

# Lipschitz continuity and neural networks

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$f : (X, d_X) \rightarrow (Y, d_Y)$  is  $\lambda$ -Lipschitz if

$$d_Y(f(x_1), f(x_2)) \leq \lambda \cdot d_X(x_1, x_2)$$

holds for  $\forall x_1, x_2 \in X$ . The smallest such  $\lambda$  is the Lipschitz norm

$$\|f\|_L = \sup_{x_1, x_2 \in X; x_1 \neq x_2} \frac{d_Y(f(x_1), f(x_2))}{d_X(x_1, x_2)},$$

which quantifies how much  $f$  can dilate distances.

Why  $\|f\|_L$  matters when  $f$  is a neural network, and how to estimate  $\|f\|_L$  or enforce  $\|f\|_L \leq \lambda$ ?

## Why?

- Adversarial methods

  - Wasserstein GAN

  - Mutual Information Neural Estimation

- Generalization, robustness, stability

## How?

- Lipschitz regularization

  - Penalty methods

  - Normalization methods

- Lipschitz constant estimation

Why?

$$\mu, \nu \in P(X) :$$

$$\pi \in \Pi(\mu, \nu) \subset P(X \times X)$$

$$\iff$$

$$\forall A \subset X : \pi(A \times X) = \mu(A) \wedge \pi(X \times A) = \nu(A)$$

$$W(\mu, \nu) = \inf_{\pi \in \Pi(\mu, \nu)} \mathbb{E}_{(x_1, x_2) \sim \pi} d(x_1, x_2)$$

$\implies (P(X), W)$  is a metric space!

Kantorovich-Rubinstein:

$$W(\mu, \nu) = \inf_{\pi \in \Pi(\mu, \nu)} \mathbb{E}_{(x_1, x_2) \sim \pi} d(x_1, x_2) = \sup_{\|f\|_L \leq 1} \mathbb{E}_{x \sim \mu} f(x) - \mathbb{E}_{x \sim \nu} f(x)$$

Wasserstein GAN [Arjovsky et al., 2017]:

$$\min_{\theta_g \in \mathbb{R}^m} \max_{\theta_f \in \mathbb{R}^n, \|f(\cdot, \theta_f)\|_L \leq 1} \mathbb{E}_{x \sim \mu} f(x, \theta_f) - \mathbb{E}_{z \sim \zeta} f(g(z, \theta_g), \theta_f)$$

$\implies$  *gradient vanishing* solved

Non-Wasserstein GANs with  $\|f(\cdot, \theta_f)\|_L \leq \lambda$  [Zhou et al., 2019]:

$\implies$  *gradient uninformaticiveness* solved

How to enforce  $\|f(\cdot, \theta_f)\|_L \leq \lambda$ ?

$\alpha > 1$  :

$$W(\mu, \nu)^\alpha = \sup_{f \in \text{Lip}(X)} \mathbb{E}_{x \sim \mu} f(x) - \mathbb{E}_{x \sim \nu} f(x) - (\alpha - 1) \alpha^{\frac{\alpha}{1-\alpha}} \|f\|_L^{\frac{\alpha}{\alpha-1}}$$

Unconstrained Wasserstein GAN:

$$\min_{\theta_g \in \mathbb{R}^m} \max_{\theta_f \in \mathbb{R}^n} \mathbb{E}_{x \sim \mu} f(x, \theta_f) - \mathbb{E}_{z \sim \zeta} f(g(z, \theta_g), \theta_f) - (\alpha - 1) \alpha^{\frac{\alpha}{1-\alpha}} \|f(\cdot, \theta_f)\|_L^{\frac{\alpha}{\alpha-1}}$$

How to estimate  $\nabla_{\theta_f} \|f(\cdot, \theta_f)\|_L$ ?

Radon-Nykodim:

$$\mu, \nu \in P(X)$$

$$\forall A \subset X : \nu(A) = 0 \implies \mu(A) = 0$$

$$\implies$$

$$\exists \frac{d\mu}{d\nu} : X \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \text{ s.t. } \forall A \subset X : \mu(A) = \int_A \frac{d\mu}{d\nu} d\nu$$

Kullback-Leibler:

$$D(\mu \parallel \nu) = \mathbb{E}_{x \sim \mu} \frac{d\mu}{d\nu}(x)$$

Mutual Information:

$$I(X, Y) = D(\mu_{XY} \parallel \mu_X \times \mu_Y)$$



Donsker-Varadhan:

$$D(\mu\|\nu) = \mathbb{E}_{x\sim\mu} \frac{d\mu}{d\nu}(x) = \sup_{f\in B(X)} \mathbb{E}_{x\sim\mu} f(x) - \log \mathbb{E}_{x\sim\nu} e^{f(x)}$$

Mutual information maximization [Belghazi et al., 2018]:

$$\min_{\theta_g\in\mathbb{R}^m} \max_{\theta_f\in\mathbb{R}^n} \mathbb{E}_{x\sim\mu} f((x, g(x, \theta_g)), \theta_f) - \log \mathbb{E}_{x_1\sim\mu, x_2\sim\mu} e^{f((x_1, g(x_2, \theta_g)), \theta_f)}$$

Additional Lipschitz constraint  $\|f(\cdot, \theta_f)\|_L \leq \lambda$  [Ozair et al., 2019]:

$\implies$  *high sample complexity solved*

Moreau-Yosida:

$$F_\lambda(x) = \inf_y F(y) + \lambda d(x, y)$$

$$F : (X, d) \rightarrow [0, \infty) \text{ lsc} \implies F_\lambda(x) \xrightarrow{\lambda \rightarrow \infty} F(x) \wedge \|F_\lambda\|_L \leq \lambda$$

Applied to  $(\mu \rightarrow D(\mu\|\nu)) : (P(X), W) \rightarrow [0, \infty)$ :

$$\begin{aligned} D_\lambda(\mu\|\nu) &:= \inf_{\xi \in P(X)} D(\xi\|\nu) + \lambda W(\mu, \xi) \\ &= \sup_{\|f\|_L \leq \lambda} \mathbb{E}_{x \sim \mu} f(x) - \log \mathbb{E}_{x \sim \nu} e^{f(x)} \end{aligned}$$

$$D_\lambda(\mu\|\nu) \xrightarrow{\lambda \rightarrow \infty} D(\mu\|\nu) \wedge \|(\mu \rightarrow D_\lambda(\mu\|\nu))\|_L \leq \lambda$$



*Generalization* theory of deep neural networks

[Bartlett et al., 2017, Wei and Ma, 2020]: Lipschitz continuity is a key component for proving generalization error bounds.

*Adversarial robustness* [Tsuzuku et al., 2018]: robustness certificates can be given based on Lipschitz continuity properties.

*Model-based reinforcement learning* [Asadi et al., 2018]: a Lipschitz continuous transition function implies a Lipschitz continuous estimated value function and error bounds for both value estimation and multi-step prediction.

*How to estimate or upper bound  $\|f(\cdot, \theta_f)\|_L$ ?*

How?



Lipschitz regularization of neural networks divides into two main approaches.

One is to quantify the violation of the Lipschitz condition to be enforced by a data-dependent *penalty*, which is then added to the training objective.

The other includes *normalization* techniques for weight matrices and Lipschitz continuous activation functions, mostly based on the composition property  $\|f_2 \circ f_1\|_L \leq \|f_1\|_L \cdot \|f_2\|_L$ .

Rademacher:

$$\|f\|_L < \infty \implies \|(x \rightarrow \|\nabla_x f(x)\|_2)\|_\infty = \|f\|_L$$

Gradient penalty:

$$\max \{ \|\nabla_x f(x)\|_2 - \lambda, 0 \}$$

Wasserstein GAN with gradient penalty [Gulrajani et al., 2017]:

$$\begin{aligned} \min_{\theta_g \in \mathbb{R}^m} \max_{\theta_f \in \mathbb{R}^n} & \mathbb{E}_{x \sim \mu} f(x, \theta_f) - \mathbb{E}_{z \sim \zeta} f(g(z, \theta_g), \theta_f) \\ & - \ell \cdot \mathbb{E}_{x \sim \rho} (\max \{ \|\nabla_x f(x, \theta_f)\|_2 - 1, 0 \})^2 \end{aligned}$$

Lipschitz penalty:

$$\max \left\{ \frac{|f(x_1) - f(x_2)|}{\|x_1 - x_2\|_2} - \lambda, 0 \right\}$$

Wasserstein GAN with Lipschitz penalty [Petzka et al., 2018]:

$$\begin{aligned} & \min_{\theta_g \in \mathbb{R}^m} \max_{\theta_f \in \mathbb{R}^n} \mathbb{E}_{x \sim \mu} f(x, \theta_f) - \mathbb{E}_{z \sim \zeta} f(g(z, \theta_g), \theta_f) \\ & - \ell \cdot \mathbb{E}_{(x_1, x_2) \sim \rho} \left( \max \left\{ \frac{|f(x_1, \theta_f) - f(x_2, \theta_f)|}{\|x_1 - x_2\|_2} - 1, 0 \right\} \right)^2 \end{aligned}$$

$\implies$  divergent training

## Adversarial Lipschitz penalty



$$\|f\|_L = \sup_{d(x, x+r) > 0} \left\{ \frac{|f(x) - f(x+r)|}{d(x, x+r)} \right\}$$

Lipschitz adversarial perturbation:

$$r_{adv}(x) = \arg \max_{d(x, x+r) > 0} \left\{ \frac{|f(x) - f(x+r)|}{d(x, x+r)} \right\}$$

Adversarial Lipschitz penalty:

$$\max \left\{ \frac{|f(x) - f(x + r_{adv}(x))|}{\|r_{adv}(x)\|_2} - \lambda, 0 \right\}$$

Wasserstein GAN with adversarial Lipschitz penalty [Terjék, 2020]:

$$\rho = (x \rightarrow (x, x + r_{adv}(x)))_{\#} \frac{1}{2} (\mu + g(\cdot, \theta_g)_{\#} \zeta)$$

$\implies$  convergent training



## Approximation of $r_{adv}(x)$



$$\forall x \in \mathbb{R}^n : r \rightarrow |f(x) - f(x + r)| : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

has a global minimum at  $r = 0$ , implying that

$$\nabla_r |f(x) - f(x + r)|(0) = 0,$$

so the 2nd order Taylor approximation at  $r = 0$  is

$$|f(x) - f(x + r)| \approx \frac{1}{2} r \cdot \text{Hess}_r |f(x) - f(x + r)|(0) \cdot r^T,$$

which is locally maximized by the first eigenvector of the Hessian. Power iteration with Hessian-vector products converges to the direction of greatest change in  $f(x)$  at  $x$ .

$r_{adv}(x)$  is then approximated by a random magnitude perturbation towards this adversarial direction.

$$\theta_f \in K \subset \mathbb{R}^n, K \text{ compact} \implies \|f(\cdot, \theta_f)\|_L \leq \lambda(K)$$

Weight clipping [Arjovsky et al., 2017]:

$$\theta_f \in [-c, c]^n$$

## Spectral normalization

$\|\cdot\|_L$  of affine maps:

$$(x \rightarrow M \cdot x + b) : (\mathbb{R}^k, \|\cdot\|_2) \rightarrow (\mathbb{R}^l, \|\cdot\|_2)$$

$$\implies \|(x \rightarrow Mx + b)\|_L = \sigma_1(M)$$

Spectral normalization [Miyato et al., 2018]:

$$\bar{M} = \frac{M}{\sigma_1(M)}$$

Approximation of  $\sigma_1(M)$ :

$$v_{i+1} = \frac{1}{\|M^T u_i\|_2} M^T u_i, \quad u_{i+1} = \frac{1}{\|M v_{i+1}\|_2} M v_{i+1}$$

$$\sigma_1(M) \approx u^T M v$$



*Gradient norm attenuation:*

$\|f\|_L = 1 \implies$  backpropagating a gradient through  $f$  can only decrease its norm, potentially resulting in nonlinear capacity being underused.

*Gradient norm preserving* architectures [Anil et al., 2019]:  
Orthogonal weight matrices with GroupSort activations  $\implies$   
universal approximation of 1-Lipschitz functions.

Spectrally normalized ReLU NNs with GNP property *are linear*.



*Orthogonality* does not sacrifice capacity [Anil et al., 2019]:

Spectrally normalized layers can be replaced by layers with  $\sigma_1(M) = \dots = \sigma_k(M) = 1$ , resulting in an equivalent NN  $\implies$  orthogonalization effectively reduces the hypothesis space.







Exact computation of  $\|f(\cdot, \theta_f)\|_L$  is NP-hard  
[Virmaux and Scaman, 2018, Jordan and Dimakis, 2020]

POP for upper bounds [Gómez et al., 2020]



Hierarchies of SDPs for increasingly tight upper bounds  
[Fazlyab et al., 2019, Chen et al., 2020]



MIP for exact computation, upper bounds if stopped early  
[Jordan and Dimakis, 2020]



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