

# Lecture Notes On Back Propagation Technique for CNNs (Part I)

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**Abstract**—This note is for my lecture on convolutional neural network training techniques. In particular, the back propagation techniques for CNN facial recognitions.

## I. BACK PROPAGATION TECHNIQUE

In this note, mathematical formulation of back propagation technique is discussed below.

First, consider notation for a simple feed forward neural network, define input neuron  $\vec{\sigma}$  and output neuron  $\vec{S}$ , so we have

**Definition 1.** Define input and output neurons for a neural network, the input neurons

$$\vec{\sigma} = \begin{pmatrix} \sigma_1 \\ \sigma_2 \\ \vdots \\ \sigma_n \end{pmatrix} \quad (1)$$

and the output neurons

$$\vec{S} = \begin{pmatrix} s_1 \\ s_2 \\ \vdots \\ s_{n_o} \end{pmatrix} \quad (2)$$

and weights  $w_{i,k}$ , where  $i$  for output neuron  $s_i$ , and  $k$  for input neuron  $\sigma_k$ , (insert Figure 1 here), hence we have an activation function below.

Fig. 1. NN structure with input and output neurons.

**Definition 2.** Define an activation function as

$$s_i = f(w_{i,k} \cdot \sigma_k) \quad (3)$$

$$s_i = f\left(\sum_{k=1}^{n_o} w_{i,k} \cdot s_k + \phi\right) = f\left(\sum_{k=1}^{n_o+1} w_{i,k} \cdot s_k\right) \quad (4)$$

Note in case of convolutional NN, the neurons  $\sigma_k$  in the above equation is the output of 2D convolution layer. Denote 2D convolution as

$$\sigma_k = g_{\sigma_k}(l_i(x, y) * K(x, y); k_{u,v}) \quad (5)$$

where  $l_i(x, y)$  is convolution layer  $i$ ,  $K(x, y)$  is a convolution kernel, whose coefficients are  $u$  and  $v$  such as  $((u, v) \in \omega)$ , e.g., in a  $k$ -by- $k$  patch,  $k$  are odd numbers.

Therefore, equation (4) can be updated as follows for one output neuron

$$s_i = f(w_{i,k} \cdot g_{\sigma_k}(l_i(x, y) * K(x, y); k_{u,v} | u, v \in \omega)) \quad (6)$$

and for all output neuron  $n_o$  at that layer with summation

$$s_i = f\left(\sum_{k=1}^{n_o+1} w_{i,k} \cdot g_{\sigma_k}(l_i(x, y) * K(x, y); k_{u,v} | u, v \in \omega)\right) \quad (7)$$

or in a simplified notation,

$$s_i = f\left(\sum_{k=1}^{n_o+1} w_{i,k} \cdot g_{\sigma_k}(l_i * K)\right) \quad (8)$$

**Example 1.** For a simple NN with 2 inputs and 1 output, as given in my hand written note for the case of facial recognition for two person classes, we have input

$$\vec{\sigma} = \begin{pmatrix} \sigma_1 \\ \sigma_2 \end{pmatrix} \quad (9)$$

and output vector

$$\vec{S} = (s_1) \quad (10)$$

and weights

$$w_{i,k} \quad (11)$$

for output index  $i = 1$ , and input index  $k = 1, 2$ . So, we have inputs  $(\sigma_1, \sigma_2)$ , for example from the given simple two persons (classes) case, have two classes of feature vectors, each vector is two dimensional vector, from my hand written lecture note, we have a feature vector  $(1, 2)$  from class  $C_1$ , which can fit into the equation above.

Now, the activation function of the output layer is

$$s_i = f\left(\sum_{k=1}^2 w_{i,k} s_k + \phi\right) = f\left(\sum_{k=1}^3 w_{i,k} s_k\right) \quad (12)$$

**Definition 4.** Define a transfer function for a single layer NN, denote  $\sigma_k$  as input, for multilayer NN, denote  $s_k$  as the input from the previous output layer.

$$h_i = \sum_{k=1}^{n_o} w_{i,k} \sigma_k + \phi = \sum_{k=1}^{n_o+1} w_{i,k} \sigma_k \quad (13)$$

So the neuron output  $i$  is

$$s_i = f(h_i) = f(h_i(w_{i,k} \cdot \sigma_k)) \quad (14)$$

Note for CNN with convolution layer(s), we have

$$s_i = f(h_i) = f(h_i(w_{i,k} \cdot g_{\sigma_k}(l_i * K))) \quad (15)$$

Since  $l_i$  convolution data layer, we drop it from the notation and keep the kernel  $K$  in the notation for formulation of training. So,

$$s_i = f(h_i) = f(h_i(w_{i,k} \cdot g_{\sigma_k}(K))) \quad (16)$$

**Example 2.** Continued from Example 1, for a simple NN with 2 inputs and 1 output, we have the transfer function as

$$h_i = \sum_{k=1}^2 w_{i,k} \sigma_k + \phi = \sum_{k=1}^3 w_{i,k} \sigma_k \quad (17)$$

**Definition 5.** Define an error at each neuron output

$$\zeta_i^\mu - s_i^\mu \quad (18)$$

note where  $\zeta_i^\mu$  (pronounced as 'zeta') is a desired (correct) output  $i$  at experiment  $\mu$ , and  $s_i^\mu$  is the actual output  $i$  at that experiment.

Now, for CNN, the error function above can be written as

$$\zeta_i^\mu - f(h_i(w_{i,k} \cdot g_{\sigma_k}(K)))^\mu \quad (19)$$

where both  $w_{i,k}$  and  $K$  have to be learned in the training of CNN.

**Definition 6.** Define total error for all neuron outputs and for all experiments

$$D = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\mu=1}^m \sum_{i=1}^{n_o} (\zeta_i^\mu - s_i^\mu)^2 \quad (20)$$

note where  $\zeta_i^\mu$  for  $i$  equal to  $1, 2, \dots, n_o$ , for  $n_o$  output neurons. Total number of experiment is  $m$ . In the previous lecture example, we have two classes (persons), each class with 3 feature vectors for the hand calculation, so experiment  $\mu$  is

equal to 6 due to total number of 6 feature vectors for the experiments.

In case of CNN, we will have the above equation to count the convolution kernel, so we have

$$D = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\mu=1}^M \sum_{i=1}^{n_o} (\zeta_i^\mu - f(h_i(w_{i,k} \cdot g_{\sigma_k}(K)))^\mu)^2 \quad (21)$$

**Property 1.** Minimize error function

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial D}{\partial w_{i,k}} &= \frac{\partial}{\partial w_{i,k}} \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\mu=1}^6 \sum_{i=1}^1 (\zeta_i^\mu - s_i^\mu)^2 \\ &= \sum_{\mu=1}^6 (\zeta_i^\mu - s_i^\mu) f'(h_i^\mu) \frac{\partial h_i}{\partial w_{i,k}} \end{aligned} \quad (22)$$

So for the hand calculation example, we have 1 output, and input feature vector is 2 dimension,

$$\frac{\partial D}{\partial w_{1,k}} = \frac{\partial}{\partial w_{1,k}} \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\mu=1}^6 \sum_{i=1}^1 (\zeta_1^\mu - s_1^\mu)^2 = \sum_{\mu=1}^6 (\zeta_1^\mu - s_1^\mu) f'(h_1^\mu) \frac{\partial h_1}{\partial w_{1,k}} \quad (23)$$

Note the derivative of the activation function

$$f'(h_1^\mu) \quad (24)$$

We can choose RELU as an activation function.

**Property 2.** Minimize error function with convolution kernel coefficients

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial D}{\partial k_{i,k}} &= \frac{\partial}{\partial k_{i,k}} \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\mu=1}^6 \sum_{i=1}^1 (\zeta_i^\mu - s_i^\mu)^2 \\ &= \sum_{\mu=1}^6 (\zeta_i^\mu - s_i^\mu) f'(h_i^\mu) \frac{\partial h_i}{\partial k_{i,k}} \end{aligned} \quad (25)$$

**Property 3.** Learning by updating the weights by gradient descent

$$w_{i,k}(t+1) = w_{i,k}(t) + \delta w_{i,k}(t) \quad (26)$$

where

$$\delta w_{i,k}(t) = -\epsilon \frac{\partial D}{\partial w_{i,k}} \quad (27)$$

for the given example, we have

$$w_{1,k}(t+1) = w_{1,k}(t) + \delta w_{1,k}(t) \quad (28)$$

where

$$\delta w_{1,k}(t) = -\epsilon \frac{\partial D}{\partial w_{1,k}} \quad (29)$$

Writing the  $\delta w_{i,k}(t) = -\epsilon \frac{\partial D}{\partial w_{i,k}}$  in a vector form, we have (??? given dimension up to  $n$ , generalized case)

$$\begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial D}{\partial w_{i,1}} \\ \frac{\partial D}{\partial w_{i,2}} \\ \vdots \\ \frac{\partial D}{\partial w_{i,n}} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} (\zeta_i^\mu - s_i^\mu) f'(h_i^\mu) \frac{\partial h_i}{\partial w_{i,1}} \\ (\zeta_i^\mu - s_i^\mu) f'(h_i^\mu) \frac{\partial h_i}{\partial w_{i,2}} \\ \vdots \\ (\zeta_i^\mu - s_i^\mu) f'(h_i^\mu) \frac{\partial h_i}{\partial w_{i,n}} \end{pmatrix} \quad (30)$$