



# Efficient Neural Network Compression

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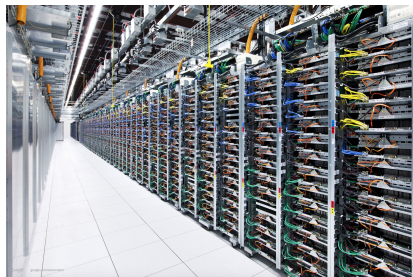
Namhoon Lee

University of Oxford

3 May 2019

# A Challenge in Deep Learning: *Overparameterization*

Large neural networks require:



memory & computations



power consumption

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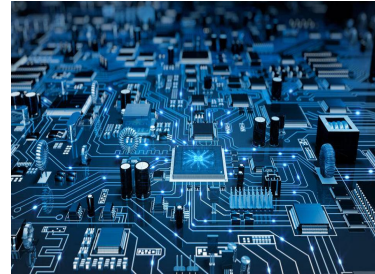


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power consumption

Critical to resource constrained environments



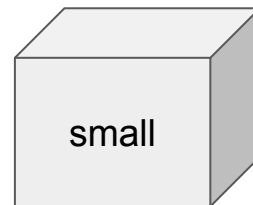
embedded systems  
e.g., mobile devices



real-time tasks  
e.g., autonomous car

# Network compression

The goal is to reduce the **size** of neural network without compromising accuracy.



~ same accuracy

# Approaches

- Network pruning  
: reduce the number of parameters

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⇒ remove > 90% parameters

# Drawbacks in existing approaches

- Hyperparameters with weakly grounded heuristics  
(*e.g.*, layer-wise threshold [5], stochastic pruning rule [2])

## References

- [1] Learning both weights and connections for efficient neural network, Han et al. NIPS'15
- [2] Dynamic network surgery for efficient dnns, Guo et al. NIPS'16.
- [3] Learning-compression algorithms for neural net pruning, Carreira-Perpinan & Idelbayev. CVPR'18.
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- [6] Learning Sparse Neural Networks through L0 Regularization, Louizos et al. ICLR'18

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(*e.g.*, conv/fc separate prune in [1])

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*poor scalability & utility*

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No hyperparameters

No iterative prune -- retrain cycle

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**Single-shot pruning prior to training**



# SNIP: Single-shot Network Pruning based on Connection Sensitivity

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N. Lee, T. Ajanthan, P. Torr

*International Conference on Learning Representations (ICLR) 2019*

# Objective

- Identify important parameters in the network and remove unimportant ones

$$\begin{aligned} \min_{\mathbf{w}} L(\mathbf{w}; \mathcal{D}) &= \min_{\mathbf{w}} \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \ell(\mathbf{w}; (\mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{y}_i)) , \\ \text{s.t. } \mathbf{w} &\in \mathbb{R}^m, \quad \|\mathbf{w}\|_0 \leq \kappa . \end{aligned}$$

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# Idea

- Measure the effect of removing each parameter on the loss

$$\Delta L_j(\mathbf{w}; \mathcal{D}) = L(\mathbf{1} \odot \mathbf{w}; \mathcal{D}) - L((\mathbf{1} - \mathbf{e}_j) \odot \mathbf{w}; \mathcal{D}) ,$$

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- The greedy way is prohibitively expensive to perform:  $O(m!)$



# SNIP

The effect on the loss can be approximated by

1. auxiliary variables representing the connectivity of parameters
2. derivative of the loss w.r.t. these indicator variables

# SNIP

## 1. Introduce $\mathbf{c}$

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## 2. Derivative w.r.t. $\mathbf{c}$

$$\Delta L_j(\mathbf{w}; \mathcal{D}) \approx g_j(\mathbf{w}; \mathcal{D}) = \left. \frac{\partial L(\mathbf{c} \odot \mathbf{w}; \mathcal{D})}{\partial c_j} \right|_{\mathbf{c}=\mathbf{1}} = \lim_{\delta \rightarrow 0} \left. \frac{L(\mathbf{c} \odot \mathbf{w}; \mathcal{D}) - L((\mathbf{c} - \delta \mathbf{e}_j) \odot \mathbf{w}; \mathcal{D})}{\delta} \right|_{\mathbf{c}=\mathbf{1}}$$

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- $\partial L / \partial c_j$  is an infinitesimal version of  $\Delta L_j$
- measures the rate of change of  $L$  w.r.t. infinitesimal change in  $c_j$  from  $1 \rightarrow 1 - \delta$
- computed efficiently in one forward-backward pass using auto differentiation, for all  $j$  at once

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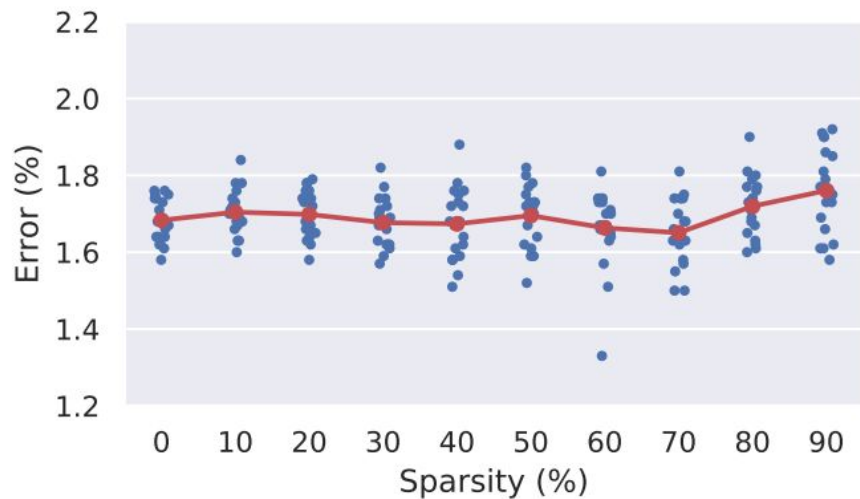
## 3. Connection sensitivity

$$s_j = \frac{|g_j(\mathbf{w}; \mathcal{D})|}{\sum_{k=1}^m |g_k(\mathbf{w}; \mathcal{D})|}.$$

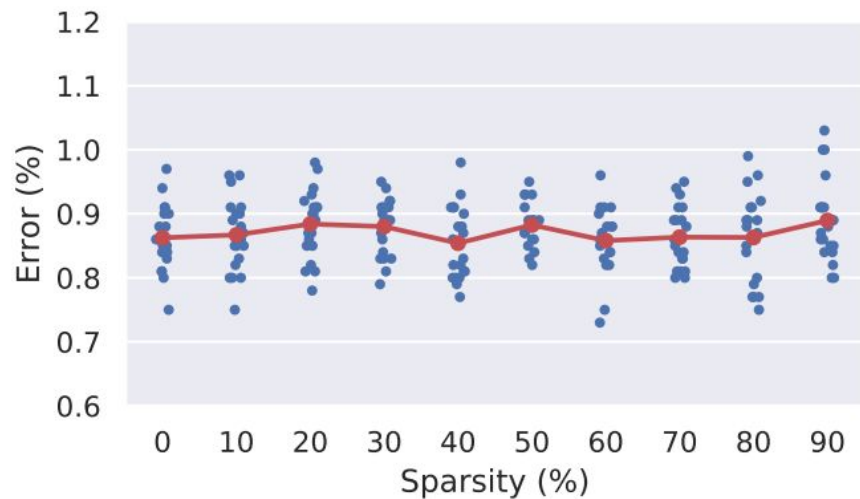
# Prune at initialization

- Measure CS on untrained networks prior to training
  - Or zero gradients at pretrained
- Sample weights from a dist. with architecture aware variance
  - Ensure the variance of weights to remain throughout the network ([1])
- Alleviate the dependency on the weights in computing CS
  - Remove the pretraining requirement, architecture dep. hyperparameters

# LeNets



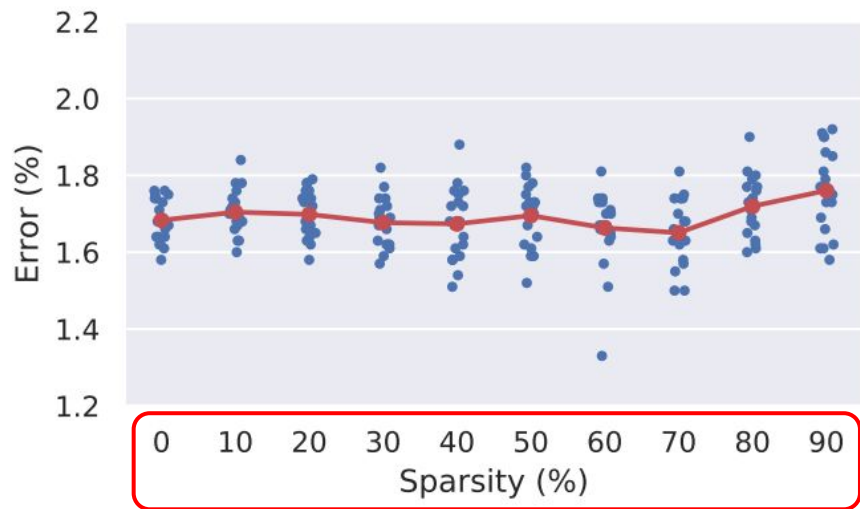
(a) LeNet-300-100



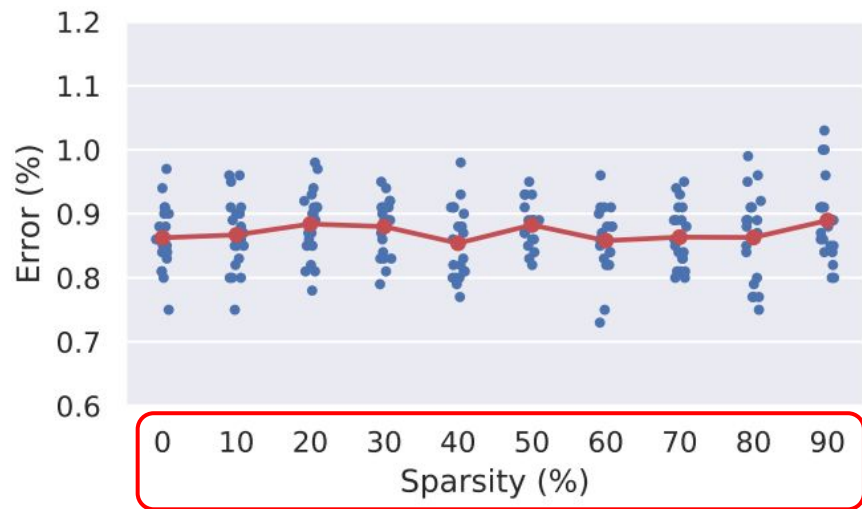
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# LeNets



(a) LeNet-300-100



(b) LeNet-5-Caffe

# LeNets: comparison to SOTA

Method	Criterion	LeNet-300-100		LeNet-5-Caffe		Pretrain	# Prune	Additional hyperparam.	Augment objective	Arch. constraints
		$\bar{\kappa}$ (%)	err. (%)	$\bar{\kappa}$ (%)	err. (%)					
Ref.	–	–	1.7	–	0.9	–	–	–	–	–
LWC	Magnitude	91.7	<b>1.6</b>	91.7	<b>0.8</b>	✓	many	✓	✗	✓
DNS	Magnitude	98.2	2.0	99.1	0.9	✓	many	✓	✗	✓
LC	Magnitude	99.0	3.2	99.0	1.1	✓	many	✓	✓	✗
SWS	Bayesian	95.6	1.9	99.5	1.0	✓	soft	✓	✓	✗
SVD	Bayesian	98.5	1.9	99.6	<b>0.8</b>	✓	soft	✓	✓	✗
OBD	Hessian	92.0	2.0	92.0	2.7	✓	many	✓	✗	✗
L-OBS	Hessian	98.5	2.0	99.0	2.1	✓	many	✓	✗	✓
SNIP (ours)	Connection sensitivity	95.0 98.0	<b>1.6</b> 2.4	98.0 99.0	<b>0.8</b> 1.1	✗	<b>1</b>	✗	✗	✗

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# Various architectures & models

Architecture	Model	Sparsity (%)	# Parameters	Error (%)	$\Delta$
Convolutional	AlexNet-s	90.0	5.1m $\rightarrow$ 507k	14.12 $\rightarrow$ 14.99	+0.87
	AlexNet-b	90.0	8.5m $\rightarrow$ 849k	13.92 $\rightarrow$ 14.50	+0.58
	VGG-C	95.0	10.5m $\rightarrow$ 526k	6.82 $\rightarrow$ 7.27	+0.45
	VGG-D	95.0	15.2m $\rightarrow$ 762k	6.76 $\rightarrow$ 7.09	+0.33
	VGG-like	97.0	15.0m $\rightarrow$ 449k	8.26 $\rightarrow$ 8.00	<b>-0.26</b>
Residual	WRN-16-8	95.0	10.0m $\rightarrow$ 548k	6.21 $\rightarrow$ 6.63	+0.42
	WRN-16-10	95.0	17.1m $\rightarrow$ 856k	5.91 $\rightarrow$ 6.43	+0.52
	WRN-22-8	95.0	17.2m $\rightarrow$ 858k	6.14 $\rightarrow$ 5.85	<b>-0.29</b>
Recurrent	LSTM-s	95.0	137k $\rightarrow$ 6.8k	1.88 $\rightarrow$ 1.57	<b>-0.31</b>
	LSTM-b	95.0	535k $\rightarrow$ 26.8k	1.15 $\rightarrow$ 1.35	+0.20
	GRU-s	95.0	104k $\rightarrow$ 5.2k	1.87 $\rightarrow$ 2.41	+0.54
	GRU-b	95.0	404k $\rightarrow$ 20.2k	1.71 $\rightarrow$ 1.52	<b>-0.19</b>

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	VGG-C	95.0	10.5m $\rightarrow$ 526k	6.82 $\rightarrow$ 7.27	+0.45
	VGG-D	95.0	15.2m $\rightarrow$ 762k	6.76 $\rightarrow$ 7.09	+0.33
	VGG-like	97.0	15.0m $\rightarrow$ 449k	8.26 $\rightarrow$ 8.00	<b>-0.26</b>
Residual	WRN-16-8	95.0	10.0m $\rightarrow$ 548k	6.21 $\rightarrow$ 6.63	+0.42
	WRN-16-10	95.0	17.1m $\rightarrow$ 856k	5.91 $\rightarrow$ 6.43	+0.52
	WRN-22-8	95.0	17.2m $\rightarrow$ 858k	6.14 $\rightarrow$ 5.85	<b>-0.29</b>
Recurrent	LSTM-s	95.0	137k $\rightarrow$ 6.8k	1.88 $\rightarrow$ 1.57	<b>-0.31</b>
	LSTM-b	95.0	535k $\rightarrow$ 26.8k	1.15 $\rightarrow$ 1.35	+0.20
	GRU-s	95.0	104k $\rightarrow$ 5.2k	1.87 $\rightarrow$ 2.41	+0.54
	GRU-b	95.0	404k $\rightarrow$ 20.2k	1.71 $\rightarrow$ 1.52	<b>-0.19</b>

# Various architectures & models

Architecture	Model	Sparsity (%)	# Parameters	Error (%)	$\Delta$
Convolutional	AlexNet-s	90.0	5.1m $\rightarrow$ 507k	14.12 $\rightarrow$ 14.99	+0.87
	AlexNet-b	90.0	8.5m $\rightarrow$ 849k	13.92 $\rightarrow$ 14.50	+0.58
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# Which parameters are pruned?

## Visualize $c$ in the first fc layer for varying data

1. curate a mini-batch
2. compute the connection sensitivity
3. create the pruning mask
4. visualize the first layer (fully connected)

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The input was digit 8.

# Which parameters are pruned?

## Visualize $c$ in the first fc layer for varying data

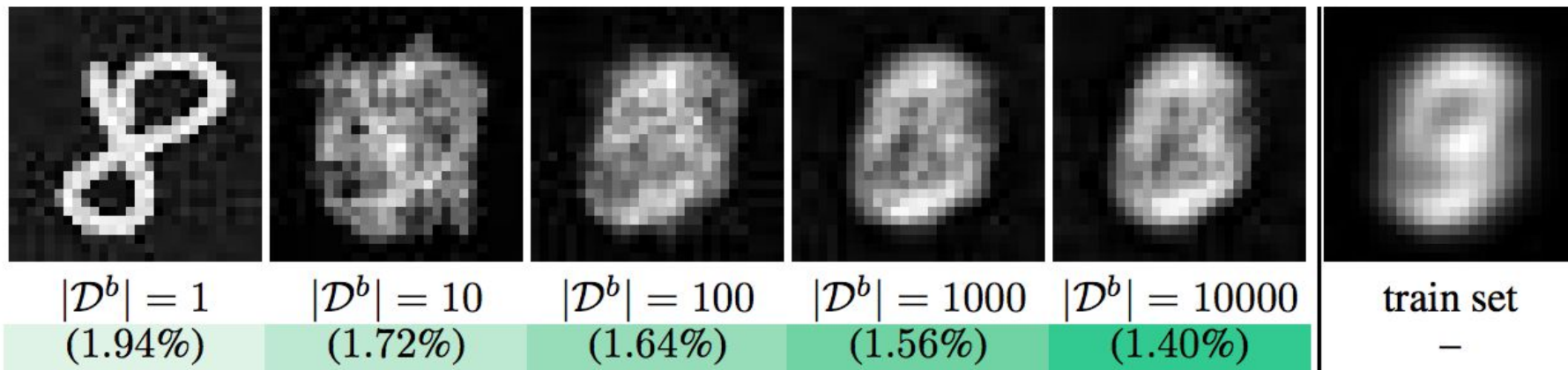
1. curate a mini-batch
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The input was digit 8.

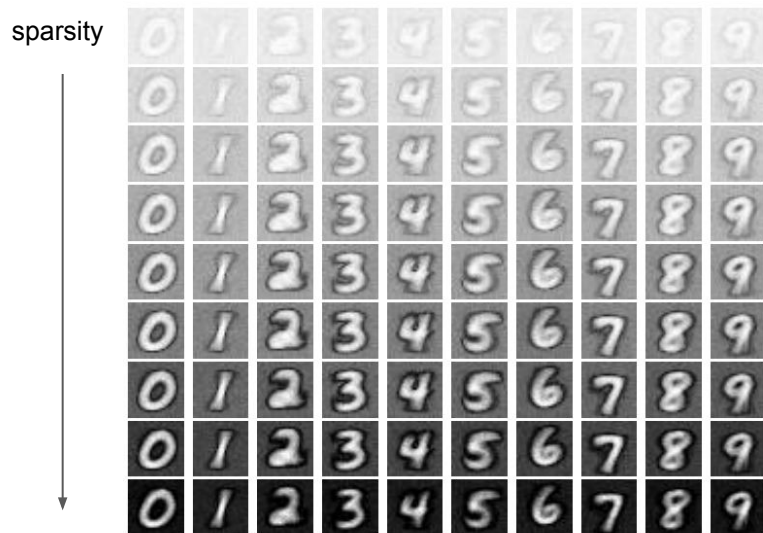
Carrying out such inspection is not straightforward with other methods.

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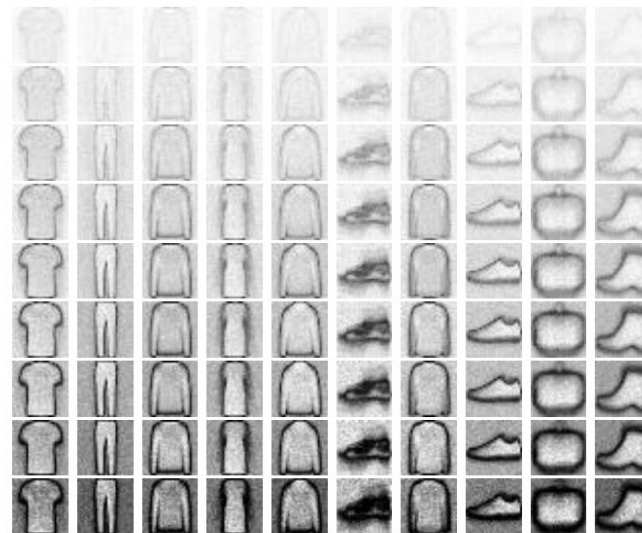


Carrying out such inspection is not straightforward with other methods.

# Which parameters are pruned?



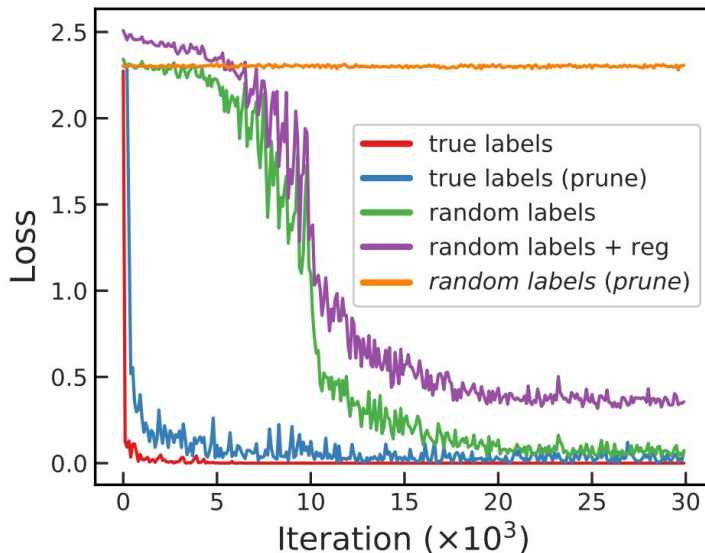
(a) MNIST



(b) Fashion-MNIST

The parameters connected to the discriminative part of image are retained.

# Prevent memorization



**[Fitting random labels]**  
Understanding deep learning requires  
rethinking generalization, Zhang et al. ICLR'17

The pruned network does not have sufficient capacity to fit the random labels,  
but is capable of performing the task.



# SNIP

Simple  
Versatile  
Interpretable

**Paper:**

<https://arxiv.org/abs/1810.02340>

**Code:**

<https://github.com/namhoonlee/snip-public>

**Contact:**

<http://www.robots.ox.ac.uk/~namhoon/>