

# Convexified Convolutional Neural Networks

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# Overview

Background

Convex Relaxations

- Linear Activation Functions

- Non-Linear Activation Functions

Algorithm

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# Paper Overview

1. Start generic two-layer CNN
2. Convex relaxation
  - 2.1 Linear activation – optimize for a low-rank matrix  $A$  instead of filter weights and coefficients
  - 2.2 Non-linear activation – frame problem in terms of RKHS
3. Introduce a kernel-based algorithm for CCNNs
4. Provide theoretical guarantees on the generalization error
5. Explain extensions like pooling and multi-layer CNNs
6. Provide experimental results on MNIST and CIFAR-10

# Convolutional Neural Networks

For an input vector,  $x \in \mathbb{R}^{d_0}$ , and output vector,  $y \in \mathbb{R}^{d_2}$ , define

$$\{z_p(x) \mid z_p(x) \in \mathbb{R}^{d_1}\}_{p=1}^P$$

to be the set of  $P$  patches of  $x$ .

For a given  $\sigma : \mathbb{R} \mapsto \mathbb{R}$ , the output of a filter is

$$h_j(z) = \sigma(w_j^T z)$$

The output of a CNN is  $f = (f_1(x), f_2(x), \dots, f_{d_2}(x))$  is defined as

$$f_k(x) = \sum_{j=1}^r \sum_{p=1}^P \alpha_{k,j,p} h_j(z_p(x)) \quad (1)$$

# Convolutional Neural Networks

CNNs are described by the class of models:

$$\mathcal{F}_{\text{cnn}}(B_1, B_2) = \{f \text{ of the form Eq. 1} \mid \max_{j \in [r]} \|w_j\|_2 \leq B_1 \quad (2)$$
$$\text{and } \max_{k \in [d_2], j \in [r]} \|\alpha_{k,j}\|_2 \leq B_2\}$$

Given a set of samples  $\{(x_i, y_i)\}_{i=1}^n$ , we want to solve the ERM:

$$\hat{f}_{\text{cnn}} = \arg \min_{f \in \mathcal{F}_{\text{cnn}}} \sum_{i=1}^n \mathcal{L}(f(x_i), y_i) \quad (3)$$

# Optimizing For Low-Rank Matrix (Linear Activation)

For  $x \in \mathbb{R}^{d_0}$ , define

$$Z(x) = \begin{bmatrix} z_1(x)^T \\ \vdots \\ z_P(x)^T \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad \alpha_{k,j} = \begin{bmatrix} \alpha_{k,j,1} \\ \vdots \\ \alpha_{k,j,P} \end{bmatrix}$$

Then rewrite Eq. 1 with activation function,  $\sigma(t) = t$ , as

$$f_k(x) = \sum_{j=1}^r \alpha_{k,j}^T Z(x) w_j = \text{tr} \left( Z(x) \sum_{j=1}^r w_j \alpha_{k,j}^T \right) = \text{tr} (Z(x) A_k) \quad (4)$$

# Optimizing For Low-Rank Matrix (Linear Activation)

$$f_k(x) = \text{tr} \left( \begin{matrix} d_1 \\ \hline z_1(x) \\ \hline \vdots \\ \hline z_P(x) \end{matrix} \times \begin{matrix} r \text{ (filters)} \\ \hline w_1 \quad w_r \end{matrix} \times \begin{matrix} P \text{ (patches)} \\ \hline \alpha_{k,1} \\ \hline \vdots \\ \hline \alpha_{k,r} \end{matrix} \right)$$

$A_k$

**Figure:** Reframing the problem in terms of a low-rank matrix,  $A_k$ , allows for convex optimization over a nuclear norm ball

# Optimizing For Low-Rank Matrix (Linear Activation)

The CNN class of models is then

$$\mathcal{F}_{\text{cnn}}(B_1, B_2) = \{f \text{ of the form Eq. 4} \mid \max_{j \in [r]} \|w_j\|_2 \leq B_1 \quad (5)$$
$$\text{and } \max_{k \in [d_2], j \in [r]} \|\alpha_{k,j}\|_2 \leq B_2\}$$
$$\text{and } \text{rank}(A) = r$$

Define the CCNN class of models as

$$\mathcal{F}_{\text{ccnn}}(B_1, B_2) = \{f \text{ of the form Eq. 4} \mid \|A\|_* \leq B_1 B_2 r \sqrt{d_2}\} \quad (6)$$

where  $\mathcal{F}_{\text{cnn}}(B_1, B_2) \subseteq \mathcal{F}_{\text{ccnn}}(B_1, B_2)$ .



# Reproducing Kernel Hilbert Space (RKHS)

- ▶ Hilbert Space: a complete inner-product space
- ▶ a reproducing kernel Hilbert space is
  - ▶ a Hilbert space of functions  $f : \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$
  - ▶ evaluation functionals are continuous
- ▶ reproducing kernel (associated with Hilbert Space  $\mathcal{H}$ ): a function  $\mathcal{K} : \mathcal{X} \times \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  such that
  - ▶  $\mathcal{K}(x, \cdot) = \mathcal{K}_x(\cdot) \in \mathcal{H}, \forall x \in \mathcal{X}$
  - ▶  $\langle f, \mathcal{K}_x \rangle_{\mathcal{H}} = f(x), \forall f \in \mathcal{H}$  (reproducing property)
- ▶
  - ▶  $\mathcal{H}$  is an RKHS  $\implies \exists$  unique reproducing kernel  $\mathcal{K}$
  - ▶ If  $\exists$  reproducing kernel  $\mathcal{K} \implies \mathcal{H}$  is an RKHS

# Framing Problem Using RKHS

- ▶ for certain kernels  $\mathcal{K}$  and activations  $\sigma$ , Representer Theorem implies that for any patch  $z_p(x_i)$

$$h(z_p(x_i)) = \sum_{(i', p') \in [n] \times [p]} c_{i', p'} k(z_p(x_i), z_{p'}(x_{i'}))$$

- ▶ choose kernel matrix  $K = \mathbb{R}^{nP \times nP}$
- ▶ consider  $K = QQ^\top$

$$h(z_p(x_i)) = \langle Q_{(i, p)}, w \rangle \text{ where } w := \sum_{(i', p')} c_{(i', p')} Q_{(i', p')}$$

# CCNN Algorithm

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## Algorithm 1 CCNN Algorithm

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**Require:** Data  $\{(x_i, y_i)\}_{i=1}^n$ , kernel function  $\mathcal{K}$ , regularization parameter  $R > 0$ , number of filters  $r$

1. Construct a matrix  $K \in \mathbb{R}^{nP \times nP}$  such that the entry at column  $(i, p)$  and row  $(i', p')$  is  $\mathcal{K}(z_p(x_i), z_{p'}(x_{i'}))$ . Compute the factorization  $K = QQ^T$  or an approximation,  $K \approx QQ^T$ , where  $Q \in \mathbb{R}^{nP \times m}$ .
2. For each  $x_i$ , construct a patch matrix  $Z(x_i) \in \mathbb{R}^{P \times m}$  whose  $p$ -th row is the  $(i, p)$ -th row of  $Q$ .
3. Solve the following optimization problem to obtain a matrix  $\hat{A} = (\hat{A}_1, \dots, \hat{A}_{d_2})$

$$\hat{A} = \arg \min_{\|A\|_* \leq R} \tilde{\mathcal{L}}(A) \text{ where } \tilde{\mathcal{L}}(A) = \sum_{i=1}^n \mathcal{L}((\text{tr}(Z(x_i)A_1), \dots, \text{tr}(Z(x_i)A_{d_2})), y_i)$$

4. Compute a rank- $r$  approximation  $\tilde{A} \approx \hat{U}\hat{V}^T$  where  $\hat{U} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times r}$  and  $\hat{V} \in \mathbb{R}^{Pd_2 \times r}$ .
  5. **return** The predictor  $\hat{f}_{\text{ccnn}}(x) = \left( \text{tr}(Z(x)\hat{A}_1), \dots, \text{tr}(Z(x)\hat{A}_{d_2}) \right)$  and the convolutional layer output  $H(x) = \hat{U}^T(Z(x))$ .
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# Solving ERM in CCNN Algorithm

- ▶ projected gradient descent

$$A^{t+1} = \Pi_R(A^t - \eta^t \nabla_A \tilde{\mathcal{L}}(A^t))$$

- ▶ compute SVD of  $A$ , the project singular values onto  $l_1$  ball (Duchi et al)
- ▶ proximal adaptive gradient method
- ▶ proximal SVRG

# Choice of Kernel

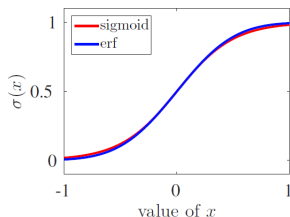
- ▶ kernel functions considered must satisfy notion of richness

$$\mathcal{K}(z, z') = \frac{1}{2 - \langle z, z' \rangle}, \quad \|z\|_2 \leq 1, \|z'\|_2 \leq 1$$

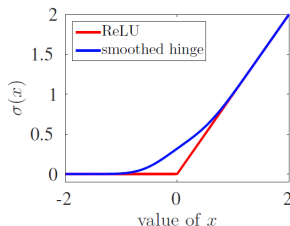
$$\mathcal{K}(z, z') = \exp(-\gamma \|z - z'\|_2^2), \quad \|z\|_2 = \|z'\|_2 = 1, \gamma \geq 0$$

# Valid Activation Functions

- ▶ arbitrary polynomial functions
- ▶  $\sigma(t) = \sin(t)$
- ▶  $\sigma_{erf}(t) = \frac{2}{\sqrt{\pi i}} \int_0^t e^{-z^2} dz$
- ▶  $\sigma_{sh}(t) = \frac{1}{2} \int_{-\infty}^t (\sigma_{erf}(z) + 1) dz$



(a) sigmoid v.s. erf



(b) ReLU v.s. smoothed hinge loss

Figure: approximations to activations which are not smooth enough

# Theorem 1: Bound on Generalization Error

- ▶ loss function  $\mathcal{L}(\cdot; y)$  is  $L$ -Lipschitz continuous for every  $y \in [d_2]$
- ▶  $\mathcal{K}$  is the inverse polynomial kernel or the Gaussian RBF kernel
- ▶ valid activation function  $\sigma$
- ▶  $c > 0$
- ▶ radius  $R := C_\sigma(B_1)B_2r$

$\exists C_\sigma(B_1)$  such that

$$\mathbb{E}_{X,Y}[\mathcal{L}(\hat{f}_{ccnn}(X); Y)] \leq \inf_{f \in \mathcal{F}_{cnn}} \mathbb{E}_{X,Y}[\mathcal{L}(f(X); Y)] + \frac{cLC_\sigma(B_1)B_2r\sqrt{\log(nP)\mathbb{E}_X[\|K(X)\|_2]}}{\sqrt{n}}$$

# Proof Sketch

1. consider a relaxed function class

$$\mathcal{F}_{ccnn} := \left\{ x \mapsto \sum_{j=1}^{r^*} \sum_{p=1}^P \alpha_{j,p} h_j(z_p(x)) : r^* < \infty \right. \\ \left. \text{and } \sum_{j=1}^{r^*} \|\alpha_j\|_2 \|h_j\|_{\mathcal{H}} \leq C_\sigma(B_1) B_2 d_2 \right\}$$

2. characterize Rademacher complexity of  $\mathcal{F}_{ccnn}$  to upper bound generalization error of  $\hat{f}_{ccnn}$



# Further Proof Details (1/4)

Lemma 1:

For any valid  $\sigma(\cdot)$ ,  $\exists C_\sigma(B_1)$  s.t.  $\mathcal{F}_{cnn} \subset \mathcal{F}_{ccnn}$

Lemma 4:

With CCNN hyper-parameter  $R = C_\sigma(B_1)B_2d_2$ ,

$\hat{f}_{ccnn}$  is guaranteed to satisfy  $\hat{f}_{ccnn} \in \arg \min_{f \in \mathcal{F}_{ccnn}} \sum_{i=1}^n \mathcal{L}(f(x_i); y_i)$

## Further Proof Details (2/4)

the Rademacher complexity of  $\mathcal{F} = \{f : \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}\}$  with respect to  $n$  i.i.d. samples  $\{X_i\}_{i=1}^n$  is given by

$$\mathcal{R}_n(\mathcal{F}) := \mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{X}, \epsilon} \left[ \sup_{f \in \mathcal{F}} \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \epsilon_i f(X_i) \right]$$

where  $\{\epsilon_i\}_{i=1}^n$  are an i.i.d. sequence of uniform  $\{-1, +1\}$ -valued random variables

## Further Proof Details (3/4)

Lemma 5:

$\exists$  universal constant  $c$  such that

$$\mathcal{R}_n(\mathcal{F}_{ccnn}) \leq \frac{cC_\sigma(B_1)B_2r\sqrt{\log(nP)\mathbb{E}[\|K(X)\|_2]}}{\sqrt{n}}$$

generalization bound:

$$\mathbb{E}[\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{F}_{ccnn}(X); Y)] \leq \inf_{f \in \mathcal{F}_{ccnn}} \mathbb{E}[\mathcal{L}(f(x); y)] + 2L\mathcal{R}_n(\mathcal{F}_{ccnn}) + \frac{c}{\sqrt{n}}$$

## Further Proof Details (4/4)

By Lemma 3,

$$\inf_{f \in \mathcal{F}_{ccnn}} \mathbb{E}[\mathcal{L}(f(x); y)] \leq \inf_{f \in \mathcal{F}_{cnn}} \mathbb{E}[\mathcal{L}(f(x); y)]$$

It follows that

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E}_{X,Y}[\mathcal{L}(\hat{f}_{ccnn}(X); Y)] &\leq \inf_{f \in \mathcal{F}_{cnn}} \mathbb{E}_{X,Y}[\mathcal{L}(f(X); Y)] + \\ &\quad \frac{cL C_{\sigma}(B_1) B_2 r \sqrt{\log(nP) \mathbb{E}_X[\|K(X)\|_2]}}{\sqrt{n}} \end{aligned}$$

# Experimental Results

On MNIST dataset:

	basic	rand	rot	img	img+rot
SVM <sub>rbf</sub>	3.03%	14.58%	<b>11.11%</b>	22.61%	55.18%
NN-1	4.69%	20.04%	18.11%	27.41%	62.16%
CNN-1 (ReLU)	3.37%	9.83%	18.84%	14.23%	45.96%
CCNN-1	<b>2.38%</b>	<b>7.45%</b>	13.39%	<b>10.40%</b>	<b>42.28%</b>
TIRBM	-	-	<b>4.20%</b>	-	35.50%
SDAE-3	2.84%	10.30%	9.53%	16.68%	43.76%
ScatNet-2	1.27%	12.30%	7.48%	18.40%	50.48%
PCANet-2	<b>1.06%</b>	6.19%	7.37%	10.95%	35.48%
CNN-2 (ReLU)	2.11%	5.64%	8.27%	10.17%	32.42%
CNN-2 (Quad)	1.75%	5.30%	8.83%	11.60%	36.90%
CCNN-2	1.38%	<b>4.32%</b>	6.98%	<b>7.46%</b>	<b>30.23%</b>

Table: Classification error with a Gaussian kernel for CCNNs

# Experimental Results

On CIFAR-10 dataset:

	Error Rate
CNN-1	34.14%
CCNN-1	<b>23.62%</b>
CNN-2	24.98%
CCNN-2	<b>20.52%</b>
SVM <sub>Fastfood</sub>	36.90%
PCANet-2	22.86%
CKN	21.70%
CNN-3	21.48%
CCNN-3	<b>19.56%</b>

**Table:** Error rate with a Gaussian kernel for CCNNs

# References



Y. Zhang, et al. (2016, Sept. 4). *Convexified Convolutional Neural Networks* (v1) [Online]. Available: <https://arxiv.org/abs/1609.01000>

# The End