Summary of tracking hands-on exercise

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Setup

- exercise built on existing jupyter notebooks
- launched from caltech cluster, no user account creation needed
- authentification via github
- several notebooks with different approaches to same problem

Feedback on structure

- group had wide range of experience with relevant tools (jupyter, python, keras, tracking, etc)
- some CMS DAS-style asynchronous "pre-exercises" might be useful to add
- insight into NN structures came through conversations with leaders
- more time would be needed to do something substantive beyond running the existing notebooks

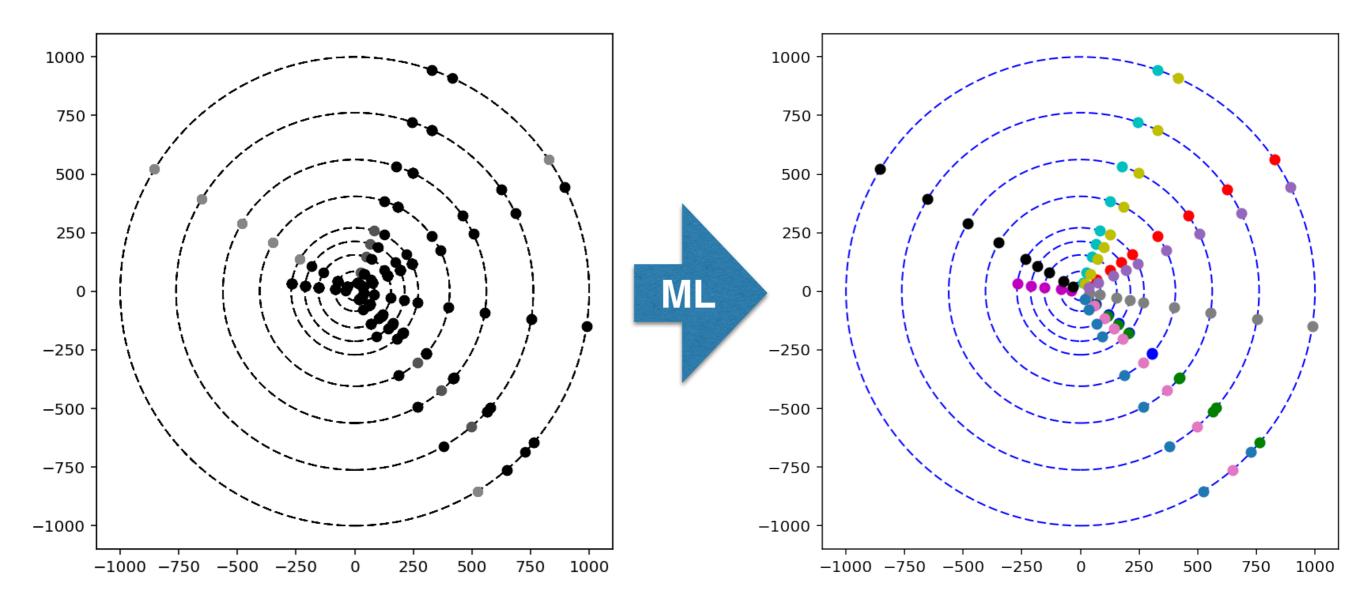
lots of useful conversations

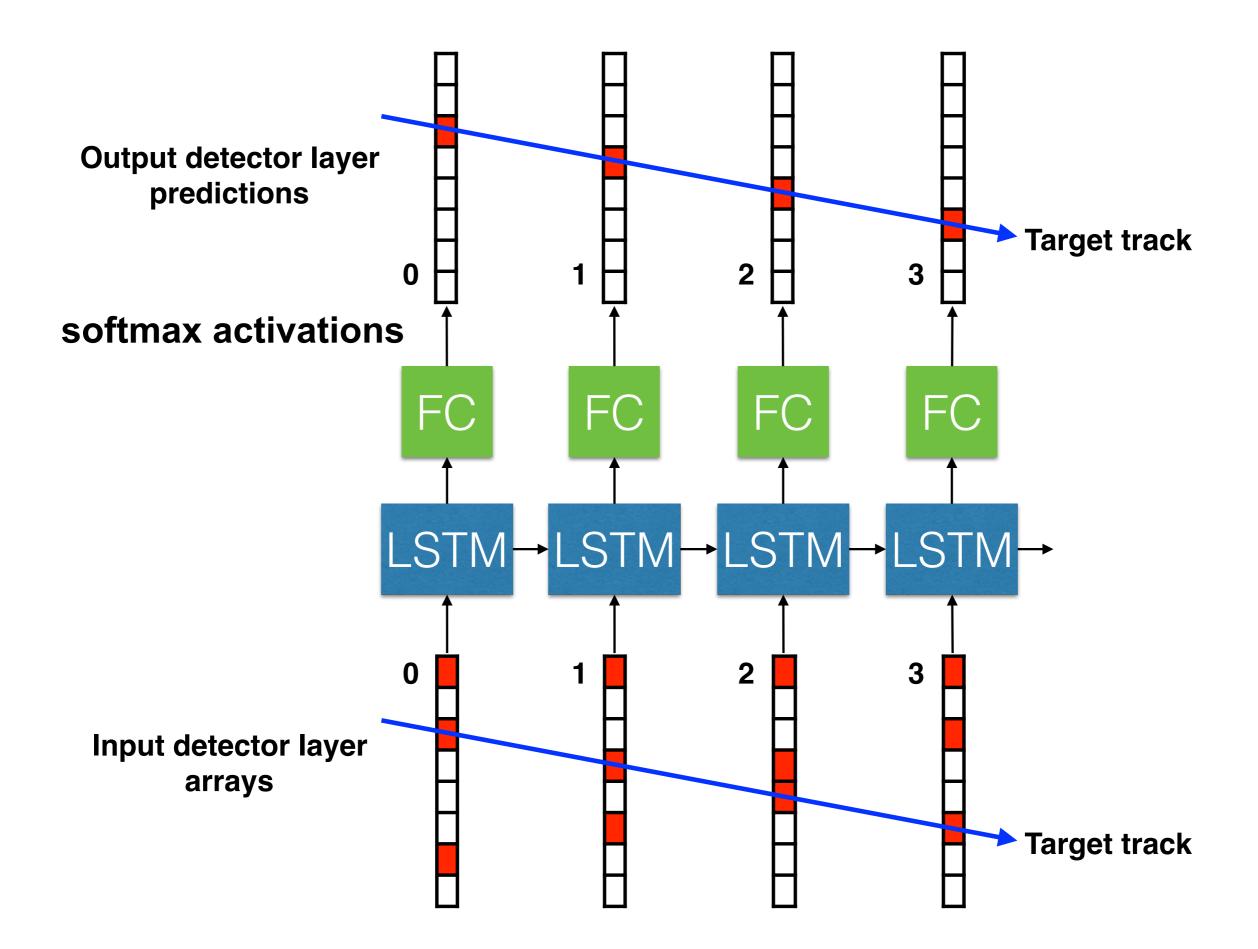


a boardful of useful conversations

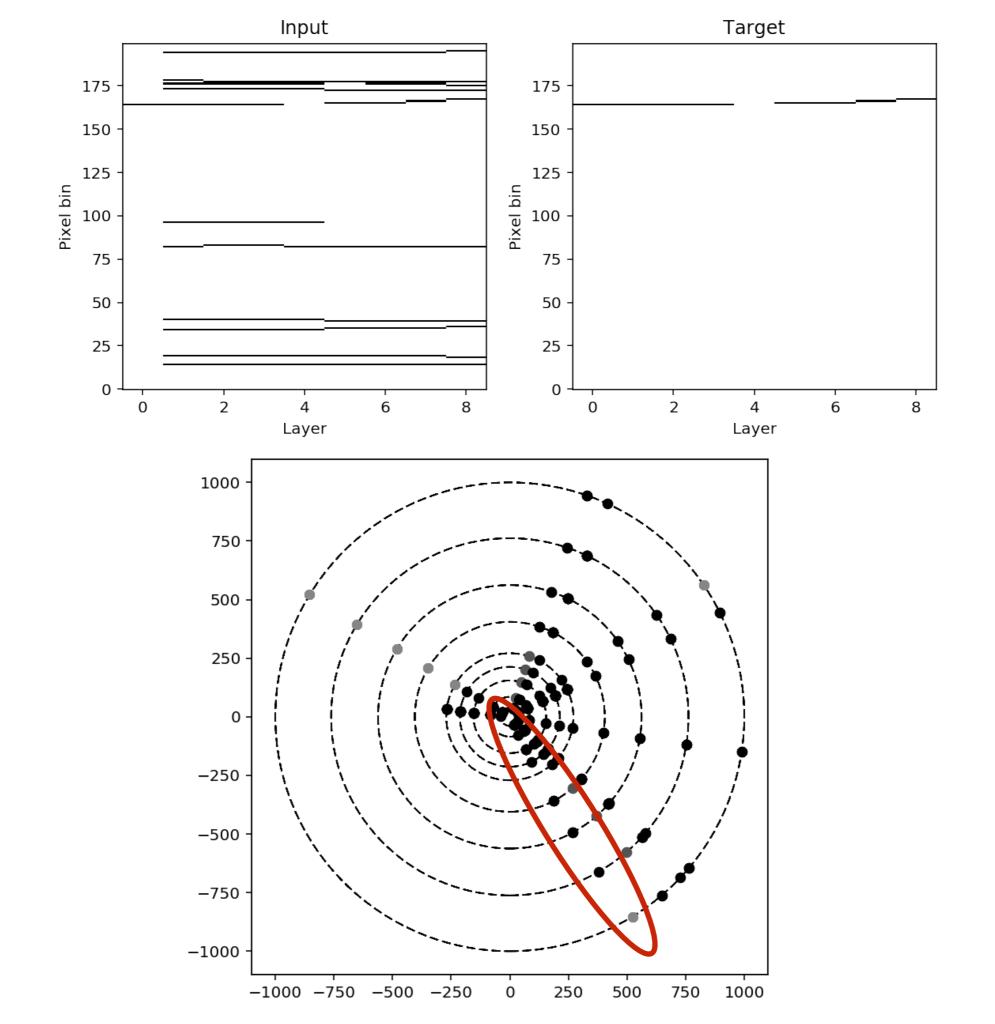


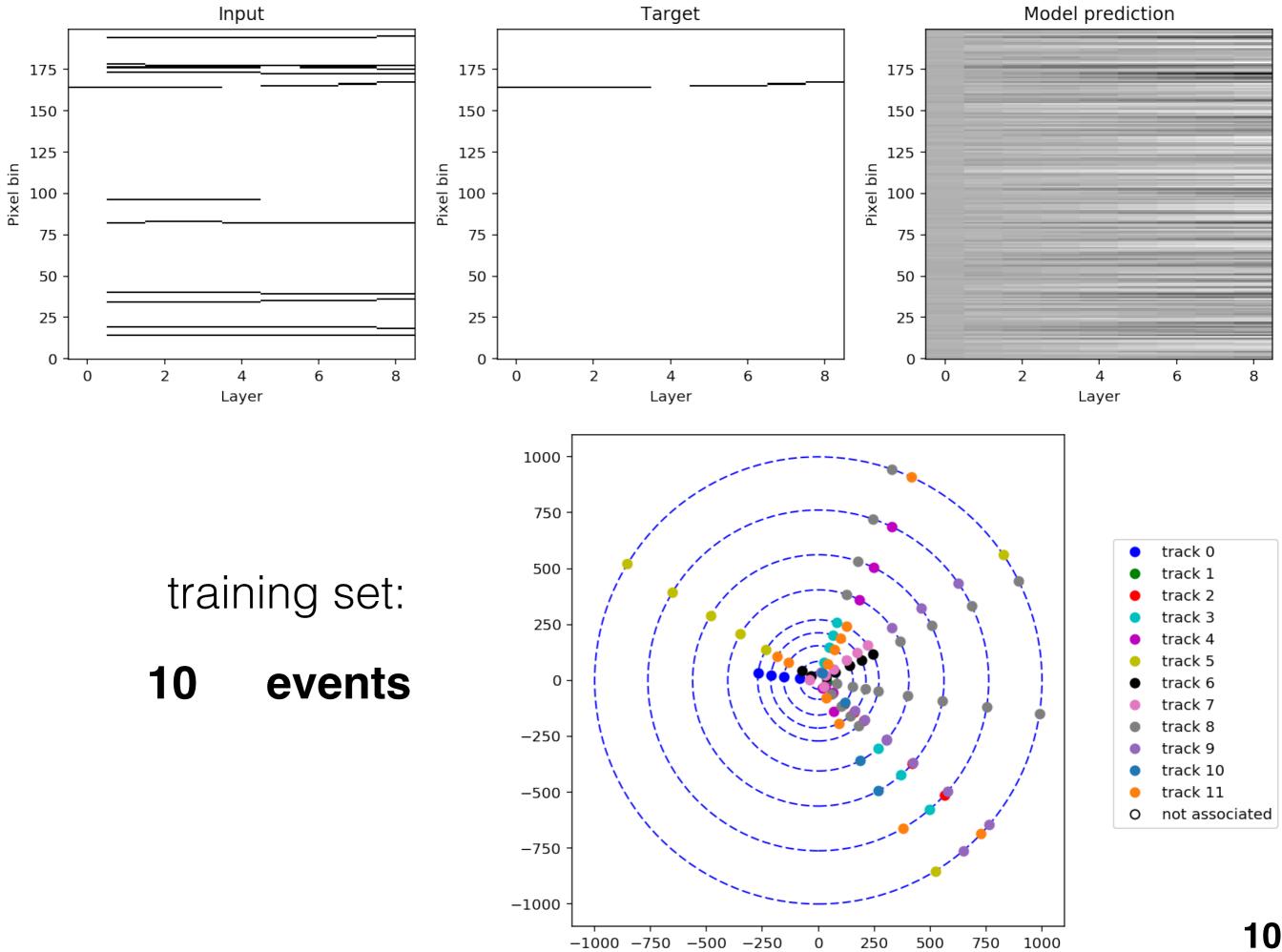
problem: assign hits to tracks

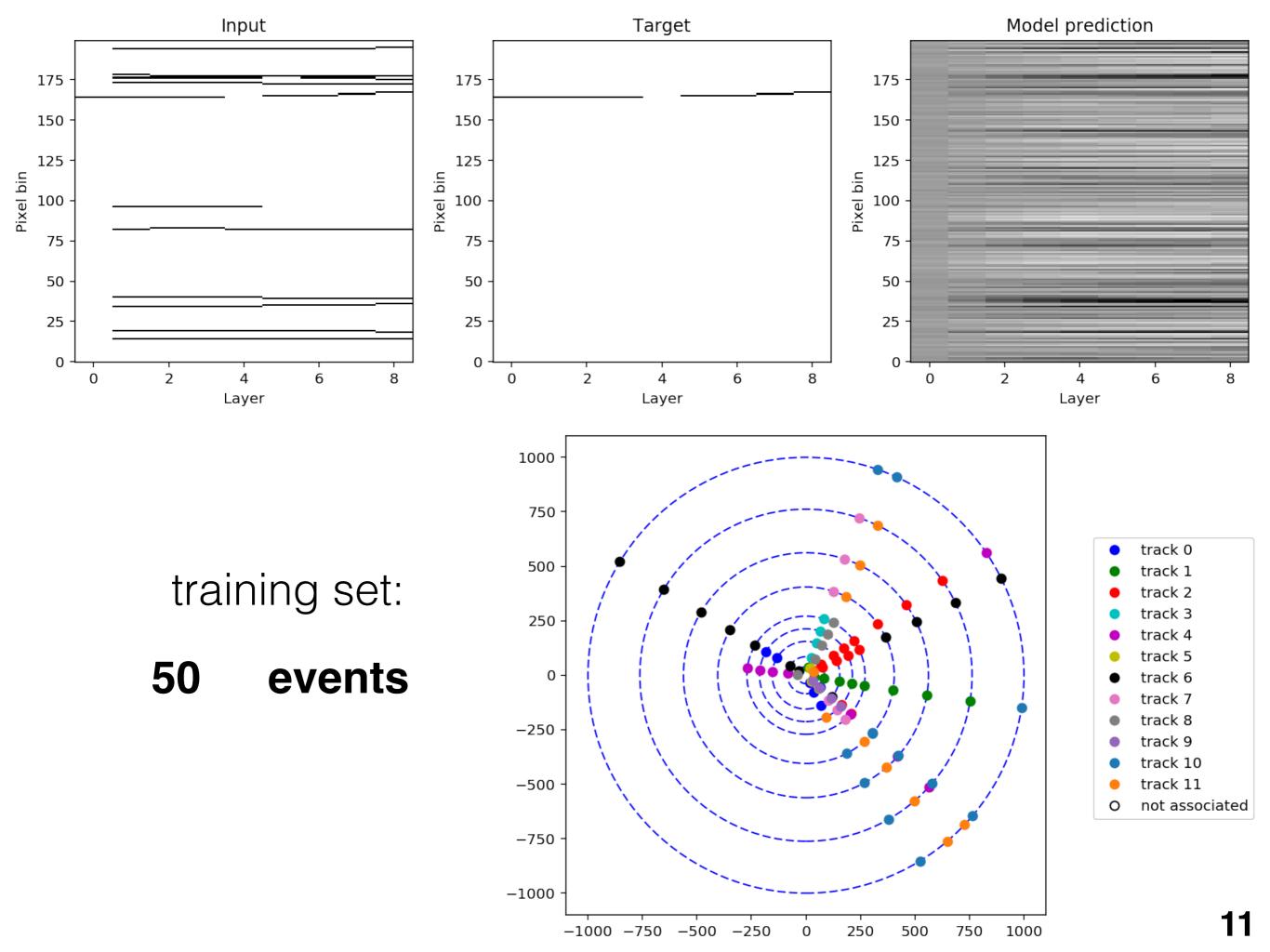


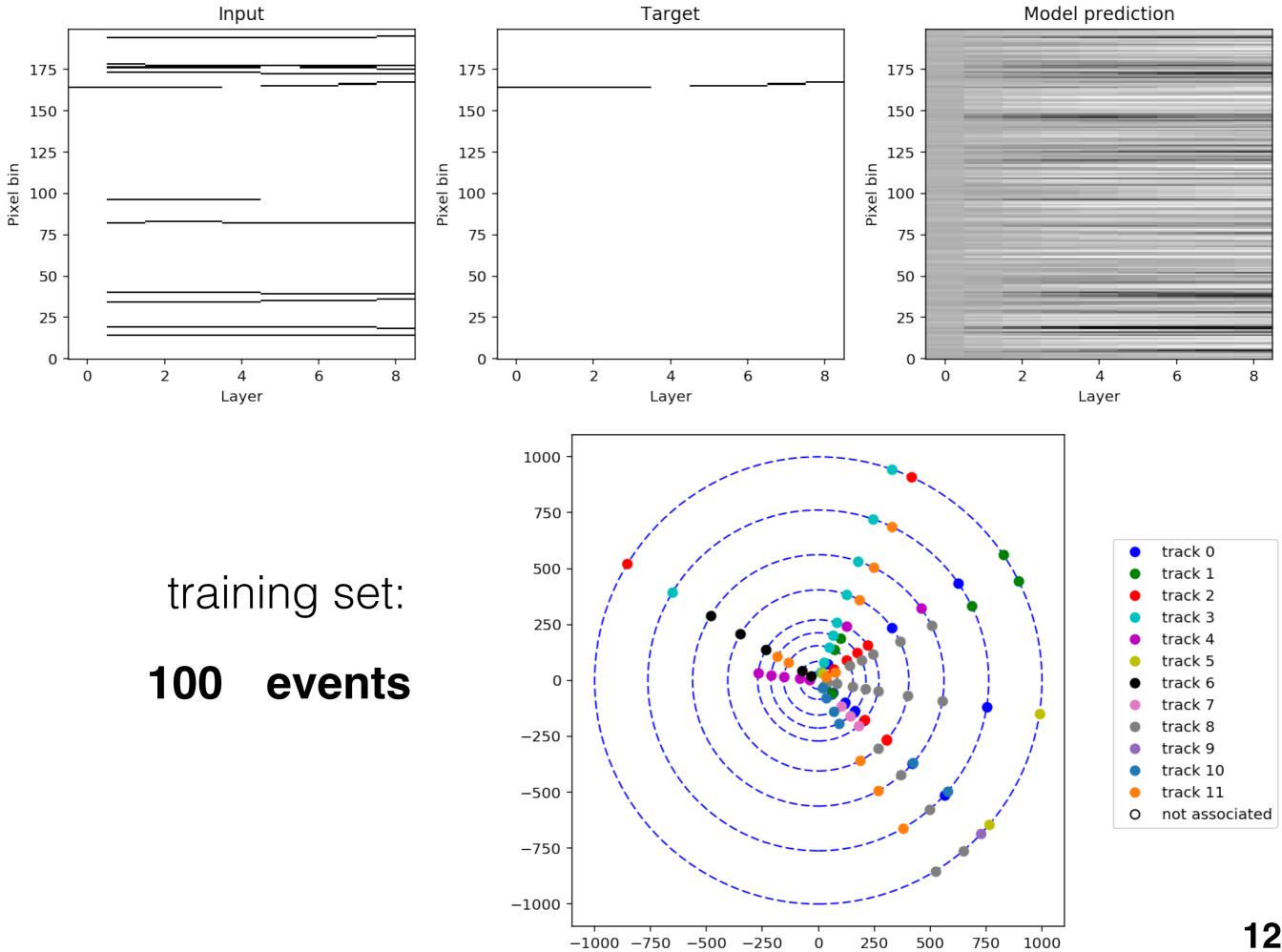


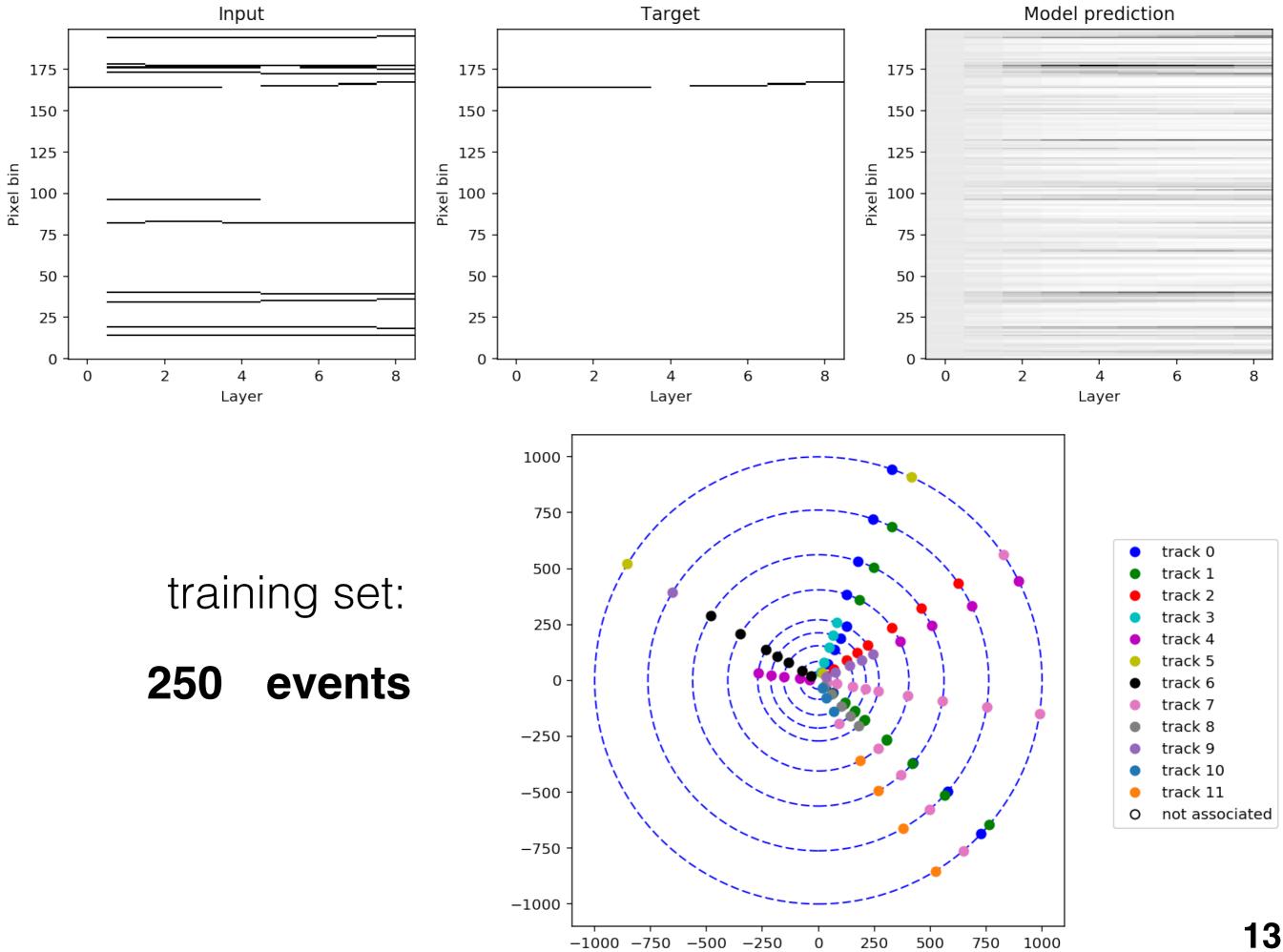
Where the magic happens

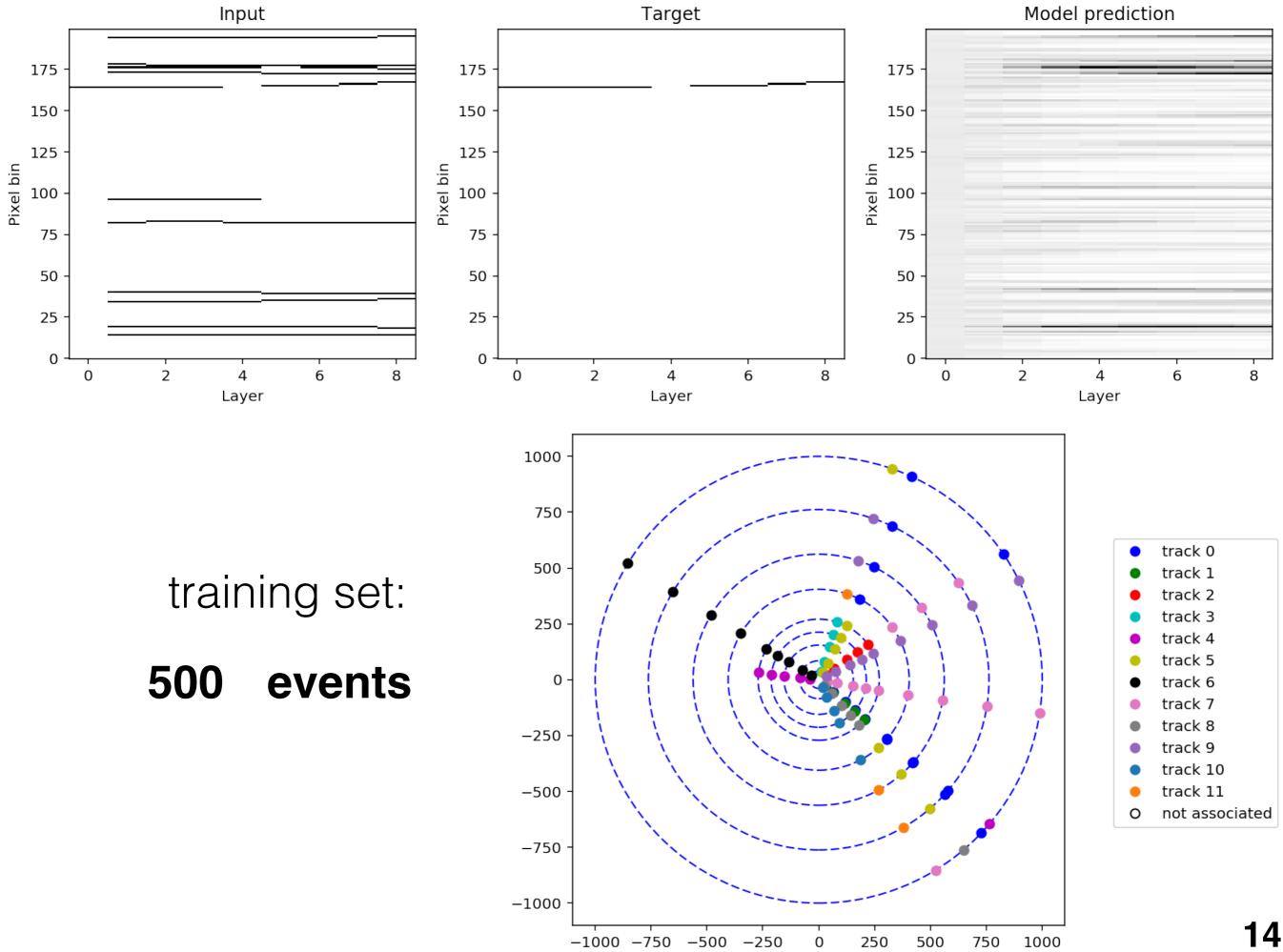


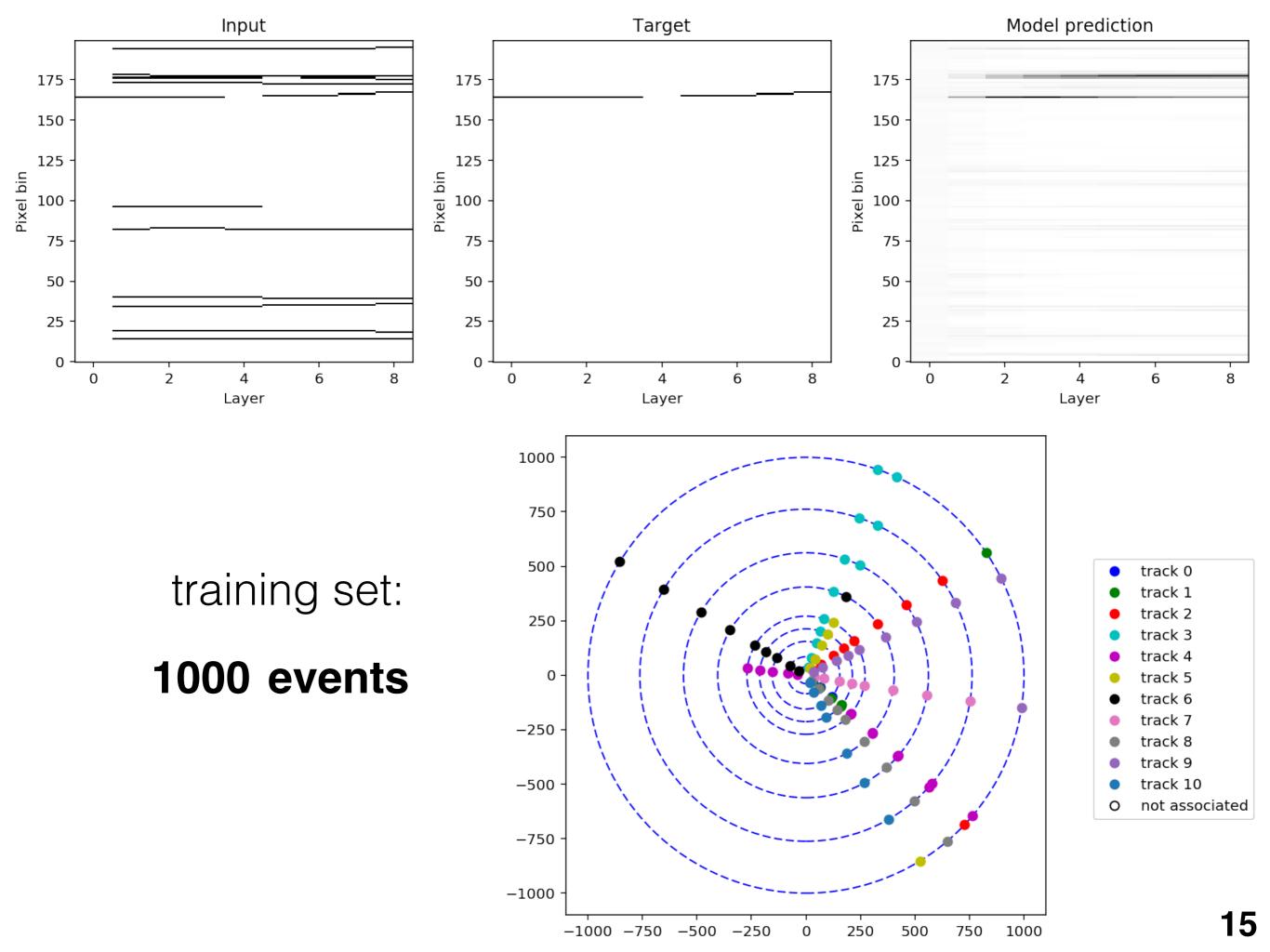


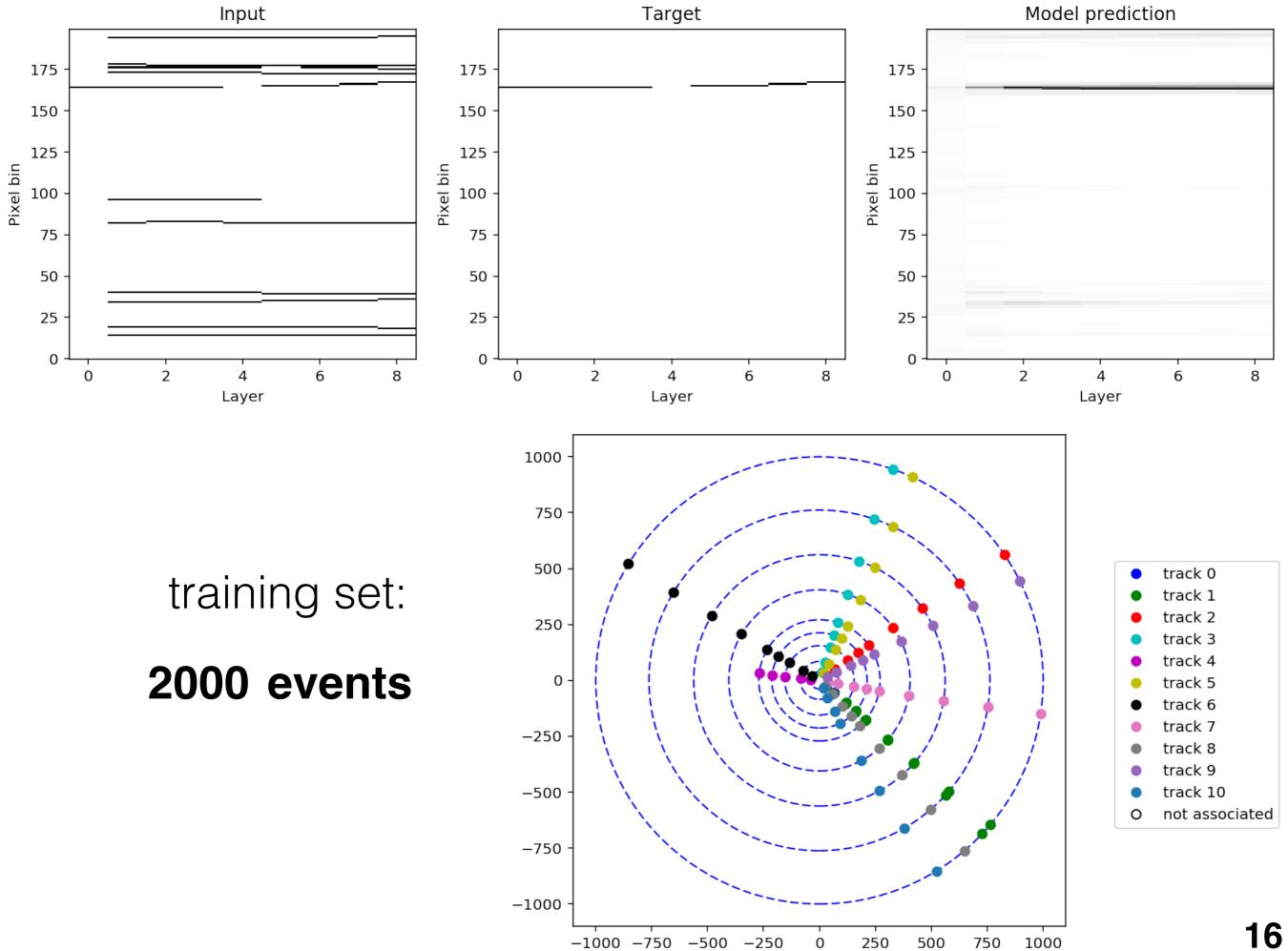


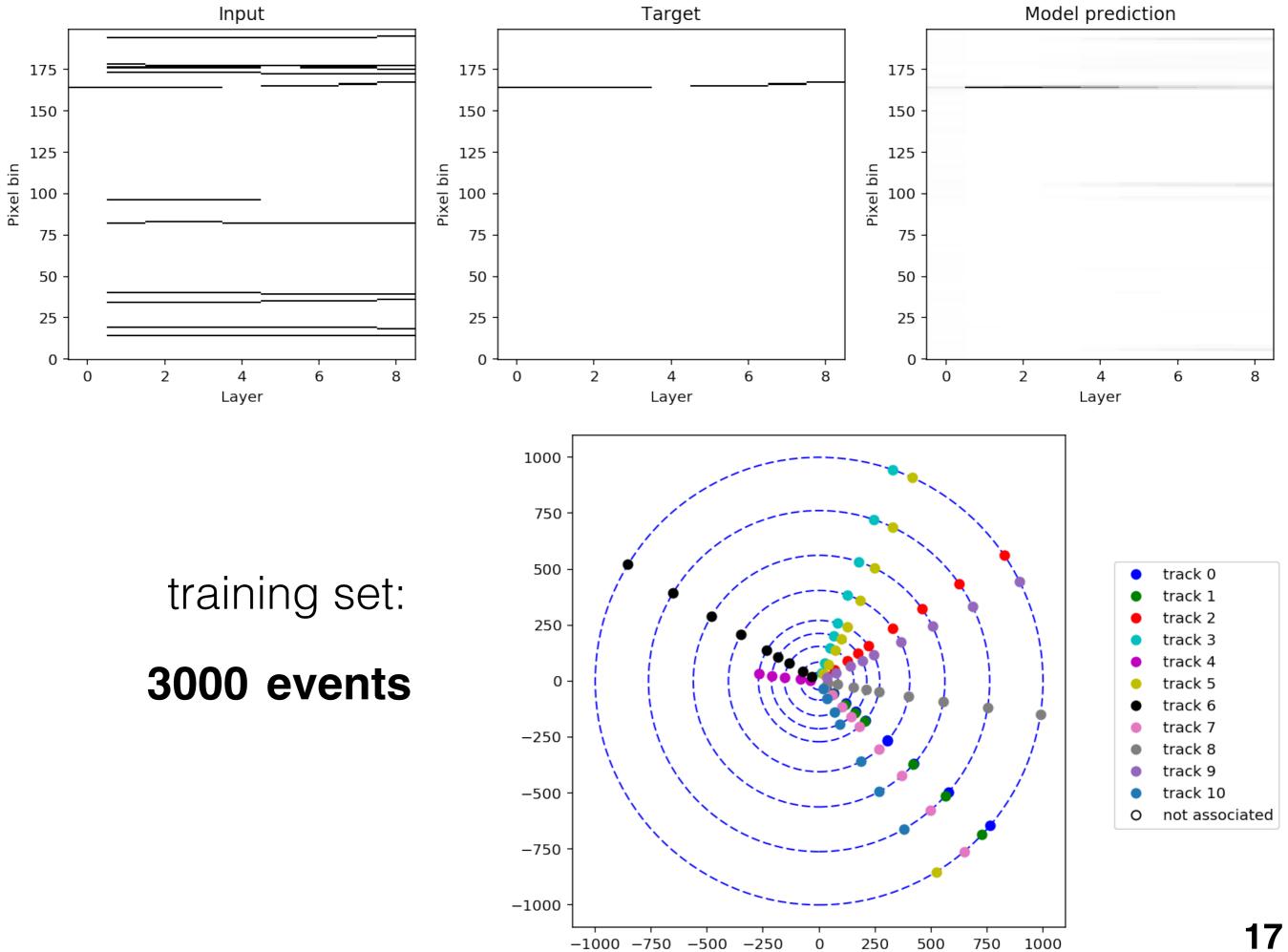


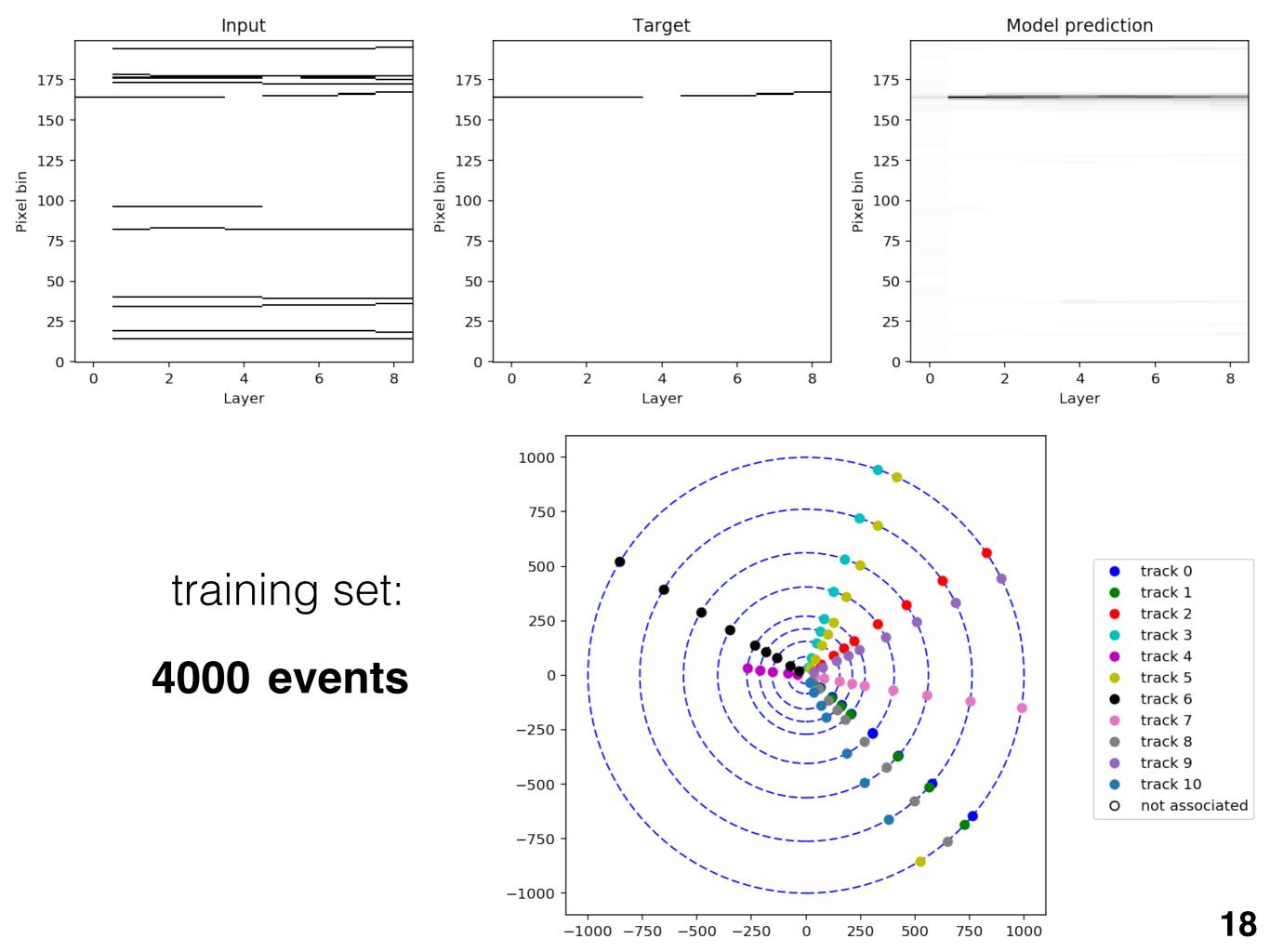


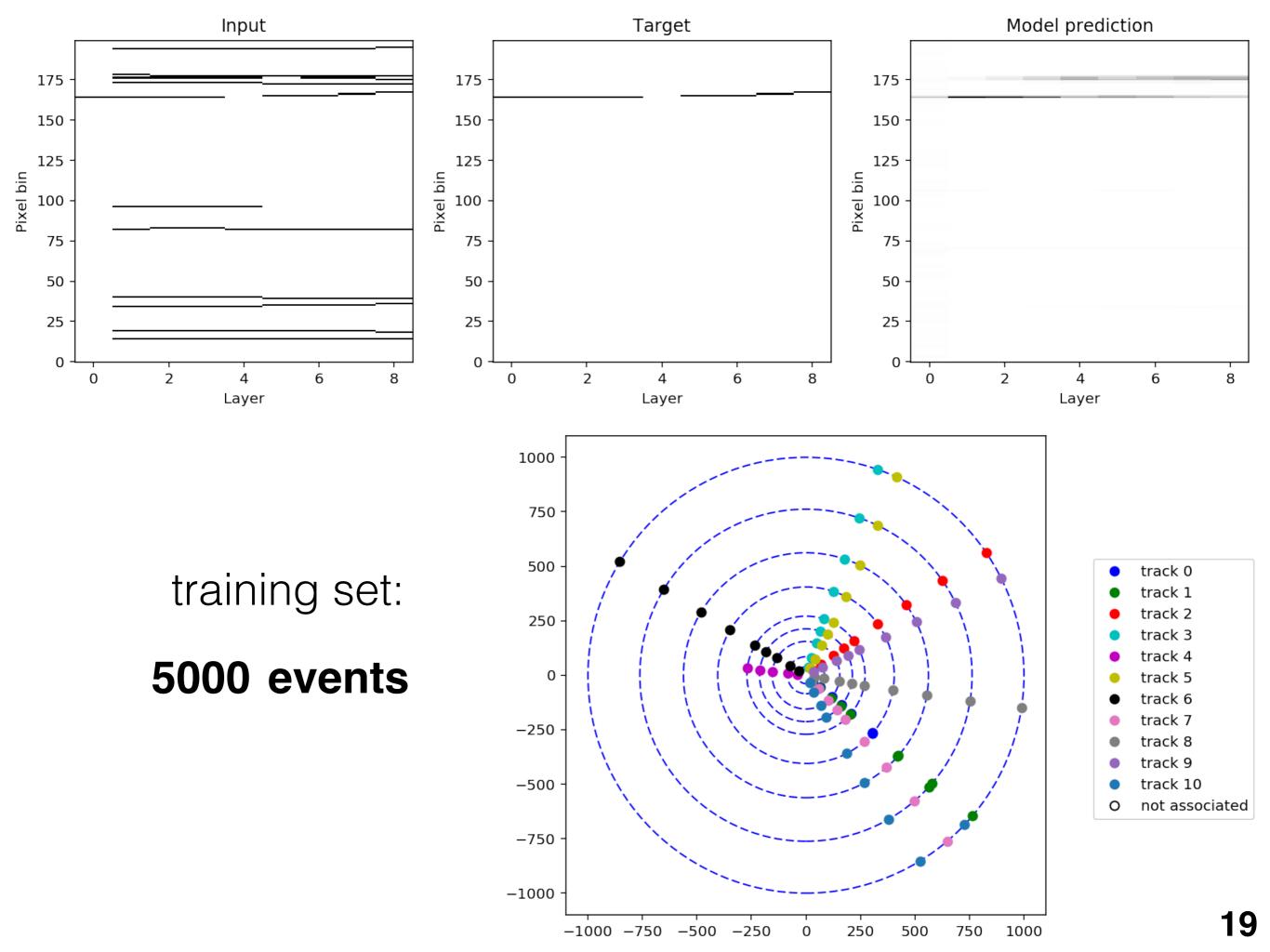




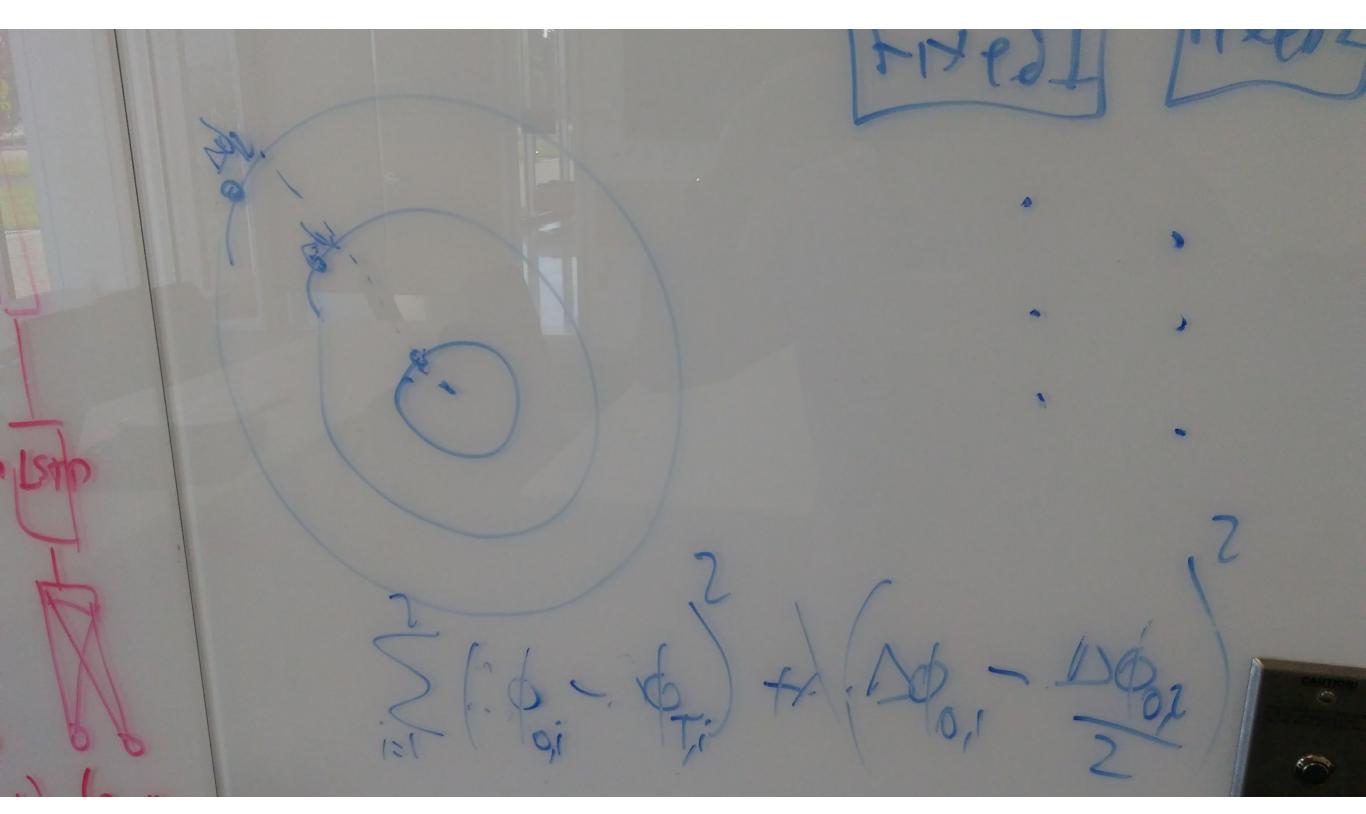








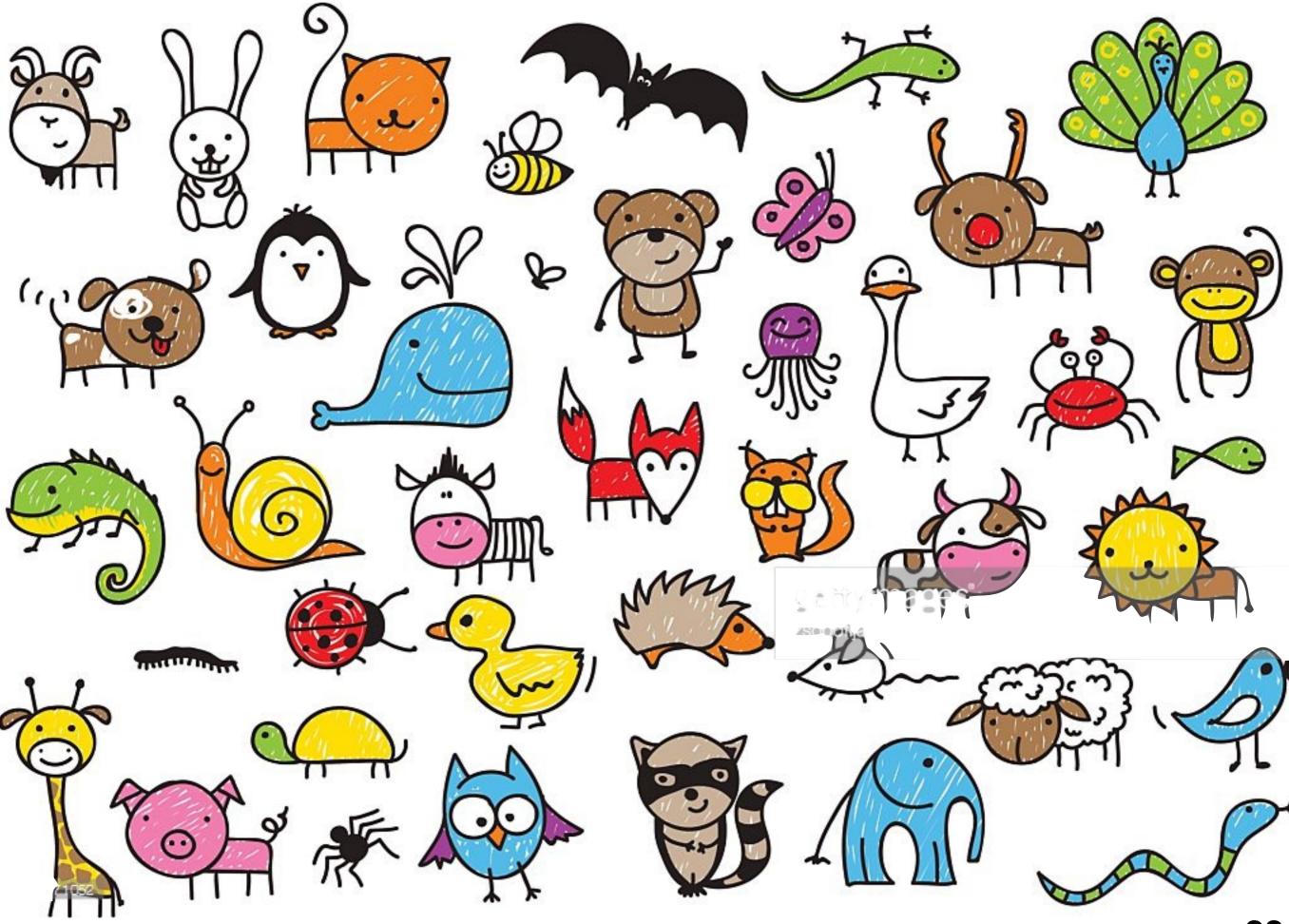
trying to add domain knowledge

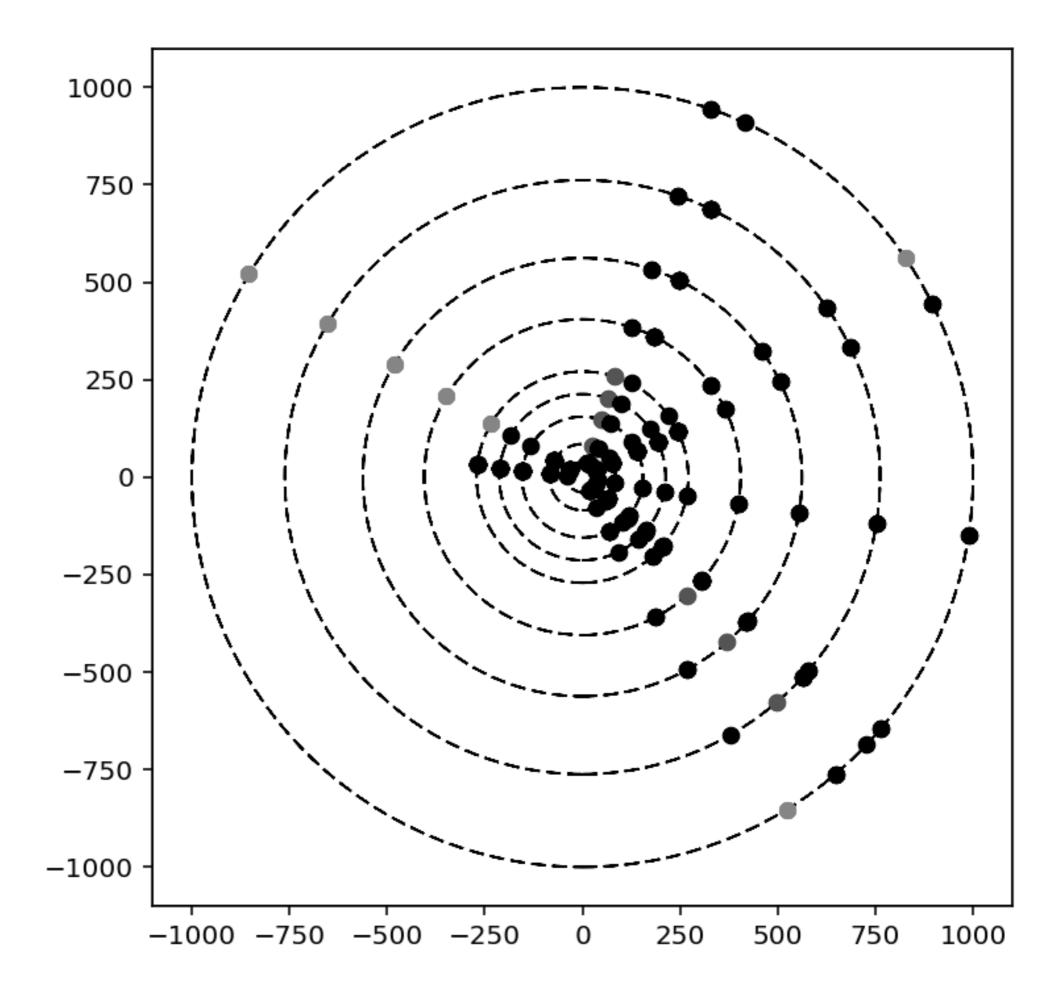


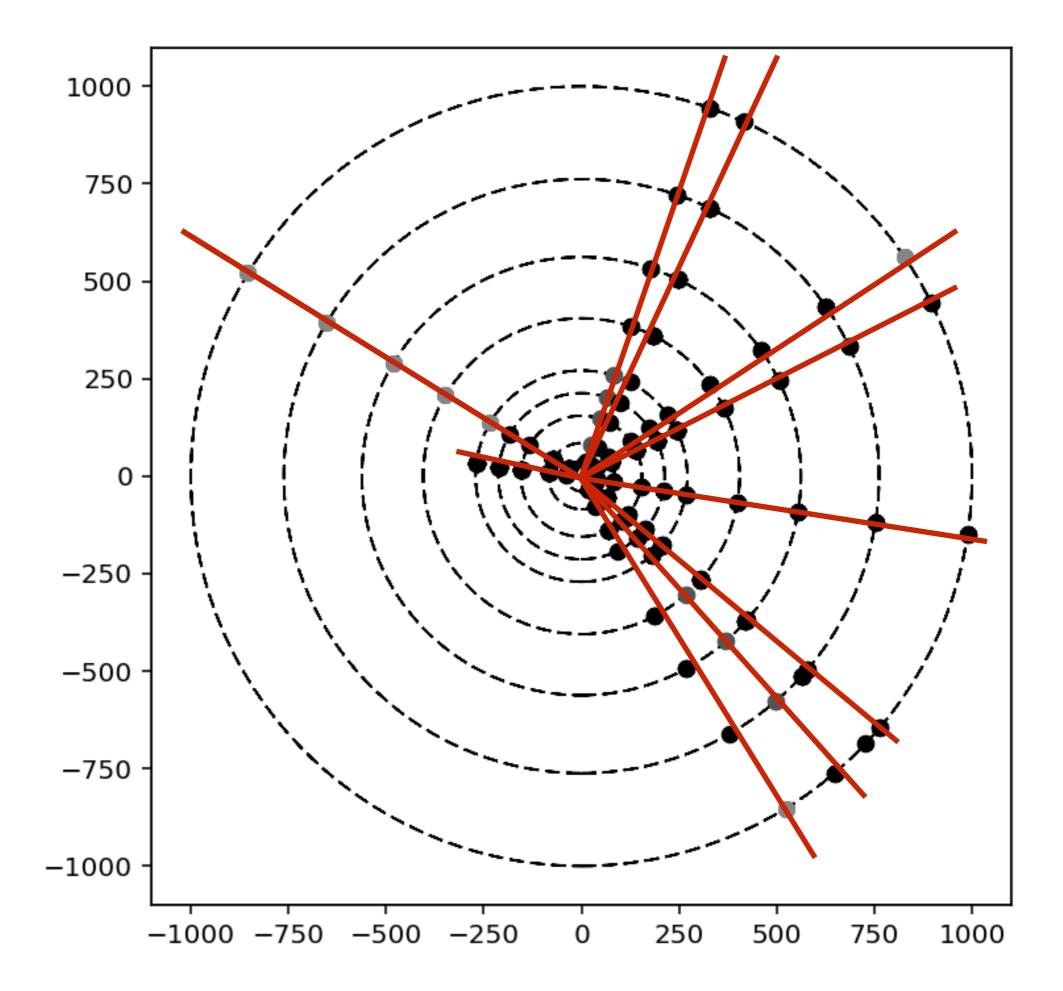
Op-ed: The ML black box

- I was surprised to realize that the algorithm wasn't told anything about tracking
- And how hard it was to ask it what it had learned in the training
- One can define a network in O(10) lines of code
- Understanding and improving the network to address observed failure modes seems like the real challenge









Takeaway

- I came away excited to gain more familiarity with the tools
- And to understand what makes a problem a good candidate for ML-based approaches
- I'm also a bit leery of handing over the reigns to our future robot overlords