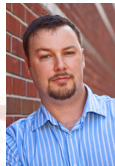


# Analyzing Priors on Deep Networks



David Duvenaud, Oren Rippel, Ryan Adams, Zoubin Ghahramani

Sheffield Workshop on Deep Probabilistic Models

October 2, 2014

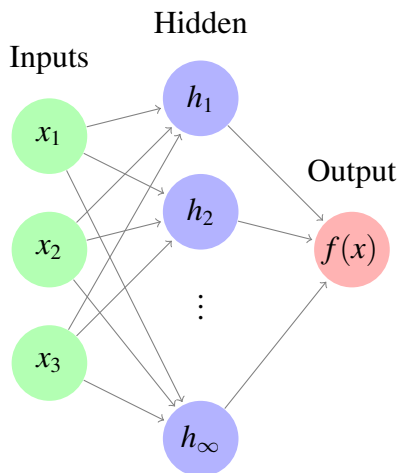
# Designing neural nets

- ▶ Neural nets require lots of design decisions whose implications hard to understand.
- ▶ We want to understand them without reference to a specific dataset, loss function, or training method.
- ▶ We can analyze different network architectures by looking at nets whose parameters are drawn randomly.

# Why look at priors if I'm going to learn everything anyways?

- ▶ When using Bayesian neural nets:
  - ▶ Can't learn types of networks having vanishing probability under the prior.
- ▶ Even when non-probabilistic:
  - ▶ Good prior → a good initialization strategy.
  - ▶ Good prior → a good regularization strategy.
  - ▶ Good prior → higher fraction of parameters specify reasonable models → easier optimization problem.

# GPs as Neural Nets



A weighted sum of features,

$$f(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{1}{K} \sum_{i=1}^K w_i h_i(\mathbf{x})$$

with any weight distribution,

$$\mathbb{E}[w_i] = 0, \quad \mathbb{V}[w_i] = \sigma^2, \quad i.i.d.$$

by CLT, gives a GP as  $K \rightarrow \infty$

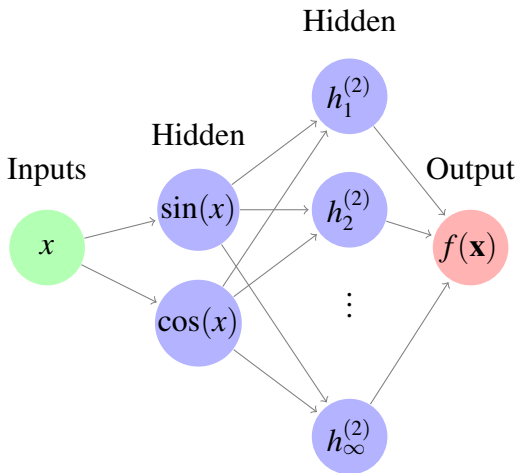
$$\text{cov} \begin{bmatrix} f(\mathbf{x}) \\ f(\mathbf{x}') \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \frac{\sigma^2}{K} \sum_{i=1}^K h_i(\mathbf{x}) h_i(\mathbf{x}')$$



# Kernel learning as feature learning

- ▶ GPs have fixed features, integrate out feature weights.
- ▶ Mapping between kernels and features:  
$$k(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}') = \mathbf{h}(\mathbf{x})^\top \mathbf{h}(\mathbf{x}').$$
- ▶ Any PSD kernel can be written as inner product of features. (Mercer's Theorem)
- ▶ Kernel learning = feature learning
- ▶ What if we make the GP neural network deep?

# Example deep kernel: Periodic



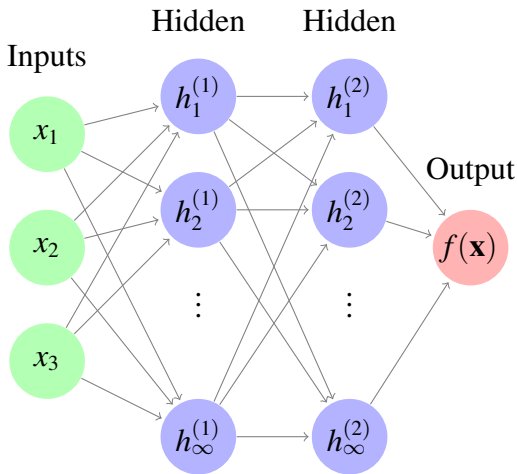
Now our model is:

$$\mathbf{h}^1(x) = [\sin(x), \cos(x)]$$

we have “deep kernel”:

$$\begin{aligned} k_2(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}') \\ = \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2} (\mathbf{h}^1(\mathbf{x})) - \mathbf{h}^1(\mathbf{x}')\right) \end{aligned}$$

# Deep nets, deep kernels



Now our model is:

$$\begin{aligned} f(\mathbf{x}) &= \frac{1}{K} \sum_{i=1}^K w_i h_i^{(2)}(\mathbf{h}^{(1)}(\mathbf{x})) \\ &= \mathbf{w}^\top \mathbf{h}^{(2)}(\mathbf{h}^{(1)}(\mathbf{x})) \end{aligned}$$

Instead of

$$k_1(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}') = \mathbf{h}^{(1)}(\mathbf{x})^\top \mathbf{h}^{(1)}(\mathbf{x}'),$$

we have “deep kernel”:

$$\begin{aligned} k_2(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}') \\ = [\mathbf{h}^{(2)}(\mathbf{h}^{(1)}(\mathbf{x}))]^\top \mathbf{h}^{(2)}(\mathbf{h}^{(1)}(\mathbf{x}')) \end{aligned}$$

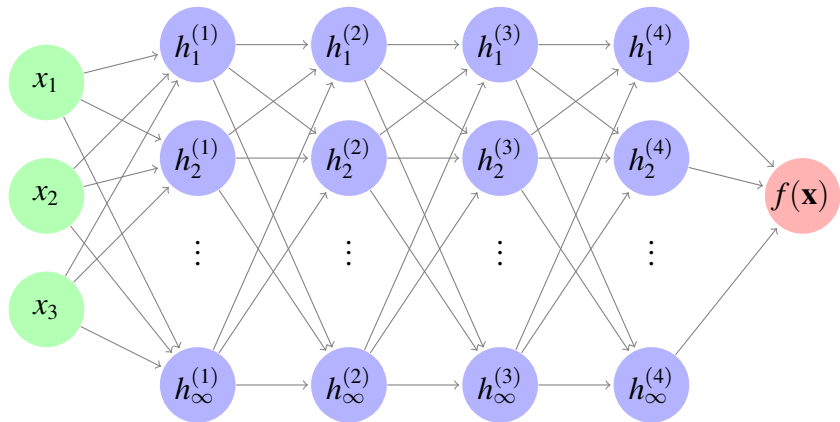
# Deep Kernels

- ▶ (Cho, 2012) built kernels by composing feature mappings.
- ▶ Composing any kernel  $k_1$  with a squared-exp kernel (SE):

$$\begin{aligned}k_2(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}') &= \\&= (\mathbf{h}^{SE}(\mathbf{h}^1(\mathbf{x})))^\top \mathbf{h}^{SE}(\mathbf{h}^1(\mathbf{x}')) \\&= \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2}\|\mathbf{h}^1(\mathbf{x}) - \mathbf{h}^1(\mathbf{x}')\|_2^2\right) \\&= \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2}[\mathbf{h}^1(\mathbf{x})^\top \mathbf{h}^1(\mathbf{x}) - 2\mathbf{h}^1(\mathbf{x})^\top \mathbf{h}^1(\mathbf{x}') + \mathbf{h}^1(\mathbf{x}')^\top \mathbf{h}^1(\mathbf{x}')] \right) \\&= \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2}[k_1(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}) - 2k_1(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}') + k_1(\mathbf{x}', \mathbf{x}')] \right)\end{aligned}$$

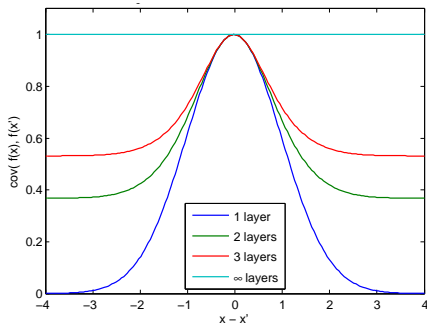
- ▶ A closed form... let's do it again!

# Repeated Fixed Feature Mappings

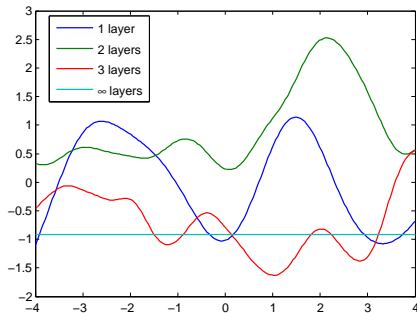


# Infinitely Deep Kernels

- ▶ For SE kernel,  $k_{L+1}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}') = \exp(k_L(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}') - 1)$ .
- ▶ What is the limit of composing SE features?



Kernel

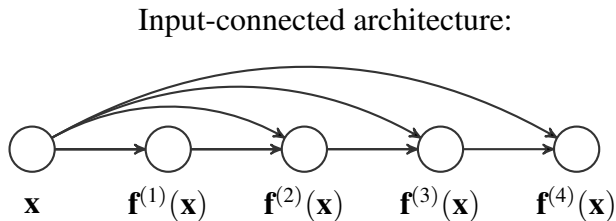
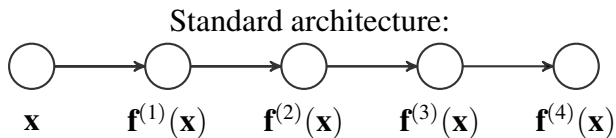


Draws from GP prior

- ▶  $k_\infty(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}') = 1$  everywhere. ☺

# A simple fix

- ▶ Following a suggestion from Neal (1995), we connect the inputs  $\mathbf{x}$  to each layer:



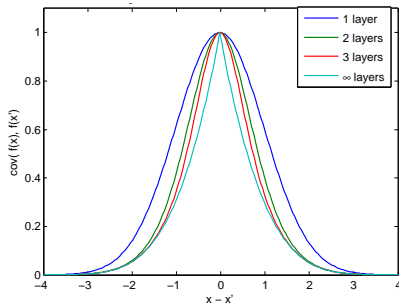
## A simple fix

$$\begin{aligned}k_{L+1}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}') &= \\&= \exp \left( -\frac{1}{2} \left\| \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{h}^L(\mathbf{x}) \\ \mathbf{x} \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{h}^L(\mathbf{x}') \\ \mathbf{x}' \end{bmatrix} \right\|_2^2 \right) \\&= \exp \left( -\frac{1}{2} [k_L(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}) - 2k_L(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}') + k_L(\mathbf{x}', \mathbf{x}')] - \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}'\|_2^2 \right)\end{aligned}$$

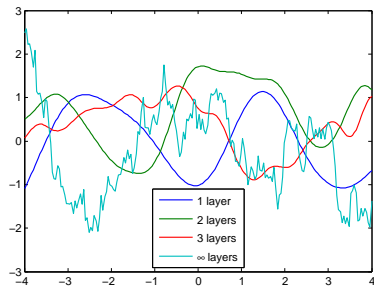


# Infinitely deep kernels, take two

- ▶ What is the limit of compositions of input-connected SE features?
- ▶  $k_{L+1}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}') = \exp(k_L(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}') - 1 - \frac{1}{2}\|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}'\|_2^2)$ .



Kernels



Draws from GP priors

- ▶ Like an Ornstein-Uhlenbeck process with skinny tails
- ▶ Samples are non-differentiable (fractal).

# Not very exciting...

- ▶ Fixed feature mapping, unlikely to be useful for anything
- ▶ Power of neural nets comes from learning a custom representation.

# Deep Gaussian Processes

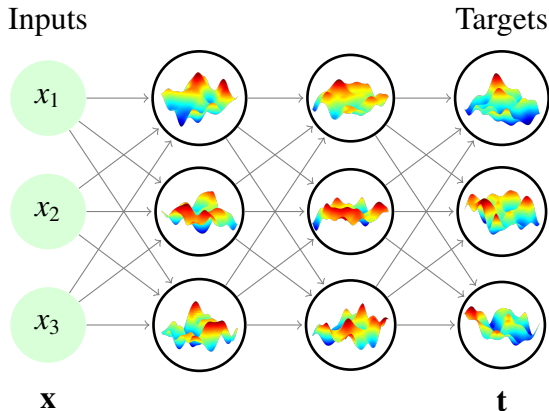
- ▶ A prior over compositions of functions:

$$\mathbf{f}^{(1:L)}(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{f}^{(L)}(\mathbf{f}^{(L-1)}(\dots \mathbf{f}^{(2)}(\mathbf{f}^{(1)}(\mathbf{x})) \dots)) \quad (1)$$

with each  $\mathbf{f}_d^{(\ell)} \stackrel{\text{ind}}{\sim} \mathcal{GP}(0, k_d^\ell(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}'))$ .

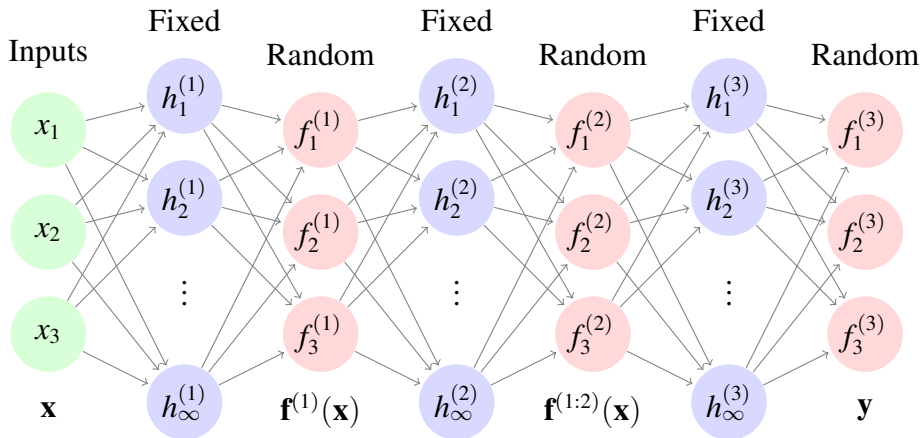
- ▶ Can be seen as a “simpler” version of Bayesian neural nets
- ▶ Two equivalent architectures.

# Deep GPs as nonparametric nets



- ▶ A neural net where each neuron's activation function is drawn from a Gaussian process prior.
- ▶ Avoids problem of unit saturation (with sigmoidal units).
- ▶ Each draw from neural net prior gives a function  $\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x})$ .
- ▶ In this talk we only consider noiseless functions.

# Deep GPs as infinitely wide parametric nets

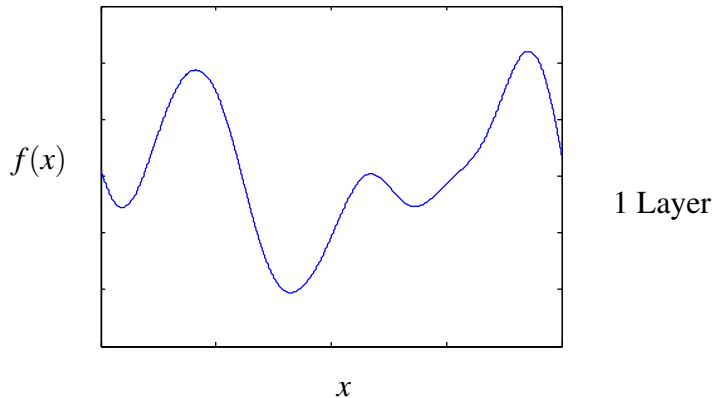


- ▶ Infinitely-wide fixed feature maps alternating with finite linear information bottlenecks:

$$\mathbf{h}^{(\ell)}(\mathbf{x}) = \sigma(\mathbf{b}^{(\ell)} + [\mathbf{V}^{(\ell)}\mathbf{W}^{(\ell-1)}] \mathbf{h}^{(\ell-1)}(\mathbf{x}))$$

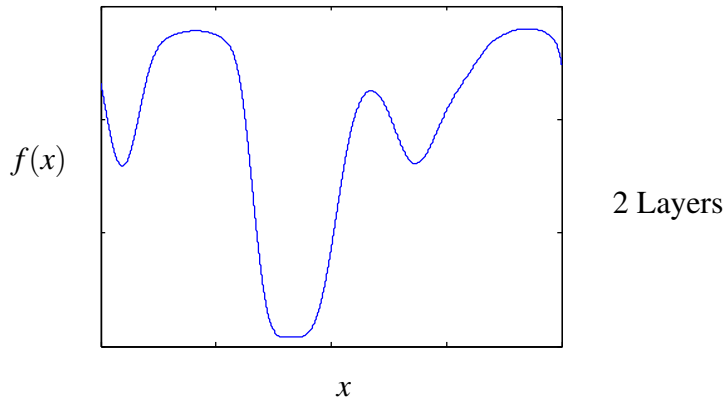
# Priors on deep networks

- ▶ A draw from a one-neuron-per-layer deep GP:



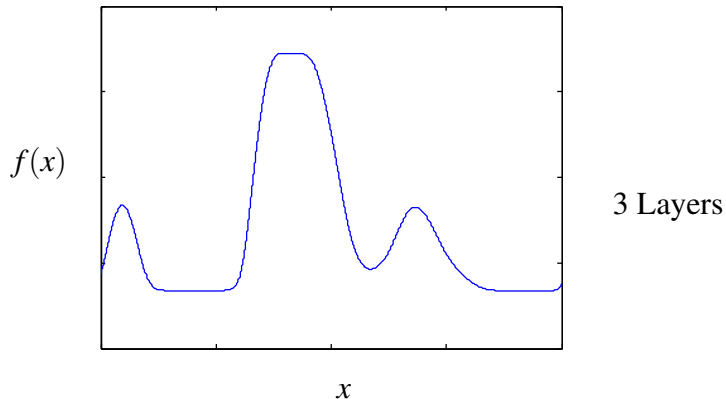
# Priors on deep networks

- ▶ A draw from a one-neuron-per-layer deep GP:



# Priors on deep networks

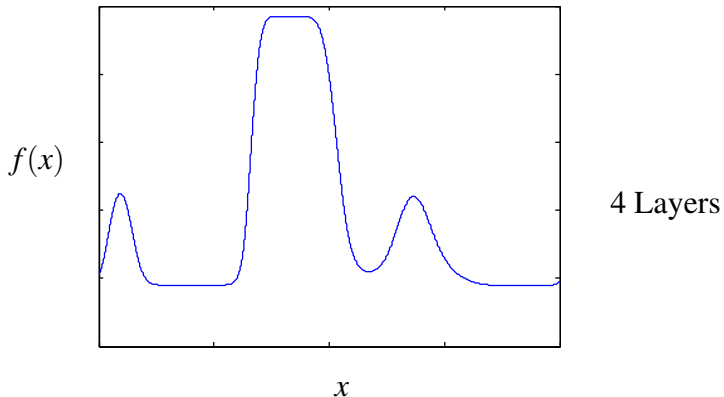
- ▶ A draw from a one-neuron-per-layer deep GP:





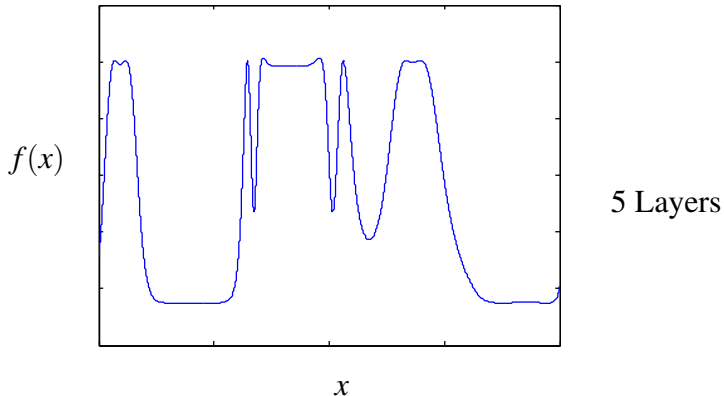
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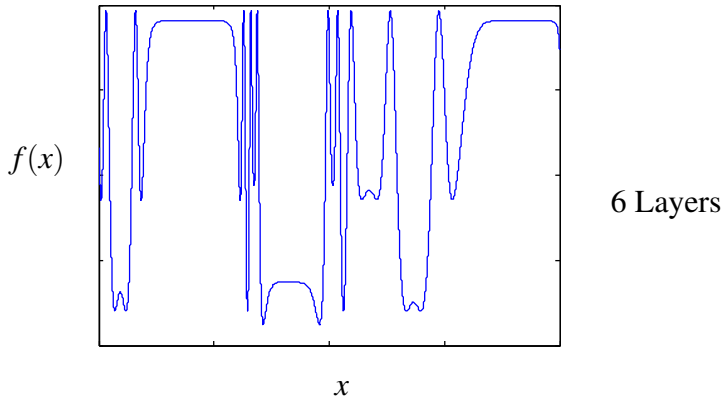
# Priors on deep networks

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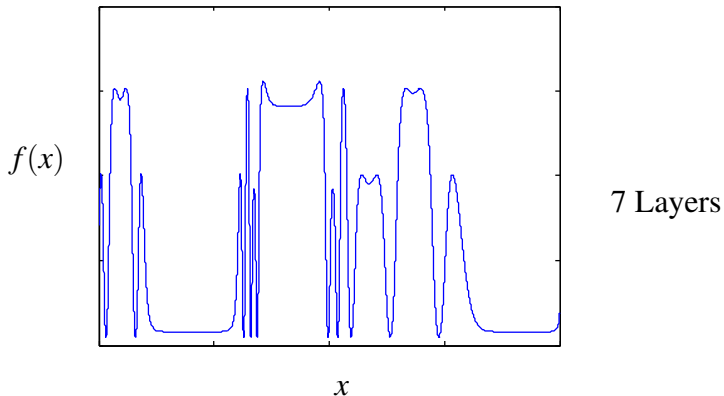
# Priors on deep networks

- ▶ A draw from a one-neuron-per-layer deep GP:



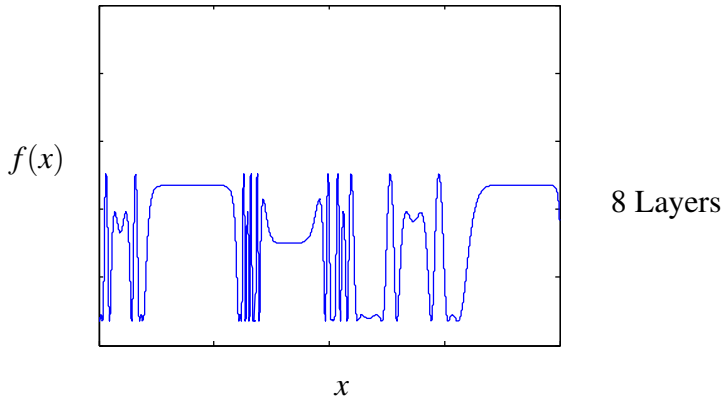
# Priors on deep networks

- ▶ A draw from a one-neuron-per-layer deep GP:



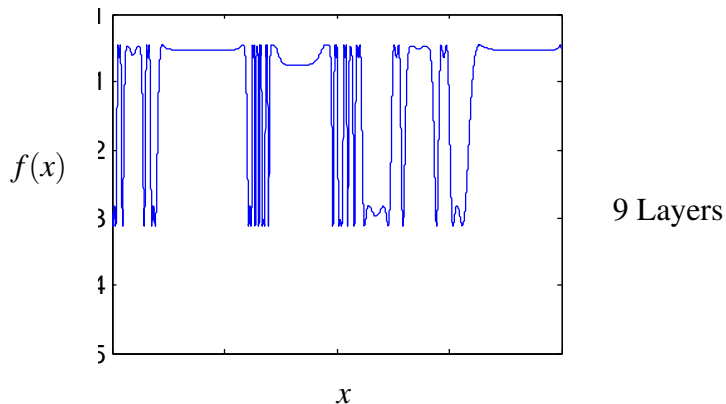
# Priors on deep networks

- ▶ A draw from a one-neuron-per-layer deep GP:



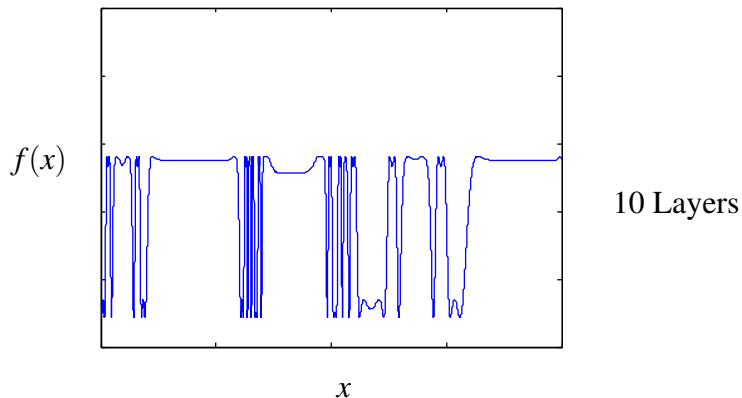
# Priors on deep networks

- ▶ A draw from a one-neuron-per-layer deep GP:



# Priors on deep networks

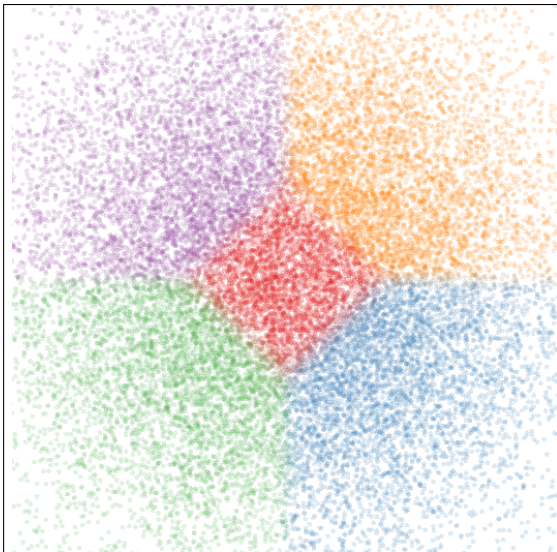
- ▶ A draw from a one-neuron-per-layer deep GP:



Size of derivative becomes log-normal distributed.

# Priors on deep networks

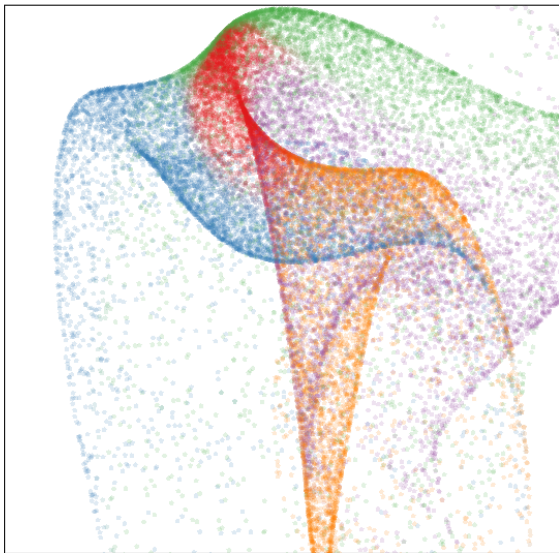
- ▶ 2D to 2D warpings of a set of coloured points:





# Priors on deep networks

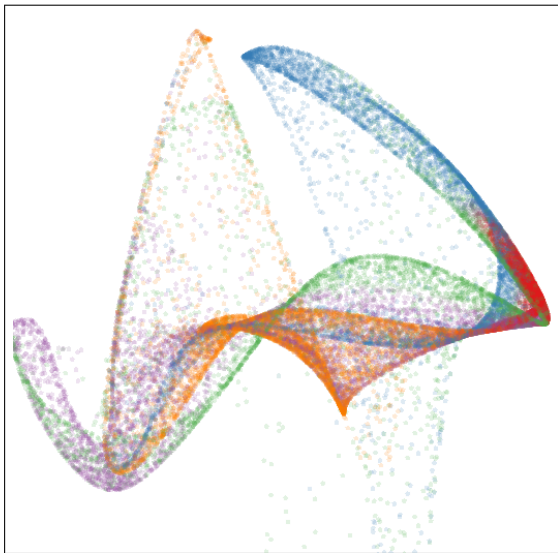
- ▶ 2D to 2D warpings of a set of coloured points:



1 Layer

# Priors on deep networks

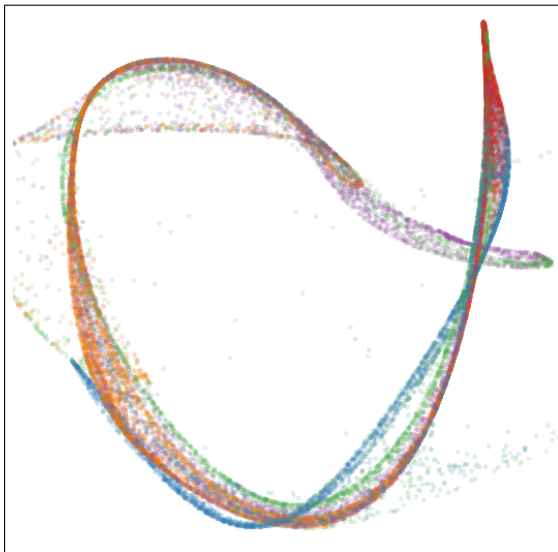
- ▶ 2D to 2D warpings of a set of coloured points:



2 Layers

# Priors on deep networks

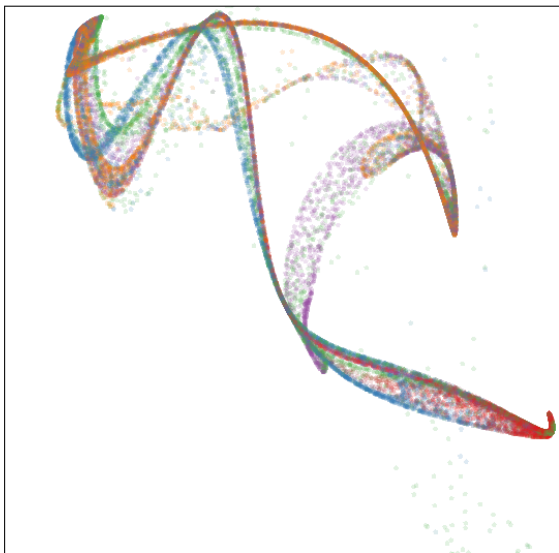
- ▶ 2D to 2D warpings of a set of coloured points:



3 Layers

# Priors on deep networks

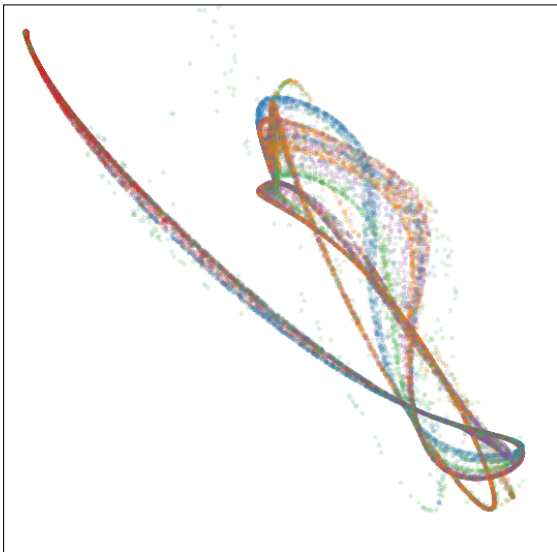
- ▶ 2D to 2D warpings of a set of coloured points:



4 Layers

# Priors on deep networks

- ▶ 2D to 2D warpings of a set of coloured points:

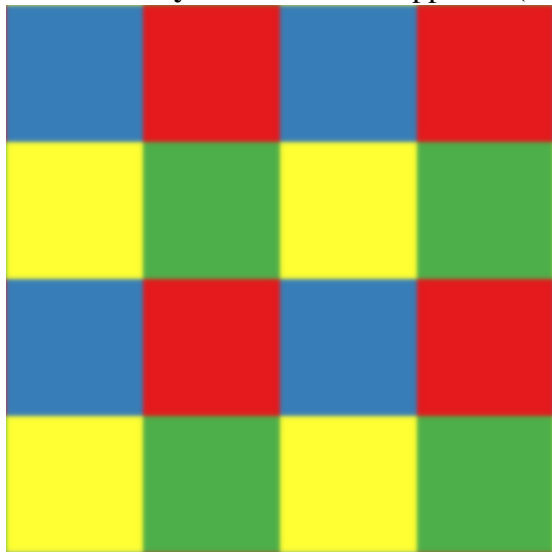


5 Layers

Density concentrates along filaments.

# Priors on deep networks

Color shows  $y$  that each  $x$  is mapped to (decision boundary)



No warping

# Priors on deep networks

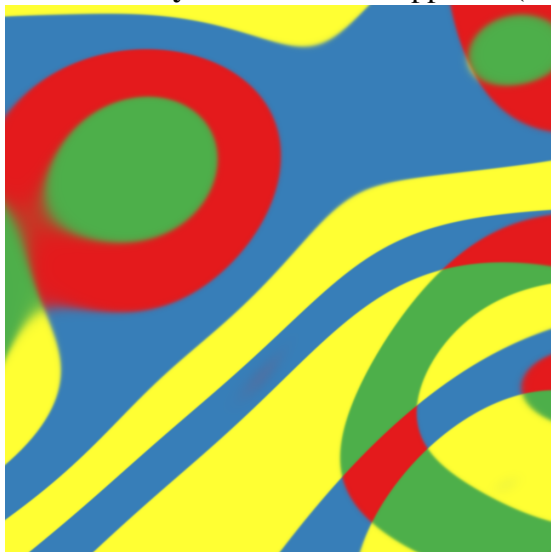
Color shows  $y$  that each  $x$  is mapped to (decision boundary)



1 Layer

# Priors on deep networks

Color shows  $y$  that each  $x$  is mapped to (decision boundary)



2 Layers



# Priors on deep networks

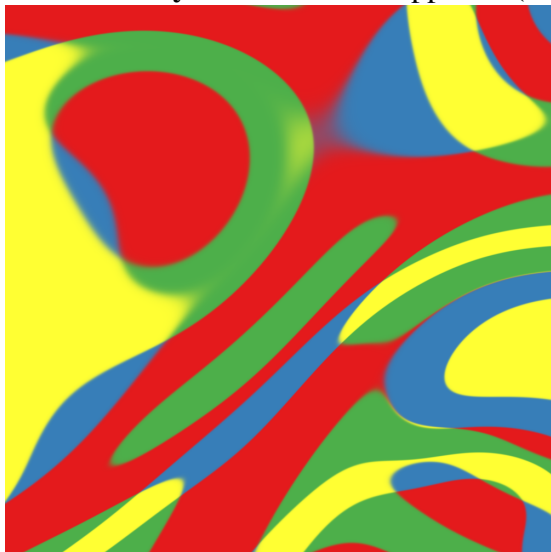
Color shows  $y$  that each  $x$  is mapped to (decision boundary)



3 Layers

# Priors on deep networks

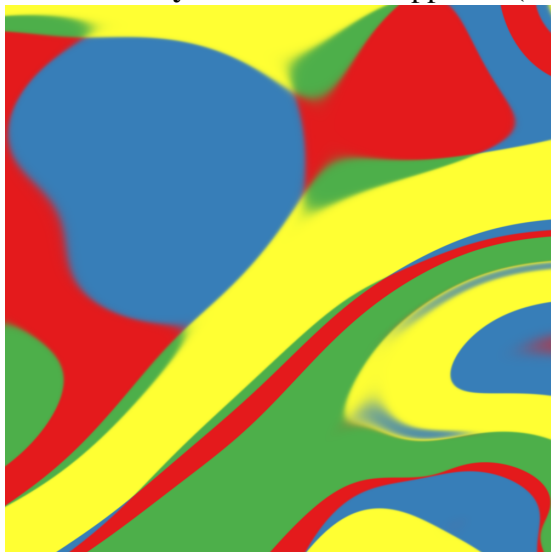
Color shows  $y$  that each  $x$  is mapped to (decision boundary)



4 Layers

# Priors on deep networks

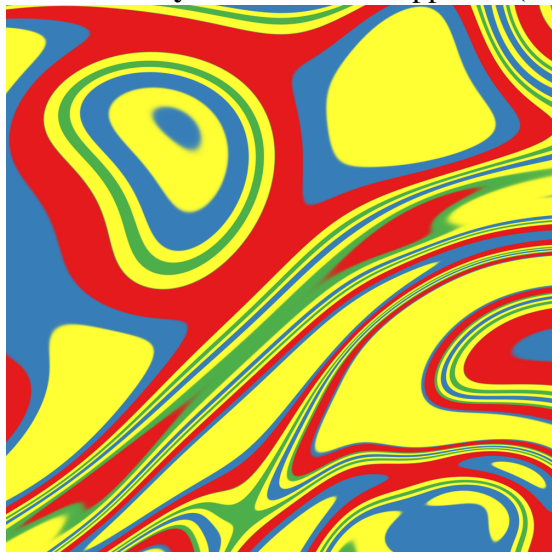
Color shows  $y$  that each  $x$  is mapped to (decision boundary)



5 Layers

# Priors on deep networks

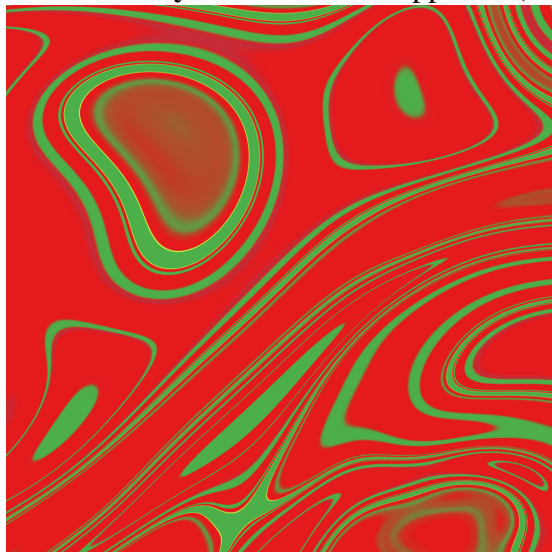
Color shows  $y$  that each  $x$  is mapped to (decision boundary)



10 Layers

# Priors on deep networks

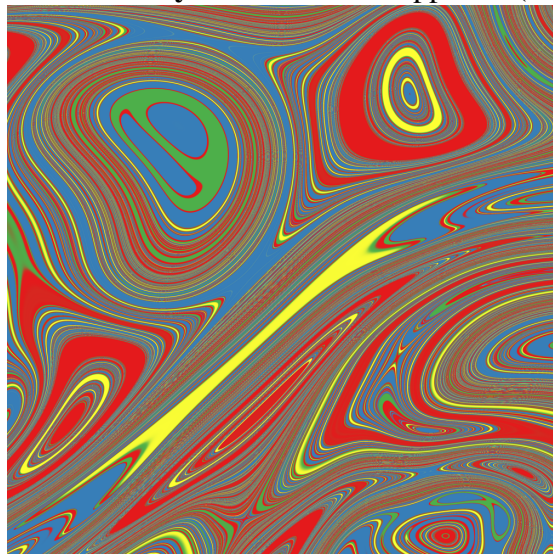
Color shows  $y$  that each  $x$  is mapped to (decision boundary)



20 Layers

# Priors on deep networks

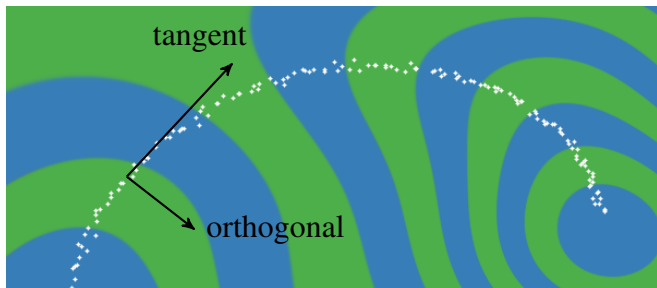
Color shows  $y$  that each  $x$  is mapped to (decision boundary)



40 Layers

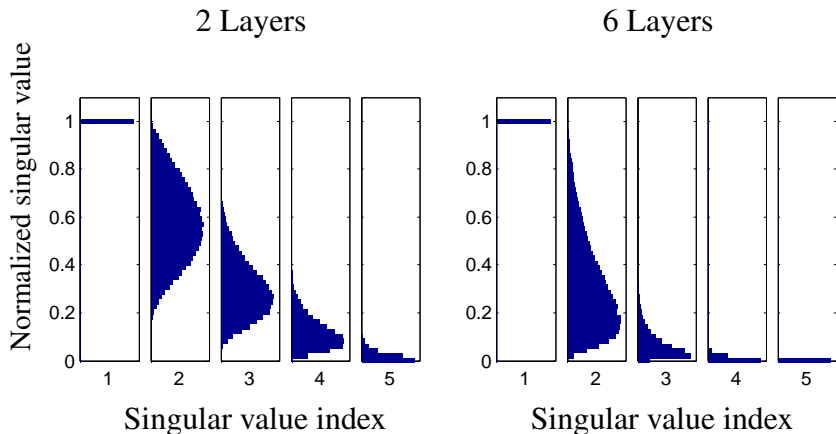
Representation only changes in one direction locally.

# What makes a good representation?



- ▶ Good representations of data manifolds don't change in directions orthogonal to the manifold. (Rifai et. al. 2011)
- ▶ Good representations also change in directions tangent to the manifold, to preserve information.
- ▶ Representation of a  $D$ -dimensional manifold should change in  $D$  orthogonal directions, locally.
- ▶ Our prior on functions might be too restrictive.

# Analysis of Jacobian



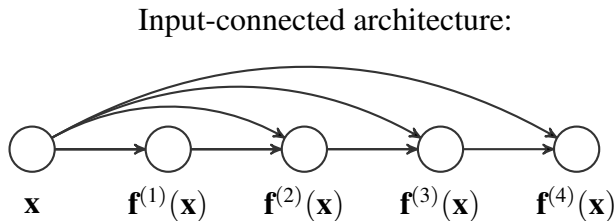
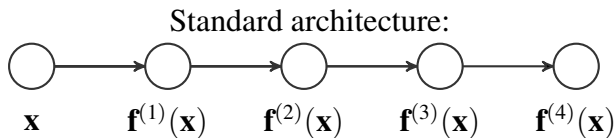
The distribution of normalized singular values of the Jacobian of functions drawn from a 5-dimensional deep GP prior.

- ▶ Lemma from paper: The Jacobian of a deep GP is a product of i.i.d. random Gaussian matrices.
- ▶ Output only changes in w.r.t. one direction as net deepens.



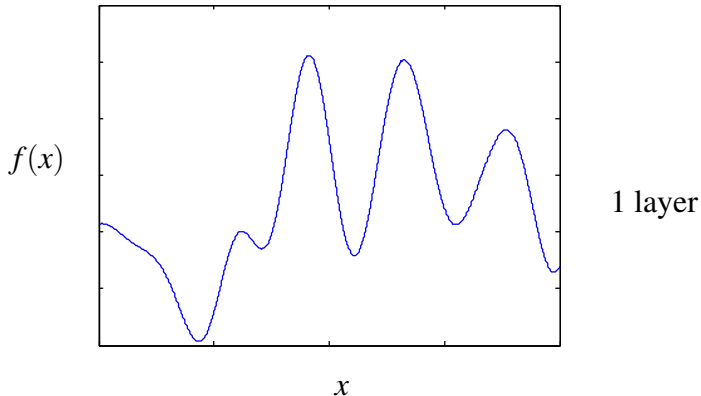
# A simple fix

- ▶ Following a suggestion from Neal (1995), we connect the inputs  $\mathbf{x}$  to each layer:



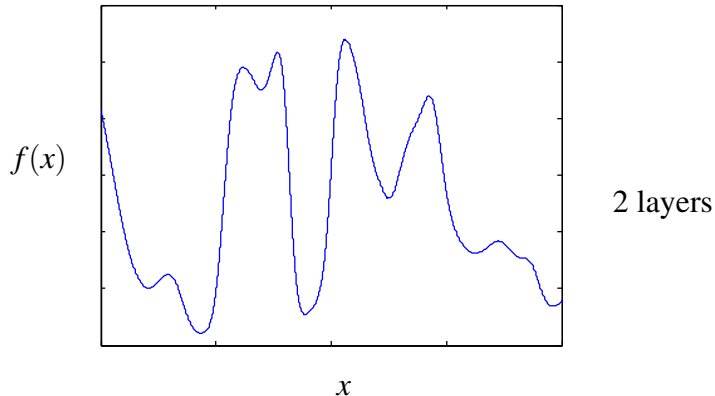
# A different architecture

- ▶ A draw from a one-neuron-per-layer deep GP, with the input also connected to each layer:



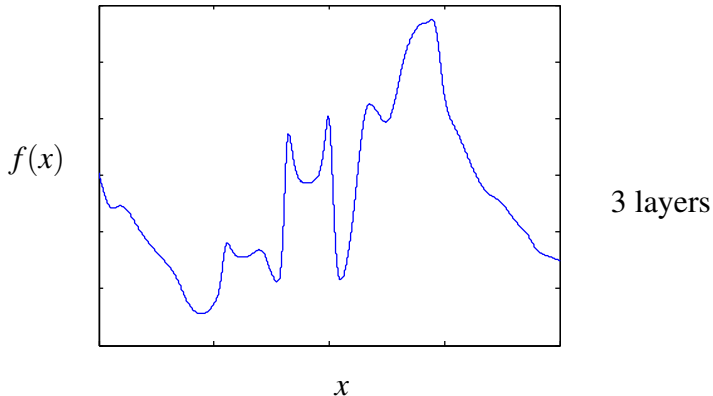
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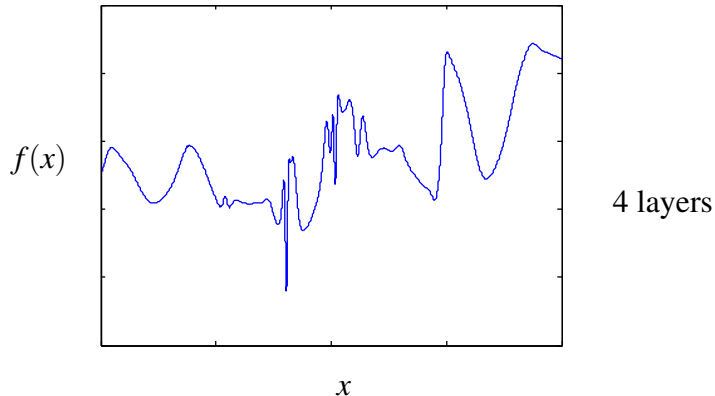
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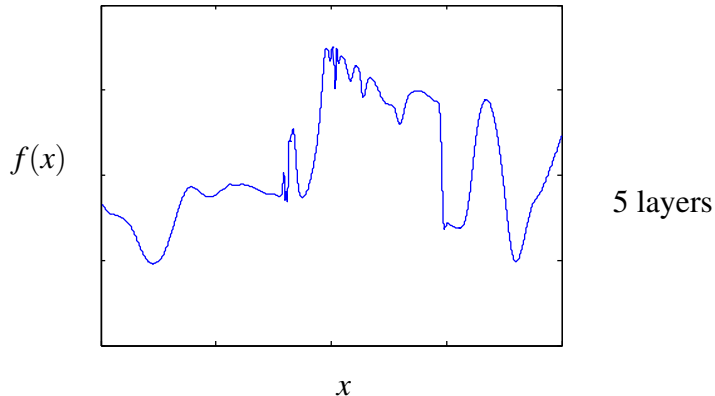
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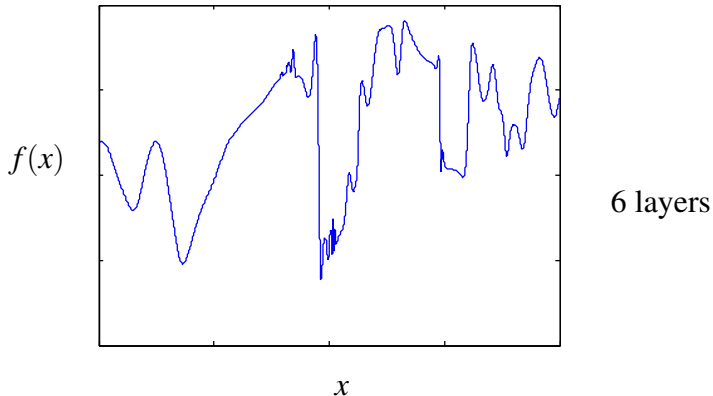
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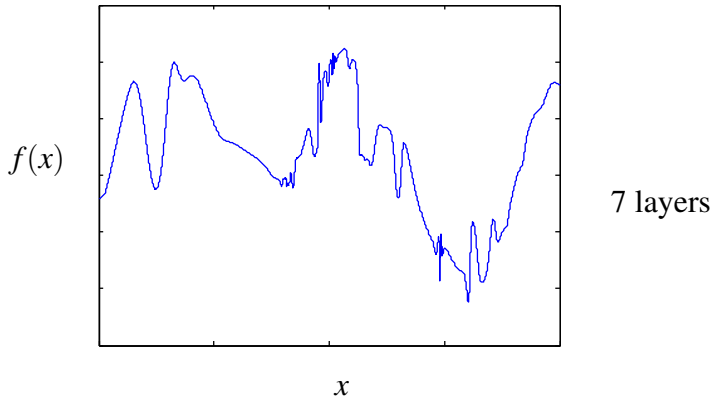
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# A different architecture

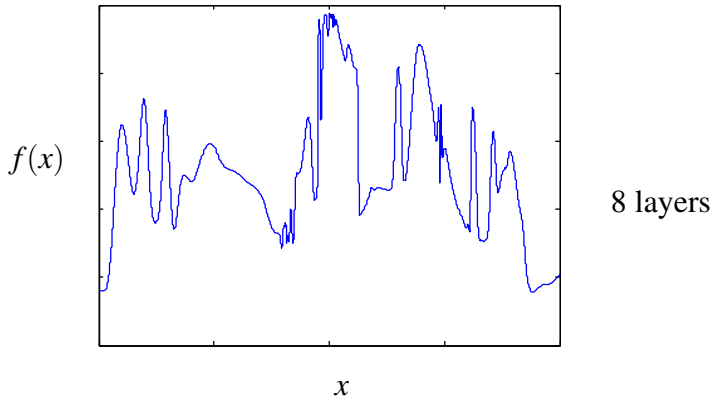
- ▶ A draw from a one-neuron-per-layer deep GP, with the input also connected to each layer:





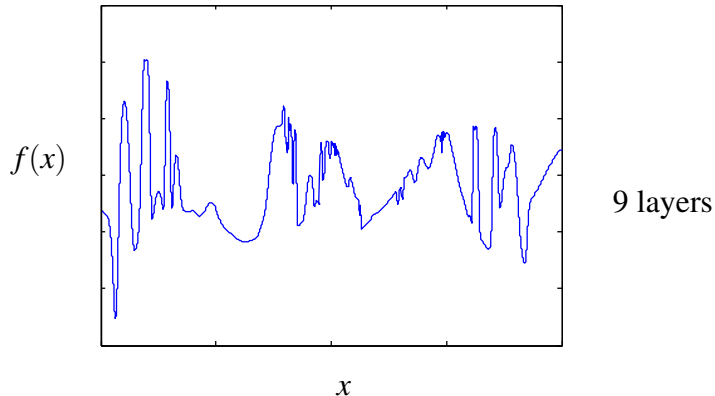
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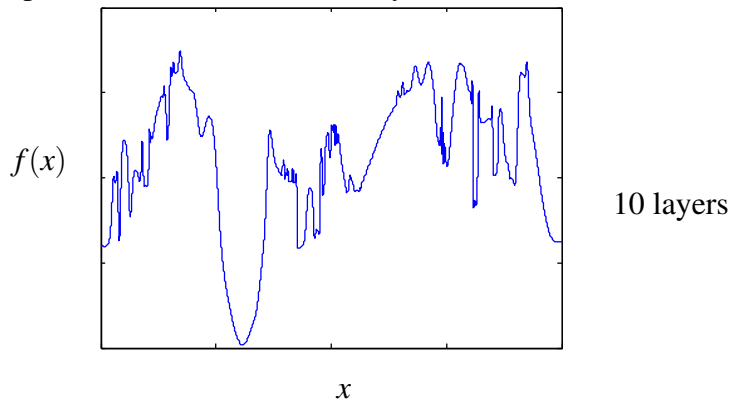
# A different architecture

- ▶ A draw from a one-neuron-per-layer deep GP, with the input also connected to each layer:



# A different architecture

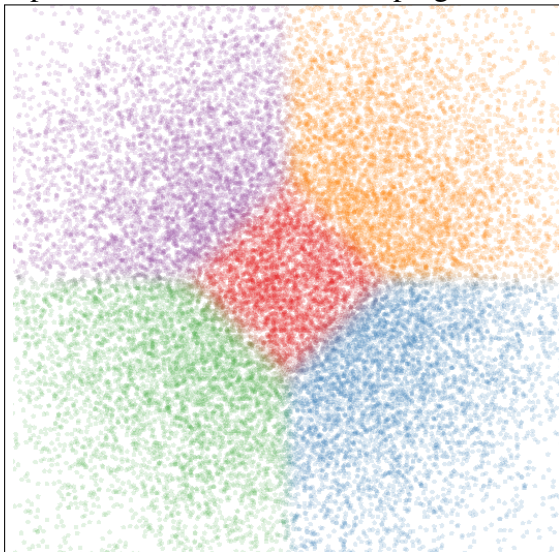
- ▶ A draw from a one-neuron-per-layer deep GP, with the input also connected to each layer:



Greater variety of derivatives.

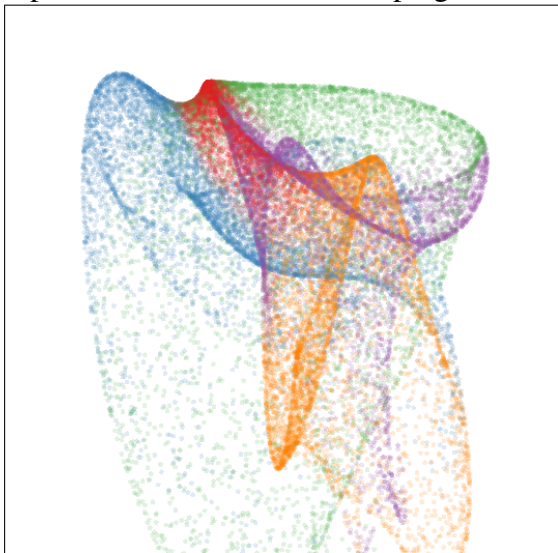
# A different architecture

- ▶ Input-connected 2D to 2D warpings of coloured points:



# A different architecture

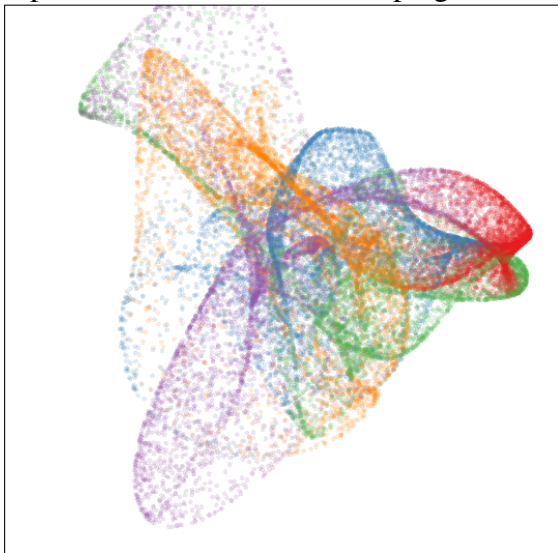
- ▶ Input-connected 2D to 2D warpings of coloured points:



1 Layer

# A different architecture

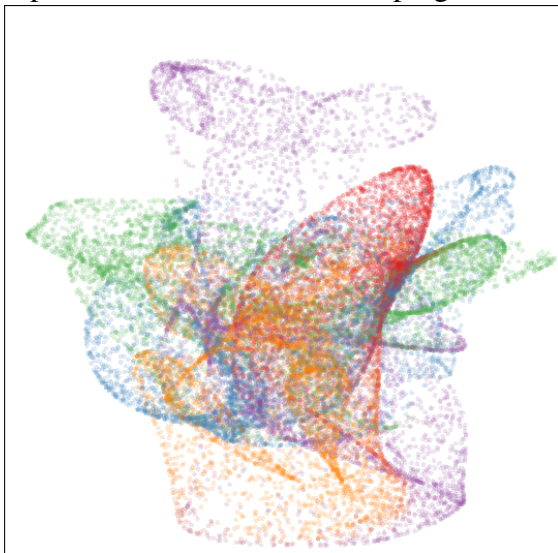
- ▶ Input-connected 2D to 2D warpings of coloured points:



2 Layers

# A different architecture

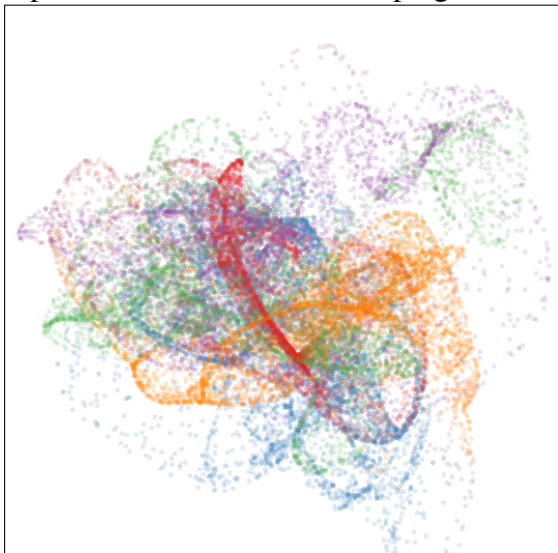
- ▶ Input-connected 2D to 2D warpings of coloured points:



3 Layers

# A different architecture

- ▶ Input-connected 2D to 2D warpings of coloured points:



4 Layers



# A different architecture

- ▶ Input-connected 2D to 2D warpings of coloured points:

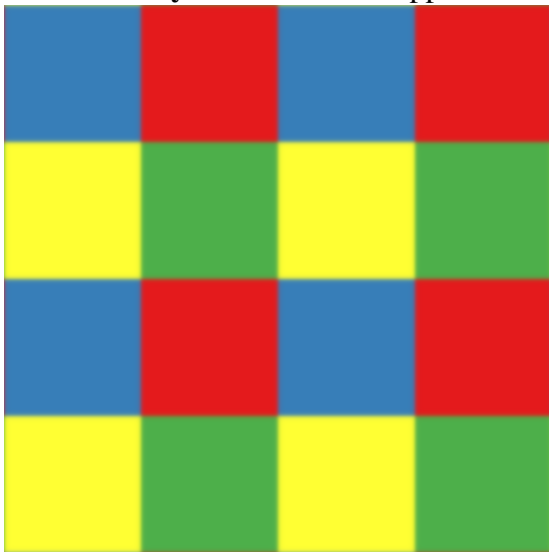


5 Layers

Density becomes more complex but remains 2D.

# A different architecture (show video)

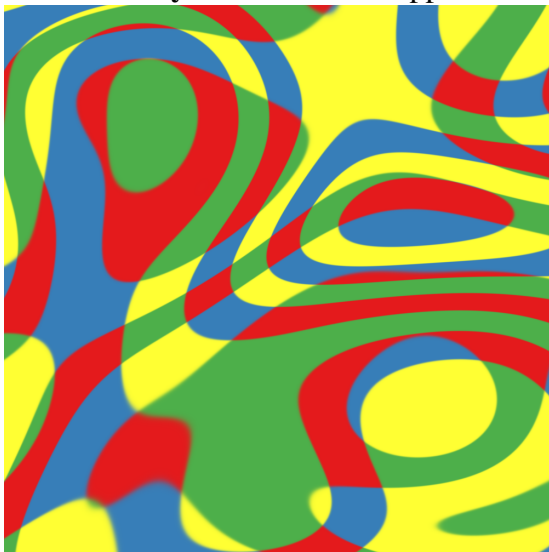
- ▶ Color shows  $y$  that each  $x$  is mapped to



No warping

# A different architecture (show video)

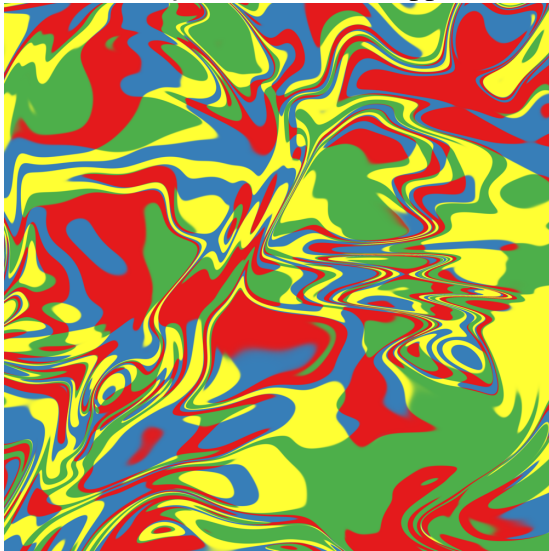
- ▶ Color shows  $y$  that each  $x$  is mapped to



2 Layers

# A different architecture (show video)

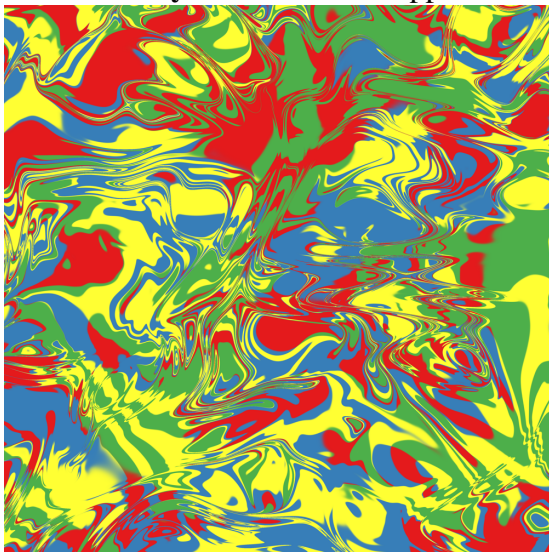
- ▶ Color shows  $y$  that each  $x$  is mapped to



10 Layers

# A different architecture (show video)

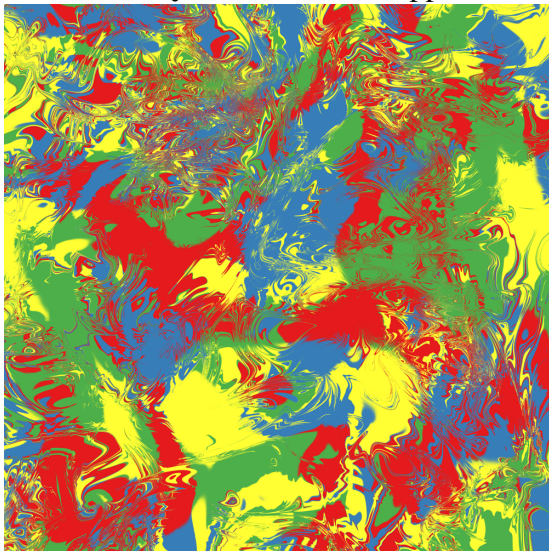
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20 Layers

## A different architecture (show video)

- ▶ Color shows  $y$  that each  $x$  is mapped to



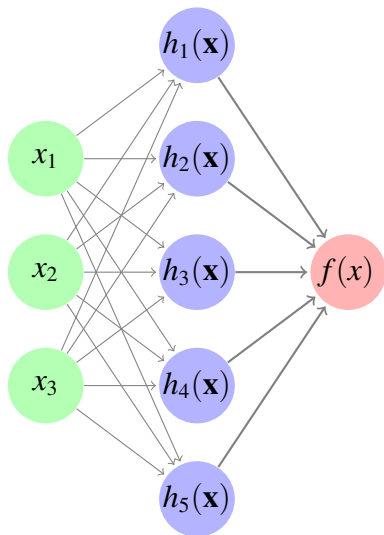
40 Layers

Representation sometimes depends on all directions.

# Understanding dropout

- ▶ Dropout is a method for regularizing neural networks (Hinton et al., 2012; Srivastava, 2013).
- ▶ Recipe:
  1. Randomly set to zero (drop out) some neuron activations.
  2. Average over all possible ways of doing this.
- ▶ Gives robustness since neurons can't depend on each other.
- ▶ How does dropout affect priors on functions?
- ▶ Related work: (Baldi and Sadowski, 2013; Cho, 2013; Wager, Wang and Liang, 2013)

# Dropout on Feature Activations



Original formulation:

$$f(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{1}{K} \sum_{i=1}^K w_i h_i(\mathbf{x})$$

with any weight distribution,

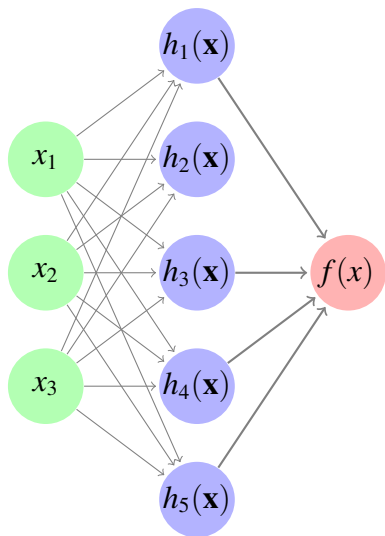
$$\mathbb{E}[w_i] = 0, \quad \mathbb{V}[w_i] = \sigma^2$$

by CLT, gives a GP as  $K \rightarrow \infty$

$$\text{cov} \begin{bmatrix} f(\mathbf{x}) \\ f(\mathbf{x}') \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \frac{\sigma^2}{K} \sum_{i=1}^K h_i(\mathbf{x}) h_i(\mathbf{x}')$$



# Dropout on Feature Activations



Remove units with probability  $\frac{1}{2}$ :

$$f(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{1}{K} \sum_{i=1}^K r_i w_i h_i(\mathbf{x}) \quad r_i \sim_{\text{iid}} \text{Ber}\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)$$

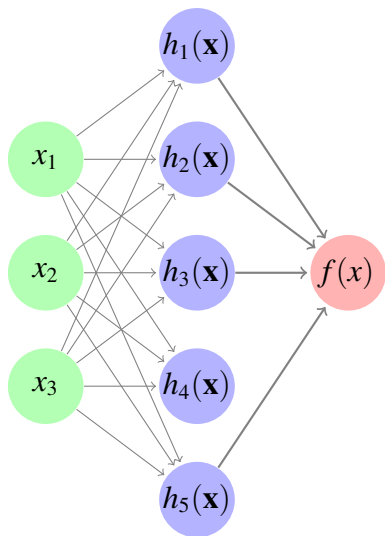
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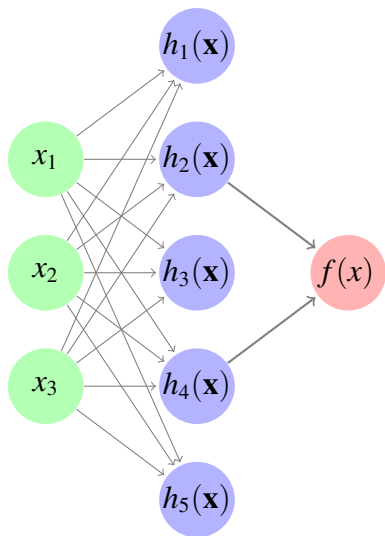
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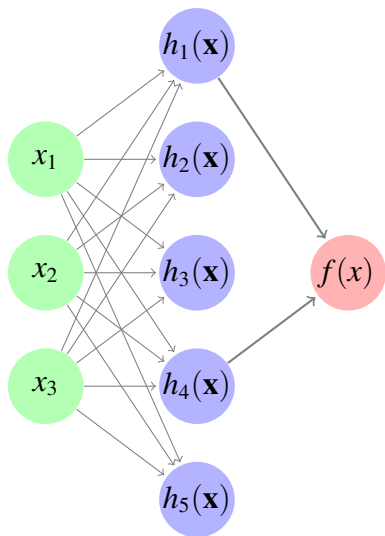
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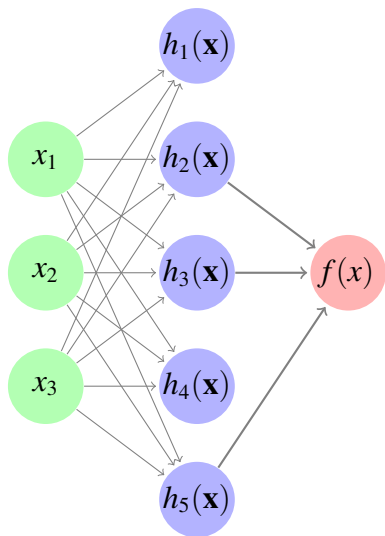
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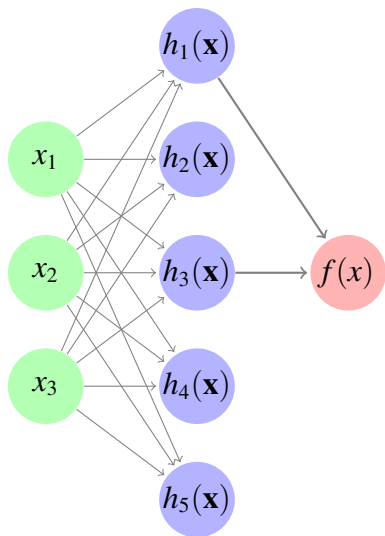
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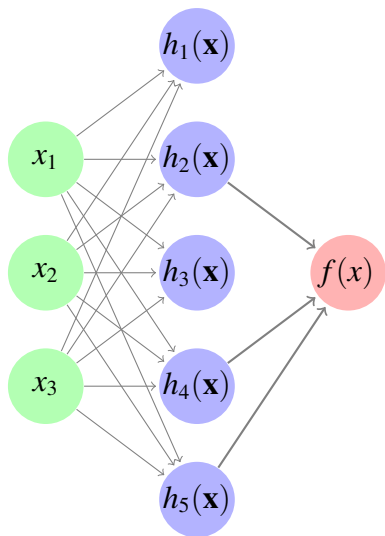
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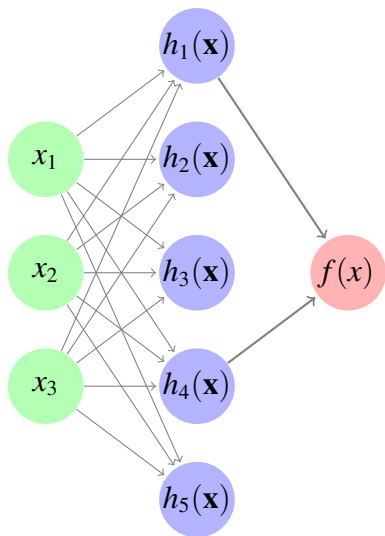
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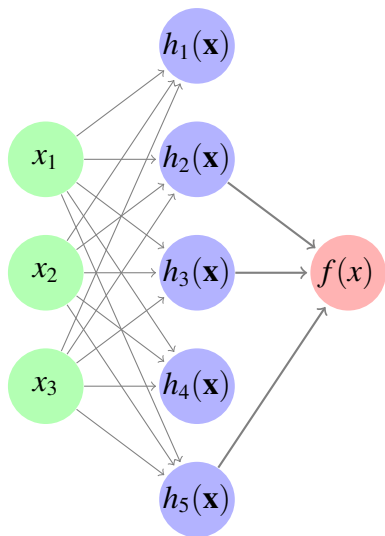
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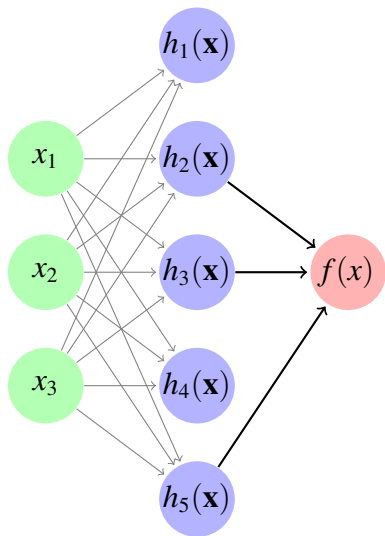
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# Dropout on Feature Activations



Double output variance:

$$f(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{2}{K} \sum_{i=1}^K r_i w_i h_i(\mathbf{x}) \quad r_i \sim_{\text{iid}} \text{Ber}\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)$$

with any weight distribution,

$$\mathbb{E} \left[ \sqrt{2} r_i w_i \right] = 0, \quad \mathbb{V} \left[ \sqrt{2} r_i w_i \right] = \frac{2}{2} \sigma^2$$

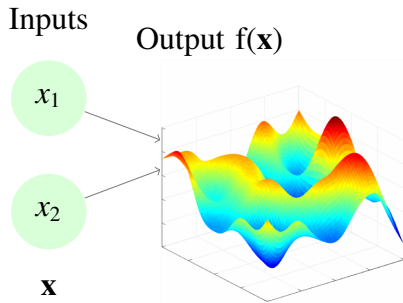
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# Dropout on Feature Activations

- ▶ Dropout on feature activations gives same GP.
  - ▶ Averaging the same model doesn't do anything.
- ▶ GPs were doing dropout all along? 😊
- ▶ GPs are strange because any one feature doesn't matter.
- ▶ Is there a better way to drop out features that would lead to robustness?

# Dropout on GP inputs

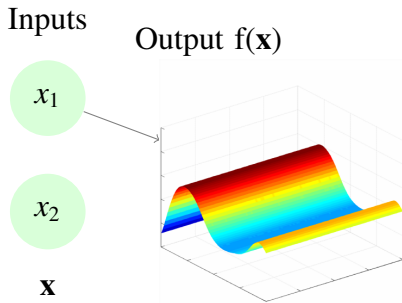


- ▶ Each function only depends on some input dimensions.
- ▶ Given prior covariance  $\text{cov}[f(\mathbf{x}), f(\mathbf{x}')] = k(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}')$ , exact dropout gives a mixture of GPs:

$$p(f(\mathbf{x})) = \frac{1}{2^D} \sum_{\mathbf{r} \in \{0,1\}^D} \text{GP}(0, k(\mathbf{r}^\top \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{r}^\top \mathbf{x}'))$$

- ▶ Can be viewed as spike-and-slab ARD prior.

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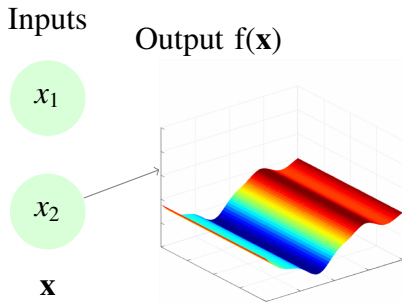


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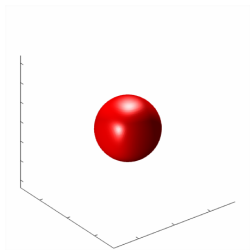
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# Covariance before and after dropout

Original squared-exp:

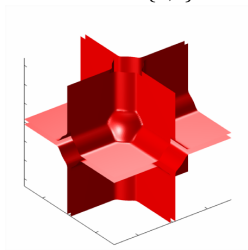
$$\text{cov} [f(\mathbf{x}), f(\mathbf{x}')] = k(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}')$$



$\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}'$

After dropout:

$$\text{cov} [f(\mathbf{x}), f(\mathbf{x}')] = \sum_{\mathbf{r} \in \{0,1\}^D} k(\mathbf{r}^\top \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{r}^\top \mathbf{x}')$$



$\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}'$

- ▶ Sum of many functions, each depends only on a subset of inputs.
- ▶ Output similar even if some input dimensions change a lot.

# Summary

- ▶ Priors on functions can shed light on design choices in a data-independent way.
- ▶ Example 1: Increasing depth makes net outputs change in fewer input directions.
- ▶ Example 2: Dropout makes output similar even if some inputs change a lot.
- ▶ What sorts of structures do we want to be able to learn?



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Thanks!