

---

# HOMWORK 7. GRADIENT CLIPPING

---

Kun Yuan

November 23, 2023

**Attention:** Turn in your homework at the beginning of our lecture on Nov. 28, 2023

## 1 Backpropagation in RNN

Consider the following RNN formulation

$$h_t = w_x x_t + w_h h_{t-1} \quad (1)$$

$$\hat{y}_t = w_o h_t \quad (2)$$

for  $t = 1, \dots, T$ , where  $w_x \in \mathbb{R}$ ,  $w_h \in \mathbb{R}$ , and  $w_o \in \mathbb{R}$  are parameters to learn,  $x_t \in \mathbb{R}$  is the input data at iteration  $t$ ,  $h_t \in \mathbb{R}$  is the hidden state at iteration  $t$  with initialization  $h_0$ , and  $\hat{y}_t \in \mathbb{R}$  is the output at iteration  $t$ . Given the samples  $\{x_t, y_t\}_{t=1}^T$ , we consider the following loss function

$$L(w_x, w_h, w_o; \{x_t, y_t\}_{t=1}^T) = \frac{1}{2T} \sum_{t=1}^T (\hat{y}_t - y_t)^2 \quad (3)$$

Please derive  $\frac{\partial L}{\partial w_x}$  and  $\frac{\partial L}{\partial w_o}$ .

## 2 $(L_0, L_1)$ -smooth condition

Prove the following statement: Let  $f$  be the univariate polynomial  $f(x) = \sum_{i=1}^d a_i x^i$ . When  $d \geq 3$ , then  $f(x)$  is  $(L_0, L_1)$ -smooth for some  $L_0$  and  $L_1$  but not  $L$ -smooth.

**Hint:** Since  $f(x)$  is twice differentiable, the  $(L_0, L_1)$ -smooth condition can be simplified as  $\|\nabla^2 f(x)\| \leq L_0 + L_1 \|\nabla f(x)\|$ .