

DoDSc Kolloquium / SFB 876 Topical Seminar

Semi-Structured Deep Distributional Regression

David Rügamer

Joint work with: Chris Kolb and Nadja Klein (HU Berlin)

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Semi-Structured Deep Distributional Regression (SDDR)

- Semi-Structured:
 - Combine structured data & statistical regression components
 - with unstructured components such as **deep** neural networks
- Distributional Regression:
 - Modeling the whole distribution
 - Similar to location, scale and shape (LSS) approaches

- Main idea:
 - Fit all commonly used statistical models in a neural network (1)
 - but also allow to learn parts of the model “deep” (2a)
 - Ensure a meaningful behaviour between the two parts (2b)

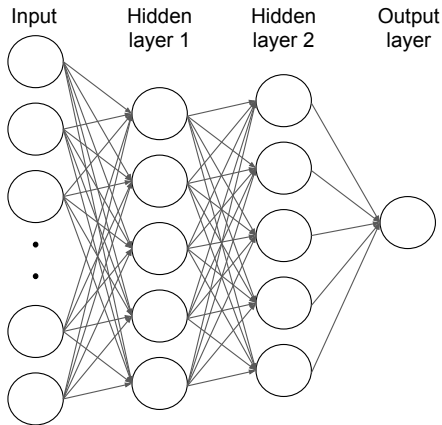
- 1 Statistical Regression in Neural Networks
- 2 Neural Networks beyond Classical Regression
- 3 A Unified Framework
- 4 Extensions
- 5 Software
- 6 Some Results
- 7 Summary

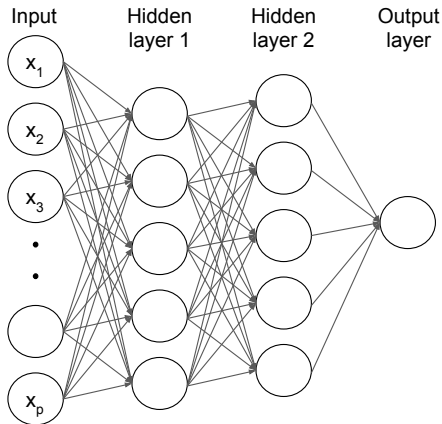
Statistical Regression in Neural Networks

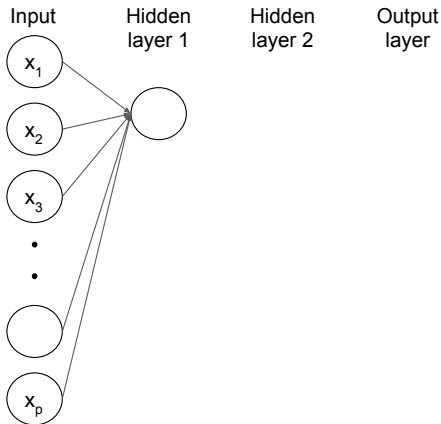
- A neuron h in a neural network (NN) is a transformed linear combination
- For one observation ($n = 1$):

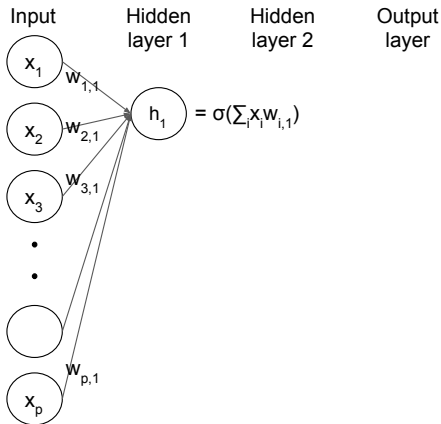
$$\begin{array}{ll} \text{Input:} & \mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^{1 \times p} \\ \text{Weights:} & \mathbf{w} \in \mathbb{R}^p \\ \text{Input times weights:} & \eta := \mathbf{xw} = \sum_j x_j w_j \in \mathbb{R} \\ \text{Output:} & h = \sigma(\eta) \in \mathbb{R} \end{array}$$

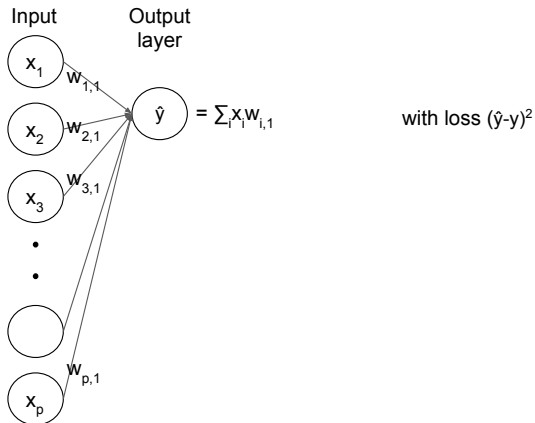
with activation function $\sigma(\cdot)$

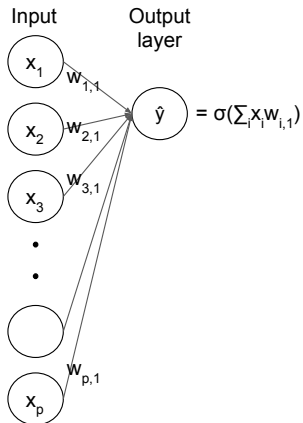




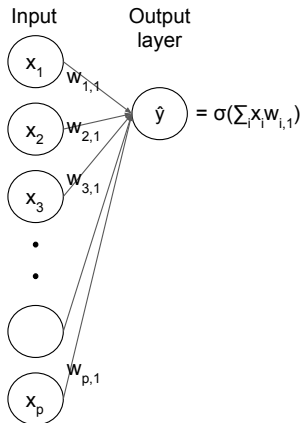




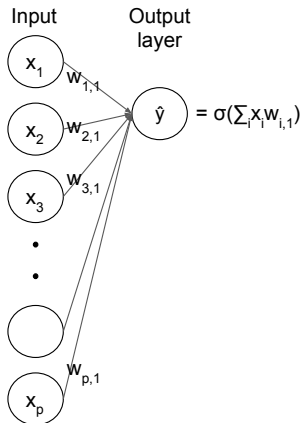




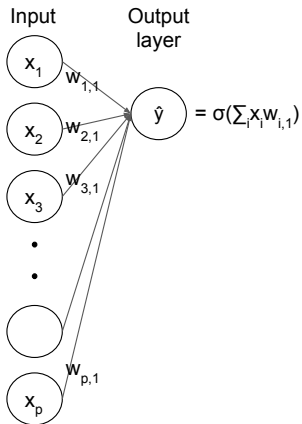
with loss $-\log \mathcal{L}(\hat{y}, y)$, $y \sim \text{ExpFam}(\theta)$



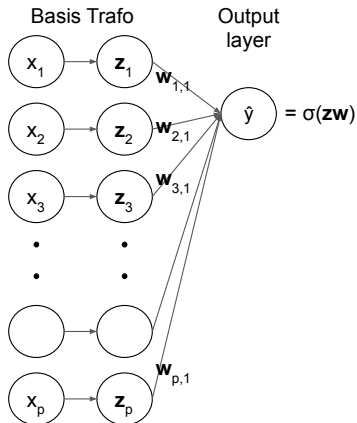
with loss $-\log \mathcal{L}(\hat{y}, y) + \lambda \sum_j w_j^2$



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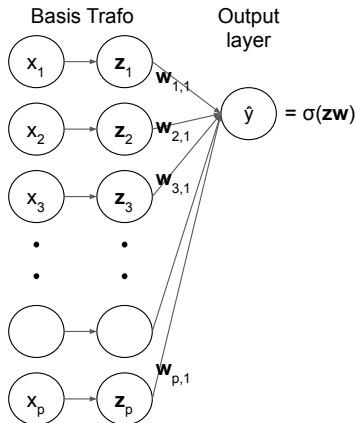
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- Auto differentiation

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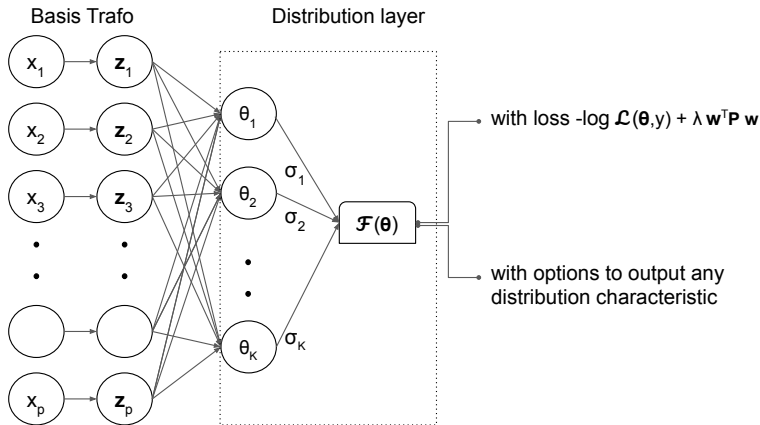
But we can also learn whole distributions...

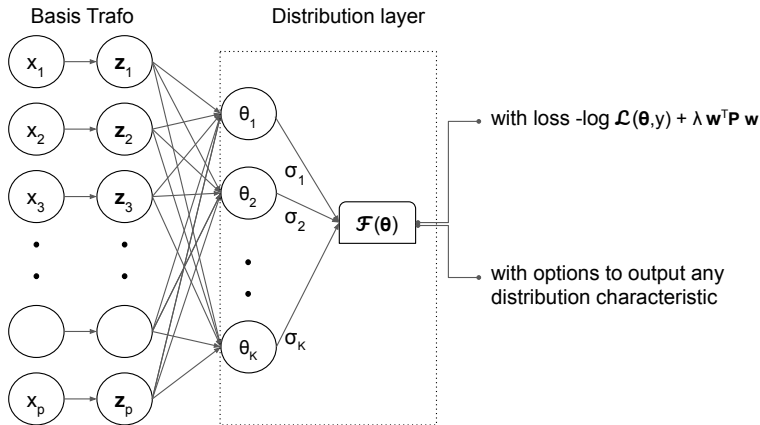
Idea [2]: Instead of using an output layer that just creates \hat{y}

- why not return a parametric distribution $\mathcal{F}(\boldsymbol{\theta})$
- with parameters $\boldsymbol{\theta}$ learned by the neural network?



with loss $-\log \mathcal{L}(\hat{y}, y) + \lambda \mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{P} \mathbf{w}$





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 - ...
- still auto differentiation

Neural Networks beyond Classical Regression

NNs are very flexible in their model specification.

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We can add:

- Higher-order Effects
 - Additive models are easy to interpret and understand,
 - but what if the data generating process is more complex

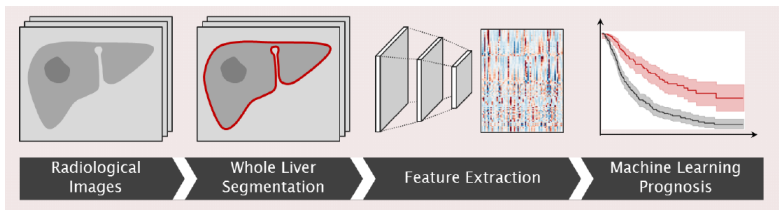
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We can add:

- Higher-order Effects
 - Additive models are easy to interpret and understand,
 - but what if the data generating process is more complex
- Additional non-tabular data
 - Extracting features from images, texts, ... is tedious
 - Not an end-to-end approach

Many use cases have additional non-tabular data

- Medicine: Patient info (tabular), but also with scans



Source: Ingrisich (2020)

- Psychology: Questionnaires, with open-ended questions

Closed question

Why don't you eat ice cream at Fictionals Ice Cream Parlour?
(Choose at least one answer.)

- I don't like the flavours
- It's too expensive
- The service is bad
- I don't like the ice cream
- It's too far from my house
- I don't know

Open-ended question

Why don't you eat ice cream at Fictionals Ice Cream Parlour?

I am lactose intolerant so I can't eat most ice creams, and it's really hard to find a store that offers good lactose-free ice cream. I've never heard of Fictionals but if I knew that they offered some, I would definitely try them out because I love ice cream!

Source: <https://trinachi.github.io/>

Learn from multiple data modalities + tabular data

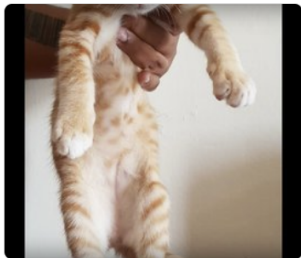
There are **8,193** homeless doggies here.
Let's find a home for them now!



Lavender
Female, 2 Mths, Mixed Breed
Kuala Lumpur, by *mobula*

Lavender, a 10-week (estimated) old girl has a short but very eventful history. She was abandoned together with her two sisters by the roadside around 12 November. And a few days after a group of dog lovers in the neighborhood in..

There are **6,348** neglected kitties here.
Shall we give them a loving family?



Noodle
Male, 4 Mths, Domestic Short Hair
Selangor, by *catleyow*

Noodle is a gentle, affectionate rascal, who loves human company and is always ready to play. He has left the 'teething' age, so won't be a bitey or scratchy kitten; he'd rather lie in your arms and be cuddled! His sociabl..

Source: Petfinder.my

A Unified Framework

- ① All commonly used regression models within NN
 - with the exact same model being optimized
 - comparable results to classical statistical routines

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 - with the exact same model being optimized
 - comparable results to classical statistical routines
- ② Also allow for deep neural network (DNN)
 - ensure that this does not conflict with first goal

Free to add any other deep neural network to θ_k

$$\theta_k = \sigma_k(\eta_k) = \sigma(\beta_{k,0} + \mathbf{x}\beta_k + \text{DNN}_k)$$

⇒ Framework = Structured Effects + Unstructured Effects

⇒ DNN_k allows to

- include unstructured data sources, like images, texts, etc.
- model higher-order (non-linear) interaction effects

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... but we have to enforce

- identifiability of structured effects
- meaningful decomposition

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- ③ Structured effect and DNN effect of same covariates
→ ensure identifiability

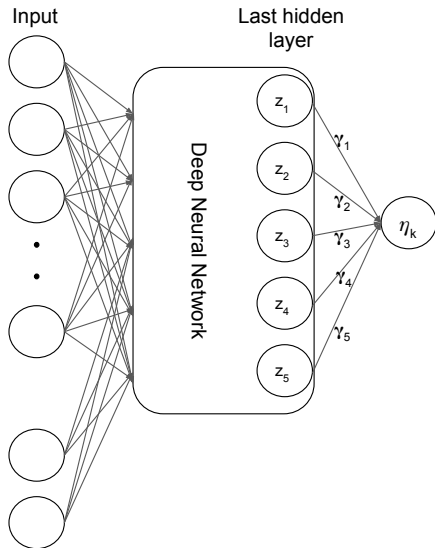
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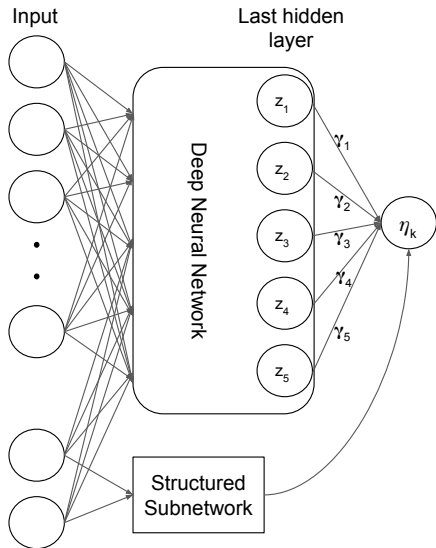
⇒ via Orthogonalization

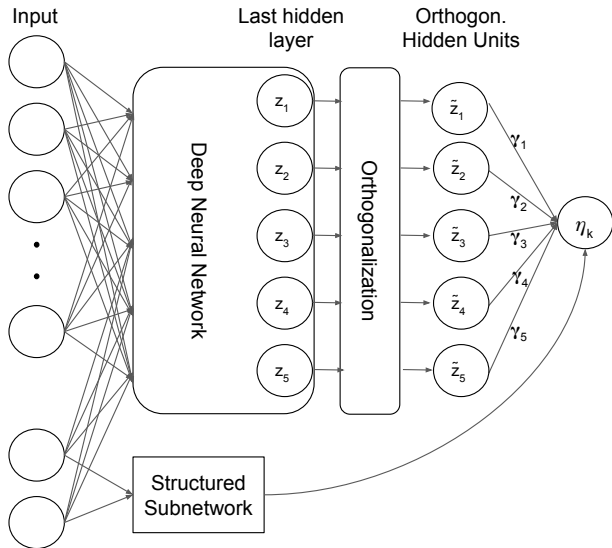
Separates space in its different components

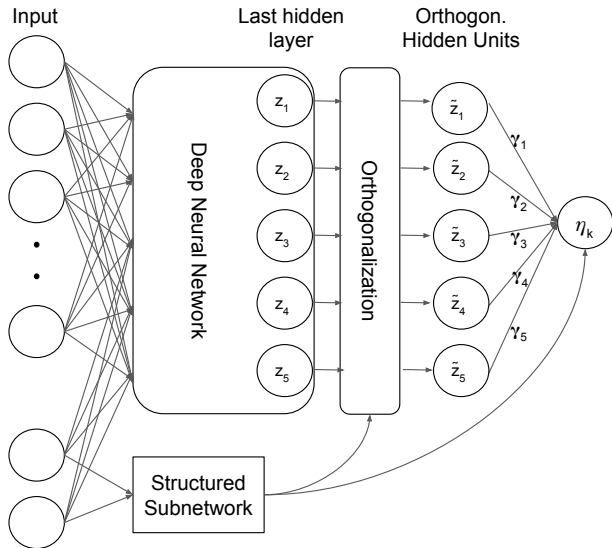
- Linear space spanned by columns of structured covariates \mathcal{X}
- Orthogonal complement \mathcal{X}^\perp
- DNN is projected into $\mathcal{X}^\perp \rightarrow$ happens within the graph

\Rightarrow Ensures identifiability









Extensions

- Within SDDR
 - Multivariate outcome models
 - Inference for weights → turn SDDR into a Bayesian NN
- Other proposed derivatives
 - Neural Mixture Density Regression (w/ Pfisterer & Bischl)
 - Deep Conditional Transformation Models (w/ Baumann & Hothorn)
 - Deep Piecewise Exponential Models (w/ Kopper, Bender et al.)
- Upcoming
 - SDDR for functional data
 - SDDR for time series data
 - Further Orthogonalization use cases

Software

- Implemented in R package `deepregression`
- Basis Transformations using `s-/ti-/te`-terms from `mgcv`
- DNN definition in `keras`
- Graph building and model training in Python / TensorFlow

Example:

$$Y = \beta_0 + f_1(x) + \text{DNN}_1(x) + \varepsilon$$

with

$$\varepsilon \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma)$$

and we model

$$\sigma = \exp \left(\sum_k I(\text{fac} = k) \beta_k + f_2(z) + \text{DNN}_2(a, b, c, d) \right).$$

Exemplary DNN specifications:

```
deep_mod1 <- function(x) x %>%  
  layer_dense(units = 1, activation = "linear")
```

```
deep_mod2 <- function(x) x %>%  
  layer_dense(units = 32, use_bias = FALSE) %>%  
  layer_dropout(rate = 0.2) %>%  
  layer_dense(units = 8, activation = "relu") %>%  
  layer_dense(units = 1, activation = "linear")
```

Example ctd.:

```
mod <- depregression(  
  y = y,  
  data = data,  
  list_of_formulae = list(  
    location = 1 + s(x, bs = 'ps') + deep_mod1(x),  
    scale = 0 + fac + s(z) + deep_mod2(a,b,c,d)),  
  list_of_deep_models = list(deep_mod1, deep_mod2),  
  family = "normal",  
  df = 10  
)  
  
history <- mod %>% fit(epochs=100)
```


Many convenience functions available for the fitted `mod`:

- **coef** for structured model coefficients
- **plot** for plotting smooth terms
- **cv** for tuning the model
- **get_distribution** to access fitted distribution
- **predict** for prediction on new data
- ...

- Still in a private Github repo
- If you want to use the Beta version, let me know
- Hopefully open-sourced end of year

Some Results

Decomposition

- Simulation to demonstrate identifiability of structured effects in DNN presence

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- Data generating process:

$$\mathbb{E}(Y|\mathbf{x}) = \beta_0 + \mathbf{x}\boldsymbol{\beta} + \sum_{j=1}^{10} f_j(x_j) + \prod_{j=1}^{10} x_j$$

Decomposition

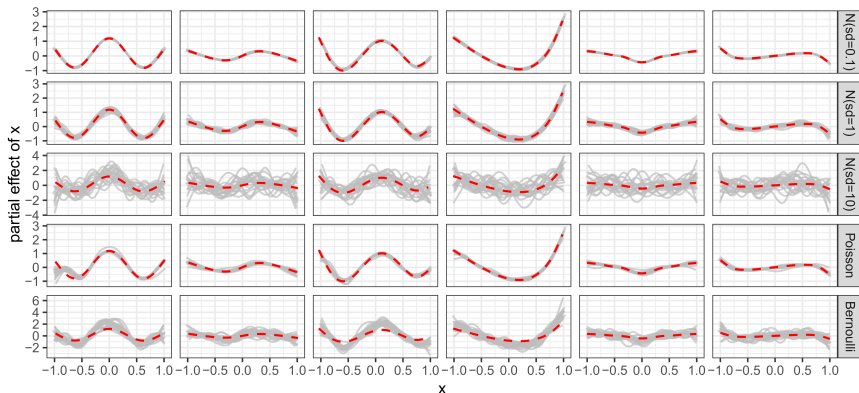
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- Model:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{location} = & +1 + \mathbf{x}1 + \dots + \mathbf{x}10 + \\ & s(\mathbf{x}1) + \dots + s(\mathbf{x}10) + \\ & \text{deep}(\mathbf{x}1, \dots, \mathbf{x}10) \end{aligned}$$

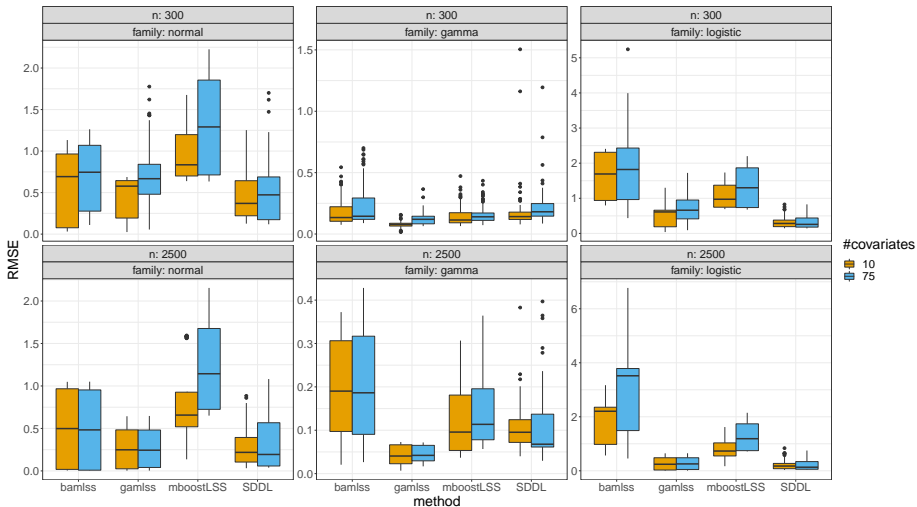
Estimated additive effects f_1, \dots, f_6 (columns):



Model Comparison LSS Approaches

- Simulation to demonstrate estimation performance and goodness-of-fit
- Compared to `bamlss`, `gamlss`, `mboostLSS`
- Additive model with Normal, Gamma and Logistic distribution
- $n \in \{300, 2500\}$, $p \in \{10, 75\}$

RMSE of coefficients (w/o outliers from bamlss and gamlss)



Deep Conditional Transformation Models

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with error distribution F_Z

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with error distribution F_Z and transformation function

$$h(y|\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{a}(y)^\top \underbrace{\boldsymbol{\vartheta}(\mathbf{x})}_{\text{Interaction Term}} + \underbrace{\beta(\mathbf{x})}_{\text{Shift Term}}$$

- For tabular data, we define the predictor

$$\sum_{r=1}^{20} \beta_{r,t} I(\text{genre}_i = r) + s_{1,t}(\text{popularity}_i) + s_{2,t}(\text{releasedate}_i) + s_{3,t}(\text{budget}_i) + s_{4,t}(\text{runtime}_i)$$

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- We also use the movie description in a DNN:

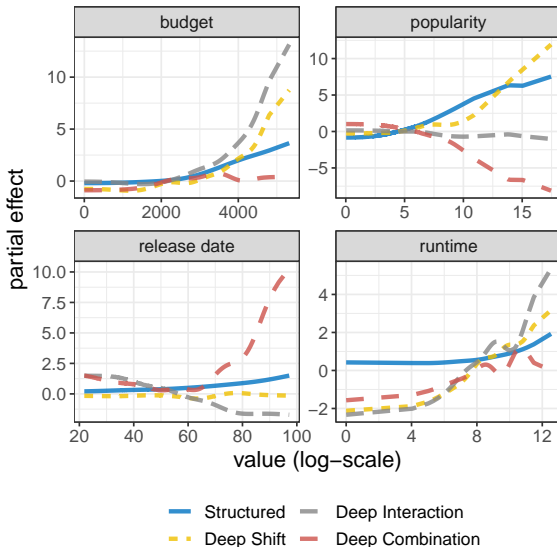
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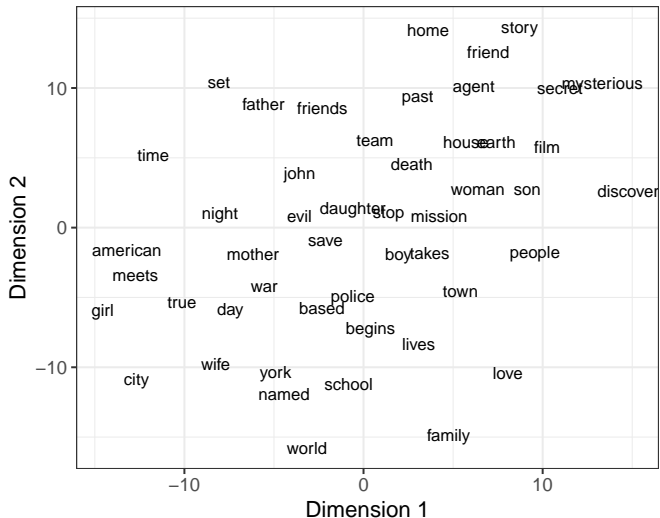
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- We also use the movie description in a DNN:

Structured:	no DNN
Deep Shift:	embedding + FC layer in Shift term
Deep Interaction:	embedding + FC layer in Interaction term
Deep Combination:	embedding + FC layer fed in both terms



t-SNE of learned embedding space for 50 most freq. words



- Comparison with Transformation Boosting Machines (TBM, [3])
- Based on averaged predicted log-scores (PLS) on test data

Model	mean PLS (SD)
Structured	-4.84 (3.10)
Deep Shift	-52.58 (21.06)
Deep Interaction	-20.68 (11.80)
Deep Combination	-24.64 (13.00)
TBM-Shift	-23.31 (0.83)
TBM-Distribution	-22.38 (0.31)

Summary

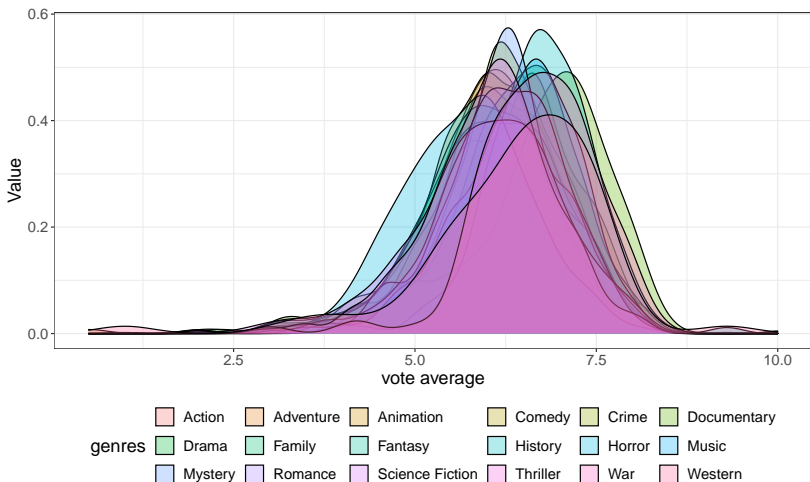
- Statistical Regression can be embedded into NN
 - feasibility in high-dimensional settings
 - straightforward extensions of existing model classes
- SDDR
 - unified network architecture
 - to fit (distributional) regression models
 - options to add arbitrary DNN
 - ensures identifiability
- deepregression
 - implementation of SDDR in R
 - various models using familiar R interface

Appendix

Movie Review Dataset

- Movie Reviews from 0 to 10
- Tabular information like revenue, release date, ...
- genres → one movie can have multiple genres

Ratings for different genres



- We define a mixture model of 18 beta distributions

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- Movie description \rightarrow embedding layer + FC layer

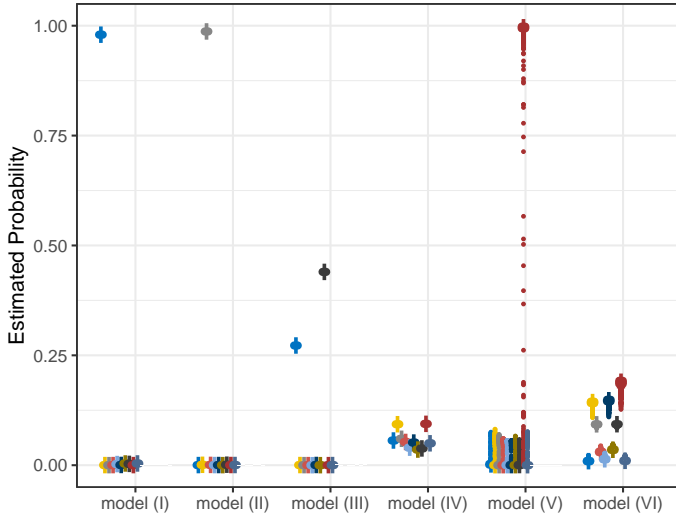
Models:

- (I) : Only structured predictor
- (II) DNN with 18 output units fed into c_0 's
- (III) DNN with 18 output units fed into c_1 's
- (IV) DNN with 36 output units fed into c_0 's and c_1 's
- (V) DNN with 1 output unit fed into linear predictor of π
- (VI) Combination of (IV) and (V)

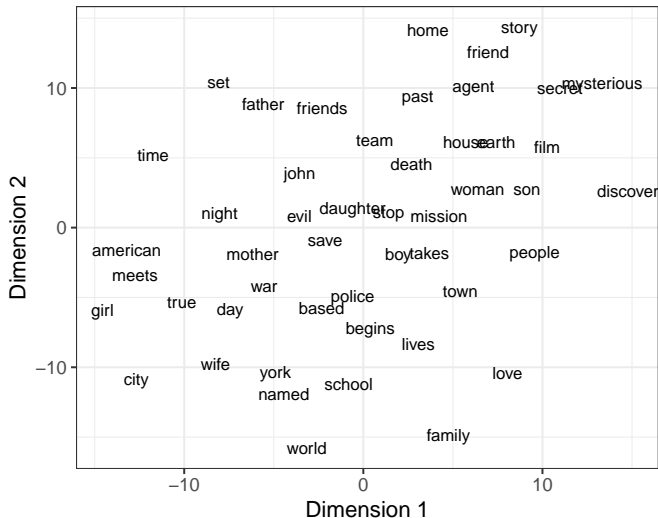
Mean RMSE values (standard deviation in brackets) on test data

Model	Mean RMSE
(I)	0.242 (0.128)
(II)	0.176 (0.122)
(III)	0.213 (0.117)
(IV)	0.321 (0.156)
(V)	0.117 (0.026)
(VI)	0.190 (0.090)

Estimated mixture components for each model



t-SNE of model (V) embedding space for 50 most freq. words



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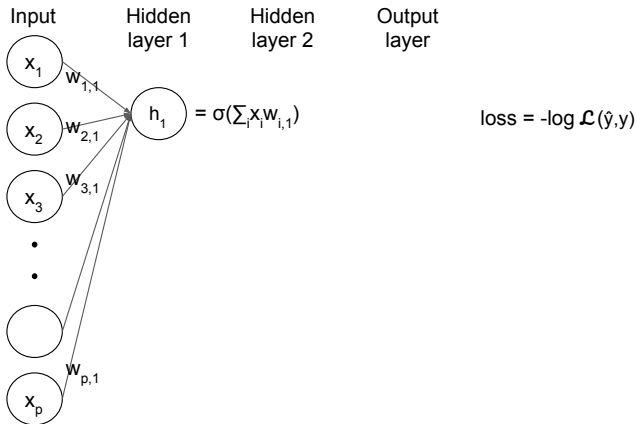
$$\text{KL}_q[q(\mathbf{w}|\vartheta) || p(\mathbf{w}|\mathbf{x})] - \mathbb{E}_q[\log \mathcal{L}(\mathbf{w})]$$

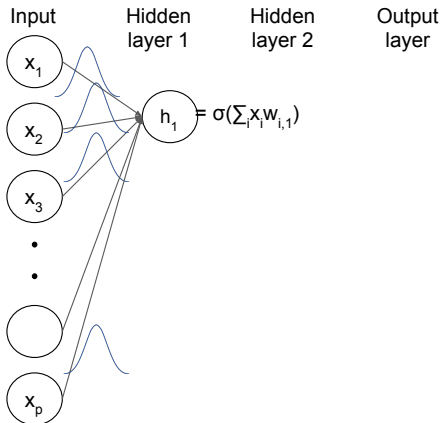
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$$\text{KL}_q[q(\mathbf{w}|\vartheta) || p(\mathbf{w}|\mathbf{x})] - \mathbb{E}_q[\log \mathcal{L}(\mathbf{w})]$$

using the *Bayes by Backprop* [1] algorithm





$$\text{loss} = E_q - \log \mathcal{L}(\hat{y}, y) + \text{KL}(\text{prior, var. posterior})$$

- [1] Charles Blundell et al. “Weight uncertainty in neural networks”. In: *Proceedings of the 32nd International Conference on Machine Learning* 37 (2015), pp. 1613–1622.
- [2] Joshua V Dillon et al. “Tensorflow distributions”. In: *arXiv preprint arXiv:1711.10604* (2017).
- [3] Torsten Hothorn. “Transformation boosting machines”. In: *Statistics and Computing* 30.1 (2020), pp. 141–152.
- [4] Jiquan Ngiam et al. “Multimodal deep learning”. In: *Proceedings of the 28th International Conference on Machine Learning (ICML)*. 2011, pp. 689–696.
- [5] Victor M-H Ong, David J Nott, and Michael S Smith. “Gaussian variational approximation with a factor covariance structure”. In: *Journal of Computational and Graphical Statistics* 27.3 (2018), pp. 465–478.

- [6] George Papamakarios, Theo Pavlakou, and Iain Murray. “Masked autoregressive flow for density estimation”. In: *Advances in Neural Information Processing Systems*. 2017, pp. 2338–2347.
- [7] Hao Song et al. “Distribution calibration for regression”. In: *Proceedings of the 36th International Conference on Machine Learning*. Vol. 97. Proceedings of Machine Learning Research. PMLR, 2019, pp. 5897–5906.