

# Gradient descent

In the multivariate case:

$$\nabla_x f(x) = \left[ \frac{\partial f(x)}{\partial x_1}, \frac{\partial f(x)}{\partial x_2}, \dots \right]^T$$

$$f(x + \varepsilon) = f(x) + \varepsilon^T \nabla f(x) + O(\|\varepsilon\|^2)$$

$$\varepsilon = -\eta \nabla f(x)$$

$$f(x - \eta \nabla f(x)) \stackrel{\substack{\text{small scalar} > 0}}{=} f(x) - \underbrace{\eta \nabla f(x)^T \nabla f(x)}_{> 0} + O(\dots)$$

$$f(x - \eta \nabla f(x)) \lesssim f(x)$$

In ML, we have  $L(y^{(i)}, x^{(i)}, \theta) = L_i(\theta)$

We want to minimize  $L$  by changing  $\theta$

$$L(\theta) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n L_i(\theta)$$

$$\nabla_{\theta} L(\theta) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \nabla_{\theta} L_i(\theta)$$

$$\theta \leftarrow \theta - \eta \nabla_{\theta} L(\theta)$$

"Batch" gradient descent

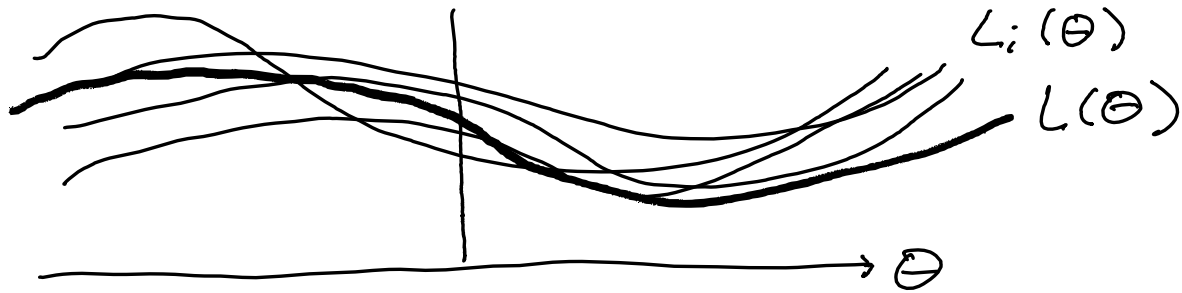
$$\theta \leftarrow \theta - \eta \nabla_{\theta} L_i(\theta)$$

$i \sim \text{uniform categorical}(n)$

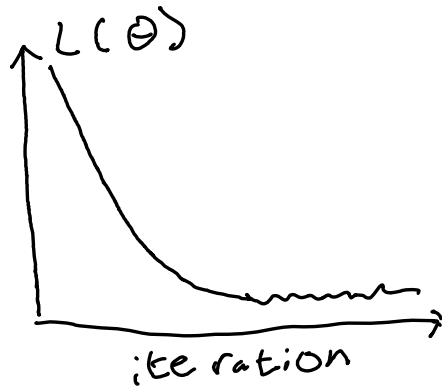
$$\mathbb{E}_i[\nabla_{\theta} L_i(\theta)] = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \nabla_{\theta} L_i(\theta)$$

Stochastic gradient descent (SGD)

In SGD, we are optimizing a different function at each iteration.



Progress can stall as we approach a minimum of  $L(\theta)$



One option: Use a "learning rate schedule"  $\rightarrow$  different  $\eta$  at each iteration  $t$ .

$$\eta(t) = \eta \quad (\text{constant})$$

$$\eta(t) = \eta_i \quad \text{if } t_i \leq t < t_{i+1} \quad (\text{piecewise})$$

$$\eta(t) = \eta_0 e^{-\lambda t} \quad (\text{exponential})$$

Another option: Use a minibatch.

Sample  $B$  examples randomly and use their average gradient.

$$\Theta \leftarrow \Theta - \eta \frac{1}{B} \sum_{i=1}^B \nabla_{\Theta} L_i(\Theta)$$

Note: SGD can be more efficient than BGD.  
(if  $\nabla_{\Theta} L_i$  is generally "aligned"  $\nabla_{\Theta} L(\Theta)$ )

Note: SGD can be noisy

Note: SGD is less parallelizable.

# Adaptive Gradient Methods

Why might it be a bad idea to use the same  $\eta$  for every parameter?

ex  $\hat{y} = w^T x$

$$L(y, \hat{y}) = \frac{1}{2} \|y - \hat{y}\|^2$$

$$\frac{dL}{d\hat{y}} = y - \hat{y}$$

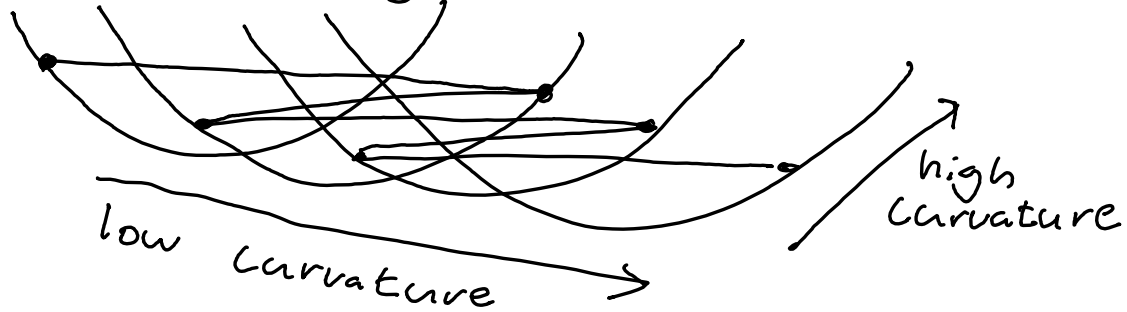
$$\frac{dL}{dw} = (y - \hat{y}) x$$

Imagine that  $|x_i| \gg |x_j|$

e.g.  $x_i \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma_i^2)$ ,  $x_j \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma_j^2)$ ,  $\sigma_i \gg \sigma_j$

Then we will often have  $|\frac{dL}{dw_i}| \gg |\frac{dL}{dw_j}|$

Descending in a valley:



To avoid divergence in "steep" dimensions, use a small  $\eta$ .  
But then progress is slow in "gradual" dimensions.

Idea: Use a different effective learning rate for each parameter based on the history of gradients for that parameters.

Simplest: Momentum

$$V_t \leftarrow \beta V_{t-1} + g_t$$

$V_t \in \mathbb{R}^d$        $\beta$  "momentum" hyperparameter,  $0 < \beta < 1$        $g_t$  gradient vector at times  $t$        $\nabla_{\theta} L(\theta) \in \mathbb{R}^d$

$$\theta_t \leftarrow \theta_{t-1} - \eta V_t$$

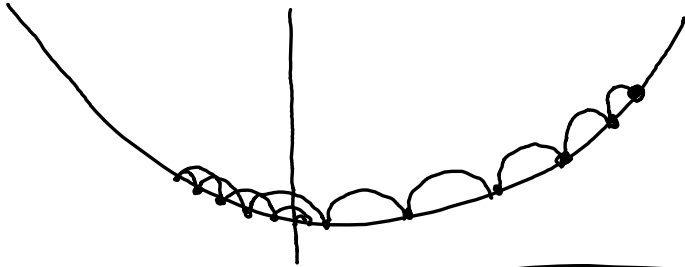
$\eta$  learning rate

$V_t$  will change more slowly than  $g_t$ . If  $g_t$  is consistent,  $V_t$  will grow in that direction.

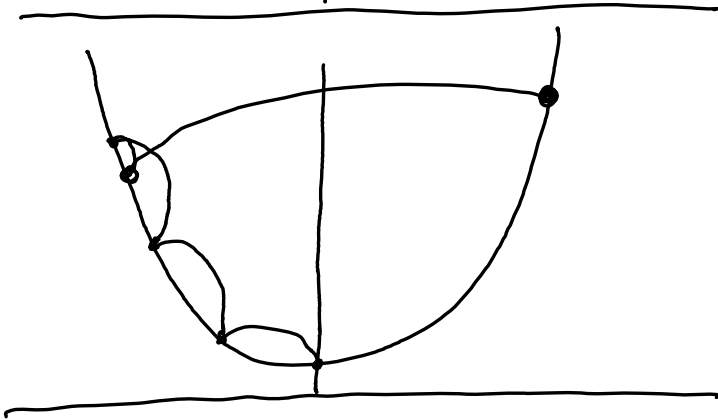
If  $g_t$  is inconsistent, it might "cancel out" changes.

$$V_t \leftarrow \beta V_{t-1} + g_t$$

(assume  $\beta$  is close to 1, 0.9 typical)



gradient points in the same direction  $\rightarrow$  take bigger steps.



gradient direction is inconsistent  $\rightarrow$  take smaller steps.



Adam:

$$v_t \leftarrow \beta_1 v_{t-1} + (1 - \beta_1) g_t \quad (\text{"first moment" estimate})$$

$$s_t \leftarrow \beta_2 s_{t-1} + (1 - \beta_2) g_t^2 \quad (\text{"second moment" estimate})$$

$$g_t' = \frac{v_t}{\sqrt{s_t} + \epsilon} \rightarrow \text{small constant}$$

$$\Theta_t \leftarrow \Theta_{t-1} - g_t'$$

$$v_1 = \beta_1 v_0^{\rightarrow 0} + (1 - \beta_1) g_1 = (1 - \beta_1) g_1$$

$$v_2 = \beta_1 v_1 + (1 - \beta_1) g_2 = \beta_1 (1 - \beta_1) g_1 + (1 - \beta_1) g_2$$

$$\text{total rescaling: } \beta_1 (1 - \beta_1) + (1 - \beta_1) = 1 - \beta_1^2$$

$$v_3 = \beta_1 (\beta_1 (1 - \beta_1) g_1 + (1 - \beta_1) g_2) + (1 - \beta_1) g_3$$

$$\text{total rescaling: } 1 - \beta_1^3$$

$$\text{Total gradient scale is } 1 - \beta_1^t$$

Typically,  $\beta_1$  and  $\beta_2$  are close to 1  
 $1 - \beta_1^t$  and  $1 - \beta_2^t$  will start near 0 and  
grow slowly. So  $V_t$  and  $S_t$  are "biased"  
towards 0.

To correct: Divide out  $1 - \beta_1^t$  and  $1 - \beta_2^t$

$$V_t \leftarrow \beta_1 V_{t-1} + (1 - \beta_1) g_t \quad \hat{V}_t = \frac{V_t}{1 - \beta_1^t}$$

$$S_t \leftarrow \beta_2 S_{t-1} + (1 - \beta_2) g_t^2 \quad \hat{S}_t = \frac{S_t}{1 - \beta_2^t}$$

$$g_t' = \frac{\eta \hat{V}_t}{\sqrt{\hat{S}_t} + \epsilon}$$

$$\Theta_t \leftarrow \Theta_{t-1} - g_t'$$

Adam rescales gradients so that you use (approximately) the average gradient divided by the average magnitude.

Hopefully helps us use the learning rate for all parameters and all problems!

$$\beta_1 = 0.9$$

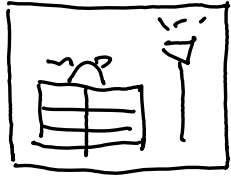
$$\beta_2 = 0.999$$

$$\eta = 0.001$$

$$\epsilon = 10^{-8}$$

Note: Have to store  $v_t$  and  $s_t \dots$

# Convolutional Neural Networks



Does this image  
contain a cat?

1. Translation invariance  
(respond similarly everywhere)
2. Locality  
(only consider a "small" region)

$$h = u + Wx$$

$$h_m = u_m + \sum_n W_{m,n} x_n$$

$$H_{ij} = U_{ij} + \sum_n \sum_e W_{ij,k,e} x_{k,e}$$

$\leftarrow$   
 $ij=m, k \cdot e=n$   
 $\leftarrow$

$$H_{ij} = U_{ij} + \sum_a \sum_b V_{i,j,a,b} x_{i+a,j+b}$$

$\leftarrow$  can be  
 positive or negative  
 to go over the image

Translation invariance:

$$H_{ij} = U + \sum_a \sum_b V_{a,b} x_{i+a,j+b}$$

Locality:

$$H_{ij} = U + \sum_{a=-\Delta}^{\Delta} \sum_{b=-\Delta}^{\Delta} \overbrace{V_{a,b}}^{\substack{\text{"kernel"} \\ \text{"filter"}}} x_{i+a,j+b}$$

How much  
 $U$  is present  
 at  $i,j$ ?

Convolution!