# Lecture 3 A Minimal Case Study

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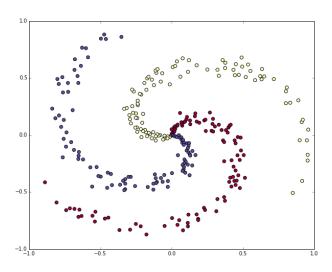






Introduction to Neural Networks July 12, 2025

# Nonlinear Classification



#### The Road Ahead...

1 Training Softmax Classifier

**2** Training Neural Network

3 Becoming Backprop Ninja

### **Throwback**

### $L^2$ regularized loss

$$L = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i} L_{i} + \frac{1}{2} \lambda \sum_{i,j} W_{ij}^{2}$$

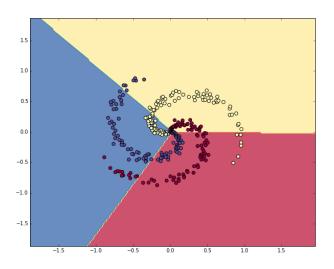
- ► Softmax classifier
  - linear score:  $f(x_i, W, b) = Wx_i + b$
  - ross-entropy loss:  $L_i = -\log(p_{y_i})$ ,  $p_k = \frac{e^{f_k}}{\sum_i e^{f_j}}$
- Backpropagation

$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial W_{k\cdot}} = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i} \underbrace{\frac{\partial L_{i}}{\partial f_{k}}}_{p_{k}-1(y_{i}=k)} \underbrace{\frac{\partial f_{k}}{\partial W_{k\cdot}}}_{x'_{i}} + \lambda W_{k\cdot}$$

#### Forward-Backward Pass

```
import numpy as np
# Forward pass
exp\_scores = np.exp(np.dot(X, W) + b)
probs = exp_scores / np.sum(exp_scores, axis=1,
   keepdims=True)
correct_logprobs = -np.log(probs[range(
   num_examples), y])
loss = np.sum(correct_logprobs) / num_examples +
   0.5 * reg * np.sum(W * W)
# Backward pass
probs[range(num_examples),y] -= 1
dscores = probs / num_examples
dW = np.dot(X.T, dscores)
db = np.sum(dscores, axis=0, keepdims=True)
dW += reg*W
```

### Softmax Classifier



#### The Road Ahead...

Training Softmax Classifier

**2** Training Neural Network

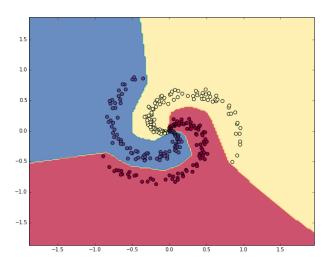
3 Becoming Backprop Ninja

#### Forward-Backward Pass

```
# Forward pass
hidden_layer = np.maximum(0, np.dot(X, W) + b)
scores = np.dot(hidden_layer, W2) + b2

# Backward pass
dW2 = np.dot(hidden_layer.T, dscores)
db2 = np.sum(dscores, axis=0, keepdims=True)
dhidden = np.dot(dscores, W2.T)
dhidden[hidden_layer <= 0] = 0 # ReLU
dW = np.dot(X.T, dhidden)
db = np.sum(dhidden, axis=0, keepdims=True)</pre>
```

## Neural Network



### PyTorch Implementation

```
import torch
import torch.nn as nn
import torch.optim as optim
X_tensor = torch.tensor(X, dtype=torch.float32)
y_tensor = torch.tensor(y, dtype=torch.long)
class SimpleNN(nn.Module):
    def __init__(self, D, h, K):
        super(SimpleNN, self).__init__()
        self.fc1 = nn.Linear(D, h)
        self.relu = nn.ReLU()
        self.fc2 = nn.Linear(h, K)
    def forward(self, x):
        x = self.fc1(x)
        x = self.relu(x)
        x = self.fc2(x)
        return x
```

# PyTorch Implementation (Cont'd)

```
# Initialization
model = SimpleNN(D, h, K)
criterion = nn.CrossEntropyLoss()
optimizer = optim.SGD(model.parameters(), lr=1e-0,
    weight_decay=1e-3)
# Training
for epoch in range(num_epochs):
    # Forward pass
    scores = model(X_tensor)
    loss = criterion(scores, y_tensor)
    optimizer.zero_grad() # zero grad!
    # Backward pass
    loss.backward()
    optimizer.step()
```

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# Deep Learning Then vs. Now

Deep Learning then



backward pass by hand

Deep Learning now



loss.backward()

## **Bonus Question**

Consider vanilla neural network

$$z_i^{(l)} = B^{(l)} a_i^{(l-1)} + b^{(l)}, \quad l = 1, ..., L+1$$
  
 $a_i^{(l)} = \max(0, z_i^{(l)}), \quad l = 1, ..., L$ 

with parameters

$$\beta = [\beta^{(1)'}, b^{(1)'}, \dots, \beta^{(L+1)'}, b^{(L+1)'}]', \quad \beta^{(l)} = \text{vec}(B^{(l)'})$$

Prove backprop recursion

$$V_{i}^{(l)} = \frac{\partial z_{i}^{(L+1)}}{\partial b^{(l)'}} = V_{i}^{(l+1)} B^{(l+1)} D_{i}^{(l)}, \quad D_{i}^{(l)} = \frac{\partial a_{i}^{(l)}}{\partial z_{i}^{(l)'}}$$

$$U_{i}^{(l)} = \frac{\partial z_{i}^{(L+1)}}{\partial \beta^{(l)'}} = V_{i}^{(l)} (I \otimes a_{i}^{(l-1)'}), \quad l = 1, \dots, L$$

#### References

- cs231n.stanford.edu CS231n: Deep Learning for Computer Vision
- ► A visual proof that neural nets can compute any function [link], by Michael Nielsen
- PyTorch internals [link], by Edward Yang