

Deriving the Gradient Descent Update rule

How does Taylor series help us arrive at the right answer?

1. For ease of notation, let $\Delta\theta = u$
2. Then from Taylor series, we have:
 - a. $L(\theta + \eta u) = L(\theta) + \eta * u^T \nabla_{\theta} L(\theta)$
 - b. Rearranging: $L(\theta + \eta u) - L(\theta) = \eta * u^T \nabla_{\theta} L(\theta)$
 - c. Note, that the move ηu would only be favourable if
 - i. $L(\theta + \eta u) - L(\theta) < 0$ (i.e. if the new loss is less than the previous loss)
 - ii. This implies $u^T \nabla_{\theta} L(\theta) < 0$
 - d. Now we have $u^T \nabla_{\theta} L(\theta) < 0$
 - i. Let β be the angle between u and $\nabla_{\theta} L(\theta)$, then we know that,
 - ii. $-1 \leq \cos(\beta) = \frac{u^T \nabla_{\theta} L(\theta)}{\|u\| * \|\nabla_{\theta} L(\theta)\|} \leq 1$
 - iii. Multiply throughout by $k = \|u\| * \|\nabla_{\theta} L(\theta)\|$
 - iv. This gives us $-k \leq u^T \nabla_{\theta} L(\theta) \leq k$
 - e. Thus, $L(\theta + \eta u) - L(\theta) = u^T \nabla_{\theta} L(\theta) = k * \cos(\beta)$ will be most negative when $\cos(\beta) = -1$, i.e. when β is 180°
3. Gradient Descent Rule
 - a. The direction u that we intend to move in should be at 180° w.r.t, the gradient
 - b. In other words, move in a direction opposite to the gradient
4. Parameter Update Rule
 - a. $w_{t+1} = w_t - \eta \Delta w_t$
 - b. $b_{t+1} = b_t + \eta \Delta b_t$
 - c. Where $\Delta w_t = \frac{\partial L(w, b)}{\partial w}$ at $w = w_t$, $b = b_t$
 - d. Where $\Delta b_t = \frac{\partial L(w, b)}{\partial b}$ at $w = w_t$, $b = b_t$