# Lecture 7:

# Training Neural Networks Part II

Subhransu Maji, Chuang Gan and TAs Some slides kindly provided by Fei-Fei Li, Jiajun Wu, Erik Learned-Miller Lecture 7 - 1 Sep. 26, 2024

### Projects as a mini-conference

- 1. You will write a paper with your team.
  - a. A suggested format will make sure you cover the right kinds of topics.
- 2. Everyone will participate in "paper reviewing".
  - a. These will be highly structured so you know what to comment on.
- 3. Subhransu and I will grade all the final write-ups at the same time as the reviews. We will not use the review scores directly

Lecture 7 - 2

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### **Project Ideas**

### TA will give presentations on Oct. 1 (Next Tuesday )!!

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# Overview

#### 1. One time setup

activation functions, preprocessing, weight initialization, regularization, gradient checking

#### 1. Training dynamics

babysitting the learning process, parameter updates, hyperparameter optimization

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#### 1. Evaluation

model ensembles

### **Activation Functions**



Sigmoid

 $\sigma(x) = 1/(1+e^{-x})$ 

- Squashes numbers to range [0,1]
- Historically popular since they have nice interpretation as a saturating "firing rate" of a neuron

2 problems:

1. Saturated neurons "kill" the gradients

Lecture 7 - 5

2. exp() is a bit compute expensive

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### **Activation Functions**



#### Computes f(x) = max(0,x)

- Does not saturate (in +region)
- Very little computation
- Converges much faster than sigmoid/tanh in practice (e.g. 6x)

#### **ReLU** (Rectified Linear Unit)

[Krizhevsky et al., 2012]

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What happens when x = -10? What happens when x = 0? What happens when x = 10?



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### **Activation Functions**



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- Does not saturate
- Computationally efficient
- Converges much faster than sigmoid/tanh in practice! (e.g. 6x)
  will not "die".

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Leaky ReLU  $f(x) = \max(0.01x, x)$ 

# **Data Preprocessing**

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### Step 1: Preprocess the data



(Assume X [NxD] is data matrix, each example in a row)

Invariance of units

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### Step 1: Preprocess the data



(Assume X [NxD] is data matrix, each example in a row)

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### Preprocessing: Why are we doing this?

### - Subtracting off the mean

- Avoid gradients that only point in two different orthants.

### - Normalizing the magnitude

- Kilometers vs. millimeters...
  - Invariance to the specific \*units\* of the inputs...

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#### Step 1: Preprocess the data

In practice, you may also see **PCA** and **Whitening** of the data



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### In practice for Images: center only

e.g. consider CIFAR-10 example with [32,32,3] images

- Subtract the mean image (e.g. AlexNet) (mean image = [32,32,3] array)
- Subtract per-channel mean (e.g. VGGNet) (mean along each channel = 3 numbers)

Not common to normalize variance, to do PCA or whitening

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# Weight Initialization

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- Q: what happens when W=0 init is used?



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# - First idea: **Small random numbers** (Gaussian with zero mean and 1e-2 standard deviation)

$$W = 0.01^*$$
 np.random.randn(D,H)

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- First idea: **Small random numbers** (Gaussian with zero mean and 1e-2 standard deviation)

Works ~okay for small networks, but can lead to non-homogeneous distributions of activations across the layers of a network.

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### Let's look at some activation statistics

E.g. 10-layer net with 500 neurons on each layer, using tanh nonlinearities, and initializing as described in last slide.

```
# assume some unit gaussian 10-D input data
D = np.random.randn(1000, 500)
hidden_layer_sizes = [500]*10
nonlinearities = ['tanh']*len(hidden_layer_sizes)
```

```
act = {'relu':lambda x:np.maximum(0,x), 'tanh':lambda x:np.tanh(x)}
Hs = {}
for i in xrange(len(hidden_layer_sizes)):
    X = D if i == 0 else Hs[i-1] # input at this layer
    fan_in = X.shape[1]
    fan_out = hidden_layer_sizes[i]
    W = np.random.randn(fan_in, fan_out) * 0.01 # layer initialization
```

```
H = np.dot(X, W) # matrix multiply
H = act[nonlinearities[i]](H) # nonlinearity
Hs[i] = H # cache result on this layer
```

```
# look at distributions at each layer
print 'input layer had mean %f and std %f' % (np.mean(D), np.std(D))
layer_means = [np.mean(H) for i,H in Hs.iteritems()]
layer_stds = [np.std(H) for i,H in Hs.iteritems()]
for i,H in Hs.iteritems():
    print 'hidden layer %d had mean %f and std %f' % (i+1, layer_means[i], layer_stds[i])
```

```
# plot the means and standard deviations
plt.figure()
plt.subplot(121)
plt.plot(Hs.keys(), layer_means, 'ob-')
plt.title('layer mean')
plt.subplot(122)
plt.plot(Hs.keys(), layer_stds, 'or-')
plt.title('layer std')
```

```
# plot the raw distributions
plt.figure()
for i,H in Hs.iteritems():
    plt.subplot(1,len(Hs),i+1)
    plt.hist(H.ravel(), 30, range=(-1,1))
```

```
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```

input layer had mean 0.000927 and std 0.998388 hidden layer 1 had mean -0.000117 and std 0.213081 hidden layer 2 had mean -0.000001 and std 0.047551 hidden layer 3 had mean -0.000002 and std 0.010630 hidden layer 4 had mean 0.000001 and std 0.002378 hidden layer 5 had mean 0.000002 and std 0.000532 hidden layer 6 had mean -0.000000 and std 0.000119 hidden layer 7 had mean 0.000000 and std 0.000026 hidden layer 8 had mean -0.000000 and std 0.000006 hidden layer 9 had mean 0.000000 and std 0.000001 hidden layer 10 had mean -0.000000 and std 0.000000



input layer had mean 0.000927 and std 0.998388 hidden layer 1 had mean -0.000117 and std 0.213081 hidden layer 2 had mean -0.000001 and std 0.047551 hidden layer 3 had mean -0.000002 and std 0.010630 hidden layer 4 had mean 0.000002 and std 0.002378 hidden layer 5 had mean 0.000002 and std 0.000532 hidden layer 6 had mean -0.000000 and std 0.000019 hidden layer 7 had mean 0.000000 and std 0.000026 hidden layer 8 had mean -0.000000 and std 0.000006 hidden layer 9 had mean -0.000000 and std 0.000000 hidden layer 9 had mean -0.000000 and std 0.000001 hidden layer 10 had mean -0.000000 and std 0.000001



All activations become zero!

Q: think about the backward pass. What do the gradients look like?

Hint: think about backward pass for a W\*X gate.

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#### W = np.random.randn(fan\_in, fan\_out) \* 1.0 # layer initialization

input layer had mean 0.001800 and std 1.001311 hidden layer 1 had mean -0.000430 and std 0.981879 hidden layer 2 had mean -0.000849 and std 0.981649 hidden layer 3 had mean 0.000483 and std 0.981640 hidden layer 4 had mean 0.000483 and std 0.981755 hidden layer 5 had mean -0.000401 and std 0.981560 hidden layer 7 had mean -0.000401 and std 0.981560 hidden layer 7 had mean -0.000441 and std 0.981520 hidden layer 8 had mean -0.000448 and std 0.981913 hidden layer 9 had mean -0.000899 and std 0.981738 hidden layer 16 had mean 0.000584 and std 0.981736

#### \*1.0 instead of \*0.01



Almost all neurons completely saturated, either -1 and 1. Gradients will be all zero.

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input layer had mean 0.001800 and std 1.001311 hidden layer 1 had mean 0.001198 and std 0.627953 hidden layer 2 had mean -0.000175 and std 0.486051 hidden layer 3 had mean -0.00035 and std 0.47723 hidden layer 4 had mean -0.000306 and std 0.357108 hidden layer 5 had mean -0.000389 and std 0.320917 hidden layer 6 had mean -0.000389 and std 0.222116 hidden layer 7 had mean -0.000228 and std 0.273387 hidden layer 8 had mean -0.000291 and std 0.254935 hidden layer 10 had mean 0.000139 and std 0.228008

"Xavier initialization" [Glorot et al., 2010]

#### **Reasonable initialization.** (Mathematical derivation assumes linear activations)

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Proper initialization is an active area of research...

*Understanding the difficulty of training deep feedforward neural networks* by Glorot and Bengio, 2010

*Exact solutions to the nonlinear dynamics of learning in deep linear neural networks* by Saxe et al, 2013

*Random walk initialization for training very deep feedforward networks* by Sussillo and Abbott, 2014

Delving deep into rectifiers: Surpassing human-level performance on ImageNet classification by He et al., 2015

Data-dependent Initializations of Convolutional Neural Networks by Krähenbühl et al., 2015

All you need is a good init, Mishkin and Matas, 2015

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Lecture 7 - 27 Sep. 26, 2024

#### [loffe and Szegedy, 2015]



Usually inserted after Fully Connected (or Convolutional, as we'll see soon) layers, and before nonlinearity.



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Lecture 7 - 28 Sep. 26, 2024

[loffe and Szegedy, 2015]

"you want unit Gaussian activations? just make them so." Not actually "Gaussian". Just zero mean, unit variance.

consider a batch of activations at some layer. To make each dimension unit normalized, apply:

$$\widehat{x}^{(k)} = \frac{x^{(k)} - \mathbf{E}[x^{(k)}]}{\sqrt{\mathrm{Var}[x^{(k)}]}}$$

this is a vanilla differentiable function...

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[loffe and Szegedy, 2015]

"you want unit Gaussian activations? just make them so." Not actually "Gaussian". Just zero mean, unit variance.



1. compute the empirical mean and variance independently for each dimension.

2. Normalize  $x^{(k)} - E[x^{(k)}]$ 



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#### [loffe and Szegedy, 2015]



Usually inserted after Fully Connected / (or Convolutional, as we'll see soon) layers, and before nonlinearity.



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#### [loffe and Szegedy, 2015]

#### Normalize:

$$\widehat{x}^{(k)} = \frac{x^{(k)} - \mathbf{E}[x^{(k)}]}{\sqrt{\mathrm{Var}[x^{(k)}]}}$$

And then allow the network to squash the range if it wants to:

$$y^{(k)} = \gamma^{(k)} \widehat{x}^{(k)} + \beta^{(k)}$$

Note, the network can learn:  $\gamma^{(k)} = \sqrt{\text{Var}[x^{(k)}]}$   $\beta^{(k)} = \text{E}[x^{(k)}]$ to recover the identity mapping.

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#### [loffe and Szegedy, 2015]

**Input:** Values of x over a mini-batch:  $\mathcal{B} = \{x_{1...m}\}$ ; Parameters to be learned:  $\gamma$ ,  $\beta$ **Output:**  $\{y_i = BN_{\gamma,\beta}(x_i)\}$  $\mu_{\mathcal{B}} \leftarrow \frac{1}{m} \sum_{i=1}^{m} x_i$ // mini-batch mean  $\sigma_{\mathcal{B}}^2 \leftarrow \frac{1}{m} \sum_{i=1}^m (x_i - \mu_{\mathcal{B}})^2$ // mini-batch variance  $\widehat{x}_i \leftarrow \frac{x_i - \mu_{\mathcal{B}}}{\sqrt{\sigma_{\mathcal{B}}^2 + \epsilon}}$ // normalize  $y_i \leftarrow \gamma \widehat{x}_i + \beta \equiv \mathrm{BN}_{\gamma,\beta}(x_i)$ // scale and shift

 Improves gradient flow through the network

- Allows higher learning rates
- Reduces the strong dependence on initialization

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#### [loffe and Szegedy, 2015]

Input: Values of x over a mini-batch: $\mathcal{B} = \{x_{1m}\}$ ; Parameters to be learned: $\gamma, \beta$ Output: $\{y_i = BN_{\gamma,\beta}(x_i)\}$		Note: at test time BatchNorm layer functions differently:
$\mu_{\mathcal{B}} \leftarrow \frac{1}{m} \sum_{i=1}^{m} x_i$	// mini-batch mean	The mean/std are not computed based on the batch. Instead, a single fixed empirical mean of activations
$\sigma_{\mathcal{B}}^2 \leftarrow \frac{1}{m} \sum_{i=1}^m (x_i - \mu_{\mathcal{B}})^2$	// mini-batch variance	during training is used.
$\widehat{x}_i \leftarrow \frac{x_i - \mu_{\mathcal{B}}}{\sqrt{\sigma_{\mathcal{B}}^2 + \epsilon}}$	// normalize	(e.g. can be estimated during training with running averages)
$y_i \leftarrow \gamma \widehat{x}_i + \beta \equiv \mathbf{BN}_{\gamma,\beta}(x_i)$	// scale and shift	Source of many bugs!

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# **Gradient Checking**

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### Gradient checks

1-sided

$$\frac{df}{dx} \approx \frac{1}{h}(f(x+h) - f(x))$$

Compare gradient implementation with numerical gradients

Easy to implement, but slow

Numerical precision can be an issue (want *h* to be small but not too small)



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### Gradient checks

1-sided

$$\frac{df}{dx} \approx \frac{1}{h}(f(x+h) - f(x))$$

2-sided

$$\frac{df}{dx} \approx \frac{1}{2h}(f(x-h) - f(x+h))$$

#### 2-sided gradients have better numerical stability!



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### Gradient checks

1-sided

$$\frac{df}{dx} \approx \frac{1}{h}(f(x+h) - f(x))$$

2-sided

$$\frac{df}{dx} \approx \frac{1}{2h}(f(x-h) - f(x+h))$$

4-sided



$$\frac{df}{dx} \approx \frac{1}{12h} (-f(x+2h) + 8f(x+h) - 8f(x-h) + f(x-2h))$$

How about 6 sided or 12 sided?

https://justindomke.wordpress.com/2017/04/22/you-deserve-better-than-two-sided-finite-differences/

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### Step 1: Preprocess the data



(Assume X [NxD] is data matrix, each example in a row)

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# Step 2: Choose the architecture: say we start with one hidden layer of 50 neurons:



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#### Double check that the loss is reasonable:

```
def init_two_layer_model(input_size, hidden_size, output_size):
    # initialize a model
    model = {}
    model['W1'] = 0.0001 * np.random.randn(input_size, hidden_size)
    model['b1'] = np.zeros(hidden_size)
    model['W2'] = 0.0001 * np.random.randn(hidden_size, output_size)
    model['b2'] = np.zeros(output_size)
    return model
```



#### Double check that the loss is reasonable:

```
def init_two_layer_model(input_size, hidden_size, output_size):
    # initialize a model
    model = {}
    model['W1'] = 0.0001 * np.random.randn(input_size, hidden_size)
    model['b1'] = np.zeros(hidden_size)
    model['W2'] = 0.0001 * np.random.randn(hidden_size, output_size)
    model['b2'] = np.zeros(output_size)
    return model
```



**Tip**: Make sure that you can overfit very small portion of the training data The above code:

- take the first 20 examples from CIFAR-10
- turn off regularization (reg = 0.0)

Lecture 7 - 44

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- use simple vanilla 'sgd'

**Tip**: Make sure that you can overfit very small portion of the training data

Very small loss, train accuracy 1.00, nice! model = init two layer model(32\*32\*3, 50, 10) # input size, hidden size, number of classes trainer = ClassifierTrainer() X tiny = X train[:20] # take 20 examples y tiny = y train[:20]best model, stats = trainer.train(X tiny, y tiny, X tiny, y tiny, model, two layer net, num epochs=200, reg=0.0, update='sgd', learning rate decay=1, sample batches = False, learning rate=le-3, verbose=True) Finished epoch 1 / 200: cost 2.302603, train: 0.400000, val 0.400000, lr 1.000000e-03 Finished epoch 2 / 200: cost 2.302258, train: 0.450000, val 0.450000, lr 1.000000e-03 Finished epoch 3 / 200: cost 2.301849, train: 0.600000, val 0.600000, lr 1.000000e-03 Finished epoch 4 / 200: cost 2.301196, train: 0.650000, val 0.650000, lr 1.000000e-03 Finished epoch 5 / 200: cost 2.300044, train: 0.650000, val 0.650000, lr 1.000000e-03 Finished epoch 6 / 200: cost 2.297864, train: 0.550000, val 0.550000, lr 1.000000e-03 Finished epoch 7 / 200: cost 2.293595, train: 0.600000, val 0.600000, lr 1.000000e-03 Finished epoch 8 / 200: cost 2.285096, train: 0.550000, val 0.550000, lr 1.000000e-03 Finished epoch 9 / 200: cost 2.268094, train: 0.550000, val 0.550000, lr 1.000000e-03 Finished epoch 10 / 200: cost 2.234787, train: 0.500000, val 0.500000, lr 1.000000e-03 Finished epoch 11 / 200: cost 2.173187, train: 0.500000, val 0.500000, lr 1.000000e-03 Finished epoch 12 / 200: cost 2.076862, train: 0.500000, val 0.500000, lr 1.000000e-03 Finished epoch 13 / 200: cost 1.974090, train: 0.400000, val 0.400000, lr 1.000000e-03 Finished epoch 14 / 200: cost 1.895885, train: 0.400000, val 0.400000, lr 1.000000e-03 Finished epoch 15 / 200: cost 1.820876, train: 0.450000, val 0.450000, lr 1.000000e-03 Finished epoch 16 / 200: cost 1.737430, train: 0.450000, val 0.450000, lr 1.000000e-03 Finished epoch 17 / 200: cost 1.642356, train: 0.500000, val 0.500000, lr 1.000000e-03 Finished epoch 18 / 200: cost 1.535239, train: 0.600000, val 0.600000, lr 1.000000e-03 Finished epoch 19 / 200: cost 1.421527, train: 0.600000, val 0.600000, lr 1.000000e-03 train, 0 650000 upl 0 650000 cost 1 205760 Finished epoch 195 / 200: cost 0.002694, train: 1.000000, val 1.000000, lr 1.000000e-03 Finished epoch 196 / 200: cost 0.002674, train: 1.000000, val 1.000000, lr 1.000000e-03 Finished epoch 197 / 200: cost 0.002655, train: 1.000000, val 1.000000, lr 1.000000e-03 Finished epoch 198 / 200: cost 0.002635, train: 1.000000, val 1.000000, lr 1.000000e-03 Finished epoch 199 / 200: cost 0.002617, train: 1.000000, val 1.000000, lr 1.000000e-03 Finished epoch 200 / 200: cost 0.002597, train: 1.000000, val 1.000000, lr 1.000000e-03 finished optimization. best validation accuracy: 1.000000

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#### Lecture 7 - 45 Sep. 26, 2024

Lecture 7 - 46

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I like to start with small regularization and find learning rate that makes the loss go down.

I like to start with small regularization and find learning rate that makes the loss go down. model = init two layer model(32\*32\*3, 50, 10) # input size, hidden size, number of classes trainer = ClassifierTrainer() best model, stats = trainer.train(X train, y train, X val, y val, model, two layer net, num epochs=10, reg=0.000001, update='sgd', learning rate decay=1, sample batches - True, learning rate=le-6, verbose=True) Finished epoch 1 / 10: cost 2.302576, train: 0.080000, val 0.103000, lr 1.000000e-06 Finished epoch 2 / 10: cost 2.302582, train: 0.121000, val 0.124000, lr 1.000000e-06 Finished epoch 3 / 10: cost 2.302558, train: 0.119000, val 0.138000, lr 1.000000e-06 Finished epoch 4 / 10: cost 2.302519, train: 0.127000, val 0.151000, lr 1.000000e-06 Finished epoch 5 / 10: cost 2.302517, train: 0.158000, val 0.171000, lr 1.000000e-06 Finished epoch 6 / 10: cost 2.302518, train: 0.179000, val 0.172000, lr 1.000000e-06 Finished epoch 7 / 10: cost 2.302466, train: 0.180000, val 0.176000, lr 1.000000e-06 Finished epoch 8 / 10: cost 2.302452, train: 0.175000, val 0.185000, lr 1.000000e-06 Finished epoch 9 / 10: cost 2.302459, train: 0.206000, val 0.192000, lr 1.000000e-06 Finished epoch 10 / 10; cost 2.302420, train: 0.190000, val 0.192000, lr 1.000000e-06 finished optimization. best validation accuracy: 0.192000

#### Loss barely changing

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I like to start with small regularization and find learning rate that makes the loss go down. model = init two layer model(32\*32\*3, 50, 10) # input size, hidden size, number of classes trainer = ClassifierTrainer() best model, stats = trainer.train(X train, y train, X val, y val, model, two layer net, num epochs=10, reg=0.000001, update='sgd', learning rate decay=1, sample batches - True, learning rate=le-6, verbose=True) Finished epoch 1 / 10: cost 2.302576, train: 0.080000, val 0.103000, lr 1.000000e-06 Finished epoch 2 / 10: cost 2.302582, train: 0.121000, val 0.124000, lr 1.000000e-06 Finished epoch 3 / 10: cost 2.302558, train: 0.119000, val 0.138000, lr 1.000000e-06 Finished epoch 4 / 10: cost 2.302519, train: 0.127000, val 0.151000, lr 1.000000e-06 Finished epoch 5 / 10: cost 2.302517, train: 0.158000, val 0.171000, lr 1.000000e-06 Finished epoch 6 / 10: cost 2.302518, train: 0.179000, val 0.172000, lr 1.000000e-06 Finished epoch 7 / 10: cost 2.302466, train: 0.180000, val 0.176000, lr 1.000000e-06 Finished epoch 8 / 10: cost 2.302452, train: 0.175000, val 0.185000, lr 1.000000e-06 Finished epoch 9 / 10: cost 2.302459, train: 0.206000, val 0.192000, lr 1.000000e-06 Finished epoch 10 / 10; cost 2.302420, train: 0.190000, val 0.192000, lr 1.000000e-06 finished optimization. best validation accuracy: 0.192000

# Loss barely changing: Learning rate is probably too low

Lecture 7 - 48

Sep. 26, 2024

#### loss not going down: learning rate too low

I like to start with small regularization and find learning rate that makes the loss go down. model = init two layer model(32\*32\*3, 50, 10) # input size, hidden size, number of classes trainer = ClassifierTrainer() best model, stats = trainer.train(X train, y train, X val, y val, model, two layer net, num epochs=10, reg=0.000001, update='sqd', learning rate decay=1, sample batches - True, learning rate=1e-6, verbose=True) Finished epoch 1 / 10: cost 2.302576, train: 0.080000, val 0.103000, lr 1.000000e-06 Finished epoch 2 / 10: cost 2.302582, train: 0.121000, val 0.124000, lr 1.000000e-06 Finished epoch 3 / 10: cost 2.302558, train: 0.119000, val 0.138000, lr 1.000000e-06 Finished epoch 4 / 10: cost 2.302519, train: 0.127000, val 0.151000, lr 1.000000e-06 Finished epoch 5 / 10: cost 2.302517, train: 0.158000, val 0.171000, lr 1.000000e-06 Finished epoch 6 / 10: cost 2.302518, train: 0.179000, val 0.172000, lr 1.000000e-06 Finished epoch 7 / 10: cost 2.302466, train: 0.180000, val 0.176000, lr 1.000000e-06 Finished epoch 8 / 10: cost 2.302452, train: 0.175000, val 0.185000, lr 1.000000e-06 Finished epoch 9 / 10: cost 2.302459, train: 0.206000, val 0.192000, lr 1.000000e-06 Finished epoch 10 / 10; cost 2.302420, train: 0.190000, val 0.192000, lr 1.000000e-06 finished optimization. best validation accuracy: 0.192000

#### loss not going down: learning rate too low

Loss barely changing: Learning rate is probably too low

Notice train/val accuracy goes to 20% though, what's up with that? (remember this is softmax) (go to poll)

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I like to start with small regularization and find learning rate that makes the loss go down.

Okay now let's try learning rate 1e6. What could possibly go wrong?

Lecture 7 - 50

Sep. 26, 2024

loss not going down: learning rate too low

I like to start with small regularization and find learning rate that makes the loss go down.

/home/karpathy/cs231n/code/cs231n/classifiers/neural\_net.py:50: RuntimeWarning: divide by zero en countered in log data loss = -np.sum(np.log(probs[range(N), y])) / N

/home/karpathy/cs231n/code/cs231n/classifiers/neural\_net.py:48: RuntimeWarning: invalid value encountered in subtract

probs = np.exp(scores - np.max(scores, axis=1, keepdims=True))

Finished epoch 1 / 10: cost nan, train: 0.091000, val 0.087000, lr 1.000000e+06 Finished epoch 2 / 10: cost nan, train: 0.095000, val 0.087000, lr 1.000000e+06 Finished epoch 3 / 10: cost nan, train: 0.100000, val 0.087000, lr 1.000000e+06

**loss not going down:** learning rate too low **loss exploding:** learning rate too high cost: NaN almost always means high learning rate...

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Lecture 7 - 5119 Sep. 26, 2024

I like to start with small regularization and find learning rate that makes the loss go down. Finished epoch 4 / 10: cost 1.827868, train: 0.329000, val 0.310000, lr 3.000000e-03 Finished epoch 5 / 10: cost inf, train: 0.128000, val 0.128000, lr 3.000000e-03

Finished epoch 6 / 10: cost inf, train: 0.144000, val 0.147000, lr 3.000000e-03

3e-3 is still too high. Cost explodes....

#### **loss not going down:** learning rate too low **loss exploding:** learning rate too high

=> Rough range for learning rate we should be cross-validating is somewhere [1e-3 ... 1e-5]

Lecture 7 - 520

Sep. 26, 2024

#### Practical Recommendations for Gradient-Based Training of Deep Architectures

Yoshua Bengio

Version 2, Sept. 16th, 2012

#### Abstract

Learning algorithms related to artificial neural networks and in particular for Deep Learning may seem to involve many bells and whistles, called hyperparameters. This chapter is meant as a practical guide with recommendations for some of the most commonly used hyper-parameters, in particular in the context of learning algorithms based on back-

of practice, focusing on learning algorithms aiming at training deep neural networks, but leaving most of the material specific to the Boltzmann machine family to another chapter (Hinton, 2013).

Although such recommendations come out of a living practice that emerged from years of experimentation and to some extent mathematical justification, they should be challenged. They constitute a good starting point for the experimenter and user of learn-

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Lecture 7 - 53 Sep. 26, 2024

# Overview

#### 1. One time setup

activation functions, preprocessing, weight initialization, regularization, *batch normalization, gradient checking* 

#### 2. Training dynamics

*babysitting the learning process,* hyperparameter optimization, parameter updates **3. Evaluation model ensembles** 

Lecture 7 - 54

Sep. 26, 2024