

Elective Course

Course Code: CS4103

Autumn 2025-26



## Lecture #42

# Artificial Intelligence for Data Science

Week-12:

MACHINE LEARNING (Part X)

Neural Network Learning

Course Instructor:

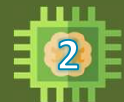
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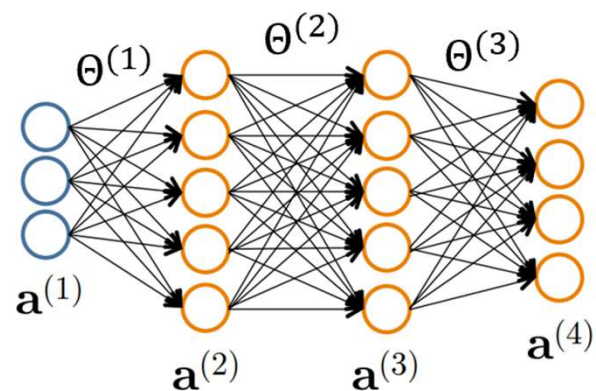
## Forward Propagation



- Given one labeled training instance  $(\mathbf{x}, y)$ :

Forward Propagation

- $\mathbf{a}^{(1)} = \mathbf{x}$
- $\mathbf{z}^{(2)} = \Theta^{(1)} \mathbf{a}^{(1)}$
- $\mathbf{a}^{(2)} = g(\mathbf{z}^{(2)})$  [add  $a_0^{(2)}$ ]
- $\mathbf{z}^{(3)} = \Theta^{(2)} \mathbf{a}^{(2)}$
- $\mathbf{a}^{(3)} = g(\mathbf{z}^{(3)})$  [add  $a_0^{(3)}$ ]
- $\mathbf{z}^{(4)} = \Theta^{(3)} \mathbf{a}^{(3)}$
- $\mathbf{a}^{(4)} = h_{\Theta}(\mathbf{x}) = g(\mathbf{z}^{(4)})$



## Backpropagation Intuition: Gradient Computation



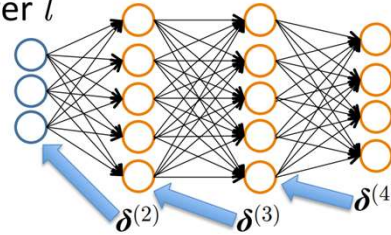
Let  $\delta_j^{(l)}$  = "error" of node  $j$  in layer  $l$

(#layers  $L = 4$ )

### Backpropagation

- $\delta^{(4)} = a^{(4)} - y$
- $\delta^{(3)} = (\Theta^{(3)})^T \delta^{(4)} \cdot g'(z^{(3)})$
- $\delta^{(2)} = (\Theta^{(2)})^T \delta^{(3)} \cdot g'(z^{(2)})$
- (No  $\delta^{(1)}$ )

Element-wise product  $\cdot^*$



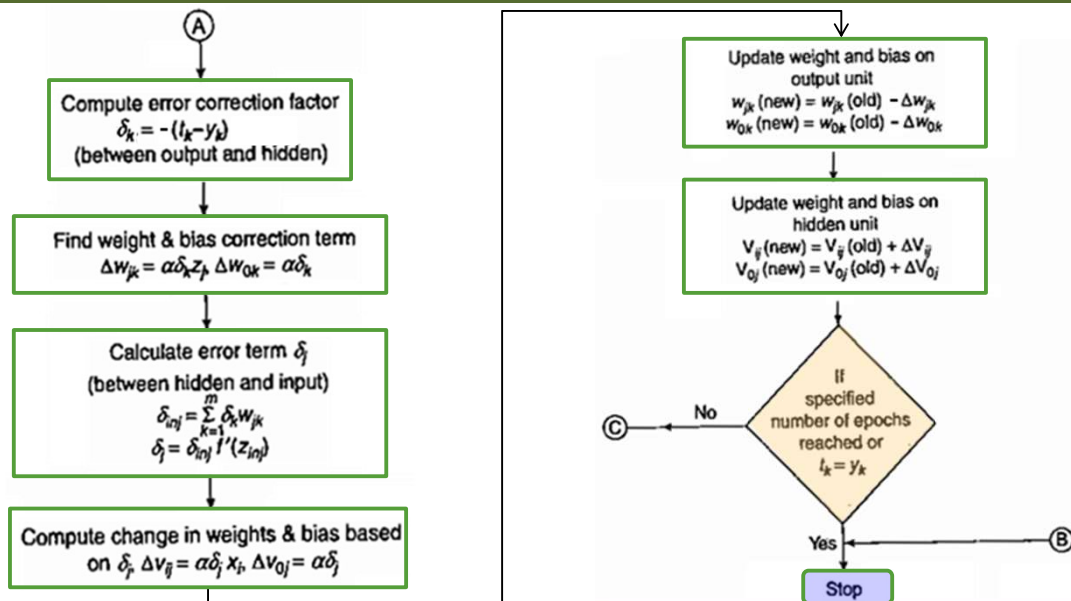
$$g'(z^{(3)}) = a^{(3)} \cdot^* (1 - a^{(3)})$$

$$g'(z^{(2)}) = a^{(2)} \cdot^* (1 - a^{(2)})$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \Theta_{ij}^{(l)}} J(\Theta) = a_j^{(l)} \delta_i^{(l+1)} \quad (\text{ignoring } \lambda; \text{ if } \lambda = 0)$$

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## BPN Training



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# Training a Neural Network via Gradient Descent with Backprop



Given: training set  $\{(\mathbf{x}_1, y_1), \dots, (\mathbf{x}_n, y_n)\}$

Initialize all  $\Theta^{(l)}$  randomly (NOT to 0!)

Loop // each iteration is called an epoch

Set  $\Delta_{ij}^{(l)} = 0 \quad \forall l, i, j$  (Used to accumulate gradient)

For each training instance  $(\mathbf{x}^{(s)}, y^{(s)})$ :

Set  $\mathbf{a}^{(1)} = \mathbf{x}^{(s)}$

Compute  $\{\mathbf{a}^{(2)}, \dots, \mathbf{a}^{(L)}\}$  via forward propagation

Compute  $\delta^{(L)} = \mathbf{a}^{(L)} - y^{(s)}$

Compute errors  $\{\delta^{(L-1)}, \dots, \delta^{(2)}\}$

Compute gradients  $\Delta_{ij}^{(l)} = \Delta_{ij}^{(l)} + a_j^{(l)} \delta_i^{(l+1)}$

Compute avg regularized gradient  $D_{ij}^{(l)} = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{n} \Delta_{ij}^{(l)} + \lambda \Theta_{ij}^{(l)} & \text{if } j \neq 0 \\ \frac{1}{n} \Delta_{ij}^{(l)} & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$

Update weights via gradient step  $\Theta_{ij}^{(l)} = \Theta_{ij}^{(l)} - \alpha D_{ij}^{(l)}$

Until weights converge or max #epochs is reached

Backpropagation

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# Optimizing the Neural Network



$$J(\Theta) = -\frac{1}{n} \left[ \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{k=1}^K y_{ik} \log(h_{\Theta}(\mathbf{x}_i))_k + (1 - y_{ik}) \log(1 - (h_{\Theta}(\mathbf{x}_i))_k) \right] + \frac{\lambda}{2n} \sum_{l=1}^{L-1} \sum_{i=1}^{s_l} \sum_{j=1}^{s_{l+1}} (\Theta_{ji}^{(l)})^2$$

Solve via:  $\min_{\Theta} J(\Theta)$

We can use Gradient Descent (GD)

Need code to compute:

- $J(\Theta)$
- $\frac{\partial}{\partial \Theta_{ij}^{(l)}} J(\Theta)$

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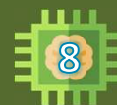
# Training a Neural Network



1. Randomly initialize weights
2. Implement forward propagation to get  $h_{\Theta}(\mathbf{x}_i)$  for any instance  $\mathbf{x}_i$
3. Implement code to compute cost function  $J(\Theta)$
4. Implement backprop to compute partial derivatives  $\frac{\partial}{\partial \Theta_{jk}^{(l)}} J(\Theta)$
5. Use gradient checking to compare  $\frac{\partial}{\partial \Theta_{jk}^{(l)}} J(\Theta)$  computed using backpropagation vs. the numerical gradient estimate.
  - Then, disable gradient checking code
6. Use gradient descent with backprop to fit the network

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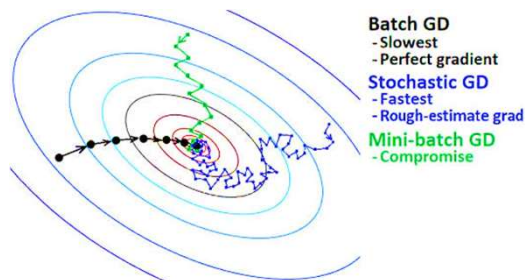
## Momentum Method



- SGD is a popular optimization strategy but it can be slow

- Momentum method accelerates learning, when:

- Facing high curvature
- Small but consistent gradients
- Noisy gradients



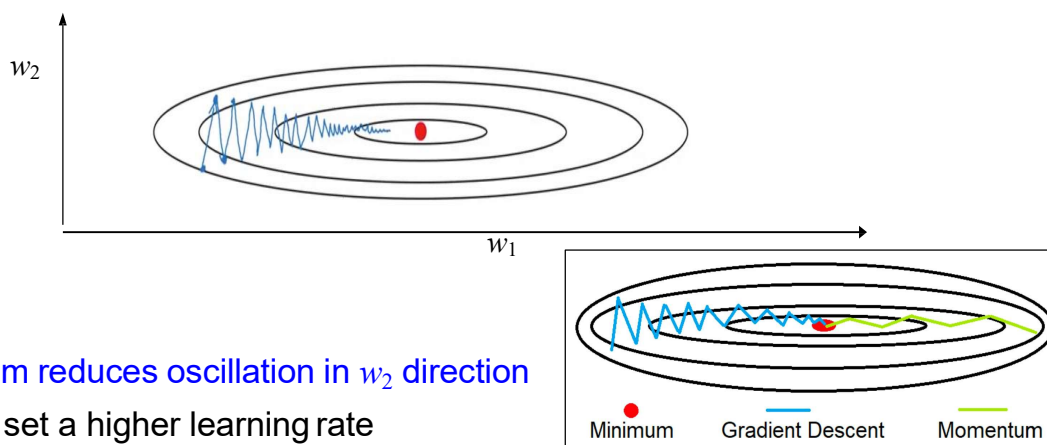
- It works by accumulating the moving average of past gradients and moves in that direction while exponentially decaying

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# Gradient Descent with Momentum



- Gradient descent with momentum converges faster than standard gradient descent
- Taking large steps in  $w_2$  direction and small steps in  $w_1$  direction slows down algorithm



- Momentum reduces oscillation in  $w_2$  direction
- Now can set a higher learning rate

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# Momentum Definition



- Introduce velocity variable  $\mathbf{v}$
- This is the direction and speed at which parameters move through parameter space
- Name momentum comes from physics and is mass times velocity
  - The momentum algorithm assumes unit mass
- A hyperparameter  $\delta \in [0,1)$  determines exponential decay of  $\mathbf{v}$

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# SGD Algorithm with Momentum



```

INPUT: cost function  $J(\theta)$ , learning rate  $\alpha$ , number of iterations:  $T$ ,
      batch size  $B$ , initial velocity:  $v$ 
INITIALIZE: random  $\theta$ 
FOR  $i = 1$  to  $T$  DO
  Split the training examples into  $B$  mini-batches of size  $b$ :
  FOR  $j = 1$  to number of mini-batches  $B$  DO
    Compute the gradient of  $J$  with respect to  $\theta$  for a mini-batch
    of training examples:
     $\text{gradient} = 1/b \times \nabla_{\theta} \Sigma(J(\theta, x^j, y^j))$ 
    Compute velocity update:  $v = \delta v - \alpha \times \text{gradient}$ 

    Update the parameters  $\theta$ :
     $\theta = \theta + v$ 
  END FOR
END FOR
OUTPUT:  $\theta$ 
  
```

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# Nesterov Momentum



- A variant to accelerate gradient, with update

$$v \leftarrow \delta v - \alpha \nabla_{\theta} \left[ \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n L(h_{\theta}(x^{(i)}; \theta + \delta v), y^{(i)}) \right],$$

$$\theta \leftarrow \theta + v,$$

- where parameters  $\delta$  and  $\alpha$  play a similar role as in the standard momentum method
- Difference between Nesterov and standard momentum is where gradient is evaluated.
- Nesterov gradient is evaluated **after the current velocity is applied.**

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# SGD with Nesterov Momentum



- A variant of the momentum algorithm
  - Nesterov's accelerated gradient method
- Applies a correction factor to standard method

```

INPUT: cost function  $J(\theta)$ , learning rate  $\alpha$ , number of iterations:  $T$ ,
      batch size  $B$ , initial velocity:  $v$ 
INITIALIZE: random  $\theta$ 
FOR  $i = 1$  to  $T$  DO
  Split the training examples into  $B$  mini-batches of size  $b$ :
  FOR  $j = 1$  to number of mini-batches  $B$  DO
    Apply interim update:  $\tilde{\theta} = \theta + \delta v$ 
    Compute the gradient of  $J$  with respect to  $\theta$  for a mini-batch
    of training examples:
    gradient =  $1/b \times \nabla_{\tilde{\theta}} \Sigma(J(\tilde{\theta}, x^j, y^j))$ 
    Compute velocity update:  $v = \delta v - \alpha \times \text{gradient}$ 
  Update the parameters  $\theta$ :
   $\theta = \theta + v$ 
  END FOR
END FOR
OUTPUT:  $\theta$ 

```

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# Adam: Adaptive Moments



## Adam Algorithm

**Require:** Step size  $\alpha$  (Suggested default: 0.001)

**Require:** Exponential decay rates for moment estimates,  $\rho_1$  and  $\rho_2$  in  $[0, 1)$ .  
(Suggested defaults: 0.9 and 0.999 respectively)

**Require:** Small constant  $\delta$  used for numerical stabilization. (Suggested default:  $10^{-8}$ )

**Require:** Initial parameters  $\theta$

Initialize 1st and 2nd moment variables  $s = \mathbf{0}$ ,  $r = \mathbf{0}$

Initialize time step  $t = 0$

**while** stopping criterion not met **do**

Sample a minibatch of  $m$  examples from the training set  $\{x^{(1)}, \dots, x^{(m)}\}$  with corresponding targets  $y^{(i)}$ .

Compute gradient:  $g \leftarrow \frac{1}{m} \nabla_{\theta} \sum_i L(f(x^{(i)}; \theta), y^{(i)})$

$t \leftarrow t + 1$

Update biased first moment estimate:  $s \leftarrow \rho_1 s + (1 - \rho_1)g$

Update biased second moment estimate:  $r \leftarrow \rho_2 r + (1 - \rho_2)g \odot g$

Correct bias in first moment:  $\hat{s} \leftarrow \frac{s}{1 - \rho_1^t}$

Correct bias in second moment:  $\hat{r} \leftarrow \frac{r}{1 - \rho_2^t}$

Compute update:  $\Delta\theta = -\alpha \frac{\hat{s}}{\sqrt{\hat{r} + \delta}}$  (operations applied element-wise)

Apply update:  $\theta \leftarrow \theta + \Delta\theta$

**end while**

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## Choosing the Right Optimizer



- We have discussed several methods of optimizing deep models by adapting the learning rate for each model parameter
- Which algorithm to choose?
  - No consensus
- Most popular algorithms actively in use:
  - SGD, SGD with momentum, RMSProp, RMSProp with momentum, AdaDelta and Adam
  - Choice depends on user's familiarity with algorithm

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## Neural Network: Advantages



- Handling complex relationships
- Feature extraction
- Scalability
- Processing unorganized data

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# Neural Network: Disadvantages



- Lack of transparency ("black box" nature)
- Computational expense
- Need for large datasets
- Overfitting
- Trial and error for architecture
- Data preparation

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## Questions?

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