Neural Networks and Automatic Differentiation

Advanced Computer Vision

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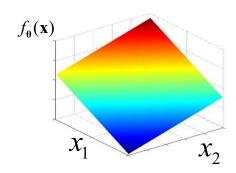
Overview

- Introduction: Computer Vision
- Data, Models, Optimization
- Neural Networks and Automatic Differentiation

Recap: Linear Models

So far: linear models for regression and classification

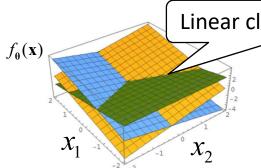
Linear regression



Number of attributes

$$f_{\mathbf{\theta}}(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{w}^{\mathrm{T}} \mathbf{x} + b \quad \mathbf{w} \in \mathbb{R}^{d}, \ b \in \mathbb{R}, \ \mathbf{\theta} = (\mathbf{w}, b)$$

Linear classification



Linear class boundaries

$$f_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{W}\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{b}$$

Number of classes

$$f_{\mathbf{\theta}}(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{W}\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{b} \quad \mathbf{W} \in \mathbb{R}^{k \times d}, \ \mathbf{b} \in \mathbb{R}^{k}, \ \mathbf{\theta} = (\mathbf{W}, \mathbf{b})$$

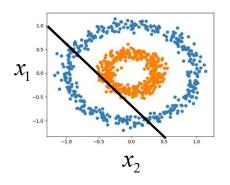
Vector of class scores.

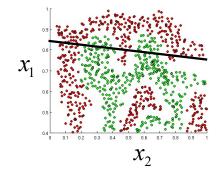
Prediction = class with highest score



Limitations of Linear Models

 Expressivity of linear models is limited: in the real world, relationship between data and labels often highly nonlinear



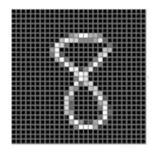


Classes (colors) not separable by linear model (black line)

- Computer vision: training a linear model on pixel data will not get us very far
 - MNist benchmark data set (digits, 10 classes): linear model 92% accuracy,
 state of the art 99.x% accuracy
 - ImageNet benchmark data set (general objects, 1000 classes): linear model 10% top-5 accuracy, state of the art 98.x% top-5 accuracy

Linear Models in Computer Vision

- Computer vision: linear classification model encodes one "template"per class
- Example MNist: digits as 28x28 grayscale images, scaled, centered



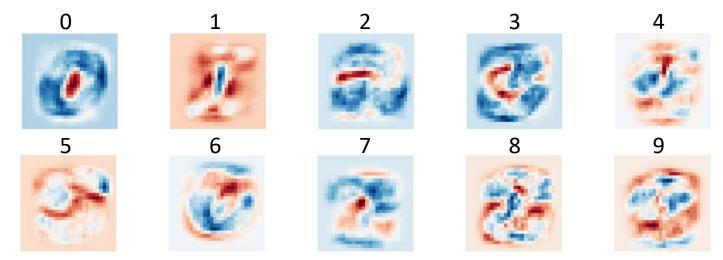
- To apply linear model, "flatten" the 28x28 images into 784-dimensional vector
- Linear classification model:

class scores
$$\mathbf{W} \in \mathbb{R}^{10 \times 784}, \mathbf{b} \in \mathbb{R}^{10}$$

To compute score of i-th class, multiply i-th row of \mathbf{W} with input \mathbf{x} (and add bias)

Linear Models as Templates

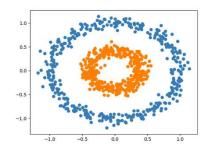
- Computer vision: linear classification model encodes one "template" per class
- Rows of \mathbf{W} , reshaped to 28x28, blue = positive values, red = negative values:



- Each row matches on a certain visual pattern by "looking" for a particular combination of present/missing pixel values in the image
- The more closely the image matches the pattern, the higher the class score
- Works reasonably well for MNist (centered, scaled digits). Not so well if there
 is large variation of shapes/appearances within class

Linear Models + Feature Maps

- One way of going beyond linear models: nonlinear feature maps
- Example:



Blue = class 1, red = class 2.

Not linearly separable.

Circle with appropriate radius r would separate classes.

- Idea: define feature map $\Phi: \mathbb{R}^2 \to \mathbb{R}^2$, $\Phi(\mathbf{x}) = (x_1^2, x_2^2)$
- Feature map transforms each instance \mathbf{x} into a transformed instance $\Phi(\mathbf{x})$
- Learn a linear model in the transformed space:

$$f_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{W}\Phi(\mathbf{x}) + \mathbf{b}$$
 $\mathbf{W} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$, $\mathbf{b} = \begin{pmatrix} -r^2 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$ Works: score of class 1 larger than score of class 2 iff $x_1^2 + x_2^2 > r^2$

- Learning becomes easy with the right features!
- Where do the features come from?

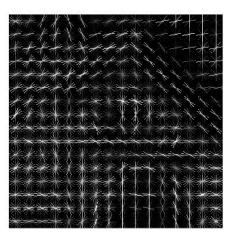
Linear Models + Feature Maps

- Explicit nonlinear features, for example polynomial features $x_1^2, x_2^2, x_1x_2, ...$
- Kernel trick: implicitly map instances by means of a **kernel** (details: ML lecture)
- But which feature map or kernel is good for a particular problem?
- Domain-specific features, e.g. for computer vision (not really used anymore):

HoGs ("histogram of oriented gradients") features: On small image patches (e.g., 8x8 pixels), compute histograms of edge directions and strengths



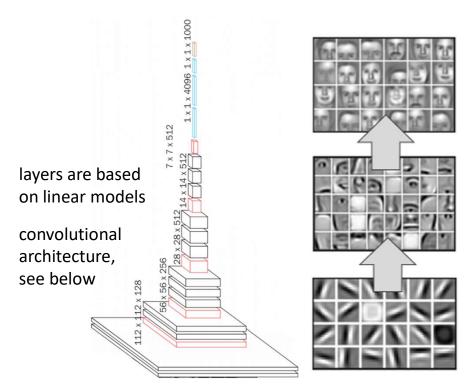




Learning Features

- Neural networks: models consisting of several stacked layers
- Lower layers perform feature extraction, highest layer prediction
- All layer are learned "end-to-end" on raw data, no feature engineering needed

Example: Face recognition with deep convolutional neural network



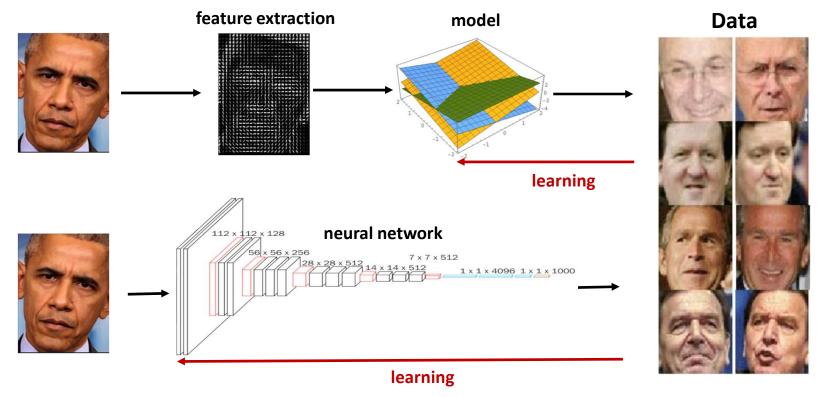
High-level layers represent identities of persons

Intermediate layers combine the low-level features to more informative features such as face parts

Low-level layers extract simple features such as edges or circles from raw pixels

Neural Networks: End-to-End Learning

- All layer are learned "end-to-end" on raw data, no feature engineering needed
- Also called "feature learning" or "representation learning"
- Advantage: neural network learns to extract features most helpful for task

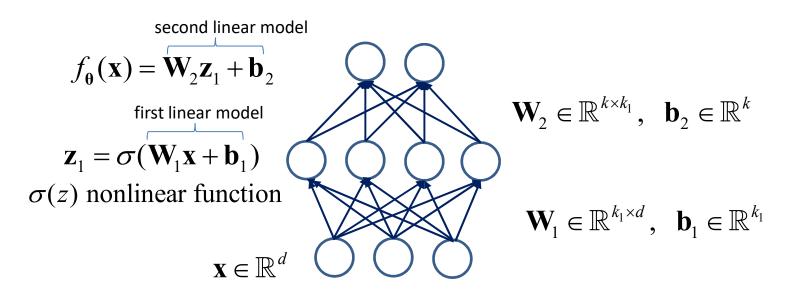


From Linear Models to Neural Networks

• So far: linear model (k is number of classes)



• Idea: stack multiple linear models to increase representational power



Nonlinear Activation Function

• Why nonlinear activation $\sigma(z)$? Without nonlinear activation, the entire model would stay linear

$$f_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{W}_{2}(\mathbf{W}_{1}\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{b}_{1}) + \mathbf{b}_{2} = \mathbf{W}_{2}\mathbf{W}_{1}\mathbf{x} + (\mathbf{W}_{2}\mathbf{b}_{1} + \mathbf{b}_{2}) = \mathbf{W}\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{b}$$
$$\mathbf{W} \in \mathbb{R}^{k \times d} \quad \mathbf{b} \in \mathbb{R}^{k}$$

• Different nonlinear activation functions are used (non-exhaustive list):

ReLU: Rectified linear unit Leaky ReLU Sigmoid $\sigma(z) = \max(0, z) \qquad \sigma(z) = \max(0.1z, z) \qquad \sigma(z) = \frac{1}{1+e^{-z}}$

10

tanh

Multilayer Perceptron

- We can stack any number of layers to get a more expressive model
- In general, this leads to a so-called Multilayer Perceptron:

Definition (Multilayer Perceptron)

Let $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^d$ denote the input vector, let $D \in \mathbb{N}$ denote the number of hidden layers, $k_1,...,k_D\in\mathbb{N}$ denote the number of units in the hidden layers, and let $k\in\mathbb{N}$ denote the number of classes. Let $\sigma(z): \mathbb{R} \to \mathbb{R}$ be an activation function.

Let $\mathbf{W}_1 \in \mathbb{R}^{k_1 \times d}$, $\mathbf{W}_2 \in \mathbb{R}^{k_2 \times k_1}$,..., $\mathbf{W}_D \in \mathbb{R}^{k_D \times k_{D-1}}$, $\mathbf{W}_{D+1} \in \mathbb{R}^{k \times k_D}$ denote weight matrices and $\mathbf{b}_1 \in \mathbb{R}^{k_1}, ..., \mathbf{b}_D \in \mathbb{R}^{k_D}, \mathbf{b}_{D+1} \in \mathbb{R}^k$ denote bias vectors.

The function
$$f_{\mathbf{\theta}}: \mathbb{R}^d \to \mathbb{R}^k$$
 given by $\mathbf{z}_0 = \mathbf{x}$

$$\mathbf{z}_i = \sigma(\mathbf{W}_i \mathbf{z}_{i-1} + \mathbf{b}_i)$$
 $i \in \{1,...,D\}$ "Activations at layer i "

$$i \in \{1,...,D\}$$

$$f_{\mathbf{\theta}}(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{W}_{D+1}\mathbf{z}_D + \mathbf{b}_{D+1}$$

is called a multilayer perceptron. Its parameters are $\mathbf{\theta} = \{\mathbf{W}_i, \mathbf{b}_i\}_{i=1}^{D+1}$.



Multilayer Perceptrons as Graphs

- A Multilayer Perceptron can be visualized as a directed acyclic graph (DAG)
- Graph is organized into layers that are fully connected
 - There are D+2 layers, called "input", "hidden" (D layers) and "output"
 - Input layer has d nodes, hidden layer i has k_i nodes, output has k nodes

Example:
$$d = 3$$
, $k = 2$, $k_1 = 4$, $D = 1$

$$f_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{W}_{2}\mathbf{z}_{1} + \mathbf{b}_{2}$$

$$\mathbf{z}_{1} = \sigma(\mathbf{W}_{1}\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{b}_{1})$$

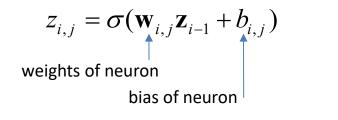
$$\mathbf{w}_{2} \in \mathbb{R}^{k \times k_{1}}, \quad \mathbf{b}_{2} \in \mathbb{R}^{k}$$

$$\mathbf{w}_{1} \in \mathbb{R}^{k_{1} \times d}, \quad \mathbf{b}_{1} \in \mathbb{R}^{k_{1}}$$

$$\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^{d}$$

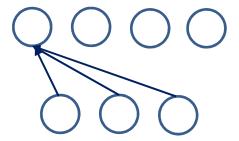
Multilayer Perceptrons as Graphs

- Nodes in the graph are sometimes called "neurons". The elements $z_{i,j}$ of the vector \mathbf{z}_i are called "activations" of the neurons in layer i
- The activation of a single neuron $z_{i,j}$ can be computed from its inputs, the corresponding entries in the weight matrix \mathbf{W}_i and the bias vector \mathbf{b}_i :



 $\mathbf{w}_{i,j} = \mathbf{j}$ -th row of \mathbf{W}_i , $\mathbf{b}_{i,j} = \mathbf{j}$ -th entry in \mathbf{b}_i

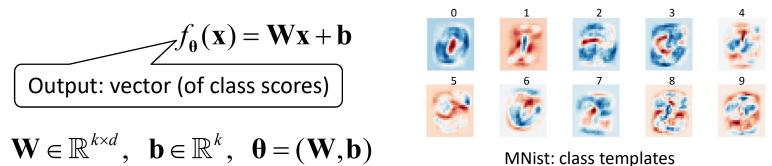




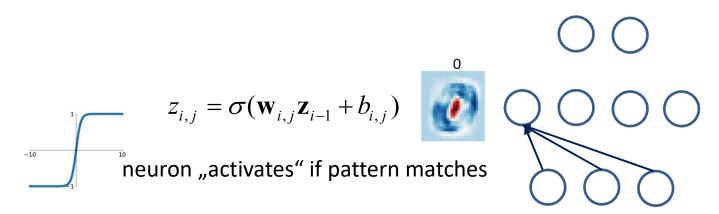
- In this sense, computations are local to nodes.
- Any DAG structure is possible, simply compute activations node-by-node

Neurons Match Patterns

Reminder: rows in a linear model match one class "template" each



Neurons match patterns (of the input or some other layer) in a similar way



Neurons in higher layers recombine simple features to complex ones

Preview: Neural Networks For Image Data

- So far: Multilayer perceptron
 - very simple model structure: stacked fully connected layers
 - ok for simple vector-based inputs
 - not very suitable for image data, where input is a 3D-tensor

$$\mathcal{X} = \mathbb{R}^{m \times l \times d}$$

$$m = \text{image height}$$

$$l = \text{image width}$$

$$d = \text{number of channels}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0.3 & 1 \\ 0 & 0.3 & 1 \\ 1 & 0.7 & 0.5 \\ 0.2 & 0.5 & 0.1 \end{pmatrix}^{5} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0.7 & 0.5 \\ 0.2 & 0.5 & 0.1 \end{pmatrix}$$

• Next week: **convolutional neural network architectures** for computer vision problems, take 3D-structure of images into account.

Recap: Cross-Entropy Loss

- Multilayer perceptron: function $f_{\mathbf{\theta}}: \mathbb{R}^d \to \mathbb{R}^k$ with parameters $\mathbf{\theta} = \{\mathbf{W}_i, \mathbf{b}_i\}_{i=1}^{D+1}$
- Classification scenario: output are scores for the *k* classes
- Regression scenario: k = 1, the single output is the predicted real value
- As for a linear model, we can use cross-entropy loss for classification where data are $(\mathbf{x}_1,...,\mathbf{x}_n), (y_1,...,y_n), y_i \in \{c_1,...,c_k\}$

Transform class scores to probabilities:

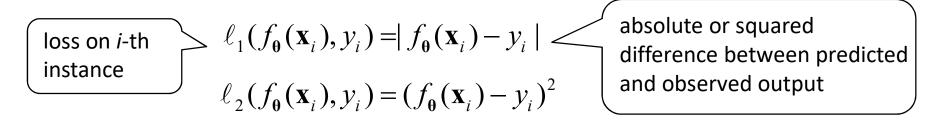
probability for *j*-th class
$$p(y = c_j \mid \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{\theta}) = \frac{\exp(f_{\mathbf{\theta}}(\mathbf{x})_j)}{\sum_{i=1}^k \exp(f_{\mathbf{\theta}}(\mathbf{x})_i)}$$
 score for class *j*

Cross-entropy loss: negative log-probability of observed class:

loss on *i*-th instance
$$\ell(f_{\theta}(\mathbf{x}_i), y_i) = -\log p(y = y_i \mid \mathbf{x}_i, \boldsymbol{\theta})$$
 -log probability of label y_i according to model

Recap: Regression Loss

- Multilayer perceptron: function $f_{\theta}: \mathbb{R}^d \to \mathbb{R}^k$ with parameters $\theta = \{\mathbf{W}_i, \mathbf{b}_i\}_{i=1}^{D+1}$
- Classification scenario: output are scores for the *k* classes
- Regression scenario: k = 1, the single output is the predicted real value
- As for a linear model, we can use mean squared or mean average loss for regression where data are $(\mathbf{x}_1,...,\mathbf{x}_n), (y_1,...,y_n), y_i \in \mathbb{R}$



Parameter Optimization

Learning a multilayer perceptron from data: solving optimization problem

Optimization:
$$\theta^* = \arg\min_{\theta} L(\theta)$$

$$L(\mathbf{\theta}) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \ell(f_{\mathbf{\theta}}(\mathbf{x}_{i}), y_{i}) + \lambda R(\mathbf{\theta})$$

Loss: model predictions should match training data

Regularization: prevent model from doing **too** well on the training data, prefer simpler models

- Optimization carried out by stochastic gradient descent in parameters $oldsymbol{ heta}$
- Regularization can be for example L1 or L2

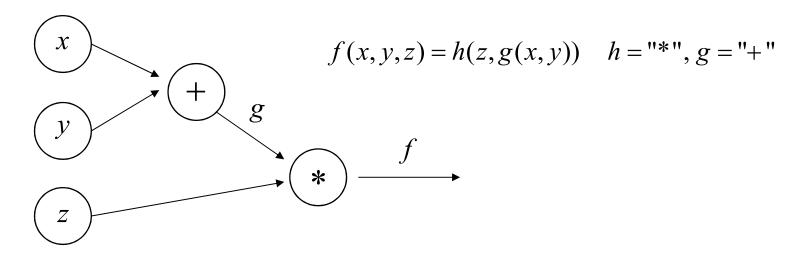
L2-regularizer
$$R(\mathbf{\theta}) = \sum_{j} \theta_{j}^{2}$$
 θ_{j} : any model parameter, e.g. for multilayer perceptron entries in any \mathbf{W}_{i} , \mathbf{b}_{i}

Optimization: Gradient

- For optimization with stochastic gradent descent, need to derive the gradient $\nabla L(\theta)$ of the loss in the model parameters θ
- Derive gradient manually?
 - Difficult for large, complex models with millions of parameters
 - Not flexible: for any change in model or loss function, would need to rederive gradient
- Instead: derive gradient algorithmically using automatic differentiation, also known (in this specific case) as backpropagation
- Flexible approach that can compute gradients automatically for any model architecture and loss function
- Core functionality of all modern deep learning software frameworks

Automatic Differentiation / Backpropagation

- Example: simple multivariate function f(x, y, z) = z(x + y)
- Can write down function as a graph of primitive operations:

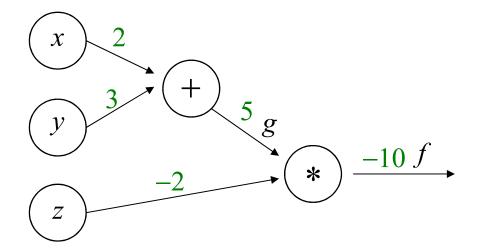


• We are interested in the partial derivatives at a specific point, for example, at (x,y,z)=(2,3,-2)

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial x}(2,3,-2) = -2, \qquad \frac{\partial f}{\partial y}(2,3,-2) = -2, \qquad \frac{\partial f}{\partial z}(2,3,-2) = 5$$

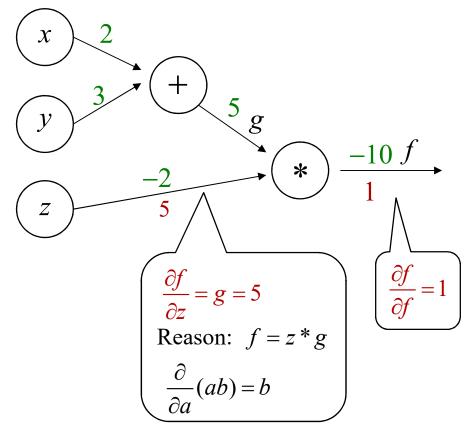
Forward Pass

• We can compute the function value at position (x, y, z) = (2, 3, -2) by a so-called forward pass:

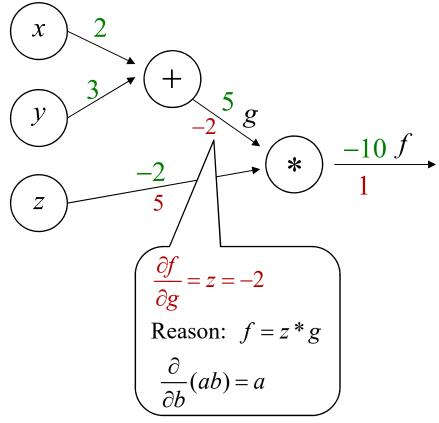


- Computation "flows" through the graph and is built up from primitive operations
- Outputs of inner nodes in the graph represent evaluations of subexpressions of the entire function

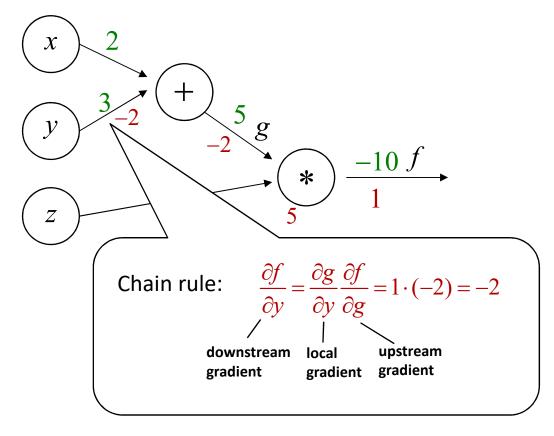
- Idea behind backpropagation: compute derivatives by propagating back through the graph, using local derivatives of primitive operations and chain rule
- Compute derivative of f with respect to output of every node



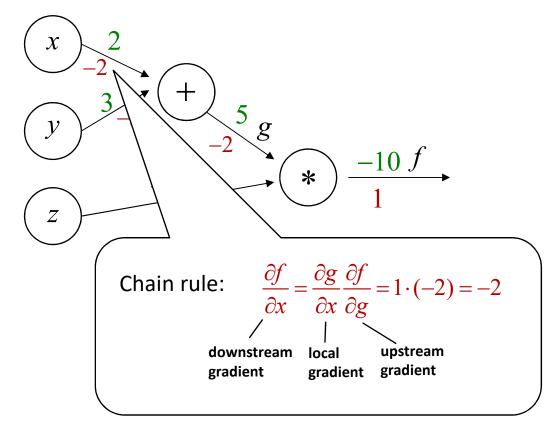
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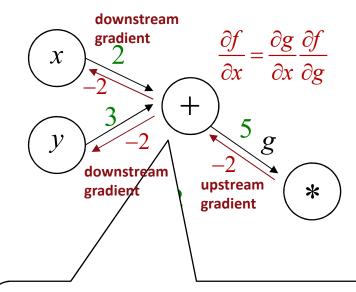
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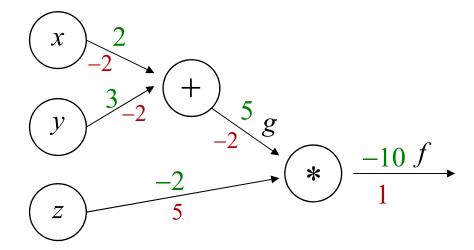


- Idea behind backpropagation: compute derivatives by propagating back through the graph, using local derivatives of primitive operations and chain rule
- Compute derivative of f with respect to output of every node



Backpropagation in the graph: start at the output. At every node, take the upstream gradient, multiply it with the local gradient, and propagate the result as downstream gradient

- Idea behind backpropagation: compute derivatives by propagating back through the graph, using local derivatives of primitive operations and chain rule
- Compute derivative of f with respect to output of every node



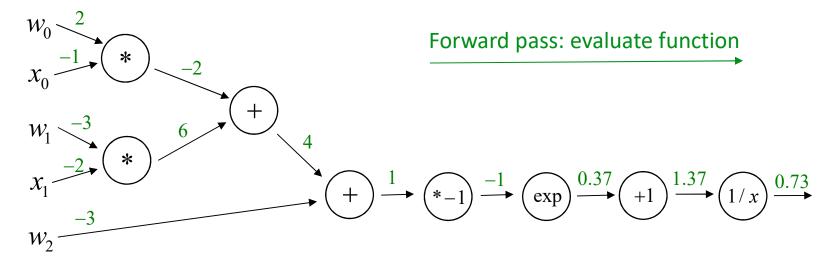
Result: all partial derivates have been computed. Gradient is vector of these derivatives

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial x}(2,3,-2) = -2, \qquad \frac{\partial f}{\partial y}(2,3,-2) = -2, \qquad \frac{\partial f}{\partial z}(2,3,-2) = 5 \qquad \nabla f(2,3,-2) = \begin{pmatrix} -2\\ -2\\ 5 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\nabla f(2,3,-2) = \begin{pmatrix} -2 \\ -2 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix}$$

• A slightly more complex example: backpropagation for the function

$$f(x_0, x_1, w_0, w_1, w_2) = \frac{1}{1 + e^{-(w_0 x_0 + w_1 x_1 + w_2)}}$$

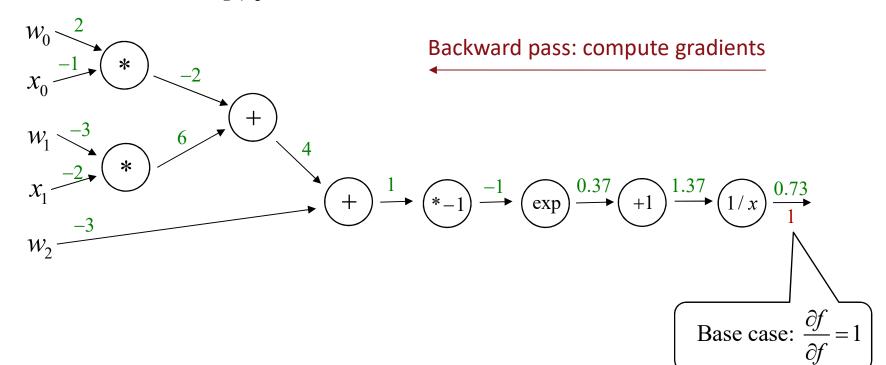


Point at which function is evaluated and gradient computed:

$$x_0 = -1$$
, $x_1 = -2$, $w_0 = 2$, $w_1 = -3$, $w_2 = -3$

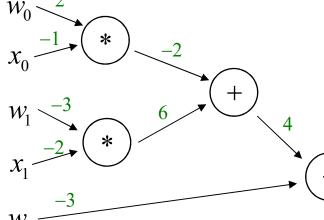
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A slightly more complex example: backpropagation for the function

$$f(x_0, x_1, w_0, w_1, w_2) = \frac{1}{1 + e^{-(w_0 x_0 + w_1 x_1 + w_2)}}$$



Backward pass: compute gradients

$$+ \xrightarrow{1} \xrightarrow{-1} \xrightarrow{-1} \left(\exp \right) \xrightarrow{0.37} \left(+1 \right) \xrightarrow{1.37} \left(1/x \right) \xrightarrow{0.73}$$

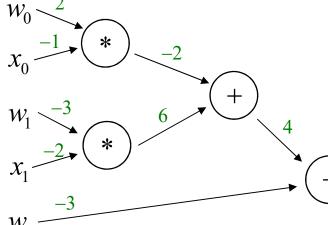
Upstream gradient: 1

Local gradient:
$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left[\frac{1}{x} \right] = -\frac{1}{x^2}$$

Downstream gradient:
$$-\frac{1}{1.37^2} \cdot 1 = -0.53 \cdot 1 = -0.53$$

• A slightly more complex example: backpropagation for the function

$$f(x_0, x_1, w_0, w_1, w_2) = \frac{1}{1 + e^{-(w_0 x_0 + w_1 x_1 + w_2)}}$$



Backward pass: compute gradients

$$+) \xrightarrow{1} (*-1) \xrightarrow{-1} (\exp) \xrightarrow{0.37} (+1) \xrightarrow{1.37} (1/x) \xrightarrow{0.73}$$

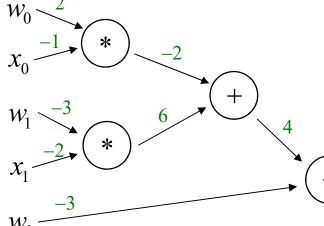
Upstream gradient: -0.53

Local gradient:
$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x}[x+1]=1$$

Downstream gradient: $1 \cdot (-0.53) = -0.53$

• A slightly more complex example: backpropagation for the function

$$f(x_0, x_1, w_0, w_1, w_2) = \frac{1}{1 + e^{-(w_0 x_0 + w_1 x_1 + w_2)}}$$



Backward pass: compute gradients

$$+ \xrightarrow{1} \xrightarrow{(*-1)} \xrightarrow{-1} \underbrace{\exp} \xrightarrow{0.37} \underbrace{(+1)} \xrightarrow{1.37} \underbrace{(1/x)} \xrightarrow{0.73}$$

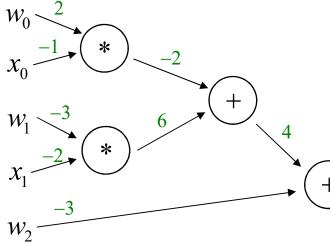
Upstream gradient: -0.53

Local gradient: $\frac{\partial}{\partial x} \exp(x) = \exp(x)$

Downstream gradient: $\exp(-1) \cdot (-0.53) = -0.2$

• A slightly more complex example: backpropagation for the function

$$f(x_0, x_1, w_0, w_1, w_2) = \frac{1}{1 + e^{-(w_0 x_0 + w_1 x_1 + w_2)}}$$



Backward pass: compute gradients

$$\begin{array}{c|c}
 & \xrightarrow{1} & \xrightarrow{-1} & \xrightarrow{-1} & \exp \\
\hline
0.2 & & & & & \\
\hline
-0.2 & & & & \\
\hline
\end{array} \begin{array}{c}
0.37 \\
-0.53 \\
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\end{array} \begin{array}{c}
1.37 \\
-0.53 \\
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0.73 \\
\hline
\end{array}$$

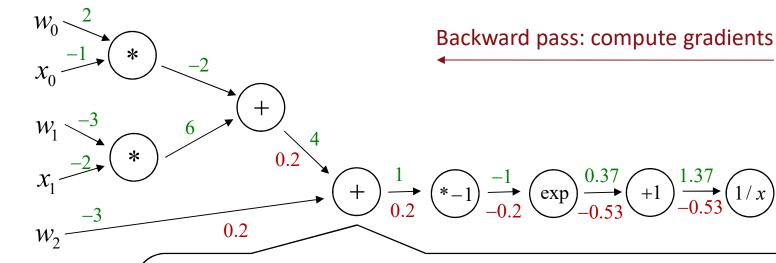
Upstream gradient: -0.2

Local gradient:
$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x}[-x] = -1$$

Downstream gradient: $(-1) \cdot (-0.2) = 0.2$

• A slightly more complex example: backpropagation for the function

$$f(x_0, x_1, w_0, w_1, w_2) = \frac{1}{1 + e^{-(w_0 x_0 + w_1 x_1 + w_2)}}$$



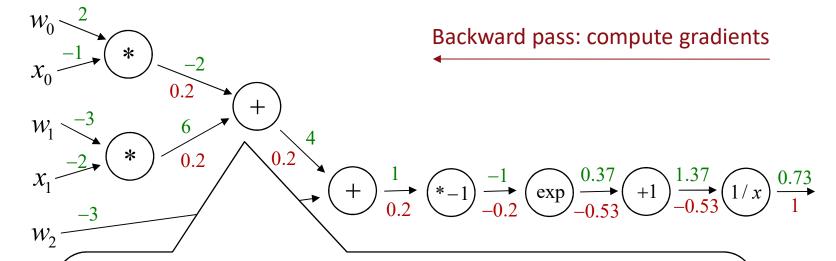
Upstream gradient: 0.2

Local gradient:
$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x}[x+y] = 1$$
, $\frac{\partial}{\partial y}[x+y] = 1$

Downstream gradients: $1 \cdot (0.2) = 0.2$, $1 \cdot (0.2) = 0.2$

A slightly more complex example: backpropagation for the function

$$f(x_0, x_1, w_0, w_1, w_2) = \frac{1}{1 + e^{-(w_0 x_0 + w_1 x_1 + w_2)}}$$



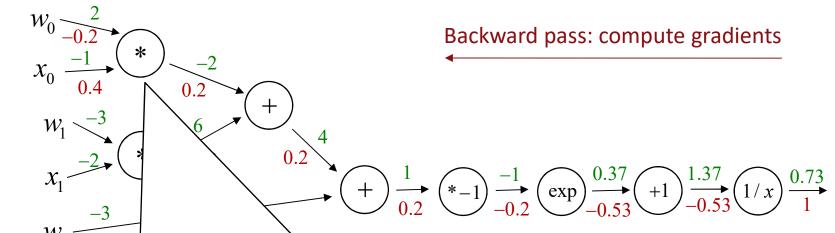
Upstream gradient: 0.2

Local gradient:
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Downstream gradients: $1 \cdot (0.2) = 0.2$, $1 \cdot (0.2) = 0.2$

• A slightly more complex example: backpropagation for the function

$$f(x_0, x_1, w_0, w_1, w_2) = \frac{1}{1 + e^{-(w_0 x_0 + w_1 x_1 + w_2)}}$$



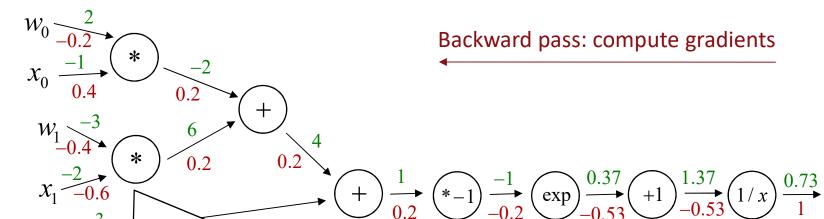
Upstream gradient: 0.2

Local gradient:
$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x}[x \cdot y] = y$$
, $\frac{\partial}{\partial y}[x \cdot y] = x$

Downstream gradients: $(-1) \cdot (0.2) = -0.2$, $2 \cdot (0.2) = 0.4$

A slightly more complex example: backpropagation for the function

$$f(x_0, x_1, w_0, w_1, w_2) = \frac{1}{1 + e^{-(w_0 x_0 + w_1 x_1 + w_2)}}$$



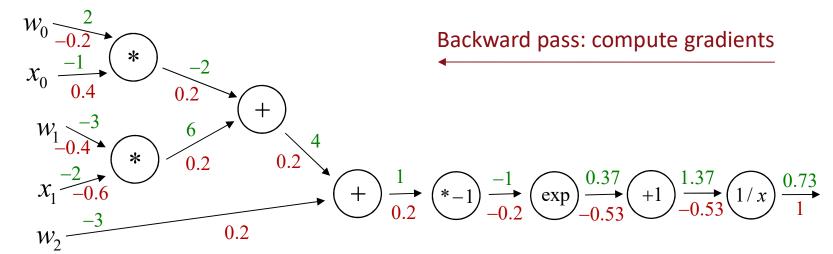
Upstream gradient: 0.2

Local gradient:
$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x}[x \cdot y] = y$$
, $\frac{\partial}{\partial y}[x \cdot y] = x$

Downstream gradients: $(-2) \cdot (0.2) = -0.4$, $(-3) \cdot (0.2) = -0.6$

A slightly more complex example: backpropagation for the function

$$f(x_0, x_1, w_0, w_1, w_2) = \frac{1}{1 + e^{-(w_0 x_0 + w_1 x_1 + w_2)}}$$



• Gradient is vector of partial derivatives:

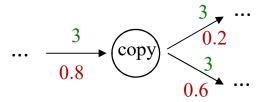
$$\nabla f(-1,-2,2,-3,-3) = \begin{vmatrix} -0.6 \\ -0.2 \\ -0.4 \\ \text{of arguments} \end{vmatrix}$$

Backpropagation from Objective Function

- **Summary**: For neural network model, we need the gradient $\nabla L(\theta)$ of the objective function $L(\theta)$ in the model parameters θ
- The objective function $L(\theta)$ is a complex calculation: start with inputs, propagate through the layers of network using model parameters, and finally compute loss.
- This whole calculation can be cast into a computation graph as in the simple example, and derivatives with respect to model parameters (and also inputs) can be derived
- Note that the actual derivative calculation is not symbolic, but works with concrete numbers (gradient at a specific input point)
- Core functionality of deep learning frameworks such as Tensorflow or Pytorch: specificy neural network architecture and/or custom computational operations (custom losses, custom layers, custom regularizers, ...), framework will build computation graph and perform backpropagation
- Highly optimized implementations of backpropagation that run on the GPU

Backpropagation from Objective Function

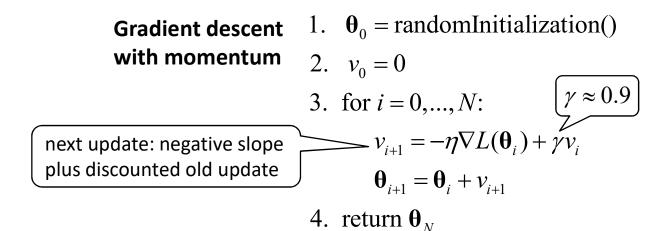
- The provided examples only sketch the general idea, things that we did not cover include
 - what if a variable occurs in different places within a calculation? Introduce a "copy" node that copies the variable in forward pass and adds the gradients in the backward pass



 in practice, to improve computational efficiency we work directly with vectors/matrices/tensors and their respective derivatives rather than scalars (somewhat complicated)

Training a Feedforward Network

 Once we have the gradient, the neural network can be trained by stochastic gradient descent as discussed ealier

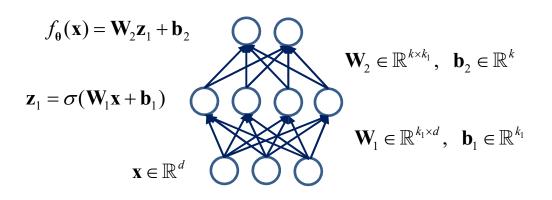


$$\nabla L(\mathbf{\theta}) \approx \nabla \left(\frac{1}{m} \sum_{i=1}^{m} \ell(f_{\mathbf{\theta}}(\mathbf{x}_{i_m}), y_{i_m}) + \lambda R(\mathbf{\theta})\right) \qquad \{i_1, ..., i_m\} \subset \{1, ..., n\}, \quad m << n$$

Use backpropagation to compute these terms

Summary Neural Networks So Far

 Multilayer perceptron: feedforward neural networks organized into stacked layers that are fully connected



Can be visualized as a regular graph structure

- Hyperparameters include number of layers, number of nodes per layers
- Loss functions for classification (cross-entropy) and regression (squared/absolute loss)
- Model parameters can be trained on data using stochastic gradient descent, gradients are automatically derived using backpropagation in compute graph