Implicit Regularization in Deep Matrix Factorization

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• Def of Deep matrix factorization

Since standard matrix factorization can be viewed as a two-layer neural network, a natural extension is to consider deeper models. A deep matrix factorization of $W \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times d'}$, with hidden dimensions $d_1, ..., d_{N-1} \in \mathbb{N}$ is the parameterization:

$$W = W_N W_{N-1} \cdots W_1$$

where $W_j \in \mathbb{R}^{d_j \times d_{j-1}} j = 1, ..., N$ with $d_N = d, d_0 = d'$.

With small enough learning rate and initialization close enough to the origin, gradient descent on a full-dimensional matrix factorization converges to the minimum nuclear norm solution.

2 Can the implicit regularization be captured by norms?



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• Hypothesis:

gradient descent on a depth-N matrix factorization implicitly minimizes some norm that approximates rank, with the approximation being more accurate the larger N is.

• Schatten-p quasi-norm $||W||_{S_p}^p = \sum_{r=1}^{\min(d,d')} \sigma_r^p(W)$ where $\sigma_i(W)$: singular value of W. Implicit regularization and matrix sensing former paper studied implicit regularization in shallow matrix factorization by considering recovery of a positive semidefinite matrix from sensing via symmetric measurements.

$$\min_{W \in S^d_+} I(W) = \min_{W \in S^d_+} \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^m (y_i - \langle A_i, W \rangle)^2 \dots (2)$$

where $A_1,...,A_m \in \mathbb{R}^{d,d}$ are symmtric and linearly independent

Thm 1

• Thm 1:

Assume the measurement matrices $A_1, ..., A_m$ commute. Then, if $\bar{W}_{sha} := \lim_{\alpha \to 0} W_{sha,\infty}(\alpha)$ exists and is a global optimum for (2) with $l(\bar{W}_{sha}) = 0$, it holds that $\bar{W}_{sha} \in \operatorname{argmin}_{W \in S^d_+, l(W) = 0} ||W||_*$ i.e \bar{W}_{sha} is a global optimum with minimal nuclear norm.

 W_{sha}(α): The final solution W = ZZ^T obtained from running gradient flow on I(ZZ^T) with initialization αI

$$\min_{W \in S^d_+} I(W) = \min_{W \in S^d_+} \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^m (y_i - \langle A_i, W_N W_{N-1} \dots W_1 \rangle)^2 \dots (3)$$

• Thm 2

Suppose $N \geq 3$, and that the matrices $A_1, ..., A_m$ commute. Then if $\overline{W}_{deep} := \lim_{\alpha \to 0} W_{deep,\infty}(\alpha)$ exists and is a global optimum for (3) with $I(\overline{W}_{deep}) = 0$, it holds that $\overline{W}_{deep} \in \operatorname{argmin}_{W \in S^d_+, I(W) = 0} ||W||_*$ i.e \overline{W}_{deep} is a global optimum with minimal nuclear norm.

Cannot explain implicit regularization with Schatten quasinorm

• Proposition 1

For any dimension $d \geq 3$, there exist linearly independent symmetric and commutable measurement matrices $A_1, ..., A_m \in \mathbb{R}^{d,d}$, and corresponding labels $y_1, ..., y_m \in \mathbb{R}$, such that the limit solution defined in Thm2 which has been shown to satisfy $\overline{W}_{deep} \in \operatorname{argmin}_{W \in S^d_+, l(W)=0} ||W||_*$ is not a local minimum of the following program for any 0

 $\min_{W \in S^d_+, I(W)=0} ||W||_{S_p}$



- Compare minimum nuclear norm solution to those brought forth by running gradient descent on matrix factorization of different depths.
- When there are less entries observed, neither shallow nor deep factorization minimize nuclear norm.

•
$$erank(A) = exp(H(p_1,...,p_Q))$$

where
$$\sigma_1, ..., \sigma_Q$$
: A^Q singular values , $p_k = \frac{\sigma_k}{||\sigma||_1}$
 $H(p_1, ..., p_Q) = -\sum_{k=1}^Q p_k \log p_k$

• Capturing implicit regularization in matrix factorization through a single mathematical norm may not be posiible.

2 Can the implicit regularization be captured by norms?



- We derive differential equations governing the dynamics of singular values and singular vectors for the product matrix W.
- Evolution rates of singular values turn out to be proportional to their size exponentiated by 2-2/N, where N is the depth of the factorization.
- We explain how our findings imply a tendency towards low-rank solutions, which intensifies with depth.

- $\phi(W_1,...,X_N) = I(W_N...W_1)$, where I: general analytic loss
- gradient flow over factorization:

$$\dot{W}_j(t):=rac{d}{dt}W_j(t)=-rac{d}{dW_j}\phi(W_1(t),...,W_N(t)),$$

$$j = 1, ..., N, t \ge 0$$

• Lemma:

The product matrix W(t) can be expressed as: $W(t) = U(t)S(t)V^{T}(t)$

where $U(t) \in \mathbb{R}^{d,\min(d,d')}$, $S(t) \in \mathbb{R}^{\min(d,d'),\min(d,d')}$, $V(t) \in \mathbb{R}^{d',\min(d,d')}$ are analytic functions of t

- The diagonal elements of S(t) , which we denote by $\sigma_1(t),...,\sigma_{\min(d,d')}(t)$ are signed singular values of W(t)
- The columns of U(t) and V(t), denoted u₁(t), ..., u_{min(d,d')}(t) and v₁, ..., v_{min(d,d')}(t) are the corresponding left and right singular vectors

• Thm3

The signed singular values of the product matrix $\mathsf{W}(t)$ evolve by:

$$\dot{\sigma_r}(t) = -N(\sigma_r^2(t))^{1-rac{1}{N}} <
abla l(W(t)), u_r(t)v_r^T(t) > ,$$

 $r = 1, ..., min(d, d')$

If the matric factorization is non-degenerate , i.e has depth $N\geq 2$, the singular values need not be signed(we may assume $\sigma_r(t)\geq 0$ for all t

Lemma

Assume that at initialization, the singular values of the product matirx W(t) are distinct and different from zero. Then, its singular vectors evolve by:

$$\begin{split} \dot{U}(t) &= -U(t) \left(F(t) \odot \left[U^{\top}(t) \nabla \ell(W(t)) V(t) S(t) + S(t) V^{\top}(t) \nabla \ell^{\top}(W(t)) U(t) \right] \right) \\ &- \left(I_d - U(t) U^{\top}(t) \right) \nabla \ell(W(t)) V(t) (S^2(t))^{\frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{N}} \\ \dot{V}(t) &= -V(t) \left(F(t) \odot \left[S(t) U^{\top}(t) \nabla \ell(W(t)) V(t) + V^{\top}(t) \nabla \ell^{\top}(W(t)) U(t) S(t) \right] \right) \\ &- \left(I_{d'} - V(t) V^{\top}(t) \right) \nabla \ell^{\top}(W(t)) U^{\top}(t) (S^2(t))^{\frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{N}}, \end{split}$$

where I_d and $I_{d'}$ are the identity matrices of sizes $d \times d$ and $d' \times d'$ respectively, \odot stands for the Hadamard product , and the matrix $F(t) \in \mathbb{R}^{\min(d,d')}$ is skew-symmetric with $((\sigma_{r'}^2)^{\frac{1}{n}} - (\sigma_r^2(t))^{\frac{1}{n}})^{-1}$ in its (r,r')'th entry, $r \neq r'$

• Corollary 1:

Assume the conditions of Lemma , and the matrix factorization is non-degenerative i.e has depth $N \ge 2$. Then, for any time t such that the singular vectors of the product matrix W(t) are stationary, i.e $\dot{W}(t) = 0$ and $\dot{V}(t) = 0$, it holds that $U^{T}(t) \bigtriangledown I(W(t))V(t)$ is diagonal, meaning they align with the singular vectors of $\bigtriangledown I(W(t))$

• Lemma and Corollary suggests that a "goal" of gradient flow on a deep matrix factorization is to align singular vectors of the product matrix with those of the gradient.

Empirical demonstration



- It shows that for a non-degenerate deep matrix factorization, i.e one with depth $N \ge 2$, under gradient descent with small learning rate and near-zero initialization, singular values of the product matrix are subject to an enhancement/attenuation effect as described above.
- Singular value is an implicit regularization towards low rank, which intensifies with depth.

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• Through theory and experiments, we questioned prevalent norm-based explanations for implicit regularization in matrix factorization, and offered an alternative, dynamical approach.