





Elements of Nonlinear Statistics and Neural Networks

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Outline

- Introduction: Motivation
- Classical Statistic Framework: Regression Analysis
- Regression Models (Linear & Nonlinear)
- NN Tutorial
- Some Atmospheric & Oceanic Applications
 - Accelerating Calculations of Model Physics in Numerical Models
- How to Apply NNs
- Conclusions

Motivations for This Seminar



- Problems for Classical Paradigm:
 - Nonlinearity & Complexity
 - High Dimensionality Curse of Dimensionality
- New Paradigm under Construction:
 - Is still quite fragmentary
 - Has many different names and gurus
 - NNs are one of the tools developed inside this paradigm

Materials presented here reflect personal opinions and experience of the author!

Statistical Inference:

A Generic Problem

Problem:

Information exists in the form of sets of values of several *related variables* (sample or training set) – a part of the <u>population</u>:

$$\{(x_1, x_2, ..., x_n)_p, z_p\}_{p=1,2,...,N}$$

 $-x_1, x_2, ..., x_n$ - independent variables (accurate),

- z response variable (may contain observation errors ε)
- We want to find responses z'_q for another set of independent variables $\{(x'_1, x'_2, ..., x'_n)_q\}_{q=1,...,M}$



Find mathematical function *f* which describes this relationship:

- 1. Identify the unknown function *f*
- 2. Imitate or emulate the unknown function *f*

Regression Analysis (2): Identification vs. Imitation



Regression Analysis (2): *A Generic Solution*

• The effect of *independent variables* on the *response* is expressed mathematically be the *regression or response function f:*

 $y = f(x_1, x_2, ..., x_n; a_1, a_2, ..., a_q)$

- y dependent variable
- *a*₁, *a*₂, ..., *a*_q regression parameters (unknown!)
- *f* the form is usually assumed to be known
- Regression model for observed response variable:

$$z = y + \varepsilon = f(x_1, x_2, ..., x_n; a_1, a_2, ..., a_q) + \varepsilon$$

ε - error in observed value z

Regression Models (1): Maximum Likelihood

Fischer suggested to determine unknown regression parameters {a_i}_{i=1,...,q} maximizing the functional:

$$L(a) = \sum_{i=1}^{N} \ln \left[\rho(y_i - f(x_i, a)) \right]$$

here $\rho(\varepsilon)$ is the probability density function of errors ε_i

 In a case when ρ(ε) is a normal distribution the maximum likelihood => least squares

Not always!!!

Regression Models (2): *Method of Least Squares*

 To find unknown regression parameters {a_i}_{i=1,2,...,q}, the method of least squares can be applied:

$$E(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_q) = \sum_{p=1}^{N} (z_p - y_p)^2 = \sum_{p=1}^{N} [z_p - f((x_1, \dots, x_n)_p; a_1, a_2, \dots, a_q)]^2$$

- $E(a_1,...,a_q)$ error function = the sum of squared deviations.
- To estimate {a_i}_{i=1,2,...,q} => minimize E => solve the system of equations:

$$\frac{\partial E}{\partial a_i} = 0; \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, q$$

• Linear and nonlinear cases.

Regression Models (3): *Examples of Linear Regressions*

• Simple Linear Regression:

 $z = a_0 + a_1 x_1 + \varepsilon$

• Multiple Linear Regression:

 $z = a_0 + a_1 x_1 + a_2 x_2 + ... + \varepsilon = a_0 + \sum a_i x_i + \varepsilon$

i=1

i=1

No free parameters

• Generalized Linear Regression:

 $z = a_0 + a_1 f_1(x_1) + a_2 f_2(x_2) + ... + \varepsilon = a_0 + \sum_{i=1}^{n} a_i f_i(x_i) + \varepsilon$

- Polynomial regression, $f_i(x) = x^i$,

$$z = a_0 + a_1 x + a_2 x^2 + a_3 x^3 + \dots + \varepsilon$$

- Trigonometric regression, $f_i(x) = cos(ix)$ $z = a_0 + a_1 cos(x) + a_1 cos(2x) + ... + \varepsilon$ **Regression Models (4):** *Examples of Nonlinear Regressions*

Response Transformation Regression:

 $G(z) = a_0 + a_1 x_1 + \varepsilon$

• Example:

 $z = \exp(a_0 + a_1 x_1)$ $G(z) = \ln(z) = a_0 + a_1 x_1$

• Projection-Pursuit Regression: $y = a_0 + \sum_{j=1}^{k} a_j f(\sum_{i=1}^{n} \Omega_{ji} x_i)$ • Example: k n

$$z = a_0 + \sum_{j=1}^{n} a_j \tanh(b_j + \sum_{i=1}^{n} \Omega_{ji} x_i) + a_{ji}$$

NN Tutorial: Introduction to Artificial NNs

- NNs as Continuous Input/Output Mappings
 - Continuous Mappings: definition and some examples
 - NN Building Blocks: neurons, activation functions, layers
 - Some Important Theorems
- NN Training
- Major Advantages of NNs
- Some Problems of Nonlinear Approaches

Mapping Generalization of Function

• Mapping: A rule of correspondence established between vectors in vector spaces and that associates each vector X of a vector space \Re^n with a vector Y in another vector space \Re^m .

$$Y = F(X)$$

$$X = \{x_1, x_2, ..., x_n\}, \in \Re^n$$

$$Y = \{y_1, y_2, ..., y_m\}, \in \Re^m$$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} y_1 = f_1(x_1, x_2, ..., x_n) \\ y_2 = f_2(x_1, x_2, ..., x_n) \\ \vdots \\ y_m = f_m(x_1, x_2, ..., x_n) \end{bmatrix}$$

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Mapping Y = F(X): examples

Time series prediction:

 $X = \{x_{t}, x_{t-1}, x_{t-2}, ..., x_{t-n}\}, - Lag vector$

 $Y = \{x_{t+1}, x_{t+2}, ..., x_{t+m}\}$ - Prediction vector

(Weigend & Gershenfeld, "Time series prediction", 1994)

- Calculation of precipitation climatology:
 - X = {Cloud parameters, Atmospheric parameters}
 - Y = {Precipitation climatology}
 - (Kondragunta & Gruber, 1998)
- Retrieving surface wind speed over the ocean from satellite data (SSM/I):
 - X = {SSM/I brightness temperatures}
 - $Y = \{W, V, L, SST\}$

(Krasnopolsky, et al., 1999; operational since 1998)

Calculation of long wave atmospheric radiation:

X = {Temperature, moisture, O₃, CO₂, cloud parameters profiles, surface fluxes, etc.}

Y = {Heating rates profile, radiation fluxes}

(Krasnopolsky et al., 2005)



Some Popular Activation Functions



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NN as a Universal Tool for Approximation of Continuous & Almost Continuous Mappings Some Basic Theorems:

- ➤ Any function or mapping Z = F (X), continuous on a compact subset, can be approximately represented by a p (p ≥ 3) layer NN in the sense of uniform convergence (e.g., Chen & Chen, 1995; Blum and Li, 1991, Hornik, 1991; Funahashi, 1989, etc.)
- The error bounds for the uniform approximation on compact sets (Attali & Pagès, 1997):

 $||Z - Y|| = ||F(X) - F_{NN}(X)|| \sim C/k$ k -number of neurons in the hidden layer C – does not depend on *n* (avoiding Curse of Dimensionality!)

NN training (1)

- For the mapping Z = F (X) create a training set set of matchups {X_i, Z_i}_{i=1,...,N}, where X_i is input vector and Z_i desired output vector
- Introduce an error or cost function $E_2^{:}$ $E(a,b) = ||Z - Y|| = \sum_{i=1}^{N} |Z_i - F_{NN}(X_i)|$, where $Y = F_{NN}(X)$ is neural network
- Minimize the cost function: min{E(a,b)} and find optimal weights (a₀, b₀)
- Notation: *W* = {*a*, *b*} all weights.



Backpropagation (BP) Training Algorithm

BP is a simplified steepest descent:

$$\Delta W = -\eta \frac{\partial E}{\partial W}$$

where W - any weight, E - error function,

 η - learning rate, and ΔW - weight increment

Derivative can be calculated analytically:

$$\frac{\partial E}{\partial W} = -2\sum_{i=1}^{N} [Z_i - F_{NN}(X_i)] \cdot \frac{\partial F_{NN}(X_i)}{\partial W}$$

- Weight adjustment after r-th iteration: $W^{r+1} = W^r + \Delta W$
- **BP** training algorithm is robust but slow



Generic Neural Network FORTRAN Code:



Major Advantages of NNs :

- NNs are very generic, accurate and convenient mathematical (statistical) models which are able to emulate numerical model components, which are complicated nonlinear input/output relationships (continuous or almost continuous mappings).
- > NNs avoid Curse of Dimensionality
- NNs are *robust* with respect to random noise and faulttolerant.
- NNs are analytically differentiable (training, error and sensitivity analyses): almost free Jacobian!
- > NNs emulations are accurate and fast but NO FREE LUNCH!
- Training is complicated and time consuming nonlinear optimization task; <u>however, training should be done only</u> <u>once for a particular application!</u>
- > Possibility of online adjustment
- > NNs are well-suited for parallel and vector processing

NNs & Nonlinear Regressions: Limitations (1)

• Flexibility and Interpolation:



NNs & Nonlinear Regressions: Limitations (2)

- Consistency of estimators: α is a consistent estimator of parameter A, if $\alpha \rightarrow A$ as the size of the sample $n \rightarrow N$, where N is the size of the population.
- For NNs and Nonlinear Regressions consistency can be usually "proven" only numerically.
- Additional independent data sets are required for test (demonstrating consistency of estimates).

ARTIFICIAL NEURAL NETWORKS: BRIEF HISTORY

• 1943 - McCulloch and Pitts introduced a model of the neuron

Modeling the single neuron



- 1962 Rosenblat introduced the one layer "perceptrons", the model neurons, connected up in a simple fashion.
- 1969 Minsky and Papert published the book which practically "closed the field"
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ARTIFICIAL NEURAL NETWORKS: BRIEF HISTORY

 1986 - Rumelhart and McClelland proposed the "multilayer perceptron" (MLP) and showed that it is a perfect application for parallel distributed processing.

The multilayer perceptron



 From the end of the 80's there has been explosive growth in applying NNs to various problems in different fields of science and technology

Atmospheric and Oceanic NN Applications

- Satellite Meteorology and Oceanography
 - Classification Algorithms
 - Pattern Recognition, Feature Extraction Algorithms
 - Change Detection & Feature Tracking Algorithms
 - Fast Forward Models for Direct Assimilation
 - Accurate Transfer Functions (Retrieval Algorithms)
- Predictions
 - Geophysical time series
 - Regional climate
 - Time dependent processes
- Accelerating and Inverting Blocks in Numerical Models
- Data Fusion & Data Mining
- Interpolation, Extrapolation & Downscaling
- Nonlinear Multivariate Statistical Analysis
- Hydrological Applications

Developing Fast NN Emulations for Parameterizations of Model Physics

Atmospheric Long & Short Wave Radiations

General Circulation Model

The set of conservation laws (mass, energy, momentum, water vapor, ozone, etc.)

• First Priciples/Prediction 3-D Equations on the Sphere:

$$\frac{\partial \psi}{\partial t} + D(\psi, x) = P(\psi, x)$$

- ψ a 3-D prognostic/dependent variable, e.g., temperature
- x a 3-D independent variable: x, y, z & t
- D dynamics (spectral or gridpoint)
- P physics or parameterization of physical processes (1-D vertical r.h.s. forcing)
- Continuity Equation
- Thermodynamic Equation
- Momentum Equations

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General Circulation Model

Physics – P, represented by 1-D (vertical) parameterizations

- Major components of *P* = {*R*, *W*, *C*, *T*, *S*}:
 - R radiation (long & short wave processes)
 - W convection, and large scale precipitation processes
 - C clouds
 - T-turbulence
 - **S** surface model (land, ocean, ice air interaction)
- Each component of *P* is a 1-D parameterization of complicated set of multi-scale theoretical and empirical physical process models <u>simplified for</u> <u>computational reasons</u>
- P is the <u>most time consuming</u> part of GCMs!

Distribution of Total Climate Model Calculation Time



^{89%}

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Generic Problem in Numerical Models Parameterizations of Physics are Mappings



Y=F(X)

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Generic Solution – "NeuroPhysics"

Accurate and Fast NN Emulation for Physics Parameterizations Learning from Data



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NN for NCAR CAM Physics

CAM Long Wave Radiation

Long Wave Radiative Transfer:

$$F^{\downarrow}(p) = B(p_t) \cdot \varepsilon(p_t, p) + \int_{p_t}^{p} \alpha(p_t, p) \cdot dB(p')$$

$$F^{\uparrow}(p) = B(p_{s}) - \int_{p}^{p_{s}} \alpha(p, p') \cdot dB(p')$$

 $B(p) = \sigma \cdot T^{4}(p)$ - the Stefan - Boltzman relation

Absorptivity & Emissivity (optical properties):

$$\alpha(p, p') = \frac{\int_{0}^{\infty} \{dB_{v}(p') / dT(p')\} \cdot (1 - \tau_{v}(p, p')) \cdot dy}{dB(p) / dT(p)}$$

$$\varepsilon(p_{t}, p) = \frac{\int_{0}^{\infty} B_{v}(p_{t}) \cdot (1 - \tau_{v}(p_{t}, p)) \cdot dv}{B(p_{t})}$$

$$B_{v}(p) - the Plank function$$

Magic of NN performance



- OP Numerical Performance is Determined by:
 - Numerical complexity (NC) of OP
 - Complexity of OP
 Mathematics
 - Complexity of Physical Processes



- NN Emulation Numerical Performance is Determined by:
 - NC of NN emulation
 - Functional Complexity (FC) of OP, i.e. Complexity of I/O Relationship: Y = F(X)

• Explanation of Magic of NN Performance:

- Usually, FC of OP << NC of OP
 AS A RESULT
- NC of NN Emulation ~ FC of OP

and

NC of NN Emulation << NC of OP

Neural Network for NCAR LW Radiation NN characteristics

• 220 Inputs:

- 10 Profiles: temperature; humidity; ozone, methane, cfc11, cfc12, & N₂O mixing ratios, pressure, cloudiness, emissivity
- Relevant surface characteristics: surface pressure, upward LW flux on a surface - flwupcgs

• 33 Outputs:

- Profile of heating rates (26)
- 7 LW radiation fluxes: flns, flnt, flut, flnsc, flntc, flutc, flwds
- Hidden Layer: One layer with 50 to 300 neurons
- Training: nonlinear optimization in the space with dimensionality of 15,000 to 100,000
 - <u>Training Data Set:</u> Subset of about 200,000 instantaneous profiles simulated by CAM for the 1-st year
 - Training time: about 2 to 40 days (SGI workstation)
 - Training iterations: 1,500 to 8,000

• Validation on Independent Data:

Validation Data Set (independent data): about 200,000 instantaneous profiles simulated by CAM for the 2-nd year

Neural Network for NCAR SW Radiation

• 451 Inputs:

- 21 Profiles: specific humidity, ozone concentration, pressure, cloudiness, aerosol mass mixing ratios, etc
- 7 Relevant surface characteristics

• 33 Outputs:

- Profile of heating rates (26)
- 7 LW radiation fluxes: fsns, fsnt, fsdc, sols, soll, solsd, solld
- Hidden Layer: One layer with 50 to 200 neurons
- Training: nonlinear optimization in the space with dimensionality of 25,000 to 130,000
 - <u>Training Data Set:</u> Subset of about 100,000 instantaneous profiles simulated by CAM for the 1-st year
 - Training time: about 2 to 40 days (SGI workstation)
 - Training iterations: 1,500 to 8,000

• Validation on Independent Data:

Validation Data Set (independent data): about 100,000 instantaneous profiles simulated by CAM for the 2-nd year

NN Approximation Accuracy and Performance vs. Original Parameterization

Parameter	Model	Bias	RMSE	Mean	σ	Performance
LWR (°K/day) NN150	NASA	1. 10 -4	0.32	1.52	1.46	
	NCAR	3. 10 ⁻⁵	0.28	-1.40	1.98	~ 150 times faster
SWR (°K/day) NN150	NCAR	6. 10 ⁻⁴	0.19	1.47	1.89	~ 20 times faster

Error Vertical Variability Profiles



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Individual Profiles



PRMSE = 0.18 & 0.10 K/day

PRMSE = 0.11 & 0.06 K/day

PRMSE = 0.05 & 0.04 K/day

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NCAR CAM-2: 10 YEAR EXPERIMENTS

- CONTROL: the standard NCAR CAM version (available from the CCSM web site) with the original Long-Wave Radiation (LWR) (e.g. Collins, JAS, v. 58, pp. 3224-3242, 2001)
- LWR/NN: the hybrid version of NCAR CAM with NN emulation of the LWR (Krasnopolsky, Fox-Rabinovitz, and Chalikov, 2005, *Monthly Weather Review*, 133, 1370-1383)

PRESERVATION of Global Annual Means

Parameter	Original LWR Parameterization	NN Approximation	Difference in %
Mean Sea Level Pressure (<i>hPa</i>)	1011.480	1011.481	0.0001
Surface Temperature (<i>%</i>)	289.003	289.001	0.0007
Total Precipitation (<i>mm/day</i>)	2.275	2.273	0.09
Total Cloudiness (<i>fractions 0.1 to 1.</i>)	0.607	0.609	0.3
LWR Heating Rates (<i>°K/day</i>)	-1.698	-1.700	0.1
Outgoing LWR – OLR (<i>W/m</i> ²)	234.4	234.6	0.08
4/4 & 25/4	82.84 IOAA V.Krasnopolsky, "	82.82 Nonlinear Statistics and	0.03



NCAR CAM-2 Zonal Mean U 10 Year Average

60

30

25

20

15

10

5

O

-5

-10

-15

-20

(a)– Original LWR Parameterization
(b)- NN Approximation
(c)- Difference (a) – (b), contour 0.2 m/sec

all in *m*/sec

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NCAR CAM-2 Zonal Mean Temperature 10 Year Average

(a)– Original LWR Parameterization
(b)- NN Approximation
(c)- Difference (a) – (b), contour 0.1 %

240

230

220

210

200

190

all in *K*

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NCAR CAM-2 Total Cloudiness 10 Year Average

(a)– Original LWR Parameterization
(b)- NN Approximation
(c)- Difference (a) – (b), all *in fractions*

	Mean	Min	Max
(a)	0.607	0.07	0.98
(b)	0.608	0.06	0.98
(c)	0.002	-0.05	0.05

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1.1

0.9

0.8

0.7

0.6

0.5

0.4

0.3

0.2

0.1

0



NCAR CAM-2 Total Precipitation 10 Year Average

(a)– Original LWR
Parameterization
(b)- NN Approximation
(c)- Difference (a) – (b),

all in *mm/day*

	Mean	Min	Max
(a)	2.275	0.02	15.21
(b)	2.273	0.02	14.52
(c)	0.002	0.94	0.65

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10

9

2

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How to Develop NNs: An Outline of the Approach (1)

- **Problem Analysis:**
 - Are traditional approaches unable to solve your problem?
 - At all
 - With desired accuracy
 - With desired speed, etc.
 - Are NNs well-suited for solving your problem?
 - Nonlinear mapping
 - Classification
 - Clusterization, etc.
 - Do you have a first guess for NN architecture?
 - Number of inputs and outputs
 - Number of hidden neurons

How to Develop NNs: An Outline of the Approach (2)

Data Analysis

- How noisy are your data?
 - May change architecture or even technique
- Do you have enough data?
- For selected architecture:
 - 1) Statistics => $N_A^1 > n_W$
 - 2) Geometry => N_A^2 > 2^n
 - $N_{A}^{1} < N_{A} < N_{A}^{2}$
 - To represent all possible patterns => N_R
 N_{TR} = max(N_A, N_R)

- Add for test set: $N = N_{TR} \times (1 + \tau); \tau > 0.5$

- Add for validation: $N = N_{TR} \times (1 + \tau + v); v > 0.5$



How to Develop NNs: An Outline of the Approach (3)

- Training
 - Try different initializations
 - If results are not satisfactory, then goto Data Analysis or Problem Analysis
- Validation (must for any nonlinear tool!)
 - Apply trained NN to independent validation data
 - If statistics are not consistent with those for training and test sets, go back to Training or Data Analysis

Conclusions

- There is an obvious trend in scientific studies:
 - From simple, linear, single-disciplinary, low dimensional systems
 - To complex, nonlinear, multi-disciplinary, high dimensional systems
- There is a corresponding trend in math & statistical tools:
 - From simple, linear, single-disciplinary, low dimensional tools and models
 - To complex, nonlinear, multi-disciplinary, high dimensional tools and models
- Complex, nonlinear tools have advantages & limitations: learn how to use advantages & avoid limitations!
- Check your toolbox and follow the trend, otherwise you may miss the train!

Recommended Reading

- Regression Models:
 - B. Ostle and L.C. Malone, "Statistics in Research", 1988
- NNs, Introduction:
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