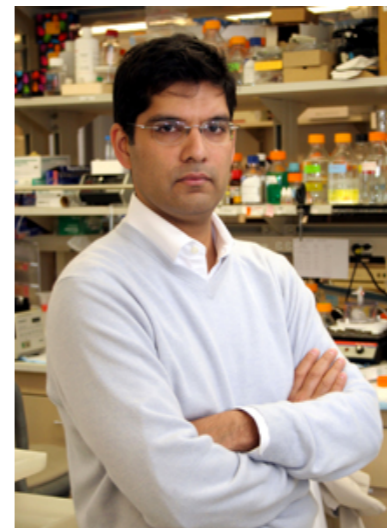


# Composing graphical models with neural networks for structured representations and fast inference

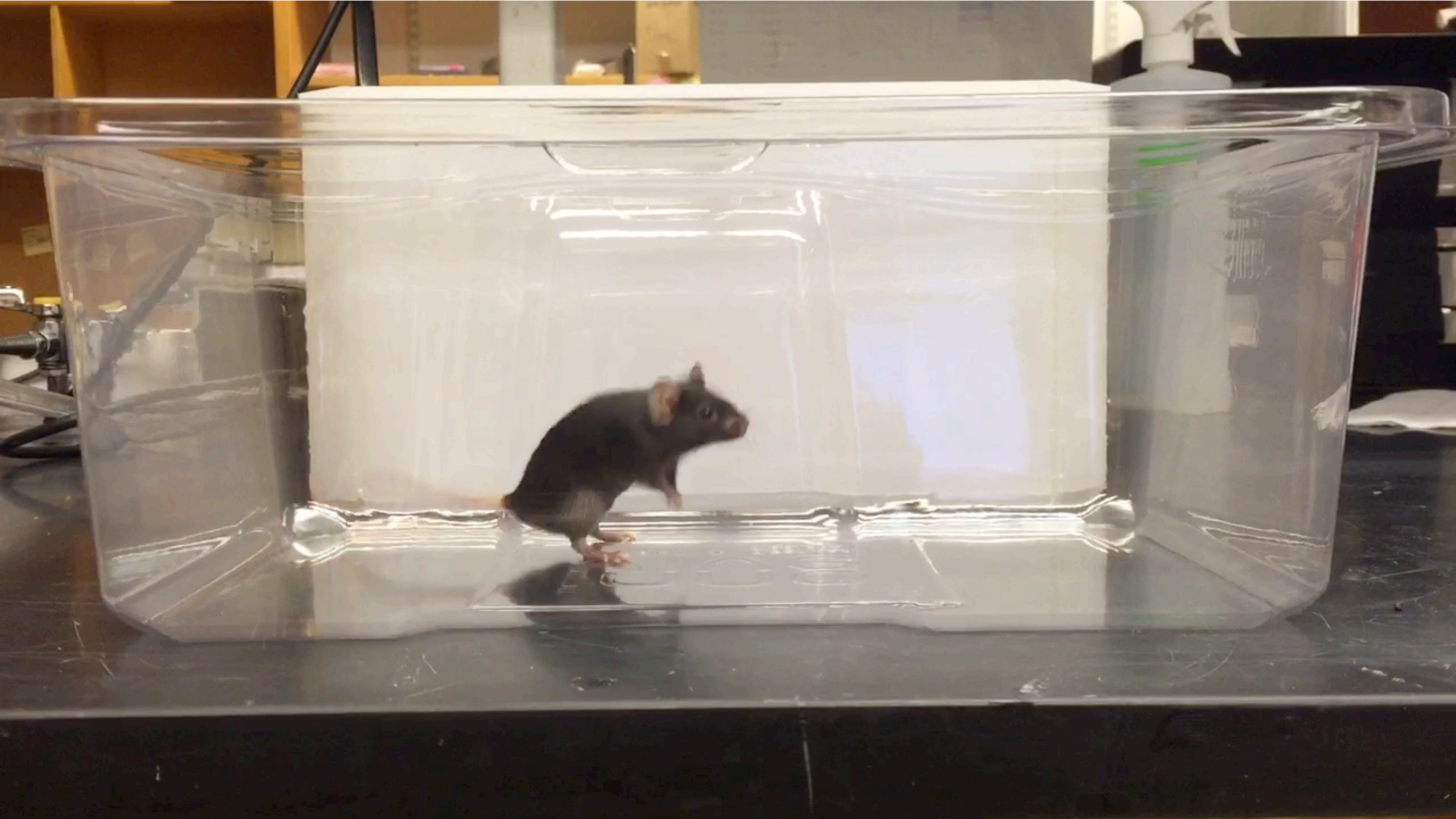
Matt Johnson, David Duvenaud, Alex Wiltschko, Bob Datta, Ryan Adams

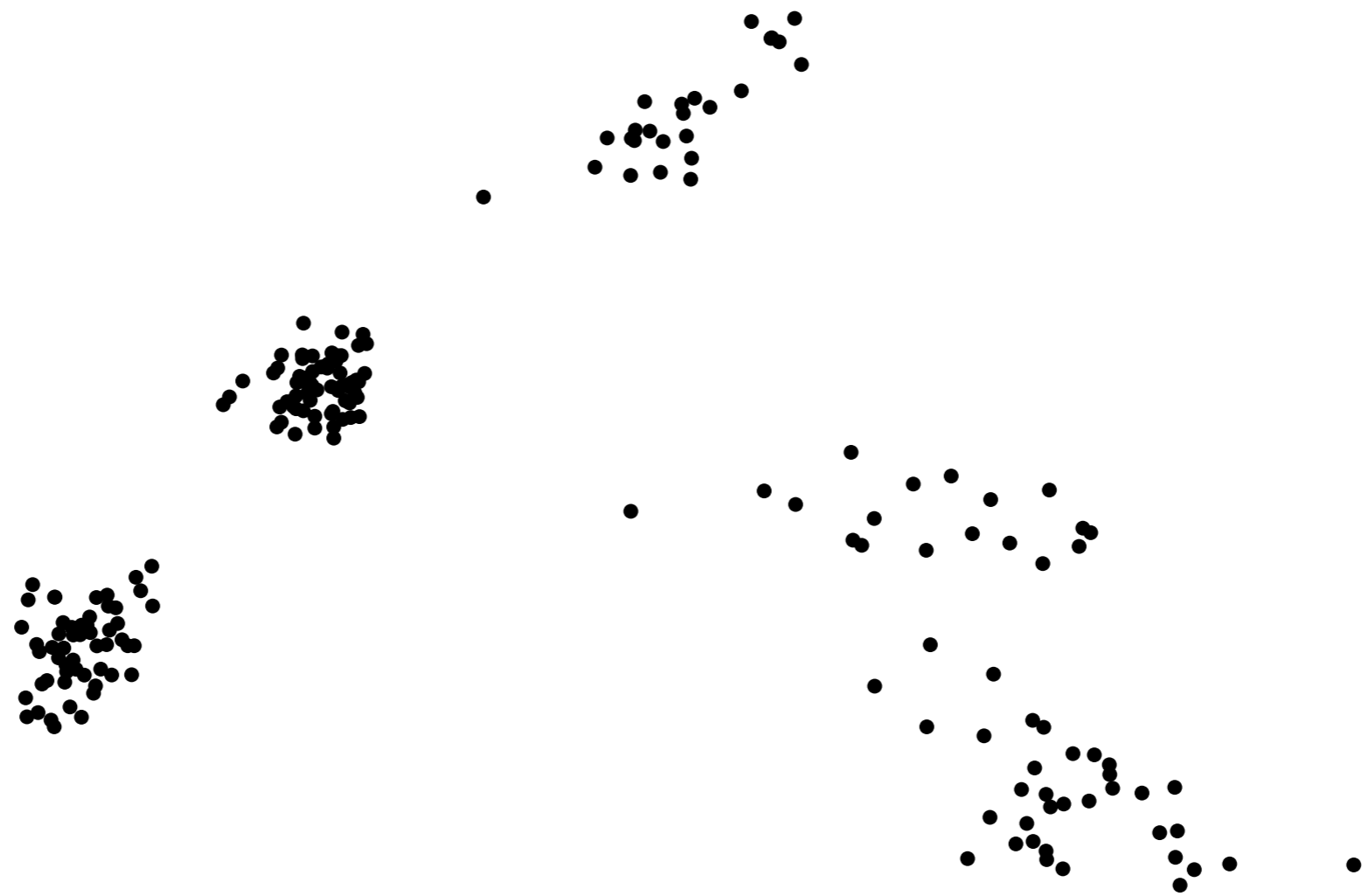


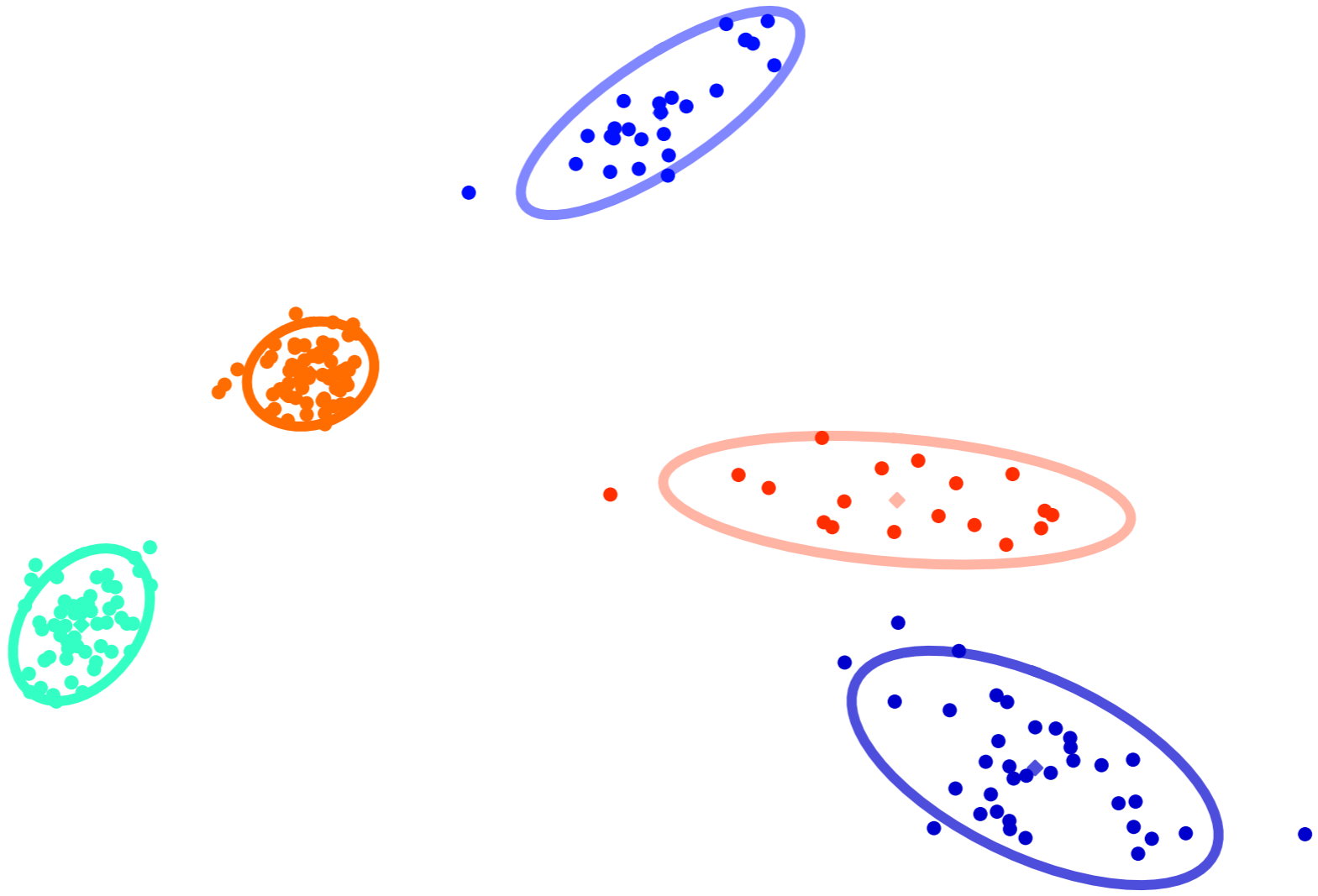
**HARVARD**  
UNIVERSITY



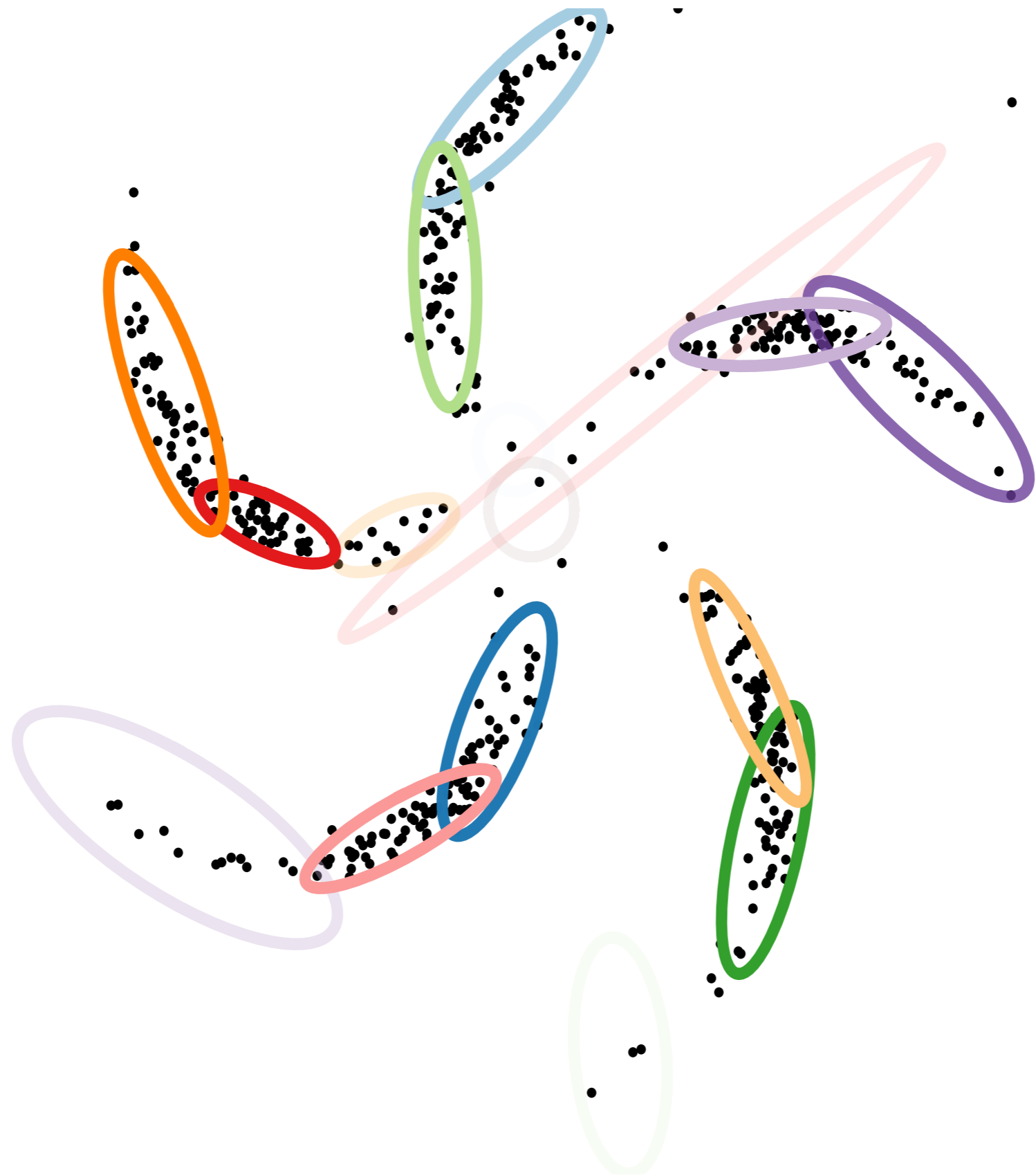
UNIVERSITY OF  
**TORONTO**

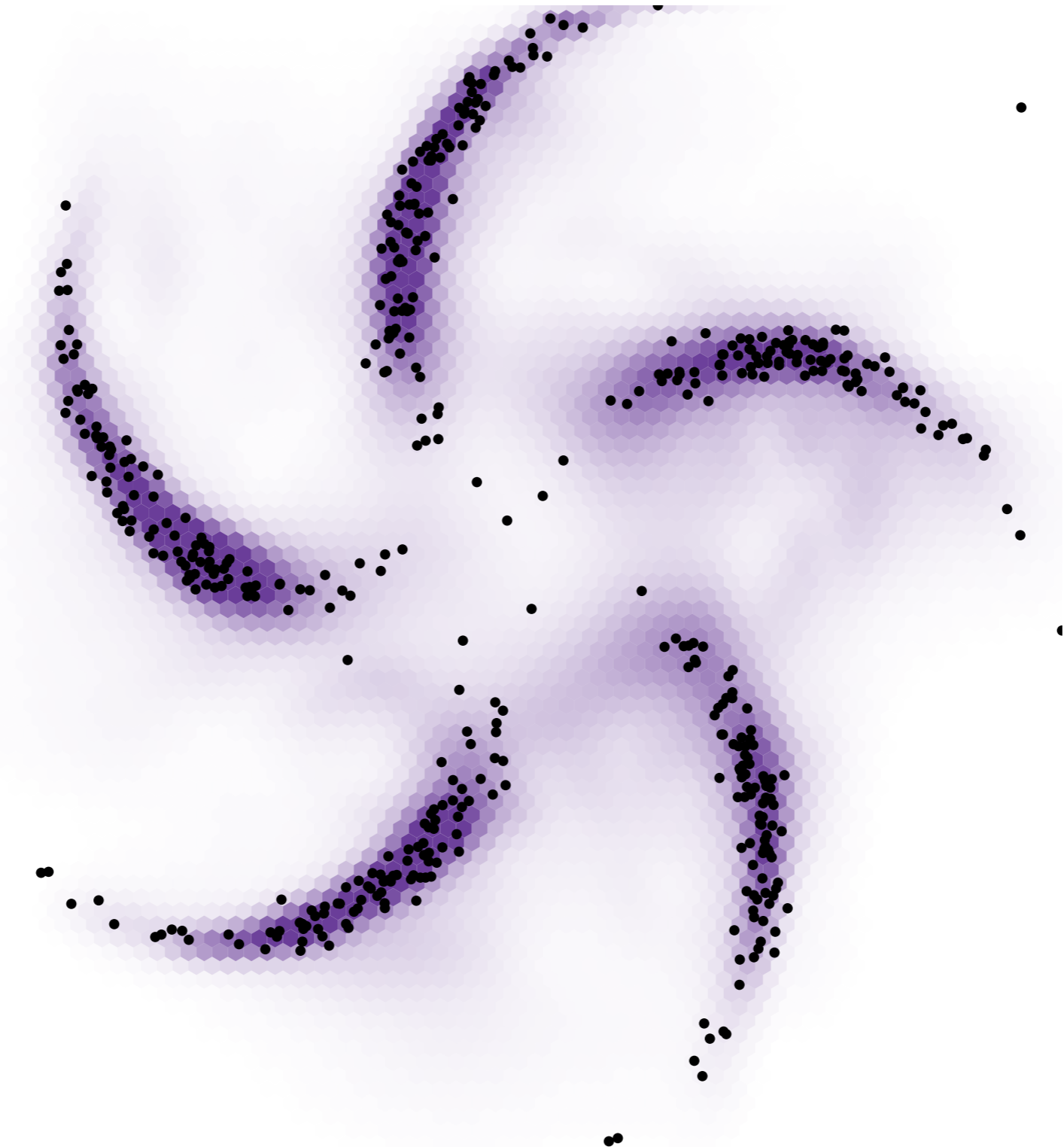


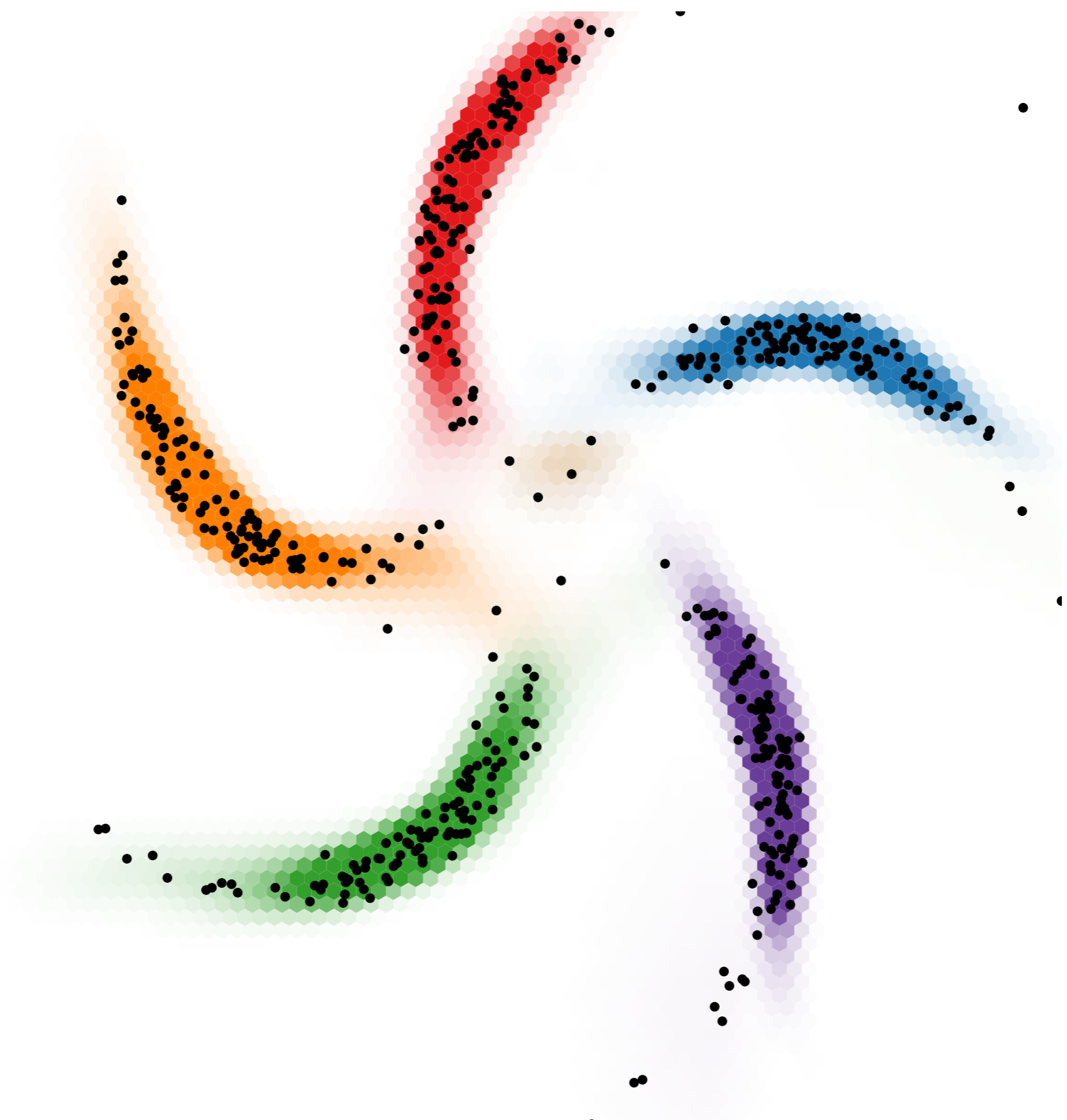




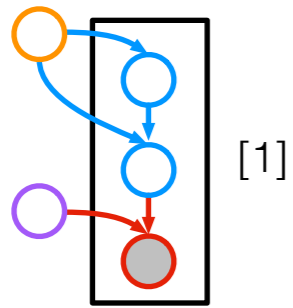




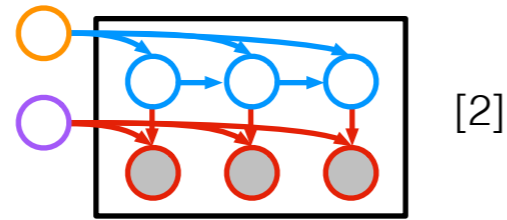




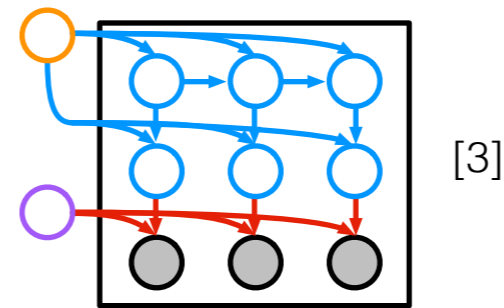




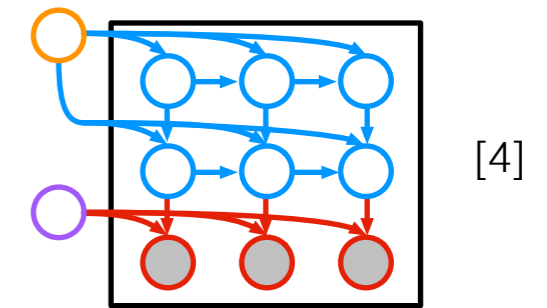
Gaussian mixture model



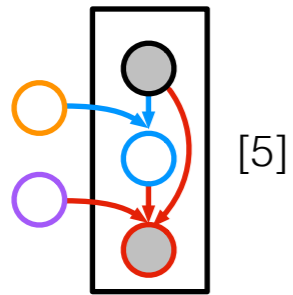
Linear dynamical system



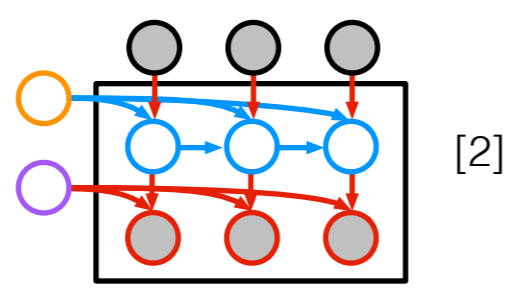
Hidden Markov model



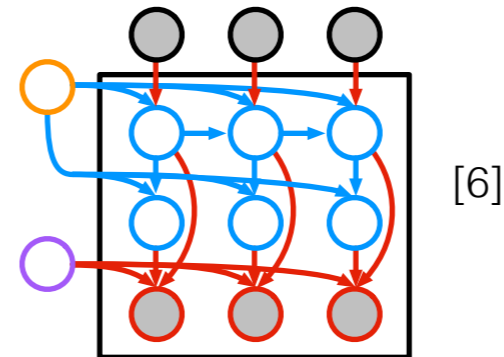
Switching LDS



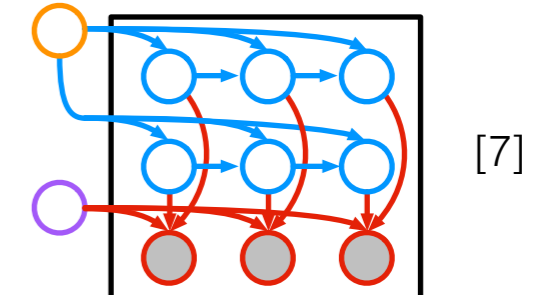
Mixture of Experts



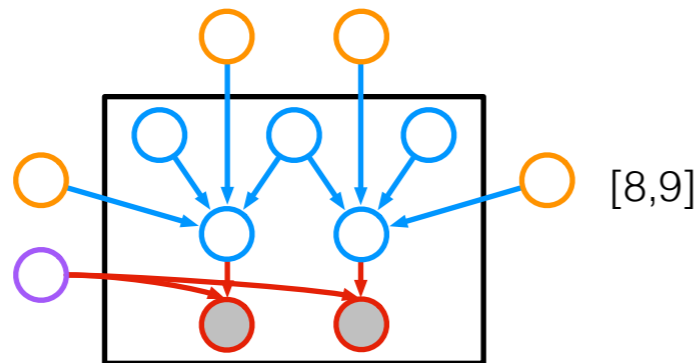
Driven LDS



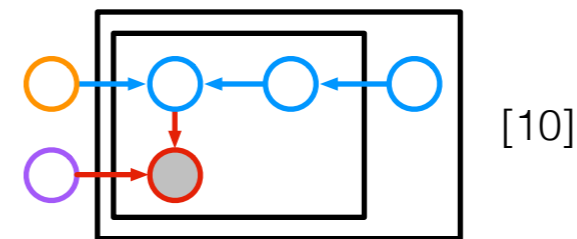
IO-HMM



Factorial HMM



Canonical correlations analysis



admixture / LDA / NMF

- [1] Palmer, Wipf, Kreutz-Delgado, and Rao. Variational EM algorithms for non-Gaussian latent variable models. NIPS 2005.  
 [2] Ghahramani and Beal. Propagation algorithms for variational Bayesian learning. NIPS 2001.  
 [3] Beal. Variational algorithms for approximate Bayesian inference, Ch. 3. U of London Ph.D. Thesis 2003.  
 [4] Ghahramani and Hinton. Variational learning for switching state-space models. Neural Computation 2000.  
 [5] Jordan and Jacobs. Hierarchical Mixtures of Experts and the EM algorithm. Neural Computation 1994.  
 [6] Bengio and Frasconi. An Input Output HMM Architecture. NIPS 1995.  
 [7] Ghahramani and Jordan. Factorial Hidden Markov Models. Machine Learning 1997.  
 [8] Bach and Jordan. A probabilistic interpretation of Canonical Correlation Analysis. Tech. Report 2005.  
 [9] Archambeau and Bach. Sparse probabilistic projections. NIPS 2008.  
 [10] Hoffman, Bach, Blei. Online learning for Latent Dirichlet Allocation. NIPS 2010.

## Probabilistic graphical models

- + structured representations
- + priors and uncertainty
- + data and computational efficiency
- rigid assumptions may not fit
- feature engineering
- top-down inference

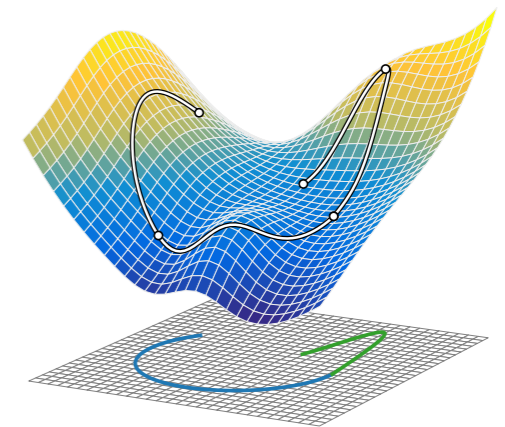
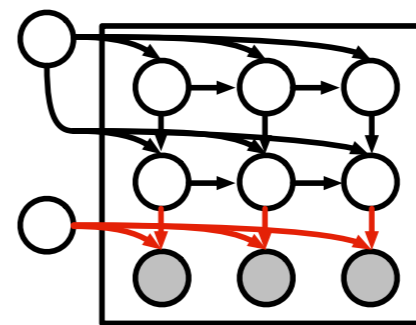
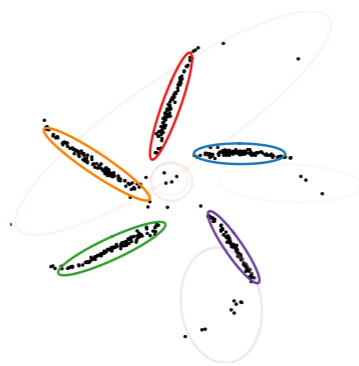
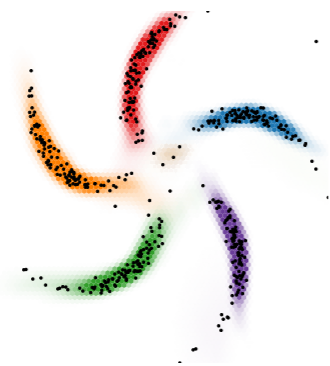
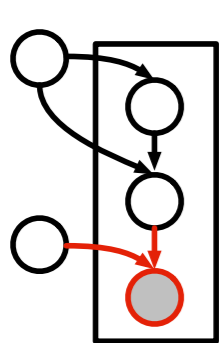
## Deep learning

- neural net “goo”
- difficult parameterization
- can require lots of data
- + flexible
- + feature learning
- + recognition networks

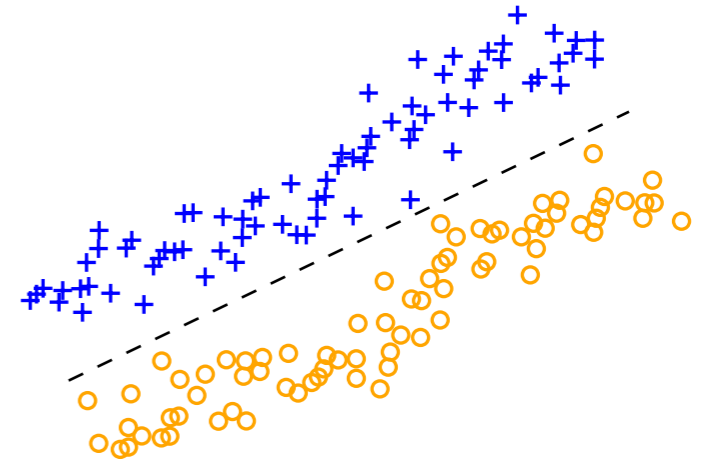
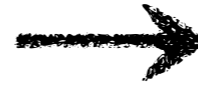
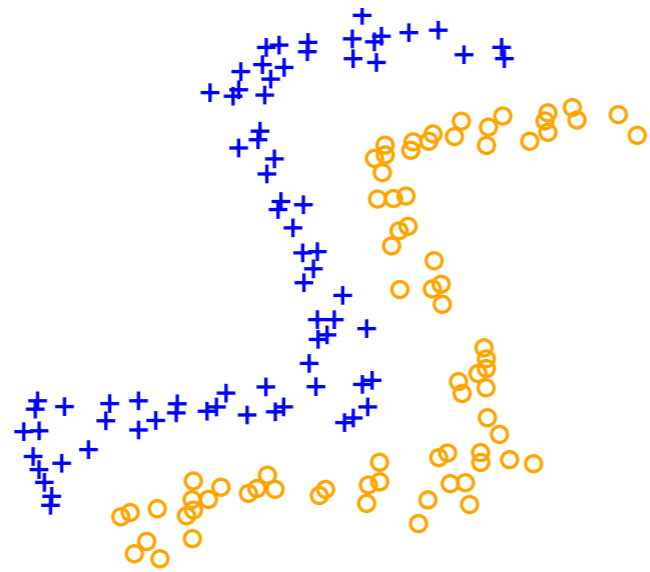


MAKE PGMS  
GREAT AGAIN

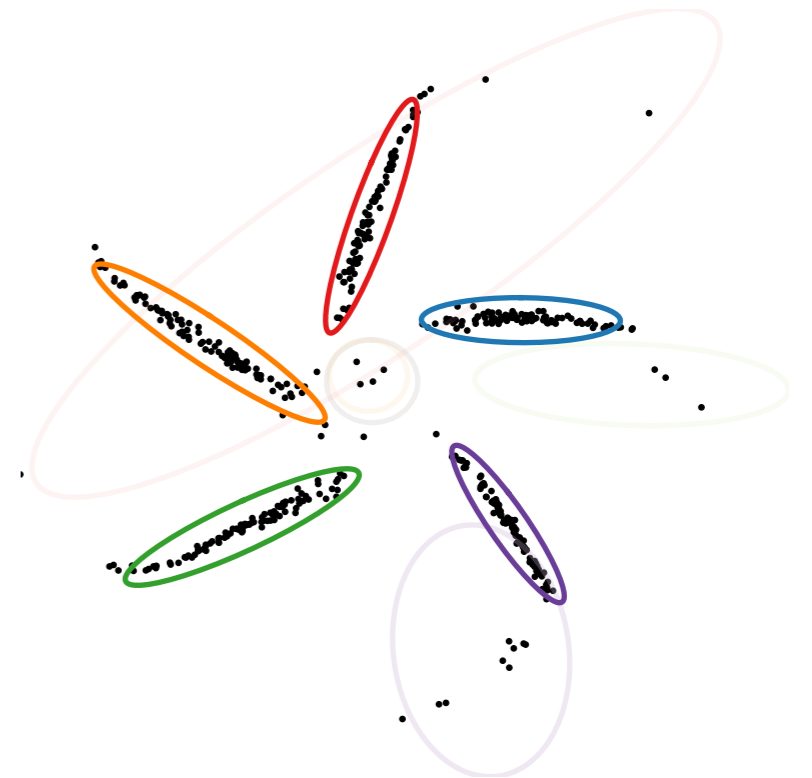
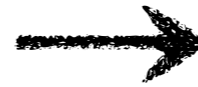
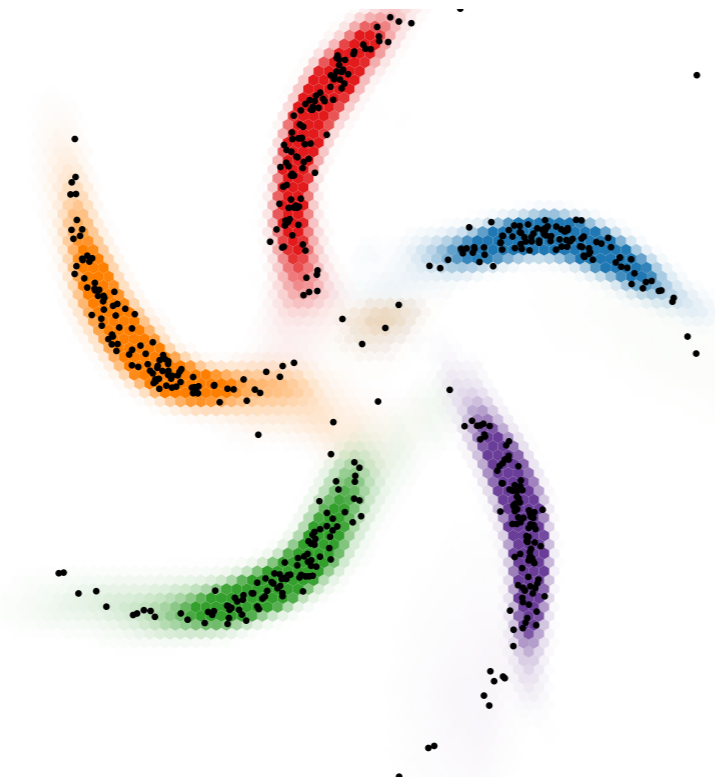
**Modeling idea:** graphical models on latent variables,  
neural network models for observations

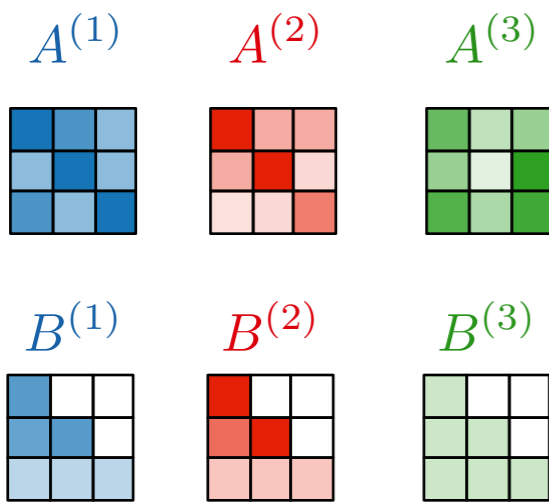
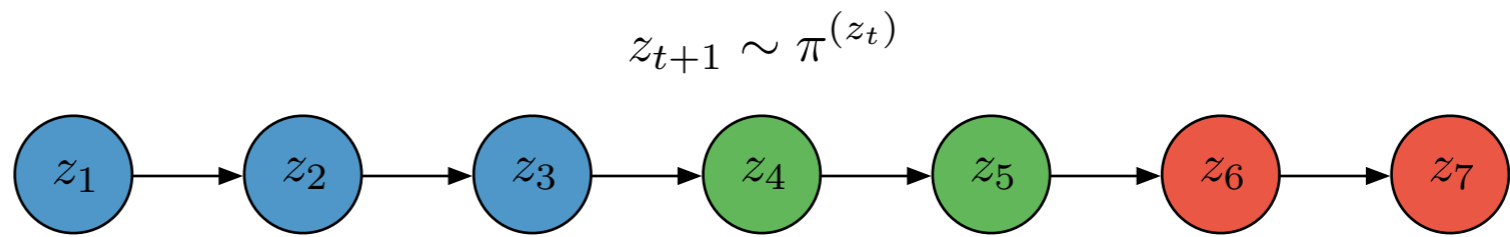
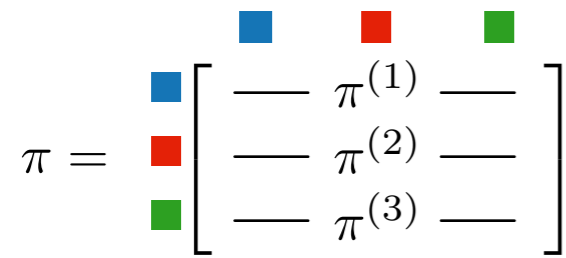


supervised  
learning

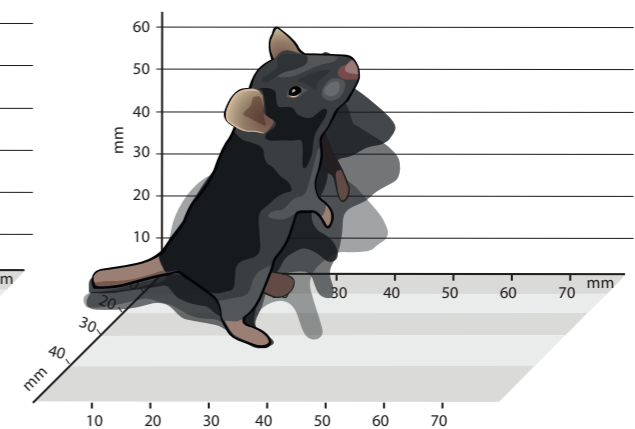
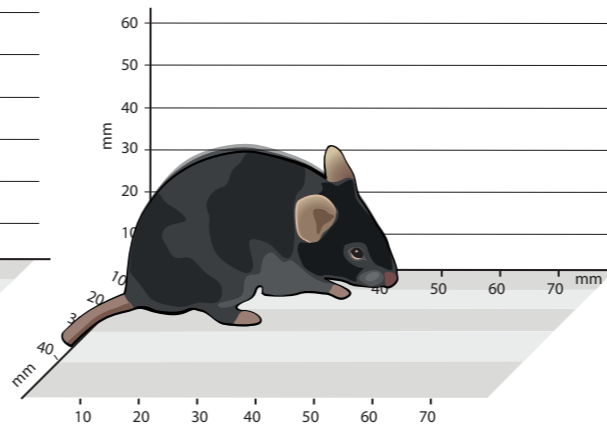
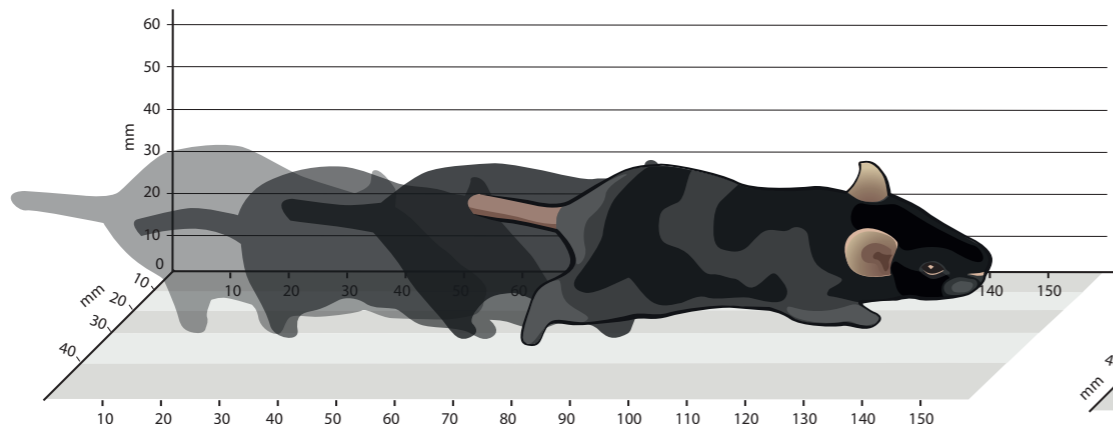
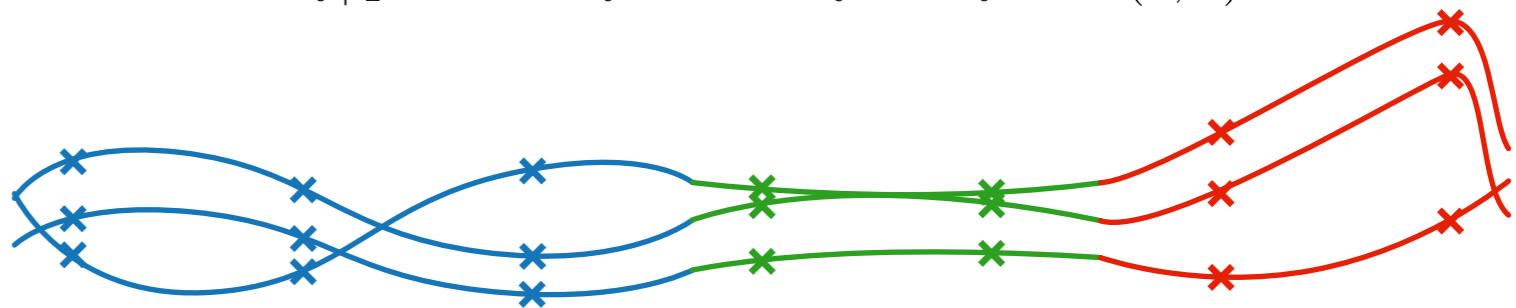


unsupervised  
learning

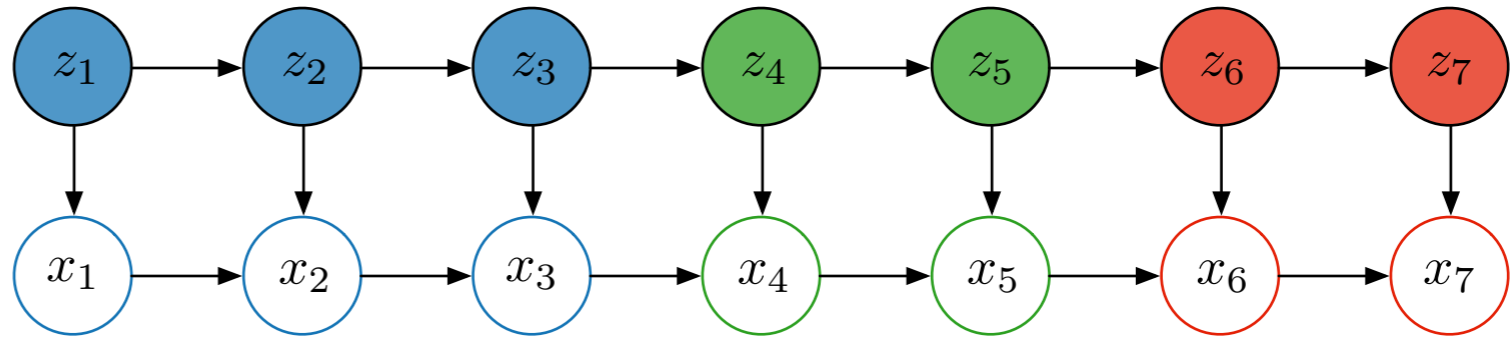




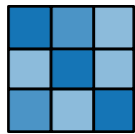
$x_{t+1} = A^{(z_t)} x_t + B^{(z_t)} u_t$       $u_t \stackrel{\text{iid}}{\sim} \mathcal{N}(0, I)$



$$\pi = \begin{bmatrix} \text{---} & \pi^{(1)} & \text{---} \\ \text{---} & \pi^{(2)} & \text{---} \\ \text{---} & \pi^{(3)} & \text{---} \end{bmatrix}$$



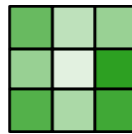
$A^{(1)}$



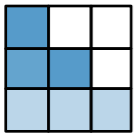
$A^{(2)}$



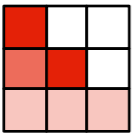
$A^{(3)}$



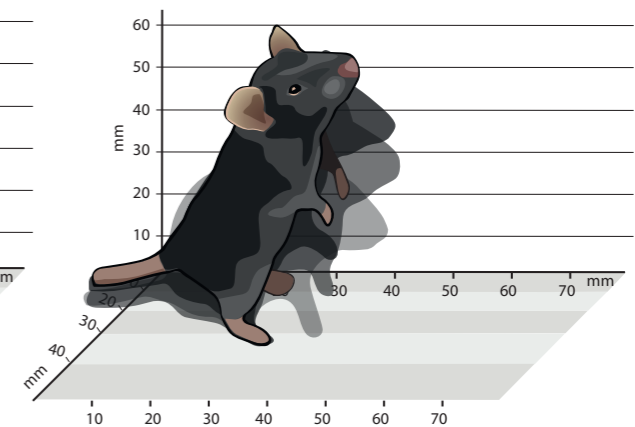
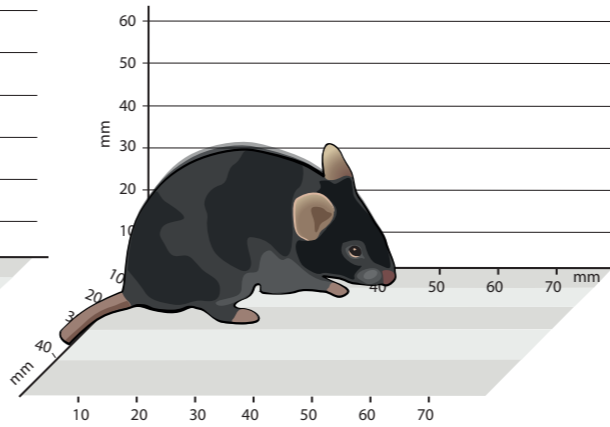
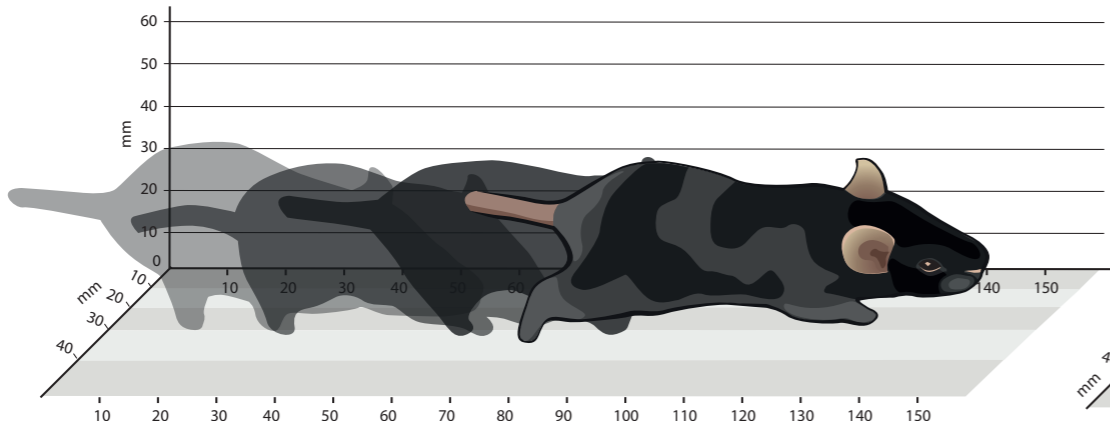
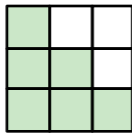
$B^{(1)}$

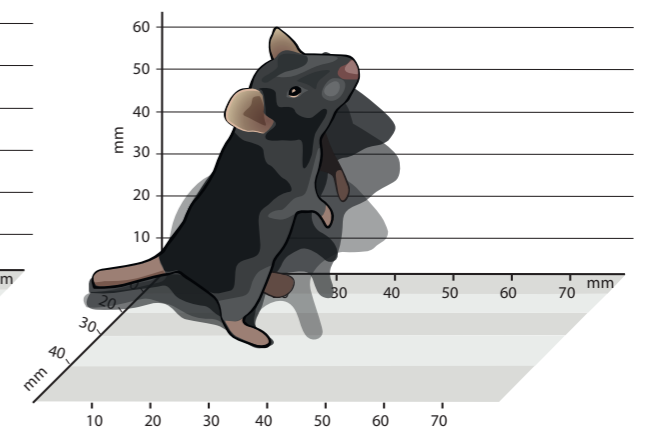
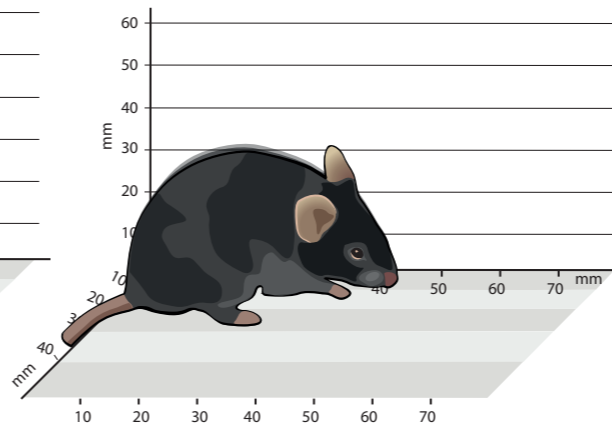
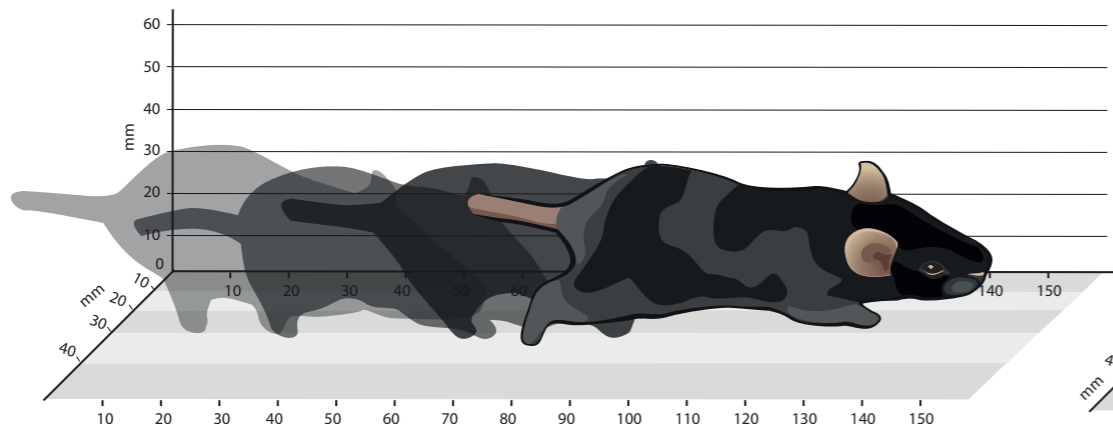
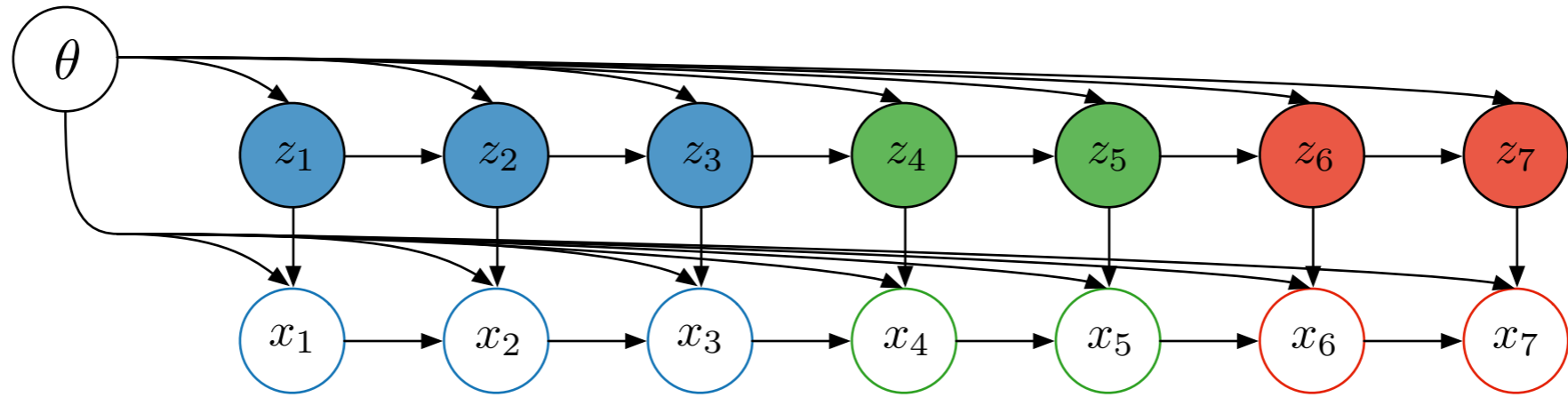


$B^{(2)}$

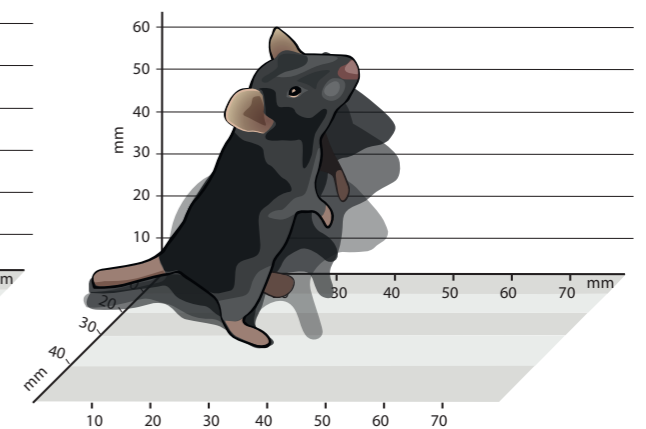
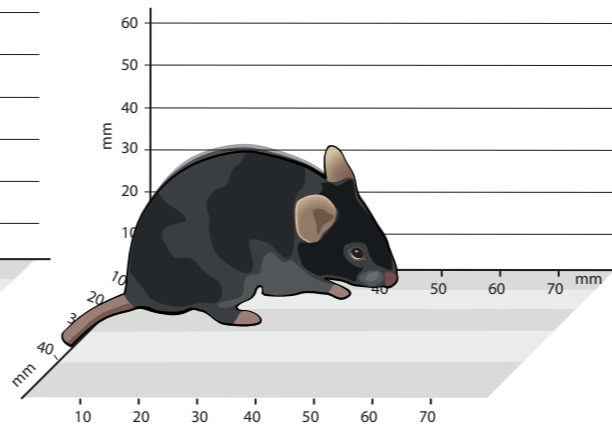
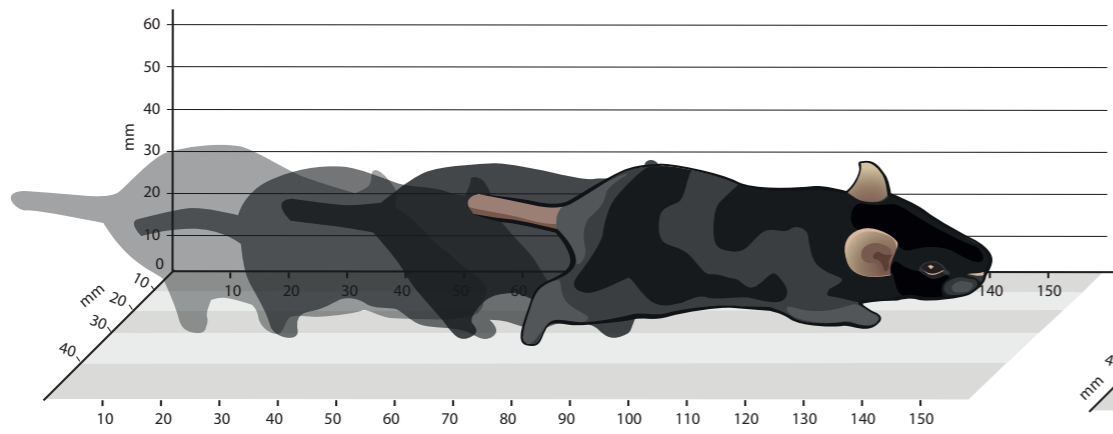
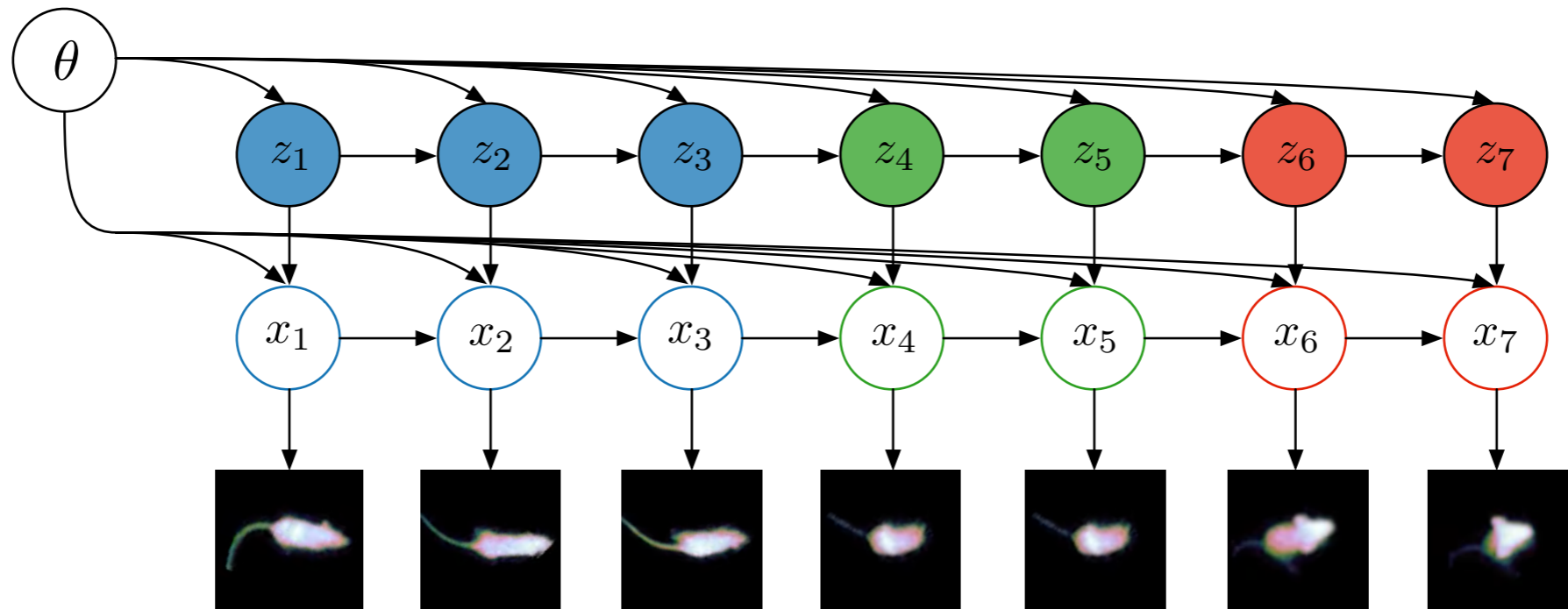


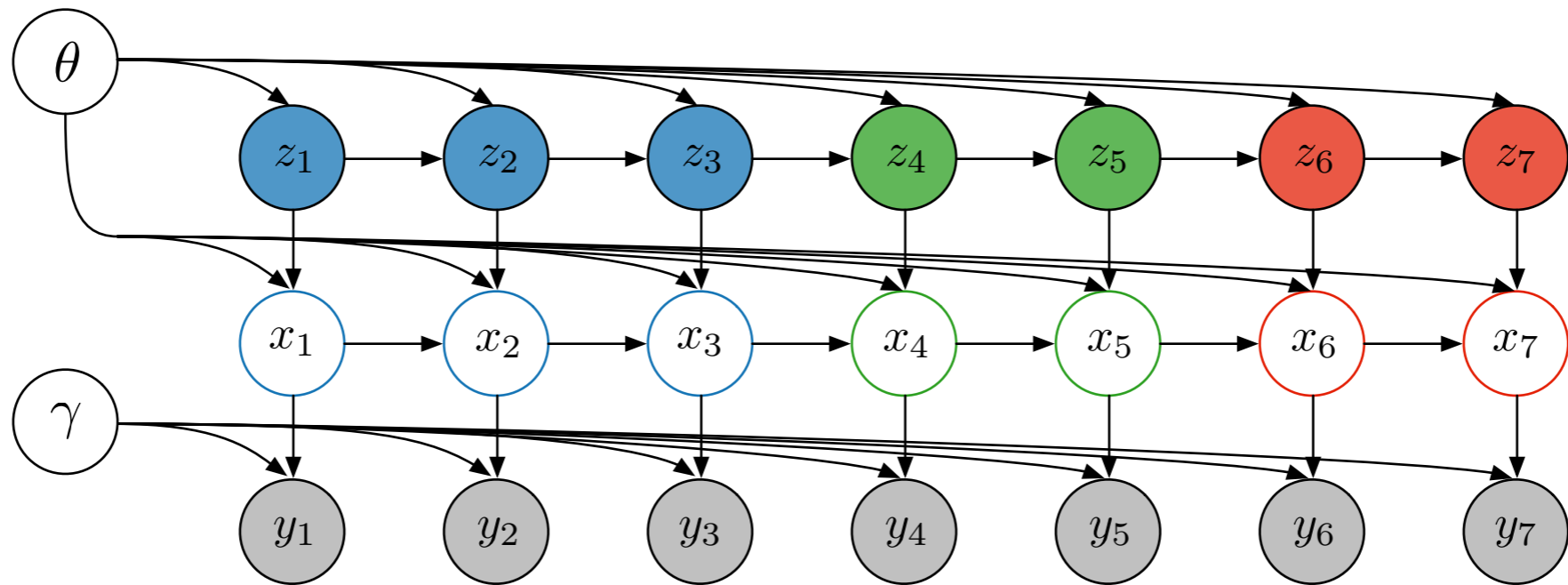
$B^{(3)}$



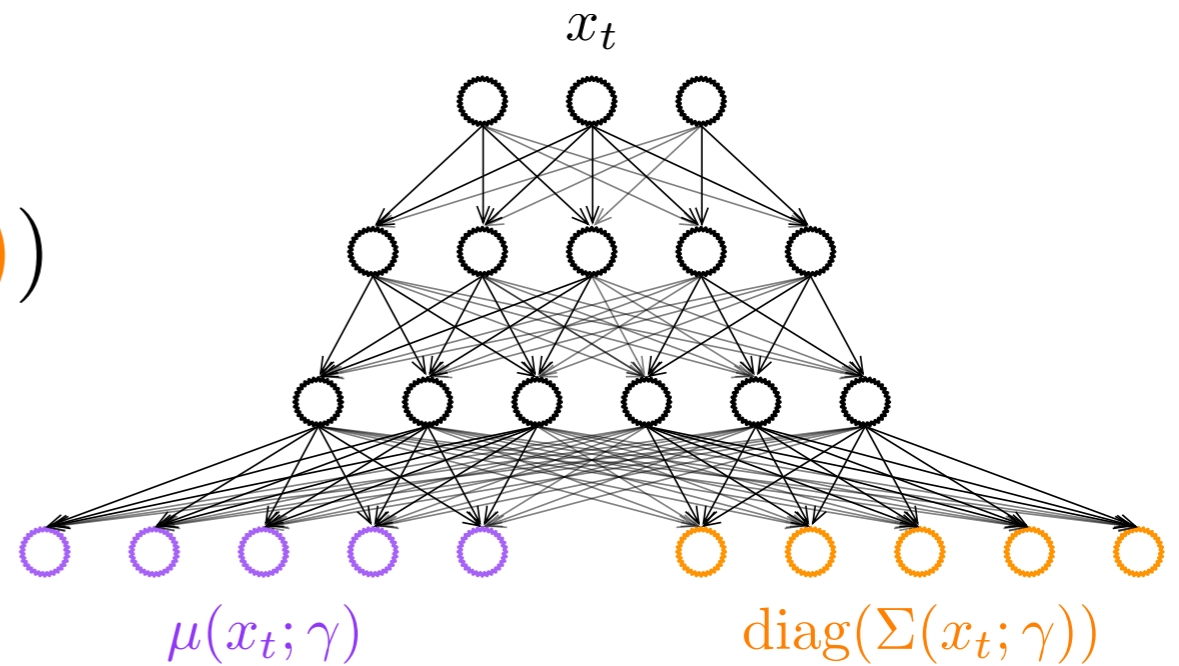


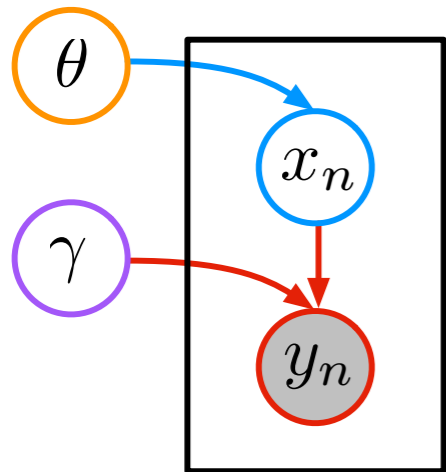
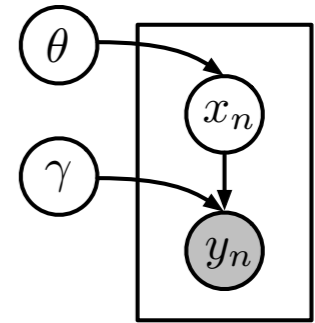
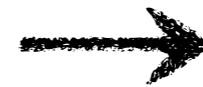
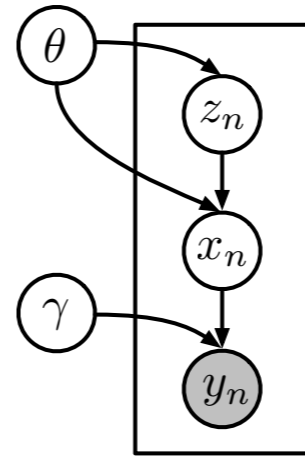
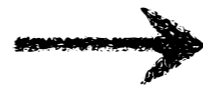
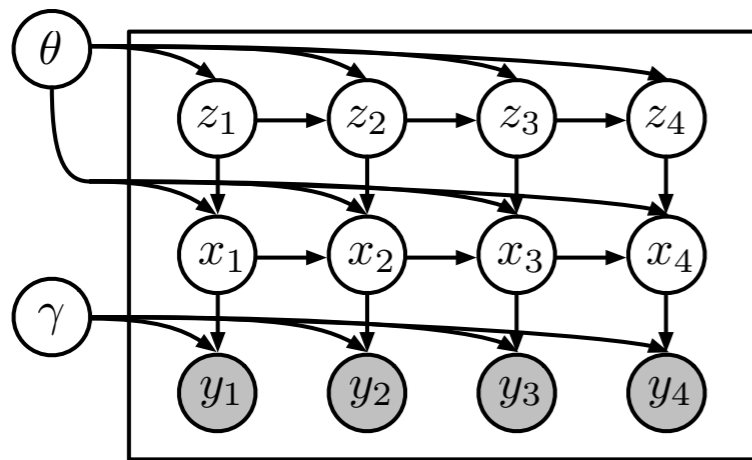






$$y_t | x_t, \gamma \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu(x_t; \gamma), \Sigma(x_t; \gamma))$$





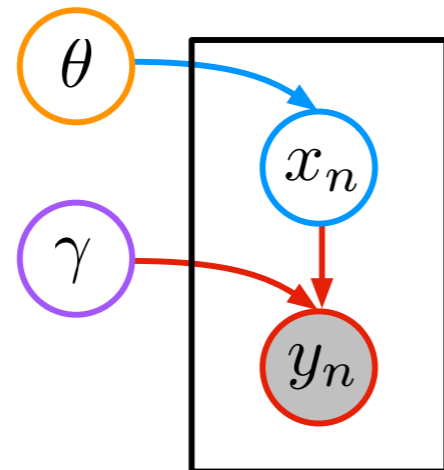
$$p(\theta)$$

$$p(x | \theta)$$

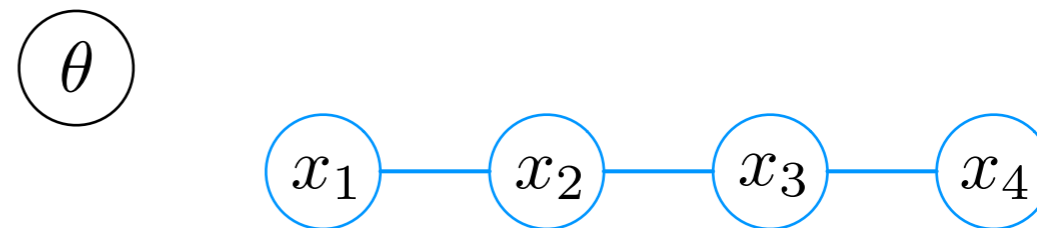
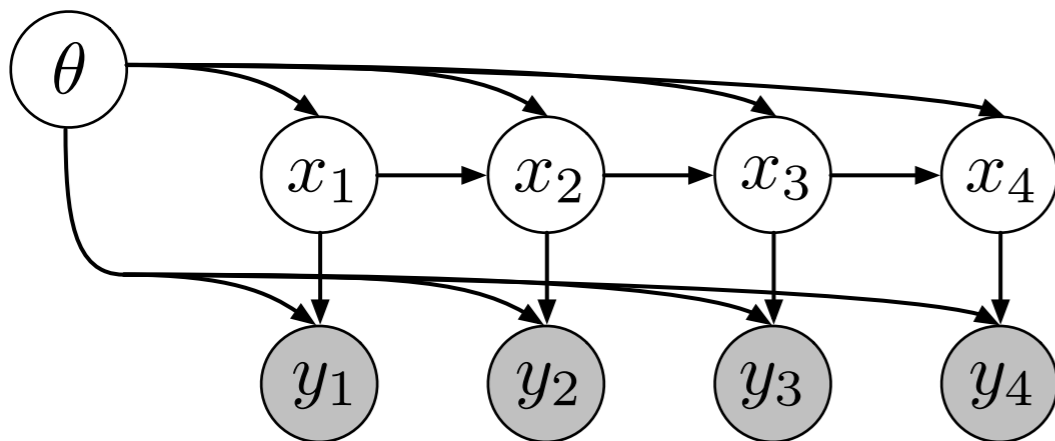
$$p(\gamma)$$

$$p(y | x, \gamma)$$

conjugate prior on global variables  
 exponential family on local variables  
 any prior on observation parameters  
 neural network observation model



**Inference?**

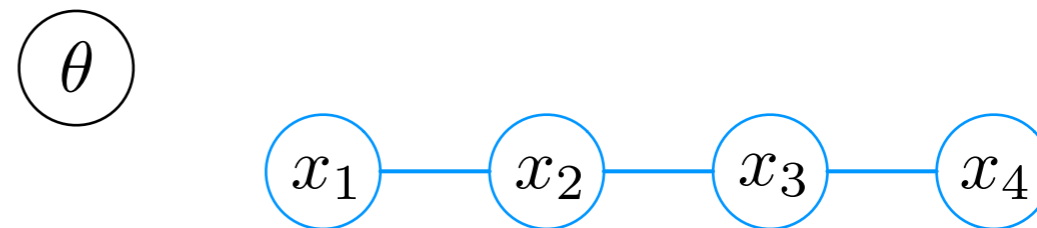
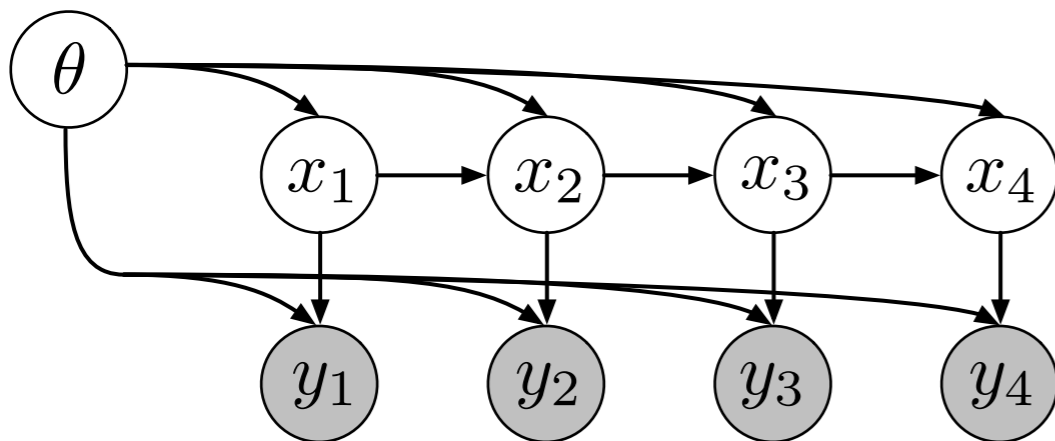


$p(x | \theta)$  is linear dynamical system  
 $p(y | x, \theta)$  is linear-Gaussian  
 $p(\theta)$  is conjugate prior

$$q(\theta)q(x) \approx p(\theta, x | y)$$

$$\mathcal{L}[q(\theta)q(x)] \triangleq \mathbb{E}_{q(\theta)q(x)} \left[ \log \frac{p(\theta, x, y)}{q(\theta)q(x)} \right]$$

$$q(\theta) \leftrightarrow \eta_\theta \quad q(x) \leftrightarrow \eta_x$$



$p(x | \theta)$  is linear dynamical system  
 $p(y | x, \theta)$  is linear-Gaussian  
 $p(\theta)$  is conjugate prior

$$q(\theta)q(x) \approx p(\theta, x | y)$$

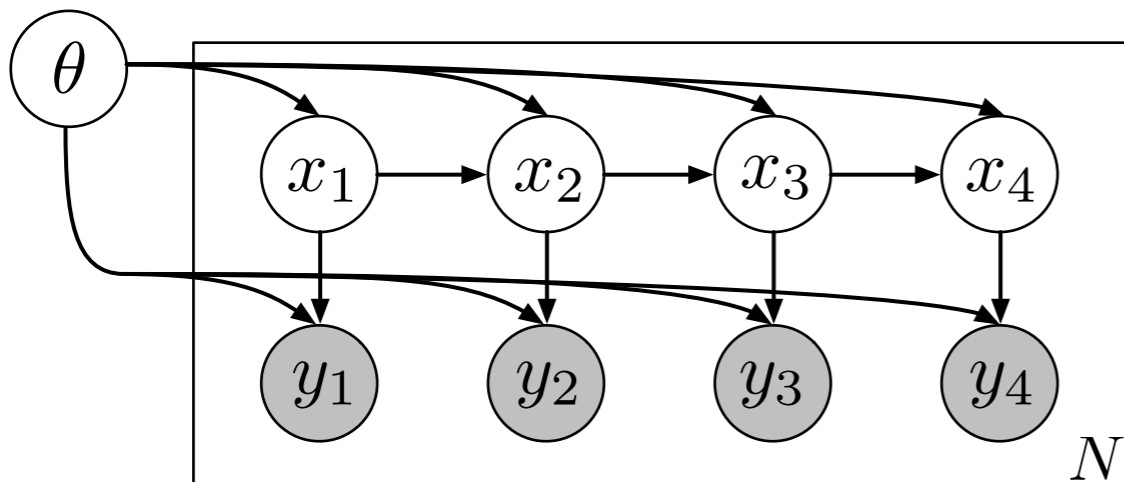
$$\mathcal{L}(\eta_\theta, \eta_x) \triangleq \mathbb{E}_{q(\theta)q(x)} \left[ \log \frac{p(\theta, x, y)}{q(\theta)q(x)} \right]$$

$$\eta_x^*(\eta_\theta) \triangleq \arg \max_{\eta_x} \mathcal{L}(\eta_\theta, \eta_x)$$

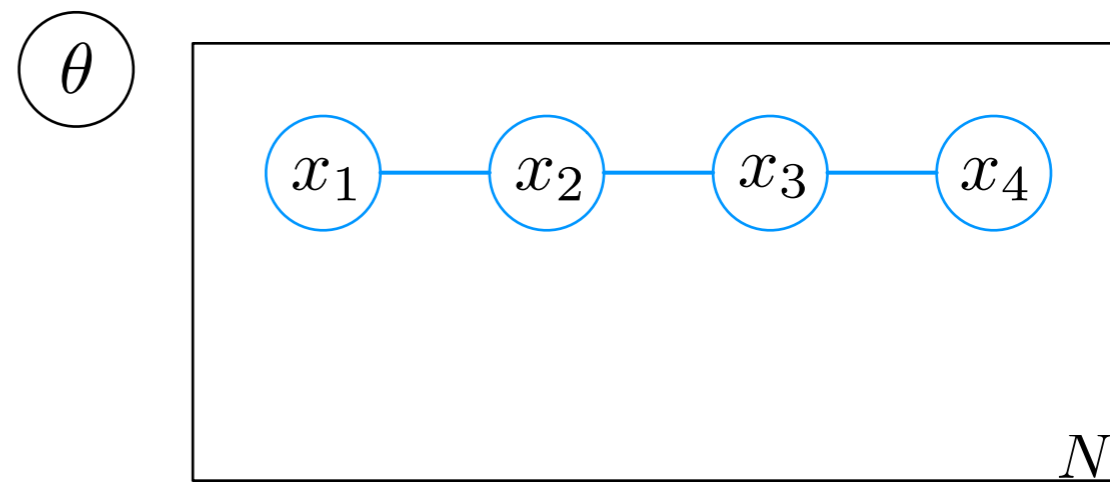
$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{SVI}}(\eta_\theta) \triangleq \mathcal{L}(\eta_\theta, \eta_x^*(\eta_\theta))$$

Proposition (natural gradient SVI of Hoffman et al. 2013)

$$\tilde{\nabla} \mathcal{L}_{\text{SVI}}(\eta_\theta) = \eta_\theta^0 + \mathbb{E}_{q^*(x)}(t_{xy}(x, y), 1) - \eta_\theta$$



$p(x | \theta)$  is linear dynamical system  
 $p(y | x, \theta)$  is linear-Gaussian  
 $p(\theta)$  is conjugate prior



$$q(\theta)q(x) \approx p(\theta, x | y)$$

$$\mathcal{L}(\eta_\theta, \eta_x) \triangleq \mathbb{E}_{q(\theta)q(x)} \left[ \log \frac{p(\theta, x, y)}{q(\theta)q(x)} \right]$$

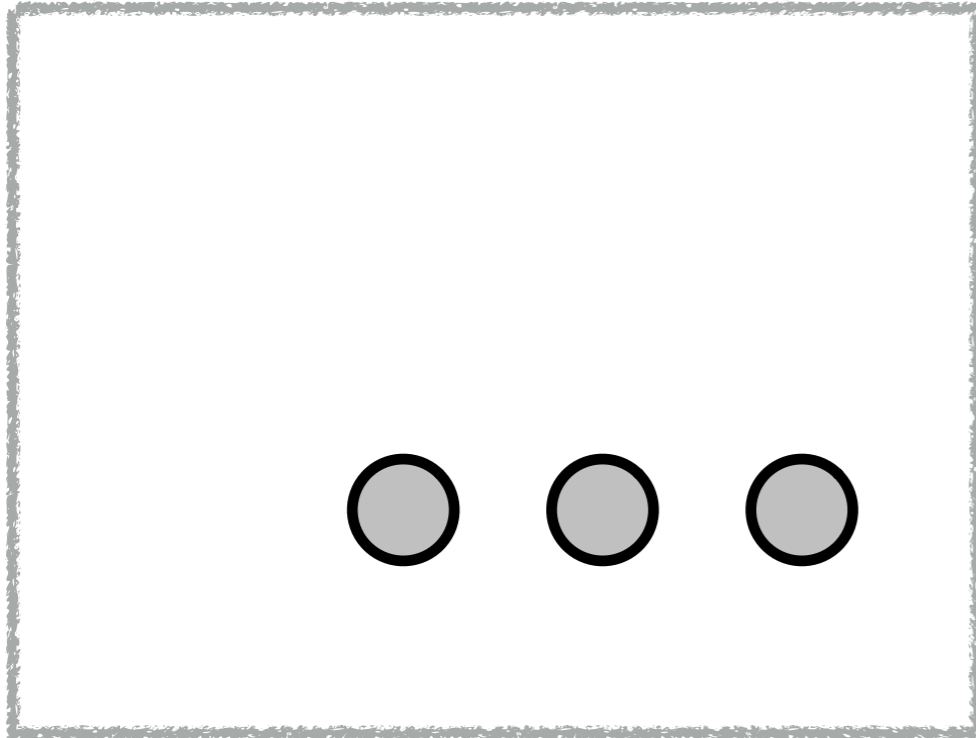
$$\eta_x^*(\eta_\theta) \triangleq \arg \max_{\eta_x} \mathcal{L}(\eta_\theta, \eta_x)$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{SVI}}(\eta_\theta) \triangleq \mathcal{L}(\eta_\theta, \eta_x^*(\eta_\theta))$$

Proposition (natural gradient SVI of Hoffman et al. 2013)

$$\tilde{\nabla} \mathcal{L}_{\text{SVI}}(\eta_\theta) = \eta_\theta^0 + \sum_{n=1}^N \mathbb{E}_{q^*(x_n)} (t_{xy}(x_n, y_n), 1) - \eta_\theta$$

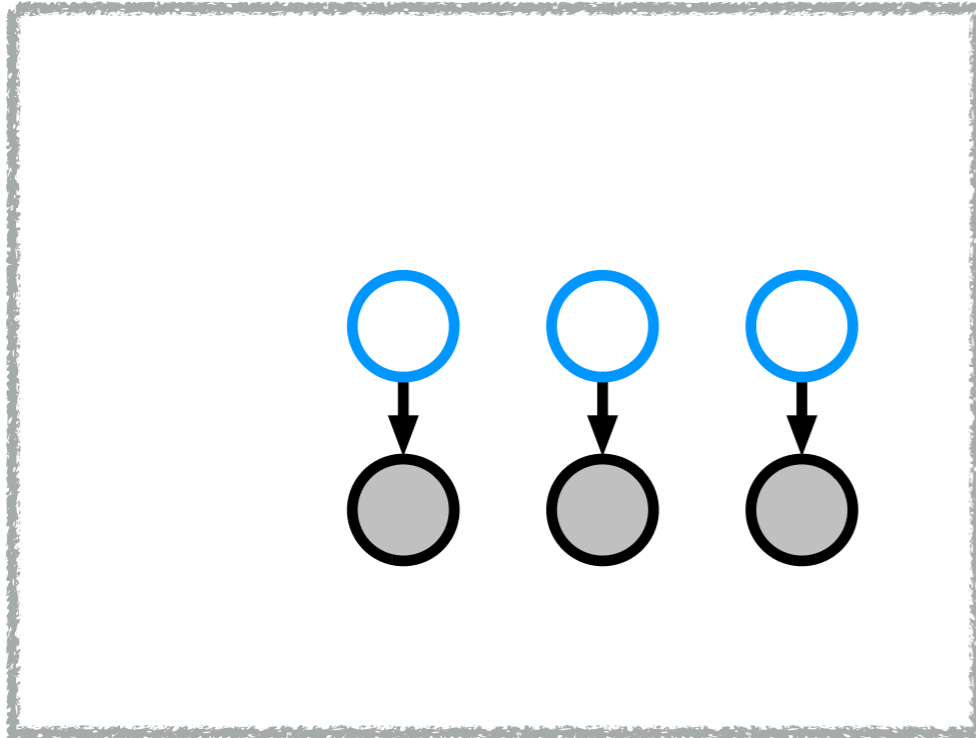
Step 1: compute evidence potentials



- [1] **Johnson** and Willsky. Stochastic variational inference for Bayesian time series models. ICML 2014.
- [2] Foti, Xu, Laird, and Fox. Stochastic variational inference for hidden Markov models. NIPS 2014.

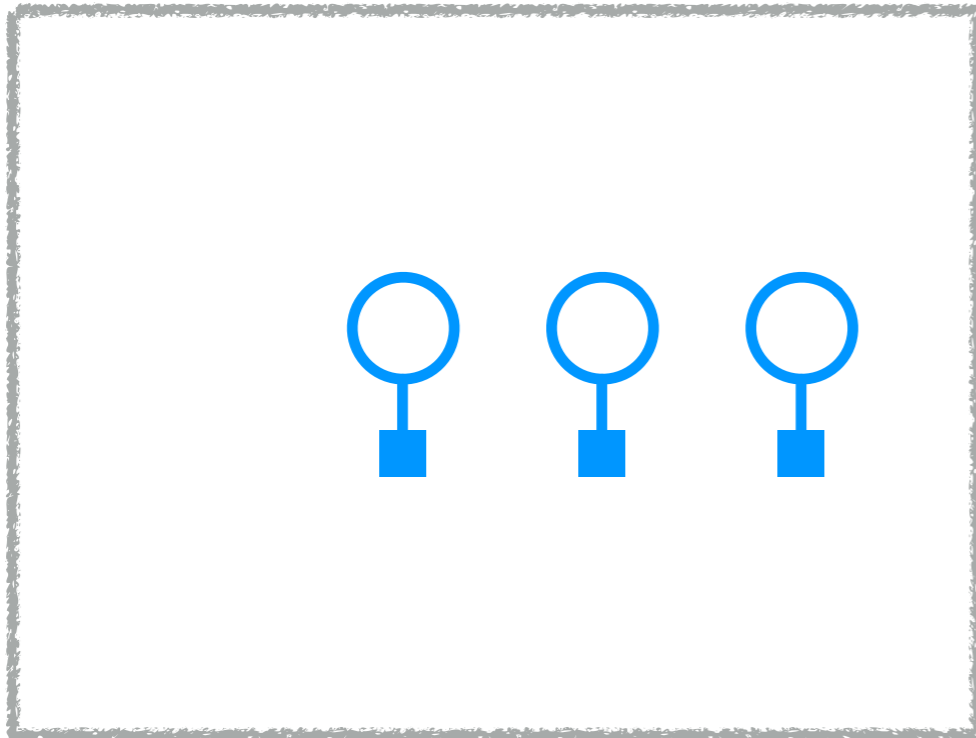


Step 1: compute evidence potentials

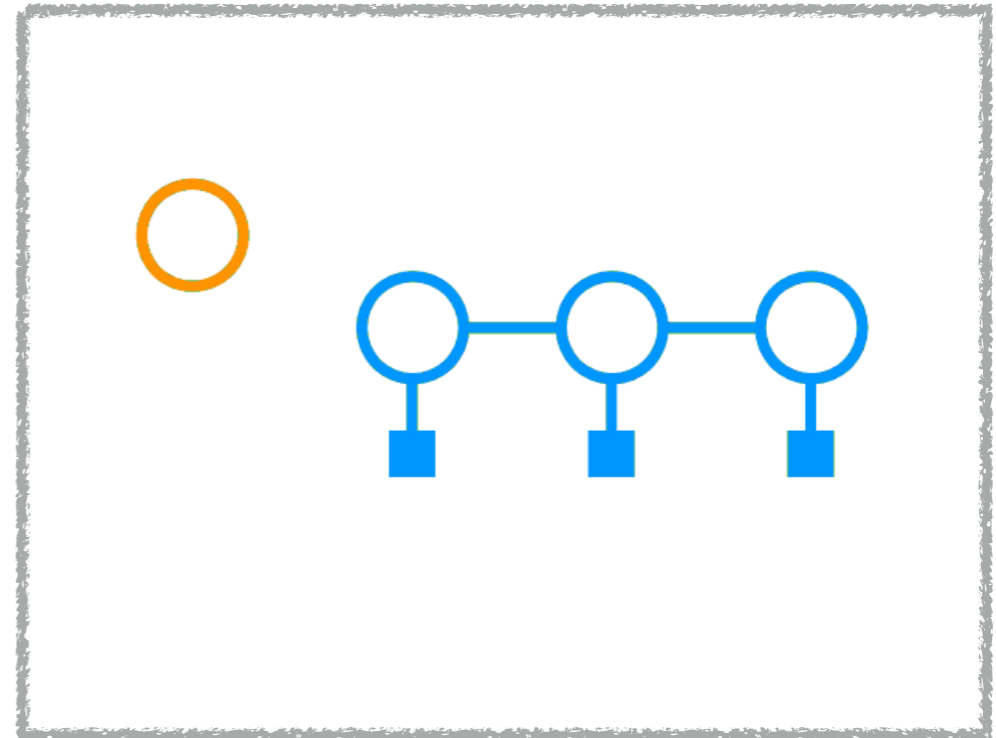


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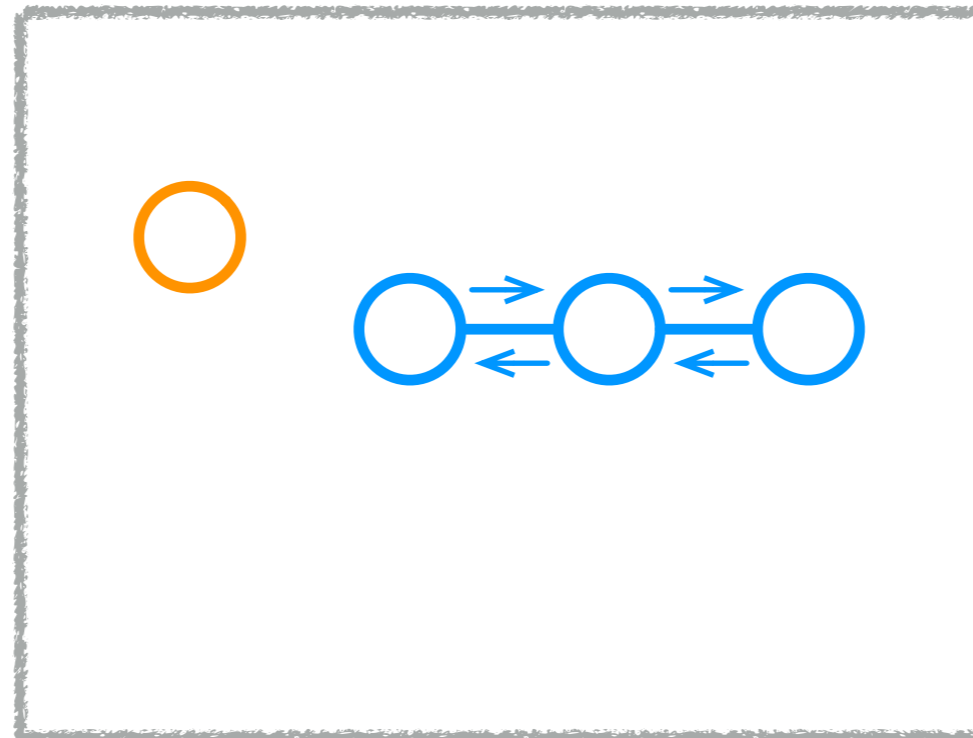
Step 1: compute evidence potentials



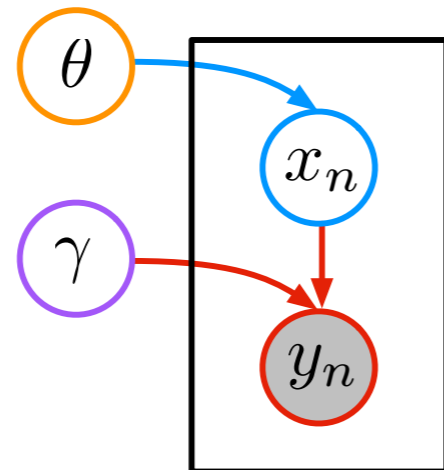
Step 2: run fast message passing



Step 3: compute natural gradient

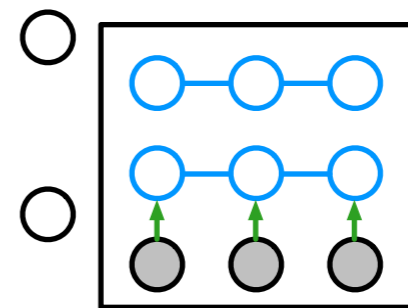
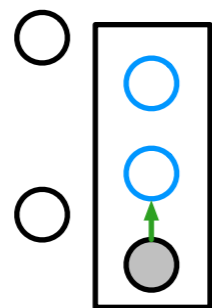


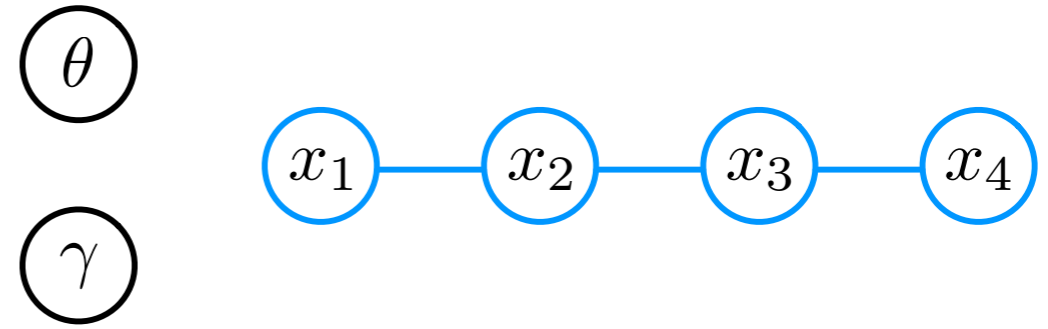
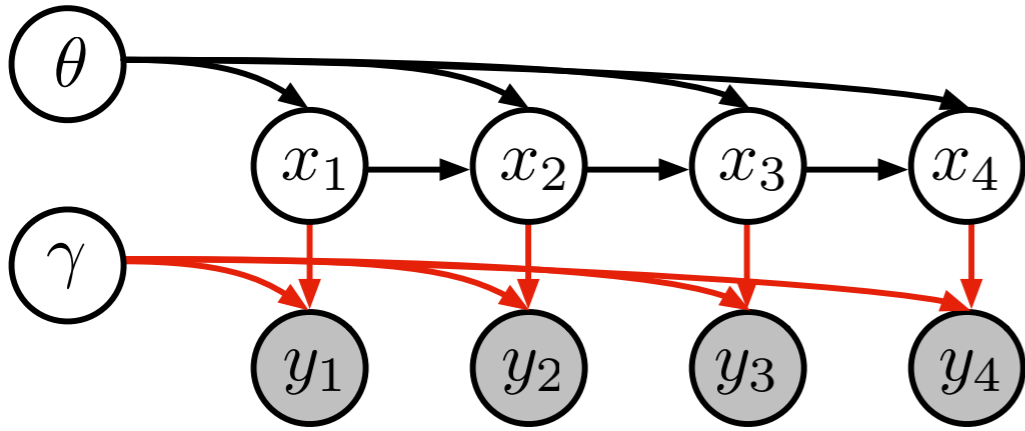
- [1] **Johnson** and Willsky. Stochastic variational inference for Bayesian time series models. ICML 2014.  
[2] Foti, Xu, Laird, and Fox. Stochastic variational inference for hidden Markov models. NIPS 2014.



**Inference?**

**SVAEs:** recognition networks output conjugate potentials,  
then apply fast graphical model algorithms





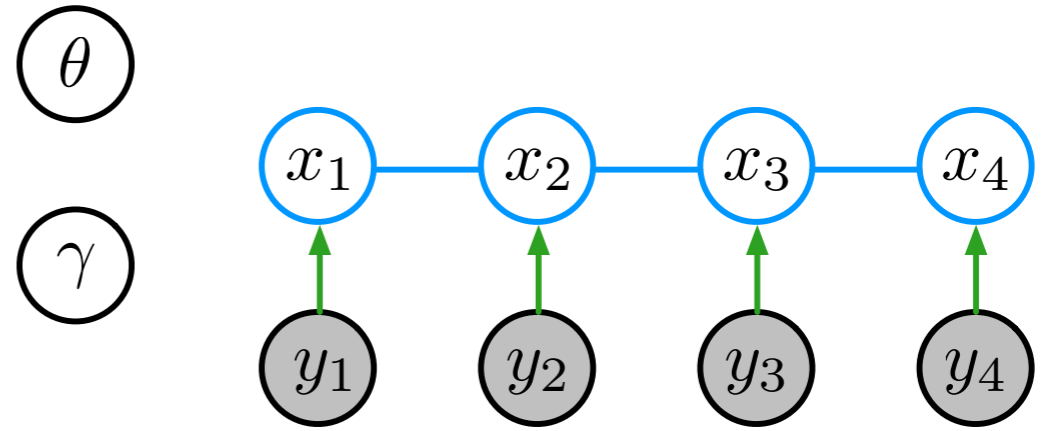
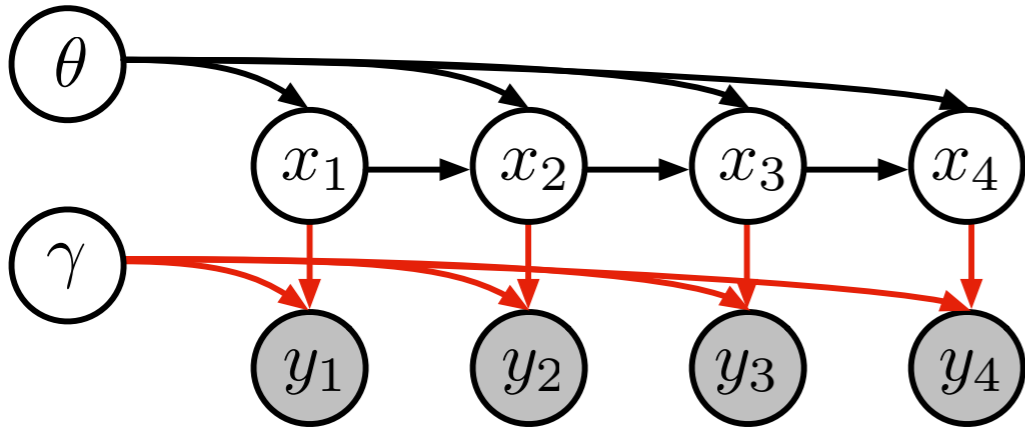
$p(x | \theta)$  is a linear dynamical system  
 $p(y | x, \gamma)$  is a neural network decoder  
 $p(\theta)$  is a conjugate prior,  $p(\gamma)$  is generic

$$q(\theta)q(\gamma)q(x) \approx p(\theta, \gamma, x | y)$$

$$\mathcal{L}(\eta_\theta, \eta_\gamma, \eta_x) \triangleq \mathbb{E}_{q(\theta)q(\theta)q(x)} \left[ \log \frac{p(\theta, \gamma, x)p(y | x, \gamma)}{q(\theta)q(\gamma)q(x)} \right]$$

$$\eta_x^*(\eta_\theta, \eta_\gamma) \triangleq \arg \max_{\eta_x} \mathcal{L}(\eta_\theta, \eta_\gamma, \eta_x)$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{SVI}}(\eta_\theta, \eta_\gamma) \triangleq \mathcal{L}(\eta_\theta, \eta_\gamma, \eta_x^*(\eta_\theta, \eta_\gamma))$$

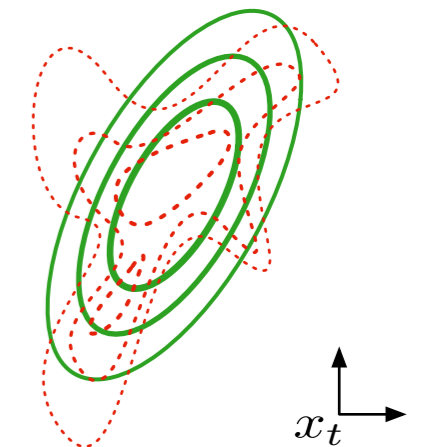


$$\mathcal{L}(\eta_\theta, \eta_\gamma, \eta_x) \triangleq \mathbb{E}_{q(\theta)q(\gamma)q(x)} \left[ \log \frac{p(\theta, \gamma, x) p(y | x, \gamma)}{q(\theta)q(\gamma)q(x)} \right]$$

$$\mathbb{E}_{q(\gamma)} \log p(y_t | x_t, \gamma)$$

$$\hat{\mathcal{L}}(\eta_\theta, \eta_x, \phi) \triangleq \mathbb{E}_{q(\theta)q(\gamma)q(x)} \left[ \log \frac{p(\theta, \gamma, x) \exp\{\psi(x; y, \phi)\}}{q(\theta)q(\gamma)q(x)} \right]$$

where  $\psi(x; y, \phi)$  is a conjugate potential for  $p(x | \theta)$

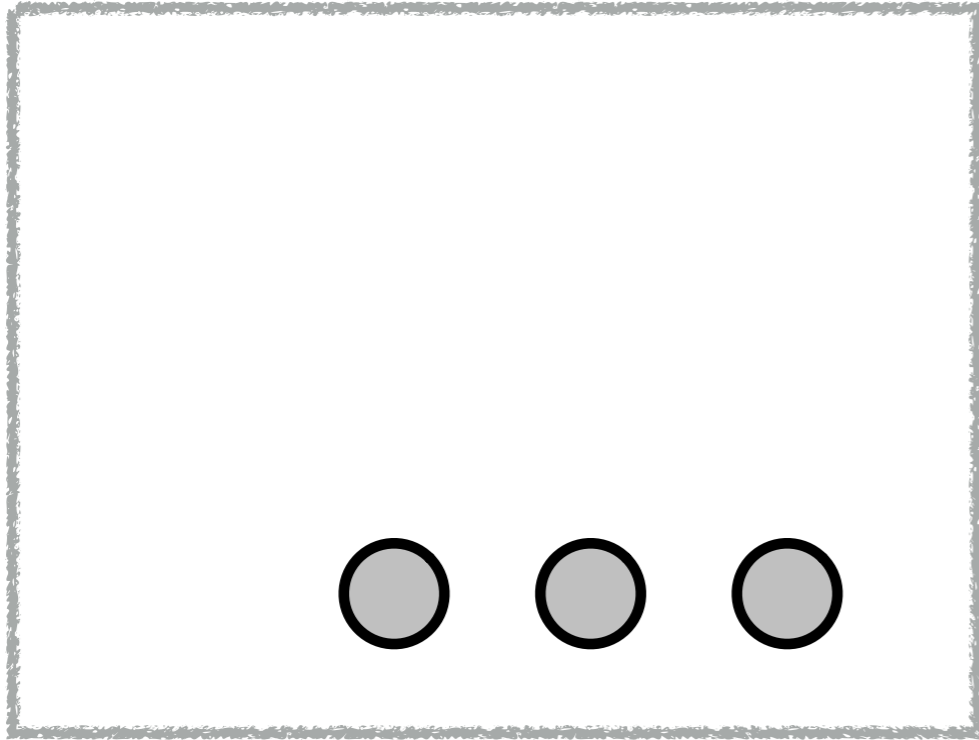


$\psi(x_t; y_t, \phi)$

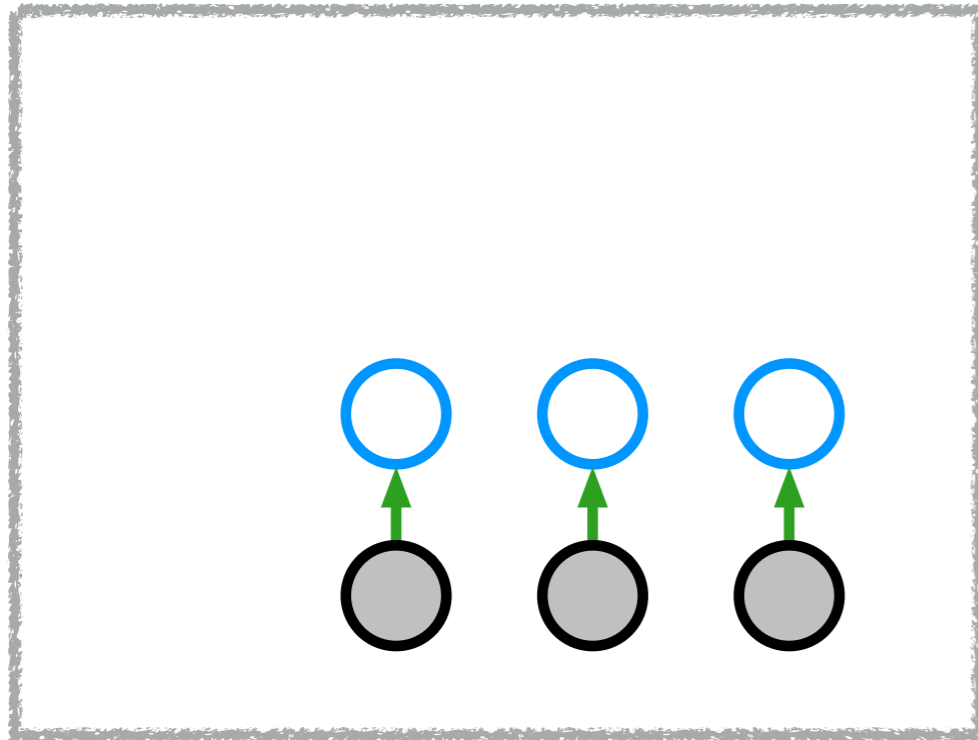
$$\eta_x^*(\eta_\theta, \phi) \triangleq \arg \max_{\eta_x} \hat{\mathcal{L}}(\eta_\theta, \eta_x, \phi)$$

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{SVAE}}(\eta_\theta, \eta_\gamma, \phi) \triangleq \mathcal{L}(\eta_\theta, \eta_\gamma, \eta_x^*(\eta_\theta, \phi))$$

Step 1: apply recognition network

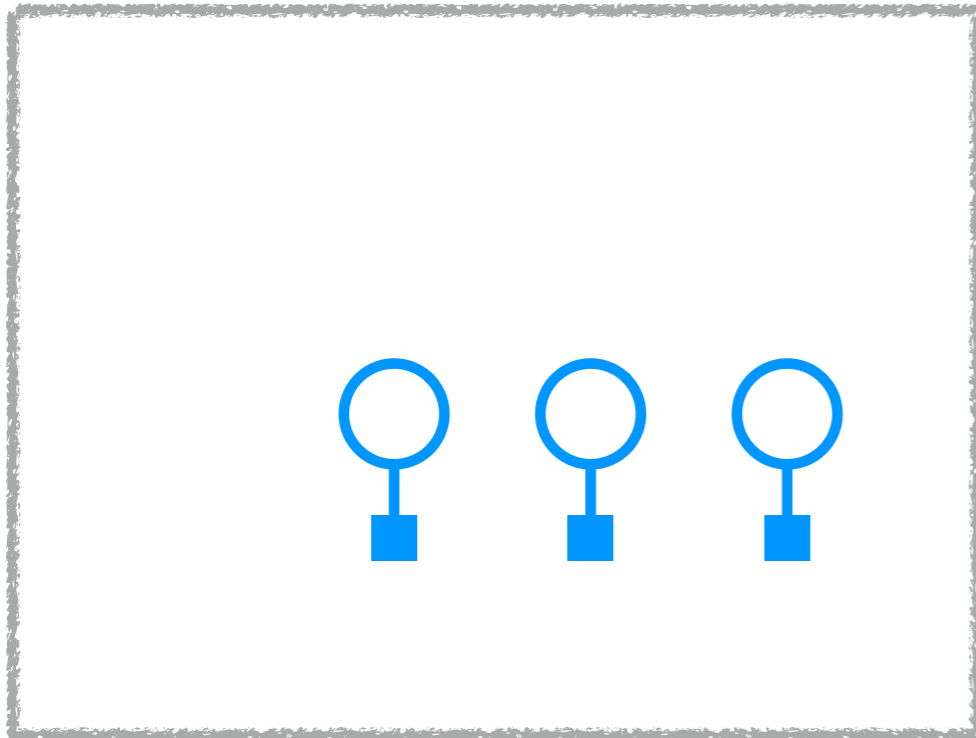


Step 1: apply recognition network

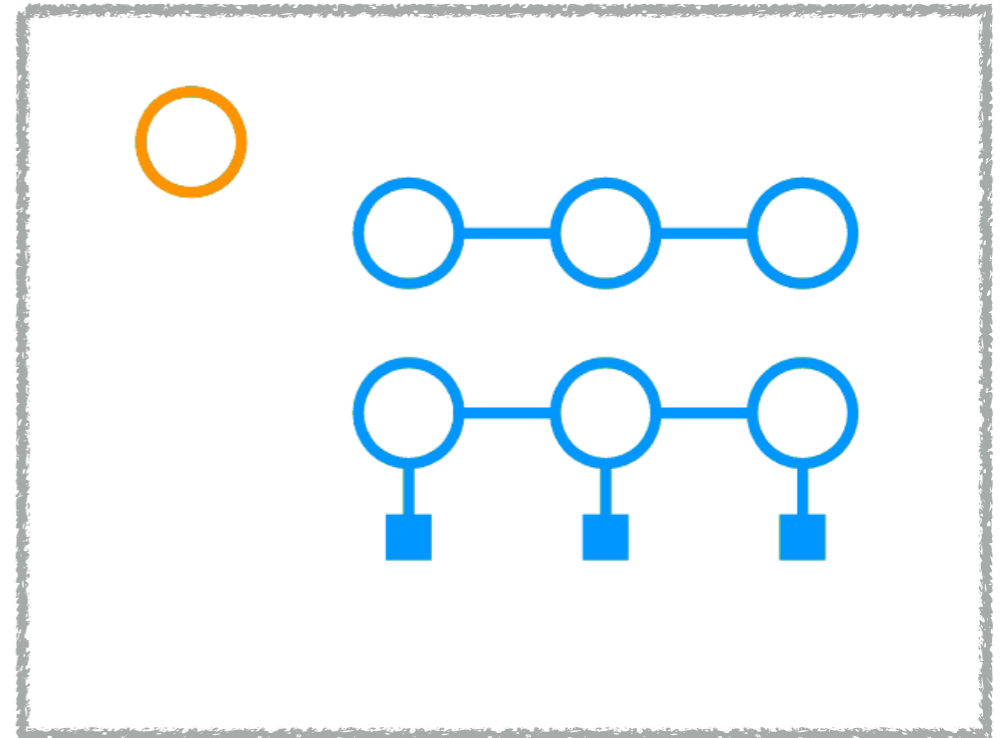




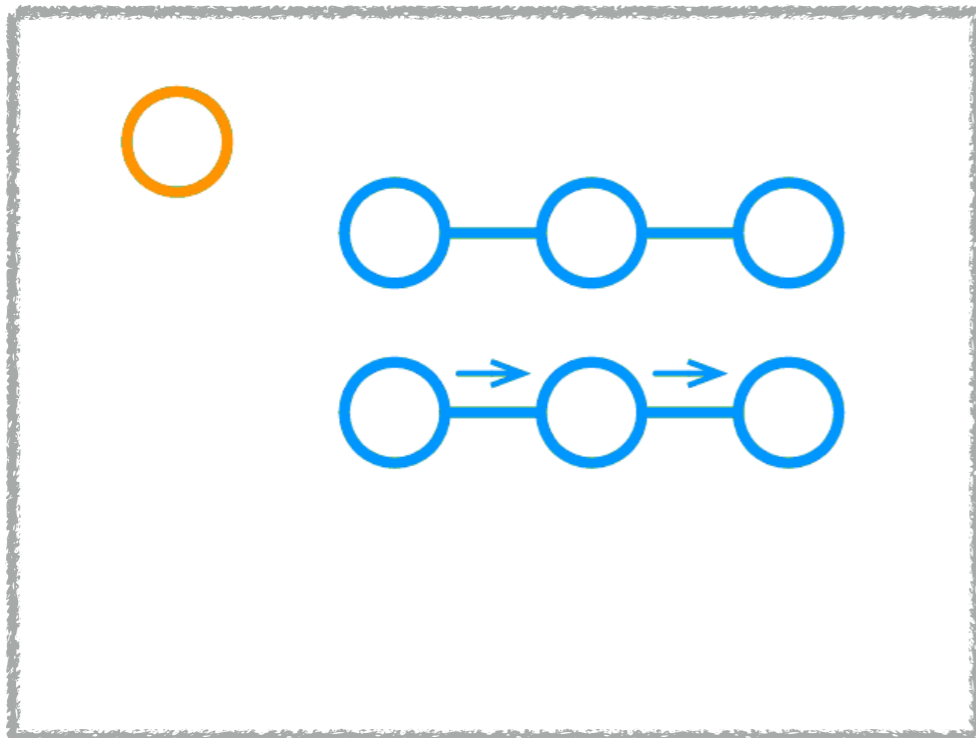
Step 1: apply recognition network



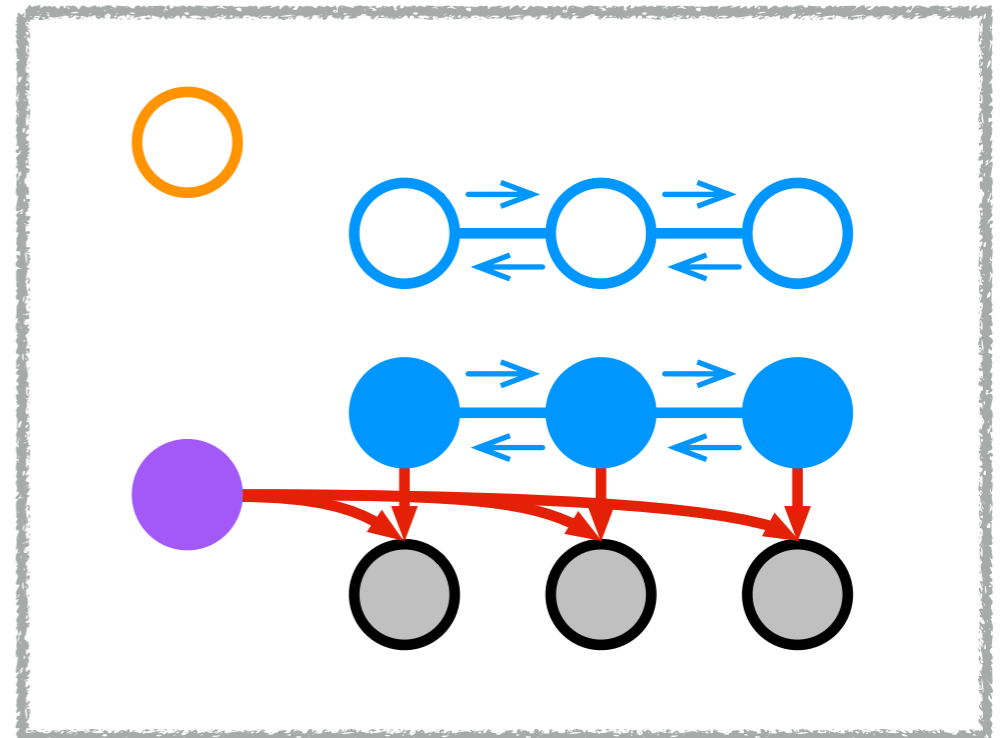
Step 2: run fast PGM algorithms

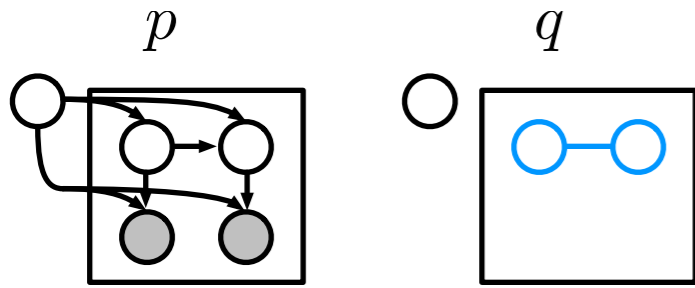


Step 3: sample, compute flat grads



Step 4: compute natural gradient

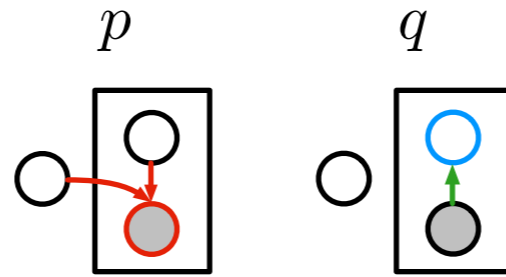




$$q^*(x) \triangleq \arg \max_{q(x)} \mathcal{L}[q(\theta)q(x)]$$

### Natural gradient SVI

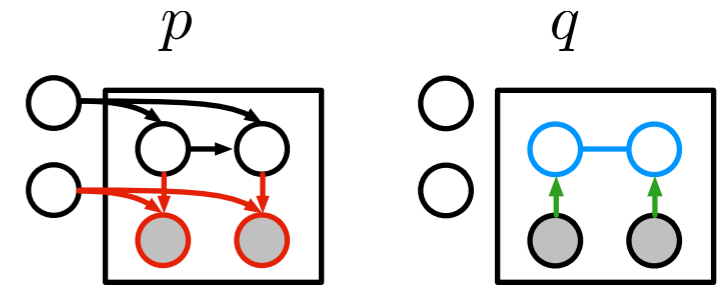
- expensive for general obs.
- + optimal local factor
- + exploits conj. graph structure
- + arbitrary inference queries
- + natural gradients



$$q^*(x) \triangleq \mathcal{N}(x | \mu(y; \phi), \Sigma(y; \phi))$$

### Variational autoencoders

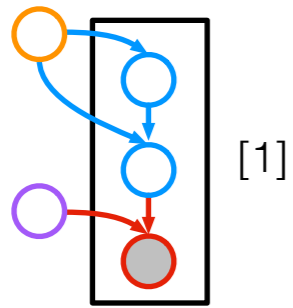
- + fast for general obs.
- suboptimal local factor
- $\phi$  does all local inference
- limited inference queries
- no natural gradients



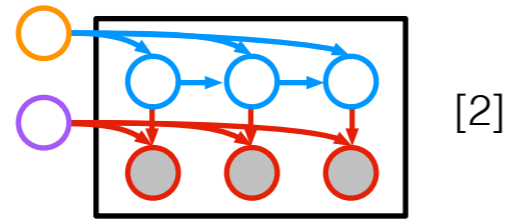
$$q^*(x) \triangleq ?$$

### Structured VAEs [1]

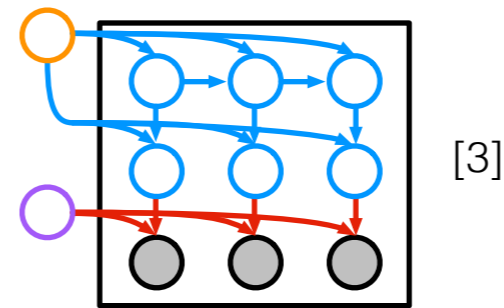
- + fast for general obs.
- ± optimal given conj. evidence
- + exploits conj. graph structure
- + arbitrary inference queries
- + natural gradients on  $\eta_\theta$



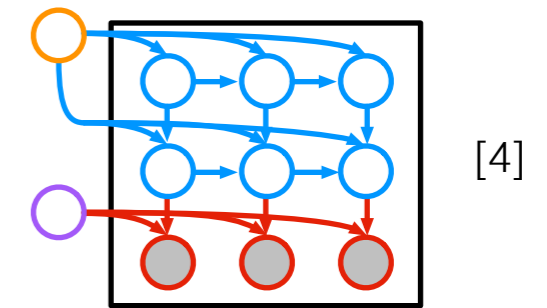
Gaussian mixture model



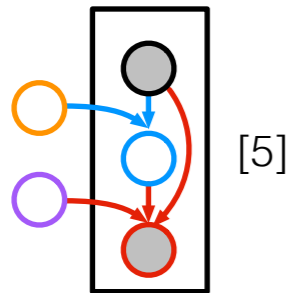
Linear dynamical system



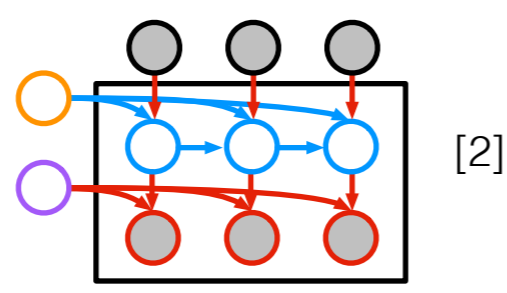
Hidden Markov model



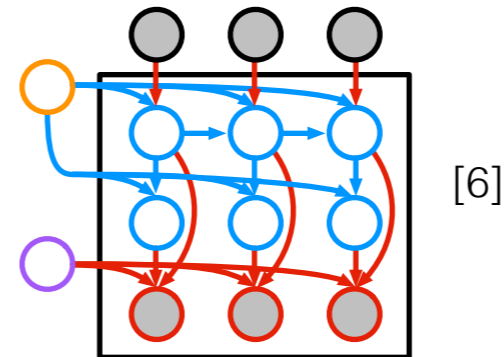
Switching LDS



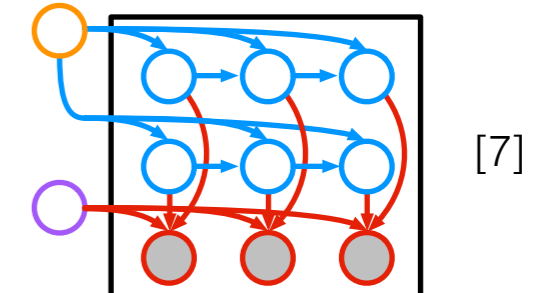
Mixture of Experts



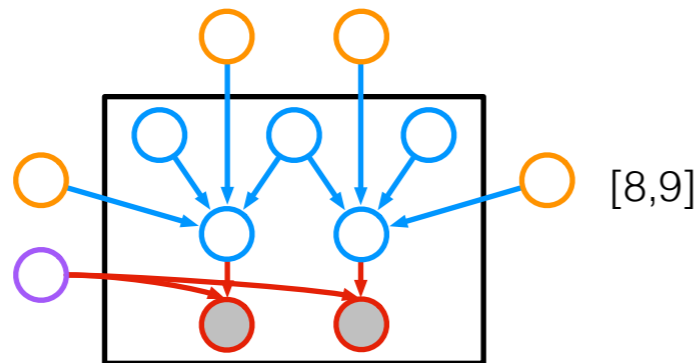
Driven LDS



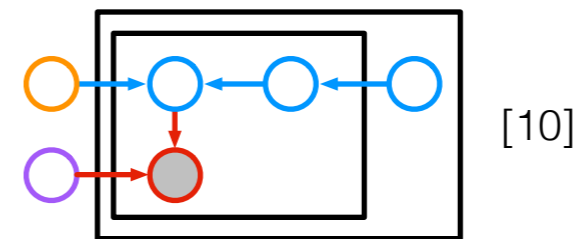
IO-HMM



Factorial HMM



Canonical correlations analysis

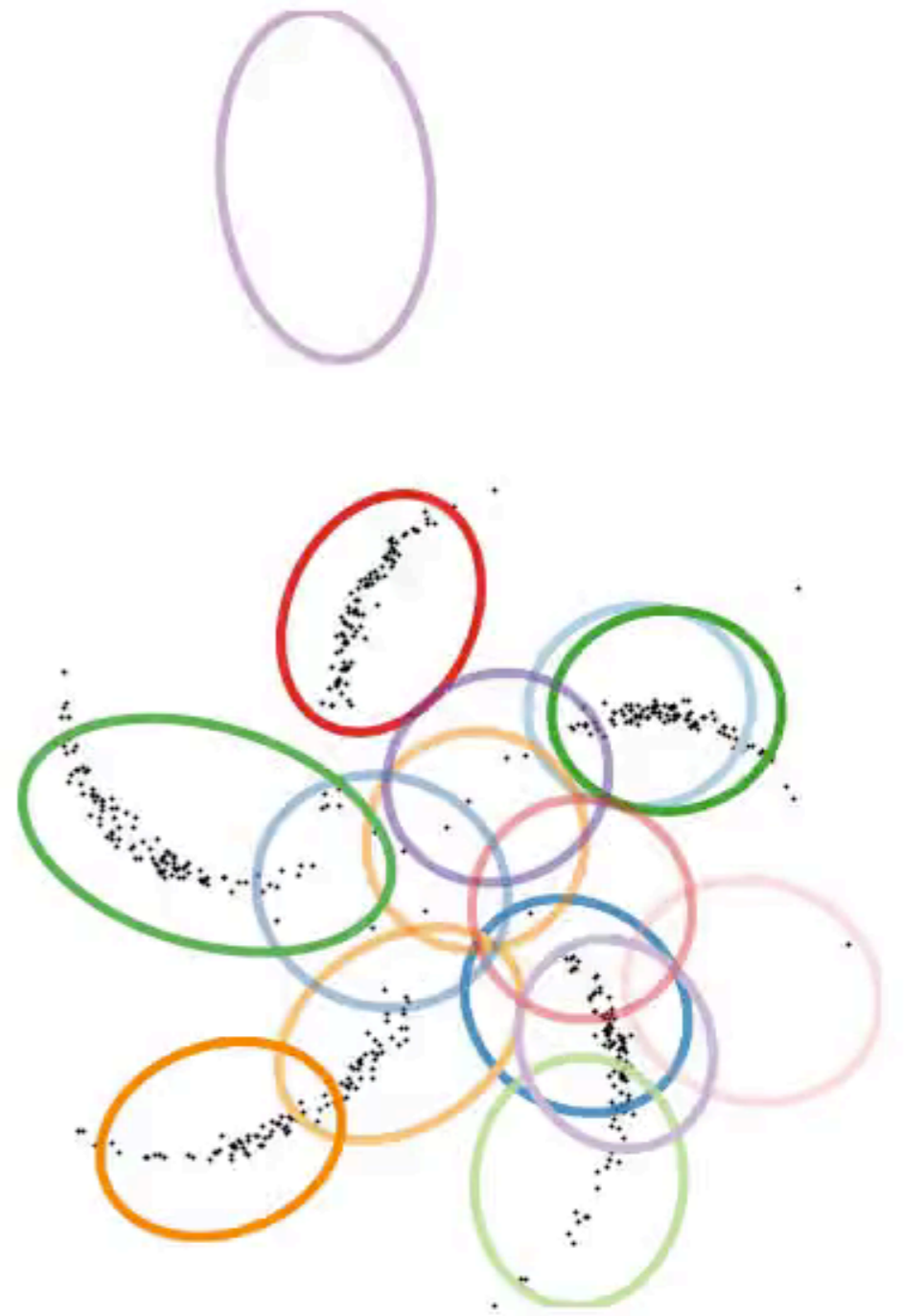


admixture / LDA / NMF

- [1] Palmer, Wipf, Kreutz-Delgado, and Rao. Variational EM algorithms for non-Gaussian latent variable models. NIPS 2005.
- [2] Ghahramani and Beal. Propagation algorithms for variational Bayesian learning. NIPS 2001.
- [3] Beal. Variational algorithms for approximate Bayesian inference, Ch. 3. U of London Ph.D. Thesis 2003.
- [4] Ghahramani and Hinton. Variational learning for switching state-space models. Neural Computation 2000.
- [5] Jordan and Jacobs. Hierarchical Mixtures of Experts and the EM algorithm. Neural Computation 1994.
- [6] Bengio and Frasconi. An Input Output HMM Architecture. NIPS 1995.
- [7] Ghahramani and Jordan. Factorial Hidden Markov Models. Machine Learning 1997.
- [8] Bach and Jordan. A probabilistic interpretation of Canonical Correlation Analysis. Tech. Report 2005.
- [9] Archambeau and Bach. Sparse probabilistic projections. NIPS 2008.
- [10] Hoffman, Bach, Blei. Online learning for Latent Dirichlet Allocation. NIPS 2010.

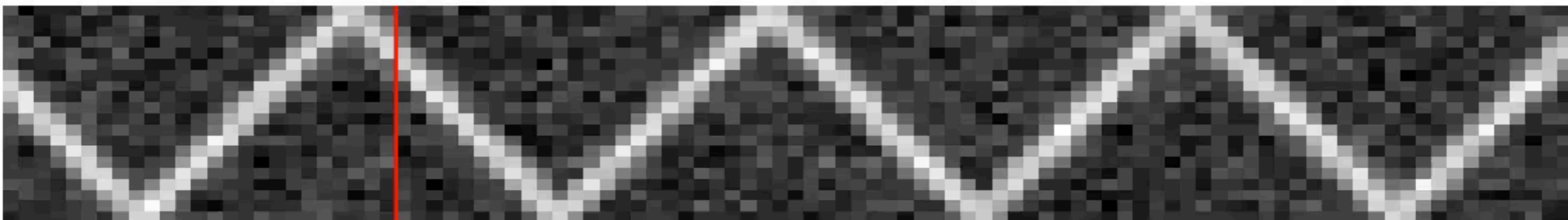


data space



latent space

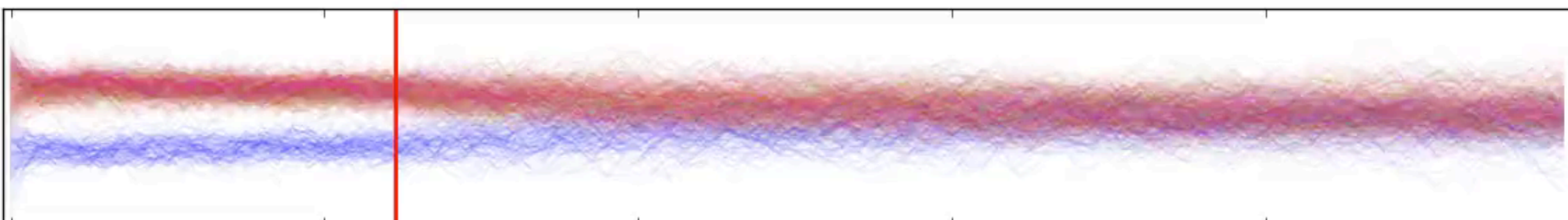
data



predictions



latent states

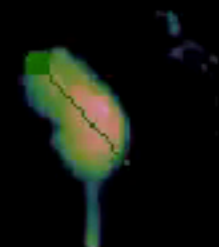
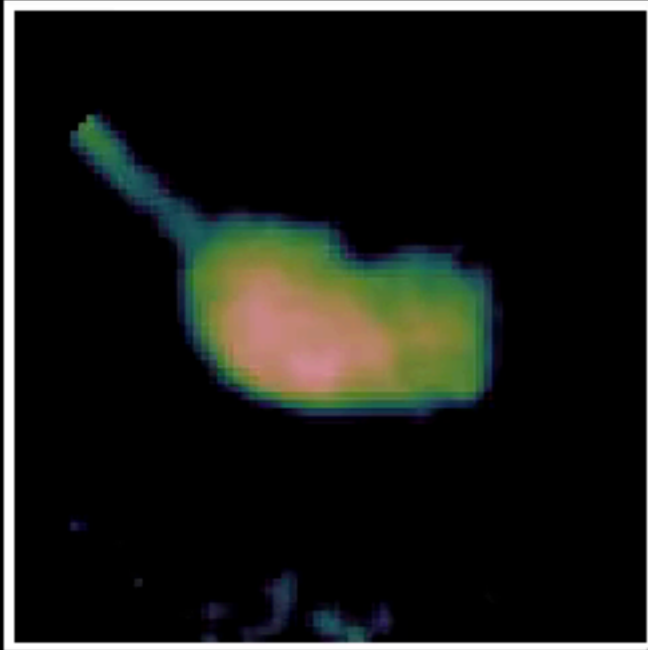


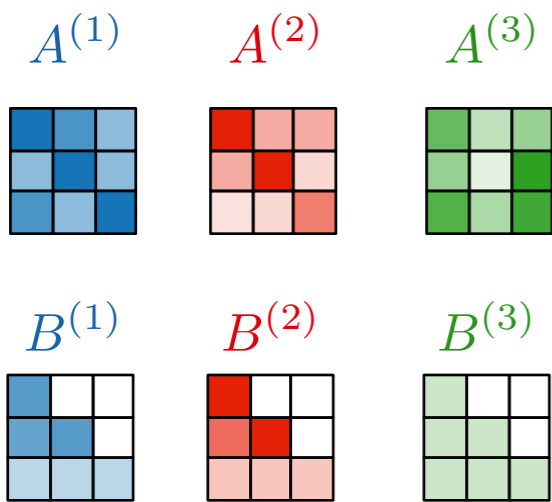
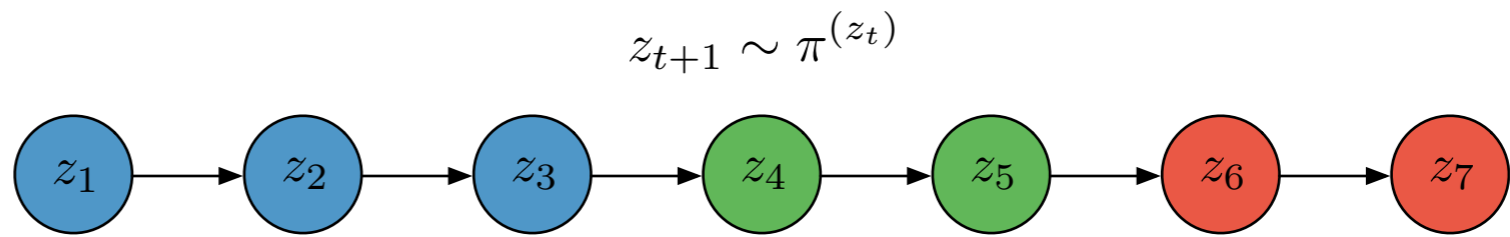
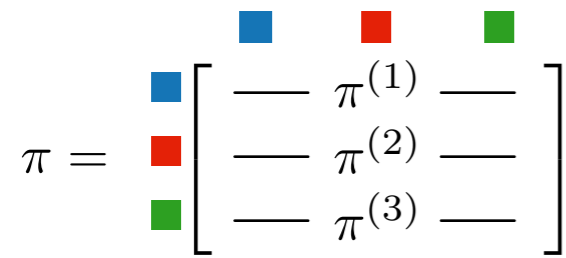
0 20 40 60 80

frame index

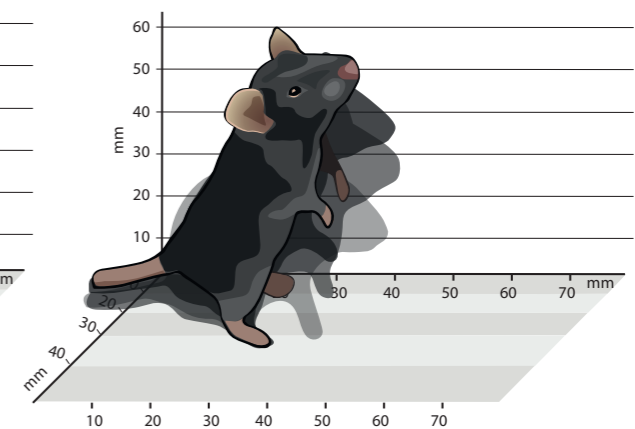
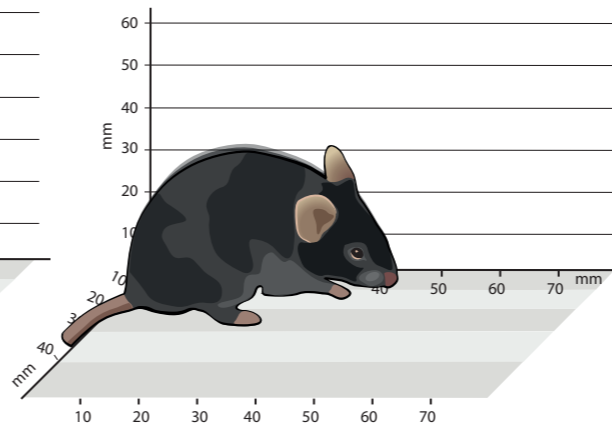
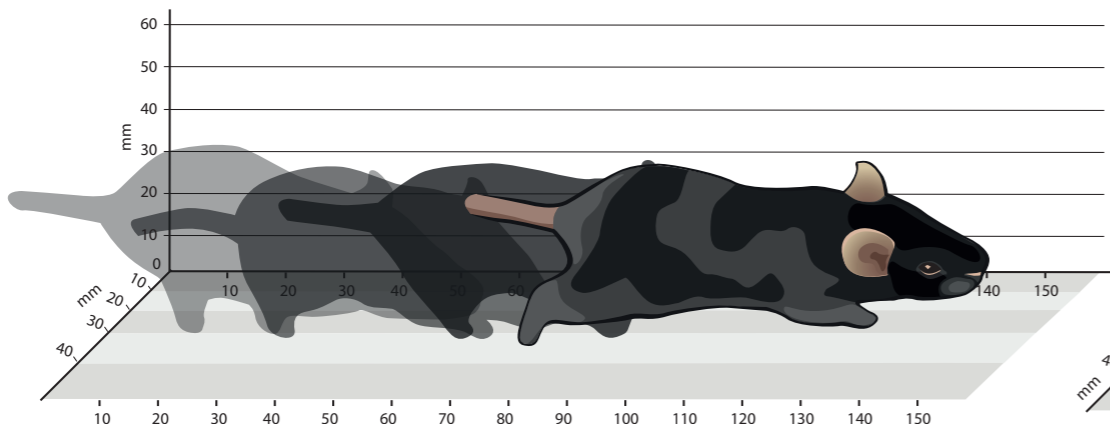
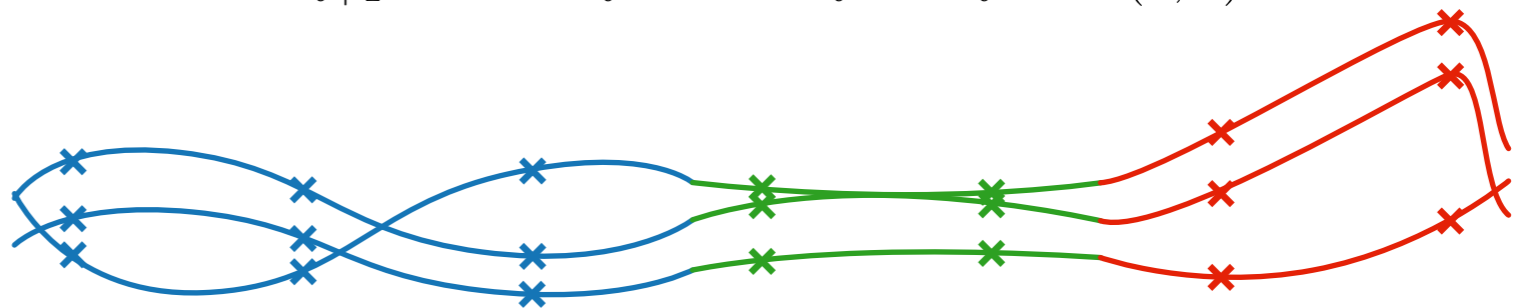


Frame 0

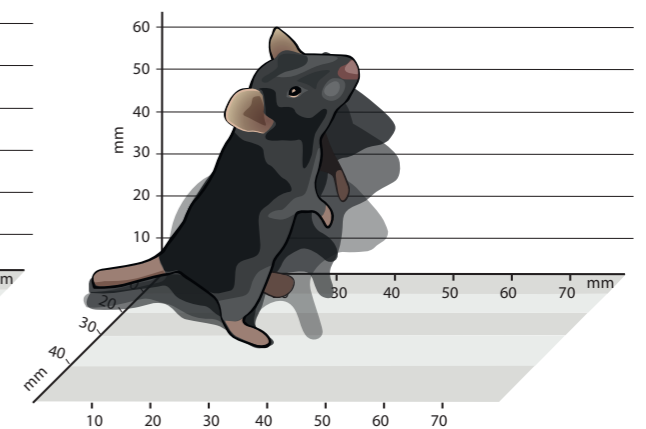
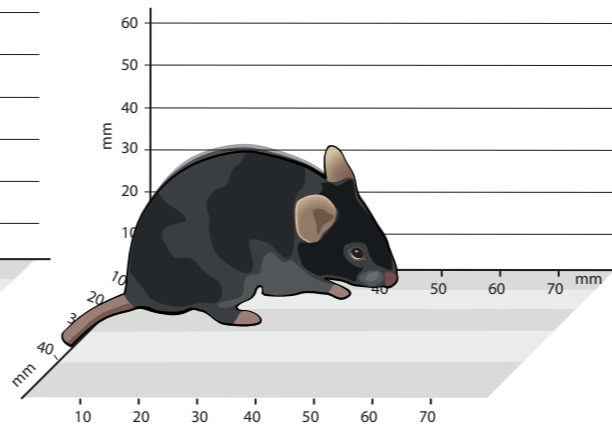
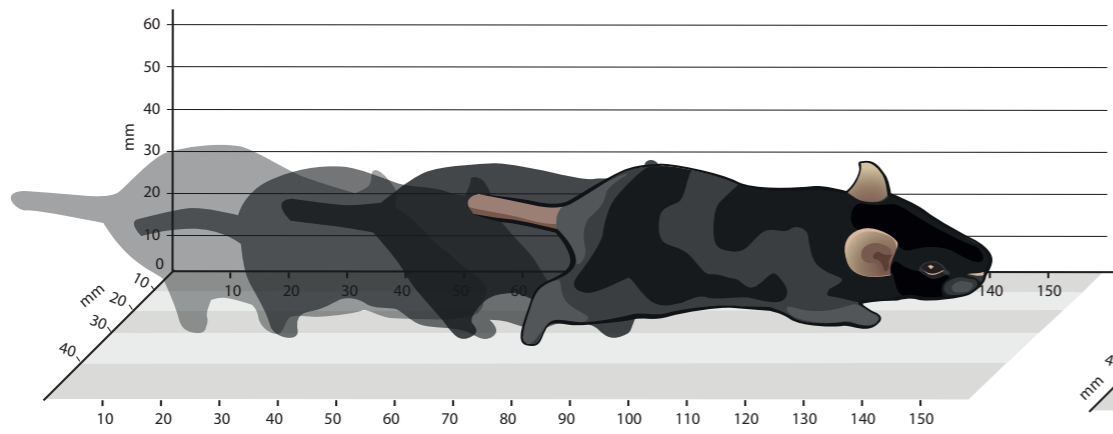
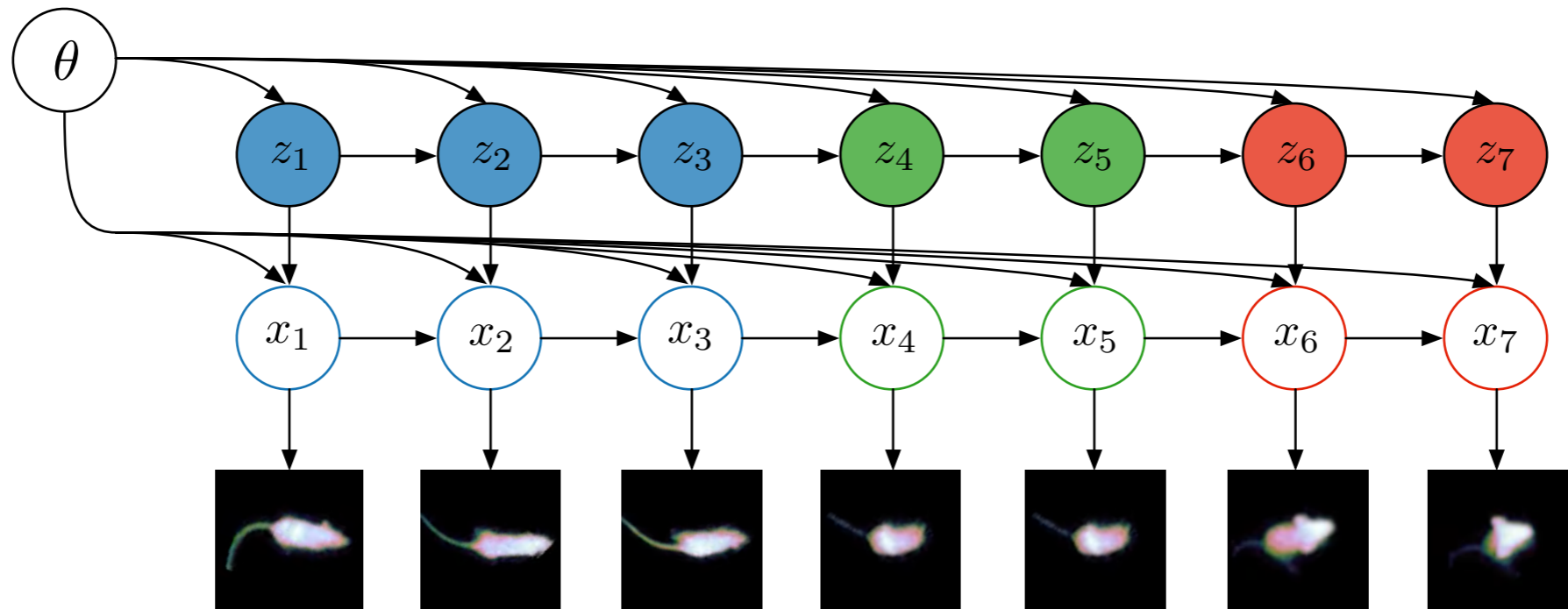


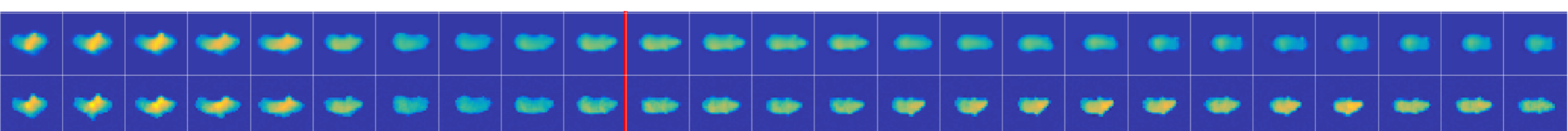
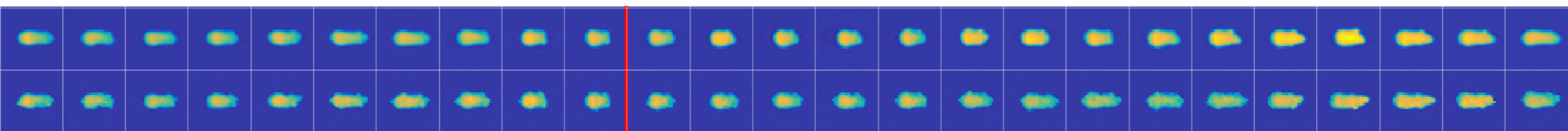
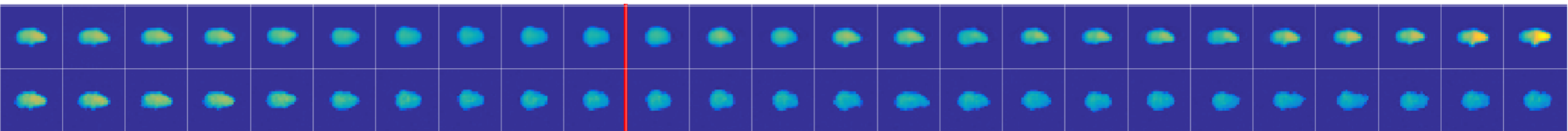


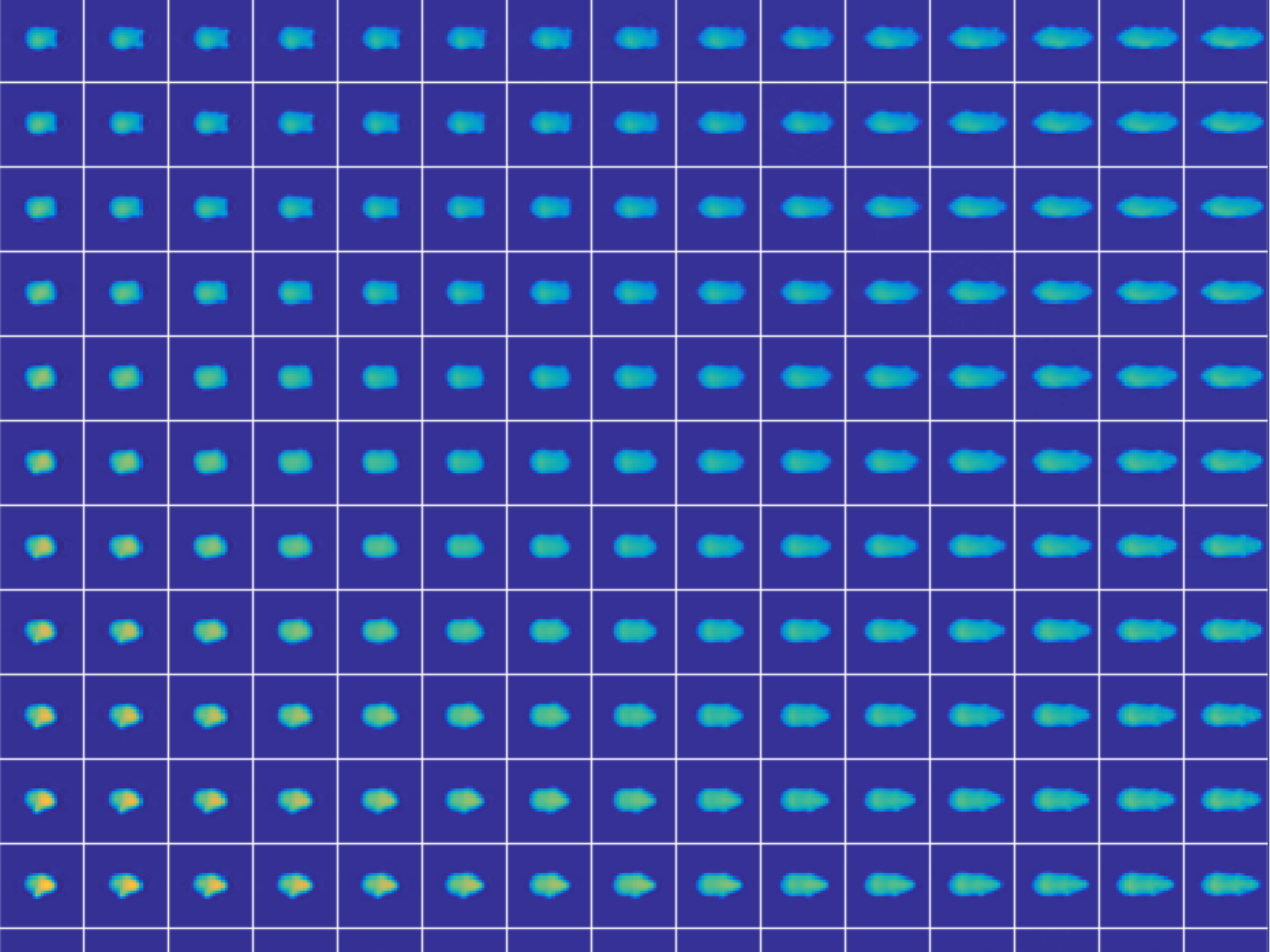
$x_{t+1} = A^{(z_t)} x_t + B^{(z_t)} u_t \quad u_t \stackrel{\text{iid}}{\sim} \mathcal{N}(0, I)$

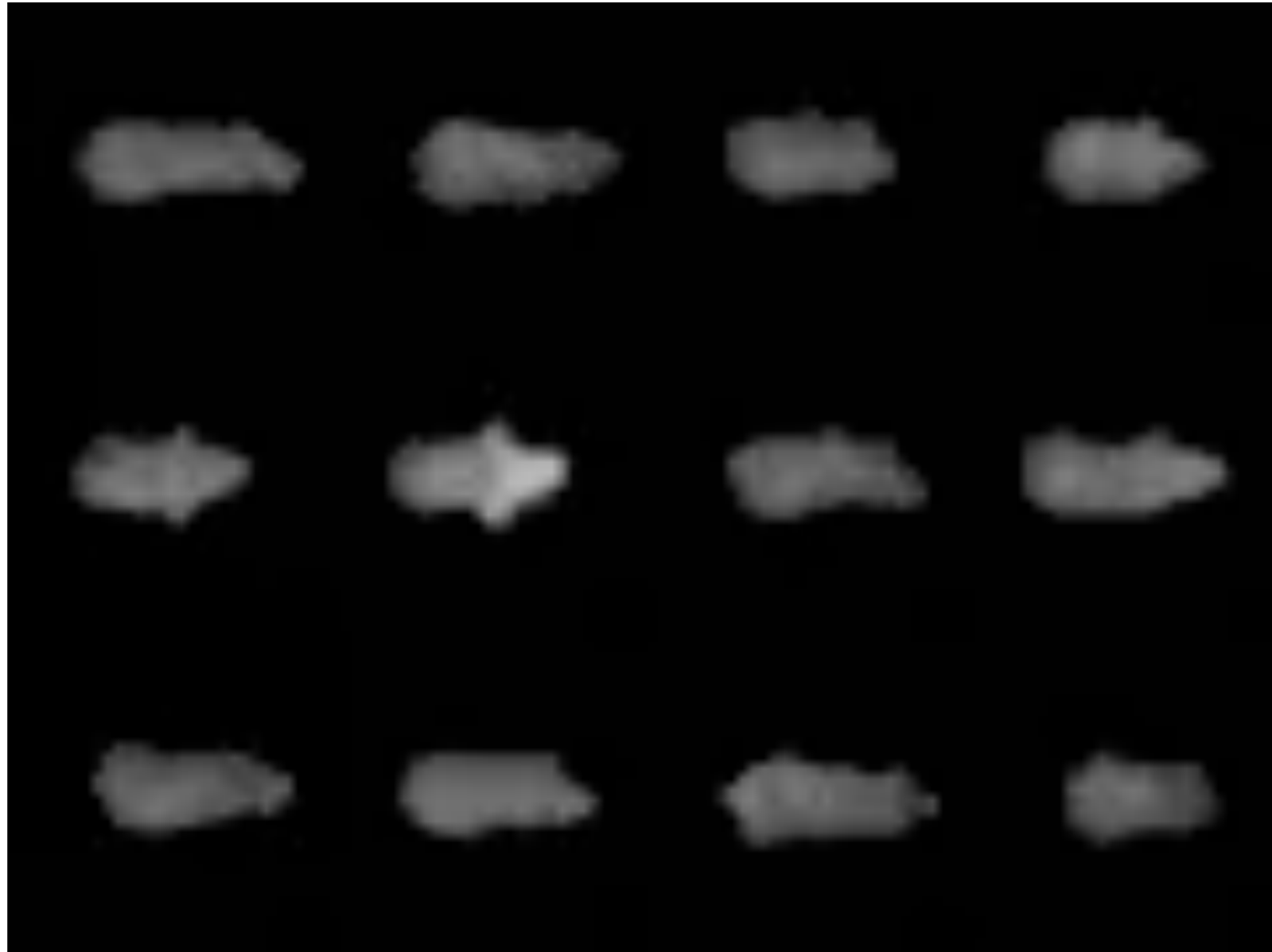




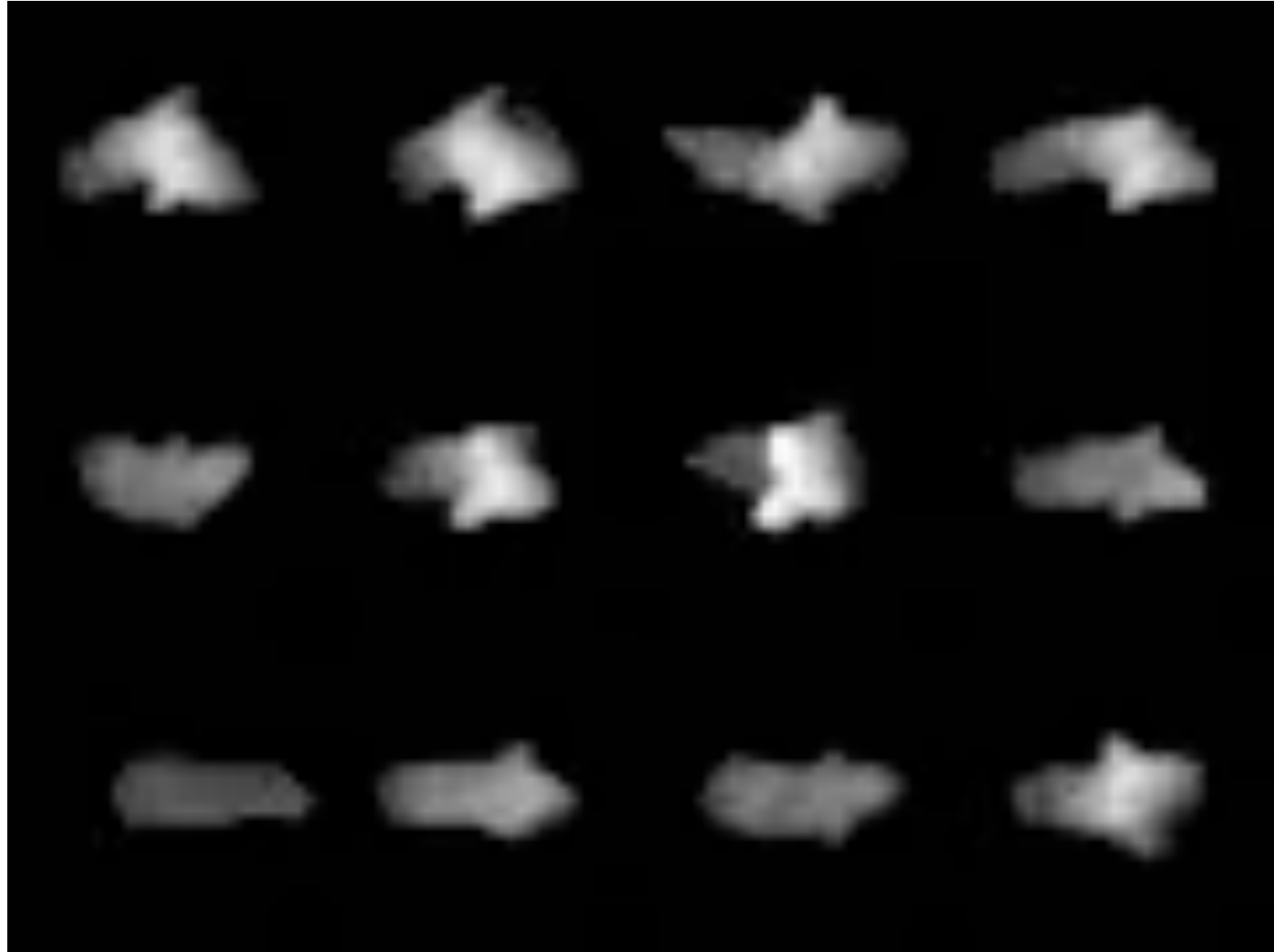




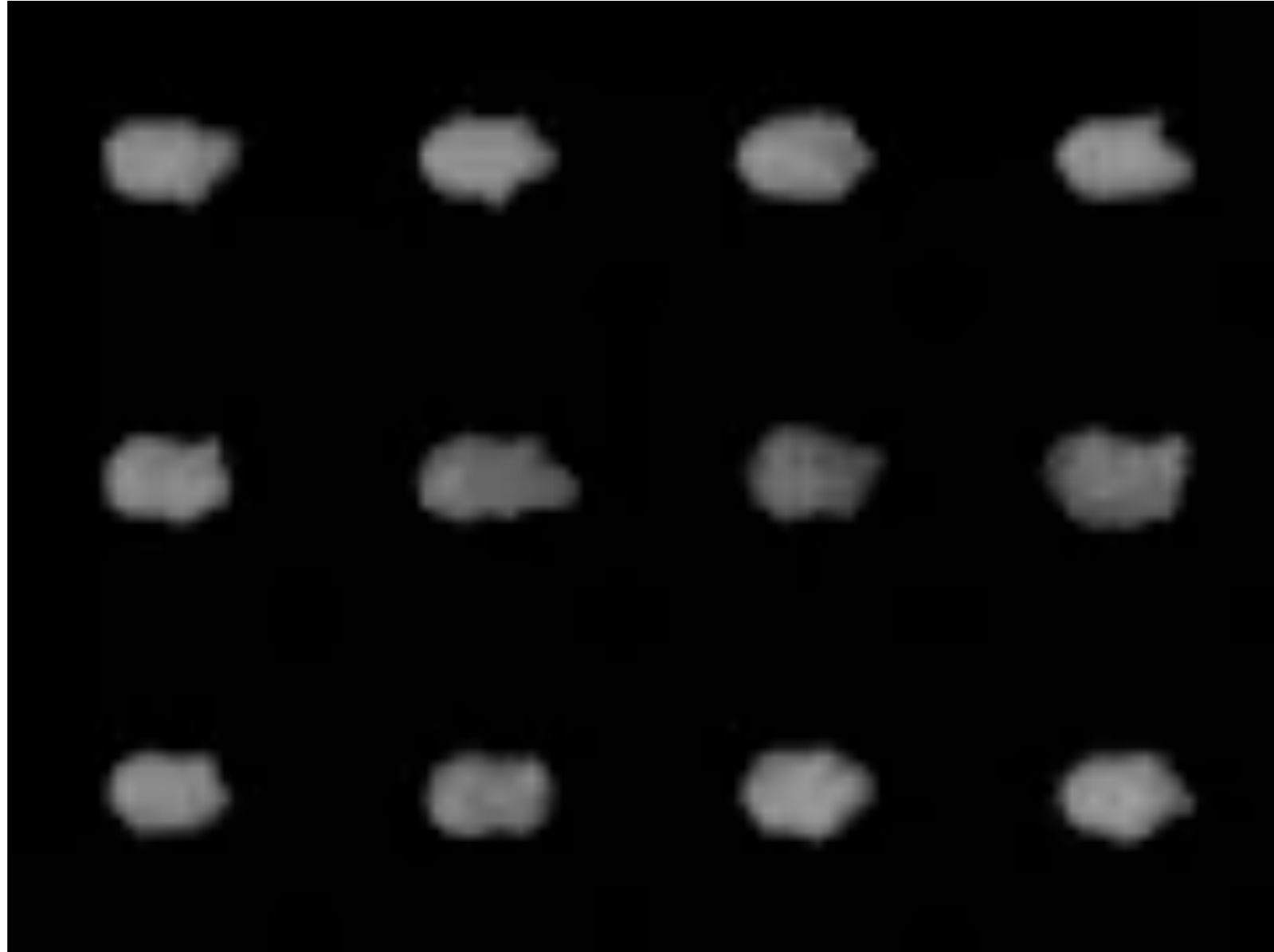




rearing up



fall from rear



grooming

# Limitations and future work

## capacity

- How expressive is latent linear structure?
  - word embeddings [1], analogical reasoning in image models
  - SVAE can use nonlinear latent structure

## complexity

- PGMs get complicated
  - SVAE keeps complexity modular

## future work

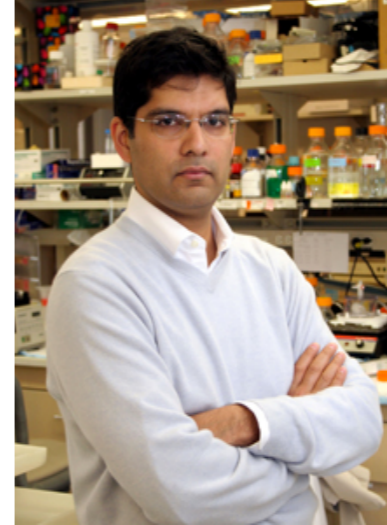
- model-based reinforcement learning
- automatic structure search [2,3]
- semi-supervised applications

[1] Hashimoto, Alvarez-Melis, and Jaakkola, Word, graph and manifold embedding from Markov processes, Preprint 2015.

[2] Grosse et al., Exploiting compositionality to explore a large space of model structures, UAI 2012.

[3] Duvenaud et al., Structure discovery in nonparametric regression through compositional kernel search, ICML 2013.

Matt Johnson, David Duvenaud, Alex Wiltschko, Bob Datta, Ryan Adams



# Thanks!

[github.com/mattjj/svae](https://github.com/mattjj/svae)

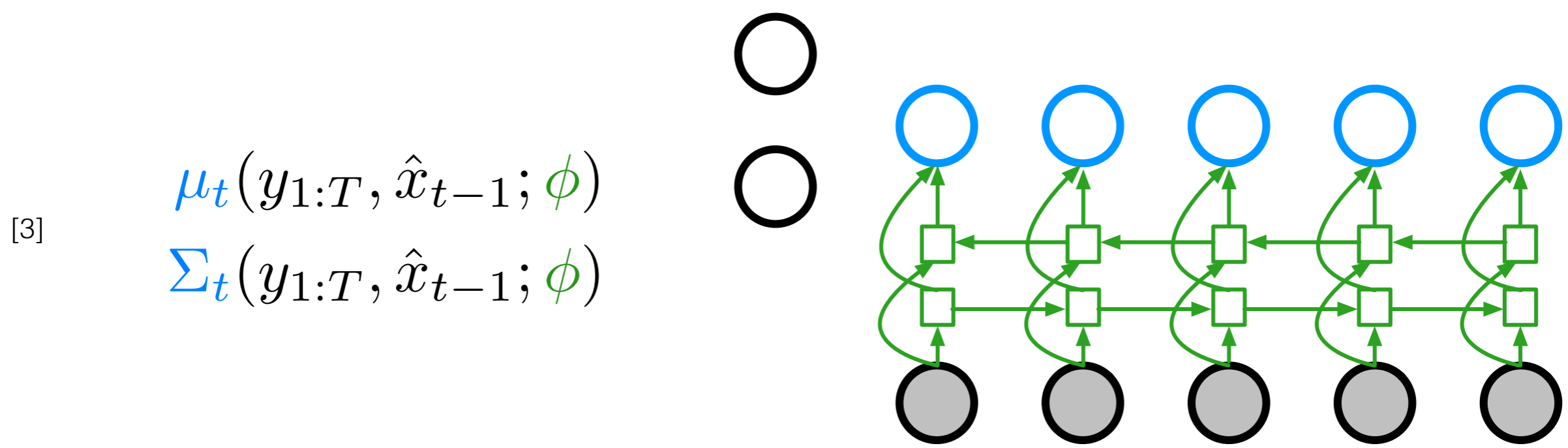
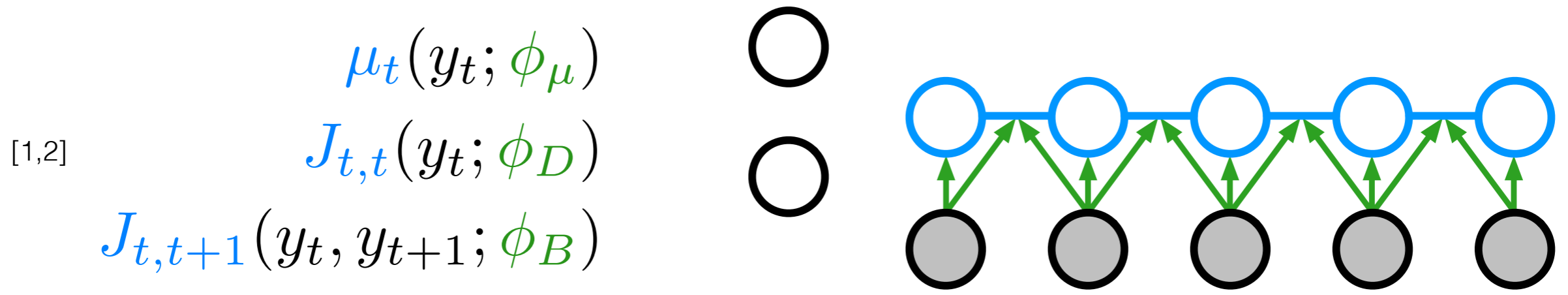


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UNIVERSITY



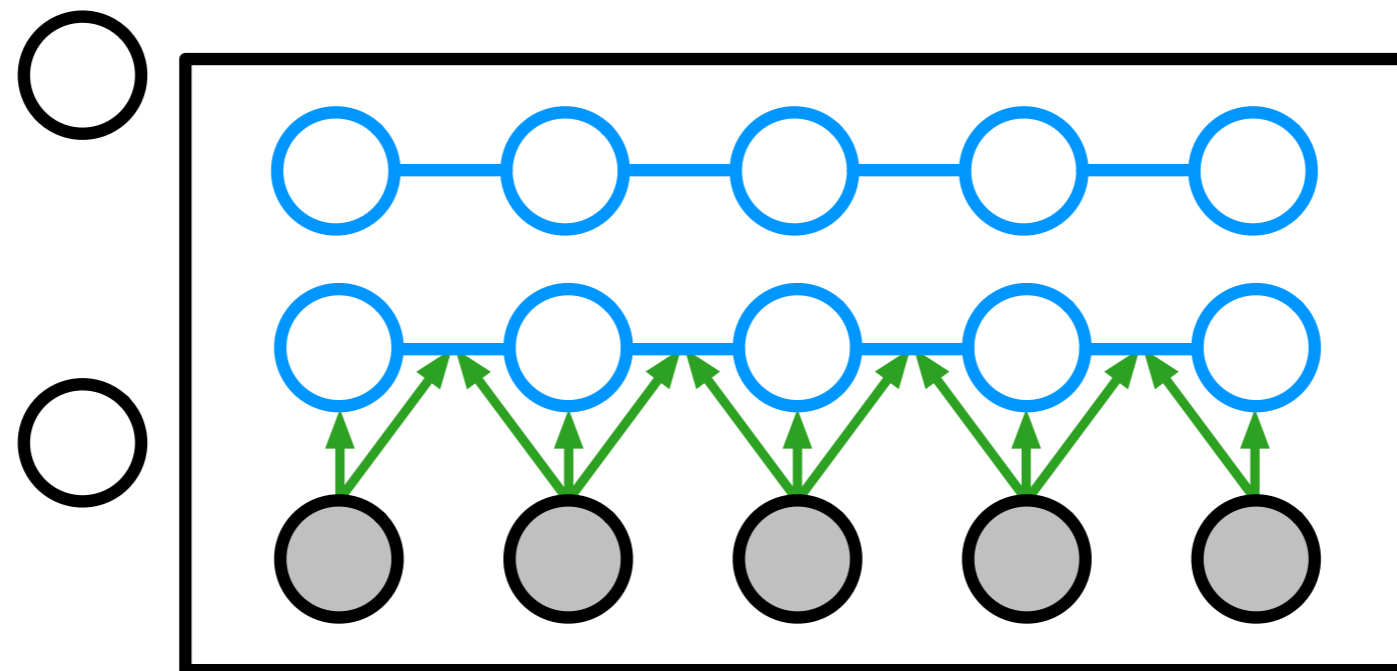
UNIVERSITY OF  
**TORONTO**





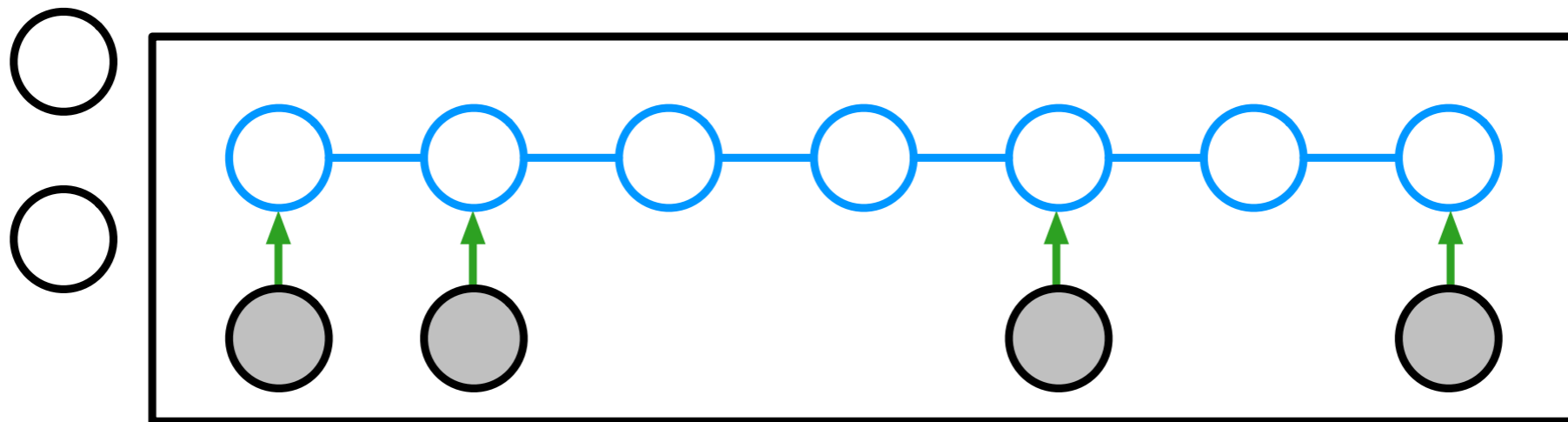
[1] Archer, Park, Buesing, Cunningham, Paninski. Black box variational inference for state space models. ICLR 2016 Workshops.  
 [2] Gao\*, Archer\*, Paninski, Cunningham. Linear dynamical neural population models through nonlinear embeddings. NIPS 2016.  
 [3] Krishnan, Shalit, Sontag. Structured inference networks for nonlinear state space models. AISTATS 2017.

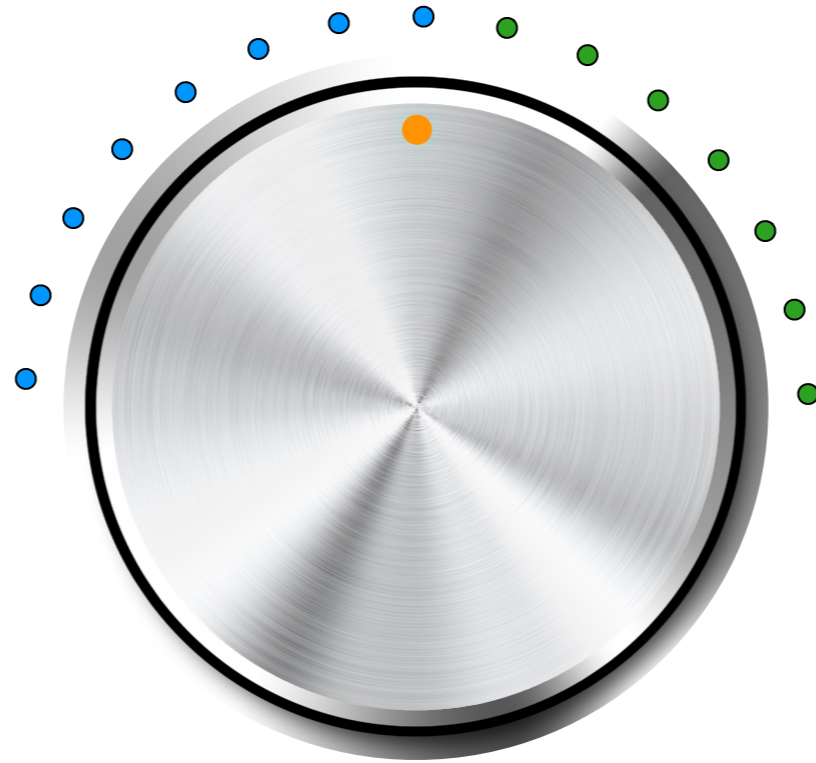
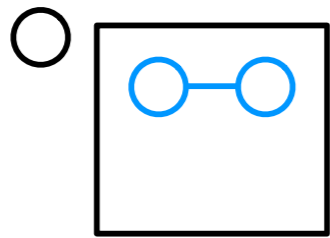
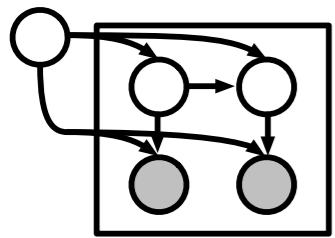
SVAEs can use any inference network architecture



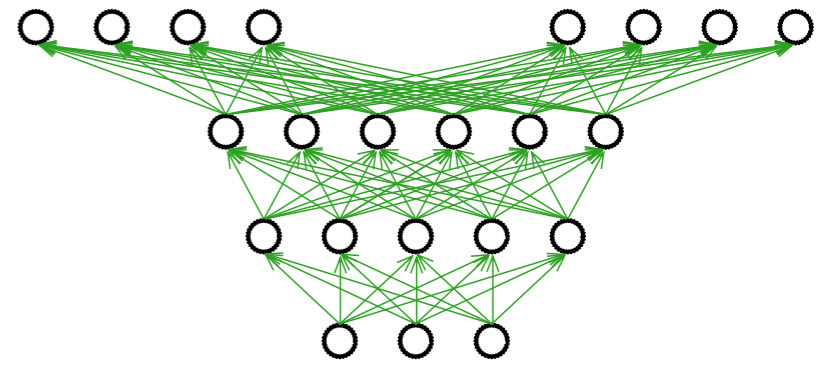
- [1] Archer, Park, Buesing, Cunningham, Paninski. Black box variational inference for state space models. ICLR 2016 Workshops.
- [2] Gao\*, Archer\*, Paninski, Cunningham. Linear dynamical neural population models through nonlinear embeddings. NIPS 2016.

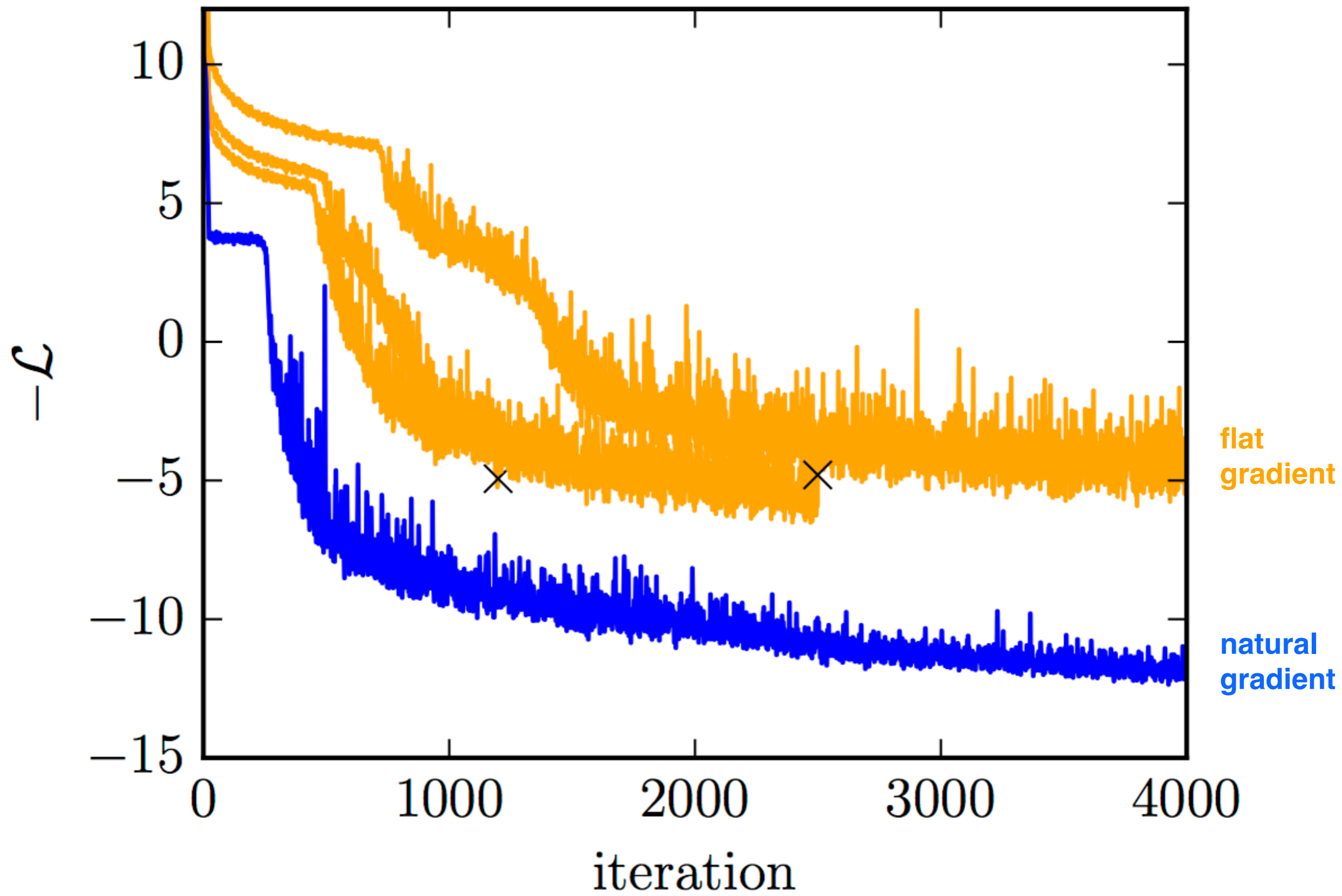
Per-variable recognition nets allow arbitrary inference queries

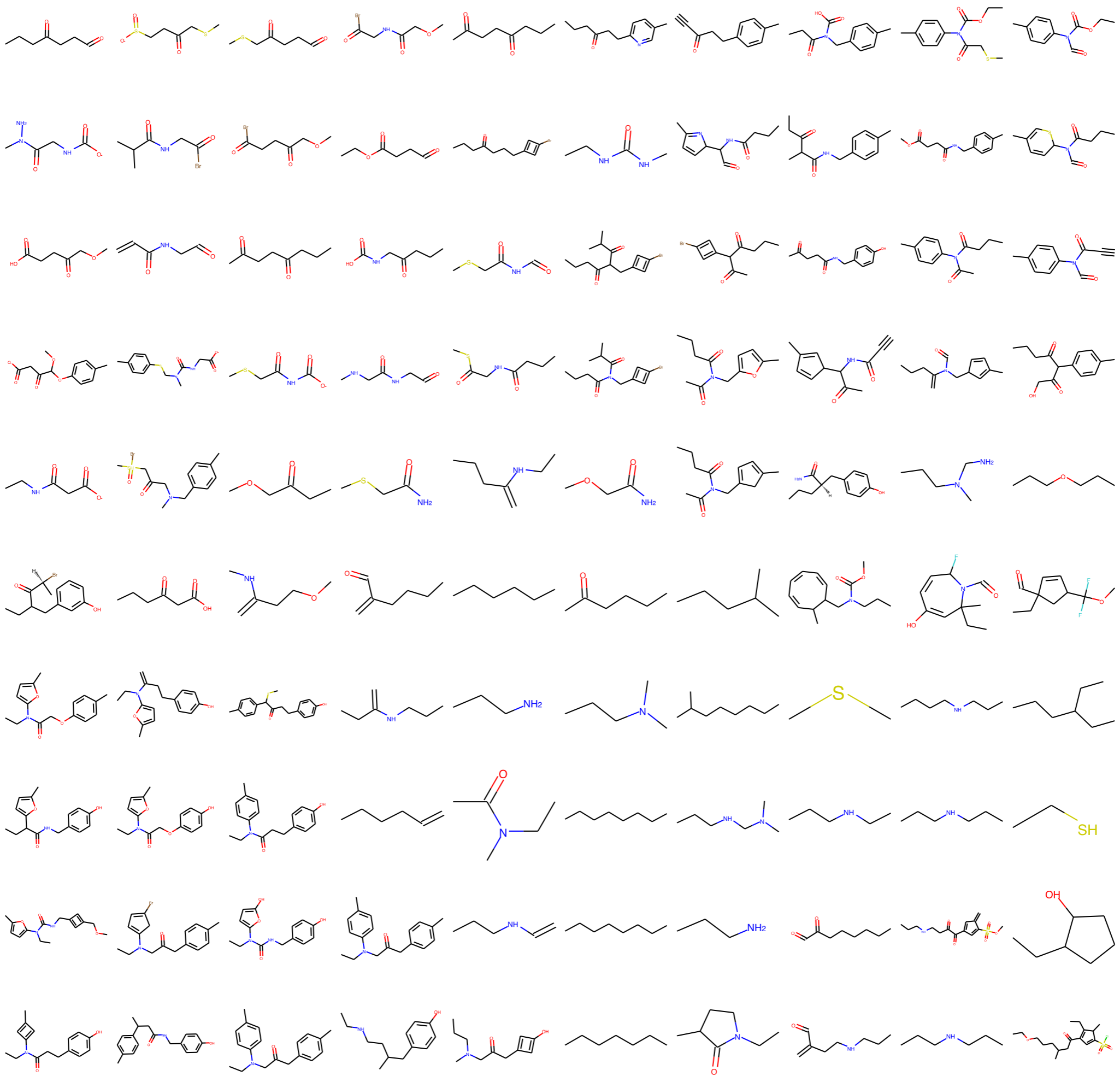


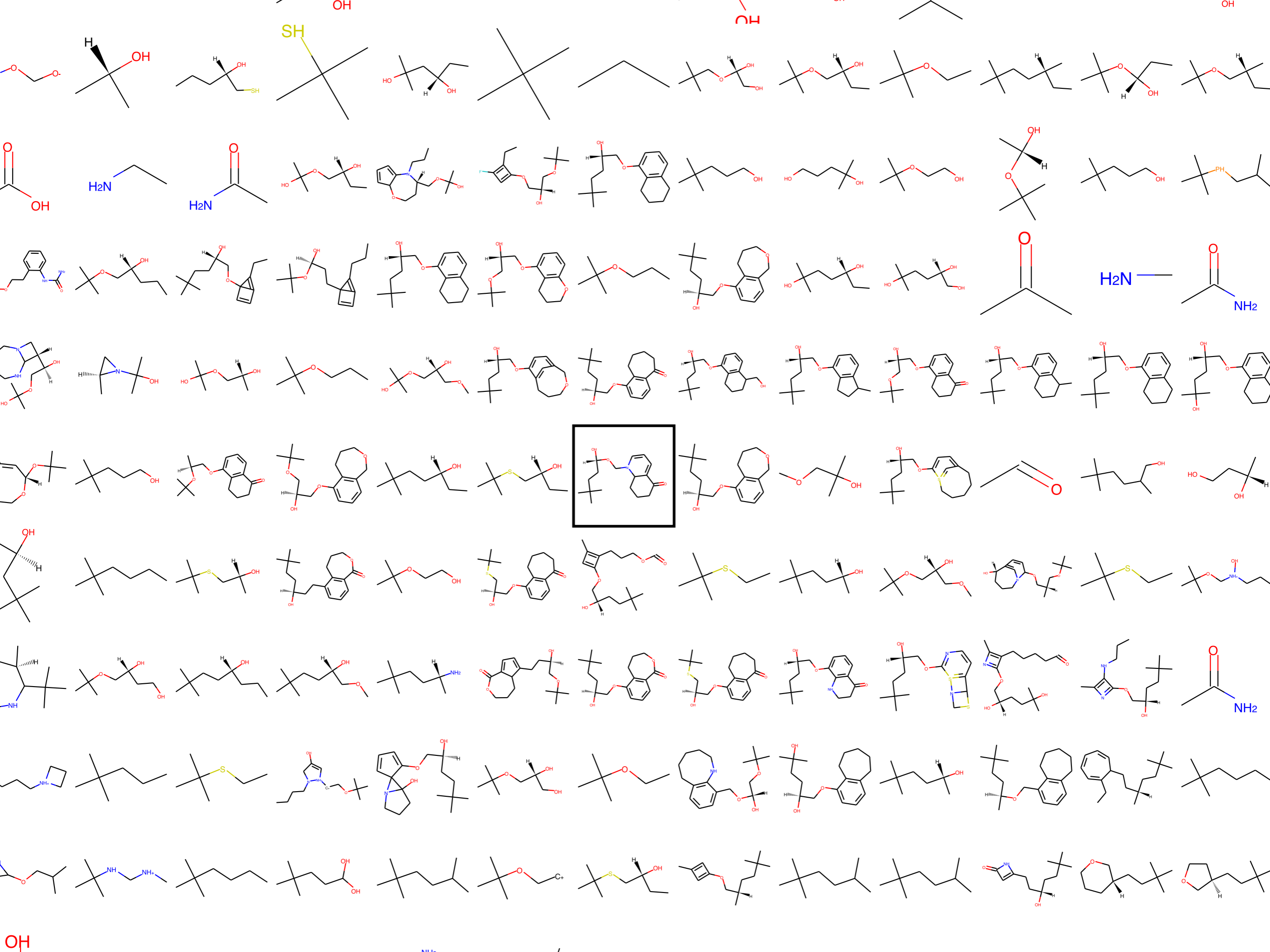


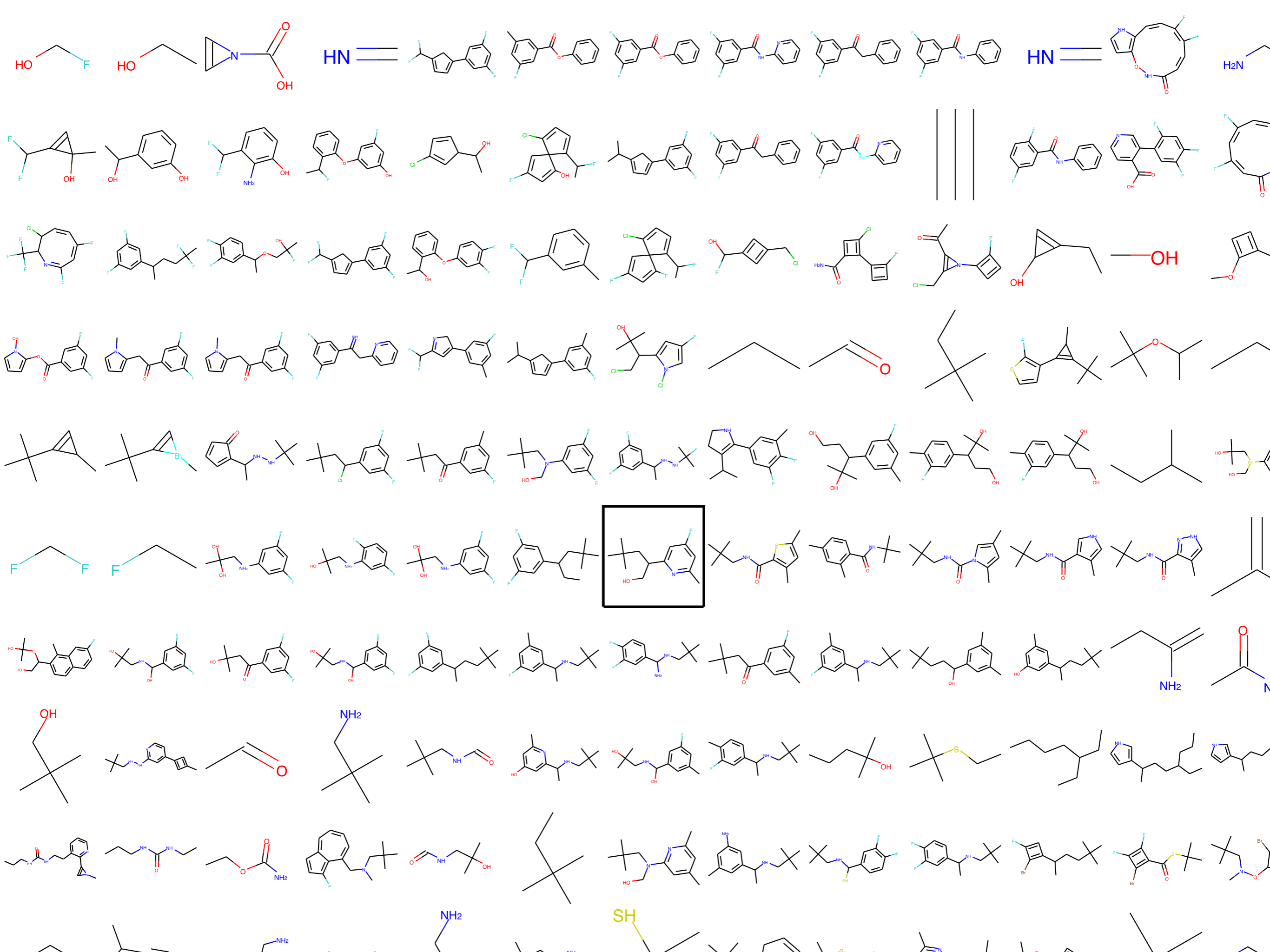
SVAEs









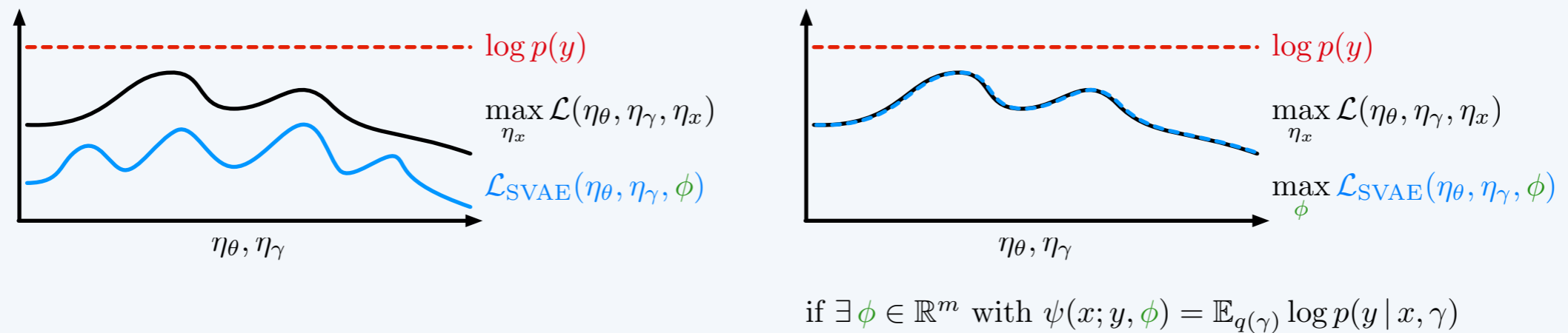




Fact (conjugate graphical models are easy)

The local variational parameter  $\eta_x^*(\eta_\theta, \phi)$  is easy to compute.

Proposition (log evidence lower bound)



Proposition (reparameterization trick)

Estimate  $\nabla_{\eta_\gamma, \phi} \mathcal{L}_{\text{SVAE}}(\eta_\theta, \eta_\gamma, \phi)$  with samples  $\hat{\gamma} \sim q(\gamma)$  and  $\hat{x} \sim q^*(x | \phi)$  via

$$\mathcal{L}_{\text{SVAE}}(\eta_\theta, \eta_\gamma, \phi) \approx \log p(y | \hat{x}, \hat{\gamma}) - \text{KL}(q(\theta)q(\gamma)q^*(x | \phi) \| p(\theta, \gamma, x))$$

Proposition (easy natural gradient)

$$\tilde{\nabla}_{\eta_\theta} \mathcal{L}_{\text{SVAE}}(\eta_\theta, \eta_\gamma, \phi) = (\eta_\theta^0 + \mathbb{E}_{q^*(x | \phi)}(t_x(x), 1) - \eta_\theta) + (\nabla_{\eta_x} \mathcal{L}(\eta_\theta, \eta_\gamma, \eta_x^*(\eta_\theta, \phi)), 0)$$