# Topic 9

#### **Deep Learning for Audio**

Some figures are copied from the following books

- LWLS Andreas Lindholm, Niklas Wahlström, Fredrik Lindsten, Thomas B. Schön, *Machine Learning: A First Course for Engineers and Scientists*, Cambridge University Press, 2022.
- **GBC** Ian Goodfellow, Yoshua Bengio, and Aaron Courville, Deep Learning, MIT Press.
- **Mitchell** Tom M. Mitchell, Machine Learning, McGraw-Hill Education, 1997.

## **Audio Classification Tasks**

- Music genre, mood, artist, composer, instrument classification
- Auto tagging, i.e., labeling music with words
- Chord recognition
- Acoustic event detection
- Speech/speaker recognition

General flowchart



### Features that we have studied

- Raw input: audio waveform or spectrogram
- Feature output:
  - RMS, Zero Crossing Rate
  - Spectral centroid, spread, skewness, kurtosis, flatness, irregularity, rolloff, flux, etc.
  - Harmonic features
  - MFCC, LPC, PLP, etc.
- Hand-crafted / engineered / pre-defined
- Hard to decide what features to use for a task
- Question: can computers learn features directly from data?

# **Feature / Representation Learning**

- Learn a transformation from "raw" inputs to a representation that can be effectively exploited in a task
  Learn a transformation Training data
  Test data
  Feature learning
- Automatic / does not rely on human knowledge
- Target for a specific task

Test data

features

#### Methods Viewed as Feature Learning

- Principal Component Analysis (PCA)
  - Learns a linear transformation, where rows of *W* are the orthogonal directions of greatest variance in the training data f(x) = Wx + b
- Dictionary Learning (e.g., NMF)
  - Learns a linear transformation, where the input, transformation matrix, and activation matrix (i.e., features), are all non-negative x = Wh(X = WH)

### Are linear features good enough?

- Probably not...
- The world is complex and often highly nonlinear.

Can you define a linear transformation on the images to discriminate "2"s from non-"2"s?

$$f(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_{i} w_i x_i + b$$

where x is a vector of pixel values of an image.

#### Are these features highly nonlinear...

...to the waveform or spectrogram?

- RMS, ZCR
- Spectral centroid, spread, skewness, kurtosis, flatness, flux
- Harmonic features
- Cepstrum:  $|\mathcal{F}^{-1}\{\log|\mathcal{F}\{x(t)\}|^2\}|^2$
- MFCC
- LPC

#### Can we learn highly non-linear features?

#### Deep neural networks!

# **Biological Motivation**

- Human brain: a densely interconnected network
  - ~10^11 neurons
  - Each neuron connects to  $\sim 10^{4}$  other neurons
  - Two states of neuron activity: excited vs. inhibited
  - Neuron switching speed: ~1kHz
    - CPU clock frequency: GHz
  - Yet many tasks (e.g., face recognition) can be completed within 0.1 s
- This suggests
  - Highly parallel processing
  - Distributed representations

## **Biological Analogy**



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# **History of Neural Networks**

- 1943 first neural network computing model by McCulloch and Pitts
- 1958 Perceptron by Rosenblatt
- 1960's a big wave
- 1969 Minsky & Papert's book "Perceptrons"
- 1970's "winter" of neural networks
- 1975 Backpropagation algorithm by Werbos
- 1980's another big wave
- 1990's overtaken by SVM proposed in 1993 by Vapnik
- 2006 a fast learning algorithm for training deep belief networks by Hinton
- 2010's another big wave
- 2018 Turing Award to Hinton, Bengio & LeCun
- 2022 ChatGPT!
- Present continue to transform various domains

### Perceptron



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### **Nonlinear Activation Functions**

1

• Step function

 $output = sign(\mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x} + b)$ 

- Note: previously we used {-1,1} for sign function for perceptron, which is equivalent
- Sigmoid function

$$output = \sigma(\mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x} + b) = \frac{1}{1 + e^{-(\mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x} + b)}}$$

• Rectified Linear Unit (ReLU)  $output = \max\{0, w^T x + b\}$ 



## **Limitations of 1-layer Nets**

- Only express linearly separable cases
  - For example, they are good as logic operators "AND", "NOT", and "OR"





#### But, we can combine them!



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## **2-layer Nets**



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### **Matrix Notation**

$$f(\boldsymbol{x}) = \sigma\left(\sum_{j} w_{j}^{(2)} \sigma\left(\sum_{i} w_{ij}^{(1)} x_{i} + b_{j}^{(1)}\right) + b^{(2)}\right)$$

$$f(\boldsymbol{x}) = \sigma \left( \boldsymbol{W}_{2}^{T} \boldsymbol{\sigma} \left( \boldsymbol{W}_{1}^{T} \boldsymbol{x} + \boldsymbol{b}_{1} \right) + \boldsymbol{b}_{2} \right)$$

where

$$W_{1} = \left[w_{ij}^{(1)}\right]_{d \times l_{1}}, \boldsymbol{b}_{1} = \left[b_{j}^{(1)}\right]_{l_{1} \times 1}$$
$$W_{2} = \left[w_{jk}^{(2)}\right]_{l_{1} \times l_{2}}, \boldsymbol{b}_{2} = b^{(2)}$$

- What does  $W_1^T x$  compute?
  - Inner products between columns of  $W_1$  and x
  - Columns of  $W_1$  are "receptors" or "filters"
  - $W_1^T x$  are their responses to input



### **3-layer Nets**



$$f(\mathbf{x}) = \sigma\left(\sum_{k} w_{k}^{(3)} h_{k}^{(2)} + b^{(3)}\right) = \sigma\left(\sum_{k} w_{k}^{(3)} \sigma\left(\sum_{j} w_{jk}^{(2)} h_{j}^{(1)} + b_{k}^{(2)}\right) + b^{(3)}\right) = \sigma\left(\sum_{k} w_{k}^{(3)} \sigma\left(\sum_{j} w_{jk}^{(2)} \sigma\left(\sum_{i} w_{ij}^{(1)} x_{i} + b_{j}^{(1)}\right) + b^{(2)}_{k}\right) + b^{(3)}\right)$$

#### **Matrix Notation**



 $f(\boldsymbol{x}) = \sigma \big( \boldsymbol{W}_3^T \boldsymbol{\sigma} \big( \boldsymbol{W}_2^T \boldsymbol{\sigma} \big( \boldsymbol{W}_1^T \boldsymbol{x} + \boldsymbol{b}_1 \big) + \boldsymbol{b}_2 \big) + \boldsymbol{b}_3 \big)$ 

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#### **Richer Representations with More Layers**

- 1-layer nets (e.g., perceptron) only model linear hyperplanes
- 2-layer nets can approximate any continuous function, given enough hidden nodes
- >=3-layer nets can do so with fewer nodes and weights
- Nonlinear activation is key!
  - Multiple layers of linear activations is still linear!

### **Example Application**



(Fig. 6.5 in LWLS, from MNIST dataset) 70,000 grayscale images (28\*28) from 10 classes

- One-layer MLP (i.e., logistic regression)
  - Input: 28\*28=784-d vectors
  - Output layer size: 10 nodes
  - #parameters: 784\*10+10 = 7,850

- Two-layer MLP
  - Input: 28\*28=784-d vectors
  - Hidden layer size: 200 nodes
  - Output layer size: 10 nodes
  - #parameters for hidden layer: 784\*200+200
  - #parameters for output layer: 200\*10+10
  - #Total parameters = 159,010

### **Properties of NNs**

- Large capacity: able to learn complex relations between input and output
- Support various data formats: continuous, discrete, categorical (needs to be encoded into numeric)
- Robust to some level of noise in training data
- Inference (i.e., making predictions on test examples) is fast
- Data hungry
- Training is slow
- Lack of mathematical analysis and difficult to interpret

### How to learn the weights?

- Given training data input and label pairs  $\{x^{(i)}, y^{(i)}\}_{i=1}^{N}$
- Update network weights to minimize the difference (error) between f(x<sup>(i)</sup>) and y<sup>(i)</sup>
  - Calculate derivative of error w.r.t. weights
  - Gradient descent to update weights
  - Backpropagation algorithm: recursive computation of these gradients
- See derivation on white board

# **Backpropagation Recap**

- Assume we use sigmoid activation and the squared error loss
  - We can also use other activations, e.g., ReLU
  - We can also use other losses, e.g., cross entropy
- Then the loss on the entire training set is

$$E(\boldsymbol{\theta}) = \frac{1}{2N} \sum_{i=1}^{N} \left( y^{(i)} - \hat{y}^{(i)} \right)^2 = \frac{1}{2N} \sum_{i=1}^{N} \left( y^{(i)} - f(\boldsymbol{x}^{(i)}; \boldsymbol{\theta}) \right)^2$$

where  $\theta$  denotes network parameters, i.e., network weights

- We compute gradient  $\nabla_{\theta} E(\theta)$  (called the true gradient, versus stochastic gradient computed on a subset of data), and then update  $\theta$  along the negative gradient direction iteratively
- The computation of  $\nabla_{\theta} E(\theta)$  is recursive, backward from the last layer to the first layer, leveraging the layer-wise structure of the network
- The computation also requires node outputs at each layer, which are computed in a forward pass

### **Forward Pass In Matrix Notation**

- Start from input  $X_{N \times d} = [x^{(1)}, x^{(2)}, \dots, x^{(N)}]^T$  corresponding to all N points
- Compute first hidden layer net input  $Z_1$  $[Z_1]_{N \times l_1} = [XW_1]_{N \times l_1} + [repmat(b_1^T)]_{N \times l_1}$
- Compute first hidden layer output *H*<sub>1</sub>

$$[\boldsymbol{H}_1]_{N \times l_1} = \boldsymbol{\sigma}(\boldsymbol{Z}_1)$$

- Compute second hidden layer net input  $Z_2$  $[Z_2]_{N \times l_2} = [H_1 W_2]_{N \times l_2} + [repmat(b_2^T)]_{N \times l_2}$
- Compute second hidden layer output *H*<sub>2</sub>

$$[\bar{\boldsymbol{H}}_2]_{N\times l_2} = \boldsymbol{\sigma}(\boldsymbol{Z}_2)$$

- .....
- Compute final output  $\hat{y}$ , a vector corresponding to all N points

#### **Backward Pass in Matrix Notation**

- Mean squared error computed on all data:  $E(\theta) = \frac{1}{2N} \sum_{i=1}^{N} (y^{(i)} \hat{y}^{(i)})^2 = \frac{1}{2N} (y \hat{y})^T (y \hat{y})$
- Compute gradients w.r.t. weights in the output layer (the *M*-th layer)

$$\left\| \frac{\partial E}{\partial \widehat{\mathbf{y}}} \right\|_{N \times 1} = \frac{1}{N} (\widehat{\mathbf{y}} - \mathbf{y})$$
$$[\sigma'(\mathbf{z}_M)]_{N \times 1} = \widehat{\mathbf{y}} \odot (1 - \widehat{\mathbf{y}})$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial E}{\partial \boldsymbol{w}_M} \end{bmatrix}_{l_{M-1} \times 1} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial \boldsymbol{z}_M}{\partial \boldsymbol{w}_M} \end{bmatrix}_{l_{m-1} \times N} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial E}{\partial \hat{\boldsymbol{y}}} \end{bmatrix}_{N \times 1} \boldsymbol{\bigcirc} [\sigma'(\boldsymbol{z}_M)]_{N \times 1} \end{bmatrix}$$
$$\boldsymbol{H}_{M-1}^T$$

$$\frac{\partial E}{\partial b_M} = \left[\frac{\partial \mathbf{z}_M}{\partial b_M}\right]_{1 \times N} \cdot \left[\frac{\partial E}{\partial \widehat{\mathbf{y}}}\right]_{N \times 1} \odot [\sigma'(\mathbf{z}_M)]_{N \times 1}\right]_{1^T}$$

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### **Backward Pass in Matrix Notation**

• Compute gradients w.r.t. weights in the (m - 1)-th layer recursively

$$\begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial E}{\partial H_{m-1}} \end{bmatrix}_{N \times l_{m-1}} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial E}{\partial H_m} \end{bmatrix}_{N \times l_m} \odot [\sigma'(\mathbf{Z}_m)]_{N \times l_m} \cdot [\mathbf{W}_m^T]_{l_m \times l_{m-1}}$$
$$\begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial E}{\partial W_{m-1}} \end{bmatrix}_{l_{m-2} \times l_{m-1}} = [\mathbf{H}_{m-2}^T]_{l_{m-2} \times N} \cdot \left[ \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial E}{\partial H_{m-1}} \end{bmatrix}_{N \times l_{m-1}} \odot [\sigma'(\mathbf{Z}_{m-1})]_{N \times l_{m-1}} \right]$$

$$\left[\frac{\partial E}{\partial \boldsymbol{b}_{m-1}}\right]_{l_{m-1}\times 1} = \left[\left[\frac{\partial E}{\partial \boldsymbol{H}_{m-1}}\right]_{N\times l_{m-1}} \odot [\sigma'(\boldsymbol{Z}_{m-1})]_{N\times l_{m-1}}\right]^T \cdot \mathbf{1}_{N\times 1}$$

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### **Problems of BP for Deep Networks**

- Vanishing gradient problem
  - Gradients vanishes when they are propagated back to early layers, hence their weights are hard to adjust
  - Sigmoid activation  $\rightarrow$  ReLU activation

- Many local minima
  - Which will trap gradient decent methods
  - In practice, local minima are pretty good

# **MLP Summary**

- (Artificial) neural networks are inspired by the biological neural networks
  - Parallel processing + distributed representation
- Feedforward neural networks use a layer-wise structure
  - Full connection between adjacent layers
  - Linear mapping + nonlinear activation
- Representation power
  - 1-layer NNs are just perceptron or logistic regression
  - 2-layer NNs can represent (almost) any continuous function, with sufficient hidden nodes
  - >= 3-layer NNs can do so with much fewer nodes
- Gradient descent to update network weights using training data
- Backpropagation algorithm to recursively compute gradients
  - Vanishing gradient issues for sigmoid activation

# MLP → Convolutional Neural Networks (CNN)

- Fully connected between adjacent layers
  - Many parameters  $\rightarrow$  prone to overfitting
  - Some connections may be unnecessary
  - Not robust to shifts of input







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# Full Connection → Sparse Connection

- Only keep local connections
  - Assuming nearby inputs have stronger correlations



Receptive field of a neuron



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### **Receptive Field at a Deeper Layer**

• With sparse connections, nodes at a deeper layer can still have a large receptive field, and global patterns could still be captured



(Fig. 9.4 in GBC)

## Independent Weights → Shared Weights

 Assuming neurons at different locations process their inputs in the same way, we can let them share weights



(Adapted from Fig. 9.3 in GBC)

### **Much Fewer Parameters!**

$$\begin{bmatrix} z_1 \\ z_2 \\ z_3 \\ z_4 \\ z_5 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} w_{11} & \cdots & w_{51} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ w_{15} & \cdots & w_{55} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \\ x_4 \\ x_5 \end{bmatrix}$$

• 5\*5+5 parameters (biases are omitted in figures)

$$\begin{bmatrix} z_1 \\ z_2 \\ z_3 \\ z_4 \\ z_5 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} w_2 & w_3 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ w_1 & w_2 & w_3 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & w_1 & w_2 & w_3 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & w_1 & w_2 & w_3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & w_1 & w_2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \\ x_4 \\ x_5 \end{bmatrix}$$

• 3+1 parameters

$$z_n = \sum_m w_m x_{m+n-2}$$



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## This is basically convolution

• Continuous-time signals

$$z(t) = (x * w)(t) = \int x(\tau)w(t-\tau)d\tau = \int x(t-\tau)w(\tau)d\tau = (w * x)(t)$$

• Discrete-time signals



• Cross convolution: no flipping, but is the convolution referred to in deep learning

$$z[n] = \sum_{m} x[m]w[n+m]$$

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### **2D Convolution**


#### **2D Convolution**



(Fig. 9.1 in GBC)

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### **2D Convolution Example**

- Vertical edge detection using a 1\*2 kernel [-1, 1]
- (Cross-)convolving a gray-scale image with this kernel computes the intensity difference between two horizontally adjacent pixels



(Fig. 9.6 in GBC)

#### **Convolution with Strides**

• Downsampling after convolution



(Fig. 9.12 in GBC)

#### **2D Convolution with Strides**



**Figure 6.12:** A convolutional layer with stride 2 and filter size  $3 \times 3$ . (Figure from LWLS)

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# Pooling

- Pooling is another way to reduce the size of feature maps
  - Max pooling: taking the max  $\rightarrow$  result is invariant to small shifts
  - Average pooling: taking the average
- No trainable parameters



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#### **Nonlinear Activation**

- As discussed before, convolution is a linear operation
- We need a nonlinear activation after convolution to build deep nets
- Rectified Linear Unit (ReLU) and Leaky ReLU is most used



### **Multiple Channels**

- Convolution with a single filter (kernel) detects only one pattern (e.g., vertical edges)
- Use multiple filters to detect more patterns
  - Each filter results in one feature map
  - Multiple filter result in multiple feature maps, stacked as channels
  - When input is 2D with multiple channels, each filter becomes a 3D tensor



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#### **Convolution Layer**



(Fig. 9.7 in GBC)

# **Typical Output Layer**

- After a stack of convolutional layers, a few fully connected layers often follow to give the output
  - The last convolutional layer's feature map is reshaped to a vector
- *M*-Class Classification:
  - Use *M* output nodes
  - Softmax activation (probability):  $\hat{y}_i = \frac{e^{h_i}}{\sum_{j=0}^{M-1} e^{h_j}}, \forall i = 0, \dots, M-1$

- Cross entropy loss: 
$$L_{CE} = -\sum_{i=1}^{N} y_i \log(\hat{y}_i)$$



(Figure from <a href="https://towardsdatascience.com/cross-entropy-loss-function-f38c4ec8643e">https://towardsdatascience.com/cross-entropy-loss-function-f38c4ec8643e</a>)

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#### **Full CNN Architecture**

• *M*-class classification on single-channel 2D input



(Fig. 6.14 in LWLS)

#### **Full CNN Architecture**

• Input: 28\*28=784-d gray-scale (i.e., 1-channel) hand-written digits



	Convolutional layers			Dense layers	
	Layer 1	Layer 2	Layer 3	Layer 4	Layer 5
Number of filters/output channels	4	8	12	-	_
Filter rows and columns	$(5 \times 5)$	$(5 \times 5)$	$(4 \times 4)$	_	_
Stride	1	2	2	_	_
Number of hidden units	3 1 3 6	1 568	588	200	10
Number of parameters	104	808	1 548	117 800	2010
(including offset vector)					

(Example 6.3 in LWLS)

784\*4=3136 784/4\*8=1568 784/4/4\*12=588

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# **Network Training**

- Define a loss function
  - Classification: cross entropy for softmax output
  - Regression: mean squared error
- Stochastic gradient descent
  - Randomly picking training samples to form a mini-batch
  - Compute gradient of loss function w.r.t. weights through backpropagation
  - Update weights along negative gradient with some (adaptive) learning rate
- Different optimizers
  - Adam: adaptive moment estimation uses running averages on gradients and second order moments
  - Adagrad: adaptive gradient uses different learning rates at different iterations
  - RMSprop: root mean square propagation exponentially weighted average of squared gradient to adapt learning rate

## **Backpropagation for CNN**

- BP through nonlinear activation
  - Same as before
- BP through pooling
  - Average pooling: gradient is equally distributed to all inputs
  - Max pooling: gradient is solely assigned to the max input



(Figures from <a href="https://lanstonchu.wordpress.com/2018/09/01/convolutional-neural-network-cnn-backward-propagation-of-the-pooling-layers/">https://lanstonchu.wordpress.com/2018/09/01/convolutional-neural-network-cnn-backward-propagation-of-the-pooling-layers/</a>)

# **Backpropagation for CNN**

- Convolution is a linear operation between the input tensor and a kernel, and it results in an output tensor
- BP through convolution to layer input
  - Each element of the input tensor affects multiple channels of the output tensor through different filters
- BP through convolution to layer weights
  - Each weight affects all elements of one output channel through all channels of previous layer's output



(Adapted from Fig. 6.14 in LWLS)

## **CNNs for Different Types of Input**

	Single-Channel	Multi-Channel		
1-D	Audio waveforms	Skeleton animation data: Each channel represents one angle of one joint		
2-D	Audio spectrograms; gray-scale images	Color images: RGB channels		
3-D	Volumetric data, e.g., CT scans	Color video data		
(Adapted from Table 9.1 in GBC)				

### **1D CNN for Audio Generation**

- WaveNet [van den Oord et al., 2016]  $\bullet$
- Dilated causal convolution lacksquare



#### Input

https://www.deepmind.com/blog/wavenet-a-generative-model-for-raw-audio



(speech)

Free generation (piano music)

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#### **2D CNN for Image Classification**

• AlexNet [Krizhevsky et al., 2012]



#### Filter Visualization of AlexNet

- Learned filters of the 1<sup>st</sup> convolutional layer
  - 96 filters with size of 11\*11\*3



[Krizhevsky et al., 2012]

## **Transfer Learning with Pretrained Networks**

- First layers (features extractors) learned from one task (e.g., natural image classification) can be useful for another relevant task (e.g., medical image classification)
- Use a pre-trained model (on big data tasks) to build a new model (for small data tasks)
  - Remove last few layers (e.g., the last dense layer), which are usually task-specific
  - Use the remaining layers to build a new network by adding a couple of layers for the new task
  - Train new layers (or fine tune the entire network) on the new task



## ImageNet

• 1.3 M images from 1000 classes



## **CNN for Audio Applications**

- Apply 1D convolution on audio samples (WaveNet)
- Audio  $\rightarrow$  Magnitude spectrogram  $\rightarrow$  Apply 2D convolution

Applications :

- Classification/Identification: sound, genre, instrument, speaker, etc.
- Source Separation: mask prediction
- Generation: predict the next audio sample

Disadvantages:

- In images, neighboring pixels belong to the same object, not the same for spectrograms
- CNNs are applied in magnitude, and not phase
- CNNs cannot model long-term temporal information

# **CNN Summary**

- Key properties of CNNs
  - Sparse (local) connection
  - Shared weights
  - Equivariance to translation
- Important components
  - Convolution
  - Pooling: max pooling, average pooling
  - Activation: ReLU
- Important concepts
  - Filter, receptive field, channel, tensor
- Applications
  - Classification, regression, generation
  - 1D, 2D, 3D
- Think: what problems/data are not appropriate for CNN?

## MLP → Recurrent Neural Network (RNN)

- Model time series with MLP, e.g., predicting the next data point
  - Limited memory
  - Fixed window size L
  - Number of weights increases with L quickly
  - Predictions at different times are independent
- How to better model past information?



(Figure from Box and Jenkins, Time Series Analysis: Forecasting and Control, 1976)

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#### **Make Network Recurrent**

- Parameter sharing
  - Different positions use the same network
- Add recurrent links
  - Current computation affects future computation
  - Carry past information to the future
- Compared with 1D convolution
  - Both have weight sharing
  - Convolution has limited receptive field
  - Recurrency can carry information infinitely long (in theory)



#### **Unfold Recurrency**



(Fig. 10.2 in GBK)

 $h^{(t)}$  is affected all past input:  $x^{(1)}, \dots, x^{(t)}$ 

# **Different Types of Recurrency**

- RNNs that produce an output at each time step and have recurrent connections between hidden units
- Take classification / labeling as example
- Forward propagation

Net input to hidden  $a^{(t)} = b + Wh^{(t-1)} + Ux^{(t)},$ Nonlinear activation  $h^{(t)} = \tanh(a^{(t)}),$ Linear output  $o^{(t)} = c + Vh^{(t)},$ Softmax -> class prob.  $\hat{y}^{(t)} = \operatorname{softmax}(o^{(t)}),$ Cross entropy loss:  $L = -\sum_t \log\left(\left[\hat{y}^{(t)}\right]_{y^{(t)}}\right)$ 



# **Back Propagation Through Time (BPTT)**

- Output (hence loss) at time t is affected by past inputs and hidden nodes through the recurrent links
- To perform gradient descent, gradients need to pass backwards through the recurrent links
- Each update of weights requires
  - Forward computation of all hidden nodes and output nodes
  - Backpropagation of gradients
  - − Both computations are sequential  $\rightarrow$  cannot be parallelized  $\rightarrow$  slow to train



## **BPTT Sketch**

- Same as regular backpropagation → repeatedly apply chain rule
- For W<sub>hy</sub>, we propagate along the vertical links

$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial W_{hy}} = \sum_{i=0}^{t} \frac{\partial L_i}{\partial W_{hy}}$$
$$\frac{\partial L_t}{\partial W_{hy}} = \frac{\partial L_t}{\partial \hat{y}_t} \frac{\partial \hat{y}_t}{W_{hy}}$$
$$\hat{y}_t = W_{hy} h_t$$
Easy to calculate



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## **BPTT Sketch**

- Same as regular backpropagation → repeatedly apply chain rule
- For  $W_{hh}$  and  $W_{xh}$ , we also propagate along the horizontal (i.e., recurrent) links

$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial W_{hh}} = \sum_{i=0}^{t} \frac{\partial L_i}{\partial W_{hh}}$$
$$\frac{\partial L_t}{\partial W_{hh}} = \frac{\partial L_t}{\partial \hat{y}_t} \frac{\partial \hat{y}_t}{\partial h_t} \frac{\partial h_t}{\partial W_{hh}}$$
$$h_t = tanh(W_{hh}h_{t-1} + W_{xh}x_t)$$
It also depends on W\_{hh}



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# **Different Types of Recurrency**

- RNNs that produce an output at each time step and have recurrent connections only from the output at one time step to the hidden units at the next time step
- Carry less information from past, because
  - Output nodes typically have a lower dimensionality than hidden nodes
  - Output nodes are strongly influenced by ground-truth y during training



# **Teacher Forcing**

- Training can be parallelized by teaching forcing for RNNs that only have recurrent links from output to hidden
- It essentially only trains network to make 1-step predictions
- During inference,  $y^{(t-1)}$  is not available for predicting  $y^{(t)}$ , causing mismatch from training
  - Scheduled sampling: mix teacher-forced inputs and freerun inputs during training with a ratio that gradually decreases



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## **Bidirectional RNN**

- RNNs introduced so far are causal, i.e., the output at the current time step is only affected by the current input and past inputs
- In some applications (e.g., filling a missing word in a sentence, speech recognition), output has dependencies on inputs from both sides
- Let's use two RNNs, one for each direction
- Their hidden values work together to give output



## **RNN with a Single Output**

- Some tasks only require a single output from the input sequence
  - E.g., phoneme classification, sound event recognition



(Fig. 10.5 in GBK) ECE 477 - Computer Audition, Zhiyao Duan 2023

# **RNN with Context Conditioning**

- Output a sequence from a conditioning vector
  - E.g., laughter sound generation, conditioned on the type of laughter
  - E.g., image captioning, conditioned on image
  - E.g., emotional talking face generation, conditioned on emotion label
- This conditioning vector can be input to the network
  - As extra input at each time step (right figure)
  - As the initial state  $h^{(0)}$
  - Both



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## **Encoder-Decoder Sequence-to-Sequence RNNs**

- Sometimes the input and output sequences are of different length
  - E.g., machine translation from English to Chinese
  - E.g., audio captioning

- Encoder is an RNN with a single output
- Decoder is an RNN with context conditioning



(Fig. 10.12 in GBK)

#### **Deep RNNs**

- RNNs we introduced so far have only one hidden layer
- There are many ways to make them deeper, but a common way is to stack RNNs



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## Vanishing & Exploding Gradients

- Recurrency applies the same function repeatedly, and will exponentially diminish or boost certain effects
- Look at linear recurrency as an example

$$h^{(t)} = Wh^{(t-1)} = W^t h^{(0)}$$

• Let *W* have eigenvalue decomposition

 $W = Q\Lambda Q^{-1}$ 

• Then we have

$$\boldsymbol{h}^{(t)} = \boldsymbol{Q} \boldsymbol{\Lambda}^{\mathrm{t}} \boldsymbol{Q}^{-1} \boldsymbol{h}^{(0)}$$

- Eigenvalues are raised to the power of *t*!
  - If  $h^{(0)}$  is aligned with an eigenvector that is greater than 1, then explode
  - If  $h^{(0)}$  is aligned with an eigenvector that is smaller than 1, then vanish

### Vanishing & Exploding Gradients

• Vanishing gradients are very common for RNNs



Darkness indicates the influence of input at time 1 Figure from [Graves, 2008]

• Exploding gradients also happen, and it damages the optimization very much

## **Gradient Clipping**

- Too big gradients will make too big updates of network parameters
- Clip the norm of gradients *g* to *v*:





# Improving Long-Term Dependency Modeling

- Temporal dependencies in data can be very long
  - E.g., music rhythmic structure is at the scale of seconds, where each second often contains 44100 samples (time domain) or ~100 frames (time-frequency domain)
- Influence of input vanishes exponentially over time steps
  - In practice, after ten steps, influence is already negligible
- Several ways to improve long-term dependency
  - Add skip connections through time: allows information to flow with fewer time steps
  - Add linear self-connections to hidden units, called leaky units, similar to running average:  $\mu^{(t)} \leftarrow \alpha \mu^{(t-1)} + (1 - \alpha) v^{(t)}$ . When  $\alpha$  is close to 1, it allows hidden units to remember information for a long time.
  - Add gates to control information flow

### **Gated Architectures - LSTM**

- Cell state (leaky unit) is the internal memory
- Three information gates perform delete/write/read operations on memory



#### **Gated Architecture - GRU**

- Gated Recurrent Unit (GRU)
  - A single gate to simultaneously control the forgetting factor and the updating operation of the state unit
  - Fewer parameters than LSTM
  - Similar performance

Update gate Reset gate

$$egin{aligned} & z_t = \sigma_g(W_z x_t + U_z h_{t-1} + b_z) \ & \mathbf{e} & r_t = \sigma_g(W_r x_t + U_r h_{t-1} + b_r) \ & \hat{h}_t = \phi_h(W_h x_t + U_h(r_t \odot h_{t-1}) + b_h) \ & h_t = z_t \odot h_{t-1} + (1-z_t) \odot \hat{h}_t \end{aligned}$$

Output



(Figure from <a href="https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gated\_recurrent\_unit">https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gated\_recurrent\_unit</a>)

#### **Application: Music Generation**



Benetatos, VanderStel, & Duan, BachDuet: A deep learning system for human-machine counterpoint improvisation, NIME, 2020.



Yan, Lustig, Vaderstel, & Duan, Part-invariant model for music generation and harmonization, ISMIR, 2018.

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#### **Application: Audio Source Separation**

Predicted Mask



N timesteps

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# **RNN Summary**

- Recurrent Neural Networks (RNNs)
  - Weight sharing over time
  - Recurrent links to carry information infinitely long (in theory)
- Different kinds of recurrencies
  - Hidden to hidden
  - Output to hidden
- Different RNN architectures
  - N to N, N to 1, 1 to N, N to M
- Back Propagation Through Time (BPTT)
  - Vanishing and exploding gradients due to repeatedly compositing the same function
  - Gradient clipping
- Long Short-Term Memory
  - Linear self connections to remember information longer
  - (Learnable) gated architecture to control information flow