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# STUDY OF ACTIVATION FUNCTION AND ITS ROLE.

22.08.25

Aim: To study the activation function and its role.

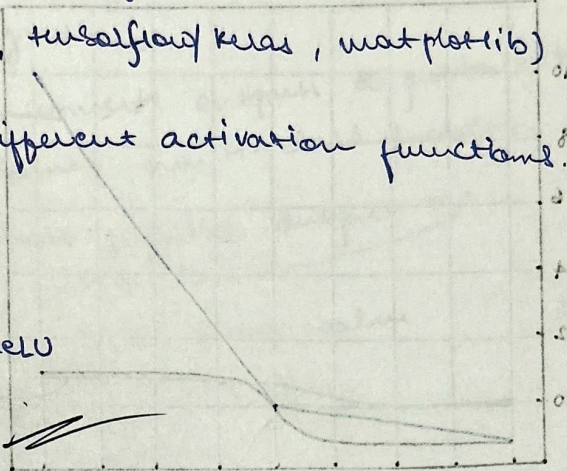
Pseudo  
code:

1. Import necessary libraries.

- (numpy, tensorflow.keras, matplotlib)

2. Define different activation functions.

- ↳ - Sigmoid
- Tanh
- ReLU
- leaky ReLU
- Softmax.



3. Visualize each function & its derivatives over input range.

- range of input values ( $x = -10$  to  $+10$ )
- plot graphs to analyze slope & behaviour.

4. Build a simple NN

↳ MNIST classification.

5. Train the network multiple times, each w/ different activation.

- Use same dataset, optimiser, learning rate, & epochs.

- Record training loss and accuracy.

6. Compare performances.

- plot accuracy v/s activation func.

- plot loss v/s activation func.



7. compare results & conclude the role of the activation function.

SMALL NOTE: (Reference purpose).

Sigmoid = output 0 to 1

↳ Binary solve.

formula:  $f(x) = \frac{1}{1+e^{-x}}$

Tanh = output -1 to 1

↳ stronger than ~~derivative~~ gradient.

$\tanh = \frac{e^x - e^{-x}}{e^x + e^{-x}}$

Softmax = converts outputs to probabilities.

↳ solves multi-class problems.

$i \frac{e^{x_i}}{\sum_{j=1}^n e^{x_j}}$

ReLU = most popular output  $\rightarrow 0$

↳ if -ve  $\leftarrow$

But if +ve same value

$f(x) = \max(0, x)$

fast & effective.

Observation:

Sample Activation Outputs:

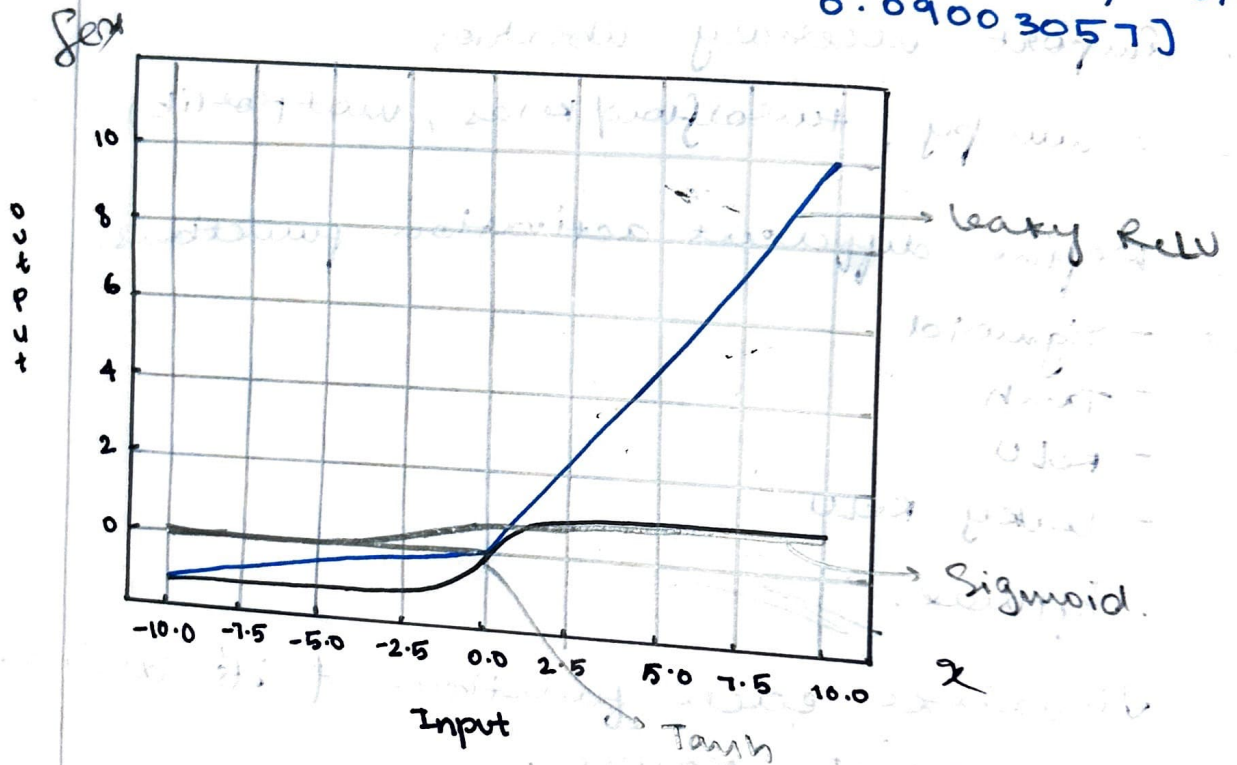
$$\text{Sigmoid}(2.0) = 0.8807971$$

$$\text{Tanh}(2.0) = 0.9640276$$

$$\text{ReLU}(-3.0) = 0.0$$

$$\text{leaky ReLU}(-3.0) = -0.3$$








$$\text{Softmax}([2.0, 1.0, 0.0]) = [0.66524094, 0.2447281, 0.09003057]$$





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```

1 import numpy as np
2 import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
3 import tensorflow as tf
4 x = np.linspace(-10, 10, 400, dtype=np.float32)
5 y_sigmoid = tf.keras.activations.sigmoid(x).numpy()
6 y_tanh = tf.keras.activations.tanh(x).numpy()
7 y_relu = tf.keras.activations.relu(x).numpy()
8 y_leaky = tf.nn.leaky_relu(x, alpha=0.1).numpy()
9 x_multi = np.vstack([x, x*0.5, x*0.2]).astype(np.float32)
10 y_softmax = tf.nn.softmax(x_multi, axis=0).numpy()
11 plt.figure(figsize=(10, 6))
12 plt.plot(x, y_sigmoid, label="Sigmoid")
13 plt.plot(x, y_tanh, label="Tanh")
14 plt.plot(x, y_relu, label="ReLU")
15 plt.plot(x, y_leaky, label="Leaky ReLU")
16 plt.title("Activation Functions")
17 plt.xlabel("Input")
18 plt.ylabel("Output")
19 plt.grid(True)
20 plt.legend()
21 plt.show()
22 plt.figure(figsize=(10, 6))
23 plt.plot(x, y_softmax[0], label="Class 1")
24 plt.plot(x, y_softmax[1], label="Class 2")
25 plt.plot(x, y_softmax[2], label="Class 3")
26 plt.title("Softmax Activation (Multiple Classes)")
27 plt.xlabel("Input")
28 plt.ylabel("Probability")
29 plt.grid(True)
30 plt.legend()

```

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```
8 y_leaky = tf.nn.leaky_relu(x, alpha=0.1).numpy()
9 x_multi = np.vstack([x, x*0.5, x*0.2]).astype(np.float32)
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26 plt.title("Softmax Activation (Multiple Classes)")
27 plt.xlabel("Input")
28 plt.ylabel("Probability")
29 plt.grid(True)
30 plt.legend()
31 plt.show()
32 print("Sample Activation Outputs:")
33 print("Sigmoid(2.0) =", tf.keras.activations.sigmoid(2.0).numpy())
34 print("Tanh(2.0) =", tf.keras.activations.tanh(2.0).numpy())
35 print("ReLU(-3.0) =", tf.keras.activations.relu(-3.0).numpy())
36 print("Leaky ReLU(-3.0) =", tf.nn.leaky_relu(-3.0, alpha=0.1).numpy())
37 print("Softmax([2.0,1.0,0.0]) =", tf.nn.softmax([2.0,1.0,0.0]).numpy())
```

```
_COMPLEX64, DT_COMPLEX128]> [Op:Sigmoid] name:  
jupyter-ra2311047010012@cintel:~/Foundation of AI/SEM 5 DLT LAB$ python week5.py  
2025-09-01 09:28:07.638684: I tensorflow/core/platform/cpu_feature_guard.cc:210] This TensorFlow binary is optimized to use available CPU instructions in performance-critical operations.  
To enable the following instructions: AVX2 FMA, in other operations, rebuild TensorFlow with the appropriate compiler flags.  
Sample Activation Outputs:  
Sigmoid(2.0) = 0.8807971  
Tanh(2.0) = 0.9640276  
ReLU(-3.0) = 0.0  
Leaky ReLU(-3.0) = -0.3  
Softmax([2.0,1.0,0.0]) = [0.66524094 0.24472848 0.09003057]  
jupyter-ra2311047010012@cintel:~/Foundation of AI/SEM 5 DLT LAB$
```

6B

jupyter-ra2311047010012@cintel: ~/Foundation of AI/SEM 5 DLT LAB 1



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01-09-2025