



# **Boston Housing Price dataset**

▶ Predict the median price of homes in a given Boston suburb in the mid-1970s, given a few data points about the suburb at the time:

1	crime	per capita crime rate by town.	8	dis	weighted mean of distances to five Boston employment centres.
2	zn	proportion of residential land zoned for lots over 25,000 sq.ft.	9	rad	index of accessibility to radial highways.
3	indus	proportion of non-retail business acres per town.	10	tax	full-value property-tax rate per \$10,000.
4	chas	Charles River dummy variable (= 1 if tract bounds river; 0 otherwise).	11	ptratio	pupil-teacher ratio by town.
5	nox	nitrogen oxides concentration	12	black	1000(Bk - 0.63)^2 where Bk is the proportion of blacks by town.
6	rm	average number of rooms per dwelling.	13	Istat	lower status of the population (percent).
7	age	proportion of owner-occupied units built prior to 1940.			



#### Main Issues with the Dataset

- Very few data points, only 506 in total
  - ▶ 404 training samples and 102 test samples
- ▶ Each "feature" in the input data (e.g. the crime rate is a feature) has a different scale

### Loading the Dataset

```
from keras.datasets import boston housing
(train data, train targets), (test data, test targets) =
boston housing.load data()
```

▶ The targets are the median values of owner-occupied homes, in thousands of dollars:

```
train targets
```

```
array([15.2, 42.3, 50., 21.1, 17.7, 18.5,
11.3, 15.6, 15.6, 14.4, 12.1, 17.9, 23.1,
19.9, 15.7, 8.8, 50., 22.5, 24.1, 27.5,
10.9, 30.8, 32.9, 24., 18.5, 13.3, 22.9,
34.7, 16.6, 17.5, 22.3, 16.1, 14.9, 23.1,
...])
```

### Prepare the Data: Normalization

- The feature is centered around 0 and has a unit standard deviation
- ▶ Note that the quantities (mean, std) used for normalizing the test data are computed using the training data!

```
mean = train data.mean(axis=0)
train data -= mean
std = train data.std(axis=0)
train data /= std
test data -= mean
test data /= std
```

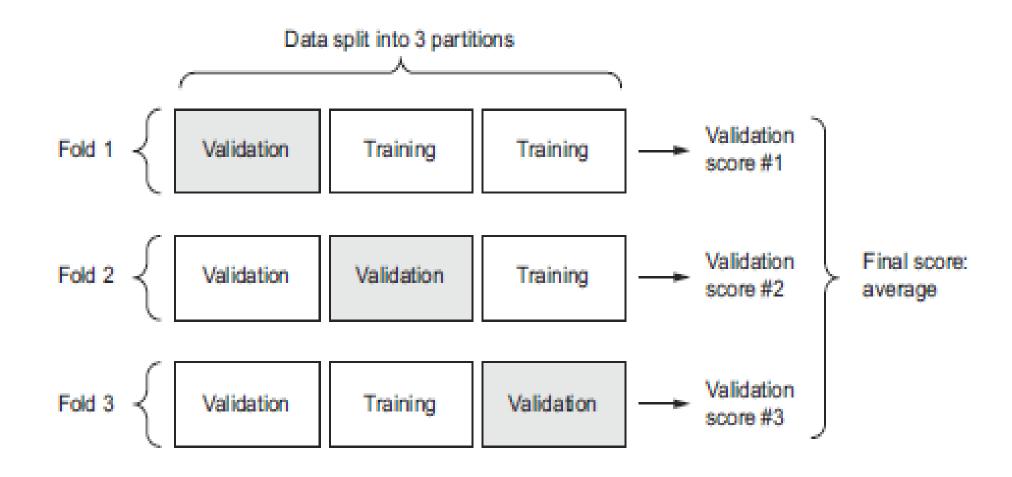


### Building the Network

- The network ends with a single unit and no activation
- Loss function: Mean-Squared Error (mse)
- ▶ Metrics: Mean Absolute Error (MAE)

```
from keras import models
from keras import layers
def build model():
    # Because we will need to instantiate
    # the same model multiple times,
    # we use a function to construct it.
    model = models.Sequential()
    model.add(layers.Dense(64, activation='relu',
                           input shape=(train data.shape[1],)))
    model.add(layers.Dense(64, activation='relu'))
    model.add(layers.Dense(1))
    model.compile(optimizer='rmsprop', loss='mse', metrics=['mae'])
    return model
```

#### Validation with Few Data Points





### Implementation of K-fold Validation

```
import numpy as np
k = 4
num val samples = len(train data) // k
num epochs = 100
all scores = []
for i in range(k):
   print('processing fold #', i)
   # Prepare the validation data: data from partition # k
   val data = train data[i * num val samples: (i + 1) * num val samples]
   val targets = train targets[i * num val samples: (i + 1) * num val samples]
   # Prepare the training data: data from all other partitions
   partial train data = np.concatenate(
        [train data[:i * num val samples],
        train data[(i + 1) * num val samples:]],
        axis=0)
   partial train targets = np.concatenate(
        [train targets[:i * num val samples],
        train targets[(i + 1) * num val samples:]],
        axis=0)
   # Build the Keras model (already compiled)
   model = build model()
   # Train the model (in silent mode, verbose=0)
   model.fit(partial train data, partial train targets,
              epochs=num epochs, batch size=1, verbose=0)
   # Evaluate the model on the validation data
   val mse, val mae = model.evaluate(val data, val targets, verbose=0)
   all scores.append(val mae)
```



all\_scores



[2.1265724118393248, 2.5035528570118517, 2.568339293546016, 2.6296658681170775]

# Save the History

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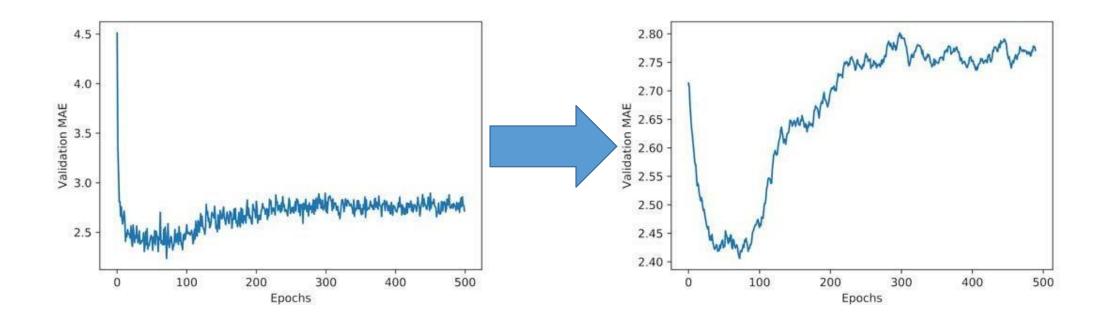
### ■ Visualize the average MAE score

```
average mae history = [
    np.mean([x[i] for x in all mae histories]) for i in range(num epochs)]
 import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
 plt.plot(range(1, len(average mae history) + 1), average mae history)
 plt.xlabel('Epochs')
 plt.ylabel('Validation MAE')
                                                       4.5
 plt.show()
                                                       4.0
                                                     Validation MAE
0.0
                                                              what we may have the many the many which were
                                                       2.5
                                                                       200
                                                                              300
                                                                 100
                                                                                    400
                                                                                           500
```

Epochs

## A closer look

#### ▶ Omit the first 10 data points







#### Reduce the Network size

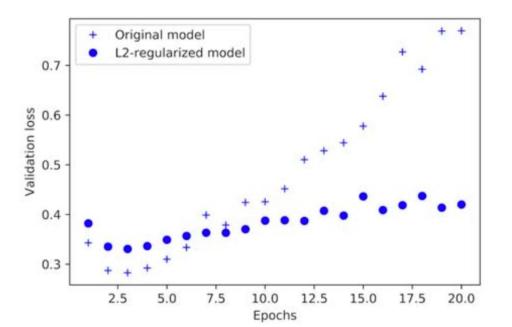
```
from keras import models
from keras import layers
original model = models.Sequential()
original model.add(layers.Dense(16, activation='relu', input shape=(10000,)))
original model.add(layers.Dense(16, activation='relu'))
original model.add(layers.Dense(1, activation='sigmoid'))
original model.compile(optimizer='rmsprop',
                                                           0.8
                                                                  Original model
                           loss='binary_crossentropy',
                                                                  Smaller model
                          metrics=['acc'])
                                                           0.7
                                                         Validation loss
                                                           0.6
                                                           0.5
                                                           0.4
                                                           0.3
                                                                                  12.5
                                                                                       15.0
                                                                 2.5
                                                                              10.0
                                                                                           17.5
                                                                          7.5
                                                                                               20.0
                                                                              Epochs
```



### Weight regularization

- ▶ Put constraints on the complexity of a network by forcing its weights to only take small values, which makes the distribution of weight values more "regular":
  - ▶ L1 regularization, where the cost added is proportional to the absolute value of the weights coefficients new loss function = old loss function +  $\lambda \sum_{i} |w_{i}|$
  - ▶ 2 regularization, where the cost added is proportional to the square of the value of the weights coefficients new loss function = old loss function +  $\lambda \sum_i w_i^2$
  - ▶ A reason for weight regularization: large weight can make the model more sensitive to noise/variance in data.
    - ▶ L2 regularization: it tends to make all weights small.
    - ▶ L1 regularization: it tends to make weights sparser (namely, more 0s).

# L2 Regularization



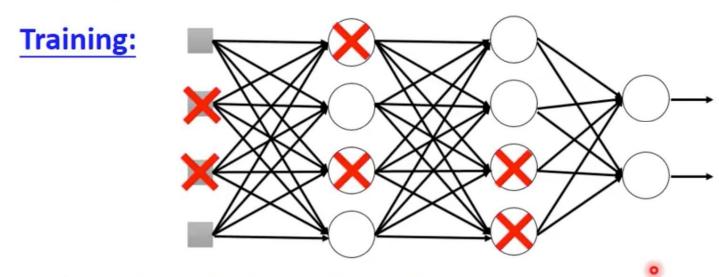
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### L1 regularization and Combination

```
from keras import regularizers
# L1 regularization
regularizers.11(0.001)
# L1 and L2 regularization at the same time
regularizers.11 12(11=0.001, 12=0.001)
```

# Dropout

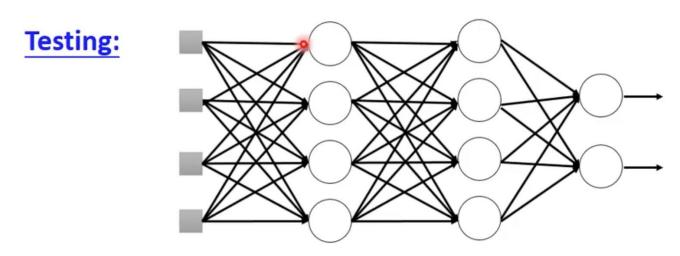
▶ Dropout, applied to a layer, consists of randomly "dropping out" (i.e. setting to zero) a number of output features of the layer during training



- > Each time before updating the parameters
  - Each neuron has p% to dropout

# Dropout

At test time, no units are dropped out, and instead the layer's output values are scaled down by a factor equal to the dropout rate, so as to balance for the fact that more units are active than at training time.



- No dropout
  - If the dropout rate at training is p%,
     all the weights times (1-p)%



▶ Intuition: The core idea is that introducing noise in the output values of a layer can break up happenstance patterns that are not significant (what Hinton refers to as "conspiracies"), which the network would start memorizing if no noise was present



▶ Effect on validation loss

