

# Convergence analysis for the gradient descent optimization method in the training of artificial neural networks with ReLU activation for piecewise linear target functions

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Let  $d, H, \mathcal{P} \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $a \in \mathbb{R}$ ,  $\theta > a$ ,  $u \in C([a, \theta]^d, \mathbb{R})$  satisfy  $\mathcal{P} = dH + 2H + 1$ , let  $\mu: \mathcal{B}([a, \theta]^d) \rightarrow [0, \infty)$  be finite measure, let  $\mathcal{L}_H: \mathbb{R}^{\mathcal{P}} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  satisfy  $\forall \theta \in \mathbb{R}^{\mathcal{P}}$ :

$$\mathcal{L}_H(\theta) = \int_{[a, \theta]^d} [u(x) - \theta_{\mathcal{P}} - \sum_{i=1}^H \theta_{H(d+1)+i} \max\{\theta_{Hd+i} + \sum_{j=1}^d \theta_{(i-1)d+j} x_j, 0\}]^2 \mu(dx)$$

let  $\mathcal{G}_H: \mathbb{R}^{\mathcal{P}} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{\mathcal{P}}$  be an appropriately generalized gradient of  $\mathcal{L}_H$ , and let  $\Theta \in C([0, \infty), \mathbb{R}^{\mathcal{P}})$  satisfy for all  $t \in [0, \infty)$  that  $\Theta_t = \Theta_0 - \int_0^t \mathcal{G}_H(\Theta_s) ds$ .

Theorem (Cheridito, J, Rieker, Rossmannek 2021; J, Rieker 2021)

Assume for all  $x, y \in [a, \theta]^d$  that  $u(x) = u(y)$ . Then there exist no non-global local minima and no saddle points of  $\mathcal{L}$  and  $\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \mathcal{L}_H(\Theta_t) = 0$ .

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### Theorem (J, Riekert 2021)

Assume  $\mu \sim \lambda_{[a, \theta]}$  with a Lipschitz continuous density, assume that  $u$  is piecewise affine linear, let  $(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, \mathbb{P})$  be a probability space, for every  $H, k \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $\gamma \in \mathbb{R}$  let  $\Theta_n^{H,k,\gamma} : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{3H+1}$ ,  $n \in \mathbb{N}_0$ , and  $\mathbf{k}_n^{H,k,\gamma} : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$ ,  $n \in \mathbb{N}_0$ , be random variables satisfying for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}_0$  that

$$\Theta_{n+1}^{H,k,\gamma} = \Theta_n^{H,k,\gamma} - \gamma \mathcal{G}_H(\Theta_n^{H,k,\gamma}) \quad \text{and} \quad \mathbf{k}_n^{H,k,\gamma} \in \arg \min_{\ell \in \{1, \dots, k\}} \mathcal{L}_H(\Theta_n^{H,\ell,\gamma}),$$

and assume for all  $H \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $\gamma \in \mathbb{R}$  that  $\Theta_0^{H,k,\gamma}$ ,  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ , are i.i.d. standard normal. Then  $\exists \mathfrak{g} > 0 : \forall \gamma \in (0, \mathfrak{g}]$ :

$$\liminf_{H \rightarrow \infty} \liminf_{K \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{P}(\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathcal{L}_H(\Theta_n^{H, \mathbf{k}_n^{H,K,\gamma}, \gamma}) = 0) = 1.$$

Proof based on Fehrman, Gess, J 2020 *JMLR*.

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Assume  $\mu \sim \lambda_{[a,b]}$  with a Lipschitz continuous density, assume that  $u$  is piecewise affine linear, let  $(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, \mathbb{P})$  be a probability space, for every  $H, k \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $\gamma \in \mathbb{R}$  let  $\Theta_n^{H,k,\gamma} : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{3H+1}$ ,  $n \in \mathbb{N}_0$ , and  $\mathbf{k}_n^{H,k,\gamma} : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$ ,  $n \in \mathbb{N}_0$ , be random variables satisfying for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}_0$  that

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Assume  $\mu \sim \lambda_{[a, \theta]}$  with a Lipschitz continuous density, assume that  $u$  is piecewise affine linear, let  $(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, \mathbb{P})$  be a probability space, for every  $H, k \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $\gamma \in \mathbb{R}$  let  $\Theta_n^{H,k,\gamma} : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{3H+1}$ ,  $n \in \mathbb{N}_0$ , and  $\mathbf{k}_n^{H,k,\gamma} : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$ ,  $n \in \mathbb{N}_0$ , be random variables satisfying for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}_0$  that

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Proof based on Fehrman, Gess, J 2020 *JMLR*.

## **Appendix**

Let  $d, H, \mathcal{P} \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $a \in \mathbb{R}$ ,  $\theta \in (a, \infty)$ ,  $f \in C([a, \theta]^d, \mathbb{R})$  satisfy

$\mathcal{P} = dH + 2H + 1$ , let  $\mathfrak{R}_r \in C(\mathbb{R}, \mathbb{R})$ ,  $r \in \mathbb{N} \cup \{\infty\}$ , satisfy for all  $x \in \mathbb{R}$  that

$(\bigcup_{r \in \mathbb{N}} \{\mathfrak{R}_r\}) \subseteq C^1(\mathbb{R}, \mathbb{R})$ ,  $\mathfrak{R}_\infty(x) = \max\{x, 0\}$ ,

$\sup_{r \in \mathbb{N}} \sup_{y \in [-|x|, |x|]} |(\mathfrak{R}_r)'(y)| < \infty$ , and

$$\limsup_{r \rightarrow \infty} (|\mathfrak{R}_r(x) - \mathfrak{R}_\infty(x)| + |(\mathfrak{R}_r)'(x) - \mathbb{1}_{(0, \infty)}(x)|) = 0,$$

let  $\mu: B([a, \theta]^d) \rightarrow [0, \infty]$  be a finite measure, let  $\mathcal{L}_r: \mathbb{R}^{\mathcal{P}} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ ,  $r \in \mathbb{N} \cup \{\infty\}$ , satisfy for all  $r \in \mathbb{N} \cup \{\infty\}$ ,  $\theta = (\theta_1, \dots, \theta_{\mathcal{P}}) \in \mathbb{R}^{\mathcal{P}}$  that

$$\mathcal{L}_r(\theta) = \int_{[a, \theta]^d} f(x_1, \dots, x_d)$$

$$-\theta_{\mathcal{P}} - \sum_{i=1}^H \theta_{H(d+1)+i} [\mathfrak{R}_r(\theta_{Hd+i} + \sum_{j=1}^d \theta_{(i-1)d+j} x_j)]^2 \mu(d(x_1, \dots, x_d)),$$

let  $\mathcal{G}: \mathbb{R}^{\mathcal{P}} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{\mathcal{P}}$  satisfy for all  $\theta \in \{\vartheta \in \mathbb{R}^{\mathcal{P}} : ((\nabla \mathcal{L}_r)(\vartheta))_{r \in \mathbb{N}} \text{ is convergent}\}$  that  $\mathcal{G}(\theta) = \lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} (\nabla \mathcal{L}_r)(\theta)$ , and let  $\Theta \in C([0, \infty), \mathbb{R}^{\mathcal{P}})$  satisfy

$$\forall t \in [0, \infty): \Theta_t = \Theta_0 - \int_0^t \mathcal{G}(\Theta_s) ds.$$

### Lemma

There exists an open  $U \subseteq \mathbb{R}^{\mathcal{P}}$  such that  $\int_{\mathbb{R}^{\mathcal{P}} \setminus U} 1 dx = 0$ ,  $(\mathcal{L}_\infty)|_U \in C^1(U, \mathbb{R})$ , and  $\nabla((\mathcal{L}_\infty)|_U) = \mathcal{G}|_U$ .

Let  $d, H, \mathcal{P} \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $a \in \mathbb{R}$ ,  $\vartheta \in (a, \infty)$ ,  $f \in C([a, \vartheta]^d, \mathbb{R})$  satisfy

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### Theorem (Cheridito J Rieker Rossmannek 2021, J Rieker 2021)

Assume for all  $x, y \in [a, b]^d$  that  $f(x) = f(y)$ . Then

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## Hamiltonian-Jacobi-Bellman equations

Consider

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = \Delta_x u - \|\nabla_x u\|^2$$

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$d$	Mean	Std. dev.	Ref. value	rel. $L^1$ -error	Std. dev. rel. error	avg. runtime
10	2.07017	0.00634850	2.04629	0.01167	0.00310245	58.200
50	3.15098	0.00275839	3.13788	0.00417	0.00087906	58.359
100	3.75329	0.00136920	3.74471	0.00229	0.00036564	58.329
200	4.46734	0.00079688	4.46172	0.00126	0.00017860	58.159
300	4.94586	0.00087736	4.94105	0.00097	0.00017756	58.819
500	5.62126	0.00045092	5.61735	0.00070	0.00008027	57.670
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5000	9.97266	0.00047098	9.99835	0.00257	0.00004711	393.894
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Approximations for  $u(1, 0)$ ; Time steps: 24;

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Beck, Becker, Cheridito, J, Neufeld 2019 SISC (to appear)

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10	2.07017	0.00634850	2.04629	0.01167	0.00310245	58.200
50	3.15098	0.00275839	3.13788	0.00417	0.00087906	58.359
100	3.75329	0.00136920	3.74471	0.00229	0.00036564	58.329
200	4.46734	0.00079688	4.46172	0.00126	0.00017860	58.159
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**Full history recursive Multilevel-Picard method:** Let  $T > 0, L, p \geq 0, \Theta = \bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} \mathbb{Z}^n$ ,  $\forall d \in \mathbb{N}$  let  $g_d \in C(\mathbb{R}^d, \mathbb{R})$  satisfy  $\forall x \in \mathbb{R}^d: |g_d(x)| \leq L(1 + \|x\|^p)$ , let  $f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be Lipschitz, let  $(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, \mathbb{P})$  probab. sp., let  $W^{d,\theta}: [0, T] \times \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$ ,  $d \in \mathbb{N}, \theta \in \Theta$ , be i.i.d. Brownian motions, let  $S^\theta: [0, T] \times \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}, \theta \in \Theta$ , i.i.d. continuous satisfying  $\forall t \in [0, T], \theta \in \Theta$  that  $S_t^\theta$  is  $\mathcal{U}_{[t,T]}$ -distributed, assume that  $(S^\theta)_{\theta \in \Theta}$  and  $(W^{d,\theta})_{\theta \in \Theta, d \in \mathbb{N}}$  are independent, let  $U_{n,M}^{d,\theta}: [0, T] \times \mathbb{R}^d \times \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}, d, n, M \in \mathbb{Z}, \theta \in \Theta$ , satisfy  $\forall d, M \in \mathbb{N}, n \in \mathbb{N}_0, \theta \in \Theta, t \in [0, T], x \in \mathbb{R}^d$ :

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$$\text{Cost}_{d, n_d, \varepsilon} \leq C d^{1+\rho(1+\delta)} \varepsilon^{-(2+\delta)}.$$

**Extensions: Algorithms/Simulations/Proofs:** Fully nonlinear PDEs (Beck, E, J 2018 *JNS*), Optimal stopping (Becker, Cheridito, J 2018 *JMLR*), Uniform errors (Beck, Becker, Grohs, Jaafari, J 2018), Semilinear PDEs/CVA (Hutzenthaler, J, von Wurstemberger 2019 *EJP*, Hutzenthaler, J, Kruse, Nguyen 2020), Nonlipschitz nonlinearities (Beck, Hornung, Hutzenthaler, Jentzen, Kruse 2019 *J. Numer. Math.*), Gradient dependent nonlinearities (Hutzenthaler, J, Kruse 2019), Elliptic PDEs (Beck, Gonon, J 2020), Discrete problems (Beck, J, Kruse 2020), . . .

Then

- (i)  $\forall d \in \mathbb{N}$ : there exists  $u_d: [0, T] \times \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  at most polyn. grow. solution of

$$\frac{\partial u_d}{\partial t} + \frac{1}{2} \Delta_x u_d + f(u_d) = 0 \quad \text{with} \quad u_d(T, \cdot) = g_d$$

and

- (ii)  $\forall \delta > 0$ : there exist  $n: \mathbb{N} \times (0, \infty) \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$  and  $C > 0$ :  $\forall d \in \mathbb{N}, \varepsilon > 0$ :

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