Learning Deep Architectures

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Deep Motivations

- Brains have a deep architecture
- Humans organize their ideas hierarchically, through composition of simpler ideas
- Unsufficiently deep architectures can be exponentially inefficient
- Distributed (possibly sparse) representations are necessary to achieve non-local generalization, exponentially more efficient than 1-of-N enumeration latent variable values
- Multiple levels of latent variables allow combinatorial sharing of statistical strength
Architecture Depth

Depth = 4

Depth = 3
Deep Architectures are More Expressive

Theoretical arguments:

2 layers of
- Logic gates
- Formal neurons
- RBF units

= universal approximator

Theorems for all 3:
(Hastad et al 86 & 91, Bengio et al 2007)

Functions compactly represented with $k$ layers may require exponential size with $k-1$ layers
Deep Architectures and Sharing Statistical Strength, Multi-Task Learning

- Generalizing better to new tasks is crucial to approach AI
- Deep architectures learn good intermediate representations that can be shared across tasks
- A good representation is one that makes sense for many tasks
The Deep Breakthrough

- Before 2006, training deep architectures was unsuccessful, except for convolutional neural nets


Greedy Layer-Wise Pre-Training

Stacking Restricted Boltzmann Machines (RBM) → Deep Belief Network (DBN)
Boltzmann Machines and MRFs

- Boltzmann machines: 
  \[ P(x) = \frac{1}{Z} e^{-\text{Energy}(x)} = e^{c^T x + x^T W x} \]
  (Hinton 84)

- Markov Random Fields:
  \[ P(x) = \frac{1}{Z} e^{\sum_i w_i f_i(x)} \]

- More interesting with latent variables!
Restricted Boltzman Machine

- The most popular building block for deep architectures (Smolensky 86, Hinton 2002)
- Bipartite undirected graphical model

$$P(x, h) = \frac{1}{Z} e^{b^T h + c^T x + h^T W x}$$
Gibbs Sampling in RBMs

$h_1 \sim P(h \mid x_1)$

$h_2 \sim P(h \mid x_2)$

$h_3 \sim P(h \mid x_3)$

$x_1 \quad x_2 \sim P(x \mid h_1) \quad x_3 \sim P(x \mid h_2)$

$P(h \mid x) \text{ and } P(x \mid h) \text{ factorize}$

$P(x, h) = \frac{1}{Z} e^{b^T h + c^T x + h^T W x}$

- Easy inference
- Convenient Gibbs sampling
  $x \rightarrow h \rightarrow x \rightarrow h \ldots$
Problems with Gibbs Sampling

In practice, Gibbs sampling does not always mix well...

RBM trained by CD on MNIST

Chains from random state

Chains from real digits
Boltzmann Machine Gradient

\[ P(x) = \frac{1}{Z} \sum_h e^{-\text{Energy}(x,h)} = \frac{1}{Z} e^{-\text{FreeEnergy}(x)} \]

- Gradient has two components:
  
  \[ \frac{\partial \log P(x)}{\partial \theta} = -\sum_h P(h|x) \frac{\partial \text{Energy}(x,h)}{\partial \theta} + \sum_{\tilde{x},\tilde{h}} P(\tilde{x},\tilde{h}) \frac{\partial \text{Energy}(\tilde{x},\tilde{h})}{\partial \theta} \]

- In RBMs, easy to sample or sum over \( h \mid x \)
- Difficult part: sampling from \( P(x) \), typically with a Markov chain
Training RBMs

Contrastive Divergence: start negative Gibbs chain at observed x, run k Gibbs steps

(CD-k)

Persistent CD: run negative Gibbs chain in background while weights slowly change

(PCD)

Fast PCD: two sets of weights, one with a large learning rate only used for negative phase, quickly exploring modes

Herding: (see Max Welling’s ICML, UAI and ICML workshop talks)

Tempered MCMC: use higher temperature to escape modes
Contrastive Divergence

Contrastive Divergence (CD-k): start negative phase block
Gibbs chain at observed x, run k Gibbs steps (Hinton 2002)

h ~ P(h | x)

k = 2 steps

h' ~ P(h | x')

Observed x
positive phase

Sampled x'
negative phase

push down

push up

Free Energy

x

x'
Persistent CD (PCD)

Run negative Gibbs chain in background while weights slowly change (Younes 2000, Tieleman 2008):

- Guarantees (Younes 89, 2000; Yuille 2004)
- If learning rate decreases in $1/t$,
  chain mixes before parameters change too much,
  chain stays converged when parameters change

$$h \sim P(h \mid x)$$

- Observed $x$ (positive phase)
- Previous $x'$
- New $x'$
Persistent CD with Large Step Size

Negative phase samples quickly push up the energy of wherever they are and quickly move to another mode
Persistent CD with Large Step Size

Negative phase samples quickly push up the energy of wherever they are and quickly move to another mode.
Persistent CD with Large Step Size

Negative phase samples quickly push up the energy of wherever they are and quickly move to another mode.
Fast Persistent CD and Herding

- Exploit impressively faster mixing achieved when parameters change quickly (large learning rate) while sampling

- Fast PCD: two sets of weights, one with a large learning rate only used for negative phase, quickly exploring modes

- Herding (see Max Welling’s ICML, UAI and ICML workshop talks): 0-temperature MRFs and RBMs, only use fast weights
Herding MRFs

- Consider 0-temperature MRF with state $s$ and weights $w$

- Fully observed case, observe values $s^+$, dynamical system where $s^-$ and $W$ evolve

- Then statistics of samples $s^-$ match the data’s statistics, even if approximate max, as long as $w$ remains bounded

\[
\ell = E_{\text{data}} s^+ \left[ \sum_i w_i f_i(s^+) \right] - \max_s \sum_i w_i f_i(s) \\
\]

\[
s^- \leftarrow \arg\max_s \sum_i w_i f_i(s) \\
w \leftarrow w + E_{\text{data}} s^+ \left[ f(s^+) \right] - f(s^-) \\
E_{\text{samples}} s^- \left[ f(s^-) \right] = E_{\text{data}} s^+ \left[ f(s^+) \right] \]
Herding RBMs

- Hidden part $h$ of the state $s = (x, h)$
- Binomial state variables $s_i \in \{-1, 1\}$
- Statistics $f$ $S_i, S_i S_j$
- Optimize $h$ given $x$ in positive phase

$$
\ell = E_{data x^+} \left[ \max_h \sum_i w_i f_i (x^+, h) \right] - \max_s \sum_i w_i f_i (s) \\
\begin{align*}
s^- &\leftarrow \arg\max_s \sum_i w_i f_i (s) \\
w &\leftarrow w + E_{data x^+} \left[ \max_h f (x^+, h) \right] - f (s^-)
\end{align*}
$$

- In practice, greedy maximization works, exploiting RBM structure
Fast Mixing with Herding
Tempered MCMC

- Annealing from high-temperature worked well for estimating log-likelihood (AIS)
- Consider multiple chains at different temperatures and reversible swaps between adjacent chains
- Higher temperature chains can escape modes
- Model samples are from T=1

<table>
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<td>CD</td>
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Deep Belief Networks

- **Sampling:**
  - Sample from top RMB
  - Sample from level k given k+1
- **Easy approximate inference**
- **Training:**
  - Variational bound justifies greedy layerwise training of RBMs
  - How to train all levels together?

\[
\log P(x) \geq H_Q(h|x) + \sum_h Q(h|x) \left( \log P(h) + \log P(x|h) \right)
\]
Deep Boltzmann Machines
(Salakhutdinov et al, AISTATS 2009, Lee et al, ICML 2009)

- Positive phase: variational approximation (mean-field)
- Negative phase: persistent chain
- Can (must) initialize from stacked RBMs
- Improved performance on MNIST from 1.2% to .95% error
- Can apply AIS with 2 hidden layers
Estimating Log-Likelihood

- RBMs: requires estimating partition function
  - Reconstruction error provides a cheap proxy
  - Log Z tractable analytically for < 25 binary inputs or hidden
  - Lower-bounded (how well?) with Annealed Importance Sampling (AIS)

- Deep Belief Networks:
  Extensions of AIS (Salakhutdinov & Murray, ICML 2008, NIPS 2008)

- Open question: efficient ways to monitor progress?
Back to Greedy Layer-Wise Pre-Training

Stacking Restricted Boltzmann Machines (RBM) → Deep Belief Network (DBN)
Why are Classifiers Obtained from DBNs Working so Well?

- General principles?
- Would these principles work for other single-level algorithms?
- Why does it work?
Stacking Auto-Encoders
Auto-Encoders and CD

RBM log-likelihood gradient written as converging expansion:
- CD-$k = 2^k$ terms
- reconstruction error $\sim 1$ term

$$
\frac{\partial \log P(x_1)}{\partial \theta} = \sum_{s=1}^{t-1} \left( E \left[ \frac{\partial \log P(x_s|h_s)}{\partial \theta} \mid x_1 \right] + E \left[ \frac{\partial \log P(h_s|x_{s+1})}{\partial \theta} \mid x_1 \right] \right) + E \left[ \frac{\partial \log P(x_t)}{\partial \theta} \mid x_1 \right]
$$

(Bengio & Delalleau 2009)
Greedy Layerwise Supervised Training

Generally worse than unsupervised pre-training but better than ordinary training of a deep neural network (Bengio et al. 2007).
Supervised Fine-Tuning is Important

- Greedy layer-wise unsupervised pre-training phase with RBMs or auto-encoders on MNIST

- Supervised phase with or without unsupervised updates, with or without fine-tuning of hidden layers

- Can train all RBMs at the same time, same results
Sparse Auto-Encoders
(Ranzato et al, 2007; Ranzato et al 2008)

- Sparsity penalty on the intermediate codes
- Like sparse coding but with efficient run-time encoder
- Sparsity penalty pushes up the free energy of all configurations (proxy for minimizing the partition function)
- Impressive results in object classification (convolutional nets):
  - MNIST 0.5% error = record-breaking
  - Caltech-101 65% correct = state-of-the-art (Jarrett et al, ICCV 2009)
- Similar results obtained with a convolutional DBN (Lee et al, ICML’2009)
Denoising Auto-Encoder

(Vincent et al, ICML 2008)

- Corrupt the input
- Reconstruct the uncorrupted input
Denoising Auto-Encoder

- Learns a vector field towards higher probability regions
- Minimizes variational lower bound on a generative model
- Similar to pseudo-likelihood
Stacked Denoising Auto-Encoders

- No partition function, can measure training criterion
- Encoder & decoder: any parametrization
- Performs as well or better than stacking RBMs for unsupervised pre-training
Why is Unsupervised Pre-Training Working So Well?

- **Regularization** hypothesis:
  - Unsupervised component forces model close to $P(x)$
  - Representations good for $P(x)$ are good for $P(y \mid x)$

- **Optimization** hypothesis:
  - Unsupervised initialization near better local minimum of $P(y \mid x)$
  - Can reach lower local minimum otherwise not achievable by random initialization
Learning Trajectories in Function Space

- Each point a model in function space
- Color = epoch
- Top: trajectories w/o pre-training
- Each trajectory converges in different local min.
- No overlap of regions with and w/o pre-training
Unsupervised Learning as Regularizer

- Adding extra regularization (reducing # hidden units) hurts more the pre-trained models.
- Pre-trained models have less variance wrt training sample.
- Regularizer = infinite penalty outside of region compatible with unsupervised pre-training.
Better Optimization of Online Error

- Both training and online error are smaller with unsupervised pre-training.
- As \( \# \) samples \( \rightarrow \infty \), training err. = online err. = generalization err.
- Without unsup. pre-training: can’t exploit capacity to capture complexity in target function from training data.
Learning Dynamics of Deep Nets

Before fine-tuning

After fine-tuning
Learning Dynamics of Deep Nets

- As weights become larger, get trapped in basin of attraction ("quadrant" does not change)
- Initial updates have a crucial influence ("critical period"), explain more of the variance
- Unsupervised pre-training initializes in basin of attraction with good generalization properties
Order & Selection of Examples Matters

- Curriculum learning
  (Bengio et al, ICML'2009; Krueger & Dayan 2009)
- Start with easier examples
- Faster convergence to a better local minimum in deep architectures
- Also acts like a regularizer with optimization effect?
- Influencing learning dynamics can make a big difference
Level-Local Learning is Important

- Initializing each layer of an unsupervised deep Boltzmann machine helps a lot
- Initializing each layer of a supervised neural network as an RBM helps a lot
- Helps most the layers further away from the target
- Not just an effect of unsupervised prior
- Jointly training all the levels of a deep architecture is difficult
- Initializing using a level-local learning algorithm (RBM, auto-encoders, etc.) is a useful trick
Take-Home Messages

- Multiple levels of latent variables: potentially exponential gain in statistical sharing
- RBMs allow fast inference, stacked RBMs / auto-encoders have fast approximate inference
- Gibbs sampling in RBMs does not mix well, but sampling and learning can interact in surprisingly useful ways
- Unsupervised pre-training of classifiers acts like a strange regularizer with improved optimization of online error
- At least as important as the model: the inference approximations and the learning dynamics
Some Open Problems

- Why is it difficult to train deep architectures?
- What is important in the learning dynamics?
- How to improve joint training of all layers?
- How to sample better from RBMs and deep generative models?
- Monitoring unsupervised learning quality in deep nets?
- Other ways to guide training of intermediate representations?
- More complex models to handle spatial structure of images, occlusion, temporal structure, etc.
Thank you for your attention!

- Questions?
- Comments?