

Hand-in 2

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PART I: Derivative

When implementing the neural network, we apply the following loss function,

$$L(z) = - \sum_{i=1}^k y_i \ln(\text{softmax}(z)_i).$$

Let $y_j = 1$ be the correct label and $y_i = 0$ for $i \neq j$, then the loss function can be rewritten as,

$$L(z) = - \ln(\text{softmax}(z)_j).$$

In this section, we determine the derivative of the loss function with respect to all entries of z : $\frac{\partial L}{\partial z_i}$. We determine the derivative by direct calculation.

$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial z_i} = \frac{\partial}{\partial z_i} \left[- \ln \left(\frac{e^{z_j}}{\sum_{a=1}^k e^{z_a}} \right) \right]$$

Applying the chain rule and quotient rule, we find,

$$\begin{aligned} &= - \frac{\sum_{a=1}^k e^{z_a}}{e^{z_j}} \cdot \frac{\delta_{ij} e^{z_j} \left(\sum_{a=1}^k e^{z_a} \right) - e^{z_j} \left(\sum_{a=1}^k \delta_{ia} e^{z_a} \right)}{\left(\sum_{a=1}^k e^{z_a} \right)^2} \\ &= - \frac{\sum_{a=1}^k e^{z_a}}{e^{z_j}} \cdot \frac{\delta_{ij} e^{z_j} \left(\sum_{a=1}^k e^{z_a} \right) - e^{z_j} e^{z_i}}{\left(\sum_{a=1}^k e^{z_a} \right)^2} \\ &= -\delta_{ij} + \frac{e^{z_i}}{\sum_{a=1}^k e^{z_a}} \\ &= -\delta_{ij} + \text{softmax}(z_i). \end{aligned}$$

In total, the derivative is given by the simple expression, $\frac{\partial L}{\partial z_i} = -\delta_{ij} + \text{softmax}(z_i)$.