Bayesian Neural Networks

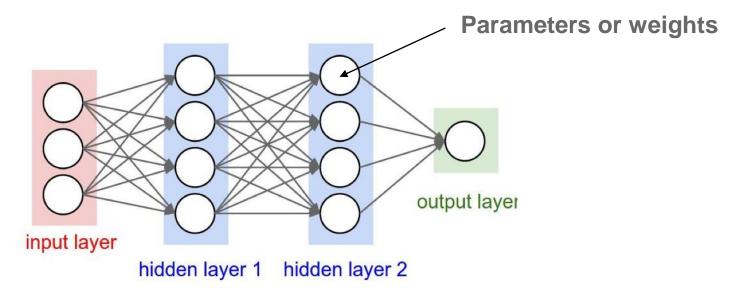
Machine learning for computer vision (IN2357)





Motivation: Neural Networks Revisited

• Neural Networks are parameterized functions:



- Main idea is to learn a composition of functions or layers.
- Typically, trained with a maximum likelihood principle (point estimates) by optimizing some loss function using stochastic gradient descent.
- The result is a set of most likely parameters that explains the data.



Motivation: Challenges in Deep Learning

Neural Networks with many layers (deep learning) are useful but:

- Can you train neural networks with better generalization?
- Can you efficiently learn by leveraging prior experiences?
- Can you design architectures without trial and error only?
- Can you reduce computational complexity?
- Can you trust it? Or, represent well-calibrated uncertainty?

Bayesian Neural Networks brings Bayesian reasoning to deep learning and might be useful for reducing overfitting, uncertainty estimates, etc.

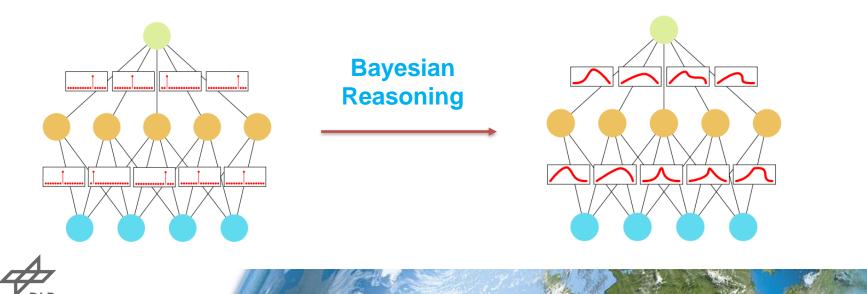
What is Bayesian Neural Networks?

Bayesian Reasoning?

Probability distribution as your belief rather than frequency.

Dealing with uncertainty about your model (e.g. model parameters).

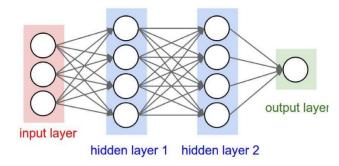
When applied to neural networks, parameters have distributions.



What is Bayesian Neural Networks?

Given that ...

- **Data:** $\mathcal{D} = \{(x^n, y^n)\}_{n=1}^N = (X, y)$
- Parameters *w* are weights of neural networks.



Then, instead of trying to find a set of most likely parameters:

- Define prior: p(w)
- Bayesian learning of posterior: $p(w|D) \propto p(y|X, w)p(w)$

• Prediction:
$$p(y^*|\mathcal{D}, x^*) = \int p(y^*|x^*, w) p(w|\mathcal{D}) dw$$



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Aim: Understanding the basics related to Bayesian Neural Networks

- **1. Point Estimates Vs Model Uncertainty**
- 2. On Priors of Bayesian Neural Networks.
- 3. On Posteriors of Bayesian Neural Networks.
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- 5. Bayesian Deep Learning.

Disclaimer: very active area of research – we cover only the basics.

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Point Estimates

Many learning algorithms such as Deep NNs or Support Vector Machines only determine one optimal (or most likely) set of model parameters.

E.g.:
$$\mathbf{w}^* = \arg \max_{\mathbf{w}} p(\mathbf{y} \mid \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{w})$$
 (MLE)

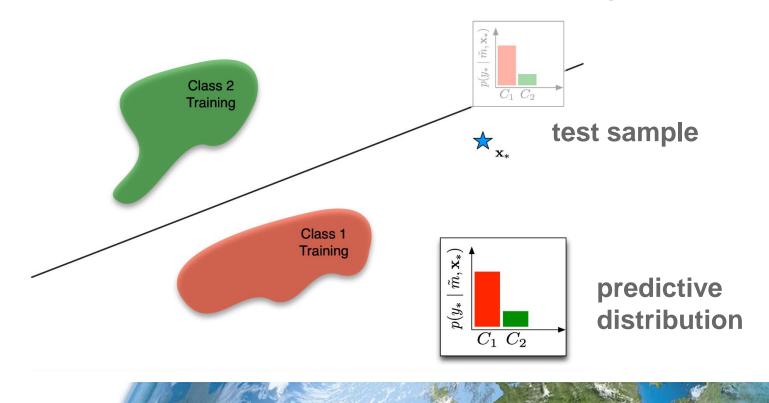
or:
$$\mathbf{w}^* = \arg \max_{\mathbf{w}} p(\mathbf{w} \mid \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})$$
 (MAP)



Point Estimates: Example

Example with a linear classifier (e.g. a SVM):

- Binary classification
- Aim: predict the label of a sample that is far from the training data set.

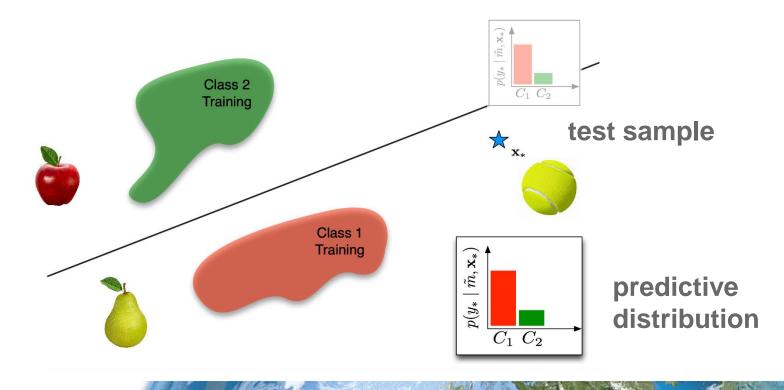




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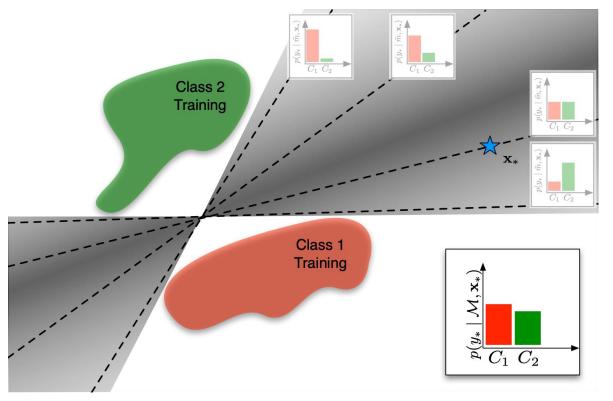




Point Estimates Vs Model Uncertainty

The right answer is to say "I do not know."





Prediction with a weighted average



Point Estimates Vs Model Uncertainty

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E.g.:
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 (MLE)

or:
$$\mathbf{w}^* = \arg \max_{\mathbf{w}} p(\mathbf{w} \mid \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})$$
 (MAP)

Instead, Bayesian methods consider a distribution over model parameters and take the average:

$$p(\mathbf{y}^* \mid X, \mathbf{y}, \mathbf{x}^*) = \int p(\mathbf{y}^* \mid \mathbf{x}^*, \mathbf{w}) p(\mathbf{w} \mid X, \mathbf{y}) d\mathbf{w}$$

This motivates to take model uncertainty into account, instead of MAP.



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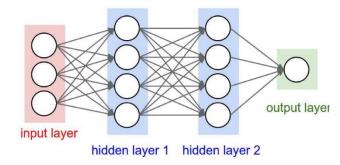




Recap on Bayesian Neural Networks

Given that ...

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On Priors: Why important?

• PAC (Probably Approximately Correct) Bayes:

$$R(Q) \leq \widehat{R}(Q) + \sqrt{\frac{KL(Q||P) + \ln(\frac{m+1}{\delta})}{2m}}$$

- Q and P can be posterior and prior distributions.
- R(Q) a true risk and $\hat{R}(Q)$ an empirical risk for sample size m.
- *KL*(*Q*||*P*) defines KL divergence (similarity) between two distributions.
- For any $\delta > 0$, PAC Bayes shows a bound to true risk.



On Priors: Why important?

• PAC (Probably Approximately Correct) Bayes:

$$R(Q) \leq \widehat{R}(Q) + \sqrt{\frac{KL(Q||P) + \ln(\frac{m+1}{\delta})}{2m}}$$

- Mostly frequentist paradigm, but can be viewed as Bayesian too.
- Set P to be the prior distribution, and Q to be the posterior distribution.
- Generalization of a learner (how close you are to a true risk), depends on how well you fit the data $\hat{R}(Q)$ and how you are constrained to KL(Q||P).



On Priors: some thoughts

- Specifying the prior distribution is required for Bayesian methods.
- If you have enough data, likelihood may dominate the posterior and so, a reasonable prior could work in practice.
- If you do not have enough data, mis-specifying the prior can lead to misspecified posterior. But, if the prior is good, we might get better generalizable models.
- For Deep Neural Networks, specifying a good prior is unintuitive and largely a not solved problem.
- Still, Bayesian's averaging way of predictions can be beneficial over merely using point estimates.

On Priors: A Good Default?

• So, a standard procedure is to use a normal prior:

 $p(w) \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma I)$ Think of it as ranges

• In the context of deep learning, this implies:

 $w^* = \operatorname{argmax} p(w|X, Y)$

MAP estimates

 $\mathbf{w}^* = \operatorname{argmax} \mathbf{p}(\mathbf{Y}|\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{w})\mathbf{p}(\mathbf{w})$

 $w^* = \operatorname{argmin} \widehat{R}(w) + \operatorname{reg}(w)$ Log likelihood

• Equivalent to a weighted I2 regularization on neural network weights when training a point estimate.

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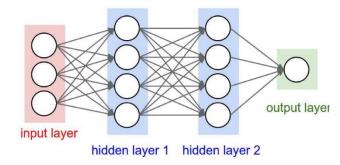




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On Posteriors: Bayes Rule Revisited

$p(hypothesis|data) = \frac{p(data|hypothesis)p(hypothesis)}{\sum p(data|hypothesis)p(hypothesis)}$

- Bayes rule tells us how to do inference about hypothesis (uncertain quantities) from data (measured quantities).
- Learning and predictions can be seen as forms of inference.





On Posteriors: The problem of integrals.

Posterior Distribution:

 $p(\mathbf{w}|\mathbf{X},\mathbf{Y}) = \frac{p(Y|X,w)p(w)}{p(Y|X)}$

• Evidence Term:

 $p(Y|X) = \int p(Y|X,w)p(w)dw$

Our hypothesis is on parameters!

 $p(\mathbf{w}|\mathbf{X},\mathbf{Y})$ Posterior

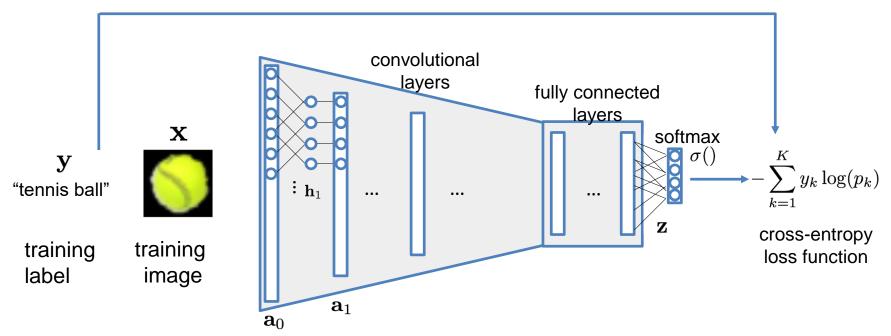
p(Y|X,w) Likelihood

p(w) Prior

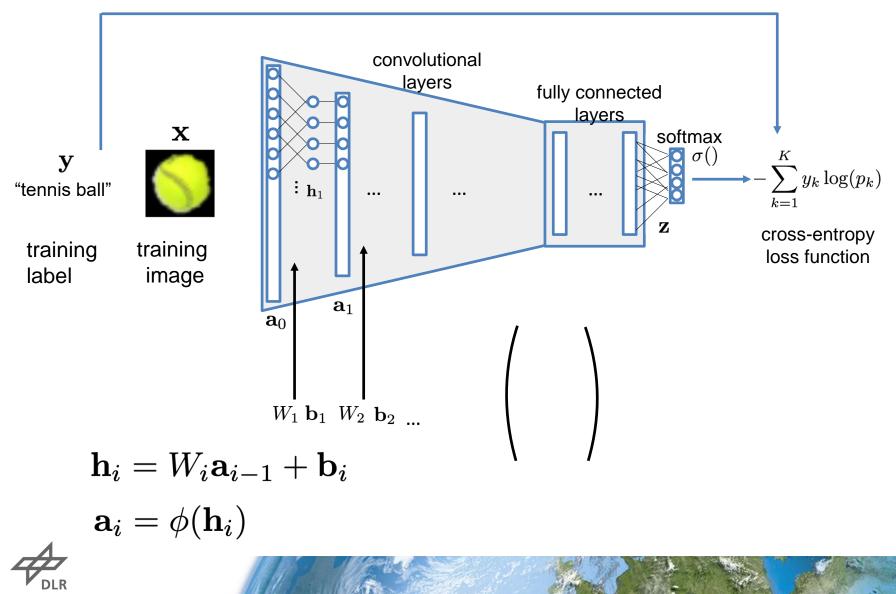
p(Y|X) Evidence

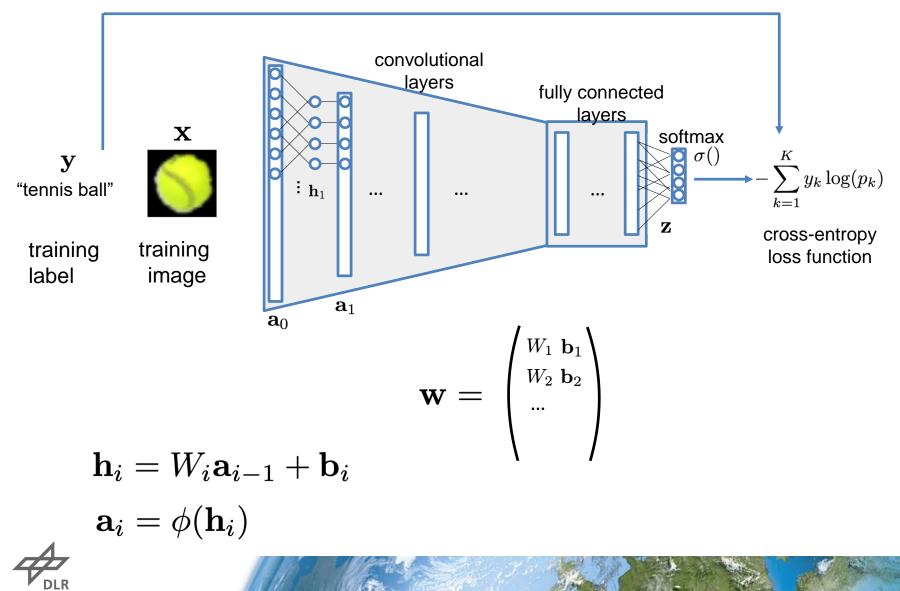
- No conjugate priors no analytical form for the posterior.
- Solving the integral over large quantities intractable.
- Need Approximate Bayesian Inference techniques.

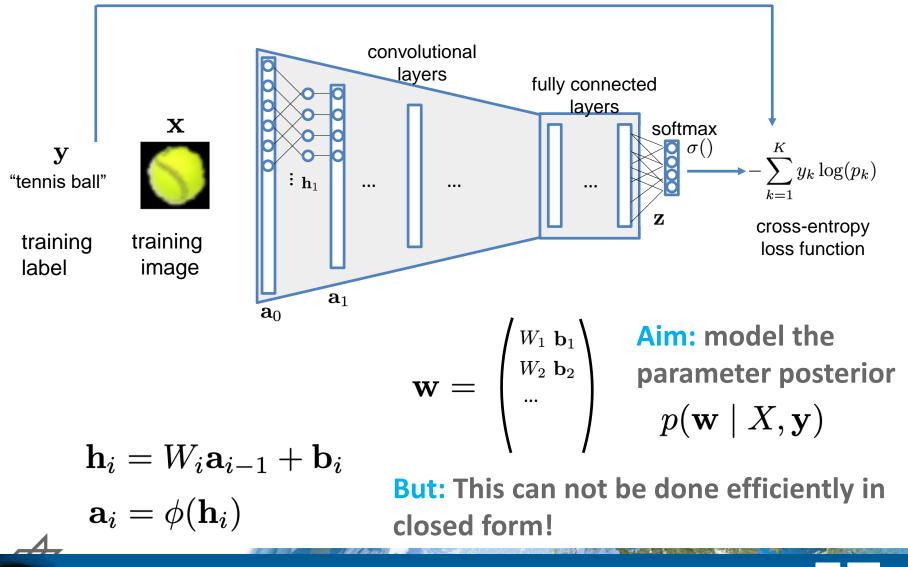












Machine Learning for Computer Vision

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PD Dr. Rudolph Triebel Computer Vision Group

On Posteriors: How to approximate it?

In the literature, there are different principles:

1. Variational inference (next lectures)

Find a tractable distribution q that approximates p, e.g. in terms of the KL-divergence – through optimization:

$$q_{\theta}(\mathbf{w}) \approx p(\mathbf{w} \mid X, \mathbf{y})$$

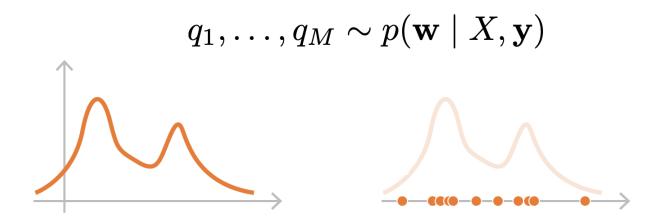
 $p(\mathbf{w} \mid X, \mathbf{y}) \qquad q_{\theta}(\mathbf{w})$

On Posteriors: How to approximate it?

In the literature, there are different principles:

2. Sampling Methods (next lectures)

Generate samples from the posterior distribution:



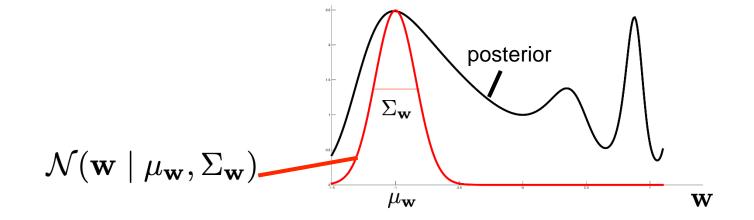


On Posteriors: How to approximate it?

In the literature, there are different principles:

3. Laplace Approximation

Approximate the posterior at its mode with a Normal distribution.





Step 1: Train a neural network with point estimates.

E.g.:
$$\mathbf{w}^* = \arg \max_{\mathbf{w}} p(\mathbf{y} \mid \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{w})$$
 (MLE)

or:
$$\mathbf{w}^* = \arg \max_{\mathbf{w}} p(\mathbf{w} \mid \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})$$
 (MAP)

Recall that you can solve this optimization problem using stochastic gradient descents or some variants of it.



Step 2: approximate the log-posterior using the second-order Taylor expansion:

$$\log p(\mathbf{w}|\mathbf{X},\mathbf{y}) \approx \log p(\mathbf{w}^*|\mathbf{X},\mathbf{y}) + \frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{w} - \mathbf{w}^*)^{\mathrm{T}}\mathbf{H}(\mathbf{w} - \mathbf{w}^*)$$

where H is the Hessian matrix:

$$[H_0]_{ij} = -\frac{\partial^2}{\partial w_i \partial w_j} \log p(y \mid \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{w})$$

Note: we are omitting the prior term for simplicity in derivation.





Step 3: Taking the exponential on both sides:

$$\log p(\mathbf{w} \mid X, \mathbf{y}) \approx \log p(\mathbf{w}^* \mid X, \mathbf{y}) + \frac{1}{2} (\mathbf{w} - \mathbf{w}^*)^T H(\mathbf{w} - \mathbf{w}^*)$$
$$p(\mathbf{w} \mid X, \mathbf{y}) \approx p(\mathbf{w}^* \mid X, \mathbf{y}) \exp\left(\frac{1}{2} (\mathbf{w} - \mathbf{w}^*)^T H(\mathbf{w} - \mathbf{w}^*)\right)$$
$$= p(\mathbf{w}^* \mid X, \mathbf{y}) \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2} (\mathbf{w} - \mathbf{w}^*)^T \Sigma^{-1} (\mathbf{w} - \mathbf{w}^*)\right)$$



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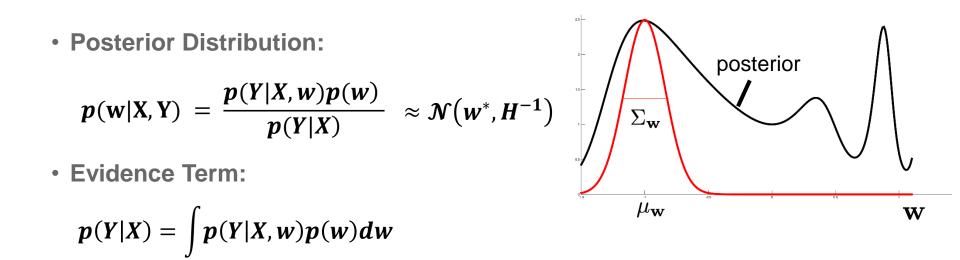
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This is an unnormalised Gaussian. and the normaliser is

$$Z = \frac{1}{\sqrt{(2\pi)^D |\Sigma|}}$$



On Posteriors: Summary



- Computing the Hessian matrix involves taking 2nd order derivative.
- However, the Hessian matrix for deep neural networks is too large!
 E.g. if you have 1 million parameters, the Hessian matrix is a matrix of size 1 million by 1 million. Then, how to compute such large matrix?
- A short-cut is to approximate the Hessian matrix, using Fisher Information or Gauss Newton from 2nd order optimization for networks.

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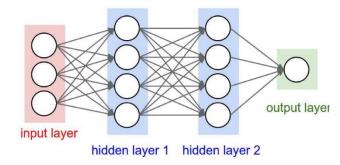




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On Predictions: Bayesian Vs Frequentist

• Two different paradigms of statistics (similar to EMAC or VIM).

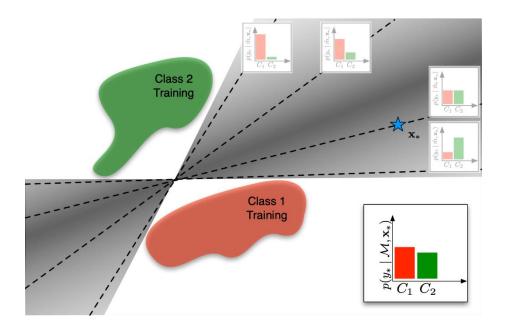
Frequentist statistics	Bayesian statistics
Probabilities are frequency of an outcome. Objective and relative frequency	Probabilities are your own beliefs about randomness. Subjective and degree of beliefs.
Data is random, not your parameters (or no model uncertainty exists). Hence, you have confidence intervals and point estimates.	Data is fixed, but your parameters are random variables (parameters or model cannot be perfect, and their uncertainty is expressed with probability theory).
E.g. ensembles such as random forest or Ada boost.	E.g. Gaussian processes, Bayesian Neural Networks.



On Predictions: Bayesian Predictions

- So far, we specified a prior distribution, and have also an approximation to the posterior distribution.
- In Bayesian methods, the predictions are also not a point estimate, but should be a probability distribution, e.g. GPs.
- A predictive distribution should account for uncertainty about W.
- Marginalize the uncertain w quantity to predict!

$$p(y^*|\mathcal{D}, x^*) = \int p(y^*|x^*, w) p(w|\mathcal{D}) dw$$





On Predictions: The problem of intractable integrals

$$p(y^*|\mathcal{D}, x^*) = \int p(y^*|x^*, w) p(w|\mathcal{D}) dw$$

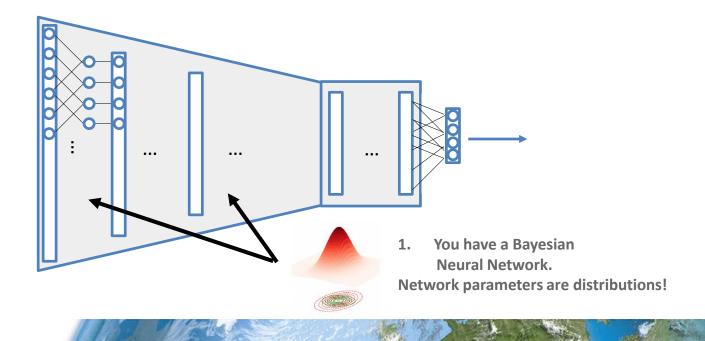
- No analytical form for such integrals.
- Numerical methods? E.g. Runge-Kutta? Too high dimensional.
- Approximate Solutions can be obtained:
- Monte-carlo integration.
- Linear approximation.



$$p(y^*|\mathcal{D}, x^*) = \int p(y^*|x^*, w) p(w|\mathcal{D}) dw$$

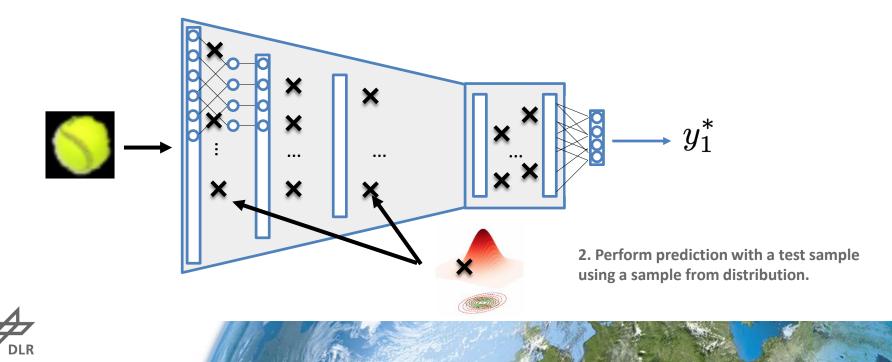
$$\longrightarrow \quad y^* \approx \frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=1}^{T} p(y^*|x^*, w_t) \qquad w_t \sim p(w|\mathcal{D})$$

Monte-carlo approximates integrals in large dimensions via sampling.



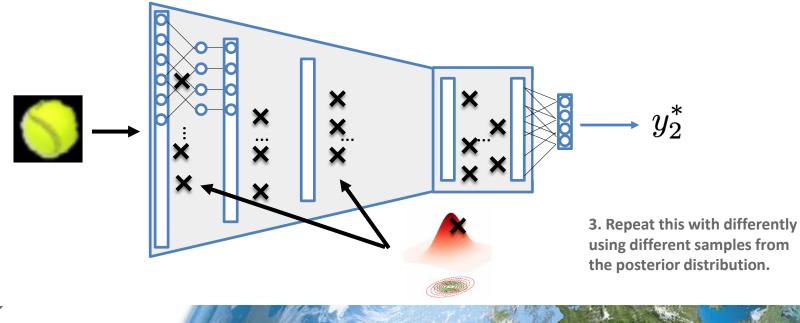
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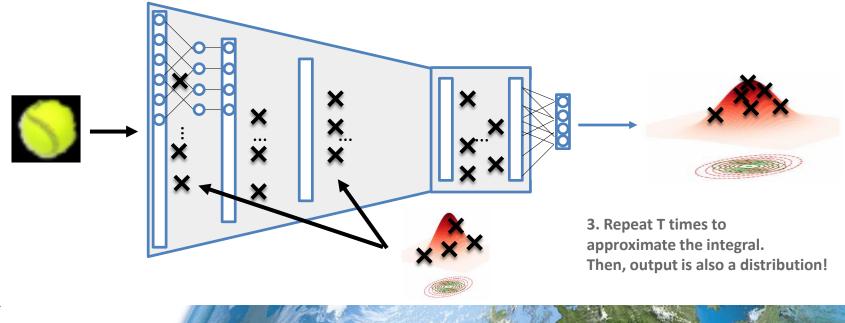


Λ

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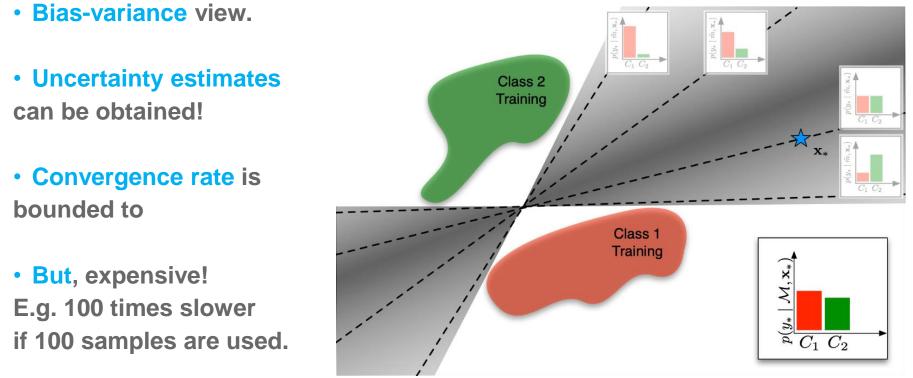
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Λ

$$p(y^*|\mathcal{D}, x^*) = \int p(y^*|x^*, w) p(w|\mathcal{D}) dw$$





- Aim is again to evaluate the integral: $p(y^*|\mathcal{D}, x^*) = \int p(y^*|x^*, w) p(w|\mathcal{D}) dw$
- Consider that you have the followings:
- 1. The prior distributions specified as a normal: $p(w) \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma I)$
- **2. Trained Neural Networks for MAP estimates:** $w^* = \operatorname{argmax} p(w|X,Y)$
- 3. Obtained the **posterior distributions** with Laplace Approximation:

$$p(\mathbf{w}|\mathbf{X},\mathbf{Y}) = \frac{p(Y|X,w)p(w)}{p(Y|X)} \approx \mathcal{N}(w^*,H^{-1})$$



• Aim is again to evaluate the integral: $p(y^*|\mathcal{D}, x^*) = \int p(y^*|x^*, w) p(w|\mathcal{D}) dw$

Step 1: Take Taylor expansion on neural network f(x, w):

$$f(x,w) \simeq f(x,w^*) + g^T(w-w^*) + \varepsilon$$

where we define
$$g = \frac{\partial f(x, w)}{\partial w}\Big|_{w=w^*}$$
 the Jacobian of neural networks.



• Aim is again to evaluate the integral: $p(y^*|\mathcal{D}, x^*) = \int p(y^*|x^*, w) p(w|\mathcal{D}) dw$

Step 1: Take Taylor expansion on neural network.

Step 2: Recall our random variables are Gaussian distributions:

$$f(x,w) \simeq f(x,w^*) + g^T(w-w^*) + \varepsilon$$

$$p(y|x,w) \simeq \mathcal{N}(y|f(x,w^*) + g^T(w-w^*),\sigma)$$

Assume output is also a Gaussian, then mean is a linear function of w.

• Aim is again to evaluate the integral: $p(y^*|\mathcal{D}, x^*) = \int p(y^*|x^*, w) p(w|\mathcal{D}) dw$

Step 1: Take Taylor expansion on neural network.

Step 2: Recall our random variables are Gaussian distributions.

Step 3: Further using the rules of Gaussian distributions:

$$f(x,w) \simeq f(x,w^*) + g^T(w-w^*) + \varepsilon$$

$$\implies p(y|x,w) \simeq \mathcal{N}(y|f(x,w^*) + g^T(w-w^*),\sigma)$$

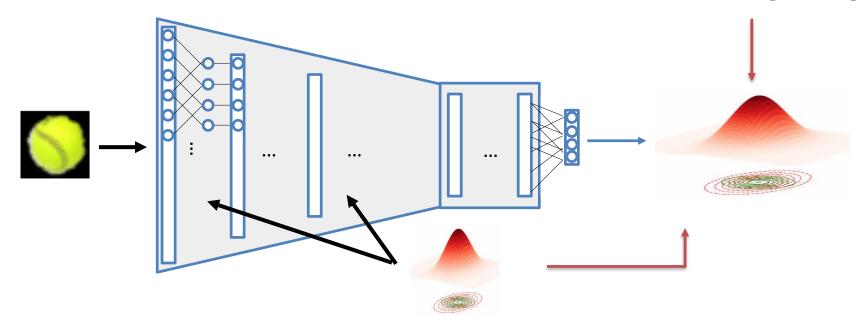
$$\longrightarrow p(y^*|x^*, \mathcal{D}) \simeq \mathcal{N}(y|f(x, w^*), \Sigma)$$

Marginal and conditional Gaussians

 $\Sigma = \sigma + g(x)^T H g(x)$



- Aim is again to evaluate the integral: $p(y^*|\mathcal{D}, x^*) = \int p(y^*|x^*, w) p(w|\mathcal{D}) dw$
- Linear Approximation: $p(y^*|x^*, \mathcal{D}) \simeq \mathcal{N}(y|f(x, w^*), \Sigma)$ with $\Sigma = \sigma + g(x)^T H g(x)$



Do not need multiple samples but a good approximation?

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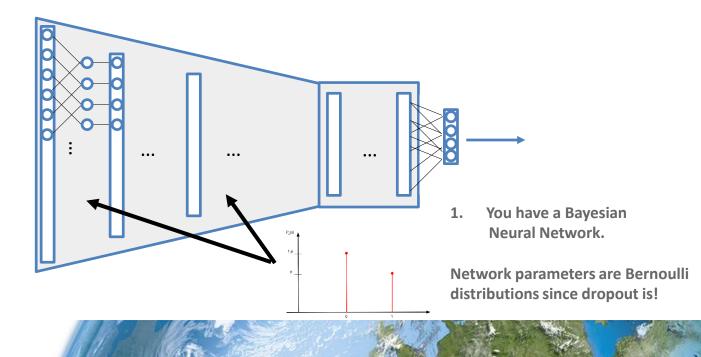
- So far, we have learned about researched in 1990s already.
- But, with deep learning, very popular active area of research.



- Many open questions: How to specify prior? An accurate and efficient way of computing posterior probabilities? Cheap but accurate ways of estimating predictive uncertainty?
- There are some frameworks that might be useful!

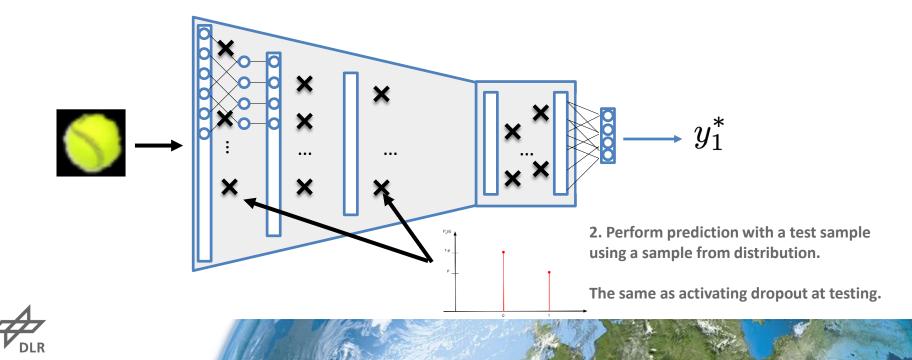


- Dropout as variational inference (MC-dropout):
- Main idea: one can prove that training a neural network with dropout is equivalent to performing variational inference (hence result is a Bayesian Neural Networks).

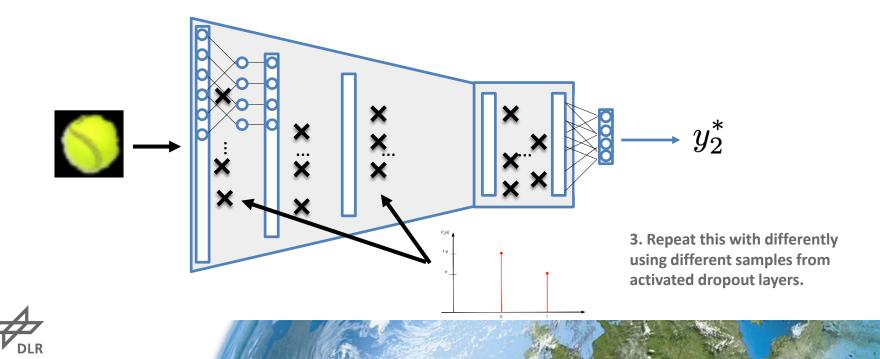




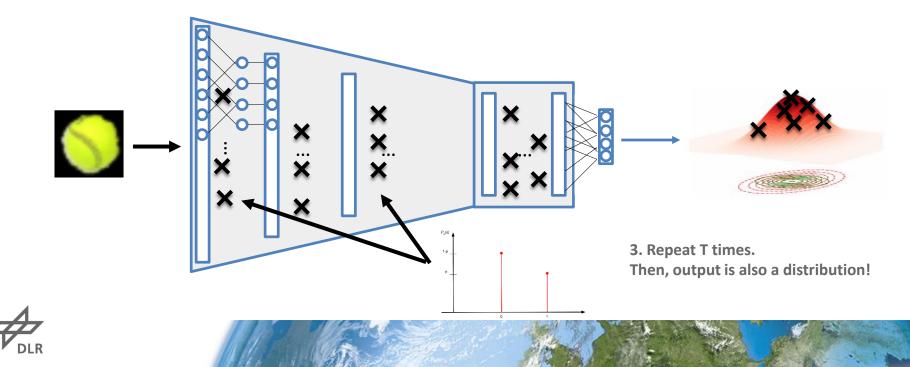
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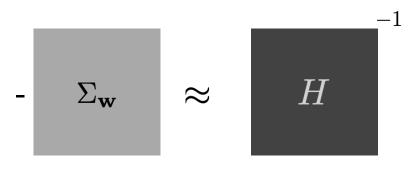
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- Dropout as variational inference (MC-dropout):
- Main idea: one can prove that training a neural network with drop out is equivalent to performing variational inference (hence result is a Bayesian Neural Networks).
- Very easy to use. You only enable dropout layers on during testing.
- Assumptions about the model, e.g. use of dropout layers, specific loss.



- Scalable Laplace Approximation
- Main idea: use scalable approximation of the Hessian.

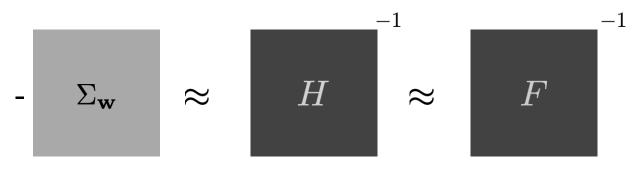


The Hessian for the entire data set is approximately the expectation of the single H_0

$H \approx E_{\mathbf{y}}[H_0]$



- Scalable Laplace Approximation
- Main idea: use scalable approximation of the Hessian.



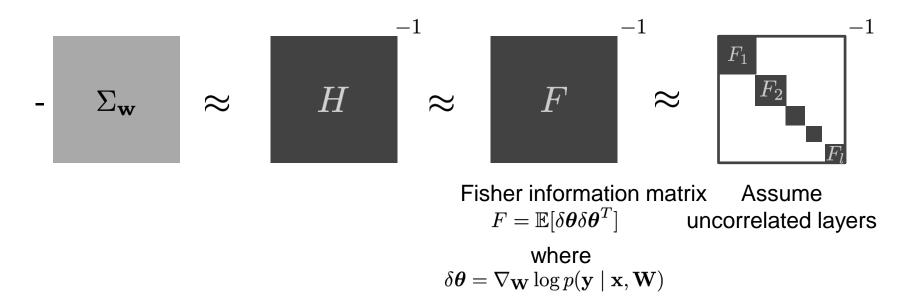
Fisher information matrix

"The Fisher information quantifies the amount of information about the parameter $\boldsymbol{w}^{\prime\prime}$

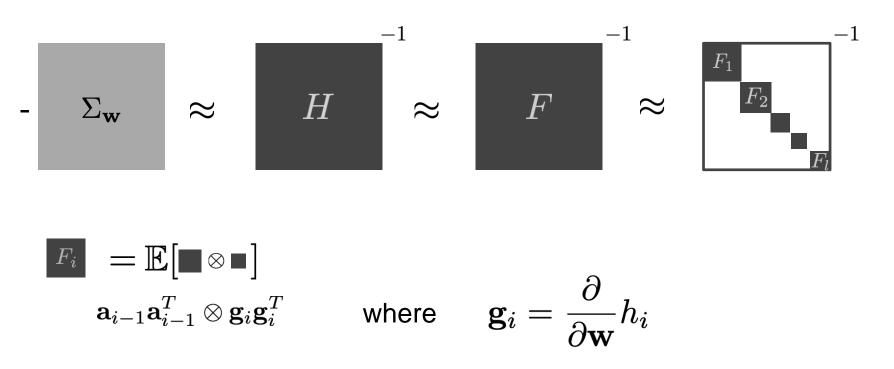
$$F(\mathbf{w}) := E_{\mathbf{y}} \left[\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial \mathbf{w}} \log p(\mathbf{y} \mid X, \mathbf{w}) \right)^2 \right] = E_{\mathbf{y}}[H_0]$$



- Scalable Laplace Approximation
- Main idea: use scalable approximation of the Hessian.



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- Scalable Laplace Approximation
- Main idea: use scalable approximation of the Hessian.
- Easy to use as it directly works with already trained neural networks.

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Laplace Approximation for Bayesian Deep Learning

Curvature Library

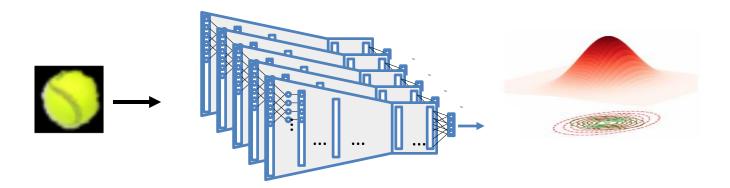
• Predictions with both monte-carlo method and linear approximation.

Code

- Scales to large data-set and only assumes Hessian exists.
- But, are we making good approximations?

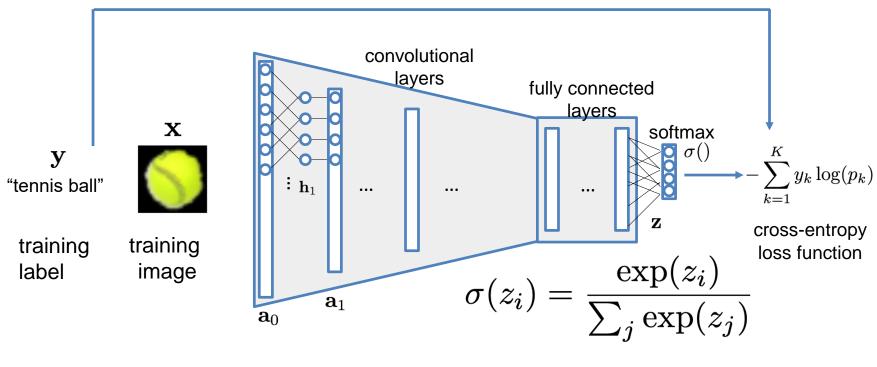


- Deep Ensembles (a Frequentist approach):
- Main idea: train the same neural networks with different initializations and use them as ensembles.



- Deep Ensembles (a Frequentist approach):
- Main idea: train the same neural networks with different initializations and use them as ensembles.
- Easy to use; using the same code for training many times.
- High performing often in practice.
- Memory intensive? Can you load them all on a GPU?
- Model selection? Other downstream tasks of Bayesian methods?

• Temperature Scaling (a Frequentist approach)



"softmax"



• Temperature Scaling (a Frequentist approach)

Intuitively, the confidence estimate of a prediction should correspond to the true probability of being correct

 $f(\mathbf{x}^*) = (y^*, c^*)$

classifier

test data

estimated confidence



• Temperature Scaling (a Frequentist approach)

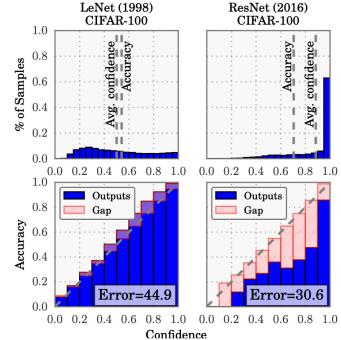
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classifier



estimated confidence

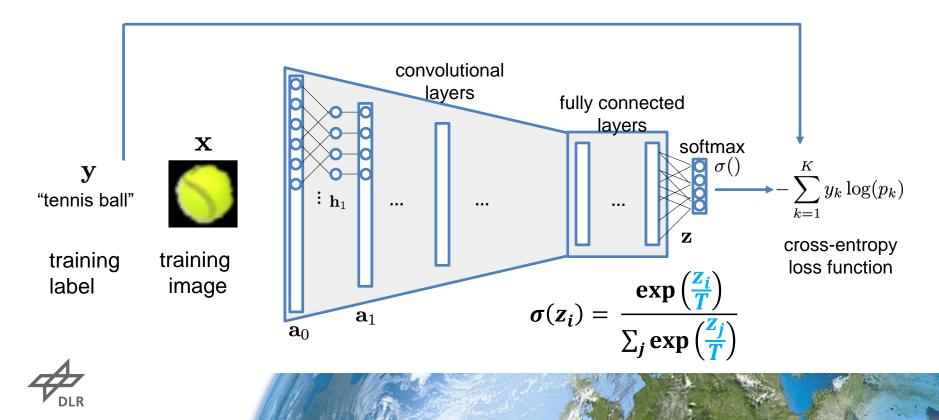


Thus, we want
$$p(y^* = y \mid c^* = c) = c$$
 $\forall c \in [0, 1]$

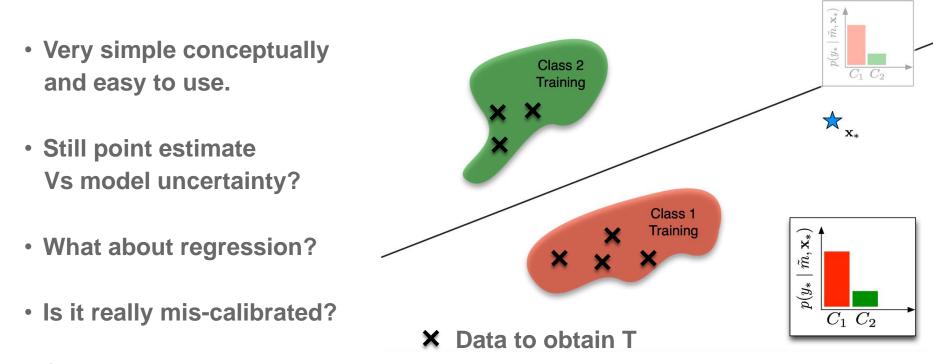
$$\mathbb{E}[\mid p(y^* = y \mid c^* = c) - c \mid]$$



- Temperature Scaling
- Main idea: Find a scaling factor T (using a set of training samples), that ensures calibration.



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Summary

Main Take Aways:

- Bayesian Neural Networks combines Bayesian reasoning with Neural Networks in order to reduce overfitting, uncertainty estimates, etc.
- The idea is to specify a prior distribution over the parameters, update to the posterior given data, and use it to make an average prediction.

Bayesian Neural Networks:

- On prior: a normal with zero mean and a variance as default.
- On posterior: Laplace Approximation.
- On predictions: Monte-carlo integration and a linear approximation. Bayesian Deep Learning:
- Several modern techniques for uncertainty estimation.

