# **DSC190: Machine Learning with Few Labels**

# Weak/distant supervision A "standardized" view of ML

**Zhiting Hu** Lecture 8, October 19, 2021



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# Outline

- Distant supervision
- A "standardized" view of ML

# The difficulty with supervised learning

- Annotated data is expensive and costs increase when...
  - A task requires specialized expertise

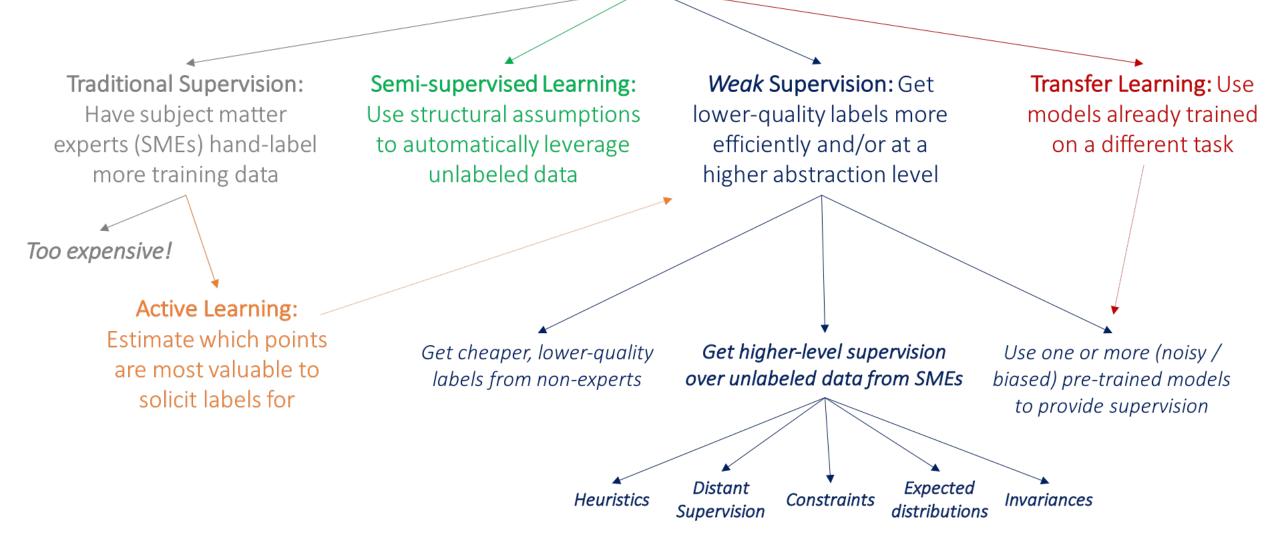
E.g. "Only a trained linguist or a board certified radiologist can label my data"

• Labeling examples involves making multiple decisions

E.g. "Annotate this sentence with a parse tree"

(instead of a single binary decision)

#### How to get more labeled training data?



# Example (I): labeling with heuristics

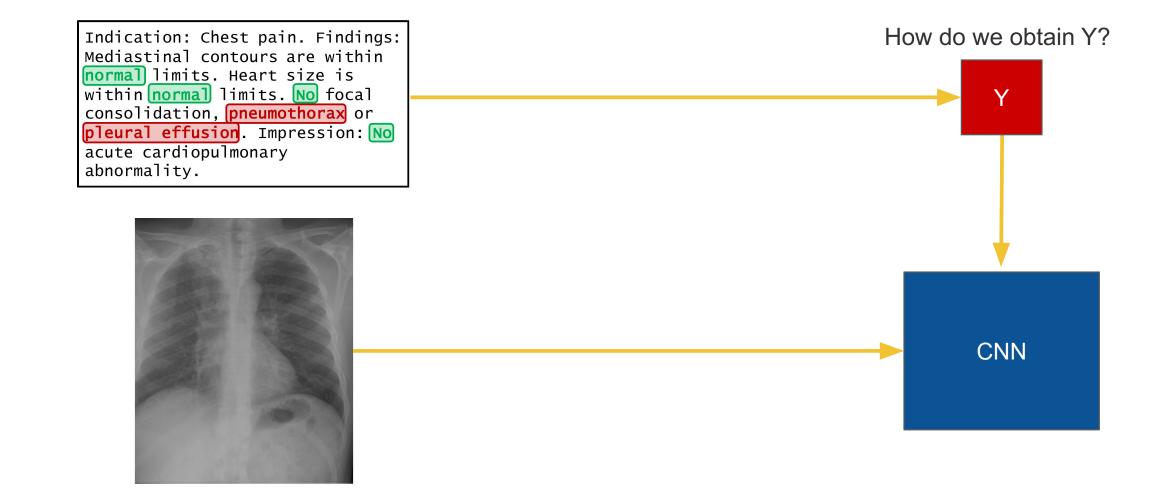
Task: Build a chest x-ray classifier (normal/abnormal)



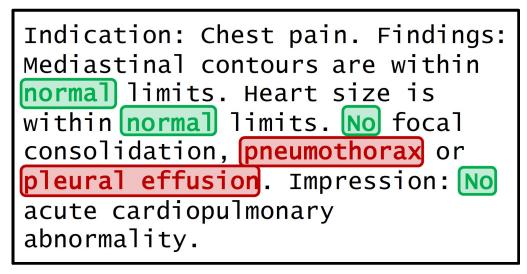
Indication: Chest pain. Findings: Mediastinal contours are within **normal** limits. Heart size is within **normal** limits. **No** focal consolidation, pneumothorax or pleural effusion. Impression: No acute cardiopulmonary abnormality.

Can you use the accompanying medical report (text modality) to label the x-ray (image modality)?

### Example (I): labeling with heuristics



### Example (I): labeling with heuristics



Normal Report

```
def LF_pneumothorax(c):
    if re.search(r'pneumo.*', c.report.text):
        return "ABNORMAL"
def LF_pleural_effusion(c):
    if "pleural effusion" in c.report.text:
        return "ABNORMAL"
def LF_normal_report(c, thresh=2):
    if len(NORMAL_TERMS.intersection(c.
        report.words)) > thresh:
        return "NORMAL"
IFs
```

(labeling functions)

Source: Khandwala et. al 2017, Cross Modal Data Programming for Medical Images

Task: relation extraction from text

- Hypothesis: If two entities belong to a certain relation, any sentence containing those two entities is likely to express that relation
- Key idea: use a *knowledge base* of relations to get lots of *noisy* training examples

# Example (II): Labeling with knowledge bases Frequent Freebase relations

Relation name	Size	Example
/people/person/nationality	281,107	John Dugard, South Africa
/location/location/contains	253,223	Belgium, Nijlen
/people/person/profession	208,888	Dusa McDuff, Mathematician
/people/person/place_of_birth	105,799	Edwin Hubble, Marshfield
/dining/restaurant/cuisine	86,213	MacAyo's Mexican Kitchen, Mexican
/business/business_chain/location	66,529	Apple Inc., Apple Inc., South Park, NC
/biology/organism_classification_rank	42,806	Scorpaeniformes, Order
/film/film/genre	40,658	Where the Sidewalk Ends, Film noir
/film/film/language	31,103	Enter the Phoenix, Cantonese
/biology/organism_higher_classification	30,052	Calopteryx, Calopterygidae
/film/film/country	27,217	Turtle Diary, United States
/film/writer/film	23,856	Irving Shulman, Rebel Without a Cause
/film/director/film	23,539	Michael Mann, Collateral
/film/producer/film	22,079	Diane Eskenazi, Aladdin
/people/deceased_person/place_of_death	18,814	John W. Kern, Asheville
/music/artist/origin	18,619	The Octopus Project, Austin
/people/person/religion	17,582	Joseph Chartrand, Catholicism
/book/author/works_written	17,278	Paul Auster, Travels in the Scriptorium
/soccer/football_position/players	17,244	Midfielder, Chen Tao
/people/deceased_person/cause_of_death	16,709	Richard Daintree, Tuberculosis
/book/book/genre	16,431	Pony Soldiers, Science fiction
/film/film/music	14,070	Stavisky, Stephen Sondheim
/business/company/industry	13,805	ATS Medical, Health care

#### Corpus text

Bill Gates founded Microsoft in 1975.Bill Gates, founder of Microsoft, ...Bill Gates attended Harvard from...Google was founded by Larry Page ...

#### Training data



#### Freebase

Founder: (Bill Gates, Microsoft) Founder: (Larry Page, Google) CollegeAttended: (Bill Gates, Harvard)

#### Corpus text

Bill Gates founded Microsoft in 1975. Bill Gates, founder of Microsoft, ... Bill Gates attended Harvard from... Google was founded by Larry Page ...

#### Training data

(Bill Gates, Microsoft)Label: FounderFeature: X founded Y

#### Freebase

Founder: (Bill Gates, Microsoft) Founder: (Larry Page, Google) CollegeAttended: (Bill Gates, Harvard)

#### Corpus text

Bill Gates founded Microsoft in 1975.
<u>Bill Gates</u>, founder of <u>Microsoft</u>, ...
Bill Gates attended Harvard from...
Google was founded by Larry Page ...

#### Training data

(Bill Gates, Microsoft)Label: FounderFeature: X founded YFeature: X, founder of Y

#### Freebase

Founder: (<u>Bill Gates</u>, <u>Microsoft</u>) Founder: (Larry Page, Google) CollegeAttended: (Bill Gates, Harvard)

#### Corpus text

Bill Gates founded Microsoft in 1975.
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Google was founded by Larry Page ...

#### Training data

(Bill Gates, Microsoft)Label: FounderFeature: X founded YFeature: X, founder of Y

#### Freebase

Founder: (Bill Gates, Microsoft) Founder: (Larry Page, Google) CollegeAttended: (<u>Bill Gates</u>, <u>Harvard</u>) (Bill Gates, Harvard)Label: CollegeAttendedFeature: X attended Y

#### Corpus text

Bill Gates founded Microsoft in 1975.Bill Gates, founder of Microsoft, ...Bill Gates attended Harvard from...Google was founded by Larry Page ...

#### Freebase

Founder: (Bill Gates, Microsoft) Founder: (Larry Page, Google) CollegeAttended: (Bill Gates, Harvard)

#### Training data

(Bill Gates, Microsoft)Label: FounderFeature: X founded YFeature: X, founder of Y

(Bill Gates, Harvard)Label: CollegeAttendedFeature: X attended Y

(Larry Page, Google)Label: FounderFeature: Y was founded by X

# Example (II): Labeling with knowledge bases Negative training data

Can't train a classifier with only positive data! Need negative training data too!

Solution? Sample 1% of unrelated pairs of entities.

#### Corpus text

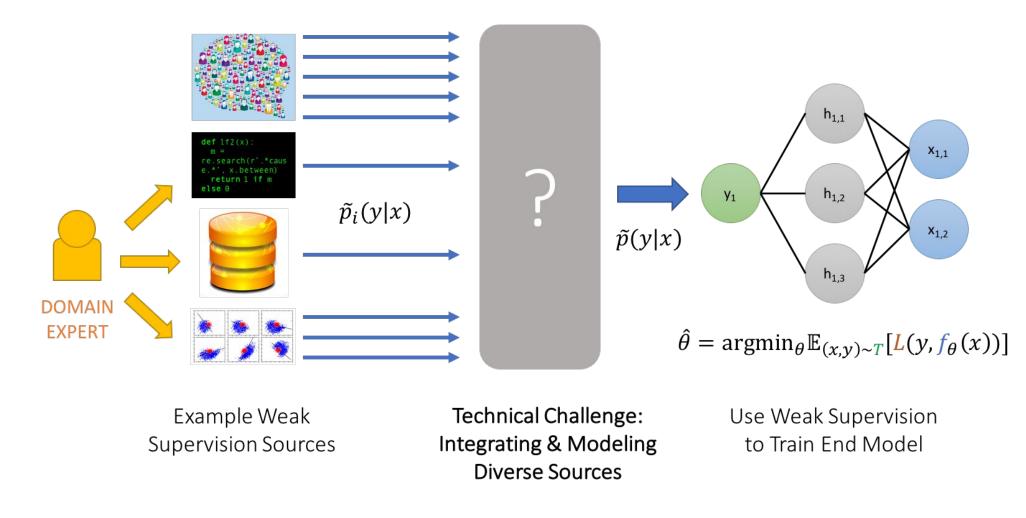
Larry Page took a swipe at Microsoft... ...after Harvard invited Larry Page to... Google is Bill Gates' worst fear ...

Training data

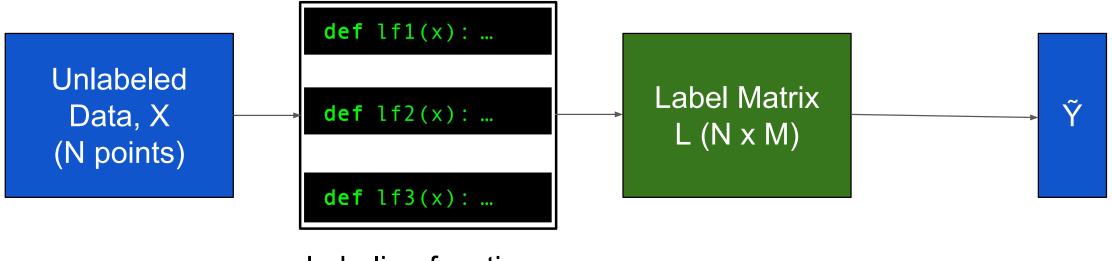
(Larry Page, Microsoft) NO RELATION Label: Feature: X took a swipe at Y

(Larry Page, Harvard) NO RELATION Label: Y invited X Feature:

(Bill Gates, Google) Label: NO RELATION Feature: Y is X's worst fear



Source: A. Ratner et. al https://dawn.cs.stanford.edu/2017/07/16/weak-supervision/ [Credit: http://cs231n.stanford.edu/slides/2018/cs231n\_2018\_ds07.pdf]



Labeling functions (M functions)



Labeling functions (M functions)

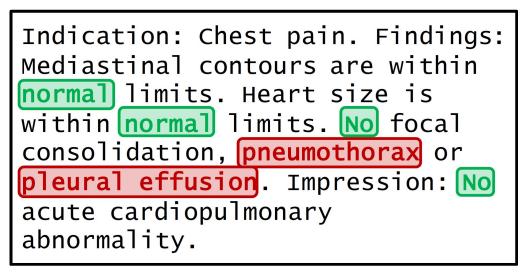
How do we obtain probabilistic labels,  $\tilde{\mathbf{Y}}$ , from the label matrix, L?

#### Approach 1 - Majority Vote

Take the majority vote of the labelling functions (LFs).

How do we obtain probabilistic labels,  $\tilde{\mathbf{Y}}$ , from the label matrix, L?

```
Approach 1 - Majority Vote
```



Normal Report

Majority vote fails:

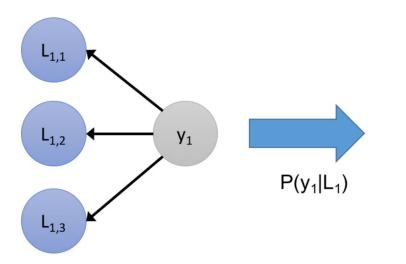
```
def LF_pneumothorax(c):
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def LF_normal_report(c, thresh=2):
    if len(NORMAL_TERMS.intersection(c.
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    return "NORMAL"
```

How do we obtain probabilistic labels,  $\tilde{\mathbf{Y}}$ , from the label matrix, L?

Approach 2

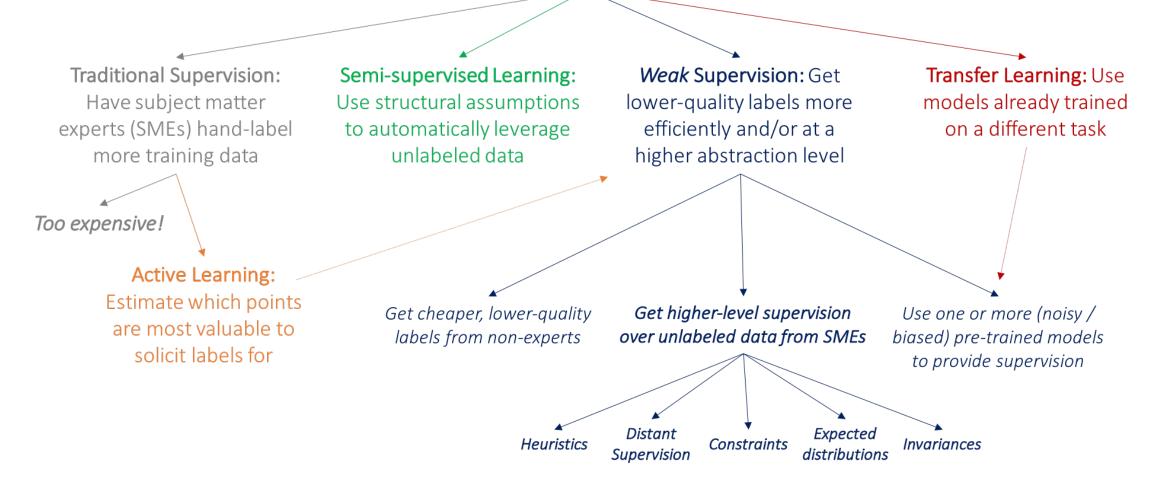
Train a generative model over **P(L, Y)** where **Y** are the **(unknown)** true labels

Generative Model



#### Summary: Weak/distant supervision

How to get more labeled training data?



# Summary: Weak/distant supervision

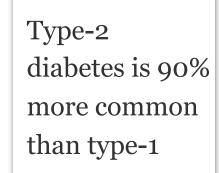
- Noisy labels from heuristics, knowledge bases, constraints, ...
- Integrating multiple noisy labels
  - Majority vote
  - Generative modeling

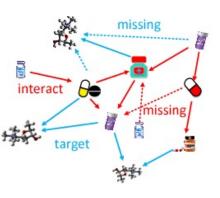
0 ...

- Not all information/experiences can easily be converted into labels
  - "Every part of speech sequence should have a verb"
  - "In a sentence with word 'but', the sentiment of text after 'but' dominates"
  - "Every image patch that is recognized as a bicycle should have at least one patch that is recognized as a wheel"
  - I have a "discriminator" model that can tell me whether a model-generated image is good or not
- Need a more flexible framework to incorporate all forms of experiences

#### Experiences of all kinds











Data examples

Rules/Constraints

Knowledge graphs

Rewards

Auxiliary agents



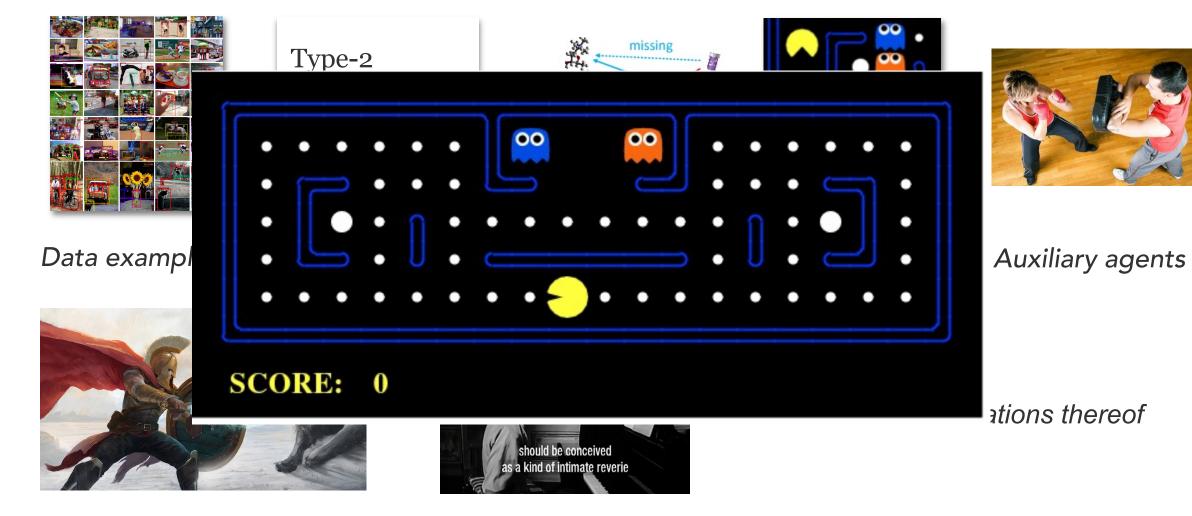
Adversaries



Master classes

And all combinations thereof

#### Experiences of all kinds

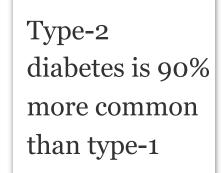


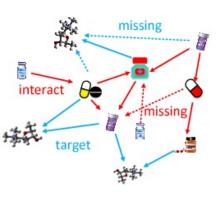
Adversaries

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#### Experiences of all kinds











Data examples

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Adversaries

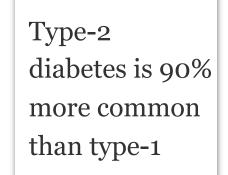


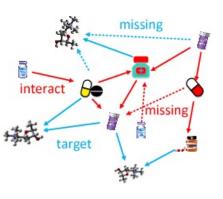
#### Master classes

And all combinations thereof

#### Can we incorporate all types of experiences in learning?











Data examples

Rules/Constraints

Knowledge graphs

Rewards

Auxiliary agents



**Adversaries** 

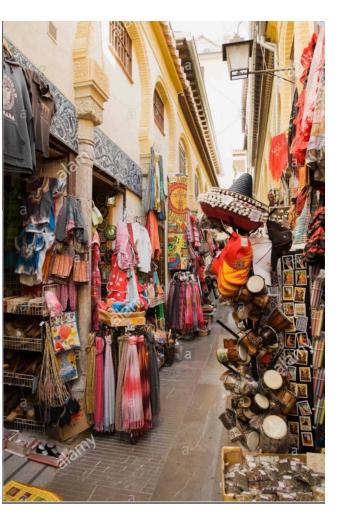


#### Master classes

And all combinations thereof

#### Algorithm marketplace

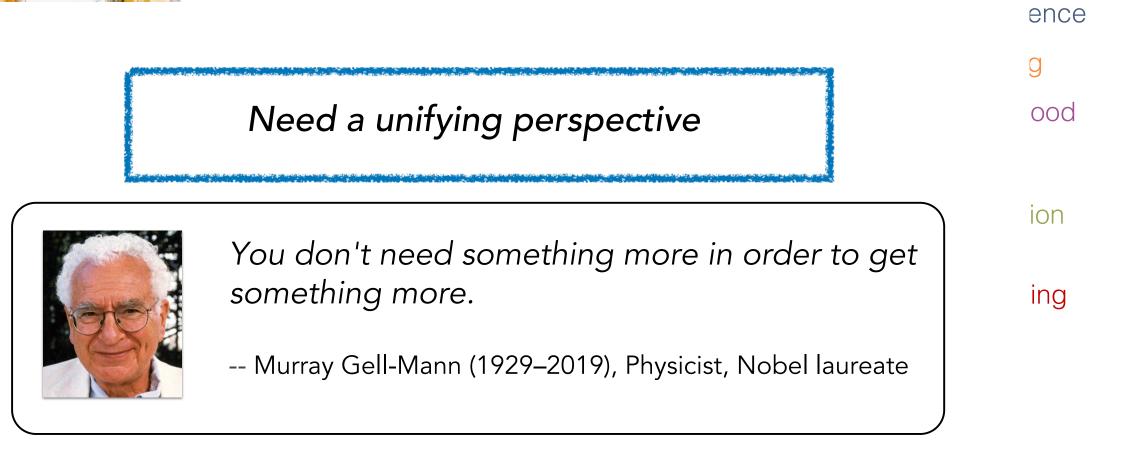
Designs Driven by: experience, task, loss function, training procedure ...



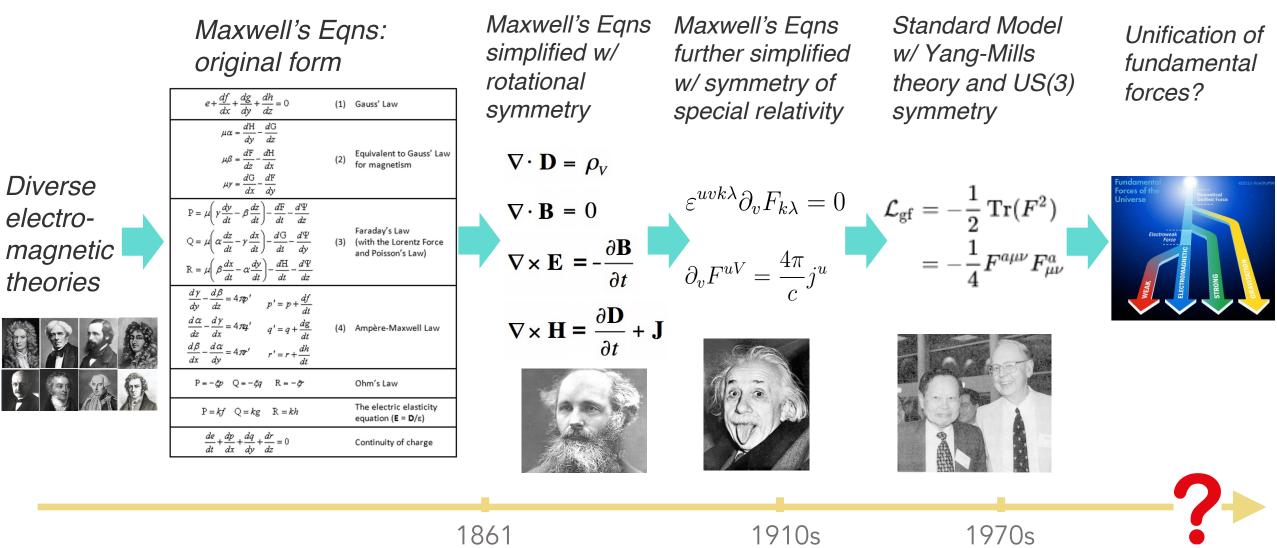
maximum likelihood estimation reinforcement learning as inference inverse RL data re-weighting active learning policy optimization reward-augmented maximum likelihood data augmentation label smoothing softmax policy gradient imitation learning actor-critic adversarial domain adaptation GANs posterior regularization knowledge distillation intrinsic reward constraint-driven learning generalized expectation prediction minimization regularized Bayes learning from measurements energy-based GANs weak/distant supervision

### Algorithm marketplace

Designs Driven by: experience, task, loss function, training procedure ...



#### "Standard equations" in Physics



# A "Standardized" View of ML

### Recap: MLE

• The most classical learning algorithm

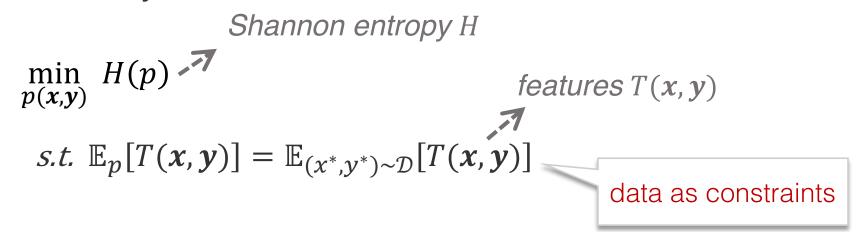
• Supervised:  
• Observe data 
$$\mathcal{D} = \{(x^*, y^*)\}$$
  
 $\min_{\theta} - \mathbb{E}_{(x^*, y^*) \sim \mathcal{D}} \left[ \log p_{\theta}(y^* | x^*) \right]$ 

- Solve with SGD
- Unsupervised:
  - Observe  $\mathcal{D} = \{(\mathbf{x}^*)\}, \mathbf{y} \text{ is latent variable}$
  - Posterior  $p_{\theta}(\boldsymbol{y}|\boldsymbol{x})$
  - $\circ~$  Solve with EM, etc

 $\min_{\theta} - \mathbb{E}_{\boldsymbol{x}^* \sim \mathcal{D}} \left[ \log \int_{\boldsymbol{v}} p_{\theta}(\boldsymbol{x}^*, \boldsymbol{y}) \right]$ 

### Recap: MLE as entropy maximization

• Duality between Supervised MLE and maximum entropy, when p is exponential family



#### Recap: MLE as entropy maximization

- Unsupervised MLE can be achieved by maximizing the negative free energy:
  - Introduce auxiliary distribution q(y|x) (and then play with its entropy and cross entropy, etc.)

$$\log \int_{\mathbf{y}} p_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}^*, \mathbf{y}) = \mathbb{E}_{q(\mathbf{y}|\mathbf{x}^*)} \left[ \log \frac{p_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}^*, \mathbf{y})}{q(\mathbf{y}|\mathbf{x}^*)} \right] + \mathrm{KL} \left( q(\mathbf{y}|\mathbf{x}^*) || p_{\theta}(\mathbf{y}|\mathbf{x}^*) \right)$$

 $\geq H(q(\boldsymbol{y}|\boldsymbol{x}^*)) + \mathbb{E}_{q(\boldsymbol{y}|\boldsymbol{x}^*)}[\log p_{\theta}(\boldsymbol{x}^*, \boldsymbol{y})]$ 

### **Bayesian Inference**

• Posterior

$$p(\boldsymbol{z}|\mathcal{D}) = \frac{\pi(\boldsymbol{z}) \prod_{\boldsymbol{x}^* \in \mathcal{D}} p(\boldsymbol{x}^*|\boldsymbol{z})}{p(\mathcal{D})}$$

• Connecting to maximum entropy, as an optimization problem [Zellner, 1988]:

$$\min_{q(\boldsymbol{z})} - H(q(\boldsymbol{z})) + \log p(\mathcal{D}) - \mathbb{E}_{q(\boldsymbol{z})} \left[ \log \pi(\boldsymbol{z}) + \sum_{\boldsymbol{x}^* \in \mathcal{D}} \log p(\boldsymbol{x}^* | \boldsymbol{z}) \right]$$

#### s.t. $q(\mathbf{z}) \in \mathcal{P}$

(the normality constraint of a probability distribution)

### Posterior Regularization

- Under the optimization viewpoint of Bayesian inference, it's natural to consider other types of constraints that encode richer problem structures and domain knowledge
- Posterior regularization [Ganchev et al., 2010], or regularized Bayes (Zhu et al., 2014)

$$\begin{split} \min_{q,\boldsymbol{\xi}} & -\mathrm{H}\left(q(\boldsymbol{z})\right) - \mathbb{E}_{q(\boldsymbol{z})}\left[\sum_{\boldsymbol{x}^* \in \mathcal{D}} \log p(\boldsymbol{x}^* | \boldsymbol{z}) \pi(\boldsymbol{z})\right] + U(\boldsymbol{\xi}) \\ & s.t. \ q(\boldsymbol{z}) \in \mathcal{Q}(\boldsymbol{\xi}) \\ & \boldsymbol{\xi} \geq 0, \end{split}$$

- $\boldsymbol{\xi}$ : slack variables
- $U(\boldsymbol{\xi})$ : a penalty function (e.g., L1 norm of  $\boldsymbol{\xi}$ )
- $Q(\xi)$ : a subset of valid distributions over z that satisfy the constraints determined by  $\xi$

#### **Posterior Regularization**

$$\begin{split} \min_{q,\boldsymbol{\xi}} & -\mathrm{H}(q(\boldsymbol{z})) - \mathbb{E}_{q(\boldsymbol{z})} \left[ \sum_{\boldsymbol{x}^* \in \mathcal{D}} \log p(\boldsymbol{x}^* | \boldsymbol{z}) \pi(\boldsymbol{z}) \right] + U(\boldsymbol{\xi}) \\ & s.t. \ q(\boldsymbol{z}) \in \mathcal{Q}(\boldsymbol{\xi}) \\ & \boldsymbol{\xi} \geq 0, \end{split}$$

• Ex: let  $T(x^*, z)$  be a feature vector of data instance  $x^*$ , a constrained posterior set  $Q(\xi)$  with "feature expectation" constraints can be defined as

$$Q(\boldsymbol{\xi}) := \{q(\boldsymbol{z}) : \mathbb{E}_q \left[ T(\boldsymbol{x}^*; \boldsymbol{z}) \right] \leq \boldsymbol{\xi} \}$$

- $\circ$  i.e., bounds the feature expectations with  $\boldsymbol{\xi}$
- Assuming  $U(\boldsymbol{\xi}) = \sum \xi_i$ , rewrite without slack variables

$$\min_{q,\boldsymbol{\xi}} - \mathrm{H}(q(\boldsymbol{z})) - \mathbb{E}_{q(\boldsymbol{z})} \left[ \sum_{\boldsymbol{x}^* \in \mathcal{D}} \log p(\boldsymbol{x}^* | \boldsymbol{z}) \pi(\boldsymbol{z}) \right] - c \cdot \mathbb{E}_{q(\boldsymbol{z})} \left[ T(\boldsymbol{x}^*; \boldsymbol{z}) \right]$$

#### **Posterior Regularization**

$$\begin{split} \min_{q,\boldsymbol{\xi}} & -\mathrm{H}\left(q(\boldsymbol{z})\right) - \mathbb{E}_{q(\boldsymbol{z})}\left[\sum_{\boldsymbol{x}^* \in \mathcal{D}} \log p(\boldsymbol{x}^* | \boldsymbol{z}) \pi(\boldsymbol{z})\right] + U(\boldsymbol{\xi}) \\ s.t. & q(\boldsymbol{z}) \in \mathcal{Q}(\boldsymbol{\xi}) \coloneqq \{q(\boldsymbol{z}) \ : \ \mathbb{E}_q\left[T(\boldsymbol{x}^*; \boldsymbol{z})\right] \leq \boldsymbol{\xi}\} \\ & \boldsymbol{\xi} \geq 0, \end{split}$$

- $U(\boldsymbol{\xi}) = \sum \xi_i$
- solution for q(z):  $q(z) = \exp\{\log p(x, z) + T(x^*, z)\} / Z$ =  $p(x, z) \exp\{T(x^*, z)\}/Z$

# Key Takeaways

- Recap: Supervised MLE and maximum entropy
- Recap: Unsupervised MLE and maximum entropy
- Bayesian inference and maximum entropy
  - Bayesian inference as optimization
- Posterior regularization:
  - Constrained Bayesian inference => constrained optimization

# Questions?