Large-Scale Machine Learning

Shan-Hung Wu shwu@cs.nthu.edu.tw

Department of Computer Science, National Tsing Hua University, Taiwan

Machine Learning

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Large-Scale ML

Outline

When ML Meets Big Data

2 Advantages of Deep Learning

- Representation Learning
- Exponential Gain of Expressiveness
- Memory and GPU Friendliness
- Online & Transfer Learning

3 Learning Theory Revisited

- Generalizability and Over-Parametrization
- Wide-and-Deep NN is a Gaussian Process before Training*
- Gradient Descent is an Affine Transformation*
- Wide-and-Deep NN is a Gaussian Process after Training*

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1 When ML Meets Big Data

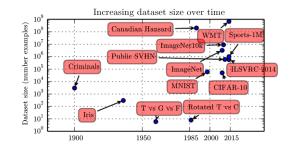
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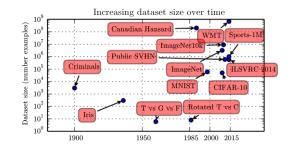
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The Big Data Era



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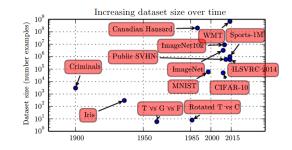


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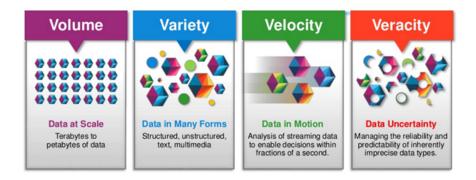
The Big Data Era



- Today, more and more of our activities are recorded by ubiquitous computing devices
- Networked computers make it easy to centralize these records and curate them into a *big* dataset
- Large-scale machine learning techniques solve problems by leveraging the posteriori knowledge learned from the big data

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Characteristics of Big Data



- Variety and veracity
 - Feature engineering gets even harder

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A group of young people playing a game of Frisbee

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- Volume
 - Large D: curse of dimensionality
 - Large N: training efficiency

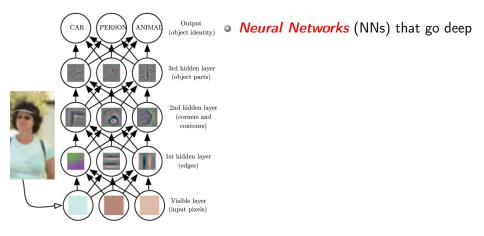


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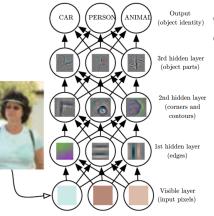
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 - Online learning



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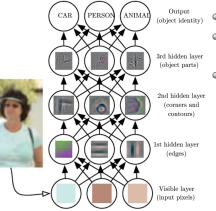


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Neural Networks (NNs) that go deep
 Automatic feature engineering

 A kind of representation learning

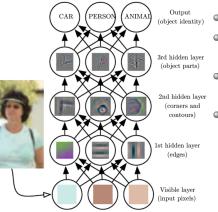


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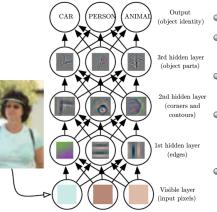
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• Supporting online & transfer learning

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- For simple (linear) *f*, there are specialized large-scale ML techniques (e.g., LIBLINEAR [7]) that are much more efficient

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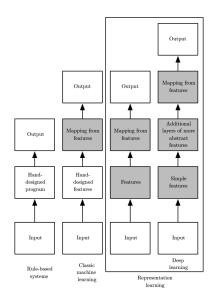
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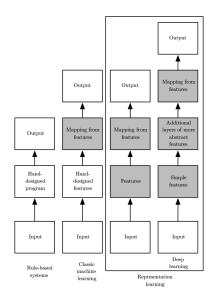
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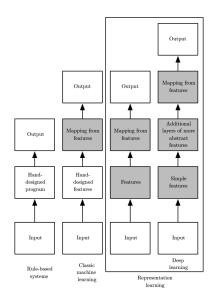
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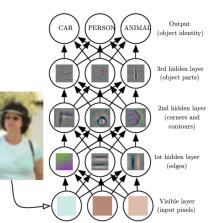


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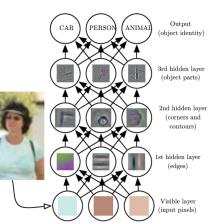
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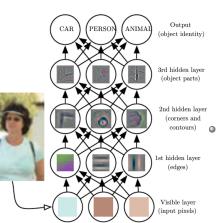
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- In deep learning, features/presentations are *distributed*



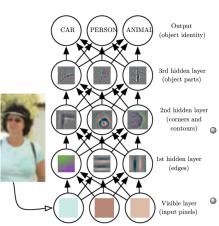
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 - Layer 2: 1, 2, 0.5 for [corner], [circle], and [curve] respectively



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- To be fed into the factors in the next (deeper) level

• Face = 0.3 * 1 + 0.7 * 2

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Curse of Dimensionality



• Most classic nonlinear ML models find θ by assuming function smoothness:

if
$$\boldsymbol{x} \sim \boldsymbol{x}^{(i)} \in \mathbb{X}$$
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• E.g., the non-parametric methods predict the label \hat{y} of x by simply interpolating the labels of examples $x^{(i)}$'s *close to* x:

$$\hat{y} = \sum_{i} \alpha_{i} y^{(i)} k(\mathbf{x}^{(i)}, \mathbf{x}) + b$$
, where $k(\mathbf{x}^{(i)}, \mathbf{x}) = \exp(-\gamma ||\mathbf{x}^{(i)} - \mathbf{x}||^{2})$

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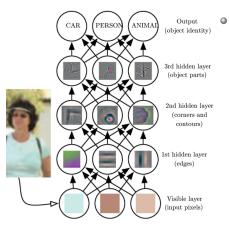
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 Suppose f is smooth within a bin, we need exponentially more examples to get a good interpolation as D increases

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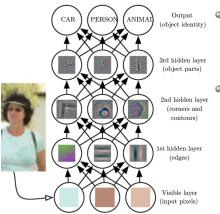
Exponential Gains from Depth I



 Functions representable with a deep rectifier NN require an exponential number of hidden units in a shallow NN [13]

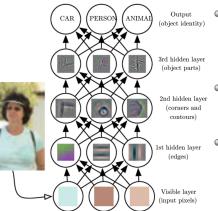
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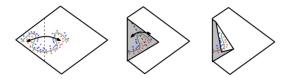
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• Face = 0.3 [corner] + 0.7 [circle]

- With a shallow structure, a deep factor needs to be replaced by *exponentially many* factors
 - Face = 0.3 [0.5 [vertical] + 0.5 [horizontal]] + 0.7 [...]

Exponential Gains from Depth II

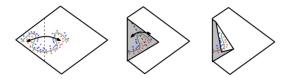
• Another example: an NN with absolute value rectification units



- Each hidden unit specifies where to fold the input space in order to create mirror responses (on both sides of the absolute value)
- A single fold in a deep layer creates an exponentially large number of piecewise linear regions in input space
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- This exponential gain counters the exponential challenges posed by the curse of dimensionality

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Gradient Descent (GD)

$$\begin{split} & \boldsymbol{w}^{(0)} \leftarrow \text{a randon vector;} \\ & \text{Repeat until convergence } \{ & \\ & \boldsymbol{w}^{(t+1)} \leftarrow \boldsymbol{w}^{(t)} - \eta \nabla_{\boldsymbol{w}} C_N(\boldsymbol{w}^{(t)}; \mathbb{X}); \\ & \} \end{split}$$

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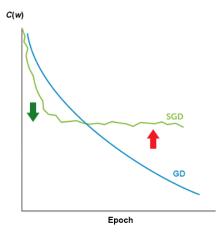
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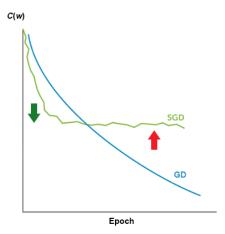
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GD vs. SGD



GD vs. SGD



• Is SGD really a better algorithm?

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Yes, If You Have Big Data

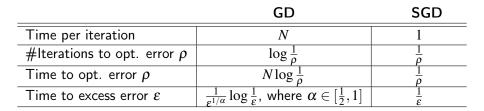


• Performance is limited by *training time*

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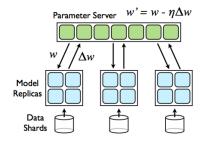
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Asymptotic Analysis [4]

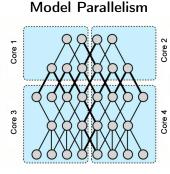


Parallelizing SGD

Data Parallelism



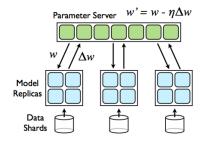
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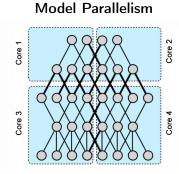
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The effectiveness depends on applications and available hardware
 E.g., CPU/GPU speed, communication latency, bandwidth, etc.

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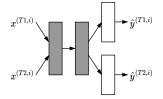
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- This a already supported by SGD

Muti-Task and Transfer Learning

- Multi-task learning: to learning a single model for multiple tasks
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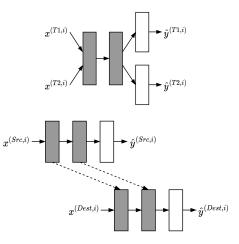
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- **Transfer learning**: to reuse the knowledge learned from one task to help another
 - Via pretrained layers (whose weights may be further updated when a smaller learning rate)



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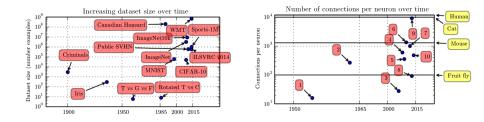
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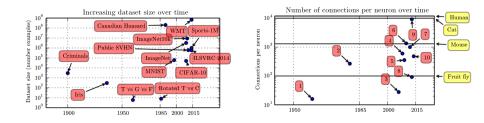
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Big Data + Big Models



9. COTS HPC unsupervised convolutional network [6]
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Big Data + Big Models



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 - With domain-specific architecture such as *convolutional NNs* (CNNs) and *recurrent NNs* (RNNs)

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Large-Scale ML

Outline

1) When ML Meets Big Data

Advantages of Deep Learning

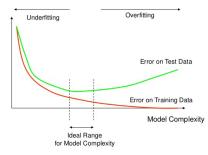
- Representation Learning
- Exponential Gain of Expressiveness
- Memory and GPU Friendliness
- Online & Transfer Learning

3 Learning Theory Revisited

- Generalizability and Over-Parametrization
- Wide-and-Deep NN is a Gaussian Process before Training*
- Gradient Descent is an Affine Transformation*
- Wide-and-Deep NN is a Gaussian Process after Training*

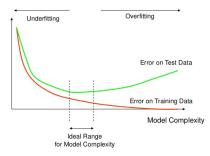
Over-Parametrized NNs

- Let $D^{(l)}$ be the output dimension ("width") of a layer $f^{(l)}(\cdot; \theta^{(l)})$ of an NN
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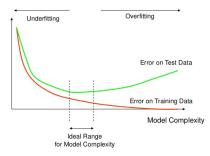
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- However, as *D* grows, the generalizability actually *increases* [20]; i.e., over-parametrization leads to better performance
- Why such a paradox?

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Large-Scale ML

Wide-and-Deep NNs as Gaussian Processes

- Recent studies [10, 9, 11] show that a wide NN of any depth can be approximated by a Gaussian process (GP)
 - Either before, during, or after training
- Recall that a GP is a non-parametric model whose complexity depends only on the size of training set |X| and the hyperparameters of kernel function $k(\cdot, \cdot)$:

$$\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{y}_N \\ \mathbf{y}_M \end{bmatrix} \sim \mathcal{N}(\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{m}_N \\ \mathbf{m}_M \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{K}_{N,N} & \mathbf{K}_{N,M} \\ \mathbf{K}_{M,N} & \mathbf{K}_{M,M} \end{bmatrix}$$

with Bayesian inference for test points \mathbb{X}' :

$$\mathbf{P}(\mathbf{y}_{M} | \mathbb{X}', \mathbb{X}) = \mathscr{N}(\mathbf{K}_{M,N}\mathbf{K}_{N,N}^{-1}\mathbf{y}_{N}, \mathbf{K}_{M,M} - \mathbf{K}_{M,N}\mathbf{K}_{N,N}^{-1}\mathbf{K}_{N,M})$$

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Therefore, wide-and-deep NNs do not overfit as one may expect
 The *D*, once becoming large, does *not* reflect true model complexity

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Large-Scale ML

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Generalizability and Over-Parametrization

Wide-and-Deep NN is a Gaussian Process before Training*

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Example: NN for Regression

• For simplicity, we consider an *L*-layer NN $f(\cdot; \theta)$ for the regression problem:

$$f(\mathbf{x}; \mathbf{\theta}) = \mathbf{a}^{(l)} = \phi^{(l)}(\mathbf{W}^{(l)\top}\mathbf{a}^{(l-1)} + \mathbf{b}^{(l)}), \text{ for } l = 1, \dots, L,$$

where

- the activation functions $\phi^{(1)}(\cdot) = \cdots = \phi^{(L-1)}(\cdot) \equiv \phi(\cdot)$ and $\phi^{(L-1)}(\cdot)$ is an identify function
- $a^{(0)} = x$ and $\hat{y} = a^{(L)} = z^{(L)} \in \mathbb{R}$ the mean of a Gaussian
- $\boldsymbol{\theta}^{(l)} = \operatorname{vec}(\boldsymbol{W}^{(l)}, \boldsymbol{b}^{(l)}) \text{ and } \boldsymbol{\theta} = \operatorname{vec}(\boldsymbol{\theta}^{(1)}, \cdots, \boldsymbol{\theta}^{(L)})$

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 a⁽⁰⁾ = x and ŷ = a^(L) = z^(L) ∈ ℝ the mean of a Gaussian
 θ^(l) = vec(W^(l), b^(l)) and θ = vec(θ⁽¹⁾, ···, θ^(L))
 Let ŷ_N = [f(x⁽¹⁾; θ), ···, f(x^(N); θ)]^T ∈ ℝ^N be the predictions for the points in training set X = {(x^(l), y^(l))}^N_{i=1} = {X_N ∈ ℝ^{N×D⁽⁰⁾}, y_N ∈ ℝ^N}
- Maximum-likelihood estimation:

$$\arg\max_{\theta} \mathbf{P}(\mathbb{X} \mid \theta) = \arg\min_{\theta} C(\hat{\mathbf{y}}_N, \mathbf{y}_N) = \arg\min_{\theta} \frac{1}{2} \|\hat{\mathbf{y}}_N - \mathbf{y}_N\|^2$$

Weight Initialization and Normalization

$$\boldsymbol{a}^{(l)} = \boldsymbol{\phi}^{(l)}(\boldsymbol{W}^{(l)\top}\boldsymbol{a}^{(l-1)} + \boldsymbol{b}^{(l)})$$

• Common initialization: $W_{i,j}^{(l)} \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma_w^2)$ and $b_i^{(l)} \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma_b^2)$

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- To normalize the forward and backward gradient signals w.r.t. layer width $D^{(l)}$, we can define an equivalent NN:

$$\boldsymbol{a}^{(l)} = \boldsymbol{\phi}^{(l)}(\boldsymbol{W}^{(l)\top}\boldsymbol{a}^{(l-1)} + \boldsymbol{b}^{(l)}),$$

where $W_{i,j}^{(l)} = \frac{\sigma_w}{\sqrt{D^{(l-1)}}} \boldsymbol{\omega}_{i,j}^{(l)}$, $\boldsymbol{b}_i^{(l)} = \sigma_b \boldsymbol{\beta}_i^{(l)}$, and $\boldsymbol{\omega}_{i,j}^{(l)}, \boldsymbol{\beta}_i^{(l)} \sim \mathcal{N}(0,1)$

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- Since $\omega_j^{(l)}$'s and $\beta^{(l)}$ are Gaussian random variables with zero means, their sum \hat{y} is also a zero-mean Gaussian
- Now consider the predictions $\hat{y}_N = [\hat{y}(\boldsymbol{x}^{(1)}), \cdots, \hat{y}(\boldsymbol{x}^{(N)})]^\top \in \mathbb{R}^N$ for N points, we have

$$\begin{bmatrix} \hat{y}(\boldsymbol{x}^{(1)}) \\ \vdots \\ \hat{y}(\boldsymbol{x}^{(N)}) \end{bmatrix} = \frac{\sigma_{w}}{\sqrt{D^{(l-1)}}} \Sigma_{j} \boldsymbol{\omega}_{j,i}^{(l)} \begin{bmatrix} \boldsymbol{\phi}(z_{j}^{(l-1)}(\boldsymbol{x}^{(1)})) \\ \vdots \\ \boldsymbol{\phi}(z_{j}^{(l-1)}(\boldsymbol{x}^{(N)})) \end{bmatrix} + \sigma_{b} \boldsymbol{\beta}_{i}^{(l)} \mathbf{1}_{N}$$

• As $D^{(L-1)} \to \infty$, by multidimensional Central Limit Theorem, \hat{y} is a multivariate Gaussian with mean $\mathbf{0}_N$ and covariance Σ

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Large-Scale ML

Wide-and-Deep NN as a Gaussian Process

- The covariance Σ completely describes the behavior of our NN $\hat{y}(\cdot)=f(\cdot)$ over N points
- Furthermore, we will show that Σ can be describe by a *deterministic* kernel function $k^{(L)}(\cdot, \cdot)$ independent of a particular initialization such that

$$\Sigma = \begin{bmatrix} k^{(L)}(\boldsymbol{x}^{(1)}, \boldsymbol{x}^{(1)}) & \cdots & k^{(L)}(\boldsymbol{x}^{(1)}, \boldsymbol{x}^{(N)}) \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ k^{(L)}(\boldsymbol{x}^{(N)}, \boldsymbol{x}^{(1)}) & \cdots & k^{(L)}(\boldsymbol{x}^{(N)}, \boldsymbol{x}^{(N)}) \end{bmatrix} \equiv \boldsymbol{K}_{N,N}^{(L)}$$

• This implies that the NN is in correspondent with a GP called NN-GP:

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• What's the $k^{(L)}(\cdot, \cdot)$?

Deriving $k^{(1)}(\cdot, \cdot)$

• We use induction to show that $z_i^{(1)}(\cdot), z_i^{(2)}(\cdot), \cdots, z^{(L)}(\cdot) = \hat{y}(\cdot)$ are GPs, which are govern by kernels $k^{(1)}(\cdot, \cdot), \cdots, k^{(L)}(\cdot, \cdot)$ independent with *i*, respectively

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- Consider $z_i^{(1)}(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{\sigma_w}{\sqrt{D^{(0)}}} \Sigma_j \boldsymbol{\omega}_{j,i}^{(l)} x_j + \sigma_b \boldsymbol{\beta}_i^{(l)}$ a zero-mean Gaussian
- As $D^{(0)} \to \infty$, we have $[z_i^{(1)}(\mathbf{x}^{(1)}), \cdots, z_i^{(1)}(\mathbf{x}^{(N)})]^\top \sim N(\mathbf{0}_N, \mathbf{K}_{N,N}^{(1)})$ by multidimensional Central Limit Theorem, where

$$\begin{split} k^{(1)}(\boldsymbol{x}, \boldsymbol{x}') &= \operatorname{Cov}[z_i^{(1)}(\boldsymbol{x}), z_i^{(1)}(\boldsymbol{x}')] = \operatorname{E}_{\boldsymbol{\omega}_{:,i}^{(l)}, \beta_i^{(l)}}[z_i^{(1)}(\boldsymbol{x}) z_i^{(1)}(\boldsymbol{x}')] \\ &= \frac{\sigma_w^2}{D^{(0)}} \operatorname{E} \left[\Sigma_{j,k} \boldsymbol{\omega}_{j,i}^{(l)} \boldsymbol{\omega}_{k,i}^{(l)} x_j x_k' \right] + \frac{\sigma_w \sigma_b}{\sqrt{D^{(0)}}} \operatorname{E} \left[\beta_i^{(l)} \Sigma_j \boldsymbol{\omega}_{j,i}^{(l)} x_j \right] \\ &\quad + \frac{\sigma_w \sigma_b}{\sqrt{D^{(0)}}} \operatorname{E} \left[\beta_i^{(l)} \Sigma_j \boldsymbol{\omega}_{j,i}^{(l)} x_j' \right] + \sigma_b^2 \operatorname{E} \left[\beta_i^{(l)} \beta_i^{(l)} \right] \\ &= \frac{\sigma_w^2}{D^{(0)}} \Sigma_j \operatorname{E} \left[\boldsymbol{\omega}_{j,i}^{(l)} \boldsymbol{\omega}_{j,i}^{(l)} \right] x_j x_j' + \sigma_b^2 \operatorname{E} \left[\beta_i^{(l)} \beta_i^{(l)} \right] \\ &= \frac{\sigma_w^2}{D^{(0)}} \mathbf{x}^\top \mathbf{x}' + \sigma_b^2, \end{split}$$

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 $\bullet~$ Note that $z_i^{(1)}(\cdot)$ and $z_j^{(1)}(\cdot)$ are independent with each other, $\forall i \neq j$

Deriving $k^{(l)}(\cdot, \cdot)$ • Given that $D^{(0)} \to \infty, \cdots, D^{(l-2)} \to \infty$ and • $[z_i^{(l-1)}(\mathbf{x}^{(1)}), \cdots, z_i^{(l-1)}(\mathbf{x}^{(N)})]^\top \sim N(\mathbf{0}_N, \mathbf{K}_{N,N}^{(l-1)})$ • $z_i^{(l-1)}(\cdot)$ and $z_i^{(l-1)}(\cdot)$ are independent with each other, $\forall i \neq j$

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where

$$\mathbf{K}_{2,2}^{(l-1)} = \begin{bmatrix} k^{(l-1)}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}) & k^{(l-1)}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}') \\ k^{(l-1)}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}') & k^{(l-1)}(\mathbf{x}', \mathbf{x}') \end{bmatrix}$$

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Large-Scale ML

Evaluating $K^{(l)}$

- For certain activation functions $\phi(\cdot)$, such as tanh and ReLU, $k^{(l)}(x,x')$ has a closed form [10]
- For other $\phi(\cdot)$'s, Markov Chain Monte Carlo (MCMC) sampling is required to devaluate $k^{(l)}(x,x')$

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1) When ML Meets Big Data

Advantages of Deep Learning

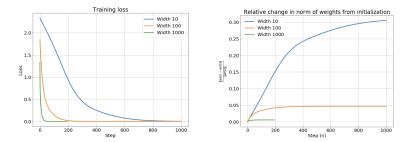
- Representation Learning
- Exponential Gain of Expressiveness
- Memory and GPU Friendliness
- Online & Transfer Learning

3 Learning Theory Revisited

- Generalizability and Over-Parametrization
- Wide-and-Deep NN is a Gaussian Process before Training*
- Gradient Descent is an Affine Transformation*
- Wide-and-Deep NN is a Gaussian Process after Training*

Weight Dynamics

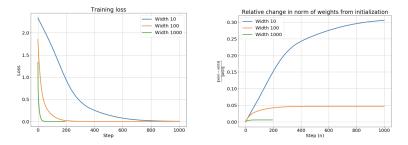
Observation: the weights of a wide NN do not change much during gradient descent



• Why?

Weight Dynamics

 Observation: the weights of a wide NN do not change much during gradient descent



- Why? A small change in a large number of neurons is enough to significantly change the output
- This allows us to approximate an NN $f(\cdot; \theta)$ *w.r.t. weights* using the first-order Taylor expansion

Linearization of $f(\cdot; \theta)$

- Let $\theta^{(t)}$ be the parameters of the NN at the *t*-th step of gradient descent
 - $\hat{y}_N^{(t)} = [f(\mathbf{x}^{(1)}; \boldsymbol{\theta}^{(t)}), \cdots, f(\mathbf{x}^{(N)}; \boldsymbol{\theta}^{(t)})]^\top$ be the predictions over training points
- Since $\theta^{(t)}$ is close to $\theta^{(0)}$ at any time *t*, we can approximate $f(\cdot; \theta^{(t)})$ using the first-order Taylor expansion *w.r.t.* $\theta^{(t)}$ around $\theta^{(0)}$:

$$f(\boldsymbol{x}, \boldsymbol{\theta}^{(t)}) \approx \bar{f}(\boldsymbol{x}, \boldsymbol{\theta}^{(t)}) = f(\boldsymbol{x}, \boldsymbol{\theta}^{(0)}) + \nabla_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} f(\boldsymbol{x}, \boldsymbol{\theta}^{(0)})^{\top} (\boldsymbol{\theta}^{(t)} - \boldsymbol{\theta}^{(0)})$$

• \bar{f} is still *non-linear in terms of* x• Let $\bar{y}_N^{(t)} = [\bar{f}(x^{(1)}; \theta^{(t)}), \cdots, \bar{f}(x^{(N)}; \theta^{(t)})]^\top$ be the predictions of \bar{f} at time t

Weight and Prediction Dynamics

$$f(\boldsymbol{x},\boldsymbol{\theta}^{(t)}) \approx \bar{f}(\boldsymbol{x},\boldsymbol{\theta}^{(t)}) = f(\boldsymbol{x},\boldsymbol{\theta}^{(0)}) + \nabla_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} f(\boldsymbol{x},\boldsymbol{\theta}^{(0)})^{\top} (\boldsymbol{\theta}^{(t)} - \boldsymbol{\theta}^{(0)})$$

ullet Gradient descent with learning rate η makes the following changes:

$$\begin{aligned} \boldsymbol{\theta}^{(t+1)} - \boldsymbol{\theta}^{(t)} &\approx -\eta \nabla_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} C(\bar{\mathbf{y}}_{N}^{(t)}, \mathbf{y}_{N}) \\ &= -\eta \nabla_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} \bar{\mathbf{y}}_{N}^{(t)} \nabla_{\bar{\mathbf{y}}_{N}^{(t)}} C(\bar{\mathbf{y}}_{N}^{(t)}, \mathbf{y}_{N}) \\ &= -\eta \nabla_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} \hat{\mathbf{y}}_{N}^{(0)} \nabla_{\bar{\mathbf{y}}_{N}^{(t)}} C(\bar{\mathbf{y}}_{N}^{(t)}, \mathbf{y}_{N}) \end{aligned}$$

and

$$ar{\mathbf{y}}_N^{(t+1)} - ar{\mathbf{y}}_N^{(t)} =
abla_{oldsymbol{ heta}} ar{\mathbf{y}}_N^{(0) op} egin{aligned} oldsymbol{ heta}(\mathbf{0}^{(t+1)} - oldsymbol{ heta}^{(t)}) \ pprox - oldsymbol{ heta}_{oldsymbol{ heta}} ar{\mathbf{y}}_N^{(0) op} ar{\mathbf{y}}_N^{(0) op}
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abla_N^{(t)} C(ar{\mathbf{y}}_N^{(t)}, oldsymbol{y}_N), \ oldsymbol{ heta}_{N imes D} ar{\mathbf{y}}_N^{(t)} D_{ imes N}
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where $T_{N,N}^{(0)} \equiv \nabla_{\theta} \hat{y}_{N}^{(0) \top} \nabla_{\theta} \hat{y}_{N}^{(0)} \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times N}$ is called the *Neural Tangent Kernel (NTK)* matrix

Prediction Dynamics in Regression

• In regression where $C(ar{m{y}}_N^{(0)},m{y}_N)=rac{1}{2}\|ar{m{y}}_N^{(0)}-m{y}_N\|^2$, we have

$$\bar{\mathbf{y}}_{N}^{(t+1)} - \bar{\mathbf{y}}_{N}^{(t)} \approx -\eta \mathbf{T}_{N,N}^{(0)} \nabla_{\bar{\mathbf{y}}_{N}^{(t)}} C(\bar{\mathbf{y}}_{N}^{(t)}, \mathbf{y}_{N}) = -\eta \mathbf{T}_{N,N}^{(0)}(\bar{\mathbf{y}}_{N}^{(t)} - \mathbf{y}_{N})$$

 With a sufficiently small learning rate η, we can think t as continuous time and each GD step as Δt, where

$$\lim_{\Delta t\to 0} \frac{\bar{\mathbf{y}}_{N}^{(t+\Delta t)} - \bar{\mathbf{y}}_{N}^{(t)}}{\Delta t} = \frac{\partial \bar{\mathbf{y}}_{N}^{(t)}}{\partial t} \approx -\eta \boldsymbol{T}_{N,N}^{(0)} (\bar{\mathbf{y}}_{N}^{(t)} - \mathbf{y}_{N})$$

• Letting $\boldsymbol{u}^{(t)} = \bar{\boldsymbol{y}}_N^{(t)} - \boldsymbol{y}_N$, we have an ordinary differential equation:

$$egin{aligned} &rac{\partial ar{m{y}}_N^{(t)}}{\partial t} pprox -m{\eta} m{T}_{N,N}^{(0)}(ar{m{y}}_N^{(t)} - m{y}_N) \ &\Rightarrow rac{\partial m{u}^{(t)}}{\partial t} pprox -m{\eta} m{T}_{N,N}^{(0)}m{u}^{(t)} \end{aligned}$$

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• Therefore, $u^{(t)} = e^{-\eta T_{N,N}^{(0)} t} u^{(0)}$

• Recall that $e^{At} = \frac{1}{0!}I + \frac{t}{1!}A + \frac{t^2}{2!}A^2 + \cdots$ for a symmetric A

So,
$$\frac{\partial e^{At}}{\partial t} = \frac{1}{0!}A + \frac{t}{1!}A^2 + \dots = (\frac{1}{0!}I + \frac{t}{1!}A + \dots)A = Ae^{At}$$

This implies that

$$\bar{\mathbf{y}}_{N}^{(t)} = e^{-\eta T_{N,N}^{(0)} t} \bar{\mathbf{y}}_{N}^{(0)} + (\mathbf{I} - e^{-\eta T_{N,N}^{(0)} t}) \mathbf{y}_{N} = e^{-\eta T_{N,N}^{(0)} t} \hat{\mathbf{y}}_{N}^{(0)} + (\mathbf{I} - e^{-\eta T_{N,N}^{(0)} t}) \mathbf{y}_{N}$$
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Weight Dynamics in Regression

• By definition of $\bar{y}_N^{(t)}$, we also have $\bar{y}_N^{(t)} = \hat{y}_N^{(0)} + \nabla_{\theta} \hat{y}_N^{(0)\top} (\theta^{(t)} - \theta^{(0)})$ • Solving $\theta^{(t)}$ in

$$e^{-\eta \mathbf{T}_{N,N}^{(0)} t} \hat{\mathbf{y}}_{N}^{(0)} + (\mathbf{I} - e^{-\eta \mathbf{T}_{N,N}^{(0)} t}) \mathbf{y}_{N} = \hat{\mathbf{y}}_{N}^{(0)} + \nabla_{\theta} \hat{\mathbf{y}}_{N}^{(0)\top} (\boldsymbol{\theta}^{(t)} - \boldsymbol{\theta}^{(0)}),$$

we have

$$\boldsymbol{\theta}^{(t)} = \boldsymbol{\theta}^{(0)} - \nabla_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} \hat{\boldsymbol{y}}_{N}^{(0)} \boldsymbol{T}_{N,N}^{(0)-1} (\boldsymbol{I} - e^{-\eta \boldsymbol{T}_{N,N}^{(0)} t}) (\hat{\boldsymbol{y}}_{N}^{(0)} - \boldsymbol{y}_{N})$$

Predictions of Trained NN

- Substituting $\boldsymbol{\theta}^{(t)}$ in $\bar{\boldsymbol{y}}_N^{(t)} = \hat{\boldsymbol{y}}_N^{(0)} + \nabla_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} \hat{\boldsymbol{y}}_N^{(0)\top} (\boldsymbol{\theta}^{(t)} \boldsymbol{\theta}^{(0)})$, we have that:
- For an arbitrary (training or test) point x', the prediction of trained NN is

$$f(\mathbf{x}', \boldsymbol{\theta}^{(t)}) \approx \bar{f}(\mathbf{x}'; \boldsymbol{\theta}^{(t)}) = \mathbf{p}^{\top} \begin{bmatrix} \hat{\mathbf{y}}_{N}^{(0)} \\ \hat{\mathbf{y}}^{\prime(0)} \end{bmatrix} + q,$$

where

$$p = [-T_{1',N}^{(0)} T_{N,N}^{(0)-1} (I - e^{-\eta T_{N,N}^{(0)} t}), 1]^{\top} \in \mathbb{R}^{N+1},$$

$$q = T_{1',N}^{(0)} T_{N,N}^{(0)-1} (I - e^{-\eta T_{N,N}^{(0)} t}) y_{N}$$

•
$$T_{N,N}^{(0)} = \nabla_{\theta} \hat{y}_N^{(0)\top} \nabla_{\theta} \hat{y}_N^{(0)} \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times N}$$
 is the NTK matrix for X_N
• $T_{1',N}^{(0)} = \nabla_{\theta} \hat{y}'^{(0)\top} \nabla_{\theta} \hat{y}_N^{(0)} \in \mathbb{R}^{1 \times N}$ is the NTK matrix between x' and X_N

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where

$$\begin{aligned} \boldsymbol{p} &= [-\boldsymbol{T}_{1',N}^{(0)} \boldsymbol{T}_{N,N}^{(0)-1} (\boldsymbol{I} - e^{-\eta \boldsymbol{T}_{N,N}^{(0)} t}), 1]^{\top} \in \mathbb{R}^{N+1}, \\ q &= \boldsymbol{T}_{1',N}^{(0)} \boldsymbol{T}_{N,N}^{(0)-1} (\boldsymbol{I} - e^{-\eta \boldsymbol{T}_{N,N}^{(0)} t}) \boldsymbol{y}_{N} \end{aligned}$$

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• No actual training needed!

Gradient Descent as an Affine Transformation

Theorem (NTK in infinite width)

As the NN's width goes to infinity, $T_{N,N}^{(0)}$ and $T_{1',N}^{(0)}$ converges to $T_{N,N}$ and $T_{1',N}$, which can be described by a **deterministic** kernel function $\tau^{(L)}(\cdot, \cdot)$ independent of a particular initialization [9, 11].

- That is, each element $T_{i,j} = au^{(L)}(m{x}^{(i)},m{x}^{(j)})$
- $\tau^{(L)}(\cdot,\cdot)$ depends only on the network structure and hyperparameters of initial weights
- $\tau^{(L)}(\cdot,\cdot)$ has a closed form for certain activation functions $\phi(\cdot)$'s, including erf and ReLU

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•
$$f(\mathbf{x}', \boldsymbol{\theta}^{(t)}) \approx \mathbf{p}^{\top} \begin{bmatrix} \hat{\mathbf{y}}^{(0)} \\ \hat{\mathbf{y}}'^{(0)} \end{bmatrix} + q$$
 is an *affine transformation* of a random vector $\begin{bmatrix} \hat{\mathbf{y}}^{(0)} \\ \hat{\mathbf{y}}'^{(0)} \end{bmatrix}$

NTK in Infinite Width

- Consider the pre-activations $z_i^{(1)}(\cdot), z_i^{(2)}(\cdot), \cdots, z^{(L)}(\cdot) = \hat{y}^{(0)}(\cdot)$ at different layers at time 0
- Let $\nabla_{\theta^{(\leq 1)}} z_i^{(1)}(\cdot), \nabla_{\theta^{(\leq 2)}} z_i^{(2)}(\cdot), \cdots, \nabla_{\theta^{(\leq L)}} z^{(L)}(\cdot) = \nabla_{\theta} \hat{y}^{(0)}(\cdot)$ be the corresponding derivatives • $\theta^{(\leq l)} \equiv \operatorname{vec}(\theta^{(1)}, \cdots, \theta^{(l)})$
- We use induction to show that, when $D
 ightarrow \infty$, we have

$$\begin{split} \nabla_{\boldsymbol{\theta}^{(\leq l)}} z_{i}^{(l)}(\boldsymbol{x})^{\top} \nabla_{\boldsymbol{\theta}^{(\leq l)}} z_{i}^{(l)}(\boldsymbol{x}') &= \tau^{(l)}(\boldsymbol{x}, \boldsymbol{x}') \\ &= k^{(l)}(\boldsymbol{x}, \boldsymbol{x}') + \\ \sigma_{w}^{2} \tau^{(l-1)}(\boldsymbol{x}, \boldsymbol{x}') \mathrm{E}_{(z_{i}^{(l-1)}(\boldsymbol{x}), z_{i}^{(l-1)}(\boldsymbol{x}')) \sim \mathcal{N}(\boldsymbol{0}_{2}, \boldsymbol{K}_{2,2}^{(l-1)})} \left[\boldsymbol{\phi}'(z_{i}^{(l-1)}(\boldsymbol{x})) \boldsymbol{\phi}'(z_{i}^{(l-1)}(\boldsymbol{x}')) \right] \end{split}$$

at any layer *l*, and
$$\tau^{(1)}(\mathbf{x},\mathbf{x}') = k^{(1)}(\mathbf{x},\mathbf{x}')$$

• $\tau^{(l)}(\cdot,\cdot)$ is independent of *i*

Deriving
$$au^{(1)}(\cdot,\cdot)$$

• At the first layer, we have

$$\nabla_{\boldsymbol{\theta}^{(\leq 1)}} z_i^{(1)}(\boldsymbol{x})^\top \nabla_{\boldsymbol{\theta}^{(\leq 1)}} z_i^{(1)}(\boldsymbol{x}') = \frac{\sigma_w^2}{D^{(0)}} \boldsymbol{x}^\top \boldsymbol{x}' + \sigma_b^2 = k^{(1)}(\boldsymbol{x}, \boldsymbol{x}')$$

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as $D^{(0)}
ightarrow \infty$

• Now, assume that when $D^{(0)} \to \infty, \cdots, D^{(l-2)} \to \infty$, $\nabla_{\theta^{(\leq l-1)}} z_i^{(l-1)}(\mathbf{x})^\top \nabla_{\theta^{(\leq l-1)}} z_i^{(l-1)}(\mathbf{x}') = \tau^{(l-1)}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}')$ holds

Deriving $au^{(l)}(\cdot\,,\,\cdot)$ I

• At the *l*-th layer, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \nabla_{\boldsymbol{\theta}^{(\leq l)}} z_i^{(l)}(\boldsymbol{x})^\top \nabla_{\boldsymbol{\theta}^{(\leq l)}} z_i^{(l)}(\boldsymbol{x}') \\ &= [\nabla_{\boldsymbol{\theta}^{(l)}} z_i^{(l)}(\boldsymbol{x}), \nabla_{\boldsymbol{\theta}^{(\leq l-1)}} z_i^{(l)}(\boldsymbol{x})] [\nabla_{\boldsymbol{\theta}^{(l)}} z_i^{(l)}(\boldsymbol{x}'), \nabla_{\boldsymbol{\theta}^{(\leq l-1)}} z_i^{(l)}(\boldsymbol{x}')]^\top \\ &= \nabla_{\boldsymbol{\theta}^{(l)}} z_i^{(l)}(\boldsymbol{x})^\top \nabla_{\boldsymbol{\theta}^{(l)}} z_i^{(l)}(\boldsymbol{x}') + \nabla_{\boldsymbol{\theta}^{(\leq l-1)}} z_i^{(l)}(\boldsymbol{x})^\top \nabla_{\boldsymbol{\theta}^{(\leq l-1)}} z_i^{(l)}(\boldsymbol{x}') \end{aligned}$$

Deriving $au^{(l)}(\cdot\,,\,\cdot)$ I

• At the *l*-th layer, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \nabla_{\boldsymbol{\theta}^{(\leq l)}} z_i^{(l)}(\boldsymbol{x})^\top \nabla_{\boldsymbol{\theta}^{(\leq l)}} z_i^{(l)}(\boldsymbol{x}') \\ &= [\nabla_{\boldsymbol{\theta}^{(l)}} z_i^{(l)}(\boldsymbol{x}), \nabla_{\boldsymbol{\theta}^{(\leq l-1)}} z_i^{(l)}(\boldsymbol{x})] [\nabla_{\boldsymbol{\theta}^{(l)}} z_i^{(l)}(\boldsymbol{x}'), \nabla_{\boldsymbol{\theta}^{(\leq l-1)}} z_i^{(l)}(\boldsymbol{x}')]^\top \\ &= \nabla_{\boldsymbol{\theta}^{(l)}} z_i^{(l)}(\boldsymbol{x})^\top \nabla_{\boldsymbol{\theta}^{(l)}} z_i^{(l)}(\boldsymbol{x}') + \nabla_{\boldsymbol{\theta}^{(\leq l-1)}} z_i^{(l)}(\boldsymbol{x})^\top \nabla_{\boldsymbol{\theta}^{(\leq l-1)}} z_i^{(l)}(\boldsymbol{x}') \end{aligned}$$

• As $D^{(l-1)}
ightarrow \infty$, the first term

$$\nabla_{\boldsymbol{\theta}^{(l)}} z_i^{(l)}(\boldsymbol{x})^\top \nabla_{\boldsymbol{\theta}^{(l)}} z_i^{(l)}(\boldsymbol{x}') = \frac{\sigma_w^2}{D^{(l-1)}} \Sigma_j \phi(z_j^{(l-1)}(\boldsymbol{x})) \phi(z_j^{(l-1)}(\boldsymbol{x}')) + \sigma_b^2$$

converges to

$$\sigma_{w}^{2} \mathbb{E}_{(z_{i}^{(l-1)}(\boldsymbol{x}), z_{i}^{(l-1)}(\boldsymbol{x}')) \sim \mathscr{N}(\boldsymbol{0}_{2}, \boldsymbol{K}_{2,2}^{(l-1)})} \left[\phi(z_{i}^{(l-1)}(\boldsymbol{x})) \phi(z_{i}^{(l-1)}(\boldsymbol{x}')) \right] + \sigma_{b}^{2}$$

= $k^{(l)}(\boldsymbol{x}, \boldsymbol{x}')$

because $z_i^{(l-1)}(\cdot)$ and $z_j^{(l-1)}(\cdot)$ are i.i.d.

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Large-Scale ML

Deriving $\tau^{(l)}(\cdot\,,\,\cdot)$ II

• Consider the second term

$$\begin{split} \nabla_{\theta^{(\leq l-1)}} & z_{i}^{(l)}(\mathbf{x})^{\top} \nabla_{\theta^{(\leq l-1)}} z_{i}^{(l)}(\mathbf{x}') \\ &= \nabla_{z^{(l-1)}(\mathbf{x})} z_{i}^{(l)}(\mathbf{x})^{\top} \nabla_{\theta^{(\leq l-1)}} \overline{z}^{(l-1)}(\mathbf{x})^{\top} \nabla_{\theta^{(\leq l-1)}} \overline{z}^{(l-1)}(\mathbf{x}') \nabla_{z^{(l-1)}(\mathbf{x})} z_{i}^{(l)}(\mathbf{x}') \\ &= \nabla_{z^{(l-1)}(\mathbf{x})} z_{i}^{(l)}(\mathbf{x})^{\top} \begin{bmatrix} \tau^{(l-1)}(\mathbf{x},\mathbf{x}') & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \ddots & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \tau^{(l-1)}(\mathbf{x},\mathbf{x}') \end{bmatrix} \nabla_{z^{(l-1)}(\mathbf{x})} z_{i}^{(l)}(\mathbf{x}) \\ &= \tau^{(l-1)}(\mathbf{x},\mathbf{x}') \Sigma_{j} \frac{\partial z_{i}^{(l)}(\mathbf{x})}{\partial z_{j}^{(l-1)}(\mathbf{x})} \cdot \frac{\partial z_{i}^{(l)}(\mathbf{x}')}{\partial z_{j}^{(l-1)}(\mathbf{x}')} \\ &= \tau^{(l-1)}(\mathbf{x},\mathbf{x}') \frac{\sigma_{w}^{2}}{D^{(l-1)}} \Sigma_{j} \omega_{j,i}^{(l)} \omega_{j,i}^{(l)} \phi'(z_{j}^{(l-1)}(\mathbf{x})) \phi'(z_{j}^{(l-1)}(\mathbf{x}')) \end{split}$$

 ${\ } \bullet \ \, {\rm As} \ \, D^{(l-1)} \rightarrow \infty {\rm , \ it \ \, becomes}$

$$\sigma_{w}^{2}\tau^{(l-1)}(\mathbf{x},\mathbf{x}') \mathbf{E}_{(z_{i}^{(l-1)}(\mathbf{x}), z_{i}^{(l-1)}(\mathbf{x}')) \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}_{2}, \mathbf{K}_{2,2}^{(l-1)})} \left[\phi'(z_{i}^{(l-1)}(\mathbf{x})) \phi'(z_{i}^{(l-1)}(\mathbf{x}')) \right]$$

Outline

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Wide-and-Deep NN as a Gaussian Process I

• As $D \rightarrow \infty$, randomly initialized NN has a corresponding NN-GP:

$$\begin{bmatrix} \hat{\mathbf{y}}_N \\ \hat{\mathbf{y}}_M \end{bmatrix} \sim \mathcal{N}(\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{0}_N \\ \mathbf{0}_M \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{K}_{N,N}^{(L)} & \mathbf{K}_{N,M}^{(L)} \\ \mathbf{K}_{M,N}^{(L)} & \mathbf{K}_{M,M}^{(L)} \end{bmatrix})$$

• As $D \to \infty$, GD-based training is an affine transformation:

$$f(\mathbf{x}', \boldsymbol{\theta}^{(t)}) \approx \bar{f}(\mathbf{x}'; \boldsymbol{\theta}^{(t)}) = \mathbf{p}^{\top} \begin{bmatrix} \hat{\mathbf{y}}_N^{(0)} \\ \hat{\mathbf{y}}'^{(0)} \end{bmatrix} + q$$

where

•
$$p = [-T_{1',N}T_{N,N}^{-1}(I - e^{-\eta T_{N,N}t}), 1]^{\top} \in \mathbb{R}^{N+1}$$

• $q = T_{1',N}T_{N,N}^{-1}(I - e^{-\eta T_{N,N}t})y_N$
• $T_{N,N}$ and $T_{1',N}$ the NTK matrices

Wide-and-Deep NN as a Gaussian Process II

• Therefore, as $D \rightarrow \infty$, the trained NN is still in correspondent with a GP, called *NTK-GP*, whose predictions for *M* test points are

$$\begin{bmatrix} \hat{\mathbf{y}}_N \\ \hat{\mathbf{y}}_M \end{bmatrix} \sim \mathcal{N}(\begin{bmatrix} A\mathbf{y}_N \\ B\mathbf{y}_N \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{C}^\top \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{K}_{N,N}^{(L)} & \mathbf{K}_{N,M}^{(L)} \\ \mathbf{K}_{M,N}^{(L)} & \mathbf{K}_{M,M}^{(L)} \end{bmatrix} \mathbf{C}),$$

where

•
$$A = (I - e^{-\eta T_{N,N}t}) \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times N}$$

• $B = T_{M,N}T_{N,N}^{-1}(I - e^{-\eta T_{N,N}t}) \in \mathbb{R}^{M \times N}$
• $C = \begin{bmatrix} I_{N,N} - A & O_{N,M} \\ -B & I_{M,M} \end{bmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^{(N+M) \times (N+M)}$

Mean Predictions of NTK-GP

• Prior (unconditioned) mean predictions for training set:

$$\hat{\mathbf{y}}_N = A\mathbf{y}_N = (I - e^{-\eta T_{N,N}t})\mathbf{y}_N$$

- As $t \to \infty$, the \hat{y}_N always approaches true labels y_N
- This explains why the SGD-based training of large NNs seldom encounters significant obstacles such as local minima [8]

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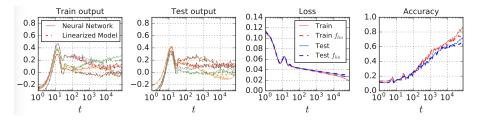
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- This explains why the SGD-based training of large NNs seldom encounters significant obstacles such as local minima [8]
- Prior mean predictions for test set:

$$\hat{\boldsymbol{y}}_{M} = \boldsymbol{B}\boldsymbol{y} = \boldsymbol{T}_{M,N}\boldsymbol{T}_{N,N}^{-1}(\boldsymbol{I} - \boldsymbol{e}^{-\eta \boldsymbol{T}_{N,N}t})\boldsymbol{y}_{N}$$

- As $t \to \infty$, we have $\hat{y}_M = T_{M,N} T_{N,N}^{-1} y_N$
- Weight hyperparameters are important because they determines $T_{M,N}T_{N,N}^{-1}$

Analytic vs. Real Predictions

- Wide residual network [19] trained by SGD with momentum on MSE loss on CIFAR-10
 - First two panes shows the output dynamics for a randomly selected subset of train and test points



Remarks

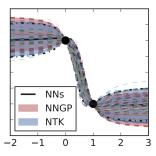
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 Either before, during, or after training
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Remarks

- Wide-and-deep NNs can be approximated by a class of GPs
 Either before, during, or after training
- Therefore, complexity of wide-and-deep NNs grows with N, not | heta|
- Applicable to other architectures including CNN [2, 16], RNN [17, 1], and any architecture [18]

Limitations

- Approximation holds only when the NNs have:
 - Infinite width
 - Small learning rate: $\eta < \frac{2}{\lambda_{\max} + \lambda_{\min}}$ where $\lambda_{\max/\min}$ is the max/min eigenvalue of $T_{N,N}$ [17]
 - Proper initialization (to be discussed next)
- The prior NTK-GP inference $\hat{y}_{NTK-GP} = T_{M,N}T_{N,N}^{-1}y_N$ is *inconsistent* with the Bayesian inference of NN-GP $\hat{y}_{NN-GP} = K_{M,N}K_{N,N}^{-1}y_N$
 - SGP introduces bias [3]



Reference I

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