Software Packages for Deep Learning

Chensong Zhang

with Zheng Li and Ronghong Fan

DL Seminar — April 27, 2017

Outline

Introduction

Python

Torch

Caffe

TensorFlow

MxNET

Comparison

Machine Learning



- Unlike traditional numerical simulation, "ML gives computers the ability to learn without being explicitly programmed" [Samuel 1959]
- As a research field, ML explores the study and construction of algorithms that can learn from and make predictions on data
- Related fields: data mining, computational statistics, optimization, ...
- Fourth paradigm, big data, artificial intelligence, Internet of things, deep learning, ...

General Tasks of ML



- Classification: Inputs are divided into two or more classes, and the learner must produce a model that assigns unseen inputs to one or more (multi-label classification) of these classes
- Clustering: Inputs are divided into groups. Unlike in classification, the groups are not known beforehand, making this typically an unsupervised task
- Regression: Similar to classification, but the outputs are continuous rather than discrete
- Density estimation
- Dimensionality reduction
- ...

Packages for General Machine Learning



What is the purpose?

- Solving problems from practical applications (user interface)
- Developing algorithms and optimizing implementation (development)
- Theoretical analysis for machine learning

What do we want for a ML package?

- Easy for new tasks and new network structures (less steep learning curve)
- Easy for debugging (with good support and large community)
- Performance and scalability



Deep Learning: Pros and Cons



Deep Learning has been introduced with the objective of moving ML closer to one of its original goals—AI. The main motivations includes:

- Insufficient depth can hurt
- The brain has a deep architecture
- Cognitive processes seem deep

Pros:

- conceptually simple
- nonlinear
- highly flexible and configurable
- learned features can be extracted
- can be fine-tuned with more data
- efficient for multi-class problems
- world-class at pattern recognition

Cons:

- hard to interpret
- theory not well understood
- slow to train and score
- overfits, needs regularization
- more parameters
- inefficient for categorical variables
- data hungry, learns slowly

Comparison: Basic Information



Viewpoint	Torch	Caffe	TensorFlow	MXNet	
Started	2002	2013	2015	DMLC Apache C++	
Main Developers	Facebook, Twitter, Google,	BVLC (Berkeley)	Google		
License	BSD	BSD	Apache		
Core Languages	C/Lua	C++	C++ Python		
Supported Interface	Lua	C++/Python Matlab	C++/Python R/Java/Go	C++/Python R/Julia/Scala	

- BVLC, Berkeley Vision and Learning Center
- DMLC, Distributed (Deep) Machine Learning Community, supported by Amazon, Intel, Microsoft, nVidia, Baidu, ...

Comparison: Performance



Viewpoint	Torch	Caffe	TensorFlow	MXNet	
Pretrained	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	
Models	108	108	NO		
High-level	Good	Good	Good	Good	
Support	Good	Good	Good		
Low-level	Good	Good	Fairly good	Very few	
Operators	Good	Good	Tanty good		
Speed	Great	Great	Not so good	Excellent	
One-GPU	Gicai	Gicat	Not so good		
Memory	Great	Great	Not so good	Excellent	
Management	Gicai	Gicat	Not so good		
Parallel	Multi-GPU	Multi-GPU	Multi-GPU	Distributed	
Support	Mului-Oi O	With Of O	Widiti-Of C		

http://blog.revolutionanalytics.com/2016/08/deep-learning-part-1.html

Python: A general-purpose programming language



- Created by Guido van Rossum in 1989 and first released in 1991
- Named after "the Monty Python" (British comedy group)
- An interpreted language—simple, clear, and readable
- Python has many excellent packages for machine learning
- The language of choice in introductory programming courses

Data from Indeed.com 2016					SQ	L
				J	AVA	
				JAV	/ASCRIPT	г
			C#			
		PYTHO	N			
		C++				
	PH	IP.				
	IOS					
	RUBY/F	AILS				

Feb	Change 💠	Programming language	\$	Share \$	Trends \$
1		Java		22.6 %	-1.3 %
2		Python		14.7 %	+2.8 %
3		PHP		9.4 %	-1.2 %
4		C#		8.3 %	-0.3 %
5	↑ ↑	Javascript		7.7 %	+0.4 %
6		С		7.0 %	-0.2 %
7	↓↓	C++		6.9 %	-0.6 %
8		Objective-C		4.2 %	-0.6 %
9	1	R		3.4 %	+0.4 %
10	1	Swift		2.9 %	+0.1 %

Python for Scientific Computing



Why Python for scientific computing?

- Dynamic data types and automatic memory management
- Full modularity, supporting hierarchical packages
- Strong introspection capabilities¹
- Exception-based error handling

Why consider such a slow language for simulation?

- Good for proof-of-concept prototyping
- Implementation time versus execution time
- Code readability and maintenance short code, fewer bugs
- Well-written Python code is "fast enough" for most computational tasks
- Time critical parts executed through compiled language or available packages

¹Code introspection is the ability to examine classes, functions and keywords to know what they are, what they do and what they know. Python provides several functions and utilities for code introspection, like dir(), help(), type().

Functions and Modules



Defining functions

```
def square(x):
return x*x
```

Using modules

- import math: This will only introduce the name math into the name space in which the import command was issued. The names within the math module will not appear in the enclosing namespace: they must be accessed through the name math. For example: math.sin(3.14).
- ② from math import *: This does not introduce the name math into the current namespace. It does however introduce all public names of the math module into the current namespace, directly using: sin(3.14)
- from math import sin: This will only import the sin function from math module and introduce the name sin into the current namespace, but it will not introduce the name math into the current namespace, directly using: sin(3.14)

Built-in Data Structures



Numeric types: int, float, complex

```
b=1L  # long int

c=0xf  # int (hex format)

d=010  # int (octal format)

e=1.0  # float

f=1+2j  # complex
```

Sequence types: list, tuple, str, dict

```
t = (3.14, True, 'Yes', [1], ())

t = [3.14, True, 'Yes', [1], (1L, 0xf)] + [None]*3  # list example

s = 'Hello' + ", " + 'world!' # str example 1

s = ("Hello, " "world!") # str example 2

d = {1: 'int', 'pi': 3.14} # dict example

s = "Python"; s.find('thon') # find substring
```

Formatted output

```
print('%(lang)s has %(num)02d quote types.'
... %{'lang':"Python", "num":3})
```

Control Flow



If-then-else

For loop

```
for i in range(10):
print i
```

While loop

```
sum = 0; i = 0
while i < 10:
sum += i
i += 1
```

Programming interface



- Wide range applications
 - Speech, image and video applications
 - Large-scale machine-learning applications
- Pastest scripting language Lua is used
- Easily ported to any platform
 - Torch can run on iPhone with no modification to scripts
- Easy extensibility
 - Easy to integrate any library into Torch





```
require 'torch'
1
   require 'optim'
   require 'nn'
4
   # write the loss to a text file and read from there
5
   # to plot the loss as training proceeds
   logger = optim.Logger('loss log.txt')
8
   # input data
10
   data = torch. Tensor \{40, 6, 4\}, \{44, 10, 4\}, \{46, 12, 5\},
    \{48, 14, 7\}, \{52, 16, 9\}, \{58, 18, 12\}, \{60, 22, 14\},
11
12
   \{68, 24, 20\}, \{74, 26, 21\}, \{80, 32, 24\}\}
13
   # define the container
14
   model = nn. Sequential()
15
   ninputs = 2; noutputs = 1
16
17
   # define the only module
18
   model: add(nn. Linear(ninputs, noutputs))
19
20
   # Define a loss function
21
   criterion = nn. MSECriterion()
22
```





```
23
   # retrieve its trainable parameters
   x, dl_dx = model: getParameters()
24
25
   # compute loss function and its gradient
26
27
   feval = function(x_new)
      # set x to x_new, if differnt
28
      if x \sim = x new then
29
30
          x:copy(x_new)
      end
31
32
   # select a new training sample
33
       nidx = (nidx or 0) + 1
34
       if _{nidx_{-}} > (\#data)[1] then _{nidx_{-}} = 1 end
35
36
       local sample = data[_nidx_]
37
       local target = sample[{ {1} }]
38
       local inputs = sample[{ {2,3} }]
39
40
   # reset gradients
41
42
       dl_dx:zero()
```

Example 1:Linear-Regression

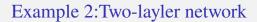


```
# evaluate the loss function and its derivative wrt x
43
       local loss_x = criterion:forward(model:forward(inputs), target)
44
       model:backward(inputs, criterion:backward(model.output, target)
45
46
   # return loss(x) and dloss/dx
47
       return loss_x, dl_dx
48
   end
49
50
   # define SGD
51
52
   sgd_params = {
       learningRate = 1e-3,
53
54
       learningRateDecay = 1e-4,
       weightDecay = 0,
55
      momentum = 0
56
57
58
   # we cycle 1e4 times over our training data
59
   for i = 1.1e4 do
60
      #this variable is used to estimate the average loss
61
       current loss = 0
62
      #an epoch is a full loop over our training data
63
       for i = 1, (\#data)[1] do
64
          # return new x and value of the loss functions
65
          _, fs = optim.sgd(feval,x,sgd_params)
66
```

Example 1:Linear-Regression



```
67
          # update loss
          current_loss = current_loss + fs[1]
68
      end
69
70
71
      # report average error on epoch
       current_loss = current_loss / (#data)[1]
72
       print('current loss = ' .. current loss)
73
74
       logger:add{['training error'] = current_loss}
75
       logger: style {['training error'] = '-'}
76
       logger: plot()
77
   end
78
79
   # Test the trained model
80
   text = \{40.32, 42.92, 45.33, 48.85, 52.37, 57, 61.82, 69.78,
81
            72.19, 79.42}
82
83
   for i = 1, (\#data)[1] do
84
       local myPrediction = model: forward(data[i][{{2,3}}])
85
86
       print(string.format("%2d %6.2f %6.2f", i, myPrediction[1], text[i]
   end
87
```





```
import torch
   from torch.autograd import Variable
3
   # N is batch size; D in is input dimension;
   # H is hidden dimension; D_out is output dimension.
   N, D_{in}, H, D_{out} = 64, 1000, 100, 10
7
   # Create random Tensors to hold inputs and outputs, and wrap them in
8
   x = Variable(torch.randn(N, D in))
   y = Variable(torch.randn(N, D_out), requires_grad=False)
10
11
   # Use the nn package to define our model as a sequence of layers.
12
   model = torch.nn.Sequential(
13
              torch.nn.Linear(D_in, H),
14
              torch.nn.ReLU(),
15
              torch.nn.Linear(H, D_out),
16
17
18
   # The nn package also contains definitions of popular loss functions;
19
   loss_fn = torch.nn.MSELoss(size_average=False)
20
```

Example 2:Two-layler network



```
learning rate = 1e-4
21
   for t in range (500):
22
        # Forward pass: compute predicted y by passing x to the model.
23
        y \text{ pred} = \text{model}(x)
24
25
            # Compute and print loss.
26
            loss = loss_fn(y_pred, y)
27
            print(t, loss.data[0])
28
29
            # Zero the gradients before running the backward pass
30
31
             model.zero grad()
32
33
             # Backward pass: compute gradient of the loss
             loss.backward()
34
35
             # Update the weights using gradient descent
36
             for param in model.parameters():
37
                      param.data -= learning_rate * param.grad.data
38
```

https://github.com/jcjohnson/pytorch-examples

Programming interface



- Expressive architecture
 - Define models and optimization by configuration without hard-coding
 - With protocol tool to define parameters for nets and solvers . . .
- Support GPUs
- Mainly focus CNN for images
- Not well documented

Example 1: SGD Solver for MNIST



```
# The train/test net protocol buffer definition
1
   net: "examples/mnist/lenet_train_test.prototxt"
   # test_iter specifies how many forward passes
   test_iter: 100
   # Carry out testing every 500 training iterations.
5
   test_interval: 500
   # The base learning rate, momentum and the weight decay of network
   base 1r: 0.01
   momentum: 0.9
10
   weight_decay: 0.0005
   # The learning rate policy
11
12
   lr_policy: "inv"
   gamma: 0.0001
13
14
   power: 0.75
   # Display every 100 iterations
15
   display: 100
16
   # The maximum number of iterations
17
   max_iter: 10000
18
   # snapshot intermediate results
19
   snapshot: 5000
20
   snapshot_prefix: "examples/mnist/lenet"
21
   # solver mode: CPU or GPU
22
   solver mode: GPU
23
```

Computational graph



TensorFlow computations are expressed as stateful dataflow graphs.

- each node corresponds to an operation (eg tensor, add, sub etc)
- each edge corresponds to tensor flowing direction

```
import tensorflow as tf
   graph = tf.Graph()
   with graph.as_default():
       with tf.name_scope('input_var'):
            a = tf. Variable (tf.random uniform
                             ([1], -1.0, 1.0)
            tf.summary.histogram('a', a)
            b = tf. Variable (tf.random_uniform
10
                            ([1], -1.0, 1.0)
11
            tf.summary.histogram('b', b)
12
       with tf.name_scope('output_var'):
13
            c = tf.multiply(a, b)
14
            tf.summary.histogram('c', c)
15
16
       merged = tf.summary.merge_all()
17
        writer = tf.summary.FileWriter
18
                    ('/home/fan/board', graph)
19
```

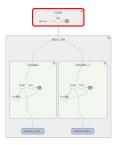


Figure: Computaion graph 21

Programming interface



In this section we provide a discussion of the computational graph architecture underlying the TensorFlow software library.

- Graph: In TensorFlow, machine learning algorithms are represented as computational graph. A computational or dataflow graph is a form of directed graph where vertices or nodes describe operations, while edges represent data flowing between these operations.
- Operation: An opreation may represent a mathematical equation, a variable or constant, a control flow directive, a file I/O operation or even a network communication port.
- Tensor: A tensor is a multi-dimensional collection of homogeneous values with a fixed, static type.
- Variable: Variables can be described as persistent, mutable handles to in-memory buffers storing tensors.
- Session: In TensorFlow the execution of operations and evaluation of tensors may only be preformed in a special environment called session.

Visualization: TensorBoard



Computation graphs are powerful but complicated

- thousands of nodes or more
- network is deep
- graph visualization tool TensorBoard is helpful

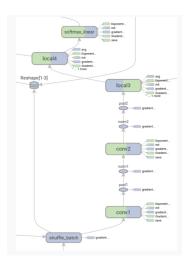


Figure: Graph Visualization

Example 1: SoftMax



```
import tensorflow as tf
1
   # Import the training data (MNIST)
3
   import tf.examples.tutorials.mnist.input_data as input_data
4
5
   # Possibly download and extract the MNIST data set
6
   # Retrieve the labels as one-hot-encoded vectors
   mnist = input data.read data sets ("MNIST data/", one hot=True)
9
10
   # Create a new graph
   graph = tf.Graph()
11
12
   # Set our graph as the one to add nodes to
13
   with graph.as_default():
14
       # Placeholder for input variables (None = variable dimension)
15
       x = tf.placeholder("float", shape=[None, 784])
16
       # Placeholder for labels
17
       y_ = tf.placeholder("float", shape=[None, 10])
18
19
20
       # Weights and bias
       W = tf. Variable(tf.zeros([784, 10]))
21
       b = tf. Variable (tf. zeros ([10]))
22
```

Example 1:SoftMax



```
# Apply softmax regression model
23
       y = tf.nn.softmax(tf.matmul(x, W) + b)
24
25
       # Compute the cross entropy of y_ and y
26
       entropy = -tf.reduce_sum(y_*tf.log(y))
27
       # Create a gradient-descent optimizer
28
        train step =
29
            tf.train.GradientDescentOptimizer(0.01).minimize(entropy)
30
31
32
       # Find the indices where the predictions were correct
        correct_prediction = tf.equal(tf.argmax(y,1), tf.argmax(y_,1))
33
34
        accuracy = tf.reduce_mean(tf.cast(correct_prediction, "float"))
35
36
   with tf. Session (graph=graph) as session:
       # Initialize all variables
37
       tf.global_variables_initializer().run()
38
39
       # Train the model
40
       for step in range (1000):
41
            batch_x, batch_y = mnist.train.next_batch(100)
42
            train_step.run(feed_dict={x: batch_x, y_: batch_y})
43
       # Print the accuracy using the model
44
        print accuracy.run(feed_dict={x: mnist.test.images,
45
                                     y_: mnist.test.labels })
46
```

Programming interface



- Mxnet.ndarray
 - Similar to numpy.ndarray
 - Supports both CPU and GPU
- Support building neural network graphs
 - Call mx.viz.plot_network()
- Mixed programing
 - Suport both imperative and declarative programming
- Provide intermediate-level and high-level interface modules
- Provide data parallelism with multi-devices
- Provide abundant IO functions
- Support many scope applications(e.g. computer vision, natural language processing, speech recognition, unsupervised machine learning, support embedded APIs, visualization)

Example 1: SoftMax



```
1
   import mxnet
   import mxnet.symbol as sym
   import numpy as np
   import numpy.random as random
5
   import time
   from minpy.core import function
   from minpy core import grad and loss
9
10
   # define softmax symbol
   x_shape = (num_samples, num_classes)
11
   label_shape = (num_samplesm,)
12
   softmax symbol = sym. SoftmaxOutput(data=sym. Variable('x'),
13
                       name='softmax', grad_scale = 1.0/num_samples)
14
15
   # convert MXNet symbol into a callable function
16
   # corresponding gradient function
17
   softmax = function(softmax_symbol, [('x', x_shape),
18
                     ('softmax_label', label_shape)])
19
20
   # make softmax label;
21
   # MXNet's softmax operator does not use one-of-many label format
22
   softmax_label = np.argmax(label, axis=1)
23
```

Example 1: SoftMax



```
# Redefine loss function using softmax as one operator
24
   def train_loss(w, x):
25
26
       y = np.dot(x, w)
       prob = softmax(x=y, softmax_label=softmax_label)
27
28
       loss = -np.sum(label * np.log(prob)) / num_samples
       return loss
29
30
   # Initialize weight matrix (again)
31
   weight = random.randn(num_features, num_classes)
32
33
   # Calculate gradient function automatically
34
   grad_function = grad_and_loss(train_loss)
35
36
   # Now training it for 100 iterations
37
   start time = time.time()
38
   for i in range (100):
39
       dw, loss = grad_function(weight, data)
40
       if i \% 10 == 0:
41
            print 'Iter {}, training loss {}'.format(i, loss)
42
       weight -= 0.1 * dw
43
   print 'Training time: {}s'.format(time.time() - start_time)
44
```

Numerical tests



