### **Physics-Informed Inductive Biases** in Deep Learning



### Miles Cranmer (Princeton)

Shirley Ho (Flatiron, NYU, CMU, Princeton)

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### Main Ideas

- Physics has informed many inductive biases in deep learning, both explicitly and implicitly
  - benefit these models.
- Formalizing these in a physics language often leads to new insights

 Success of these often due to fact that deep learning seeks models of the physical world; using physics as a prior can directly or indirectly

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- Based on Ising Model





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In higher dimension - additional neighbors!







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#### • If energy increases $\Rightarrow$ keep change with $p = \exp(-(E_{new} - E_{old})/Temperature)$

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- Simple system; but can be used to model many phenomena:
  - Ferromagnets, chemical equilibrium, crystals, ice, etc.
  - Non-physics: social networks, human memory (Hopfield network!), etc.

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#### "Neighbor" $\Rightarrow$ "Connection" One can think about updating neurons as if they were cells in an Ising Model!

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- Modern developments include:
  - Hopfield Networks to classification, NLP, and drug design problems, with great performance.



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• Hopfield Networks is All You Need (2020), Hubert Ramsauer, et al., successfully applies a variant of modern

(A Small Selection of)

### Physics-Informed Inductive Biases in the modern era

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Categories:

Energy
Geometry
Differential Equations

space of learnable functions

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- As a simple example, limiting the L2 norm of neural network's weights places an upper bound on its Lipschitz constant.
  - This is a prior which favors smooth functions; which is assumed for nearly every machine learning problem.
- However, this prior is not enough. Physically-motivated inductive biases define additional priors on this function space.

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(a)

68.51 34.25 -0.10 0 0.051 0.84 109.62 109.62 34.25 0.37 0 -0.04 164.44 34.25 -0.42 0 0.16 0.17 246.66 123.33 34.25 0.85 0 -0.04 0.16 178.14 54.81 34.25 0.38 0 -0.14

(b)

E(Y, X)

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- Many ML problems can be easily rephrased in this unified energy-based framework!



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$$\frac{d}{dt} \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \dot{q}_{j}} = \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial q_{j}} \qquad \text{Euler-Lag}$$

$$\frac{d}{dt} \nabla_{\dot{q}} \mathcal{L} = \nabla_{q} \mathcal{L} \qquad \text{vec}$$

$$\nabla_{q} \mathcal{L} = (\nabla_{\dot{q}} \nabla_{\dot{q}}^{\top} \mathcal{L}) \ddot{q} + (\nabla_{q} \nabla_{\dot{q}}^{\top} \mathcal{L}) \dot{q} \qquad \text{expa}$$

$$\ddot{q} = (\nabla_{\dot{q}} \nabla_{\dot{q}}^{\top} \mathcal{L})^{-1} [\nabla_{q} \mathcal{L} - (\nabla_{q} \nabla_{\dot{q}}^{\top} \mathcal{L}) \dot{q}] \qquad \text{solve}$$

- grange (5)
- ctorize (6)
- and  $\frac{d}{dt}$  (7)
- e for  $\ddot{q}(8)$

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Second order gradient  $\Rightarrow$  matrix inverse

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Figure 3: A: standard normalising flow, where the invertible function  $f_i$  is implemented by a neural network. B: Hamiltonian flows, where the initial density is transformed using the learned Hamiltonian dynamics. Note that we depict Euler updates of the state for schematic simplicity, while in practice this is done using a leapfrog integrator.

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- The universe obeys translational symmetry. This is equivalent to momentum conservation.
- This symmetry is intuitive because we have been living with these physical laws. Perhaps it would not be as intuitive if the laws of physics changed at every point of space!


- Describing ConvNet's equivariance in a formal framework like this lets you consider other symmetries.
  - For example, ConvNets do not by default have rotational symmetry.
  - Taco Cohen & Max Welling (2016) derived this: the Group Equivariant-CNN. Makes the CNN rotationally invariant.

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#### **Group Equivariant CNN**





Can have this be a rotation group!



 $p4 \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}^2$  - convolution

(Note that rotational symmetry is also a symmetry of the universe)





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(Can even exploit this relation to classical mechanics, and distill force laws - see M Cranmer et al., 2020)



For the ultimate book on geometry in deep learning, see <u>geometricdeeplearning.com</u> (Bronstein, Bruna, Cohen, Veličković)

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• With the obvious applicability to learning time series, can be applied to learning for general problems



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- For example, an LNN is a hard constraint on the dynamics, whereas a PINN is a soft constraint.
- For some inductive biases, hard constraints may be intractable to create. Soft constraints are useful when a symmetry might be slightly violated.

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- Implicit: an inductive bias is present which was not intended.
  - e.g., large learning rates and small batch sizes define an implicit regularization term (e.g., Sam Smith et al., 2021 and references therein)
- Generally, it seems that making an inductive bias explicit in a formal framework, such as physics, leads to new insights, and allows one to use existing methods. Also allows one to control it.

# **Explicit vs Implicit**

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- Application-specific: an inductive bias created for a particular physical problem
  - For example, a PINN's inductive bias is the ODE describing the underlying data; whereas some Neural ODE regularizations are very general (e.g., J Kelly et al., 2020 and C Finlay et al., 2020)

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  - Hard vs Soft

#### https://astroautomata.com/inductive\_biases\_tutorial.html

#### Code tutorial