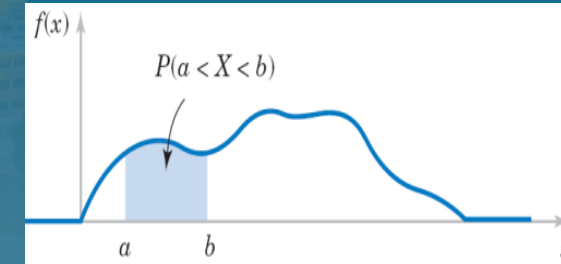




A Study of Bias-Variance in Variational Inferencing Using Delta Method



Niladri Das & Thomas A. Catanach (P.I.)

July 12, 2022

2022 SIAM Annual Meeting, Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, USA



Sandia National Laboratories is a multimission laboratory managed and operated by National Technology & Engineering Solutions of Sandia, LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Honeywell International Inc., for the U.S. Department of Energy's National Nuclear Security Administration under contract DE-NA0003525.



A Study of Bias-Variance in Variational Inferencing Using Delta Method

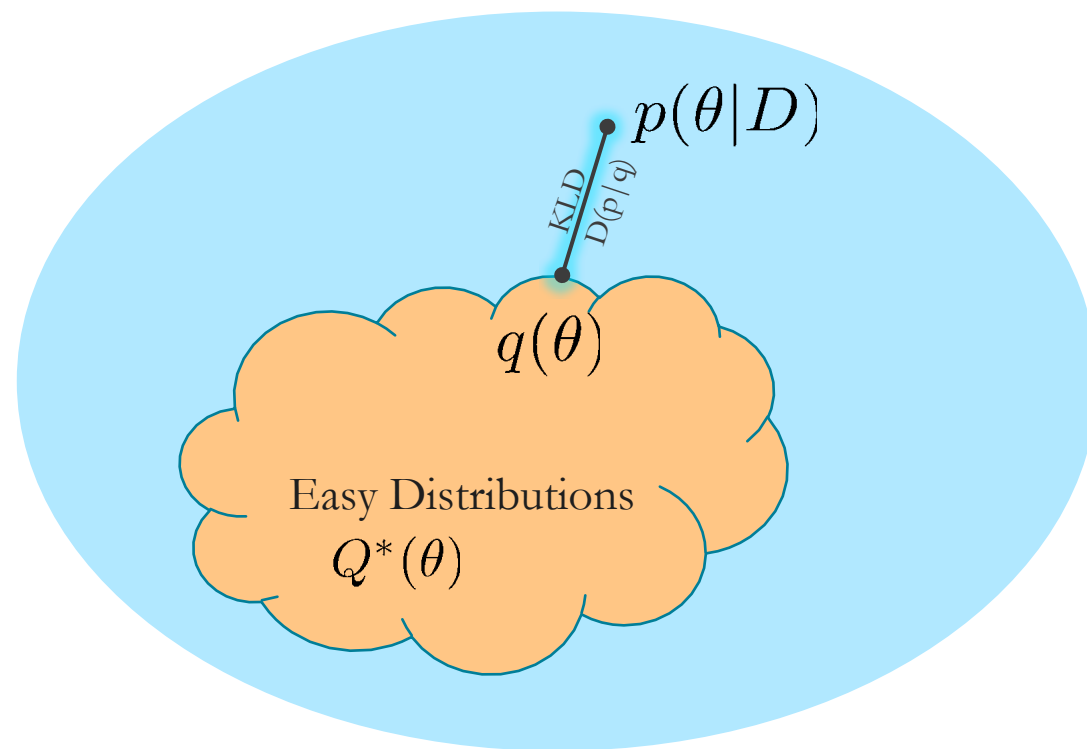
Bayes Rule

$$p(\theta|D) = \frac{p(\theta)p(D|\theta)}{\int_{\theta} p(\theta)p(D|\theta)d\theta}$$

Posterior Prior Likelihood

$\mathbb{R}^{100\dots}$

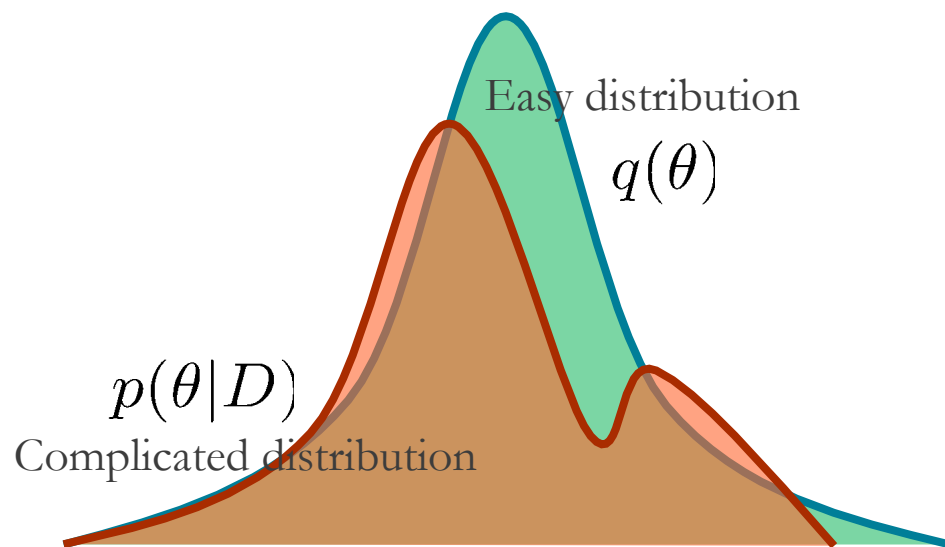
At even moderately high dimensions of θ , the amount numerical operations **explode**.



$q(\theta)$: Variational Distribution



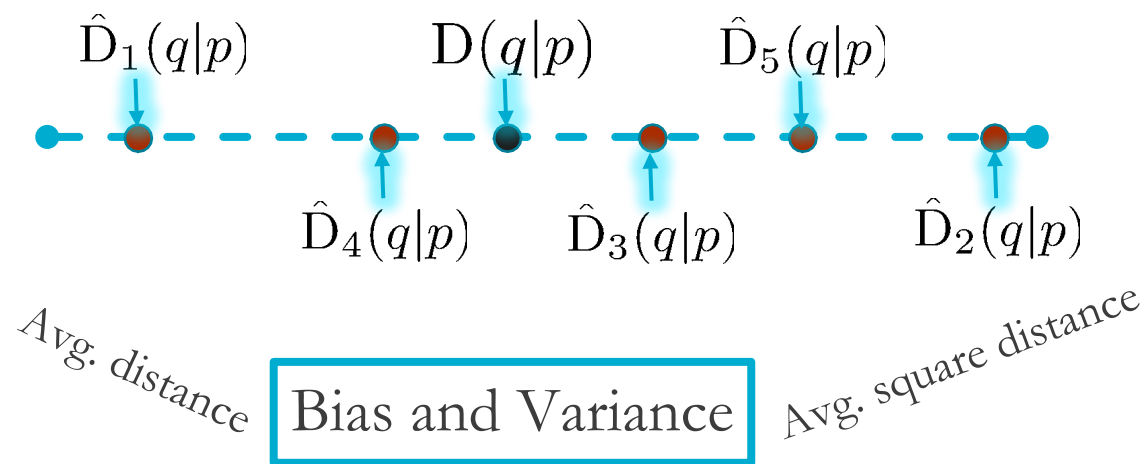
A Study of Bias-Variance in Variational Inferencing Using Delta Method



$$D(p|q) = \text{KLD}$$



Sample Estimate





A Study of **Bias-Variance** in Variational Inferencing Using **Delta Method**

$$D(q|p) = \int q(\theta | \phi) \log \frac{q(\theta | \phi)}{p(\theta)} d\theta - \int q(\theta | \phi) \log p(\mathcal{D} | \theta) d\theta + \log \int p(\mathcal{D} | \theta) p(\theta) d\theta$$

Minimize



Log Evidence , independent
of VI params. ϕ

$$\begin{aligned} \text{ELBO} &= - \int q(\theta | \phi) \log \frac{q(\theta | \phi)}{p(\theta)} d\theta + \int q(\theta | \phi) \log p(\mathcal{D} | \theta) d\theta \\ \text{Maximize} \end{aligned}$$
$$= -\frac{1}{N} \Sigma(\dots) \quad + \frac{1}{N} \Sigma(\dots)$$



A Study of Bias-Variance in Variational Inferencing Using Delta Method

$$D(q|p) = \int q(\theta | \phi) \log \frac{q(\theta | \phi)}{p(\theta)} d\theta - \int q(\theta | \phi) \log p(\mathcal{D} | \theta) d\theta + \log \int p(\mathcal{D} | \theta) p(\theta) d\theta$$

Minimize

↓

Accurate Calculation

↓

$\mathcal{X} = \frac{1}{N} \Sigma(\dots)$

↓

$\log(\mathcal{Y}) = \frac{1}{N} \Sigma(\dots)$

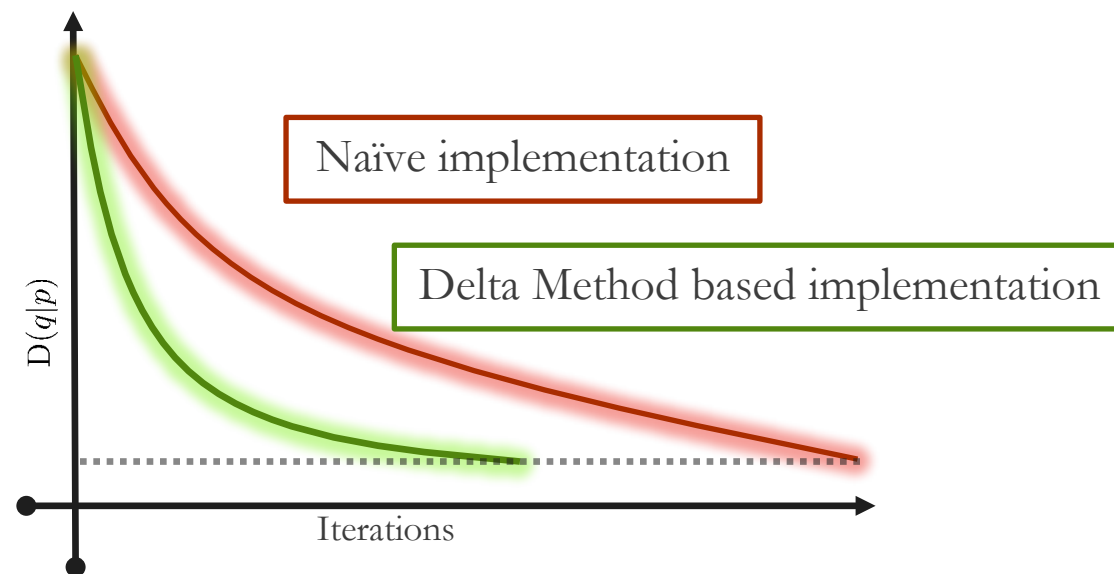
$$\text{Var}(\hat{\mathcal{X}} + \log(\hat{\mathcal{Y}})) = \frac{\Sigma_{\mathcal{X}}}{N} + \frac{\Sigma_{\mathcal{Y}}}{N\mathcal{Y}^2} + 2\frac{\Sigma_{\mathcal{X}\mathcal{Y}}}{N\mathcal{Y}}$$

A Study of Bias-Variance in Variational Inferencing Using Delta Method

Delta Method : Approx. probability distribution of $D(q|p)$

Technique : Reduce variance in approx. of $D(q|p)$

Performance : Faster convergence to $q(\theta)$





A Study of **Bias-Variance** in Variational Inferencing Using **Delta Method**

$$\begin{aligned} D(q|p) &= \int q(\theta | \phi) \log \frac{q(\theta | \phi)}{p(\theta)} d\theta - \int q(\theta | \phi) \log p(\mathcal{D} | \theta) d\theta + \log \int \frac{p(\mathcal{D} | \theta) p(\theta)}{q(\theta | \phi)} q(\theta | \phi) d\theta \\ &= f(\phi) - \int \boxed{\frac{q(\theta(\zeta) | \phi)}{r(\theta(\zeta) | \varphi)}} \log p(\mathcal{D} | \theta(\zeta)) p(\zeta) d\zeta + \log \int \boxed{\frac{p(\mathcal{D} | \theta(\zeta)) p(\theta(\zeta))}{r(\theta(\zeta) | \varphi)}} p(\zeta) d\zeta \end{aligned}$$

Importance Distribution
 $r(\theta(\zeta) | \varphi)$

Re-parameterization params.
 ζ

Two Step Optimization:

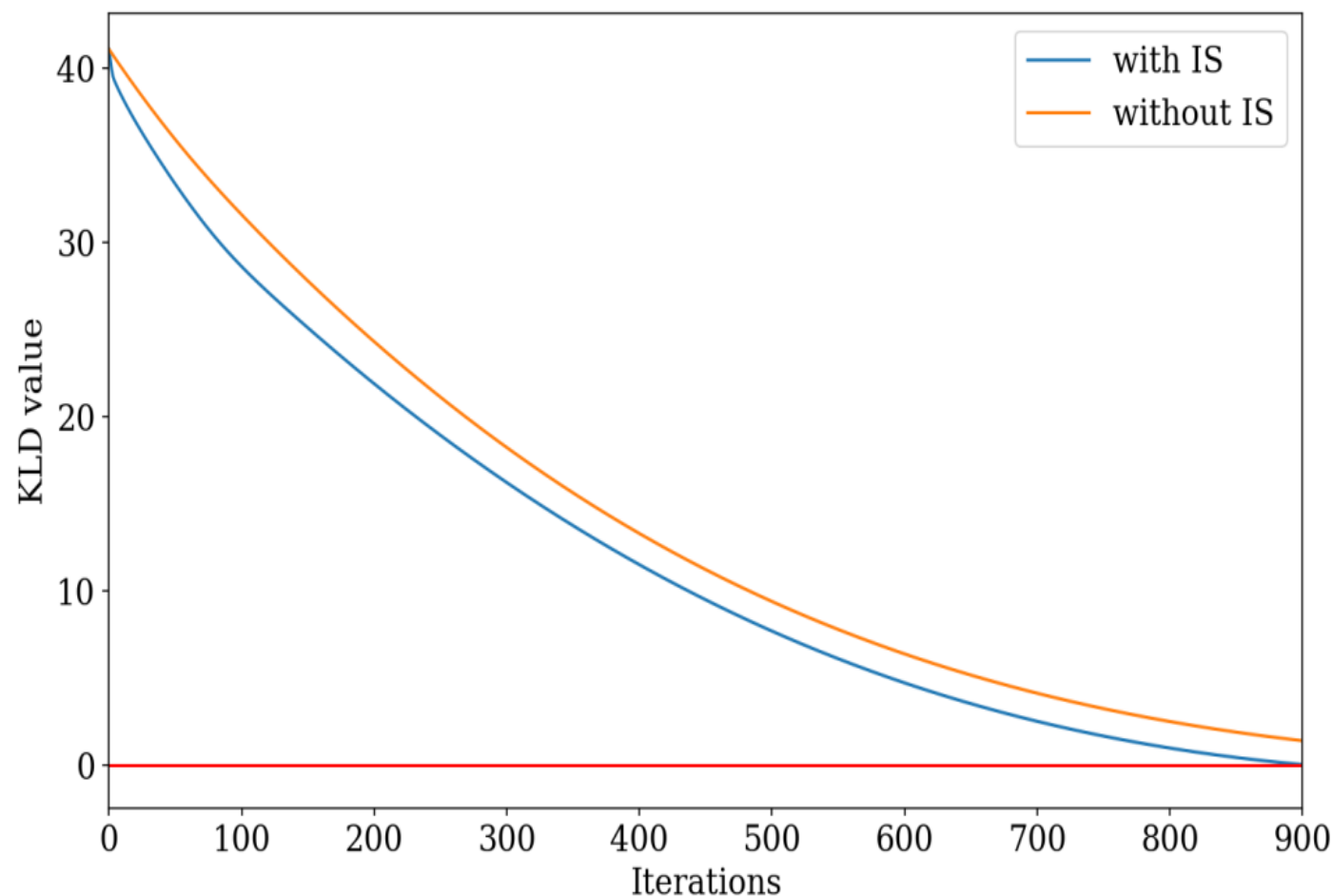
VI params. Optimization
 ϕ

IS params. Optimization
 φ



A Study of Bias-Variance in Variational Inferencing Using Delta Method

- Dimension of the problem : 5
- Linear model $:= \mathcal{Y} = X + v$
- v : Zero mean Gaussian noise
- Importance distribution is Gaussian, initialized as the initial variational distribution.
- The VI parameters (μ, L) where $LL^T = \Sigma$
- Sample size 1000 for both VI and IS.





Contact Information

Niladri Das | Postdoctoral Appointee | ndas@sandia.gov

Thomas A. Catanach | P.I. | tacatan@sandia.gov

[08739](#) | [Extreme-scale DS & Analytics](#)

Thank You