

Reading Notes for ch3 Probability Distributions

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1 Linear Basis Function Models

This section just reviews the basic linear regression setting.

2 Bias-Variance Decomposition

$$\text{expected loss} = (\text{bias})^2 + \text{variance} + \text{noise}$$

$$(\text{bias})^2 = \int \{\mathbb{E}_{\mathcal{D}}[y(\mathbf{x}; \mathcal{D})] - h(\mathbf{x})\}^2 p(\mathbf{x}) d\mathbf{x}$$

$$\text{variance} = \int \mathbb{E}_{\mathcal{D}} \left[\{y(\mathbf{x}; \mathcal{D}) - \mathbb{E}_{\mathcal{D}}[y(\mathbf{x}; \mathcal{D})]\}^2 \right] p(\mathbf{x}) d\mathbf{x}$$

$$\text{noise} = \int \{h(\mathbf{x}) - t\}^2 p(\mathbf{x}, t) d\mathbf{x} dt$$

Very flexible models having low bias and high variance, and relatively rigid models having high bias and low variance.

3 Bayesian Linear Regression

$$p(t | \mathbf{t}, \alpha, \beta) = \int p(t | \mathbf{w}, \beta) p(\mathbf{w} | \mathbf{t}, \alpha, \beta) d\mathbf{w}$$

$$p(t | \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{t}, \alpha, \beta) = \mathcal{N}(t | \mathbf{m}_N^T \phi(\mathbf{x}), \sigma_N^2(\mathbf{x}))$$

$\sigma_N^2(\mathbf{x})$ = noise on the data + uncertainty associated with the parameters \mathbf{w} .

$$\sigma_N^2(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{1}{\beta} + \phi(\mathbf{x})^T \mathbf{S}_N \phi(\mathbf{x})$$

When dataset size get unlimited, the second term goes to zero.