



Equivariant Bootstrapping for Imaging Inverse Problems

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Inverse Problems

Goal: recover signal x from y

$$y = Ax + \epsilon$$

MEASUREMENT OPERATOR $\in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$

SIGNAL $\in \mathbb{R}^n$

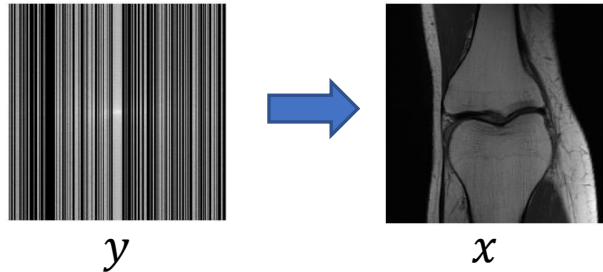
MEASUREMENTS $\in \mathbb{R}^m$

NOISE $\in \mathbb{R}^m$

Examples

Magnetic resonance imaging

- A = subset of Fourier modes (k - space) of 2D/3D images



Computed tomography

- A = 1D projections (sinograms) of 2D image

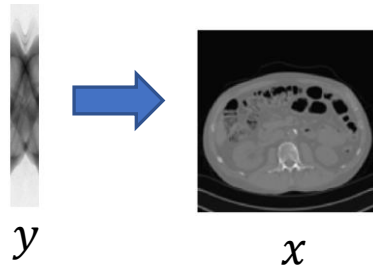
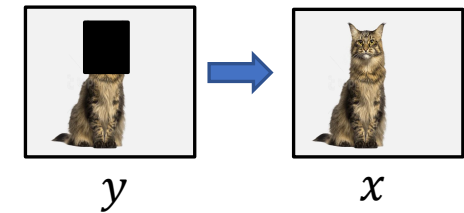
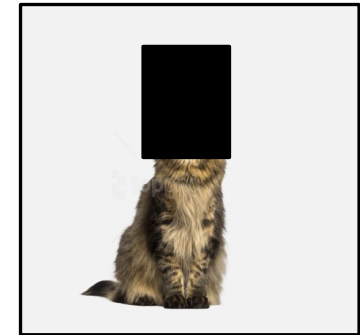


Image inpainting

- A = diagonal matrix with 1's and 0s.



Sampling Algorithms

Recent methods attempt to sample from the posterior distribution

$$-\log p(\mathbf{x}|\mathbf{y}) \propto \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{y} - A\mathbf{x}\|^2 - \log p(\mathbf{x})$$

Algorithms:

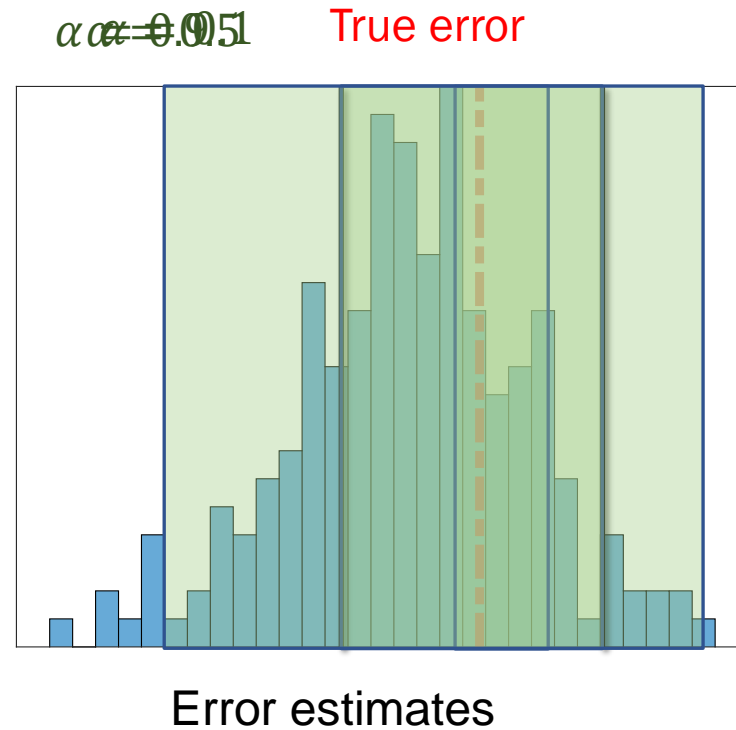
- DDRM, DiffPIR, DPS (diffusion-based sampling)
- PnP-UVA (MCMC)
- Normalizing flows

Quantifying UQ

Calibration set $\{(x_i, y_i)\}_{i=1}^N$

$$\text{Empirical } \alpha \text{ coverage} = \frac{1}{N} \sum_i \mathbf{1}_{x_i \in C_\alpha(y_i)}$$

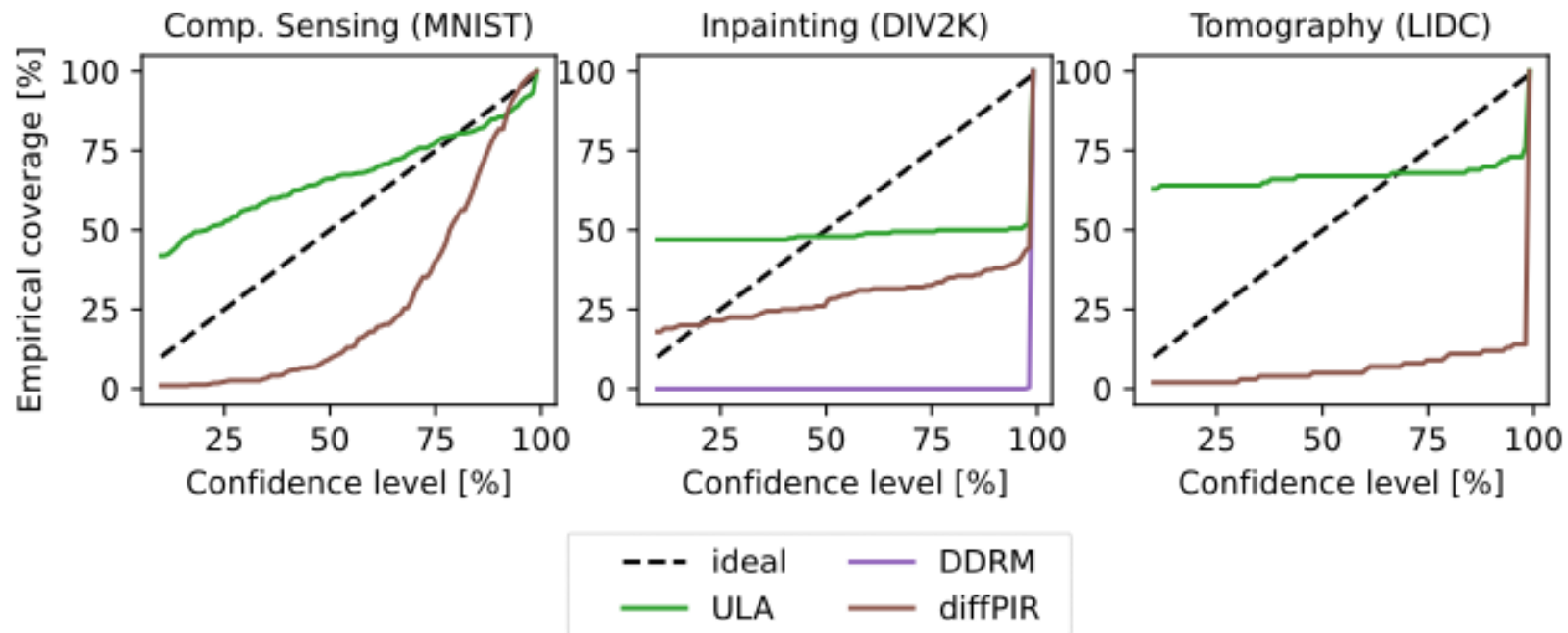
where $C_\alpha(\mathbf{y}) = \{\mathbf{x} : \|\mathbf{x} - \hat{\mathbf{x}}(\mathbf{y})\| < c_\alpha\}$



Pitfalls of UQ algorithms

Empirical observations:

- ✗ Require thousands network evals
- ✗ Fail to provide calibrated intervals
- ✗ Conformal calibration helps, but doesn't fix the problem



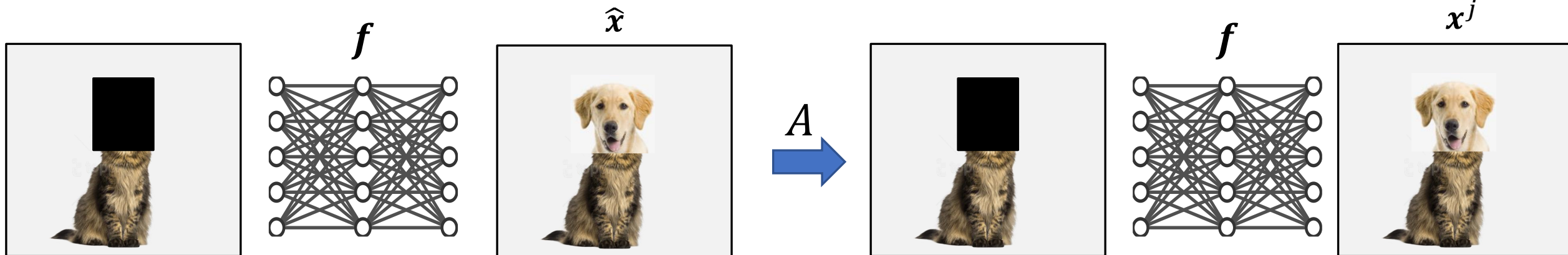
Revisiting the Bootstrap

Parametric bootstrap [Efron, 1986]: using $\hat{x} = f(y)$ as 'ground-truth',

For $j = 1, \dots, N$

- Sample noise $\epsilon_j \sim N(0, I\sigma^2)$
- Bootstrap $x^j = f(A\hat{x} + \epsilon_j)$
- Error estimates: $e^j = \|\hat{x} - x^j\|^2$

✗ Bad UQ in the nullspace of A



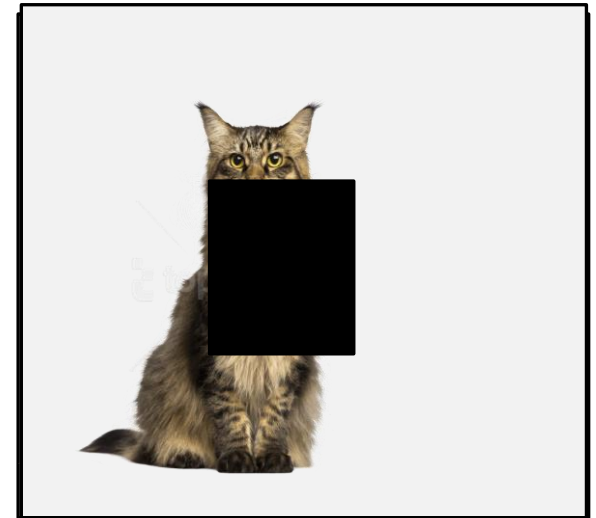
Symmetry Prior

Idea: Most natural signals sets \mathcal{X} are invariant to groups of transformations.

Example: translations, rotations and flips of 2D images

For all $g \in G$ we have

$$\mathbf{y} = A\mathbf{x} = \underbrace{AT_g}_{A_g} \overbrace{T_g^{-1}\mathbf{x}}^{\mathbf{x}'} = A_g\mathbf{x}'$$



Key observation: $\text{nullspace}(A) \neq \text{nullspace}(AT_g)$

Equivariant Bootstrap

Observation model $\begin{cases} g \sim G \\ \mathbf{y} = AT_g \mathbf{x} + \epsilon \end{cases}$

Using $\hat{\mathbf{x}} = f(\mathbf{y})$ as 'ground-truth':

For $j = 1, \dots, r$

- Sample transformation $g \sim G$ and noise $\epsilon_j \sim N(0, I\sigma^2)$
- Bootstrap $\mathbf{x}^j = T_g^{-1} f(AT_g \hat{\mathbf{x}} + \epsilon_j)$
- Error estimates: $e^j = \|\hat{\mathbf{x}} - \mathbf{x}^j\|^2$

Theory insights

- In the **noiseless** case, standard bootstrap gives $\|\hat{\mathbf{x}} - \mathbf{x}\| = 0$ for any measurement consistent estimator verifying $A\hat{\mathbf{x}} = y$.

Proposition (informal). *For a linear & measurement consistent operator estimator with no noise, we have*

$$\mathbb{E}_g \|\hat{\mathbf{x}}(T_g A \hat{\mathbf{x}}) - T_g \mathbf{x}\| = \|\hat{\mathbf{x}} - \mathbf{x}\| + \text{bias}$$

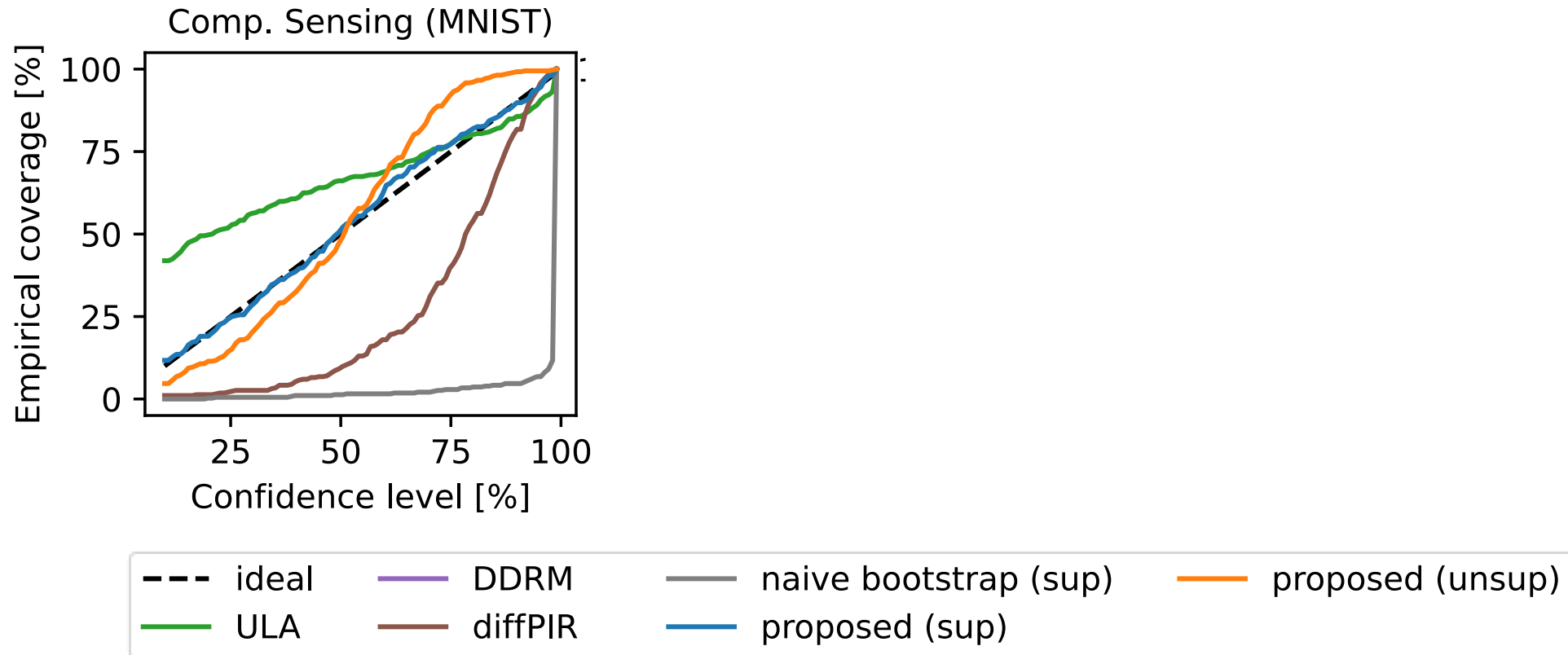
where the bias term is small if $\hat{\mathbf{x}} \circ A$ is not equivariant.

- Equivariant bootstrapping is useful when A **is not equivariant** to the transformations.

Equivariance of Forward Operators

	Translation	Rotation	Permutation	Amplitude
Gaussian Blur	★	★		★
Image Inpainting				★
Sparse-view CT	★			★
Accelerated MRI	★			★
Downsampling (no antialias)				★

UQ Experiments



UQ Experiments

Table 1: Average test PSNR in dB for the evaluated methods.

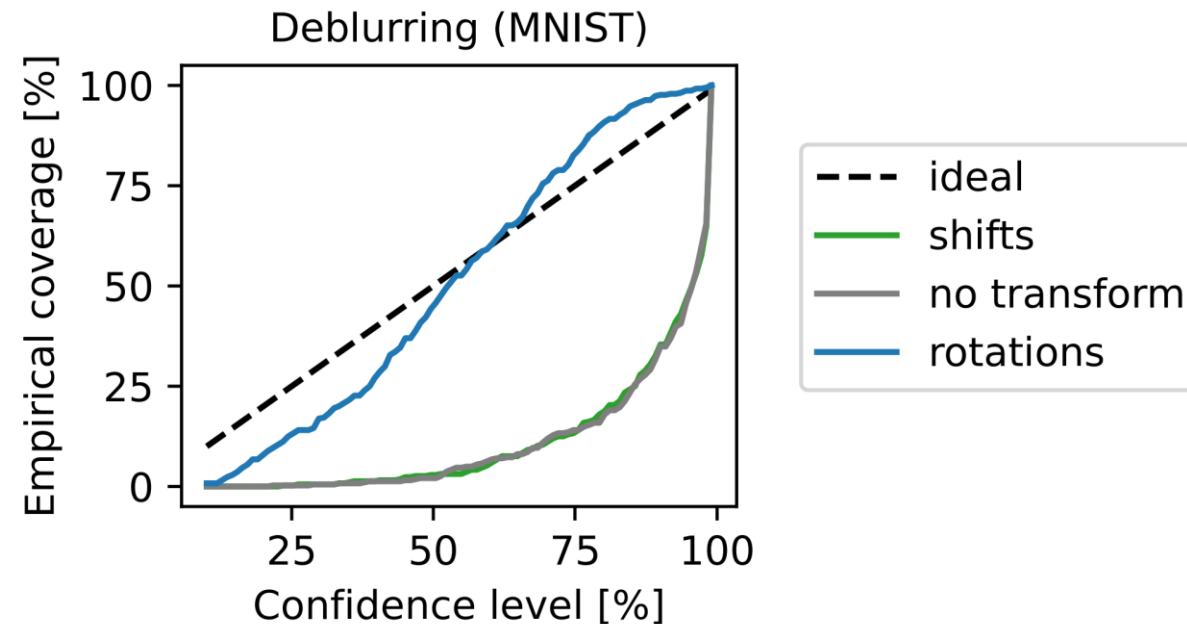
	Diffusion (DDRM)	Diffusion (diffPIR)	ULA	Proposed bstrap (unsup. model)	Proposed bstrap (sup. model)
C. Sensing (MNIST)	-	-	28.54 ± 2.25	34.11 ± 2.09	33.9 ± 2.32
Inpainting (DIV2K)	32.27 ± 3.95	30.51 ± 3.74	30.52 ± 3.35	31.56 ± 4.12	32.47 ± 3.87
Tomography (LIDC)	-	37.02 ± 0.79	35.85 ± 0.54	37.38 ± 0.65	41.03 ± 0.91

Table 2: Neural function evaluations (NFEs) per Monte Carlo (MC) sample.

Method	Diffusion	ULA	Bootstrap
NFEs/MC sample	100	30	1

UQ Experiments

- Blur operators are shift-equivariant, thus shifts do not modify the nullspace of A



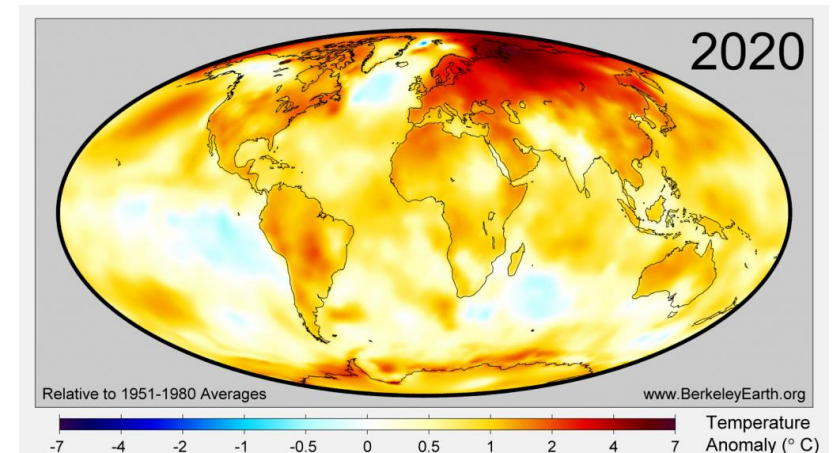
Conclusions

Take home messages

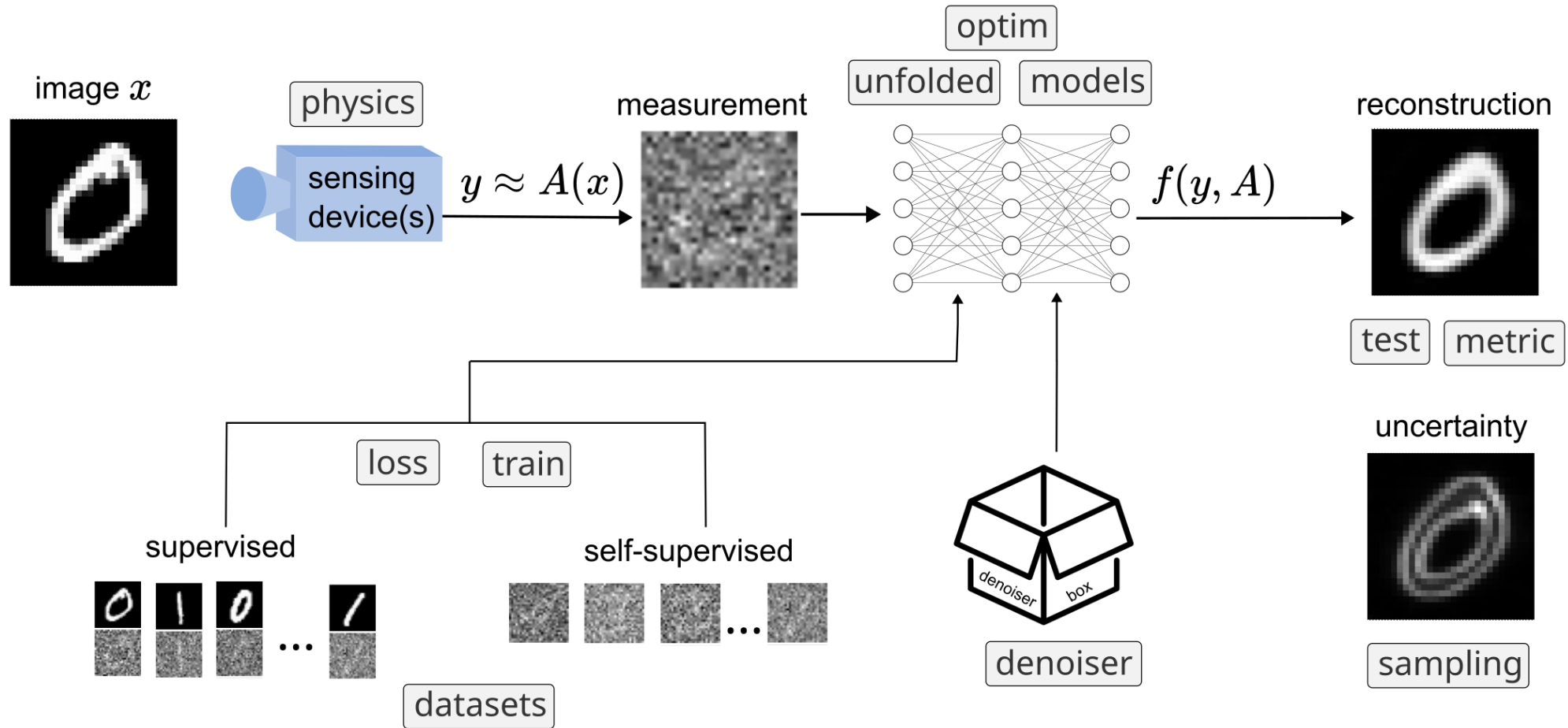
Symmetries in the data can play a key role in measuring uncertainty in the nullspace of the forward operator

Future work

- More efficient Reynolds averaging [Sannai, 2021]
- UQ challenge
- Other groups of transformations/data domains



New PyTorch Library



Thanks for your attention!

[Tachella.github.io](https://github.com/tachella)

- ✓ Codes
- ✓ Presentations
- ✓ ... and more

https://github.com/tachella/equivariant_bootstrap