

BLHUC: BAYESIAN LEARNING OF HIDDEN UNIT CONTRIBUTIONS FOR DEEP NEURAL NETWORK SPEAKER ADAPTATION

Xurong Xie^{1,2}, Xunying Liu^{1,2}, Tan Lee¹, Shoukang Hu¹, Lan Wang²

¹Chinese University of Hong Kong

²Shenzhen Institutes of Advanced Technology,
Chinese Academy of Sciences



Introduction

- DNN based speaker adaptation
 - Feature based: i-vector, speaker code, LDA
 - Model based: linear transform, CAT (basis interpolation), LHUC
- Learning hidden unit contributions (LHUC) learns
 - Contributions of DNN hidden outputs using speaker-dependent (SD) scaling vectors
 - Deterministic parameters
 - Limited amount of adaptation data leads to over-fitting and poor generalization



Contributions of the work

- **Bayesian Learning** of hidden unit contributions (**BLHUC**)
 - Addressing SD parameter **uncertainty** in standard LHUC
 - **Posterior distribution** over the LHUC scaling vector is used
 - **Variational inference** and **sampling** based approach for estimating posterior parameters
- Two experiment setups to evaluate BLHUC
 - Unsupervised test time speaker adaptation
 - Speaker adaptive training (SAT)
- To the best of our knowledge, this is the first work on using Bayesian learning for DNN speaker adaptation

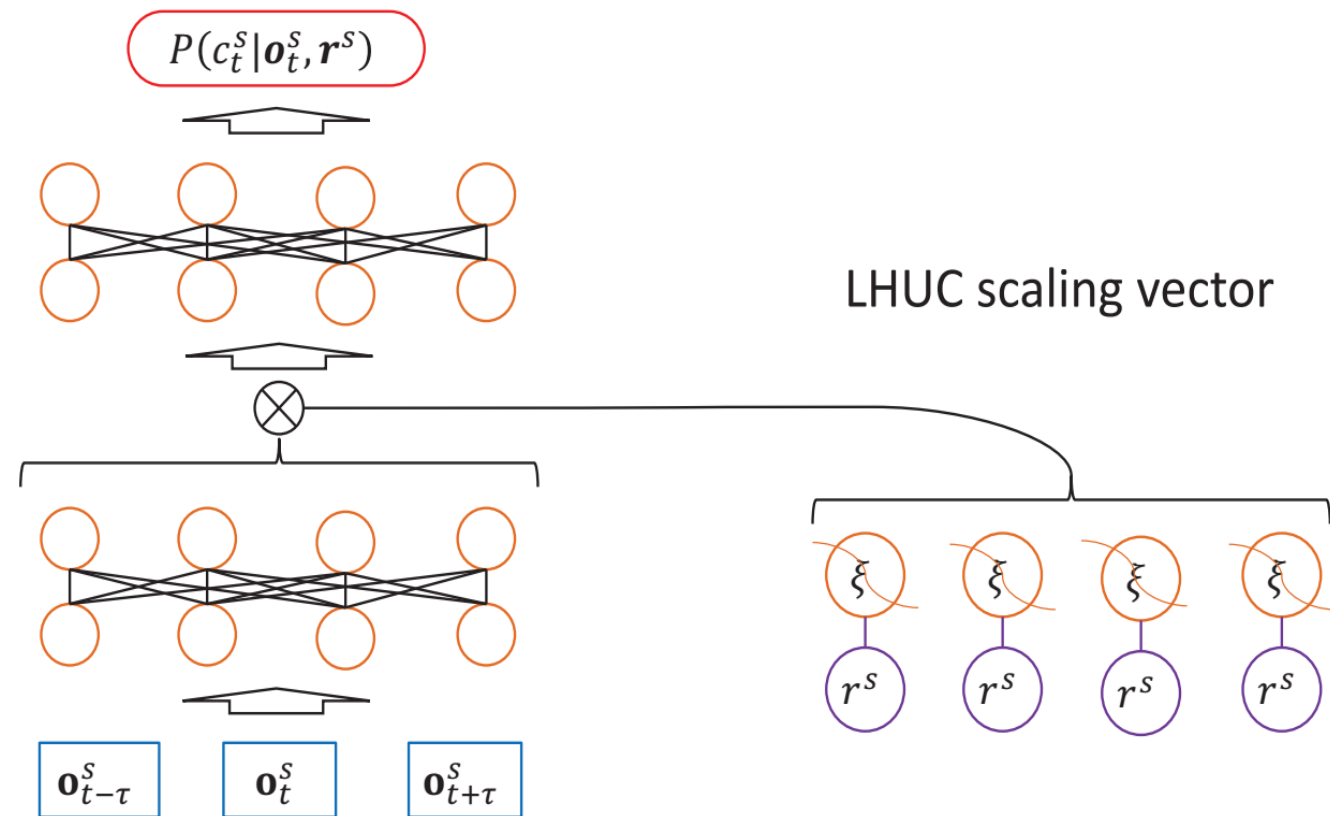


Learning hidden unit contributions (LHUC)

- **Scaling vectors** used in element-wise multiplication to modify the DNN hidden node outputs for each speaker

$$\mathbf{h}^{l,s} = \xi(\mathbf{r}^s) \otimes \psi(\mathbf{W}^T \mathbf{h}^{l-1,s} + \mathbf{b})$$

- where $\xi(\mathbf{r}^s)$ is the scaling vector parameterized by \mathbf{r}^s
- \mathbf{r}^s encodes speaker information
- $\xi(\cdot) = 2\text{sigmoid}(\cdot)$



Learning hidden unit contributions (LHUC)

- By using LHUC technique, the inference for input feature \mathbf{o}_t^s given adaptation data \mathbf{o}^s and its alignment c^s is

$$P(c_t^s | \mathbf{o}_t^s, \mathbf{o}^s, c^s) = \int P(c_t^s | \mathbf{o}_t^s, \mathbf{r}^s) p(\mathbf{r}^s | \mathbf{o}^s, c^s) d\mathbf{r}^s$$
$$\approx P(c_t^s | \mathbf{o}_t^s, \hat{\mathbf{r}}^s)$$

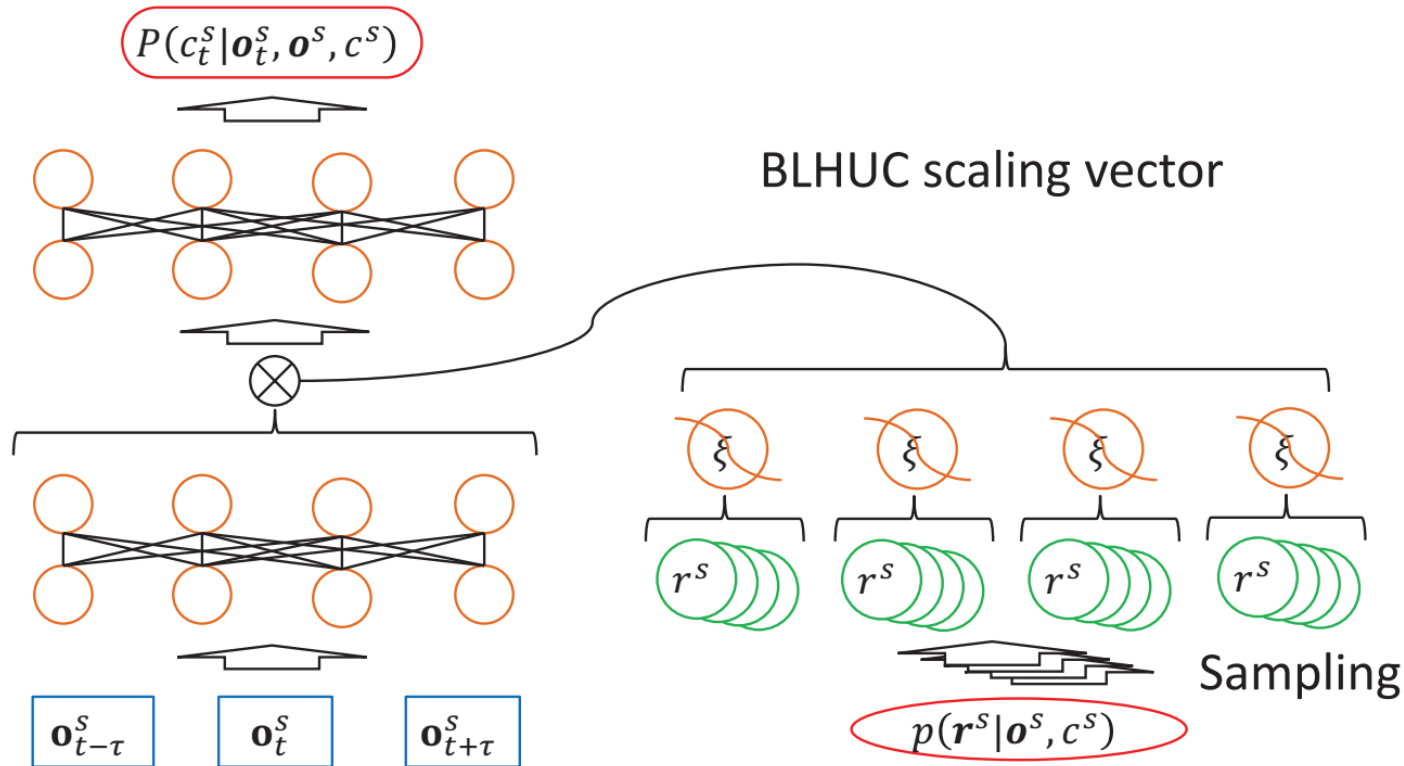
- $\hat{\mathbf{r}}^s = \arg \max_{\mathbf{r}^s} P(\mathbf{r}^s | \mathbf{o}^s, c^s)$ is the **deterministic** parameter estimate of \mathbf{r}^s
- Assuming we are very confident that this deterministic estimate is reliable
- \mathbf{r}^s is often of **high dimension** in practice, and adaptation data is **limited**
- Parameter **uncertainty** leads to overfitting and poor generalization



Bayesian learning of hidden unit contributions (BLHUC)

- From deterministic to **probabilistic** estimate of SD parameter \mathbf{r}^s
- Parameter posterior handles uncertainty

$$P(c_t^s | \mathbf{o}_t^s, \mathbf{o}^s, c^s) = \int P(c_t^s | \mathbf{o}_t^s, \mathbf{r}^s) p(\mathbf{r}^s | \mathbf{o}^s, c^s) d\mathbf{r}^s$$



- Parameter posterior to be learnt
- Integral non-trivial to compute
- Back-propagation algorithm not directly usable
- Two tricks:
 - Variational lower bound
 - Parameter sampling

Variational estimation for BLHUC parameters

- The lower bound of cross entropy loss on adaptation data is

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Loss} &= -\log P(c^s | \mathbf{o}^s) \\ &= -\log \int P(c^s | \mathbf{o}^s, \mathbf{r}^s) p(\mathbf{r}^s) d\mathbf{r}^s \\ &\leq \boxed{-\int q_s(\mathbf{r}^s) \log P(c^s | \mathbf{o}^s, \mathbf{r}^s) d\mathbf{r}^s} + KL(q_s || p)\end{aligned}$$

- where $KL(q_s || p) = \int q_s(\mathbf{r}^s) \log \frac{q_s(\mathbf{r}^s)}{p(\mathbf{r}^s)} d\mathbf{r}^s$ is the KL divergence
- Variational distribution $q_s(\mathbf{r}^s)$ approximates posterior $p(\mathbf{r}^s | \mathbf{o}^s, c^s)$
- Assumed to be Gaussian – to be learnt



Variational estimation for BLHUC parameters

- Both $q_s(\mathbf{r}^s)$ and prior $p(\mathbf{r}^s)$ are assumed to be Gaussian for simplification

- $q_s(r_d^s) = N(r_d^s; \mu_{s,d}, \sigma_{s,d}^2)$

- $p(r_d^s) = N(r_d^s; \mu_{0,d}, \sigma_{0,d}^2)$

- Then, the KL divergence can be exactly calculated by

$$KL(q_s || p) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{d=1}^D \left\{ \frac{(\mu_{s,d} - \mu_{0,d})^2 + \sigma_{s,d}^2}{\sigma_{0,d}^2} - \log \frac{\sigma_{s,d}^2}{\sigma_{0,d}^2} - 1 \right\}$$

- Hyper parameters of both p and q_s are updatable

- But non-trivial to compute $\int q_s(\mathbf{r}^s) \log P(c^s | \mathbf{o}^s, \mathbf{r}^s) d\mathbf{r}^s$ – parameter sampling



Variational estimation for BLHUC parameters

- The BLHUC scaling vector posterior can be parameterized by

$$\theta_s^B = \{\boldsymbol{\mu}_s, \boldsymbol{\gamma}_s\}$$

- where $\boldsymbol{\sigma}_s = \exp \boldsymbol{\gamma}_s$
- θ_s^B in the integral term of CE is not directly differentiable and updatable
- Re-parameterization used in sampling over θ_s^B

$$\begin{aligned} & \int q_s(\mathbf{r}^s) \log P(c^s | \mathbf{o}^s, \mathbf{r}^s) d\mathbf{r}^s \\ &= \int \mathcal{N}(\boldsymbol{\epsilon}; 0, I) \log P(c^s | \mathbf{o}^s, \boldsymbol{\mu}_s + \exp(\boldsymbol{\gamma}_s) \otimes \boldsymbol{\epsilon}) d\boldsymbol{\epsilon} \\ &\approx \frac{1}{J} \sum_{j=1}^J \log P(c^s | \mathbf{o}^s, \theta_s^B, \boldsymbol{\epsilon}_j) \end{aligned}$$

- where $\boldsymbol{\epsilon}_j$ is the j th Monte Carlo sample drawn from $N(0,1)$



Variational estimation for BLHUC parameters

- Then, the gradient of θ_s^B in one data batch can be computed by

$$\frac{\partial \text{Loss}_m}{\partial \theta_s^B} \approx \alpha \left\{ -\frac{1}{J} \sum_{j=1}^J \frac{\partial \log P(c_m^s | \mathbf{o}_m^s, \theta_s^B, \epsilon_j)}{\partial \theta_s^B} + \frac{N_{m,s}}{N_s} \frac{\partial \text{KL}(q_s || p)}{\partial \theta_s^B} \right\}$$

- To be used in back-propagation for estimation of θ_s^B
- $\alpha = \frac{N_s}{N_{m,s}}$ can be absorbed by the learning rate
- The coefficient $\frac{N_{m,s}}{N_s}$ adjusts the weight of KL regularization term



Variational estimation for BLHUC parameters

- We set the sampling number by $J = 1$ during adaptation for efficiency
- Then, the resulting gradient is closely related to DNN adaptation using **KL-divergence regularization** (Yu, Yao, Su, Li & Seide 2013, “KL-divergence regularized deep neural network adaptation for improved large vocabulary speech recognition”)
- But with additional parameter uncertainty modeled in first term of variational lower bound

$$\frac{\partial \text{Loss}_m}{\partial \theta_s^B} \approx \alpha \left\{ -\frac{1}{J} \sum_{j=1}^J \frac{\partial \log P(c_m^s | \mathbf{o}_m^s, \theta_s^B, \epsilon_j)}{\partial \theta_s^B} + \frac{N_{m,s}}{N_s} \frac{\partial \text{KL}(q_s || p)}{\partial \theta_s^B} \right\}$$

* The gradient form of standard LHUC using ϵ_j



Inference for BLHUC in decoding

- Inference can be directly approximated by Monte Carlo sampling in the test stage

$$p(c_t^s | \mathbf{o}_t^s, \mathbf{o}^s, c^s) = \int P(c_t^s | \mathbf{o}_t^s, \mathbf{r}^s) p(\mathbf{r}^s | \mathbf{o}^s, c^s) d\mathbf{r}^s \approx \frac{1}{J} \sum_{j=1}^J P(c_t^s | \mathbf{o}_t^s, \mathbf{r}_j^s)$$

- where $\mathbf{r}_j^s \sim p(\mathbf{r}^s | \mathbf{o}^s, c^s) \approx q_s(\mathbf{r}^s)$
- A more efficient approximation (used in the paper) is using the mean of the posterior (Normal distribution)

$$\int P(c_t^s | \mathbf{o}_t^s, \mathbf{r}^s) p(\mathbf{r}^s | \mathbf{o}^s, c^s) d\mathbf{r}^s \approx P(c_t^s | \mathbf{o}_t^s, \mathbb{E}[\mathbf{r}^s | \mathbf{o}^s, c^s]) = P(c_t^s | \mathbf{o}_t^s, \boldsymbol{\mu}_s)$$



Different adaptation setups

- Test time adaptation only
 - Standard LHUC estimation
 - Deterministic estimation on adaptation data (Swietojanski & Renals 2016 “Learning hidden unit contributions for unsupervised acoustic model adaptation”)
 - BLHUC estimation
 - SI prior can be **separately estimated** by training data
 - SI prior can also be **zero mean** and unit variance for convenience (used in the paper)
- Speaker adaptive training (SAT)
 - Standard LHUC training + standard LHUC test time adaptation
 - Standard LHUC training + BLHUC test time adaptation
 - SI prior **mean and variance are computed** over training speakers’ LHUC vectors
 - BLHUC training + BLHUC test time adaptation
 - SI prior is **updated** during training



Experiment setup

- 300 hrs SWBD setup
- Hub5' 00 for test (SWBD test set + CallHome test set)
- HMMs: 8929 states
- DNN setting
 - Input: 9 successive frames
 - Hidden layer: 2000 nodes, 6 layers, sigmoid
 - Output: 8929 nodes, softmax
- LM: 4-gram, 30,000 words, Fisher + SWBD training
- Features: 80 dimensional f-bank + delta
- Implemented on modified version of Kaldi toolkit and HTK



Result of test time adaptation

- Using **all test data** as adaptation data
- The BLHUC adapted systems significantly outperformed both the SI baseline system and standard LHUC adapted CE and MPE systems

DNN criterion	Test adapt	WER (%)	
		SWBD	CallHome
CE	-	15.3	27.6
	LHUC	14.6	25.8
	BLHUC	14.2	25.3
MPE	-	13.4	26.8
	LHUC	12.8	24.0
	BLHUC	12.4	23.1

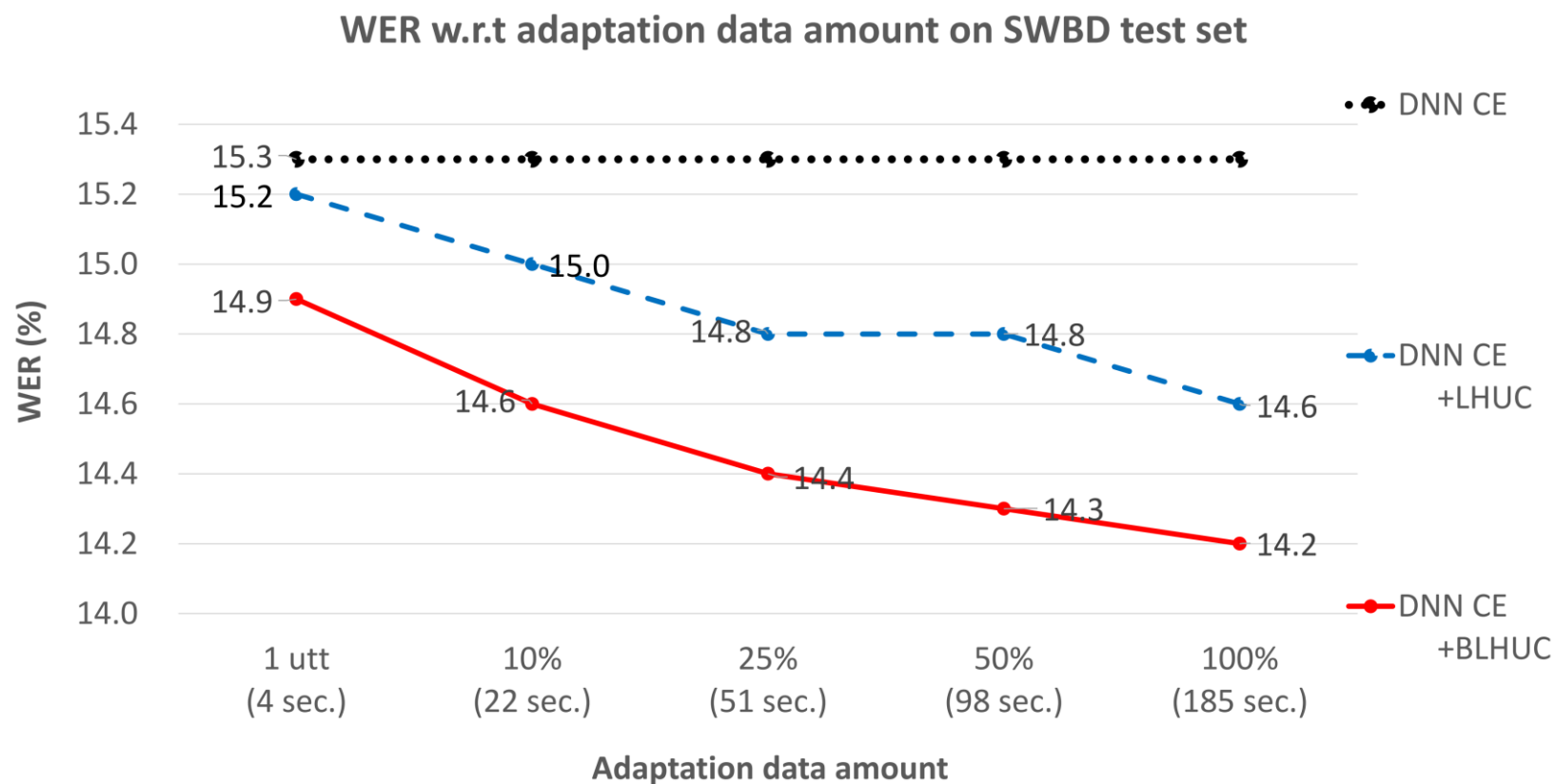
↓ 0.5

↓ 0.9



Using different amount of adaptation data for CE systems

- On **SWBD** test set
- BLHUC adapted systems consistently achieved the best performance using different adaptation data

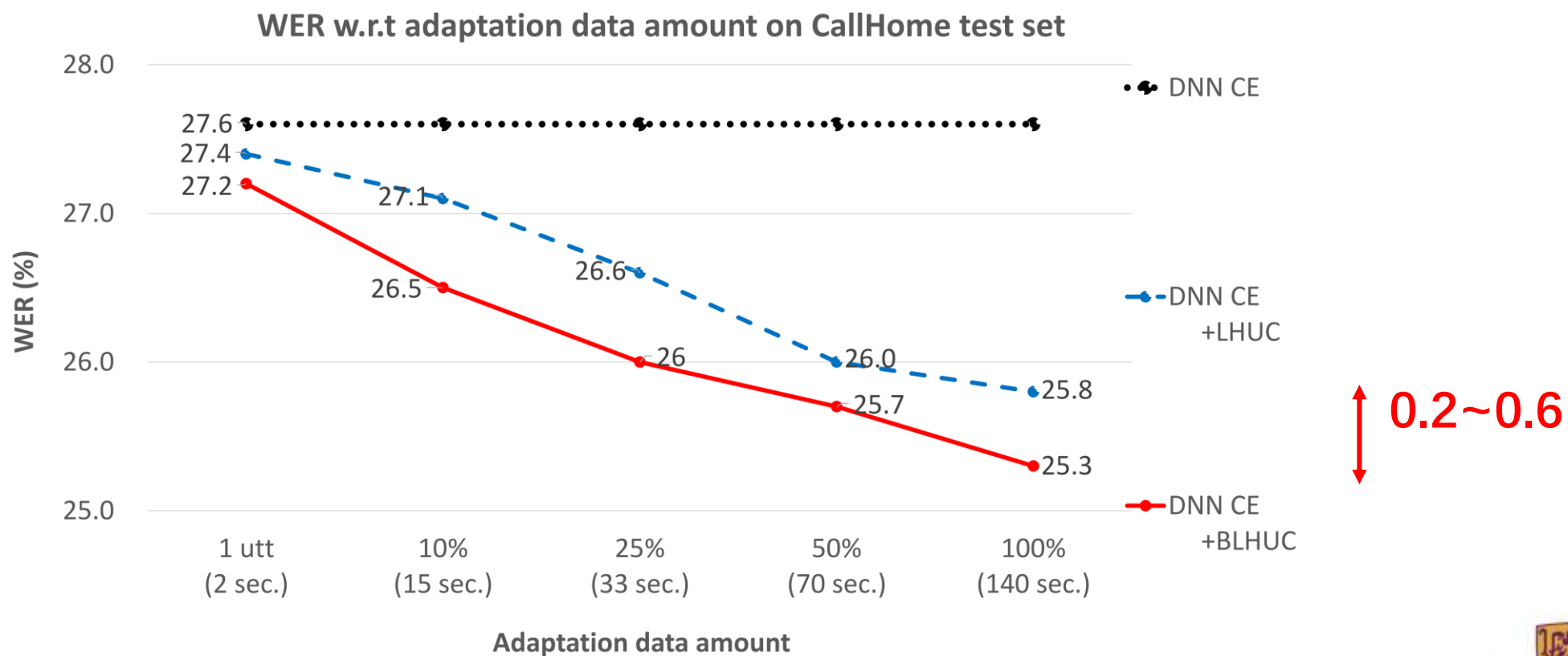


0.3~0.5



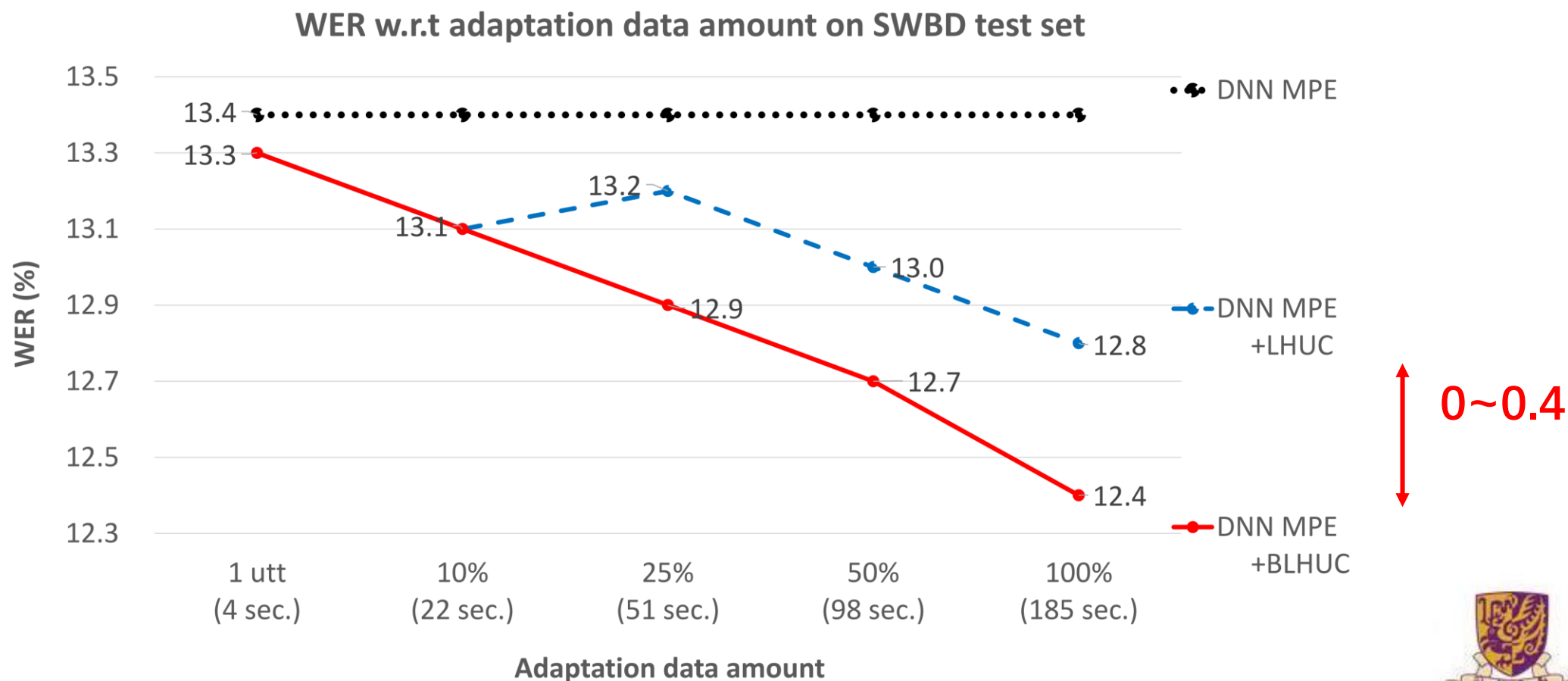
Using different amount of adaptation data for CE systems

- on CallHome test set
- BLHUC adapted systems consistently achieved the best performance using different adaptation data



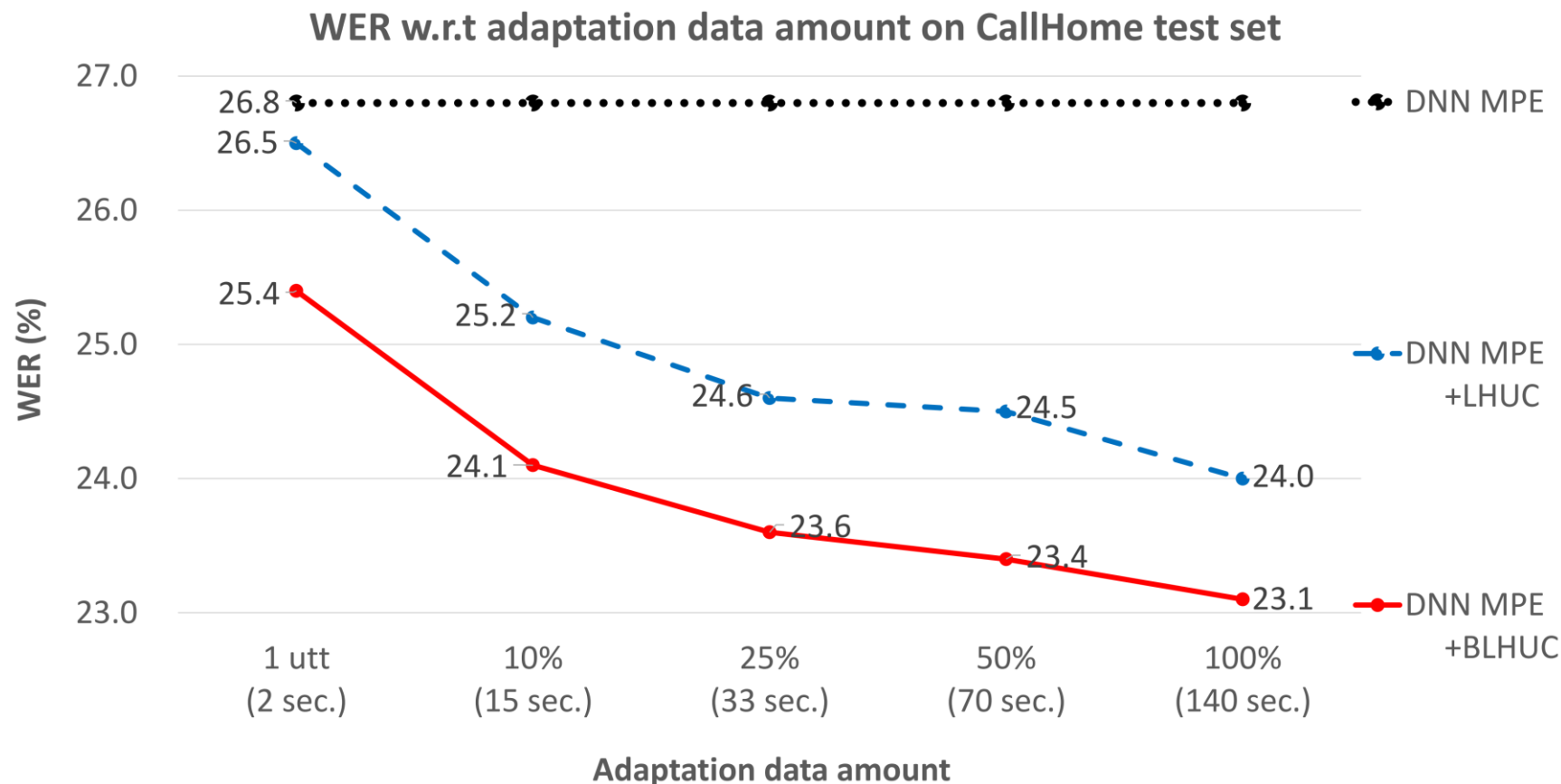
Using different amount of adaptation data for MPE systems

- On **SWBD** test set
- BLHUC adapted systems consistently achieved the best performance using different adaptation data



Using different amount of adaptation data for MPE systems

- On the harder **CallHome** test set, BLHUC adaptation obtained significantly improvement by even using only one utterance (**2 seconds on average**)



0.9~1.1



Result of SAT

- Using **all test data** as adaptation data for **CE** systems
- Using BLHUC for both training and testing achieved the best performance

DNN criterion	SAT	Test adapt	WER (%)	
			SWBD	CallHome
CE	-	-	15.3	27.6
	LHUC	LHUC	13.2	23.5
	LHUC	BLHUC	13.0	23.4
	BLHUC	BLHUC	12.8	22.9

↓ 0.6



Conclusion

- **Bayesian learning** of the **hidden unit contribution** for DNN based speaker adaptation is proposed in the work
- An **efficient variational approximation** for learning LHUC parameter **posterior**
- BLHUC adaptation consistently outperformed the standard LHUC adaptation, especially on the harder CallHome data set and using limited amount of adaptation data (**as minimum as 2 sec of speech**)
- To the best of our knowledge, this is the first work on using Bayesian learning for DNN speaker adaptation
- Future work: Bayesian learning of other adaptation techniques

