

Oral Presentation in LABELS Workshop at MICCAI 2018, Granada, Spain



# Capsule Networks against Medical Imaging Data Challenges

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Universitat Pompeu Fabra

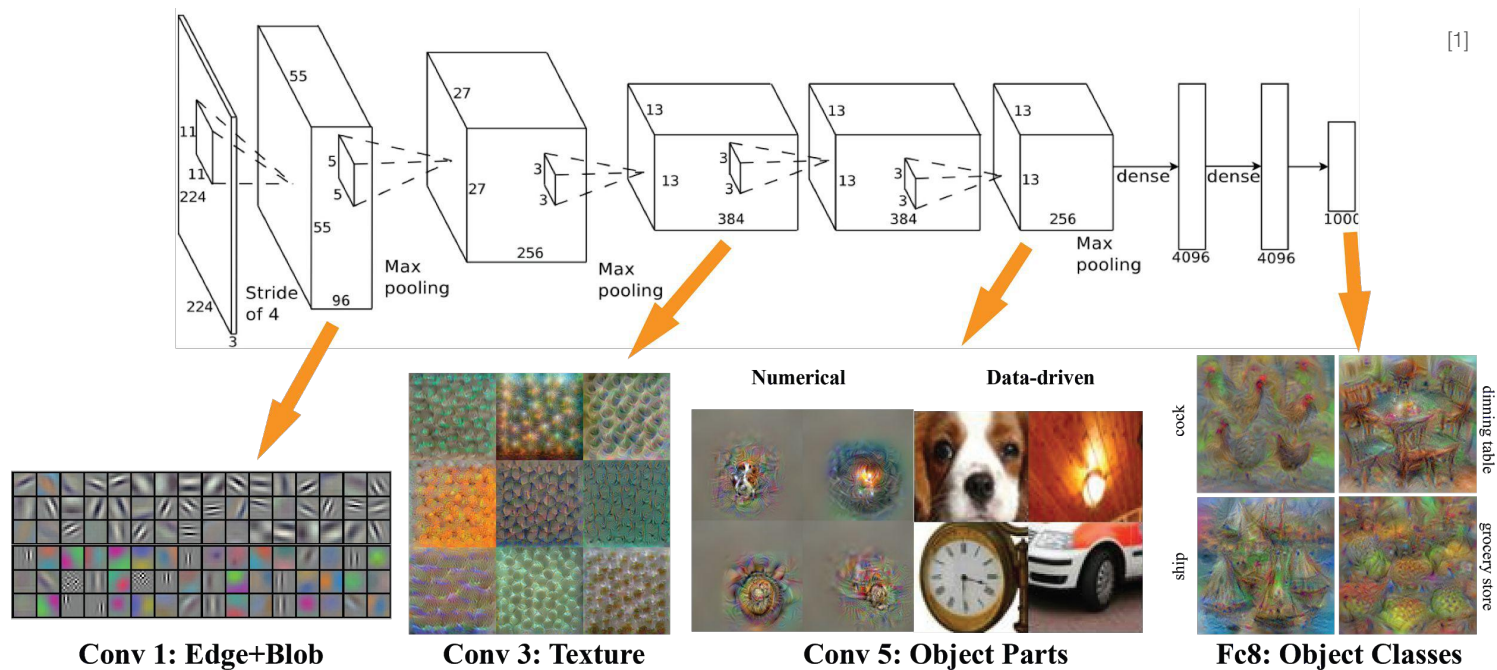
Shadi Albarqouni

Technische Universität München

Diana Mateus

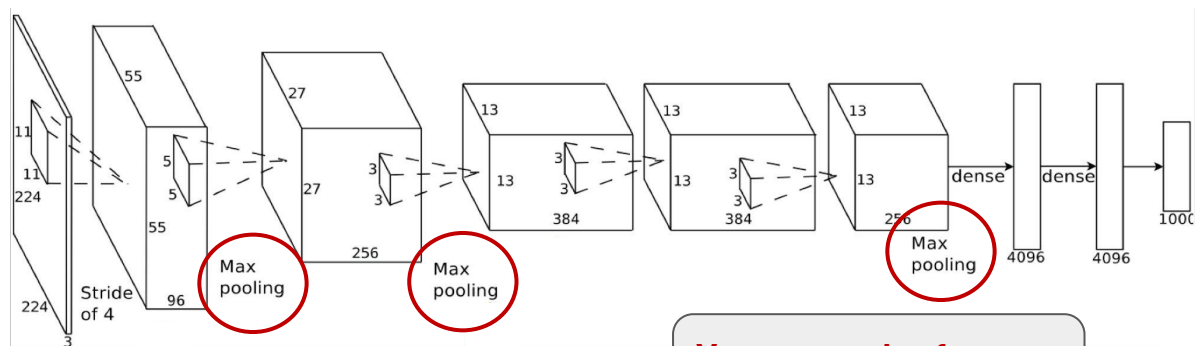
École Centrale de Nantes

# CONVOLUTIONAL NETWORKS: FEATURE EXTRACTION



[1] [http://vision03.csail.mit.edu/cnn\\_art/index.html](http://vision03.csail.mit.edu/cnn_art/index.html)

# CONVOLUTIONAL NETWORKS: SHORTCOMINGS



- ConvNets are **not spatial invariant**, need to include: scale, rotations, translations

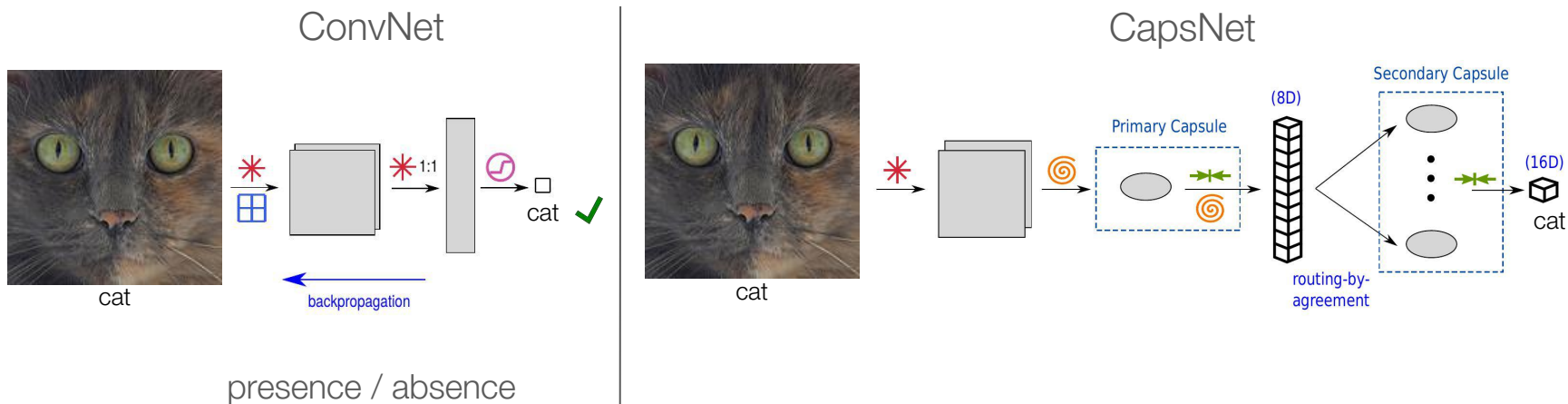
**Very expensive for  
medical images**



[1] [http://vision03.csail.mit.edu/cnn\\_art/index.html](http://vision03.csail.mit.edu/cnn_art/index.html)

[2] <https://www.flickr.com/> #cat 

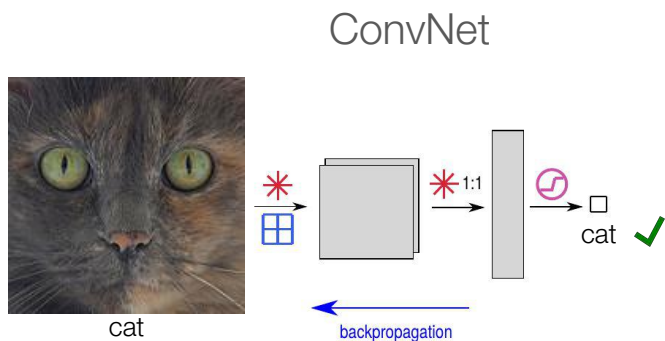
# CONVOLUTIONAL vs. CAPSULE NETWORK



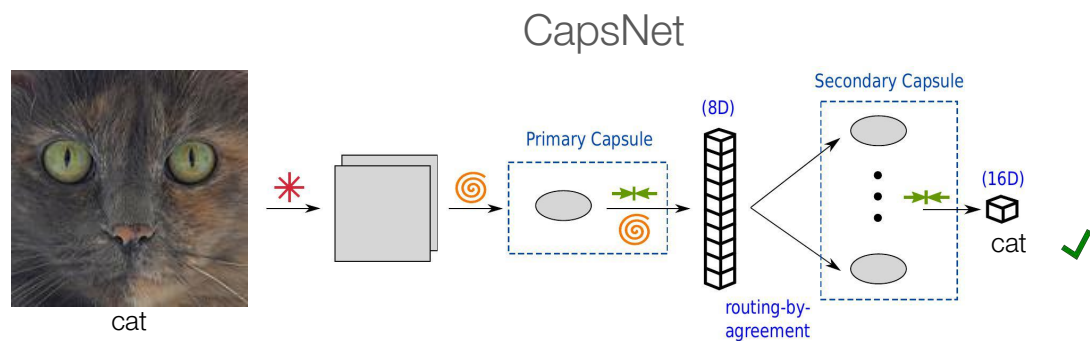
presence / absence



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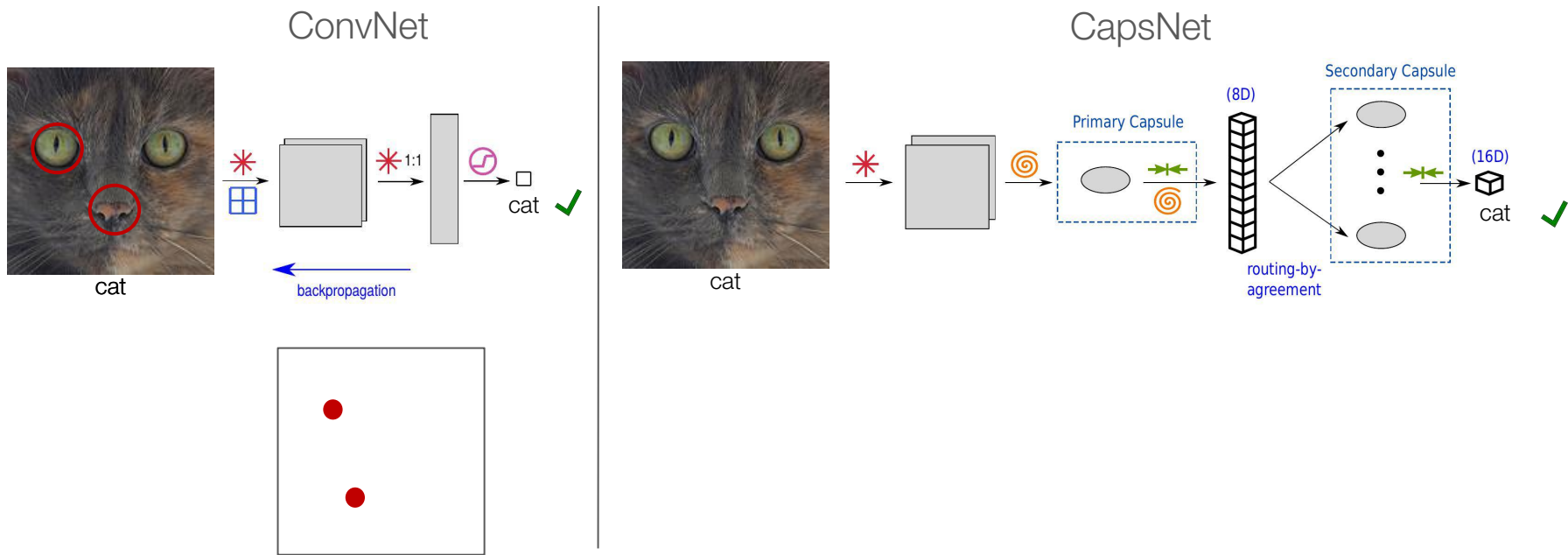
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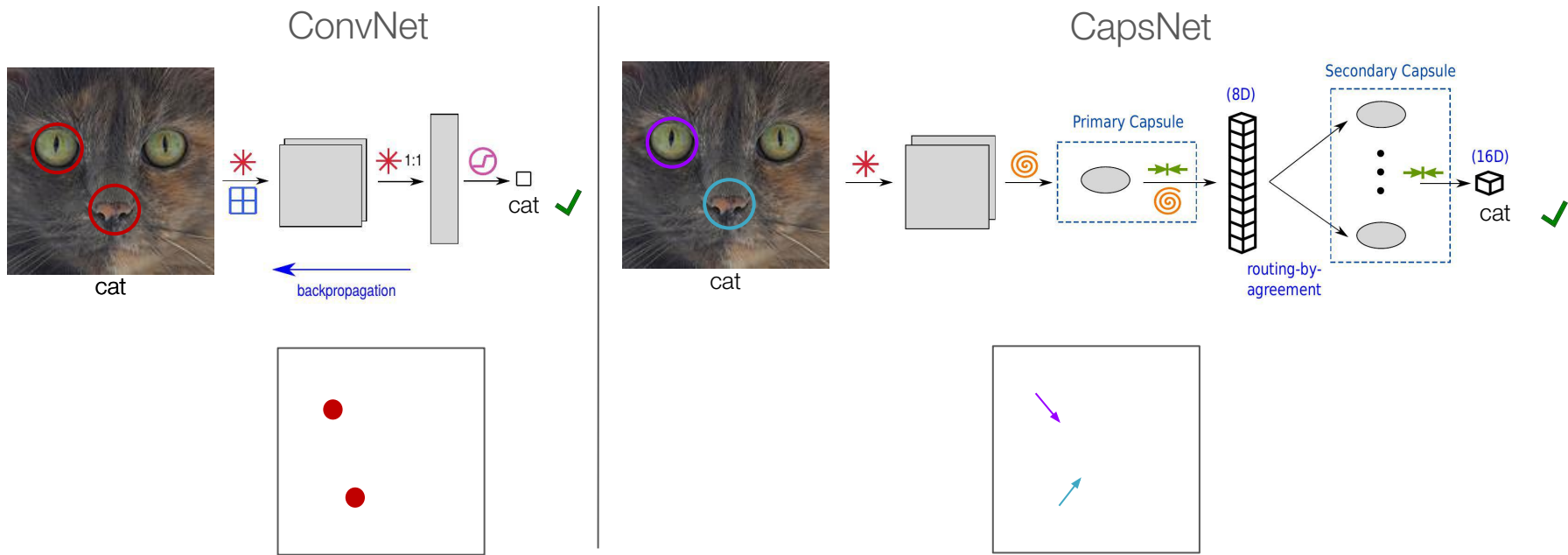
presence / absence (length of the vector)  
 + **pose: e.g. spatial location, scale, rotation, etc**



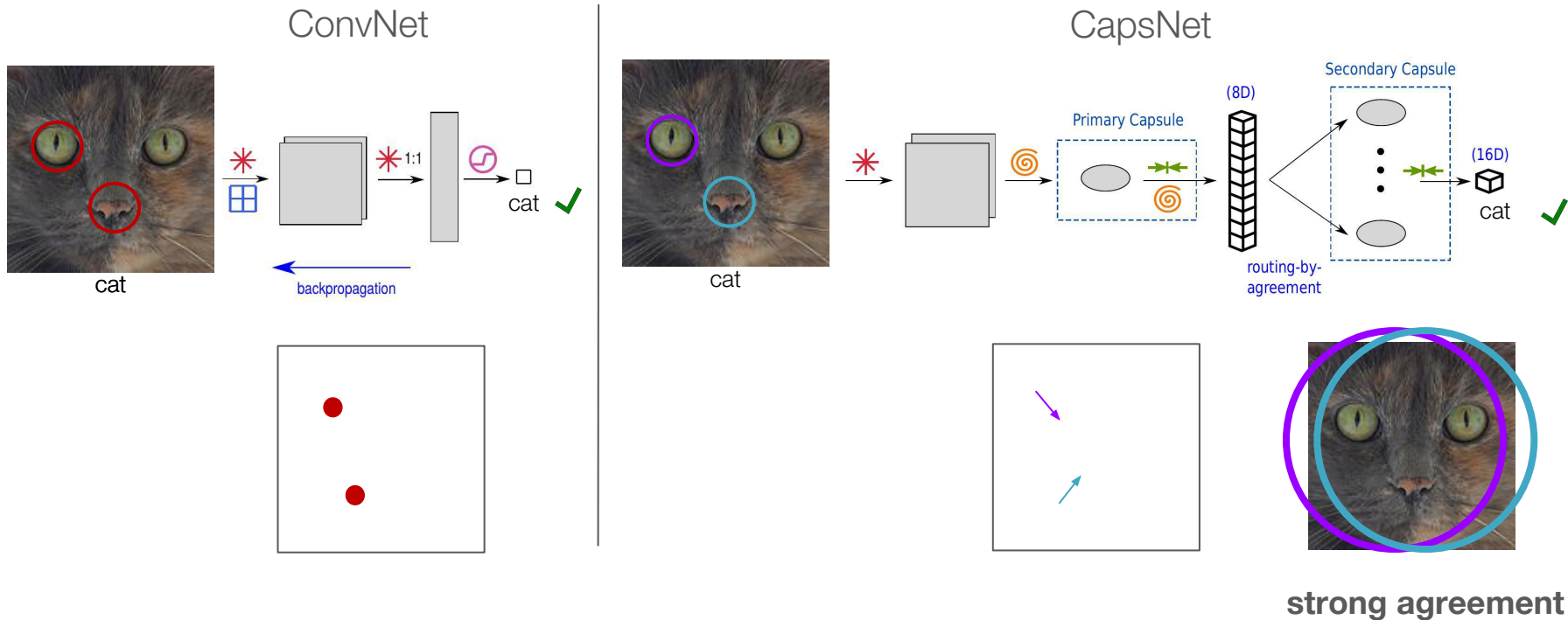
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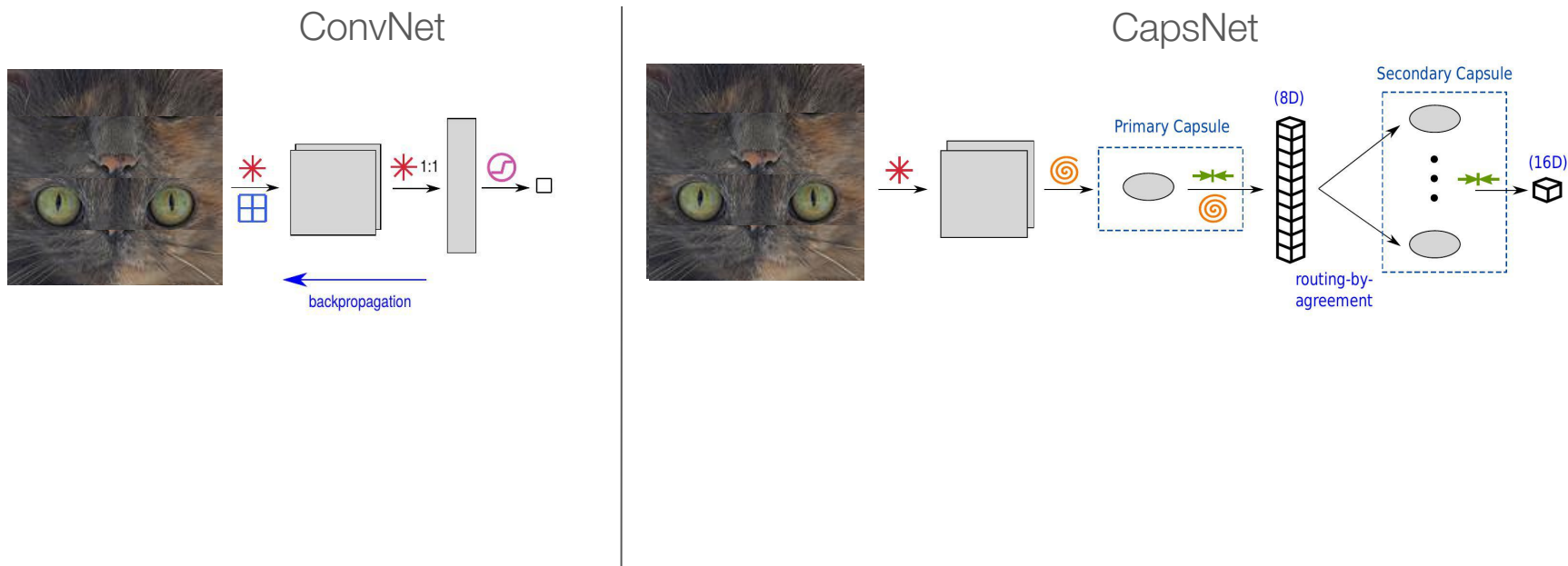


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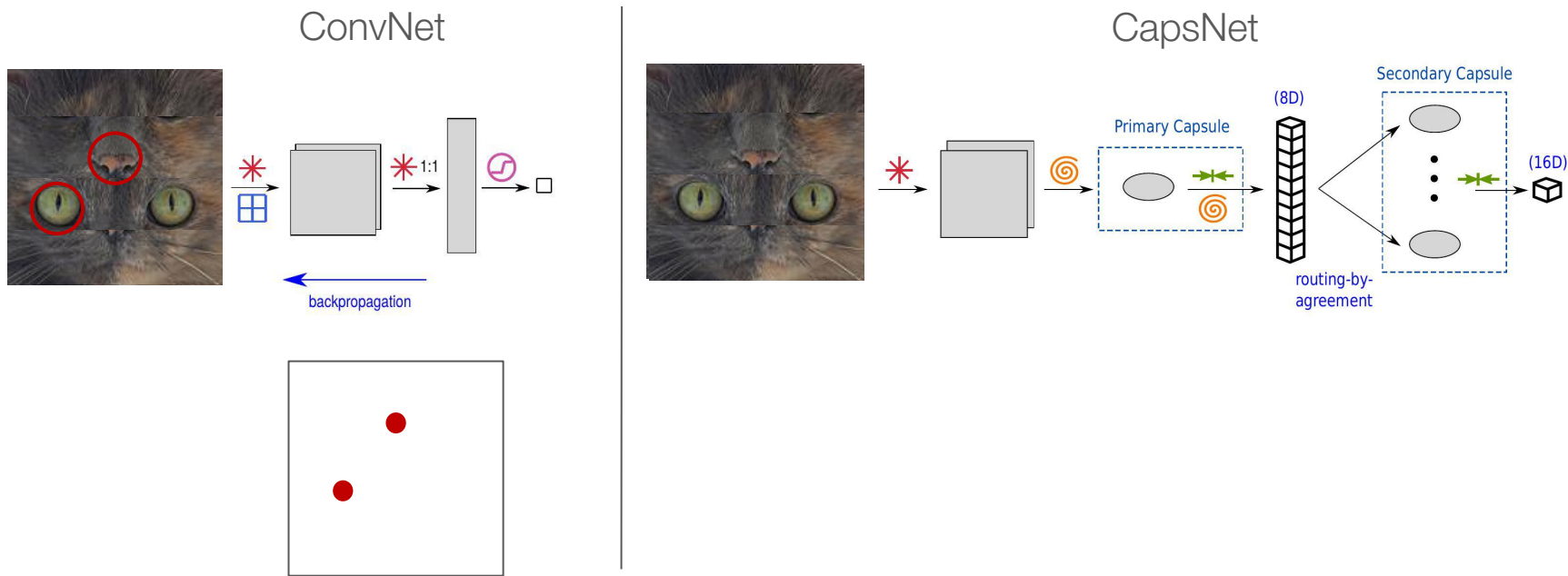




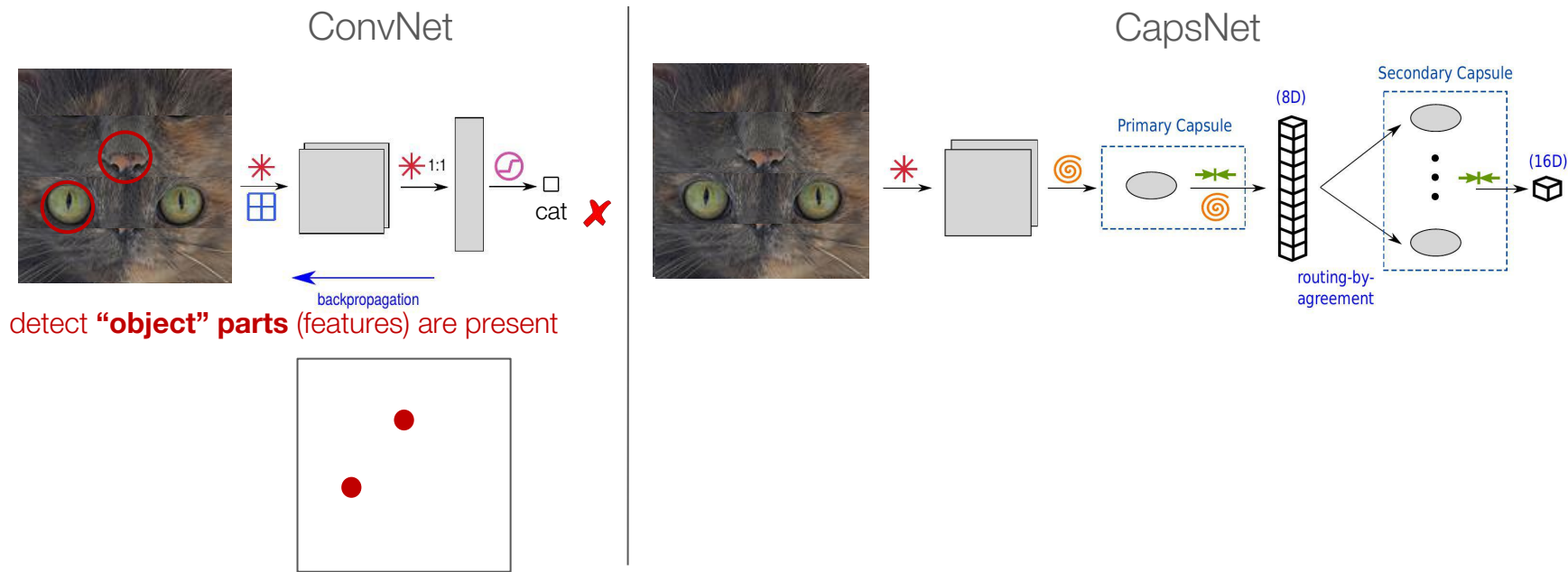
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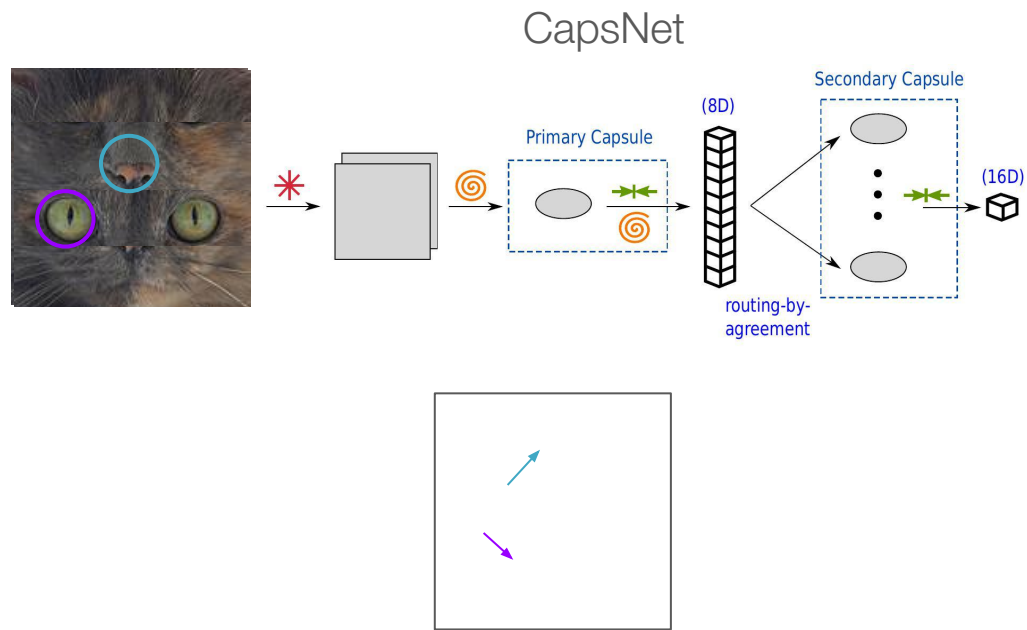
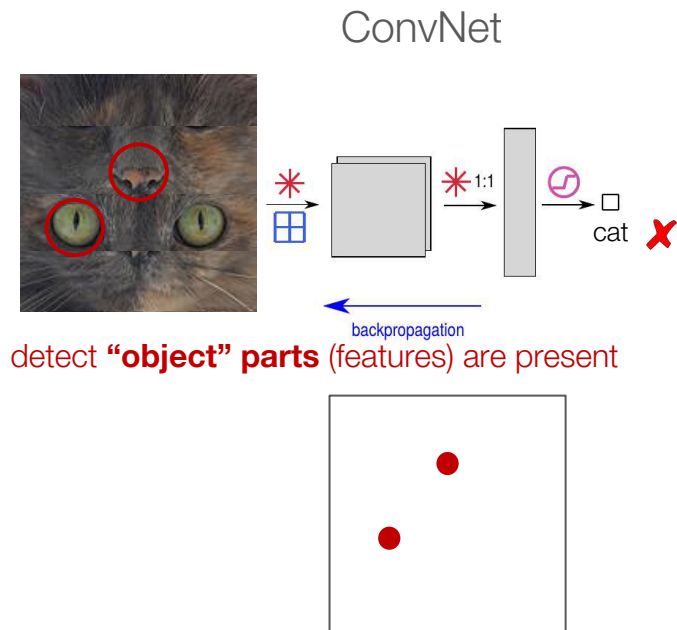
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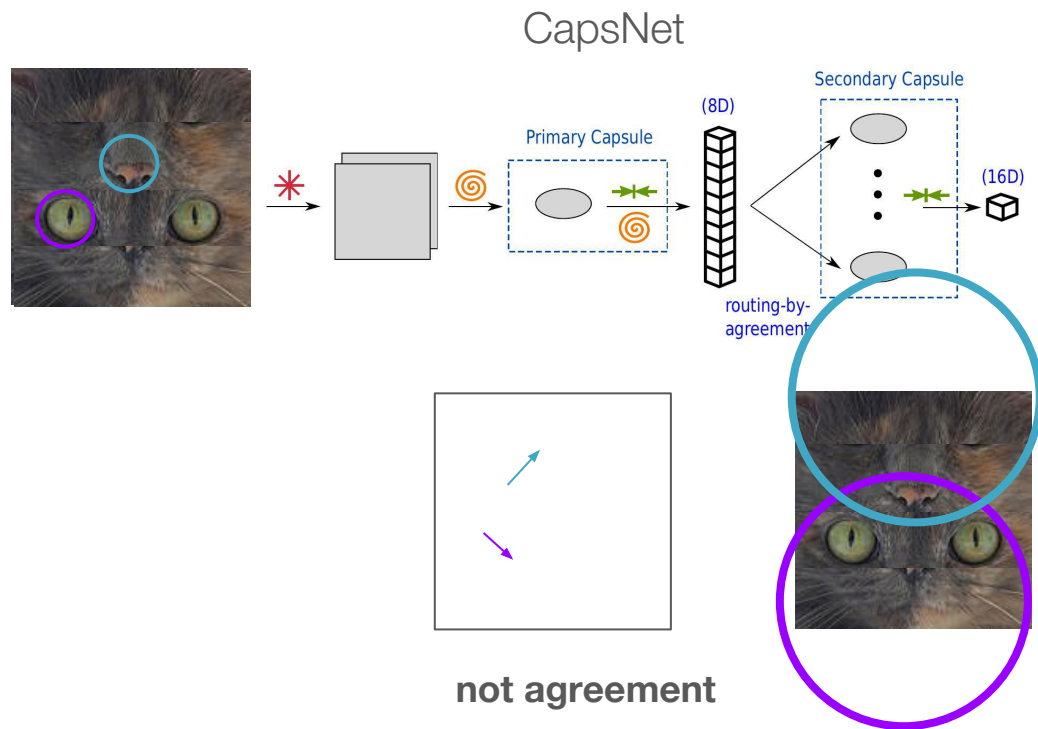
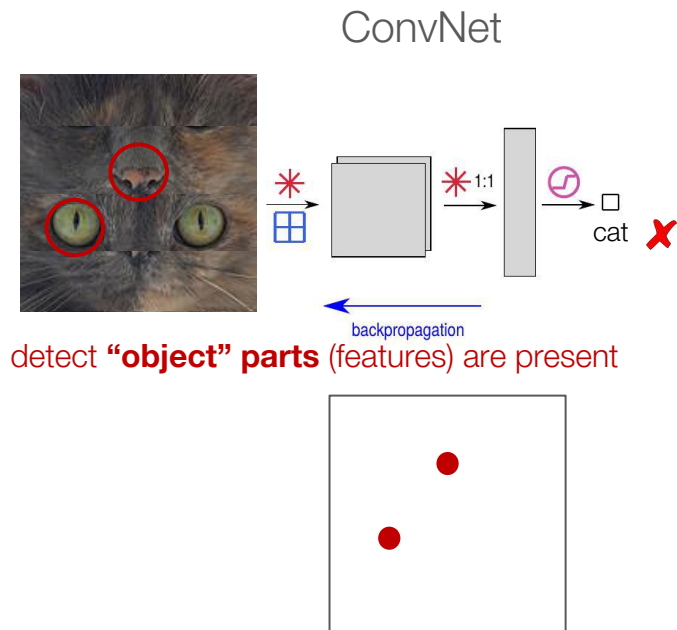
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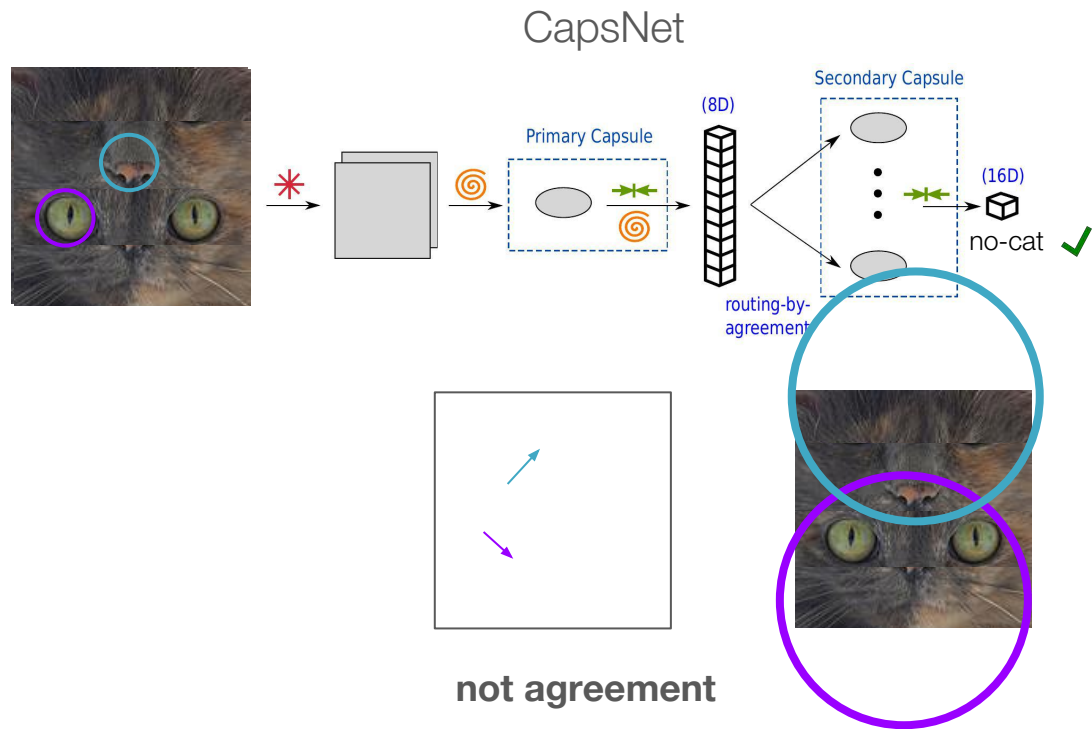
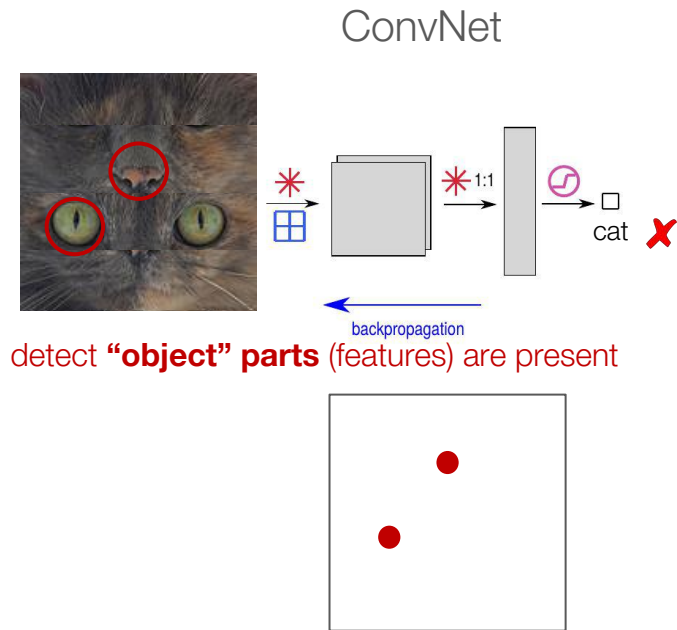
# CONVOLUTIONAL vs. CAPSULE NETWORK



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# CONVOLUTIONAL vs. CAPSULE NETWORK

Summary of differences:

|              | <b>ConvNets</b>  | <b>CapsNets</b>  |
|--------------|--|--|
| Layer        | pooling  | ---  |
| Process      | scalar   | vector  |
| Optimization | backpropagation  | routing-by-agreement   |
| Loss         | cross-entropy  | margin + reconstruction  |

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Margin loss:  $\|v_k\| > 0.9 \rightarrow$  instance is present  
 $\|v_k\| < 0.1 \rightarrow$  instance is absent



# HYPOTHESIS

**CapsNets** are designed to **learn** the **pose** of the instance along its **presence**. Consequently, less variations of the instance (**fewer** annotated images) are needed.

**Medical datasets** are often **small** and **highly imbalanced**.

# HYPOTHESIS

We argue that CapsNet will perform better than ConvNets under medical data challenges.

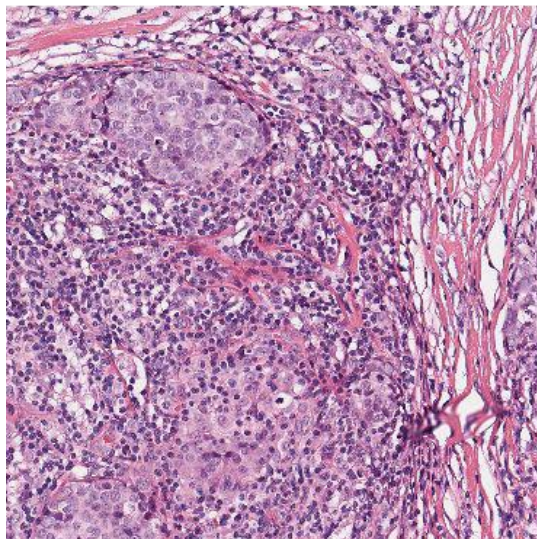
# HYPOTHESIS

We argue that CapsNet will perform better than ConvNets under medical data challenges.

- (1) How do networks behave under decreasing **amounts of training data**?
- (2) Is there a change in their response to **class-imbalance**?
- (3) Is there any benefit from **data augmentation** as a complementary strategy?

# DATASETS

i) Mitosis detection (TUPAC16) <sup>[1]</sup>



[1] Tumor Proliferation Assessment Challenge 2016  
(TUPAC16 <http://tupac.tue-image.nl/>)

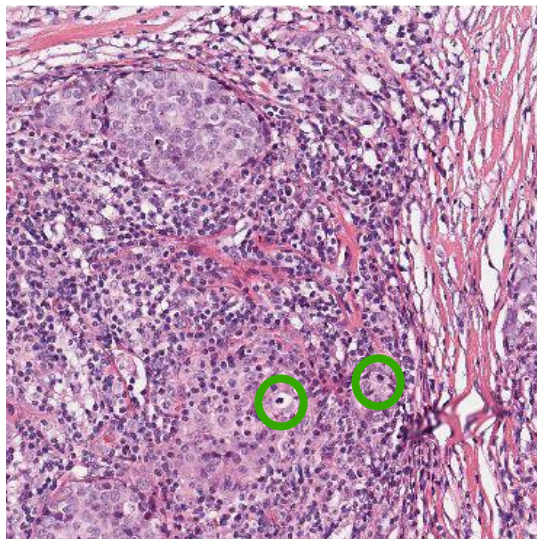
ii) Diabetic retinopathy detection (DIARETDB1) <sup>[2]</sup>



[2] Standard Diabetic Retinopathy Database - Calibration level 1  
(DIARETDB1 <http://www.it.lut.fi/project/imageret/diaretdb1/>)

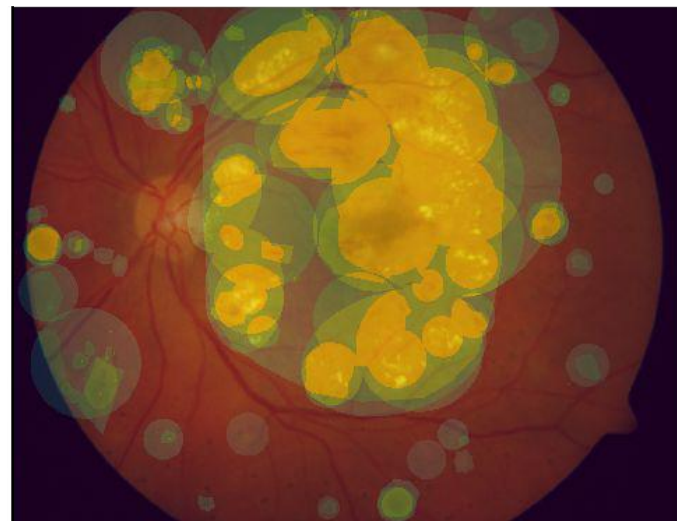
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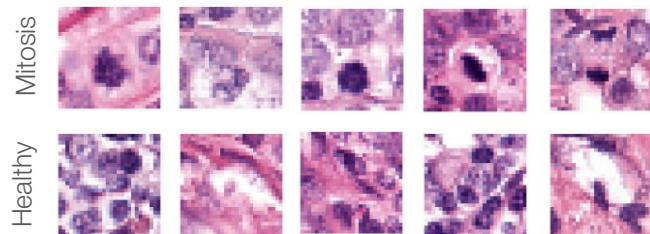
ii) Diabetic retinopathy detection (DIARETDB1) [2]



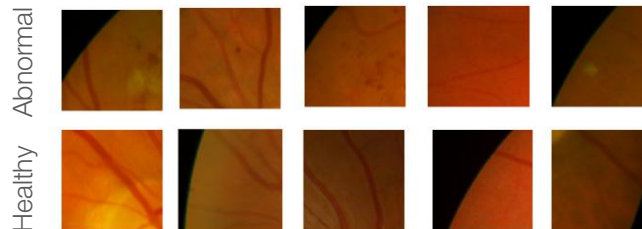
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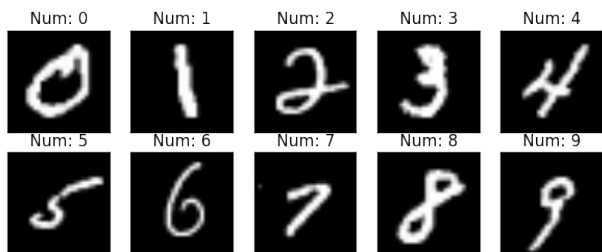
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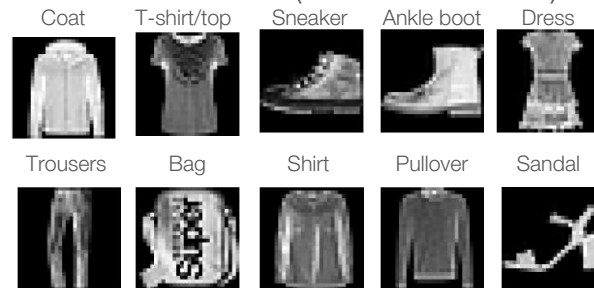


## iii) Handwritten Digit Recognition (MNIST) [1]



[1] MNIST database of handwritten digits  
(MNIST <http://yann.lecun.com/exdb/mnist/>)

## iv) Clothes Classification (Fashion-MNIST) [2]

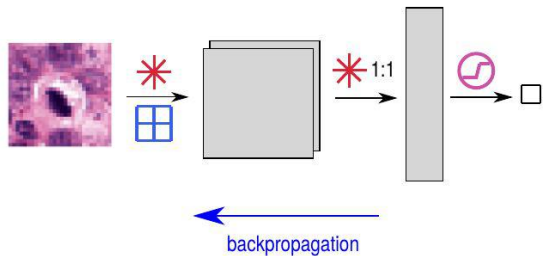


[2] Zalando's article images dataset (Fashion-MNIST  
<https://github.com/zalandoresearch/fashion-mnist>)

# ARCHITECTURES

## ConvNets (LeNet, Baseline)

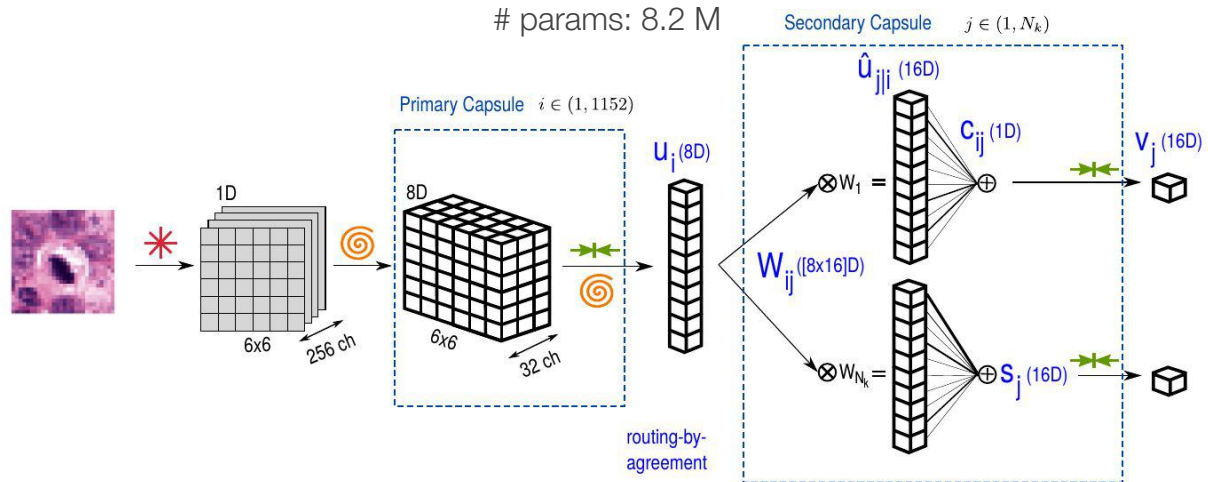
# params: 60 K, 35.4 M



\* Convolution   \* 1:1 Fully-connected   □ Pooling   ⊙ Softmax

## CapsNet

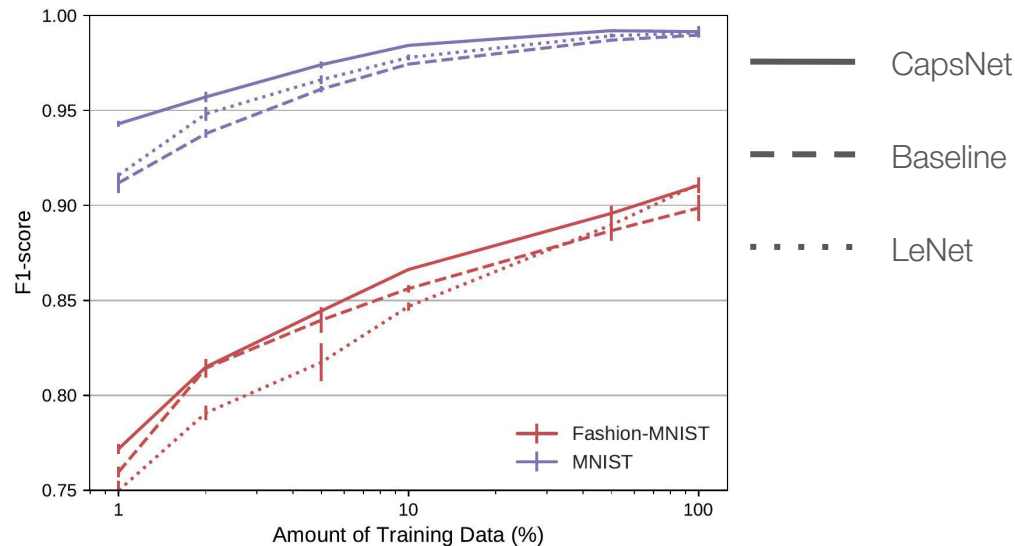
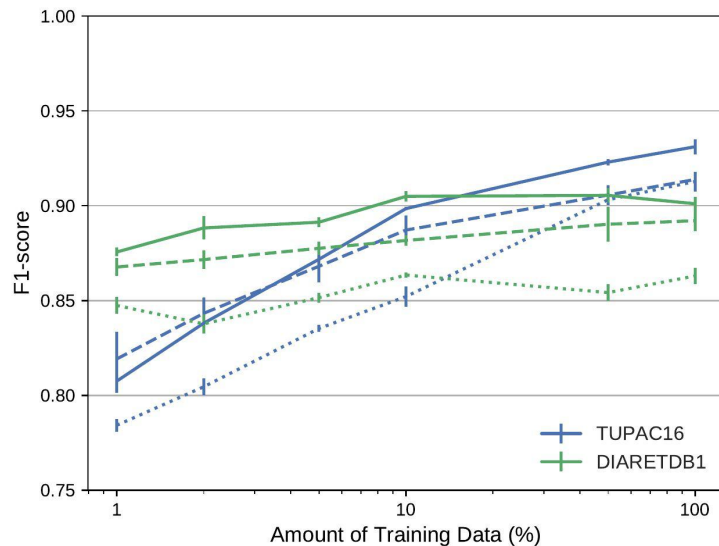
# params: 8.2 M

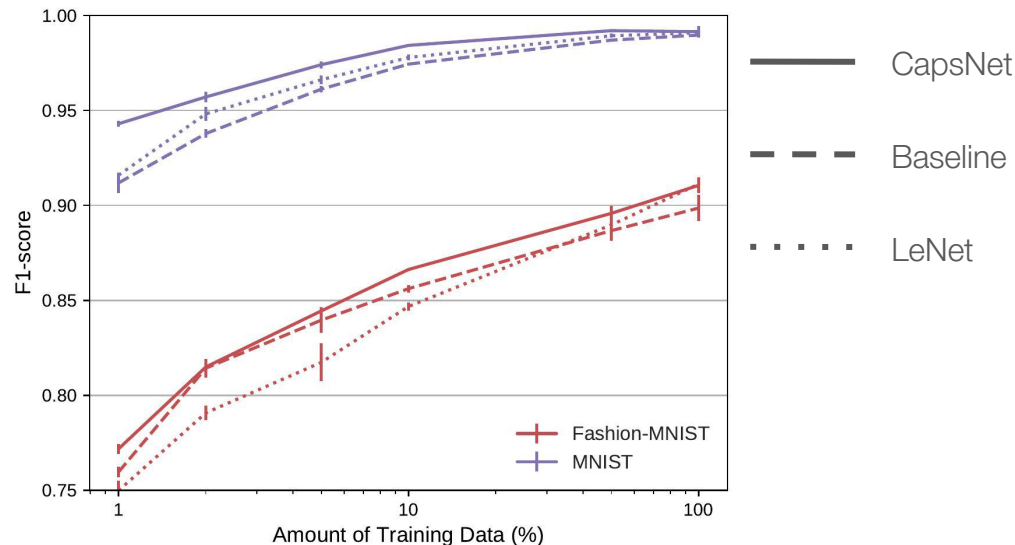
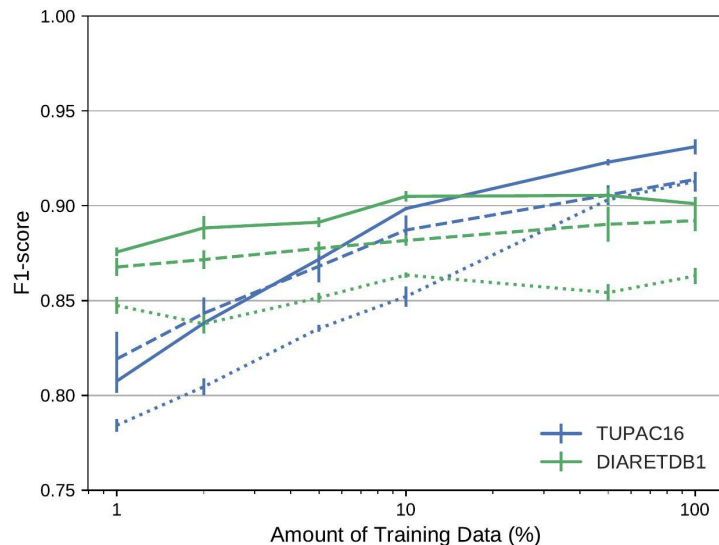


\* Convolution   ⊗ Matrix Multiplication   ⊕ Addition   🌀 Reshape   ↔ Squash

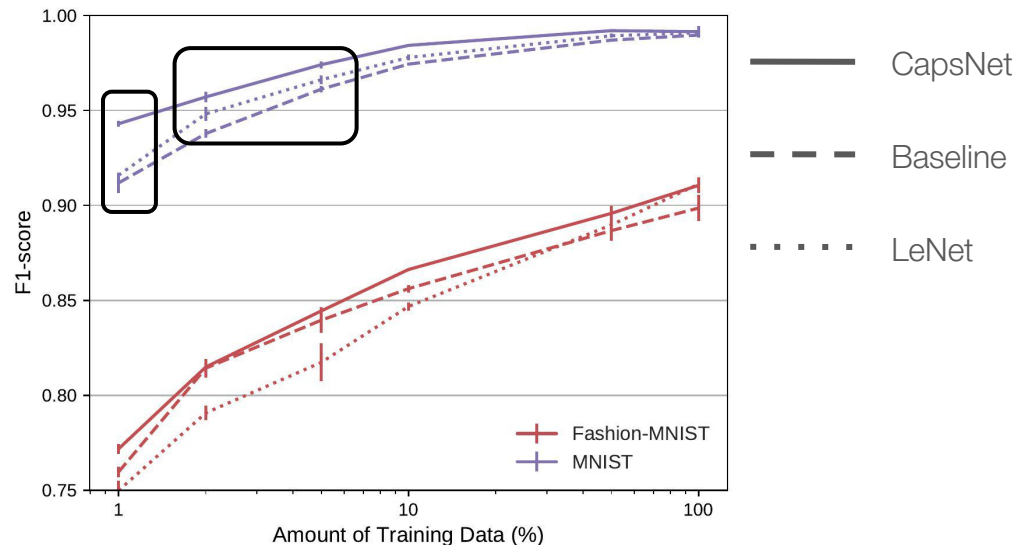
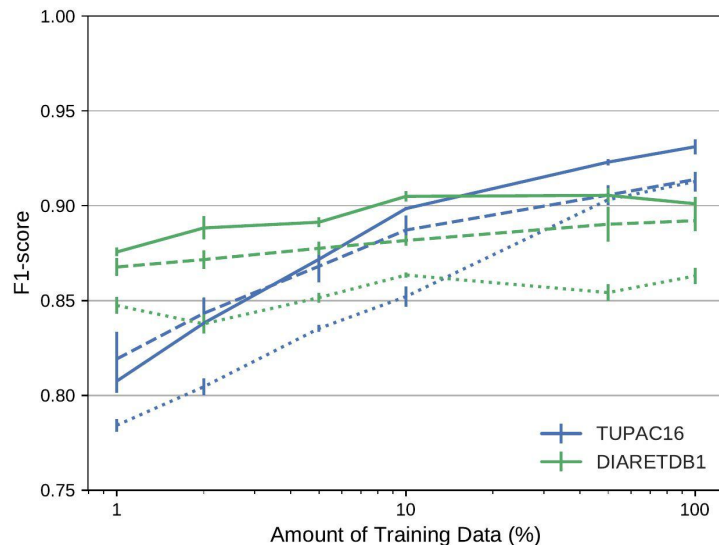
(1) How do networks behave under decreasing **amounts of training data**?



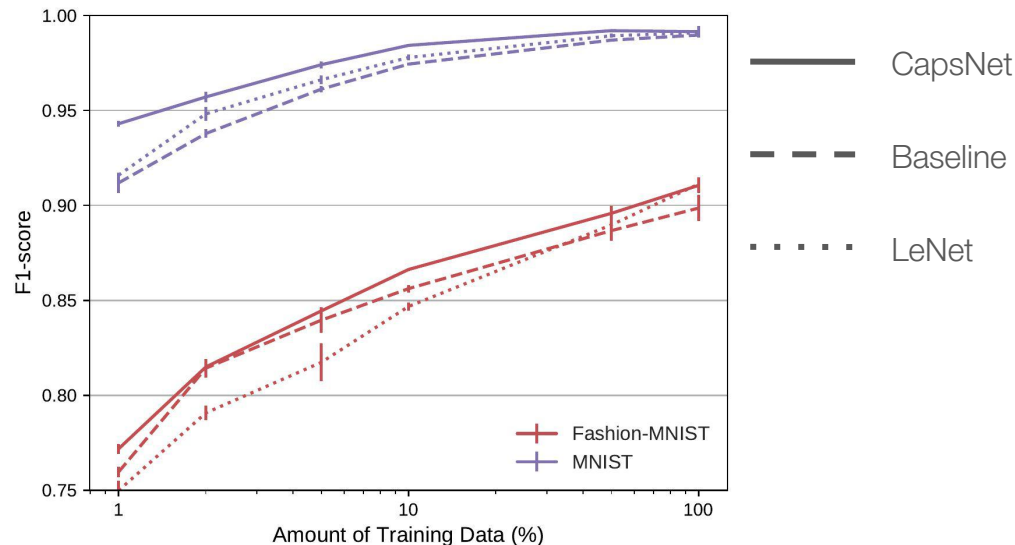
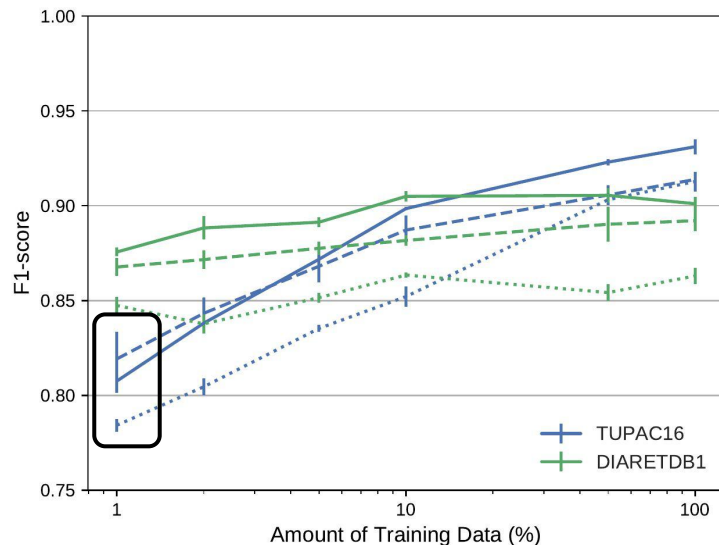
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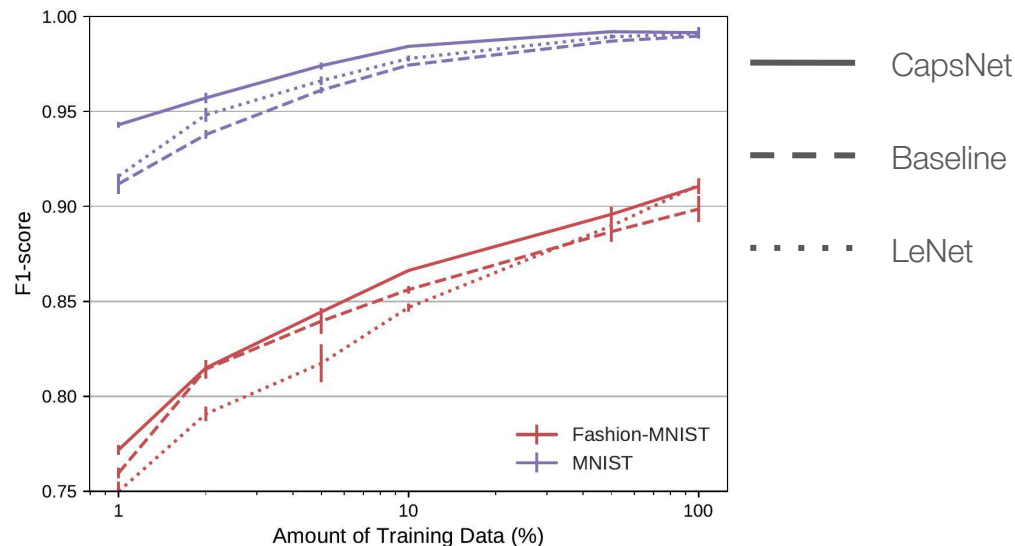
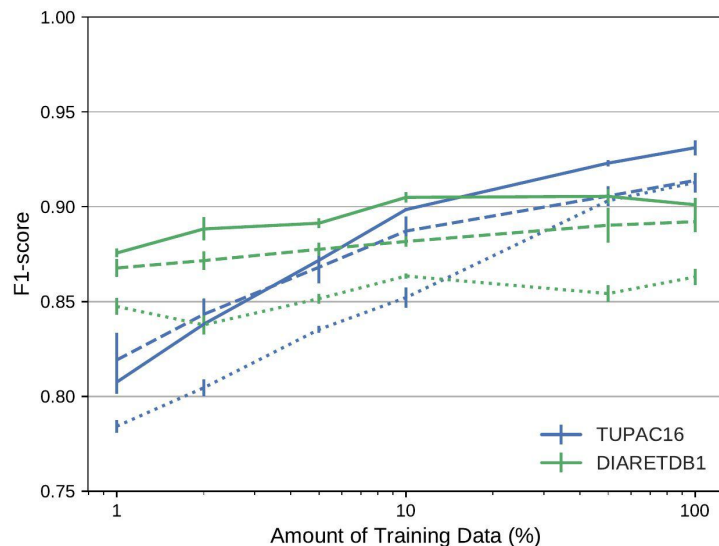
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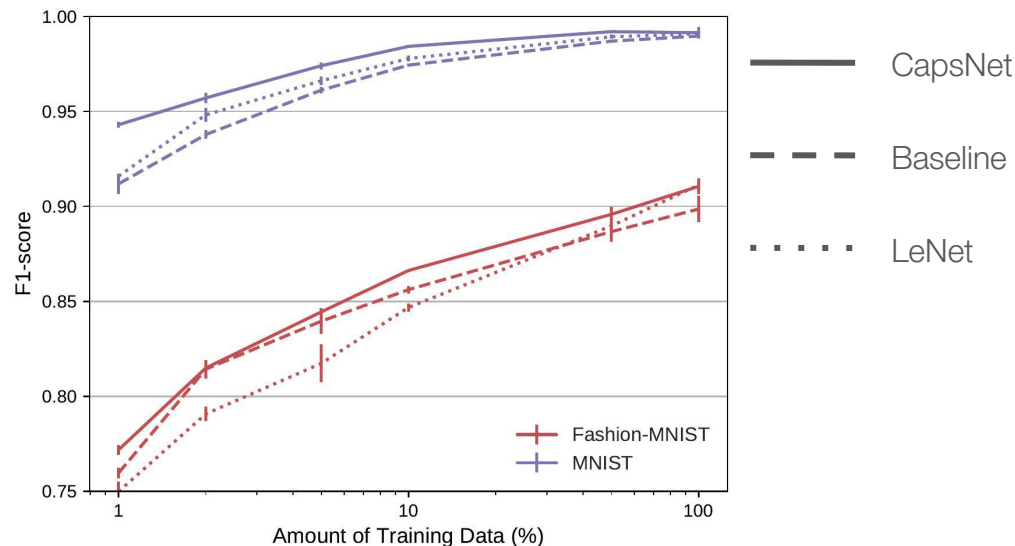
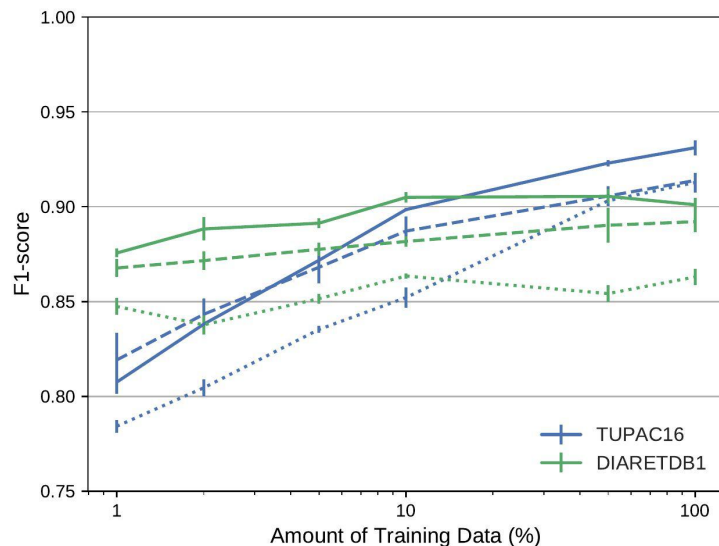
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- CapsNet performs overall better than ConvNets (LeNet & Baseline).
- The gap is higher for small amount of data (MNIST).
- Improvement is limited in more complex dataset (TUPAC16).
- All our experiments validated the significance test with a p-value < 0.05 (except for TUPAC16).

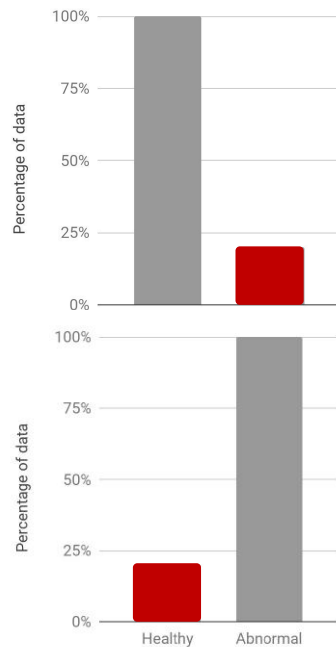
(1) How do networks behave under decreasing **amounts of training data**?**Take home messages:**

- CapsNet requires **less images** for a better performance.
- Behaviour can change for different datasets.

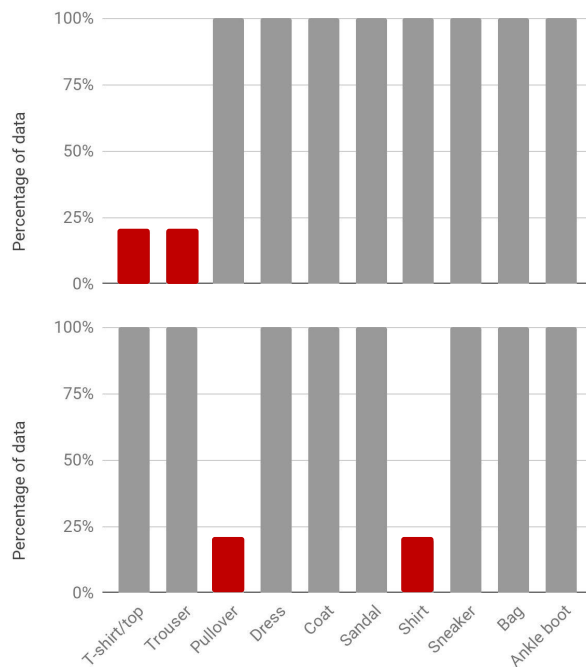
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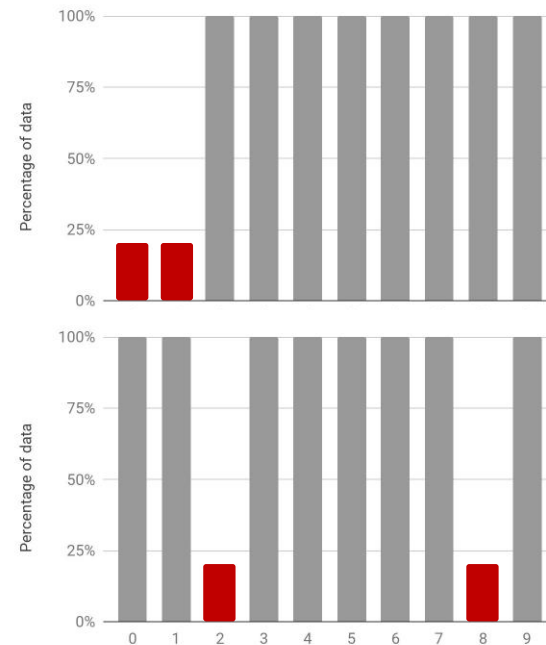
TUPAC16 &amp; DIARETDB1



Fashion-MNIST



MNIST





(2) Is there a change in their response to **class-imbalance**?

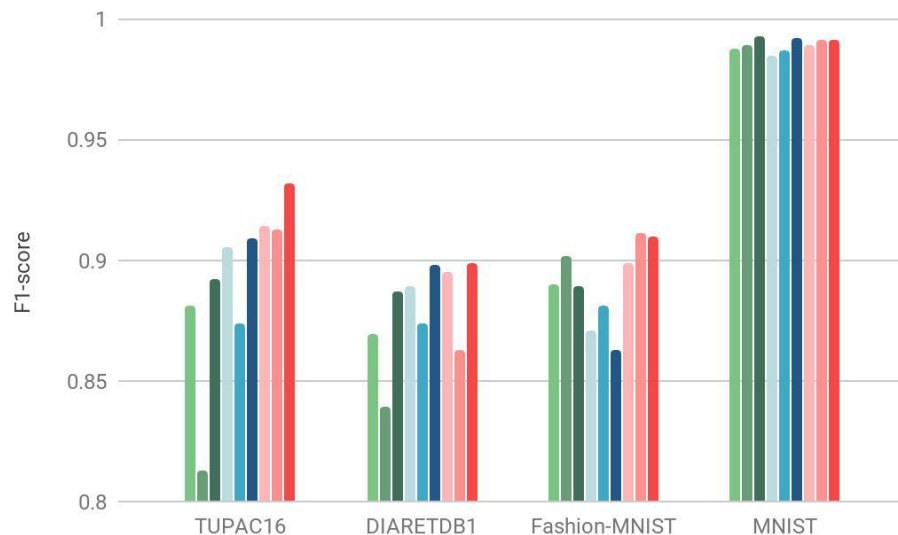
Unbalanced 1



Unbalanced 2



Balanced



CapsNet



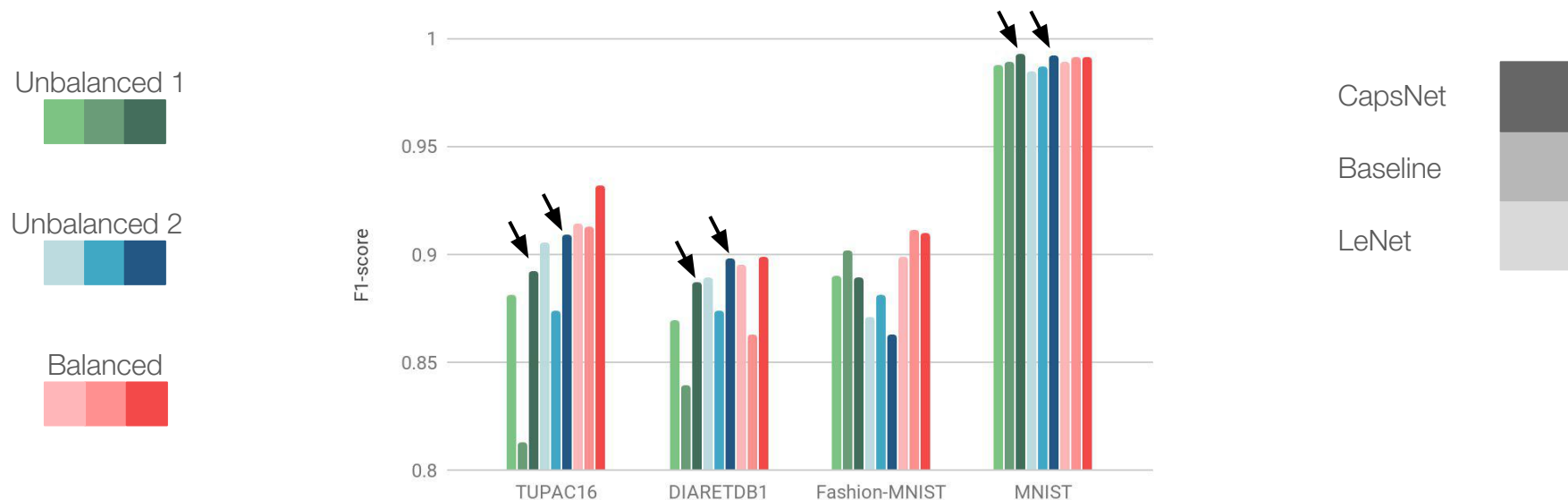
Baseline



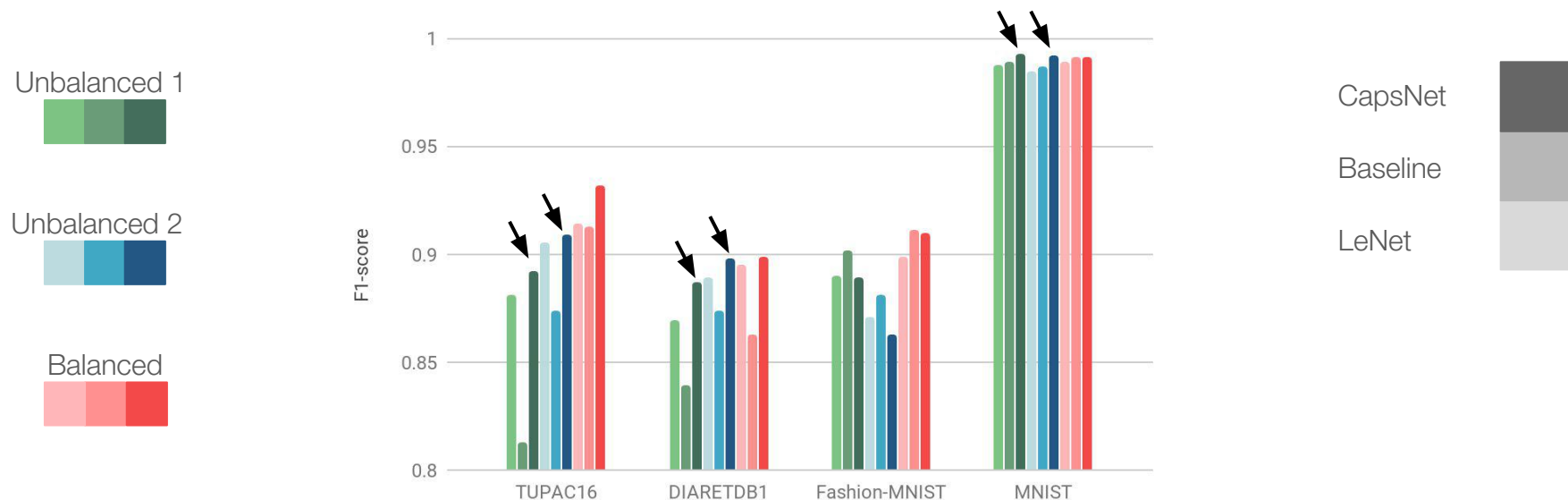
LeNet



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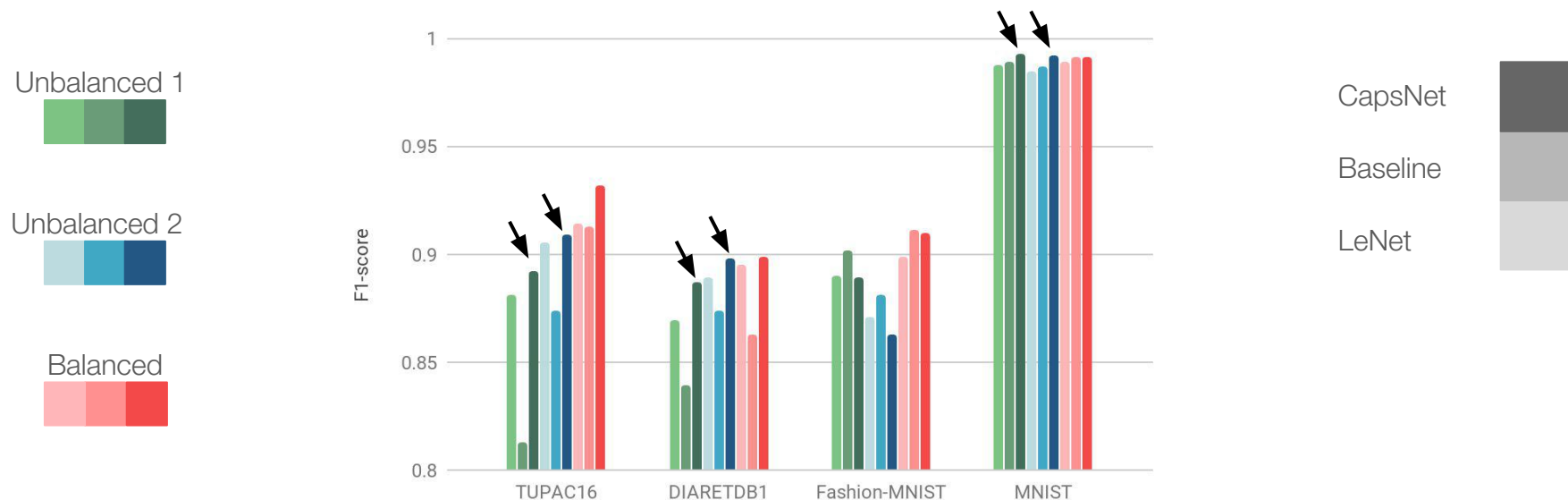


- CapsNet surpasses performance of ConvNets for all cases, except for Fashion-MNIST.

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- CapsNet surpasses performance of ConvNets for all cases, except for Fashion-MNIST.
- At least one of the unbalanced cases verified the significance test for all datasets.

(2) Is there a change in their response to **class-imbalance**?

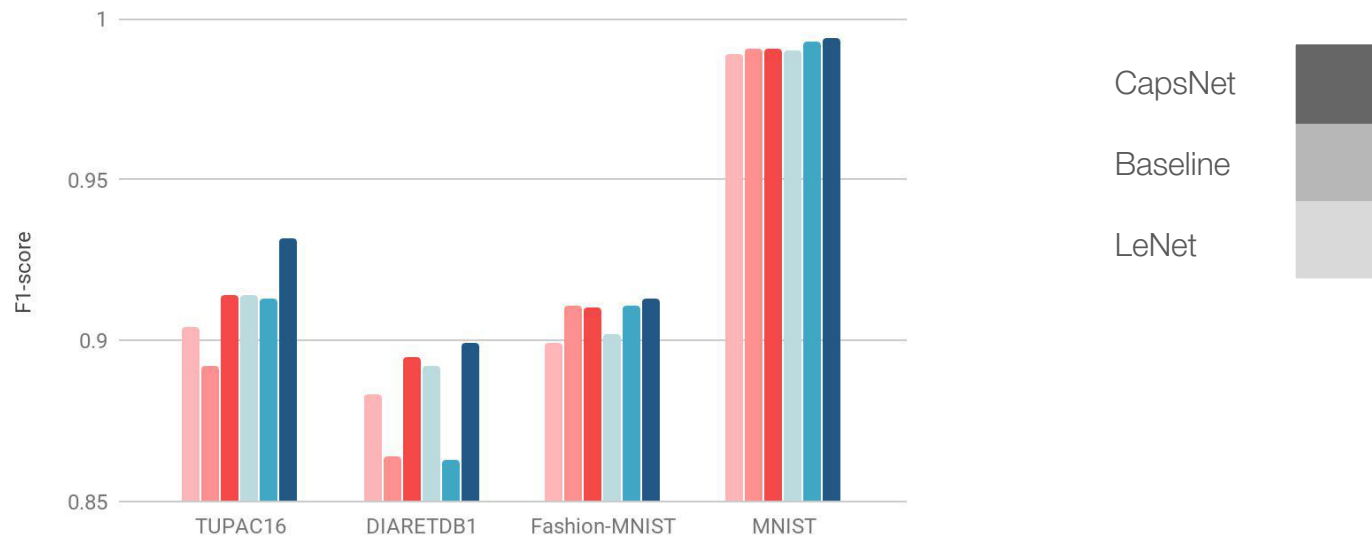


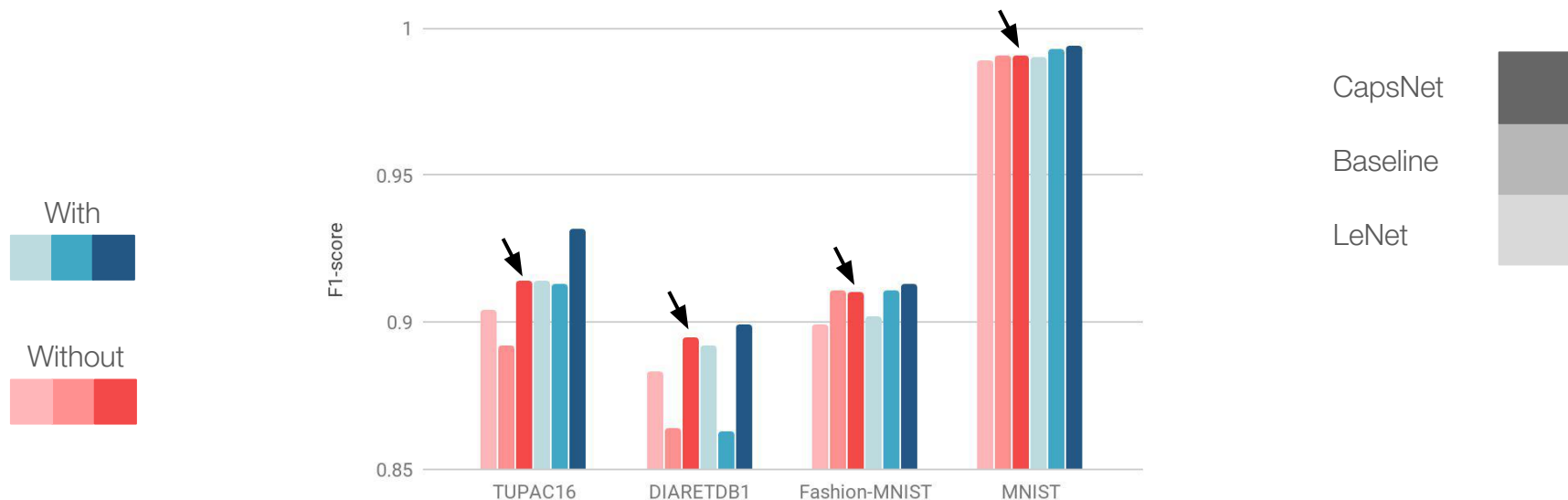
**Take home message:**

- CapsNet is **more robust** to imbalance in the class distribution.

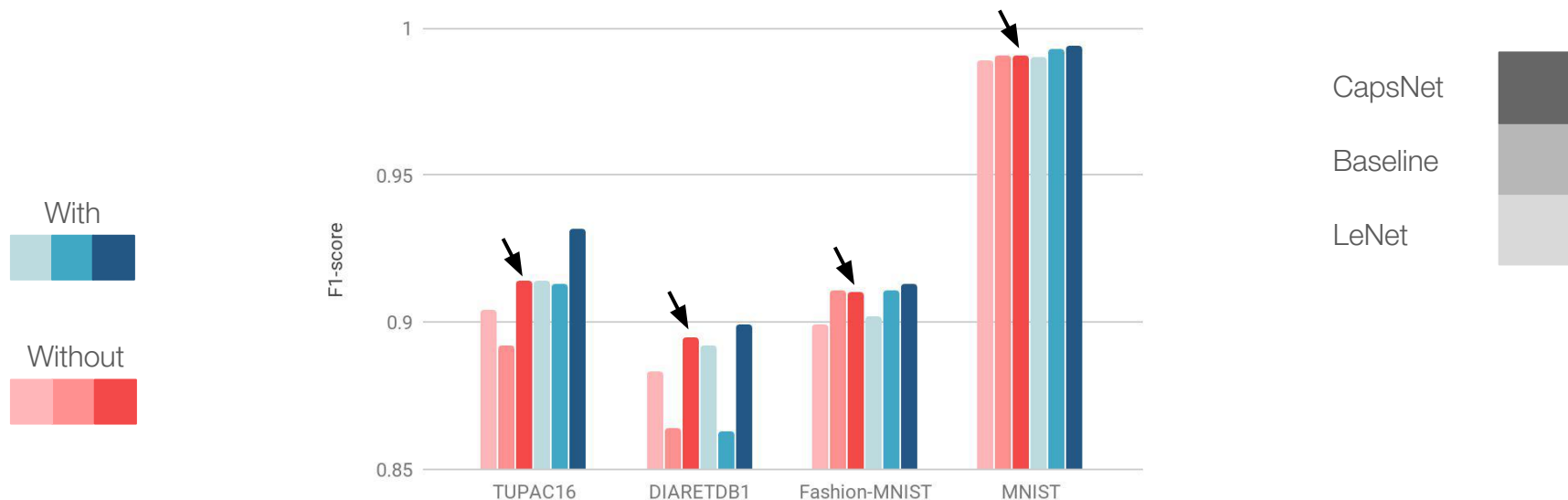
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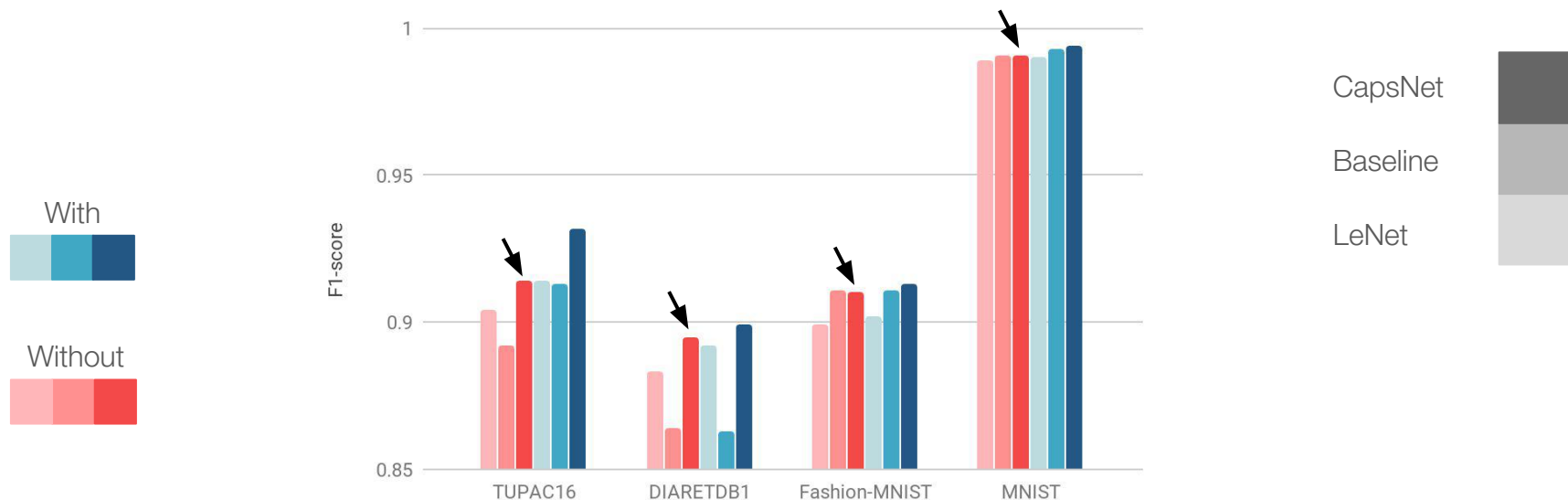
- CapsNet without data augmentation performs ... than ConvNets using data augmentation.
  - similarly (TUPAC16, MNIST, Fashion)
  - better (DIARETDB1)

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- CapsNet without data augmentation performs ... than ConvNets using data augmentation.
  - similarly (TUPAC16, MNIST, Fashion)
  - better (DIARETDB1)
- All results were found significant.



(3) Is there any benefit from **data augmentation** as a complementary strategy?



**Take home message:**

- CapsNet learns **a stronger representation** with less variability of the data.

# Conclusion

- + **Equivariance** modeling, requires to see fewer viewpoints of the instance of interest.
- + Allows to reduce the **number of parameters** for a comparable performance.
- + CapsNet improves CADx classification **performance** under medical data challenges.
- Routing-by-agreement is **slower** than backpropagation ( $\approx$  convergence time).
- Improvement is **limited** in more complex datasets (TUPAC16).
- **Reconstructions** are blurry for medical datasets with complex backgrounds.

# Outlook

- ➔ Fully convolutional **decoder** to handle complex backgrounds.
- ➔ Explore CapsNets in a **semi-supervised** or **unsupervised** framework.
- ➔ Investigate the latent space to improve **explainability** and **interpretability**.
- ➔ Look into more suitable **medical datasets**, in which neighborhood structure plays a role for diagnosis.

# ACKNOWLEDGEMENT



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Thank you for your attention!

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