

## **Generative Adversarial Networks (GANs) in Computer Vision**

### **Learning Objectives**

By the end of this lesson, you will:

- 1. Understand the architecture of GANs.
- 2. Learn how the Generator and Discriminator networks interact.
- 3. Explore the challenges in training GANs and best practices.
- 4. Implement a simple GAN for image generation in Python.

#### 1. GAN Architecture

Generative Adversarial Networks (GANs) were introduced by Ian Goodfellow in 2014. GANs consist of two neural networks that compete with each other in a game-theoretic framework:

### 1.1 Generator (G)

- The Generator takes a random noise vector zz as input.
- It learns to generate realistic-looking images.
- The goal is to fool the Discriminator into classifying the generated images as real.

Mathematically, the Generator G(z)G(z) maps a random noise zz (sampled from a distribution, such as a normal distribution) to the data space (images):

```
G(z;\theta G) \rightarrow XfakeG(z; \theta G) \rightarrow XfakeG(z; \theta G)
```

where  $\theta G \to G$  are the parameters of the Generator.

#### 1.2 Discriminator (D)

- The Discriminator takes an image as input and predicts whether it's real or fake.
- It is a binary classifier trained using cross-entropy loss.
- It learns to distinguish between real images from the dataset and fake images from the Generator.

Mathematically, the Discriminator D(X)D(X) outputs a probability that the input XX is real:

 $D(X;\theta D) \rightarrow [0,1]D(X; \theta D) \rightarrow [0,1]$ 

where  $\theta D \to D$  are the parameters of the Discriminator.

#### 2. Training GANs

#### 2.1 Objective Function (Minimax Game)

The Generator and Discriminator are trained simultaneously using the following loss function:

 $\label{eq:min_Gmax_DV(D,G)=EX~pdata[log@D(X)]+EZ~pz[log@(1-D(G(Z)))]\min_G \max_D V(D, G) = \\ \\ \mbox{mathbb}[E]_{X \sim pdata[log@D(X)] + \mbox{mathbb}[E]_{Z \sim pz[log (1-D(G(Z)))]} \\ \\ \mbox{mathbb}[E]_{X \sim pdata[log@D(X)] + \mbox{mathbb}[E]_{Z \sim pz[log (1-D(G(Z)))]} \\ \\ \mbox{mathbb}[E]_{X \sim pdata[log@D(X)] + \mbox{mathbb}[E]_{Z \sim pz[log@(1-D(G(Z)))]} \\ \\ \mbox{mathbb}[E]_{X \sim pdata[log@D(X)] + \mbox{mathbb}[E]_{X \sim pz[log@(1-D(G(Z)))]} \\ \\ \mbox{mathbb}[E]_{X \sim pdata[log@D(X)] + \mbox{mathbb}[E]_{X \sim pz[log@(1-D(G(Z)))]} \\ \\ \mbox{mathbb}[E]_{X \sim pdata[log@D(X)] + \mbox{mathbb}[E]_{X \sim pz[log@(1-D(G(Z)))]} \\ \\ \mbox{mathbb}[E]_{X \sim pdata[log@D(X)] + \mbox{mathbb}[E]_{X \sim pz[log@(1-D(G(Z)))]} \\ \\ \mbox{mathbb}[E]_{X \sim pdata[log@D(X)] + \mbox{mathbb}[E]_{X$ 

- The **Discriminator** tries to maximize  $\log D(X) + \log (1 D(G(Z))) \log D(X) + \log (1 D(G(Z)))$  (it gets better at distinguishing real and fake images).
- The **Generator** tries to minimize  $\log (1-D(G(Z))) \log (1-D(G(Z)))$  (it tries to fool the Discriminator).

# 2.2 Training Steps

# 1. Train the Discriminator:

- Feed real images from the dataset and train DD to classify them as real.
- o Feed generated images from GG and train DD to classify them as fake.

#### 2. Train the Generator:

- Generate fake images using random noise.
- Compute the loss based on how well the Discriminator is fooled.
- Update GG to produce more realistic images.

### 2.3 Challenges in Training

Training GANs is difficult due to:

- Mode Collapse: The Generator produces limited variations of images.
- **Vanishing Gradients**: The Discriminator may become too strong, making it hard for the Generator to learn.
- **Instability**: Training is highly sensitive to hyperparameters.

#### 2.4 Best Practices

- Use **batch normalization** in both networks.
- Use Leaky ReLU activation in the Discriminator.
- Apply label smoothing to make training more stable.
- Use **Adam optimizer** with proper hyperparameters.

## 3. Implementation: Building a Simple GAN in Python

We will use TensorFlow and Keras to implement a GAN for generating handwritten digits using the **MNIST dataset**.

## **Step 1: Import Libraries**

import tensorflow as tf

from tensorflow import keras

from tensorflow.keras import layers

import numpy as np

import matplotlib.pyplot as plt

### Step 2: Build the Generator

```
def build_generator():
    model = keras.Sequential([
        layers.Dense(128, activation="relu", input_shape=(100,)),
        layers.BatchNormalization(),
        layers.Dense(256, activation="relu"),
        layers.BatchNormalization(),
```

```
layers.Dense(512, activation="relu"),
    layers.BatchNormalization(),
    layers.Dense(28 * 28, activation="tanh"),
    layers.Reshape((28, 28))
  ])
  return model
        Input: 100-dimensional noise vector.
    • Output: 28×28 grayscale image.
    • Uses Batch Normalization for stable training.
Step 3: Build the Discriminator
def build_discriminator():
  model = keras.Sequential([
    layers.Flatten(input_shape=(28, 28)),
    layers.Dense(512, activation="leaky_relu"),
    layers.Dense(256, activation="leaky_relu"),
    layers.Dense(1, activation="sigmoid") # Binary classification
  ])
  return model
      Input: 28×28 grayscale image.
    • Output: Probability (0 = fake, 1 = real).
     Uses Leaky ReLU for better gradient flow.
Step 4: Compile the GAN
def compile_gan(generator, discriminator):
  discriminator.compile(loss="binary_crossentropy", optimizer=keras.optimizers.Adam(0.0002, 0.5))
  gan = keras.Sequential([generator, discriminator])
```

discriminator.trainable = False # Freeze Discriminator while training Generator

```
gan.compile(loss="binary_crossentropy", optimizer=keras.optimizers.Adam(0.0002, 0.5))
return gan
```

#### Step 5: Train the GAN

```
def train_gan(generator, discriminator, gan, epochs=10000, batch_size=128):
  (X_train, _), _ = keras.datasets.mnist.load_data()
  X_{train} = (X_{train} / 127.5) - 1 # Normalize images to [-1, 1]
  for epoch in range(epochs):
    # Train Discriminator
    real_images = X_train[np.random.randint(0, X_train.shape[0], batch_size)]
    noise = np.random.normal(0, 1, (batch_size, 100))
    fake images = generator.predict(noise)
    X = np.concatenate([real_images, fake_images])
    y = np.concatenate([np.ones((batch_size, 1)), np.zeros((batch_size, 1))])
    d_loss = discriminator.train_on_batch(X, y)
    # Train Generator
    noise = np.random.normal(0, 1, (batch_size, 100))
    y_fake = np.ones((batch_size, 1)) # Trick Discriminator
    g_loss = gan.train_on_batch(noise, y_fake)
    # Print progress
    if epoch % 1000 == 0:
      print(f"Epoch {epoch} | D Loss: {d_loss:.4f} | G Loss: {g_loss:.4f}")
```

```
train_gan(build_generator(), build_discriminator(), compile_gan(build_generator(), build_discriminator()))
```

### **Step 6: Generate Images**

```
def generate_images(generator, n=10):
    noise = np.random.normal(0, 1, (n, 100))
    images = generator.predict(noise)
    images = (images + 1) / 2 # Rescale to [0,1]

plt.figure(figsize=(10, 2))
    for i in range(n):
        plt.subplot(1, n, i + 1)
        plt.imshow(images[i], cmap="gray")
        plt.axis("off")
    plt.show()

generator = build_generator()
discriminator = build_discriminator()
gan = compile_gan(generator, discriminator)

train_gan(generator, discriminator, gan, epochs=10000, batch_size=128)
generate_images(generator)
```

#### Conclusion

- GANs consist of a Generator and a Discriminator in a competitive setting.
- Training is challenging, but best practices like Batch Normalization and Leaky ReLU help.
- We implemented a simple GAN to generate handwritten digits using TensorFlow/Keras.

Video resource: <a href="https://youtu.be/Fe1MzID2BNg?si=rLX6ytS0hzEi43Ps">https://youtu.be/Fe1MzID2BNg?si=rLX6ytS0hzEi43Ps</a>