



# Uncertainty reduction with multi-model Monte Carlo for crystal plasticity simulations of additively manufactured metals

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4<sup>th</sup> Pan-American Congress on Computational Mechanics**  
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# Outline

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- Motivation: Additive manufacturing (AM) simulations
- Multi-model Monte Carlo background
  - Monte Carlo (MC) estimation
  - Multi-model MC estimation and variance reduction
- Application to crystal plasticity for AM metals
- Results
- Conclusions

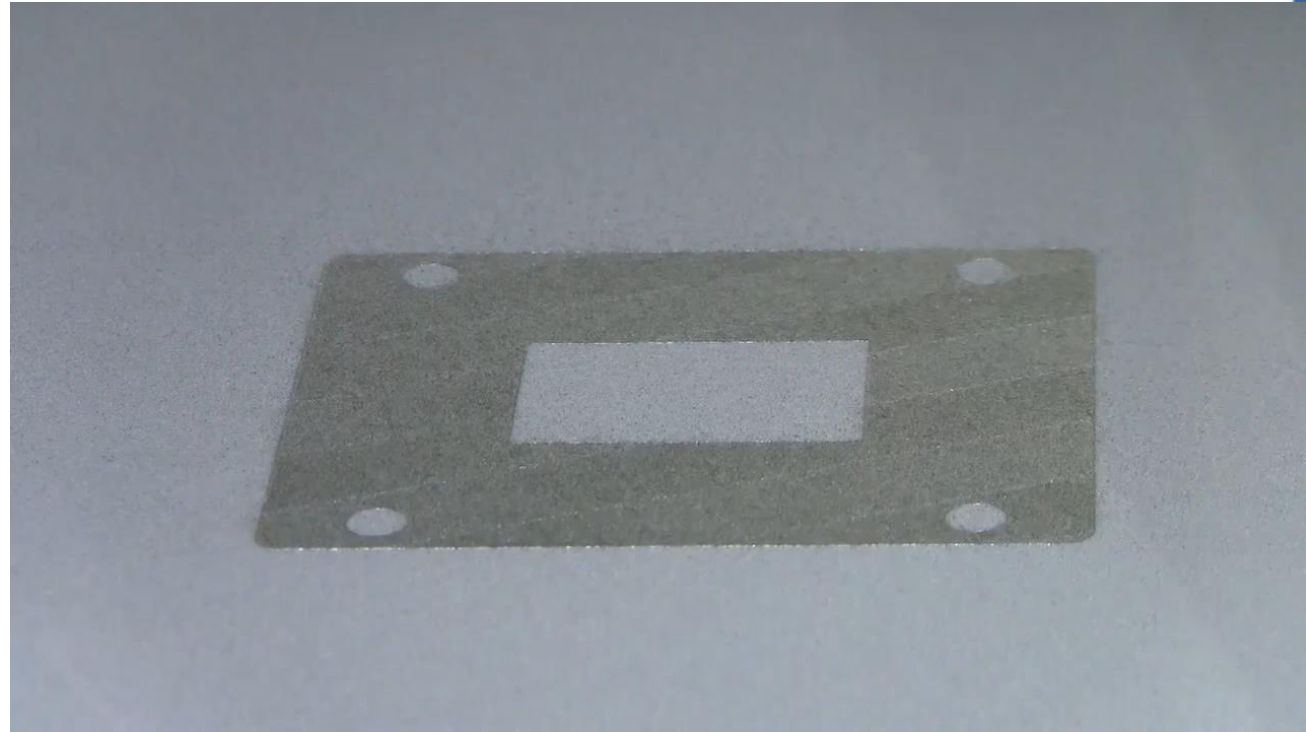
# Metal AM background

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- Laser powder bed fusion: melt successive layers of powder into a desired shape → efficient production of complex geometries
- Load-bearing aerospace components (airframes, engines) require qualification and certification
- Need to characterize statistical variability in properties/performance → very expensive to rely on experiments alone

Laser powder bed fusion video



Credit: National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST)<sup>1</sup>

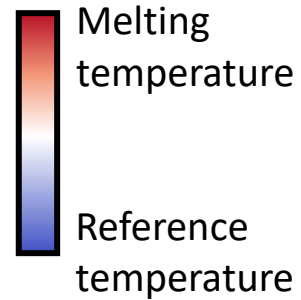
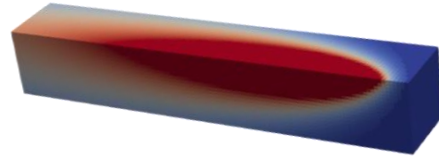
<sup>1</sup><https://www.nist.gov/video/3d-printing-laser-and-metal-powder>; reused as permitted by <https://www.nist.gov/oism/copyrights>

# Motivation: Process-structure-property simulations

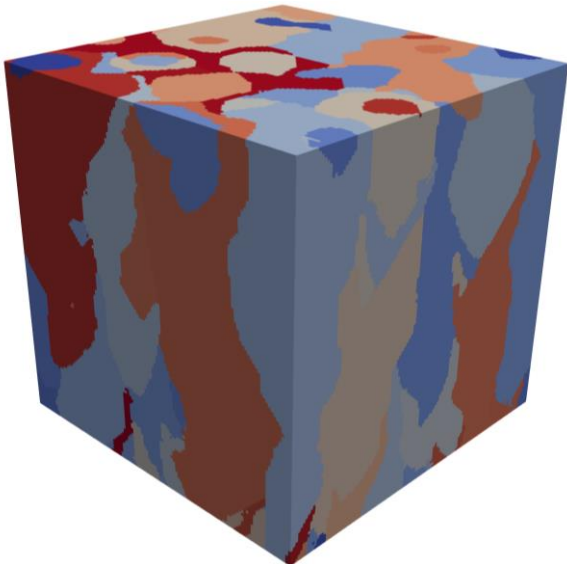


J. D. Pribe et al., Integr Mater  
Manuf Innov (2023).  
[www.doi.org/10.1007/s40192-023-00303-9](https://www.doi.org/10.1007/s40192-023-00303-9).

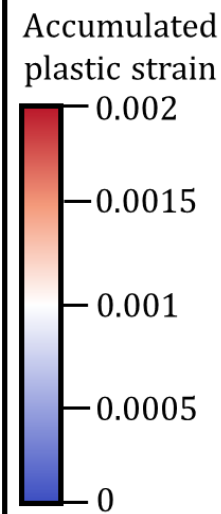
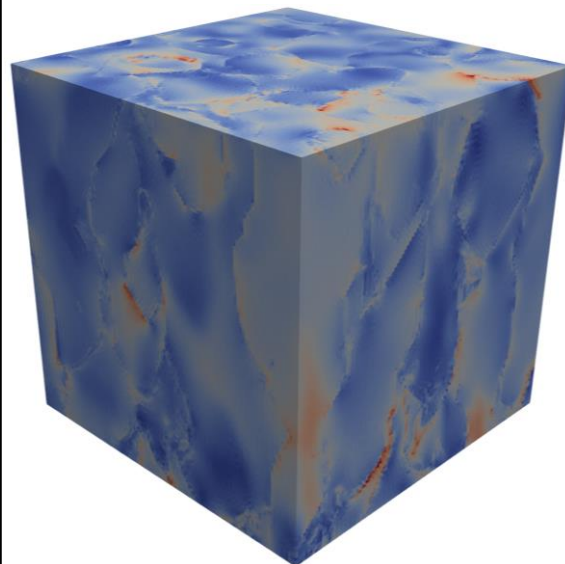
1. Thermal model: melt pool, temperature field



2. Process-structure model:  
solidification, texture, defects



3. Structure-property model: stress and strain fields, fatigue indicator parameters



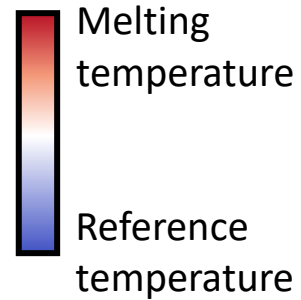
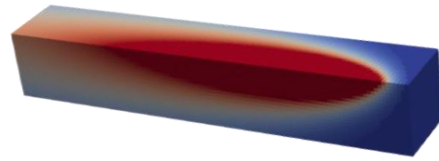
- Process-structure-property (PSP) simulations: understand how process changes/variability influence mechanical quantities of interest (QoIs)
- Need calibration, validation, and uncertainty quantification to build confidence in models

# Motivation: PSP simulations **with UQ**



J. D. Pribe et al., Integr Mater  
Manuf Innov (2023).  
[www.doi.org/10.1007/s40192-023-00303-9](https://www.doi.org/10.1007/s40192-023-00303-9).

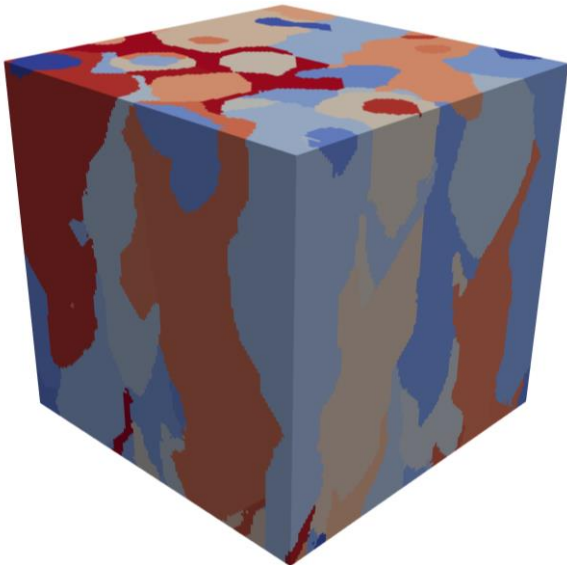
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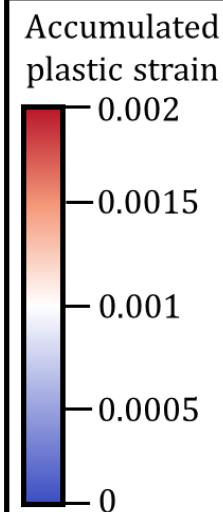
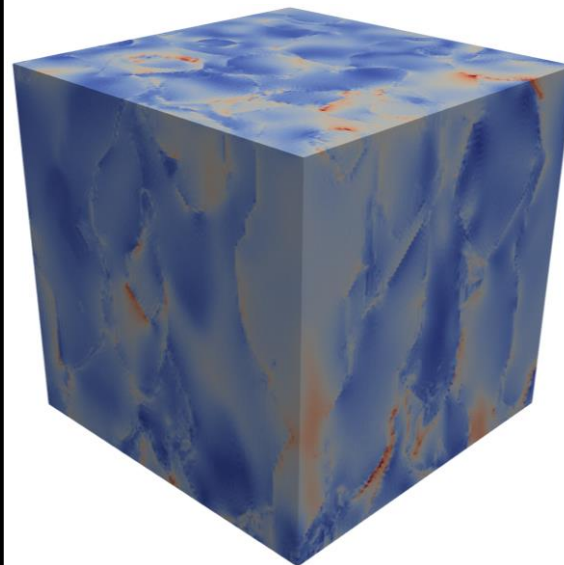
- Repeat simulations to build up statistics on QoIs
- **How to quantify and reduce computational cost?**

Repeat simulations

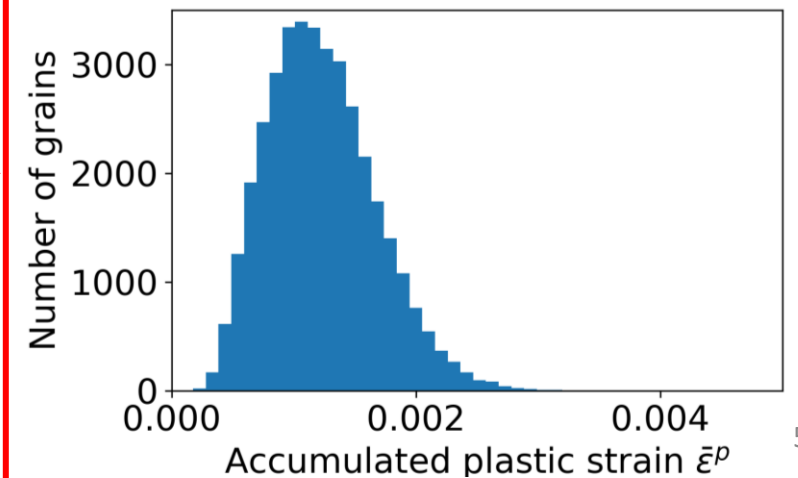
2. Process-structure model: solidification, texture, defects



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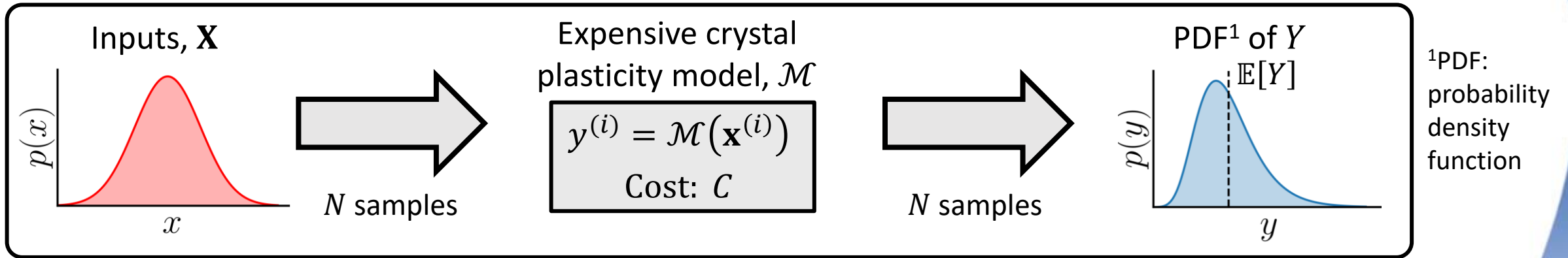
Fatigue indicator parameter statistics



# MC estimation



**Problem:** estimate the expected value,  $\mathbb{E}[Y]$ , for a QoI,  $Y$



MC estimator: 
$$\mathbb{E}[Y] \approx \hat{Y}(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \mathcal{M}(\mathbf{x}^{(i)})$$
  $\mathbf{x} = \{\mathbf{x}^{(1)}, \dots, \mathbf{x}^{(N)}\}$  (input samples)

Total cost: 
$$\hat{C} = NC$$

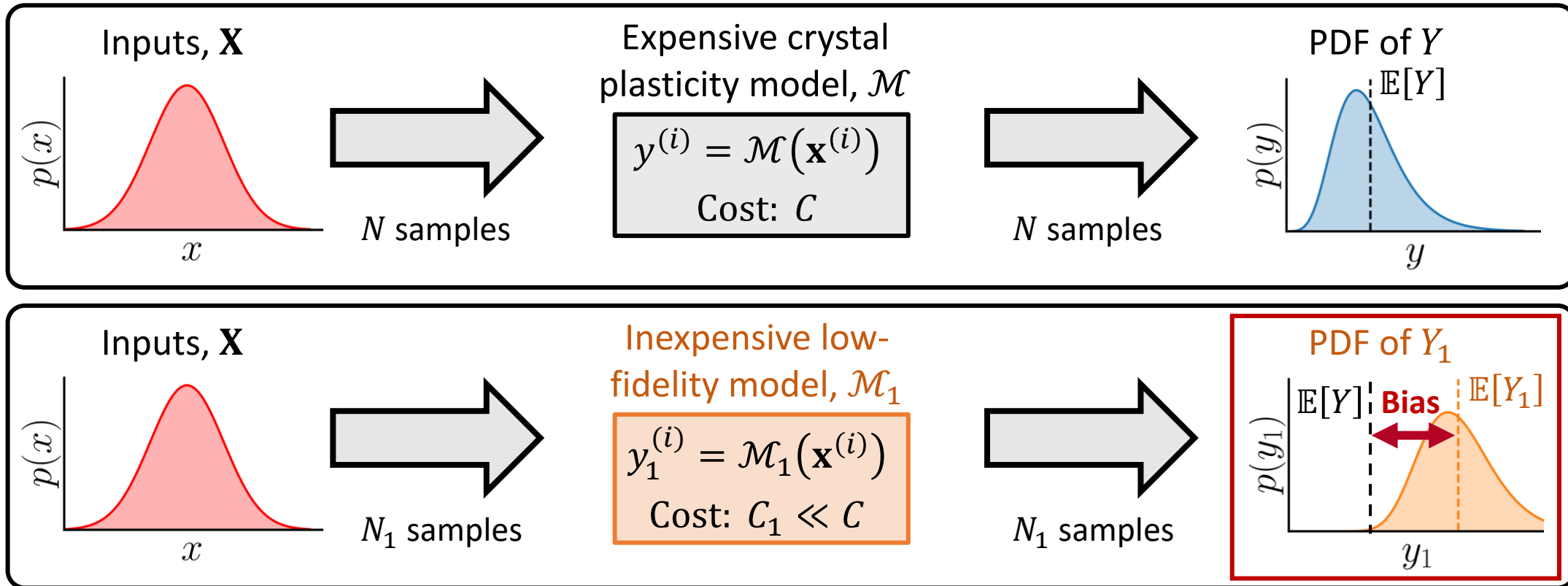
Mean-squared error: 
$$\text{MSE}(\hat{Y}) = \text{Bias}[\hat{Y}]^2 + \text{Var}[\hat{Y}] = \text{Var}[Y]/N$$
 (MSE)

- Unbiased estimator  $\rightarrow$  guaranteed convergence ( $\mathbb{E}[\hat{Y}] = \mathbb{E}[Y]$ )
- MSE convergence rate is  $1/N \rightarrow$  prohibitive cost for expensive, high-fidelity models

# MC estimation



**Problem:** estimate the expected value,  $\mathbb{E}[Y]$ , for a QoI,  $Y$

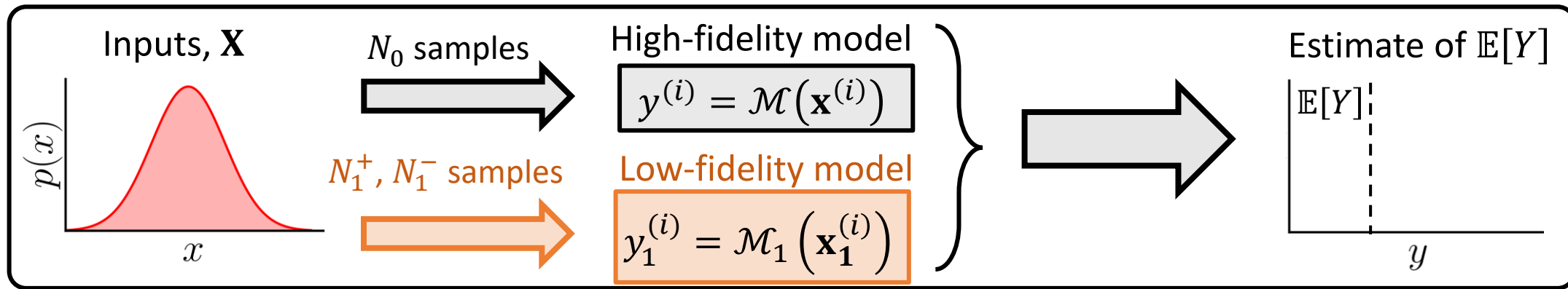


- Biased estimator  $\rightarrow$  **irreducible error** ( $\mathbb{E}[Y_1] \neq \mathbb{E}[Y]$ )
- $C_1 \ll C \rightarrow$  efficient **variance reduction** (cheap samples relative to high-fidelity model)

# Multi-model MC estimation



**Problem:** estimate the expected value,  $\mathbb{E}[Y]$ , for a QoI,  $Y$



Multi-model

MC estimator<sup>1</sup>:

$$\mathbb{E}[Y] \approx \tilde{Y}_{MM} = \hat{Y}(\mathbf{x}_0) + \alpha_1 \left( \hat{Y}_1(\mathbf{x}_1^+) - \hat{Y}_1(\mathbf{x}_1^-) \right)$$

High-fidelity:  $N_0$  samples

Low-fidelity:  $N_1$  samples

High-fidelity with sample set  $\mathbf{x}_0$

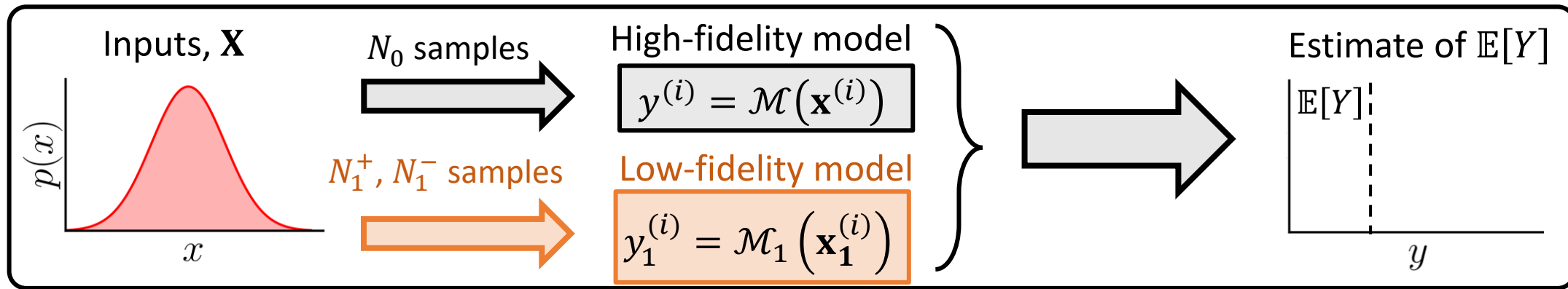
Low-fidelity with two different sample sets ( $\mathbf{x}_1^+$  and  $\mathbf{x}_1^-$ )

<sup>1</sup>Based on approximate control variates approaches: A.A. Gorodetsky et al., J Comput Phys. 408 (2020) 109257. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jcp.2020.109257>.

# Multi-model MC estimation



**Problem:** estimate the expected value,  $\mathbb{E}[Y]$ , for a QoI,  $Y$



Multi-model  
MC estimator:

$$\mathbb{E}[Y] \approx \tilde{Y}_{MM} = \hat{Y}(\mathbf{x}_0) + \alpha_1 \left( \hat{Y}_1(\mathbf{x}_1^+) - \hat{Y}_1(\mathbf{x}_1^-) \right)$$

High-fidelity:  $N_0$  samples  
Low-fidelity:  $N_1$  samples

- Unbiased estimator  $\rightarrow$  guaranteed convergence ( $\mathbb{E}[\tilde{Y}_{MM}] = \mathbb{E}[\hat{Y}] = \mathbb{E}[Y]$ )
- Error depends only on variance  $\rightarrow$  how to efficiently reduce  $\text{Var}[\tilde{Y}_{MM}]$ ?<sup>1</sup>
  - Decreases with **increasing correlation** between models
  - Optimal **sample allocation**,  $\{\mathbf{x}_0, \mathbf{x}_1^+, \mathbf{x}_1^-\}$ , and **weight**,  $\alpha_1$ , minimize cost given a **target variance (accuracy)**
  - Equivalently: minimize variance given a **target cost**,  $\hat{C}$

<sup>1</sup>A.A. Gorodetsky et al., J Comput Phys. 408 (2020) 109257. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jcp.2020.109257>.

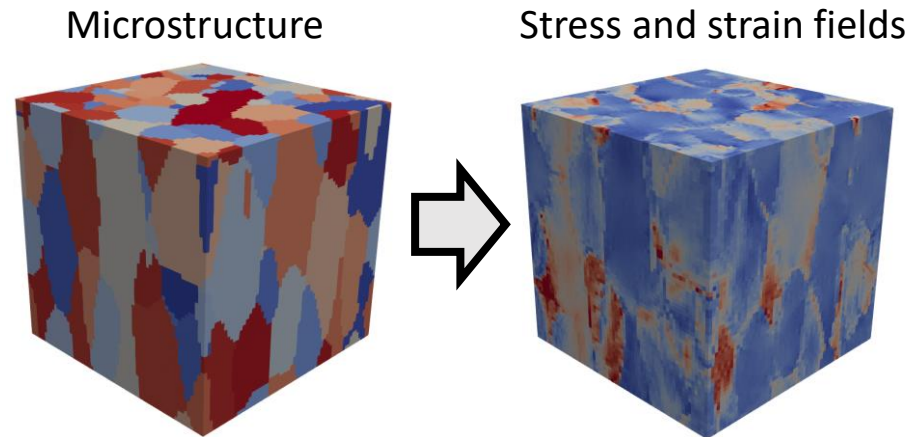
# Multi-model MC summary



- **Low cost** and **high correlation with high-fidelity model** are desirable
- Can extend to **any number of low-fidelity models and QoIs**

$$\tilde{Y}_{MM} = \hat{Y}(\mathbf{x}_0) + \sum_{j=1}^M \alpha_j \left( \hat{Y}_j(\mathbf{x}_j^+) - \hat{Y}_j(\mathbf{x}_j^-) \right) \quad M: \text{number of low-fidelity models}$$

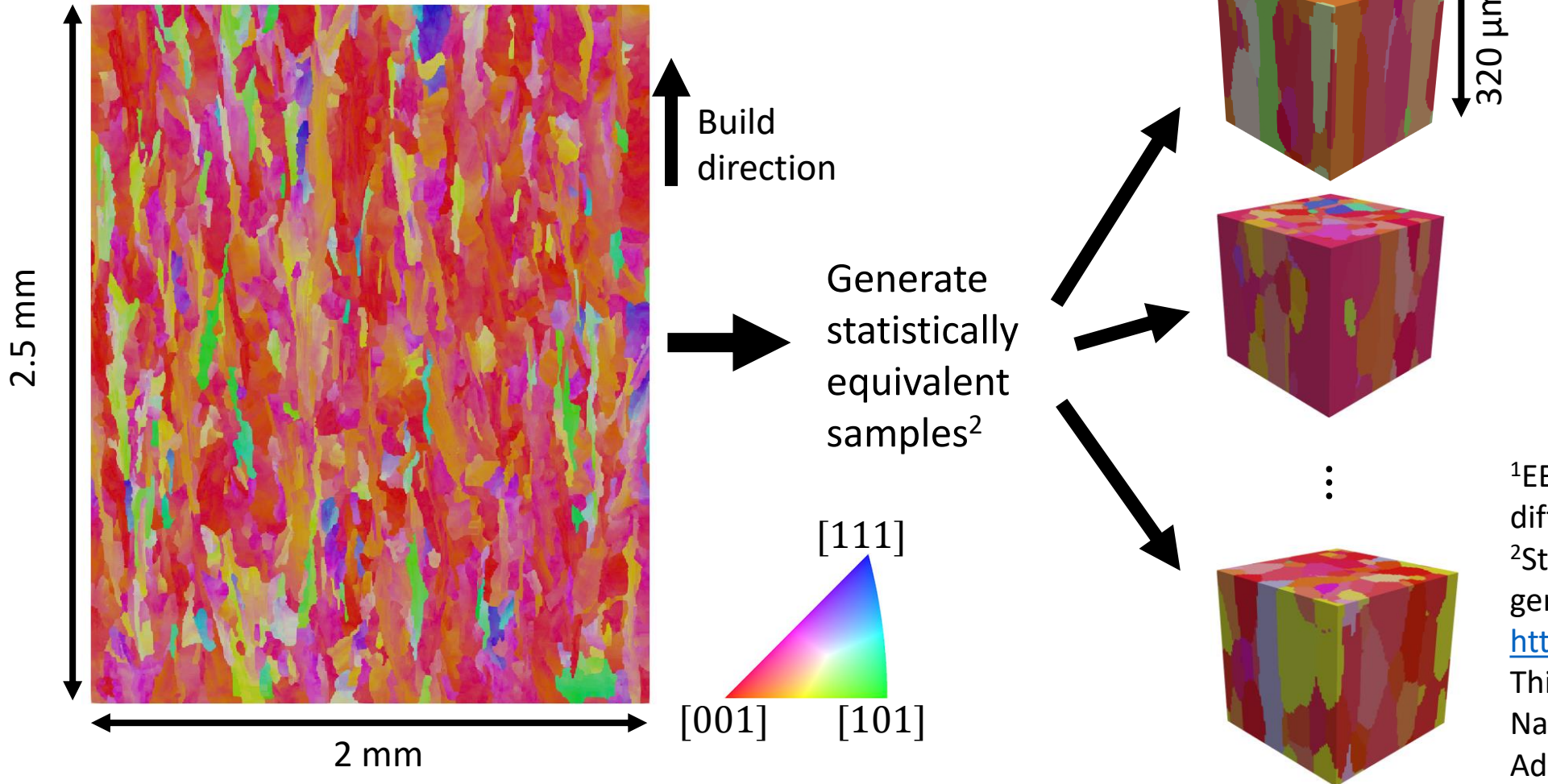
- Application (here: crystal plasticity simulations of AM microstructures)
  - Sample input space
  - Choose QoIs
  - Choose high- and low-fidelity model(s)
  - **Estimate model covariances for each QoI**
  - Solve optimization to minimize variance for target cost



Details on optimization and sample allocation in G.F. Bomarito et al., J Comput Phys. 451 (2022) 110882.  
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jcp.2021.110882>.

# Application to crystal plasticity

- Create AM-relevant microstructures based on Inconel 718 EBSD<sup>1</sup> data



<sup>1</sup>EBSD: electron backscatter diffraction

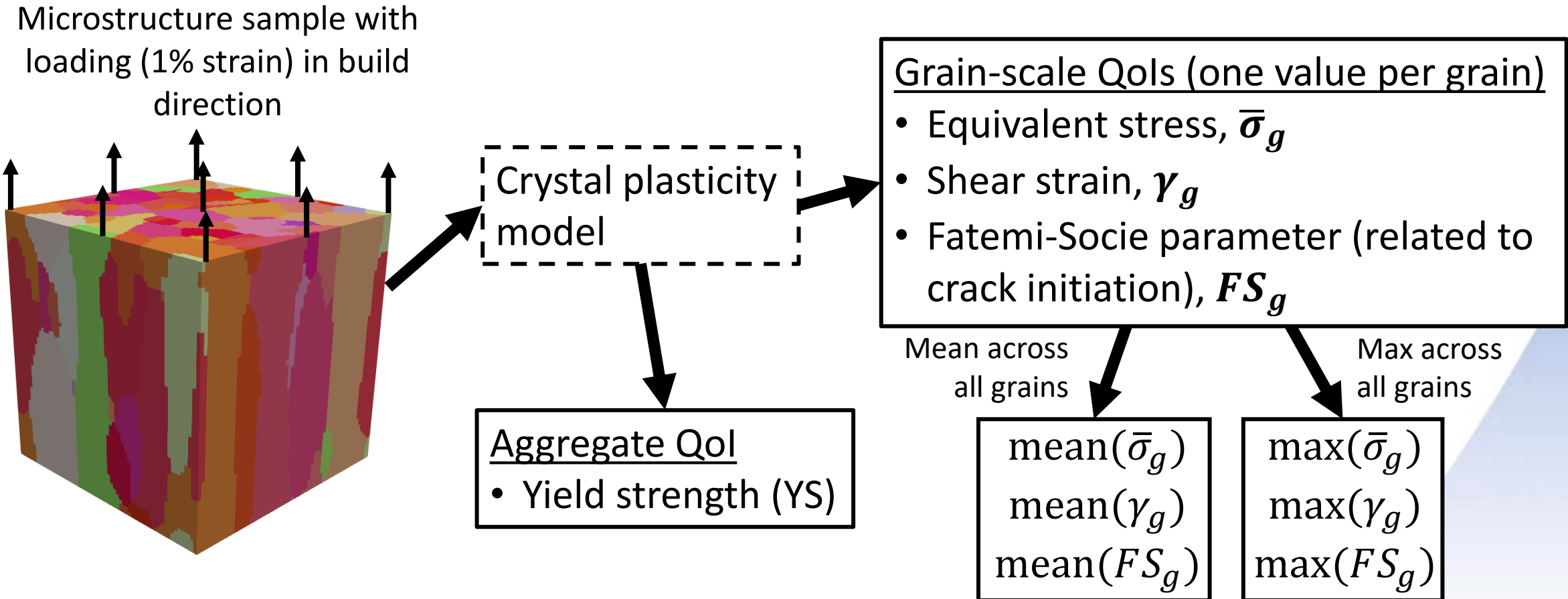
<sup>2</sup>Statistics extracted and samples generated using DREAM.3D:

<http://dream3d.bluequartz.net/>.

This is not an endorsement by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)

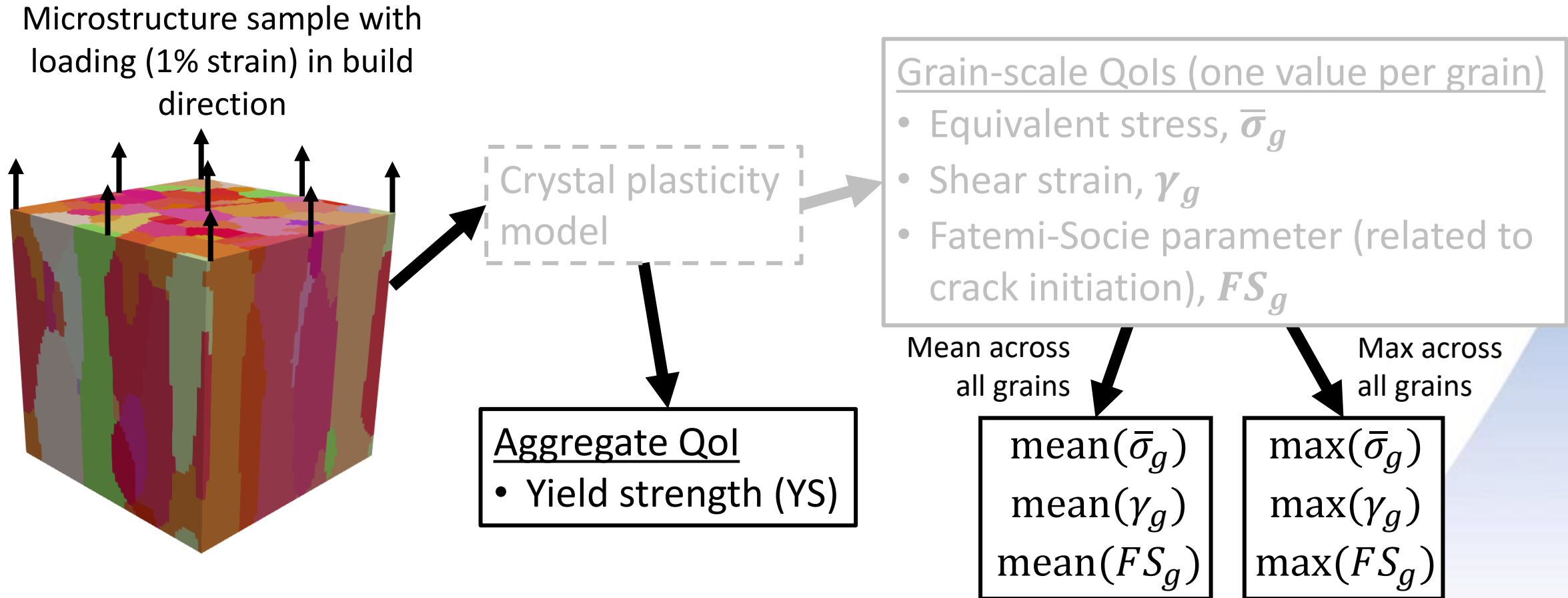
# Application to crystal plasticity

- Create AM-relevant microstructures based on Inconel 718 EBSD data
- Choose Qols to extract from crystal plasticity simulations



# Application to crystal plasticity

- Create AM-relevant microstructures based on Inconel 718 EBSD data
- Choose Qols to extract from crystal plasticity simulations

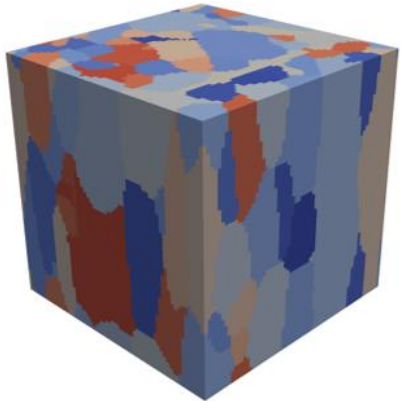


# High- and low-fidelity models

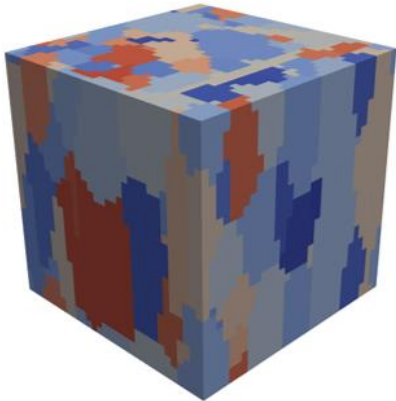


Three-dimensional full-field simulations

**EVFFFT – 64**  
**(high-fidelity)**



**EVFFFT – 32**



**EVFFFT – 16**



EVFFFT: elasto-viscoplastic fast Fourier transform model<sup>1</sup>

- Calculate stress and strain for **all voxels**
- Generate low-fidelity models by coarsening the discretization

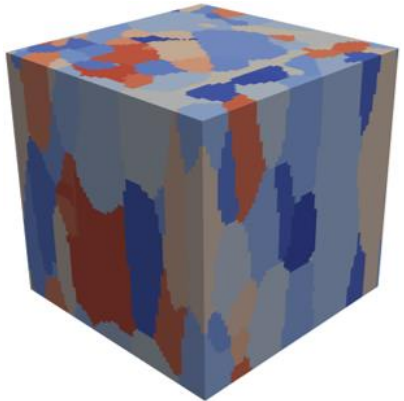
Model names refer to resolution (EVFFFT – 64 has  $64 \times 64 \times 64$  voxel resolution with  $5\text{-}\mu\text{m}$  voxel size)

<sup>1</sup>R.A. Lebensohn et al., Int J Plast. 32–33 (2012) 59–69.  
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ijplas.2011.12.005>.

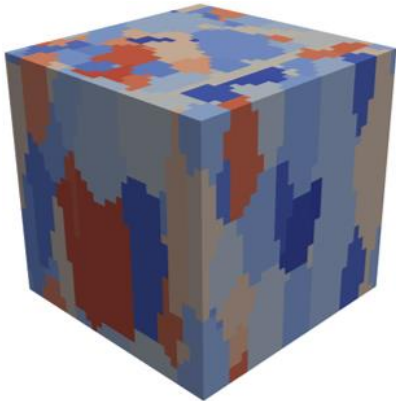
# High- and low-fidelity models

Three-dimensional full-field simulations

**EVPFFT – 64**  
(high-fidelity)



**EVPFFT – 32**



**EVPFFT – 16**



Extract geometry and orientation information for each grain

- Volume
- Aspect ratios
- Crystallographic orientation

- VPSC<sup>1</sup>: self-consistent homogenization-based formulation
- Solve for **grain-average** stresses and strains
  - Different linearization schemes → three different models

Model	Cost
<b>EVPFFT – 64</b>	<b>~33 min.</b>
EVPFFT – 32	~3.5 min.
EVPFFT – 16	~0.4 min.

Model	Cost
VPSC – affine	~1 sec.
VPSC – FC	~1 sec.
VPSC – tangent	~1 sec.

<sup>1</sup>Viscoplastic self-consistent formulation

# Results to be shown

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- Pilot samples  $\rightarrow$  correlations between high- and low-fidelity models
- Multi-model MC variance reduction, optimal sample allocation, and verification
- Consider two sets of Qols
  - Yield strength and mean grain-scale Qols only (“mean Qols”)
  - All seven Qols (“mean Qols” and “max Qols” together)

## Aggregate Qol

- Yield strength (YS)

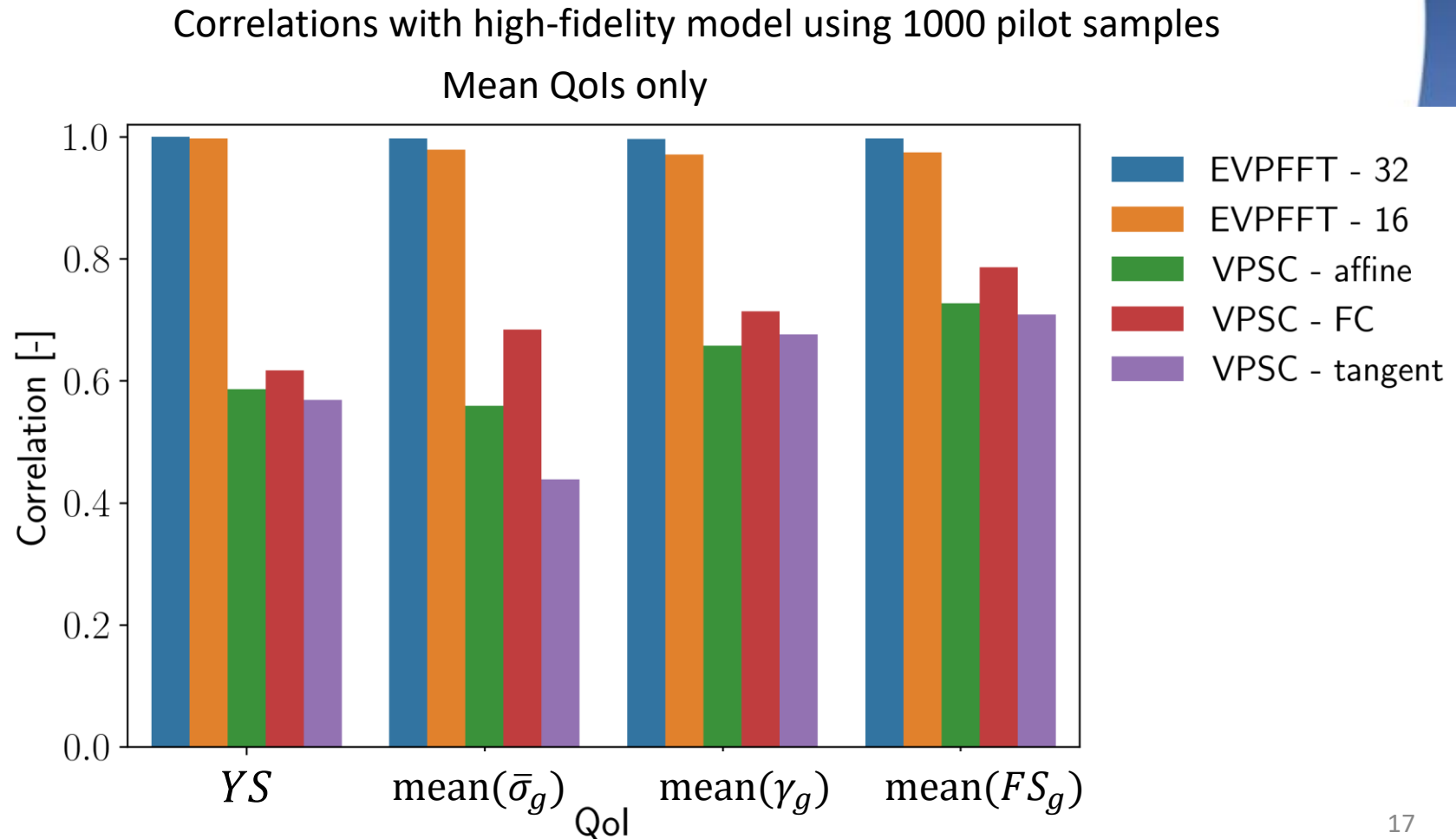
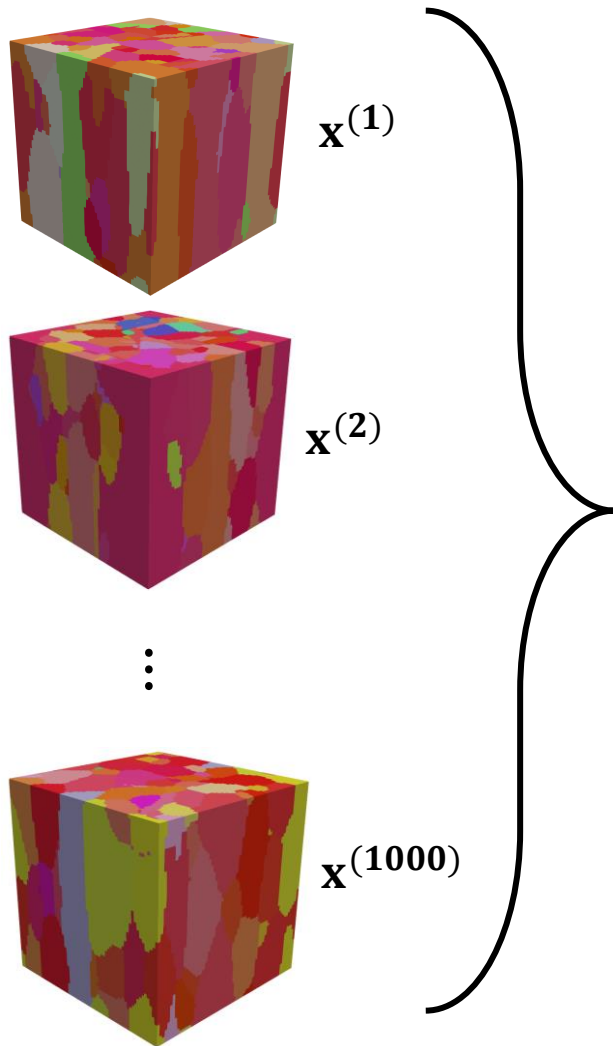
## Grain-scale Qols

- $\text{mean}(\bar{\sigma}_g), \text{max}(\bar{\sigma}_g)$
- $\text{mean}(\gamma_g), \text{max}(\gamma_g)$
- $\text{mean}(FS_g), \text{max}(FS_g)$

# Model correlations, mean Qols



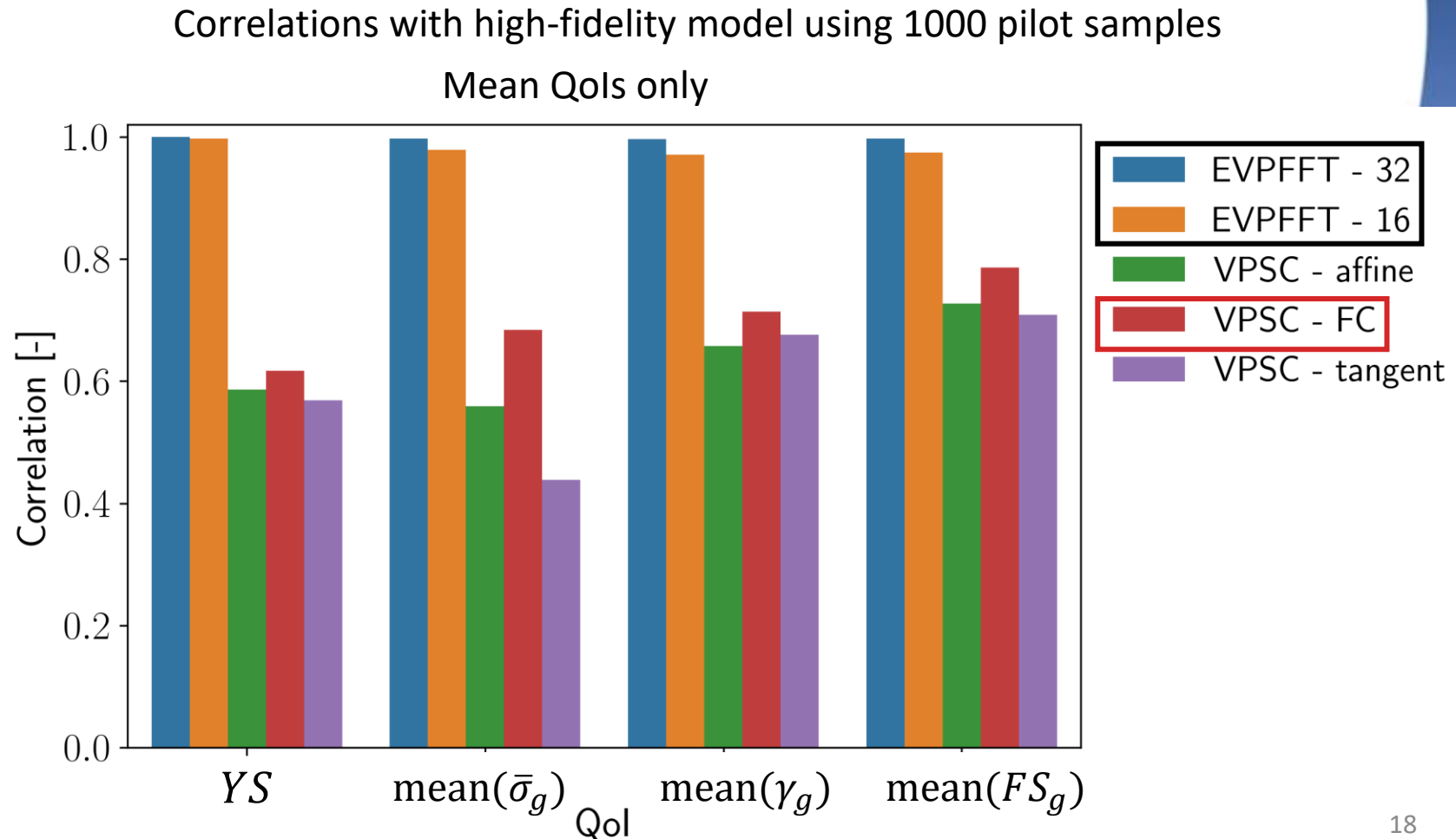
- Estimate covariances between models using pilot samples



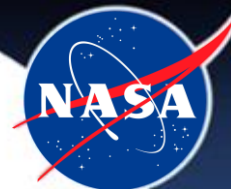
# Model correlations, mean Qols



- Estimate covariances between models using pilot samples
- Coarse EVPFFT models are strongly correlated with high-fidelity model
- **VPSC – FC** has best correlation across all four Qols

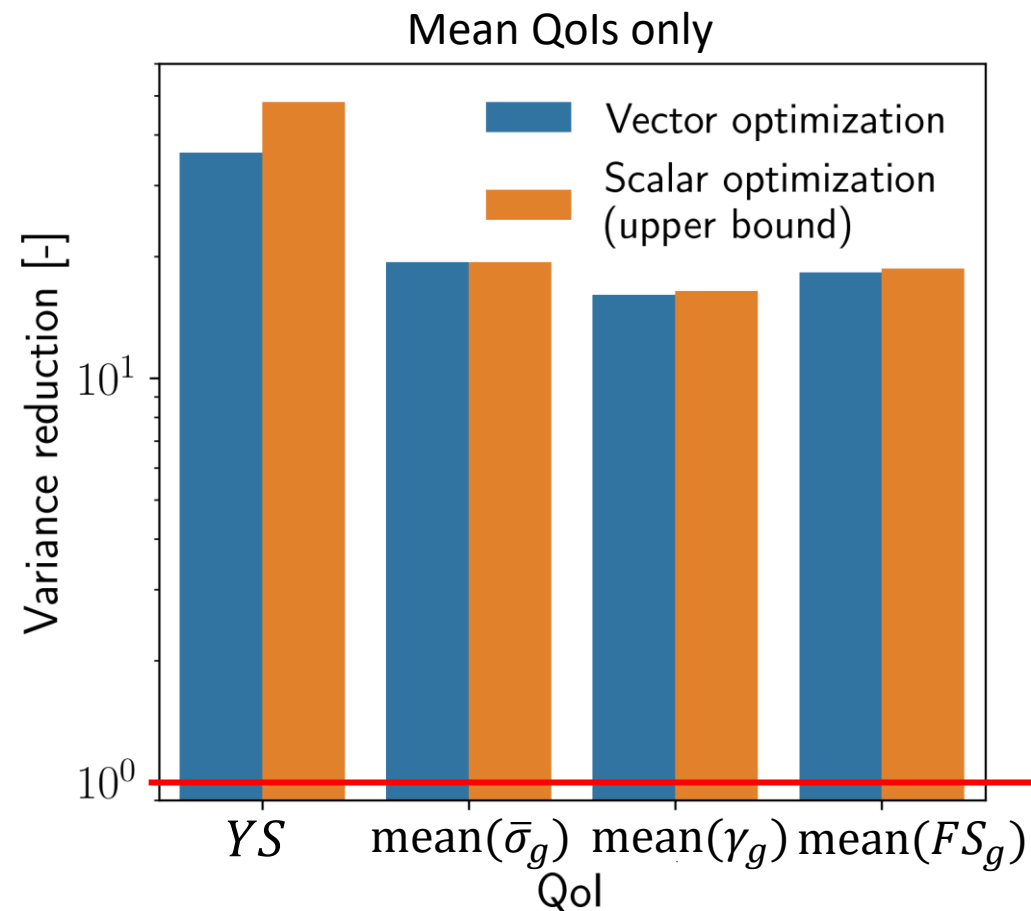


# Variance reduction, mean Qols



Variance reduction for multi-model MC relative to standard MC for  $\hat{C} = 100$  high-fidelity simulations

- Scalar optimization: upper bound; optimize sample allocation for each individual Qol
- Vector optimization: optimize sample allocation for all Qols shown in the chart

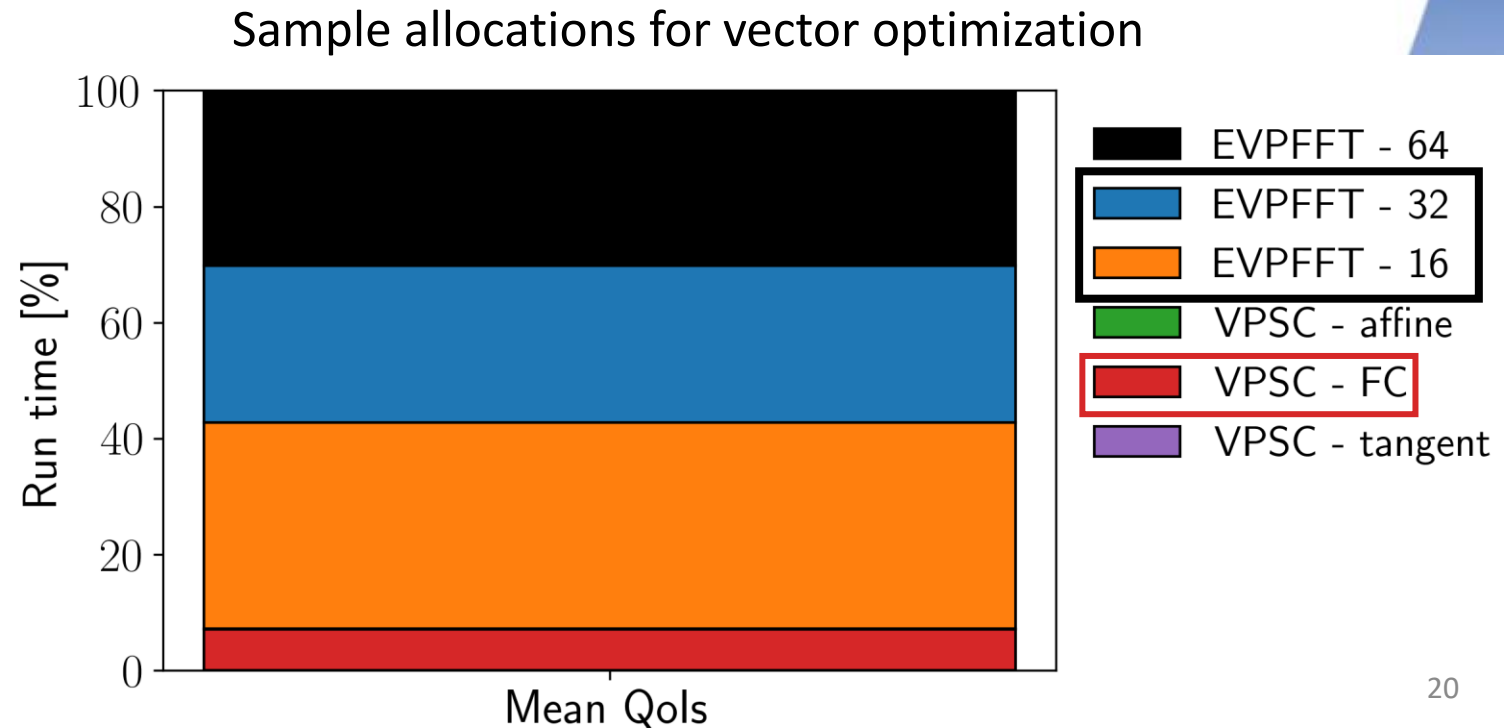
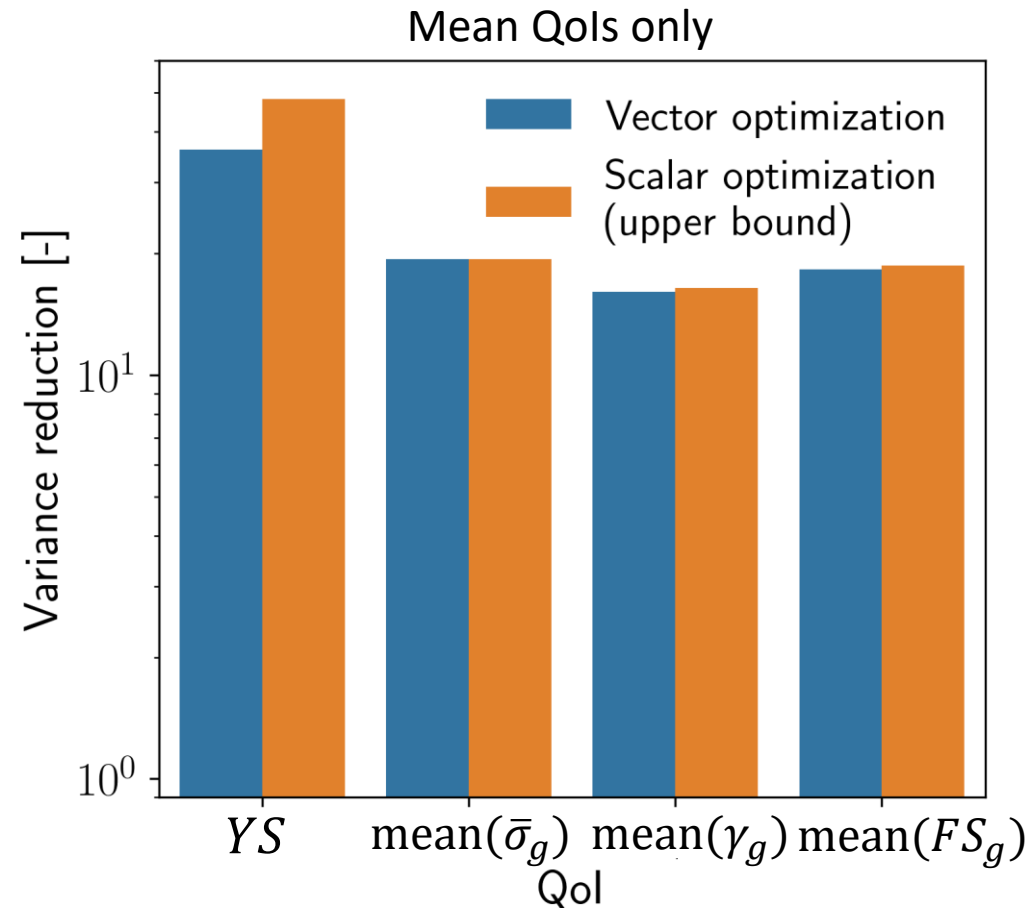


# Sample allocation, mean Qols



Variance reduction for multi-model MC relative to standard MC for  $\hat{C} = 100$  high-fidelity simulations

- Significant allocation to coarse full-field models
- **VPSC – FC** is the only homogenized model with a significant number of samples



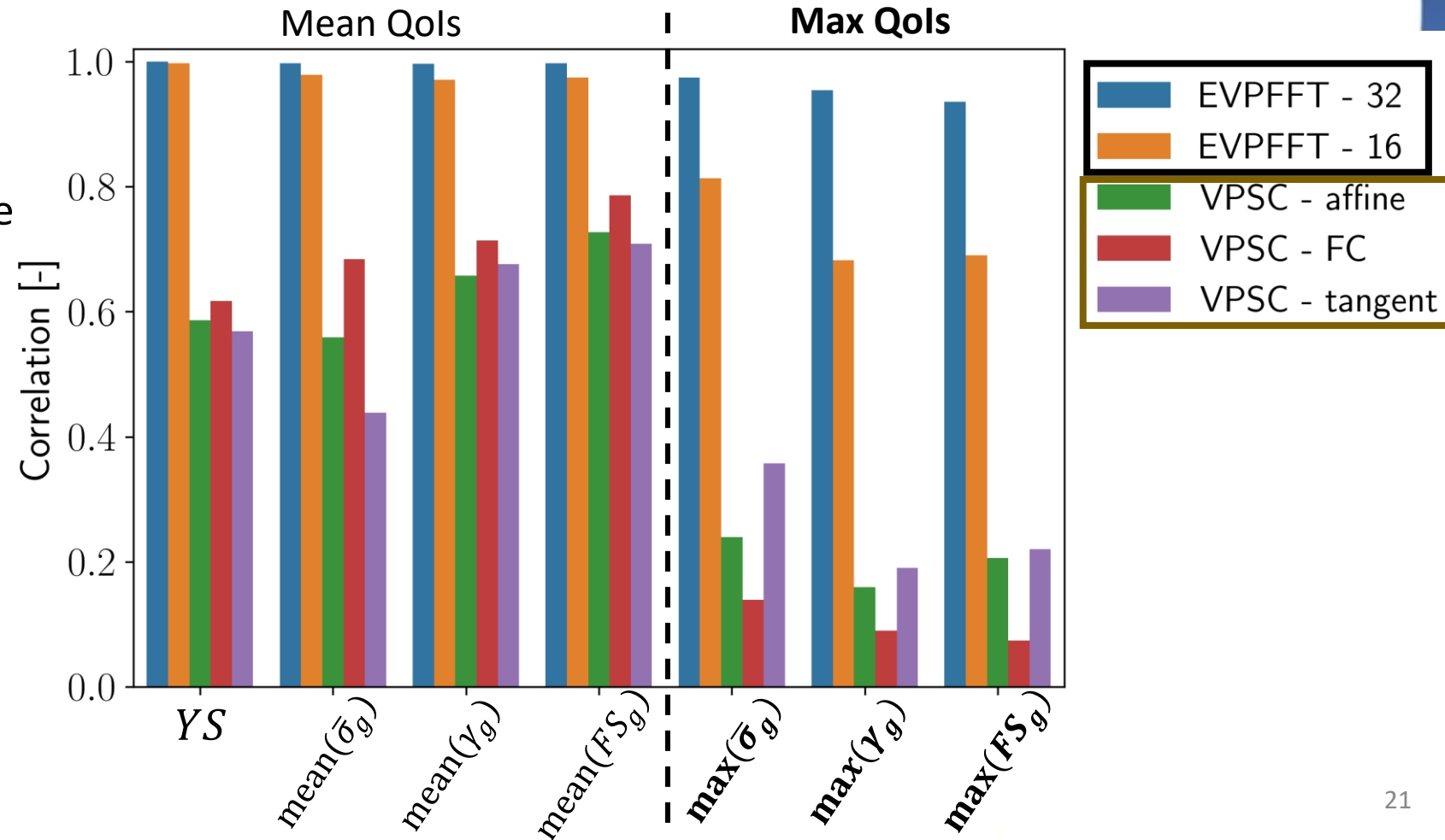
# Model correlations, all Qols



- Estimate covariances between models using pilot samples

- Max. grain-scale Qols:  
All correlations are lower
  - Consistent with refinement studies: coarse mesh is worse near hotspots
- Not obvious which VPSC models are the most useful across all Qols

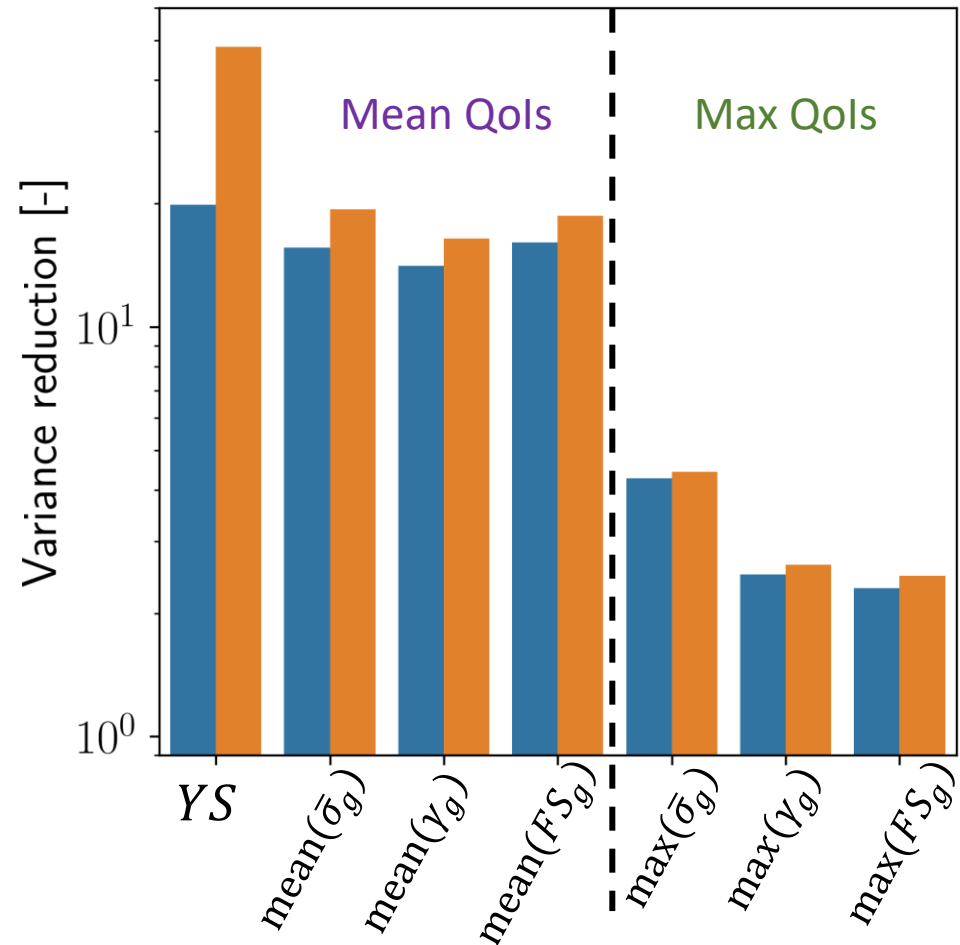
Correlations with high-fidelity model using 1000 pilot samples



# Variance reduction and sample allocation, all QoIs

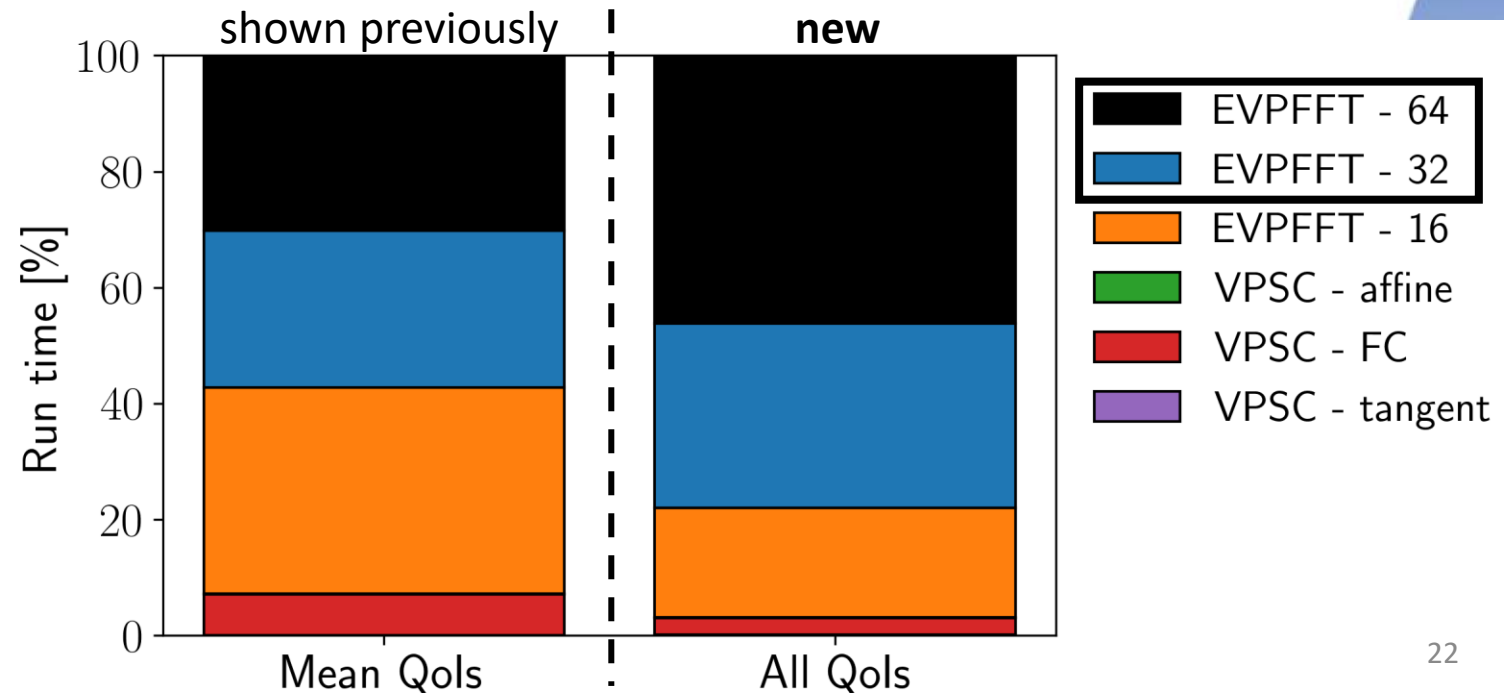
Variance reduction for  $\hat{C} = 100$  high-fidelity simulations; optimization with all QoIs

Vector optimization    Scalar optimization



- Less variance reduction for max QoIs
- Mean QoIs are less optimized than before
- More time allocated to high-fidelity model and first low-fidelity model

Sample allocations – comparison between QoI sets



# Multi-model MC estimator verification



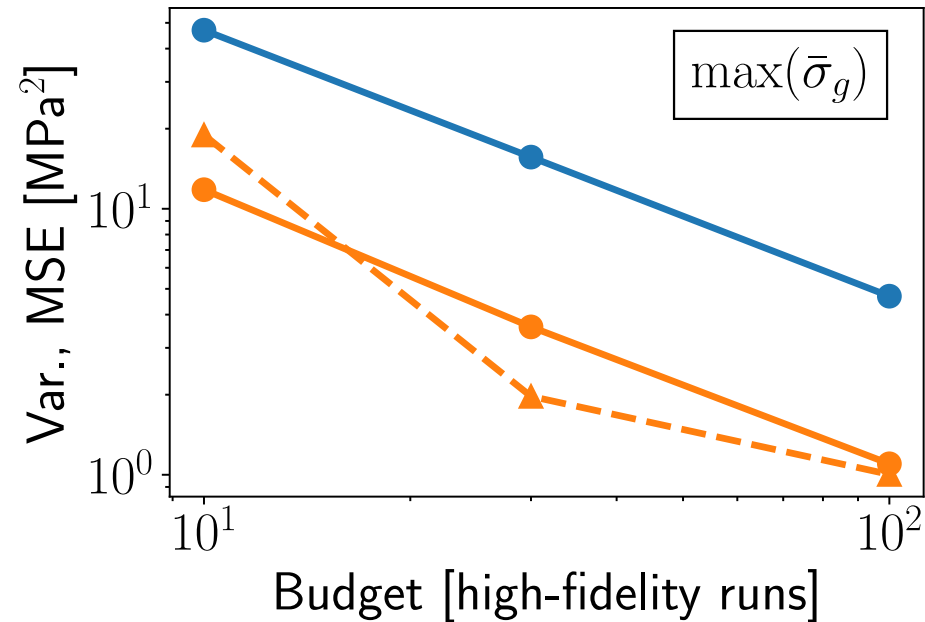
Estimate of the **actual multi-model MC mean-squared error**:

$$\text{MSE}[\tilde{Y}_{MM}] \approx \frac{1}{20} \sum_{i=1}^{20} \left( \tilde{Y}_{MM}^{(i)} - \hat{Y}_{\text{ref}} \right)^2$$

Should converge to multi-model MC estimator variance

Reference solution using  $10^4$  high-fidelity runs

- MC estimator variance
- Expected multi-model MC estimator variance
- Mean multi-model MC MSE (20 runs)



# Conclusions

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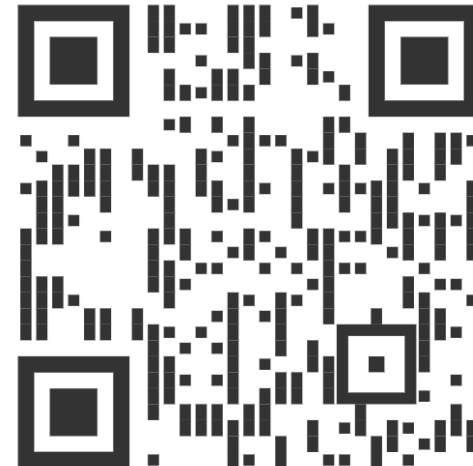
- Multi-model MC: reduce variance by optimizing sample allocation across high- and low-fidelity models
  - Best low-fidelity models are inexpensive and highly-correlated with the high-fidelity model
- Multi-model MC estimator is about  $2\times$  to  $20\times$  more efficient than standard MC for crystal plasticity QoIs
- More reliance on high-fidelity model for maximum grain-scale QoIs (characteristic of crack initiation hotspots)
- Remaining challenges:
  - Effective low-fidelity models for extreme-value QoIs (machine learning?)
  - Efficiently using pilot samples

# Acknowledgements

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- This work was supported by the NASA Aeronautics Research Mission Directorate (ARMD) Transformational Tools and Technologies (TTT) project
- The authors also thank:
  - Ricardo Lebensohn from Los Alamos National Laboratory for sharing the serial/distribution version of the EVPFFT code
  - Wes Tayon and Bryan Koscielny for completing the EBSD scans
- MXMCPy – Multi-model Monte Carlo in Python:  
<https://github.com/nasa/MXMCPy> →
- Contact information: [joshua.pribe@nasa.gov](mailto:joshua.pribe@nasa.gov)

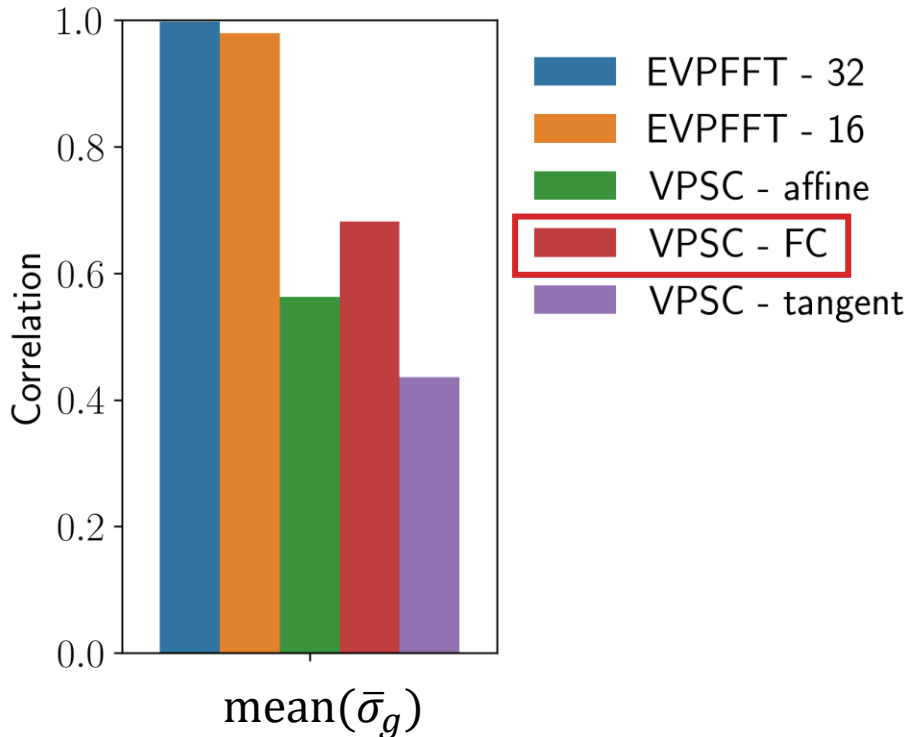


# Biased low-fidelity models

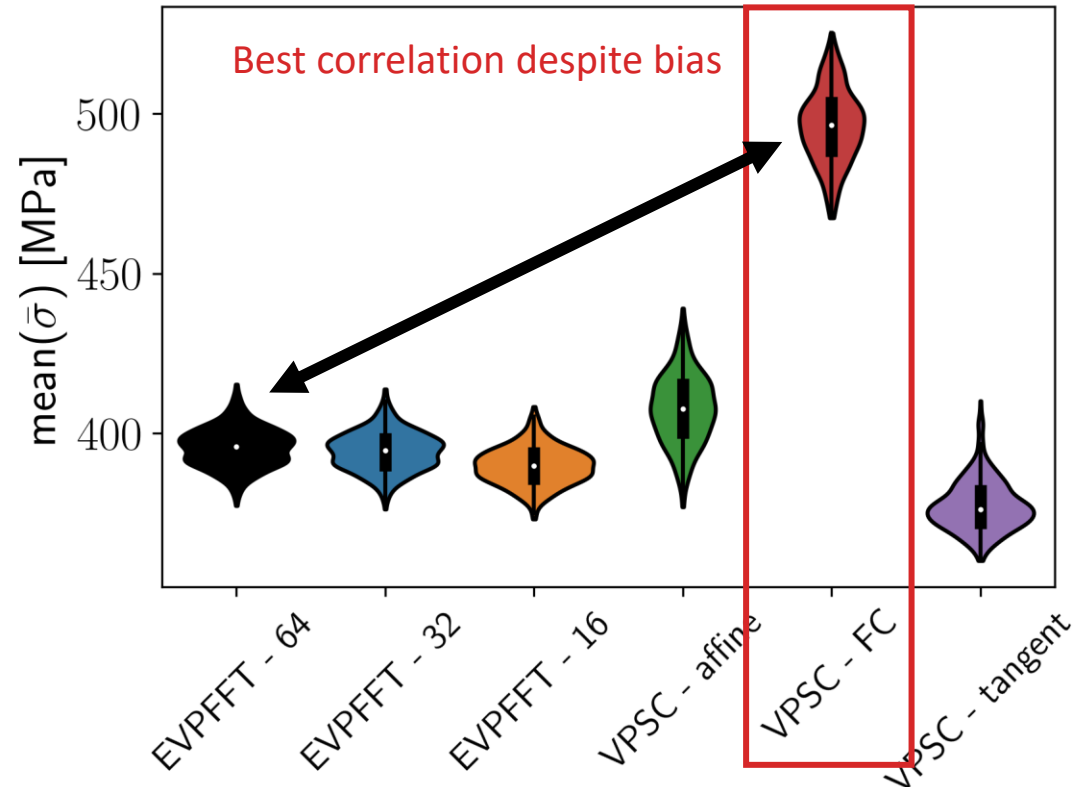


- Biased low-fidelity models are fine, if trends are correlated with the high-fidelity model

Correlations with high-fidelity mean grain-scale equivalent stress



Violin plots of mean grain-scale equivalent stress from 500 pilot samples

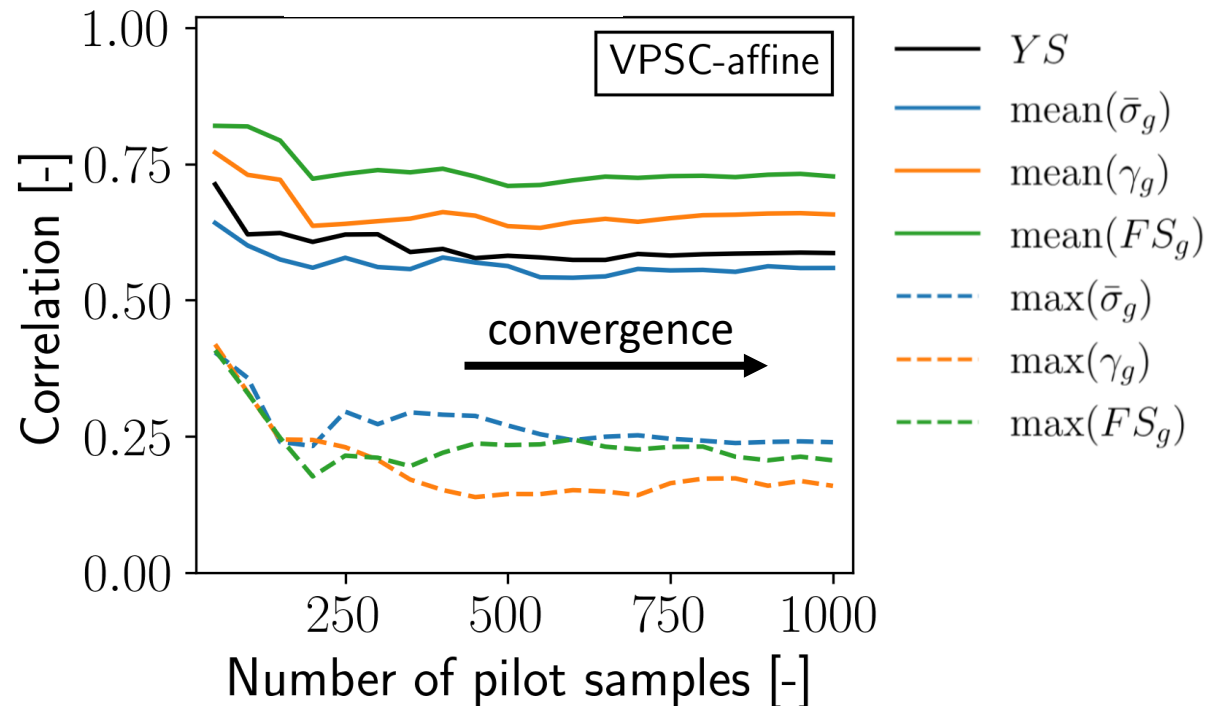


# Correlation convergence



- Biased low-fidelity models are fine, if trends are correlated with the high-fidelity model
- Cost of pilot samples is non-trivial<sup>1</sup>

Correlation of VPSC – affine with high-fidelity model with increasing pilot samples



<sup>1</sup>T. Pham, A.A. Gorodetsky, SIAM/ASA J. Uncertainty Quantification. 10 (2022) 1250–1292. <https://doi.org/10.1137/21M1390426>.

# Multi-model MC optimization



Estimator: 
$$\tilde{Y}_{MM} = \hat{Y}(\mathbf{x}_0) + \sum_{j=1}^M \alpha_j \left( \hat{Y}_j(\mathbf{x}_j^+) - \hat{Y}_j(\mathbf{x}_j^-) \right)$$

Cost: 
$$\tilde{C} = N_0 C + N_1 C_1 + \dots + N_M C_M \quad N_j = N_j^+ + N_j^-$$

Goal: **select weights,  $\alpha$** , and **sample allocation,  $\{\mathbf{x}\} = \{\mathbf{x}_0, \mathbf{x}_1^+, \mathbf{x}_1^-, \dots, \mathbf{x}_M^+, \mathbf{x}_M^-\}$** , to yield the most accurate estimator given cost constraint,  $\hat{C}$

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha, \{\mathbf{x}\}^{opt} &= \arg \min_{\alpha, \{\mathbf{x}\}} \text{Var}[\tilde{Y}(\alpha, \{\mathbf{x}\})] \\ &\text{s. t. } \tilde{C} \leq \hat{C} \end{aligned}$$

Details in G.F. Bomarito et al., J Comput Phys. 451 (2022) 110882. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jcp.2021.110882>.