

Learning in the Physical World

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Who am I?







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Collaborating with

- Prof. Thomas Runkler
- Clemens Otte
- Stefan Depeweg
- Daniel Hein

Collaborating with

- Prof. Carl Henrik Ek
- Prof. Neill Campbell
- Ieva Kazlauskaite
- Erik Bodin

Industrial applications are different

Web ML

- People generate data
- Focus on the virtual world



Examples: E-commerce, web search, NLP

Industrial ML

- Machines generate data
- Focus on the physical world



Examples: Machine control, commissioning

Industrial applications are different



Industrial data is scarce

Web ML

- Model what people care about
- Relevant data is abundant



- Machines are designed not to fail
- Most valuable data is never produced



Understanding machine data is hard

Web ML

- Data is mostly intuitive
- Lack of structure



- Data requires domain knowledge
- Knowledge implies expectations



Industry needs interpretability

Web ML

- Inform or influence the person
- Understanding is secondary



- Create better or safer machines
- Understanding is key



Industrial applications are different



What is learning?

Statistical Learning Theory

- Given a data distribution $p(\mathcal{Z}) = p(x, y)$
- Find $f \in \mathcal{F}$ such that

$$f(\mathbf{x}) \sim \mathbf{y}$$



What is learning?

Statistical Learning Theory

- **Problem:** All we have are samples $\{(\mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{y}_1), \dots, (\mathbf{x}_N, \mathbf{y}_N)\}$ via S
- Find a learning algorithm $A : S \to \mathcal{F}$ such that

$$A \circ S \approx F$$



A learning algorithm

Risk minimization

- Choose a loss function $\ell(f(\mathbf{x}), \mathbf{y})$ to measure closeness
- The **expected risk** R is given by

$$\mathsf{R}(f) \coloneqq \int \ell(f(\mathbf{x}), \mathbf{y}) \, \mathsf{p}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) \, \mathsf{d}\mathbf{x} \, \mathsf{d}\mathbf{y}$$

• Learning algorithm: Choose hypothesis space $\mathcal{H}\subseteq\mathcal{F}$ and use

 $\hat{f} \in \underset{f \in \mathcal{H}}{\operatorname{argmin}} \operatorname{R}(f)$

• Annoyingly, we cannot evaluate R(f) exactly!

A usable learning algorithm

Empirical risk minimization

• Approximate the global true risk with the local empirical risk in the training data

$$\mathsf{R}_{\mathsf{emp}}(f) \coloneqq \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^{N} \ell(f(\mathbf{x}_i), \mathbf{y}_i)$$

• Learning algorithm: Choose hypothesis space $\mathcal{H}\subseteq\mathcal{F}$ and use

$$\hat{f} \in \underset{f \in \mathscr{H}}{\operatorname{argmin}} \operatorname{R}_{\operatorname{emp}}(f)$$

- Not trustworthy in general!
- Need to encode knowledge

Places to encode knowledge

Information operator S Data selection, feature engineering, data augmentation
Hypothesis space ℋ Choice of model, architecture design
Loss function ℓ Choice of norm, regularization
Optimization min Choice of optimizer, initialization, parameter tuning

Places to encode knowledge

Information operator *S* **Data** selection, feature engineering, data augmentation

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Bayesian Machine Learning



$$\mathsf{p}(\mathcal{Z}) = \mathsf{p}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})$$

Bayesian Machine Learning

Generating Process

$$\mathsf{p}(x,y)=\mathsf{p}(y\,|\,x)\,\mathsf{p}(x)$$

Bayesian Machine Learning

$$p(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) \neq \prod_{n=1}^{N} p(\mathbf{y}_n | \mathbf{x}_n) p(\mathbf{x})$$





Learning Algorithm: Find $p(\mathcal{H}|\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})$ that explains the data well.



Case study: Wind Propagation







Case study: Wind Propagation



Case study: Wind Propagation



Generative process



A Bayesian graphical model



A Bayesian graphical model



A Bayesian graphical model

















Ongoing Research

Bayesian Optimization¹

- Reinterpretation of surrogates in BO
- Model global instead of local structure

Reinforcement Learning

- RL as a generative model
- Inference over optimal policy





¹Bodin et al. 2019.

Summary

Industrial learning problems

- Inevitability of uncertainty
- Availability of knowledge
- Need for interpretability

Bayesian machine learning

- Inherent handling of uncertainties
- A system to formulate hypotheses
- Good fit for industrial problems





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Exploration can be expensive

Web ML

- Exploration is cheap...
- ...as are mistakes



- Exploration can be expensive...
- ...and safety-critical



Models are known to be imperfect

Web ML

- When in doubt, collect more data
- Uncertainties not so important



- Need to make do with given data
- Uncertainties are critical



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Experts are needed to label data

Web ML

- Contextual data available
- Annotation can be automated



- Labels require domain experts
- Explicit and expensive



Industrial ML

As data is scarce, **experts** need to tell us how to **generalize aggressively**.



Industrial ML

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Industrial ML

As data is scarce, **experts** need to tell us how to **generalize aggressively**.



Communication with experts

Industrial ML

We need a common language with experts and automate the boring things.



Communication with experts

Industrial ML

We need a **common language** with experts and **automate the boring things**.



- Machine has different states
- State changes are rare
- Expert chooses relevant data