SCHOOL OF DATA ANALYSIS

Why Deep Learning rocks

A philosophical note

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No free lunch

No free lunch theorem

No free lunch theorem states that **in average** all learning algorithms are equally bad at learning.
Examples:

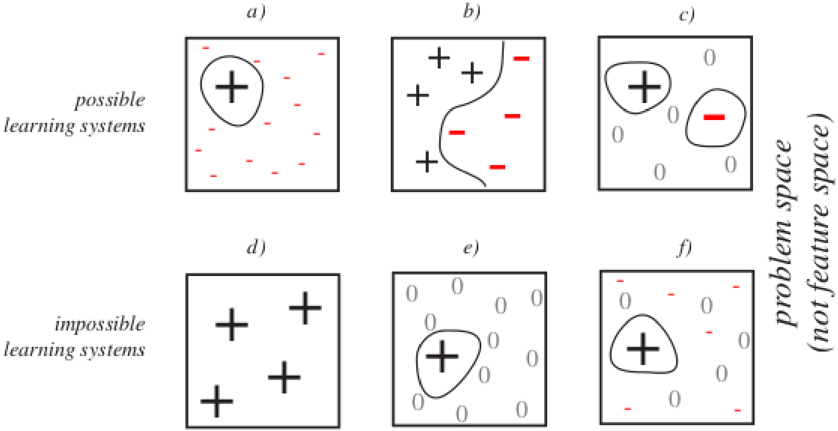
- crazy algorithm:

$$f(x) = \left\lceil \sum_i x_i \right\rceil \mod 2$$

- SVM

perform equally well **in average**.

No free lunch theorem



Is Machine Learning useless?

Why we use Machine Learning at all?

- a learning algorithm makes some prior assumptions;
- performs well under these assumptions,
- but it must perform badly elsewhere.

The main task of data scientists is to identify correctly assumptions from problems description.

Traditional Machine Learning

- analyse the problem;
- make assumptions about the problem;
- pick an algorithm from a toolkit (e.g. sklearn);
- provide assumptions suitable for the algorithm **(feature engineering)**.

Discussion

- this approach works well for traditional datasets with a small number of features:
- e.g. Titanic dataset:

passenger class	sex	age	fare	...

> Essentially, performance of the algorithm depends data scientist's ability to generate features.

- but our abilities are limited.

Kitten

Kitten

```
[[ 22  25  28  32  29 ...,  58  36  35  34  34]
 [ 26  29  30  31  36 ...,  65  38  42  41  42]
 [ 27  28  31  30  40 ...,  84  58  51  52  44]
 [ 27  26  27  29  43 ...,  90  70  60  57  43]
 [ 20  26  28  28  31 ...,  83  73  62  52  45]
 ...,
 [173 187 180 183 184 ..., 170 227 244 219 199]
 [193 199 194 188 185 ..., 181 197 201 209 187]
 [175 177 156 166 171 ..., 226 215 194 185 182]
 [161 159 160 187 178 ..., 216 193 220 211 200]
 [178 180 177 185 164 ..., 190 184 212 216 189]]
```

Solution?

- edge detection;
- image segmentation;
- eyes, ears, nose models;
- fit shape to recognise nose, ears, eyes, ...;
- average color of segments;
- standard deviation of color segments;
- goodness of fit for segments;
- kitten's face model;
- tf-idf???
- ...
- feed it to SVM
- ...

Deep Learning

Deep Learning

Let's learn features!

How

- apply some simple transformation to the original input:

$$X \to f(X) \;\cdots\; y$$

Kitten

- use convolutions;
- use convolutions again;
- and again;
- and again;
- ...
- logistic regression.

Why deep?

- new set of features is generated from previous one by a simple learnable transformation;
- each step increases complexity of feature generation;
- high-level features (kitten or puppy) are complex ones thus requires a lot of steps;
- therefore, deep.

Deep Learning

- is not a superior algorithm;
- is not a single algorithm;
- is a framework;
- very flexible framework;
- allows to express our assumptions in much more general way.

Why DL rocks

Solves much harder problems:

- purely a human factor:
  - research time;
  - limits of our intuition and understanding of the world; A framework:
  - algorithms are like constructor;
  - possible to solve almost every possible problem:
    - classification;
    - regression;
    - clasterisation;
    - sample generation...

Downsides

- learning features requires data;
  - big datasets;
  - big computational resources (GPUs);
- there is almost always a better algorithm:
  - with hand-made features;
  - probably constructed by a super-intelligent alien.

Summary

Summary

Deep Learning:

- a flexible framework;
- allows to express you knowledge easier;
- solves much harder problems.