Regularized Deep Learning in High Energy Physics

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Abstract

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1. Introduction

Recent years have seen a dramatic increase in the popularity of deep neural networks. These networks have shown improved performance over existing methods in diverse areas such as computer vision, speech recognition, and text analysis. Multiple hidden layers and non-linear activations allow deep networks the flexibility to model complex functions more efficiently and with better generalization that their shallow counterparts. The use of shallow neural networks has been common practice in high energy physics since the 1980's. An important application of these networks is in classifying the subatomic particles produced by collisions at particle accelerators.

At particle accelerators like the Large Hadron Collider outside Geneva Switzerland protons are accelerated to nearly the speed of light by powerful magnets and then smashed together with resulting collisions observed by a series of detectors. At high enough energies rare and sometimes unstable particles can be produced. The data from these collisions including the speed and trajectories of the resulting particles can then be input to machine learning algorithms to classify the particles themselves. The important benefits of improved machine learning algorithms are two-fold. Firstly, better classification accuracy can improve the chances of correctly classifying a potentially rare or undiscovered particle. Secondly, improved algorithms can learn on smaller training sets. Although training data is often the result of computer simulation it can be computationally expensive to produce so there is much value in using smaller datasets. The goal of this paper is to apply regularized deep learning to datasets of limited size while maintaining or improving classification accuracy when compared to shallow networks.

An recent example of the use of machine learning in high energy physics is in the search for decays of the Higgs Boson directly into Fermions at the LHC. Evidence consistent with the decay of the Higgs into fermionic Tau leptons has been seen in data collected at the LHC but current methods lack the statistical power to cross the standard threshold for claims of discovery in high energy physics.

1.1. Related Work

Shallow networks have been used for decades in particle classification problems but only recently has the use of deep networks been explored. Baldi et. al. [4][5] apply deep learning to several high energy physics classification tasks. First in [4], the authors investigate the performance of deep classifiers in detecting the production of the Higgs boson as well as in the production of super-symmetric charged particles that decay to W bosons. They observed that deep networks utilizing low level data and high level derived features give improved performance over shallow networks trained with the same features. In the Higgs production task the classifiers performance was not improved by the inclusion of the high level features indicating that the network was able to learn a representation of these features simply from the low level raw input data. However, in the super-symmetry task the inclusion of high level features led to improved performance making it difficult to generalize whether all datasets allow for this type of learning. Both datasets were of similar size containing about 10 millions training examples with about 30 features for each example. In [5] the authors focus on the task mentioned earlier of searching for the decay of the Higgs into two tau leptons. Their data set was very large cosisting of 80 million examples. They compare the performance of deep and shallow networks in detecting the decay using combinations of both high and low level features. Results indicate that deep networks outperform shallow networks on all tasks even in the case where the shallow network was trained with the full feature set and the deep network was only given the low level features.

1.2. Overall Approach

To attempt to replicate the successes of deep learning in particle classification with a smaller training set L2 regularization and dropout were explored. In [5] the authors observed that regularization methods did not not improve their results, speculating that because of the size of their training set the main challenge their model faces was learning rather than overfitting. To optimize hyper-parameters

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Saying "this builds on the work of Lucy Smith [1]" does not say that you are Lucy Smith; it says that you are building on her work. If you are Smith and Jones, do not say "as we show in [7]", say "as Smith and Jones show in [7]" and at the end of the paper, include reference 7 as you would any other cited work.

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In this paper we present a performance analysis of our previous paper [1], and show it to be inferior to all previously known methods. Why the previous paper was accepted without this analysis is beyond me.

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An analysis of the frobnicatable foo filter.

In this paper we present a performance analysis of the paper of Smith *et al.* [1], and show it to be inferior to all previously known methods. Why the previous paper was accepted without this analysis is beyond me.

[1] Smith, L and Jones, C. "The frobnicatable foo filter, a fundamental contribution to human knowledge". Nature 381(12), 1-213.

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We describe a system for zero-g frobnication. This system is new because it handles the following cases: A, B. Previous systems [Zeus et al. 1968] didn't handle case B properly. Ours handles it by including a foo term in the bar integral.

...

The proposed system was integrated with the Apollo lunar lander, and went all the way to the moon, don't you know. It displayed the following behaviours which show how well we solved cases A and B: ...

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Compare the following:

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conf_a conf_a s conf_a conf_a See The TrXbook, p165.
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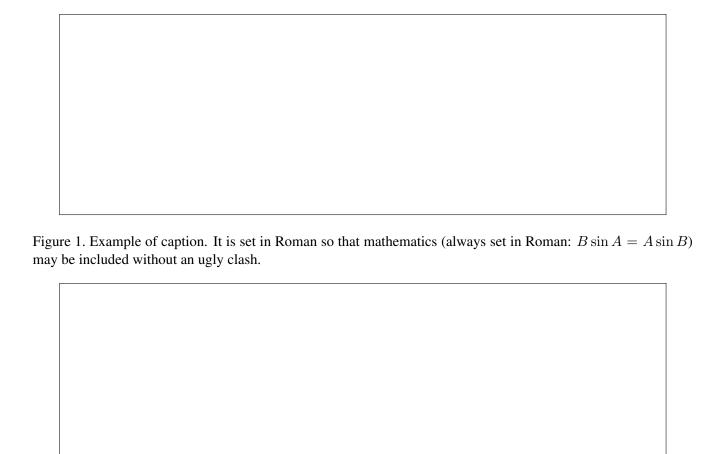


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This is incorrect: "... subsequently developed by Alpher $et\ al.$ [2] ..." because reference [2] has just two authors. If you use the \etal macro provided, then you need not worry about double periods when used at the end of a sentence as in Alpher $et\ al.$

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Method	Frobnability	
Theirs	Frumpy	
Yours	Frobbly	
Ours	Makes one's heart Frob	

Table 1. Results. Ours is better.

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References

- [1] A. Alpher. Frobnication. *Journal of Foo*, 12(1):234–778, 2002.
- [2] A. Alpher and J. P. N. Fotheringham-Smythe. Frobnication revisited. *Journal of Foo*, 13(1):234–778, 2003.
- [3] A. Alpher, J. P. N. Fotheringham-Smythe, and G. Gamow. Can a machine frobnicate? *Journal of Foo*, 14(1):234–778, 2004.
- [4] P. Baldi, P. Sadowski, and D. Whiteson. Searching for exotic particles in high-energy physics with deep learning. *Nature Commun.*, 5:4308, 2014.

[5]	P. Baldi, P. Sadowski, and D. Whiteson. E <i>Lett.</i> , 114(11):111801, 2015.	Enhanced higgs boson to $ au^+ au^-$	search with deep learning. Phys. Rev.