

Deep Learning Approaches for Solving Chemistry in Radiative Transfer Simulations



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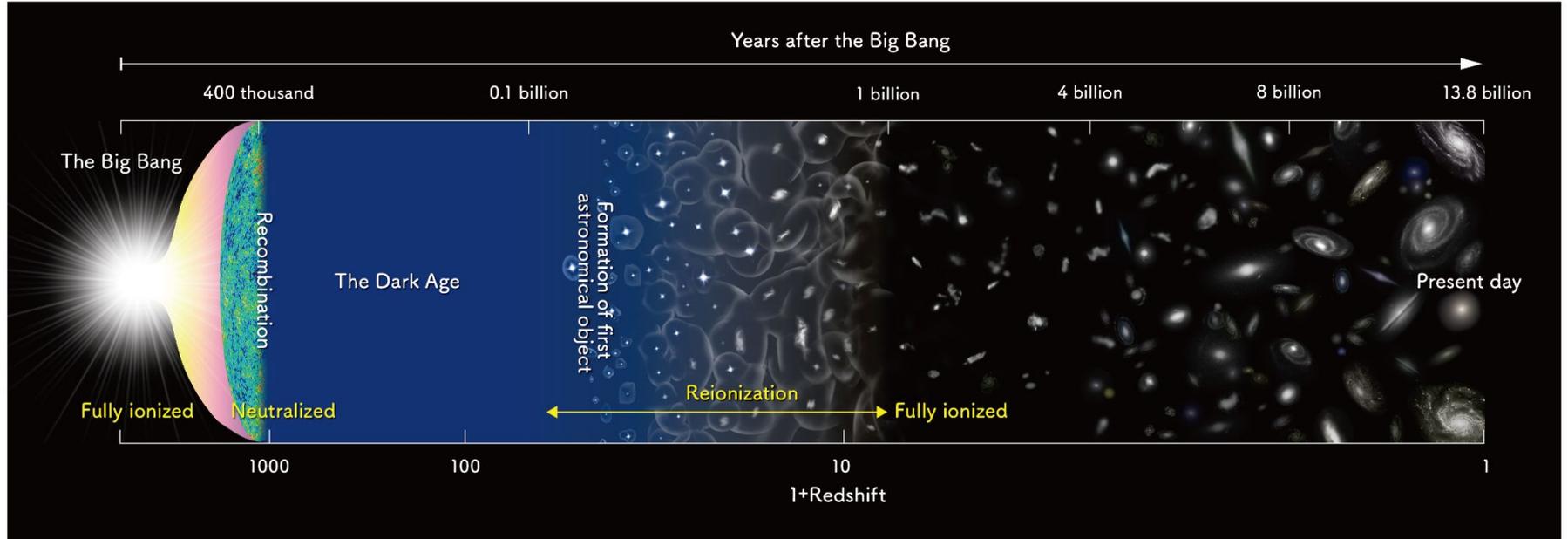


Yves Revaz

Overview

1. **Epoch of Reionization:** chemistry is a key process
2. **ARTS4SKA project:** better EoR simulations (with AI and good SW)
3. **Neural ODEs:** accelerate chemistry ODE solutions
4. **Neural ODEs vs. PINNs** (physics-informed neural networks)

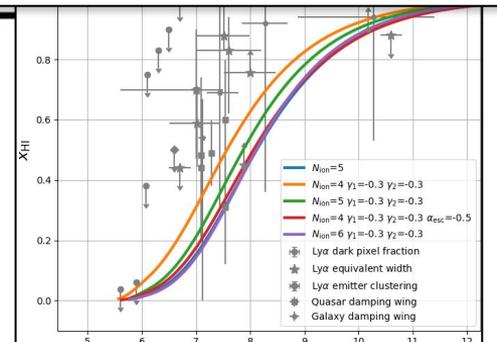
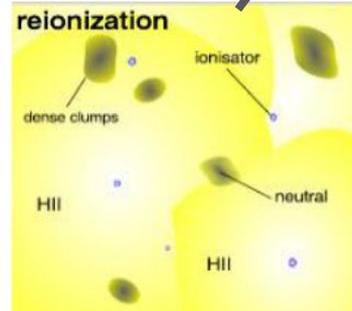
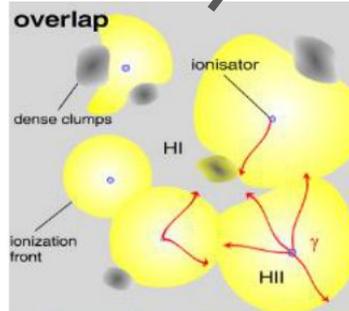
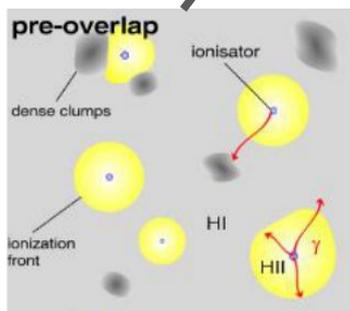
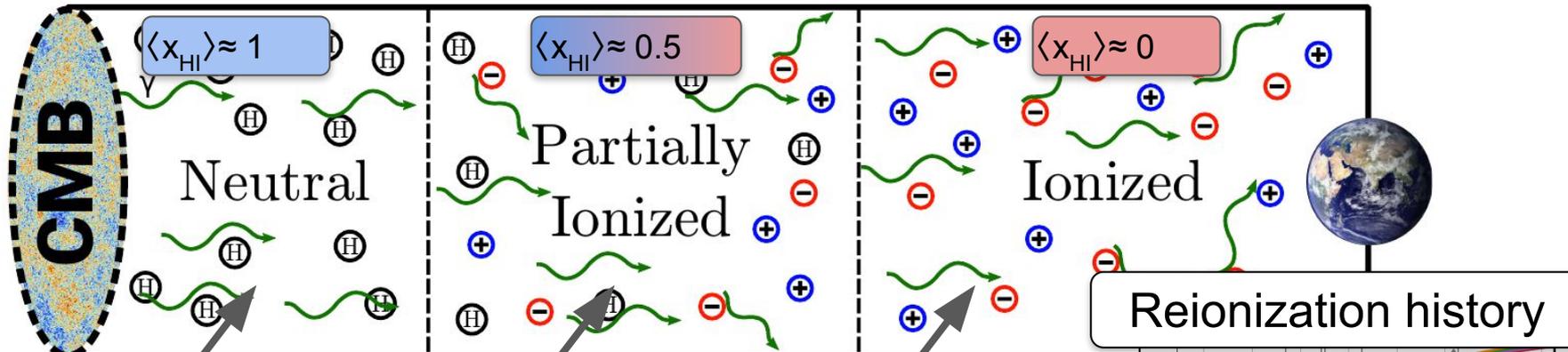
Cosmological timeline



Credit: NAOJ

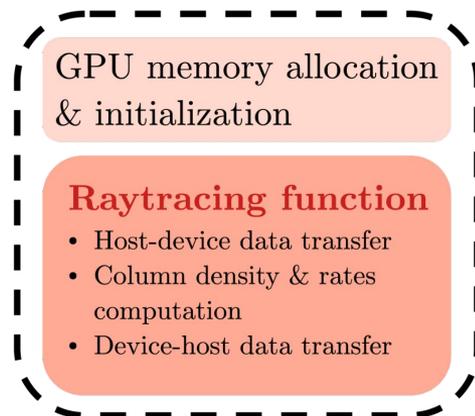
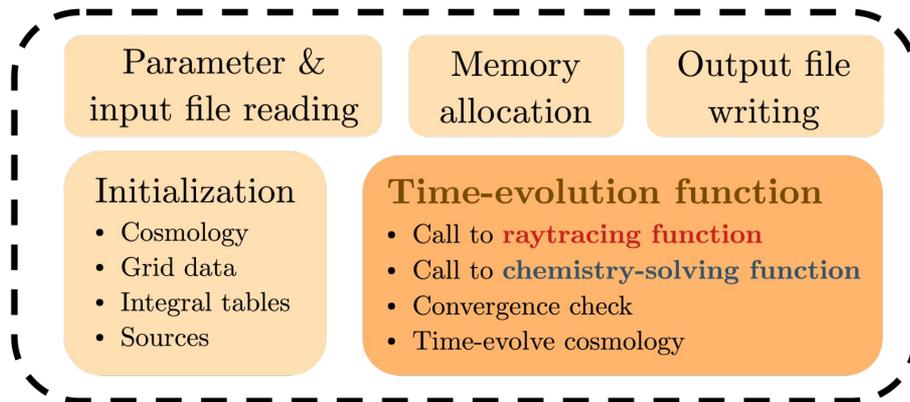
The Epoch of Reionization... in a Nutshell

The observed signal, $\delta T_b(\theta, z)$, depends on the redshift/frequency evolution of the hydrogen (HI) volume-averaged neutral fraction: $\langle x_{\text{HI}} \rangle \in [0, 1]$

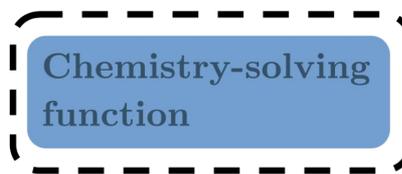


pyC²Ray

(Python package)



ASORA
(CUDA C++ module)

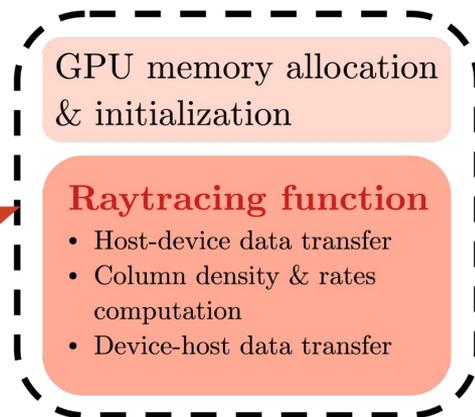
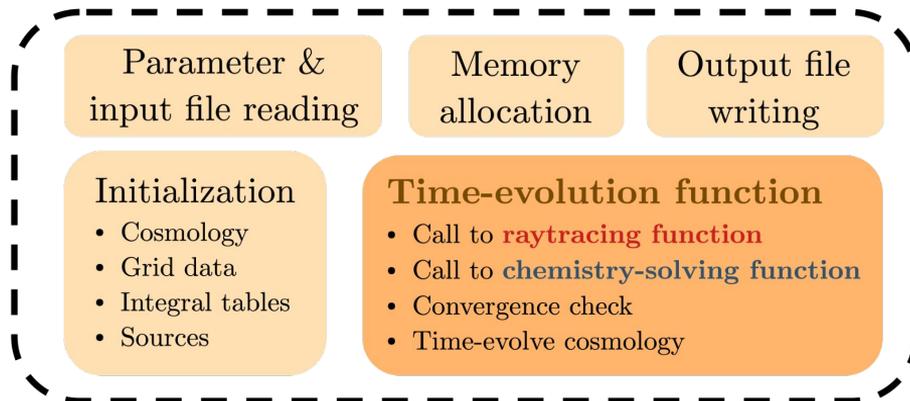


Legacy C²Ray
Subroutines
(Fortran90 module)

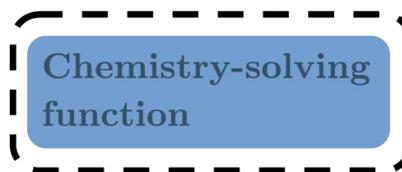
Credit: Hirling et al. (2024)

pyC²Ray

(Python package)



Raytracing:
ionizing photons



Legacy C²Ray

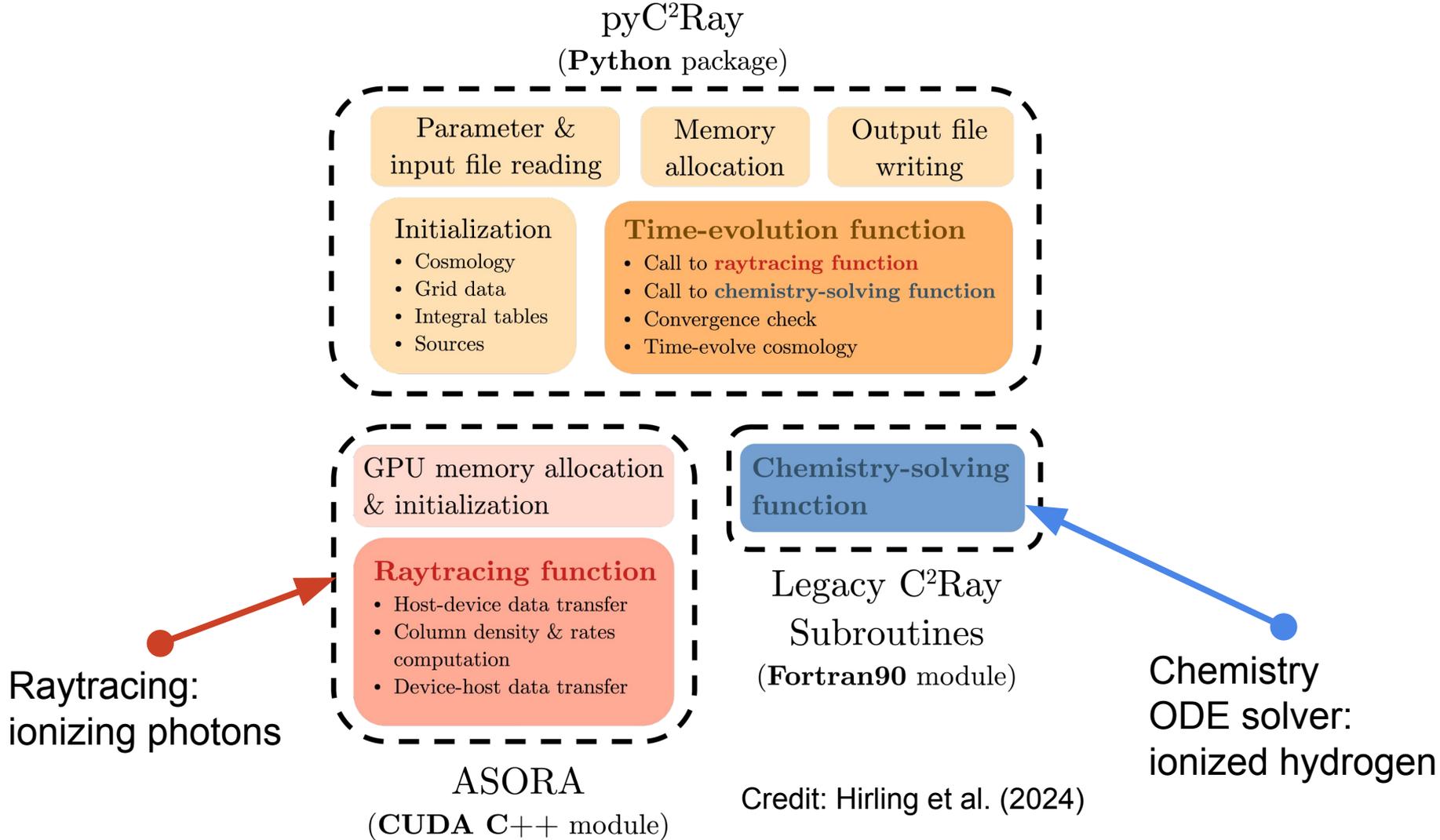
Subroutines

(Fortran90 module)

ASORA

(CUDA C++ module)

Credit: Hirling et al. (2024)



Goals of the ARTS4SKA project

pyC²Ray code

Raytracing + ODE Solver

- Only UV radiation
- Post-processing of N-body
- Slow convergence to ODE solution
- No thermal- & gas hydro-dynamics
- Computational efficiency?

Goal 1: Improve pyC²Ray post-process large scale EoR simulations

Goal 2: RT on-the-fly on existing N-body+hydro simulations:

- SPH-EXA (intermed. scale)
- SWIFT (galactic scale)

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Extend Raytracing algorithm to include:

- Multi-frequency radiative transfer
(X-ray, e⁻ collisional ionization, Lyman Warner)
- Photoheating of the intergalactic medium

- Radiative transfer on irregular grid
- Particle-to-mesh framework

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AI models:

- Neural function(al)s: speed up convergence
- Include Helium chemistry equation

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Cosmological EoR Simulations with Ray Tracing

Solve ODE to simulate HI evolution during EoR:

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = (1-x) \left(\underbrace{\Gamma}_{\text{Photo-ionization}} + \underbrace{n_e C_H}_{\text{Collisional ionization}} \right) - \underbrace{x n_e \alpha_H}_{\text{Recombination}}$$

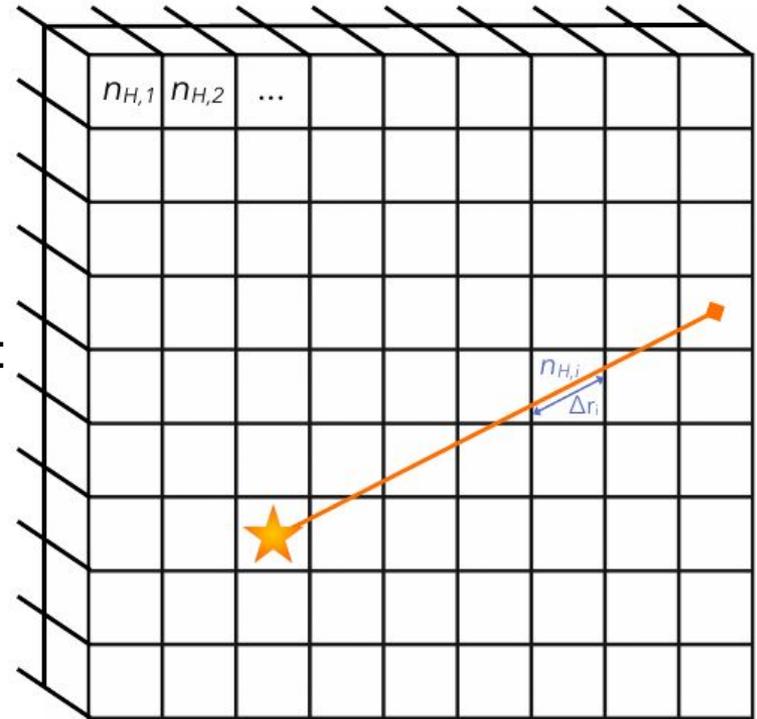
Compute the Ray Tracing for all ionising sources:

$$\Gamma_{\text{local}}(r) = \frac{1}{4\pi r^2} \int_{\nu_{\text{th}}}^{\infty} \frac{L_{\nu} \sigma_{\nu} e^{-\tau_{\nu}(r)}}{h\nu} d\nu$$

$$\tau_{\nu} = \sigma_{\nu} N_{\text{HI}}$$

Optical depth:

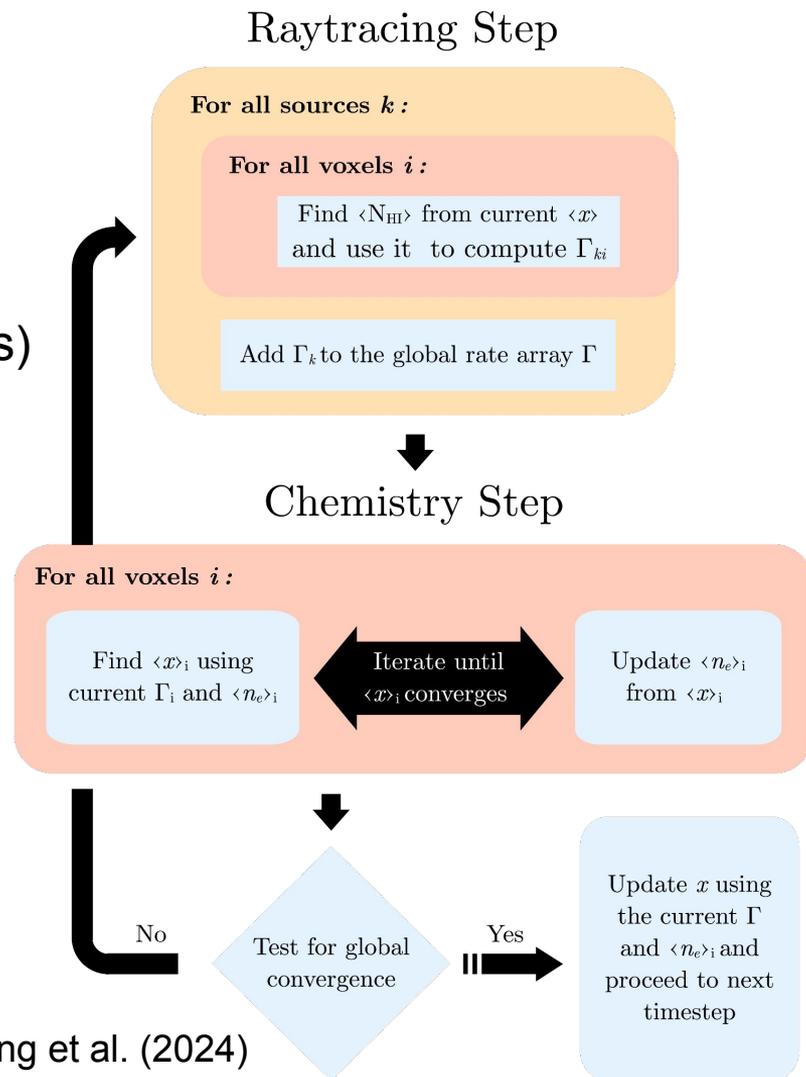
quantify the UV-photons absorption from the source to the target



pyC²Ray's TACS

(time-averaged chemistry solution)

- *in principle*, the chemistry step is easy to solve (e.g. with finite differences)
- **problem is Γ_i** : dependent
 - dependent on the solution $\langle x \rangle_i$
 - dependence highly non-local
- requires **extremely small timestep**
- pyC²Ray's approach: **TACS** with time-averaged quantities $\langle x \rangle_i$, $\langle \Gamma \rangle_i$
- alternate RT and TACS steps until converged



Credit: Hirling et al. (2024)

Chemistry ODE

- Evolution of the neutral hydrogen fraction

$$\frac{dx_{\text{HII}}}{dt} = (\Gamma_{\text{HI}}(t) + n_e C_{\text{HI}}(t))(1 - x_{\text{HII}}(t)) - x_{\text{HII}}(t)n_e \alpha_{\text{HI}}(t)$$

$$\frac{dx_{\text{HII}}}{dt} = A(1 - x_{\text{HII}}(t)) - x_{\text{HII}}(t)(B - A) = A - Bx_{\text{HII}}(t)$$

- Time-averaged chemistry solution (TACS) assumes this to be a first-order linear ODE (for a small timestep) with constant $n_e, \Gamma, C_H, \alpha_H$

$$x_{\text{HII}}(t + \Delta t) = \left[x_{\text{HII}}(t) - \frac{A}{B} \right] e^{-B\Delta t} + \frac{A}{B}$$

$$\langle x \rangle_{\text{HII}} = \frac{A}{B} + \left(x_0 - \frac{A}{B} \right) \frac{(1 - e^{-B\Delta t})}{B\Delta t}$$

$$\frac{d}{dt} x_{\text{HI}} = \Gamma_{\text{HI}}(t) - n_e C_{\text{HI}}(t) (1 - x_{\text{HI}}(t)) - x_{\text{HI}}(t) n_e \alpha_{\text{HI}}(t)$$

$$\frac{d}{dt} x_{\text{HI}} = A \left(1 - x_{\text{HI}}(t) \right) - x_{\text{HI}}(t) \left(B - A \right) = A - B x_{\text{HI}}(t)$$

$$x_{\text{HI}}(t + \Delta t) = \left[x_{\text{HI}}(t) - \frac{A}{B} \right] e^{-B \Delta t} + \frac{A}{B}$$

$$\langle x_{\text{HI}} \rangle = \frac{A}{B} + (x_0 - \frac{A}{B}) \frac{(1 - e^{-B \Delta t})}{B \Delta t}$$

Beyond hydrogen things look more complicated

$$\frac{d}{dt}\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{g}$$

$$\mathbf{x} = \begin{pmatrix} x_{\text{HeIII}} \\ x_{\text{HeII}} \\ x_{\text{HeI}} \end{pmatrix}, \mathbf{g} = \begin{pmatrix} U_{\text{HI}} \\ U_{\text{HeI}} \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \text{ and}$$

$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} -U_{\text{HI}} & \frac{n_{\text{He}}}{n_{\text{H}}} \mathcal{R}_{\text{HeII} \rightarrow \text{HeI}} n_{\text{e}} & \frac{n_{\text{He}}}{n_{\text{H}}} \mathcal{R}_{\text{HeIII} \rightarrow \text{HeI}} n_{\text{e}} \\ +\mathcal{R}_{\text{HeIII} \rightarrow \text{HeI}} n_{\text{e}} & -U_{\text{HeI}} - U_{\text{HeII}} & -U_{\text{HeI}} + \\ 0 & +\mathcal{R}_{\text{HeII} \rightarrow \text{HeI}} n_{\text{e}} & \mathcal{R}_{\text{HeIII} \rightarrow \text{HeI}} n_{\text{e}} \\ 0 & U_{\text{HeII}} & \mathcal{R}_{\text{HeIII} \rightarrow \text{HeII}} n_{\text{e}} \end{pmatrix}.$$

We explain our notation below.

U_i is the photo-ionization rate of species i

$$U_{\text{HI}} = \Gamma^{\text{HI}} + C_{\text{HI}} n_{\text{e}}$$

$$U_{\text{HeI}} = \Gamma^{\text{HeI}} + C_{\text{HeI}} n_{\text{e}}$$

$$U_{\text{HeII}} = \Gamma^{\text{HeII}} + C_{\text{HeII}} n_{\text{e}}$$

$$\mathcal{R}_{\text{HeIII} \rightarrow \text{HeI}} = -\alpha_{\text{HeI}}^{\text{B}}$$

$$\mathcal{R}_{\text{HeII} \rightarrow \text{HeI}} = p\alpha_{\text{HeII}}^{\text{B}} + y\alpha_{\text{HeI}}^{\text{I}}$$

$$\mathcal{R}_{\text{HeII} \rightarrow \text{HeI}} = (1-y)\alpha_{\text{HeI}}^{\text{I}} - \alpha_{\text{HeI}}^{\text{A}}$$

$$\mathcal{R}_{\text{HeIII} \rightarrow \text{HeI}} = (1-y_2^{\text{a}} - y_2^{\text{b}})\alpha_{\text{HeIII}}^{\text{I}} + \alpha_{\text{HeIII}}^{\text{2}} \\ + [v(l-m+my) + (1-v) fz] \alpha_{\text{HeIII}}^{\text{B}}$$

$$\mathcal{R}_{\text{HeIII} \rightarrow \text{HeI}} = y_2^{\text{b}} \alpha_{\text{HeIII}}^{\text{I}} + [vm(1-y) + (1-v)f(1-z)] \alpha_{\text{HeIII}}^{\text{B}} \\ + \alpha_{\text{HeIII}}^{\text{A}} - y_2^{\text{a}} \alpha_{\text{HeIII}}^{\text{I}}$$

$$\mathcal{R}_{\text{HeIII} \rightarrow \text{HeII}} = y_2^{\text{a}} \alpha_{\text{HeIII}}^{\text{I}} - \alpha_{\text{HeIII}}^{\text{A}}.$$

Analytical solution (provided time step is small)

$$x_{\text{HeIII}}(t + \Delta t) = b_{11}c_1 e^{\lambda_1 t} + b_{12}c_2 e^{\lambda_2 t} + b_{13}c_3 e^{\lambda_3 t} + p_1,$$

$$x_{\text{HeII}}(t + \Delta t) = b_{21}c_1 e^{\lambda_1 t} + b_{22}c_2 e^{\lambda_2 t} + b_{23}c_3 e^{\lambda_3 t} + p_2,$$

$$x_{\text{HeI}}(t + \Delta t) = b_{31}c_1 e^{\lambda_1 t} + b_{32}c_2 e^{\lambda_2 t} + b_{33}c_3 e^{\lambda_3 t} + p_3.$$

Time-averaged solution $\langle x_{\text{HI}} \rangle = 1 - \langle x_{\text{HeIII}} \rangle$

$$\langle x_{\text{HeIII}} \rangle = \frac{b_{11}c_1}{\lambda_1 \Delta t} (e^{\lambda_1 \Delta t} - 1) + \frac{b_{12}c_2}{\lambda_2 \Delta t} (e^{\lambda_2 \Delta t} - 1) + \frac{b_{13}c_3}{\lambda_3 \Delta t} (e^{\lambda_3 \Delta t} - 1)$$

$$\langle x_{\text{HeI}} \rangle = 1 - \langle x_{\text{HeII}} \rangle - \langle x_{\text{HeIII}} \rangle$$

$$\langle x_{\text{HeII}} \rangle = \frac{b_{21}c_1}{\lambda_1 \Delta t} (e^{\lambda_1 \Delta t} - 1) + \frac{b_{22}c_2}{\lambda_2 \Delta t} (e^{\lambda_2 \Delta t} - 1) + \frac{b_{23}c_3}{\lambda_3 \Delta t} (e^{\lambda_3 \Delta t} - 1)$$

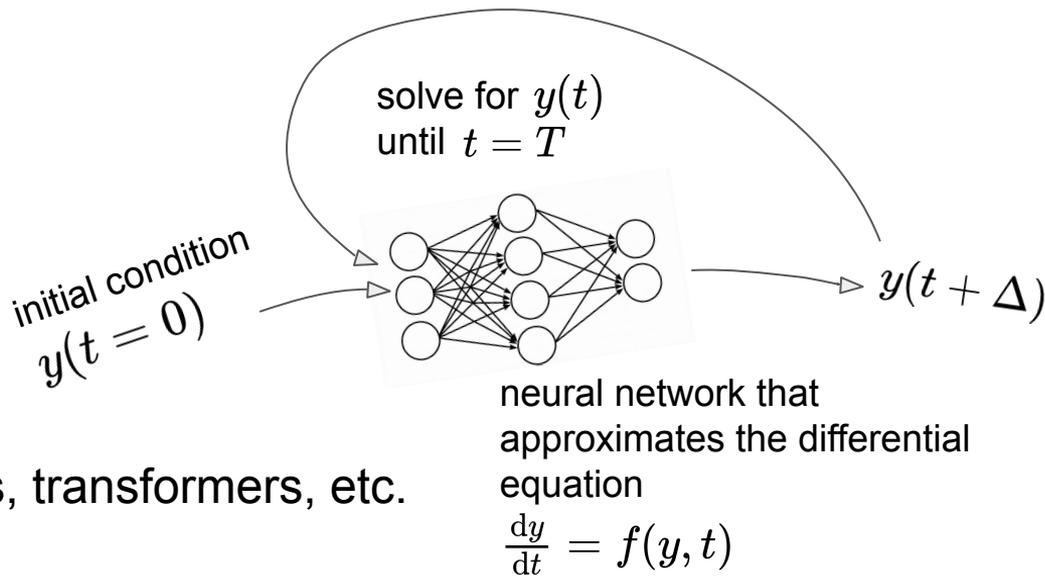
$$\langle x_{\text{HeIII}} \rangle = \frac{b_{31}c_1}{\lambda_1 \Delta t} (e^{\lambda_1 \Delta t} - 1) + \frac{b_{32}c_2}{\lambda_2 \Delta t} (e^{\lambda_2 \Delta t} - 1) + \frac{b_{33}c_3}{\lambda_3 \Delta t} (e^{\lambda_3 \Delta t} - 1)$$

AI approaches to be compared

- Deep generative models trained on simulation data:
latent diffusion models (rectified flows)
- Deep generative models as PINNs (regularization on physical properties)
- Neural ODEs
- Hybrid approach (PINNs + Neural ODE)?

Neural ODEs

- **Core idea:** replace discrete neural network layers with a "time-continuous" differentiable solver
- **Advantages:**
 - memory-efficient
 - adaptive computation (various ODE solvers)
 - continuous in time
- Continuous normalizing flows, transformers, etc.



Intuition: Neural ODEs from ResNets

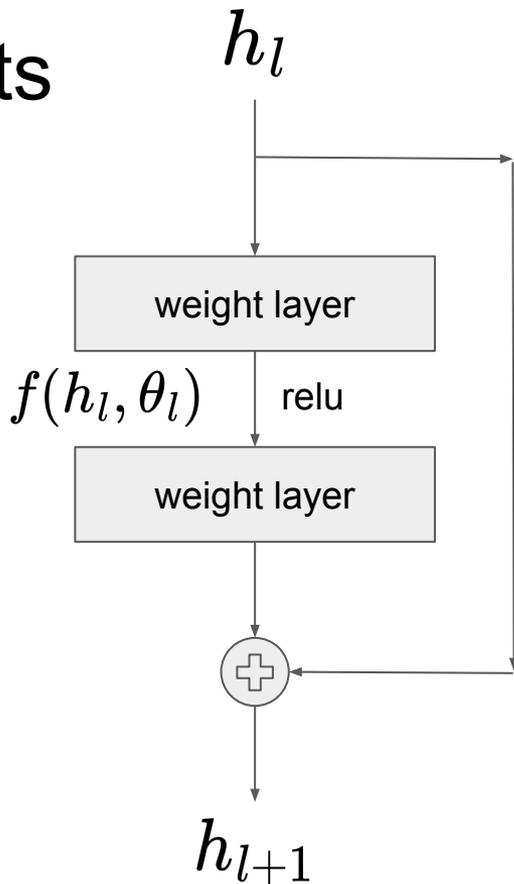
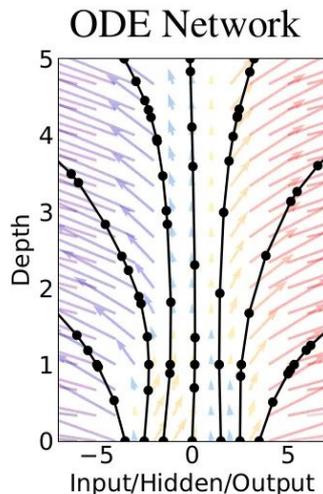
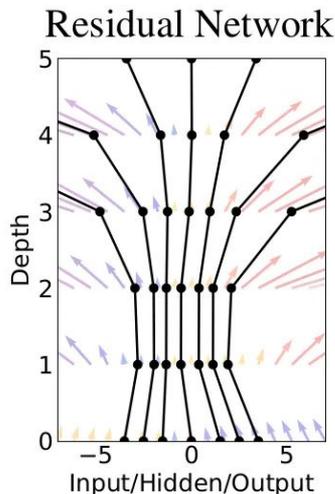
- ResNets provide incremental updates of hidden states via $h_{l+1} = h_l + f(h_l, \theta_l)$

- Euler's formula

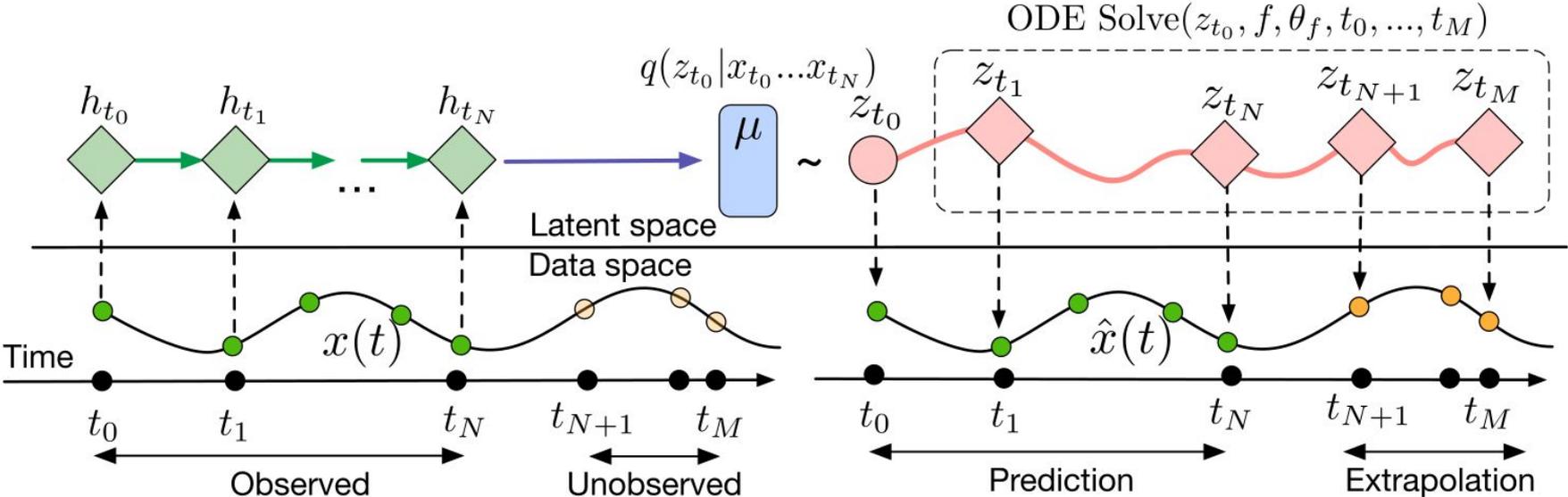
- In the limit for l :

$$\frac{dh}{dt} = f(h(t), t, \theta)$$

Credit: [arXiv:1806.07366](https://arxiv.org/abs/1806.07366)



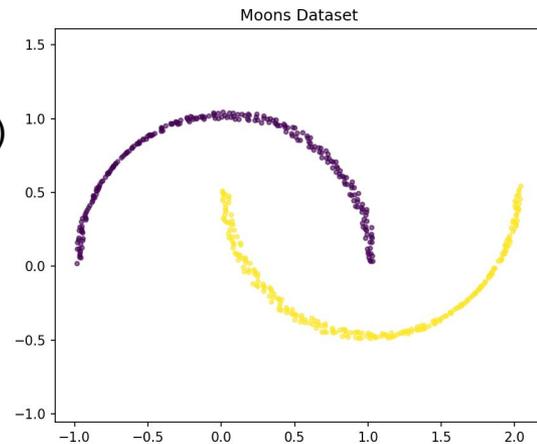
Generative Neural ODEs



Benchmarks against common neural ODE frameworks

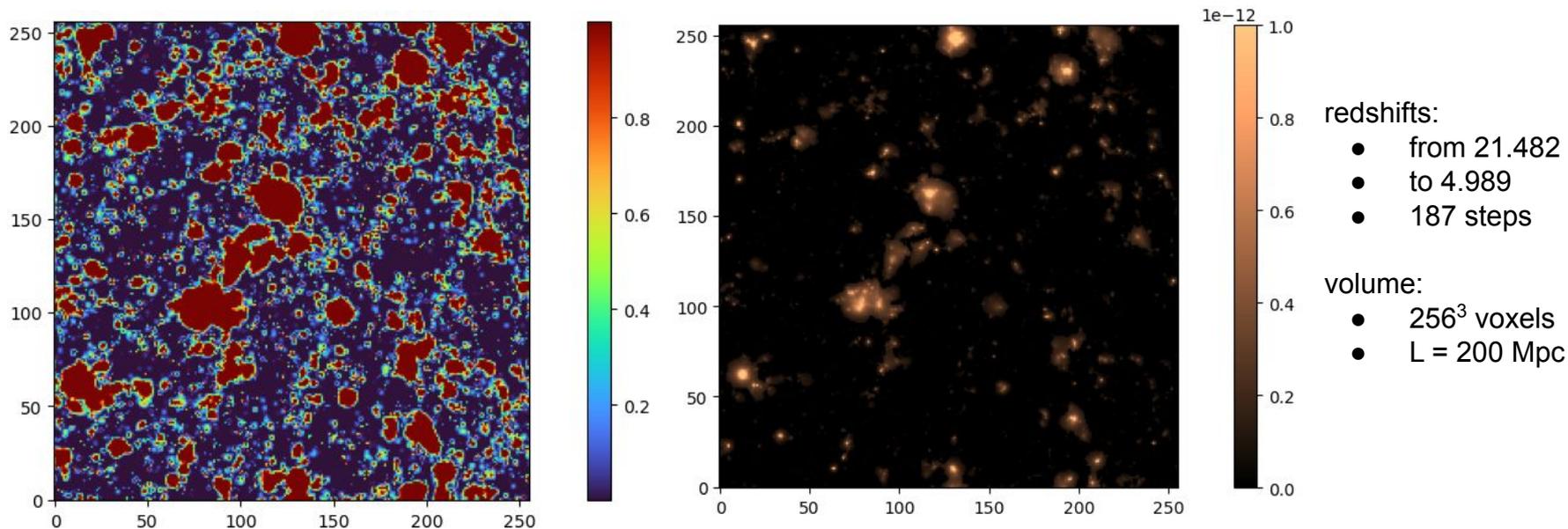
- **torchdiffeq**: most prominent framework (many solvers, poor speed)
- **torchdyn**: poorly maintained, limited set of numerical solvers (Tsitouras5)
- **diffraX**: faster, only solvers (Tsitouras5; no neural ODE utils)
- **my own** direct CUDA/Pytorch implementation (c3li for reference):
 - Euler, RK 4, RK45, explicit/implicit solvers (expansion WIP)
 - ROCm/HIP versions work (are slower though)

Test case: 2 Moons dataset, 3 layer MLP, 500 AdamW steps



Framework	CUDA (A100) / avg. acc.	AMD (RX 7900XTX)
torchdiffeq (DoPri5)	182.3s / 2.43e-6	242.4s
torchdyn (Tsitouras5)	283.1s / 9.30e-7	-
diffraX (Tsitouras5)	139.8s / 4.86e-7	-
own (c3li, RK45)	142.9s / 8.3e-5	183.7.s

Dataset generated with pyC²Ray for training



Inferred hydrogen fractions (left) and photoionization maps (right) at redshift 7.875. Accuracy is the main problem for convergence and needs multiple raytracing and chemistry steps for proper EoR transition.

Preliminary tests:

- simple transformer does not converge reliably (more than 10x slower compared to simulation)
→PINN regularizations needed
- Neural ODE faster compared to simulations, but still higher numerical errors (more convergence steps required).

Get in contact



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