3. Backprop and Neural Networks

- Gradient descent math
 - This is basically matrix calculus
 - These gradients have a LOT of partial derivatives (n)
 - The gradients computed via the chain rule are also extremely similar (only the last partial derivative in the chain rule is different)
 - It's essentially that we avoid repeated computation (local error signal, delta, can be reused to prevent repeated calculations)
 - The shape of the derivatives
 - Disagreement between the best form
 - Jacobian form makes the chain rule easy
 - Shape convention is better for SGD
- Steps of NN training
 - 1). Forward propagation
 - Compute the initial desired value using current input parameters
 - 2). Backpropagation
 - Send back gradients to tell us how to update the model parameters
- Backpropagation Algorithm
 - That's essentially doing what was happening above!
 - Reuse derivatives of higher layers to be as computationally efficient as possible
 - i.e. Compute all the gradients at once (analogous to using delta when computing by hand)
 - Done correctly, the big O() complexity is actually the same for both forward and backward propagation
 - Backprop steps on one node:
 - 1. You have a node f (where some computation happens) and a downstream gradient flowing into it
 - 2. Work out the gradient of the node f
 - 3. Downstream gradient = upstream gradient * local gradient (chain rule!)
 - 4. Continue this all the way back up the tree
 - 4. The final backpropagted values tell us how much the overall output will change if we "wiggle" the values of each output
 - i.e. The slope at each point via the gradient

- If a node has multiple outward branches, you sum the slopes to see the effect that wiggling the value has
- Modern DL frameworks (TensorFlow / PyTorch etc.) do 90% of the work, but the layer node derivatives still need to be calculated by hand

