

# Neural network notes

Marco Marini

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## Abstract

This document contains notes about neural network regarding the Temporal Differential reinforcement algorithms.

## 1 General

Let us have a neural network composed by  $N$  layers. Each layer  $i = 1 \dots N$  is composed by  $s_i$  neurons.

The first layer

$$H_{1i} = x_i$$

represents the input values of the network. We identify the input bias signals with

$$H_{i0} = 1$$

Each neuron processes the input signals from its layer and produces the output signal to the next layer.

Let us exam a NLR (Non Linear regression) network.

The transfer function of each hidden neuron  $i < N$  is

$$H_{(i+1)j} = \frac{1}{1+e^{-Z_{ij}}} \quad (1)$$
$$Z_{ij} = \sum_{k=0}^{s_i} w_{ijk} H_{ik}$$

the transfer function of each output neuron  $N$  is

$$H_{Nj} = \sum_{k=0}^{s_{N-1}} w_{(N-1)jk} H_{(N-1)k} \quad (2)$$

## 2 Cost Function

Let  $y_j$  be the expected output for the neuron  $j$ , the error of neuron is

$$\delta_{(N-1)j} = y_j - H_{Nj} \quad (3)$$

The cost function of the network is

$$J = \begin{cases} \frac{1-\alpha}{2} \sum_{i=1}^{s_N} \delta_{(N-1)i}^2 + \frac{\alpha}{2} \sum_{i,j,k} w_{ijk}^2, & k \geq 1 \\ \frac{1-\alpha}{2} \sum_{i=1}^{s_N} \delta_{(N-1)i}^2, & k = 0 \end{cases}$$

where  $\alpha$  is the regularization factor.

Let us extract  $\nabla J$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial w_{ijk}} J = \begin{cases} (1-\alpha) \sum_{r=1}^{s_N} \delta_{(N-1)r} \frac{\partial}{\partial w_{ijk}} \delta_{(N-1)r} + \alpha w_{ijk}, & k \geq 1 \\ (1-\alpha) \sum_{r=1}^{s_N} \delta_{(N-1)r} \frac{\partial}{\partial w_{ijk}} \delta_{(N-1)r}, & k = 0 \end{cases}$$

By (3) we have

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial w_{ijk}} \delta_{(N-1)r} = -\frac{\partial}{\partial w_{ijk}} H_{Nr}$$

therefore

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial w_{ijk}} J = \begin{cases} -(1-\alpha) \sum_{r=1}^{s_N} \delta_{(N-1)r} \frac{\partial}{\partial w_{ijk}} H_{Nr} + \alpha w_{ijk}, & k \geq 1 \\ -(1-\alpha) \sum_{r=1}^{s_N} \delta_{(N-1)r} \frac{\partial}{\partial w_{ijk}} H_{Nr}, & k = 0 \end{cases}$$

By now we disregard the regularization effects.

By (2) we have

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial}{\partial w_{(N-1)jk}} H_{Nj} &= H_{(N-1)k} \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial w_{(N-1)jk}} H_{Nr} &= 0, \quad r \neq j \end{aligned}$$

therefore

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial w_{(N-1)jk}} J = -\delta_{(N-1)j} H_{(N-1)k}$$

By (2) and  $i \leq N-2$  we have

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial J}{\partial w_{ijk}} &= -\sum_r \delta_{(N-1)r} \frac{\partial}{\partial w_{ijk}} \left[ \sum_s w_{(N-1)rs} H_{(N-1)s} \right] = \\ &= -\sum_{r,s} \delta_{(N-1)r} w_{(N-1)rs} \frac{\partial}{\partial w_{ijk}} H_{(N-1)s} \end{aligned}$$

By (1) we have

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial w_{ijk}} H_{(i+1)j} = \frac{\partial}{\partial Z_{ij}} H_{(i+1)j} \frac{\partial}{\partial w_{ijk}} Z_{ij} = H_{(i+1)j} (1 - H_{(i+1)j}) H_{ik}$$

therefore

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial w_{(N-2)jk}} J = - \sum_r \delta_{(N-1)r} w_{(N-1)rj} H_{(N-1)j} (1 - H_{(N-1)j}) H_{(N-2)k}$$

### 3 Back-propagation

Let us define

$$\delta_{(N-2)j} = \sum_r \delta_{(N-1)r} w_{(N-1)rj} H_{(N-1)j} (1 - H_{(N-1)j})$$

Then we have

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial w_{(N-2)jk}} J = -\delta_{(N-2)j} H_{(N-2)k}$$

We can induce just for  $i \leq N-2$

$$\delta_{ij} = \sum_k \delta_{(i+1)k} w_{(i+1)kj} H_{(i+1)j} (1 - H_{(i+1)j})$$

while in general

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial w_{ijk}} J = -\delta_{ij} H_{ik}$$

Let us now define the back-propagation tensor as

$$B_{ijk} = w_{(i+1)kj} H_{(i+1)j} (1 - H_{(i+1)j}), \quad i \leq N-2$$

The errors on intermediate layers are

$$\delta_{ij} = \sum_{k=1}^{s_i} \delta_{(i+1)k} B_{ijk}, \quad i = 1 \dots N-2$$

Now reintroducing the regularization effects we have

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial w_{ijk}} J = \begin{cases} -(1-\alpha)\delta_{ij} H_{ik} + \alpha w_{ijk}, & k \geq 1 \\ -(1-\alpha)\delta_{ij} H_{ik}, & k = 0 \end{cases}$$

The weight changes to reduce the error (gradient descent) are

$$\Delta w_{ijk} = -\eta \frac{\partial}{\partial w_{ijk}} J = \begin{cases} \eta [(1-\alpha)\delta_{ij} H_{ik} - \alpha w_{ijk}], & k \geq 1 \\ \eta (1-\alpha)\delta_{ij} H_{ik}, & k = 0 \end{cases}$$

where  $\eta$  is the learning rate.

## 4 Returns

Let us have a process where the best policy generates a never end episode (infinite length) and let the positive reward be  $r_+ > 0$  every  $n$  steps, while a wrong choice at step  $n$  generates the end of episode with a negative reward of  $r_- < 0$ .

The return at step  $n$  is then

$$R_+ = \frac{r_+}{1 - \lambda^{2(n-1)}}$$

if the best strategy is applied otherwise

$$R_- = r_-$$

Suppose  $R_+ \gg -R_-$  we have

$$\frac{r_+}{1 - \lambda^{2(n-1)}} \gg -r_-$$

$$r_+ \gg -(1 - \lambda^{2(n-1)})r_-$$

For example if  $\lambda^{2(n-1)} = \frac{1}{2}, r_- = -1$  we have

$$r_+ \gg \frac{1}{2}$$

such as  $r_+ = 5$

## 5 TDLayer

A layer is a list of neurons that process a set of input signal.

The output signal of this process is

$$h_i = f_i(z_i)$$

$$z_i = \sum_{k=0}^m w_{ik} x_k$$

The cost function is

$$J = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} (y_i - h_i)^2 + l_1 \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} \sum_{k=1}^{m-1} \|w_{ik}\| + \frac{1}{2} l_2 \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} \sum_{k=1}^{m-1} w_{ik}^2 = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} \delta_i^2 + l_1 \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} \sum_{k=1}^{m-1} \|w_{ik}\| + \frac{1}{2} l_2 \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} \sum_{k=1}^{m-1} w_{ik}^2$$

$f(x)$  is the activation function and may be

$f(x) = x$  for NLR layer,

$f(x) = \text{sigmoid}(x) = \frac{1}{1+e^{-x}}$  for logistic layer

$f(x) = \tanh(x)$

The gradient of  $J$  is

$$\frac{\partial J}{\partial w_{ij}} = - \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} \delta_k \frac{\partial h_k}{\partial z_k} \frac{\partial z_k}{\partial w_{ij}} + l_1 \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} \sum_{k=1}^{m-1} \text{signum}(w_{ik}) + l_2 \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} \sum_{k=1}^{m-1} w_{ik} = -\delta_i f'_i x_j + l_1 \text{signum}(w_{ij}) + l_2 w_{ij}$$

the terms  $l_1 \text{signum}(w_{ij})$  and  $l_2 w_{ij}$  are valid only for  $j \neq 0$

$f'(x) = 1$  for  $f(x) = x$ ,

$f'(x) = f(1 - f)$  for  $f = \text{sigmoid}(x)$ ,

$f'(x) = (1 + f)(1 - f)$  for  $f = \tanh(x)$

The backpropagation errors are

$$\delta'_i = \sum_j \delta_j f'_j w_{ji} = \sum_j w_{ij}^T \delta_j f'_j$$

The updated eligibility traces are

$$e'_{ij} = \gamma \lambda e_{ij} - g(\nabla J)$$

$g(x)$  is the backtrace function and may be identity  $x$  or  $\text{signum}(x)$

The updated weights are

$$w'_{ik} = w_{ij} + \eta e'_{ij}$$