# Loss functions

Puteaux, Fall/Winter 2020-2021

- §2 Introduction to TensorFlow in Python
- §2.2 Linear models
- 1 Loss functions
- 1.1 What is the loss functions?
  - Fundamental TensorFlow operation:
    - used to train a model
    - measure of model fit
  - Higher value  $\rightarrow$  worse fit:
    - minimize the loss function
- 1.2 What are the common loss functions in TensorFlow?
  - TensorFlow has operations for common loss functions:
    - mean squared error (MSE)
    - mean absolute error (MAE)
    - huber error
  - Loss functions are accessible from tf.keras.losses():
    - tf.keras.losses.mse()
    - tf.keras.losses.mae()
    - tf.keras.losses.Huber()

### 1.3 Why is it in need to care about loss functions?

### • MSE:

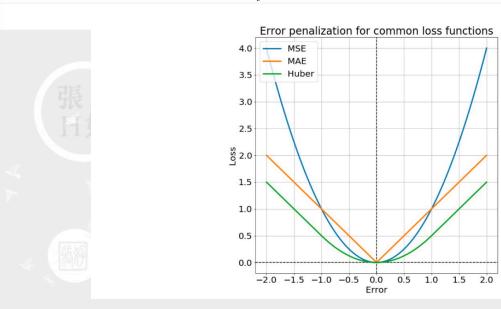
- strongly penalizes outliers
- high (gradient) sensitivity near minimum

#### • MAE:

- scales linearly with the size of the error
- low sensitivity near minimum

#### • Huber:

- similar to MSE near minimum
- similar to MAE away from the minimum



## 1.4 Code of defining the loss function:

```
import pandas as pd
import numpy as np

housing = pd.read_csv('ref1. King county house sales.csv')

price_log = np.log(np.array(housing['price'], np.float32))
size_log = np.log(np.array(housing['sqft_lot'], np.float32))
targets = price_log
features = size_log
intercept = 0.1
slope = 0.1
predictions = intercept + features * slope
```

```
[2]: # Import TensorFlow under standard alias
     import tensorflow as tf
     # Compute the MSE loss
     loss = tf.keras.losses.mse(targets, predictions)
     loss
[2]: <tf.Tensor: shape=(), dtype=float32, numpy=145.44653>
[3]: # Define a linear regression model
     def linear_regression(intercept, slope=slope, features=features):
         return intercept + features * slope
[4]: # Define a loss function to compute the MSE
     def loss_function(intercept, slope, targets=targets, features=features):
         # Compute the predictions for a linear model
         predictions = linear_regression(intercept, slope, features)
         # Return the loss
         return tf.keras.losses.mse(targets, predictions)
[5]: from sklearn.model_selection import train_test_split
     train_features, test_features, train_targets, test_targets = train_test_split(
         features, targets, test_size=0.3, random_state=42)
[6]: # Compute the loss for test data inputs
     loss_function(intercept, slope, test_targets, test_features)
[6]: <tf.Tensor: shape=(), dtype=float32, numpy=145.57338>
[7]: # Compute the loss for default data inputs
     loss_function(intercept, slope)
[7]: <tf.Tensor: shape=(), dtype=float32, numpy=145.44653>
    1.5 Practice exercises for loss functions:
    ▶ Package pre-loading:
[8]: import pandas as pd
```

▶ Data pre-loading:

import numpy as np

```
[9]: housing = pd.read_csv('ref1. King county house sales.csv')
price = np.array(housing['price'], np.float32)

predictions = np.loadtxt('ref5. Predictions.csv', delimiter=',')
```

► TensorFlow loss functions practice:

```
[10]: # Import the keras module from tensorflow
from tensorflow import keras

# Compute the mean squared error (mse)
loss = keras.losses.mse(price, predictions)

# Print the mean squared error (mse)
print(loss.numpy())
```

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```
[11]: # Import the keras module from tensorflow
from tensorflow import keras

# Compute the mean absolute error (mae)
loss = keras.losses.mae(price, predictions)

# Print the mean absolute error (mae)
print(loss.numpy())
```

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► Package re-pre-loading:

```
[12]: from tensorflow import constant, Variable, float32
```

► Data re-pre-loading:

```
[13]: features = constant([1., 2., 3., 4., 5.], dtype=float32) targets = constant([2., 4., 6., 8., 10.], dtype=float32)
```

▶ Loss function modification practice:

```
[14]: # Initialize a variable named scalar
scalar = Variable(1.0, float32)

# Define the model
def model(scalar, features=features):
    return scalar * features
```

```
# Define a loss function
def loss_function(scalar, features=features, targets=targets):
    # Compute the predicted values
    predictions = model(scalar, features)

# Return the mean absolute error loss
    return keras.losses.mae(targets, predictions)

# Evaluate the loss function and print the loss
print(loss_function(scalar).numpy())
```

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