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# Neural Network Abduction

Gary Nan Tie, June 13, 2025

## Abstract

For hypotheses whose effect is manifested by observations, abduction seeks to explain a given observation by finding a hypothesis whose effect is that observation. Abductive reasoning has a fibration semantics that can be implemented by neural networks; a step towards artificial general intelligence.

A natural application is in making a medical diagnosis. Fibration structure and properties enable coherency and consistency in this process. Moreover being machine learnable, can help physicians uncover diagnostic insights in large datasets.

Welcome Sher-bot Holmes!

An arrow  $p \downarrow$  in a category is said to be a fibration with respect to a class of arrows  $\mathcal{M}$

when for any  $m \in \mathcal{M}$  and solid commutative diagram:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} B & \xrightarrow{f} & K \\ m \downarrow & \nearrow \sigma & \downarrow p \\ Q & \xrightarrow{g} & V \end{array} \quad \text{i.e. } p \circ f = g \circ m$$

there exists dotted lifting  $\sigma_{m,f,g} : Q \rightarrow K$

such that  $p \circ \sigma = g$  and  $\sigma \circ m = f$ .

Liftings are said to be compatible if for any

solid commutative diagram:

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} D & \xrightarrow{j} & B & \xrightarrow{f} & K \\ n \downarrow & \nearrow \sigma & m \downarrow & \nearrow \tau & \downarrow p \\ C & \xrightarrow{k} & Q & \xrightarrow{g} & V \end{array}$$

$p$  a Fibration wrt  $\mathcal{M}$

$n, m \in \mathcal{M}$

$$\sigma = \sigma_{n,f,j,g \circ k}$$

$$\tau = \sigma_{m,f,g}$$

we have  $\tau \circ k = \sigma$ .

Suppose  $p: K \downarrow V$  is a fibration wrt  $\mathcal{M}$

$$\text{and } m \in \mathcal{M} \quad \begin{array}{ccc} B & \xrightarrow{f} & K \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow p \\ Q & \xrightarrow{g} & V \end{array} \text{ commutes.}$$

If  $gom \in \mathcal{M}$  then

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} B & \xrightarrow{1} & B & \xrightarrow{f} & K \\ m \downarrow & \sigma \nearrow & \downarrow gom & \tau \nearrow & \downarrow p \\ Q & \xrightarrow{g} & V & \xrightarrow{1} & V \end{array}$$

- i) lifting  $\sigma$  satisfies  $p \circ \sigma = g$  and  $\sigma \circ m = f$
- ii) lifting  $\tau$  satisfies  $p \circ \tau = 1_V$  and  $\tau \circ (gom) = f$
- iii) and by compatibility  $\tau \circ g = \sigma$ .

Upshot: Suppose effect  $p: K \rightarrow V$  is a fibration wrt  $\mathcal{M}$

and  $\begin{array}{ccc} B & \xrightarrow{(f,g)} & K \\ \downarrow m & \Rightarrow & \downarrow p \\ Q & & V \end{array}$  is an attention 2-cell for analogy  $m$ .

If  $gom \in \mathcal{M}$  then  $p \circ \tau = 1_V$

that is  $\tau$  is an abduction for effect  $p$ .

## Neural Network Abduction

For effect  $p: K \rightarrow V$  with analogy  $m: B \rightarrow Q$

suppose we have finite data from  $K, V, B$  and  $Q$ .

1. - learn or define effect  $p$  from  $\{(k, v)\}$
  2. - learn or define analogy  $m$  from  $\{(b, q)\}$
  3. - learn or define attention 2-cell  $(f, g)$ ,  
 from  $\{(b, k)\}$  for  $f$  and from  $\{(q, v)\}$  for  $g$   
 such that  $p \circ f \approx g \circ m$
  4. - learn lifting  $\sigma$  from  $\{(q, k)\}$   
 such that  $p \circ \sigma \approx g$  and  $\sigma \circ m \approx f$
  5. - learn 'abduction'  $\tau$  from  $\{(g(q), \sigma(q))\}$   
 such that  $\tau \circ g \approx \sigma$ , then  $(p \circ \tau) \circ g \approx g$ .
- When  $g$  is invertible,  $p \circ \tau = 1_V$ .

## References

'Fibrations explain all you need!'

- Fibrations, Abduction and Attention

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