

Learning-Algorithms from Bayesian Principles

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NeurIPS 2019 Tutorial on “Deep Learning with Bayesian Principles”

The screenshot shows a SlidesLive presentation interface. At the top, there is a 'REC' indicator, the 'SlidesLive' logo with the tagline 'Professional Conference Recording', a search bar, and a 'SIGN IN' button. The main content area is divided into three sections: a video feed of the speaker on the left, a 'TOPICS' sidebar in the middle, and a comparison slide on the right. The 'TOPICS' sidebar lists five items: 1. Introduction, 2. [Talk: Deep Learning with Bayesian Principles by...], 3. The Goal of My Research, 4. Human Learning at the age of 5 months., and 5. Bringing the two together. The comparison slide on the right compares 'Bayesian learning' and 'Deep learning' across several criteria.

TOPICS

1. Introduction
2. [Talk: Deep Learning with Bayesian Principles by..
3. The Goal of My Research
4. Human Learning at the age of 5 months.
5. Bayesian learning not equal to Deep learning
5. Bringing the two together

	Bayesian learning	Deep learning
Bayesian models (GPs, BayesNets, PGMs.)		Deep models (MLP, CNN, RNN etc.)
Bayesian inference (Bayes rule)		Stochastic training (SGD, RMSprop, Adam)
	Bayes	DL
Can handle large data and complex models?	✗	✓
Scalable training?	✗	✓
Can estimate uncertainty?	✓	✗
Can perform sequential / active learning / incremental learning?	✓	✗



Deep Learning with Bayesian Principles

by **Mohammad Emtyaz Khan** · Dec 9, 2019 · 4,733 views · **NeurIPS**

The Goal of My Research

*“To understand the **fundamental principles of learning from data** and use them to **develop algorithms** that can learn like living beings.”*

Human Learning at
the age of 6 months.



Converged at the
age of 12 months



Transfer
skills
at the age
of 14
months



Bayesian

~~Human learning~~

≠

Deep learning

Life-long learning from
small chunks of data in
a non-stationary world

Bulk learning from a
large amount of data in
a stationary world

My current research focuses on reducing this gap!

Parisi, German I., et al. "Continual lifelong learning with neural networks: A review." *Neural Networks* (2019)

Friston, K. "The free-energy principle: a unified brain theory?." *Nature reviews neuroscience* (2010)

Geisler, W. S., and Randy L. D. "Bayesian natural selection and the evolution of perceptual systems." *Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society of London. Biological Sciences* (2002)

Learning-Algorithms from Bayesian Principles

- Bayesian principles as a general principle
 - To design/improve/generalize learning-algorithms
 - By computing “posterior approximations”
- Derive many existing algorithms,
 - Deep Learning (SGD, RMSprop, Adam)
 - Exact Bayes, Laplace, Variational Inference, etc
- Design new deep-learning algorithms
 - Uncertainty, data importance, life-long learning
- Impact: Everything with one common principle.

Deep Learning
vs
Bayesian Learning

Deep Learning (DL)

Frequentist: Empirical Risk Minimization (ERM) or Maximum Likelihood Principle, etc.

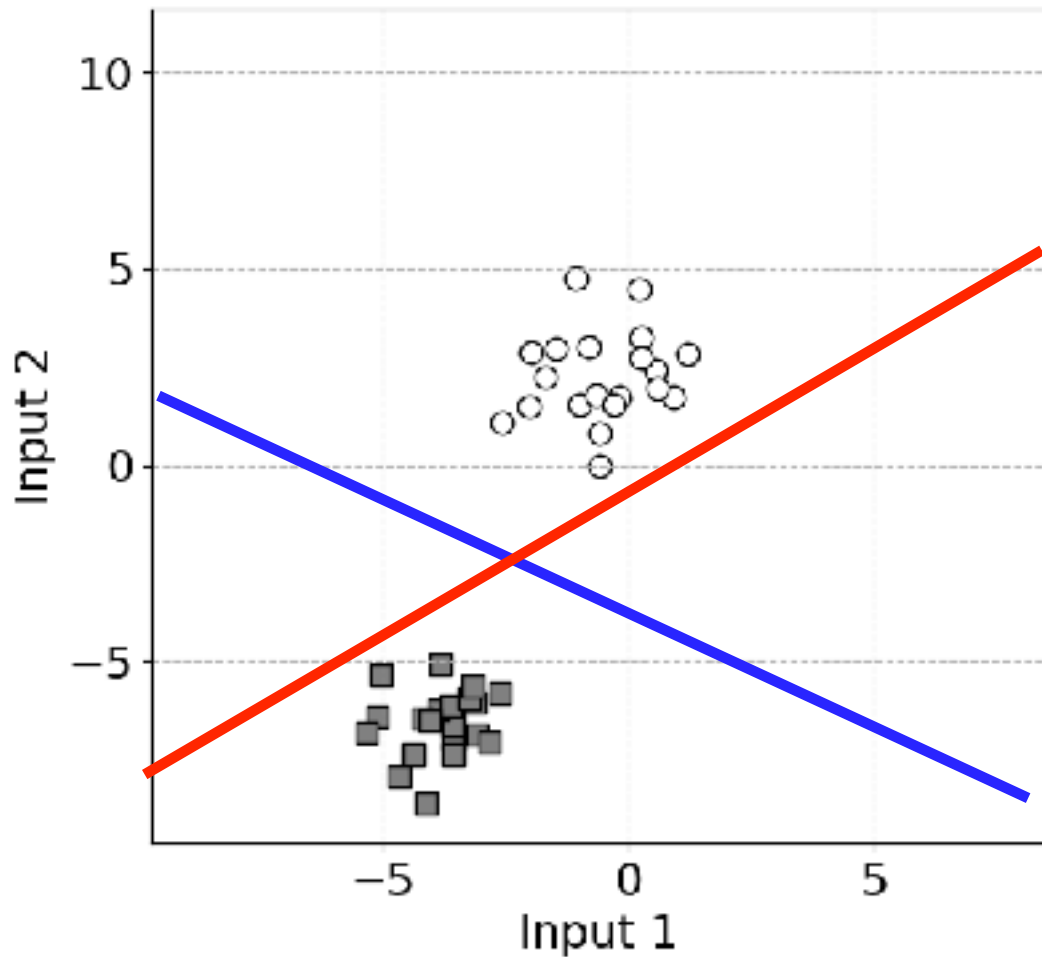
$$\min_{\theta} \ell(\mathcal{D}, \theta) = \sum_{i=1}^N [y_i - f_{\theta}(x_i)]^2 + \gamma \theta^T \theta$$

Loss ↑
Data ↑
Model Params ↑
Deep Network ↑

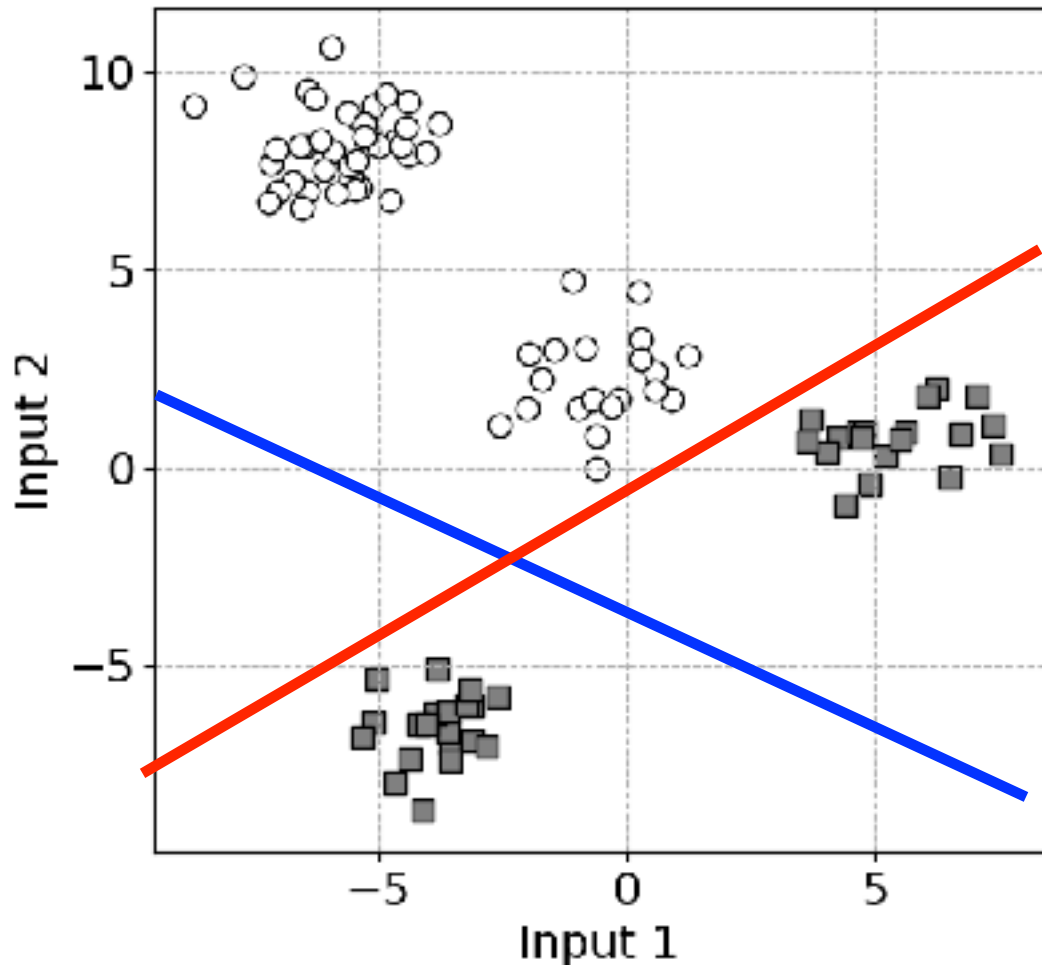
DL Algorithm: $\theta \leftarrow \theta - \rho H_{\theta}^{-1} \nabla_{\theta} \ell(\theta)$

Scales well to large data and complex model, and very good performance in practice.

Which is a good classifier?

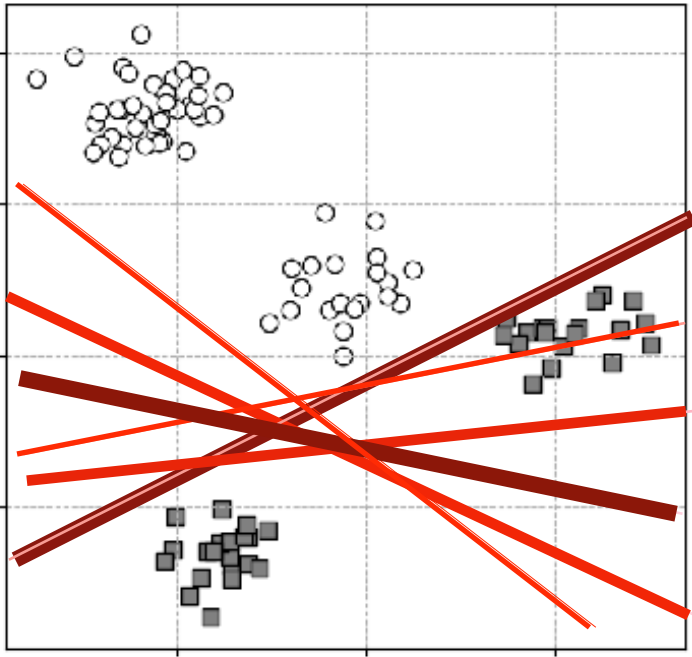


Which is a good classifier?



“What the model does not know”

Sequential Bayesian Inference



$$p(\theta|\mathcal{D}_1) = \frac{p(\mathcal{D}_1|\theta)p(\theta)}{\int p(\mathcal{D}_1|\theta)p(\theta)d\theta}$$

Set the prior to the previous posterior and recompute:

$$p(\theta|\mathcal{D}_2, \mathcal{D}_1) = \frac{p(\mathcal{D}_2|\theta)p(\theta|\mathcal{D}_1)}{\int p(\mathcal{D}_2|\theta)p(\theta|\mathcal{D}_1)d\theta}$$

The global property enables sequential update

Bayesian learning

Integration (global)

$$p(\theta|\mathcal{D}) = \frac{p(\mathcal{D}|\theta)p(\theta)}{\int p(\mathcal{D}|\theta)p(\theta)d\theta}$$

Deep learning

Differentiation (local)

$$\theta \leftarrow \theta - \rho H_{\theta}^{-1} \nabla_{\theta} \ell(\theta)$$

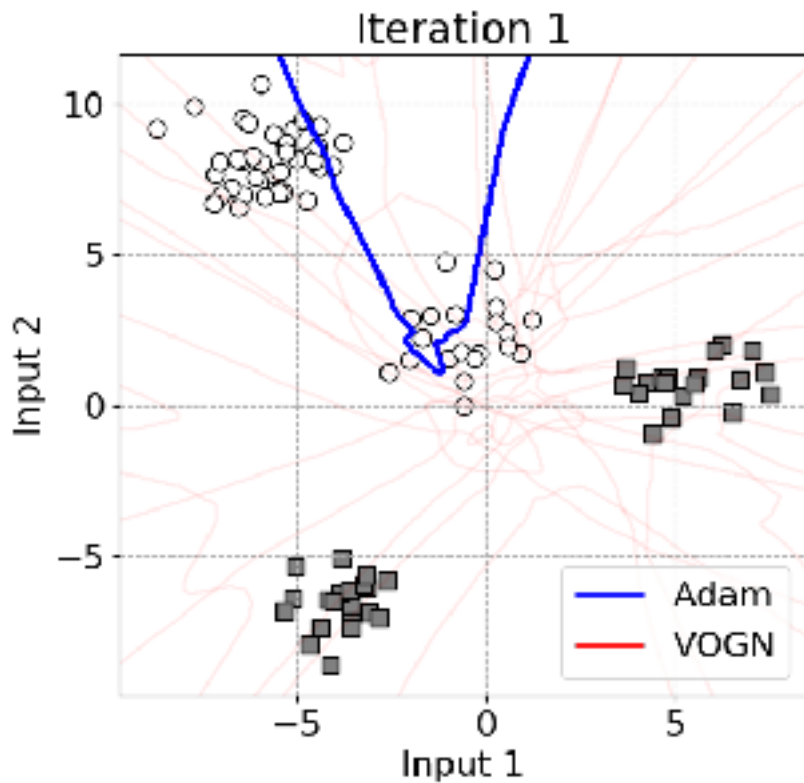
	Bayes	DL
Can handle large data and complex models?	✗	✓
Scalable training?	✗	✓
Can estimate uncertainty?	✓	✗
Can perform sequential / active /online / incremental learning?	✓	✗

Deep Learning with Bayesian Principles

- Bayesian principles as common principles
 - By computing “posterior approximations”
- Derive many existing algorithms,
 - Deep Learning (SGD, RMSprop, Adam)
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Bayes for ImageNet

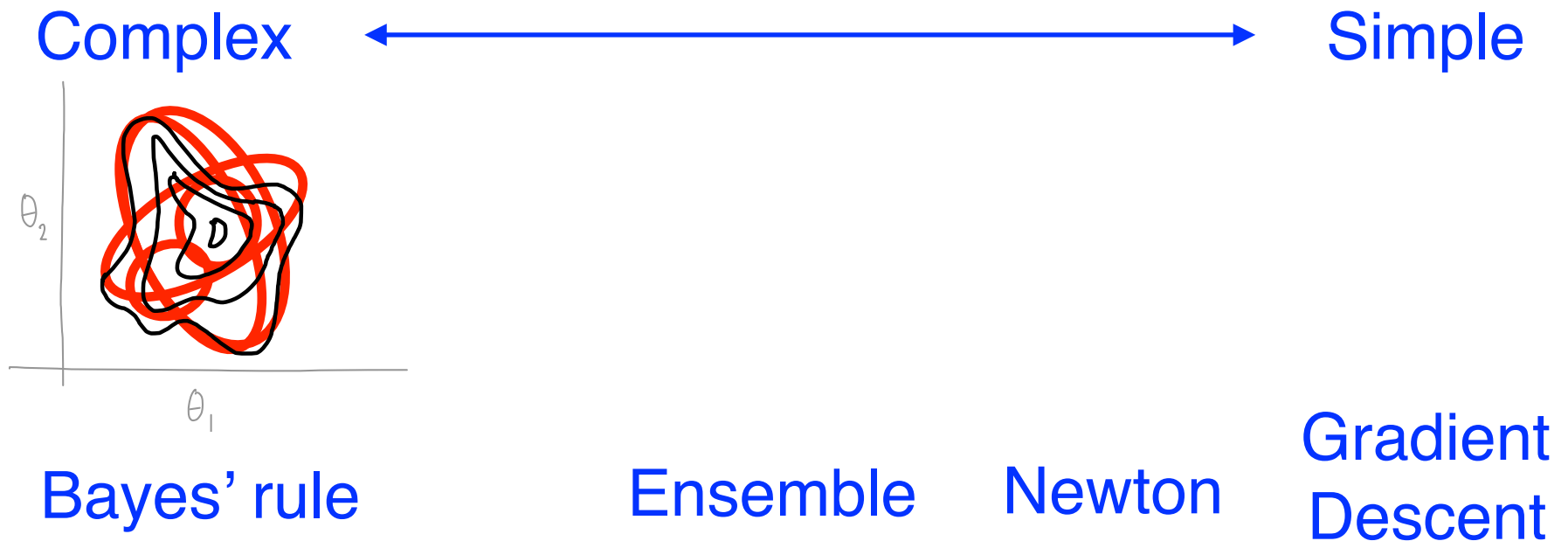
VOGN, an Adam-like algorithm, for uncertainty



1. Khan, et al. "Fast and scalable Bayesian deep learning by weight-perturbation in Adam." *ICML* (2018).
2. Osawa et al. "Practical Deep Learning with Bayesian Principles." *NeurIPS* (2019).

Bayesian principles to derive Learning-Algorithms

Main ideas: Introduce “posterior approximations” and the “Bayesian learning rule” to estimate them



Exponential Family Approximations

Natural
parameters

Sufficient
Statistics

Expectation
parameters

$$q(\theta) \propto \exp \left[\lambda^\top T(\theta) \right] \quad \mu := \mathbb{E}_q [T(\theta)]$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{N}(\theta|m, S^{-1}) &\propto \exp \left[-\frac{1}{2} (\theta - m)^\top S (\theta - m) \right] \\ &\propto \exp \left[(Sm)^\top \theta + \text{Tr} \left(-\frac{S}{2} \theta \theta^\top \right) \right] \end{aligned}$$

Gaussian distribution $q(\theta) := \mathcal{N}(\theta|m, S^{-1})$

Natural parameters $\lambda := \{Sm, -S/2\}$

Expectation parameters $\mu := \{\mathbb{E}_q(\theta), \mathbb{E}_q(\theta\theta^\top)\}$

Deep Learning with Bayesian Principles

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Gradient Descent from Bayes

Gradient descent: $\theta \leftarrow \theta - \rho \nabla_{\theta} \ell(\theta)$

Bayes Learn Rule: $m \leftarrow m - \rho \nabla_m \ell(m)$

“Global” to “local”

$$\mathbb{E}_q[\ell(\theta)] \approx \ell(m)$$

$$m \leftarrow m - \rho \nabla_m \mathbb{E}_q[\ell(\theta)]$$

$$\lambda \leftarrow \lambda - \rho \nabla_{\mu} (\mathbb{E}_q[\ell(\theta)] - \mathcal{H}(q))$$

Derived by choosing **Gaussian with fixed covariance**

Gaussian distribution $q(\theta) := \mathcal{N}(m, 1)$

Natural parameters $\lambda := m$

Expectation parameters $\mu := \mathbb{E}_q[\theta] = m$

Entropy $\mathcal{H}(q) := \log(2\pi)/2$

Using
stochastic
gradients,
we get SGD

Newton's Method from Bayes

Newton's method: $\theta \leftarrow \theta - H_{\theta}^{-1} [\nabla_{\theta} \ell(\theta)]$

$$S m \leftarrow (1 - \rho) S m - \rho \nabla_{\mathbb{E}_q(\theta)} \mathbb{E}_q[\ell(\theta)]$$

$$-\frac{1}{2} S \leftarrow (1 - \rho) \left(-\frac{1}{2} S\right) - \rho \frac{1}{2} \nabla_{\mathbb{E}_q(\theta)} \nabla_{\mathbb{E}_q(\theta)} \mathbb{E}_q[\ell(\theta)]$$

$$\lambda \leftarrow (1 - \rho) \nabla_{\mu} \mathcal{H}(q) + \rho \nabla_{\mu} \mathcal{H}(q) \quad -\nabla_{\mu} \mathcal{H}(q) = \lambda$$

Derived by choosing a **multivariate Gaussian**

Gaussian distribution $q(\theta) := \mathcal{N}(\theta | m, S^{-1})$

Natural parameters $\lambda := \{S m, -S/2\}$

Expectation parameters $\mu := \{\mathbb{E}_q(\theta), \mathbb{E}_q(\theta \theta^{\top})\}$

Newton's Method from Bayes

Newton's method: $\theta \leftarrow \theta - H_{\theta}^{-1} [\nabla_{\theta} \ell(\theta)]$

Set $\rho=1$ to get $m \leftarrow m - H_m^{-1} [\nabla_m \ell(m)]$

$$m \leftarrow m - \rho S^{-1} \nabla_m \ell(m)$$

$$S \leftarrow (1 - \rho)S + \rho H_m$$

“Global” to “local”

$$\mathbb{E}_q[\ell(\theta)] \approx \ell(m)$$

Express in terms of gradient and Hessian of loss:

$$\nabla_{\mathbb{E}_q(\theta)} \mathbb{E}_q[\ell(\theta)] = \mathbb{E}_q[\nabla_{\theta} \ell(\theta)] - 2\mathbb{E}_q[H_{\theta}]m$$

$$\nabla_{\mathbb{E}_q(\theta\theta^{\top})} \mathbb{E}_q[\ell(\theta)] = \mathbb{E}_q[H_{\theta}]$$

$$Sm \leftarrow (1 - \rho)Sm - \rho \nabla_{\mathbb{E}_q(\theta)} \mathbb{E}_q[\ell(\theta)]$$

$$S \leftarrow (1 - \rho)S - \rho 2 \nabla_{\mathbb{E}_q(\theta\theta^{\top})} \mathbb{E}_q[\ell(\theta)]$$

RMSprop/Adam from Bayes

Bayesian Learning rule for multivariate Gaussian

RMSprop

$$s \leftarrow (1 - \rho)s + \rho[\hat{\nabla}\ell(\theta)]^2$$
$$\theta \leftarrow \theta - \alpha(\sqrt{s} + \delta)^{-1}\hat{\nabla}\ell(\theta)$$

$$S \leftarrow (1 - \rho)S + \rho(H_\theta)$$
$$m \leftarrow m - \alpha S^{-1}\nabla_\theta\ell(\theta)$$

To get RMSprop, make the following choices

- Choose Gaussian with diagonal covariance
- Replace Hessian by square of gradients
- Add square root for scaling vector

For Adam, use a Heavy-ball term with KL divergence as momentum (Appendix E in [1])

Summary

- Gradient descent is derived using a Gaussian with fixed covariance, and estimating the mean
- Newton's method is derived using multivariate Gaussian
- RMSprop is derived using diagonal covariance
- Adam is derived by adding heavy-ball momentum term
- For “ensemble of Newton”, use Mixture of Gaussians [1]
- To derive DL algorithms, we need to switch from a “global” to “local” approximation $\mathbb{E}_q[\ell(\theta)] \approx \ell(m)$
- Then, to improve DL algorithms, we just need to add some “global” touch to the DL algorithms

Deep Learning with Bayesian Principles

- Bayesian principles as common principles
 - By computing “posterior approximations”
- Derive many existing algorithms,
 - Deep Learning (SGD, RMSprop, Adam)
 - **Exact Bayes, Laplace, Variational Inference, etc**
- Design new deep-learning algorithms
 - Uncertainty, data importance, life-long learning
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Learning-Algorithms from Bayesian Principles

Bayesian learning rule: $\lambda \leftarrow \lambda - \rho \nabla_{\mu} (\mathbb{E}_q[\ell(\theta)] - \mathcal{H}(q))$

Given a loss, we can recover a variety of learning algorithms by choosing an appropriate q

- Classical algorithms: Least-squares, gradient descent, Newton's method, Kalman filters, Baum-Welch, Forward-backward, etc.
- Bayesian inference: EM, Laplace's method, SVI, VMP.
- Deep learning: SGD, RMSprop, Adam.
- Reinforcement learning: parameter-space exploration, natural policy-search.
- Continual learning: Elastic-weight consolidation.
- Online learning: Exponential-weight average.
- Global optimization: Natural evolutionary strategies, Gaussian homotopy, continuation method & smoothed optimization.

Deep Learning with Bayesian Principles

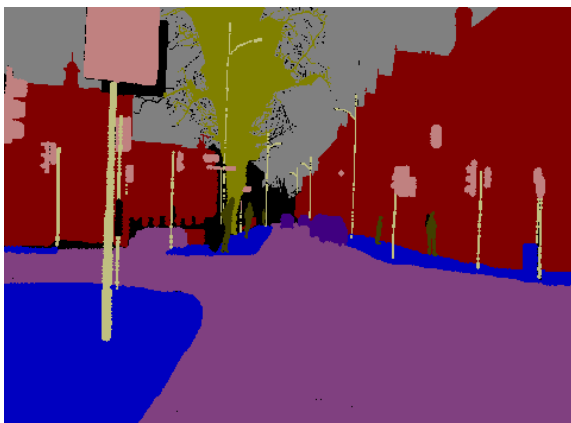
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Uncertainty Estimation for Image segmentation

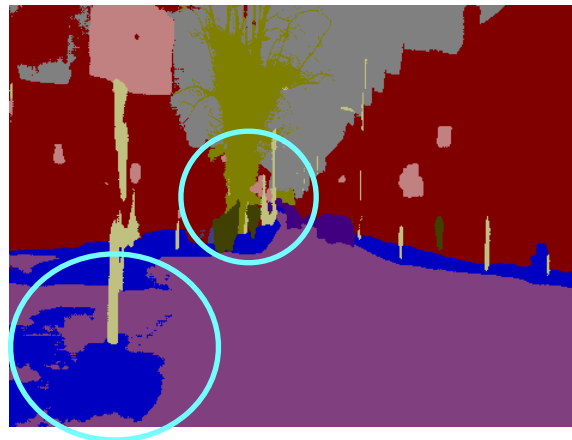
Image



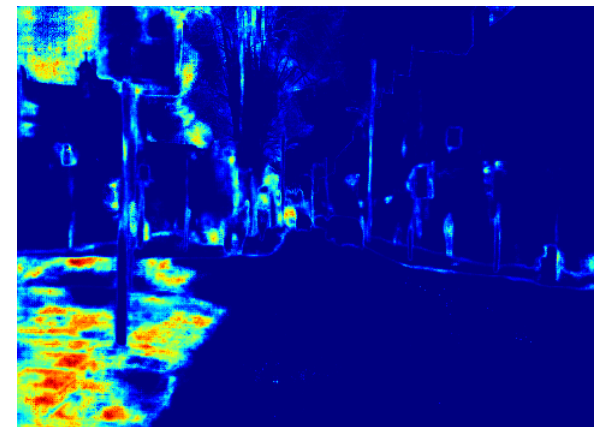
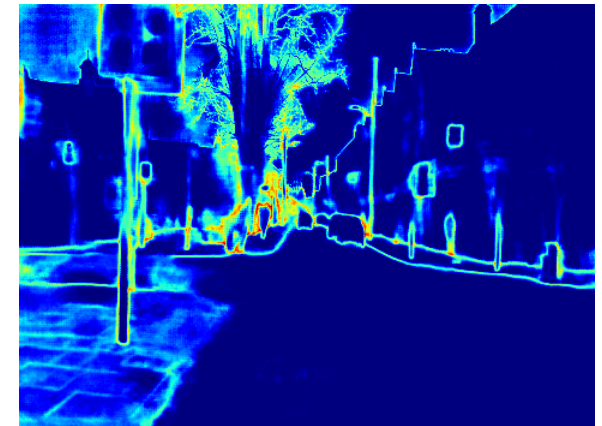
True Segments



Prediction



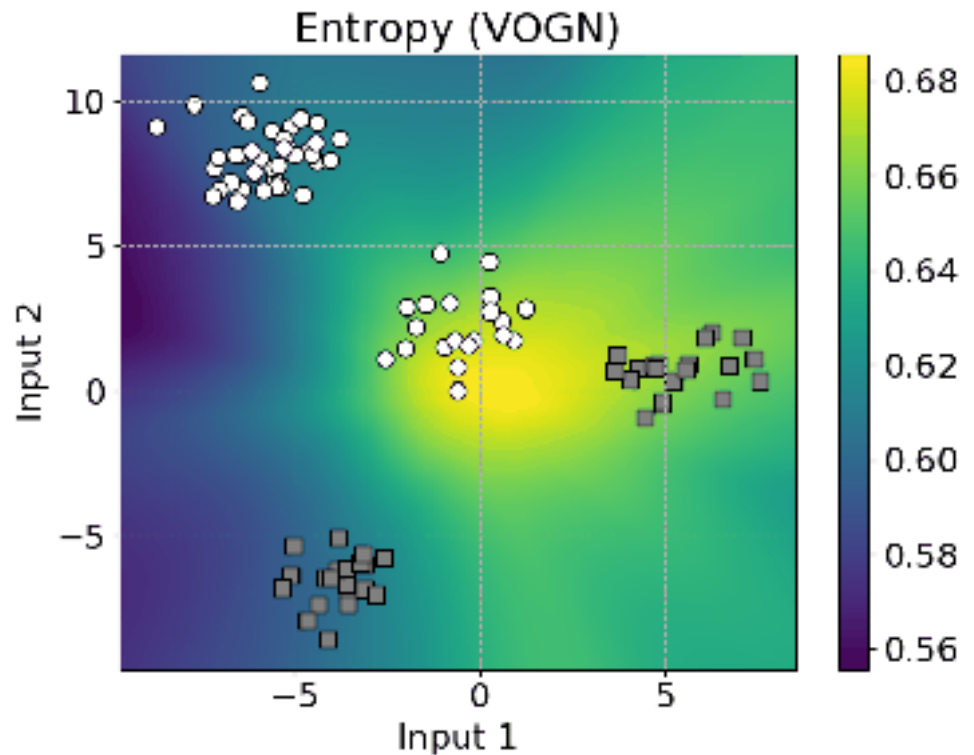
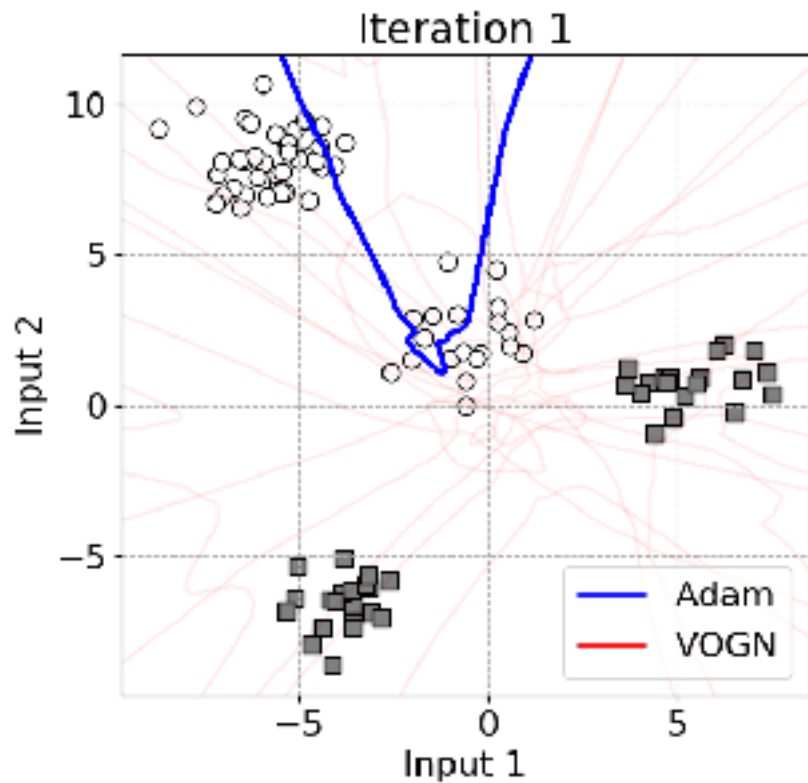
Uncertainty



Kendall, Alex, Yarin Gal, and Roberto Cipolla. "Multi-task learning using uncertainty to weigh losses for scene geometry and semantics." *CVPR*. 2018.

Scaling up VI to ImageNet

VOGN, an Adam-like algorithm, for uncertainty



1. Khan, et al. "Fast and scalable Bayesian deep learning by weight-perturbation in Adam." *ICML* (2018).
2. Osawa et al. "Practical Deep Learning with Bayesian Principles." *NeurIPS* (2019).

Variational Online Gauss-Newton

- Improve RMSprop with the Bayesian “touch”
 - Remove the “local” approximation $\mathbb{E}_q[\ell(\theta)] \approx \ell(m)$
 - Use a second-order approximation
 - No square root of the scale
- Improve VOGN by using deep learning tricks
 - Momentum, batch norm, data augmentation etc

RMSprop

$$g \leftarrow \hat{\nabla} \ell(\theta)$$

$$s \leftarrow (1 - \rho)s + \rho g^2$$

$$\theta \leftarrow \theta - \alpha(\sqrt{s} + \delta)^{-1}g$$

VOGN

$$g \leftarrow \hat{\nabla} \ell(\theta), \text{ where } \theta \sim \mathcal{N}(m, \sigma^2)$$

$$s \leftarrow (1 - \rho)s + \rho(\sum_i g_i^2)$$

$$m \leftarrow m - \alpha(s + \gamma)^{-1} \nabla_{\theta} \ell(\theta)$$

$$\sigma^2 \leftarrow (s + \gamma)^{-1}$$

1. Khan, et al. "Fast and scalable Bayesian deep learning by weight-perturbation in Adam." *ICML* (2018).
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Adam to VOGN

“Adam” to “VOGN” in two lines of code change.

```
import torch
+import torchsso

train_loader = torch.utils.data.DataLoader(train_dataset)
model = MLP()

-optimizer = torch.optim.Adam(model.parameters())
+optimizer = torchsso.optim.VOBN(model, dataset_size=len(train_loader.dataset))
```

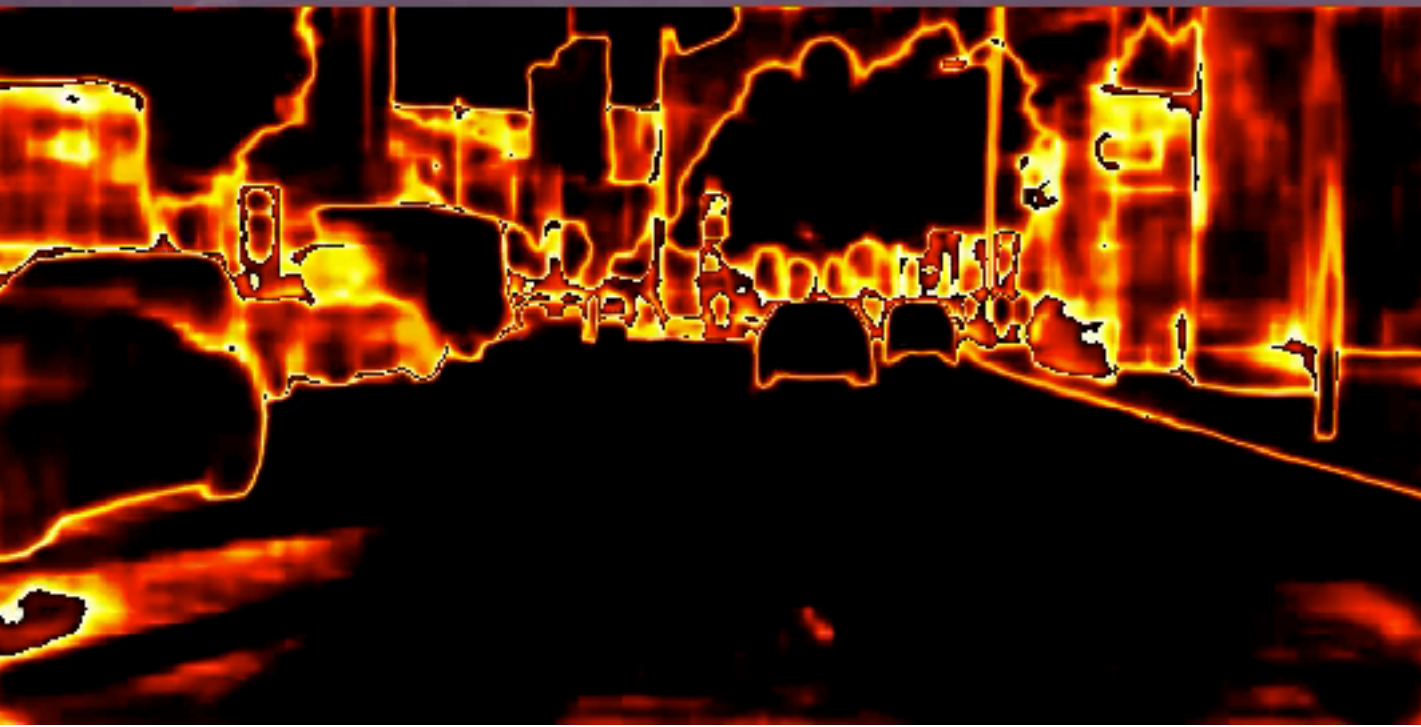
Available at <https://github.com/team-approx-bayes/dl-with-bayes>

Uses many practical tricks of DL to scale Bayes

1. Khan, et al. "Fast and scalable Bayesian deep learning by weight-perturbation in Adam." *ICML* (2018).
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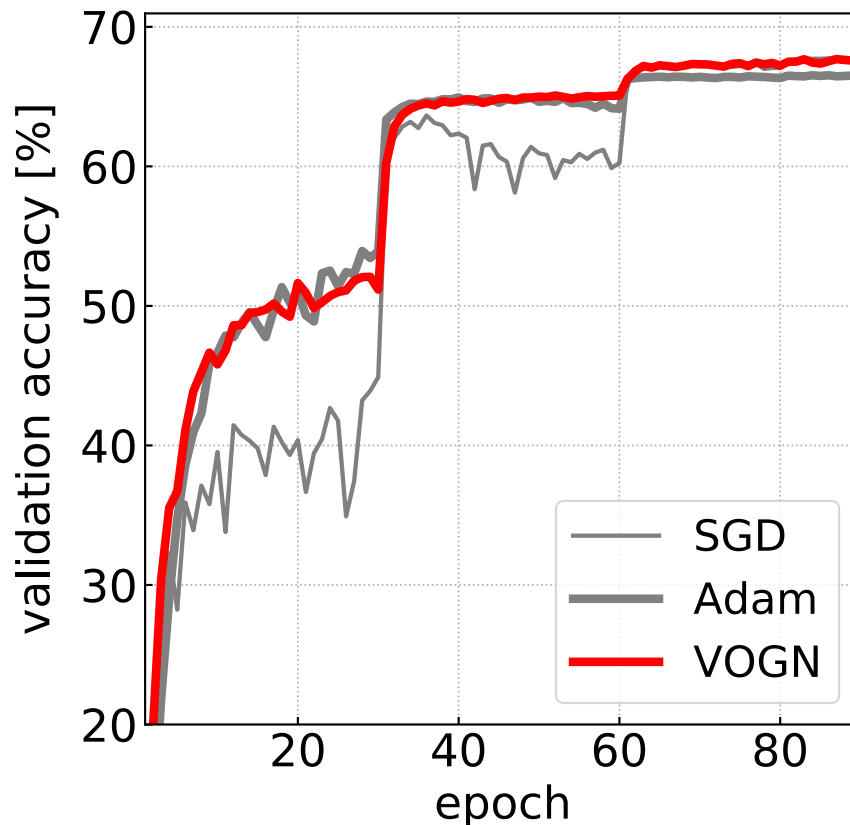
Image
Segmentation



Uncertainty
(entropy of
class probs)

VOGN on ImageNet

State-of-the-art performance and convergence rate, while preserving benefits of Bayesian principles

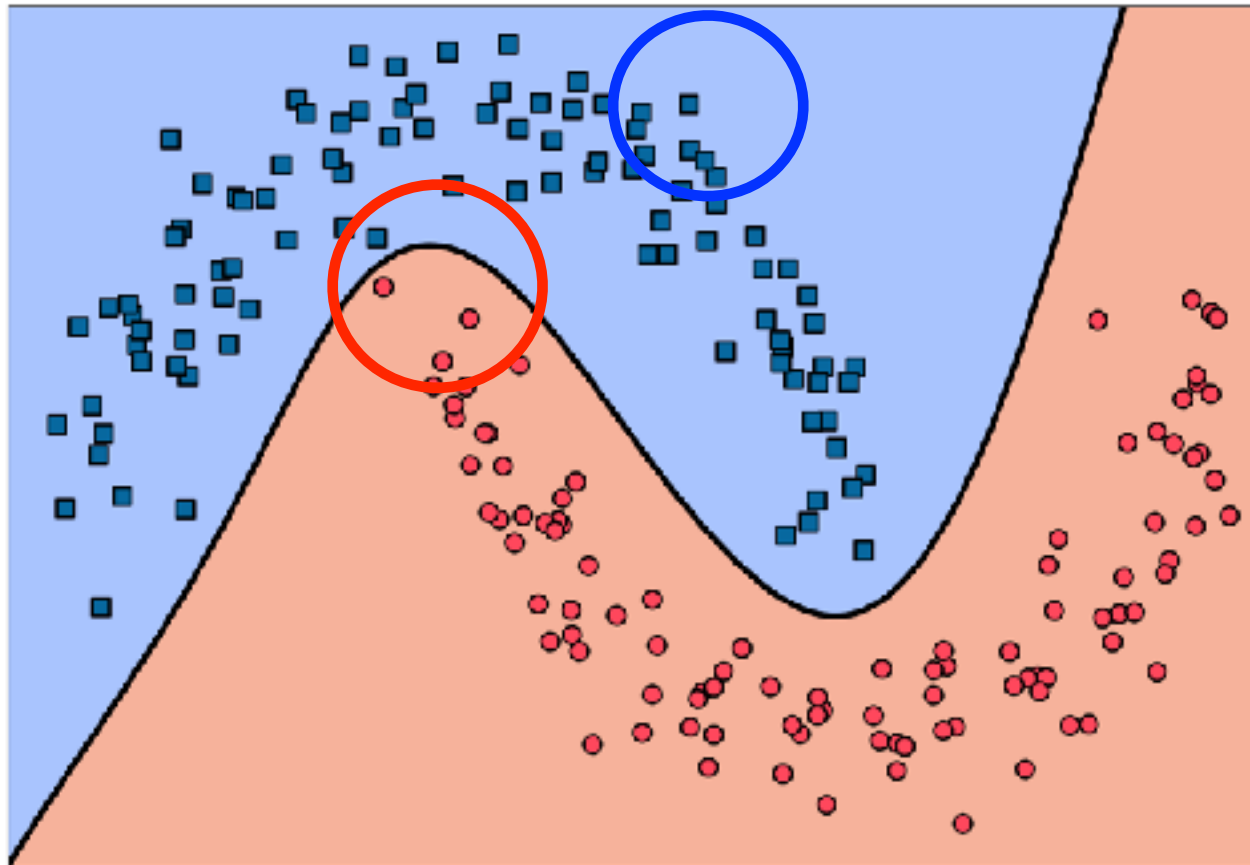


Deep Learning with Bayesian Principles

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- **Design new deep-learning algorithms**
 - Uncertainty, **data importance**, life-long learning
- Impact: Many learning-algorithms with a common set of principles.

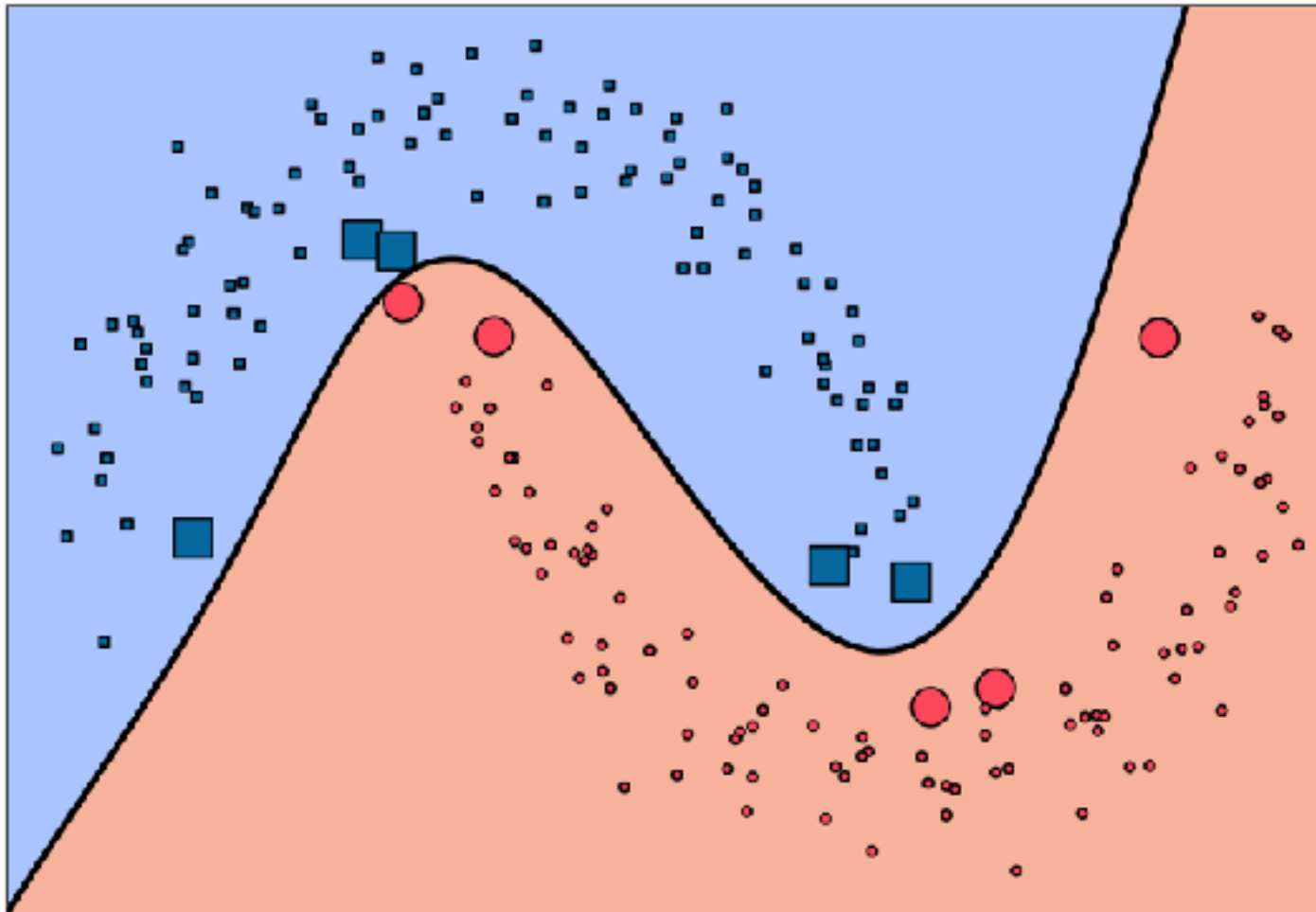
Importance of Data Examples

Which examples are most important for the classifier? Red circle vs Blue circle.



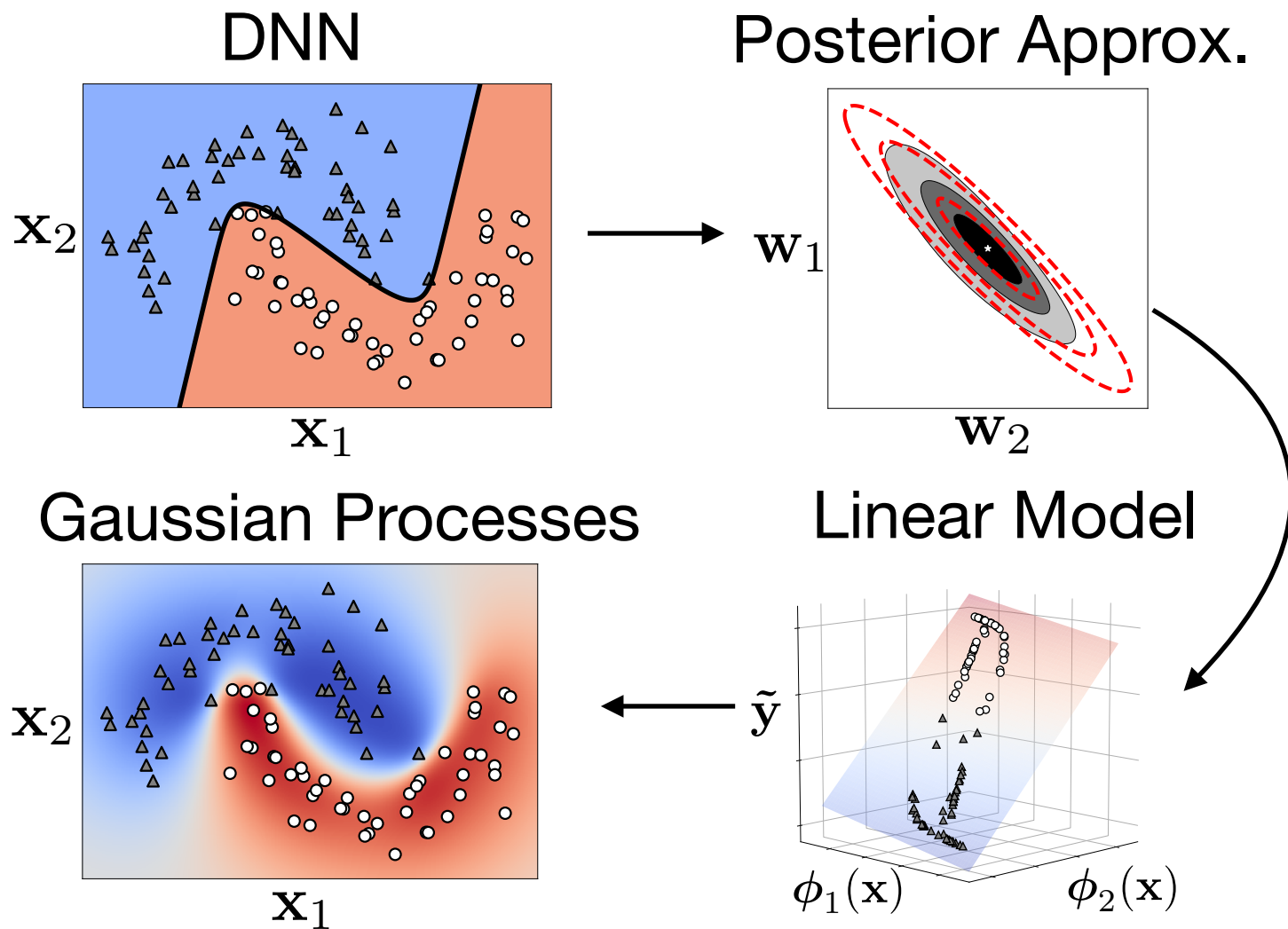
Model view vs Data view

Bayes “automatically” defines data-Importance



Data
view

DNN to GP



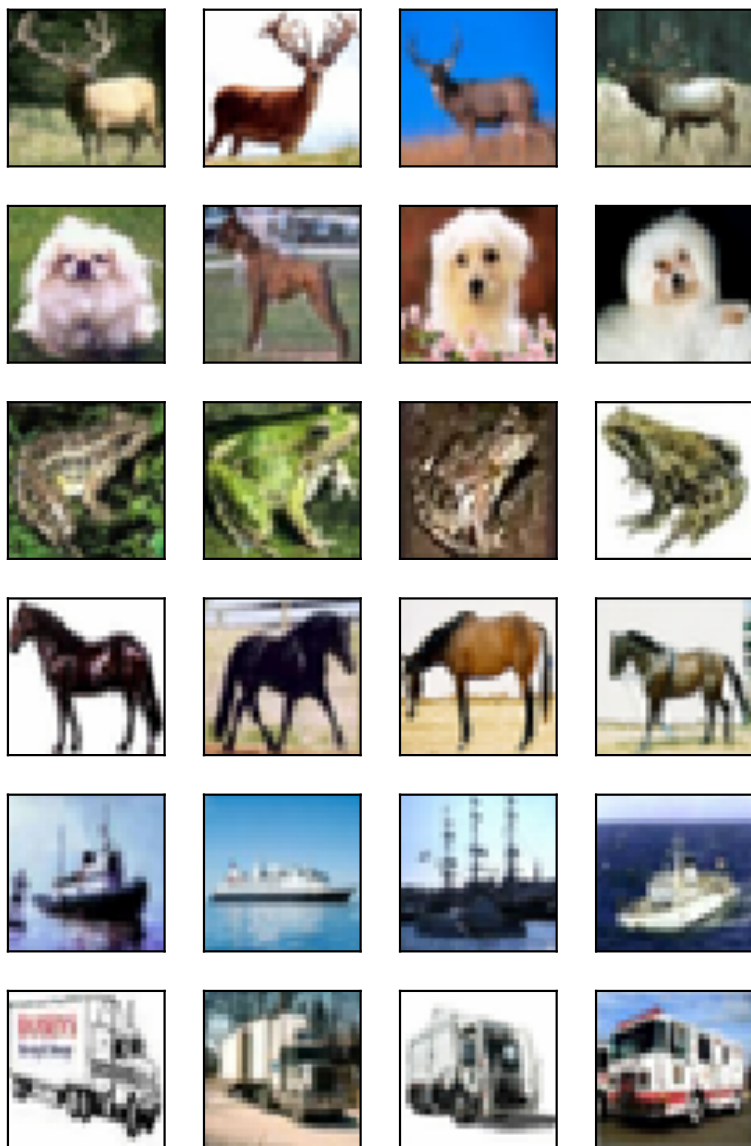
Least Important



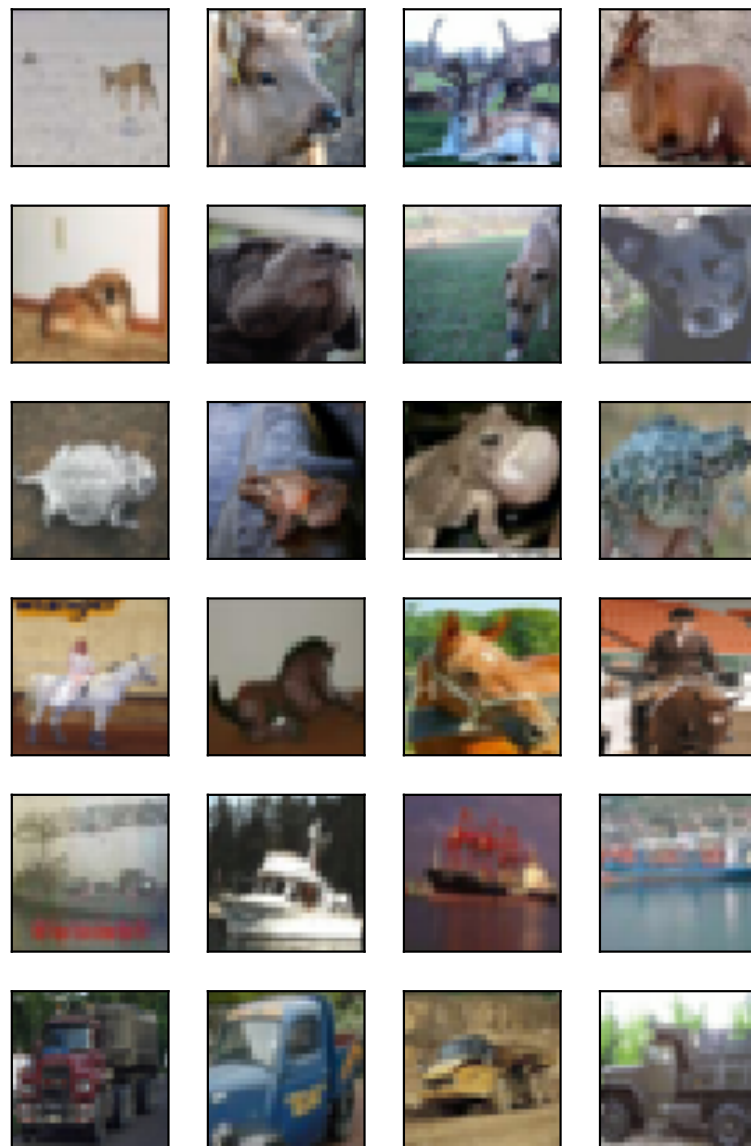
Most Important



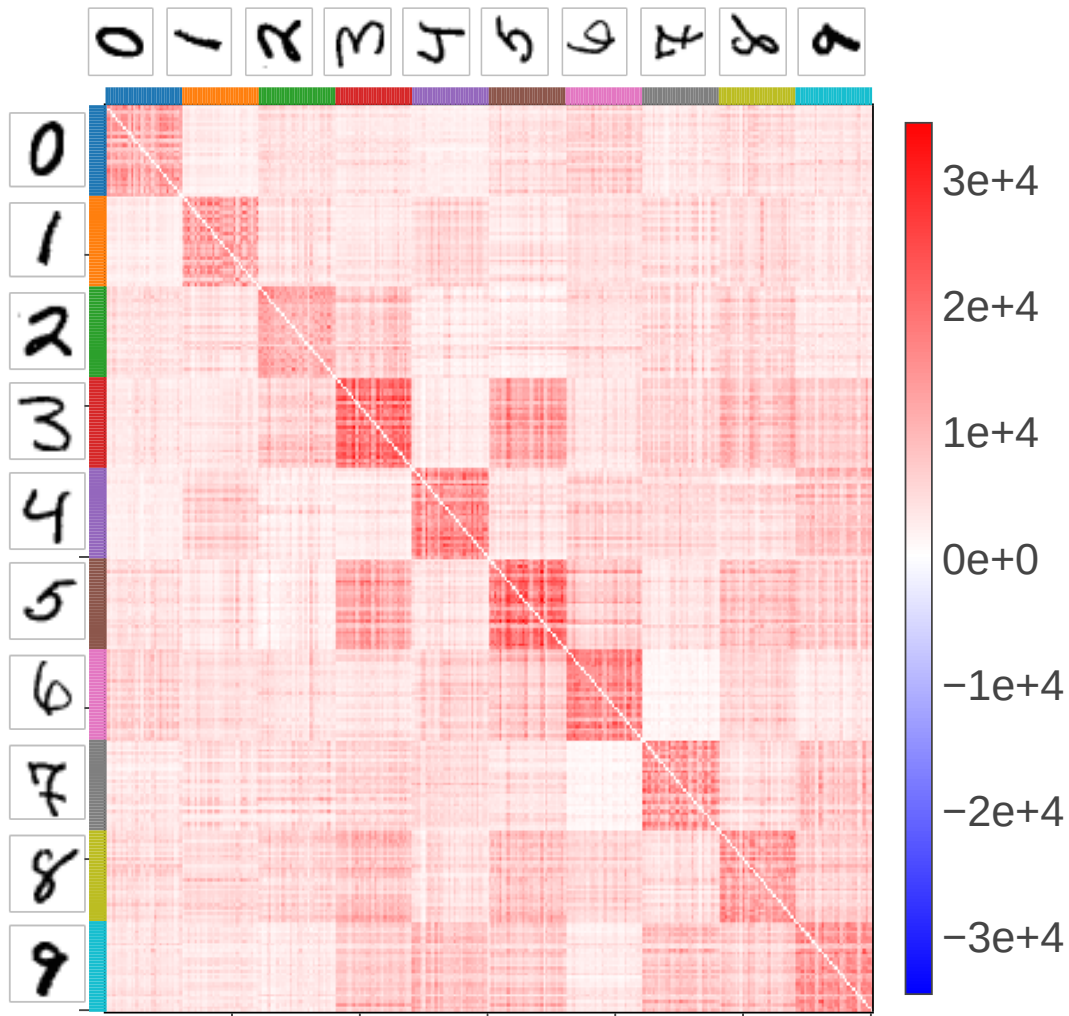
Least Important



Most Important



Similarity (Kernel) Matrix



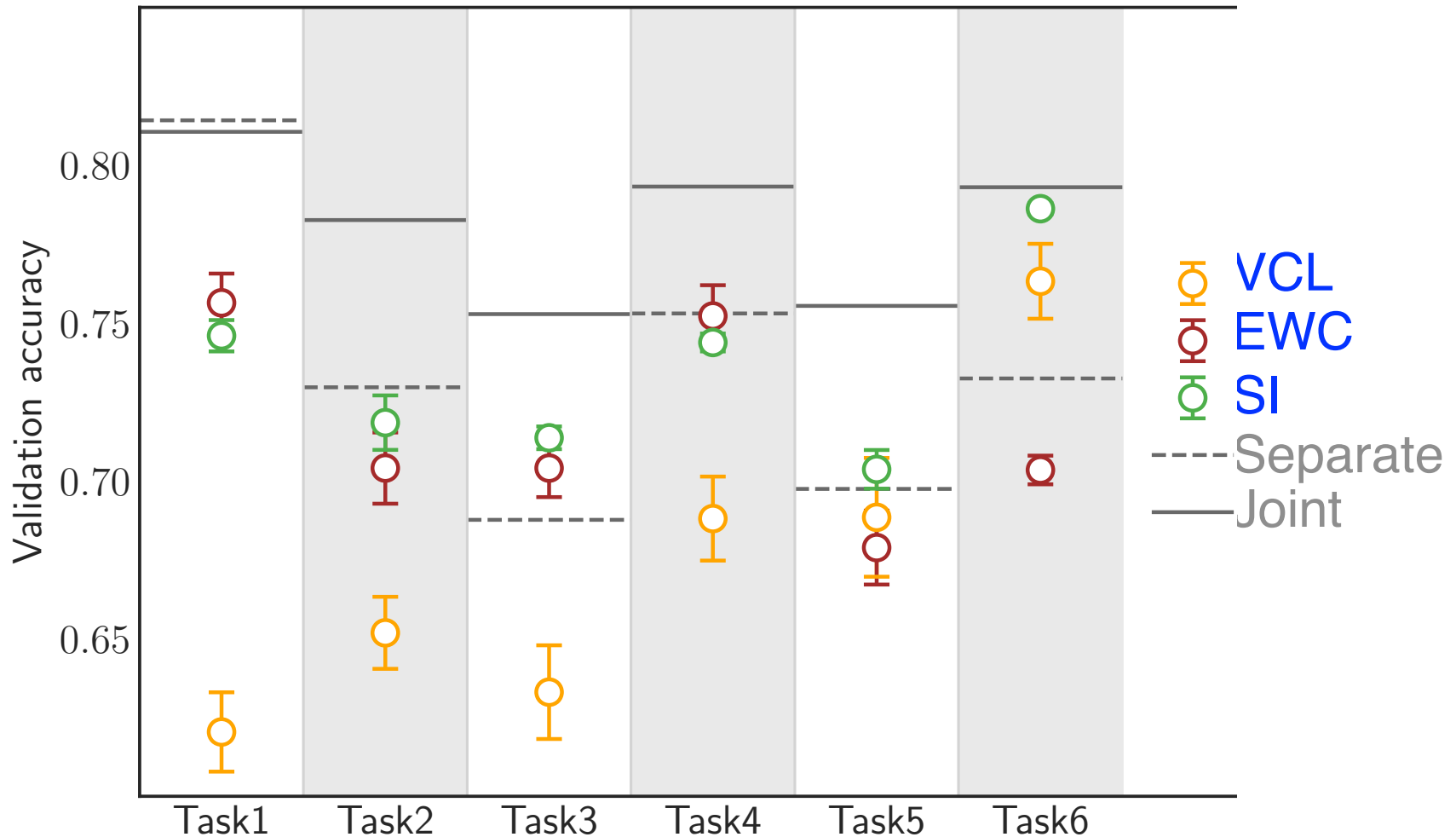
$$K_{ij} := \phi_i^\top \phi_j$$

For DNN, with a specific Gaussian approximation, we obtain Neural Tangent Kernel

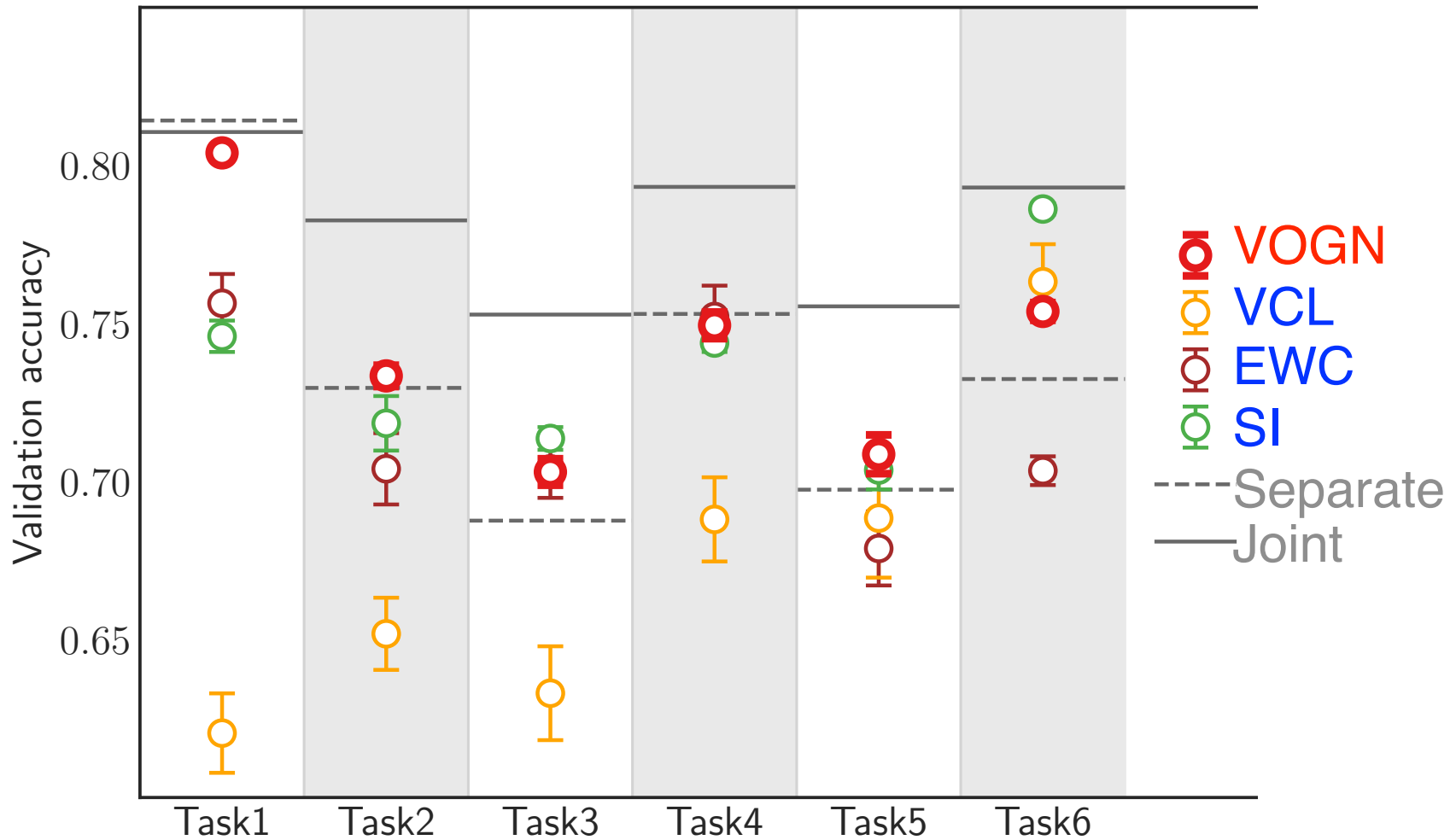
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Principle is Broken: Better Approximation don't give better results!

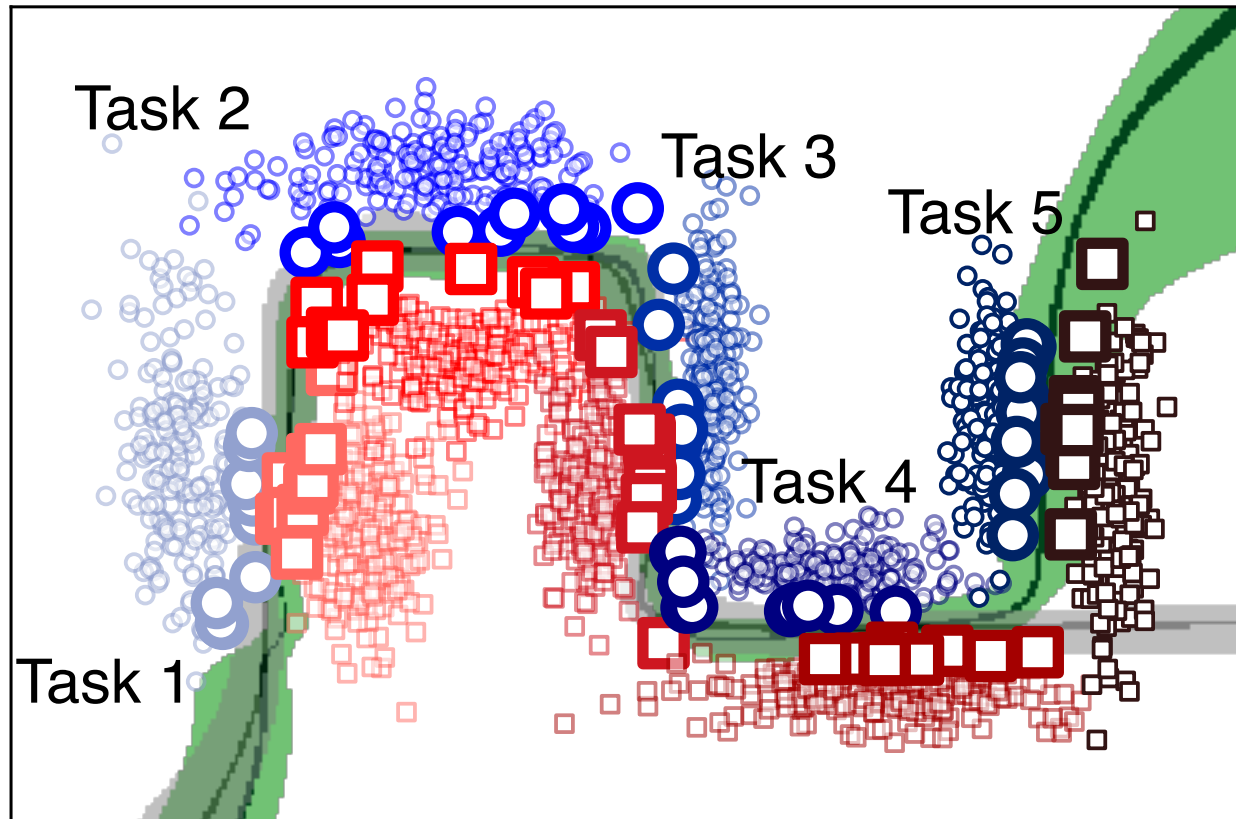


VOGN improves the gap

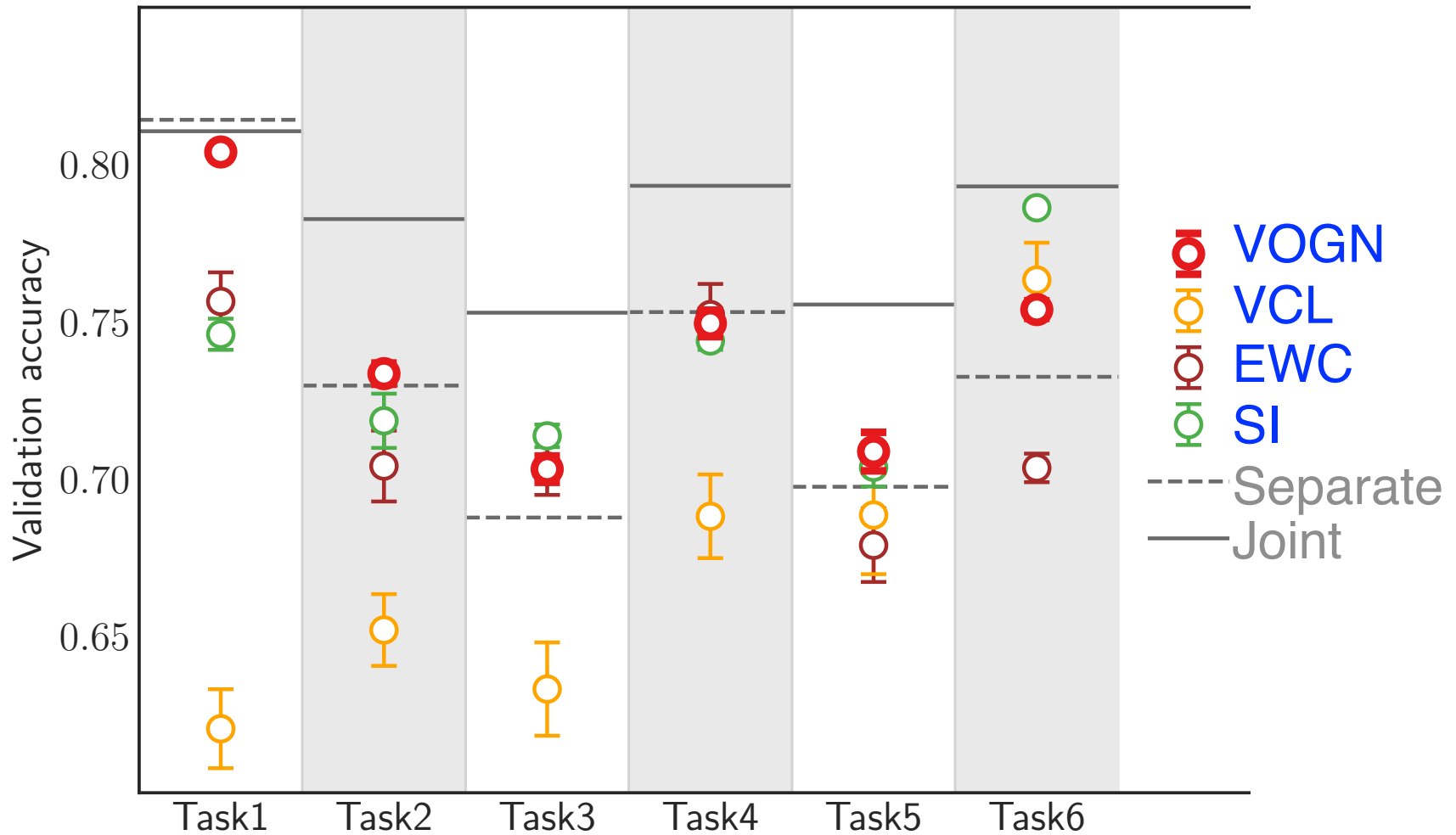


Functional Regularization of Memorable Past (FROMP)

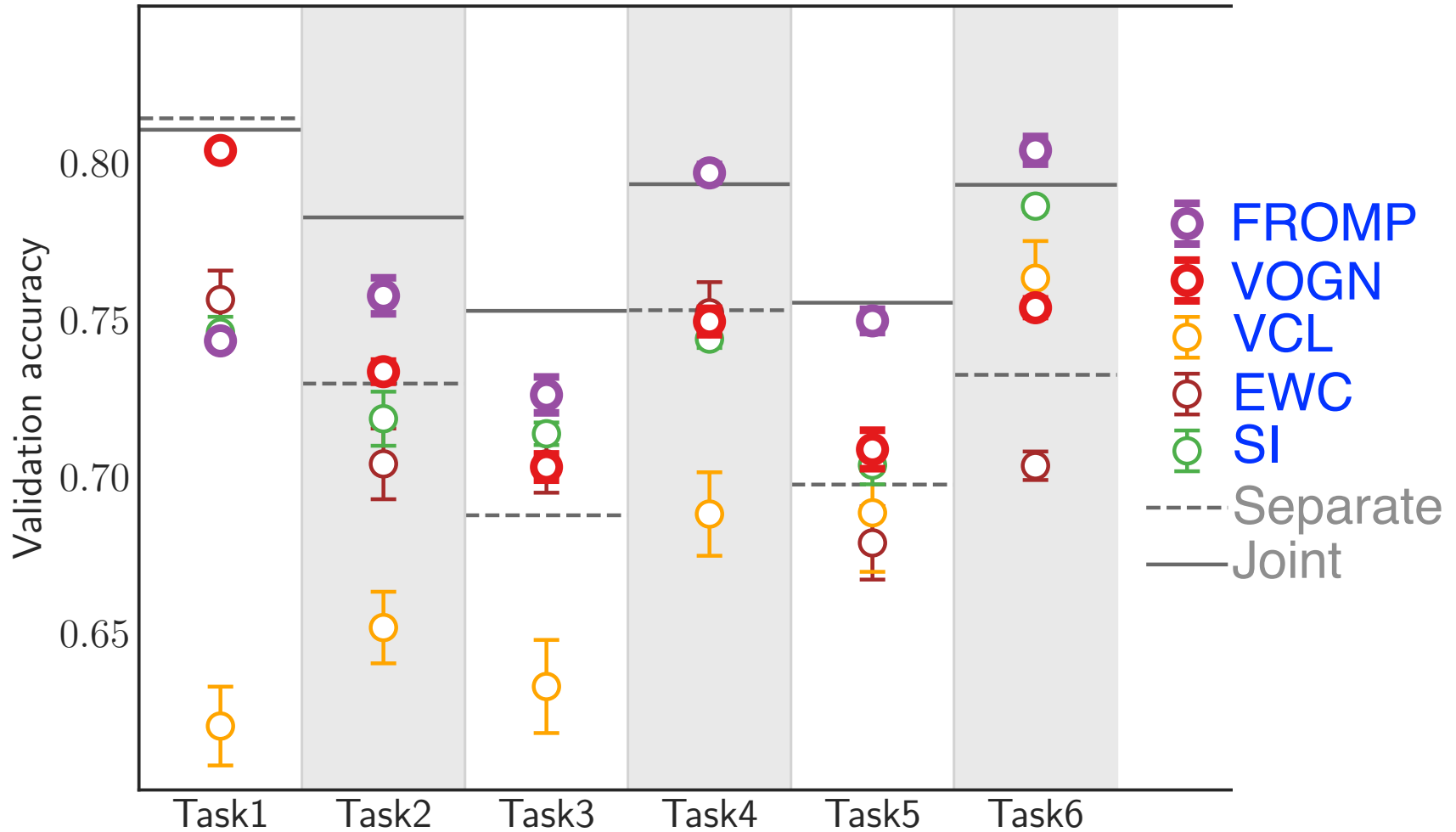
Identify, memorize, and regularize the past using Laplace Approximation (similar to EWC)



FROMP improves over EWC!

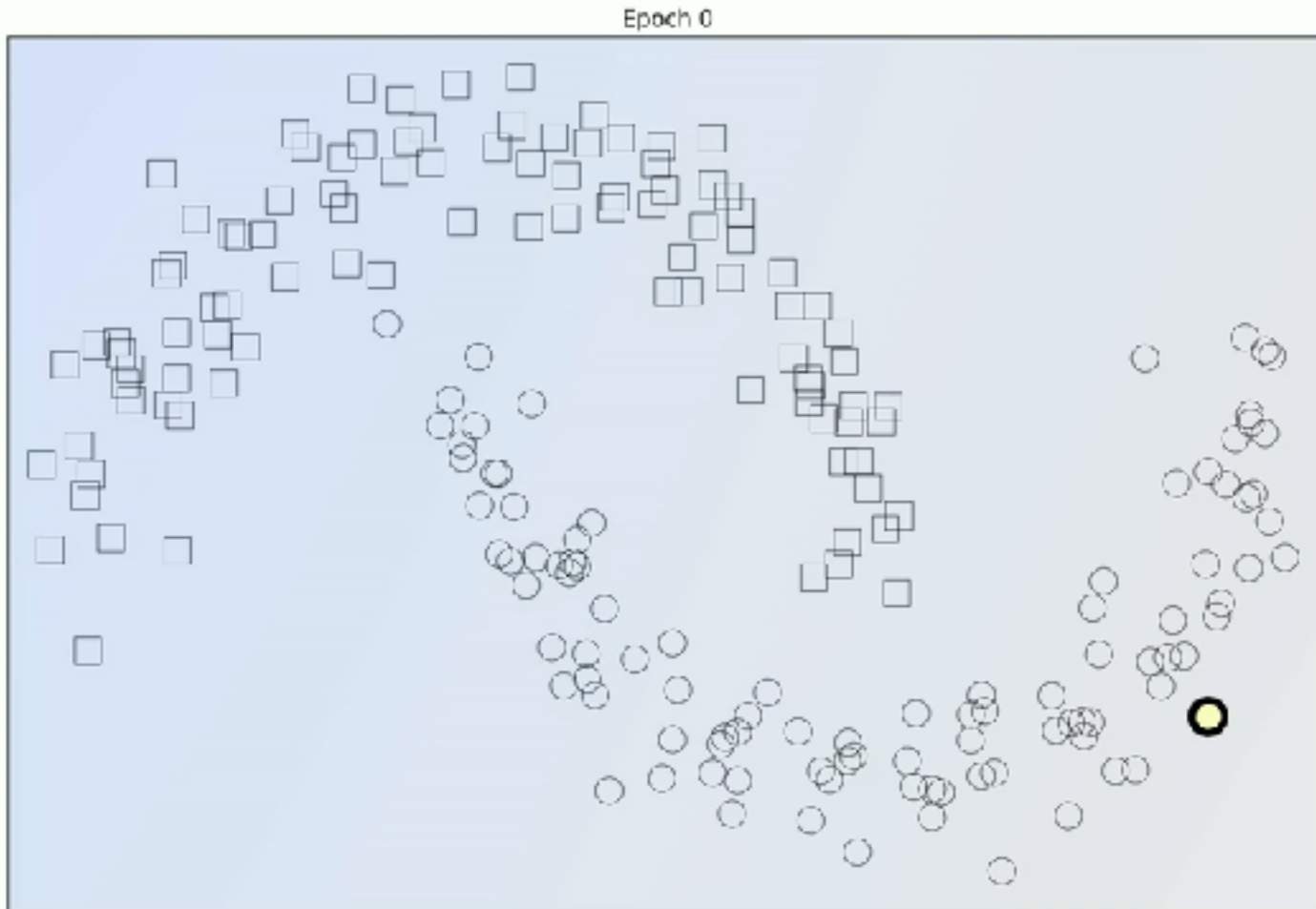


FROMP improves over EWC!



Active Deep Learning

Select “Important” examples while training with Adam



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Open Challenges

- Deep Learning + Bayes Learning
 - Principles of “trial and error” and “bayes” together
- How to achieve Life-long deep learning?
- How to compute better posterior approx?
- How to compute higher-order gradients?

Towards Life-long learning

- For life-long learning, we need
 - Perception: how you want to see the world?
 - Action: what you want to see in the world?
- Posterior approximation connects the two
 - Models are representation of the world
 - Approximations are representation of the model
 - They help us learn the model through actions
 - Act to appropriately “fill” the data space

NeurIPS 2019 Tutorial on “Deep Learning with Bayesian Principles”

SlidesLive Professional Conference Recording

TOPICS

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	Bayes	DL
Can handle large data and complex models?	✗	✓
Scalable training?	✗	✓
Can estimate uncertainty?	✓	✗
Can perform sequential / active learning / incremental learning?	✓	✗

Bayesian learning

- Bayesian models** (GPs, BayesNets, PCMs,)
- Bayesian inference** (Bayes rule)

Deep learning

- Deep models** (MLP, CNN, RNN etc.)
- Stochastic training** (SGD, RMSprop, Adam)

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<https://slideslive.com/38921489/deep-learning-with-bayesian-principles>

With a significant help from

Roman
Bachmann
(RIKEN-AIP)

Xiangming
Meng
(RIKEN-AIP)



Learning-Algorithms from Bayesian Principles

Coming soon!

A preliminary version is at
[https://emtiyaz.github.io/papers/
learning_from_bayes.pdf](https://emtiyaz.github.io/papers/learning_from_bayes.pdf)



Havard Rue (KAUST)

References

Available at <https://emtiyaz.github.io/publications.html>

Conjugate-Computation Variational Inference : Converting Variational Inference in Non-Conjugate Models to Inferences in Conjugate Models,
(**AIStats 2017**) **M.E. KHAN** AND W. LIN [[Paper](#)] [[Code for Logistic Reg](#)

Fast and Scalable Bayesian Deep Learning by Weight-Perturbation in Adam,
(**ICML 2018**) **M.E. KHAN**, D. NIELSEN, V. TANGKARATT, W. LIN, Y. GAL, AND A. SRIVASTAVA, [[ArXiv Version](#)] [[Code](#)] [[Slides](#)]

Practical Deep Learning with Bayesian Principles,
(UNDER REVIEW) K. OSAWA, S. SWAROOP, A. JAIN, R. ESCHENHAGEN, R.E. TURNER, R. YOKOTA, **M.E. KHAN**. [[arXiv](#)]

Approximate Inference Turns Deep Networks into Gaussian Processes,
(UNDER REVIEW) **M.E. KHAN**, A. IMMER, E. ABEDI, M. KORZEPA. [[arXiv](#)]

Fast yet Simple Natural-Gradient Descent for Variational Inference in Complex Models

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Abstract—Bayesian inference plays an important role in advancing machine learning, but faces computational challenges when applied to complex models such as deep neural networks. Variational inference circumvents these challenges by formulating Bayesian inference as an optimization problem and solving it using gradient-based optimization. In this paper, we argue in favor of *natural-gradient* approaches which, unlike their *gradient*-based counterparts, can improve convergence by exploiting the information geometry of the solutions. We show how to derive fast yet simple natural-gradient updates by using a duality associated with exponential-family distributions. An attractive feature of these methods is that, by using natural-gradients, they are able to extract accurate local approximations for individual model components. We summarize recent results for Bayesian deep learning showing the superiority of natural-gradient approaches over their gradient counterparts.

Index Terms—Bayesian inference, variational inference, natural gradients, stochastic gradients, information geometry, exponential-family distributions, nonconjugate models.

prove the rate of convergence [7]–[9]. Unfortunately, these approaches only apply to a restricted class of models known as *conditionally-conjugate* models, and do not work for non-conjugate models such as Bayesian neural networks.

This paper discusses some recent methods that generalize the use of natural gradients to such large and complex non-conjugate models. We show that, for exponential-family approximations, a duality between their natural and expectation parameter spaces enables a simple natural gradient update. The resulting updates are equivalent to a recently proposed method called Conjugate-computation Variational Inference (CVI) [10]. An attractive feature of the method is that it naturally obtains *local* exponential-family approximations for individual model components. We discuss the application of the CVI method to Bayesian neural networks and show some recent results from a recent work [11] demonstrating

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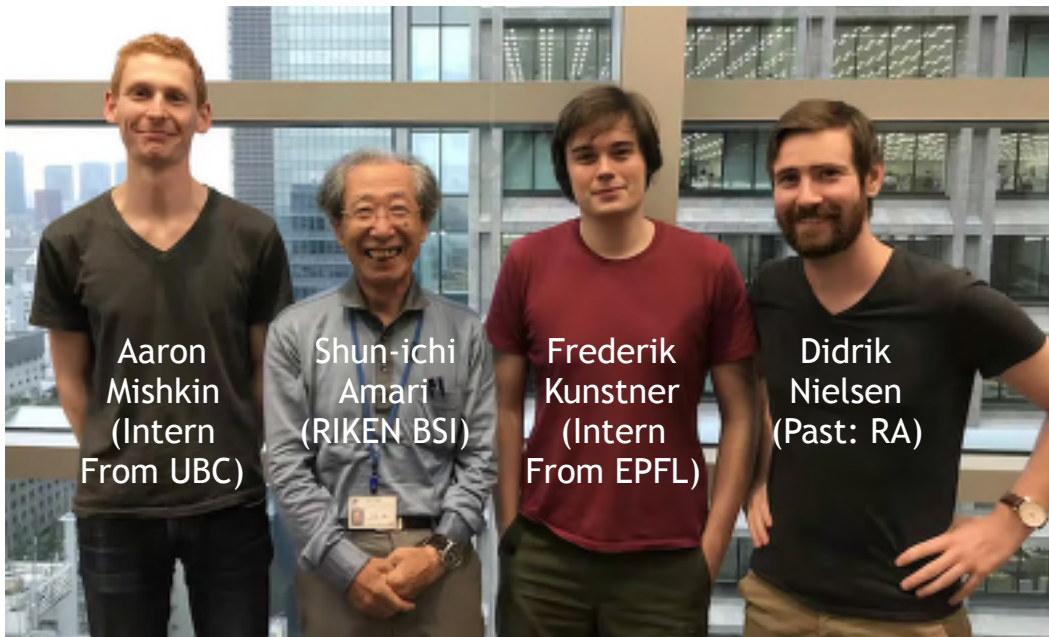
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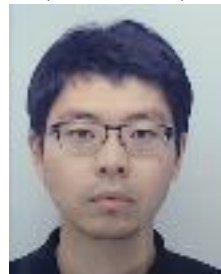
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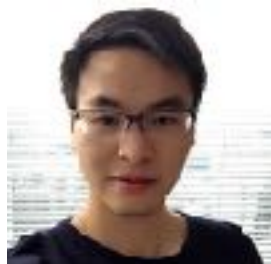


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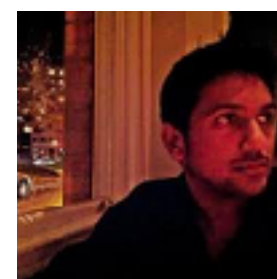
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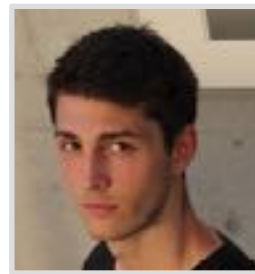
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Approximate Bayesian Inference Team

