Deep Learning Foundations of Deep Neural Networks

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Overview

Feedforward Neural Networks

Training Neural Networks

Deep Neural Networks

Practical Considerations

Further Reading

We can only cover some basics here.

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Artificial Neuron

- Neuron pre-ativation (or input activation) $a(x) = b + \sum_{i} w_{i}x_{i} = b + \mathbf{w}^{T}\mathbf{x}$
- Neuron (output) activation $h(\mathbf{x}) = g(a(\mathbf{x})) = g(b + \sum_{i} w_i x_i)$
- **w** are the connection weights
- *b* is the neuron bias
- g() is the activation function



This is the basic building block of all that follows.

Linear Function: g(a) = a

- Range of *g* same as domain
- Not very interesting



Only linear transformations can be modeled.

Sigmoid Function:
$$g(a) = sigm(a) = \frac{1}{1 + exp(-a)}$$

- Maps the pre-activation *a* to [0, 1]
- Always positive
- Bounded
- Strictly increasing



Non-linear models possible.

tanh Function:
$$g(a) = tanh(a) = \frac{exp(a) - exp(-a)}{exp(a) + exp(-a)}$$

- Maps the pre-activation a to [-1, 1]
- Positive and negative
- Bounded
- Strictly increasing



Non-linear models possible.

Rectified Linear Function (Unit): $g(a) = \operatorname{reclin}(a) = \operatorname{relu}(a) = \max(0, a)$

- Bound below by 0
- No upper bound
- Monotonically increasing
- Tends to create "sparse" neurons



A very popular choice.

Capacity of a Single Neuron

- Can separate two classes...
- ...if separation is linear (hyperplane)
- Sigmoid activation allows for probability interpretation
- Cut at 0.5 for classification

x_1 w_1 $h(\mathbf{x})$ x_2 b b

A single neuron can act as a binary classifier.

Linear Classification Examples





Can be separated by a single neuron.

Non-Linear Example



Additional neurons can encode the transformation!

- Hidden layer pre-activation: $\mathbf{a}(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{b}^{(1)} + \mathbf{W}^{(1)}\mathbf{x}$
- Hidden layer activation: $\mathbf{h}^{(1)}(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{h}^{(1)}(\mathbf{a}(\mathbf{x}))$
- Output Layer:

 $y(x) = o(b^{(2)} + w^{(2)T}h^{(1)}x)$



The function o() is the output layer activation.

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- Softmax as output activation: $y_j(\mathbf{x}) = o(\mathbf{a})_j = \frac{e^{a_j}}{\sum_{k=1}^{K} e^{a_k}}$ for j = 1, ..., K
- Strictly positive
- Sums to one



Softmax provides normalized probabilities.

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Empirical Risk Minimization

- Framework to design learning algorithms $\arg \min \frac{1}{T} \sum_{t} l(y(\mathbf{x}^{(t)}; \boldsymbol{\theta}), y^{(t)}) + \lambda \Omega(\boldsymbol{\theta})$
- **heta** is the set of all parameters
- $l(y(\mathbf{x}^{(t)}; \boldsymbol{\theta}), y^{(t)})$ is the loss function
- $\Omega(\boldsymbol{\theta})$ is a regularizer (penalizes certain values of $\boldsymbol{\theta}$)
- the loss function is an upper bound on the classification error

Learning is cast as optimization.

Stochastic Gradient Descent (SDG)

Algorithm for update after each seen example:

- initialize **0** (all parameters)
- Then, for *N* iterations (epochs):
- For each training example $(\mathbf{x}^{(t)}, \mathbf{x}^{(t)})$:
- $\Delta = -\Delta_{\theta} l(f(x^{(t)}, \theta), y^{(t)}) \lambda \Delta_{\theta} \Omega(\theta)$
- $\theta \leftarrow \theta + \alpha \Delta$



Meta parameters like α are not optimized!

Ingredients for SDG

To apply the algorithm wee need:

- The loss function $l(f(x^{(t)}, \theta), y^{(t)})$
- The parameter gradients, $\Delta_{\theta} l(f(x^{(t)}, \theta), y^{(t)})$ etc.
- The regularizer Ω and its gradiend $\Delta_\theta \Omega$
- An initialization method
- A method to compute the gradients in practice



Gradient computation is done by back-propagation.



L2 Regularization

$$\Omega(\theta) = \sum_{k} \sum_{i} \sum_{j} (W_{i,j}^{(k)})^2$$

- Only applied to weights, not biases
- · Causes weights to decay

Can be interpreted as a Gaussian prior.

Regularization

L1 Regularization

$$\Omega(\theta) = \sum_{k} \sum_{i} \sum_{j} |W_{i,j}^{(k)}|$$

- Only applied to weights, not biases
- Will push some weiths to exactly zero

Can be interpreted as a Laplacian prior.

high variance, low bias



This intuitively motivates regularization.

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Deep Neural Networks

- Instance of multilayer representation
- Each layer corresponds to "distributed" representation
- There motivations from biology (visual cortex)
- Feature extraction
- Grouping of features
- Recognition of classes

More compact representation that single layer.



Example: MNIST, Handwritten Digits



Multiple classes. Feature extraction.

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Training Difficulties

Harder optimization problem

- $\cdot \rightarrow$ vanishing gradient problem
- Underfitting
- Saturated units block propagation
- Can be mitigated by pre-training followed by refining
- High variance / low bias situation
 - Many parameters
 - Complex function space
 - Overfitting

Pre-training can be unsupervised!



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Practical Considerations

- There many frameworks avaialable that do most of the tedious work for you:
 - Tensorflow/Keras
 - Theano/Keras
 - SciKit Learn
 - PyTorch
 - ...
- With various levels of abstraction
- And programming styles
- Most are GPU enabled
- I prefer PyTorch (for now)

If you want to dive, you need to know python.

Let's look at a simple example!

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- A very accessible series of lectures: youtube video series
- Books:

"Introduction to Statistical Learning" "The Elements of Statistical Learning" "Bayesian Reasoning and Machine Learning"

Getting to the bottom of this will take time.