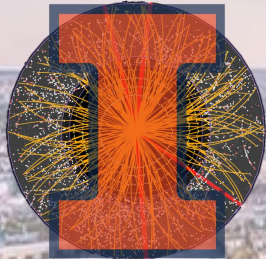
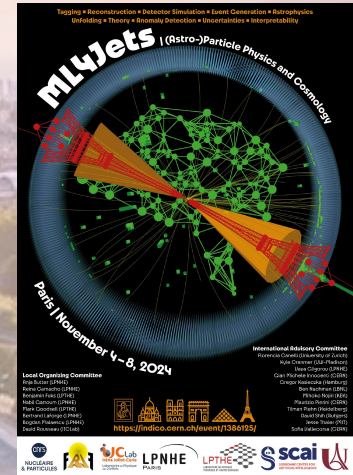


# Uncertainty Quantification and Anomaly Detection with Evidential Deep Learning



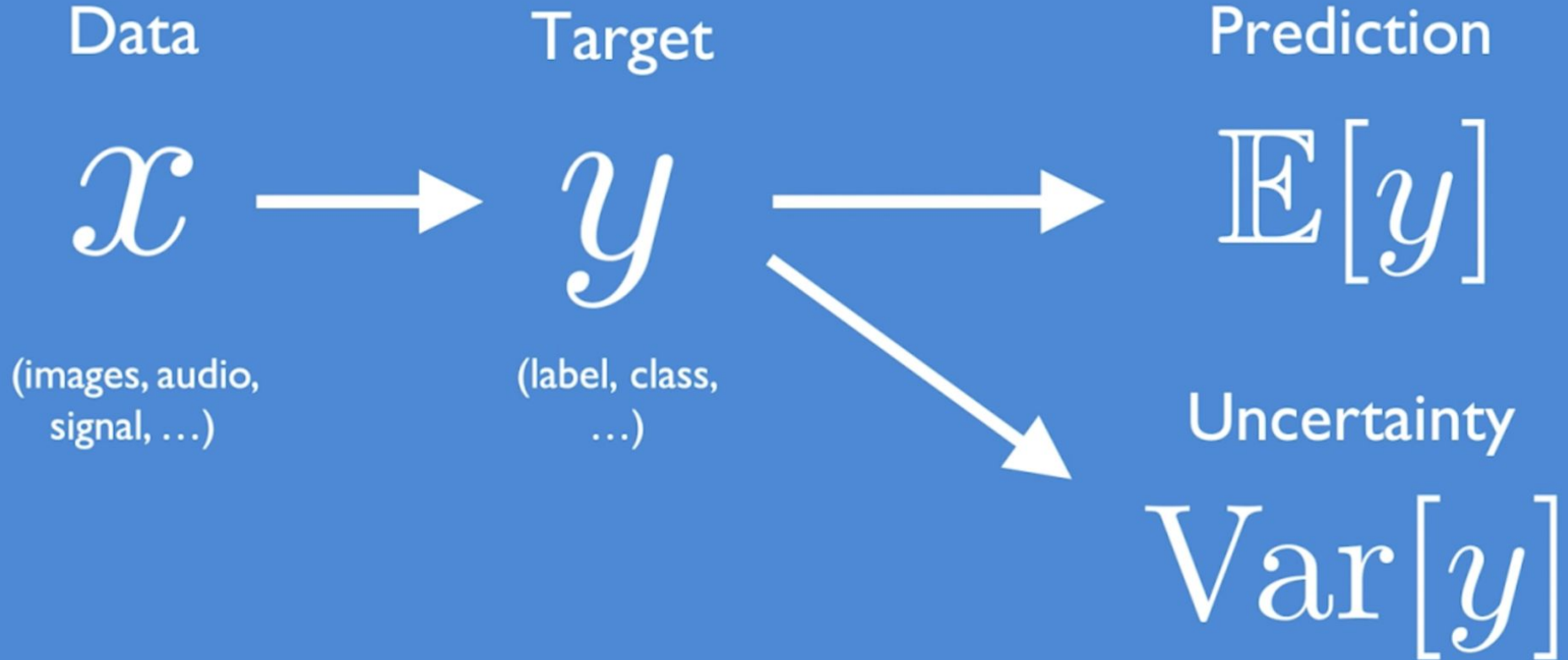
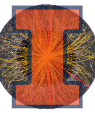
**Mark Neubauer**  
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign



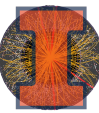
November 4-8, 2024

LPNHE, Paris, France

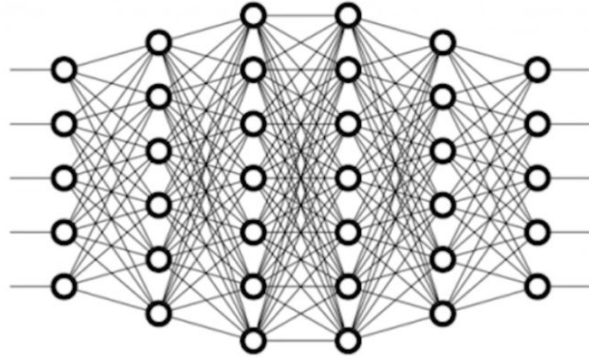
# Probabilistic Learning



# Learning Probabilistic Outputs



$x$

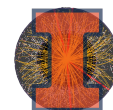


$$p(y = \text{"cat"} \mid x)$$

$$p(y = \text{"dog"} \mid x)$$

Probability distribution over  
discrete class categories

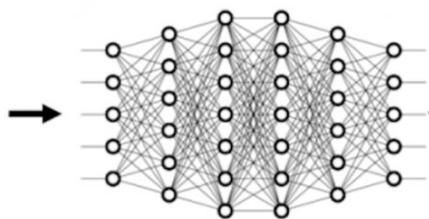
# Learning Discrete Class Targets



## Classification



$x$



$$p(y = \text{"cat"} \mid x)$$

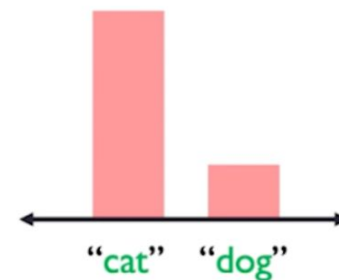
$$p(y = \text{"dog"} \mid x)$$

## Why?

$y \sim \text{Categorical}(\mathbf{p})$

Class Labels      Likelihood function      Distribution parameters (probabilities)

$$f(y = y_i \mid \mathbf{p}) = p_i$$



Activation: softmax(z)       $\rightarrow$        $\sigma(\vec{z})_i = \frac{e^{z_i}}{\sum_{j=1}^K e^{z_j}}$

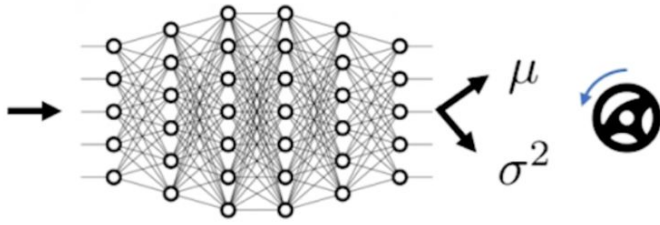
Loss: Neg. Log Likelihood (Cross Entropy)       $\rightarrow$        $-\sum_{i=1}^K y_i \log p_i$

# Learning Continuous Class Targets

## Regression



$x$



**Activation:**

$$\begin{aligned} \mu &\in \mathbb{R} \\ \sigma &> 0 \end{aligned}$$



$$\begin{aligned} \mu &= z_\mu \\ \sigma &= \exp(z_\sigma) \end{aligned}$$

**Loss:**

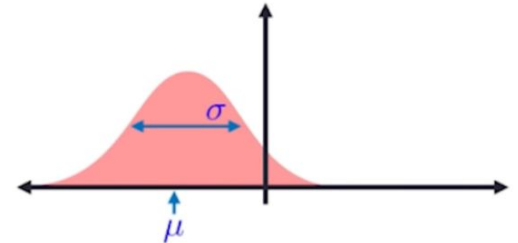
$$\text{Neg. Log Likelihood} \rightarrow -\log(\mathcal{N}(y|\mu, \sigma^2))$$

## Why?

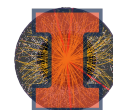
$$y \sim \text{Normal}(\mu, \sigma^2)$$

Target Labels      Likelihood function      Distribution parameters

$$f(y|\mu, \sigma^2) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}} \exp\left(-\frac{(y-\mu)^2}{2\sigma^2}\right)$$



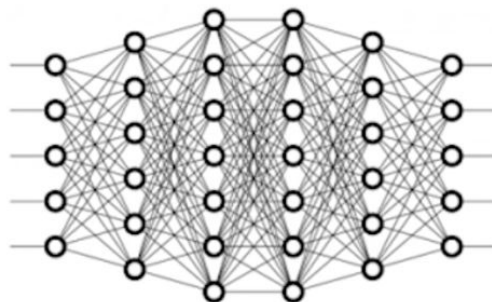
# Likelihood vs Confidence



Do not mistake likelihood (probability) for model confidence!



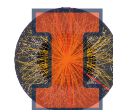
OR



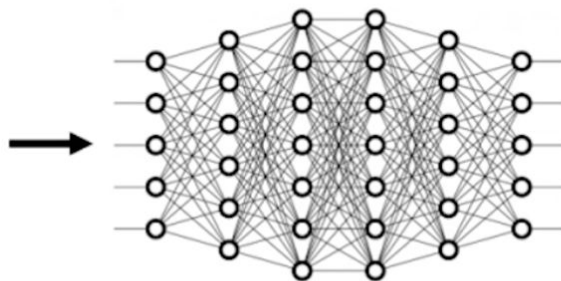
$p(\text{"cat"})$

$p(\text{"dog"})$

# Likelihood vs Confidence



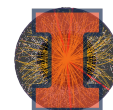
Do not mistake likelihood (probability) for model confidence!



$$p(\text{"cat"}) = 0.5$$

$$p(\text{"dog"}) = 0.5$$

# Likelihood vs Confidence



Do not mistake likelihood (probability) for model confidence!



**Expectation:**

Training on a your dataset

**Dogs**

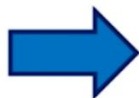


**Reality:**

Testing in reality

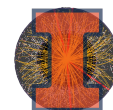


**Driving**





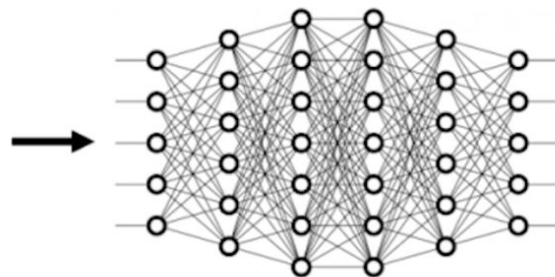
# Likelihood vs Confidence



Do not mistake likelihood (probability) for model confidence!



The output likelihoods will be unreliable if the input is **unlike anything during training**

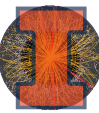


$$p(\text{"cat"}) = 0.15$$

$$p(\text{"dog"}) = 0.85$$

★  $p(\text{"cat"}) + p(\text{"dog"}) = 1$  ★

# Types of Uncertainty

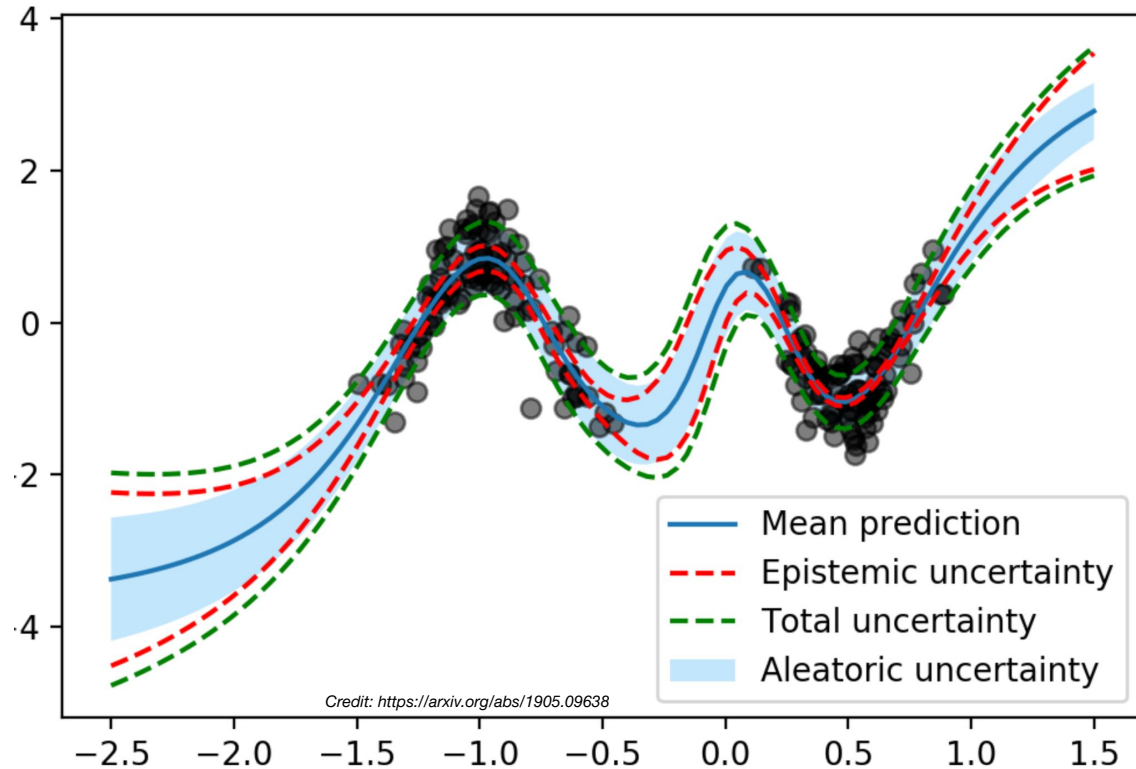


## Aleatoric Uncertainty

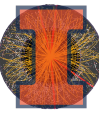
- Describes the confidence in the input data
- Large when input data is noisy
- Cannot be reduced by simply adding more data

## Epistemic Uncertainty

- Describes the confidence in the prediction
- Large when insufficient training data
- Can be reduced by adding more data

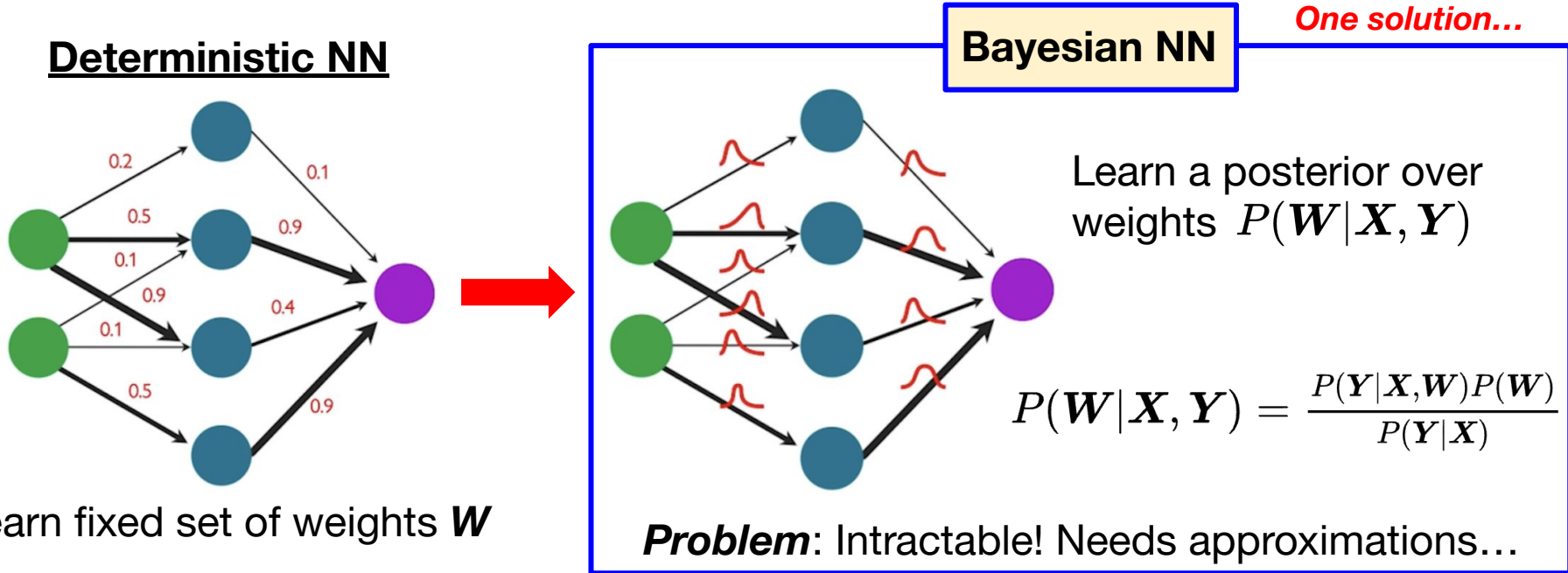


# Estimating epistemic uncertainty

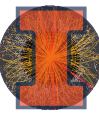


- Aleatoric uncertainty can be learned directly using neural networks
- Epistemic uncertainty is much more challenging to estimate

**Q:** How can a model understand when it doesn't know the answer?



# Approximations via Sampling

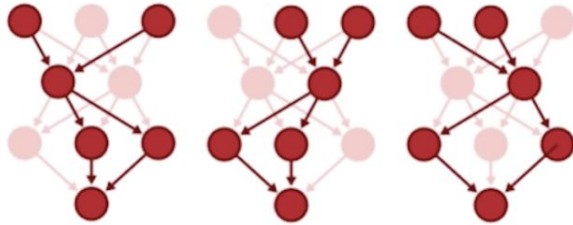


Evaluate  $T$  stochastic forward passes using different samples of weights  $\{\mathbf{W}_t\}_{t=1}^T$

- Dropout as a form of stochastic sampling

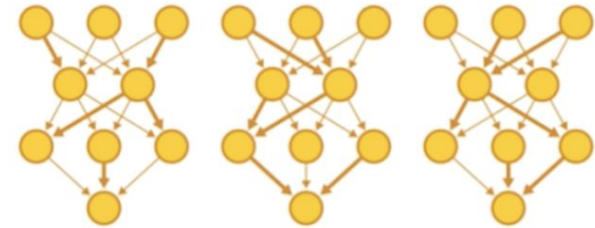
$$z_{w,t} \sim \text{Bernoulli}(p) \quad \forall w \in \mathbf{W}$$

Monte Carlo Dropout



- Ensemble of  $T$  independently trained models, each learning a unique

$$\mathbf{W}_t = \text{train}(f; \mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Y})$$



Model Ensembles

**Epistemic uncertainty:**

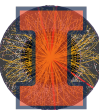
$$\text{Var}(\hat{\mathbf{Y}}|\mathbf{X}) = \frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=1}^T f(\mathbf{X})^2 - \mathbb{E}(\hat{\mathbf{Y}}|\mathbf{X})^2$$

$$\text{where } \mathbb{E}(\hat{\mathbf{Y}}|\mathbf{X}) = \frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=1}^T f(\mathbf{X}|\mathbf{W}_t)$$

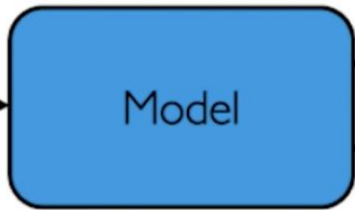
## Downsides of Bayesian Deep Learning

- **Slow:** Requires running network  $T$  times for each input
- **Memory:** Stores  $T$  copies of the network in parallel
- **Efficiency:** Sampling hinders real-time on edge devices
- **Calibration:** Sensitive to prior and often over-confident

# Uncertainty Estimation: Sampling



$x$

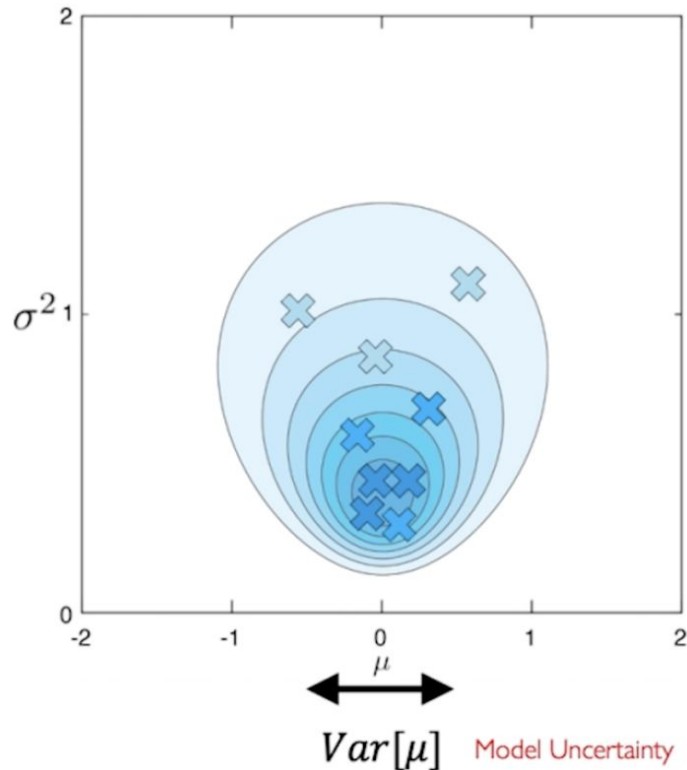
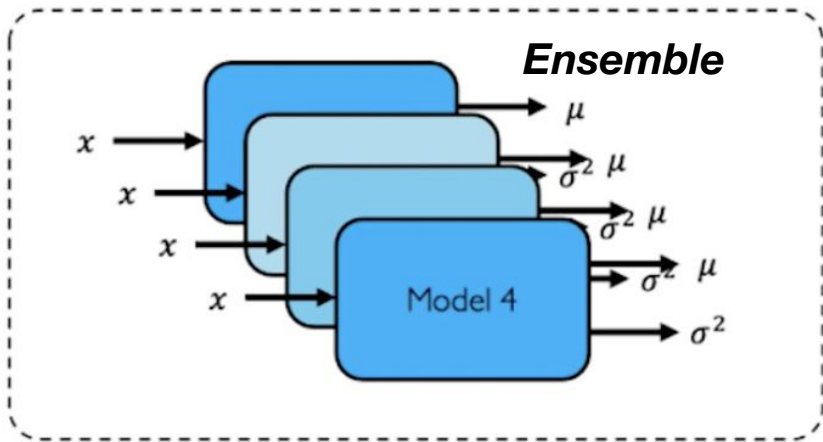


$\mu$

$\sigma^2$

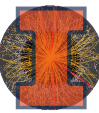


Data  
Uncertainty



**Q: Can we directly learn the parameters defining this likelihood distribution?**

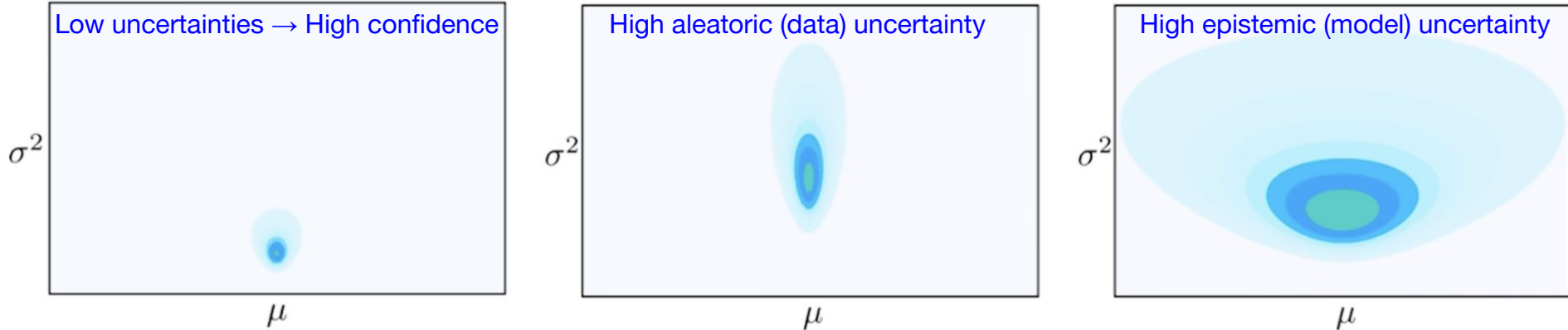
# Evidential Deep Learning (EDL)



<https://arxiv.org/abs/1806.01768>

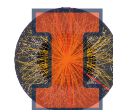
Treat learning as an **evidence acquisition process**, where **more evidence** from the data leads to **increased predictive confidence**

- Takes a *Theory of Evidence* perspective: softmax is interpreted as the parameter set of a categorical distribution which is replaced with the parameters of a **Dirichlet density** (a factory of softmax point estimates)



**Goal:** train a neural network to learn these type of evidential distributions

# EDL for Regression



Key point to remember: Sampling from an evidential distribution yields individual new distributions over the data

$$y \sim \text{Normal}(\mu, \sigma^2)$$

Target Labels      Likelihood function      Distribution parameters

Assume the distribution parameters are not known, place priors over each and probabilistically estimate!

$$\mu \sim \text{Normal}(\gamma, \sigma^2 v^{-1})$$

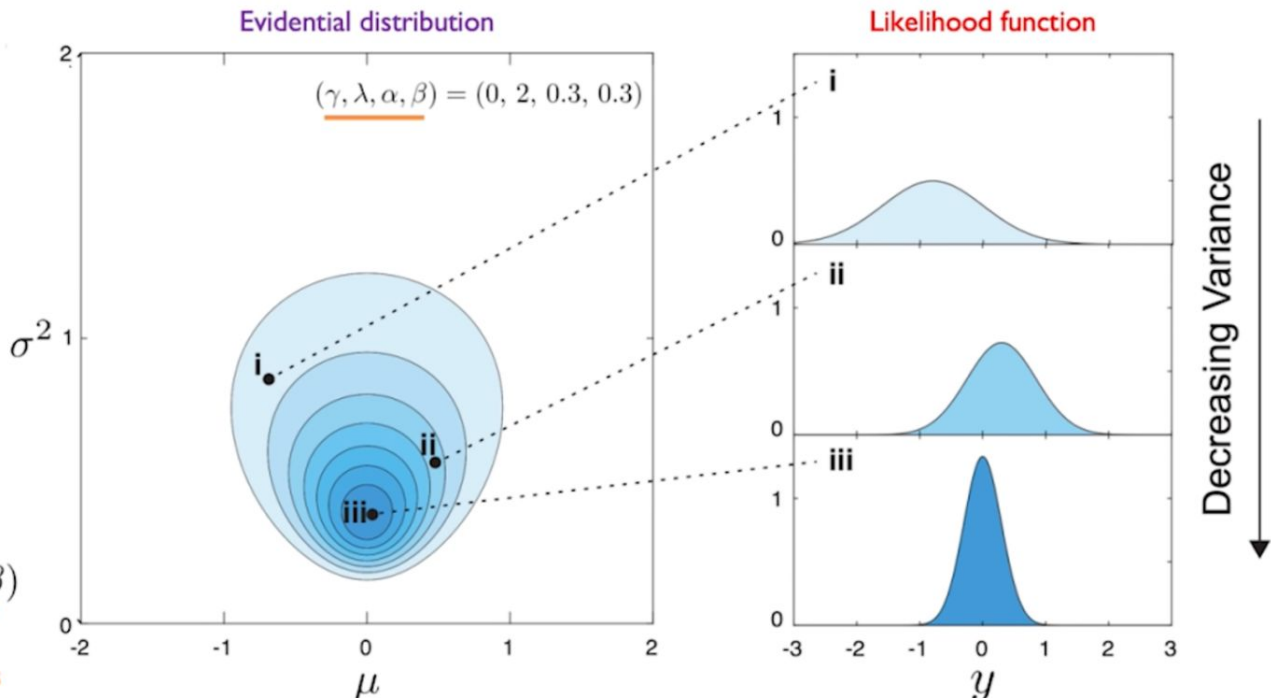
$$\sigma^2 \sim \Gamma^{-1}(\alpha, \beta)$$

$$\mu, \sigma^2 \sim \text{NormalInvGamma}(\gamma, v, \alpha, \beta)$$

Distribution parameters

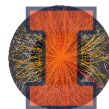
Evidential Prior

Model parameters



# EDL for Classification

$$y \in \{1, \dots, K\}$$



Key point: Sampling from an evidential distribution yields individual new distributions over the data

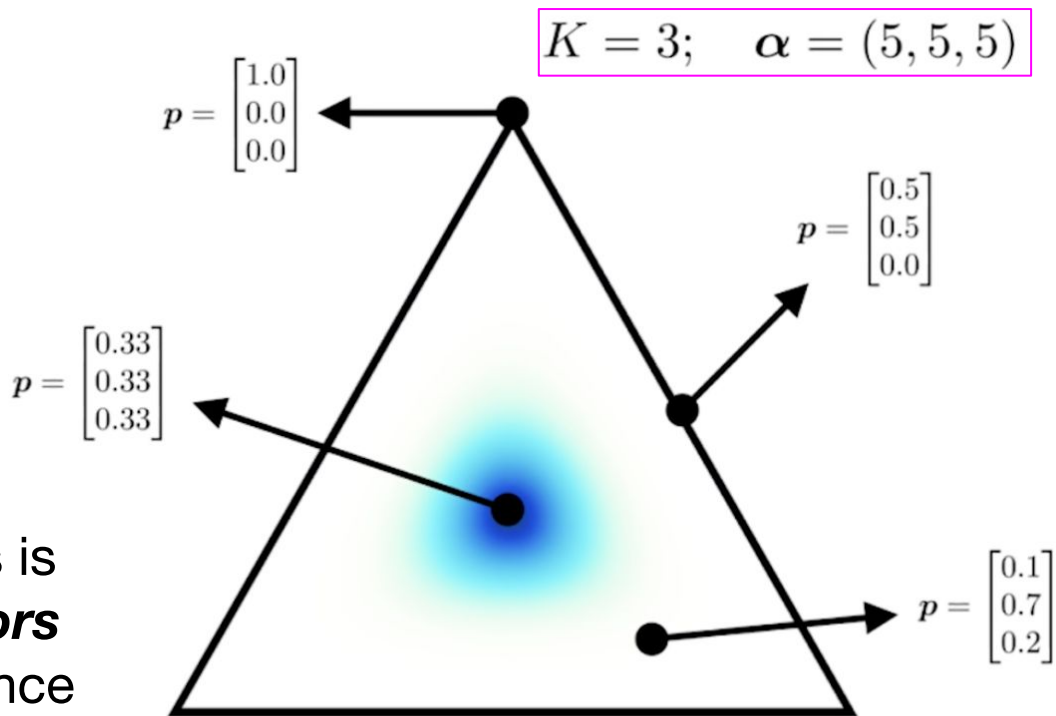
$$y \sim \text{Categorical}(p)$$

Class Labels      Likelihood function      Distribution parameters (probabilities)

$$p \sim \text{Dirichlet}(\alpha)$$

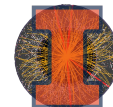
Distribution parameters      Evidential Prior      Model parameters

Choice of evidential distributions is closely related to **conjugate priors** in the context of Bayesian inference



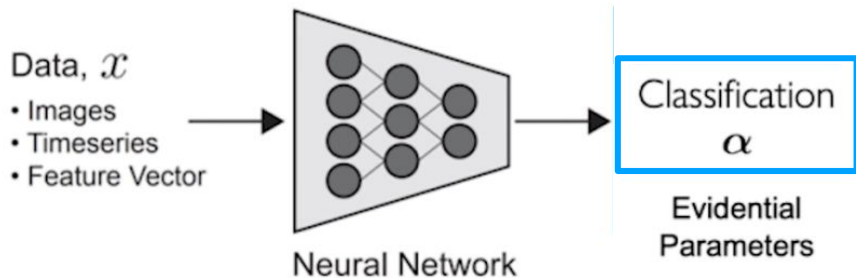


# EDL Model and Training



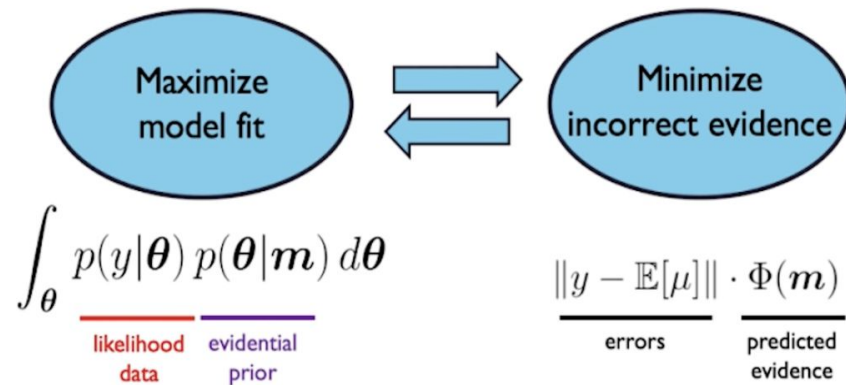
## Model

Train the network to output the parameters of an evidential distribution:



## Optimization

Perform multi-objective training:



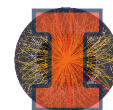
For classification:

$$\mathcal{L}(\Theta) = \sum_{i=1}^N \mathcal{L}_i(\Theta) + \lambda_t \sum_{i=1}^N KL[D(\mathbf{p}_i | \tilde{\alpha}_i) || D(\mathbf{p}_i | \mathbf{1})]$$

Reconstruction Loss

Penalty for assigning large confidence to uncertain samples

# EDL Loss for Classification



$$\mathcal{L}(\Theta) = \underbrace{\sum_{i=1}^N \mathcal{L}_i(\Theta)}_{\text{Reconstruction Loss}} + \lambda_t \underbrace{\sum_{i=1}^N KL[D(\mathbf{p}_i | \tilde{\alpha}_i) || D(\mathbf{p}_i | \mathbf{1})]}_{\text{Penalty for assigning large confidence to uncertain samples}}$$

Reconstruction Loss

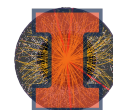
Penalty for assigning large confidence to uncertain samples

$\tilde{\alpha}_i = y_i + (1 - y_i) \bullet \alpha_i$  are the Dirichlet parameters after removal of non-misleading evidence from predicted parameters  $\alpha_i$  for sample  $i$

$D(\mathbf{p}_i | \mathbf{1})$  is the uniform Dirichlet density with zero total evidence (i.e. total uncertainty  $u = 1$ )

$KL[D(\mathbf{p}_i | \tilde{\alpha}_i) || D(\mathbf{p}_i | \mathbf{1})]$  term used to regularize our predictive distribution by penalizing divergences from the “I don’t know” state that do not contribute to the data fit

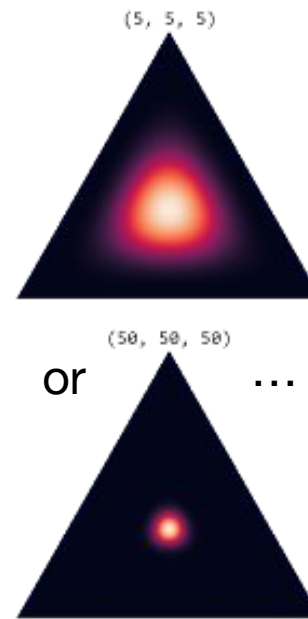
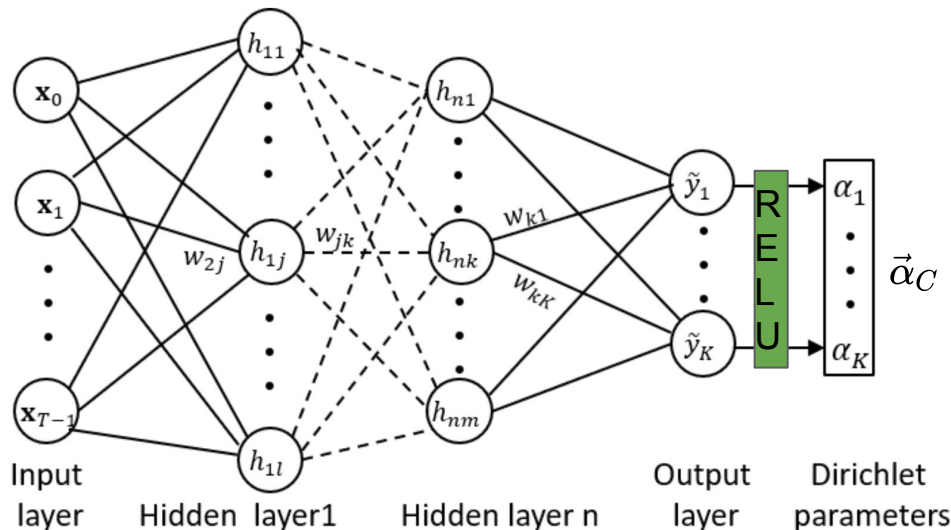
# Forming EDL Predictions



For classification:

Data,  $\mathcal{X}$

- Images
- Timeseries
- Feature Vector



Once the network learns the parameters  $\alpha$ , its mean, can be taken as an estimate of the  $K$  class probabilities

$$\tilde{p}_c = \alpha_c / S$$

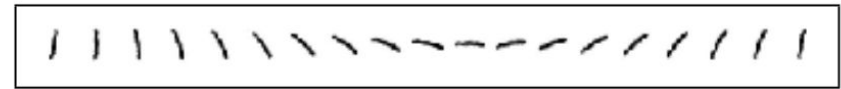
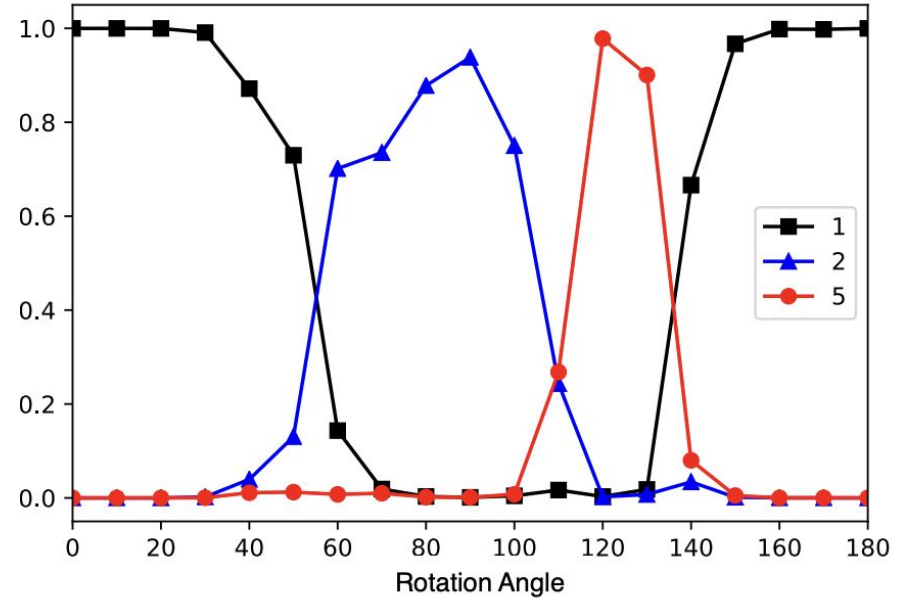
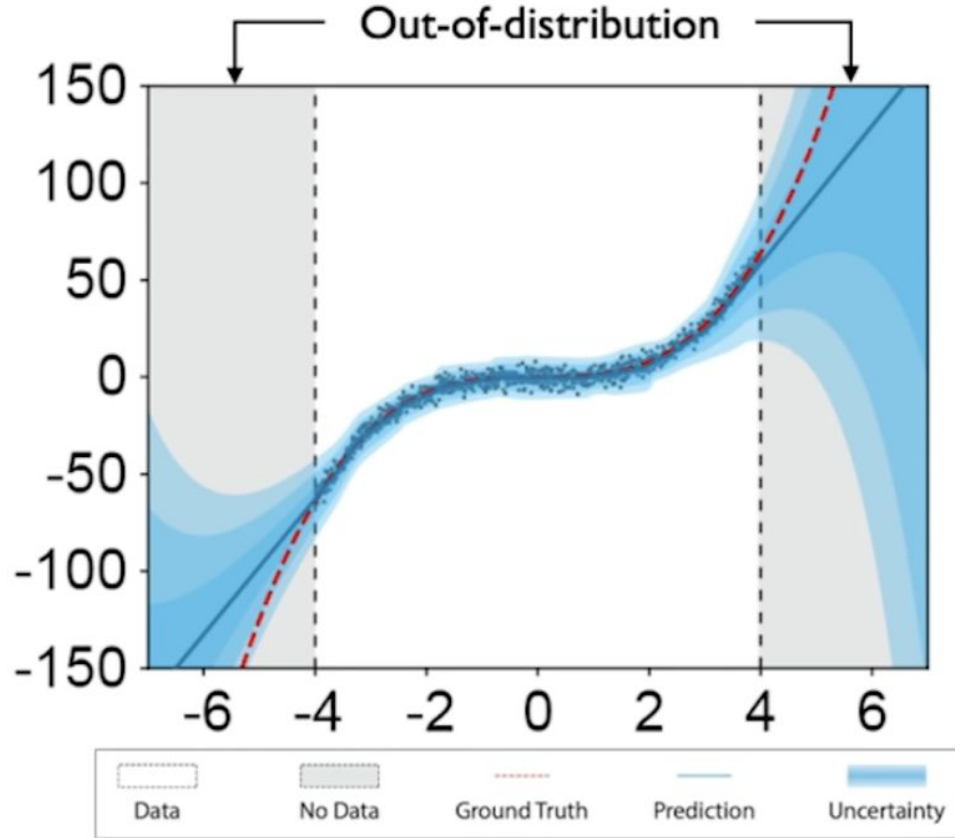
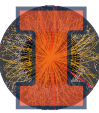
The epistemic uncertainty  $u$  on the prediction is computed as the inverse of total evidence or Dirichlet strength  $S$

$$u = K / S \quad \text{where}$$

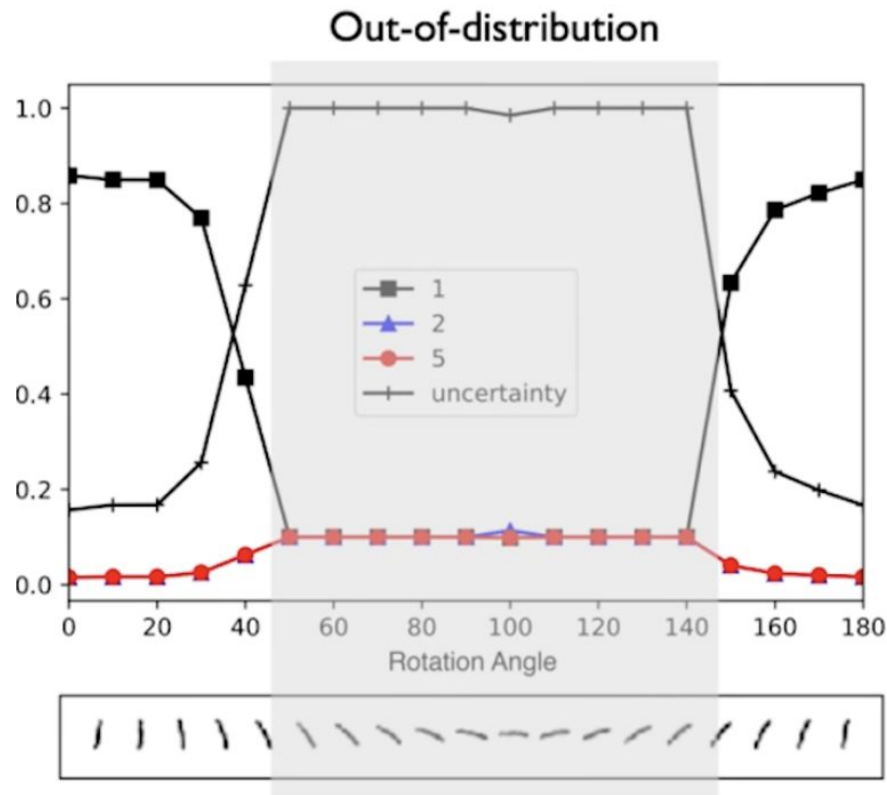
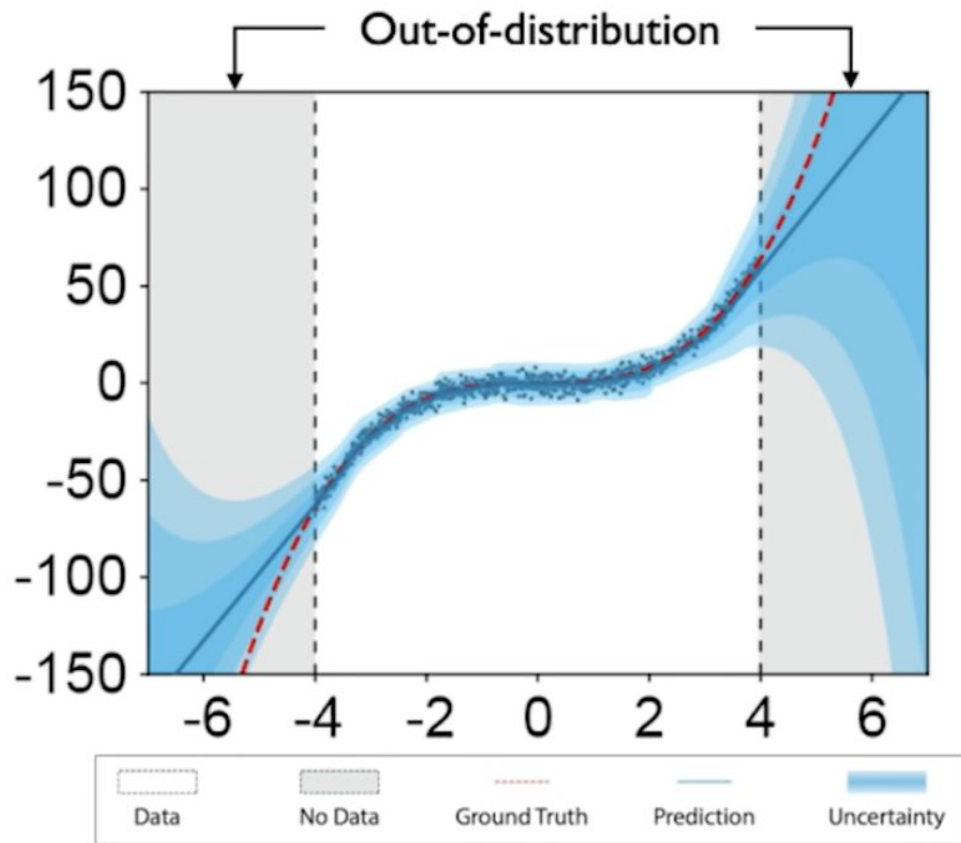
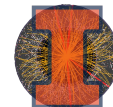
$$S = \sum_{c=1}^K \alpha_c$$

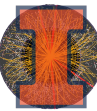
**EDL Uncertainty can be easily integrated with  $K$  additional parameters and a new loss**

# EDL Toy Learning Problems



# EDL Toy Learning Problems





Ayush Khot



Avik Roy



Mark Neubauer

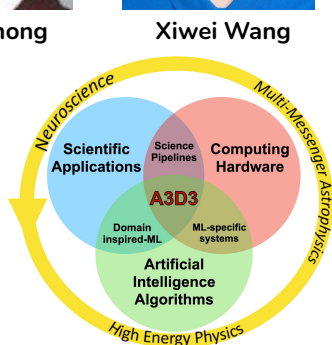


Dewen Zhong



Xiwei Wang

*This work was supported by the FAIR Data program of the DOE ASCR under contract number DE-SC0021258, DOE OHEP under contract number DE-SC0023365, and NSF subaward from award MPS/PHY-2117997*



Ayush Khot, Mark S. Neubauer, and Avik Roy<sup>1</sup>

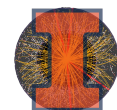
*Department of Physics & National Center for Supercomputing Applications (NCSA)  
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign*

*E-mail: [akhot2@illinois.edu](mailto:akhot2@illinois.edu), [msn@illinois.edu](mailto:msn@illinois.edu), [avroy@illinois.edu](mailto:avroy@illinois.edu)*

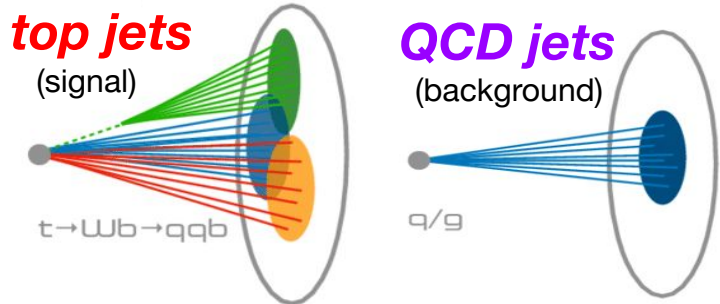
**ABSTRACT:** Recent developments in the methods of explainable AI (XAI) allow researchers to explore the inner workings of deep neural networks (DNNs), revealing crucial information about input-output relationships and realizing how data connects with machine learning models. In this paper we explore interpretability of DNN models designed to identify jets coming from top quark decay in high energy proton-proton collisions at the Large Hadron Collider (LHC). We review a subset of existing top tagger models and explore different quantitative methods to identify which features play the most important roles in identifying the top jets. We also investigate how and why feature importance varies across different XAI metrics, how correlations among features impact their explainability, and how latent space representations encode information as well as correlate with physically meaningful quantities. Our studies uncover some major pitfalls of existing XAI methods and illustrate how they can be overcome to obtain consistent and meaningful interpretation of these models. We additionally illustrate the activity of hidden layers as Neural Activation Pattern (NAP) diagrams and demonstrate how they can be used to understand how DNNs relay information across the layers and how this understanding can help to make such models significantly simpler by allowing effective model reoptimization and hyperparameter tuning. These studies not only facilitate a methodological approach to interpreting models but also unveil new insights about what these models learn. Incorporating these observations into augmented model design, we propose the Particle Flow Interaction Network (PFIN) model and demonstrate how interpretability-inspired model augmentation can improve top tagging performance.

see [XAI talk at Unc. Challenge Workshop](#)

# Uncertainties in Jet Tagging - I




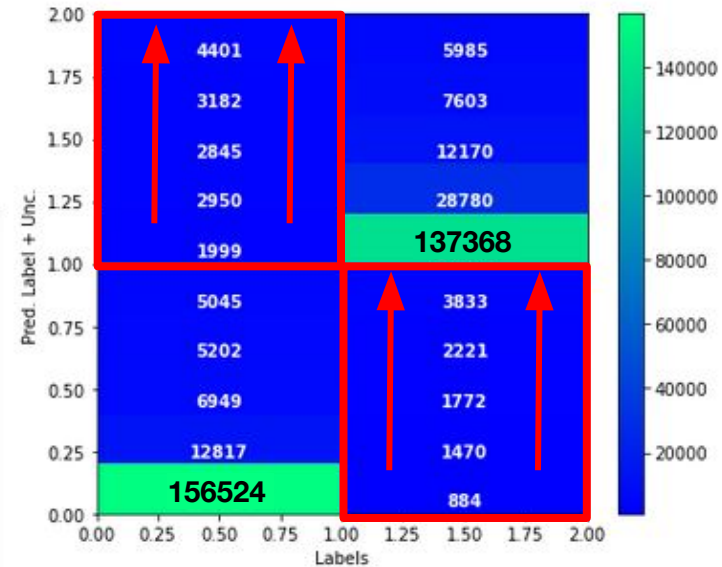
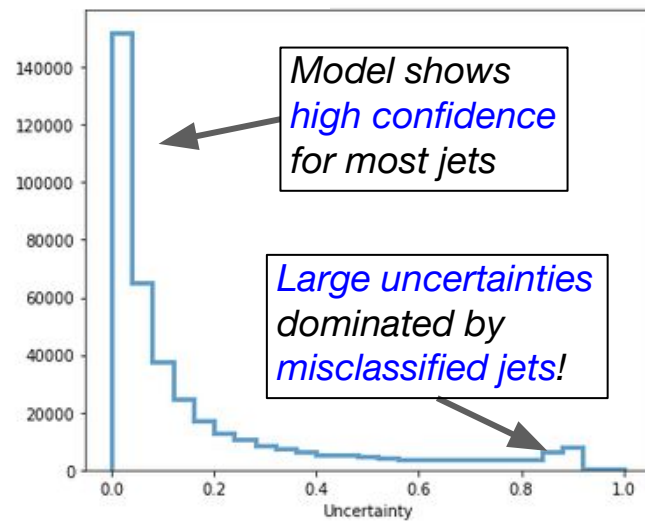
- Goal: distinguish **top-quark jets** (label=1) from **QCD jets** (label=0)



Simulated dataset with 2M jets available at: [zenodo: 2603256](https://zenodo.org/record/2603256)

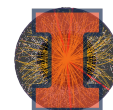
- Use XAI-Inspired [Particle Flow Interaction Network](#) (PFIN) top tagger

**Q:** To what extent can a jet tagging model be confident in its predictions?

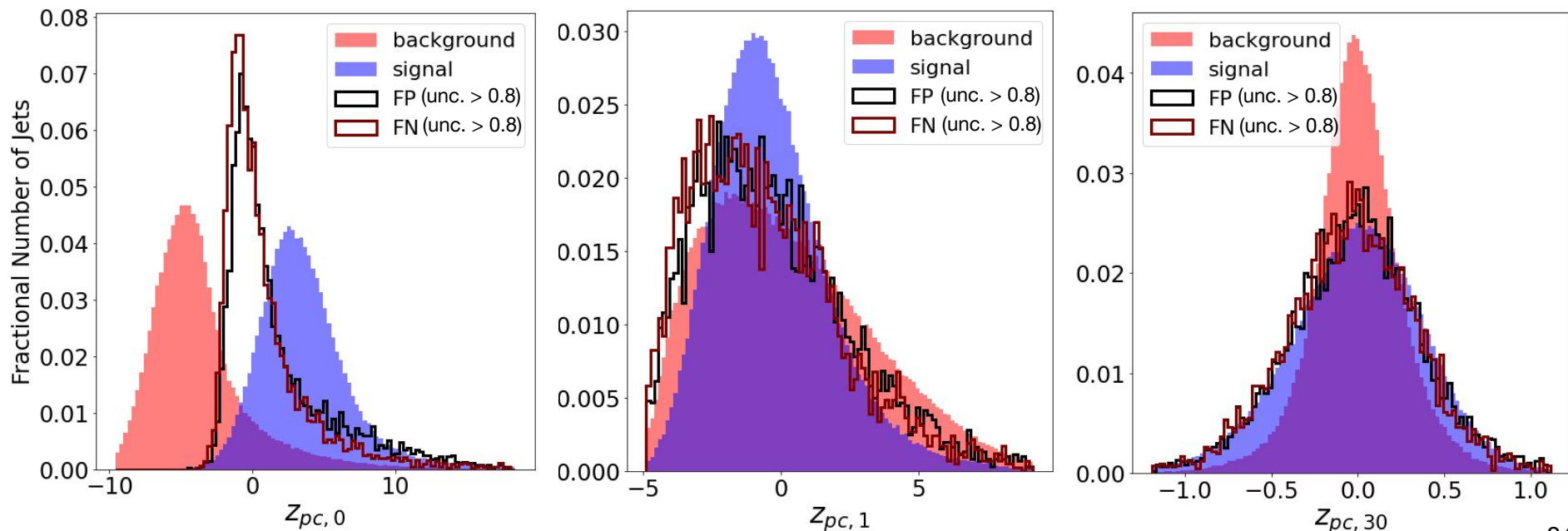
Increasing uncertainty for misclassified jets!

# Who Gets Largest Uncertainties?



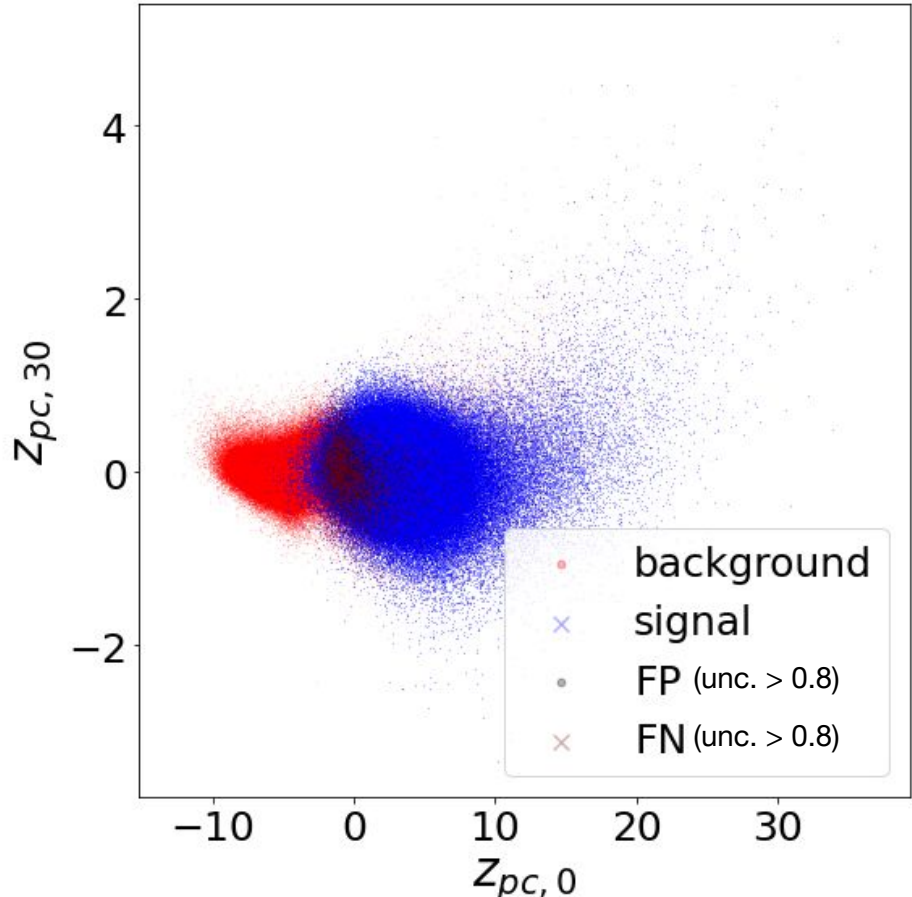
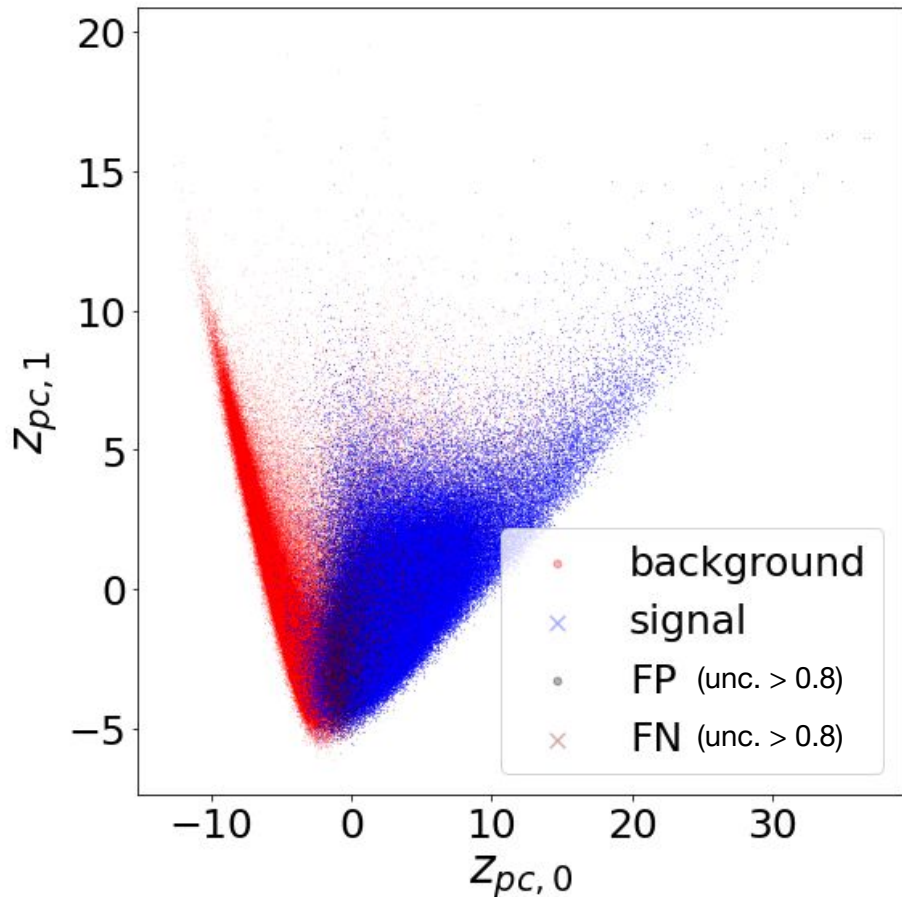
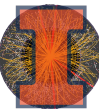
[Our studies of XAI](#) using Principal Component Analysis on the classifier model latent spaces show expressive discrimination (see also [XAI talk at Unc. Challenge Workshop](#))

And we see that samples with large EDL-based uncertainty ( $> 0.8$ ) lie in the overlap region, where discrimination is the hardest (expected “I don’t know” from the model!)

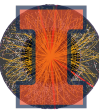




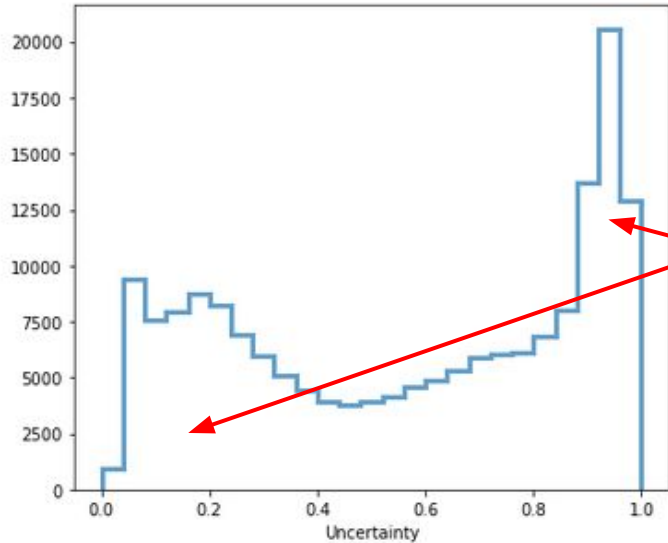
# Who Gets Largest Uncertainties? (cont.)



# Uncertainties in Jet Tagging - II

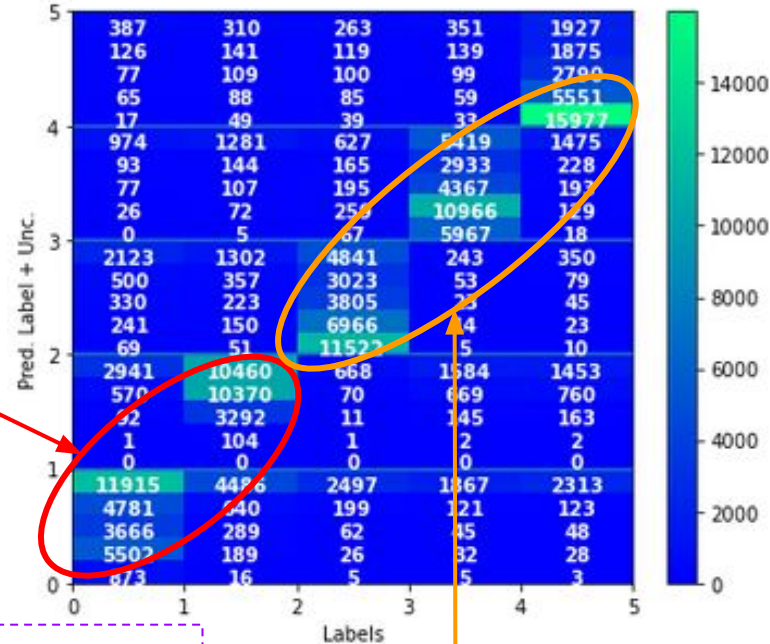


- PFIN model is applied to a **multi-class problem** with [JetNet Dataset](#): distinguishing jets from: **light quarks** (0), **gluons** (1), **top quarks** (2), **W bosons** (3), **Z bosons** (4)



Bimodal distribution with a large peak at large uncertainties dominated by correctly classified quark and gluon jets

These jets have similar physical characteristics, and are hard\*\* to tell apart



\*\*but not impossible

E.g. gluon jets have more constituents w/ more uniform energy fragmentation and are wider

Heavier jets tend to have lower uncertainties

# EDL Applied to Anomaly Detection

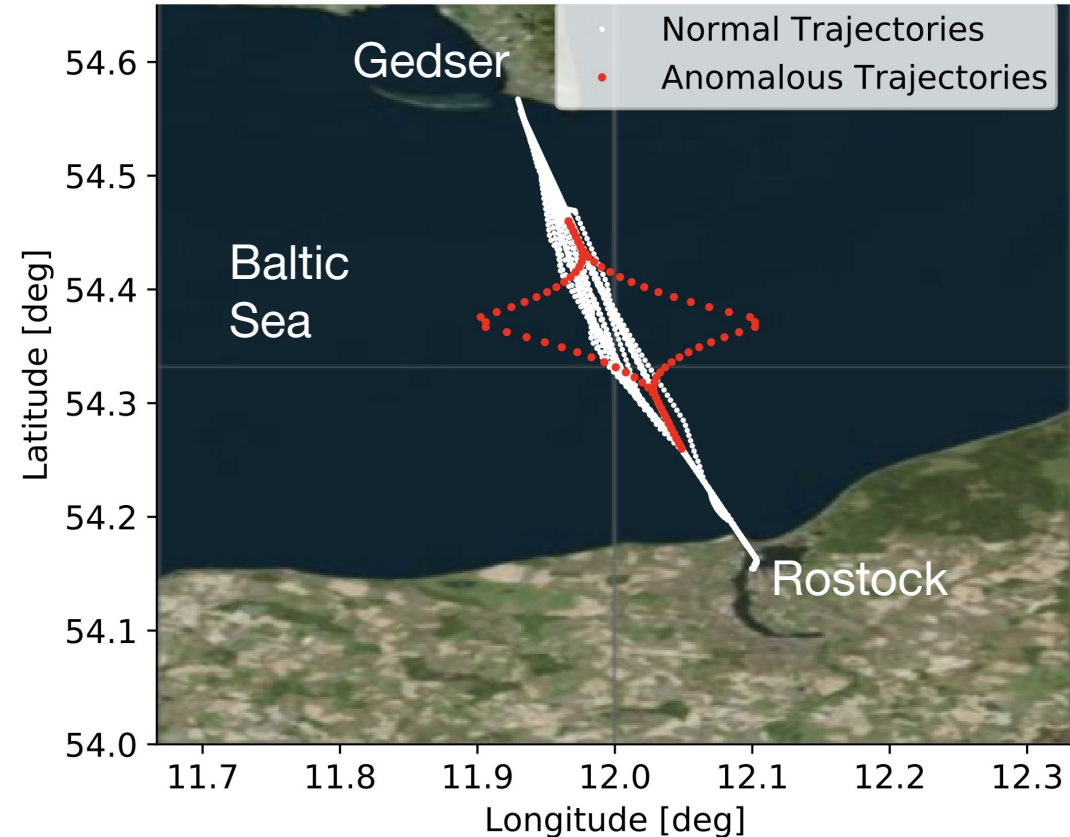
## Maritime Anomaly Detection

Most ships are equipped with automatic identification system (AIS) transponders to provide their static and dynamic information

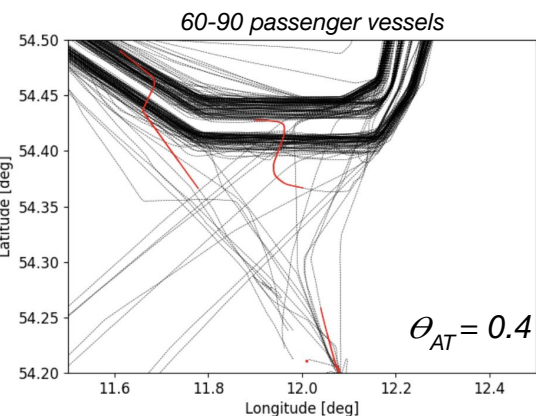
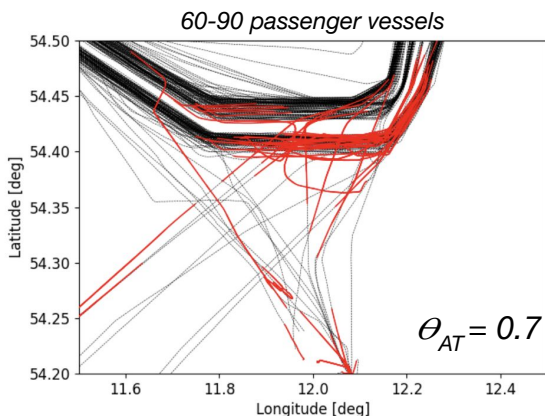
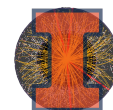
Vessels' location, navigational status, and voyage-related information can be used for

- *collision-avoidance mechanisms*
- *vessel tracking*
- detection of *loss of AIS signal* and ***anomalous trajectories***

High epistemic uncertainty from EDL is used to identify anomalous trajectories



# Maritime Anomaly Detection



## EDL for Anomalous Trajectory Detection

High epistemic uncertainty may represent anomalous trajectory. However, different output features are predicted with different uncertainties, so comparing segments with a set uncertainty threshold might not be a good idea

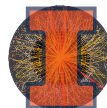
Thus, a trajectory segment is defined as anomalous if the predicted sequences of the segment have an abrupt transition in their epistemic uncertainties

$$\min_d \left[ \frac{\min_j (\text{var}[\mu_j^d])}{\max_j (\text{var}[\mu_j^d])} \right] < \Theta_{AT}$$

This selects the feature  $d$  and output sequence  $j$  with the minimum normalized epistemic uncertainties. If this value is below  $\theta_{AT}$ , then the segment is considered as anomalous

A vessel's trajectory is termed as anomalous if it contains one or more anomalous segments

# EDL for Anomaly Detection in Jets



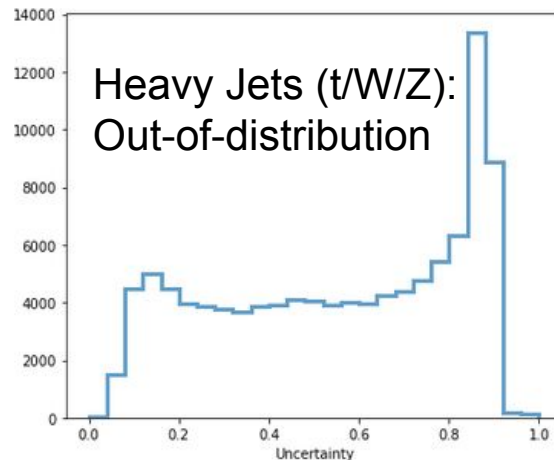
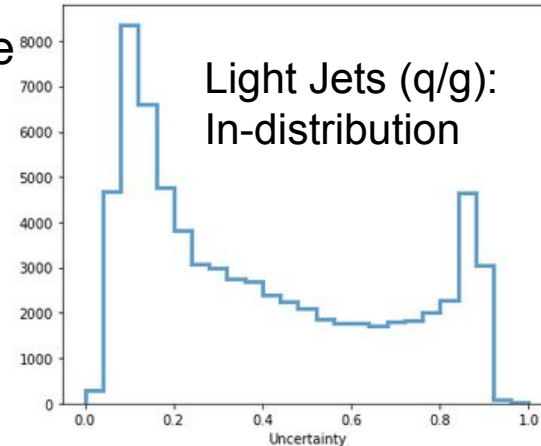
**Q:** What happens if the models encounter jets that they have not “seen” before (i.e. trained on)?



- **Anomaly detection** with EDL can be tested by withdrawing some jet classes from training dataset
  - **In-Distribution** (ID): jets the model is trained on
  - **Out of Distribution** (OOD): jets withdrawn from training
- Models trained with EDL tend to assign a large “uncertainty” score to anomalous (OOD) classes
  - Model saying “hmmm... **I don't know**”



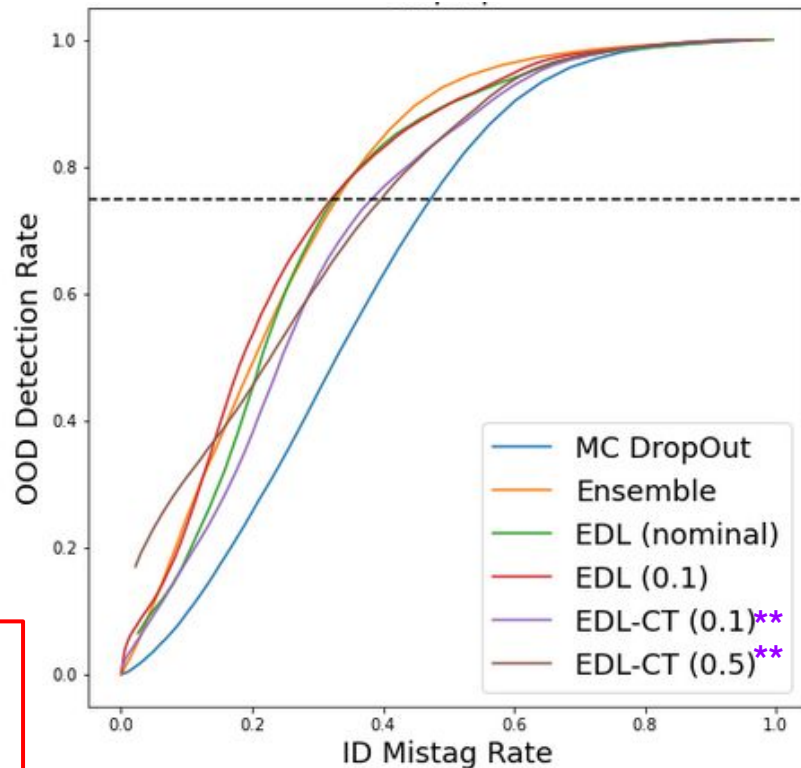
**Challenge:** how do we distinguish “hard-to-tell” jets from “anomalous jets” using a single uncertainty metric?



# Comparing with Ensemble Methods

- Comparison can be done using ROC
  - A larger AUC would indicate a better performing model
- Key metrics:
  - **OOD Detection Rate**: what fraction of OOD samples are correctly identified
  - **ID Mistag Rate**: what fraction of ID samples are incorrectly identified

**EDL shows equivalent performance to ensemble methods and better than MC Dropout**



\*\* EDL-CT is a “Confidence Tuned” variant of the EDL method where the model is first allowed to converge w/o any annealing and then the parameters are tuned by retraining the model with annealing

# Lessons Learned and Future Work

**Evidential Deep Learning** (EDL) involves training a deterministic neural network to place uncertainty priors over the predictive distribution, requiring only a single forward pass to estimate uncertainty

The EDL approach to uncertainty estimation proved to be well calibrated on the Top tagger and JetNet datasets and was capable of detecting OOD samples

- We have also studied EDL performance on the [Jet Class dataset](#) (not in this talk)

EDL shows equivalent performance to ensemble methods and better than MC Dropout

## Some next steps:

- Bind in together with **One Class Classifier Methods** (OCC), as the current approach only works when at least two training classes exist
- Differentiate between uncertain ID samples and anomalous (OOD) samples
- Apply EDL methods to event-level Anomaly Detection to improve traditional/SOTA methods (e.g. EDL-enhanced auto-encoders)

