Vectorized backprop

September 13, 2017

Contents

1 Notations

1. n_x - dimensionality of input data
2. superscript $[l]$ denotes l-th layer (input layer is $[0]$, output layer - N)
3. superscript (i) denotes i-th example
4. $n^{[l]}$ - nb of neurons in the l-th layer, $n^{[0]} = n_x$
5. m - batch size
6. X - (n_x, m)-matrix of input data. each row is a single training example
7. $Z^{[l]} = (z_k^{[l](i)})_{i,k}$: dimension - $(n^{[l]}, m)$ (different examples are stacked as columns). This is the matrix of inputs of the l-th layer. $z_k^{[l](i)}$ is the input of the k-th neuron in the l-th layer for the i-th training example
8. $A^{[l]} = (a_k^{[l](i)})_{i,k}$: dimension - $(n^{[l]}, m)$ (different examples are stacked as columns). This the matrix of output activations of the l-th layer. $a_k^{[l](i)}$ is the output of the k-th neuron in the l-th layer for the i-th training example
9. $W^{[l]}$: dimension - $(n^{[l]}, n^{[l-1]})$-matrix. The weights between the $l-1$-st and the l-th layers. $W_{(i,j)}^{[l]}$ is the weight of the arc from the j-th neuron in the $l-1$-st layer to the i-the neuron in the l-th layer
10. N - output layer.
11. L - loss function, $L^{(i)}$ is the loss function for i-th example
12. $J = \frac{1}{m}\sum_{i=1}^{m} L^{(i)}$ - batch loss function
13. $\bar{L}$ - $(1, m)$ vector of the $L^{(i)}$ (again different example are stacked as columns)
14. $\delta^{[l]} = dZ^{[l]} = \left[d\bar{L}/dZ^{[l]}\right]^T$. Dimension - $(n^{[l]}, m)$ matrix. Partial derivative of the $L^{(i)}$'s wrt the $[l]$-th layer inputs $Z^{[l]}$.
15. $dA^{[l]} = \left[d\bar{L}/dA^{[l]}\right]^T$ - $(n^{[l]}, m)$. Dimension - $(n^{[l]}, m)$. Partial derivative of the $L^{(i)}$'s wrt the the $[l]$-th layer outputs $A^{[l]}$.
16. $db^{[l]} = \left[dJ/db^{[l]}\right]^T$. Dimension - $(n^{[l]}, 1)$. Partial derivative of the batch loss wrt the biases.
17. $dW^{[l]} = \left[dJ/dW^{[l]}\right]$. Dimension - $(n^{[l]}, n^{[l-1]})$. Partial derivative of the batch loss wrt the arc weights.
18. $g : R \to R$ - activation function

2 Loss and activation functions

Currently we will use the cross-entropy loss function:

$$L^{(i)} = -\sum_{k=1}^{n^{[N]}} y_k^{(i)} \log \hat{y}_k^{(i)}$$

In the binary case it simplifies to:

$$L^{(i)} = -y^{(i)} \log \hat{y}^{(i)} - (1 - y^{(i)}) \log(1 - \hat{y}^{(i)})$$

The total batch loss that is optimized is:

$$J = \frac{1}{m} \sum_{i=1}^{m} L^{(i)}$$

Sigmoid function:

1. Sigmoid:
$$\sigma(z) = \frac{1}{1 + \exp(-z)}, \;\; \sigma'(z) = \sigma(z)(1 - \sigma(z))$$
2. $\tanh$
$$\tanh(z) = \frac{\exp(z) - \exp(-z)}{\exp(z) + \exp(-z)}, \;\; \tanh'(z) = 1 - \tanh^2(z)$$
3. ReLU
$$r(z) = \max(0, z), \;\; r'(z) = I_{[0,\infty)}(z)$$
4. leaky ReLU
$$r(z) = \max(\epsilon z, z), \;\; r'(z) = I_{[0,\infty)}(z) + \epsilon I_{(-\infty,0)}(z)$$

3 Vectorized forward pass

The calculation is as follows:

Start: $X = A^{[0]}$

Recursion:

1. $Z^{[l]} = W^{[l]} A^{[l-1]} + b^{[l]}$ in dimensions: $(n^{[l]}, m) = (n^{[l]}, n^{[l-1]})(n^{[l-1]}, m) + (n^{[l]}, m)$ where $b^{[l]}$ is broadcasted from $(n^{[l]}, 1)$ to $(n^{[l]}, m)$

2. $A^{[l]} = g(Z^{[l]})$ where g is applied component-wise

4 Vectorized backward pass

Remark: $\frac{dZ^{[l+1]}}{dA^{[l]}}$ is technically a $(n^{[l+1]} \cdot m, n^{[l]} \cdot m)$ with

$$\frac{dZ^{[l+1](k)_i}}{dA^{[l](s)_j}} = W^{[l+1]}(i, j)\delta_{ks}$$

so effectively we can keep only the diagonal $k = s$ elements and rearrange it in a $(n^{[l+1]}, n^{[l]})$ matrix:

$$\frac{dZ^{[l+1]}}{dA^{[l]}}(i, j) := W^{[l]}(i, j)$$

1. Derivative of the vectorized/stacked single losses $\bar{L}$ wrt to output activation $A^{[N]}$: Dimension - $(n^{[N]}, m)$ (often $(1, m)$) For the binary cross entropy loss:

$$(d\bar{L}/dA^{[N]})^T_{(i,j)} = dL^{(j)}/dA_i^{[N](j)} = -\frac{y^{(j)}}{a^{[N](j)}} + \frac{1 - y^{(j)}}{1 - a^{[N](j)}}$$

2. Derivative of the vectorized/stacked single losses $\bar{L}$ wrt $Z^{[l]}$: Notation - $\delta^{[l]}$: dimension - $(n^{[l]}, m)$

$$\delta^{[l]} = \left(\frac{d\bar{L}}{dZ^{[l]}}\right)^T$$

The chain rule:

$$\frac{d\bar{L}}{dZ^{[l]}} = \frac{d\bar{L}}{dZ^{[l+1]}} \frac{dZ^{[l+1]}}{dA^{[l]}} \frac{dA^{[l]}}{dZ^{[l]}}$$

and after transposing and reducing the last multiplication with a diagonal matrix to componentwise multiplication with a broadcasted vector we get

$$\left(\frac{d\bar{L}}{dZ^{[l]}}\right)^T = \delta^{[l]} = (W^{[l+1]})^T \cdot \delta^{[l+1]} \odot g'(Z^{[l]})$$

with dimensions

$$(n^{[l]}, m) = (n^{[l]}, n^{[l+1]}) \cdot (n^{[l+1]}, m) \odot (n^{[l]}, m)$$

3. Derivative of the vectorized/stacked single losses $\bar{L}$ wrt $A^{[l]}$: Notation - $dA^{[l]}$: dimension - $(n^{[l]}, m)$

$$dA^{[l]} = \left(\frac{d\bar{L}}{dA^{[l]}}\right)^T$$

The chain rule:

$$\frac{d\bar{L}}{dZ^{[l]}} = \frac{d\bar{L}}{dA^{[l]}} \frac{dA^{[l]}}{dZ^{[l]}}$$

and after transposing and reducing the last multiplication with a diagonal matrix to componentwise multiplication with a broadcasted vector we get

$$\delta^{[l]} = \left(\frac{d\bar{L}}{dA^{[l]}}\right)^T \odot g'(Z^{[l]}) = dA^{[l]} \odot g'(Z^{[l]})$$

with dimensions

$$(n^{[l]}, m) = (n^{[l]}, m) \odot (n^{[l]}, m)$$

4. Derivative of the batch loss J wrt $b^{[l]}$: Notation - $db^{[l]}$: dimension - $(n^{[l]}, 1)$

$$db^{[l]} = \left(\frac{dJ}{db^{[l]})}\right)^T$$

The chain rule:

$$\frac{dJ}{db^{[l]}} = \frac{dJ}{dZ^{[l]}} \frac{dZ^{[l]}}{db^{[l]}}$$

and after transposing and noting that the last term is the identity matrix we get:

$$db^{[l]} = \frac{1}{m} \sum_{i=1}^{m} \delta^{[l](i)} = \frac{1}{m} \text{np.sum}(\delta^{[l]}, \text{axis=1, keepdim=True})$$

with dimensions

$$(n^{[l]}, 1) = (n^{[l]}, 1) + (n^{[l]}, 1) + \dots$$

5. Derivative of the batch loss J wrt $W^{[l]}$: Notation - $dW^{[l]}$: Dimension - $(n^{[l]}, n^{[l-1]})$

$$dW^{[l]} = \frac{dJ}{dW^{[l]}}$$

The chain rule:

$$\frac{dJ}{dW^{[l]}} = \frac{dJ}{dZ^{[l]}} \frac{dZ^{[l]}}{dW^{[l]}}$$

and hence:

$$\begin{aligned}(dW^{[l]})_{(i,j)} &= \frac{1}{m} \sum_{k=1}^{m} \sum s = 1^{n^{[l]}} \frac{dL^{(k)}}{dZ_s^{[l](k)}} \frac{dZ_s^{[l](k)}}{dW_{(i,j)}^{[l]}} \\ &= \frac{1}{m} \sum_{k=1}^{m} \sum_{s=1}^{n^{[l]}} \frac{dL^{(k)}}{dZ_s^{[l](k)}} \delta_{s,i} a_j^{[l-1](k)} \\ &= \frac{1}{m} \sum_{k=1}^{m} \delta_i^{[l](k)} a_j^{[l-1](k)} = \frac{1}{m} (\delta^{[l]} (A^{[l-1]})^T)_{i,j}\end{aligned}$$

that is

$$dW^{[l]} = \frac{1}{m} \delta^{[l]} (A^{[l-1]})^T$$

with dimensions

$$(n^{[l]}, n^{[l-1]}) = (n^{[l]}, m) \cdot (m, n^{[l-1]})$$

backprop:

1. Compute $dA^{[N]}$ - transposed derivative of stacked loss wrt output layer. Dimension - $(n^{[N]}, m)$

2. Compute $dZ^{[N]} = dA^{[N]} \odot g'(Z^{[N]})$ - transposed derivative of stacked loss wrt input of the last layer layer. Dimension - $(n^{[N]}, m)$

3. Recursion1: $dZ^{[l]} = (W^{[l+1]})^T dZ^{[l+1]} \odot g'(Z^{[l]})$. Dimension - $(n^{[l]}, m)$

4. Produce layer $[l]$ derivatives wrt to the batch loss J:

5. $db^{[l]} = \frac{1}{m}$np.sum($dZ^{[l]}$, axis=1, keepdim=True). Dimension - $(n^{[l]}, 1)$

6. $dW^{[l]} = \frac{1}{m} dZ^{[l]} (A^{[l-1]})^T$. Dimension - $(n^{[l]}, m) \cdot (m, n^{[l-1]}) = (n^{[l]}, n^{[l-1]})$

5 Alternative vectorized backward pass

This is based on the following slightly different but equivalent recursive calculation: 1A. As before we have $dZ^{[l]} = dA^{[l]} \odot g'(Z^{[l]})$

2A. Derivative of the vectorized/stacked single losses $\bar{L}$ wrt $A^{[l]}$: Notation - $dA^{[l]}$: dimension - $(n^{[l]}, m)$

$$dA^{[l]} = \left(\frac{d\bar{L}}{dA^{[l]}} \right)^T$$

The chain rule:

$$\frac{d\bar{L}}{dA^{[l]}} = \frac{d\bar{L}}{dZ^{[l+1]}} \frac{dZ^{[l+1]}}{dA^{[l]}}$$

and after transposing and recalling the remark in the beginning of the previos section stating that

$$\frac{dZ^{[l+1]}}{dA^{[l]}}(i,j) := W^{[l]}(i,j)$$

we get

$$dA^{[l]} = ((W^{[l+1]})^T \cdot dZ^{[l+1]})$$

with dimensions

$$(n^{[l]}, m) = (n^{[l]}, n^{[l+1]}) \cdot (n^{[l+1]}, m)$$

3A. Finally the expressions for $dW^{[l]}$ and $db^{[l]}$ remain as in the previous section
The corresponding backprop algorithm is:
backprop A:

1. Compute $dA^{[N]}$ - transposed derivative of stacked loss wrt output layer. Dimension - $(n^{[N]}, m)$

2. Compute $(dZ^{[N]})^T = dA^{[N]} \odot g'(Z^{[N]})$ - transposed derivative of stacked loss wrt input of the last layer layer. Dimension - $(n^{[N]}, m)$

3. Backwards recursion

   (a) $dA^{[l]} = ((W^{[l+1]})^T \cdot dZ^{[l+1]})$. Dimension - $(n^{[l]}, m)$

   (b) $dZ^{[l]} = dA^{[l]} \odot g'(Z^{[l]})$. Dimension - $(n^{[l]}, m)$

4. Produce layer $[l]$ derivatives wrt to the batch loss J:

   (a) . $db^{[l]} = \frac{1}{m}$np.sum($dZ^{[l]}$, axis=1, keepdim=True). Dimension - $(n^{[l]}, 1)$

   (b) $dW^{[l]} = \frac{1}{m} dZ^{[l]} (A^{[l-1]})^T$. Dimension - $(n^{[l]}, m) \cdot (m, n^{[l-1]}) = (n^{[l]}, n^{[l-1]})$

6 Optimization

6.1 Initialization

Initialization helps speed up the learning process and avoid vanishing/exploding gradients

6.1.1 Normalization

To speed-up learning normalize the feature matrix X:

$$\mu := \frac{1}{m} \sum_{i=1}^{m} X^{(i)} = \frac{1}{m}\text{np.sum}(X, \text{axis=1, keepdim=True})$$
$$X := X - \mu$$
$$\sigma^2 := \frac{1}{m} \sum_{i=1}^{m} X^{(i)} \odot X^{(i)} = \frac{1}{m}\text{np.sum}(X \odot X, \text{axis=1, keepdim=True})$$
$$X := X/\sigma^2$$

6.1.2 Xavier/He/Bengio Initialization

To avoid vanishing/exploding gradients one should initialize the weights should be initialized in such a manner that the fan-in into a neuron should have variance 1. The fan-in inti a neuron in the l-th layer has $n^{[l-1]}$ components. Therefore the Xavier initialization is (for $\tanh$ or sigmoid activations)

$$W^[l] = \text{np.random.randn}((n^{[l]}, n^{[l-1]})) * \text{ np.sqrt}(1/n^{[l-1]})$$

According to He et al (2015) for ReLU layers it is better to use

$$W^[l] = \text{np.random.randn}((n^{[l]}, n^{[l-1]})) * \text{ np.sqrt}(2/n^{[l-1]})$$

The Bengio Intialization:

$$W^[l] = \text{np.random.randn}((n^{[l]}, n^{[l-1]})) * \text{ np.sqrt}(2/(n^{[l-1]} + n^{[l]}))$$

6.2 Basic (full batch) gradient descent

The learning rate is α. We have m training examples and the batch loss function is $J = \frac{1}{m}\sum_{i=1}^{m} L^{(i)}$ where $L^{(i)}$ is the loss function for the i-th example. The gradients of J wrt to W and b are denoted by dW and db The standard full batch gradient descent update of weights is:

$$W^{[l]} := W^{[l]} - \alpha dW^{[l]}$$
$$b^{[l]} := b^{[l]} - \alpha db^{[l]}$$

7 Regularization

7.1 L2/L1

The total batch loss without regularization is:

$$J = \frac{1}{m}\sum_{i=1}^{m} L^{(i)}$$

For the L2 regularization the objective objective function is modified as follows:

$$J^{L2} = J + \frac{\lambda}{2m}\sum_{k=1}^{L} ||W^{[k]}||_F^2 = \frac{1}{m}\sum_{i=1}^{m} L^{(i)} + \frac{\lambda}{2m}\sum_{k=1}^{L} ||W^{[k]}||_F^2$$

where the squared Frobenius matrix norm is

$$||W^{[k]}||_F^2 = \sum_{i=1}^{n^{[k-1]}}\sum_{j=1}^{n^{[k]}}(W_{ij}^{[k]})^2$$

The gradient is then:

$$dW^{[l]} := dJ^{L2}/dW^{[l]} = dJ/dW^{[l]} + \frac{\lambda}{m}W^{[l]}$$

and the update:

$$W^{[l]} := W^{[l]} - \alpha dW^{[l]} = (1 - \frac{\alpha\lambda}{m})W^{[l]} - \alpha dJ/dW^{[l]}$$

which is a minor modification of the basic un-regularized backprop update

7.2 Dropout

Dropout regularizations means that at a training time for each training example some neurons are turned off randomly. More specifically: for each hidden layer l one sets a probability $p^{[l]}$ such that during training each neuron in layer l is kept with probability $p^{[l]}$.

Implementation:

1. During forward pass:
   (a) for each layer l with output activation $A^{[l]}$ define a matrix $D^{[l]}$ with uniformly distributed element in $[0, 1]$ and then set $D^{[l]} = (D^{[l]} < p^{[l]})$ (or set $D^{[l]}$ to have iid Bernoulli elements with probability $p^{(l)}$).
   (b) Then just zero out $A^{[l]}$ by setting it to $A^{[l]} = A^{[l]} \odot D^{[l]}$
   (c) ... and scale it up to have the same expected fan-output $A^{[l]} = A^{[l]}/p^{[l]}$
2. During backward pass: When generating the $dA^{[l]}$ via $dA^{[l]} = ((W^{[l+1]})^T \cdot dZ^{[l+1]})$ apply the same mask, that is $dA^{[l]} = dA^{[l]} \odot D^{[l]}$ and scale $dA^{[l]} = dA^{[l]}/p^{[l]}$

Do not apply dropout at test time or in production!

7.3 Early stopping