


Machine learning conservation laws from differential equationsZiming Liu,¹ Varun Madhavan², and Max Tegmark¹¹*Department of Physics, Institute for AI and Fundamental Interactions, and Center for Brains, Minds and Machines, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139, USA*²*Indian Institute of Technology Kharagpur, Kharagpur, West Bengal 721302, India* (Received 29 March 2022; revised 12 June 2022; accepted 23 September 2022; published 21 October 2022)

We present a machine learning algorithm that discovers conservation laws from differential equations, both numerically (parametrized as neural networks) and symbolically, ensuring their functional independence (a nonlinear generalization of linear independence). Our independence module can be viewed as a nonlinear generalization of singular value decomposition. Our method can readily handle inductive biases for conservation laws. We validate it with examples including the three-body problem, the KdV equation, and nonlinear Schrödinger equation.

DOI: [10.1103/PhysRevE.106.045307](https://doi.org/10.1103/PhysRevE.106.045307)**I. INTRODUCTION**

The importance of conservation laws (CLs) in physics can hardly be overstated [1]. Physicists usually derive conservation laws with time-consuming pencil and paper methods, using different hand-crafted strategies for each specific problem. This motivates searching for a general-purpose problem-agnostic approach. A few recent papers have exploited machine learning to auto-discover conservation laws [2–5]. Despite promising preliminary results, these techniques are not guaranteed to discover *all* conservation laws. In this paper, we start with differential equations defining a dynamical system and aim to discover all its conservation laws, either in numerical form (parameterized as neural networks) or in symbolic form. The new method is named AI Poincaré 2.0 since it builds on Ref. [2]. When no confusion occurs, we call the original method 1.0, and the new method 2.0. We summarize three major improvements of 2.0 over 1.0 below, as well as in Fig. 1(c). First, 1.0 tacitly requires the assumption that the trajectory is ergodic, while 2.0 does not need the assumption since it directly deals with differential equations. 2.0 can apply to systems with dissipation or directionality on which 1.0 falls short. A case of directionality is the Korteweg-De Vries (KdV) wave equation, where solitons travel from left to right, violating ergodicity. Second, 2.0 introduces a new manifold learning method that is more efficient and accurate than 1.0. 2.0 also extends the notion of variable dependence to functional dependence, which is fundamental and useful for physics and machine learning applications. Third, 2.0 provides numerical evaluation of each conserved quantity, while 1.0 provides no information at all other than the conserved quantity exists. These numerical values can hopefully give physicists insights about properties or symbolic forms of the conservation laws. In Sec. II, we introduce our notation and the AI Poincaré 2.0 algorithm. In the Sec. III, we apply AI Poincaré 2.0 to various systems (illustrated in Fig. 2) to test its ability to auto-discover conservation laws, followed by discussions in Sec. IV and conclusions in Sec. V. We

note other works exploring the direction of “machine learning meets conservation laws” [6–8], which have different goals than ours.

II. METHOD**A. Problem and notation**

We consider a first-order ordinary differential equation (ODE) $\frac{dz}{dt} = \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{z})$ where $\mathbf{z} \in \mathbb{R}^s$ is the state vector and $\mathbf{f} : \mathbb{R}^s \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^s$ is a vector field. *Hamiltonian systems* correspond to the special case where s is even and $\mathbf{f} = (\frac{\partial H_0}{\partial \mathbf{p}}, -\frac{\partial H_0}{\partial \mathbf{x}})$ for a Hamiltonian function H_0 . A *conserved quantity* is a scalar function $H(\mathbf{z})$ whose value remains constant along a trajectory $\mathbf{z}(t)$ determined by $\frac{dz}{dt} = \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{z})$ with any initial condition $\mathbf{z}(t=0) = \mathbf{z}_0$. A necessary and sufficient condition for a scalar function $H(\mathbf{z})$ being a conservation law is $\nabla H \cdot \mathbf{f} = 0$, because $\frac{d}{dt}H(\mathbf{z}(t)) = \nabla H \cdot \frac{dz}{dt} = \nabla H \cdot \mathbf{f}$. We use hats to denote unit vectors, e.g., $\hat{\mathbf{f}} \equiv \mathbf{f}/|\mathbf{f}|$. Our goal is to discover the maximal number n_c independent conserved quantities $\{H_1(\mathbf{z}), H_2(\mathbf{z}), \dots, H_{n_c}(\mathbf{z})\}$ numerically and symbolically, optionally with user-specified properties. Dynamical systems of the form $\frac{dz}{dt} = \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{z})$ are very general because (1) higher-order ODEs, e.g., Newtonian mechanics, can always be transformed to first-order ODEs by including derivatives as new variables in \mathbf{z} , and (2) partial differential equations (PDEs) can be approximated by ODEs by discretizing space.

B. AI Poincaré 2.0

AI Poincaré 2.0 consists of three steps: (1) learn conservation laws parameterized by neural networks, (2) count the number of independent conservation laws, and (3) find symbolic formulas for conservation laws. The pipeline is illustrated in Fig. 1.

1. Parameterizing conservation laws by neural networks

We parametrize a conserved quantity as a neural network $H(\mathbf{z}; \theta)$ where θ are model parameters. Our loss function is

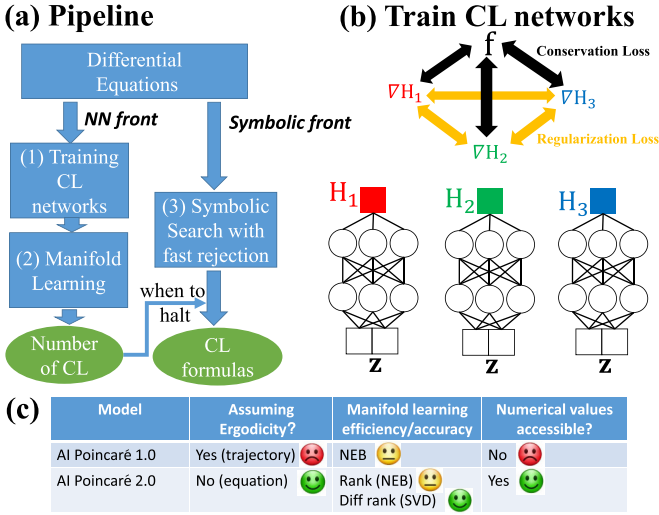


FIG. 1. (a) The AI Poincaré 2.0 pipeline: The NN front leverages neural networks for conservation laws, while the symbolic front searches for formulas with fast rejection. (b) Training is minimizing each network’s conservation loss combined with a function dependence penalty. (c) Comparing 1.0 and 2.0. NEB refers to Neural Empirical Bayes, the manifold learning algorithm we adopted in 1.0.

defined as

$$\ell(\theta) \equiv \frac{1}{P} \sum_{i=1}^P |\hat{\mathbf{f}}(\mathbf{z}^{(i)}) \cdot \widehat{\nabla H}(\mathbf{z}^{(i)}; \theta)|^2, \quad (1)$$

where $\mathbf{z}^{(i)}$ denotes the i th sample in phase space. $\nabla H(\mathbf{z})$ can be easily computed with automatic differentiation [9]. Note that $\hat{\mathbf{f}}$ and $\widehat{\nabla H}$ are normalized unit vectors, to make the loss function dimensionless and invariant under

uninteresting rescaling of H . We update θ by trying to minimize the loss function until it drops below a small threshold ϵ . To obtain multiple conserved quantities, one can repeat the above method with different random seeds and hope to discover algebraically independent ones. In practice, however, we find that learned conservation laws are often highly correlated for different initializations [10]. To encourage linear independence between two neural networks, say, H_1 and H_2 , we add a regularization term

$$R(\theta_1, \theta_2) \equiv \frac{1}{P} \sum_{i=1}^P |\widehat{\nabla H}_1(\mathbf{z}^{(i)}; \theta_1) \cdot \widehat{\nabla H}_2(\mathbf{z}^{(i)}; \theta_2)|^2 \quad (2)$$

to the loss function. Since we know that there cannot be more conservation laws than degrees of freedom s , we train $n = s$ models together by minimizing the loss function $\ell_1 + \lambda \ell_2$ defined by

$$\ell = \underbrace{\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \ell(\theta_i)}_{\ell_1} + \lambda \times \underbrace{\frac{2}{n(n-1)} \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=i+1}^n R(\theta_i, \theta_j)}_{\ell_2}, \quad (3)$$

where λ is a penalty coefficient. We refer to ℓ_1 and ℓ_2 as *conservation loss* and *independence loss*, respectively.

2. Counting the number of independent conserved quantities

After training, we aim to determine (in)dependence among these neural networks. Specifically, we are interested in *functional independence*, a direct generalization of linear independence that we define and compute as described below.

Definition II.1. Functional independence. A set of nonzero functions $H_1(\mathbf{z}), H_2(\mathbf{z}), \dots, H_n(\mathbf{z})$ is independent if

$$f(H_1(\mathbf{z}), H_2(\mathbf{z}), \dots, H_n(\mathbf{z})) = 0 \implies f = 0 \quad (4)$$

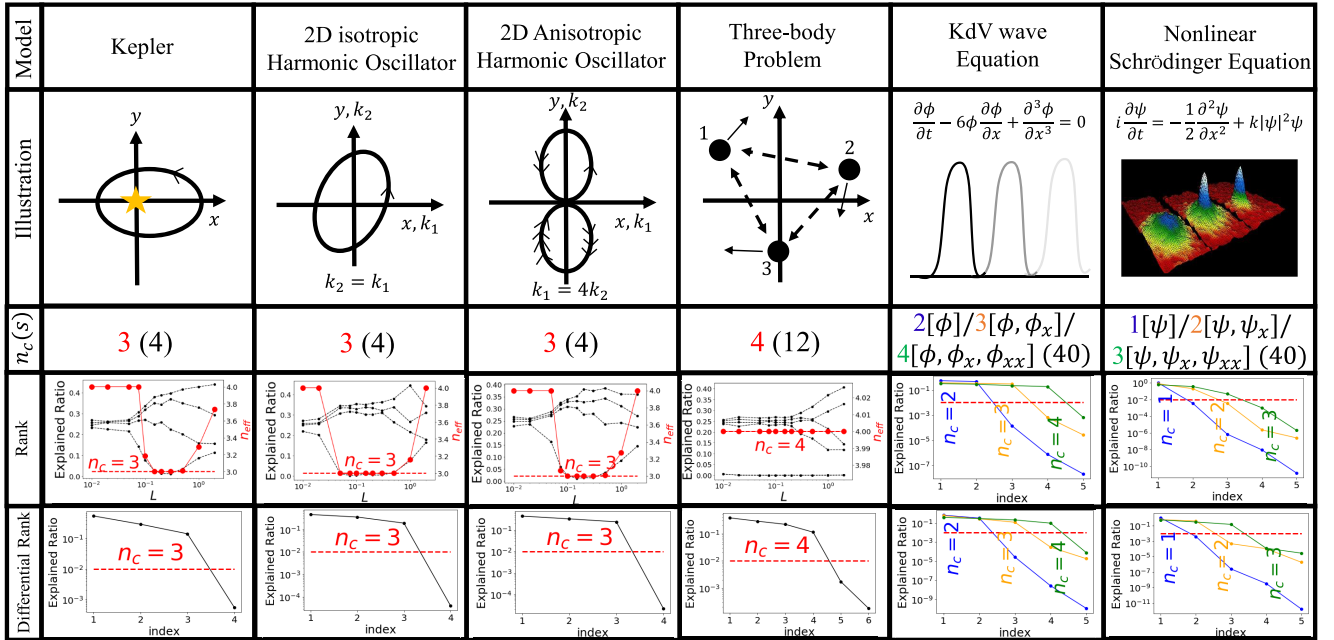


FIG. 2. Tested ordinary and partial differential equation examples, each of which has s degrees of freedom and n_c conservation laws. AI Poincaré 2.0 is seen to find the correct n_c by computing rank (read off as the low flat region of the n_{eff} curve as defined in Ref. [2]) or differential rank.

or, equivalently, if no function $H_i(\mathbf{z})$ can be constructed from (possibly nonlinear and multivalued) combinations of the other functions.

Definition II.2. Function set rank. The function set $\mathcal{H} = \{H_1(\mathbf{z}), H_2(\mathbf{z}), \dots, H_n(\mathbf{z})\}$ has rank $k \leq n$ if it contains k but not $k + 1$ functions that are independent.

Computing the function set rank We determine the rank k with a nonlinear manifold learning method. We define the matrix \mathbf{A} such that A_{ij} is the value of the j th neural network evaluated at the i th sample point:

$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} H_1(\mathbf{z}^{(1)}) & H_2(\mathbf{z}^{(1)}) & \dots & H_n(\mathbf{z}^{(1)}) \\ H_1(\mathbf{z}^{(2)}) & H_2(\mathbf{z}^{(2)}) & \dots & H_n(\mathbf{z}^{(2)}) \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ H_1(\mathbf{z}^{(P)}) & H_2(\mathbf{z}^{(P)}) & \dots & H_n(\mathbf{z}^{(P)}) \end{pmatrix}, \quad (5)$$

where $P \gg n$ is the number of data points $\mathbf{z}^{(i)}$. If we interpret each row of \mathbf{A} as a point in \mathbb{R}^n , then the matrix corresponds to a point cloud in \mathbb{R}^n located on a manifold, whose dimensionality k is equal to the function set rank. If there are k independent *linear* conserved quantities (where $H_i(\mathbf{z})$ are linear functions), then the point cloud will lie on a k -dimensional hyperplane that can readily be discovered using singular value decomposition (SVD): k is then the number of nonzero singular values, i.e., the rank of the matrix \mathbf{A} . For our more general nonlinear case, we wish to discover the manifold that the point cloud lies on even if it is curved. For this, we exploit the manifold learning algorithm proposed in Poincaré 1.0 [2] to measure the manifold dimensionality [11], which performs local Monte Carlo sampling followed by a linear dimensionality estimation method, from which we define n_{eff} . For the rank row in Fig. 2 (excluding the two last PDE examples), n_c can be readily read off as the value of n_{eff} corresponding to the low flat valley.

Taking the derivative of $f[H_1(\mathbf{z}), H_2(\mathbf{z}), \dots, H_n(\mathbf{z})] = 0$ from Eq. (4) with respect to z_i gives

$$\underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} H_{1,1} & H_{2,1} & \dots & H_{n,1} \\ H_{1,2} & H_{2,2} & \dots & H_{n,2} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \dots & \vdots \\ H_{1,s} & H_{2,s} & \dots & H_{n,s} \end{pmatrix}}_{\mathbf{B}} \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} f_{,1} \\ f_{,2} \\ \vdots \\ f_{,n} \end{pmatrix}}_{\nabla f} = \mathbf{0}. \quad (6)$$

This means that if $\{H_1, \dots, H_n\}$ and f are differentiable functions and \mathbf{B} has full rank, then $\nabla f(\mathbf{z})$ and therefore $f(\mathbf{z})$ itself must vanish identically, so the functions H_i must be independent. We exploit this to define *differentiable independence* and *differentiable rank* as follows:

Definition II.3. Differential functional independence. A set of n nonzero differentiable functions \mathcal{H} is differentially independent if their gradients are linearly independent, i.e., if $\text{rank } \mathbf{B}(\mathbf{z}) = n$ almost everywhere (for all \mathbf{z} except for a set of measure zero).

Definition II.4. differential function set rank. The differential rank of the function set $\mathcal{H} = \{H_1(\mathbf{z}), H_2(\mathbf{z}), \dots, H_n(\mathbf{z})\}$ is defined as $k_D = \max_{\mathbf{z}} \text{rank } \mathbf{B}(\mathbf{z})$.

In practice, it suffices to compute the maximum over a finite number of points $P \gg n$: it is exponentially unlikely that such sampling will underestimate the true manifold dimensionality, just as it is exponentially unlikely that P random

points in three-dimensional space will happen to lie on a plane.

Numerically, one can apply singular value decomposition to \mathbf{B} to obtain singular values $\{\sigma_1, \sigma_2, \dots, \sigma_n\}$, and define the rank as the number of nonzero singular values. In practice, we treat components as vanishing if the explained fraction of the total variance, $\sigma_i^2 / \sum_j \sigma_j^2$, is below $\epsilon = 10^{-2}$. In the differential rank row of Fig. 2 (plus two PDE examples in the rank row), we draw a horizontal line at ϵ , and define n_c as the number of components above that line. The differential rank and the rank mostly give consistent results, as shown in Fig. 2. However, the differential rank is more efficient to compute and appears to be more stable in high dimensions (see examples in Sec. IV E).

3. Discovering symbolic formulas

When no domain knowledge is available for a physical system, we perform a brute-force search over symbolic formulas ordered by increasing complexity as in Refs. [12,13]. We leverage the criterion $\hat{\mathbf{f}} \cdot \nabla \widehat{H} = 0$ to determine if a candidate function $H(\mathbf{z})$ is a conserved quantity or not. We implement a brute force algorithm in C++ for speed and employ a fast rejection strategy for further speedup: we prepare $n_p = 10$ test points in advance, and reject H immediately if $|\hat{\mathbf{f}}(\mathbf{z}) \cdot \nabla \widehat{H}(\mathbf{z})| > \epsilon_s = 10^{-4}$ for any test point \mathbf{z} . If a formula survives at the n_p test points, then we test thoroughly by checking the condition numerically on the whole dataset, or test the condition symbolically. We determine whether the new conserved quantity is independent of already discovered ones by checking if the differential function set rank increases by 1 when adding the new conserved quantity (see Supplemental Material [14]).

4. Including inductive biases to learn conservation laws

Above we did not distinguish between integrals of motion (IOM) and conservation laws. Loosely speaking, conservation laws are those IOMs with inductive biases. As clarified in Ref. [15] and Sec. IV A, conservation laws are usually derived from homogeneity and isotropy of space and time, and have the feature of being additive, i.e., expressible as a sum of simple terms involving only a small subset of the degrees of freedom. Conserved quantities of PDEs usually take the form of integrals over space. We incorporate any such desired inductive biases into our method by restricting the neural networks parametrizing $H_i(\mathbf{z})$ to have the corresponding properties.

III. RESULTS

A. Summary of numerical experiments

We test AI Poincaré 2.0 on several systems: the Kepler problem, the damped harmonic oscillator, the isotropic/anisotropic harmonic oscillators, the gravitational three-body problem, the KdV wave equation and the nonlinear Schrödinger equation. The neural network has two hidden layers, each containing 256 neurons with SiLU activation, and is trained with the Adam optimizer [16] for 100 epochs. When training multiple networks simultaneously, we choose the regularization coefficient $\lambda = 0.02$. Our method succeeds

TABLE I. Sixteen out of 21 conservation laws were discovered not only numerically but also symbolically using our fast-rejection brute force search limited to nine distinct symbols.

System	Integrals of Motion or Conservation Laws	Reverse Polish Notation	Discovered
Kepler Problem	$H_1 = \frac{1}{2}(p_x^2 + p_y^2) - \frac{1}{\sqrt{x^2+y^2}}$	$p_x Q p_y Q + r I o -$	Yes
	$H_2 = x p_y - y p_x$	$x p_y * y p_x * -$	Yes
	$H_3 = (x p_y - y p_x) p_y + \hat{r}_x$	$x p_y * y p_x * - p_y * x r / +$	No
1D Damped Oscillator	$H_1 = \arctan(\frac{p}{x}) + \ln \sqrt{x^2 + p^2} / \gamma$	$p x / T x Q p Q + R L \gamma / +$	No
Isotropic Oscillator	$H_1 = \frac{1}{2}(x^2 + p_x^2)$	$x Q * p_x Q +$	Yes
	$H_2 = \frac{1}{2}(y^2 + p_y^2)$	$y Q p_y Q +$	Yes
	$H_3 = x y + p_x p_y$	$x y * p_x p_y * +$	Yes
Anisotropic Oscillator	$H_1 = \frac{1}{2}(x^2 + p_x^2)$	$x Q * p_x Q +$	Yes
	$H_2 = \frac{1}{2}(4y^2 + p_y^2)$	$y Q O O p_y Q +$	Yes
	$H_3 = x \sqrt{H_1 H_2 - l^2} - l p_x$ ($l = x p_y - 2 y p_x$)	$H_1 H_2 * l Q - R x * l p_x * -$	No
Three Body Problem	$H_1 = \sum_{i=1}^3 \frac{1}{2}(p_{i,x}^2 + p_{i,y}^2) - (\frac{1}{r_{12}} + \frac{1}{r_{13}} + \frac{1}{r_{23}})$	$\sum_i p_{i,x} Q p_{i,y} Q + r_{i(i+1)} I O -$	Yes
	$H_2 = \sum_{i=1}^3 x_i p_{i,y} - y_i p_{i,x}$	$\sum_i x_i p_{i,y} * y_i p_{i,x} * -$	Yes
	$H_3 = \sum_{i=1}^3 p_{i,x}$	$\sum_i p_{i,x}$	Yes
	$H_4 = \sum_{i=1}^3 p_{i,y}$	$\sum_i p_{i,y}$	Yes
KdV	$H_1 = \int \phi dx$	ϕ	Yes
	$H_2 = \int \phi^2 dx$	ϕQ	Yes
	$H_3 = \int (2\phi^3 - \phi_x^2) dx$	$\phi Q \phi * O \phi_x Q -$	Yes
	$H_4 = \int (5\phi^4 - 10\phi\phi_x^2 + \phi_{xx}^2) dx$	$\phi Q Q 5 * \phi_x Q \phi * 10 * - \phi_{xx} Q +$	No
Nonlinear Schrödinger	$H_1 = \int \psi ^2 dx$	ψQ	Yes
	$H_2 = \int (\psi_x ^2 + \psi ^4) dx$	$\psi_x Q \psi Q Q +$	Yes
	$H_3 = \int (\psi_{xx} ^2 + 2 \psi_x ^2 \psi ^2 - 2 \psi ^6) dx$	$\psi_{xx} Q \psi Q \psi_x Q O * + \psi Q Q \psi Q * O -$	No

in discovering all conservation laws numerically (Fig. 2) and most symbolically (Table I). Below we go through these examples one by one.

B. 2D Kepler problem

The 2D Kepler problem is described by two coordinates (x, y) and two velocity components (v_x, v_y) ,

$$\mathbf{z} = \begin{pmatrix} x \\ v_x \\ y \\ v_y \end{pmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{z}) = \begin{pmatrix} v_x \\ -GMx/(x^2 + y^2)^{3/2} \\ v_y \\ -GM y/(x^2 + y^2)^{3/2} \end{pmatrix}, \quad (7)$$

where G is the gravitational constant, M and m are the mass of the sun and the planet, respectively. The system has three conserved quantities: (1) energy $H_1 = -GMm/\sqrt{x^2 + y^2} + \frac{m}{2}(v_x^2 + v_y^2)$; (2) angular momentum $H_2 = m(xv_y - yv_x)$; (3) direction of the Runge-lenz vector $H_3 = \arctan(\frac{v_x H_2 + GM \hat{r}_y}{-v_y H_2 + GM \hat{r}_x})$, where $\hat{r} \equiv (\hat{r}_x, \hat{r}_y) = (\frac{x}{\sqrt{x^2 + y^2}}, \frac{y}{\sqrt{x^2 + y^2}})$. Without loss of generality, $GM = 1$. As shown in Fig. 2, first column, our method correctly identifies all of three conservation laws.

The reverse Polish notation for $\sqrt{x^2 + y^2}$ is $xQyQ+R$ (6 symbols) which is quite expensive. To facilitate symbolic learning, one may wish to add in the radius variable $r = \sqrt{x^2 + y^2}$ to exploit the symmetry of the problem. To do so, we augment the original system with the extra variable r

into an augmented system:

$$\mathbf{z}' = \begin{pmatrix} x \\ v_x \\ y \\ v_y \\ r \end{pmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{f}'(\mathbf{z}') = \begin{pmatrix} v_x \\ -GMx/(x^2 + y^2)^{3/2} \\ v_y \\ -GM y/(x^2 + y^2)^{3/2} \\ (xv_x + yv_y)/r \end{pmatrix}. \quad (8)$$

Our method manages to rediscover the symbolic formulas for energy and angular momentum, but the one for the Runge-Lenz vector is too long to be discovered, as shown in Table I.

C. 1D damped harmonic oscillator

The 1D damped harmonic oscillator is described by the equation

$$\frac{d}{dt} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ p \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} p \\ -x - \gamma p \end{pmatrix}, \quad (9)$$

where γ is the damping coefficient. In the sense of Frobenius integrability (defined in Sec. IV A), the system has 1 conserved quantity. We first attempt to construct the quantity analytically. The family of solutions for Eq. (9) is

$$\begin{pmatrix} x(t) \\ p(t) \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} e^{-\gamma t} \cos(t + \varphi) \\ e^{-\gamma t} \sin(t + \varphi) \end{pmatrix}, \quad \varphi \in [0, 2\pi). \quad (10)$$

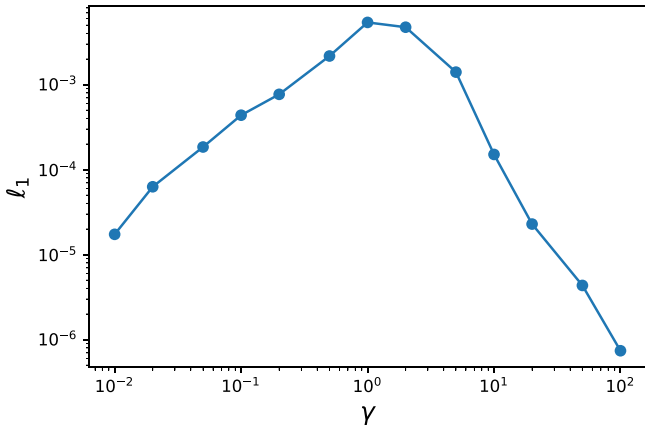


FIG. 3. 1D damped harmonic oscillator: conservation loss ℓ_1 as a function of γ .

Define the complex variable $z(t) \equiv x(t) + ip(t) = e^{(-\gamma+i)t+i\varphi}$ and its complex conjugate $\bar{z} = e^{(-\gamma-i)t-i\varphi}$. Then

$$H \equiv z^{(-\gamma-i)/\bar{z}^{(-\gamma+i)}} = \left(\frac{z}{\bar{z}}\right)^{-\gamma} (z\bar{z})^{-i} = e^{-2i\gamma\varphi} \quad (11)$$

is a conserved quantity. When $\gamma = 0$, $H \sim (z\bar{z}) = |z|^2 = x^2 + p^2$ which is the energy; when $\gamma \rightarrow \infty$, $H \sim (z/\bar{z}) \sim \arg(z) = \arctan(p/x)$ which is the polar angle. For visualization purposes, we define $H' \equiv \frac{i}{2\gamma} \ln H = \theta + \frac{\ln r}{\gamma}$, where $\theta = \arctan \frac{p}{x}$ and $r = \sqrt{x^2 + p^2}$. We visualize $\cos H'$ in Fig. 4

top for different γ . The function looks regular for $\gamma = 0$ and $\gamma \geq 10$, but looks ill-behaved for, e.g., $\gamma = 0.01$ and 0.1 .

1. Neural networks cannot learn ill-behaved conserved quantities well

Neural networks have an implicit bias toward smooth functions, so they are unable to learn ill-behaved conserved quantities. To verify the argument, we run AI Poincaré 2.0 (only an $n = 1$ model, hence no regularization) on the 1D damped harmonic oscillator with different damping coefficient γ , and plot ℓ_1 as a function of γ in Fig. 3. We found that: (1) the conservation loss ℓ_1 is almost vanishing at small $\gamma = 0.01$ and large $\gamma = 100$; (2) ℓ_1 peaks around $\gamma = 1$, which agrees with the visualization in Fig. 4 top row. We visualize functions learned by neural networks in Fig. 4, middle row, each column displaying results of a specific γ . To interpret what conserved quantity the neural network has learned, we compare the learned function $H(x, p)$ with two baseline functions $H_1(x, p) = r \equiv \sqrt{x^2 + p^2}$ and $H_2(x, p) = x$ in Fig. 4 bottom row. If H and $H_i (i = 1, 2)$ are the same function up to an overall nonlinear transformation, i.e., $H = f(H_i)$, then 2D scatter points $[H(x, p), H_i(x, p)]$ for all (x, p) pairs should only occupy a 1D submanifold in 2D. When the scatter points do not have a submanifold structure, it implies that H and H_i are not the same function. When $\gamma = 0.01$, the conserved quantity is equivalent to r up to a nonlinear reparameterization; When $\gamma = 100$, the conserved quantity is equivalent to x up to a nonlinear reparameterization.

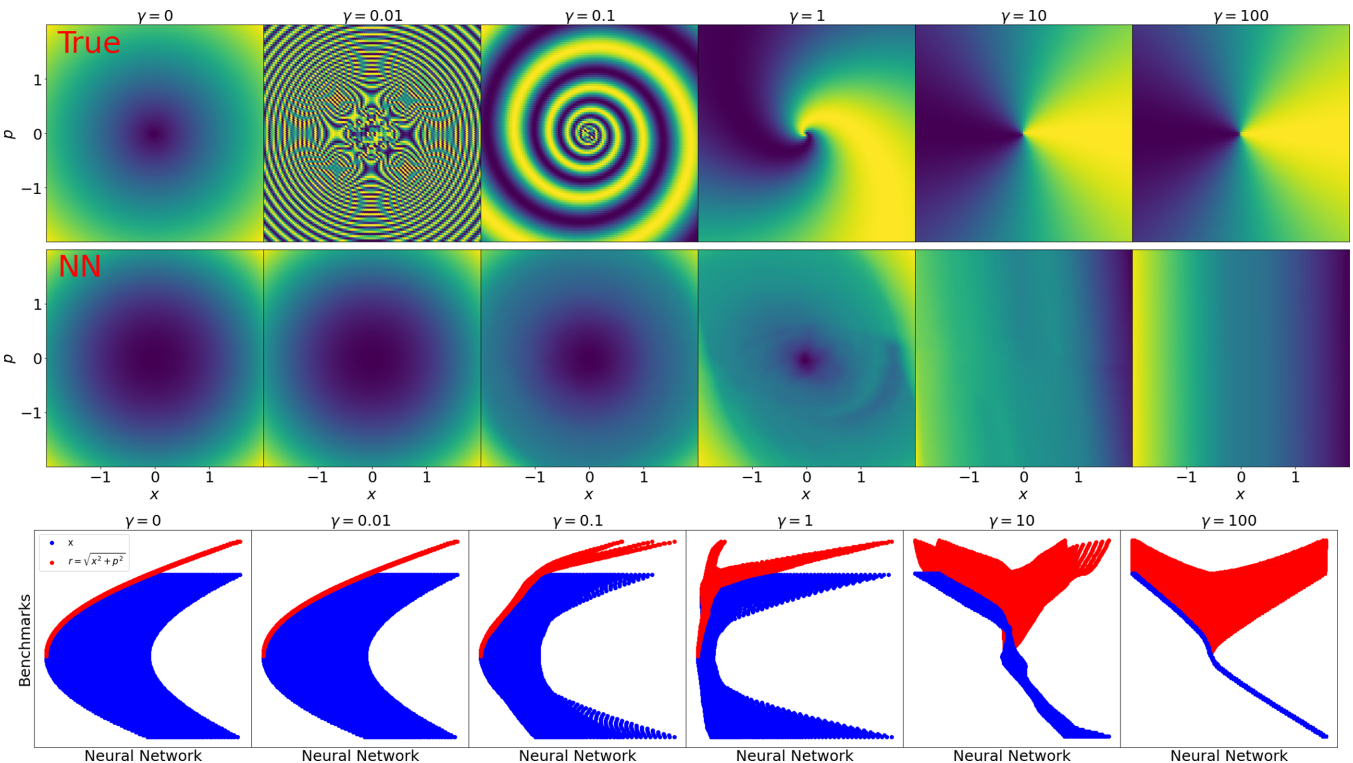


FIG. 4. 1D damped harmonic oscillator: Each column corresponds to a damping coefficient γ . Top: conserved quantity of the 1D damped harmonic oscillator with different γ . Neural networks cannot perfectly learn the singular behavior near the origin, and also struggle when the stripes get too narrow. Middle: visualizations of neural network predictions of the conserved quantity. Bottom: comparison of neural network predictions with x and $r = \sqrt{x^2 + p^2}$. For $\gamma = 0$ and $\gamma = 100$, the neural network learns r and x as conservation laws, respectively.

While advanced techniques [17] can bias neural networks toward highly oscillatory and/or ill-behaved functions, the smoothness of neural networks is a feature than bug for physicists who care about only well-behaved conserved quantities. We will expand on this idea in Sec. V A.

D. 2D isotropic and anisotropic harmonic oscillator

The harmonic oscillator (2D) is described by two coordinates (x, y) and two momenta (p_x, p_y) ,

$$\mathbf{z} = \begin{pmatrix} x \\ p_x \\ y \\ p_y \end{pmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{z}) = \begin{pmatrix} p_x/m \\ -\omega_x^2 x \\ p_y/m \\ -\omega_y^2 y \end{pmatrix}, \quad (12)$$

where m is the mass, and ω_x and ω_y are angular frequencies. When $\omega_x \neq \omega_y$, the system is anisotropic and has two obvious conserved quantities: (1) x -energy $H_1 = \frac{1}{2}\omega_x^2 x^2 + \frac{1}{2m}p_x^2$ and (2) y -energy $H_2 = \frac{1}{2}\omega_y^2 y^2 + \frac{1}{2m}p_y^2$. The third conserved quantity is less studied by physicists but still exists if ω_x/ω_y is a rational number [18]. When $\omega_x = \omega_y$, the system is isotropic and has three conserved quantities. Besides H_1 and H_2 , angular momentum $H_3 = xp_y - yp_x$ is also conserved. For the isotropic case, we choose $m = \omega_x = \omega_y = 1$; for the anisotropic case, we choose $m = \omega_x = 1, \omega_y = 2$. Samples are drawn from the uniform distribution $\mathbf{z} \sim U[-2, 2]^4$. We include more physics discussion below for completeness.

1. Isotropic case

In the isotropic case $\omega_x = \omega_y = m = 1$, there are four conservation laws [19]:

$$\begin{aligned} 2H_1 &= x^2 + p_x^2, & 2H_2 &= y^2 + p_y^2, \\ L &= yp_x - xp_y, & K &= xy + p_x p_y, \end{aligned} \quad (13)$$

but they are dependent because $L^2 + K^2 = 4H_1 H_2$. H_1, H_2 , and L are more common in physics, while K is less common. However, there is no need to prefer L over K . In fact, our symbolic module discovers the three conserved quantities $2H_1, 2H_2, K$ and then ignores L because of its dependence on the other three quantities, shown in Table I. The ordering of L and K is in fact arbitrary. In terms of reverse polish notation, both $K = xy * p_x p_y * +$ and $L = yp_x * xp_y * -$ belong to the template 0020022 where 0 represents a variable and 2 represents a binary operator. Because we try “+” before “-,” K comes before L . If we instead try “-” before “+,” then L comes before K . As a sanity check, our method discovered the correct number (3) of conservation laws, as shown in Fig. 2, second column.

2. Anisotropic case

Something amusing happened for the anisotropic oscillator example. The first author, despite passing his classical mechanics exam with full score, expected two IOMs rather than three because the angular momentum is not conserved for the anisotropic oscillator. However, AI Poincaré insisted there were three IOMs, as shown in Fig. 2, third column. The authors eventually realized that AI Poincaré was right:

a third IOM is indeed present, although poorly known among physicists [18].

Let us consider the specific case $m = \omega_x = 1, \omega_y = 2$. The equations of motion are

$$\frac{d}{dt} \begin{pmatrix} x \\ v_x \\ y \\ v_y \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} v_x \\ -x \\ v_y \\ -4y \end{pmatrix}. \quad (14)$$

Solving the equation yields the trajectory

$$\begin{pmatrix} x \\ v_x \\ y \\ v_y \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} A_x \sin(t + \varphi_x) \\ A_x \cos(t + \varphi_x) \\ A_y \sin(2t + \varphi_y) \\ 2A_y \cos(2t + \varphi_y) \end{pmatrix}, \quad (15)$$

with arbitrary constants A_x, A_y, φ_x , and φ_y .

We define angular momentum

$$L^{(1)} \equiv xp_y - yp_x = 2A_x A_y [\sin(t + \varphi_1 - \varphi_2)]. \quad (16)$$

Note $L^{(1)}$ is not conserved, nor is $K^{(1)} \equiv \sqrt{(2A_x A_y)^2 - L^{(1)2}} = 2A_x A_y \cos(t + \varphi_1 - \varphi_2)$. However, it is interesting to note that the trajectory of $\mathbf{z}' \equiv (x, v_x, L^{(1)}, K^{(1)})$ can be generated from an isotropic harmonic oscillator, because all components have the same angular frequency. Hence the “angular momentum” is conserved:

$$\begin{aligned} L^{(2)} &\equiv xK^{(1)} - yL^{(1)} = x(xp_y - yp_x) \\ &\quad - y\sqrt{(x^2 + p_x^2)(y^2 + p_y^2) - (xp_y - yp_x)^2}. \end{aligned} \quad (17)$$

Although the numerical front realizes the existence of this conserved quantity, it remains difficult for the symbolic front to discover it due to its length, as shown in Table I.

For general (ω_x, ω_y) , there exists a third conserved quantity in the sense of Frobenius integrability, as we construct below (also in Ref. [19]). The family of solutions is

$$\begin{pmatrix} x \\ p_x \\ y \\ p_y \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} A_x \cos(\omega_x t + \varphi_x) \\ -\omega_x A_x \sin(\omega_x t + \varphi_x) \\ A_y \cos(\omega_y t + \varphi_y) \\ -\omega_y A_y \sin(\omega_y t + \varphi_y) \end{pmatrix}. \quad (18)$$

We define $z_1 \equiv \frac{1}{A_x}(x + i\frac{p_x}{\omega_x}) = e^{i(\omega_x t + \varphi_x)}$ and $z_2 \equiv \frac{1}{A_y}(y + i\frac{p_y}{\omega_y}) = e^{i(\omega_y t + \varphi_y)}$. Hence,

$$H_3 \equiv z_1^{\omega_y} / z_2^{\omega_x} = e^{i(\omega_y \varphi_x - \omega_x \varphi_y)} \quad (19)$$

is a conserved quantity. In the isotropic case when $\omega_x = \omega_y = \omega$, H_3 simplifies to

$$H_3 = [\omega^2 xy + p_x p_y + i\omega(xp_y - yp_x)]/H_2, \quad (20)$$

whose imaginary part is the well-known angular momentum. Since the norm of H_3 is 1, the real and imaginary part are not independent. We plot $-i\ln H_3$ in Fig. 5 top with different (ω_x, ω_y) . We set $A_x = A_y = 1$. In the cases when ω_y/ω_x is an integer or simple fractional number, H_3 is regular; however, when ω_y/ω_x is a complicated fractional number or even an irrational number, H_3 is ill-behaved, demonstrating fractal behavior.

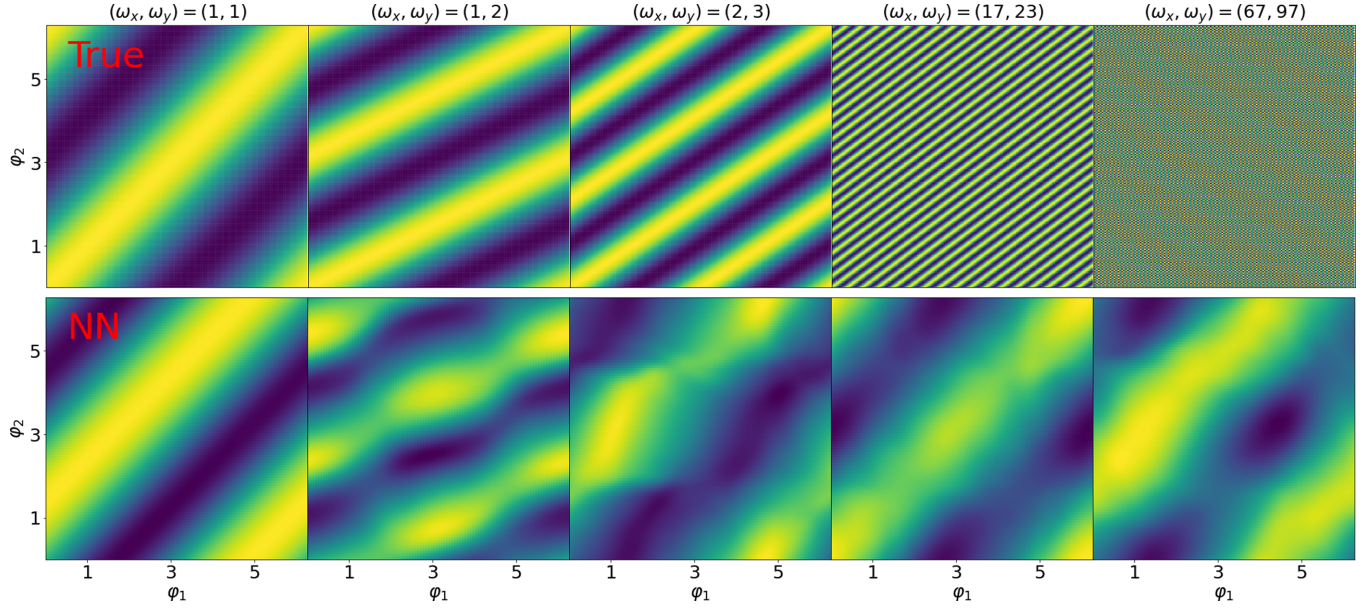


FIG. 5. The third conserved quantity of the 2D harmonic oscillator with different frequency pairs (ω_x, ω_y) . Top: ground truth; bottom: learned results by neural networks. A neural network can only learn this conserved quantity if the frequency ratio $q \equiv \omega_x/\omega_y$ is a ratio of small integers; if q is irrational, then the conserved quantity is an everywhere discontinuous function that is completely useless to physicists.

We also run AI Poincaré 2.0 ($n = 4$ models are trained) on the 2D harmonic oscillator example with different frequency ratios ω_y/ω_x . In Fig. 5 bottom, we visualize the worst conserved quantity, i.e., the one with the highest conservation loss, of four neural networks. To map the four-dimensional function to a 2D plot, we constrain $x = \cos\varphi_1$, $p_x = \sin\varphi_1$, $y = \cos\varphi_2$, $p_y = \sin\varphi_2$. When $(\omega_x, \omega_y) = (1, 1)$ or $(1,2)$, the neural network prediction of the third conserved quantity aligns well with our expectation (visualized in Fig. 5). For more complicated ω_y/ω_x ratios, the prediction looks similar to the $(\omega_x, \omega_y) = (1, 1)$ case, but they have high conservation loss, as shown in Table II.

E. Three-body problem

The three-body problem has 12 degrees of freedom: 6 positions $(x_i, y_i) (i = 1, 2, 3)$ and 6 velocities $(v_{x,i}, v_{y,i}) (i = 1, 2, 3)$.

Although there are $12 - 1 = 11$ IOMs, only 4 are identified as conservation laws by physicists: (1) x -momentum: $H_1 = \sum_{i=1}^3 m_i v_{i,x}$; (2) y -momentum: $H_2 = \sum_{i=1}^3 m_i v_{i,y}$; (3) angular momentum: $H_3 = \sum_{i=1}^3 m_i (x_i v_{i,y} - y_i v_{i,x})$; (4) energy $H = \sum_{i=1}^3 \frac{1}{2} m_i (v_{i,x}^2 + v_{i,y}^2) + (\frac{Gm_1m_2}{(x_1-x_2)^2+(y_1-y_2)^2})^{1/2} + \frac{Gm_1m_3}{((x_1-x_3)^2+(y_1-y_3)^2)^{1/2}} + \frac{Gm_2m_3}{((x_2-x_3)^2+(y_2-y_3)^2)^{1/2}}$. In numerical experiments, we set $G = m_1 = m_2 = m_3 = 1$. Similar to

the Kepler problem, we can simplify symbolic search by adding three distance variables:

$$\begin{aligned} r_{12} &= \sqrt{(x_1 - x_2)^2 + (y_1 - y_2)^2}, \\ r_{13} &= \sqrt{(x_1 - x_3)^2 + (y_1 - y_3)^2}, \\ r_{23} &= \sqrt{(x_2 - x_3)^2 + (y_2 - y_3)^2}. \end{aligned} \tag{21}$$

According to Landau [15], conservation laws are those IOMs which respect spacetime symmetries and being additive. To incorporate these inductive biases, we assume that a conserved quantity decomposes into one-body terms and two-body terms. We assume nothing about the one-body terms, but assume translational and rotational invariance for the two-body terms. As a result, a candidate conservation law must have the form

$$H = \sum_{i=1}^3 g(x_i, y_i, v_{i,x}, v_{i,y}) + \sum_{i=1}^3 \sum_{j=i+1}^3 h(r_{ij}), \tag{22}$$

where $r_{ij} \equiv \sqrt{(x_j - x_i)^2 + (y_j - y_i)^2}$. By parametrizing g and h as two separate neural networks, the learned conservation laws automatically satisfy the above-mentioned desired physical properties. Our algorithm now discovers precisely four independent conservation laws, as shown in Fig. 2, fourth column.

TABLE II. 2D harmonic oscillator: Worst and average conservation loss for different ratios ω_y/ω_x .

(ω_x, ω_y)	(1,1)	(1,2)	(2,3)	(17,23)	(67,97)
Worst conservation loss	1.1×10^{-4}	5.1×10^{-4}	7.9×10^{-4}	1.2×10^{-3}	1.4×10^{-3}
Average conservation loss	7.7×10^{-5}	4.6×10^{-4}	4.7×10^{-4}	1.0×10^{-3}	1.1×10^{-3}

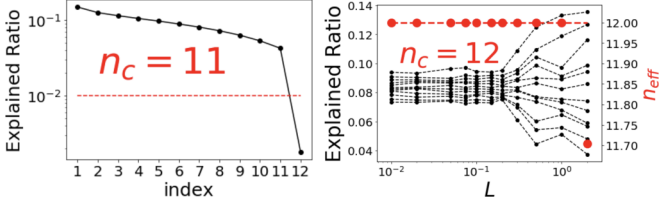


FIG. 6. The 2D three body problem without inductive biases. The differential rank (left) correctly predicts 11 IOMs, while the rank (right) incorrectly predicts 12 IOMs. This implies that the differential rank is preferred over the rank in high dimensions, i.e., when n_c is large.

It is useful to push the limit of our method to see it still works in more challenging scenarios. We investigate two cases below: (1) no inductive biases or (2) unequal masses.

1. Challenging case 1: No inductive biases

When no inductive bias is added to the neural network, the neural network degrades to parametrize integrals of motion. Since a first-order differential equation with s degrees of freedom have $s - 1$ integrals of motion, the 2D three-body problem has $12 - 1 = 11$ integrals of motion. The results are quite interesting: the differential rank method predicts correctly 11 IOMs (Fig. 6, left), while the rank method predicts incorrectly 12 IOMs (Fig. 6, right). This is possibly because Neural Empirical Bayes (the manifold learning module used to compute rank, as well as in AI Poincaré 1.0) degrades when dealing with high-dimensional manifolds. This highlights yet another benefit of differential rank, which is novelly proposed in 2.0. Differential rank is not only more numerically efficient than rank, but also more stable in high dimensions.

2. Challenging case 2: Unequal masses

We tried a case in which $m_1:m_2:m_3 = 400:20:1$. Both the rank and the differential rank predict five conservation laws, shown in Fig. 7 (left and right). Interestingly, this is different from 4 conservation laws in the case of equal masses. We conjecture that this is because in the limit $m_1 \gg m_2 \gg m_3$: (1) the momentum of m_1 is almost conserved (2 conservation laws); (2) m_2 orbits around m_1 as in the Kepler problem (three conservation laws); (3) any term involving m_3 can be ignored. So there are $2 + 3 = 5$ conservation laws in total. The discrep-

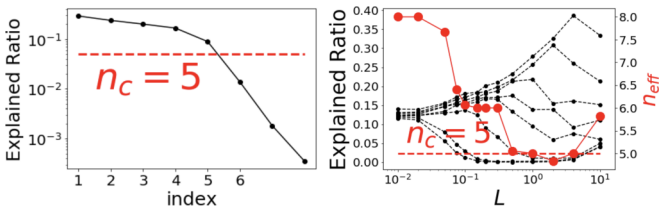


FIG. 7. The 2D three body problem with unequal masses $m_1:m_2:m_3 = 400:20:1$. Both the differential rank (left) and the rank (right) correctly predict $n_c = 5$ conservation laws. The result is different from $n_c = 4$ for the equal masses case in Fig. 2, implying that our method can also capture approximate conservation laws besides exact conservation laws.

ancy between cases of equal or unequal masses is arguably a feature rather than a bug, implying that our method not only applies to *exact* conservation laws, but also to *approximate* ones.

F. KdV wave equation

Another set of interesting systems are *partial differential equations* (PDE) in the form $u_t = f(u, u_x, u_{xx}, \dots)$. Since a field has infinite number of degrees of freedom (hence infinitely many IOMs), it is crucial to constrain the form of conservation laws to exclude trivial ones. In quantum mechanics, for example, any projector onto an eigenstate is an IOM, but these are less profound than probability conservation (known as unitarity) and energy conservation, etc. Thus, we focus on conservation laws with an integral form obeying translational invariance:

$$H = \int h(u, |u_x|, |u_{xx}|, \dots) dx. \quad (23)$$

In practice, we replace the integral by a sum over the points on a uniform grid. Moreover, we take the absolute value of derivatives as inputs, e.g., $|u_x|$ and $|u_{xx}|$, to avoid trivial “conserved quantities” of the total derivative form $h = \frac{d}{dx} F(u, u_x, u_{xx}, \dots)$, e.g., u_x , uu_x , or u_{xx} , which are conserved simply due to zero boundary conditions.

The Korteweg’De Vries (KdV) equation is a mathematical model for shallow water surfaces. It is a nonlinear partial differential equation for a function ϕ with two real variables, x (space) and t (time):

$$\phi_t + \phi_{xxx} - 6\phi\phi_x = 0. \quad (24)$$

Zero boundary conditions are imposed at the ends of the interval $[a, b]$. The KdV equation is known to have infinitely many conserved quantities [20], which can be written explicitly as

$$\int_a^b P_{2n-1}(\phi, \phi_x, \phi_{xx}, \dots) dx, \quad (25)$$

which follows from locality and translational symmetry. The polynomials P_n are defined recursively by

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{P}_1 &= \phi, \\ P_n &= -\frac{dP_{n-1}}{dx} + \sum_{i=1}^{n-2} P_i P_{n-1-i}. \end{aligned} \quad (26)$$

The first few conservation laws are

$$\begin{aligned} \int \phi dx & \quad (\text{mass}), \\ \int \phi^2 dx & \quad (\text{momentum}), \\ \int (2\phi^3 - \phi_x^2) dx & \quad (\text{energy}). \end{aligned} \quad (27)$$

Despite infinitely many conservation laws, useful ones in physics are usually constrained to contain only ϕ and low-order derivatives (ϕ_x, ϕ_{xx}, \dots).

1. Converting to the canonical form $\dot{\mathbf{z}} = \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{z})$

Since our framework can only deal with systems with finite degrees of freedom, we need to discretize space. We discretize the interval $x \in [-10, 10]$ uniformly into $N_p = 40$ points, denoted x_1, \dots, x_{N_p} and only store derivatives up to fifth order on each grid point, using them to parametrize our $\phi(x)$. This transforms our PDE into an ordinary differential equation with $3N_p$ degrees of freedom ($\phi^{(i)} = \phi(x_i), \phi_x^{(i)} = \phi_x(x_i), \dots$): Eq. (24) implies that

$$\partial_t \begin{pmatrix} \phi \\ \phi_x \\ \phi_{xx} \\ \vdots \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -\phi_{xxx} + 6\phi\phi_x \\ -\phi_{xxxx} + 6(\phi_x^2 + \phi\phi_{xx}) \\ -\phi_{xxxxx} + 6(3\phi_x\phi_{xx} + \phi\phi_{xxx}) \\ \vdots \end{pmatrix}, \quad (28)$$

so our discretized PDE problem becomes

$$\mathbf{z} \equiv \begin{pmatrix} \phi^{(1)} \\ \phi_x^{(1)} \\ \phi_{xx}^{(1)} \\ \vdots \\ \phi^{(N_p)} \\ \phi_x^{(N_p)} \\ \phi_{xx}^{(N_p)} \end{pmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{z}) \equiv \partial_t \mathbf{z} = \begin{pmatrix} -\phi_{xxx}^{(1)} + 6\phi^{(1)}\phi_x^{(1)} \\ -\phi_{xxxx}^{(1)} + 6(\phi_x^{(1)2} + \phi^{(1)}\phi_{xx}^{(1)}) \\ -\phi_{xxxxx}^{(1)} + 6(3\phi_x^{(1)}\phi_{xx}^{(1)} + \phi^{(1)}\phi_{xxx}^{(1)}) \\ \vdots \\ -\phi_{xxx}^{(N_p)} + 6\phi^{(N_p)}\phi_x^{(N_p)} \\ -\phi_{xxxx}^{(N_p)} + 6(\phi_x^{(N_p)2} + \phi^{(N_p)}\phi_{xx}^{(N_p)}) \\ -\phi_{xxxxx}^{(N_p)} + 6(3\phi_x^{(N_p)}\phi_{xx}^{(N_p)} + \phi^{(N_p)}\phi_{xxx}^{(N_p)}) \end{pmatrix}. \quad (29)$$

2. Sample generation

We represent ϕ as a Gaussian mixture, so all derivatives can be computed analytically. In particular,

$$\phi(x) = \sum_{i=1}^{N_g} A_i \left\{ \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma_i} \exp[-(x - \mu_i)^2/2\sigma_i^2] \right\}, \quad -10 \leq x \leq 10, \quad (30)$$

where coefficients are set or drawn randomly accordingly to $A_i \sim U[-5, 5]$, $\mu_i \sim U[-3, 3]$, $\sigma_i = 1.5$. These distributions are chosen such that (1) $\phi(x)$ is (almost) zero at two boundary points $x = -10, 10$; and (2) every single term in $\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{z})$ have similar magnitudes. We choose $N_g = 5$ and generate $P = 10^4$ profiles of ϕ .

3. Constraining conservation laws

The conservation laws of partial differential equations usually have the integral form, i.e., $H = \int h(x')dx$ where $x' = (\phi, \phi_x, \phi_{xx}, \dots)$. When space is discretized, we constrain the conservation law to the form $H = \sum_{i=1}^{N_p} h(x')$. On the numerical front, we parametrize $h(x')$ (as opposed to H) by a neural network; On the symbolic front, we search the symbolic formula of $h(x')$ (as opposed to H). The summation operation is hard coded for both fronts.

4. Avoiding trivial conservation laws

Due to zero boundary conditions, if $h(x')$ is an x derivative of another function $g(x')$, then it is obvious that $\int_a^b h(x')dx = g(x')|_b - g(x')|_a = 0$, which is a trivial conserved quantity. For example, $h(x') = \phi_x, \phi\phi_x, \phi_{xx}, \phi_x^2 + \phi\phi_{xx}$ are all trivial. We observe that each of them has at least one term that is an odd function of a derivative. Consequently, a simple solution is to use absolute values ($|\phi_x|, |\phi_{xx}|, \dots$) instead of $(\phi_x, \phi_{xx}, \dots)$ so that these trivial conservation laws are avoided in the first place.

On the numerical front, our algorithm successfully discovers 2, 3, and 4 conserved quantities which are dependent on $\phi, (\phi, \phi_x)$, and $(\phi, \phi_x, \phi_{xx})$, respectively, as shown in Fig. 2, second to last column. On the symbolic front, we constrain the input variables to be $(\phi, \phi_x, \phi_{xx})$, and three out of four conservation laws (mass, momentum, and energy) can be discovered, as shown in Table I. Our method fails for the fourth conservation law because it is too long.

G. Nonlinear Schrödinger equation

The 1D nonlinear Schrödinger equation (NLS) is a nonlinear generalization of the Schrödinger equation. Its principal applications are to the propagation of light in nonlinear optical fibres and planar waveguides and to Bose-Einstein condensates. The classical field equation (in dimensionless form) is

$$i\psi_t = -\frac{1}{2}\psi_{xx} + \kappa|\psi|^2\psi. \quad (31)$$

Zero boundary conditions are imposed at infinity [21]. Like the KdV equation, the NLS has infinitely many conserved quantities of the integral form

$$H(x) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} h(\psi, \psi_x, \psi_{xx}, \dots)dx. \quad (32)$$

Useful conservation laws in physics usually contain only low-order derivatives, e.g.,

$$\text{unitarity: } \int |\psi|^2 dx,$$

$$\text{energy: } \int \frac{1}{2}(|\psi_x|^2 + \kappa|\psi|^4)dx. \quad (33)$$

1. Converting to the canonical form $\dot{\mathbf{z}} = \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{z})$

Similar to the KdV equation, we treat $(\psi, \psi_x, \psi_{xx}, \dots)$ as different variables. We denote $\psi_r \equiv \text{Re}(\psi)$, $\psi_i \equiv \text{Im}(\psi)$, $\text{Re}(\psi_x) = \psi_{x,r}$, $\text{Im}(\psi_x) = \psi_{x,i}$, etc.:

$$\partial_t \begin{pmatrix} \psi \\ \psi_x \\ \psi_{xx} \\ \vdots \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{2}i\psi_{xx} - i\kappa|\psi|^2\psi \\ \frac{1}{2}i\psi_{xxx} - i\kappa(|\psi|^2\psi_x + (\psi_r\psi_{x,r} + \psi_i\psi_{x,i})\psi) \\ \frac{1}{2}i\psi_{xxxx} - i\kappa(|\psi|^2\psi_{xx} + 2(\psi_r\psi_{x,r} + \psi_i\psi_{x,i})\psi_x + (\psi_{x,r}^2 + \psi_r\psi_{xx,r} + \psi_{x,i}^2 + \psi_i\psi_{xx,i})\psi) \\ \vdots \end{pmatrix}. \quad (34)$$

Since ψ is a complex number, we should treat real and imaginary parts separately:

$$\partial_t \begin{pmatrix} \psi_r \\ \psi_i \\ \psi_{x,r} \\ \psi_{x,i} \\ \psi_{xx,r} \\ \psi_{xx,i} \\ \vdots \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -\frac{1}{2}\psi_{xx,i} + \kappa|\psi|^2\psi_i \\ \frac{1}{2}\psi_{xx,r} - \kappa|\psi|^2\psi_r \\ -\frac{1}{2}\psi_{xxx,i} + \kappa(|\psi|^2\psi_{x,i} + (\psi_r\psi_{x,r} + \psi_i\psi_{x,i})\psi_i) \\ \frac{1}{2}\psi_{xxx,r} - \kappa(|\psi|^2\psi_{x,r} + (\psi_r\psi_{x,r} + \psi_i\psi_{x,i})\psi_r) \\ -\frac{1}{2}\psi_{xxxx,i} + \kappa(|\psi|^2\psi_{xx,i} + 2(\psi_r\psi_{x,r} + \psi_i\psi_{x,i})\psi_{x,i} + (\psi_{x,r}^2 + \psi_{r,i}\psi_{xx,r} + \psi_{x,i}^2 + \psi_i\psi_{xx,i})\psi_i) \\ \frac{1}{2}\psi_{xxxx,r} - \kappa(|\psi|^2\psi_{xx,r} + 2(\psi_r\psi_{x,r} + \psi_i\psi_{x,i})\psi_{x,r} + (\psi_{x,r}^2 + \psi_r\psi_{xx,r} + \psi_{x,i}^2 + \psi_i\psi_{xx,i})\psi_r) \\ \vdots \end{pmatrix}. \quad (35)$$

Just as in the KdV example, to avoid trivial solutions, we consider only the equations for magnitude $(|\psi|, |\psi_x|, |\psi_{xx}|, \dots)$:

$$\underbrace{\partial_t \begin{pmatrix} |\psi| \\ |\psi_x| \\ |\psi_{xx}| \\ \vdots \end{pmatrix}}_{\mathbf{z}} = \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} (\psi_r\partial_t\psi_r + \psi_i\partial_t\psi_i)/|\psi| \\ (\psi_{x,r}\partial_t\psi_{x,r} + \psi_{x,i}\partial_t\psi_{x,i})/|\psi_x| \\ (\psi_{xx,r}\partial_t\psi_{xx,r} + \psi_{xx,i}\partial_t\psi_{xx,i})/|\psi_{xx}| \\ \vdots \end{pmatrix}}_{\mathbf{f}}. \quad (36)$$

2. Sample generation

Sample generation is similar to the KdV equations, with the only difference that real and imaginary parts are both treated as (independent) Gaussian mixtures.

We feed the neural network with (1) $|\psi|$ only; (2) $|\psi|$ and $|\psi_x|$; (3) $|\psi|$, $|\psi_x|$, and $|\psi_{xx}|$, and our method predicts 1, 2, and 3 conservation laws, respectively (shown in Fig. 2, last column), which basically agree with the ground truth, although our method is unable to discover the momentum which involves ψ_x because the input $|\psi_x|$ lacks the phase information. We would like to investigate how to include the phase information with the help of complex neural networks in future works.

IV. DISCUSSION

A. Definitions of integrability and relations to AI Poincaré 1.0/2.0

Conservation laws are closely related to the notion of integrability [22], which in turn has various definitions from different perspectives [23,24]. Here we list five definitions of integrability and corresponding definitions of conserved quantities.

1. General integrability (global geometry and topology)

In the context of differential dynamical systems, the notion of integrability refers to the existence of an invariant

regular foliation of phase space [23]. Consequently, a conserved quantity should be a well-behaved function globally, not demonstrating any fractal or other pathological behavior.

2. Frobenius integrability (local geometry and topology)

A dynamical system is said to be Frobenius integrable if, locally, the phase space has a foliation of invariant manifolds [23]. One major corollary of the Frobenius theorem is that a first-order dynamical system with s degrees of freedom always has $s - 1$ (local) integrals of motion. Consequently, a conserved quantity in the sense of Frobenius integrability does not require the foliation to be regular in the global sense. The visual differences between local and global conserved quantities are shown in Figs. 4, and 5.

3. Liouville integrability (algebra)

In the special setting of Hamiltonian systems, we have Liouville integrability, which focuses on algebraic properties of a Hamiltonian system [18]. Liouville integrability states that there exists a maximal set of Poisson commuting invariants, corresponding to conserved quantities. A system in the $2n$ -dimensional phase space is Liouville integrable if it has n independent conserved quantities which commute with each other, i.e., $\{H_i, H_j\} = 0$. According to the Liouville-Arnold theorem [18], such systems can be solved exactly by quadrature, which is a special case of solvable integrability (the fifth criterion below).

4. Landau integrability (concept simplicity)

Landau stated in his textbook [15] that physicists prefer symmetric and additive IOMs and promote them as fundamental ‘‘conservation laws.’’

5. Solvable integrability (symbolic simplicity)

Solvable integrability requires the determination of solutions in an explicit functional form [24]. This property is

TABLE III. Five integrability definitions and whether AI Poincaré 1.0/2.0 can deal with them.

	General	Frobenius	Liouville	Landau	solvable
Poincaré 1.0	Yes	No	No	No	Yes
Poincaré 2.0	Yes	Yes	Yes ^a	Yes	Yes

^aThis case is not included in the paper, but is doable when we combine the techniques of searching for hidden symmetries in Ref. [25].

intrinsic, but can be very useful to simplify and theoretically understand problems.

6. Experimental integrability (robustness)

In physics, we consider a conserved quantity useful if a measurement of it at some time t can constrain the state at some later time $t' > t$. In experimental physics, a measurement of a physical quantity always contains some finite error. Hence a useful conserved quantity must not be infinitely sensitive to measurement error. In contrast, Fig. 5 (top row) shows that, although a conserved quantity exists for all possible frequency pairs (ω_x, ω_y) , their robustness to noise differ widely. Once the noise scale significantly exceeds the width of stripe pattern, an accurate measurement of the conserved quantity is impossible, and a measurement of the “conserved quantity” provides essentially zero useful information for predicting the future state. When the frequency ratio is an irrational number, the “conserved quantity” becomes discontinuous and pathological throughout phase space and completely useless for making physics predictions. This experimental integrability criterion is thus compatible with general integrability, not Frobenius integrability.

In summary, the various notions of integrability are used to study dynamical systems, but have different motivations and scopes. General integrability and Frobenius integrability characterize global and local geometry; Liouville integrability takes an algebraic perspective and applies only to Hamiltonian systems; Landau and solvable integrability instead focus on simplicity based on concepts and symbolic equations, respectively. To the best of our knowledge, there is no agreement on whether one particular definition outperforms others in all senses. We believe they are complementary to each other, rather than being contradictory or redundant. In AI Poincaré 1.0 [2] and 2.0 (the current paper), we mostly did not mention explicitly which sense of integrability/conserved quantities we referred to. Fortunately, AI Poincaré 2.0 can flexibly adapt to all definitions, as summarized in Table III.

AI Poincaré 1.0 defines a trajectory manifold, which is orthogonal to the invariant manifold. The trajectory manifold is globally defined, and its dimensionality is a topological invariant. As a consequence, in AI Poincaré 1.0, conserved quantities satisfy general integrability. The symbolic part of AI Poincaré 1.0 looks for formulas with simple symbolic forms, in the spirit of solvable integrability.

AI Poincaré 2.0 addresses the problem of finding a maximal set of independent conserved quantities, in analogy to the goal of the Frobenius theorem [26] which searches for a maximal set of solutions of a regular system of first-order linear homogeneous partial differential equations. The loss

formulation in Eq. (3) can be viewed as a variational formulation of the system of PDEs to be satisfied for conserved quantities. Consequently, AI Poincaré 2.0 (neural network front) is aligned with Frobenius integrability if there is only one training sample \mathbf{z} . In the presence of many training samples over the phase space, our algorithm becomes aligned with the notion of the general integrability, because the conserved quantity is parameterized as a neural network which has an implicit bias toward smooth and regular functions globally. Although we did not explicitly deal with Liouville integrability in this paper, the algebraic nature of Liouville integrability makes it simply a “hidden symmetry problem” that is defined and solved by Ref. [25], and the techniques in the current paper can further improve the process by determining functional dependence among invariants learned by neural networks. The symmetry and additivity in Landau integrability is known in the machine learning literature as physical *inductive biases*, which can be elegantly handled by adding constraints to the architectures or loss functions [27,28]. Finally, the symbolic front of AI Poincaré 2.0 addresses the problem of finding conserved quantities with simple symbolic formulas.

B. Phase transitions and how to choose λ

Equation (3) has a hyperparameter, the regularization coefficient λ . If λ is too small, then multiple networks may learn dependent conserved quantities. If λ is too large, then the regularization loss dominates the conservation loss, making the conservation laws inaccurate. As we argue below, the proper choice of λ has a lower bound which is determined by the approximation error tolerance ϵ , and an upper bound $O(1)$.

We first use two analytic toy examples to provide insight. In both cases, the number of neural networks n is equal to the dimension s of the problem, just to demonstrate all possible phase transitions. In practice, it is sufficient to choose $n = s - 1$. The geometric intuition for minimizing the loss function Eq. (3) is that ℓ_1 encourages ∇H_i to be orthogonal to \mathbf{f} while the regularization loss ℓ_2 encourages ∇H_i and ∇H_j ($j \neq i$) to be orthogonal.

1. Toy example 1

The first toy example is inspired by the 1D damped harmonic oscillator with its 2D phase space. There is only one conserved quantity in the sense of Frobenius integrability, and the approximation error of a neural network is ϵ . We train two networks to learn the conserved quantities. At the global minima, two possible geometric configurations (gradients of neural conserved quantities) are shown in Fig. 8. It is easy to check that any other configuration has higher loss than at least one of the two configurations. Which configuration has lower loss depends on λ : when $\lambda < \frac{1-\epsilon}{2}$, two networks represent the same function (i.e., the only conserved quantity); when $\lambda > \frac{1-\epsilon}{2}$, two networks represent two independent functions, one of which is not a conserved quantity even in the sense of Frobenius integrability. Since only the first phase is desirable, we need to set $\lambda < \frac{1-\epsilon}{2}$. This condition can be easily satisfied if $\epsilon \ll 1$.

ℓ_1	ϵ	$\frac{1+\epsilon}{2}$
ℓ_2	1	0
$\ell = \ell_1 + \lambda\ell_2$	$\epsilon + \lambda$	$\frac{1+\epsilon}{2}$
condition	$\lambda < \frac{1-\epsilon}{2}$	$\lambda > \frac{1-\epsilon}{2}$

FIG. 8. 2D Toy example: With different λ , the global minima may have different geometric configurations. Assume the single conserved quantity can be approximated by a neural network with error ϵ .

2. Toy example 2

The second toy example is inspired by the 2D anisotropic harmonic oscillator. To better visualize the example, we consider a 3D (rather than 4D) phase space, shown in Fig. 9, but the intrinsic nature of the problem does not change. There are two conserved quantities in the sense of Frobenius integrability. One is easy for neural networks to fit, hence the approximation error can be minimized to zero; another is hard, so a neural network can at best approximate the function up to an error ϵ . Similarly to the analysis above, three possible configurations are global minima. We train three neural networks to learn the conserved quantities. When $\lambda < \frac{\epsilon}{2}$, three models represent only one conserved quantity (the easy one); when $\frac{\epsilon}{2} < \lambda < 1$, three models represent two independent conserved quantities (both the easy and the hard one); when $\lambda > 1$, a third false conserved quantity is learned. Both the first phase and the second phase are acceptable, depending on different notions of integrability, since a hard conserved quantity may be locally well-behaved but globally ill-behaved. If we search for globally conserved quantities, then the first phase is desired. However, if we allow locally conserved quantities, then the second phase is desired. All the experiments in the main text are conducted with $\lambda = 0.02$,

ℓ_1	0	$\frac{\epsilon}{3}$	$\frac{1+\epsilon}{3}$
ℓ_2	1	$\frac{1}{3}$	0
$\ell = \ell_1 + \lambda\ell_2$	λ	$\frac{\epsilon+\lambda}{3}$	$\frac{1+\epsilon}{3}$
condition	$\lambda < \frac{\epsilon}{2}$	$\frac{\epsilon}{2} < \lambda < 1$	$\lambda > 1$

FIG. 9. 3D Toy example: With different λ , the global minima may have different geometric configurations. Assume the first and second conserved quantity can be approximated by a neural network with zero error (easy) and $\epsilon > 0$ error (hard), respectively.

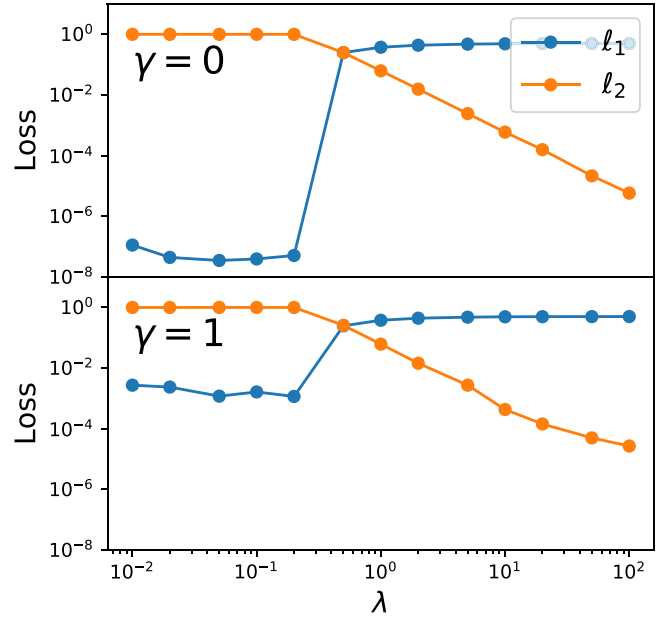


FIG. 10. 1D damped harmonic oscillator: ℓ_1/ℓ_2 as functions of λ demonstrate phase transition behavior.

which is equivalent to saying we only care about conserved quantities whose approximation errors are less than $0.02c$. $c = 2$ in the current toy example, but we expect $c \sim O(1)$ in general.

The analysis of two toy examples above suggests a simple picture of phase transitions for more complicated systems: for n conserved quantities with different difficulty (approximation error $\epsilon_1 < \epsilon_2 < \dots < \epsilon_n$), we expect there to be $n + 1$ phases. At each phase transition, only one conserved quantity is learned or un-learned, and the order of phase transitions

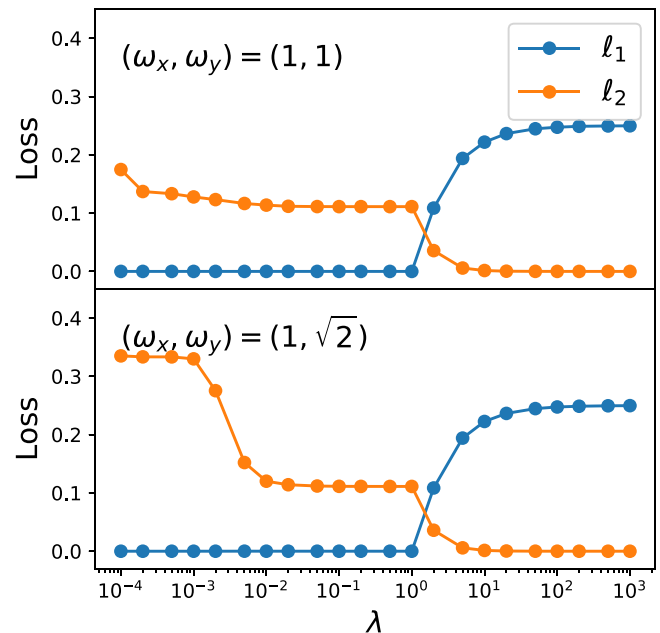


FIG. 11. 2D isotropic/anisotropic harmonic oscillator: ℓ_1/ℓ_2 as functions of λ demonstrate phase transition behavior.

depends on the order of ϵ . From the picture of phase transitions, one learns not only the number of conserved quantities, but also knows their difficulty hierarchy. In practice, the phase transition diagram may not be as clean as in these toy examples due to neural network training inefficiency. We show that the phase transition diagram agrees reasonably well with our theory above for the 1D damped harmonic oscillator and 2D harmonic oscillator. We would like to investigate this further in future work.

3. 1D damped harmonic oscillator

Toy example 1 can apply to the 1D damped harmonic oscillator without any modification. Figure 10 shows that we find a phase transition of ℓ_1/ℓ_2 at $\lambda \approx \frac{1}{2}$ for both $\gamma = 0$ and $\gamma = 1$. When $\gamma = 1$, the nonzero ℓ_1 in the first phase implies the irregularity of the conserved quantity.

4. 2D harmonic oscillator

Toy example 2 is a good abstraction of the 2D harmonic oscillator, but should not be considered to be exact in the quantitative sense. The two energies are easy conserved quantities, while the third conserved quantity regarding phases are harder to learn due to its irregularity when ω_y/ω_x is not a fractional number. Figure 11 shows that: when $(\omega_x, \omega_y) = (1, 1)$, only one clear phase transition happens around $\lambda = 1$.

When $(\omega_x, \omega_y) = (1, \sqrt{2})$, two phase transitions are present, one around $\lambda = 1$, another around $10^{-3} < \lambda < 10^{-2}$.

V. CONCLUSIONS

We have presented a method that, given a set of differential equations, can determine not only the number of independent conserved quantities but also neural (or even symbolic) representations of them. Conservation laws and integrability have many competing definitions listed in Sec. IV A, and AI Poincaré 2.0 is able to adapt to all of them much better than 1.0. In the case of unknown differential equations, however, we have to resort to 1.0. We hope that these tools will accelerate future progress on exciting open physics problems, for example, integrability of quantum many-body systems and many-body localization.

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