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# Measuring the Discrepancy between Conditional Distributions: Methods, Properties and Applications

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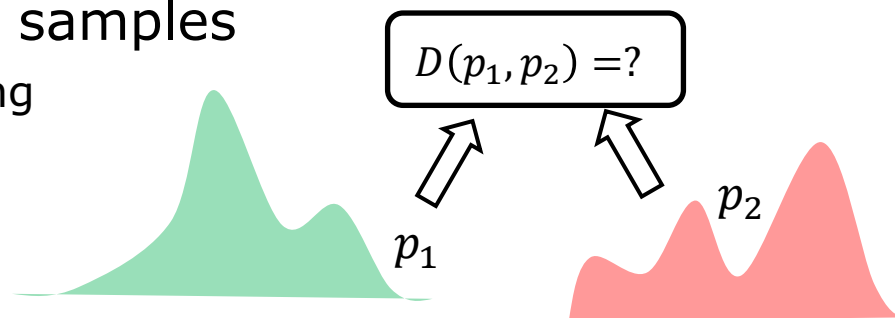
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# Motivation

## Compare distributions with only samples

- Transfer Learning / Multi-Task Learning
- Deep Generative Models
- ...



## Divergence and Conditional Divergence in Machine Learning

- Kullback–Leibler (KL) divergence
  - $D_{\text{KL}}(p_1(x) || p_2(x)) = \int p_1(x) \log \frac{p_1(x)}{p_2(x)} dx$
- Maximum Mean Discrepancy (MMD)
  - $D_{\text{MMD}}(p_1 || p_2) = \|\mathbb{E}_{x \sim p_1}[\varphi(x)] - \mathbb{E}_{x' \sim p_2}[\varphi(x')]\|_{\mathcal{H}}, \varphi: \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathcal{H}$
- Wasserstein distance or optimal transport
  - $W_2^2(p_1 || p_2) = \inf_{P \in \Pi[p_1, p_2]} \int \|x_2 - x_1\|^2 dP(x_1, x_2)$

But ...

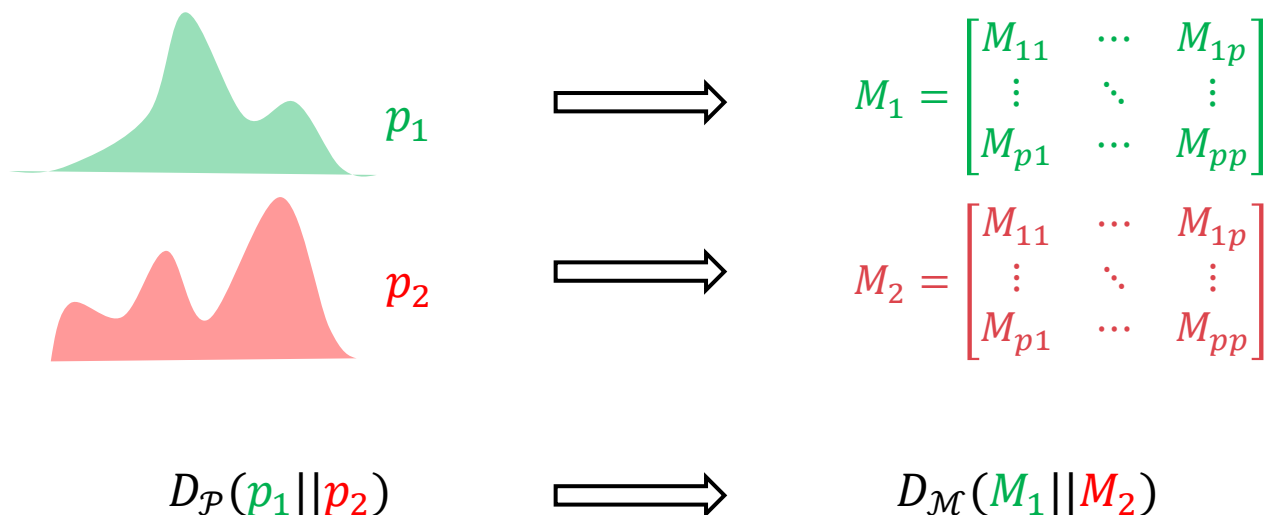
# Bregman-Correntropy (Conditional) Divergence

## Our Target

- A novel sample estimator to the divergence  $D(p_1(\mathbf{x})||p_2(\mathbf{x}))$ ,  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^p$
- Extension to conditional divergence  $D(p_1(\mathbf{y}|\mathbf{x})||p_2(\mathbf{y}|\mathbf{x}))$ ,  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^p$ ,  $\mathbf{y} \in \mathbb{R}^q$
- Easy to estimate (e.g., avoid density estimation)

## Our General Idea

- Divergence on Matrix  $M_1$  and  $M_2$ ,  $M \in \mathbb{S}_+^{p \times p}$ 
  - $M_1$  is a characterization of  $p_1(\mathbf{x})$
  - $M_2$  is a characterization of  $p_2(\mathbf{x})$
- Quantify divergence on  $p_1(\mathbf{x})$  and  $p_2(\mathbf{x})$  as the divergence on  $M_1$  and  $M_2$



# Bregman-Correntropy (Conditional) Divergence

## Open problems

- How to construct  $M_1$  and  $M_2$  from  $P_1$  and  $P_2$ ?
- How to measure  $D_{\mathcal{M}}(M_1||M_2)$ ?

# Bregman-Correntropy (Conditional) Divergence

## Open problems

- How to construct  $M_1$  and  $M_2$  from  $P_1$  and  $P_2$ ?
- Covariance matrix

$$\Sigma_x = \begin{bmatrix} \text{var}(x_1) & \cdots & \text{cov}(x_1, x_p) \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \text{cov}(x_p, x_1) & \cdots & \text{var}(x_p) \end{bmatrix} \in \mathbb{S}_+^{p \times p}$$

$(\Sigma_x)_{ij} = \text{cov}(x_i, x_j) = \mathbb{E}(x_i x_j) - \mathbb{E}(x_i)\mathbb{E}(x_j)$   
covariance: only [linear](#) relationship;  
[2<sup>nd</sup>-order](#) statistics

- Correntropy matrix

$$C_x = \begin{bmatrix} U(x_1) & \cdots & U(x_1, x_p) \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ U(x_p, x_1) & \cdots & U(x_p) \end{bmatrix} \in \mathbb{S}_+^{p \times p}$$

$$(C_x)_{ij} = U(x_i, x_j) = \mathbb{E}[\kappa(x_i, x_j)] - \mathbb{E}_{x_i} \mathbb{E}_{x_j}[\kappa(x_i, x_j)]$$

$\kappa$ : a kernel function

[centered correntropy](#)<sup>1,2</sup>:

1. [nonlinear](#) counterpart of covariance in kernel space
2. contains all [higher-order](#) information (depends on kernel)

1. Rao, Murali, Sohan Seth, Jianwu Xu, Yunmei Chen, Hemant Tagare, and Jose C. Principe. "A test of independence based on a generalized correlation function." *Signal Processing*, vol. 91, no. 1, pp. 15-27, 2011.

2. Santamaría, Ignacio, Puskal P. Pokharel, and Jose C. Principe. "Generalized correlation function: definition, properties, and application to blind equalization." *IEEE Transactions on Signal Processing*, vol. 54, no. 6, pp. 2187-2197, 2006.

# Bregman-Correntropy (Conditional) Divergence

## Open problems

- Given  $\{C_1, C_2\}$  or  $\{\Sigma_1, \Sigma_2\}$ , how to measure  $D_{\mathcal{M}}(M_1||M_2)$ ?
- Bregman matrix divergence<sup>3</sup>  $D_{\varphi, B}$ 
  - $\varphi: \mathbb{S}_+ \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is a strictly convex, differentiable function
  - $D_{\varphi, B}(M_1||M_2) = \varphi(M_1) - \varphi(M_2) - \text{tr}((\nabla_{\varphi}(M_2))^T(M_1 - M_2))$
- If  $\varphi(M) = \text{tr}(M \log M - M)$ ,
  - $D_{\varphi, B}(M_1||M_2) = \text{tr}(M_1 \log M_1 - M_1 \log M_2 - M_1 + M_2)$
  - von Neumann divergence ( $D_{vN}$ )
- If  $\varphi(M) = -\log |M|$ ,
  - $D_{\varphi, B}(M_1||M_2) = \text{tr}(M_1 M_2^{-1}) - \log |M_1 M_2^{-1}| - p$
  - Log-Determinant divergence ( $D_{lD}$ )

3. Kulis, Brian, Mátyás A. Sustik, and Inderjit S. Dhillon. "Low-Rank Kernel Learning with Bregman Matrix Divergences." *Journal of Machine Learning Research*, vol. 10, no. 2, 2009.

# Bregman-Correntropy (Conditional) Divergence

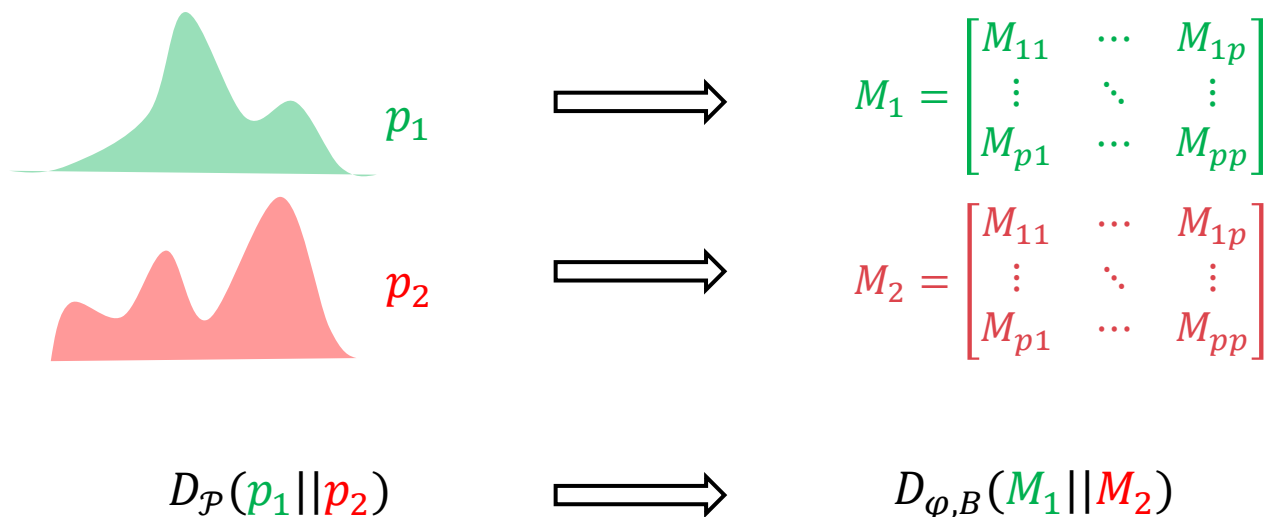
## Our Measure on $p_1(\mathbf{x})$ and $p_2(\mathbf{x})$

- $C_{x_1}$  and  $C_{x_2}$  : correntropy matrix evaluated at  $P_1(\mathbf{x})$  and  $P_2(\mathbf{x})$
- $D(P_1(\mathbf{x})||P_2(\mathbf{x})) = D_{\varphi,B}(C_{x_1}||C_{x_2})$

## Our Measure on $p_1(\mathbf{y}|\mathbf{x})$ and $p_2(\mathbf{y}|\mathbf{x})$

- $C_{x_1}$  and  $C_{x_2}$  : correntropy matrix evaluated at  $P_1(\mathbf{x})$  and  $P_2(\mathbf{x})$
- $C_{x_1y_1}$  and  $C_{x_2y_2}$  : joint correntropy matrix evaluated at  $P_1(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})$  and  $P_2(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})$
- $D(P_1(\mathbf{y}|\mathbf{x})||P_2(\mathbf{y}|\mathbf{x})) = D_{\varphi,B}(C_{x_1y_1}||C_{x_2y_2}) - D_{\varphi,B}(C_{x_1}||C_{x_2})$

## Bregman-Correntropy (Conditional) Divergence



# Bregman-Correntropy (Conditional) Divergence

## Properties of Bregman-Correntropy (Conditional) Divergence

- Non-negative:  $D_{\varphi,B}(C_{x_1y_1}||C_{x_2y_2}) - D_{\varphi,B}(C_{x_1}||C_{x_2}) \geq 0$
- Definiteness: suppose  $\mathbf{y} = W^T \mathbf{x}$ ,  $D_{\varphi,B}(C_{x_1y_1}||C_{x_2y_2}) - D_{\varphi,B}(C_{x_1}||C_{x_2}) = 0$ , iff  $W_1 = W_2$
- Reduce to KL divergence on Gaussian data as a baseline, if
  - $\varphi(X) = -\log |X|$
  - Replace  $C$  (correntropy matrix) with  $\Sigma$  (covariance matrix)



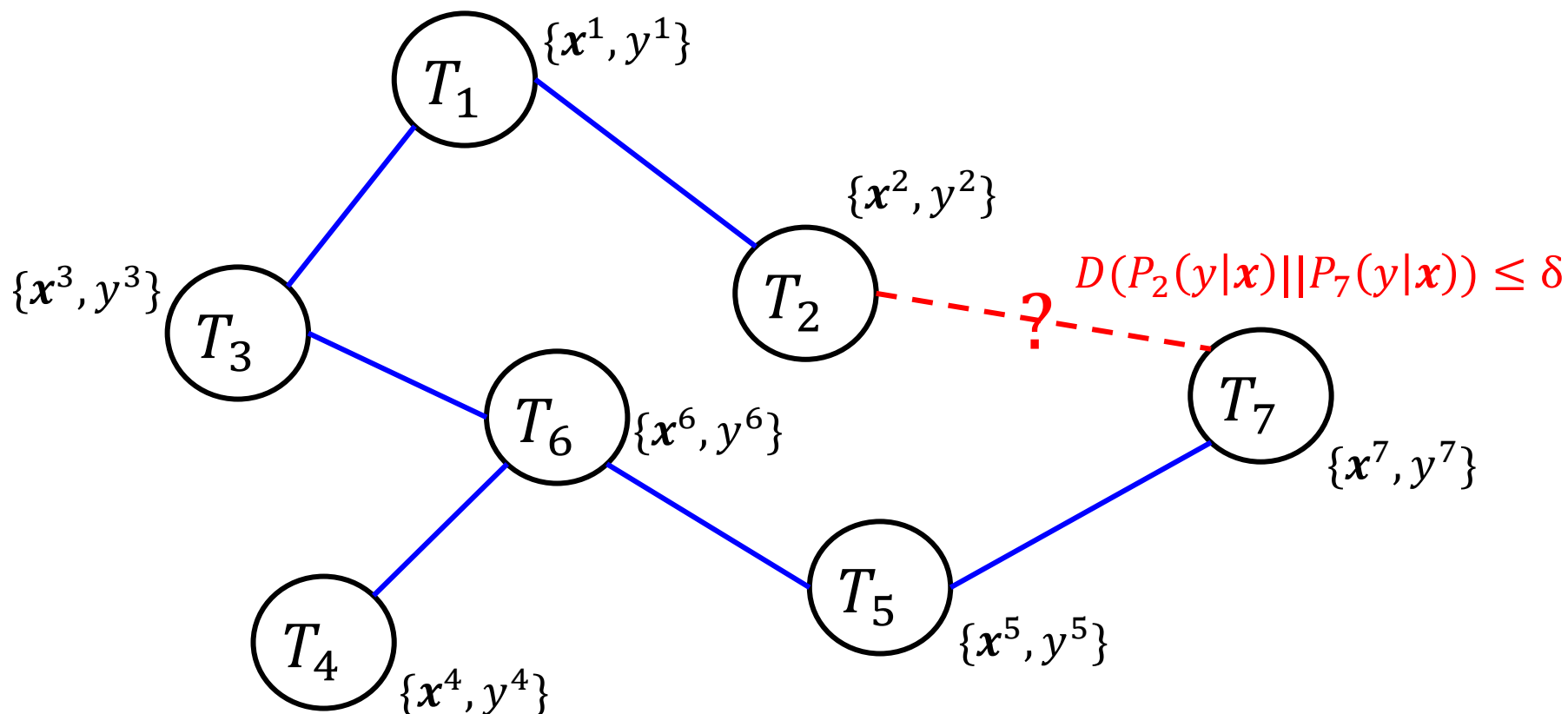
# Bregman-Correntropy (Conditional) Divergence

## Applications

- Task Similarity in Multi-Task Learning
- Concept Drift Detection
- Feature Selection

# Bregman-Correntropy (Conditional) Divergence

## Application: Task Similarity in Multi-Task Learning

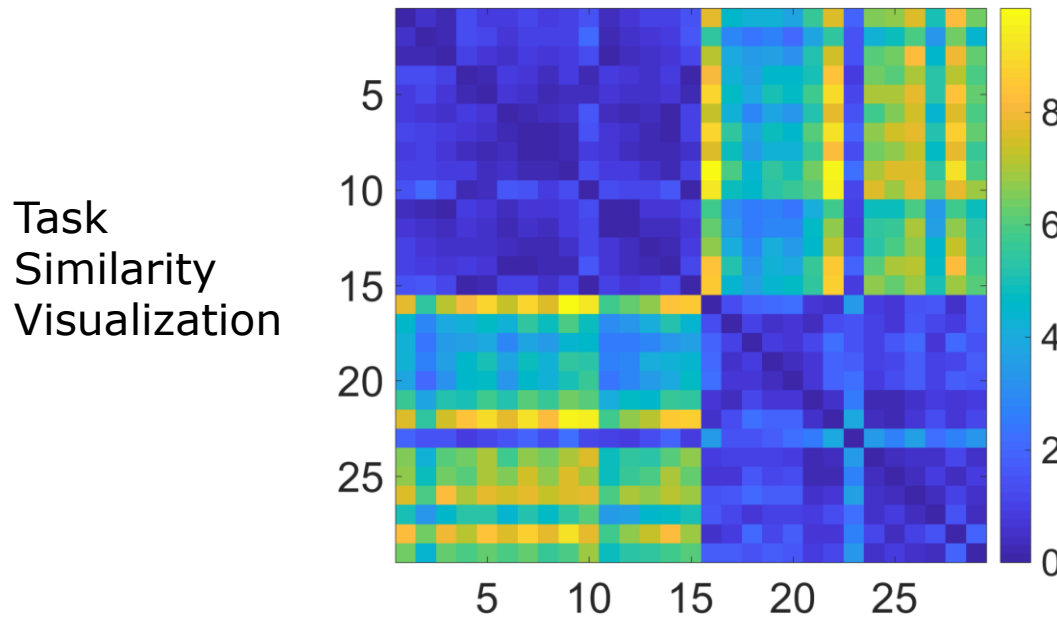


Joint learning of multiple related tasks, e.g.,  $T_1, T_2, \dots$

Learn from each task a  $f: x \rightarrow y$ , usually  $f \rightarrow p(y|x)$

# Bregman-Correntropy (Conditional) Divergence

## Application: Task Similarity in Multi-Task Learning



Ground Truth: 29 tasks, tasks **1-15** are different from Tasks **16-29**

# Bregman-Correntropy (Conditional) Divergence

## Application: Concept Drift Detection

- Objective: identify the change of  $p_t(y|x)$  in a data stream
- Traditional methods (DDM<sup>4</sup>, PERM<sup>5</sup>, etc.)
  - Train a classifier  $f: \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathcal{Y}$
  - monitoring the distributional change of prediction error  $e = y - f(x)$
- Our method
  - Classifier-free
  - Explicitly monitoring the change of  $p_t(y|x)$  by  $D_{\varphi, B}(P_t(y|x) || P_{t'}(y|x))$

Method	Precision	Recall	Delay	Accuracy (%)
DDM	0.49	0.50	50	89.22
EDDM	0.69	0.82	230	92.60
HDDM	1	0.83	133	97.47
PERM	0.81	0.88	99	<b>97.81</b>
vN ( $\Sigma$ )	0.77	1	<b>43</b>	92.82
LD ( $\Sigma$ )	0.83	1	113	93.43
vN ( $C$ )	0.80	1	60	90.07
LD ( $C$ )	0.77	1	53	92.23

4. Gama, Joao, Pedro Medas, Gladys Castillo, and Pedro Rodrigues. "Learning with drift detection." In *Brazilian symposium on artificial intelligence*, pp. 286-295. Springer, Berlin, Heidelberg, 2004.

5. Harel, Maayan, Shie Mannor, Ran El-Yaniv, and Koby Crammer. "Concept drift detection through resampling." In *International Conference on Machine Learning*, pp. 1009-1017. 2014.

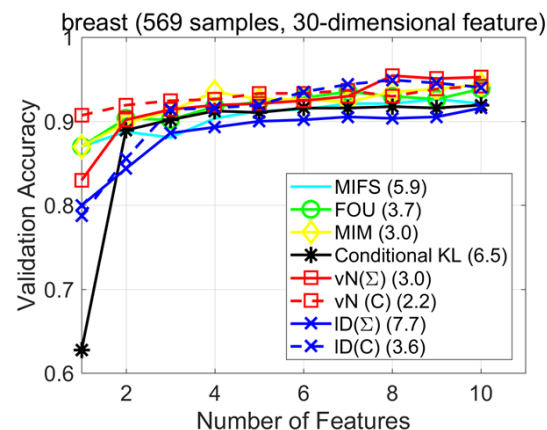
# Bregman-Correntropy (Conditional) Divergence

## Application: Feature Selection

- Objective: Given a set of features  $S = \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_M\}$  and class label  $y$ , select a subset of features  $S^* \subset S$  ( $|S^*| \ll |S|$ ) to maximize classification accuracy.
- Traditional methods (from an information-theoretic perspective)
  - Maximize mutual information  $\mathbf{I}(y; S^*)$
- Our method
  - Maximize conditional divergence  $D_{\varphi, B}(p(y|S^*) || p(y|\tilde{S}))$
  - $\tilde{S}$  is “useless” feature set that has no predictive power to  $y$ .

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{I}(y; S^*) &= \iint P(y, S^*) \log \frac{P(y, S^*)}{P(y)P(S^*)} \\ &= \iint \left( P(y|S^*) \log \frac{P(y|S^*)}{P(y)} \right) P(S^*) \\ &= \mathbb{E}_S [D_{KL}(P(y|S^*) || P(y))] \\ &= \mathbb{E}_S [D_{KL}(P(y|S^*) || P(y|\tilde{S}))],\end{aligned}$$

Theoretical guarantee: the equivalence between our objective and maximizing mutual information  $\mathbf{I}(y; S^*)$ .

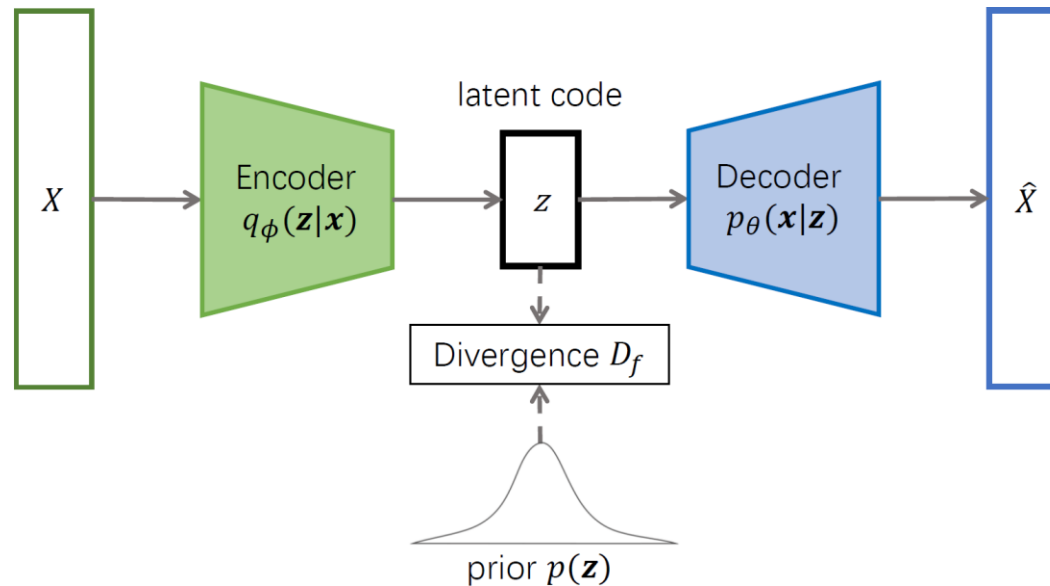


Practical performance: vN(C) refers to our  $D_{vN}$  on correntropy matrix.

# Conclusions

## New Estimators on Divergence and Conditional Divergence

- Easy to estimate (avoid density estimation)
- Statistically more powerful than most of existing ones (e.g., KL)
- Applicable to numerous real-world applications
- Automatically differentiable



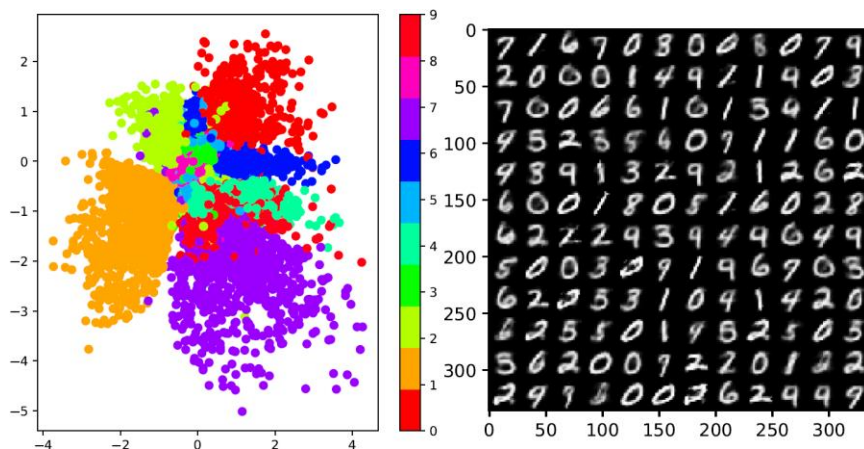
Deep Generative Autoencoder

$$L_{ours}(\theta, \phi) = \frac{1}{2} \mathbb{E}_{\hat{p}(x)} \left[ \left\| x - D_{\theta} \left( E_{\phi}(x) \right) \right\|_2^2 \right] + D_{\phi, B} \left( C_{q_{\phi}(z)} \| C_{p(z)} \right)$$

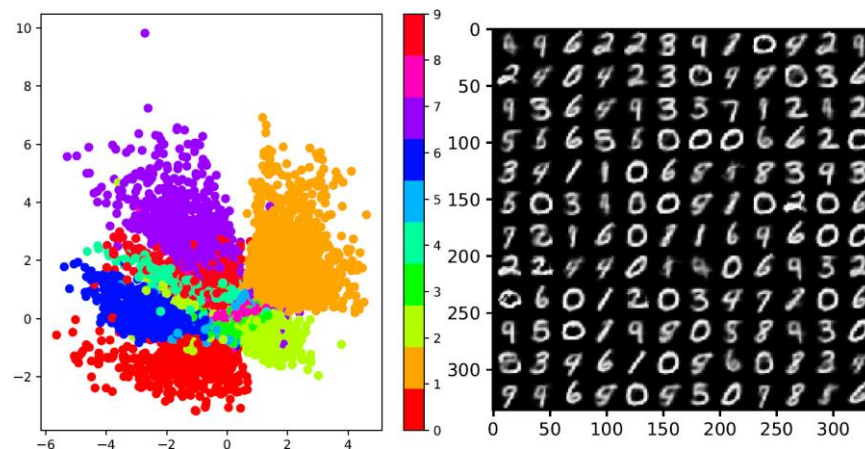
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Gaussian prior  $p(z)$



Laplacian prior  $p(z)$

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- [Automatically differentiable](#)
- [More notes in arXiv: https://arxiv.org/abs/2005.02196](https://arxiv.org/abs/2005.02196)



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