# Exercises 2.5

## Exercise 2.5.1

a. Show that the logistic function $\sigma$ satisfies the inequality $0 < \sigma'(x) \leq \frac{1}{4}$, for all $x \in \mathbb{R}$.

b. How does the inequality changes in the case of the functions $\sigma_c$?

## Exercise 2.5.2

Let $S(x)$ and $H(x)$ denote the bipolar step fucntion and the Heaviside function,respectively. Show that:

a. $S(x) = 2H(x) - 1$

b. $ReLU(x) = \frac{1}{2}x(S(x) + 1)$

## Exercise 2.5.3

Show that the softplus function,$sp(x)$, satisfies the following properties:

a. $sp'(x) = \sigma(x)$, where $\frac{1}{1+e^{-x}}$

b. Show that $sp(x)$ is invertible with inverse $sp^{-1}(x) = \ln(e^x - 1)$

c. Use the softplus function to show teh formula $\sigma(x) = 1 - \sigma(-x)$

## Exercise 2.5.4

Show that $\tanh(x) = 2\sigma(2x) - 1$

## Exercise 2.5.5

Show that the softsign function,$so(x)$, satisfies the following properties:

a. Its sctrictly increasing;

b. Its is onto $(-1, 1)$, with the inverse $so^{-1}(x) = \frac{x}{1-|x|}$, for $|x| < 1$.

c. $so(|x|)$ is subadditive, i.e., $so(|x + y|) \leq so(|x|) + so(|y|)$.

## Exercise 2.5.6

Show that the softmax function is invariant with respect to the addition of constant vectors $\boldsymbol{c} = (c_1 \dots c_n)^T$, i.e.,

$$softmax(y + \boldsymbol{c}) = softmax(y).$$

This property is used in practice by replacing $\boldsymbol{c} = -\max_i y_i$, fact that leads to a more stable numerically variant of this function.

## Exercise 2.5.7

Let $\rho : \mathbb{R}^n \to \mathbb{R}^n$ defined by $\rho(y) \in \mathbb{R}^n$, with $\rho(y)_i = \frac{y_i^2}{\|y\|}$. Show that:

a. $0 \leq \rho(y)_i \leq 1$ and $\sum_i \rho(y)_i = 1$.

b. The function $\rho$ is invariant with to multiplication by nonzero constant, i.e., $\rho(\lambda y) = \rho(y)$ for any $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}/0$. Taking $\lambda = \frac{1}{\max_i y_i}$ leads in practice to a more stable version of this function.

## Exercise 2.5.8 (cosine squasher)

Show that the function $\varphi(x) = \frac{1}{2}(1 + \cos(x + \frac{3\pi}{2}))1_{[-\frac{\pi}{2}, \frac{\pi}{2}]}(x) + 1_{(\frac{\pi}{2}, \infty)}(x)$ is a squashing function.

## Exercise 2.5.9

a. Show that any squashinf function is a sigmoidal function.

b. Give an example of a sigmoidal function which is not a squashing function.

# SOLUTIONS

## 2.5.1 (a)

Computing the derivative of $\sigma$ we find: $\sigma'(x) = \frac{d}{dx}\frac{1}{1+e^{-x}} = \frac{d}{dx}\frac{e^x}{1+e^x} = \frac{e^x}{(1+e^x)^2}$. From the inequality $1 \leq (1+e^x)^2$ and the non-negativeness of the exponential function follows that $0 \leq \frac{e^x}{(1+e^x)^2}$.

Now lets prove that in $x = 0$ the function has a local maximum in $[-1, 1]$, this will imply $0 \leq \frac{e^x}{(1+e^x)^2} \leq \sigma'(0)$, $\sigma'(0) = \frac{1}{4}$. By computing the first derivative of $\sigma'$ we find: $\sigma''(x) = e^x \frac{1-e^x}{(1+e^x)^3}$. The critical will be found by solving the equation $\sigma''(x) = 0$.

From $\sigma''(x) = e^x \frac{1-e^x}{(1+e^x)^3} = 0$ follows that $1 - e^x = 0$, is straigth-forward to check that the solution is $x = 0$. It rests to determine the nature of the extremizing point. To achieve this goal is necessary to calculate the second derivative of $\sigma'$.

$$\begin{aligned}
\sigma'''(x) &= \frac{d}{dx}\frac{e^x - e^{2x}}{(1+e^x)^3} = \frac{(e^x - 2e^{2x})(1+e^x)^3 - 3(1+e^x)^2 e^x (e^x - e^{2x})}{(1+e^x)^6} \\
&= \frac{e^x\{1 - 4e^x + e^{2x}\}(1+e^x)^2}{(1+e^x)^6} = \frac{e^x\{1 - 4e^x + e^{2x}\}}{(1+e^x)^4}
\end{aligned}$$

We clearly have $\sigma'''(0) < 0$, then $x = 0$ is a local maximum for $\sigma'$, i.e $\forall x \in [-1, 1],\ \sigma'(x) \leq \frac{1}{4}$. On the other hand, the function $\sigma'$ decreases on the intervals $(-\infty, -1)$ and $(1, \infty)$ this implies that:

$\sup\limits_{x \in (1,\infty)} \sigma'(x) = \dfrac{e}{(1+e)^2} = \dfrac{e^{-1}}{(1+e^{-1})^2} = \sup\limits_{x \in (-\infty,-1)} \sigma'(x)$. From the fact that $\dfrac{e}{(1+e)^2} < \dfrac{1}{4}$ follows that $0 \leq \sigma'(x) \leq \frac{1}{4}$ is valid $\forall x \in \mathbb{R}$. $\square$

## 2.5.1 (b)

The inequality changes to: $0 \leq \sigma_c'(x) \leq \frac{c}{4},\ \forall x \in \mathbb{R}$. From the expression $\sigma_c(x) = \frac{1}{1+e^{-cx}}$, $c > 0$ one finds that $\sigma_c'(x) = \frac{d}{dx}\frac{e^{cx}}{1+e^{cx}} = c\dfrac{e^{cx}}{(1+e^{cx})^2}$. By the chain rule it can be easily verified that all the computations made for $\sigma'(x)$ in 2.5.1.a, can by applied to $\sigma_c'(x)$, having in mind the relationship $\sigma_c'(x) = c\sigma'(cx)$.

Then, one finds: $\sigma_c''(x) = c^2 e^{cx}\frac{1-e^{cx}}{(1+e^{cx})^3}$, this implies that $x = 0$ is a critical point. Using the same relationship is clear that $\sigma_c'''(x)\Big|_{x=0} = c^3 \frac{e^{cx}\{1-4e^{cx}+e^{2cx}\}}{(1+e^{cx})^4}\Big|_{x=0} < 0$. Then, $x = 0$ is a maximum.

Arguing like in 2.5.1.a, on the interval $[-1, 1]$, $\sigma_c'(0) = \frac{c}{4}$ is a local maximum. More over, the function $\sigma_c'$ decreases on the intervals $(-\infty, -1)$ and $(1, \infty)$, implying:

$$\sup_{x \in (1,\infty)} \sigma_c'(x) = \frac{ce^c}{(1+e^c)^2} = \frac{ce^{-c}}{(1+e^{-c})^2} = \sup_{x \in (-\infty,-1)} \sigma_c'(x)$$

Lets now prove the inequality $\dfrac{ce^c}{(1+e^c)^2} < \dfrac{c}{4}$. We have:

$$\begin{aligned}
\frac{ce^c}{(1+e^c)^2} &= \frac{c}{\frac{(1+e^c)^2}{e^{\frac{2c}{2}}}} = \frac{c}{(\frac{1+e^c}{e^{\frac{c}{2}}})^2} \\
&= \frac{c}{(e^{-\frac{c}{2}} + e^{\frac{c}{2}})^2} < \frac{c}{(1 - \frac{c}{2} + 1 + \frac{c}{2})^2} = \frac{c}{4}
\end{aligned}$$

Where we have used the inequality $1 + x \leq e^x,\ \forall x \in \mathbb{R}$. The later shows $\sigma_c'(0)$ is a global maximum, i.e $0 \leq \sigma_c'(x) \leq \frac{c}{4}$ is valid $\forall x \in \mathbb{R}$. $\square$

## 2.5.2 (a)

From the Heaviside function definition one has:

$$\begin{aligned} 2H(x) - 1 &= \begin{cases} 2 - 1 \text{ if } x > 0 \\ 2(0) - 1 \text{ otherwise} \end{cases} \\ &= \begin{cases} 1 \text{ if } x > 0 \\ -1 \text{ otherwise} \end{cases} = S(x). \quad \square \end{aligned}$$

## 2.5.2 (b)

We know $ReLU(X) := \max(0, x)$. Consider the identities $\max(0, x) = \frac{1}{2}\{x + |x|\}$,

$|x| = \begin{cases} 1x \text{ if } x > 0 \\ -1x \text{ otherwise} \end{cases} = xS(x)$. Substituting the last identity into the first one yields:

$ReLU(x) = \frac{1}{2}(x + xS(x)) = \frac{1}{2}x(1 + S(x))$. $\square$