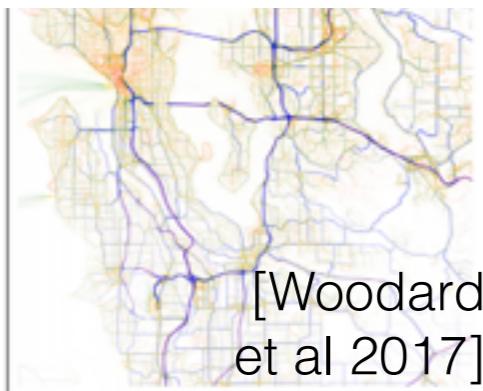


# Part IV: Variational Bayes and beyond

Tamara Broderick  
ITT Career Development  
Assistant Professor,  
MIT

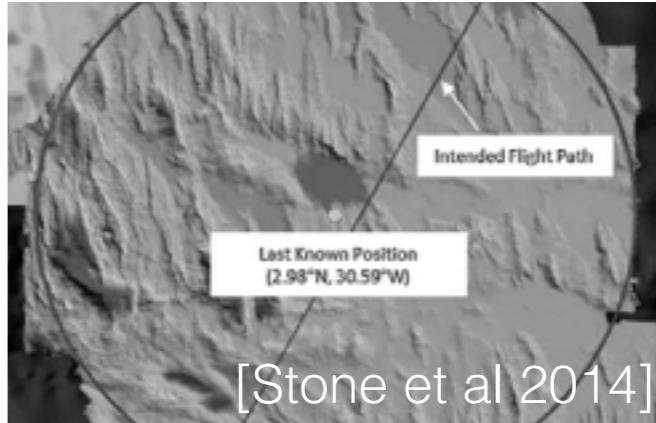
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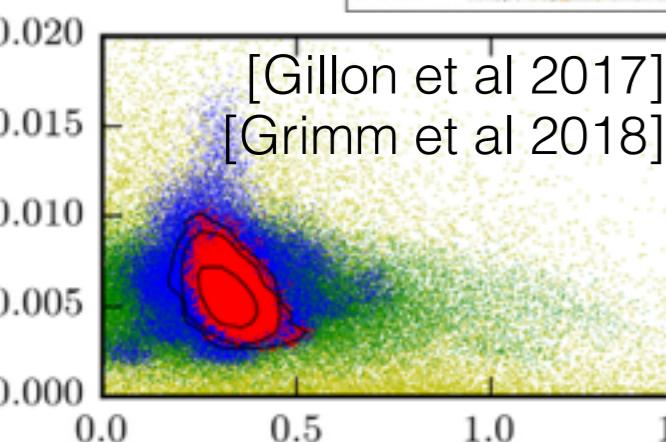
[Woodard  
et al 2017]



[ESO/  
L. Calçada/  
M. Kornmesser  
2017] [Abbott et al 2016a,b]



[Stone et al 2014]



[Gillon et al 2017]  
[Grimm et al 2018]



[Meager 2018a,b]  
[amcharts.com 2016]



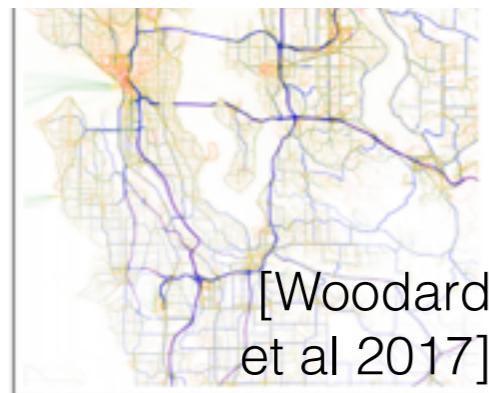
[Chati, Balakrishnan  
[Julian Hertzog 2016] 2017]



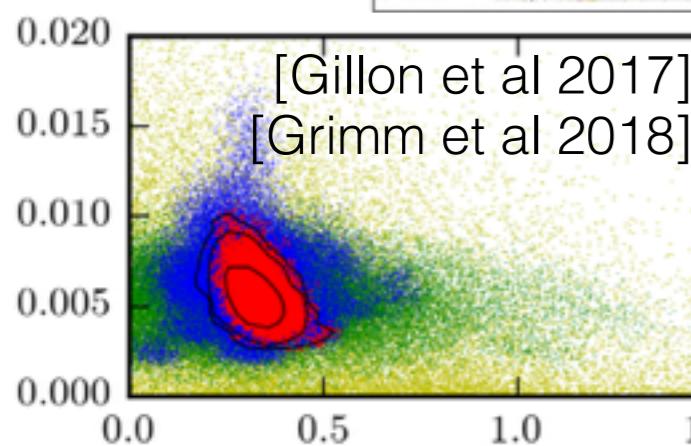
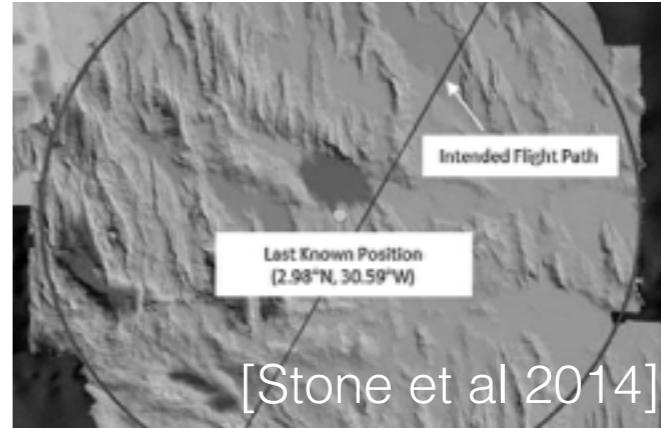
[Kuikka et al 2014]  
[Baltic Salmon Fund]

- Desiderata:
  - Point estimates, coherent uncertainties
  - Interpretable, complex, modular; prior information

# Bayesian inference



[Woodard  
et al 2017]



[Meager 2018a,b]



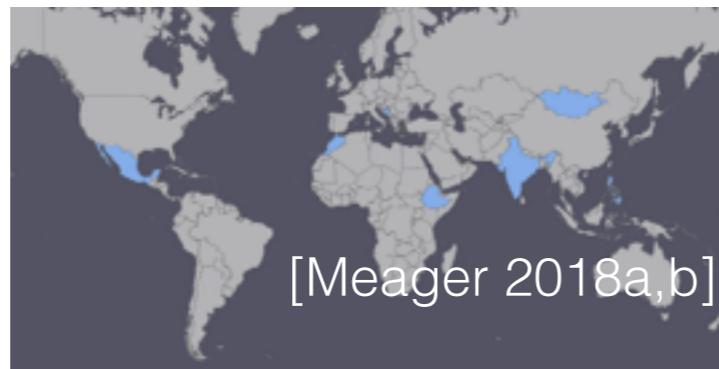
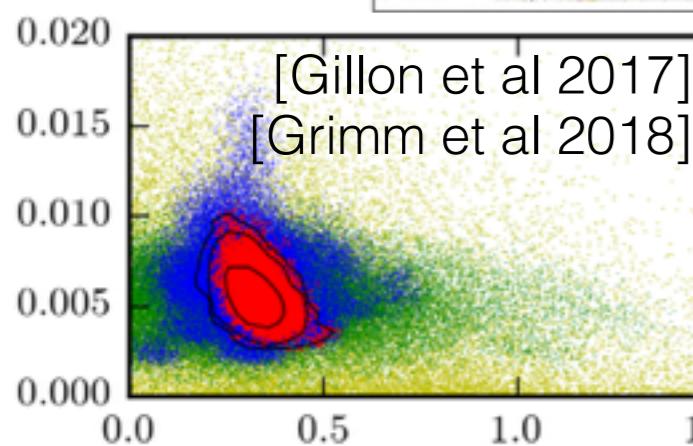
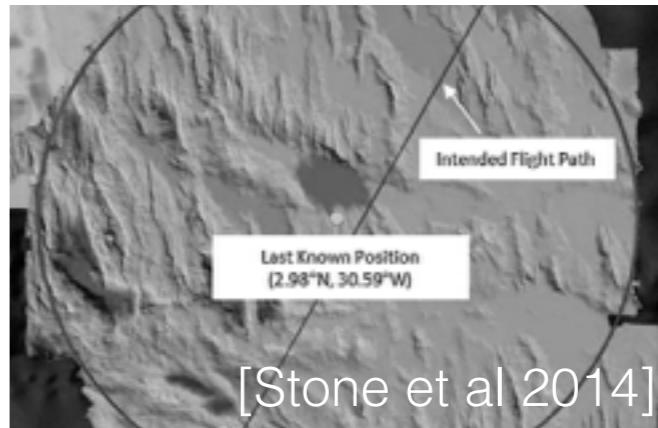
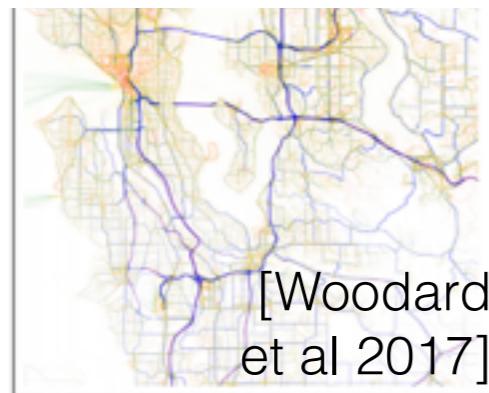
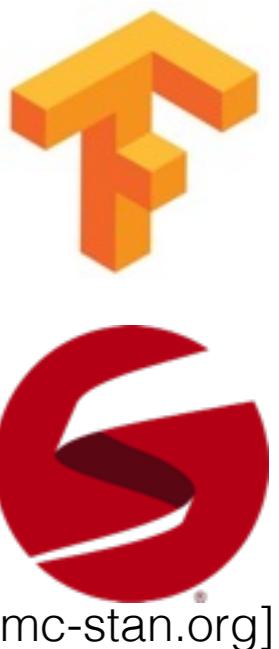
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- Challenge: existing methods can be slow, tedious, unreliable

# Bayesian inference



- Desiderata:
  - Point estimates, coherent uncertainties
  - Interpretable, complex, modular; prior information
- Challenge: existing methods can be slow, tedious, unreliable
- Our proposal: use *efficient data summaries* for **scalable, automated** algorithms with **error bounds** for finite data

# Roadmap

- Approximate Bayes review
- The “core” of the data set
- Uniform data subsampling isn’t enough
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# Bayesian inference

# Bayesian inference

$$p(\theta)$$

# Bayesian inference

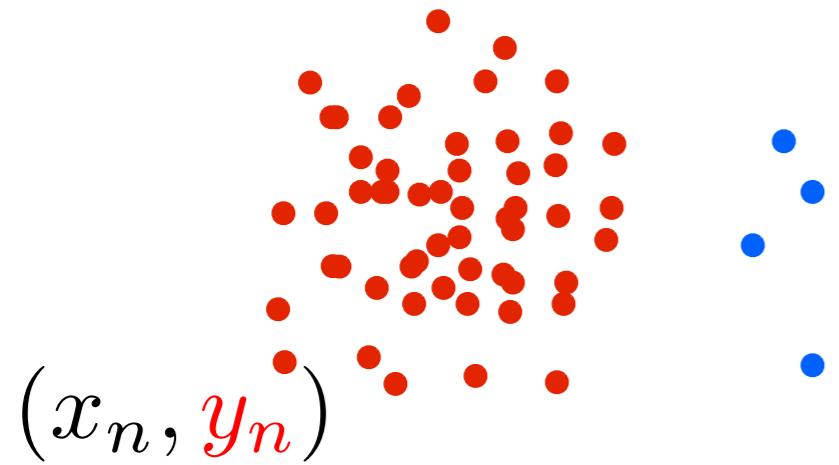
$$p(y|\theta)p(\theta)$$

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$$p(\theta|y) \propto_{\theta} p(y|\theta)p(\theta)$$

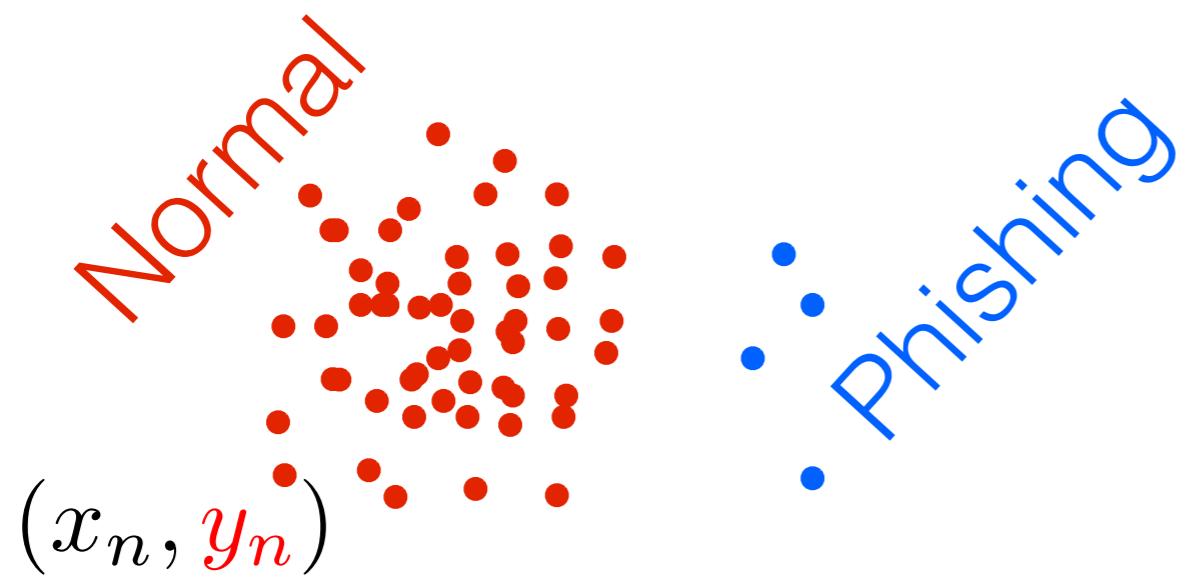
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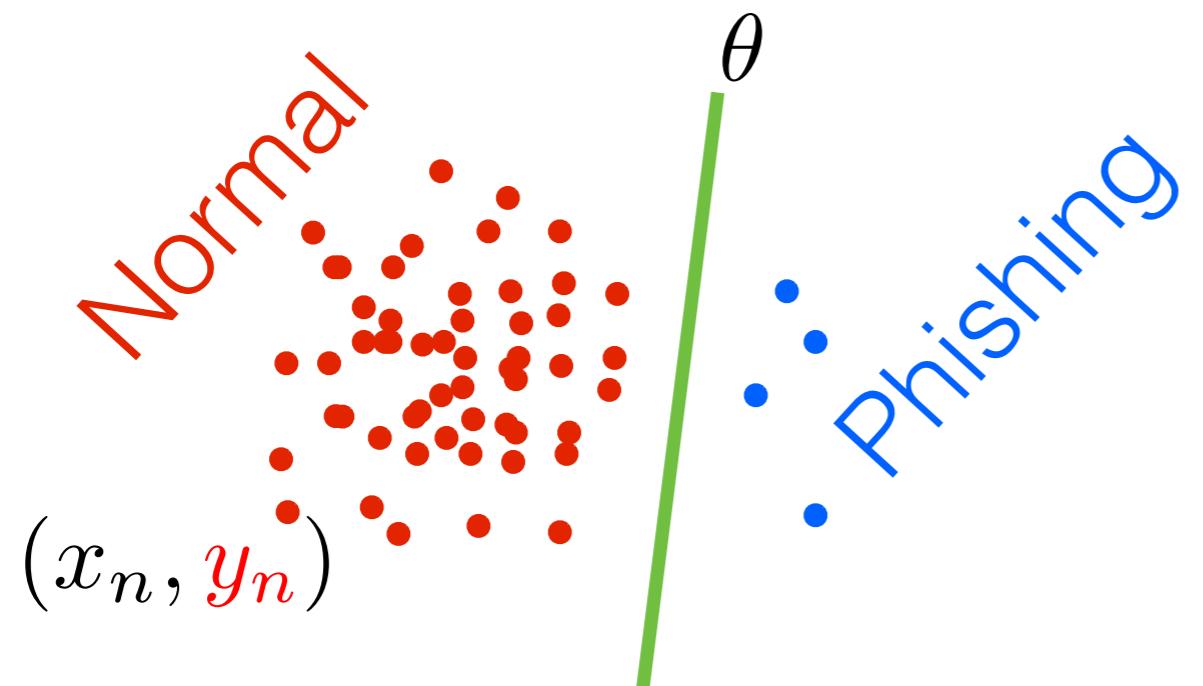
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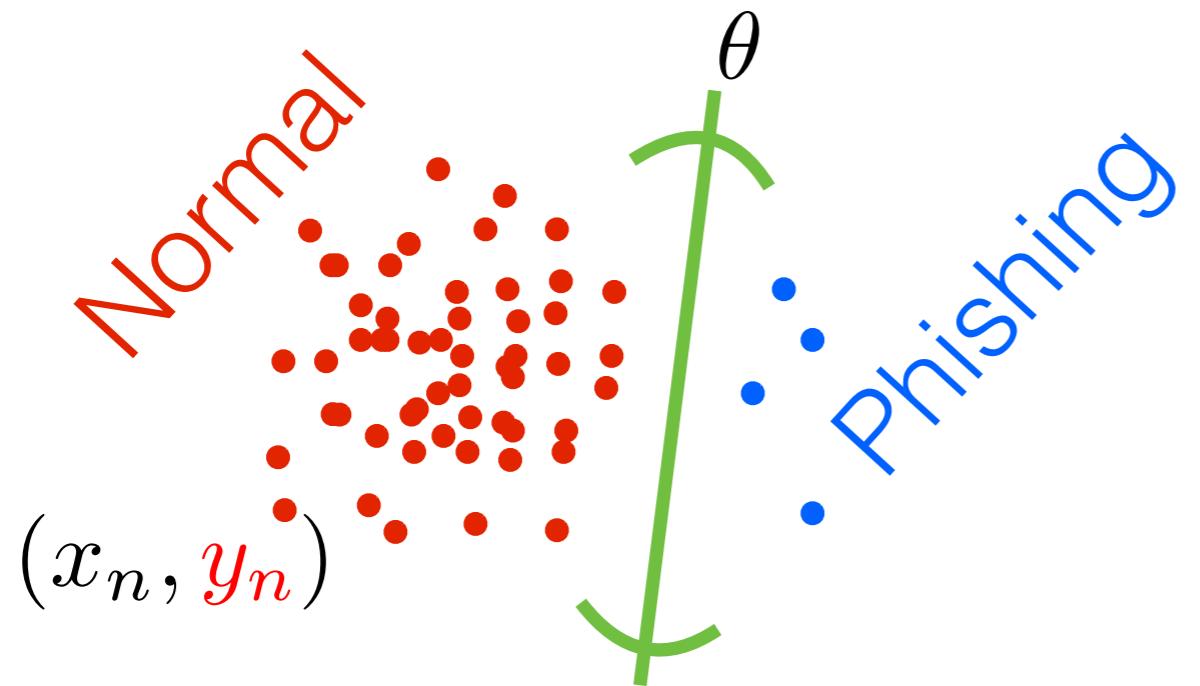
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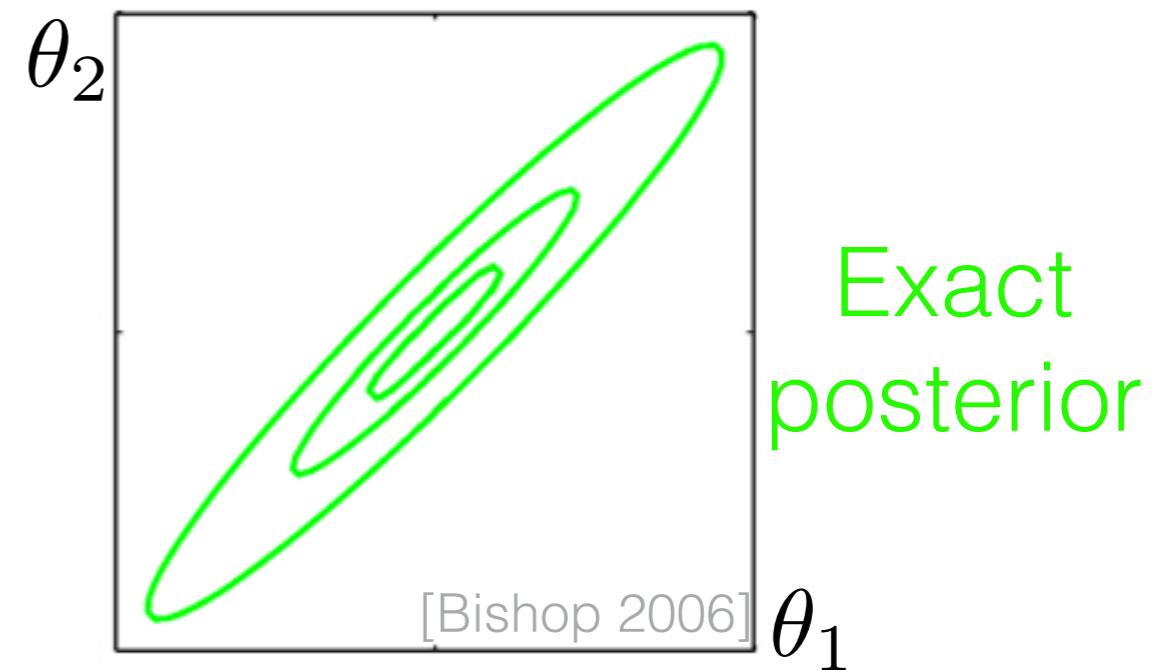
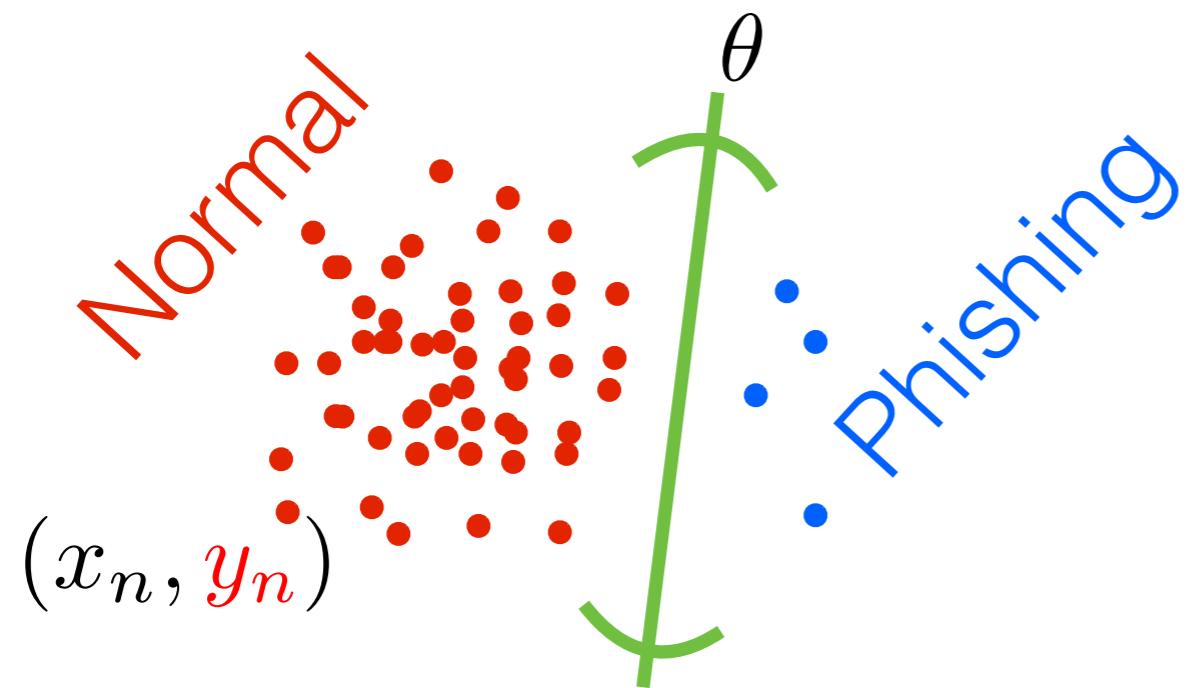
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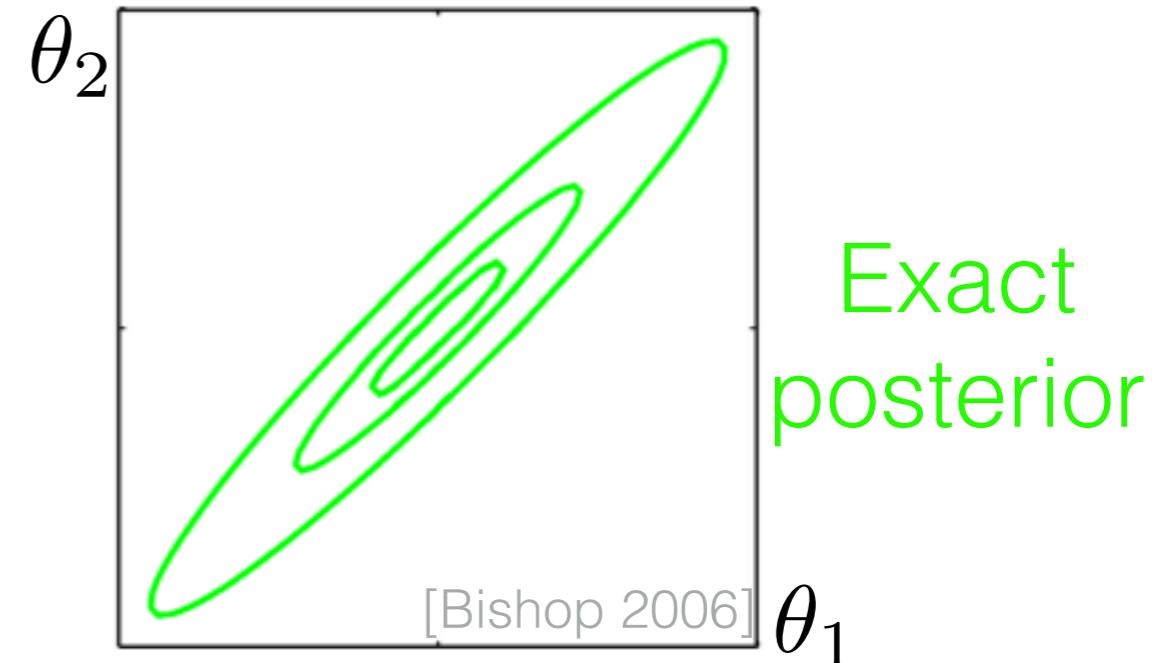
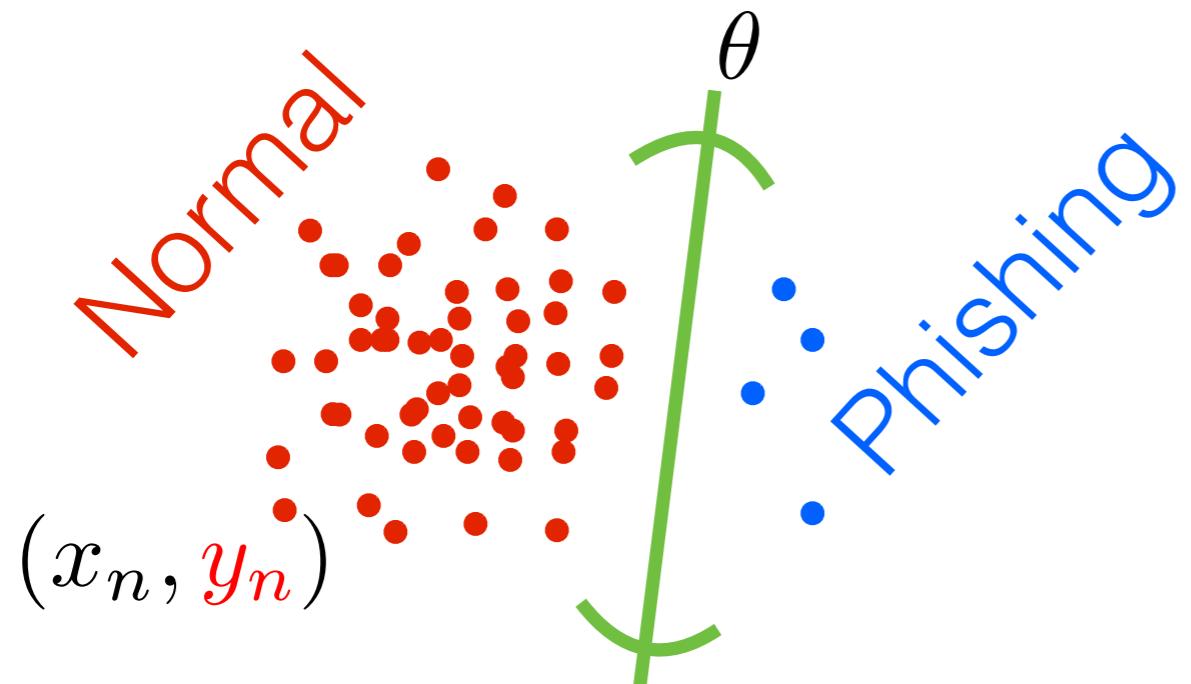
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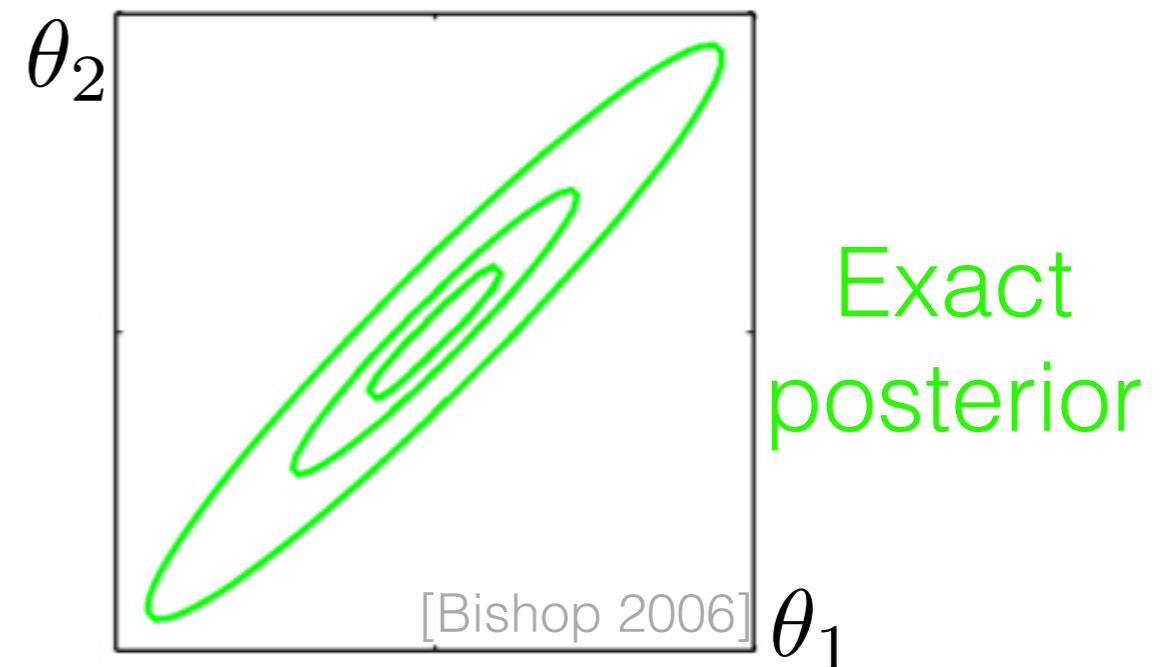
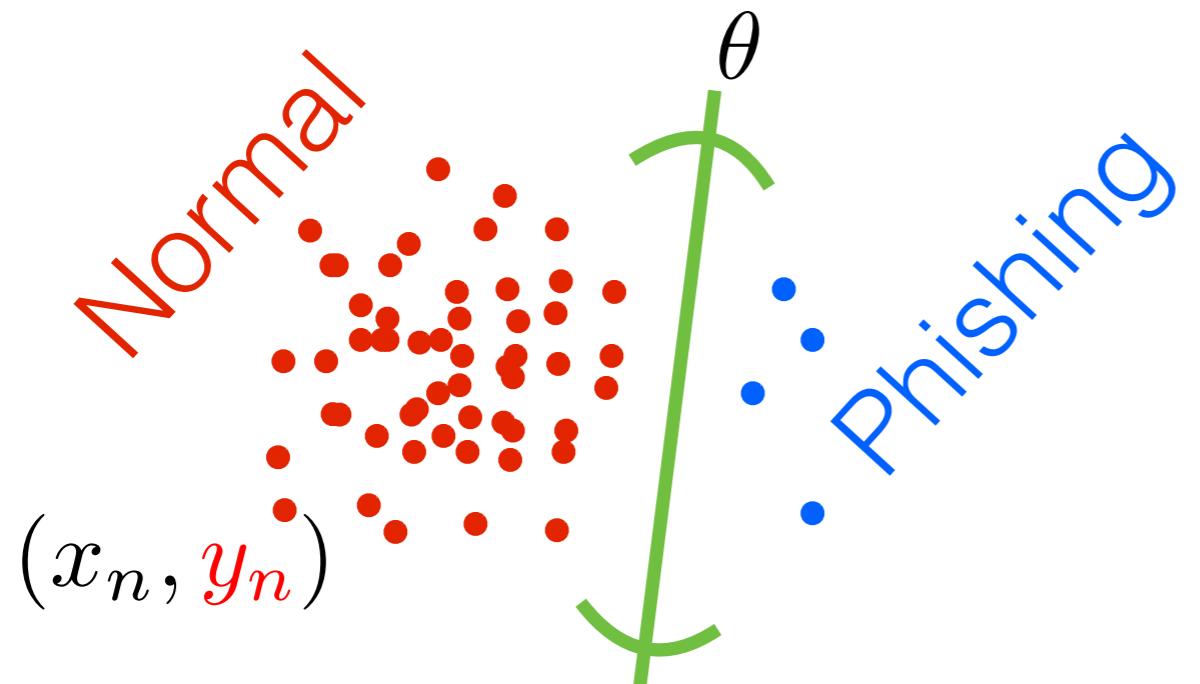
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- MCMC: Eventually accurate but can be slow [Bardenet, Doucet, Holmes 2017]

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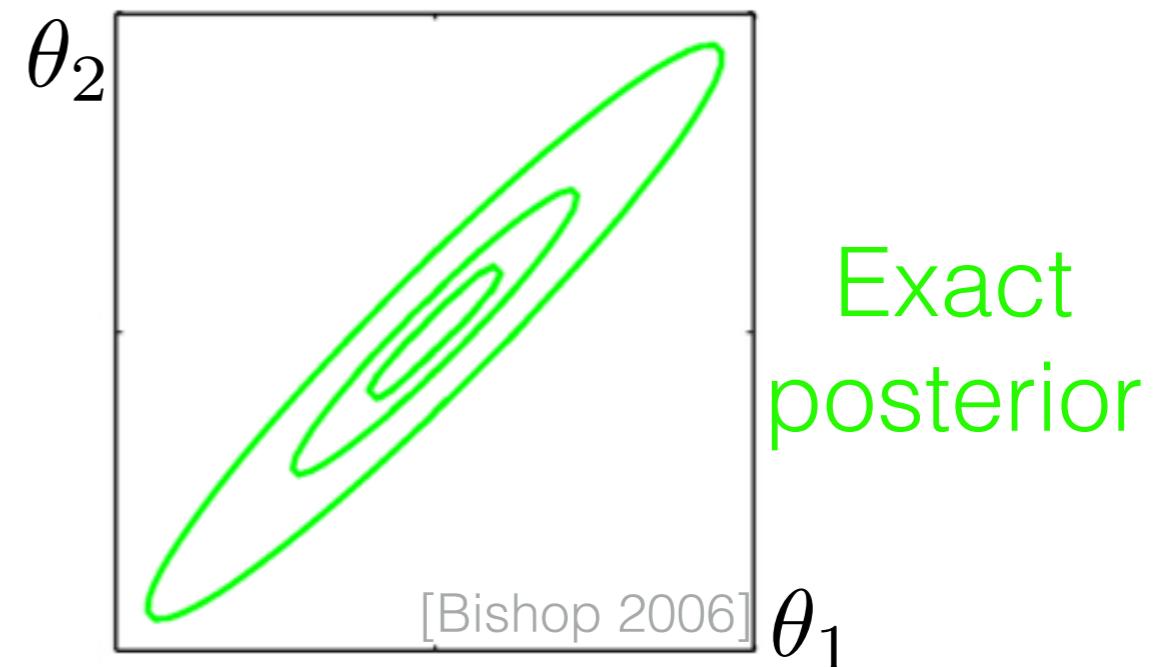
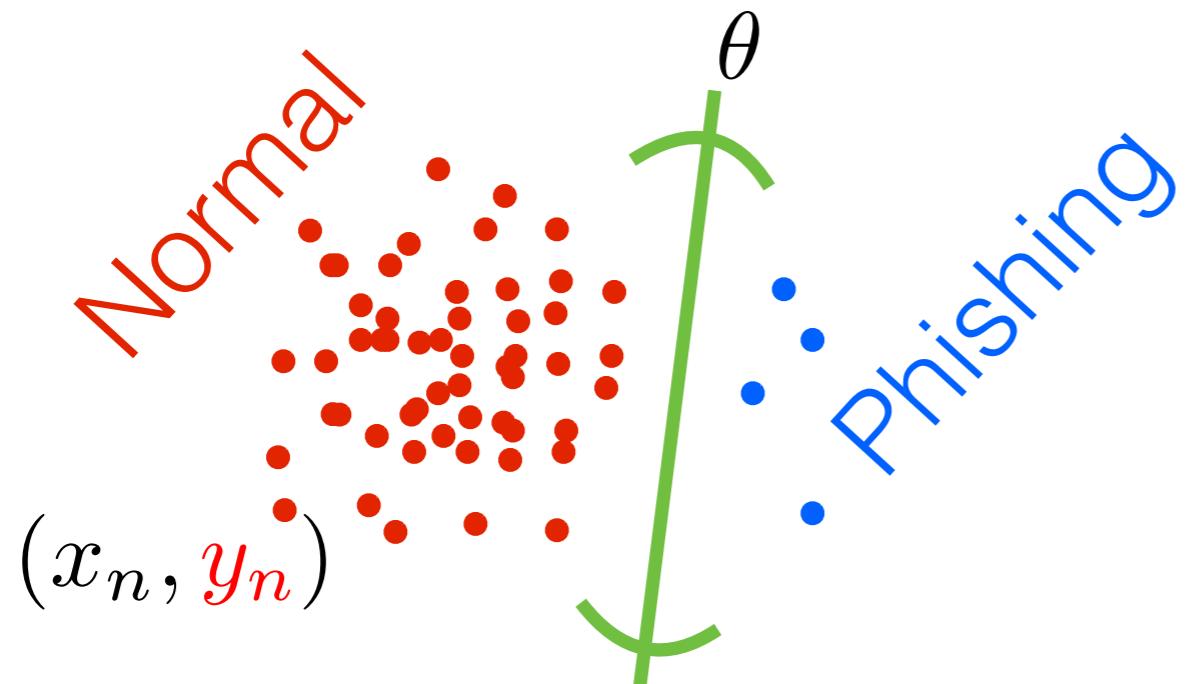
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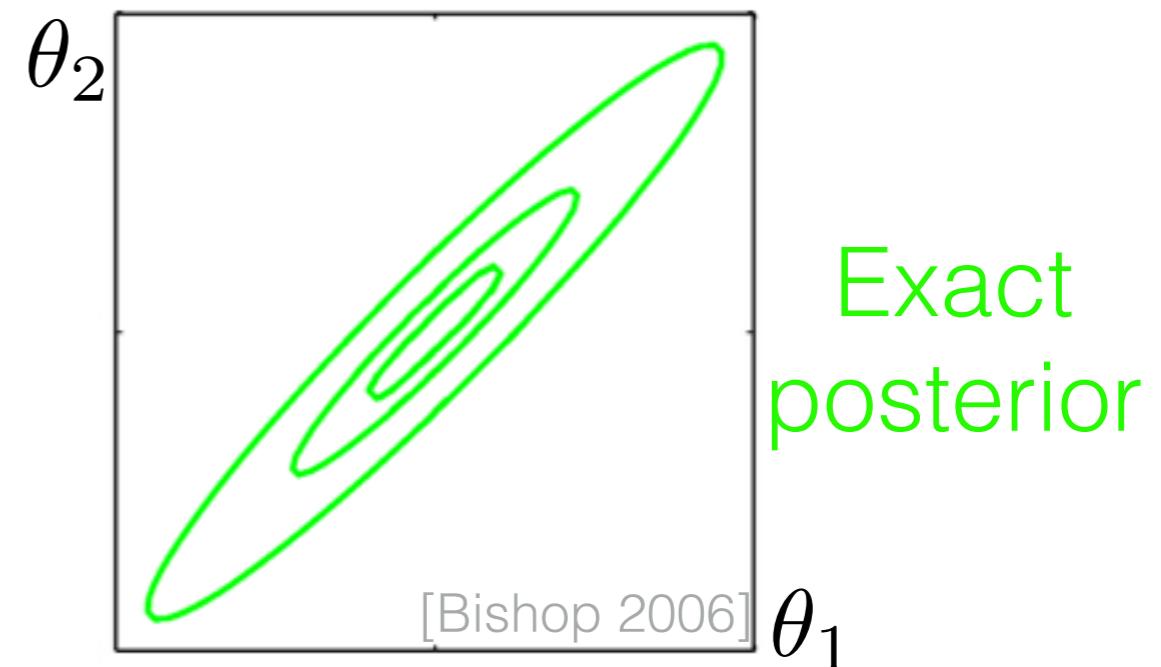
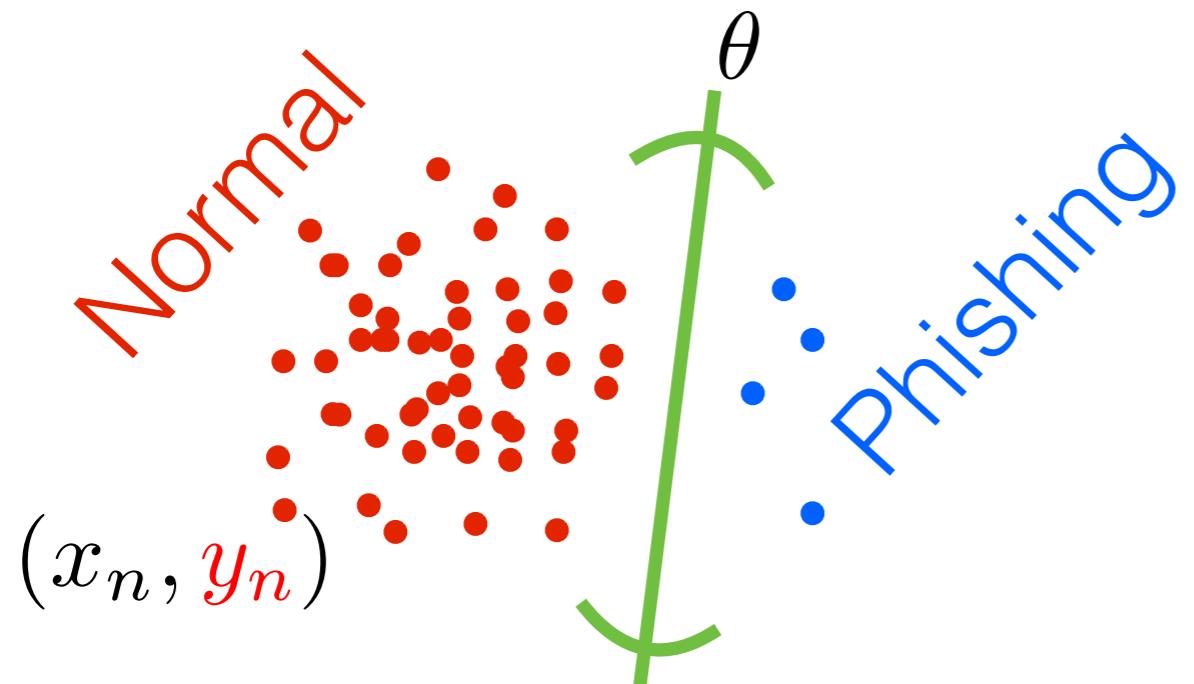
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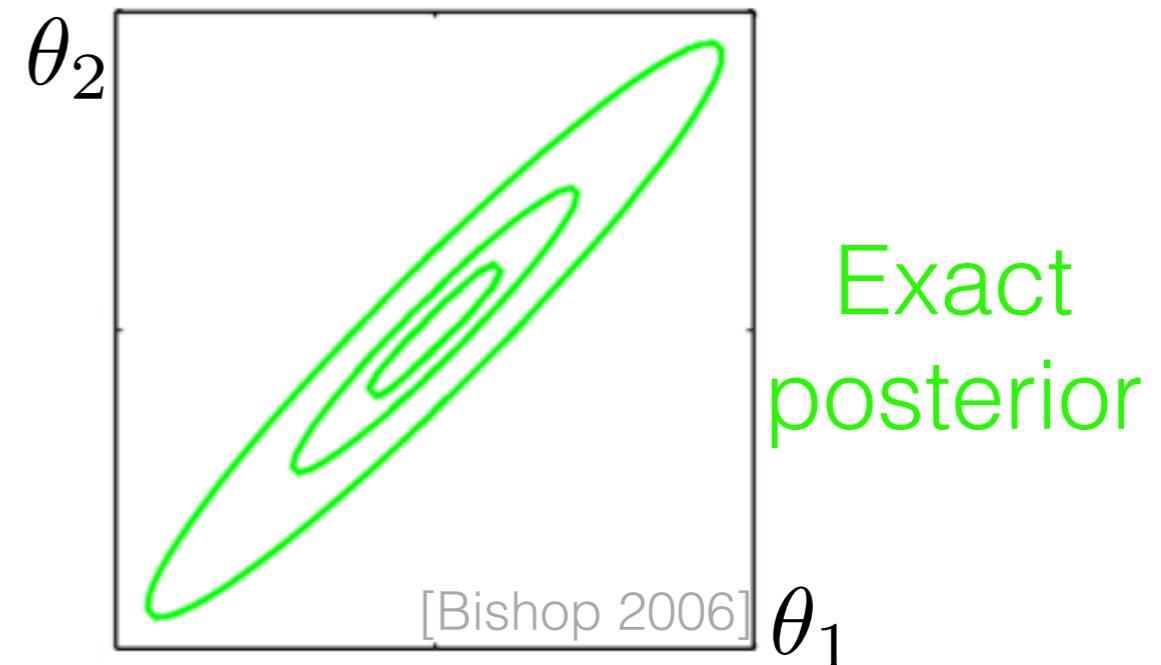
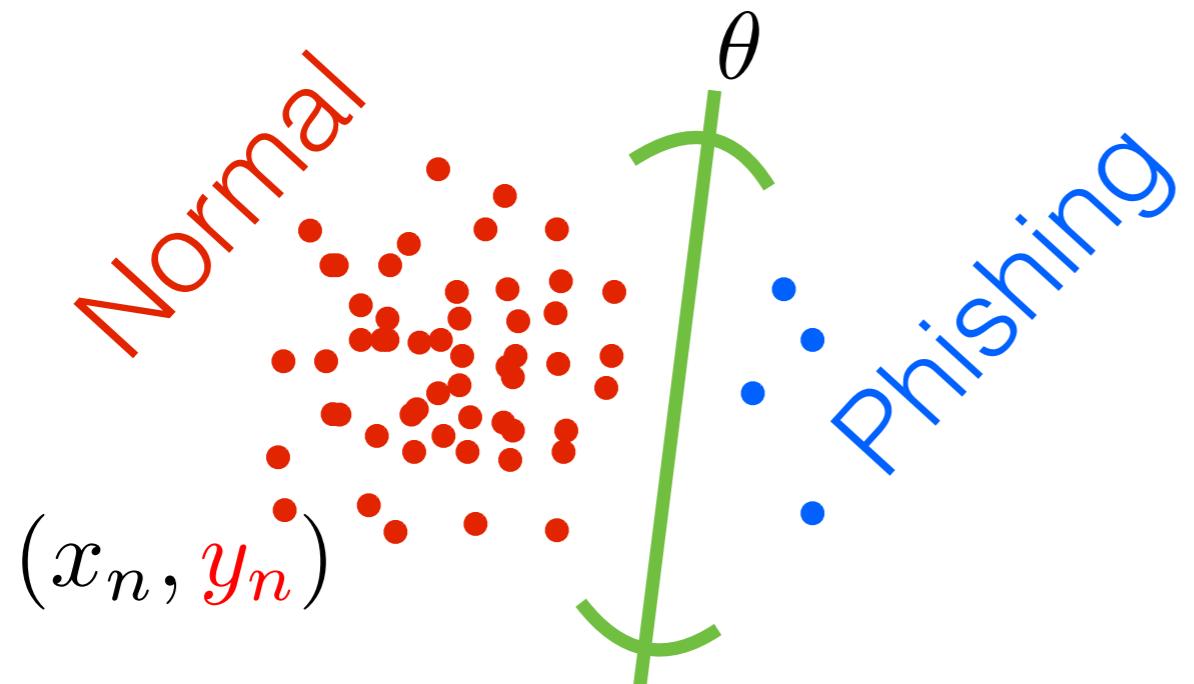
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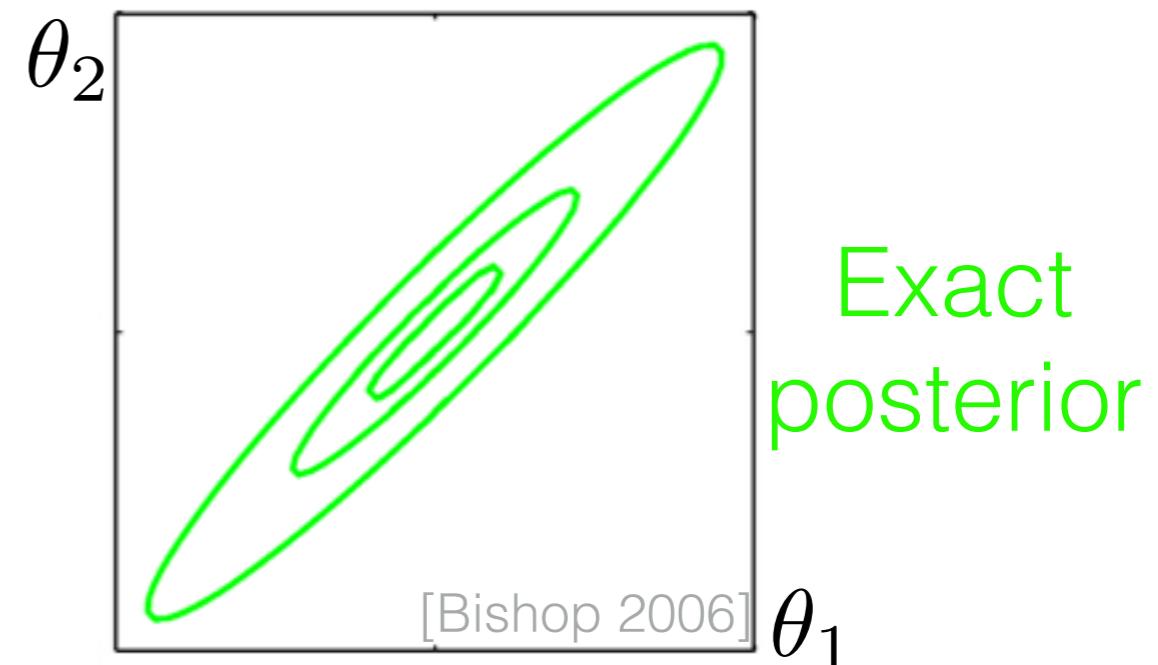
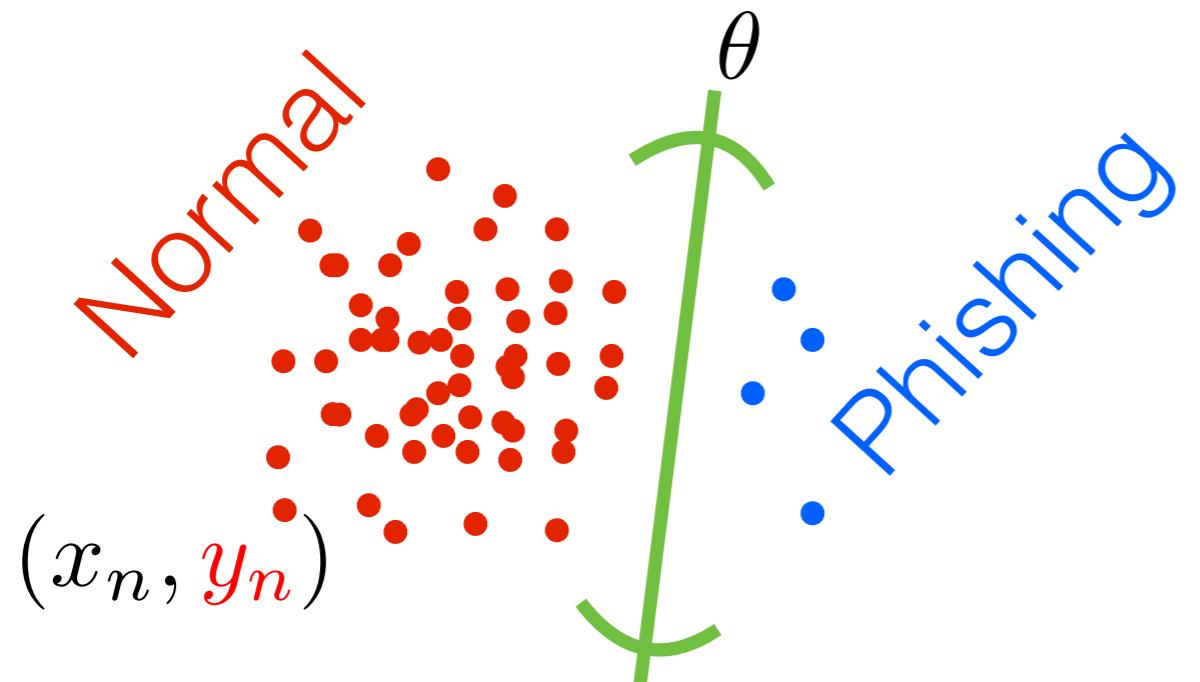
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(3.6M Wikipedia, 32 cores, ~hour)

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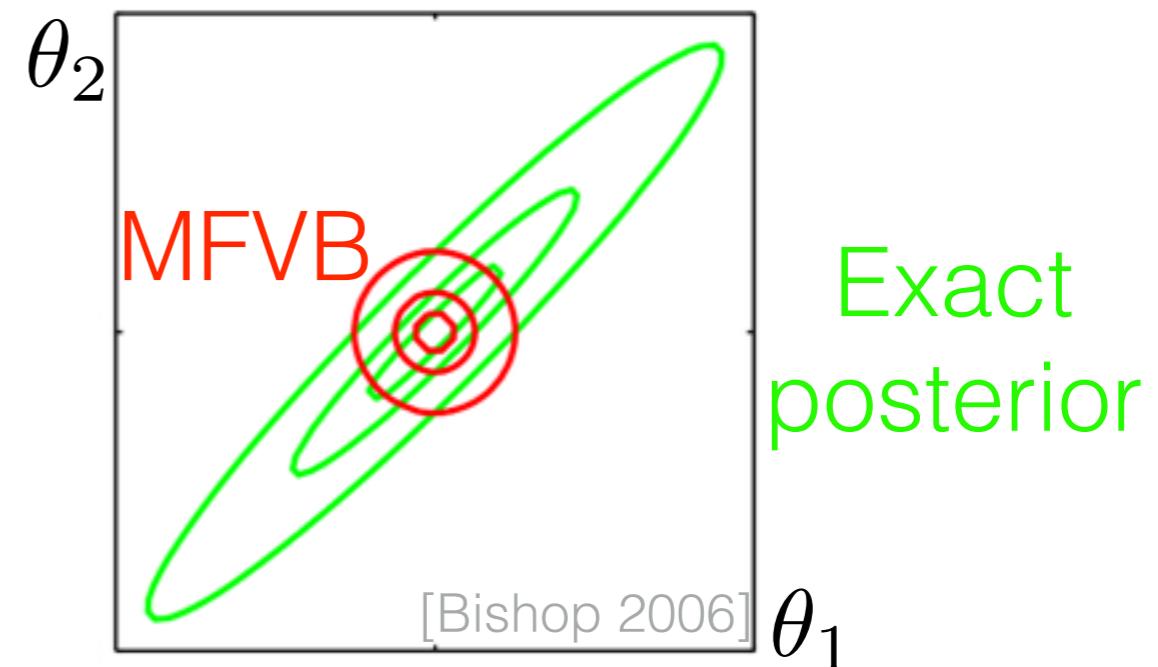
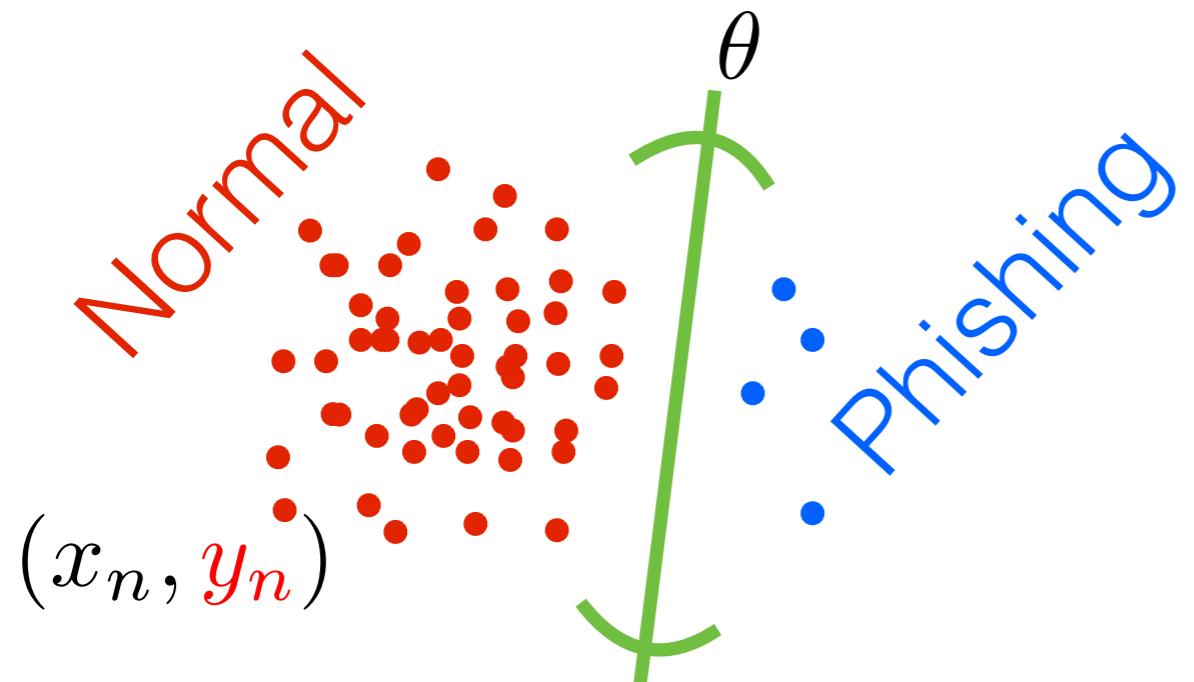


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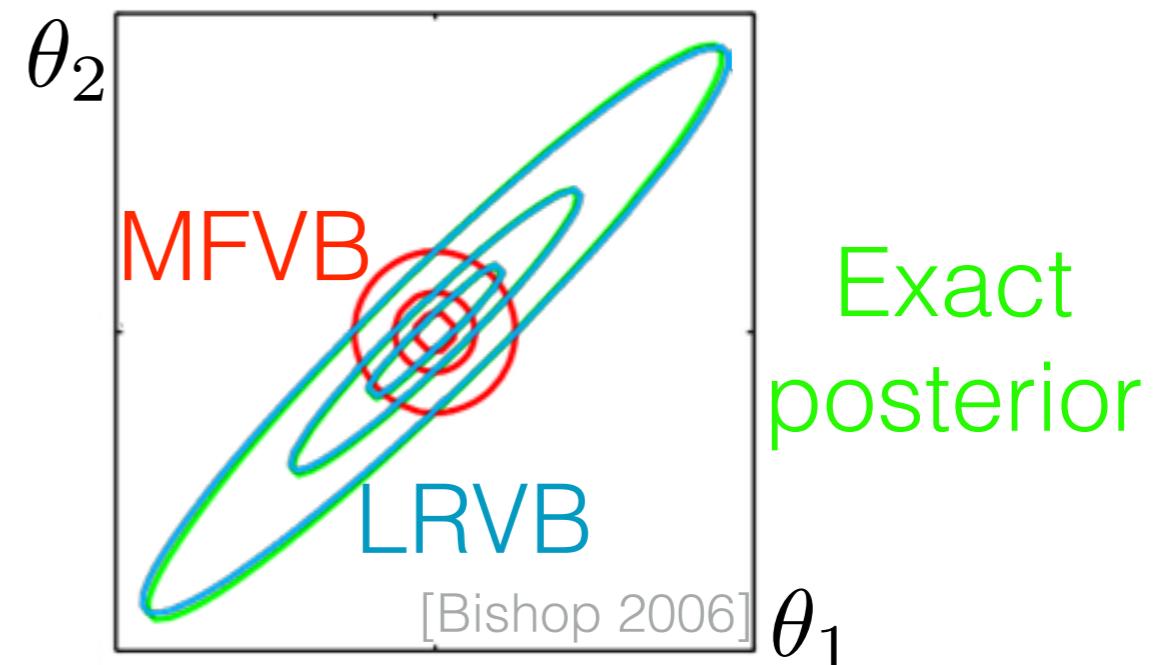
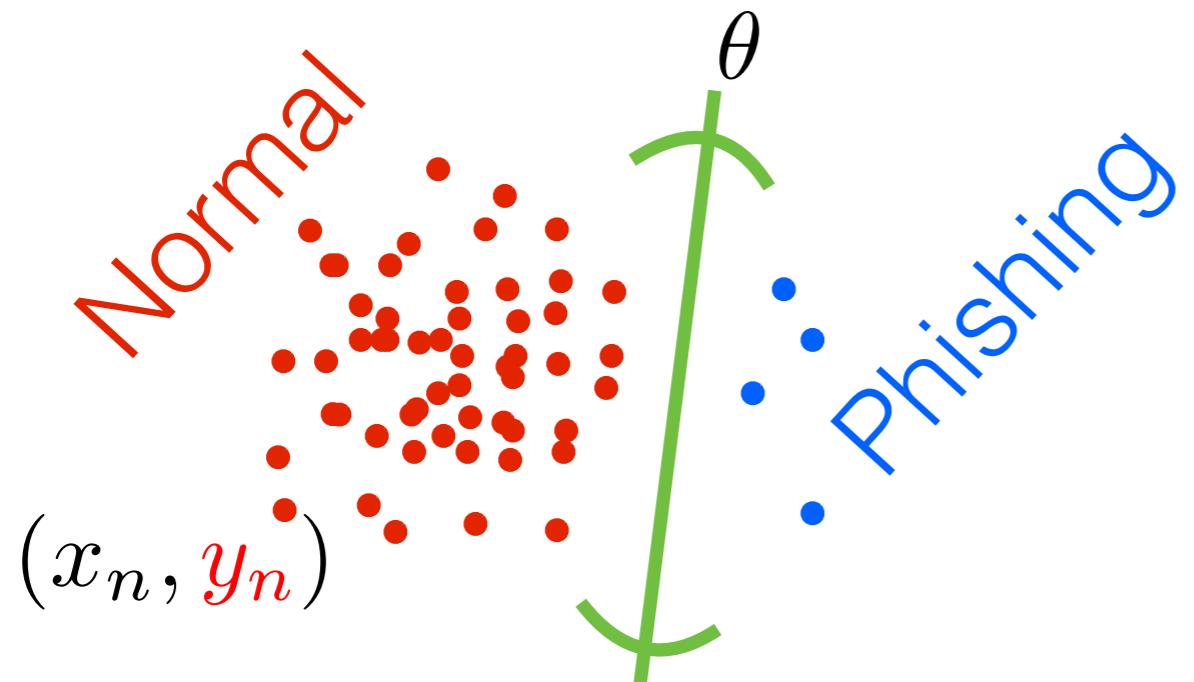


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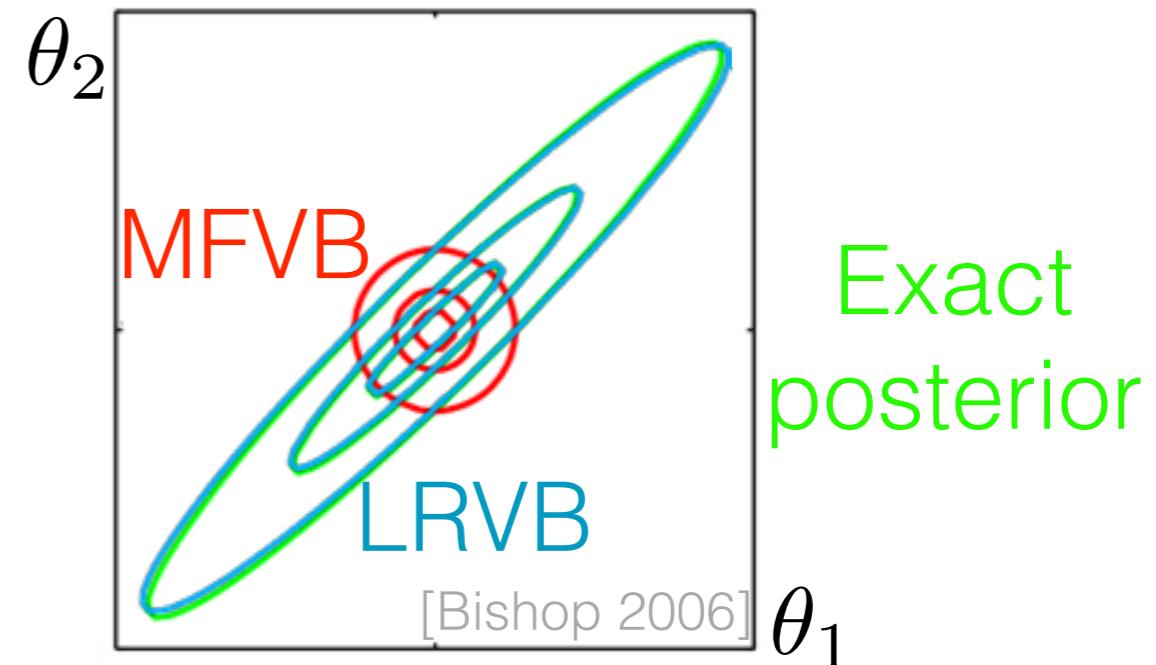
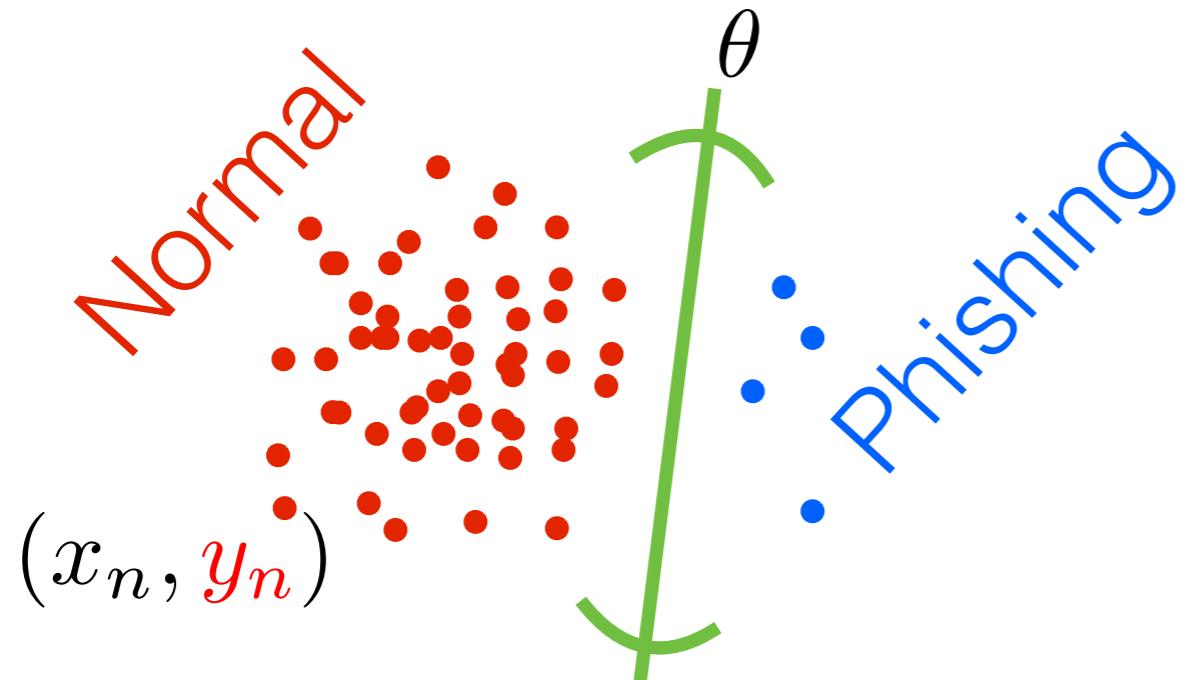


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- Automation: e.g. Stan, NUTS, ADVI

[<http://mc-stan.org/> ; Hoffman, Gelman 2014; Kucukelbir, Tran, Ranganath, Gelman, Blei 2017]

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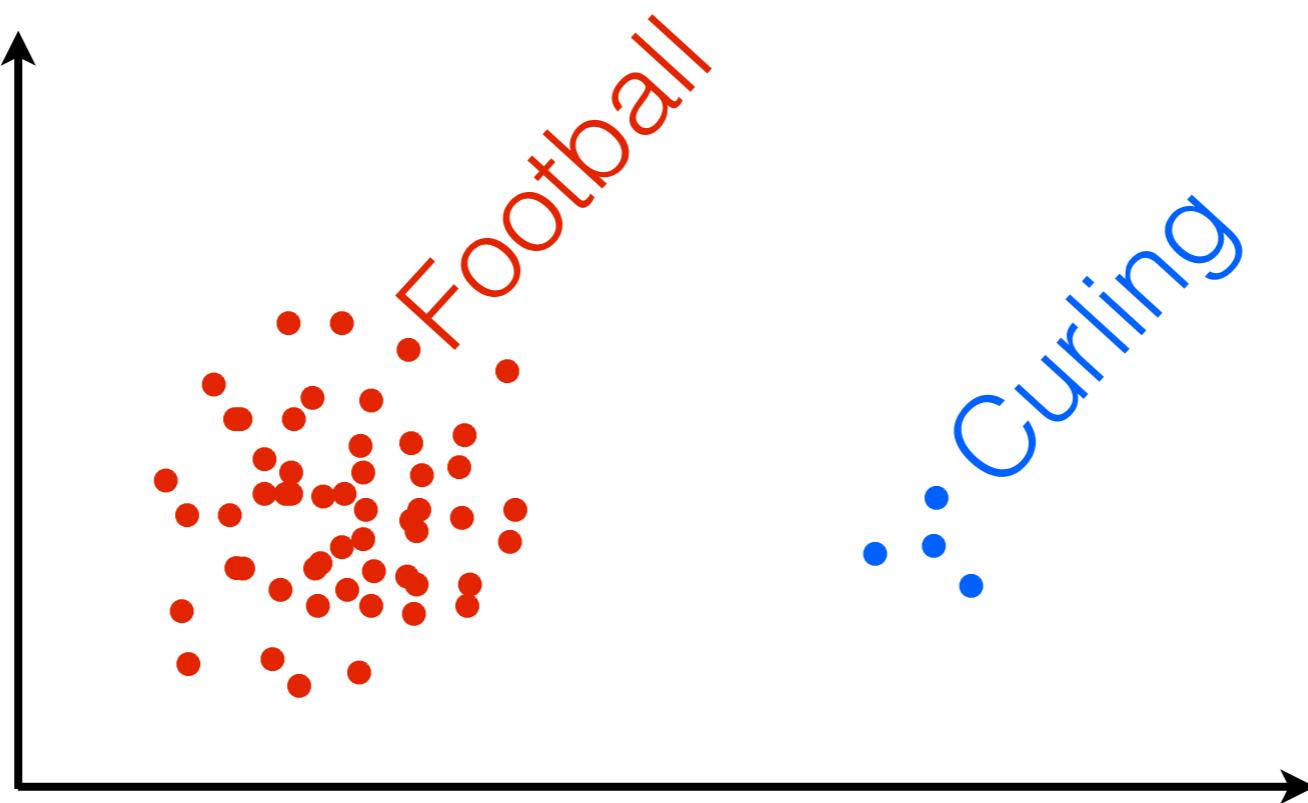
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- Observe: redundancies can exist even if data isn't "tall"

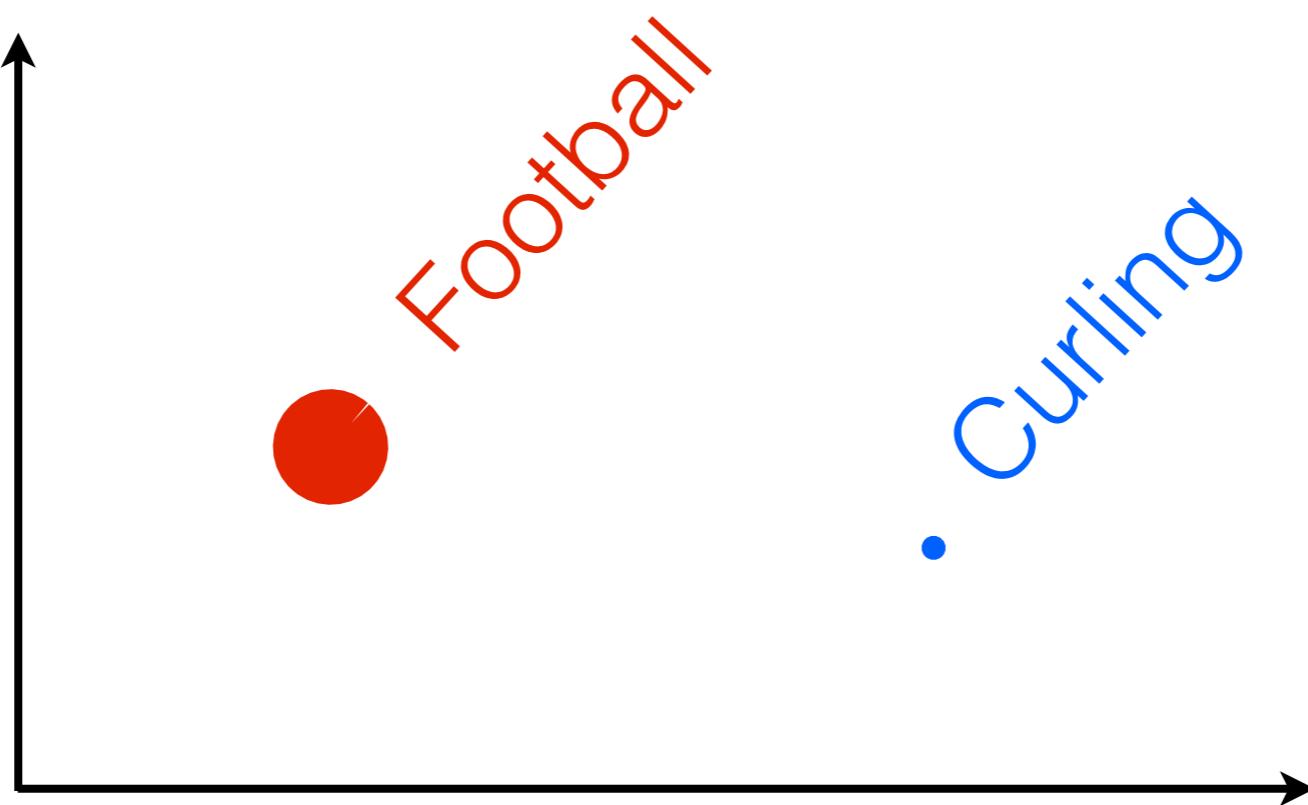
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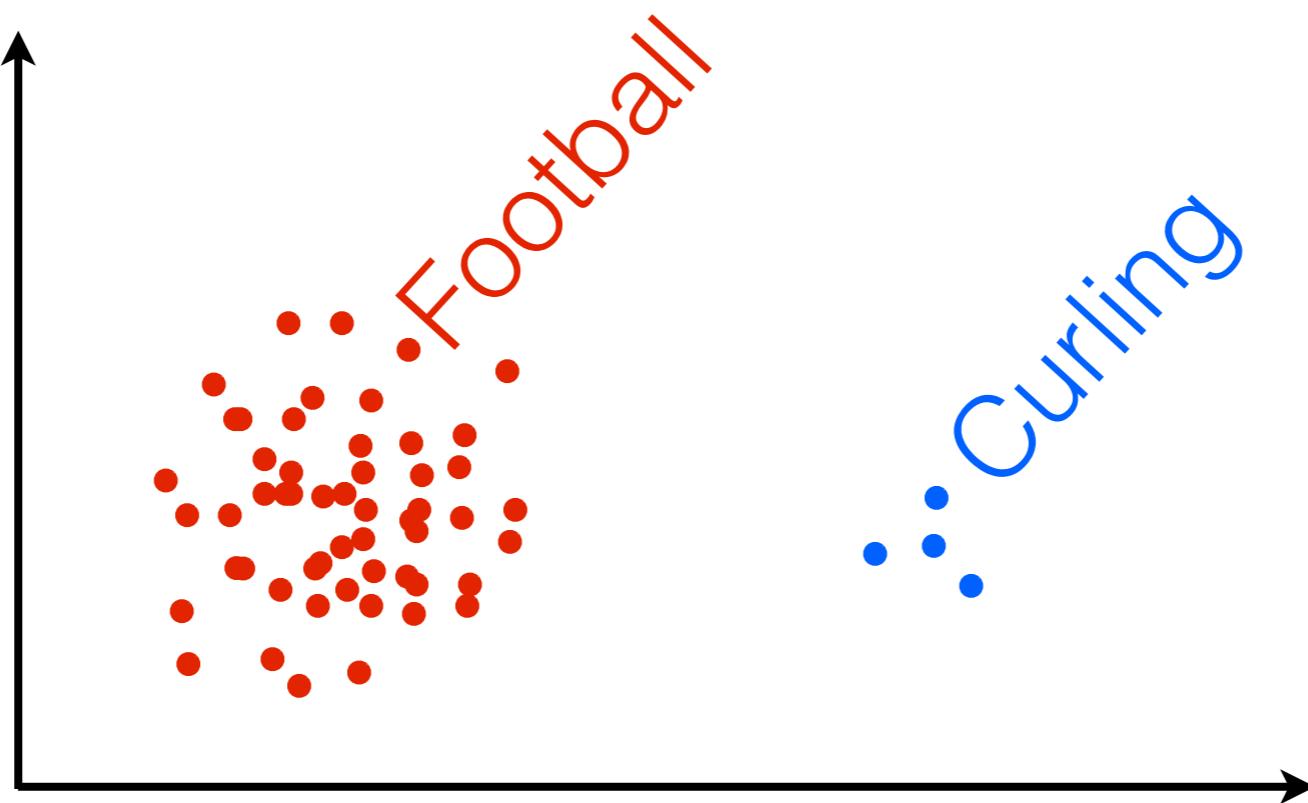
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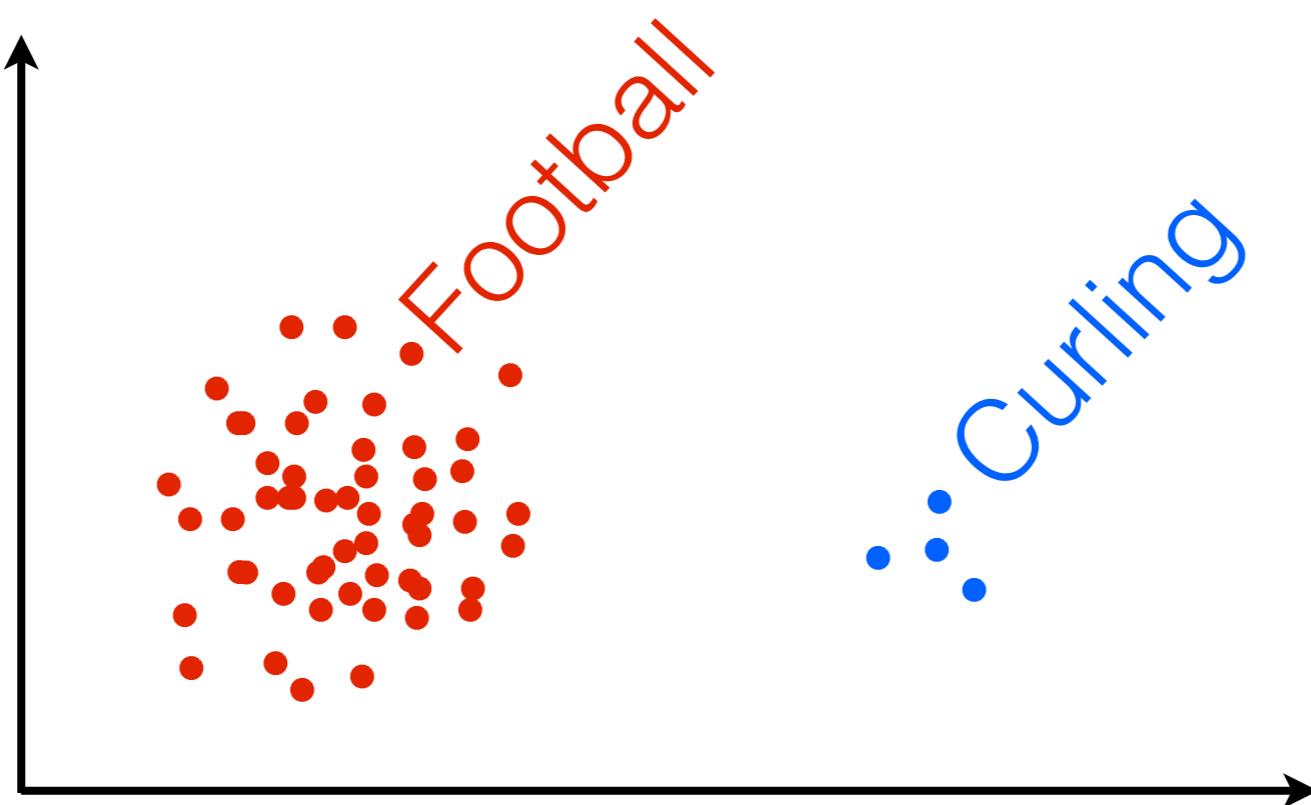
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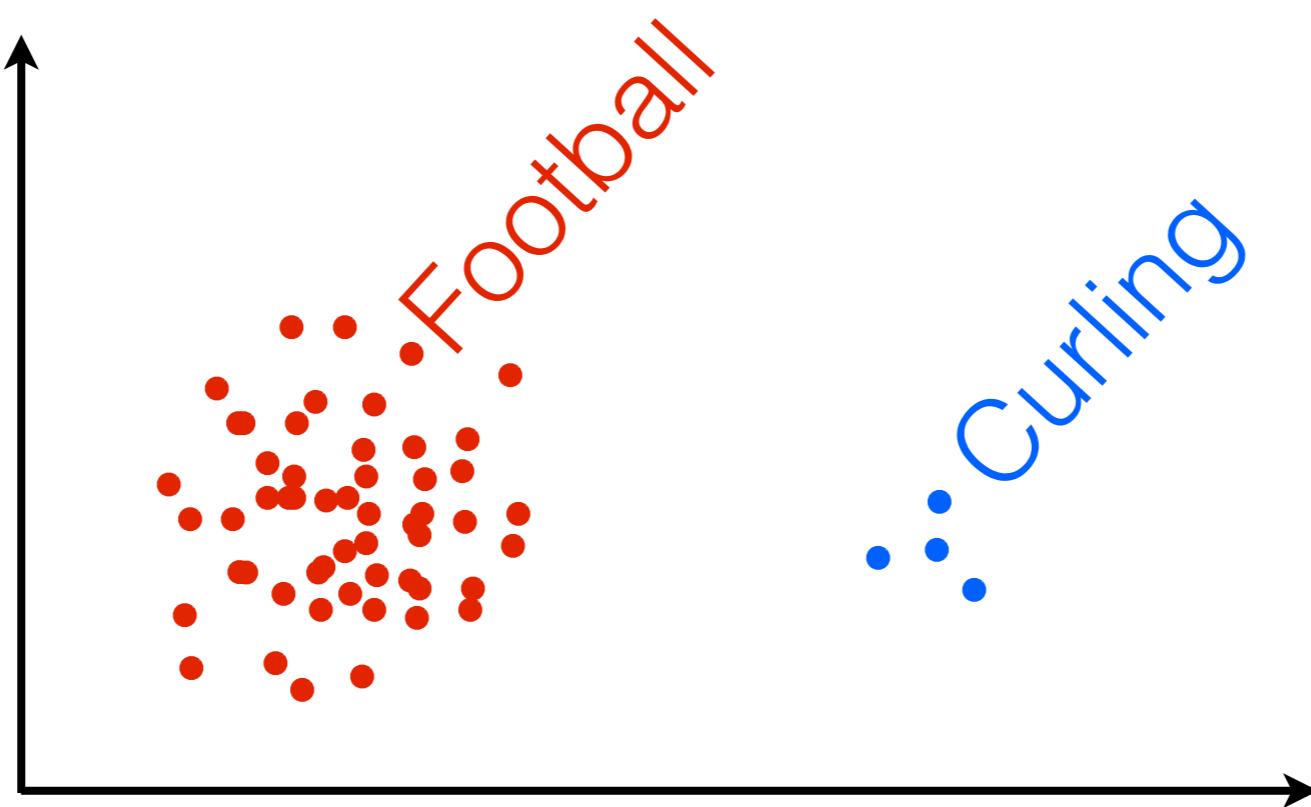
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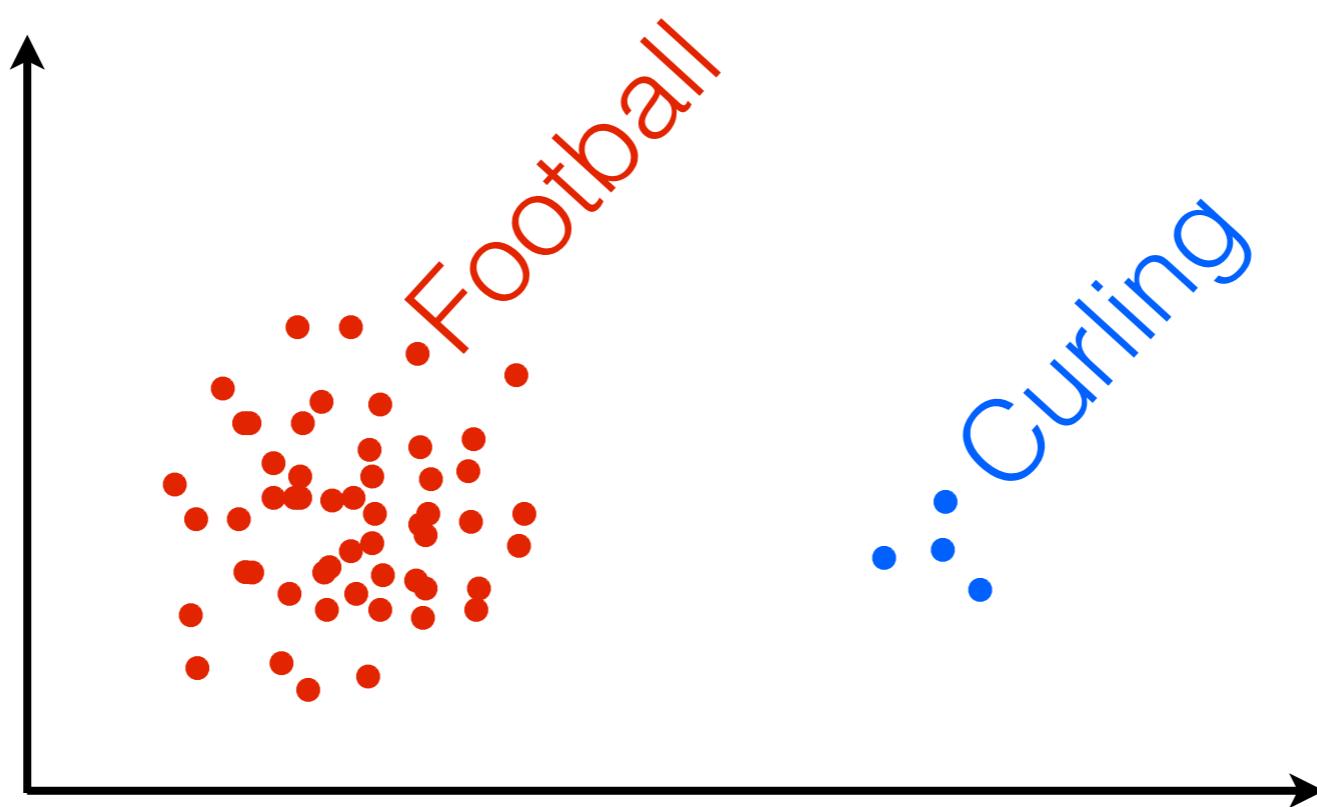
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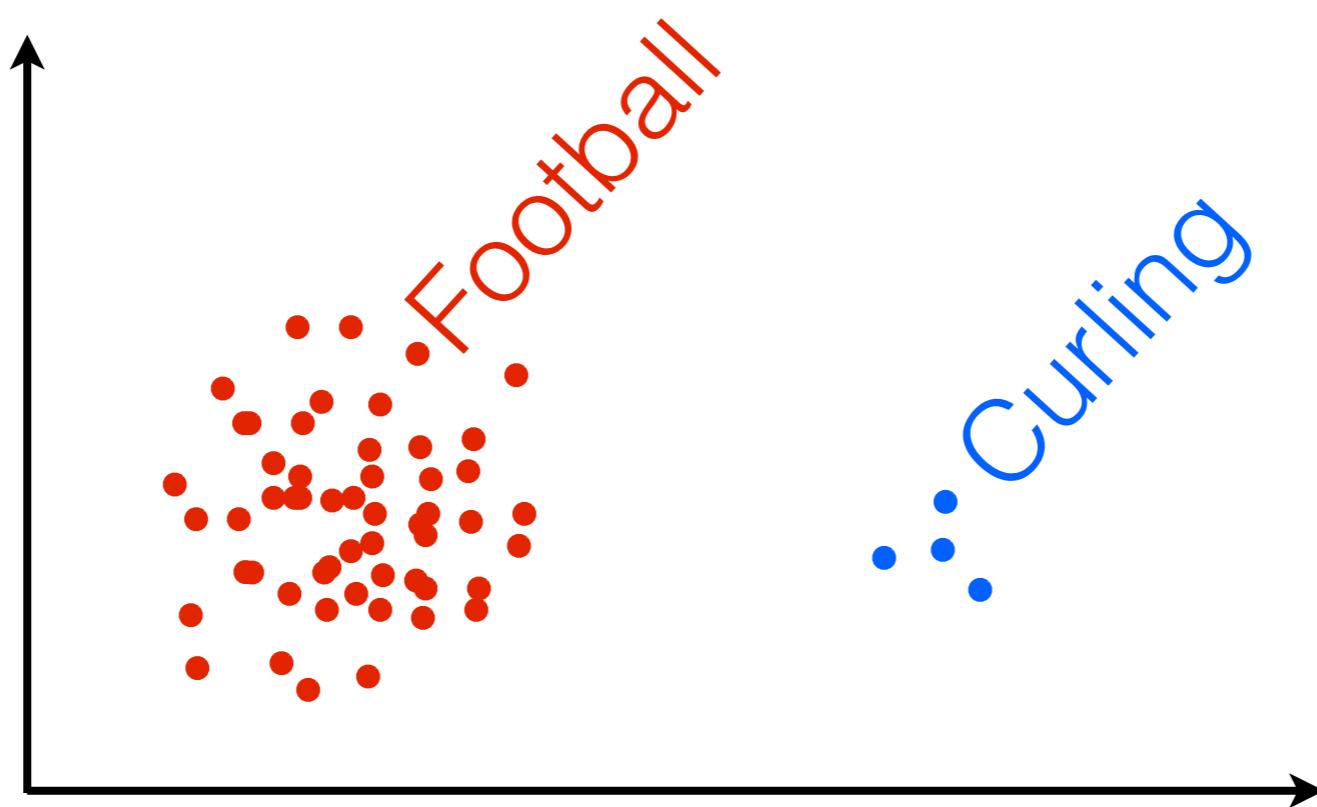
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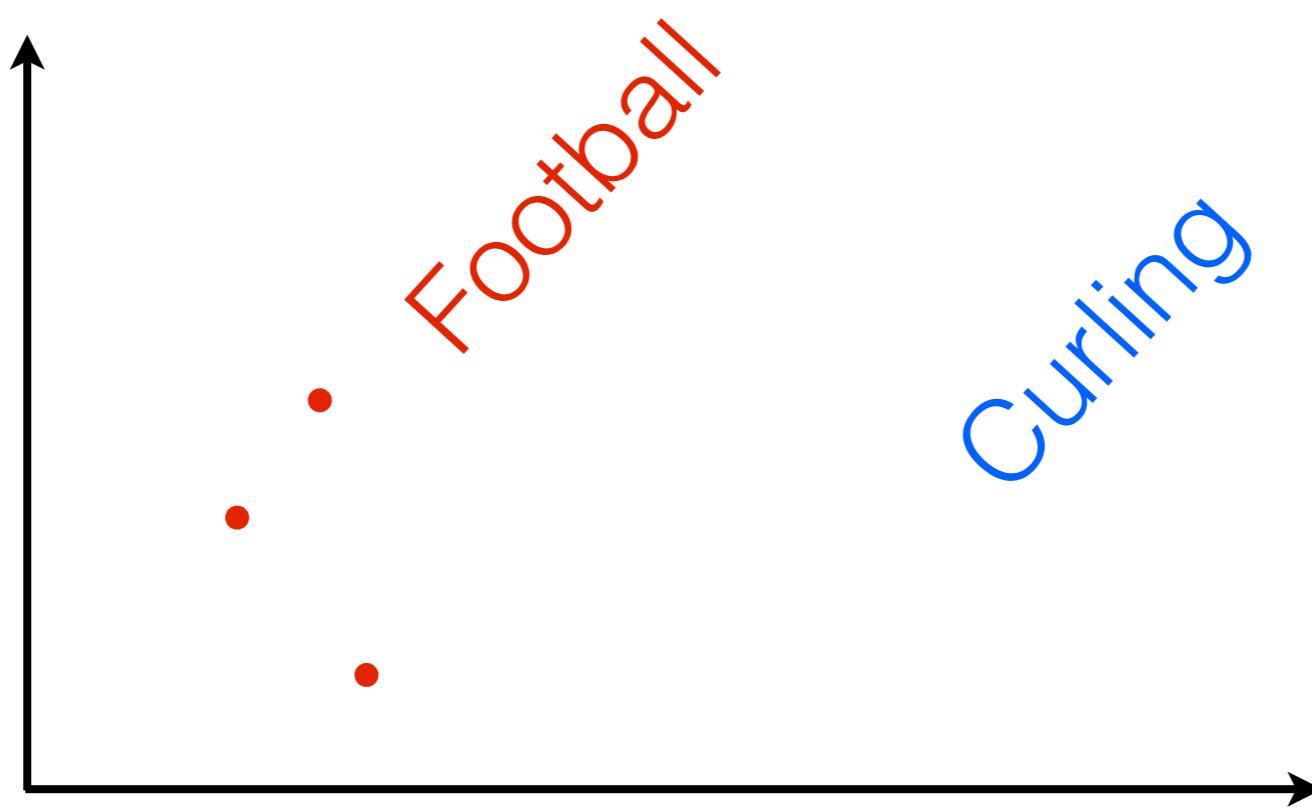
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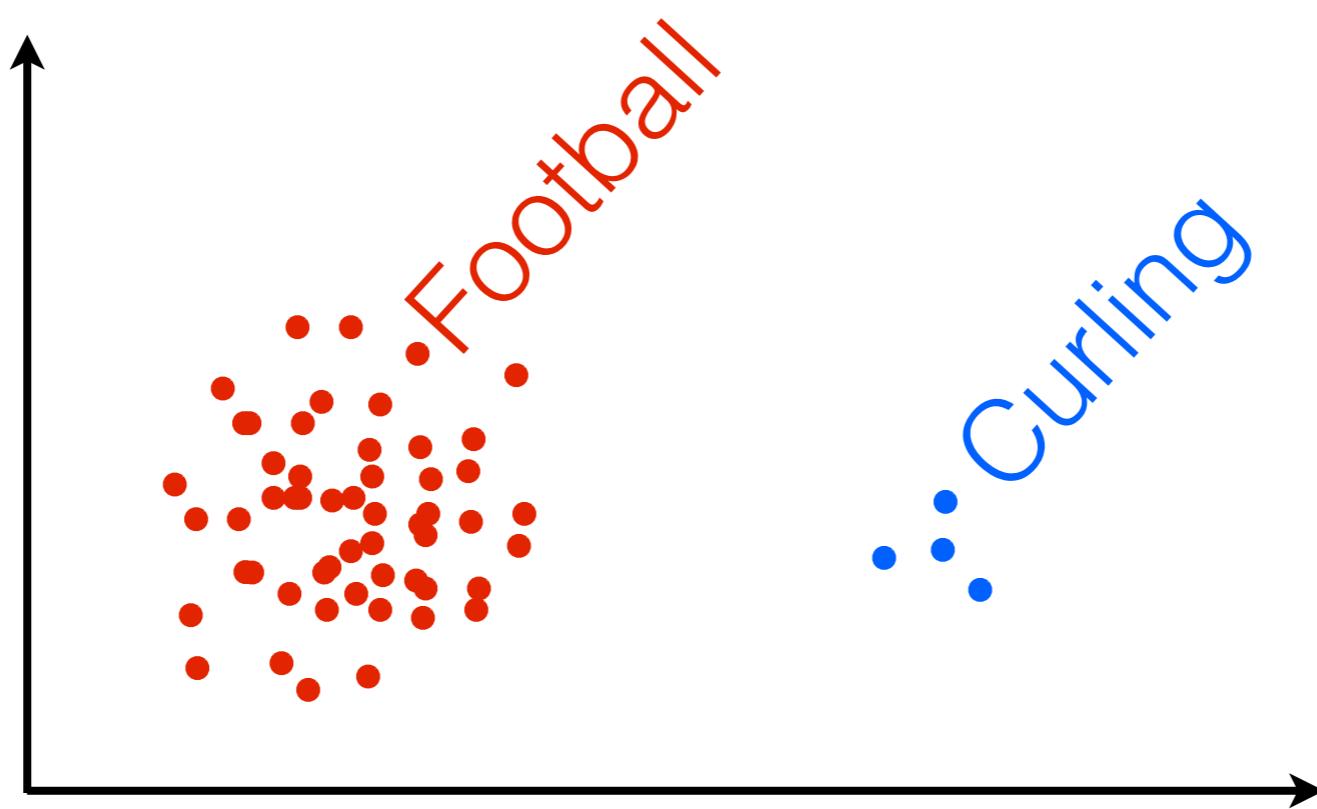
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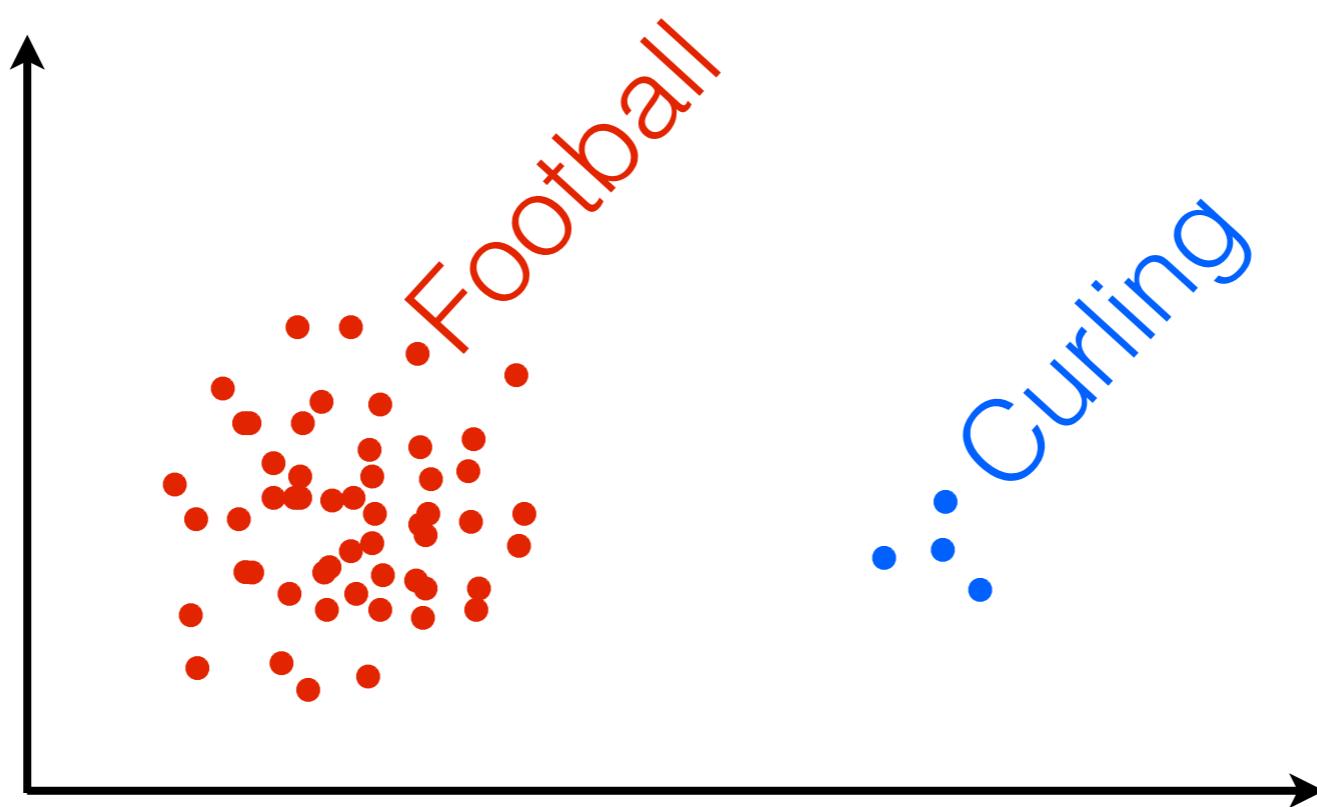
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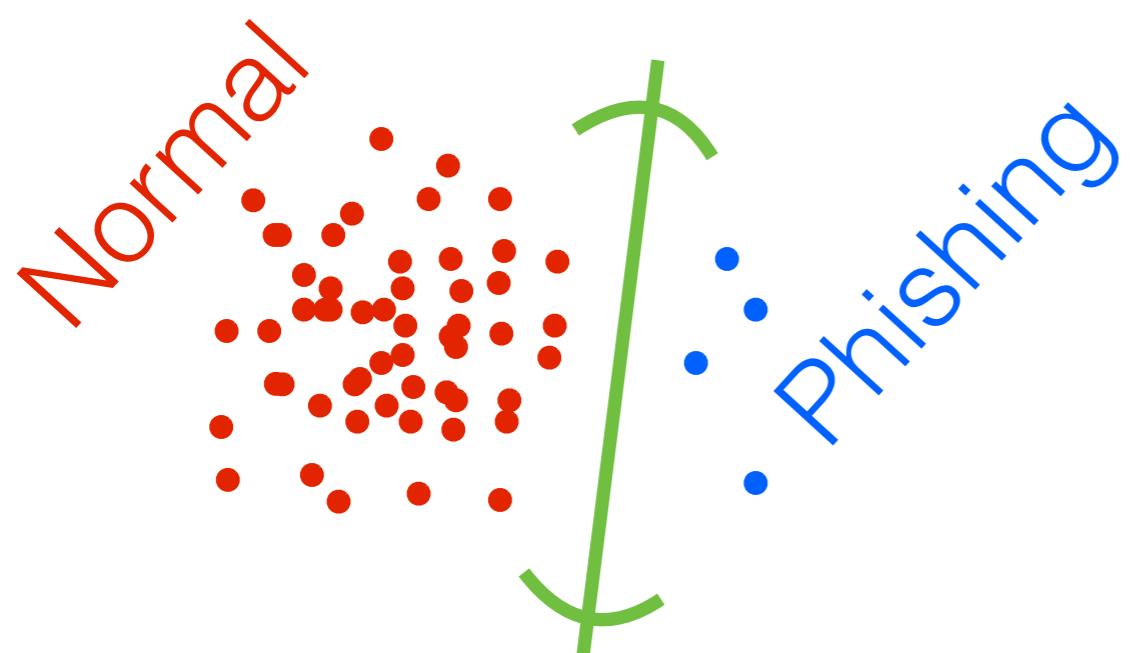


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- How to develop coresets for Bayes?

[Agarwal et al 2005; Feldman & Langberg 2011; DuMouchel et al 1999; Madigan et al 2002; Huggins, Campbell, Broderick 2016; Campbell, Broderick 2017; Campbell, Broderick 2018]

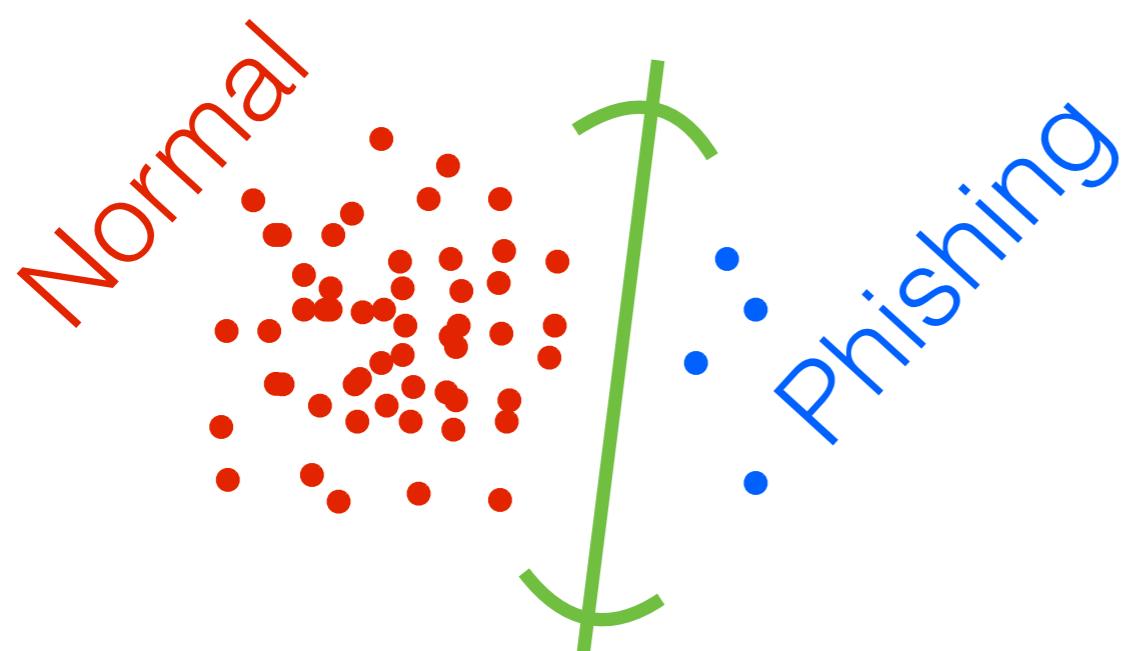
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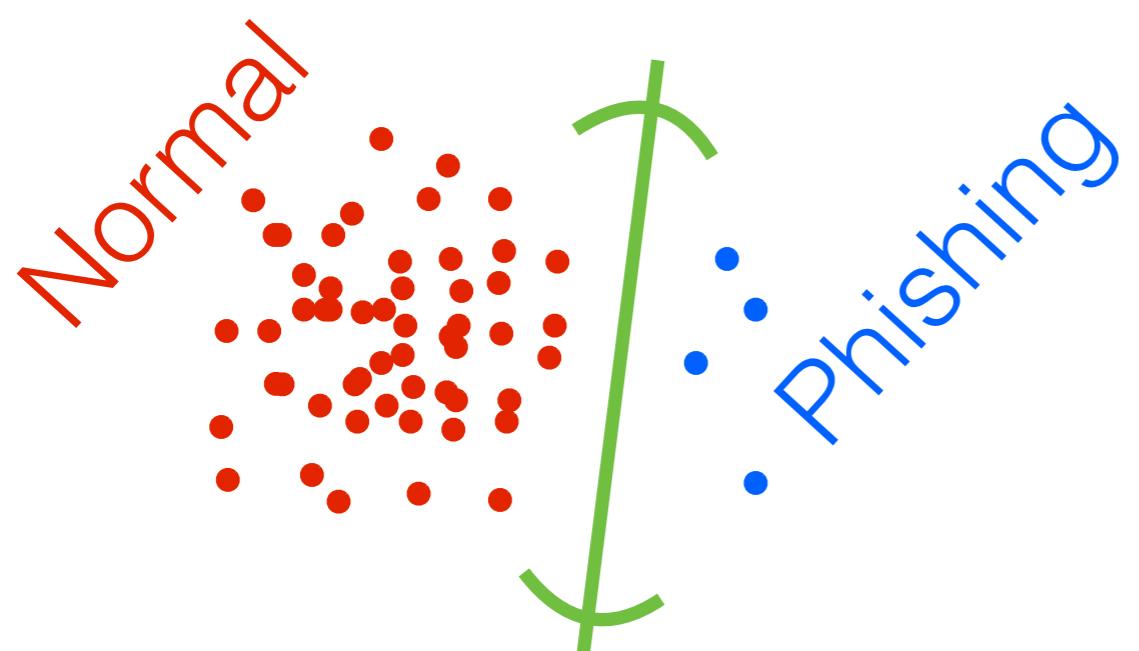
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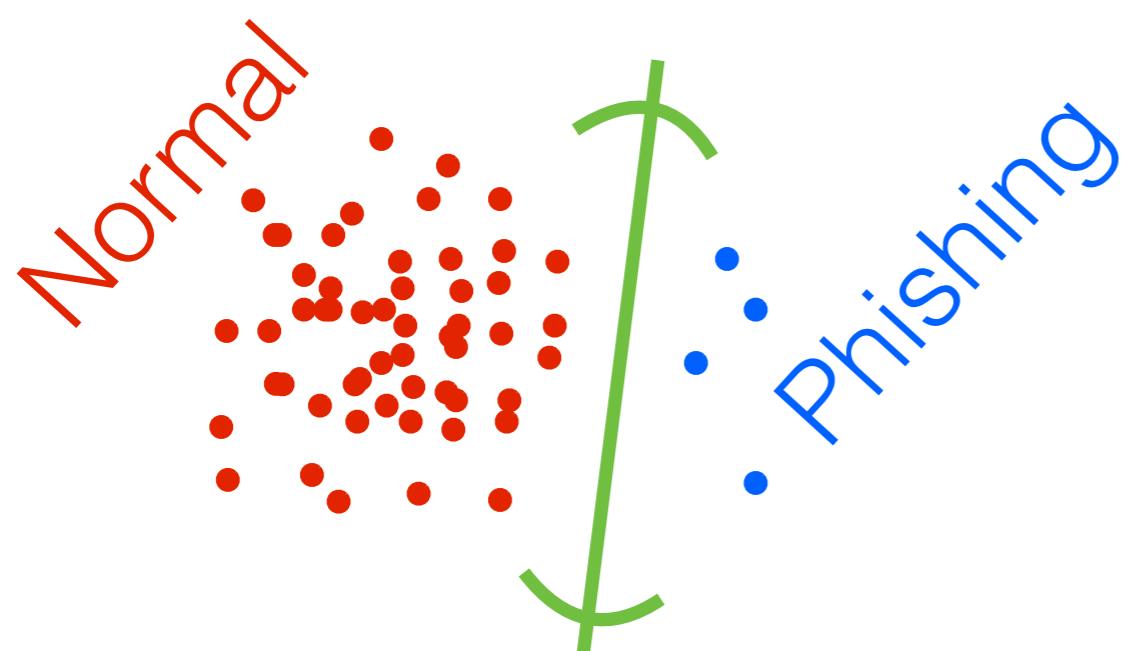
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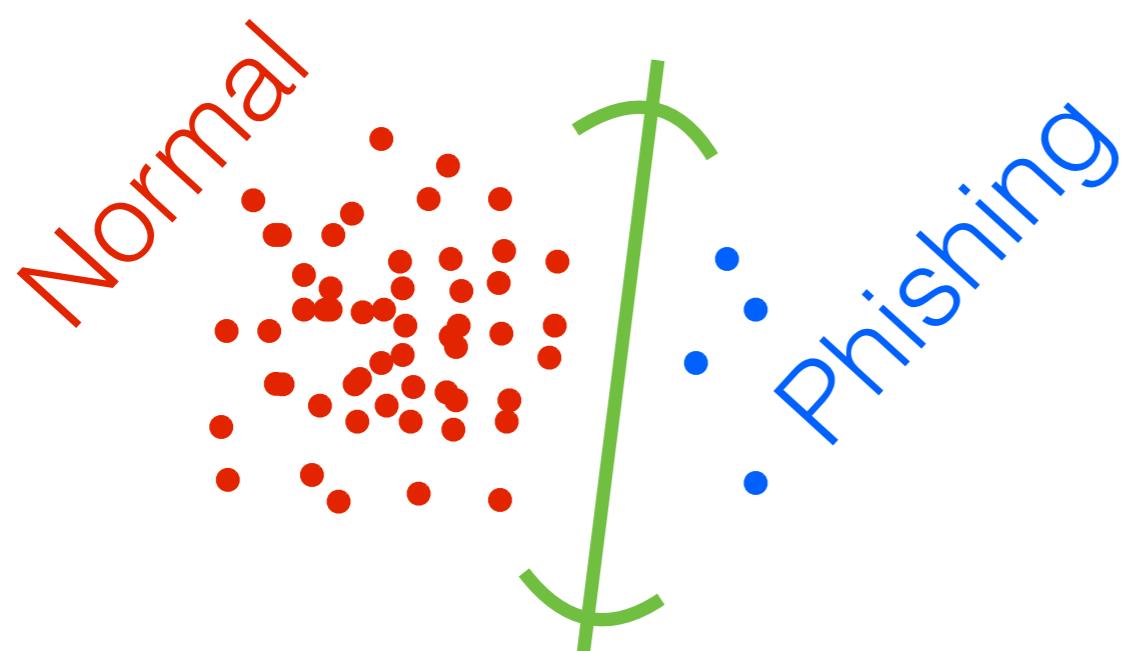
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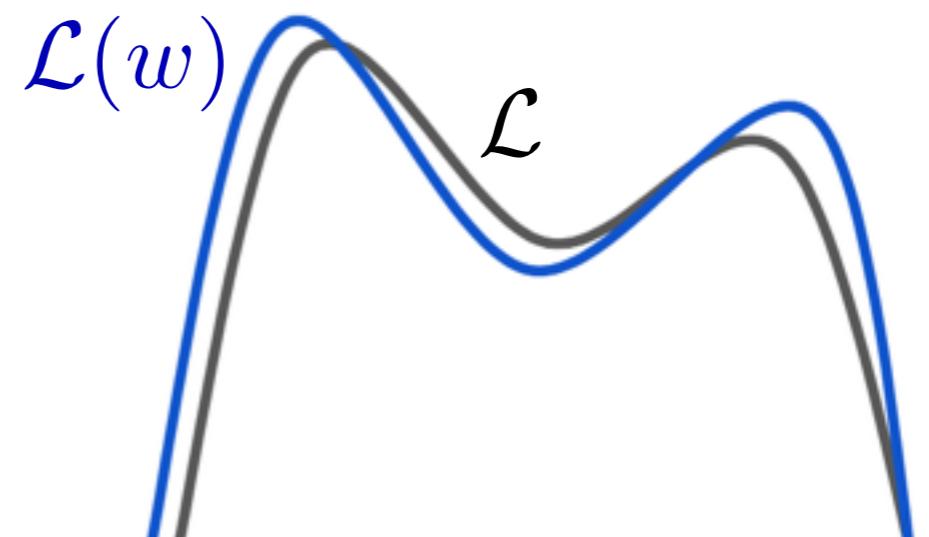
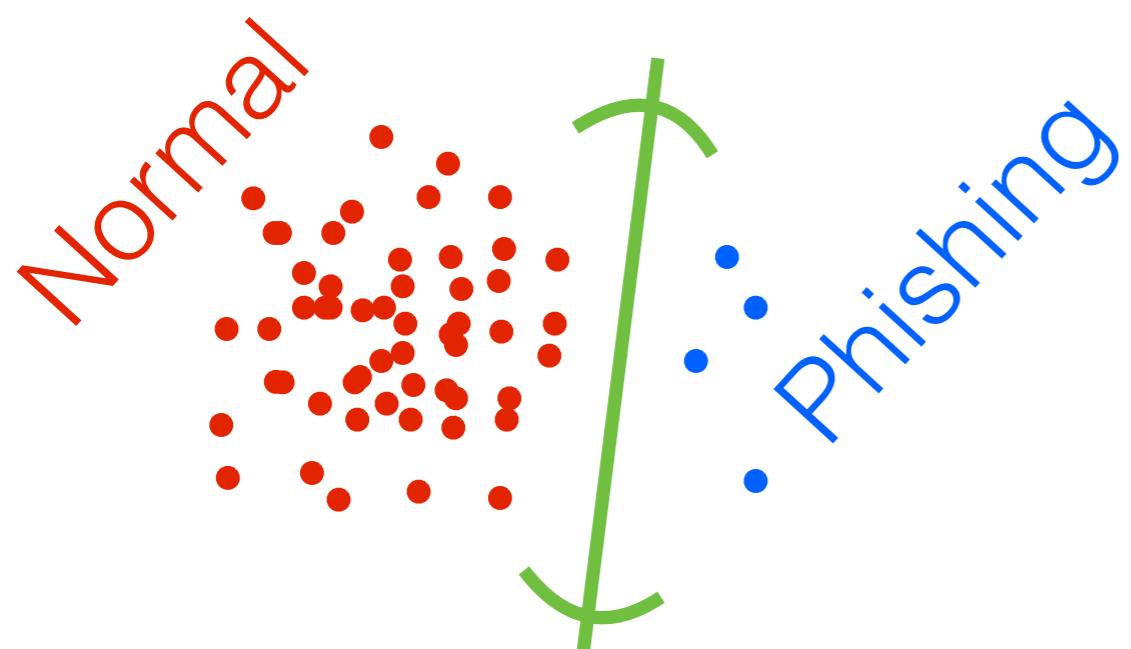
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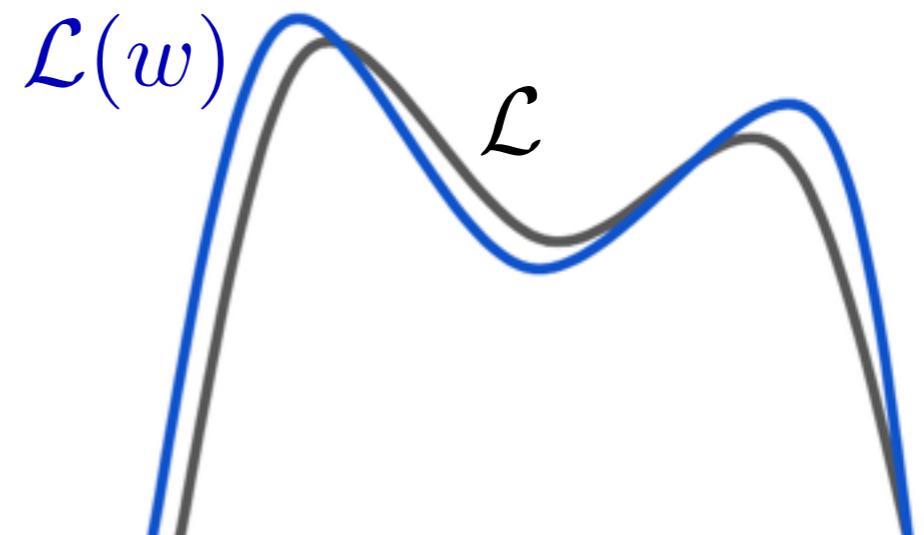
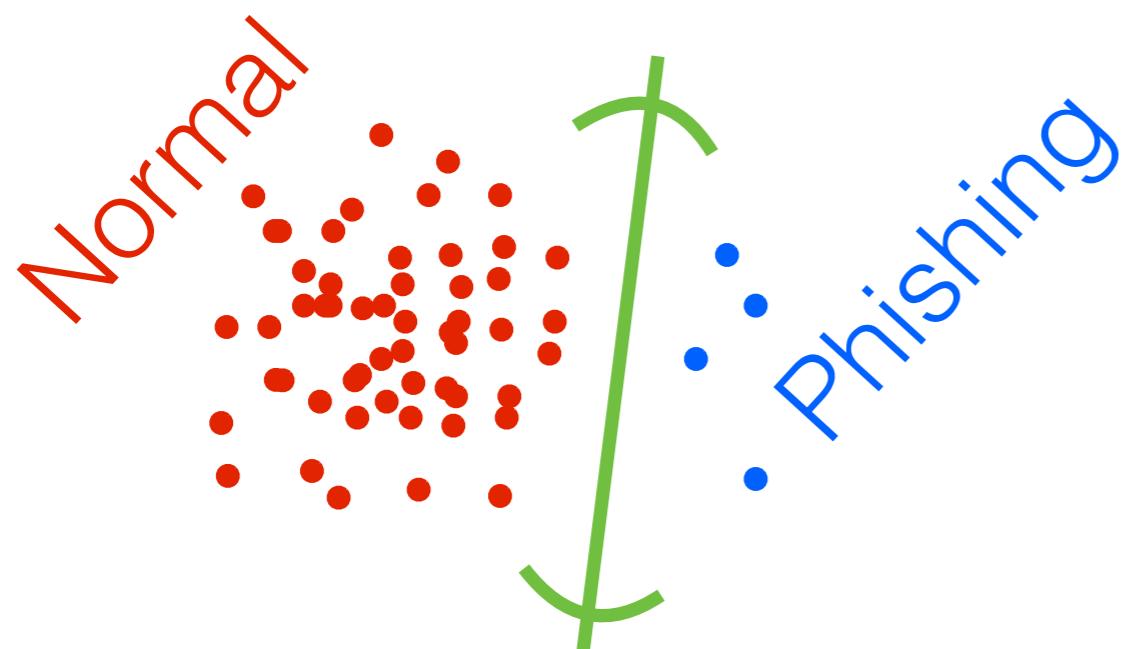
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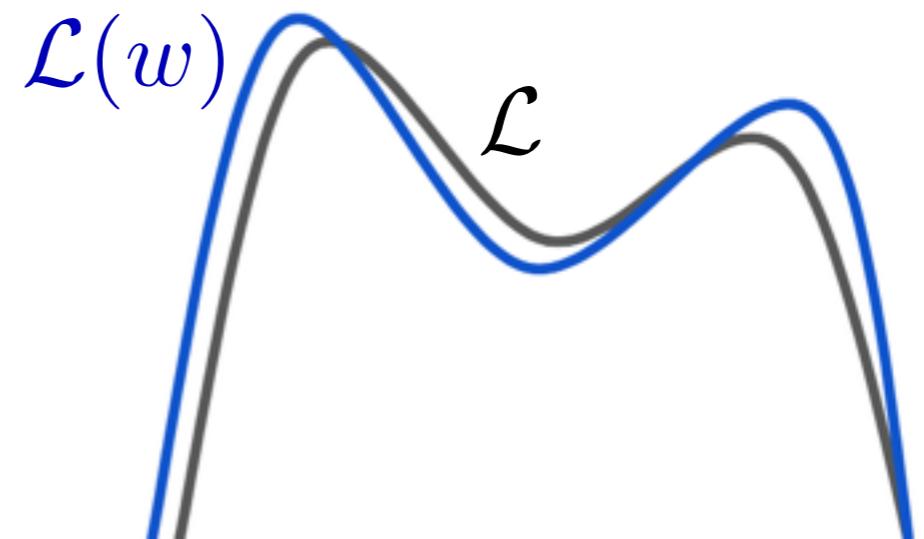
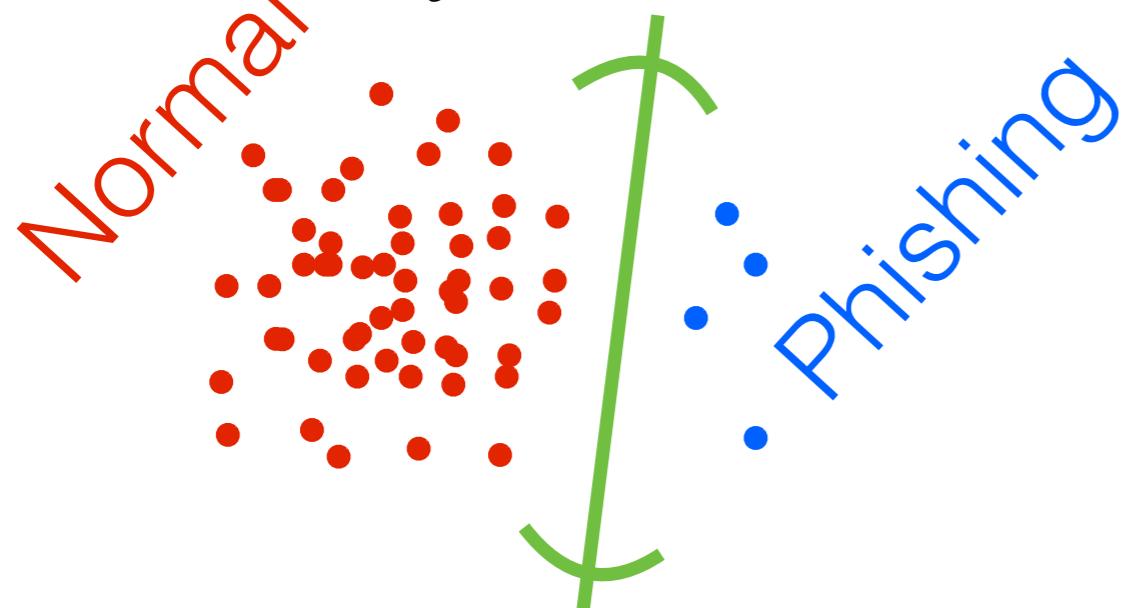
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- $\epsilon$ -coreset:  $\|\mathcal{L}(w) - \mathcal{L}\| \leq \epsilon$



# Bayesian coresets

- Posterior  $p(\theta|y) \propto p(y|\theta)p(\theta)$
- Log likelihood  $\mathcal{L}_n(\theta) := \log p(y_n|\theta)$ ,  $\mathcal{L}(\theta) := \sum_{n=1}^N \mathcal{L}_n(\theta)$
- Coreset log likelihood  $\mathcal{L}(w, \theta) := \sum_{n=1}^N w_n \mathcal{L}_n(\theta)$  s.t.  $\|w\|_0 \ll N$
- $\epsilon$ -coreset:  $\|\mathcal{L}(w) - \mathcal{L}\| \leq \epsilon$ 
  - Approximate posterior close in Wasserstein distance  
 $d_{W_j}(p_w(\cdot|y), p(\cdot|y)) \leq C_j \|\mathcal{L}(w) - \mathcal{L}\|_{WFID}, j \in \{1, 2\}$



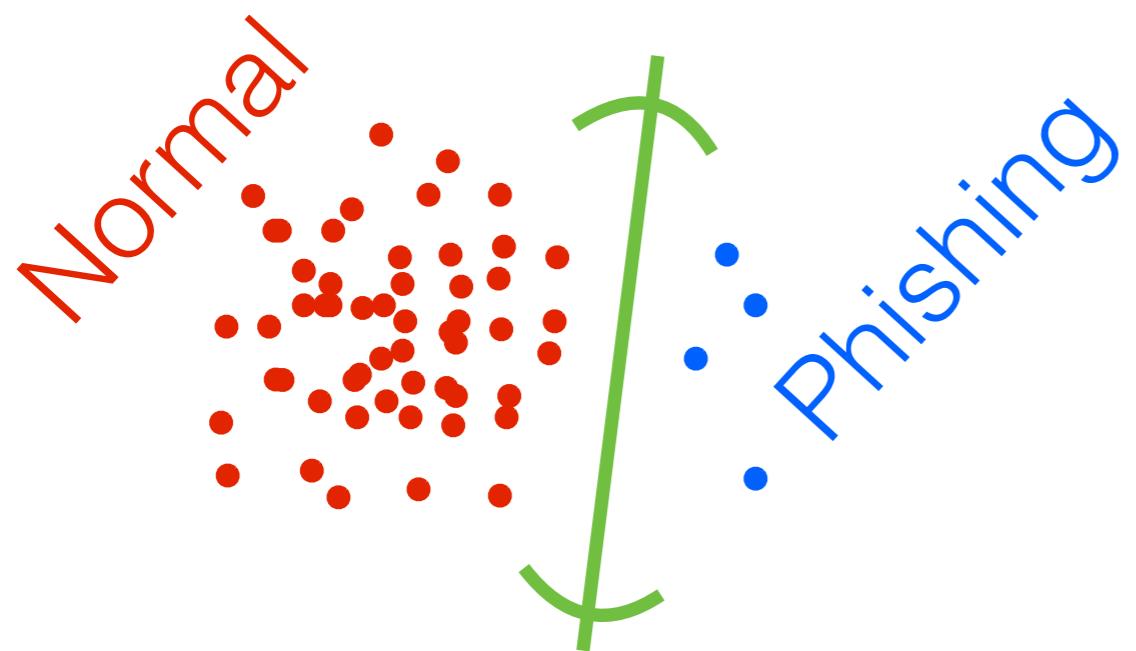
# Roadmap

- Approximate Bayes review
- The “core” of the data set
- Uniform data subsampling isn’t enough
- Importance sampling for “coresets”
- Optimization for “coresets”
- Approximate sufficient statistics

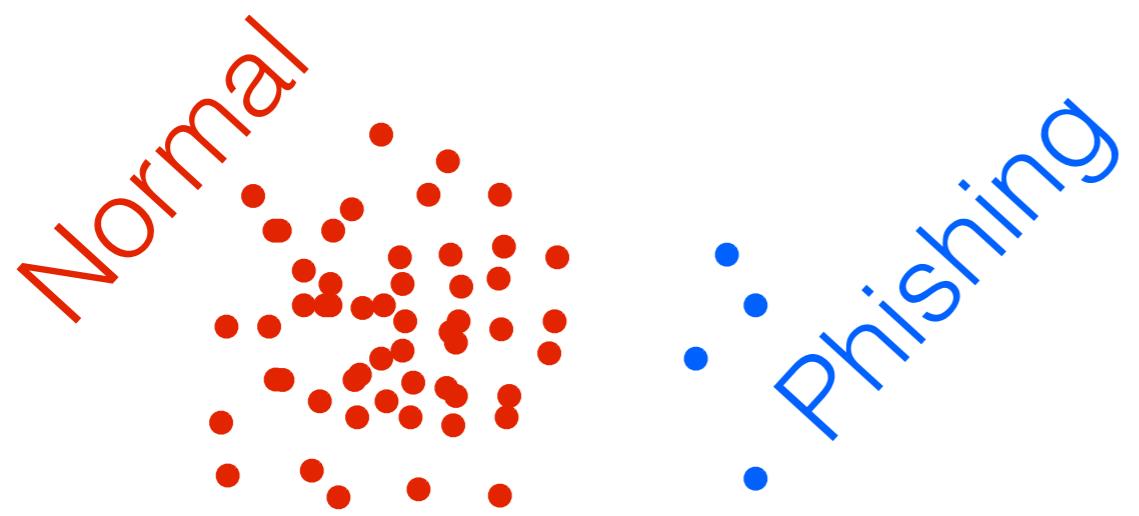
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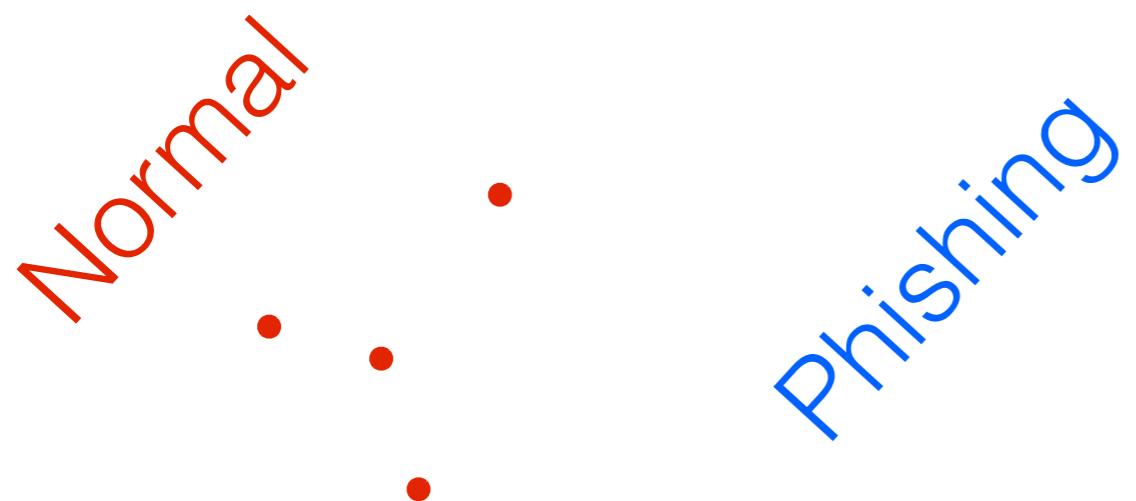
# Uniform subsampling revisited



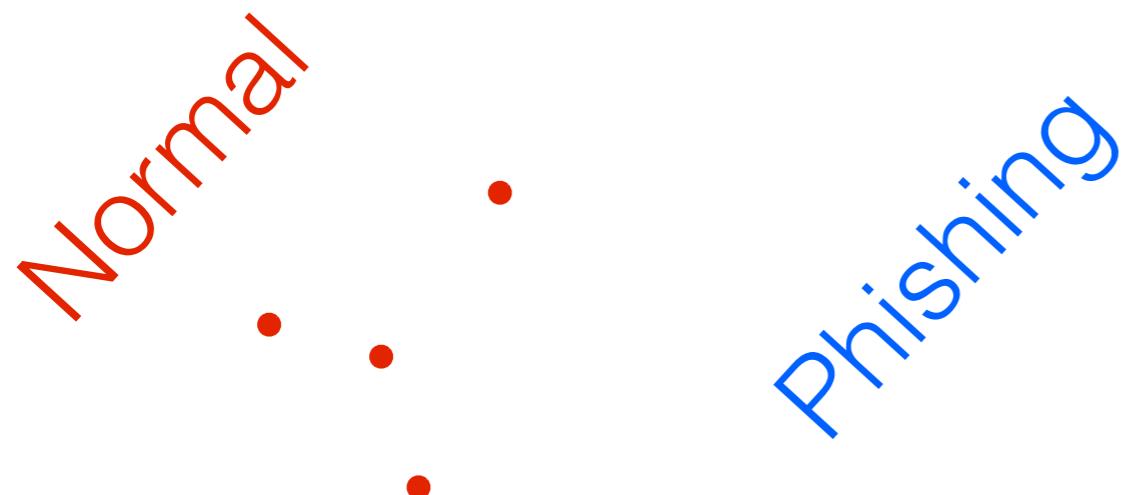
# Uniform subsampling revisited



# Uniform subsampling revisited

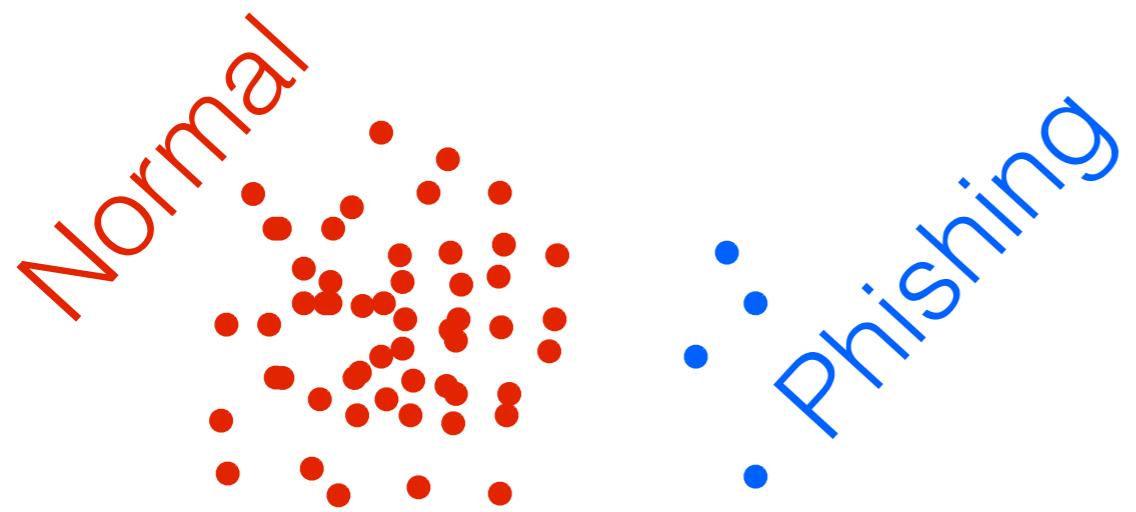


# Uniform subsampling revisited



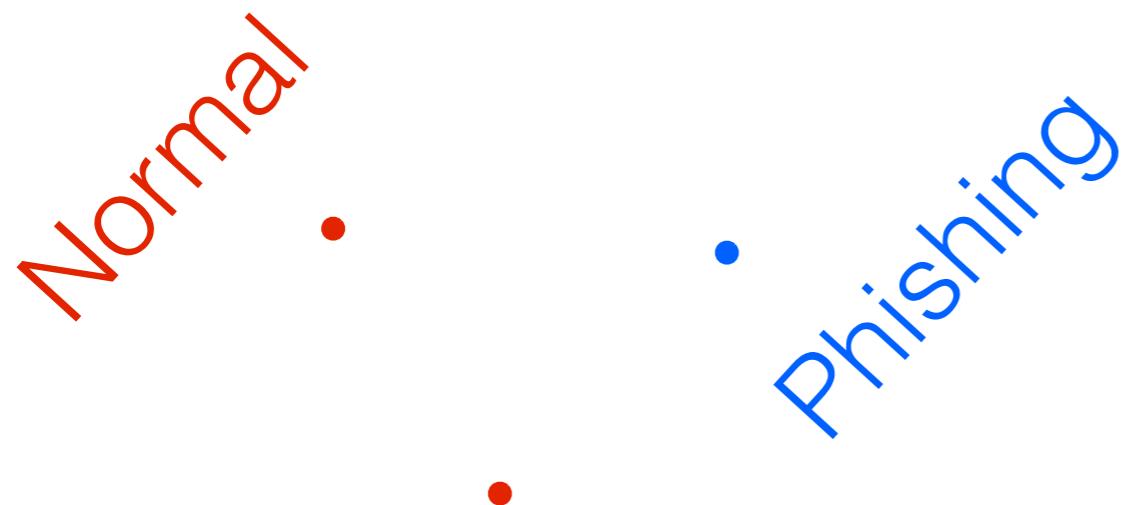
- Might miss important data

# Uniform subsampling revisited



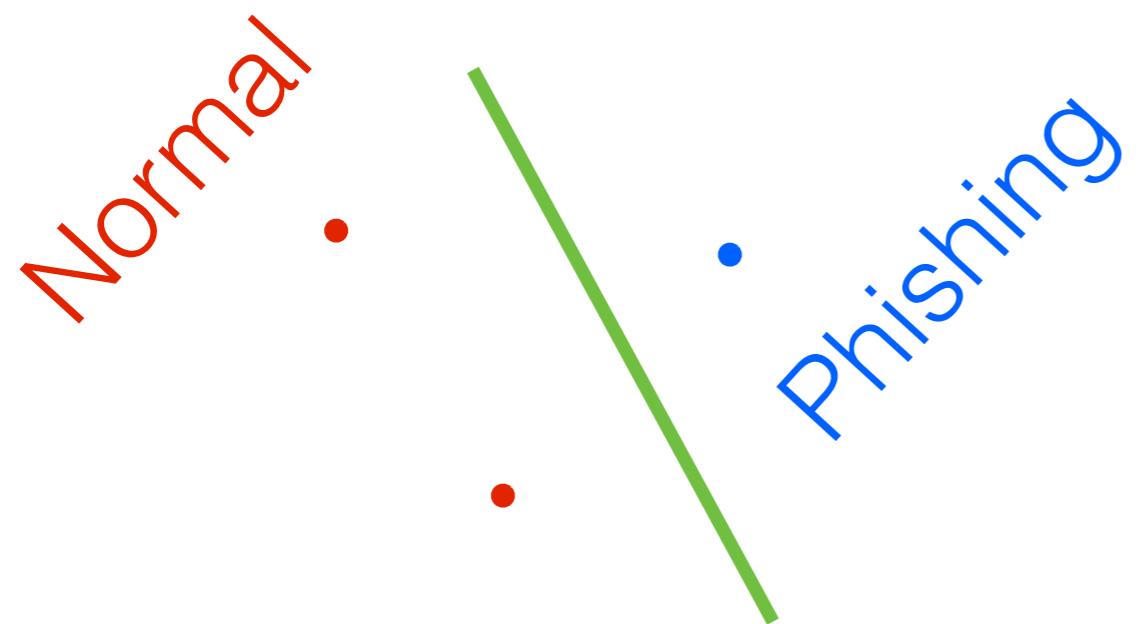
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# Uniform subsampling revisited



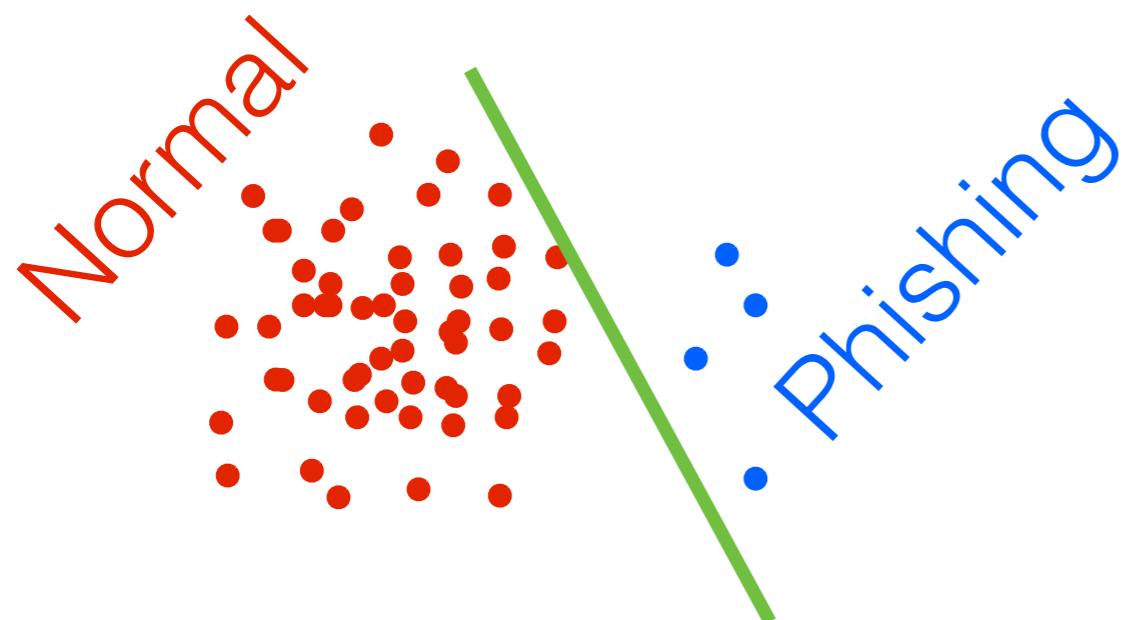
- Might miss important data

# Uniform subsampling revisited



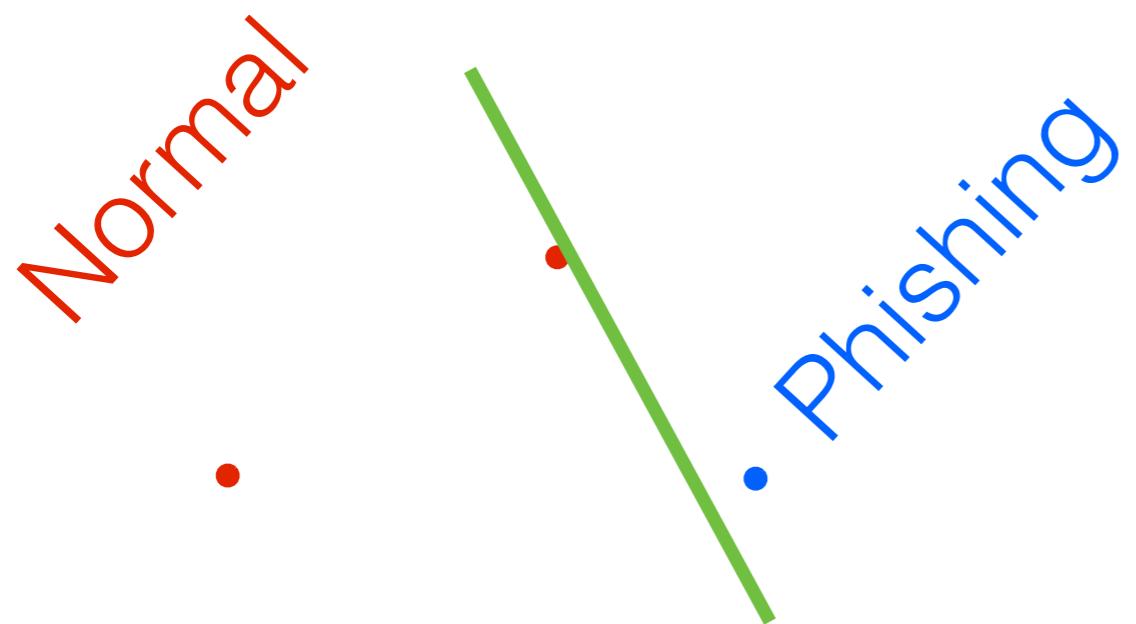
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# Uniform subsampling revisited



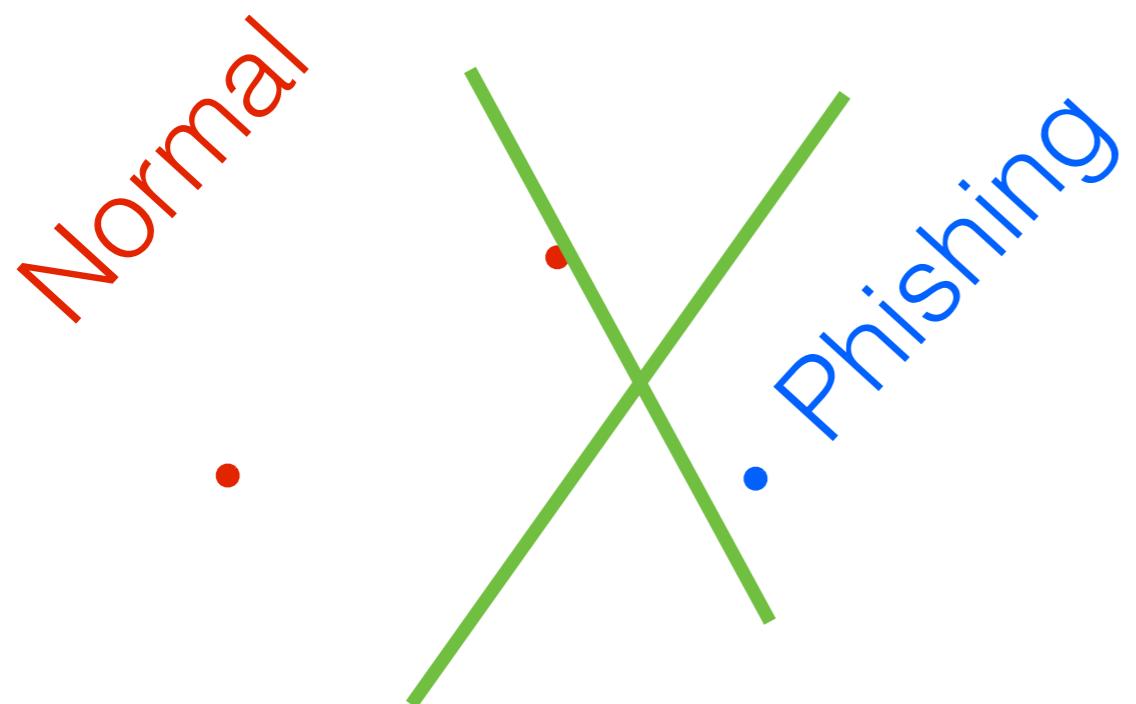
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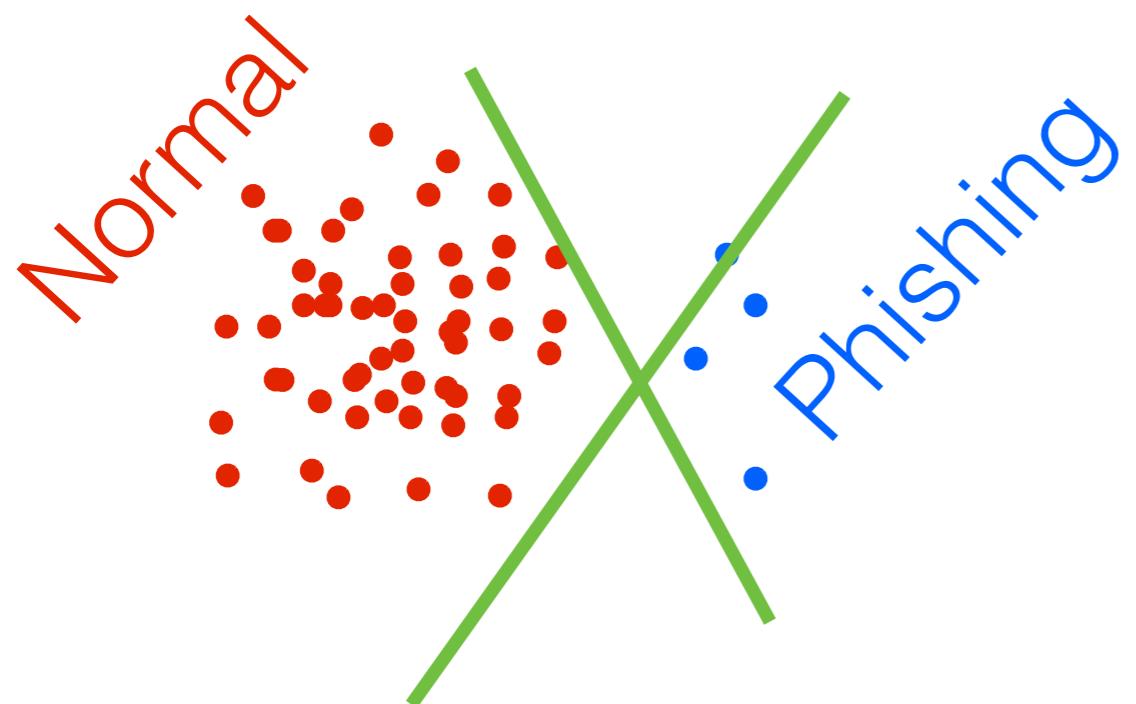
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# Uniform subsampling revisited



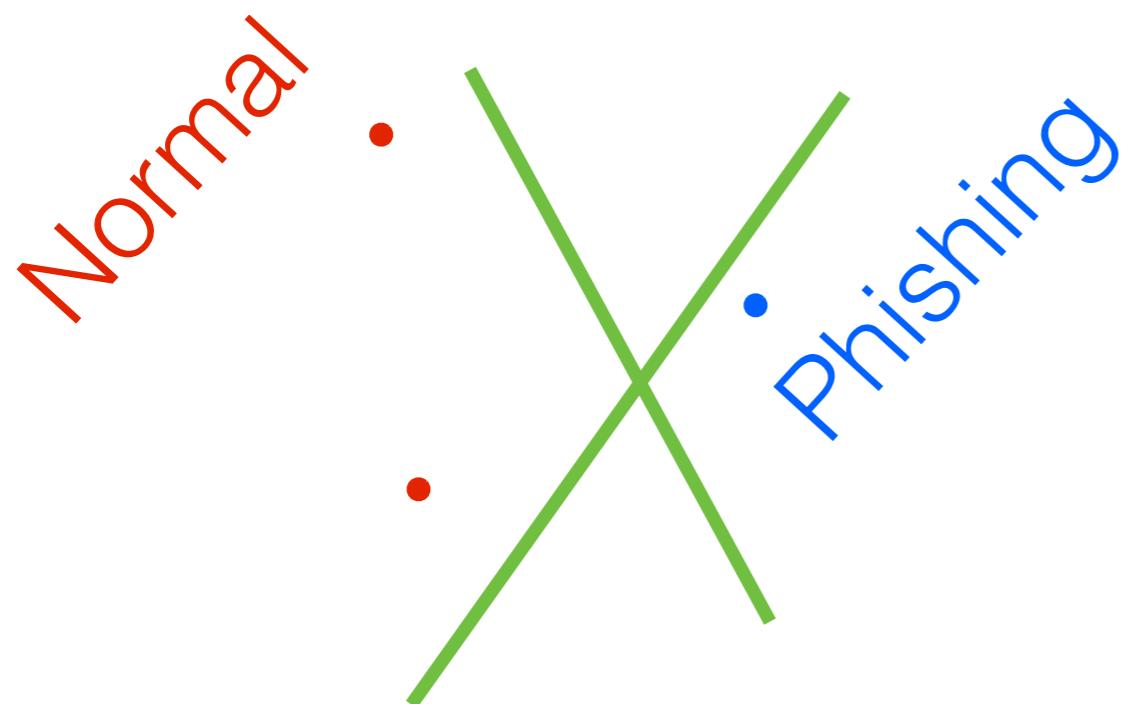
- Might miss important data

# Uniform subsampling revisited



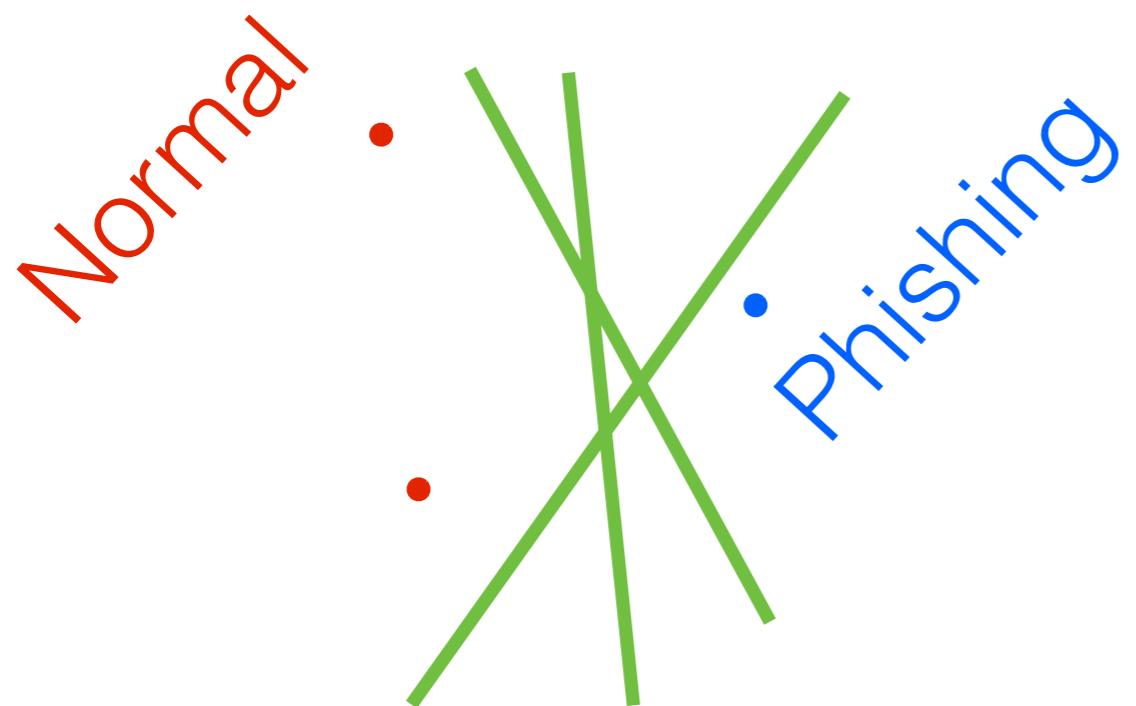
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# Uniform subsampling revisited



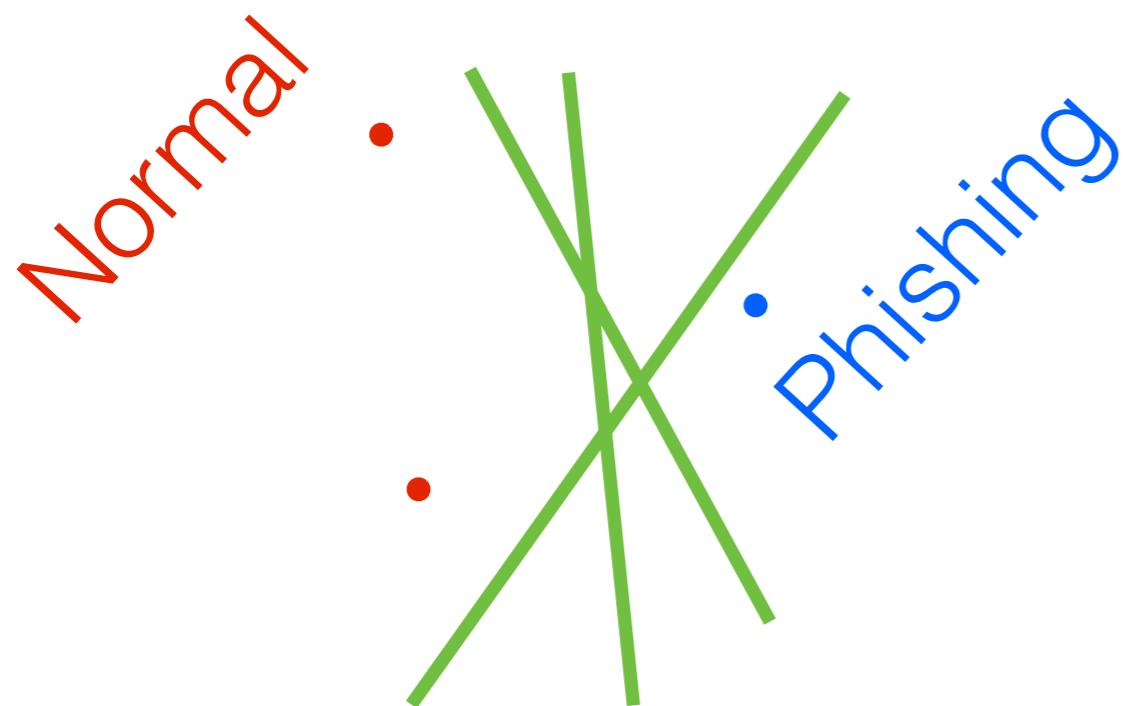
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# Uniform subsampling revisited



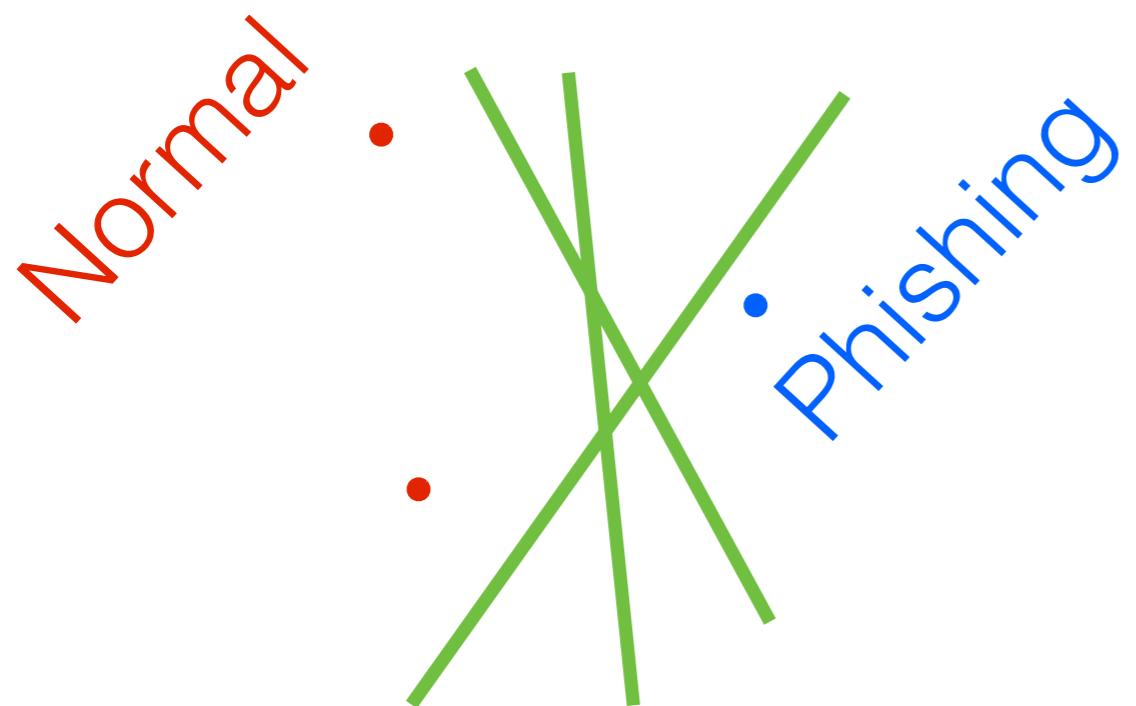
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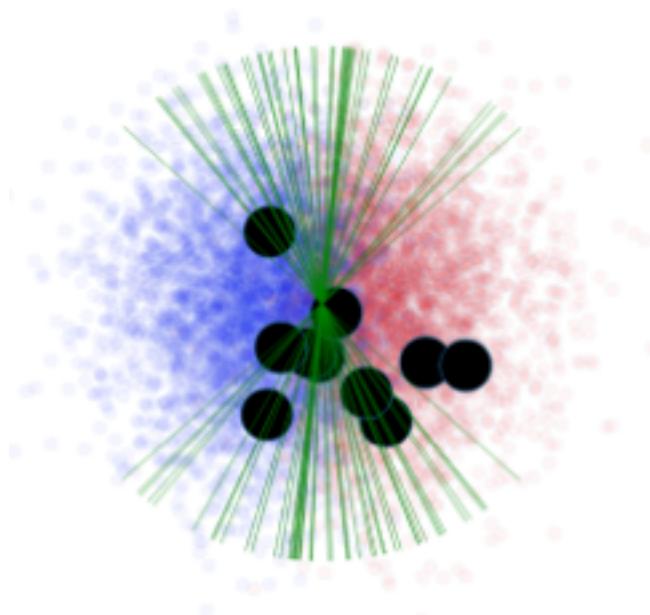


- Might miss important data
- Noisy estimates

# Uniform subsampling revisited

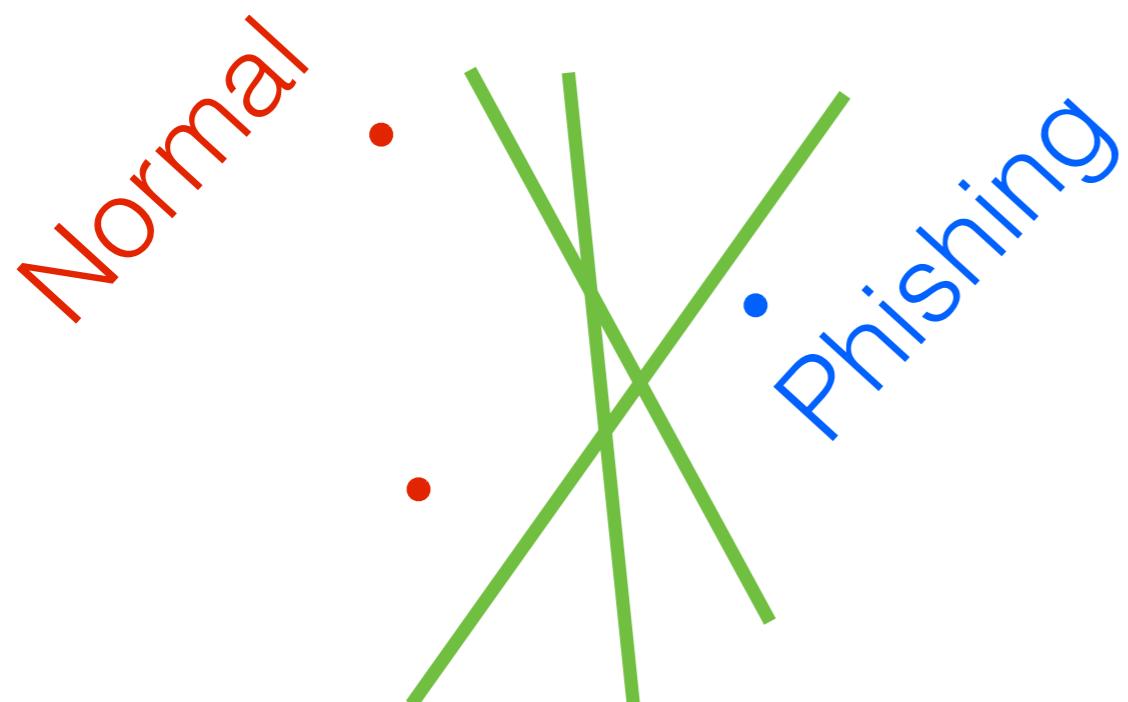


- Might miss important data
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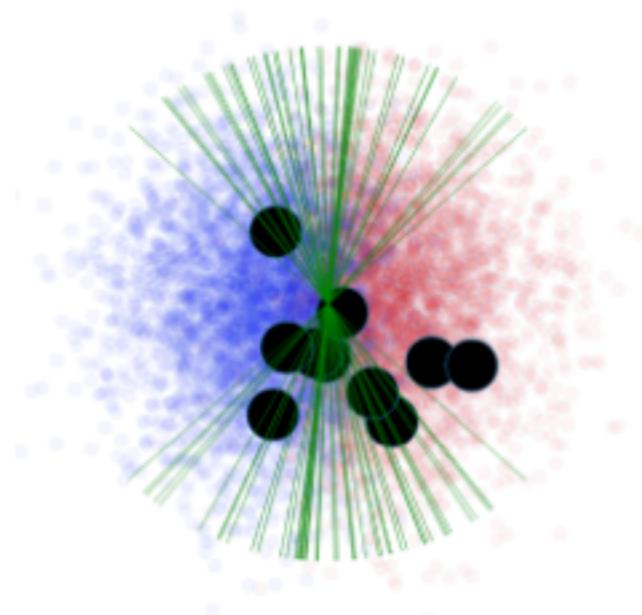


$$M = 10$$

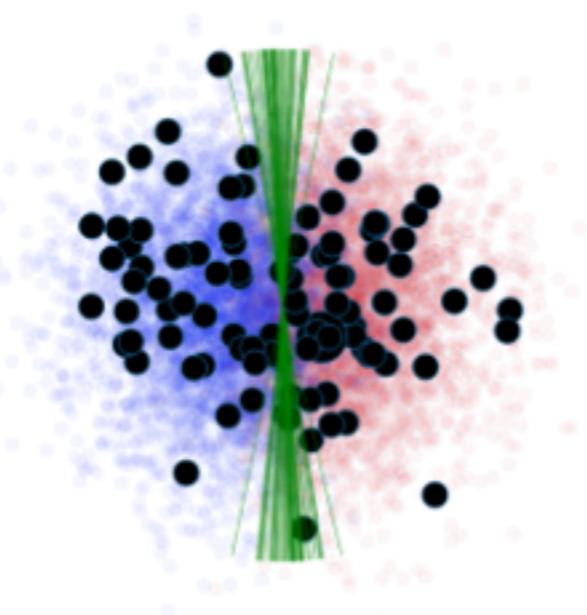
# Uniform subsampling revisited



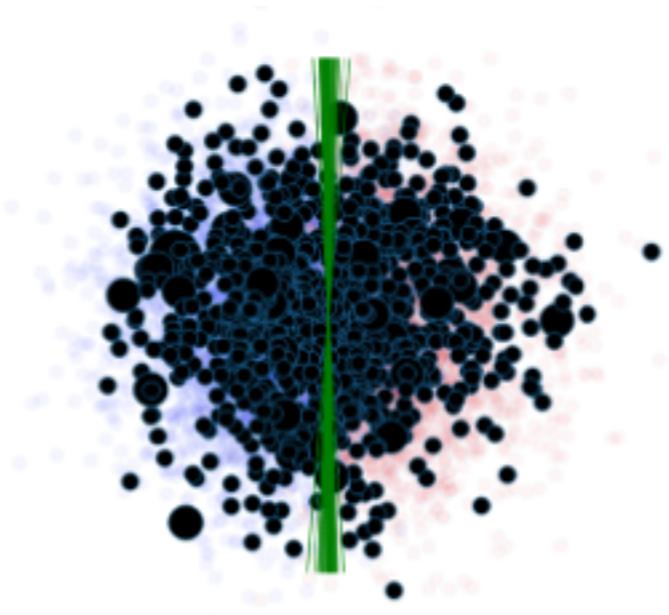
- Might miss important data
- Noisy estimates



$M = 10$



$M = 100$



$M = 1000$

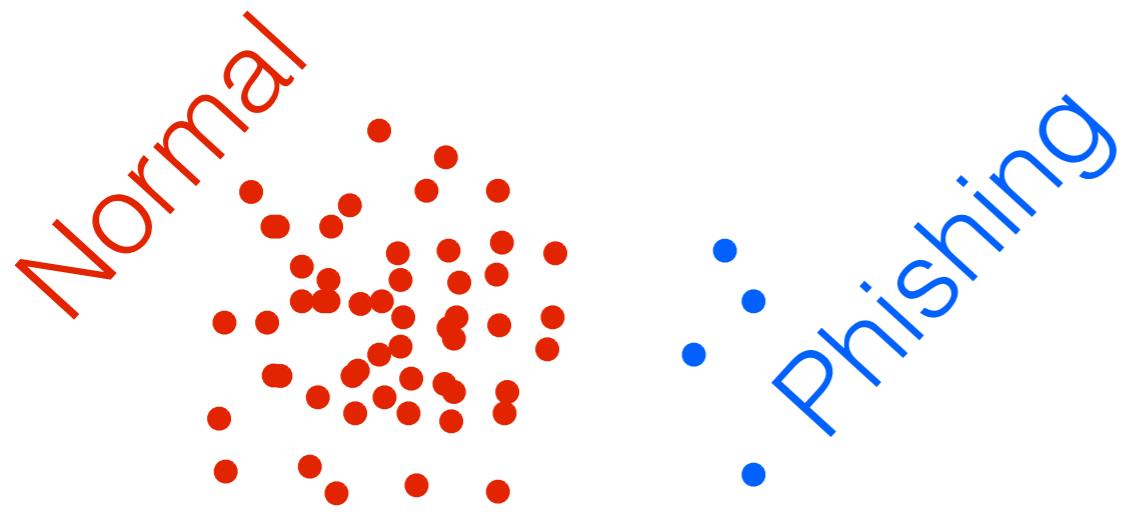
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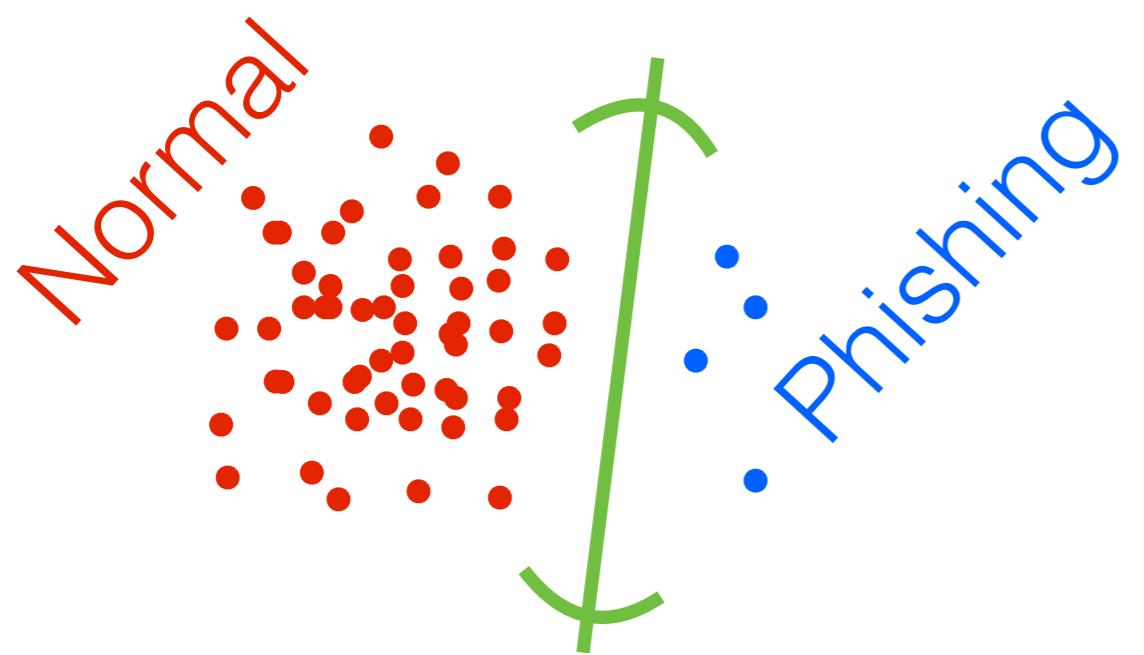
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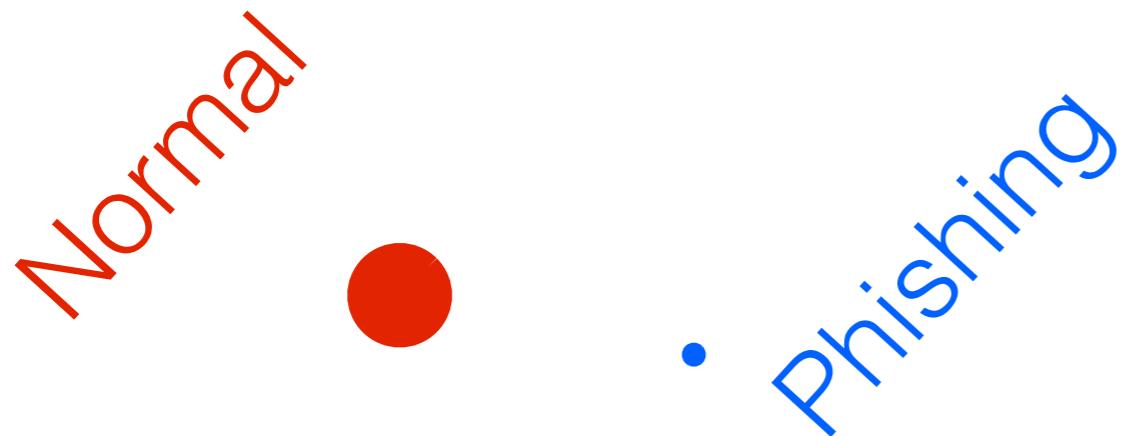
# Importance sampling



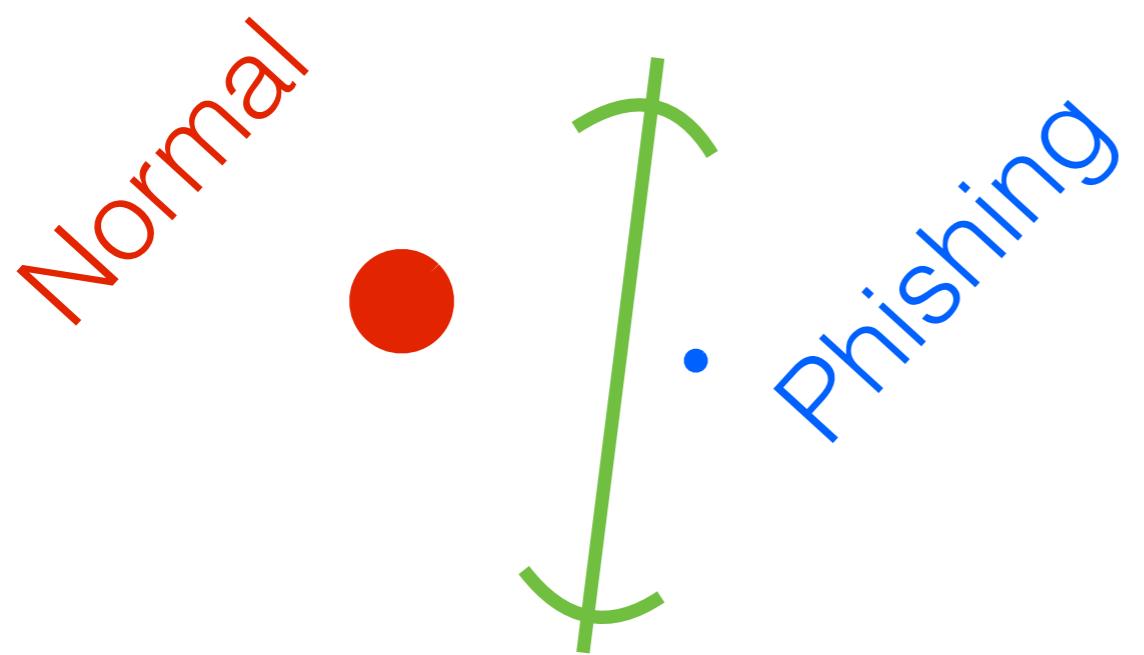
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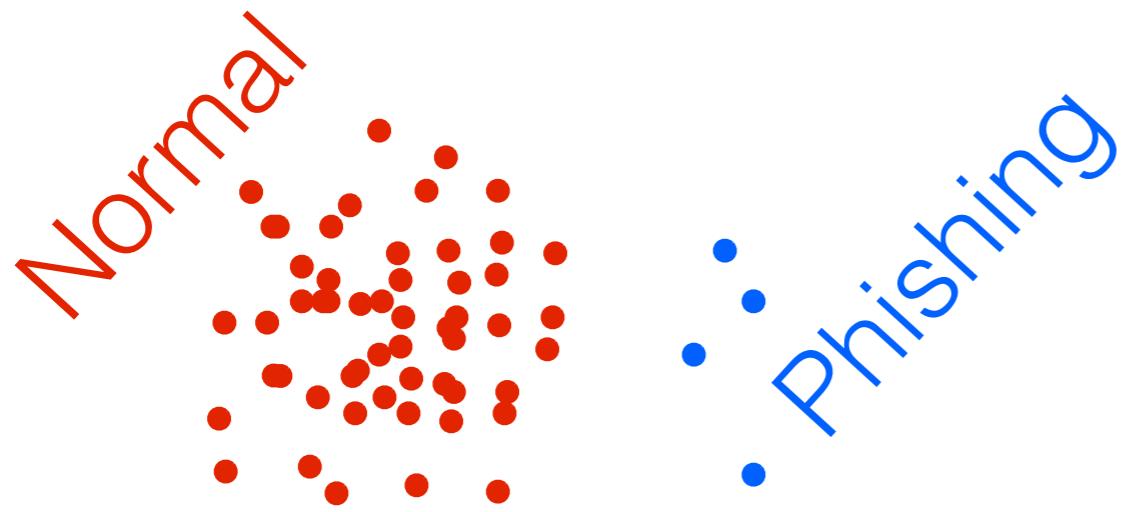
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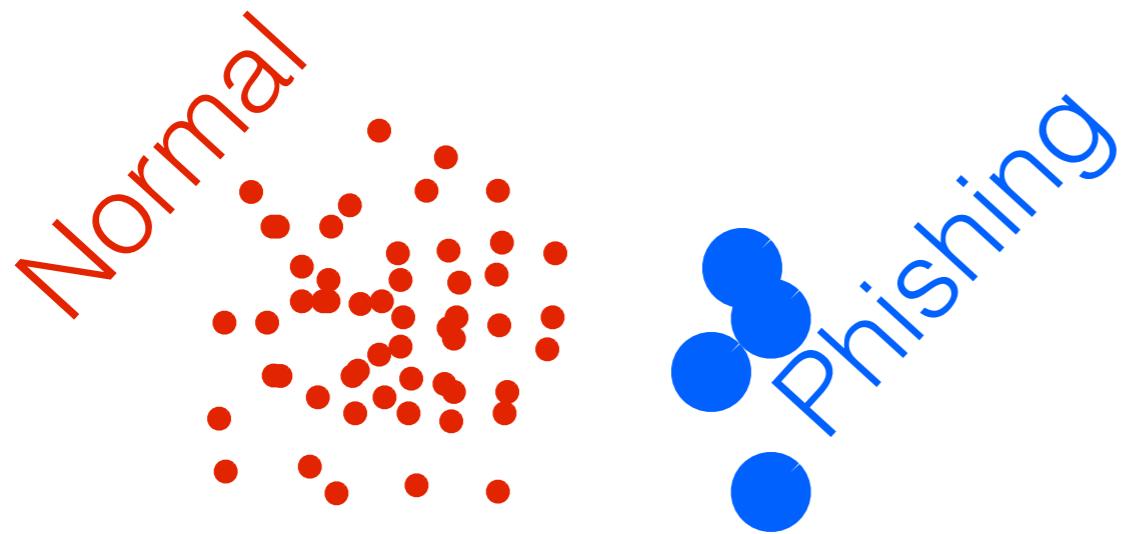
# Importance sampling



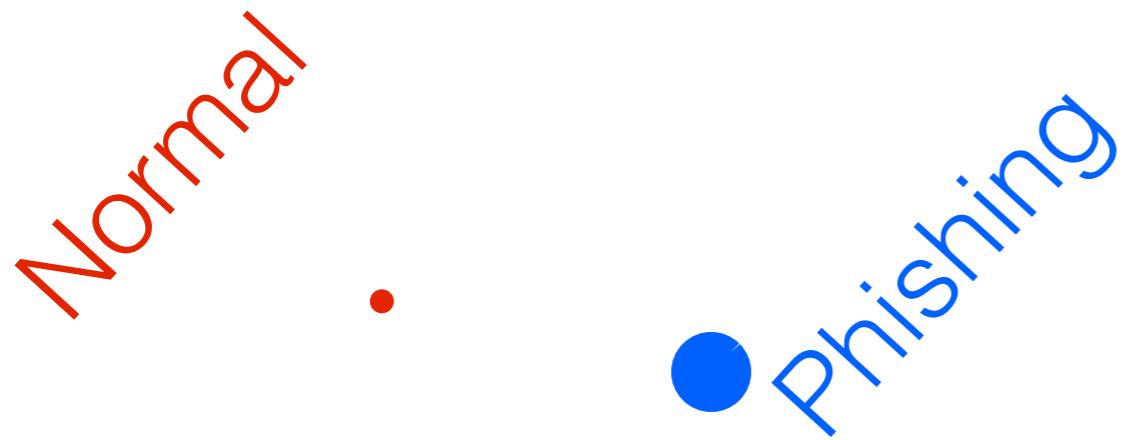
# Importance sampling



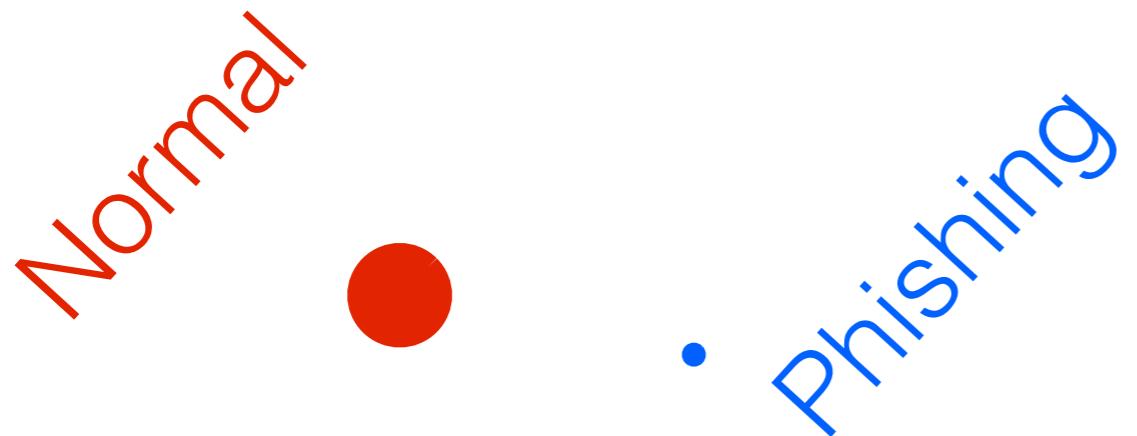
# Importance sampling



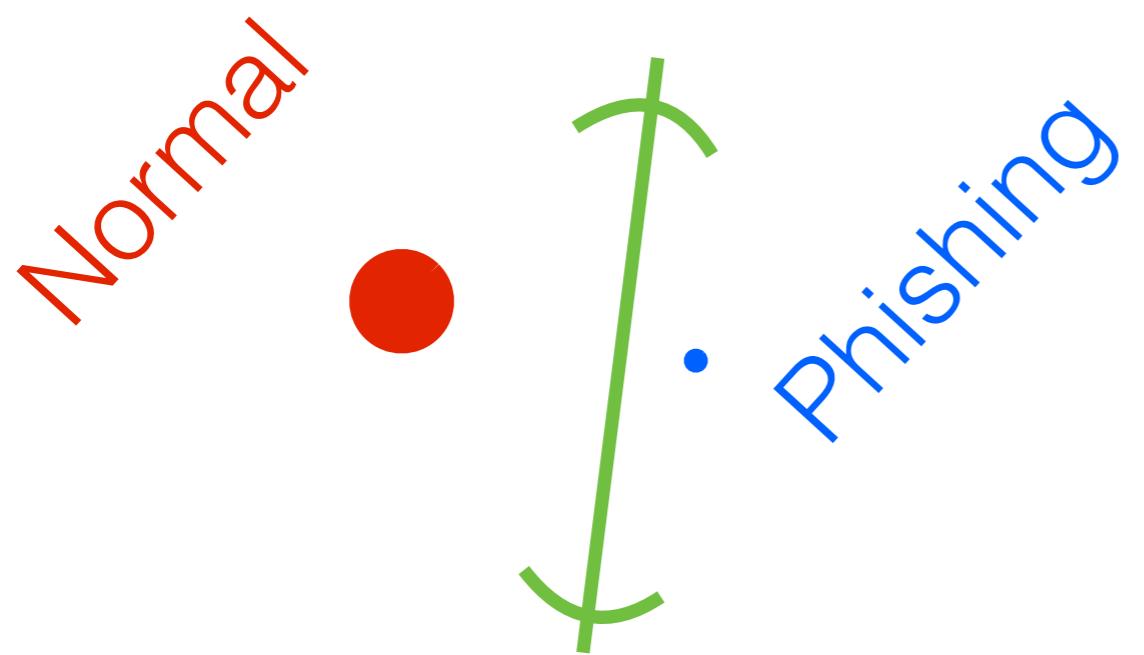
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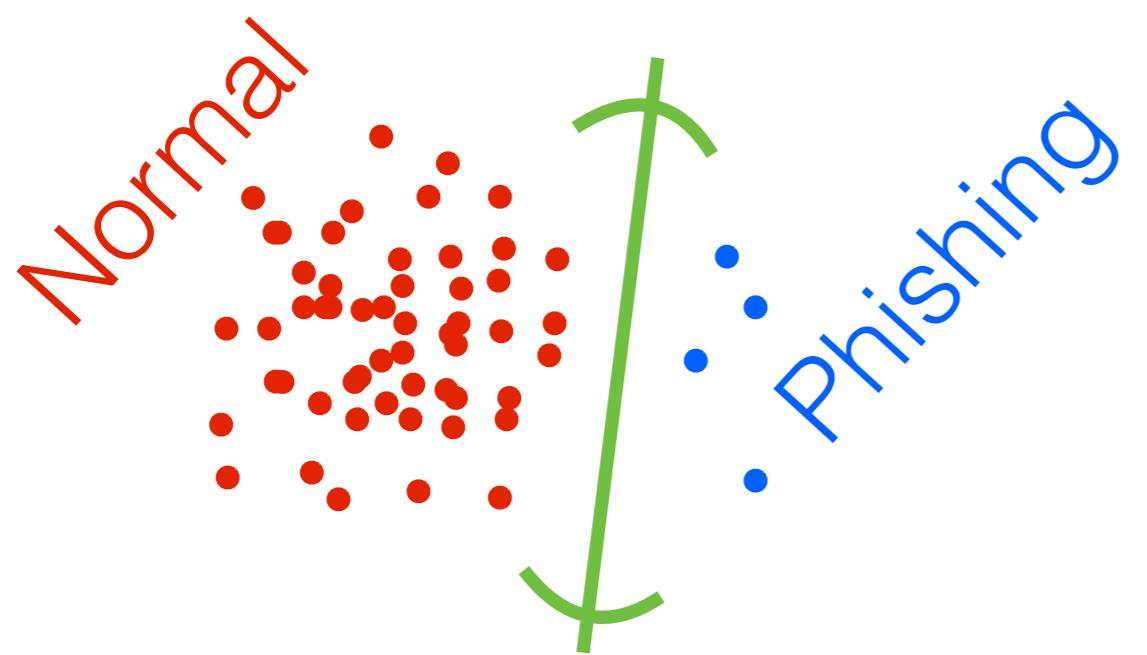
# Importance sampling



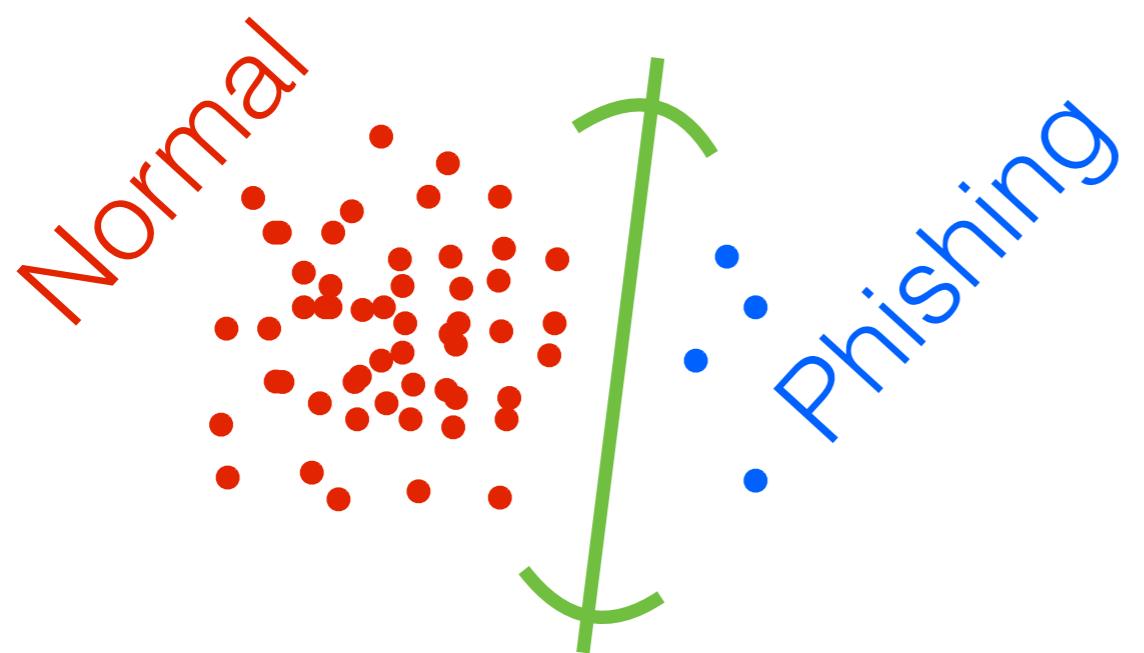
# Importance sampling



# Importance sampling

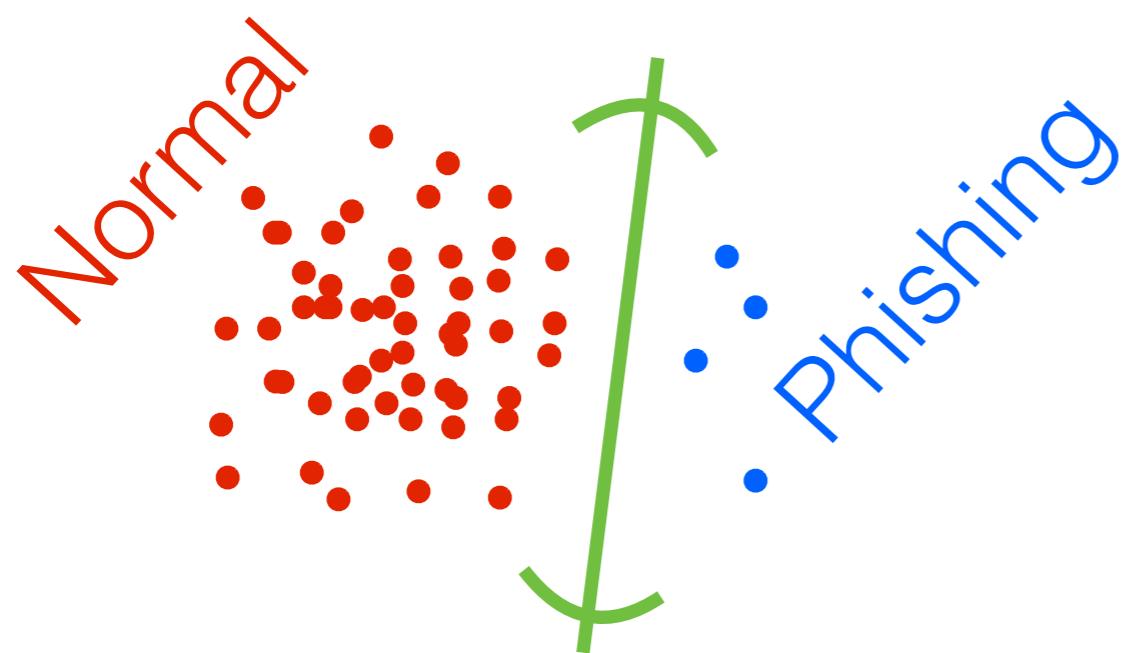


# Importance sampling



$$\sigma_n \propto \|\mathcal{L}_n\|$$

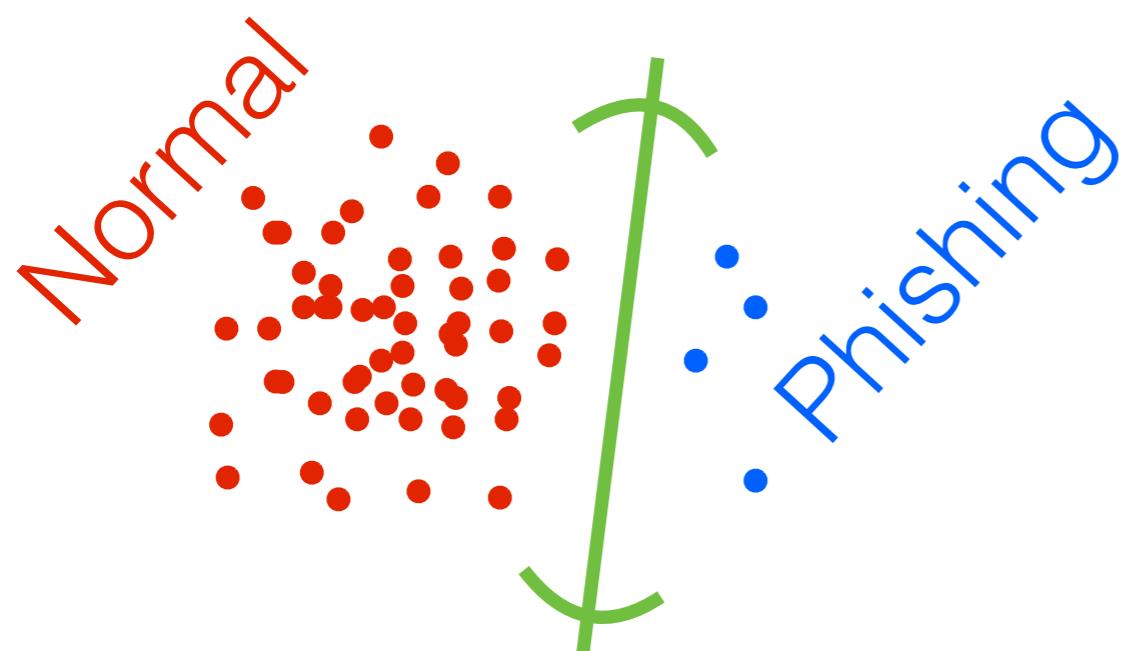
# Importance sampling



$$\sigma := \sum_{n=1}^N \|\mathcal{L}_n\|$$

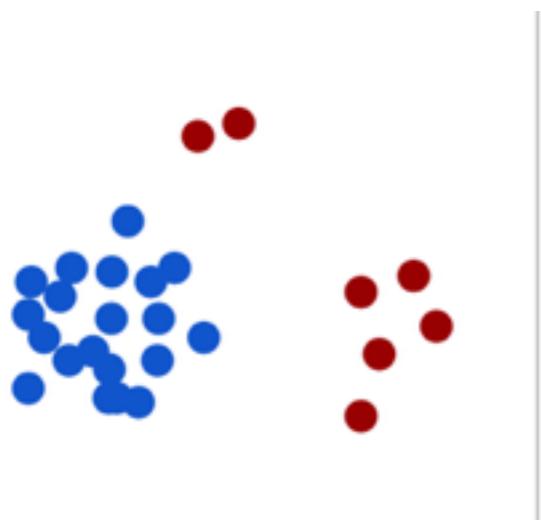
$$\sigma_n := \|\mathcal{L}_n\|/\sigma$$

# Importance sampling

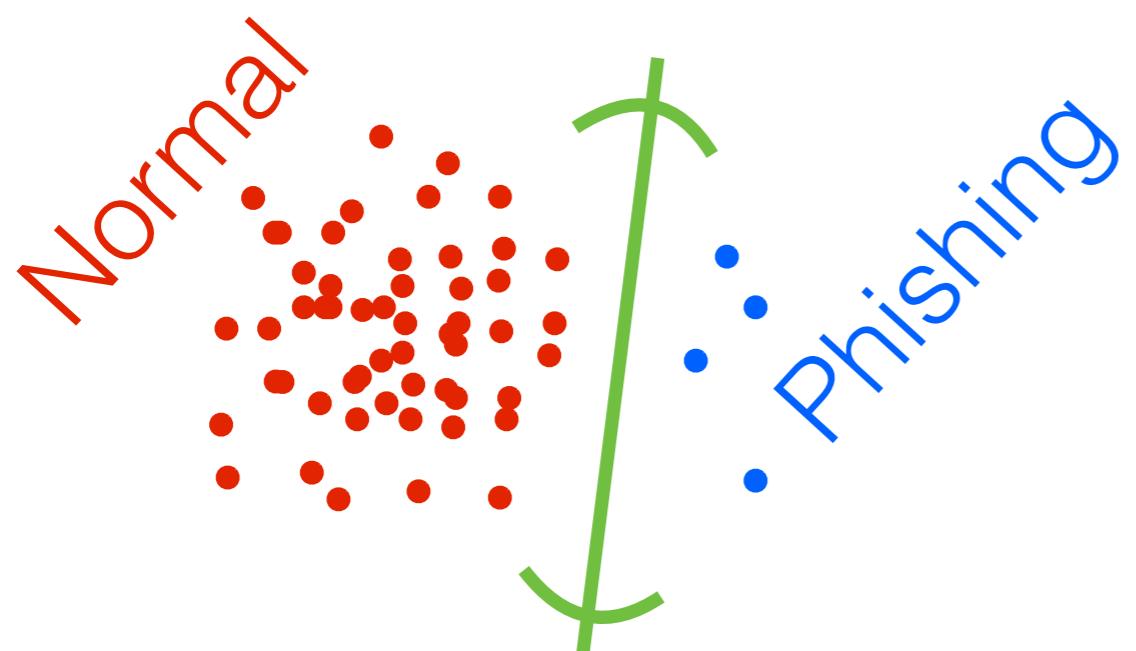


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1. data

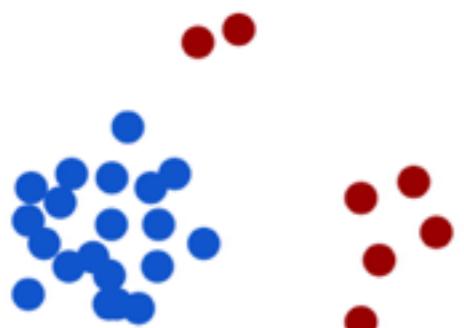


# Importance sampling

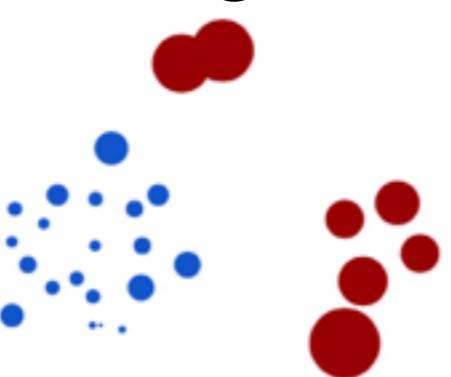


$$\sigma := \sum_{n=1}^N \|\mathcal{L}_n\|$$
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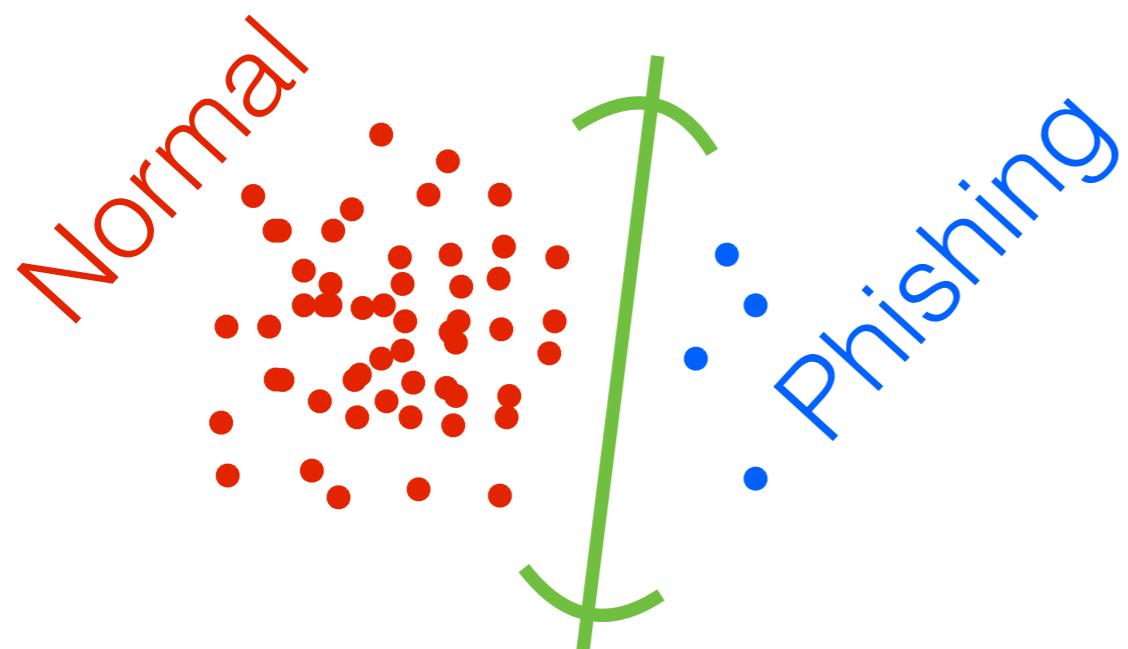
1. data



2. importance weights

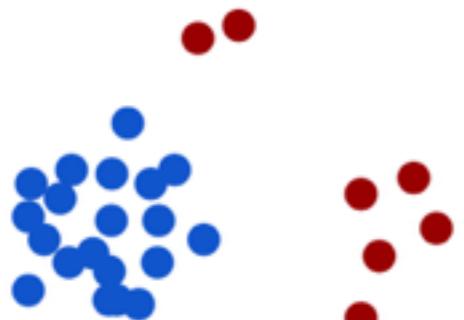


# Importance sampling

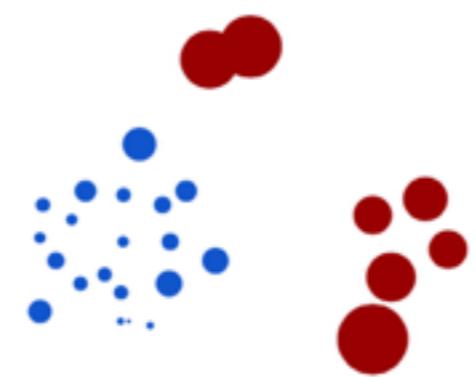


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$$\sigma_n := \|\mathcal{L}_n\|/\sigma$$

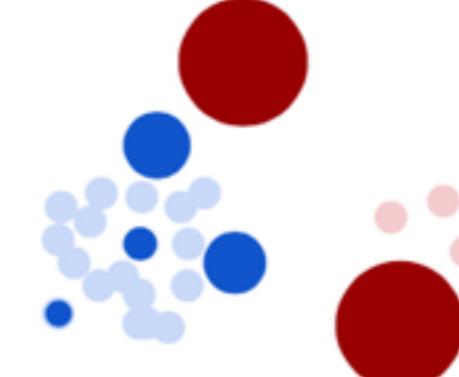
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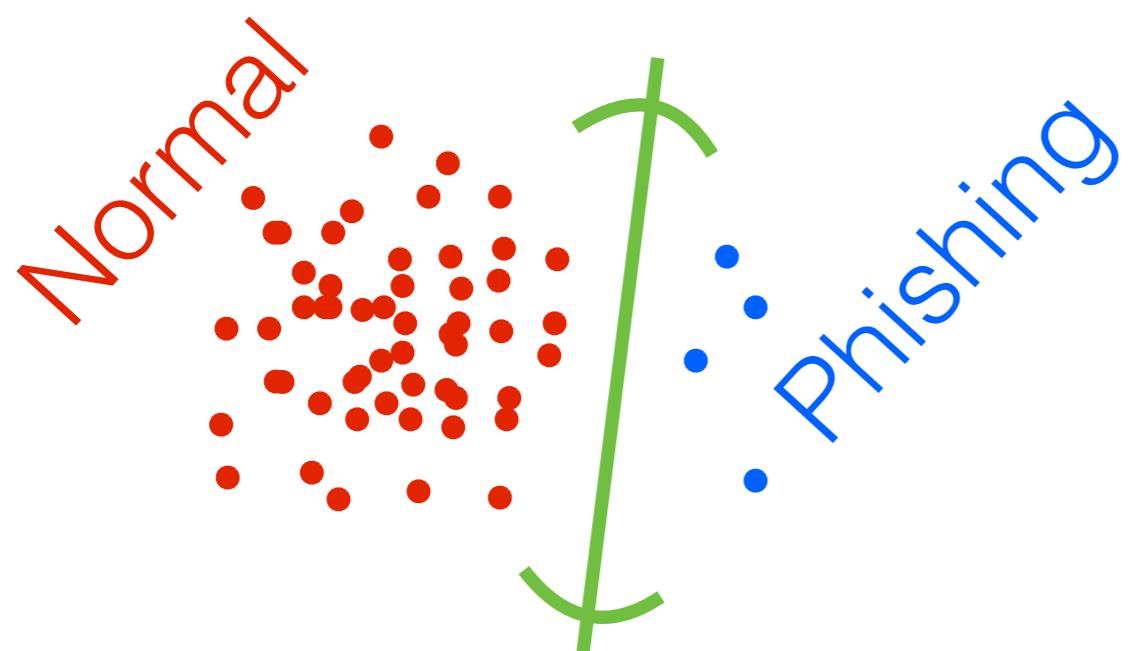
2. importance weights



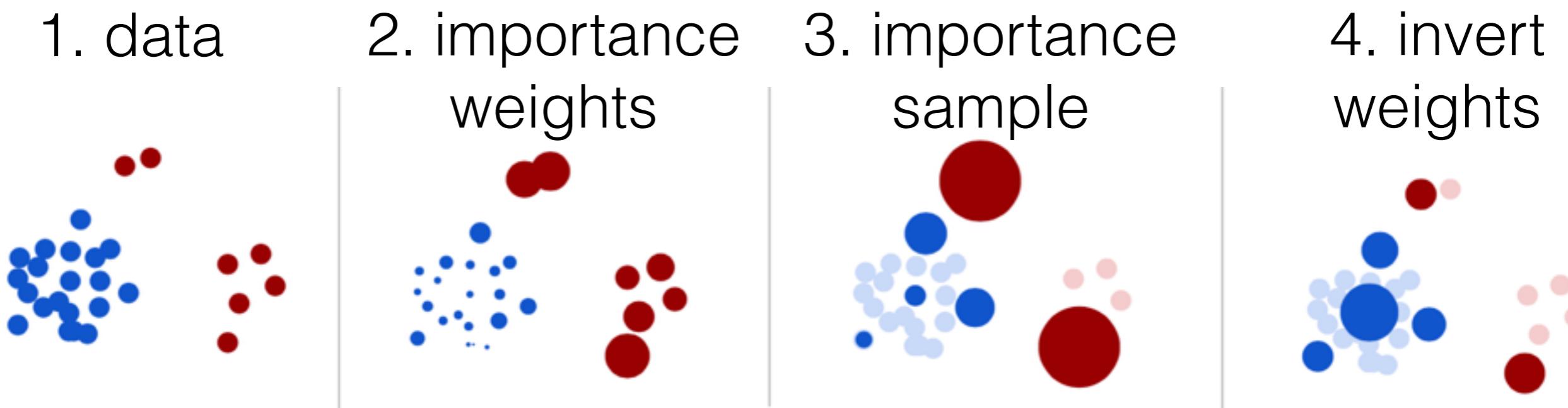
3. importance sample



# Importance sampling



$$\sigma := \sum_{n=1}^N \|\mathcal{L}_n\|$$
$$\sigma_n := \|\mathcal{L}_n\|/\sigma$$



# Importance sampling

**Thm sketch (CB).**  $\delta \in (0,1)$ . W.p.  $\geq 1 - \delta$ , after  $M$  iterations,

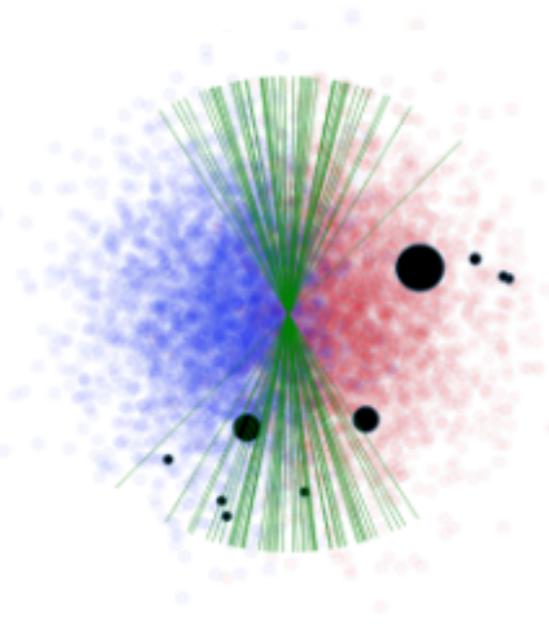
$$\|\mathcal{L}(w) - \mathcal{L}\| \leq \frac{\sigma\bar{\eta}}{\sqrt{M}} \left( 1 + \sqrt{2 \log \frac{1}{\delta}} \right)$$

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- Still noisy estimates



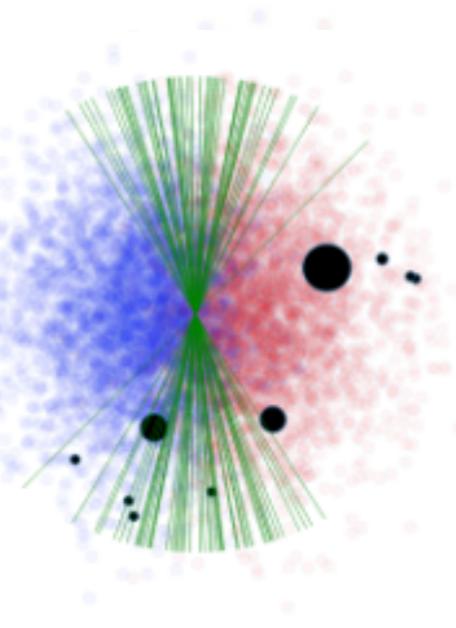
$$M = 10$$

# Importance sampling

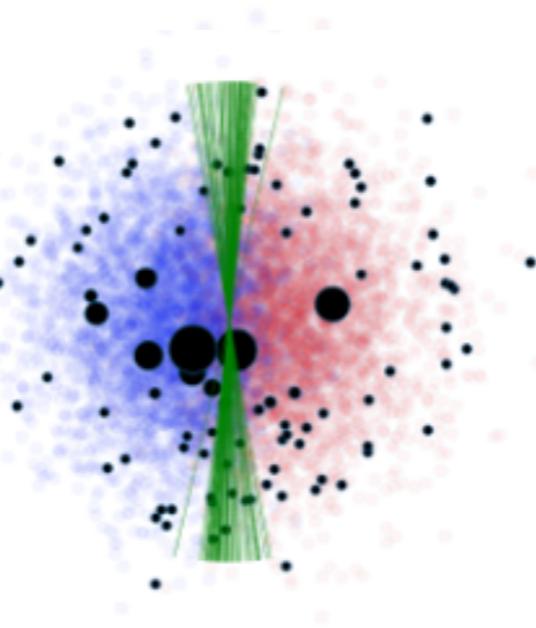
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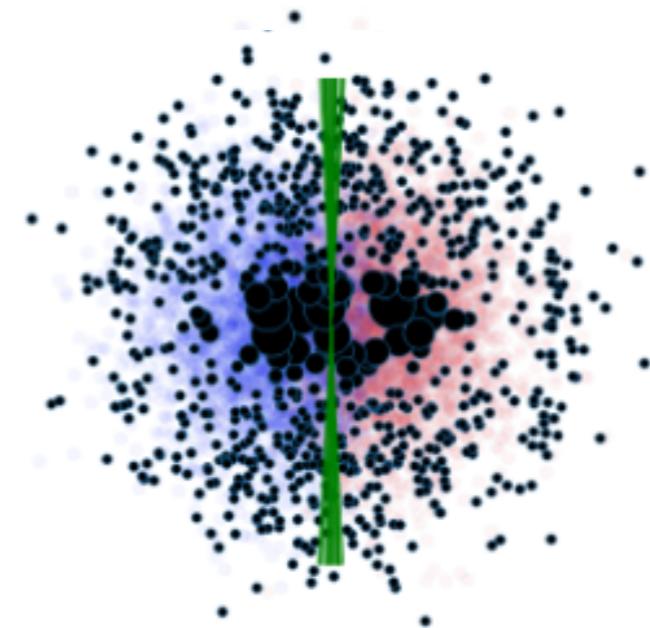
- Still noisy estimates



$M = 10$



$M = 100$



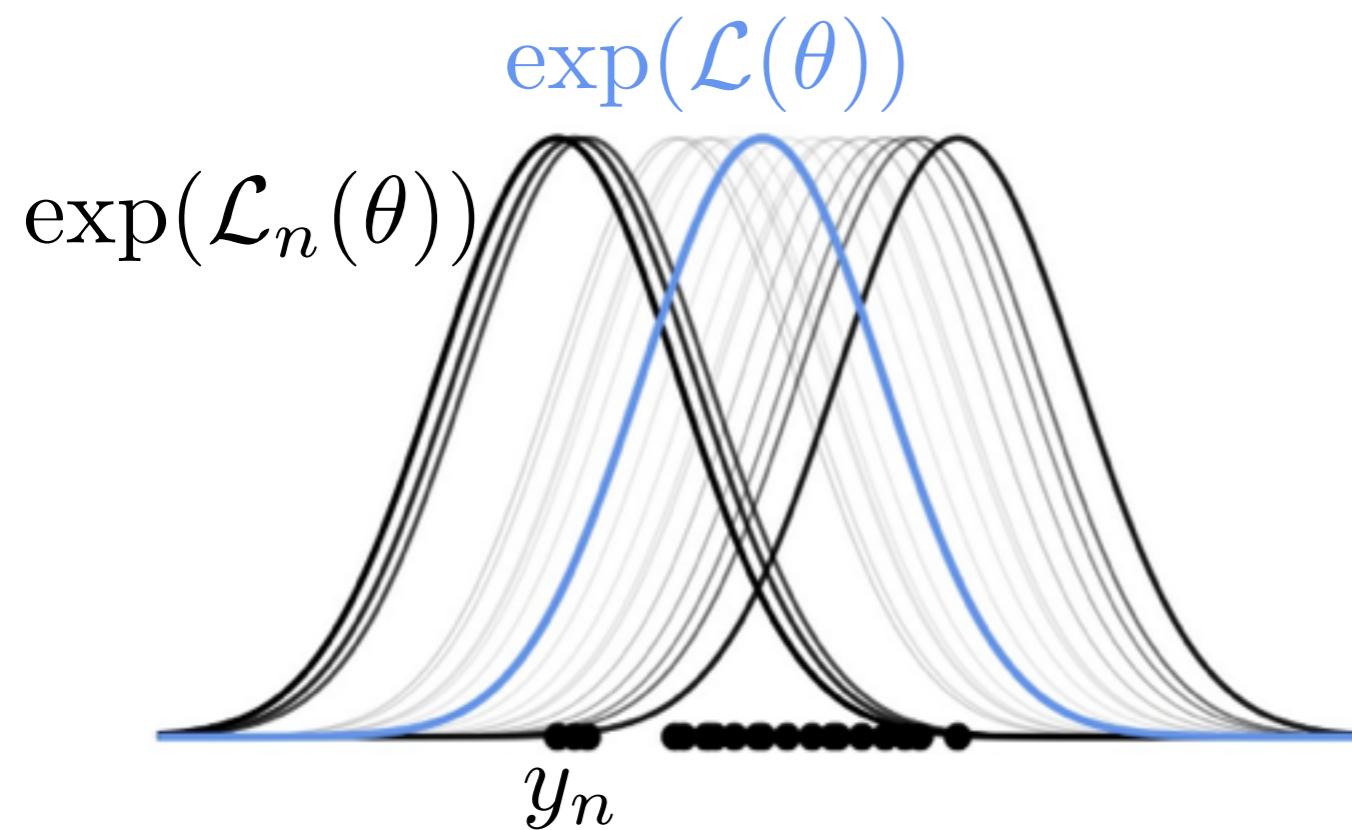
$M = 1000$

# Hilbert coresets

- Want a good coreset:  
$$\min_{w \in \mathbb{R}^N} \|\mathcal{L}(w) - \mathcal{L}\|$$
  
s.t.  $w \geq 0, \|w\|_0 \leq M$

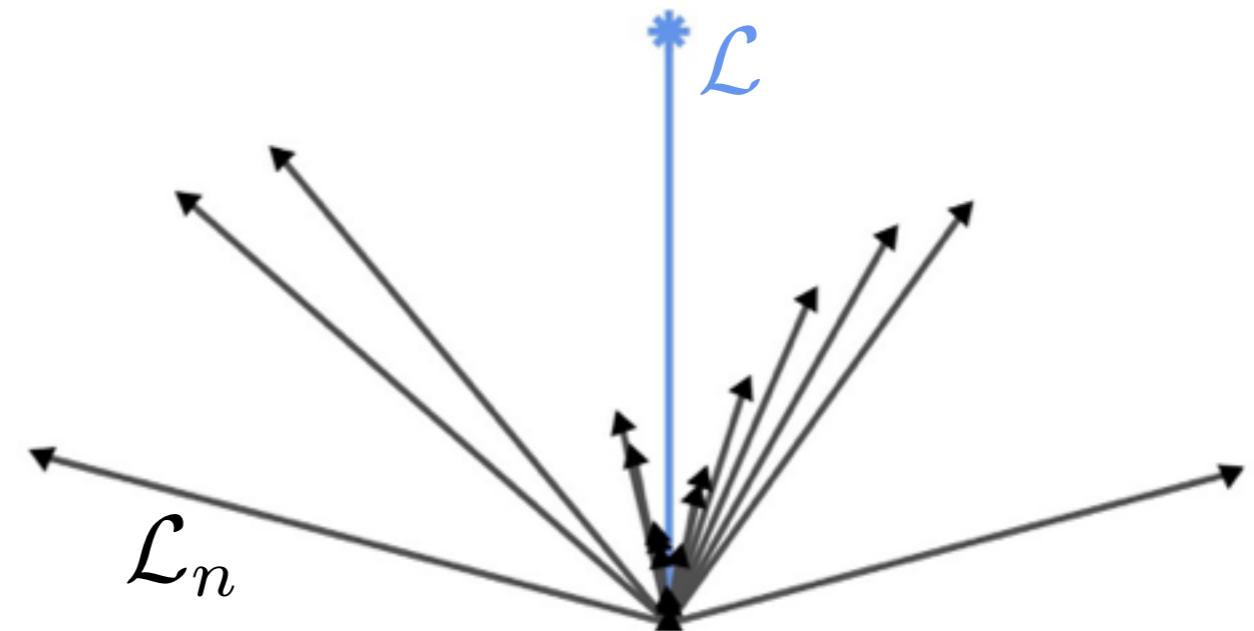
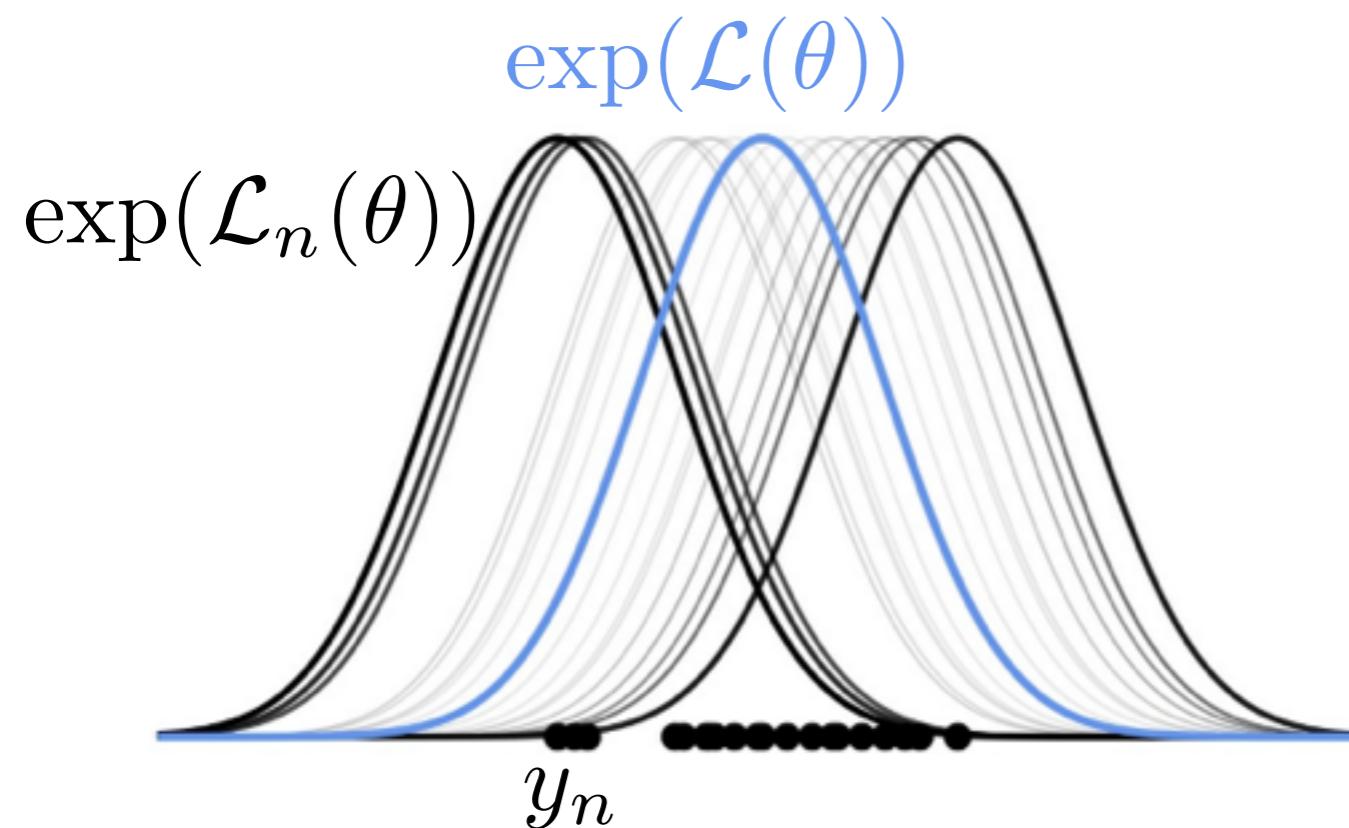
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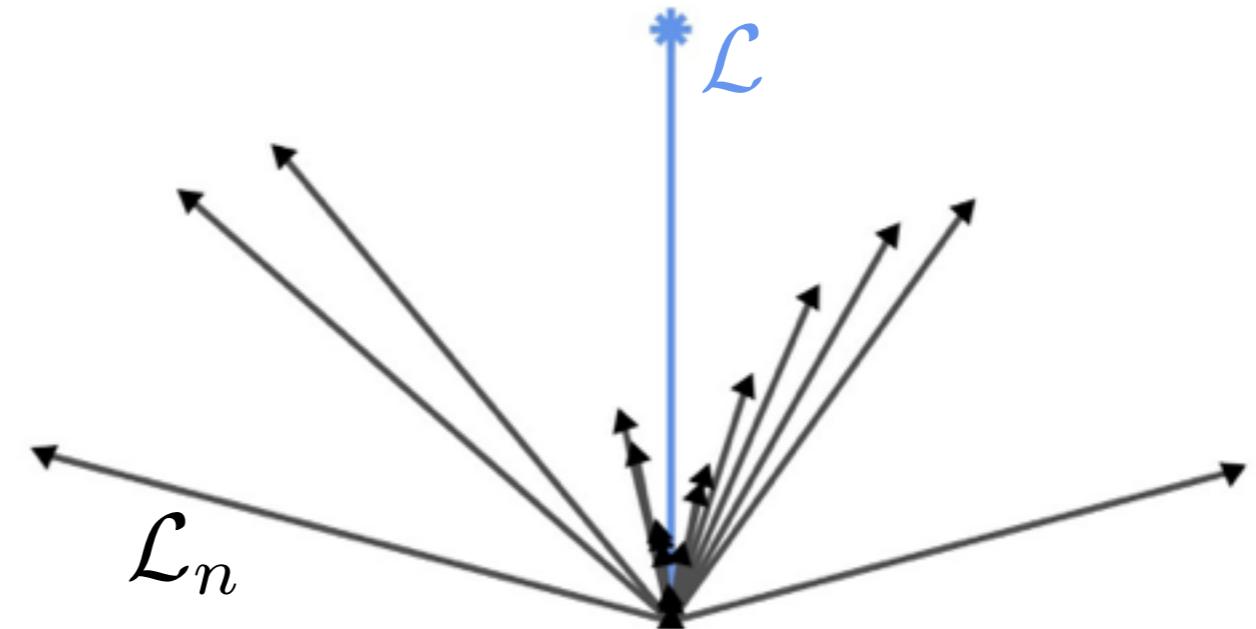
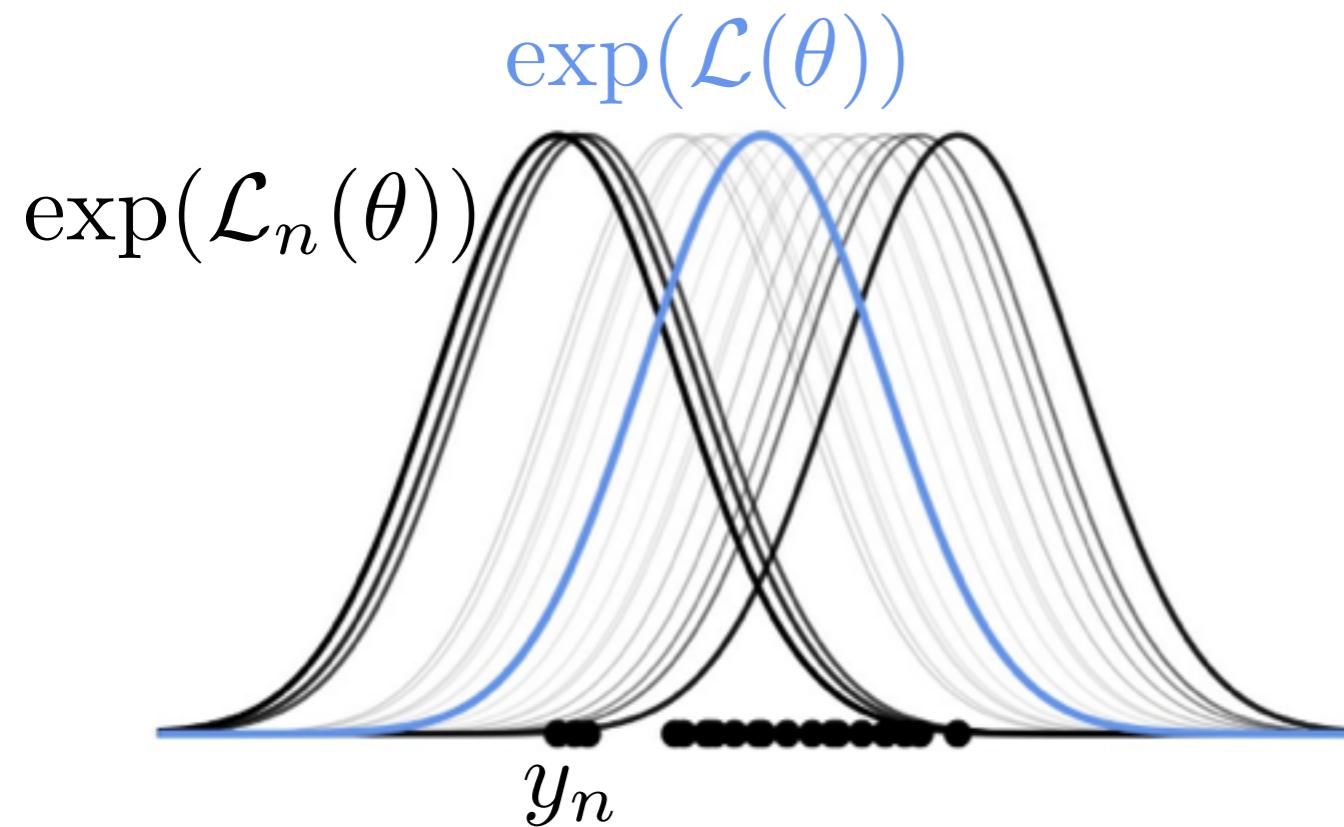
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# Hilbert coresets

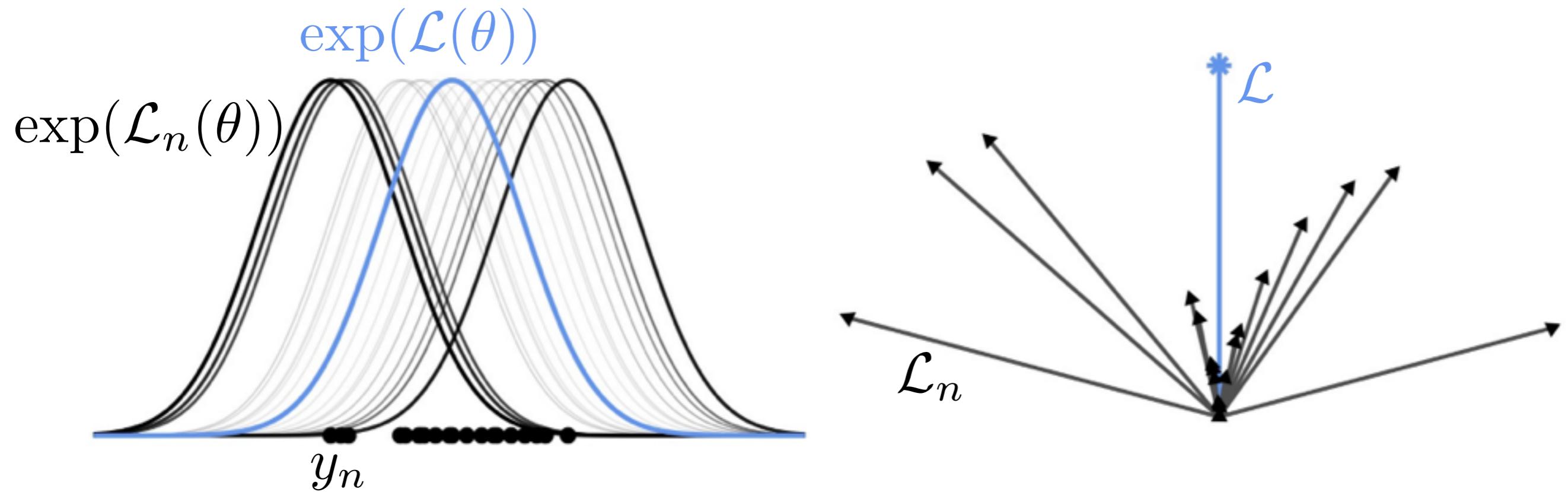
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- need to consider (residual) error direction

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s.t.  $w \geq 0, \|w\|_0 \leq M$



- need to consider (residual) error direction
- sparse optimization

# Roadmap

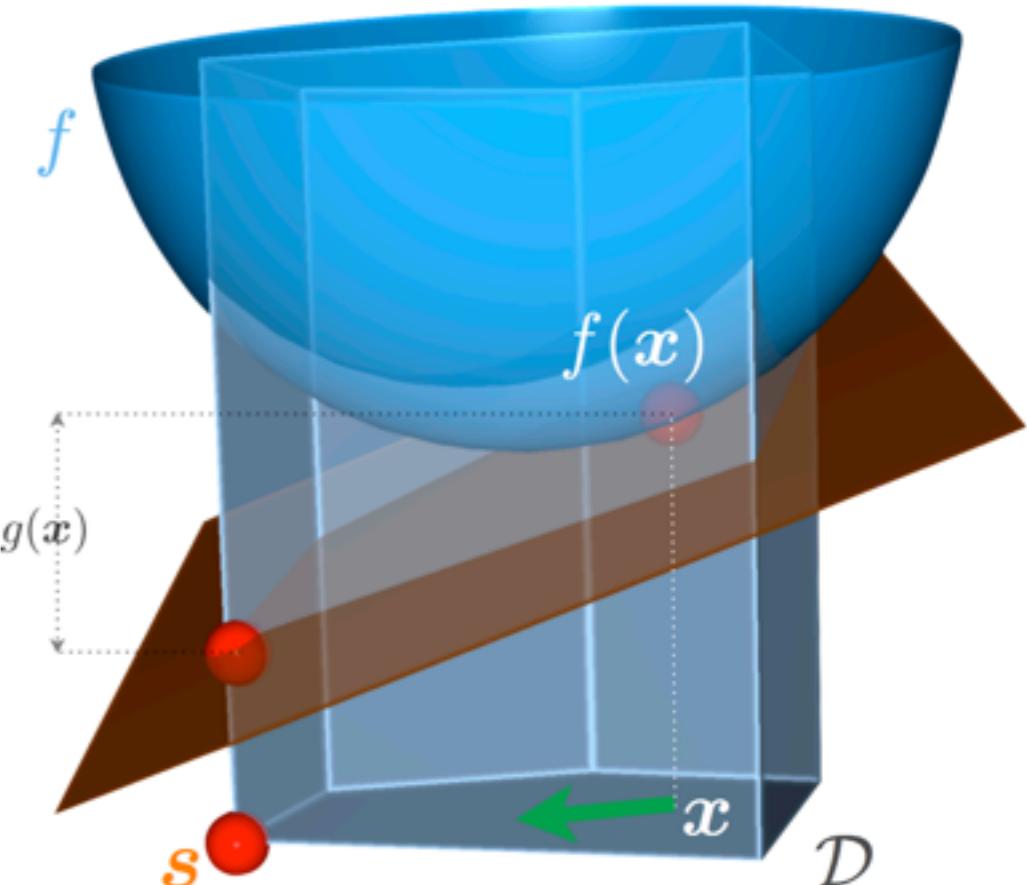
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# Frank-Wolfe

Convex optimization on a polytope  $D$

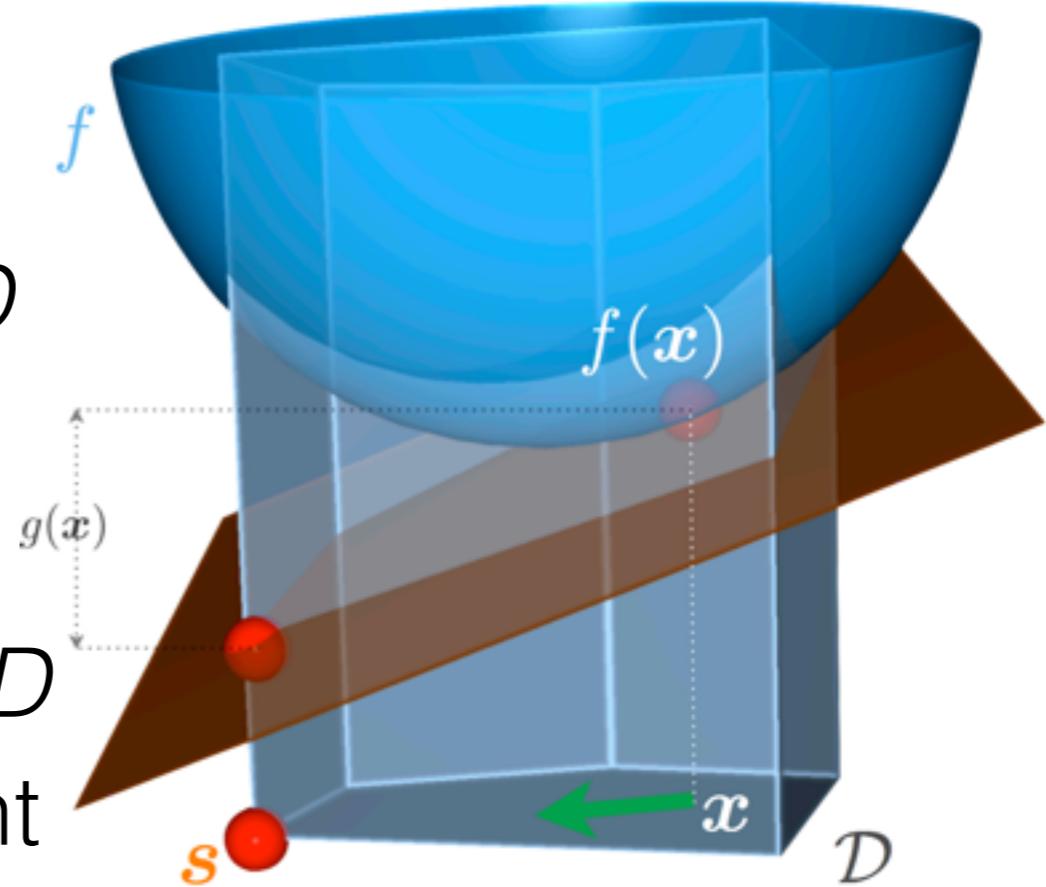


[Jaggi 2013]

# Frank-Wolfe

Convex optimization on a polytope  $D$

- Repeat:
  1. Find gradient
  2. Find argmin point on plane in  $D$
  3. Do line search between current point and argmin point

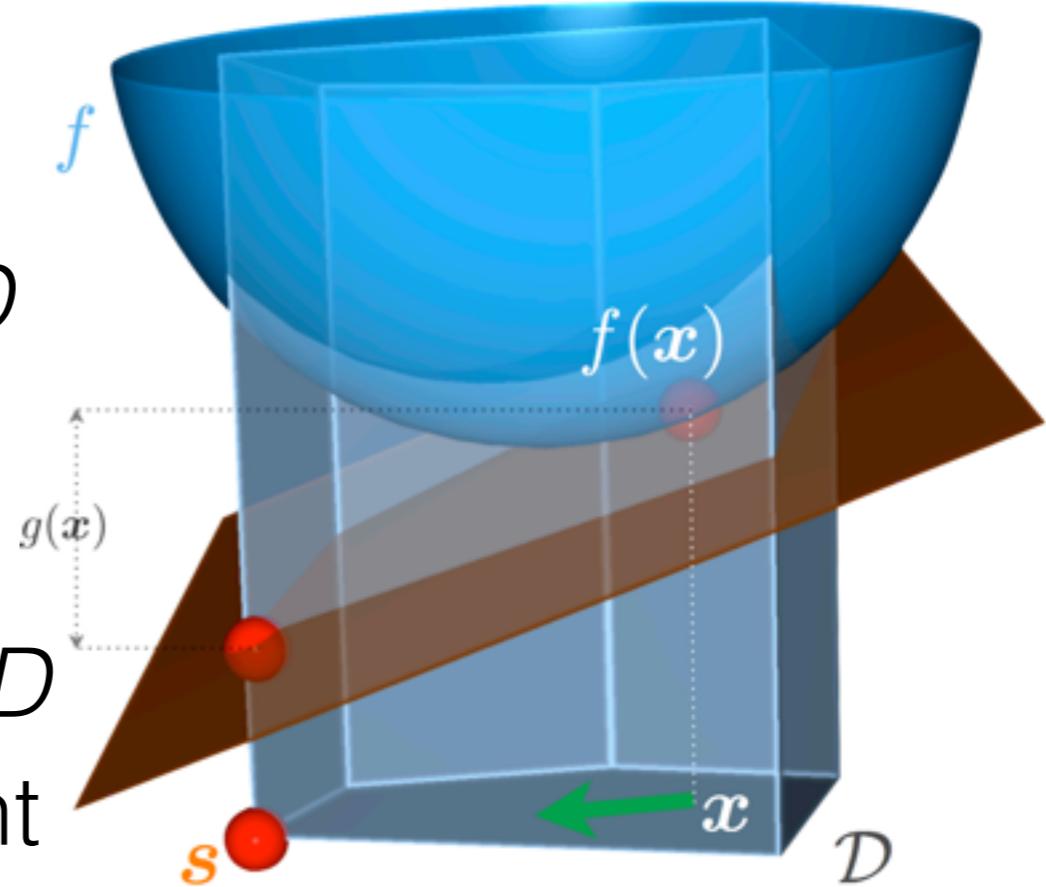


[Jaggi 2013]

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Convex optimization on a polytope  $D$

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- Convex combination of  $M$  vertices after  $M-1$  steps

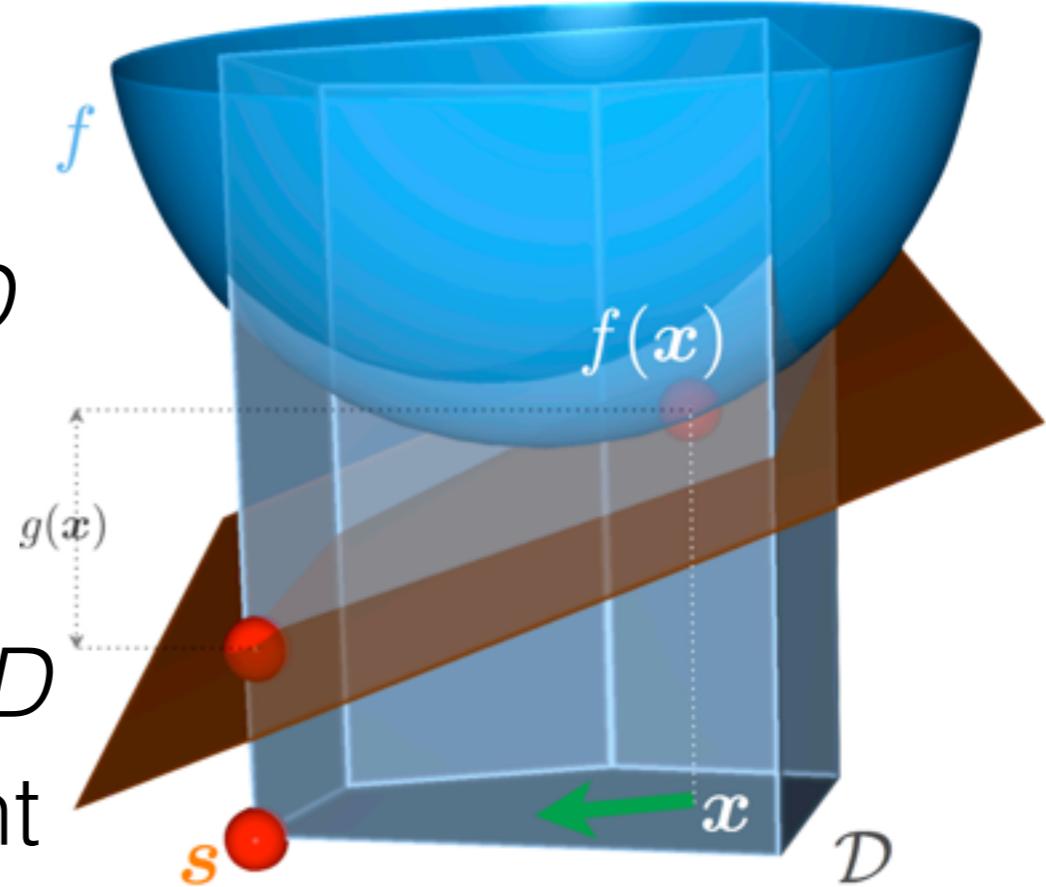


[Jaggi 2013]

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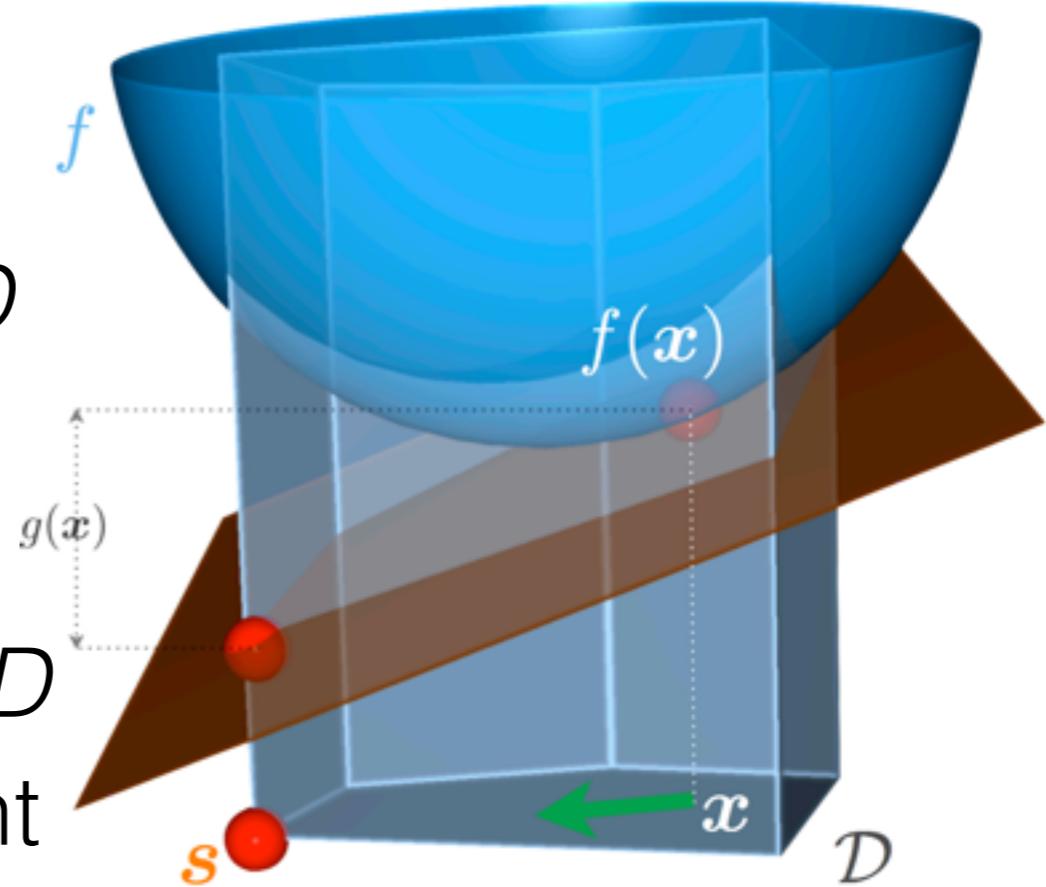


[Jaggi 2013]

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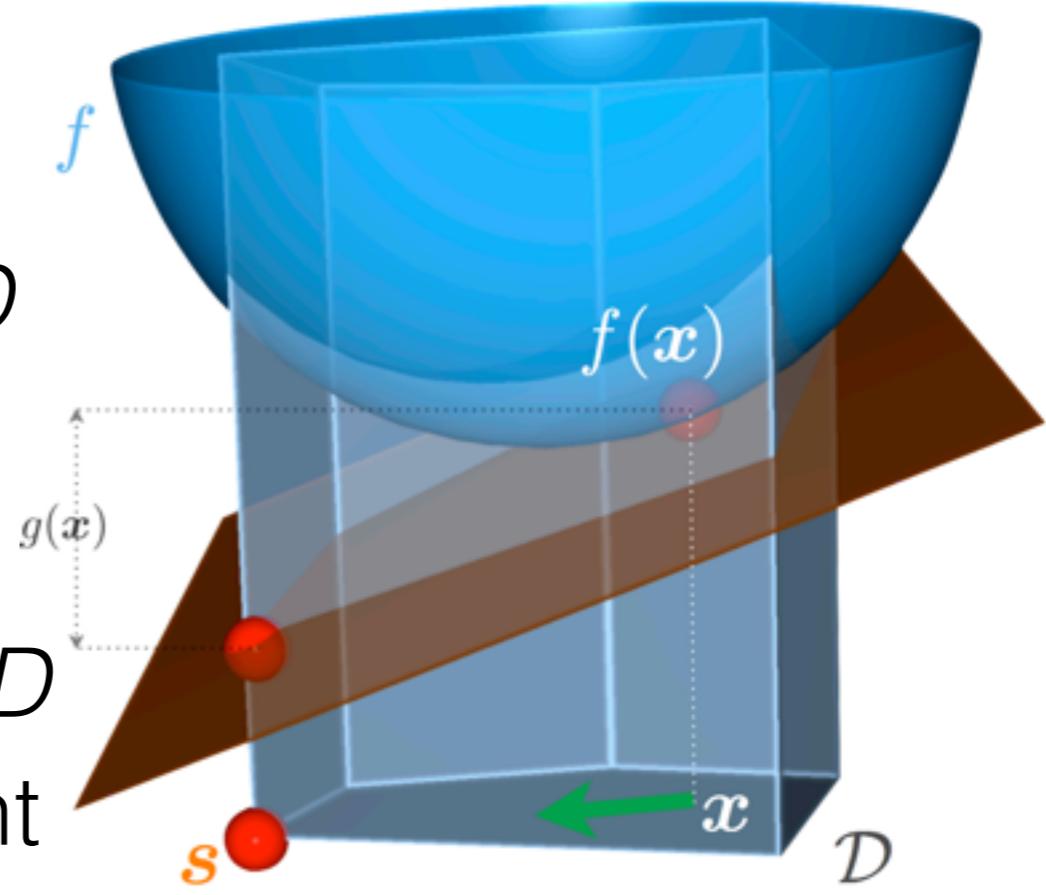


[Jaggi 2013]

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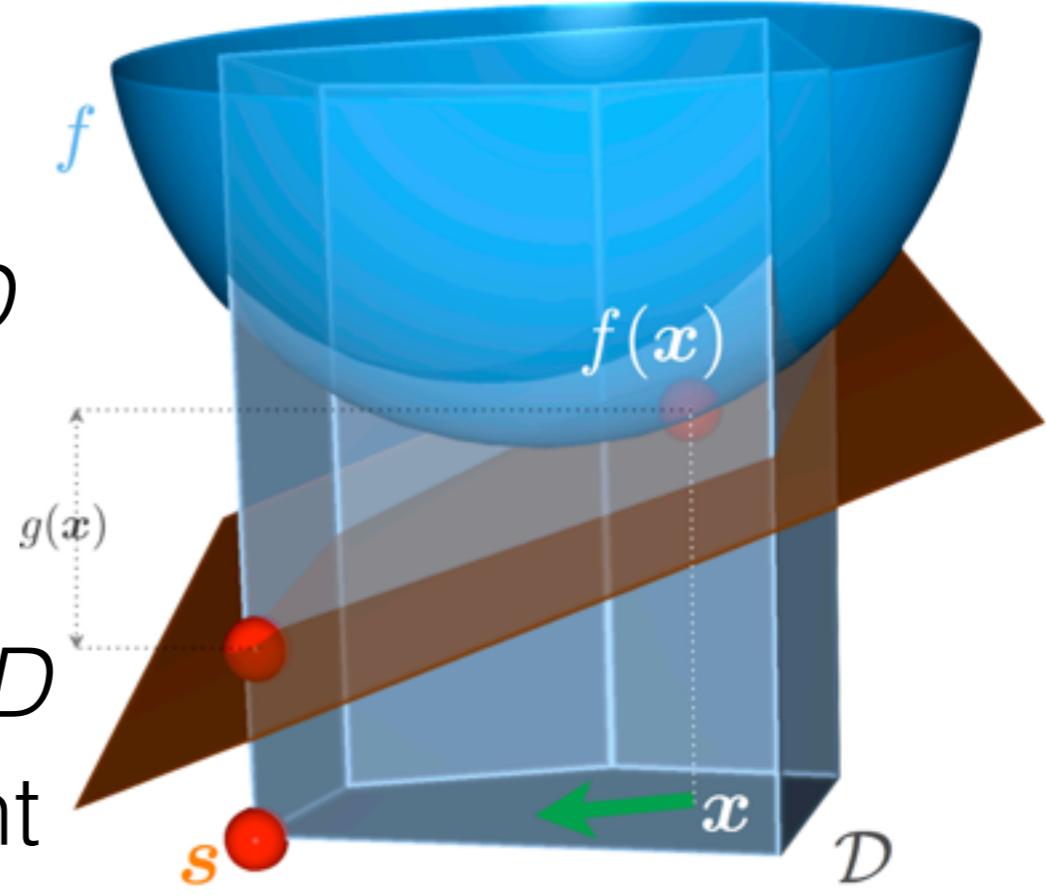
[Jaggi 2013]

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Convex optimization on a polytope  $D$

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[Jaggi 2013]

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- Our problem:

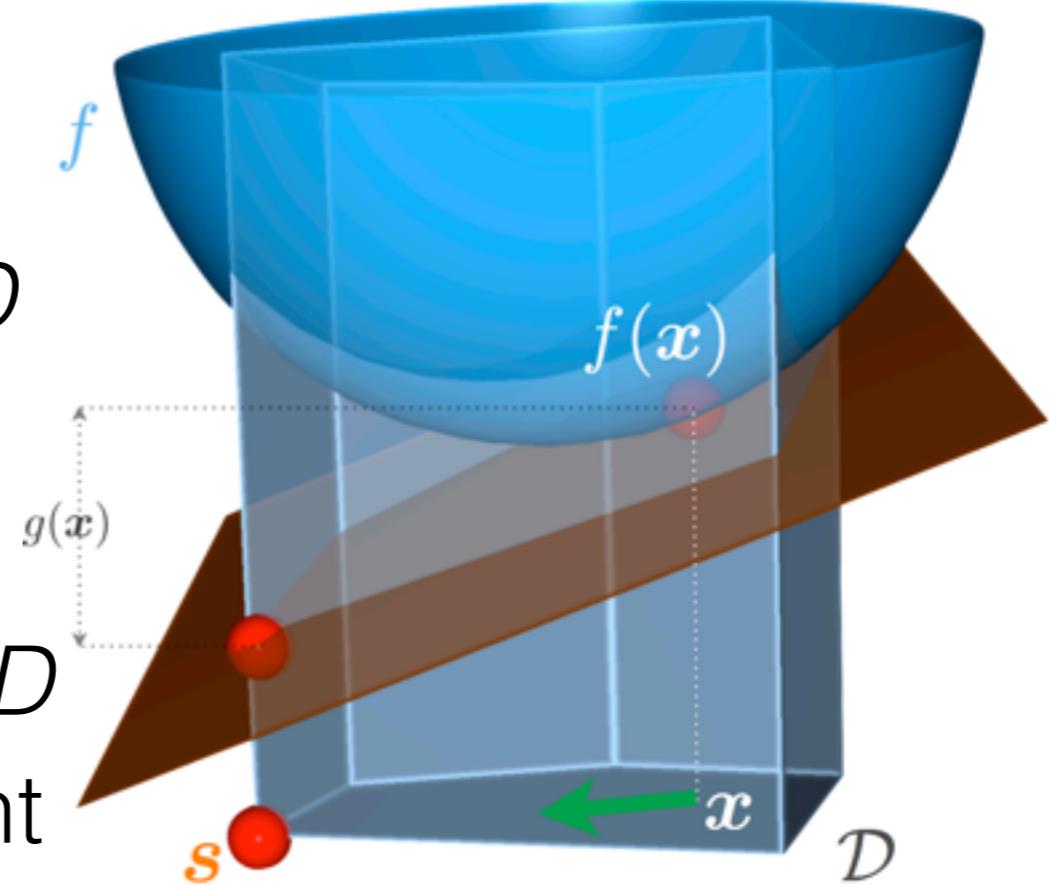
$$\min_{w \in \mathbb{R}^N} \|\mathcal{L}(w) - \mathcal{L}\|^2$$

$$\Delta^{N-1} := \left\{ w \in \mathbb{R}^N : \sum_{n=1}^N \sigma_n w_n = \sigma, w \geq 0 \right\}$$

# Frank-Wolfe

Convex optimization on a polytope  $D$

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[Jaggi 2013]

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- Our problem:

$$\min_{w \in \mathbb{R}^N} \|\mathcal{L}(w) - \mathcal{L}\|^2$$
$$\Delta^{N-1} := \left\{ w \in \mathbb{R}^N : \sum_{n=1}^N \sigma_n w_n = \sigma, w \geq 0 \right\}$$

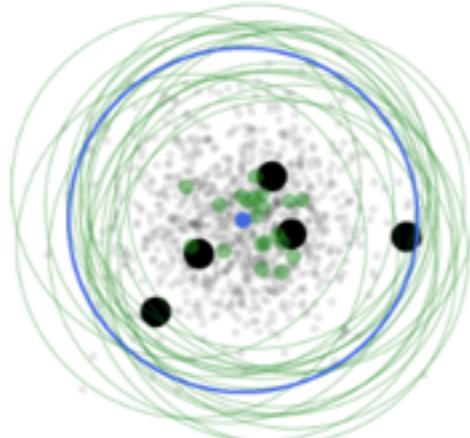
**Thm sketch (CB).** After  $M$  iterations,

$$\|\mathcal{L}(w) - \mathcal{L}\| \leq \frac{\sigma \bar{\eta}}{\sqrt{\alpha^{2M} + M}}$$

# Gaussian model (simulated)

- 10K pts; norms, inference: closed-form

Uniform  
subsampling

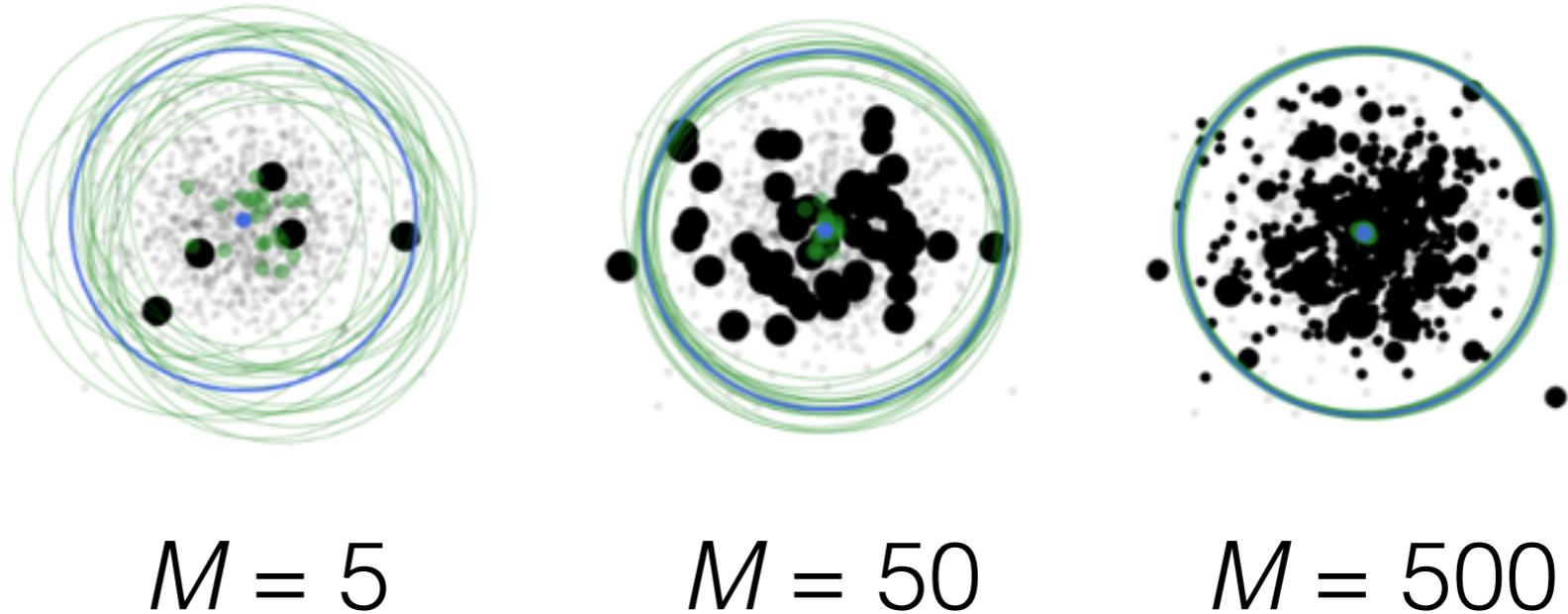


$$M = 5$$

# Gaussian model (simulated)

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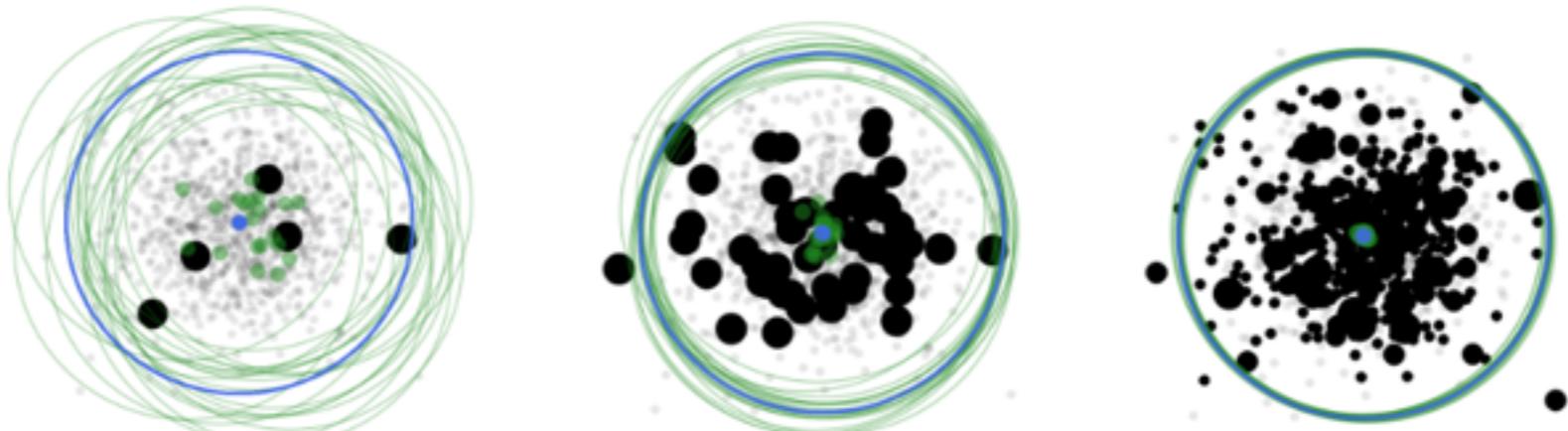
Uniform  
subsampling



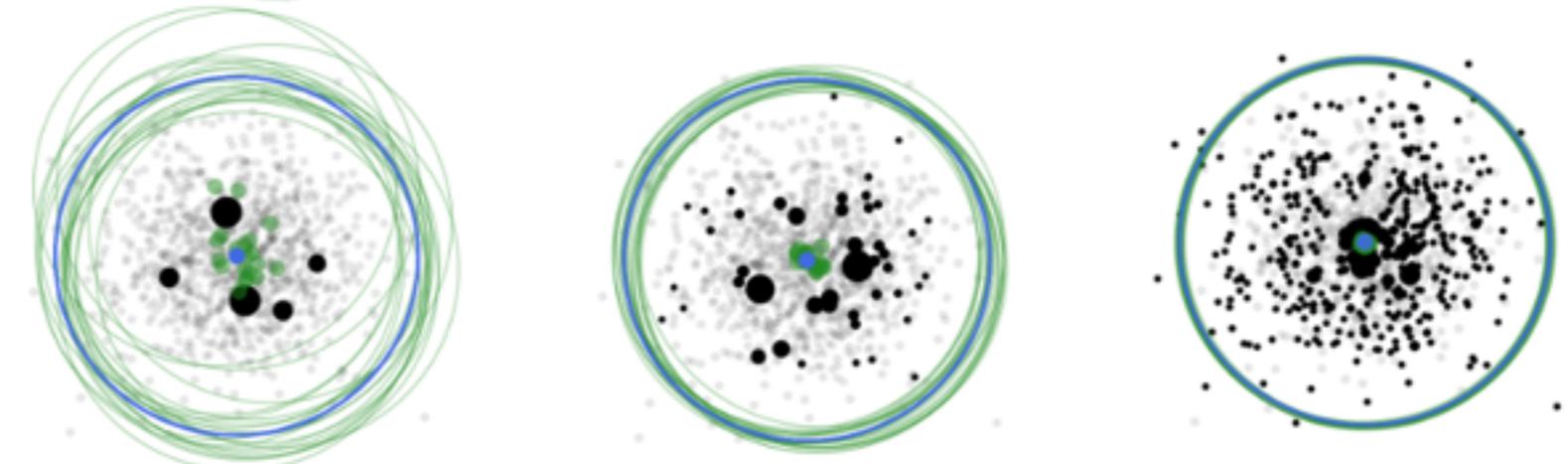
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Uniform  
subsampling



Importance  
sampling



$M = 5$

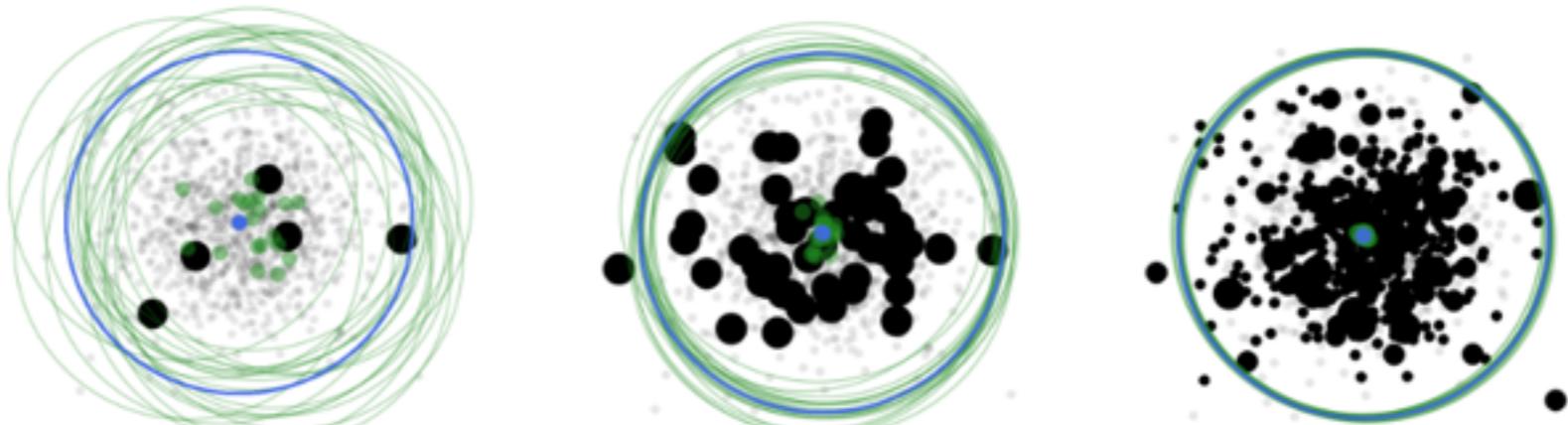
$M = 50$

$M = 500$

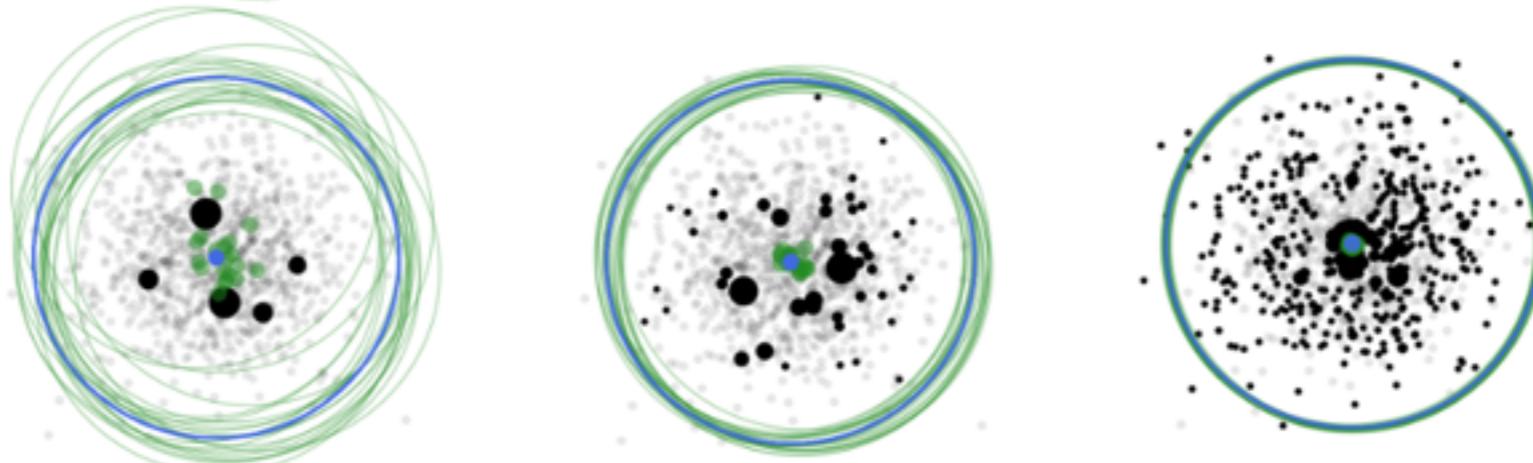
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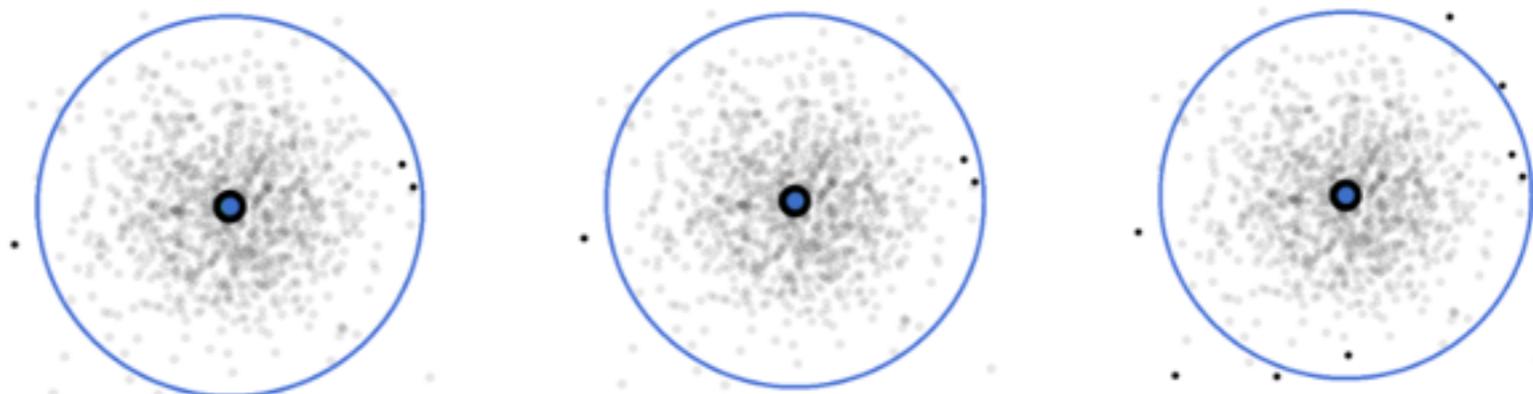
Uniform  
subsampling



Importance  
sampling



Frank-Wolfe



$M = 5$

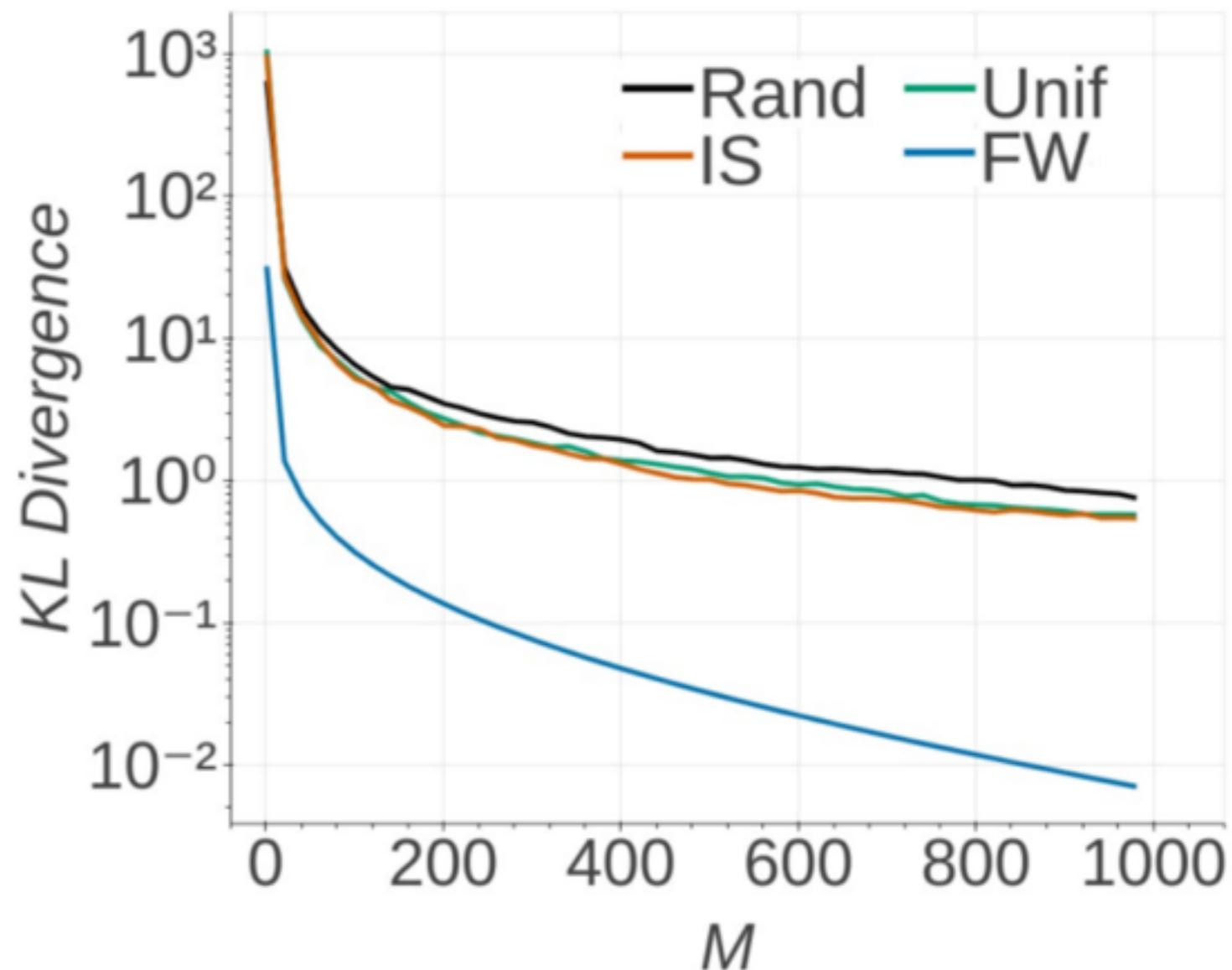
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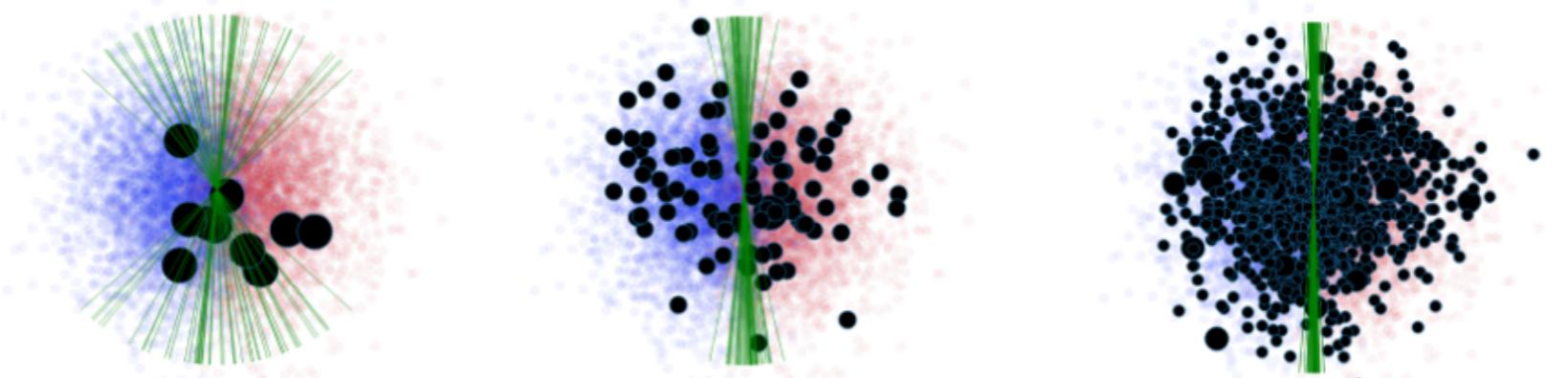
lower  
error



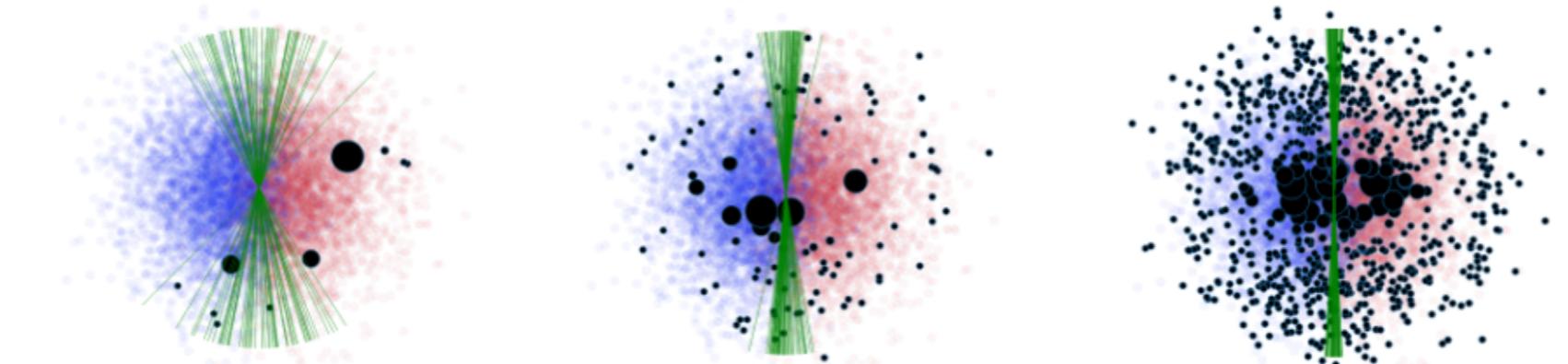
# Logistic regression (simulated)

- 10K pts; general inference

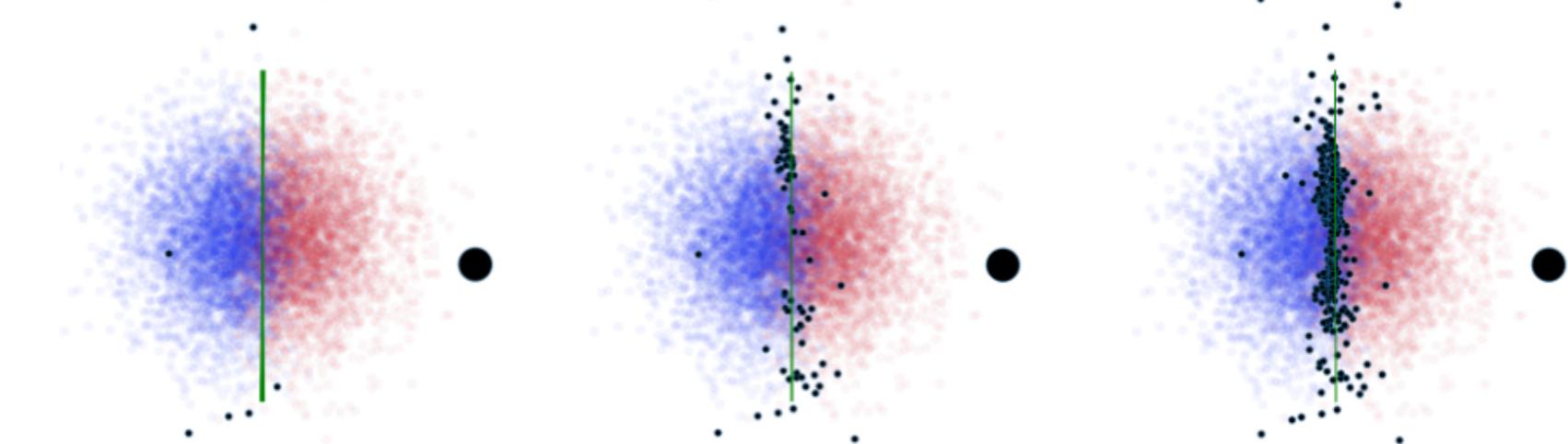
Uniform  
subsampling



Importance  
sampling



Frank-Wolfe



$M = 10$

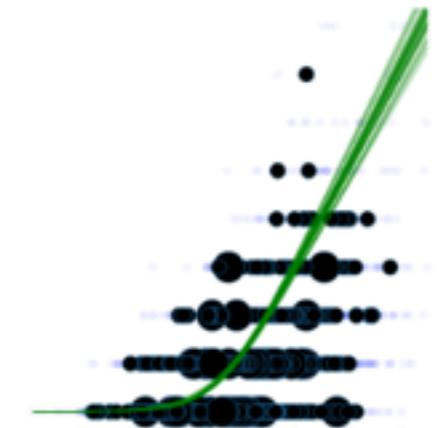
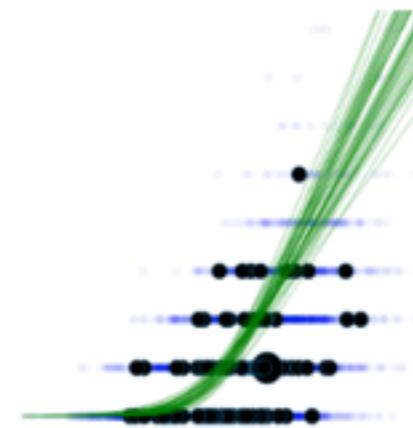
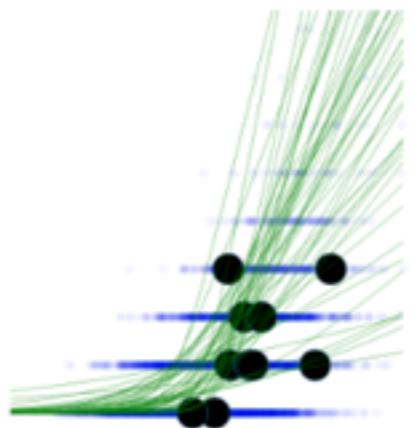
$M = 100$

$M = 1000$

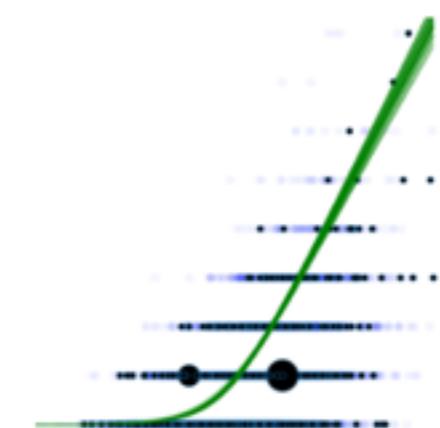
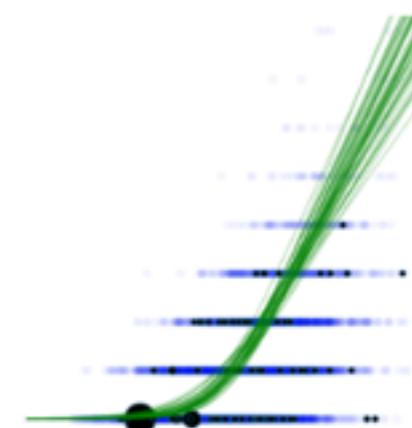
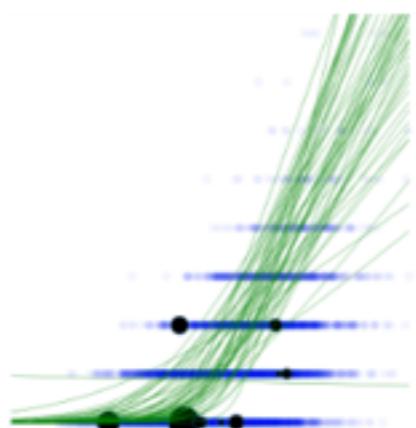
# Poisson regression (simulated)

- 10K pts; general inference

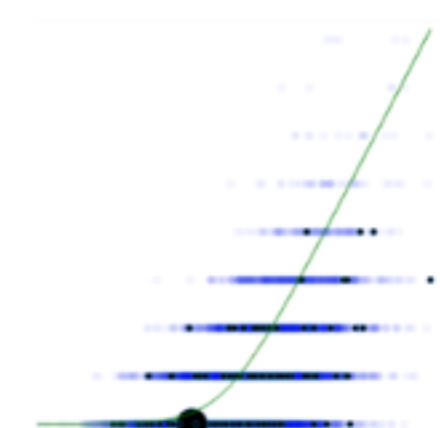
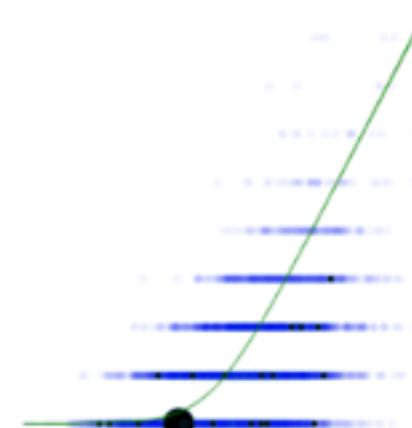
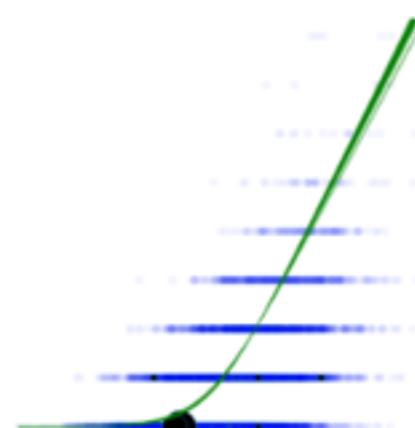
Uniform  
subsampling



Importance  
sampling



Frank-Wolfe



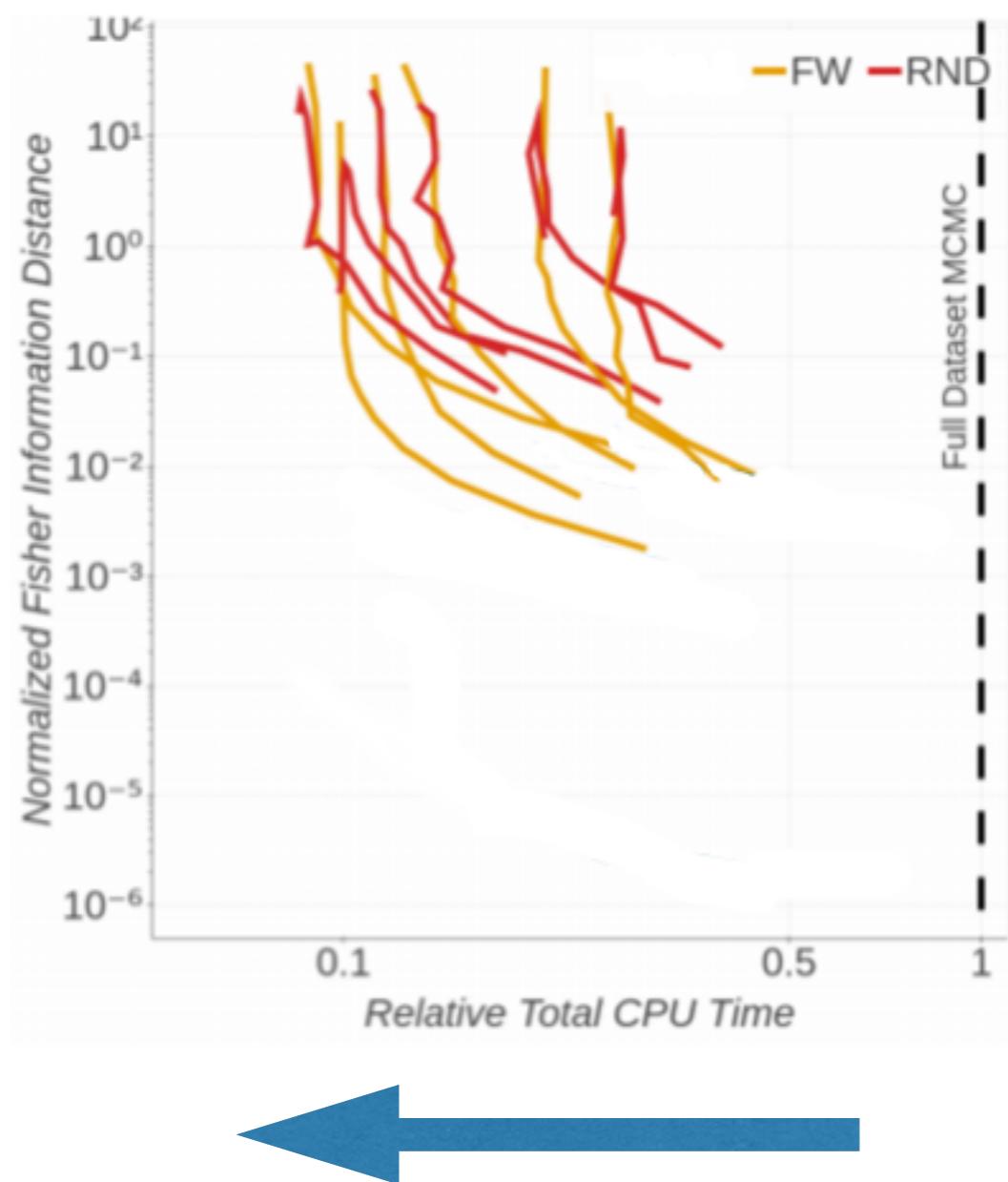
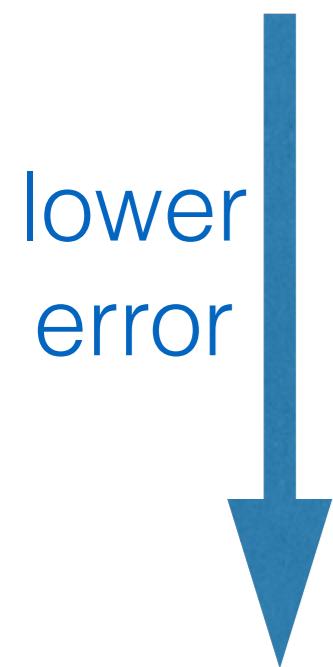
$M = 10$

$M = 100$

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# Real data experiments

lower error



less total time



Uniform  
subsampling

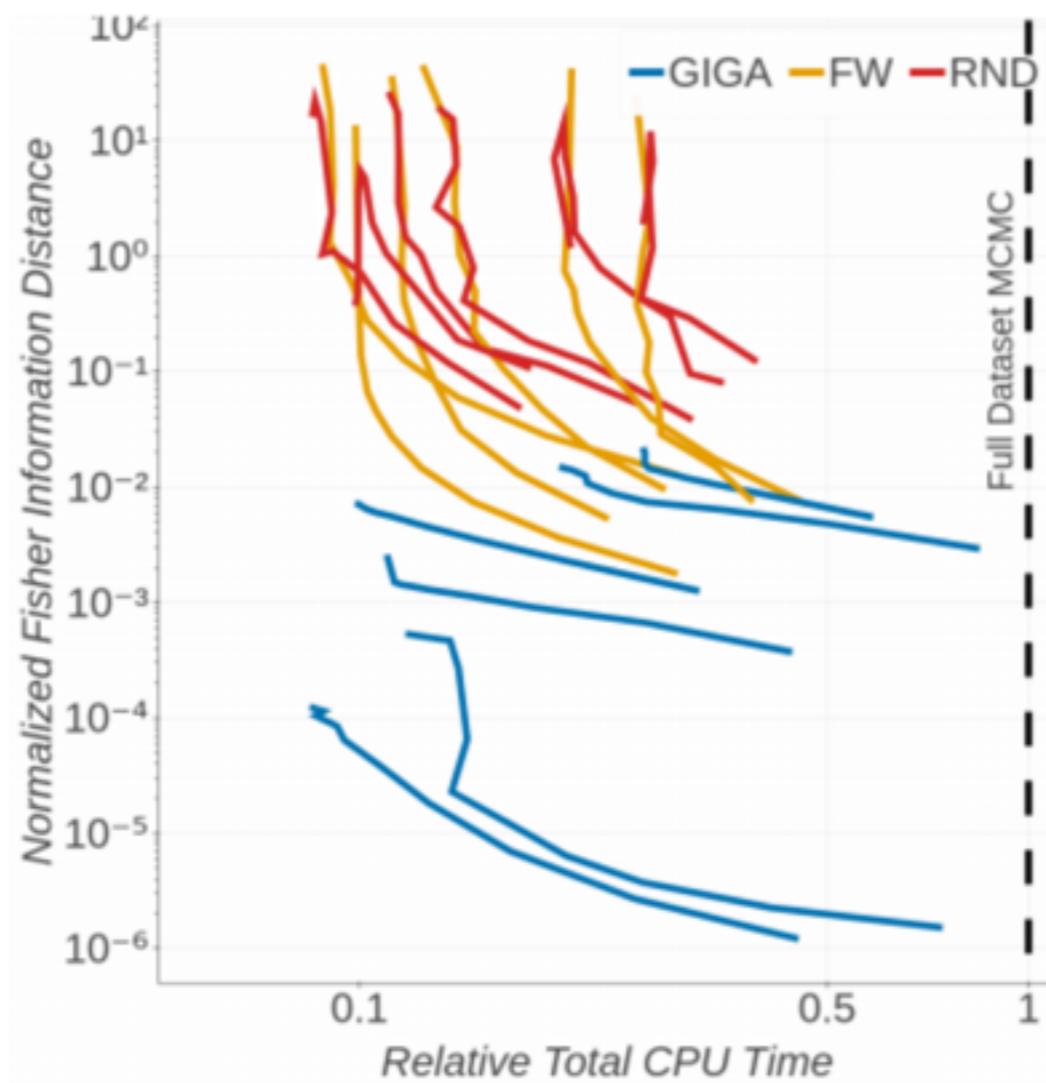
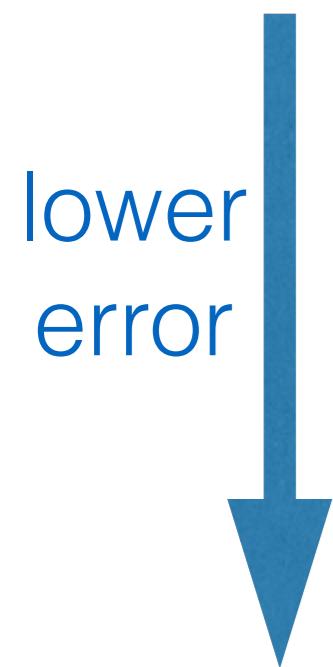
Frank Wolfe  
coresets

Data sets include:

- Phishing
- Chemical reactivity
- Bicycle trips
- Airport delays

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Frank Wolfe  
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GIGA coresets

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# Roadmap

- Approximate Bayes review
- The “core” of the data set
- Uniform data subsampling isn’t enough
- Importance sampling for “coresets”
- Optimization for “coresets”
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    - Likelihood  $p(y_{1:N}|x_{1:N}, \theta) = \prod_{n=1}^N \frac{1}{1 + \exp(-y_n x_n \cdot \theta)}$
  - Our proposal: (polynomial) *approximate* sufficient statistics

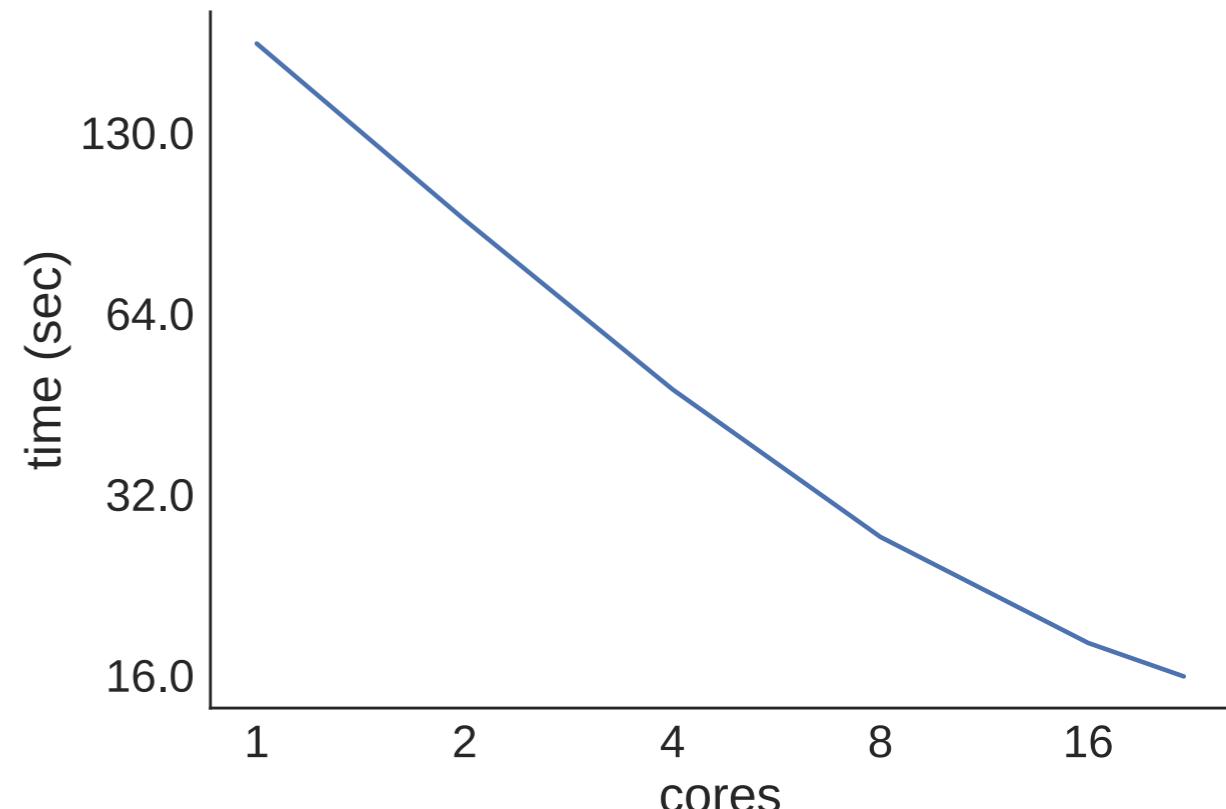
# Data summarization

Criteo Labs > Algorithms > Criteo Releases its New Dataset

## Criteo Releases its New Dataset

By: CriteoLabs / 31 Mar 2015

- 6M data points, 1000 features
- Streaming, distributed; minimal communication
- 22 cores, 16 sec
- Finite-data guarantees on Wasserstein distance to exact posterior



[Huggins, Adams, Broderick 2017]

# Conclusions

- *Data summarization* for **scalable, automated** approx. Bayes algorithms with **error bounds on quality for finite data**
  - Get more accurate with more computation investment
  - Coresets
  - Approx. suff. stats

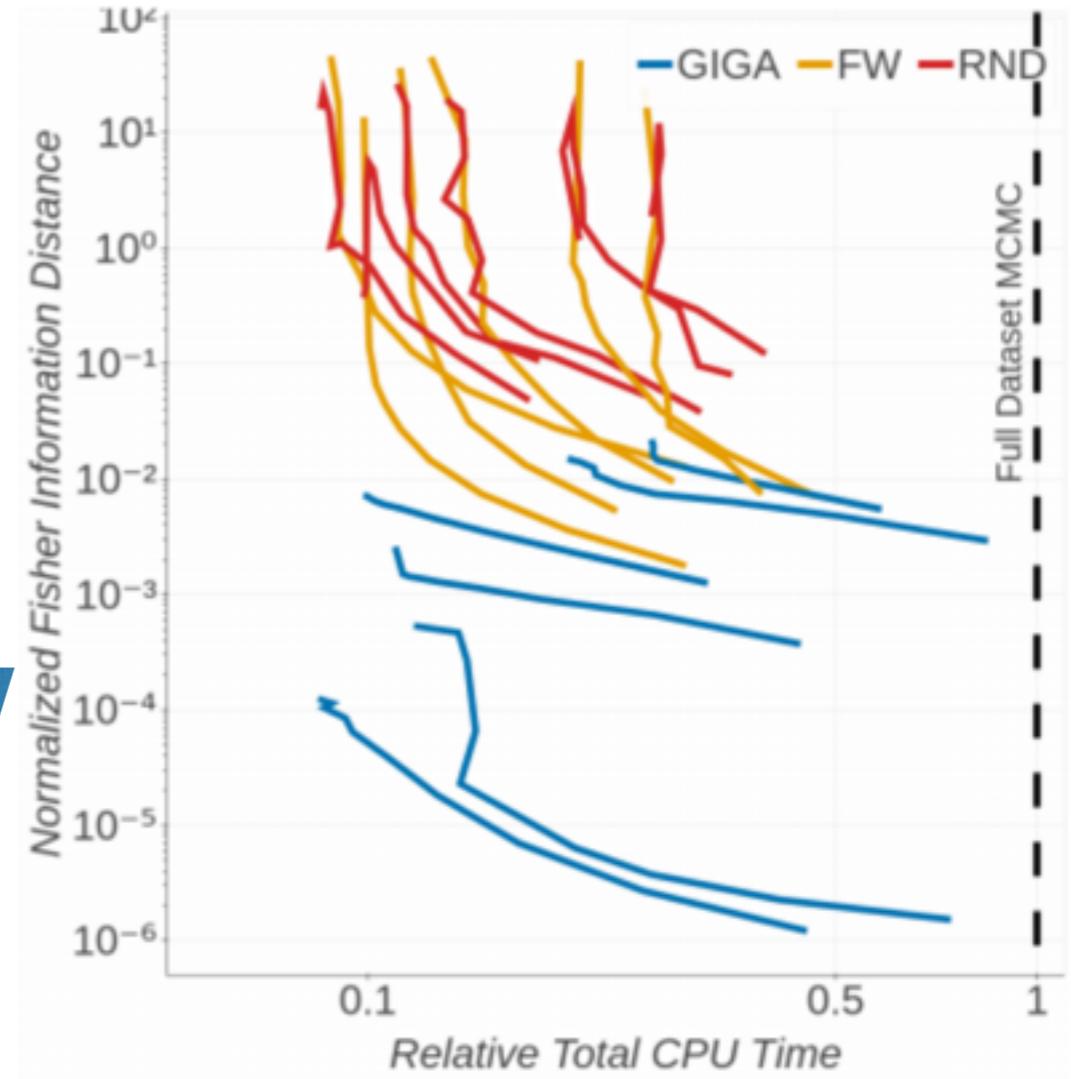
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[Campbell, Broderick 2018]

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**T Campbell and T Broderick. Automated scalable Bayesian inference via Hilbert coresets. Under review. ArXiv:1710.05053.**

T Campbell and T Broderick. Bayesian Coreset Construction via Greedy Iterative Geodesic Ascent. *ICML* 2018.

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Meager, Rachael. "Aggregating Distributional Treatment Effects: A Bayesian Hierarchical Analysis of the Microcredit Literature." Working paper, 2018b.

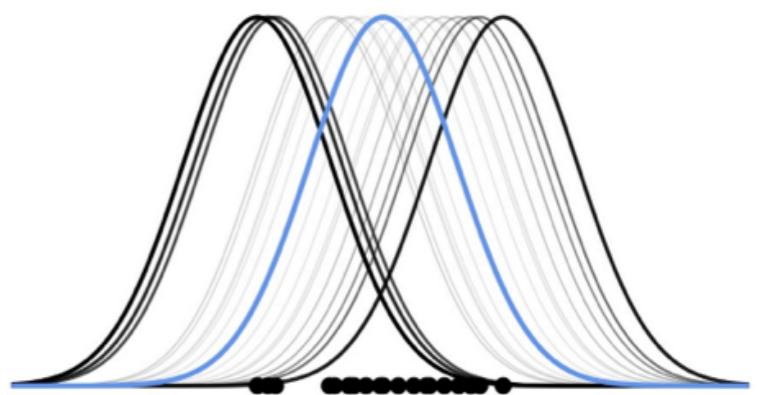
Webb, Steve, James Caverlee, and Calton Pu. "Introducing the Webb Spam Corpus: Using Email Spam to Identify Web Spam Automatically." In *CEAS*. 2006.

# Additional image references (5/5)

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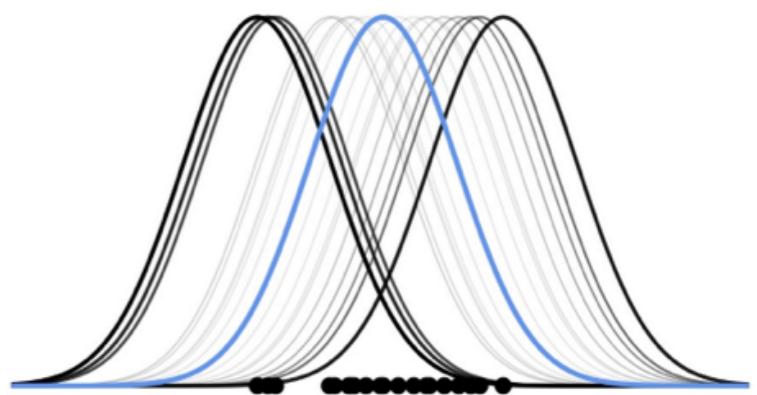
J. Herzog. 3 June 2016, 17:17:30. Obtained from: [https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Airbus\\_A350-941\\_F-WWCF\\_MSN002ILA\\_Berlin\\_2016\\_17.jpg](https://commons.wikimedia.org/wiki/File:Airbus_A350-941_F-WWCF_MSN002ILA_Berlin_2016_17.jpg) (Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International License)

# Practicalities



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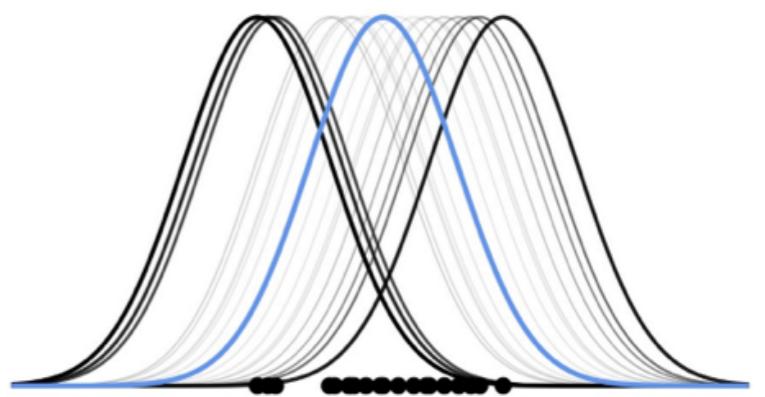
- Choice of norm



# Practicalities

- Choice of norm
  - E.g. (weighted) Fisher information distance

$$\|\mathcal{L}(w) - \mathcal{L}\|_{\hat{\pi}, F}^2 := \mathbb{E}_{\hat{\pi}} [\|\nabla \mathcal{L}(\theta) - \nabla \mathcal{L}(w, \theta)\|_2^2]$$



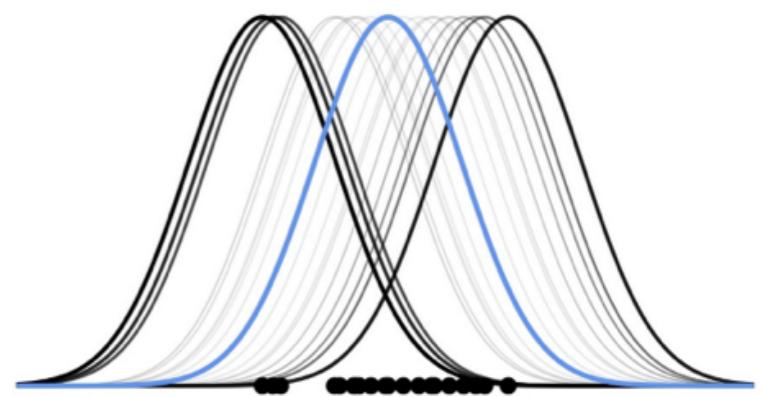
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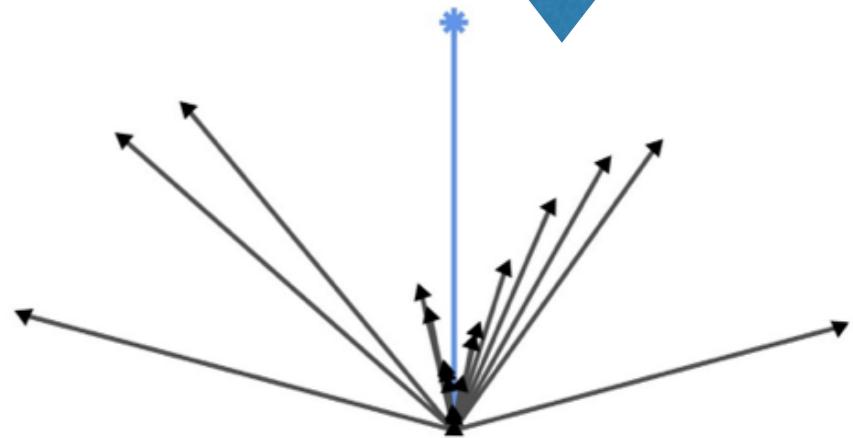
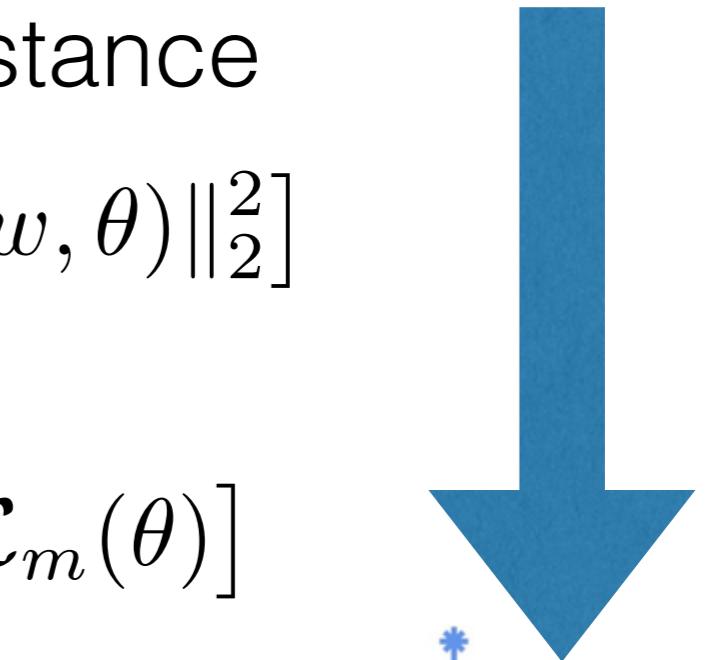
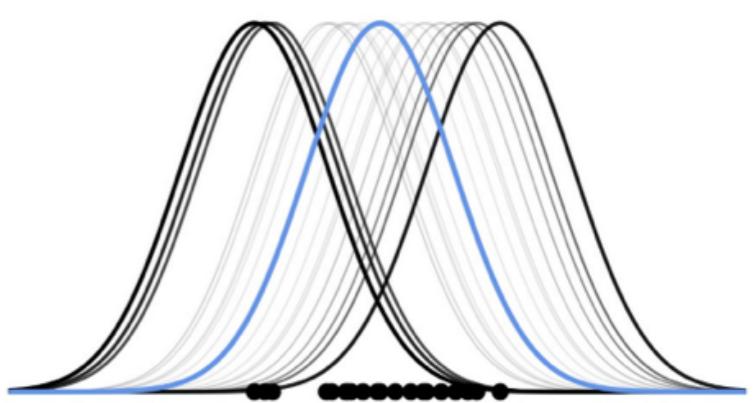
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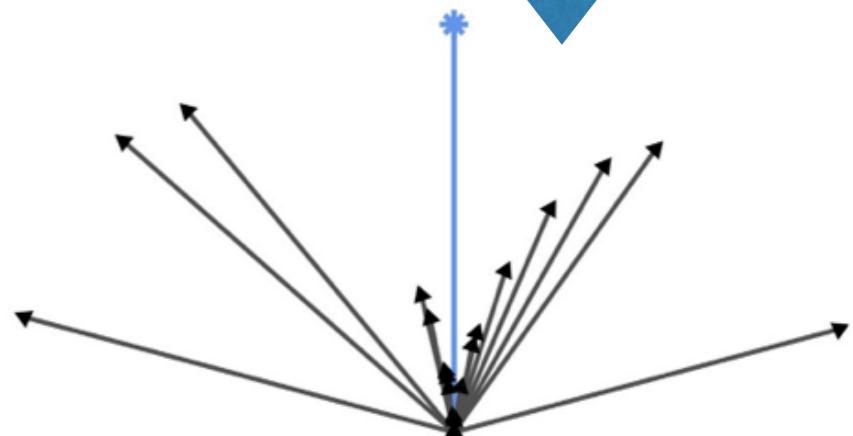
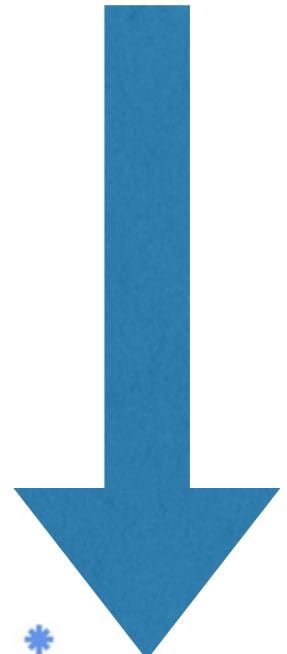
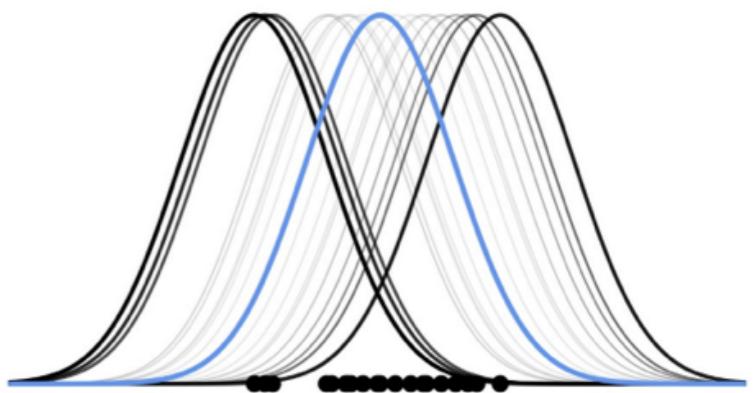


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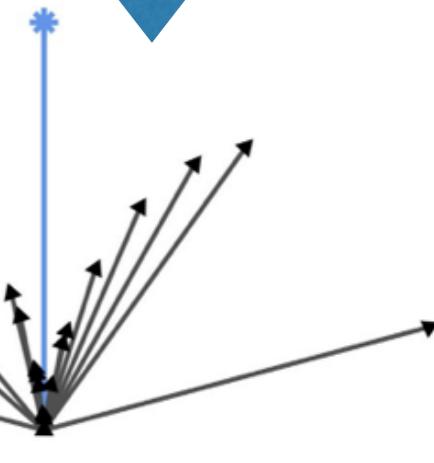
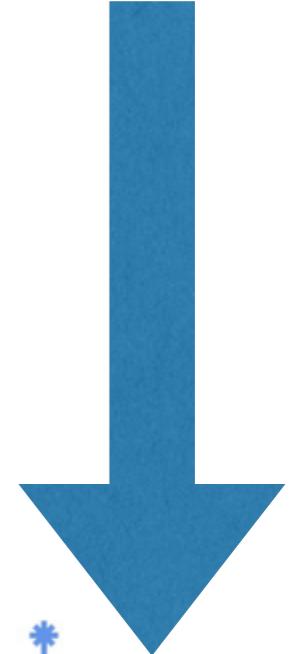
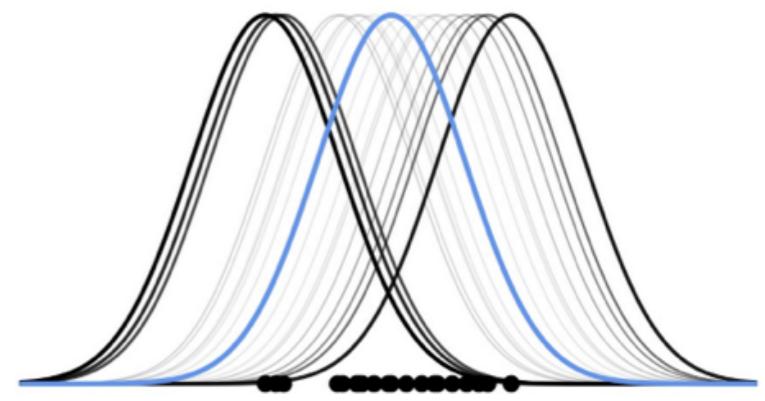
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$$\langle \mathcal{L}_n, \mathcal{L}_m \rangle_{\hat{\pi}, F} \approx \frac{D}{J} \sum_{j=1}^J (\nabla \mathcal{L}_n(\theta_j))_{d_j} (\nabla \mathcal{L}_m(\theta_j))_{d_j},$$

$d_j \stackrel{iid}{\sim} \text{Unif}\{1, \dots, D\}, \theta_j \stackrel{iid}{\sim} \hat{\pi}$



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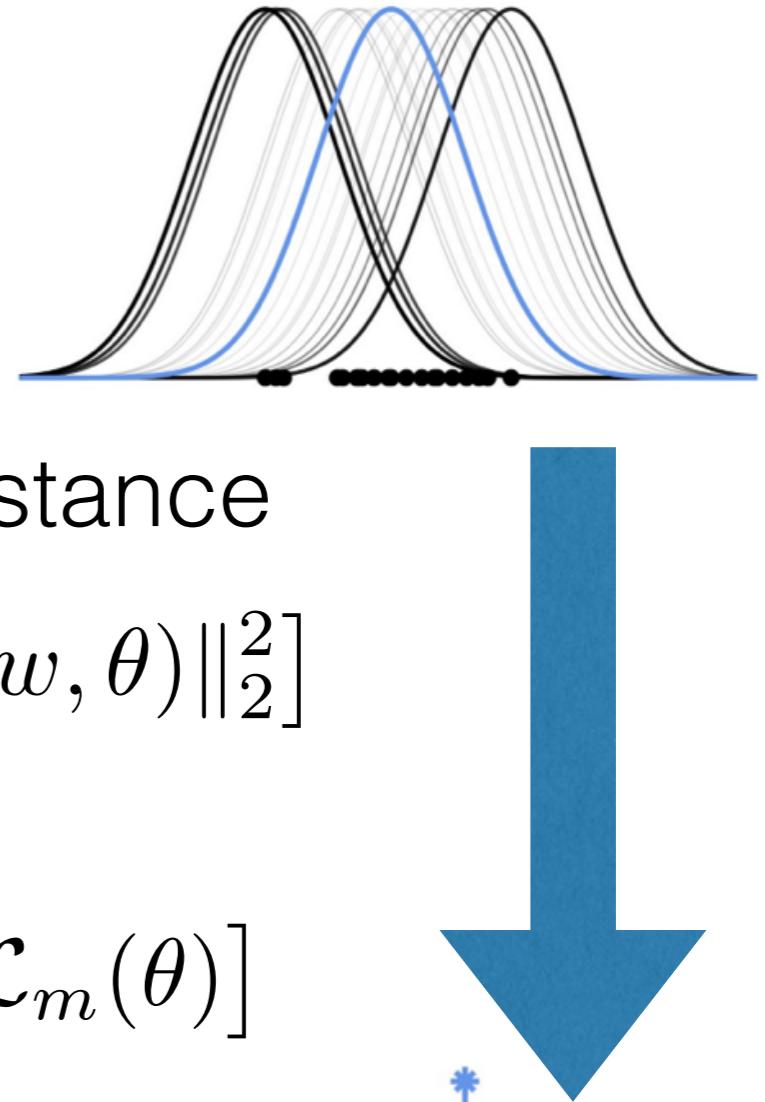
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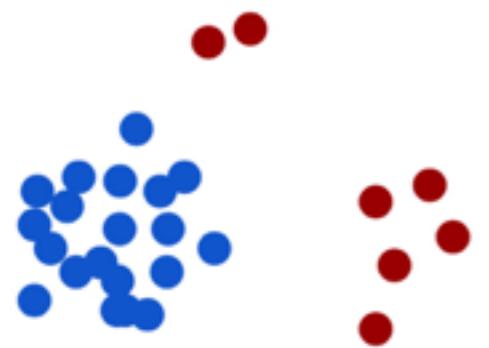
$$\langle \mathcal{L}_n, \mathcal{L}_m \rangle_{\hat{\pi}, F} \approx \frac{D}{J} \sum_{j=1}^J (\nabla \mathcal{L}_n(\theta_j))_{d_j} (\nabla \mathcal{L}_m(\theta_j))_{d_j},$$

$d_j \stackrel{iid}{\sim} \text{Unif}\{1, \dots, D\}, \theta_j \stackrel{iid}{\sim} \hat{\pi}$



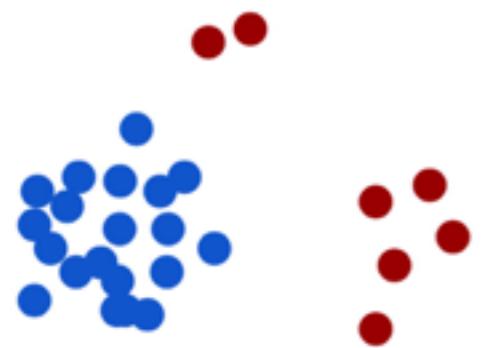
**Thm sketch (CB).** With high probability and large enough  $J$ , a good coresset after random feat. proj. is a good coresset for  $(\mathcal{L}_n)_{n=1}^N$

# Full pipeline



$N$   
dataset size

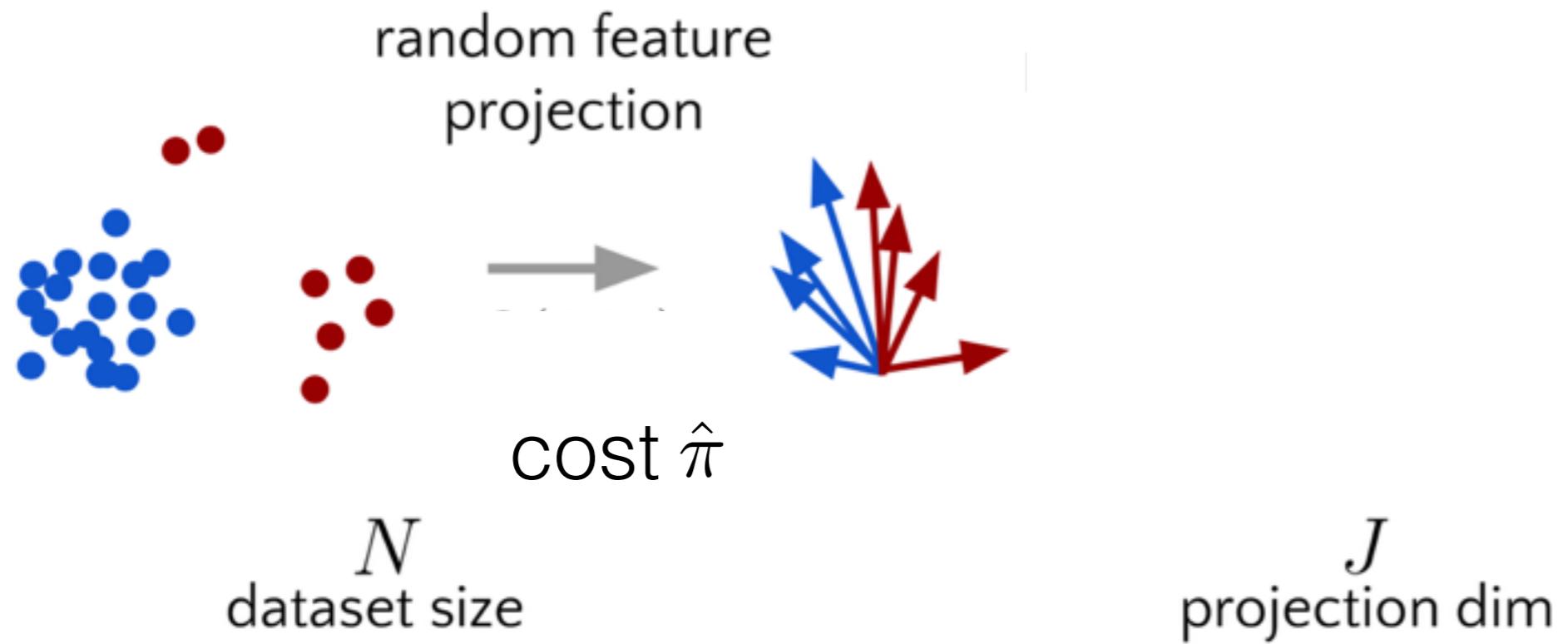
# Full pipeline



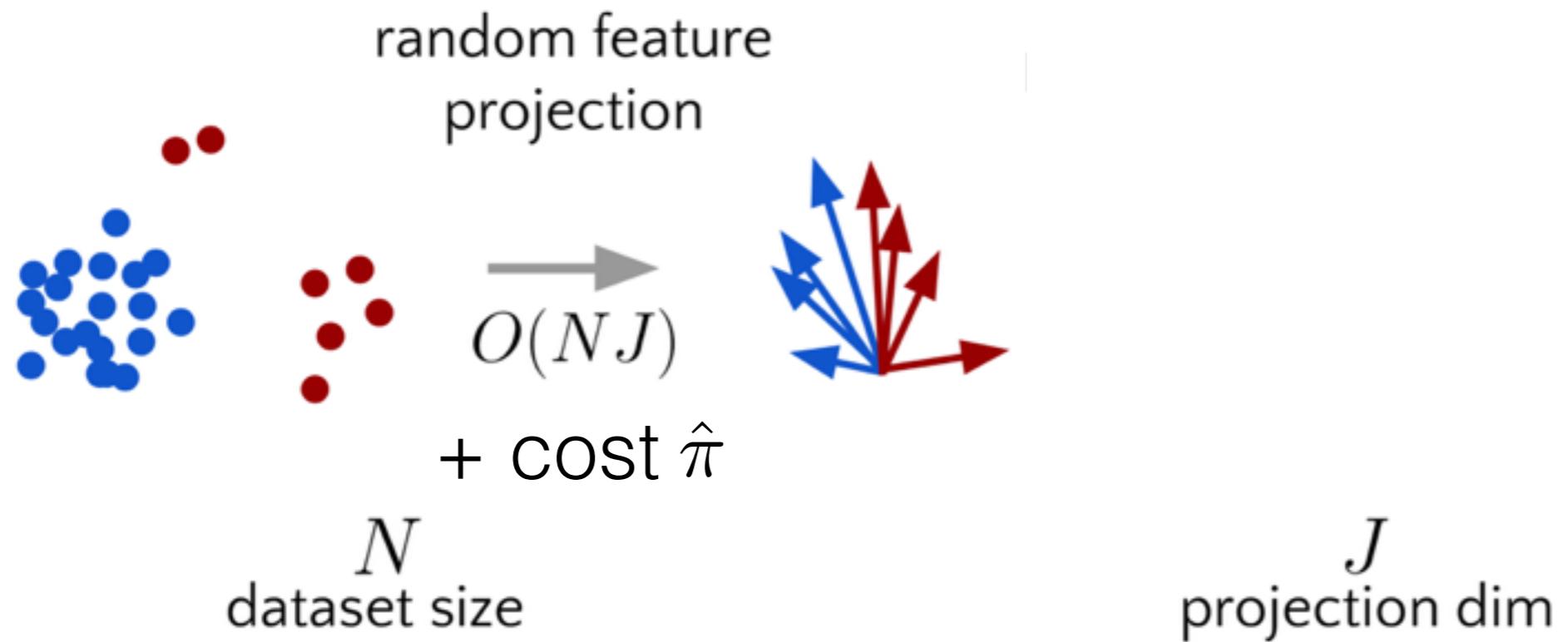
cost  $\hat{\pi}$

$N$   
dataset size

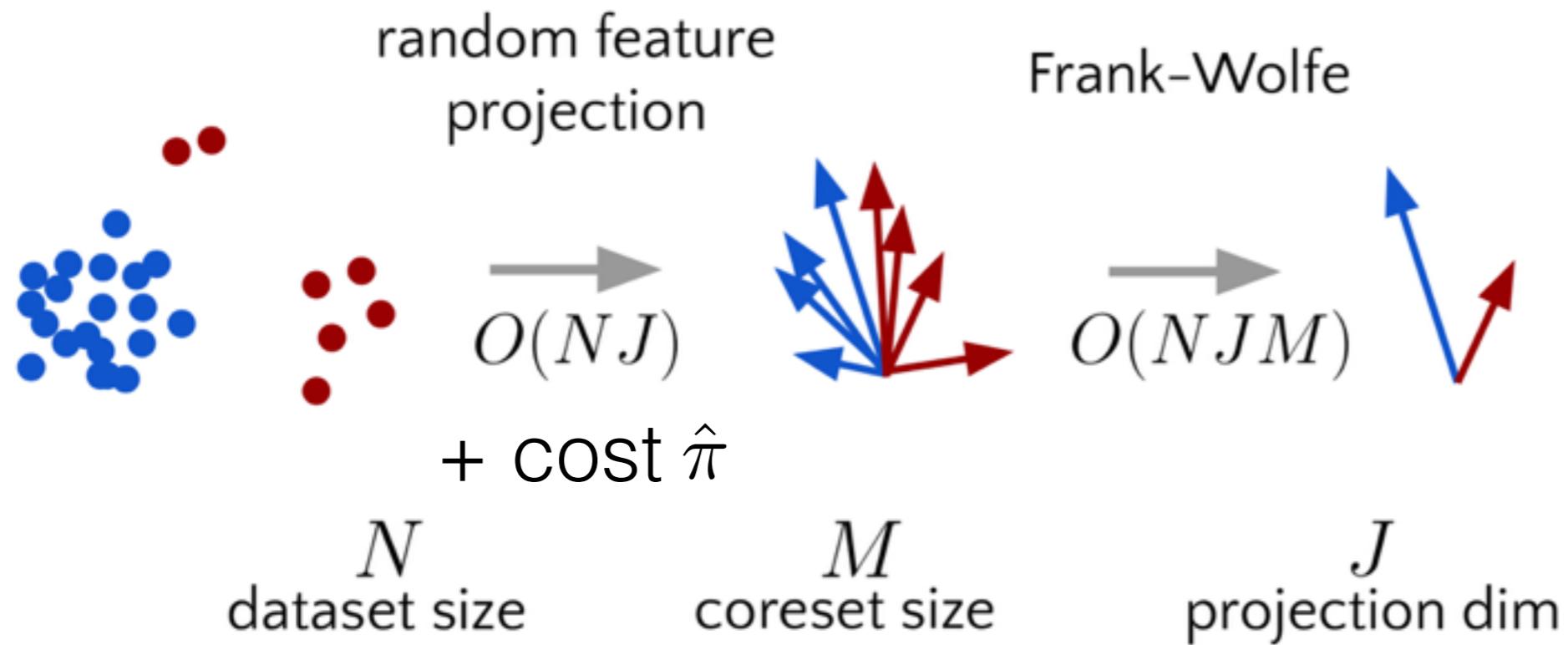
# Full pipeline



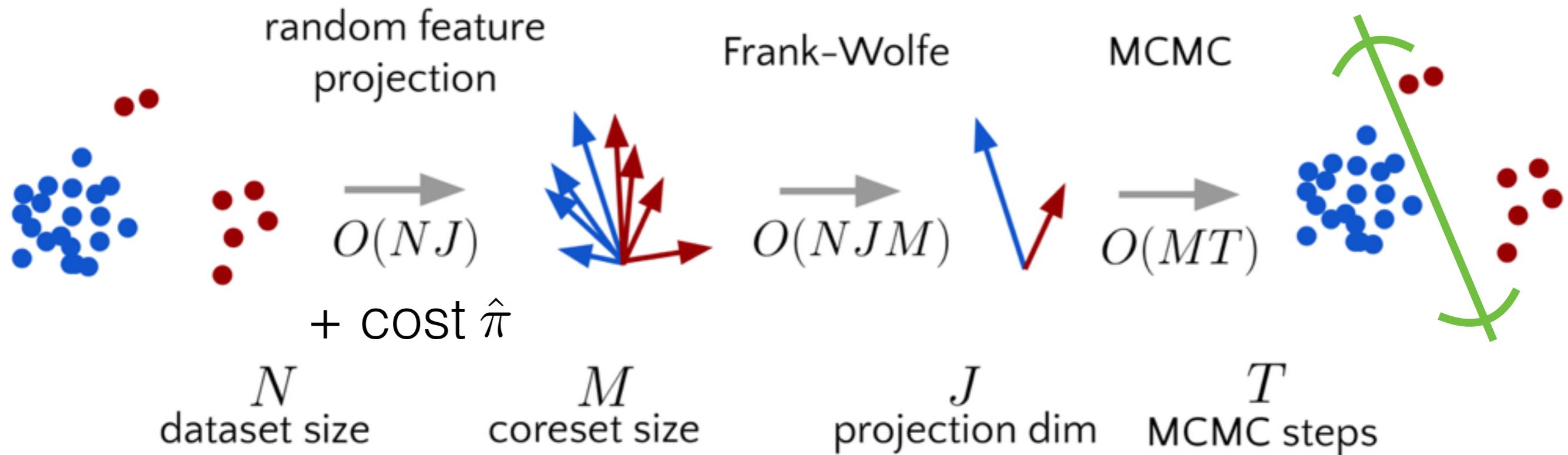
# Full pipeline



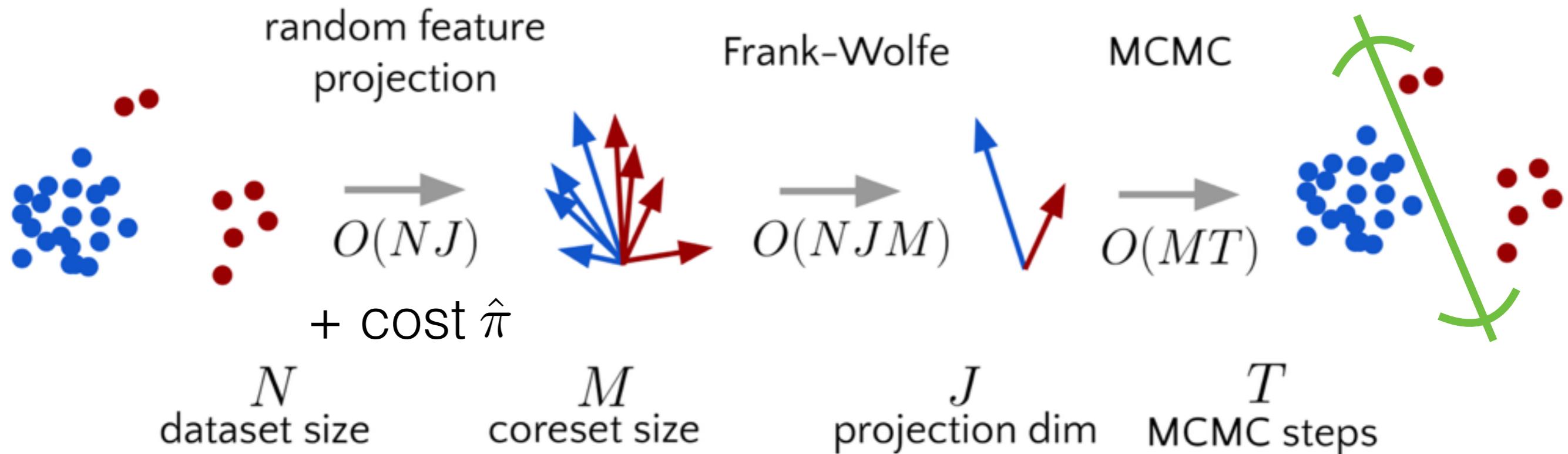
# Full pipeline



# Full pipeline

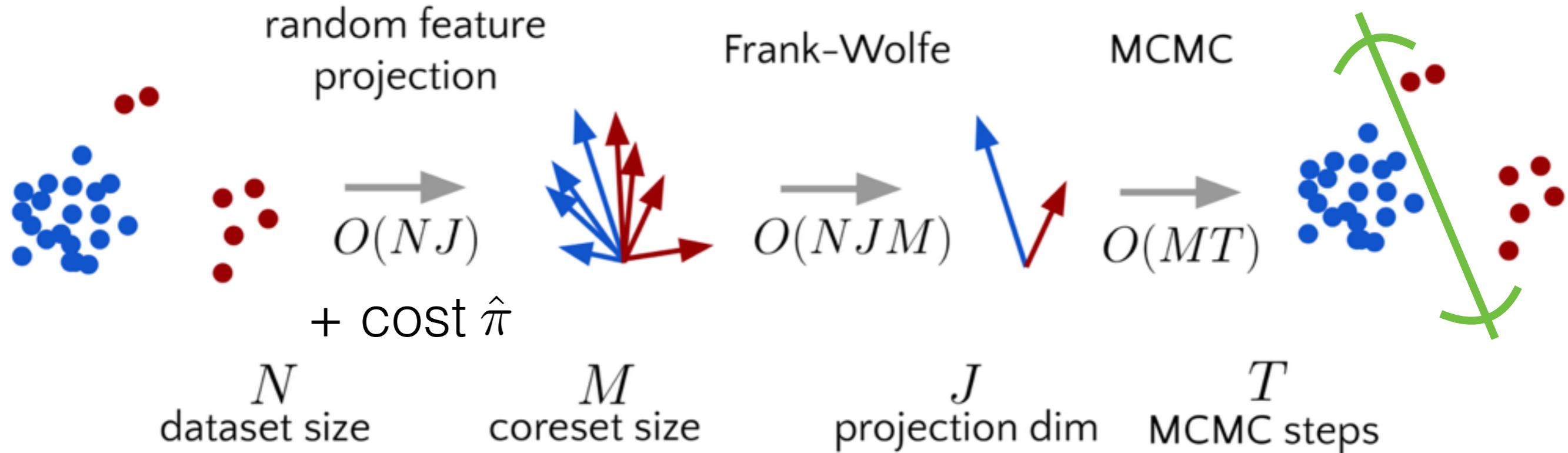


# Full pipeline



- vs.  $O(NT)$

# Full pipeline



- vs.  $O(NT)$
- Can make streaming, distributed