COMPSCI 689 Lecture 10: Multilayer Perceptrons

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Outline

- 1 Neural Networks
- 2 Learning for NNs
- 3 Deep Learning Tools

Learning for Sigmoid NN Regression

- Learning sigmoid neural networks for regression follows the same basic pattern.
- All we need to do is switch to a regression loss. The model defined so far already has a linear output layer.
- The derivation of the gradient is nearly identical regardless of the loss used.

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- In the neural networks literature, the addition of two-norm regularization is sometimes referred to as weight decay because of the contribution to the learning step (i.e., $-\lambda \mathbf{w}$).
- The number of layers and the width of the layers are also both important architectural hyper-parameters that impact model capacity.

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- **Step Sizes:** Fixed step sizes or fixed step size decay schedules were often used in early work. In this literature, the step size is often referred to as the *learning rate*.
- Acceleration: There are a wide array of approaches that either modify the gradient direction or the step sizes to attempt to achieve faster convergence on certain classes of problems (i.e, use of momentum, Adadelta, Adagrad, Adam, RMSprop, etc.).

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- In addition, the use of sigmoid functions for the hidden units results in a *vanishing gradient* problem that can further slow down learning for deep networks.

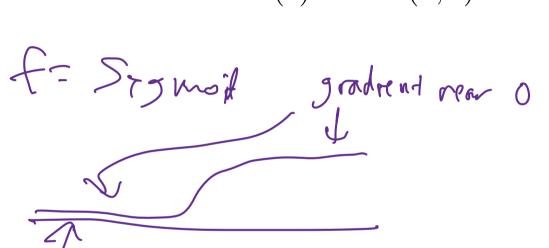
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- In practice, it can be hard to find a combination of layer sizes and regularization that yields good generalization performance when learning from small or moderate amounts of data.
- In addition, the use of sigmoid functions for the hidden units results in a *vanishing gradient* problem that can further slow down learning for deep networks.
- As a result, there were few examples of deep neural network models that resulted in performance that exceeded hand-crafted features, basis expansions and kernels until the last decade.

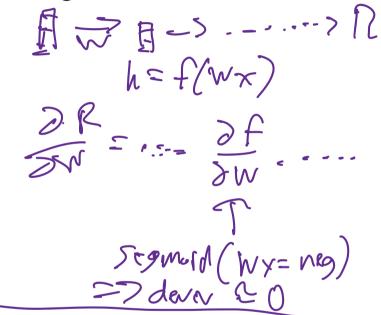


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- 2 Have access to lots of labeled data (ie: millions of examples).
- 3 Do the computing on GPUs to achieve significant speedups (i.e.: model training takes days instead of weeks or months).
- The breakthrough paper in this area is Krizhevsky, Sutskever, and Hinton. *Imagenet classification with deep convolutional neural networks*. Advances in neural information processing systems 25, 2012.

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- As a result, many deep learning tools exist (i.e., PyTorch, TensorFlow, Caffe, Keras) that allow models to be specified only in terms of the *forward pass* computation (from inputs to loss).
- This makes it much easier to quickly change the model architecture because only the specification of the forward pass needs to be updated.

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Neural Networks

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- The chain rule is then applied to each node in the computation graph to transform it into a computation graph for computing the gradient of the objective.
- Importantly, this procedure yields analytic gradients and learning is identical to classical backprop.
- As a byproduct of the representations used, it's possible to compile both computation graphs against arbitrary numerical libraries for either CPUs or GPUs.