



Error and Entropy in the Function Space of Multi-layer Networks

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- Deep learning machines and why entropy in function-space matters
- Statistical mechanics of learning from examples
- Mapping multi-layer networks to dynamical systems Generating functional analysis
- Continuous and discrete weights framework and results
- Summary and future work

Bo Li and David Saad, arXiv:1708.01422, 2017.

Deep Learning Machines

Implement an input-output mapping $y = f_w(x)$,

where the parameters w are to be estimated based on the training data $\{(\xi^{\mu}, \sigma^{\mu})\}_{\mu=1,2,...P}$ to perform a desired mapping.





We want to understand:

- (i) Their **generalization ability** even with numerous parameters
- (ii) Nature of the **internal representations**

Macroscopic Analysis – Typical Behavior of Single Layer Machines

- Mapped to disordered systems of infinite dimension
- Use **replica analysis**, **cavity method** (batch learning); **dynamical** methods for on-line learning; exploit **high dimensionality**
- **Typical** behavior (in contrast to worse-case) of storage capacity and generalization curves
- Technically quite involved (single or two-layer systems)
- Input data structure and internal representations are rarely addressed

Teacher-student Scenario for DLM?



Difficulties:

- Constraints imposed by the examples (input-output pairs) on the hidden units are complex – recursive nonlinear mapping.
- Permutation, reflection and other symmetries/invariances of hidden units, no simple relation between teacher-student overlap and generalization error.

Especially interesting in the **over-parametrized** regime

Function Space, Error and Entropy

- We would like to approximate a reference/target function $f_{\widehat{w}}$, as closely as possible from data.
- Given noisy data, sub-optimal training methods more relevant to find good approximations. How many such functions exist?
- The entropy (log-volume) of functions at distance- ε away from $f_{\hat{w}}$ indicates how easy it is obtaining them.



Exploring Function Space in DLM

Reference function $f_{\widehat{w}}$

Perturbed function f_w





We map the DLM to **disordered spin systems** with discrete dynamics, $\hat{s}_i^l, s_i^l \in \{1, -1\}$, activation function is **sign function** sgn(x).

The framework can be generalized to **real variables** and **other activation functions.**

Investigate the function sensitivity under small perturbations $w^{l} = Perturb(\widehat{w}^{l})$

Deep Learning Machines as Dynamical Systems



Related work

- Poole et al., NIPS 2016 Mean field theory to study input sensitivity and expressivity
- Li et al., arXiv:1710.09513, 2017 Optimal control theory (Pontryagin's maximum principle) to devise new training algorithms

DLM as a Stochastic Dynamical System

• The layer evolution of two coupled DLMs:

$$P(\hat{\boldsymbol{s}}^{l}|\hat{\boldsymbol{w}}^{l}, \hat{\boldsymbol{s}}^{l-1}, \beta) = \prod_{i} \frac{\exp\beta \hat{s}_{i}^{l} \hat{h}_{i}^{l}(\hat{\boldsymbol{w}}^{l}, \hat{\boldsymbol{s}}^{l-1})}{2\cosh\beta \hat{s}_{i}^{l} \hat{h}_{i}^{l}(\hat{\boldsymbol{w}}^{l}, \hat{\boldsymbol{s}}^{l-1})}, P(\boldsymbol{s}^{l}|\boldsymbol{w}^{l}, \boldsymbol{s}^{l-1}, \beta) = \cdots,$$

 $\hat{h}_{i}^{l}(\widehat{\boldsymbol{w}}^{l},\widehat{\boldsymbol{s}}^{l-1}) = \sum_{j} \widehat{w}_{ij}^{l} \widehat{s}_{j}^{l-1} / \sqrt{N}, \ \beta$ is the inverse-temperature quantifying the noise level; deterministic rule in the zero-noise limit $\beta \to \infty$.

• Any observable is given by

$$\langle O \rangle := \sum_{\{\widehat{s}^l, s^l\}} O \cdot P(\widehat{s}^0) \delta_{\widehat{s}^0, s^0} \prod_{l} P(\widehat{s}^l | \widehat{w}^l, \widehat{s}^{l-1}, \beta) \cdot P(s^l | w^l, s^{l-1}, \beta),$$

summed over all the trajectories subject to the path measure.

• For discrete spins, the overlap between activities of the two systems is of interest

$$q^{l}(\widehat{\boldsymbol{w}}, \boldsymbol{w}, \beta) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i} \langle \hat{s}_{i}^{l} s_{i}^{l} \rangle$$

Generating Functional Analysis

• Generating functional (characteristic function)

$$\Gamma[\widehat{\boldsymbol{\psi}}, \boldsymbol{\psi}] \coloneqq \left\{ \exp\left\{-i\sum_{l,i} (\widehat{\psi}_i^l \widehat{s}_i^l + \psi_i^l s_i^l)\right\} \right\},$$

moments such as magnetization $\langle \hat{s}_i^l \rangle$ and overlap $\langle \hat{s}_i^l s_i^l \rangle$ can be obtained by differentiating $\Gamma[\hat{\psi}, \psi]$; angled brackets – average over all paths.

• Interested in the **typical** behavior of an ensemble of networks $\hat{w} \sim P(\hat{w})$, overbar – quenched average

$$\overline{\Gamma[\widehat{\psi}, \psi]} \coloneqq \sum_{\{\widehat{w}^l, w^l\}} \Gamma[\widehat{\psi}, \psi] P(\widehat{w}) P(w)$$
$$= \int \prod_l \frac{dQ^l dq^l}{2\pi/N} e^{N\Psi[q, Q]} \approx e^{N\Psi[q_e, Q_e]}, \text{ in the limit } N \to \infty,$$

Represented by macroscopic order parameters; the saddle point q_e , $Q_e = \text{extr}_{q,Q}\Psi(q,Q)$ satisfies certain self-consistent **mean-field** equation.





Function Error and Entropy

• Function error is defined as the **expected Hamming distance** of output layers between $f_{\widehat{w}}$ and f_w

$$\varepsilon \coloneqq \frac{1}{2N} \sum_{i=1}^{N} \overline{\langle |\hat{s}_i^L - s_i^L| \rangle} = \frac{1}{2} (1 - q^L),$$

which provides a distance measure between $f_{\hat{w}}$ and f_{w} .

• Also interested in the entropy (log-volume) of f_w at distance- ε away from the reference function $f_{\widehat{w}}$, e.g.,



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Fully-connected Networks – Continuous/Binary weights

Consider fully-connected networks, with $P(\widehat{w}_i^l) = \prod_j P(\widehat{w}_{ij}^l)$



[B. Poole et al., NIPS 2016]

Entropy of Perturbed Functions

Consider fully-connected networks, with $P(\widehat{w}_i^l) = \prod_j P(\widehat{w}_{ij}^l)$



The distance- ε surface of f_w with volume $\Omega(\{\eta^l\}) = \exp N_p S_{con}(\{\eta^l\})$, is **exponentially** dominated by the maximum-entropy solutions when $N_p \to \infty$: $\eta^{*l} = \arg \max_{\eta^l} S_{con}(\{\eta^l\})$, s.t. $q^L(\{\eta^l\}) = 1 - 2\varepsilon$ ¹³

Earlier Layers Converge First When Decreasing *E*





Approximated Generalization Curve (dense DLM with continuous weights)



Annealed theory of learning

Relevant in small ε (large α) limit.

A. Engle and C. Van den Broeck, 2001

Sparsely Connected Binary Networks

- Same architecture as before, except that each node is randomly connected to k units in the previous layer and ŵ^l_{ij} = 1.
 Such layered networks can implement a large class of Boolean functions.
 [A. Mozeika and D. Saad PRL 2009]
- In addition to the overlap q^l the magnetization $m^l \coloneqq 1/N \sum_i \langle s_i^l \rangle$ order parameter characterizes the macroscopic dynamics.

$$m^{l} = \sum_{\{s_{j}\}} \prod_{j=1}^{k} \frac{1}{2} \left[1 + s_{j} m^{l-1} (1-2p) \right] \operatorname{sgn} \left[\sum_{j=1}^{k} s_{j} \right]$$
$$q^{l} = \sum_{\{s_{j}, \hat{s}_{j}\}} \prod_{j=1}^{k} \frac{1}{4} \left[1 + \hat{s}_{j} \hat{m}^{l-1} + s_{j} m^{l-1} (1-2p) + s_{j} \hat{s}_{j} q^{l-1} (1-2p) \right] \operatorname{sgn} \left[\sum_{j=1}^{k} \hat{s}_{j} \right] \operatorname{sgn} \left[\sum_{j=1}^{k} s_{j} \right]$$

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Sparsely Connected Binary Networks

For the same for perturbation at every layer $p^l = p$ (weight flipping probability) and at the infinite depth limit $L \rightarrow \infty$



Reference function $f_{\widehat{w}} = sgn(\sum \hat{s}_i^0)$ is majority vote of input.

Phase transition of **stationary states** as $L \rightarrow \infty$; $k = 3, m^0 > 0$. $(m^{\infty} < 0 \text{ if } m^0 < 0)$

Similar to the phase transition of varying thermal noise β in the noisy computation setting.

[A. Mozeika and D. Saad PRL 2009]

Deep Layers For Reliable Computation in Sparse Binary Deep Learning Machines



Continuous Variables and Activation Functions

We extended the framework for the ReLu function $\phi(x) = \begin{cases} x & x > 0 \\ 0 & x \le 0 \end{cases}$



Summary and Future Work

Summary:

- The **generating functional analysis** is a principle method for deriving the **typical** behaviors of DLMs; it allows for non-trivial extensions.
- Layer-by-layer matching of weights is observed when getting closer to the reference function in densely-connected networks.
- Sparsely connected networks favor **deep layers** for a reliable representation.

Future work:

- A model learned from data p(w|D) Typically many **redundant** weights.
- Exploring the function space for correlated inputs.
- The role of **over-parametrization** in the function landscape, error and generalization.
- Other models? Optimizing variable hidden layer size.
- **Noisy** training/computation for better generalization.