

1 Basics

1.1 Configuration Space

Let $z \in \mathbb{R}^E$ represent the “embedding vector”, $m = 1, \dots, M$ is the categorical label, and $q_m(z, \theta) := \text{softmax}_m(f(z, \theta))$ with $f(\cdot, \theta)$ a neural network parameterized by θ . Given (z, θ) , we have

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \ln q_m = \frac{\partial f_m}{\partial \theta} - \sum_{\alpha} q_{\alpha} \frac{\partial f_{\alpha}}{\partial \theta}. \quad (1)$$

Consider $f_{\alpha}(z, \theta) = \sum_{\beta} U_{\alpha\beta} \sigma(\sum_{\gamma} W_{\beta\gamma} z_{\gamma} + b_{\beta}) + c_{\alpha}$, where σ represents the SiLU activation, that is, $\sigma(x) = x / (1 + e^{-x})$. Given the “hidden dimension” H , we have $U \in \mathbb{R}^{M \times H}$, $c \in \mathbb{R}^M$, $W \in \mathbb{R}^{H \times E}$, and $b \in \mathbb{R}^H$.

1.2 Data and Action

Given the distribution of real world data p , the relative entropy between p and q is

$$H[p, q] = \sum_{z, m} p(z, m) \ln p(z, m) - \sum_{z, m} p(z, m) \ln q_m(z, \theta).$$

The first term is θ -independent. Thus, the action of θ shall be the second term, that is

$$S(\theta) := - \sum_{z, m} p(z, m) \ln q_m(z, \theta). \quad (2)$$

This action has the minimum $S(\theta_*) = 0$, where $q_m(z, \theta_*) = 1$ for each z .

Assume that $p(m) := \sum_z p(z, m) = 1/M$ for all $m = 1, \dots, M$, meaning that the data have been properly balanced.

2 Taylor Expansion of Action

Now, we are to Taylor expand $S(\theta)$ at $\theta = 0$. Denote the expansion by

$$S(\theta) =: S_0 + S_1(\theta) + \dots, \quad (3)$$

where $S_n(\theta) \sim \theta^n$, and $S_0 := S(0)$ is θ -independent.

2.1 Zeroth Order

When $\theta = 0$ (i.e. $U, c, W, b = 0$), we have $f_{\alpha}(z, 0) = 0$, thus $q_{\alpha}(z, 0) = \text{softmax}_{\alpha}(f(z, 0)) = 1/M$ for all $\alpha = 1, \dots, M$. So,

$$S_0 = \ln M. \quad (4)$$

2.2 First Order

Plugging in equation 1, we have

$$\frac{\partial S}{\partial \theta} = \sum_{z, m} p(z, m) \left[\sum_{\alpha} q_{\alpha} \frac{\partial f_{\alpha}}{\partial \theta} - \frac{\partial f_m}{\partial \theta} \right].$$

To calculate $(\partial S / \partial \theta)(0)$, we have to calculate $(\partial f / \partial \theta)(z, 0)$. Replacing θ by U , c , W , and b respectively, we have the non-vanishing terms

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\partial f_\alpha}{\partial U_{\alpha\beta}}(z, \theta) &= \sigma \left(\sum_{\gamma} W_{\beta\gamma} z_\gamma + b_\beta \right); \\ \frac{\partial f_\alpha}{\partial c_\alpha}(z, \theta) &= 1; \\ \frac{\partial f_\alpha}{\partial W_{\beta\gamma}}(z, \theta) &= U_{\alpha\beta} \sigma' \left(\sum_{\gamma'} W_{\beta\gamma'} z_{\gamma'} + b_\beta \right) z_\gamma; \\ \frac{\partial f_\alpha}{\partial b_\beta}(z, \theta) &= U_{\alpha\beta} \sigma' \left(\sum_{\gamma'} W_{\beta\gamma'} z_{\gamma'} + b_\beta \right).\end{aligned}$$

Setting $\theta = 0$, only

$$\frac{\partial f_\alpha}{\partial c_\alpha}(z, 0) = 1$$

is left. Thus, we shall take $\theta \rightarrow c_\alpha$, that is,

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\partial S}{\partial c_\alpha}(0) &= \sum_{z,m} p(z, m) \left[\sum_{\alpha'} q_{\alpha'} \frac{\partial f_{\alpha'}}{\partial c_\alpha} - \frac{\partial f_m}{\partial c_\alpha} \right] \\ \left\{ \frac{\partial f}{\partial c} = \dots \right\} &= \sum_{z,m} p(z, m) \left[\frac{1}{M} \sum_{\alpha'} \delta_{\alpha\alpha'} - \delta_{m\alpha} \right] \\ \left\{ p(m) = \frac{1}{M} \right\} &= \frac{1}{M} \sum_{\alpha'} \delta_{\alpha\alpha'} - \frac{1}{M} \sum_m \delta_{m\alpha} \\ &= 0.\end{aligned}$$

So,

$$S_1(\theta) = 0. \quad (5)$$

2.3 Second Order

Taking derivative on $\partial S / \partial \theta$ and plugging in equation 1, we arrive at

$$\frac{\partial^2 S}{\partial \theta \partial \theta'} = \sum_{z,m} p(z, m) \left[\sum_{\alpha} q_{\alpha} \left(\frac{\partial f_{\alpha}}{\partial \theta} \frac{\partial f_{\alpha}}{\partial \theta'} + \frac{\partial^2 f_{\alpha}}{\partial \theta \partial \theta'} \right) - \sum_{\alpha, \beta} q_{\alpha} q_{\beta} \frac{\partial f_{\alpha}}{\partial \theta} \frac{\partial f_{\beta}}{\partial \theta'} - \frac{\partial^2 f_m}{\partial \theta \partial \theta'} \right].$$

To calculate $(\partial^2 S / \partial \theta \partial \theta')(0)$, we have to calculate $(\partial^2 f / \partial \theta \partial \theta')(z, 0)$. We have the non-vanishing terms

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\partial^2 f_{\alpha}}{\partial U_{\alpha\beta} \partial W_{\beta\gamma}}(z, \theta) &= \sigma' \left(\sum_{\gamma'} W_{\beta\gamma'} z_{\gamma'} + b_\beta \right) z_\gamma; \\ \frac{\partial^2 f_{\alpha}}{\partial U_{\alpha\beta} \partial b_{\beta}}(z, \theta) &= \sigma' \left(\sum_{\gamma'} W_{\beta\gamma'} z_{\gamma'} + b_\beta \right); \\ \frac{\partial^2 f_{\alpha}}{\partial W_{\beta\gamma} \partial W_{\beta\gamma'}}(z, \theta) &= U_{\alpha\beta} \sigma'' \left(\sum_{\gamma''} W_{\beta\gamma''} z_{\gamma''} + b_\beta \right) z_\gamma z_{\gamma'}; \\ \frac{\partial^2 f_{\alpha}}{\partial W_{\beta\gamma} \partial b_{\beta}}(z, \theta) &= U_{\alpha\beta} \sigma'' \left(\sum_{\gamma'} W_{\beta\gamma'} z_{\gamma'} + b_\beta \right) z_\gamma; \\ \frac{\partial^2 f_{\alpha}}{\partial b_{\beta} \partial b_{\beta}}(z, \theta) &= U_{\alpha\beta} \sigma'' \left(\sum_{\gamma'} W_{\beta\gamma'} z_{\gamma'} + b_\beta \right).\end{aligned}$$

Since $\sigma(0)=0$, $\sigma'(0)=1/2$, we have, in addition to

$$\frac{\partial f_\alpha}{\partial c_\alpha}(z, 0) = 1,$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 f_\alpha}{\partial U_{\alpha\beta} \partial W_{\beta\gamma}}(z, 0) = \frac{z_\gamma}{2},$$

and

$$\frac{\partial^2 f_\alpha}{\partial U_{\alpha\beta} \partial b_\beta}(z, 0) = \frac{1}{2}.$$

At $\theta=0$, taking $\theta \rightarrow c_\alpha$ and $\theta' \rightarrow c_\beta$ gives

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial^2 S}{\partial c_\alpha \partial c_\beta}(0) &= \sum_{z,m} p(z, m) \left[\sum_\gamma q_\gamma \frac{\partial f_\gamma}{\partial c_\alpha} \frac{\partial f_\gamma}{\partial c_\beta} - \sum_{\gamma, \gamma'} q_\gamma q_{\gamma'} \frac{\partial f_\gamma}{\partial c_\alpha} \frac{\partial f_{\gamma'}}{\partial c_\beta} \right] \\ \left\{ q_\alpha = \frac{1}{M}, \frac{\partial f}{\partial c} = \dots \right\} &= \sum_{z,m} p(z, m) \left[\frac{1}{M} \delta_{\alpha\beta} - \frac{1}{M^2} \right] \\ \left\{ \sum_{z,m} p(z, m) = 1 \right\} &= \frac{\delta_{\alpha\beta}}{M} - \frac{1}{M^2}. \end{aligned}$$

Taking $\theta \rightarrow U_{\alpha\beta}$ and $\theta' \rightarrow W_{\beta\gamma}$ gives

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial^2 S}{\partial U_{\alpha\beta} \partial W_{\beta\gamma}}(0) &= \sum_{z,m} p(z, m) \left[\sum_{\alpha'} q_{\alpha'} \frac{\partial^2 f_{\alpha'}}{\partial U_{\alpha\beta} \partial W_{\beta\gamma}} - \frac{\partial^2 f_m}{\partial U_{\alpha\beta} \partial W_{\beta\gamma}} \right] \\ \left\{ q_\alpha = \frac{1}{M}, \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial U \partial W} = \dots \right\} &= \sum_{z,m} p(z, m) \left[\frac{z_\gamma}{2M} - \frac{\delta_{m\alpha} z_\gamma}{2} \right] \\ &= \sum_z p(z) \frac{z_\gamma}{2M} - \sum_z p(z, \alpha) \frac{z_\gamma}{2} \\ \{p(z, \alpha) = p(\alpha) p(z|\alpha)\} &= \sum_z p(z) \frac{z_\gamma}{2M} - p(\alpha) \sum_z p(z|\alpha) \frac{z_\gamma}{2} \\ \left\{ p(\alpha) = \frac{1}{M} \right\} &= \sum_z p(z) \frac{z_\gamma}{2M} - \sum_z p(z|\alpha) \frac{z_\gamma}{2M} \\ &= \frac{1}{2M} (\mathbb{E}_{z \sim p(z)}[z_\gamma] - \mathbb{E}_{z \sim p(z|\alpha)}[z_\gamma]). \end{aligned}$$

But, taking $\theta \rightarrow U_{\alpha\beta}$ and $\theta' \rightarrow b_\beta$ gives

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial^2 S}{\partial U_{\alpha\beta} \partial b_\beta}(0) &= \sum_{z,m} p(z, m) \left[\sum_{\alpha'} q_{\alpha'} \frac{\partial^2 f_{\alpha'}}{\partial U_{\alpha\beta} \partial b_\beta} - \frac{\partial^2 f_m}{\partial U_{\alpha\beta} \partial b_\beta} \right] \\ \left\{ q_\alpha = \frac{1}{M}, \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial U \partial b} = \dots \right\} &= \sum_{z,m} p(z, m) \left[\sum_{\alpha'} \frac{\delta_{\alpha\alpha'}}{2M} - \frac{\delta_{m\alpha}}{2} \right] \\ \left\{ p(m) = \frac{1}{M} \right\} &= \frac{1}{2M} \sum_{\alpha'} \delta_{\alpha\alpha'} - \frac{1}{2M} \sum_m \delta_{m\alpha} \\ &= 0. \end{aligned}$$

So,

$$S_2(\theta) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\alpha, \beta} \left(\frac{\delta_{\alpha\beta}}{M} - \frac{1}{M^2} \right) c_\alpha c_\beta + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\alpha, \gamma} \frac{J_{\alpha\gamma}}{2M} \sum_\beta U_{\alpha\beta} W_{\beta\gamma} \quad (6)$$

where $J_{\alpha\gamma} := \mathbb{E}_{z \sim p(z)}[z_\gamma] - \mathbb{E}_{z \sim p(z|\alpha)}[z_\gamma]$.

By numerical computation, we find that the matrix $\delta/M - 1/M^2$ is **non-positive definite** since it has non-positive determinant. The term $\sum_\beta U_{\alpha\beta} W_{\beta\gamma}$ can be seen as a ‘‘propagation’’ from the γ -neuron to the α -neuron, weighted by $J_{\alpha\gamma}/(2M)$. Computed on fashion-MNIST dataset, components of J vary from -0.1 to 0.075 .

But, numerical computation shows that there is not lower bound for the second term of S_2 . This means, the $|U|$ and $|W|$ grows until the next order takes part in. And the matrix $\delta_{\alpha\beta} - 1/M$ has non-positive determinant for $M=2,3,\dots$, which means $c=0$ is also unstable. So, we have to consider the third order.

We further analyzed S_2 on the best fit θ_* , trained on training data and evaluated on test data of fashion-MNIST dataset. We found that it is the second term that dominates $S_2(\theta_*)$. Interestingly, both the terms $J_{\alpha\gamma}$ and $\sum_{\beta} U_{\alpha\beta} W_{\beta\gamma}$, as rank-2 tensors, have Gaussian distributed elements, centered at zero. But, the multiplied, $J_{\alpha\gamma} \sum_{\beta} U_{\alpha\beta} W_{\beta\gamma}$, has highly biased elements, most of which are negative. This terms represents the correlation between an output class and a single input dimension.

2.4 Third Order

Taking derivative on $\partial^2 S / (\partial\theta\partial\theta')$ and plugging in equation 1, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial^3 S}{\partial\theta\partial\theta'\partial\theta''} = & \sum_{z,m} p(z,m) \sum_{\alpha} q_{\alpha} \left[\frac{\partial^3 f_{\alpha}}{\partial\theta\partial\theta'\partial\theta''} + \frac{\partial f_{\alpha}}{\partial\theta} \frac{\partial f_{\alpha}}{\partial\theta'} \frac{\partial f_{\alpha}}{\partial\theta''} + \frac{\partial f_{\alpha}}{\partial\theta} \frac{\partial^2 f_{\alpha}}{\partial\theta'\partial\theta''} + \frac{\partial f_{\alpha}}{\partial\theta''} \frac{\partial^2 f_{\alpha}}{\partial\theta\partial\theta'} + \frac{\partial f_{\alpha}}{\partial\theta'} \frac{\partial^2 f_{\alpha}}{\partial\theta\partial\theta''} \right] \\ & - \sum_{z,m} p(z,m) \sum_{\alpha,\beta} q_{\alpha} q_{\beta} \left[\frac{\partial^2 f_{\alpha}}{\partial\theta\partial\theta'} \frac{\partial f_{\beta}}{\partial\theta''} + \frac{\partial^2 f_{\alpha}}{\partial\theta\partial\theta''} \frac{\partial f_{\beta}}{\partial\theta'} + \frac{\partial f_{\alpha}}{\partial\theta} \frac{\partial^2 f_{\beta}}{\partial\theta'\partial\theta''} + \frac{\partial f_{\alpha}}{\partial\theta} \frac{\partial f_{\alpha}}{\partial\theta'} \frac{\partial f_{\beta}}{\partial\theta''} + \frac{\partial f_{\alpha}}{\partial\theta} \frac{\partial f_{\beta}}{\partial\theta'} \frac{\partial f_{\alpha}}{\partial\theta''} + \frac{\partial f_{\alpha}}{\partial\theta} \frac{\partial f_{\beta}}{\partial\theta''} \frac{\partial f_{\alpha}}{\partial\theta'} \right] \\ & + 2 \sum_{z,m} p(z,m) \sum_{\alpha,\beta,\gamma} q_{\alpha} q_{\beta} q_{\gamma} \frac{\partial f_{\alpha}}{\partial\theta} \frac{\partial f_{\beta}}{\partial\theta'} \frac{\partial f_{\gamma}}{\partial\theta''} \\ & - \sum_{z,m} p(z,m) \frac{\partial^3 f_m}{\partial\theta\partial\theta'\partial\theta''} \end{aligned}$$

To calculate $(\partial^3 S / \partial\theta\partial\theta'\partial\theta'')(0)$, we have to calculate $(\partial^3 f / \partial\theta\partial\theta'\partial\theta'')(z,0)$. Since $\sigma(0)=0$, $\sigma'(0)=1/2$, and $\sigma''(0)=1/2$, we have the non-vanishing terms

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial^3 f_{\alpha}}{\partial U_{\alpha\beta} \partial W_{\beta\gamma} \partial W_{\beta\delta}}(z,0) &= \frac{z_{\gamma} z_{\delta}}{2}; \\ \frac{\partial^3 f_{\alpha}}{\partial U_{\alpha\beta} \partial W_{\beta\gamma} \partial b_{\beta}}(z,0) &= \frac{z_{\gamma}}{2}; \\ \frac{\partial^3 f_{\alpha}}{\partial U_{\alpha\beta} \partial b_{\beta} \partial b_{\beta}}(z,\theta) &= \frac{1}{2}. \end{aligned}$$

Thus, taking $\theta \rightarrow c_{\alpha}$, $\theta' \rightarrow c_{\beta}$ and $\theta'' \rightarrow c_{\gamma}$ gives

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial^3 S}{\partial c_{\alpha} \partial c_{\beta} \partial c_{\gamma}}(0) = & \sum_{z,m} p(z,m) \sum_{\alpha'} q_{\alpha'} \left[\frac{\partial f_{\alpha'}}{\partial c_{\alpha}} \frac{\partial f_{\alpha'}}{\partial c_{\beta}} \frac{\partial f_{\alpha'}}{\partial c_{\gamma}} \right] \\ & - \sum_{z,m} p(z,m) \sum_{\alpha',\beta'} q_{\alpha'} q_{\beta'} \left[\frac{\partial f_{\alpha'}}{\partial c_{\alpha}} \frac{\partial f_{\alpha'}}{\partial c_{\beta}} \frac{\partial f_{\beta'}}{\partial c_{\gamma}} + \frac{\partial f_{\alpha'}}{\partial c_{\alpha}} \frac{\partial f_{\beta'}}{\partial c_{\beta}} \frac{\partial f_{\alpha'}}{\partial c_{\gamma}} + \frac{\partial f_{\alpha'}}{\partial c_{\alpha}} \frac{\partial f_{\beta'}}{\partial c_{\beta}} \frac{\partial f_{\beta'}}{\partial c_{\gamma}} \right] \\ & + 2 \sum_{z,m} p(z,m) \sum_{\alpha',\beta',\gamma'} q_{\alpha'} q_{\beta'} q_{\gamma'} \frac{\partial f_{\alpha'}}{\partial c_{\alpha}} \frac{\partial f_{\beta'}}{\partial c_{\beta}} \frac{\partial f_{\gamma'}}{\partial c_{\gamma}} \\ \left\{ q_{\alpha} \equiv \frac{1}{M} \frac{\partial f}{\partial c} = \delta \right\} = & \frac{1}{M} \sum_{\alpha} \delta_{\alpha\alpha'} \delta_{\beta\alpha'} \delta_{\gamma\alpha'} - \frac{1}{M^2} \sum_{\alpha',\beta'} [\delta_{\alpha\alpha'} \delta_{\beta\alpha'} \delta_{\gamma\beta'} + \delta_{\alpha\alpha'} \delta_{\beta\beta'} \delta_{\gamma\alpha'} + \delta_{\alpha\alpha'} \delta_{\beta\beta'} \delta_{\gamma\beta'}] + \frac{2}{M^3} \sum_{\alpha',\beta',\gamma'} \delta_{\alpha\alpha'} \delta_{\beta\beta'} \delta_{\gamma\gamma'} \\ = & \frac{\delta_{\alpha\beta\gamma}}{M} - \frac{\delta_{\alpha\beta} + \delta_{\alpha\gamma} + \delta_{\beta\gamma}}{M^2} + \frac{2}{M^3}. \end{aligned}$$

Taking $\theta \rightarrow U_{\alpha\beta}$, $\theta' \rightarrow W_{\beta\gamma}$ and $\theta'' \rightarrow c_{\delta}$ gives

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial^3 S}{\partial U_{\alpha\beta} \partial W_{\beta\gamma} \partial c_{\delta}}(0) = & \sum_{z,m} p(z,m) \sum_{\alpha'} q_{\alpha'} \frac{\partial^2 f_{\alpha'}}{\partial U_{\alpha\beta} \partial W_{\beta\gamma}} \frac{\partial f_{\alpha'}}{\partial c_{\delta}} \\ & - \sum_{z,m} p(z,m) \sum_{\alpha',\beta'} q_{\alpha'} q_{\beta'} \frac{\partial^2 f_{\alpha'}}{\partial U_{\alpha\beta} \partial W_{\beta\gamma}} \frac{\partial f_{\beta'}}{\partial c_{\delta}} \\ \left\{ \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial U \partial W} = \dots, \frac{\partial f}{\partial c} = \delta \right\} = & \sum_{z,m} p(z,m) \sum_{\alpha'} \frac{1}{M} \frac{\delta_{\alpha\alpha'} z_{\gamma}}{2} \delta_{\delta\alpha'} - \sum_{z,m} p(z,m) \sum_{\alpha',\beta'} \frac{1}{M^2} \frac{\delta_{\alpha\alpha'} z_{\gamma}}{2} \delta_{\delta\beta'} \\ = & \left(\frac{\delta_{\alpha\delta}}{2M} - \frac{1}{2M^2} \right) z_{\gamma} \end{aligned}$$

where $Z_\gamma := \mathbb{E}_{z \sim p(z)}[Z_\gamma]$. Following the same process, we find

$$\frac{\partial^3 S}{\partial U_{\alpha\beta} \partial b_\beta \partial c_\gamma}(0) = \frac{\delta_{\alpha\gamma}}{2M} - \frac{1}{2M^2}.$$

Taking $\theta \rightarrow U_{\alpha\beta}$, $\theta' \rightarrow W_{\beta\gamma}$ and $\theta'' \rightarrow W_{\beta\delta}$ gives

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial^3 S}{\partial U_{\alpha\beta} \partial W_{\beta\gamma} \partial W_{\beta\delta}}(0) &= \sum_{z,m} p(z,m) \sum_{\alpha'} q_{\alpha'} \frac{\partial^3 f_{\alpha'}}{\partial U_{\alpha\beta} \partial W_{\beta\gamma} \partial W_{\beta\delta}} - \sum_{z,m} p(z,m) \frac{\partial^3 f_m}{\partial U_{\alpha\beta} \partial W_{\beta\gamma} \partial W_{\beta\delta}} \\ \left\{ q_\alpha \equiv \frac{1}{M} \frac{\partial^3 f}{\partial U \partial W \partial W} = \dots \right\} &= \sum_{z,m} p(z,m) \sum_{\alpha'} \frac{1}{M} \frac{\delta_{\alpha\alpha'} Z_\gamma Z_\delta}{2} - \sum_{z,m} p(z,m) \frac{\delta_{m\alpha} Z_\gamma Z_\delta}{2} \\ \left\{ p(\alpha) \equiv \frac{1}{M} \right\} &= \frac{1}{2M} J_{\alpha\gamma\delta} \end{aligned}$$

where $J_{\alpha\gamma\delta} := \mathbb{E}_{z \sim p(z)}[Z_\gamma Z_\delta] - \mathbb{E}_{z \sim p(z|\alpha)}[Z_\gamma Z_\delta]$. Following the same process, we find

$$\frac{\partial^3 S}{\partial U_{\alpha\beta} \partial W_{\beta\gamma} \partial b_\beta}(0) = \frac{1}{6M} (\mathbb{E}_{z \sim p(z)}[Z_\gamma] - \mathbb{E}_{z \sim p(z|\alpha)}[Z_\gamma]) = \frac{1}{2M} J_{\alpha\gamma}$$

and

$$\frac{\partial^3 S}{\partial U_{\alpha\beta} \partial b_\beta \partial b_\beta}(0) = 0.$$

So,

$$\begin{aligned} S_3(\theta) &= \sum_{\alpha,\beta,\gamma} \left(\frac{\delta_{\alpha\beta\gamma}}{6M} - \frac{\delta_{\alpha\beta} + \delta_{\alpha\gamma} + \delta_{\beta\gamma}}{6M^2} + \frac{1}{3M^3} \right) c_\alpha c_\beta c_\gamma \\ &\quad + \sum_{\alpha,\gamma} \left(\frac{\delta_{\alpha\gamma}}{12M} - \frac{1}{12M^2} \right) \left(\sum_\beta U_{\alpha\beta} b_\beta \right) c_\gamma \\ &\quad + \sum_{\alpha,\gamma,\delta} \left(\frac{Z_\gamma \delta_{\alpha\delta}}{12M} - \frac{Z_\gamma}{12M^2} \right) \left(\sum_\beta U_{\alpha\beta} W_{\beta\gamma} \right) c_\delta \\ &\quad + \sum_{\alpha,\gamma} \frac{J_{\alpha\gamma}}{12M} \sum_\beta U_{\alpha\beta} W_{\beta\gamma} b_\beta \\ &\quad + \sum_{\alpha,\gamma,\delta} \frac{J_{\alpha\gamma\delta}}{12M} \sum_\beta U_{\alpha\beta} W_{\beta\gamma} W_{\beta\delta}. \end{aligned}$$

Numerical computation again shows that, up to the third order, the action still has no lower bound.

We further analyzed S_3 on the best fit θ_* . We found that it is the last term that dominates $S_3(\theta_*)$. Interestingly, like the case of S_2 , both the terms $J_{\alpha\gamma\delta}$ and $\sum_\beta U_{\alpha\beta} W_{\beta\gamma} W_{\beta\delta}$, as rank-3 tensors, have Gaussian distributed elements, centered at zero. But, the multiplied, $J_{\alpha\gamma\delta} U_{\alpha\beta} W_{\beta\gamma} W_{\beta\delta}$, has highly biased elements, most of which are positive. This terms represents the correlation between an output class and two input dimensions.

Why does the last term dominate S_3 ? Comparing with other terms, the sub-terms involved in the summation is much more. For example, when U is 10×2048 and W is 2048×1024 , the last summation has 2.2×10^{10} sub-terms, other terms have 10^3 , 2.1×10^5 , 2.1×10^8 , and 2.1×10^7 sub-terms, respectively. So, if the scales of U , c , W , and b are in the same order, then the last term dominates. This also applies to S_2 . We can check this idea by making the hidden dimension H small. Indeed, when H is small, domination of the last term vanishes.

The problem left is why the scales of U , c , W , and b are in the same order when $\theta \approx \theta_*$.

2.5 Higher Orders

Based on the previous analysis, it is suspected that the main contribution from $S_{n+1}(\theta_*)$ to $S(\theta_*)$ is

$$\frac{\sigma^{(n)}(0)}{(n+1)!M} \sum_{\alpha, \gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_n} J_{\alpha\gamma_1 \dots \gamma_n} \sum_{\beta} U_{\alpha\beta} W_{\beta\gamma_1} \dots W_{\beta\gamma_n}$$

where we have defined $J_{\alpha\gamma_1 \dots \gamma_n} := \mathbb{E}_{z \sim p(z)}[z_{\gamma_1} \dots z_{\gamma_n}] - \mathbb{E}_{z \sim p(z|\alpha)}[z_{\gamma_1} \dots z_{\gamma_n}]$ as usual. The term $\sum_{\beta} U_{\alpha\beta} W_{\beta\gamma_1} \dots W_{\beta\gamma_n}$ characterizes the correlation between an output class α and the input dimensions $\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_n$. If this is true, then we have

$$S(\theta) \approx \ln M + \sum_{n=1}^{+\infty} \frac{\sigma^{(n)}(0)}{(n+1)!M} \sum_{\alpha, \gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_n} J_{\alpha\gamma_1 \dots \gamma_n} \sum_{\beta} U_{\alpha\beta} W_{\beta\gamma_1} \dots W_{\beta\gamma_n}$$

for any $\theta \approx \theta_*$.

3 Data Size and Early Stopping

In fact, we have only finite size of dataset. We cannot get the $p(z, m)$, but empirical distributions $p_T(z, m)$ and $p_E(z, m)$, both of which are summations of delta functions. The p_T for training data and p_E for test (or evaluation) data. The strategy training is minimizing the action (training loss)

$$S_T(\theta) := - \sum_{z, m} p_T(z, m) \ln q_m(z, \theta)$$

by gradient descent method is optimizing until another action (evaluation loss)

$$S_E(\theta) := - \sum_{z, m} p_E(z, m) \ln q_m(z, \theta)$$

starts to increase. In this situation, we have $\nabla S_T \cdot \nabla S_E = 0$, where the ∇S_E starts to turn its direction to go against with the ∇S_T . So, the training *early stops* at

$$\nabla S_T(\theta) \cdot \nabla S_E(\theta) = 0, \tag{7}$$

instead of $\nabla S(\theta) = 0$. This difference is especially important when the data size is quite limited.