

# Predictive Uncertainty Estimation via Prior Networks

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# Predictive uncertainty

- 1 **Model uncertainty**, or **epistemic uncertainty**, measures how well the model (parameters) is matched to the data
- 2 **Data uncertainty**, or **aleatoric uncertainty**, arises from the natural complexity of the data, such as class overlap, label noise. The model understands the data and can confidently state whether a given input is difficult to classify.
- 3 **Distributional uncertainty**, **dataset shift**, arises due to mismatch between the training and test distributions. The model is unfamiliar with the test data and thus cannot confidently make predictions.

# Previous approaches

## Bayesian class:

- 1 more complicated conceptually
- 2 performance depends on the form of approximation and the nature of the prior distribution of parameters
- 3 implicitly model distributional uncertainty through model uncertainty

## Non-Bayesian class:

- 1 more straight forward
- 2 explicitly lowers uncertainty on training data and heighten uncertainty on generated artificial data
- 3 conflate distributional uncertainty with data uncertainty

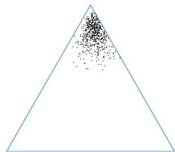
## Bayesian class

Consider a distribution  $p(\mathbf{x}, y)$  over input features  $\mathbf{x}$ , labels  $y$  and classification model  $P(y = \omega_c | \mathbf{x}^*, \theta)$ , trained on  $D = \{\mathbf{x}_j, y_j\}_{j=1}^N \sim p(\mathbf{x}, y)$ . So, in Bayesian framework the uncertainty is:

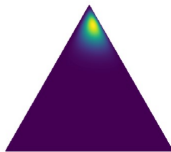
$$P(\omega_c | \mathbf{x}^*, D) = \int P(\omega_c | \mathbf{x}^*, \theta) p(\theta | D) d\theta$$

where  $P(\omega_c | \mathbf{x}^*, \theta)$  - data uncertainty,  $p(\theta | D)$  - model uncertainty

$$P(\omega_c | \mathbf{x}^*, D) \approx \frac{1}{M} \sum_{i=1}^M P(\omega_c | \mathbf{x}^*, \theta^{(i)}), \theta^{(i)} \sim q(\theta)$$



(a) Ensemble

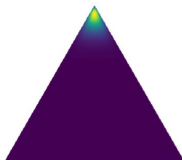


(b) Distribution

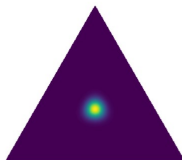
# Prior Networks

$$P(\omega_c|\mathbf{x}^*, D) = \int \int p(\omega_c|\mu)p(\mu|\mathbf{x}^*, \theta)p(\theta|D)d\mu d\theta$$

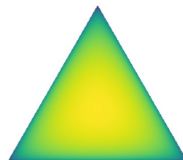
where  $p(\omega_c|\mu)$  - data uncertainty,  $p(\mu|\mathbf{x}^*, \theta)$  - distributional uncertainty



(a) Confident Prediction



(b) High data uncertainty



(c) Out-of-distribution

# Dirichlet Prior Networks

Considering marginalization of  $\theta$  in last equation:

$$\int p(\omega_c|\mu) \int [p(\mu|\mathbf{x}^*, \theta)p(\theta|D)d\theta] d\mu = \int p(\omega_c|\mu)p(\mu|\mathbf{x}^*, D)$$

So, the loss function:

$$L(\theta) = \mathbb{E}_{p_{in}(x)}[KL[Dir(\mu|\hat{\alpha})||p(\mu|\mathbf{x}, \theta)]] + \mathbb{E}_{p_{out}(x)}[KL[Dir(\mu|\tilde{\alpha})||p(\mu|\mathbf{x}, \theta)]]$$

where  $\hat{\alpha}$  - in-distribution targets,  $\tilde{\alpha}$  - out-of-distribution targets.

# Uncertainty Measures

- ① Max probability:

$$P = \max_c P(\omega_c | \mathbf{x}^*, D)$$

- ② Entropy:

$$H[P(y|\mathbf{x}^*, D)] = - \sum_{c=1}^K P(\omega_c | \mathbf{x}^*, D) \ln(P(\omega_c | \mathbf{x}^*, D))$$

- ③ Mutual Information between  $y$  and  $\theta$  (MI):

$$I[P(y, \theta | \mathbf{x}^*, D)] = H[E_{p(\theta|D)} P(y | \mathbf{x}^*, \theta)] - E_{p(\theta|D)} H[P(y | \mathbf{x}^*, \theta)]$$

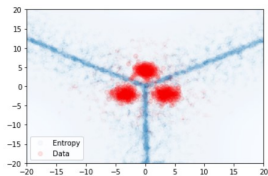
- ④ Mutual Information between  $y$  and  $\mu$  (MI):

$$I[P(y, \mu | \mathbf{x}^*, D)] = H[E_{p(\mu|\mathbf{x}^*, D)} P(y | \mu)] - E_{p(\mu|\mathbf{x}^*, D)} H[P(y | \mu)]$$

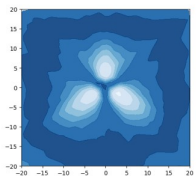
- ⑤ Differential entropy:

$$H[p(\mu | \mathbf{x}^*, D)] = - \int_{S^{K-1}} p(\mu | \mathbf{x}^*, D) \ln p(\mu | \mathbf{x}^*, D) d\mu$$

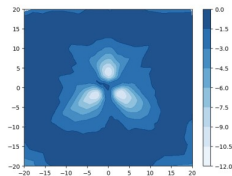
# Synthetic experiments



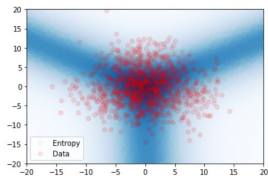
(a)  $\sigma = 1$



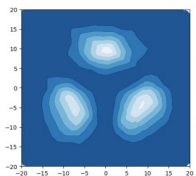
(b) Entropy  $\sigma = 1$



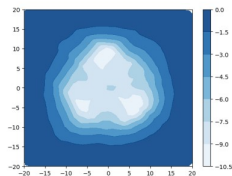
(c) Diff. Entropy  $\sigma = 1$



(d)  $\sigma = 4$



(e) Entropy  $\sigma = 4$



(f) Diff. Entropy  $\sigma = 4$



# MNIST and CIFAR-10 experiments

Table 1: MNIST and CIFAR-10 misclassification detection

Data	Model	AUROC				AUPR				% Err.
		Max.P	Ent.	M.I.	D.Ent.	Max.P	Ent.	M.I.	D.Ent.	
MNIST	DNN	98.0	98.6	-	-	26.6	25.0	-	-	<b>0.4</b>
	MCDP	97.2	97.2	96.9	-	33.0	29.0	27.8	-	<b>0.4</b>
	DPN	<b>99.0</b>	98.9	98.6	92.9	<b>43.6</b>	39.7	30.7	25.5	0.6
CIFAR10	DNN	92.4	92.3	-	-	48.7	47.1	-	-	<b>8.0</b>
	MCDP	<b>92.5</b>	92.0	90.4	-	48.4	45.5	37.6	-	<b>8.0</b>
	DPN	92.2	92.1	92.1	90.9	<b>52.7</b>	<b>51.0</b>	<b>51.0</b>	45.5	8.5

# MNIST and CIFAR-10 experiments

Table 2: MNIST and CIFAR-10 out-of-domain detection

Data ID	OOD	Model	AUROC				AUPR			
			Max.P	Ent.	M.I.	D.Ent.	Max.P	Ent.	M.I.	D.Ent.
MNIST	OMNI	DNN	98.7	98.8	-	-	98.3	98.5	-	-
		MCDP	99.2	99.2	99.3	-	99.0	99.1	99.3	-
		DPN	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	99.5	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>100.0</b>	97.5	<b>100.0</b>
CIFAR10	SVHN	DNN	90.1	90.8	-	-	84.6	85.1	-	-
		MCDP	89.6	90.6	83.7	-	84.1	84.8	73.1	-
		PN	98.1	98.2	98.2	<b>98.5</b>	97.7	97.8	97.8	<b>98.2</b>
CIFAR10	LSUN	DNN	89.8	91.4	-	-	87.0	90.0	-	-
		MCDP	89.1	90.9	89.3	-	86.5	89.6	86.4	-
		DPN	94.4	94.4	94.4	<b>94.6</b>	93.3	<b>93.4</b>	<b>93.4</b>	93.3
CIFAR10	TIM	DNN	87.5	88.7	-	-	84.7	87.2	-	-
		MCDP	87.6	89.2	86.9	-	85.1	87.9	83.2	-
		DPN	94.3	94.3	94.3	<b>94.6</b>	94.0	94.0	94.0	<b>94.2</b>

$\sigma$	Ent.		M.I.		D.Ent.	
	0.0	3.0	0.0	3.0	0.0	3.0
DNN	98.8	58.4	-	-	-	-
MCDP	98.8	58.4	99.3	79.1	-	-
DPN	100.0	51.8	99.5	22.3	100.0	99.8