

# Improving Domain-specific Transfer Learning Applications for Image Recognition and Differential Equations

M.Sc. Thesis in Computer Science and Engineering

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Co-advisor: Prof. Pavlos Protopapas - Harvard University

# Agenda



INTRODUCTION



IMAGE RECOGNITION

$$\frac{\partial z}{\partial t}$$

DIFFERENTIAL EQUATIONS



CONCLUSIONS



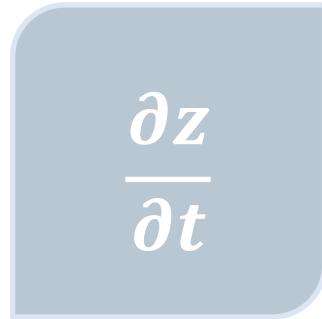
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# Context

Deep neural networks have become an indispensable tool for a wide range of applications.

They are extremely *data hungry* models and often require a lot of computational resources.

Can we reduce the training time?



**Transfer Learning!**



# Transfer Learning

A typical approach is using a pre-trained model as a starting point.  
[S. Pan and Q. Yang – 2010]

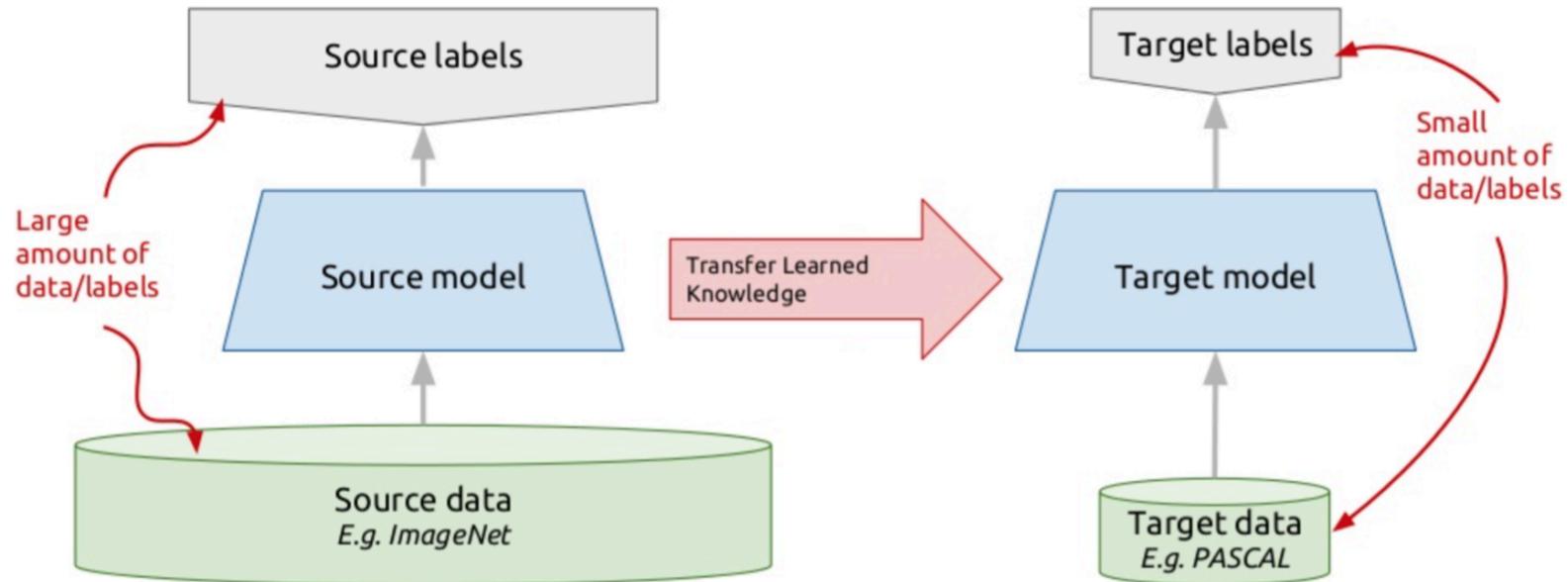
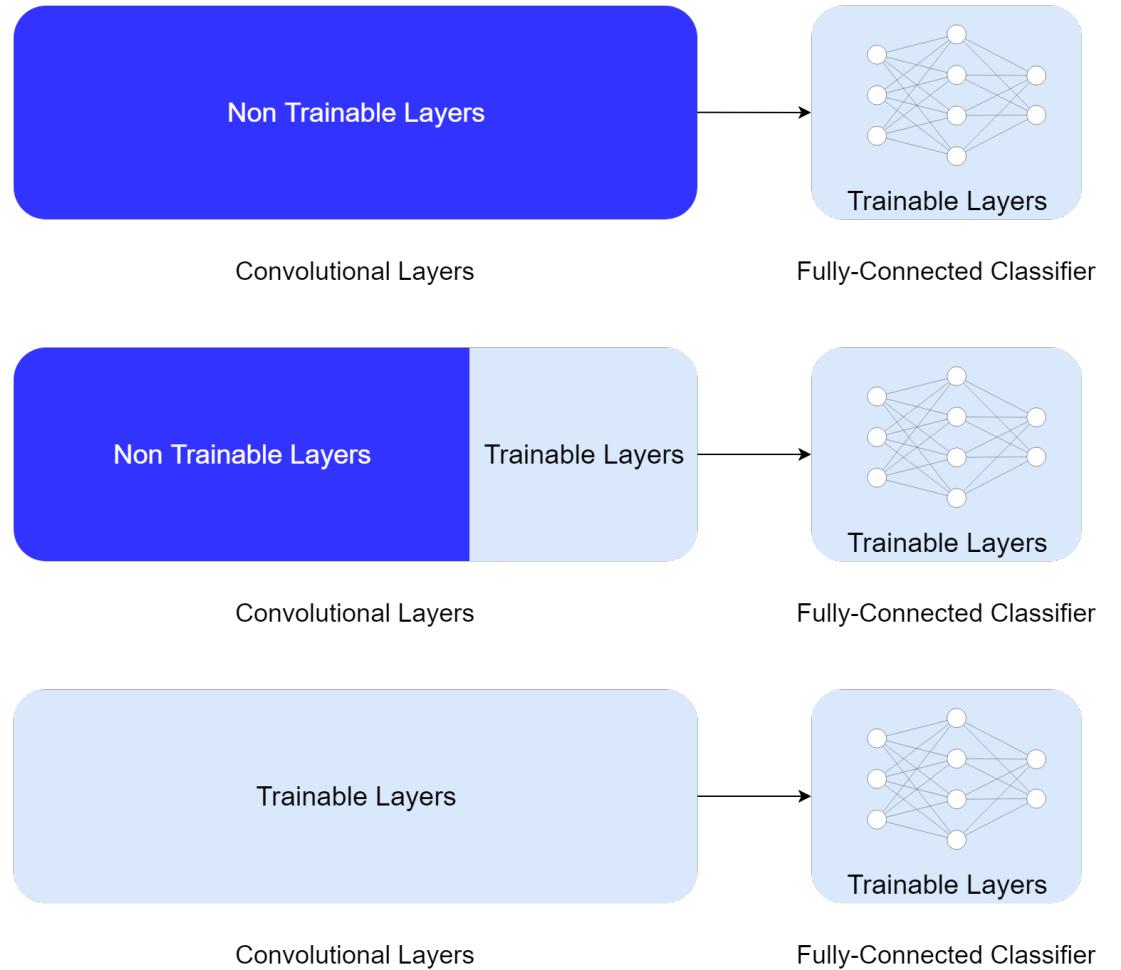


Image source: <https://towardsdatascience.com/a-comprehensive-hands-on-guide-to-transfer-learning-with-real-world-applications-in-deep-learning-212bf3b2f27a>



# Neural Networks Finetuning

- Use the weights of the pre-trained model as a starting point
- Many different variations depending on the architectures
- Layers can be frozen / finetuned



# Problem statement

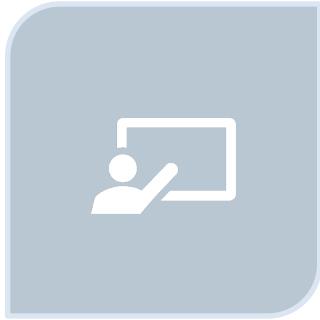
- Can we find **smarter techniques** to transfer the knowledge already acquired?
- Can we find a way to reduce further the computational footprint?
- Can we improve the **convergence** and the final **error** of our target model?

**Proposed solution** - Explore transfer learning techniques in two different scenarios:

- Image recognition
- Resolution of differential equations



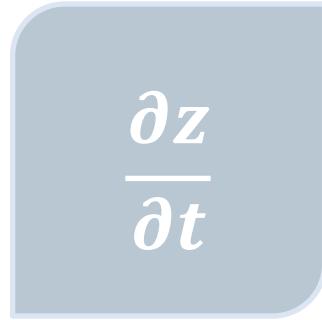
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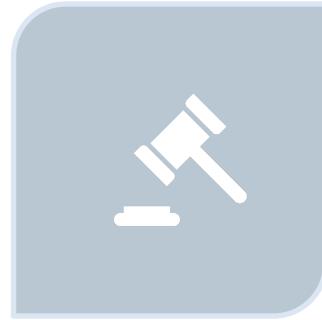
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# Image Recognition - Problem setting

It's a **supervised** classification problem:

The model learns mapping from features  $x$  to a label  $y$ .

We analysed the problem of **covariate shift** [Moreno-Torres *et al.* – 2012], which can harm the performance of the target model:

$$\begin{aligned} P_s(y|x) &= P_t(y|x) \\ P_s(x) &\neq P_t(x) \end{aligned}$$



# Datasets and distortions

We used different types of datasets, shifts and architectures.

## DATASETS

- CIFAR-10
- CIFAR-100
- USPS
- MNIST

## SHIFTS

- Embedding Shift
- Additive White Gaussian Noise
- Gaussian Blur

airplane



automobile



bird



cat



deer



dog



frog



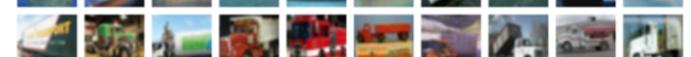
horse



ship



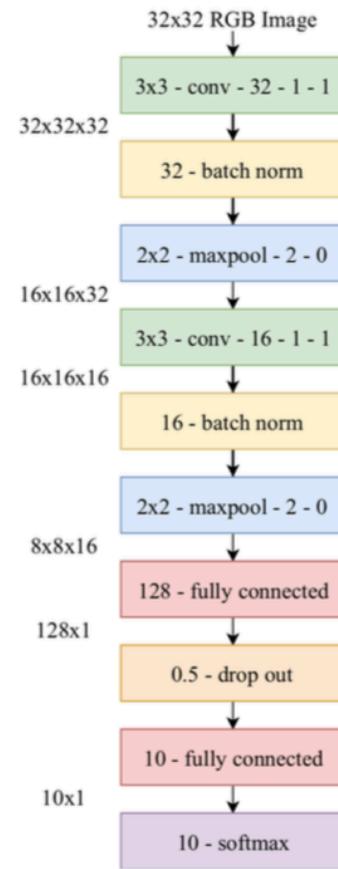
truck



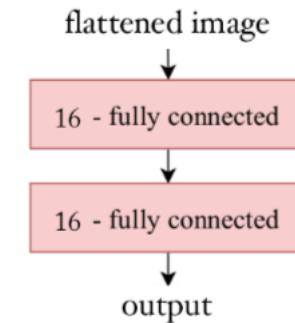
*Samples images from the CIFAR-10 dataset*



# Architectures



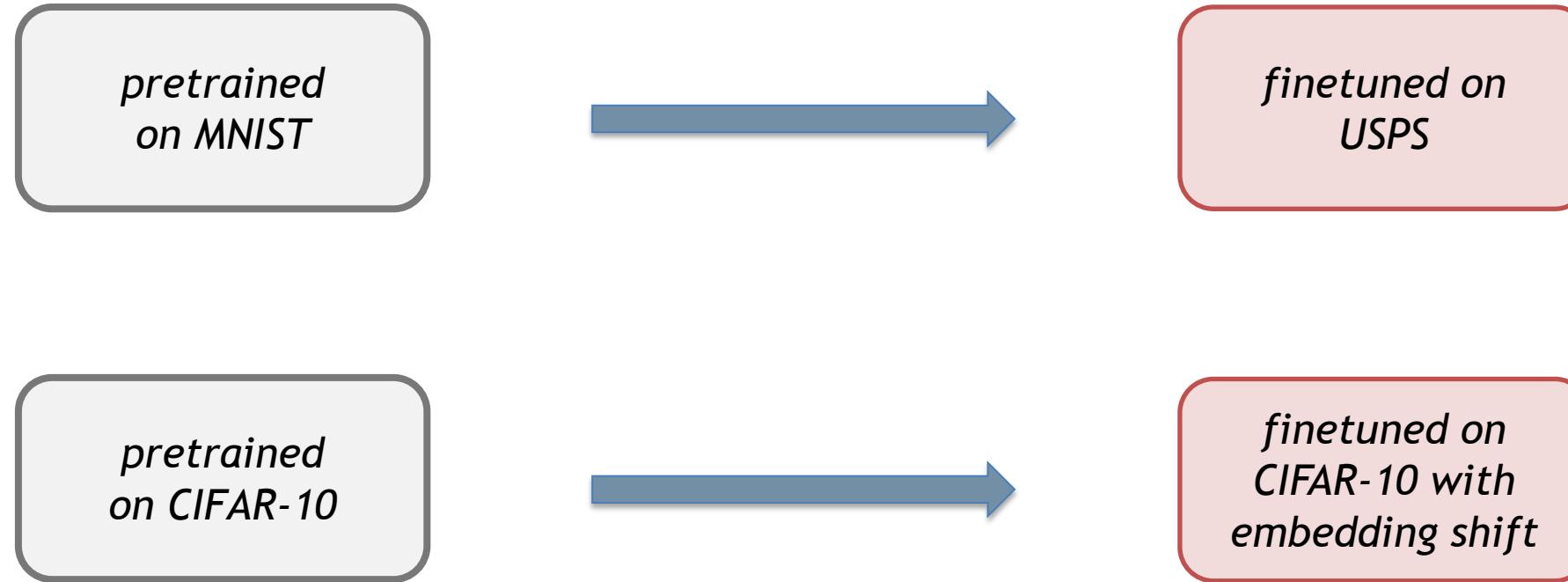
*Architecture for CIFAR-10 dataset*



*Architecture for MNIST and USPS datasets*

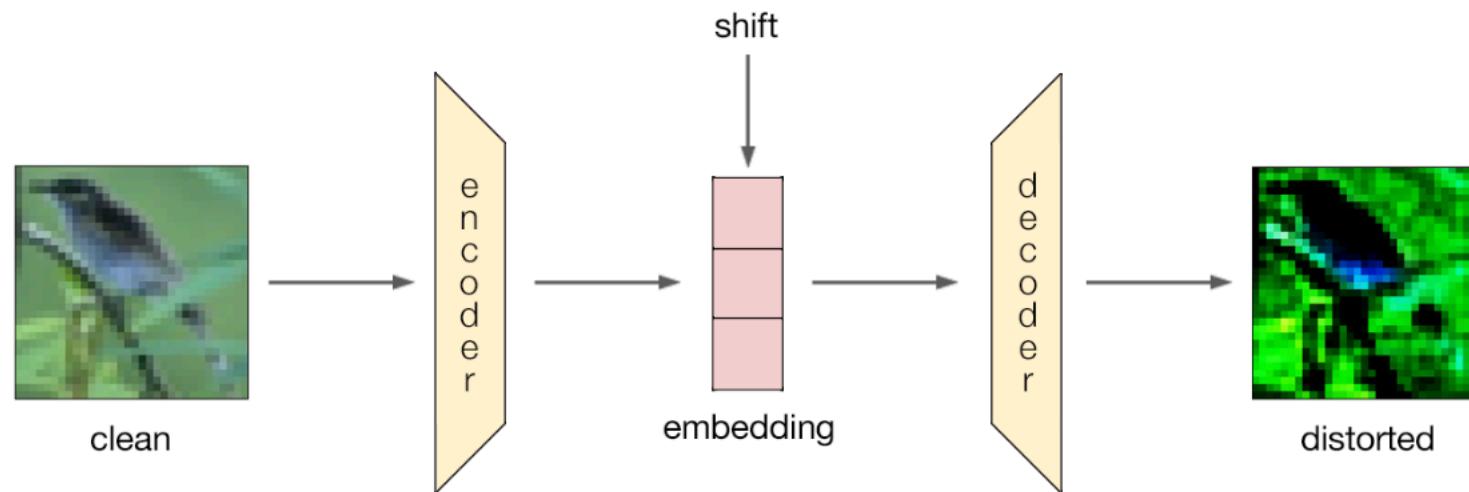


# Presented scenarios



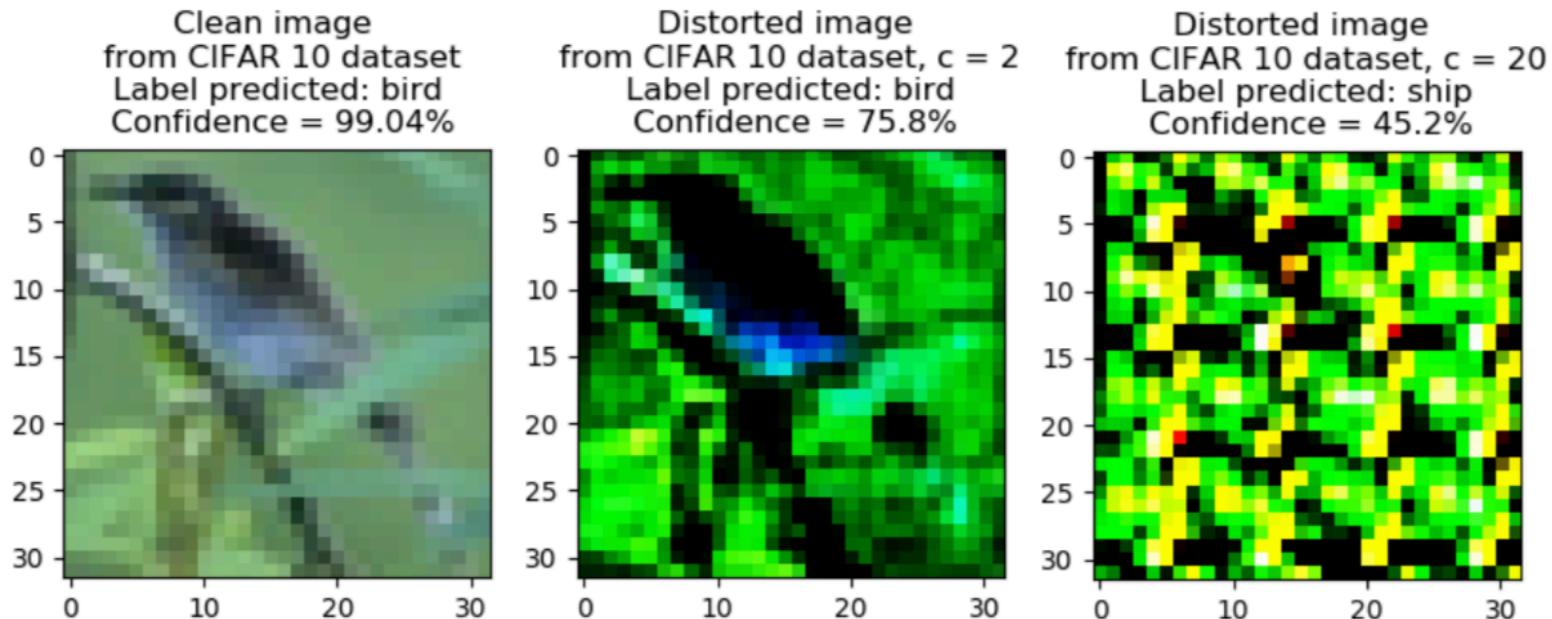
# Embedding shift

- Autoencoder learns a compressed representation of the input image called embedding;
- An additive shift is applied to each value of the embedding tensor.



# Embedding shift (cont.)

- Examples of different levels of distortions applied;
- If  $shift = 0$  we call it **plain** embedding shift.



# Image Recognition - Problem statement

We focused on the **data impact** in a transfer learning setting:  
can we select a subset a subsample of  $D_t$  to improve finetuning?

We developed different selection criteria:

- Error-driven approach
- Differential approach
- Entropy-driven approach



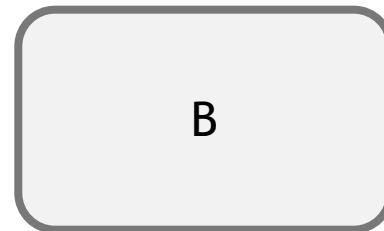
# Differential approach

**input :**

- $B$ : pretrained network from source domain
- $X_t$ : training set in target domain
- $V_t$ : validation set in target domain

**output : $X'_t$** : optimized training set in target domain

*pretrained network  
on source dataset*



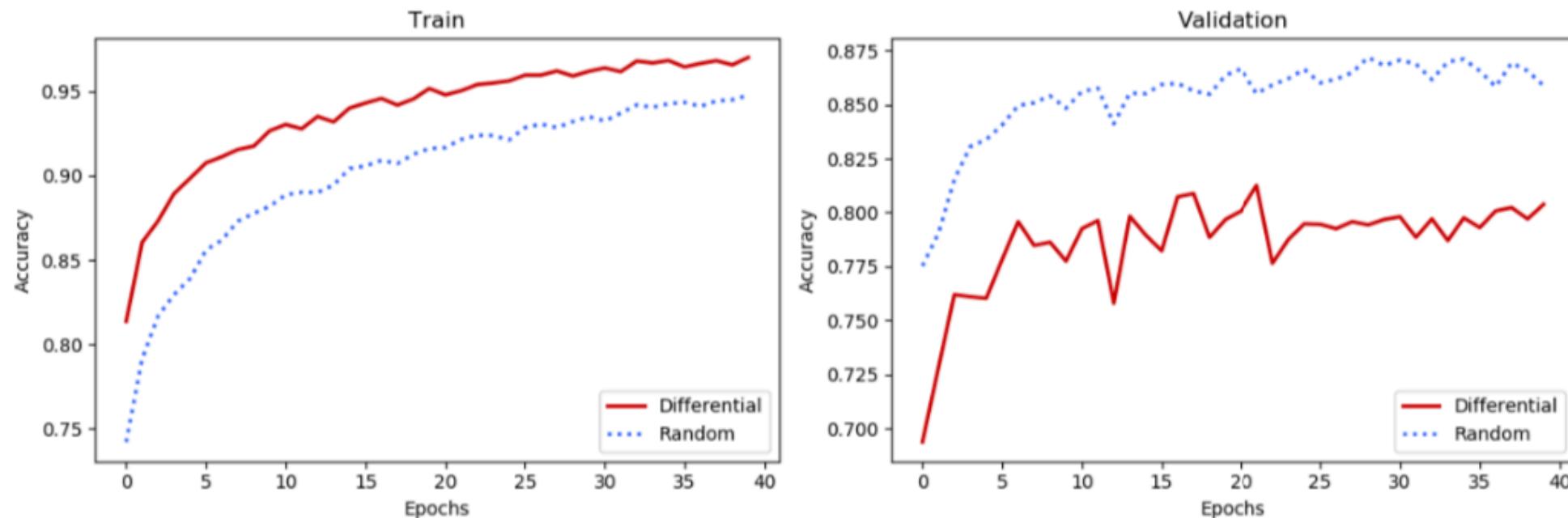
*target dataset*



# Differential approach – CIFAR-10

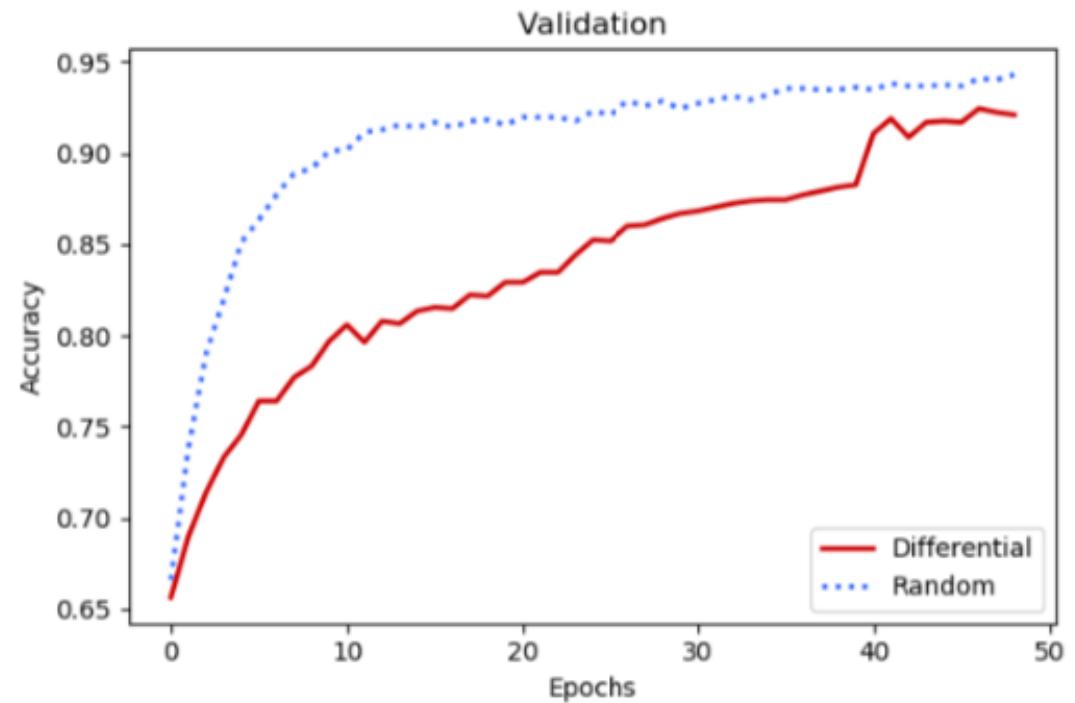
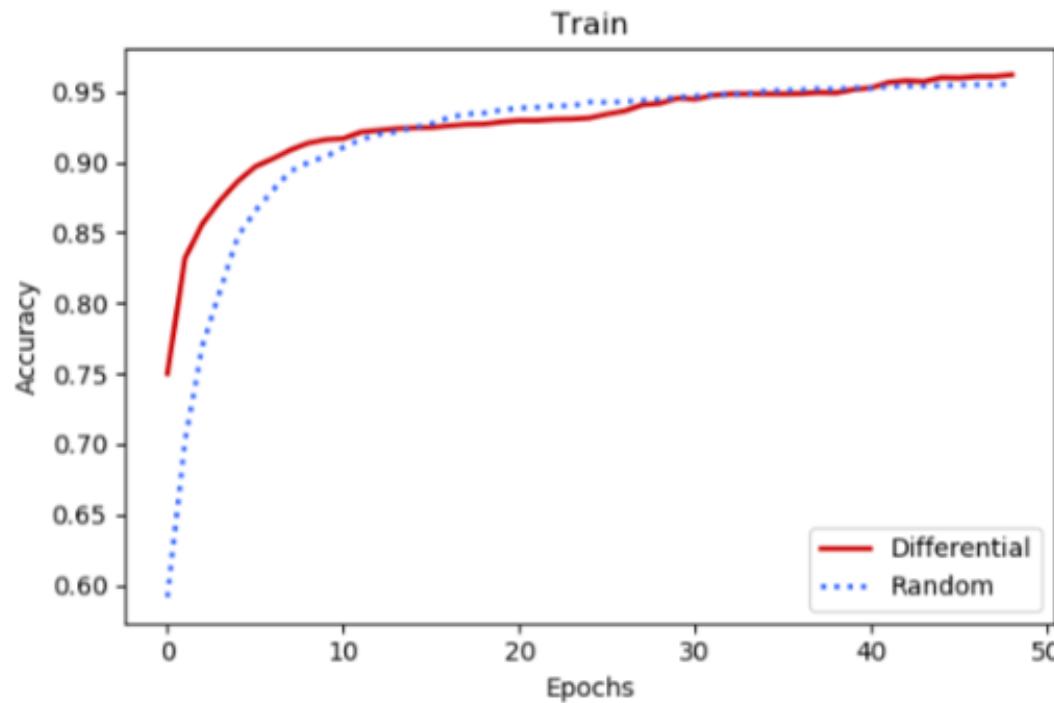
Leads to a result different from the expectations:  
good performance on the train set, worse than random selection on the validation set.

*embedding shift = 2*



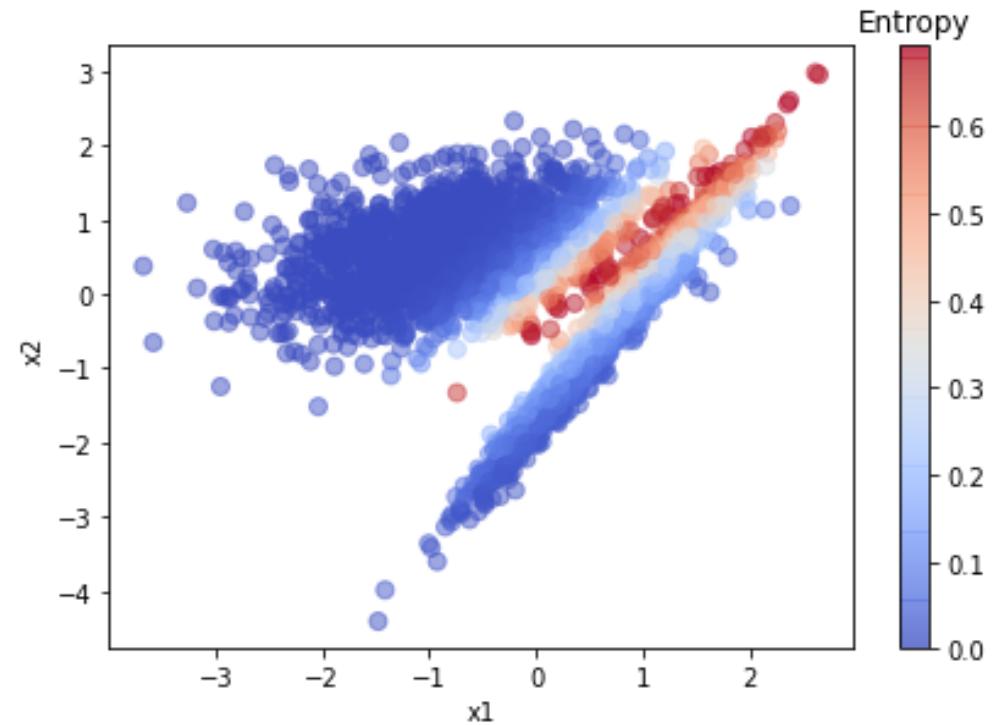
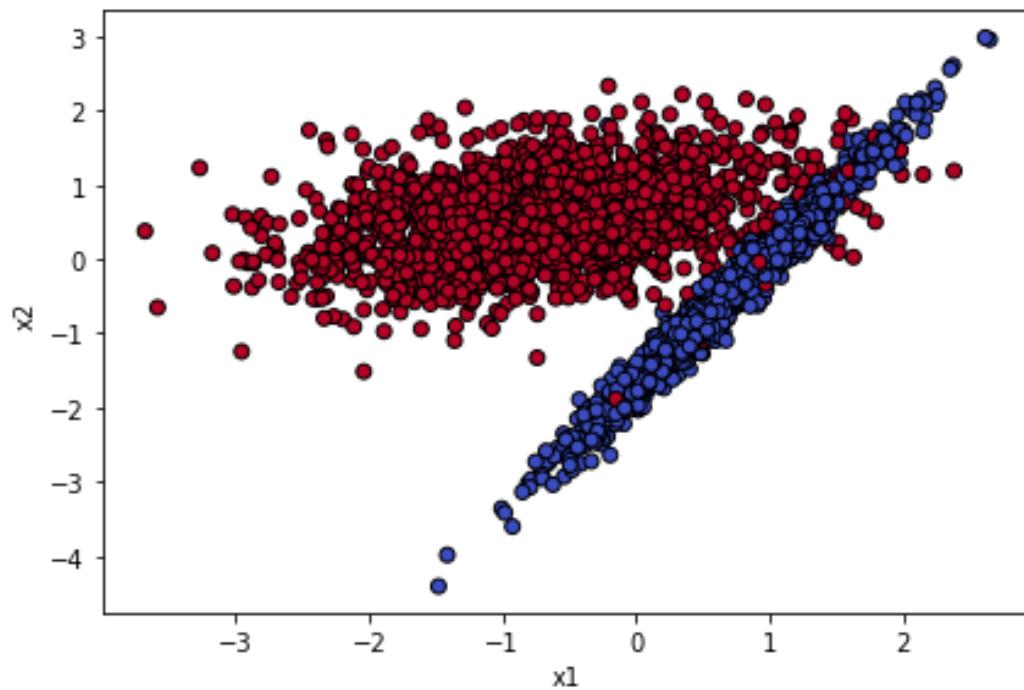
# Differential approach – USPS

Similar results are obtained on the USPS distribution.



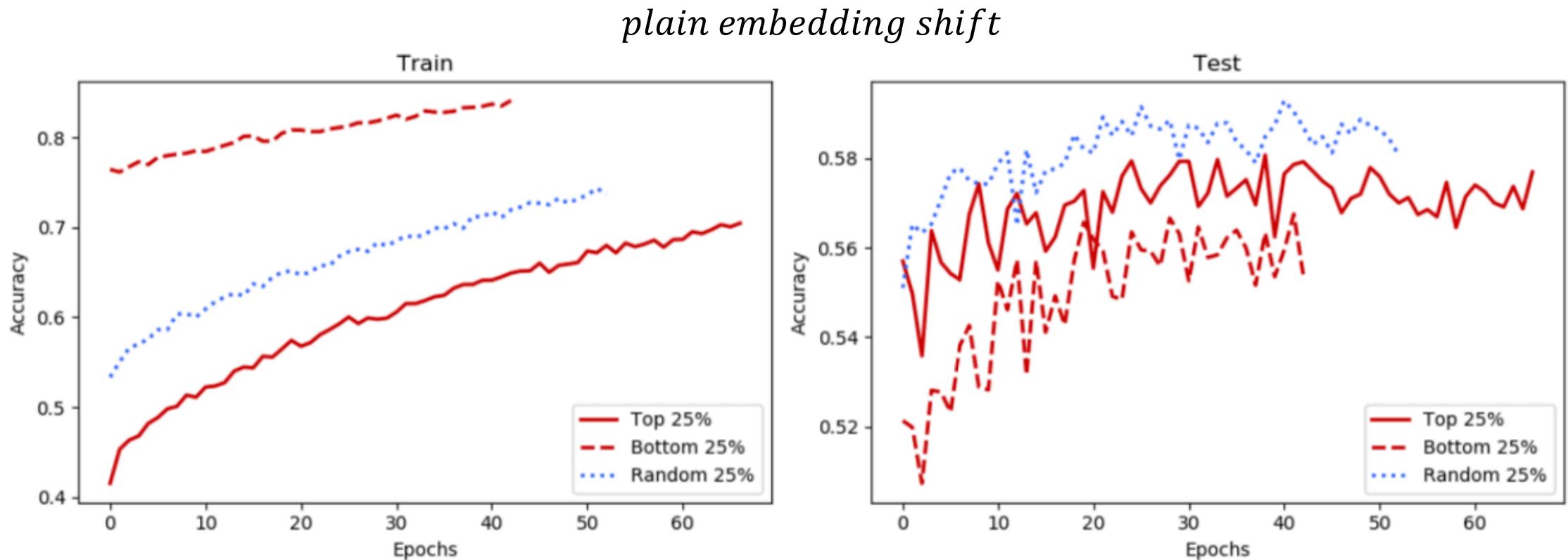
# Entropy-driven approach

$$H(x) = - \sum_m^M p(y = m|x) \log p(y = m|x)$$



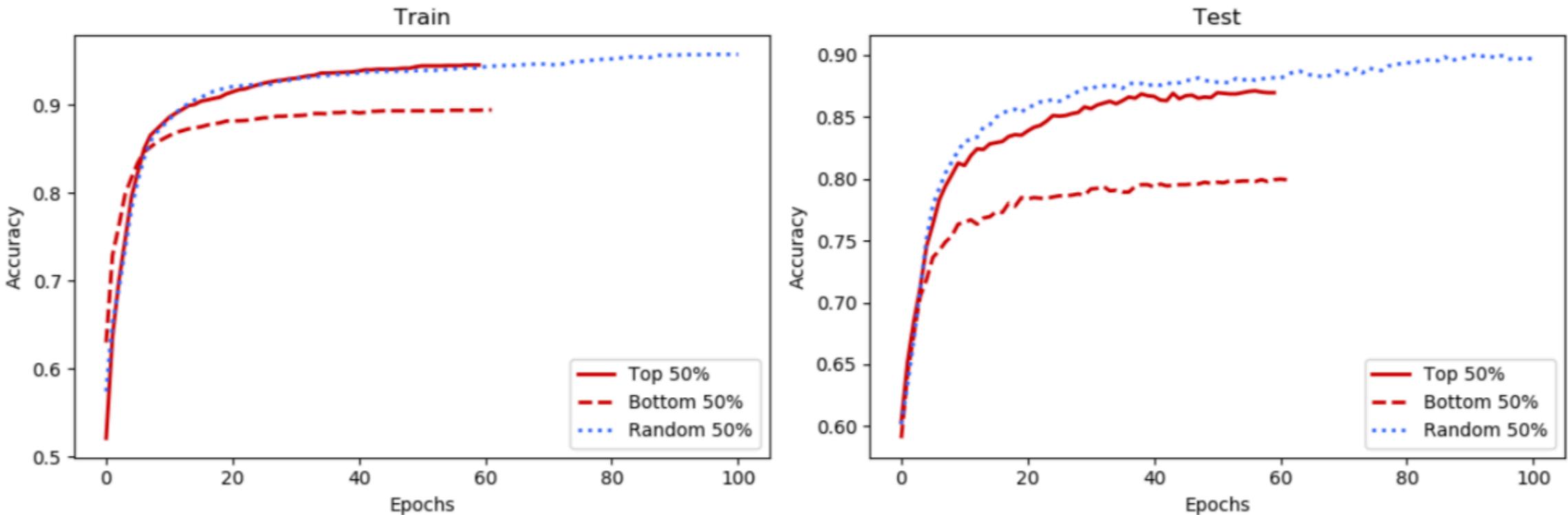
# Entropy-driven approach – CIFAR-10

We compare the 25% **most/least** entropic samples with a 25% **random** selection.



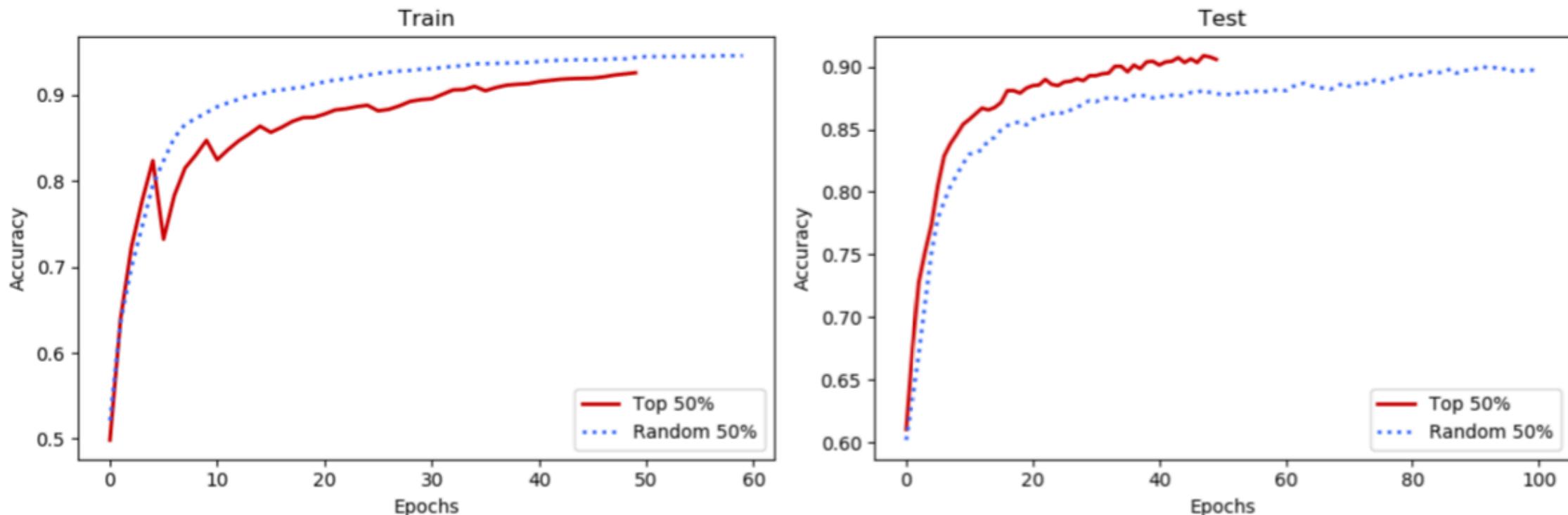
# Entropy-driven approach – USPS

We compare the 50% **most/least** entropic samples with a 50% **random** selection.



# Entropy-driven approach – USPS

We compare the 50% **most** entropic samples with a 50% **random** selection, this time we **recompute the subset** every 5 epochs.



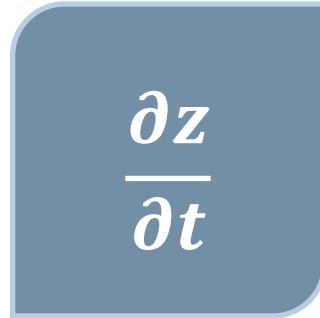
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# Differential Equations - Problem setting

We define the Ordinary Differential Equation as:

$$f(z(t), z'(t), z''(t)), \dots, z^n(t), \theta) = 0$$

and we know that, given a differential equation:

$$z'(t) = f(t)$$

there are infinite solutions in the form:

$$z(t) = \int f(t)dt + c, c \in \mathbf{R}$$



# Differential Equations - Problem setting (cont.)

If we want to find a specific solutions, we need some **initial conditions**, that defines a Cauchy Problem.

Given an initial condition  $z(0)$  , our goal is to find a mapping from  $t$  to  $z(t)$  that satisfies:

$$f(z(t), z'(t), z''(t)), \dots, z^n(t), \theta^2 = 0 \quad z(0) = \xi_0$$



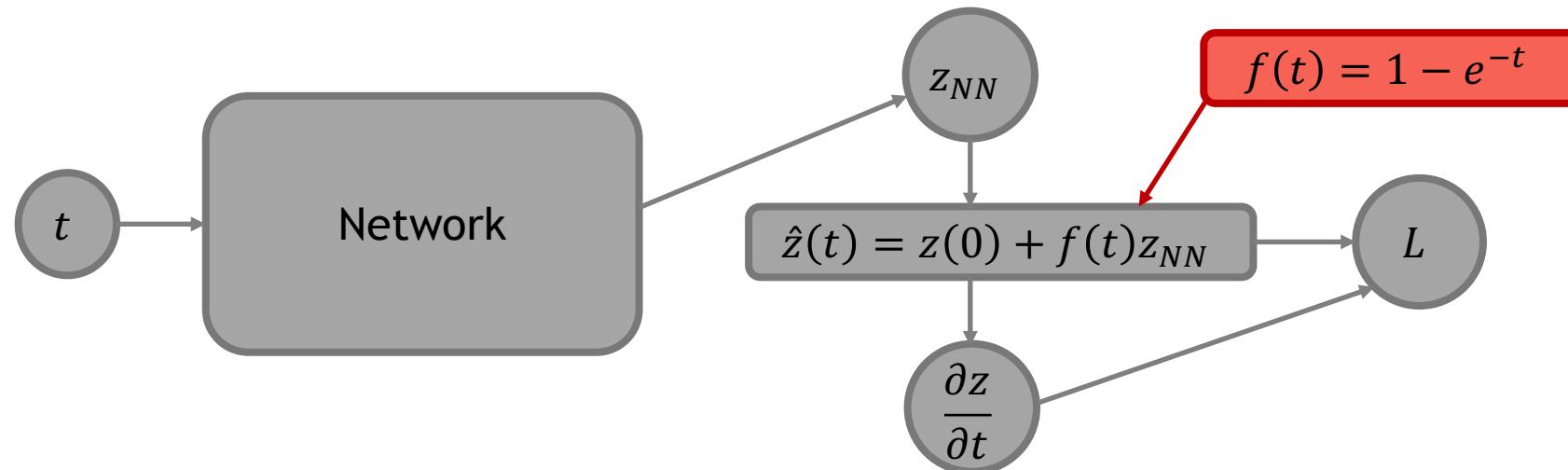
# Solving DEs with Neural Networks

Find a function:

$$\hat{z}(t)$$

that minimizes a Loss function:

$$L = f(z(t), z'(t), z''(t)), \dots, z^n(t), \theta)^2$$



# Our application: SIR model

$$\begin{cases} \dot{S} + \frac{\beta SI}{N} = 0 \\ \dot{I} - \frac{\beta SI}{N} + \gamma I = 0 \\ \dot{R} - \gamma I = 0 \end{cases}$$

S : susceptible people

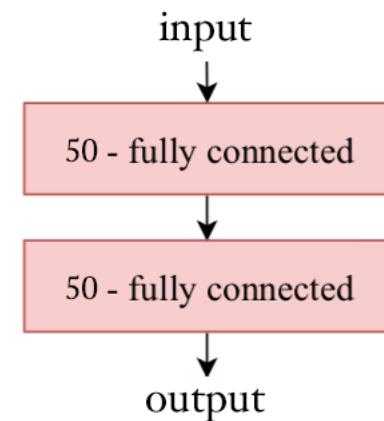
I : infected people

R : recovered people

$\beta$  : infection rate

$\gamma$  : recovery rate

$$L = \frac{1}{K} \sum_{n=0}^K \left[ \left( \hat{S}^{(n)} + \frac{\beta \hat{S}^{(n)} \hat{I}^{(n)}}{N} \right)^2 + \left( \hat{I}^{(n)} - \frac{\beta \hat{S}^{(n)} \hat{I}^{(n)}}{N} + \gamma \hat{I}^{(n)} \right)^2 + \left( \hat{R}^{(n)} - \gamma \hat{I}^{(n)} \right)^2 \right]$$



Architecture for SIR model



# Example - SIR

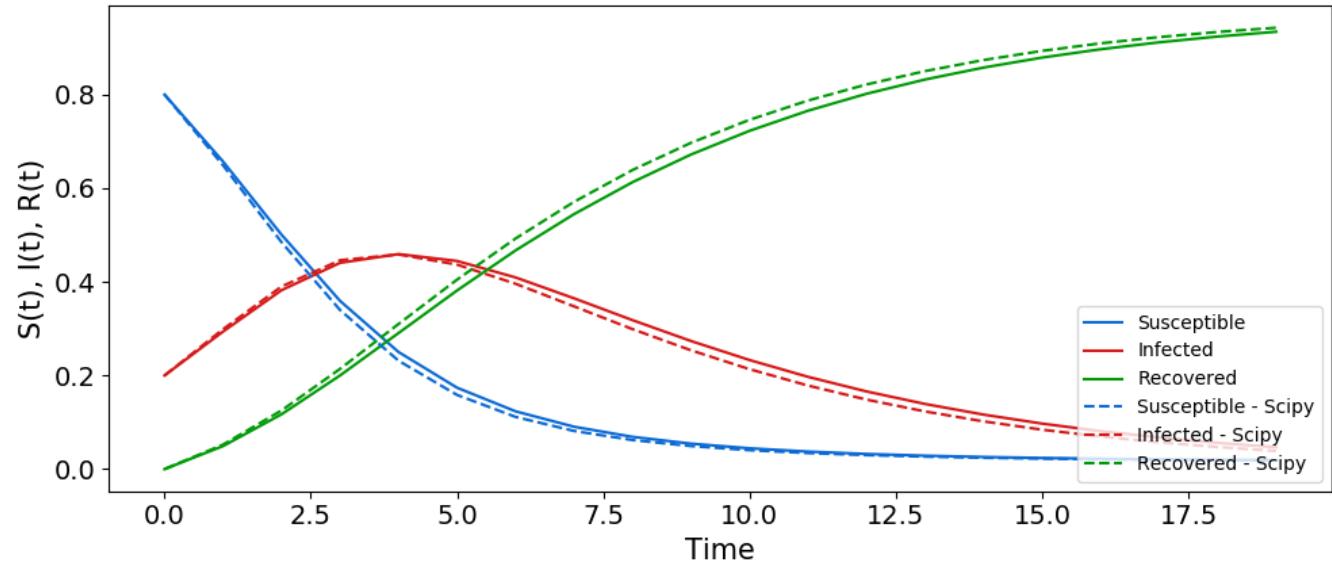
$$S(0) = 0.80$$

$$I(0) = 0.20$$

$$R(0) = 0.00$$

$$\beta = 0.80$$

$$\gamma = 0.20$$



Network trained for 1000 epochs, reaching a final LogLoss  $\cong -15$ .

Training size: 2000 points

Time interval:  $[0, 20]$



# What if we perturb the initial conditions?

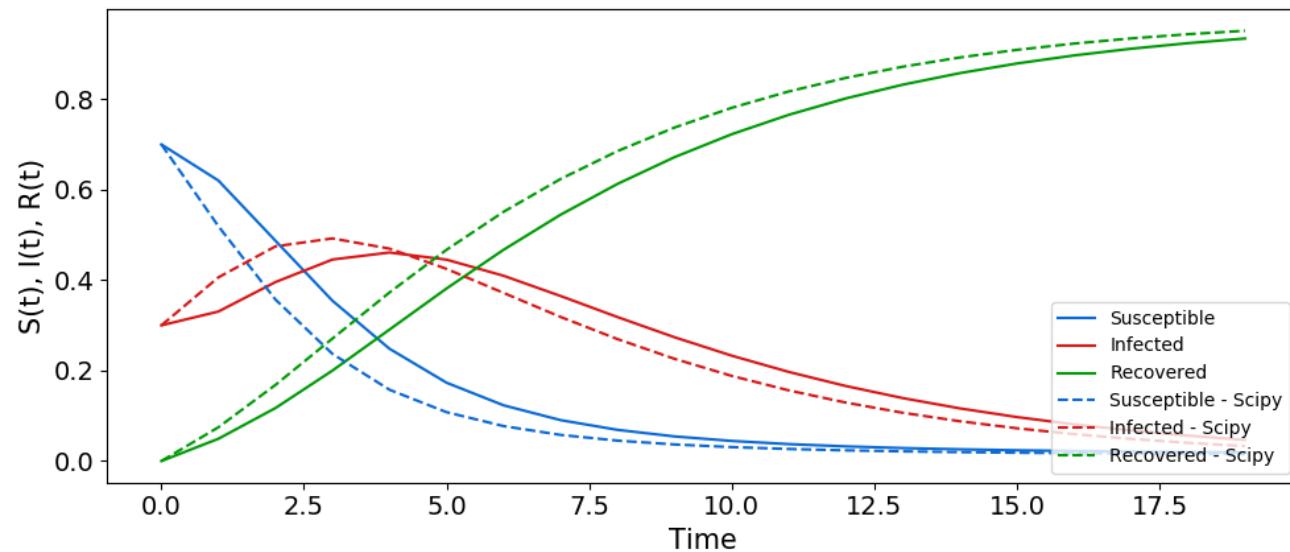
$$S(0) = 0.70$$

$$I(0) = 0.30$$

$$R(0) = 0.00$$

$$\beta = 0.80$$

$$\gamma = 0.20$$



LogLoss  $\cong -1.39$

Problem statement: (How) Can we leverage Transfer Learning to re-gain performance?



# Fine-tuning results

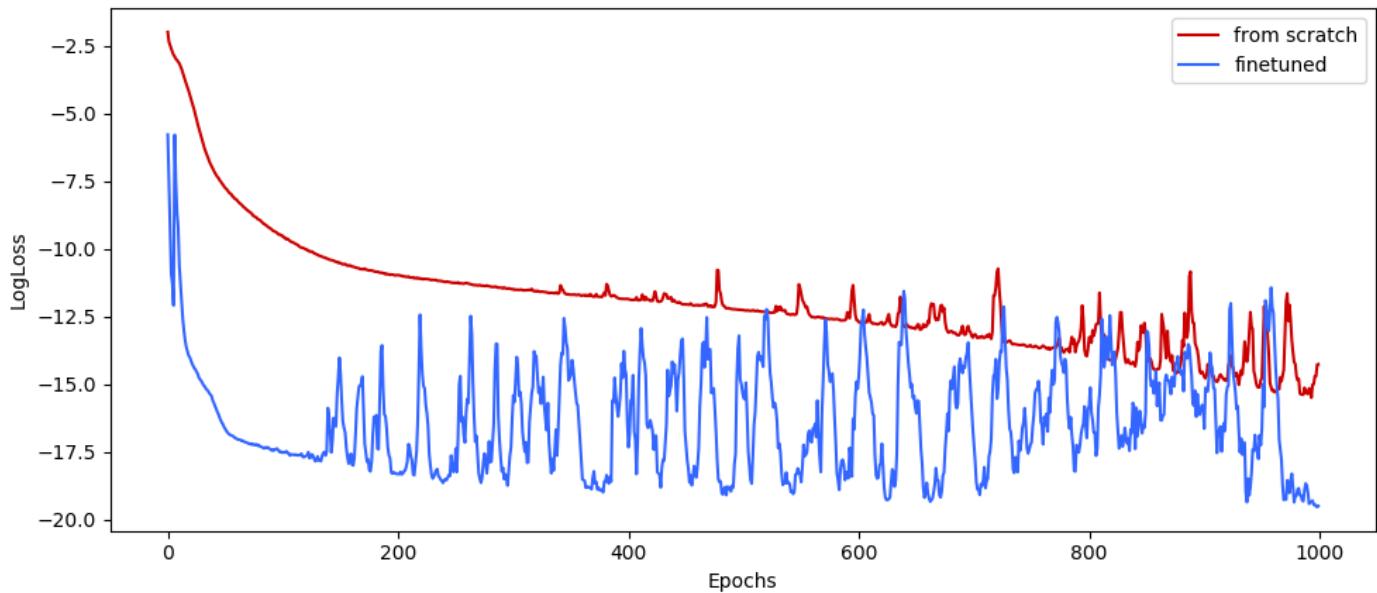
$$S(0) = 0.80 \rightarrow 0.70$$

$$I(0) = 0.20 \rightarrow 0.30$$

$$R(0) = 0.00$$

$$\beta = 0.80$$

$$\gamma = 0.20$$



# Can we do more?

This specific architecture allows us to solve **one** single Cauchy problem at a time.

If we change the initial conditions, even by a small amount, we need to retrain.

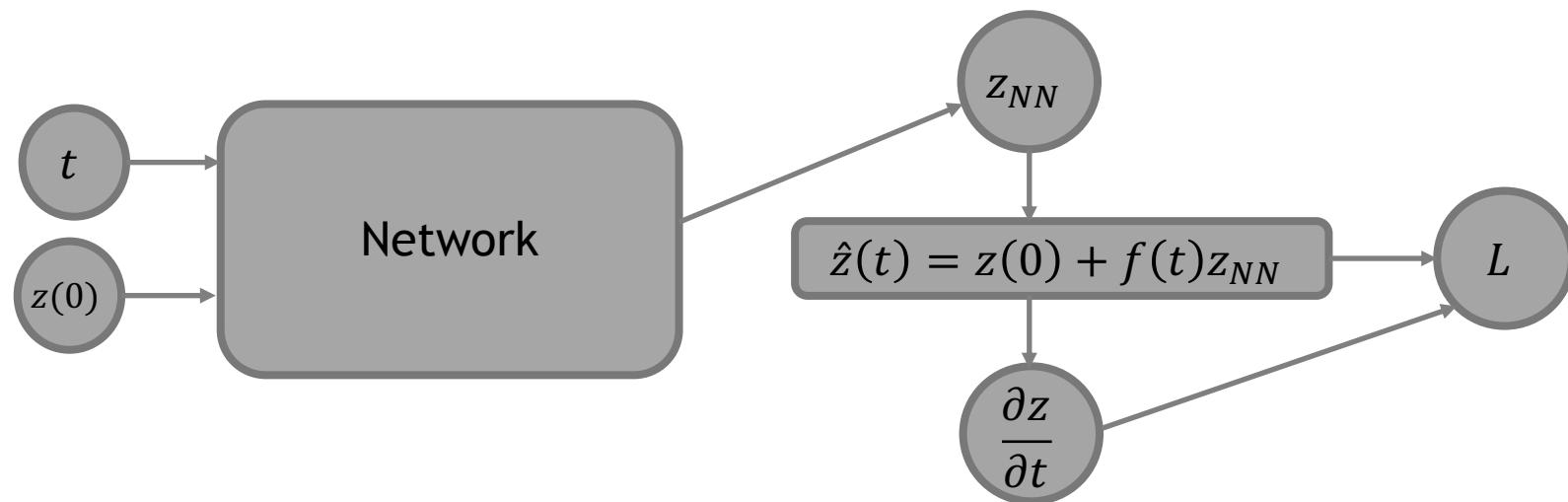
We focused on the **architecture impact**: can we make it generalize over a **bundle** of initial conditions?



# Architecture modification

We added two additional inputs to the network: the initial conditions  $z(0)$ .

With this modification, we are able to learn **multiple** Cauchy problems all together.



# Bundle of initial conditions - Results

Training bundle

$$I(0) \in [0.10, 0.20]$$

$$R(0) \in [0.10, 0.20]$$

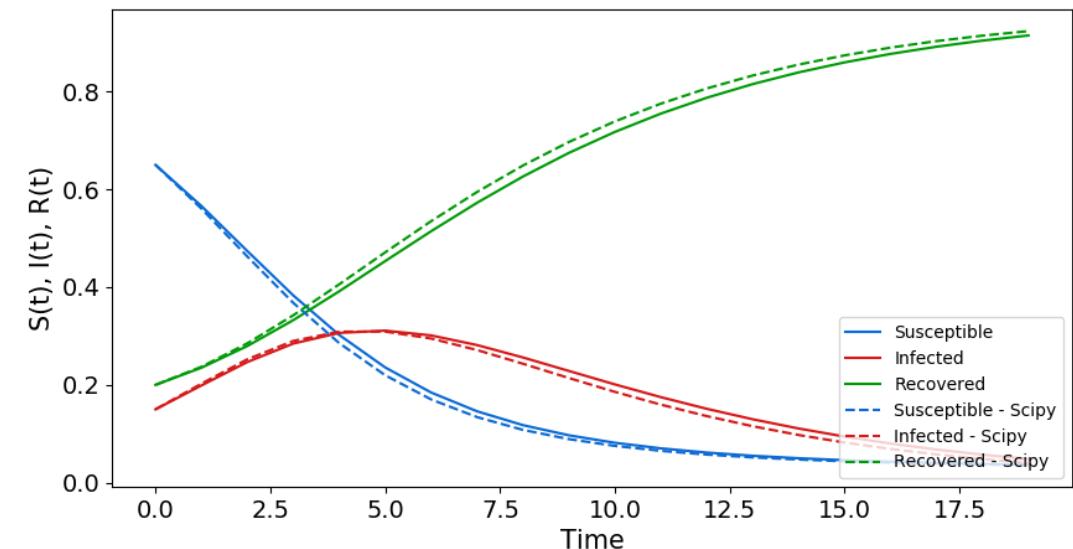
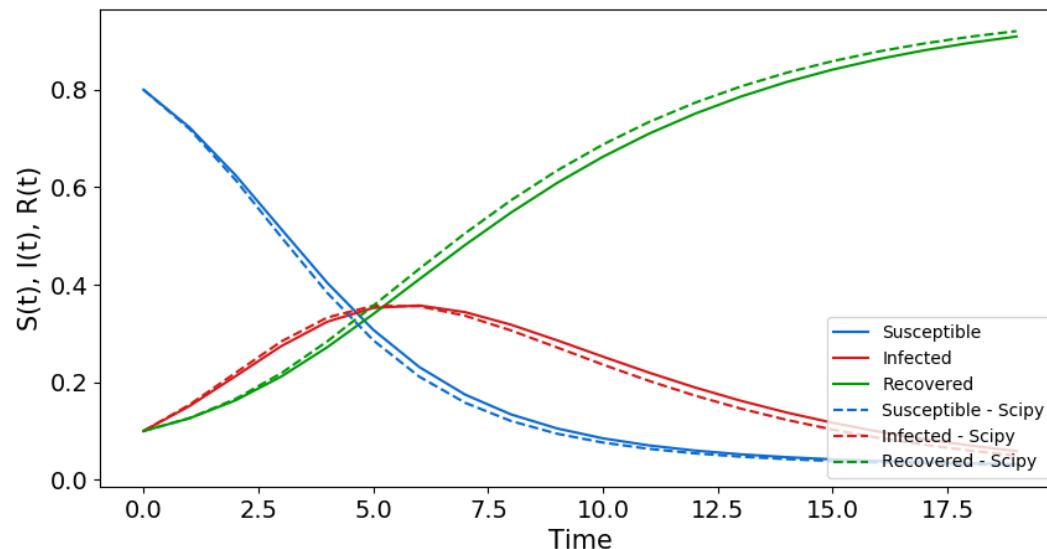
$$S(0) = 1 - (I(0) + R(0))$$

$$\beta = 0.80$$

$$I(0) = 0.10, R(0) = 0.10$$

$$\gamma = 0.20$$

$$I(0) = 0.20, R(0) = 0.15$$



# Bundle perturbation and finetuning results

## Training bundle

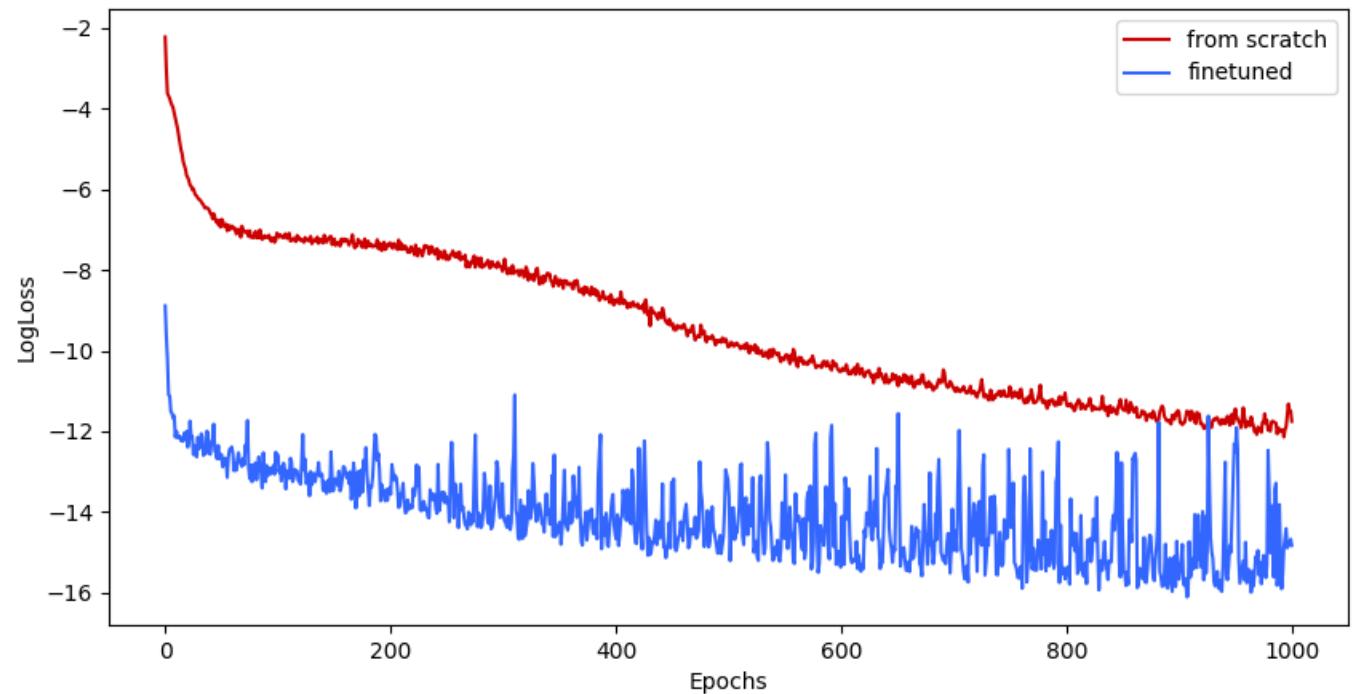
$$S(0) = 1 - (I(0) + R(0))$$

$$I(0) \in [0.10, 0.20] \rightarrow [0.30, 0.40]$$

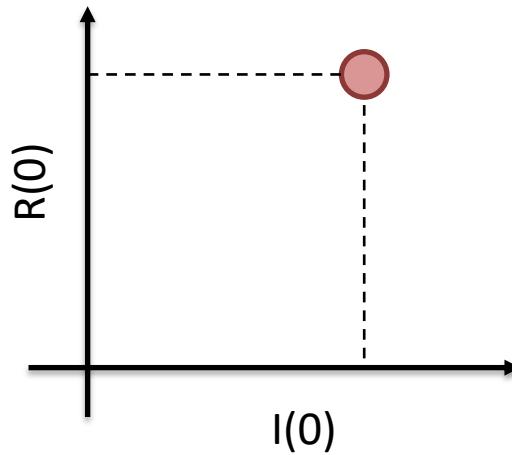
$$R(0) \in [0.10, 0.20] \rightarrow [0.30, 0.40]$$

$$\beta = 0.80$$

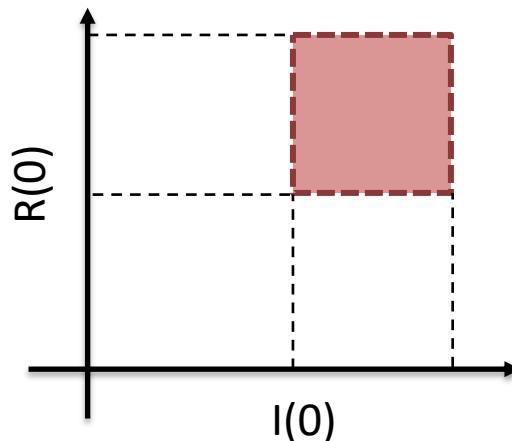
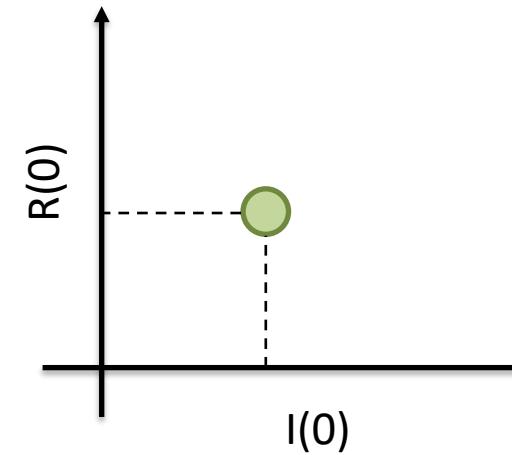
$$\gamma = 0.20$$



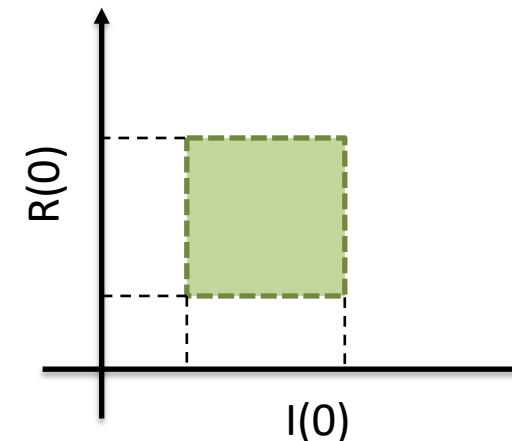
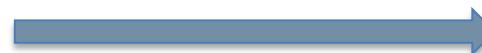
# Finetuning improvements



*point to point*

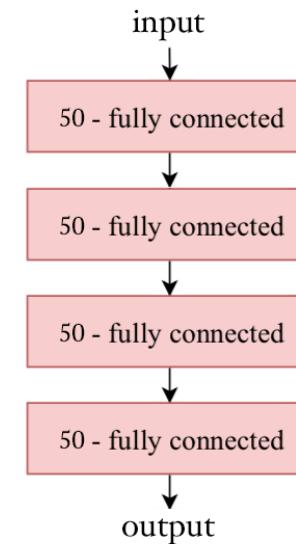
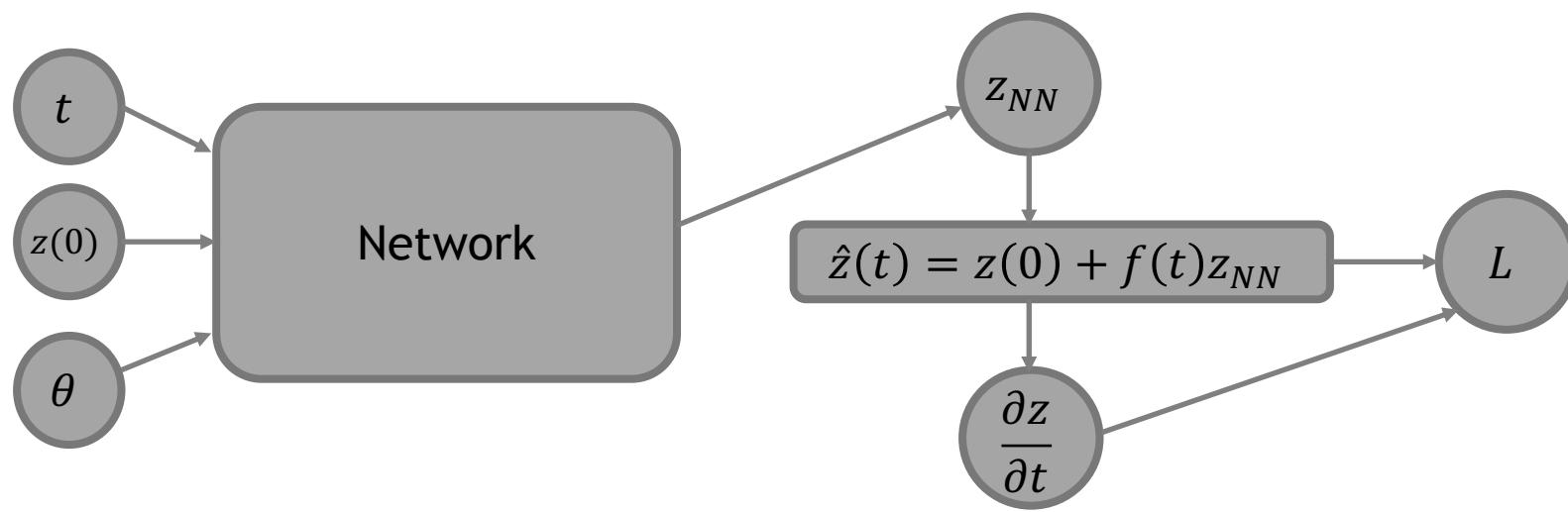


*bundle to bundle*



# One more input: the parameters

We gave the network full flexibility by adding as input the parameters  $\theta$ .



*Architecture for SIR model*



# Bundle perturbation and finetuning results

## Training bundle

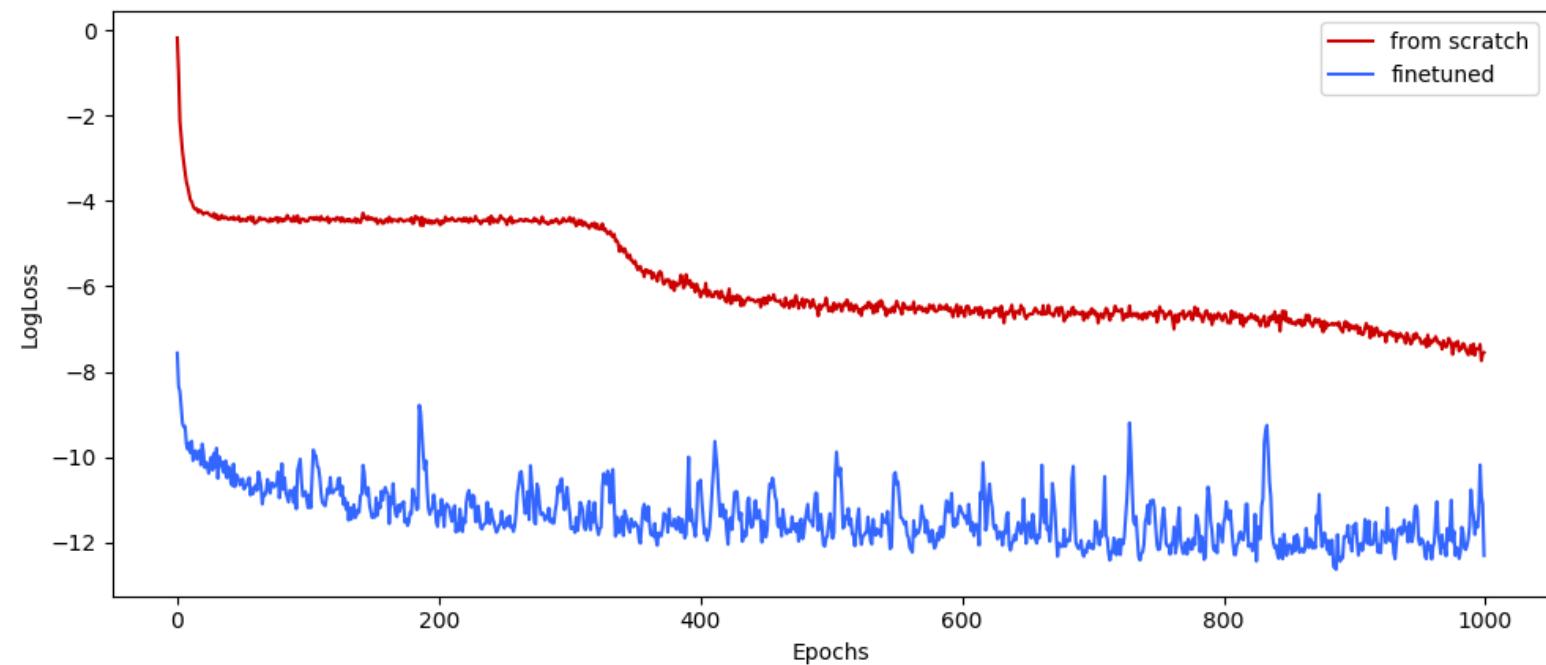
$$S(0) = 1 - (I(0) + R(0))$$

$$I(0) \in [0.20, 0.40] \rightarrow [0.30, 0.50]$$

$$R(0) \in [0.10, 0.30] \rightarrow [0.20, 0.40]$$

$$\beta \in [0.40, 0.80] \rightarrow [0.60, 1.0]$$

$$\gamma \in [0.30, 0.70] \rightarrow [0.50, 1.0]$$



# Loss trend inside/outside the bundle

## Training bundle

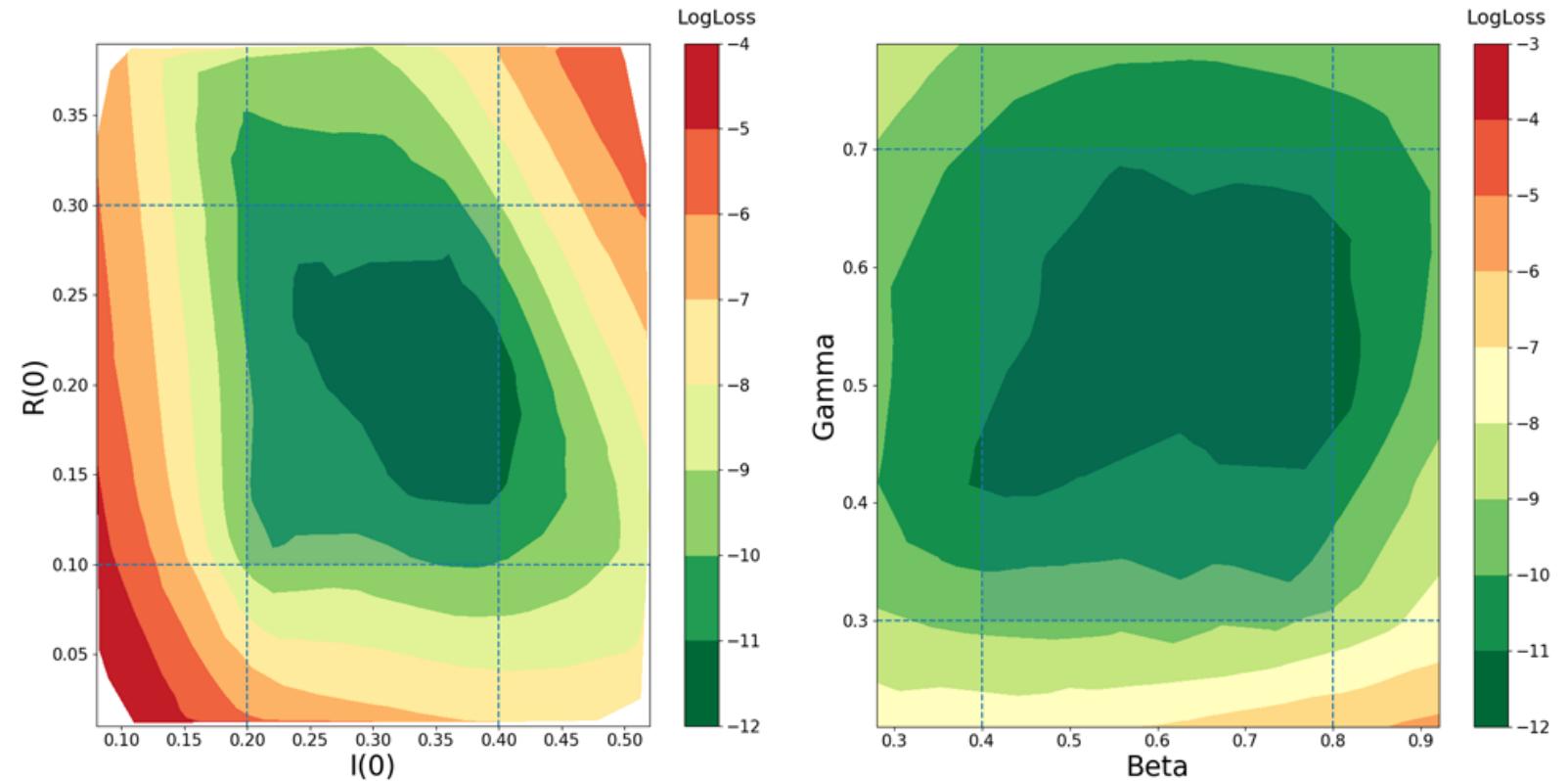
$$S(0) = 1 - (I(0) + R(0))$$

$$I(0) \in [0.20, 0.40]$$

$$R(0) \in [0.10, 0.30]$$

$$\beta \in [0.40, 0.80]$$

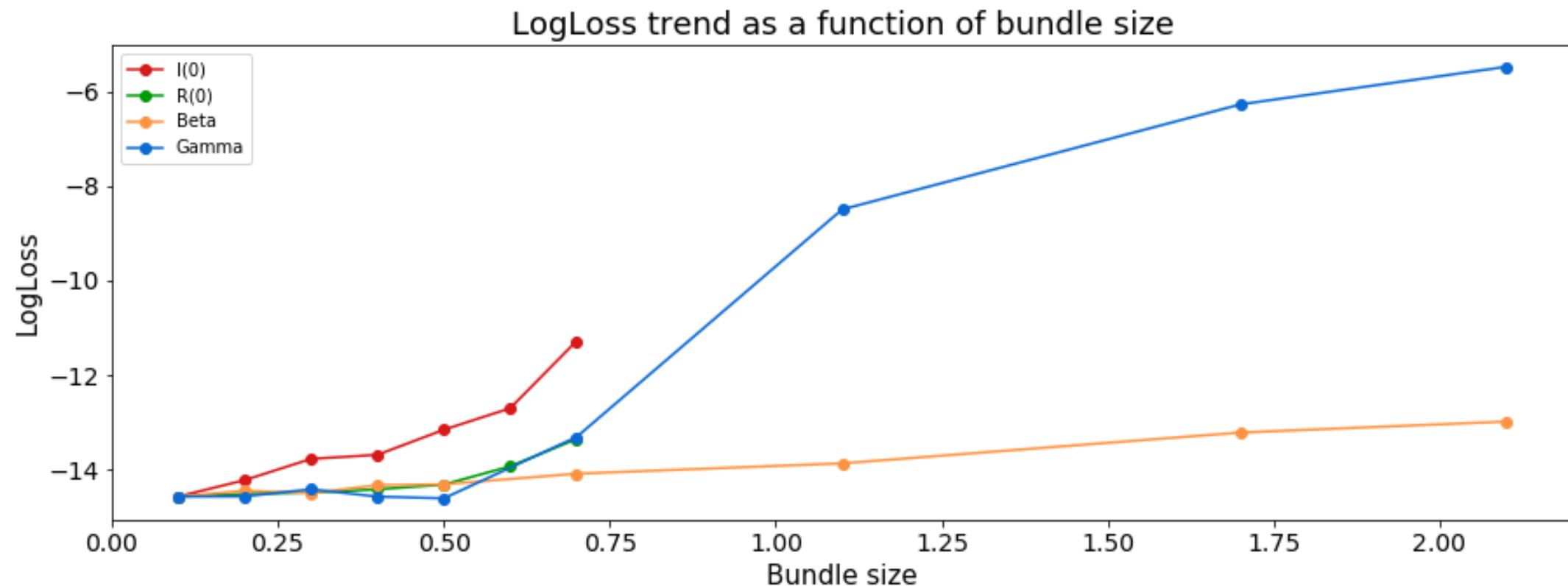
$$\gamma \in [0.30, 0.70]$$



Color represents the LogLoss of the network for a solution generated for that particular combination of  $(I(0), R(0))$  or  $(\beta, \gamma)$



# How far can Transfer Learning go?



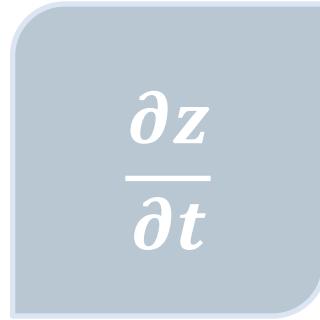
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# Conclusions and Future Works

- Analysis on **data impact** and **architecture impact**
- Data-selection methods are sometimes hard to generalize
- Giving the network more flexibility helps transfer
- It would be appropriate to continue the research in the field of uncertainty sampling
- How does each bundle perturbation affects the network?





# Thank you!

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