



Distributed Holographic Image Processing with Neural Networks

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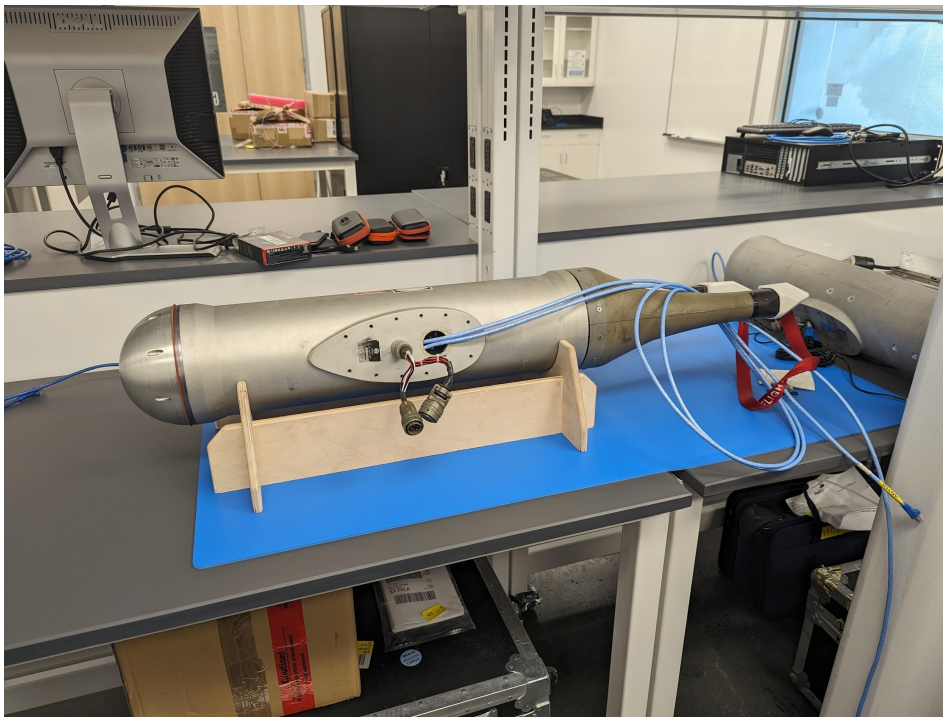
Project Goals: Improved **performance** and **scalability** of hologram processing

Hologram: A **three-dimensional** image of space formed by the interference of light beams

- What kinds of holograms are we interested in?
- What are we hoping to discover?
- How do we process these holograms?
- How well are we performing?

The HOLODEC cloud particle detector

- The HOLODEC-II is a second-generation version of a holographic cloud probe [1, 2].
- Designed to determine the size, two-dimensional shape, and three-dimensional position of hydrometeors via digital in-line holography.

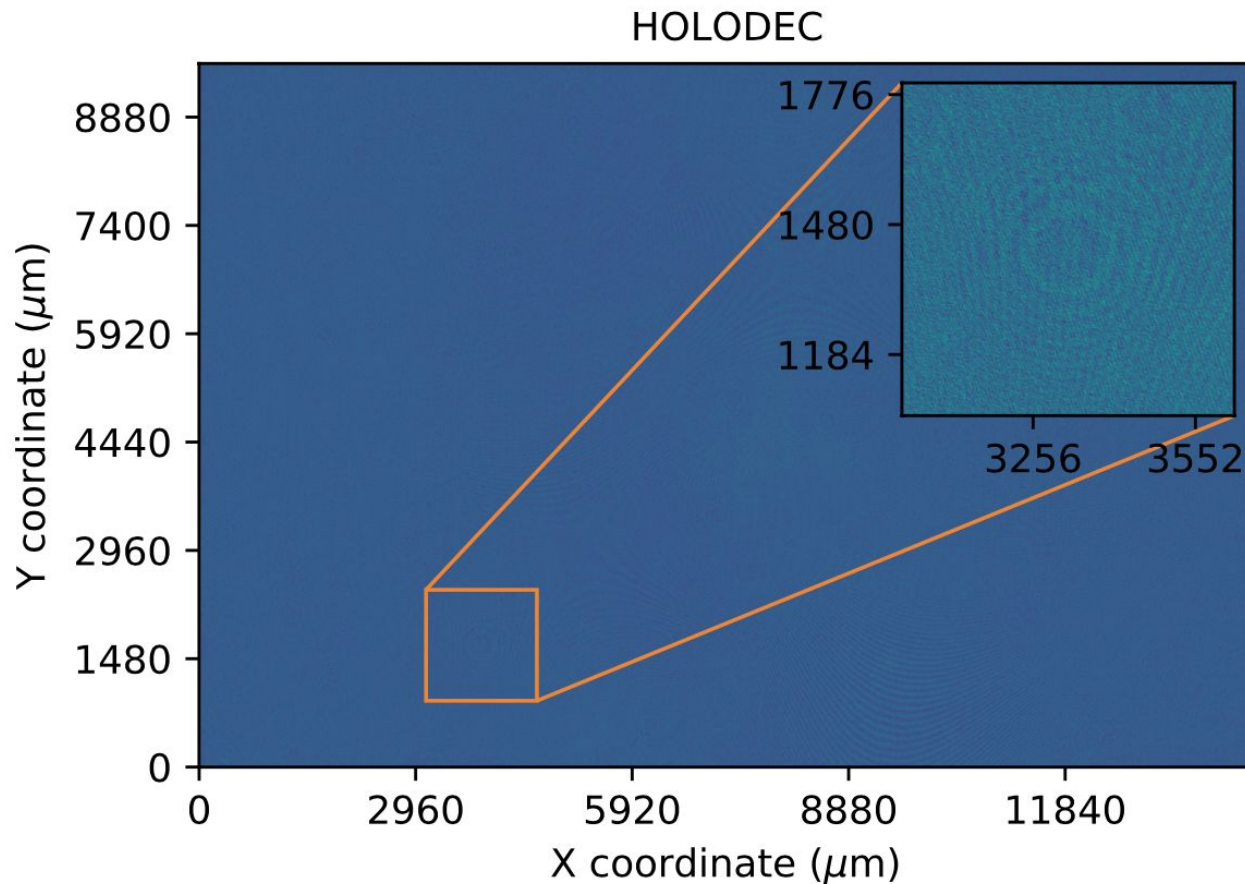


HOLODEC-II on workbench at RAF



HOLODEC-II installed on C-130

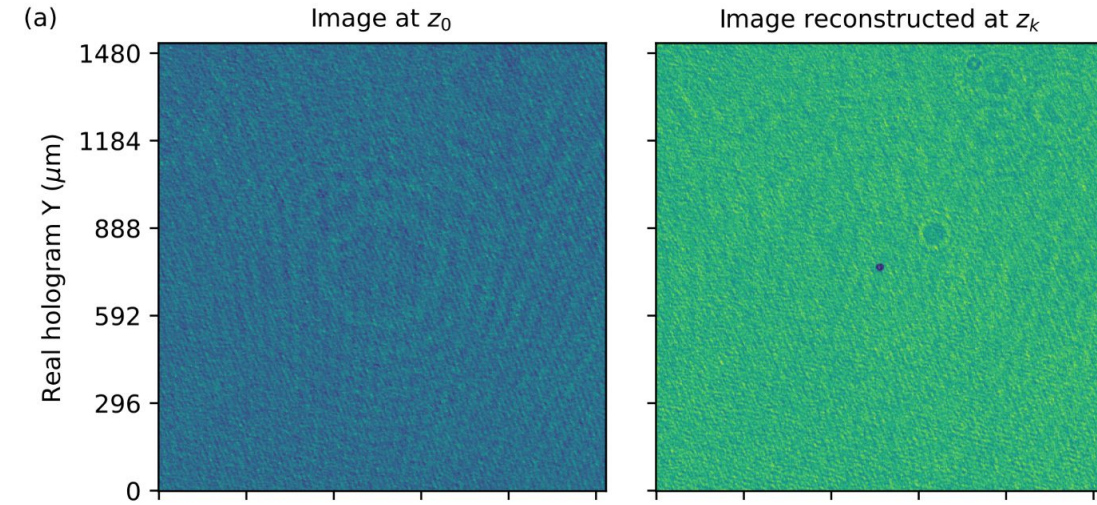
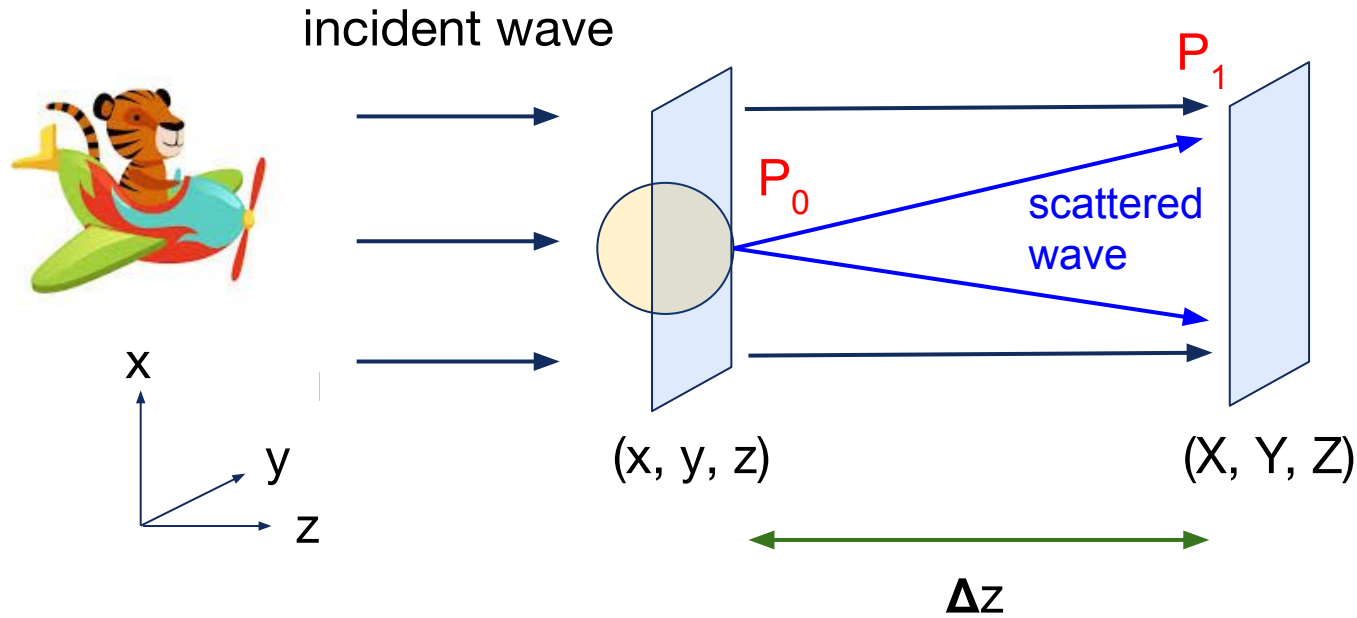
HOLODEC holograms – Cloud Systems Evolution in Trades project (CSET)



- Each is **megapixel** in size
- 14.42 mm x 9.61 mm (4872 x 3248 pixels = 2.96 $\mu\text{m}/\text{px}$)
- Other holograms in CSET may contain up to 10,000 droplet particles!

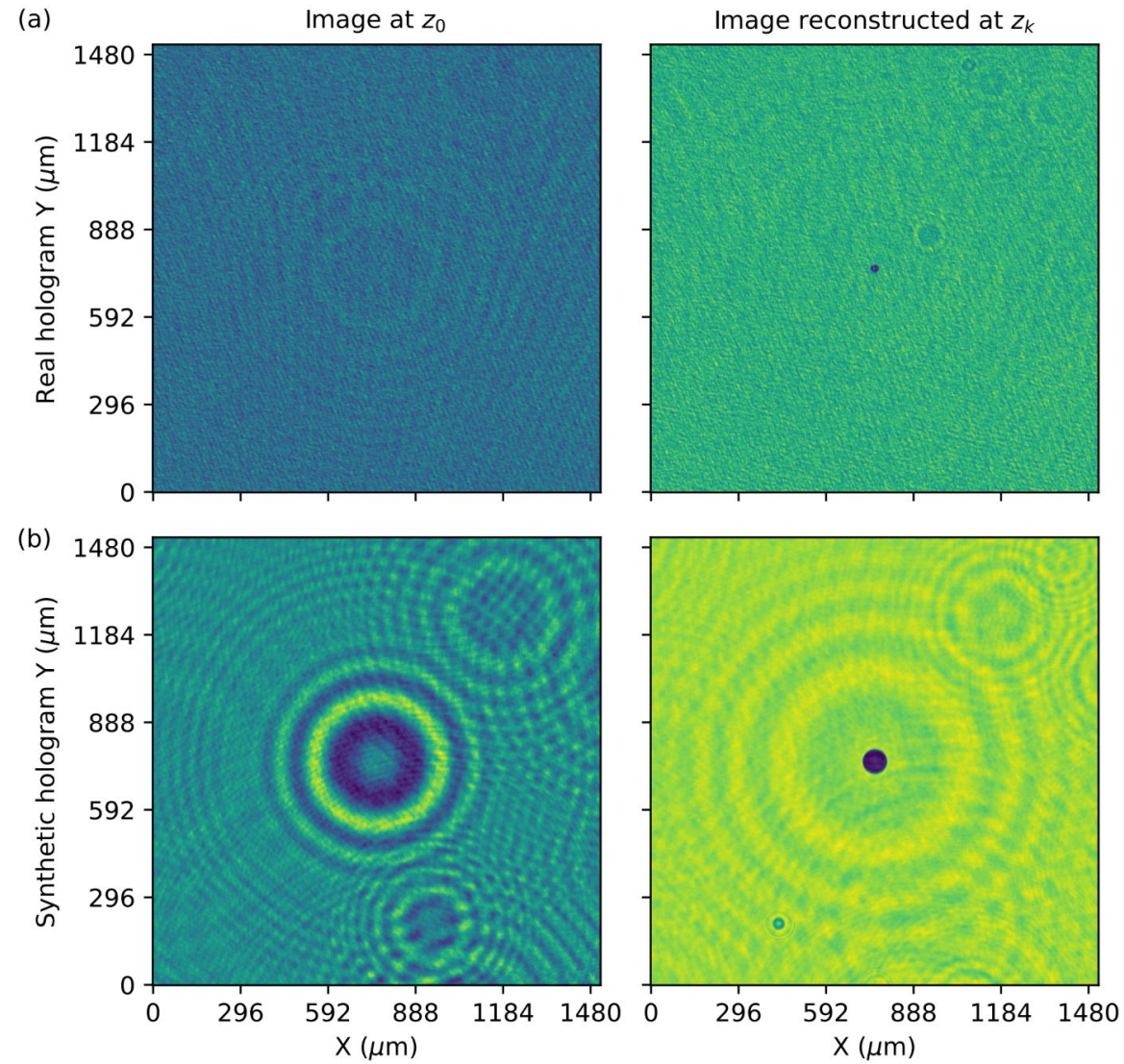
- The identification program used to process RF07 is referred to as the **standard method** [4, 5].

Wave-propagation to refocus holograms along the axis orthogonal to the detector arms (z)

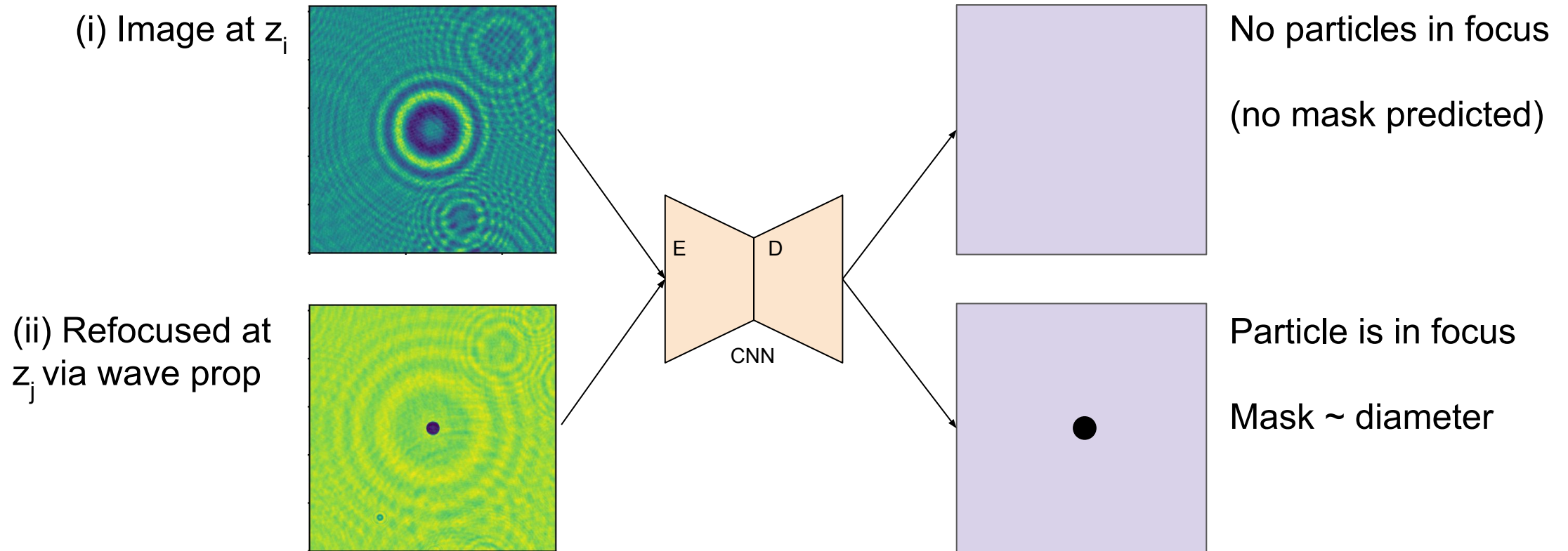


- Wave propagation takes a hologram plane at (x, y, z) and reconstructs it a distance Δz away to the plane at (X, Y, Z) .
- Can do this because we have the phase information.
- Don't know where particles are so we must search across all depths.

Wave-propagation to refocus holograms along the axis orthogonal to the detector arms (z)

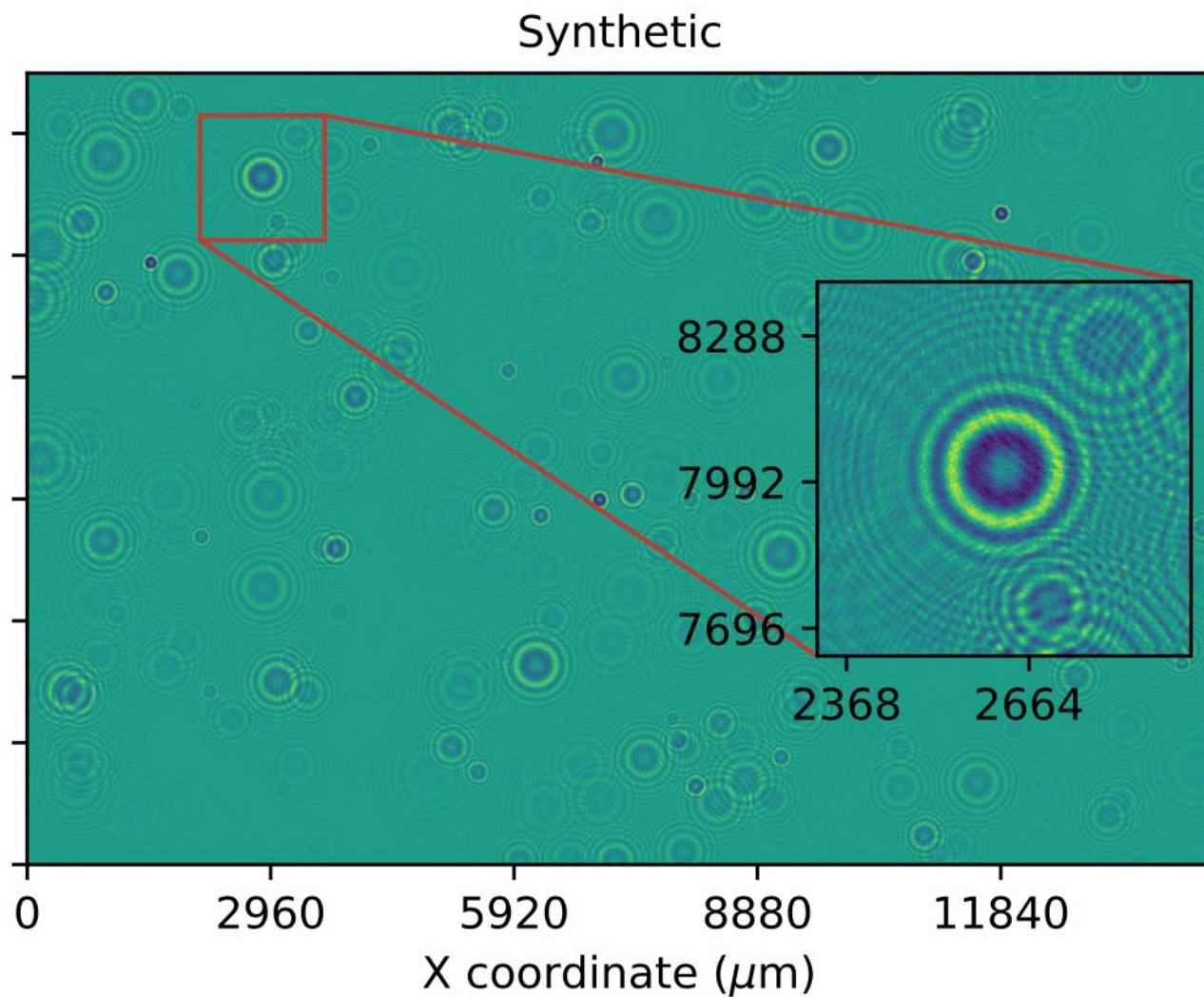


Using a neural network to predict particle position and shape



- Convolutional neural network (CNN) model to predict “masks” over in-focus particles [6]
- From a predicted mask, can estimate (x, y, z_j, d)
- CNN can predict arbitrary number of particles per image

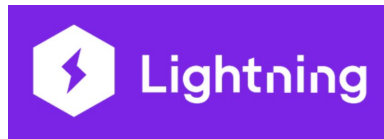
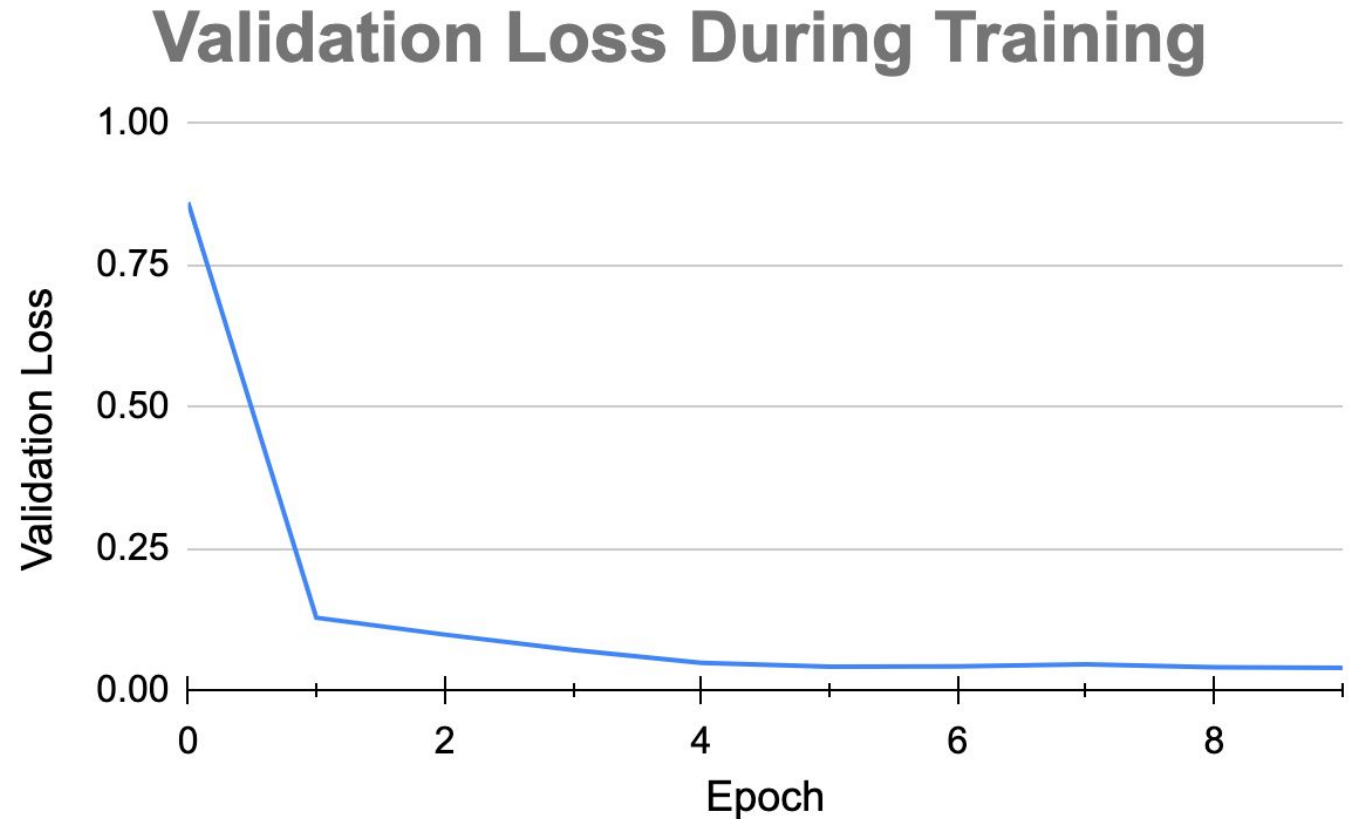
Simulated (synthetic) holograms because no truth labels for the real data



- Same optical settings as physical instrument
- 500 particles per hologram positioned along z
- Train (100 holograms), validation (20), and testing (10) sets produced
- Truth masks easily created for synthetic images
- Noise can be applied to mimic holograms from CSET

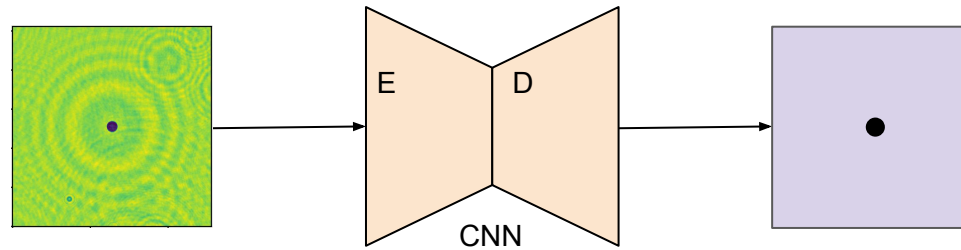
Neural Network Training

- Plot of **Dice Loss** on validation data per epoch of best-performing model
- Trained using **Pytorch DDP** across 4-NVIDIA A100 GPUs on Derecho
- Trained on 512x512 tiles of **synthetic holograms** and associated truth masks
- Inference speed:
 - 7 holograms/hr per NVIDIA A100
 - ~1500 GPU-hours per campaign

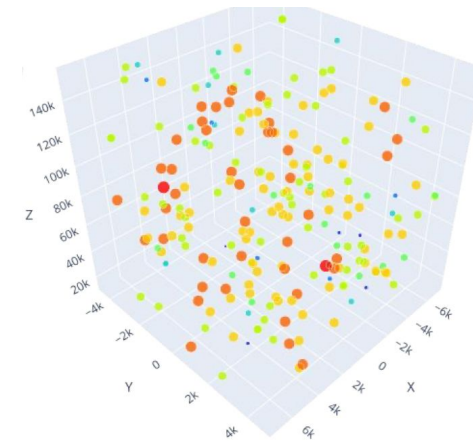
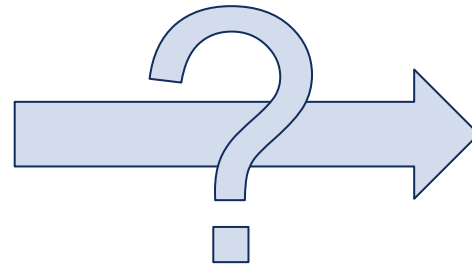


Post-processing: How can we extract meaning from masks?

So we can accept an image slice and generate a mask with ML:

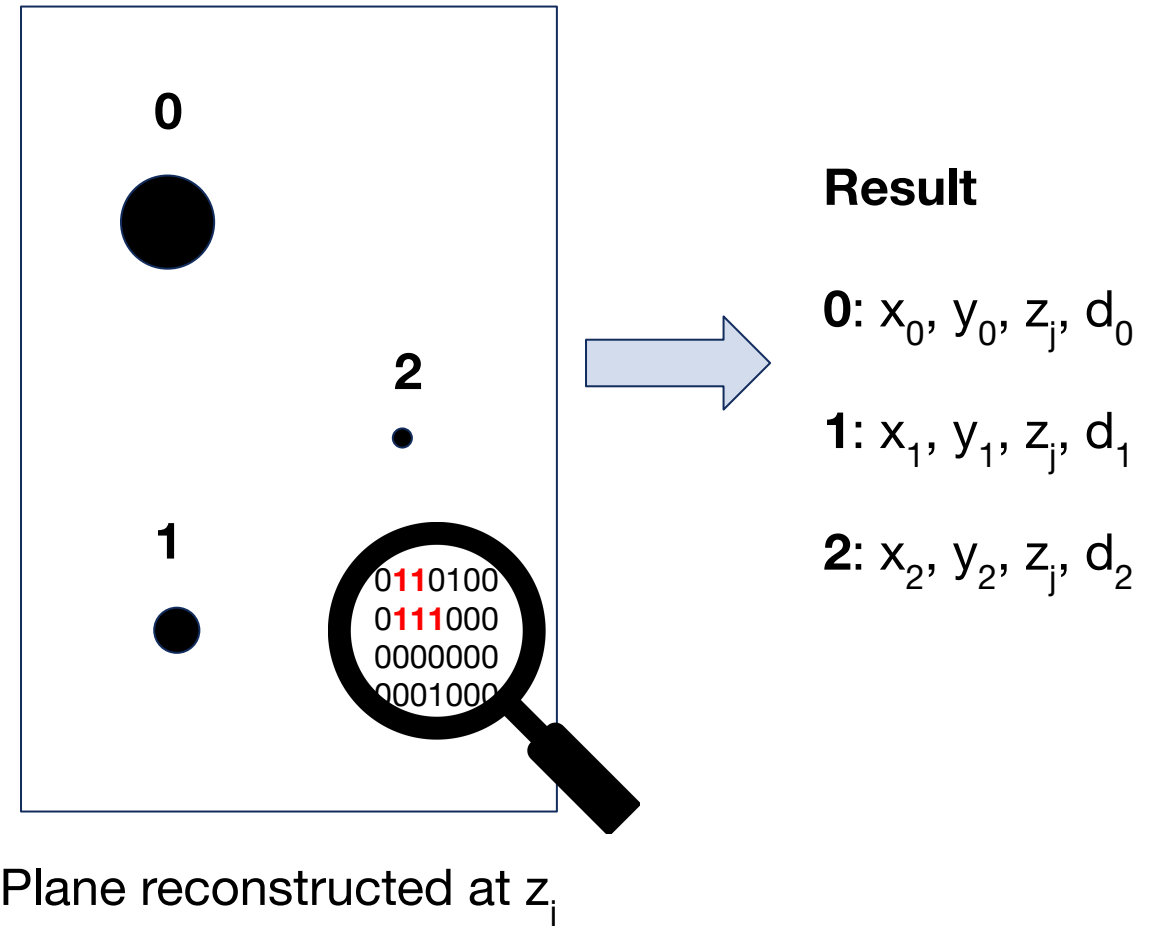


How can we actually process full holograms for hydrometeor properties?



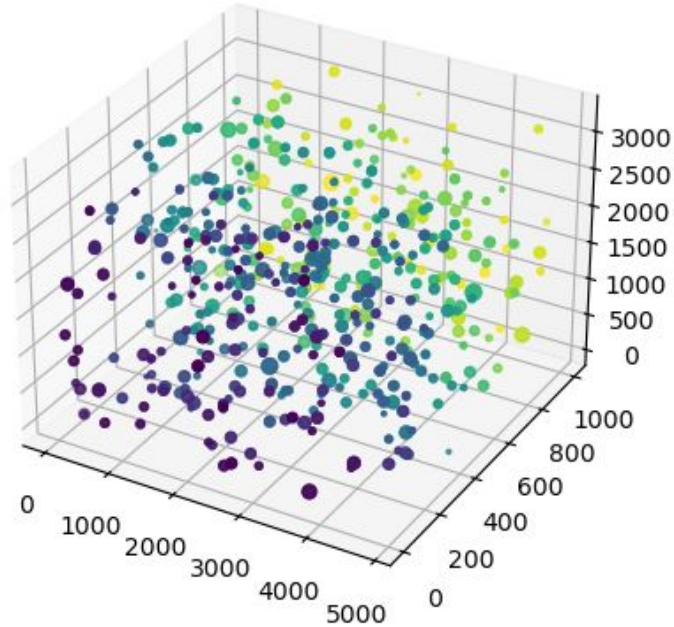
Results: 2D Clustering of Predicted Masks

- Need to cluster predicted pixels in mask to obtain (x, y, z, d) data
- Neighboring 1-labeled pixels are grouped together
- Clusters are approximated to a circle and diameter is calculated
- Grouping is done on predicted masks of each plane for all z

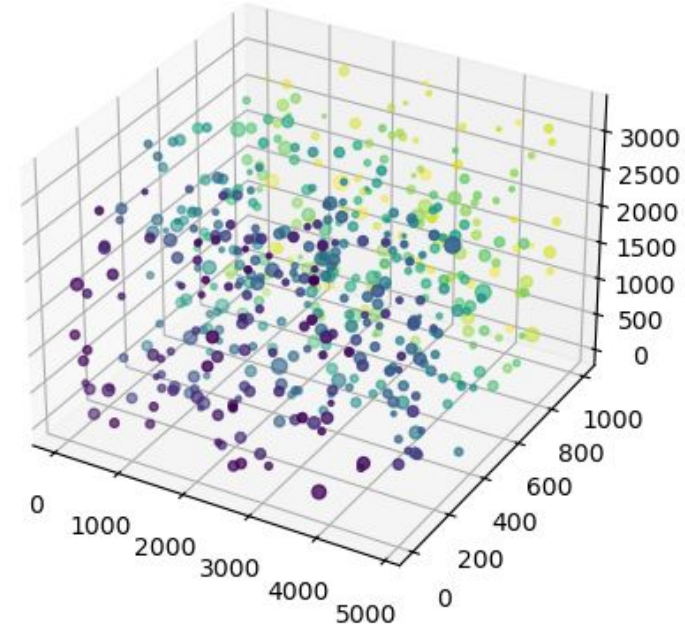


Results: 2D Clustering of Predicted Masks

Predictions After 2D Grouping: N=1364

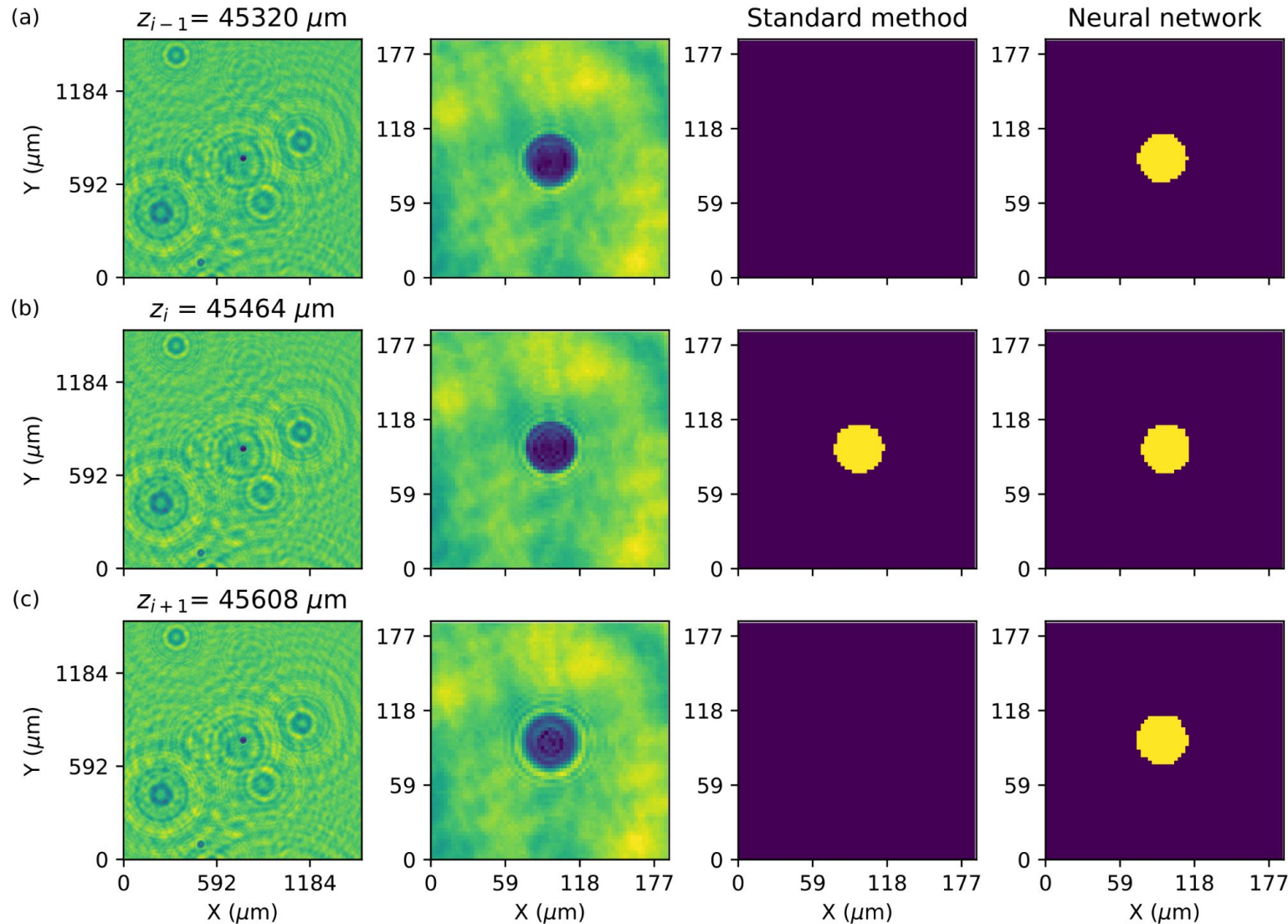


True Coordinates: N=500



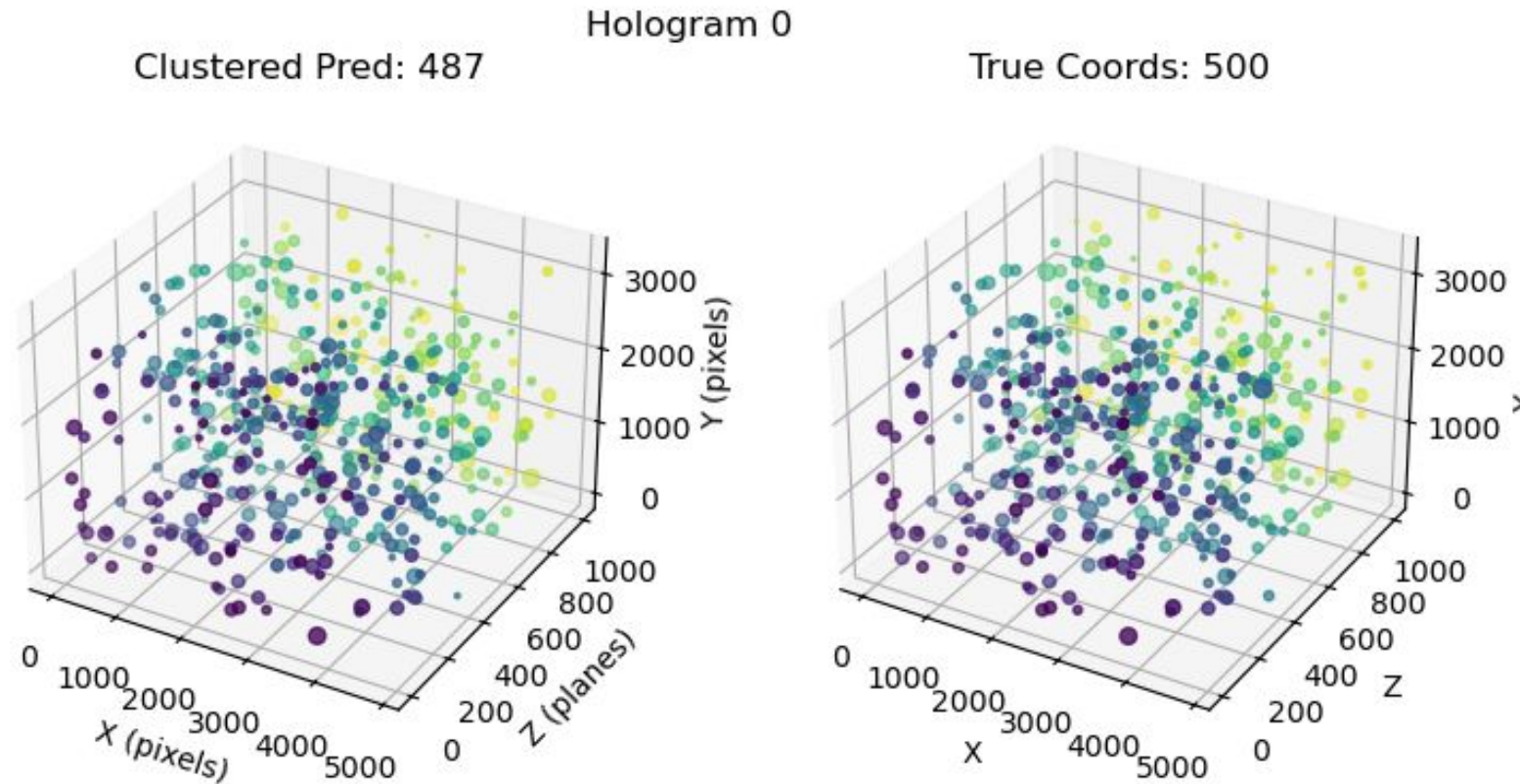
- At first glance, results look quite similar to truth
- However, have significantly overpredicted the number of particles

Results: 2D Clustering of Predicted Masks



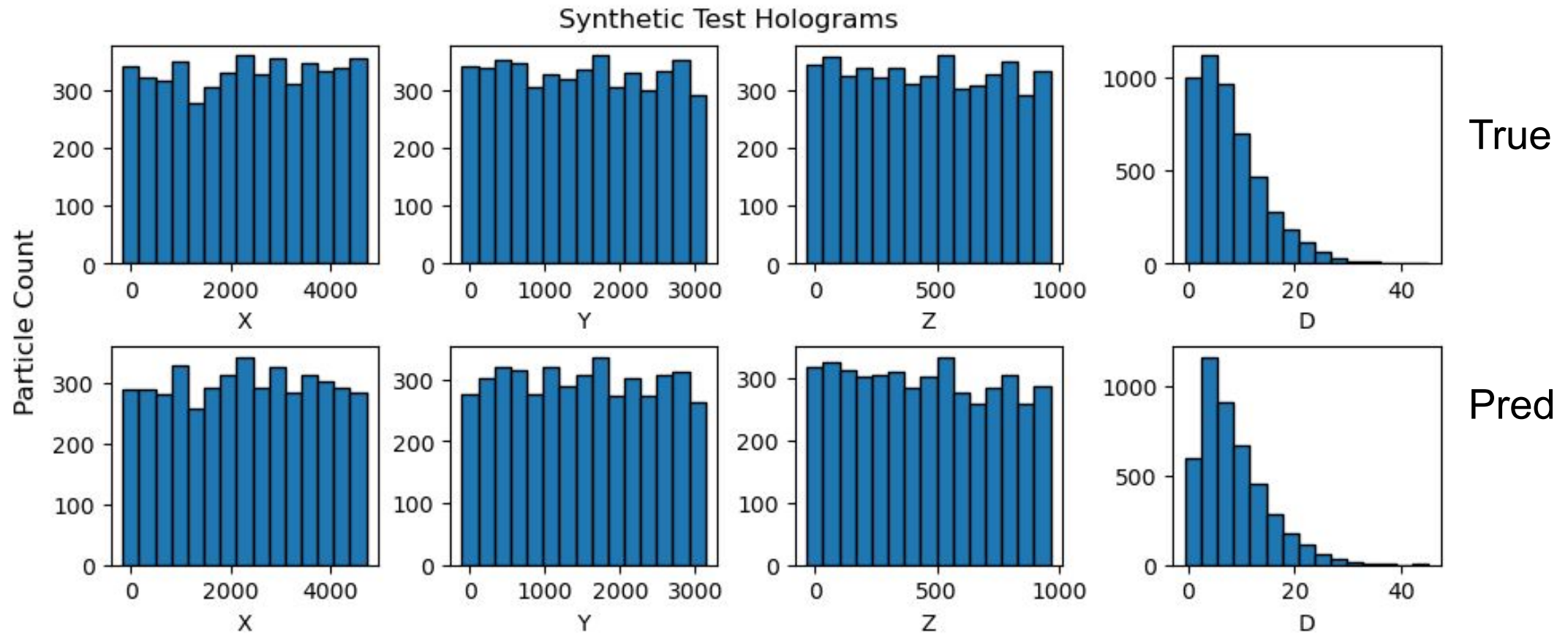
- Model has high False Positive rate in adjacent depths to true particle
- With $N = 1,000$, particles with large diameters most affected.
- Smaller particles increasingly affected as N grows
- Partially due to training, as images with in-focus particles were upsampled 1-to-1

Results: 3D Clustering of Predicted Coordinates



- Each (x, y, z, d) represents 3D coordinates of a predicted sphere
- Cluster these coordinates again in all 3 dimensions to remove depth-adjacent over predictions
- Use OPTICS algorithm to perform spatial clustering

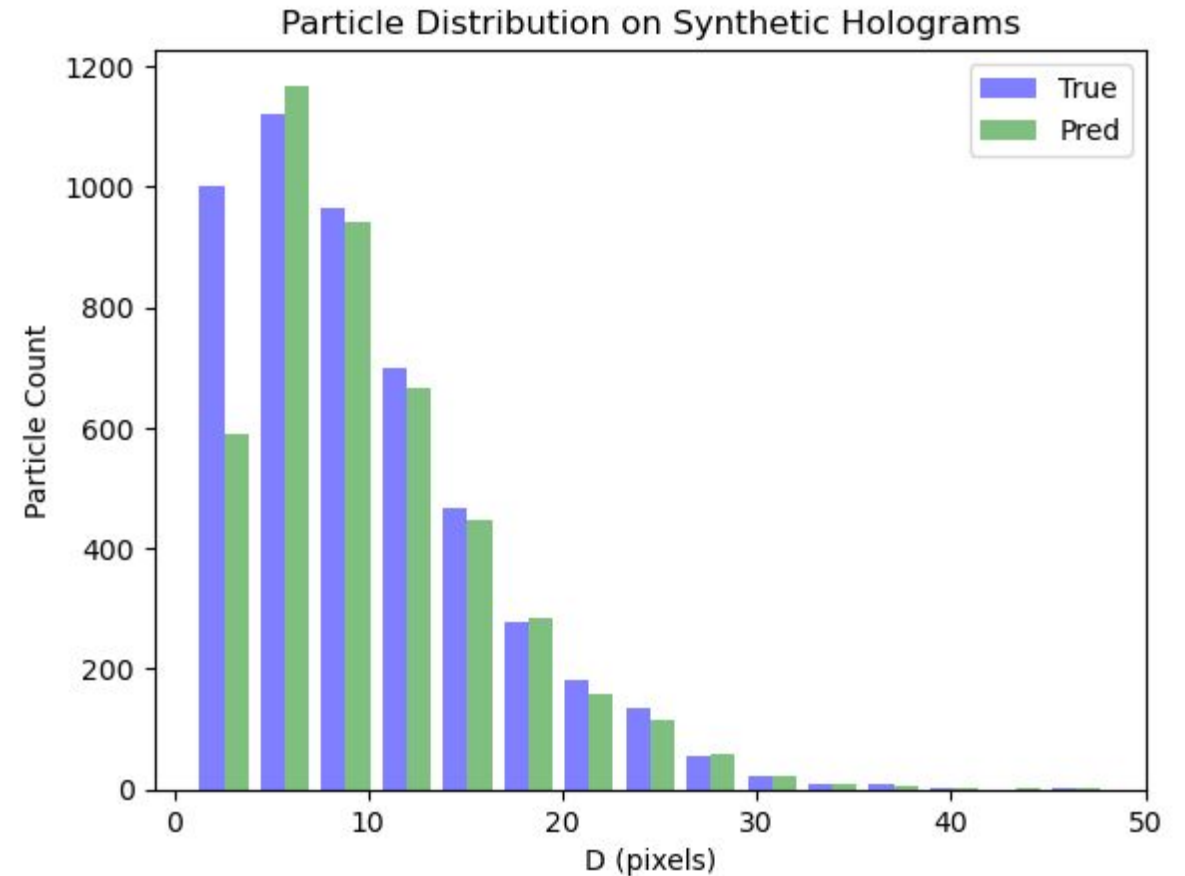
Results: Synthetic Test Hologram Predictions



- Under-predicting extremely small particles (False Negatives)
- Larger errors around image edges in X and Y

Results: Synthetic Test Hologram Predictions

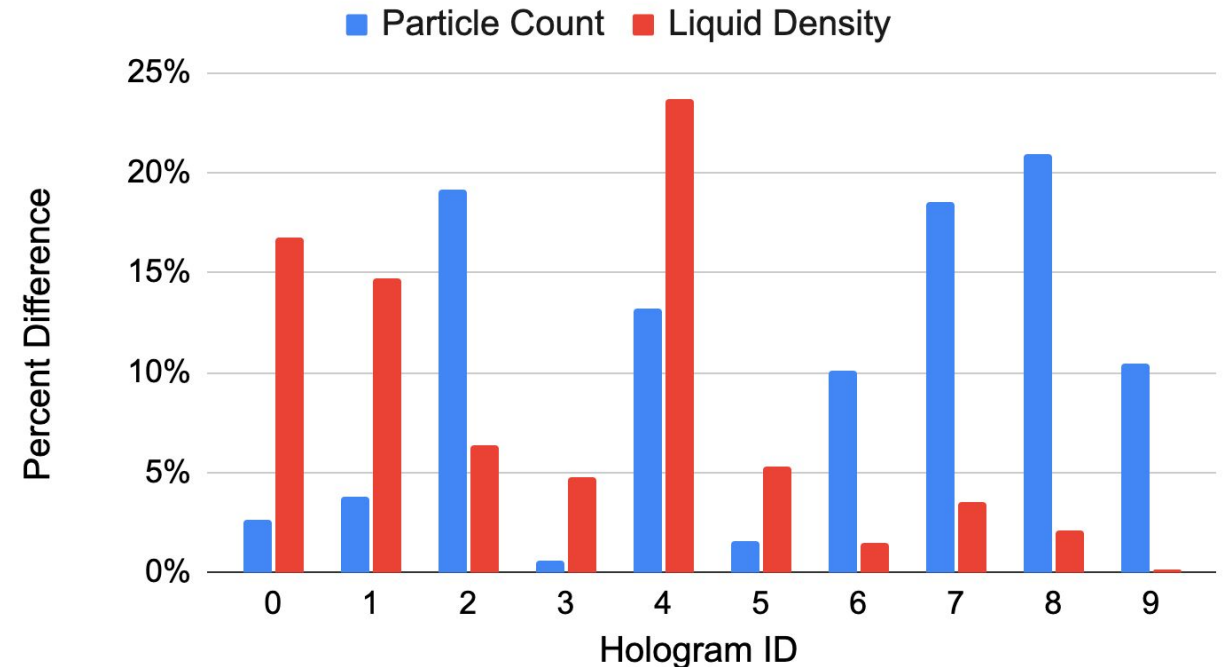
- Closer look at the prediction difference on test set by particle diameter
- Significantly more accurate for particles at least 3 pixels in diameter



Results: Synthetic Test Hologram Predictions

- Accurately predicting the number of particles does not guarantee accurate liquid density measurements
- Mean particle count difference: 10.0%
- Mean liquid density difference: 7.89%
- Mean effective radius difference: 6.52%

Percent Differences Between Prediction and Truth



Lower is better

Conclusions and Future Work

- Successfully detect ~90% of particles in synthetic test set
- More accurately predict physical properties, including liquid density and radius
- Efficient, scalable inference across arbitrary number of GPUs for campaign data processing

Possible Improvements:

- The **model accuracy** is not perfect, missing many small particles
 - Currently working on a more **complex model** that takes advantage of phase data and multiple depth planes
 - Potential for a **3D-UNET** model that has found success in other fields
 - A more diverse **training dataset** could also improve performance
- Gathering and comparing results on CSET dataset against **standard method**

References

- [1] Fugal, J. P., Shaw, R. A., Saw, E. W., and Sergeyeve, A. V.: Airborne digital holographic system for cloud particle measurements, *Applied optics*, 43, 5987–5995, 2004.
- [2] Spuler, S. M. and Fugal, J.: Design of an in-line, digital holographic imaging system for airborne measurement of clouds, *Applied optics*, 50, 1405–1412, 2011.
- [3] Albrecht, B., Ghate, V., Mohrmann, J., Wood, R., Zuidema, P., Bretherton, C., Schwartz, C., Eloranta, E., Glienke, S., Donaher, S., et al.: Cloud System Evolution in the Trades (CSET): Following the evolution of boundary layer cloud systems with the NSF–NCAR GV, *Bulletin of the American Meteorological Society*, 100, 93–121, 2019.
- [4] Fugal, J. P., Schulz, T. J., and Shaw, R. A.: Practical methods for automated reconstruction and characterization of particles in digital in-line holograms, *Measurement Science and Technology*, 20, 075 501, 2009.
- [5] Glienke, S., Kostinski, A., Fugal, J., Shaw, R., Borrmann, S., and Stith, J.: Cloud droplets to drizzle: Contribution of transition drops to microphysical and optical properties of marine stratocumulus clouds, *Geophysical Research Letters*, 44, 8002–8010, 2017.
- [6] Ronneberger, O., Fischer, P., and Brox, T.: U-net: Convolutional networks for biomedical image segmentation, in: *International Conference on Medical image computing and computer-assisted intervention*, pp. 234–241, Springer, 2015a
- [7] Akiba, T., Sano, S., Yanase, T., Ohta, T., & Koyama, M. (2019). Optuna: A next-generation hyperparameter optimization framework. *Proceedings of the 25th ACM SIGKDD International Conference on Knowledge Discovery & Data Mining* (pp. 2623-2631). <https://optuna.readthedocs.io/en/stable/index.html>
- [8] Schreck, J. S. and Gagne, D. J.: Earth Computing Hyperparameter Optimization. <https://github.com/NCAR/echo-opt>



Questions

Thank you!

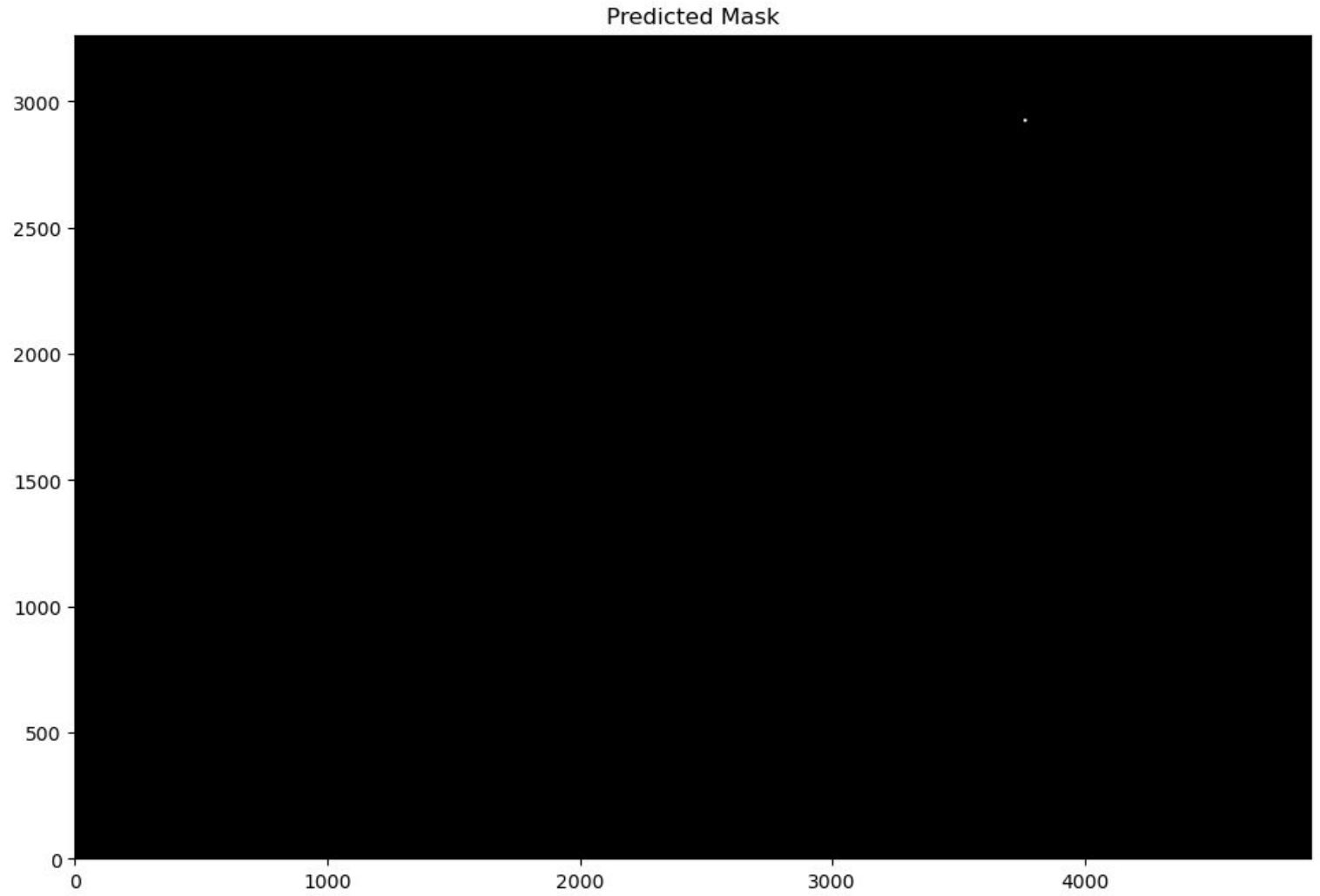
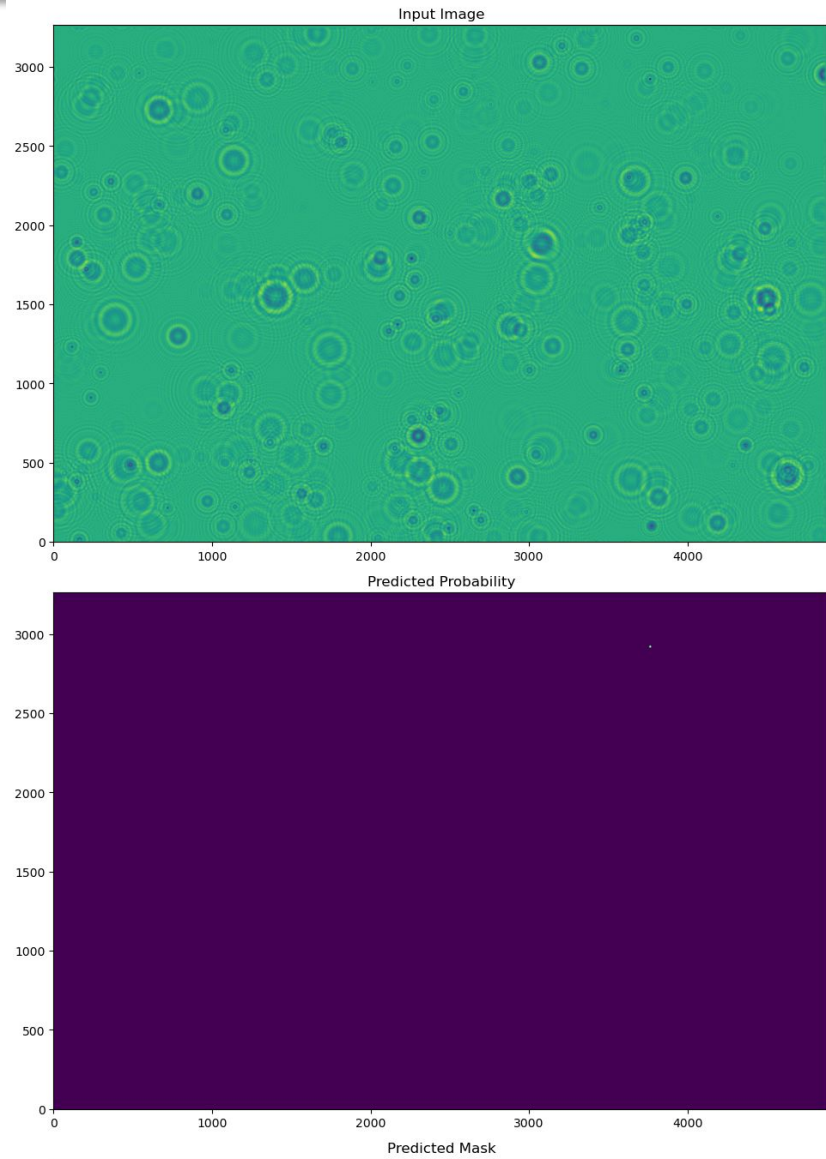
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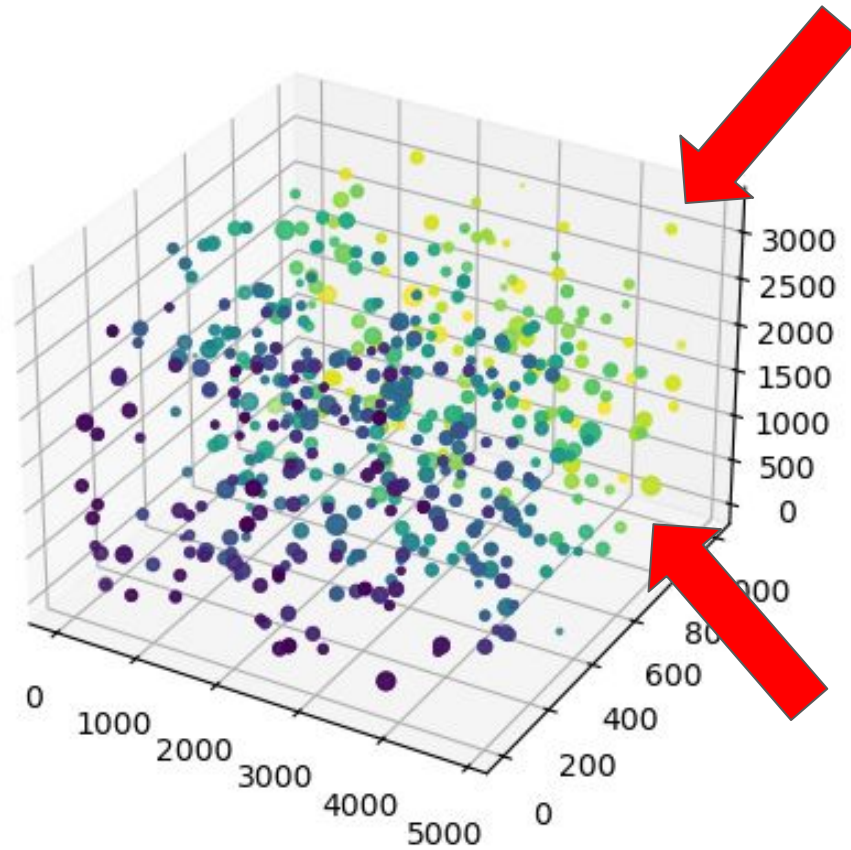
Appendix



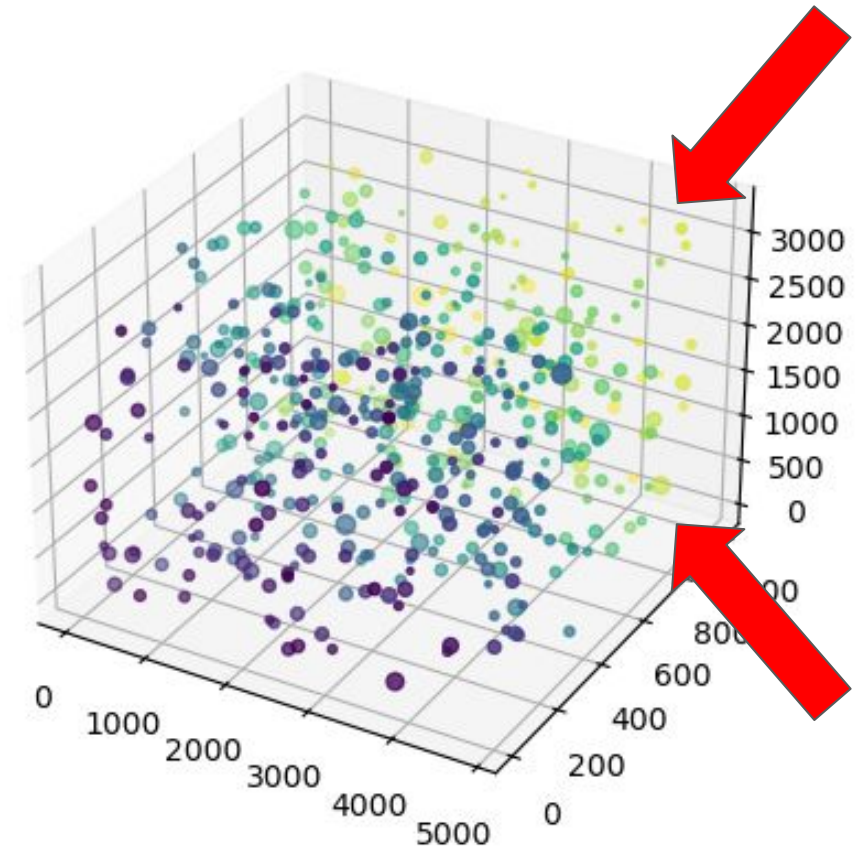
Appendix



Predictions Before Cluster

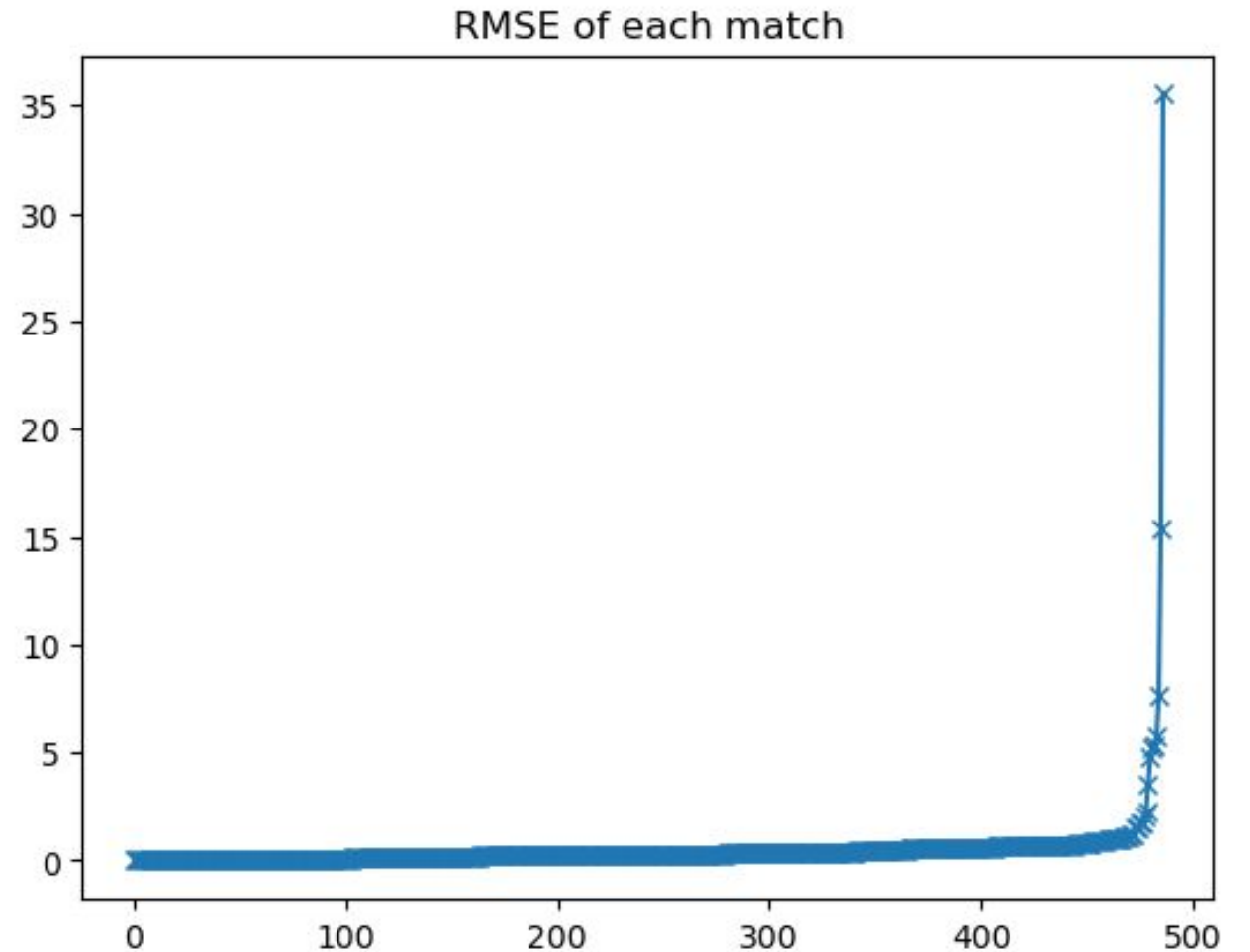


True Coordinates



Not getting all particles after clustering, because the model did not predict all particles in the first place

- Matches are determined using a KDTree between pred and truth coordinates
- Only X, Y, and Z are used in matching
- Not all predictions are 'good' ones



No seemingly obvious correlation between any feature and poor matches

