Lecture 17: Midterm 1 and problem-solving

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- After this: CNNs, VAEs, feature extraction/Dimension reduction

Asking questions

Understanding Deep Learning (Still) Requires Rethinking Generalization

By Chiyuan Zhang, Samy Bengio, Moritz Hardt, Benjamin Recht, and Oriol Vinyals

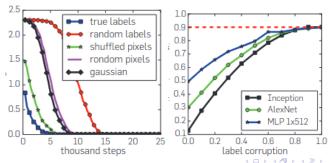
Training data consists of random labels.

Asking questions

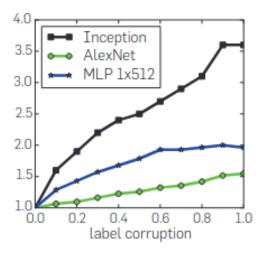
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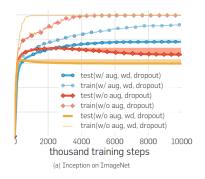


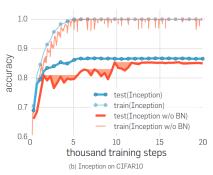
Does our understanding of generalization hold?



Hand-wavy: test error is higher when we expect complexity to be higher.

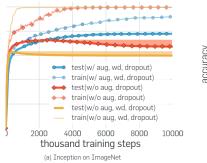
How to improve generalization?

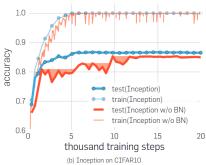




Early stopping (implicit regularization)

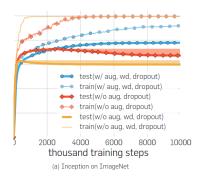
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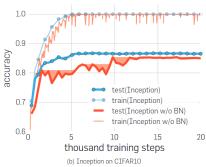




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How to improve generalization?





- Early stopping (implicit regularization)
- Batch normalization: normalize the inputs to each layer for each mini-batch, i.e., make the inputs have zero mean and unit variance.
- Dropout: randomly set some activations to zero.

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- ► The role of the data distribution...
- ▶ Bubeck Sellke 2021:

- 2. The distribution μ of the covariates x_i satisfies isoperimetry (or is a mixture theoreof).
- The expected conditional variance of the output (i.e., the "noise level") is strictly positive, denoted σ² := E^μ[Var[y|x]] > 0.

Then, with high probability over the sampling of the data, one has simultaneously for all $f \in \mathcal{F}$:

$$\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} (f(x_i) - y_i)^2 \le \sigma^2 - \epsilon \implies \operatorname{Lip}(f) \ge \widetilde{\Omega}\left(\epsilon \sqrt{\frac{nd}{p}}\right).$$

What are the assumptions?

- ▶ Isoperimetry: if for an *I*-Lipschitz function $h : \mathbb{R}^d \to \mathbb{R}$, $\mathbb{P}[|h(X) Eh| \geqslant t] \leqslant 2e^{(-dt^2)/(2cl^2)}$, then, the distribution of X is c-isoperimetric.
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- ▶ for learning smooth functions (Lip(f) \leq I), the number of parameters is $\Omega(nd\epsilon^2/I)$
- ► For imagenet, Bubeck and Sellke estimate needing $O(10^{10} 10^{11})$ parameters.

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- ➤ "By preprocessing with a random convolutional neural net with 32,000 random filters, this test error drops to 17% error" [Zhang et al 2021]
- \triangleright ℓ^2 regularization leads to better generalization. Why?

Regularization and generalization

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- Rademacher complexity of linear class (on features) lower.

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- Repetition helps!

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- Flourishing? "Mathematics for human flourishing" Francis Su