# Attention in Deep Learning

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bit.ly/2R10hTu alex.smola.org/talks/ICML19-attention.key alex.smola.org/talks/ICML19-attention.pdf



#### **Outline**

#### 1. Watson Nadaraya Estimator

#### 2. Pooling

- Single objects Pooling to attention pooling
- Hierarchical structures Hierarchical attention networks

#### 3. Iterative Pooling

Question answering / memory networks

#### 4. Iterative Pooling and Generation

Neural machine translation

#### 5. Multiple Attention Heads

- Transformers / BERT
- Lightweight, structured, sparse

#### 6. Resources



# 1. Watson Nadaraya Estimator '64



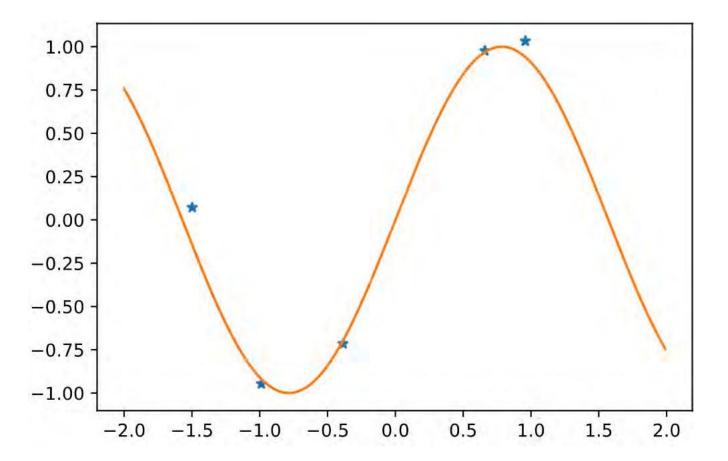
Geoffrey Watson



Elizbar Nadaraya



# **Regression Problem**

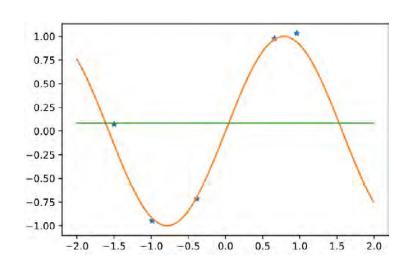




# Solving the regression problem

- Data {x<sub>1</sub>...x<sub>m</sub>} and labels {y<sub>1</sub>...y<sub>m</sub>}
- Estimate label yat new location x
- The world's dumbest estimator
   Average over all labels

$$y = \frac{1}{m} \sum_{i=1}^{m} y_i$$



Better idea (Watson, Nadaraya, 1964)
 Weigh the labels according to location

$$y = \sum_{i=1}^{m} \alpha(x, x_i) y_i$$



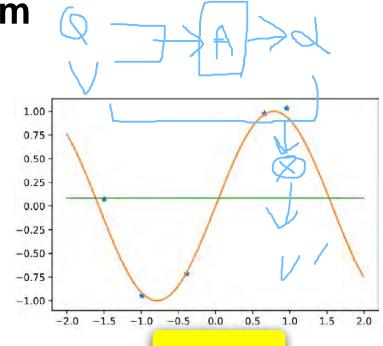
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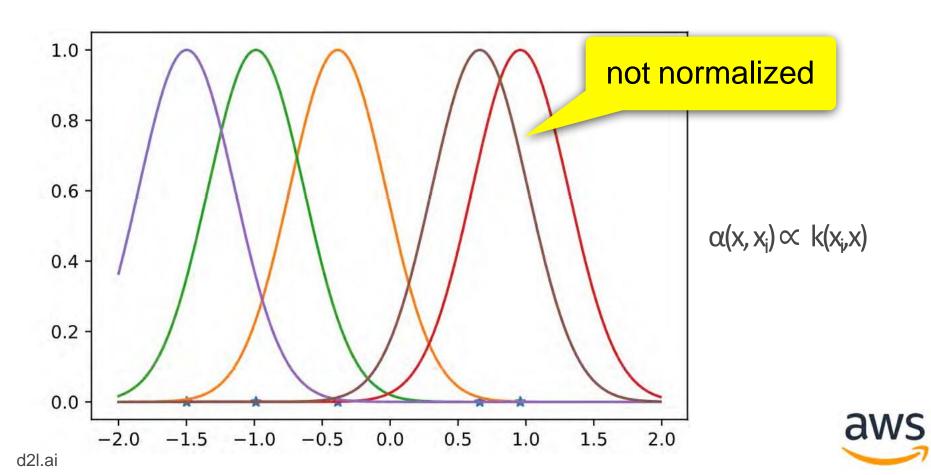
key

 $\alpha(x,x_i)y_i$ 

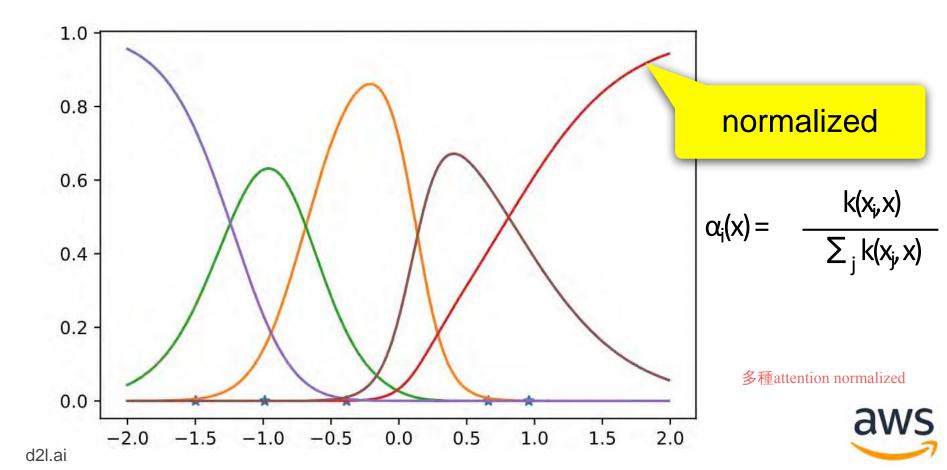
query

value

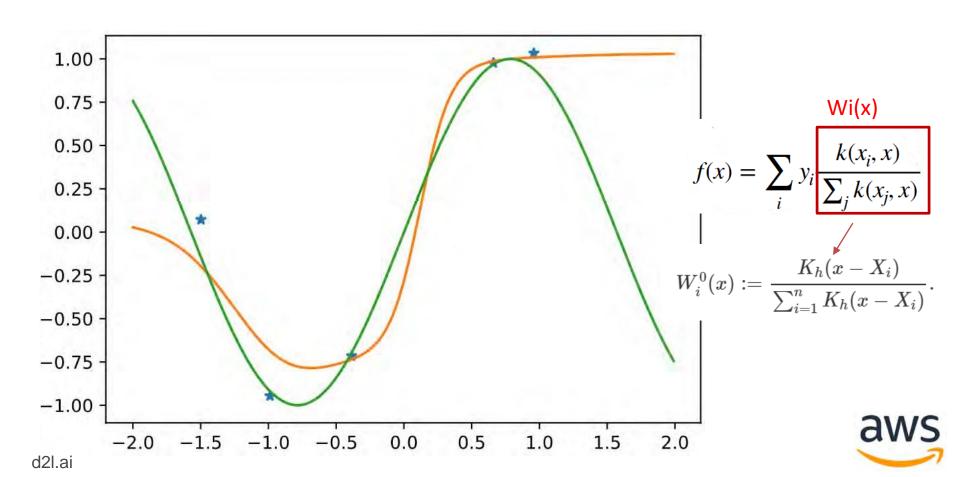
# Weighing the locations (e.g. with Gaussians)

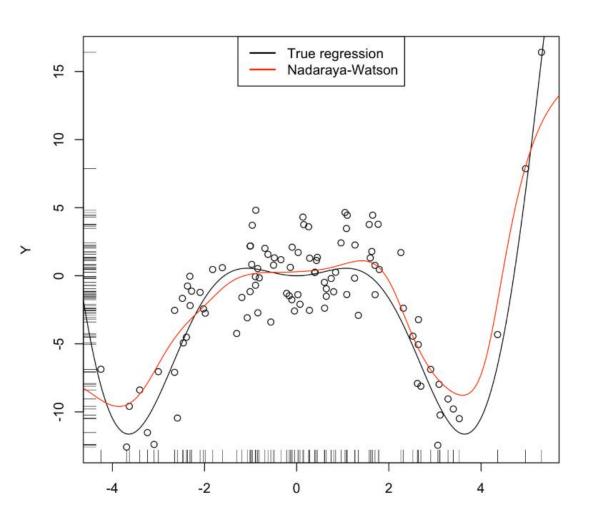


# Weighing the locations (e.g. with Gaussians)



# Weighted regression estimate







# Why bother with a 55 year old algorithm?

#### Consistency

Given enough data this algorithm converges to the optimal solution (can your deep net do this?)

#### Simplicity

No free parameters - information is in the data not weights (or very few if we try to learn the weighting function)



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#### Deep Learning Variant

- Learn weighting function
- Replace averaging (pooling) by weighted pooling





### Deep Sets (Zaheer et al. 2017)

- Deep (Networks on) Sets X={x<sub>1</sub>,...x<sub>n</sub>}
  - Need permutation invariance for elements in set (e.g. LSTM doesn't work to ingest elements)
  - Theorem all functions are of the form\*

$$f(X) = \rho \left( \sum_{x \in X} \phi(x) \right)$$

- \*or some combination thereof
- Applications point clouds, set extension, red shift for galaxies, text retrieval, tagging, etc.



### Deep Sets (Zaheer et al. 2017)

Outliers in sets - learn function f(X) on set such that  $f(\{x\} \cup X) \ge f(\{x'\} \cup X) + \Delta(x, x')$ 



# Deep Sets with Attention aka Multi-Instance Learning (Ilse, Tomczak, Welling, '18)

- Multiple Instance Problem
   Set contains one (or more) elements with desirable property (drug discovery, keychain). Identify those sets.
- Deep Sets have trouble focusing, hence weigh it

$$f(X) = \rho \left( \sum_{x \in X} \phi(x) \right) \qquad \qquad f(X) = \rho \left( \sum_{x \in X} \frac{\alpha(w, x) \phi(x)}{\text{weighted function}} \right)$$

• Attention function e.g.  $\alpha(w, x) \propto \exp(w^{\top} \tanh Vx)$ 

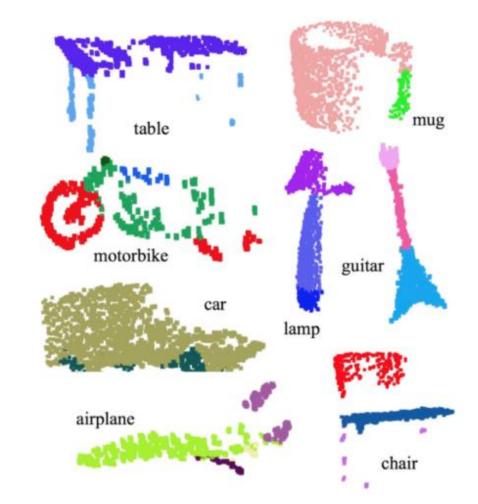


### **Deep Sets**

```
Permutation Invariant
f([\cite{R},\cite{R},\cite{R},\cite{R}]) = [\cite{G},\cite{L}]
f([\cite{R},\cite{R},\cite{R},\cite{R}]) = [\cite{G},\cite{L}]
\vdots
\vdots
f([\cite{R},\cite{R},\cite{R},\cite{R}]) = [\cite{G},\cite{L}]
```



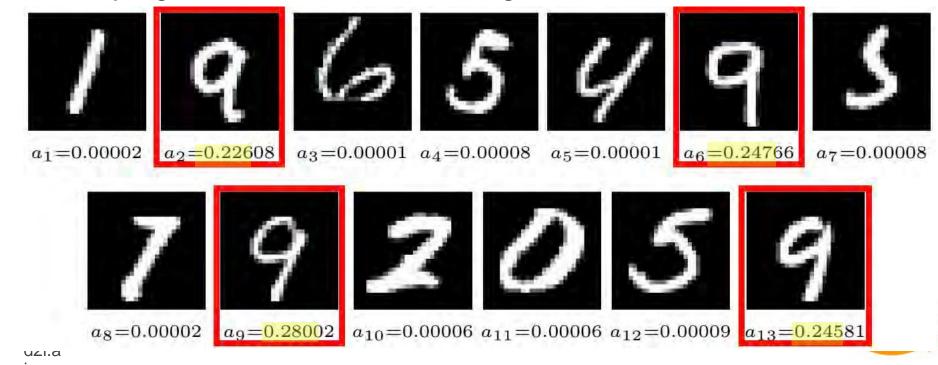
# point clouds



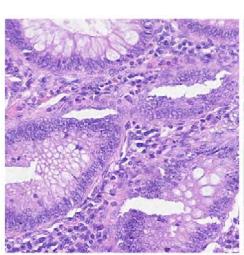


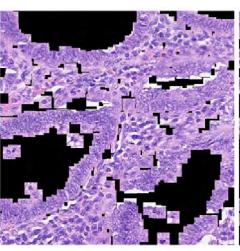
# **Deep Sets with Attention aka Multi-Instance Learning (Ilse, Tomczak, Welling, '18)**

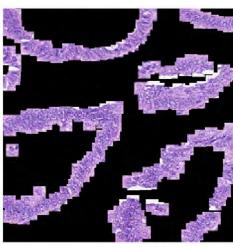
Identifying sets that contain the digit '9'

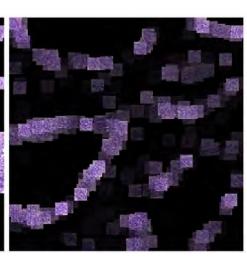


# Deep Sets with Attention aka Multi-Instance Learning (Ilse, Tomczak, Welling, '18)









tissue sample

windowed cell nuclei

cancerous cells

attention weights

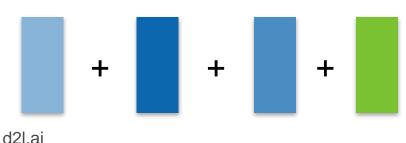


# Bag of words (Salton & McGill, 1986) Word2Vec (Mikolov et al., 2013)

- Embed each word in sentence (word2vec, binary, GRU ...)
- Add them all up
- Classify

$$f(X) = \rho \left( \sum_{i=1}^{n} \phi(x_i) \right)$$

The tutorial is awesome.



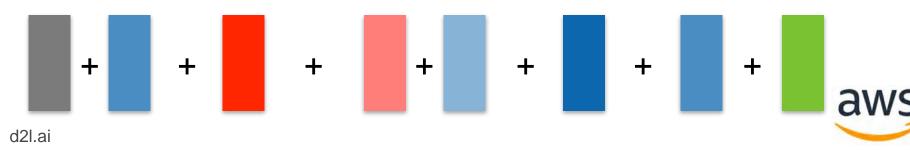


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$$f(X) = \rho \left( \sum_{i=1}^{n} \phi(w_i) \right)$$

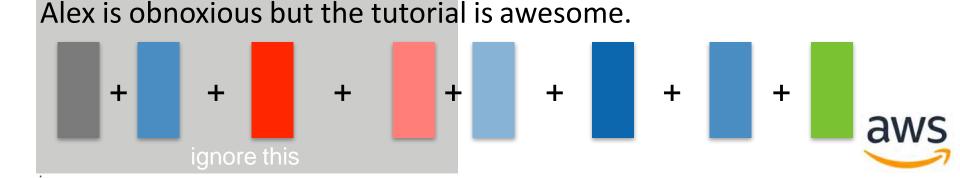
Alex is obnoxious but the tutorial is awesome.



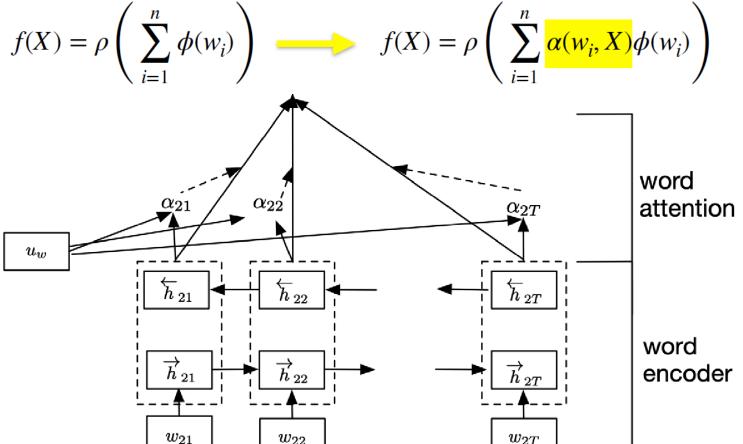
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# Attention weighting for documents (Wang et al, '16)





# Hierarchical attention weighting (Yang et al. '17)

Some sentences are more important than others ...

```
GT: 0 Prediction: 0
GT: 4 Prediction: 4
                                                      terrible value .
     pork belly = delicious .
                                                      ordered pasta entree .
     scallops?
     i do n't.
                                                         16.95 good
                                                                      taste but size
                                                                                      was
     even .
                                                      appetizer size.
     like .
     scallops, and these were a-m-a-z-i-n-g.
                                                      no salad, no bread no vegetable.
     fun and tasty cocktails.
                                                      this was
     next time i 'm in phoenix , i will go
                                                          and tasty cocktails.
     back here .
                                                      our second visit .
     highly recommend.
                                                      i will not go back.
```

# **Hierarchical attention**

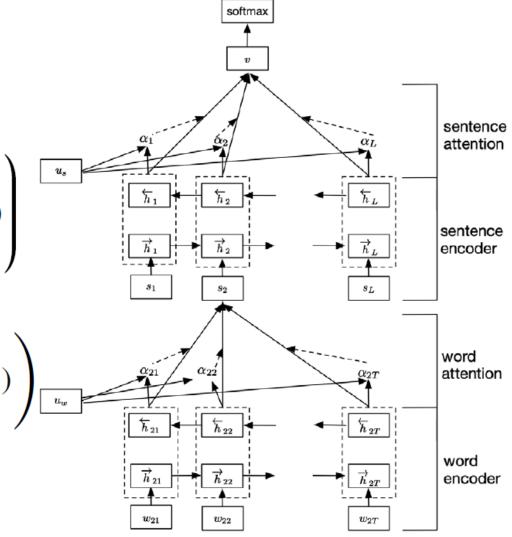
Word level

$$f(s_i) = \rho \left( \sum_{j=1}^{n_i} \alpha(w_{ij}, s_i) \phi(w_{ij}) \right)$$

Sentence level

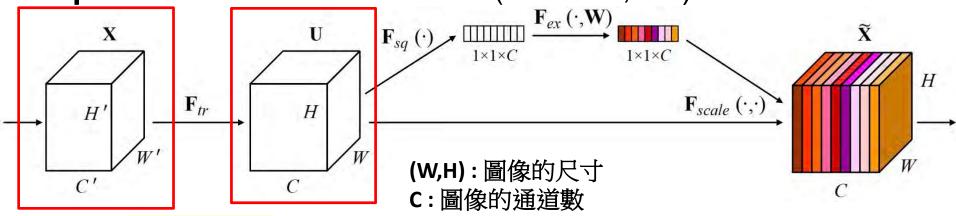
$$g(d) = \rho \left( \sum_{i=1}^{n} \alpha(s_i, d) \phi(f(s_i)) \right)$$

Embeddings e.g. via GRU



### **More Applications**

**Squeeze** Excitation Networks (Hu et al., '18)

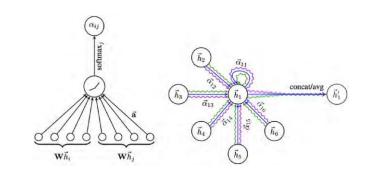


**Feature map** 

feature map 那些比較重要

#### **Graph Attention Networks**

(Velickovic et al., '18)





# Attention Summary

Pooling

$$f(X) = \rho\left(\sum_{x \in X} \phi(x)\right)$$
 Query w can depend on context

Attention pooling

$$f(X) = \rho \left( \sum_{x \in X} \alpha(x, w) \phi(x) \right)$$

Attention function (normalized to unit weight) such as

$$\alpha(x, X) \propto \exp\left(w^{\mathsf{T}} \tanh U x\right)^{\mathsf{max}}$$

