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Setting up your
optimization problem

Gradient Checking

Gradient check for a neural network

Take $W^{[1]}, b^{[1]}, \dots, W^{[L]}, b^{[L]}$ and reshape into a big vector θ .

concatenate

$$J(w^{[1]}, b^{[1]}, \dots, w^{[L]}, b^{[L]}) = J(\theta)$$

Take $dW^{[1]}, db^{[1]}, \dots, dW^{[L]}, db^{[L]}$ and reshape into a big vector $d\theta$.

concatenate

Is $d\theta$ the gradient of $J(\theta)$?

Gradient checking (Grad check)

$$J(\theta) = J(\theta_1, \theta_2, \theta_3, \dots)$$

for each i :

$$\rightarrow \underline{d\theta_{\text{approx}}[i]} = \frac{J(\theta_1, \theta_2, \dots, \overset{\text{nudge}}{\theta_i + \epsilon}, \dots) - J(\theta_1, \theta_2, \dots, \theta_i - \epsilon, \dots)}{2\epsilon}$$

approximately equal to $\approx \underline{d\theta[i]} = \frac{\partial J}{\partial \theta_i}$ | $d\theta_{\text{approx}} \approx d\theta$

Checks

$$\rightarrow \frac{\|d\theta_{\text{approx}} - d\theta\|_2}{\|d\theta_{\text{approx}}\|_2 + \|d\theta\|_2}$$

Euclidean distance

$\epsilon = 10^{-7}$

And the row for the denominator is just in case any of these vectors are really small or really large, the denominator turns this formula into a ratio.

$$\approx \frac{10^{-7}}{10^{-5}} - \text{great!} \leftarrow$$

$$\rightarrow 10^{-3} - \text{worry.} \leftarrow$$



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implementation notes

Gradient checking implementation notes

- Don't use in training – only to debug

$$\frac{d\theta_{\text{approx}}[\vec{i}]}{\uparrow \uparrow} \longleftrightarrow \frac{d\theta[\vec{i}]}{\uparrow}$$

- If algorithm fails grad check, look at components to try to identify bug.

$$\frac{db^{[L]}}{\uparrow} \quad \frac{dW^{[L]}}{\uparrow}$$

- Remember regularization.

$$\underline{J(\theta)} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_i \ell(y^{(i)}, \hat{y}^{(i)}) + \frac{\lambda}{2n} \sum_l \|W^{[l]}\|_F^2$$

$d\theta = \text{gradient of } J \text{ wrt. } \theta$

- Doesn't work with dropout.

$$\underline{J} \quad \underline{\text{keep-prob} = 1.0}$$

- Run at random initialization; perhaps again after some training.

$$\underline{W, b \approx 0}$$