Default Baseline Models

Sargur N. Srihari srihari@cedar.buffalo.edu

Topics

- 1. Performance Metrics
- 2. Default Baseline Models
- 3. Determining whether to gather more data
- 4. Selecting hyperparamaters
- 5. Debugging strategies
- 6. Example: multi-digit number recognition

Baseline Approaches

- After choosing performance metrics and goals, next step is to establish an end-to-end system
- Here we provide recommendations for which algorithms to use as first baseline approach
- May want to begin without using deep learning
 - There may be a chance of choosing a few linear weights as in logistic regression
 - If problem is Al-complete such as object recognition, speech recognition, machine translation, etc appropriate deep learning model can be used

Architecture depends on input data

- 1. Supervised learning with fixed size vector input: use a feedforward network with fully connected layers
- 2. Input has a topological structure, e.g., images: use a CNN
 - Use a piecewise ReLU (Leaky ReLU, PreLU or maxout)
- 3. Input or output is a sequence: use a gated recurrent net (LSTM or GRU)

Choice of Optimization Algorithm

- SGD with momentum with a decaying learning rate
 - Linear decay
 - Exponential decay
 - Decreasing learning rate by factor of 2-10 when validation error rate plateaus
- Adam batch normalization can have a dramatic effect on optimization performance
- Reasonable to omit batch normalization from very first baseline unless optimization is problematic

Regularization

- Unless training set includes tens of millions of examples, should include some form of regularization from start
- Early stopping should used universally
- Dropout is easy to implement amd compatible with many models/training