

For softmax layer

$$(z_1, \dots, z_k) \Rightarrow (a_1, \dots, a_k) = \left(\frac{e^{z_1}}{\sum_k e^{z_k}}, \dots, \frac{e^{z_k}}{\sum_k e^{z_k}} \right)$$

where (z_1, \dots, z_k) are input value to k nodes in final layer

①. for binary outcome without hidden layer, $k=2$

The probability of i th input been put in to 1st category is

$$P_{1i} = \frac{e^{z_{1i}}}{e^{z_{1i}} + e^{z_{2i}}} = \frac{1}{1 + e^{z_{2i} - z_{1i}}} = \frac{1}{1 + e^{-(z_{1i} - z_{2i})}}$$

$P_{2i} = 1 - P_{1i}$, which is exactly logistic regression

②. for categorical outcome ($k > 2$)

$$\text{consider } \ln P(Y_i=1) = z_{1i} - \ln(m)$$

$$\ln P(Y_i=2) = z_{2i} - \ln(m)$$

\vdots

$$\ln P(Y_i=k) = z_{ki} - \ln(m)$$

$$\Rightarrow P(Y_i=1) = e^{z_{1i}} \cdot \frac{1}{m}$$

\vdots

$$P(Y_i=k) = e^{z_{ki}} \cdot \frac{1}{m}$$

$$\therefore \sum_{i=1}^k P(Y_i=i) = 1 \Rightarrow \frac{1}{m} \sum_{i=1}^k e^{z_{ki}} = 1 \Rightarrow m = \sum_{i=1}^k e^{z_{ki}}$$

$$\Rightarrow P(Y_i=n) = \frac{e^{z_n}}{\sum_{i=1}^k e^{z_k}}, \text{ which is softmax without any hidden layer}$$