

# **18-661: Introduction to ML for Engineers**

Pytorch (and How We Got Here)

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Spring 2022

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## Real Time 3D Scene Capture using NeRFs

**Description** NeRFs, or Neural Radiance Fields, are a method to create a 3D model of an object or scene by learning an implicit representation from a number of training images. Recent work has accelerated NeRF training from hours or even days down to seconds, which could potentially enable using NeRFs for real time scene capture.

Our objective is to explore the potential to use NeRFs for real time scene capture, which may involve modifying existing NeRF architectures, designing novel training pipelines, or integrating LIDAR-based volumetric video capture.

**Skills** Students should be proficient with Python. It will be helpful to have some exposure to CUDA and be familiar with deep learning frameworks.

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- Deep Learning Hardware
- Deep Learning Frameworks
- Pytorch Tutorial
- Pytorch Example

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**Disclaimer:** this lecture will not appear on your final exam, though some content, in particular PyTorch, will be used on Homework 7.

# Deep Learning Hardware

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# The Problem with CPUs

Neural networks require lots of parallel computations, but CPUs require instructions to be executed sequentially.

How can we speed up computations?

- More cores: lots of overhead (Intel Xeon Phi, discontinued in 2020)
- More execution units, longer pipeline: requires sophisticated out-of-order execution, branch prediction, etc; doesn't scale
- SIMD instructions (AVX): you still carry around the baggage of the CPU architecture; can't easily make vectors huge

CPUs don't scale, and can only get you so far.

# Graphics Cards

Graphics Cards: a card that connects to a display to show graphics.

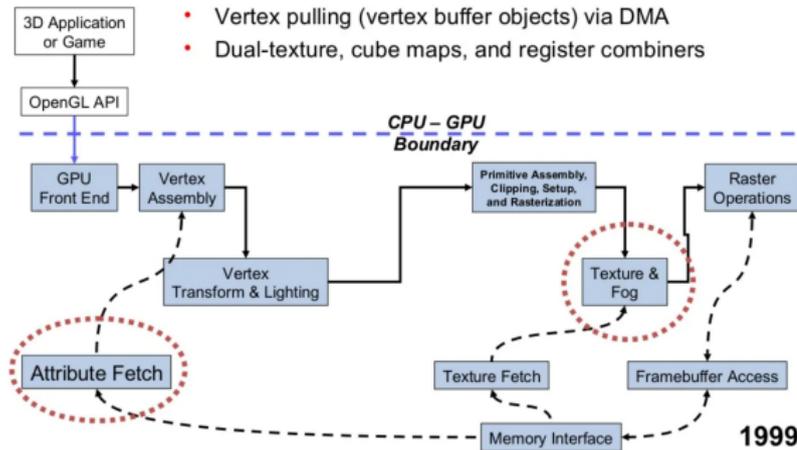


Source: <https://www.techpowerup.com/gpu-specs/nv1.c2015>

# Graphical Processing Units

Nvidia GeForce 256 “Transforming and Lighting engine”: compute shaders — pretty much just SIMD code execution!

## GeForce 256 (NV10) View of OpenGL



Source: <https://www.techspot.com/article/650-history-of-the-gpu/>. Slide from SIGGRAPH Asia 2008.

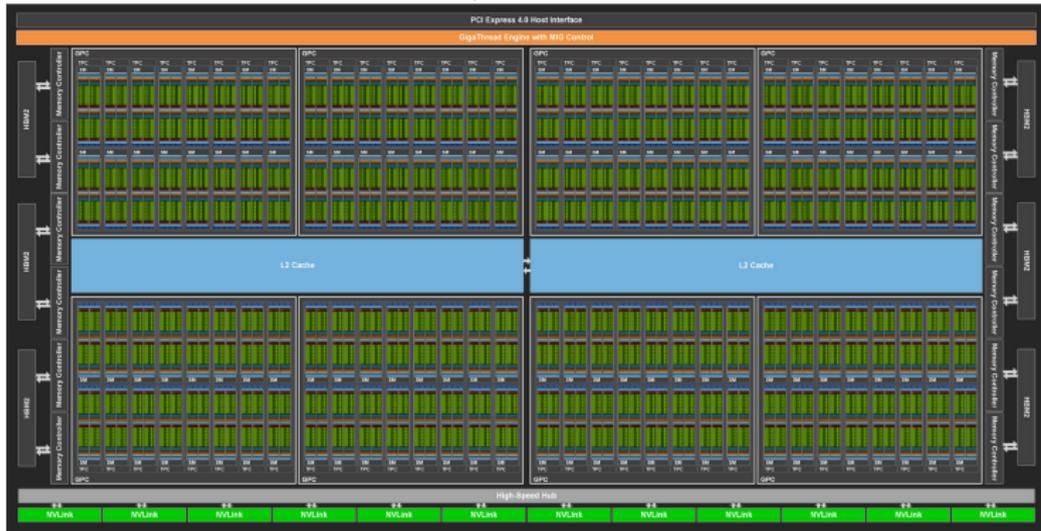
Nvidia and AMD embraced the “General Purpose GPU” paradigm for computer graphics:

- Organization of the GPU into Streaming Multiprocessors (SMs)
- “Nvidia realized that more cores running at a slower speed are more efficient for parallel workloads than fewer cores running at twice the frequency.”

Source: <https://www.techspot.com/article/659-history-of-the-gpu-part-4/>

# Modern GPU Architecture

Nvidia RTX A100:  $\approx$  \$30000; 108 SMs



Source: <https://images.nvidia.com/aem-dam/en-zz/Solutions/data-center/nvidia-ampere-architecture-whitepaper.pdf>

# Streaming Multiprocessor



We are executing a dense layer with batch size 256 and 4096 hidden units  $\implies 2^{20}$  parallel.

1. Spawn  $2^{20}$  threads.
2. Split threads into 4096 blocks of 256 threads.
3. Each SM gets assigned a block, and divides it into 8 warps of 32 threads.
4. These warps are sent to Warp Schedulers that execute the instructions using 16 int32 units, 16 fp32 units, 8 fp64 units, and 1 tensor core.

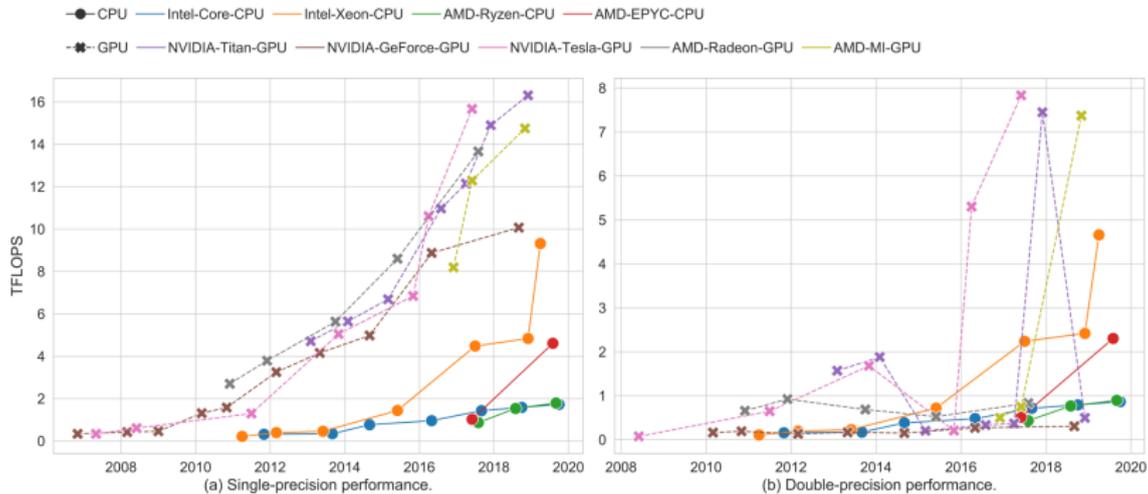
Total data parallelism: **6912**

# GPU vs CPU

Device	Current Price	Floating Point	Power (TDP)
Nvidia A100 80GB	≈ \$30000	156 TFlops	400W
Nvidia RTX A6000	≈ \$6000	38.7 TFlops	300W
AMD EPYC 7713	≈ \$7000	4.1 TFlops	225W
Nvidia RTX 3090	≈ \$2000	35.6 TFlops	350W
Nvidia GTX 970	\$150 used	3.9 TFlops	150W

Specs from <https://www.techpowerup.com/>. Prices reflect current market prices as of March 2022.

# GPU vs CPU



Source: <https://arxiv.org/pdf/1911.11313.pdf>

## More than just “More Cores”

**Tensor Cores** for 4x4 “Generalized Matrix Multiply”:

$\text{GEMM}(A, B, C) = \mathbf{AB} + \mathbf{C}$ . For example, if we multiply 2 8x8 matrices:

$$\begin{bmatrix} A_{11} & A_{12} \\ A_{21} & A_{22} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} B_{11} & B_{12} \\ B_{21} & B_{22} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} A_{11}B_{11} + A_{12}B_{21} & A_{11}B_{12} + A_{12}B_{22} \\ A_{21}B_{11} + A_{22}B_{21} & A_{21}B_{12} + A_{22}B_{22} \end{bmatrix},$$

where  $A_{11}B_{11} + A_{12}B_{21} = \text{GEMM}(A_{11}, B_{11}, \text{GEMM}(A_{12}, B_{12}, 0))$ .

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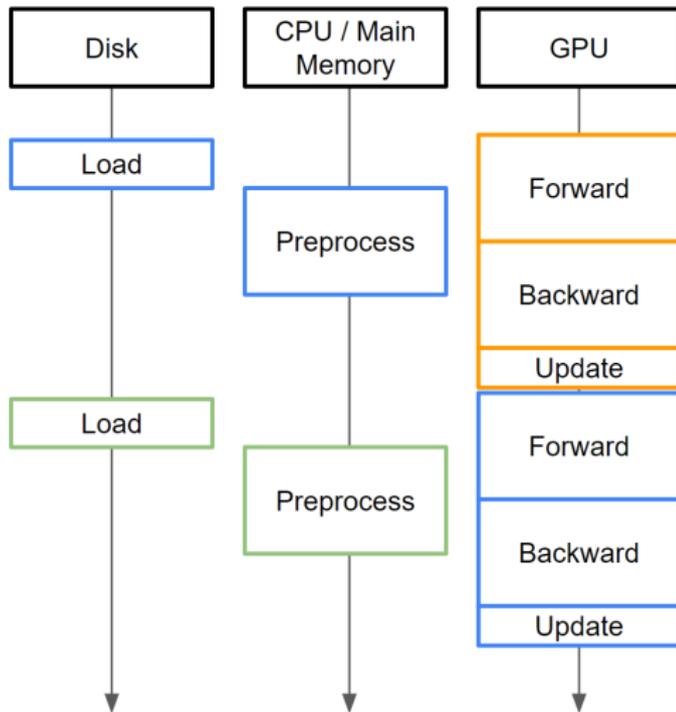
**Data Types** specifically for deep learning:

	INPUT OPERANDS	ACCUMULATOR	TOPS	X-factor vs. FFMA	SPARSE TOPS	SPARSE X-factor vs. FFMA
V100	FP32	FP32	15.7	1x	-	-
	FP16	FP32	125	8x	-	-
A100	FP32	FP32	19.5	1x	-	-
	TF32	FP32	156	8x	312	16x
	FP16	FP32	312	16x	624	32x
	BF16	FP32	312	16x	624	32x
	FP16	FP16	312	16x	624	32x
	INT8	INT32	624	32x	1248	64x
	INT4	INT32	1248	64x	2496	128x
	BINARY	INT32	4992	256x	-	-
IEEE FP64			19.5	1x	-	-

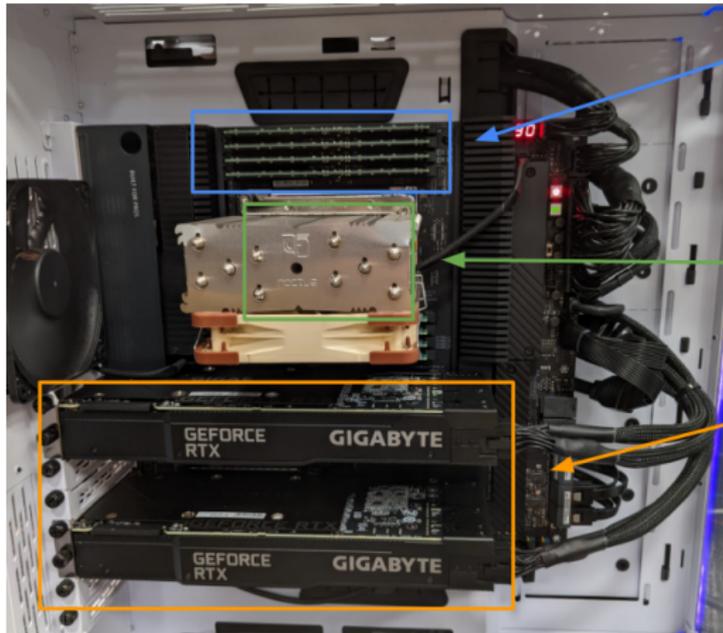
Source: <https://jonathan-hui.medium.com/ai-chips-a100-gpu-with-nvidia-ampere-architecture-3034ed685e6e>

# A Typical Deep Learning Pipeline

- The CPU is usually used for data preprocessing only.
- All parameter and gradient computations take place on the GPU
- Data loading and preprocessing should be pipelined to avoid impacting runtime.



# A Typical Deep Learning Machine



System memory: dataset

CPU: preprocessing

GPU: everything else

Batch-parallel training  
(GPU0 gets the first half,  
GPU1 gets the second half)



## Aside: Why not AMD?

AMD GPUs are not usually used, and for the most part cannot be used with deep learning frameworks!

- No hardware optimization for deep learning (Tensor Cores, ML-specific data types)
- No software support (CUDA, cuDNN, etc)
- Poor community adoption due to poor historical performance

# Deep Learning Frameworks

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What we used to do:

- LeNet, 1989: custom compiled code (most likely C or Fortran)
- AlexNet, 2012: custom CUDA code
- Early Deep Learning “Boom”: early frameworks such as Caffe, Theano
- Recent deep learning: Tensorflow vs Pytorch

# Modern Frameworks

Tensorflow: the first “Modern” deep learning framework.

- (TF 1) Build, compile, then execute compute graph
- (TF 2) This is too annoying, let's add “eager execution” instead

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Pytorch: easier to use than tensorflow

- Optimize overhead for eager execution, and don't worry about compiling graphs
- ... Maybe we still want that performance of graph execution

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- Optimize overhead for eager execution, and don't worry about compiling graphs
- ... Maybe we still want that performance of graph execution

JAX: built from the ground up to use a JIT approach

- Much more intuitive than Pytorch and Tensorflow
- New and not yet mature, missing a lot of tooling

# Choosing a Framework: Pytorch vs Tensorflow vs JAX

When to use...

- JAX: you work for Google, or have connections at Google.

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- JAX: you work for Google, or have connections at Google.
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# Choosing a Framework: Pytorch vs Tensorflow vs JAX

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- Pytorch: everyone else.

# Choosing a Framework: Pytorch vs Tensorflow vs JAX

When to use...

- JAX: you work for Google, or have connections at Google.
- Tensorflow: you have TPUs or want to easily deploy your model using Tensorflow Lite.
- Pytorch: everyone else.

... though if you use high level APIs such as Flax, Keras, torch.nn, there is little difference between the frameworks.

# Pytorch

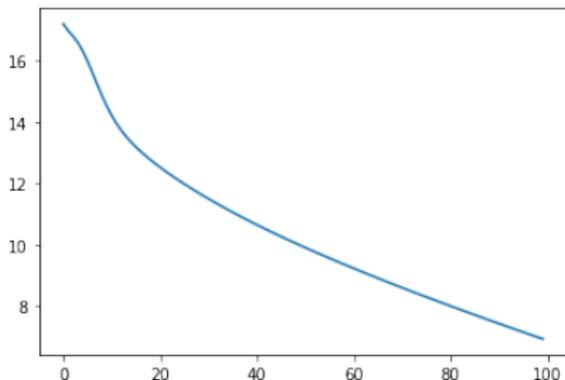
---

Three main components:

- GPU Computation (on `torch.Tensor`), which can use eager execution (default) or graph execution (`torch.jit`)
- Automatic Differentiation (`torch.autograd`)
- High level neural network API (`torch.nn`, `torch.optim`, `torch.utils.data`)

# Plain Numpy

Numpy implementation of regression using a neural network with 2 layers, trained with Gradient Descent



```
5 N, D_in, H, D_out = 64, 1000, 100, 10

1 X = np.random.normal(size=(N, D_in))
2 y = np.random.normal(size=(N, D_out))
3 w1 = np.random.normal(size=(D_in, H))
4 w2 = np.random.normal(size=(H, D_out))
5 learning_rate = 1e-6
6
7 losses = []
8 for t in range(100):
9     h = np.matmul(X, w1)
10    h_relu = np.maximum(h, 0)
11    y_pred = np.matmul(h_relu, w2)
12    loss = np.sum(np.square(y_pred - y))
13
14    grad_y_pred = 2 * (y_pred - y)
15    grad_w2 = np.matmul(h_relu.T, grad_y_pred)
16    grad_h_relu = np.matmul(grad_y_pred, w2.T)
17    grad_h = np.copy(grad_h_relu)
18    grad_h[h < 0] = 0
19    grad_w1 = np.matmul(X.T, grad_h)
20
21    w1 = w1 - learning_rate * grad_w1
22    w2 = w2 - learning_rate * grad_w2
23
24    losses.append(loss)
25
26 plt.plot(np.log(losses))
```

# Plain Numpy

Ordinary Arrays  
on CPU

Forward Pass

Backward Pass

Parameter Update

```
5 N, D_in, H, D_out = 64, 1000, 100, 10
1 X = np.random.normal(size=(N, D_in))
2 y = np.random.normal(size=(N, D_out))
3 w1 = np.random.normal(size=(D_in, H))
4 w2 = np.random.normal(size=(H, D_out))
5 learning_rate = 1e-6
6
7 losses = []
8 for t in range(100):
9     h = np.matmul(X, w1)
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11    y_pred = np.matmul(h_relu, w2)
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13
14    grad_y_pred = 2 * (y_pred - y)
15    grad_w2 = np.matmul(h_relu.T, grad_y_pred)
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19    grad_w1 = np.matmul(X.T, grad_h)
20
21    w1 = w1 - learning_rate * grad_w1
22    w2 = w2 - learning_rate * grad_w2
23
24    losses.append(loss)
25
26 plt.plot(np.log(losses))
```

Replace numpy with torch (with a few exceptions where the function names change)

```
1 device = torch.device('cuda')
2 print(device)
3
4 X = torch.randn(N, D_in, device=device)
5 y = torch.randn(N, D_out, device=device)
6 w1 = torch.randn(D_in, H, device=device)
7 w2 = torch.randn(H, D_out, device=device)
8 learning_rate = 1e-6
9
10 losses = []
11 for t in range(100):
12     h = torch.matmul(X, w1)
13     h_relu = torch.clamp(h, min=0)
14     y_pred = torch.matmul(h_relu, w2)
15     loss = torch.sum(torch.square(y_pred - y))
16
17     grad_y_pred = 2 * (y_pred - y)
18     grad_w2 = torch.matmul(h_relu.T, grad_y_pred)
19     grad_h_relu = torch.matmul(grad_y_pred, w2.T)
20     grad_h = torch.clone(grad_h_relu)
21     grad_h[h < 0] = 0
22     grad_w1 = torch.matmul(X.T, grad_h)
23
24     w1 = w1 - learning_rate * grad_w1
25     w2 = w2 - learning_rate * grad_w2
26
27     losses.append(loss.cpu().numpy())
```

# GPU Computation

CUDA = Nvidia GPU

Arrays sent  
to GPU

Send the loss back  
to the CPU

```
1 device = torch.device('cuda')
2 print(device)
3
4 X = torch.randn(N, D_in, device=device)
5 y = torch.randn(N, D_out, device=device)
6 w1 = torch.randn(D_in, H, device=device)
7 w2 = torch.randn(H, D_out, device=device)
8 learning_rate = 1e-6
9
10 losses = []
11 for t in range(100):
12     h = torch.matmul(X, w1)
13     h_relu = torch.clamp(h, min=0)
14     y_pred = torch.matmul(h_relu, w2)
15     loss = torch.sum(torch.square(y_pred - y))
16
17     grad_y_pred = 2 * (y_pred - y)
18     grad_w2 = torch.matmul(h_relu.T, grad_y_pred)
19     grad_h_relu = torch.matmul(grad_y_pred, w2.T)
20     grad_h = torch.clone(grad_h_relu)
21     grad_h[h < 0] = 0
22     grad_w1 = torch.matmul(X.T, grad_h)
23
24     w1 = w1 - learning_rate * grad_w1
25     w2 = w2 - learning_rate * grad_w2
26
27     losses.append(loss.cpu().numpy())
```

# Automatic Differentiation

Pytorch's Automatic Differentiation uses a "gradient tape" which records all operations made on tensors marked with `requires_grad`

```
1 device = torch.device('cuda')
2 print(device)
3
4 X = torch.randn(N, D_in, device=device)
5 y = torch.randn(N, D_out, device=device)
6 w1 = torch.randn(D_in, H, device=device, requires_grad=True)
7 w2 = torch.randn(H, D_out, device=device, requires_grad=True)
8 learning_rate = 1e-6
9
10 losses = []
11 for t in range(100):
12     h = torch.matmul(X, w1)
13     h_relu = torch.clamp(h, min=0)
14     y_pred = torch.matmul(h_relu, w2)
15     loss = torch.sum(torch.square(y_pred - y))
16
17     loss.backward()
18
19     with torch.no_grad():
20         w1 -= learning_rate * w1.grad
21         w2 -= learning_rate * w2.grad
22         w1.grad.zero_()
23         w2.grad.zero_()
24
25     losses.append(loss.detach().cpu().numpy())
```

# Automatic Differentiation

Record gradients  
for the weights

... and it's  
like magic

Don't track  
gradients when  
updating params

Don't send  
gradient to CPU

```
1 device = torch.device('cuda')
2 print(device)
3
4 X = torch.randn(N, D_in, device=device)
5 y = torch.randn(N, D_out, device=device)
6 w1 = torch.randn(D_in, H, device=device, requires_grad=True)
7 w2 = torch.randn(H, D_out, device=device, requires_grad=True)
8 learning_rate = 1e-6
9
10 losses = []
11 for t in range(100):
12     h = torch.matmul(X, w1)
13     h_relu = torch.clamp(h, min=0)
14     y_pred = torch.matmul(h_relu, w2)
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16
17     loss.backward()
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19     with torch.no_grad():
20         w1 -= learning_rate * w1.grad
21         w2 -= learning_rate * w2.grad
22         w1.grad.zero_()
23         w2.grad.zero_()
24
25     losses.append(loss.detach().cpu().numpy())
```

## High Level API: torch.nn

Instead of manually constructing each layer, activation, initialization, etc, use pre-constructed layers

```
1 device = torch.device('cuda')
2 print(device)
3
4 X = torch.randn(N, D_in, device=device)
5 y = torch.randn(N, D_out, device=device)
6 learning_rate = 1e-2
7
8 model = torch.nn.Sequential(
9     torch.nn.Linear(D_in, H),
10    torch.nn.ReLU(),
11    torch.nn.Linear(H, D_out)).to(device)
12
13 losses = []
14 for t in range(100):
15     y_pred = model(X)
16     loss = torch.nn.functional.mse_loss(y_pred, y)
17     loss.backward()
18
19     with torch.no_grad():
20         for param in model.parameters():
21             param -= learning_rate * param.grad
22 model.zero_grad()
23 losses.append(loss.detach().cpu().numpy())
```

# High Level API: torch.nn

You will implement something similar in HW5 Q3

Send model to GPU

The model provides a convenient way to iterate over its parameters

```
1 device = torch.device('cuda')
2 print(device)
3
4 X = torch.randn(N, D_in, device=device)
5 y = torch.randn(N, D_out, device=device)
6 learning_rate = 1e-2
7
8 model = torch.nn.Sequential(
9     torch.nn.Linear(D_in, H),
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13 losses = []
14 for t in range(100):
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18
19     with torch.no_grad():
20         for param in model.parameters():
21             param -= learning_rate * param.grad
22     model.zero_grad()
23     losses.append(loss.detach().cpu().numpy())
```

# High Level API: torch.optim

Let's get rid of  
that last bit of  
handwritten  
training code ...

```
1 device = torch.device('cuda')
2 print(device)
3
4 X = torch.randn(N, D_in, device=device)
5 y = torch.randn(N, D_out, device=device)
6 learning_rate = 1e-2
7
8 model = torch.nn.Sequential(
9     torch.nn.Linear(D_in, H),
10    torch.nn.ReLU(),
11    torch.nn.Linear(H, D_out)).to(device)
12 optimizer = torch.optim.SGD(model.parameters(), lr=learning_rate)
13
14 losses = []
15 for t in range(100):
16     y_pred = model(X)
17     loss = torch.nn.functional.mse_loss(y_pred, y)
18     loss.backward()
19
20     optimizer.step()
21     optimizer.zero_grad()
22     losses.append(loss.detach().cpu().numpy())
23
24 plt.plot(np.log(losses))
```

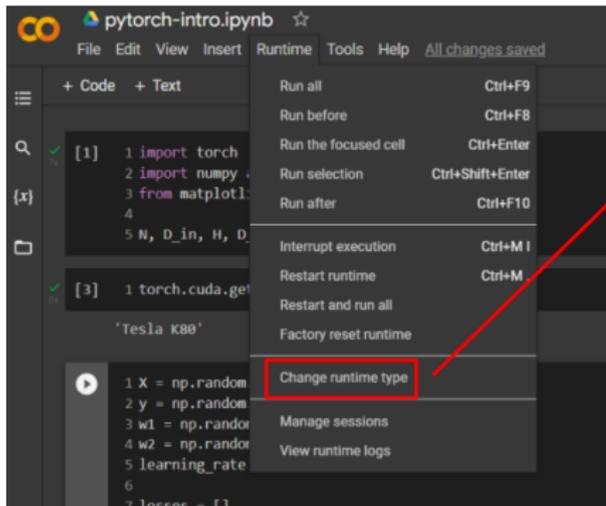
# High Level API: torch.utils.data

Use DataLoader to  
pipeline data loading  
and preprocessing

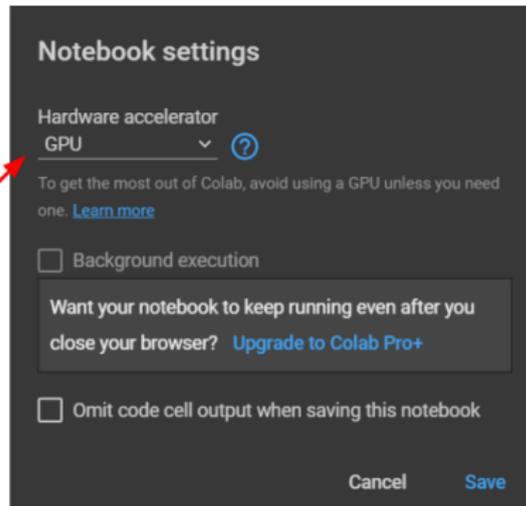
```
1 from torch.utils.data import TensorDataset, DataLoader
2
3 device = torch.device('cuda')
4 print(device)
5
6 X = torch.randn(N, D_in, device=device)
7 y = torch.randn(N, D_out, device=device)
8 learning_rate = 1e-2
9
10 loader = DataLoader(TensorDataset(X, y), batch_size=16)
11 model = torch.nn.Sequential(
12     torch.nn.Linear(D_in, H),
13     torch.nn.ReLU(),
14     torch.nn.Linear(H, D_out)).to(device)
15 optimizer = torch.optim.SGD(model.parameters(), lr=learning_rate)
16
17 losses = []
18 for epoch in range(25):
19     for x_batch, y_batch in loader:
20         y_pred = model(x_batch)
21         loss = torch.nn.functional.mse_loss(y_pred, y_batch)
22         loss.backward()
23
24         optimizer.step()
25         optimizer.zero_grad()
26         losses.append(loss.detach().cpu().numpy())
27
28 plt.plot(np.log(losses))
```

# Pytorch Example

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The screenshot shows the Google Colab interface for a notebook titled 'pytorch-intro.ipynb'. The 'Runtime' menu is open, displaying various options such as 'Run all', 'Run before', 'Run the focused cell', 'Run selection', 'Run after', 'Interrupt execution', 'Restart runtime', 'Restart and run all', 'Factory reset runtime', 'Change runtime type', 'Manage sessions', and 'View runtime logs'. The 'Change runtime type' option is highlighted with a red box, and a red arrow points from this box to the 'Notebook settings' dialog on the right.



The 'Notebook settings' dialog is shown, with the 'Hardware accelerator' dropdown menu set to 'GPU'. Below this, there is a link to 'Learn more' and a checkbox for 'Background execution'. A grey box contains the text: 'Want your notebook to keep running even after you close your browser? Upgrade to Colab Pro+'. At the bottom, there are 'Cancel' and 'Save' buttons.

HW5 Release on Monday

- Start early!

Recitation:

- Deeper dive into the Pytorch Example
- Backpropagation Walkthrough
- Vectorization, Numerical Stability, and Debugging Tricks