

1 We thank all our reviewers for their time and for their kind words. We are delighted to receive such uniformly positive
2 reviews.

3 **Reviewer 1** comments that the experiments could be on larger problems – we agree that this is fair, and this is certainly
4 of interest going forward.

5 **Reviewer 2** comments that some details are unclear. Apologies, to clarify, the loss function was binary cross entropy
6 for the PhysioNet dataset, and the usual cross entropy for CharacterTrajectories and Speech Commands. Training was
7 via SGD in the usual manner. These details were put in the appendix for space; we will add them to the main paper.
8 As you suggest, the model implements a feedforward step analogous to an RNN. An additional reconstruction step
9 analogous to a VAE would be possible if desired, but wasn't something we explored here.

10 On the number of function evaluations (NFE), leaving this out was an oversight. Running the experiments with
11 `method='dopri5', rtol=1e-4, atol=1e-6` we observe:

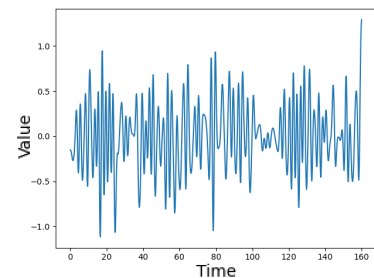
| | Speech Commands | Sepsis (OI) | Sepsis (No OI) | CharacterTrajectories 30% |
|---------------|-------------------|-------------------|------------------|---------------------------|
| 12 Neural CDE | 6009 ± 494 | 2872 ± 158 | 3123 ± 223 | 1955 ± 233 |
| GRU-ODE | 8579 ± 1355 | 3175 ± 194 | 3304 ± 178 | 1974 ± 110 |
| ODE-RNN | 6399 ± 2 | 2472 ± 127 | 2681 ± 47 | 7242 ± 6 |

13 CharacterTrajectories 50%, 70% are similar to 30% and so are not shown. The high mean and low variance of the
14 NFEs for ODE-RNN on some problems is likely due to the high sampling rate of the data.

15 Regarding error tolerances, we have observed successful training, in the sense of high classification accuracies, across
16 a range of tolerances ranging from 10^{-3} down to 10^{-8} , even for oscillatory problems such as the Speech Commands
17 dataset. Generally speaking Neural CDEs seem to be slightly harder (but not dramatically harder) to solve than a
18 comparable Neural ODE, no doubt due to the time-varying nature of the problem.

19 Regarding stability of training, Neural CDEs seem to be unusually stable. We found that they always seem to train
20 well, regardless of the choice of optimiser and learning rate, even when competing methods (GRUs etc.) are prone to
21 fail. We make a brief remark about this in the paper, but frankly this isn't a phenomenon we understand yet.

22 **Reviewer 3** asks about the smoothness prior of splines. Splines can actually
23 represent very oscillatory data without issues. See the figure to the right, which
24 is a cubic spline through one channel of a sample from the Speech Commands
25 dataset (and it is a typical such sample). Integrating this simply requires putting
26 down enough points, and moreover this is not computationally daunting.



27 We have indeed experimented with other interpolation schemes. We find that
28 performance differences are minor; trained models have similar classification
29 accuracies. We do however observe that linear interpolation produces a model
30 that requires fewer function evaluations on the forward pass, but increased function
31 evaluations on the backward pass. Furthermore linear interpolation is causal
32 whilst cubic splines are non-causal. This is a topic we are performing follow-up work on presently.

33 Regarding the correctness of the experiments, the other models received the same information (in particular the obser-
34 vational intensity) that the Neural CDE did – we appreciate that to have done otherwise would have been unfair. The
35 paper does word this a little oddly (essentially we sought to emphasise the difference between X and dX/dt), so we
36 will ensure that it is clear on this point.

37 Regarding the choice of only considering classification tasks – there was no real reason for this choice, and we expect
38 Neural CDEs to be able to perform regression, forecasting, etc. as well. We completely agree it would be valuable
39 to consider other problems; were we to do this again (with the benefit of hindsight) then we probably would. Each
40 experiment was chosen to demonstrate a particular type of problem: CharacterTrajectories for varying irregular data;
41 PhysioNet for observational intensity and partially observed data; Speech Commands for regular data.

42 **Reviewer 4** gives a truly delightful review – thank you! We are very happy that our paper is identified as making both
43 significant theoretical and practical contributions. Regarding the brevity of the proof descriptions, we will aim to use
44 part of the additional page to give more detail of these.

45 On the choice of datasets, these were intended to be standard choices. CharacterTrajectories is drawn from the UEA
46 archive, PhysioNet is a central resource for medical time series, and Speech Commands is now provided through
47 torchaudio. We agree that a sample from the datasets could be informative to fix what is going on in a reader's
48 mind; if space allows we will add this to the paper. Thankyou for the suggestions of other speech problems – we're
49 always looking for good ideas for follow up work.