

Analytics for Neural Networks (A4NN):

Accelerating Neural Architecture Search

Ariel Rorabaugh*, Ian Lumsden, Michael Wyatt, Silvina Caino-Lores, Travis Johnston, Michela Taufer



Background: Neural Architecture Search

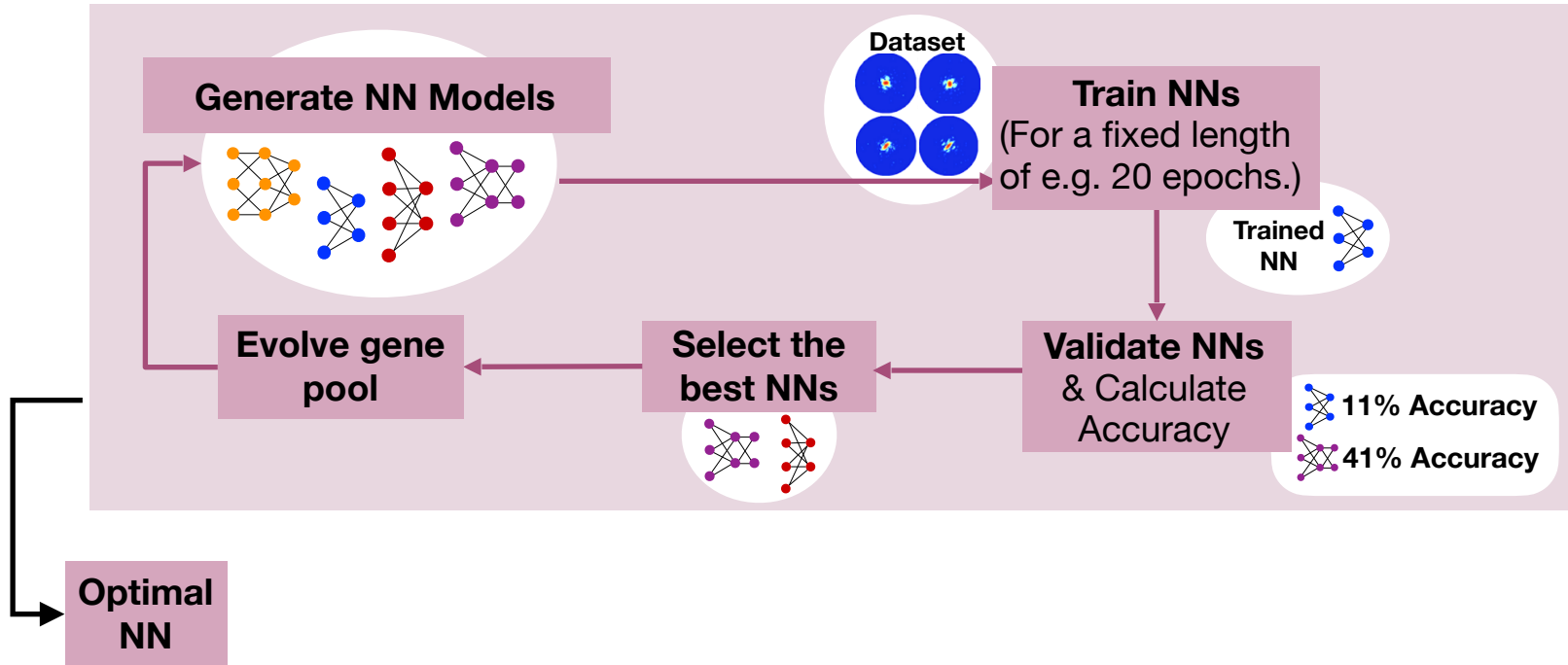
A **Neural Network** (NN) classifies a dataset. Different NNs are needed for different datasets.

Goal of **Neural Architecture Search**: find an optimal NN to classify a given dataset.

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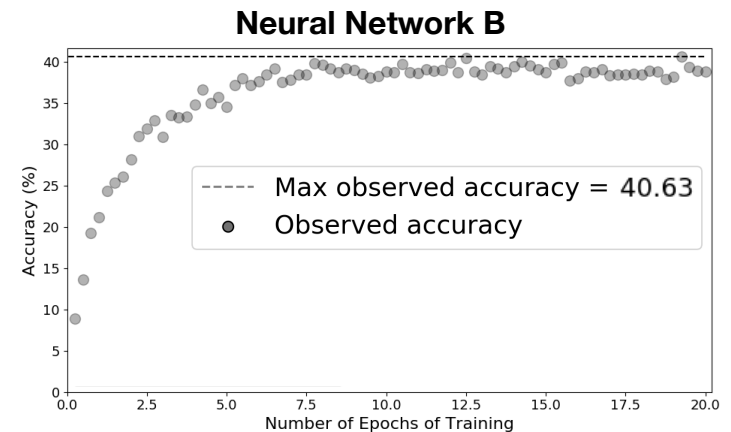
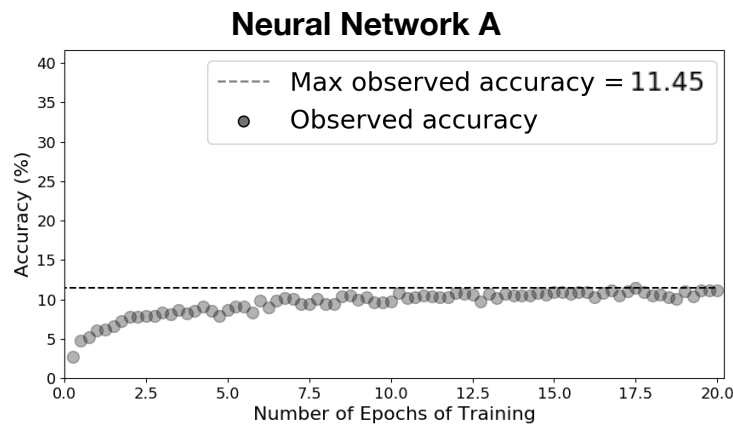
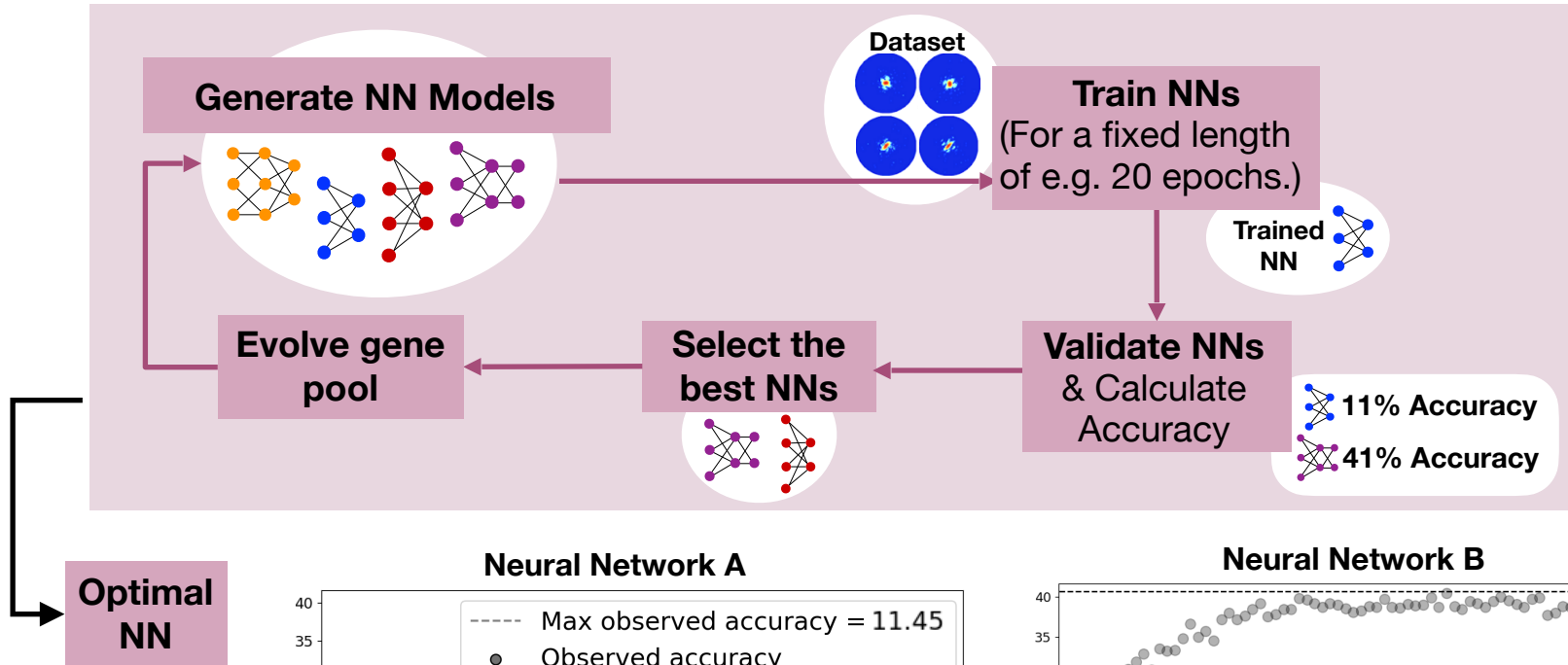
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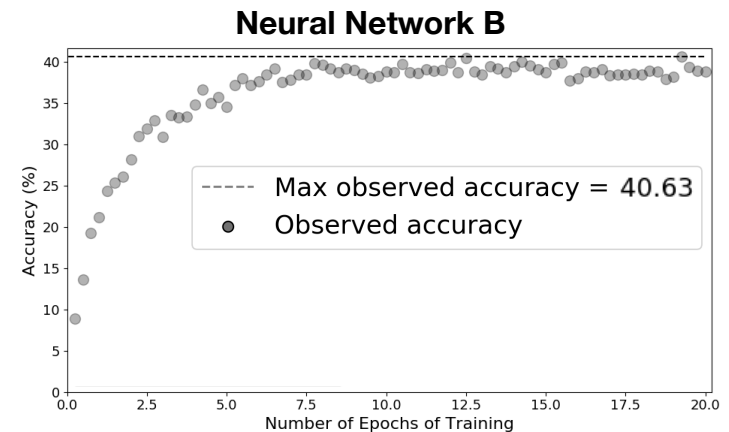
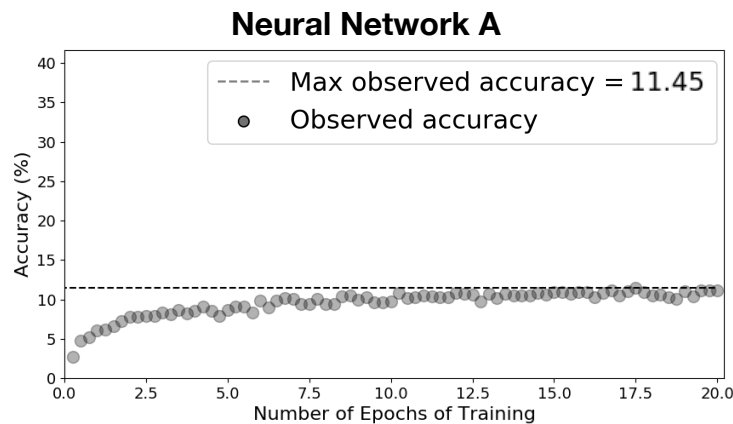
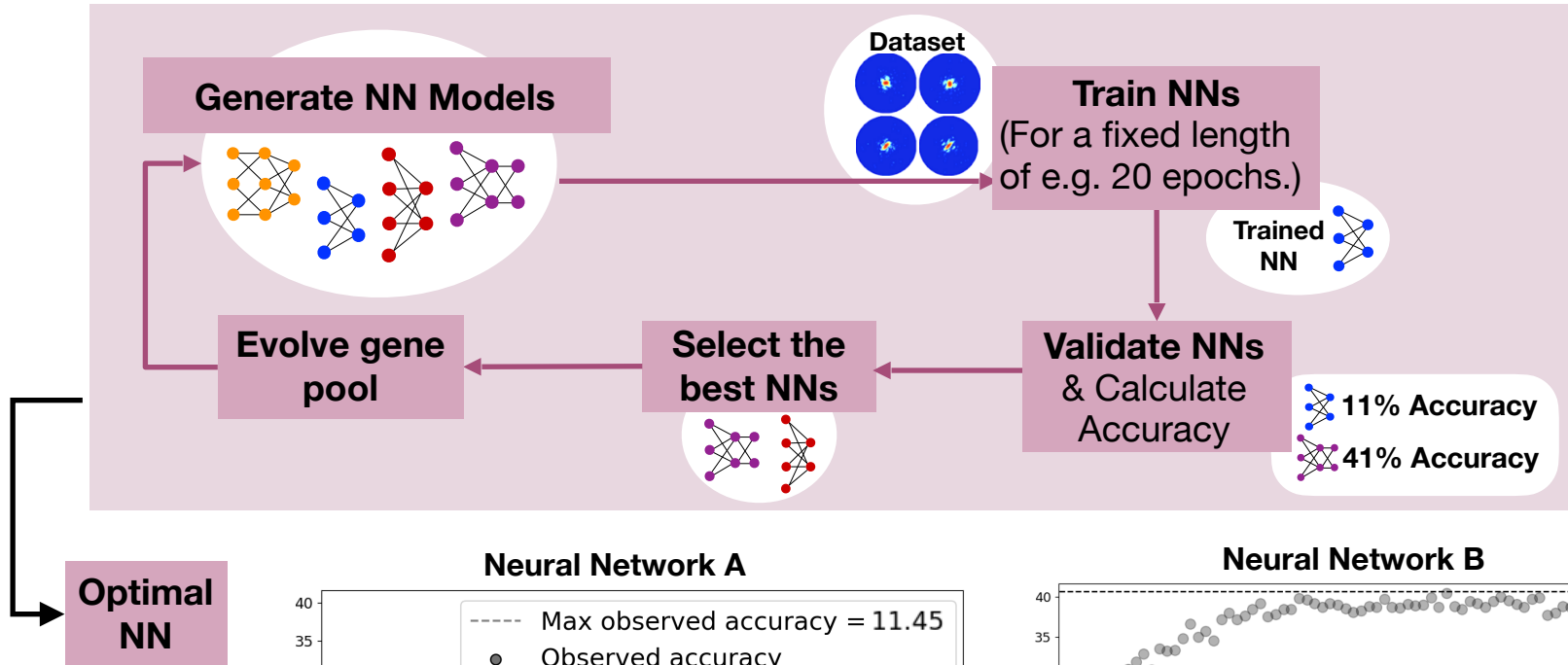
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Goals of A4NN

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- Transforming neural network (NN) training and validation steps from blocking to non-blocking

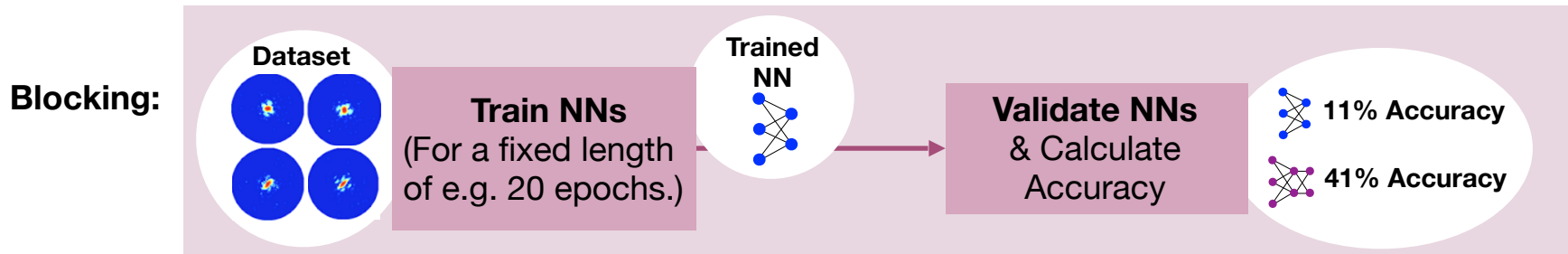
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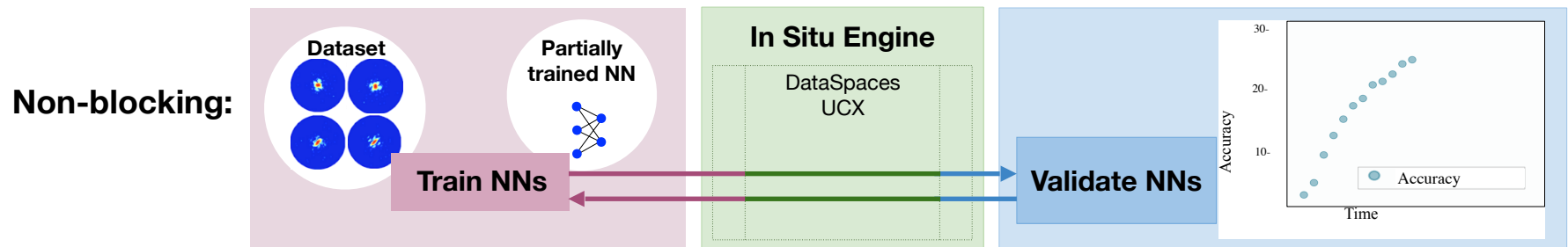
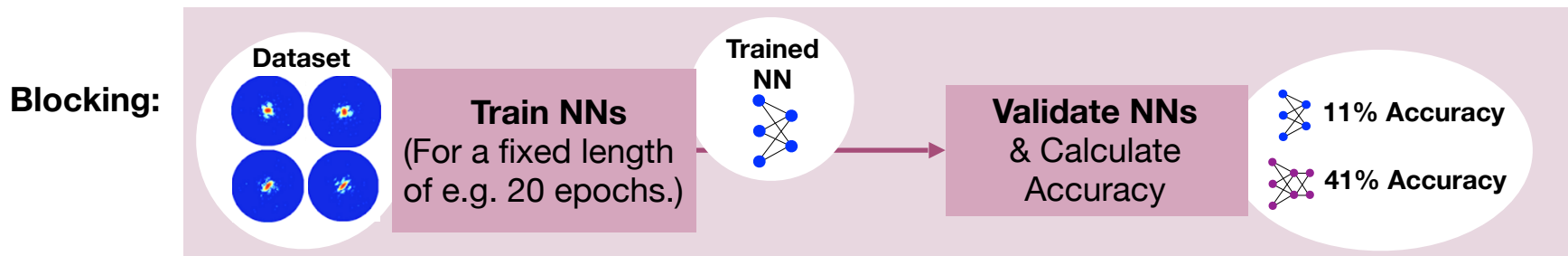
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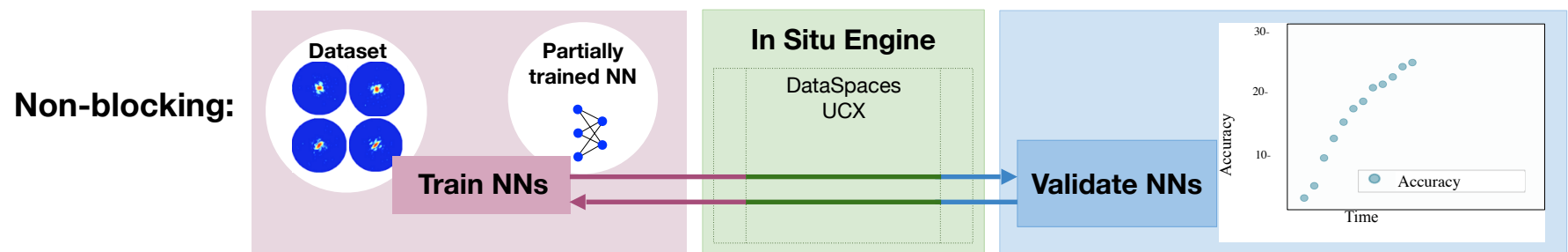
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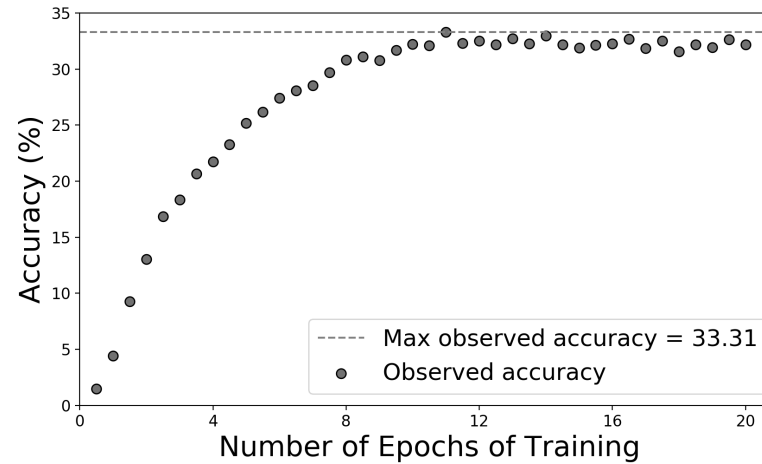
- Transforming neural network (NN) training and validation steps from blocking to non-blocking
- Implementing in-situ predictive analysis of NNs to identify and terminate poorly-performing networks.



A4NN: predictive analysis

“Curve Fit Predict”: Modeling Accuracy Growth of NN

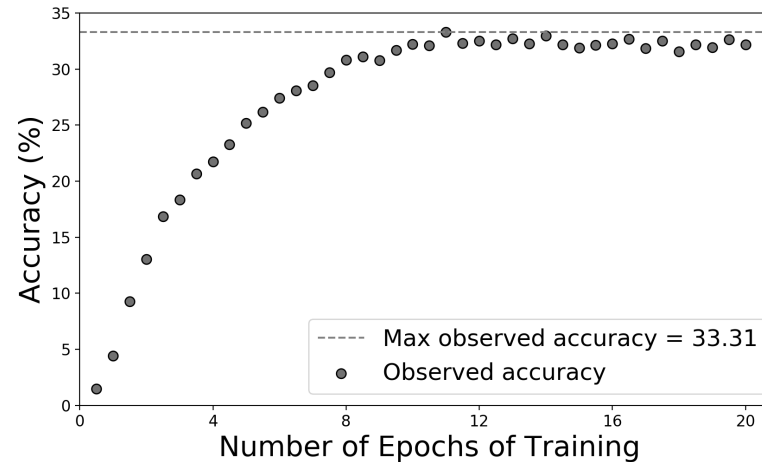
**Accuracy of a CNN
trained on CIFAR100 for
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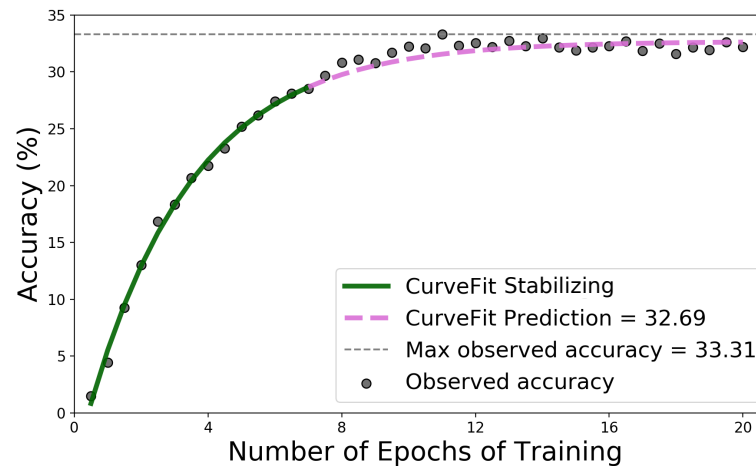
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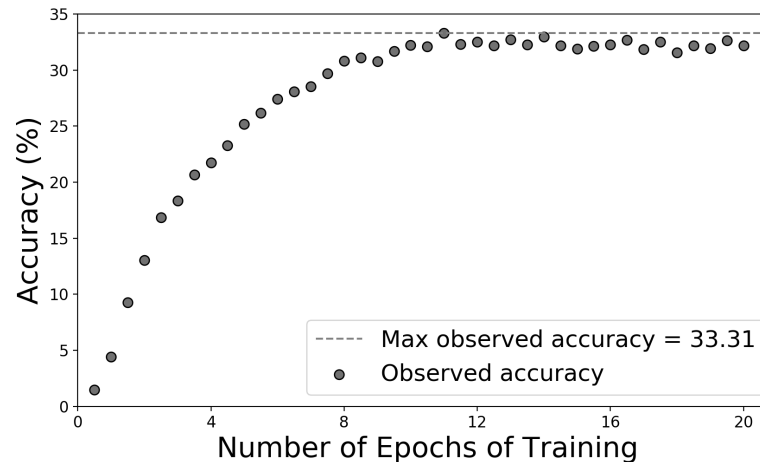
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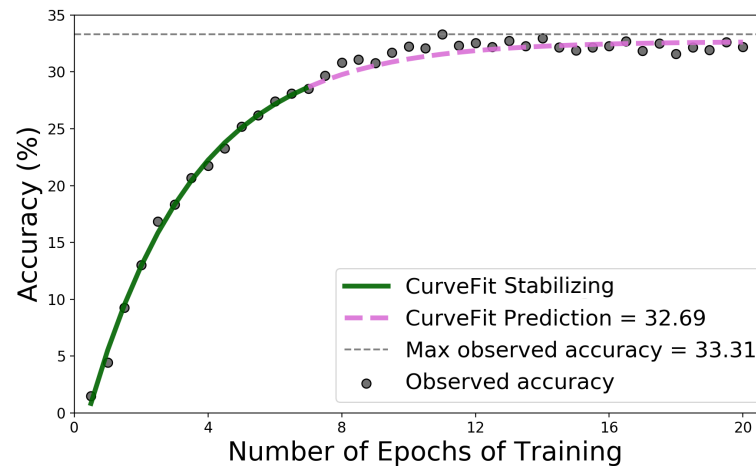
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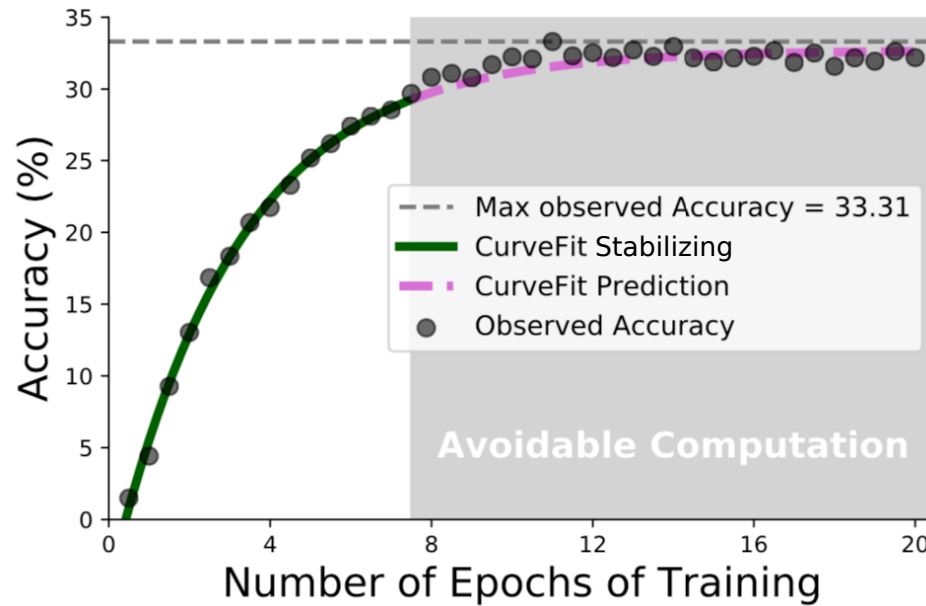
**Prediction from
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- Once Curve Fit Predict has stabilized, we can terminate training.

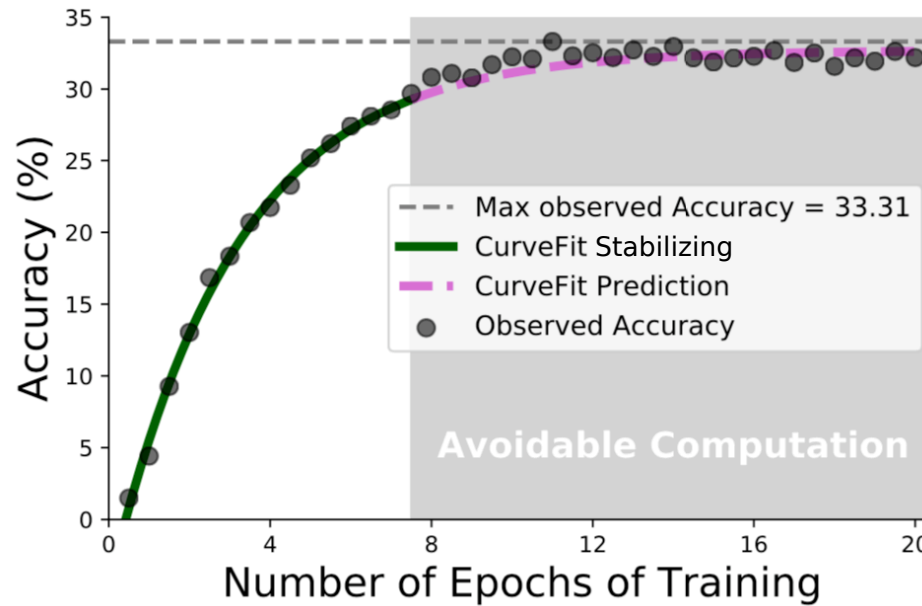
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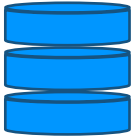
“Curve Fit Predict”: Modeling Accuracy Growth of NN



- Early experiments show average computation savings of over 50%.
- Suggests that Curve Fit Predict enables neural architecture search to assess up to twice as many NNs in a given time unit.

A4NN: Future Directions

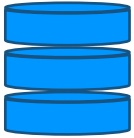
- **Create NN Model Database**



- Generate openly available repository of trained NN models, including NN metadata and accuracy/loss throughout training process.
- Utilize database to leverage NN history in our analytics.

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- **Expand Analytics**



- Predict NN performance to reduce wall-time for NN training & evaluation.
- Steer search process via statistically guided, interpretable decision making.
- Leverage past experience for architecture search initialization. (i.e. start from a reasoned initial projection, not a blank slate)

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