

Constructing Impactful Machine Learning Research for Astronomy

DANIELA HUPPENKOTHEN
MICHELLE NTAMPAKA

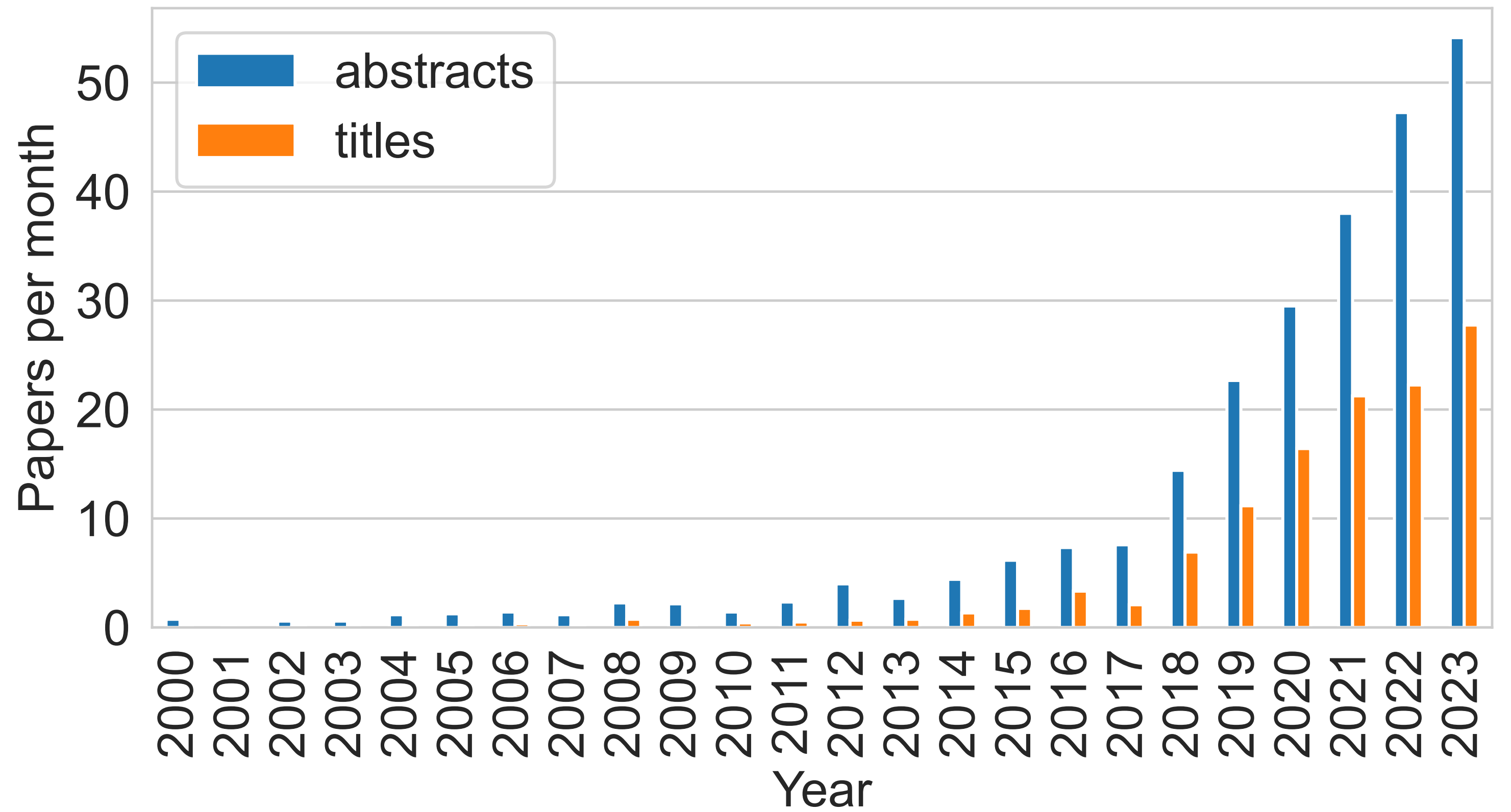
Matthew Ho, Morgan Fouesneau, Brian Nord, J.E.G. Peek, Mike Walmsley, John F. Wu, C. Avestruz, Tobias Buck, Massimo Brescia, Douglas P. Finkbeiner, Andy D. Goulding, T. Kacprzak, Peter Melchior, Mario Pasquato, Nesar Ramachandra, Yuan-Sen Ting, Glenn van de Ven, Soledad Villar, V.A. Villar, Elad Zinger

arXiv:2310.12528

A surreal landscape featuring a long, narrow path of stairs that leads up a mountain peak. The sky is dark blue with a prominent, colorful nebula or galaxy in the center. The foreground and background are filled with a complex network of white lines and dots, resembling a data network or a constellation. The overall color palette is dark blue and purple, with a glowing white path.

Why?

Machine Learning Papers in Astronomy



A futuristic landscape with a glowing path leading to a mountain peak under a starry sky with a network overlay.

Key challenges: trust, robustness, interpretability

1.

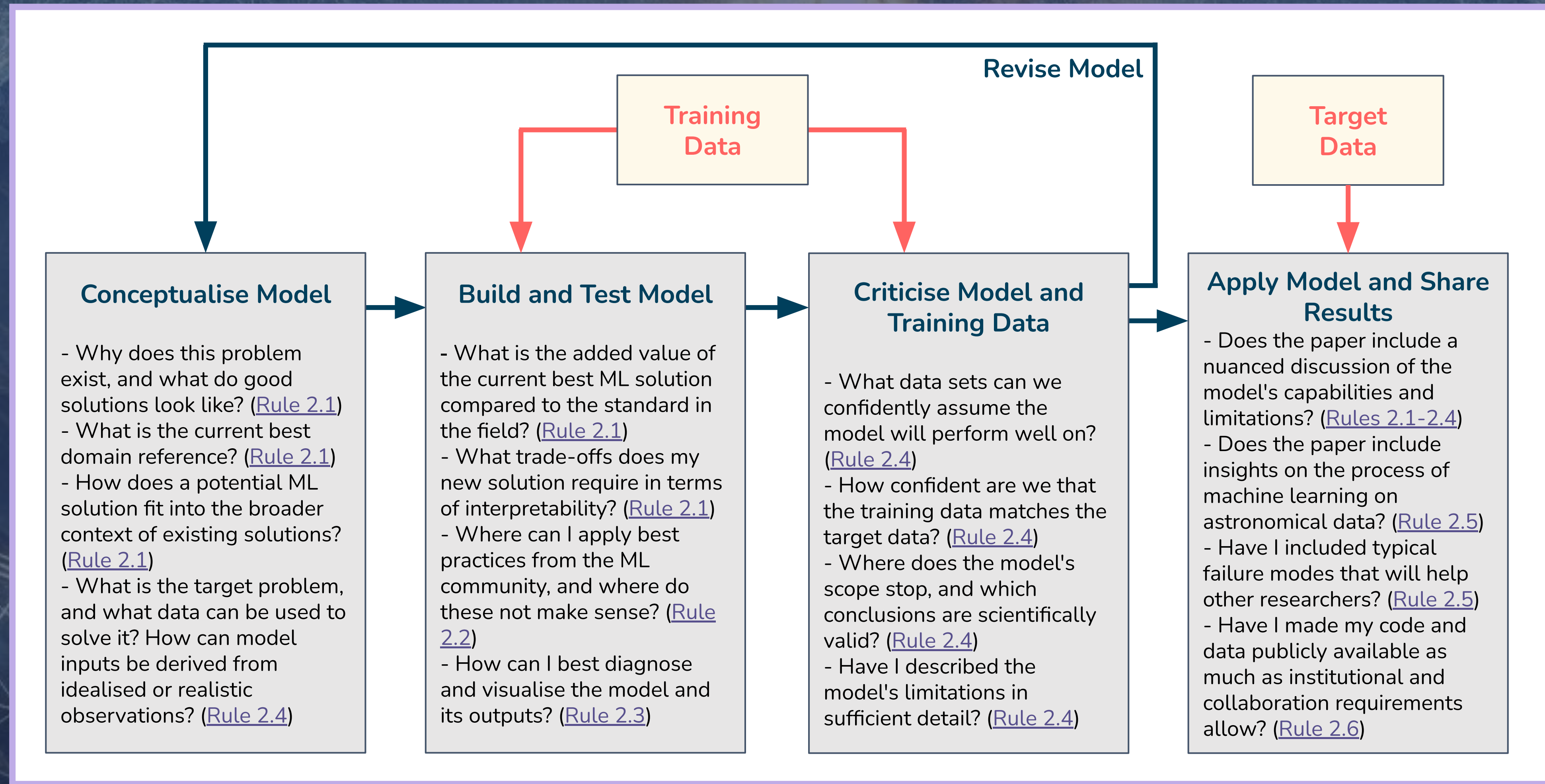
6 Rules for Constructing
Impactful Machine Learning
in Astronomy

2.

Interactive Discussion!

Today

Box Loop for Machine Learning in Astronomy




Did you write a paper that showcases a rule? Do you know someone who did? Please send it to me!


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Rule 1: Compare against a domain reference and put result into larger context




Key reasons for
implementing
machine learning
models in
astronomy




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2. Improve the robustness or precision of solutions to astrophysical questions
3. Facilitate model sharing and automation to make collaboration easier
4. Implement machine learning models for problems where no other solution exists



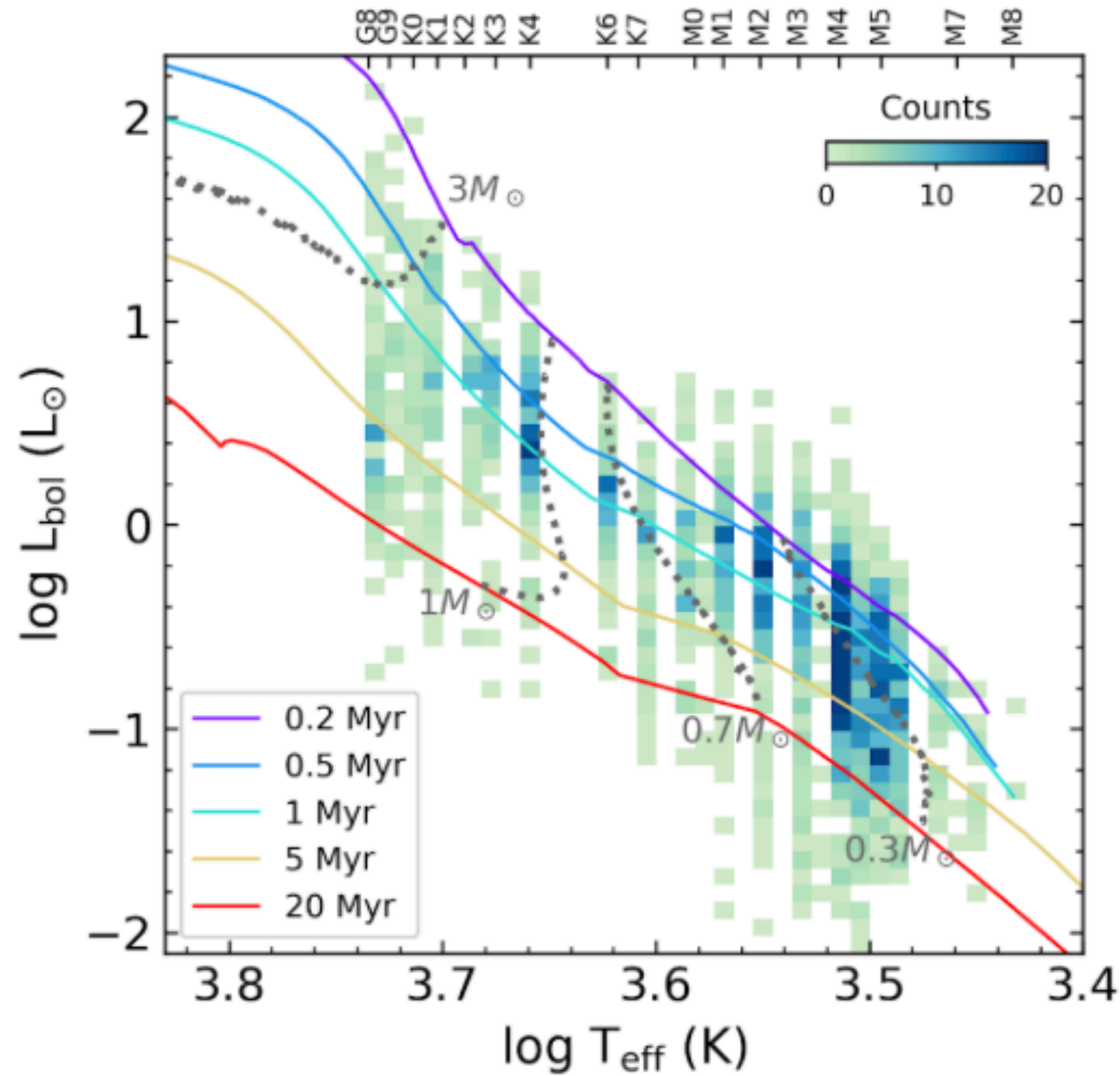
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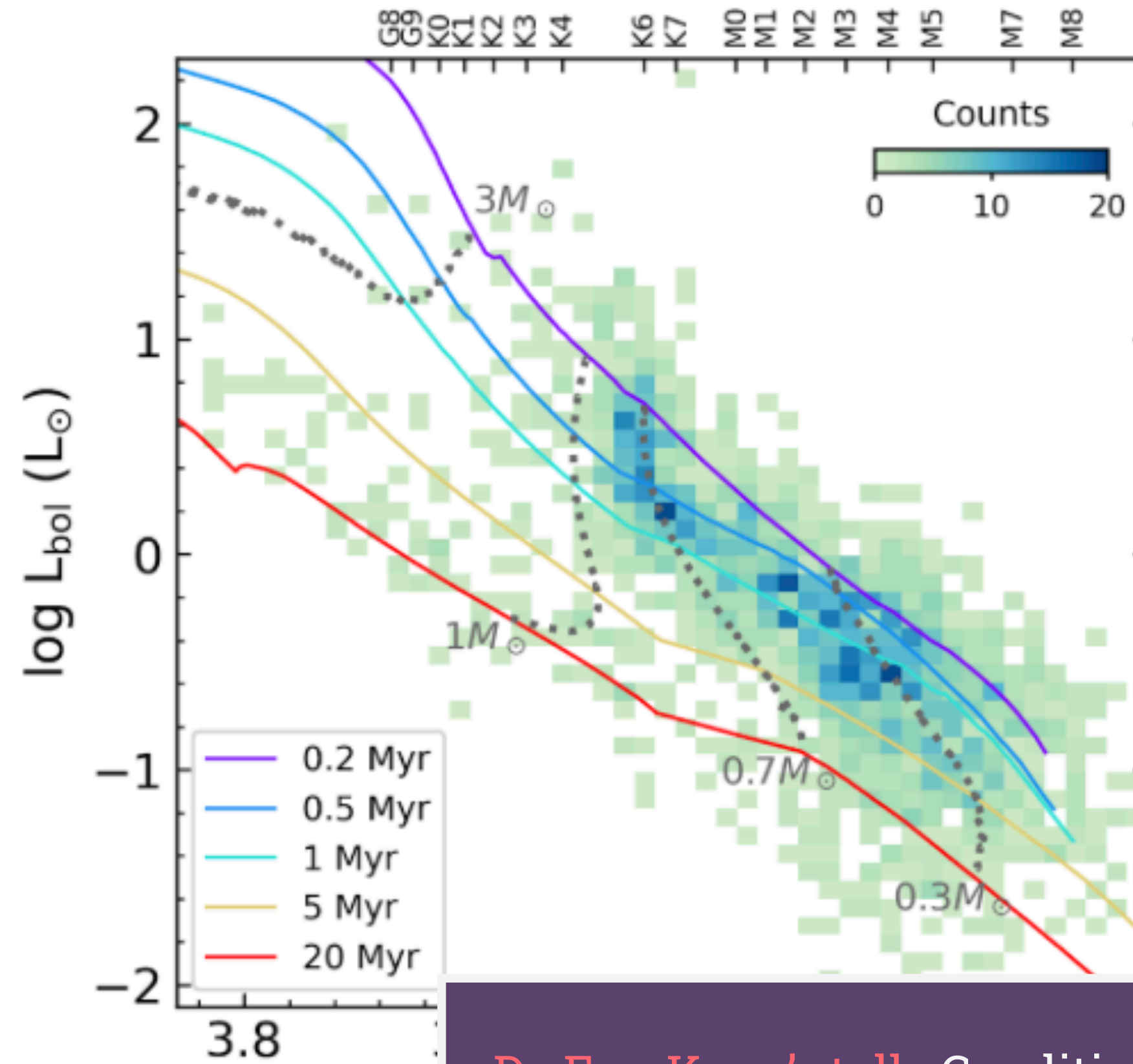
What **value** is added by implementing a machine learning model, compared to the **trade-offs** (e.g. interpretability, biases in population inference)

cINN (MAP) vs. Template fitting (lit)

Literature



cINN



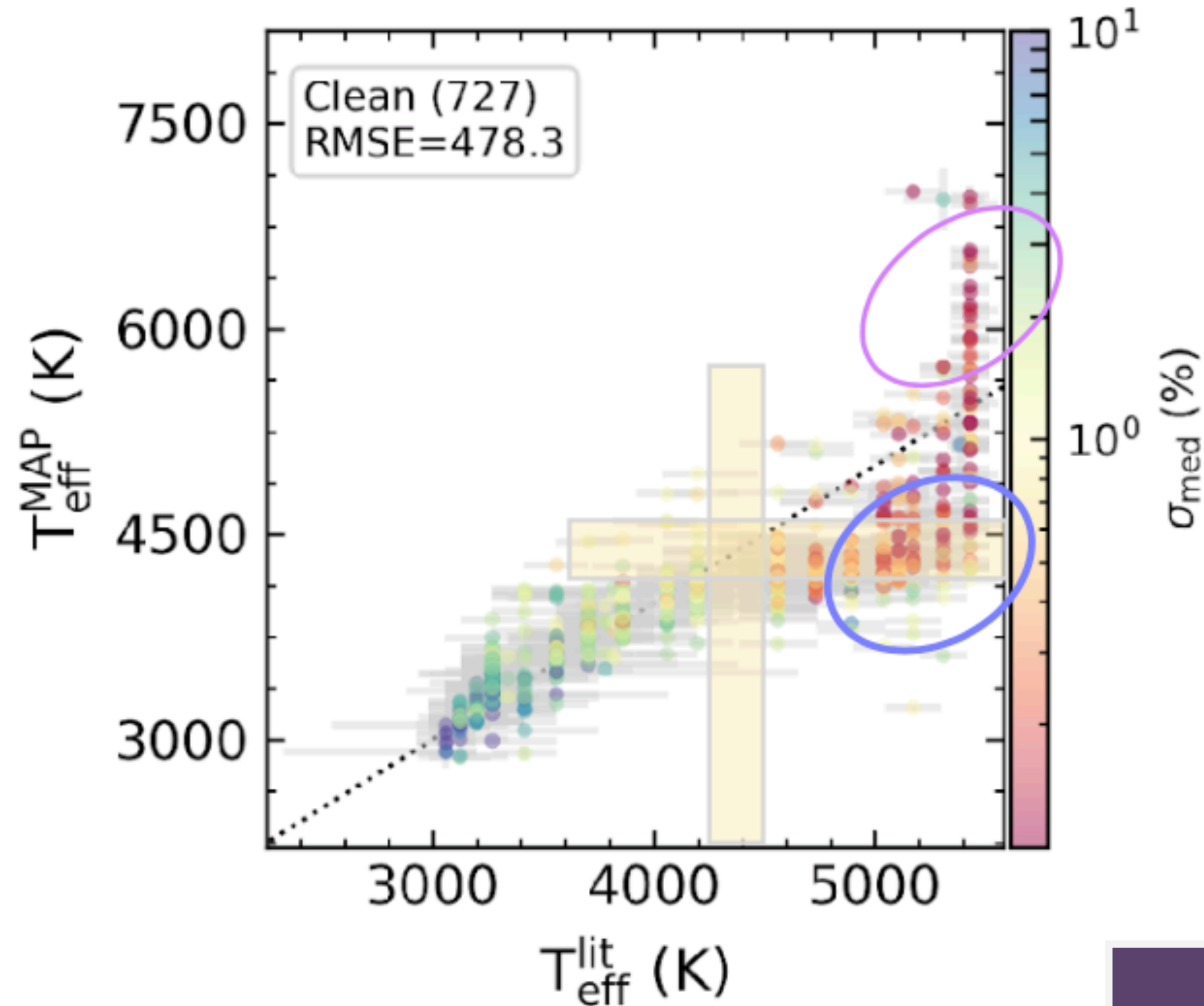
Bolometric luminosity

- J-band mag (HAWK-I, VISTA)
- extinction (A_V)
- Colors and bolometric correction = $f(T_{\text{eff}})$
- Average stellar age: 0.7 Myr
- Two stellar populations
 - Young: $\sim 0.7 \text{ Myr}$

Da Eun Kang's talk: Conditional Invertible Neural Networks for enhanced analysis of young, low-mass stars in Trumpler 14

cINN (MAP) vs. Template fitting (lit)

cINN



Literature

Templates used in literature: M9.5 – G8.0

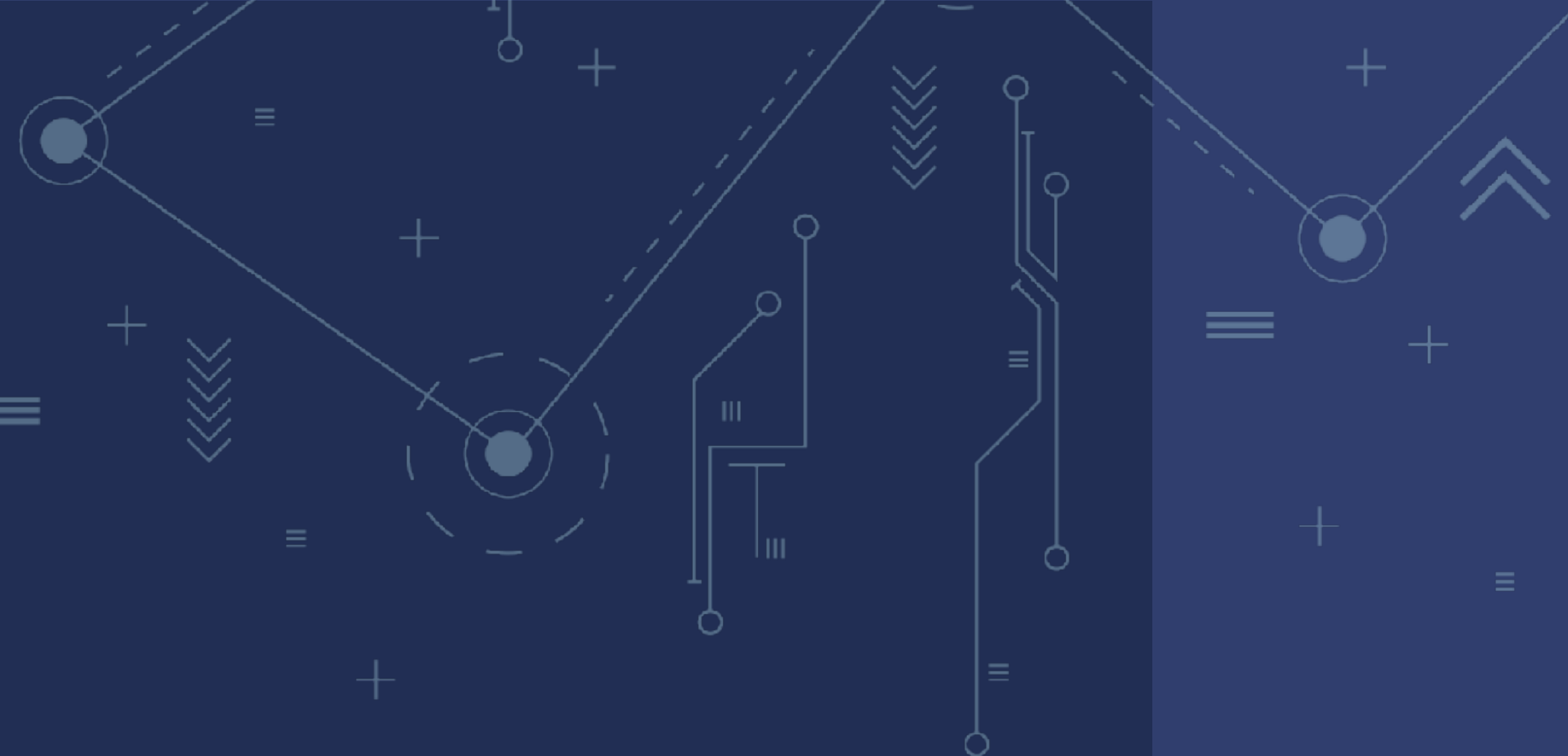
- No templates higher than G8 (5430K)
- No templates between K6 and K4 ($\Delta T \sim 360\text{K}$)

cINN training range: 2600K – 7000K

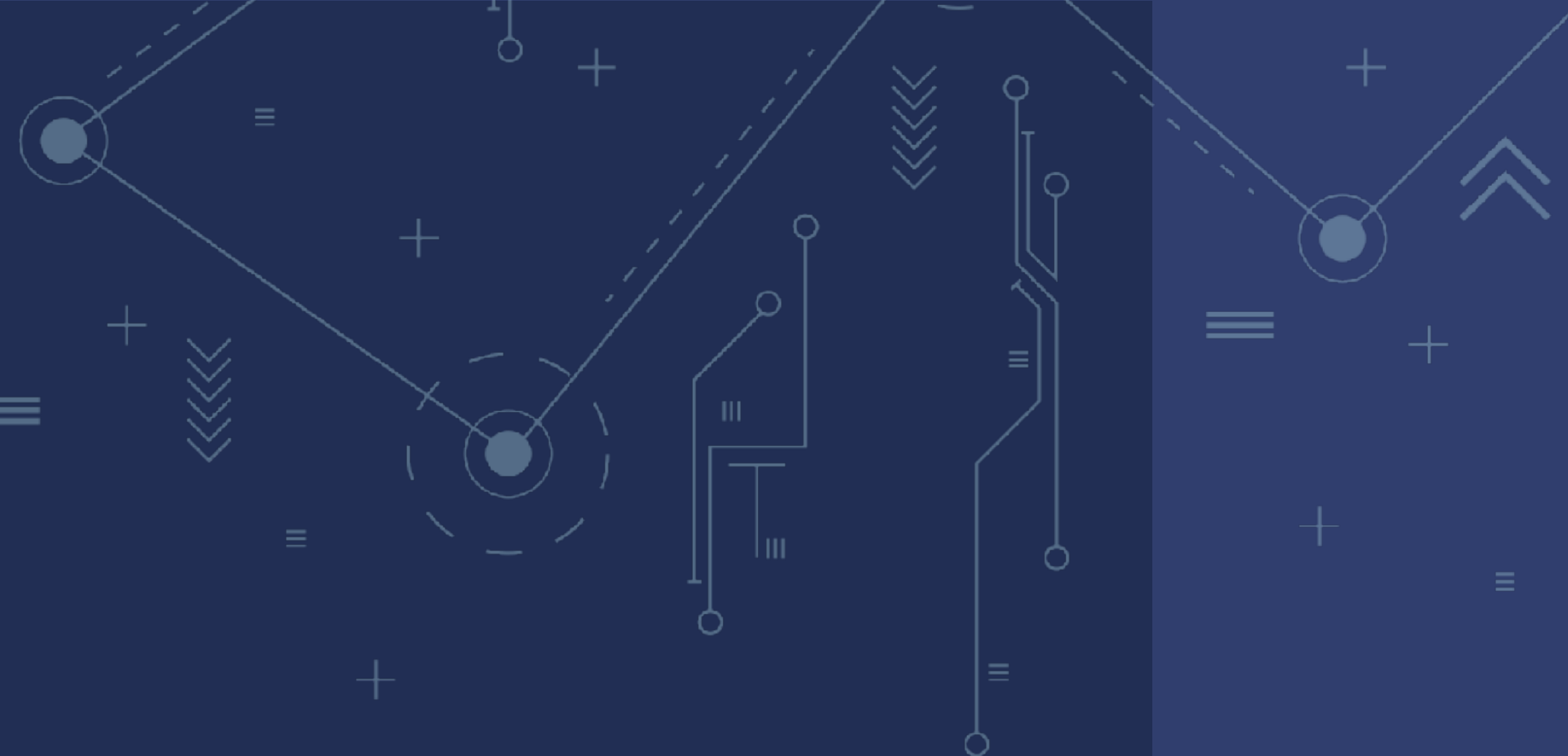
Da Eun Kang's talk: Conditional Invertible Neural Networks for enhanced analysis of young, low-mass stars in Trumpler 14



Rule 2: Adopt best practices from the ML community

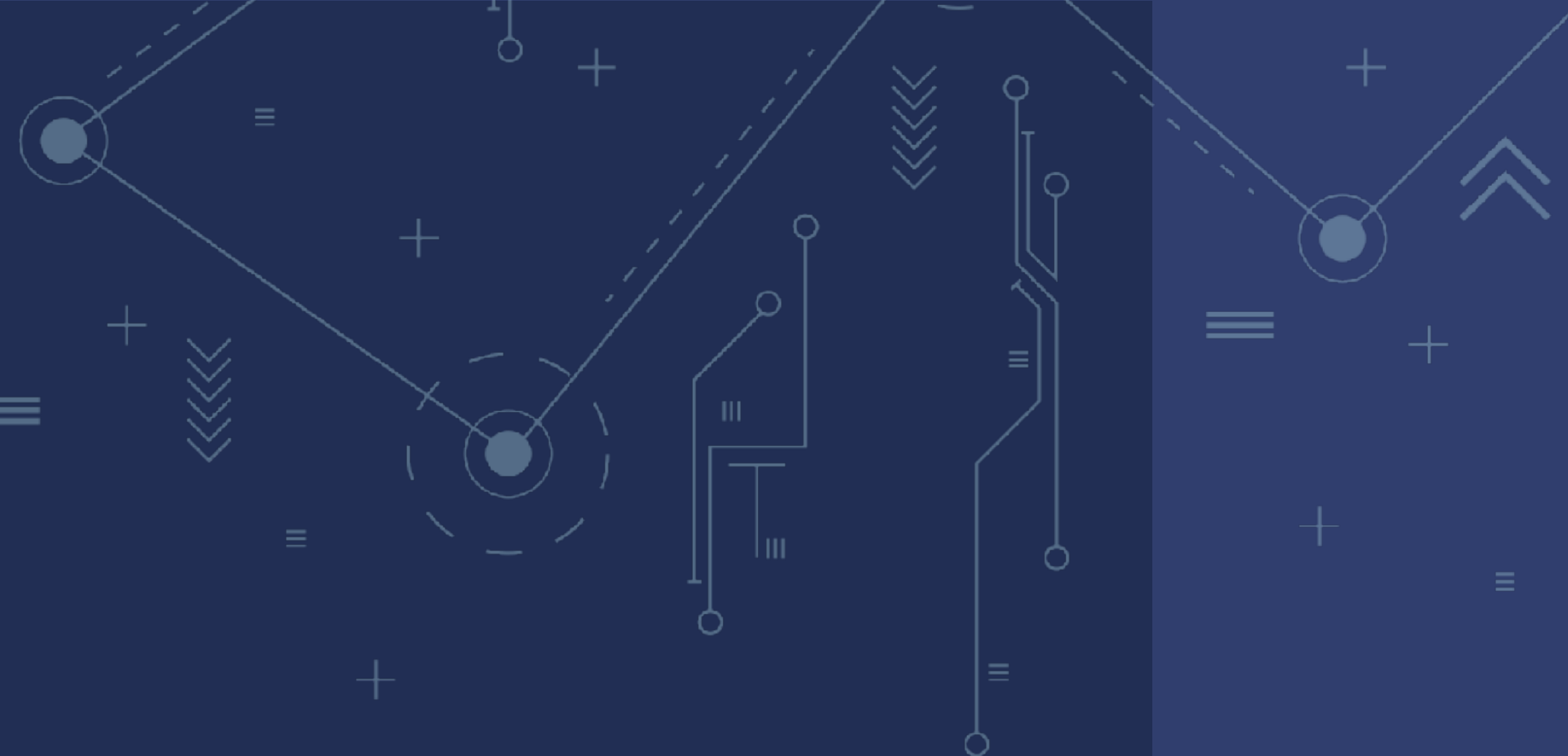


Use best practices in
machine learning to
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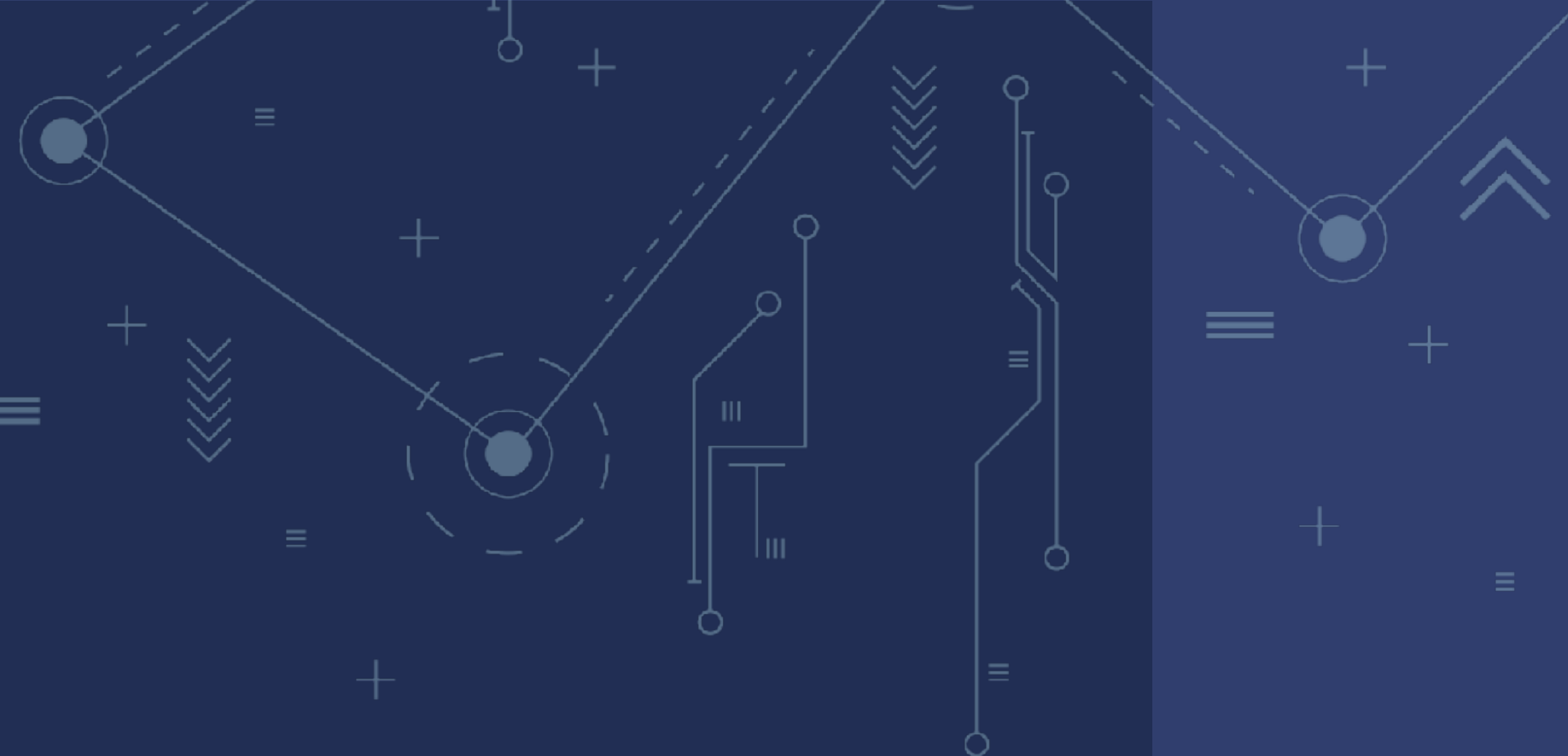
1. Designing and preparing data sets

Use best practices in machine learning to establish trust in results



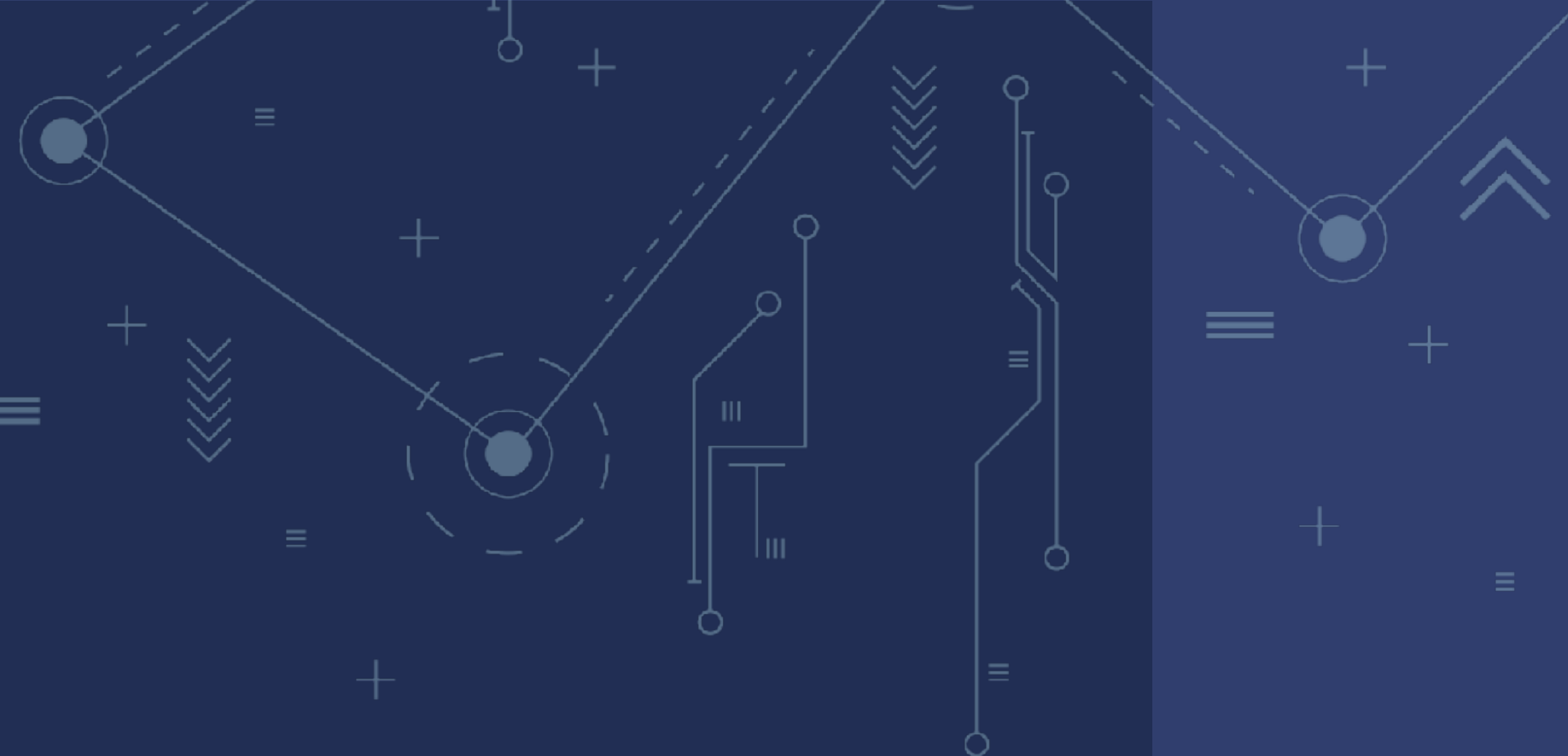
1. Designing and preparing data sets
2. Choosing algorithms

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Use best practices in machine learning to establish trust in results

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4. Exploring and reporting outputs



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Machine learning is not just a set of algorithms,
but a community of practice with rules,
conventions and best practices to guard against
challenges (e.g. overfitting, lack of generalisation)

K-fold cross-validation

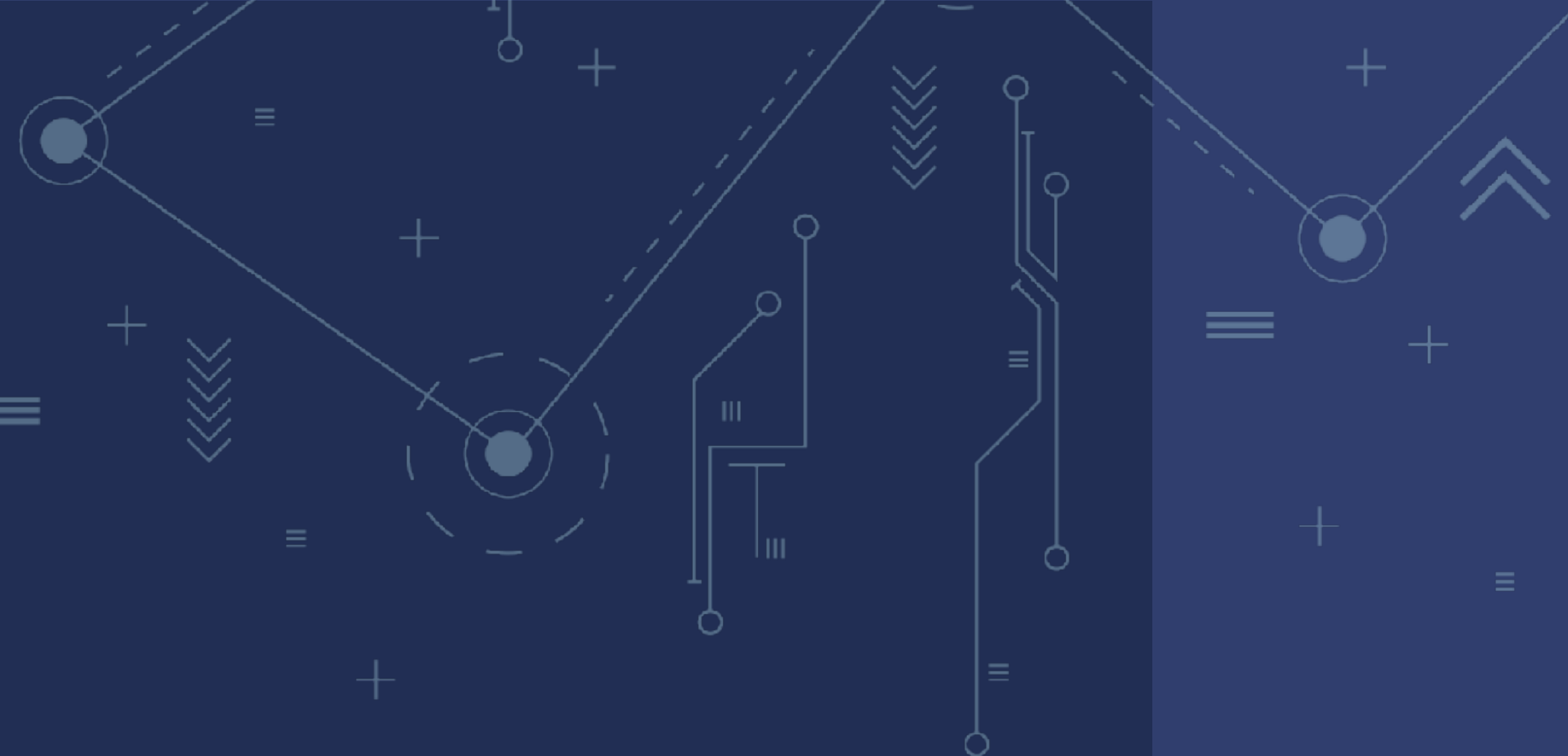
- We only have 101 finetuning samples, or ~20 samples for testing
- Train the model k times, reserving different data for testing each time



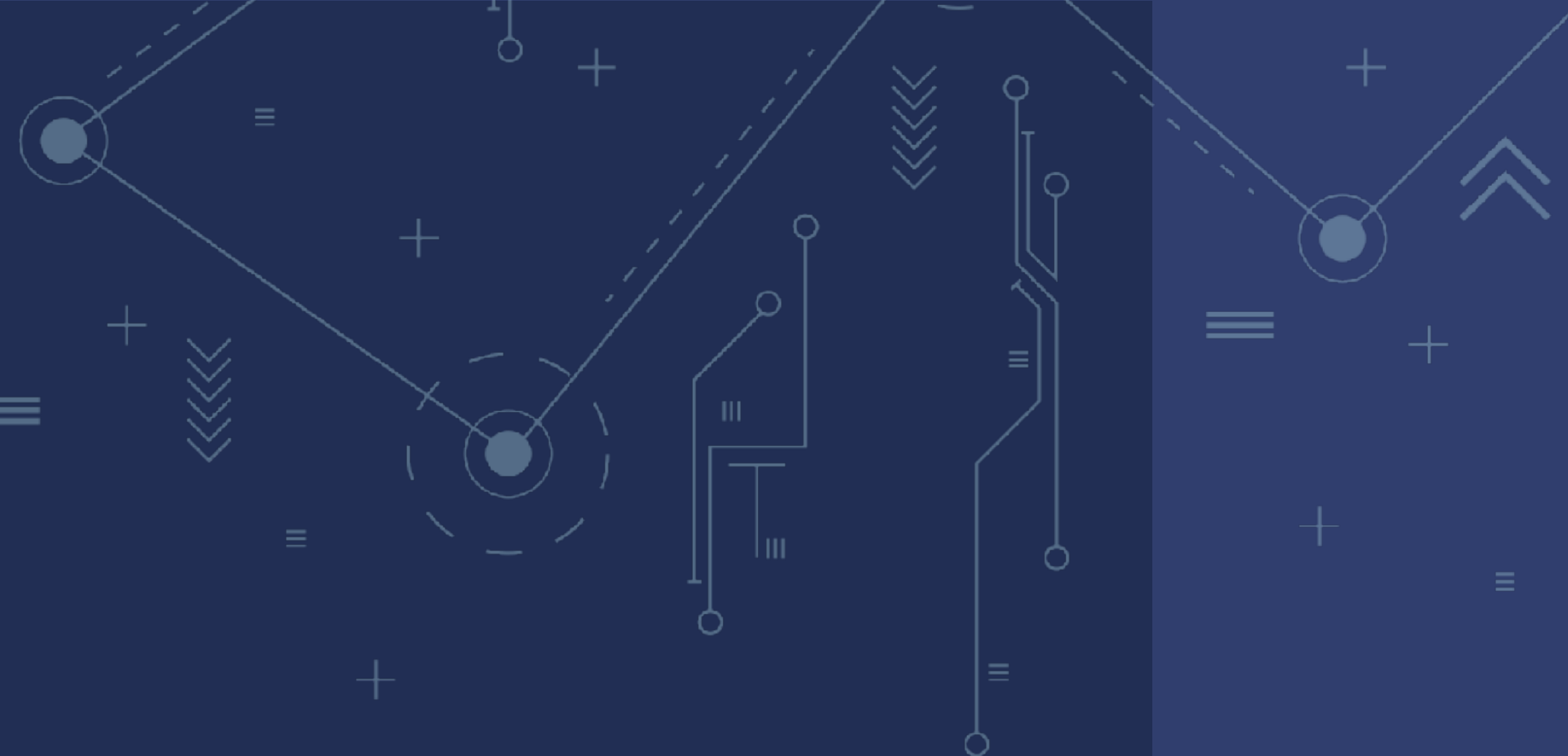
Louisa Canepa's talk yesterday: Measuring intracluster light with machine learning



Rule 3: Interpret, Diagnose and/or Visualise Models

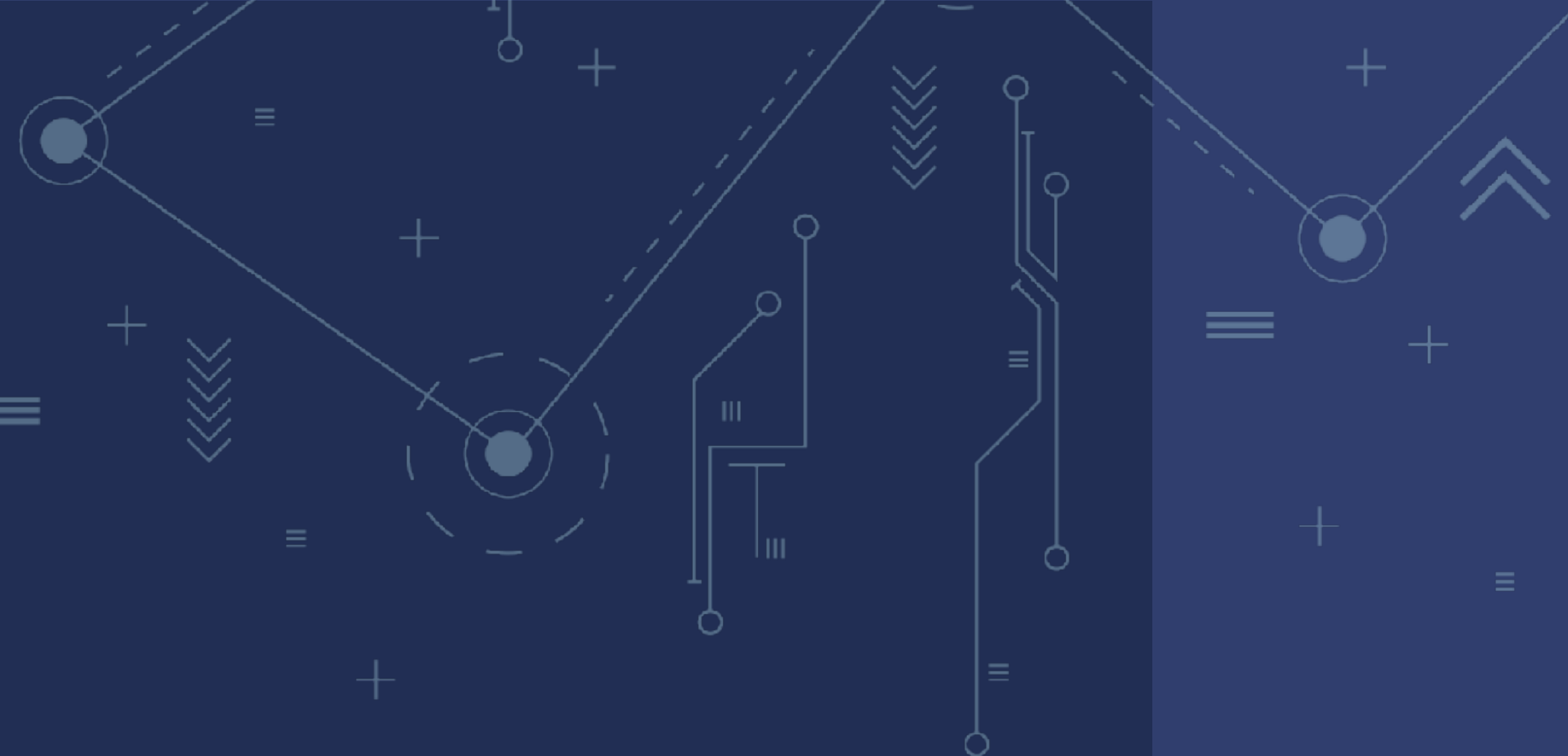


Develop and/or apply
innovative diagnosis
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techniques




- Monitor in-distribution validation of ML models

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- Visualize model output beyond summary statistics
- Select performance metrics according to the problem being solved



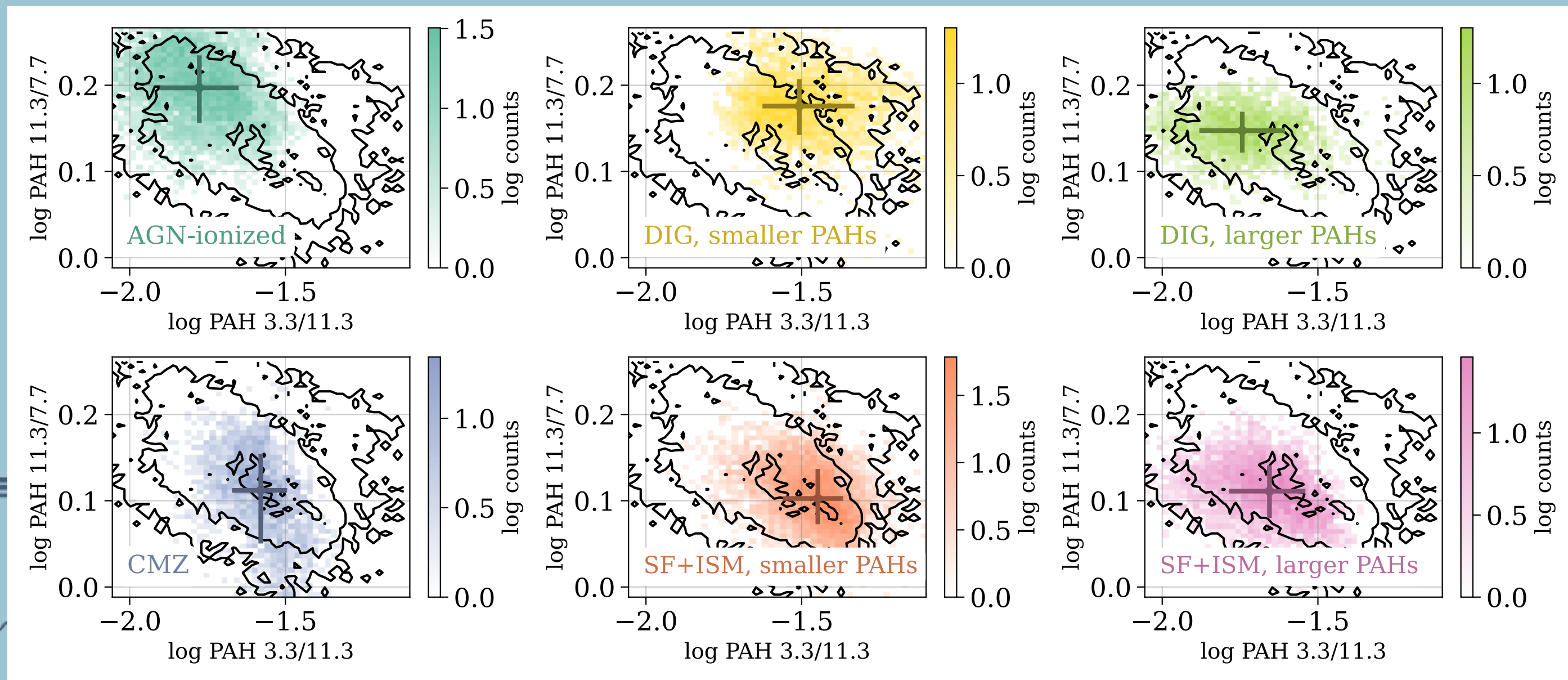
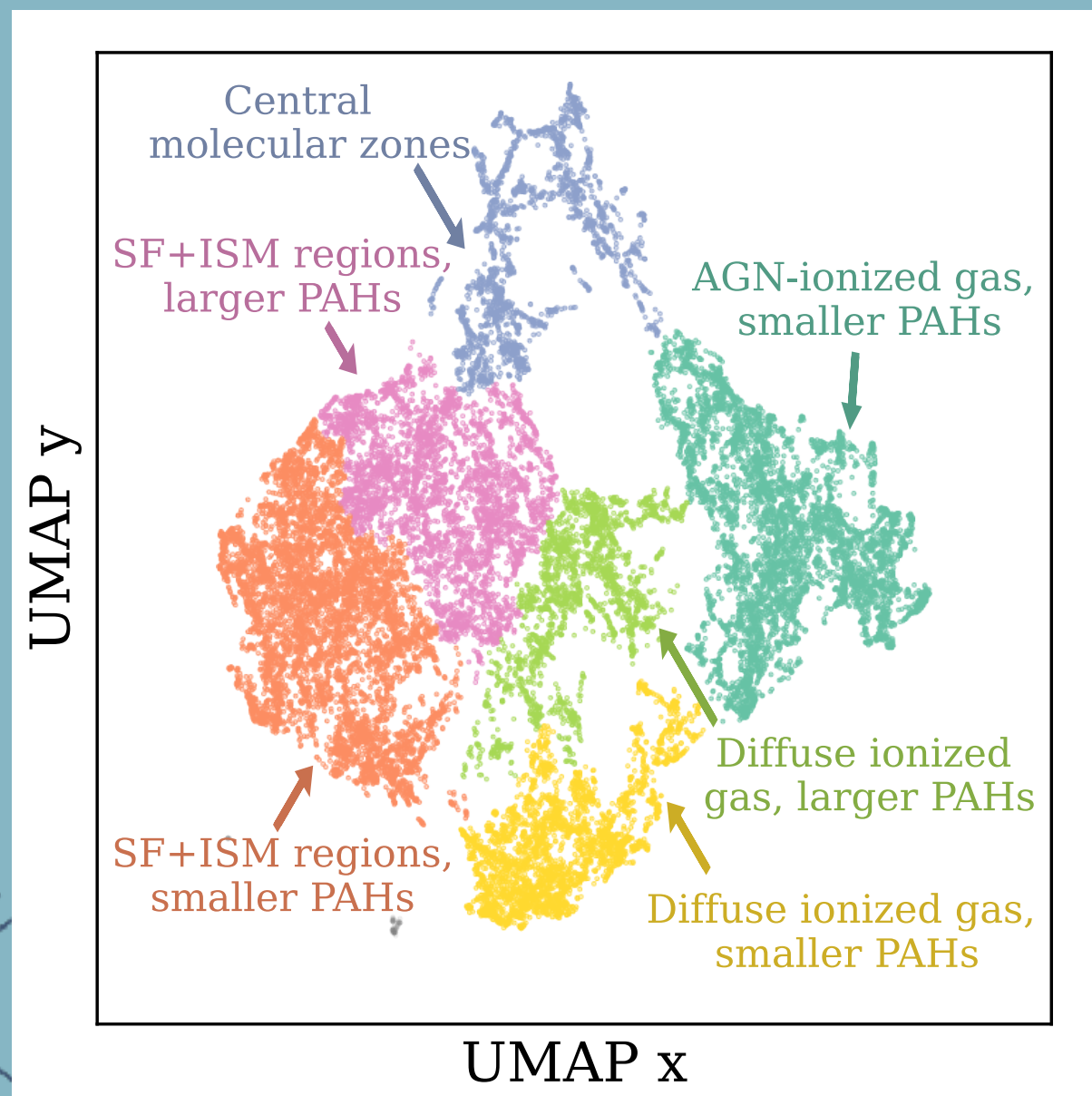
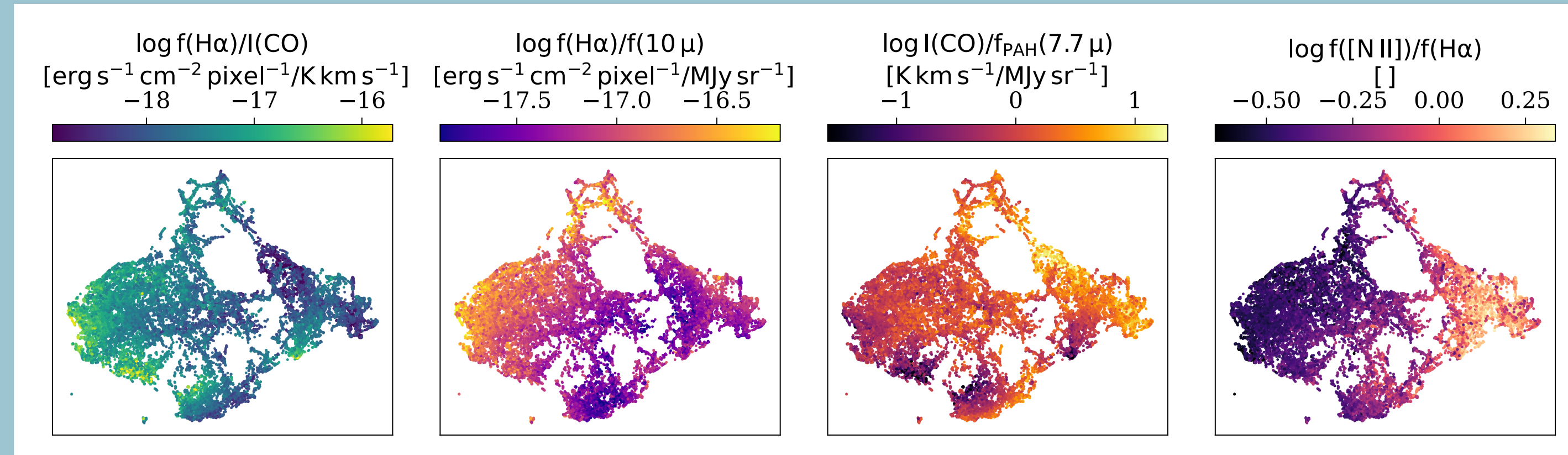
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ML models have numerous algorithmic failure modes, and blindly trusting their output may lead to biased inferences about astrophysical problems

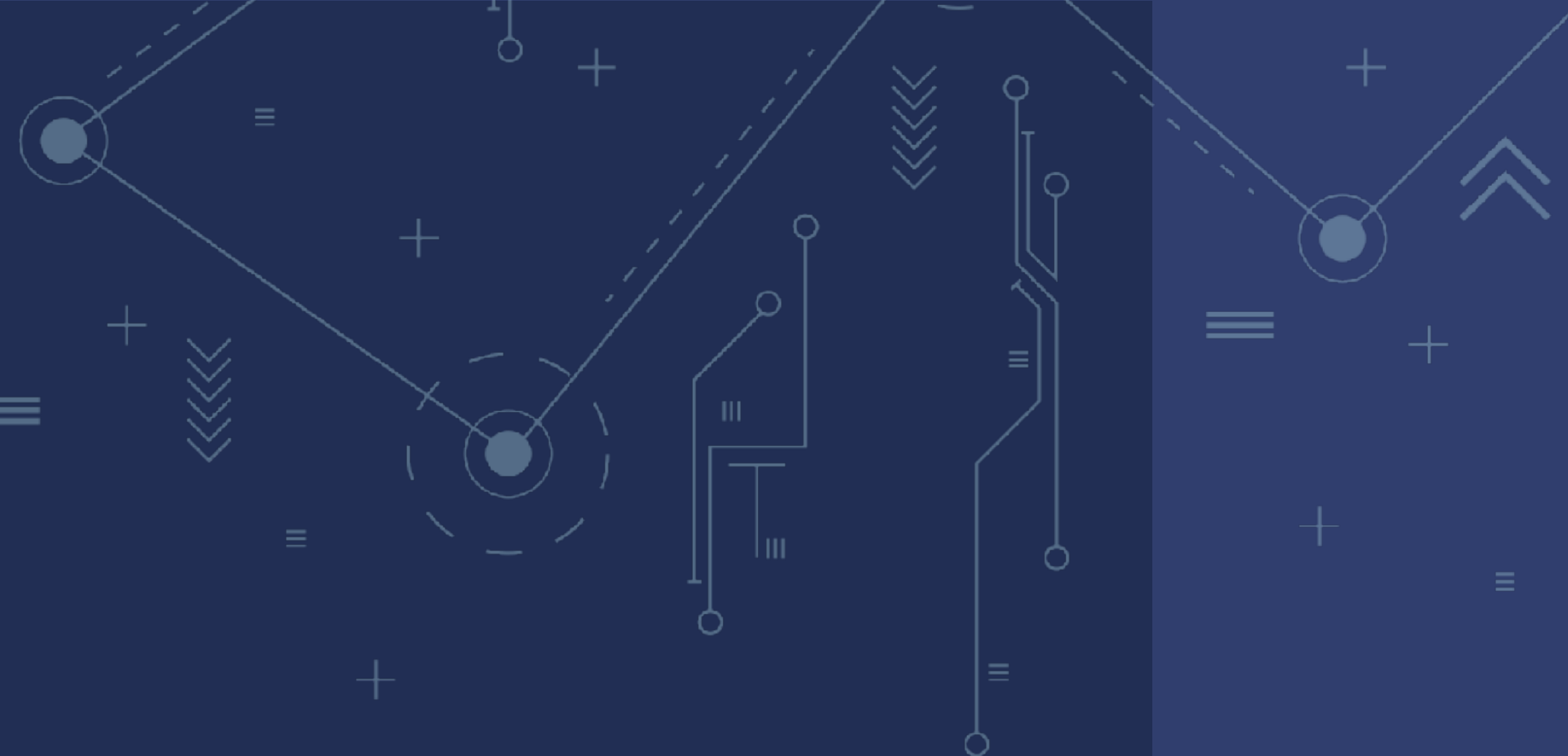
PHANGS-ML: dissecting multiphase gas and dust in nearby galaxies using machine learning

Baron et al (2024)

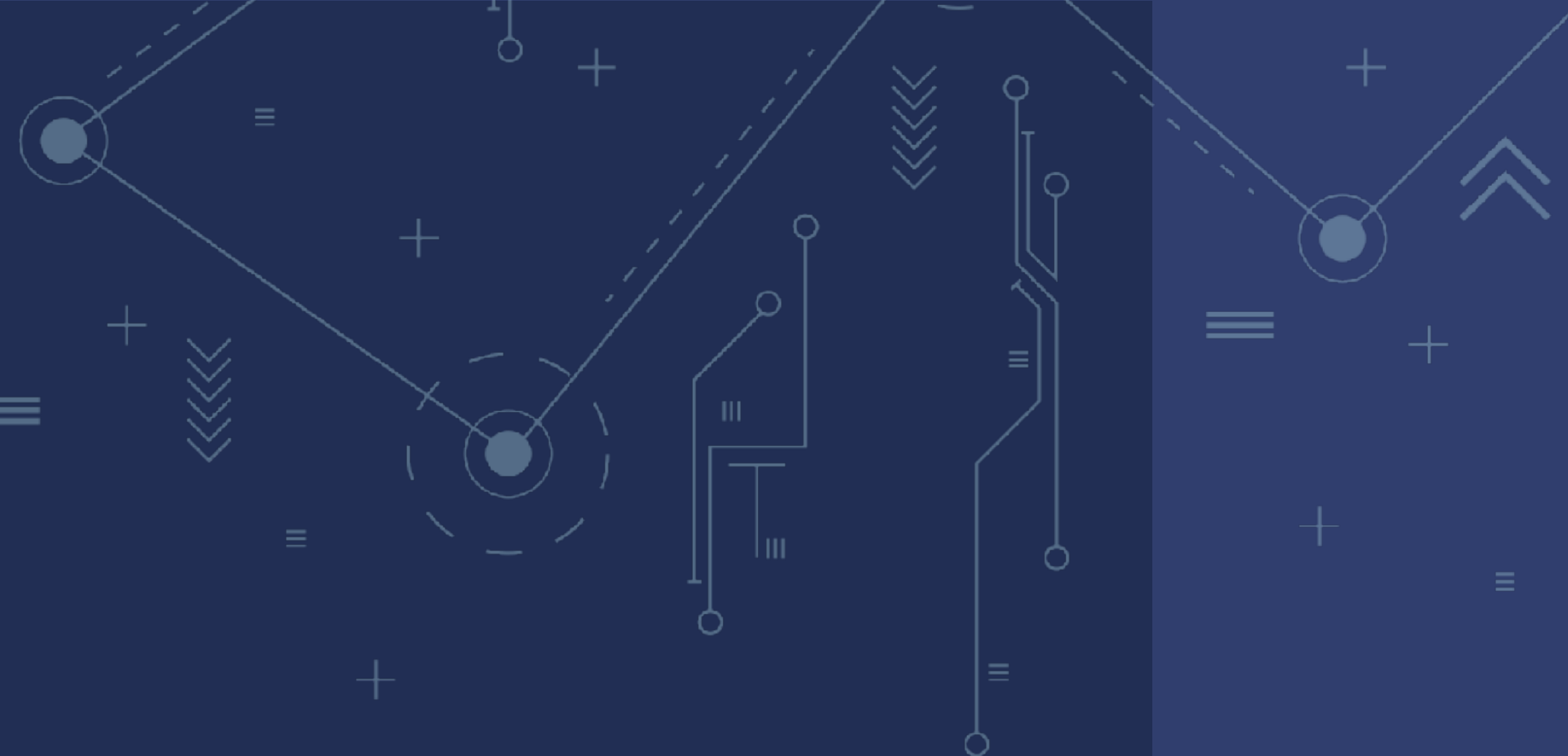




Rule 4: Explore limits and scope of the model

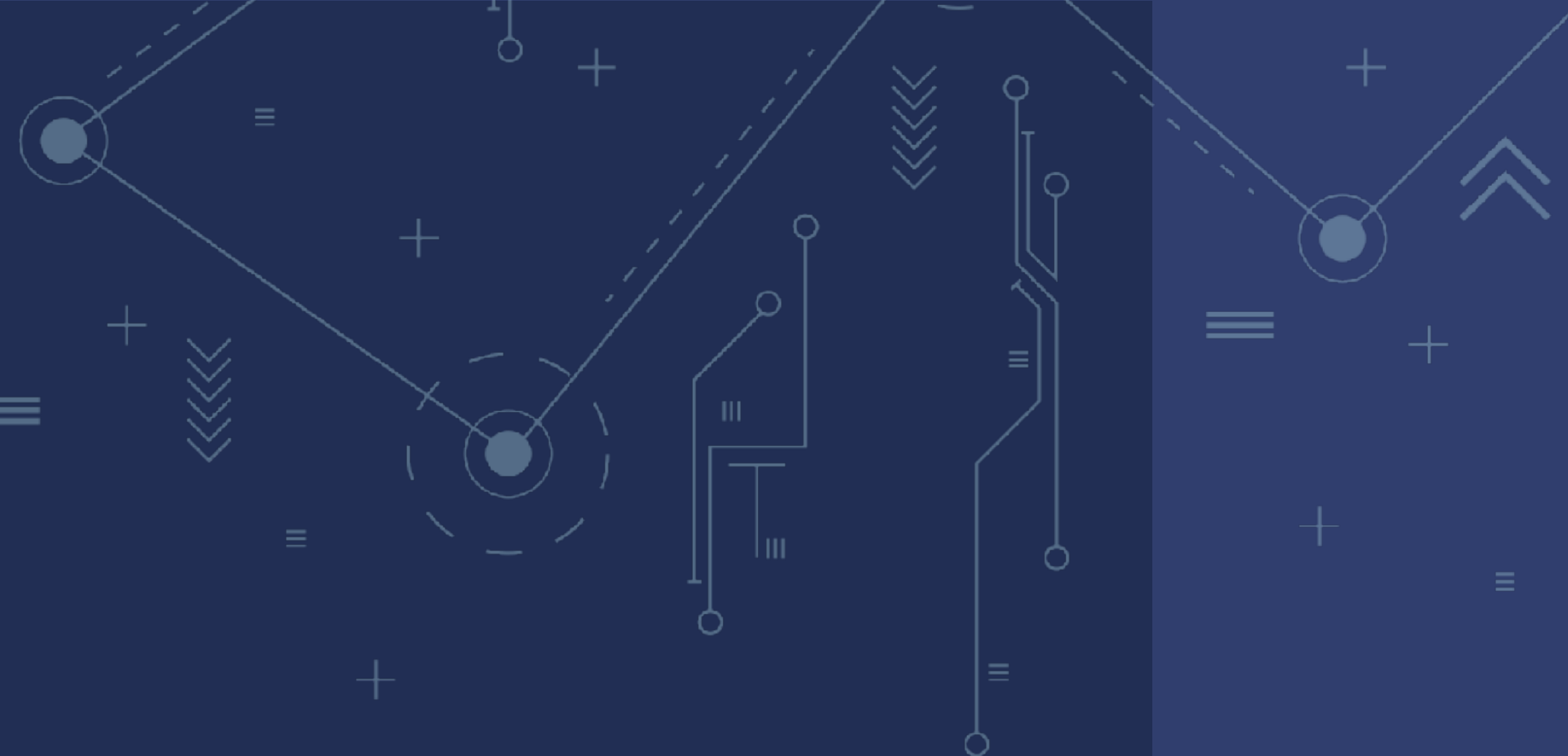


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- Don't forget about rare, previously unseen events!



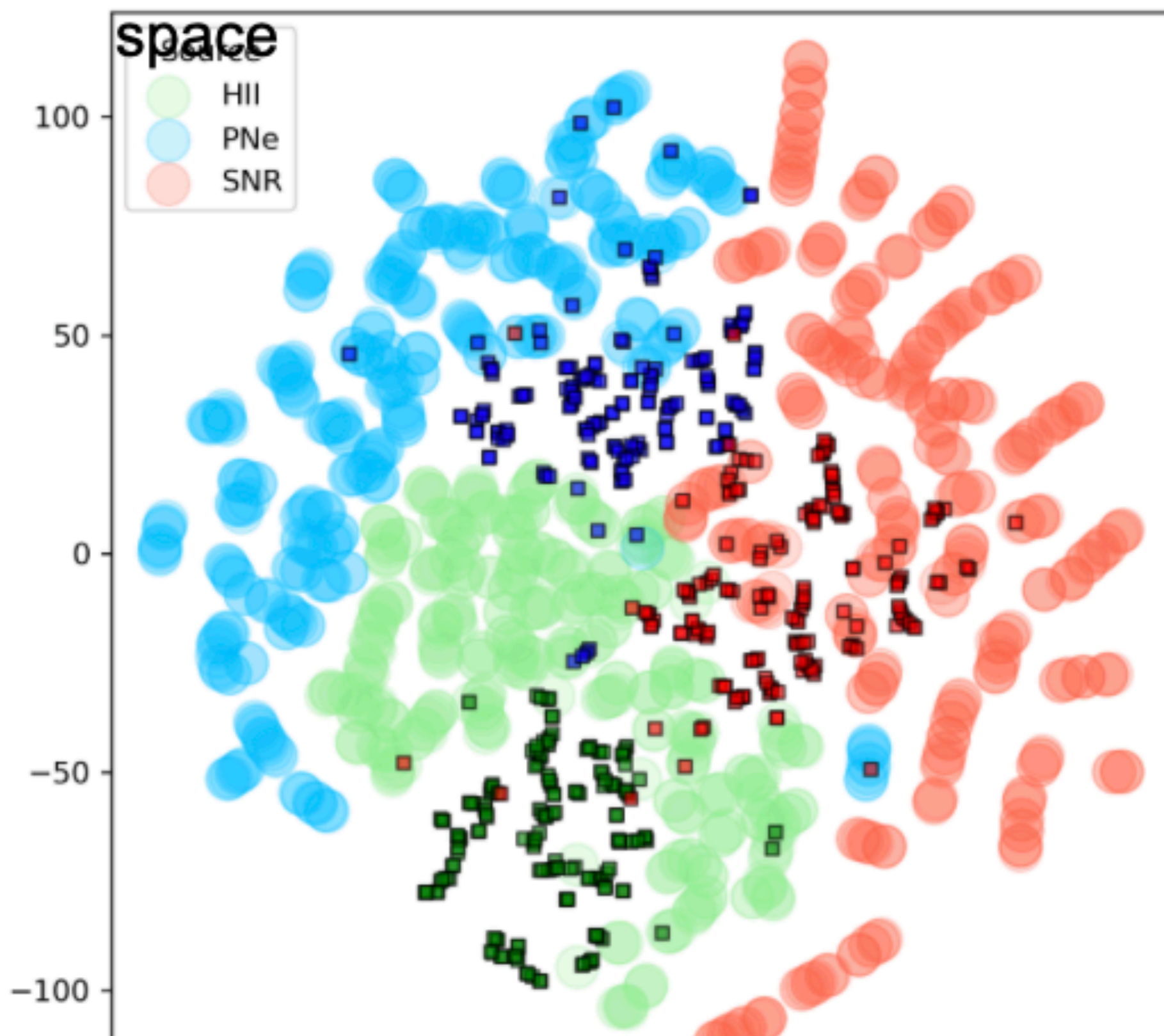
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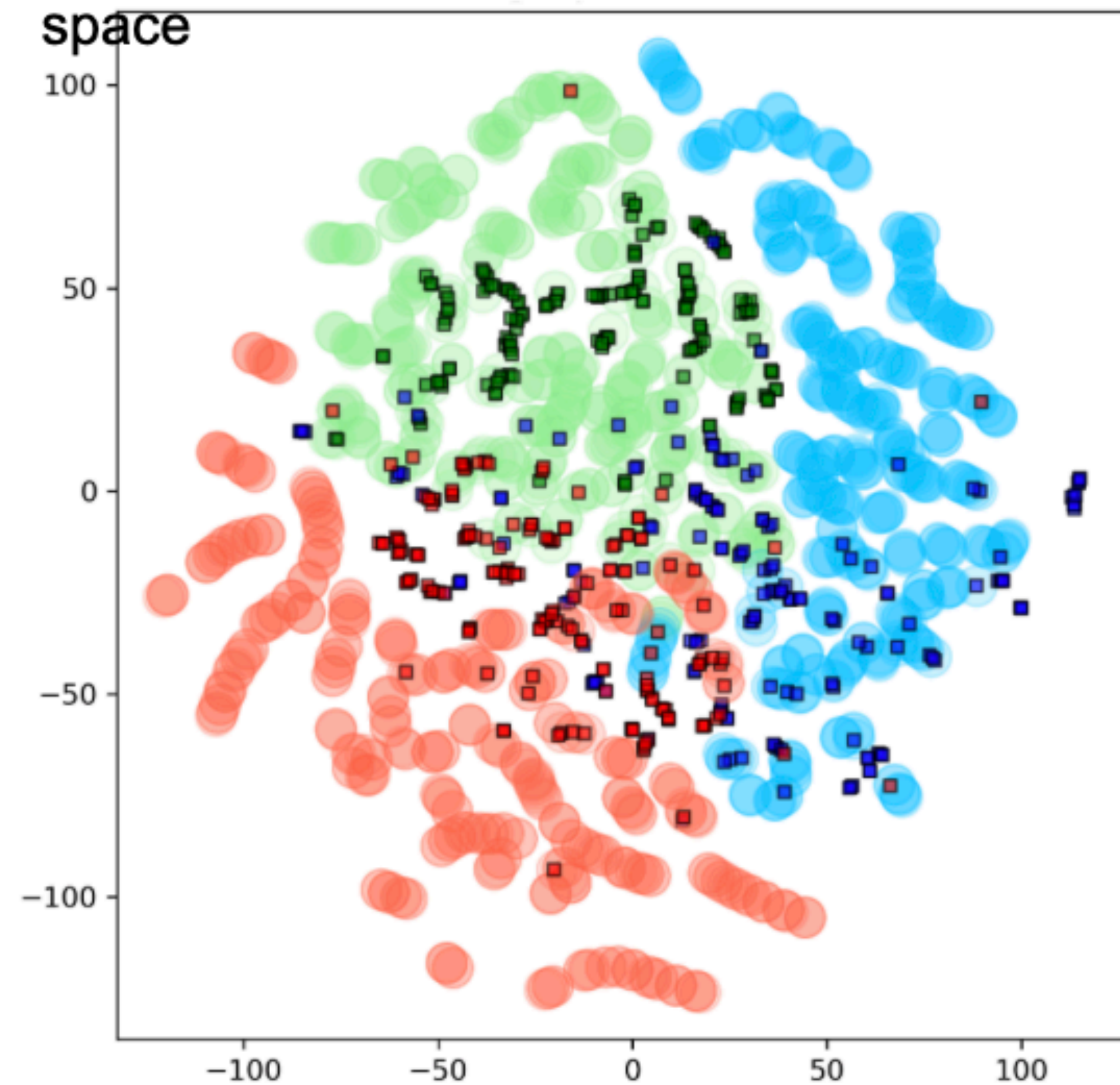
In many situations where training data is imperfect or incompletely understood, it may be impossible to build unbiased models: transparency is crucial to be able to apply results

Did we successfully align domains?

Tsne representation of the input



Tsne representation of the embeddings



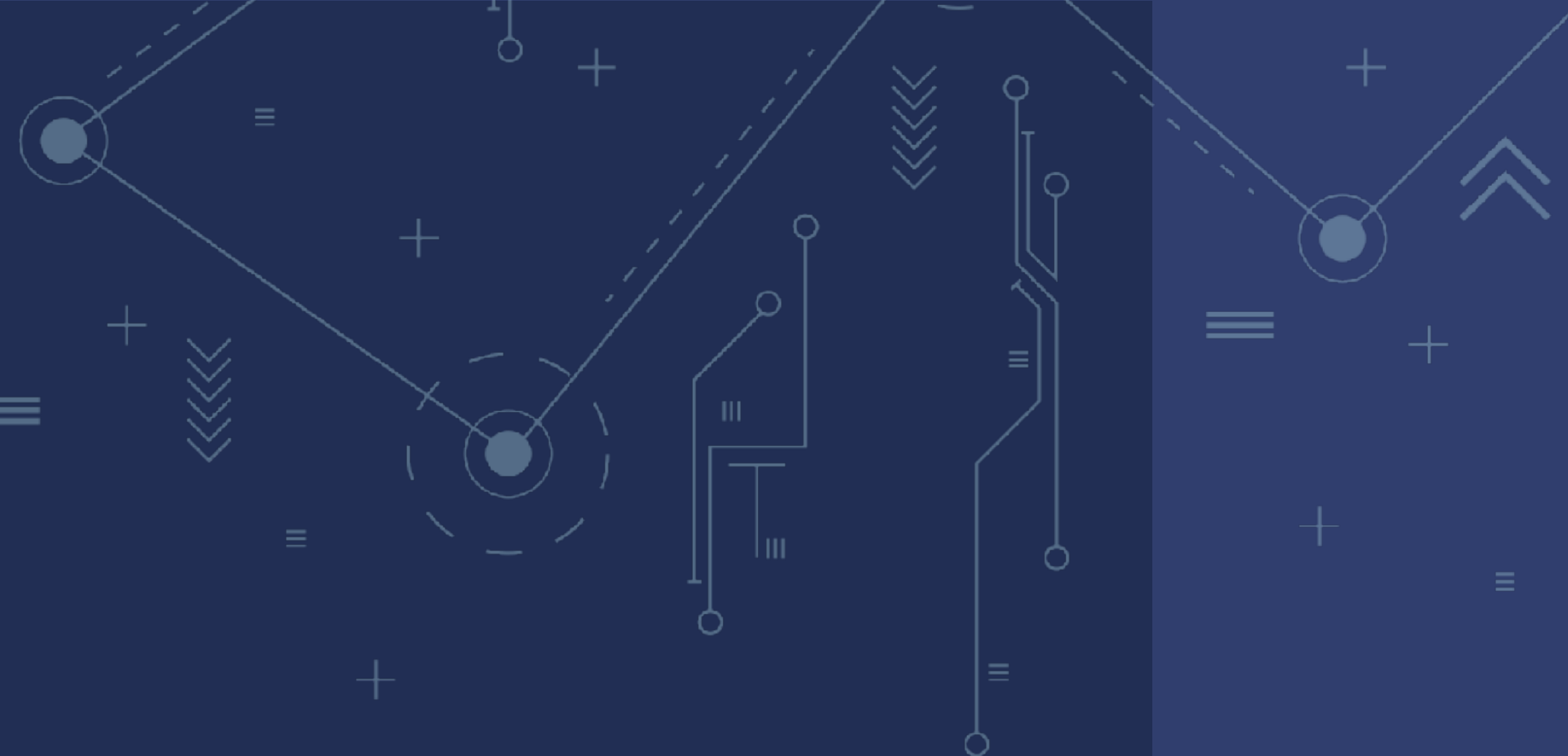
Francesco Belfiore's talk yesterday: A domain-adaptation approach to classify ionised nebulae in nearby galaxies



Rule 5: Share and Discuss Lessons Learned

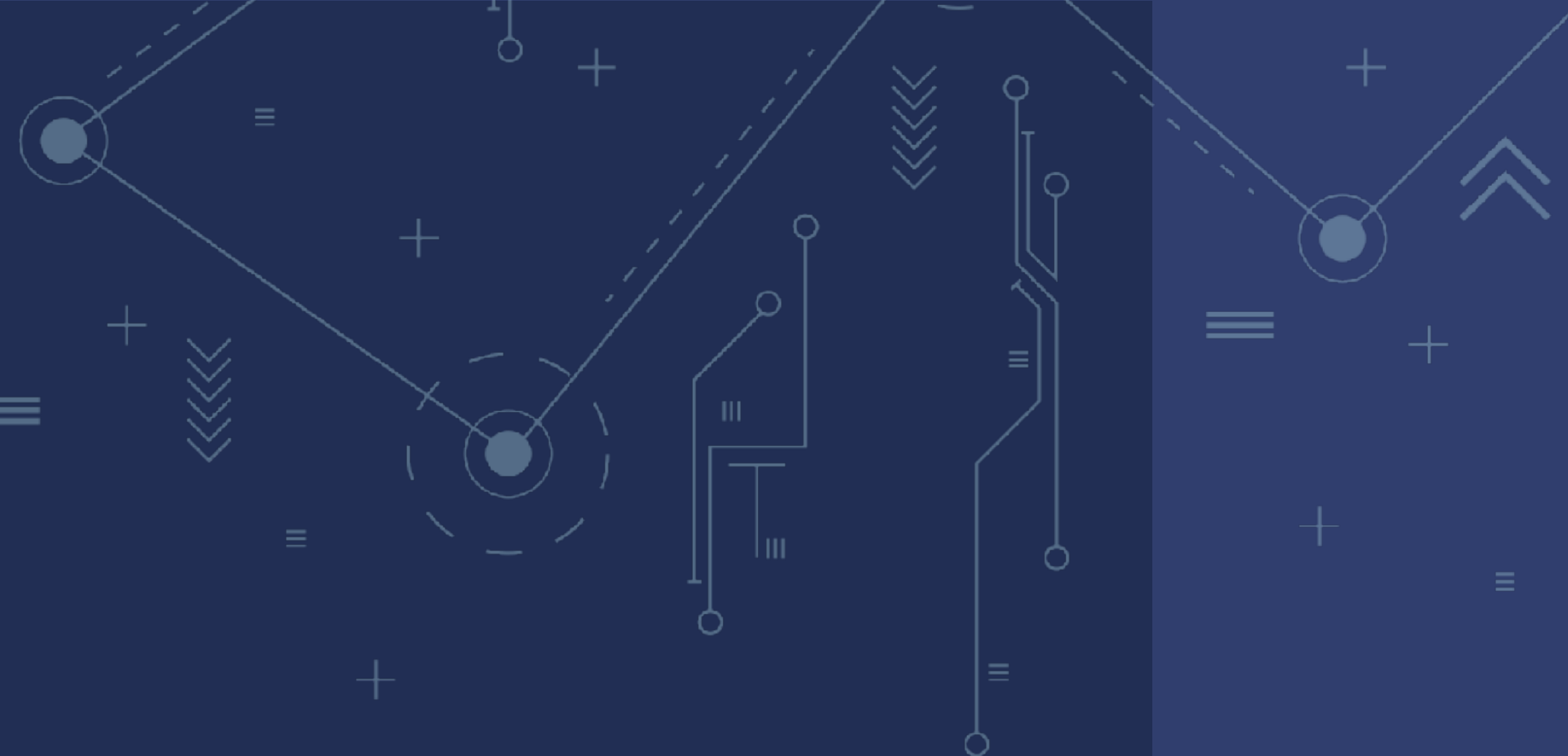


Share Lessons
Learned to Avoid
Duplication



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2. Publications are biased towards successes

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4. Write manuscripts that are pedagogical as well as scientific



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Biassing publication exclusively towards successful approaches could discourage model exploration to avoid risk of failure, and deprive the literature of these examples

ICBINB @ NeurIPS2021

[Call for Papers](#) [Guidelines](#) [Schedule](#) [Accepted](#) [Talks](#) [Panel](#) [Breakouts](#) [PC](#) [CoC](#) [Awards](#) [Feedback](#)



I (Still) Can't Believe It's Not Better! Workshop

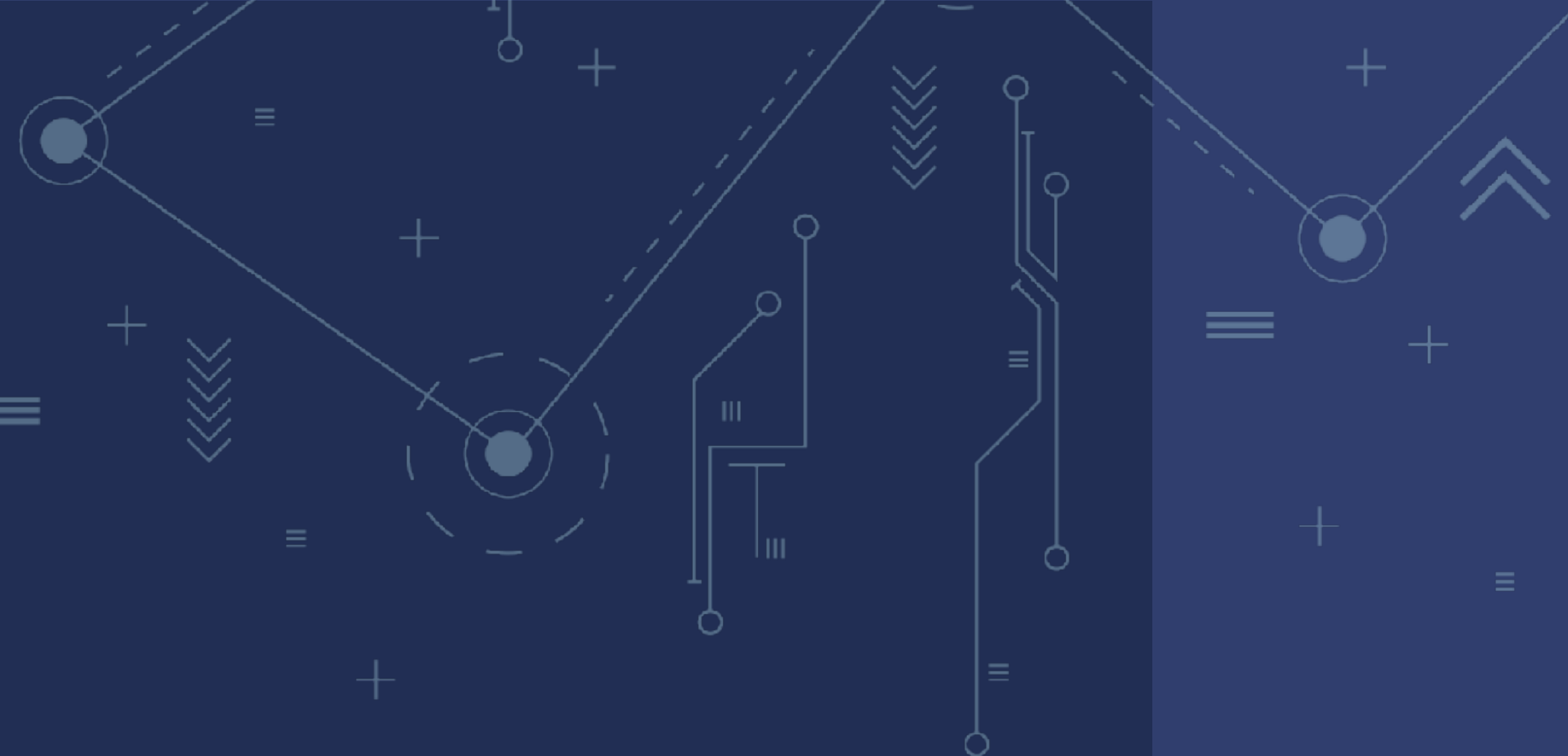
ICBINB@NeurIPS 2021 - A Workshop for "beautiful" ideas that *should* have worked



Rule 6: Make Software and Data Publicly Available

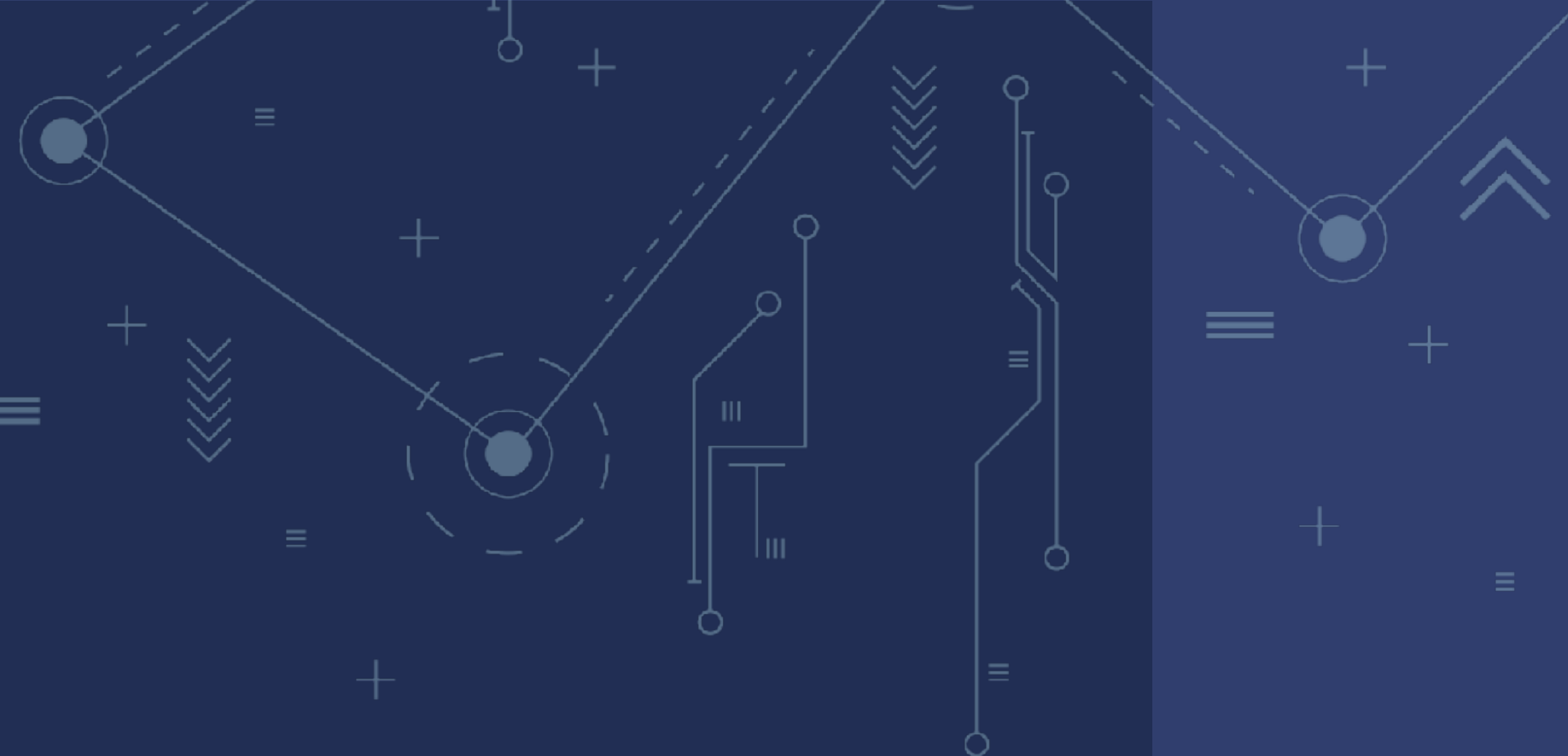


Consider Making
Code, Models and
Data Public!



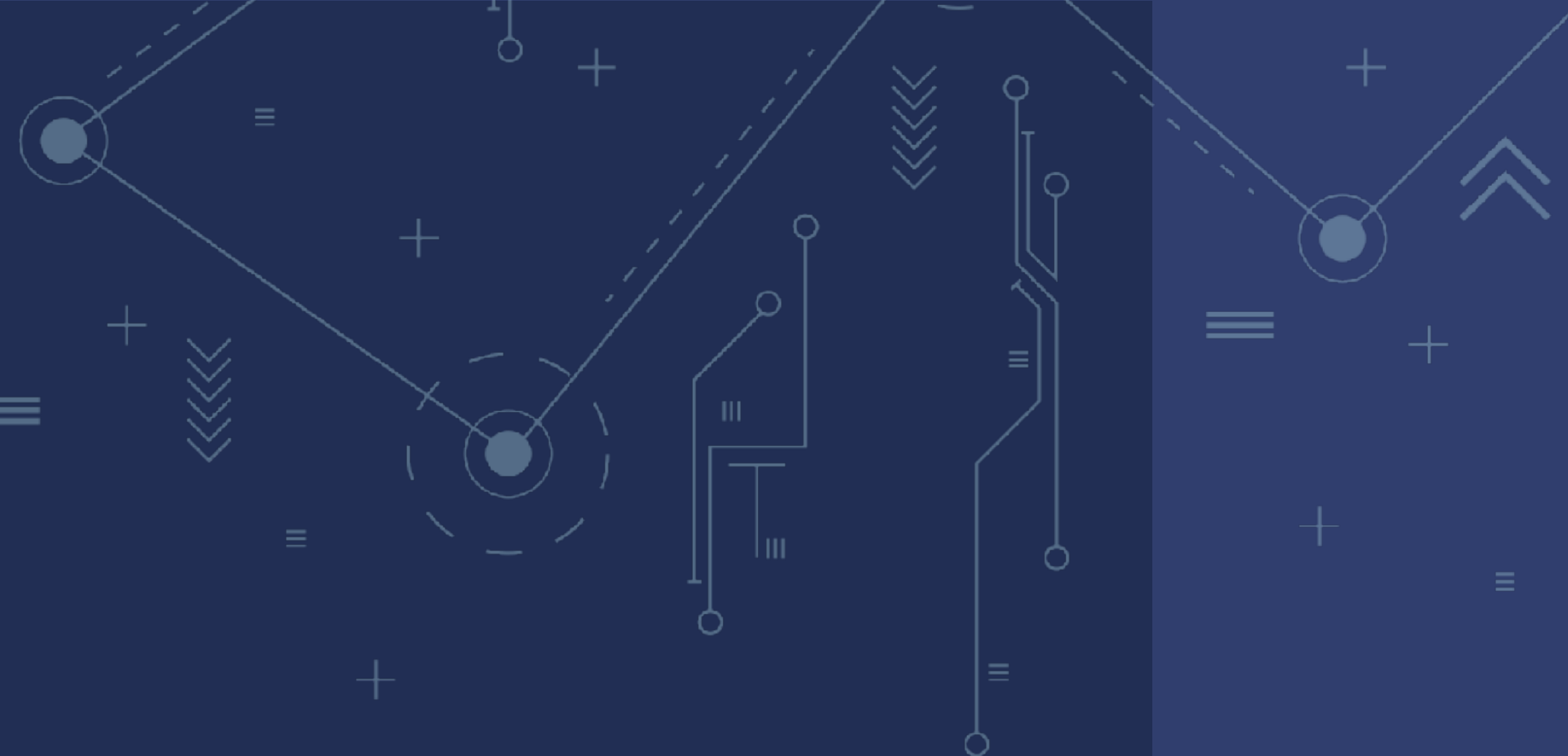
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4. But: data and model sharing rights might be complicated!



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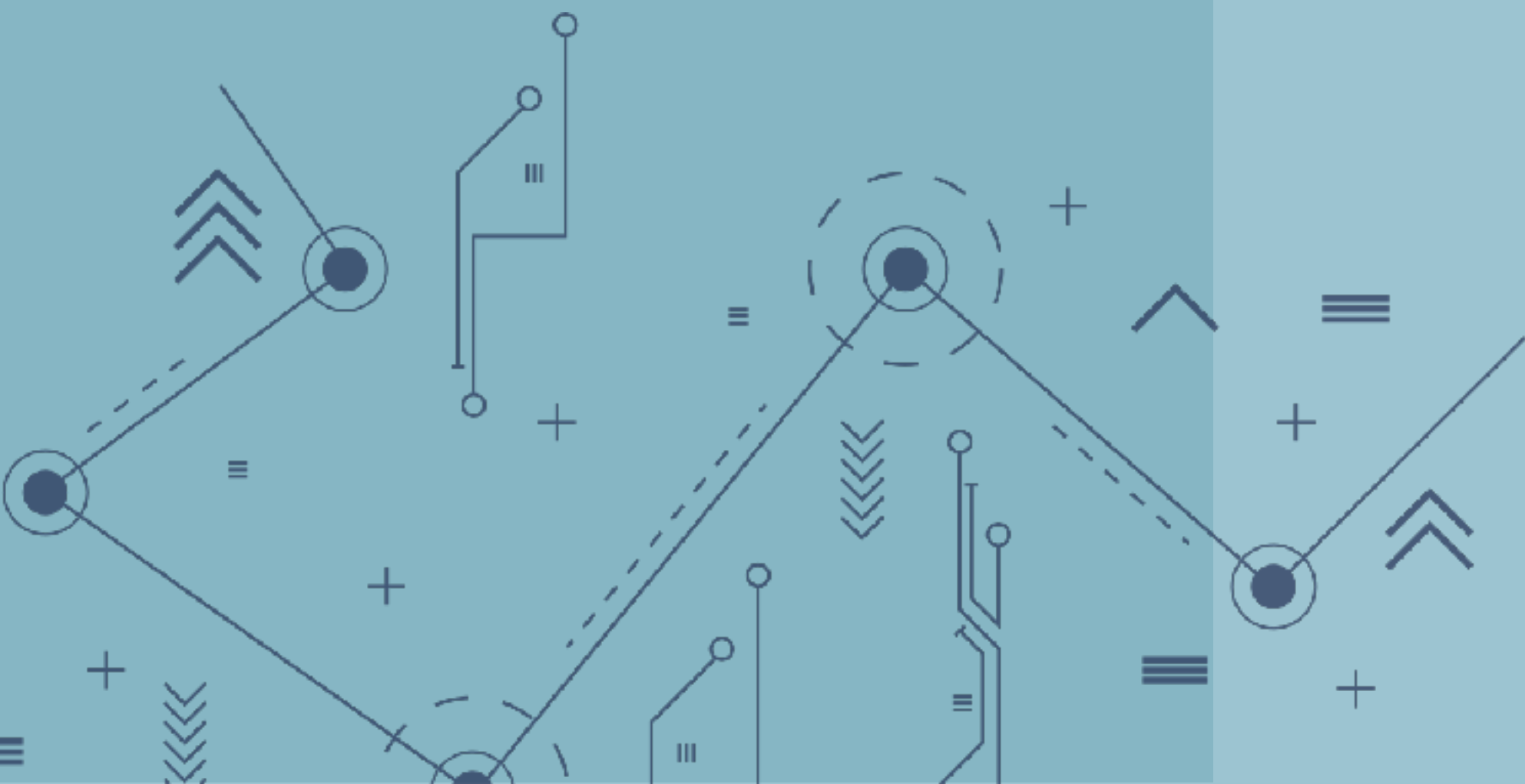
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Benchmarking new models against existing ones, and publishing the results, are best done when existing models are public!

EMBER: emulating baryons from dark matter-only simulations over cosmic time

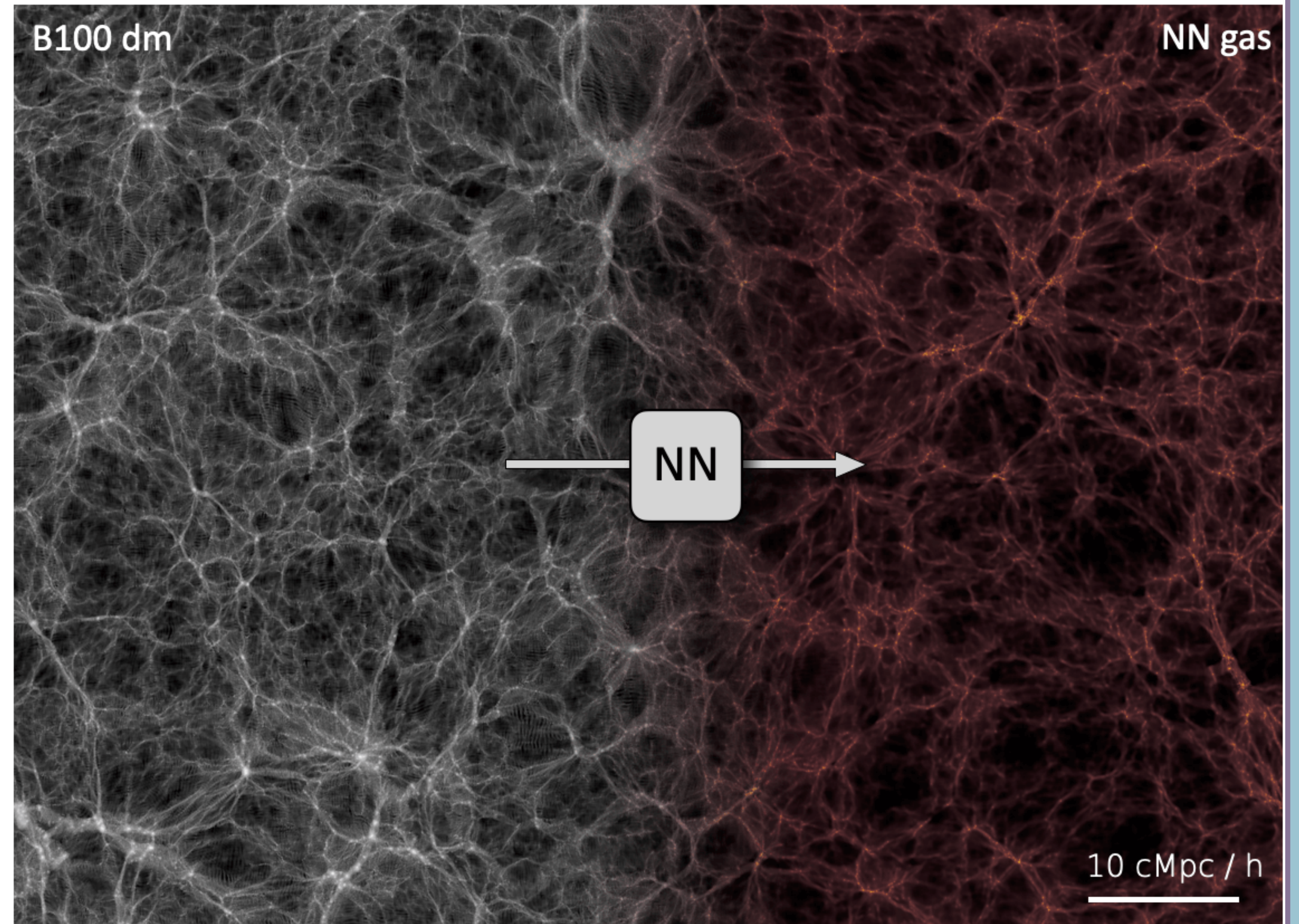
Bernadini et al (2022)

See talk on Wednesday morning!



Application

for enriching large dark matter simulations with baryons



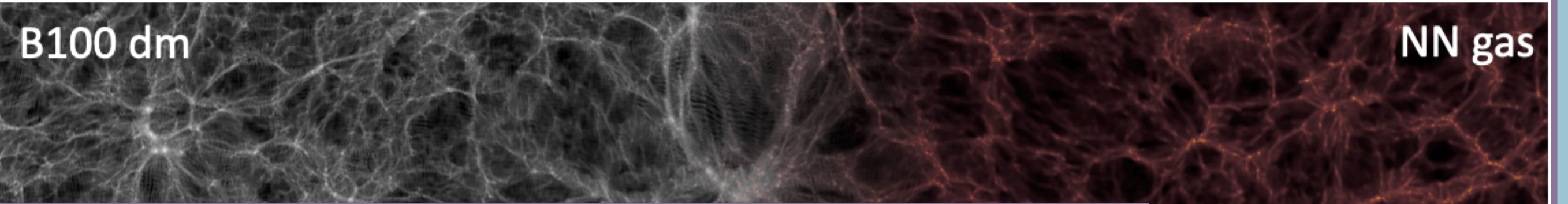
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README MIT license

EMBER
EMulating Baryonic EnRichment

About The Project

This repository provides the network implementation and training routines for the paper "From EMBER to FIRE: predicting high resolution baryon fields from dark matter simulations with Deep Learning". The code is written using the Tensorflow2 API, is easy to use and supports parallel training on multiple GPUs. Simulations are part of the [FIRE project](#).

Networks

Pretrained networks and prediction maps can be found at [Google Drive](#).

Prerequisites and Usage

Note that the you may need to modify the code for your specific project application.

10 cMpc / h

A surreal landscape featuring a long, narrow path of light leading towards a mountain peak. The sky is dark blue with a prominent, colorful nebula or galaxy in the center. The foreground and background are filled with a complex network of white lines and dots, resembling a digital or neural network. The overall tone is mysterious and futuristic.

Rules are meant to be **broken!**

A surreal landscape with a starry sky, a path of light leading to a mountain peak, and a network of glowing nodes.

It's your turn!



Interactive Activity

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- a. Which of the rules resonate with you?
- b. Which do you disagree with? Why?
- c. What did we miss?

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- Think on your own
(2 minutes)
- Discuss with a partner
(4 minutes)
- Discuss in group of 4
(8 minutes)
- Share with full group
(6 minutes)

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5. Share and Discuss Lessons Learned
6. Make Software and Data Publicly Available

Interactive Activity: Share-Out

- a. Which of the rules resonate with you?
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Notes

- Start here

A surreal landscape featuring a glowing, ethereal path that leads from the foreground towards a bright, glowing light source in the distance. The path is flanked by dark, jagged mountains and a winding river. The sky is filled with a vibrant nebula and a constellation of stars connected by thin lines. The overall scene is illuminated with a soft, golden light, creating a sense of wonder and exploration.

Questions?