

# A Bayesian Data-driven Model for Quantifying Electrospray Lifetime

IEPC-2022-230

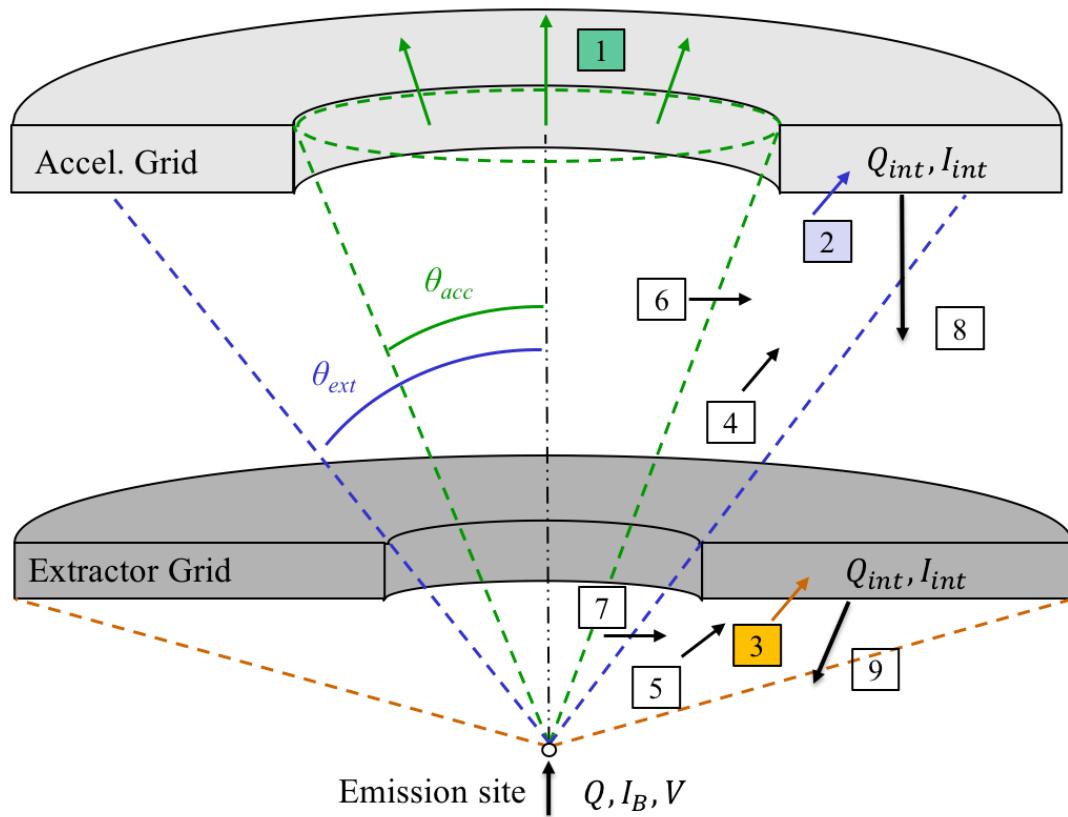
**Shehan Parmar, Dr. Adam L. Collins, and  
Prof. Richard E. Wirz**

*UCLA Plasma and Space Propulsion Laboratory  
University of California, Los Angeles*

International Electric Propulsion Conference  
Boston, MA  
20 June 2022



# Background

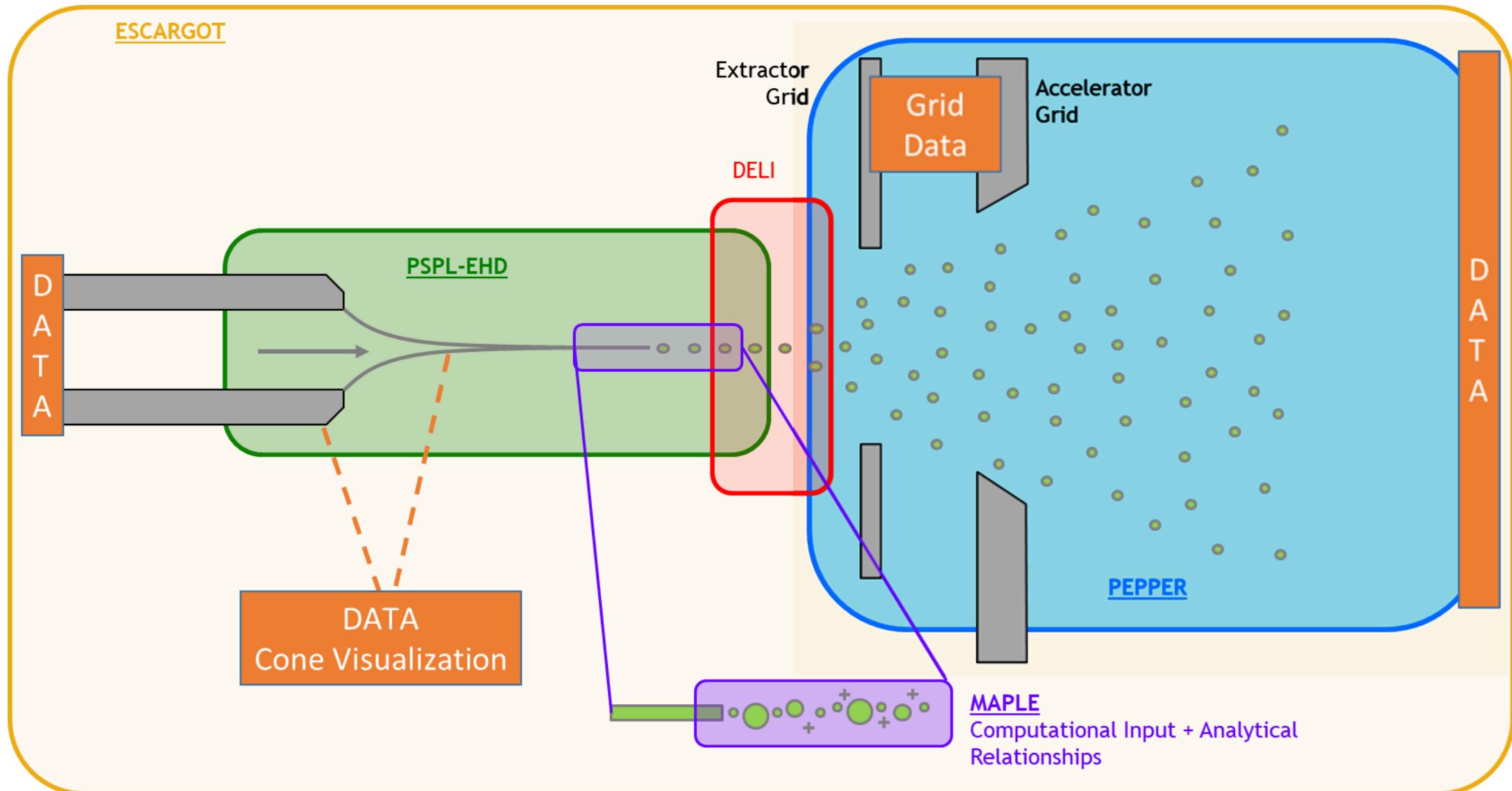


- 1 →  $T$ , Thrust from electrospray emission through accelerator grid
- 2 →  $\dot{m}_{acc}$ , Propellant mass flux toward accelerator grid
- 3 →  $\dot{m}_{ext}$ , Propellant mass flux toward extractor grid

- Overspray is a primary life-limiting failure mechanism for electrospray thrusters
- Minimizing mass flux towards the extractor and accelerator grids can increase lifetime and thrust
- **Complete characterization of an electrospray plume** by modeling and experiment is necessary to better understand thruster lifetime and performance under various operating conditions

[1] A. Thuppul, P. L. Wright, A. L. Collins, J. K. Ziemer, and R. E. Wirz, "Lifetime Considerations for Electrospray Thrusters," Aerospace, vol. 7, no. 8. 2020

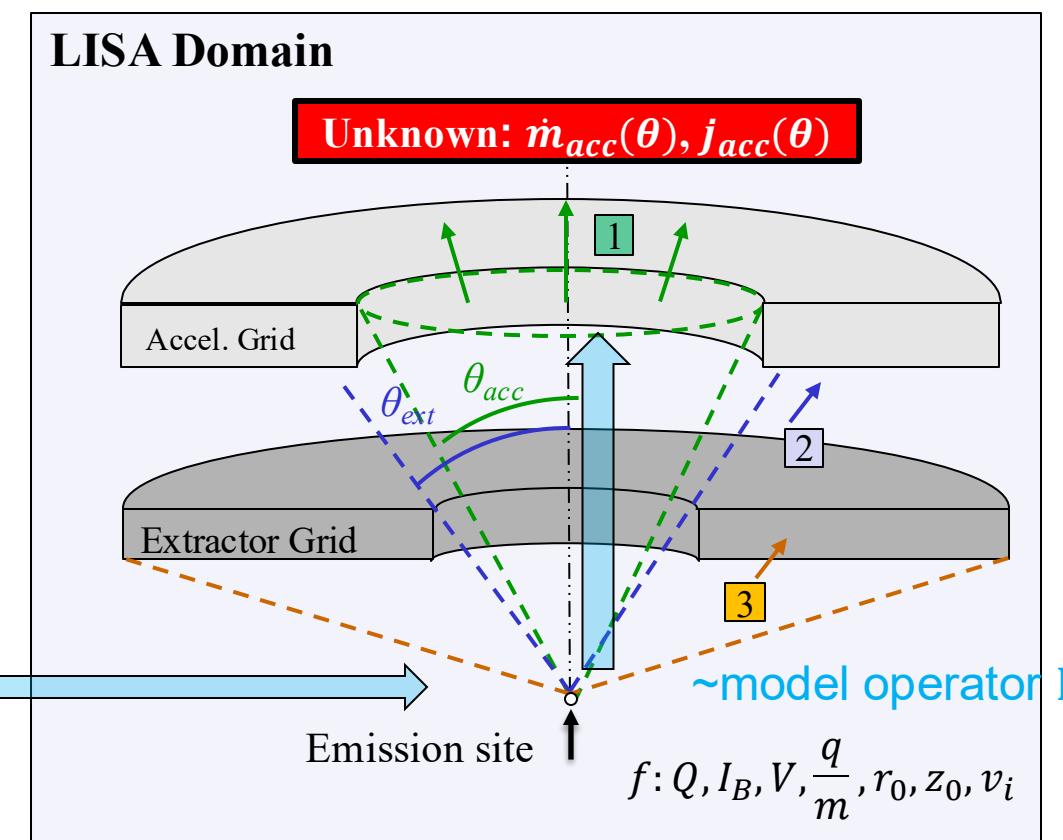
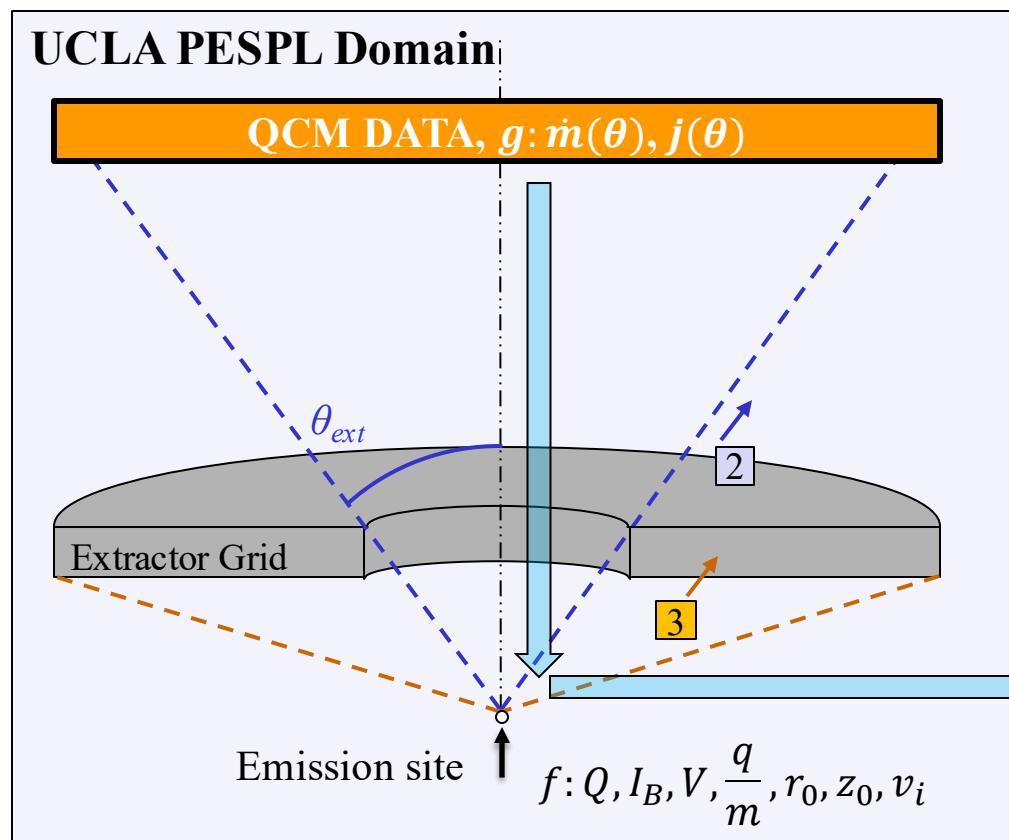
# UCLA PESPL Experimental and Computational Domain



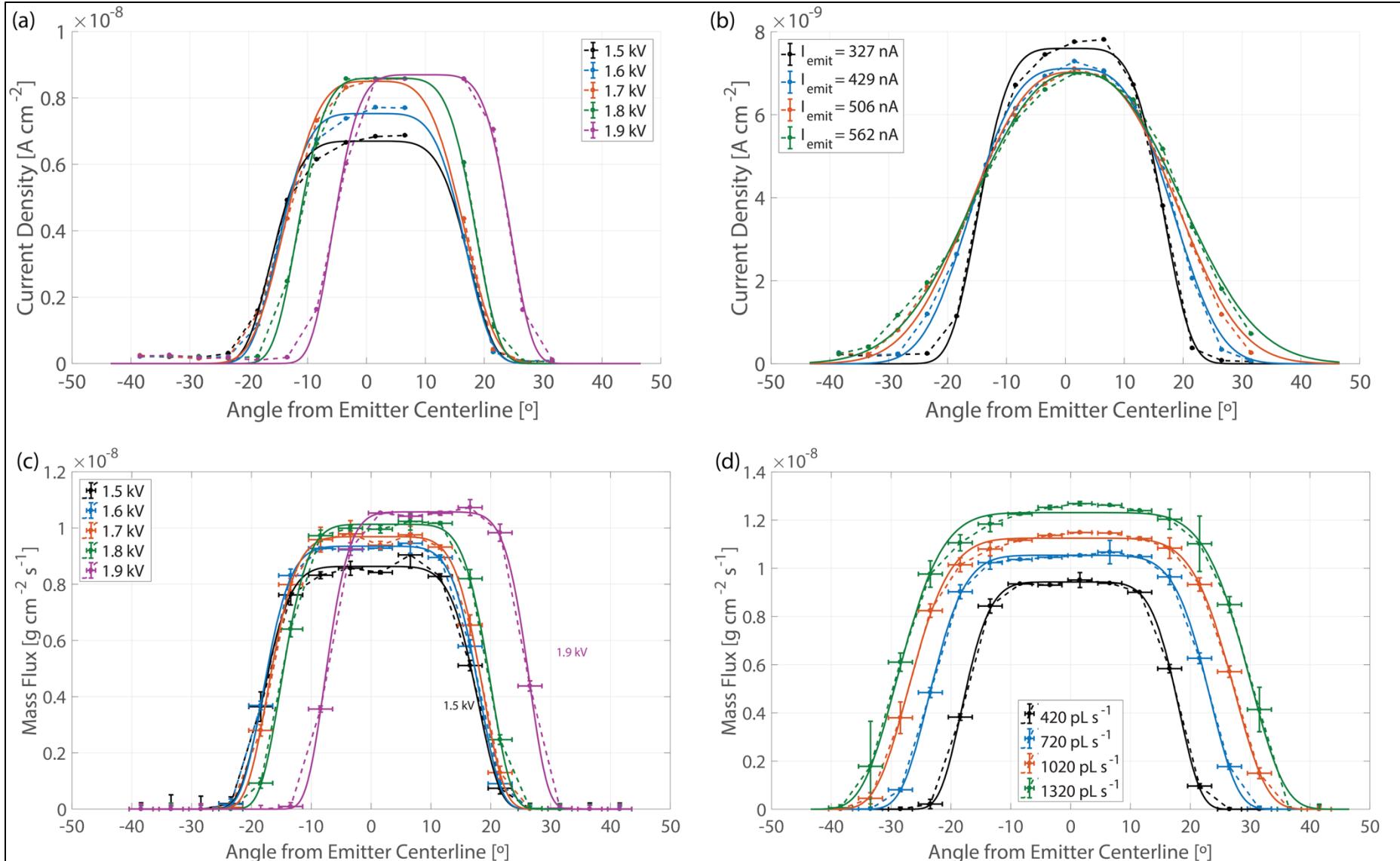
# Inverse Problem Formulation

Objective: Given measured data  $g \in Y$  with uncertainty  $e \in Y$  and forward model operator  $\mathbb{M}: X \rightarrow Y$ , reconstruct model parameters  $f \in X$  such that

$$g = \mathbb{M}(f) + e.$$



# Electrospray Plume Profiles

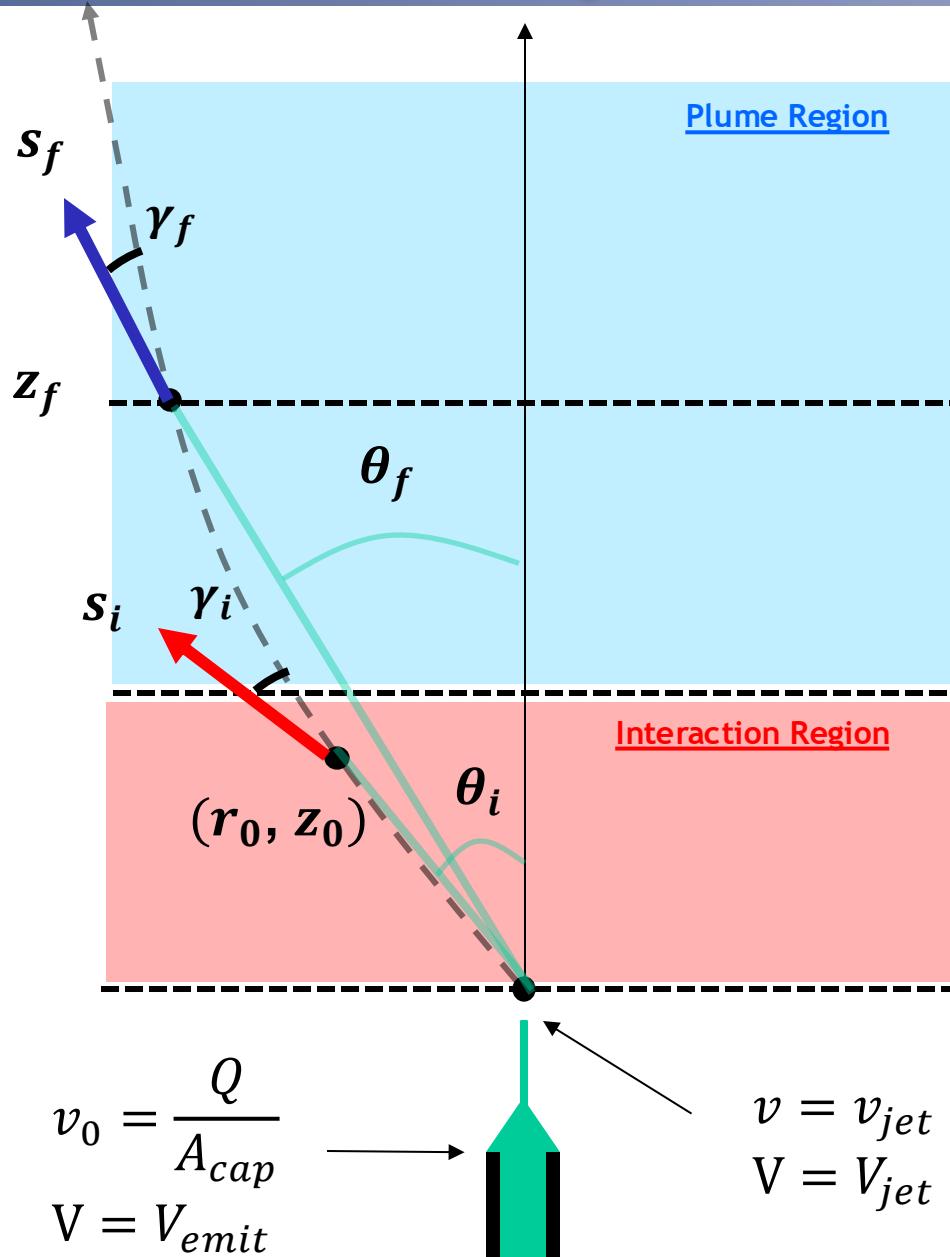


**Super-Gaussian Form:**

$$p(\theta) = A * \exp\left(-\left(\frac{\theta^2}{2\sigma^2}\right)^n\right)$$

$A$  - amplitude  
 $\sigma$  – standard deviation  
 $\theta$  – plume angle  
 $n$  – sharpness ( $n=1$  for Gaussian)

# Model Geometry



Charged Particle EOM:

Initial Conditions Needed:

Trajectories are the same if:

Initial Conditions  
(\*which now *don't* require  $\frac{q}{m}$ ):

$$\frac{d^2\vec{r}}{dt^2} = -\frac{q}{m} \nabla \phi$$

$$\vec{r}(t) = \vec{r}_i + \vec{v}_i t + \frac{1}{2} \frac{q}{m} \vec{E} t^2$$

- $\frac{q}{m}$ : specific charge
- $r_0, z_0$ : initial positions
- $\vec{v}_i$ : initial velocity, where  
 $s_i = |\vec{v}_i|, \gamma_i = \tan(\frac{v_r}{v_z})$

$$\frac{KE}{q} = \frac{1}{2} \frac{m}{q} \vec{v}_i^2 = V_{jet} - V_{emit} = const$$

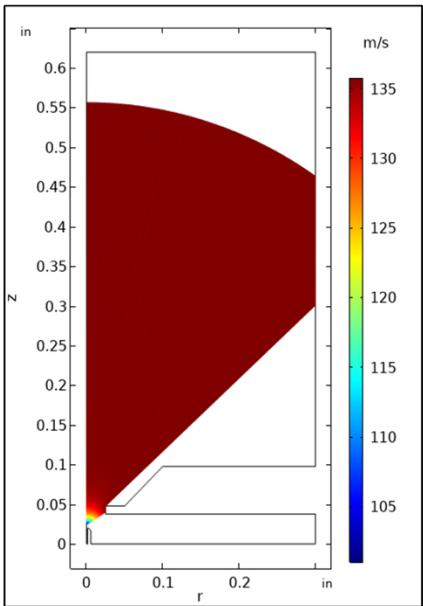
$\theta_i$ : initial position based on  $r_0, z_0$

$\gamma_i$ : initial emission angle

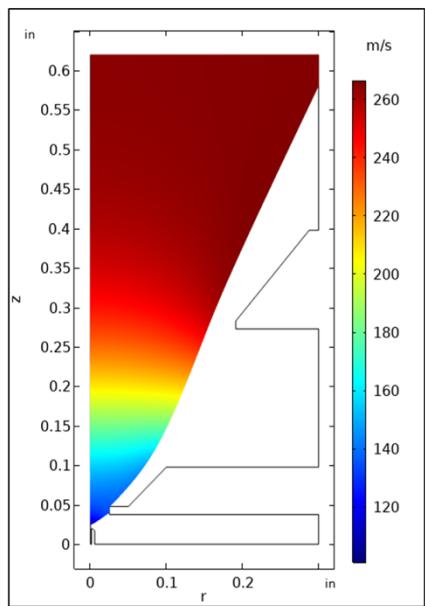
$V_{extr}, V_{acc}$ , etc.: Geometry/Domain Specific inputs

# Surrogate Modeling

Un-accelerated Domain



Accelerated Domain

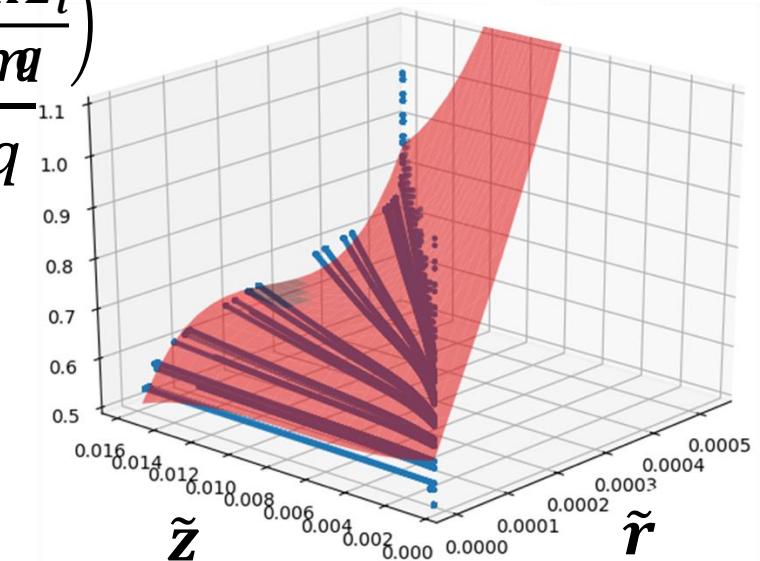


1D Comparison of Accelerated vs.  
Non-Accelerated Grid Geometries

$$\mathbb{M}(r, z) = \sum_{i,j}^n c_{ij} r^i z^j$$

$$\mathbb{M}: \left( \frac{\log\left(\frac{KE_i}{m}\right)}{2 - q^{1.1}} \right)$$

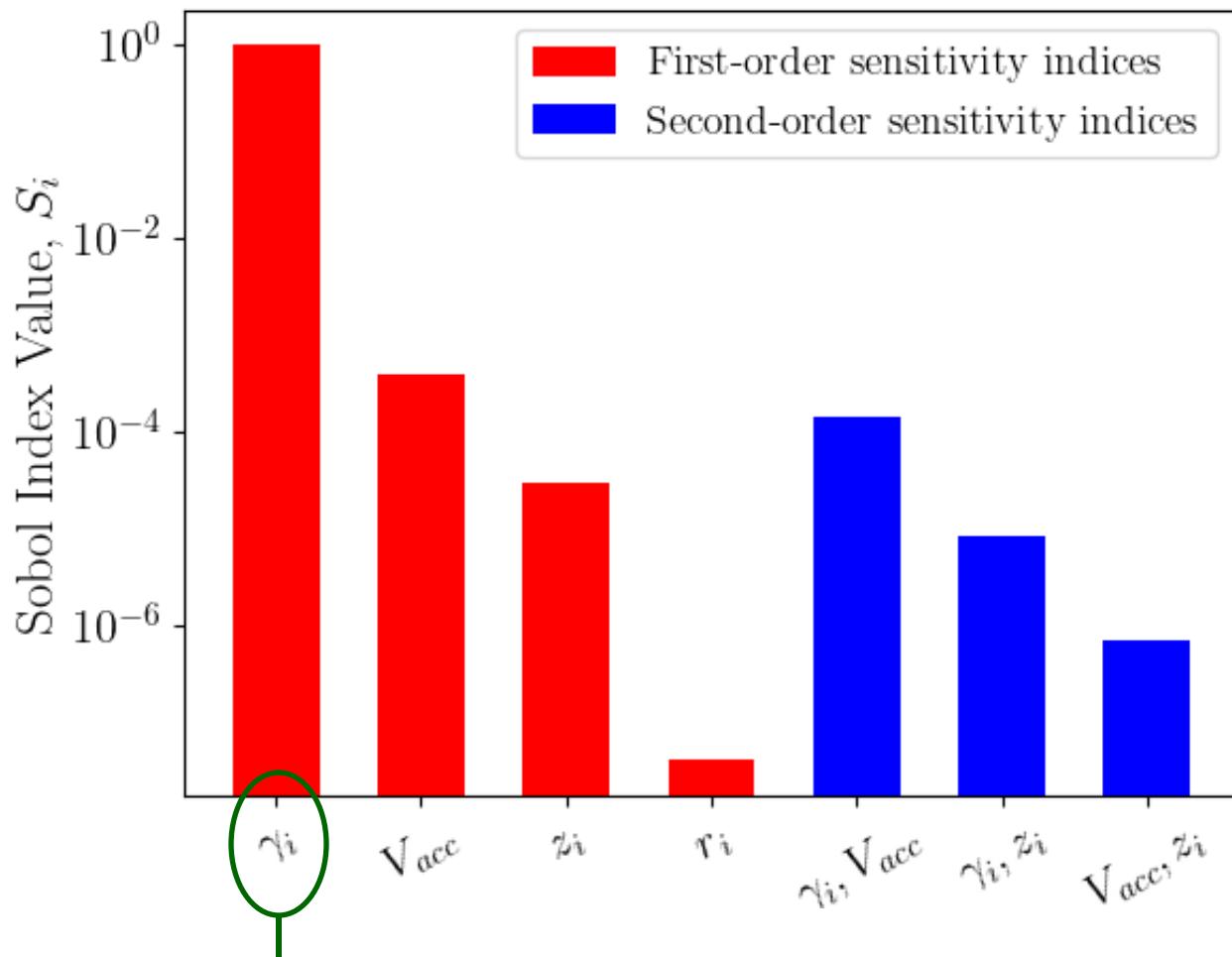
$n$	$R^2$
1	0.994
2	0.998
3	1.000



$$\mathbb{M}(X) = \sum_{\alpha \in N^d} y_\alpha \Psi_\alpha(X)$$
$$\langle \Psi_\alpha, \Psi_\beta \rangle = 0$$

# Previous Results – Sensitivity Analysis

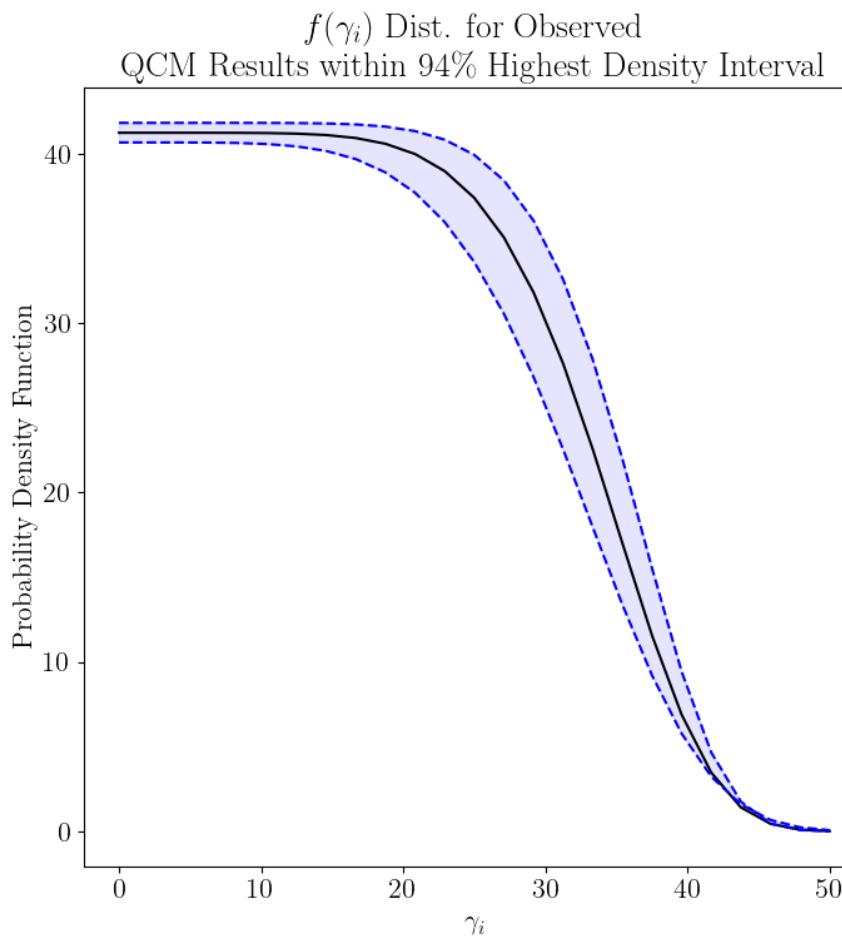
**Goal:** By how much (relatively) does each input parameter,  $\theta_i$ ,  $\gamma_i$ , and  $V_{acc}$ , influence the output parameter,  $\theta_f$ , in  $M_{PCE}: \theta_i, \gamma_i, V_{acc} \rightarrow \theta_f$ ?



Quantitative results showing a sensitivity analysis of model input parameters using variance-based Sobol indices

- ❖ Grid impingement is most sensitive to the distribution of **initial emission angles** of droplets entering the plume region domain

# Bayesian Inference – Results



Bayes' Theorem  
X, hypothesis X  
Y, data  
I, implicit model assumptions

$$prob(X|Y, I) = \frac{prob(Y|X, I) \cdot prob(X|I)}{prob(Y|I)}$$

## Likelihood Function

$$prob(\dot{m}(\theta)_{UCLA}|\gamma_i, I) = \prod_i^N prob(\dot{m}(\theta)_i|\gamma_i, I)$$

$$f(\theta_f) = M(\theta_i, f(\gamma_i), V_{electrode}) \rightarrow \dot{m}(\theta)$$

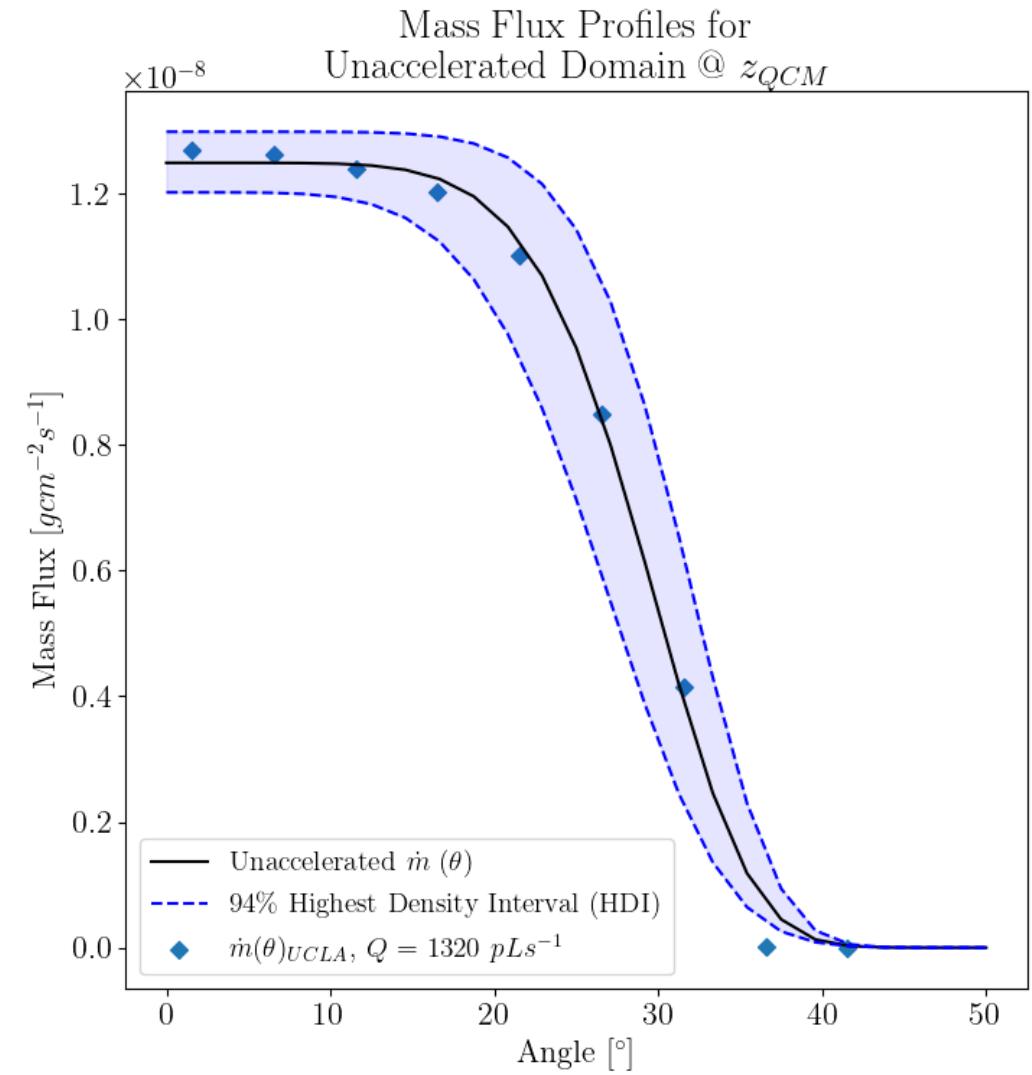
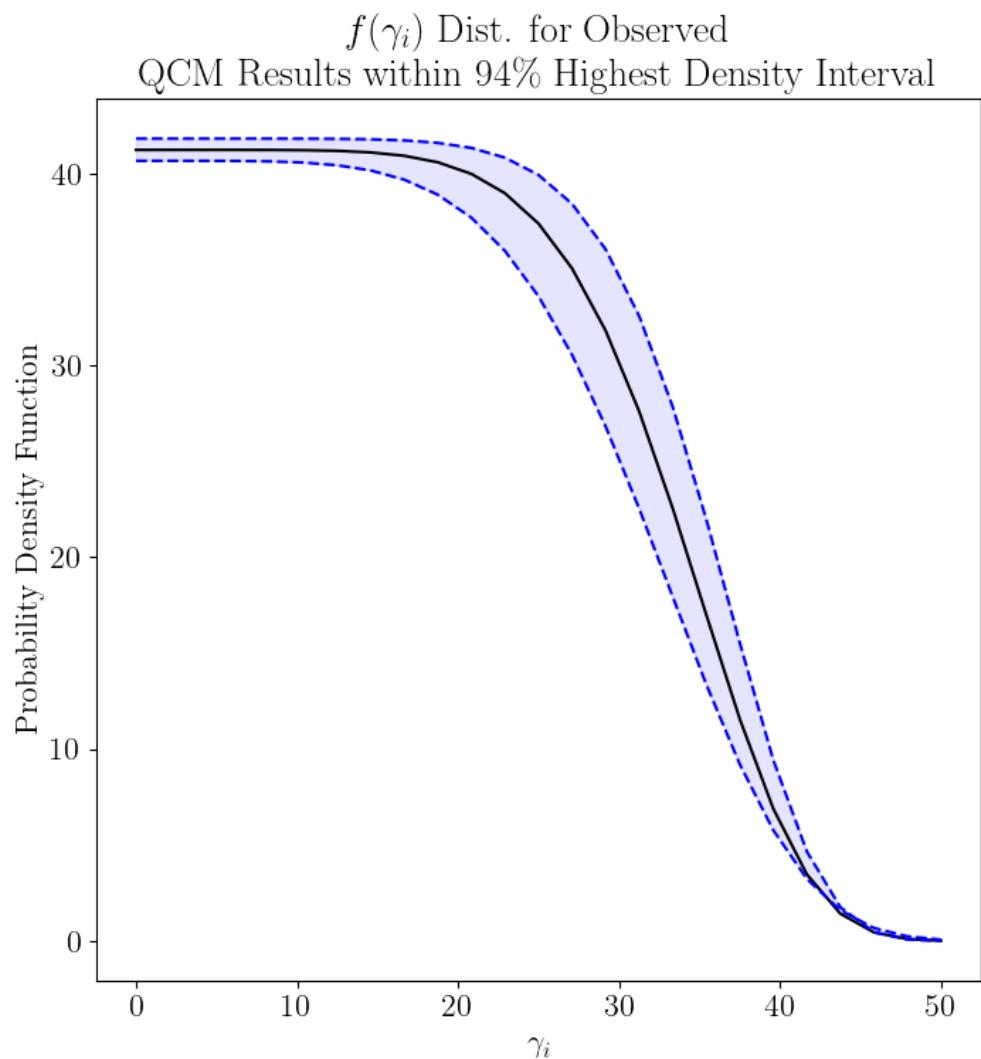
$$f(\gamma_i) = A_1 \exp\left(-\frac{(\gamma_i - \mu_1)^2}{2\sigma_1^2}\right)^{n_1}$$

## Prior Distributions

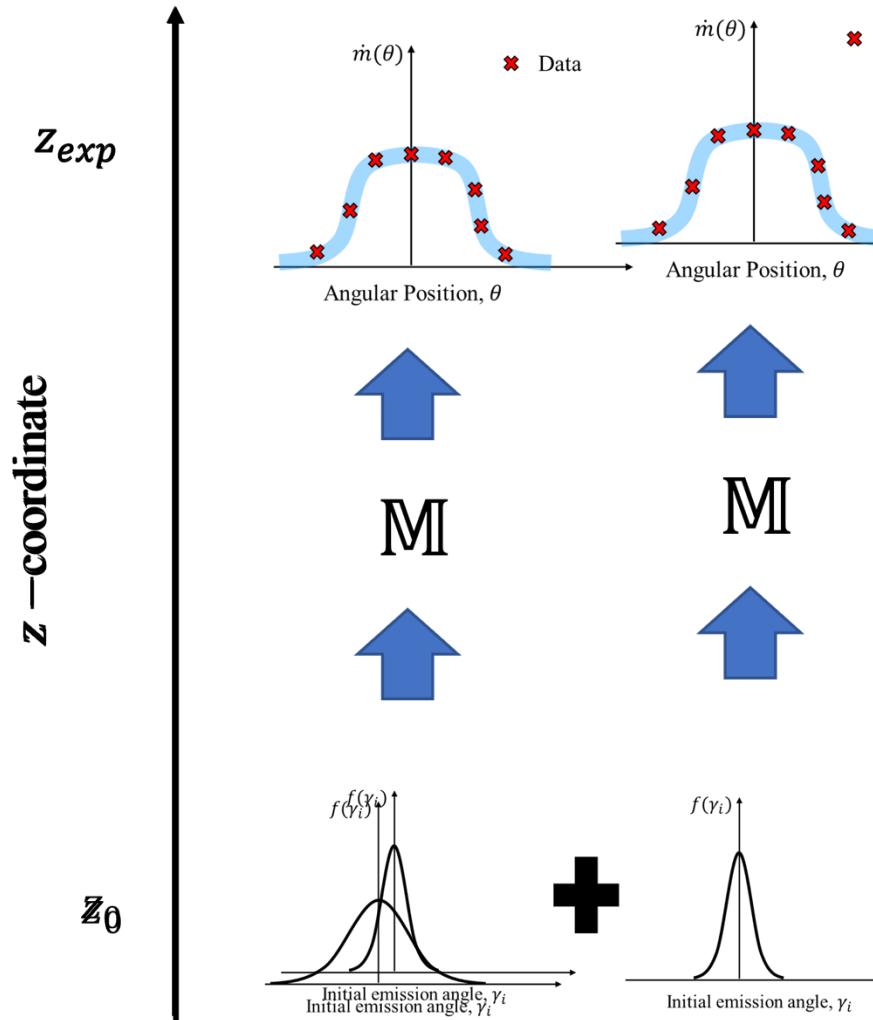
$$\begin{aligned} A_1 &\sim \mathcal{N}(200, 100); \quad \mu_1 \sim \mathcal{N}(0, 10^{-3}); \\ \sigma_1 &\sim \mathcal{N}(100, 50); \quad n_1 \sim \mathcal{N}(1.5, 1) \end{aligned}$$

Results based on provided data sets (Thuppul et al., 2020) suggest most probable functional form of  $\gamma_i$  must also follow Super-Gaussian shape.

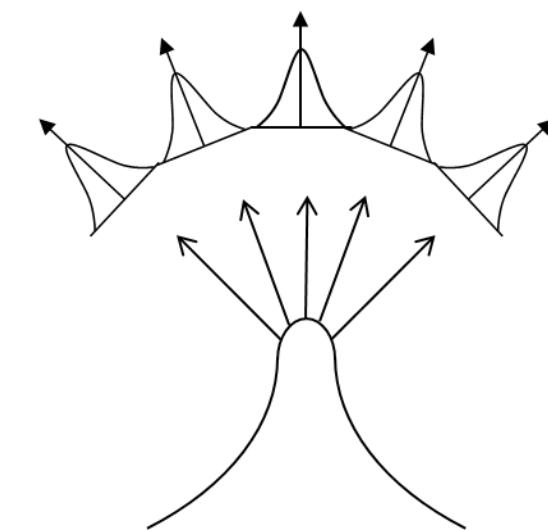
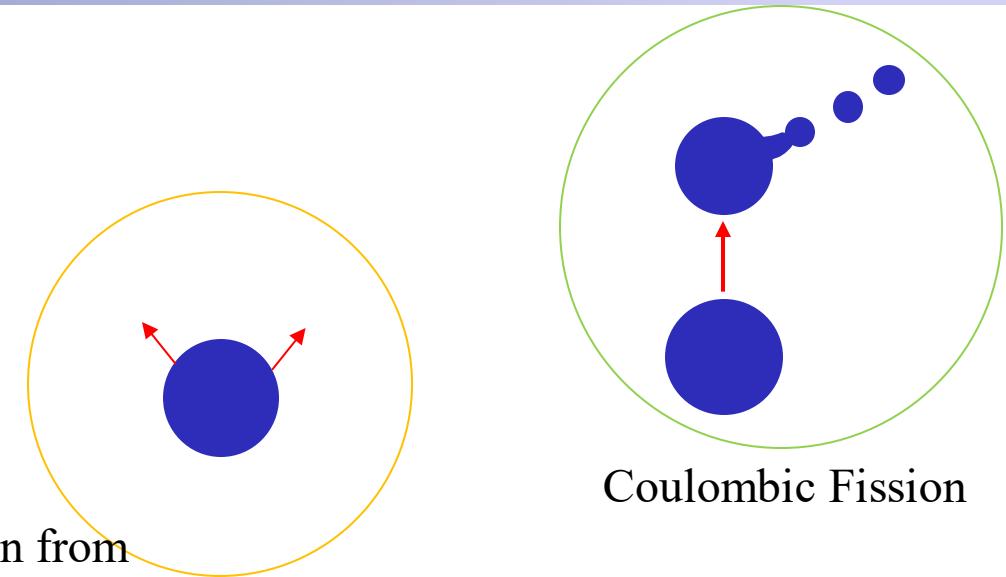
# Bayesian Inference – Results



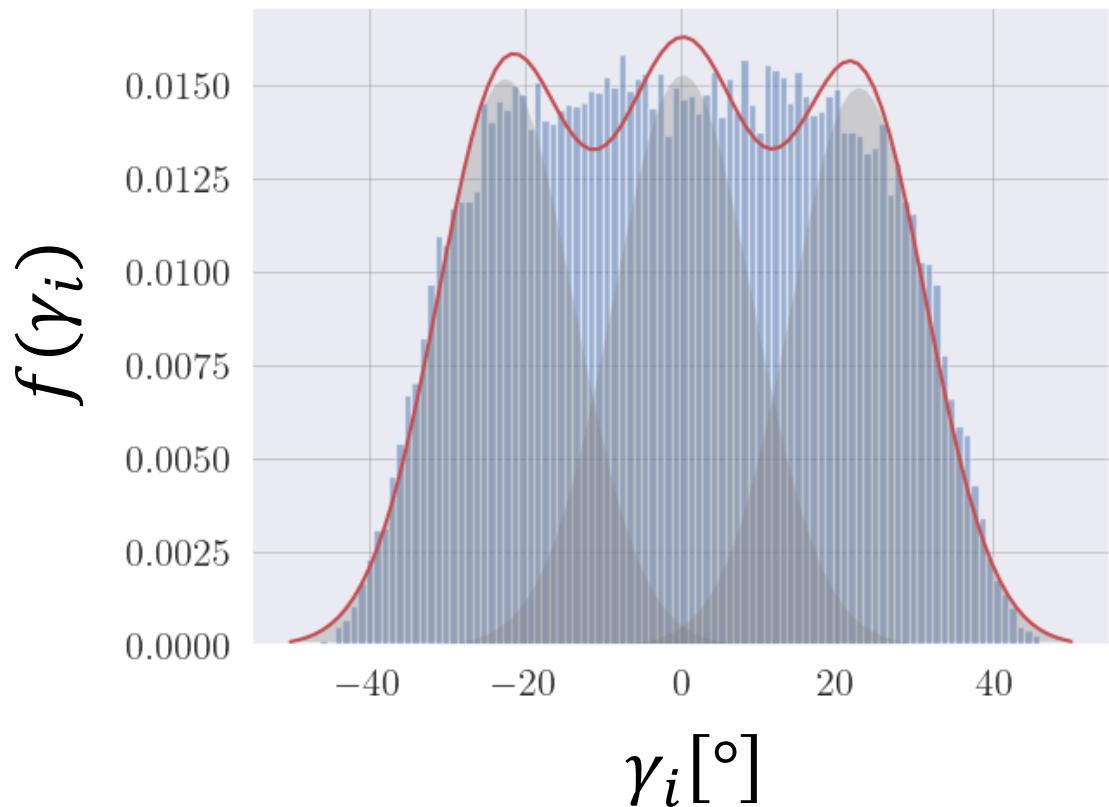
# Deconvolution of Super-Gaussian Distributions



Field Emission from  
Droplet Surface



# Bayesian Inference – Results



$$prob(X|Y, I) = \frac{prob(Y|X, I) \cdot prob(X|I)}{prob(Y|I)}$$

Likelihood Function

$$rob(\dot{m}(\theta)_{UCLA} | \gamma_i, I) = \prod_i^N \sum_{j=1}^k \alpha_j prob(\dot{m}(\theta)_i | \gamma_i, I)$$

$$f(\theta_f) = \mathbb{M}(\theta_i, f(\gamma_i), V_{electrode}) \rightarrow \dot{m}(\theta)$$

$$f(\gamma_i) = A_1 \exp\left(-\frac{(\gamma_i - \mu_1)^2}{2\sigma_1^2}\right)^{n_1}$$

Prior Distributions

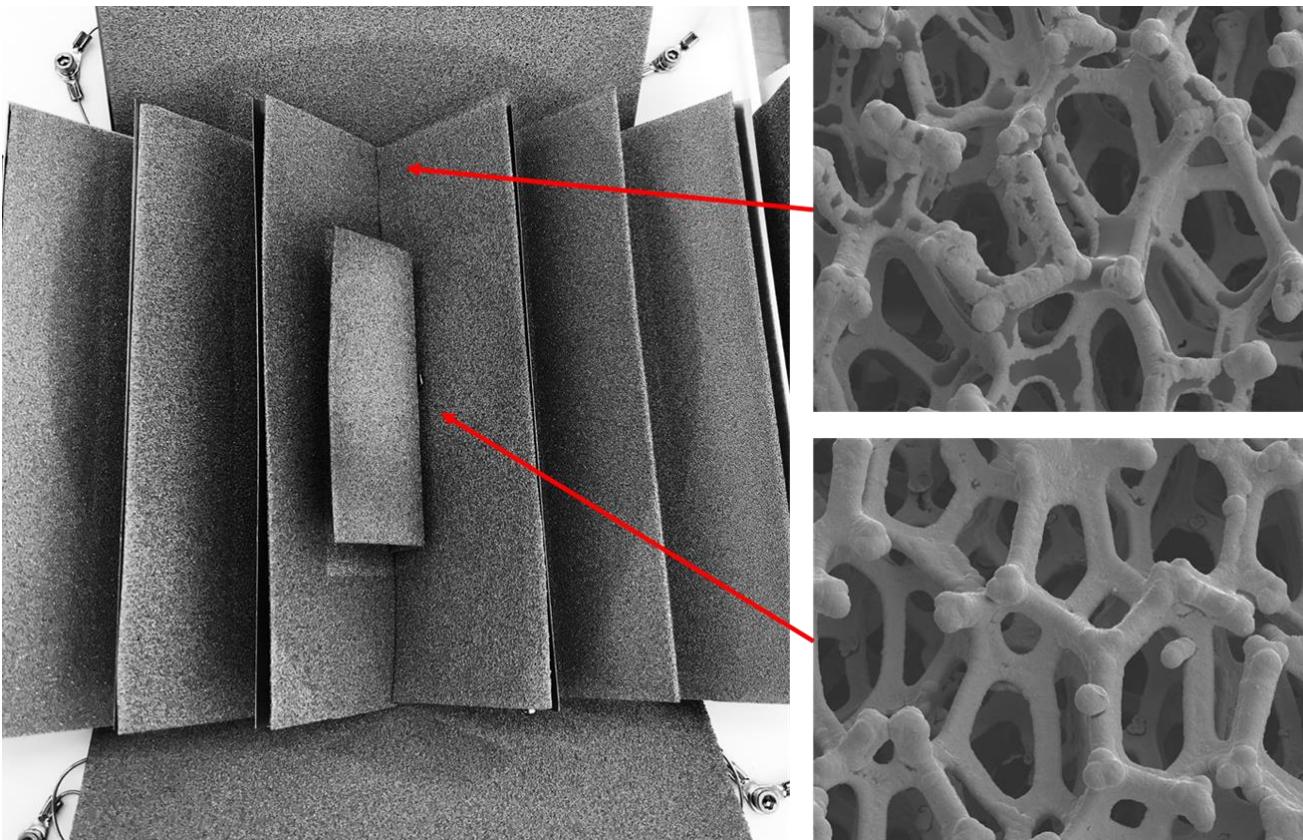
$$A_1 \sim \mathcal{N}(200, 100); \mu_1 \sim \mathcal{N}(0, 10^{-3});$$

$$\sigma_1 \sim \mathcal{N}(100, 50); n_1 \sim \mathcal{N}(1.5, 1)$$

$$k = 3; \alpha \sim \{1.0, 0.0, 0.0, 0.0\}$$

Super-Gaussian-based profiles data generating process results in Gaussian behavior of multiple “sources” of emission.

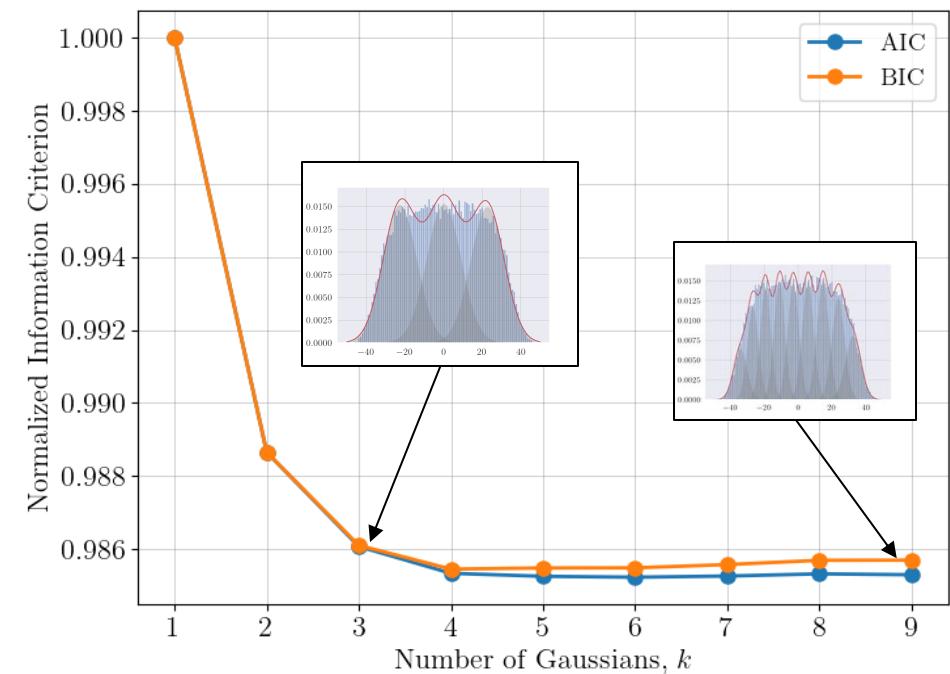
# Gaussian Mixture Modeling



- Threshold analysis shows onset of shock-induced desorption when primary droplets from electrospray plume strike beam target [1]
- Deconvolved results may provide insight into why certain population desorb or stay below the desorption threshold

[1] Uchizono, N. M., Wright, P. L., Collins, A. L., Chamieh, M. C., Chandrasekar, K., and Wirz, R. E., "Electrospray Thruster Facility Effects: Characterization and Mitigation," International Electric Propulsion Conference, ERPS, 2022, p. 219.

- Optimal number of Gaussian components determined by...
    - *Aikaki Information Criterion (AIC)*  
$$AIC = -2 \log(\hat{L}) + 2d$$
    - *Bayesian Information Criterion (BIC)*  
$$BIC = -2 \log(\hat{L}) + \log(N) d$$
- where  $\hat{L}$  is the maximum likelihood of the model,  $d$  is the number of parameters ( $d \propto k$ ), and  $N$  is the number of samples

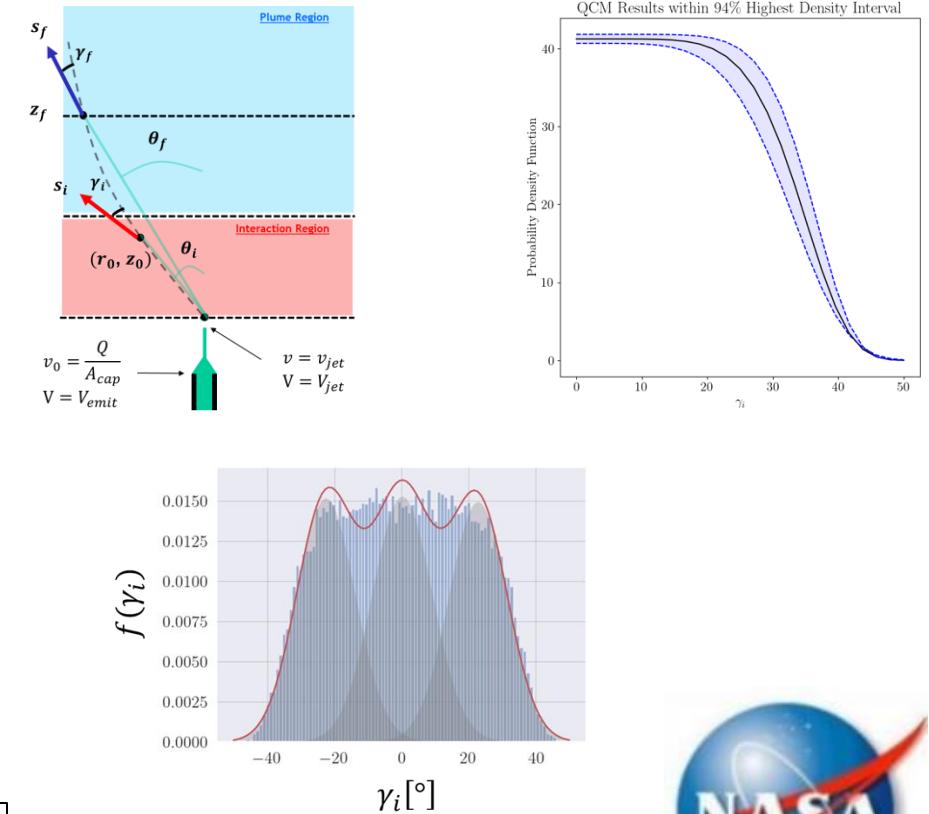


# Conclusions

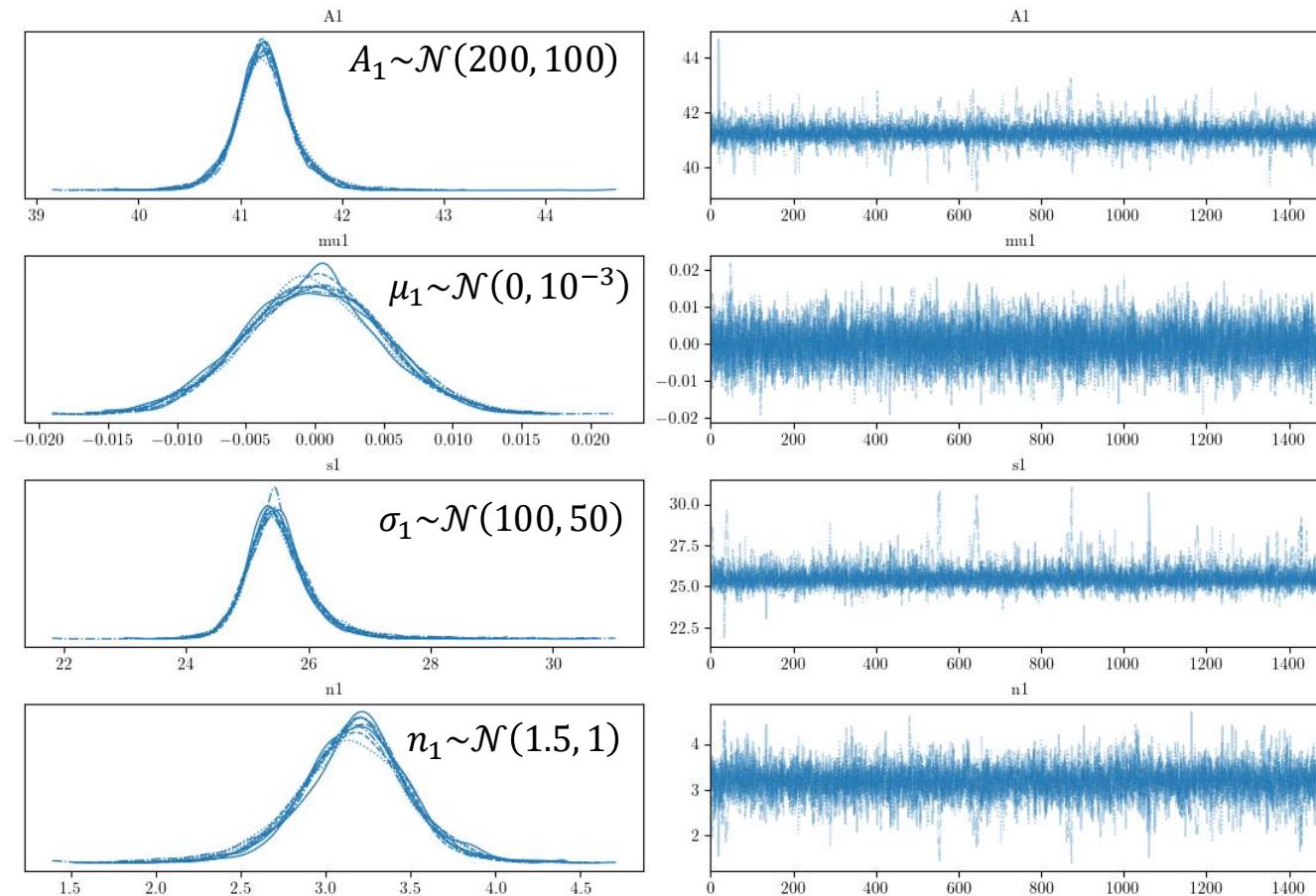
- A data-driven computational framework has been developed to investigate super-Gaussian mass flux profiles observed in QCM experiments
- Results based on provided data sets suggest most probable functional form of  $\gamma_i$  must also follow Super-Gaussian shape.
- Super-Gaussian-based profiles data generating process results in Gaussian behavior of multiple “sources” of emission.
- Future work includes...
  - Mass to current density mapping
  - Identifying species information from GMM results
  - Providing plume profiles in varied electrospray domains

Shehan Parmar, shehan.parmar@gmail.com  
Richard E. Wirz, wirz@ucla.edu

Thank You! Questions?



# BONUS: Parameter Posteriors



Posterior distributions (left) for unknown variables in PEPPER model— $f(\gamma_i)$  and “trace” plot (right) of all, 1500 drawn posterior distribution samples.

Bayes’ Theorem  
X, hypothesis X  
Y, data

I, implicit model assumptions

$$prob(X|Y, I) = \frac{prob(Y|X, I) \cdot prob(X|I)}{prob(Y|I)}$$

## Prior Distributions

$A_1 \sim \mathcal{N}(200, 100); \mu_1 \sim \mathcal{N}(0, 10^{-3});$   
 $\sigma_1 \sim \mathcal{N}(100, 50); n_1 \sim \mathcal{N}(1.5, 1)$

## Likelihood Function

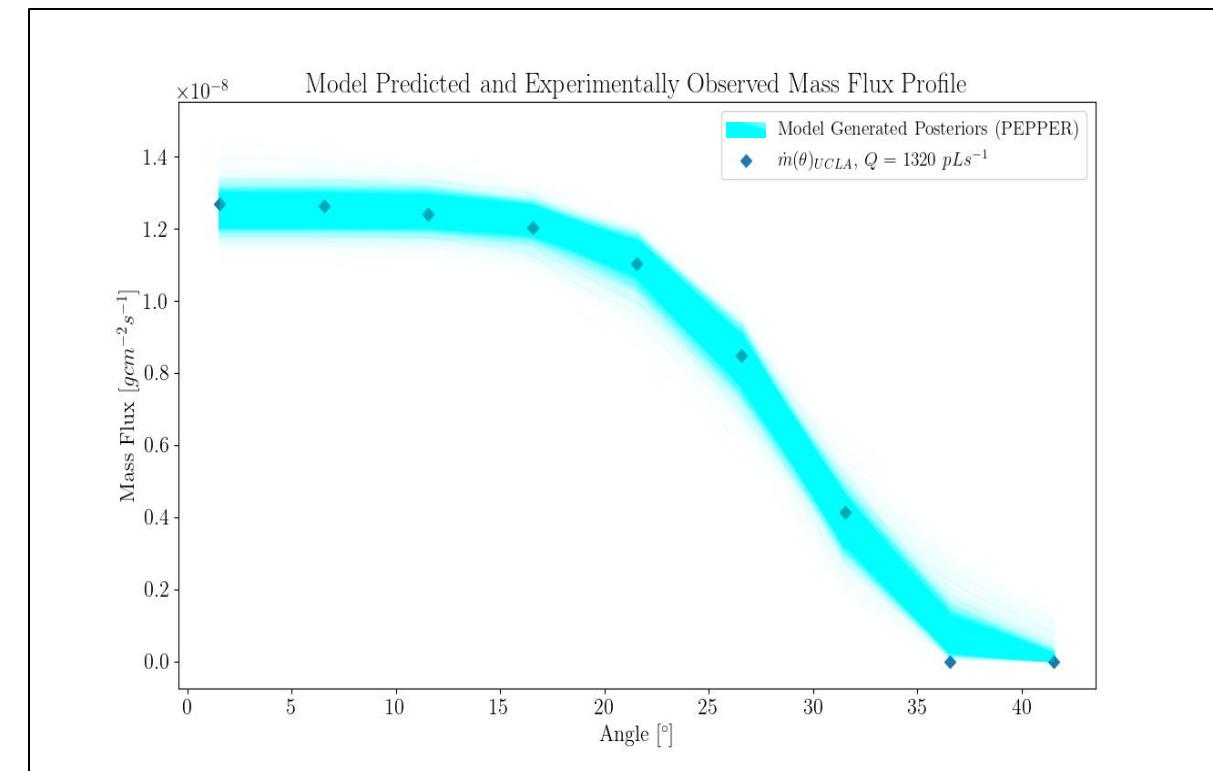
$$prob(\dot{m}(\theta)_{UCLA} | \gamma_i, I) = \prod_i^N prob(\dot{m}(\theta)_i | \gamma_i, I)$$

$$f(\theta_f) = \mathbb{M}(\theta_i, f(\gamma_i), V_{electrode}) \rightarrow \dot{m}(\theta)$$

$$f(\gamma_i) = A_1 \exp\left(-\frac{(\gamma_i - \mu_1)^2}{2\sigma_1^2}\right)^{n_1}$$

# BONUS: Bayesian Inference Results

Unknown Parameter	Mean	Std. Deviation
$A_1$	<b>41.246</b>	<b>0.306</b>
$\mu_1$	<b>0.000</b>	<b>0.005</b>
$\sigma_1$	<b>25.533</b>	<b>0.585</b>
$n_1$	<b>3.158</b>	<b>0.330</b>



Complete mass flux profile for unaccelerated domain based on sampled posterior distributions.

# BONUS: What is a Sobol Index?

**Goal:** By how much (relatively) does each input parameter,  $\theta_i$ ,  $\gamma_i$ , and  $V_{\text{acc}}$ , influence the output parameter,  $\theta_f$ , in  $\mathbb{M}_{\text{PCE}}: \theta_i, \gamma_i, V_{\text{acc}} \rightarrow \theta_f$ ?

The *variance* of any function (like  $Y_{\text{PCE}} = \mathbb{M}(\mathbf{X})$  from before) is defined by:

$$V[f(X)] = \mathbb{E}[f(X) - \mathbb{E}(f(X))]^2$$

Suppose we have a function,  $f(\mathbf{X})$ , where  $\mathbf{X} = X_1, X_2, \dots, X_i$  defines the set of independent random variables for some  $i \in [0, p]$ . We can find the importance of each  $X_i$  on  $V[f(\mathbf{X})]$  by decomposing  $f(\mathbf{X})$  into  $2^p$  orthogonal functional terms of increasing dimension [1]:

$$f(\mathbf{X}) = f_0 + \sum_{i=1}^p f_i(X_i) + \dots + f_{1,2,\dots,n}(X_1, \dots, X_p)$$

\*ANOVA decomposition specifically for PCEs [2]

Then, the total variance of  $f(\mathbf{X})$  follows, where  $V$  is the *total variance* and  $V_i$  is the *partial variance* contribution of  $X_i$ , and  $V_u$  ( $u \in [1, \dots, p]$ ) is the *interactive variance* contribution of  $X_u$  (one can think of it as a conditional variance, where  $V_u = V(f(X_i)|X_i)$ ):

$$V = \sum_{i=1}^p V_i + \sum_{1 \leq i \leq j \leq p} V_{ij} + \dots + V_{1,2,\dots,p}$$

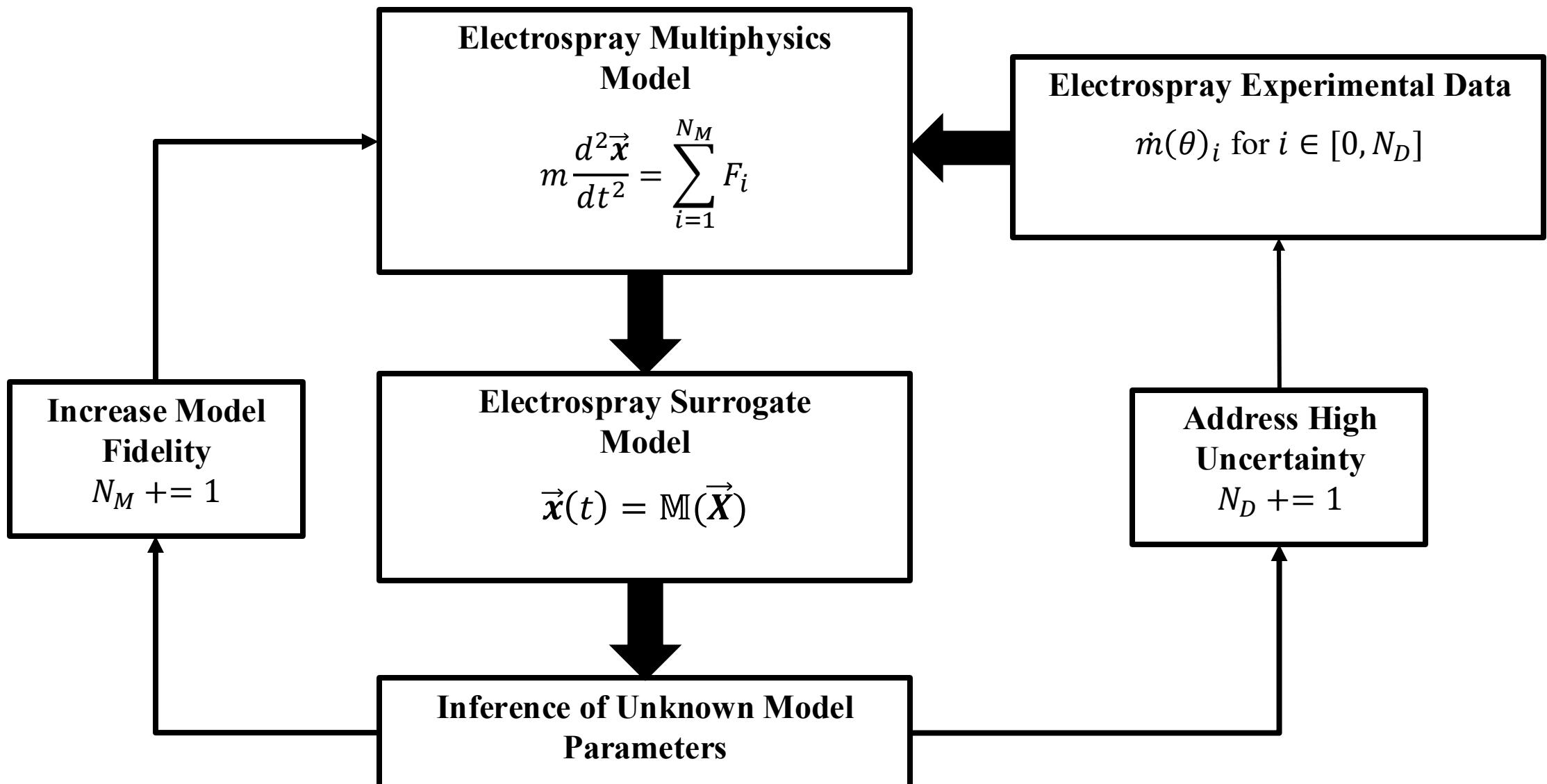
**The result is a first-order sensitivity index. We can now conduct a quantitative sensitivity analysis of our physical parameters using variance-based Sobol indices.**

$$S_u = \frac{V_u}{V}, \text{ where } S_u \leq 1$$

[1] Sobol IM (1993) Sensitivity estimates for nonlinear mathematical models. *Math model comput exp* 1(1):112–118

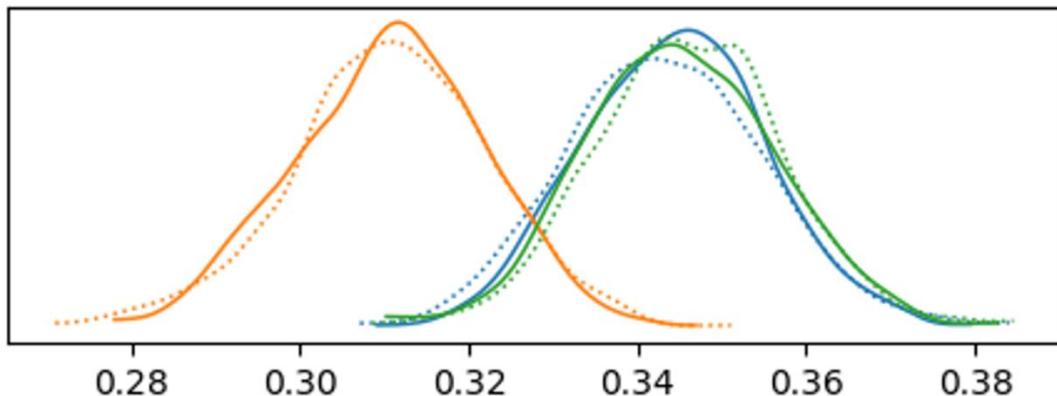
[2] Sudret B (2008) Global sensitivity analysis using polynomial chaos expansions. *Reliab Eng Syst Saf* 93(7):964–979

# BONUS: Iterative Plume Modeling Paradigm

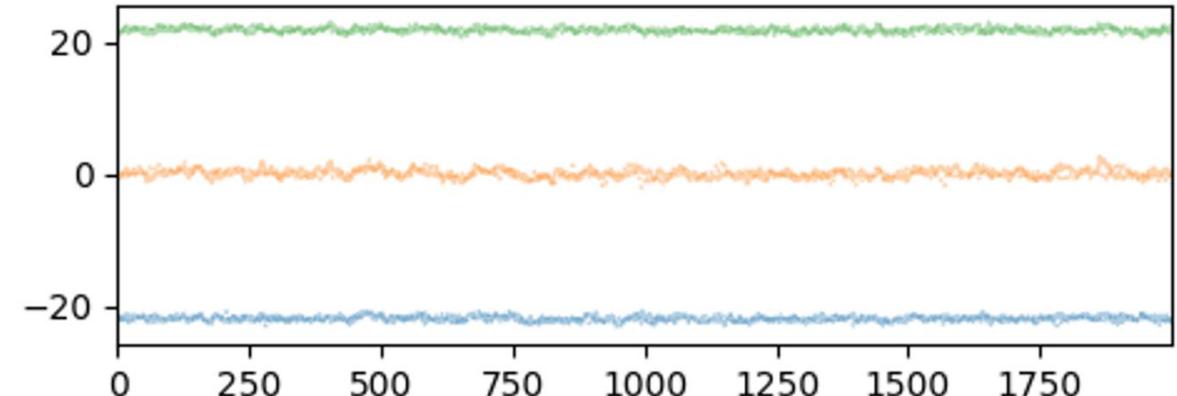
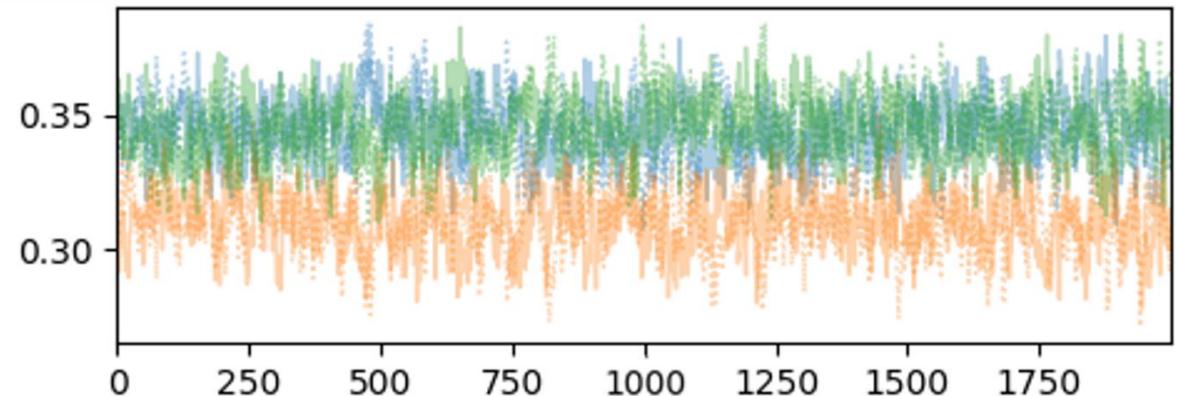
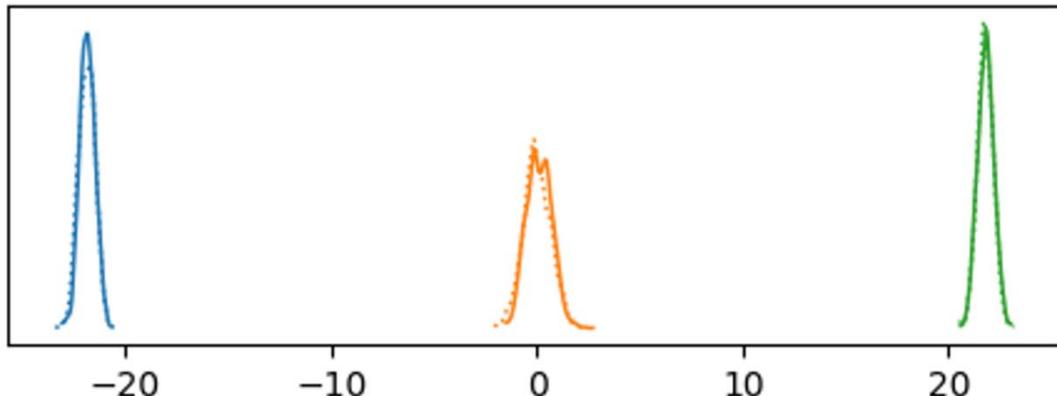


# BONUS: Mixture Modeling Trace Plots

$f(\alpha_i)$



$f(\gamma_{\mu_i})$



# BONUS: Noise Model Corner Plot

