

Uncertainty quantification of Molecular Dynamics Simulations for Crosslinked Polymers

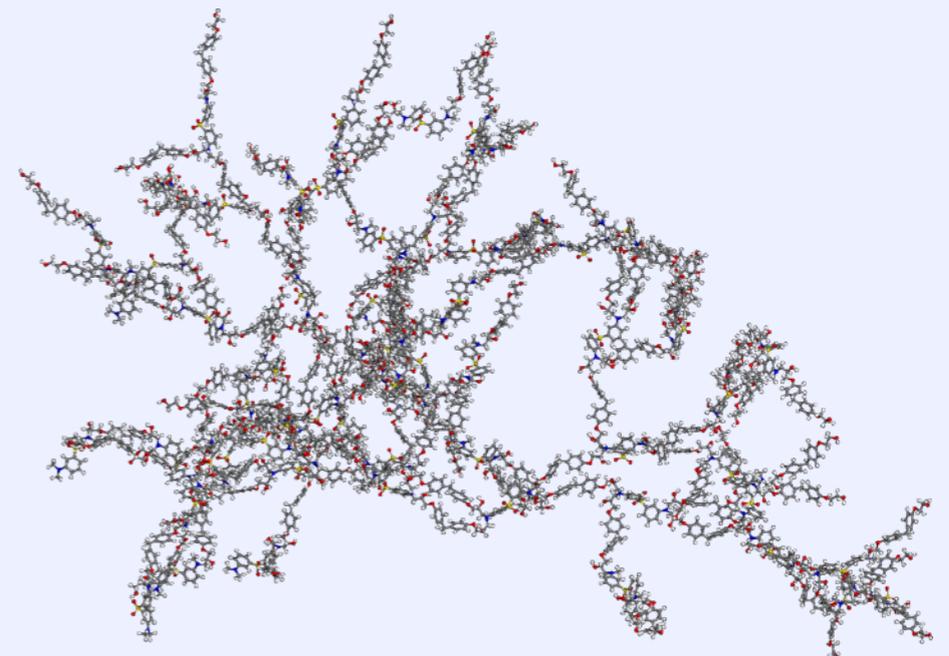
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NIST



Backstory:

Macro-economics of materials science

Advent of composites dramatically altered design space in aerospace engineering.

Example: Boeing 787



1st aircraft with majority carbon-composite structural components

Lighter aircraft → fuel savings (20%)

Scale of economics

(~ 1000 orders) x (~ \$250 Million / order) = \$250 Billion

Impact of advanced materials

Cumulative orders of 787 (blue) and deliveries (green)



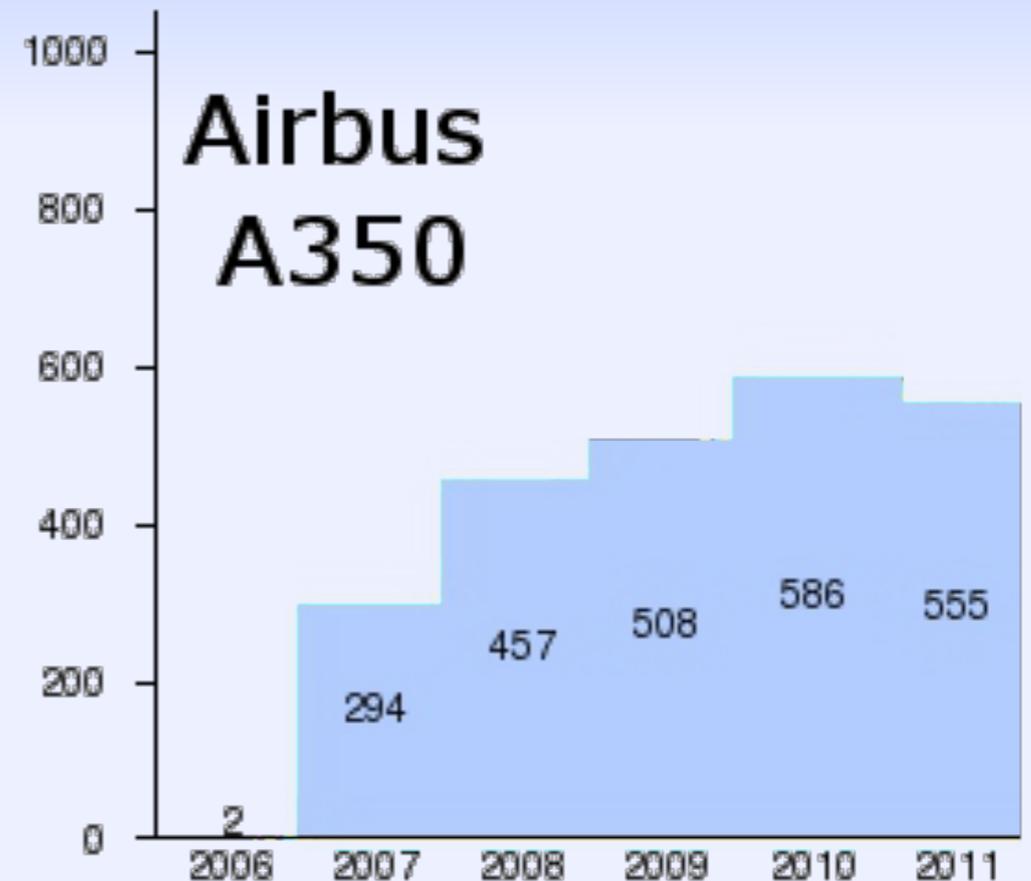
2006 Seattle Times headline

Airplane kingpin tells Airbus: Overhaul A350

“That’s probably an \$8 billion to \$10 billion decision.”

Impact of advanced materials

Cumulative orders of 787 and A350



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Accelerating market insertion: materials by design

Assume

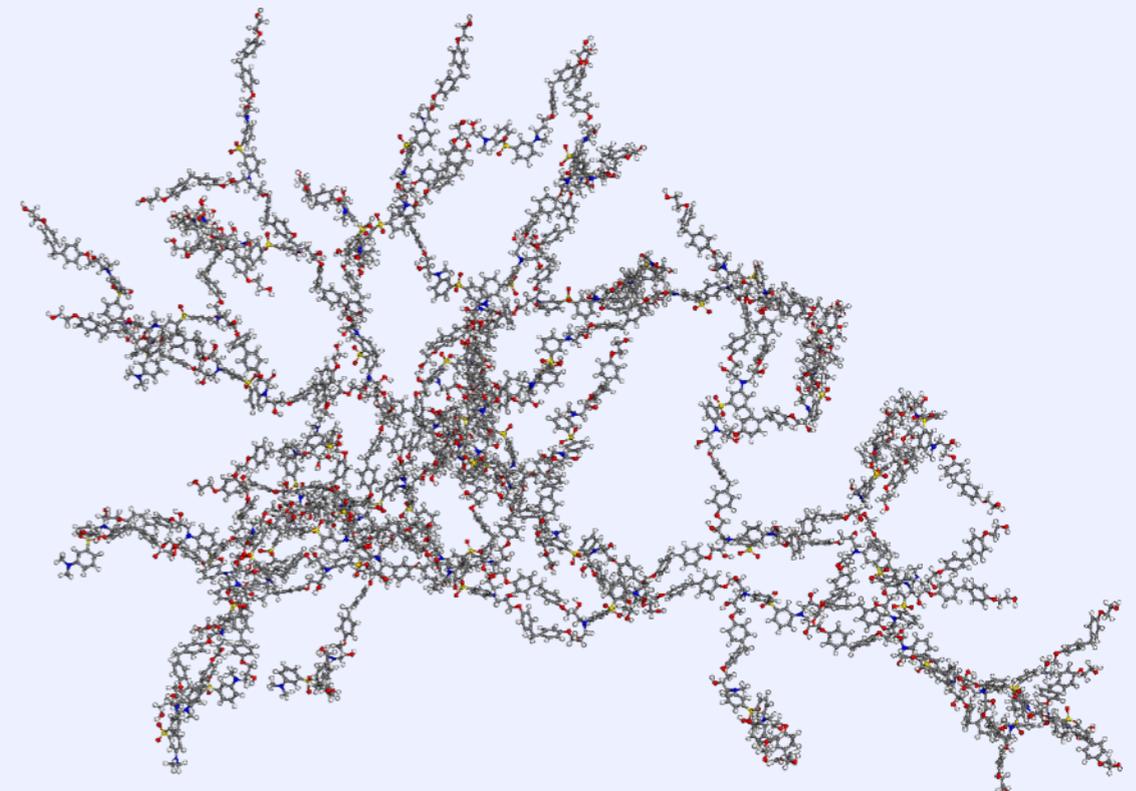
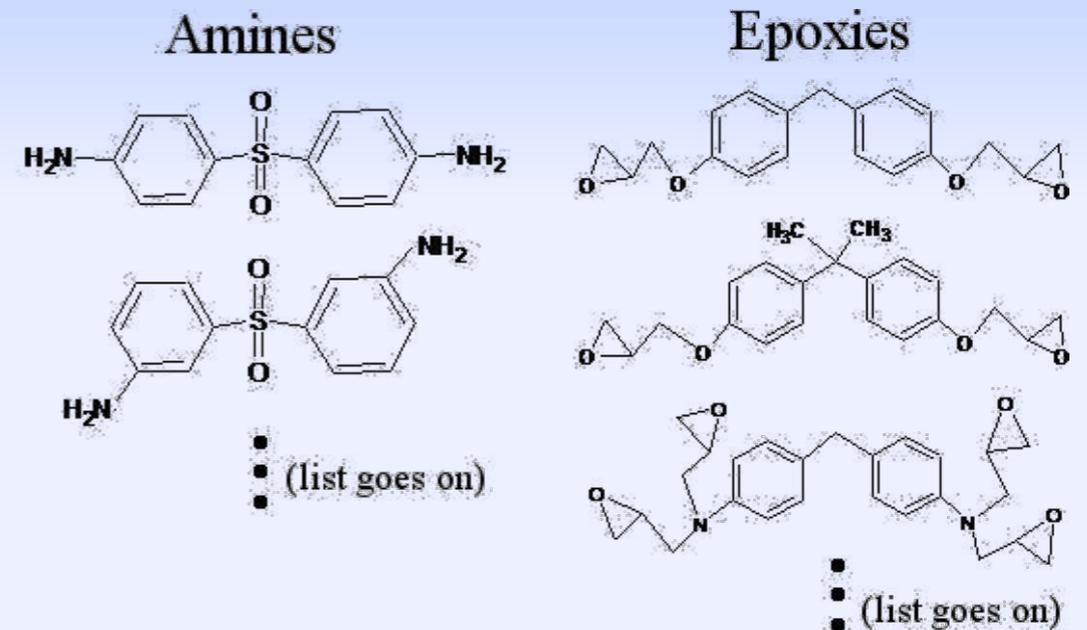
“Design space” of ingredients

Finite simulation resources

(Very) Few experiments

Goal

Find chemistry with,
e.g. highest T_g



Roles of UQ in modeling workflows

Verification

Check math,
remove bugs

Does data look
like I expect?

Data of sufficient quality
to make predictions?

Compute uncertainties
arising **from within model**.

**Otherwise assume model
is valid at this stage**

Validation

Calibrate model

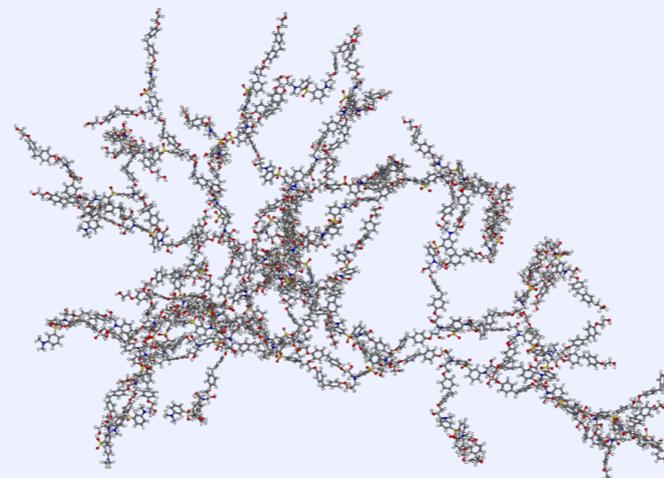
Estimate uncertainties
arising from

calibration parameters

missing physics

model form error

**Test “real-world”
predictive power**



Roles of UQ in modeling workflows

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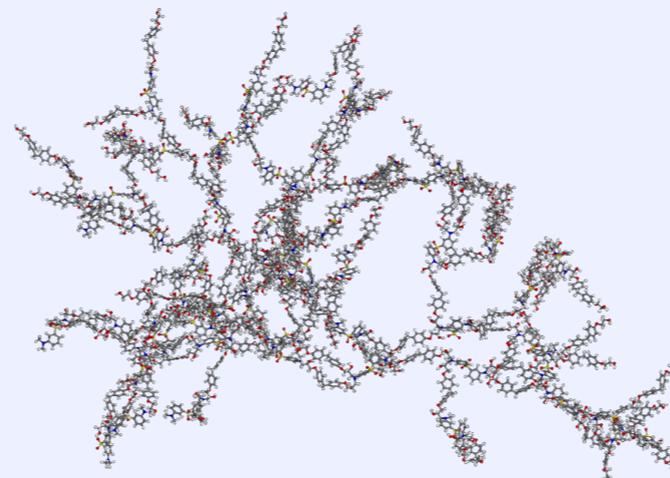
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Today's focus on verification

Helps modelers to be
precise about what they mean

Improves reproducibility

Streamlines validation



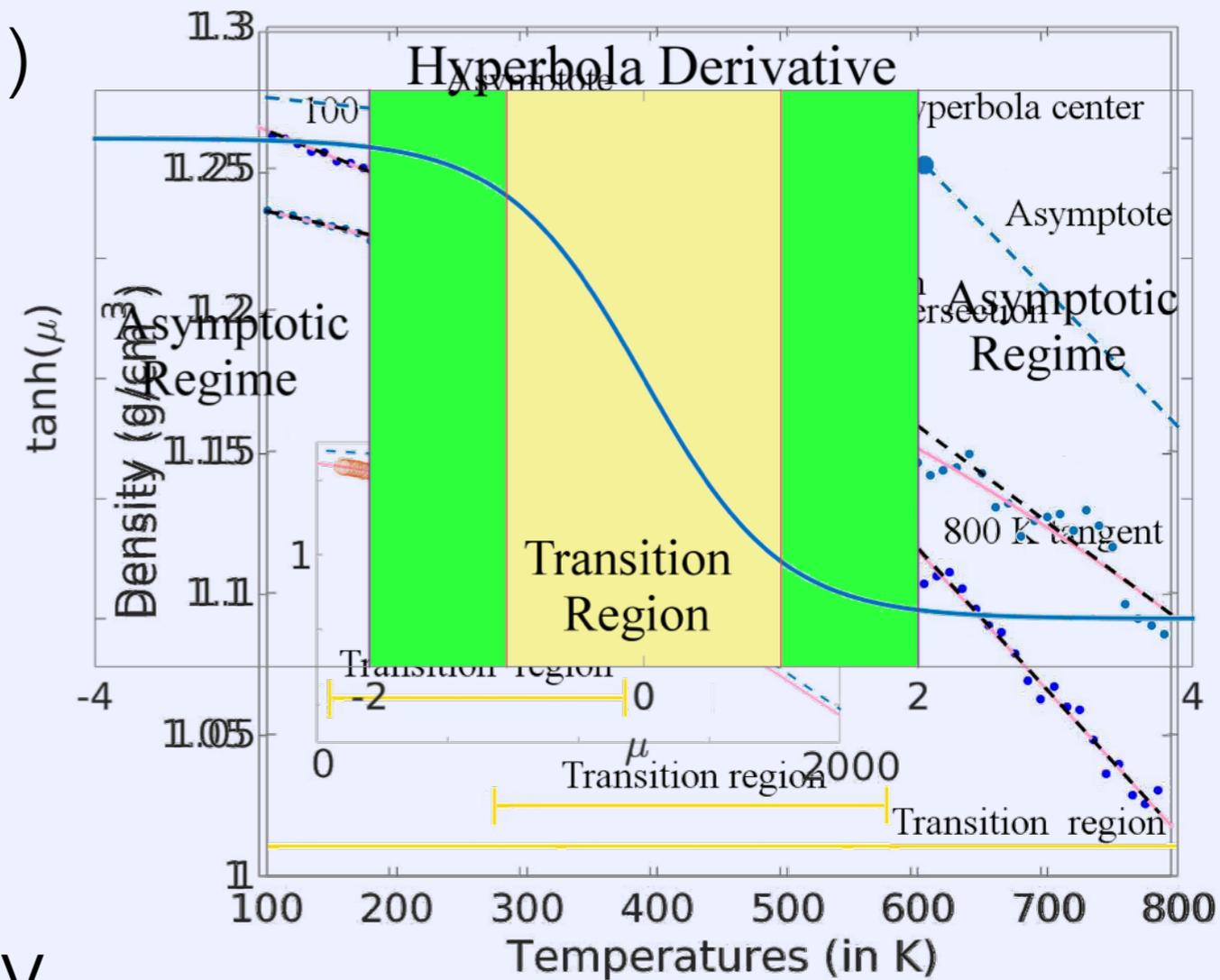
Assessing ability to extract T_g

Consistency with underlying definitions

T_g defined as hyperbola center
(same as asymptote intersection)

Automatically finds
“asymptotic regimes”

Data inconsistent with T_g if
asymptotic regimes far away



Assessing ability to extract T_g

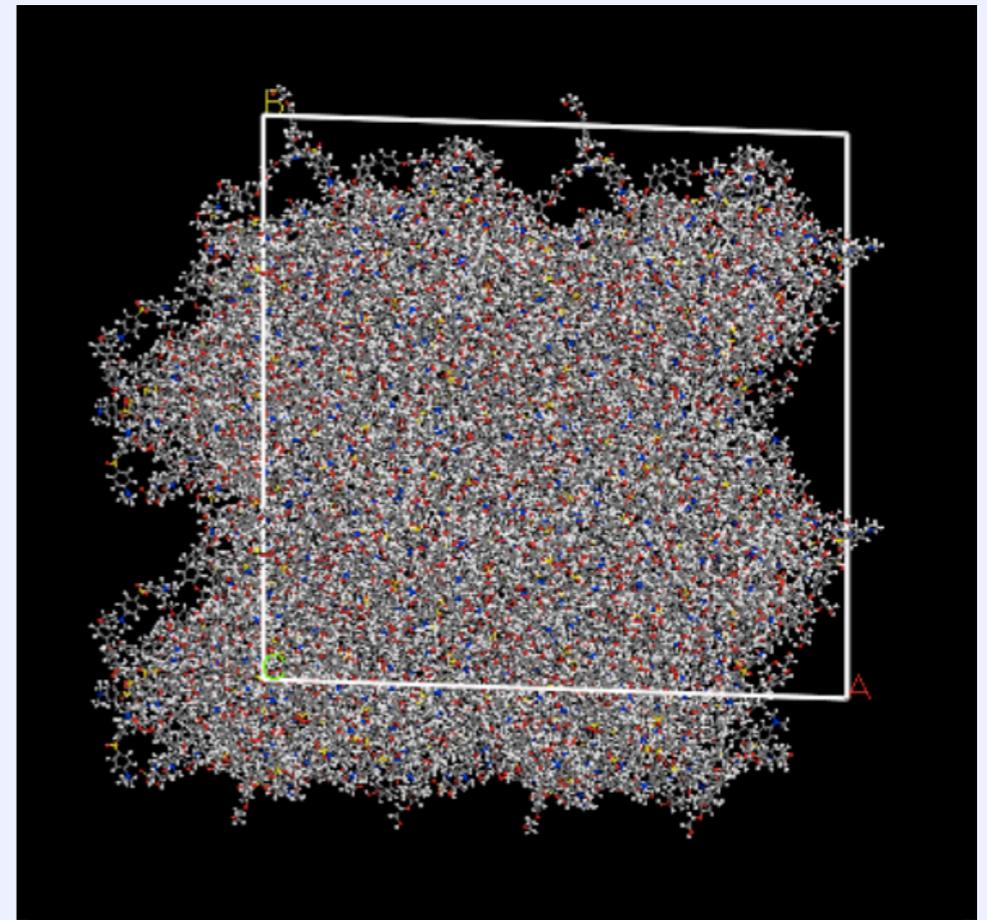
Convergence to bulk limit

An industry oxymoron:

high-throughput, bulk-scale, atomistic-detail MD

This is not bulk...?

How do we know?



Observations from statistical mechanics

As # of particles $N \rightarrow \infty$

- 1) measurable quantities are independent of N
- 2) variances of measurable scale as $1/N$

Analytically: $T_g = H(T, \rho)$

Hyperbola fit (**non-linear**)

density data

temperatures

$$\text{As } N \rightarrow \infty, T_g \approx H(T, \bar{\rho}) + \delta\rho(N) \cdot \nabla_{\rho} H \Big|_{(T, \bar{\rho})} + O(\|\delta\rho\|^2)$$

bulk mean

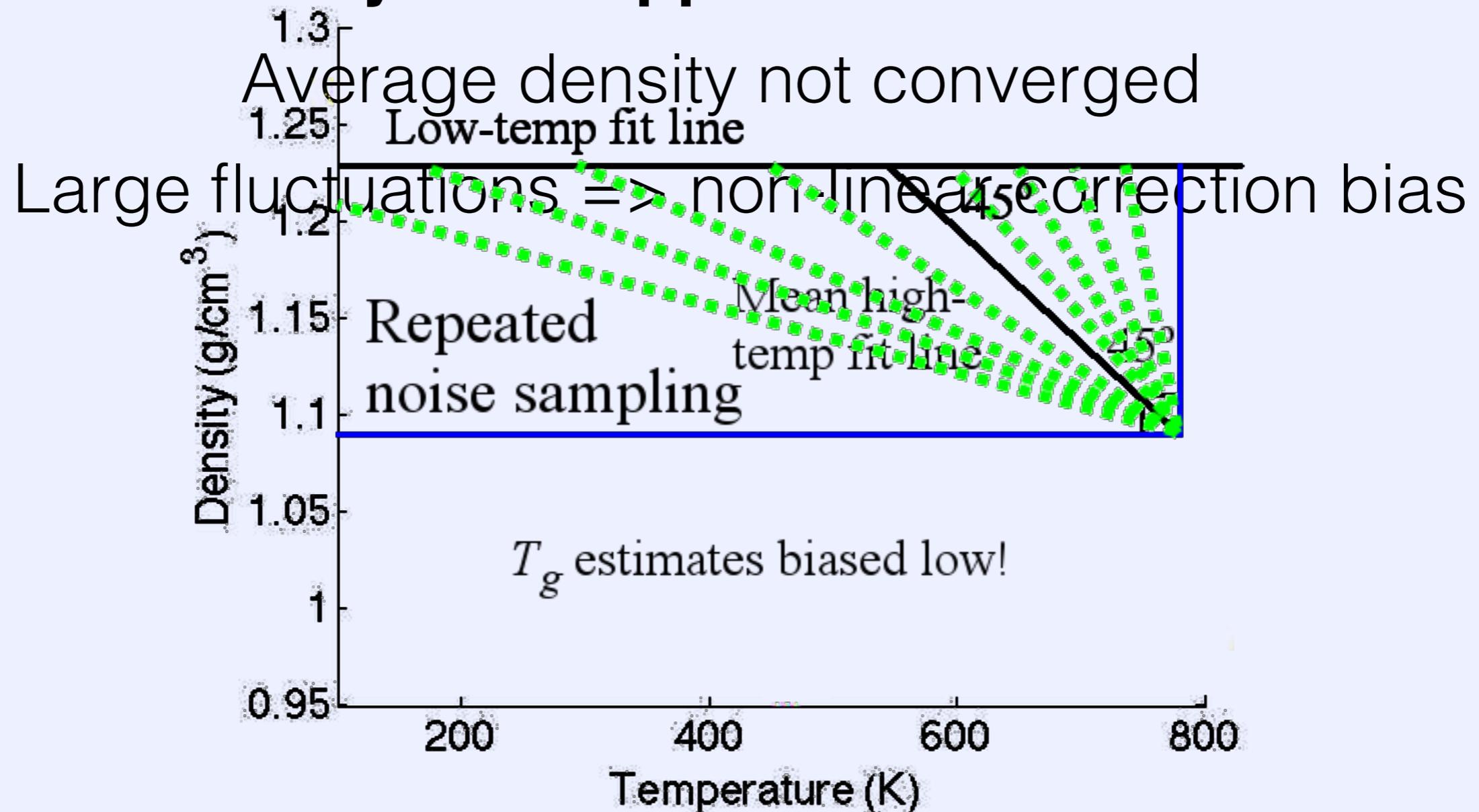
Hyperbola fit approximately linear

fluctuations

Observations from statistical mechanics

$$\text{As } N \rightarrow \infty, T_g \approx H(T, \bar{\rho}) + \delta\rho(N) \cdot \nabla_{\rho} H \Big|_{(T, \bar{\rho})} + O(\|\delta\rho\|^2)$$

Large fluctuations \Rightarrow non-linear correction bias
Two ways this approximation can fail



Assessing ability to extract T_g

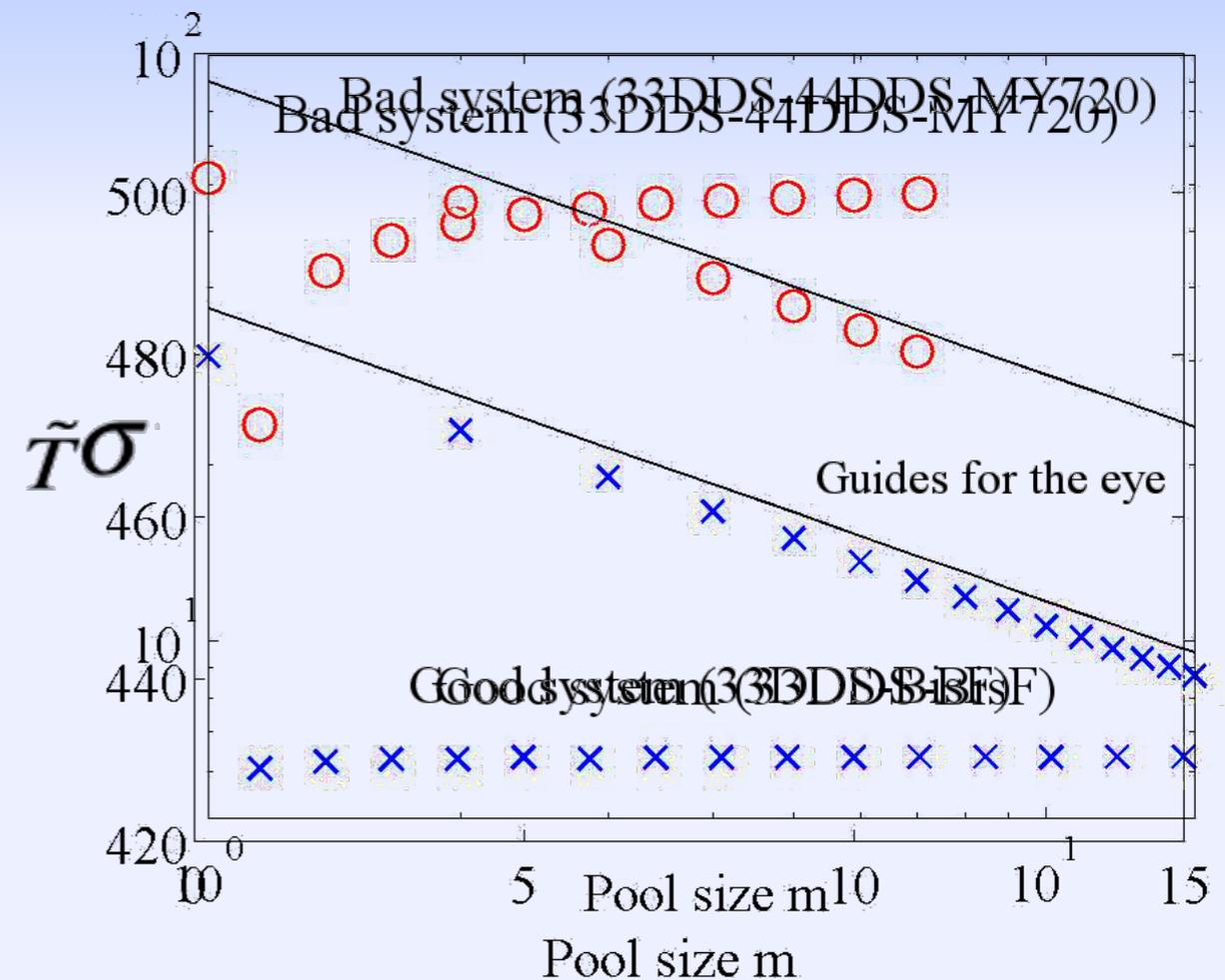
Is hyperbola fit biasing results?

Test for bias (pooling)

Construct $\binom{M}{m}$ average $T_{g,i}$ from every combination of m data sets chosen from a total of M

$$\tilde{T} = \binom{M}{m}^{-1} \sum_i T_{g,i} = \text{constant}$$

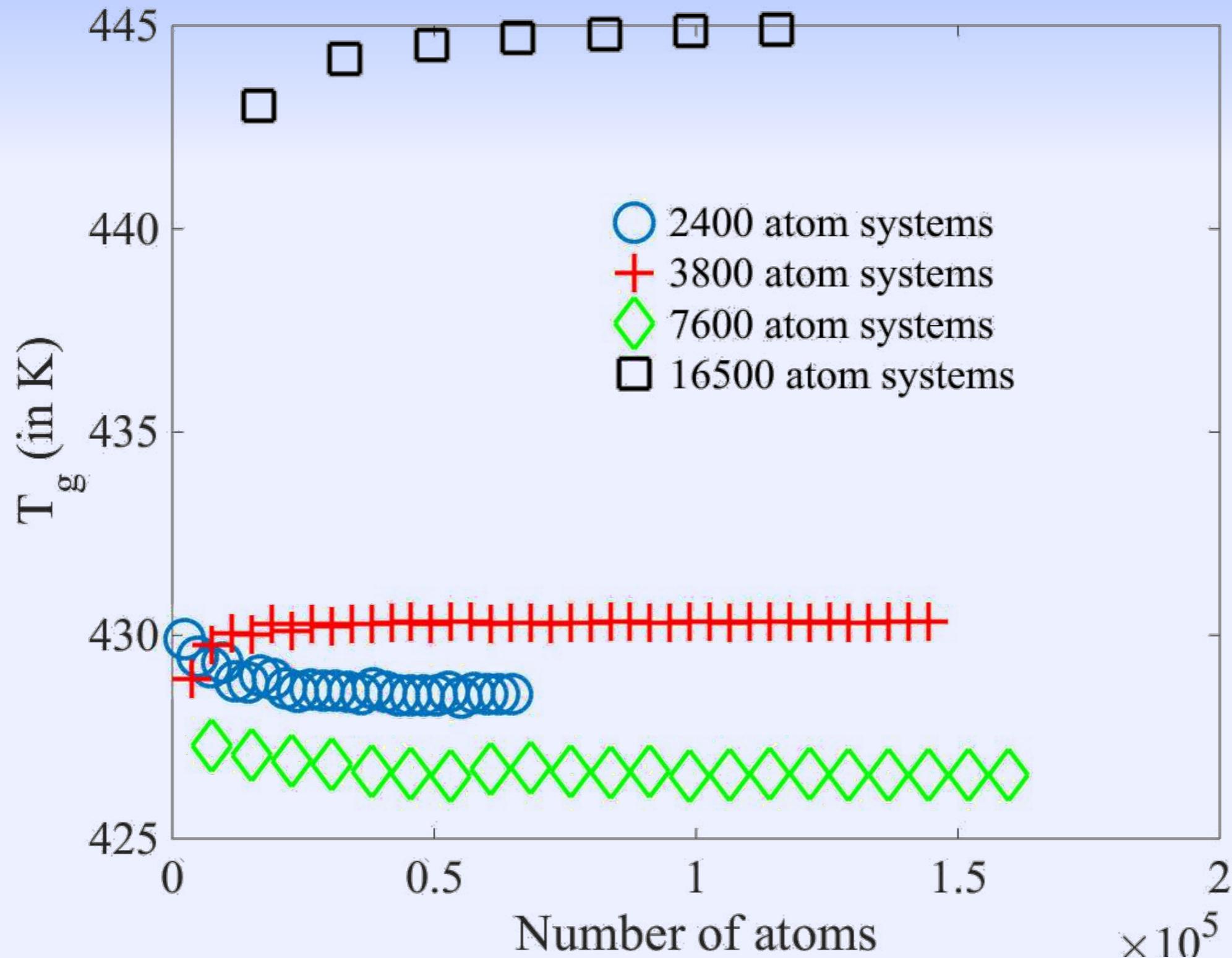
$$\sigma^2 = \frac{1}{M-m} \sum_i (T_{g,i} - \tilde{T})^2 \propto \frac{1}{m}$$



IF linearity holds

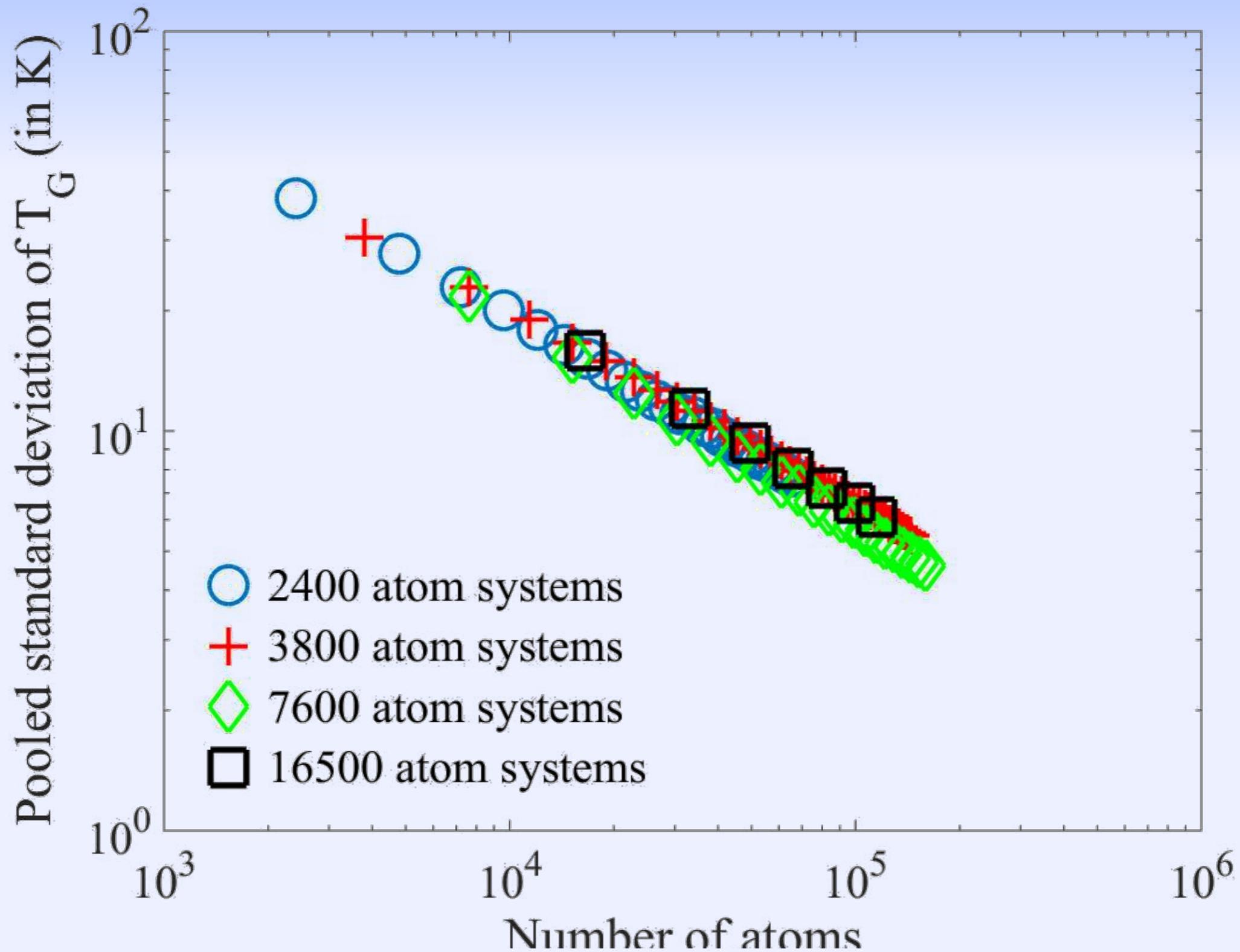
Assessing ability to extract T_g

Is average density converged?



Assessing ability to extract T_g

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Assessing ability to extract T_g

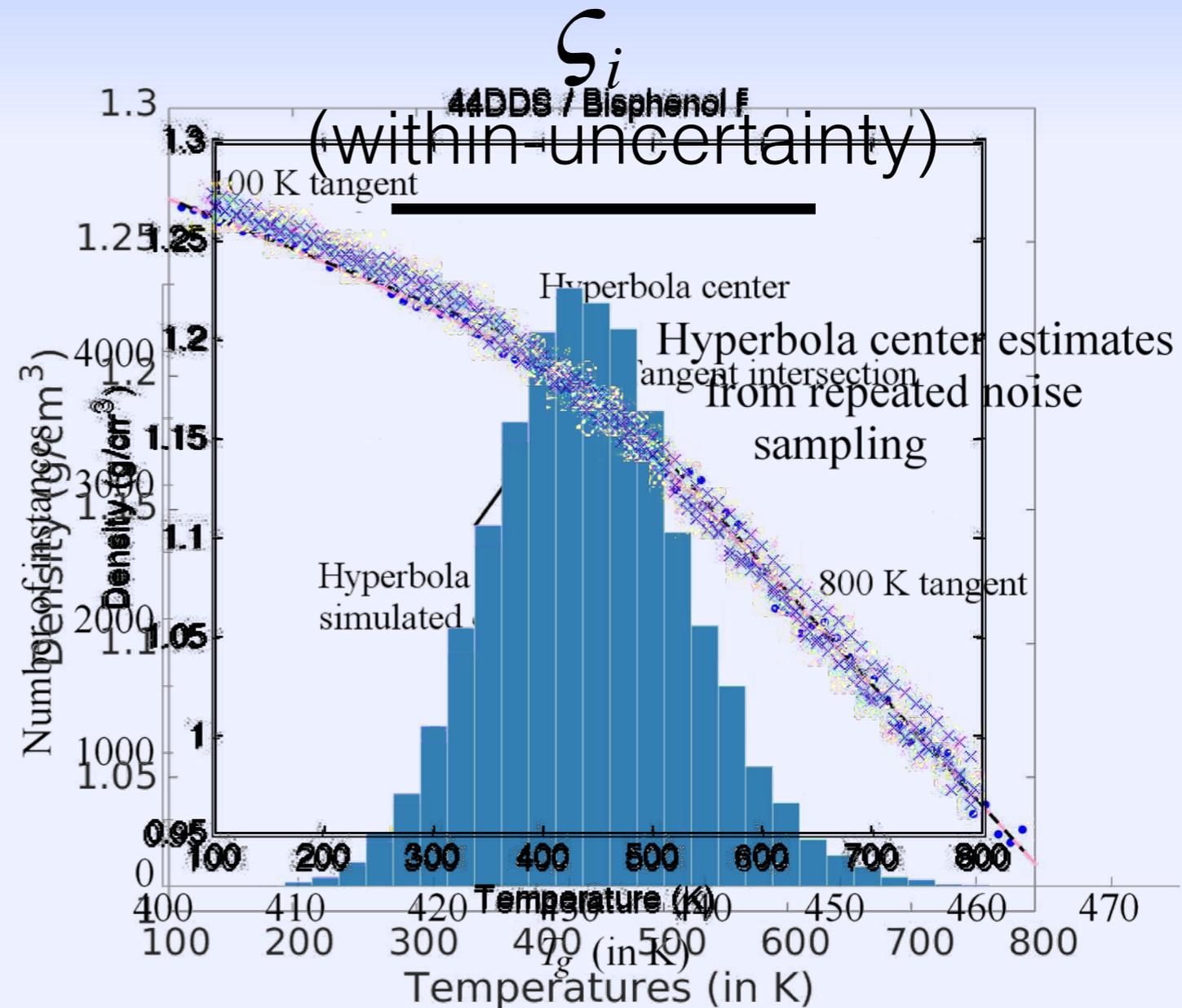
Did we extract a “precise” T_g value from the fit?

Noise affects fit, & hence our T_g estimate

Noise model for residuals

$$\rho(T) = \bar{\rho}(T) + \eta$$

Sample noise η & fit hyperbola to yield new T_g



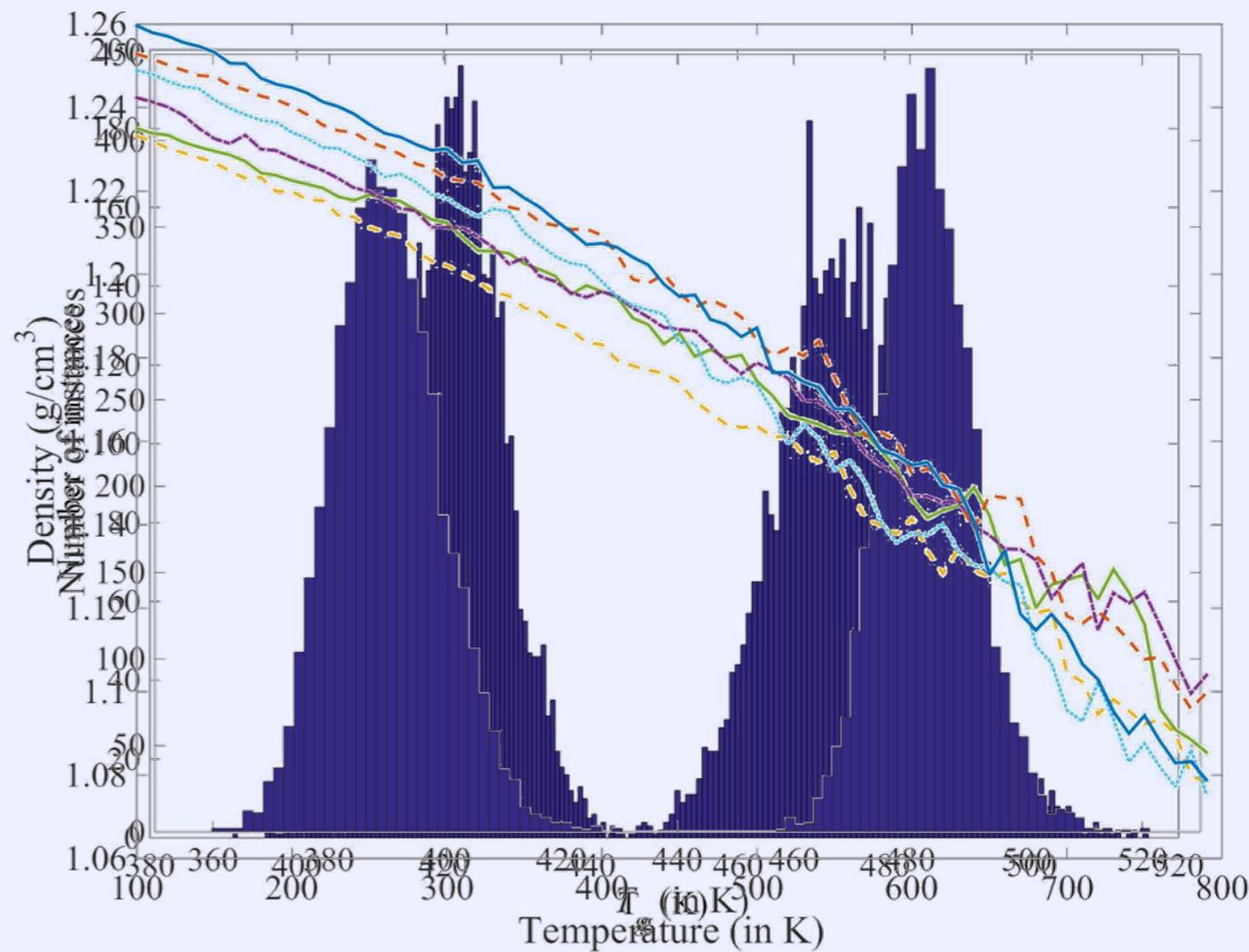
Combining data

Should all data sets be treated equally?

Two simulations may yield different within-uncertainties

Worse, predictions may not overlap

How do we account for missing physics?



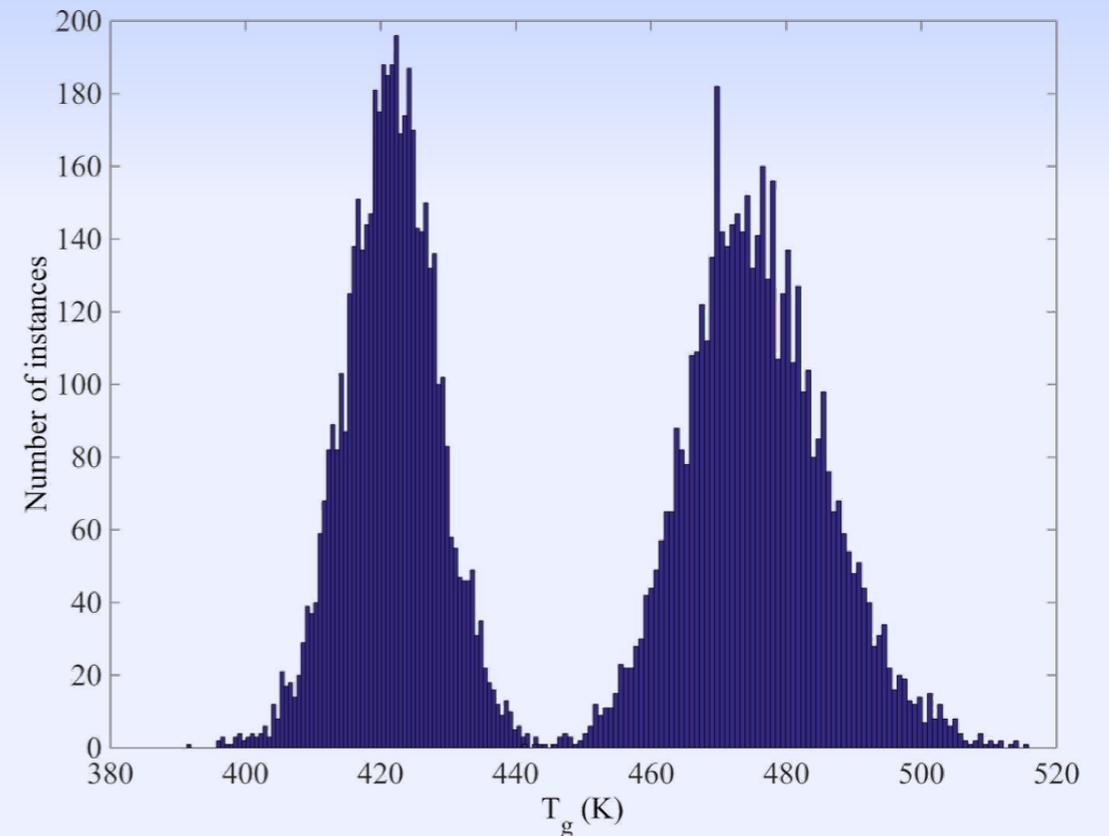
Combining data

Should all data sets be treated equally?

Weighted-mean statistic model:

$$\tau = \left[\frac{1}{\sum_i y^2} \right]^{-1} \sum_i \frac{T_{g,i}}{y^2}$$

T_g from i th simulation
↓
↑
uncertainty from under-modeled physics

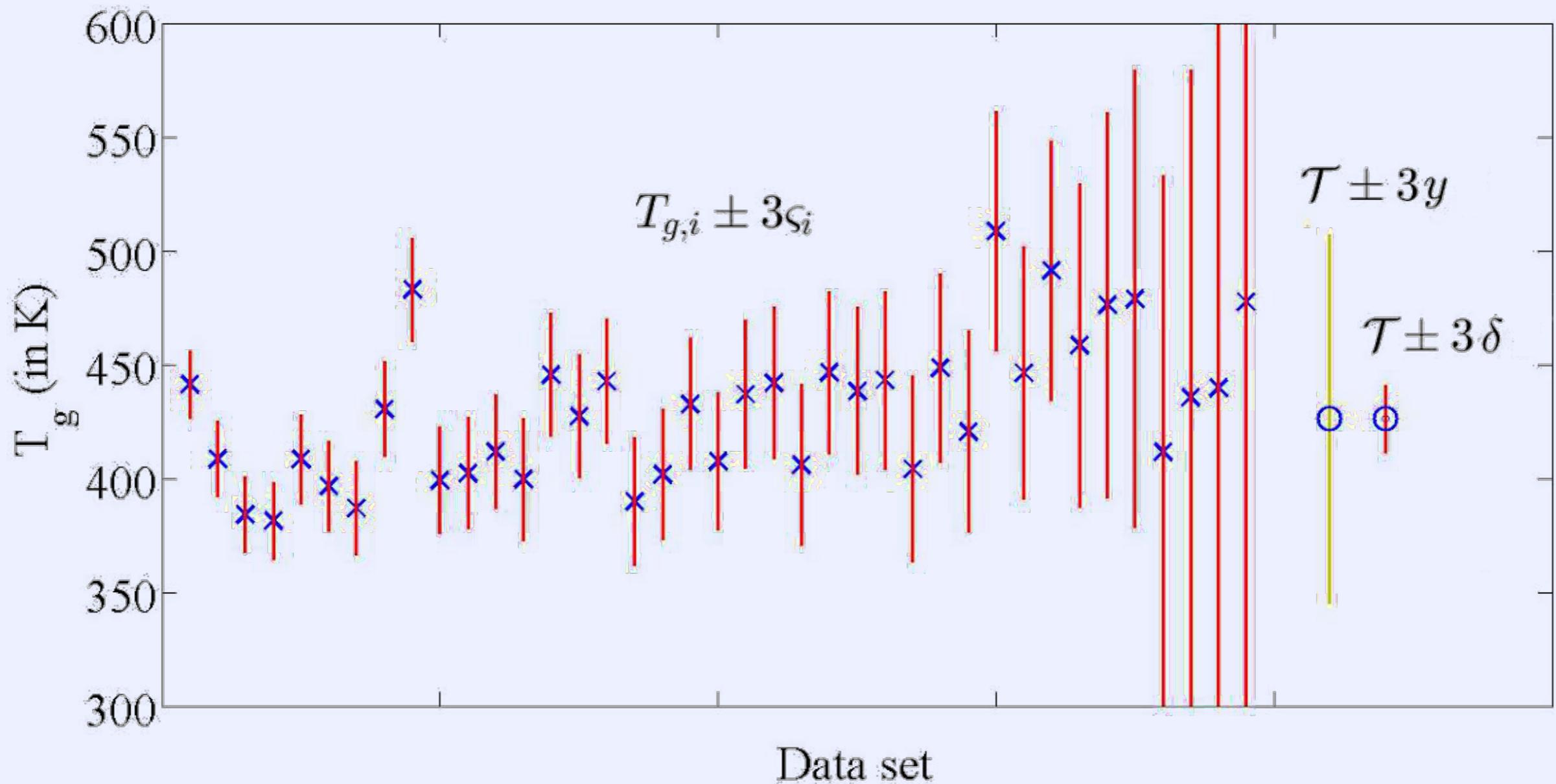


de-weights “imprecise”
& overconfident T_i

Solve for y using maximum likelihood analysis (MLE)

Combining data

Final uncertainty estimate: $\delta^2 = \left[\frac{1}{\sum_i y^2 + \zeta_i^2} \right]^{-2} \sum_i \frac{(T_{g,i} - \tau)^2}{(y^2 + \zeta_i^2)^2}$

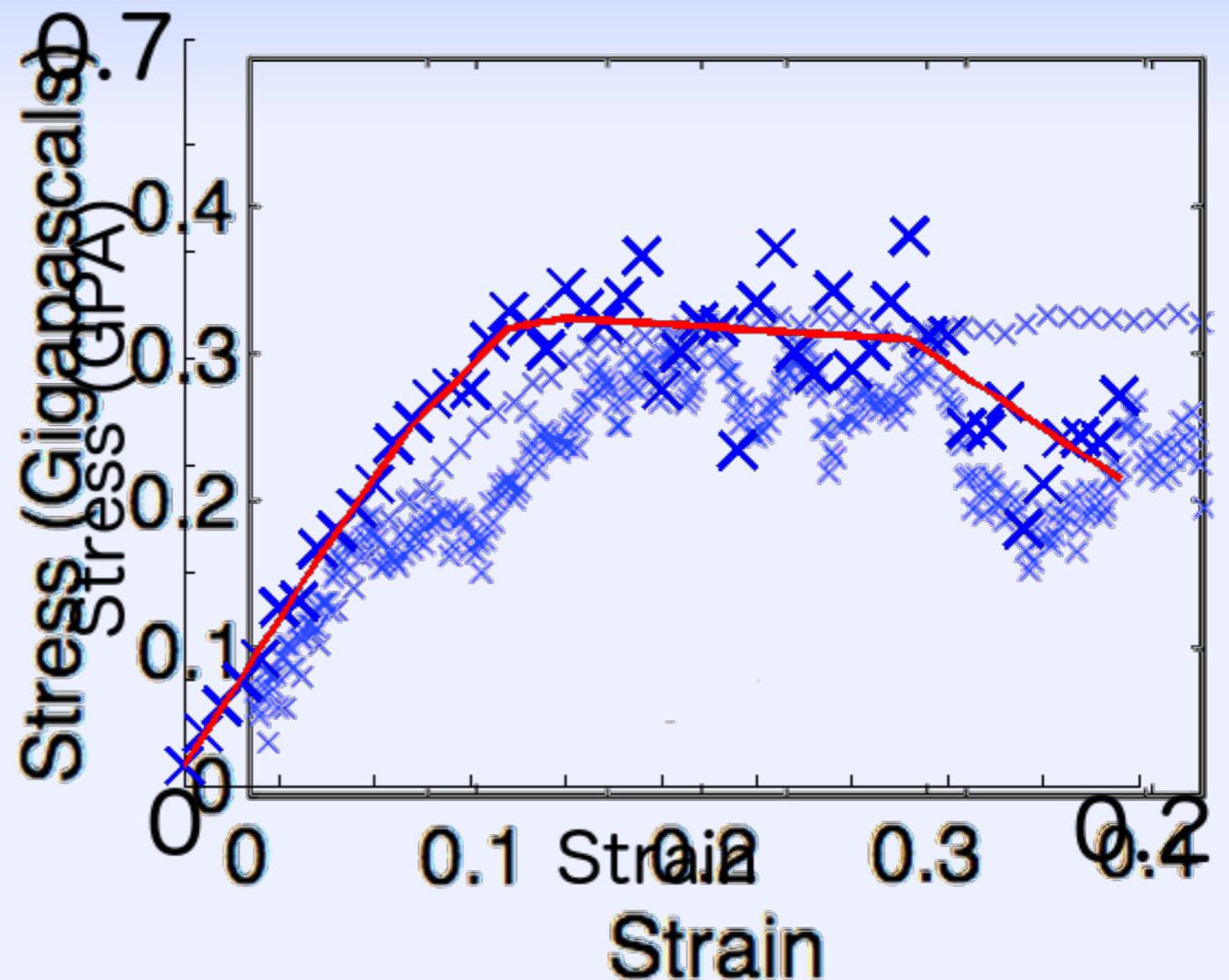


Open problems: yield strain

Strain at which material no longer resists a load

Identified as maximum of stress-strain curve

How do we deal with noisy data?



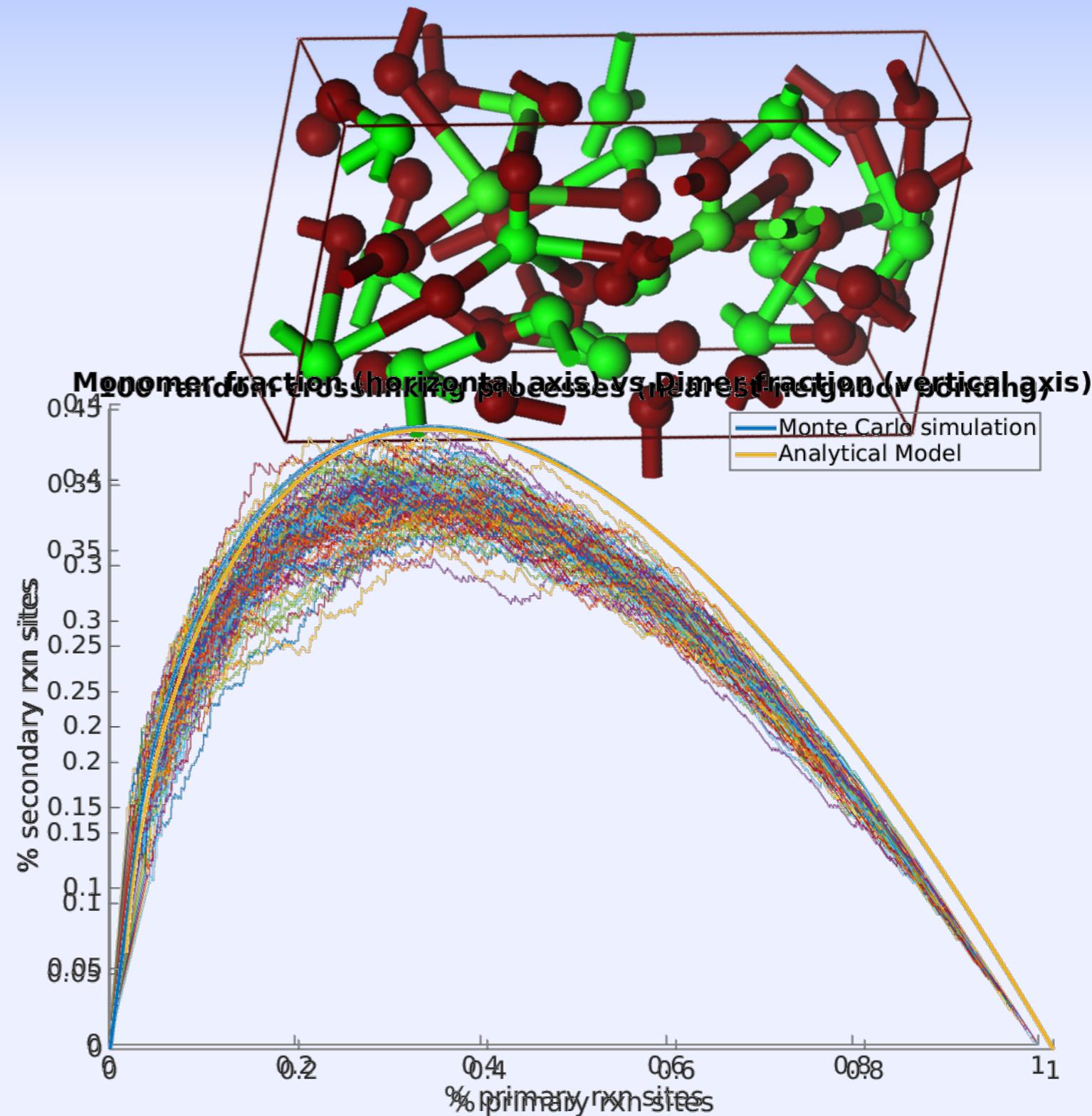
Analysis using convex functions.

Open problems: understanding statistics of “realistic” crosslinked networks

What is mean number of edges at a given vertex?

Depends on x-link algorithm:
e.g. random bonding,
nearest neighbor....

Analytical (probabilistic)
models to describe
simulated predictions



Conclusions

MD is driving development of materials & other disruptive technologies

UQ can help industry assess usefulness of their simulations

Lots of open problems