Numerical Methods for Deep Learning

## Why Deep Networks?

- ► Universal approximation theorem of NN suggests that we can approximate **any** function by two layers.
- ▶ But The width of the layer can be very large  $\mathcal{O}(n \cdot n_f)$
- Deeper architectures can lead to more efficient descriptions of the problem.
   (No real proof but lots of practical experience)

## Learning Objective: Deep Neural Networks

In this module we introduce multilayer deep neural networks.

#### Learning tasks:

- regression
- classification

#### Numerical methods:

- non-convex optimization
- probability theory (for initialization)

Until recently, the standard architecture was

$$\mathbf{Y}_{1} = \sigma(\mathbf{K}_{0}\mathbf{Y}_{0} + \mathbf{b}_{0})$$

$$\vdots = \vdots$$

$$\mathbf{Y}_{N} = \sigma(\mathbf{K}_{N-1}\mathbf{Y}_{N-1} + \mathbf{b}_{N-1})$$

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And use  $\mathbf{Y}_N$  to classify. This leads to the optimization problem

$$\min_{\textbf{K}_0,\dots,\textbf{N}-1,\textbf{b}_0,\dots,\textbf{N}-1,\textbf{W}} \ \textit{E}\left(\textbf{WY}_\textit{N}(\textbf{K}_1,\dots,\textbf{K}_{\textit{N}-1},\textbf{b}_1,\dots,\textbf{b}_{\textit{N}-1}),\textbf{C}^{\mathrm{obs}}\right)$$

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How deep is deep? For now, let's say N > 1.

# Example: Hand-written digit recognition [4]

- layer 1: ▶ input features: images of size 28 × 28
  - **K**<sub>1</sub>: four  $5 \times 5$  convolution stencils.
  - ▶  $\mathbf{b}_1 \in \mathbb{R}^4$  are biases
  - $ightharpoonup \sigma = \tanh$
  - ightharpoonup output features: four images of size 24 imes 24
- layer 2: average pooling (no trainable weights)
- layer 3:  $\blacktriangleright$  input features: four images of size  $12 \times 12$ 
  - **K**<sub>2</sub>: 48 5  $\times$  5 convolution stencils.
  - ▶  $\mathbf{b}_2 \in \mathbb{R}^4$  are biases
  - $ightharpoonup \sigma = \tanh$
  - ightharpoonup output features: four images of size  $12 \times 12$
- layer 4: average pooling (no trainable weights)

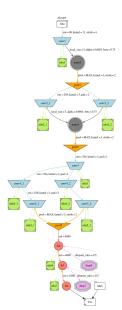
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Very effective for MNIST, but today's architectures have become more sophisticated.

## Example: The Alexnet [3] for Image Classification

- Complex architectures
- trained on multiple GPUs
- $ightharpoonup \approx 60$  million weights



## Key issues: Non-Convexity and Initialization

Optimization problems in learning are generally non-convex.

- ▶ training relies on stochastic gradient methods [1]
- ▶ initialization is key [2]

Initialization is particularly important. Simple example: Let  $\mathbf{y} \in \mathbb{R}^{100} \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \mathbf{I})$  Compare

$$\|\mathbf{K}_3\mathbf{K}_2\mathbf{K}_1\mathbf{y}\|^2$$
 to  $\|\mathbf{y}\|$ 

for different choices of  $\mathbf{K}_1, \mathbf{K}_2, \mathbf{K}_3 \in \mathbb{R}^{100 \times 100}$ . Sample entries independently, e.g., from standard normal, uniform in [-0.5, 0.5], uniform in [-0.05, 0.05]. See more details in [2].

Idea: Concatenate many single layers and solve

$$\min_{\textbf{K}_{0,\dots,N-1},\textbf{b}_{0,\dots,N-1},\textbf{W}} \ \textit{E}\left(\textbf{WY}_{\textit{N}}(\textbf{K}_{1},\dots,\textbf{K}_{\textit{N}-1},\textbf{b}_{1},\dots,\textbf{b}_{\textit{N}-1}),\textbf{C}^{\mathrm{obs}}\right)$$

#### Discussion:

- empirically shown for some examples to generalize better and be more efficient than wide architectures
- ► Challenge 1: computational costs (architecture have millions or billions of parameters)
- Challenge 2: design architecture that is easy to train and generalizes well
- ► Challenge 3: learning leads to very non-convex optimization problems  $\sim$  initialization is key. Leads to exploding/vanishing gradient phenomena.

#### References

- [1] L. Bottou, F. E. Curtis, and J. Nocedal. Optimization Methods for Large-Scale Machine Learning. arXiv preprint [stat.ML] (1606.04838v1), 2016.
- [2] X. Glorot and Y. Bengio. Understanding the difficulty of training deep feedforward neural networks. *jmlr.org*.
- [3] A. Krizhevsky, I. Sutskever, and G. Hinton. Imagenet classification with deep convolutional neural networks. Advances in neural information processing systems, 61:1097–1105, 2012.
- [4] Y. LeCun, B. E. Boser, and J. S. Denker. Handwritten digit recognition with a back-propagation network. In Advances in neural information processing systems, pages 396–404, 1990.