

# **Bayesian Inference for Deep Learning**

Introduction to Bayesian Inference for Deep Learning

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# Introduction

#### Why a tutorial on Bayesian deep learning?



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Accounting for uncertainty, if possible, is important



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#### The race to bigger and more accurate models

# Accuracy on ImageNet



https://paperswithcode.com/sota/image-classification-on-imagenet

# Number of parameters for SotA - ImageNet



https://paperswithcode.com/sota/image-classification-on-imagenet

Bayesian inference: A quick cheat sheet Consider two continuous random variables a and b

• Sum rule:

$$p(a) = \int p(a,b)db$$

• Product rule:

$$p(a,b) = p(a|b)p(b) = p(b|a)p(a)$$

Consider two continuous random variables a and b

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• Bayes' rule:

$$p(b|a) = rac{p(a|b)p(b)}{p(a)}$$

Note: Bayes' rule is a direct consequence of the product rule

# A quick introduction to Bayesian inference: Expectations

• Expectations:

$$\overline{f} = \mathsf{E}_{p(a)}\left[f(a)\right] = \int f(a) \, p(a) \, da$$

• Example: the mean

$$\mu = \mathsf{E}_{p(a)}\left[a
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• Monte Carlo estimate by averaging over samples from p(a):

$$\overline{f} pprox rac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^{N} f(a_i)$$
 with  $a_i \sim p(a)$ 

• Data is a set of *N* inputs/labels pairs:

$$\mathcal{D} = \{(\mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{y}_i)\}_{i=1,...,N}$$
 with

$$\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^{D}$$
,  $\mathbf{X} = (\mathbf{x}_{1}, \dots, \mathbf{x}_{N})^{\top}$  and  
 $\mathbf{y} \in \mathbb{R}^{O}$ ,  $\mathbf{Y} = (\mathbf{y}_{1}, \dots, \mathbf{y}_{N})^{\top}$ 

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• Goal: Estimate a function

$$f(x): \mathbb{R}^D \to \mathbb{R}^O$$

# **Deep Neural Networks**

• Implement a composition of parametric functions



#### Loss Minimization – Regression

- Define  $w = \{W^{(1)}, ..., W^{(L)}\}$
- Definition of the quadratic loss function:

$$\mathcal{L} = \sum_{i=1}^N \|\mathbf{y}_i - \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}_i; \mathbf{w})\|^2$$

• Solution to the regression problem not available in closed form:

$$\nabla_{\mathbf{w}} \mathcal{L} = \mathbf{0}$$

• Back-propagation to calculate gradients to perform optimization of  ${\cal L}$  wrt w

# **Probabilistic Interpretation of Loss Minimization**

• Consider a simple transformation of the loss function



• Minimizing the quadratic loss equivalent to maximizing the Gaussian likelihood function

$$\exp(-\gamma \mathcal{L}) = \prod_{i} \exp(-\gamma \|\mathbf{y}_{i} - \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}_{i}; \mathbf{w})\|^{2})$$

$$\propto \mathcal{N}\left(\mathbf{Y} \mid \mathbf{F}, \frac{1}{2\gamma} \mathbf{I}_{N \times O}\right) \qquad \text{Gaussian distribution}$$

• The likelihood 
$$\mathcal{N}\left(\mathbf{y}|\mathbf{X}\mathbf{w},\frac{1}{2\gamma}\right)$$
 hints to the fact that we are assuming:

 $\mathbf{y}_i = \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}_i; \mathbf{w}) + \boldsymbol{\epsilon}_i$ 

with  $\epsilon_i \sim \mathcal{N}(\varepsilon_i | 0, rac{1}{2\gamma} \mathbf{I}_O)$ 

• Remark: the likelihood is not a probability!

• Viewing parameters and data as random variables, we can use Bayes Theorem as follows:



$$p(\mathbf{w}|\mathbf{Y},\mathbf{X}) = \frac{p(\mathbf{Y}|\mathbf{X},\mathbf{w})p(\mathbf{w})}{\int p(\mathbf{Y}|\mathbf{X},\mathbf{w})p(\mathbf{w})d\mathbf{w}}$$

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- Likelihood : p(Y|X, w)
  - Measure of "fitness"

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  - Anything we know about parameters before we see any data

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- Posterior density:  $p(\mathbf{w}|\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Y})$ 
  - Distribution over parameters after observing data
- Marginal likelihood: p(Y|X)
  - It is a normalization constant ensures  $\int p(\mathbf{w}|\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Y}) d\mathbf{w} = 1$ .

• Predictions can be made in the form of distributions:

$$p(\mathbf{y}_*|\mathbf{x}_*,\mathbf{Y},\mathbf{X}) = \int p(\mathbf{y}_*|\mathbf{x}_*,\mathbf{w}) p(\mathbf{w}|\mathbf{Y},\mathbf{X}) d\mathbf{w}$$

• Notice how parameters disappear from the expression of the predictive distribution!

# **Bayesian Inference - Model Selection**

• Marginal likelihood

$$p(\mathbf{Y}|\mathbf{X}) = \int p(\mathbf{Y}|\mathbf{X},\mathbf{w}) p(\mathbf{w}) d\mathbf{w}$$

depends on the modeling choice.

• For models  $M_1$  and  $M_2$  we have:

$$p(\mathbf{Y}|\mathbf{X}, M_1)$$
 and  $p(\mathbf{Y}|\mathbf{X}, M_2)$ 

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- We can pick the model with the largest marginal likelihood...
- ... or we can assign priors  $p(M_1)$  and  $p(M_2)$  and use Bayes theorem to obtain:

$$p(M_i | \mathbf{Y}, \mathbf{X}) = \frac{p(\mathbf{Y} | \mathbf{X}, M_i) p(M_i)}{\sum_j p(\mathbf{Y} | \mathbf{X}, M_j) p(M_j)}$$

• Polynomial regression with Bayesian linear models:

$$f(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_{i=0}^{k} w_i \mathbf{x}^i$$

- The model is linear in the parameters but can model functions through polynomials
- Define:

$$\mathbf{\Phi} = \begin{bmatrix} \varphi_1(\mathbf{x}_1) & \dots & \varphi_D(\mathbf{x}_1) \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \varphi_1(\mathbf{x}_N) & \dots & \varphi_D(\mathbf{x}_N) \end{bmatrix}$$

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• Assume a Gaussian likelihood:

$$p(\mathbf{y}|\mathbf{X},\mathbf{w}) = \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{y}|\mathbf{\Phi}\mathbf{w},\sigma^2\mathbf{I})$$

• Assume a Gaussian prior:

$$p(\mathbf{w}) = \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{w}|\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{\Sigma})$$

• The posterior is Gaussian:

$$p(\mathbf{w}|\mathbf{X},\mathbf{y},\sigma^2) = \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{w}|\mathbf{0},\mathbf{S})$$

• Covariance:

$$\mathbf{\Sigma} = \left(rac{1}{\sigma^2} \mathbf{\Phi}^{ op} \mathbf{\Phi} + \mathbf{S}^{-1}
ight)^{-1}$$

• Mean:

$$oldsymbol{\mu} = rac{1}{\sigma^2} oldsymbol{\Sigma} oldsymbol{\Phi}^ op oldsymbol{y}$$

• The predictive distribution is also Gaussian:

$$p(\mathbf{y}_*|\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{y}, \mathbf{x}_*, \sigma^2) = \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{y}_*|\varphi(\mathbf{x}_*)^\top \boldsymbol{\mu}, \sigma^2 + \varphi(\mathbf{x}_*)^\top \boldsymbol{\Sigma} \varphi(\mathbf{x}_*))$$

• The marginal likelihood is Gaussian:

$$p(\mathbf{y}|\mathbf{X},\mathbf{y},\sigma^2) = \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{y}|\mathbf{0},\sigma^2\mathbf{I} + \mathbf{\Phi}\mathbf{S}\mathbf{\Phi}^{\top})$$

Some data generated from a known polynomial of order k = 2



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Marginal likelihood as a way to choose the "best" model



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#### **Nonlinear Models**

• Illustration of Bayesian inference for a simple nonlinear model.



# Back to Deep Neural Networks

• The composition makes the dependence wrt parameter highly nontrivial.

$$\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{h}^{(L)} \left( \mathbf{h}^{(L-1)} \left( \cdots \mathbf{h}^{(1)} \left( \mathbf{x} \right) \right) \right) \quad \text{with} \quad \mathbf{h}^{(l)} = a \left( \mathbf{W}^{(l)} \mathbf{h}^{(l-1)} \right)$$



# **Bayesian Inference for Deep Learning**

Applying Bayesian inference to deep neural networks is extremely challenging.

- 1. How can we work with intractable posterior?
- 2. How can we handle millions to billions model parameters? What about scalability to big datasets?
- 3. What kind of priors should we use for these models?
- 4. Can we trust the uncertainty quantification of Bayesian inference?

5. . . .

From losslandscape.com



- Introduction to Bayesian Inference
  - A refresh of probability theory and Bayes' theorem
  - Bayesian linear regression: prior, posterior and model selection
- Bayesian inference as Optimization with Variational Inference
- Sampling with MCMC methods
- Alternatives for Approximate Bayesian Deep Learning
- Gaussian processes and Bayesian neural networks
- Priors and Model Selection
- Uncertainty Quantification with Bayesian Neural Networks

- Introduction to Bayesian Inference
- Bayesian inference as Optimization with Variational Inference
  - Introduction to variational inference (objective and gradients)
  - Challenges and solutions for variational inference on Bayesian neural networks
- Sampling with MCMC methods
- Alternatives for Approximate Bayesian Deep Learning
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- Sampling with MCMC methods
  - Markov-Chain Monte Carlo methods with Metropolis-Hastings
  - Extension to scalable MCMC methods with stochastic gradients
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- Uncertainty Quantification with Bayesian Neural Networks

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  - Local approximation with the Laplace method
  - Ensembles and Bayesian Bootstrap
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- Gaussian processes and Bayesian neural networks
  - The infinite-limit width of neural networks
  - Deep Gaussian processes and deep Bayesian neural networks
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  - Practical ways to choose priors and models
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- Sampling with MCMC methods
- Alternatives for Approximate Bayesian Deep Learning
- Gaussian processes and Bayesian neural networks
- Priors and Model Selection
- Uncertainty Quantification with Bayesian Neural Networks
  - Calibration of uncertainty
  - Challenges of out-of-distribution data

#### Tutorials

- Iain Murray. Monte Carlo Inference Methods. NeurIPS 2015
- David Blei, Rajesh Ranganath, Shakir Mohamed. Variational Inference: Foundations and Modern Methods. NeurIPS 2016
- Mohammad Emtiyaz Khan. Deep Learning with Bayesian Principles. NeurIPS 2019
- Andrew G. Wilson. *Bayesian Deep Learning and a Probabilistic Perspective of Model Construction*. ICML 2020
- Marc Deisenroth, Cheng Soon Ong. *There and Back Again: A Tale of Slopes and Expectations*. NeurIPS 2020
- Dustin Tran, Balaji Lakshminarayanan, Jasper Snoek. *Practical Uncertainty Estimation and Out-of-Distribution Robustness in Deep Learning*. NeurIPS 2020

#### Books

- Christopher Bishop. Patter Recognition and Machine Learning
- Kevin P. Murphy. Machine Learning: A Probabilistic Perspective
- Carl Edward Rasmussen and Christopher K. I. Williams. *Gaussian Processes for Machine Learning*