

exercise4

June 8, 2020

1 Programming Exercise 4: Neural Networks Learning

1.1 Introduction

In this exercise, you will implement the backpropagation algorithm for neural networks and apply it to the task of hand-written digit recognition. Before starting on the programming exercise, we strongly recommend watching the video lectures and completing the review questions for the associated topics.

All the information you need for solving this assignment is in this notebook, and all the code you will be implementing will take place within this notebook. The assignment can be promptly submitted to the coursera grader directly from this notebook (code and instructions are included below).

Before we begin with the exercises, we need to import all libraries required for this programming exercise. Throughout the course, we will be using [numpy](#) for all arrays and matrix operations, [matplotlib](#) for plotting, and [scipy](#) for scientific and numerical computation functions and tools. You can find instructions on how to install required libraries in the README file in the [github repository](#).

```
In [1]: # used for manipulating directory paths
import os

# Scientific and vector computation for python
import numpy as np

# Plotting library
from matplotlib import pyplot

# Optimization module in scipy
from scipy import optimize

# will be used to load MATLAB mat datafile format
from scipy.io import loadmat

# library written for this exercise providing additional functions for assignment submission
import utils

# define the submission/grader object for this exercise
grader = utils.Grader()
```

```
# tells matplotlib to embed plots within the notebook
%matplotlib inline
```

1.2 Submission and Grading

After completing each part of the assignment, be sure to submit your solutions to the grader. The following is a breakdown of how each part of this exercise is scored.

	Section	Part	Submission function	Points
1		Section ??	Section ??	30
2		Section ??	Section ??	15
3		Section ??	Section ??	5
4		Section ??	Section ??	40
5		Section ??	Section ??	10
		Total Points		100

You are allowed to submit your solutions multiple times, and we will take only the highest score into consideration.

At the end of each section in this notebook, we have a cell which contains code for submitting the solutions thus far to the grader. Execute the cell to see your score up to the current section. For all your work to be submitted properly, you must execute those cells at least once.

1.3 Neural Networks

In the previous exercise, you implemented feedforward propagation for neural networks and used it to predict handwritten digits with the weights we provided. In this exercise, you will implement the backpropagation algorithm to learn the parameters for the neural network.

We start the exercise by first loading the dataset.

```
In [2]: # training data stored in arrays X, y
data = loadmat(os.path.join('Data', 'ex4data1.mat'))
X, y = data['X'], data['y'].ravel()

# set the zero digit to 0, rather than its mapped 10 in this dataset
# This is an artifact due to the fact that this dataset was used in
# MATLAB where there is no index 0
y[y == 10] = 0

# Number of training examples
m = y.size
```

1.3.1 Visualizing the data

You will begin by visualizing a subset of the training set, using the function `displayData`, which is the same function we used in Exercise 3. It is provided in the `utils.py` file for this assignment as well. The dataset is also the same one you used in the previous exercise.

There are 5000 training examples in `ex4data1.mat`, where each training example is a 20 pixel by 20 pixel grayscale image of the digit. Each pixel is represented by a floating point number indicating the grayscale intensity at that location. The 20 by 20 grid of pixels is “unrolled” into a 400-dimensional vector. Each of these training examples becomes a single row in our data matrix `X`. This gives us a 5000 by 400 matrix `X` where every row is a training example for a handwritten digit image.

$$X = \begin{bmatrix} - \left(x^{(1)} \right)^T & - \\ - \left(x^{(2)} \right)^T & - \\ \vdots & \\ - \left(x^{(m)} \right)^T & - \end{bmatrix}$$

The second part of the training set is a 5000-dimensional vector `y` that contains labels for the training set. The following cell randomly selects 100 images from the dataset and plots them.

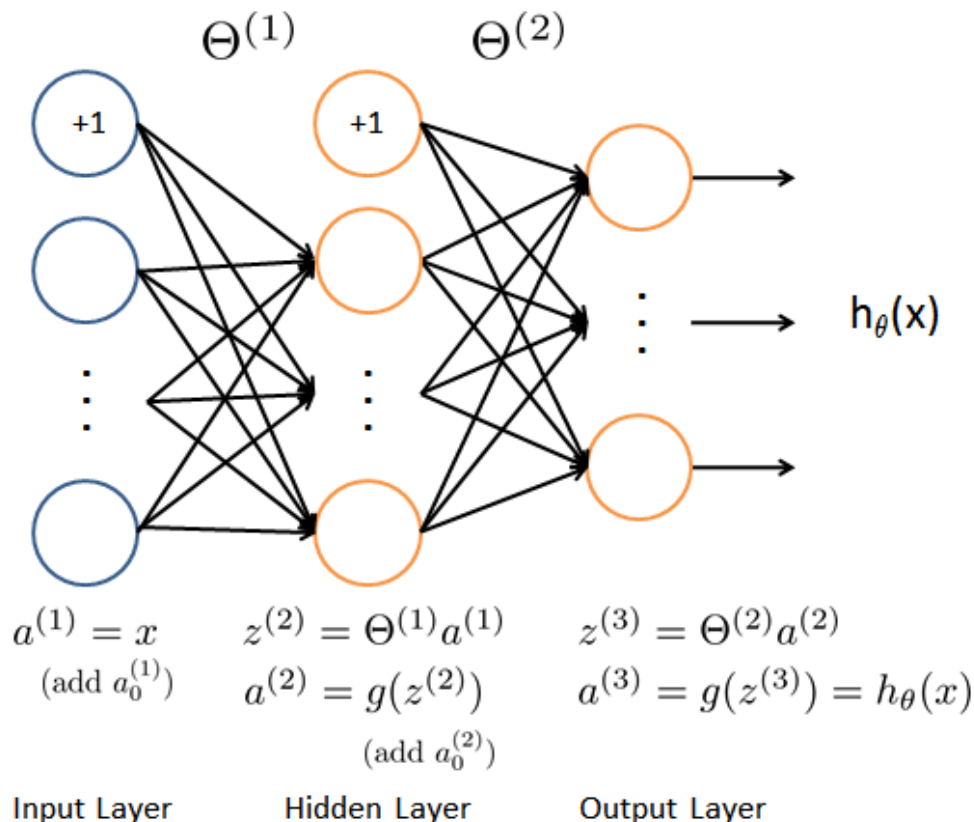
```
In [3]: # Randomly select 100 data points to display
        rand_indices = np.random.choice(m, 100, replace=False)
        sel = X[rand_indices, :]

        utils.displayData(sel)
```



1.3.2 1.2 Model representation

Our neural network is shown in the following figure.



It has 3 layers - an input layer, a hidden layer and an output layer. Recall that our inputs are pixel values of digit images. Since the images are of size 20×20 , this gives us 400 input layer units (not counting the extra bias unit which always outputs +1). The training data was loaded into the variables X and y above.

You have been provided with a set of network parameters $(\Theta^{(1)}, \Theta^{(2)})$ already trained by us. These are stored in `ex4weights.mat` and will be loaded in the next cell of this notebook into `Theta1` and `Theta2`. The parameters have dimensions that are sized for a neural network with 25 units in the second layer and 10 output units (corresponding to the 10 digit classes).

```
In [4]: # Setup the parameters you will use for this exercise
input_layer_size = 400 # 20x20 Input Images of Digits
hidden_layer_size = 25 # 25 hidden units
num_labels = 10       # 10 labels, from 0 to 9

# Load the weights into variables Theta1 and Theta2
weights = loadmat(os.path.join('Data', 'ex4weights.mat'))

# Theta1 has size 25 x 401
# Theta2 has size 10 x 26
Theta1, Theta2 = weights['Theta1'], weights['Theta2']

# swap first and last columns of Theta2, due to legacy from MATLAB indexing,
# since the weight file ex3weights.mat was saved based on MATLAB indexing
Theta2 = np.roll(Theta2, 1, axis=0)
```

```
# Unroll parameters
nn_params = np.concatenate([Theta1.ravel(), Theta2.ravel()])
```

1.3 Feedforward and cost function

Now you will implement the cost function and gradient for the neural network. First, complete the code for the function `nnCostFunction` in the next cell to return the cost.

Recall that the cost function for the neural network (without regularization) is:

$$J(\theta) = \frac{1}{m} \sum_{i=1}^m \sum_{k=1}^K \left[-y_k^{(i)} \log \left(\left(h_{\theta} \left(x^{(i)} \right) \right)_k \right) - \left(1 - y_k^{(i)} \right) \log \left(1 - \left(h_{\theta} \left(x^{(i)} \right) \right)_k \right) \right]$$

where $h_{\theta}(x^{(i)})$ is computed as shown in the neural network figure above, and $K = 10$ is the total number of possible labels. Note that $h_{\theta}(x^{(i)})_k = a_k^{(3)}$ is the activation (output value) of the k^{th} output unit. Also, recall that whereas the original labels (in the variable y) were $0, 1, \dots, 9$, for the purpose of training a neural network, we need to encode the labels as vectors containing only values 0 or 1, so that

$$y = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \dots \quad \text{or} \quad \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

For example, if $x^{(i)}$ is an image of the digit 5, then the corresponding $y^{(i)}$ (that you should use with the cost function) should be a 10-dimensional vector with $y_5 = 1$, and the other elements equal to 0.

You should implement the feedforward computation that computes $h_{\theta}(x^{(i)})$ for every example i and sum the cost over all examples. **Your code should also work for a dataset of any size, with any number of labels** (you can assume that there are always at least $K \geq 3$ labels).

Implementation Note: The matrix X contains the examples in rows (i.e., $X[i,:]$ is the i -th training example $x^{(i)}$, expressed as a $n \times 1$ vector.) When you complete the code in `nnCostFunction`, you will need to add the column of 1's to the X matrix. The parameters for each unit in the neural network is represented in `Theta1` and `Theta2` as one row. Specifically, the first row of `Theta1` corresponds to the first hidden unit in the second layer. You can use a for-loop over the examples to compute the cost.

```
In [5]: def sigmoid(z):
         return(1 / (1 + np.exp(-z)))

In [6]: def sigmoidGradient(z):
         return(sigmoid(z)*(1-sigmoid(z)))

In [11]: def nnCostFunction(nn_params,
                             input_layer_size,
                             hidden_layer_size,
                             num_labels,
                             X, y, lambda_):
         """
```

Implements the neural network cost function and gradient for a two layer neural network which performs classification.

Parameters

nn_params : array_like

The parameters for the neural network which are "unrolled" into a vector. This needs to be converted back into the weight matrices Theta1 and Theta2.

input_layer_size : int

Number of features for the input layer.

hidden_layer_size : int

Number of hidden units in the second layer.

num_labels : int

Total number of labels, or equivalently number of units in output layer.

X : array_like

Input dataset. A matrix of shape (m x input_layer_size).

y : array_like

Dataset labels. A vector of shape (m,).

lambda_ : float, optional

Regularization parameter.

Returns

J : float

The computed value for the cost function at the current weight values.

grad : array_like

An "unrolled" vector of the partial derivatives of the concatenation of neural network weights Theta1 and Theta2.

Instructions

You should complete the code by working through the following parts.

- Part 1: Feedforward the neural network and return the cost in the variable J. After implementing Part 1, you can verify that your cost function computation is correct by verifying the cost computed in the following cell.*
- Part 2: Implement the backpropagation algorithm to compute the gradients Theta1_grad and Theta2_grad. You should return the partial derivatives*

the cost function with respect to Θ_1 and Θ_2 in Θ_1_{grad} and Θ_2_{grad} , respectively. After implementing Part 2, you can check that your implementation is correct by running `checkNNGradients` provided in the `utils.py` module.

Note: The vector y passed into the function is a vector of labels containing values from $0..K-1$. You need to map this vector into a binary vector of 1's and 0's to be used with the neural network cost function.

Hint: We recommend implementing backpropagation using a for-loop over the training examples if you are implementing it for the first time.

- Part 3: Implement regularization with the cost function and gradients.

Hint: You can implement this around the code for backpropagation. That is, you can compute the gradients for the regularization separately and then add them to Θ_1_{grad} and Θ_2_{grad} from Part 2.

Note

We have provided an implementation for the sigmoid function in the file `'utils.py'` accompanying this assignment.

"""

Reshape nn_params back into the parameters Θ_1 and Θ_2 , the weight matrices for our 2 layer neural network

```
Theta1 = np.reshape(nn_params[:hidden_layer_size * (input_layer_size + 1)],  
                    (hidden_layer_size, (input_layer_size + 1)))
```

```
Theta2 = np.reshape(nn_params[(hidden_layer_size * (input_layer_size + 1)):],  
                    (num_labels, (hidden_layer_size + 1)))
```

Setup some useful variables

```
m = y.size
```

You need to return the following variables correctly

```
J = 0
```

```
Theta1_grad = np.zeros(Theta1.shape)
```

```
Theta2_grad = np.zeros(Theta2.shape)
```

===== YOUR CODE HERE =====

```
a1 = np.concatenate([np.ones((m, 1)), X], axis=1)
```

```
a2 = utils.sigmoid(a1.dot(Theta1.T))
```

```
a2 = np.concatenate([np.ones((a2.shape[0], 1)), a2], axis=1)
```



```

a3 = utils.sigmoid(a2.dot(Theta2.T))

y_matrix = y.reshape(-1)
y_matrix = np.eye(num_labels)[y_matrix]

temp1 = Theta1
temp2 = Theta2

# Add regularization term

reg_term = (lambda_ / (2 * m)) * (np.sum(np.square(temp1[:, 1:])) + np.sum(np.square(temp2[:, 1:])))

J = (-1 / m) * np.sum((np.log(a3) * y_matrix) + np.log(1 - a3) * (1 - y_matrix)) - reg_term

# Backpropagation

delta_3 = a3 - y_matrix
delta_2 = delta_3.dot(Theta2)[:, 1:] * sigmoidGradient(a1.dot(Theta1.T))

Delta1 = delta_2.T.dot(a1)
Delta2 = delta_3.T.dot(a2)

# Add regularization to gradient

Theta1_grad = (1 / m) * Delta1
Theta1_grad[:, 1:] = Theta1_grad[:, 1:] + (lambda_ / m) * Theta1[:, 1:]

Theta2_grad = (1 / m) * Delta2
Theta2_grad[:, 1:] = Theta2_grad[:, 1:] + (lambda_ / m) * Theta2[:, 1:]

# =====
# Unroll gradients
# grad = np.concatenate([Theta1_grad.ravel(order='F'), Theta2_grad.ravel(order='F')])
grad = np.concatenate([Theta1_grad.ravel(), Theta2_grad.ravel()])

return J, grad

```

Use the following links to go back to the different parts of this exercise that require to modify the function nnCostFunction.

Back to: - Section ?? - Section ?? - Section ?? - Section ??

Once you are done, call your nnCostFunction using the loaded set of parameters for Theta1 and Theta2. You should see that the cost is about 0.287629.

```

In [12]: lambda_ = 0
         _, _ = nnCostFunction(nn_params, input_layer_size, hidden_layer_size,
                               num_labels, X, y, lambda_)
         print('Cost at parameters (loaded from ex4weights): %.6f ' % J)
         print('The cost should be about : 0.287629.')

```

Cost at parameters (loaded from ex4weights): 0.287629
The cost should be about : 0.287629.

You should now submit your solutions.

```
In [13]: grader = utils.Grader()
         grader[1] = nnCostFunction
         grader.grade()
```

Submitting Solutions | Programming Exercise neural-network-learning

Use token from last successful submission (saurabh.takle@gmail.com)? (Y/n): y

Part Name	Score	Feedback
-----	-----	-----
Feedforward and Cost Function	30 / 30	Nice work!
Regularized Cost Function	0 / 15	
Sigmoid Gradient	0 / 5	
Neural Network Gradient (Backpropagation)	0 / 40	
Regularized Gradient	0 / 10	

	30 / 100	

1.4 Regularized cost function

The cost function for neural networks with regularization is given by:

$$J(\theta) = \frac{1}{m} \sum_{i=1}^m \sum_{k=1}^K \left[-y_k^{(i)} \log \left(\left(h_{\theta} \left(x^{(i)} \right) \right)_k \right) - \left(1 - y_k^{(i)} \right) \log \left(1 - \left(h_{\theta} \left(x^{(i)} \right) \right)_k \right) \right] + \frac{\lambda}{2m} \left[\sum_{j=1}^{25} \sum_{k=1}^{400} \left(\Theta_{j,k}^{(1)} \right)^2 + \sum_{j=1}^{10} \sum_{k=1}^{25} \left(\Theta_{j,k}^{(2)} \right)^2 \right]$$

You can assume that the neural network will only have 3 layers - an input layer, a hidden layer and an output layer. However, your code should work for any number of input units, hidden units and outputs units. While we have explicitly listed the indices above for $\Theta^{(1)}$ and $\Theta^{(2)}$ for clarity, do note that your code should in general work with $\Theta^{(1)}$ and $\Theta^{(2)}$ of any size. Note that you should not be regularizing the terms that correspond to the bias. For the matrices Theta1 and Theta2, this corresponds to the first column of each matrix. You should now add regularization to your cost function. Notice that you can first compute the unregularized cost function J using your existing nnCostFunction and then later add the cost for the regularization terms.

Section ??

Once you are done, the next cell will call your nnCostFunction using the loaded set of parameters for Theta1 and Theta2, and $\lambda = 1$. You should see that the cost is about 0.383770.

```
In [14]: # Weight regularization parameter (we set this to 1 here).
         lambda_ = 1
         J, _ = nnCostFunction(nn_params, input_layer_size, hidden_layer_size,
                               num_labels, X, y, lambda_)
```

```
print('Cost at parameters (loaded from ex4weights): %.6f' % J)
print('This value should be about          : 0.383770.')
```

```
Cost at parameters (loaded from ex4weights): 0.383770
This value should be about          : 0.383770.
```

You should now submit your solutions.

```
In [15]: grader[2] = nnCostFunction
         grader.grade()
```

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Use token from last successful submission (saurabh.takle@gmail.com)? (Y/n): y

Part Name	Score	Feedback
-----	-----	-----
Feedforward and Cost Function	30 / 30	Nice work!
Regularized Cost Function	15 / 15	Nice work!
Sigmoid Gradient	0 / 5	
Neural Network Gradient (Backpropagation)	0 / 40	
Regularized Gradient	0 / 10	

	45 / 100	

1.4 2 Backpropagation

In this part of the exercise, you will implement the backpropagation algorithm to compute the gradient for the neural network cost function. You will need to update the function `nnCostFunction` so that it returns an appropriate value for `grad`. Once you have computed the gradient, you will be able to train the neural network by minimizing the cost function $J(\theta)$ using an advanced optimizer such as `scipy's optimize.minimize`. You will first implement the backpropagation algorithm to compute the gradients for the parameters for the (unregularized) neural network. After you have verified that your gradient computation for the unregularized case is correct, you will implement the gradient for the regularized neural network.

2.1 Sigmoid Gradient

To help you get started with this part of the exercise, you will first implement the sigmoid gradient function. The gradient for the sigmoid function can be computed as

$$g'(z) = \frac{d}{dz}g(z) = g(z)(1 - g(z))$$

where

$$\text{sigmoid}(z) = g(z) = \frac{1}{1 + e^{-z}}$$

Now complete the implementation of `sigmoidGradient` in the next cell.

```

In [16]: def sigmoidGradient(z):
         """
         Computes the gradient of the sigmoid function evaluated at z.
         This should work regardless if z is a matrix or a vector.
         In particular, if z is a vector or matrix, you should return
         the gradient for each element.

         Parameters
         -----
         z : array_like
             A vector or matrix as input to the sigmoid function.

         Returns
         -----
         g : array_like
             Gradient of the sigmoid function. Has the same shape as z.

         Instructions
         -----
         Compute the gradient of the sigmoid function evaluated at
         each value of z (z can be a matrix, vector or scalar).

         Note
         ----
         We have provided an implementation of the sigmoid function
         in `utils.py` file accompanying this assignment.
         """

         g = np.zeros(z.shape)

         # ===== YOUR CODE HERE =====

         g = utils.sigmoid(z) * (1 - utils.sigmoid(z))

         # =====

         return g

```

When you are done, the following cell call `sigmoidGradient` on a given vector `z`. Try testing a few values by calling `sigmoidGradient(z)`. For large values (both positive and negative) of `z`, the gradient should be close to 0. When $z = 0$, the gradient should be exactly 0.25. Your code should also work with vectors and matrices. For a matrix, your function should perform the sigmoid gradient function on every element.

```

In [17]: z = np.array([-1, -0.5, 0, 0.5, 1])
         g = sigmoidGradient(z)
         print('Sigmoid gradient evaluated at [-1 -0.5 0 0.5 1]:\n ')
         print(g)

```

Sigmoid gradient evaluated at [-1 -0.5 0 0.5 1]:

```
[0.19661193 0.23500371 0.25          0.23500371 0.19661193]
```

You should now submit your solutions.

```
In [18]: grader[3] = sigmoidGradient
         grader.grade()
```

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Use token from last successful submission (saurabh.takle@gmail.com)? (Y/n): y

Part Name	Score	Feedback
Feedforward and Cost Function	30 / 30	Nice work!
Regularized Cost Function	15 / 15	Nice work!
Sigmoid Gradient	5 / 5	Nice work!
Neural Network Gradient (Backpropagation)	0 / 40	
Regularized Gradient	0 / 10	
	50 / 100	

1.5 2.2 Random Initialization

When training neural networks, it is important to randomly initialize the parameters for symmetry breaking. One effective strategy for random initialization is to randomly select values for $\Theta^{(l)}$ uniformly in the range $[-\epsilon_{init}, \epsilon_{init}]$. You should use $\epsilon_{init} = 0.12$. This range of values ensures that the parameters are kept small and makes the learning more efficient.

One effective strategy for choosing ϵ_{init} is to base it on the number of units in the network. A good choice of ϵ_{init} is $\epsilon_{init} = \frac{\sqrt{6}}{\sqrt{L_{in} + L_{out}}}$ where $L_{in} = s_l$ and $L_{out} = s_{l+1}$ are the number of units in the layers adjacent to Θ^l .

Your job is to complete the function `randInitializeWeights` to initialize the weights for Θ . Modify the function by filling in the following code:

```
# Randomly initialize the weights to small values
W = np.random.rand(L_out, 1 + L_in) * 2 * epsilon_init - epsilon_init
```

Note that we give the function an argument for ϵ with default value `epsilon_init = 0.12`.

```
In [19]: def randInitializeWeights(L_in, L_out, epsilon_init=0.12):
         """
         Randomly initialize the weights of a layer in a neural network.

         Parameters
         -----
```

```

L_in : int
    Number of incoming connections.

L_out : int
    Number of outgoing connections.

epsilon_init : float, optional
    Range of values which the weight can take from a uniform
    distribution.

Returns
-----
W : array_like
    The weight initialiatized to random values. Note that W should
    be set to a matrix of size(L_out, 1 + L_in) as
    the first column of W handles the "bias" terms.

Instructions
-----
Initialize W randomly so that we break the symmetry while training
the neural network. Note that the first column of W corresponds
to the parameters for the bias unit.
"""

# You need to return the following variables correctly
W = np.zeros((L_out, 1 + L_in))

# ===== YOUR CODE HERE =====

W = np.random.rand(L_out, 1 + L_in) * 2 * epsilon_init - epsilon_init

# =====
return W

```

You do not need to submit any code for this part of the exercise.

Execute the following cell to initialize the weights for the 2 layers in the neural network using the randInitializeWeights function.

```
In [20]: print('Initializing Neural Network Parameters ...')
```

```

initial_Theta1 = randInitializeWeights(input_layer_size, hidden_layer_size)
initial_Theta2 = randInitializeWeights(hidden_layer_size, num_labels)

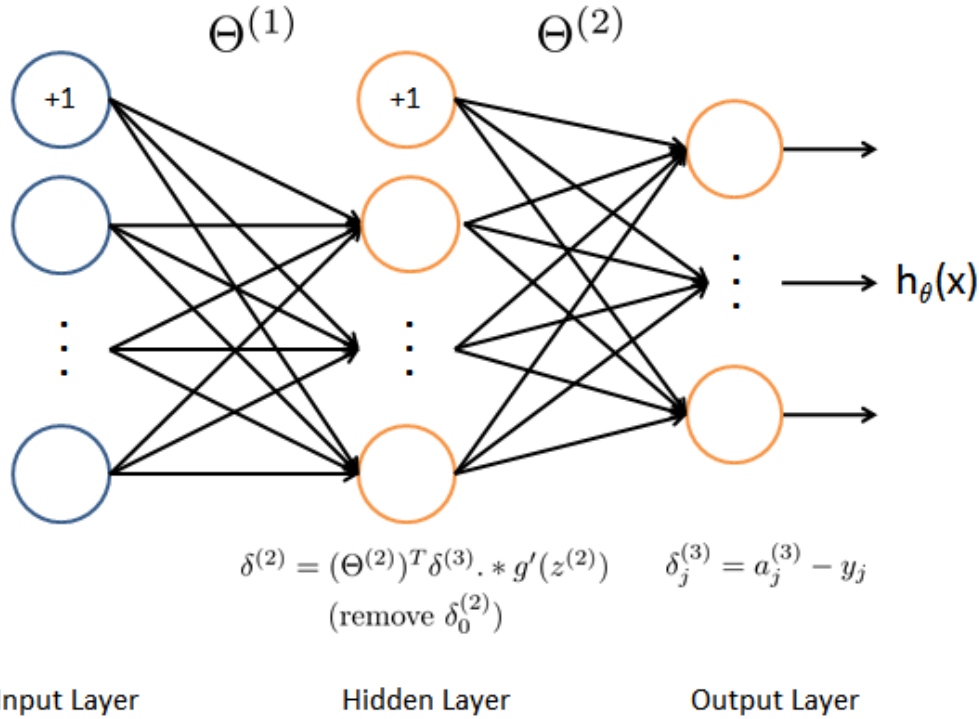
```

```
# Unroll parameters
```

```
initial_nn_params = np.concatenate([initial_Theta1.ravel(), initial_Theta2.ravel()], a
```

```
Initializing Neural Network Parameters ...
```

2.4 Backpropagation



Now, you will implement the backpropagation algorithm. Recall that the intuition behind the backpropagation algorithm is as follows. Given a training example $(x^{(t)}, y^{(t)})$, we will first run a “forward pass” to compute all the activations throughout the network, including the output value of the hypothesis $h_{\theta}(x)$. Then, for each node j in layer l , we would like to compute an “error term” $\delta_j^{(l)}$ that measures how much that node was “responsible” for any errors in our output.

For an output node, we can directly measure the difference between the network’s activation and the true target value, and use that to define $\delta_j^{(3)}$ (since layer 3 is the output layer). For the hidden units, you will compute $\delta_j^{(l)}$ based on a weighted average of the error terms of the nodes in layer $(l + 1)$. In detail, here is the backpropagation algorithm (also depicted in the figure above). You should implement steps 1 to 4 in a loop that processes one example at a time. Concretely, you should implement a for-loop for t in range(m) and place steps 1-4 below inside the for-loop, with the t^{th} iteration performing the calculation on the t^{th} training example $(x^{(t)}, y^{(t)})$. Step 5 will divide the accumulated gradients by m to obtain the gradients for the neural network cost function.

1. Set the input layer’s values $(a^{(1)})$ to the t^{th} training example $x^{(t)}$. Perform a feedforward pass, computing the activations $(z^{(2)}, a^{(2)}, z^{(3)}, a^{(3)})$ for layers 2 and 3. Note that you need to add a +1 term to ensure that the vectors of activations for layers $a^{(1)}$ and $a^{(2)}$ also include the bias unit. In numpy, if a is a column matrix, adding one corresponds to `a_1 = np.concatenate([np.ones((m, 1)), a_1], axis=1)`.
2. For each output unit k in layer 3 (the output layer), set

$$\delta_k^{(3)} = (a_k^{(3)} - y_k)$$

where $y_k \in \{0, 1\}$ indicates whether the current training example belongs to class k ($y_k = 1$),

or if it belongs to a different class ($y_k = 0$). You may find logical arrays helpful for this task (explained in the previous programming exercise).

- For the hidden layer $l = 2$, set

$$\delta^{(2)} = \left(\Theta^{(2)}\right)^T \delta^{(3)} * g' \left(z^{(2)}\right)$$

Note that the symbol $*$ performs element wise multiplication in numpy.

- Accumulate the gradient from this example using the following formula. Note that you should skip or remove $\delta_0^{(2)}$. In numpy, removing $\delta_0^{(2)}$ corresponds to `delta_2 = delta_2[1:]`.

$$\Delta^{(l)} = \Delta^{(l)} + \delta^{(l+1)}(a^{(l)})^{(T)}$$

- Obtain the (unregularized) gradient for the neural network cost function by dividing the accumulated gradients by $\frac{1}{m}$:

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \Theta_{ij}^{(l)}} J(\Theta) = D_{ij}^{(l)} = \frac{1}{m} \Delta_{ij}^{(l)}$$

Python/Numpy tip: You should implement the backpropagation algorithm only after you have successfully completed the feedforward and cost functions. While implementing the backpropagation algorithm, it is often useful to use the `shape` function to print out the shapes of the variables you are working with if you run into dimension mismatch errors.

Section ??.

Note: If the iterative solution provided above is proving to be difficult to implement, try implementing the vectorized approach which is easier to implement in the opinion of the moderators of this course. You can find the tutorial for the vectorized approach [here](#).

After you have implemented the backpropagation algorithm, we will proceed to run gradient checking on your implementation. The gradient check will allow you to increase your confidence that your code is computing the gradients correctly.

1.5.1 2.4 Gradient checking

In your neural network, you are minimizing the cost function $J(\Theta)$. To perform gradient checking on your parameters, you can imagine “unrolling” the parameters $\Theta^{(1)}$, $\Theta^{(2)}$ into a long vector θ . By doing so, you can think of the cost function being $J(\theta)$ instead and use the following gradient checking procedure.

Suppose you have a function $f_i(\theta)$ that purportedly computes $\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta_i} J(\theta)$; you’d like to check if f_i is outputting correct derivative values.

$$\text{Let } \theta^{(i+)} = \theta + \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ \epsilon \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad \theta^{(i-)} = \theta - \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ \epsilon \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

So, $\theta^{(i+)}$ is the same as θ , except its i^{th} element has been incremented by ϵ . Similarly, $\theta^{(i-)}$ is the corresponding vector with the i^{th} element decreased by ϵ . You can now numerically verify $f_i(\theta)$'s correctness by checking, for each i , that:

$$f_i(\theta) \approx \frac{J(\theta^{(i+)}) - J(\theta^{(i-)})}{2\epsilon}$$

The degree to which these two values should approximate each other will depend on the details of J . But assuming $\epsilon = 10^{-4}$, you'll usually find that the left- and right-hand sides of the above will agree to at least 4 significant digits (and often many more).

We have implemented the function to compute the numerical gradient for you in `computeNumericalGradient` (within the file `utils.py`). While you are not required to modify the file, we highly encourage you to take a look at the code to understand how it works.

In the next cell we will run the provided function `checkNNGradients` which will create a small neural network and dataset that will be used for checking your gradients. If your backpropagation implementation is correct, you should see a relative difference that is less than $1e-9$.

Practical Tip: When performing gradient checking, it is much more efficient to use a small neural network with a relatively small number of input units and hidden units, thus having a relatively small number of parameters. Each dimension of θ requires two evaluations of the cost function and this can be expensive. In the function `checkNNGradients`, our code creates a small random model and dataset which is used with `computeNumericalGradient` for gradient checking. Furthermore, after you are confident that your gradient computations are correct, you should turn off gradient checking before running your learning algorithm.

Practical Tip: Gradient checking works for any function where you are computing the cost and the gradient. Concretely, you can use the same `computeNumericalGradient` function to check if your gradient implementations for the other exercises are correct too (e.g., logistic regression's cost function).

In [21]: `utils.checkNNGradients(nnCostFunction)`

```
[[-9.27825235e-03 -9.27825236e-03]
 [-3.04978709e-06 -3.04978914e-06]
 [-1.75060084e-04 -1.75060082e-04]
 [-9.62660640e-05 -9.62660620e-05]
 [ 8.89911959e-03  8.89911960e-03]
 [ 1.42869450e-05  1.42869443e-05]
 [ 2.33146358e-04  2.33146357e-04]
 [ 1.17982666e-04  1.17982666e-04]
 [-8.36010761e-03 -8.36010762e-03]
 [-2.59383093e-05 -2.59383100e-05]
 [-2.87468729e-04 -2.87468729e-04]
 [-1.37149709e-04 -1.37149706e-04]
 [ 7.62813550e-03  7.62813551e-03]
 [ 3.69883257e-05  3.69883234e-05]
 [ 3.35320351e-04  3.35320347e-04]
 [ 1.53247082e-04  1.53247082e-04]
 [-6.74798369e-03 -6.74798370e-03]
 [-4.68759764e-05 -4.68759769e-05]
 [-3.76215583e-04 -3.76215587e-04]
```

```

[-1.66560294e-04 -1.66560294e-04]
[ 3.14544970e-01  3.14544970e-01]
[ 1.64090819e-01  1.64090819e-01]
[ 1.64567932e-01  1.64567932e-01]
[ 1.58339334e-01  1.58339334e-01]
[ 1.51127527e-01  1.51127527e-01]
[ 1.49568335e-01  1.49568335e-01]
[ 1.11056588e-01  1.11056588e-01]
[ 5.75736494e-02  5.75736493e-02]
[ 5.77867378e-02  5.77867378e-02]
[ 5.59235296e-02  5.59235296e-02]
[ 5.36967009e-02  5.36967009e-02]
[ 5.31542052e-02  5.31542052e-02]
[ 9.74006970e-02  9.74006970e-02]
[ 5.04575855e-02  5.04575855e-02]
[ 5.07530173e-02  5.07530173e-02]
[ 4.91620841e-02  4.91620841e-02]
[ 4.71456249e-02  4.71456249e-02]
[ 4.65597186e-02  4.65597186e-02]]

```

The above two columns you get should be very similar.
(Left-Your Numerical Gradient, Right-Analytical Gradient)

If your backpropagation implementation is correct, then
the relative difference will be small (less than $1e-9$).
Relative Difference: $2.41486e-11$

Once your cost function passes the gradient check for the (unregularized) neural network cost function, you should submit the neural network gradient function (backpropagation).

```

In [22]: grader[4] = nnCostFunction
         grader.grade()

```

Submitting Solutions | Programming Exercise neural-network-learning

Use token from last successful submission (saurabh.takle@gmail.com)? (Y/n): y

Part Name	Score	Feedback
-----	-----	-----
Feedforward and Cost Function	30 / 30	Nice work!
Regularized Cost Function	15 / 15	Nice work!
Sigmoid Gradient	5 / 5	Nice work!
Neural Network Gradient (Backpropagation)	40 / 40	Nice work!
Regularized Gradient	0 / 10	

	90 / 100	