

# Deep learning theory Lecture 13

Consider single layer neural networks of the form

$$f_{\theta}(x) = \frac{1}{\underline{m}} \sum_{j=1}^m a_j \sigma(w_j x)$$

Note the different scaling wrt. the NTK regime.  
We assume the following statistical model

$$y_j = f^*(x_j) + \varepsilon_j \quad \varepsilon_j \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \tau^2)$$

We aim to minimize the MSE

$$\mathcal{R}(\theta) = \frac{1}{2} \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} |f_{\theta}(x) - f^*(x)|^2 P(dx) + \cancel{\tau^2}$$

excess risk

This can be written as

$$f_{\theta}(x) = \frac{1}{m} \sum_{j=1}^m a_j \sigma(w_j x)$$

$$= \int_{\mathbb{R}^{d+1+1}} a \sigma(w x) \left( \frac{1}{m} \sum_{j=1}^m \delta(a - a_j) \delta(w - w_j) \right) dw da$$

$$= \int_{\mathbb{R}^{d+2}} a \sigma(w x) \mu_n(da, dw)$$

(mean field)

where  $\mu_n(da, dw) = \frac{1}{m} \sum_{j=1}^m \delta(w - w_j) \delta(a - a_j) dw da$

Note: we can describe the network as a linear function of  $\mu_n$  (the state of the network)

$$f[\mu](x) = \int a \sigma(w \cdot x) \mu(da, dw)$$

furthermore,  $\mu$  is invariant under permutation of neuron indices, and

$$R[\mu] = \int \left( \int a \sigma(w \cdot x) \mu(da, dw) - f_*(x) \right)^2 P(dx)$$

is convex in  $\mu$  (composition of convex functions).

Furthermore, note that at initialization the limit  $n \rightarrow \infty$  is well-defined: if  $a_j, w_j \stackrel{\text{iid}}{\sim} p(a, w)$

$$\mu_n \xrightarrow[n \rightarrow \infty]{w} \mu$$

The price to pay is that the network lives in an  $\infty$ -dimensional space.

The dynamics

The dynamics of each "particle" is

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{d}{dt} a_j &= -\partial_{a_j} \int \left( \frac{1}{m} \sum_i a_i \sigma(w_i x) - f_*(x) \right)^2 P(dx) \\ &= -\frac{1}{m} \int \sigma(w_j x) \left( \frac{1}{m} \sum_i a_i \sigma(w_i x) - f_*(x) \right) P \\ &= -\frac{1}{m} \int \sigma(w_j x) \left( \int a \sigma(wx) \mu(da d\omega) - f_*(x) \right) P \\ &\quad + \eta \frac{dB_t}{dt}\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{d}{dt} w_j &= -\frac{1}{m} x \int a_j \sigma'(w_j x) \left( \int a \sigma(wx) \mu(da d\omega) - f_*(x) \right) P \\ &\quad + \eta \frac{dB_t}{dt}\end{aligned}$$

Changing time we have

$$\frac{d}{dt} \begin{pmatrix} a_j \\ w_j \end{pmatrix} = V[\mu] \begin{pmatrix} a_j \\ w_j \end{pmatrix} = D_{\begin{pmatrix} a \\ w \end{pmatrix}} \left( a \sigma(w \cdot x) (\dots) \right) P(dx) + \eta \frac{dB_t}{dt}$$

$$V[\mu] \begin{pmatrix} a \\ w \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \int \sigma(wx) \left( \int a' \sigma(w'x) \mu(da' d\omega') - f_*(x) \right) P(dx) \\ x \int a \sigma'(wx) \left( \int a' \sigma(w'x) \mu(da' d\omega') - f_*(x) \right) P(dx) \end{pmatrix}$$

This vector field can be evaluated at any point  $(\frac{\sigma}{\omega})$

The equation that evolves the measure  $\mu$  is the continuity equation:

$$\partial_t \mu_t = -\operatorname{div}(\mu_t \cdot v(\sigma)) + \frac{1}{2} \eta \Delta \mu_t$$

in this case  $v(\sigma) = v[\mu_t](\sigma)$  (mean-field)

$$\begin{aligned} \partial_t \mu_t &= -\operatorname{div}\left(\mu_t \left(-D_\sigma \int \sigma(w \cdot x) \left(\int \sigma(w \cdot x) \mu_t - f_*\right) P(dx)\right)\right) \\ &\quad + \frac{1}{2} \eta \Delta \mu_t \\ &= -\operatorname{div}\left(\mu_t \left(-D_\sigma \frac{\delta}{\delta \mu} R'(\mu_t)\right)\right) \quad (\text{MF-PDE}) \end{aligned}$$

$\searrow$  variational derivative

$\Rightarrow$  Gradient flow in  $\mathcal{W}_2$  space of

$$\frac{1}{2} \int \left| \int \sigma(w \cdot x) \mu_t(dw, dx) - f_* \right|^2 P(dx) + \eta \int \mu_t \log(\mu_t)$$

For a solution  $\mu_t$  of MF-PDE we write the flow map

$$\Phi_t[\mu_0] = \mu_t$$

Assumptions:  $\sigma$  is bounded, Lipschitz and has Lipschitz derivative  $\sigma'$

Proposition: Let  $\mu_0^{(n)} \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty} \mu_0 \in \mathcal{P}_2$  then for all  $T > 0$

$$\Phi_t[\mu_0^{(n)}] \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty} \Phi_t[\mu_0] \quad \forall t \in (0, T)$$

Theorem 1: Let  $\mu_0$  have full support, then if

$$\mu_t \xrightarrow{t \rightarrow \infty} \mu_*, \quad \mu_* \in \underset{\mu \in \mathcal{M}_+^1(\Theta)}{\operatorname{argmin}} \mathcal{R}(\mu)$$

Theorem 2: When  $\eta > 0$  we have  $\mu_t \rightarrow \mu_* \in \operatorname{argmin} \mathcal{R}_\eta(\mu)$