

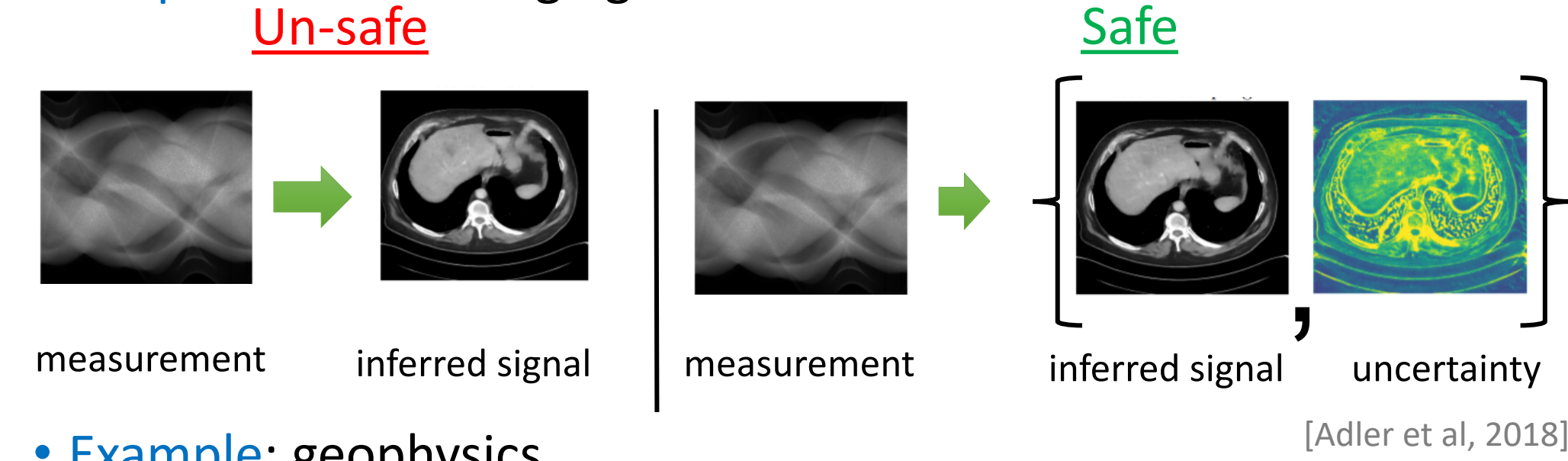
## Motivation

**Goal:** Given  $\hat{y} = f(x) + \eta$ , infer  $p(x|\hat{y})$ .

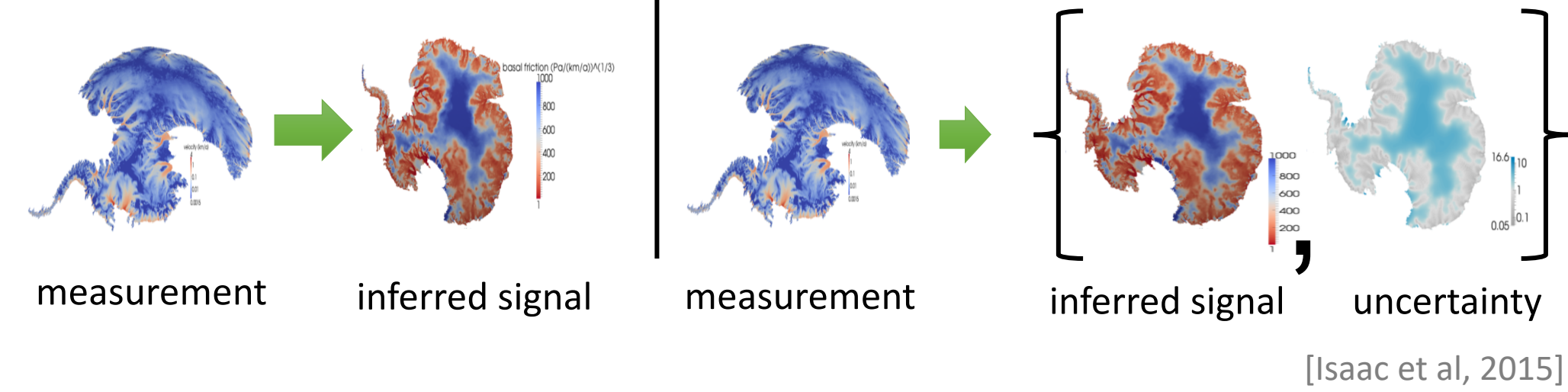
### Challenges:

- Measurement may be corrupted by unknown noise.
- Inverse map may not be well-posed.
- Uncertainty in inferred solution critical for applications with high-stake decisions.

**Example:** medical imaging



• **Example:** geophysics

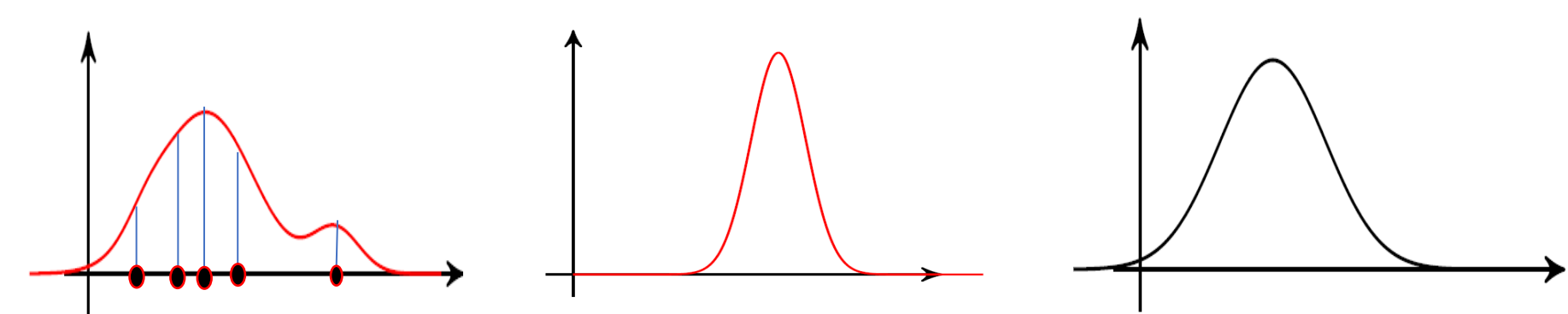


## Bayesian inference

- A principled approach to account for uncertainty in an inverse problem.
- Gives probability distribution over inferred field given some measurement.

Posterior distribution

$$p_x^{post}(x|\hat{y}) = \frac{1}{Q} p^{like}(\hat{y}|x) p_x^{prior}(x) \propto p_\eta(\hat{y} - f(x)) p_x^{prior}(x)$$



### Challenge I : Priors

Finding a **quantitative** description of **informative** and **feasible** priors.

Typical priors..

$$p^{prior}(x) = \exp\left(-\frac{1}{\sigma^2} \|x\|^2\right)$$

However, what if..

- the prior knowledge is more **complex** and **difficult** to **characterize** analytically.
- not enough **domain knowledge** is available to construct informative priors.

### Challenge II : Sampling

- Inferred signal is **high dimensional** ( $10^3$ - $10^7$ ).
- **Difficult to sample** from high dimensional posterior space using sampling-based methods like MCMC.
- An efficient sampler is **difficult to design** in high-dimension.

## GAN as Prior

**Key idea:** Use the distribution learned by GAN as a surrogate for prior distribution and reformulate the inference problem in the low-dimensional latent space of the GAN.

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E}_{x \sim p_x^{post}}[m(x)] &= \frac{1}{Q} \mathbb{E}_{x \sim p_x^{prior}}[m(x)p_\eta(\hat{y} - f(x))] \\ &= \frac{1}{Q} \mathbb{E}_{z \sim p_z^{data}}[m(x)p_\eta(\hat{y} - f(x))] \\ &= \frac{1}{Q} \mathbb{E}_{z \sim p_z}[m(g(z))p_\eta(\hat{y} - f(g(z)))] \\ &= \frac{1}{Q} \mathbb{E}_{z \sim p_z^{post}}[m(g(z))] \end{aligned}$$

where,

$$p_z^{post} \propto p_\eta(\hat{y} - f(g(z))) p_z(z)$$

### Steps:

1. **Learn the prior distribution:** train a GAN using samples from data distribution  $p_x^{data}(x)$ .
2. **Characterize the posterior distribution:** for a given measurement  $\hat{y}$ , evaluate any statistic of interest  $\mathbb{E}_{x \sim p_x^{post}}[m(x)]$ .

**MCMC Sampling:**  $p_z^{MCMC}(z|\hat{y}) \approx p_z^{post}(z|\hat{y})$ .  
Evaluate any point estimate  $s(x)$  as,

$$s(x) \approx \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=1}^N s(g(z)), \quad z \sim p_z^{MCMC}(z|\hat{y})$$

We use Hamiltonian Monte Carlo (HMC) with burn-in period of 0.5

## Convergence of GAN to prior

### Assumptions:

- The GAN discriminator  $d(x; \phi)$  is smooth.
- Derivates of  $d$  with respect to its weights  $\phi$  form a dense subset of  $C_b(\Omega_x)$ .
- Number of training samples  $N$  and number of weights  $N_\phi$  are large enough.

**Convergence results:** given any  $m \in C_b(\Omega_x)$ ,

$$\mathbb{E}_{z \sim p_z} \left[ \left( \mathbb{E}_{z \sim p_x} [m(x)] - \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=1}^N m(g(z^n)) \right)^2 \right] < C(N^{-1} + (N_\phi)^{-2\alpha})$$

where  $C, \alpha$  are positive constants depending on  $m$ .

## Results

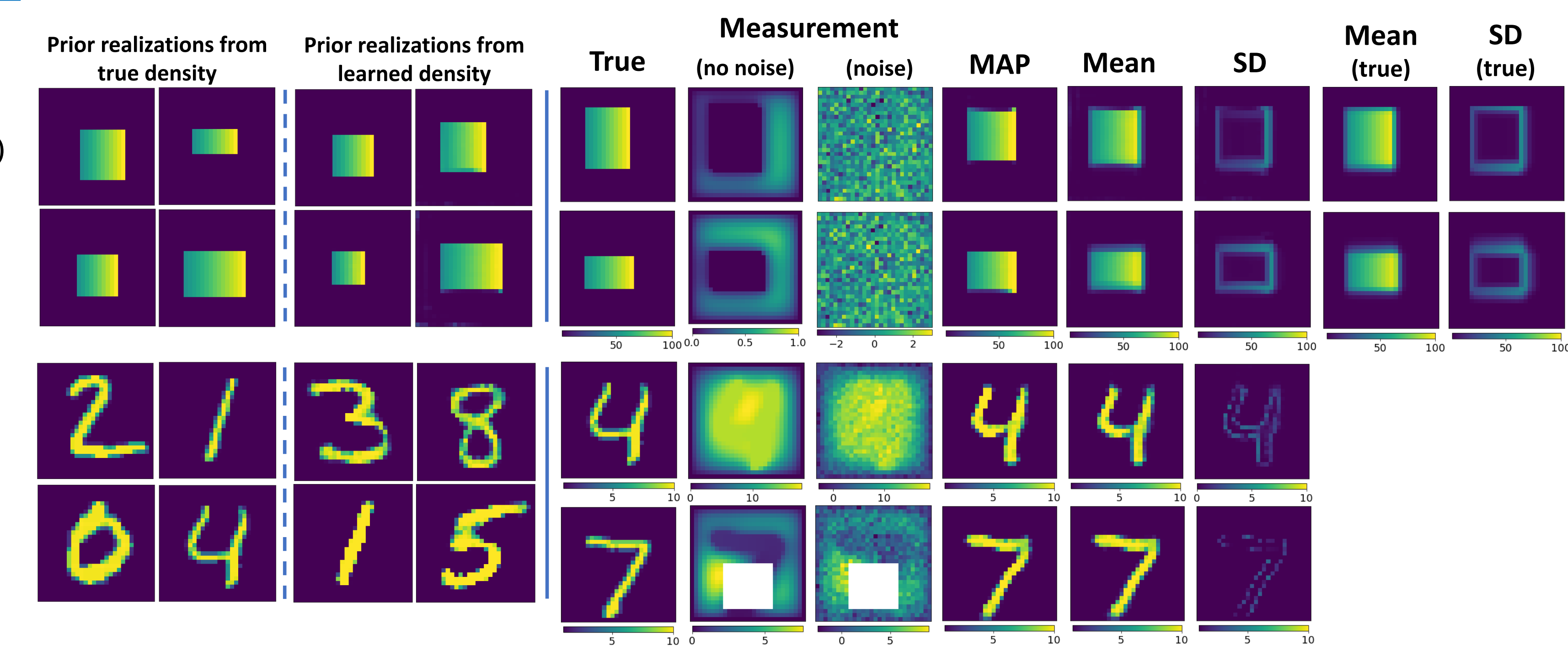
### Inverse heat conduction:

$$\begin{aligned} -\nabla \cdot (x(s)\nabla y(s)) \Big|_{\Omega} &= b(s) \\ y(s)|_{\partial\Omega} &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

$x :=$  thermal conductivity

$y :=$  temperature

$b :=$  heat source



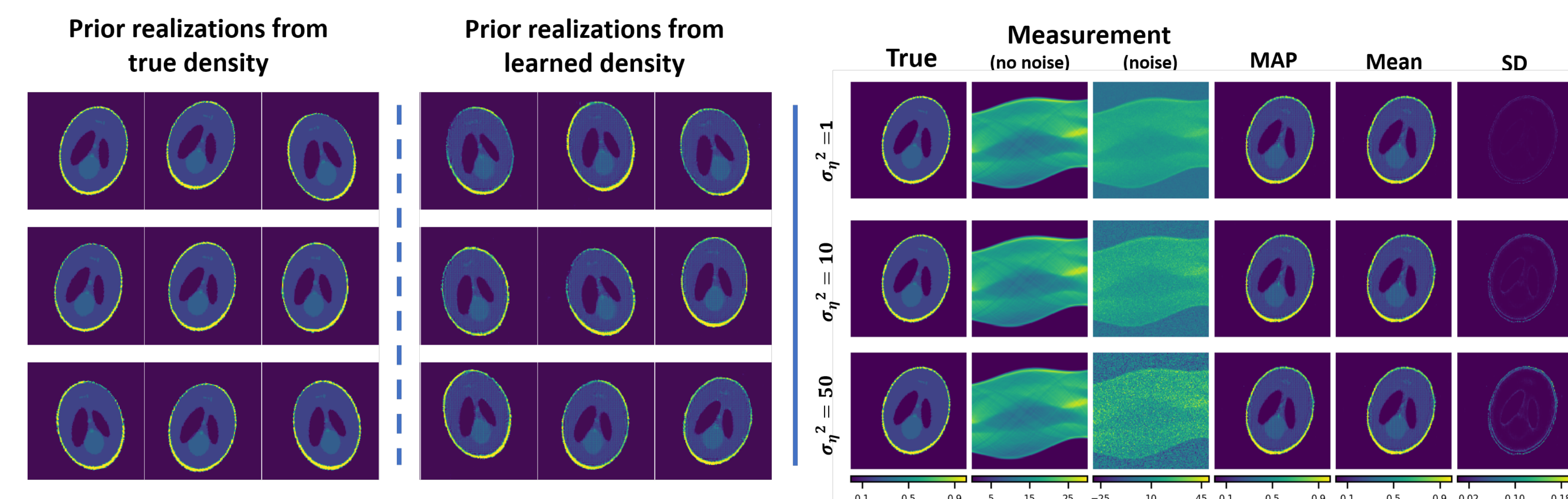
### Inverse Radon transform:

$$y_{i,j} = \int_{l(t_i, \psi_j)} x dl$$

$x :=$  image

$y :=$  sinogram

$l(t_i, \psi_j) :=$  ray/line



### Elasticity imaging: (using experimental data)

$$\nabla \cdot \sigma \Big|_{\Omega} = 0$$

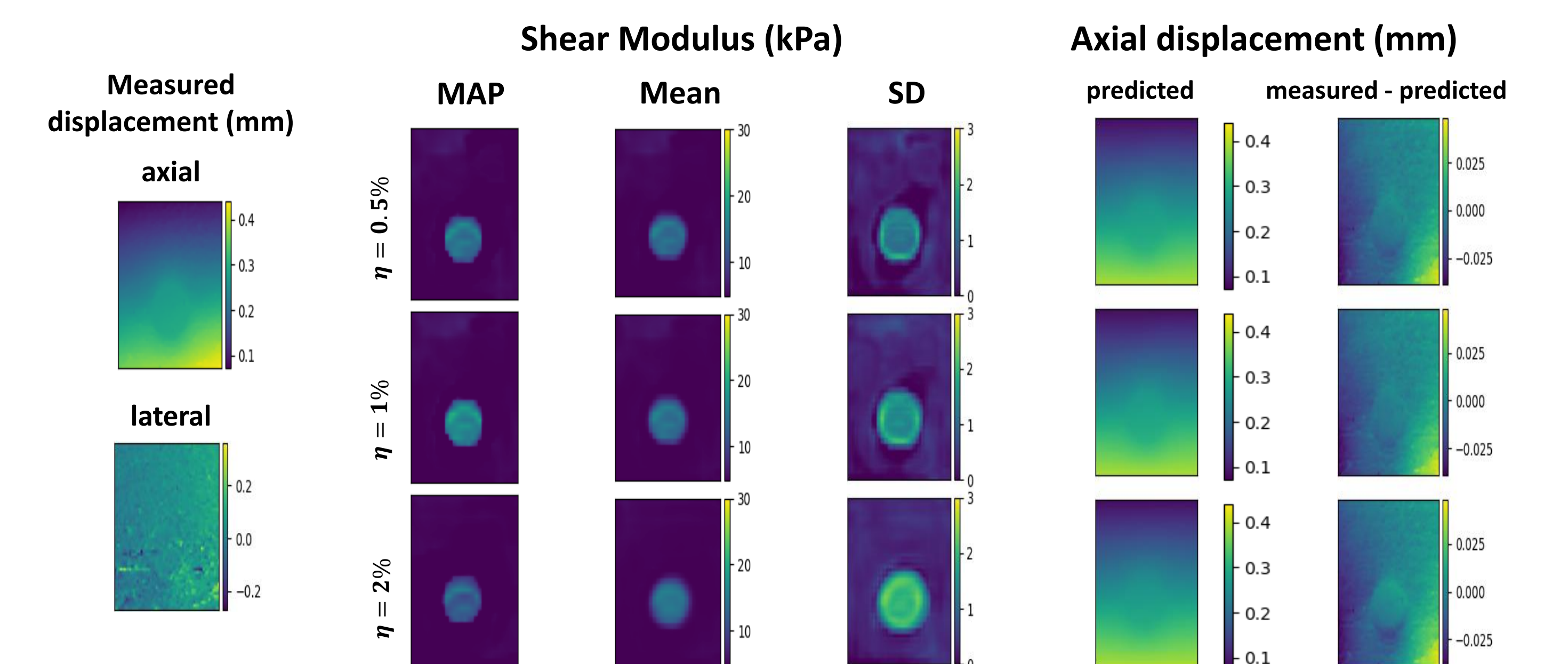
$$y \Big|_{\Gamma_D} = y_D$$

$$\sigma \cdot n \Big|_{\Gamma_N} = \tau$$

$$\sigma = 2x(\nabla^s y + (\nabla \cdot y)\mathbf{I}) := \text{plane-stress}$$

$x :=$  shear modulus

$y :=$  displacement field



### Key takeaways:

- ✓ GANs trained to learn **complex priors** in Bayesian inference.
- ✓ Significant **reduction in dimension** for efficient sampling.
- ✓ Convergence estimate of GAN showing **decay of estimated statistics** with the size of training set and network.
- ✓ Demonstration of method of problems **motivated by physics**, in the presence of noisy and occluded measurements.

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