# Point process latent variable models of larval zebrafish behavior

Anuj Sharma
Columbia University\*

Robert E. Johnson
Harvard University

Florian Engert
Harvard University

Scott W. Linderman
Columbia University

<sup>\*</sup>Anuj is currently a research engineer at Imagen Technologies

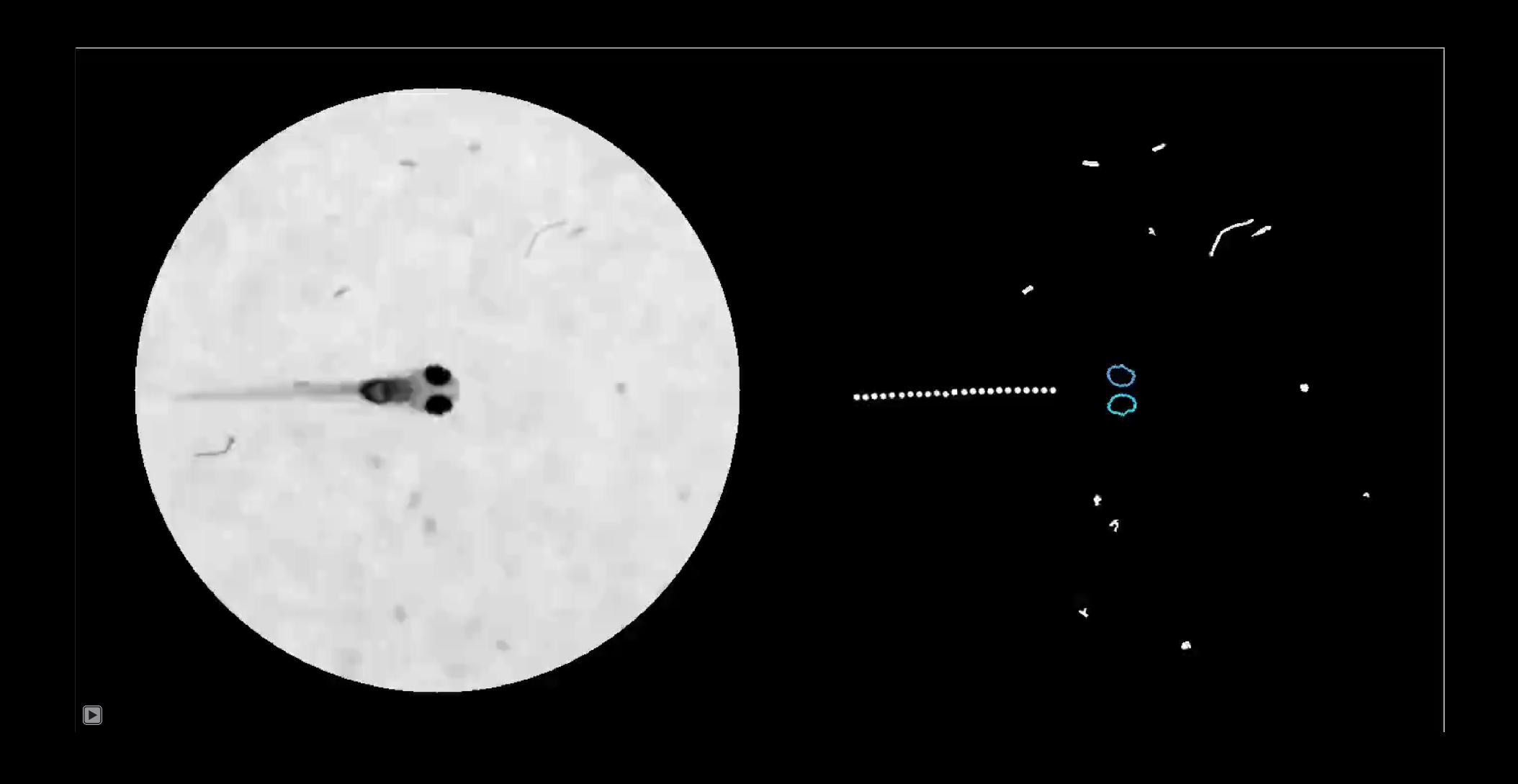
### Why larval zebrafish behavior?



To understand the computations of the nervous system, we need to understand its behavioral outputs.



### Real recording of a freely behaving larval zebrafish



### Key questions

Q1: How should we characterize types of swim bouts?

### Key questions

Q1: How should we characterize types of swim bouts?

Q2: What dynamics govern how swim bouts are sequenced together over time?

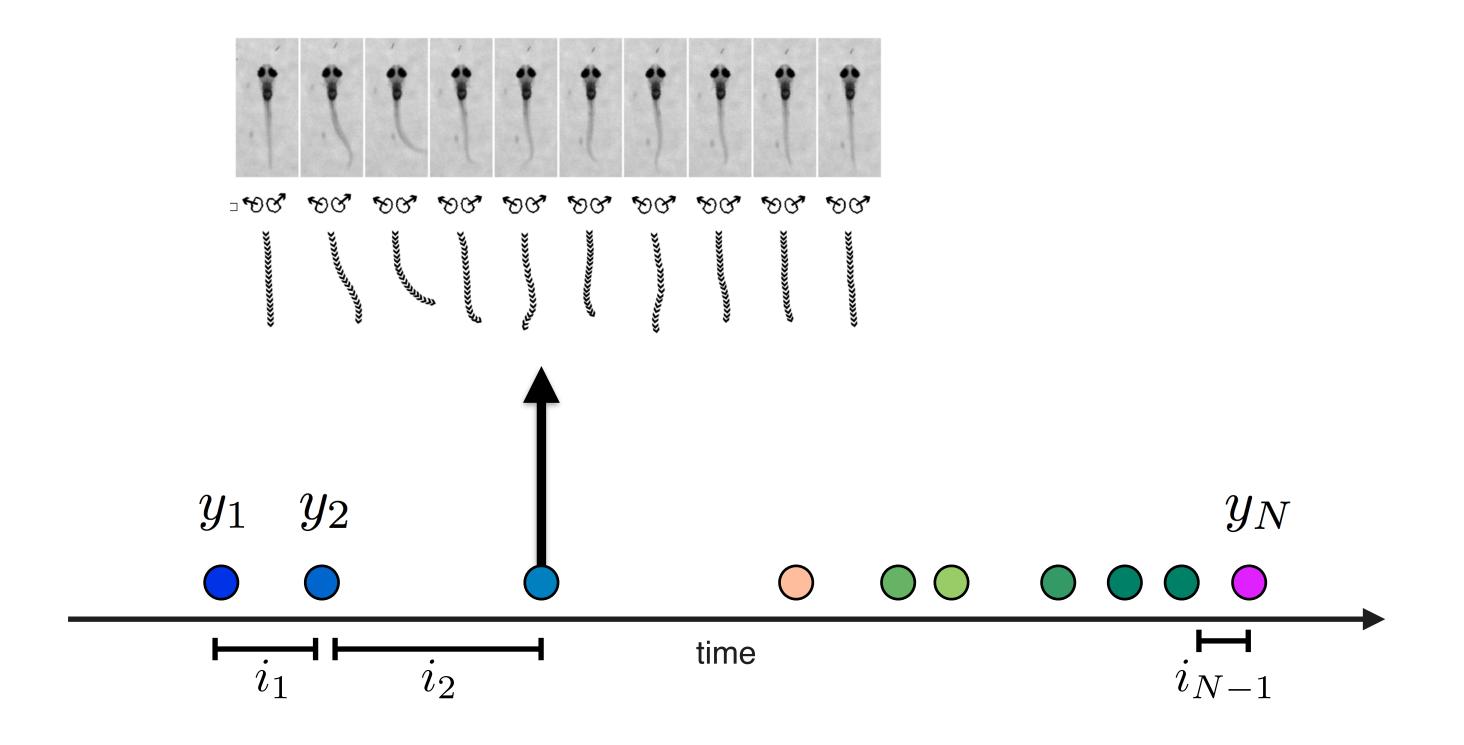
### Key questions

Q1: How should we characterize types of swim bouts?

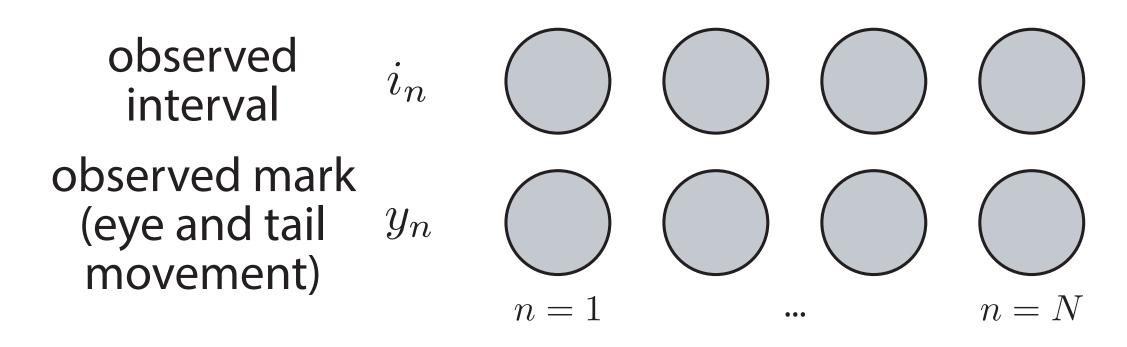
Q2: What dynamics govern how swim bouts are sequenced together over time?

Q3: How are these dynamics modulated by internal states like hunger?

# Modeling larval zebrafish behavior as a marked point process



**Full Generative Model** 







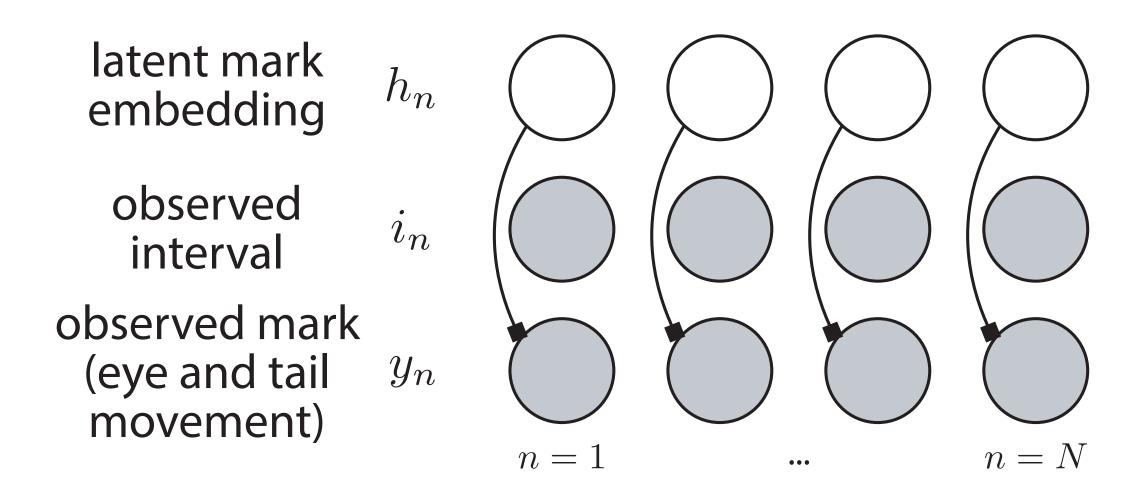






clique

**Full Generative Model** 

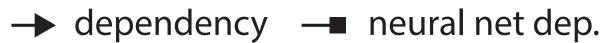






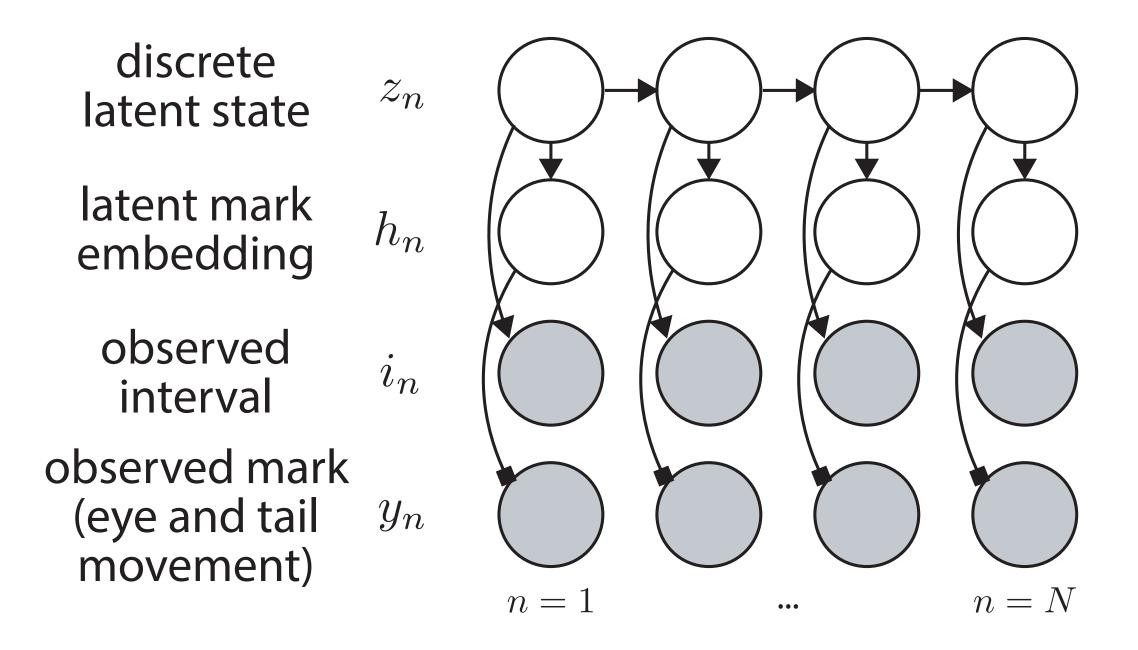
observed





clique

**Full Generative Model** 







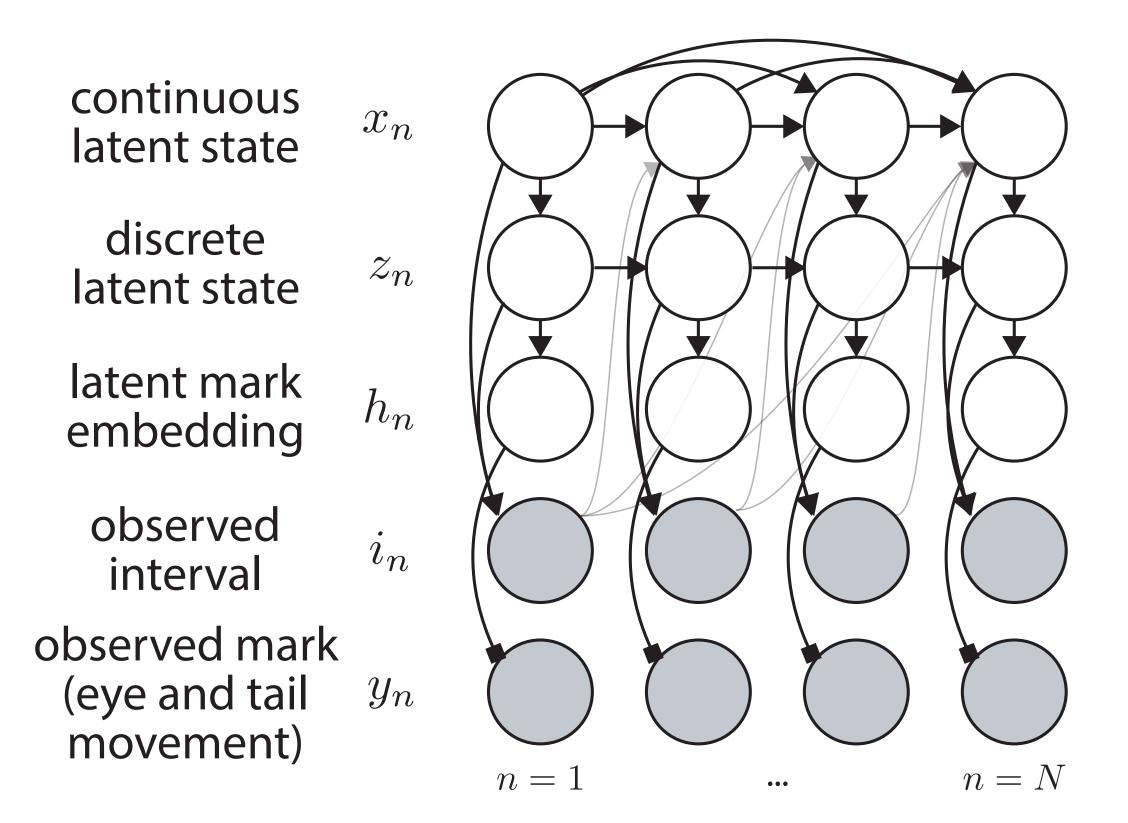
LSTM state





clique

#### **Full Generative Model**





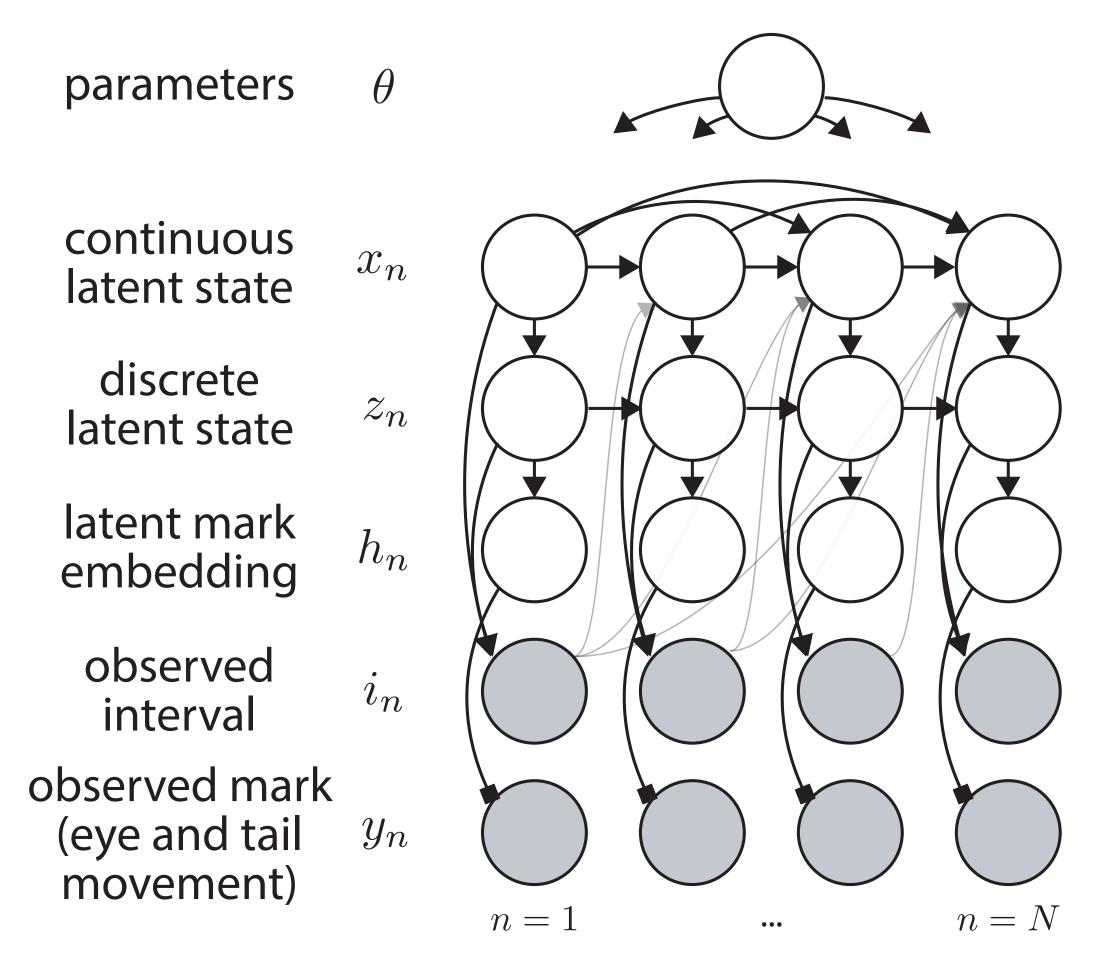








#### **Full Generative Model**







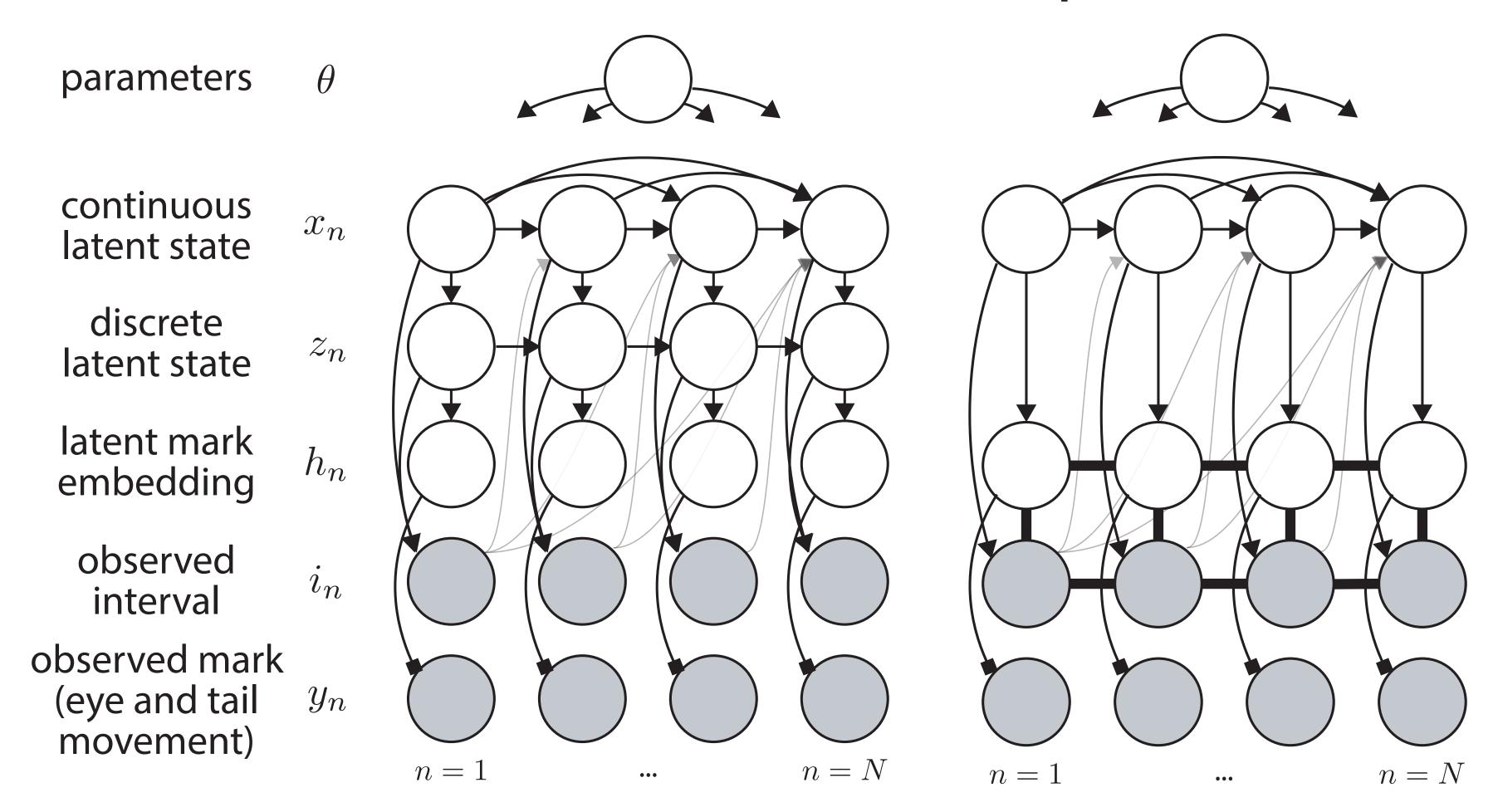






#### **Full Generative Model**

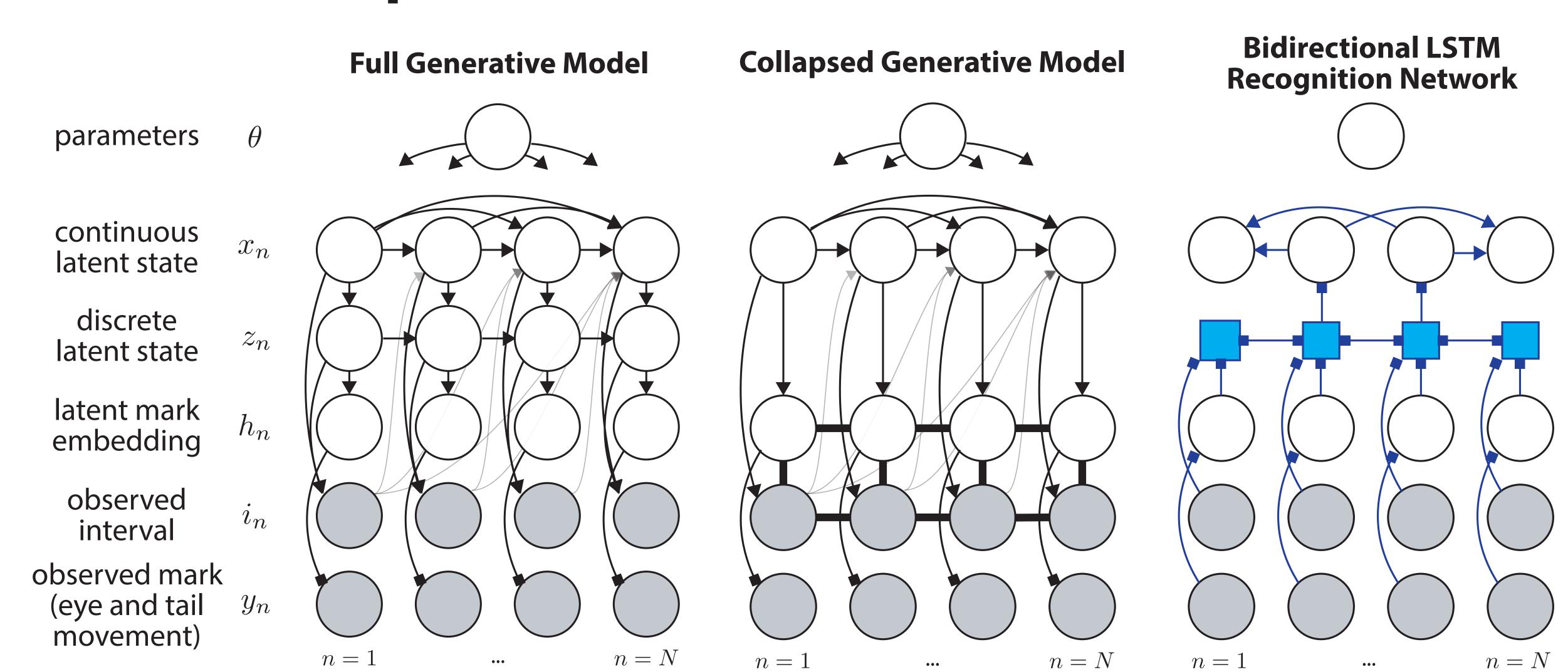
#### **Collapsed Generative Model**









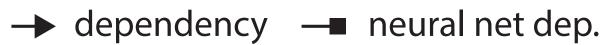






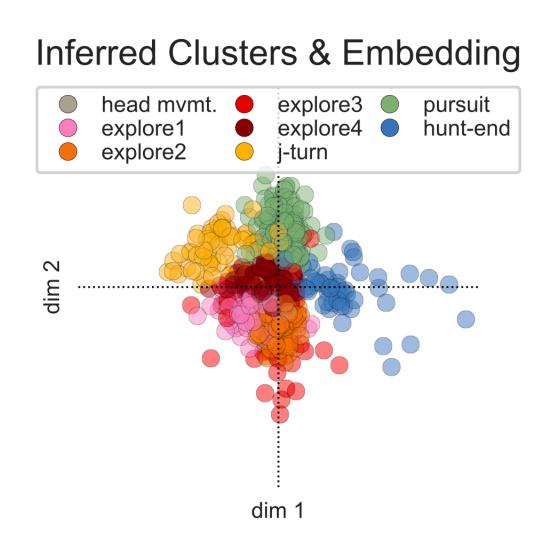




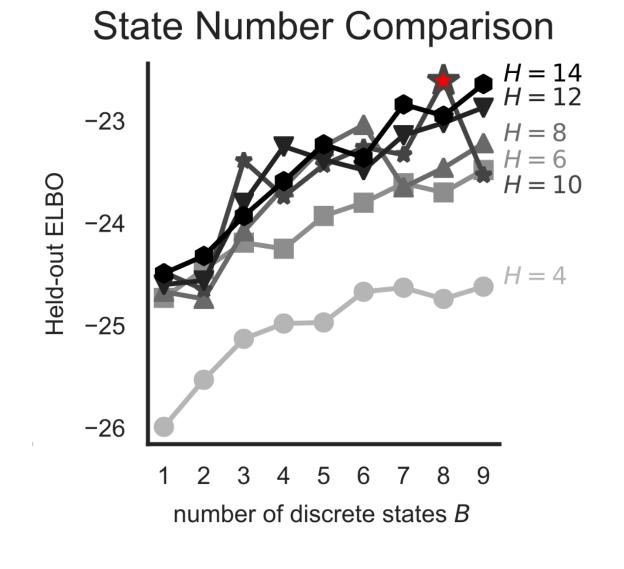


# PPLVMs help answer key questions

A1: Bouts cluster into discrete types in low-d latent space.

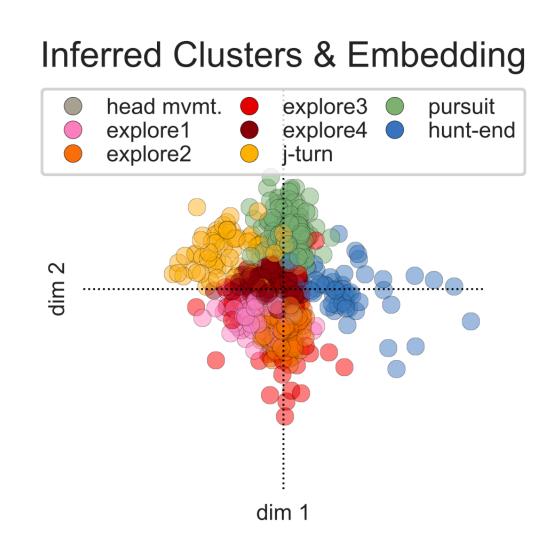


A1': Held-out likelihood offers a quantitative metric for comparing representations.

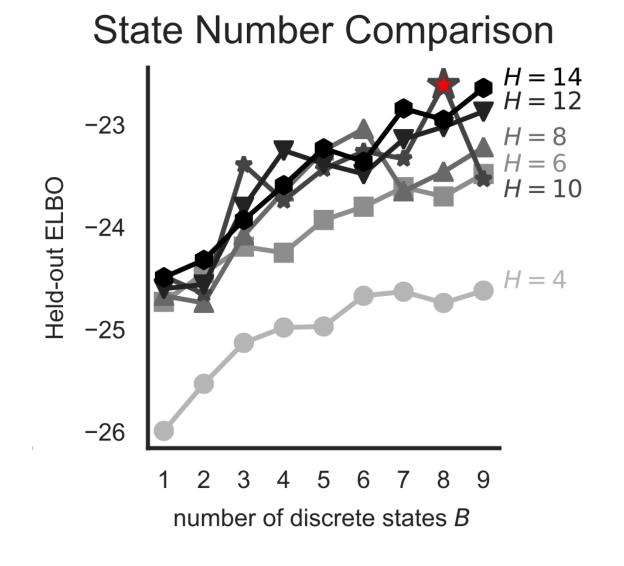


## PPLVMs help answer key questions

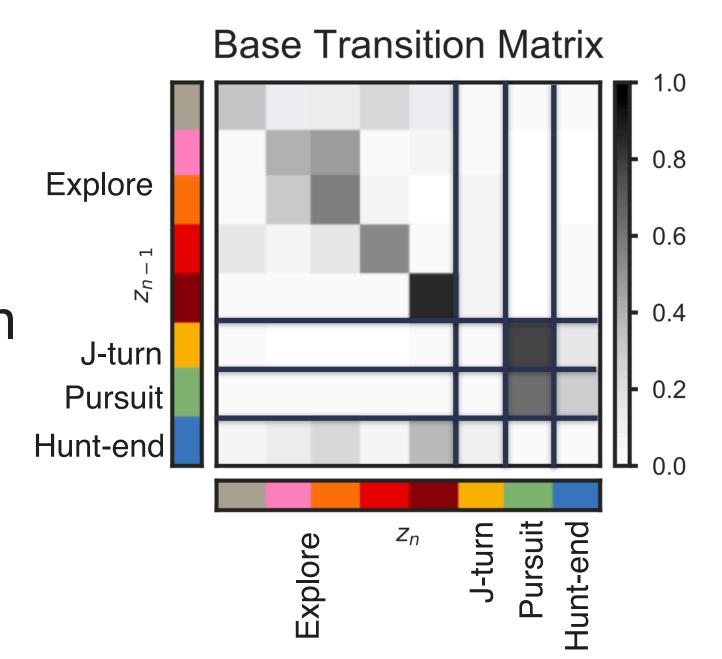
A1: Bouts cluster into discrete types in low-d latent space.



A1': Held-out likelihood offers a quantitative metric for comparing representations.

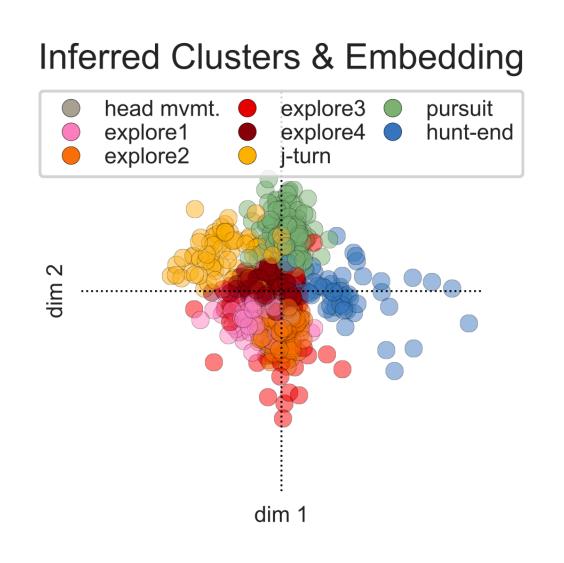


A2: Bout types follow characteristic transition patterns between hunting and exploring.

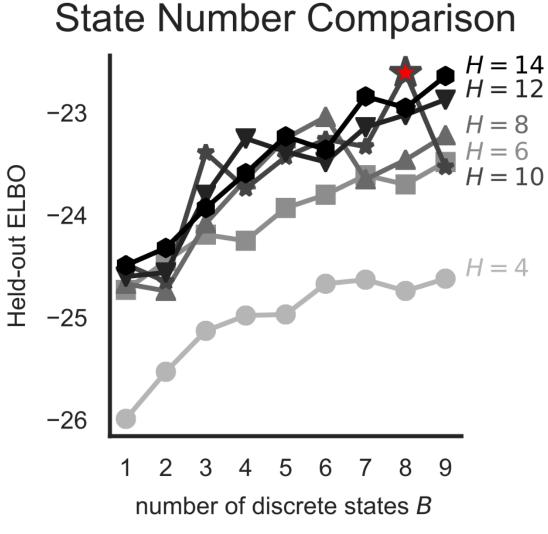


# PPLVMs help answer key questions

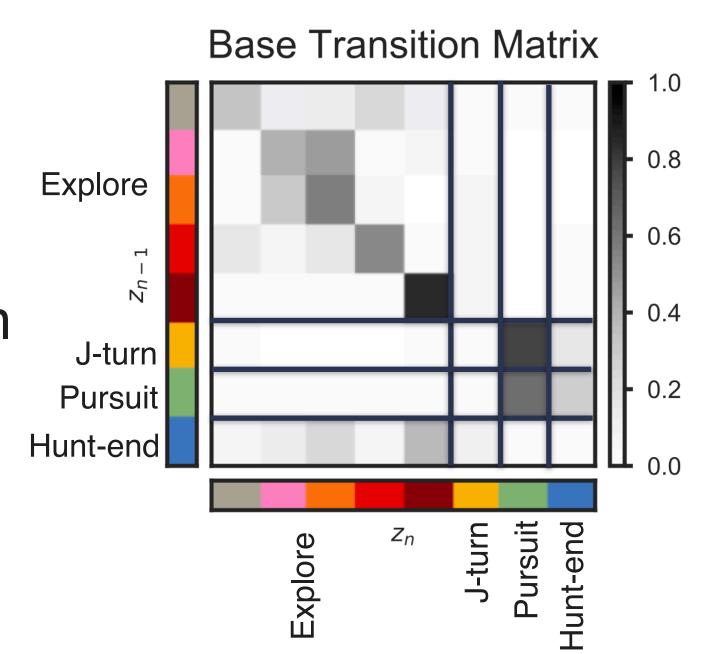
A1: Bouts cluster into discrete types in low-d latent space.



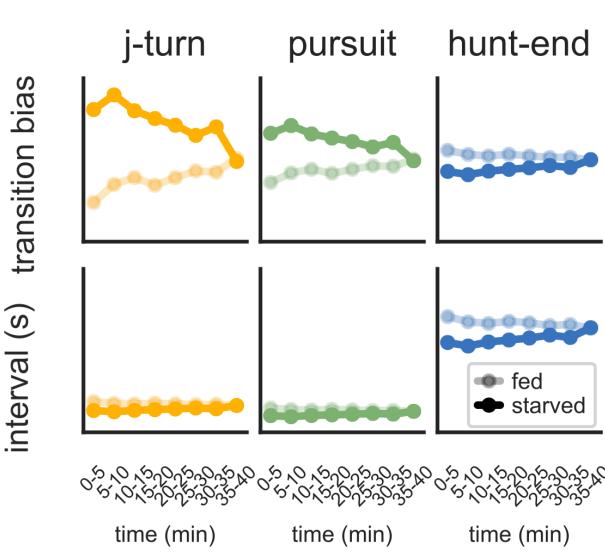
A1': Held-out likelihood offers a quantitative metric for comparing representations.



A2: Bout types follow characteristic transition patterns between hunting and exploring.



A3: These transition patterns change over time as a function of hunger.



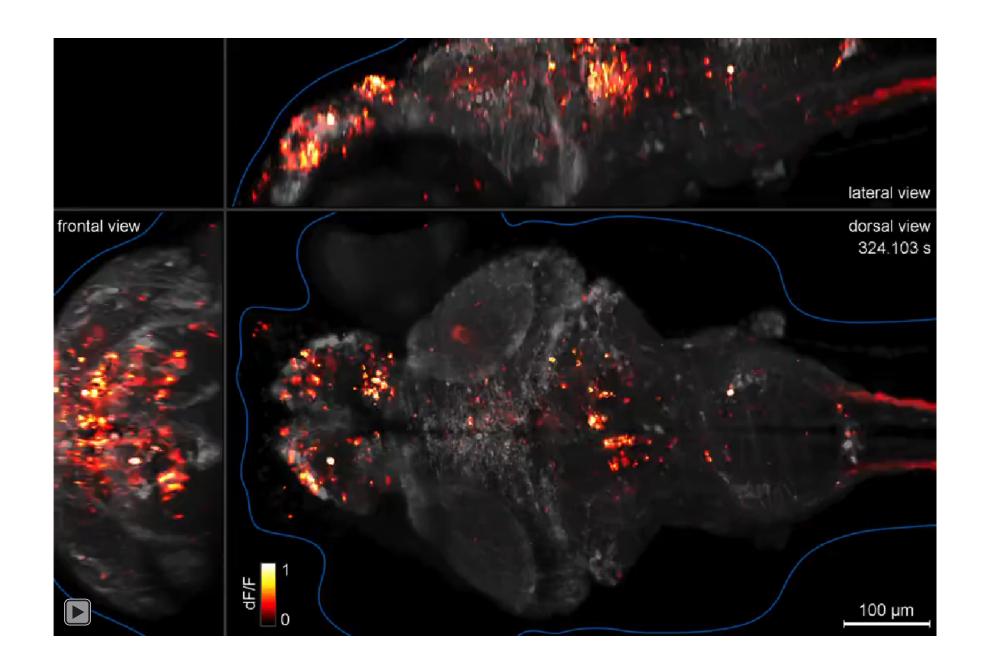
### Come to our poster!

#### Extend our model to include

- Environmental dependencies (prey locations, sizes, dynamics)
- Whole brain neural activity dynamics

#### Apply PPLVMs to other domains:

- Healthcare
- Social media
- Consumer behavior



Ahrens et al (Nature Methods, 2013)

Acknowledgements: Misha Ahrens (video), John Cunningham, Kristian Herrera (animations), Liam Paninski, Haim Sopolinsky (video), SWL: Simons Foundation SCGB-418011; FE: National Institutes of Health's Brain Initiative U19NS104653, R24NS086601 and R43OD024879, Simons Foundation SCGB-542973 and 325207