

### 5. [16 points] Neural networks with shortcut connections

In this problem, we'll perform classification using a modified two-layer neural network. For any input vector  $x \in \mathbb{R}^d$ , our neural network outputs a probability distribution over 2 classes following the forward propagation rules:

$$\begin{aligned} z^{[1]} &= W^{[1]}x + b^{[1]} \\ a^{[1]} &= \text{ReLU}(z^{[1]}) = \max(0, z^{[1]}) \\ z^{[2]} &= W^{[2]}a^{[1]} + b^{[2]} \\ \hat{y} &= a^{[2]} = \sigma(z^{[2]}) = \frac{1}{1 + e^{-z^{[2]}}} \end{aligned}$$

where  $W^{[1]} \in \mathbb{R}^{h \times d}$ ,  $b^{[1]} \in \mathbb{R}^h$ ,  $W^{[2]} \in \mathbb{R}^{1 \times h}$ ,  $b^{[2]} \in \mathbb{R}$ . The first layer of the network is a fully-connected layer, followed by a Rectified Linear Unit (ReLU) activation function  $\text{ReLU}(z)$ . The second layer of the network is a fully-connected layer, followed by a sigmoid activation function.

We evaluate our model using a mean squared loss. For a single example  $(x, y)$ , the squared loss is:

$$\mathcal{L}(\hat{y}, y) = \frac{1}{2}(\hat{y} - y)^2.$$

where  $\hat{y} \in (0, 1)$  and  $y \in \{0, 1\}$ .

For  $n$  training examples, we average the mean squared loss over the  $n$  examples:

$$J(W^{[1]}, W^{[2]}, b^{[1]}, b^{[2]}) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \mathcal{L}(\hat{y}^{(i)}, y^{(i)}) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{2}(\hat{y}^{(i)} - y^{(i)})^2.$$

We modify the described network by adding a “shortcut” connection between the input  $x$  and the second layer. The forward propagation equations then become:

$$\begin{aligned} z^{[1]} &= W^{[1]}x + b^{[1]} \\ a^{[1]} &= \text{ReLU}(z^{[1]}) \\ z^{[2]} &= W^{[2]}a^{[1]} + b^{[2]} + Wx \\ \hat{y} &= a^{[2]} = \sigma(z^{[2]}) \end{aligned}$$

where  $W \in \mathbb{R}^{1 \times d}$ , and  $J(W^{[1]}, W^{[2]}, b^{[1]}, b^{[2]}, W)$  is defined as before.

Figure 1 (on the next page) shows the two-layer neural network, before and after adding the shortcut connection. In practice, it is often observed that shortcut connections improve the learning of neural networks.

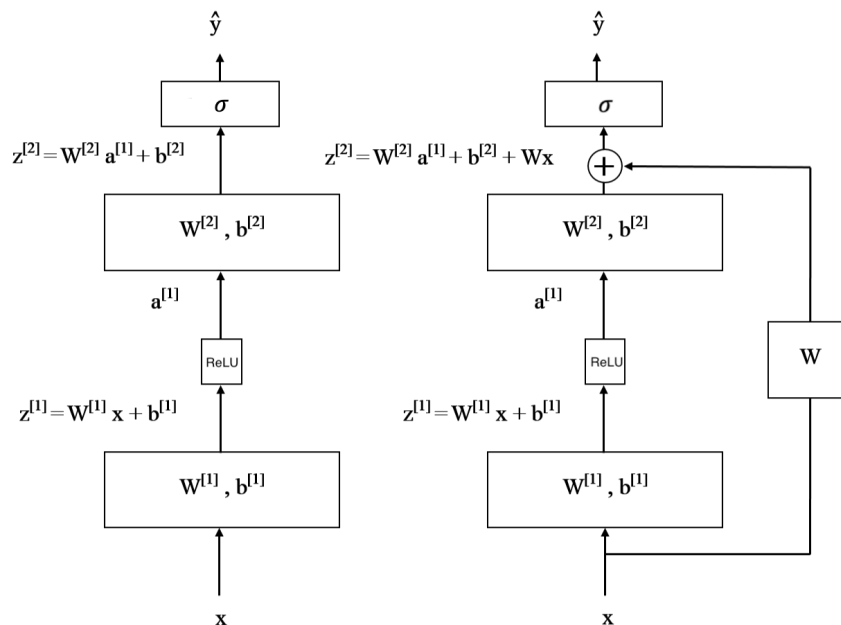


Figure 1: On the left, a two-layer neural network without shortcut connection. On the right, the same two-layer neural network with a shortcut connection.

- (a) [4 points] How many parameters does the model including the shortcut connection have? Your answer should be expressed in terms of  $n$ ,  $d$ , or  $h$ .

**Answer:**  $W^{[1]}$ :  $h \times d$ ,  $b^{[1]}$ :  $h$ ,  $W^{[2]}$ :  $1 \times h$ ,  $b^{[2]}$ :  $1$ ,  $W$ :  $1 \times d$ .

**Total number of parameters:**  $(d + 1)h + (h + 1) + d$ .

- (b) [12 points] Find the expressions for  $\frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial W^{[1]}}$ ,  $\frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial b^{[1]}}$ ,  $\frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial W^{[2]}}$ ,  $\frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial b^{[2]}}$ ,  $\frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial W}$  of the neural network with a shortcut connection, given a **single** training example  $(x, y)$ .

*Hint:* You may find the indicator function useful for the derivative of ReLU function.

**Answer:**

$$\frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \hat{y}} = (\hat{y} - y) \quad \in \mathbb{R}$$

$$\frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial b^{[2]}} = \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \hat{y}} \cdot \frac{\partial \hat{y}}{\partial z^{[2]}} \cdot \frac{\partial z^{[2]}}{\partial b^{[2]}} = (\hat{y} - y) \cdot (1 - \hat{y}) \cdot \hat{y} \quad \in \mathbb{R}$$

$$\frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial W^{[2]}} = \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \hat{y}} \cdot \frac{\partial \hat{y}}{\partial z^{[2]}} \cdot \frac{\partial z^{[2]}}{\partial W^{[2]}} = (\hat{y} - y) \cdot (1 - \hat{y}) \cdot \hat{y} \cdot a^{[1]T} \quad \in \mathbb{R}^{1 \times h}$$

$$\frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial W} = \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \hat{y}} \cdot \frac{\partial \hat{y}}{\partial z^{[2]}} \cdot \frac{\partial z^{[2]}}{\partial W} = (\hat{y} - y) \cdot (1 - \hat{y}) \cdot \hat{y} \cdot x^T \quad \in \mathbb{R}^{1 \times d}$$

$$\frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial a^{[1]}} = \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \hat{y}} \cdot \frac{\partial \hat{y}}{\partial z^{[2]}} \cdot \frac{\partial z^{[2]}}{\partial a^{[1]}} = (\hat{y} - y) \cdot (1 - \hat{y}) \cdot \hat{y} \cdot W^{[2]T} \quad \in \mathbb{R}^{1 \times h}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial b^{[1]}} &= \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \hat{y}} \cdot \frac{\partial \hat{y}}{\partial z^{[2]}} \cdot \frac{\partial z^{[2]}}{\partial a^{[1]}} \cdot \frac{\partial a^{[1]}}{\partial z^{[1]}} \cdot \frac{\partial z^{[1]}}{\partial b^{[1]}} \\ &= (\hat{y} - y) \cdot (1 - \hat{y}) \cdot \hat{y} \cdot W^{[2]T} \cdot \mathbb{1}\{z^{[1]} > 0\} \quad \in \mathbb{R}^{1 \times h} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial W^{[1]}} &= \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \hat{y}} \cdot \frac{\partial \hat{y}}{\partial z^{[2]}} \cdot \frac{\partial z^{[2]}}{\partial a^{[1]}} \cdot \frac{\partial a^{[1]}}{\partial z^{[1]}} \cdot \frac{\partial z^{[1]}}{\partial W^{[1]}} \\ &= (\hat{y} - y) \cdot (1 - \hat{y}) \cdot \hat{y} \cdot W^{[2]T} \cdot \mathbb{1}\{z^{[1]} > 0\} \cdot x^T \quad \in \mathbb{R}^{h \times d} \end{aligned}$$