NPFL114, Lecture 2



Training Neural Networks

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unless otherwise stated

Estimators and Bias

An *estimator* is a rule for computing an estimate of a given value, often an expectation of some random value(s).

Bias of an estimator is the difference of the expected value of the estimator and the true value being estimated.

If the bias is zero, we call the estimator *unbiased*, otherwise we call it *biased*.

If we have a sequence of estimates, it also might happen that the bias converges to zero. Consider the well known sample estimate of variance. Given x_1, \ldots, x_n idenpendent and identically distributed random variables, we might estimate mean and variance as

$$\hat{\mu}=rac{1}{n}\sum_i x_i, \ \ \hat{\sigma}_2=rac{1}{n}\sum_i (x_i-\hat{\mu})^2.$$

Such estimate is biased, because $\mathbb{E}[\hat{\sigma}^2] = (1 - \frac{1}{n})\sigma^2$, but the bias converges to zero with increasing n.

Also, an unbiased estimator does not necessarily have small variance – in some cases it can have large variance, so a biased estimator with smaller variance might be preferred.

ML Basics Loss

Gradient Descent

Backpropagation N

SGDs

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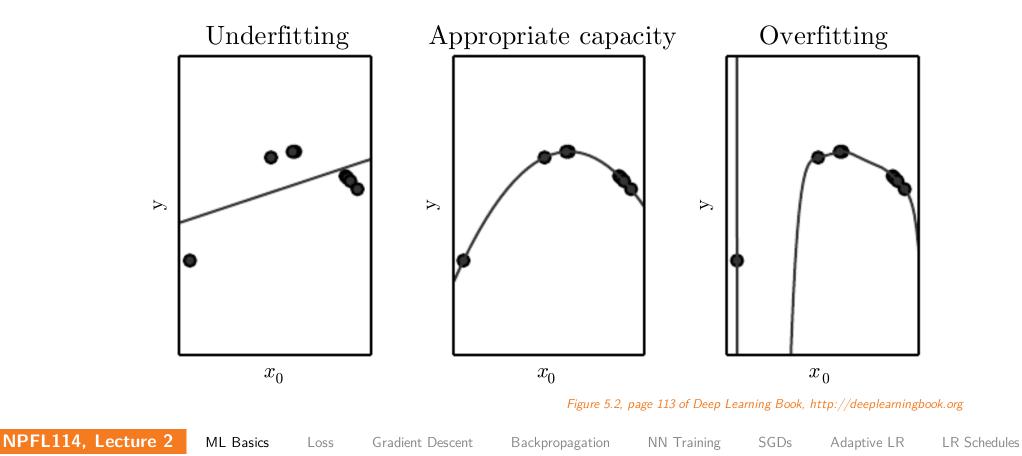
We usually have a **training set**, which is assumed to consist of examples generated independently from a **data generating distribution**.

The goal of *optimization* is to match the training set as well as possible.

However, the main goal of *machine learning* is to perform well on *previously unseen* data, so called **generalization error** or **test error**. We typically estimate the generalization error using a **test set** of examples independent of the training set, but generated by the same data generating distribution.

Challenges in machine learning:

- underfitting
- overfitting



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We can control whether a model underfits or overfits by modifying its *capacity*.

- representational capacity
- effective capacity

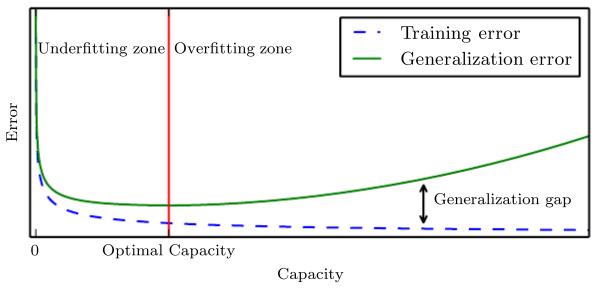


Figure 5.3, page 115 of Deep Learning Book, http://deeplearningbook.org

The **No free lunch theorem** (Wolpert, 1996) states that averaging over all possible data distributions, every classification algorithm achieves the same overall error when processing unseen examples. In a sense, no machine learning algorithm is *universally* better than others.

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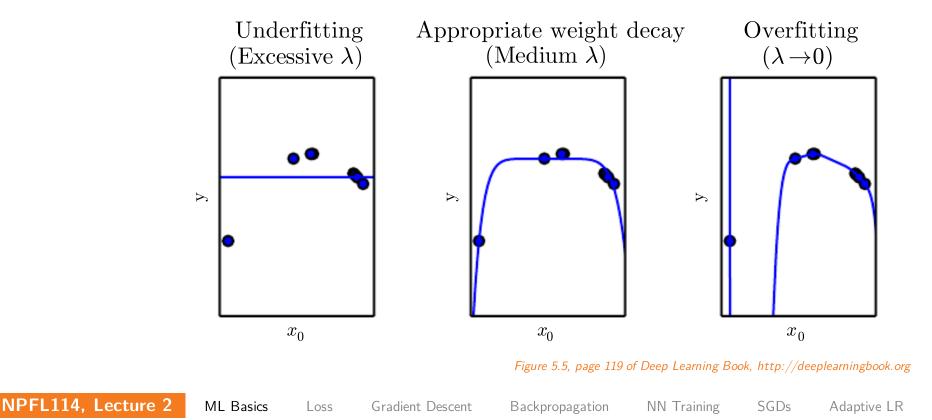
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Adaptive LR

Any change in a machine learning algorithm that is designed to *reduce generalization error* but not necessarily its training error is called **regularization**.

 L_2 regularization (also called weighted decay) penalizes models with large weights (i.e., penalty of $||\theta||^2$).



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Hyperparameters are not adapted by learning algorithm itself.

Usually a **validation set** or **development set** is used to estimate the generalization error, allowing to update hyperparameters accordingly.

Gradient Descent

Backpropagation

Loss Function



A model is usually trained in order to minimize the *loss* on the training data. Assuming that a model computes $f(x; \theta)$ using parameters θ , the *mean square error* is computed as

$$rac{1}{m}\sum_{i=1}^m \left(f(oldsymbol{x}^{(i)};oldsymbol{ heta})-y^{(i)}
ight)^2.$$

A common principle used to design loss functions is the *maximum likelihood principle*.



Maximum Likelihood Estimation

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Let $X = \{ \boldsymbol{x}^{(1)}, \boldsymbol{x}^{(2)}, \dots, \boldsymbol{x}^{(m)} \}$ be training data drawn independently from the data-generating distribution p_{data} . We denote the empirical data distribution as \hat{p}_{data} .

Let $p_{\text{model}}(\boldsymbol{x}; \boldsymbol{\theta})$ be a family of distributions. The maximum likelihood estimation of $\boldsymbol{\theta}$ is:

$$egin{aligned} m{ heta}_{ ext{ML}} &= rg\max_{m{ heta}} p_{ ext{model}}(\mathbb{X};m{ heta}) \ &= rg\max_{m{ heta}} \prod_{i=1}^m p_{ ext{model}}(m{x}^{(i)};m{ heta}) \ &= rg\min_{m{ heta}} \sum_{i=1}^m -\log p_{ ext{model}}(m{x}^{(i)};m{ heta}) \ &= rg\min_{m{ heta}} \mathbb{E}_{m{x}\sim\hat{p}_{ ext{data}}}[-\log p_{ ext{model}}(m{x};m{ heta})] \ &= rg\min_{m{ heta}} H(\hat{p}_{ ext{data}},p_{ ext{model}}(m{x};m{ heta})) \ &= rg\min_{m{ heta}} D_{ ext{KL}}(\hat{p}_{ ext{data}}||p_{ ext{model}}(m{x};m{ heta})) + H(\hat{p}_{ ext{data}}). \end{aligned}$$

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Maximum Likelihood Estimation

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MLE can be easily generalized to a conditional case, where our goal is to predict y given \boldsymbol{x} :

$$egin{aligned} m{ heta}_{ ext{ML}} &= rg\max_{m{ heta}} p_{ ext{model}}(\mathbb{Y}|\mathbb{X};m{ heta}) \ &= rg\max_{m{ heta}} \prod_{i=1}^m p_{ ext{model}}(y^{(i)}|m{x}^{(i)};m{ heta}) \ &= rg\min_{m{ heta}} \sum_{i=1}^m -\log p_{ ext{model}}(y^{(i)}|m{x}^{(i)};m{ heta}) \end{aligned}$$

The resulting *loss function* is called *negative log likelihood*, or *cross-entropy* or *Kullback-Leibler divegence*.

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Properties of Maximum Likelihood Estimation



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Assume that the true data generating distribution p_{data} lies within the model family $p_{\text{model}}(\cdot; \boldsymbol{\theta})$, and assume there exists a unique $\boldsymbol{\theta}_{p_{\text{data}}}$ such that $p_{\text{data}} = p_{\text{model}}(\cdot; \boldsymbol{\theta}_{p_{\text{data}}})$.

• MLE is a *consistent* estimator. If we denote θ_m to be the parameters found by MLE for a training set with m examples generated by the data generating distribution, then θ_m converges in probability to $\theta_{p_{\text{data}}}$.

Formally, for any arepsilon>0, $P(||m{ heta}_m-m{ heta}_{p_{ ext{data}}}||>arepsilon) o 0$ as $m o\infty$.

MLE is in a sense most statistic efficient. For any consistent estimator, we might consider the average distance of θ_m and θ_{pdata}, formally E_{x1},...,x_{m~pdata} [||θ_m - θ_{pdata}||²₂]. It can be shown (Rao 1945, Cramér 1946) that no consistent estimator has a lower mean squared error than the maximum likelihood estimator.

Therefore, for reasons of consistency and efficiency, maximum likelihood is often considered the preferred estimator for machine learning.

Backpropagation NN

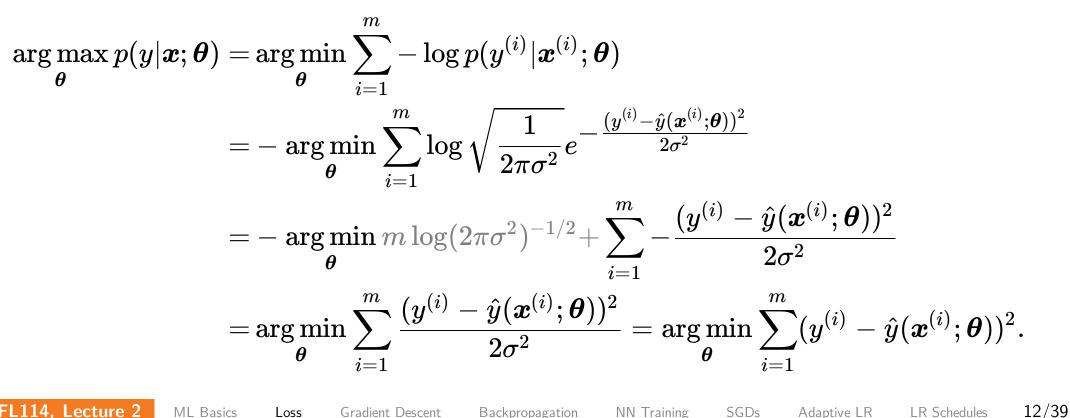
Mean Square Error as MLE

ML Basics



Assume our goal is to perform a regression, i.e., to predict $p(y|\boldsymbol{x})$ for $y \in \mathbb{R}$. Let $\hat{y}(\boldsymbol{x};\boldsymbol{\theta})$ give a prediction of mean of y.

We define $p(y|\boldsymbol{x})$ as $\mathbb{N}(y; \hat{y}(\boldsymbol{x}; \boldsymbol{\theta}), \sigma^2)$ for a given fixed σ . Then:



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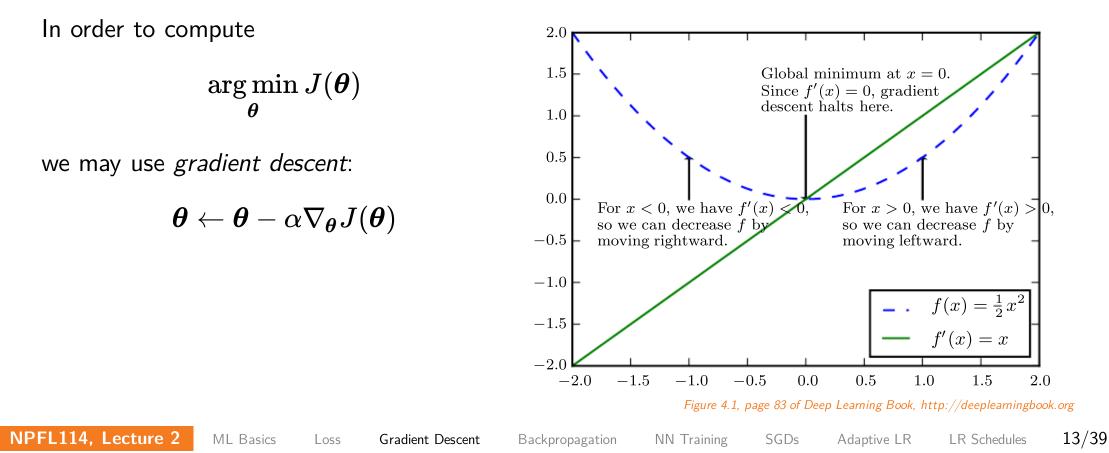
Backpropagation

Gradient Descent



Let a model compute $f(\boldsymbol{x}; \boldsymbol{\theta})$ using parameters $\boldsymbol{\theta}$, and for a given loss function L denote

$$J(oldsymbol{ heta}) = \mathbb{E}_{(oldsymbol{x},y) \sim \hat{p}_{ ext{data}}} Lig(f(oldsymbol{x};oldsymbol{ heta}),yig).$$



Gradient Descent Variants



(Regular) Gradient Descent

We use all training data to compute $J(\boldsymbol{\theta})$.

Online (or Stochastic) Gradient Descent

We estimate the expectation in $J(\theta)$ using a single randomly sampled example from the training data. Such an estimate is unbiased, but very noisy.

$$J(oldsymbol{ heta}) = Lig(f(oldsymbol{x};oldsymbol{ heta}),yig) ext{ for randomly chosen } (oldsymbol{x},y) ext{ from } \hat{p}_{ ext{data}}.$$

Minibatch SGD

The minibatch SGD is a trade-off between gradient descent and SGD – the expectation in $J(\theta)$ is estimated using m random independent examples from the training data.

$$J(\boldsymbol{\theta}) = \frac{1}{m} \sum_{i=1}^{m} L(f(\boldsymbol{x}^{(i)}; \boldsymbol{\theta}), y^{(i)}) \text{ for randomly chosen } (\boldsymbol{x}^{(i)}, y^{(i)}) \text{ from } \hat{p}_{\text{data}}.$$
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Stochastic Gradient Descent Convergence



It can be proven (under a bit more stricter conditions than stated here) that if the loss function is convex, continuous, and has a unique optimum, then SGD converges to the unique optimum almost surely if the sequence of learning rates α_i fulfills the following conditions:

$$\sum_i lpha_i = \infty, ~~ \sum_i lpha_i^2 < \infty.$$

For non-convex loss functions, we can get guarantees of converging to a *local* optimum only. Note that finding a global minimum of an arbitrary function is *at least NP-hard*. In the last year, there have been several improvements:

- Under some models with high capacity, it can be proven that SGD will reach global optimum by showing it will reach zero training error.
- Neural networks can be easily modified so that the augmented version has no local minimums. Therefore, if such a network converges, it converged to a global minimum. However, the training process can still fail to converge by increasing the size of the parameters ||*θ*|| beyond any limit.

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Loss Function Visualization

Visualization of loss function of ResNet-56 (0.85 million parameters) with/without skip connections:

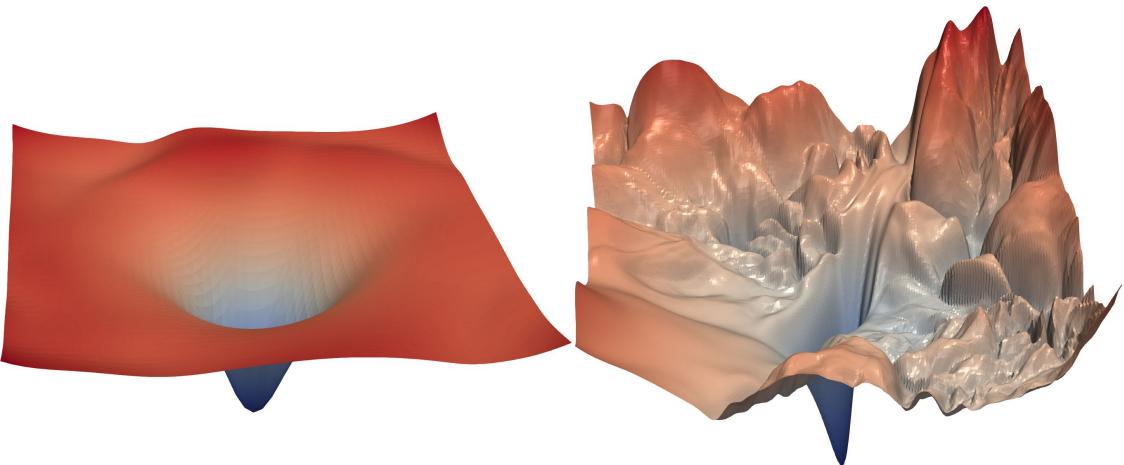


Figure 1 of paper "Visualizing the Loss Landscape of Neural Nets", https://arxiv.org/abs/1712.09913.

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Loss Function Visualization

Visualization of loss function of ResNet-110 without skip connections and DenseNet-121.

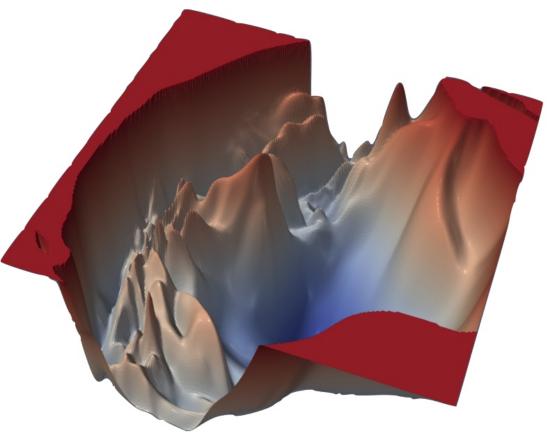


Figure 4 of paper "Visualizing the Loss Landscape of Neural Nets", https://arxiv.org/abs/1712.09913.

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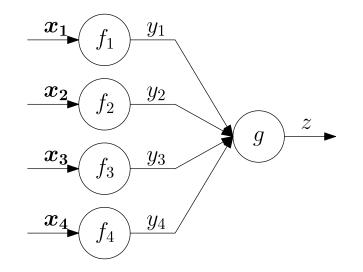
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Backpropagation

Assume we want to compute partial derivatives of a given loss function J and let $\frac{\partial J}{\partial z}$ be known.



$$\frac{\partial J}{\partial y_i} = \frac{\partial J}{\partial z} \frac{\partial z}{\partial y_i} = \frac{\partial J}{\partial z} \frac{\partial g(\boldsymbol{y})}{\partial y_i}$$
$$\frac{\partial J}{\partial \boldsymbol{x}_i} = \frac{\partial J}{\partial z} \frac{\partial z}{\partial y_i} \frac{\partial y_i}{\partial \boldsymbol{x}_i} = \frac{\partial J}{\partial z} \frac{\partial g(\boldsymbol{y})}{\partial y_i} \frac{\partial f(\boldsymbol{x}_i)}{\partial \boldsymbol{x}_i}$$

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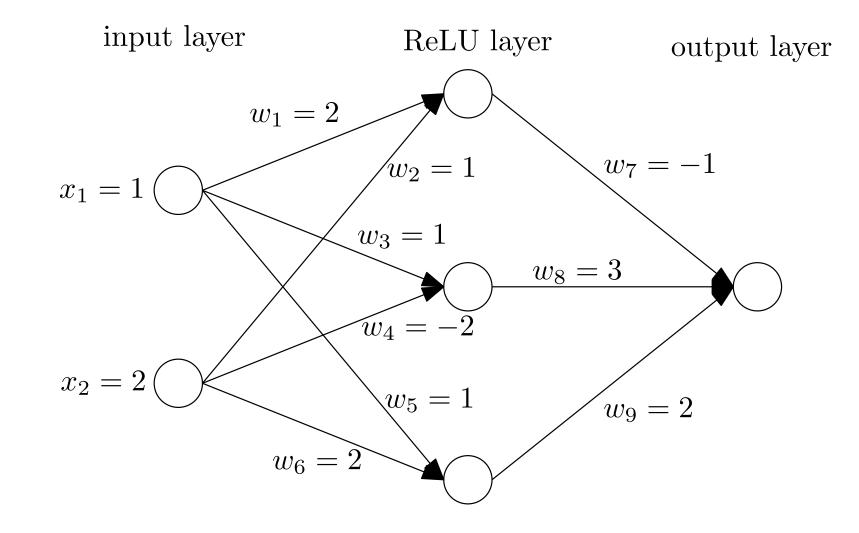
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Backpropagation Example





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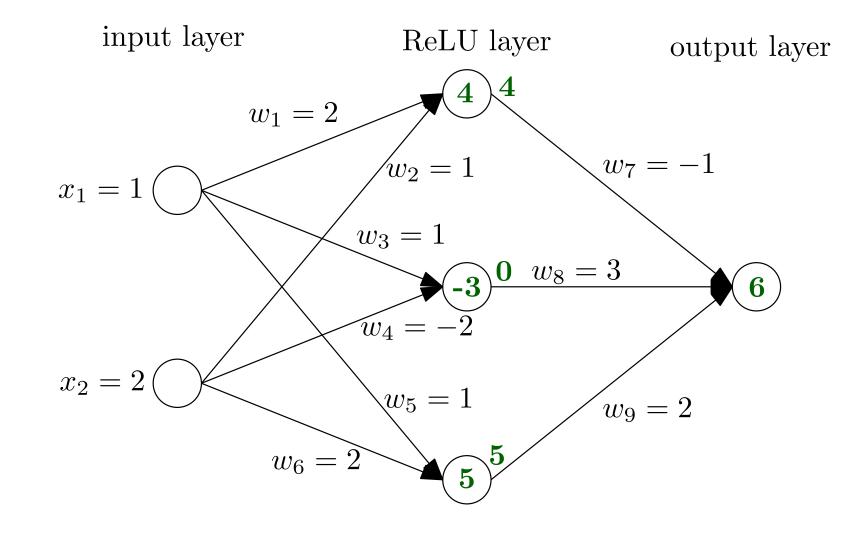
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Backpropagation Example





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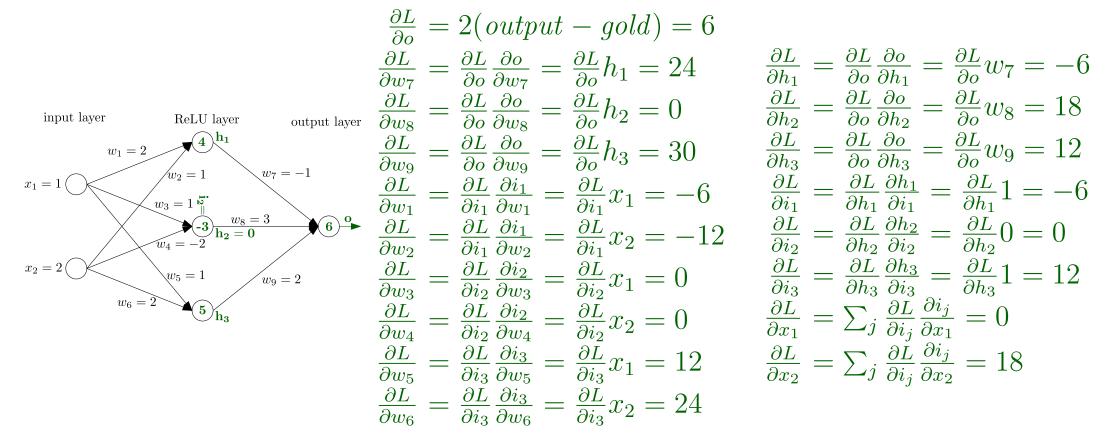
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Backpropagation Example





This is meant to be frightening – you do **not** do this manually when training.

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Forward Propagation

Input: Network with nodes $u^{(1)}, u^{(2)}, \ldots, u^{(n)}$ numbered in topological order. Each node's value is computed as $u^{(i)} = f^{(i)}(\mathbb{A}^{(i)})$ for $\mathbb{A}^{(i)}$ being a set of values of the predecessors $P(u^{(i)})$ of $u^{(i)}$. **Output**: Value of $u^{(n)}$.

- $\begin{array}{ll} \bullet \ \, \mathsf{For} \ i=1,\ldots,n \text{:} \\ & \circ \ \mathbb{A}^{(i)} \leftarrow \{u^{(j)} | j \in P(u^{(i)})\} \\ & \circ \ u^{(i)} \leftarrow f^{(i)}(\mathbb{A}^{(i)}) \end{array}$
- Return $u^{(n)}$

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Backpropagation Algorithm

Simple Variant of Backpropagation

Input: The network as in the Forward propagation algorithm. **Output**: Partial derivatives $g^{(i)} = \frac{\partial u^{(n)}}{\partial u^{(i)}}$ of $u^{(n)}$ with respect to all $u^{(i)}$.

- Run forward propagation to compute all $u^{(i)}$
- $g^{(n)}=1$
- For $i = n 1, \dots, 1$: $\circ \ g^{(i)} \leftarrow \sum_{j:i \in P(u^{(j)})} g^{(j)} \frac{\partial u^{(j)}}{\partial u^{(i)}}$
- Return **g**

In practice, we do not usually represent networks as collections of scalar nodes; instead we represent them as collections of tensor functions – most usually functions $f : \mathbb{R}^n \to \mathbb{R}^m$. Then $\frac{\partial f(x)}{\partial x}$ is a Jacobian. However, the backpropagation algorithm is analogous.

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ML Basics Loss

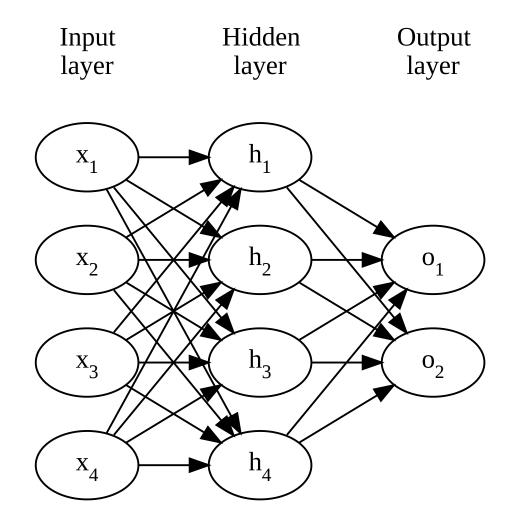
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Neural Network Architecture à la '80s





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Neural Network Activation Functions



Hidden Layers Derivatives

• *σ*:

$$rac{d\sigma(x)}{dx}=\sigma(x)\cdot(1-\sigma(x))$$

• tanh:

$$rac{d anh(x)}{dx} = 1 - anh(x)^2$$

• ReLU:

$$rac{d\operatorname{ReLU}(x)}{dx} = egin{cases} 1 & ext{if } x > 0 \ \operatorname{NaN} & ext{if } x = 0 \ 0 & ext{if } x < 0 \end{cases}$$

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Stochastic Gradient Descent (SGD) Algorithm

Input: NN computing function $f(x; \theta)$ with initial value of parameters θ . **Input**: Learning rate α .

Output: Updated parameters $\boldsymbol{\theta}$.

• Repeat until stopping criterion is met: • Sample a minibatch of m training examples $(\boldsymbol{x}^{(i)}, y^{(i)})$ • $\boldsymbol{g} \leftarrow \frac{1}{m} \nabla_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} \sum_{i} L(f(\boldsymbol{x}^{(i)}; \boldsymbol{\theta}), y^{(i)})$ • $\boldsymbol{\theta} \leftarrow \boldsymbol{\theta} - \alpha \boldsymbol{g}$

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SGD With Momentum

SGD With Momentum

Input: NN computing function $f(\boldsymbol{x}; \boldsymbol{\theta})$ with initial value of parameters $\boldsymbol{\theta}$.

Input: Learning rate α , momentum β . **Output**: Updated parameters $\boldsymbol{\theta}$.

- Repeat until stopping criterion is met:

 Sample a minibatch of *m* training examples (*x*⁽ⁱ⁾, *y*⁽ⁱ⁾)
 g ← ¹/_m∇_θ ∑_i L(f(*x*⁽ⁱ⁾; θ), *y*⁽ⁱ⁾)
 v ← β*v* − α*g*
 - $\circ \ oldsymbol{ heta} \leftarrow oldsymbol{ heta} + oldsymbol{v}$

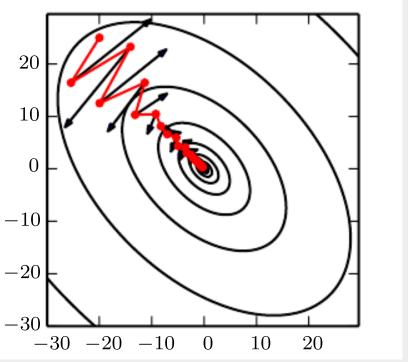


Figure 8.5, page 297 of Deep Learning Book, http://deeplearningbook.org

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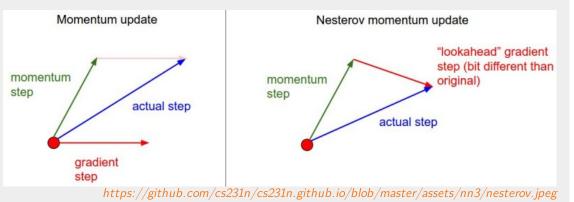
SGD With Nesterov Momentum

SGD With Nesterov Momentum

Input: NN computing function $f(x; \theta)$ with initial value of parameters θ . **Input**: Learning rate α , momentum β . **Output**: Updated parameters θ .

• Repeat until stopping criterion is met: • Sample a minibatch of m training examples $(\boldsymbol{x}^{(i)}, y^{(i)})$

$$egin{aligned} &\circ oldsymbol{ heta} \leftarrow oldsymbol{ heta} + eta oldsymbol{v} \ &\circ oldsymbol{g} \leftarrow rac{1}{m}
abla_{oldsymbol{ heta}} \sum_i L(f(oldsymbol{x}^{(i)};oldsymbol{ heta}), y^{(i)}) \ &\circ oldsymbol{v} \leftarrow eta oldsymbol{v} - lpha oldsymbol{g} \ &\circ oldsymbol{ heta} \leftarrow oldsymbol{ heta} - lpha oldsymbol{g} \ \end{aligned}$$



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AdaGrad (2011)

Input: NN computing function $f(\boldsymbol{x}; \boldsymbol{\theta})$ with initial value of parameters $\boldsymbol{\theta}$. **Input**: Learning rate α , constant ε (usually 10^{-8}). **Output**: Updated parameters $\boldsymbol{\theta}$.

- Repeat until stopping criterion is met:
 - $^{\circ}\,$ Sample a minibatch of m training examples $(oldsymbol{x}^{(i)},y^{(i)})$

$$\circ \ oldsymbol{g} \leftarrow rac{1}{m}
abla_{oldsymbol{ heta}} \sum_i L(f(oldsymbol{x}^{(i)};oldsymbol{ heta}),y^{(i)})$$

$$\circ \ oldsymbol{r} \leftarrow oldsymbol{r} + oldsymbol{g}^{\scriptscriptstyle 2}$$

$$oldsymbol{ heta} oldsymbol{ heta} oldsymbol{ heta} oldsymbol{ heta} - rac{lpha}{\sqrt{oldsymbol{r}+arepsilon}}oldsymbol{g}$$

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AdaGrad has favourable convergence properties (being faster than regular SGD) for convex loss landscapes. In this settings, gradients converge to zero reasonably fast.

However, for non-convex losses, gradients can stay quite large for a long time. In that case, the algorithm behaves as if decreasing learning rate by a factor of $1/\sqrt{t}$, because if each

 $oldsymbol{g} pprox oldsymbol{g}_0,$

then after t steps

$$oldsymbol{r}pprox t\cdotoldsymbol{g}_0^2$$

and therefore

$$rac{lpha}{\sqrt{m{r}+arepsilon}}pprox rac{lpha/\sqrt{t}}{\sqrt{m{g}_0^2+arepsilon/t}}.$$

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RMSProp (2012)

Input: NN computing function $f(\boldsymbol{x}; \boldsymbol{\theta})$ with initial value of parameters $\boldsymbol{\theta}$. **Input**: Learning rate α , momentum β (usually 0.9), constant ε (usually 10^{-8}). **Output**: Updated parameters $\boldsymbol{\theta}$.

• Repeat until stopping criterion is met:
• Sample a minibatch of
$$m$$
 training examples $(\boldsymbol{x}^{(i)}, y^{(i)})$
• $\boldsymbol{g} \leftarrow \frac{1}{m} \nabla_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} \sum_{i} L(f(\boldsymbol{x}^{(i)}; \boldsymbol{\theta}), y^{(i)})$
• $\boldsymbol{r} \leftarrow \beta \boldsymbol{r} + (1 - \beta) \boldsymbol{g}^{2}$
• $\boldsymbol{\theta} \leftarrow \boldsymbol{\theta} - \frac{\alpha}{\sqrt{\boldsymbol{r}+\varepsilon}} \boldsymbol{g}$

However, after first step, $m{r}=(1-eta)m{g}^2$, which for default eta=0.9 is

$$oldsymbol{r}=0.1oldsymbol{g}^2,$$

a biased estimate (but the bias converges to zero exponentially fast).

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Adam (2014)

Input: NN computing function $f(\boldsymbol{x}; \boldsymbol{\theta})$ with initial value of parameters $\boldsymbol{\theta}$. **Input**: Learning rate α (default 0.001), constant ε (usually 10^{-8}). **Input**: Momentum β_1 (default 0.9), momentum β_2 (default 0.999). **Output**: Updated parameters $\boldsymbol{\theta}$.

- $oldsymbol{s} \leftarrow 0$, $oldsymbol{r} \leftarrow 0$, $t \leftarrow 0$
- Repeat until stopping criterion is met:
 - $^{\circ}\,$ Sample a minibatch of m training examples $(oldsymbol{x}^{(i)},y^{(i)})$
 - $egin{array}{lll} \circ & oldsymbol{g} \leftarrow rac{1}{m}
 abla_{oldsymbol{ heta}} \sum_i L(f(oldsymbol{x}^{(i)};oldsymbol{ heta}),y^{(i)}) \ \circ & t \leftarrow t+1 \end{array}$
 - $\circ \boldsymbol{s} \leftarrow \beta_1 \boldsymbol{s} + (1 \beta_1) \boldsymbol{g}$ (biased first moment estimate) $\circ \boldsymbol{r} \leftarrow \beta_2 \boldsymbol{r} + (1 - \beta_2) \boldsymbol{g}^2$ (biased second moment estimate)
 - $\circ \ \hat{oldsymbol{s}} \leftarrow oldsymbol{s}/(1-eta_1^t), \ \hat{oldsymbol{r}} \leftarrow oldsymbol{r}/(1-eta_2^t) \ \circ \ oldsymbol{ heta} \leftarrow oldsymbol{ heta} rac{lpha}{\sqrt{\hat{oldsymbol{r}} + arepsilon}} \hat{oldsymbol{s}}$

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Adam (2014)

Input: NN computing function $f(\boldsymbol{x}; \boldsymbol{\theta})$ with initial value of parameters $\boldsymbol{\theta}$. **Input**: Learning rate α (default 0.001), constant ε (usually 10^{-8}). **Input**: Momentum β_1 (default 0.9), momentum β_2 (default 0.999). **Output**: Updated parameters $\boldsymbol{\theta}$.

- $oldsymbol{s} \leftarrow 0$, $oldsymbol{r} \leftarrow 0$, $t \leftarrow 0$
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 - $egin{array}{lll} \circ & oldsymbol{g} \leftarrow rac{1}{m}
 abla_{oldsymbol{ heta}} \sum_i L(f(oldsymbol{x}^{(i)};oldsymbol{ heta}),y^{(i)}) \ \circ & t \leftarrow t+1 \end{array}$
 - $\circ \boldsymbol{s} \leftarrow \beta_1 \boldsymbol{s} + (1 \beta_1) \boldsymbol{g} \quad \text{(biased first moment estimate)} \\ \circ \boldsymbol{r} \leftarrow \beta_2 \boldsymbol{r} + (1 \beta_2) \boldsymbol{g}^2 \quad \text{(biased second moment estimate)} \\ \sqrt{1 \beta_1} \boldsymbol{g}^2 \quad \text{(biased second moment estimate)}$
 - $egin{array}{ll} \circ & lpha_t \leftarrow lpha \sqrt{1-eta_2^t}/(1-eta_1^t) \ \circ & oldsymbol{ heta} \leftarrow oldsymbol{ heta} rac{lpha_t}{\sqrt{oldsymbol{x}+arepsilon}}oldsymbol{s} \end{array}$

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Adam Bias Correction



After t steps, we have

$$oldsymbol{r}_t = (1-eta_2)\sum_{i=1}^teta_2^{t-i}oldsymbol{g}_i^2.$$

Assuming that the second moment $\mathbb{E}[m{g}_i^2]$ is stationary, we have

$$egin{aligned} \mathbb{E}[m{r}_t] &= \mathbb{E}\left[(1-eta_2)\sum_{i=1}^teta_2^{t-i}m{g}_i^2
ight] \ &= \mathbb{E}[m{g}_t^2]\cdot(1-eta_2)\sum_{i=1}^teta_2^{t-i}\ &= \mathbb{E}[m{g}_t^2]\cdot(1-eta_2^t) \end{aligned}$$

and analogously for correction of \boldsymbol{s} .

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Gradient Descent

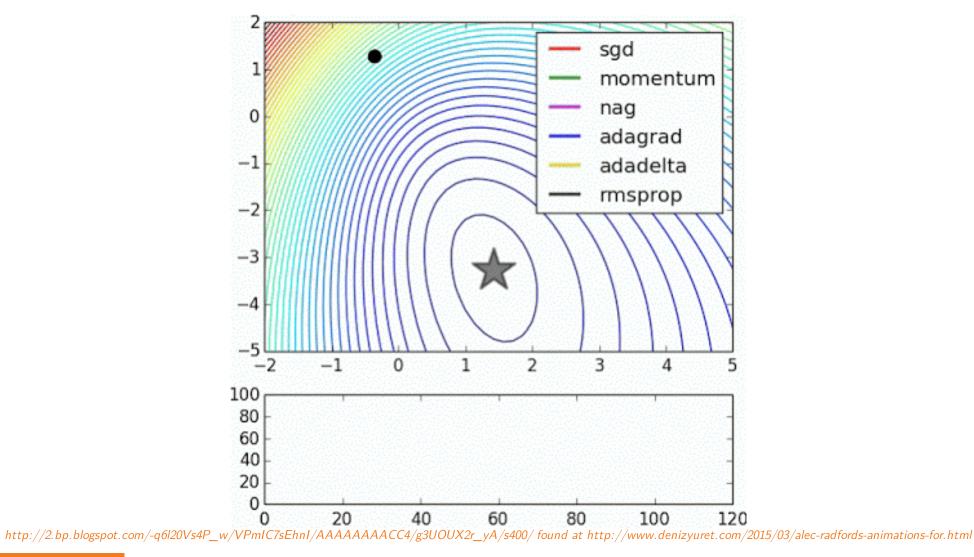
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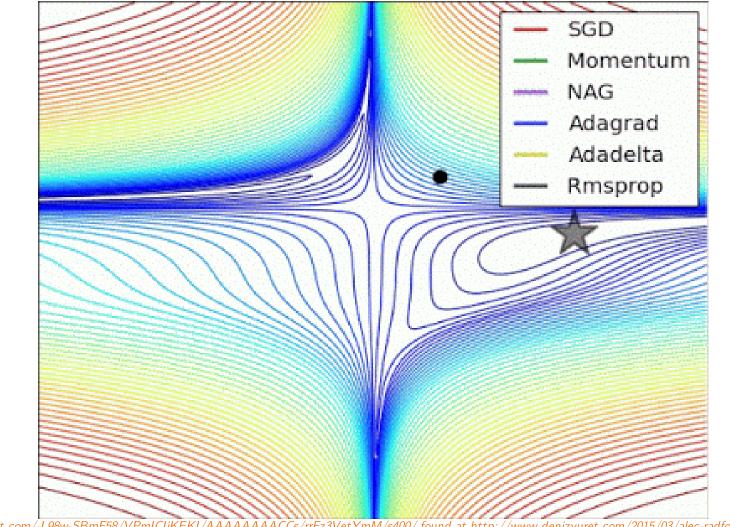
Adaptive LR LR Schedules



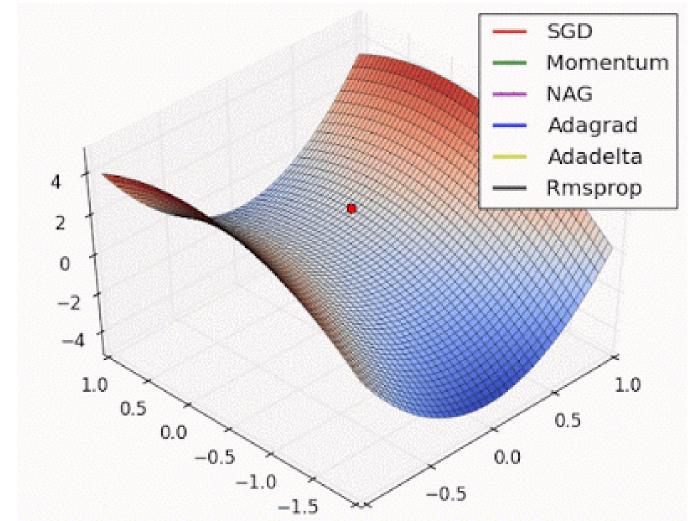


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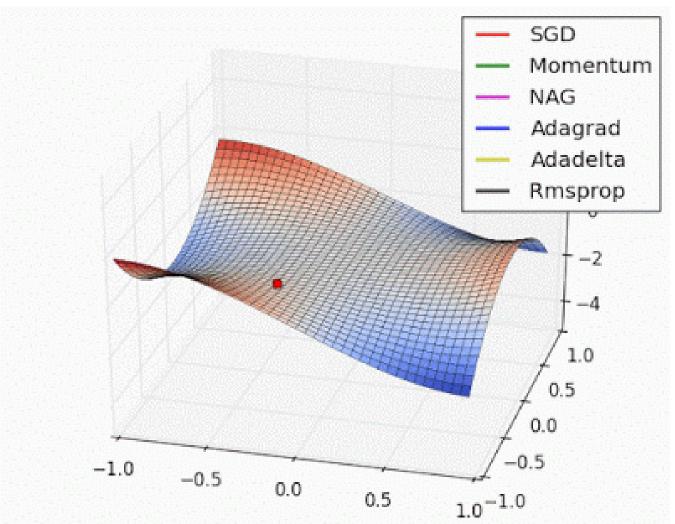
http://2.bp.blogspot.com/-L98w-SBmF58/VPmICIjKEKI/AAAAAAAACCs/rrFz3VetYmM/s400/ found at http://www.denizyuret.com/2015/03/alec-radfords-animations-for.html



http://3.bp.blogspot.com/-nrtJPrdBWuE/VPmIB46F2al/AAAAAAAACCw/vaE_B0SVy5k/s400/ found at http://www.denizyuret.com/2015/03/alec-radfords-animations-for.html

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http://1.bp.blogspot.com/-K_X-yud8nj8/VPmIBxwGlsI/AAAAAAAACC0/JS-h1fa09EQ/s400/ found at http://www.denizyuret.com/2015/03/alec-radfords-animations-for.html

NPFL114, Lecture 2 ML Basics Loss

Gradient Descent

Backpropagation

NN Training

Adaptive LR LR Schedules

SGDs

Learning Rate Schedules

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Even if RMSProp and Adam are adaptive, they still usually require carefully tuned decreasing learning rate for top-notch performance.

- *Exponential decay*: learning rate is multiplied by a constant each batch/epoch/several epochs.
 - $\circ \ lpha = lpha_{ ext{initial}} \cdot c^t$
 - Often used for convolutional networks (image recognition etc.).
- *Polynomial decay*: learning rate is multiplied by some polynomial of *t*.
 - Inverse time decay uses $\alpha = \alpha_{\text{initial}} \cdot \frac{1}{t}$ and has theoretical guarantees of convergence, but is usually too fast for deep neural networks.
 - Inverse-square decay uses $\alpha = \alpha_{\text{initial}} \cdot \frac{1}{\sqrt{t}}$ and is currently used by best machine translation models.
- Cosine decay, restarts, warmup, ...

The tf.keras.optimizers.schedules offers several such learning rate schedules, which can be passed to any Keras optimizer directly as a learning rate.