

Artificial Neural Networks Crash-Course

from the practical point of view

using [deeplearning4j](#)

MultiLayerConfiguration

Configuration example

```
MultiLayerConfiguration nn_conf = new NeuralNetConfigurat
    .seed(123)
    .iterations(10)
    .learningRate(0.0001)
    .optimizationAlgo(OptimizationAlgorithm.STOCHASTIC_GR
    .updater(Updater.NESTEROVS)
    .list(layers)
    .pretrain(true)
    .backprop(true)
    .build();
```

[Documentation](#)

Configuration

Core Params

.seed(123)

Random number generator seed. Used for example for the initial values for the nodes.

.iterations(1 ... 10)

How many times the NN will be optimized by pretrain & back propagation. Not exactly the same as [epoch](#). Greater than 1 only at full-batch training. Default: 1.

.learningRate(1e-1 ... 1e-6)

Defines the impact of a back propagation step. Low values causes slow learning, high values may lead to miss the optimum.

Optimization Algorithms

Calculates the error by the gradient

```
.optimizationAlgo(OptimizationAlgorithm.*)
```

- LINE_GRADIENT_DESCENT
- CONJUGATE_GRADIENT
- **HESSIAN_FREE** *(2nd-order method)*
- **LBFGS** *(2nd-order method)*
- STOCHASTIC_GRADIENT_DESCENT *(default)*

Updater

The mechanism for weight updates in backpropagation. Adjust often the learning rate.

```
.updater( Updater.* )
```

- SGD (*stochastic gradient descent, default*)
- ADAM
- ADADELTA
- NESTEROVS (*used `.momentum(*)` parameter, recommended*)
- ADAGRAD
- RMSPROP
- NONE
- CUSTOM

Training

.pretrain(true)

Activates pretrain for all layer which are pretrain able e.g the layer types RBM and [Autoencoder](#).

.backprop(true)

Activates back propgation which updates the weights of the network after every `.fit(data)` based on the evaluated error with the OptimizationAlgorithm and the Updater.

Layer options

`.activation(String)`

Activation function for the neurons. Diagrams [\[1\]](#) [\[2\]](#)

- "relu" [0, 1] (rectified linear, most popular for DNN)
- "leakyrelu"
- "tanh" (-1, 1)
- "sigmoid" (0, 1)? (default)
- "softmax"
- "hardtanh"
- "maxout"
- "softsign" (-1, 1)
- "softplus" (0, infinity)

Layer options

.weightInit(WeightInit.*)

- Distribution: Sample weights from a distribution based on shape of input
- Normalized: Normalize sample weights
- Size: Sample weights from bound uniform distribution using shape for min and max
- Uniform: Sample weights from bound uniform distribution
- VI: Sample weights from variance normalized initialization
- Zeros
- Xavier (default)
- RELU

Description from source code from deeplearning4j

Recommended configurations

Hidden Layer	Output Layer	WeightInit
relu/leakyrelu	softmax (classification)	RELU
tanh	<i>linear</i>	XAVIER

Layer options

`.lossFunction(LossFunctions.LossFunction.RMSE_XENT)`

Will be used for pretraining and the OutputLayer

- MSE: (Mean Squared Error, Linear Regression)
- EXPLL: (Exponential log likelihood, Poisson Regression)
- XENT (Cross Entropy, Binary Classification)
- MCXENT (Multiclass Cross Entropy, Classification)
- RMSE_XENT (RMSE Cross Entropy)
- SQUARED_LOSS
- RECONSTRUCTION_CROSSENTROPY (default)
- NEGATIVELOGLIKELIHOOD
- CUSTOM

Generalization options

.dropOut(double)

.l2(double)

.setUseRegularization(boolean)

coming soon

Layer types

RBM Layer

Restricted Boltzmann Machine

```
layera[0] = new RBM.Builder()  
.nIn(100)  
.nOut(150)  
.lossFunction(LossFunctions.LossFunction.RMSE_XENT)  
.visibleUnit(VisibleUnit.BINARY)  
.hiddenUnit(HiddenUnit.BINARY)  
.build()
```

[More about RBM](#)

RBM Layer

```
.visibleUnit(VisibleUnit.*).hiddenUnit(HiddenUnit.*)
```

- LINEAR (visible only)
- BINARY (default)
- GAUSSIAN
- SOFTMAX
- RECTIFIED (rectified linear units, hidden only)

Recommended configurations

visible unit	hidden unit	note	stability
BINARY	BINARY	default	++
SOFTMAX	BINARY		+
RECTIFIED	BINARY		0
GAUSSIAN	BINARY		-
GAUSSIAN	RECTIFIED	for continuous data	-
RECTIFIED	RECTIFIED		--
GAUSSIAN	GAUSSIAN		---

less stable configurations needs lower learning rates

<http://deeplearning4j.org/glossary.html>

<http://deeplearning4j.org/troubleshootingneuralnets>

http://www.dkriesel.com/science/neural_networks