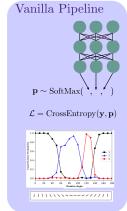
Evidential Deep Learning to Quantify Classification Uncertainty



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1 Motivation



models only empirical risk generates only point estimates

leads to over-confidence

2 The Subjective Logic Interpretation

- ▶ Consider a frame of K mutually exclusive singletons (e.g., class labels)
- ▶ Assign a belief mass $b_k \ge 0$ on each singleton k = 1, ..., K with and define an uncertainty score $u \ge 0$ such that

$$u + \sum_{k=1}^{K} b_k = 1.$$

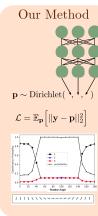
▶ Let $e_k \ge 0$ be the evidence derived for the k^{th} singleton, then the belief b_k and the uncertainty u are computed as

$$b_k = \frac{e_k}{S}$$
 and $u = \frac{K}{S}$,

where $S = \sum_{i=1}^{K} (e_i + 1)$.

▶ This way, a subjective opinion can be derived easily from a Dirichlet distribution with parameters α_k such that

$$b_k = (\alpha_k - 1)/S.$$



generates a distribution

 ${\it models \ Bayes \ risk}$

learns to capture uncertainty

3 The Loss Design

As our method provides a distribution on class probabilities for a given input, we need to minimize the Bayes risk with respect to a loss:

$$\mathcal{L}_i(\Theta) = \int ||\mathbf{y}_i - \mathbf{p}_i||_2^2 \frac{1}{B(\boldsymbol{\alpha}_i)} \prod_{i=1}^K p_{ij}^{\alpha_{ij}-1} d\mathbf{p}_i$$
$$= \sum_{j=1}^K \mathbb{E} \left[y_{ij}^2 - 2y_{ij}p_{ij} + p_{ij}^2 \right]$$
$$= \sum_{j=1}^K \left(y_{ij}^2 - 2y_{ij}\mathbb{E}[p_{ij}] + \mathbb{E}[p_{ij}^2] \right).$$

Regularize the loss against unjustified evidence prediction with an absolutely uncertain predictor:

$$\mathcal{L}(\Theta) = \sum_{i=1}^{N} \mathcal{L}_{i}(\Theta)$$

$$+ \lambda_{t} \sum_{i=1}^{N} KL[D(\mathbf{p_{i}}|\tilde{\boldsymbol{\alpha}}_{i}) \mid\mid D(\mathbf{p}_{i}|\langle 1, \dots, 1\rangle)].$$

4 Theoretical Properties

Our loss can be expressed in the following easily interpretable form

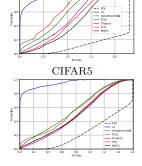
$$\mathcal{L}_{i}(\Theta) = \sum_{j=1}^{K} (y_{ij} - \mathbb{E}[p_{ij}])^{2} + \operatorname{Var}(p_{ij})$$

$$= \sum_{j=1}^{K} \underbrace{(y_{ij} - \alpha_{ij}/S_{i})^{2}}_{\mathcal{L}_{ij}^{err}} + \underbrace{\frac{\alpha_{ij}(S_{i} - \alpha_{ij})}{S_{i}^{2}(S_{i} + 1)}}_{\mathcal{L}_{ij}^{var}}$$

which satisfies the following three propositions.

5 Experiments

 $\begin{array}{c} {\bf Detection~of~Out\mbox{-}of\mbox{-}Distribution~Samples} \\ {\bf notMNIST} \end{array}$



6 Take Homes

- Replace the SoftMax-generated class probabilities with a Dirichlet distribution.
- Minimize Bayes risk in addition to the empirical risk.
- Draw links to and get inspiration from opinion modeling.
- ▶ Outperform state of the art in detection of outof-distribution samples and white-box attacks without any security-specific design.

- ▶ Proposition 1. For any $\alpha_{ij} \geq 1$, the inequality $\mathcal{L}_{ij}^{var} < \mathcal{L}_{ij}^{err}$ is satisfied. i.e. The loss prioritizes data fit over variance estimation.
- ▶ Proposition 2. For a given sample i with the correct label j, L_i^{err} decreases when new evidence is added to α_{ij} and increases when evidence is removed from α_{ij} .
- i.e. The loss has a tendency to fit to the data.
- ▶ Proposition 3. For a given sample i with the correct class label j, L_i^{err} decreases when some evidence is removed from the biggest Dirichlet parameter α_{il} such that $l \neq j$.
 - i.e. The loss performs learned loss attenuation.

