

## Introduction to Machine Learning (CS419M)

#### Lecture 17: Introduction to Neural Networks

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#### Feed-forward Neural Network



#### Feed-forward Neural Network Brain Metaphor



Image from: <a href="https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/1/10/Blausen\_0657\_MultipolarNeuron.png">https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/1/10/Blausen\_0657\_MultipolarNeuron.png</a>



If **x** is a 2-dimensional vector and the layer above it is a 2-dimensional vector **h**, a fully-connected layer is associated with:

#### $\mathbf{h} = \mathbf{x}\mathbf{W} + \mathbf{b}$

where w<sub>ij</sub> in **W** is the weight of the connection between i<sup>th</sup> neuron in the input row and j<sup>th</sup> neuron in the first hidden layer and **b** is the bias vector

# Feed-forward Neural Network

**Parameterized Model** 



$$a_{5} = g(w_{35} \cdot a_{3} + w_{45} \cdot a_{4})$$
  
=  $g(w_{35} \cdot (g(w_{13} \cdot a_{1} + w_{23} \cdot a_{2})) + w_{45} \cdot (g(w_{14} \cdot a_{1} + w_{24} \cdot a_{2})))$ 

The simplest neural network is the perceptron:

A 1-layer feedforward neural network has the form:

 $MLP(x) = g(xW_1 + b_1) W_2 + b_2$ 

#### Activation Functions (g)

• Cannot be linear: Will get back a linear classifier otherwise: Show.



 Want a function that is efficient to compute, easy to optimizer (informative gradient), almost linear

#### Common Activation Functions (g)

**Sigmoid**:  $\sigma(x) = 1/(1 + e^{-x})$ 



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Hyperbolic tangent (tanh):  $tanh(x) = (e^{2x} - 1)/(e^{2x} + 1)$ 



## Common Activation Functions (g)

**Sigmoid**:  $\sigma(x) = 1/(1 + e^{-x})$ 

Hyperbolic tangent (tanh):  $tanh(x) = (e^{2x} - 1)/(e^{2x} + 1)$ Rectified Linear Unit (ReLU): RELU(x) = max(0, x)



# Choosing g()

Considerations: want some non-linearity, informative gradient (e.g. when convex), fast computation, close to linear

Role of the gradient of g during training  
Training objective of DNN with one hidden unit 
$$h = g(w_1x)$$
  
 $J(w_1, w_2, x, y) = L(hw_2y) = L(g(w_1x)w_2y)$   
Gradient of above w rt whis  $U'w_2vg'x_1w_2$ 

Gradient of above w.r.t  $W_1$  is  $L'W_2yg'x$ 

If g' = 0, the gradient becomes zero and we do not know in what direction to move  $w_1$ .

#### Choosing g()

- RELU: not differential but okay since gradient is informative. second-derivative zero in most places (useful for optimization)
   Caution: watch out for inactive RelU: initialize affine input bias
  - parameter to small positives. Gradient zero ==> information flow to lower layers is blocked.
- Sigmoid/Tanh: tanh(z) = 2 sigmoid(2z). Non-convex.
   Well-behaved (linear) only for small values of z, gradients very small for small or large z, problem for multi-layer network.

#### Example XOR

Neural networks can model decisions that conventional linear classifiers cannot.

$$y = f^*(x) = x_1 \oplus x_2$$

Training data = all four combinations.

Linear classifier  $\hat{y} = w_1 x_1 + w_2 x_2 + b$  trained with least square loss yields  $w_1 = w_2 = 0, b = 1/2$ 

Cannot discriminate

Non-linear classifier such as one with  $x_1x_2$  as feature  $(\hat{y} = w_1x_1 + w_2x_2 + w_3x_1x_2 + b)$  can discriminate but the burden is on us to create the useful non-linear features.



# **Output layers**

- Depends on the output type
  - Binary class labels: sigmoid function transforms arbitrary reals to probability of Bernoulli
  - Multi-class class labels: softmax provides multinomial probabilities Softmax -P(y(x) = e<sup>Wyh+by</sup>/Z, e<sup>y,h+by</sup>
  - Real: output is mean of Gaussian distribution.

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- Advantage of all of above: Probability distribution over output. Maximum likelihood training loss is convex in parameters of outer-most layer.
- Similar to conventional training.



## Training a Feed-forward network

To train a neural network, define a loss function L(y,y):
 a function of the true output y and the predicted output y

L(y,ỹ) assigns a non-negative numerical score to the neural network's output, ỹ

- The parameters of the network are set to minimise L over the training examples (i.e. a sum of losses over different training samples)
- L is typically minimised using a gradient-based method

#### Network Architecture

Choosing the number of layers and width of the network and connection between layer

- Universal approximation theorem: A network with one hidden layer (sigmoid type activation) can approximate any continuous function from a closed and bounded set given enough hidden units.
- Proof also extended to work for RELU activations.
- Not useful in practice:
  - number of hidden units required may be exponentially large,
  - the parameters of the network may not be easily learnable: might overfit on a wrong function.

#### Effect of depth

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- Many functions can be efficiently represented with multiple hidden layers but require exponential width with single hidden layer
- The number of linear regions carved out via d inputs, l+1 depth, c units per hidden layer is  $O(C(c, d)^{dl}c^{d})$
- Empirically too, larger depth leads to better generalization and lower error.



# Stochastic Gradient Descent (SGD)

SGD Algorithm



# Training a Neural Network

Define the **Loss function** to be minimised as a node L

Goal: Learn weights for the neural network which minimise L

Gradient Descent: Find  $\partial L/\partial w$  for every weight w, and update it as  $w \leftarrow w - \eta \partial L/\partial w$ 

How do we efficiently compute  $\partial L/\partial w$  for all w?

Will compute  $\partial L/\partial u$  for every node u in the network!

 $\frac{\partial L}{\partial w} = \frac{\partial L}{\partial u} \cdot \frac{\partial u}{\partial v} \text{ where } u \text{ is the node which uses } w$ 

## Training a Neural Network

New goal: compute  $\partial L/\partial u$  for every node u in the network

Simple algorithm: Backpropagation

Key fact: Chain rule of differentiation

If L can be written as a function of variables  $v_1, ..., v_n$ , which in turn depend (partially) on another variable u, then

 $\partial L/\partial u = \sum_i \partial L/\partial v_i \cdot \partial v_i/\partial u$ 

# Backpropagation

If L can be written as a function of variables  $v_1, ..., v_n$ , which in turn depend (partially) on another variable u, then



Then, the chain rule gives

 $\partial L/\partial u = \sum_{v \in \Gamma(u)} \partial L/\partial v \cdot \partial v/\partial u$ 

## Backpropagation

 $\partial L/\partial u = \sum_{v \in \Gamma(u)} \partial L/\partial v \cdot \partial v/\partial u$ 

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#### **Backpropagation**

Base case:  $\partial L / \partial L = 1$ 

For each *u* (top to bottom):

For each  $v \in \Gamma(u)$ :

Inductively, have computed  $\partial L/\partial v$ 

Directly compute  $\partial v / \partial u$ 

Compute  $\partial L/\partial u$ 

Compute  $\partial L/\partial w$ where  $\partial L/\partial w = \partial L/\partial u \cdot \partial u/\partial w$ 

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Where values computed in the forward pass are needed

#### **Forward Pass**

First, in a forward pass, compute values of all nodes given an input (The values of each node will be needed during backprop)

Example XOR W,h,tInitially: W= O Rela Fund:  $b = 0 \ b_1 = 1, \ b_2 = 1$ W12 Keln b2 b,  $W_{11}$   $W_{21}$   $W_{22}$ h = 1, h = D $\hat{y} = 0 = W^{\circ}_{1}h_{1} + W^{\circ}_{2}h_{2} + b$ Â,=1  $\chi_2 = 0$ N=1  $loss: (y-\hat{y}) = 1.$ 34/29= -2h=-2 15wd - 1 NJ JWO  $\partial g$  $\partial L \partial g = -1. W^{\circ}$  $w_{1}^{o} = 0 - \eta(-2) = 2\eta$ JWA O.I.X, J\$ 3h,  $W_{11}\chi_1 + W_{21}\chi_2 + b$ )