

Deep Learning

03 MLP: Representation Power of an MLP

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Any Boolean function of n inputs can be exactly represented with one hidden layer!

Universal Approximation (for real functions)



() We can represent any continuous function $(f : \mathcal{R}^m \to \mathcal{R}^n)$ to any desired approximation $(|g(x) - f(x)| < \epsilon)$ with a linear combination of sigmoid neurons

Universal Approximation (for real functions)



- **()** We can represent any continuous function $(f : \mathcal{R}^m \to \mathcal{R}^n)$ to any desired approximation $(|g(x) f(x)| < \epsilon)$ with a linear combination of sigmoid neurons
- In other words, neural networks with a single hidden layer can be used to approximate any continuous function to any desired precision

Universal Approximation

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Math. Control Signals Systems (1989) 2: 303-314

Mathematics of Control, Signals, and Systems © 1989 Springer-Verlag New York Inc.

Approximation by Superpositions of a Sigmoidal Function*

G. Cybenko†

Neural Networks, Vol. 4, pp. 251-257, 1991 Printed in the USA. All rights reserved. 0893-6080/91 \$3.00 + .00 Copyright © 1991 Pergamon Press plc

ORIGINAL CONTRIBUTION

Approximation Capabilities of Multilayer Feedforward Networks

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Universal Approximation



Let's look at the visual proof!

• Two hidden units and one output unit



Figure from Michael Nielsen's NNDL textbook

• Sigmoid neurons can closely approximate a step function!



Figure from Michael Nielsen's NNDL textbook

• Let's simplify the neuron representation with a single parameter (s)



Figure from Michael Nielsen's NNDL textbook

• Let's simplify the neuron representation with a single parameter (s)



Figure from Michael Nielsen's NNDL textbook

Weighted output of hidden neurons



Figure from Michael Nielsen's NNDL textbook

• Can output a pulse/tower of desired width and height!



Figure from Michael Nielsen's NNDL textbook

• Can output a pulse/tower of desired width and height!



Figure from Michael Nielsen's NNDL textbook

• Can output a pulse/tower of desired width and height!



Figure from Michael Nielsen's NNDL textbook

• With more neurons in the hidden layer, more towers!



Figure from Michael Nielsen's NNDL textbook

• With more neurons in the hidden layer, more towers!



Figure from Michael Nielsen's NNDL textbook

I Note that we computed only the weighted sum of the hidden outputs

- In Note that we computed only the weighted sum of the hidden outputs
- It's not the output of our MLP

• For approximating f(x), the input to the output neuron has to be $\sigma^{-1}(f(x))$ (note that the bias is zero)



Figure from Michael Nielsen's NNDL textbook



 $\bullet\,$ Manipulating the width and height of the towers \to a better approximation of the function



Figure from Michael Nielsen's NNDL textbook

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• Let's consider two input variables



Figure from Michael Nielsen's NNDL textbook



• Let's set $w_2 = 0$



Figure from Michael Nielsen's NNDL textbook



• As seen earlier, let's approximate the step function



Figure from Michael Nielsen's NNDL textbook



- As seen earlier, let's approximate the step function
- Use a single parameter s = -b/w to represent



Figure from Michael Nielsen's NNDL textbook



• The step function in the y direction



Figure from Michael Nielsen's NNDL textbook



• Towards the tower in 3D



Figure from Michael Nielsen's NNDL textbook



• Towards the tower in 3D



Figure from Michael Nielsen's NNDL textbook



• Towards the tower in 3D



Figure from Michael Nielsen's NNDL textbook



• Towards the tower in 3D



Figure from Michael Nielsen's NNDL textbook



Towards the tower in 3D



Figure from Michael Nielsen's NNDL textbook



• Several of the towers can approximate arbitrary functions



Figure from Michael Nielsen's NNDL textbook



• Several of the towers can approximate arbitrary functions



Figure from Michael Nielsen's NNDL textbook



• Three input variables



Figure from Michael Nielsen's NNDL textbook

Universality for vector-valued functions

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•
$$f(x): \mathcal{R}^m \to \mathcal{R}^n$$

Universality for vector-valued functions

- $f(x): \mathcal{R}^m \to \mathcal{R}^n$
- Can be regarded as n separate real-valued functions $f^1(x_1,\ldots,x_m),\ldots,f^n(x_1,\ldots,x_m)$

Universality for vector-valued functions

- $f(x): \mathcal{R}^m \to \mathcal{R}^n$
- Can be regarded as n separate real-valued functions $f^1(x_1,\ldots,x_m),\ldots,f^n(x_1,\ldots,x_m)$
- ${\ensuremath{\, \circ }}$ Create a network approximating each function f^i and put them all together

Universal Approximation: Original form

Theorem 0.1 (UAT, [Cyb89, Hor91]). Let $\sigma : \mathbb{R} \to \mathbb{R}$ be a non-constant, bounded, and continuous function. Let I_m denote the m-dimensional unit hypercube $[0, 1]^m$. The space of real-valued continuous functions on I_m is denoted by $C(I_m)$. Then, given any $\varepsilon > 0$ and any function $f \in C(I_m)$, there exist an integer N, real constants $v_i, b_i \in \mathbb{R}$ and real vectors $w_i \in \mathbb{R}^m$ for i = 1, ..., N, such that we may define:

$$F(\boldsymbol{x}) = \sum_{i=1}^{N} v_i \sigma \left(\boldsymbol{w}_i^T \boldsymbol{x} + b_i \right) = \boldsymbol{v}^{\mathsf{T}} \sigma \left(\boldsymbol{W}^{\mathsf{T}} \boldsymbol{x} + \boldsymbol{b} \right)$$

as an approximate realization of the function f; that is,

 $|F(\boldsymbol{x}) - f(\boldsymbol{x})| < \varepsilon$

for all $x \in I_m$.

Universal Approximation: Later



• Target function may lie on a space other than the hypercube (has to be bounded)

Universal Approximation: Later



- Target function may lie on a space other than the hypercube (has to be bounded)
- Discontinuous targets can be approximated arbitrarily well

Universal Approximation: Later



- Target function may lie on a space other than the hypercube (has to be bounded)
- Discontinuous targets can be approximated arbitrarily well
- σ can be as general as any nonpolynomial function ($\sigma(z)$ well-defined and different $z \to \infty$ and $z \to -\infty$; at least one side bounded)

Universal Approximation



• Note that our visual proof had a network with two hidden layers

Universal Approximation



- Note that our visual proof had a network with two hidden layers
- One can show that a single hidden layer can do this



⁽¹⁾ Let's approximate the following function using a bunch of ReLUs: $x^{3}+x^{2}-x-1$



Example credits: Brendan Fortuner, and https://towardsdatascience.com/

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Appropriate combination of these ReLUs:

 $-n_1 - n_2 - n_3 + n_4 + n_5 + n_6$



- ① Appropriate combination of these ReLUs: $-n_1 - n_2 - n_3 + n_4 + n_5 + n_6$
- 2 Note that this also holds in case of other activation functions with mild assumptions.



If one hidden layer is good enough, why Deep learning?

1 May require an infeasible size for the hidden layer

If one hidden layer is good enough, why Deep learning?

- May require an infeasible size for the hidden layer
- 2 May not generalize well

If one hidden layer is good enough, why Deep learning?

- 1 May require an infeasible size for the hidden layer
- 2 May not generalize well
- ③ Doesn't enable the hierarchical learning

MLP for regression



- (1) Output is a continuous variable in \mathcal{R}^D
 - Output layer has that many neurons (When D = 1, regresses a scalar value)
 - May employ a squared error loss



MLP for regression



- ${f 1}$ Output is a continuous variable in ${\cal R}^D$
 - $\, \bullet \,$ Output layer has that many neurons (When D=1, regresses a scalar value)
 - May employ a squared error loss
- 2 Can have an arbitrary depth (number of layers)



MLP for classification



 $\textcircled{0} Categorical output in \mathcal{R}^{C} where C is the number of categories$



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MLP for classification

- रूठवैव्यं अन्वर्डवे अस्तुरुं २०२५ हिन्द्रम्प्रम् मारतीय प्रीचोगिळी संख्यान हेवरावाव Indian Institute of Technology Hyderabad
- **①** Categorical output in \mathcal{R}^C where C is the number of categories
- 2 Predicts the scores/confidences/probabilities towards each category
 - Then converts into a pmf
 - Employs loss that compares the probability distributions (e.g. cross-entropy)



MLP for classification

- बुग्ठेंब्रिकी क्रोन्डेंब्रिड क्रिड्राई उठकुं ट्रॅन्ट्रेफ्टम्टी पारतीय प्रीयोगिकी संख्यान इंदराबाव Indian Institute of Technology Hyderabad
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- ③ Can have an arbitrary depth



Extending Linear Classifier



1 Single class: $f(\mathbf{x}) = \sigma(\mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x} + b)$ from $\mathcal{R}^D \to \mathcal{R}$ where \mathbf{w} and $\mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{R}^D$

Extending Linear Classifier



- **1** Single class: $f(\mathbf{x}) = \sigma(\mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x} + b)$ from $\mathcal{R}^D \to \mathcal{R}$ where \mathbf{w} and $\mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{R}^D$
- 2 Multi-class: $f(\mathbf{x}) = \sigma(\mathbf{W}\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{b})$ from $\mathcal{R}^D \to \mathcal{R}^C$ where $\mathbf{W} \in \mathcal{R}^{C \times D}$ and $\mathbf{b} \in \mathcal{R}^C$

Single unit to a layer of Perceptrons





Single unit to a layer of Perceptrons





Single unit to a layer of Perceptrons



