Lecture 8: Training Neural Networks, Part 2

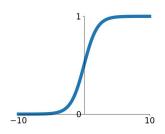
Administrative:

- A1 grades released: Check Piazza for regrade policy
- Project proposal was due on monday
- A2 due Wednesday 5/6

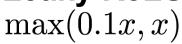
Last time: Activation Functions

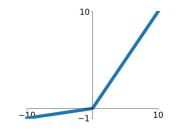
Sigmoid

$$\sigma(x) = \frac{1}{1 + e^{-x}}$$



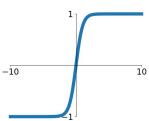
Leaky ReLU





tanh

tanh(x)

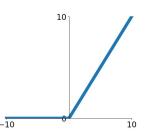


Maxout

$$\max(w_1^T x + b_1, w_2^T x + b_2)$$

ReLU

 $\max(0,x)$

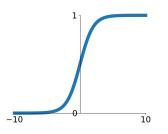


$$\begin{cases} x & x \ge 0 \\ \alpha(e^x - 1) & x < 0 \end{cases}$$

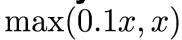
Last time: Activation Functions

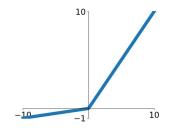
Sigmoid

$$\sigma(x) = \frac{1}{1 + e^{-x}}$$



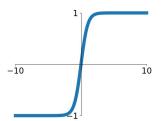
Leaky ReLU





tanh

tanh(x)



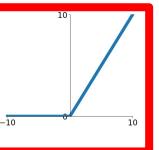
Maxout

$$\max(w_1^T x + b_1, w_2^T x + b_2)$$

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 $\max(0, x)$

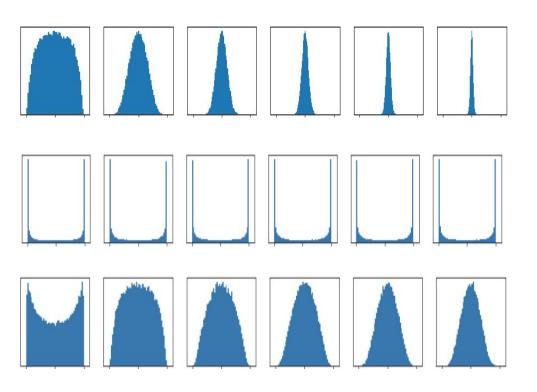
Good default choice



ELU

$$\begin{cases} x & x \ge 0 \\ \alpha(e^x - 1) & x < 0 \end{cases}$$

Last time: Weight Initialization



Initialization too small:

Activations go to zero, gradients also zero, No learning =(

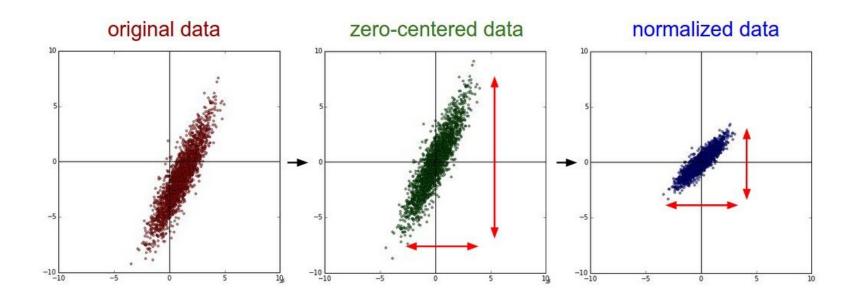
Initialization too big:

Activations saturate (for tanh), Gradients zero, no learning =(

Initialization just right:

Nice distribution of activations at all layers, Learning proceeds nicely =)

Last time: Data Preprocessing



Last Time: Batch Normalization

[loffe and Szegedy, 2015]

Input: $x: N \times D$

$$\mu_j = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N x_{i,j} \quad \text{Per-channel mean,} \\ \text{shape is D}$$

Learnable scale and shift parameters:

$$\gamma, \beta: D$$

Learning $\gamma = \sigma$, $\beta = \mu$ will recover the identity function!

$$\sigma_j^2 = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N (x_{i,j} - \mu_j)^2 \quad \text{Per-channel var,} \\ x_{i,j} = \mu_i$$
 shape is D

$$\hat{x}_{i,j} = \frac{x_{i,j} - \mu_j}{\sqrt{\sigma_j^2 + \varepsilon}} \qquad \text{Normalized x,} \\ \text{Shape is N x D}$$

$$y_{i,j} = \gamma_j \hat{x}_{i,j} + \beta_j$$
 Output, Shape is N x D

Today

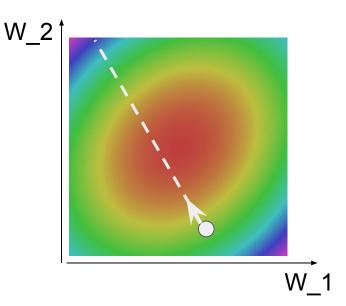
- Improve your training error:
 - (Fancier) Optimizers
 - Learning rate schedules
- Improve your test error:
 - Regularization
 - Choosing Hyperparameters

(Fancier) Optimizers

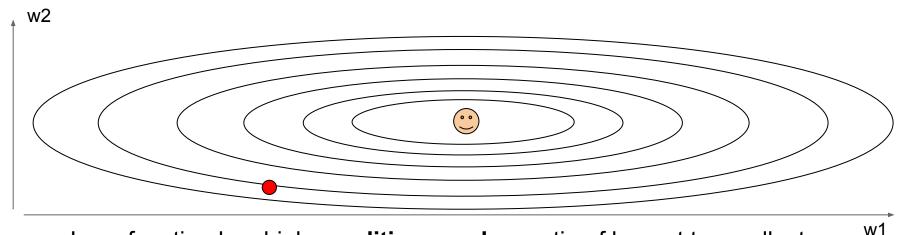
Optimization

```
# Vanilla Gradient Descent

while True:
    weights_grad = evaluate_gradient(loss_fun, data, weights)
    weights += - step_size * weights_grad # perform parameter update
```



What if loss changes quickly in one direction and slowly in another? What does gradient descent do?

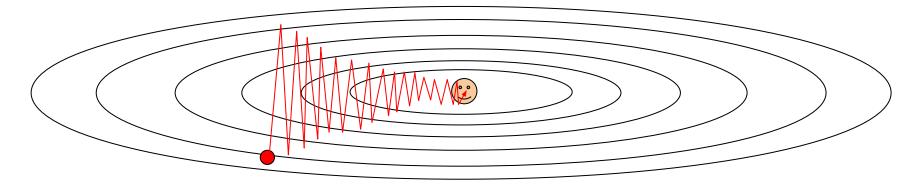


Loss function has high **condition number**: ratio of largest to smallest singular value of the Hessian matrix is large

VV I

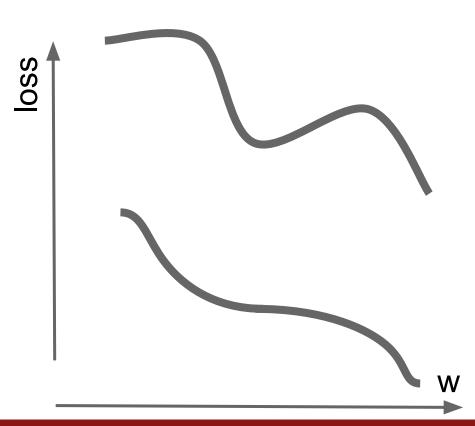
What if loss changes quickly in one direction and slowly in another? What does gradient descent do?

Very slow progress along shallow dimension, jitter along steep direction



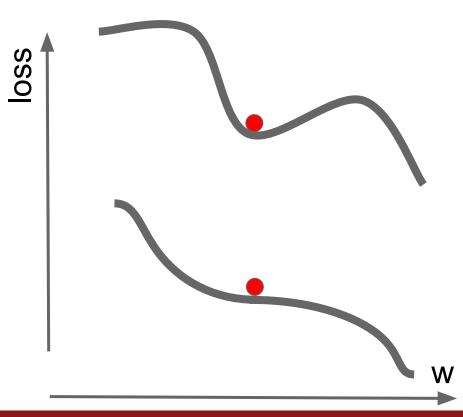
Loss function has high **condition number**: ratio of largest to smallest singular value of the Hessian matrix is large

What if the loss function has a local minima or saddle point?



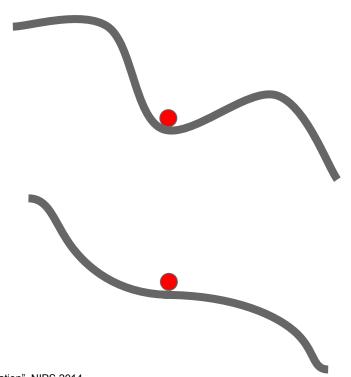
What if the loss function has a local minima or saddle point?

Zero gradient, gradient descent gets stuck



What if the loss function has a local minima or saddle point?

Saddle points much more common in high dimension

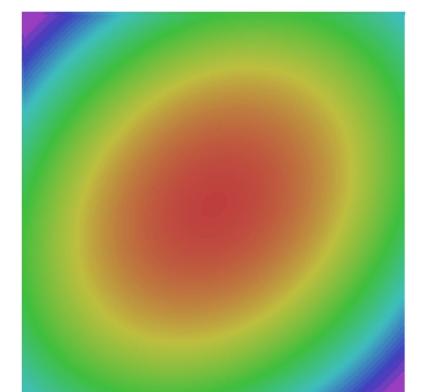


Dauphin et al, "Identifying and attacking the saddle point problem in high-dimensional non-convex optimization", NIPS 2014

Our gradients come from minibatches so they can be noisy!

$$L(W) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^{N} L_i(x_i, y_i, W)$$

$$\nabla_W L(W) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^{N} \nabla_W L_i(x_i, y_i, W)$$



SGD + Momentum

SGD

```
x_{t+1} = x_t - \alpha \nabla f(x_t)
```

```
while True:
    dx = compute_gradient(x)
    x -= learning_rate * dx
```

SGD+Momentum

```
v_{t+1} = \rho v_t + \nabla f(x_t) x_{t+1} = x_t - \alpha v_{t+1} v_t = 0 while True
```

```
vx = 0
while True:
    dx = compute_gradient(x)
    vx = rho * vx + dx
    x -= learning_rate * vx
```

- Build up "velocity" as a running mean of gradients
- Rho gives "friction"; typically rho=0.9 or 0.99

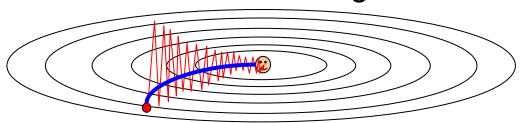
Sutskever et al, "On the importance of initialization and momentum in deep learning", ICML 2013

SGD + Momentum

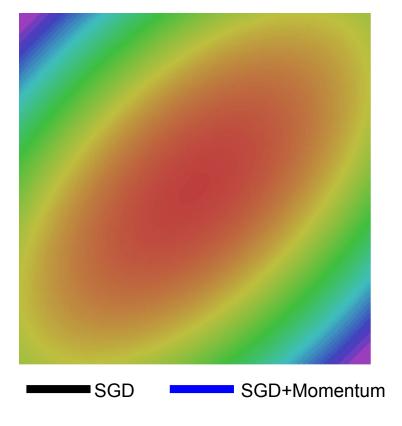
Local Minima Saddle points



Poor Conditioning



Gradient Noise



SGD + Momentum

SGD+Momentum

```
v_{t+1} = \rho v_t - \alpha \nabla f(x_t)x_{t+1} = x_t + v_{t+1}
```

```
vx = 0
while True:
    dx = compute_gradient(x)
    vx = rho * vx - learning_rate * dx
    x += vx
```

SGD+Momentum

```
v_{t+1} = \rho v_t + \nabla f(x_t)x_{t+1} = x_t - \alpha v_{t+1}
```

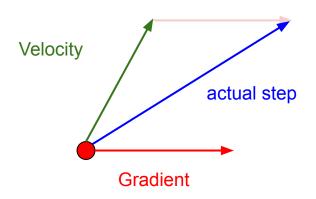
```
vx = 0
while True:
    dx = compute_gradient(x)
    vx = rho * vx + dx
    x -= learning_rate * vx
```

You may see SGD+Momentum formulated different ways, but they are equivalent - give same sequence of x

Sutskever et al, "On the importance of initialization and momentum in deep learning", ICML 2013

SGD+Momentum

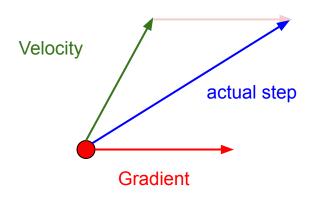
Momentum update:



Combine gradient at current point with velocity to get step used to update weights

Nesterov, "A method of solving a convex programming problem with convergence rate O(1/k^2)", 1983 Nesterov, "Introductory lectures on convex optimization: a basic course", 2004 Sutskever et al, "On the importance of initialization and momentum in deep learning", ICML 2013

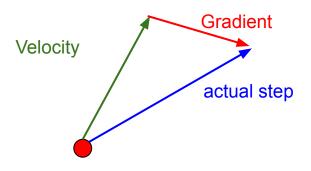
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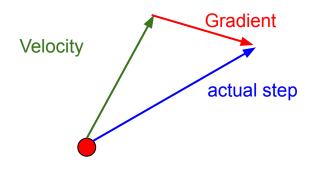
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Nesterov Momentum



"Look ahead" to the point where updating using velocity would take us; compute gradient there and mix it with velocity to get actual update direction

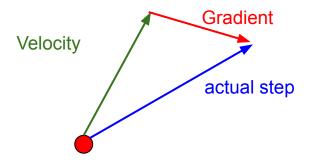
$$v_{t+1} = \rho v_t - \alpha \nabla f(x_t + \rho v_t)$$
$$x_{t+1} = x_t + v_{t+1}$$



"Look ahead" to the point where updating using velocity would take us; compute gradient there and mix it with velocity to get actual update direction

$$v_{t+1} = \rho v_t - \alpha \nabla f(x_t + \rho v_t)$$
$$x_{t+1} = x_t + v_{t+1}$$

Annoying, usually we want update in terms of $x_t, \nabla f(x_t)$



"Look ahead" to the point where updating using velocity would take us; compute gradient there and mix it with velocity to get actual update direction

$$v_{t+1} = \rho v_t - \alpha \nabla f(x_t + \rho v_t)$$
$$x_{t+1} = x_t + v_{t+1}$$

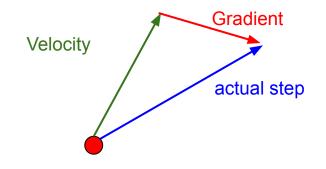
Change of variables $\tilde{x}_t = x_t + \rho v_t$ and rearrange:

$$v_{t+1} = \rho v_t - \alpha \nabla f(\tilde{x}_t)$$

$$\tilde{x}_{t+1} = \tilde{x}_t - \rho v_t + (1+\rho)v_{t+1}$$

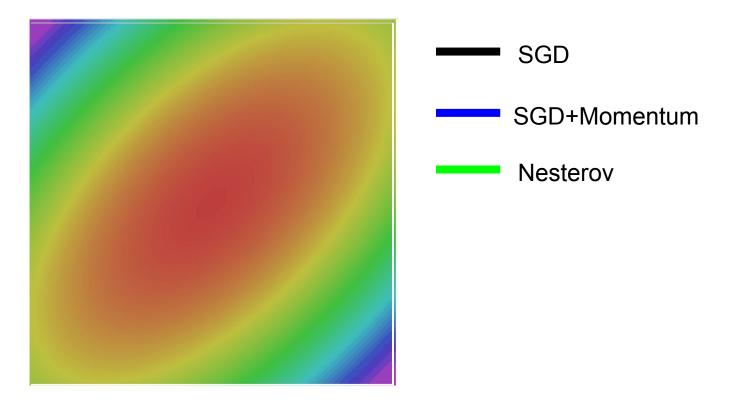
$$= \tilde{x}_t + v_{t+1} + \rho(v_{t+1} - v_t)$$

Annoying, usually we want update in terms of $x_t, \nabla f(x_t)$



"Look ahead" to the point where updating using velocity would take us; compute gradient there and mix it with velocity to get actual update direction

https://cs231n.github.io/neural-networks-3/



```
grad_squared = 0
while True:
    dx = compute_gradient(x)
    grad_squared += dx * dx
x -= learning_rate * dx / (np.sqrt(grad_squared) + 1e-7)
```

Added element-wise scaling of the gradient based on the historical sum of squares in each dimension

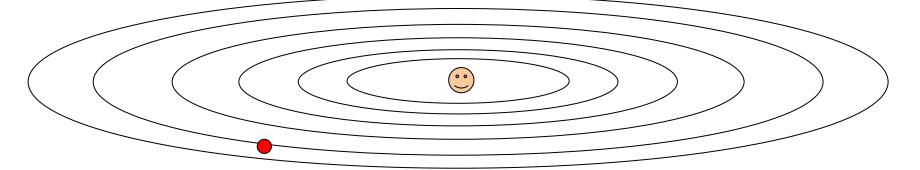
"Per-parameter learning rates" or "adaptive learning rates"

Duchi et al, "Adaptive subgradient methods for online learning and stochastic optimization", JMLR 2011

```
grad_squared = 0
while True:
  dx = compute\_gradient(x)
  grad_squared += dx * dx
 x -= learning_rate * dx / (np.sqrt(grad_squared) + 1e-7)
```

Q: What happens with AdaGrad?

```
grad_squared = 0
while True:
    dx = compute_gradient(x)
    grad_squared += dx * dx
    x -= learning_rate * dx / (np.sqrt(grad_squared) + 1e-7)
```



Q: What happens with AdaGrad?

Progress along "steep" directions is damped; progress along "flat" directions is accelerated

```
grad_squared = 0
while True:
  dx = compute\_gradient(x)
   grad_squared += dx * dx
  x -= learning_rate * dx / (np.sqrt(grad_squared) + 1e-7)
                                                        \begin{pmatrix} \cdot & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot \end{pmatrix}
```

Q2: What happens to the step size over long time?

```
grad_squared = 0
while True:
  dx = compute\_gradient(x)
  grad_squared += dx * dx
 x -= learning_rate * dx / (np.sqrt(grad_squared) + 1e-7)
```

Q2: What happens to the step size over long time? Decays to zero

RMSProp: "Leaky AdaGrad"

AdaGrad

```
grad_squared = 0
while True:
 dx = compute\_gradient(x)
 grad_squared += dx * dx
 x -= learning_rate * dx / (np.sqrt(grad_squared) + 1e-7)
```

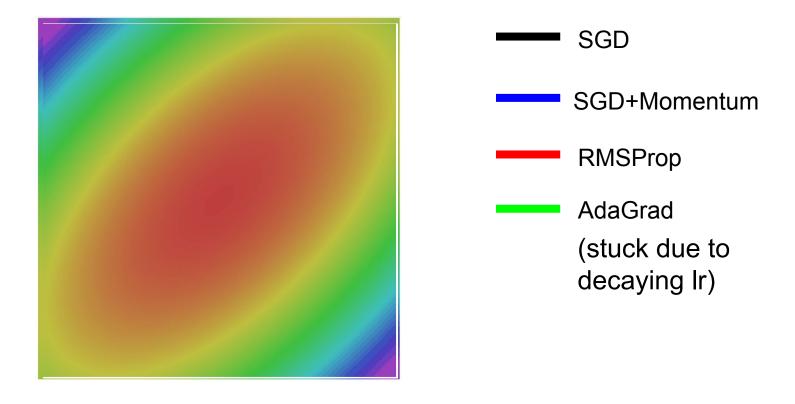


RMSProp

```
grad_squared = 0
while True:
  dx = compute\_gradient(x)
 grad_squared = decay_rate * grad_squared + (1 - decay_rate) * dx * dx
  x -= learning_rate * dx / (np.sqrt(grad_squared) + 1e-7)
```

Tieleman and Hinton, 2012

RMSProp



Adam (almost)

```
first_moment = 0
second_moment = 0
while True:
    dx = compute_gradient(x)
    first_moment = beta1 * first_moment + (1 - beta1) * dx
    second_moment = beta2 * second_moment + (1 - beta2) * dx * dx
    x -= learning_rate * first_moment / (np.sqrt(second_moment) + 1e-7))
```

Adam (almost)

```
first moment = 0
second moment = 0
while True:
  dx = compute\_gradient(x)
                                                                        Momentum
 first_moment = beta1 * first_moment + (1 - beta1) * dx
 second_moment = beta2 * second_moment + (1 - beta2) * dx * dx
 x -= learning_rate * first_moment / (np.sqrt(second_moment) + 1e-7))
```

AdaGrad / RMSProp

Sort of like RMSProp with momentum

Q: What happens at first timestep?

Adam (full form)

```
first moment = 0
second moment = 0
for t in range(1, num_iterations):
                                                                         Momentum
 dx = compute\_gradient(x)
 first_moment = beta1 * first_moment + (1 - beta1) * dx
  second_moment = beta2 * second_moment + (1 - beta2) * dx * dx
 first_unbias = first_moment / (1 - beta1 ** t)
                                                                         Bias correction
  second_unbias = second_moment / (1 - beta2 ** t)
 x -= learning_rate * first_unbias / (np.sqrt(second_unbias) + 1e-7))
                                                                       AdaGrad / RMSProp
```

Bias correction for the fact that first and second moment estimates start at zero

Adam (full form)

```
first_moment = 0
second_moment = 0
for t in range(1, num_iterations):
    dx = compute_gradient(x)
    first_moment = beta1 * first_moment + (1 - beta1) * dx
    second_moment = beta2 * second_moment + (1 - beta2) * dx * dx

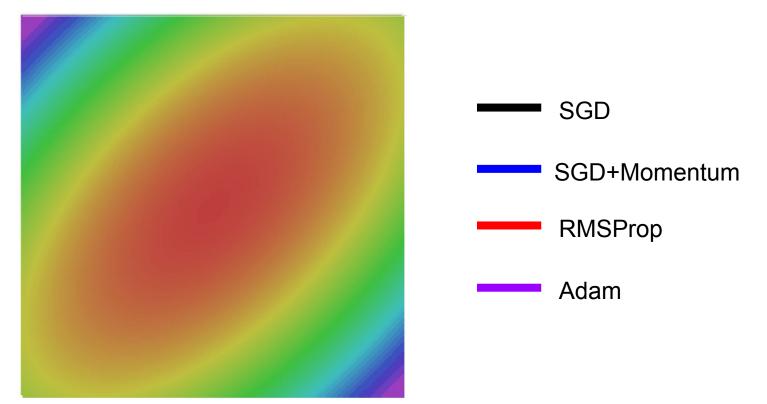
first_unbias = first_moment / (1 - beta1 ** t)
    second_unbias = second_moment / (1 - beta2 ** t)

x -= learning_rate * first_unbias / (np.sqrt(second_unbias) + 1e-7))
AdaGrad / RMSProp
```

Bias correction for the fact that first and second moment estimates start at zero

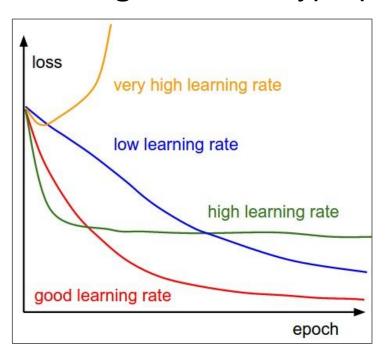
Adam with beta1 = 0.9, beta2 = 0.999, and learning_rate = 1e-3 or 5e-4 is a great starting point for many models!

Adam



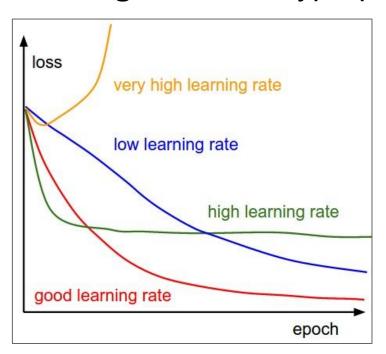
Learning rate schedules

SGD, SGD+Momentum, Adagrad, RMSProp, Adam all have learning rate as a hyperparameter.



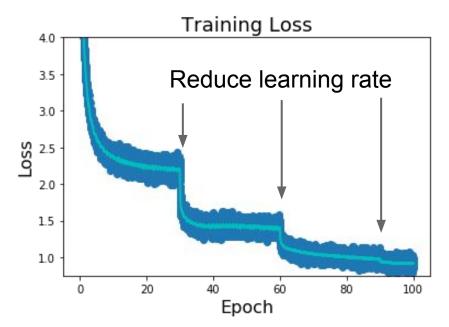
Q: Which one of these learning rates is best to use?

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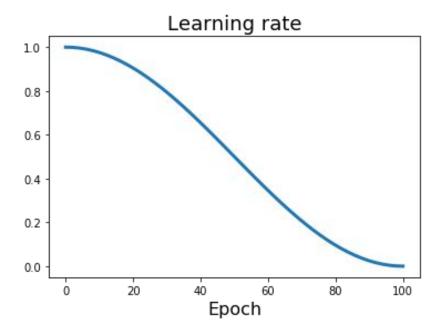


Q: Which one of these learning rates is best to use?

A: All of them! Start with large learning rate and decay over time



Step: Reduce learning rate at a few fixed points. E.g. for ResNets, multiply LR by 0.1 after epochs 30, 60, and 90.



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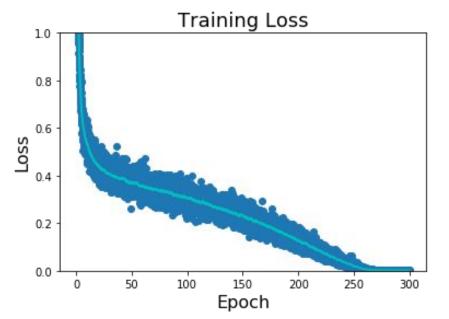
Cosine:
$$\alpha_t = \frac{1}{2}\alpha_0 \left(1 + \cos(t\pi/T)\right)$$

Loshchilov and Hutter, "SGDR: Stochastic Gradient Descent with Warm Restarts", ICLR 2017 Radford et al, "Improving Language Understanding by Generative Pre-Training", 2018 Feichtenhofer et al, "SlowFast Networks for Video Recognition", arXiv 2018 Child at al, "Generating Long Sequences with Sparse Transformers", arXiv 2019

 $lpha_0$: Initial learning rate

 $lpha_t$: Learning rate at epoch t

T: Total number of epochs



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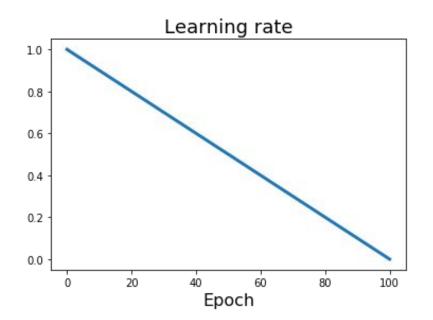
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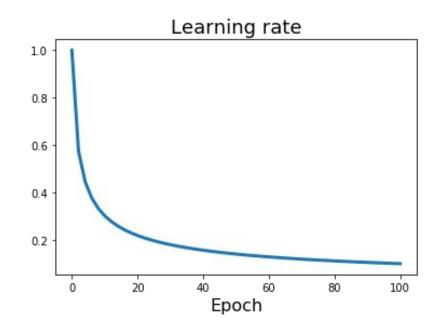
Linear:
$$\alpha_t = \alpha_0(1 - t/T)$$

 $lpha_0$: Initial learning rate

 $lpha_t$: Learning rate at epoch t

T: Total number of epochs

Devlin et al, "BERT: Pre-training of Deep Bidirectional Transformers for Language Understanding", 2018



Step: Reduce learning rate at a few fixed points. E.g. for ResNets, multiply LR by 0.1 after epochs 30, 60, and 90.

Cosine:
$$\alpha_t = \frac{1}{2}\alpha_0 \left(1 + \cos(t\pi/T)\right)$$

Linear:
$$\alpha_t = \alpha_0(1 - t/T)$$

Inverse sqrt:
$$\alpha_t = \alpha_0/\sqrt{t}$$

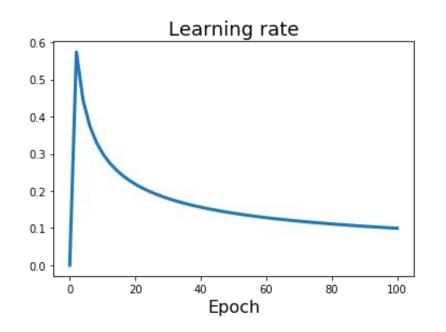
 $lpha_0$: Initial learning rate

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Vaswani et al, "Attention is all you need", NIPS 2017

Learning Rate Decay: Linear Warmup

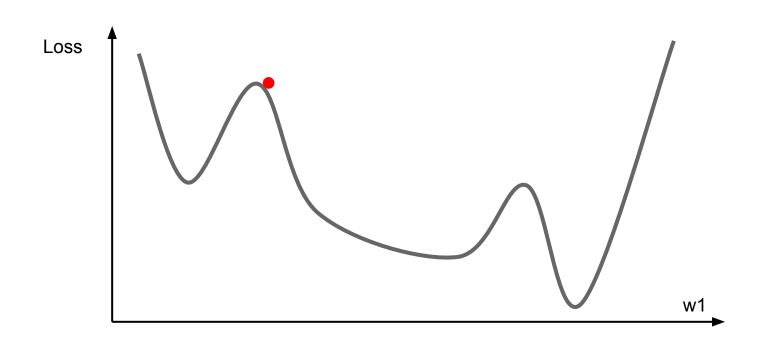


High initial learning rates can make loss explode: linearly increasing learning rate from 0 over the first ~5000 iterations can prevent this

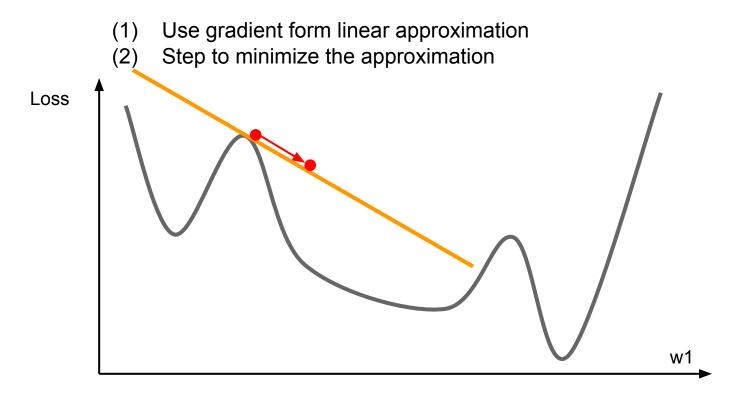
Empirical rule of thumb: If you increase the batch size by N, also scale the initial learning rate by N

Goyal et al, "Accurate, Large Minibatch SGD: Training ImageNet in 1 Hour", arXiv 2017

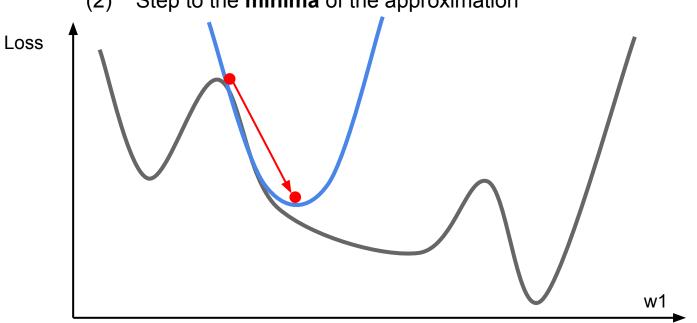
First-Order Optimization



First-Order Optimization



- Use gradient and Hessian to form quadratic approximation (1)
- Step to the **minima** of the approximation



second-order Taylor expansion:

$$J(\boldsymbol{\theta}) \approx J(\boldsymbol{\theta}_0) + (\boldsymbol{\theta} - \boldsymbol{\theta}_0)^{\top} \nabla_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} J(\boldsymbol{\theta}_0) + \frac{1}{2} (\boldsymbol{\theta} - \boldsymbol{\theta}_0)^{\top} \boldsymbol{H} (\boldsymbol{\theta} - \boldsymbol{\theta}_0)$$

Solving for the critical point we obtain the Newton parameter update:

$$\boldsymbol{\theta}^* = \boldsymbol{\theta}_0 - \boldsymbol{H}^{-1} \nabla_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} J(\boldsymbol{\theta}_0)$$

Q: Why is this bad for deep learning?

second-order Taylor expansion:

$$J(\boldsymbol{\theta}) pprox J(\boldsymbol{\theta}_0) + (\boldsymbol{\theta} - \boldsymbol{\theta}_0)^{\top} \nabla_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} J(\boldsymbol{\theta}_0) + \frac{1}{2} (\boldsymbol{\theta} - \boldsymbol{\theta}_0)^{\top} \boldsymbol{H} (\boldsymbol{\theta} - \boldsymbol{\theta}_0)$$

Solving for the critical point we obtain the Newton parameter update:

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Hessian has O(N²) elements Inverting takes O(N³) N = (Tens or Hundreds of) Millions

Q: Why is this bad for deep learning?

$$\boldsymbol{\theta}^* = \boldsymbol{\theta}_0 - \boldsymbol{H}^{-1} \nabla_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} J(\boldsymbol{\theta}_0)$$

- Quasi-Newton methods (**BGFS** most popular): instead of inverting the Hessian (O(n^3)), approximate inverse Hessian with rank 1 updates over time (O(n^2) each).
- **L-BFGS** (Limited memory BFGS):

 Does not form/store the full inverse Hessian.

L-BFGS

- Usually works very well in full batch, deterministic mode i.e. if you have a single, deterministic f(x) then L-BFGS will probably work very nicely
- **Does not transfer very well to mini-batch setting**. Gives bad results. Adapting second-order methods to large-scale, stochastic setting is an active area of research.

Le et al, "On optimization methods for deep learning, ICML 2011"

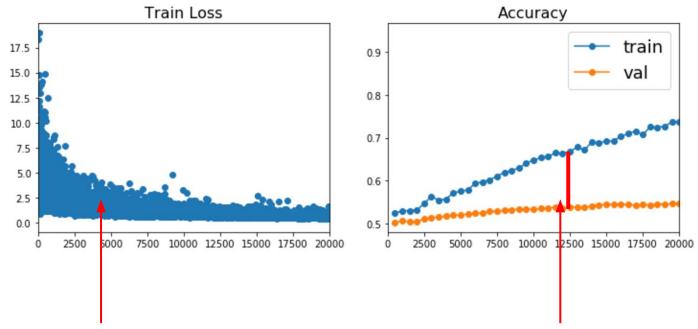
Ba et al, "Distributed second-order optimization using Kronecker-factored approximations", ICLR 2017

In practice:

- Adam is a good default choice in many cases; it often works ok even with constant learning rate
- **SGD+Momentum** can outperform Adam but may require more tuning of LR and schedule
 - Try cosine schedule, very few hyperparameters!
- If you can afford to do full batch updates then try out **L-BFGS** (and don't forget to disable all sources of noise)

Improve test error

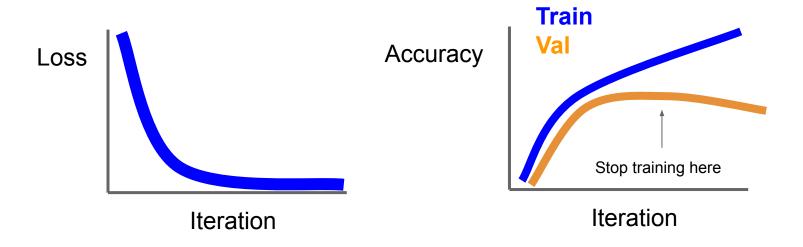
Beyond Training Error



Better optimization algorithms help reduce training loss

But we really care about error on new data - how to reduce the gap?

Early Stopping: Always do this



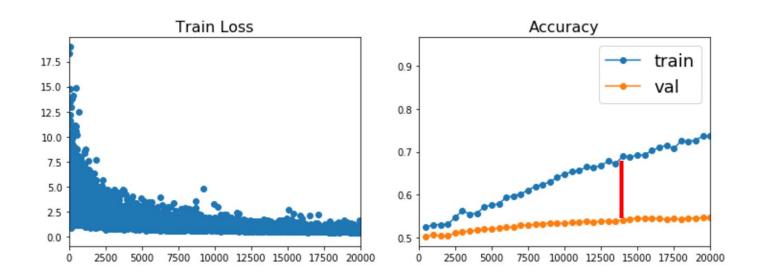
Stop training the model when accuracy on the validation set decreases Or train for a long time, but always keep track of the model snapshot that worked best on val

Model Ensembles

- 1. Train multiple independent models
- 2. At test time average their results (Take average of predicted probability distributions, then choose argmax)

Enjoy 2% extra performance

How to improve single-model performance?



Regularization

Regularization: Add term to loss

$$L=rac{1}{N}\sum_{i=1}^{N}\sum_{j
eq y_i}\max(0,f(x_i;W)_j-f(x_i;W)_{y_i}+1)+ \lambda R(W)$$

In common use:

L2 regularization

 $R(W) = \sum_k \sum_l W_{k,l}^2$ (Weight decay)

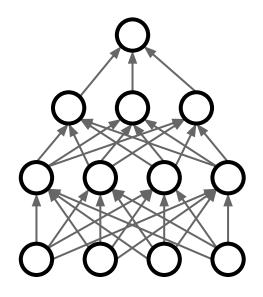
L1 regularization

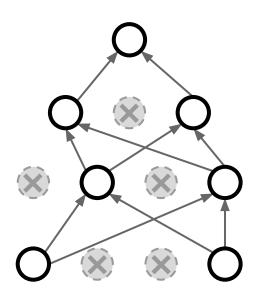
 $R(W) = \sum_k \sum_l |W_{k,l}|$

Elastic net (L1 + L2)

$$R(W) = \sum_k \sum_l eta W_{k,l}^2 + |W_{k,l}|$$

In each forward pass, randomly set some neurons to zero Probability of dropping is a hyperparameter; 0.5 is common

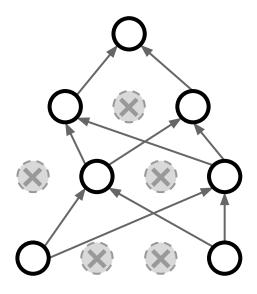




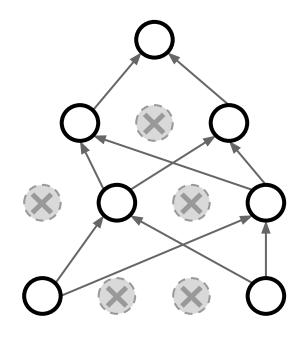
Srivastava et al, "Dropout: A simple way to prevent neural networks from overfitting", JMLR 2014

```
p = 0.5 # probability of keeping a unit active. higher = less dropout
def train_step(X):
  """ X contains the data """
 # forward pass for example 3-layer neural network
 H1 = np.maximum(0, np.dot(W1, X) + b1)
 U1 = np.random.rand(*H1.shape) 
 H1 *= U1 # drop!
 H2 = np.maximum(0, np.dot(W2, H1) + b2)
 U2 = np.random.rand(*H2.shape) < p # second dropout mask
 H2 *= U2 # drop!
  out = np.dot(W3, H2) + b3
 # backward pass: compute gradients... (not shown)
 # perform parameter update... (not shown)
```

Example forward pass with a 3-layer network using dropout



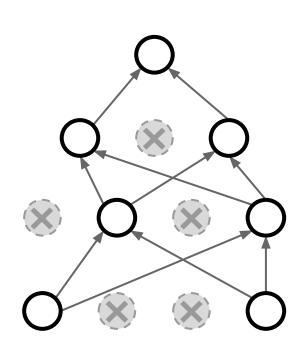
How can this possibly be a good idea?



Forces the network to have a redundant representation; Prevents co-adaptation of features



How can this possibly be a good idea?



Another interpretation:

Dropout is training a large **ensemble** of models (that share parameters).

Each binary mask is one model

An FC layer with 4096 units has $2^{4096} \sim 10^{1233}$ possible masks! Only $\sim 10^{82}$ atoms in the universe...

Dropout makes our output random!

Output Input (label) (image)
$$y = f_W(x,z) \quad \text{Random} \quad \text{mask}$$

Want to "average out" the randomness at test-time

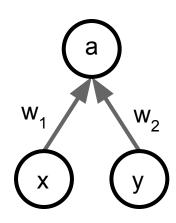
$$y = f(x) = E_z[f(x,z)] = \int p(z)f(x,z)dz$$

But this integral seems hard ...

Want to approximate the integral

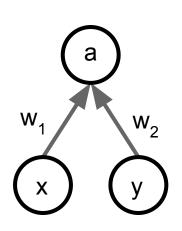
$$y = f(x) = E_z[f(x,z)] = \int p(z)f(x,z)dz$$

Consider a single neuron.



Want to approximate the integral

$$y = f(x) = E_z[f(x,z)] = \int p(z)f(x,z)dz$$

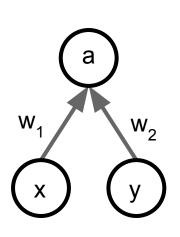


Consider a single neuron.

At test time we have: $E[a] = w_1x + w_2y$

Want to approximate the integral

$$y = f(x) = E_z[f(x,z)] = \int p(z)f(x,z)dz$$



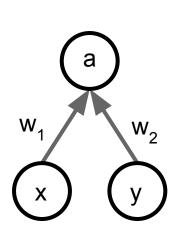
Consider a single neuron.

At test time we have:
$$E[a] = w_1x + w_2y$$

During training we have:
$$E[a] = \frac{1}{4}(w_1x + w_2y) + \frac{1}{4}(w_1x + 0y) + \frac{1}{4}(0x + 0y) + \frac{1}{4}(0x + w_2y) + \frac{1}{4}(0x + w_2y) + \frac{1}{4}(0x + w_2y)$$

Want to approximate the integral

$$y = f(x) = E_z[f(x,z)] = \int p(z)f(x,z)dz$$



Consider a single neuron.

At test time we have: $E[a] = w_1x + w_2y$

During training we have: $E[a] = \frac{1}{4}(w_1x + w_2y) + \frac{1}{4}(w_1x + 0y)$

At test time, multiply by dropout probability

$$+ \frac{1}{4}(0x + 0y) + \frac{1}{4}(0x + w_2y)$$
$$= \frac{1}{2}(w_1x + w_2y)$$

```
def predict(X):
    # ensembled forward pass
H1 = np.maximum(0, np.dot(W1, X) + b1) * p # NOTE: scale the activations
H2 = np.maximum(0, np.dot(W2, H1) + b2) * p # NOTE: scale the activations
out = np.dot(W3, H2) + b3
```

At test time all neurons are active always => We must scale the activations so that for each neuron: output at test time = expected output at training time

```
Vanilla Dropout: Not recommended implementation (see notes below) """
p = 0.5 # probability of keeping a unit active, higher = less dropout
def train step(X):
  """ X contains the data """
 # forward pass for example 3-layer neural network
 H1 = np.maximum(0, np.dot(W1, X) + b1)
 U1 = np.random.rand(*H1.shape) < p # first dropout mask
 H1 *= U1 # drop!
 H2 = np.maximum(0, np.dot(W2, H1) + b2)
 U2 = np.random.rand(*H2.shape) < p # second dropout mask
 H2 *= U2 # drop!
 out = np.dot(W3, H2) + b3
 # backward pass: compute gradients... (not shown)
 # perform parameter update... (not shown)
def predict(X):
 # ensembled forward pass
 H1 = np.maximum(0, np.dot(W1, X) + b1) * p # NOTE: scale the activations
 H2 = np.maximum(0, np.dot(W2, H1) + b2) * p # NOTE: scale the activations
 out = np.dot(W3, H2) + b3
```

Dropout Summary

drop in train time

scale at test time

More common: "Inverted dropout"

```
p = 0.5 # probability of keeping a unit active. higher = less dropout
def train step(X):
  # forward pass for example 3-layer neural network
  H1 = np.maximum(0, np.dot(W1, X) + b1)
 U1 = (np.random.rand(*H1.shape) < p) / p # first dropout mask. Notice /p!
  H1 *= U1 # drop!
 H2 = np.maximum(0, np.dot(W2, H1) + b2)
 U2 = (np.random.rand(*H2.shape) < p) / p # second dropout mask. Notice /p!
 H2 *= U2 # drop!
  out = np.dot(W3, H2) + b3
 # backward pass: compute gradients... (not shown)
  # perform parameter update... (not shown)
                                                                      test time is unchanged!
def predict(X):
 # ensembled forward pass
 H1 = np.maximum(0, np.dot(W1, X) + b1) # no scaling necessary
 H2 = np.maximum(0, np.dot(W2, H1) + b2)
 out = np.dot(W3, H2) + b3
```

Regularization: A common pattern

Training: Add some kind of randomness

$$y = f_W(x, z)$$

Testing: Average out randomness (sometimes approximate)

$$y = f(x) = E_z[f(x,z)] = \int p(z)f(x,z)dz$$

Regularization: A common pattern

Training: Add some kind of randomness

$$y = f_W(x, z)$$

Testing: Average out randomness (sometimes approximate)

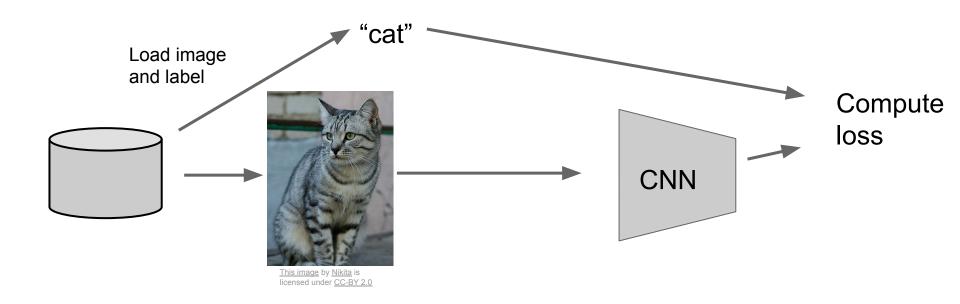
$$y = f(x) = E_z[f(x,z)] = \int p(z)f(x,z)dz$$

Example: Batch Normalization

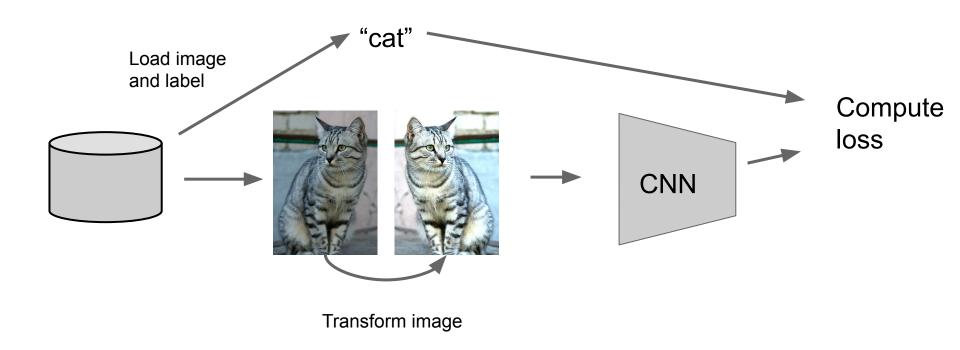
Training:
Normalize using
stats from random
minibatches

Testing: Use fixed stats to normalize

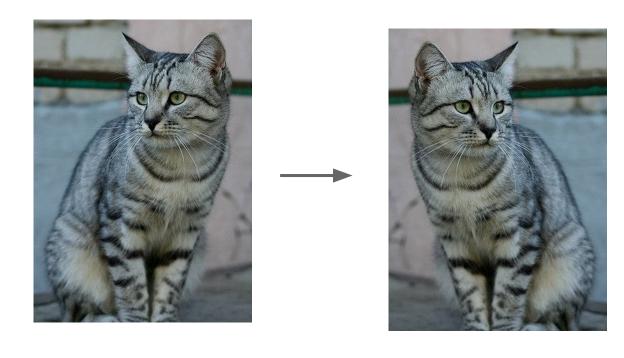
Regularization: Data Augmentation



Regularization: Data Augmentation



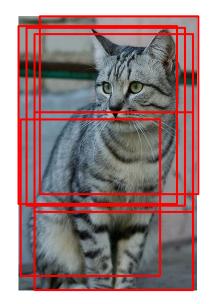
Data Augmentation Horizontal Flips



Data Augmentation Random crops and scales

Training: sample random crops / scales ResNet:

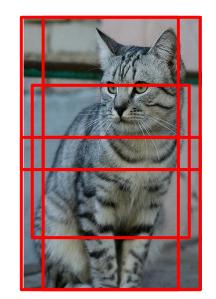
- 1. Pick random L in range [256, 480]
- 2. Resize training image, short side = L
- 3. Sample random 224 x 224 patch



Data Augmentation Random crops and scales

Training: sample random crops / scales ResNet:

- 1. Pick random L in range [256, 480]
- 2. Resize training image, short side = L
- 3. Sample random 224 x 224 patch



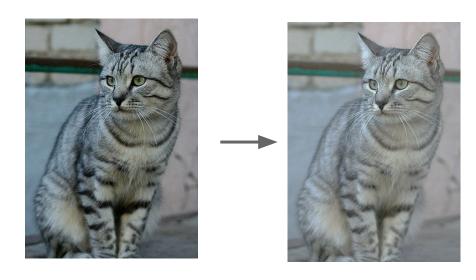
Testing: average a fixed set of crops

ResNet:

- 1. Resize image at 5 scales: {224, 256, 384, 480, 640}
- 2. For each size, use 10 224 x 224 crops: 4 corners + center, + flips

Data Augmentation Color Jitter

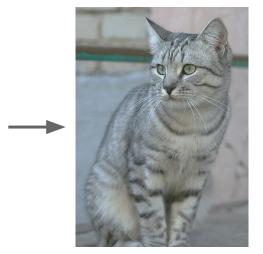
Simple: Randomize contrast and brightness



Data Augmentation Color Jitter

Simple: Randomize contrast and brightness





More Complex:

- 1. Apply PCA to all [R, G, B] pixels in training set
- 2. Sample a "color offset" along principal component directions
- 3. Add offset to all pixels of a training image

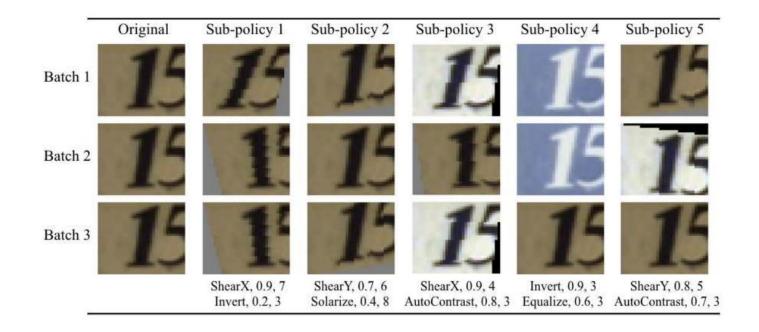
(As seen in [Krizhevsky et al. 2012], ResNet, etc)

Data Augmentation Get creative for your problem!

Random mix/combinations of:

- translation
- rotation
- stretching
- shearing,
- lens distortions, ... (go crazy)

Automatic Data Augmentation



Cubuk et al., "AutoAugment: Learning Augmentation Strategies from Data", CVPR 2019

Regularization: A common pattern

Training: Add random noise

Testing: Marginalize over the noise

Examples:

Dropout

Batch Normalization

Data Augmentation

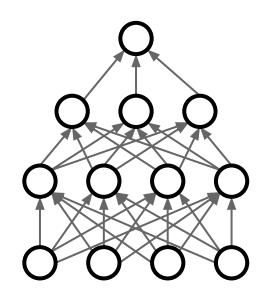
Regularization: DropConnect

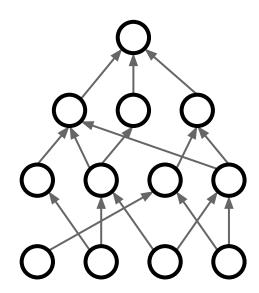
Training: Drop connections between neurons (set weights to 0)

Testing: Use all the connections

Examples:

Dropout
Batch Normalization
Data Augmentation
DropConnect





Wan et al, "Regularization of Neural Networks using DropConnect", ICML 2013

Regularization: Fractional Pooling

Training: Use randomized pooling regions

Testing: Average predictions from several regions

Examples:

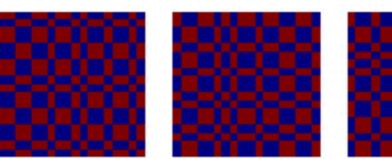
Dropout

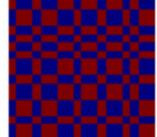
Batch Normalization

Data Augmentation

DropConnect

Fractional Max Pooling





Graham, "Fractional Max Pooling", arXiv 2014

Regularization: Stochastic Depth

Training: Skip some layers in the network

Testing: Use all the layer

Examples:

Dropout

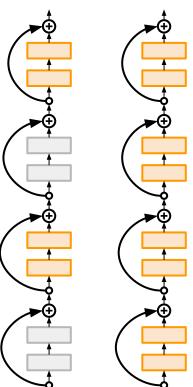
Batch Normalization

Data Augmentation

DropConnect

Fractional Max Pooling

Stochastic Depth



Huang et al, "Deep Networks with Stochastic Depth", ECCV 2016

Regularization: Cutout

Training: Set random image regions to zero

Testing: Use full image

Examples:

Dropout

Batch Normalization

Data Augmentation

DropConnect

Fractional Max Pooling

Stochastic Depth

Cutout / Random Crop

DeVries and Taylor, "Improved Regularization of Convolutional Neural Networks with Cutout", arXiv 2017









Works very well for small datasets like CIFAR, less common for large datasets like ImageNet

Regularization: Mixup

Training: Train on random blends of images

Testing: Use original images

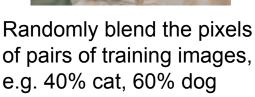
Examples:

Dropout
Batch Normalization
Data Augmentation
DropConnect
Fractional Max Pooling
Stochastic Depth
Cutout / Random Crop
Mixup









CNN Target label: cat: 0.4 dog: 0.6

Zhang et al, "mixup: Beyond Empirical Risk Minimization", ICLR 2018

Regularization - In practice

Training: Add random noise

Testing: Marginalize over the noise

Examples:

Dropout

Batch Normalization

Data Augmentation

DropConnect

Fractional Max Pooling

Stochastic Depth

Cutout / Random Crop

Mixup

- Consider dropout for large fully-connected layers
- Batch normalization and data augmentation almost always a good idea
- Try cutout and mixup especially for small classification datasets

(without tons of GPUs)

Step 1: Check initial loss

Turn off weight decay, sanity check loss at initialization e.g. log(C) for softmax with C classes

Step 1: Check initial loss

Step 2: Overfit a small sample

Try to train to 100% training accuracy on a small sample of training data (~5-10 minibatches); fiddle with architecture, learning rate, weight initialization

Loss not going down? LR too low, bad initialization Loss explodes to Inf or NaN? LR too high, bad initialization

Step 1: Check initial loss

Step 2: Overfit a small sample

Step 3: Find LR that makes loss go down

Use the architecture from the previous step, use all training data, turn on small weight decay, find a learning rate that makes the loss drop significantly within ~100 iterations

Good learning rates to try: 1e-1, 1e-2, 1e-3, 1e-4

- Step 1: Check initial loss
- Step 2: Overfit a small sample
- Step 3: Find LR that makes loss go down
- Step 4: Coarse grid, train for ~1-5 epochs

Choose a few values of learning rate and weight decay around what worked from Step 3, train a few models for ~1-5 epochs.

Good weight decay to try: 1e-4, 1e-5, 0

Step 1: Check initial loss

Step 2: Overfit a small sample

Step 3: Find LR that makes loss go down

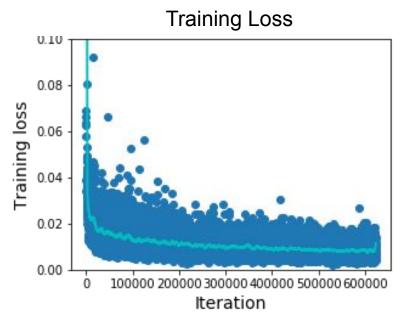
Step 4: Coarse grid, train for ~1-5 epochs

Step 5: Refine grid, train longer

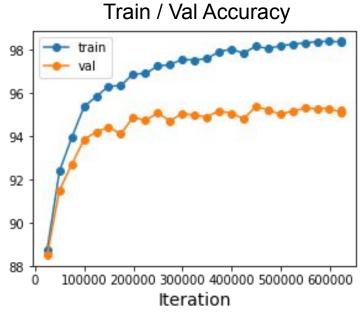
Pick best models from Step 4, train them for longer (~10-20 epochs) without learning rate decay

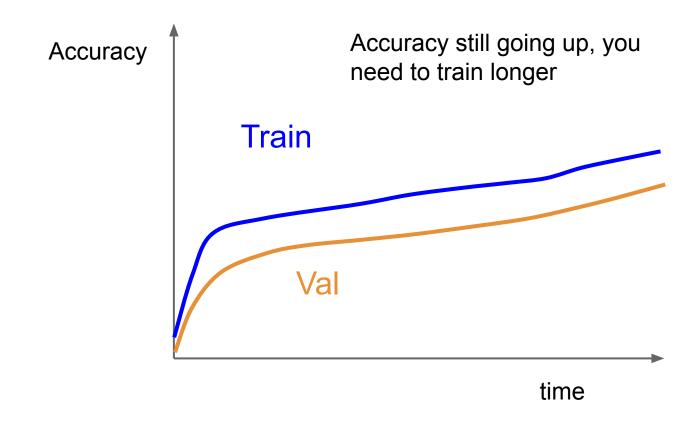
- Step 1: Check initial loss
- Step 2: Overfit a small sample
- Step 3: Find LR that makes loss go down
- Step 4: Coarse grid, train for ~1-5 epochs
- **Step 5**: Refine grid, train longer
- **Step 6**: Look at loss curves

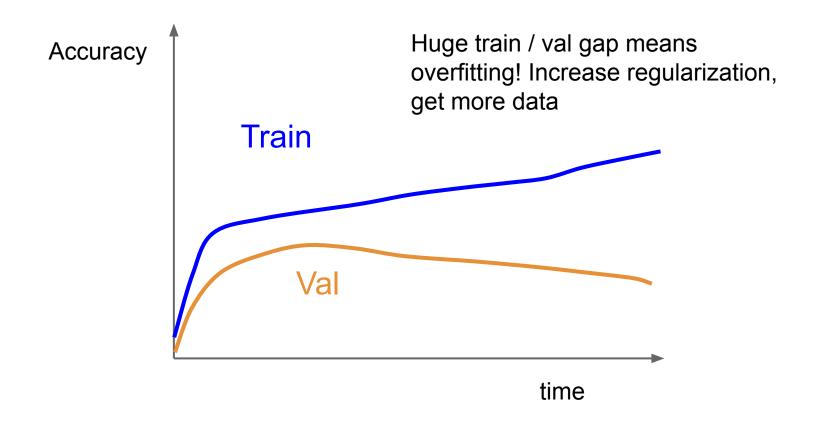
Look at learning curves!

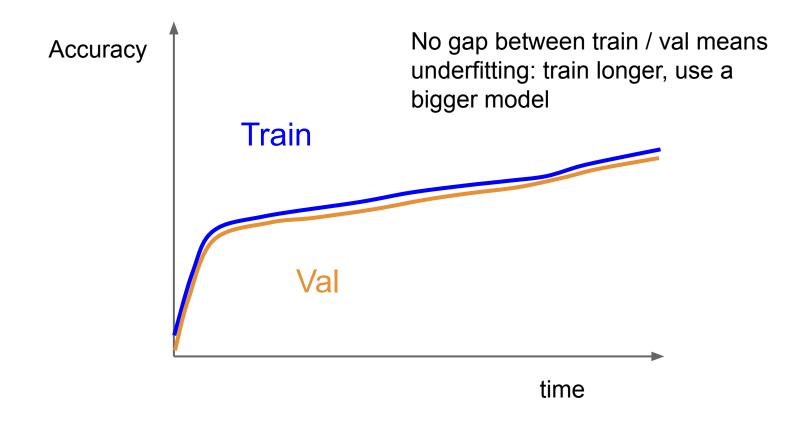


Losses may be noisy, use a scatter plot and also plot moving average to see trends better









- **Step 1**: Check initial loss
- Step 2: Overfit a small sample
- Step 3: Find LR that makes loss go down
- Step 4: Coarse grid, train for ~1-5 epochs
- **Step 5**: Refine grid, train longer
- **Step 6**: Look at loss curves
- Step 7: GOTO step 5

Hyperparameters to play with:

- network architecture
- learning rate, its decay schedule, update type
- regularization (L2/Dropout strength)

Cross-validation "command center"



Random Search vs. Grid Search

Random Search for Hyper-Parameter Optimization Bergstra and Bengio, 2012

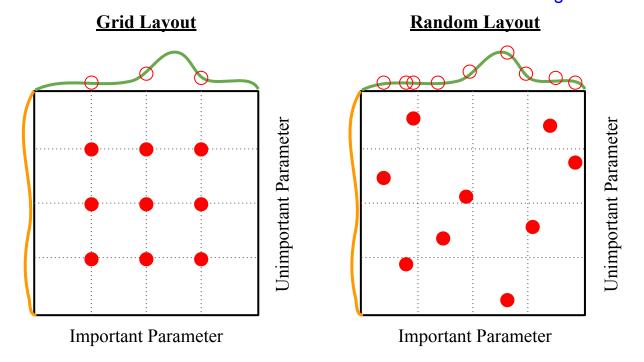


Illustration of Bergstra et al., 2012 by Shayne Longpre, copyright CS231n 2017

Summary

- Improve your training error:
 - Optimizers
 - Learning rate schedules
- Improve your test error:
 - Regularization
 - Choosing Hyperparameters

Next time: CNN Architecture Design