Hybrid quantum-classical Neural Networks with PyTorch and Qiskit

Machine learning (ML) has established itself as a successful interdisciplinary field which seeks to mathematically extract generalizable information from data. Throwing in quantum computing gives rise to interesting areas of research which seek to leverage the principles of quantum mechanics to augment machine learning or vice-versa. Whether you're aiming to enhance classical ML algorithms by outsourcing difficult calculations to a quantum computer or optimise quantum algorithms using classical ML architectures - both fall under the diverse umbrella of quantum machine learning (QML).

In this chapter, we explore how a classical neural network can be partially quantized to create a hybrid quantum-classical neural network. We will code up a simple example that integrates Qiskit with a state-of-the-art open-source software package - PyTorch. The purpose of this example is to demonstrate the ease of integrating Qiskit with existing ML tools and to encourage ML practitioners to explore what is possible with quantum computing.

Contents

Fig.1 Illustrates the framework we will construct in this chapter. Ultimately, we will create a hybrid quantum-classical neural network that seeks to classify hand drawn digits. Note that the edges shown in this image are all directed downward; however, the directionality is not visually indicated.

- 1. How Does it Work?
- 1.1. Preliminaries
- 2. So How Does Quantum Enter the Picture?
- 3. Let's code!
- 3.1 Imports
	- 3.2 Create a "Quantum Class" with Qiskit
- 3.3 Create a "Quantum-Classical Class" with PyTorch
- 3.4 Data Loading and Preprocessing
- 3.5 Creating the Hybrid Neural Network
- 3.6 Training the Network
- 3.7 Testing the Network
- 4. What Now?

1. How does it work?

1.1 Preliminaries

It is also worth noting that the particular type of neural network we will concern ourselves with is called a feed-forward neural network (FFNN). This means that as data flows through our neural network, it will never return to a neuron it has already visited. Equivalently, you could say that the graph which describes our neural network is a directed acyclic graph (DAG). Furthermore, we will stipulate that neurons within the same layer of our neural network will not have edges between them.

The background presented here on classical neural networks is included to establish relevant ideas and shared terminology; however, it is still extremely highlevel. If you'd like to dive one step deeper into classical neural networks, see the well made video series by youtuber 3Blue1Brown. Alternatively, if you are already familiar with classical networks, you can skip to the next section.

Neurons and Weights

Here, σ is a nonlinear function and h_i is the value of neuron i at each hidden layer. $R(h_i)$ represents any rotation gate about an angle equal to h_i and y is the final prediction value generated from the hybrid network.

A neural network is ultimately just an elaborate function that is built by composing smaller building blocks called neurons. A neuron is typically a simple, easyto-compute, and nonlinear function that maps one or more inputs to a single real number. The single output of a neuron is typically copied and fed as input into other neurons. Graphically, we represent neurons as nodes in a graph and we draw directed edges between nodes to indicate how the output of one neuron will be used as input to other neurons. It's also important to note that each edge in our graph is often associated with a scalar-value called a weight. The idea here is that each of the inputs to a neuron will be multiplied by a different scalar before being collected and processed into a single value. The objective when training a neural network consists primarily of choosing our weights such that the network behaves in a particular way.

Feed Forward Neural Networks

IO Structure of Layers

The input to a neural network is a classical (real-valued) vector. Each component of the input vector is multiplied by a different weight and fed into a layer of neurons according to the graph structure of the network. After each neuron in the layer has been evaluated, the results are collected into a new vector where the i'th component records the output of the i'th neuron. This new vector can then be treated as an input for a new layer, and so on. We will use the standard term hidden layer to describe all but the first and last layers of our network.

2. So How Does Quantum Enter the Picture?

To create a quantum-classical neural network, one can implement a hidden layer for our neural network using a parameterized quantum circuit. By "parameterized quantum circuit", we mean a quantum circuit where the rotation angles for each gate are specified by the components of a classical input vector. The outputs from our neural network's previous layer will be collected and used as the inputs for our parameterized circuit. The measurement statistics of our quantum circuit can then be collected and used as inputs for the following layer. A simple example is depicted below:

What about backpropagation?

If you're familiar with classical ML, you may immediately be wondering how do we calculate gradients when quantum circuits are involved? This would be necessary to enlist powerful optimisation techniques such as gradient descent. It gets a bit technical, but in short, we can view a quantum circuit as a black box and the gradient of this black box with respect to its parameters can be calculated as follows:

where θ represents the parameters of the quantum circuit and s is a macroscopic shift. The gradient is then simply the difference between our quantum c ircuit evaluated at $\theta + s$ and $\theta - s.$ Thus, we can systematically differentiate our quantum circuit as part of a larger backpropagation routine. This closed form rule for calculating the gradient of quantum circuit parameters is known as the parameter shift rule.

Collecting retworkx>=0.8.0 Downloading retworkx-0.11.0-cp37-cp37m-manylinux_2_5_x86_64.manylinux1_x86_64.manylinux_2_12_x86_64.manylinux2010_x86_64.whl (1.6 MB) \blacksquare \blacksquare \blacksquare | 1.6 MB 56.5 MB/s

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3. Let's code!

3.1 Imports

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 \parallel 38.1 MB 1.2 MB/s Collecting tweedledum<2.0,>=1.1

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First, we import some handy packages that we will need, including Qiskit and PyTorch.

 \blacksquare Requirement already satisfied: six>=1.5 in /usr/local/lib/python3.7/dist-packages (from python-dateutil>=2.8.0->qiskit-ibmq-provide r==0.18.3->qiskit) (1.15.0) Requirement already satisfied: certifi>=2017.4.17 in /usr/local/lib/python3.7/dist-packages (from requests>=2.19->qiskit-ibmq-provi der==0.18.3->qiskit) (2021.10.8) Requirement already satisfied: idna<3,>=2.5 in /usr/local/lib/python3.7/dist-packages (from requests>=2.19->qiskit-ibmq-provider==0 .18.3->qiskit) (2.10) Requirement already satisfied: chardet<4,>=3.0.2 in /usr/local/lib/python3.7/dist-packages (from requests>=2.19->qiskit-ibmq-provid er==0.18.3->qiskit) (3.0.4) Collecting ntlm-auth>=1.0.2

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We can conveniently put our Qiskit quantum functions into a class. First, we specify how many trainable quantum parameters and how many shots we wish to use in our quantum circuit. In this example, we will keep it simple and use a 1-qubit circuit with one trainable quantum parameter $\theta.$ We hard code the circuit for simplicity and use a $RY-$ rotation by the angle θ to train the output of our circuit. The circuit looks like this:

In order to measure the output in the $z-$ basis, we calculate the σ_z expectation.

Requirement already satisfied: setuptools>=40.1.0 in /usr/local/lib/python3.7/dist-packages (from qiskit-ignis==0.7.0->qiskit) (57. 4.0) Collecting stevedore>=3.0.0 Downloading stevedore-3.5.0-py3-none-any.whl (49 kB)

> $\sigma_z = . \sum$ *zip*(*zi*)

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sha256=770b80e618c37ce5ae757e1e4a16a52afd260ca663140 e51fa64b7e2f4de73c6 Stored in directory: /tmp/pip-ephem-wheel-cache-hxyv10kb/wheels/0c/78/b5/9303fae9d5e03df1f319adfe4e6534180b5c3232de11bc9a2f Successfully built imgaug Installing collected packages: imgaug Successfully installed imgaug-0.4.0 Collecting qiskit Downloading qiskit-0.34.2.tar.gz (13 kB) Collecting qiskit-terra==0.19.2 Downloading qiskit terra-0.19.2-cp37-cp37m-manylinux 2 12 x86 64.manylinux2010 x86 64.whl (6.5 MB) \blacksquare 6.5 MB 4.2 MB/s Collecting qiskit-aer==0.10.3 Downloading qiskit_aer-0.10.3-cp37-cp37m-manylinux_2_12_x86_64.manylinux2010_x86_64.whl (18.0 MB) \blacksquare | 18.0 MB 104 kB/s Collecting qiskit-ibmq-provider==0.18.3 Downloading qiskit_ibmq_provider-0.18.3-py3-none-any.whl (238 kB) \parallel 238 kB 79.1 MB/s Collecting qiskit-ignis==0.7.0 Downloading qiskit_ignis-0.7.0-py3-none-any.whl (200 kB) \blacksquare \blacksquare \blacksquare \blacksquare \blacksquare \blacksquare 200 kB 78.5 MB/s 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git+https://github.com/aleju/imgaug.git In []: **!**pip install qiskit

sum(total loss) / len(total loss), correct **/** len(test_loader) ***** 100)

 Building wheel for qiskit (setup.py) ... done Created wheel for qiskit: filename=qiskit-0.34.2-py3-none-any.whl size=11805 sha256=c4366adef9933e1a6870486763a3f6da21fe40f987633 20f4d7fb4747b96e92a Stored in directory: /root/.cache/pip/wheels/62/77/65/cda6eedfdd2a525bd3f479a4386930ae3088a1eb01f8c944ed

for batch idx, (data, target) in enumerate(test loader): **if** count **==** n_samples_show:

 Building wheel for python-constraint (setup.py) ... done Created wheel for python-constraint: filename=python_constraint-1.4.0-py2.py3-none-any.whl size=24081 sha256=4dd8a531157e2d82f3a2 9b3f1fb08dccee17b08c0e71d6b2b0abe22064acf10b Stored in directory: /root/.cache/pip/wheels/07/27/db/1222c80eb1e431f3d2199c12569cb1cac60f562a451fe30479

Successfully built qiskit python-constraint Installing collected packages: pbr, tweedledum, symengine, stevedore, scipy, retworkx, python-constraint, ply, ntlm-auth, cryptogra phy, websocket-client, requests-ntlm, qiskit-terra, qiskit-ignis, qiskit-ibmq-provider, qiskit-aer, qiskit Attempting uninstall: scipy Found existing installation: scipy 1.4.1

 Uninstalling scipy-1.4.1: Successfully uninstalled scipy-1.4.1

Successfully installed cryptography-36.0.1 ntlm-auth-1.5.0 pbr-5.8.1 ply-3.11 python-constraint-1.4.0 qiskit-0.34.2 qiskit-aer-0.10 .3 qiskit-ibmq-provider-0.18.3 qiskit-ignis-0.7.0 qiskit-terra-0.19.2 requests-ntlm-1.1.0 retworkx-0.11.0 scipy-1.7.3 stevedore-3.5 .0 symengine-0.9.0 tweedledum-1.1.1 websocket-client-1.3.1

3.2 Create a "Quantum Class" with Qiskit

We will see later how this all ties into the hybrid neural network.

3.5 Creating the Hybrid Neural Network

def init (self):

super(Net, self). __init__()

self.conv $1 = nn.Conv2d(1, 6, kernel size=5)$

We can use a neat PyTorch pipeline to create a neural network architecture. The network will need to be compatible in terms of its dimensionality when we insert the quantum layer (i.e. our quantum circuit). Since our quantum in this example contains 1 parameter, we must ensure the network condenses neurons down to size 1. We create a typical Convolutional Neural Network with two fully-connected layers at the end. The value of the last neuron of the fullyconnected layer is fed as the parameter θ into our quantum circuit. The circuit measurement then serves as the final prediction for 0 or 1 as provided by a σ_z measurement.

3.7 Testing the Network

Performance on test data: Loss: -0.9851 Accuracy: 100.0%

While it is totally possible to create hybrid neural networks, does this actually have any benefit?

In fact, the classical layers of this network train perfectly fine (in fact, better) without the quantum layer. Furthermore, you may have noticed that the quantum layer we trained here generates no entanglement, and will, therefore, continue to be classically simulatable as we scale up this particular architecture. This means that if you hope to achieve a quantum advantage using hybrid neural networks, you'll need to start by extending this code to include a more sophisticated quantum layer.

The point of this exercise was to get you thinking about integrating techniques from ML and quantum computing in order to investigate if there is indeed some element of interest - and thanks to PyTorch and Qiskit, this becomes a little bit easier.

Version Information

In []: **import** numpy **as** np **from** IPython.display **import** Image **import** matplotlib.pyplot **as** plt

In []: **import** torch **from** torch.autograd **import** Function **from** torchvision **import** datasets, transforms

import torch.optim **as** optim **import** torch.nn **as** nn

import torch.nn.functional **as** F

import qiskit **from** qiskit **import** transpile, assemble **from** qiskit.visualization **import ***

i

In []: **class** QuantumCircuit: \mathbf{u} " \mathbf{u} " This class provides a simple interface for interaction with the quantum circuit $^{\prime\prime}$ "" $^{\prime\prime}$ "" def init (self, n qubits, backend, shots): *# --- Circuit definition --* self. circuit **=** qiskit.QuantumCircuit(n_qubits) all qubits $=$ [i **for** i **in** range(n qubits)] self**.**theta **=** qiskit**.**circuit**.**Parameter('theta')

 correct **=** 0 **for** batch idx, (data, target) in enumerate(test loader): output **=** model(data)

 pred **=** output**.**argmax(dim**=**1, keepdim**=True**) correct **+=** pred**.**eq(target**.**view_as(pred))**.**sum()**.**item()

loss **=** loss_func(output, target)

 total_loss**.**append(loss**.**item()) print('Performance on test data:\n\tLoss: {:.4f}\n\tAccuracy: {:.1f}%'**.**format(

)

count **=** 0

In $\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ \end{bmatrix}$ n samples show = 6

fig, axes **=** plt**.**subplots(nrows**=**1, ncols**=**n_samples_show, figsize**=**(10, 3))

model**.**eval() **with** torch**.**no_grad():

- **break** output **=** model(data)
- pred **=** output**.**argmax(dim**=**1, keepdim**=True**)
- axes[count]**.**imshow(data[0]**.**numpy()**.**squeeze(), cmap**=**'gray')

axes[count]**.**set_xticks([]) axes[count]**.**set_yticks([])

axes[count]**.**set_title('Predicted {}'**.**format(pred**.**item()))

4.4% MeV and MeV and

count **+=** 1

In []: **import** qiskit.tools.jupyter **%qiskit_version_table**