



# Applying Time Shift Symmetries in Normalizing Flows for Likelihood Free Inference

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Research Internship  
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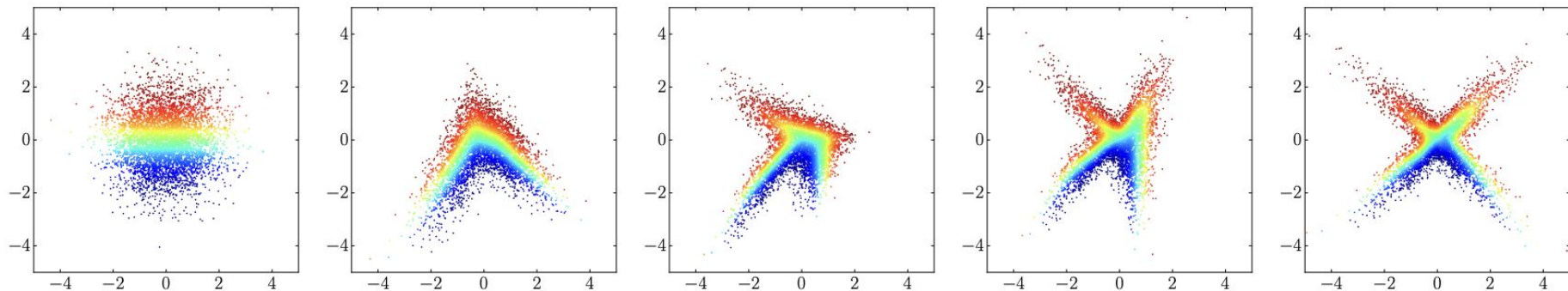


# Motivation

- ❖ Parameter estimation takes time
- ❖ Likelihood free inference using normalizing flows can accelerate this process, but
  - Learning symmetries like time translation is hard for naive neural networks
  - Computationally more time and more parameters
- ❖ Build a more informed normalizing flow by embedding time translation symmetry
- ❖ Consider sine gaussian parameter estimation
  - Frequency, duration, skylocation are important parameters
  - Central time of arrival not so much
- ❖ Make a neural network be invariant to time translations
  - Infer parameters such as frequency, duration, skylocation with a smaller model

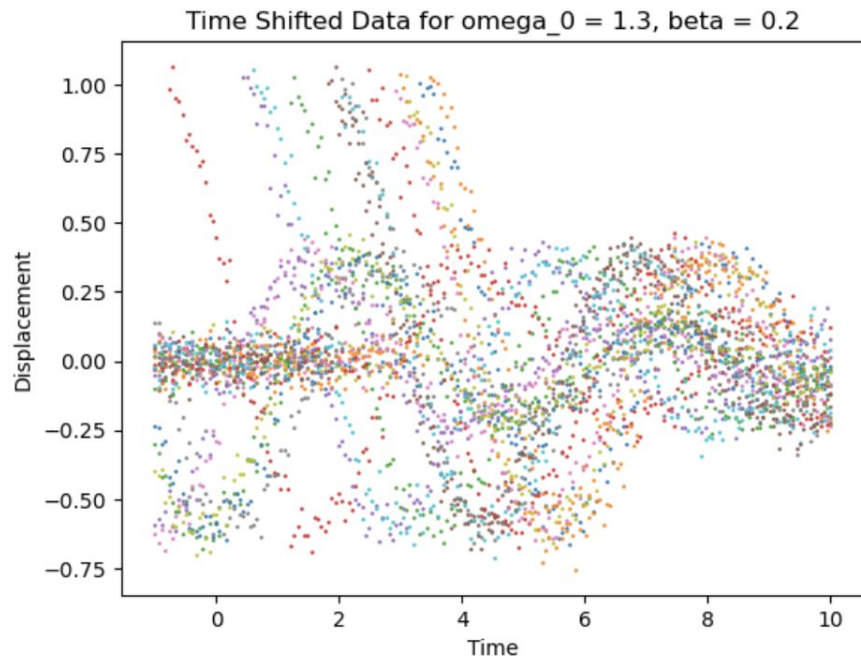
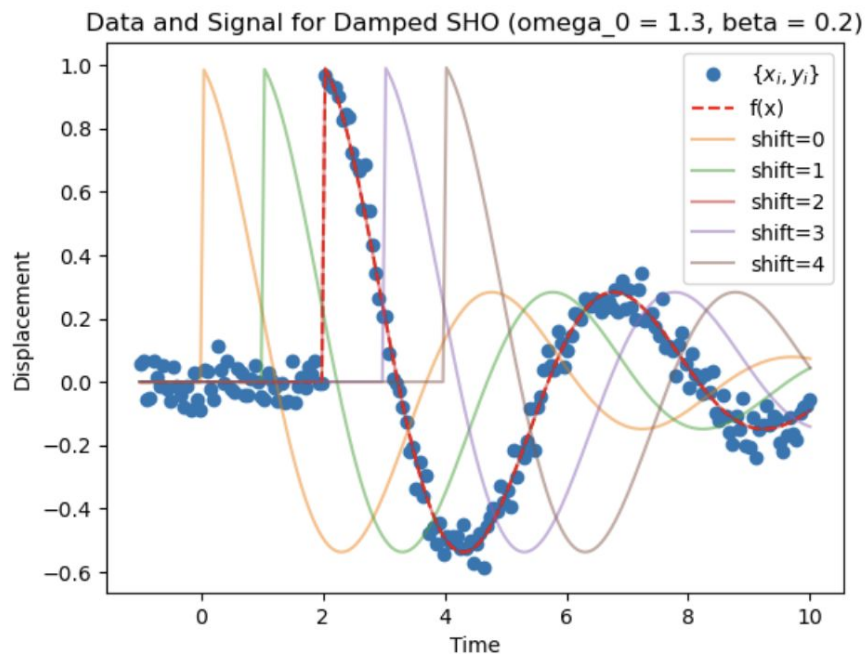
# Normalizing Flow

- ❖ Apply a transformation  $T$  to some vector  $u$ , sampled from a base distribution  $p_u(u)$  to represent the target distribution  $x$
- ❖ Flow: the invertible transformations can be composed with other transformations to create multidimensional complex transformations
- ❖ Normalizing: change of variables gives a normalized probability density after applying an invertible transformation [2]



# Damped Harmonic Oscillator

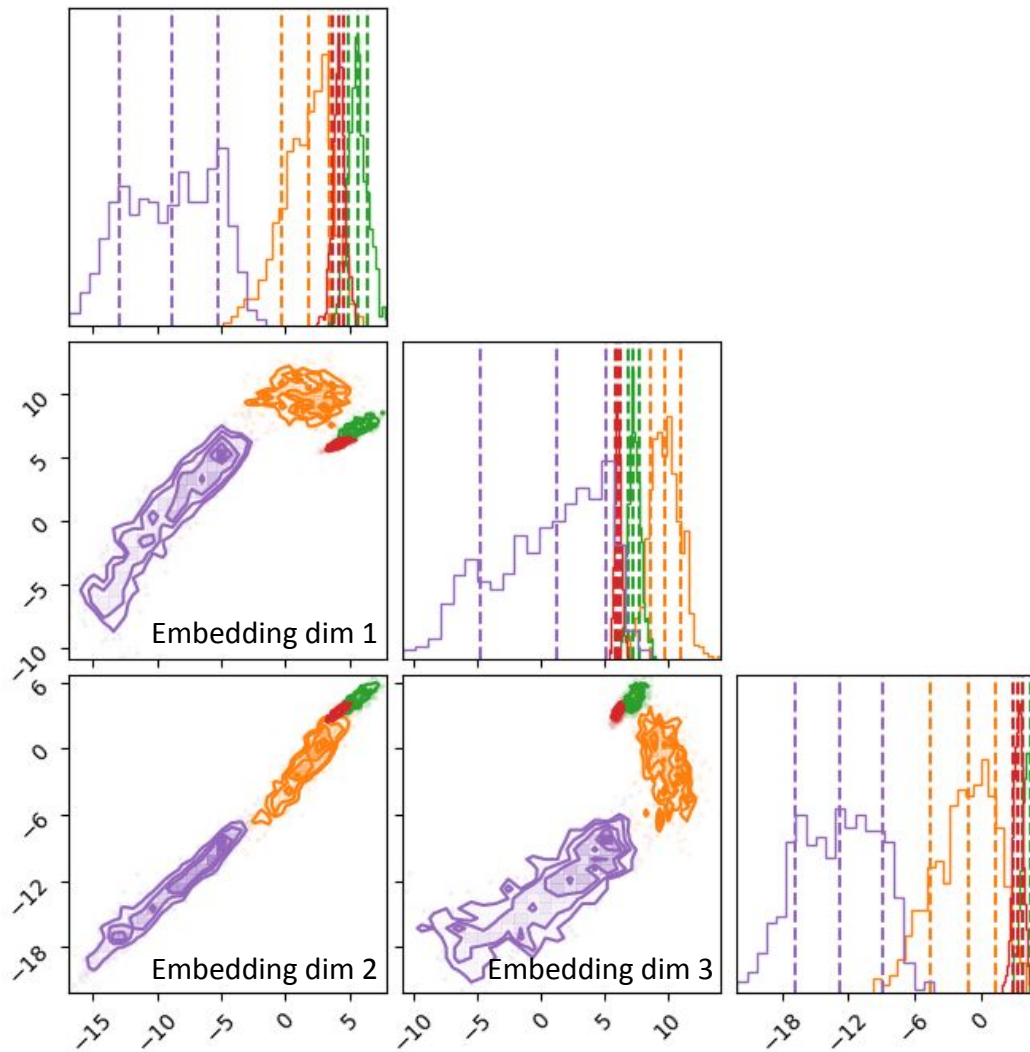
$$\ddot{x}(t) + 2\beta\omega_0\dot{x}(t) + \omega_0^2x(t) = 0$$
$$, x = \exp(\gamma t); \gamma = -\omega_0 [\beta \pm i\sqrt{1 - \beta^2}]$$



Inferring on Omega (natural frequency), Beta (damping coefficient)

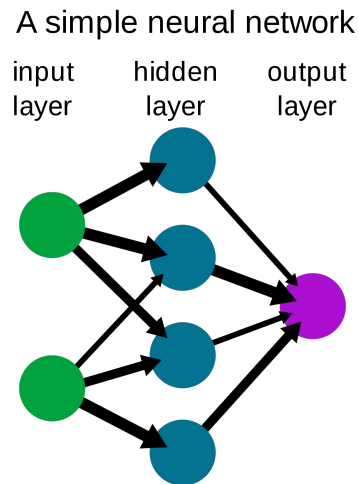
# Method to implement Similarity Embedding

- ❖ VICReg Loss  
(Variance-Invariance-Covariance Regularization)  
<https://arxiv.org/pdf/2105.04906.pdf>
- ❖ Weighted sum of 3 loss components
  - Variance: makes dense
  - Invariance: makes same data closer
  - Covariance: makes circular [1]



# Why implement a Neural Network

- ❖ Simply using a normalizing flow will learn all the time shifted data as unique data
- ❖ We're more interested in determining the signal's frequency, duration, skylocation
  - We want to be agnostic to time shifts
- ❖ If we simply train a normalizing flow, we'd need a bigger model and more data to train
  - More computational cost
- ❖ Therefore, we used a symmetry informed normalizing flow, which requires a smaller model and less data

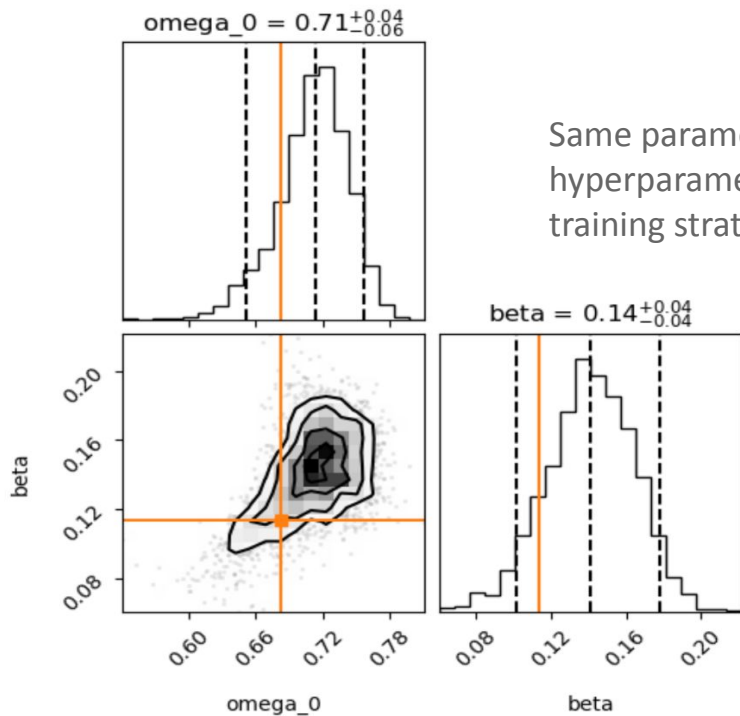


# Embedding Net in the Flow

- ❖ With the similarity embedding
  - Freeze the weights from the similarity embedding training
  - Pass the weights through the Masked Affine Autoregressive Transform
- ❖ Without the similarity embedding
  - Do not train similarity embedding
  - Do not freeze the parameters
  - Let the training of the normalizing flow change the weights of the similarity embedding

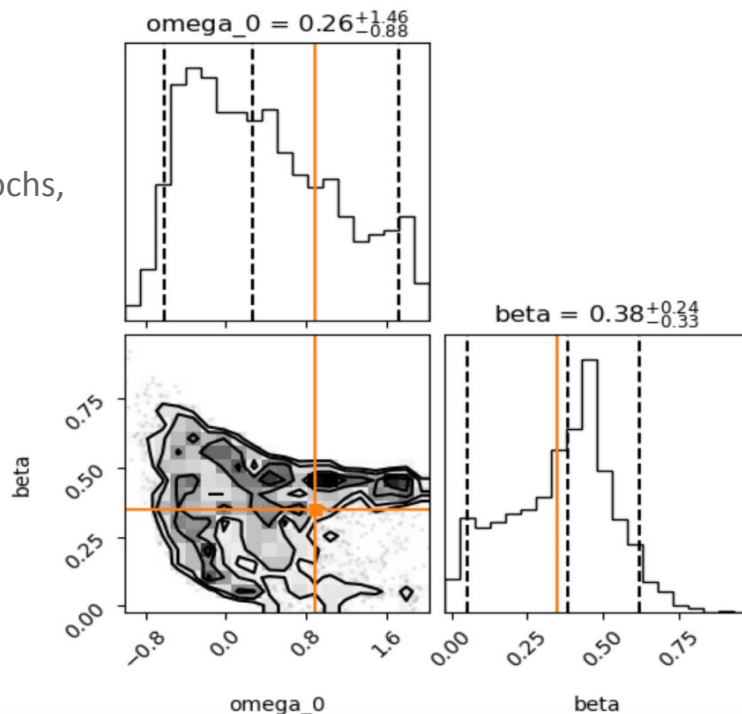
```
layers_f.initial_layer.weight
2500
layers_f.initial_layer.bias
10
layers_f.blocks.0.batch_norm_layers.0.weight
10
layers_f.blocks.0.batch_norm_layers.0.bias
10
layers_f.blocks.0.batch_norm_layers.1.weight
10
layers_f.blocks.0.batch_norm_layers.1.bias
10
layers_f.blocks.0.conv_layers.0.weight
500
layers_f.blocks.0.conv_layers.0.bias
10
layers_f.blocks.0.conv_layers.1.weight
500
layers_f.blocks.0.conv_layers.1.bias
10
layers_f.final_layer.weight
10
layers_f.final_layer.bias
1
contraction_layer.weight
600
contraction_layer.bias
3
expander_layer.weight
60
expander_layer.bias
20
layers_h.0.weight
400
layers_h.0.bias
20
final_layer.weight
240
final_layer.bias
12
4936
```

## Flow with Similarity Embedding



Same parameters,  
hyperparameters, epochs,  
training strategies

## Flow without Similarity Embedding

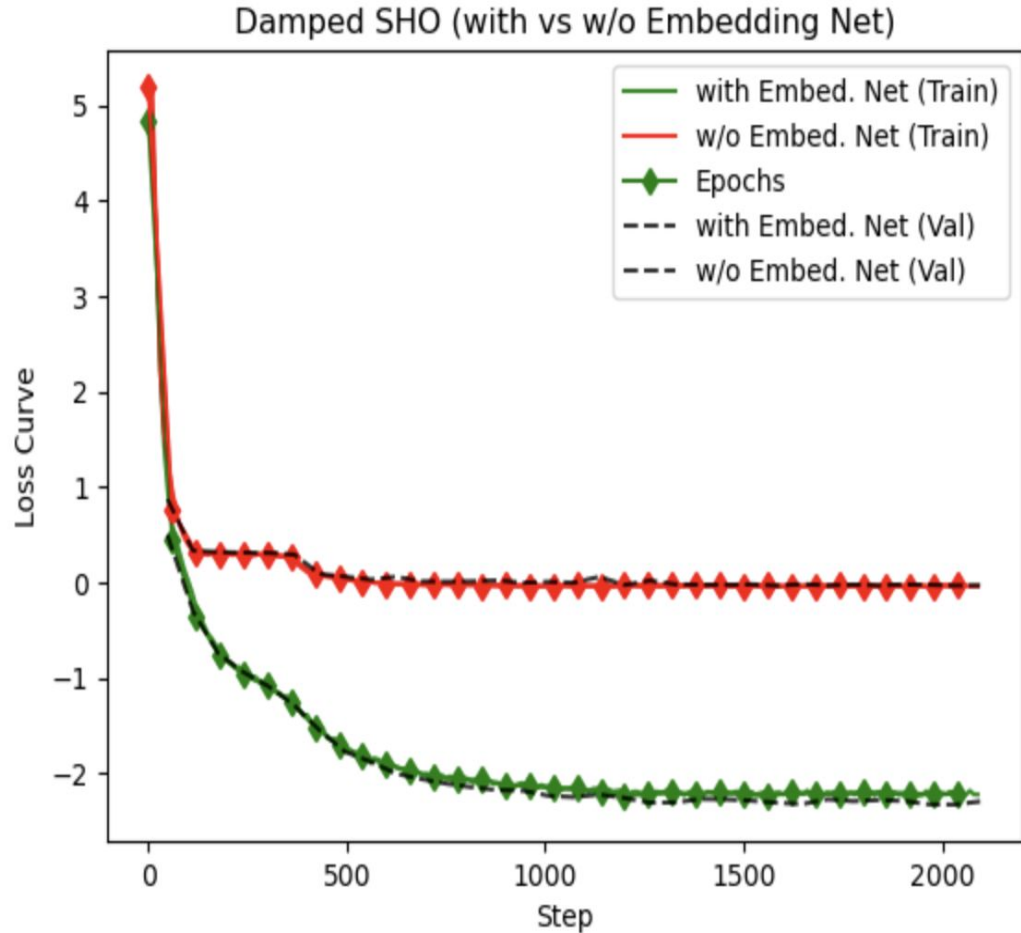




# Efficiency with Similarity Embedding

- ❖ Losses dive deeper
- ❖ More accurate and efficient results that are computationally less demanding
- ❖ Get the same results with a smaller number of parameters compared to results without using the similarity embedding

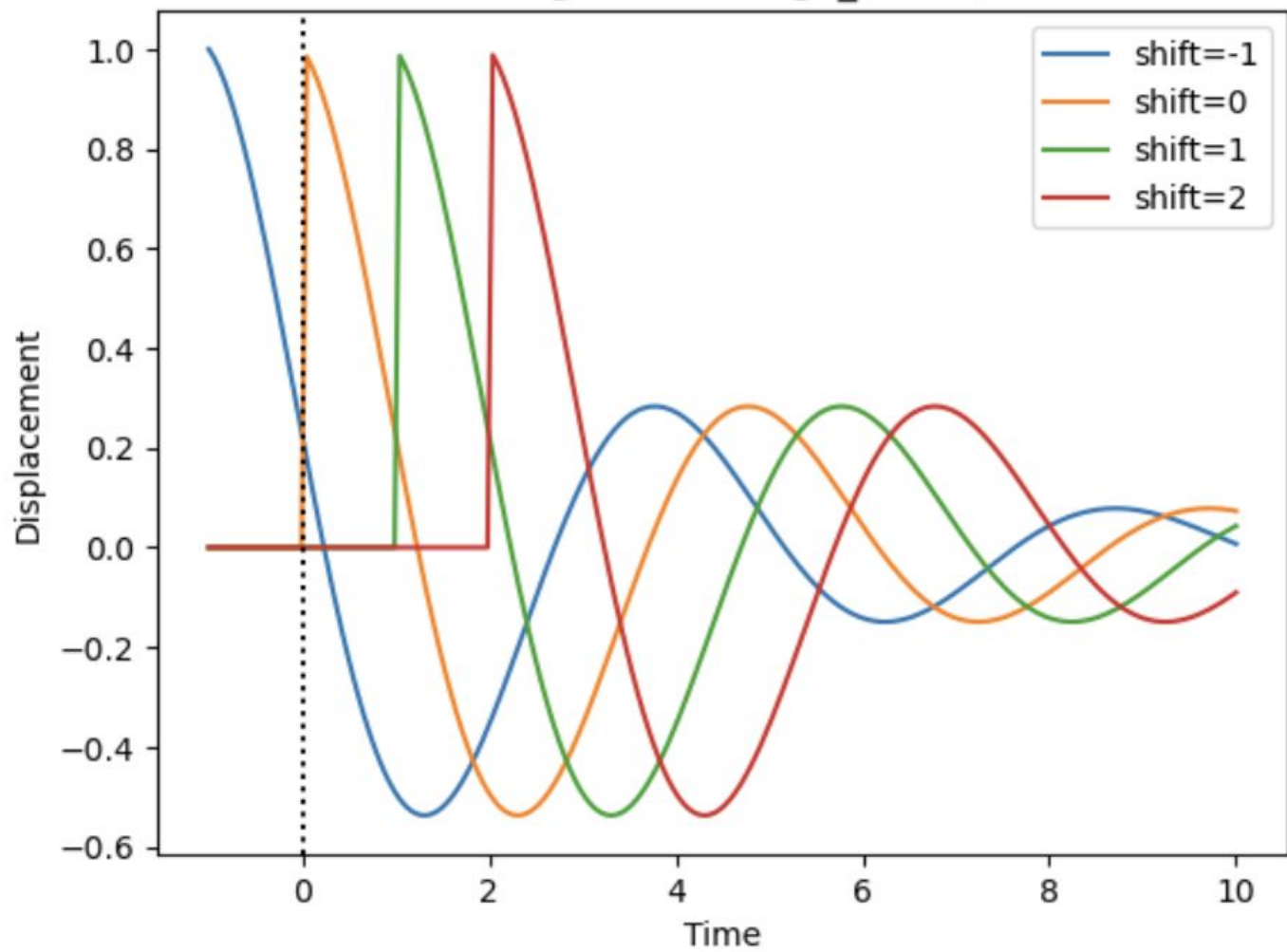
Same number of parameters with /  
without Embedding Net



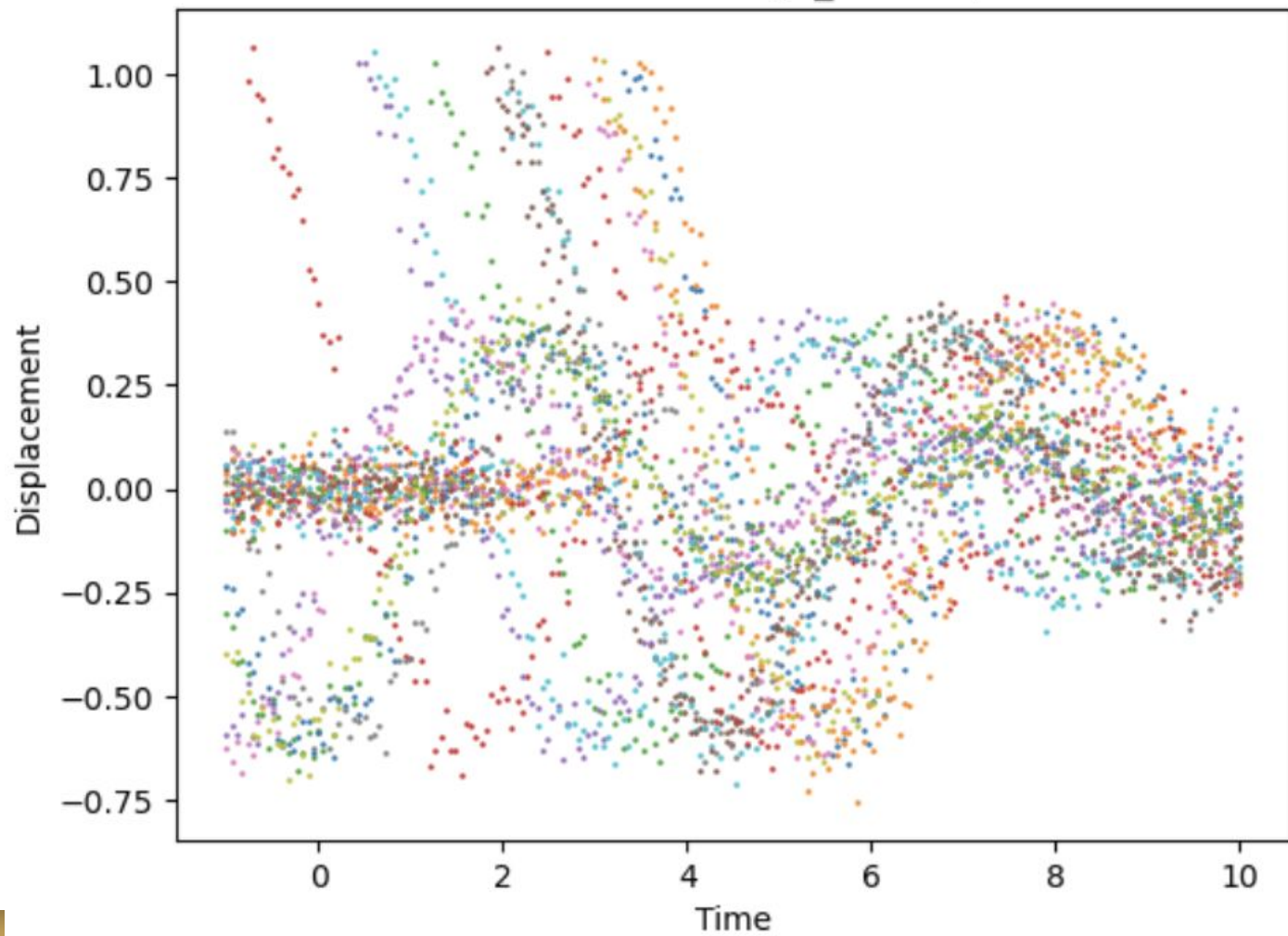
# Bibliography

- [1] Adrien Bardes, Jean Ponce, and Yann LeCun. Vicreg: Variance-invariance-covariance regularization for self-supervised learning, 2022.
- [2] George Papamakarios, Eric Nalisnick, Danilo Jimenez Rezende, Shakir Mohamed, and Balaji Lakshminarayanan. Normalizing flows for probabilistic modeling and inference, 2021.
- [3] [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Neural\\_network#/media/File:Neural\\_network\\_example.svg](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Neural_network#/media/File:Neural_network_example.svg)

Time shifted signal for  $\omega_0=1.3$ ,  $\beta=0.2$



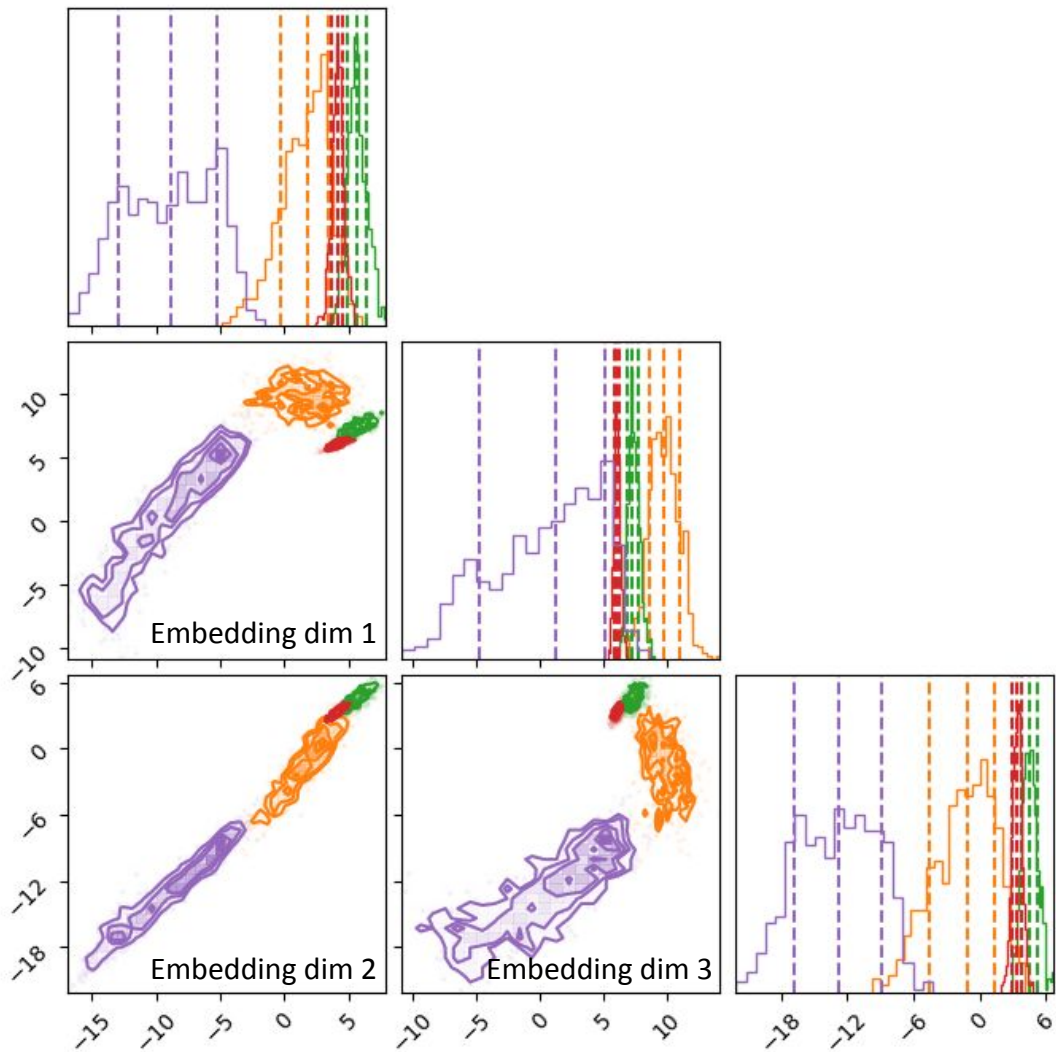
Time Shifted Data for  $\omega_0 = 1.3$ ,  $\beta = 0.2$



# Neural Network: Similarity Embedding

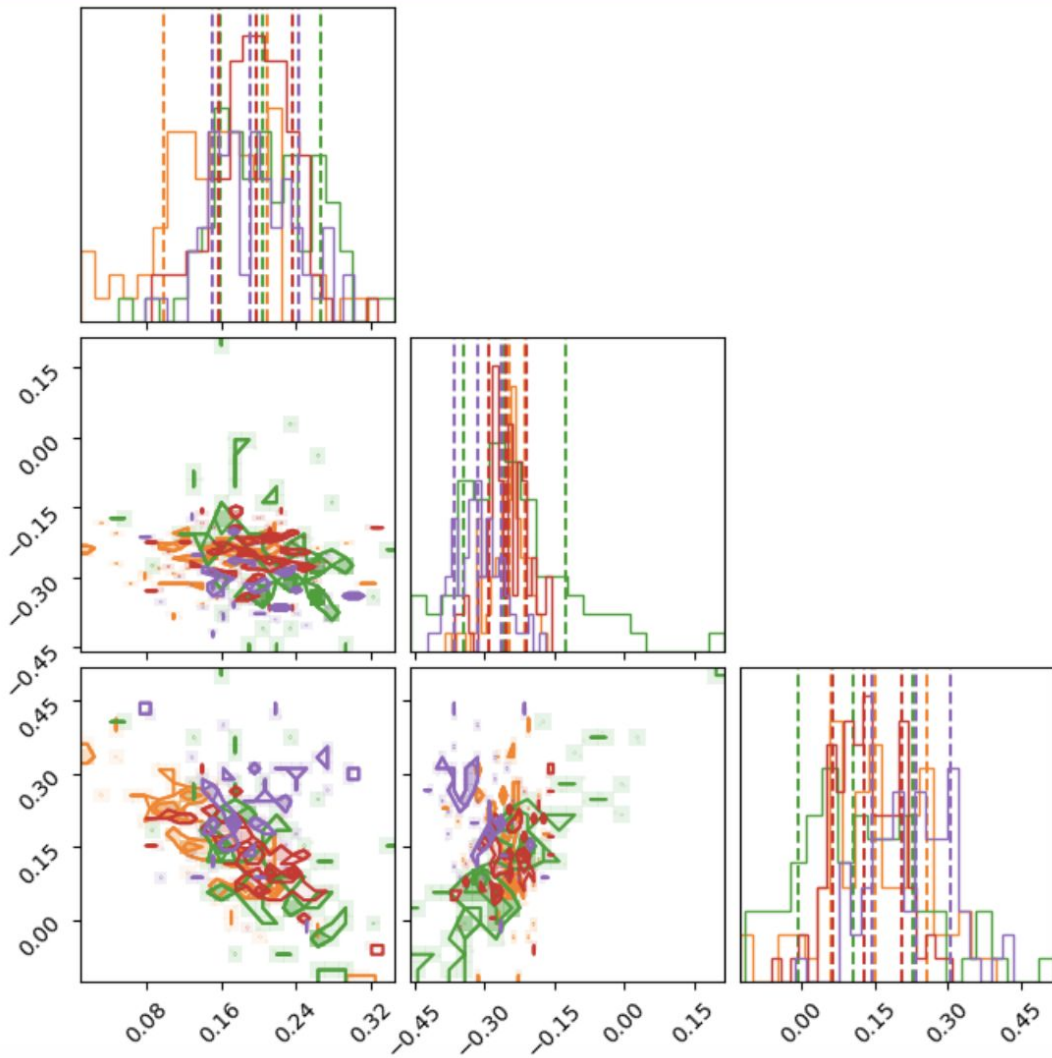
- ❖ Maps time shifted data down to cluster of points in 3D space
  - Each cluster contains points with the same Damped SHO (same omega and beta value) with the different time shifts
  - Useful to eliminate time variation]

X, Y: sets of 2D projections

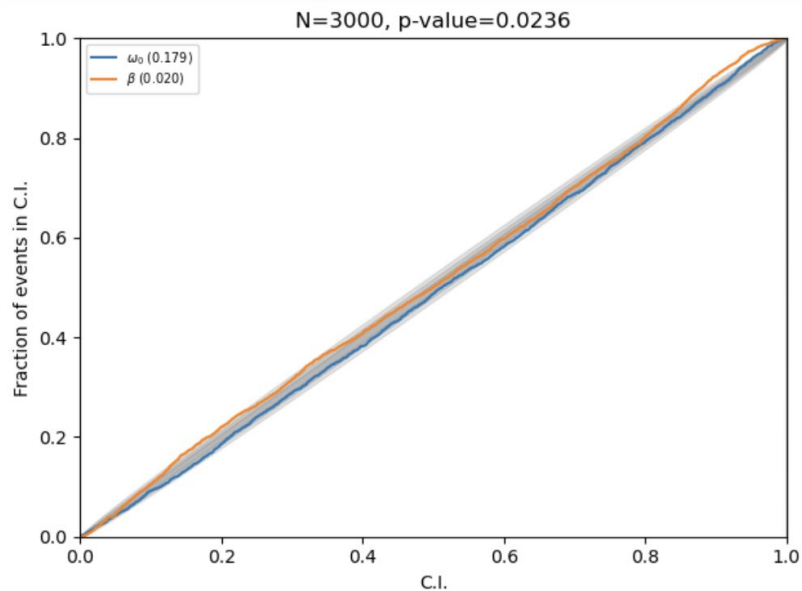


# Without Neural Network: Similarity Embedding

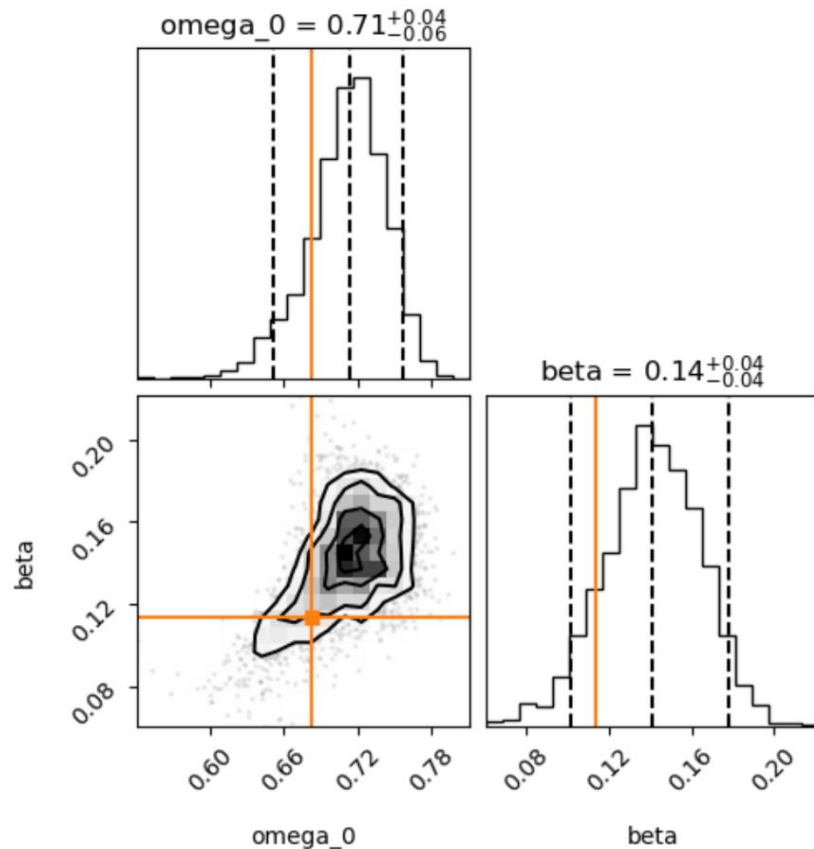
- ❖ No clear separation of different data points
- ❖ Time shifts is still an extra parameter present



# Flow with Similarity Embedding



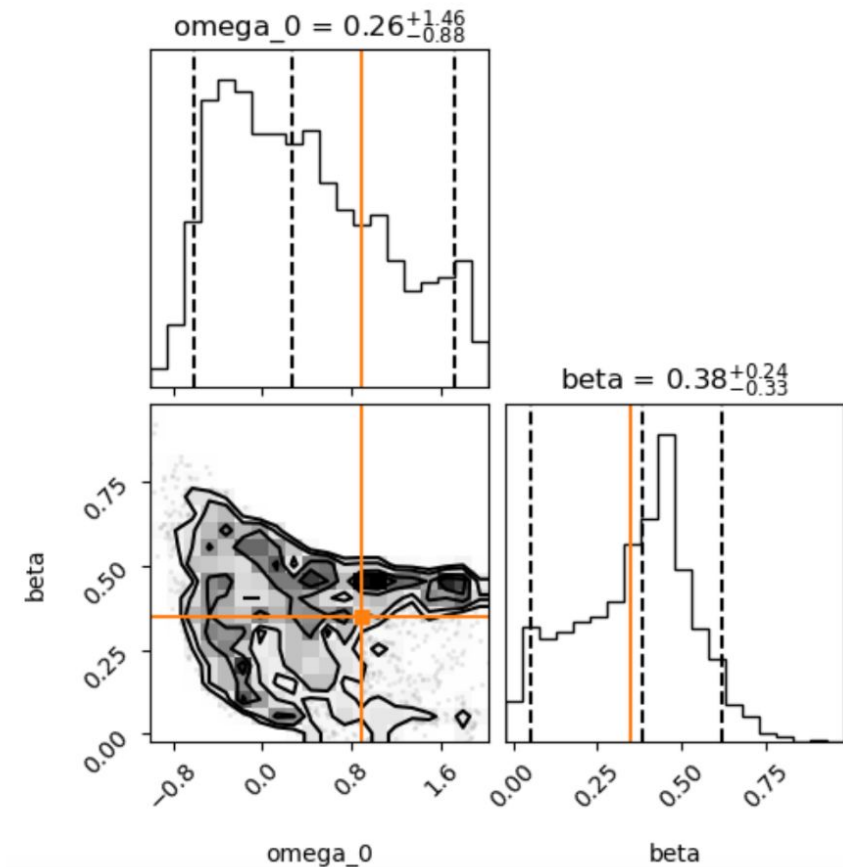
PP Plot



Posterior Widths

# Flow without Similarity Embedding

- ❖ For the same
  - number of parameters,  
hyperparameters, epochs,  
training strategies

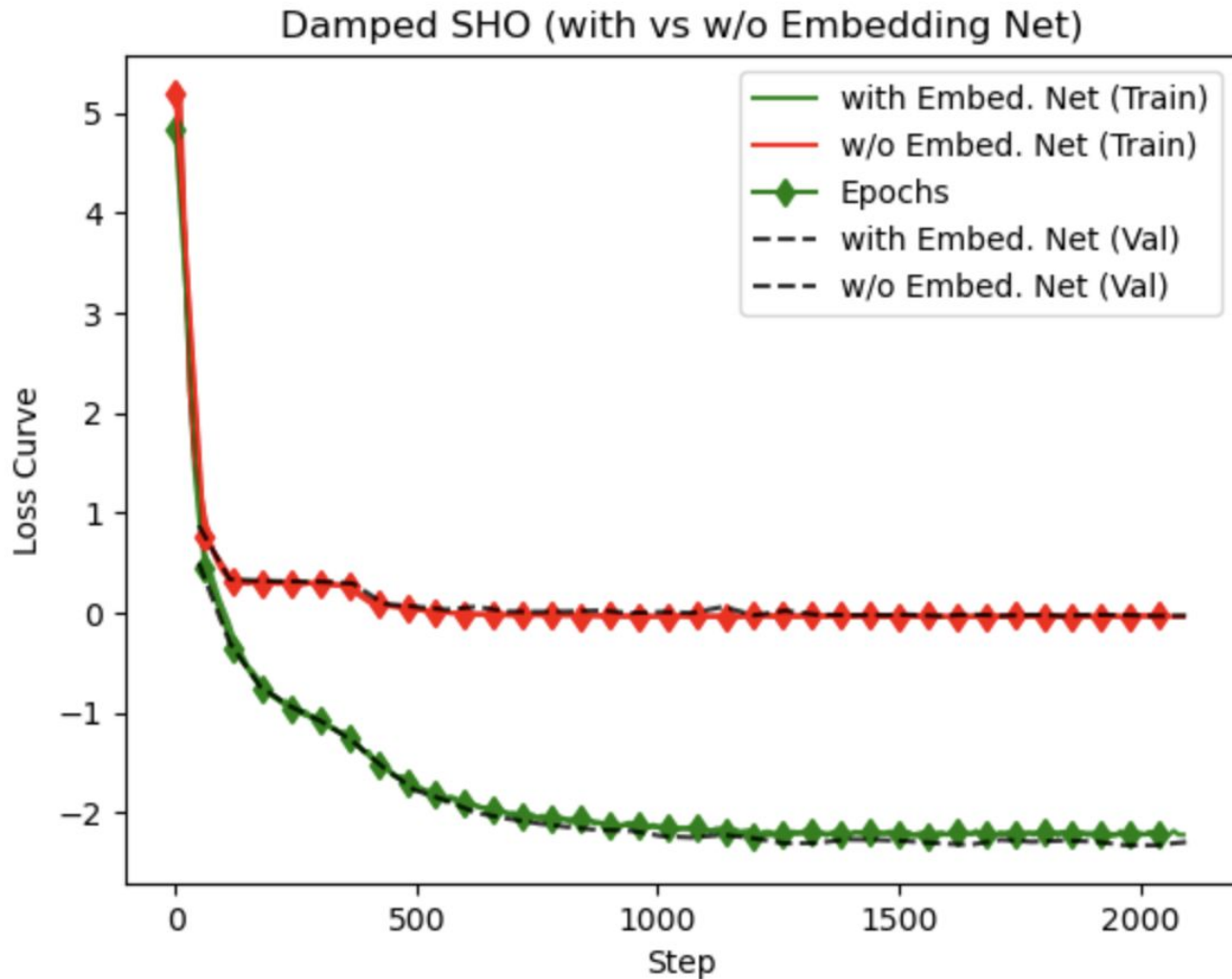


Posterior Widths



# Efficiency with Similarity Embedding

- ❖ Same number of parameters with / without Embedding Net



Wide posterior  
widths of  
Flow without  
Similarity Embedding

