

DEEP NEURAL DECISION FORESTS

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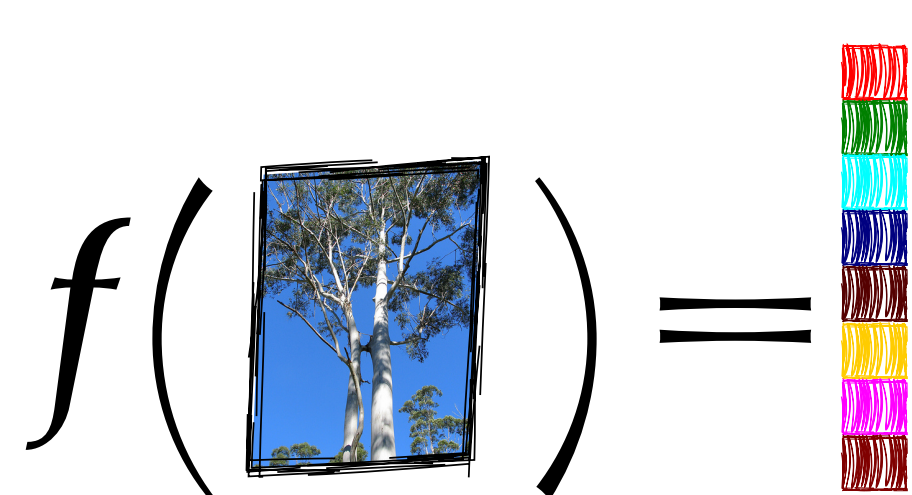
¹ Microsoft Research



MOTIVATION

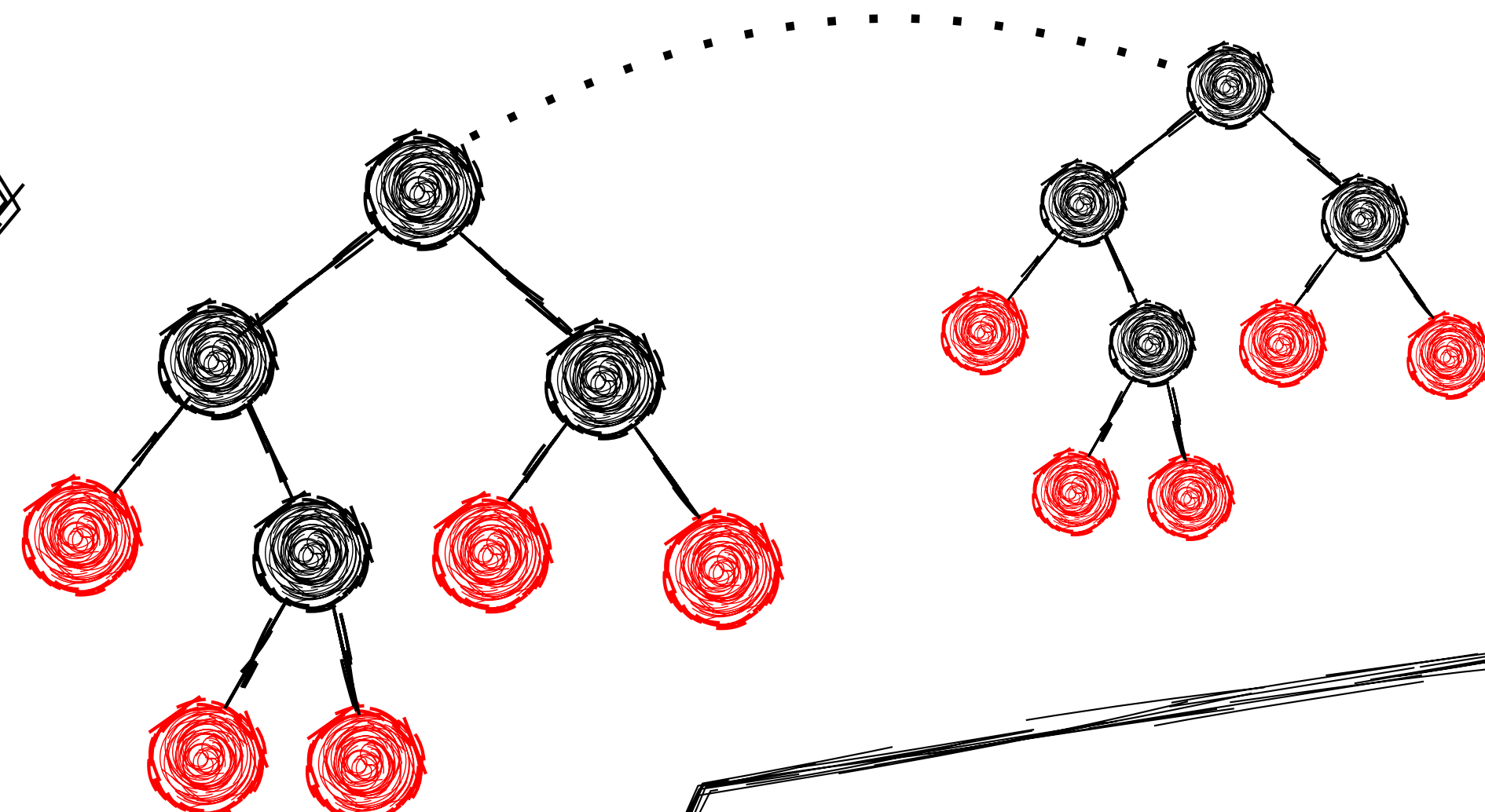


Prefix feature map



Train decision forest

Standard decision forests cannot build new feature representations but rely on predefined ones



Decision forest

JOINTLY trained

Feature representation

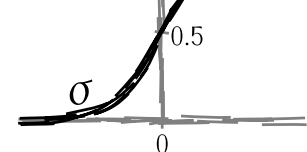
We allow decision forests to build ad-hoc feature representations through a deep network, which is jointly trained with the forest

MODEL

Probabilistic decision function

$$d_n(x; \theta) = \sigma(f_n(x; \theta))$$

Parametrized feature map

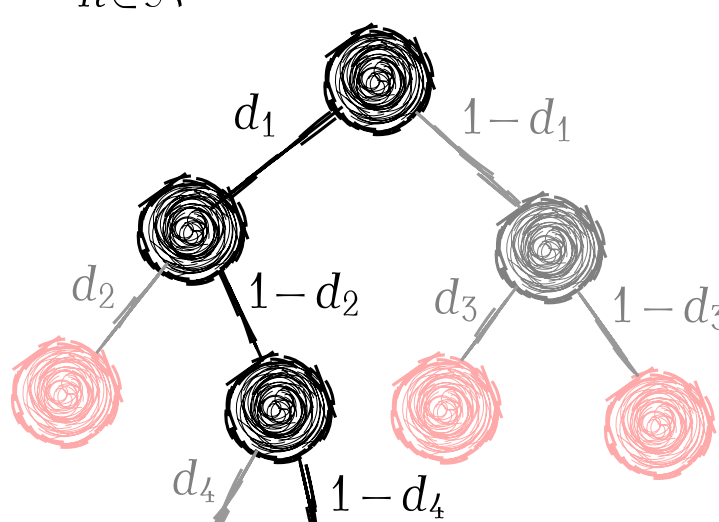


Class distribution in each leaf

$d_n(x)$ $1 - d_n(x)$

Routing function: probability of reaching a leaf

$$\mu_\ell(x; \theta) = \prod_{n \in \mathcal{N}} d_n(x; \theta)^{\mathbb{1}_{\ell \in \mathcal{N}_n}} (1 - d_n(x; \theta))^{\mathbb{1}_{\ell \notin \mathcal{N}_n}}$$



Decision tree prediction

$$\mathbb{P}_T[y|x; \theta, \pi] = \sum_{\ell \in \mathcal{L}} \pi_\ell \mu_\ell(x; \theta)$$

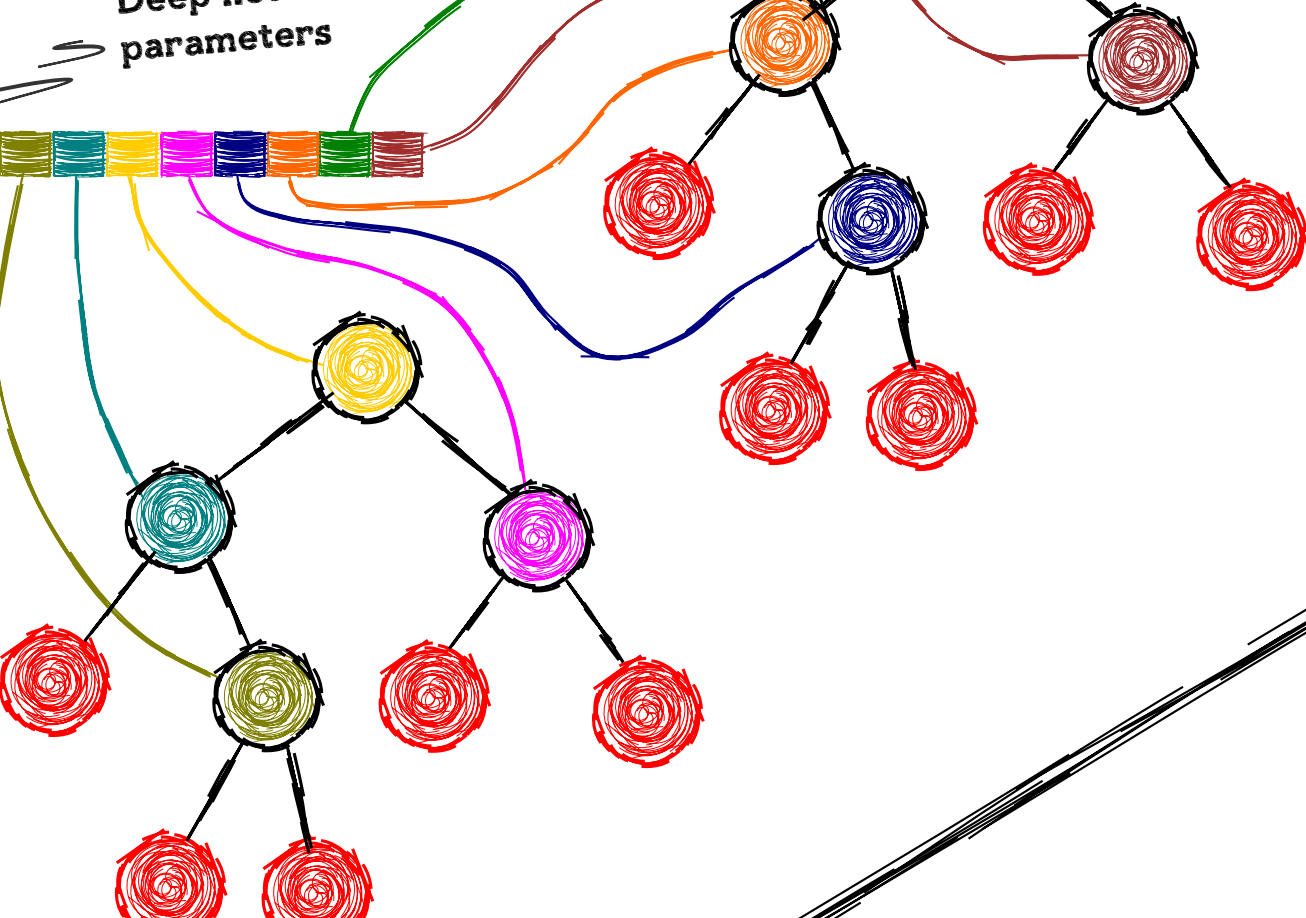
Decision forest prediction

$$\mathbb{P}_{\mathcal{F}}[y|x] = \frac{1}{k} \sum_{h=1}^k \mathbb{P}_{T_h}[y|x]$$

Trees in the forest

A deep network generates the node feature maps $f_n(\cdot; \theta)$

Deep network parameters



TRAINING

Empirical risk minimization

$$R(\theta, \pi; \mathcal{T}) = \frac{1}{|\mathcal{T}|} \sum_{(x, y) \in \mathcal{T}} L(\theta, \pi; x, y)$$

Training set

$$\min_{\pi} R(\theta, \pi; \mathcal{T})$$

Convex optimization problem

Independent updates per tree

$$\min_{\theta} R(\theta, \pi; \mathcal{T})$$

Decision nodes update

$$\theta^{(t+1)} = \theta^{(t)} - \eta \frac{\partial R(\theta^{(t)}, \pi; \mathcal{B})}{\partial \theta}$$

Stochastic Gradient Descent

$$\frac{1}{|\mathcal{B}|} \sum_{(x, y) \in \mathcal{B}} \frac{\partial L(\theta^{(t)}, \pi; x, y)}{\partial \theta}$$

$$d_n(x; \theta) A_{n\ell} - (1 - d_n(x; \theta)) A_{n\ell}$$

Back-propagation through deep network

Leaf nodes update

$$\pi_{\ell y}^{(t+1)} = \frac{1}{Z_\ell^{(t)}} \sum_{(x, y') \in \mathcal{T}} \frac{1_{y=y'} \pi_{\ell y'}^{(t)} \mu_\ell(x; \theta)}{\mathbb{P}_T[y|x, \theta, \pi^{(t)}]}$$

normalization factor

Step-size-free update rule

Converges to global optimum

alternating optimization

Interleave leaf nodes updates and 1 epoch of decision nodes updates

alternatively per mini-batch leaf nodes updates

Random selection of tree to update per mini-batch

Mini-batch

Forward pass over tree

Backward pass over tree

computed with deep network forward pass

compute node gradient

$A_n = A_{n\ell} + A_{nR}$

$A_{n\ell} = d_n \mu_n$ $A_{nR} = (1 - d_n) \mu_n$

$A_\ell = \frac{\mu_\ell \pi_{\ell y}}{\sum_\ell \mu_\ell \pi_{\ell y}}$

deep Neural Decision Forest (dNDF)

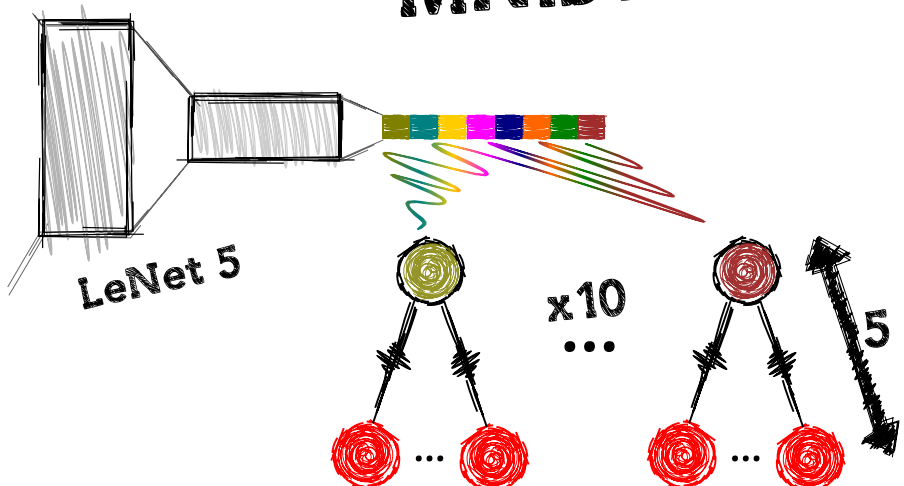
EXPERIMENTS

shallow Neural Decision Forest (sNDF)

MACHINE LEARNING DATASETS

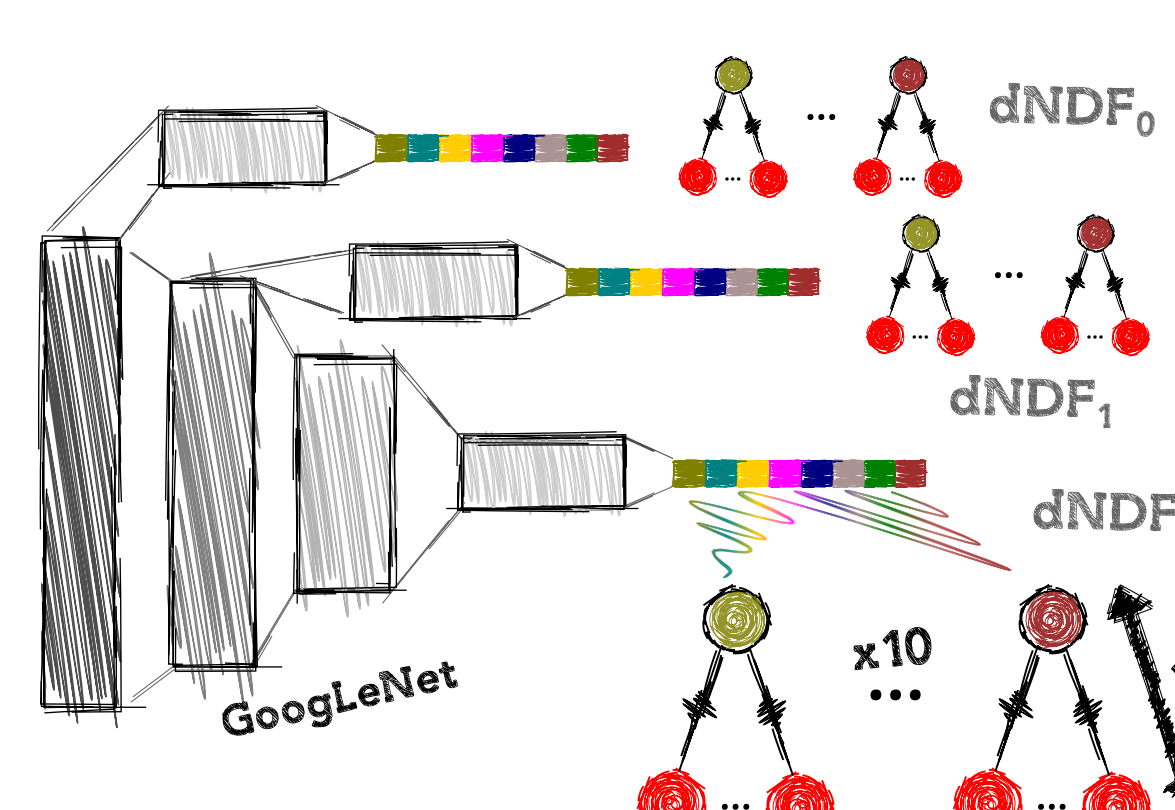
	G50c	Letter	USPS	MNIST	Char74k
# Train Samples	50	16000	7291	60000	66707
# Test Samples	500	4000	2007	10000	7400
# Classes	2	26	10	10	62
# Input dimensions	50	16	256	784	64
Alternating Decision Forest (ADF)	18.71±1.27	3.52±0.17	5.59±0.16	2.71±0.10	16.67±0.21
Shallow Neural Decision Forest (sNDF)	17.4±1.52	2.92±0.17	5.01±0.24	2.8±0.12	16.04±0.20
Tree input features	10 (random)	8 (random)	10x10 patches	15x15 patches	10 (random)
Depth	5	10	10	12	12
Number of trees	50	70	100	80	200
Batch size	25	500	250	1000	1000

MNIST

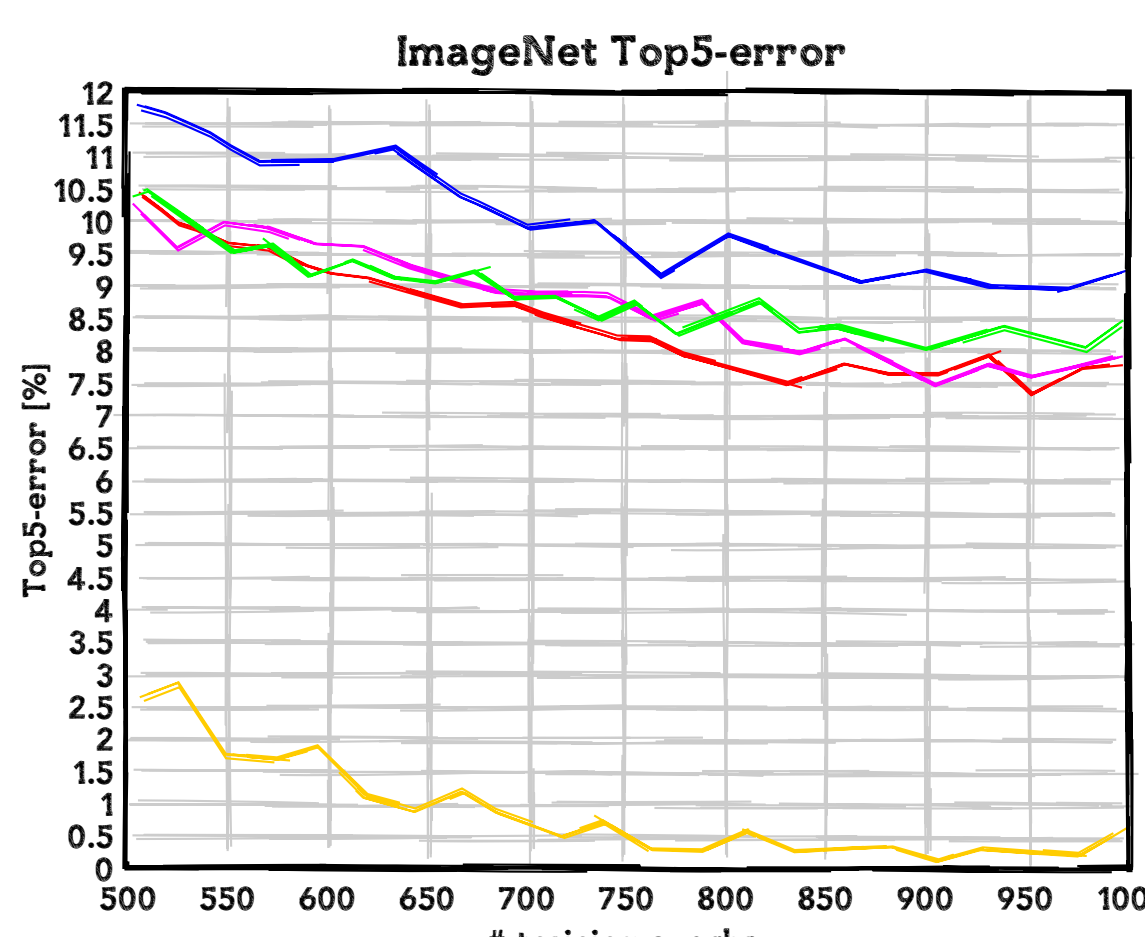
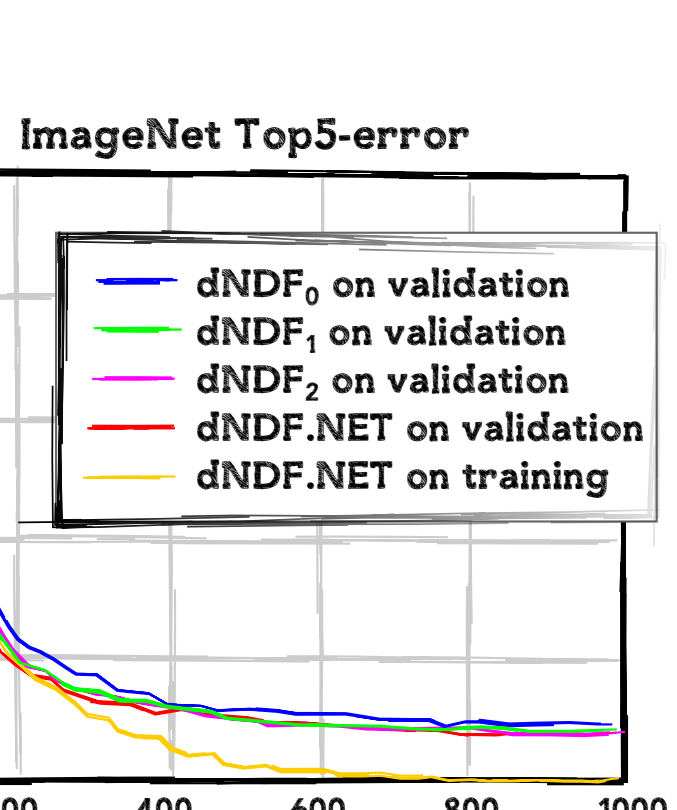


dNDF 0.7%
LeNet-5 0.9%

IMAGENET

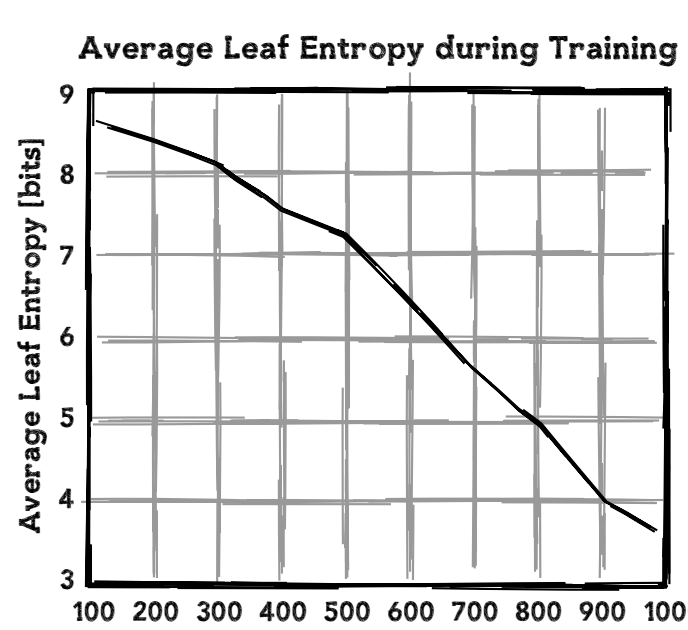


dNDF.NET = dNDF₀ + dNDF₁ + dNDF₂



	# models	# crops	Top5-err.
GoogLeNet	1	1	10.07%
	1	10	9.15%
	1	144	7.89%
	7	1	8.09%
	7	10	7.62%
	7	144	6.67%
dNDF.NET	1	1	7.84%
	1	10	7.08%
	7	1	6.38%

Leaf entropy



Convergence to deterministic routing

