



CS 329P: Practical Machine Learning (2021 Fall)

11. Transfer Learning

Qingqing Huang, Mu Li, Alex Smola

https://c.d2l.ai/stanford-cs329p

Transfer learning



- Motivation
 - Exploit a model trained on one task for a related task
 - Popular in deep learning as DNNs are data hungry and training cost is high
- Approaches
 - Feature extraction (e.g. Word2Vec, ResNet-50 feature, I3D feature)
 - Train a model on a related task and reuse it
 - Fine-tuning from a pertained model (focus of this lecture)
- Related to
 - Semi-supervised learning
 - In the extreme, zero-shot / few-shot learning
 - Multi-task learning, where some labeled data is available for each task





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11.1 Fine-tuning in CV

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Transferring Knowledge



- There exists large-scale labeled CV datasets
 - Especially for image classification, the cheapest one to label
- Transfer knowledge from models trained on these datasets to your CV applications (with 10-100X smaller data)

Your dataset



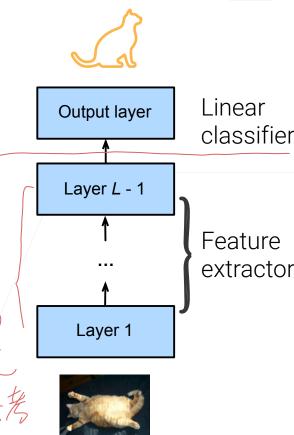


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		5									
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# examples	1.2 M	50K	60 K
# classes	1,000	100	10

Pre-trained Models

- Partition a neural network into:
 - A feature extractor (encoder) maps raw pixels into linearly separable features
 - A linear classifier (decode) makes decisions
- Pre-trained model
 - a neural network trained on a large-scale and general enough dataset
 - The feature extractor may generalize well to
 - other datasets (e.g. medical/satellite images)
 - other tasks (e.g. object detection, segmentation)



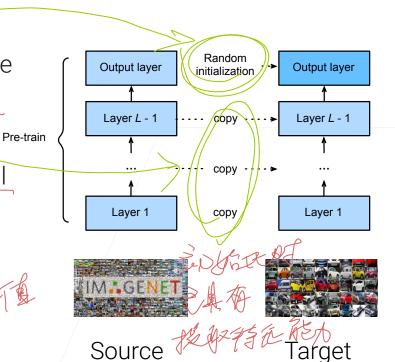
Fine-Tuning techniques

- Initialize the new model:
 - Initialize the feature extractor with the feature extractor parameters of a pre-trained model
 - Randomly initialize the output layer

Start the parameter optimization near a local minimal

• Train with a small learning rate with just a few epochs

Regularize the search space

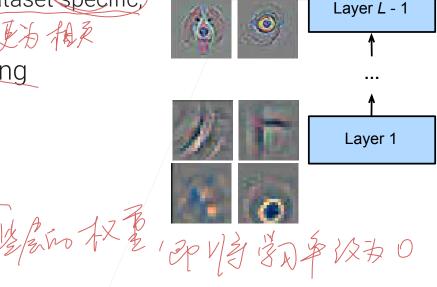


Freeze Bottom Layers



Output layer

- Neural networks learn hierarchical features
 - Low-level features are universal, generalize well, e.g. curves /edges / blobs
 - High-level features are more task and dataset specific, e.g. classification labels
- Freeze bottom layers during fine tuning
 Train the top layers from scratch
 - Keep low-level universal features intact
 - Focus on learning/task specific features
 - A strong regularizer



Where to Find Pre-trained Models



- Tensorflow Hub: https://tfhub.dev/
 - Tensorflow models submitted by users
- TIMM: https://github.com/rwightman/pytorch-image-models
 - PyTorch models collected by Ross Wightman

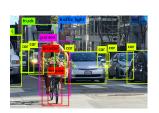
```
import timm
from torch import nn

model = timm.create_model('resnet18', pretrained=True)
model.fc = nn.Linear(model.fc.in_features, n_classes)
# Train model as a normal training job
```

Applications



• Fine-tuning pre-trained models (on ImageNet) is widely used in various CV applications:



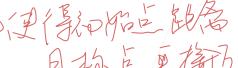
Detection/segmentation (similar images but different targets)



Medical/satellite images (same task but very different images)

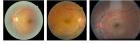


Fine-tuning accelerates convergence





Though not always improve accuracy





Summary



- Pre-train models on large-scale datasets (often image classification)
- Initialize weights with pre-trained models for down-stream tasks
- Fine-tuning accelerates converges and (sometimes) improves accuracy