

1 We thank the reviewers for their thoughtful and constructive reviews. We appreciate that they found the paper to be
 2 ‘theoretically and experimentally grounded,’ and ‘extremely well-written,’ that it ‘could easily be used in practice,’ and
 3 has ‘practical impact in a number of real-world applications,’ specifically ‘where security and privacy are important.’
 4 Below we respond to the major comments; we will fix the minor ones in the final version.

5 **Reviewer #1** • *results on more benchmarks [...] would further improve the confidence.* Agreed. As suggested, we
 6 ran experiments on the Fashion MNIST benchmark; The results (Table I) are substantially in line with those in the
 7 paper. Experiments for CIFAR-100 are in progress and we will add those and the results of Table I to the final paper.
 8 • *The MLP and CNN are a bit old models [...]* We used MLP and CNNs since they were used in studies that we
 9 compared to, e.g. Deep Ensembles (DE) (arXiv:1612.01474). Furthermore, in the submitted paper, we showed the
 10 effectiveness of our proposed methods on larger and deeper pretrained networks. In the new sets of experiments, we
 11 used Wide-ResNet-28×10 (arXiv:1605.07146v4 2016) for CIFAR-10 out-of-distribution (OOD) detection experiments.
 12 • *Ref. [39] reported improved results [...] using ‘mixup’* Agreed. Due to the limited time of the response period, that
 13 experiment cannot be completed now. We will add the ‘mixup training’ results into the revised paper. • *uniform*
 14 *distribution prior or some other distribution [instead of normal for perturbation]?* We tested a uniform distribution
 15 with MNIST (MLP) and observed similar performance to a normal distribution on this small problem. We will run
 16 experiments on other applications, including larger ImageNet networks, and add the results to the final version of the
 17 paper. • *the performance of PEP on out-of-distribution images.* We performed experiments similar to arXiv:1902.02476
 18 for OOD detection. We trained a WideResNet-28x10 on data from five classes of the CIFAR-10 dataset and then
 19 evaluated on the whole test set. We measured the symmetrized KL divergence (KLD) between the in-distribution and
 20 out-of-distributions samples. The results show that KLD increased from 0.47 (baseline) to 0.72 by using PEP. Temp.
 21 scaling also increased KLD to 0.71. We will add these results to the paper.

Table 1: Additional experiments on fashion MNIST (For all metrics smaller is better).

Metric	Baseline	PEP	Temp. Scaling	MCD	Deep Ensembles
NLL	0.360 ± 0.01	0.275 ± 0.01	0.271 ± 0.01	0.218 ± 0.01	0.198 ± 0.00
Brier	0.137 ± 0.01	0.127 ± 0.01	0.126 ± 0.00	0.111 ± 0.00	0.096 ± 0.00
ECE %	5.269 ± 0.22	1.784 ± 0.54	1.098 ± 0.18	1.466 ± 0.30	0.942 ± 0.13
Classification Error	8.420 ± 0.32	8.522 ± 0.34	8.420 ± 0.32	7.692 ± 0.34	6.508 ± 0.10

22 **Reviewer #2** • *there are many missing references to very relevant and related pieces of work.* We thank R2 for
 23 pointing out the related work of (Ritter et al. 2010), (Izmailov et al. 2018) and (Maddox et al. 2019), especially about
 24 Laplace approximations. From that point of view, PEP is perhaps the simplest possible Laplace approximation - an
 25 isotropic Gaussian with one variance parameter, though we set the parameter with simple ML/cross-validation rather
 26 than calculating curvature. The trade-off is that while performance is expected to be better with richer covariance
 27 models, there is some overhead in calculating them, and they are not practical for use with pre-trained models. We will
 28 revise the paper accordingly. • *In the discussion of PEP effect vs. overfitting [... (Goodfellow ICLR 2015) ...] may be a*
 29 *good paper to include in the related work.* Agreed. We will include it in the final version. • *SWA methods of Izmailov*
 30 *et al. + [SWAG method] Maddox et al. should be included as baselines.* We agree that addition of SWA/G results will
 31 strengthen the conclusions. We are addressing the implementation logistics between us and SWA/G and (SWAG, more
 32 recent, is in PyTorch, SWA TensorFlow implementation has bugs, we are in TensorFlow) which need additional time.
 33 We will add results of the experiments in the revision. • *No broader impact section* We will add a ‘broader impact’
 34 section that will discuss the importance of reducing carbon footprint via reduced compute resources, and the importance
 35 of improved calibration, security and privacy in medical applications. • *While the theoretical analysis is all correct,*
 36 *much of it is also well established (... Taylor expansions as Laplace approximations ... odd moments of ... Gaussians*
 37 *are zero, etc).* We agree that we are using well-established methods; we think of this as an advantage. Our work shows
 38 how a simple formalism yields improvement in the calibration of pre-trained networks. It also enables us to provide an
 39 in-depth analysis of why our method can improve NLL, and under what conditions. • *[what are] “different empirical*
 40 *FI?” ... “first term” ... “second term”* FI is Fisher Information, ‘First term’ and ‘Second term’ refer to the preceding
 41 equation. We will clarify in the revision accordingly.

42 **Reviewer #3** Thank you for appreciating the novelty of our approach. • *The performance [...] is still much worse than*
 43 *for two competing approaches.* True, but DE has additional training cost, and MCD requires model modification.

44 **Reviewer #4** • *the evaluation measures that should matter are ECE and the classification error. However, PEP does*
 45 *not seem to necessarily improve these measures.* PEP is mainly aimed at improving calibration, though it can provide
 46 classification improvement for overfitted models. NLL, Brier score, and ECE are all commonly used metrics to assess
 47 calibration. PEP improved ECE of the baselines in 8 out of 9 experiments. It also consistently improved NLL and Brier
 48 score of the baselines. • *The paper doesn’t mention the reason this specific approach was chosen; i.e., please given an*
 49 *intuitive explanation [...]* There are general arguments about why ensembles can work [ref 5]. Also, Jensen’s inequality
 50 suggested to us that simple probabilistic perturbations about θ^* might be effective, depending on the curvature of the
 51 validation log likelihood function at θ^* (from training), (which might depend on overfitting). • *notation, while clear, is*
 52 *not always defined. please state clearly what i, j, and m are.* They are index of data item, index of Gaussian sample,
 53 number of Gaussian samples, respectively. We will revise the paper accordingly.