

Flow-based networks and their benefits for us in high-energy physics



ERLANGEN CENTRE
FOR ASTROPARTICLE
PHYSICS

Based on
[arXiv:2008.05825](https://arxiv.org/abs/2008.05825)

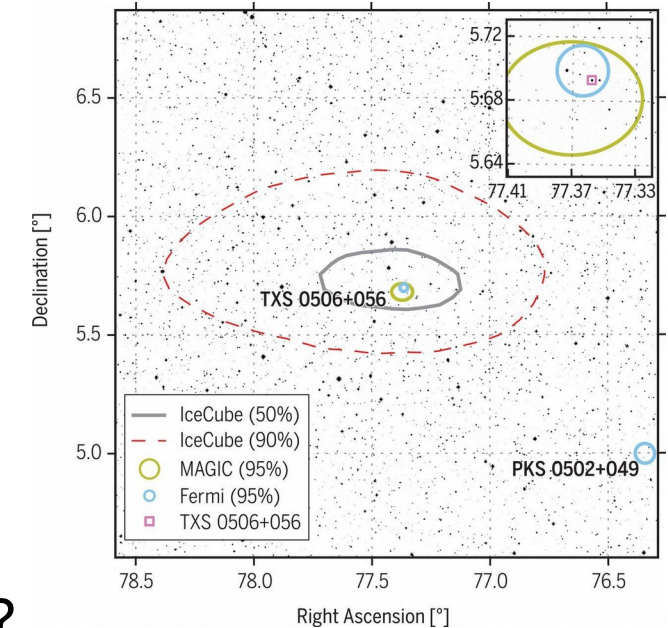
Thorsten Glösenkamp, ErUM-Data meeting, Sep. 22nd, 2020

Overview

- Motivation
- Joint KL-divergence
- Flows generalize MSE
- Coverage
- Systematics
- Goodness of fit

Motivation (here astronomical Posteriors)

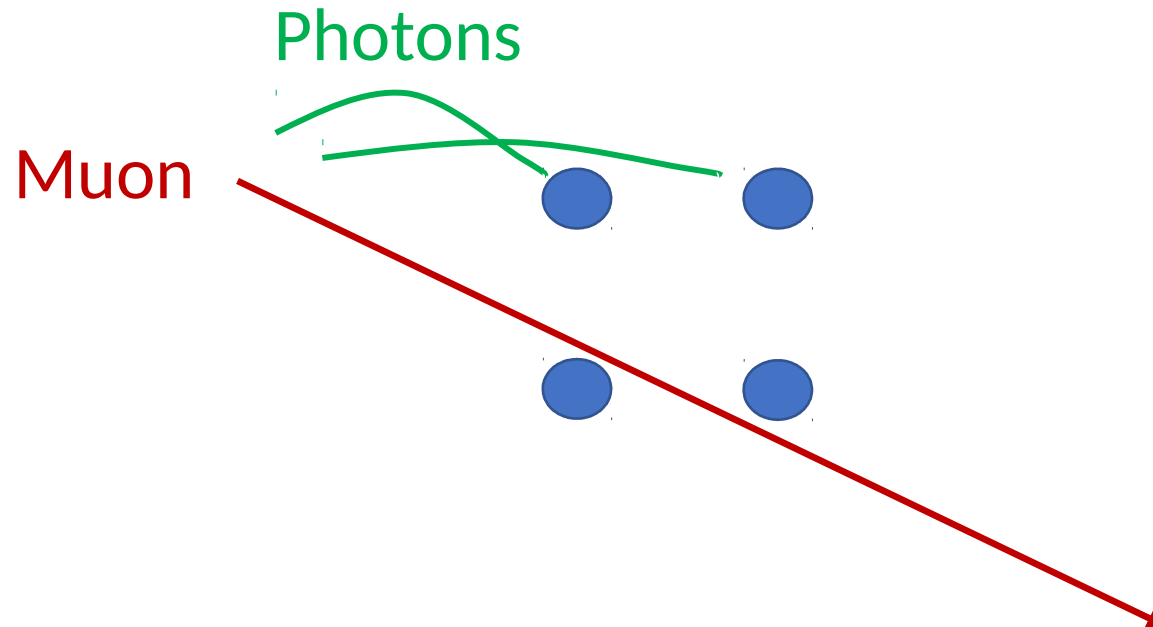
- Standard recos: Coverage + correct systematics big issue (since years)
(what about goodness-of-fit !?)



- Can we maybe solve all issues with neural networks?
**Indeed, just using a simple upgrade of our existing networks,
using so called „normalizing flows“.**

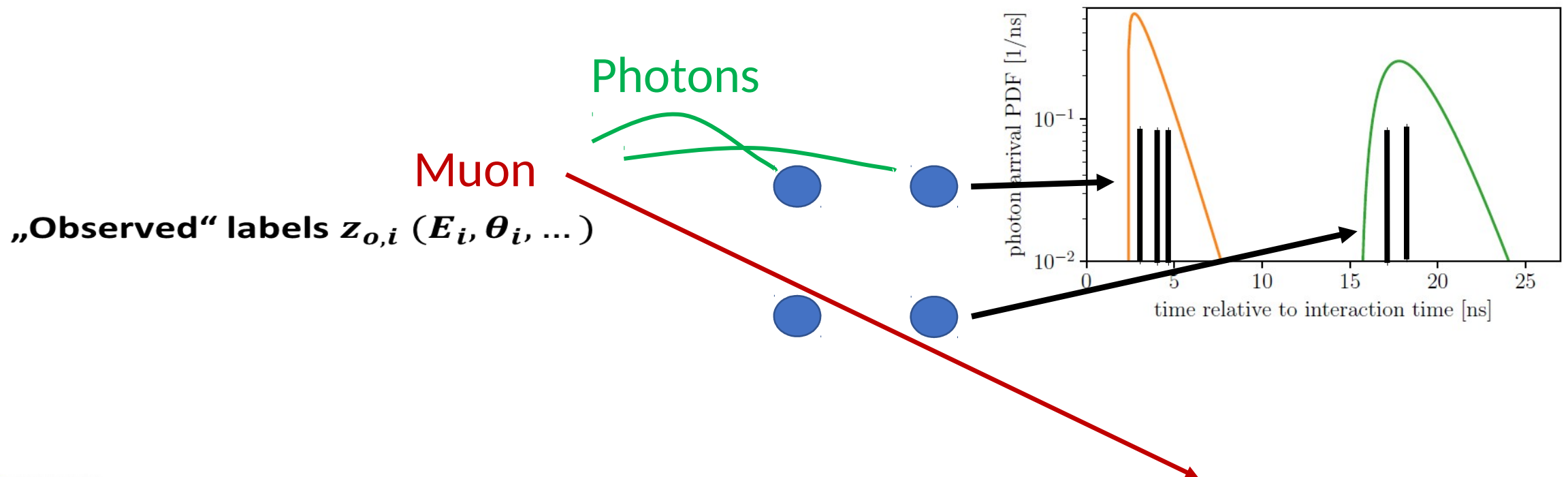
What is a Monte Carlo simulation?

An answer: **Samples $x_i, z_{0,i}$ from a „true“ (intractable) joint distribution $\mathcal{P}_t(x, z_0)$**



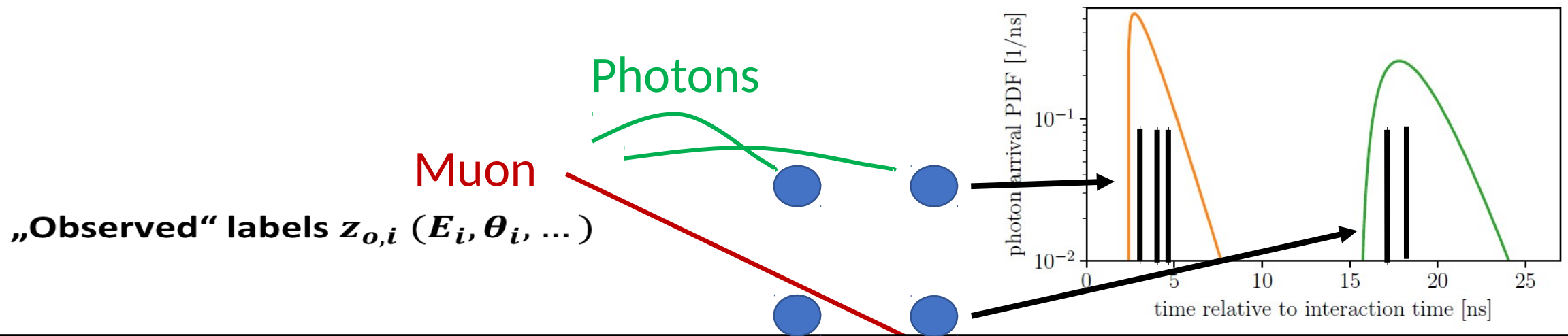
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What is a Monte Carlo simulation?

- An answer: **Samples $x_i, z_{o,i}$ from a „true“ (intractable) joint distribution $\mathcal{P}_t(x, z_o)$**



→ Can evaluate expectation of arbitrary function $f(x, z_o)$ via samples!

$$E_{x, z_o}[f(x, z_o)] = \int_{x, z_o} \mathcal{P}_t(x, z_o) f(x, z_o) dx dz_o \approx \frac{1}{N} \sum_{x_i, z_{o,i}} f(x_i, z_{o,i})$$

Supervised learning loss

$$f(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{z}_o) = \ln \frac{P_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{z}_o)}{q(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{z}_o)}$$

$$\rightarrow E_{\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{z}_o} [f(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{z}_o)] = D_{\text{KL, joint}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{z}_o)}(\mathcal{P}_t; q) = \int_{\mathbf{x}} \int_{\mathbf{z}_o} \mathcal{P}_t(\mathbf{z}_o, \mathbf{x}) \cdot \ln \frac{\mathcal{P}_t(\mathbf{z}_o, \mathbf{x})}{q(\mathbf{z}_o, \mathbf{x})} d\mathbf{z}_o d\mathbf{x}$$

Supervised learning loss

- A particular choice of $f(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{z}_o)$ yields the loss function in supervised learning!

$$f(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{z}_o) = \ln \frac{P_t(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{z}_o)}{q(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{z}_o)}$$

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Use samples, parametrize $q(\mathbf{z}_o; \mathbf{x})$ with neural network as q_ϕ , minimize result over ϕ

$$\rightarrow \arg \min_{\phi} \hat{D}_{\text{KL, joint}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{z}_o)}(\mathcal{P}_t; q_\phi) = \dots = \arg \min_{\phi} \frac{1}{N} \sum_{S \in \mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{z}_{o,i}} -\ln (q_\phi(\mathbf{z}_{o,i}; \mathbf{x}_i))$$

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$$\text{MSE-Loss: } \sum (\mu_\phi(\mathbf{x}_i) - \mathbf{z}_{o,i})^2$$

$$q_\phi = N(\mu; 1) \text{ (standard Normal)}$$

Meaning of the KL-divergence viewpoint

$$\begin{aligned} \rightarrow \arg \min_{\phi} \hat{D}_{\text{KL}, \text{joint}(x, z_o)}(\mathcal{P}_t; q_{\phi}) &= \arg \min_{\phi} \frac{1}{N} \sum_{S \in x_i, z_{o,i}} \ln \left(\frac{\mathcal{P}_t(z_{o,i}; x_i)}{q_{\phi}(z_{o,i}; x_i)} \right) + \ln \left(\frac{\mathcal{P}_t(x_i)}{q(x_i)} \right) \\ \dots &= \arg \min_{\phi} \frac{1}{N} \sum_{S \in x_i, z_{o,i}} -\ln(q_{\phi}(z_{o,i}; x_i)) \end{aligned}$$

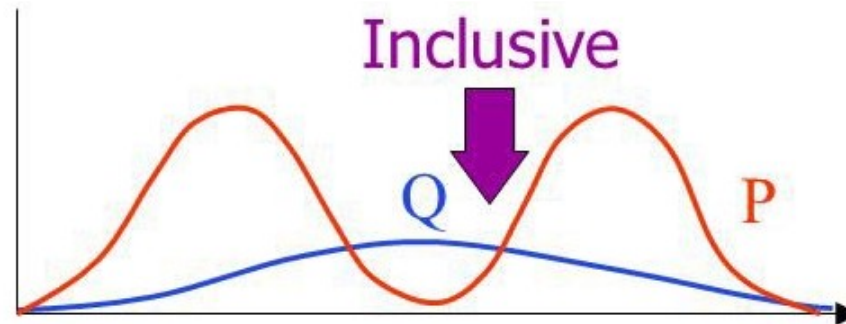
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„Minimizing KL-divergence between **True Posterior \mathcal{P}_t** and **approximate Posterior q_{ϕ} over ϕ** = minimizing supervised learning loss“

Minimising
 $\text{KL}(P||Q)$

$$= \sum_H P(H|V) \ln \frac{P(H|V)}{Q(H)}$$



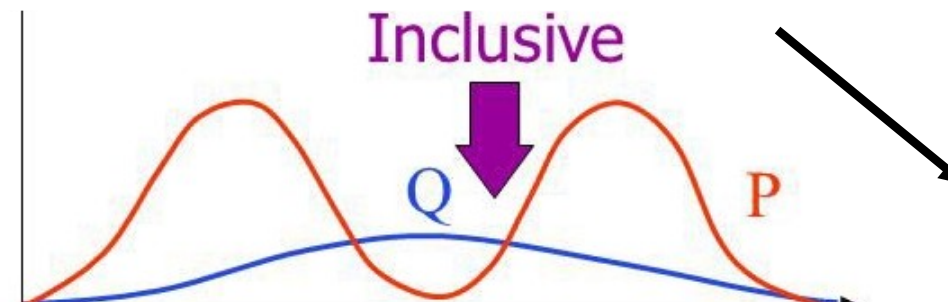
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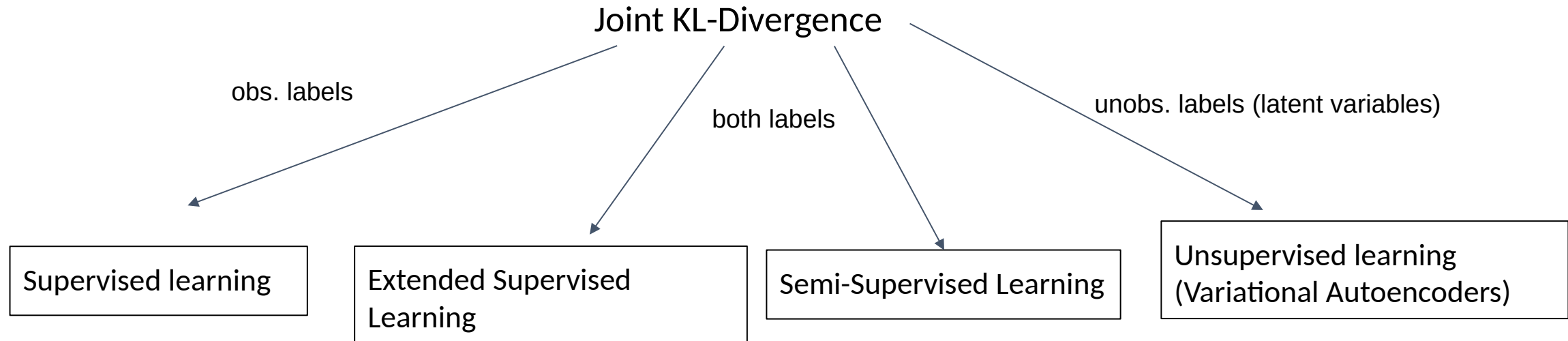


! This is a VERY useful viewpoint for us in physics !

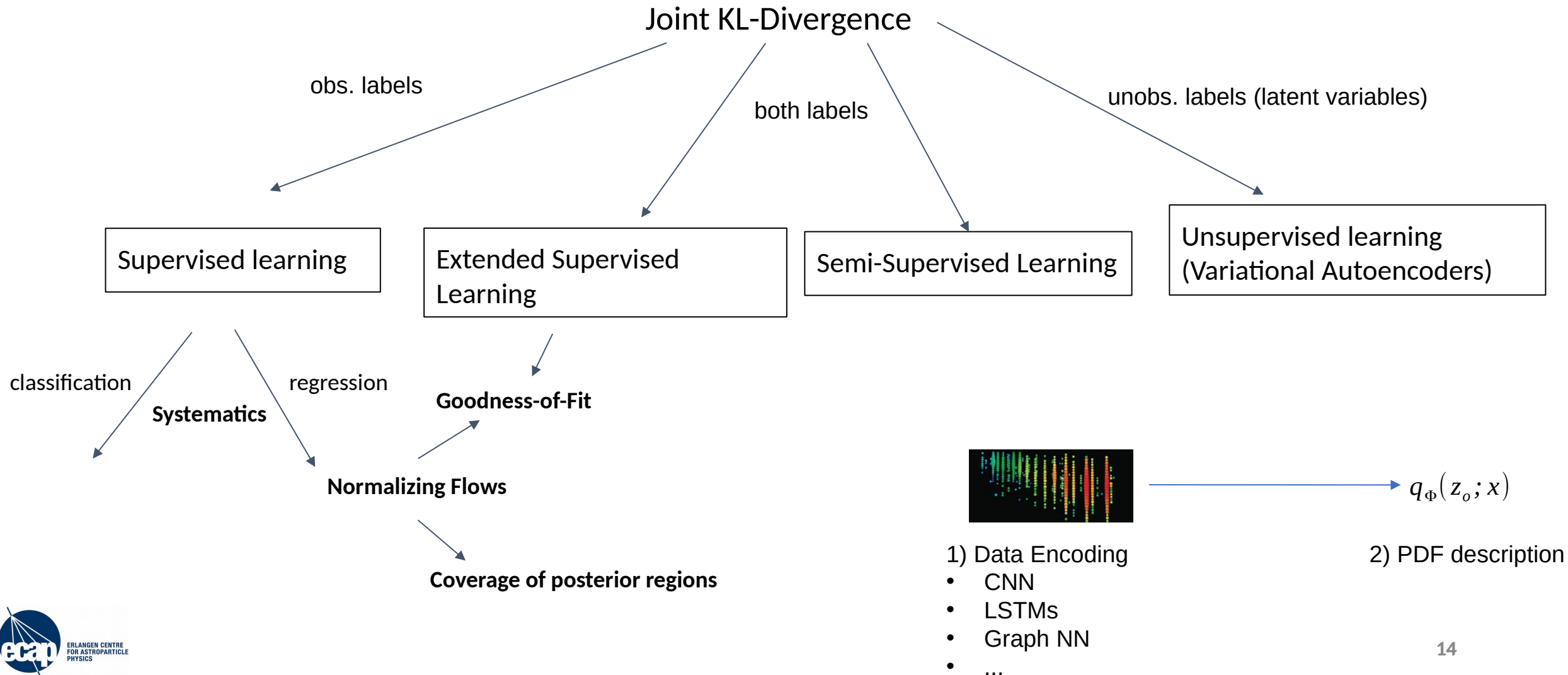
Standard supervised learning is performing approximate Likelihood-free inference

„Neural networks learn to approximate the true posterior“

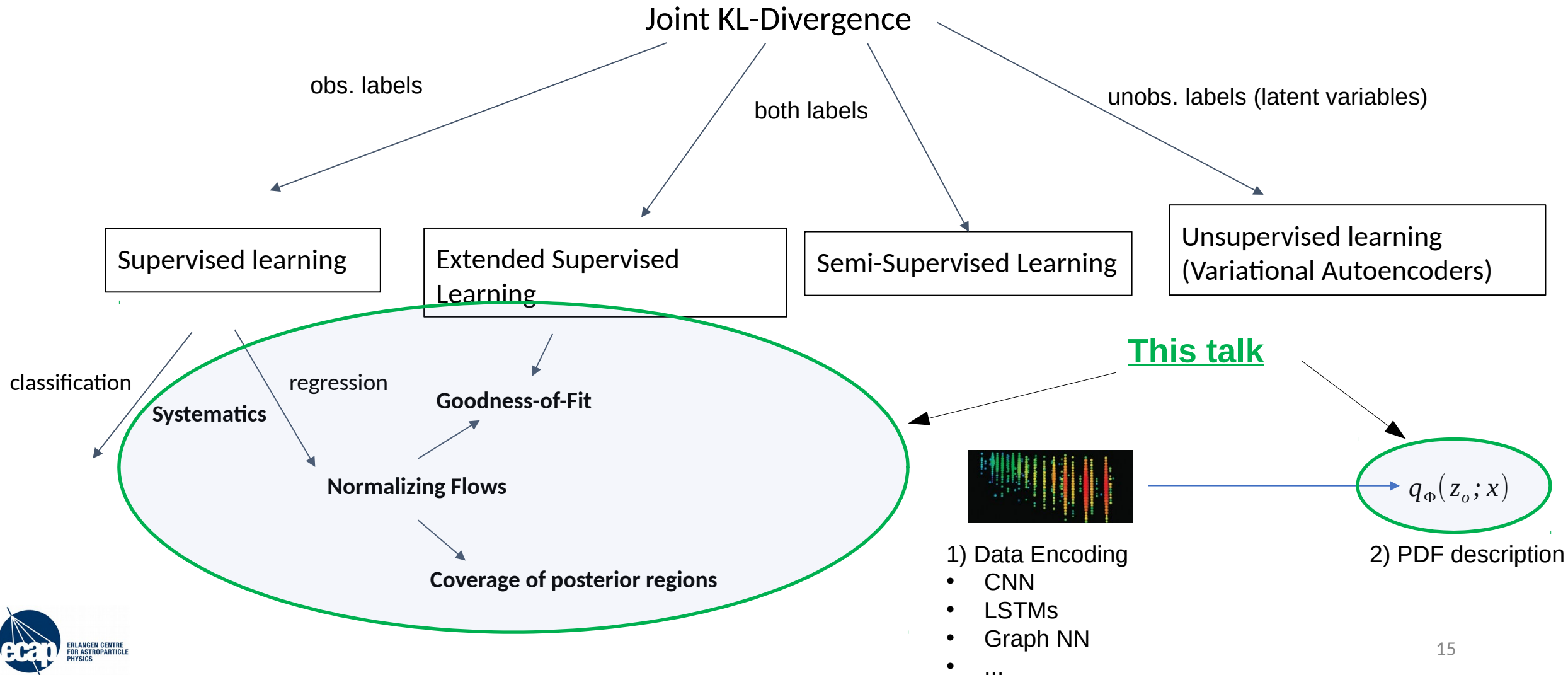
This viewpoint unifies various approaches!



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What are good PDF Approximators q_ϕ ?

Predicting parameters of any complex distribution? E.g. a sum of gaussians? Possible, but there is something better ...

Normalizing flows: (1912.02762 for a recent review)

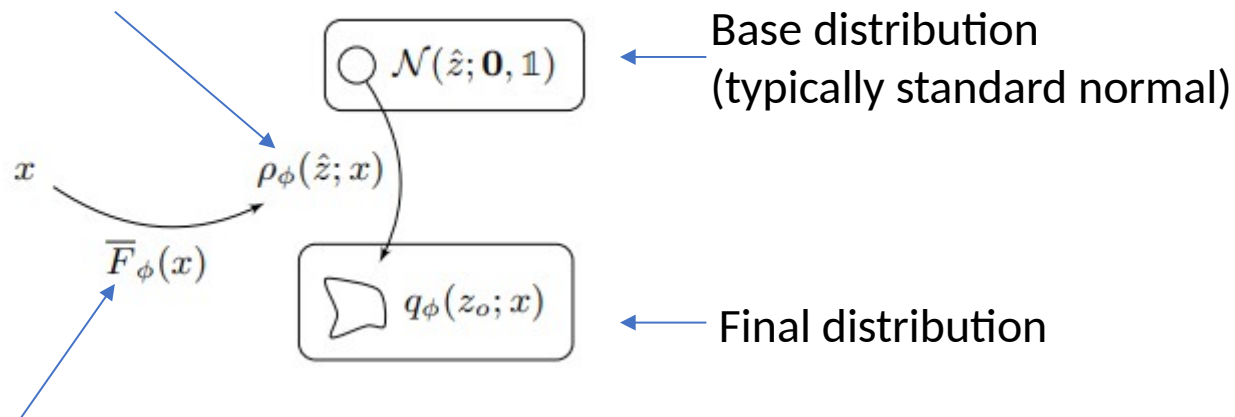
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Generic Flow:

Invertible mapping (inverse required for density evaluation)



Parameters of mapping
are output of Neural Network (here conditional on x)

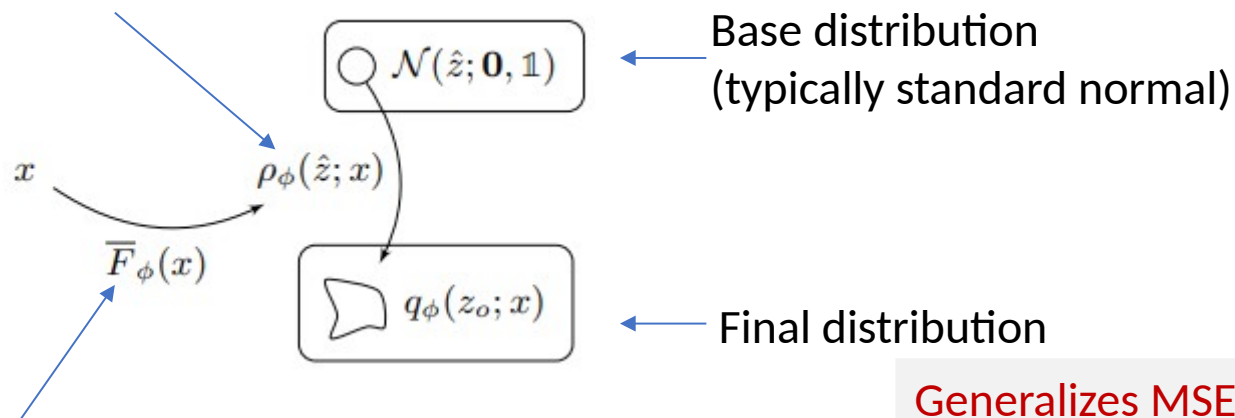
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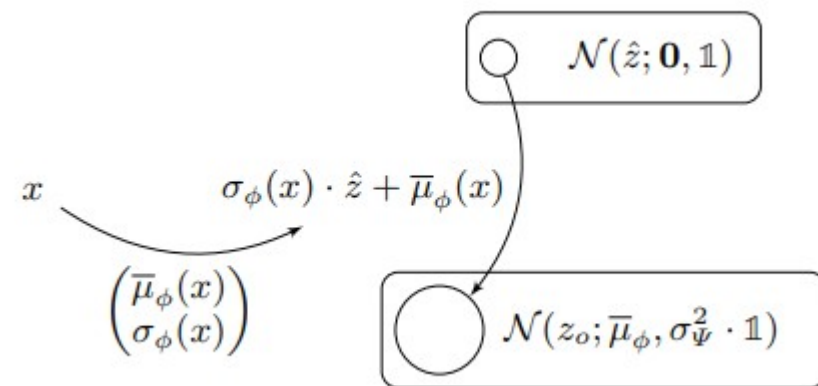
Invertible mapping (inverse required for density evaluation)



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A particular Flow:

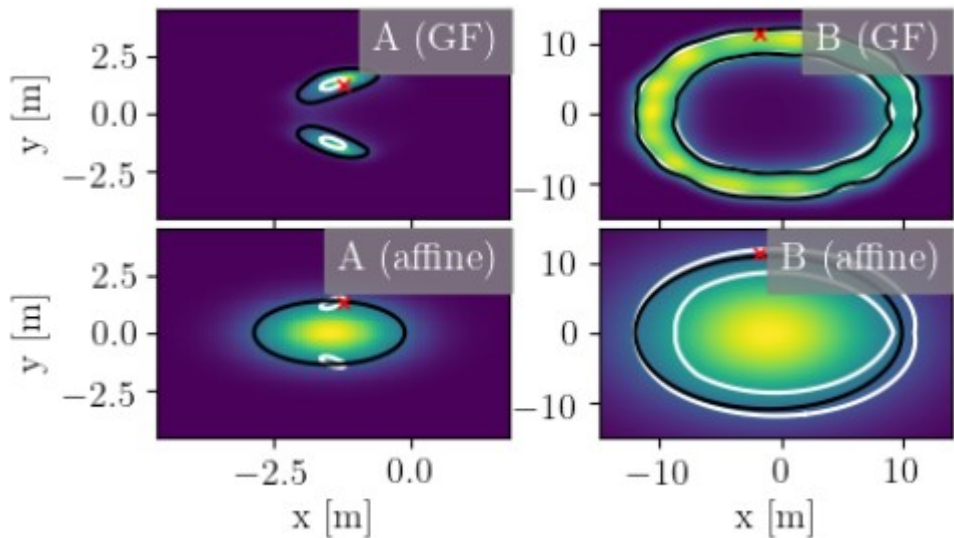
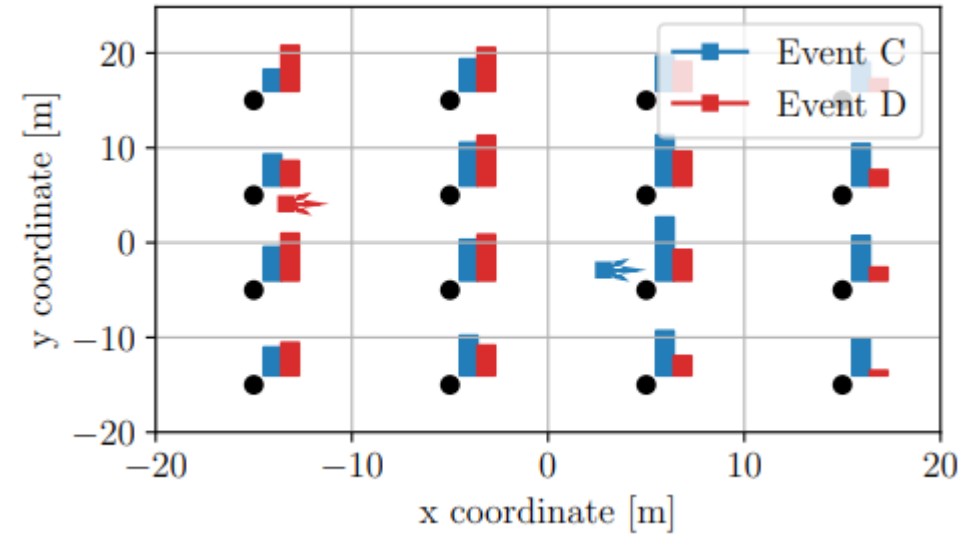
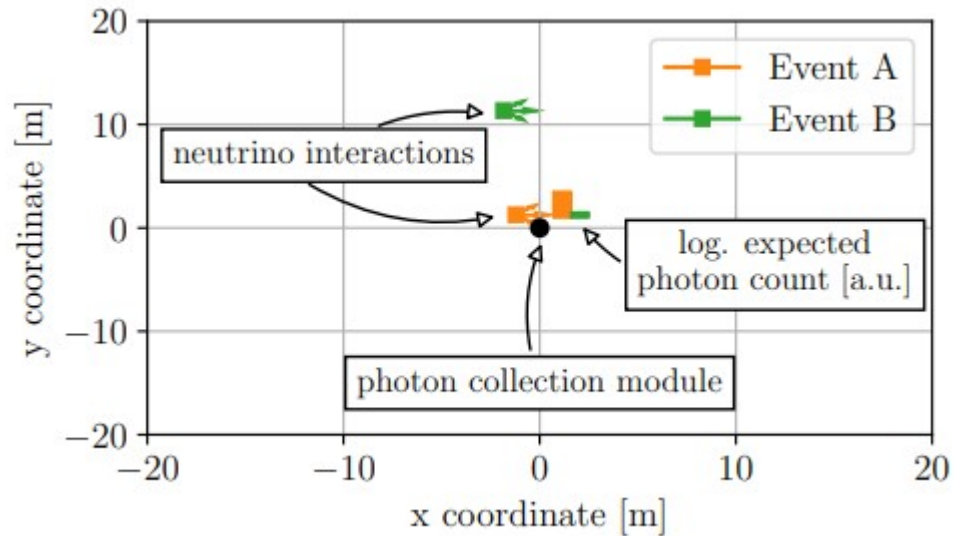
A Gaussian PDF is an affine normalizing flow:



Final Gaussian distribution

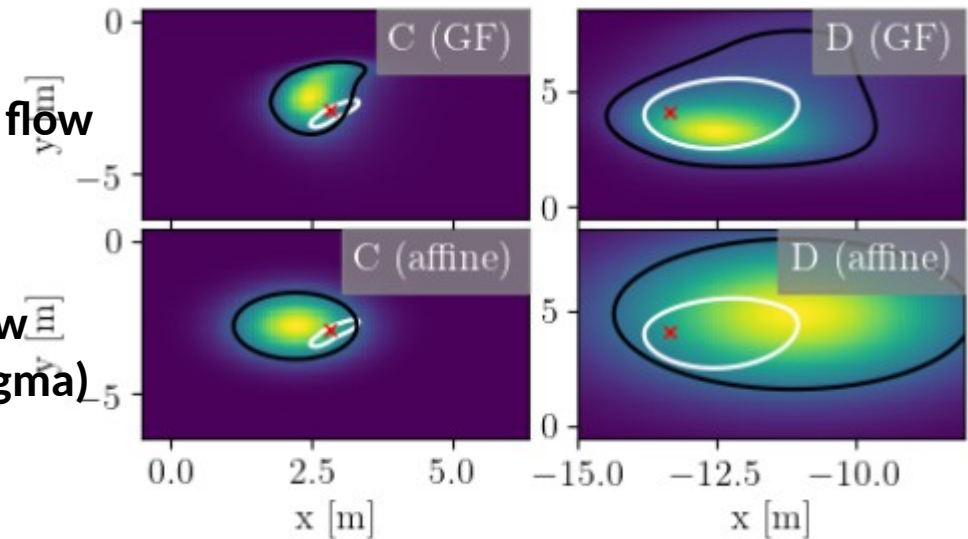
Generalizes MSE loss ...
MSE loss corresponds
to an affine flow with no scaling!

Example Posteriors

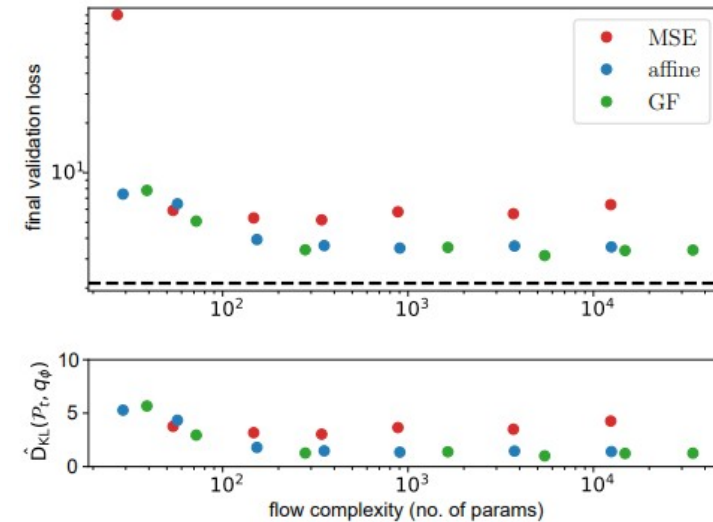
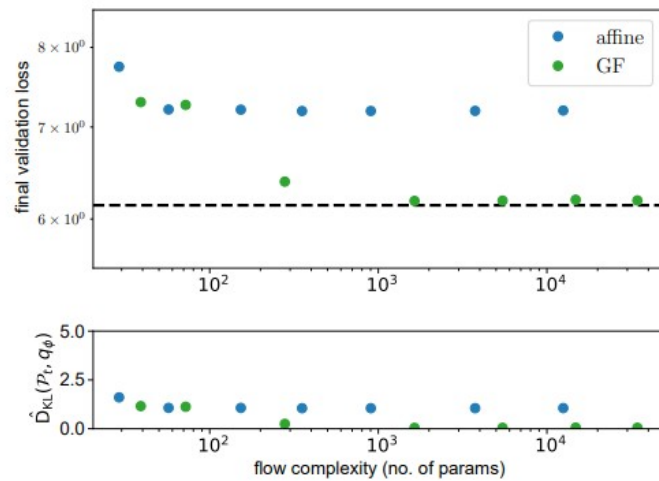
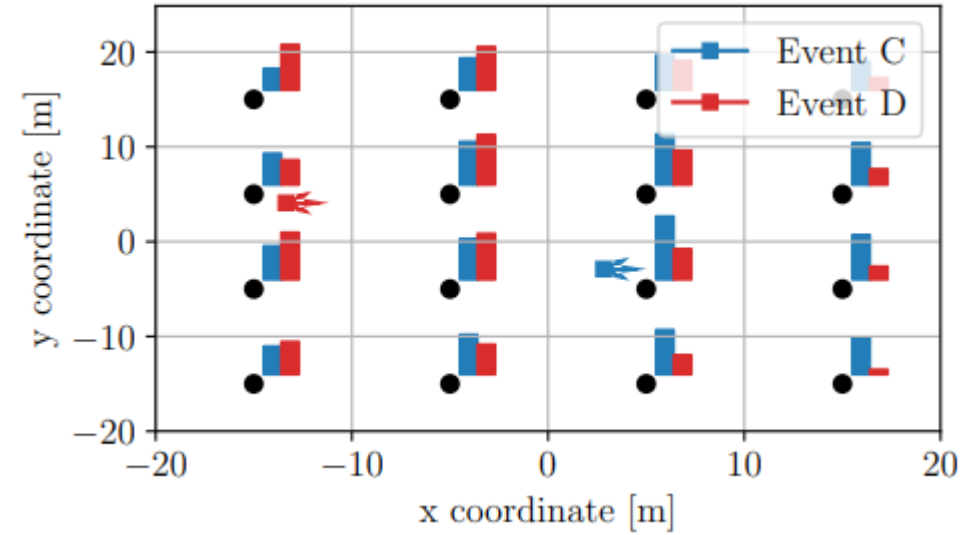
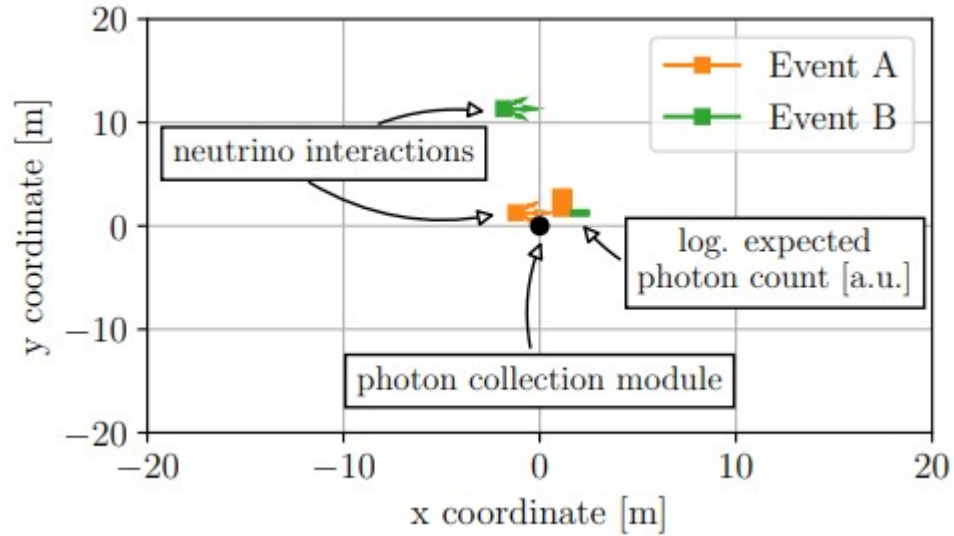


Complex flow

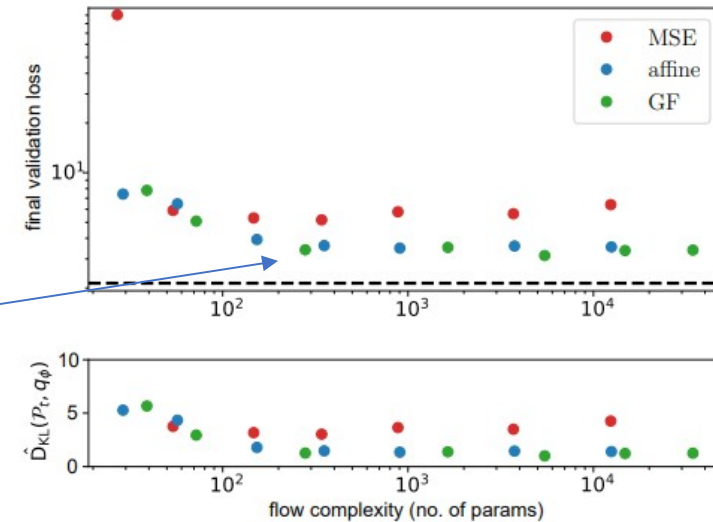
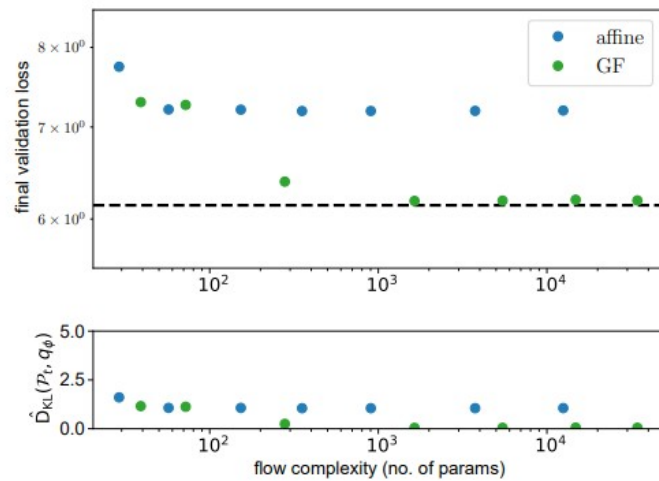
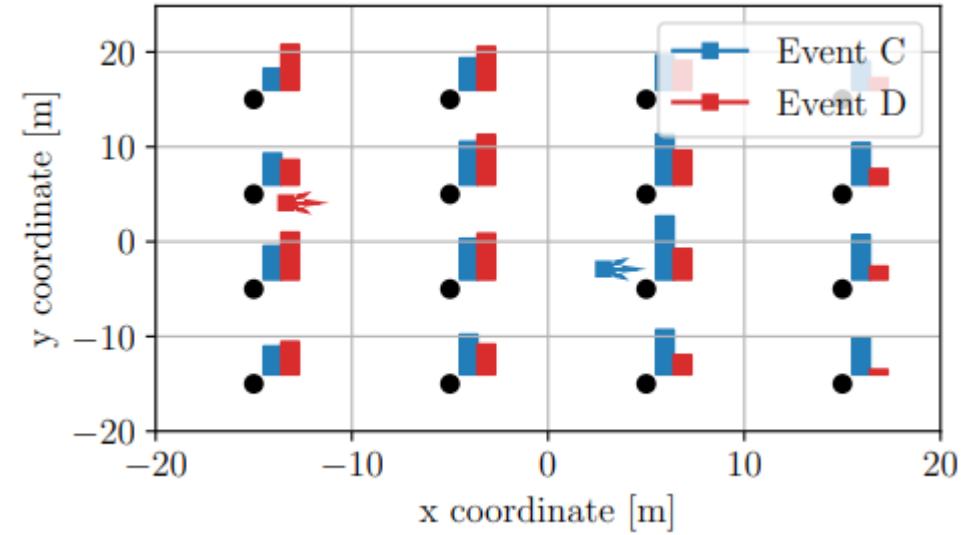
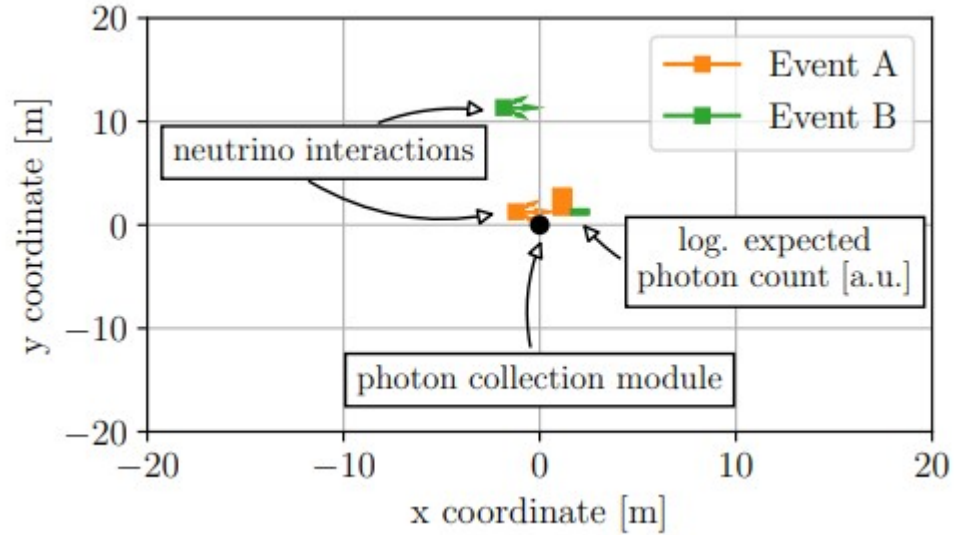
Affine flow
(MSE + sigma)



Example Posteriors



Example Posteriors

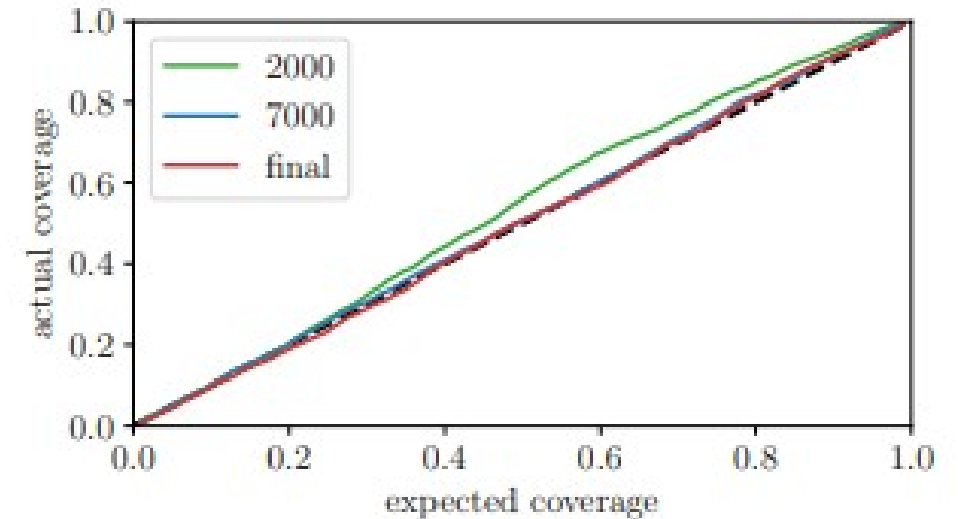
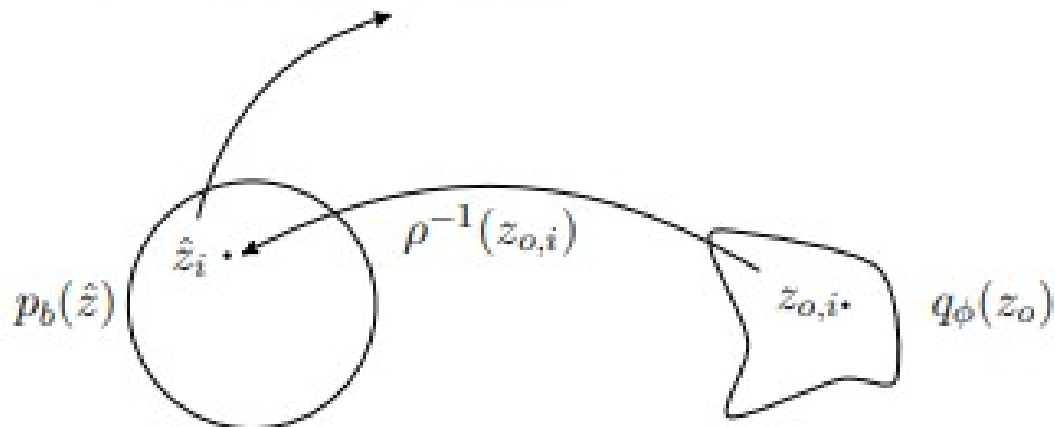


**Data encoding
is bottleneck,
not the flow!**

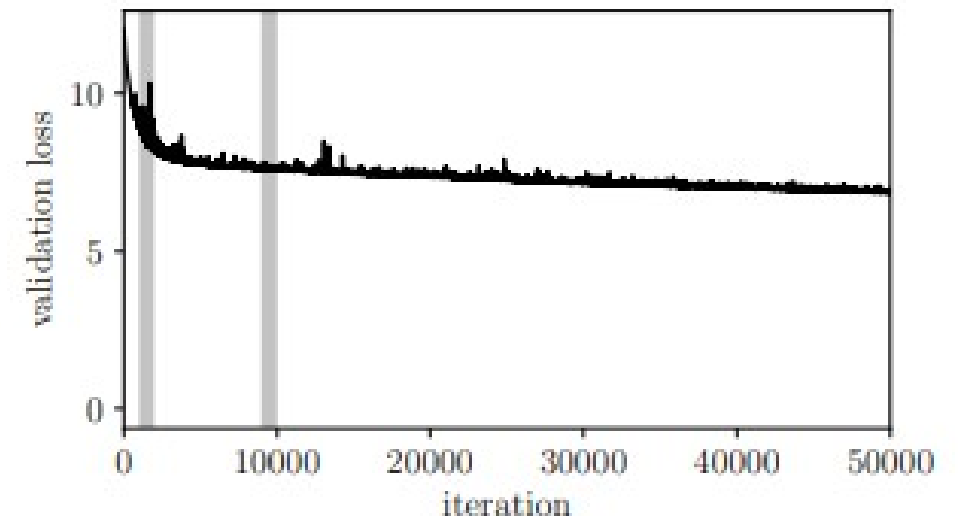
Coverage

- Can calculate coverage of arbitrary PDF at the base using standard χ^2 -test

$$-2 \cdot (\ln p_b(\hat{z}_i) - \ln p_b(0)) \sim \chi^2$$



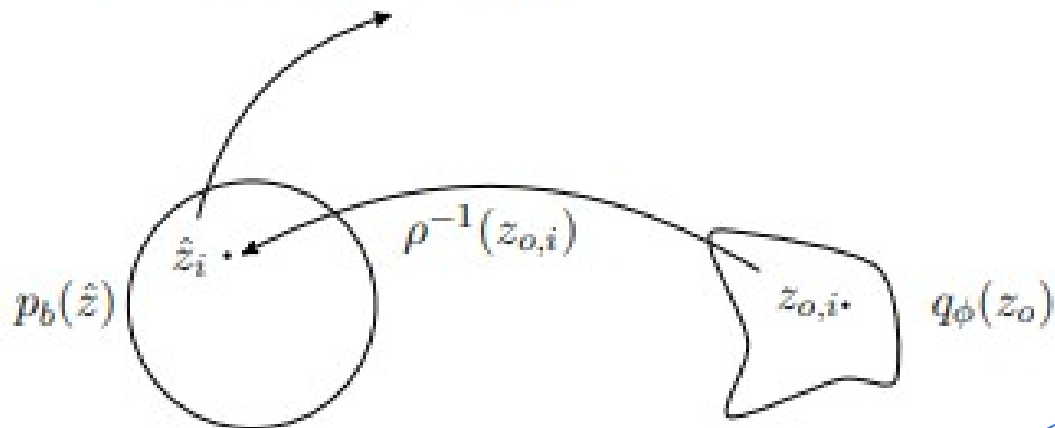
(a) Coverage of 3-d posteriors using dataset 3 for different stages of training.



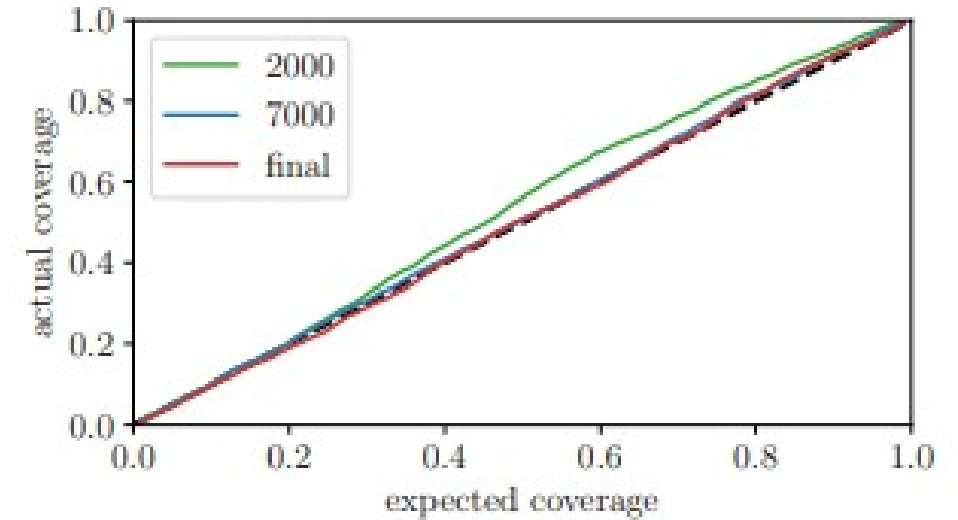
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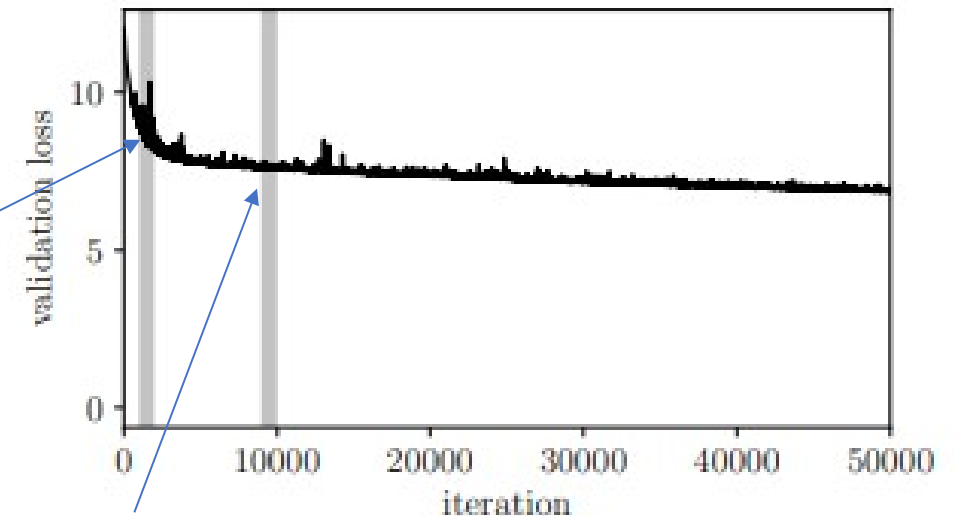
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Rapid initial training phase to obtain coverage



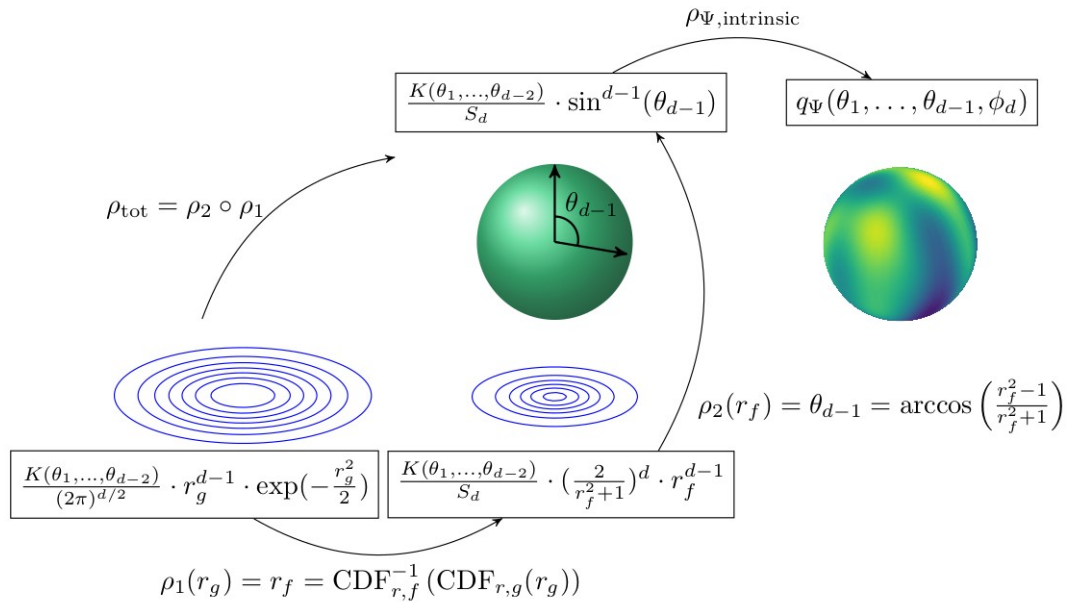
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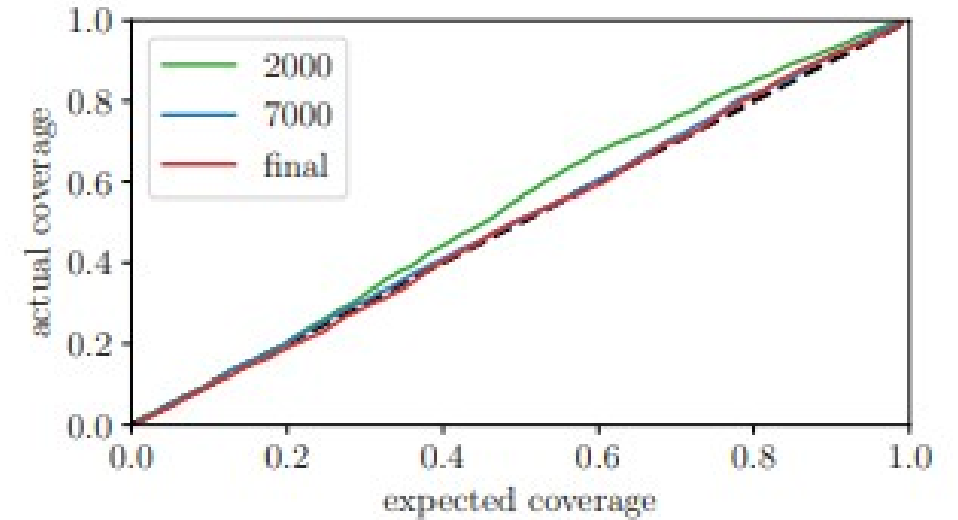
Slow training phase (diffusive phase) shrinks posterior regions while maintaining coverage!

Coverage

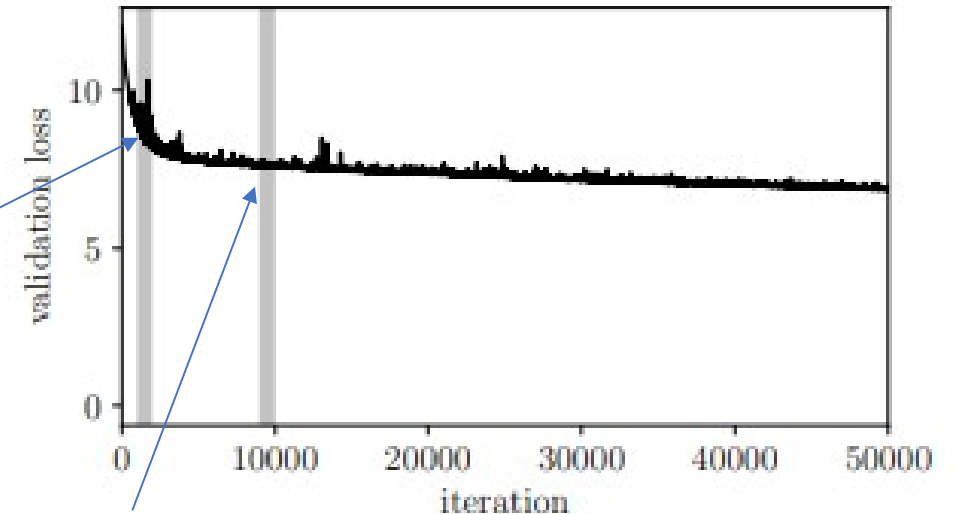
Also works for arb. posteriors of directions (on spheres)



Rapid initial training phase to obtain coverage



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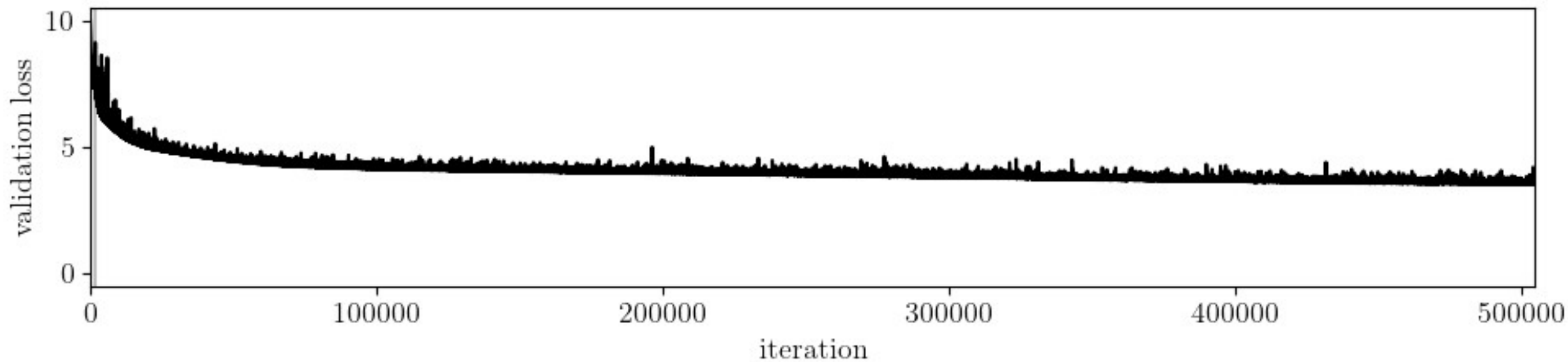
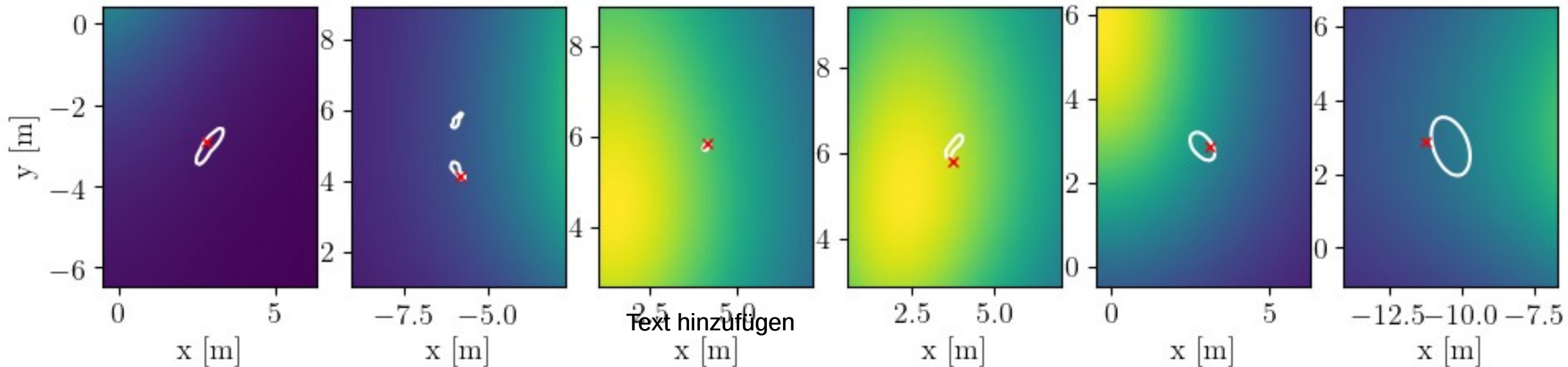


Slow training phase (diffusive phase) shrinks posterior regions while maintaining coverage!

Red: True Label

White: True Posterior 68% region

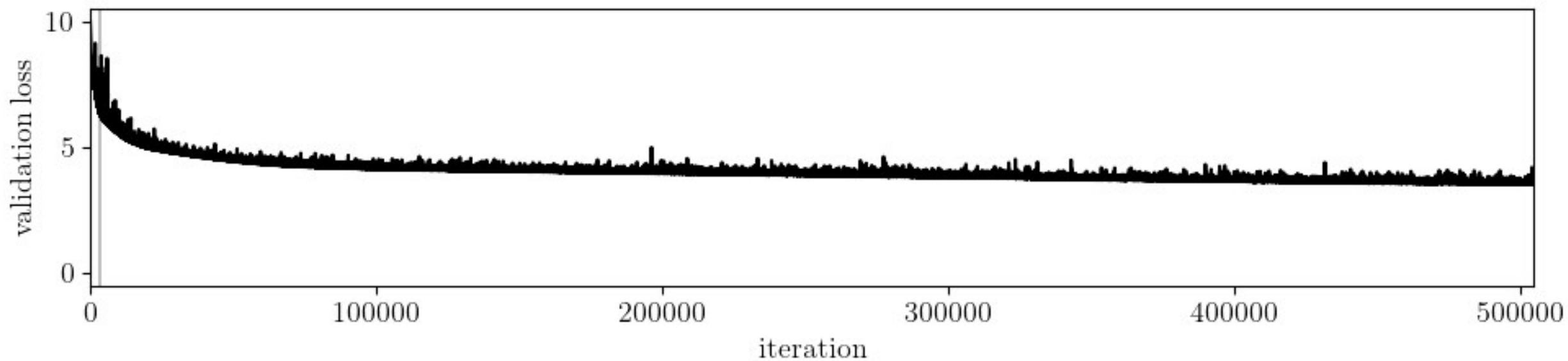
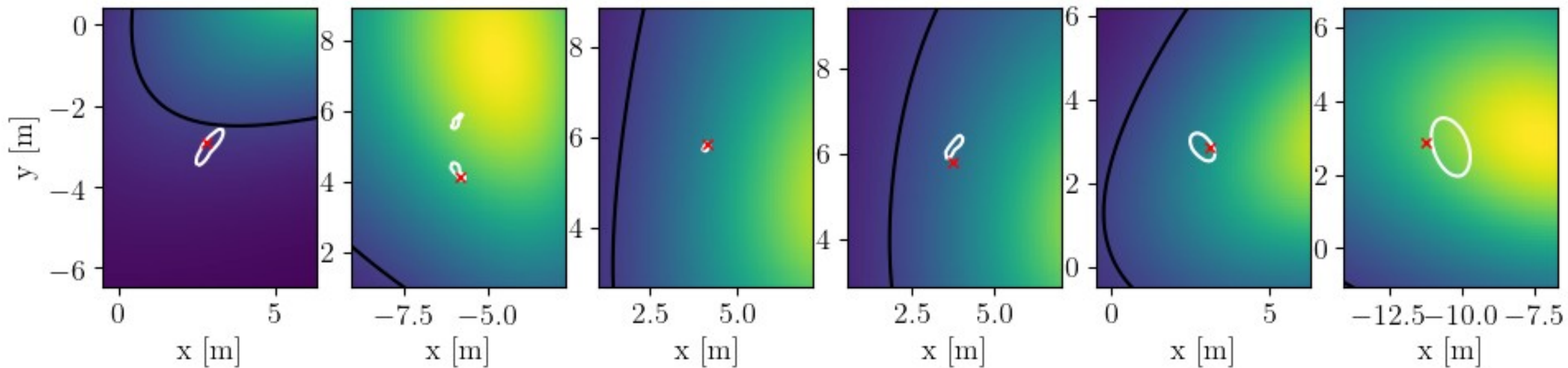
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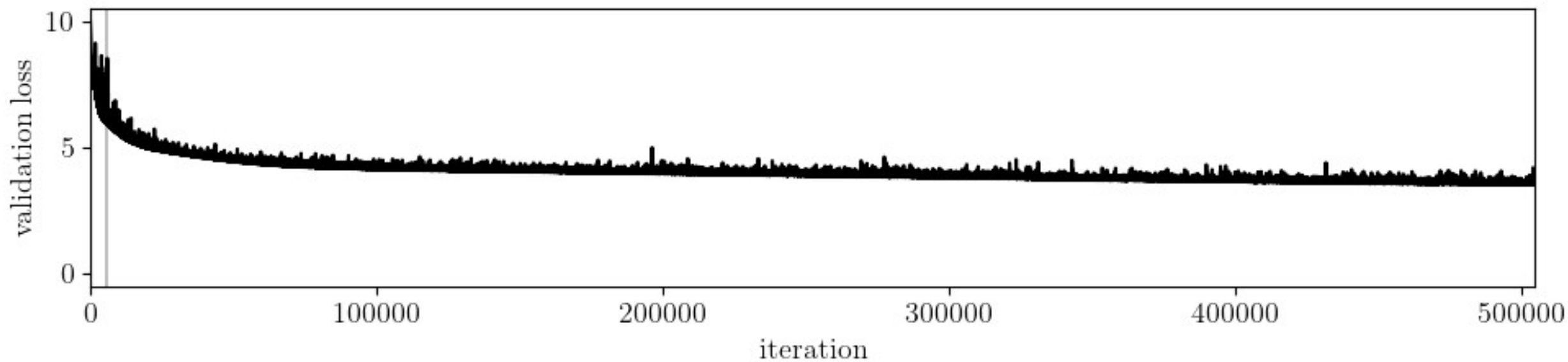
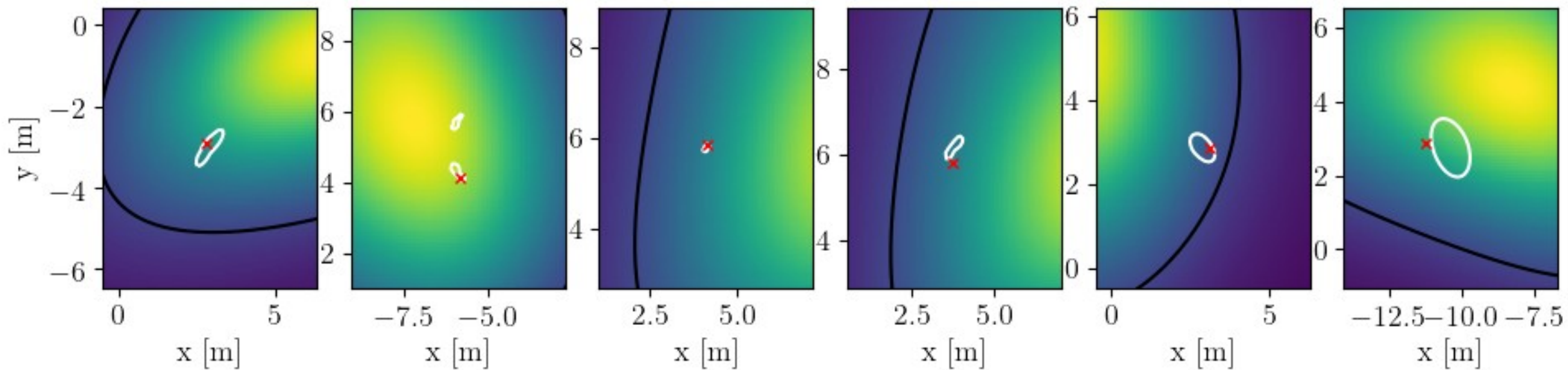
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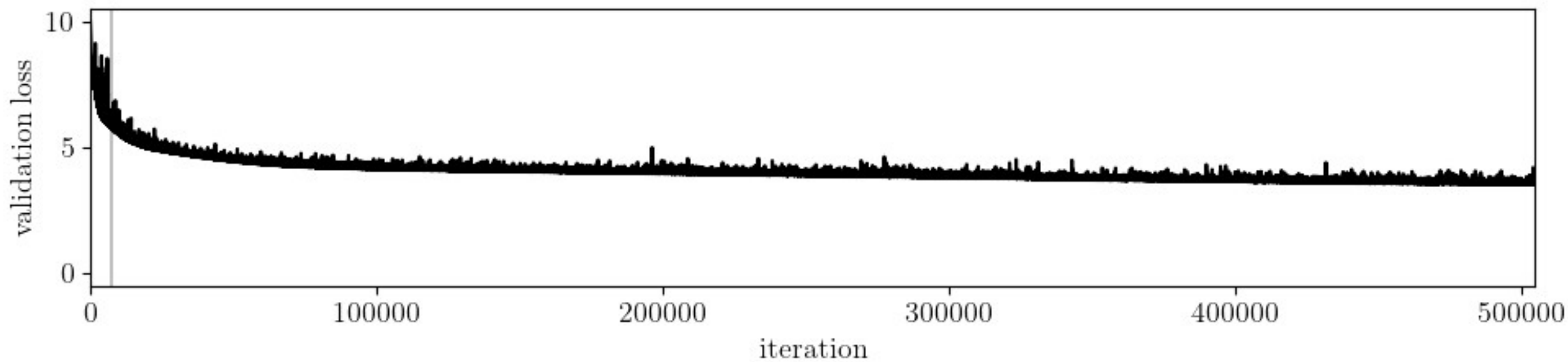
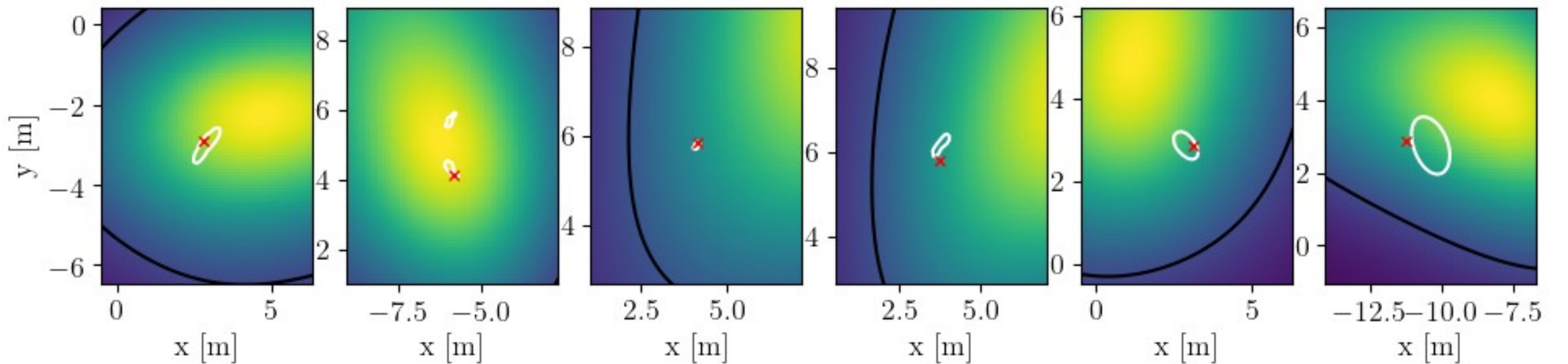
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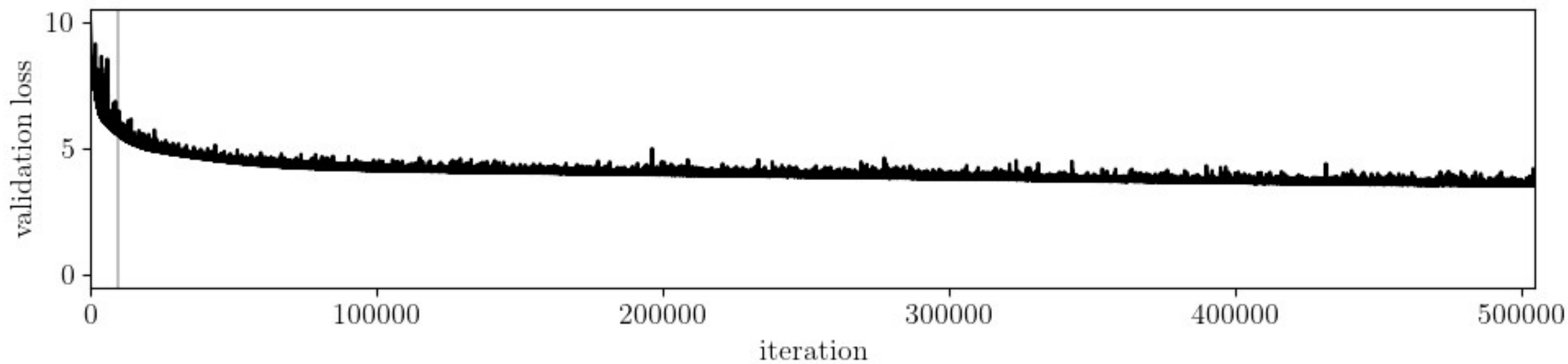
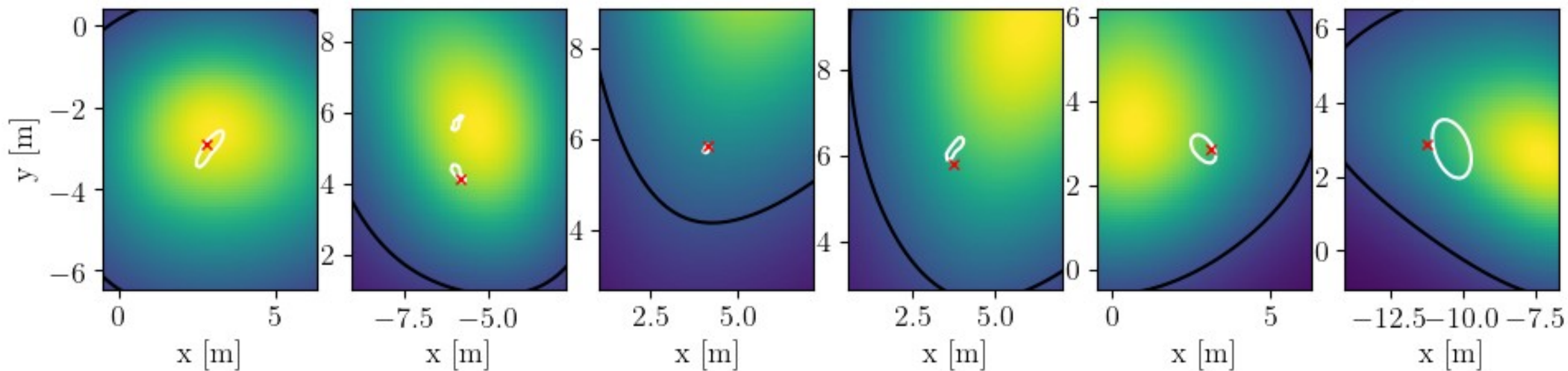
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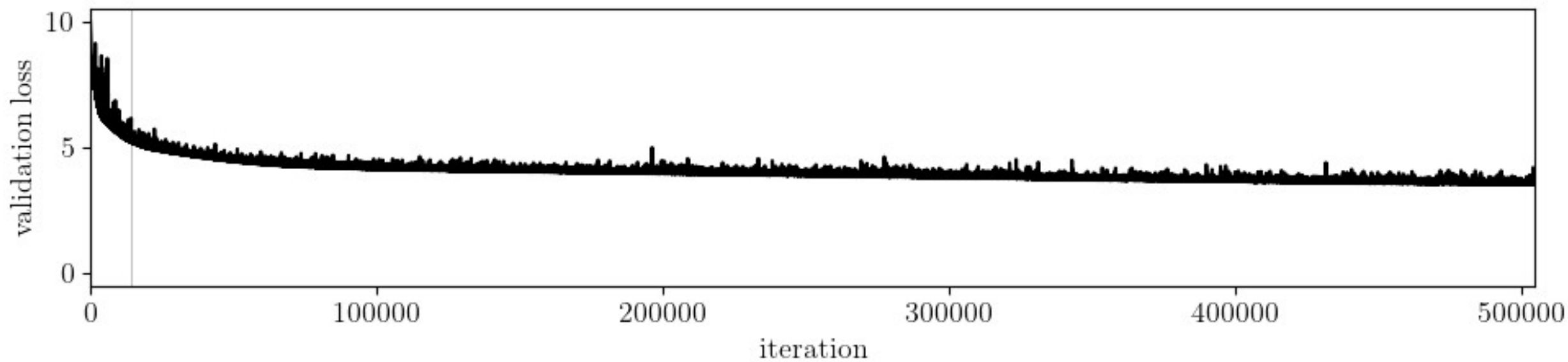
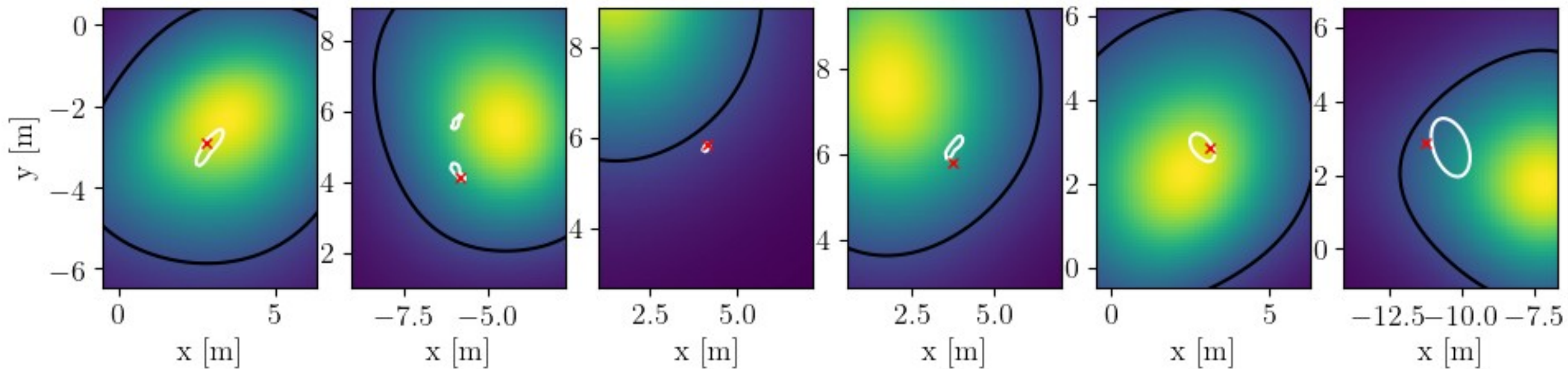
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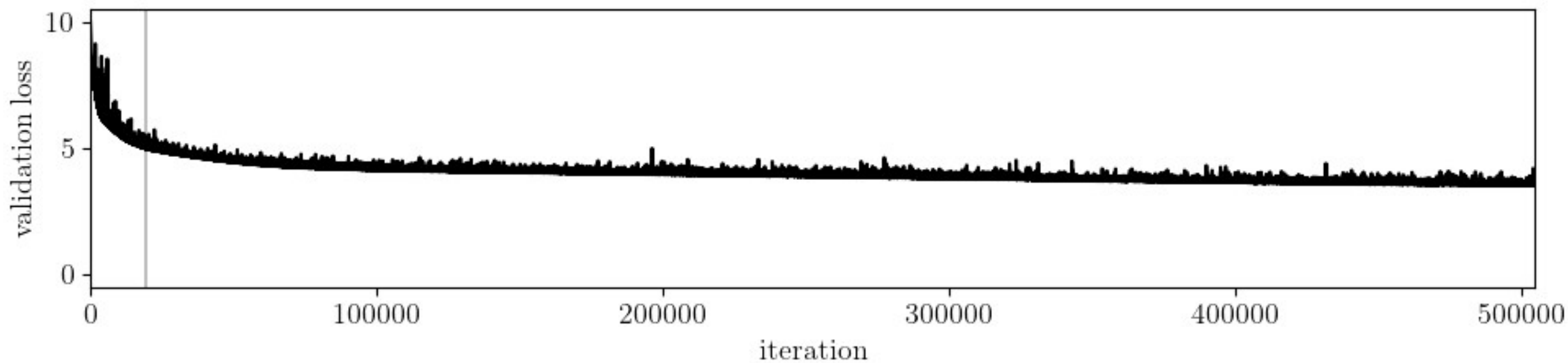
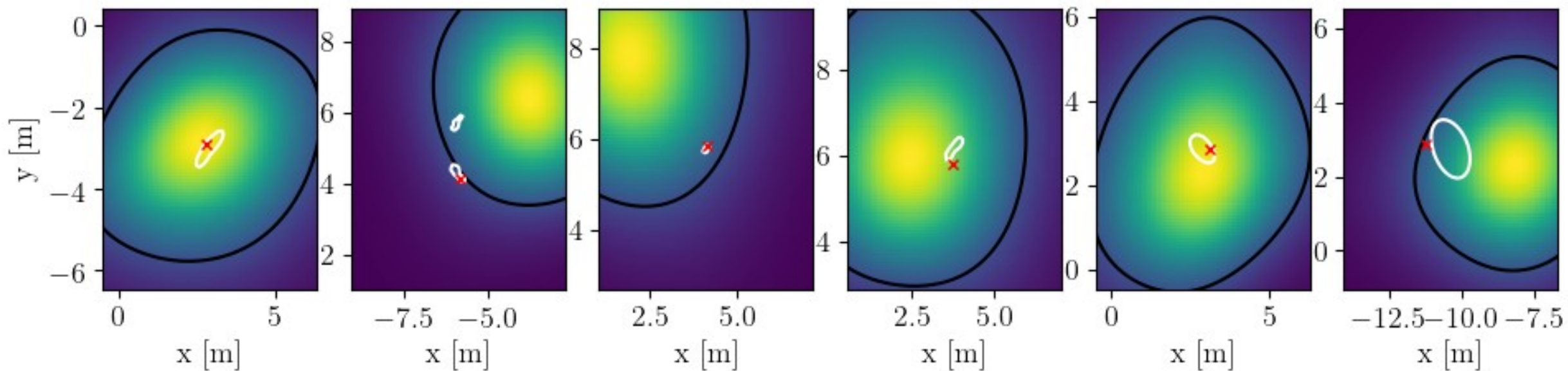
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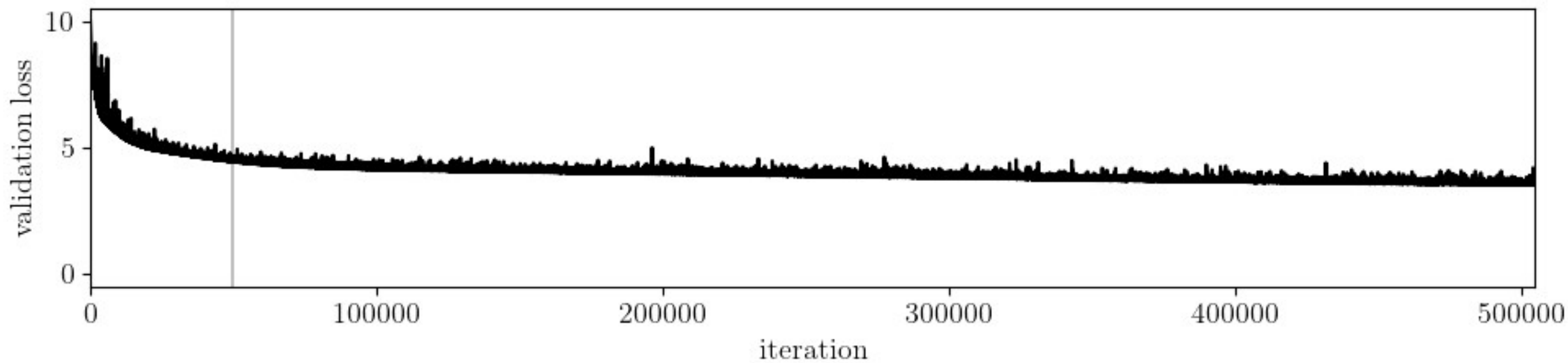
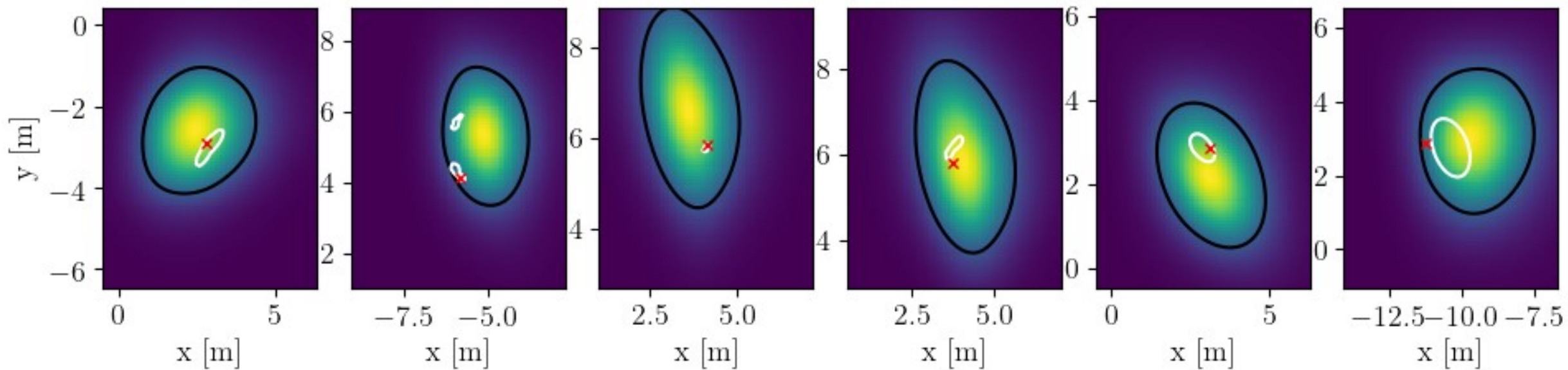
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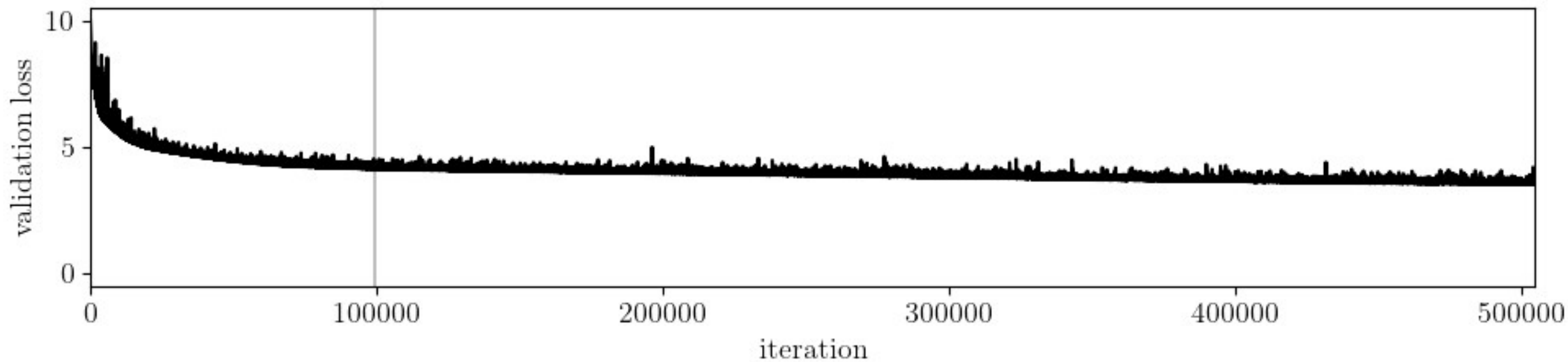
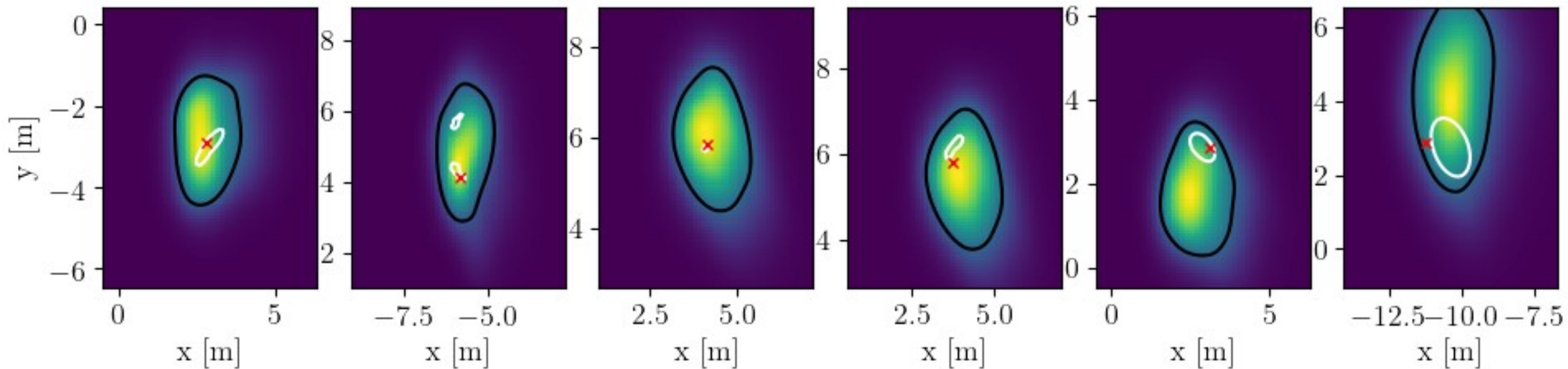
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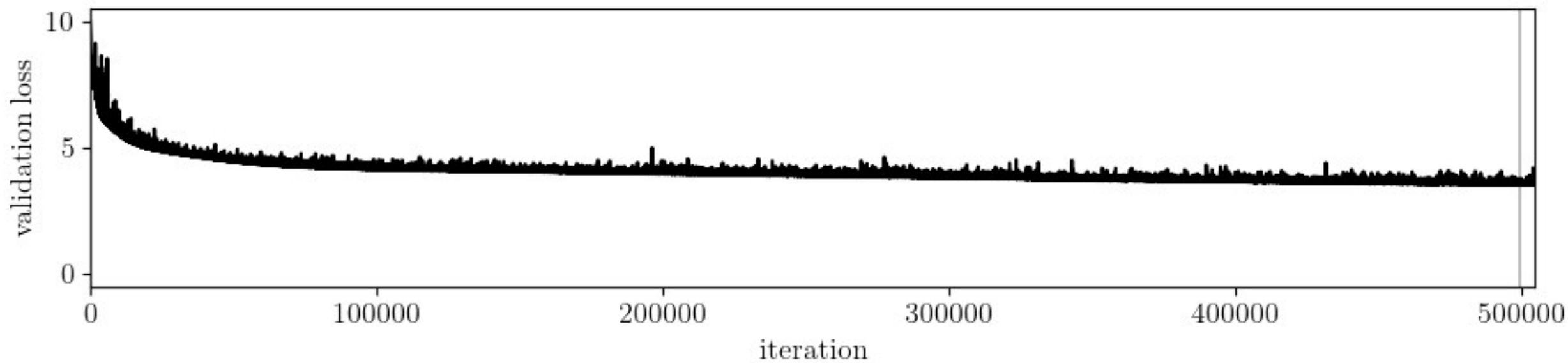
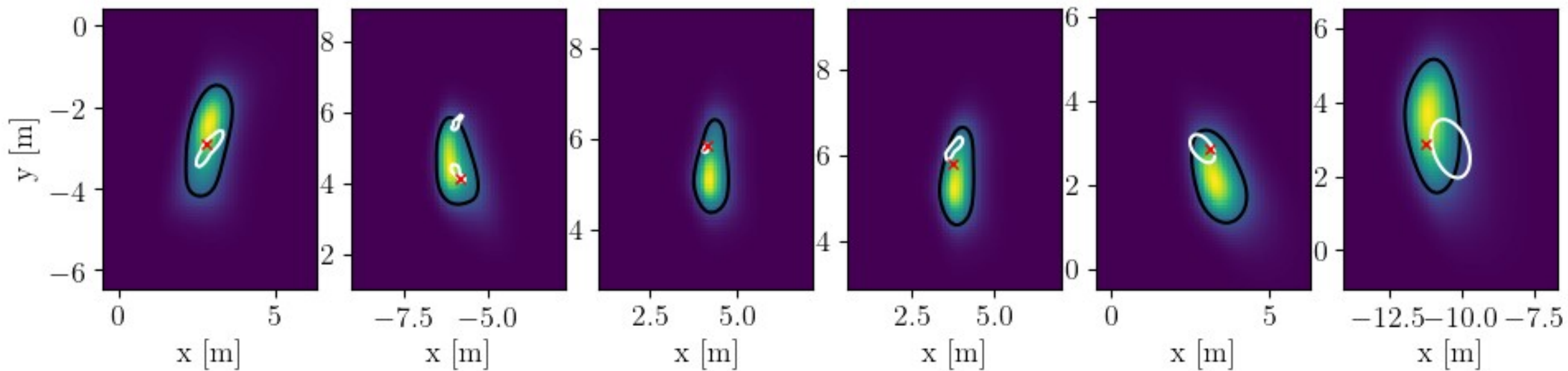
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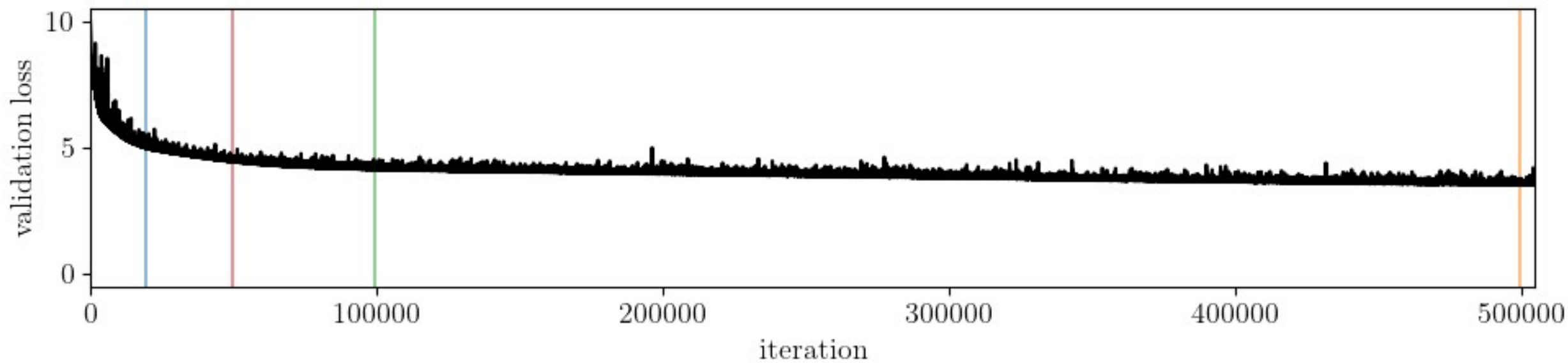
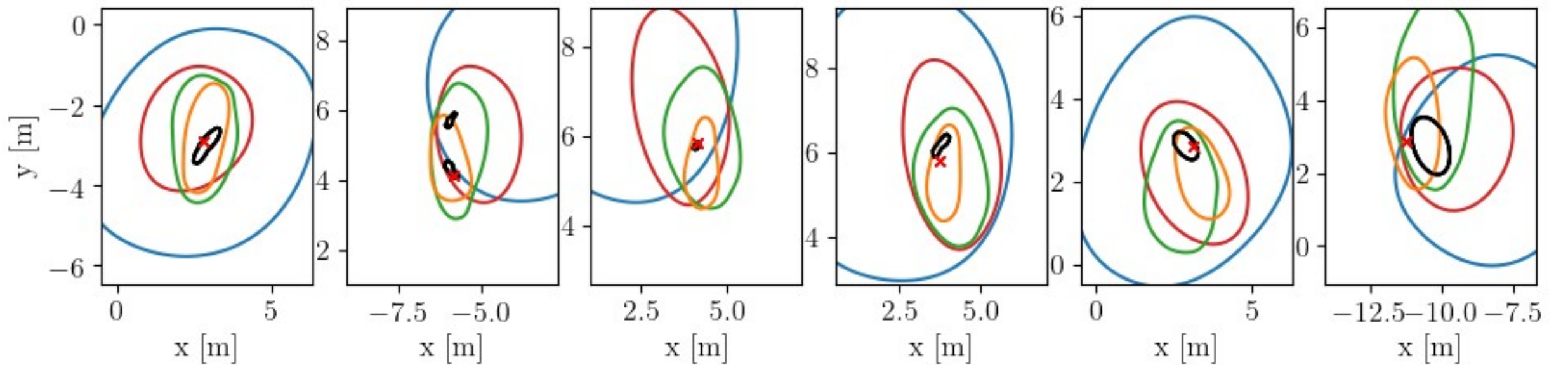
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True Posterior region: Black

Colors: Approximated Posterior at various stages of learning



Systematics

Draw events from prior $p(\nu)$ before event generation

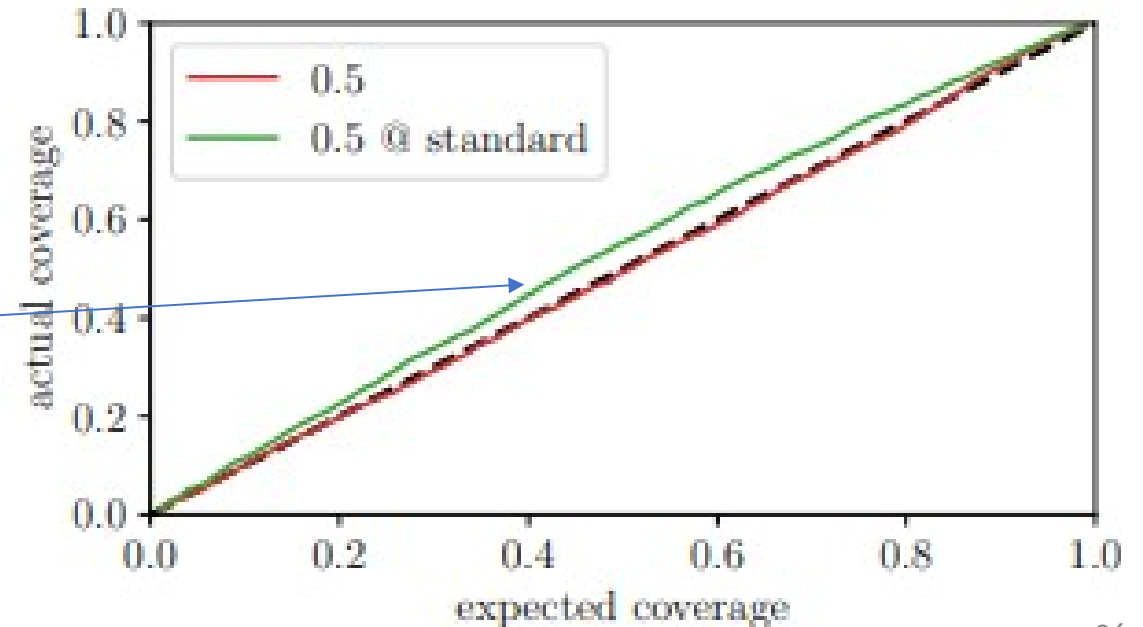
This will effectively produce samples from the marginalized True distribution

$$\mathcal{P}_{t,M}(\theta; x) = \int \mathcal{P}_t(\theta; x, \nu) \cdot p(\nu) d\nu$$

, which again is approximated by the neural network

Overcoverage is desired when including systematics

Coverage for a distribution fitted with systematics (red) applied to a standard dataset with a fixed systematic value (green)



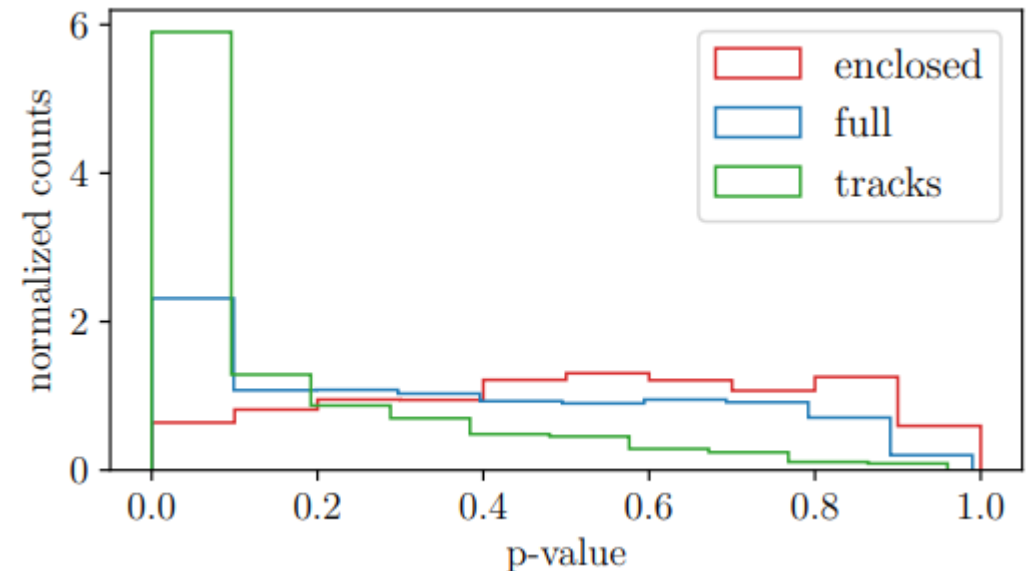
Goodness-of-fit

- There is a well-motivated construction that upgrades the supervised loss to an extended loss , also fitting a likelihood p_θ (generative model) and some other terms (see 2008.05825 for details)
- Having both a generative model and the posterior allows to calculate a Bayesian p-value

$$p = \int_{x,z} \mathbf{I}_{T(x,z) > T(x_{\text{obs}},z)} p_\theta(x; z) q_\phi(z; x_{\text{obs}}) dx dz$$

$$T(x, z) = \ln p_\theta(x; z) / N_d$$

Any event sufficiently dissimilar to training data has a low p-value ...



Summary

- **Supervised Learning learns to approximate the true posterior with a conditional PDF**
-> **Bayesian systematics**: approximates marginalized Posterior
- Normalizing flows (NFs) can be designed to make this conditional PDF as precise as possible
-> **supervised learning** can be „upgraded“ to behave as usable **likelihood-free inference**
(standard MSE loss is not good enough for that)

Summary

- **Supervised Learning learns to approximate the true posterior with a conditional PDF**
-> **Bayesian systematics**: approximates marginalized Posterior
- Normalizing flows (NFs) can be designed to make this conditional PDF as precise as possible
-> **supervised learning** can be „upgraded“ to behave as usable **likelihood-free inference** (standard MSE loss is not good enough for that)
- Furthermore, normalizing flows allow to
 - **Calculate exact coverage** of the approximate posterior of ANY shape
 - Coverage is obtained very quickly in the training, long before it finishes!
 - **Calculate a goodness-of-fit** that can potentially be used in event selection
- We can upgrade our existing supervised learning models (CNN/LSTM) with NFs, **get improved performance (most for non-gaussian Posteriors)**, and get coverage/g-o-f (incl. systematics)

More info: [arXiv:2008.05825](https://arxiv.org/abs/2008.05825)