# Introduction to Bayesian inference

June 3, 2019

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In red and blue: unknown parameters that we have to learn

► Classical regression : find each parameter that best explain the data

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- Classical regression : find each parameter that best explain the data
- ► Going Bayesian :

Treat each parameter : random variable with other variable to be estimated.

e.g: mean + standard deviation

Image source : ericmjl.github.io/bayesian-deep-learning-demystified

#### Non-Bayesian

Bayesian Machine Learning





#### Inferred parameters:

1 slope + 1 intercept

Non-Bayesian





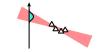
#### Inferred parameters:

1 slope + 1 intercept



## **Bayesian**





#### Inferred parameters:

family of slopes + family of intercepts

$$\begin{array}{c} X \\ \hline \\ \hline \\ \end{array}$$
  $\begin{array}{c} + \\ \hline \\ \end{array}$   $\begin{array}{c} b \\ \hline \\ \end{array}$ 

→ propagates the uncertainties

Image source: ericmjl.github.io/bayesian-deep-learning-demystified

# The Bayes rule How to do inference about hypothesis from data?

$$P(\mathsf{hypothesis} \mid \mathsf{data}) = \frac{P(\mathsf{data} \mid \mathsf{hypothesis})P(\mathsf{hypothesis})}{P(\mathsf{data})}$$

#### Required tools:

Sum rule:

Product rule:

$$P(x) = \sum_{y} P(x, y)$$

$$P(x,y) = P(x \mid y)P(y)$$

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- ightharpoonup P(parameters): prior probability of the parameters
- $ightharpoonup P({\it parameters} \mid {\it data}): {\it posterior} \ {\it probability} \ {\it of the parameter given the data}$
- ightharpoonup P(data) : **evidence** of the data

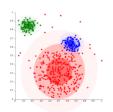
# The Bayes rule

## How to do inference about hypothesis from data?

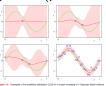
$$P(\mathsf{parameters} \mid \mathsf{data}) = \frac{P(\mathsf{data} \mid \mathsf{parameters}) P(\mathsf{parameters})}{P(\mathsf{data})}$$

**Learning**: Use the data and the modelling assumption to transform what I knew before the data (prior)  $\rightarrow$  gives the posterior

classification / clustering
 (yes/no category) (group similar things)



regression (predict values)



source : Bishop, Pattern Recognition And Machine Learning

## The Bayes rule

#### Bayes' rule is a way to infer parameter given underlying data

 $\hookrightarrow$  Bayesian machine learning is nothing more than learning a probability distribution for each parameter

$$X \longrightarrow W + M = M$$

Image source : ericmjl.github.io/bayesian-deep-learning-demystified

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## Example with $\ell_2$ cost (linear least square problem) :

Bayesian Machine Learning

The objective function is:

$$f = \frac{1}{2} \|y - \hat{y}\|_2^2$$

with  $\ell_2$  regularization :

$$f = \frac{1}{2} \|y - \hat{y}\|_2^2 + \frac{\lambda}{2} \|w\|_2^2$$

with the model  $\hat{y} = Xw$ 

#### Frequentist statistics point of view :

$$y = \hat{y} + \epsilon$$

Let's model  $\hat{y}$  as a Gaussian random variable :  $\hat{y} \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu, \sigma^2)$  with  $\mu = \hat{y} = Xw$  (the prediction of the model).

$$P(y \mid X, w, \sigma^2) = \mathcal{N}(Xw, \sigma^2) \to \text{likelihood}$$
 (1)

$$= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}} \exp\left(-\frac{(y - Xw)^2}{2\sigma^2}\right) \tag{2}$$

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Maximum Likelihood Estimate :  $w_{\text{MLE}} = \arg \max \mathcal{N}(Xw, \sigma^2)$ 

or, minimizing the neg-log likelihood:

$$w_{\text{MLE}} = \arg\min(y - Xw)^2$$

→ MLE on Gaussian Likelihood is equivalent to the least squares

#### Bayesian point of view

We introduce the prior and then maximize the posterior:

$$\underbrace{P(w \mid y, X)}_{\text{posterior}} \propto \underbrace{P(y, X, w)}_{\text{likelihood}} \underbrace{P(w \mid \mu_w, \sigma_w^2)}_{\text{prior}}$$

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Gaussian prior for w:  $P(w \mid \mu_w, \sigma_w^2) = \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma_0)$ ,

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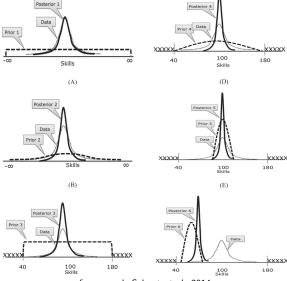
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Then, minimize the neg-log posterior writes:

$$w_{\text{MAP}} = \arg\min \|\hat{y} - Xw\|_2^2 + \lambda \|w\|_2^2$$

- $\hookrightarrow$  Gaussian prior leads to  $\ell_2$  regularization.
  - Note 1: if the prior on w is uniform (non informative prior), Maximum a Posteriori = Maximum Likelihood estimate
    - Note 2: good informative prior → efficient regularization

## How the prior drives the posterior



from van de Schoot et al., 2014

## Norms vs Priors

► The median minimize the I 1 norm:  $median(x) = arg min_s \sum_i ||x_i - s||_1$ The least absolute deviation estimate arises from the maximum likelihood estimate with errors having a Laplace distribution fat-tailed distribution  $\rightarrow$  less prone to outliers

Bayesian Machine Learning

$$f = \|y - Xw\|_2^2 + \lambda_2 \|w\|_1$$

▶ The mean minimize the L2 norm:  $\operatorname{\mathsf{mean}}(x) = \operatorname{\mathsf{arg}} \min_{s} \sum_{i} \|x_i - s\|_2$ gives the least squares estimate more sensitive to outliers

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The full posterior is then:

$$P(\theta, \mu \mid y) \propto P(y \mid \theta, \mu) P(\theta, \mu)$$

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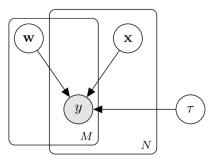
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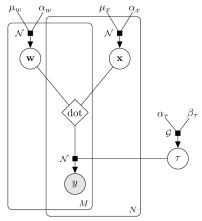
If the full posterior does not have a closed-form, it can be approximated by numerical methods such as Monte Carlo Markov Chains.



Read:

$$y_{m,n} = f_1(w_m)$$
 [+or×]  $f_2(x_n)$  [+or×]  $f_3(\tau)$ 

from github.com/jluttine/tikz-bayesnet



Read:

$$y_{m,n} = f_1(w_m) \times f_2(x_n) + f_3(\tau)$$

→ Probabilistic Principal Component Analysis model from github.com/jluttine/tikz-bayesnet

# **Related topics**

- ▶ Machine learning
- ▶ Pattern recognition
- ► Neural networks and deep learning
- ▶ Data mining / Data science
- ► Statistic modeling
- Artificial intelligence

#### For different fields:

- ► Engineering (signal processing, system identification, ...)
- ► Computer Science
- ► Statistics (data science, estimation,...)
- ► Cognitive science and psychology (perception, linguistics,...)
- ► Economics (decision theory, game theory, e-commerce...)

#### References

Book: Pattern Recognition and Machine Leaning, Bishop

New article: Machine learning in acoustics: a review, Bianco & coaut.