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Bayesian Model Selection in Deep Learning

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Outline

Goal: Towards automatic model selection in deep learning.

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Talk outline:

1. The promises of Bayesian Model Selection

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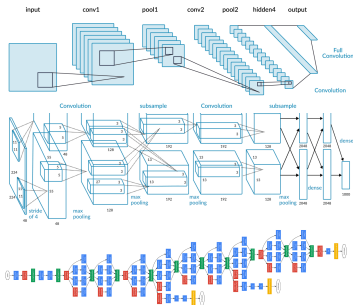
Talk outline:

1. The promises of Bayesian Model Selection
2. Difficulties with Bayesian Inference in Deep Learning
3. Other approaches: Ensembles and Architecture Search

Model Selection

Every time we train a NN we need to decide on hyperparameters:

- ▶ How many layers? How many units in a layer?
- ▶ What layer structure? Convolutional? Skip connections?
- ▶ Data augmentation parameters?



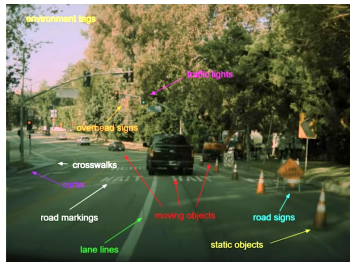
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- ▶ What kind of task-specific layers?
- ▶ How much capacity to assign to each task?



[Karpathy, ICML 2019]

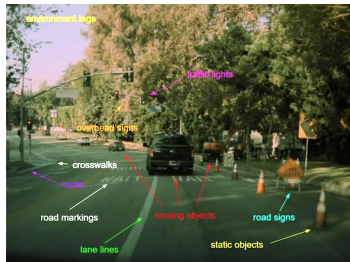
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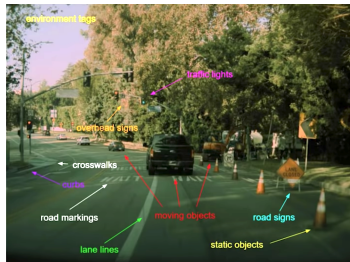
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Main tool is **crossvalidation**.

Goal: Make it as easy as learning weights.

Overview

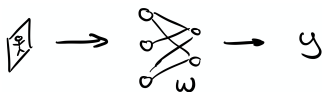
The Promises of Bayesian Model Selection

Difficulties with Bayesian Inference in Deep Learning

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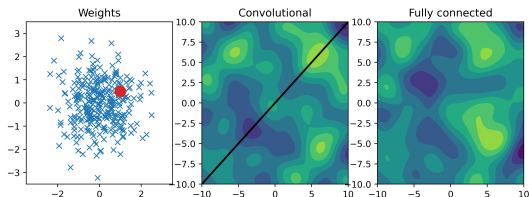
Conclusion

Bayesian Inference



$$f_{\mathbf{w}} : \mathbb{R}^D \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^C \quad (1)$$

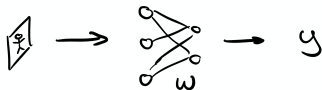
$$\mathbf{x} \mapsto f_{\mathbf{w}}(\mathbf{x}) \quad (2)$$



- ▶ A prior on parameters leads to a prior on functions
- ▶ Architectural **hyperparameters** influence prior on functions
- ▶ BDL focusses mostly on uncertainty in the function:

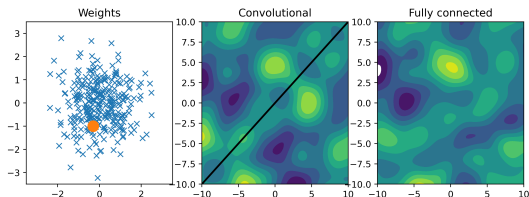
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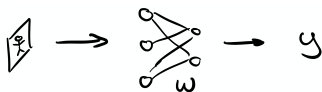
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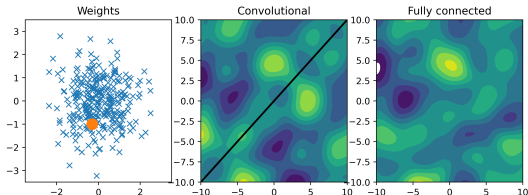
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But we want to determine the hyperparameters θ too!

Bayesian Model Selection

Bayes tells us: Just find the posterior over all your unknowns!

$$p(f, \theta | \mathbf{y}) = \frac{p(\mathbf{y} | f) p(f | \theta) p(\theta)}{p(\mathbf{y})} \quad (4)$$

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Gradient-based optimisation is **super convenient**!
... if we can compute $p(\mathbf{y}|\theta)$

Variational Bayesian Model Selection

Bayes tells us what to do, but not how to do it. Variational inference actually does it, and gives us

- ▶ An approximate posterior
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- ▶ Quality of posterior is linked to the accuracy of lower bound!

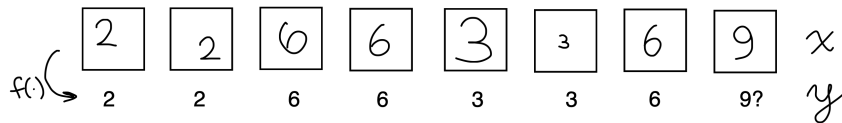
The Ingredients

We need

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1. A way to **constrain** our learnable function to be invariant



$$f(\mathbf{x}) \approx f(t(\mathbf{x}; \alpha))$$

$$\forall \alpha \in \mathcal{A}_\theta$$

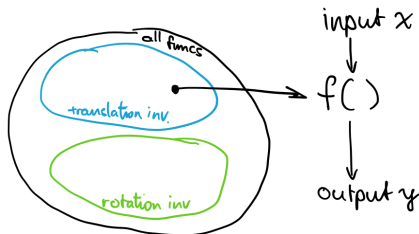
$$P\left([f(t(\mathbf{x}; \alpha)) - f(\mathbf{x})]^2 > L\right) < \delta$$

$$\alpha \sim p(\alpha | \theta)$$

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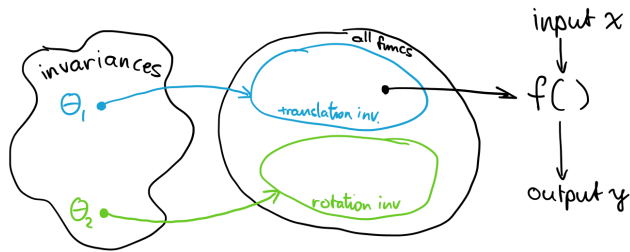
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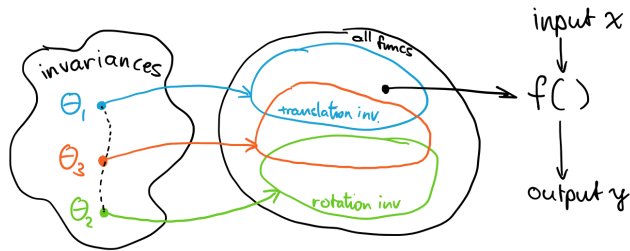
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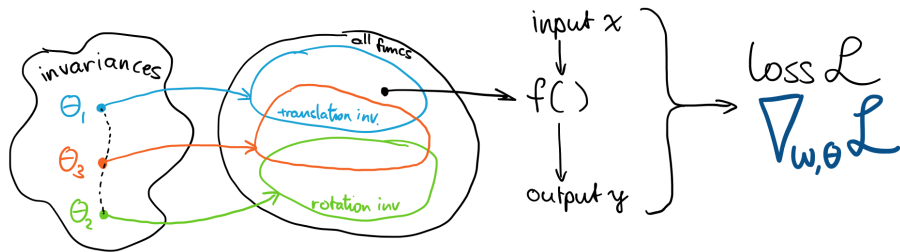
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The Ingredients

We need

1. A way to **constrain** our learnable function to be invariant
2. A way to **parameterise** different sets of invariant functions.
Differentiably.
3. An objective function for learning **both** the function (i.e. weights), and invariance (i.e. θ).



Invariant functions

How do we parameterise the invariant function $f(\cdot)$?

- Sum (convolve) a non-invariant function over set of transformations we want to be invariant to!

Strict invariance (i.e. $f(\mathbf{x}) = f(t(\mathbf{x}; \alpha))$ with exact equality):

$$f(\mathbf{x}; \mathbf{u}, \theta) = \sum_{\alpha \in \mathcal{A}_\theta} g(t(\mathbf{x}; \alpha); \mathbf{u})$$

Weak invariance / data augmentation:

$$f(\mathbf{x}; \mathbf{u}, \theta) = \int g(t(\mathbf{x}; \alpha); \mathbf{u}) p(\alpha | \theta) d\alpha$$

The function $g(\cdot; \mathbf{u})$ is parameterised by \mathbf{u} and can be seen as a Gaussian process or a single-layer NN.

Training procedure

1. Generate a sample of transformed images (reparam trick $p(\alpha | \theta)$):

$$\{\mathbf{x}^{(s)} = t(\mathbf{x}, \alpha^{(s)})\}_{s=1}^S \quad \alpha^{(s)} = h(\epsilon^{(s)}, \theta) \quad \epsilon^{(s)} \stackrel{iid}{\sim} p(\epsilon)$$

2. Monte Carlo estimate of invariant function $f(\mathbf{x})$:

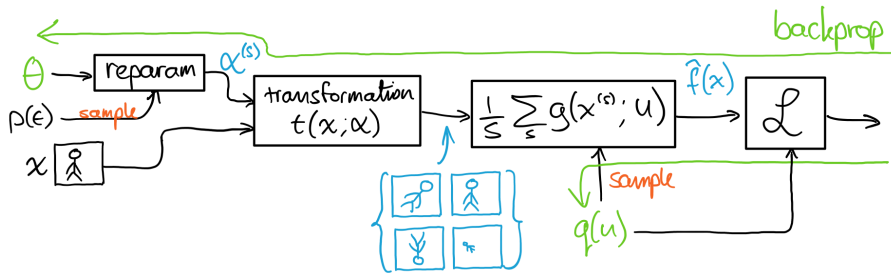
$$\hat{f}(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{1}{S} \sum_{s=1}^S g(\mathbf{x}^{(s)}; \mathbf{u})$$

3. Compute unbiased estimate ELBO using MC estimate of $f(\mathbf{x})$:

$$\mathcal{L} = N \cdot \mathbb{E}_{q(\mathbf{u})} \left[\log p(y_n | \hat{f}(\mathbf{x}_n)) \right] - \text{KL}[q(\mathbf{u}) || p(\mathbf{u} | \theta)]$$

4. Backpropagate to get gradients!

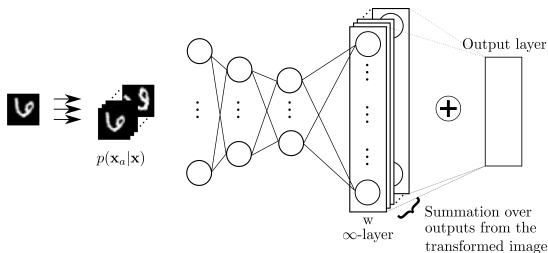
Training procedure



- ▶ Be Bayesian about the function $g(\cdot; \mathbf{u})$
- ▶ Averaging the output of $g(\cdot; \mathbf{u})$ (data aug)
- ▶ Compute an approximation to the marginal likelihood
- ▶ Backpropagate

Learning Invariances in DNNs

Find invariances through backprop for a Deep Neural Network, by only computing the marginal likelihood for the last layer.

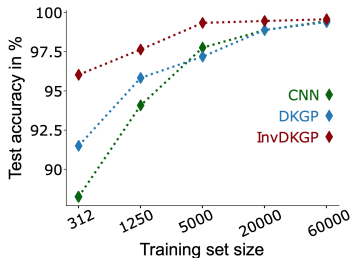


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Next Steps

- ▶ Better objective functions that correctly regularise *all* parameters
- ▶ Learning convolutions in individual layers
- ▶ Decentralising computation

Overview

The Promises of Bayesian Model Selection

Difficulties with Bayesian Inference in Deep Learning

Ensembles and Architecture Search

Conclusion

Variational Bayesian Model Selection in DNNs

How does this work when applied in DNNs?

“Empirically we found optimising the parameters of a prior $p(\mathbf{w})$ (by taking derivatives of (1)) to not be useful, and yield worse results.”

Weight Uncertainty in Neural Networks, (Blundell et al., 2015)

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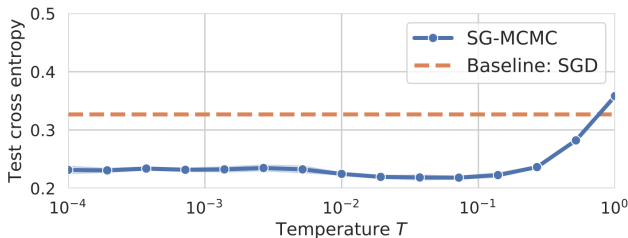
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- ▶ Does this mean that $\text{KL}[q(f)||p(f|\mathbf{y}, \theta)]$ is large?

Cold Posteriors



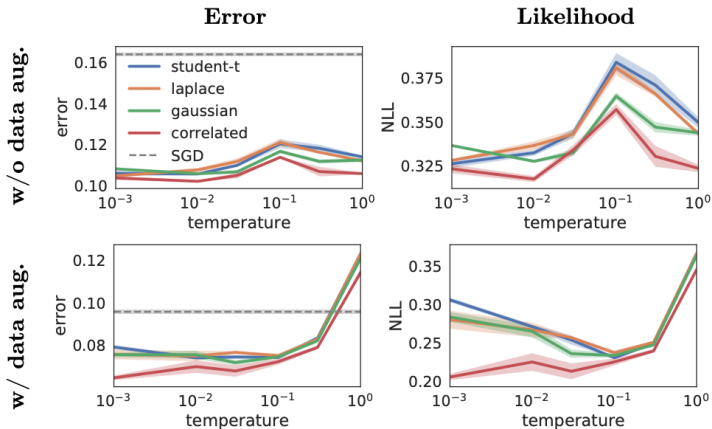
From Wenzel et al. (2020)

$$p_T(\boldsymbol{\theta}|\mathbf{y}) \propto p(\boldsymbol{\theta}|\mathbf{y})^{1/T} \quad (9)$$

- ▶ Posterior performs worse than point estimate!
- ▶ Bayes is sensitive to the prior as well!
- ▶ Does the prior make things worse?

Weight Priors

Investigate **different weight priors** in neural networks:



Bayesian Neural Network Priors Revisited

Fortuin*, Garriga-Alonso*, Wenzel, Rätsch, Turner, vdW[†], Aitchison[†]

Weight Priors

We observe:

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Possible explanations:

- ▶ Analysis of infinitely wide neural networks shows that independent weights can destroy spatial activation correlation. Correlated weights can recover this (Garriga-Alonso and van der Wilk, 2021).
- ▶ Data augmentation should be expressed as an invariance in the prior (v.d.Wilk et al., 2018).

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What makes VI bounds work in deep GPs?

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Ensembles and Posteriors

For linear models, ensembles and posteriors can be identical (Matthews et al., 2017):

$$\mathbf{w}^{(k)} \stackrel{\text{iid}}{\sim} \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{I}) \quad (10)$$

$$\mathbf{w}_p^{(k)} := \text{GradDesc}(\mathbf{w}^{(k)}, \|\mathbf{y} - \Phi(X)\mathbf{w}\|^2) \quad (11)$$

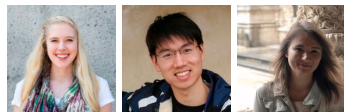
$$\implies \mathbf{w}_p^{(k)} \stackrel{\text{iid}}{\sim} p(\mathbf{w}|\mathbf{y}) \quad (12)$$

where $p(y_n|\mathbf{w}) = \mathcal{N}(y_n; \boldsymbol{\phi}(\mathbf{x}_n)^\top \mathbf{w}, \sigma^2)$, with $\sigma^2 \rightarrow 0$.

Can optimisation do Bayesian Model Selection?

$$\begin{aligned}\log p(\mathbf{y}) &= \sum_{i=1}^n \log p(y_i | \mathbf{y}_{<i}) = \sum_i \log \mathbb{E}_{p(\mathbf{w}|\mathbf{y}_{<i})}[p(y_i|\mathbf{w})] \\ &\geq \sum_i \mathbb{E}_{p(\mathbf{w}|\mathbf{y}_{<i})}[\log p(y_i|\mathbf{w})]\end{aligned}$$

For linear models the answer is an unambiguous **yes**:



Clare Lyle, Lisa Schut, Binxin Ru, Yarin Gal, MvdW

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- exact posterior samples can be produced to minimizing an unregularized loss (Matthews et al., 2017),



Clare Lyle, Lisa Schut, Binxin Ru, Yarin Gal, MvdW

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$$\begin{aligned}\log p(\mathbf{y}) &= \sum_{i=1}^n \log p(y_i | \mathbf{y}_{<i}) = \sum_i \log \mathbb{E}_{p(\mathbf{w}|\mathbf{y}_{<i})} [p(y_i | \mathbf{w})] \\ &\geq \sum_i \mathbb{E}_{p(\mathbf{w}|\mathbf{y}_{<i})} [\log p(y_i | \mathbf{w})]\end{aligned}$$

For linear models the answer is an unambiguous **yes**:

- ▶ exact posterior samples can be produced to minimizing an unregularized loss (Matthews et al., 2017),
- ▶ so we can get a lower bound to the marginal likelihood by summing training losses.



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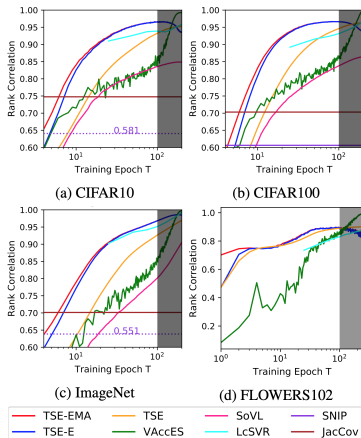
- ▶ exact posterior samples can be produced to minimizing an unregularized loss (Matthews et al., 2017),
- ▶ so we can get a lower bound to the marginal likelihood by summing training losses.
- ▶ Bayesian Perspective on Training Speed and Model Selection



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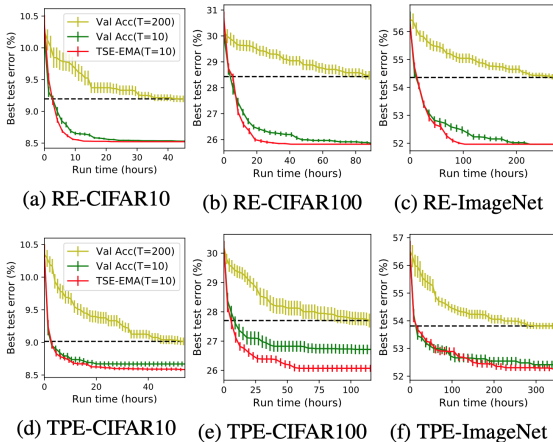
Neural Architecture Search

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Overview

The Promises of Bayesian Model Selection

Difficulties with Bayesian Inference in Deep Learning

Ensembles and Architecture Search

Conclusion

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Possible ways forward:

- ▶ Perhaps we still need better approx posteriors?
- ▶ Perhaps model misspecification is a problem?
(Wenzel et al., 2020)
- ▶ Perhaps optimization mechanisms can do the same thing?
(Lyle et al., 2020)

Alternative approaches

Two approaches based on back-propagating through a validation set:

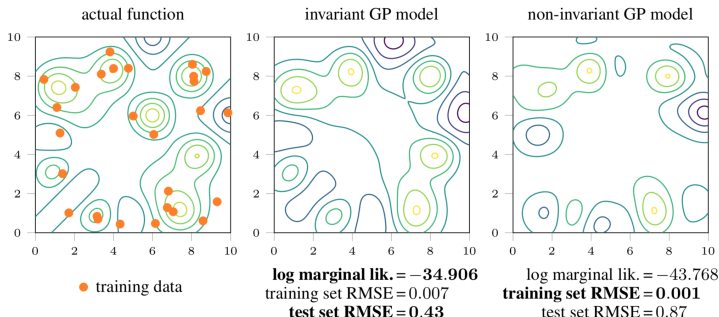
- ▶ Meta-learning (Zhou et al., 2020)
- ▶ Implicit function theorem (Lorraine et al., 2020)
- ▶ Straightforward regularization (Benton et al., 2020)

What is going to be best? Only research will tell!

Why can't we just use training loss?

For the same reason as why we need cross-validation:

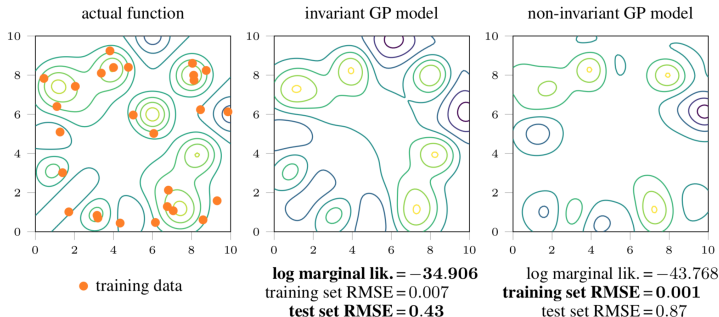
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Log marginal likelihood measures **generalisation**:

$$\log p(\mathbf{y} | \theta) = \log p(y_1 | \theta) + \log p(y_2 | \theta, y_1) + \log p(y_3 | \theta, \{y_i\}_{i=1}^2) \dots$$

(It's also related to cross-validation (Fong and Holmes, 2020).)

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