

Machine Learning

Multivariate Chain Rule

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Function Composition

- An operation in which two functions, (in this case, f and g), combine to generate a new function, (h), such that:
 $h(x) = g(f(x))$.
- This means that function g is applied to **the output of** function f for x
- Example: $y = \sin(\text{sigmoid}(\text{sqrt}(x)))$
 - Given x :
 - Compute $s = \text{sqrt}(x)$
 - Then compute $t = \text{sigmoid}(s)$
 - Then compute $y = \sin(t)$

Recall Chain Rule

- A rule that makes our life easy when we compute the derivative of a composition of functions
- Example:
 - Let $y = \sin(\text{sigmoid}(\mathbf{sqrt}(x)))$
 - Compute $\partial y / \partial x$
- Rule

- $$\frac{d}{dx}[f(g(x))] = f'(g(x))g'(x)$$

$$\frac{d}{dx}[f(g(h(x)))] = f'(g(h(x)))g'(h(x))h'(x)$$

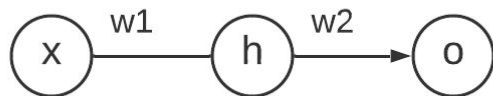
Example 1

- Compute $\partial y / \partial x$ where $y = (3x+5)^4$
- Use series of **symbols** and compute partial derivatives relative to them then multiply their results
 - $y = a^4$
 - $a = 3x+5$
- Compute $\partial y / \partial x = \partial y / \partial a * \partial a / \partial x$
- $\partial y / \partial a = 4a^3$
- $\partial a / \partial x = 3$
- $\partial y / \partial x = 4a^3 * 3 = 4(3x+5)^3 * 3 = 12 (3x+5)^3$

Example 2

- Compute $\partial y / \partial x$ where $y = 2x^3 + (3x+5)^4$
- The rule here just **add** the parts together
- $\partial / \partial x 2x^3 + \partial / \partial x (3x+5)^4$
- $6x^2 + 12 (3x+5)^3$

Example 3

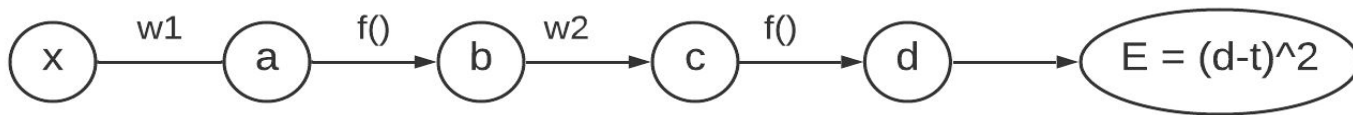


Assume h and o are followed by activation
 $f(a) = a^3$

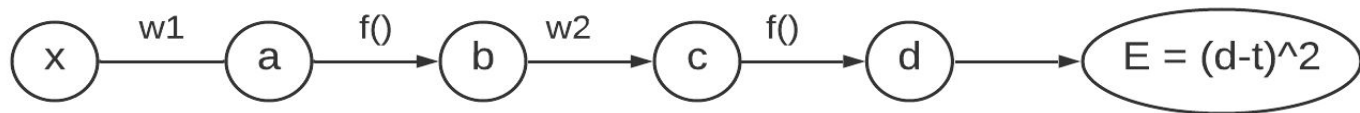
$E = (o-t)^2$
Compute $\partial E / \partial w1$

In other words, in the extended form:

- $a = w1 * x$
 - So h represents and b
- $b = f(a) = (w1 * x)^3$
- $c = w2 * b = w2 * (w1 * x)^3$ and so on



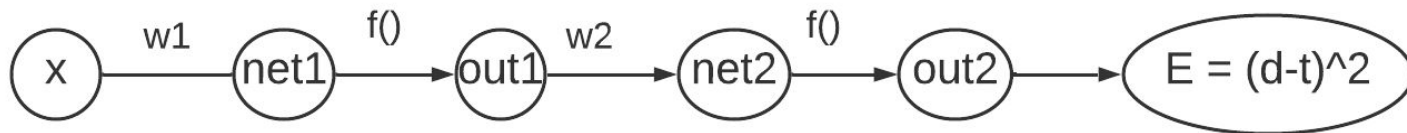
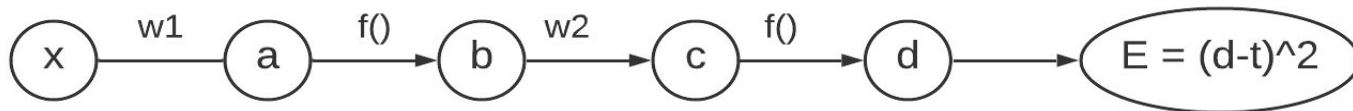
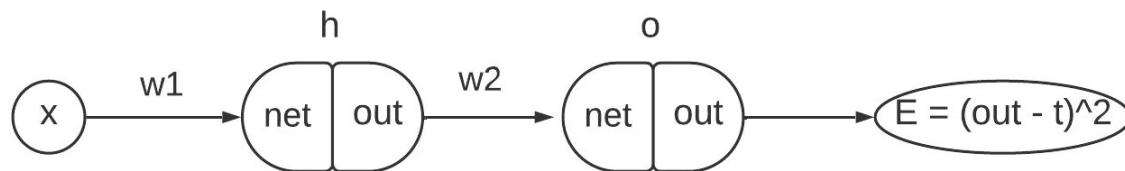
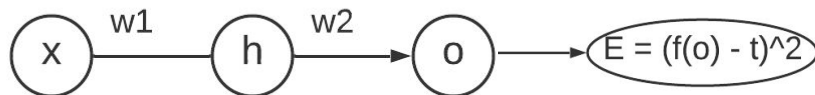
Example 3



- Consider E (a simple NN) fully mathematically
- $E = (f(f(x * w1) * w2) - t)^2$
- Express as series of symbols
 - $E = (d-t)^2$
 - $d = f(c)$
 - $c = b * w2$
 - $b = f(a)$
 - $a = x * w1$

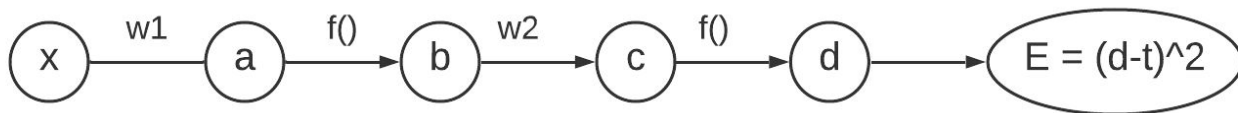
[tip start from the inner $x * w1 = a$
where $d = f(f(x * w1) * w2)$
where $c = f(x * w1) * w2$
node h represents **2 operations**: a and b
- $\frac{\partial E}{\partial w1} = \frac{\partial E}{\partial d} * \frac{\partial d}{\partial c} * \frac{\partial c}{\partial b} * \frac{\partial b}{\partial a} * \frac{\partial a}{\partial w1}$
- $\frac{\partial E}{\partial w1} = 2(d-t) * 3c^2 * w2 * 3a^2 * x$

Example 3: Correspondence



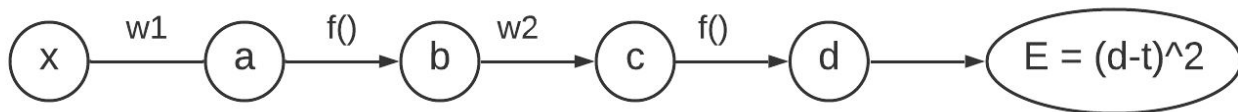
Multivariate Chain Rule

- The previous example is actually about multivariables (w_1 and w_2)
- It highlights this connection between complex functions and DAGs
- We observe that from E to W_1 we need to pass with many steps (**nodes**)



- The chain rule for multivariables involves the multiplication of partial derivatives, as shown below: ∂/∂
 - $\partial E / \partial w_1 = \partial E / \partial d * \partial d / \partial c * \partial c / \partial b * \partial b / \partial a * \partial a / \partial w_1$
- In fact, this generalizes to a tree diagram or computational graph

Chain Components



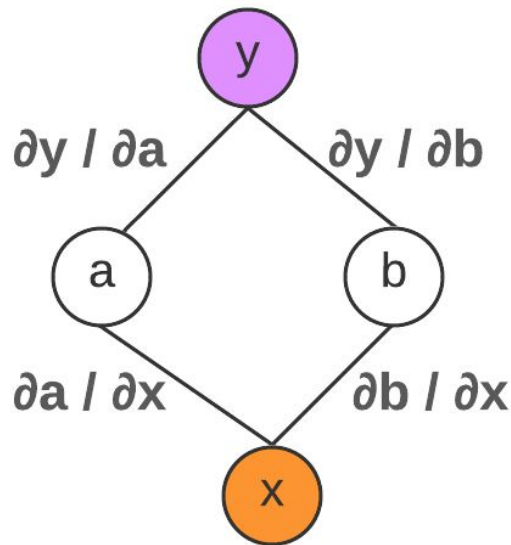
- $\partial E / \partial w1 = \partial E / \underline{\partial d} * \underline{\partial d} / \partial c * \partial c / \partial b * \partial b / \partial a * \partial a / \partial w1$
- $\partial E / \partial w1 = \partial E / \underline{\partial c} * \underline{\partial c} / \partial b * \partial b / \partial a * \partial a / \partial w1$
- $\partial E / \partial w1 = \partial E / \underline{\partial b} * \underline{\partial b} / \partial a * \partial a / \partial w1$
- $\partial E / \partial w1 = \partial E / \underline{\partial a} * \underline{\partial a} / \partial w1$
- $\partial E / \partial w1 = \partial E / \partial d * \partial d / \partial c * \partial c / \partial b * \partial b / \partial w1$ [canceled $\partial b / \underline{\partial a} * \underline{\partial a} / \partial w1$]
- $\partial E / \partial w1 = \partial E / \partial d * \partial d / \partial a * \partial a / \partial w1$
- Keep this observation in mind: we can create several sub-paths of derivatives from a single chain

From an Equation to a Tree/DAG

- Suppose we have a multivariate equation, for example, $z = f(x, y)$
 - where x and y depend on other variables
- We can represent this equation as a tree, with the lowest nodes (or leaves) representing our given variables, x and y
- We group basic operations and create new variables until we reach a single variable
- This becomes the root of the tree representing our expression
 - This process of building a tree helps us visualize and understand the composition of complex functions

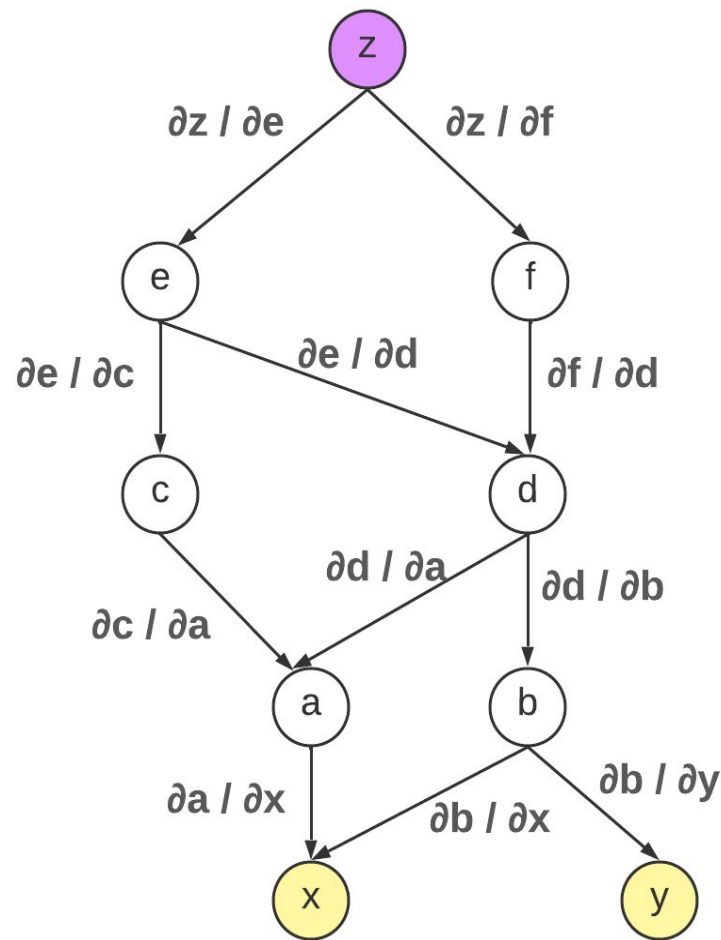
Example 4

- Let $y = 2x^5 + 4x^2$
 - This is actually a **univariate** variable (x)
 - The bottom leaf node of the tree represents x
 - We can create 2 new variables (nodes)
 - $a = 2x^5$ and $b = 4x^2$
 - Finally, we create a higher-level node y that combines a and b with addition
- Observe that every edge in the tree represents a derivative
 - Rule for any Edge ($g \Rightarrow h$), it represents $\partial g / \partial h$
 - There are two paths from y to x : one through a and one through b
 - $y \Rightarrow a \Rightarrow x$: a **chain rule** with value $\partial y / \partial x$
 - $y \Rightarrow b \Rightarrow x$: a **chain rule** with value $\partial y / \partial x$
 - Then to compute $\partial y / \partial x$: we **sum** the results from these 2 paths



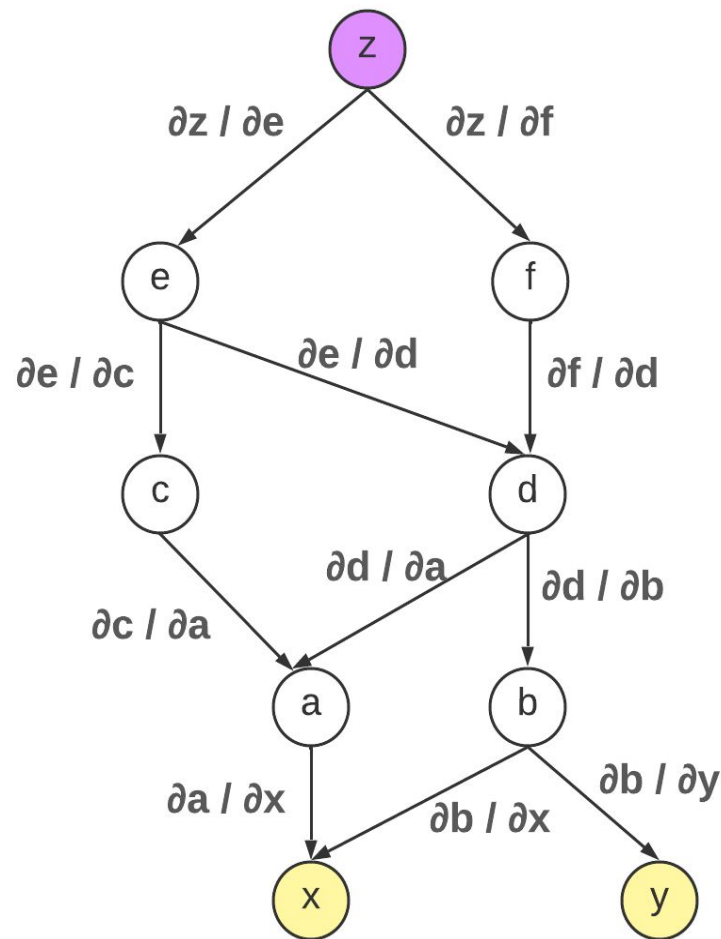
Example 5

- Assume we have $z = f(x, y)$
 - Put x and y in the leaves
 - Build the tree up to z
- To compute any **partial derivative** from node(m) to node(n)
 - Find all paths from m to n
 - Each path is a simple chain
 - Multiply path value \Rightarrow chain rule value
 - Sum all the paths



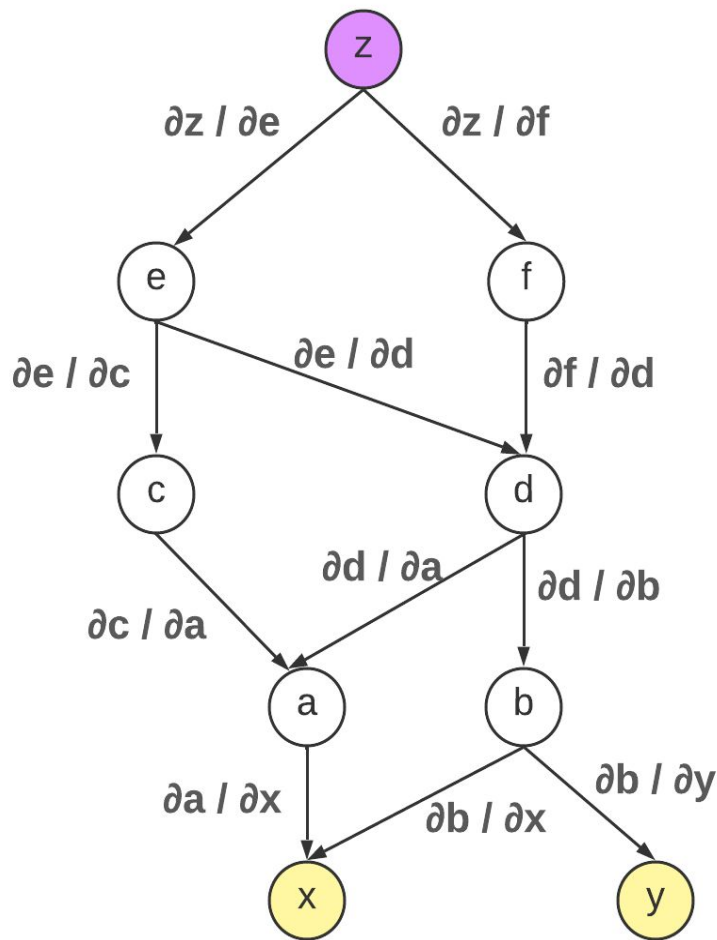
Example 5A

- Compute $\partial d / \partial x$
- We have 2 paths
- $d \Rightarrow a \Rightarrow x$
 - This represents: $\partial d / \partial a * \partial a / \partial x$
- $d \Rightarrow b \Rightarrow x$
 - This represents: $\partial d / \partial b * \partial b / \partial x$
- Let's pretend that our calculations are
- $\partial d / \partial x = 4$



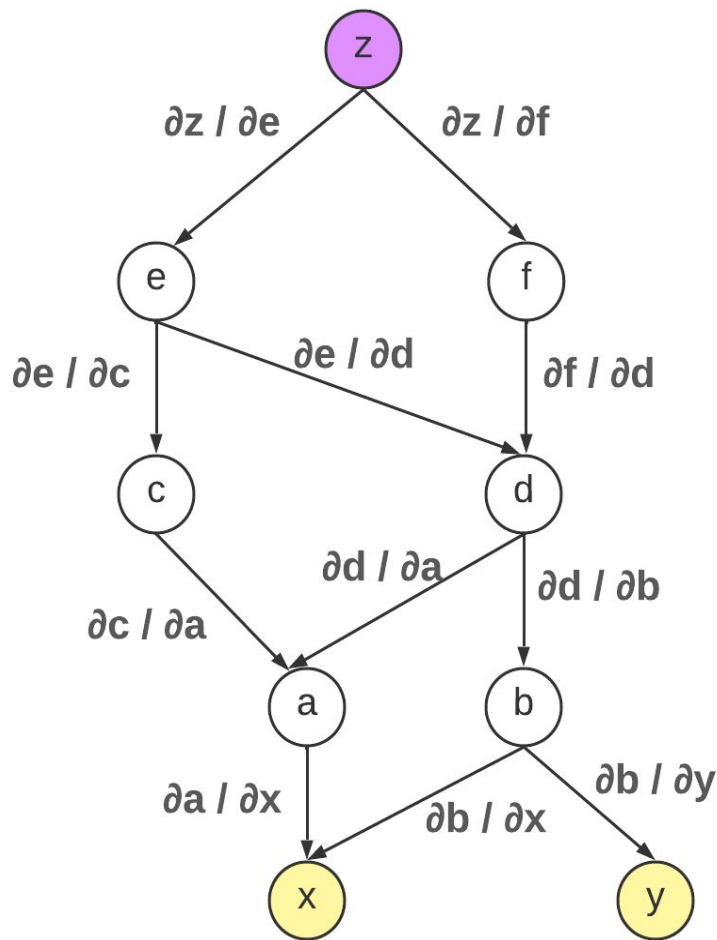
Example 5B

- Compute $\partial f / \partial x$
 - Assume $\partial f / \partial d = 3$
- We have 2 paths
- $f \Rightarrow d \Rightarrow a \Rightarrow x$
- $f \Rightarrow d \Rightarrow b \Rightarrow x$
- We could multiply and sum the chain rule values...
- But this is a waste of time!
- Can you find it **more quickly**?



Example 5C

- Compute $\partial f / \partial x$
 - Assume $\partial f / \partial d = 3$
- $\partial f / \partial x = \partial f / \partial d * \partial d / \partial x$
 - We already computed $\partial d / \partial x = 4$
 - Then $\partial f / \partial x = 3 * 4 = 12$
 - This caching trick is the core of the backpropagation algorithm
 - It is simply based on bottom-up processing starting from **x** and **y** up to **z**



Relevant Materials

- [Link](#)
- [Link](#)
- [Link](#)

“Acquire knowledge and impart it to the people.”

“Seek knowledge from the Cradle to the Grave.”

