Al Applications Lecture 3

Functions Represented by Neural Networks

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Outline

Introduction

Preparation: Mathematical Notations

What is a Neural Network?

Directed Acyclic Graph (DAG)

The Function Represented by a Neural Network

Specific Computation Examples

Architecture and Checkpoints

Summary and Future Outlook

Introduction

1.1 Review of the Previous Lecture

In the last lecture, we saw that many machine learning models, including neural networks, can be understood within a unified framework.

• Many machine learning models can be formulated as a **parametric function** $f_{(\cdot)}$, where the specific input-output relation f_{θ} is determined by the values of parameters θ .

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In the last lecture, we saw that many machine learning models, including neural networks, can be understood within a unified framework.

- Many machine learning models can be formulated as a **parametric function** $f_{(\cdot)}$, where the specific input-output relation f_{θ} is determined by the values of parameters θ .
- The process of solving a task is divided into two phases.
 - **Training:** Using data to find the parameter θ^* that best solves the task.
 - Inference: Using the trained parameter θ^* to provide a new input to the function f_{θ^*} and obtain an output.

1.2 Learning Outcomes of This Lecture

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- Describe in mathematical terms the function represented by a neural network defined by a general Directed Acyclic Graph (DAG).
- State the definitions of frequently used terms in modern neural network applications, such as architecture, checkpoint, and model.
- Explain why the distinction between architecture and checkpoint is important for utilizing AI in real-world applications.

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The field of AI and machine learning is developing very rapidly, and the specific models widely known today may well be outdated by the time you graduate.

Therefore, this lecture emphasizes understanding more general and universal concepts that will be applicable in the future and will not become obsolete.

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In particular, the **distinction between architecture and checkpoint** that we will learn in this lecture is extremely important for using AI in the real world.

Without understanding this distinction, you will not be able to correctly understand the issue of Al **licenses**, which we will cover in the next lecture. Using Al without regard for its license can lead to legal risks such as copyright infringement.

Preparation: Mathematical

Notations

Here is a review of the basic mathematical notations used in this lecture.

- · Definition:
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- **Set:** Denoted by uppercase calligraphic letters (e.g., A).
 - $x \in A$: element x belongs to set A.
 - {}: The empty set.
 - $\{a,b,c\}$: The set consisting of elements a,b,c.
 - $\{x \in \mathcal{A}|P(x)\}$: The set of elements in \mathcal{A} for which P(x) is true.
 - \mathbb{R} (reals), \mathbb{Z} (integers), with subscripts like $>_0$ (positive) or \ge_0 (non-negative).
 - $[1,k]_{\mathbb{Z}} := \{1,2,\ldots,k\}.$

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- **Tensor:** In this lecture, simply a multi-dimensional array.
 - Vector = 1st-order tensor, Matrix = 2nd-order tensor.
 - Higher-order tensors are denoted by A.

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All networks in this lecture are **feedforward neural networks** (e.g., MLP, CNN, Transformer). We will not cover non-feedforward networks like Boltzmann machines.

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In a nutshell, a feedforward neural network is a parametric function defined by a directed acyclic graph (DAG) where each node has a fixed function, and many edges are associated with parameters (real values).

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Definition (Directed Multigraph)

A directed multigraph G is a tuple $G = (\mathcal{V}, \mathcal{E}, \mathsf{Tail}, \mathsf{Head})$, consisting of:

- a set of **nodes** or **vertices** \mathcal{V} ,
- a set of edges or directed arcs E,
- and two maps, Tail : $\mathcal{E} \to \mathcal{V}$ and Head : $\mathcal{E} \to \mathcal{V}$, which assign a tail and head node to each edge.

We can define relationships between nodes:

- Incoming edges of a node v: $\mathcal{E}_{\mathrm{in}}^{(v)} = \{e \in \mathcal{E} \mid \mathsf{Head}(e) = v\}$.
 Outgoing edges of a node v: $\mathcal{E}_{\mathrm{out}}^{(v)} = \{e \in \mathcal{E} \mid \mathsf{Tail}(e) = v\}$.
- A parent node of v is the tail of an incoming edge.
- A **child node** of v is the head of an outgoing edge.

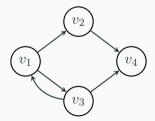


Figure 1: Example of a directed graph. Here, v_1 is a parent of v_2 , and v_4 is a child of v_3 .

Definition (Path and Cycle)

In a directed multigraph *G*:

- A path is a sequence of nodes and edges, where each edge connects a node to the next one in the sequence.
- A cycle is a path that starts and ends at the same node.

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When a directed multigraph G has **no cycles**, it is called a **Directed Acyclic Graph (DAG)**.

Intuitively, a DAG allows only "one-way" flows. This means the nodes can be **topologically sorted**.

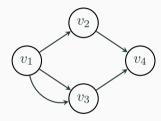


Figure 2: Example of a DAG (including multi-edges)

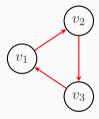


Figure 3: Example that is not a DAG (a cycle $v_1 \to v_2 \to v_3 \to v_1$ exists)

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These nodes become the **input nodes** that receive the input when the neural network is viewed as a function.

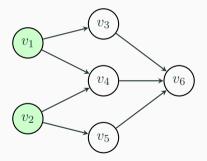


Figure 4: Example of a DAG. Nodes v_1, v_2 (green) are the input nodes.

The Function Represented by a

Neural Network

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- Nodes: Receive values from parent nodes or network inputs, apply a fixed activation function, and compute a new value.
- **Edges:** Receive a value from their tail node, multiply it by a parameter value (a **weight**), and pass it to their head node.

First, we define the parameter-independent part, the **architecture**.

Definition (Neural Network Architecture)

A neural network architecture is rigorously defined by a tuple including:

- 1. Computation Graph: A DAG $G=(\mathcal{V},\mathcal{E},\mathsf{Tail},\mathsf{Head})$, where nodes are topologically sorted integers.
- 2. **Input/Output Dimensions:** The overall network's input dimension $d_{\rm input}$ and output dimension $d_{\rm output}$.
- 3. **Node Specifications:** For each node $v \in \mathcal{V}$:
 - An activation function $\mathbf{g}^{(v)}: \mathbb{R}^{d_{\mathrm{arg}}^{(v)}} \to \mathbb{R}^{d_{\mathrm{ret}}^{(v)}}$.
 - An argument source tuple $NodeSrc^{(v)}$, specifying where each argument for $g^{(v)}$ comes from (either a network input or an incoming edge).

Definition (Neural Network Architecture (cont.))

- 4. **Edge Specifications:** For each edge $e \in \mathcal{E}$, an **edge source index** $\mathsf{EdgeSrc}(e)$ indicating which component of its tail node's return vector to use.
- 5. Parameter Specifications:
 - The total number of parameters d_{param} .
 - A weight map Weight : $\mathcal{E} \to [1, d_{\mathrm{param}}]_{\mathbb{Z}}$ that assigns a parameter to each edge (allowing for parameter sharing).
 - Sets of trainable (variable) and non-trainable (fixed) parameters.
- Output Specifications: An output source map OutSrc specifying which
 component of which node's return vector corresponds to each component of
 the overall network output.

Definition (The Function Represented by a Neural Network)

Given an architecture and specific parameter values (a **checkpoint**) $\theta \in \mathbb{R}^{d_{\text{param}}}$, the function $f_{\theta} : \mathbb{R}^{d_{\text{input}}} \to \mathbb{R}^{d_{\text{output}}}$ is computed as follows for an input x:

- 1. **Per-Node Computation:** In topological order ($v \in V$):
 - 1.1 Construct the argument vector $\mathbf{a}^{(v)}$ for node v's activation function $\mathbf{g}^{(v)}$. Each argument is taken from either a network input x_j or a weighted value from a parent node, $\theta_p \times r_k^{(u)}$.
 - 1.2 Compute the return value vector for node v: $r^{(v)} := g^{(v)}(a^{(v)})$.
- 2. **Overall Network Output:** After all nodes are computed, construct the output vector y by picking the specified return values from the nodes.

Remark (On Generality)

This definition is very general.

- It can represent common operations like the weighted sum in MLPs by defining the activation function appropriately (e.g., $g^{(v)}(a) = \text{ReLU}(\sum_i a_i)$).
- It can also represent complex layers like convolutions in CNNs and attention in Transformers.
- With mild constraints on the activation functions (e.g., local Lipschitz continuity), the parameters for this entire general class of functions can be trained using a unified method (backpropagation + gradient descent).

This means we don't need a separate training theory for each new architecture.

Let's look at a few examples to see how this formal definition can represent various functions.

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 Simple models like linear and logistic regression are just special cases of neural networks. A neural network is a broad concept that includes these.

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The key takeaways from this section are:

- Simple models like linear and logistic regression are just special cases of neural networks. A neural network is a broad concept that includes these.
- The architecture of a neural network can be very flexible and irregular. The design freedom is immense, opening the door for future innovations.

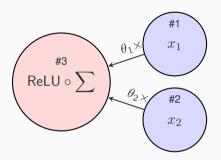
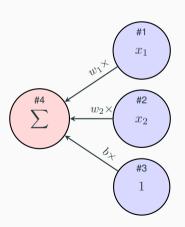


Figure 5: Legend for DAG representation of a neural network.

- Nodes: Circles are computational units. Blue for input, red for output. Inside is the node number and activation function.
- Activation Function Shorthand: A function name like 'ReLU' on a node with multiple inputs is shorthand for "sum the inputs, then apply the function" (e.g., ReLU ∘ ∑).
- Edges: Arrows show data flow. A label like $\theta_1 \times$ means multiply by parameter θ_1 .

Consider the linear regression model $f(x) = w_1x_1 + w_2x_2 + b$. This can be represented by the following architecture.



Architecture:

- Nodes: 1, 2, 3 for inputs (x₁, x₂, and a constant 1 for the bias).
- Node 4: Output node.
 Activation function is summation (∑).
- Edges: Weights are parameters w_1, w_2, b .

Let's execute the computation.

- Checkpoint: $\theta = [w_1, w_2, b]^{\top} = [1.0, -2.0, 0.5]^{\top}$.
- Input: $\boldsymbol{x} = [x_1, x_2]^{\top} = [3.0, 4.0]^{\top}$.

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- Input: $\mathbf{x} = [x_1, x_2]^{\top} = [3.0, 4.0]^{\top}$.
- 1. Nodes 1, 2, 3: These are input nodes.
 - Return value of node 1: $r^{(1)} = [x_1] = [3.0]$.
 - Return value of node 2: $r^{(2)} = [x_2] = [4.0]$.
 - Return value of node 3: $r^{(3)} = [1.0]$ (constant bias input).

- 2. **Node 4**: This node sums its arguments. First, we compute the arguments.

 - Arg 1 (from node 1): $a_1^{(4)}=w_1\times r_1^{(1)}=1.0\times 3.0=3.0.$ Arg 2 (from node 2): $a_2^{(4)}=w_2\times r_1^{(2)}=-2.0\times 4.0=-8.0.$
 - Arg 3 (from node 3): $a_2^{(4)} = b \times r_1^{(3)} = 0.5 \times 1.0 = 0.5$.

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The return value of node 4 is the sum of these arguments:

$$\mathbf{r}^{(4)} = \mathbf{g}^{(4)}(3.0, -8.0, 0.5) = [3.0 - 8.0 + 0.5] = [-4.5]$$

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Final Output: The network's output is taken from node 4, so y = [-4.5].

Exercise

For parameters
$$m{w} = \begin{bmatrix} -0.5 \\ 3.0 \end{bmatrix}$$
 , $b = -1.0$, find the output for the same input

$$\boldsymbol{x} = \begin{bmatrix} 3.0 \\ 4.0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

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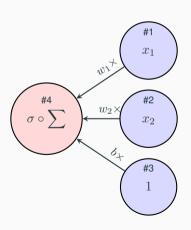
$$m{x} = \begin{bmatrix} 3.0 \\ 4.0 \end{bmatrix}$$
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Solution:

- The arguments to node 4 are:

 - $a_1^{(4)} = -0.5 \times 3.0 = -1.5$. $a_2^{(4)} = 3.0 \times 4.0 = 12.0$. $a_3^{(4)} = -1.0 \times 1.0 = -1.0$.
- The sum is $r^{(4)} = [-1.5 + 12.0 1.0] = [9.5].$
- Final Output: y = [9.5].

Consider the logistic regression model $f(x) = \sigma(w_1x_1 + w_2x_2 + b)$, where σ is the sigmoid function.



Architecture: Almost the same as linear regression. The only change is the activation function of node 4.

Node 4 Activation:

$$g^{(4)}(\boldsymbol{a}) = \sigma(\sum_i a_i).$$

Let's execute the computation.

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The return value of node 4 applies the sigmoid function:

$$r^{(4)} = g^{(4)}(a^{(4)}) = [\sigma(-4.5)]$$

$$\sigma(-4.5) = \frac{1}{1 + e^{4.5}} \approx \frac{1}{1 + 90.017} \approx 0.01098$$

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Final Output: $y \approx [0.01098]$.

Exercise

For parameters
$${m w}=\begin{bmatrix} -0.5\\ 3.0 \end{bmatrix}, b=-1.0$$
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Solution:

- The sum of arguments for node 4 is 9.5 (from the linear regression exercise).
- The return value is $r^{(4)} = [\sigma(9.5)]$.
- $\sigma(9.5) = \frac{1}{1+e^{-9.5}} \approx \frac{1}{1+0.0000748} \approx 0.999925.$
- Final Output: $y \approx [0.999925]$.

Consider an MLP with a 2D input, a 2D hidden layer (with ReLU), and a 1D output.

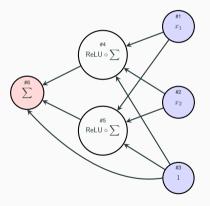


Figure 8: DAG of an MLP. Note the intermediate nodes #4 and #5.

Let's execute the computation.

Checkpoint:

$$\boldsymbol{\theta} = [w_{11}, w_{12}, w_{21}, w_{22}, b_1, b_2, v_1, v_2, c]^{\top} = [1, 1, -1, -1, 0, 1, 2, 3, -1]^{\top}.$$

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- Input: $x = [3.0, 4.0]^{\top}$.
- 1. **Nodes 1, 2, 3**: Return input values [3.0], [4.0], [1.0] respectively.
- 2. Node 4 (Hidden 1):
 - Sum of arguments: $(1 \times 3.0) + (1 \times 4.0) + (0 \times 1.0) = 7.0$.
 - Return value: $r^{(4)} = [ReLU(7.0)] = [7.0].$

3. Node 5 (Hidden 2):

- Sum of arguments: $(-1 \times 3.0) + (-1 \times 4.0) + (1 \times 1.0) = -3.0 4.0 + 1.0 = -6.0$.
- Return value: $\boldsymbol{r}^{(5)} = [\mathrm{ReLU}(-6.0)] = [0.0].$

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4. Node 6 (Output):

- Arguments come from nodes 4, 5, and the bias node 3.
- · Sum of arguments:

$$(v_1 \times r_1^{(4)}) + (v_2 \times r_1^{(5)}) + (c \times r_1^{(3)}) = (2 \times 7.0) + (3 \times 0.0) + (-1 \times 1.0).$$

- = 14.0 + 0.0 1.0 = 13.0.
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- = 14.0 + 0.0 1.0 = 13.0.
- Return value: $r^{(6)} = [13.0]$.

Final Output: y = [13.0].

Remark (Vector Notation for MLP)

The MLP's computation can be expressed concisely using vectors and matrices. Let the input be x, hidden weights be W, hidden bias be b, output weights be v, and output bias be c.

$$y = c + \boldsymbol{v}^{\top} \mathsf{ReLU} \left(\boldsymbol{b} + \boldsymbol{W} \boldsymbol{x} \right) \tag{1}$$

Here, ReLU applied to a vector means it's applied to each element (element-wise application).

Exercise

In the MLP example, find the output for the input $x = \begin{bmatrix} 3.0 \\ 4.0 \end{bmatrix}$ with parameters

$$m{ heta} = egin{bmatrix} 0.5 & -0.5 & 0.5 & -0.5 & 1 & -1 & -2 & 1 & 0.5 \end{bmatrix}^{ op}.$$

5.1 Example: Multilayer Perceptron (MLP)

Exercise

In the MLP example, find the output for the input $m{x} = \begin{bmatrix} 3.0 \\ 4.0 \end{bmatrix}$ with parameters

$$\boldsymbol{\theta} = \begin{bmatrix} 0.5 & -0.5 & 0.5 & -0.5 & 1 & -1 & -2 & 1 & 0.5 \end{bmatrix}^{\top}.$$

Solution:

- Node 4 (Hidden 1): Sum is $(0.5 \times 3) + (-0.5 \times 4) + (1 \times 1) = 0.5$. $r^{(4)} = [\text{ReLU}(0.5)] = [0.5]$.
- Node 5 (Hidden 2): Sum is $(0.5 \times 3) + (-0.5 \times 4) + (-1 \times 1) = -1.5$. $r^{(5)} = [\text{ReLU}(-1.5)] = [0.0]$.
- Node 6 (Output): Sum is $(-2 \times 0.5) + (1 \times 0.0) + (0.5 \times 1) = -0.5$. $r^{(6)} = [-0.5]$.

Final Output: y = [-0.5].

As an example of **parameter sharing**, let's consider a 1D convolutional layer with a kernel of size 2, $k = [k_1, k_2]^{\top}$.

$$y_1 = k_1 x_1 + k_2 x_2$$
$$y_2 = k_1 x_2 + k_2 x_3$$
$$y_3 = k_1 x_3 + k_2 x_4$$

The same parameters k_1, k_2 are reused.

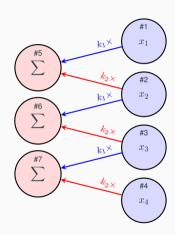


Figure 9: DAG of a 1D convolution. Edges of the same color share the same parameter.

Let's execute the computation.

- Checkpoint: $\theta = [k_1, k_2]^{\top} = [0.5, -1.0]^{\top}$.
- Input: $x = [2.0, -1.0, 3.0, 0.0]^{\top}$.

Let's execute the computation.

- Checkpoint: $\theta = [k_1, k_2]^{\top} = [0.5, -1.0]^{\top}$.
- Input: $x = [2.0, -1.0, 3.0, 0.0]^{\top}$.
- 1. **Nodes 1-4**: Return input values [2.0], [-1.0], [3.0], [0.0].
- 2. Node 5 (Output 1):
 - Arguments: $(\theta_1 \times r_1^{(1)}), (\theta_2 \times r_1^{(2)}) = (0.5 \times 2.0), (-1.0 \times -1.0).$
 - Sum: 1.0 + 1.0 = 2.0. Return value: $r^{(5)} = [2.0]$.

Let's execute the computation.

- Checkpoint: $\theta = [k_1, k_2]^{\top} = [0.5, -1.0]^{\top}$.
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- 1. **Nodes 1-4**: Return input values [2.0], [-1.0], [3.0], [0.0].
- 2. Node 5 (Output 1):
 - Arguments: $(\theta_1 \times r_1^{(1)}), (\theta_2 \times r_1^{(2)}) = (0.5 \times 2.0), (-1.0 \times -1.0).$
 - Sum: 1.0 + 1.0 = 2.0. Return value: $r^{(5)} = [2.0]$.
- 3. Node 6 (Output 2):
 - Arguments: $(\theta_1 \times r_1^{(2)}), (\theta_2 \times r_1^{(3)}) = (0.5 \times -1.0), (-1.0 \times 3.0).$
 - Sum: -0.5 3.0 = -3.5. Return value: $r^{(6)} = [-3.5]$.

4. Node 7 (Output 3):

- Arguments: $(\theta_1 \times r_1^{(3)}), (\theta_2 \times r_1^{(4)}) = (0.5 \times 3.0), (-1.0 \times 0.0).$
- Sum: 1.5 + 0.0 = 1.5. Return value: $r^{(7)} = [1.5]$.

- 4. Node 7 (Output 3):
 - Arguments: $(\theta_1 \times r_1^{(3)}), (\theta_2 \times r_1^{(4)}) = (0.5 \times 3.0), (-1.0 \times 0.0).$
 - Sum: 1.5 + 0.0 = 1.5. Return value: $r^{(7)} = [1.5]$.
- 5. **Network Output**: The output is the concatenation of the return values from nodes 5, 6, and 7.

$$\mathbf{y} = \begin{bmatrix} r_1^{(5)} \\ r_1^{(6)} \\ r_1^{(7)} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 2.0 \\ -3.5 \\ 1.5 \end{bmatrix}$$

Remark (Definition of Convolution)

The convolution operation, denoted by '*', is more generally defined by considering **padding** (adding zeros to the input ends) and **stride** (the step size when sliding the kernel).

The output size d_{out} depends on the input size d_{in} , kernel size d_{k} , padding p, and stride s:

$$d_{\text{out}} = \lfloor \frac{d_{\text{in}} + 2p - d_{\text{k}}}{s} \rfloor + 1$$

Our example was a case of p=0 (no padding) and s=1 (stride 1).

Exercise

In the 1D convolution example, find the output for the input $x = \begin{bmatrix} 2.0 \\ -1.0 \\ 3.0 \\ 0.0 \end{bmatrix}$ with

parameters
$$oldsymbol{ heta} = [k_1, k_2]^ op = egin{bmatrix} 1.5 \\ 1.0 \end{bmatrix}$$
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Exercise

In the 1D convolution example, find the output for the input $x = \begin{bmatrix} 2.0 \\ -1.0 \\ 3.0 \\ 0.0 \end{bmatrix}$ with

parameters
$$\boldsymbol{\theta} = [k_1, k_2]^{\top} = \begin{bmatrix} 1.5 \\ 1.0 \end{bmatrix}$$
.

Solution:

- Output 1 (Node 5): $(1.5 \times 2.0) + (1.0 \times -1.0) = 3.0 1.0 = 2.0$.
- Output 2 (Node 6): $(1.5 \times -1.0) + (1.0 \times 3.0) = -1.5 + 3.0 = 1.5$.
- Output 3 (Node 7): $(1.5 \times 3.0) + (1.0 \times 0.0) = 4.5 + 0.0 = 4.5$.

Final Output: $y = [2.0, 1.5, 4.5]^{\top}$.

Our framework allows for irregular structures, multi-dimensional outputs from nodes, and multiple edges between nodes.

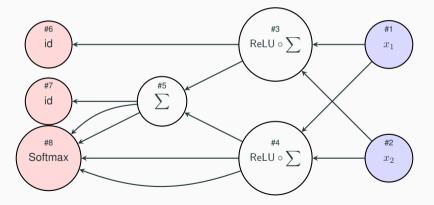


Figure 10: Example of a network with a complex structure

Input: $x = [1.0, -2.0]^{\mathsf{T}}$. Weights are given.

1. Nodes 1, 2: $r^{(1)} = [1.0], r^{(2)} = [-2.0].$

Input: $x = [1.0, -2.0]^{T}$. Weights are given.

- 1. Nodes 1, 2: $r^{(1)} = [1.0], r^{(2)} = [-2.0].$
- 2. Node 3: $(\theta_{(1,3)} = 1, \theta_{(2,3)} = 1)$
 - Sum of args: $(1 \times 1.0) + (1 \times -2.0) = -1.0$.
 - Return value: $r^{(3)} = [ReLU(-1.0)] = [0.0].$

Input: $x = [1.0, -2.0]^{\mathsf{T}}$. Weights are given.

- 1. Nodes 1, 2: $r^{(1)} = [1.0], r^{(2)} = [-2.0].$
- 2. Node 3: $(\theta_{(1,3)} = 1, \theta_{(2,3)} = 1)$
 - Sum of args: $(1 \times 1.0) + (1 \times -2.0) = -1.0$.
 - Return value: $r^{(3)} = [ReLU(-1.0)] = [0.0].$
- 3. Node 4: $(\theta_{(1,4)} = 1, \theta_{(2,4)} = -1)$
 - Sum of args: $(1 \times 1.0) + (-1 \times -2.0) = 3.0$.
 - Return value: $r^{(4)} = [ReLU(3.0)] = [3.0].$

- 4. Node 5: $(\theta_{(3,5)} = 0.5, \theta_{(4,5)} = -0.5)$
 - Sum of args: $(0.5 \times r_1^{(3)}) + (-0.5 \times r_1^{(4)}) = (0.5 \times 0.0) + (-0.5 \times 3.0) = -1.5$.
 - Return value: $r^{(5)} = [-1.5]$.

- 4. Node 5: $(\theta_{(3.5)} = 0.5, \theta_{(4.5)} = -0.5)$
 - Sum of args: $(0.5 \times r_1^{(3)}) + (-0.5 \times r_1^{(4)}) = (0.5 \times 0.0) + (-0.5 \times 3.0) = -1.5.$
 - Return value: $r^{(5)} = [-1.5]$.
- 5. Node 6: $(\theta_{(3,6)} = 1)$
 - Argument: $(1 \times r_1^{(3)}) = 0.0$. Return value: $\boldsymbol{r}^{(6)} = [0.0]$.

- 4. Node 5: $(\theta_{(3,5)} = 0.5, \theta_{(4,5)} = -0.5)$
 - Sum of args: $(0.5 \times r_1^{(3)}) + (-0.5 \times r_1^{(4)}) = (0.5 \times 0.0) + (-0.5 \times 3.0) = -1.5.$
 - Return value: $r^{(5)} = [-1.5]$.
- 5. Node 6: $(\theta_{(3,6)} = 1)$
 - Argument: $(1 \times r_1^{(3)}) = 0.0$. Return value: $\boldsymbol{r}^{(6)} = [0.0]$.
- 6. Node 7: $(\theta_{(5,7)} = 2)$
 - Argument: $(2 \times r_1^{(5)}) = -3.0$. Return value: $r^{(7)} = [-3.0]$.

- 8. **Node 8**: This node has 4 arguments coming from nodes 4 and 5.
 - $a_1^{(8)} = \theta_{(4,8),1} r_1^{(4)} = 1 \times 3.0 = 3.0$
 - $a_2^{(8)} = \theta_{(4,8),2} r_1^{(4)} = -1 \times 3.0 = -3.0$
 - $a_3^{(8)} = \theta_{(5,8),1} r_1^{(5)} = 1 \times -1.5 = -1.5$
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The activation function computes Softmax ($\begin{bmatrix} a_1+a_3 \\ a_2+a_4 \end{bmatrix}$).

$$z = \begin{bmatrix} 3.0 - 1.5 \\ -3.0 - 1.5 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1.5 \\ -4.5 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\boldsymbol{r}^{(8)} = \mathsf{Softmax}(\boldsymbol{z}) = \frac{1}{e^{1.5} + e^{-4.5}} \begin{bmatrix} e^{1.5} \\ e^{-4.5} \end{bmatrix} \approx \begin{bmatrix} 0.9975 \\ 0.0025 \end{bmatrix}$$

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•
$$a_3^{(8)} = \theta_{(5,8),1} r_1^{(5)} = 1 \times -1.5 = -1.5$$

•
$$a_4^{(8)} = \theta_{(5,8),2} r_1^{(5)} = 1 \times -1.5 = -1.5$$

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Final Output: Concatenating outputs from nodes 6, 7, and 8 gives $y \approx [0.0, -3.0, 0.9975, 0.0025]^{\top}$.

Exercise

For the same complex architecture and input $x = \begin{bmatrix} 1.0 \\ -2.0 \end{bmatrix}$, calculate the output with a different set of parameters (provided in the lecture notes).

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For the same complex architecture and input $x = \begin{bmatrix} 1.0 \\ -2.0 \end{bmatrix}$, calculate the output with a different set of parameters (provided in the lecture notes).

Solution:

- Node 3 output $r^{(3)} = [ReLU(1.5)] = [1.5].$
- Node 4 output $r^{(4)} = [ReLU(1.0)] = [1.0].$
- Node 5 output $r^{(5)} = [1.5 + 1.0] = [2.5].$
- Node 6 output $r^{(6)} = [-2 \times 1.5] = [-3.0]$.
- Node 7 output $r^{(7)} = [1 \times 2.5] = [2.5].$
- Node 8 input vector $z = \begin{bmatrix} (0.5 \times 1.0) + (-1 \times 2.5) \\ (0.5 \times 1.0) + (1 \times 2.5) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -2.0 \\ 3.0 \end{bmatrix}$.
- Node 8 output $r^{(8)} = \text{Softmax}(\begin{bmatrix} -2.0 \\ 3.0 \end{bmatrix}) \approx [0.0067, 0.9933]^{\top}$.

Final Output: $y \approx [-3.0, 2.5, 0.0067, 0.9933]^{\top}$.

<mark>43</mark>/51

Let's summarize the key components of a neural network based on our discussion.

- 1. A human first designs the computational blueprint: the DAG, activation functions, and parameter assignments.
- 2. Then, a learning process (**training**) finds the specific numerical values for the parameters suitable for the task.

Let's summarize the key components of a neural network based on our discussion.

- 1. A human first designs the computational blueprint: the DAG, activation functions, and parameter assignments.
- 2. Then, a learning process (**training**) finds the specific numerical values for the parameters suitable for the task.

Definition (Architecture and Checkpoint)

- Architecture: The design information of a neural network, i.e., everything
 other than the specific values of the parameters. (This is what we formally
 defined earlier).
- Checkpoint: A set of specific parameter values (a list of numbers) that have been learned for a specific architecture.

44/51

Remark (The Ambiguity of the Word "Model")

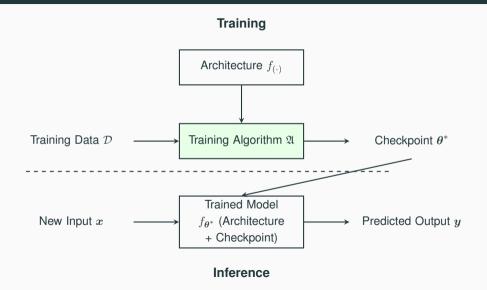
The term "model of a neural network" can be ambiguous, so caution is required.

• In theoretical contexts or research papers, "model" often refers **only to the architecture**. (e.g., "The Transformer model").

Remark (The Ambiguity of the Word "Model")

The term "model of a neural network" can be ambiguous, so caution is required.

- In theoretical contexts or research papers, "model" often refers **only to the architecture**. (e.g., "The Transformer model").
- In applied contexts or software libraries, "model" often refers to the pair of an architecture and a checkpoint. (e.g., "a pre-trained model").



46/51

Summary and Future Outlook

 A neural network is a type of parametric function whose specific computation is determined by the values of its parameters.

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- Its computational structure is rigorously defined by a Directed Acyclic Graph (DAG).
- The specification of a neural network is clearly separated into two components: the architecture (the "blueprint") and the checkpoint (the specific parameter values).
- A specific, computable "trained model" is completed only when an architecture and a checkpoint are combined.

7.2 Preview of the Next Lecture

This time, we have seen that a neural network is a parametric function composed of two elements: the architecture and the checkpoint. With an understanding of this distinction, you are ready to use neural networks as black boxes.

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This time, we have seen that a neural network is a parametric function composed of two elements: the architecture and the checkpoint. With an understanding of this distinction, you are ready to use neural networks as black boxes.

Next time, we will discuss the inescapable issue of **licenses** when using publicly available neural network models.

In fact, the distinction between architecture and checkpoint, and between "training" and "inference," which we learned today, is critically important for understanding the scope of license application.

Appendix: Constraints on Activation Functions i

In theory, any function can be an activation function. In practice, we choose functions with specific properties for two main reasons:

- Possibility of Training: We need to use gradient methods for efficient training. This requires the gradient (how a small parameter change affects the output) to be well-defined.
- 2. **Reusability of Parameters:** Techniques like **fine-tuning** (reusing a trained checkpoint for a new task) require stability. A small change in parameters should only cause a small change in the output.

Appendix: Constraints on Activation Functions ii

Appendix: Constraints on Activation Functions iii

- It mathematically justifies the use of gradient methods.
- It ensures the entire neural network is also locally Lipschitz continuous with respect to its parameters θ , enabling stable training and fine-tuning.