

# Calculating Derivatives to Update the Parameters ( $B$ , $W_1$ , $W_2$ )

Understanding the mathematical foundation of parameter optimization in neural networks


$\Sigma$


# Objective

Calculate the derivatives of the Loss function (L) with respect to the parameters:

**B, W<sub>1</sub>, W<sub>2</sub>**

 Update parameters to minimize the loss

 Optimize model performance

 Enable gradient descent algorithm

$$\partial L / \partial B = ?$$

$$\partial L / \partial W_1 = ?$$

$$\partial L / \partial W_2 = ?$$

# Calculation Steps Overview

1

## Derivative of Loss w.r.t. predicted value (a)

Calculate  $\partial L / \partial a = -y/a + (1-y)/(1-a)$

2

## Derivative of (a) w.r.t. (z)

Calculate  $\partial a / \partial z = a \cdot (1 - a)$

3

## Derivative of Loss w.r.t. (z)

Calculate  $\partial L / \partial z = (a - y)$  using chain rule

4

## Derivative of (z) w.r.t. parameters

Calculate  $\partial z / \partial w_1, \partial z / \partial w_2, \partial z / \partial b$

5

## Final derivatives of Loss w.r.t. parameters

Calculate  $\partial L / \partial w_1, \partial L / \partial w_2, \partial L / \partial b$

### Chain Rule Application

$$\partial L / \partial w_1 = \partial L / \partial z \cdot \partial z / \partial w_1$$

$$\partial L / \partial w_2 = \partial L / \partial z \cdot \partial z / \partial w_2$$

$$\partial L / \partial b = \partial L / \partial z \cdot \partial z / \partial b$$

### Parameter Update

$$w_1 := w_1 - \alpha \cdot \partial L / \partial w_1$$

$$w_2 := w_2 - \alpha \cdot \partial L / \partial w_2$$

$$b := b - \alpha \cdot \partial L / \partial b$$

# Derivative of Loss w.r.t. Predicted Value (a)

1 Step 1 of 5

First step in calculating parameter derivatives

$$\partial L / \partial a = -y/a + (1-y)/(1-a)$$

## Formula Explanation

$\Sigma$   $L$  = Loss function

✓  $y$  = True value (ground truth)

↗  $a$  = Predicted value from model

i Measures how loss changes as prediction changes

# Derivative of (a) w.r.t. (z)

2 Step 2 of 5

Calculating the derivative of the sigmoid activation function

$$a = 1/(1 + e^{-z})$$

$$\partial a / \partial z = a \cdot (1 - a)$$

## Key Points

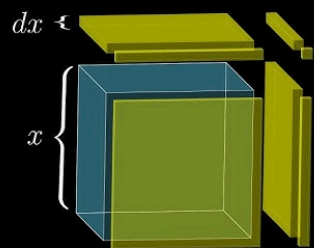
Σ **a** = Output of sigmoid function

⇒ **z** = Input to sigmoid function

↗ Sigmoid derivative has elegant property: depends only on output

✦ Maximum derivative at **a = 0.5** (z = 0)

## Geometric derivatives



$$\frac{d(x^3)}{dx} = 3x^2$$

# Derivative of Loss w.r.t. (z)

3 Step 3 of 5

Applying the chain rule to connect loss to activation input

Chain Rule:

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\partial L}{\partial z} &= \frac{\partial L}{\partial a} \cdot \frac{\partial a}{\partial z} \\ &= [-y/a + (1-y)/(1-a)] \cdot [a \cdot (1-a)]\end{aligned}$$

$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial z} = (a - y)$$

## Key Insights

- ✂ ✂ ✂ Complex expression simplifies to  $(a - y)$
- ✂ ✂ ✂ Result is simply the **difference** between predicted and true values
- ✂ ✂ ✂ When  $a > y$ , gradient is positive (increase  $z$ )
- ✂ ✂ ✂ When  $a < y$ , gradient is negative (decrease  $z$ )

# Derivative of (z) w.r.t. Parameters

4 Step 4 of 5

Calculating how z changes with each parameter

$$z = w_1x_1 + w_2x_2 + b$$

$$\partial z / \partial w_1 = x_1$$

$$\partial z / \partial w_2 = x_2$$

$$\partial z / \partial b = 1$$

**w<sub>1</sub>**

x<sub>1</sub>

**w<sub>2</sub>**

x<sub>2</sub>

**b**

1

## Key Insights

$\Sigma$  **z** = Linear combination of inputs and weights

↗ Weight derivatives equal corresponding **input values**

⊕ Bias derivative is **1** (constant term)

i These derivatives connect parameters to network output

# Final Derivatives of Loss w.r.t. Parameters

5 Step 5 of 5

Using chain rule to complete the derivative calculations

## Chain Rule:

$$\partial L / \partial w_1 = \partial L / \partial z \cdot \partial z / \partial w_1$$

$$\partial L / \partial w_2 = \partial L / \partial z \cdot \partial z / \partial w_2$$

$$\partial L / \partial b = \partial L / \partial z \cdot \partial z / \partial b$$

$$\partial L / \partial w_1$$

$$(a - y) \cdot x_1$$

$$\partial L / \partial w_2$$

$$(a - y) \cdot x_2$$

$$\partial L / \partial b$$

$$(a - y)$$

## Key Insights

- ✂ All derivatives share the **(a - y)** term
- ↔ Weight derivatives scaled by **input values**
- ⊕ Bias derivative remains **unscaled**
- These derivatives directly guide parameter updates



# Usage in Gradient Descent Algorithm

Applying derivatives to update model parameters

$$w_1 := w_1 - \alpha \cdot \partial L / \partial w_1$$

$$w_2 := w_2 - \alpha \cdot \partial L / \partial w_2$$

$$b := b - \alpha \cdot \partial L / \partial b$$

## Gradient Descent Process

↓ Move parameters in **opposite direction** of gradient

🔗 **Learning rate ( $\alpha$ )** controls step size

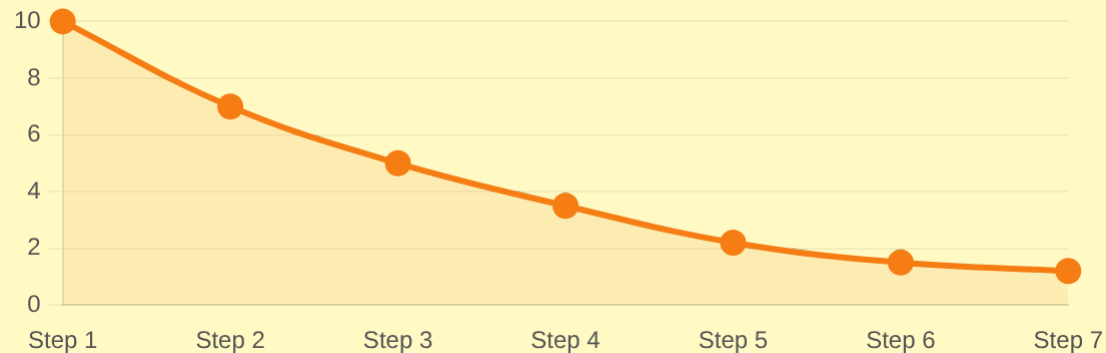
🔄 Repeat until convergence to **minimum loss**

📈 Final update formulas:

$$w_1 := w_1 - \alpha \cdot (a - y) \cdot x_1$$

$$w_2 := w_2 - \alpha \cdot (a - y) \cdot x_2$$

$$b := b - \alpha \cdot (a - y)$$



$\alpha$

Learning  
Rate

$:=$

Assignment