2021 Fast.ai Community Course





Lesson 5 - Data Ethics and Other DL concepts

Notebooks: 05_pet_breeds.ipynb 08_collab.ipynb

Key concepts

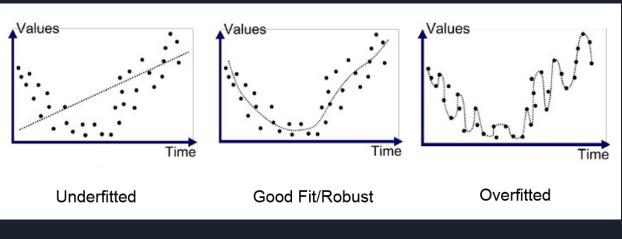
- Regularisation by weight decay
- Data augmentation
- Softmax
- Cross entropy loss
- Class feedback survey

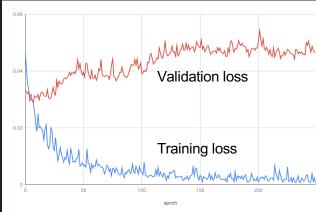
Capacity of a neural net

• If we train a resnet 18 model (11 million weights) on the MNIST data for 10 epochs, what can go wrong?

Overfitting

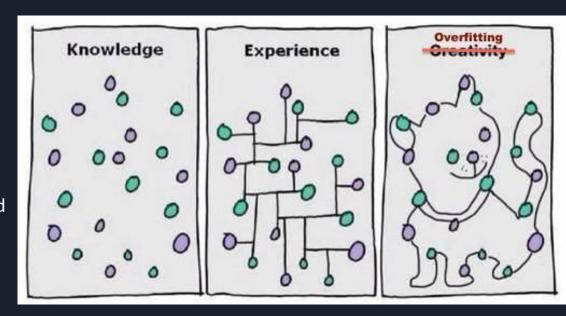
- What is overfitting?
- Deep neural networks can be prone to overfitting, why?
- What are possible ways to address overfitting?





Overfitting vs underfitting

- Underfitting is like horoscopes, making such vague, flexible predictions that sound vaguely true but have low predictive power.
- Overfitting is like Ptolemaic astronomy (the geocentric model based on a complicated system of nested circular orbits), which required more and more circles to explain deviation.
- Can you come up with other analogies? (discuss at end of class)



Regularisation by weight decay

- Constrain the complexity of the model by ensuring the weights of the model remain small.
- Penalize the model during training based on the magnitude of the weights.

$$L = L_0 + \alpha \sum_{w} w^2$$

 α is the regularization parameter

Probabilistic interpretation of weight decay

• Recall from last lesson the cross-entropy loss is the negative log likehood of getting the correct class P(D|w,x)

$$P(D|w,x) = \exp(-L_0)$$

 Similarly the regulariser can be interpreted in terms of the log of a Gaussian prior probability distribution over w:

$$P(w) \propto \exp(-\alpha w^2)$$

• The new loss function $L=L_0+\alpha\Sigma w^2$ corresponds to the log of the posterior probability of w:

$$P(w|D) \propto P(D|w) * P(w) = \exp(-L)$$

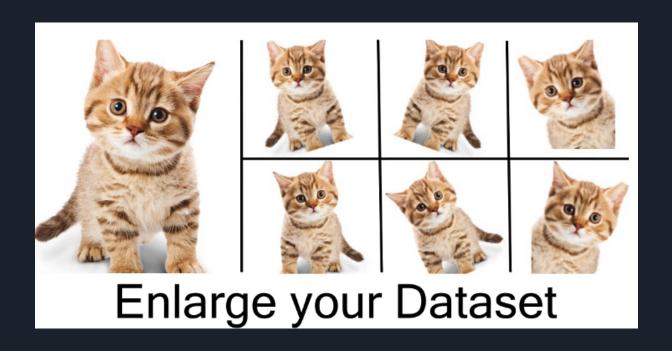
• w^* found by minimizing L can be interpreted as the maximum a posteriori (MAP) estimate of w (as opposed to maximum likelihood estimate if using L₀)

Data augmentation

List of possible augmentations https://docs.fast.ai/vision.augment.html

Caveat

• How can data augmentation go wrong?



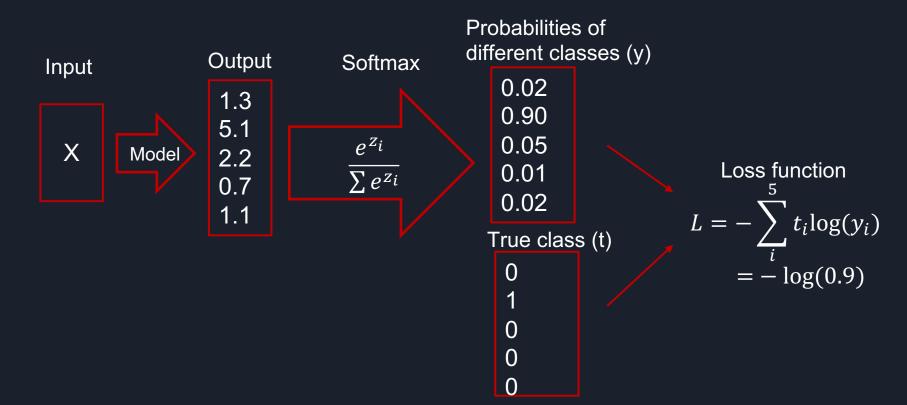
Other methods to address overfitting

- L1 Regularization
- Dropout
- Early Stopping

(discuss with mentors after class if interested)

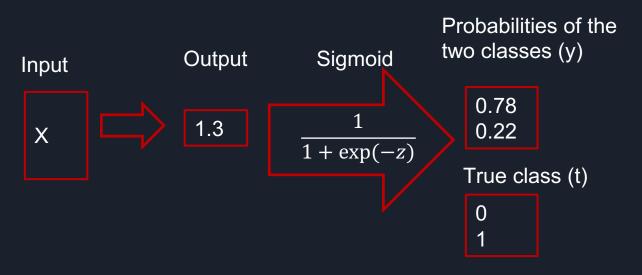
Softmax

• The softmax function turns the raw outputs into the probabilities of different classes



Binary cross entropy

• Binary Cross Entropy loss is only a special case of cross entropy for binary classification.



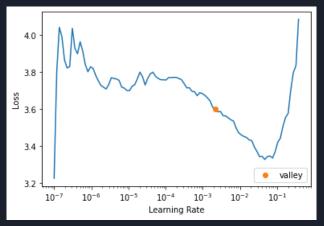
$$L = -\sum_{i=1}^{2} t_{i} \log(y_{i}) = -[t \log(y) + (1 - t)(1 - \log(y))] = -\log(0.22)$$

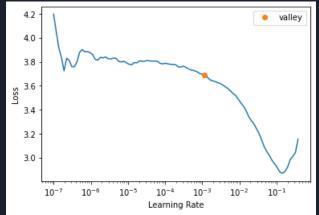
Exercise 1

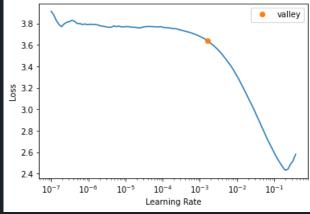
- Team 1: pen & paper vs Team 2: find the solution through code
- Recall the simple net from last week on MNIST: one linear layer, RELU and another linear layer.
- Write the forward pass, prediction and loss function.
- Given your first layer has 30 nodes, how many weights does your model have?
- If the batch size is 100, what is the size of your output?
- What might be the disadvantage of this model architecture?

Exercise 2

- Team 3: pen & paper vs Team 4: find the solution through code
- These 3 plots are generated by learn.lr_find() on a resnet 18 model trained on MNIST using three different batch sizes: 16, 64 and 512. Can you tell which plot corresponds to which batch size? Explain.
- Is a higher batch size a generally good thing? Think of the loss function landscape discussed last week.







Accurate, Large Minibatch SGD: Training ImageNet in 1 Hour

[1606.02228] Systematic evaluation of CNN advances on the ImageNet

Exercise 3

- Team 5: pen & paper vs Team 6: find the solution through code
- What happens when the weight decay parameter is very high?
- When should weight decay not be used?

Class survey

• We would like to hear feedback from you on the course and mentors, please go to the poll here https://www.menti.com/gvsrpwspvc