# Few-shot learning with KRR

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# The future of ML



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# What few learning is trying to do?

• By leveraging past learning experiences

• Through META-LEARNING

 The past gives a strong prior knowledge

 If one use it, things can be done more efficiently in the present



### Few-shot regression

• Recent works focus on classification and reinforcement learning

• Not much experiments with regression datasets

• Versus classification: harder to generalize from few examples

- Applications:
  - $\hookrightarrow$  drug discovery -> Drugs at lower costs
  - $\hookrightarrow$  recommender systems –> Deal with products with few ratings

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# The objective



# In practice (1)

#### The meta-datasets

- Sample a distribution  $\mathcal{T}_i$  from  $\mathscr{F}$
- For each  $\mathcal{T}_i$  sample a  $\mathcal{D}_i$
- Split the resulting collection of datasets in 3 partitions:
  - $\hookrightarrow \mathscr{D}_{meta-train} \text{ for training}$  $\hookrightarrow \mathscr{D}_{meta-valid} \text{ for}$  $hyper-parameter selection}$  $\hookrightarrow \mathscr{D}_{meta-test} \text{ for unbiased}$  $evaluation of the meta-model}$



# In practice (2)

Episodic training

Initialize  $\Theta$ 

Loop

- Sample an  $\mathcal{D}_i$  from  $\mathscr{D}_{meta-train}$
- Sample  $\mathcal{D}_{train}$  and  $\mathcal{D}_{test}$  of k examples each from  $\mathcal{D}_i$
- Compute  $h := \mathcal{A}(\mathcal{D}_{train}, \Theta)$
- Estimate the loss of h on  $\mathcal{D}_{test}$

Update Θ

An episode A pair of  $\mathcal{D}_{train}$  and  $\mathcal{D}_{test}$  from a  $\mathcal{D}_i$ 







#### Our approach: MetaKRR

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## The meta-model

#### Tandem combination

- Feature extractor  $\boldsymbol{\phi}: \mathcal{X} \to \mathcal{K}$  shared by all tasks
- Regression Algorithm  $\rightarrow h(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{w} \cdot \boldsymbol{\phi}(\mathbf{x}), \quad \mathbf{w} \in \mathcal{K}$

#### Feature extractor

Could be anything

- CNN for images
- LSTM for sequences
- FC for vectors, etc.

Parameters to be found during the episodic training

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# The model (1)

The regression algorithm should aim for generalization (SRM) [4] Given  $\mathcal{D}_{train}$ ,

$$\mathbf{w}_{\mathcal{D}_{train}}^* = \operatorname*{argmin}_{\mathbf{w}} \sum_{(\mathbf{x}, y) \in \mathcal{D}_{train}} (\mathbf{w} \cdot \boldsymbol{\phi}(\mathbf{x}) - y)^2 + \lambda \, \|\mathbf{w}\|_2^2,$$

The optimal solution is given by KRR[3]

$$\mathbf{w}^* = \sum_{i=1}^k \alpha_i \boldsymbol{\phi}(\mathbf{x}_i), \quad \text{with} \quad \boldsymbol{\alpha} = (\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_k)^T = (K + \lambda I)^{-1} \mathbf{y},$$
$$K_{ij} = \boldsymbol{\phi}(\mathbf{x}_i) \cdot \boldsymbol{\phi}(\mathbf{x}_j), \quad \text{where} \quad i = 1 \dots k, j = 1 \dots k$$

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The model (2)

### Advantages of KRR

- Closed form
- Few-shot -> solving the dual system is highly advantageous over the primal

#### Drawbacks

- Fine tuning regularizer and kernel hyper-parameters
- Cross-validation and validation set: costly and need more data

## Selection of regression hyper-parameters

#### Option 1: Episode dependant

 $\stackrel{\leftarrow}{\rightarrow} \text{FC network } g \text{ to predict the right values}$  $\stackrel{\leftarrow}{\rightarrow} \text{inputs} = \text{sufficient statistics of the training examples of } \mathcal{D}_{train} \\ \stackrel{\leftarrow}{\rightarrow} \text{statistics} = \text{mean, std, max, min of } \{y_1, y_2, \dots, y_k\} \text{ and} \\ \{\phi(\mathbf{x}_1), \phi(\mathbf{x}_2), \dots, \phi(\mathbf{x}_k)\} \\ \stackrel{\leftarrow}{\rightarrow} \text{ For example, for a given } \mathcal{D}_{train}, \text{ the KRR regularizer is given by:}$ 

 $\exp(HardTanh_{a,b}(g(\mathcal{D}_{train}))), \text{ with } HardTanh_{a,b}(x) = \begin{cases} a & \text{if } x < a \\ x & \text{if } a \le x \le b \\ b & \text{if } x > b \end{cases}$ 

#### Option 2: Same for all episodes

- Associate a parameter to each Hp
- Find the right value during back propagation

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# MetaKRR: the training with option 1

#### Pseudo-code

#### Initialize $\Theta$ of $\phi$ and $\Lambda$ of gLoop

- Sample an  $\mathcal{D}_i$  from  $\mathscr{D}_{meta-train}$
- Sample a  $\mathcal{D}_{train}$  and  $\mathcal{D}_{test}$  from  $\mathcal{D}_i$
- Transform all inputs with  $oldsymbol{\phi}$
- Compute  $\lambda_{train}$  with g
- Solve KRR to find **w**<sup>\*</sup>, thus *h*<sup>\*</sup>
- Compute the quadratic loss of h on  $\mathcal{D}_{test}$
- $\bullet\,$  Back-propagate the loss and update  $\Theta$  and  $\Lambda$

#### Other details

- Train for 20K episodes
- Use  $\mathcal{D}_{meta-valid}$  to select the best model Prudencio Tossou (UL) Few-shot learning with KRR

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### Datasets

### MHC class II peptides

- Task: predict the binding energy of a peptide to a protein (MHC II complex).
- Collection of 14 datasets, one per protein
- Each dataset has from 500 to 5K examples
- Input = peptide (string)
- Output=energy to a MHC protein
- 14 few-shot regression tasks
- CNN feature extractor  $256 \times 3$

### Binding molecules

- Task: predict the binding affinity of small molecules to a protein
- Collection of 3741 regression task each related to a protein and an organism
- Input = molecule SMILES (string)
- Output = binding affinity
- Meta-train, meta-valid and meta-test contain 2104, 702 and 935 tasks
- CNN feature extractor 512 × 4

## Results on MHC class II peptides

	MetaKRR-g	MetaKRR-u	MAML[1]	MANN[2]	pretrain
Test complex					
DRB1*0101	0.435	0.475	0.469	0.530	0.176
DRB1*0301	0.512	0.501	0.405	0.522	-0.177
DRB1*0401	0.547	0.555	0.457	0.484	0.165
DRB1*0404	0.573	0.608	0.470	0.617	0.105
DRB1*0405	0.643	0.652	0.531	0.676	0.156
DRB1*0701	0.694	0.694	0.613	0.673	0.199
DRB1*0802	0.404	0.388	0.407	0.426	0.125
DRB1*0901	0.509	0.535	0.389	0.565	0.159
DRB1*1101	0.641	0.626	0.567	0.537	-0.169
DRB1*1302	0.471	0.477	0.401	0.465	0.116
DRB1*1501	0.640	0.629	0.623	0.644	0.180
DRB3*0101	0.318	0.356	0.294	0.313	0.071
DRB4*0101	0.574	0.602	0.548	0.596	0.203
DRB5*0101	0.660	0.624	0.559	0.669	0.221
Average	0.544	0.552	0.481	0.551	0.109
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## Results on BindingDB

#### MetaKRR versus MAML

MetaKRR versus MANN



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### Discussion



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• Hard to find the best initialization point.

• Easy to classify with but harder for regression

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### Future works

- Select the right values with the network g within a grid of hyper-parameters
- Include in our experiments a recommender system dataset : Netflix challenge

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# Conclusion

- We have introduced MetaKRR, a few-shot regression algorithm
- State of the art performances
- Three key ideas:
  - Leverage past experiences to find the most appropriate mapping function
  - Use the structural risk minimization to enforce generalization
  - Leverage past experiences to choose adequately the trade-off inside the SRM
- Not new ideas but they graciously combine together to give the MetaKRR

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# Thanks for your attention



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