Introduction to Neural Networks

RIT SCG Talk October 21 2019

Marko Ristić

CS 231n: Convolutional Neural Networks for Visual Recognition

cs231n.stanford.edu

Neural Network Design

2nd edition

Hagan et al.





ldea credit: Aleksander Obuchowski

What is a neural network?

- Subset of machine learning algorithms based on biology, linear algebra, and statistics
- Searches for patterns and features in the data
- Compare to a provided ground truth (supervised)
- Alternatively, allow the network to make connections it thinks are logical (unsupervised)



Single Artificial Neuron Diagram



$$a = f(w_{1,1}p_1 + w_{1,2}p_2 + w_{1,3}p_3 + \dots + w_{1,R}p_R + b)$$

Multiple Neuron Diagram

Every input is fed into each neuron which returns output a_i

 Number of outputs from a given layer depends on number of neurons in the layer which need not necessarily be constant between layers





Regression vs classification

- Regression: outputs are real numbers R which correspond to some normalized/pre-processed version of the dataset
- Classification: outputs are real numbers \mathbb{R} which represent the likelihood that a given input belongs to a certain class



Activation function (classification)

- Suppose you have 3 classes for images
 - Bird, deer, frog



- Activation function can normalize inputs to follow a probability distribution
- Based on current network parameters, predict most probable classification



Activation function (regression)

- Different type of problem requiring different function
- Function we use is scaled exponential linear unit (SELU)
- Decides which neurons are activated during a given iteration
- For regression, final layer has linear activation to allow for unbounded R values
- Data is usually normalized to keep behavior under control





Loss function (regression)

- Mean squared error
- Outputs some value in \mathbb{R}
- The error in the network's prediction is conveniently packaged into one number
- Minimize loss function for best results
- Classification uses different loss functions but the idea of minimizing still holds

$$MSE = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^{N} (f_i - y_i)^2$$

where N is the number of data points, f_i the value returned by the model and y_i the actual value for data point *i*.

Learning

- Adjust network based on previous loss value output such that following prediction is more accurate
- For one neuron, equivalent of testing whether increasing or decreasing the weight shows improvement
- Small adjustments of the weights across the network for all neurons



Feed-forward Neural Networks

- Simplest category of NN
- Information flows in only one direction
- Want to approximate some function that maps the inputs to the outputs
- Regression (R^N to R^M) or image classification



Convolutional Neural Networks

- Most commonly used in image classification
- Uses convolutions instead of direct weight multiplication
- Reduces image into a flattened vector of values representing learned features
 - Edges, shapes, etc.
- Softmax activation function determines class based on output probability



Credit: Sumit Saha

Recurrent Neural Networks

- Commonly used in unsegmented speech and handwriting recognition
- "Remember" what they learned from generating outputs based on prior Inputs
- As such, order of input processing determines possible predictions



My Network

- Linear means fully-connected layers (as seen in diagrams)
- Final layer has no activation function
- Network doesn't care what the data is, so this network should work for any 2D/4D dataset







Okay, but who cares?

- Want to interpolate the likelihood function for application in parameter estimation through Bayesian inference

likelihood function

 $P(H|D, I) = \frac{P(D|H, I) \times P(H|I)}{P(D|I)}$

H is the hypothesis, D is the observational data, I is some set of assumptions, P(H | D, I) is the posterior probability,
P(D | H, I) is the likelihood function,
P(H | I) is the prior probability,
and P(D | I) can effectively be reduced to a weighting constant

Likelihood grid

- Initially on an evenly-spaced grid
- Iterates several times and populates peak log-likelihood region with more samples
- Discrete representation of log-likelihood space

Initial ILE Grid (uniform prior)







Interpolation Improvement

- Current method of Gaussian processes takes on the order of a day to interpolate the likelihood function, NN done on the order of minutes
- GPs scale on the order of n³ which becomes problematic as the number of dimensions increases
- Neural networks have the advantage of benefiting from more data and also take on the order of minutes for a single interpolation

Future Application

- Interpolation of kilonova light curves
- Select a collection of models which can function as a basis for all kilonovae
- Do the same with points in time during the kilonova evolution
- Interpolate these to, ideally, create any possible kilonova model at any time in its evolution and recover the parameters



Conclusion

- Neural networks learn patterns and features in data in different ways depending on the architecture of the network
- Our problem specifically involves approximating a continuous function based on a finite-sampled likelihood dataset in up to 4 dimensions
- Vast improvement over Gaussian processes with strong potential for direct application to kilonova interpolation