

Train A Softmax Classifier

CPT_S 434/534 Neural network design and application

Example: how to train a softmax classifier



The MNIST Dataset

- $n = 60,000$ training samples $(\mathbf{x}_1, y_1), \dots, (\mathbf{x}_n, y_n)$.
- Each \mathbf{x}_j is a 28×28 image.
- Each y_j is an integer in $\{0, 1, 2, \dots, 9\}$.

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Task: multi-class classification

- Given a 28×28 image, predict the digit.
- Learn a function $\mathbf{f}: \mathbb{R}^{28 \times 28} \mapsto \mathbb{R}^{10}$.
- The i -th entry of $\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x})$ indicates how likely the image \mathbf{x} is the digit i .

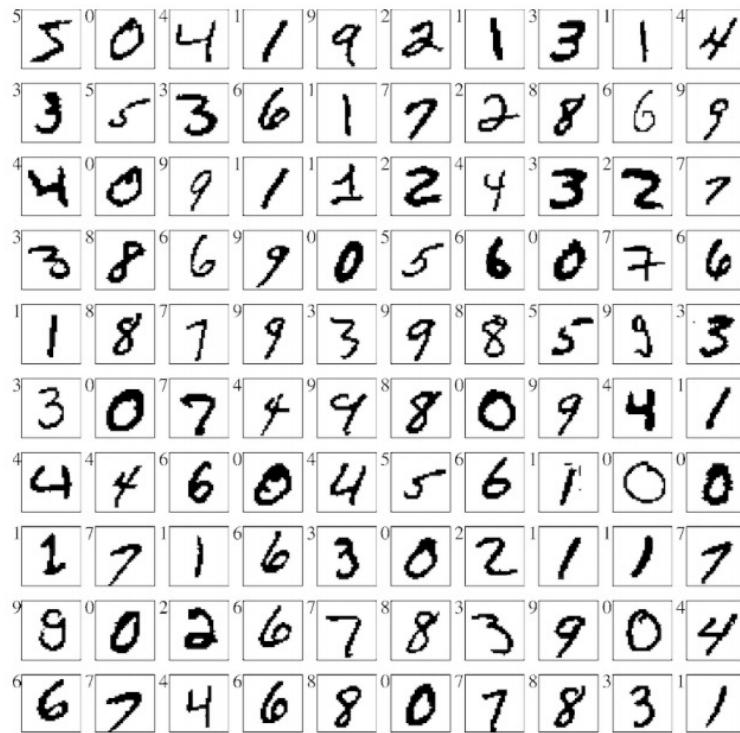
Example: how to train a softmax classifier



Linear model: softmax classifier

- Vectorize each 28×28 image to a 784 -dim vector.
- Add a feature of all ones. (So \mathbf{x} becomes 785 -dim.)
Bias term is absorbed

Example: how to train a softmax classifier

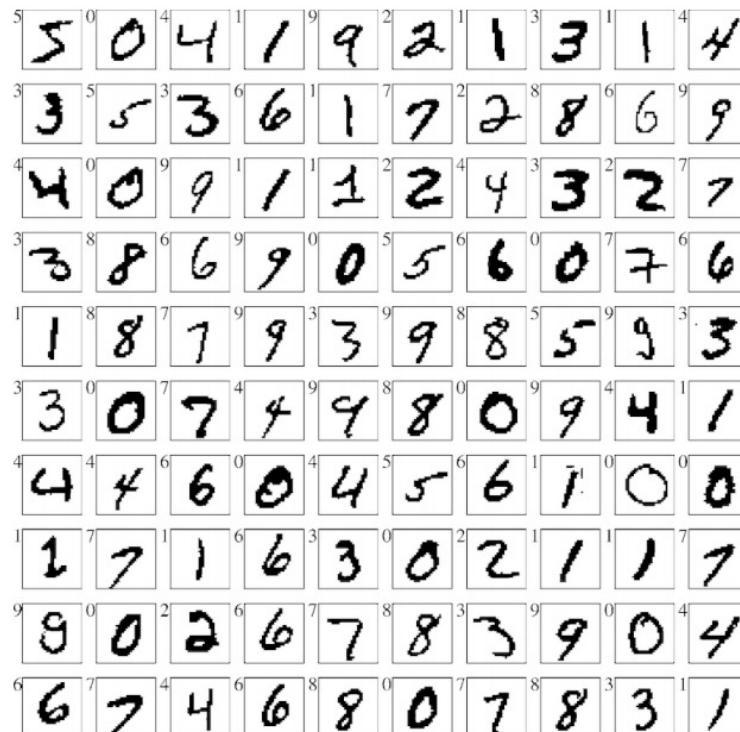


Linear model: softmax classifier

- Vectorize each 28×28 image to a 784-dim vector.
- Add a feature of all ones. (So \mathbf{x} becomes 785-dim.)
- Let $\mathbf{W} \in \mathbb{R}^{10 \times 785}$ contain the parameters.
- Let $\mathbf{z} = \mathbf{W}\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^{10}$.
- Output a 10-dim vector:

$$\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}) = \text{SoftMax}(\mathbf{z}).$$

Example: how to train a softmax classifier



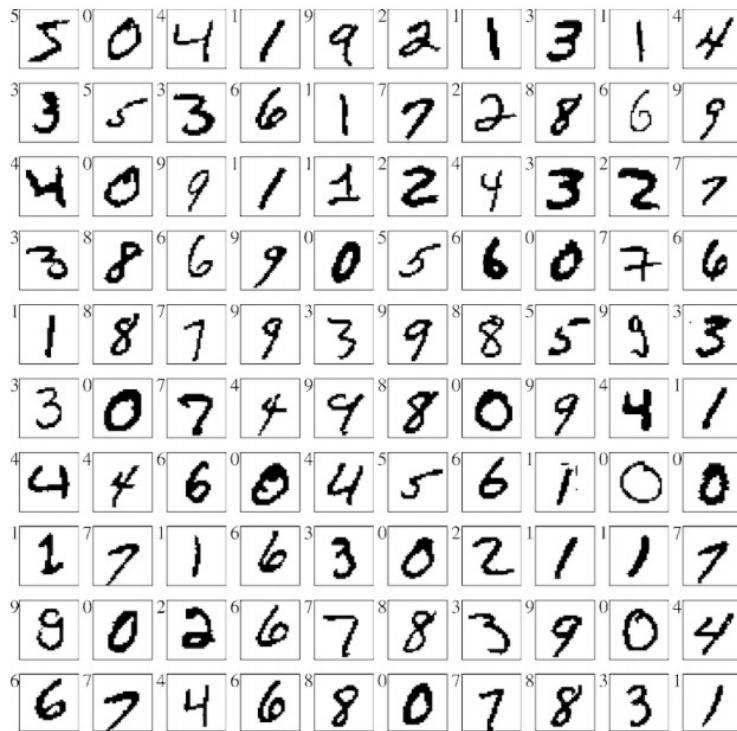
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$$\text{SoftMax}(\mathbf{z}) = \frac{1}{\sum_{i=0}^9 \exp(z_i)} [\exp(z_0), \dots, \exp(z_9)]$$

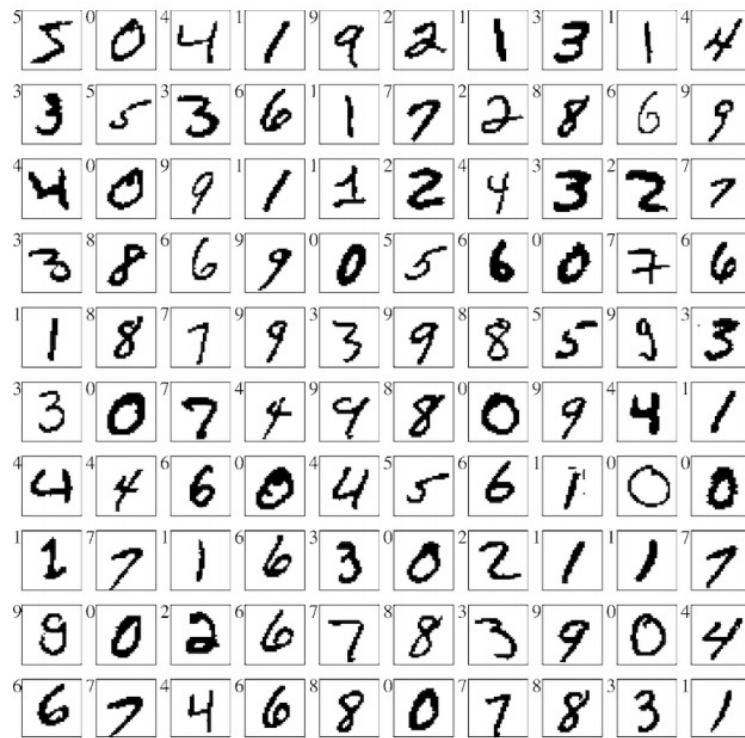
Example: how to train a softmax classifier



Learn $\mathbf{W} \in \mathbb{R}^{10 \times 785}$ from the training data

- One-hot encode of the labels
 - Originally, a label is a scalar in $\{0, 1, 2, \dots, 9\}$.
 - The one-hot encode \mathbf{y} is a 10-dim vector $\{0, 1\}^{10}$.
 - E.g., the one-hot encode of 2 is $[0, 0, 1, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0, 0]$.

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$$\text{CrossEntropy}(\mathbf{y}, \mathbf{f}) = - \sum_{i=0}^9 y_i \cdot \log(f_i).$$

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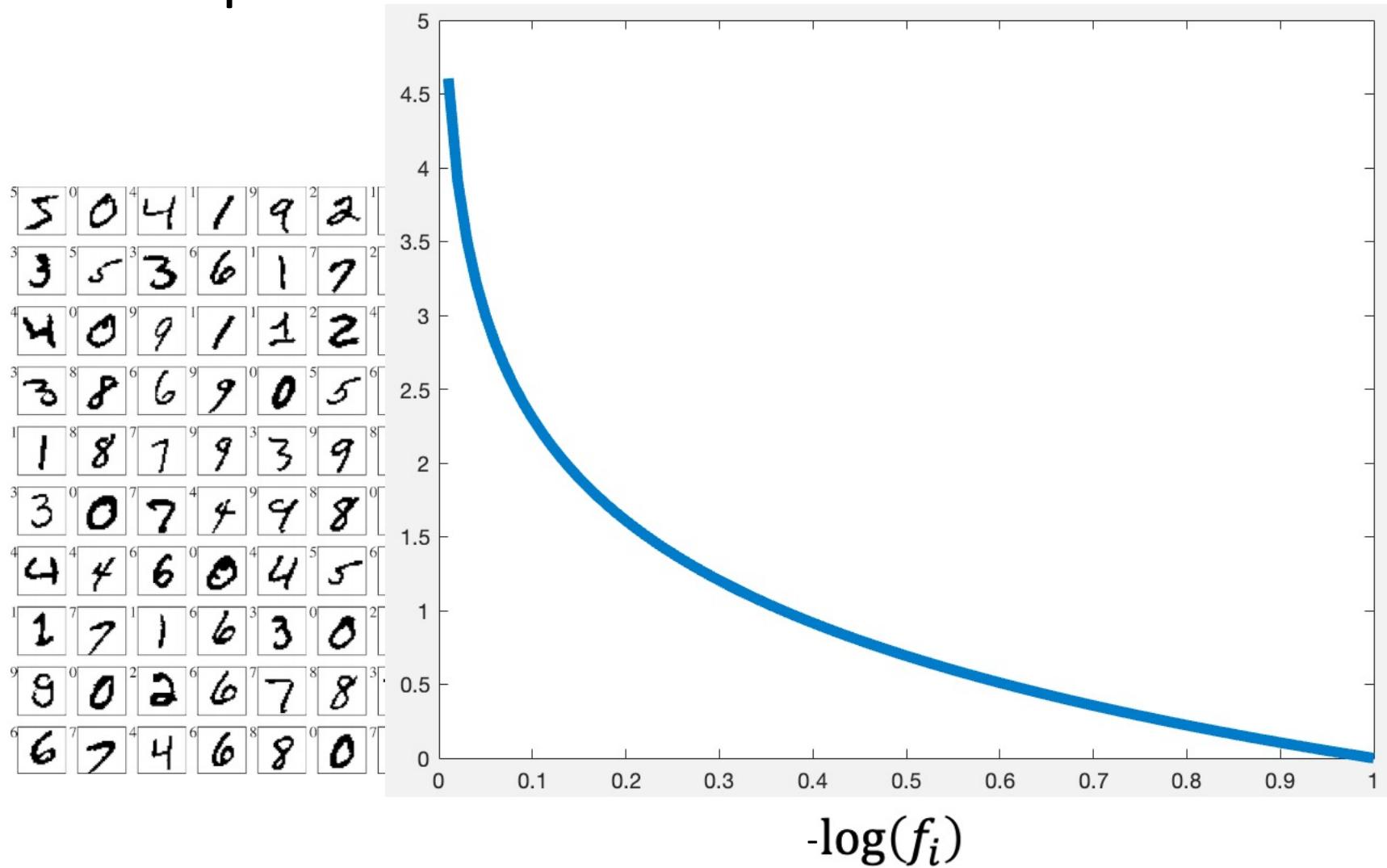
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Q: how to interpret CE loss?

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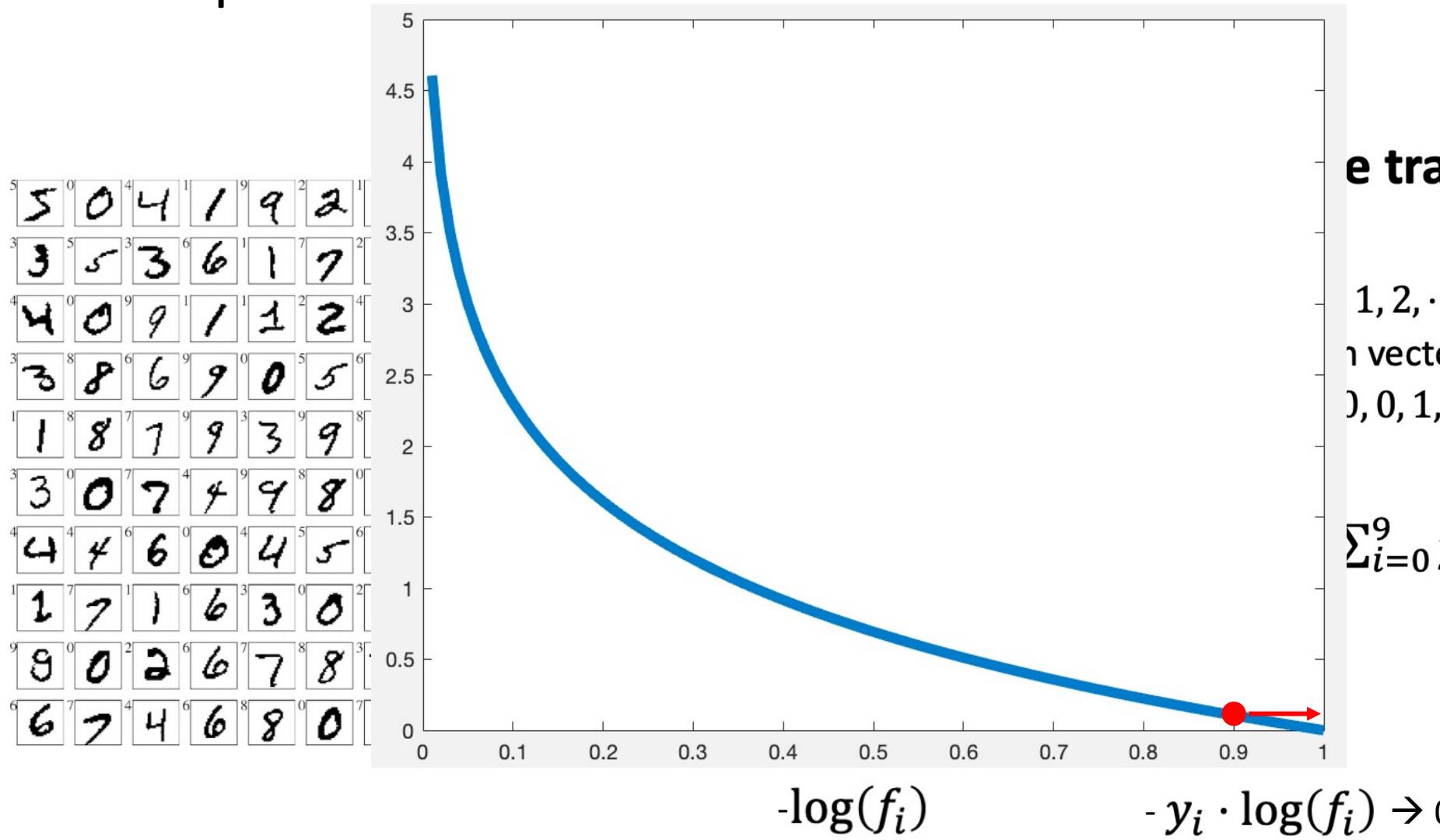
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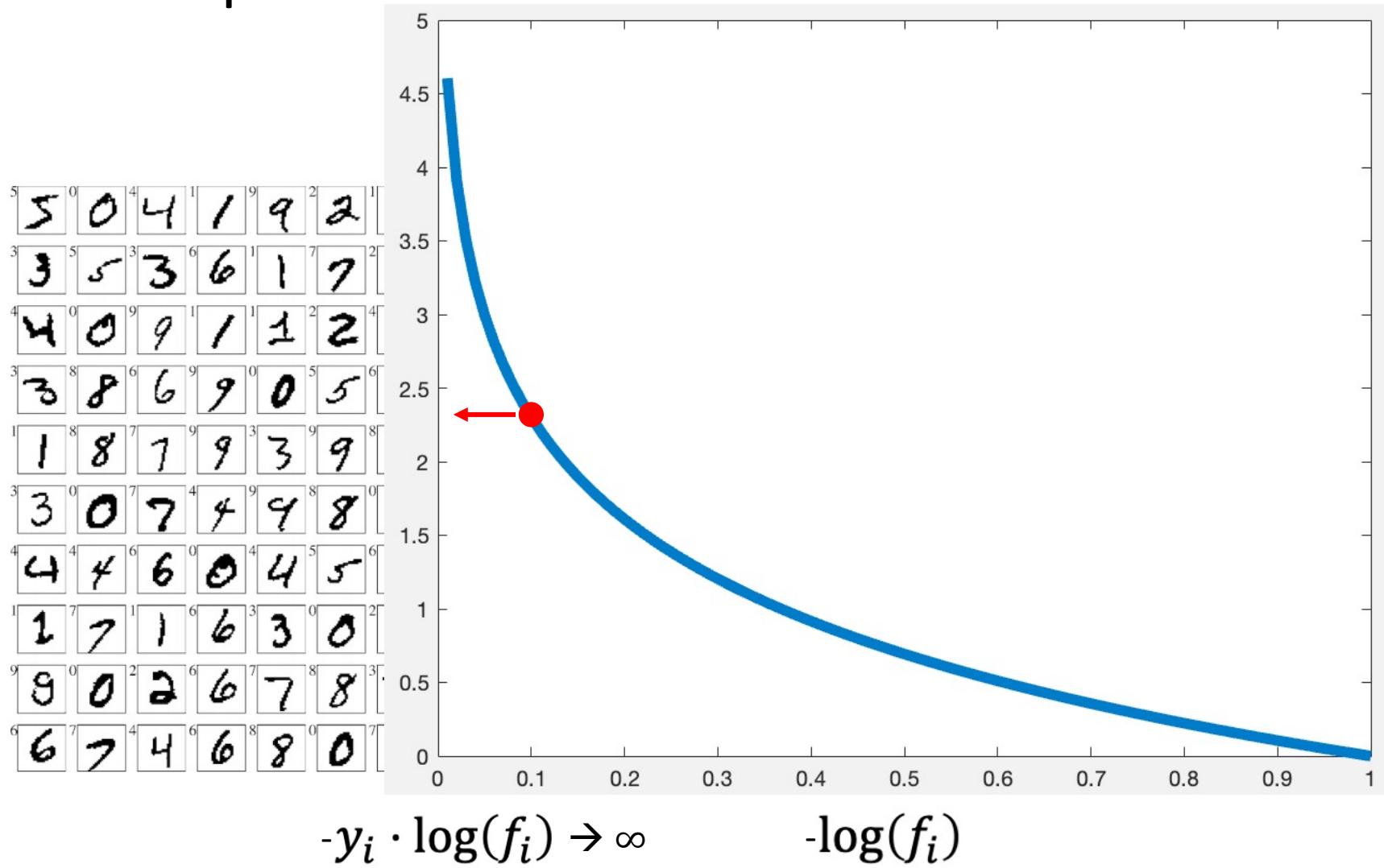
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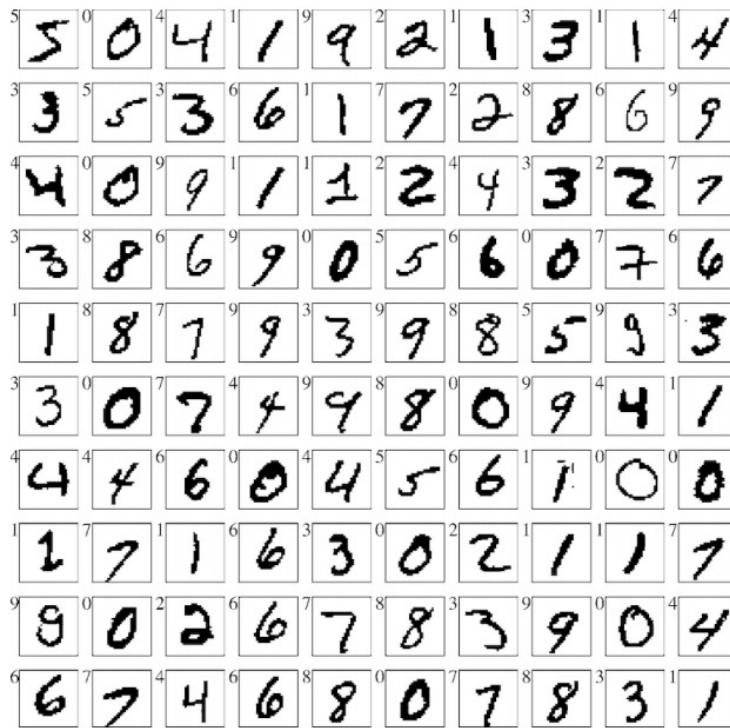
- Solve the optimization model:

$$\mathbf{W}^* = \operatorname{argmin}_{\mathbf{W}} \left\{ \frac{1}{n} \sum_{j=1}^n \text{CrossEntropy} \left(\mathbf{y}_j, \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}_j) \right) \right\}.$$



\mathbf{W} is the parameter of \mathbf{f}

Example: how to train a softmax classifier



Make prediction for a test sample \mathbf{x}'

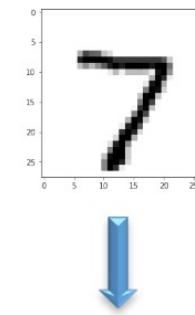
- Now we have $\mathbf{W}^* \in \mathbb{R}^{10 \times 785}$.
- For a test sample \mathbf{x}' , compute $\mathbf{z} = \mathbf{W}^* \mathbf{x}' \in \mathbb{R}^{10}$.
- Make prediction by $\text{argmax } \mathbf{z}$.
 - If the 7-th entry of \mathbf{z} is the largest, then the model thinks the image is digit “7”.

Example: how to train a softmax classifier

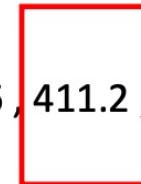


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 - If the 7-th entry of \mathbf{z} is the largest, then the model thinks the image is digit "7".



$$\mathbf{z} = [-55.7, -141.4, 18.1, 188.3, -91.3, -26.8, -183.6, 411.2, -142.1, 96.2]$$



Example: how to train a softmax classifier

Define a function $f: \mathbb{R}^{785} \mapsto \mathbb{R}^{10}$:

- **Input:** vector $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^{785}$.
- $\mathbf{z} = \mathbf{W} \mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^{10}$.
Trainable parameters: $\mathbf{W} \in \mathbb{R}^{10 \times 785}$
- **Output:** $f(\mathbf{x}) = \text{SoftMax}(\mathbf{z})$.

Train the function by empirical risk minimization (ERM):

- **Training set:** $(\mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{y}_1), \dots, (\mathbf{x}_n, \mathbf{y}_n) \in \mathbb{R}^{785} \times \mathbb{R}^{10}$.
- **Loss function:** $\text{CrossEntropy}(\mathbf{y}, \mathbf{f}) = -\sum_{i=1}^{10} y_i \cdot \log(f(\mathbf{x})_i)$.
- **Solve ERM:**
$$\operatorname{argmin}_{\mathbf{W}} \left\{ \frac{1}{n} \sum_{j=1}^n \text{CrossEntropy}(\mathbf{y}_j, f(\mathbf{x}_j)) \right\}.$$

Example: how to train a softmax classifier

- **How to solve** $\underset{\mathbf{W}}{\operatorname{argmin}} \left\{ \frac{1}{n} \sum_{j=1}^n \text{CrossEntropy}(\mathbf{y}_j, \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}_j)) \right\}$?
- **Stochastic gradient descent (SGD) with momentum** repeats:
 1. Randomly pick j from $\{1, 2, \dots, n\}$.
 2. Evaluate the gradient $\mathbf{G}_j = \frac{\partial \text{CrossEntropy}(\mathbf{y}_j, \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}_j))}{\partial \mathbf{W}} \Big|_{\mathbf{W}=\mathbf{W}_{\text{old}}}$.
 3. Update the momentum: $\mathbf{V}_{\text{new}} = \beta \mathbf{V}_{\text{old}} + \mathbf{G}_j$.
 4. Update \mathbf{W} by $\mathbf{W}_{\text{new}} \leftarrow \mathbf{W}_{\text{old}} - \alpha \mathbf{V}_{\text{new}}$.

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Define a function $f: \mathbb{R}^{785} \mapsto \mathbb{R}^{10}$:

- **Input:** vector $\mathbf{x}^{(0)} \in \mathbb{R}^{785}$.
- $\mathbf{z}^{(1)} = \mathbf{W}^{(0)} \mathbf{x}^{(0)} \in \mathbb{R}^{10}$.
A linear model
- $\mathbf{x}^{(1)} = \text{SoftMax}(\mathbf{z}^{(1)}) \in \mathbb{R}^{d_1}$.
Trainable parameter:
 - $\mathbf{W}^{(0)} \in \mathbb{R}^{10 \times 785}$.
- **Output:** $f(\mathbf{x}^{(0)}) = \mathbf{x}^{(1)}$.

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$$\bullet \mathbf{x}^{(1)} = \max\{\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{z}^{(1)}\} \in \mathbb{R}^{d_1}.$$

Hidden Layer 1

$$\bullet \mathbf{z}^{(2)} = \mathbf{W}^{(1)} \mathbf{x}^{(1)} \in \mathbb{R}^{d_2}.$$

$$\bullet \mathbf{x}^{(2)} = \max\{\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{z}^{(2)}\} \in \mathbb{R}^{d_2}.$$

Hidden Layer 2

$$\bullet \mathbf{z}^{(3)} = \mathbf{W}^{(2)} \mathbf{x}^{(2)} \in \mathbb{R}^{10}.$$

$$\bullet \mathbf{x}^{(3)} = \text{SoftMax}(\mathbf{z}^{(3)}) \in \mathbb{R}^{10}.$$

Output Layer

- Output: $f(\mathbf{x}^{(0)}) = \mathbf{x}^{(3)}$.

MLP

Trainable parameters:

- $\mathbf{W}^{(0)} \in \mathbb{R}^{d_1 \times 785}$,
- $\mathbf{W}^{(1)} \in \mathbb{R}^{d_2 \times d_1}$,
- $\mathbf{W}^{(2)} \in \mathbb{R}^{10 \times d_2}$.

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Build an optimization model:

$$\underset{\mathbf{W}^{(0)}, \mathbf{W}^{(1)}, \mathbf{W}^{(2)}}{\operatorname{argmin}} \left\{ \frac{1}{n} \sum_{j=1}^n \text{Loss}(f(\mathbf{x}_j), \mathbf{y}_j) \right\}$$

E.g., the cross-entropy loss



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How to solve

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Stochastic gradient descent (SGD):

- Randomly pick j from $\{1, 2, \dots, n\}$.
- Compute the stochastic gradient w.r.t. $\mathbf{W}^{(0)}$ at the current iteration $\mathbf{W}_{\text{old}}^{(0)}$:
$$\mathbf{g}_j^{(0)} = \frac{\partial \text{Loss}(f(\mathbf{x}_j), \mathbf{y}_j)}{\partial \mathbf{W}^{(0)}} \Big|_{\mathbf{W}^{(0)}=\mathbf{W}_{\text{old}}^{(0)}}$$
- Update $\mathbf{W}^{(0)}$: $\mathbf{W}_{\text{new}}^{(0)} = \mathbf{W}_{\text{old}}^{(0)} - \alpha \mathbf{g}_j^{(0)}$.
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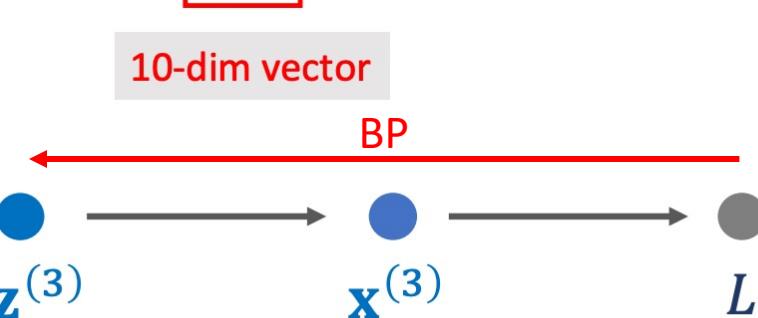
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- $\mathbf{z}^{(3)} = \mathbf{W}^{(2)} \mathbf{x}^{(2)} \in \mathbb{R}^{10}$.
- **$\mathbf{x}^{(3)} = \text{SoftMax}(\mathbf{z}^{(3)}) \in \mathbb{R}^{10}$.**
- **Output:** $f(\mathbf{x}^{(0)}) = \mathbf{x}^{(3)}$.

How to compute $\frac{\partial \text{Loss}(f(\mathbf{x}_j), \mathbf{y}_j)}{\partial \mathbf{W}^{(k)}} ?$

Backpropagation:

- Denote $L = \text{Loss}(f(\mathbf{x}_j), \mathbf{y}_j)$.
- Compute $\frac{\partial L}{\partial \mathbf{z}^{(3)}}$.



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How to compute $\frac{\partial \text{Loss}(f(\mathbf{x}_j), \mathbf{y}_j)}{\partial \mathbf{W}^{(k)}}$?

Backpropagation:

- Denote $L = \text{Loss}(f(\mathbf{x}_j), \mathbf{y}_j)$.
- Compute $\frac{\partial L}{\partial \mathbf{z}^{(3)}}$.
- $\frac{\partial L}{\partial \mathbf{z}^{(2)}} = \frac{\partial \mathbf{z}^{(3)}}{\partial \mathbf{z}^{(2)}} \frac{\partial L}{\partial \mathbf{z}^{(3)}}$, $\frac{\partial L}{\partial \mathbf{W}^{(2)}} = \frac{\partial \mathbf{z}^{(3)}}{\partial \mathbf{W}^{(2)}} \frac{\partial L}{\partial \mathbf{z}^{(3)}}$.

$\mathbf{z}^{(3)}$ is a function of $\mathbf{z}^{(2)}$ and $\mathbf{W}^{(2)}$.

Apply the chain rule.

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- $\mathbf{z}^{(3)} = \mathbf{W}^{(2)} \mathbf{x}^{(2)} \in \mathbb{R}^{10}$.
- $\mathbf{x}^{(3)} = \text{SoftMax}(\mathbf{z}^{(3)}) \in \mathbb{R}^{10}$.
- Output: $f(\mathbf{x}^{(0)}) = \mathbf{x}^{(3)}$.

How to compute $\frac{\partial \text{Loss}(f(\mathbf{x}_j), \mathbf{y}_j)}{\partial \mathbf{W}^{(k)}}$?

Backpropagation:

- Denote $L = \text{Loss}(f(\mathbf{x}_j), \mathbf{y}_j)$.
- Compute $\frac{\partial L}{\partial \mathbf{z}^{(3)}}$.
- $\frac{\partial L}{\partial \mathbf{z}^{(2)}} = \boxed{\frac{\partial \mathbf{z}^{(3)}}{\partial \mathbf{z}^{(2)}}} \frac{\partial L}{\partial \mathbf{z}^{(3)}}, \quad \boxed{\frac{\partial L}{\partial \mathbf{W}^{(2)}}} = \frac{\partial \mathbf{z}^{(3)}}{\partial \mathbf{W}^{(2)}} \frac{\partial L}{\partial \mathbf{z}^{(3)}}$.

Use it to update $\mathbf{W}^{(2)}$ (e.g., by SGD).

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{z}^{(3)}}{\partial \mathbf{x}^{(2)}} = \mathbf{w}^{(2)}, \quad \frac{\partial \mathbf{x}^{(2)}}{\partial \mathbf{z}^{(2)}} = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } \mathbf{z}^{(2)} > 0; \\ 0, & \text{else.} \end{cases}$$

Example: how to train a softmax classifier

Define a function $f: \mathbb{R}^{785} \mapsto \mathbb{R}^{10}$:

- Input: vector $\mathbf{x}^{(0)} \in \mathbb{R}^{785}$.
- $\mathbf{z}^{(1)} = \mathbf{W}^{(0)} \mathbf{x}^{(0)} \in \mathbb{R}^{d_1}$.
- $\mathbf{x}^{(1)} = \max\{\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{z}^{(1)}\} \in \mathbb{R}^{d_1}$.
- $\boxed{\mathbf{z}^{(2)} = \mathbf{W}^{(1)} \mathbf{x}^{(1)} \in \mathbb{R}^{d_2}}$.
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Apply the chain rule again.

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Use it to update $\mathbf{W}^{(1)}$ (e.g., by SGD).

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Apply the chain rule again.

Example: how to train a softmax classifier

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- $\boxed{\frac{\partial L}{\partial \mathbf{W}^{(0)}}} = \frac{\partial \mathbf{z}^{(1)}}{\partial \mathbf{W}^{(0)}} \frac{\partial L}{\partial \mathbf{z}^{(1)}}$. Use it to update $\mathbf{W}^{(0)}$.

Example: how to train a softmax classifier

1. Randomly pick a sample $(\mathbf{x}_j, \mathbf{y}_j)$.
2. Run a forward pass (from the input $\mathbf{x}^{(0)}$ to the prediction).
3. Run a backward pass (from the loss to $\mathbf{W}^{(0)}$).



Get the derivatives (stochastic gradients):

$$\frac{\partial \text{Loss}(\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}_j), \mathbf{y}_j)}{\partial \mathbf{W}^{(2)}}, \quad \frac{\partial \text{Loss}(\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}_j), \mathbf{y}_j)}{\partial \mathbf{W}^{(1)}}, \quad \frac{\partial \text{Loss}(\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}_j), \mathbf{y}_j)}{\partial \mathbf{W}^{(0)}}.$$



Update $\mathbf{W}^{(0)}, \mathbf{W}^{(1)}, \mathbf{W}^{(2)}$ using the derivatives.

Example: how to train a softmax classifier

1. Randomly pick a sample $(\mathbf{x}_j, \mathbf{y}_j)$. Several random samples.
2. Run a forward pass (from the input $\mathbf{x}^{(0)}$ to the prediction).
3. Run a backward pass (from the loss to $\mathbf{W}^{(0)}$).



Get the derivatives (stochastic gradients):

$$\frac{\partial \text{Loss}(\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}_j), \mathbf{y}_j)}{\partial \mathbf{w}^{(2)}}, \frac{\partial \text{Loss}(\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}_j), \mathbf{y}_j)}{\partial \mathbf{w}^{(1)}}, \frac{\partial \text{Loss}(\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}_j), \mathbf{y}_j)}{\partial \mathbf{w}^{(0)}}.$$

$$\frac{1}{|\mathcal{J}|} \sum_{j \in \mathcal{J}} \frac{\partial \text{Loss}(\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}_j), \mathbf{y}_j)}{\partial \mathbf{w}^{(2)}}, \quad \frac{1}{|\mathcal{J}|} \sum_{j \in \mathcal{J}} \frac{\partial \text{Loss}(\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}_j), \mathbf{y}_j)}{\partial \mathbf{w}^{(1)}}, \quad \frac{1}{|\mathcal{J}|} \sum_{j \in \mathcal{J}} \frac{\partial \text{Loss}(\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}_j), \mathbf{y}_j)}{\partial \mathbf{w}^{(0)}}.$$

Mini-batch should always be used! Set batch size $|\mathcal{J}|$ to 16, 32, 64, ...

Example: how to train a softmax classifier

SGD: BatchSize = 1.

- Per-iteration cost is low.
- Lots of iterations to converge.

Mini-Batch: BatchSize > 1.

- Better than the other two, if **BatchSize** is properly set.

Full Gradient: BatchSize = n .

- Per-iteration cost is n times higher than SGD.
- Convex problem: less number of iterations.
- Neural network: it doesn't work!

See some blogs

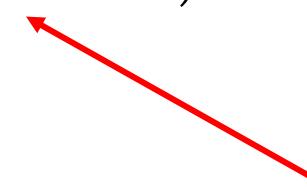
<https://distill.pub/2017/momentum/>

<https://ruder.io/optimizing-gradient-descent/>

Rethink BP and chain rule

$$f_n \left(\dots \left(f_2(f_1(x)) \right) \right) \rightarrow ?$$

$f_i \rightarrow x_i$

$$\frac{dx_n}{dx_1} = \frac{dx_n}{dx_{n-1}} \cdot \frac{dx_{n-1}}{dx_{n-2}} \cdot \dots \cdot \frac{dx_2}{dx_1} \cdot \frac{dx_1}{dx}$$
$$\frac{dx_n}{dx_i}, \text{ for } i = 1, \dots, n-1$$


Rethink BP and chain rule

$$f(x) \rightarrow \nabla f(x)$$

$$f(g(x)) \rightarrow ?$$

- Chain rule of calculus

$$y = g(x) \text{ and } z = f(g(x)) = f(y)$$

$$\frac{dz}{dx} = \frac{dz}{dy} \frac{dy}{dx}$$

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However, we use **stochastic gradient**,
rather than **gradient**

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Stochastic approximation methods are a family of **iterative methods** typically used for **root-finding** problems or (im)ation) collected data is corrupted by noise, or for approximating **extreme values** of functions which cannot be computed exactly.

In a nutshell, stochastic approximation algorithms deal with a function of the form $f(\theta) = E_\xi[F(\theta, \xi)]$ which is the expected value of $F(\theta, \xi)$. Stochastic approximation algorithms use random samples of $F(\theta, \xi)$ to efficiently approximate properties of f such as its gradient.

Recently, stochastic approximations have found extensive applications in the fields of statistics and machine learning, reinforcement learning via **temporal differences**, and **deep learning**, and others.^[1] Stochastic approximation algorithms have also been used to prove some theoretical results in their theory.^[2]

The earliest, and prototypical, algorithms of this kind are the **Robbins–Monro** and **Kiefer–Wolfowitz** algorithms.

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x} = \begin{vmatrix} \frac{\partial z}{\partial y} & \frac{\partial z}{\partial x} \\ \hline dy & dx \end{vmatrix}$$

Rethink BP and chain rule

$$f(x) \rightarrow \nabla f(x)$$

However, we use **stochastic gradient**,
rather than **gradient**

$$f(g(x)) \rightarrow ?$$

Stochastic $\widehat{\nabla}f(y) \rightarrow \nabla f(y)$ (approximation)

$$E[\widehat{\nabla}f(y)] = \nabla f(y) \text{ (unbiased)}$$

- Chain rule of calculus

$$y = g(x) \text{ and } z = f(g(x)) = f(y)$$

$$\frac{dz}{dx} = \frac{dz}{dy} \frac{dy}{dx}$$

Rethink BP and chain rule

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$$y = g(x) \text{ and } z = f(g(x)) = f(y)$$

$$\frac{dz}{dx} = \frac{dz}{dy} \frac{dy}{dx}$$

$$\frac{\widehat{dz}}{dx} = \frac{\widehat{dz}}{dy} \frac{\widehat{dy}}{dx}$$

Composition:
Biased

Train an MLP softmax classifier

$$f_n \left(\dots \left(f_2 \left(f_1(x) \right) \right) \right) \rightarrow ?$$

- $f_1 \rightarrow ?$
- $f_2 \rightarrow ?$
- $f_3 \rightarrow ?$
- $f_4 \rightarrow ?$
- ...

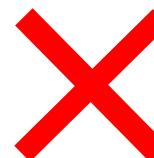
Need to manually implement?

Train an MLP softmax classifier

$$f_n \left(\dots \left(f_2 \left(f_1(x) \right) \right) \right) \rightarrow ?$$

- $f_1 \rightarrow ?$
- $f_2 \rightarrow ?$
- $f_3 \rightarrow ?$
- $f_4 \rightarrow ?$
- ...

Need to manually implement?



Train an MLP softmax classifier

$$f_n \left(\dots \left(f_2 \left(f_1(x) \right) \right) \right) \rightarrow ?$$

```
# Fully connected neural network with one hidden layer
class NeuralNet(nn.Module):
    def __init__(self, input_size, hidden_size, num_classes):
        super(NeuralNet, self).__init__()
        self.fc1 = nn.Linear(input_size, hidden_size)
        self.relu = nn.ReLU()
        self.fc2 = nn.Linear(hidden_size, num_classes)

    def forward(self, x):
        out = self.fc1(x)
        out = self.relu(out)
        out = self.fc2(out)
        return out
```

Train an MLP softmax classifier

Define a function $f: \mathbb{R} \mapsto \mathbb{R}$

Backpropagation:

One iteration:

- Input: scalar $x^{(0)}$.
- Loss: $L = \frac{1}{2} (f(x_j) - y_j)^2$.

1. Randomly sample j from $\{1, 2, \dots, n\}$.

2. Forward pass: take x_j as input ($x^{(0)} = x_j$), compute each layer $z^{(1)}, x^{(1)}, z^{(2)}, x^{(2)}, z^{(3)}$.

3. Backward pass:

i. Compute the derivatives $\frac{\partial L}{\partial z^{(3)}}, \frac{\partial L}{\partial w^{(2)}}, \frac{\partial L}{\partial z^{(2)}}, \frac{\partial L}{\partial w^{(1)}}, \frac{\partial L}{\partial z^{(1)}}, \frac{\partial L}{\partial w^{(0)}}$.

ii. Update $w^{(k)}$ using $\frac{\partial L}{\partial w^{(k)}}$.

Need to compute gradients for each layer?

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ii. Update $w^{(k)}$ using $\frac{\partial L}{\partial w^{(k)}}$.

Need to compute gradients for each layer?



Train an MLP softmax classifier

```
# Loss and optimizer
criterion = nn.CrossEntropyLoss()
optimizer = torch.optim.Adam(model_NN.parameters(), lr=learning_rate, weight_decay=0.00001)
```

```
# Forward pass
outputs = model(images)
loss = criterion(outputs, labels)

# Backward and optimize
optimizer.zero_grad()
loss.backward()
optimizer.step()
```