PINNs Tutorial

- Introduction to PINNs
 - What are PINNs?
 - Considerations when designing PINNs
- Google Colab Exercises
 - PINNs to estimate cerebral blood flow
 - PINNs to model cardiac electrophysiology
- Recent developments in PINNs
 - Problems with PINNs
 - How to address them



Some Recent Developments in Physics-Informed Neural Networks



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Problems we have discussed

- Spectral bias
 - Can use Fourier inputs
- Vanishing/exploding gradients
 - Input and output normalisation
- Difficult to choose loss term weights and learning rate
 - Learning rate annealing

- A. Difficulty converging
 - Often require morose problem-specific hyperparameter tuning
- **B.** Problems finding solutions over long time ranges
- **C.** Difficult to adapt to complicated geometries
- **D.** Physics and data learning are not separable
 - Need to retrain the entire PINN when new data is available
 - Difficult to combine data from different experiments
- E. Can learn model parameters, but not model formulation

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Converging is difficult

- Why?
 - Variance of the derivatives is very low, especially for deep NNs.
 - Because we use a residual formulation, there is an initial bias towards the trivial solution in homogeneous DEs.
- How to address this?

Include an adaptive skip-connection (PirateNets¹)



- α , the skip connection weights, are learnable and initialised to 0. The effective depth of the NN increases during training.

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Issues with Long Time Intervals

- PINNs trains across all time points simultaneously. This makes them susceptible to degenerating into local minima.
- Forcing sequential (causal) training mitigates this^{1, 2}:
 - The weight for time i is inversely exponentially dependent on the cumulative loss for past times.
 - L(i) will not be minimised until the past time points have.

$$\mathcal{L}_r(\boldsymbol{\theta}) = \frac{1}{N_t} \sum_{i=1}^{N_t} \exp\left(-\epsilon \sum_{k=1}^{i-1} \mathcal{L}_r(t_k, \boldsymbol{\theta})\right) \mathcal{L}_r(t_i, \boldsymbol{\theta}).$$

- Another strategy involves dividing the time domain into small intervals and training PINNs at different time scales and sequentially³.
 - The solution at the end of interval i will be the initial condition for i+1.
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Complex Geometries

- Spatial inputs are typically inputted in Cartesian coordinates, but derivatives are wrt geometry-specific metric.
- AutoDiff cannot be used in these curved manifolds. Other options: diffusion maps, radial-basis function-generated finite differences, generalised moving least squares.⁴
- Alternatively, reformulate the PDE,

e.g. on manifold G as

$$\Delta_{\Gamma} u + u = f$$
an extra geometric

$$\begin{cases} \Delta u + u = f \\ \langle \nabla u, \mathbf{n} \rangle = 0 \end{cases}$$



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Transfer Learning for PINNs

- One-Shot PINNs⁶ separates the FCNN into:
 - non-linear hidden layers: learn the differential operator for an ODE/PDE family $\rm D_{\rm H}$
 - a final linear set of weights: linearly combine the solution modes W_{out}
- Bundle-trains D_H for a DE family using numerical solver solutions with different parameter values, forcing terms
- At inference, W_{out} can be calculated by performing matrix operations on D_H

 $W_{\text{out}} = (\hat{D}_H^T \hat{D}_H + \bar{D}_H^T \bar{D}_H)^{-1} (D_H^T f'(t) + \bar{D}_H^T u'_{\text{ic}}).$

Learning the Operator

- Different paradigm: DeepONets⁷
 - Learns an operator between infinite-dimensional function spaces (e.g., integration)
 - Trained on numerical solutions of the operator⁷ or using physics-based loss (PI-DeepONets⁸)
- Example: $\mathcal{N}(\kappa, u) = -\operatorname{div}_g(\kappa \operatorname{grad}_g u) + cu f$
 - Learn the solution u(x) for any k(ξ) subject to boundary conditions B
 - From data, identify
 k using an optimisation
 algorithm.



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Learning Model Terms

- Experimental data often suffers from systematic errors or does not follow mathematical model as closely as expected
- PINNs can learn equations from data
 - Physics-informed version of SinDy⁹



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total loss	data loss	physics loss	regularization

The Future of PINNs?

- Self-configuring PINNs ("nnU-Net¹⁰ for PINNs")
 - Include best practices for data normalisation and hyperparameter tuning
 - Test alternative configurations to decide on optimal architecture
- Set of pre-trained models for most common equations in most common geometries ("HuggingFace¹¹ for PINNs")
- More flexible means of including heterogeneous data
- Tools to test reliability of the solutions



Automated (fixed, rule-based or empirical) configuration derived by distilling expert knowledge (more details in online methods)

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