CS-568 Deep Learning

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History of Neural Computation

Mimicing the neuron

- Having established the neuron as the central element of animal systems, early research mimiced its function.
- Artificial neuron models were extremely simplified abstractions of the real neuron.
- ► To this day, they are extremely simplified.

All models are wrong, but some are useful. -George Box

McChulloch & Pitts Model¹



- For Boolean inputs and outputs.
- Assumed neurons to either fire or stay silent.
- This allowed them to model neurons using propositional logic.
- No mechanism for learning.

¹McCulloch and Pitts, 'A logical calculus of the ideas immanent in nervous activity'.

Hebbian Learning²

- Donald Hebb exploited the observation that metabolic changes take place between neuronal connections when one neuron frequently causes another neuron to fire.
- ▶ If x_i triggers y, then increase the weight w_i of their connection as

 $w_i \leftarrow w_i + \eta x_i y$

- Association determines strength of connection.
- Problems: Unbounded learning.

²Hebb, 'The organization of behavior; a neuropsychological theory.'

Perceptron³



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 $^{^3 {\}rm Rosenblatt}, \, {\rm `The\ perceptron:\ a\ probabilistic\ model\ for\ information\ storage\ and\ organization\ in\ the\ brain.'$



$$f(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) = \begin{cases} 1 & \sum w_i x_i + b \ge 0\\ 0 & \sum w_i x_i + b < 0 \end{cases}$$

- ► For real-valued inputs and weights.
- Also models Boolean logic.
 - AND gate: set all w_i s to 1 and b = -n.
 - OR gate: set all w_i s to 1 and b = -1.
 - ▶ NOT gate: for just a single input x_1 , set w_1 to -1 and b = 0.
 - Can't model XOR gate.
 - Since {AND, OR, NOT} form a basis for all logic gates, combinations of perceptrons can model any logic function.

Detour – Linear Classifier

- Consider the function $y(\mathbf{x}) = \sum w_i x_i + w_0 = \mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x} + w_0$.
- Thresholding $y(\mathbf{x})$ against 0 divides input space into two regions.
 - \mathcal{R}_1 : where $y(\mathbf{x}) > 0$, and
 - $\blacktriangleright \ \mathcal{R}_2: \text{ where } y(\mathbf{x}) < 0.$
- The line y(x) = 0 is called the *linear decision boundary*.



Detour – Linear Classifier

- Weight vector **w** is always orthogonal to the decision boundary.
 - <u>Proof</u>: For any two points \mathbf{x}_A and \mathbf{x}_B on the boundary, $y(\mathbf{x}_A) = y(\mathbf{x}_B) = 0 \Rightarrow \mathbf{w}^T(\mathbf{x}_A - \mathbf{x}_B) = 0$. Since vector $\mathbf{x}_A - \mathbf{x}_B$ is along the boundary, \mathbf{w} must be orthogonal to it.



Detour – Linear Classifier

Normal distance of any point x from decision boundary can be computed as d = y(x)/||w||.
Proof:

$$\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{x}_{\perp} + d \frac{\mathbf{w}}{||\mathbf{w}||}$$

$$\Rightarrow \underbrace{\mathbf{w}^{\mathsf{T}} \mathbf{x} + \mathbf{w}_{0}}_{y(\mathbf{x})} = \underbrace{\mathbf{w}^{\mathsf{T}} \mathbf{x}_{\perp} + \mathbf{w}_{0}}_{y(\mathbf{x}_{\perp}) = 0} + d \underbrace{\mathbf{w}^{\mathsf{T}} \frac{\mathbf{w}}{||\mathbf{w}||}}_{||\mathbf{w}||}$$

$$\Rightarrow d = \frac{y(\mathbf{x})}{||\mathbf{w}||}$$

Note that this distance is a signed distance.

▶ Normal distance to boundary from origin (x = 0) is $\frac{w_0}{||w||}$.

$$\mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{w} = w_1^2 + w_2^2 = \|\mathbf{w}\|^2$$

- A perceptron is actually a linear classifier.
- It's weights w_i and b represent a line that divides input space into 2 regions.



A perceptron cannot model the XOR problem because XOR is not a linear classification problem. No single line can separate the 0s (black) from the 1s (white).

- ► A perceptron is actually a linear classifier.
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A perceptron cannot model the XOR problem because *XOR is not a linear* classification problem. No single line can separate the 0s (black) from the 1s (white). But combination of two lines can.

Multilayer Perceptrons

- Combination of perceptrons can solve the XOR problem.
- ▶ Two lines can divide the XOR space into 0-region and 1-region.



3 perceptrons can model XOR. Two perceptrons for the two lines and a final perceptron to combine them into a final decision. A *network* of 3 neurons is more powerful than 1 neuron. Just like the brain!

- ► *Importantly*, the weights of a perceptron can be learned.
- Perceptron learning rule:

$$w_i \leftarrow w_i + \eta(y-t)x_i$$

if output y and desired target t are different.