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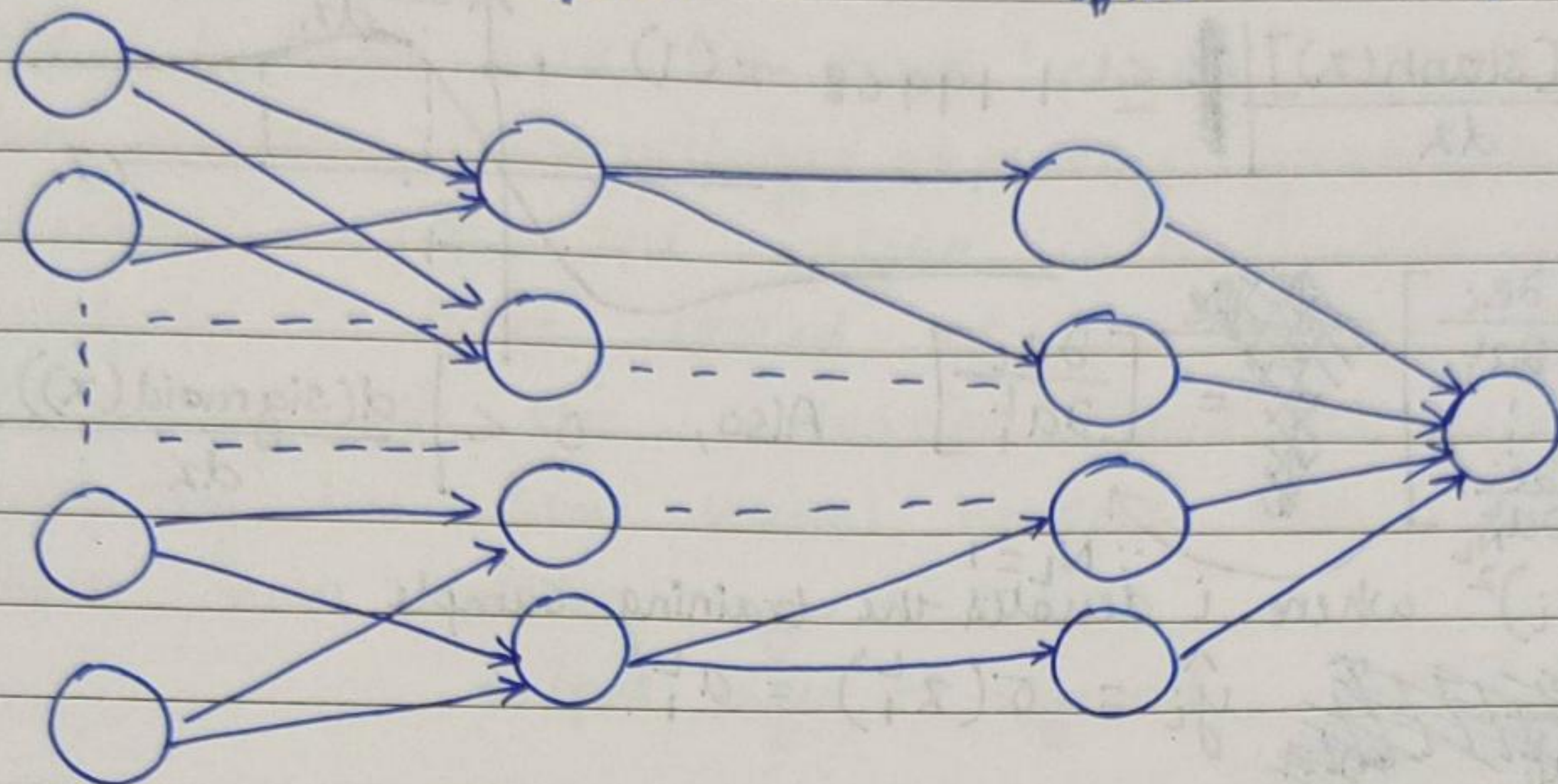
## Assignment 2

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(d) each hidden layer  $\rightarrow$  tanh activation functions  
 output layer  $\rightarrow$  logistic sigmoid activation function



Input layer      1st Hidden Layer      2nd Hidden Layer      Output Layer

In a generalized setting, we have shown in class that  $\rightarrow$

$$\therefore \nabla_{w^L} e = \text{Diag}(\phi'^L) V^{L+1} \dots V^L S^L (a^{L-1})^T$$

$$\text{where } V^{L+1} = \begin{bmatrix} w_{11}^{L+1} & \dots & w_{N_{L+1}1}^{L+1} \\ \vdots & & \vdots \\ w_{1N_L}^{L+1} & \dots & w_{N_{L+1}N_L}^{L+1} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \phi'(z_1^{L+1}) \\ \vdots \\ \phi'(z_{N_{L+1}}^{L+1}) \end{bmatrix}$$

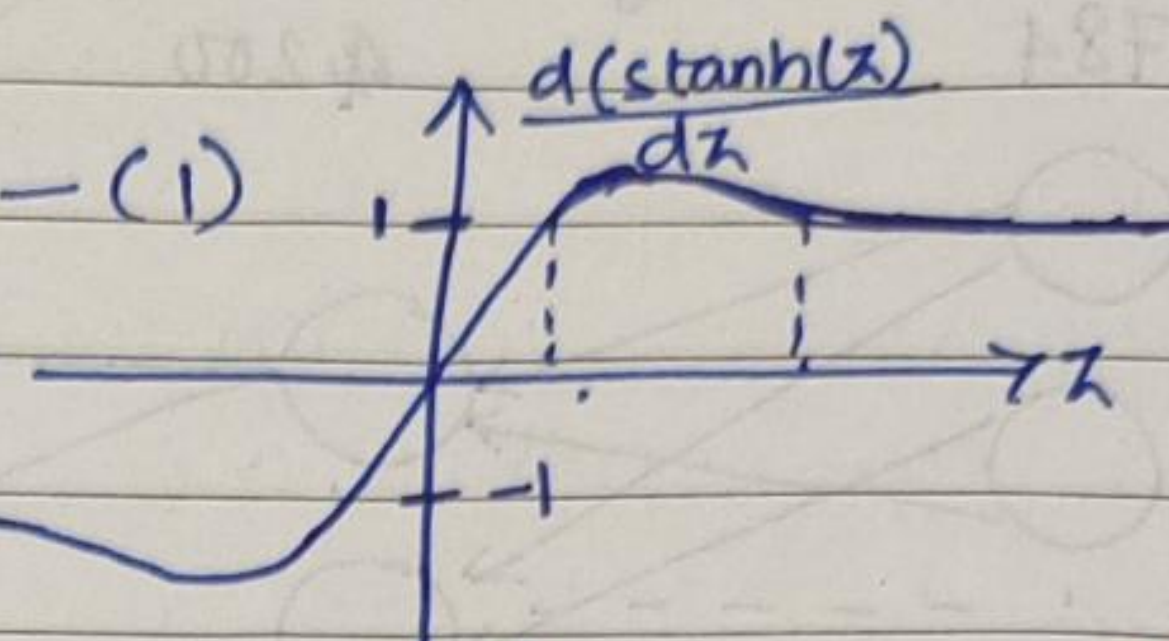
Note that the error gradients at the last layer flow back into the previous layers

- exploding gradient problem  $\equiv \nabla_{w^L} e$  gradients become very large in magnitude i.e. approach  $\infty$
- vanishing gradient problem  $\equiv \nabla_{w^L} e$  gradients become very small, i.e. they approach 0
- \* The magnitude of  $\nabla_{w^L} e$  gradients in magnitude depends upon  $V^{L+1} V^{L+2} \dots V^L S^L$
- \* For our analysis, it suffices to only look at the derivatives of the activation functions and the derivative of the error function wrt the activation of the output layer.



$$\text{stanh}(z) = z \sigma_{\text{tan}}(z) \text{ where } \sigma_{\text{tan}}(z) = \frac{e^z - e^{-z}}{e^z + e^{-z}}$$

$$\text{So, } \frac{d[\text{stanh}(z)]}{dz} = \tanh(z) + z \text{sech}^2(z)$$

$$0 \leq \left| \frac{d[\text{stanh}(z)]}{dz} \right| \leq 1.19968 \quad (1)$$


$$\text{Now, } S_L = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial e_i}{\partial a_1^L} \\ \vdots \\ \frac{\partial e_i}{\partial a_{N_L}^L} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial e_i}{\partial a_1^L} \\ \vdots \\ \frac{\partial e_i}{\partial a_{N_L}^L} \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{Also, } 0 < \left| \frac{d(\text{sigmoid}(z))}{dz} \right| \leq \frac{1}{4}$$

•  $e_i = (\hat{y}_i - y_i)^2$  where  $i$  denotes the training sample

• We have  $\hat{y}_i = \sigma(z_1^L) = a_1^L$

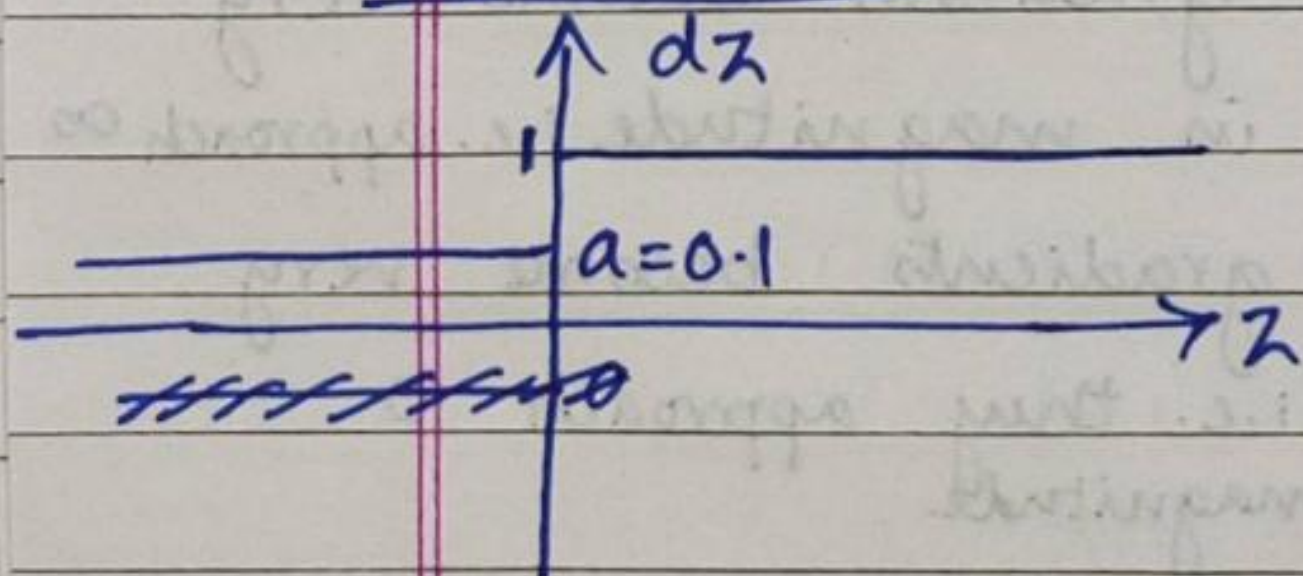
$$\text{So, } \frac{\partial e_i}{\partial a_1^L} = \frac{\partial e_i}{\partial \hat{y}_i} \times \frac{\partial \hat{y}_i}{\partial a_1^L} = 2(\hat{y}_i - y_i) \cdot 1 = 2(\hat{y}_i - y_i) \text{ where } |\hat{y}_i| \leq 1$$

Due to (1), we can say that as the derivatives or slope <sup>finite</sup> gets larger and larger as we go backward with every layer during backprop  $\Rightarrow$  Exploding gradients

(e) Considering the same neural network architecture before where now hidden layer  $\rightarrow$  a-relu output layer  $\rightarrow$  sigmoid

$$\text{Now, } a\text{-relu}(z) = \begin{cases} az & \text{if } z < 0 \\ z & \text{else} \end{cases} \text{ where } a = 0.1$$

$$\text{So, } \frac{d(a\text{-relu}(z))}{dz} = \begin{cases} a & \text{if } z < 0 \\ 1 & \text{else} \end{cases}$$



$$\text{Also, } 0 < \left| \frac{d(\text{sigmoid}(z))}{dz} \right| \leq \frac{1}{4}$$

$0.1 \leq \left| \frac{d(a\text{-relu}(z))}{dz} \right| \leq 1$  } From this bound and the previous discussion on  $\frac{\partial e_i}{\partial a_1^L}$ , we can safely interpret that a-ReLU causes vanishing gradients for inputs smaller than zero while for other inputs they allow the



gradient to pass through. The chance for vanishing gradient can be minimized by taking a larger value of 'a'.

Ideally, we would want  $a = \lim_{x \rightarrow 1^-} x$  i.e.  $a = 0.99, 0.999, \dots$

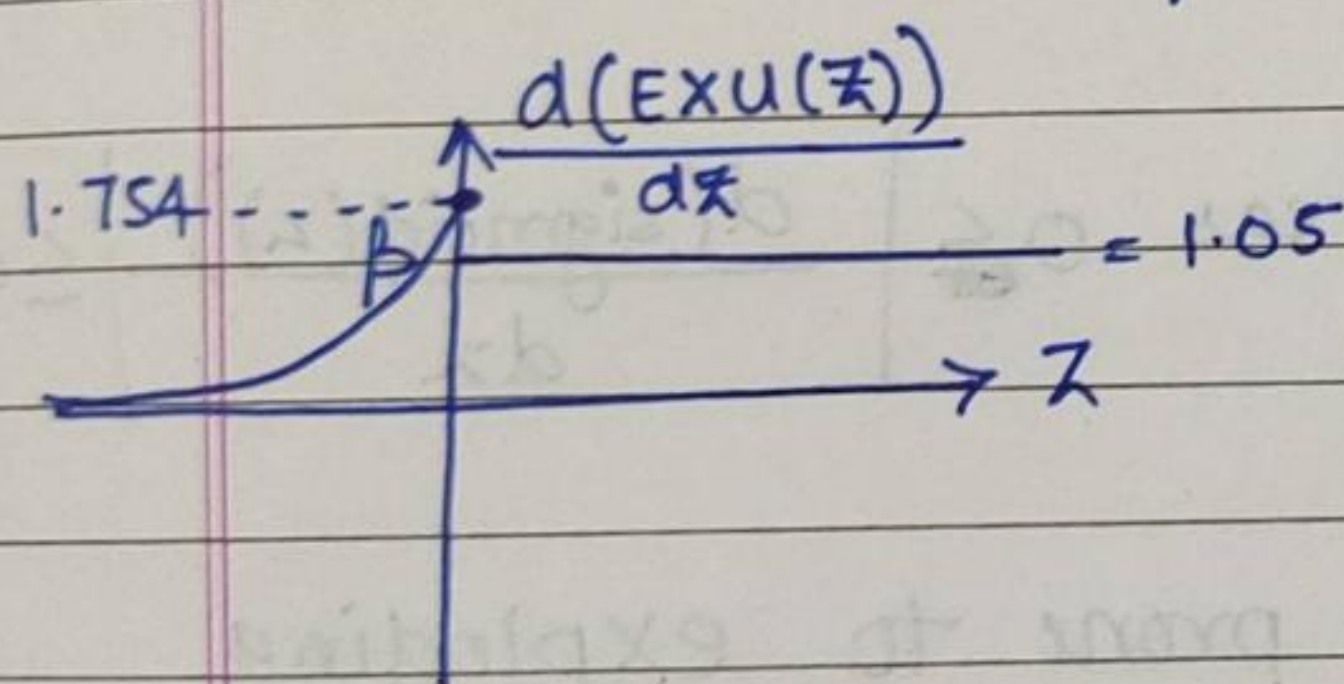
\* Note:- I have used the term 'chance' above because this problem of vanishing/exploding gradients ~~also~~ depends upon the weight initialization also. For my analysis, I have looked at the bounds of the derivatives of the activation functions used.

(f) Considering the same neural network architecture before  
where now hidden layer  $\rightarrow$  EXU  
output layer  $\rightarrow$  sigmoid

$$\text{Now, } \text{EXU}(z) = \begin{cases} \beta z & \text{if } z \geq 0 \\ \beta u(\exp(z)-1) & \text{else} \end{cases}$$

where  $\beta = 1.05$  and  $u = 1.67$

$$\frac{d(\text{EXU}(z))}{dz} = \begin{cases} \beta & \text{if } z \geq 0 \\ \beta u \exp(z) & \text{else} \end{cases}$$



$$\text{So, } 0 \leq \left| \frac{d(\text{EXU}(z))}{dz} \right| \leq 1.754$$

$$\text{Also, } 0 < \left| \frac{d(\text{sigmoid}(z))}{dz} \right| \leq \frac{1}{4}$$

Note, here we may be tempted to say that this model would suffer from exploding gradients since  $\left| \frac{d(\text{EXU}(z))}{dz} \right|_{\max} = 1.754$ . However, if we

closely examine the graph of  $\frac{d(\text{EXU}(z))}{dz}$  v/s  $z$ , we will notice that the range of  $z$  for ~~over~~ which  $\frac{d(\text{EXU}(z))}{dz} \geq 1.05$  is extremely small. Rather, this model ~~should~~ should more likely to suffer from vanishing gradients since  $\lim_{z \rightarrow -\infty} \frac{d(\text{EXU}(z))}{dz} = 0$



(g) d → tanh, tanh, <sup>sigmoid</sup> ~~exploding~~ gradient issue → 'd' mode with tanh  
 e → a-ReLU, a-ReLU, sigmoid  
 f → EXU, EXU, sigmoid Reasons →

- Networks that were more prone to vanishing gradient issue → 'f' model with EXU
- large weight initialization
- accumulation of large error gradients which result in extremely large updates to neural network model weights during training.

Reason → • many times multiplication of smaller number (magnitude of activation function's derivative) results in a very small number (close to 0)

- derivative of sigmoid is always below 0.25
- derivative of EXU over a longer range of  $\mathbb{R}$  gives a value close to 0.

(h) d → tanh, tanh, linear  
 e → a-ReLU, a-ReLU, linear  
 f → EXU, EXU, linear

$$\left| \frac{d(\text{linear}(z))}{dz} \right| = 1 \quad \text{whereas} \quad 0 \leq \left| \frac{d(\text{sigmoid}(z))}{dz} \right| \leq 0.25$$

⇒ The model becomes more prone to exploding gradient problem and becomes less prone to vanishing gradient problem. due to an increase in the maximum value of derivative of activation function used in the <sup>absolute</sup> output layer.

$0 \leq \left| \frac{d(\text{ReLU}(z))}{dz} \right| \leq 1 \Rightarrow$  The model should be more stable wrt to both exploding and vanishing gradient problems due to the range of  $\frac{d(\text{ReLU}(z))}{dz} \in [0, 1]$ .