

# **Deep Learning**

17 Autoencoders

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# **Beyond Classification and Regression**



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- Applications such as image synthesis, image-to-image transformations model high-dim signals
- 2 These applications require to learn the meaningful degrees of freedom that constitute the signal
- 3 Typically, these degrees of freedom are of lesser dimensions than the signal

# **Example: Synthesizing Human faces**



- I For generating new faces, it makes sense to capture a small number of degrees of freedom such as
  - skull size and shape
  - color of skin and eyes
  - features of nose and lips, etc.

# **Example: Synthesizing Human faces**

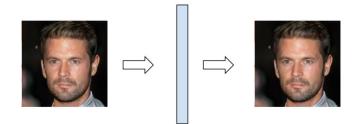


- I For generating new faces, it makes sense to capture a small number of degrees of freedom such as
  - skull size and shape
  - color of skin and eyes
  - features of nose and lips, etc.
- 2 Even a comprehensive list of such things will be less than the number of pixels in the image (i.e. resolution)

# Example: Synthesizing Human faces



If we can model these relatively small number of dimensions, we can synthesize a face with thousands of dimensions





1 Feed-forward Neural network that maps a space to itself

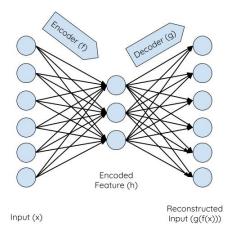


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- 3 Network consists of two parts: encoder (f) and decoder (g)





# Autoencoder: principle



Original (input) space is of higher dimensions but the data lies in a manifold of smaller dimension

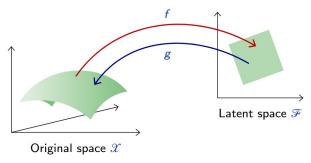
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#### Figure credits: Francois Flueret

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- ② For a real i/p vector?
- 3 Nonlinearity for f?



1 Enforces the reconstructed o/p to be very similar to i/p



- Inforces the reconstructed o/p to be very similar to i/p
- ② Loss function takes care of this via training



Let p be the data distribution in the input space, autoencoder is characterized with the following loss

$$\mathbb{E}_{x \sim p} \left\| x - g \circ f(x) \right\|^2 \approx 0$$

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2 Training: finding the parameters for the encoder  $(f(\cdot; w_f))$  and decoder  $(g(\cdot; w_q)$  optimizing the empirical loss

$$\hat{w}_{f}, \hat{w}_{g} = \operatorname*{argmin}_{w_{f}, w_{g}} \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n} \|x_{n} - g(f(x_{n}; w_{f}); w_{g})\|^{2}$$

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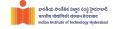


For binary i/p, we may interpret the reconstructions as probabilities (with a sigmoid nonlinearity)



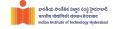
- For binary i/p, we may interpret the reconstructions as probabilities (with a sigmoid nonlinearity)
- ② Hence, we may use BCE loss for training

# Autoencoder: Connection to PCA



(1) f and g are linear functions (data is normalized  $x_i = \frac{1}{\sqrt{|X|}}(x_i - \mu)$ )  $\rightarrow$  optimal solution is PCA

# Autoencoder: Connection to PCA



- (1) f and g are linear functions (data is normalized  $x_i = \frac{1}{\sqrt{|X|}}(x_i \mu)$ )  $\rightarrow$  optimal solution is PCA
- ② Better results can be made possible with sophisticated transformations such as deep neural networks → Deep Autoencoders

#### **Deep Autoencoders**





Top row: original data samples Bottom row: corresponding reconstructed samples (single ReLU layer of dimension 32) Figure credits:Keras blog



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- (5) Tie the weights, i.e.,  $w_g = w_f^T$



1 Autoencoders can capture the dependencies across signal components



- 4 Autoencoders can capture the dependencies across signal components
- 2 This can help to restore the missing components from an input



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- 2) Goal in this case is not to learn a  $\phi$  such that  $\phi(X) \approx X$
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# Besides dimensionality reduction



- 1 In this scenario, we may ignore the encoder/decoder architecture
- 2) Goal in this case is not to learn a  $\phi$  such that  $\phi(X) \approx X$
- 3 It is to learn a  $\phi$  such that  $\phi(\tilde{X})\approx X,$  where  $\tilde{X}$  is a perturbed version of X
- 4 This is referred to as a **Denoising Autoencoder**



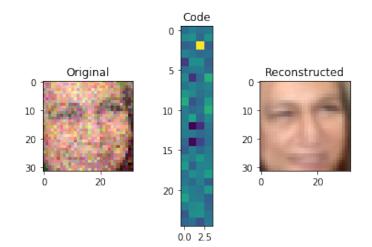
This can be illustrated with an additive Gaussian noise in case of a 2D signal and MSE

$$\hat{w} = \underset{w}{\operatorname{argmin}} \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=1}^{N} \|x_n - \phi(x_n + \epsilon_n; w)\|^2,$$

where  $x_n$  are data samples and  $\epsilon_n$  are Gaussian random noise

## **Denoising Autoencoder**





#### Figure credits: Ali Abdelal, https://stackabuse.com/

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- ② Restricts the freedom of the parameters by forcing them to fire sparsely



- Tries to enforce the hidden neurons to be inactive mostly
- Restricts the freedom of the parameters by forcing them to fire sparsely
- 3 Uses a sparsity parameter  $(\rho)$  (typically close to 0, say 0.01)
- (d) Enforces the mean neuron activation  $(\hat{
  ho}_l)$  to be close to ho

### **Sparse Autoencoders**



### **1** Mean activation: $\hat{\rho}_l = \frac{1}{m} \sum_{i=1}^m f(x_i)_l$

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### **Sparse Autoencoders**



- **1** Mean activation:  $\hat{\rho}_l = \frac{1}{m} \sum_{i=1}^m f(x_i)_l$
- 2  $R(w) = \sum_{l=1}^{k} \rho \log \frac{\rho}{\hat{\rho}_l} + (1-\rho) \log \frac{1-\rho}{1-\hat{\rho}_l}$
- k dimension of hidden layer
   m -size of training dataset



#### 1 Prevents an autoencoder from learning an identity function



Prevents an autoencoder from learning an identity function
 R(w) = | \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} |\_F



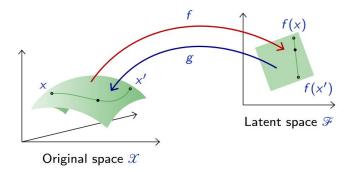
- Prevents an autoencoder from learning an identity function
- 3 Competition (in the latent/hidden layer) b/w 'being sensitive' and 'not sensitive' to the i/p variations



- Prevents an autoencoder from learning an identity function
- 3 Competition (in the latent/hidden layer) b/w 'being sensitive' and 'not sensitive' to the i/p variations
- Ends up capturing only the important variations in the i/p (something like PCA)

### Latent Representations

Consider two samples in the latent space and reconstruct the samples along the line joining these



#### Figure credits: Francois Fleuret

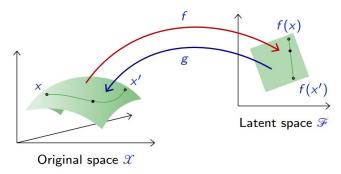
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### Latent Representations

- Consider two samples in the latent space and reconstruct the samples along the line joining these
- 2  $g(\alpha x + (1 \alpha)x')$



#### Figure credits: Francois Fleuret

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### Latent Representations

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1 Introduce a density model over the latent space



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- ② Sample there and reconstruct using the decoder g

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- 1 Introduce a density model over the latent space
- ② Sample there and reconstruct using the decoder g
- ③ For instance, use a Gaussian density for modeling the latent space from the training data (estimate mean and a diagonal covariance matrix)

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Autoencoder sampling (d = 8)448751733380 0778789414369 788372894633 Autoencoder sampling (d = 16)888327348635 09346075336 319998836833333

Figure credits: Francois Fleuret

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- ② Because the density model is too simple

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- 3 Good model still needs to capture the empirical distribution on the data although in a lower dimensional space

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