
Spinning Up with

BAYESIAN INFERENCE FOR NEURAL NETWORKS

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BAYESIAN INFERENCE FOR NEURAL NETWORKS

Introducing Bayesian Inference

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Bayesian perspective on Neural Networks training

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Variational Inference to the rescue!

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Variational Bayes in code 🍷

INTRODUCING BAYESIAN INFERENCE

$$P(H|E) = \frac{P(E|H)P(H)}{P(E)}$$

Bayes' Theorem

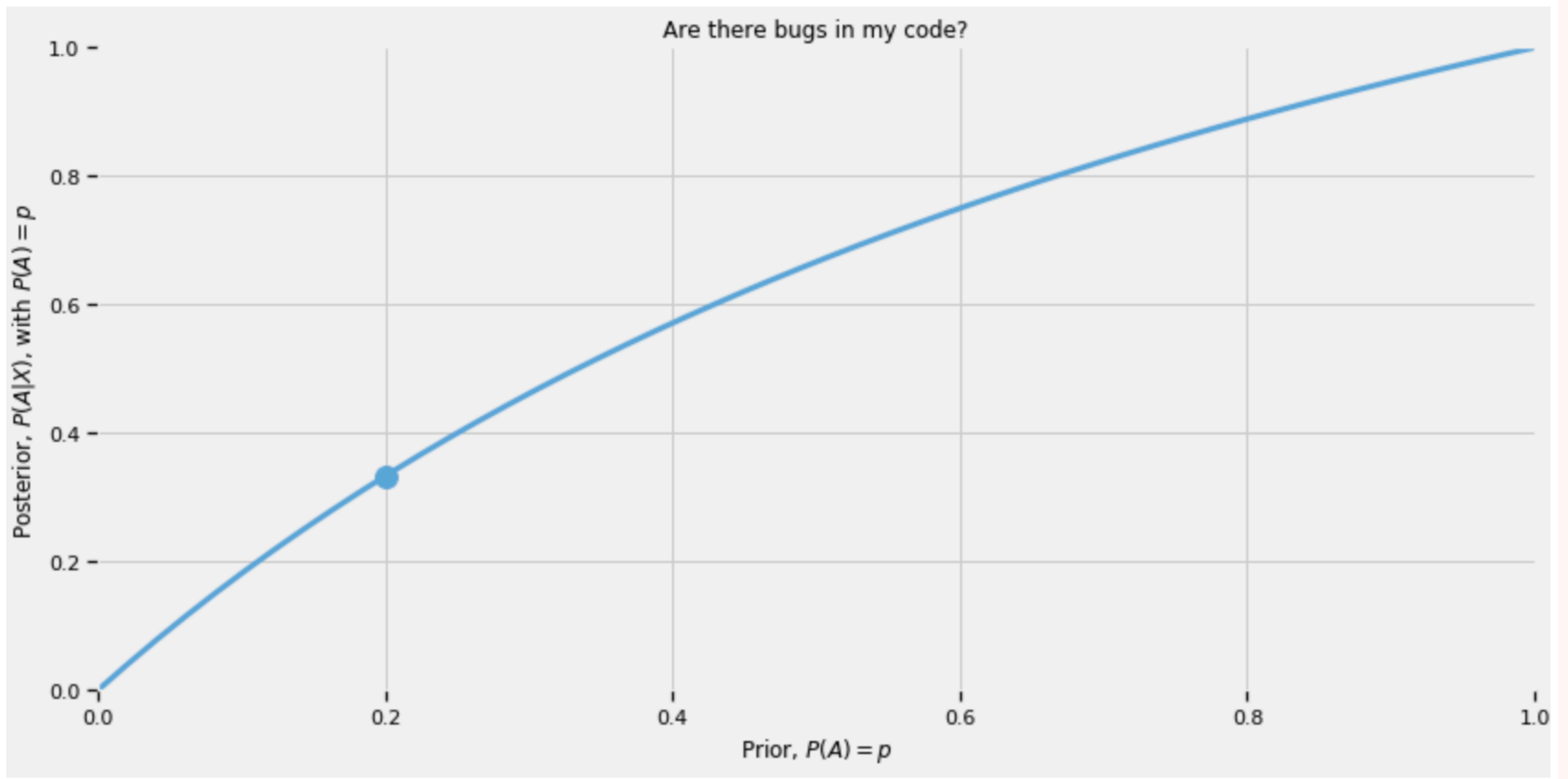
ABC EXAMPLE

- I want to know if my code is bug-free, an event F , after I run tests that pass, an event T .
- I update, infer a posteriori, my believe that the code is bug-free in the face of new evidence, tests run.
- $P(F) = x$ is a prior believe in my code that it's bug-free. I parametrise it with $x \in [0,1]$.
- $P(T|F) = 1$ is a likelihood that the code is bug-free, given tests pass. It's one, "of course".
- $P(T|\neg F) = 1/2$ is a likelihood that the code has bugs, given tests still pass. Let's assume it's 50:50.
- Moreover, we will need a normalisation constant $P(T) = P(T|F)P(F) + P(T|\neg F)P(\neg F)$.

$$P(F|T) = \frac{P(T|F)P(F)}{P(T|F)P(F) + P(T|\neg F)P(\neg F)}$$

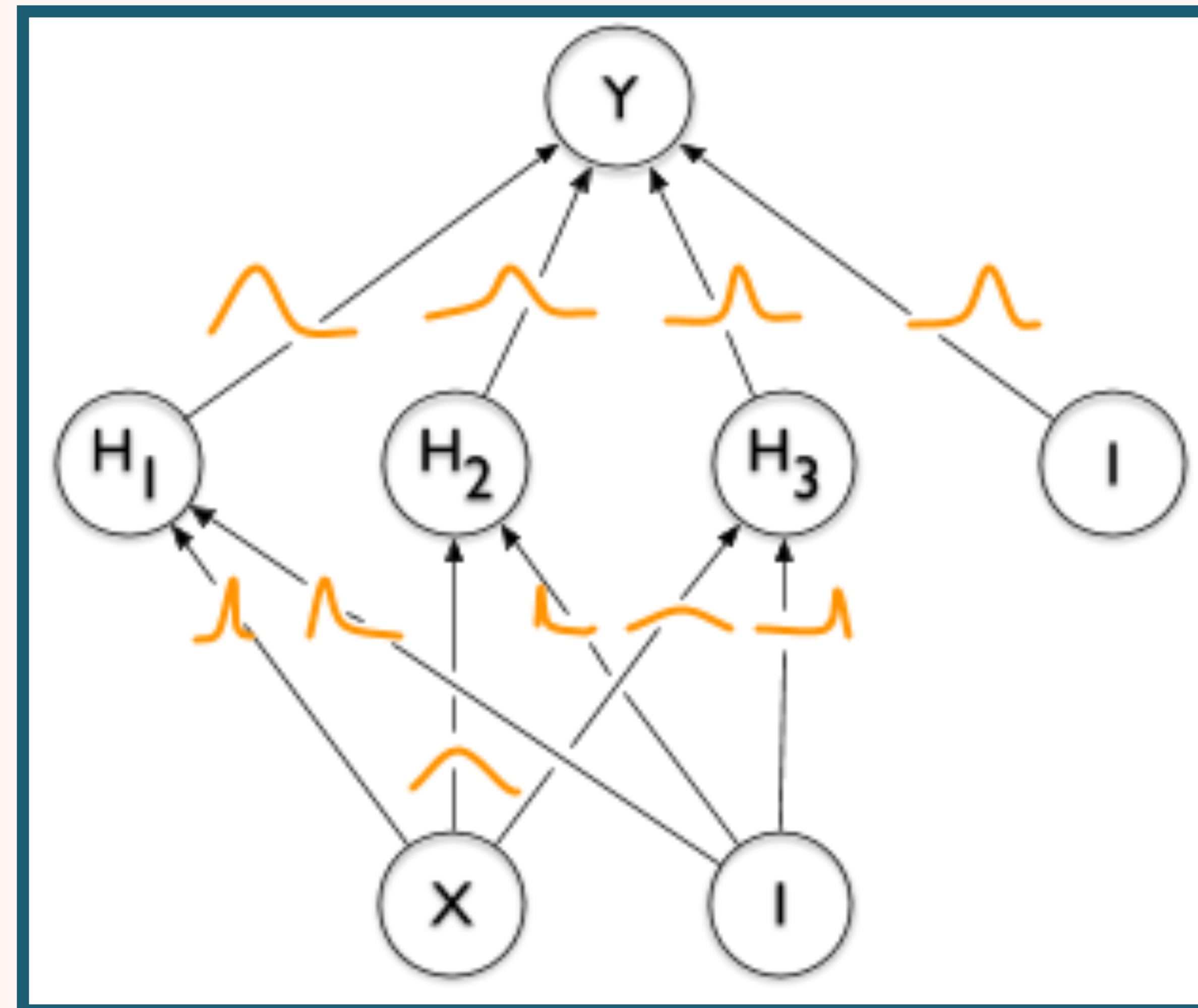
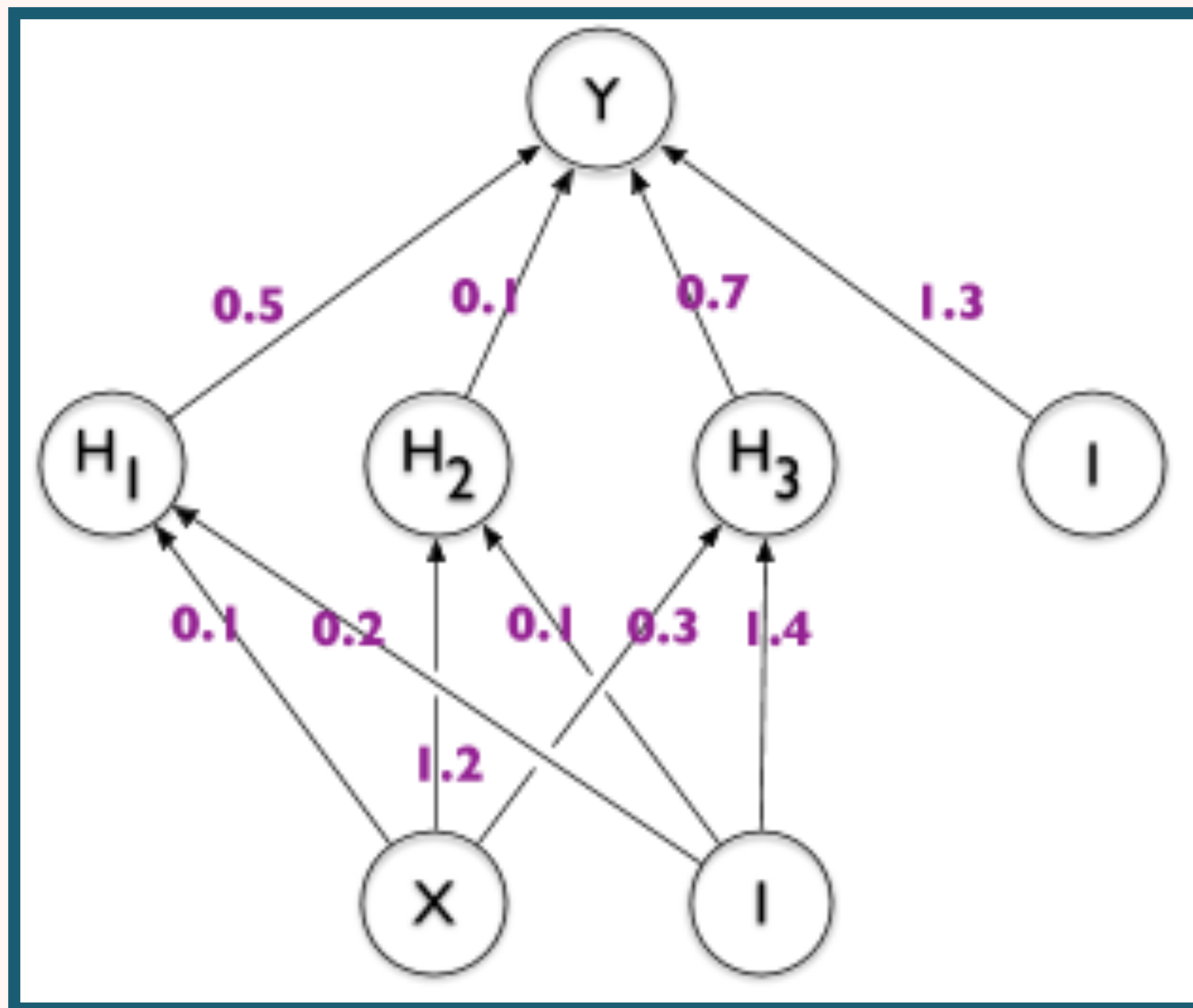
$$P(F|T) = \frac{x}{x + \frac{1}{2}(1-x)}$$

$$P(F|T) = \frac{2x}{1+x}$$



Probabilistic Programming & Bayesian Methods for Hackers

BAYESIAN PERSPECTIVE ON NEURAL NETWORKS TRAINING



The very Basics of Bayesian Neural Networks

BAYESIAN NEURAL NETWORK

- **Dataset \mathcal{D} consisting of predictors X , e.g. images, and labels Y , e.g. classes.**
 - **Likelihood $P(\mathcal{D} | \theta)$ or $P(Y | X, \theta)$ represented with a categorical softmax distribution on logits calculated by a Neural Network parametrised with θ , e.g. MLP.**
 - **Prior on Neural Network parameters $P(\theta)$ represented with a Normal distribution.**
 - **It encodes our prior (lack of) knowledge what the parameter values could be. However, we suspect these are some small values around zero.**
 - **Posterior $P(\theta | \mathcal{D})$ is... well... some distribution too, of course.**
 - **We will calculate it using the Bayes' Theorem!... or we would hope to do so.**
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$$P(\theta | \mathcal{D}) = \frac{P(\mathcal{D} | \theta)P(\theta)}{\int P(\mathcal{D} | \theta)P(\theta)d\theta}$$

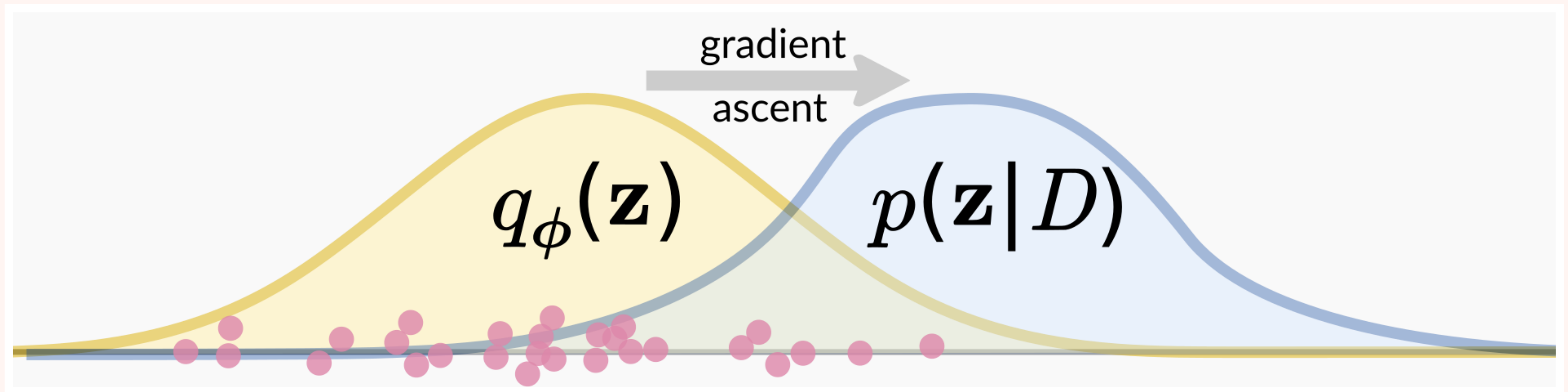
This integral is intractable :/

VARIATIONAL INFERENCE TO THE RESCUE!

**CAN'T CALCULATE?
THEN APPROXIMATE!**

$$D_{\text{KL}} \left(Q(\theta) \parallel P(\theta | \mathcal{D}) \right)$$

VARIATIONAL INFERENCE



Variational Bayesian phylogenetic inference

**“IF YOU’RE THINKING HOW DO WE KNOW IF
RESULTING DISTRIBUTION IS CLOSER TO THE
POSTERIOR IF POSTERIOR IS EXACTLY WHAT WE WANT
TO CALCULATE, YOU’VE UNDERSTOOD THE IDEA.”**

Making Your Neural Network Say “I Don’t Know”

$$\log P(\mathcal{D}) - D_{\text{KL}}[Q(\theta) \| P(\theta | \mathcal{D})] = \underbrace{\mathbb{E}_{\theta \sim Q}[\log P(Y | X, \theta)]}_{\text{Evidence Lower Bound or ELBO}} - D_{\text{KL}}[Q(\theta) \| P(\theta)]$$

Evidence Lower Bound or ELBO

VARIATIONAL BAYES IN CODE

JAX

- **“Composable transformations of Python+NumPy programs: differentiate, vectorize, JIT to GPU/TPU, and more.” ~ JAX Documentation**
- **`jit` (just-in-time compilation) - speeds up your code by running all the ops inside the jit-ed function as a fused op; it compiles the function when it's called the first time and uses the compiled (optimised) version from the second call onwards.**
- **`grad` - returns derivatives of function with respect to the model weights passed as parameters.**
- **`vmap` - automatic batching; returns a new function that can apply the original (per-sample) function to a batch.**



**Great introduction to JAX and Haiku from
EEML practical sessions [here](#).**

DIVE INTO CODE!

You can find the code [here](#) on GitLab



WHAT NEXT?

- A great post on **Bayesian Inference — Intuition and Example**.
 - Learn about conjugate prior and why it's important, **read here**.
 $P(\theta)$ such that $P(\theta | X)$ is from the same probability distribution family as $P(\theta)$.
 - Derive and understand ELBO, **read here**.
 - A Beginner's Guide to Variational Methods: Mean-Field Approximation.
 - The problem of approximate inference in Variational Inference: A Review for Statisticians.
 - Making Your Neural Network Say "I Don't Know" — Bayesian NNs using Pyro.
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THANK YOU!
