Introduction to Computer Vision



Lecture 7- Deep Learning IV

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Embodied Perception and InteraCtion Lab

Spring 2025



Weight Initialization: He Inititalization



He et al, "Delving Deep into Rectifiers: Surpassing Human-Level Performance on ImageNet Classification", ICCV 2015

Get Rid of Batch Dimension?



Can we remove the dependence on the batch dimension? We then don't have the discrepancy between train and eval modes.

Normalization Techniques



Problems of CNN Training

- Underfitting on the train set: usually caused by limited model capacity or unsatisfactory optimization
 - Batch normalization
 - ResNet or Skip links
- Overfitting on the test set

Problems When CNN Gets Really Deep

What happens when we continue stacking deeper layers on a "plain" convolutional neural network?



56-layer model performs worse on both test and training error -> The deeper model performs worse, but it's not caused by overfitting!

Problems When CNN Gets Really Deep

Fact: Deep models have more representation power (more parameters) than shallower models.

Hypothesis: the problem is an *optimization* problem, **deeper models are harder to optimize**

Problems When CNN Gets Really Deep

Fact: Deep models have more representation power (more parameters) than shallower models.

Hypothesis: the problem is an *optimization* problem, deeper models are harder to optimize

What should the deeper model learn to be at least as good as the shallower model?

A solution by construction is copying the learned layers from the shallower model and setting additional layers to identity mapping.



H(x)

conv

Х

relu

Solution: Use network layers to fit a residual mapping instead of directly trying to fit a desired underlying mapping



Solution: Use network layers to fit a residual mapping instead of directly trying to fit a desired underlying mapping



From the Perspective of Gradient BP



Skip links provide bypaths for gradients to backpropagate.

Loss Landscape

• "When networks become sufficiently deep, neural loss landscapes quickly transition from being nearly convex to being highly chaotic. This transition from convex to chaotic behavior coincides with a dramatic drop in generalization error, and ultimately to a lack of trainability."





Li, Hao, et al. "Visualizing the loss landscape of neural nets." Advances in neural information processing systems 31 (2018).

Loss Landscape

• "skip connections promote flat minimizers and prevent the transition to chaotic behavior, which helps explain why skip connections are necessary for training extremely deep networks."



Figure 1: The loss surfaces of ResNet-56 with/without skip connections. The proposed filter normalization scheme is used to enable comparisons of sharpness/flatness between the two figures.

Overfitting

- Underfitting on the train set: usually caused by limited model capacity or unsatisfactory optimization
 - Batch normalization
 - Skip link
- Overfitting on the test set:
 - Data augmentation
 - Regularization
 - Dropout

The Generalization Gap



Generalization gap: the difference between a model's performance on training data and its performance on unseen data drawn from the same distribution.

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Early Stopping



Stop training the model when accuracy on the validation set decreases Or train for a long time, but always keep track of the model snapshot that worked best on val

The Generalization Gap and Overfitting

- For an overfitted model, it contains more parameters than can be justified by the data.
- The essence of overfitting is to have unknowingly extracted some of the residual variation (i.e., the noise) as if that variation represented underlying model structure
- To minimize generalization gap, we consider to minimize the mismatch between your model and your data.



Low training error Low test error Low training error High test error

From the Perspective of Data

- If your data exhibit sufficient variations, then an appropriate model can't easily overfit.
- To increase the diversity of your data
 - simply collect more data (expensive and time consuming)
 - Data augmentation (free and fast)

Data Augmentation



Data augmentation is a set of techniques to artificially increase the amount of data by gene rating new data points from existing data. This includes making small changes to data or usi ng deep learning models to generate new data points.

Figure credit: Stanford CS231N

Simplest Data Augmentation: Horizontal Flip



Figure credit: Stanford CS231N

- Data augmentation applies changes to the image while maintaining the label unchanged.
- The thing you cares must be invariant under the transformation of data augmentation.

Data Augmentation Gallery

- Position augmentation
 - Scaling
 - Cropping
 - Flipping
 - Padding
 - Rotation
 - Translation
 - Affine transformation
- Color augmentation
 - Brightness
 - Contrast
 - Saturation
 - Hue



• Applying GAN/RL for data augmentation

https://research.aimultiple.com/data-augmentation/

Benefit of Using Data Augmentations

- Improving model prediction accuracy
 - reducing data overfitting and creating variability in data
 - increasing generalization ability of the models
 - helping resolve class imbalance issues in classification

Doing Right Data Augmentations



• The magnitude of DA can't be too strong. If core information is lost, then model can't learn.

Doing Right Data Augmentations



- The magnitude of DA can't be too strong. If core information is lost, then model can't learn.
- The magnitude of DA shouldn't be too weak, otherwise no use.
- Decide the magnitude by human or by tuning parameters.

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Regularization

• Avoid the model to be arbitrarily complex

$$L(W) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^{N} L_i(f(x_i, W), y_i) + \lambda R(W)$$

Data loss: Model predictions should match training data

Regularization: Prevent the model from doing *too* well on training data

Regularization: Prefer Simpler Models



Regularization

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Occam's Razar: Among multiple competing hypotheses, the simplest is the best, William of Ockham 1285-1347

Regularization from the Model Perspective

• Avoid the model to be arbitrarily complex

$$\mathscr{L} = \mathscr{L}_{main} + \lambda R(W)$$

In common use:L2 regularization $R(W) = \sum_k \sum_l W_{k,l}^2$ (Weight decay)L1 regularization $R(W) = \sum_k \sum_l |W_{k,l}|$ Elastic net (L1 + L2) $R(W) = \sum_k \sum_l \beta W_{k,l}^2 + |W_{k,l}|$

Dropout

In each forward pass, randomly set some neurons to zero Probability of dropping is a hyperparameter; 0.5 is common





Srivastava et al, "Dropout: A simple way to prevent neural networks from overfitting", JMLR 2014

Dropout

p = 0.5 # probability of keeping a unit active. higher = less dropout

```
def train_step(X):
""" X contains the data """

# forward pass for example 3-layer neural network
H1 = np.maximum(0, np.dot(W1, X) + b1)
U1 = np.random.rand(*H1.shape)
```

perform parameter update... (not shown)

Example forward pass with a 3-layer network using dropout



Dropout

How can this possibly be a good idea?



Forces the network to have a redundant representation; Prevents co-adaptation of features



Dropout: Test Time



At test time all neurons are active always => We must scale the activations so that for each neuron: output at test time = expected output at training time

BatchNorm as a Regularization

- BatchNorm forces the output before activations to follow a certain Gaussian distribution, which limits the capacity of a model ==> Regularization
- BatchNorm thus helps alleviate overfitting.
- With BatchNorm, people may not need dropout.

Summary of Mitigating Overfitting

• Principle:

- to balance the **data** variability and the **model** capacity
- Techniques:
 - Data augmentation (from the data perspective)
 - BatchNorm (from the data perspective)
 - Regularization (from the model perspective)
 - Dropout (from the model perspective)

• ...

(Always good to use)

(used only for large FC layers)
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Classification

Image Classification

- Image classification is a core task in computer vision.
- An example of binary classification:



Image Classification

- Classic definition: image classification is to categorize an image into several known classes (N).
- Image classification is very important for semantic understanding.



Challenges



(3 channels RGB)

Challenges: Pose and Deformation



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Challenges: Viewpoint Variation



Challenges: Background Variation



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Challenges: Illumination



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Challenges: Occlusion



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Challenges: Intraclass Variation



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The Requirement of A Good Image Classifier

• Invariant with all the aforementioned variations.

- That's why we want to add those data augmentations to mimic these variations.
 - Rotation -> Pose/viewpoint
 - Color jittering -> illumination
 - Crop and scale --> viewpoint

•

Methods

- Non-parameteric models
 - Nearest Neighbor
- Parametric models
 - CNN
 - ...

Nearest Neighbor Classifier



Training data with labels



query data

Distance Metric




Distance Metric

L1 (Manhattan) distance $d_1(I_1, I_2) = \sum_p |I_1^p - I_2^p|$



L2 (Euclidean) distance

$$d_2(I_1,I_2) = \sqrt{\sum_p \left(I_1^p - I_2^p
ight)^2}$$



Distance Metric

L1 distance:

$$d_1(I_1,I_2) = \sum_p |I_1^p - I_2^p|$$

test image							
56	32	10	18				
90	23	128	133				
24	26	178	200				
2	0	255	220				

training image							
10	20	24	17				
8	10	89	100				
12	16	178	170				
4	32	233	112				

pixel-wise absolute value differences

46	12	14	1	
82	13	39	33	add
12	10	0	30	- 456
2	32	22	108	

Nearest Neighbor Classifier



K-Nearest Neighbors

Instead of copying label from nearest neighbor, take **majority vote** from K closest points



K = 1

K = 3

K = 5

Similar strategy to RANSAC.

Problems with Nearest Neighbor Classifier

- KNN with pixel distance never used.
 - Pixel distance as a metric is too sensitive to change in background/illumination/pose/viewpoint/occlusion/... that are not essential to the semantics.
- Very slow at test time.
- However, nearest neighbor-based techniques are still useful when the metrics is learned via a deep neural network and widely used in image retrieval, metric learning, 3D vision, and etc.

Using CNN for Image Classification

- Things we need to take care:
 - Network architecture
 - Loss functions

- For image classification, the most widely paradigm is **Softmax classifier** + **cross-entropy loss.**
- For binary classification, people also use SVM loss. However, the extended multiclass SVM loss is rarely used in current trend.

Multiclass SVM loss:

Given an example (x_i, y_i) where x_i is the image and where y_i is the (integer) label,

and using the shorthand for the scores vector: $s = f(x_i, W)$

the SVM loss has the form:

$$L_{i} = \sum_{j \neq y_{i}} \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } s_{y_{i}} \geq s_{j} + 1\\ s_{j} - s_{y_{i}} + 1 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$
$$= \sum_{j \neq y_{i}} \max(0, s_{j} - s_{y_{i}} + 1)$$

SoftMax Classifier

• Also called multinomial logistic regression.



Want to interpret raw classifier scores as probabilities



Softmax Function

cat **3.2** car 5.1 frog -1.7

SoftMax as a Non-Linear Activation

- SoftMax, also known as Softargmax or normalized exponential function, is a generalization of the logistic function to multiple dimensions.
- Definition: $\sigma(z) : z \in \mathbb{R}^K \to (0,1)^K$ when K > 1

$$\sigma(z)_i = \frac{\exp(\beta z_i)}{\sum_{j=1}^{K} \exp(\beta z_j)}$$

• $\beta = 1$ by default.

SoftMax as a Non-Linear Activation

- SoftMax, also known as Softargmax or normalized exponential function, is a generalization of the sigmoid function to multiple dimensions.
- Definition: $\sigma(z) : z \in \mathbb{R}^K \to (0,1)^K$ when K > 1

$$\sigma(z)_i = \frac{\exp(\beta z_i)}{\sum_{j=1}^{K} \exp(\beta z_j)}$$

- $\beta = 1$ by default.
- When $\beta \to \infty$, Softmax \to argmax.

• When
$$K = 2$$
, $\sigma(\begin{bmatrix} z \\ 0 \end{bmatrix})_1 = \text{Sigmoid}(z)$

SoftMax Classifier



SoftMax Classifier



Want to interpret raw classifier scores as probabilities

Negative Log-likelihood Loss

• When correct probability is a one-hot vector, we can simply use negative log likelihood (NLL) loss.



Loss between Two Discrete Distributions

• When correct probs is not one-hot, e.g. there is uncertainty in the label or the label is smoothed (label smoothing), we need to measure the difference between two distributions



"Distance" between Two Distributions

- One widely used measure is Kullback-Leibler divergence $D_{\textit{KL}}(P\,|\,|\,Q)$
 - a measure of how one probability distribution Q is different from a second, reference probability distribution P.
 - For discrete probability distributions:

$$D_{ ext{KL}}(P \parallel Q) = \sum_{x \in \mathcal{X}} P(x) \logiggl(rac{P(x)}{Q(x)}iggr).$$

Properties of KL Divergence

• Kullback-Leibler divergence $D_{KL}(P \mid \mid Q)$

$$D_{ ext{KL}}(P \parallel Q) = \sum_{x \in \mathcal{X}} P(x) \logiggl(rac{P(x)}{Q(x)}iggr).$$

- $D_{KL}(P \mid \mid Q) \ge 0$ and $D_{KL}(P \mid \mid Q) = 0$ only if P = Q
- It is not a metric, since $D_{KL}(P | | Q) \neq D_{KL}(Q | | P)$ and and does not satisfy the triangle inequality.

From KL Divergence to Cross-Entropy

$$D_{KL}(P \mid \mid Q) = -\sum_{x \in \mathcal{X}} P(x) \log Q(x) - (-\sum_{x \in \mathcal{X}} P(x) \log P(x))$$

$$H(P, Q) \qquad H(P)$$

- Entropy H(P)
- Cross entropy H(P, Q)

From KL Divergence to Cross-Entropy



- Entropy H(P), cross entropy H(P, Q)
- When P is the ground truth prob., Q is the predicted prob., H(P) is a constant.

Cross entropy loss:
$$\mathscr{L}_{CE} = H(P, Q) = -\sum_{x \in \mathscr{X}} P(x) \log Q(x)$$

Properties of Cross Entropy Loss

$$\mathscr{L}_{CE} = H(P, Q) = -\sum_{x \in \mathscr{X}} P(x) \log Q(x)$$

- With random initialization, $\mathscr{L}_{CE} \approx \log(\text{\# of classes})$
- No upper bound.
- Minimum = 0.

Summary of SoftMax Classifier



Want to interpret raw classifier scores as probabilities

$$s = f(x_i; W)$$
 $P(Y = k | X = x_i) = rac{e^{s_k}}{\sum_j e^{s_j}}$ Softmax Function

Maximize probability of correct class $L_i = -\log P(Y = y_i | X = x_i)$

Putting it all together:

$$L_i = -\log(rac{e^{sy_i}}{\sum_j e^{s_j}})$$

3.2 5.1 -1.7

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Next week: Lecture 8, Deep Learning V

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