

1 Simple Gradients and their Interpretations

For each of the functions below, what are the partial derivatives with respect to each variable? For (a) only, what is ∇f ? For parts (a)–(c), describe how changes in each variable affect f .

(a) $f(x, y) = xy$

(b) $f(x, y) = x + y$

(c) $f(x, y) = \max\{x, y\}$

(d) $\tanh x = \frac{\sinh x}{\cosh x} = \frac{e^x - e^{-x}}{e^x + e^{-x}}$. Hint: $\tanh x = \frac{1 - e^{-2x}}{1 + e^{-2x}} = s(2x) - (1 - s(2x)) = 2s(2x) - 1$.

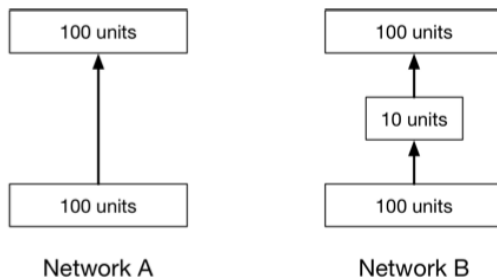
2 Backprop in Practice: Staged Computation

Consider the function $f(x, y, z) = (x + y)z + x$.

- (a) Draw a directed acyclic graph (DAG)/circuit/network that represents the computation of f . Assign a variable name to each intermediate result.
- (b) Write pseudocode for the forward pass and backward pass (backpropagation) in the network.
- (c) On your network drawing, write the intermediate values in the forward and backward passes when the inputs are $x = -2$, $y = 5$, and $z = -4$.

3 Model Intuition

- (a) What can go wrong if you just initialize all the weights in a neural network to exactly zero? What about to the same nonzero value?
- (b) Adding nodes in the hidden layer gives the neural network more approximation ability, because you are adding more parameters. How many weight parameters are there in a neural network with architecture specified by $n = [n^{(0)}, n^{(1)}, \dots, n^{(\ell)}]$, a vector giving the number of nodes in each of the $\ell + 1$ layers? (Layer 0 is the input layer, and layer ℓ is the output layer.) Evaluate your formula for a network $n = [8, 10, 10, 3]$.
- (c) Consider the two networks in the image below, where the added layer in Network B has 10 units with **linear activation**. Give one advantage of Network A over Network B, and one advantage of Network B over Network A.



4 More Backprop in Practice: Staged Computation

Consider the function $f(w, x) = \frac{1}{1 + e^{-(w_0 x_0 + w_1 x_1 + w_2 x_2)}}$.

- (a) Draw a network that represents the computation of f .
- (b) Write pseudocode for the forward pass and backward pass (backpropagation) of the network.
- (c) With the weights $w = [2, -3, -3]$ and inputs $x = [-1, -2]$, write the intermediate values in the forward and backward passes on your network diagram.
- (d) Now consider a network that computes the function $f(x, y) = \frac{x + s(y)}{s(x) + (x + y)^2}$. Write pseudocode for the forward and backward passes of the network.