

# Beyond Backpropagation: Uncertainty Propagation

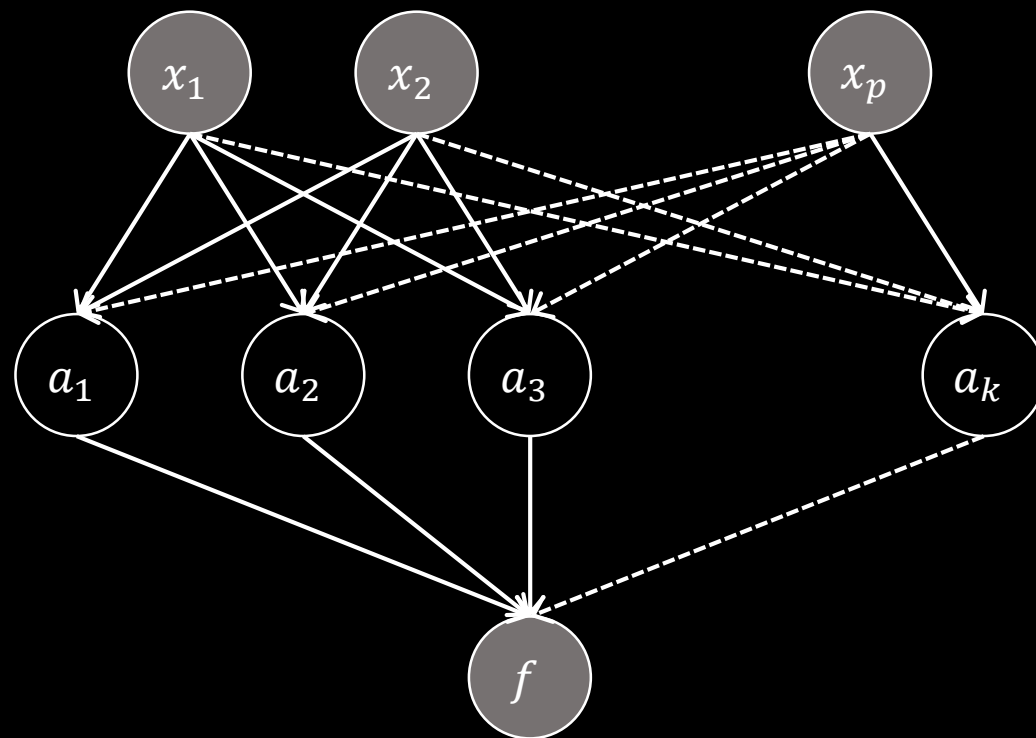
NEIL LAWRENCE  
UNIVERSITY OF SHEFFIELD

[@lawrennd](#)



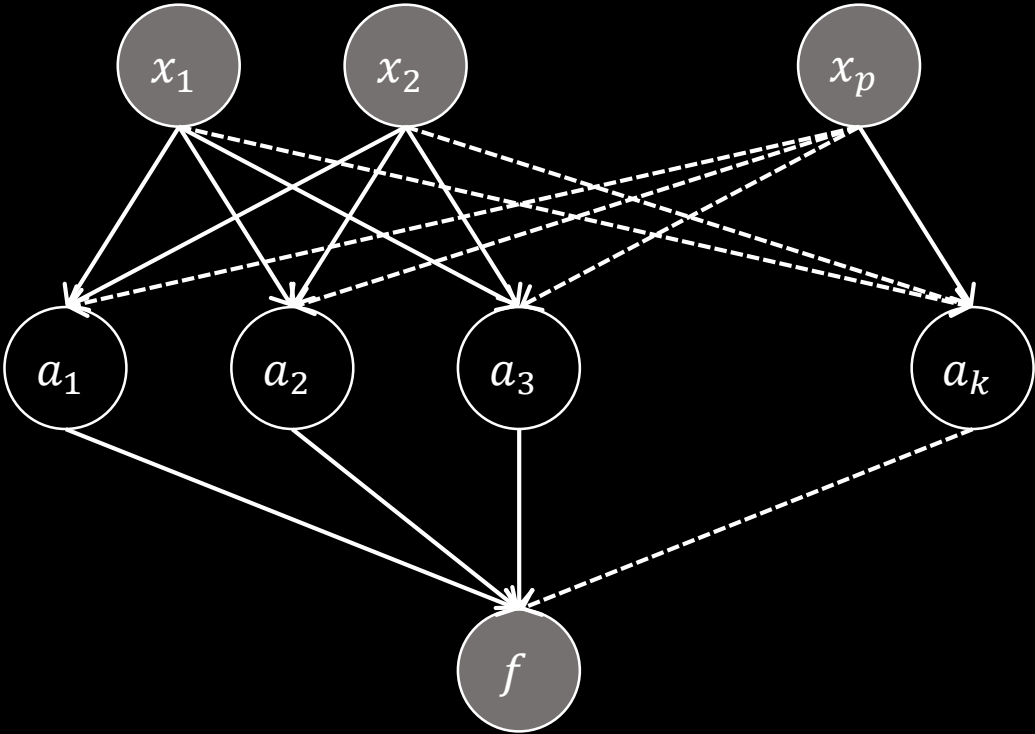
$$f(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_{j=1}^k u_j \phi(a_j)$$

$$a_j = \sum_{i=1}^p v_{i,j} x_i$$



$$v_{i,j} \sim N(0, \alpha_u)$$

$$u_i \sim N(0, \alpha_u)$$

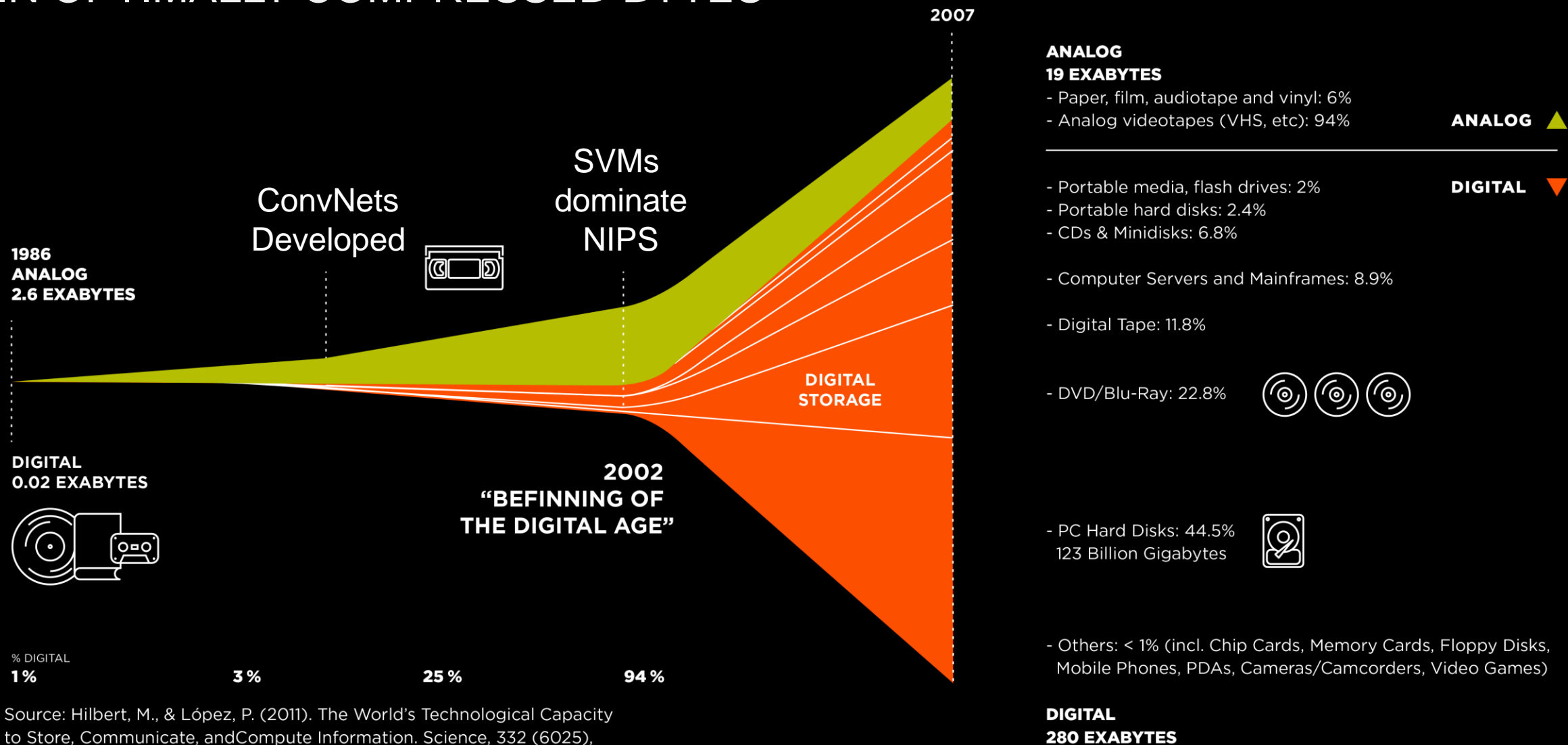


$$E_{\mathbf{u} \sim \mathcal{U}(\mathbf{V})} \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{2\sigma^2} \sum_{t=1}^n (f_i(\mathbf{x}_t; \mathbf{u}; \mathbf{W}) - y_t)^2 - \frac{n}{2} \log 2\pi\sigma^2$$

$$\log p(\mathbf{y}|\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{u}, \mathbf{V}) = \frac{1}{2\sigma^2} \sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - f(\mathbf{x}_i; \mathbf{u}, \mathbf{V}))^2 - \frac{1}{2\alpha_u} u_i^2 - \frac{1}{2\alpha_v} v_{i,j}^2$$

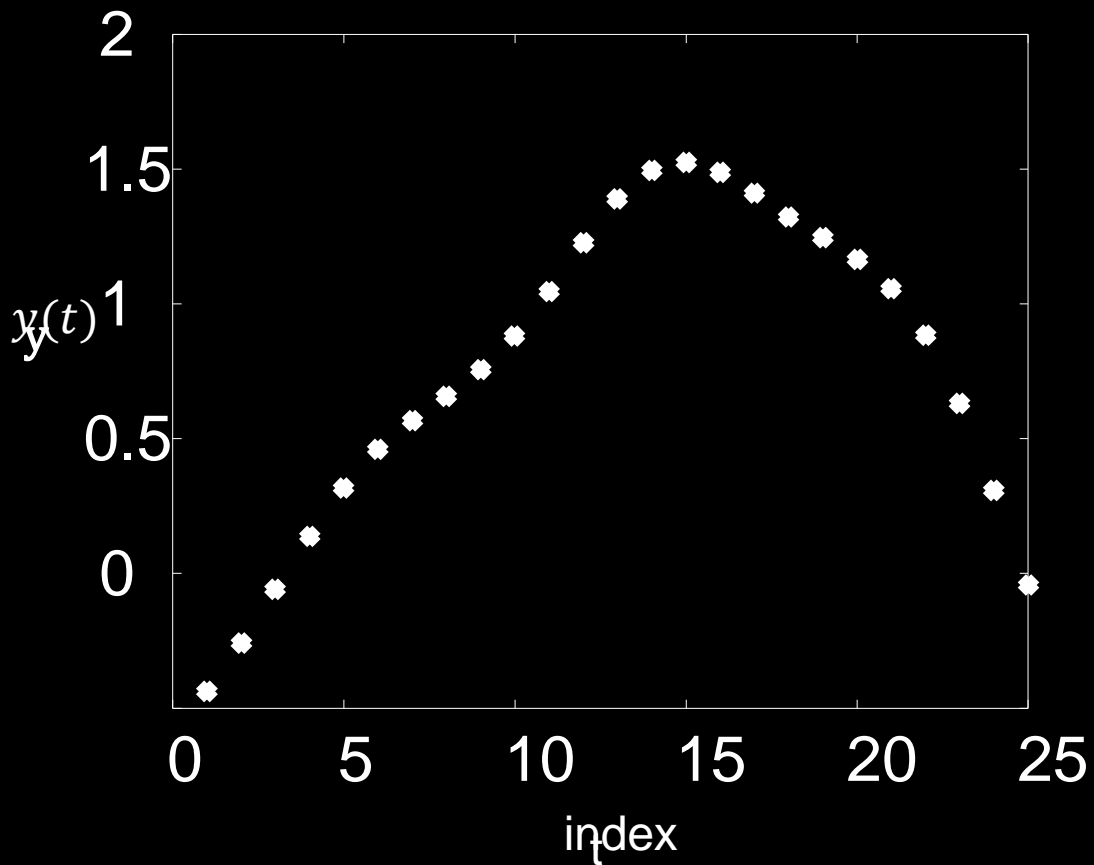
+ const.

# GLOBAL INFORMATION STORAGE CAPACITY IN OPTIMALLY COMPRESSED BYTES

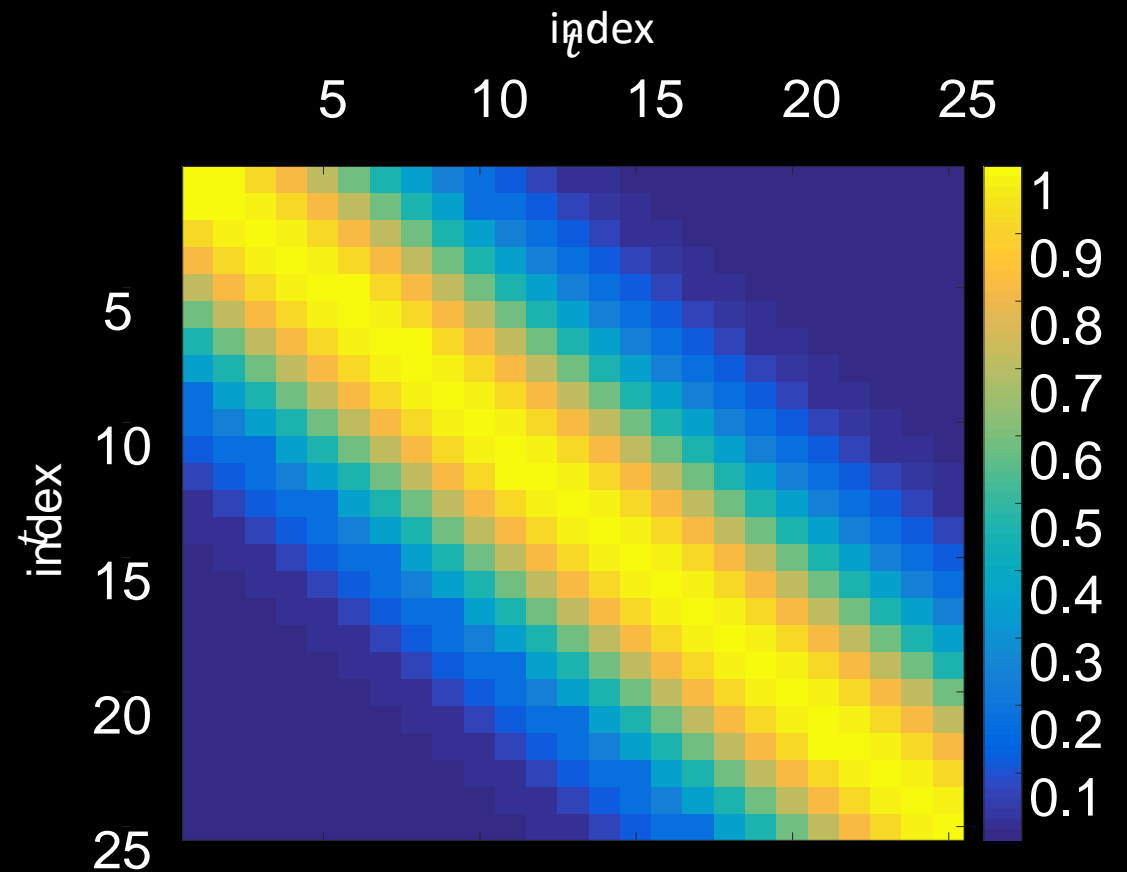


Source: Hilbert, M., & López, P. (2011). The World's Technological Capacity to Store, Communicate, and Compute Information. Science, 332 (6025), 60-65. [martinhilbert.net/worldinfocapacity.html](http://martinhilbert.net/worldinfocapacity.html)

# Zero Mean Gaussian Processes Sample

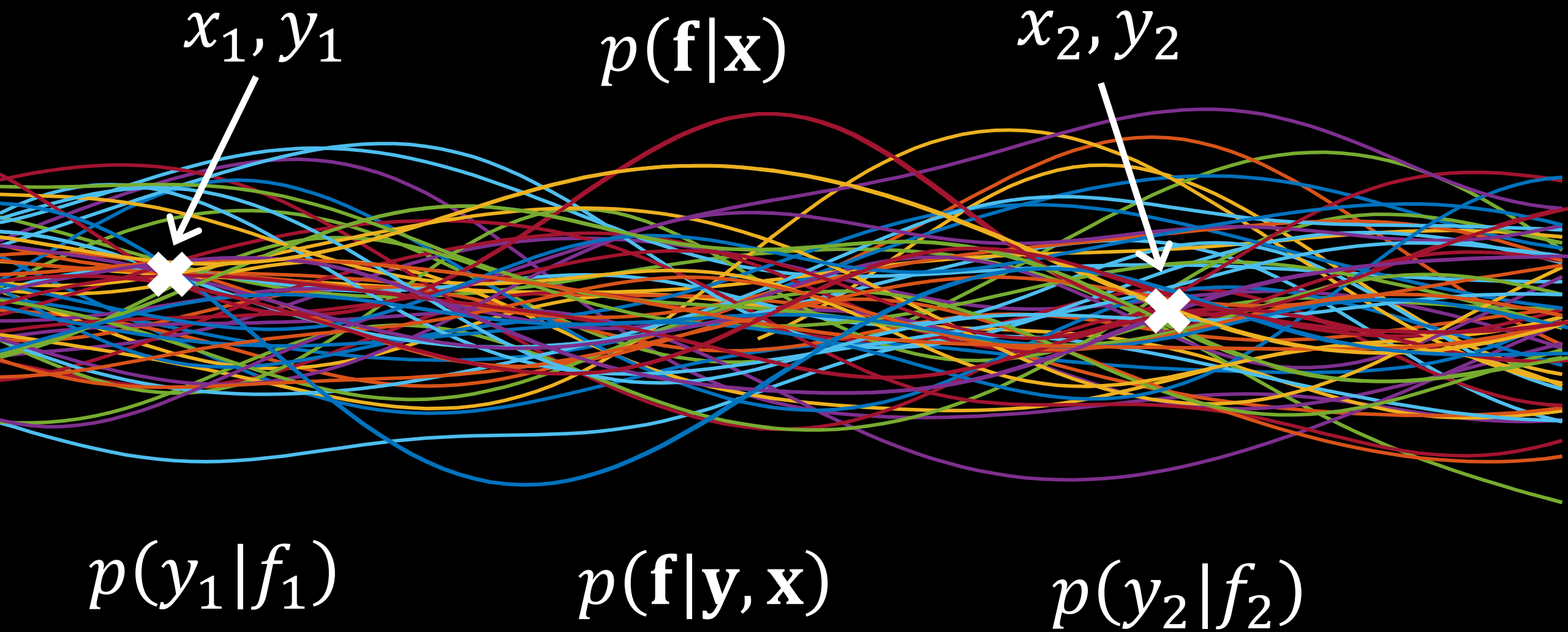


samples from Gaussian process

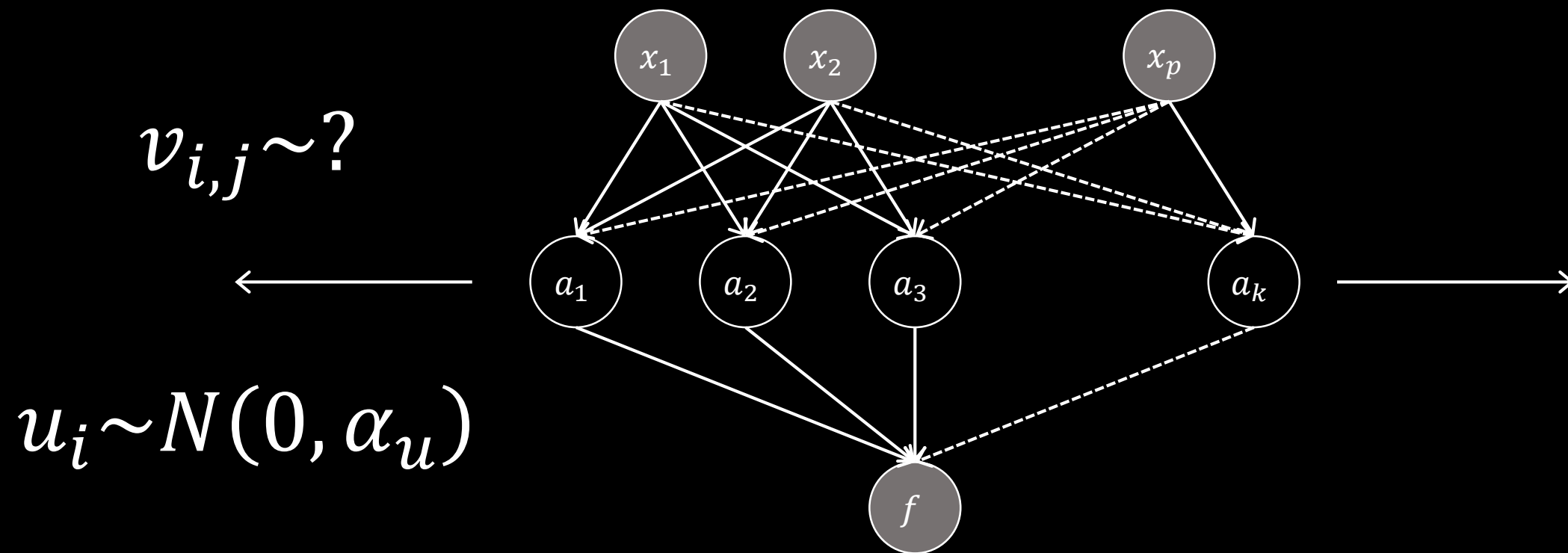


covariance function  $c(t, t')$

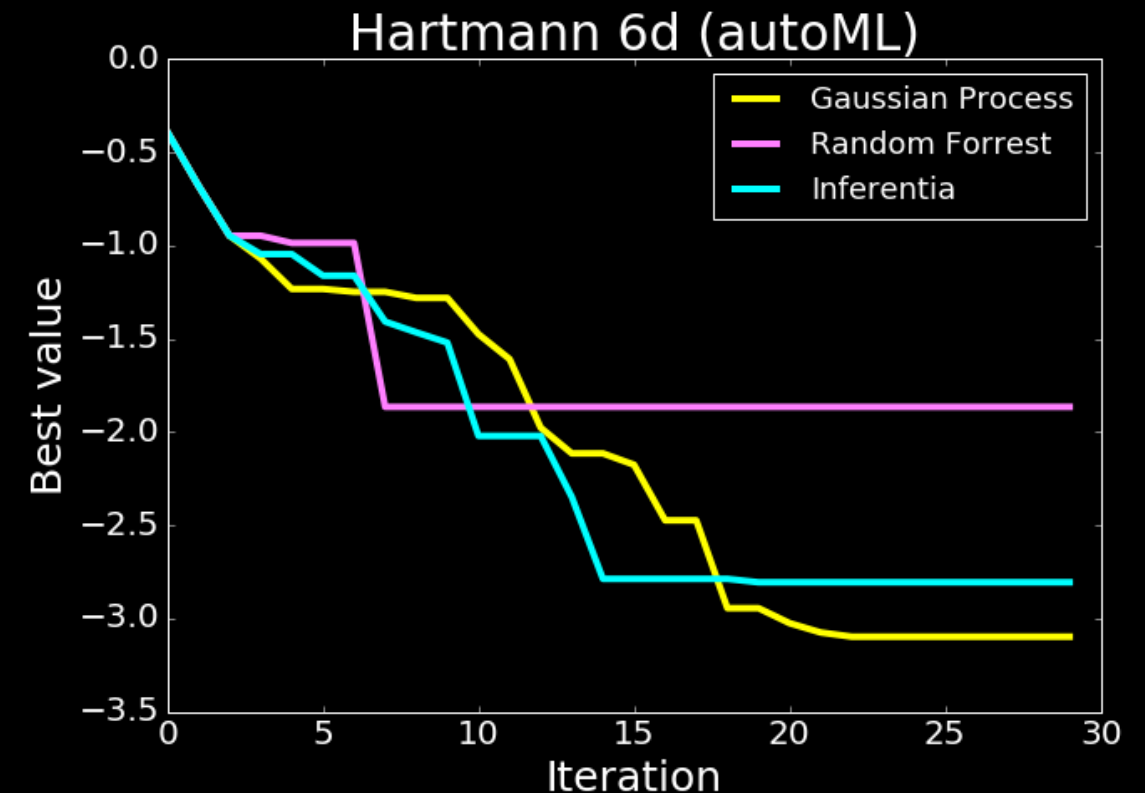
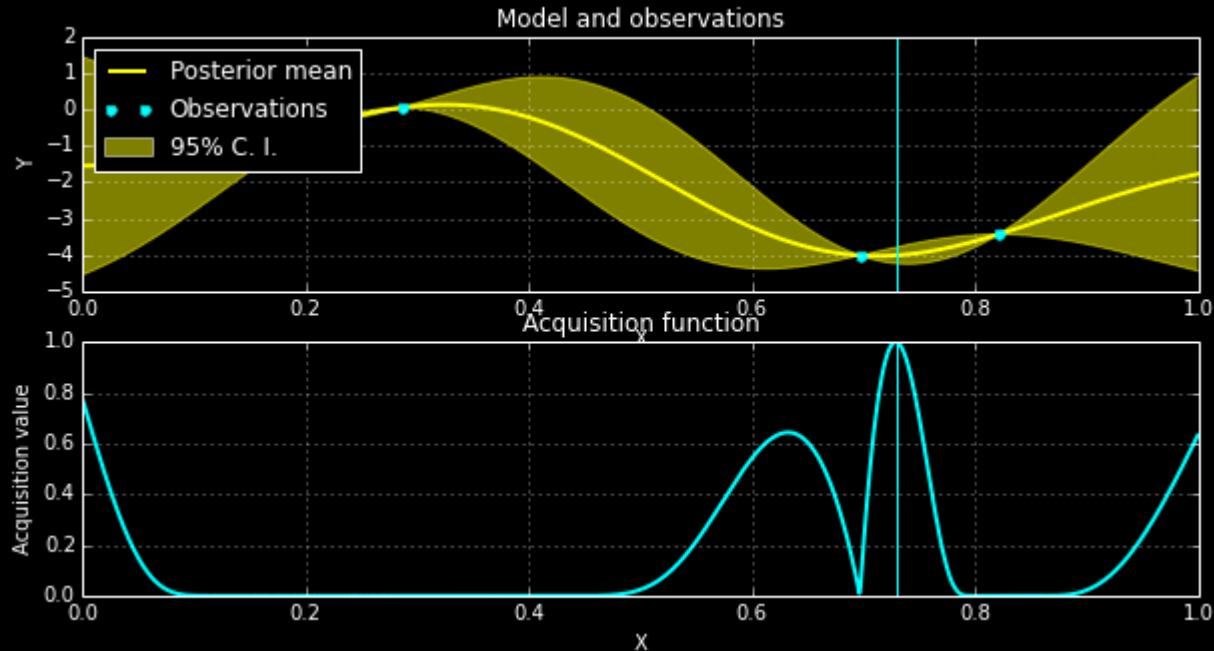
# Gaussian Processes





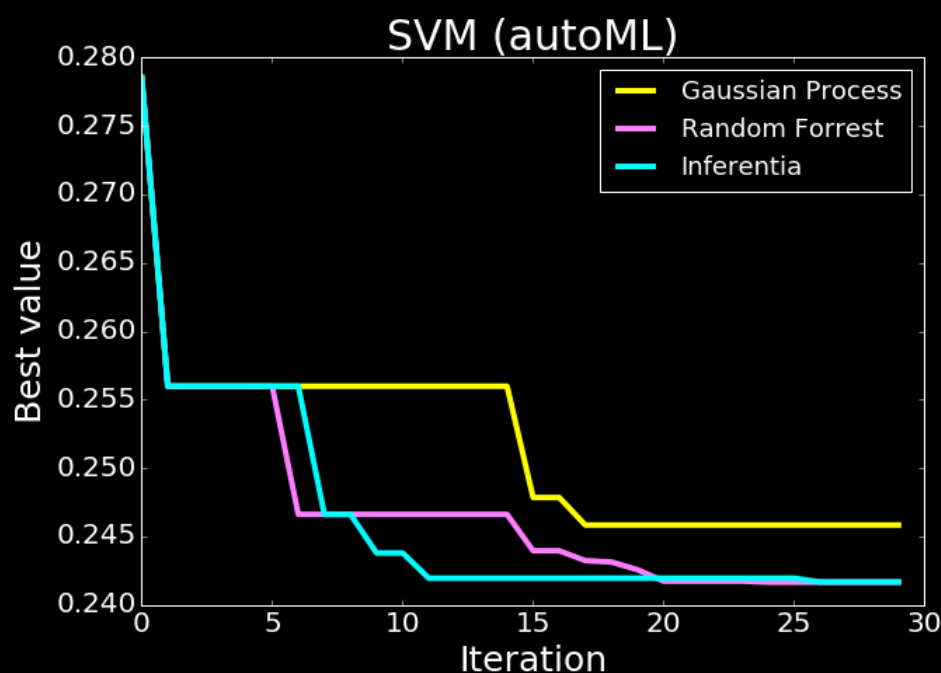
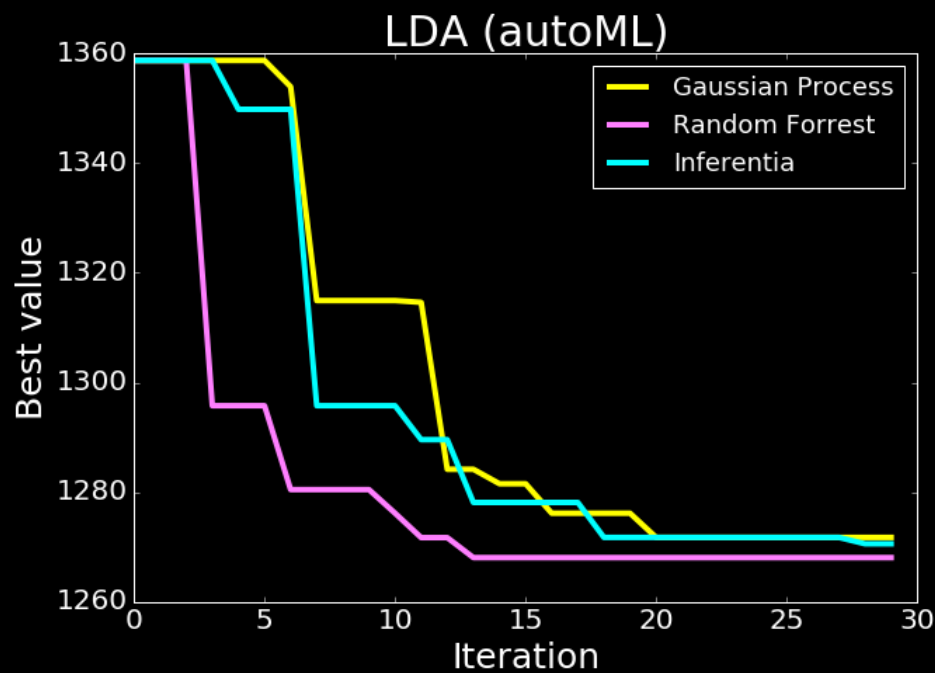
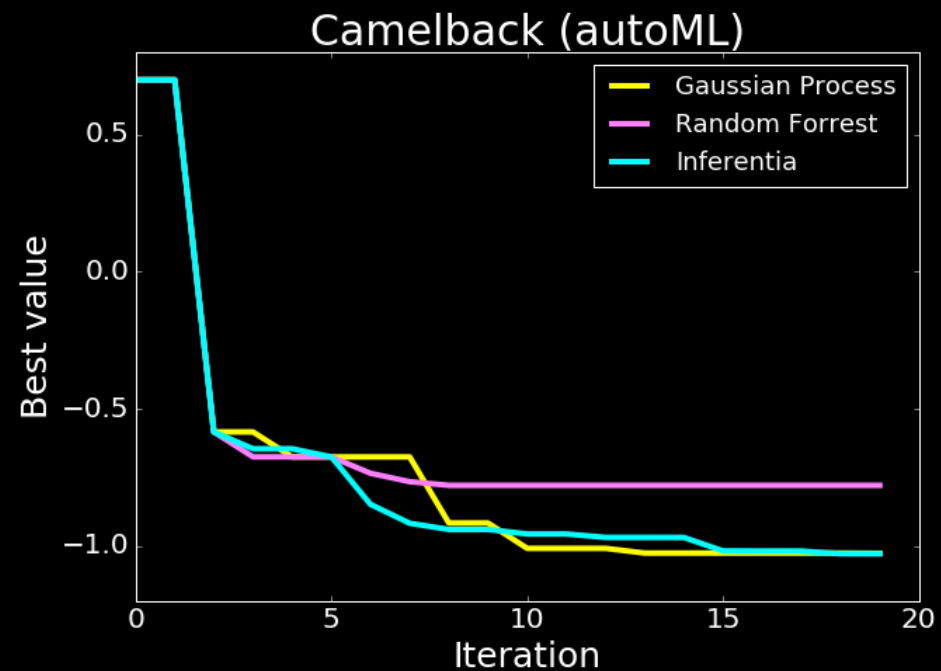
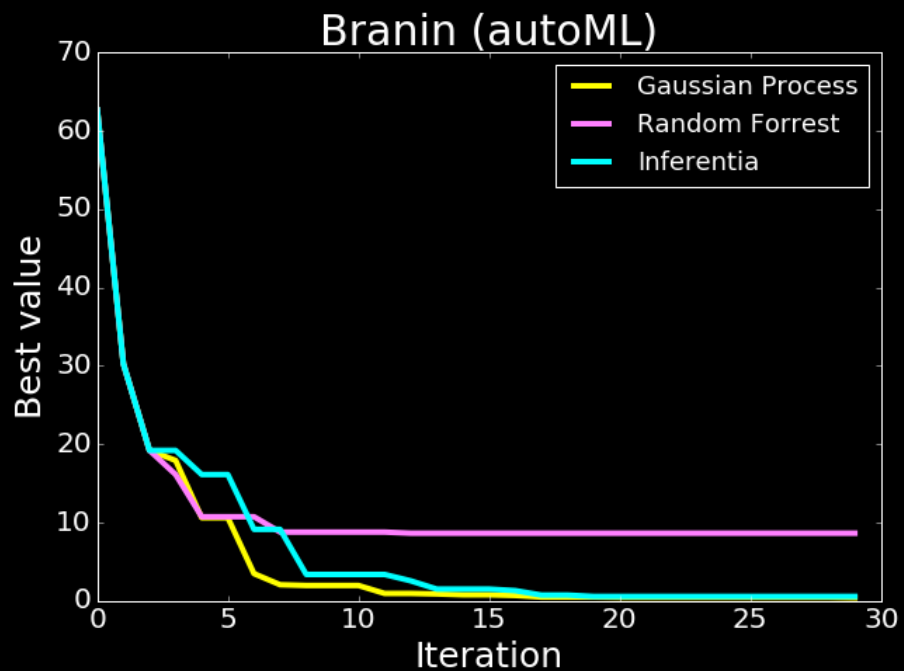


# Bayesian Optimization



- Check

<http://sheffieldml.github.io/GPyOpt/>



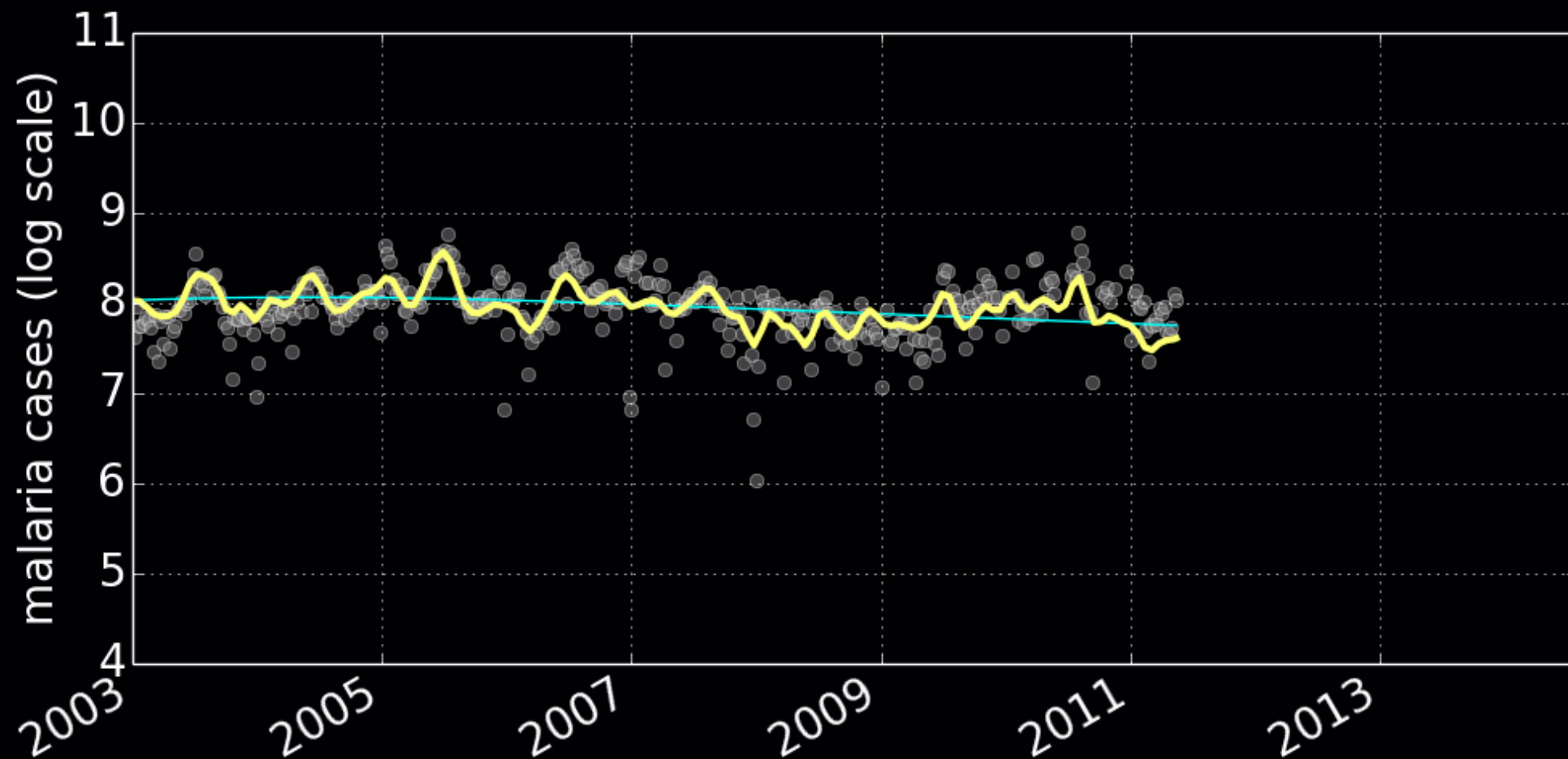
# Open Data Science and Africa

## Challenge

- “Whole pipeline challenge”
- Make software available
- Teach summer schools
- Support local meetings
  - Publicity in the Guardian
- Opportunities to deploy pipeline solutions

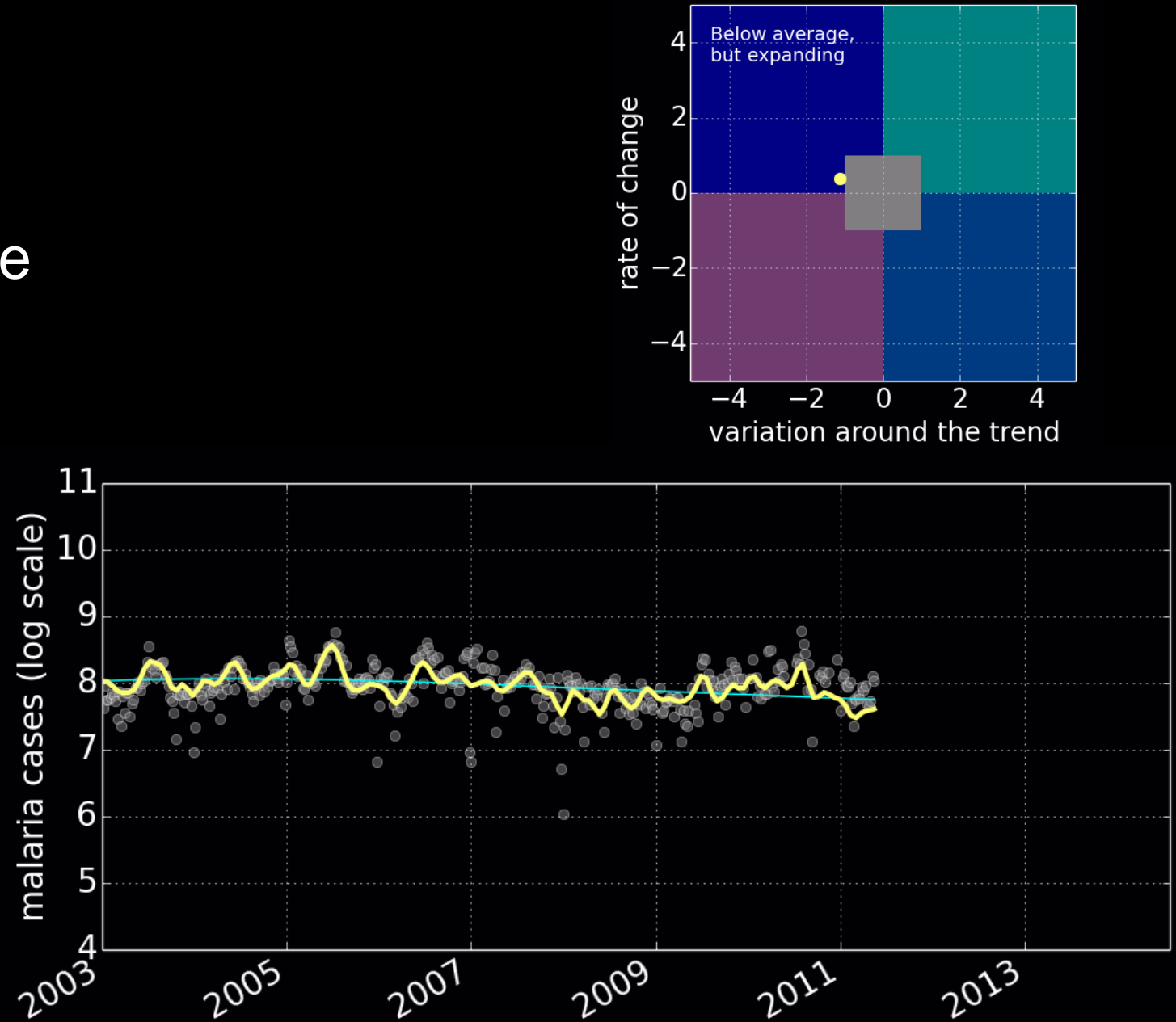
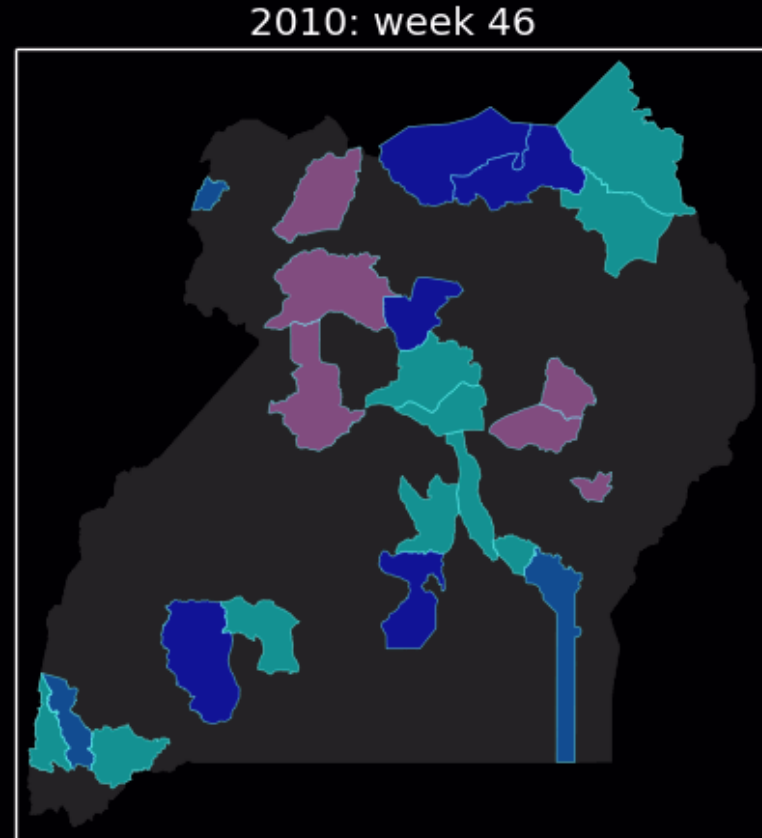


# Disease Incidence for Malaria



# Uganda

- Spatial models of disease



# Deployed with UN Global Pulse Lab

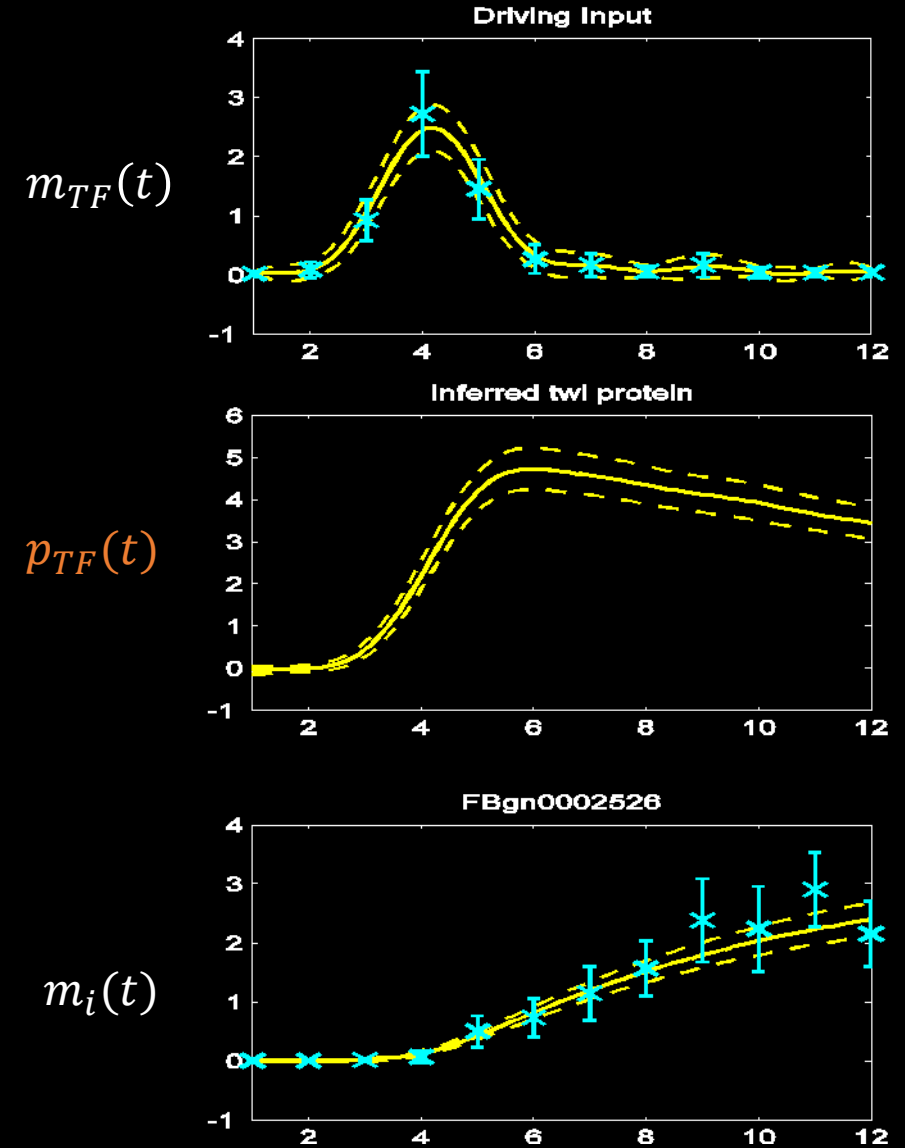


<http://pulselabkampala.ug/hmis/>

# Results

$$\frac{dp_{TF}(t)}{dt} = s_f m_{TF}(t) - d_f p_{TF}(t)$$

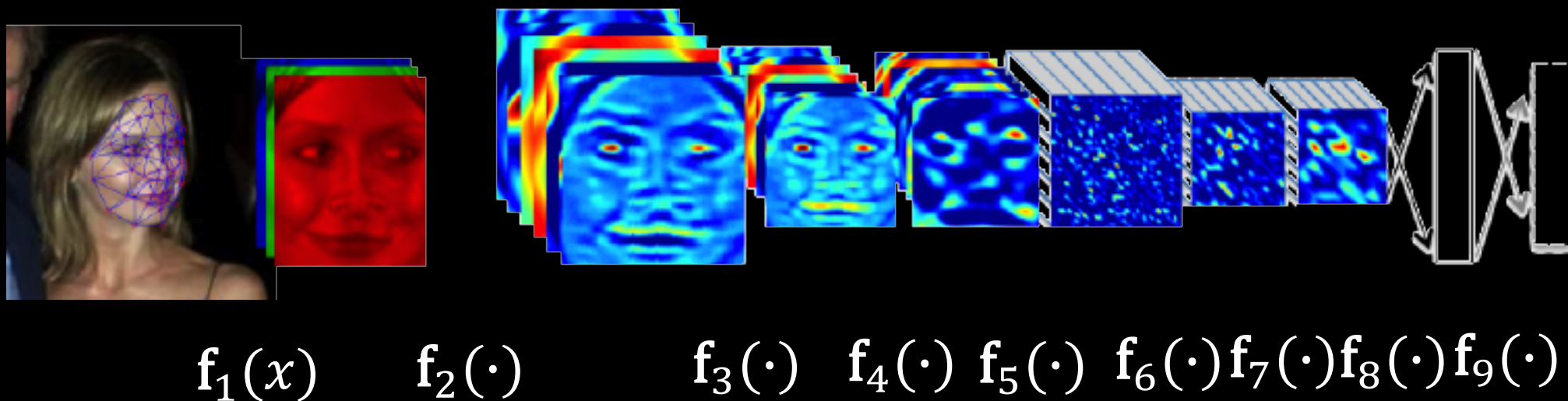
$$\frac{dm_i(t)}{dt} = s_i p_{TF}(t) - d_i m_i(t)$$





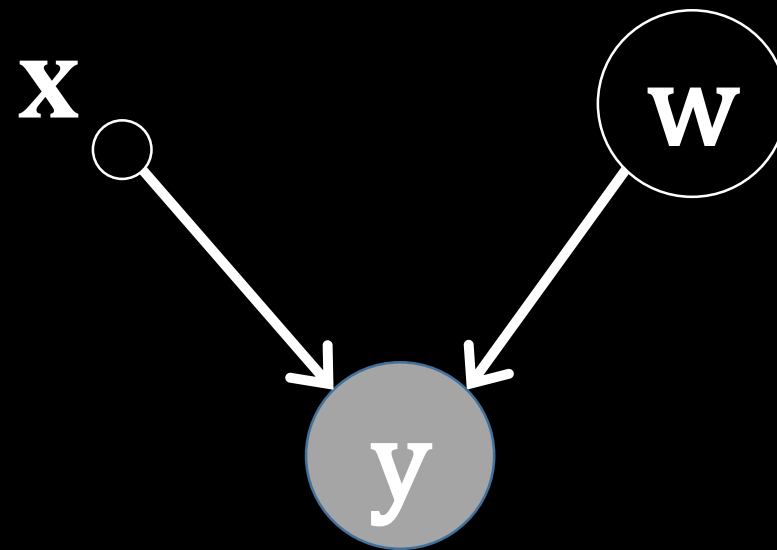
David: Have we thrown out the baby  
with the bathwater?

$$g(x)$$



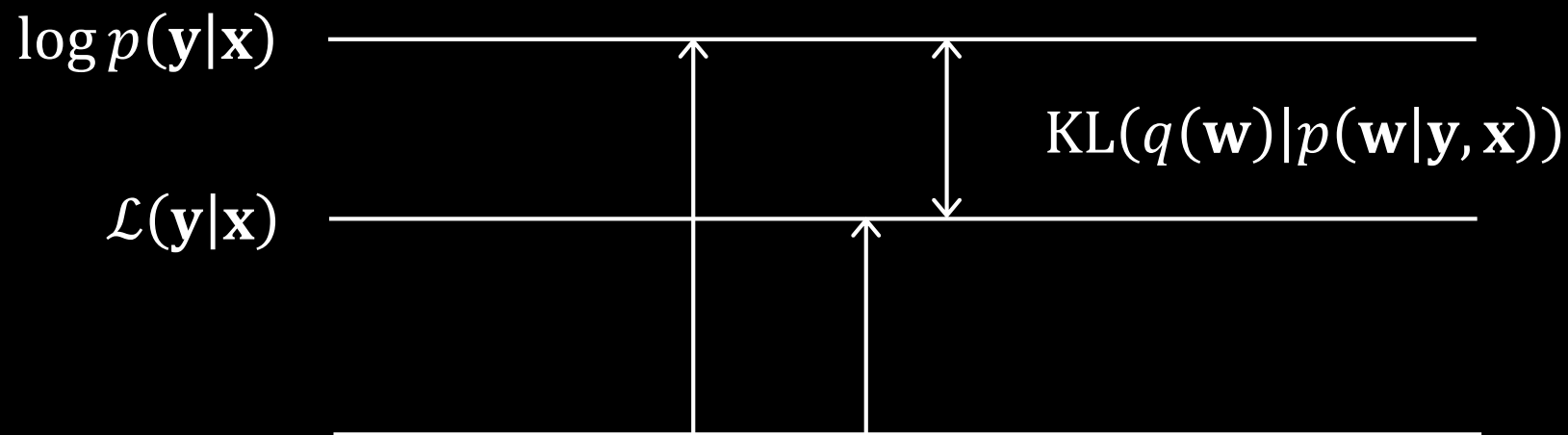
$$g(x) = f_9 \left( f_8 \left( f_7 \left( f_6 (\cdots) \right) \right) \right)$$

$$p(\mathbf{y}, \mathbf{w} | \mathbf{x}) = p(\mathbf{y} | \mathbf{w}, \mathbf{x}) p(\mathbf{w})$$



$$p(\mathbf{y} | \mathbf{x}) = \int p(\mathbf{y} | \mathbf{w}, \mathbf{x}) p(\mathbf{w}) d\mathbf{w}$$

$$\log \hat{p}(\mathbf{y}|\mathbf{x}) \cong \int q(\mathbf{w}) \log \frac{p(\mathbf{y}|\mathbf{w}, \mathbf{x})p(\mathbf{w})}{q(\mathbf{w})} d\mathbf{w}$$



expected  
log likelihood

dissimilarity  
between  $q(\mathbf{w})$   
and  $p(\mathbf{w})$

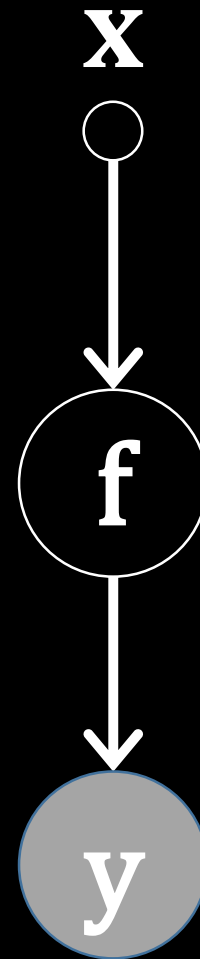
$$\mathcal{L}(\mathbf{y}|\mathbf{x}) = \underbrace{\left\langle \sum_{i=1}^n \log p(y_i | \mathbf{x}_i; \mathbf{w}) \right\rangle_{q(\mathbf{w})}}_{\text{expected log likelihood}} - \underbrace{\text{KL}(q(\mathbf{w}) \| p(\mathbf{w}))}_{\text{dissimilarity between } q(\mathbf{w}) \text{ and } p(\mathbf{w})} + \text{const}$$

$$\mathbf{f}|\mathbf{x} \sim N(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{K}_{ff})$$

$$k_{ff}(x_i, x'_i) = \alpha \exp\left(-\frac{\|x_i - x'_i\|^2}{2\ell^2}\right)$$

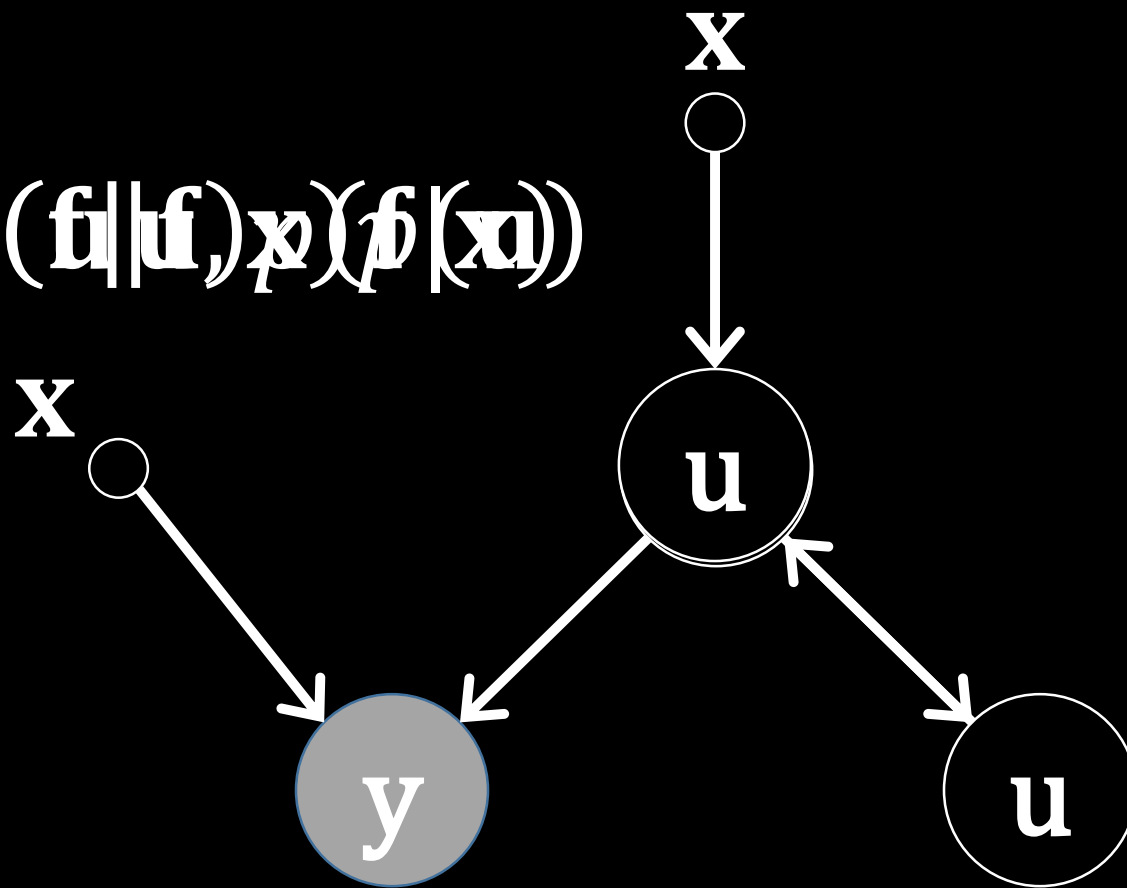
$$y_i|f_i \sim N(0, \sigma^2)$$

$$p(\mathbf{y}, \mathbf{f} | \mathbf{x}) = p(\mathbf{y} | \mathbf{f}) p(\mathbf{f} | \mathbf{x})$$



$$p(\mathbf{y} | \mathbf{x}) = \int p(\mathbf{y} | \mathbf{f}) p(\mathbf{f} | \mathbf{x}) d\mathbf{f}$$

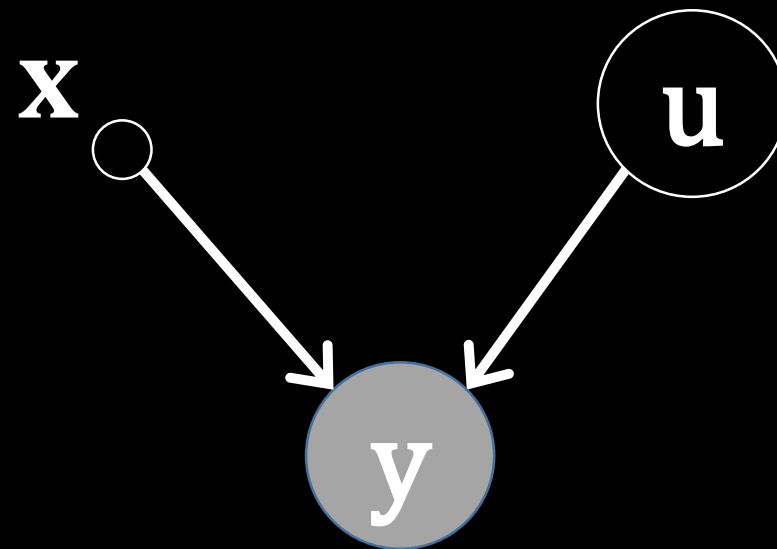
$$p(\mathbf{y}, \mathbf{f}, \mathbf{u}) = p(\mathbf{y}|\mathbf{f})p(\mathbf{f}|\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{x})p(\mathbf{u})p(\mathbf{x})$$



$$p(\mathbf{y}|\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{x})p(\mathbf{u}) = \int p(\mathbf{y}|\mathbf{f})p(\mathbf{f}|\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{x})d\mathbf{f}p(\mathbf{u})$$



$$p(\mathbf{y}, \mathbf{u} | \mathbf{x}) = p(\mathbf{y} | \mathbf{u}, \mathbf{x}) p(\mathbf{u})$$



**u** looks like a parameter

$$p(\mathbf{y} | \mathbf{x}) = \int p(\mathbf{y} | \mathbf{u}, \mathbf{x}) p(\mathbf{u}) d\mathbf{u}$$

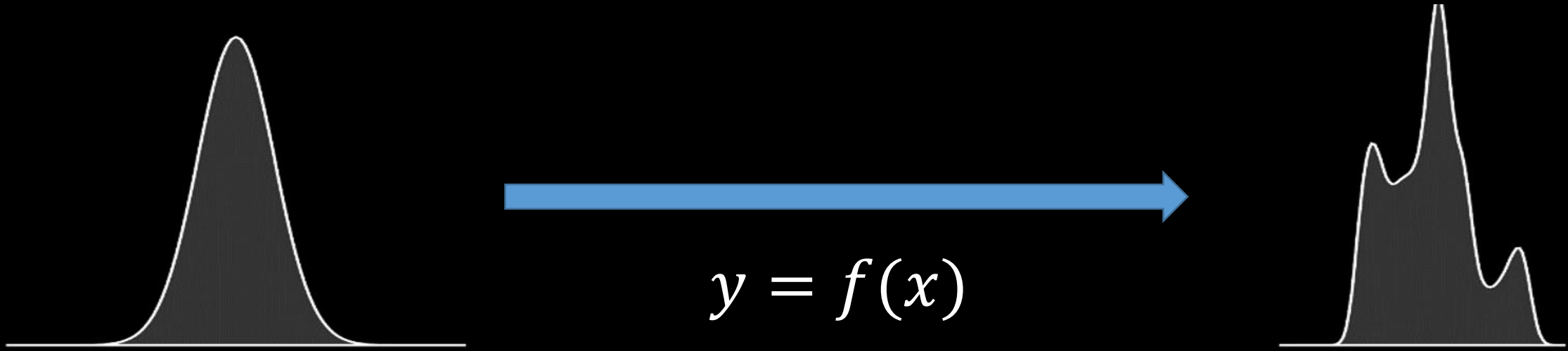
**but we can change the dimensionality of **u****

two Gaussian processes: apply bound recursively

$$\int p(y|\mathbf{f}_5) p(\mathbf{f}_5|\mathbf{f}_4) p(\mathbf{f}_4|\mathbf{f}_3) p(\mathbf{f}_3|\mathbf{f}_2) p(\mathbf{f}_1|\mathbf{x}) d\mathbf{f}$$

$$\mathbf{g}(x) = \mathbf{f}_5 \left( \mathbf{f}_4 \left( \mathbf{f}_3 \left( \mathbf{f}_2(\mathbf{f}_1(x)) \right) \right) \right)$$

# Render Gaussian Non Gaussian



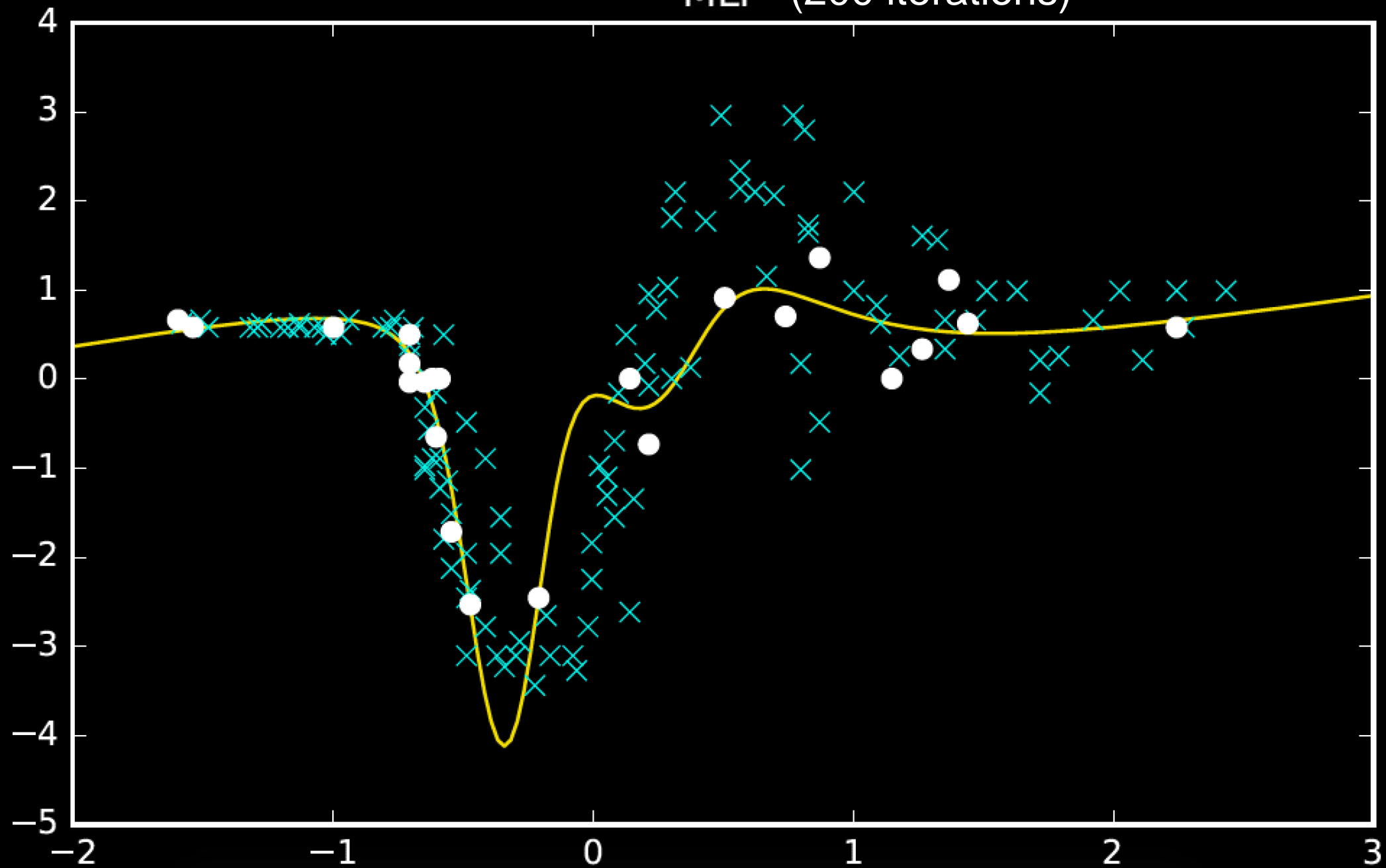
# Stochastic Process Composition

- A new approach to forming stochastic processes
- Mathematical composition:

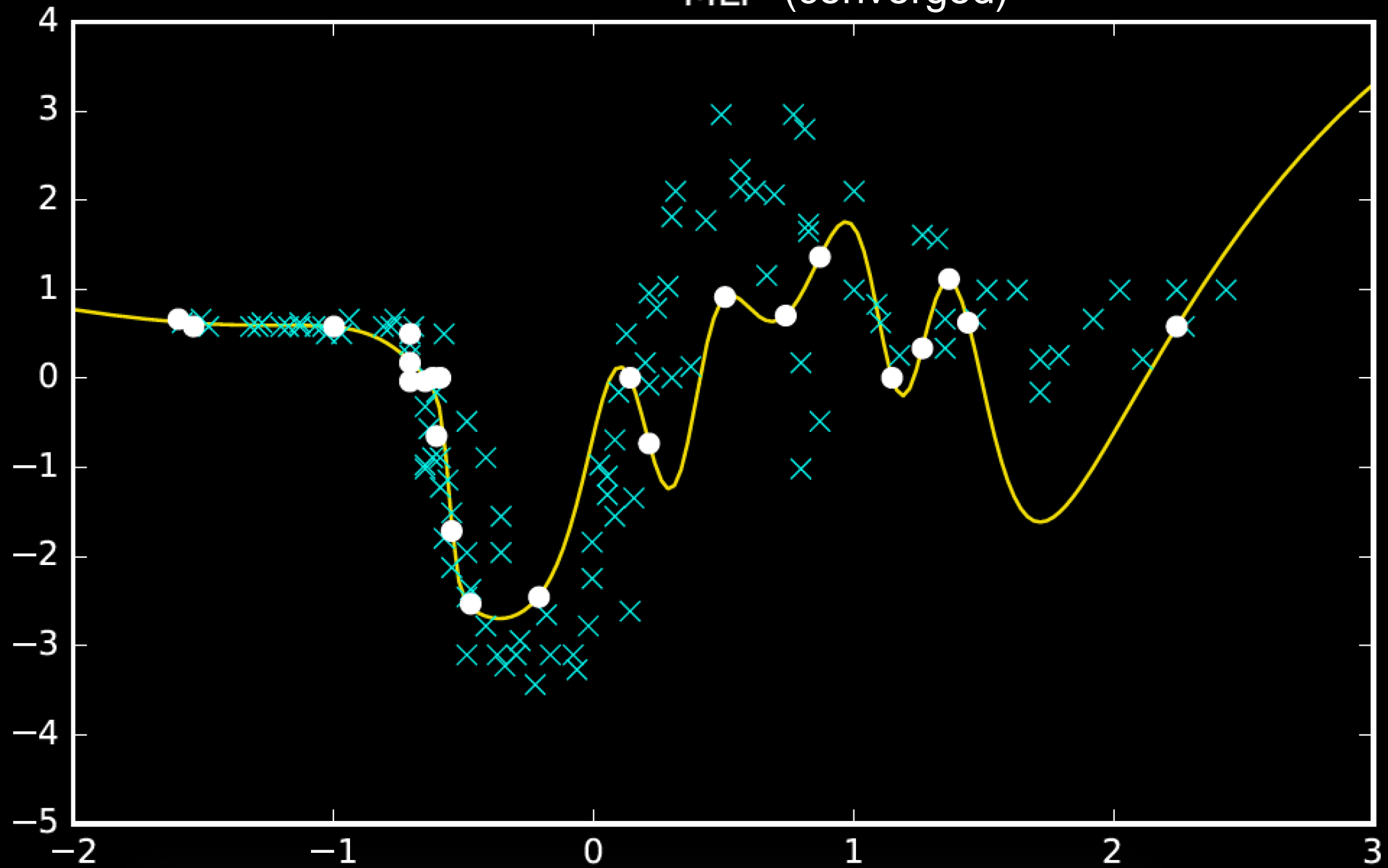
$$g(x) = f_1 \left( f_2(f_3(x)) \right)$$

- Properties of resulting process highly non-Gaussian
- Allows for hierarchical structured form of model.

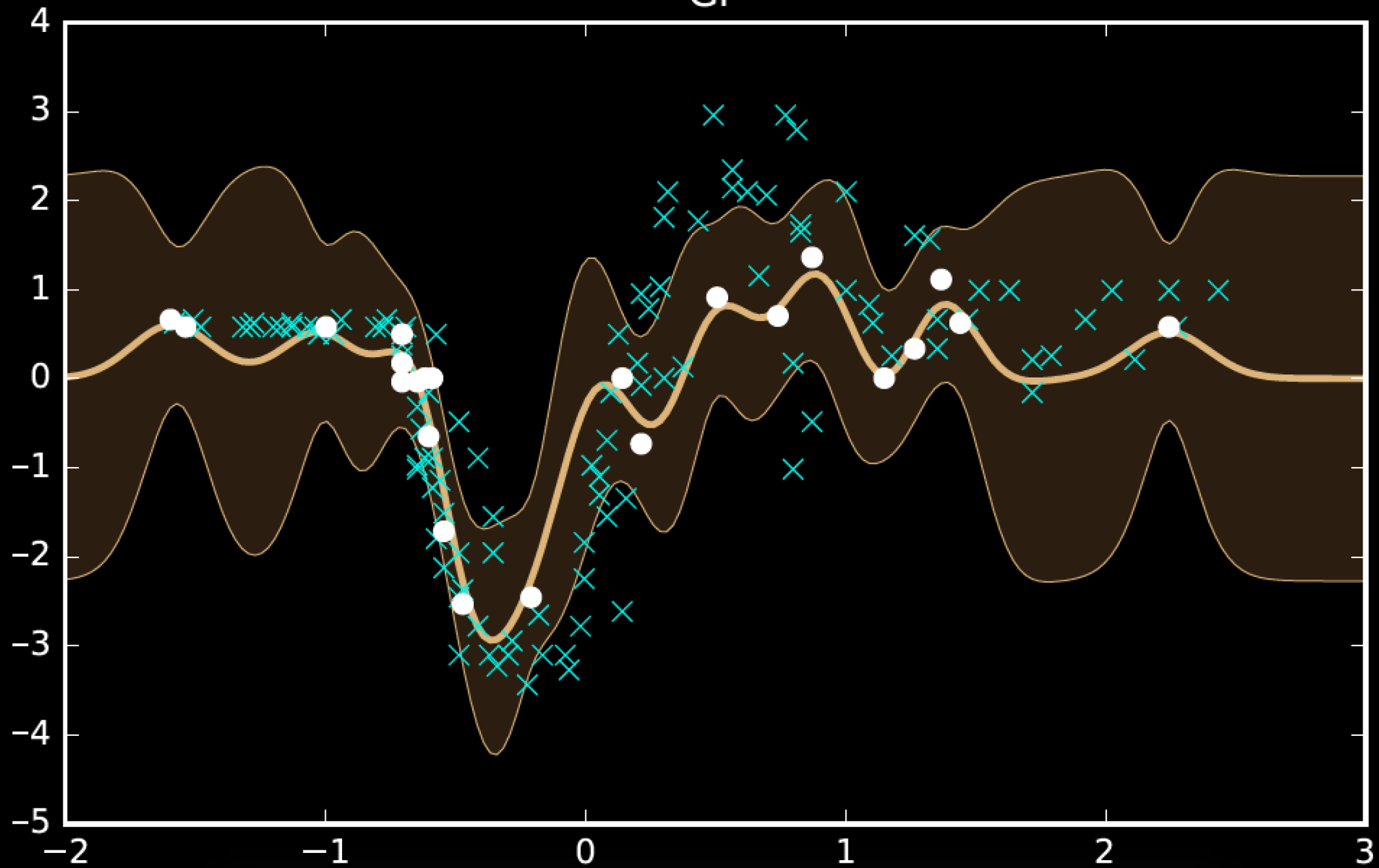
MLP (200 iterations)



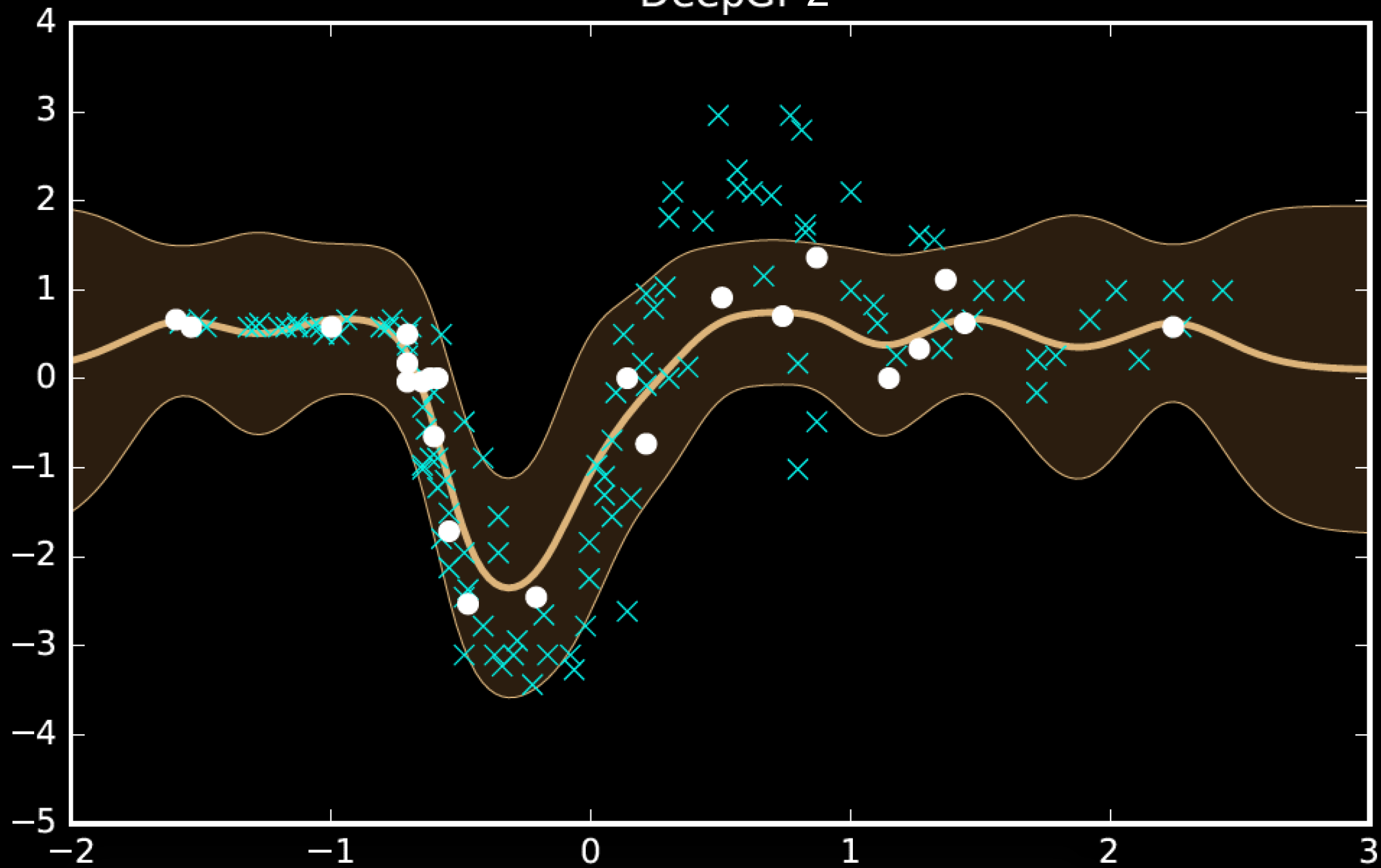
MLP (converged)



GP

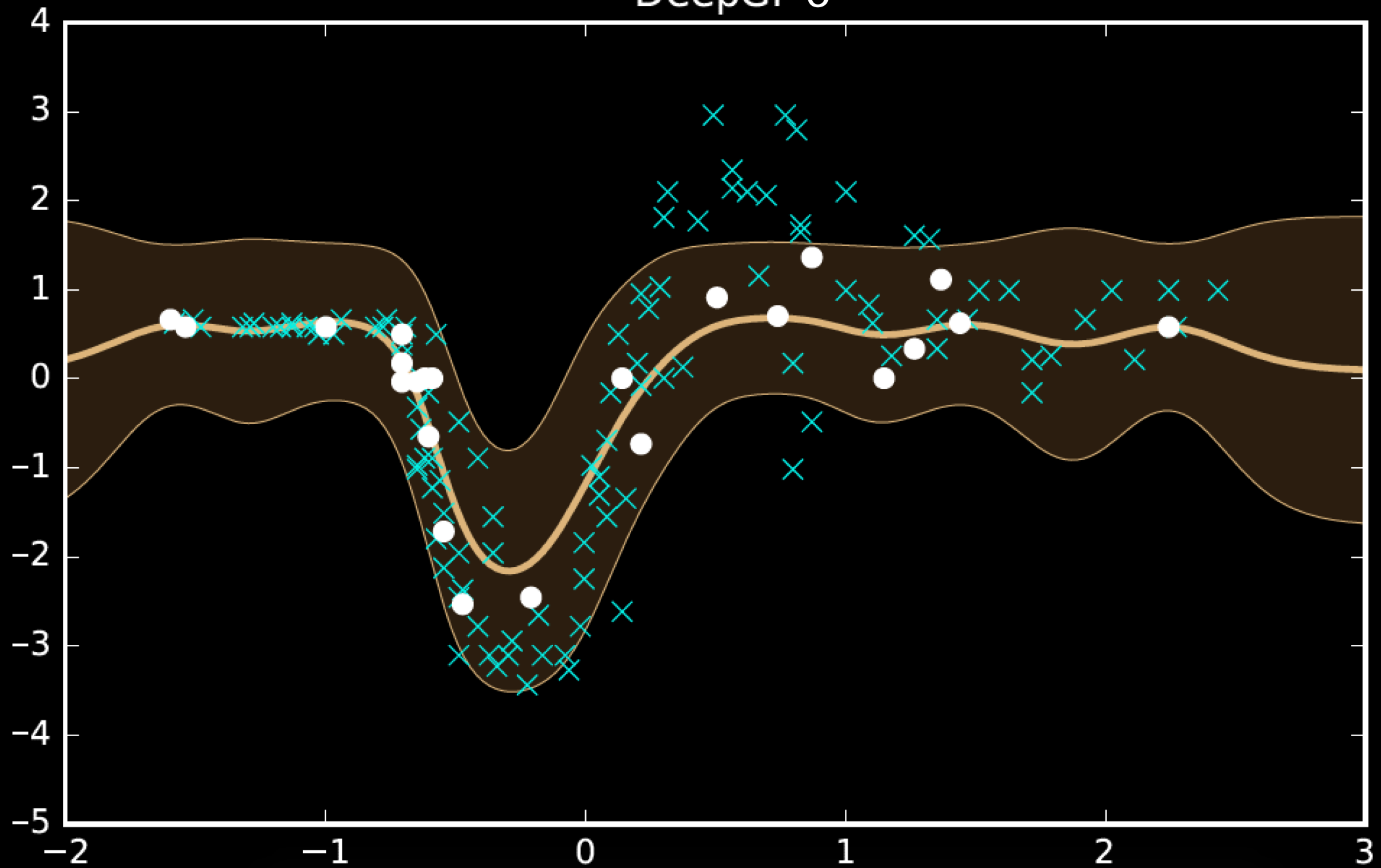


DeepGP 2





DeepGP 3



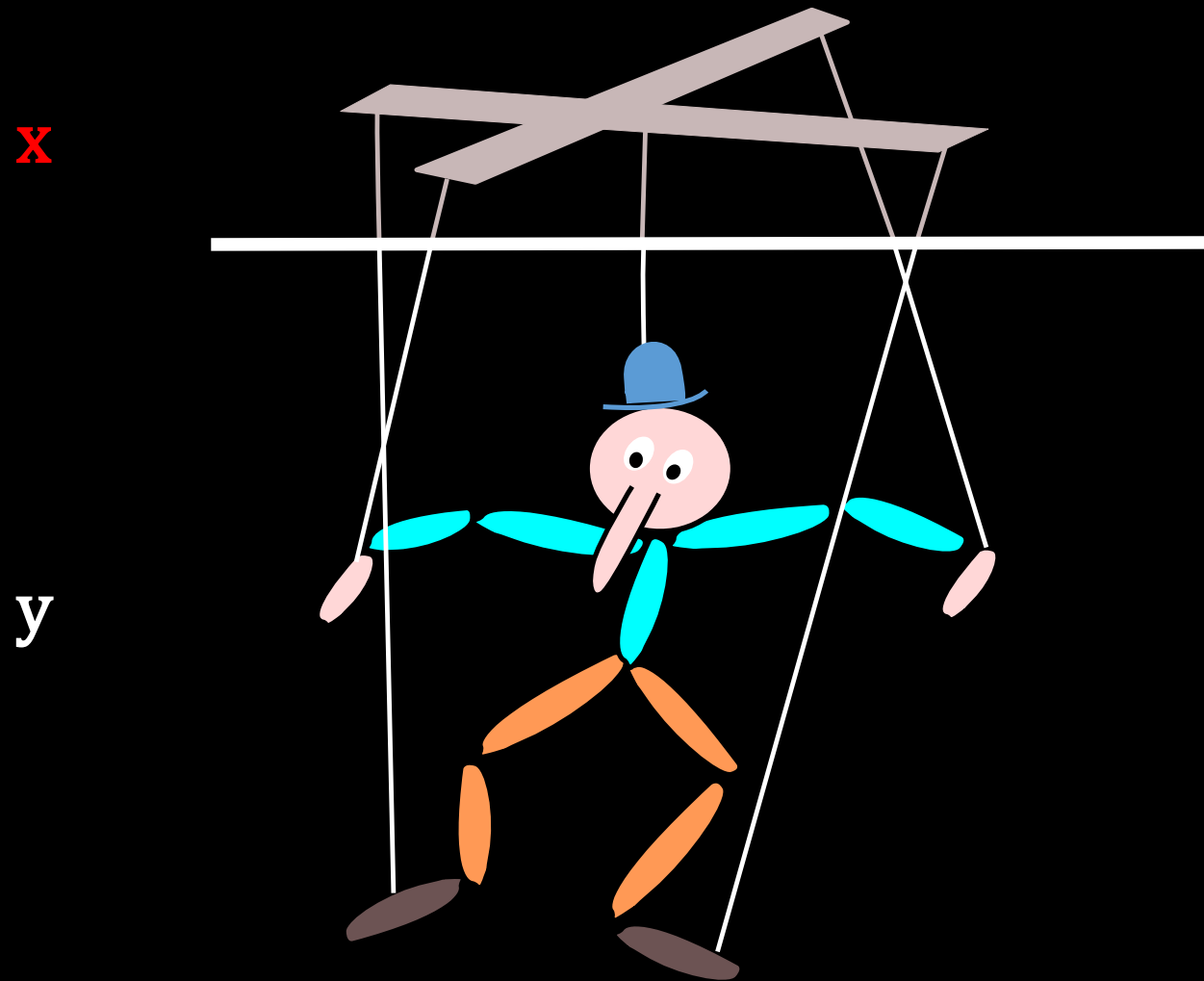
| <b>model</b>    | <b>MSE (train)</b> | <b>MSE (test)</b> |
|-----------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| mlp (200 iters) | 108.5              | 1185.1            |
| mlp (converged) | 24.0               | 1338.2            |
| gp              | 59.2               | 1095.4            |
| deep gp (2)     | 146.2              | 833.7             |
| deep gp (3)     | 182.5              | 843.6             |

One hundred hidden nodes, one hundred inducing points

# Regression

| data set | $n$  | $p$ | GP        | Sparse GP | Deep GP   |
|----------|------|-----|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| housing  | 506  | 13  | 2.78±0.54 | 2.77±0.60 | 2.69±0.49 |
| redwine  | 588  | 11  | 0.72±0.06 | 0.62±0.04 | 0.62±0.04 |
| energy1  | 768  | 8   | 0.48±0.07 | 0.50±0.07 | 0.49±0.07 |
| energy2  | 768  | 8   | 0.59±0.08 | 1.66±0.21 | 1.39±0.49 |
| concrete | 1030 | 8   | 5.26±0.67 | 5.81±0.62 | 5.66±0.62 |

# Classical Latent Variables



# Classical Treatment

- Assume *a priori* that

$$\mathbf{x} \sim N(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{I})$$

- Relate linearly to  $\mathbf{y}$

$$\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{W}\mathbf{x} + \epsilon$$

- Framework covers many classical models PCA, Factor Analysis, ICA

# Classical Treatment

- Assume *a priori* that

$$\mathbf{x} \sim N(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{I})$$

- Relate to  $\mathbf{y}$  using neural net

$$\mathbf{y} = f(\mathbf{x}; \mathbf{u}, \mathbf{V}) + \epsilon$$

- Optimise over  $\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{V}$

David applied importance sampling

# MATLAB Demo

- demo\_2016\_05\_03\_iclr.m

# New Treatment

- Assume *a priori* that

$$f(\mathbf{x}) \sim N(0, \mathbf{K})$$

- Relate to  $y$  using neural net

$$\mathbf{y} = f(\mathbf{x}) + \epsilon$$

- Optimise over  $\mathbf{x}$

Originally inspired by density nets

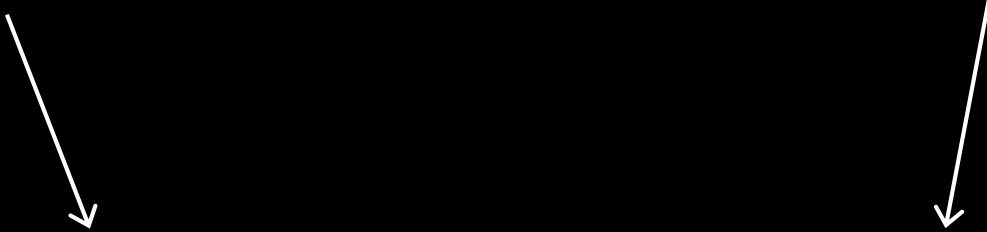


# MATLAB Demo

- demo\_2016\_05\_03\_iclr.m

expected  
log likelihood

dissimilarity  
between  $q(\mathbf{x})$   
and  $p(\mathbf{x})$


$$\mathcal{L}(\mathbf{y}|\mathbf{u}) = \langle \log \hat{p}(\mathbf{y}|\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{x}) \rangle_{q(\mathbf{x})} - \text{KL}(q(\mathbf{x})|p(\mathbf{x}))$$

model remains linear in  $\mathbf{u}$

$$\hat{p}(\mathbf{y}|\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{x}) \propto N(\mathbf{y}|\mathbf{m}, \sigma^2 \mathbf{I}) \exp\left(\frac{c_{ii}}{2\sigma^2}\right)$$

$$c_{ii} = k_{ii}(x_i, x_i) - \mathbf{k}_{iu}(x_i) \mathbf{K}_{uu}^{-1} \mathbf{k}_{ui}(x_i)$$

$$\mathbf{m}(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{K}_{fu}(\mathbf{x}) \mathbf{K}_{uu}^{-1} \mathbf{u}$$

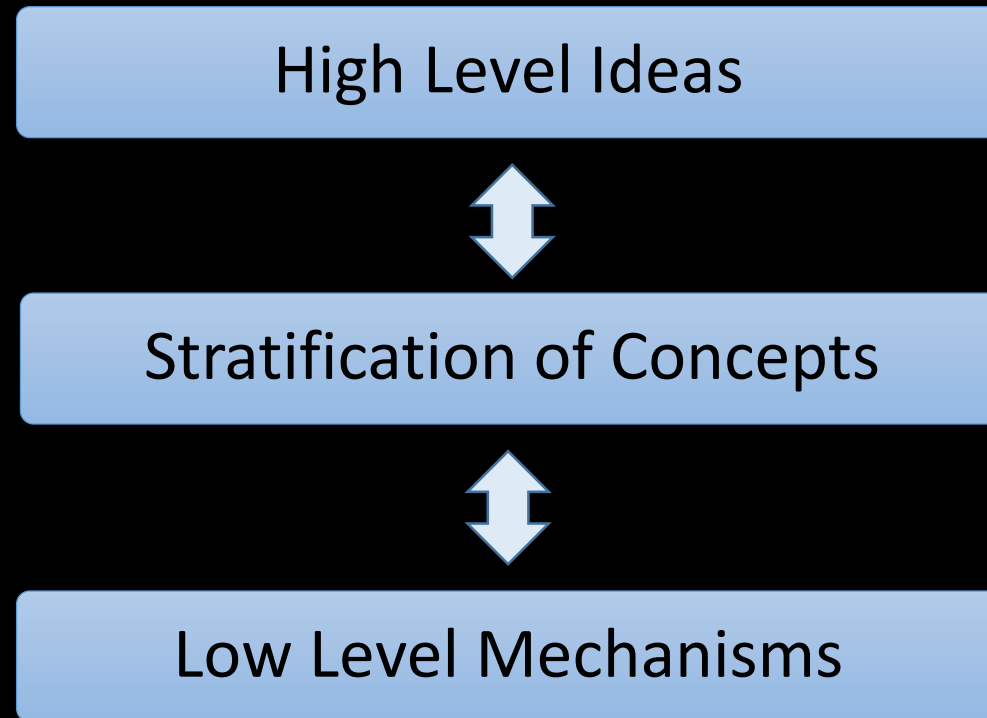
model is not linear in  $\mathbf{x}$

$$\langle k_{ii}(x_i, x_i) \rangle_{q(x_i)}$$

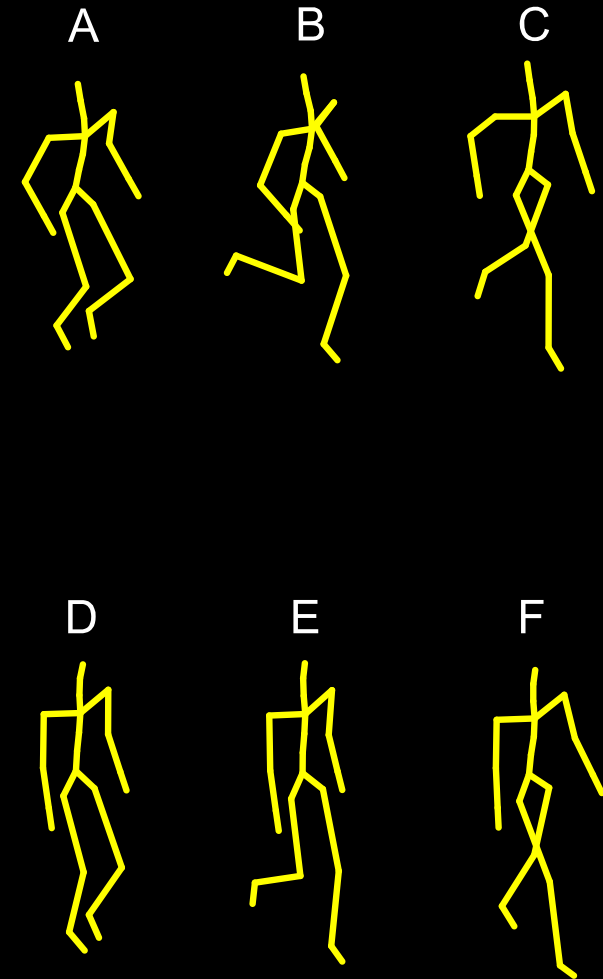
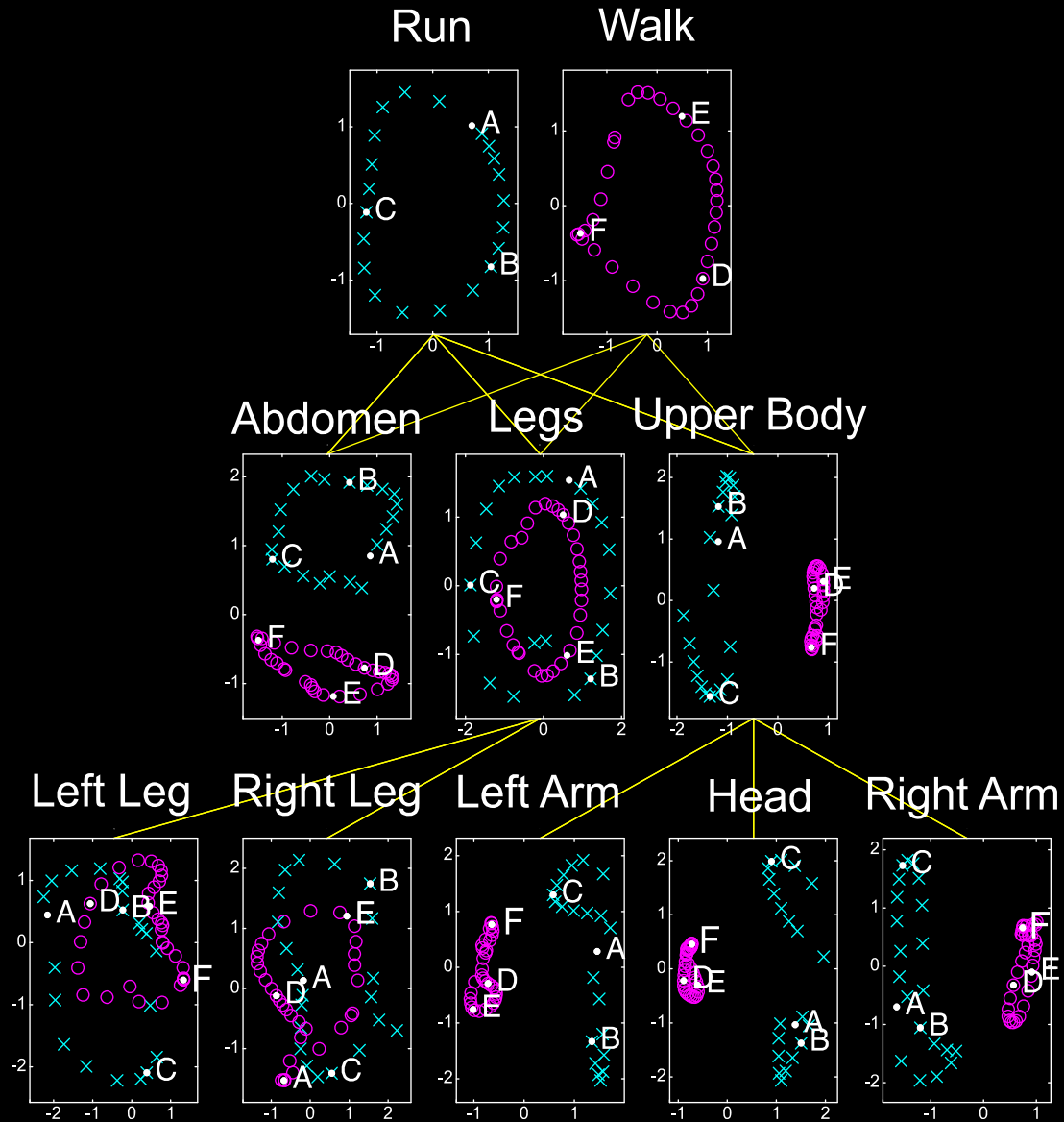
$$\langle \mathbf{K}_{fu}(\mathbf{x}) \rangle_{q(\mathbf{x})}$$

$$\langle \mathbf{K}_{uf}(\mathbf{x}) \mathbf{K}_{fu}(\mathbf{x}) \rangle_{q(\mathbf{x})}$$

# Use Abstraction for Complex Systems



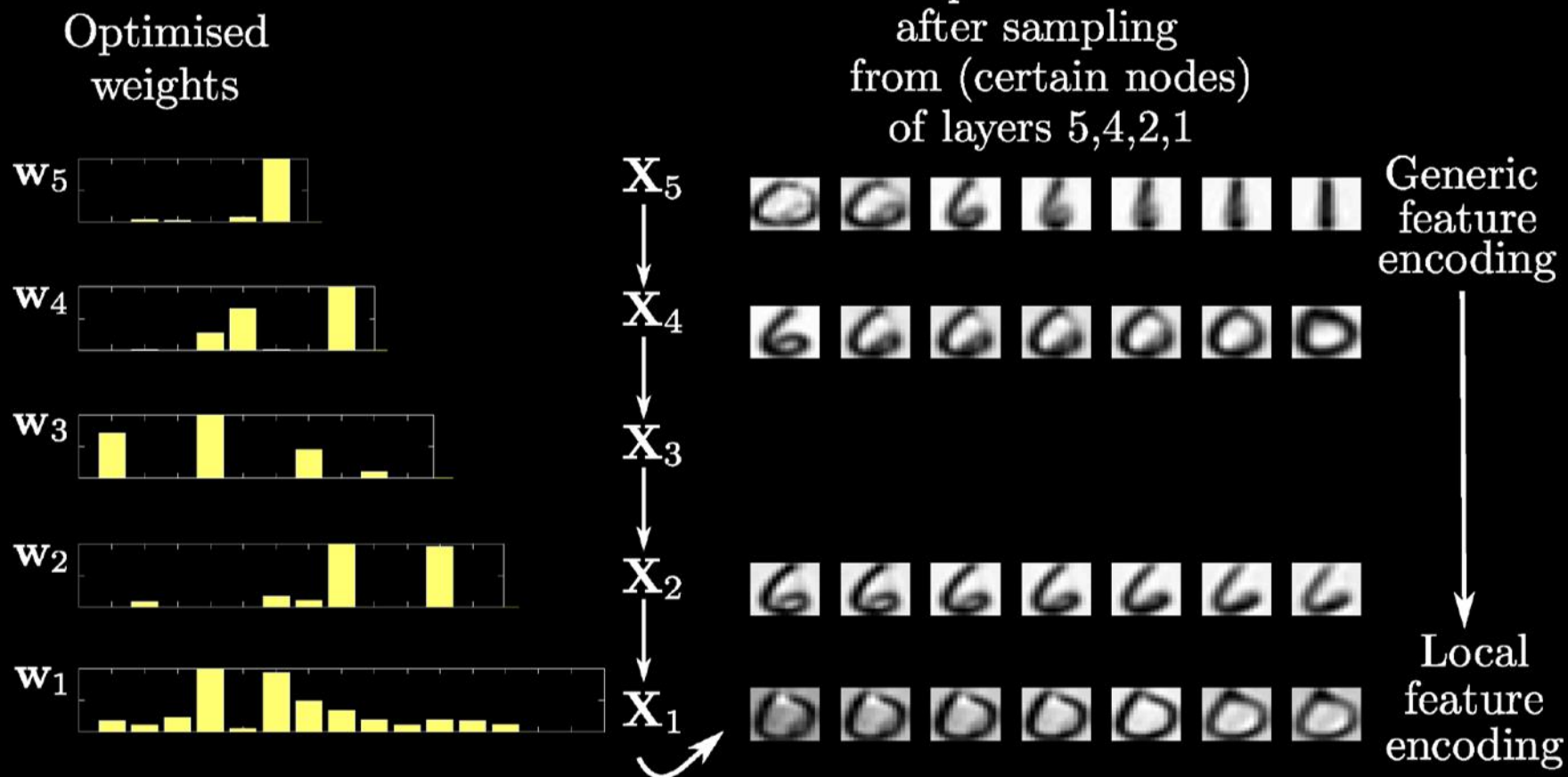
# Example: Motion Capture Modelling



# MATLAB Demo

- demo\_2016\_05\_03\_iclr.m

# Modelling Digits





# MATLAB Demo

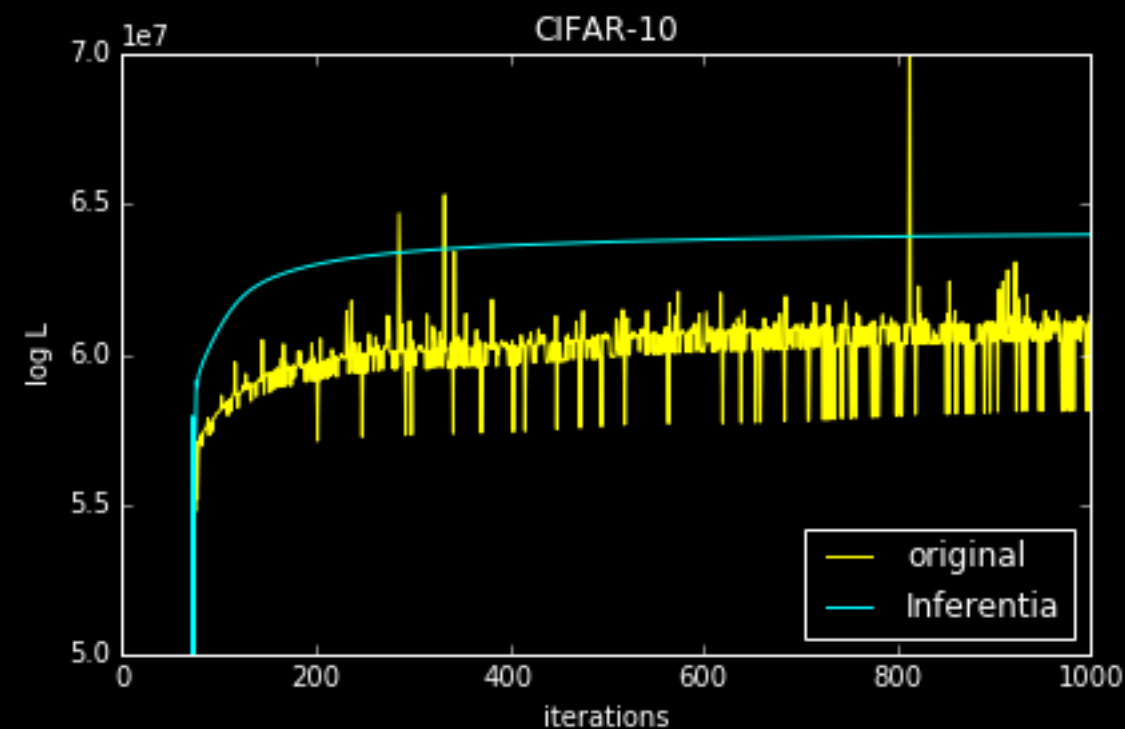
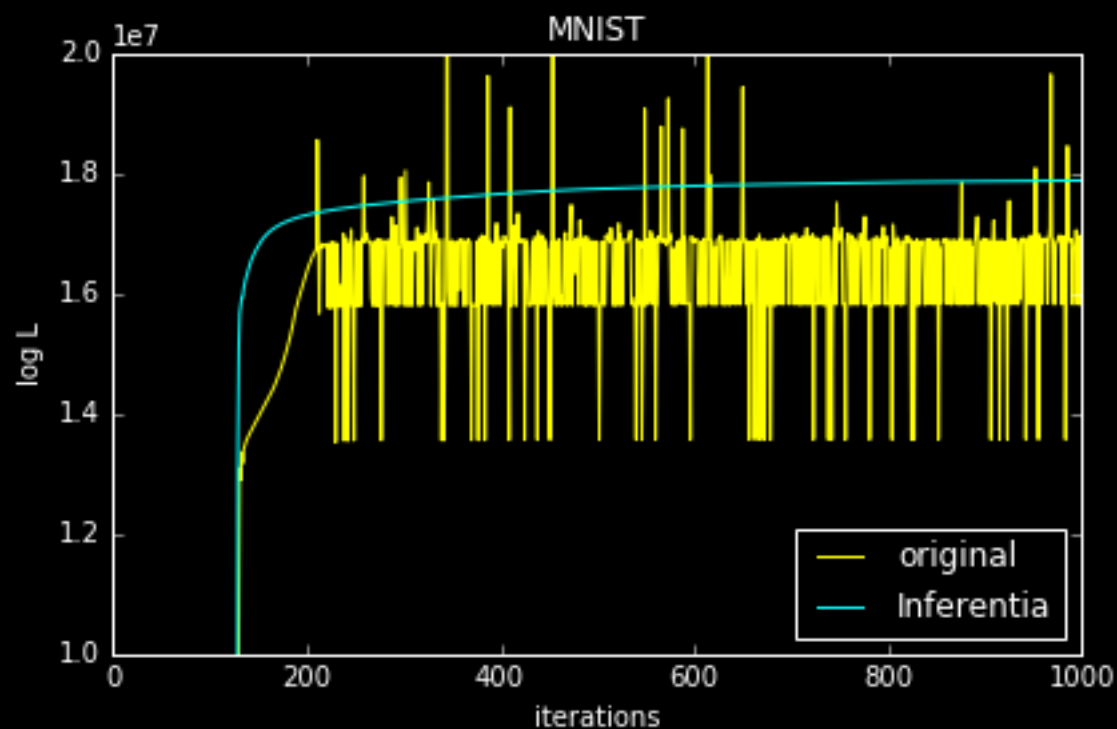
- demo\_2016\_05\_03\_iclr.m



Inferentia

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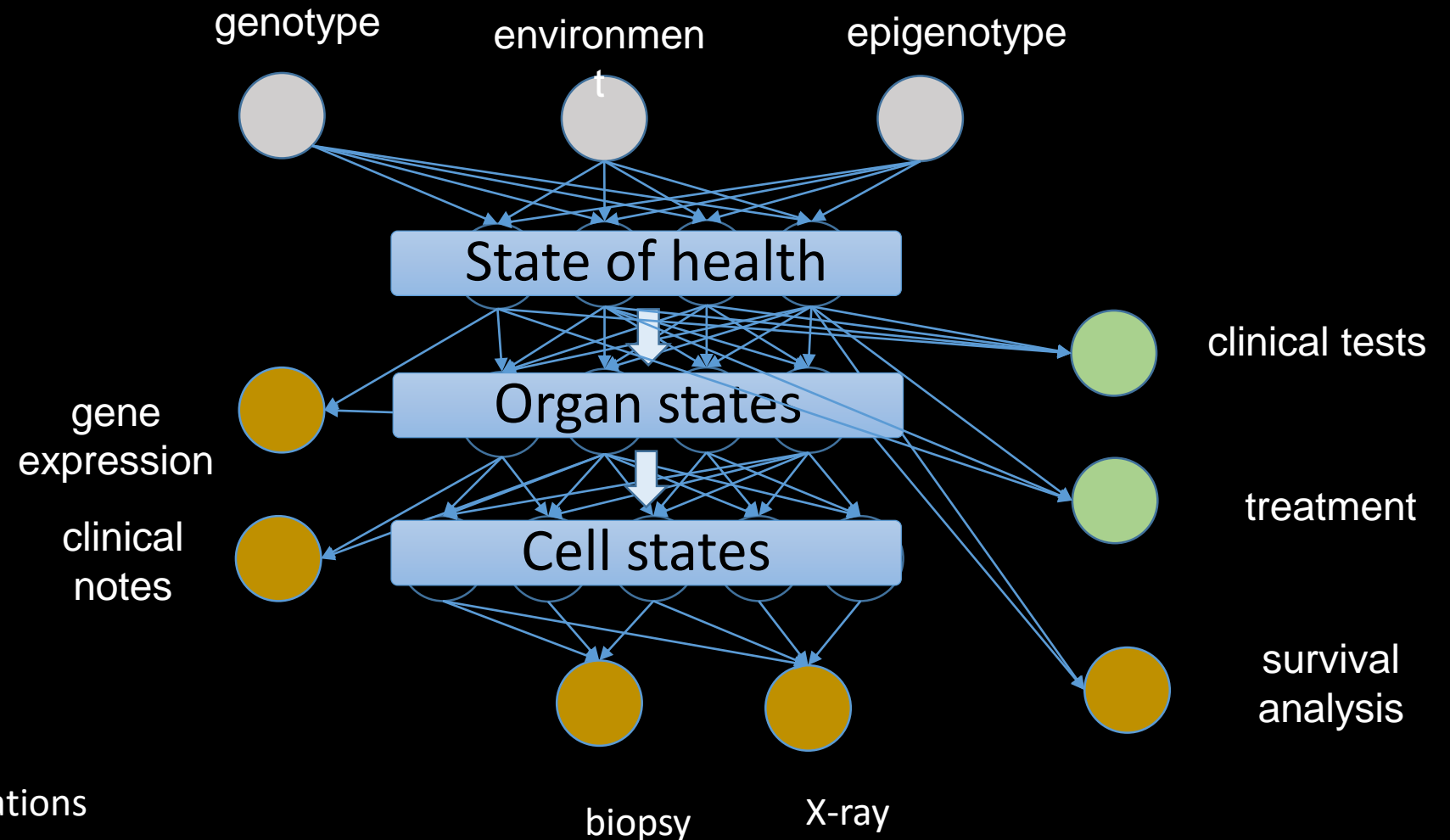
# Numerical Issues



# Health



- Complex system
- Scarce data
- Different modalities
- Poor understanding of mechanism
- Large scale



# To Find Out More

- Gaussian Process Summer School
  - 12<sup>th</sup>-15<sup>th</sup> September 2016 in Sheffield <http://gpss.cc/>
- Posters at ICLR:
  - Recurrent Gaussian Processes
  - Variationally Auto-Encoded Deep Gaussian Processes
- Python software for GPs (GPy)
  - <https://github.com/SheffieldML/GPy/>

David's "Gaussian Process Basics" talk

# Thank you

Neil Lawrence

<http://inverseprobability.com>  
@lawrennd