

# Generative Models for Inverse Design with Constraints

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<https://glovex.umn.edu/>



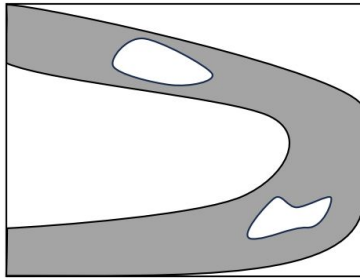
UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA  
Driven to Discover<sup>SM</sup>

# Topology optimization (TO)

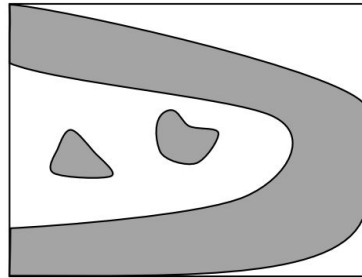
$$\min_{\mathbf{x}} c(\mathbf{x}) \doteq \mathbf{u}^\top \mathbf{K}(\mathbf{x}) \mathbf{u}$$

$$\text{s.t. } \underbrace{\mathbf{K}(\mathbf{x}) \mathbf{u} = \mathbf{f}}_{\text{physical constraint}}, \quad \underbrace{V(\mathbf{x}) \leq V_0}_{\text{volume constraint}}, \quad \underbrace{\mathbf{x} \in \{0, 1\}^N}_{\text{discrete constraint}},$$

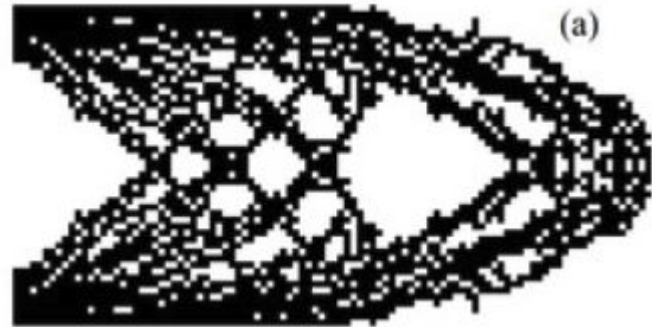
## Implicit Constraints



Multiply connected  
(void islands)



Non-connected  
(solid islands)



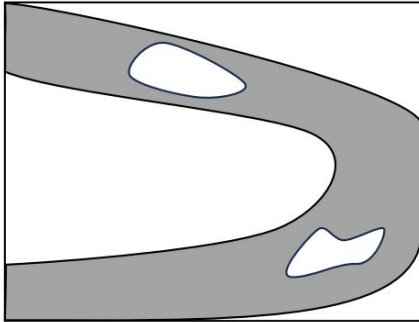
# SOTA of TO : lack of feasibility & generalizability



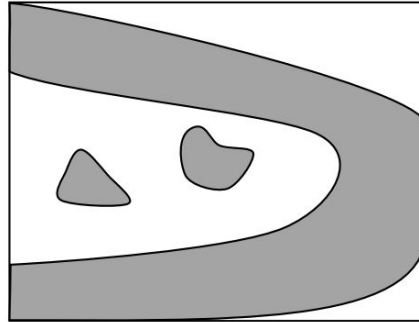
Eliminating  $\mathbf{u}$   $\mathbf{u} = \mathbf{K}^{-1}(\mathbf{x})\mathbf{f}$

But in multi-material design

$$\mathbf{G}(\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{u}) = \mathbf{f}$$
$$\mathbf{x}_i \in \{\mathbf{e}_j\}_j$$



Multiply connected  
(void islands)



Non-connected  
(solid islands)

# Neural TO with principled constrained optimization

$$\begin{aligned} \min_{\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{u}} c(\mathbf{x}) &\doteq \mathbf{u}^\top \mathbf{K}(\mathbf{x}) \mathbf{u} \\ \text{s.t. } \mathbf{K}(\mathbf{x}) \mathbf{u} &= \mathbf{f}; \quad V(\mathbf{x}) \leq V_0; \quad \mathbf{x} \odot (1 - \mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{0} \end{aligned}$$



Spatial smoothing via reparametrization  $\mathbf{x} = \mathcal{G}_\theta(\mathbf{z})$

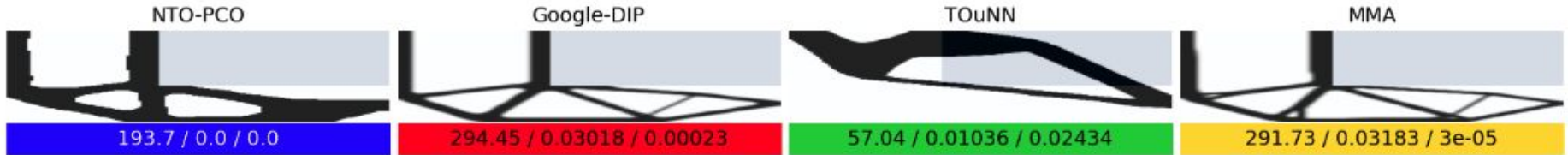
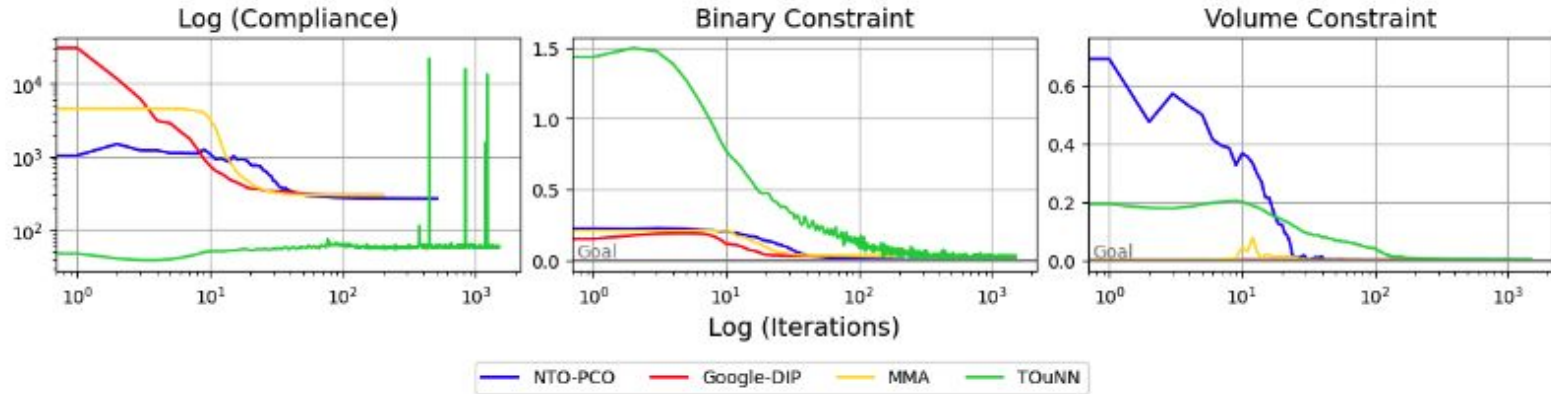


$$\begin{aligned} \min_{\theta, \mathbf{u}} c \circ \mathcal{G}_\theta(\mathbf{z}) &\doteq \mathbf{u}^\top \mathbf{K} \circ \mathcal{G}_\theta(\mathbf{z}) \mathbf{u} \\ \text{s.t. } \mathbf{K} \circ \mathcal{G}_\theta(\mathbf{z}) \mathbf{u} &= \mathbf{f}; \quad V \circ \mathcal{G}_\theta(\mathbf{z}) \leq V_0; \quad \mathcal{G}_\theta(\mathbf{z}) \odot (1 - \mathcal{G}_\theta(\mathbf{z})) = \mathbf{0} \end{aligned}$$

**Finally: Solved by principled solvers for deep learning with constraints**

# Result: TO with no-design region

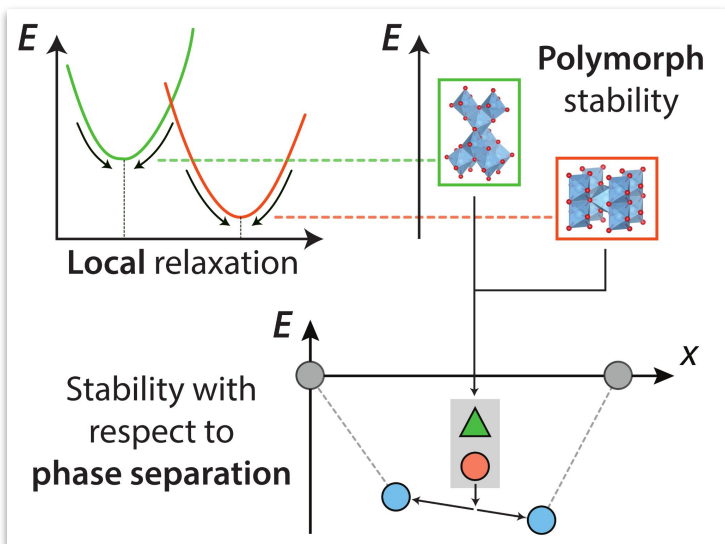
L-Shape 0.4 - 128 x 128 -  $v_f = 0.3$



Values: [Compliance, Binary Constraint Violation, Volume Constraint Violation]

# Deep learning with nontrivial hard constraints

## Material Science



## Robustness evaluation

$$\max_{\mathbf{x}'} \ell(\mathbf{y}, f_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}'))$$

$$\text{s. t. } \mathbf{x}' \in \Delta(\mathbf{x}) = \{\mathbf{x}' \in [0, 1]^n : d(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}') \leq \varepsilon\}$$

$$\min_{\mathbf{x}' \in [0, 1]^n} d(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}') \quad \text{s. t. } \max_{\ell \neq y} f_{\theta}^{\ell}(\mathbf{x}') \geq f_{\theta}^y(\mathbf{x}')$$

## Imbalance Learning

$$\max_{\theta, t} \frac{\sum_{i=1}^N \mathbb{1}\{y_i = +1\} \mathbb{1}\{f_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}_i) > t\}}{\sum_{i=1}^N \mathbb{1}\{f_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}_i) > t\}}$$

$$\text{s. t. } \frac{\sum_{i=1}^N \mathbb{1}\{y_i = +1\} \mathbb{1}\{f_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}_i) > t\}}{\sum_{i=1}^N \mathbb{1}\{y_i = +1\}} \geq \alpha$$

$$\min_{\theta} \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \ell(\mathbf{y}_i, f_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}_i)) + \Omega(\theta) \quad \text{s. t. } f_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}_p) \geq f_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}_q) \quad \forall (p, q) \in \mathcal{O}_{\text{W-CSTR-T}},$$

# NCVX: A principled solver for constrained DL



NCVX PyGRANSO  
Documentation

Search the docs ...

Introduction

Installation

Settings

Examples

Home

<https://ncvx.org/>

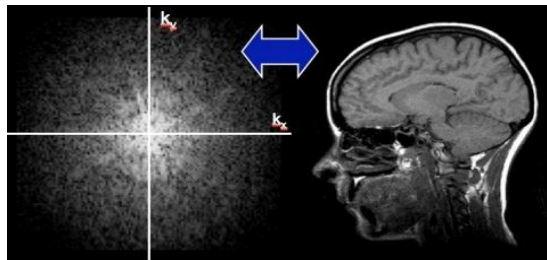


$$\min_{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^n} f(\mathbf{x}), \text{ s.t. } c_i(\mathbf{x}) \leq 0, \forall i \in \mathcal{I}; c_i(\mathbf{x}) = 0, \forall i \in \mathcal{E}$$

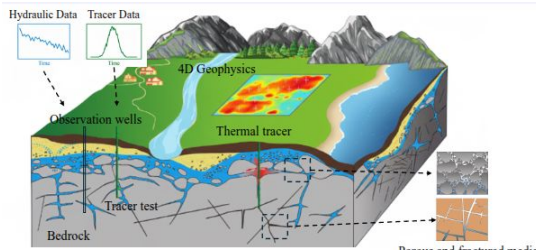
- **First general-purpose solver for hard-constrained deep learning problems**
- **Recently updated to be compatible with PyTorch 2.8**

# Generative models for inverse modeling

(inverse problems, reconstruction, data assimilation, inverse design/control, conditional generation, ...)



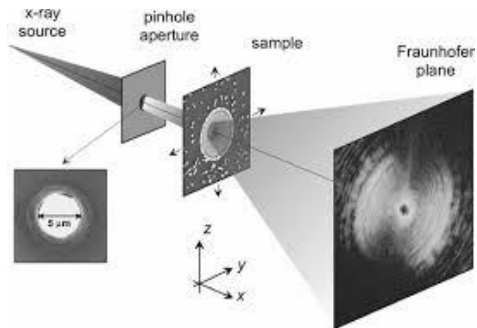
MRI reconstruction



Geophysical inversion

Given  $\mathbf{y} \approx f(\mathbf{x})$ , recover  $\mathbf{x}$

$$\min_{\mathbf{x}} \ell(\mathbf{y}, f(\mathbf{x})) + \Omega(\mathbf{x})$$



Coherent diffraction imaging



Inverse shape control

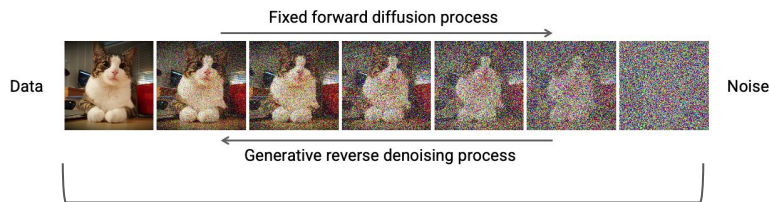
## Challenges:

- Linear vs. **nonlinear**  $f$
- Unconstrained vs. **constrained** (e.g., PDE  $(x, y) = 0$ )
- Explicit vs. **implicit**  $f$

A **plug-in principle** for leveraging **pretrained** deep generative models to solve IM

object-only datasets  $\{x_i\}_{i=1,\dots,N}$

**Distribution learning** via deep generative models



**Plug in pretrained** deep generative priors

$$\min_z \mathcal{L}(z) \doteq \ell(y, \mathcal{A} \circ \mathcal{G}_\theta(z)) + \Omega \circ \mathcal{G}_\theta(z)$$

### DMPlug: A Plug-in Method for Solving Inverse Problems with Diffusion Models

Hengkang Wang, Xu Zhang, Taihui Li, Yuxiang Wan, Tiancong Chen, Ju Sun

NeurIPS'24; with **domain-specific** priors

### Saving Foundation Flow-Matching Priors for Inverse Problems

Yuxiang Wan, Ryan Devera, Wenjie Zhang, Ju Sun

ICML'26; with **foundation** priors (e.g., stable diffusion models)

Challenge: Foundation generative models are powerful because **they're not specific**