Deep Neural Networks Motivated By Ordinary Differential Equations

Machine Learning for Physics and the Physics of Learning

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Title

Intro

OC

Parallel

1

Agenda: Deep Neural Networks Motivated By ODEs

- Deep Learning meets Optimal Control
 - ► discretize → differentiate (or vice versa?)
- Stability and Generalization
 - when is deep learning well-posed?
 - stabilizing the forward propagation
- Numerical Methods

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- symplectic, reversible neural networks
- layer-parallel training using multigrid in time
- DNNs motivated by PDEs (tomorrow)
 - parabolic/hyberbolic CNNs, IMEX-Net, Lean ResNets,...

Goals: Theoretical insight, mathematically sound architectures, competitive results.

E Haber, LR Stable Architectures for DNNs. Inverse Problems, 2017.

E Holtham et al. *Learning Across Scales.* AAAI, 2018. B Chang et al.,

Reversible Architectures for Deep ResNNs. AAAI, 2018.



LR, E Haber Deep Neural Networks motivated by PDEs. arXiv, 2018.

Deep Learning meets Optimal Control

Deep Learning Revolution (?)



$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{Y}_{j+1} &= \sigma(\mathbf{K}_j \mathbf{Y}_j + \mathbf{b}_j) \\ \mathbf{Y}_{j+1} &= \mathbf{Y}_j + \sigma(\mathbf{K}_j \mathbf{Y}_j + \mathbf{b}_j) \\ \mathbf{Y}_{j+1} &= \mathbf{Y}_j + \sigma(\mathbf{K}_{j,2}\sigma(\mathbf{K}_{j,1}\mathbf{Y}_j + \mathbf{b}_{j,1}) + \mathbf{b}_{j,2}) \\ &\vdots \end{aligned}$$

(Notation: \mathbf{Y}_j : features, \mathbf{K}_j , \mathbf{b}_j : weights, σ : activation)

- \blacktriangleright deep learning: use neural networks (from \approx 1950's) with many hidden layers
- able to "learn" complicated patterns from data
- applications: image classification, face recognition, segmentation, driverless cars, ...
- recent success fueled by: massive data sets, computing power
- A few recent references:
 - A radical new neural network design could overcome big challenges in AI, MIT Tech Review '18
 - Data Scientist: Sexiest Job of the 21st Century, Harvard Business Rev '17

Supervised Learning using Deep Neural Networks



training data, \mathbf{Y}_0, \mathbf{C}



classification result

Supervised Deep Learning Problem

Given input features, Y_0 , and labels, C, find **network weights** (K, b) and **classification weights** (W, μ) such that the DNN predicts the data-label relationship (and generalizes to new data), by solving



Deep Residual Neural Networks (simplified)

Award-winning forward propagation

$$\mathbf{Y}_{j+1} = \mathbf{Y}_j + \frac{\mathbf{h}\mathbf{K}_{j,2}\sigma(\mathbf{K}_{j,1}\mathbf{Y}_j + \mathbf{b}_j)}{\mathbf{h}_j}, \quad \forall j = 0, 1, \dots, N-1.$$

ResNet is forward Euler discretization of

$$\partial_t \mathbf{y}(t) = \mathbf{K}_2(t)\sigma\left(\mathbf{K}_1(t)\mathbf{y}(t) + \mathbf{b}(t)\right), \qquad \mathbf{y}(0) = \mathbf{y}_0.$$

input features, \mathbf{Y}_0



propagated features, \mathbf{Y}_N

Notation: $\theta(t) = (\mathbf{K}_1(t), \mathbf{K}_2(t), \mathbf{b}(t))$ and

$$\partial_t \mathbf{y}(t) = f(\mathbf{y}, \boldsymbol{\theta}(t)), \quad \mathbf{y}(0) = \mathbf{y}_0$$

where
$$f(\mathbf{y}, \boldsymbol{\theta}) = \mathbf{K}_2(t)\sigma\left(\mathbf{K}_1(t)\mathbf{y}(t) + \mathbf{b}(t)\right)$$
.

K. He, X. Zhang, S. Ren, and J. Sun *Deep residual learning for image recognition.* IEEE Conf. on CVPR, 770–778, 2016.

Blessing of Dimensionality (or Width)

Setup: ResNN, 9 fully connected single layers, $\sigma = \tanh$. Motivated by: E Celledoni, M Erhardt, M Benning(Cambridge)



1 \approx 100% validation accuracy

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Optimal Control Approaches to Deep Learning



Deep Learning meets optimal control / parameter estimation.

- new ways to analyze and design neural networks
- expose similarities to trajectory problem, optimal transport, image registration, ...
- training algorithms motivated by (robust) optimal control
- ▶ discrete ResNet → continuous problem → discrete architecture

(Some) Related Work

DNNs as (stochastic) Dynamical Systems

- Weinan E, Proposal on ML via Dynamical Systems, Commun. Math. Stat., 5(1), 2017.
- E Haber, LR, Stable Architectures for DNNs, Inverse Problems, 2017.
- Q. Li, L. Chen, C. Tai, Weinan E, Maximum Principle Based Algorithms, arXiv, 2017.
- B. Wang, B. Yuan, Z. Shi, S. Osher, ResNets Ensemble via the Feynman-Kac Formalism, arXiv, 2018.

Numerical Time Integrators

- ▶ Y. Lu, A. Zhong, Q. Li, B. Dong, Beyond Finite Layer DNNs, arXiv, 2017.
- B. Chang, L. Meng, E. Haber, LR, D. Begert, E. Holtham, *Reversible architectures for DNNs*, AAAI, 2018.
- T. Chen, Y. Rubanova, J. Bettencourt, D. Duvenaud, Neural ODEs, NeurIPS, 2018.
- **E. Haber, K. Lensink, E. Treister, LR**, *IMEXnet: Forward Stable DNN*. ICML, 2019.

Optimal Control

 S. Günther, LR, J.B. Schroder, E.C. Cyr, N.R. Gauger,

Layer-parallel training of ResNets, arXiv, 2018.

- A. Gholami, K. Keutzer, G. Biros, ANODE: Unconditionally Accurate Memory-Efficient Gradients for Neural ODEs, arXiv, 2019.
- T. Zhang, Z. Yao, A. Gholami, K. Keutzer, J. Gonzalez, G. Biros, M. Mahoney, ANODEV2: A Coupled Neural ODE Evolution Framework, arXiv, 2019.

PDE-motivated Approaches

- E. Haber, LR, E. Holtham, Learning across scales - Multiscale CNNs, AAAI, 2018.
- LR, E. Haber, DNNs motivated by PDEs, arXiv, 2018.

Optimal Control

Optimal Control Framework for Deep Learning



Supervised Deep Learning Problem

Given training data, Y_0 , and labels, C, find **network parameters** θ and **classification weights W**, μ such that the DNN predicts the data-label relationship (and generalizes to new data), i.e., solve

minimize_{θ, W, μ} loss[$g(W + \mu), C$] + regularizer[θ, W, μ]

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Optimal Control Background: Diff \rightarrow Disc vs. Disc \rightarrow Diff

- ► First-Differentiate-then-Discretize (Diff→Disc)
 - Keep θ , **b**, **Y** continuous in time
 - ► Euler-Lagrange-Equations ~→ adjoint equation (≈ backprop)
 - Ilexible choice of ODE solver in forward and adjoint
 - gradients only useful if fwd and adjoint solved well
 - use optimization to obtain discrete solution of ELE
- ► First-Discretize-then-Differentiate (Disc→Diff)
 - Discretize θ, b, Y in time (could use different grids)
 - Differentiate objective (e.g., use automatic differentiation)
 - gradients related to adjoints but no choice of solver
 - In terminate estimate estim
 - use nonlinear optimization tools to approximate minimizer

MD Gunzburger

Perspectives in flow control and optimization. SIAM, 2013.



Neural Ordinary Differential Equations. NeurIPS, 2018. A Gholami, K Keutzer, G Biros ANODE: Unconditionally Accurate Memory-Efficient Gradients for Neural ODEs. arXiv:1902.10298

Example: The Adjoint Equation

Simplified learning problem: one example $(\boldsymbol{y}_0,\boldsymbol{c}),$ no weights for classifier, no regularizer

 $\min_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} \operatorname{loss}(\mathbf{y}(1,\boldsymbol{\theta}),\mathbf{c}) \quad \text{subject to} \quad \partial_t \mathbf{y}(t,\boldsymbol{\theta}) = f(\mathbf{y}(t),\boldsymbol{\theta}(t)), \quad \mathbf{y}(0,\boldsymbol{\theta}) = \mathbf{y}_0.$

Use adjoint method to compute gradient of objective w.r.t. θ

$$\frac{\partial \text{loss}}{\partial \boldsymbol{\theta}}(t) = \left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial \boldsymbol{\theta}}(\mathbf{y}(t, \boldsymbol{\theta}), \boldsymbol{\theta}(t))\right)^{\top} \mathbf{z}(t)$$

where z satisfies the adjoint method ($-\partial_t \rightsquigarrow$ backward in time)

$$-\partial_t \mathbf{z}(t,\boldsymbol{\theta}) = \left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial \mathbf{y}}(\mathbf{y}(t,\boldsymbol{\theta}),\boldsymbol{\theta}(t))\right)^\top \mathbf{z}(t), \quad \mathbf{z}(1,\boldsymbol{\theta}) = \frac{\partial \mathrm{loss}}{\partial \mathbf{y}}(\mathbf{y}(1,\boldsymbol{\theta}),\mathbf{c}).$$

note: $\mathbf{y}(t)$ needed for solve adjoint equation memory



G. A. Bliss

The use of adjoint systems in the problem of differential corrections for trajectories. JUS Artillery, 51:296–311, 1919

 D.E. Rumelhart, G.E. Hinton, R.J. Williams Learning representations by back-propagating errors. Nature, 533–536, 1986.

Multilevel Training of ResNets

Note: Training result depends on initial guess for optimization.

Multi-level learning

```
ResNet with n layers \rightarrow h = T/n

\theta^0, \mathbf{W}^0, \mu^0 \leftarrow random initialization

for \ell = 1:3 do

train ResNet with initial weights \theta^0, \mathbf{W}^0, \mu^0

obtain \theta^*, \mathbf{W}^*, \mu^*

(n,h) \leftarrow (2n, h/2)

refine ResNet

\theta^0 \leftarrow prolongate \theta^*

(\mathbf{W}^0, \mu^0) \leftarrow \mathbf{W}^*, \mu^*
```

FA Bornemann, P Deuflhard

The cascadic multigrid method for elliptic problems. Numerische Mathematik, 1996. B Chang et al.

Multi-level Residual Networks from Dynamical Systems View. ICLR, 2018.

Stability and Well-Posedness

Stability of Deep Neural Networks: Motivation

Goal in learning: Build model that generalizes.

Todo list:

- 1. model forward dynamic
- 2. discretize forward dynamic (→ architecture)
- 3. train network by minimizing regularized loss

Expectation: tasks are related

Analogy: Recall the ingredients of a well-posed inverse problem

- 1. well-posed forward problem
- 2. bounded inverse

Next: study properties o forward propagation



Impact of Network Architecture on Optimization - 1

$$\min_{\theta} \frac{1}{2} \| \mathbf{Y}_N(\theta) - \mathbf{C} \|_F^2 \qquad \mathbf{Y}_{j+1}(\theta) = \mathbf{Y}_j(\theta) + \frac{10}{N} \tanh\left(\mathbf{K}\mathbf{Y}_j(\theta)\right)$$

where $C = Y_{200}(1, 1)$, $Y_0 \sim \mathcal{N}(0, 1)$, and

$$\mathbf{K}(\theta) = \begin{pmatrix} -\theta_1 - \theta_2 & \theta_1 & \theta_2 \\ \theta_2 & -\theta_1 - \theta_2 & \theta_1 \\ \theta_1 & \theta_2 & -\theta_1 - \theta_2 \end{pmatrix}$$



loss, N = 100



Next: Compare examples for different inputs \sim generalization

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Impact of Network Architecture on Optimization - 2



Stability of Continuous Forward Propagation

Interpret ResNet as discretization of initial value problem

 $\begin{aligned} \partial_t \mathbf{y}(t, \boldsymbol{\theta}, \mathbf{y}_0) &= f(\mathbf{y}(t, \boldsymbol{\theta}, \mathbf{y}_0), \boldsymbol{\theta}(t)) \\ \mathbf{y}(0, \boldsymbol{\theta}, \mathbf{y}_0) &= \mathbf{y}_0. \end{aligned}$

IVP is stable if for any $\mathbf{v} \in \mathbb{R}^n$

 $\|\mathbf{y}(T,\boldsymbol{\theta},\mathbf{y}_0) - \mathbf{y}(T,\boldsymbol{\theta},\mathbf{y}_0 + \epsilon \mathbf{v})\|^2 = \mathcal{O}(\epsilon \|\mathbf{v}\|).$



idea: ensure stability by design / constraints on f and $\boldsymbol{\theta}$

Stability of Forward Propagation



Fact: The ODE $\partial_t \mathbf{y}(t) = f(\mathbf{y})$ is stable if the real parts of the eigenvalues of the Jacobian **J** are non-positive.

Example: Consider ResNet with stationary weights

 $\partial_t \mathbf{y}(t) = \sigma \left(\mathbf{K} \mathbf{y}(t) + \mathbf{b} \right) \quad \Rightarrow \quad \mathbf{J}(t) = \operatorname{diag}(\sigma'(\mathbf{K} \mathbf{y}(t) + \mathbf{b}))\mathbf{K}.$

In general, one cannot assume that forward propagation is stable.

Networks with non-stationary weights require additional arguments (e.g., kinematic eigenvalues) or assumptions (J changes slowly).

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Enforcing Stability: Antisymmetric Transformation

Two examples of more stable networks.

ResNet with antisymmetric transformation matrix

 $\partial_t \mathbf{y}(t) = \sigma((\mathbf{K}(t) - \mathbf{K}(t)^\top)\mathbf{y} + \mathbf{b}(t)).$

Hamiltonian-like ResNet

$$\frac{d}{dt} \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{y} \\ \mathbf{z} \end{pmatrix} (t) = \sigma \left(\begin{pmatrix} 0 & \mathbf{K}(t) \\ -\mathbf{K}(t)^\top & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{y} \\ \mathbf{z} \end{pmatrix} + \mathbf{b}(t) \right).$$

How about the stability of the discrete system?



Stability of Discrete Forward Problem



ResNet not stable for layer $f_{\text{antisym}}(\mathbf{Y}, \mathbf{K}_j, \mathbf{b}_j) = \sigma \left((\mathbf{K}_j - \mathbf{K}_j^{\top})\mathbf{Y} + \mathbf{b}_j \right)$. Need to replace fwd Euler by, e.g.,

$$\mathbf{Y}_{j+1} = \mathbf{Y}_j + \frac{h}{12} \left(23f_{\text{antisym}}(\mathbf{Y}_j, \boldsymbol{\theta}_j) - 16f_{\text{antisym}}(\mathbf{Y}_{j-1}, \boldsymbol{\theta}_{j-1}) + 5f_{\text{antisym}}(\mathbf{Y}_{j-2}, \boldsymbol{\theta}_{j-2}) \right).$$



Verlet Integration for Hamiltonian-inspired NNs

Forward propagation: For $\mathbf{Z}_{-\frac{1}{2}} = \mathbf{0}$ and $j = 0, \dots, N-1$ do

$$\begin{split} \mathbf{Z}_{j+\frac{1}{2}} &= \mathbf{Z}_{j-\frac{1}{2}} - h\sigma\left(\mathbf{K}_{j}\mathbf{Y}_{j} + \mathbf{b}_{j}\right) \\ \mathbf{Y}_{j+1} &= \mathbf{Y}_{j} + h\sigma\left(\mathbf{K}_{j}^{\top}\mathbf{Z}_{j+\frac{1}{2}} + \mathbf{b}_{j}\right) \end{split}$$

Note that this is reversible. Given \mathbf{Y}_N and $\mathbf{Z}_{N-\frac{1}{2}}$ and $j = N - 1, \dots, 1$ do

$$\begin{split} \mathbf{Y}_{j} &= \mathbf{Y}_{j+1} - h\sigma \left(\mathbf{K}_{j}^{\top} \mathbf{Z}_{j+\frac{1}{2}} + \mathbf{b}_{j} \right) \\ \mathbf{Z}_{j-\frac{1}{2}} &= \mathbf{Z}_{j+\frac{1}{2}} + h\sigma \left(\mathbf{K}_{j} \mathbf{Y}_{j} + \mathbf{b}_{j} \right) \end{split}$$

Notes:

- reversibility often exploited in hyperbolic PDE-constrained optimization
- this network is a special (in particular, stable) case of 'RevNet'

A. Gomez, M. Ren, R. Urtasun, R. Grosse The Reversible Residual Network: Backpropagation Without Storing Activations arXiv 1707.04585, 2017. B. Chang, L. Meng, E. Haber, LR, D. Begert, E. Holtham *Reversible architectures for arbitrarily deep residual neural networks* 32nd AAAI, 1–8, 2018.

Limitations of Reversibility

Q: Is any algebraically reversible network reversible in practice? For $\alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{R}$ consider original RevNet with $F(\mathbf{Y}) = \alpha \mathbf{Y}$ and $G(\mathbf{Z}) = \beta \mathbf{Z}$, i.e.,

$$\mathbf{Z}_{j+\frac{1}{2}} = \mathbf{Z}_{j-\frac{1}{2}} - \alpha \mathbf{Y}_j, \quad \text{and} \quad \mathbf{Y}_{j+1} = \mathbf{Y}_j + \beta \mathbf{Z}_{j+\frac{1}{2}}.$$

Combining two time steps in Y

$$\mathbf{Y}_{j+1} - \mathbf{Y}_j = \beta \mathbf{Z}_{j+\frac{1}{2}}, \quad \text{and} \quad \mathbf{Y}_j - \mathbf{Y}_{j-1} = \beta \mathbf{Z}_{j-\frac{1}{2}}$$

Subtracting those two gives

$$\mathbf{Y}_{j+1} - 2\mathbf{Y}_j + \mathbf{Y}_{j-1} = \beta(\mathbf{Z}_{j+\frac{1}{2}} - \mathbf{Z}_{j-\frac{1}{2}}) = \alpha\beta\mathbf{Y}_j$$
$$\Leftrightarrow \mathbf{Y}_{j+1} - (2 + \alpha\beta)\mathbf{Y}_j + \mathbf{Y}_{j-1} = \mathbf{0}$$

There is a solution $\mathbf{Y}_j = \xi^j$, i.e., with $a = (2 + \alpha \beta)/2$

$$\xi^2 - 2a\xi + 1 = 0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad \xi = a \pm \sqrt{a^2 - 1}$$

 $|\xi|^2 = 1$ (stable) if $a^2 \le 1$. Otherwise ξ growing!

Example: Impact of Discretization on Training

classification problem generated from peaks in MATLAB®

data setup

- 2,000 points in 2D, 5 classes
- Residual Neural Network
- tanh activation, softmax classifier
- multilevel: 32 layers \rightarrow 64 layers

compare three configurations

- 1. "unstable": T = 10 (3rd order multistep)
- 2. "medium": T = 5 (1st order Verlet)
- 3. "stable": T = 0.2 (3rd order multistep)



Q: how does learning performance compare?

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Example: Impact of ODE Solver - Convergence



Example: Impact of ODE Solver - Dynamics

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Example (Ellipses): Hamitonian-like network with Verlet

 2D feature space, concentric ellipses

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- 1k training, 2k validation
- multilevel: $2 \rightarrow 1024$ layers
- optimization: block coordinate descent with Newton-PCG
- weight decay (Tikhonov) regularization
- tanh activation, width 2



Example (Swiss Roll): Hamitonian-like network with Verlet

- 2D feature space, swiss roll
- 256 training, 256 validation
- multilevel: $2 \rightarrow 1024$ layers
- optimization: block coordinate descent with Newton-PCG
- weight decay (Tikhonov) regularization
- tanh activation, width 4









Layer-Parallel Training

Layer-Parallel Training of Deep Residual Neural Networks

with S. Günther, J. B. Schroder, E. C. Cyr, N. R. Gauger

Full-space version of the optimal control formulation of supervised learning

 $\begin{array}{ll} \underset{\boldsymbol{\theta}_{0},\ldots,\boldsymbol{\theta}_{N-1},\mathbf{W},\mathbf{Y}_{1},\ldots,\mathbf{Y}_{N}}{\text{minimize}} & \text{loss}[g(\mathbf{W}\mathbf{Y}_{N}),\mathbf{C}] + \text{regularizer}[\boldsymbol{\theta},\mathbf{W}] \\ \\ \underset{\mathbf{W}_{1}}{\text{subject to}} & \mathbf{Y}_{1} &= \mathbf{Y}_{0} + hf(\mathbf{Y}_{0},\boldsymbol{\theta}_{0}) \\ \mathbf{Y}_{2} &= \mathbf{Y}_{1} + hf(\mathbf{Y}_{1},\boldsymbol{\theta}_{1}) \\ \vdots & \vdots \\ \\ \mathbf{Y}_{N} &= \mathbf{Y}_{N-1} + hf(\mathbf{Y}_{N-1},\boldsymbol{\theta}_{N-1}) \end{array}$

Recall: Constraints can be eliminated (explicit Euler, sequential). Goal: Stay in full-space and create parallelism in time



Example: Elimination vs. Iterative Solve



Consider linear dynamics $\partial_t y = Ay$. Forward Euler discretization is

$$\begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{I} & & & \\ -(\mathbf{I}+h\mathbf{A}) & \mathbf{I} & & \\ & -(\mathbf{I}+h\mathbf{A}) & \mathbf{I} & & \\ & & \ddots & \ddots & \\ & & & -(\mathbf{I}+h\mathbf{A}) & \mathbf{I} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{y}_1 \\ \mathbf{y}_2 \\ \mathbf{y}_3 \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{y}_N \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{y}_0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

- Option 1: forward substitution (optimal complexity but sequential)
- Option 2: use iterative solver log higher complexity but log parallel)
- Option 3: multigrid in time (MGRIT)

Scalability for Forward and Simultaneous Optimization



- MGRIT provides a new form of parallelism (in addition to data parallelism)
- Use-case 1: Replace forward and backward propagation in SGD
- Use-case 2: simultaneous optimization (more intrusive)

S. Günther, LR, J. B. Schroder, E. C. Cyr, N. R. Gauger *Layer-Parallel Training of Deep Residual Neural Networks.* in revision, SIMODS, 2019.

Conclusion

$\boldsymbol{\Sigma} \text{:}$ Deep Neural Networks motivated by ODEs

Optimal control formulation

new insights, theory, algorithms

Stability and well-posedness

- differentiate-then-discretize vs. discrete-then-differentiate
- examples: impact on optimization/generalization

Numerical Methods: Discretize-Optimize

- Verlet: reversible and stable networks (memory-free)
- Parallel-in-Layer: additional option for parallelism

DNNs motivated by PDEs (tomorrow)

parabolic CNNs, hyberbolic CNNs, IMEX-Net, Lean ResNets

Lots to do/explore/contribute for computational and applied mathematicians...

E Haber, LR Stable Architectures for DNNs. Inverse Problems, 2017.

E Holtham et al. *Learning Across Scales.* AAAI, 2018. B Chang et al., Reversible Architectures for Deep ResNNs. AAAI, 2018.





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