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authors	 Gorur, Dilan Lakshminarayanan, Balaji Matsukawa, Akihiro Nalisnick, Eric Teh, Yee Whye 	authors	Eric Nalisnick Balaji Lakshminarayanan Dilan Gorur Yee Whye Teh Akihiro Matsukawa	
title	Do Deep Generative Models Know What They Don't Know?	title Do Deep Generative Models Know What They Don't Know? publication date 2018-10-22 00:00:00		_
source	SupportedSources.CORE	source	SupportedSources.PAPERS_WITH_CODE	
journal		journal		
volume		volume		
doi	None	doi		
urls	• http://arxiv.org/abs/1810.09136	urls	 http://arxiv.org/pdf/1810.09136v3.pdf https://github.com/glouppe/info8010-deep-learning 	
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	A neural network deployed in the wild may be asked to make predictions for inputs that were drawn from a different distribution than that of the training data. A plethora of work has demonstrated that it is easy to find or synthesize inputs for which a neural network is highly confident yet wrong. Generative models are widely viewed to be robust to such mistaken confidence as modeling the density of the input features can be used to detect novel, out-of-distribution inputs. In this paper we challenge this assumption. We find that the density learned by flow-based models, VAEs, and PixelCNNs cannot distinguish images of common objects such as dogs, trucks, and horses (i.e. CIFAR-10) from those of house numbers (i.e. SVHN), assigning a higher likelihood to the latter when the model is trained on the former. Moreover, we find evidence of this phenomenon when pairing several popular image data sets: FashionMNIST vs MNIST, CelebA vs SVHN, ImageNet vs CIFAR-10 / CIFAR-100 / SVHN. To investigate this curious behavior, we focus analysis on flow-based generative models in particular since they are trained and evaluated via the exact marginal likelihood. We find such behavior persists even when we restrict the flows to constant-volume transformations. These transformations admit some theoretical analysis, and we show that the difference in likelihoods can be explained by the location and variances of the data and the model curvature. Our results caution against using the density estimates from deep generative models to identify inputs similar to the training distribution until their behavior for out-of-distribution inputs is better understood.Comment: ICLR 201	id	id-1249127631546035503	
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