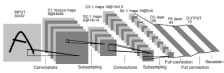
Neural Networks

Neural networks can be constructed using the `torch.nn` package.

Now that you had a glimpse of `autograd`, `nn` depends on `autograd` to define models and differentiate them. An `nn.Module` contains layers, and a method `forward(input)` that returns the `output`.

For example, look at this network that classifies digit images:



convnet

It is a simple feed-forward network. It takes the input, feeds it through several layers one after the other, and then finally gives the output.

A typical training procedure for a neural network is as follows:

- Define the neural network that has some learnable parameters (or weights)
- Iterate over a dataset of inputs
- Process input through the network
- Compute the loss (how far is the output from being correct)
- Propagate gradients back into the network's parameters
- Update the weights of the network, typically using a simple update rule:

```
weight = weight - learning_rate * gradient
```

Define the network

Let's define this network:

```
import torch
import torch.nn as nn
import torch.nn.functional as F


class Net(nn.Module):

    def __init__(self):
        super(Net, self).__init__()
        # 1 input image channel, 6 output channels, 5x5 square convolution
        # kernel
        self.conv1 = nn.Conv2d(1, 6, 5)
        self.conv2 = nn.Conv2d(6, 16, 5)
        # an affine operation: y = Wx + b
        self.fc1 = nn.Linear(16 * 5 * 5, 120)
        self.fc2 = nn.Linear(120, 84)
        self.fc3 = nn.Linear(84, 10)

    def forward(self, x):
        # Max pooling over a (2, 2) window
        x = F.max_pool2d(F.relu(self.conv1(x)), (2, 2))
        # If the size is a square you can only specify a single number
        x = F.max_pool2d(F.relu(self.conv2(x)), 2)
        x = x.view(-1, self.num_flat_features(x))
        x = F.relu(self.fc1(x))
        x = F.relu(self.fc2(x))
        x = self.fc3(x)
        return x

    def num_flat_features(self, x):
        size = x.size()[1:]  # all dimensions except the batch dimension
        num_features = 1
        for s in size:
            num_features *= s
        return num_features

net = Net()
print(net)
```

Out:

```
Net(
  (conv1): Conv2d(1, 6, kernel_size=(5, 5), stride=(1, 1))
  (conv2): Conv2d(6, 16, kernel_size=(5, 5), stride=(1, 1))
  (fc1): Linear(in_features=400, out_features=120, bias=True)
  (fc2): Linear(in_features=120, out_features=84, bias=True)
  (fc3): Linear(in_features=84, out_features=10, bias=True)
)
```

You just have to define the `forward` function, and the `backward` function (where gradients are computed) is automatically defined for you using `autograd`. You can use any of the Tensor operations in the `forward` function.

The learnable parameters of a model are returned by `net.parameters()`

```
params = list(net.parameters())
print(len(params))
print(params[0].size())  # conv1's .weight
```

Out:

```
10
torch.Size([6, 1, 5, 5])
```

Let try a random 32x32 input. Note: Expected input size to this net(LeNet) is 32x32. To use this net on MNIST dataset, please resize the images from the dataset to 32x32.

```
input = torch.randn(1, 1, 32, 32)
out = net(input)
print(out)
```

Out:

```
tensor([[-0.0809, -0.0514,  0.0059,  0.1012, -0.1543,  0.0494, -0.0966,
         -0.1256, -0.0906,  0.1193]])
```

Zero the gradient buffers of all parameters and backprops with random gradients:

```
net.zero_grad()
out.backward(torch.randn(1, 10))
```

Note

`torch.nn` only supports mini-batches. The entire `torch.nn` package only supports inputs that are a mini-batch of samples, and not a single sample.

For example, `nn.Conv2d` will take in a 4D Tensor of `nSamples x nChannels x Height x Width`.

If you have a single sample, just use `input.unsqueeze(0)` to add a fake batch dimension.

Before proceeding further, let's recap all the classes you've seen so far.

Recap:

- `torch.Tensor` - A *multi-dimensional array* with support for *autograd* operations like `backward()`. Also holds the *gradient* w.r.t. the tensor.
- `nn.Module` - Neural network module. *Convenient way of encapsulating parameters*, with helpers for moving them to GPU, exporting, loading, etc.
- `nn.Parameter` - A kind of Tensor, that is *automatically registered as a parameter when assigned as an attribute to a* `Module`.
- `autograd.Function` - Implements *forward and backward definitions of an autograd operation*. Every `Tensor` operation, creates at least a single `Function` node, that connects to functions that created a `Tensor` and encodes its *history*.

At this point, we covered:

- Defining a neural network
- Processing inputs and calling backward

Still Left:

- Computing the loss
- Updating the weights of the network

Loss Function

A loss function takes the (output, target) pair of inputs, and computes a value that estimates how far away the output is from the target.

There are several different *loss functions* under the nn package. A simple loss is: `nn.MSELoss` which computes the mean-squared error between the input and the target.

For example:

```
output = net(input)
target = torch.arange(1, 11)  # a dummy target, for example
target = target.view(1, -1)  # make it the same shape as output
criterion = nn.MSELoss()

loss = criterion(output, target)
print(loss)
```

Out:

```
tensor(39.2273)
```

Now, if you follow `loss` in the backward direction, using its `.grad_fn` attribute, you will see a graph of computations that looks like this:

```
input -> conv2d -> relu -> maxpool2d -> conv2d -> relu -> maxpool2d
      -> view -> linear -> relu -> linear -> relu -> linear
      -> MSELoss
      -> loss
```

So, when we call `loss.backward()`, the whole graph is differentiated w.r.t. the loss, and all Tensors in the graph that has `requires_grad=True` will have their `.grad` Tensor accumulated with the gradient.

For illustration, let us follow a few steps backward:

```
print(loss.grad_fn)  # MSELoss
print(loss.grad_fn.next_functions[0][0])  # Linear
print(loss.grad_fn.next_functions[0][0].next_functions[0][0])  # ReLU
```

Out:

```
<MseLossBackward object at 0x7f6df7338780>
<AddmmBackward object at 0x7f6df7338cc0>
<ExpandBackward object at 0x7f6df7338c18>
```

Backprop

To backpropagate the error all we have to do is to `loss.backward()`. You need to clear the existing gradients though, else gradients will be accumulated to existing gradients.

Now we shall call `loss.backward()`, and have a look at conv1's bias gradients before and after the backward.

```
net.zero_grad()     # zeroes the gradient buffers of all parameters

print('conv1.bias.grad before backward')
print(net.conv1.bias.grad)

loss.backward()

print('conv1.bias.grad after backward')
print(net.conv1.bias.grad)
```

Out:

```
conv1.bias.grad before backward
tensor([ 0.,  0.,  0.,  0.,  0.,  0.])
conv1.bias.grad after backward
tensor([ 0.0143,  0.1040, -0.1200, -0.0823,  0.0881,  0.0120])
```

Now, we have seen how to use loss functions.

Read Later:

The neural network package contains various modules and loss functions that form the building blocks of deep neural networks. A full list with documentation is here.

The only thing left to learn is:

- Updating the weights of the network

Update the weights

The simplest update rule used in practice is the Stochastic Gradient Descent (SGD):

```
weight = weight - learning_rate * gradient
```

We can implement this using simple python code:

```
learning_rate = 0.01
for f in net.parameters():
    f.data.sub_(f.grad.data * learning_rate)
```

However, as you use neural networks, you want to use various different update rules such as SGD, Nesterov-SGD, Adam, RMSProp, etc. To enable this, we built a small package: `torch.optim` that implements all these methods. Using it is very simple:

```
import torch.optim as optim

# create your optimizer
optimizer = optim.SGD(net.parameters(), lr=0.01)

# in your training loop:
optimizer.zero_grad()  # zero the gradient buffers
output = net(input)
loss = criterion(output, target)
loss.backward()
optimizer.step()  # Does the update
```

Note

Observe how gradient buffers had to be manually set to zero using `optimizer.zero_grad()`. This is because gradients are accumulated as explained in Backprop section.

Total running time of the script: (0 minutes 0.160 seconds)

Download Python source code: neural_networks_tutorial.py

Download Jupyter notebook: neural_networks_tutorial.ipynb

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