



Understanding the Generalization Ability of Deep Learning Algorithms: A Kernelized Rényi's Entropy Perspective

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MLA 2023

Generalization Analysis

Method	Uniform Stability	Information Theory
Representative Work	[2016] Train faster, generalize better: Stability of stochastic gradient descent	[2017] Information-theoretic analysis of generalization capability of learning algorithms
Assumptions	Strong Assumptions Lipschitz Condition Smoothness (Strong) Convexity	Weak Assumptions Sub-gaussian
Computability	Not computable	Computable

Existing Problems

Information-theoretic generalization bound for SGLD [1]:

$$|\text{gen}(W, S)| \triangleq |\mathbb{E}_{W, S}[L(W) - L_S(W)]|$$

Generalization Error

$$\leq \sqrt{\frac{2R^2 I(W; S)}{n}}$$

Not computable

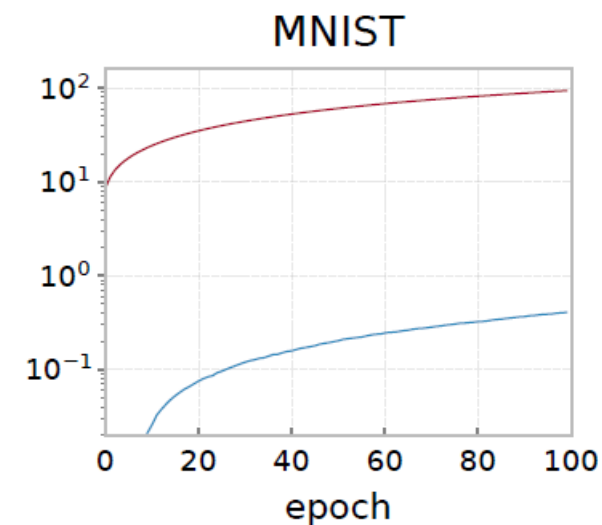
$$\leq \sqrt{\frac{2R^2 \sum_{t=1}^T I(W_t; B_t | W_{t-1})}{n}}$$

Not computable

$$\leq \sqrt{\frac{R^2 \sum_{t=1}^T \frac{\eta_t^2 V_t}{\sigma_t^2}}{n}}$$

Computable Upper Bound

$10^2 \times \sim 10^3 \times$
Gap



[1] Hao Wang, et al. Analyzing the generalization capability of SGLD using properties of gaussian channels. NeurIPS, 2021.

➤ Kernelized Rényi's Entropy

Shannon's entropy is not computable for high-dimensional random variables:

Shannon's Entropy

$$H(X) = - \int_{\mathcal{X}} p(x) \log p(x) dx$$

Recently, matrix-based Rényi's entropy enables direct estimation of entropy from data [2].

Take the infinite-sample case, we now have kernelized Rényi's entropy of order $\alpha \rightarrow 1$:

Kernelized Rényi's Entropy

$$S_1(X) = -C_{\phi} \iint_{\mathcal{X}^2} p(x) \log p(x') \phi^2(x, x') dx dx'$$

[2] Giraldo et al. Measures of entropy from data using infinitely divisible kernels. IEEE Transactions on Information Theory. 2014.

➤ Kernelized Rényi's Entropy

Essential properties of Shannon's entropy are inherited by our definition:

- $I_1(X; Y) = D_1(P_{X,Y} \parallel P_X \otimes P_Y) \geq 0$.
- $I_1(X; Y) = S_1(X) + S_1(Y) - S_1(X, Y)$.
- $I_1(X; Y|Z) = I_1(X; Y, Z) - I_1(X; Z) = I_1(X, Z; Y) - I_1(Z; Y)$.
- Given Markov chain relationship $X \rightarrow Y \rightarrow Z$, we have $\min(I_1(X; Y), I_1(Y; Z)) \geq I_1(X; Z)$.

Theorem 1

Let $\{x_i\}_{i=1}^m$ be i.i.d data points sampled from X , and let $K \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times m}$ be the kernel matrix constructed by $K_{ij} = \frac{1}{m} \phi(x_i, x_j)$. Then with confidence $1 - \delta$,

$$|S_1(X) - \hat{S}_1(X)| \leq \frac{9C_\phi \sqrt{2 \log \frac{2}{\delta}}}{\sqrt[3]{m}},$$

Where $\hat{S}_1(X) = -C_\phi \text{tr}(K \log K)$.

Our Contributions

Introduce kernelized Rényi's mutual information: $I \leftrightarrow I_1$

$$|\text{gen}(W, S)| \triangleq |\mathbb{E}_{W, S}[L(W) - L_S(W)]|$$

Generalization Error

$$\leq \sqrt{\frac{2R^2 I_1(W; S)}{n}}$$

Computable

$$\leq \sqrt{\frac{2R^2 \sum_{t=1}^T I_1(W_t; B_t | W_{t-1})}{n}}$$

Computable

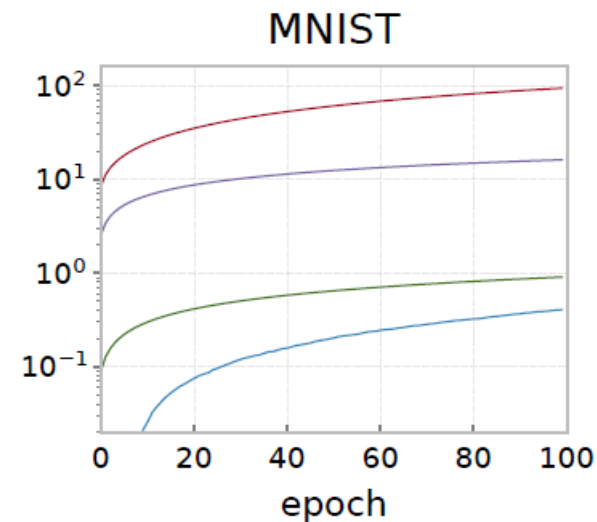
$$\leq \sqrt{\frac{R^2 \sum_{t=1}^T \log \left| \frac{\eta_t^2 \mathbb{V}_{t+I}}{\sigma_t^2} \right|}{n}}$$

Ours Upper Bound

$$\leq \sqrt{\frac{R^2 \sum_{t=1}^T \frac{\eta_t^2 V_t}{\sigma_t^2}}{n}}$$

Previous Upper Bound

5x ~ 10x
Improvement



The background of the slide features a grayscale image of a large, multi-story building with a central clock tower. Several white doves are depicted in flight, with one prominently in the upper left and others scattered across the lower portion of the image. A large, solid red rectangular block is positioned in the lower-left to center area, serving as a backdrop for the main text.

Thank You !

For questions, please write to dongyuxin@stu.xjtu.edu.cn.

MLA 2023