

# Multi-Resolution Active Learning of Fourier Neural Operators



Shibo Li<sup>1</sup>, Xin Yu<sup>1</sup>, Wei Xing<sup>4</sup>, Robert M. Kirby<sup>1,2</sup>, Akil Narayan<sup>2,3</sup>, Shandian Zhe<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Kahler School of Computing, University of Utah

<sup>2</sup>Scientific Computing and Imaging (SCI) Institute, University of Utah

<sup>3</sup>Department of Mathematics, University of Utah

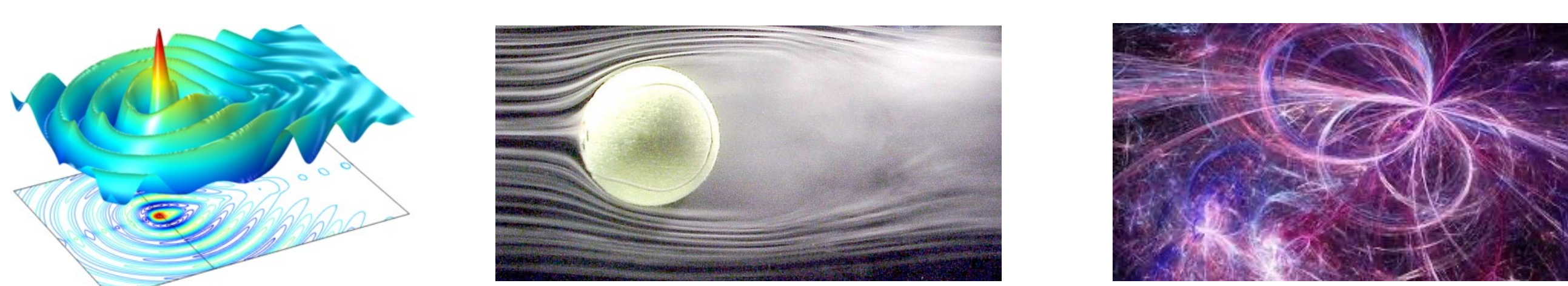
<sup>4</sup>School of Mathematics and Statistics, University of Sheffield

**Abstract:** Fourier Neural Operator (FNO) is a popular operator learning framework. It not only achieves the state-of-the-art performance in many tasks, but also is efficient in training and prediction. However, collecting training data for the FNO can be a costly bottleneck in practice, because it often demands expensive physical simulations. To overcome this problem, we propose **Multi-Resolution Active Learning of FNO (MRA-FNO)**, which can dynamically select the input functions and resolutions to lower the data cost as much as possible while optimizing the learning efficiency. Specifically, we propose a probabilistic multi-resolution FNO and use *ensemble Monte-Carlo* to develop an effective posterior inference algorithm. To conduct active learning, we maximize a utility-cost ratio as the acquisition function to acquire new examples and resolutions at each step. We use moment matching and the matrix determinant lemma to enable tractable, efficient utility computation. Furthermore, we develop a *cost annealing framework to avoid over-penalizing high-resolution queries* at the early stage. The over-penalization is severe when the cost difference is significant between the resolutions, which renders active learning often stuck at low-resolution queries and inferior performance. Our method overcomes this problem and applies to general multi-fidelity active learning and optimization problems. We have shown the advantage of our method in several benchmark operator learning tasks.

## Introduction & Motivation

### Physics vs. Machine Learning

- **Physics:** Accurate, Principled, Extrapolate Well
- **Machine Learning:** Flexible, Efficient



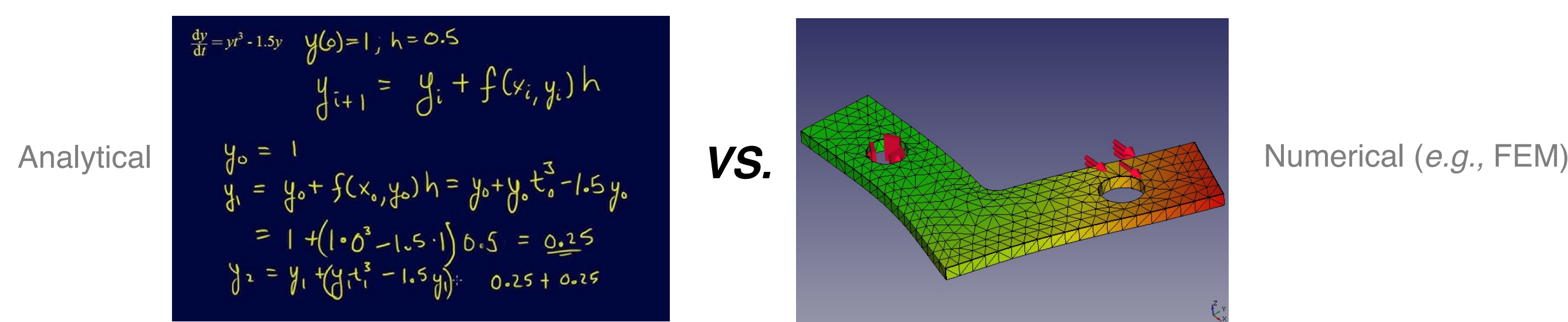
$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2} = c^2 \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2}$$

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{v}}{\partial t} + (\mathbf{v} \cdot \nabla) \mathbf{v} = \nu \nabla^2 \mathbf{v} - \nabla P$$

$$\begin{aligned} \nabla \cdot \mathbf{D} &= \rho \\ \nabla \cdot \mathbf{B} &= 0 \\ \nabla \times \mathbf{E} &= -\frac{\partial \mathbf{B}}{\partial t} \\ \nabla \times \mathbf{H} &= \mathbf{J} + \frac{\partial \mathbf{D}}{\partial t} \end{aligned}$$

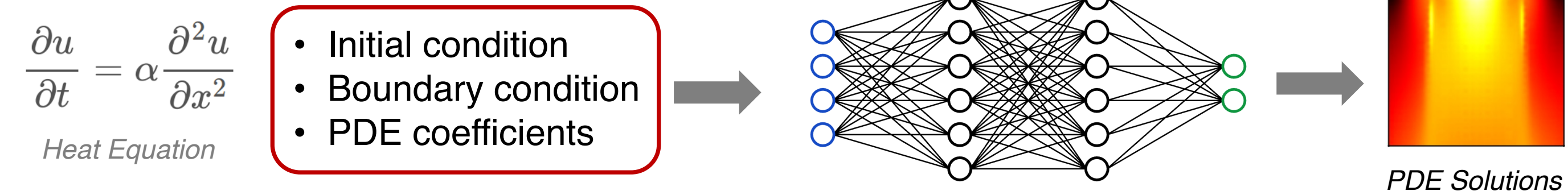
### Computational Physics: Finding the solutions of PDEs

- **Analytical solutions:** closed forms but **not always feasible**
- **Numerical solutions:** accurate, reliable but **slow and no generalization**



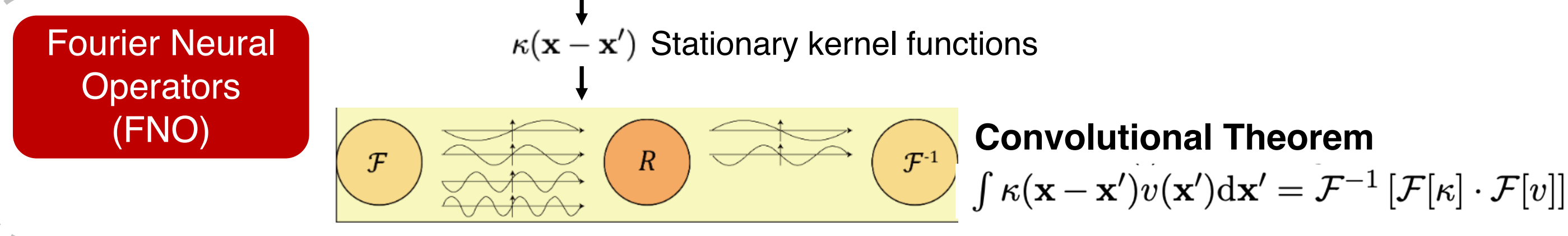
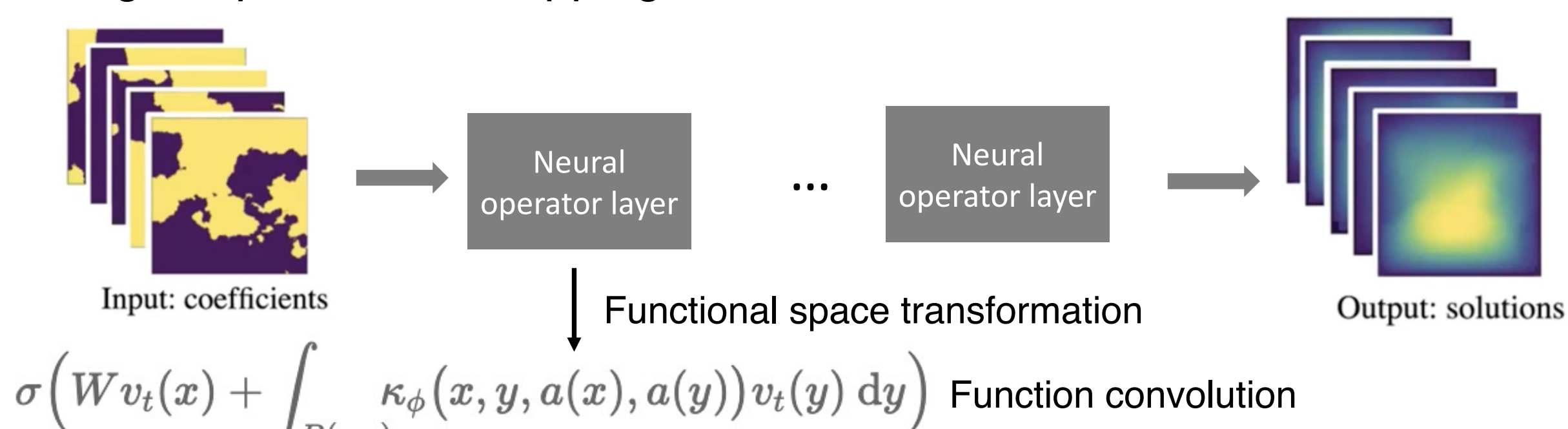
### Data-Driven Computational Physics

- Learning PDE solutions **directly from data**
- Efficient prediction and generalization



### Neural Operators and Fourier Neural Operators

- Solutions of PDEs are **applying operators** to the source/parameter/initial **functions**
- Learning the parametric mapping  $\mathcal{G}_\theta: \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathcal{U}$  between **functions to functions**



### However, Data Costs for Training FNO!!!

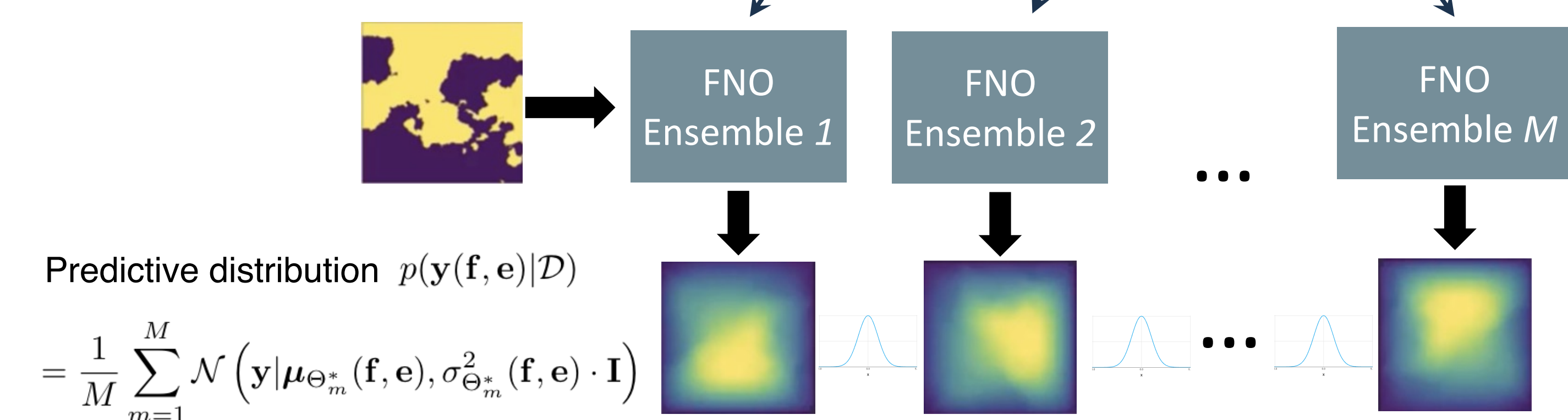


Our Contributions

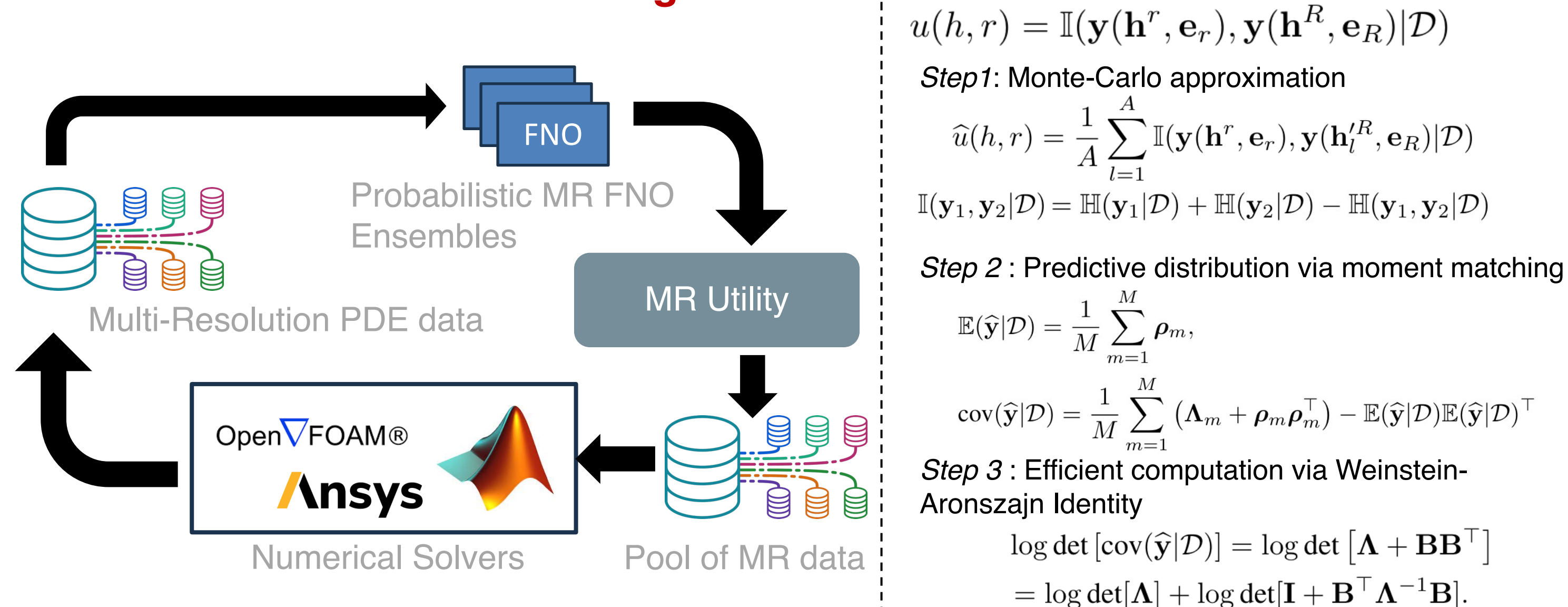
- **Probabilistic** Multi-Resolution FNO
- **Active Learning** for FNO
- Robust performance via **cost-annealing**

## Monte-Carlo Ensembles

$$\Theta^* = \underset{\Theta}{\operatorname{argmax}} \sum_{n=1}^N \log [\mathcal{N}(\mathbf{g}_n | \mu_\Theta(\mathbf{f}_n, \mathbf{e}_n), e^{\eta_\Theta(\mathbf{f}_n, \mathbf{e}_n)} \mathbf{I})]$$



## Multi-Resolution Active Learning



### Multi-resolution acquisition function

$$u(h, r) = \mathbb{I}(\mathbf{y}(h^r, \mathbf{e}_r), \mathbf{y}(h^R, \mathbf{e}_R) | \mathcal{D})$$

Step 1: Monte-Carlo approximation

$$\hat{u}(h, r) = \frac{1}{A} \sum_{l=1}^A \mathbb{I}(\mathbf{y}(h^r, \mathbf{e}_r), \mathbf{y}(h^R, \mathbf{e}_R) | \mathcal{D}^l)$$

$$\mathbb{I}(\mathbf{y}_1, \mathbf{y}_2 | \mathcal{D}) = \mathbb{H}(\mathbf{y}_1 | \mathcal{D}) + \mathbb{H}(\mathbf{y}_2 | \mathcal{D}) - \mathbb{H}(\mathbf{y}_1, \mathbf{y}_2 | \mathcal{D})$$

Step 2: Predictive distribution via moment matching

$$\mathbb{E}(\hat{\mathbf{y}} | \mathcal{D}) = \frac{1}{M} \sum_{m=1}^M \rho_m$$

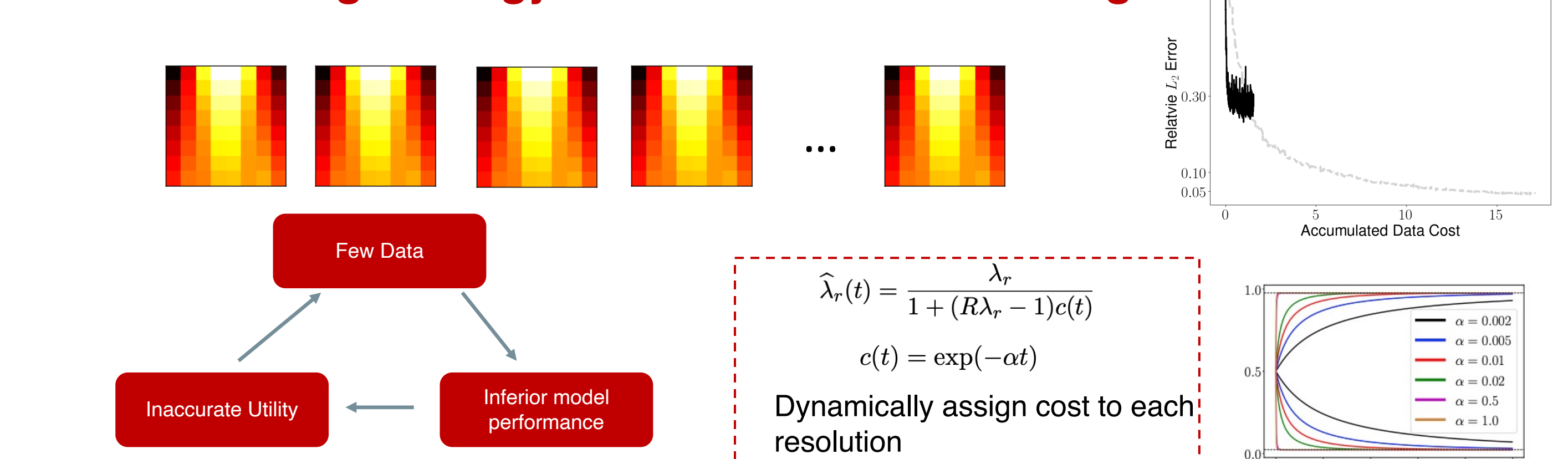
$$\operatorname{cov}(\hat{\mathbf{y}} | \mathcal{D}) = \frac{1}{M} \sum_{m=1}^M (\Lambda_m + \rho_m \rho_m^\top) - \mathbb{E}(\hat{\mathbf{y}} | \mathcal{D}) \mathbb{E}(\hat{\mathbf{y}} | \mathcal{D})^\top$$

Step 3: Efficient computation via Weinstein-Aronszajn Identity

$$\log \det [\operatorname{cov}(\hat{\mathbf{y}} | \mathcal{D})] = \log \det [\mathbf{A} + \mathbf{B} \mathbf{B}^\top]$$

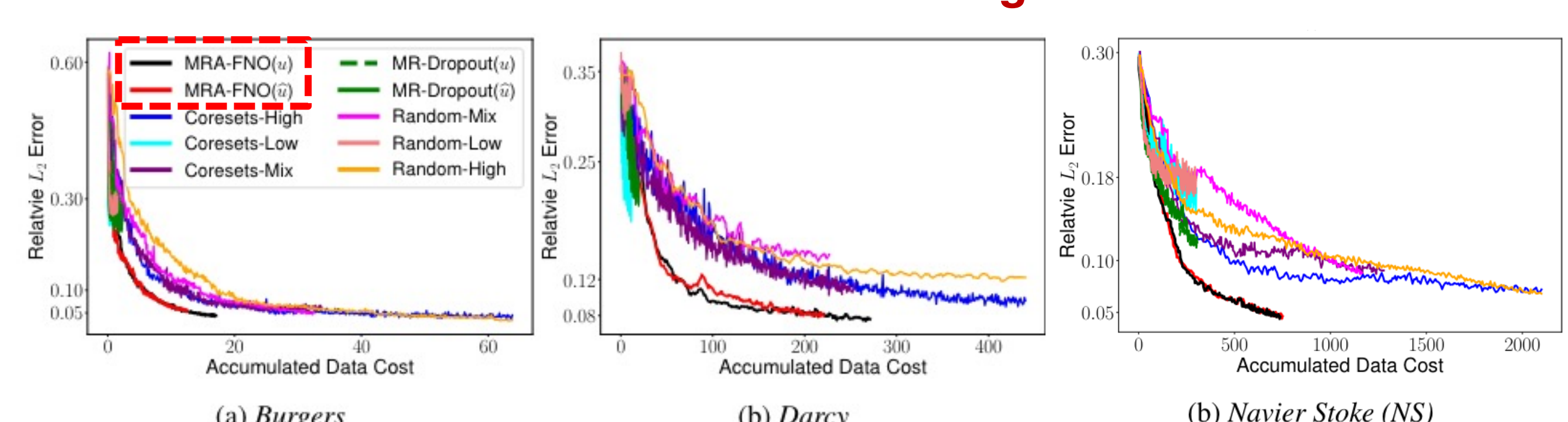
$$= \log \det [\mathbf{A}] + \log \det [\mathbf{I} + \mathbf{B}^\top \mathbf{A}^{-1} \mathbf{B}]$$

## Cost-Annealing Strategy for Robust Active Learning

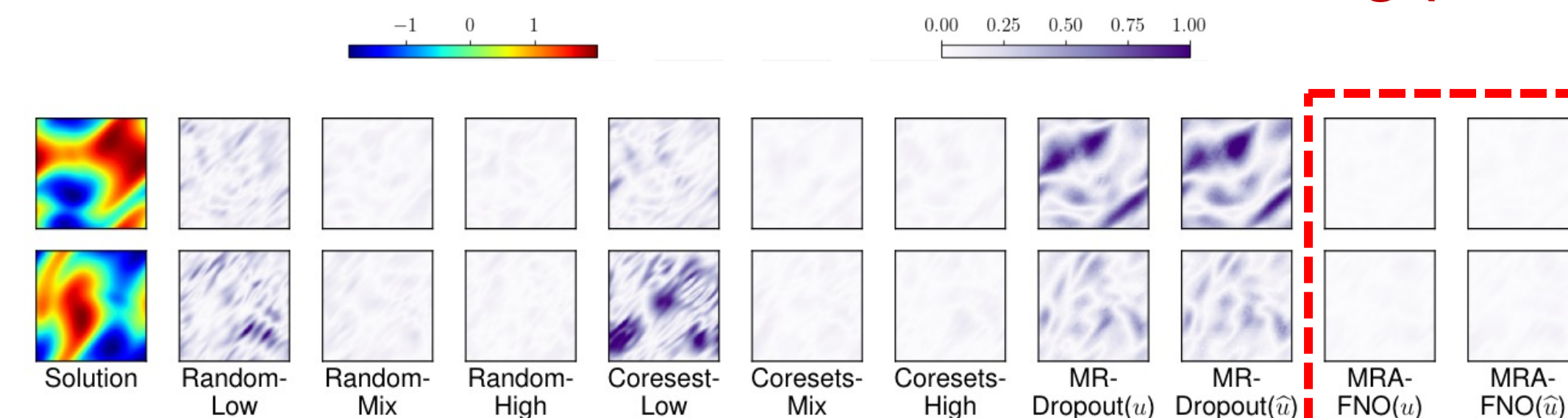


## Experiments

### Evaluations of Multi-Resolution Active Learning



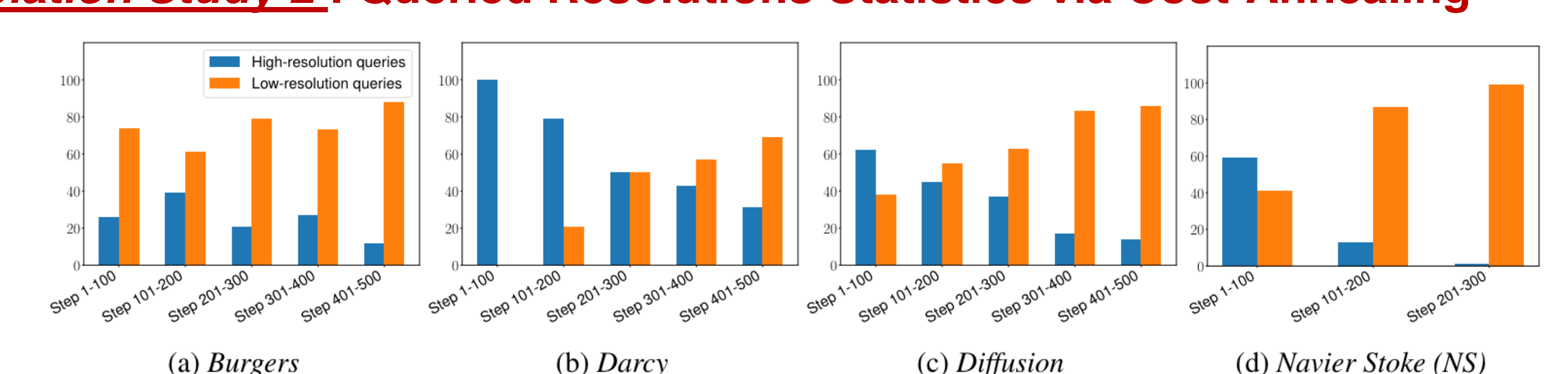
### Visualization of Pointwise Error after Active Learning (Navier-Stokes)



### Ablation Study 1: Predictive performance of mixed-resolutions examples vs. low-resolutions only examples

Method	Burgers	Darcy	Method	Burgers	Darcy
FNO	0.0575 ± 0.0031	0.0891 ± 0.0078	FNO	296.31%	218.54%
FNO-Dropout	0.0791 ± 0.0035	0.1038 ± 0.0056	FNO-Dropout	331.64%	233.04%
FNO-SGLD	0.0804 ± 0.0049	0.0933 ± 0.0074	FNO-SGLD	200.62%	183.60%
FNO-SVI	0.1182 ± 0.0056	0.0946 ± 0.0041	FNO-SVI	111.14%	188.16%
MRA-FNO	0.0586 ± 0.0042	0.0876 ± 0.0059	MRA-FNO	286.86%	201.71%

### Ablation Study 2: Queried Resolutions Statistics via Cost-Annealing



## Methods

### Probabilistic Multi-Resolution FNO

