Deep Neural Networks

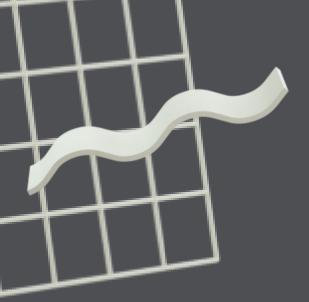
Activation Functions and Depth Analysis

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Introduction

- This mini project explores the impact of different activation functions and the role of network depth in ANNs.
- We compare Sigmoid, Tanh, and ReLU activations.
- Investigate ReLU variants: Leaky ReLU and Parametric ReLU.
- Analyze network performance for different depths.





Activation Functions Overview

- Sigmoid: Output range (0,1); suffers from vanishing gradients.
- Tanh: Output range (-1,1); still suffers from vanishing gradients.
- ReLU: Allows unbounded positive values; mitigates vanishing gradient issues.
- Leaky ReLU & Parametric ReLU: Fix the dying ReLU problem by allowing small negative slopes.

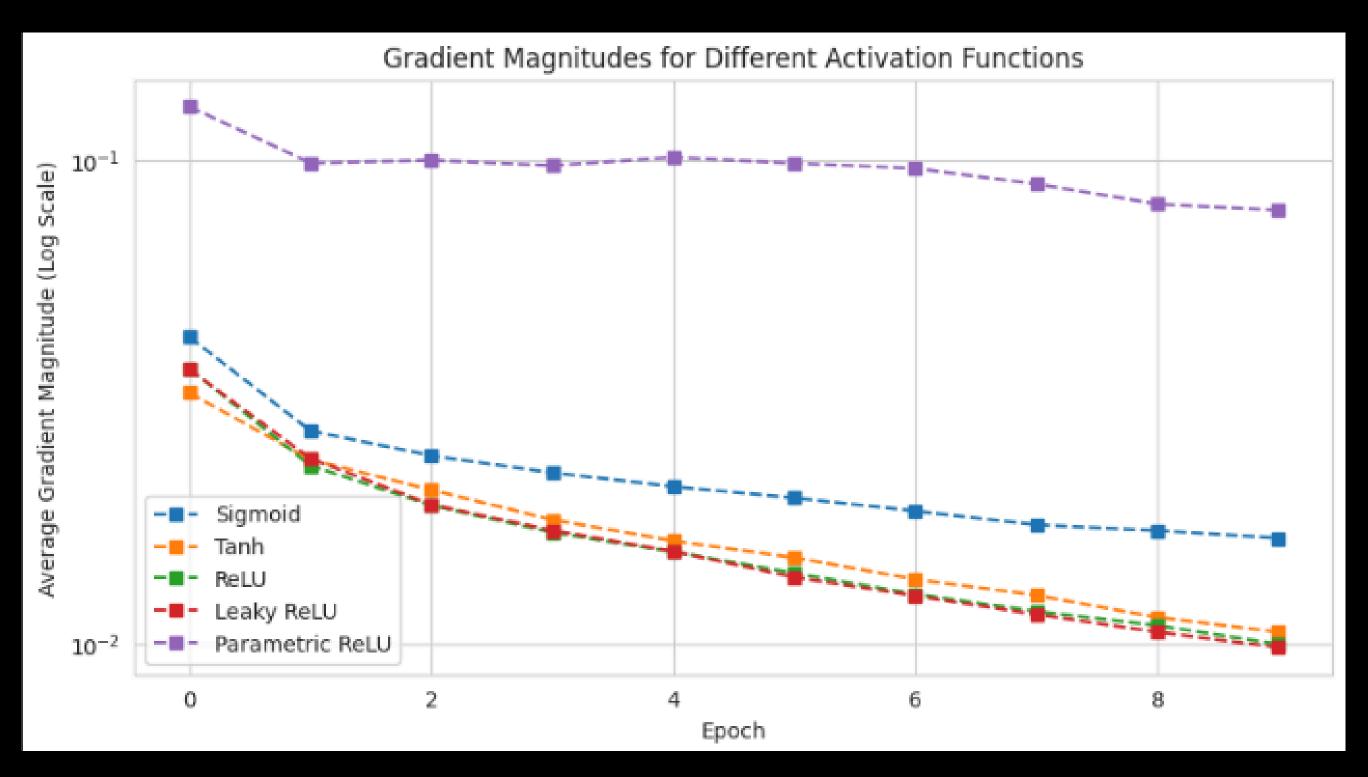


Experiment Setup

- Dataset: MNIST (Handwritten digits classification)
- Model: Fully Connected DNN
- Evaluation: Loss, gradient magnitude, and accuracy
- Tools: PyTorch, Matplotlib for visualizations

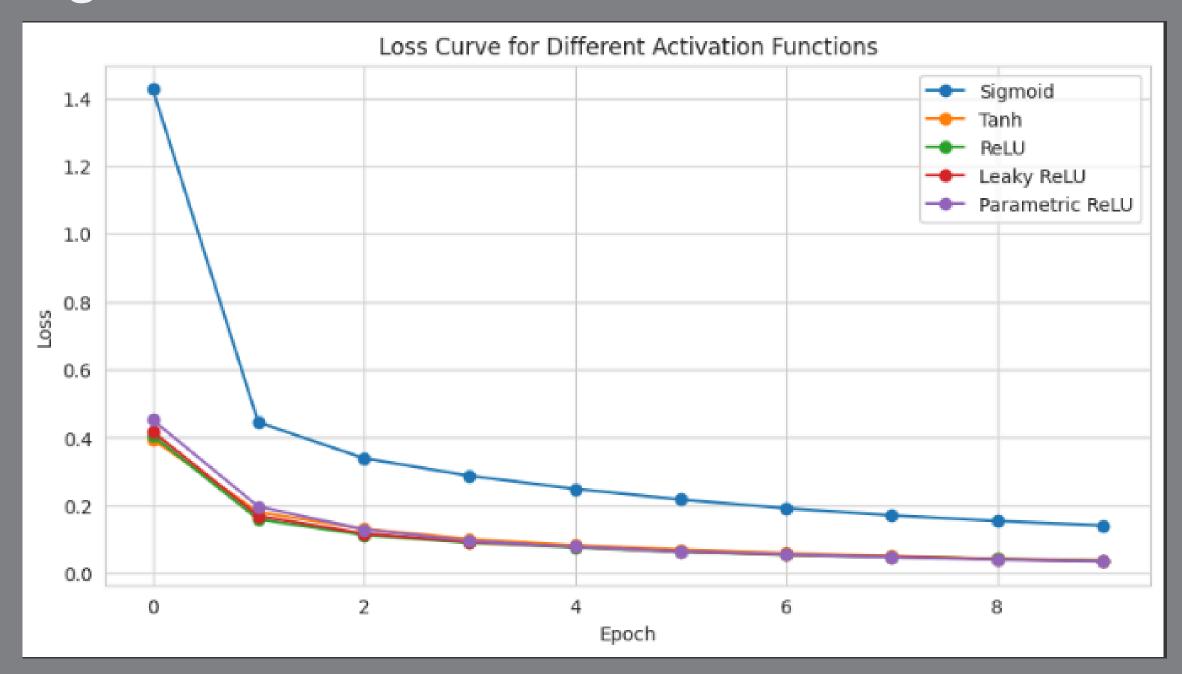
Activation Function Comparison

Gradient Magnitude Analysis



Performance Visualization

Loss curves: Show that ReLU converges faster than Sigmoid & Tanh.



Depth of ANNs

- Testing different network depths:
 - 2-layer shallow network
 - 3-layer moderate network
 - 5-layer deep network
 - 7-layer very deep network
 - 9-layer extra deep network



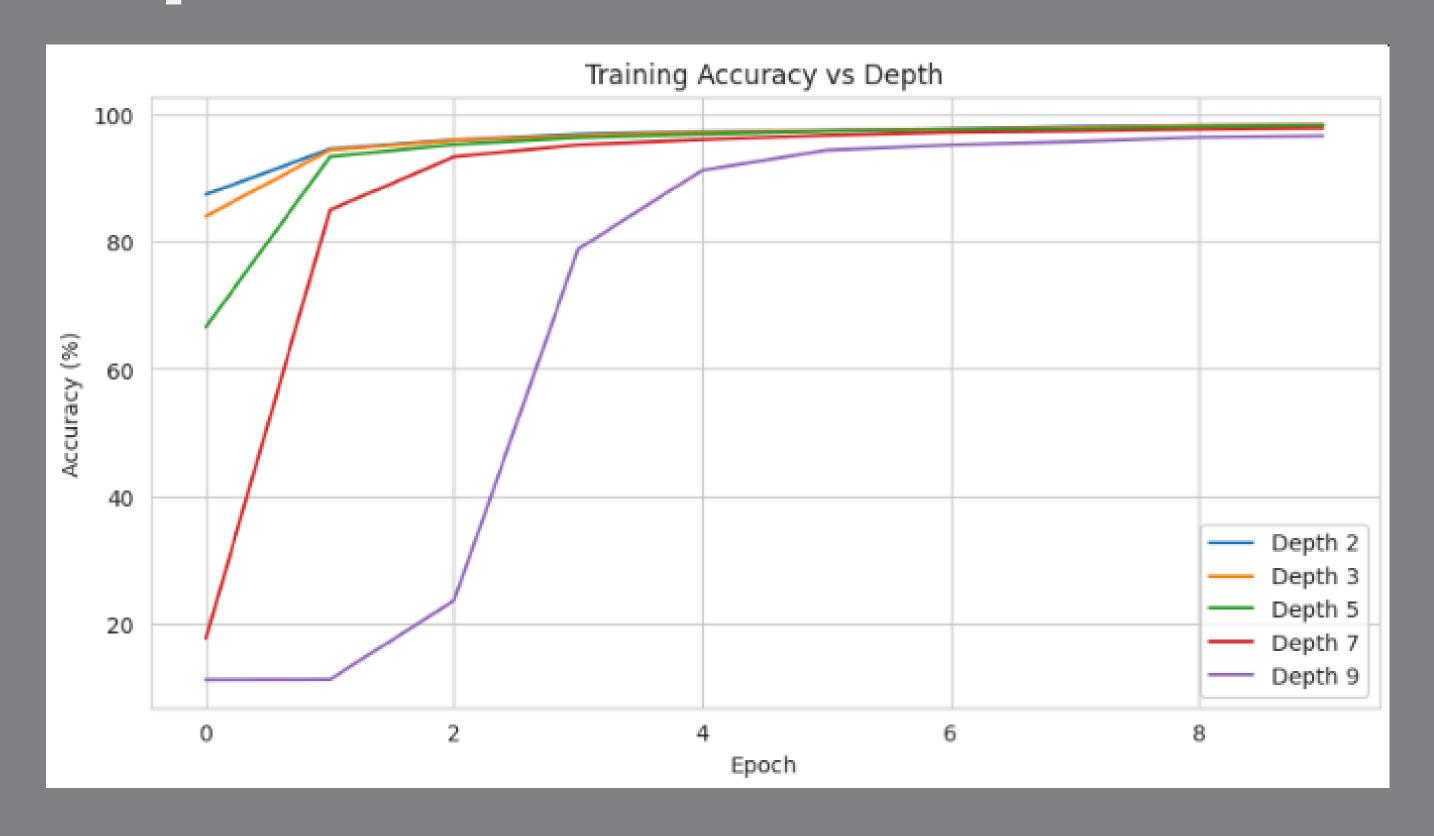
Depth vs. Performance

- Shallow networks: Struggle with feature extraction.
- Deep networks (5-7 layers): Achieve optimal accuracy.
- Extra deep networks (10+ layers): Show degradation due to vanishing gradients & overfitting.



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Depth vs. Performance





Thank You!