

Neural networks and Backpropagation

Charles Ollion - Olivier Grisel



Neural Network for classification

Vector function with tunable parameters θ

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Sample s in dataset \mathcal{S} :

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- expected output: $y^s \in [0, K - 1]$

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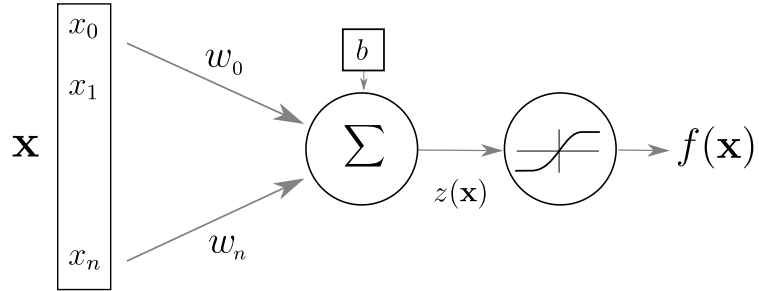
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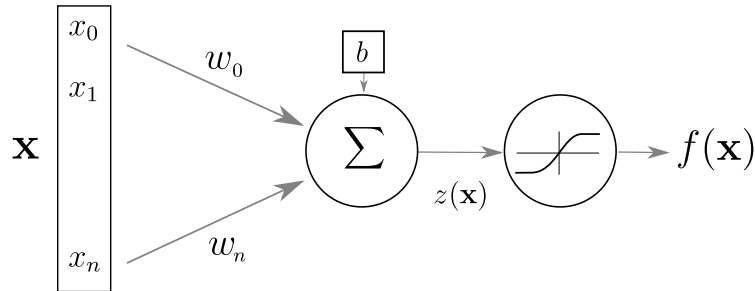
Output is a conditional probability distribution:

$$\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}^s; \theta)_c = P(Y = c | X = \mathbf{x}^s)$$

Artificial Neuron



Artificial Neuron

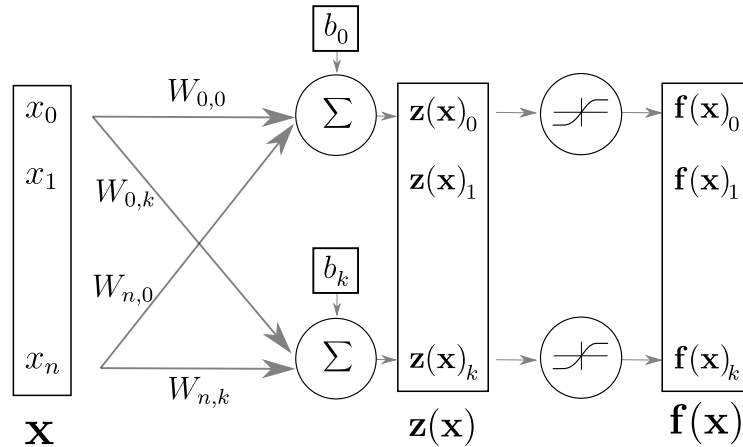


$$z(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x} + b$$

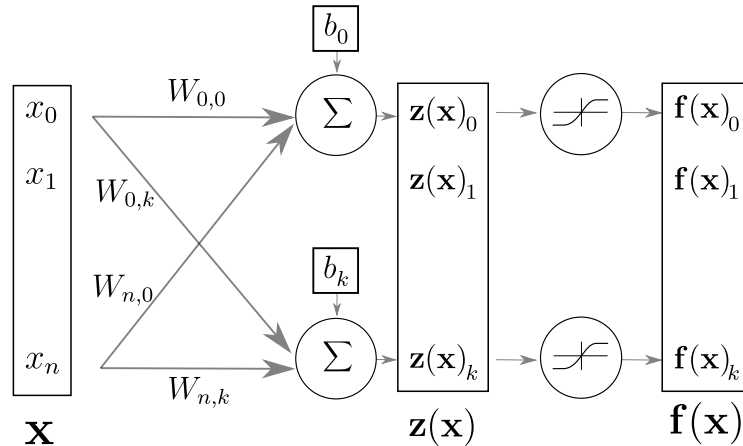
$$f(\mathbf{x}) = g(\mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x} + b)$$

- $\mathbf{x}, f(\mathbf{x})$ input and output
- $z(\mathbf{x})$ pre-activation
- \mathbf{w}, b weights and bias
- g activation function

Layer of Neurons



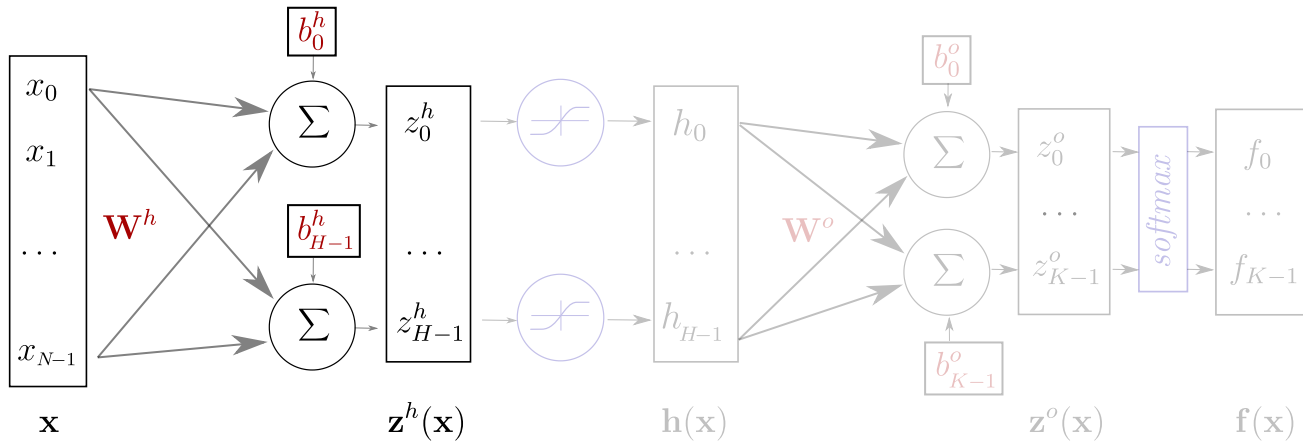
Layer of Neurons



$$\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}) = g(\mathbf{z}(\mathbf{x})) = g(\mathbf{W}\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{b})$$

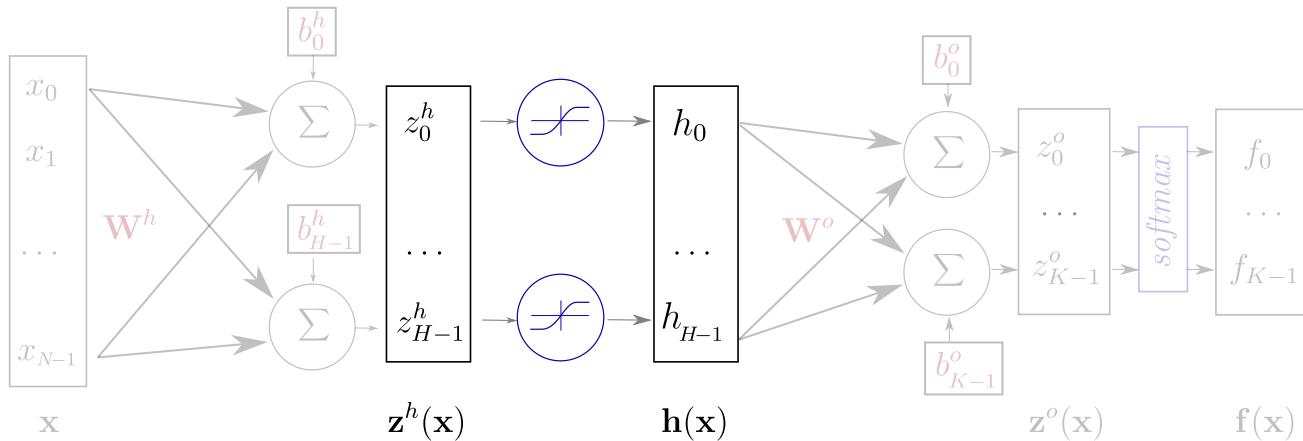
- \mathbf{W}, \mathbf{b} now matrix and vector

One Hidden Layer Network



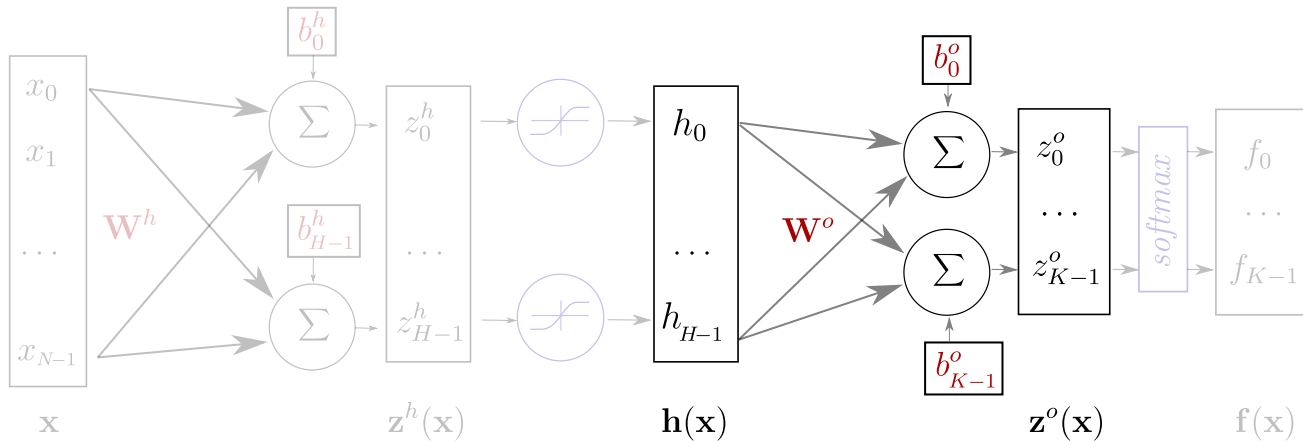
- $\mathbf{z}^h(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{W}^h \mathbf{x} + \mathbf{b}^h$
- $\mathbf{h}(\mathbf{x}) = g(\mathbf{z}^h(\mathbf{x})) = g(\mathbf{W}^h \mathbf{x} + \mathbf{b}^h)$
- $\mathbf{z}^o(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{W}^o \mathbf{h}(\mathbf{x}) + \mathbf{b}^o$
- $\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}) = \text{softmax}(\mathbf{z}^o) = \text{softmax}(\mathbf{W}^o \mathbf{h}(\mathbf{x}) + \mathbf{b}^o)$

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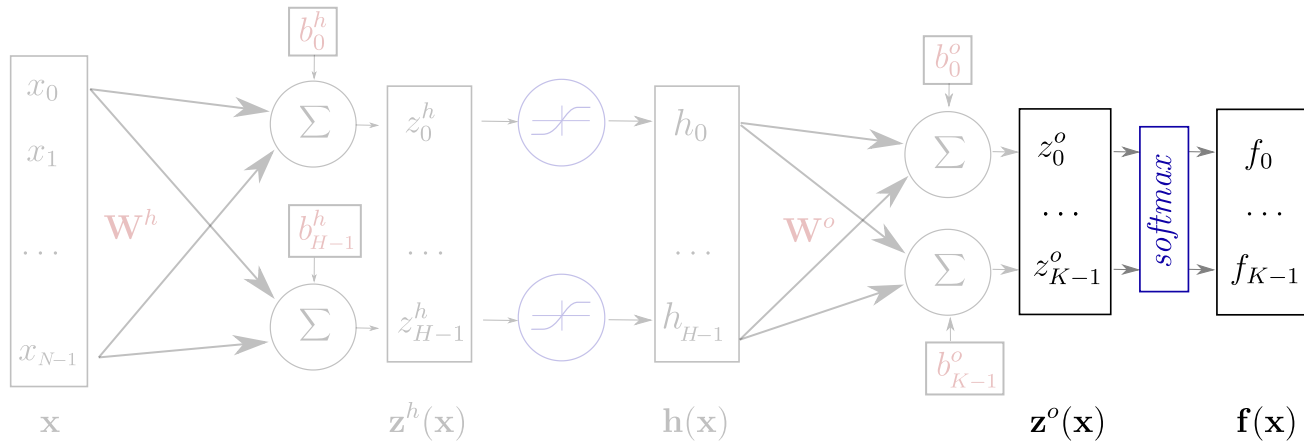
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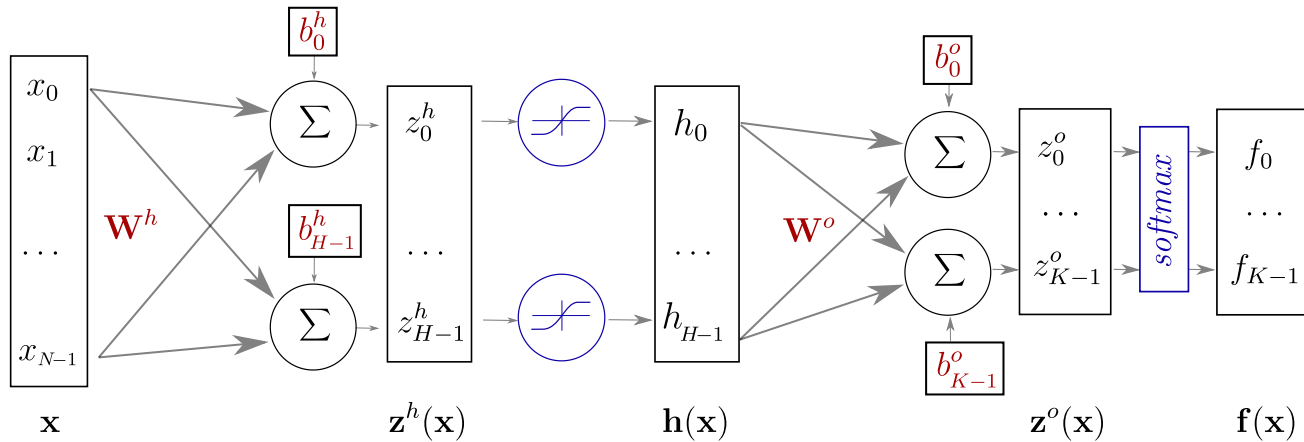
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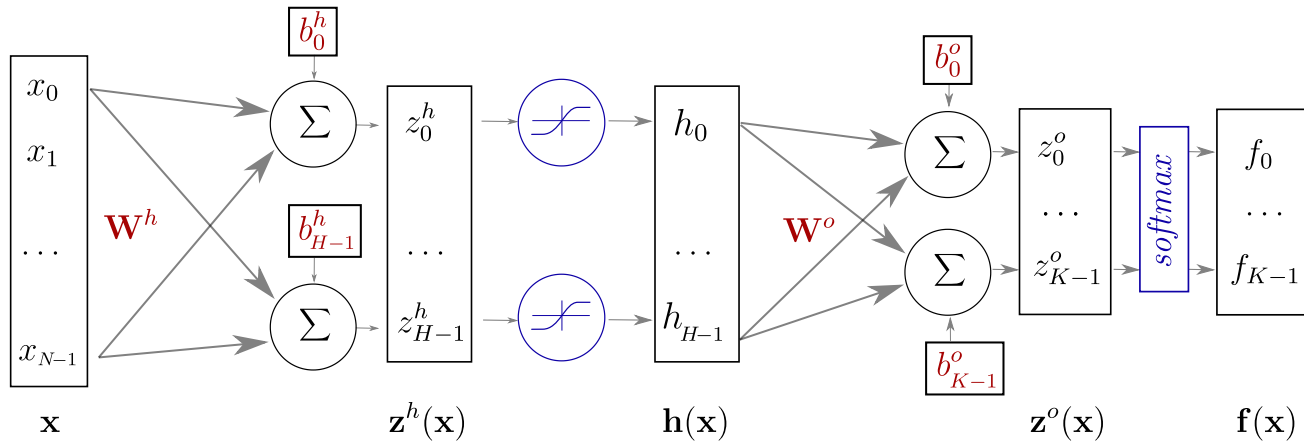
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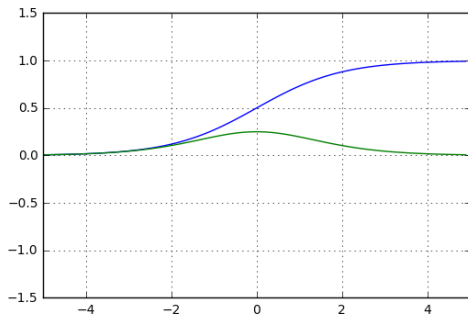
Alternate representation

One Hidden Layer Network



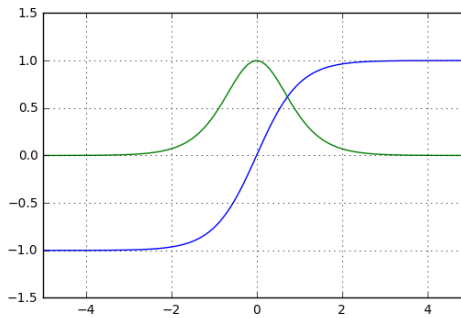
Keras implementation

Element-wise activation functions



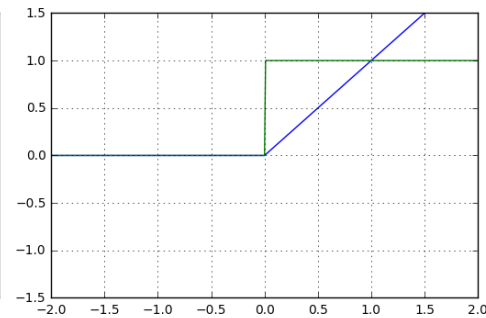
$$\text{sigm}(x) = \frac{1}{1 + e^{-x}}$$

$$\text{sigm}'(x) = \text{sigm}(x)(1 - \text{sigm}(x))$$



$$\tanh(x) = \frac{e^{2x} - 1}{e^{2x} + 1}$$

$$\tanh'(x) = 1 - \tanh(x)^2$$



$$\text{relu}(x) = \max(0, x)$$

$$\text{relu}'(x) = 1_{x>0}$$

- blue: activation function

Softmax function

$$\text{softmax}(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{1}{\sum_{i=1}^n e^{x_i}} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} e^{x_1} \\ e^{x_2} \\ \vdots \\ e^{x_n} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\frac{\partial \text{softmax}(\mathbf{x})_i}{\partial x_j} = \begin{cases} \text{softmax}(\mathbf{x})_i \cdot (1 - \text{softmax}(\mathbf{x})_i) & i = j \\ -\text{softmax}(\mathbf{x})_i \cdot \text{softmax}(\mathbf{x})_j & i \neq j \end{cases}$$

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- vector of values in (0, 1) that add up to 1
- $p(Y = c | X = \mathbf{x}) = \text{softmax}(\mathbf{z}(\mathbf{x}))_c$
- the pre-activation vector $\mathbf{z}(\mathbf{x})$ is often called "the logits"

Training the network

Find parameters $\theta = (\mathbf{W}^h; \mathbf{b}^h; \mathbf{W}^o; \mathbf{b}^o)$ that minimize the **negative log likelihood** (or [cross entropy](#))

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example $y^s = 3$

$$l(\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}^s; \theta), y^s) = l \left(\begin{array}{c} f_0 \\ \dots \\ f_3 \\ \dots \\ f_{K-1} \end{array}, \begin{array}{c} 0 \\ \dots \\ 1 \\ \dots \\ 0 \end{array} \right) = -\log f_3$$

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Find parameters $\theta = (\mathbf{W}^h; \mathbf{b}^h; \mathbf{W}^o; \mathbf{b}^o)$ that minimize the **negative log likelihood** (or [cross entropy](#))

The loss function for a given sample $s \in S$:

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The cost function is the negative likelihood of the model computed on the full training set (for i.i.d. samples):

$$L_S(\theta) = -\frac{1}{|S|} \sum_{s \in S} \log \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}^s; \theta)_{y^s}$$

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$$L_{\mathcal{S}}(\theta) = -\frac{1}{|\mathcal{S}|} \sum_{s \in \mathcal{S}} \log \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}^s; \theta)_{y^s} + \lambda \Omega(\theta)$$

$\lambda \Omega(\theta) = \lambda(\|\mathbf{W}^h\|^2 + \|\mathbf{W}^o\|^2)$ is an optional regularization term.

Stochastic Gradient Descent

Initialize θ randomly

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- Randomly select a small batch of samples ($B \subset S$)

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Stop when reaching criterion:

- nll stops decreasing when computed on validation set

Computing Gradients

Output Weights: $\frac{\partial l(\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}), y)}{\partial W_{i,j}^o}$

Output bias: $\frac{\partial l(\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}), y)}{\partial b_i^o}$

Hidden Weights: $\frac{\partial l(\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}), y)}{\partial W_{i,j}^h}$

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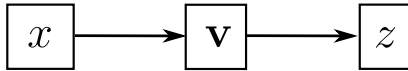
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- The network is a composition of differentiable modules
- We can apply the "chain rule"

Chain rule



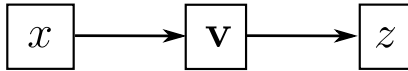
$$z = u(\mathbf{v}(x))$$

$$\frac{\partial z}{\partial x} = ?$$

$$v_j$$

\mathbf{v}

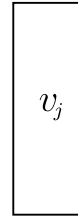
Chain rule



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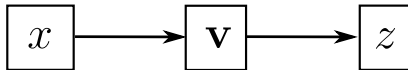
chain-rule

$$\frac{\partial z}{\partial x} = \sum_j \frac{\partial z}{\partial v_j} \frac{\partial v_j}{\partial x}$$



\mathbf{v}

Chain rule



$$z = u(\mathbf{v}(x))$$

chain-rule

$$\frac{\partial z}{\partial x} = \sum_j \frac{\partial z}{\partial v_j} \frac{\partial v_j}{\partial x} = \nabla u \cdot \frac{\partial \mathbf{v}}{\partial x}$$

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\mathbf{v}

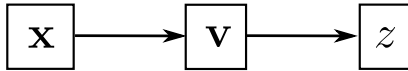
$$\frac{\partial v_j}{\partial x}$$

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{v}}{\partial x}$$

$$\frac{\partial z}{\partial v_j}$$

$$\nabla u$$

Chain rule



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chain-rule

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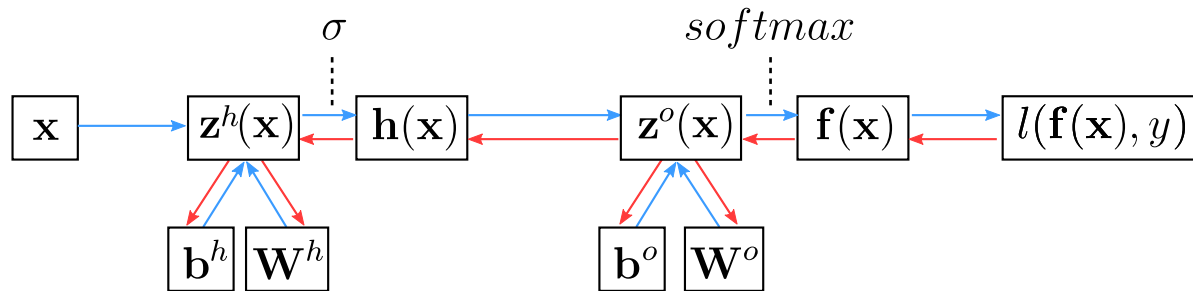
$$\frac{\partial v_j}{\partial x_i}$$

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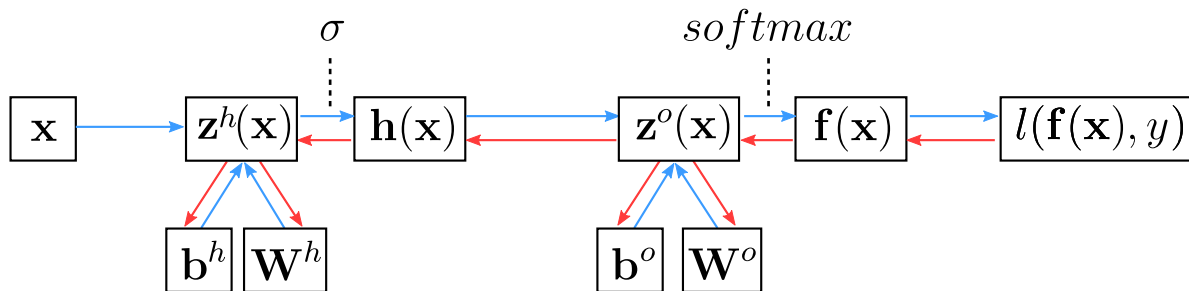
$$\frac{\partial z}{\partial v_j}$$

$$\nabla u$$

Backpropagation



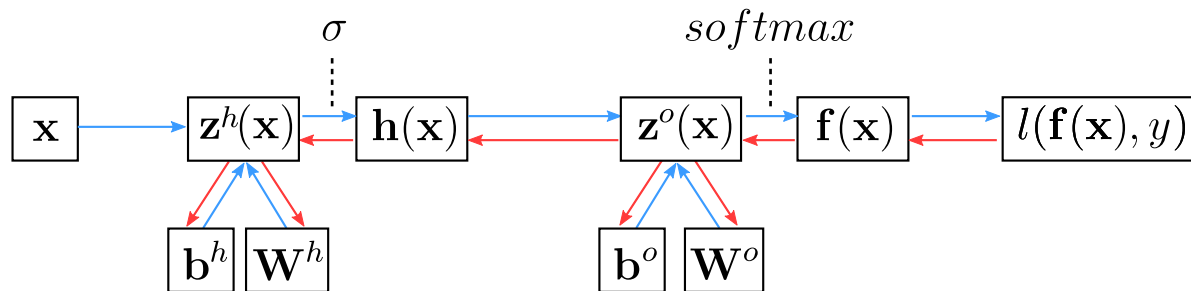
Backpropagation



Compute partial derivatives of the loss

- $$\frac{\partial l(\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}), y)}{\partial \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x})_i} = \frac{\partial -\log \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x})_y}{\partial \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x})_i} = \frac{-1_{y=i}}{\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x})_y} = \frac{\partial l}{\partial \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x})_i}$$

Backpropagation

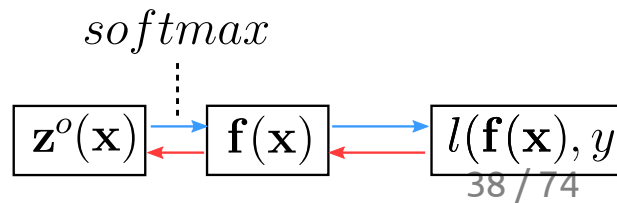


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- $$\frac{\partial l}{\partial \mathbf{z}^o(\mathbf{x})_i} = ?$$

$$\frac{\partial l}{\partial \mathbf{z}^o(\mathbf{x})_i} = \sum_j \frac{\partial l}{\partial \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x})_j} \frac{\partial \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x})_j}{\partial \mathbf{z}^o(\mathbf{x})_i}$$

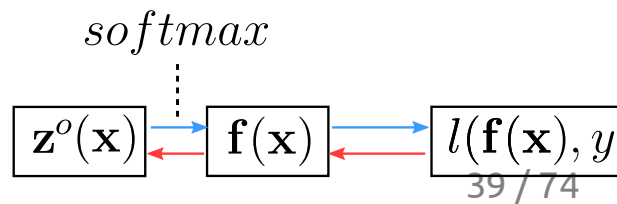
Chain rule!



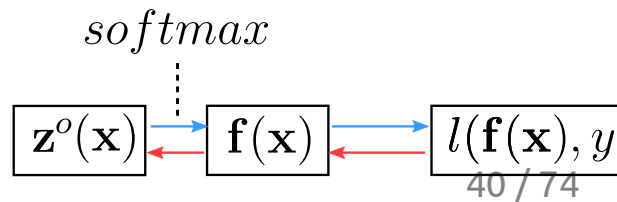
$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\partial l}{\partial \mathbf{z}^o(\mathbf{x})_i} &= \sum_j \frac{\partial l}{\partial \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x})_j} \frac{\partial \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x})_j}{\partial \mathbf{z}^o(\mathbf{x})_i} \\ &= \sum_j \frac{-1_{y=j}}{\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x})_y} \frac{\partial \text{softmax}(\mathbf{z}^o(\mathbf{x}))_j}{\partial \mathbf{z}^o(\mathbf{x})_i}\end{aligned}$$

$$\frac{\partial l}{\partial \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x})_i} = \frac{-1_{y=i}}{\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x})_y}$$

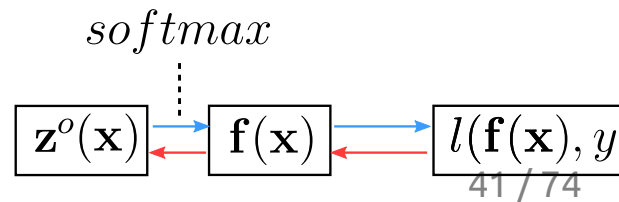
$$\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}) = \text{softmax}(\mathbf{z}^o(\mathbf{x}))$$



$$\begin{aligned}
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&= -\frac{1}{\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x})_y} \frac{\partial \text{softmax}(\mathbf{z}^o(\mathbf{x}))_y}{\partial \mathbf{z}^o(\mathbf{x})_i}
\end{aligned}$$



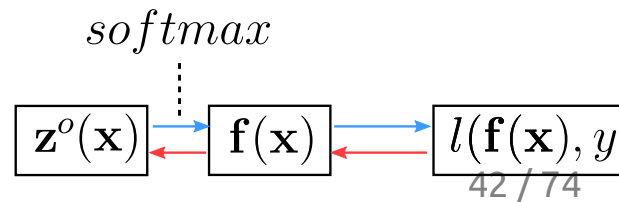
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&= \begin{cases} -\frac{1}{\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x})_y} \text{softmax}(\mathbf{z}^o(\mathbf{x}))_y (1 - \text{softmax}(\mathbf{z}^o(\mathbf{x}))_y) & \text{if } i = y \\ \frac{1}{\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x})_y} \text{softmax}(\mathbf{z}^o(\mathbf{x}))_y \text{softmax}(\mathbf{z}^o(\mathbf{x}))_i & \text{if } i \neq y \end{cases} \\
&= \begin{cases} -1 + \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x})_y & \text{if } i = y \\ \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x})_i & \text{if } i \neq y \end{cases}
\end{aligned}$$



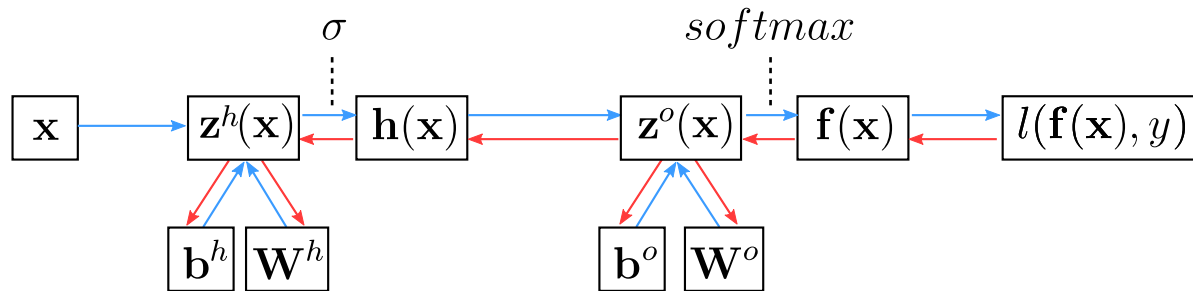
$$\begin{aligned}
\frac{\partial l}{\partial \mathbf{z}^o(\mathbf{x})_i} &= \sum_j \frac{\partial l}{\partial \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x})_j} \frac{\partial \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x})_j}{\partial \mathbf{z}^o(\mathbf{x})_i} \\
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\end{aligned}$$

$$\nabla_{\mathbf{z}^o(\mathbf{x})} l(\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}), y) = \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}) - \mathbf{e}(y)$$

$\mathbf{e}(y)$: one-hot encoding of y



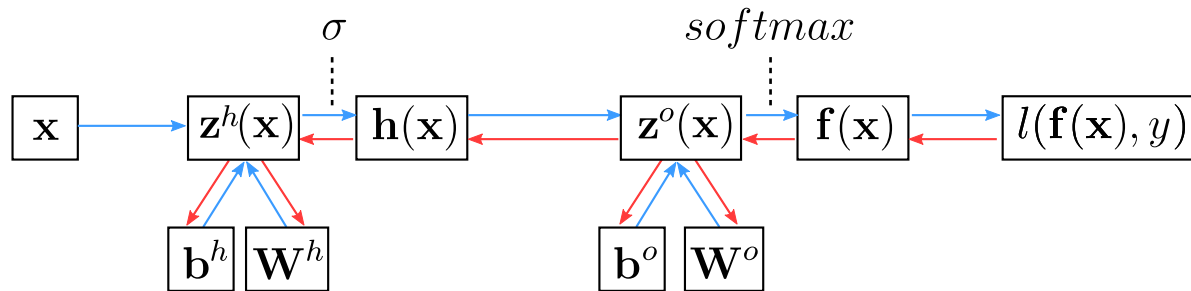
Backpropagation



Gradients

- $\nabla_{\mathbf{z}^o(\mathbf{x})} l = \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}) - \mathbf{e}(y)$
- $\nabla_{\mathbf{b}^o} l = \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}) - \mathbf{e}(y)$

Backpropagation



Partial derivatives related to \mathbf{W}^o

- $$\frac{\partial l}{\partial W_{i,j}^o} = \sum_k \frac{\partial l}{\partial \mathbf{z}^o(\mathbf{x})_k} \frac{\partial \mathbf{z}^o(\mathbf{x})_k}{\partial W_{i,j}^o}$$
- $$\nabla_{\mathbf{W}^o} l = (\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}) - \mathbf{e}(y)) \cdot \mathbf{h}(\mathbf{x})^\top$$

Backprop gradients

Compute activation gradients

- $\nabla_{\mathbf{z}^o(\mathbf{x})} l = \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}) - \mathbf{e}(y)$

Backprop gradients

Compute activation gradients

- $\nabla_{z^o(\mathbf{x})} l = \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}) - \mathbf{e}(y)$

Compute layer params gradients

- $\nabla_{\mathbf{W}} l = \nabla_{z^o(\mathbf{x})} l \cdot \mathbf{h}(\mathbf{x})^\top$
- $\nabla_{\mathbf{b}} l = \nabla_{z^o(\mathbf{x})} l$

Backprop gradients

Compute activation gradients

- $\nabla_{\mathbf{z}^o(\mathbf{x})} l = \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}) - \mathbf{e}(y)$

Compute layer params gradients

- $\nabla_{\mathbf{W}} l = \nabla_{\mathbf{z}^o(\mathbf{x})} l \cdot \mathbf{h}(\mathbf{x})^\top$
- $\nabla_{\mathbf{b}} l = \nabla_{\mathbf{z}^o(\mathbf{x})} l$

Compute prev layer activation gradients

- $\nabla_{\mathbf{h}(\mathbf{x})} l = \mathbf{W}^{o\top} \nabla_{\mathbf{z}^o(\mathbf{x})} l$
- $\nabla_{\mathbf{z}^h(\mathbf{x})} l = \nabla_{\mathbf{h}(\mathbf{x})} l \odot \sigma'(\mathbf{z}^h(\mathbf{x}))$

Loss, Initialization and Learning Tricks

Discrete output (classification)

- Binary classification: $y \in [0, 1]$
 - $Y|X = \mathbf{x} \sim \text{Bernoulli}(b = f(\mathbf{x}; \theta))$
 - output function: $\text{logistic}(x) = \frac{1}{1 + e^{-x}}$
 - loss function: binary cross-entropy
- Multiclass classification: $y \in [0, K - 1]$
 - $Y|X = \mathbf{x} \sim \text{Multinoulli}(\mathbf{p} = \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}; \theta))$
 - output function: *softmax*
 - loss function: categorical cross-entropy

Continuous output (regression)

- Continuous output: $\mathbf{y} \in \mathbb{R}^n$
 - $Y|X = \mathbf{x} \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu = \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}; \theta), \sigma^2 \mathbf{I})$
 - output function: Identity
 - loss function: square loss
- Heteroschedastic if $\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}; \theta)$ predicts both μ and σ^2
- Mixture Density Network (multimodal output)
 - $Y|X = \mathbf{x} \sim GMM_{\mathbf{x}}$

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 - multiply η_t by $\beta < 1$ after each update
 - or monitor validation loss and divide η_t by 2 or 10 when no progress
 - See [ReduceLROnPlateau](#) in Keras

Momentum

Accumulate gradients across successive updates:

$$m_t = \gamma m_{t-1} + \eta \nabla_{\theta} L_{B_t}(\theta_{t-1})$$

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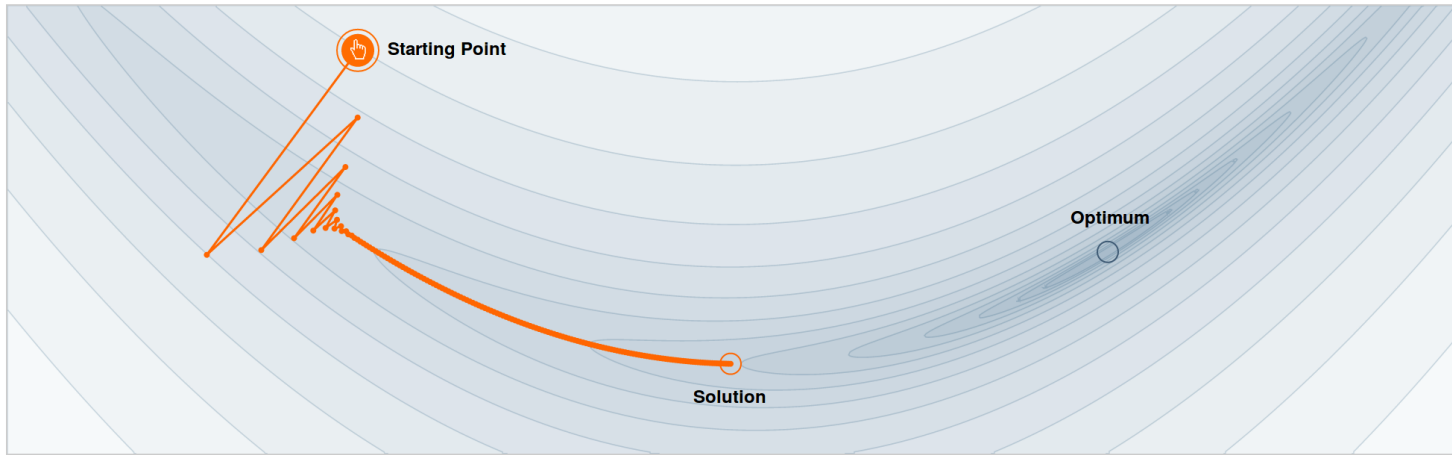
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Nesterov accelerated gradient

$$m_t = \gamma m_{t-1} + \eta \nabla_{\theta} L_{B_t}(\theta_{t-1} - \gamma m_{t-1})$$

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Step-size $\alpha = 0.0030$

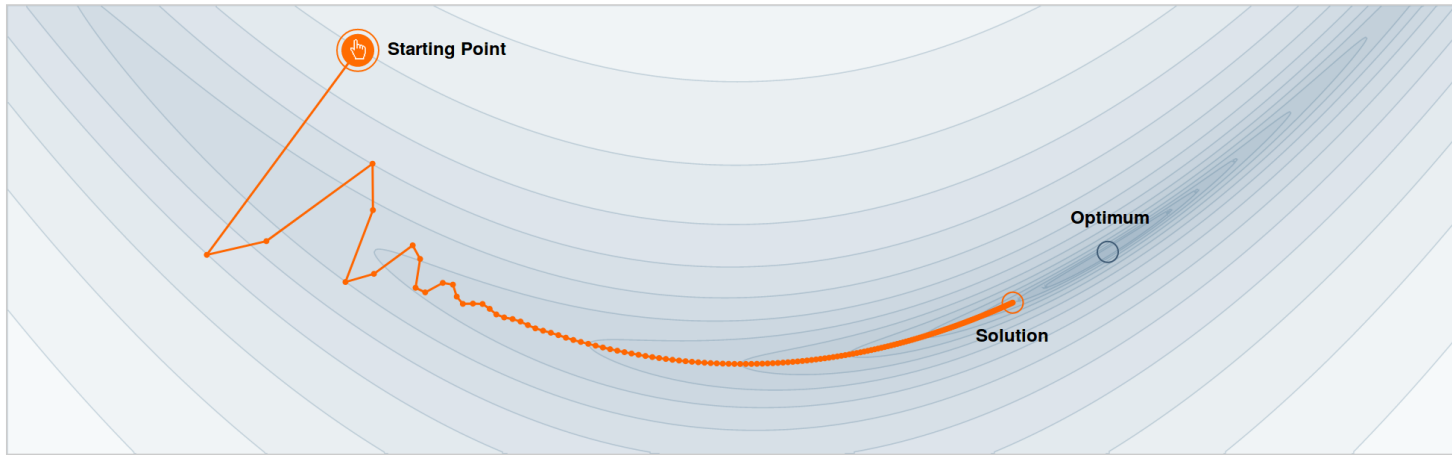


Momentum $\beta = 0.0$



We often think of Momentum as a means of dampening oscillations and speeding up the iterations, leading to faster convergence. But it has other interesting behavior. It allows a larger range of step-sizes to be used, and creates its own oscillations. What is going on?

[Why Momentum Really Works](#)



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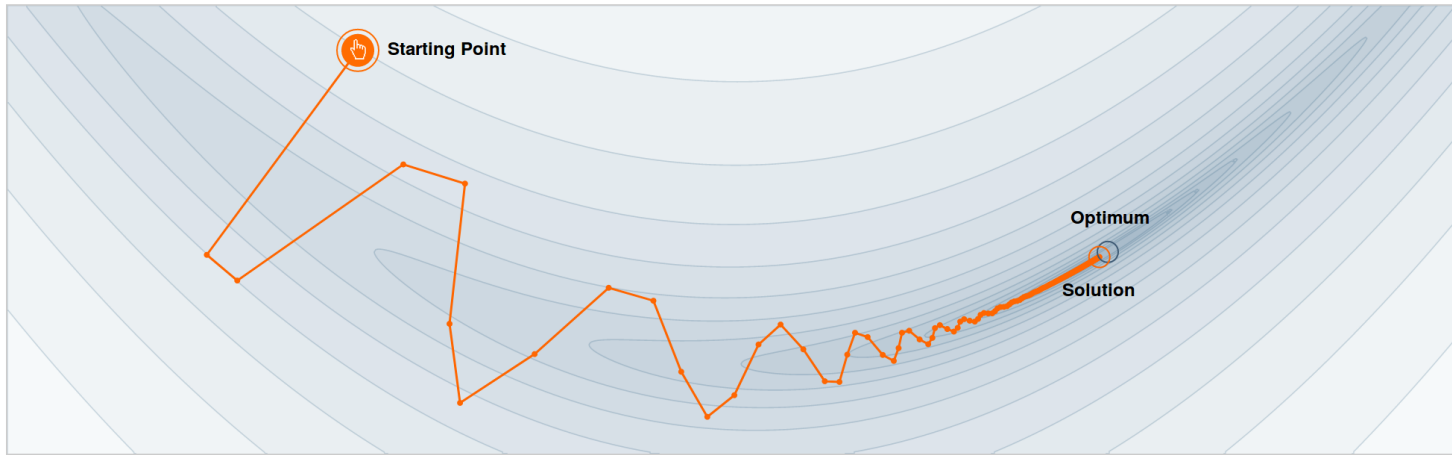


Momentum $\beta = 0.60$



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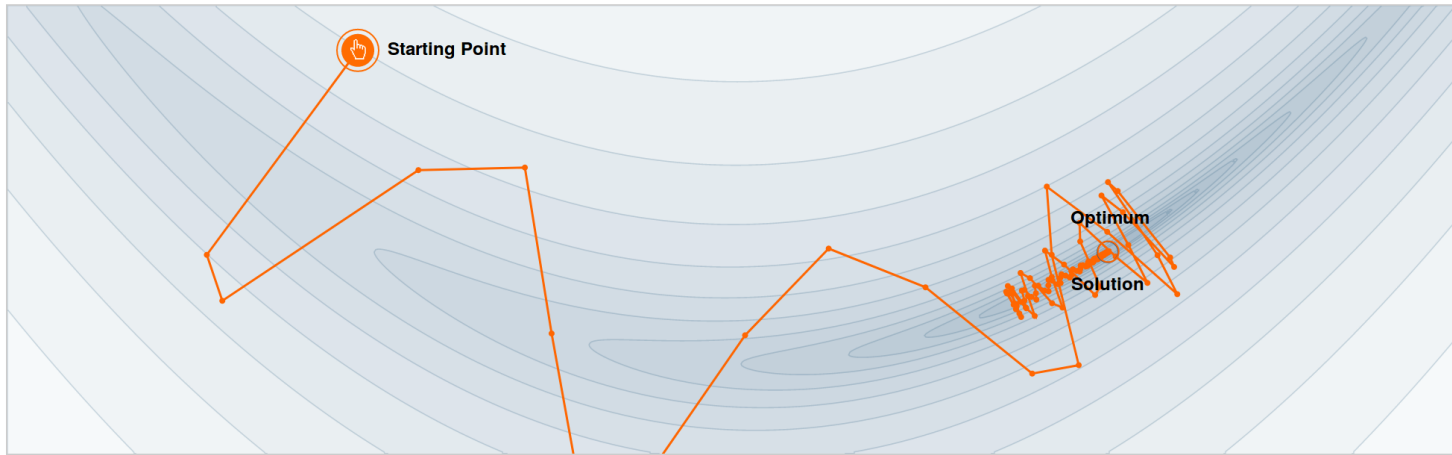


Momentum $\beta = 0.80$

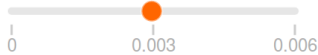


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Step-size $\alpha = 0.0030$



Momentum $\beta = 0.90$



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- But well-tuned SGD with LR scheduling can generalize better than Adam (with naive l2 reg)...
- Active area of research: [K-FAC](#) stochastic second-order method based on an invertible approximation of the Fisher information matrix of the network.

The Karpathy Constant for Adam



Andrej Karpathy ✓

@karpathy

Following



3e-4 is the best learning rate for Adam, hands down.

4:01 AM - 24 Nov 2016

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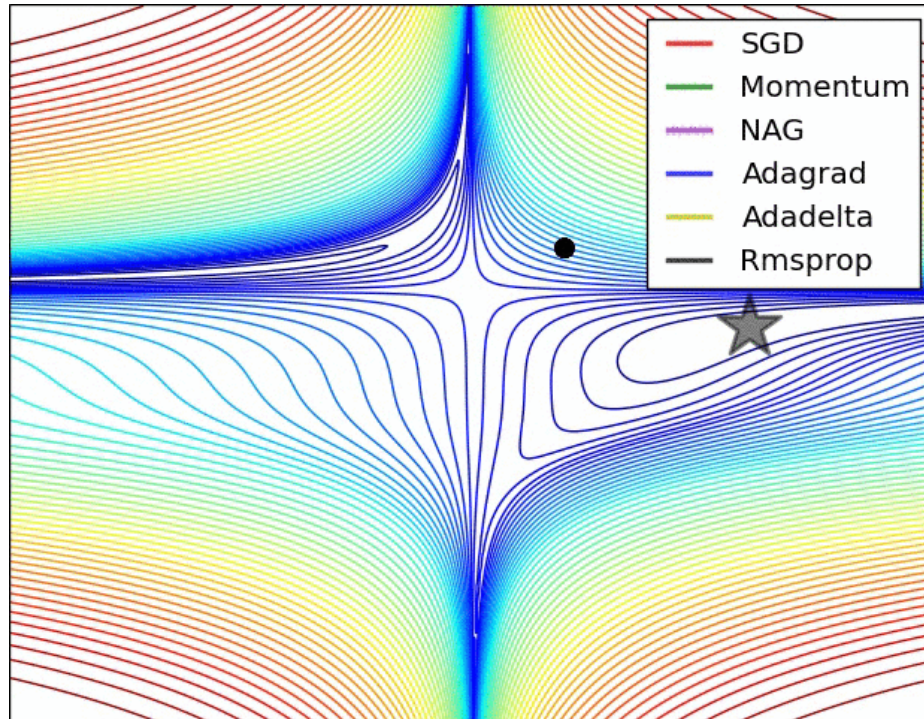
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408



Optimizers around a saddle point



Credits: Alec Radford

Lab 2: back in 15min!