

# Convergence of Adaptive Importance Samplers for Unbounded Parametric Families

Carlos A.C.C. Perello<sup>1</sup>    Deniz Akyildiz<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Department of Mathematics, Imperial College London

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2 Convergence Rates

3 Numerics

- Gaussian Target
- Mixture Target
- Logit Normal Target

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## 1 Background

## 2 Convergence Rates

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We want to estimate  $(\phi, \pi) = \int_X \phi(x)\pi(x)dx$ . Let  $Z = \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \Pi(x)dx$ .

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Define  $W(x) := \frac{\pi(x)}{q(x)}$ . Using this:

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Setting  $\tilde{\pi}^N(dx) = \sum_{i=1}^N w(x_i) \delta_{x_i}(dx)$  gives  $(\phi, \pi) \approx (\phi, \tilde{\pi}^N)$

## Definition

We call  $\tilde{\pi}^N$  the *approximation/empirical measure* and  $N$  the *number of points/atoms* used to construct it.  $(\phi, \tilde{\pi}^N)$  is the *Self-Normalised Importance Sampling (SNIS) estimator*.

# Importance Sampling

Theorem 2.6. (Akyildiz and Míguez 2021)

If  $(W^2, q) < \infty$  then:

$$\mathbb{E}[|(\phi, \pi) - (\phi, \tilde{\pi}^N)|^2] \leq \frac{4\|\phi\|_\infty^2 \rho}{N}$$

Where  $\rho := \mathbb{E}_q \left[ \frac{\pi^2(X)}{q^2(X)} \right]$ . The same bound holds for  $\pi^N$ .

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Remark

$\rho = D_\chi(\pi \| q) + 1$ . We call  $\rho$  the *Second Moment Error Metric (SMEM)*.

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## Remark

Oftentimes one may not be able to evaluate  $\rho(\theta)$  either, but only an unnormalised version. We denote this version as  $R(\theta)$ .

# Optimised Adaptive Importance Sampling

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## Algorithm 1 General OAIS algorithm

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- 1: Choose a proposal  $q_\theta$  with initial parameter  $\theta_0$  and a number of particles  $N$ .
  - 2: **for**  $t \geq 0$  **do**
  - 3:     Sample  $(x_t^{(i)})_{i=1}^N \sim q_{\theta_t}$
  - 4:     Construct  $\tilde{\pi}_t^N(dx) = \sum_{i=1}^N w(x_t^{(i)}) \delta_{x_t^{(i)}}(dx)$
  - 5:     Report  $(\phi, \tilde{\pi}_t^N)$  and  $q_{\theta_t}$
  - 6:     Compute the updated parameter  $\theta_{t+1}$ <sup>1</sup>
  - 7: **end for**
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How does one update the parameters? Minimising  $\rho(\theta)$  using a gradient estimator  $g(\theta) \rightsquigarrow$  Optimisation

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# Optimise Adaptive Importance Sampling

## Assumption 3.1.

$\rho(\theta)$  is convex and  $L$ -smooth w.r.t. the norm  $\|\cdot\|_{\Theta}$ , the parameter space's 2-norm.

## Assumption 3.2.

The gradient of  $\rho(\theta)$  is bounded:  $\exists M > 0$  s.t.  $\forall \theta \in \Theta$ ,  $\|\nabla \rho(\theta)\|_2 \leq M$ .

# Optimised Adaptive Importance Sampling

Given Assumptions 3.1 and 3.2, (Akyildiz and Míguez 2021) prove that, after  $T$  iterations:

$$\mathbb{E}[|(\phi, \pi) - (\phi, \tilde{\pi}_T^N)|^2] \leq \frac{C_1}{\sqrt{T}N} + \frac{C_2}{\sqrt{T}N^2} + \frac{C_3}{\sqrt{T}N}(2 + \log T) + \frac{C_4}{N}$$

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## Definition

If an OAIS algorithm has rate  $\mathcal{O}(f(T)/N + 1/N)$  where  $f(T) \rightarrow 0$  as  $T \rightarrow \infty$ , we call  $\mathcal{O}(f(T))$  its *adaptive rate*.

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Goal: Obtain OAIS (adaptive) convergence rates without constraining  $\Theta$ .

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Given that Assumptions 3.1 & 3.2 hold on  $\rho(\theta)$  in addition to mild assumptions on  $g$ , then using  $t_k = \frac{C}{\sqrt{k+1}}$  after  $T$  iterations of SG OAIS:

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## Theorem 3.2.

$$\mathbb{E}[|(\phi, \pi) - (\phi, \tilde{\pi}_T^N)|^2] \leq \frac{K_1 \mathbb{E}[\|\theta_0 - \theta^*\|_{\Theta}^2]}{N\sqrt{T+1}} + \frac{K_2 \log(T+1)}{N\sqrt{T+1}} + \frac{4\|\phi\|_{\infty}^2 \rho(\theta^*)}{N}$$

If USG is run instead with  $R(\theta)$  and gradient estimator  $G$  satisfying Assumption 2.2 with  $S^2$  instead of  $\sigma^2$ , we have the bound:

$$\mathbb{E}[|(\phi, \pi) - (\phi, \tilde{\pi}_T^N)|^2] \leq \frac{K_1 \mathbb{E}[\|\theta_0 - \theta^*\|_{\Theta}^2]}{N\sqrt{T+1}} + \frac{K'_2 \log(T+1)}{Z^2 N \sqrt{T+1}} + \frac{4\|\phi\|_{\infty}^2 R(\theta^*)}{Z^2 N}$$

Where  $K_1 = K_1(\phi, C)$ ,  $K_2 = K_2(\phi, C, \sigma)$  and  $K'_2 = K'_2(\phi, C, S)$ .

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Where  $K_1 = K_1(\phi, C)$ ,  $K_2 = K_2(\phi, C, \sigma)$  and  $K'_2 = K'_2(\phi, C, S)$ .

Theorem 3.2 is novel in the IS/OAIS setting.

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The result was proven using a last-iterate SGD result which does not put any restrictions on the domain of  $f$  (Orabona 2020).

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## Assumption 3.4.

Assume that the  $\ell_\infty$  norm of the gradient estimators of  $\rho$  and  $R$ ,  $g$  and  $G$  respectively, are almost surely-bounded; that is  $\exists R_1, R_2 \geq \sqrt{\varepsilon}$ , such that  $\forall x \in \mathbb{R}^d$ :

$$\|g(x)\|_\infty \leq R_1 - \sqrt{\varepsilon} \quad \text{a.s.},$$

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## Assumption 3.5.

Assume  $\rho(\theta)$  is  $\mu$ -strongly convex and  $L$ -smooth w.r.t. the  $\|\cdot\|_\Theta$  norm.

If Assumption 3.4 holds on  $g$  and Assumption 3.5 holds on  $\rho(\theta)$ , using a constant learning rate  $t_k = \alpha$  with parameters  $\beta_2 \in (0, 1)$  and  $\beta_1 \in (0, \beta_2)$  yields, for  $T \geq \frac{\beta_1}{1-\beta_1}$ :

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## Theorem 3.4.

$$\begin{aligned} \min_{k \in [T]_0} \mathbb{E} \left[ |(\phi, \pi) - (\phi, \tilde{\pi}_k^N)|^2 \right] &\leq \frac{4R_1\|\phi\|_\infty^2 \rho(\theta_0) - \rho(\theta^*)}{N\alpha\mu} \frac{\tilde{T} + 1}{\tilde{T} + 1} \\ &+ \frac{4E'\|\phi\|_\infty^2}{N(\tilde{T} + 1)} \left[ \log \left( 1 + \frac{R_1^2}{(1 - \beta_2)\varepsilon} \right) - (\tilde{T} + 1) \log(\beta_2) \right] \\ &+ \frac{4\|\phi\|_\infty^2 \rho(\theta^*)}{N} \end{aligned}$$

Where  $E' = E'(R_1, L, d, \alpha, \beta_1, \beta_2, \mu)$  and  $\tilde{T} \propto T$  linearly.

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Where  $E' = E'(R_1, L, d, \alpha, \beta_1, \beta_2, \mu)$  and  $\tilde{T} \propto T$  linearly.

## Remark

The bound is on the *minimum* MSE after  $T$  iterations

If Assumption 3.4 holds on  $g$  and Assumption 3.5 holds on  $\rho(\theta)$ , then after  $T$  iterations with learning rate  $t_k = \alpha$  and  $\beta_1 \in (0, 1)$ :

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These were shown using convergence results for adaptive optimisers shown in (Défossez et al. 2020).

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In all cases,  $N = 1000$  atoms were used at each iteration to construct the empirical measure. 10 runs were performed in the first two cases, whilst 100 runs were performed in the last setting.

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**Case 3:**  $\pi$  Logit Normal,  $q$  Beta – (Logit Normal target)

In all cases,  $N = 1000$  atoms were used at each iteration to construct the empirical measure. 10 runs were performed in the first two cases, whilst 100 runs were performed in the last setting.

Only two variables: number of iterations  $T$  and learning rate  $t_k$  ( $\alpha$  if fixed).

# Preliminaries

Three main settings were considered:

**Case 1:**  $\pi$  (Bivariate) Gaussian,  $q$  Gaussian – (Gaussian target)

**Case 2:**  $\pi$  Mixture Gaussian,  $q$  Gaussian – (Mixture target)

**Case 3:**  $\pi$  Logit Normal,  $q$  Beta – (Logit Normal target)

In all cases,  $N = 1000$  atoms were used at each iteration to construct the empirical measure. 10 runs were performed in the first two cases, whilst 100 runs were performed in the last setting.

Only two variables: number of iterations  $T$  and learning rate  $t_k$  ( $\alpha$  if fixed).

We will estimate  $\mathbb{P}(X \in D)$  where  $X \sim \pi$  and  $D$  will be specified.  
Equivalent to computing  $(1_D, \pi)$ .

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## 1 Background

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## 3 Numerics

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## Update rule

Let  $q_{\theta_k} \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu_k, \Sigma_k)$ . Defining  $m_k = \Sigma_k^{-1}\mu_k$  and  $S_k = \Sigma_k^{-1}$ :

## Update rule

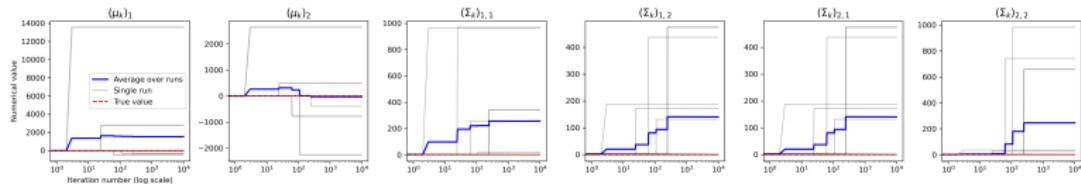
Let  $q_{\theta_k} \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu_k, \Sigma_k)$ . Defining  $m_k = \Sigma_k^{-1}\mu_k$  and  $S_k = \Sigma_k^{-1}$ :

$$m_{k+1} \leftarrow m_k + \frac{t_k}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{\pi^2(x_i)}{q_{\theta_k}^2(x_i)} (x_i - S_k^{-1}m_k)$$
$$S_{k+1} \leftarrow \text{Proj}_{\text{PD}^2} \left[ S_k - \frac{t_k}{2N} \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{\pi^2(x_i)}{q_{\theta_k}^2(x_i)} (x_i x_i^\top - S_k^{-1} m_k m_k^\top S_k^{-1} - S_k^{-1}) \right]$$

# SG OAIS (Gaussian Target)

$$T = 10000, t_k = \frac{10^{-4}}{\sqrt{k+1}}$$

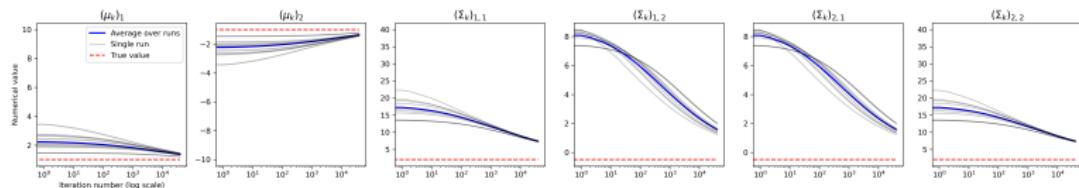
Evolution of SG OAIS proposal parameters ( $t_0 = 10^{-4}$ )



# SG OAIS (Gaussian Target)

$$T = 40000, t_k = \frac{10^{-5}}{\sqrt{k+1}}$$

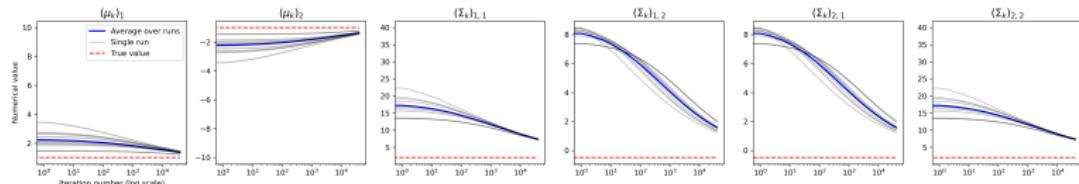
Evolution of SG OAIS proposal parameters



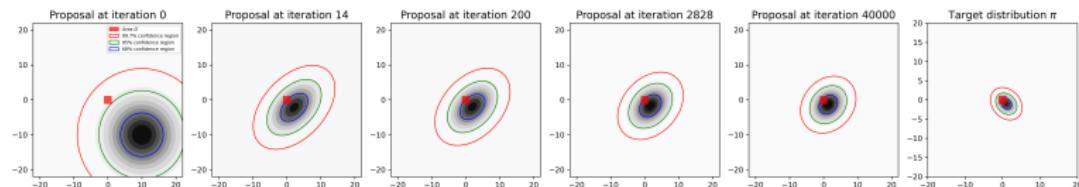
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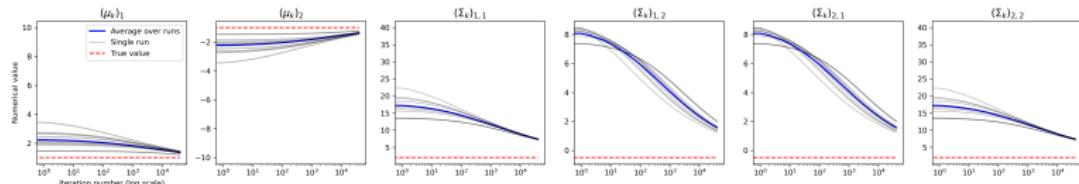
Evolution of SGD OAIS distribution (average over 10 experiments)



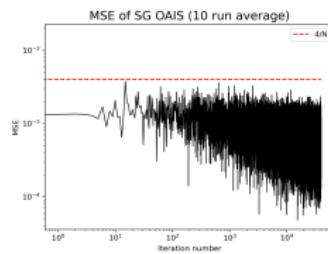
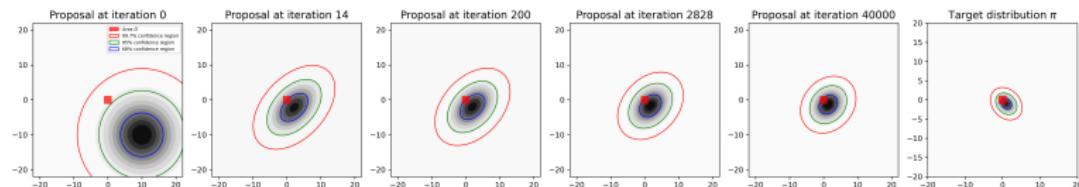
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$$T = 40000, t_k = \frac{10^{-5}}{\sqrt{k+1}}$$

Evolution of SG OAIS proposal parameters



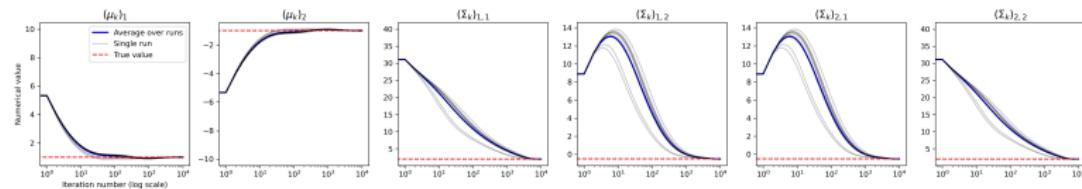
Evolution of SGD OAIS distribution (average over 10 experiments)



# Adam OAIS (Gaussian Target)

$$T = 10000, t_k = \alpha = 0.01$$

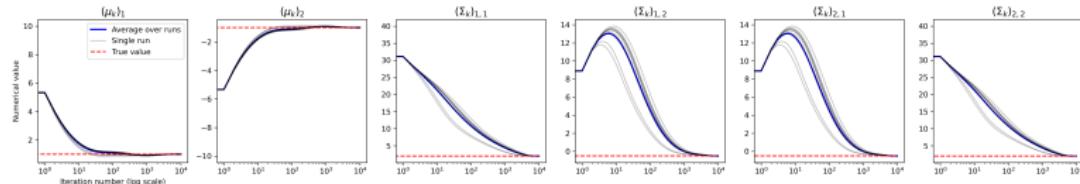
Evolution of Adam OAIS proposal parameters



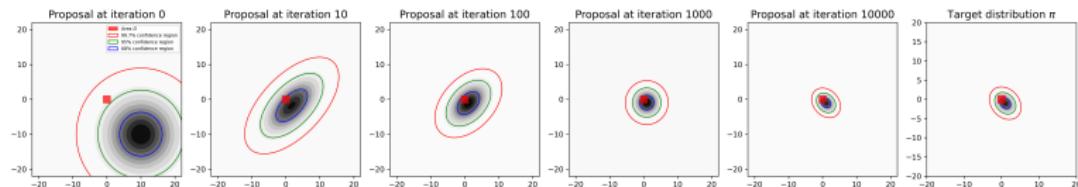
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Evolution of Adam OAIS proposal parameters

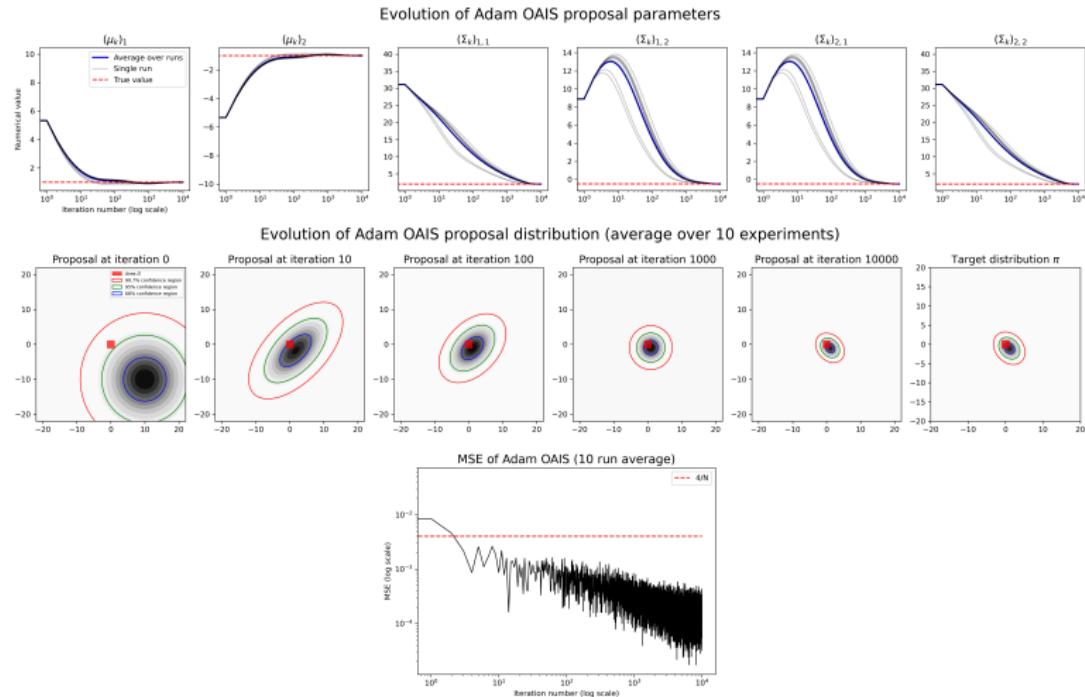


Evolution of Adam OAIS proposal distribution (average over 10 experiments)



# Adam OAIS (Gaussian Target)

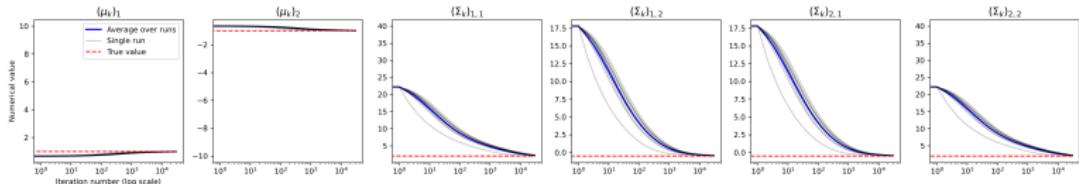
$$T = 10000, t_k = \alpha = 0.01$$



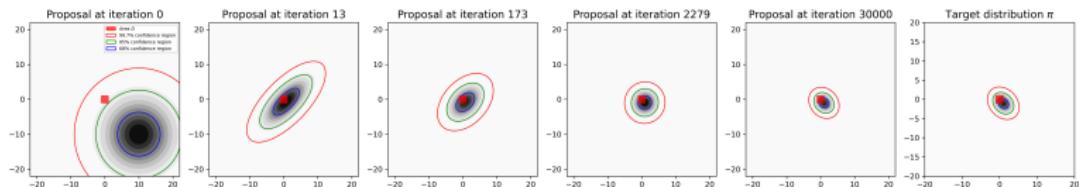
# AdaGrad OAIS (Gaussian Target)

$$T = 30000, t_k = \alpha = 0.1$$

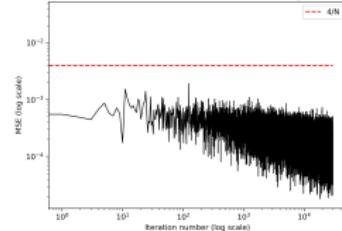
AdaGrad OAIS with Gaussian target and proposal



Evolution of AdaGrad OAIS proposal distribution (average over 10 experiments)



MSE of AdaGrad OAIS (10 run average)



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## 1 Background

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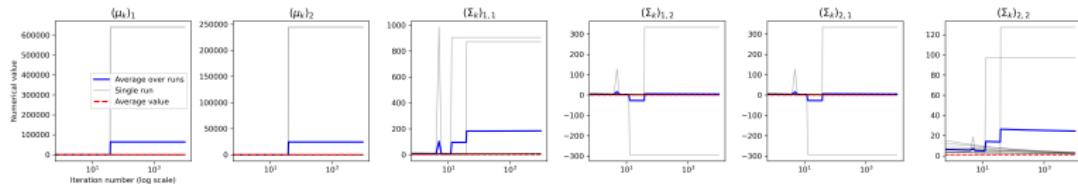
## 3 Numerics

- Gaussian Target
- Mixture Target
- Logit Normal Target

# SG OAIS (Mixture Target)

$$T = 10000, t_k = \frac{10^{-4}}{\sqrt{k+1}}$$

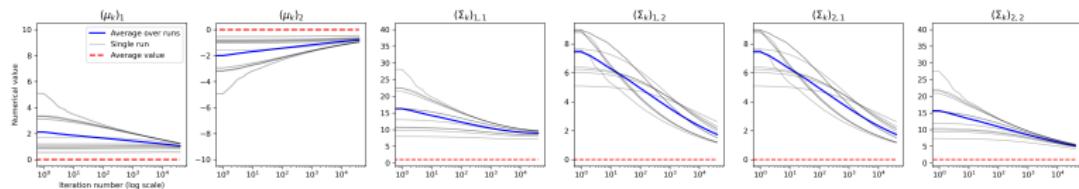
Evolution of SG OAIS proposal parameters ( $t_0 = 10^{-4}$ )



# SG OAIS (Mixture Target)

$$T = 40000, t_k = \frac{10^{-5}}{\sqrt{k+1}}$$

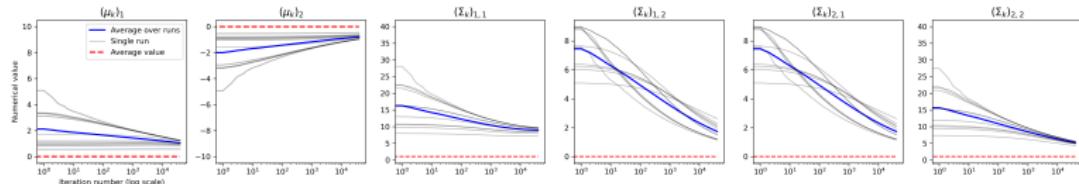
Evolution of SG OAIS proposal parameters



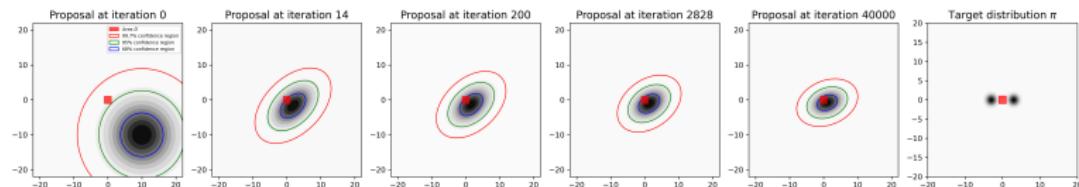
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Evolution of SG OAIS proposal parameters



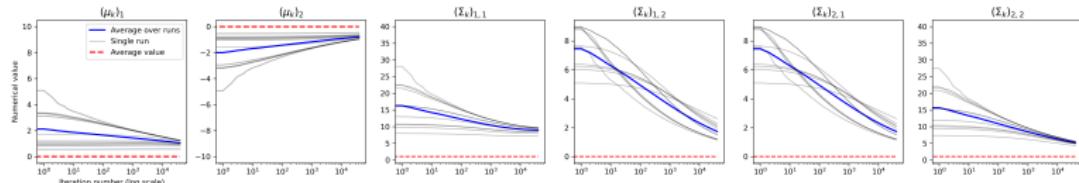
Evolution of SG OAIS proposal distribution (average over 10 experiments)



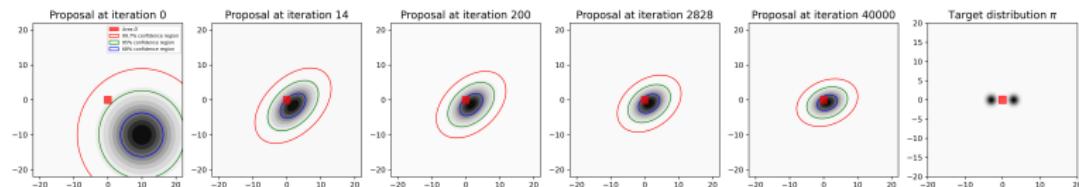
# SG OAIS (Mixture Target)

$$T = 40000, t_k = \frac{10^{-5}}{\sqrt{k+1}}$$

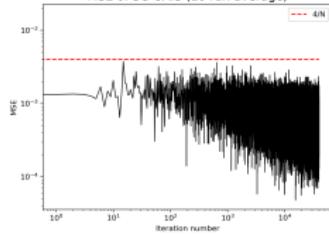
Evolution of SG OAIS proposal parameters



Evolution of SG OAIS proposal distribution (average over 10 experiments)



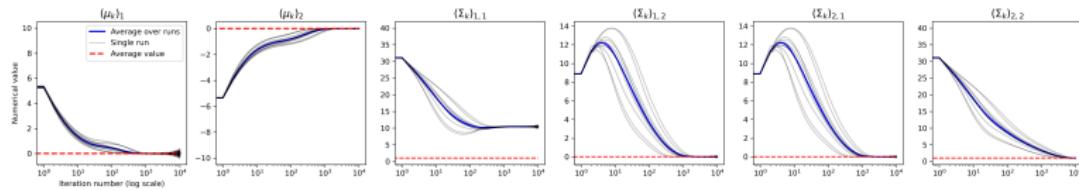
MSE of SG OAIS (10 run average)



# Adam OAIS (Mixture Target)

$$T = 10000, t_k = \alpha = 0.01$$

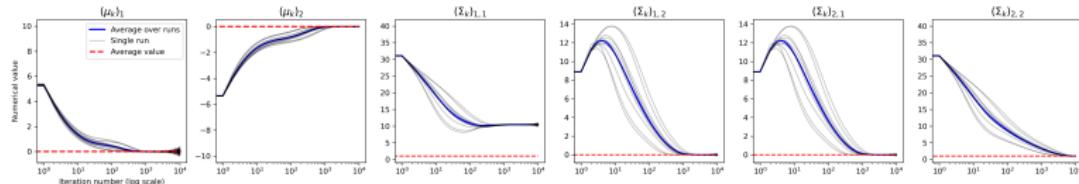
Evolution of Adam OAIS proposal parameters



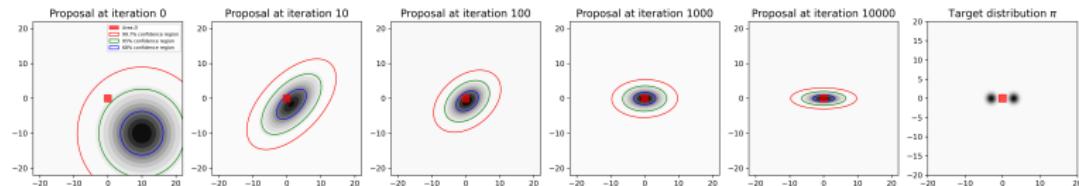
# Adam OAIS (Mixture Target)

$$T = 10000, t_k = \alpha = 0.01$$

Evolution of Adam OAIS proposal parameters

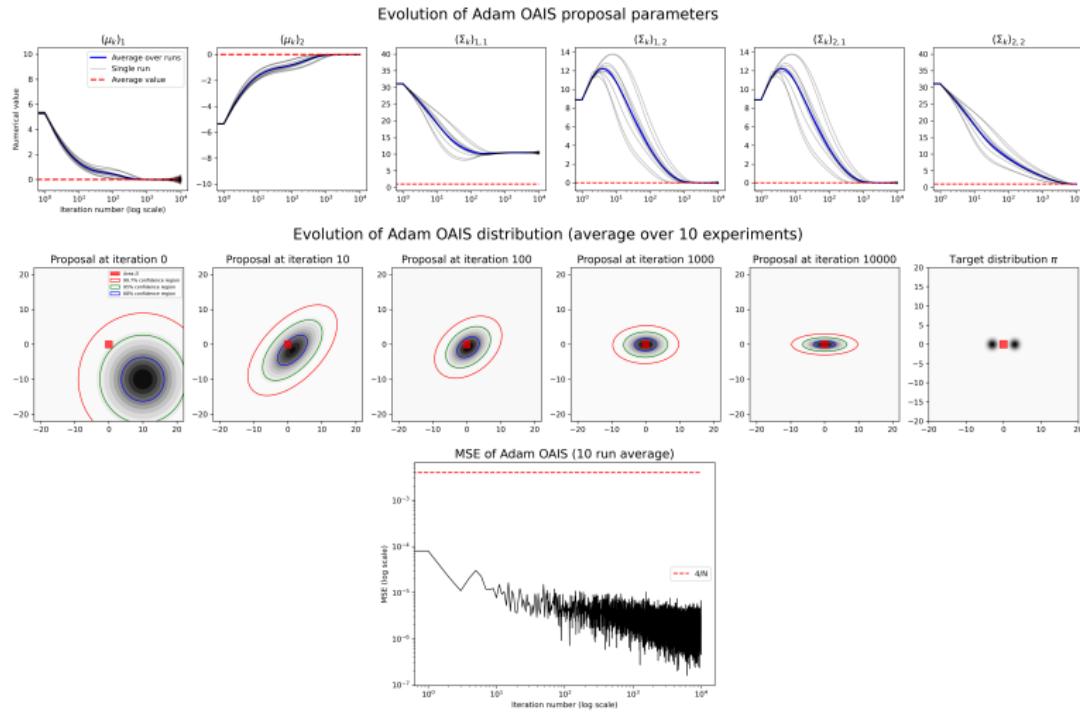


Evolution of Adam OAIS distribution (average over 10 experiments)



# Adam OAIS (Mixture Target)

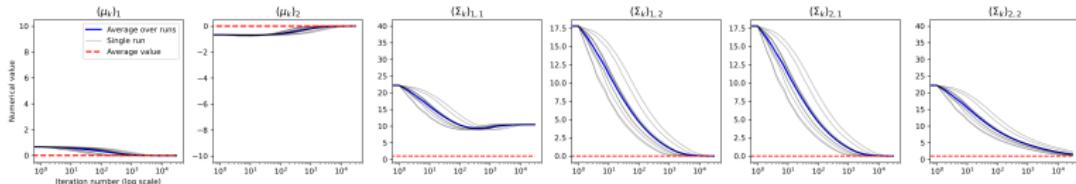
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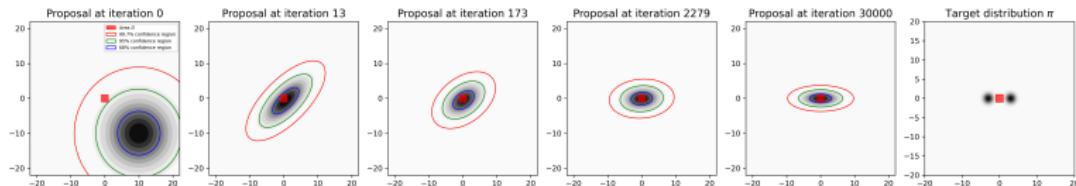
# AdaGrad OAIS (Mixture Target)

$$T = 30000, t_k = \alpha = 0.1$$

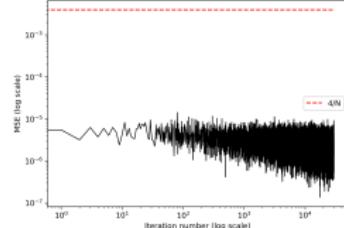
Evolution of AdaGrad OAIS proposal parameters



Evolution of AdaGrad OAIS distribution (average over 10 experiments)



MSE of AdaGrad OAIS (10 run average)



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## 1 Background

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# Logit Normal

If  $X \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu, \sigma)$ ,  $\frac{\exp(X)}{1+\exp(X)} := Y \sim \text{LogitNormal}(\mu, \sigma)$ .

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What proposal  $q_\theta$  to use?

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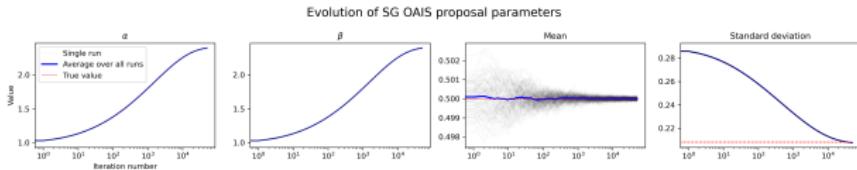
$$\alpha_{k+1} \leftarrow \left| \alpha_k + \frac{t_k}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{\pi^2(x_i)}{q_{\theta_k}^2(x_i)} [\psi^0(\alpha_k + \beta_k) - \psi^0(\alpha_k) + \log(x_i)] \right|$$
$$\beta_{k+1} \leftarrow \left| \beta_k + \frac{t_k}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \frac{\pi^2(x_i)}{q_{\theta_k}^2(x_i)} [\psi^0(\alpha_k + \beta_k) - \psi^0(\beta_k) + \log(1 - x_i)] \right|$$

Where  $x_i$  i.i.d. and  $x_i \sim q_{\theta_k}$  and  $\psi^0(x)$  is the Digamma function.

# SG OAIS (Logit Normal Target)

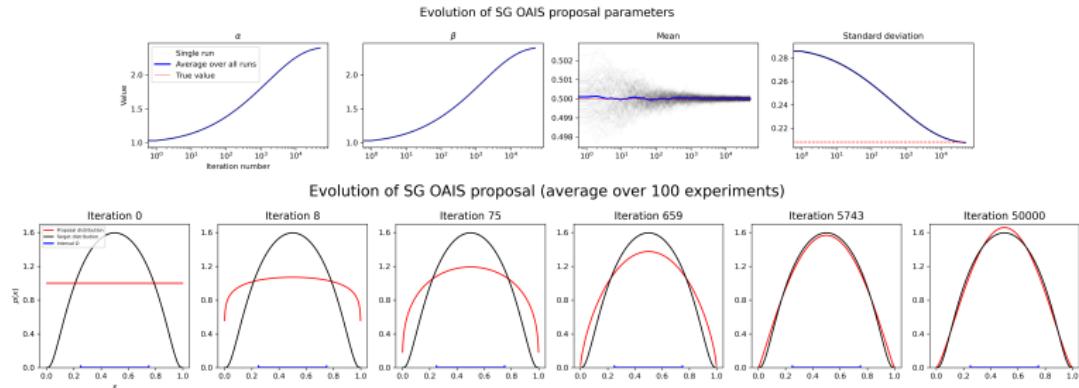
# SG OAIS (Logit Normal Target)

$$T = 50000, t_k = \frac{10}{\sqrt{k+1}}$$



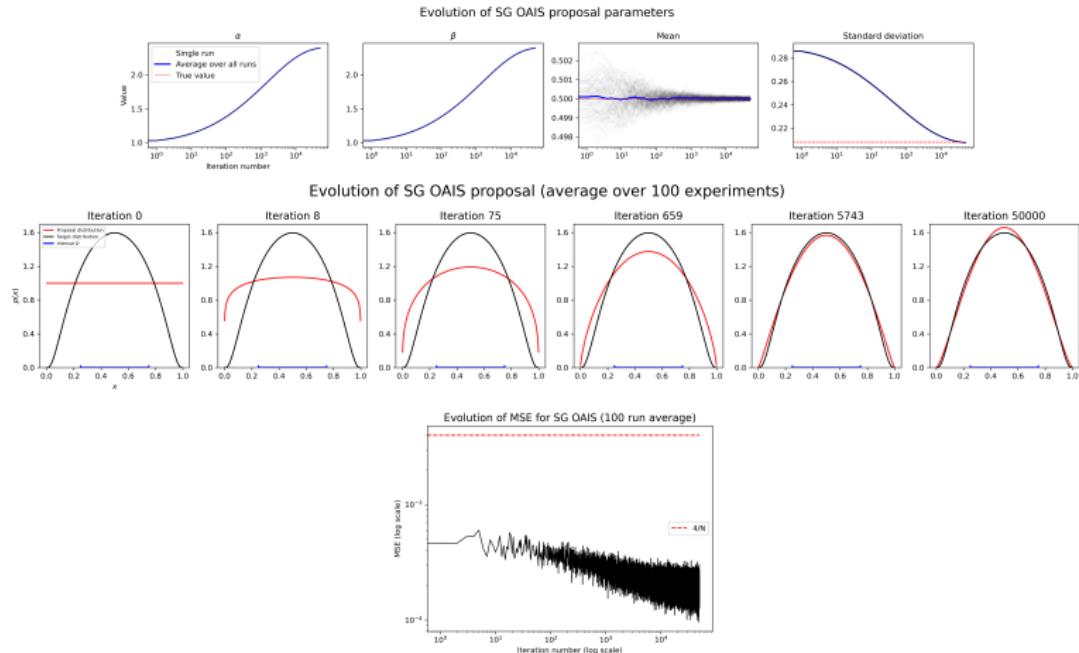
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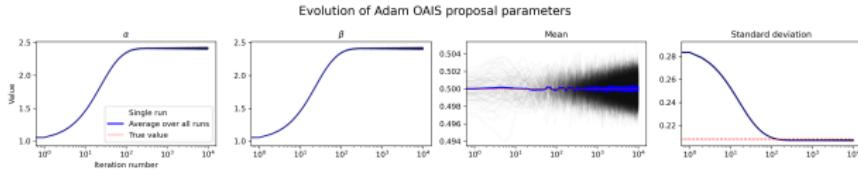
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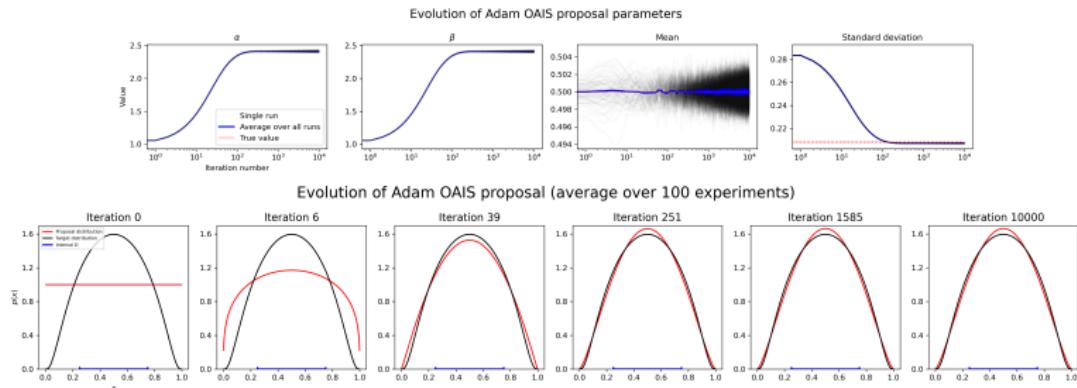
# Adam OAIS (Logit Normal Target)

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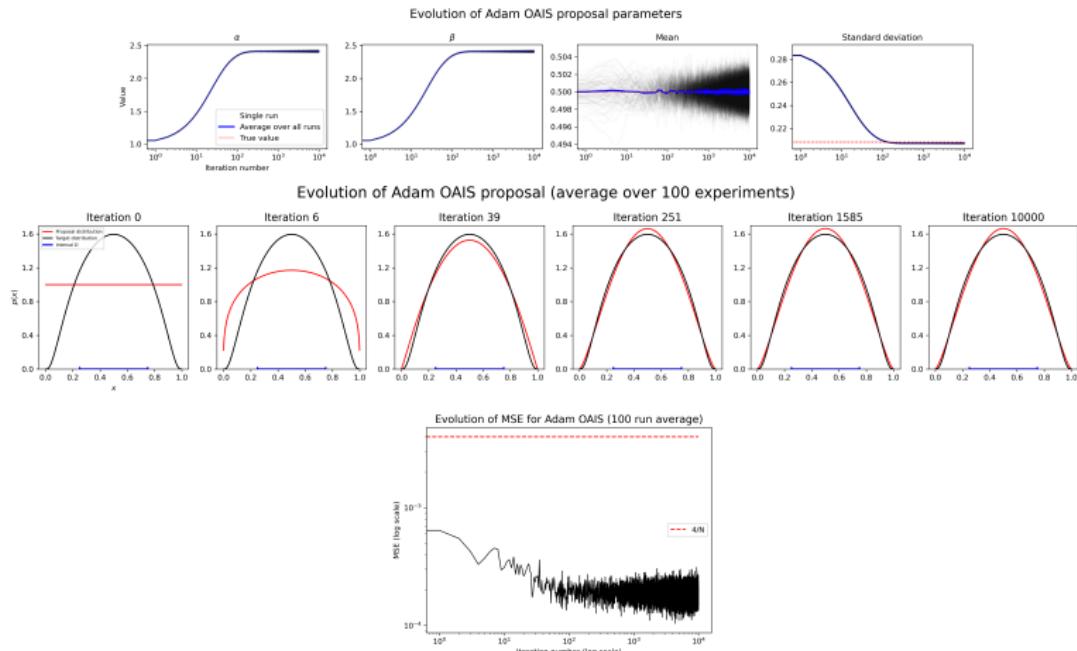
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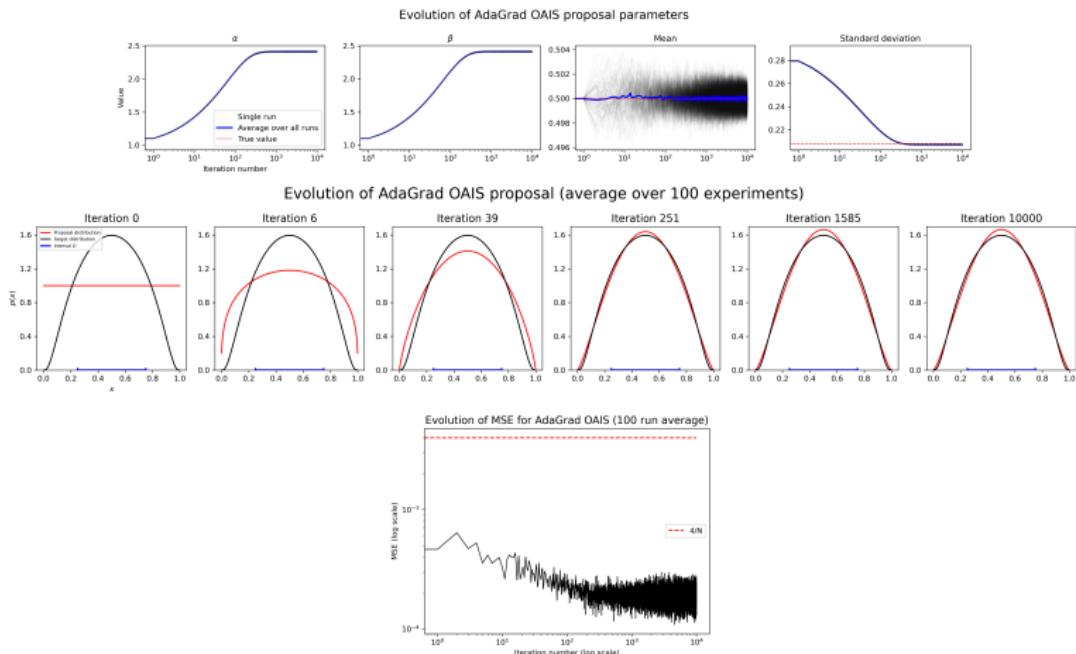
# Adam OAIS (Logit Normal Target)

$$T = 10000, t_k = \alpha = 0.1$$



# AdaGrad OAIS (Logit Normal Target)

$$T = 10000, t_k = \alpha = 0.01$$



# Summary

Method	Assumptions	Convexity	Type of Bound	Adaptive Rate	Reference
SG OAIS	2.1, 2.2, 3.1, 3.2	Regular	Last iterate	$\mathcal{O}\left(\frac{\log T}{\sqrt{T}}\right)$	Theorem 3.2
USG OAIS	2.1, 2.2, 3.1, 3.2	Regular	Last iterate	$\mathcal{O}\left(\frac{\log T}{\sqrt{T}}\right)$	Theorem 3.2
Adam OAIS	3.4, 3.5	Strong	Min-iterate	—	Theorem 3.4
AdaGrad OAIS	3.4, 3.5	Strong	Min-iterate	$\mathcal{O}\left(\frac{\log T}{\sqrt{T}}\right)$	Theorem 3.6

**Table 1:** The OAIS algorithms and their convergence rates in unbounded parameter domains.

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<https://parameterfree.com/2020/08/07/last-iterate-of-sgd-converges-even-in-unbounded-domains/>.
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