STAT606
Computing for Data Science and Statistics

Lecture 23: TensorFlow
TensorFlow

Open source symbolic math library
Popular in ML, especially for neural networks

Developed by GoogleBrain
Google’s AI/Deep learning division
You may recall their major computer vision triumph circa 2012:

TensorFlow is not new, and not very special:
Many other symbolic math programs predate it!
TensorFlow is unique in how quickly it gained so much market share
Open-sourced only in 2015…
...and almost immediately became the dominant framework for NNs
TensorFlow: Installation

Easiest: `pip install tensorflow`

Also easy: install in anaconda

More information: [https://www.tensorflow.org/install/](https://www.tensorflow.org/install/)

**Note:** if you want to do fancier things (e.g., run on GPU instead of CPU), installation and setup gets a lot harder. For this course, we’re not going to worry about it. In general, for running on a GPU, if you don’t have access to a cluster with existing TF installation, you should consider paying for Amazon/GoogleCloud instances.
Aside: TensorFlow, Versions and Upgrading

In 2019, TensorFlow made a major change from version 1.X to 2.X

This new version of TensorFlow made some fundamental changes

- Added tricks for computational speedups such as eager execution [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Eager_evaluation](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Eager_evaluation)
- Streamlined code for running models (more on this soon)

These changes are all good, but the changes hide some of the most interesting stuff that TensorFlow can do! I recommend that you at least look at the old TensorFlow, which you can install with

```
    pip install tensorflow==1.15
```

**Note:** TF v1 documentation is archived at: [https://www.tensorflow.org/versions/r1.15/api_docs/python/tf](https://www.tensorflow.org/versions/r1.15/api_docs/python/tf)
Fundamental concepts of TensorFlow

Tensor
Recall that a tensor is really just an array of numbers
“Rank” of a tensor is the number of dimensions it has
So, a matrix is a rank-2 tensor, vector is rank 1, scalar rank 0
A cube of numbers is a 3-tensor, and so on

Computational graph
Directed graph that captures the “flow” of data through the program
Nodes are operations (i.e., computations)
Edges represent data sent between operations
Tensors

0-tensor (scalar)

1-tensor (vector)

2-tensor (matrix)

3-tensor

Note: most things you read will call this dimension the *rank* of the tensor, but you should know that some mathematicians use *rank* to mean the tensor generalization of linear algebraic rank. These people will usually use the term *order* instead.
Tensors: `tf.Tensor` objects

Tensors are represented in TensorFlow as `tf.Tensor` objects.

Every `tf.Tensor` object has:
- data type (e.g., int, float, string, ...)
- shape (e.g., 2-by-3-by-5, 5-by-5, 1-by-1, etc)
  - Shape encodes both rank and ‘length’ of each dimension

`tf.Tensor` objects are immutable
- with slight exceptions, which we’ll talk about soon
Special `tf.Tensor()` objects

`tf.constant`: will not change its value during your program.
   Like an immutable tensor

`tf.placeholder`: gets its value from elsewhere in your program
   E.g., from training data or from results of other Tensor computations
   **Note**: this was removed in TensorFlow v2; now handled by `tf.function` (in a few slides!)

`tf.Variable`: represents a tensor whose value may change during execution
   Unlike above `tf.Tensor` types, `tf.Variables` are **mutable**
   Useful for ML, because we want to update parameters during training

`tf.SparseTensor`: most entries of a `SparseTensor` will be zero
   TF stores this differently; saves on memory
   Useful for applications where data is sparse, such as networks
Special `tf.Tensor()` objects

- **`tf.constant`**: will not change its value during your program.
  Like an immutable tensor

- **`tf.placeholder`**: gets its value from elsewhere in your program
  E.g., from training data or from results of other Tensor computations
  **Note**: this was removed in TensorFlow v2; now handled by `tf.function` (in a few slides!)

- **`tf.Variable`**: represents a tensor whose value may change during execution
  Unlike above `tf.Tensor` types, `tf.Variables` are **mutable**
  Useful for ML, because we want to update parameters during training

- **`tf.SparseTensor`**: most entries of a Sparse Tensor will be zero

For now, these three are the important ones.
Computational Graph

From the “Getting Started” guide: “A computational graph is a series of TensorFlow operations arranged into a graph of nodes.”

Every node takes zero or more tensors as input and outputs one or more tensors.

A TensorFlow program consists, essentially, of two sections:

1) Building the computational graph
2) Running the computational graph

An example of a computational graph that represents the computation $z = a \times x + b$. 
TF as Dataflow

**Dataflow** is a term for frameworks in which computation is concerned with the **pipeline** by which the data is processed:

- Data transformed and combined via a series of operations
- This view makes it clear when parallelization is possible...
  ...because dependence between operations can be read off the graph

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dataflow
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Stream_processing

This should sound familiar from PySpark!
Building the Computational Graph

Equivalent computational graph:

```
1 a = tf.constant(2, dtype=tf.float32)
2 b = tf.constant(3, dtype=tf.float32)
3 x = tf.constant(4, dtype=tf.float32)
4 z = a*x + b
```

Here's a snippet of a TF program in which we define a computational graph.

**Note:** strictly speaking, we haven’t actually built this graph, yet. For that, we need to create a `tf.Graph` object, but working with this object directly is deprecated in TF version 2.
Building the Computational Graph

Equivalent computational graph:

```
a = tf.constant(2, dtype=tf.float32)
b = tf.constant(3, dtype=tf.float32)
x = tf.constant(4, dtype=tf.float32)
z = a*x + b
```

\[ a, b \text{ and } x \text{ here are constants, meaning they're fixed for the duration of our program. Really, we want to, say, let } x \text{ take values from a data set and let } a \text{ and } b \text{ be parameters that we can tune to fit that data. We'll come back to this point.} \]
Data types in TensorFlow

Every `tf.Tensor()` object has a data type, accessed through the `dtype` attribute.

```
helloworld = tf.constant('hello world!')
print(helloworld.dtype)
ramanujan = tf.constant(1729, dtype=tf.int16)
print(ramanujan.dtype)
approxpi = tf.constant(3.14159, dtype=tf.float32)
print(approxpi.dtype)
imaginary = tf.constant((0.0,1.0), dtype=tf.complex64)
print(imaginary.dtype)
```

Note: if no `dtype` is specified, TF will do its best to figure it out from context, but this doesn’t always go as expected, such as when you want a vector of complex numbers. When in doubt, specify!
Creating Tensors

These are all rank-0 tensors. Yes, `tf.string` is a single item, and so is `tf.complex`.

To create a 1-tensor (i.e., a vector), just pass a list of scalars.

```python
helloworld = tf.constant('hello world!', dtype=tf.string)
ramanujan = tf.constant(1729, dtype=tf.int16)
approxpi = tf.constant(3.14159, dtype=tf.float32)
imaginary = tf.constant((0.0, 1.0), dtype=tf.complex64)

animals = tf.constant(['cat', 'dog', 'bird'], dtype=tf.string)
print(animals)
```

```
tf.Tensor(['b'cat' b'dog' b'bird'], shape=(3,), dtype=string)

animals.shape
TensorShape([3])
```

**Note:** all elements of a `tf.Tensor` must be of the same data type. The one sneaky way around this is to serialize objects to strings and store them in a tensor with `dtype=tf.string`. 
Creating Tensors

We can create a 1-by-1 matrix, which is different from a 1-vector, which is different from a scalar.

```python
onebyonemx = tf.constant([[3.1415]], dtype=tf.float32)
print(onebyonemx)

tf.Tensor([[3.1415]], shape=(1, 1), dtype=float32)

onevec = tf.constant([3.1415], dtype=tf.float32)
print(onevec)

tf.Tensor([3.1415], shape=(1,), dtype=float32)

scalar = tf.constant(3.1415, dtype=tf.float32)
print(scalar)

tf.Tensor(3.1415, shape=(), dtype=float32)
```
Creating Tensors

To create a matrix, we can pass a list of its rows.

```python
identity = tf.constant([[1, 0, 0], [0, 1, 0], [0, 0, 1]], dtype=tf.float32)
print(identity)
```

```
tf.Tensor(
[[1. 0. 0.]
 [0. 1. 0.]
 [0. 0. 1.]], shape=(3, 3), dtype=float32)
```

```python
oneThruNine = tf.constant([[1, 2, 3], [4, 5, 6], [7, 8, 9]], dtype=tf.float32)
print(oneThruNine)
```

```
tf.Tensor(
[[1. 2. 3.]
 [4. 5. 6.]
 [7. 8. 9.]], shape=(3, 3), dtype=float32)
```

Matrix populated in row-major order.
Creating Tensors

Create a 5-by-5 matrix of all ones

```python
J = tf.ones([5, 5])
print(J)
```

```
tf.Tensor(
[[1. 1. 1. 1. 1.]
 [1. 1. 1. 1. 1.]
 [1. 1. 1. 1. 1.]
 [1. 1. 1. 1. 1.]
 [1. 1. 1. 1. 1.]], shape=(5, 5), dtype=float32)
```

Create a 4-tensor, which we could use to represent one second of 720p color video (27 frames per second, 1280x720 resolution, 3 colors)

```python
video = tf.zeros([27, 1280, 720, 3])
```
Tensor rank and shape

**Rank:** number of dimensions

**Shape:** sizes of the dimensions

```
video = tf.zeros([27, 1280, 720, 3])
print(tf.rank(video))
```

```
video.shape
```

```
(27, 1280, 720, 3)
```

```
video.shape
```

```
TensorShape([27, 1280, 720, 3])
```

**Note:** This looks like a tuple, but it is actually its own special type, `tf.TensorShape`
It is often natural to refer to certain subsets of the entries of a tensor. A “subtensor” of a tensor is often called a slice, and the operation of picking out a slice is called slicing the tensor.
Tensor Indexing

```python
fibovec = tf.constant([1,1,2,3,5,8,13,22], tf.int32)
print(fibovec)
```
```
tf.Tensor([ 1 1 2 3 5 8 13 22], shape=(8,), dtype=int32)
```

```python
print(fibovec[0])
```
```
tf.Tensor(1, shape=(), dtype=int32)
```

```python
J = tf.ones([3,4])
print(J)
```
```
tf.Tensor(
 [[1. 1. 1. 1.]
  [1. 1. 1. 1.]
  [1. 1. 1. 1.]], shape=(3, 4), dtype=float32)
```

```python
J[1,2]
```
```
<tf.Tensor: shape=(), dtype=float32, numpy=1.0>
```

One index is enough to specify a number in a vector (i.e., a 1-tensor)

Need two indices to pick out an entry of a matrix (i.e., a 2-tensor)
Tensor Slices

Use `:` to pick out all entries along a row or column.

Create a vector from the second (zero-indexing!) row of the matrix.

Create a vector from the third column of the matrix.

Note: result is a "column vector" regardless of whether we slice a row or a column!
Tensor Slices

```
J = tf.ones([3, 4])
print(J)
```

```
tf.Tensor(
[[1. 1. 1. 1.]
 [1. 1. 1. 1.]
 [1. 1. 1. 1.]], shape=(3, 4), dtype=dt.float32)
```

```
J[1,2]
<tf.Tensor: shape=(), dtype=dt.float32, numpy=1.0>
```

```
J[1,:]
<tf.Tensor: shape=(4,), dtype=dt.float32, numpy=Array([1., 1., 1., 1.], dt.float32)>
```

```
J[:,2]
<tf.Tensor: shape=(3,), dtype=dt.float32, numpy=Array([1., 1., 1.], dt.float32)>
```

**Sidenote:** the data inside a Tensor object is really just a `numpy` array!

*Use ':' to pick out all entries along a row or column.*
Tensor Slices

More complicated example: video processing

Four dimensions:
- Pixels (height-by-width)
- Three colors (RGB)
- Time index (multiple frames)
Tensor Slices

More complicated example: video processing

Four dimensions:
- Pixels (height-by-width)
- Three colors (RGB)
- Time index (multiple frames)

Test your understanding: What is the rank of the “video” tensor below?
Tensor Slices

More complicated example: video processing

Four dimensions:
- Pixels (height-by-width)
- Three colors (RGB)
- Time index (multiple frames)

Test your understanding:
What is the rank of the “video” tensor below?

Answer: 4, since there are four dimensions; height, width, color and time.
Tensor Slices

```python
video = tf.zeros([27, 1280, 720, 3])
video.shape
TensorShape([27, 1280, 720, 3])

firstframe = video[0,:,:,:]
firstframe.shape
TensorShape([1280, 720, 3])

bluevideo = video[:,:,:,2]
bluevideo.shape
TensorShape([27, 1280, 720])

redvideo = video[:,:,:,0]
redvideo.shape
TensorShape([27, 1280, 720])
```
Reshaping tensors

Test your understanding:

Q: I have an x-by-y-by-z tensor. What is its rank?
Reshaping tensors

Test your understanding:

Q: I have an x-by-y-by-z tensor. What is its rank?
A: 3

Q: How many elements are in this x-by-y-by-z 3-tensor?
Reshaping tensors

Test your understanding:

Q: I have an x-by-y-by-z tensor. What is its rank?

A: 3

Q: How many elements are in this x-by-y-by-z 3-tensor?

A: x*y*z
Reshaping tensors

Reshape a 3-tensor into a 4-tensor. Note that the shapes are consistent with one another.

```python
mytensor = tf.zeros([10, 20, 30])
mytensor.shape
```

```
TensorShape([10, 20, 30])
```

```python
newtensor = tf.reshape(mytensor, [125, 3, 2, 8])
newtensor.shape
```

```
TensorShape([125, 3, 2, 8])
```

```python
badtensor = tf.reshape(mytensor, [10, 20, 40])
```

```
InvalidArgumentError Traceback (most recent call last)
<ipython-input-71-fecb512dde90> in <module>
----> 1 badtensor = tf.reshape(mytensor, [10, 20, 40])
```

Reshaping to an inconsistent shape results in an error.
Incorporating Variable Tensors

In practice, we want to be able to change \(a\) and \(b\) to adjust our model. Right now, they're constants, and cannot be changed.

Equivalent computational graph:
Incorporating Variable Tensors

The solution is to make \( a \) and \( b \) Variable tensors.

In practice, we want to be able to change \( a \) and \( b \) to adjust our model. Right now, they’re constants, and cannot be changed.
Incorporating Variable Tensors

Declare `a` and `b` to be Variable tensors.

```python
a = tf.Variable(2, dtype=tf.float32)
b = tf.Variable(3, dtype=tf.float32)
x = tf.constant(1, dtype=tf.float32)
a * x + b
```

Change values of Variable tensors using the `assign` method.

```python
a.assign(2)
b.assign(1)
a * x + b  # x is still 1; 2*1 + 1 = 3
```

Equivalent computational graph
Incorporating Variable Tensors

Declare `a` and `b` to be Variable tensors.

```
a = tf.Variable(2, dtype=tf.float32)
b = tf.Variable(3, dtype=tf.float32)
x = tf.constant(1, dtype=tf.float32)
a*x + b
```

 Equivalent computational graph

Change values of Variable tensors using the `assign` method.

```
a.assign(2)
b.assign(1)
a*x + b  # x is still 1; 2*1 + 1 = 3
```

```
<tf.Tensor: shape=(), dtype=float32, numpy=5.0>
<tf.Tensor: shape=(), dtype=float32, numpy=3.0>
```
Incorporating Variable Tensors

Declare `a` and `b` to be Variable tensors.

```python
a = tf.Variable( 2, dtype=tf.float32)
b = tf.Variable( 3, dtype=tf.float32)
x = tf.constant( 1, dtype=tf.float32)
a*x + b
```

Note: in practice, we rarely need to use the `assign` method directly. It is mostly used under the hood by TensorFlow to change our parameters as we are fitting a model.

Change values of Variable tensors using the `assign` method.

```python
a.assign(2)
b.assign(1)
a*x + b  # x is still 1; 2*1 + 1 = 3
```

Equivalent computational graph

```
tf.Variable
  a
  *
  tf.constant x
```

```python
a*x + b
```

```python
<tf.Tensor: shape=(), dtype=float32, numpy=5.0>
```

```python
<tf.Tensor: shape=(), dtype=float32, numpy=3.0>
```
Building the computational graph: `tf.function`

The predictor $x$ is still a constant. What if I want to plug in new data to this linear model?

```python
da = tf.Variable(2, dtype=tf.float32)
b = tf.Variable(3, dtype=tf.float32)
x = tf.constant(1, dtype=tf.float32)
a*x + b
```

The output is:

```
<tf.Tensor: shape=(), dtype=float32, numpy=5.0>
```

```python
assign(a, 2)
assign(b, 1)
a*x + b  # x is still 1; 2*1 + 1 = 3
```

The output is:

```
<tf.Tensor: shape=(), dtype=float32, numpy=3.0>
```
Building the computational graph: `tf.function`

We start with a Python function...

...which we then convert into a `tf.Function` object.

And now we can evaluate this function on different values.

Equivalent computational graph
Building the computational graph: `tf.function`

```
def linear(c,d,z):
    return c*z + d
linear_tf = tf.function(linear)
```

```
a = tf.Variable(2, dtype=tf.float32)
b = tf.Variable(3, dtype=tf.float32)
z = tf.constant(1, dtype=tf.float32)
linear_tf(a, b, z)
```

```
<tf.Tensor: shape=(), dtype=float32, numpy=5.0>
```

We start with a Python function...

...which we then convert into a `tf.Function` object.

And now we can evaluate this function on different values.

**Note:** we might like to have Variable tensors `a` and `b` defined inside `linear_tf`, but this can cause problems with TensorFlow’s eager execution.
Running TensorFlow

```python
def lin_comb(x, y):
    # Now we define some variables
    a = tf.constant(2, dtype=tf.float32)
    b = tf.constant(1, dtype=tf.float32)
    return a*x + b*y

linear_combination = tf.function(lin_comb)
linear_combination

linear_combination(4, 2)
```

Operations are defined here, but we still haven’t actually computed anything, yet...

Evaluate our computational graph with particular values given to x and y.
Note that we have the constants $a$ and $b$ defined locally in the function, this time. This is only an issue for Variable tensors.
Running TensorFlow

Once our `tf.Function` is defined, we can evaluate it on a collection of arguments. For example, we might want to pass in a collection of \((x,y)\) pairs.

```python
def lin_comb(x, y):
    # Now we define some variables
    a = tf.constant(2, dtype=tf.float32)
    b = tf.constant(1, dtype=tf.float32)
    return a*x + b*y

linear_combination = tf.function(lin_comb)
linear_combination
linear_combination(4, 2)
<tf.Tensor: shape=(), dtype=float32, numpy=10.0>
linear_combination([[4, 3, 2, 1], [2, 3, 4, 5]])
<tf.Tensor: shape=(4,), dtype=float32, numpy=array([10., 9., 8., 7.], dtype=float32)>
```

Operations are defined here, but we still haven’t actually computed anything, yet...

Once our `tf.Function` is defined, we can evaluate it on a collection of arguments. For example, we might want to pass in a collection of \((x,y)\) pairs.
Building a Simple Model: Linear Regression

def linear_prediction_pyfn(c, d, x):
    return c*x + d
linear_model = tf.function(linear_prediction_pyfn)

W = tf.Variable([0.5], dtype=tf.float32)
b = tf.Variable([-1], dtype=tf.float32)
linear_model(W, b, [0, 1, 2, 3, 4])

<tf.Tensor: shape=(5,), dtype=float32, numpy=array([-1., -0.5, 0., 0.5, 1.], dtype=float32)>
Building a Simple Model: Linear Regression

Model: \( y = Wx + b \)

We’re using \( c \) and \( d \) in the function arguments just to avoid confusion with the global variables \( W \) and \( b \).

\( W \) and \( b \) are both rank-1 tensors, with values 0.5 and -1, respectively.

```python
def linear_prediction_pyfn(c, d, x):
    return c*x + d
linear_model = tf.function(linear_prediction_pyfn)

W = tf.Variable([0.5], dtype=tf.float32)
b = tf.Variable([-1], dtype=tf.float32)
linear_model(W, b, [0, 1, 2, 3, 4])
```

<tf.Tensor: shape=(5,), dtype=float32, numpy=array([-1., -0.5, 0., 0.5, 1.], dtype=float32)>

Graph:
- \( W \)
- \( b \)
- \( x \)
- \( \text{data} \)
- \( \text{tf.Variable} \)
- \( \(*\) \)
- \( +\)
- \( \text{linear_model} \)
Building a Simple Model: Linear Regression

```python
def linear_prediction_pyfn(c,d,x):
    return c*x + d
linear_model = tf.function(linear_prediction_pyfn)
W = tf.Variable([0.5], dtype=tf.float32)
b = tf.Variable([-1], dtype=tf.float32)
linear_model(W,b,tf.data.Dataset([0,1,2,3,4]))
```

A `tf.Variable` can be a Tensor of any type and shape. The type and shape of the variable are specified by the initialization. After construction, the value can be changed using the `assign` method that we saw earlier.
Building a Simple Model: Linear Regression

```python
def linear_prediction_pyn(c,d,x):
    return c*x + d
linear_model = tf.function(linear_prediction_pyn)
W = tf.Variable([0.5], dtype=tf.float32)
b = tf.Variable([-1], dtype=tf.float32)
linear_model(W,b,[0,1,2,3,4])
```

Evaluate the model with different values of \( x \).
Building a Simple Model: Linear Regression

So far, we have a circuit that computes a linear regression estimate.

To train our model, we need:

1) A loss function
2) An argument $y$ for the training data dependent values.
Building a Simple Model: Linear Regression

```
1 y = tf.placeholder(tf.float32)
2 sq_err = tf.square(linear_model - y)
3 loss = tf.reduce_sum(sq_err)
4 print(sess.run(loss, {x: [1, 2, 3, 4], y: [0, -1, -2, -3]}))
```

**Warning:** this code was run in TensorFlow version 1. It will not run in TF v2.

In TF v1, we could just keep building out this graph to define a loss function.
Building a Simple Model: Linear Regression

```python
y = tf.placeholder(tf.float32)
sq_err = tf.square(linear_model - y)
loss = tf.reduce_sum(sq_err)
print(sess.run(loss, {x: [1, 2, 3, 4], y: [0, -1, -2, -3]}))
```

**Warning:** this code was run in TensorFlow version 1. It will not run in TF v2.

In TF v2, this gets wrapped in the `tf.Module` class, which is borrowed from Keras. The same basic structure is being built, but hidden inside an object.
Building a Simple Model: Linear Regression

class LinearModel(tf.Module):
    def __init__(self, name=None):
        super().__init__(name=name)
        self.W = tf.Variable([0.5], dtype=tf.float32, name="slope")
        self.b = tf.Variable([-1.0], dtype=tf.float32, name="intercept")
    def __call__(self, x):
        return self.W * x + self.b

def loss(y_observed, y_predicted):
    return tf.reduce_sum(tf.square(y_observed - y_predicted))
Building a Simple Model: Linear Regression

The Python `super()` function accesses the parent class (i.e., the class we are inheriting from).

class LinearModel(tf.Module):
    def __init__(self, name=None):
        super().__init__(name=name)
        self.W = tf.Variable([0.5], dtype=tf.float32, name="slope")
        self.b = tf.Variable([-1.0], dtype=tf.float32, name="intercept")
    def __call__(self, x):
        return self.W * x + self.b

def loss(y_observed, y_predicted):
    return tf.reduce_sum(tf.square(y_observed - y_predicted))
The model parameters are `tf.Variable` tensors stored as instance attributes. We could, if we wanted, initialize them randomly.
Building a Simple Model: Linear Regression

```python
class LinearModel(tf.Module):
    def __init__(self, name=None):
        super().__init__(name=name)
        self.W = tf.Variable([0.5], dtype=tf.float32, name="slope")
        self.b = tf.Variable([1.0], dtype=tf.float32, name="intercept")

    def __call__(self, x):
        return self.W * x + self.b

def loss(y_observed, y_predicted):
    return tf.reduce_sum(tf.square(y_observed - y_predicted))
```

Defining a `__call__` method makes it so we can treat an instance of this class like a function. Objects like this are called **callable**.
Building a Simple Model: Linear Regression

```python
class LinearModel(tf.Module):
    def __init__(self, name=None):
        super().__init__(name=name)
        self.W = tf.Variable([0.5], dtype=tf.float32, name="slope")
        self.b = tf.Variable([-1.0], dtype=tf.float32, name="intercept")
    def __call__(self, x):
        return self.W * x + self.b

def loss(y_observed, y_predicted):
    return tf.reduce_sum(tf.square(y_observed - y_predicted))
```

Note: `tf.reduce_sum` does just what you think it does!
Building a Simple Model: Linear Regression

Note: As you can see, the computational graph can get very complicated very quickly. TensorFlow has a set of built-in tools, collectively called TensorBoard, for handling some of this complexity: https://www.tensorflow.org/tensorboard/graphs
Building a Simple Model: Linear Regression

```python
class LinearModel(tf.Module):
    def __init__(self, name=None):
        super().__init__(name=name)
        self.W = tf.Variable([0.5], dtype=tf.float32, name="slope")
        self.b = tf.Variable([-1.0], dtype=tf.float32, name="intercept")

    def __call__(self, x):
        return self.W * x + self.b

def loss(y_observed, y_predicted):
    return tf.reduce_sum(tf.square(y_observed - y_predicted))
```

Give (x,y) values to the model, evaluate its ability to replicate the observed y values.
Building a Simple Model: Linear Regression

```python
class LinearModel(tf.Module):
    def __init__(self, name=None):
        super().__init__(name=name)
        self.W = tf.Variable([0.5], dtype=tf.float32, name="slope")
        self.b = tf.Variable([-1.0], dtype=tf.float32, name="intercept")
    def __call__(self, x):
        return self.W * x + self.b

def loss(y_observed, y_predicted):
    return tf.reduce_sum(tf.square(y_observed - y_predicted))
```

The `numpy()` method retrieves the actual numpy object from inside the `tf.Tensor`.
Building a Simple Model: Linear Regression

How can we improve (i.e., decrease) this loss?

**Option 1:** set $w$ and $b$ manually.

- We know $w=-1$, $b=1$ is the correct answer.
- Change values of tf.Variables using assign method.
Building a Simple Model: Linear Regression

How can we improve (i.e., decrease) this loss?

Option 1: set \( w \) and \( b \) manually.
   We know \( W = -1, b = 1 \) is the correct answer
   Change values of \( \text{tf.Variables} \) using \( \text{assign} \) method

Update the slope and intercept in the model to the correct values.
How can we improve (i.e., decrease) this loss?

**Option 1:** set \( w \) and \( b \) manually.

We know \( w=-1, \ b=1 \) is the correct answer

Change values of `tf.Variables` using `assign` method

Note: because \( w \) and \( b \) are rank-1 tensors, we have to pass their new values as length-1 lists, not scalars.

`linear_model.W.assign([-1])` would result in an error.
Building a Simple Model: Linear Regression

```python
x = tf.constant([1, 2, 3, 4], dtype=tf.float32)
y = tf.constant([0, -1, -2, -3], dtype=tf.float32)
loss(linear_model(x), y).numpy()
```

23.5

How can we improve (i.e., decrease) this loss?

Option 1: set $w$ and $b$ manually.
   - We know $W=-1, b=1$ is the correct answer
   - Change values of `tf.Variables` using `assign` method

Option 2: use closed-form solution for loss-minimizing $W$ and $b$.
   - ...but then what happens when we have a model with no closed-form solution?
Building a Simple Model: Linear Regression

How can we improve (i.e., decrease) this loss?

Option 1: set $w$ and $b$ manually.
   We know $w=-1$, $b=1$ is the correct answer
   Change values of `tf.Variables` using `assign` method

Option 2: use closed-form solution for loss-minimizing $w$ and $b$.
   ...but then what happens when we have a model with no closed-form solution?

Option 3: take advantage of **automatic differentiation**
   Allows easy implementation of **gradient descent** and related techniques
Building a Simple Model: Linear Regression

How can we improve (i.e., decrease) this loss?

**Option 1:** set $w$ and $b$ manually.
We know $w=-1$, $b=1$ is the correct answer
Change values of `tf.Variables` using `assign` method

**Option 2:** use closed-form solution for loss-minimizing $w$ and $b$.
...but then what happens when we have a model with no closed-form solution?

**Option 3:** take advantage of automatic differentiation
Allows easy implementation of `gradient descent` and related techniques

This is why we use TensorFlow!
Gradient Descent: Crash Course

Iterative optimization method for minimizing a function
At location \((w, b)\), take gradient of loss function with respect to parameters
Take a gradient step in the direction of the gradient
Size of step changes over time according to learning rate
Gradient Descent: Crash Course

Iterative optimization method for minimizing a function
At location \((w, b)\), take gradient of loss function with respect to parameters
Take a \textbf{gradient step} in the direction of the gradient
Size of step changes over time according to \textbf{learning rate}

In short, gradient descent is a method for minimizing a function, provided we can compute its gradient (i.e., derivative). It’s enough for this course to treat this as a black box.

For more information:
Define a `train` function, which takes a single gradient step with respect to a model’s performance with respect to a loss function on data `x` and `y`, with a given learning rate.

```python
def train(model, x, y, learning_rate):
    with tf.GradientTape() as t:
        current_loss = loss(y, model(x))
        (dW, db) = t.gradient(current_loss, [model.W, model.b])
    model.W.assign_sub(learning_rate*dW)
    model.b.assign_sub(learning_rate*db)
```
Training a Simple Model: Linear Regression

```python
def train(model, x, y, learning_rate):
    with tf.GradientTape() as t:
        current_loss = loss(y, model(x))
        (dW, db) = t.gradient(current_loss, [model.W, model.b])
    model.W.assign_sub(learning_rate*dW)
    model.b.assign_sub(learning_rate*db)
```

The `tf.GradientTape` object keeps track of our gradients. This is especially useful when we want to check whether or not our estimates have converged. Here, we just need it to do automatic differentiation for us.
Training a Simple Model: Linear Regression

```python
def train(model, x, y, learning_rate):
    with tf.GradientTape() as t:
        current_loss = loss(y, model(x))

    (dW, db) = t.gradient(current_loss, [model.W, model.b])

    model.W.assign_sub(learning_rate*dW)
    model.b.assign_sub(learning_rate*db)
```

Use the `tf.GradientTape` to compute the gradient of the loss with respect to the current model parameters.

**Caution:** notice that `loss` is a Python function, and `current_loss` is a `tf.Tensor` that is output by that function. Breaking this pattern is a common source of bugs.
Training a Simple Model: Linear Regression

```python
def train(model, x, y, learning_rate):
    with tf.GradientTape() as t:
        current_loss = loss(y, model(x))
        (dW, db) = t.gradient(current_loss, [model.W, model.b])
        model.W.assign_sub(learning_rate*dW)
        model.b.assign_sub(learning_rate*db)
```

Update the parameters. `assign_sub` is the `tf.Variable` analogue of writing \( x = x - dx \).
Training a Simple Model: Linear Regression

```python
def train(model, x, y, learning_rate):
    with tf.GradientTape() as t:
        current_loss = loss(y, model(x))

        (dW, db) = t.gradient(current_loss, [model.W, model.b])

    model.W.assign_sub(learning_rate*dW)
    model.b.assign_sub(learning_rate*db)
```

```python
x = tf.constant([1,2,3,4], dtype=tf.float32)
y = tf.constant([0,-1,-2,-3], dtype=tf.float32)

linear_model.W.assign(tf.random.normal(shape=[1]))
linear_model.b.assign(tf.random.normal(shape=[1]))

(linear_model.W.numpy(), linear_model.b.numpy())

(array([-0.49148715], dtype=float32), array([0.48135814], dtype=float32))
```

Initialize the model parameters randomly. `tf.random.normal` is similar to `numpy/scipy` RNGs. Note that we need our random variables to be shape=[1] to match the shapes of \( W \) and \( b \).
Training a Simple Model: Linear Regression

```python
def train(model, x, y, learning_rate):
    with tf.GradientTape() as t:
        current_loss = loss(y, model(x))
        (dW, db) = t.gradient(current_loss, [model.W, model.b])
        model.W.assign_sub( learning_rate*dW )
        model.b.assign_sub( learning_rate*db )

x = tf.constant([1, 2, 3, 4], dtype=tf.float32)
y = tf.constant([0, -1, -2, -3], dtype=tf.float32)
linear_model.W.assign(tf.random.normal(shape=[1]))
linear_model.b.assign(tf.random.normal(shape=[1]))
(linear_model.W.numpy(), linear_model.b.numpy())

for i in range(1000):
    train(linear_model, x, y, learning_rate=0.01)
    (linear_model.W.numpy(), linear_model.b.numpy())
```

Each iteration of this loop computes one gradient step and updates the variables accordingly.
Training a Simple Model: Linear Regression

```python
x = tf.constant([1, 2, 3, 4], dtype=tf.float32)
y = tf.constant([0, -1, -2, -3], dtype=tf.float32)

linear_model.W.assign([0.5])
linear_model.b.assign([-0.5])
(linear_model.W.numpy(), linear_model.b.numpy())

losses = list(range(1000))
for i in range(1000):
    train(linear_model, x, y, learning_rate=0.01)
    losses[i] = loss(linear_model(x), y)
plt.xlabel('step'); plt.ylabel('loss'); _ = plt.plot(losses);
```

Note: TensorBoard includes a set of tools for visualization, including for tracking loss, but the approach here is quicker and easier for our purposes.
**TensorFlow Estimators API:** `tf.estimators`

`tf.estimators` is a TF module that simplifies model training and evaluation. Module allows one to run models on CPU or GPU, local or on GCP, etc. Simplifies much of the work of building the graph and estimating parameters.

More information:

https://www.tensorflow.org/guide/estimator

**Note:** Keras in TensorFlow v2 serves similar purpose for specifying neural nets

https://www.tensorflow.org/guide/keras