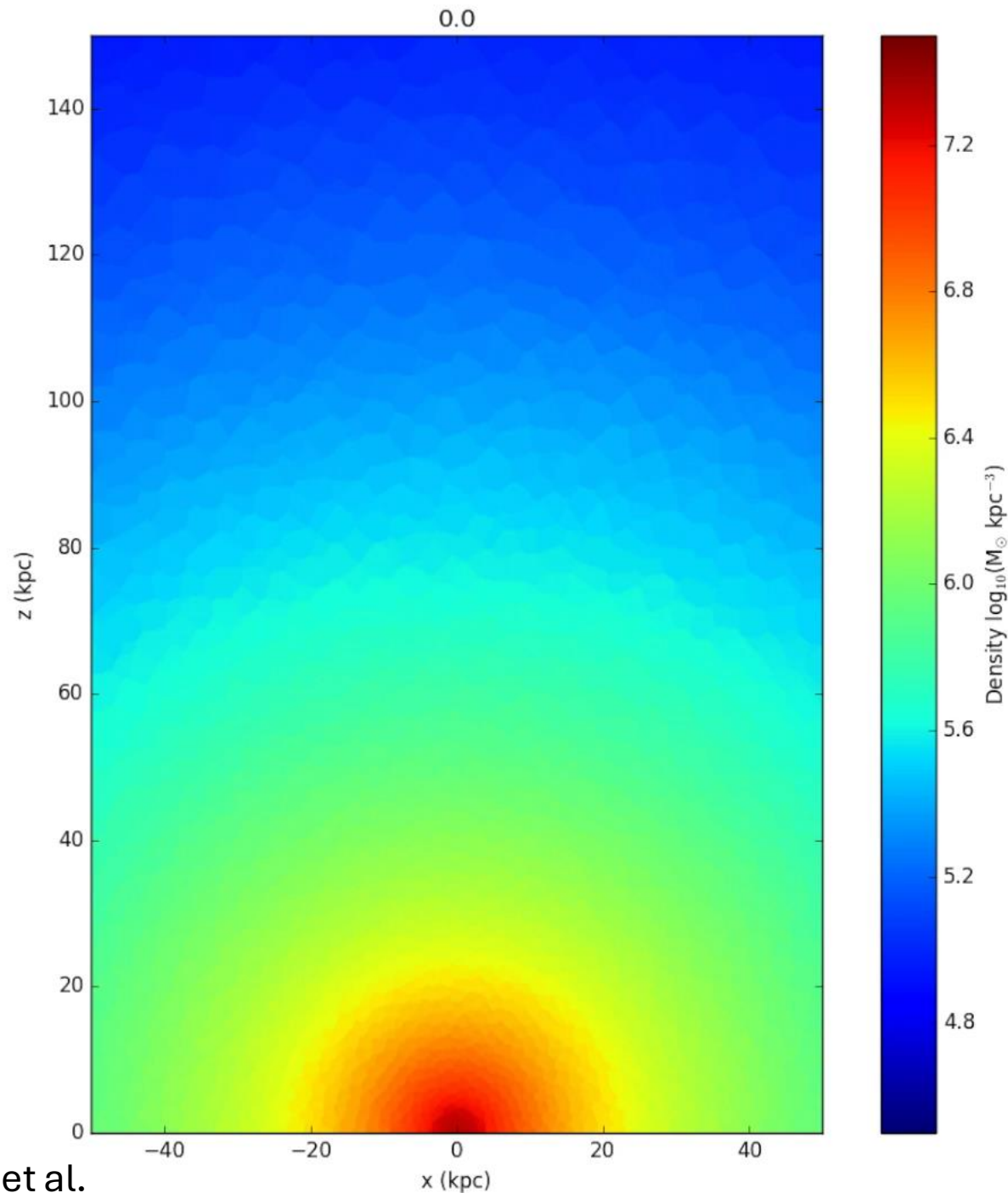
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time since Big Bang
0.4 Gyr

Fable Simulation
Henden et al. (2018)

1 cMpc
—





High-energy jets in galaxies

Physical processes:

- Radiative transfer
- Magnetohydrodynamics
- Relativistic particles
- Transport processes
- General Relativity

Challenges:

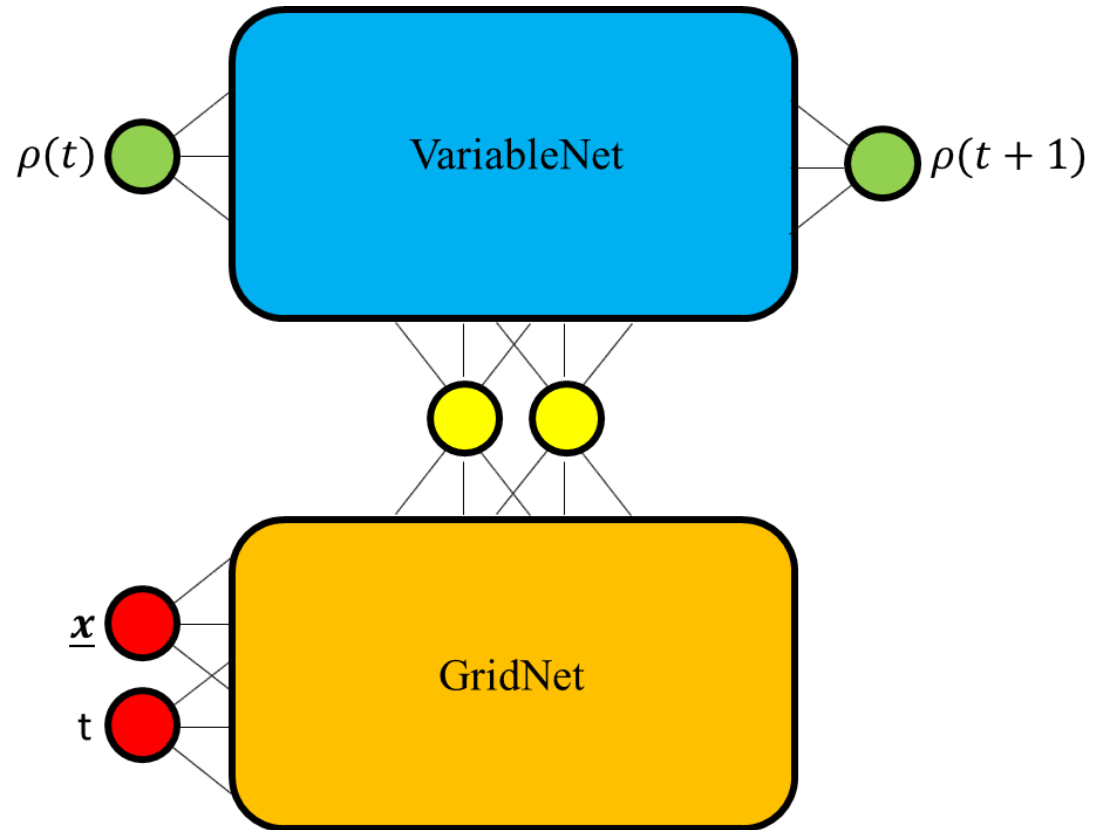
- 15 orders of magnitude range in spatial and temporal scales
- “Sub-grid” physics

DeepOJet

Bower et al., in prep

Deep Operator Network for mesh-agnostic upscaling and downscaling of AGN Jet Simulations

- Deep Operator Networks are trained to learn operators, mapping input functions to output functions
- Variables and associated coordinate geometry are separately encoded into two fully-connected MLP networks



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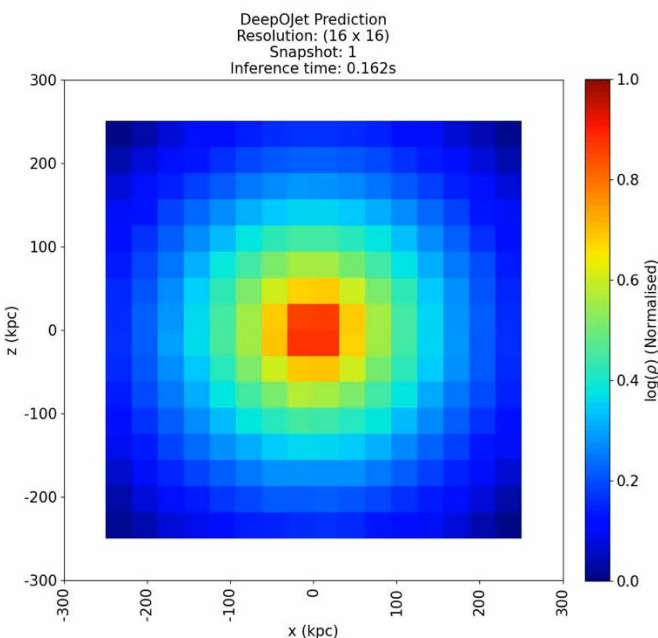
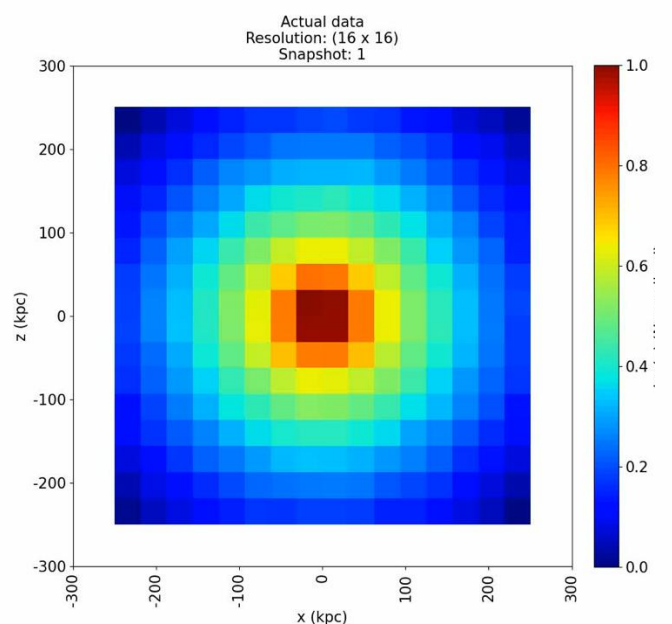
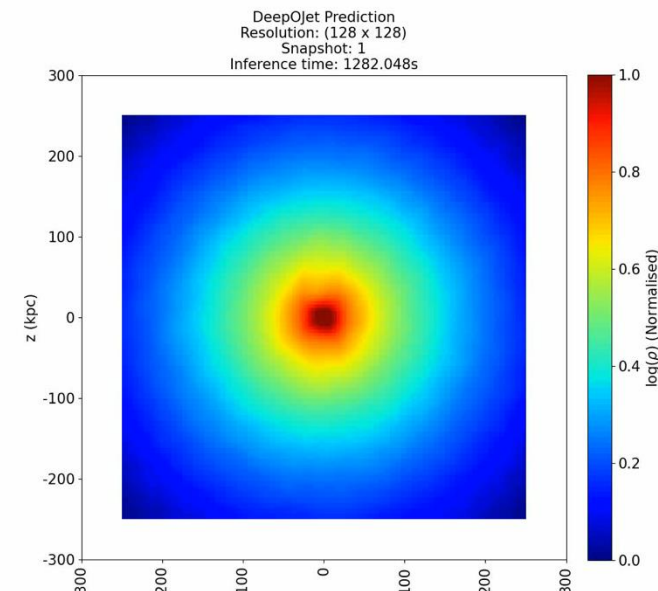
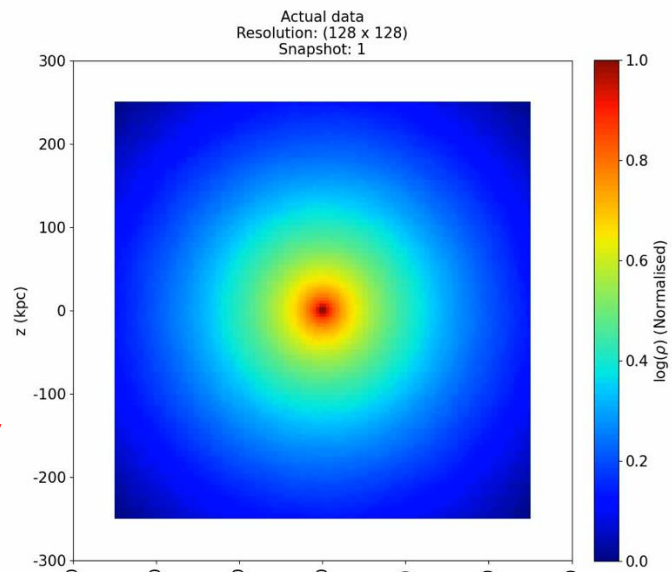
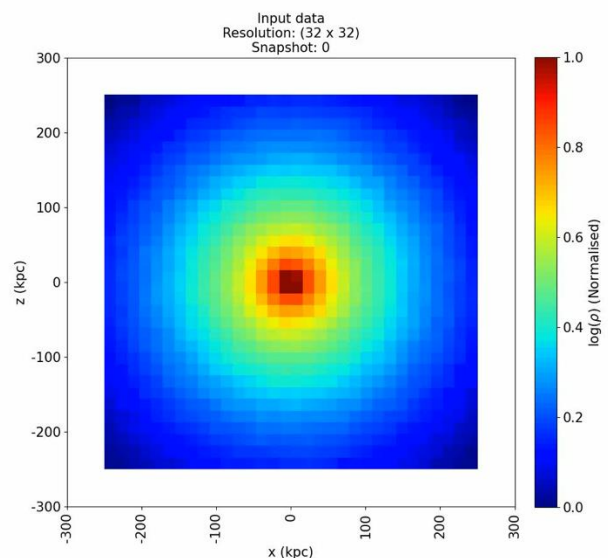
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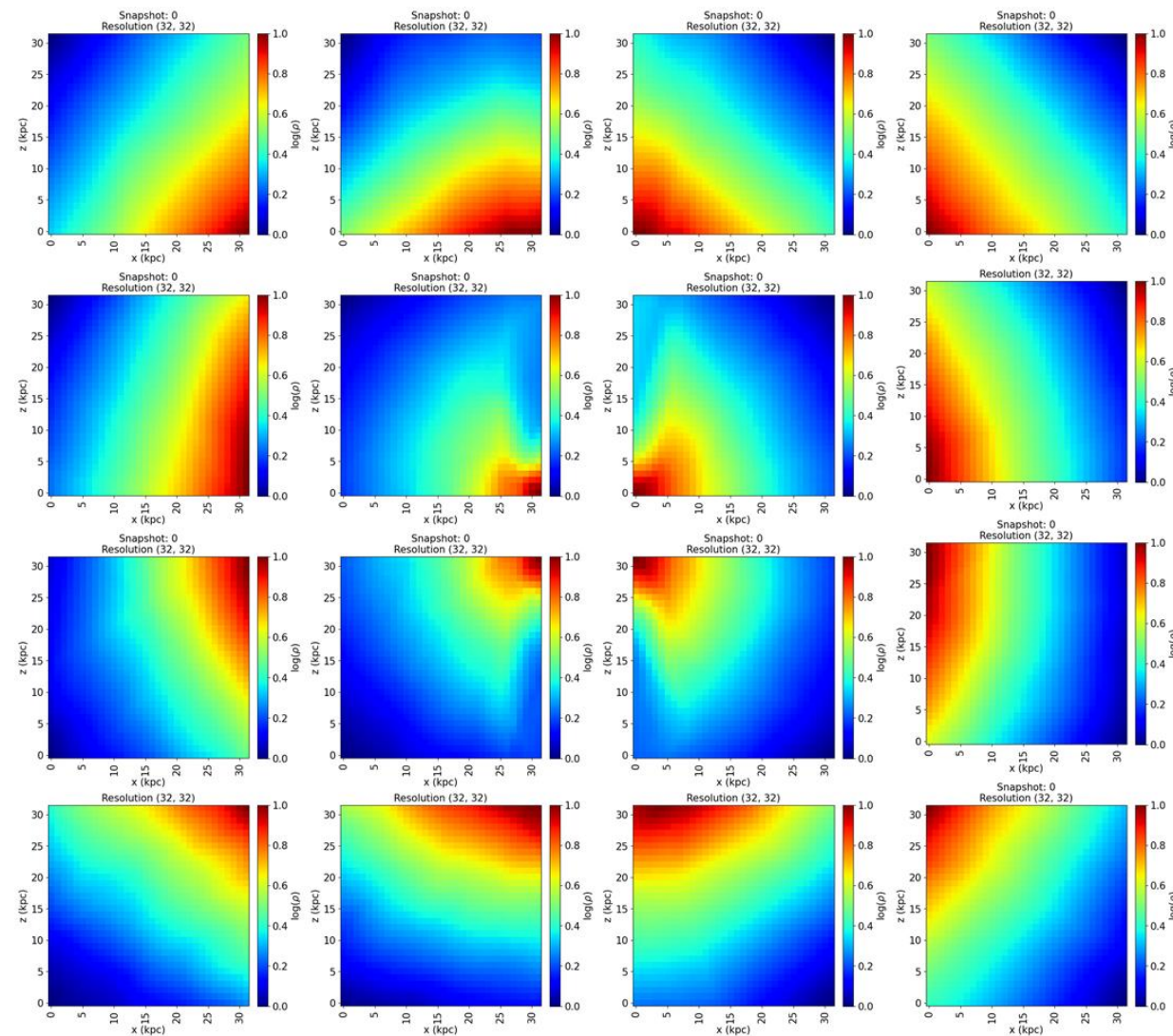
Deep Operator Network for
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downscaling of AGN Jet Simulations



DeepOJet

Bower et al., in prep

- Apply DeepOJet to subgrids of measurements with co-ordinate systems corresponding to the entire grid
 - Delivers super-resolution prediction without any retraining.
- Evidence of *spectral bias*, where deep learning model over-generalise.
 - Train multiple DeepOJet models for each subgrid (in parallel) to reduce this



Surrogate models for radiative transfer

Shiqi Su (Leicester)

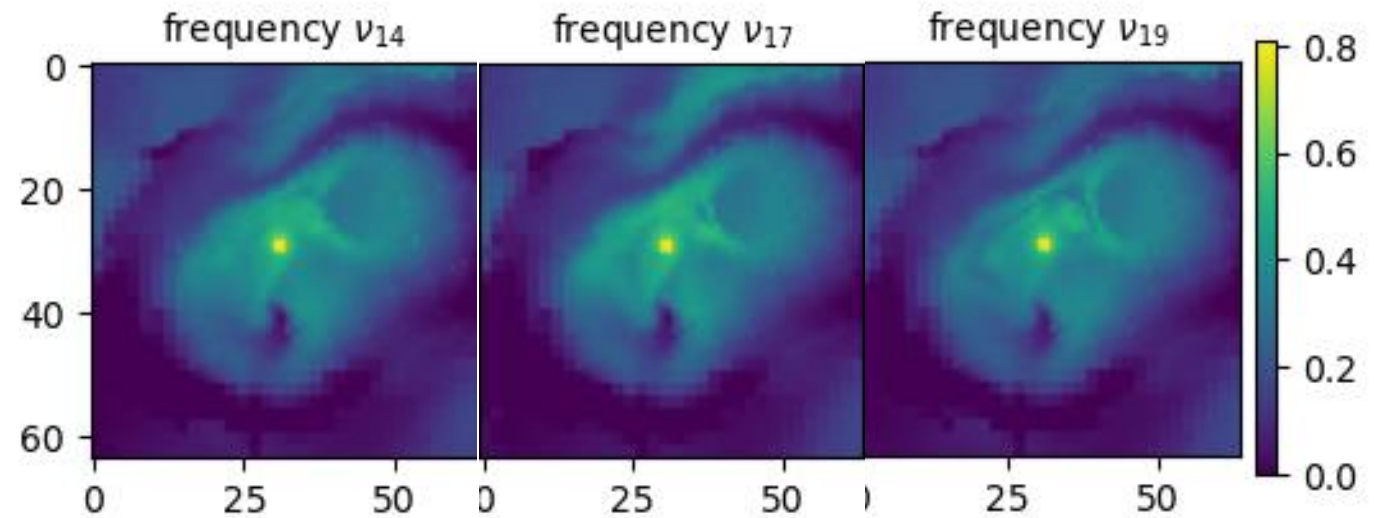
Using a 3D Residual Neural Network to build a surrogate model for the radiative transfer equation

$$\hat{\mathbf{n}} \cdot \nabla I_{\nu}(\hat{\mathbf{n}}) = \eta_{\nu} - (\chi_{\nu} + \chi_{\nu}^{\text{sca}}(\hat{\mathbf{n}}))I_{\nu}(\hat{\mathbf{n}}) + \oint d\Omega' \int_0^{\infty} d\nu' \Phi_{\nu\nu'}(\hat{\mathbf{n}}, \hat{\mathbf{n}}') I_{\nu'}(\hat{\mathbf{n}}')$$

Initial application: stellar winds in AGB star binaries

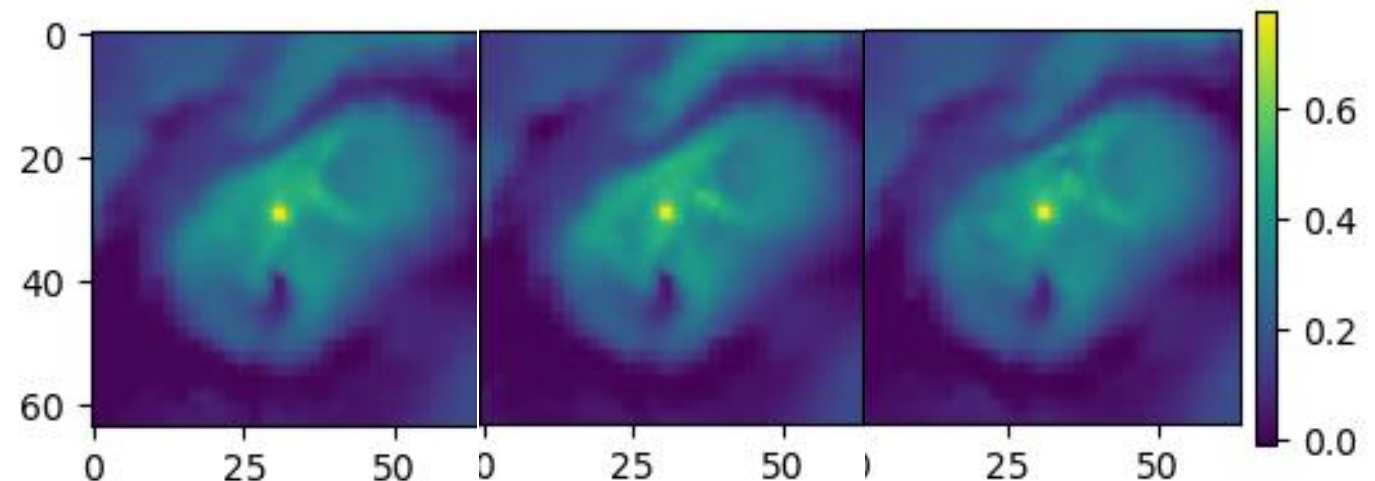
Surrogate model is 1000x faster than direct numerical calculation

Target



Su et al., in prep

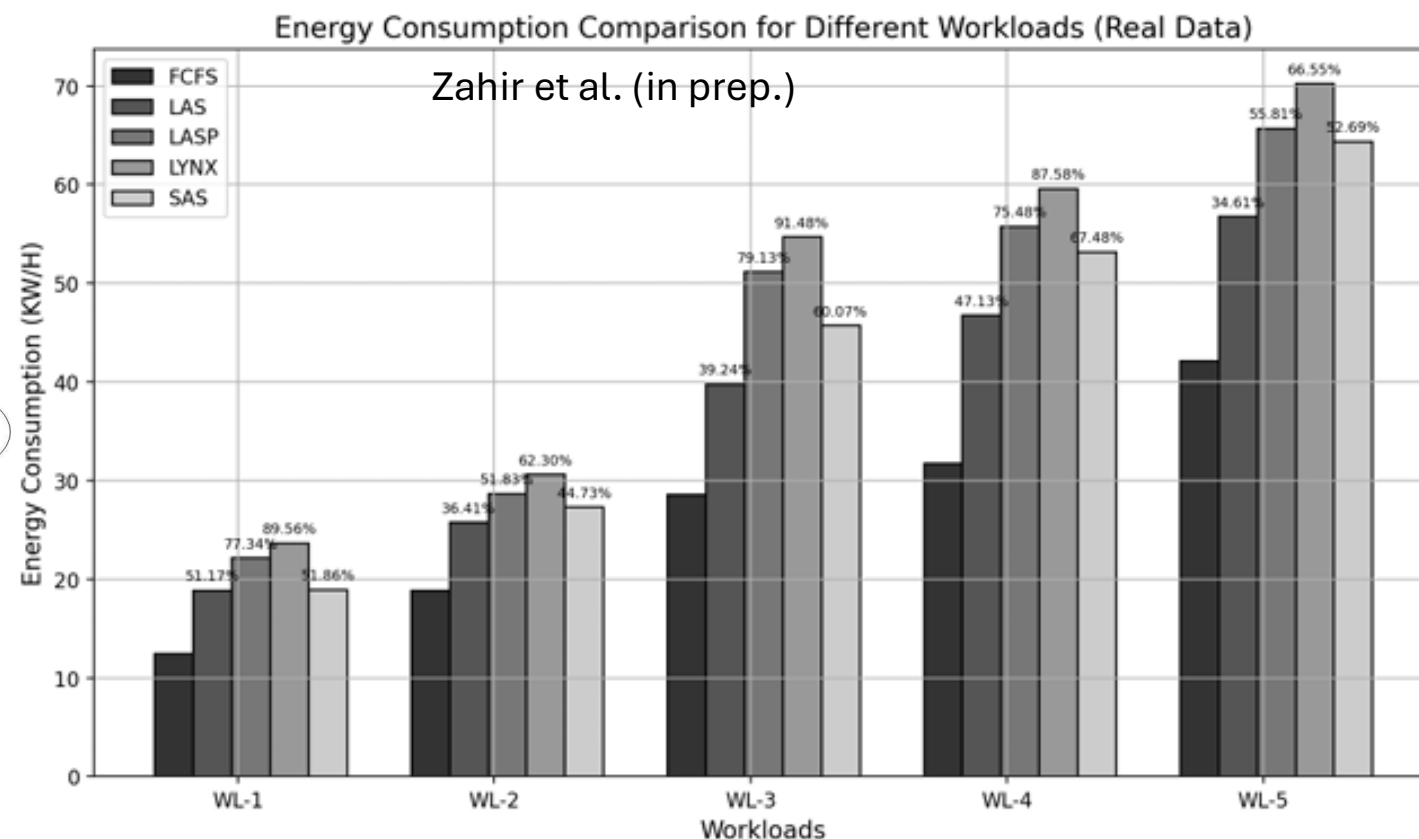
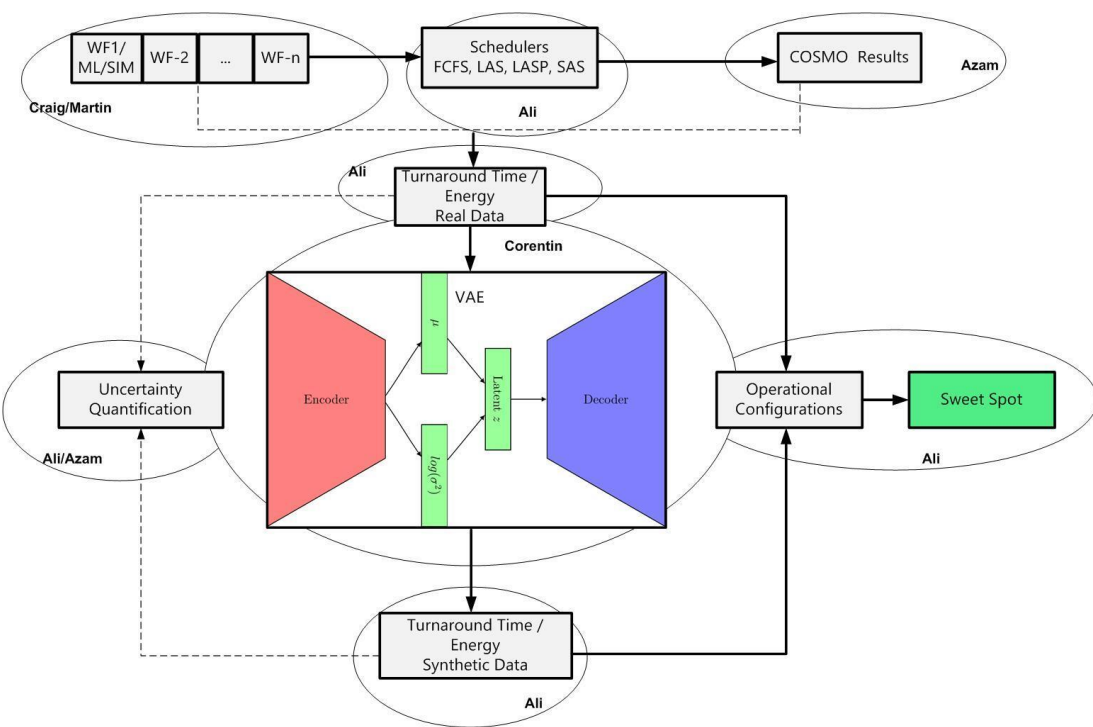
Predicted



Energy-aware scheduling – digital twins of compute clusters

Ali Zahir

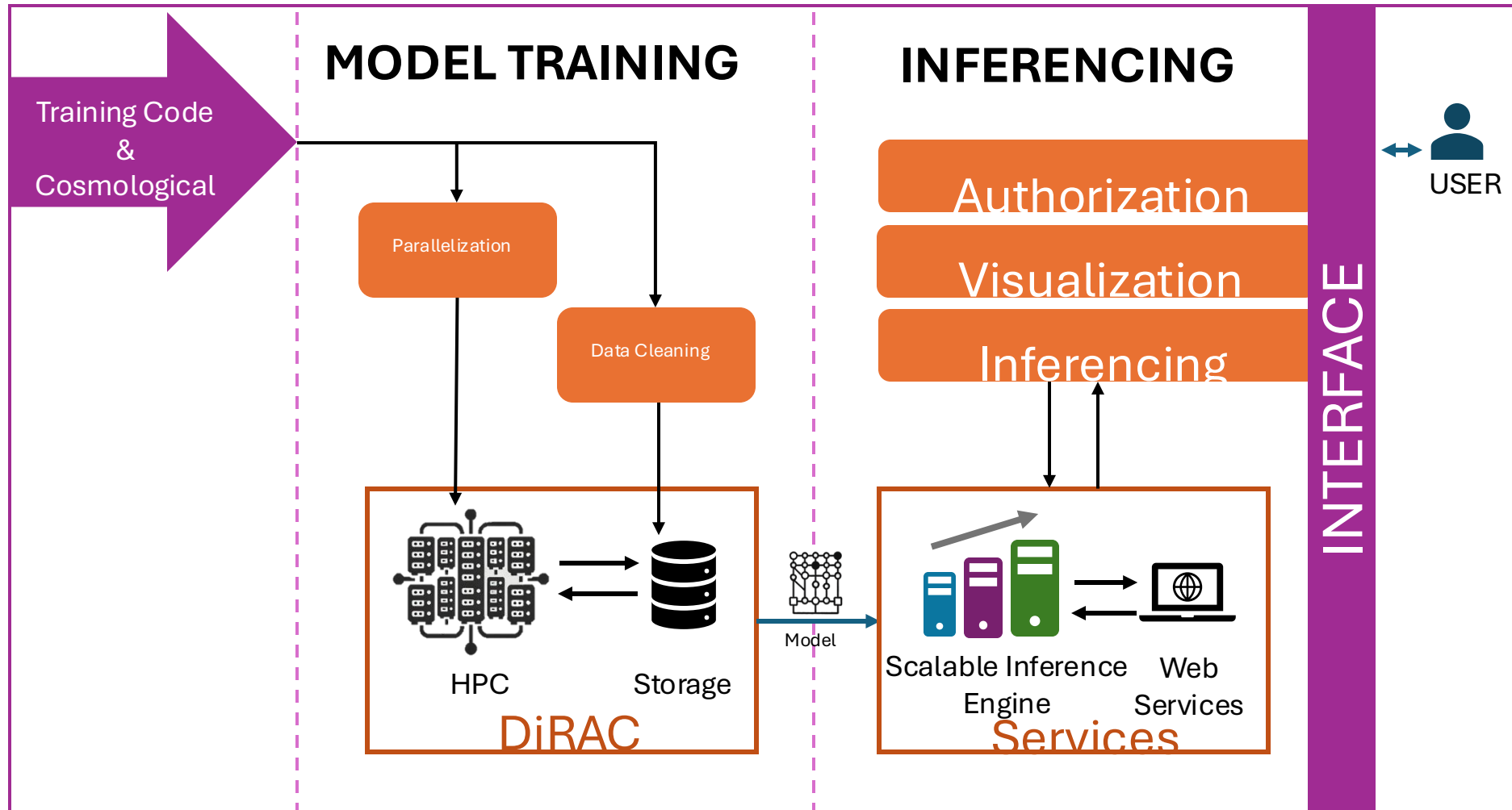
- AI-based, physics-informed model to represent compute system
- Trained on data from particular workflows
- Use to explore potential scheduler configurations in terms of energy and turnaround time



WF-1: 15% clock-down + SAS \Rightarrow EC down by 10% + TAT up by 5%

Putting it all together

Azam Khan



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Co-designing HPC/AI services

- AI models require data
 - Must embed data requirements in system design and service planning
 - Also a requirement for simulation and other HPC workflows
 - Growing number/scale of data sources has network implications
- Avoid siloed AI services:
 - computing requirements are shared with other types of workload
 - AI is increasingly important in general HPC workflows
- Investment in people is key
 - RTPs, skills training programmes for researchers, etc.

Conclusions

- Co-design of HPC and AI services delivers increased productivity, cost-effectiveness and energy efficiency
 - Dependent on investments in people
- AI is becoming embedded throughout simulation workflows
- Surrogate models of sub-grid physics in cosmological simulations are essential to make the next generation of calculations possible



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