

Neural network domain adaptation for addressing the generator-dependence problem in impact parameter estimation

K. A. Galaktionov (speaker), V. A. Roudnev, F. F. Valiev

St. Petersburg University



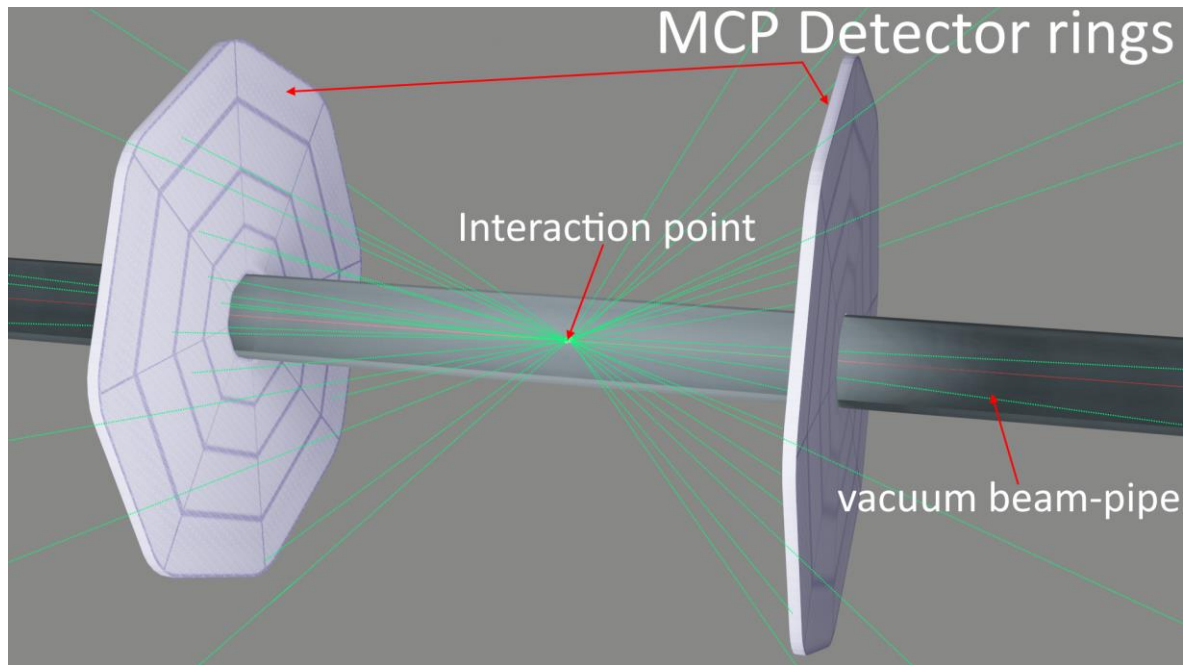
1st July 2025



The problems of event parameters estimation

Studied problems

- Estimate the value of the impact parameter
- Select head-on collisions (small impact parameter)



Scheme of investigated detectors geometry

We used MC generated data of Au+Au collisions at energies $\sqrt{s_{NN}} \approx 11$ GeV, which consists of three datasets:

- 200 000 events generated by **QGSM**¹ model
- 360 000 events generated by **EPOS**² model
- 50 000 events generated by **PHQMD**³ model

Hits information that was used for feature engineering:

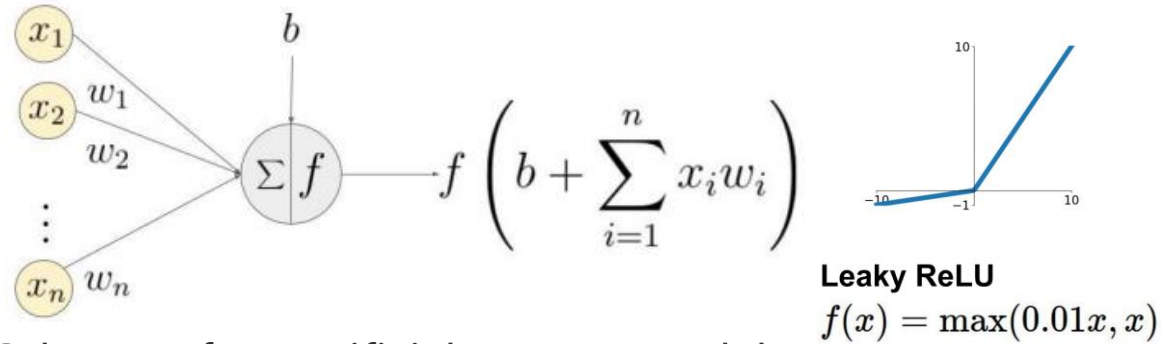
- Which cell registered hit
- Number of detector ring
- Particle time of flight

[1] Amelin N. S., Gudima K. K., Toneev V. D. Ultrarelativistic nucleus-nucleus collisions within a dynamical model of independent quark - gluon strings // Sov. J. Nucl. Phys. 1990. V. 51(6), P. 1730-1743

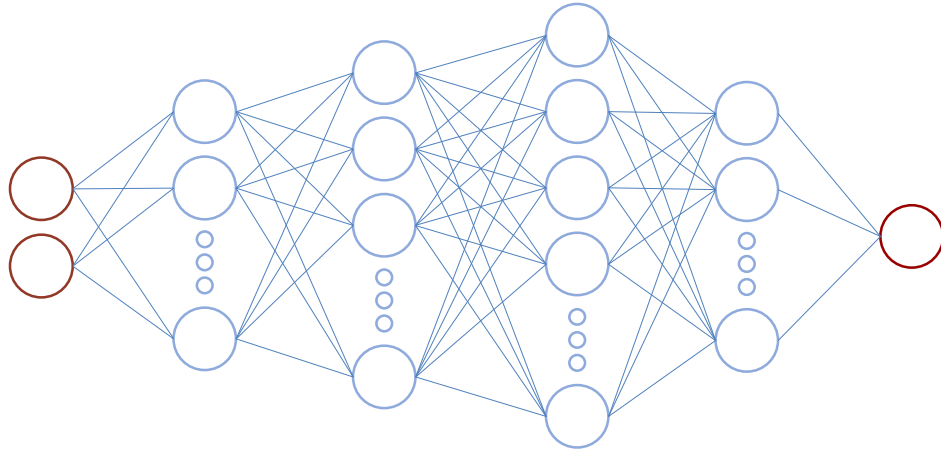
[2] Werner, Klaus and Liu, Fu-Ming and Pierog, Tanguy Parton ladder splitting and the rapidity dependence of transverse momentum spectra in deuteron-gold collisions at the BNL Relativistic Heavy Ion Collider // Physical Review C 2006, V. 74

[3] Aichelin, J. and Bratkovskaya, E. and Le Fèvre, A. and Kireyeu, V. and Kolesnikov, V. and Leifels, Y. and Voronyuk, V. and Coci, G., Physical Review C 2020, V. 101

Used artificial neural networks

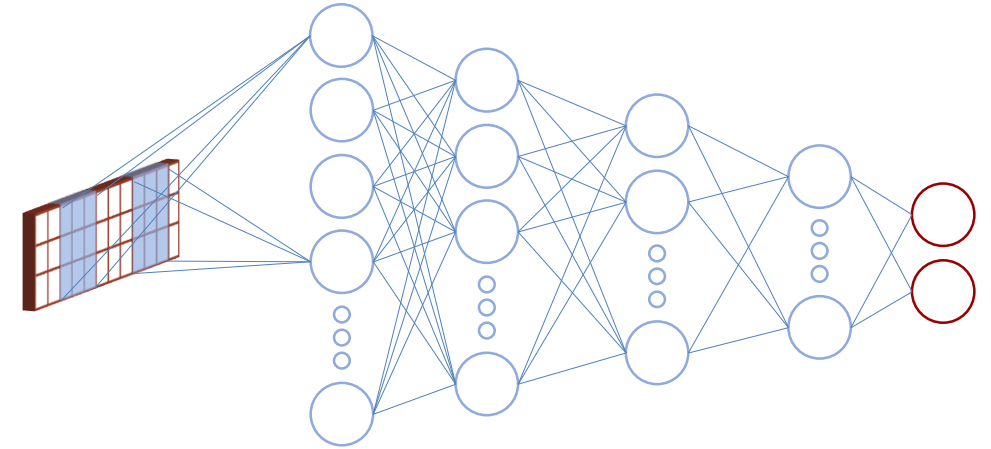


Scheme of an artificial neuron model



Example of used dense neural network architecture, solving regression problem.

Input – 2 event features, 4 hidden layers (4, 8, 16, 4 neurons), output – 1 neuron – estimated impact parameter value

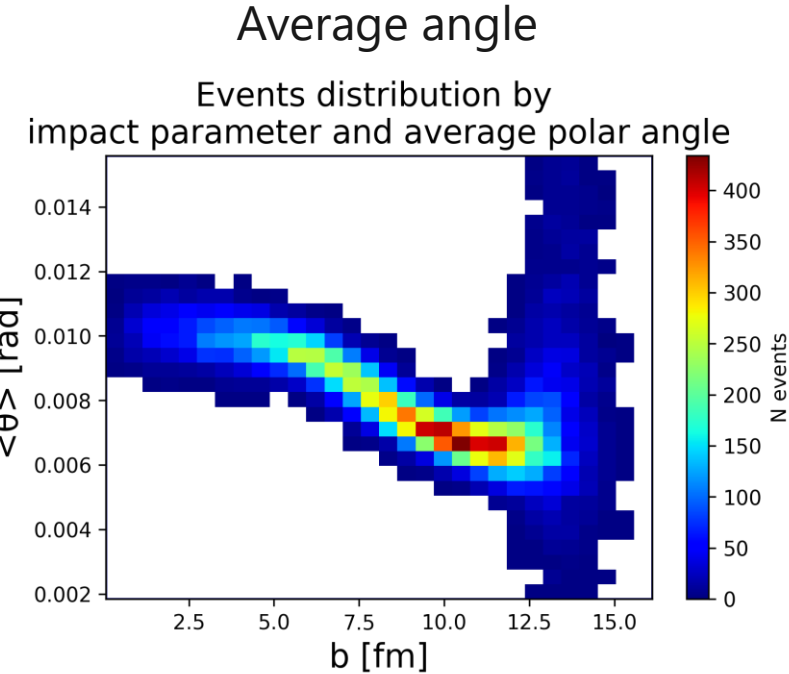
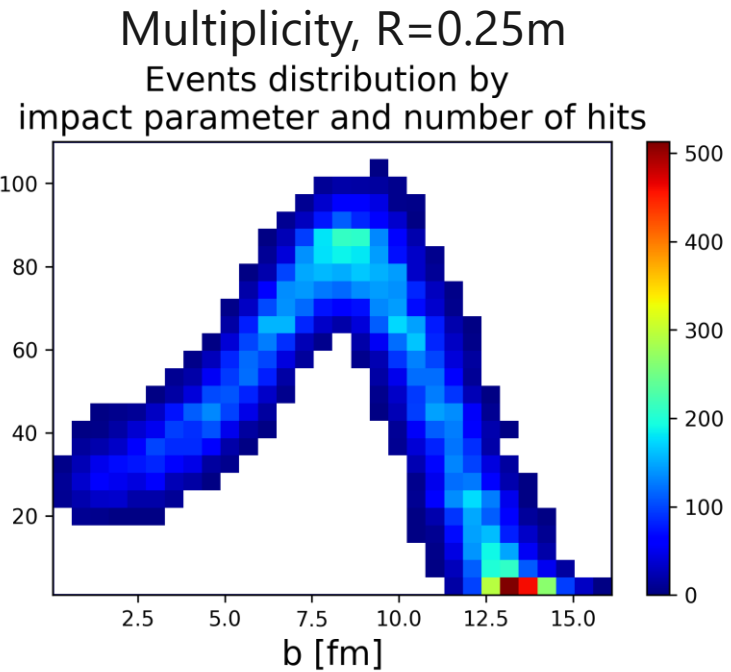
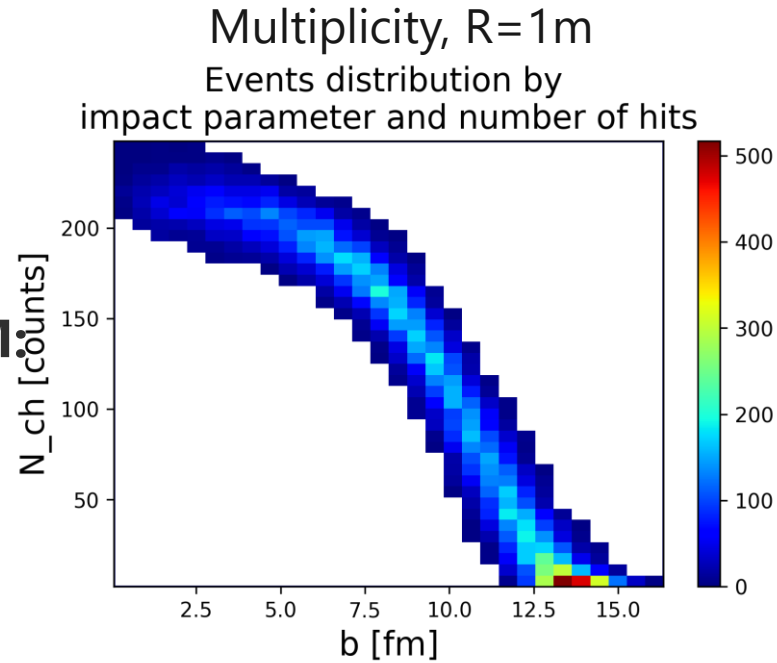


Example of used dense neural network with convolutional layer, solving classification problem.

Input – Table of particles information (3x150 features), convolutional layer (16 filters 3x6), 3 hidden layers (128, 64, 32 neurons), output – 2 neurons – probabilities of an event belonging to each class.

Multiplicity of charged particles and the average polar angle of trajectories

QGSM



EPOS:

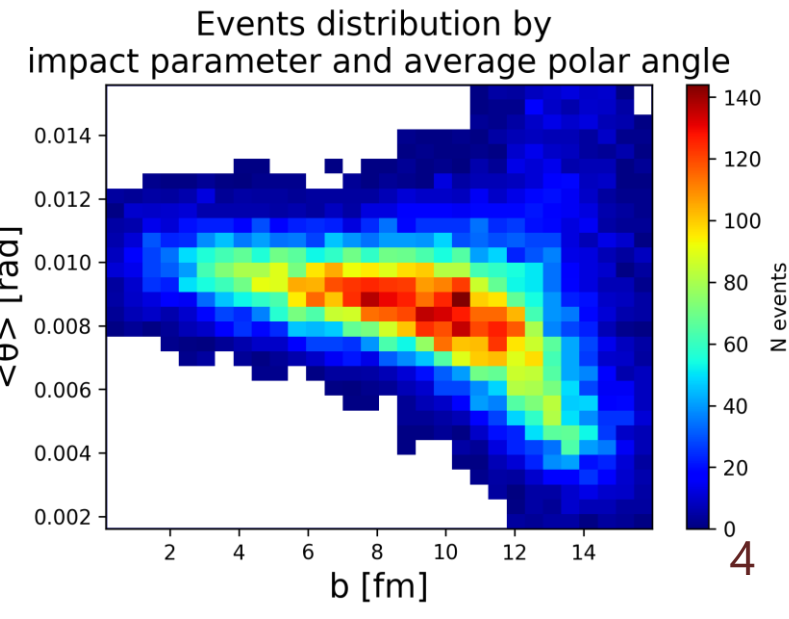
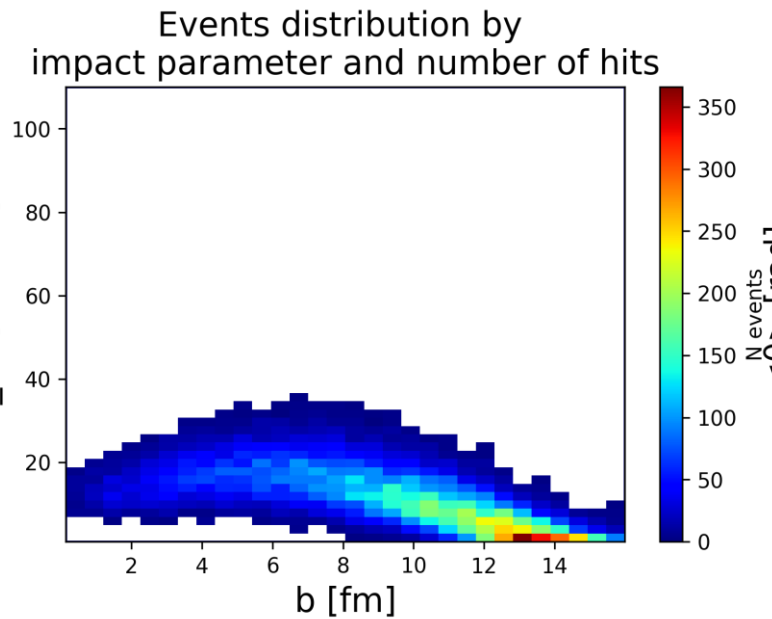
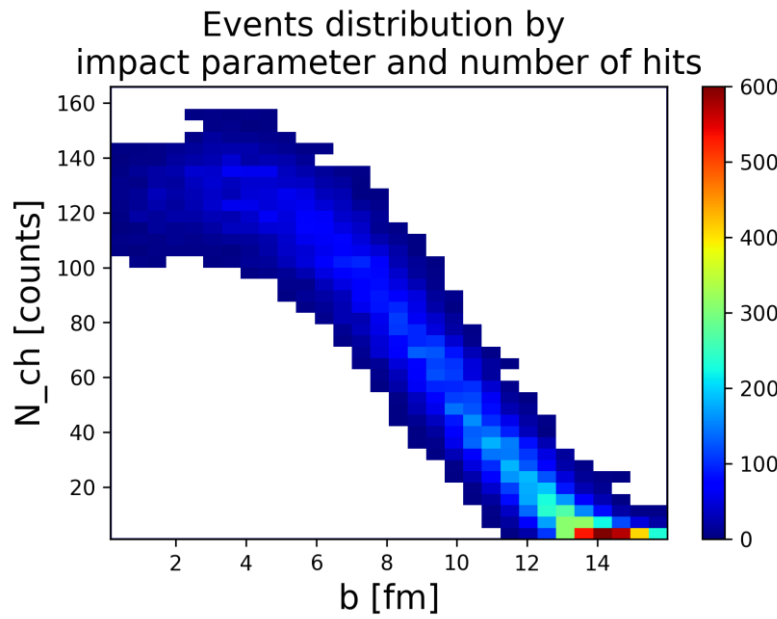


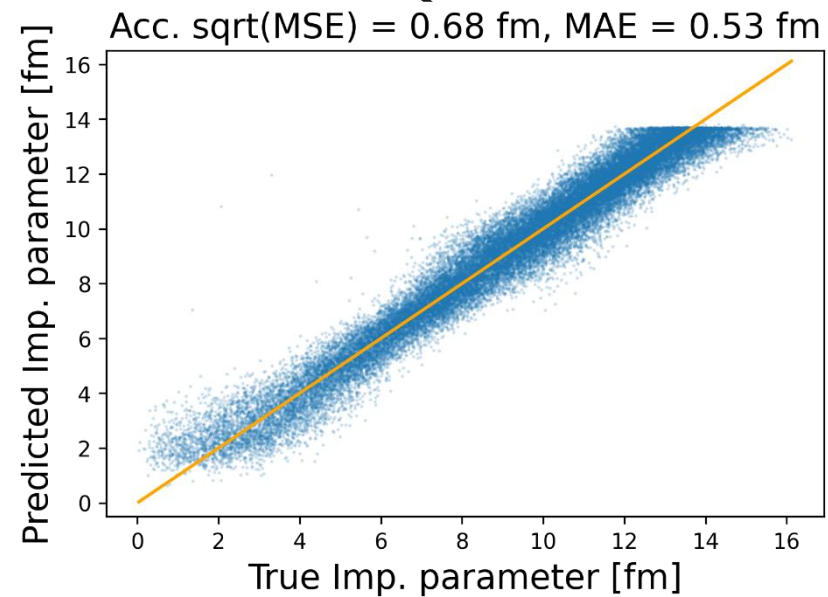
Table of NN performance

Event features (Number of features)	Binary classificatory threshold [fm]	QGSM			EPOS		
		MSE [fm]	TPR [%]	FPR [%]	MSE [fm]	TPR [%]	FPR [%]
Time of flight (3x150)	5	0,68	98,6	4,3	1,53	91,7	16,4
Time of flight (3x150)	1		90,3	6,2		94,0	17,8
Multiplicity + angle (2)	5	0,77	97,7	5,8	2,06	88,1	38,1
Multiplicity + angle (2)	1		98,9	8,8		77,2	21,1

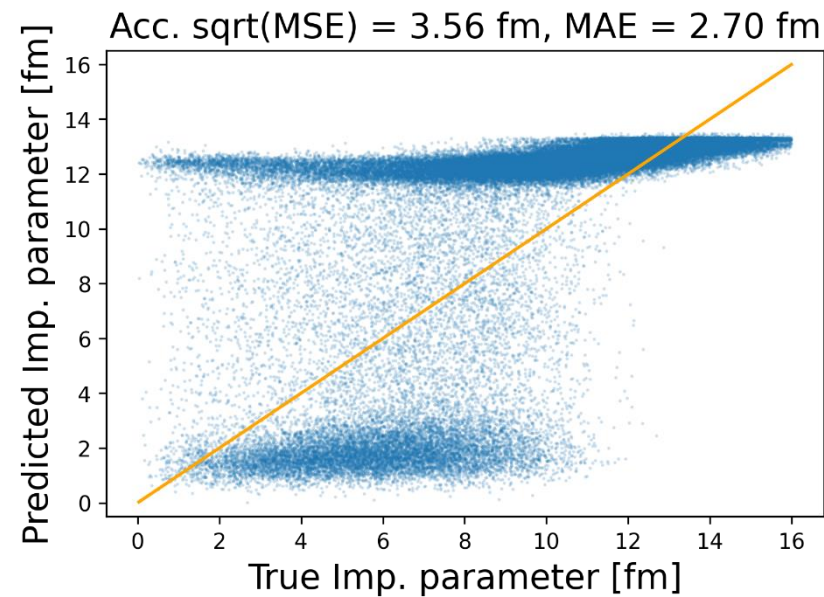
Here we used detector system consisting of pair of rings with $R=25\text{cm}$, $r=2.5\text{cm}$, $L=4\text{m}$, $\Delta t=50\text{ps}$, 352 cells.

Simple network trained on QGSM dataset

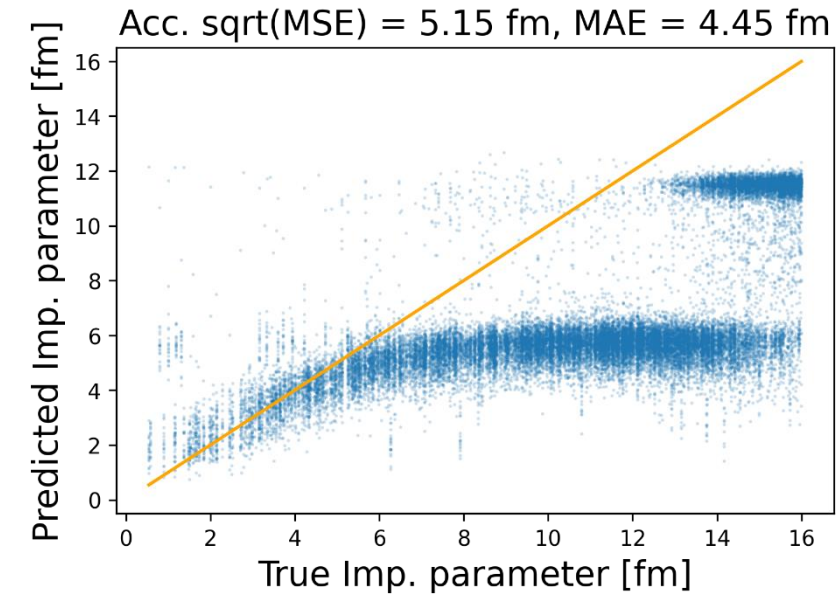
Tests on: QGSM



EPOS



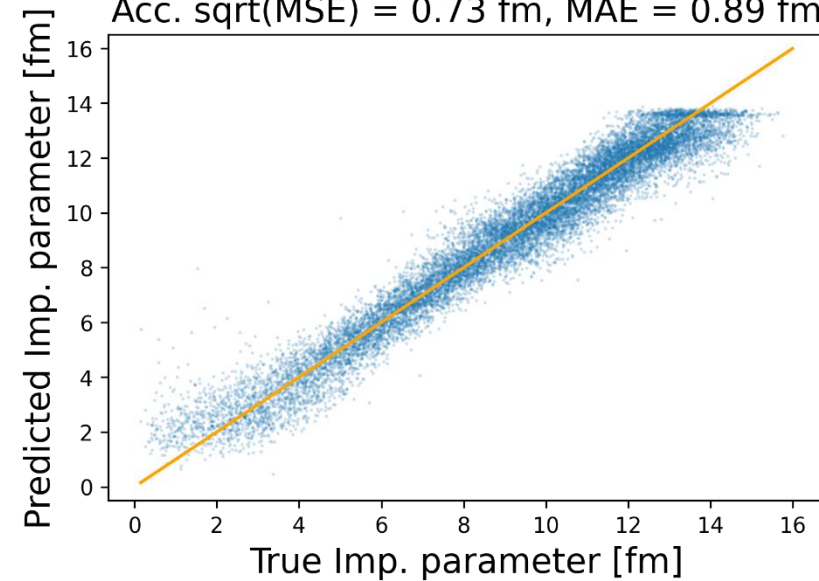
PHQMD



Simple network trained on QGSM+EPOS mixed dataset

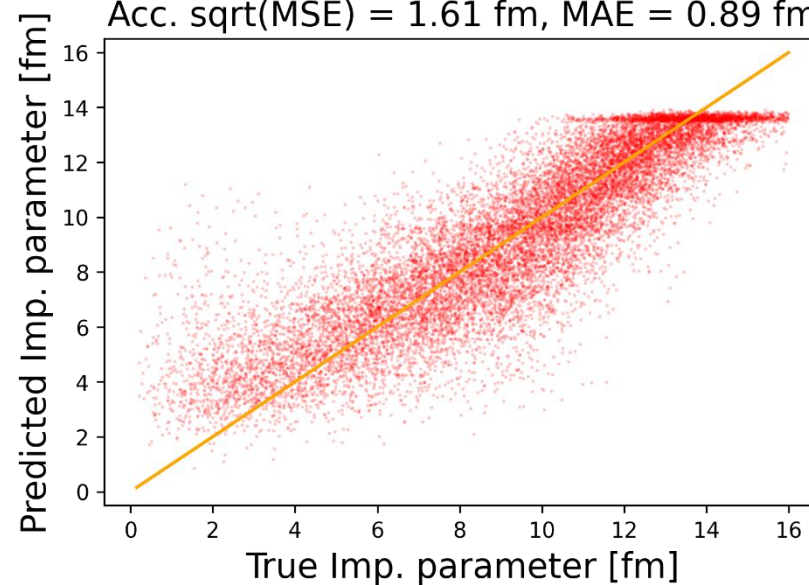
Tests on: QGSM

Acc. sqrt(MSE) = 0.73 fm, MAE = 0.89 fm



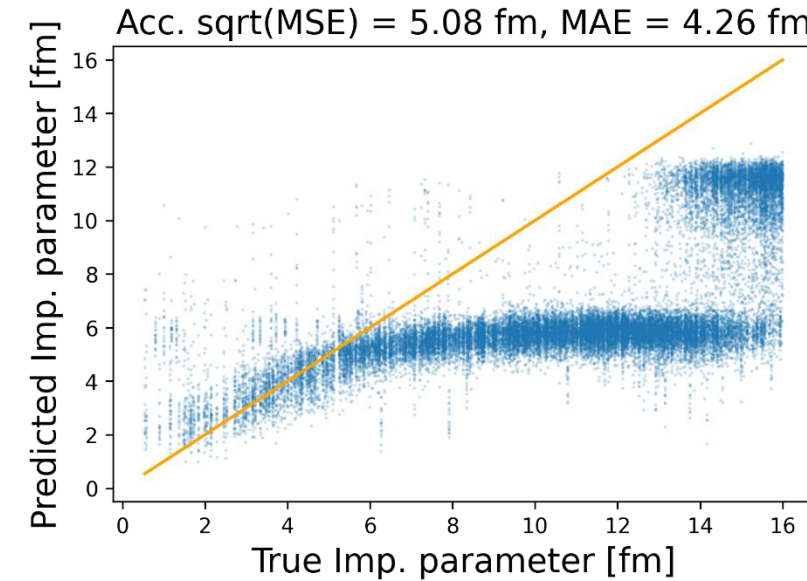
EPOS

Acc. sqrt(MSE) = 1.61 fm, MAE = 0.89 fm



PHQMD

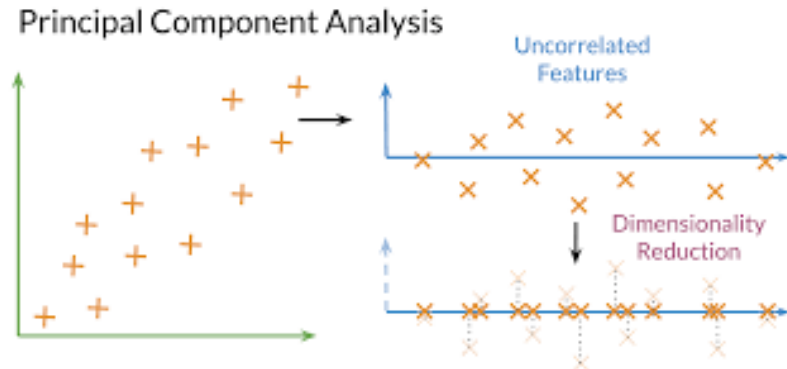
Acc. sqrt(MSE) = 5.08 fm, MAE = 4.26 fm



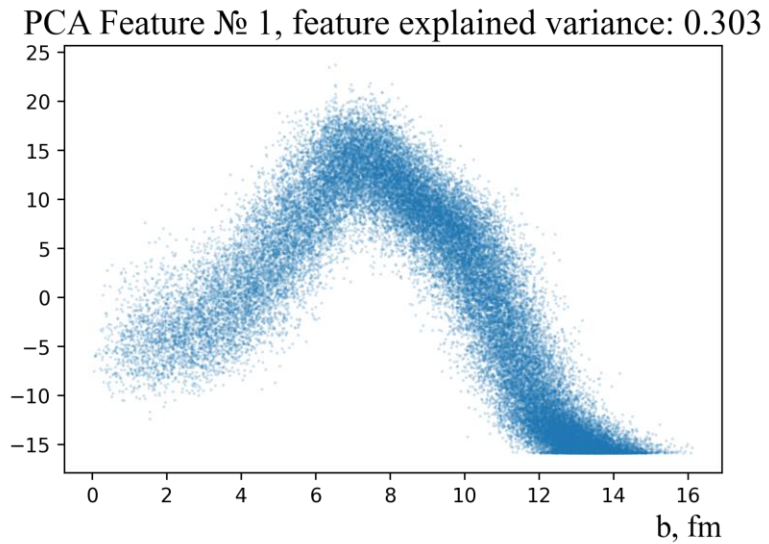
Search for universal event characteristics

The idea of method

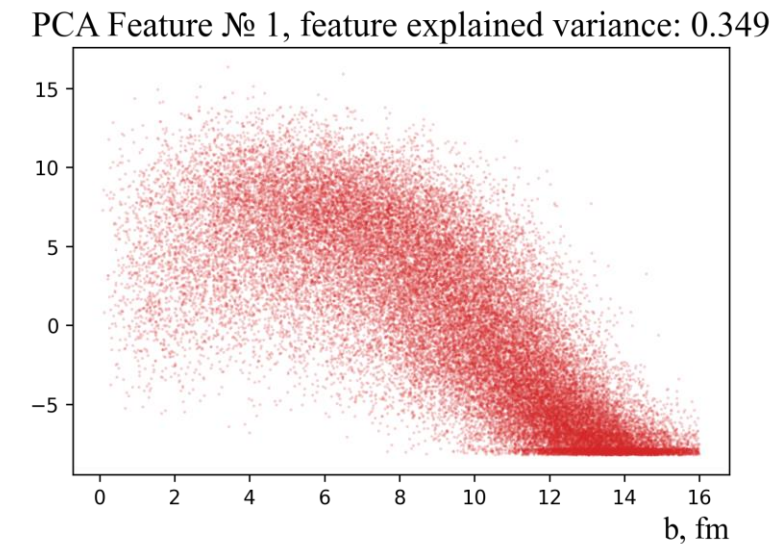
PCA:



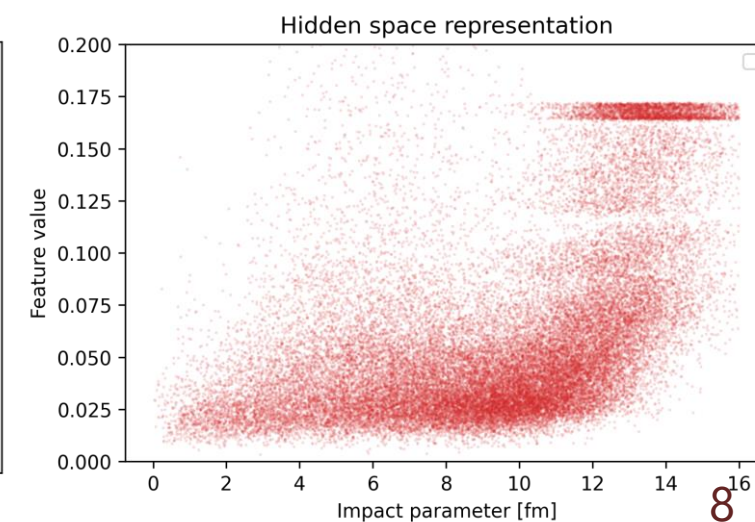
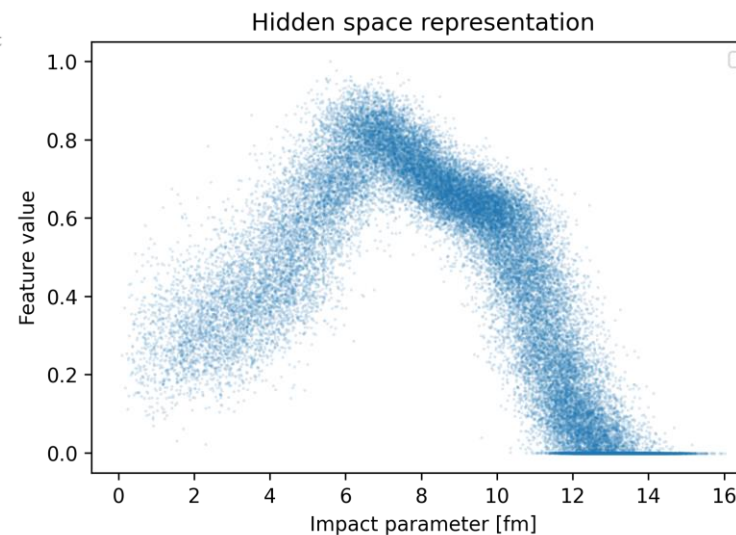
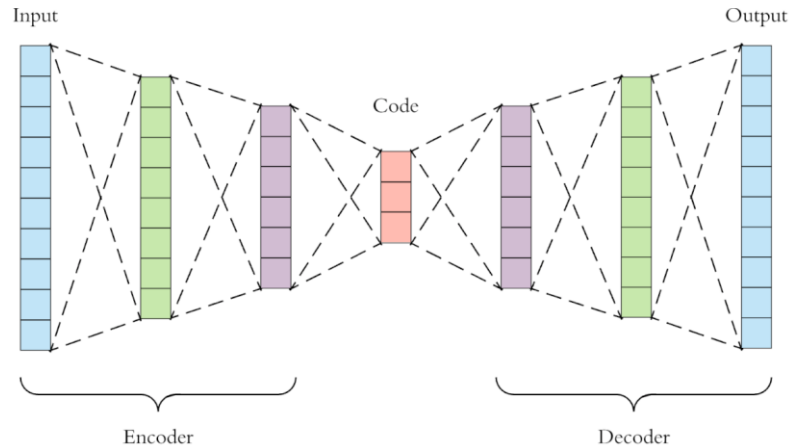
QGSM:



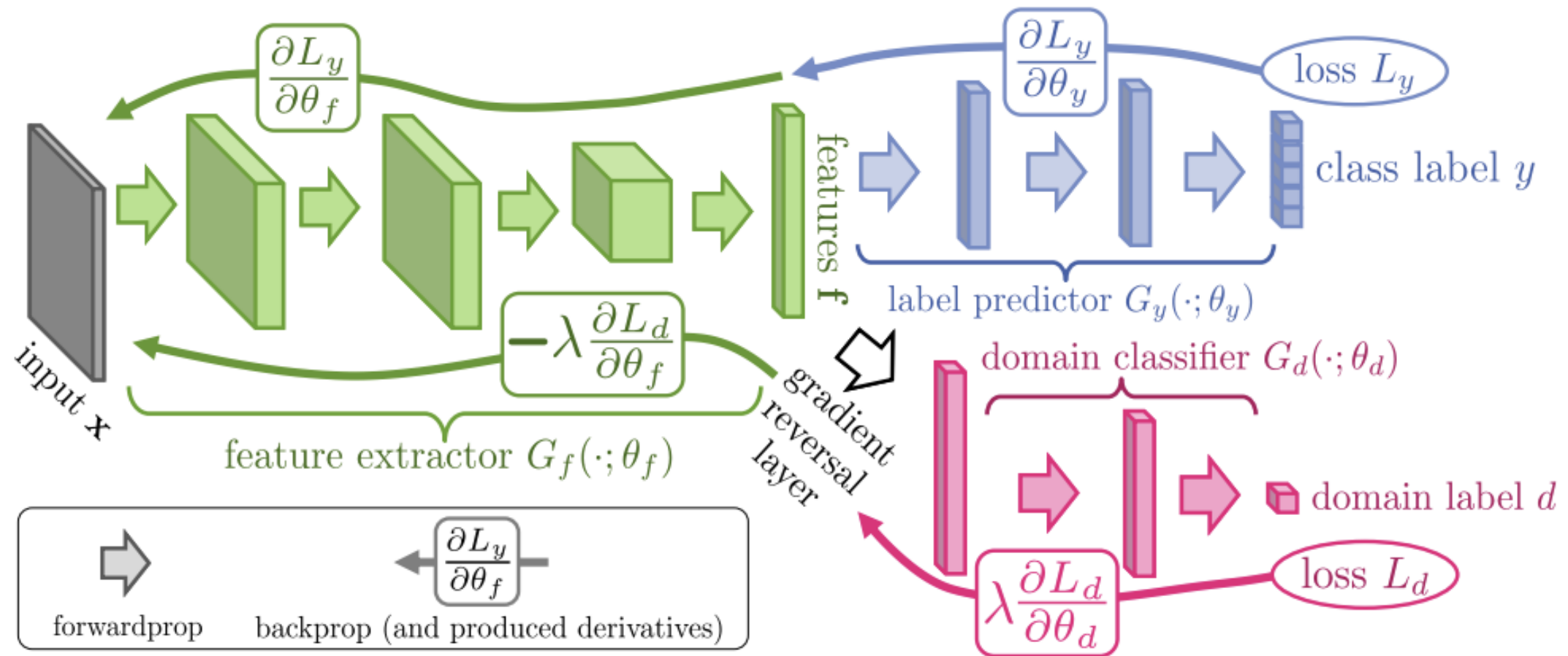
EPOS:



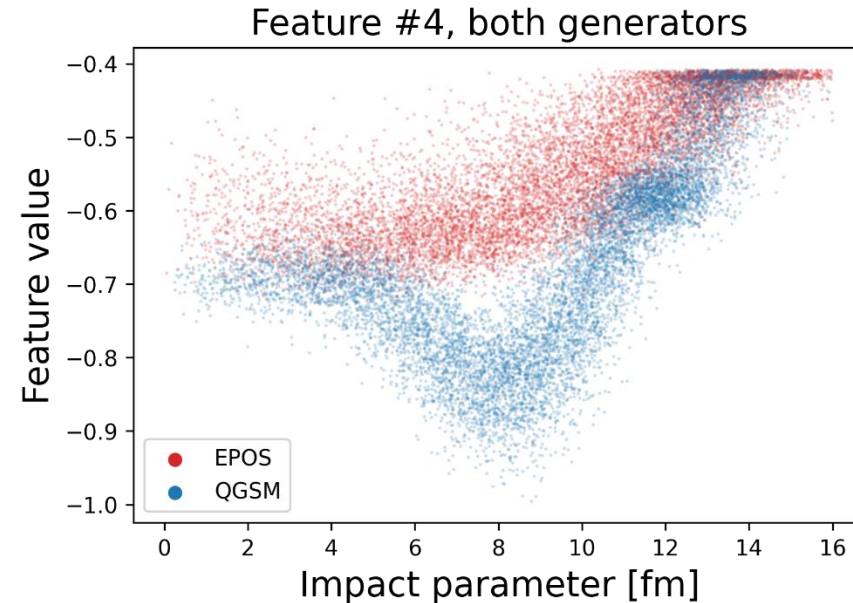
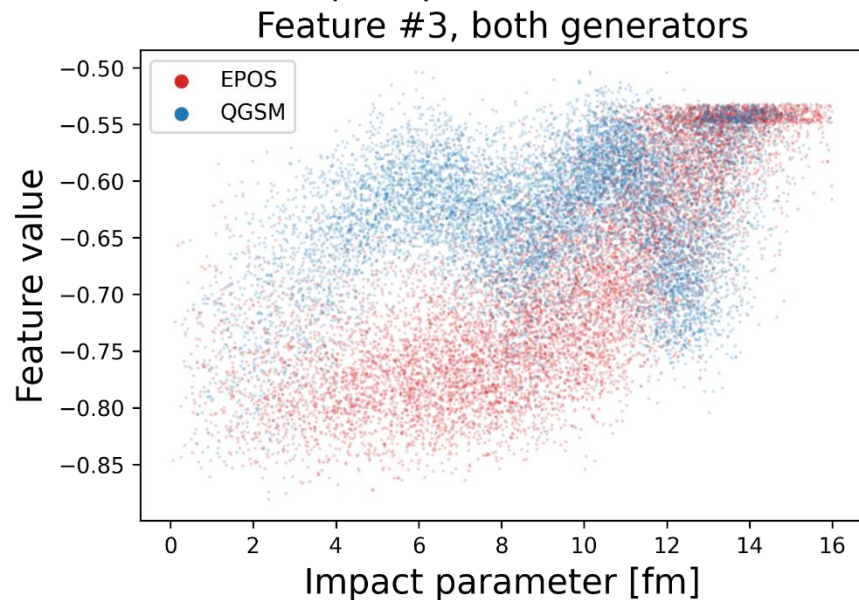
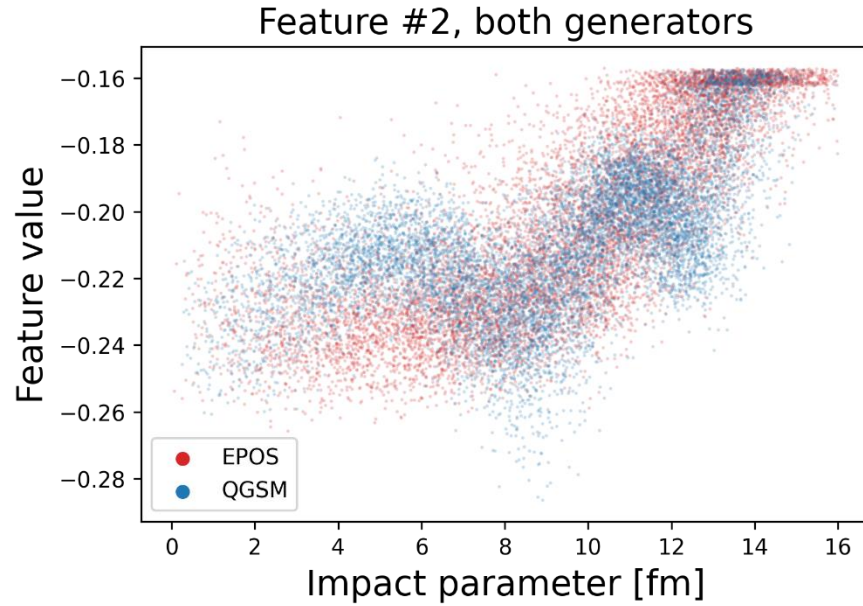
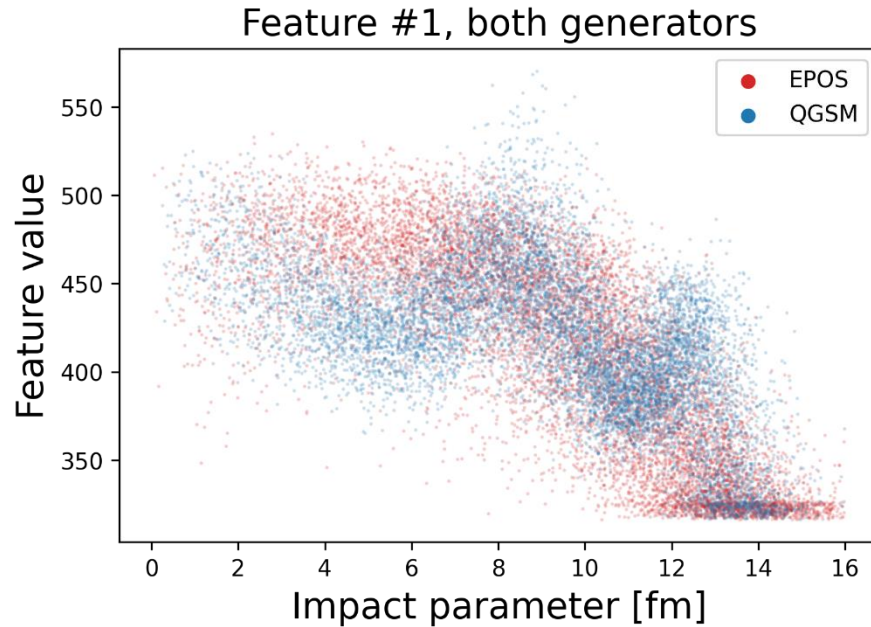
Auto-encoder:



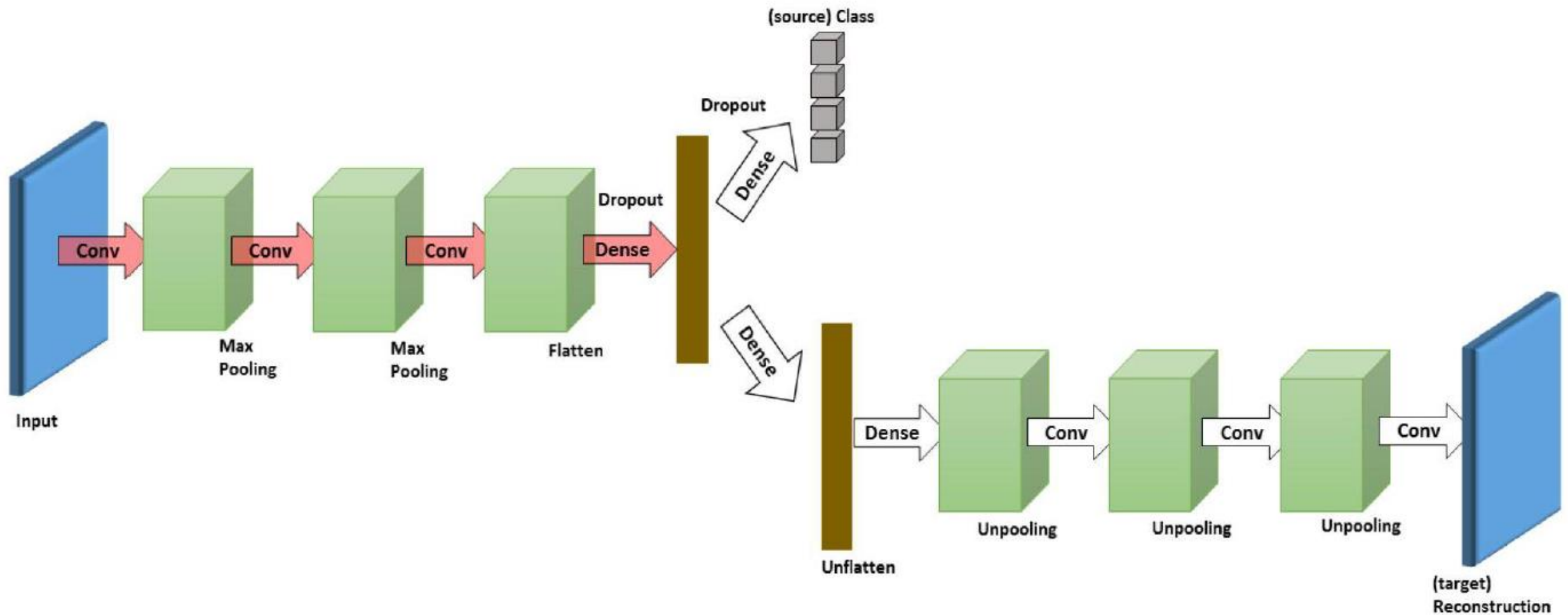
Domain adaptation: Domain-adversarial neural network¹



Domain-adversarial neural network, extracted features

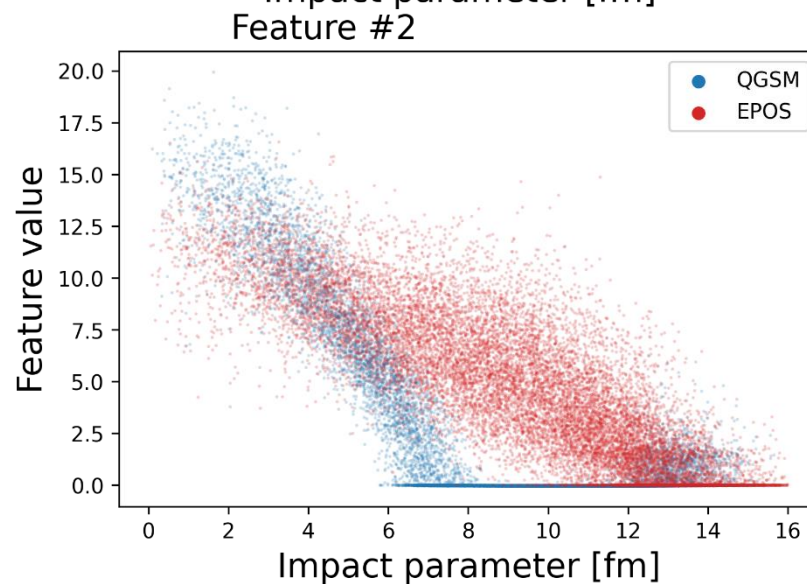
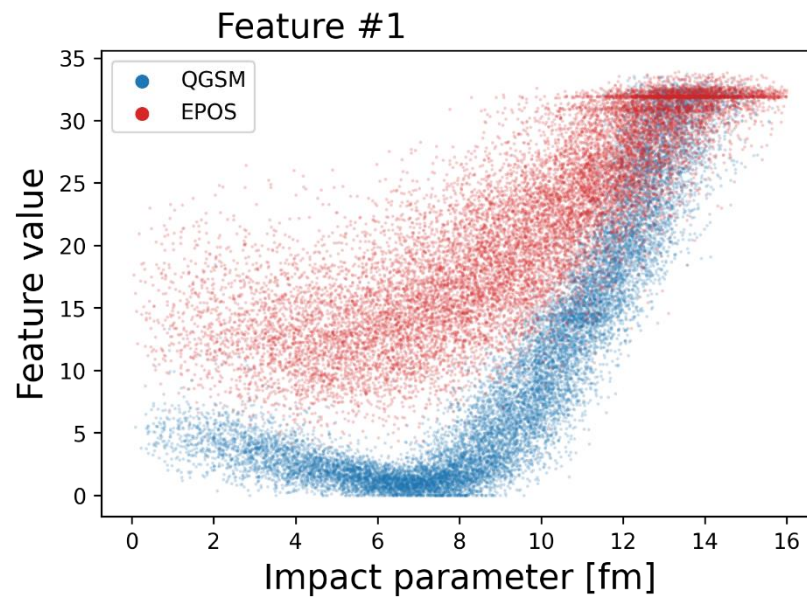


The deep reconstruction neural network (DRNN)¹

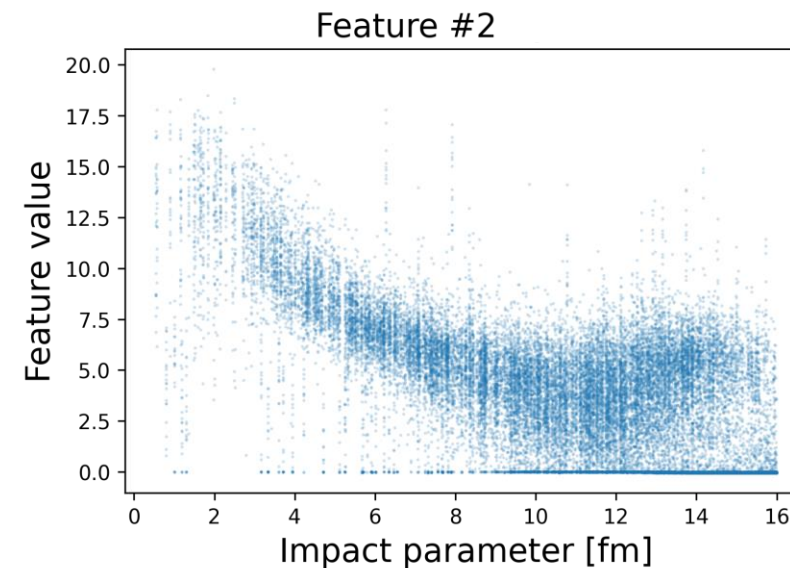
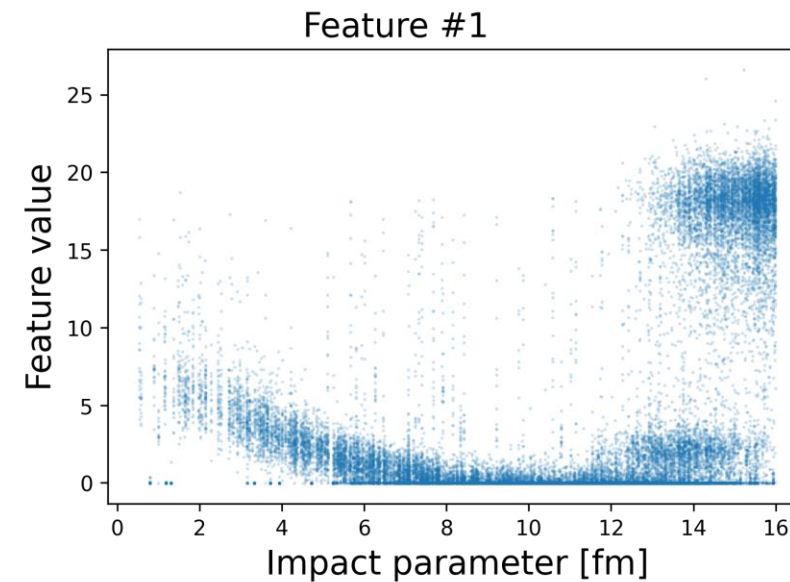


The deep reconstruction neural network. New features.

QGSM & EPOS



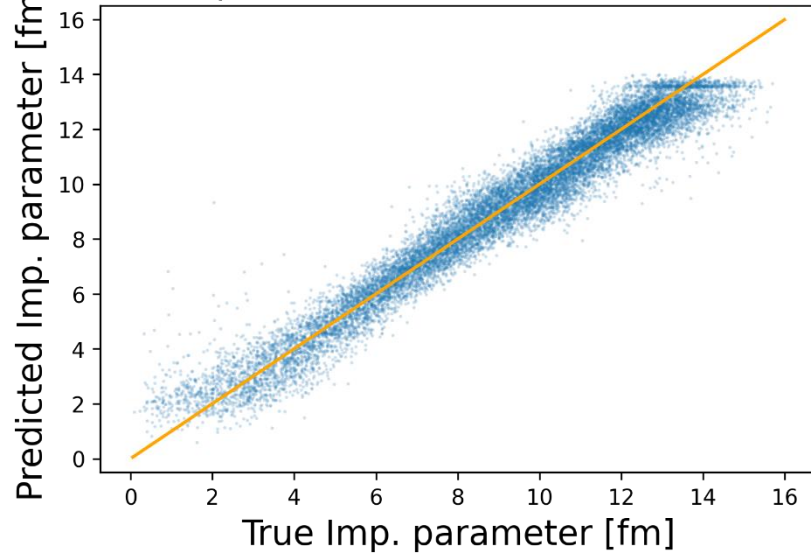
PHQMD



The deep reconstruction neural network. Results.

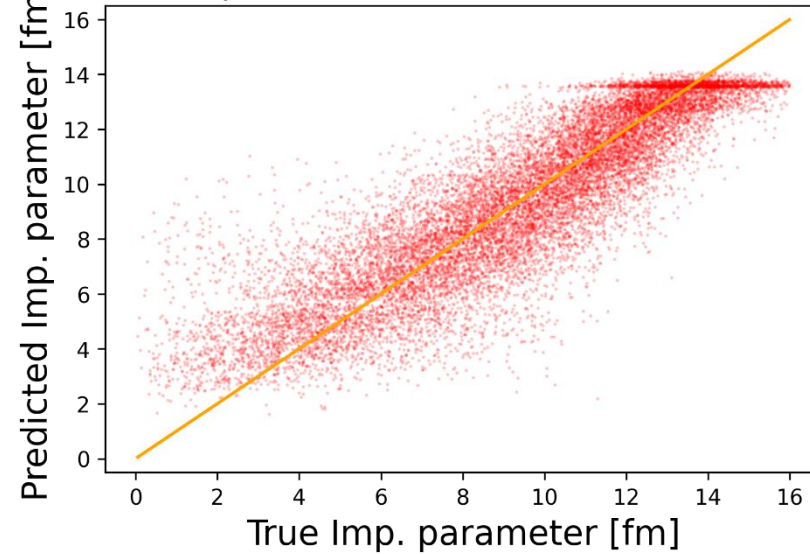
Tests on: QGSM

Acc. sqrt(MSE) = 0.71 fm, MAE = 0.88 fm



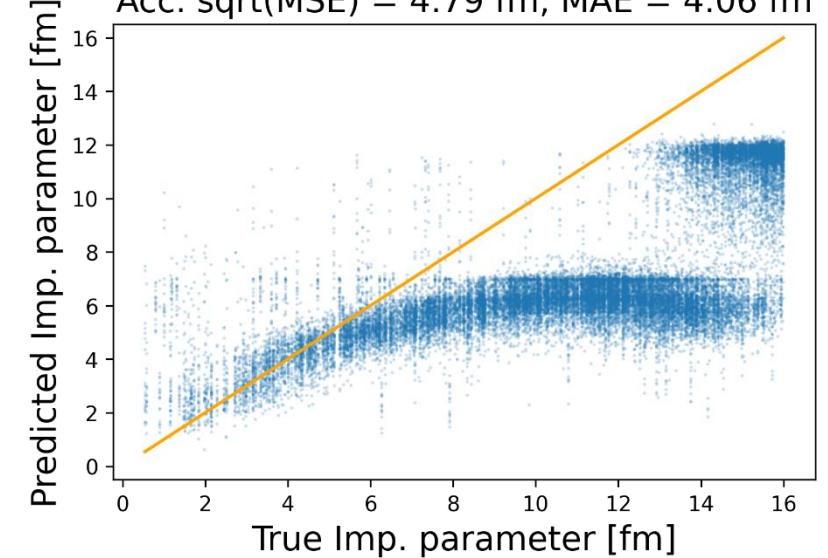
EPOS

Acc. sqrt(MSE) = 1.61 fm, MAE = 0.88 fm



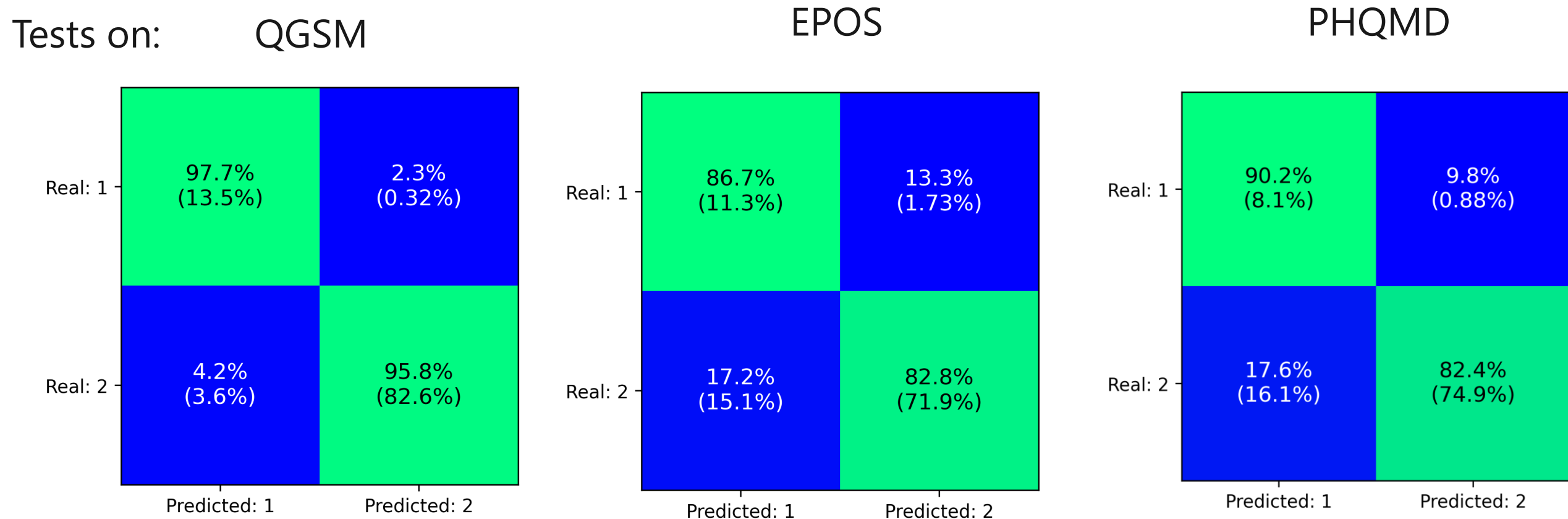
PHQMD

Acc. sqrt(MSE) = 4.79 fm, MAE = 4.06 fm



The deep reconstruction neural network. Results for the classification problem.

The goal of the network here is to label central collisions with $\underline{b} < 5$ fm.



Conclusions

Hidden dependencies

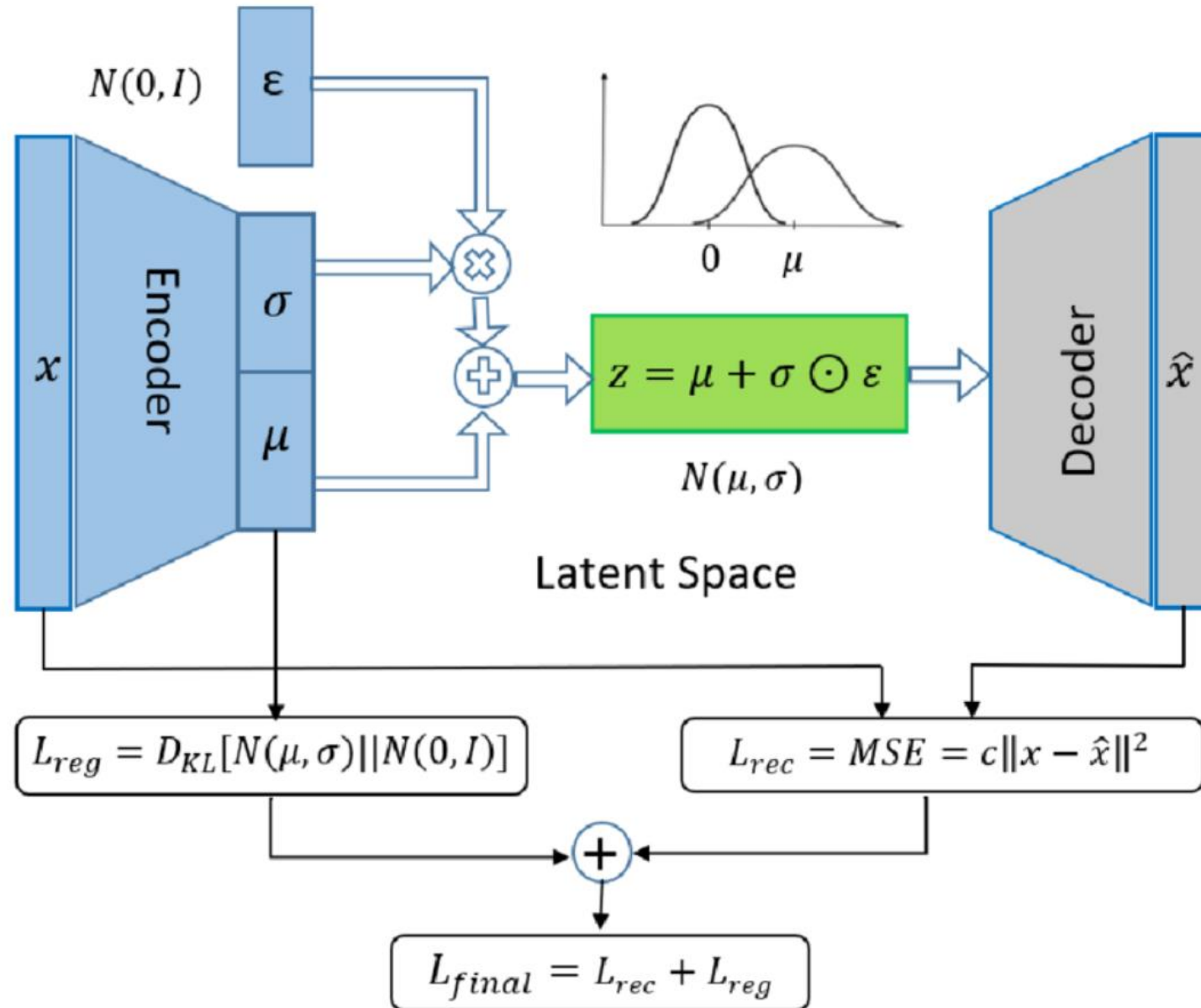
With the help of artificial neural networks, it has become possible to extract hidden patterns in data from different sources.

New methods are worth researching

Investigated methods are capable of working simultaneously with data from different event generators.

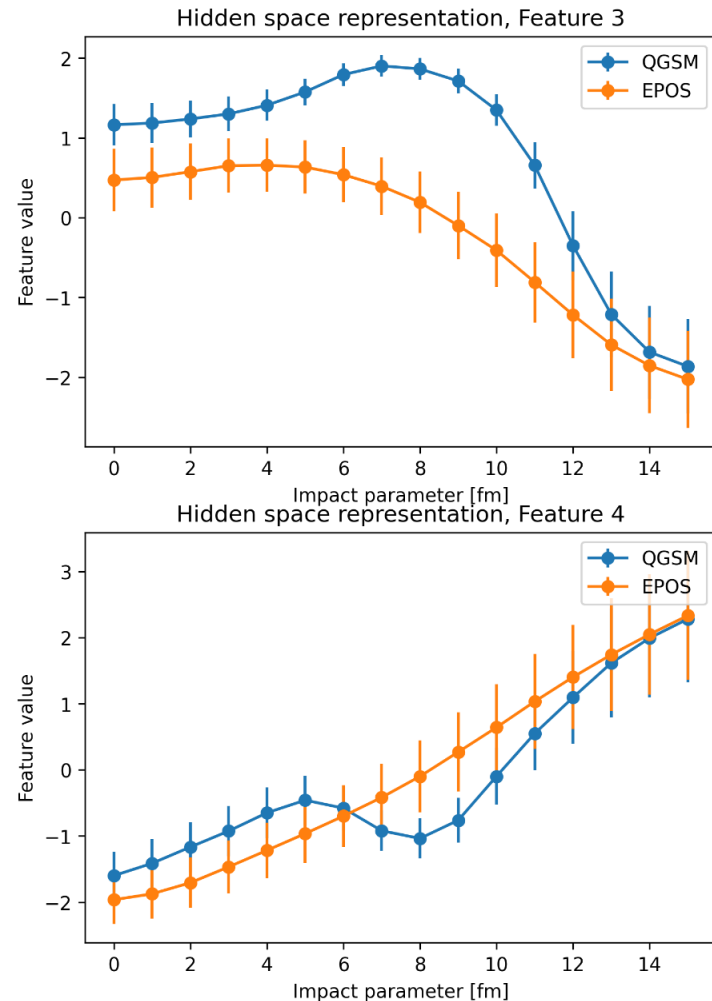
The authors acknowledge Saint-Petersburg State University for a research project 103821868

Using variational autoencoder (VAE) as the domain adaptation technique



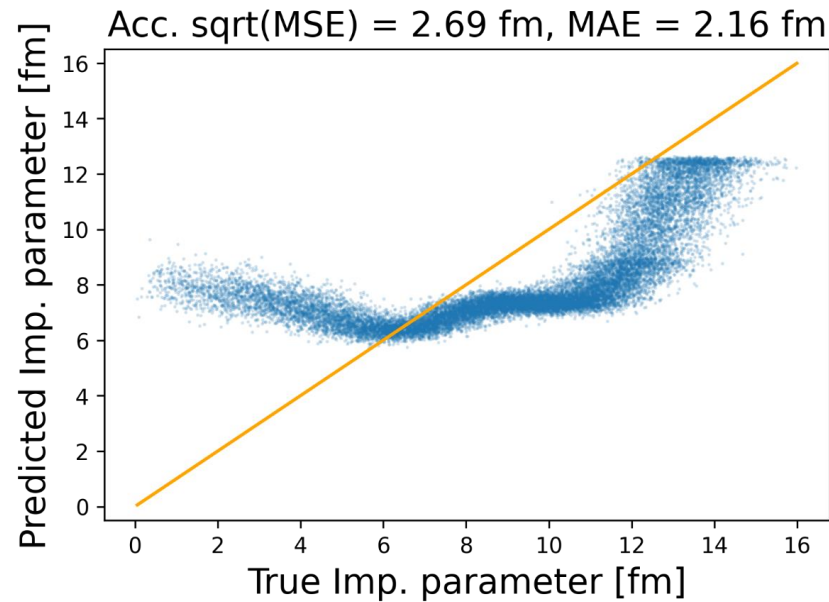
Variational autoencoder results

While the use of variational autoencoders can result in meaningful event features, the results of impact parameter estimation are worse than with other techniques.

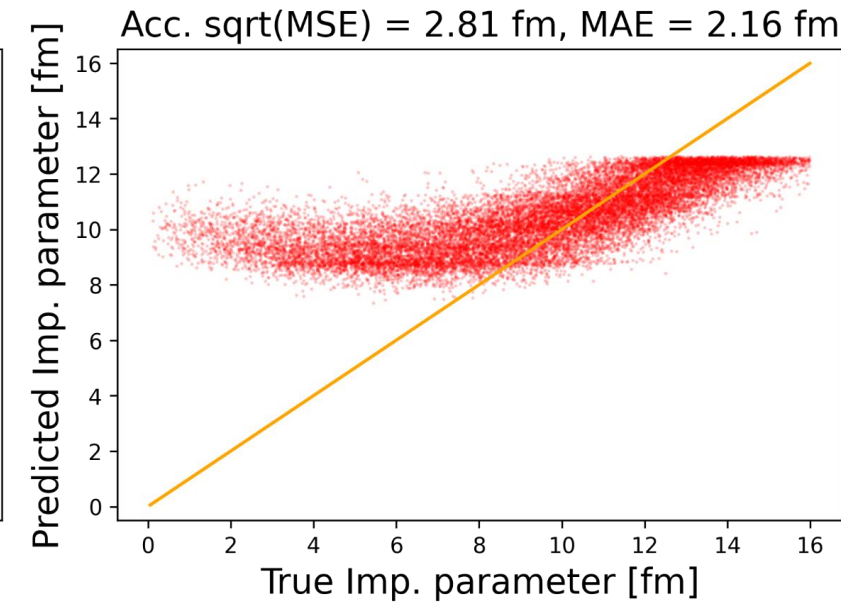


VAE features

QGSM



EPOS



Regression results