

University of Thessaly



Neuro-Fuzzy Computing

ECE447

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## 1<sup>st</sup> Problem Set

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## Problem 1

The contour lines of  $f(x, y)$  are plotted with the following MATLAB code and are presented in figure 1.

```
function [Z] = plot_contour(start_num , end_num)

    x = linspace(start_num , end_num , 100);
    y = x;
    [X, Y] = meshgrid(x, y);
    Z = X.^2 + 4*X.*Y + Y.^2;
    contour(X, Y, Z, 40);
    xlabel('X');
    ylabel('Y');

end
```

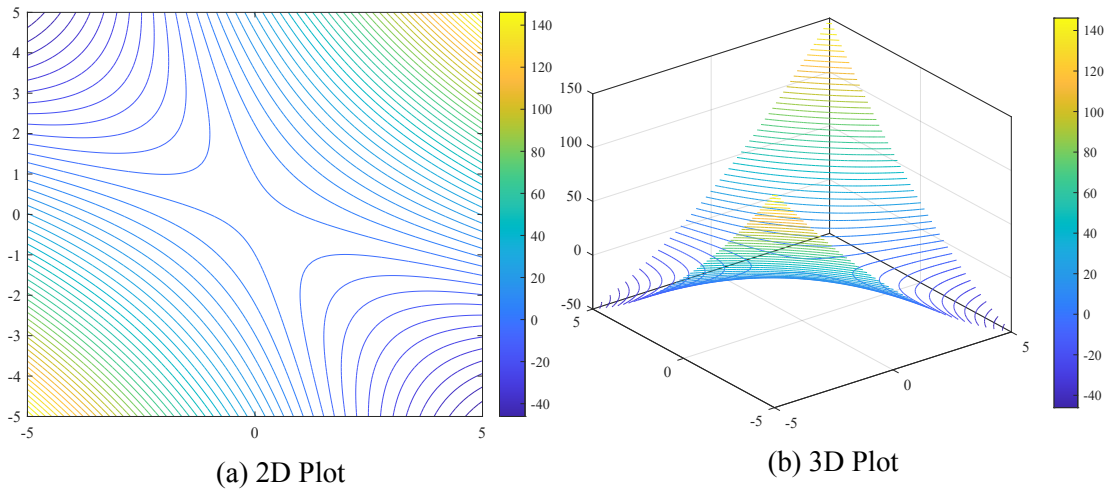


Figure 1: Contour lines of  $f(x, y)$

A general formula of a quadratic equation is  $f(x, y) = ax^2 + 2bxy + cy^2$ . Writing our formula in the previous form, we find that  $a = 1$ ,  $b = 2$ ,  $c = 1$ . Calculation of the discriminant can help us calculate the location of the function's local minimum/maximum.

$$D = \begin{bmatrix} f_{xx} & f_{xy} \\ f_{yx} & f_{yy} \end{bmatrix} = f_{xx}f_{yy} - f_{xy}^2 = 2 \times 2 - 4^2 = -12 < 0, \quad \text{where} \quad (1)$$

$$f_{xx} = \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x^2} = 2, \quad f_{yy} = \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial y^2} = 2, \quad f_{xy} = \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \left( \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} \right) = 4D = 2 \times 2 - 4^2 = -12 < 0.$$

So, we only have to find the point at which  $\frac{\partial f}{\partial x}$  and  $\frac{\partial f}{\partial y}$  are equal to 0. This point will be a saddle point at which the gradients in each orthogonal direction are 0, but this point is neither a local minimum nor a maximum. More precisely:

$$\begin{cases} \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} = 2x + 4y = 0 \\ \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} = 4x + 2y = 0 \end{cases} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} x = 0 \\ y = 0 \end{cases} \quad (2)$$

Thus, the point  $(x, y) = (0, 0)$  is the saddle point mentioned for the given function and this can be justified using the plotted contour lines.

## Problem 2

Gradient Descent is an optimization algorithm used to minimize a function by iteratively moving in the direction of steepest descent defined by the negative value of the gradient. It is mostly used to update the parameters of models.

In this exercise we need to execute two iterations of the Gradient Descent to the function

$$f(x_1, x_2) = (x_1 + 2 \cdot x_2 - 7)^2 + (2 \cdot x_1 + x_2 - 5)^2$$

with initial point  $x_0 = (-9.5, 9.5)$ .

The steps that we must use each time are specific.

*FIRST ITERATION  $k = 0$*

Step1: Calculate the Gradient

## Problem 3

Henon map is a dynamic system described by the recursive equation

$$x_{k+1} = 1 - ax_k^2 + bx_{k-1}$$

A lot of dynamic systems transition into chaos as gain or control is increased to a certain point and this system falls into this category. In this problem, we will plot the trajectories of sequences  $x_0 \dots x_i$  and describe it. The first parameters are  $(a, b) = (0.3, 0.4)$  and the trajectories of the sequences are presented in figure 2.

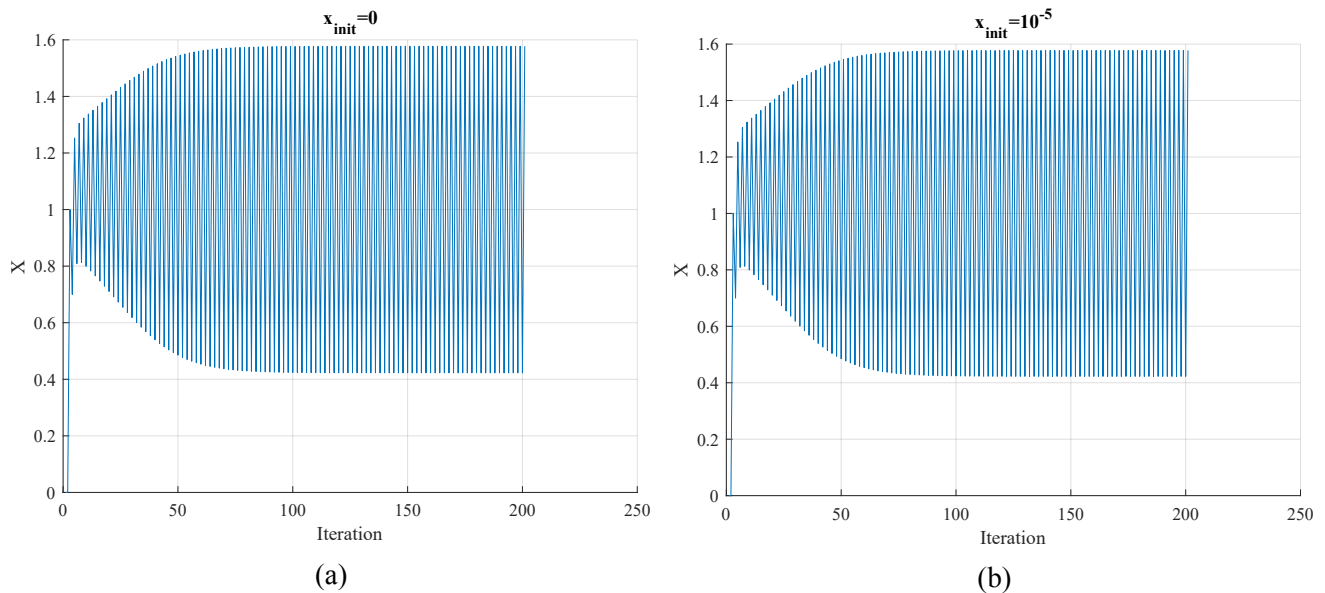
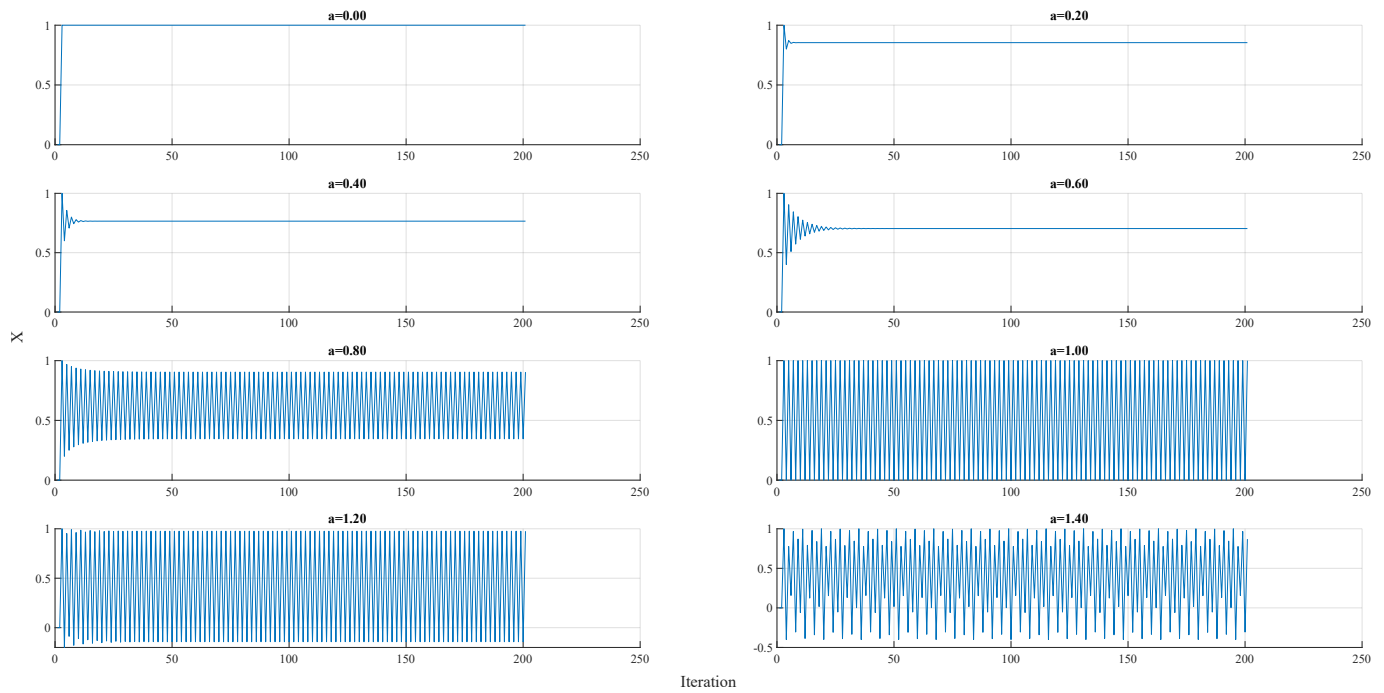


Figure 2: Trajectories of Henon map's sequence with  $(a, b) = (0.3, 0.4)$

From the produced plots, this system with parameters  $(0.3, 0.4)$  is periodic after converging.

Figure 3: Sequence output for different  $a$  and  $b = 0$ 

### (a) Multiple $a$ values

Figure 3 shows output of the sequence for different values of  $a$  and  $b = 0$ . When  $a \leq 0.6$ , the output swings for a bit and then stabilizes to a fixed number, with that number decreasing while  $a$  approaches 0.6.

When  $a \geq 0.8$ , output starts to oscillate. As  $a$  approaches 1, the oscillation's amplitude is getting bigger until it reaches value 1. After  $a$  surpasses 1, the oscillation starts to break down, as shown in the last two sub-figures. The greater  $a$ , the greater the disturbance on the oscillation thus chaos is created.

### (b) Multiple initial $x$ values

Figure 4 shows the trajectory of sequences with different  $x_{init}$  and  $b$ , with  $a = c$ , where  $c = 0.3$  from previous question. Inspecting this figure, we can understand some things about those parameters and what they affect on the system, as even with  $b = 0$ , the system performs a damped oscillation for the first 50 (at most)  $x_i$ . For a given  $x_{init}$  (ie. 0), increasing  $b$  increases the amplitude of oscillation as well as the overshoot percentage (if we see it as a system response).

*PS: Overshoot % is the percentage of system's maximum value that surpasses its steady-state value over the latter.*

### (c) $(a,b) = (0.3675, 0.3)$

By setting these values to the system in figure 5, we observe that the sequence starts to oscillate with a very high frequency. As the sequence progresses, the observed oscillation's amplitude dampens and settles around a fixed number, whilst still oscillating.

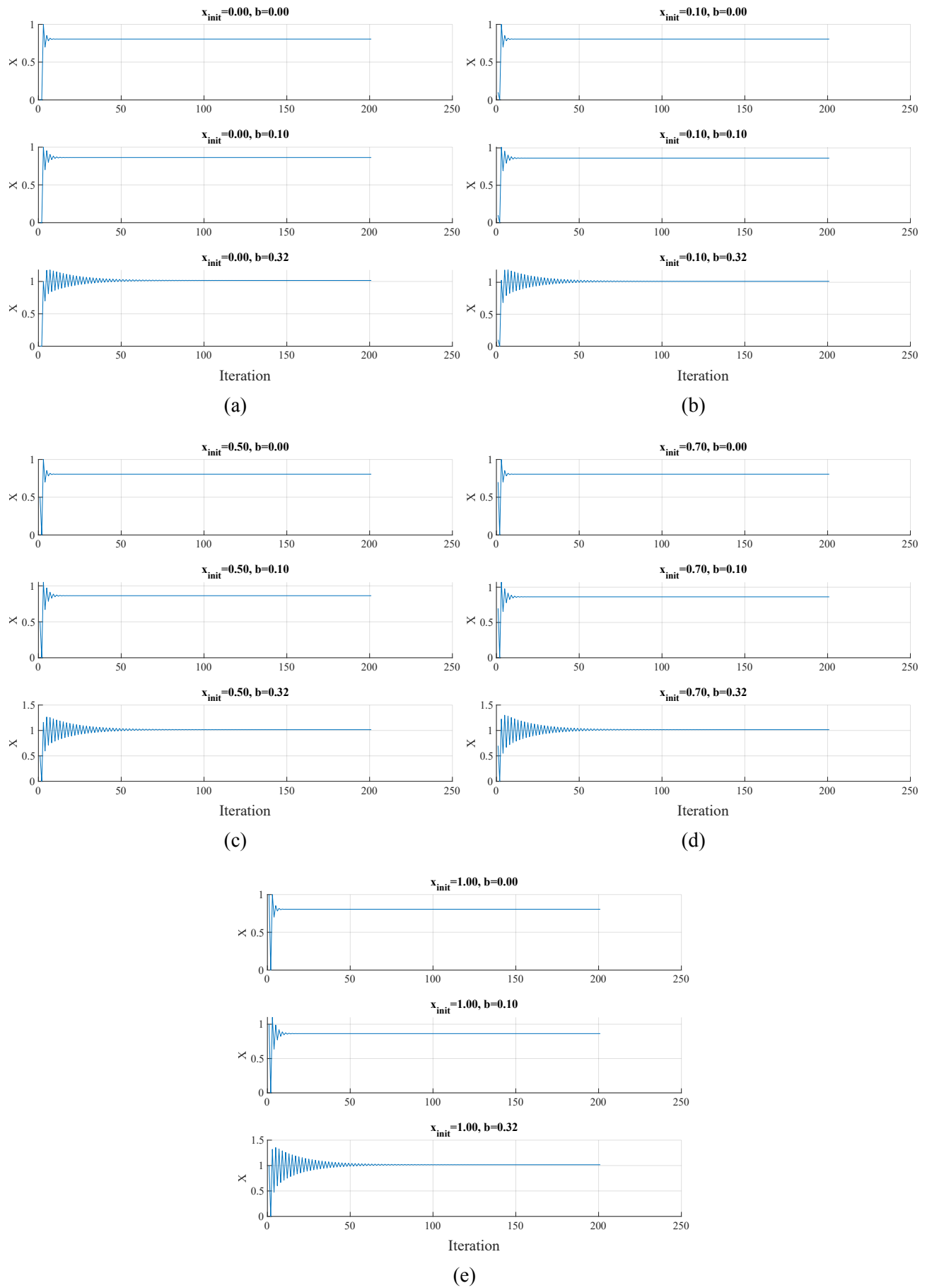


Figure 4

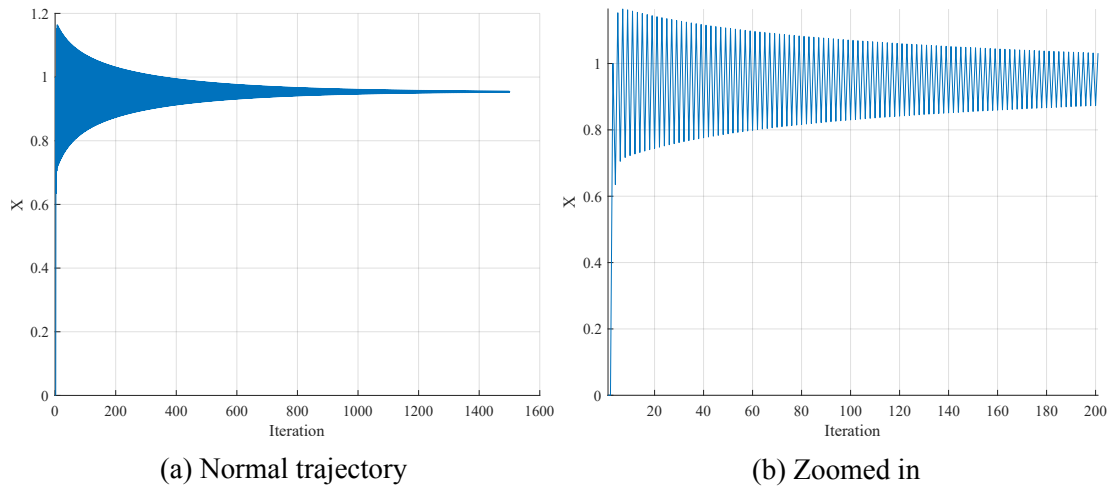


Figure 5: Sequence's trajectory with (0.3675, 0.3)

#### (d) Multiple $a$ values

By changing  $a$  parameter, we can spot and characterize system's output. Observing figure 6, we understand that increasing the parameter's value increases oscillation duration. At first, (when  $a$  is smaller to  $b$ ), the system oscillates for a bit and then dampens around a fixed number. But as  $a$  approaches  $b$ , oscillation duration gets bigger until the moment where  $a = b$ . From this value and over, oscillation lasts for all  $x_i$ . As  $a$  increases beyond  $b$ , the oscillations begin to deteriorate, and beyond a certain point of  $a$ , chaos ensues.

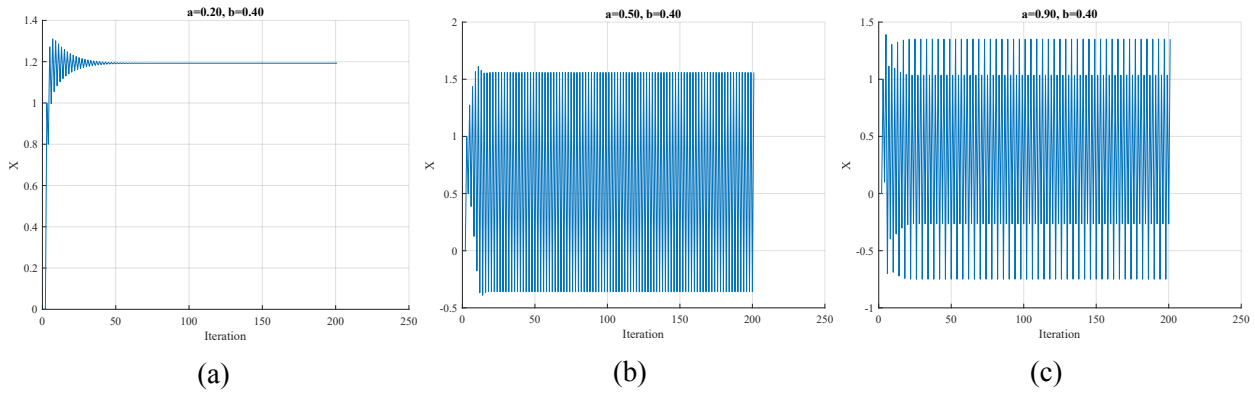


Figure 6

## Problem 4

In this problem, we will express the derivatives in respect to the matching activation function.

#### (a) LogSig

This activation function is expressed as

$$S(x) = \frac{1}{1 + e^{-x}}$$

Multiplying itself with  $(1 + e^{-x})$  gives

$$(1 + e^{-x}) S(x) = 1 \Leftrightarrow e^{-x} = \frac{1}{S(x)} - 1$$

So, activation function's derivative will be

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{dS}{dx} &= \frac{d\left((1 + e^{-x})^{-1}\right)}{dx} = (1 + e^{-x})^{-2} e^{-x} = S^2(x) \left(\frac{1}{S(x)} - 1\right) \\ &= S(x) - S^2(x) = S(x) (1 - S(x)) \end{aligned}$$

### (b) TanSig

Activation function is

$$S(x) = \frac{e^x - e^{-x}}{e^x + e^{-x}}$$

Its derivative is

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{dS}{dx} &= \frac{(e^x + e^{-x})(e^x + e^{-x}) - (e^x - e^{-x})(e^x - e^{-x})}{(e^x + e^{-x})^2} = \\ &= \frac{(e^x + e^{-x})^2 - (e^x - e^{-x})^2}{(e^x + e^{-x})^2} = 1 - \left(\frac{e^x - e^{-x}}{e^x + e^{-x}}\right)^2 = 1 - S^2(x) \end{aligned} \quad (3)$$

### (c) Swish

Activation function is

$$S(x) = \frac{x}{1 + e^{-x}}$$

The derivative in respect to  $x$  is

$$\frac{dS}{dx} = \frac{1 + e^{-x} + xe^{-x}}{(1 + e^{-x})^2} = \frac{1 + e^{-x}}{(1 + e^{-x})^2} + \frac{xe^{-x}}{(1 + e^{-x})^2} = \frac{1}{1 + e^{-x}} + x \frac{e^{-x}}{(1 + e^{-x})^2}$$

Rewriting the function gives us

$$\frac{S(x)}{x} = \frac{1}{1 + e^{-x}} \quad \text{and} \quad e^{-x} = \frac{x - S(x)}{S(x)}$$

So, continuing with the derivative:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{dS}{dx} &= \frac{1}{1 + e^{-x}} + x \frac{e^{-x}}{(1 + e^{-x})^2} = \frac{S(x)}{x} + \frac{e^{-x}}{1 + e^{-x}} \frac{x}{1 + e^{-x}} = \frac{S(x)}{x} + S(x) \frac{x}{1 + e^{-x}} = \\ &= \frac{S(x)}{x} + S(x) \frac{S(x)}{x} e^{-x} = \frac{S(x)}{x} (1 + S(x) e^{-x}) = \frac{S(x)}{x} \left(1 + S(x) \frac{x - S(x)}{S(x)}\right) = \\ &= \frac{S(x)}{x} (1 + x - S(x)) = \frac{S(x)}{x} + S(x) - \frac{S^2(x)}{x} \end{aligned}$$

Let  $\sigma = \frac{1}{1 + e^{-x}}$ , thus

$$\frac{dS}{dx} = \frac{S(x)}{x} + S(x) - \frac{S^2(x)}{x} = \sigma + S(x) - \sigma S(x) = S(x) + \sigma (1 - S(x)) \quad (4)$$

### (d) Custom tanh

Activation function is

$$S(x) = x \tanh(\ln(1 + e^x)) = x \tanh(g(x)), \text{ where } g(x) = \ln(1 + e^x).$$

By calculating the derivative of this function as is, we get

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{dS}{dx} &= \tanh(g(x)) + x \tanh'(g(x)) \frac{dg}{dx} = \tanh(g(x)) + x \tanh'(g(x)) \frac{1}{1 + e^{-x}} = \\ &= \tanh(g(x)) + \tanh'(g(x)) x \frac{\text{Swish}(x)}{x} = \frac{S(x)}{x} + \tanh'(g(x)) \text{Swish}(x) = \\ &= \frac{S(x)}{x} + (1 - \tanh^2(g(x))) \text{Swish}(x) = \frac{S(x)}{x} + \text{Swish}(x) - \tanh^2(g(x)) \text{Swish}(x) \end{aligned}$$

So,  $\phi(x, S)$  is

$$\frac{S(x)}{x} + \text{Swish}(x) - \frac{S^2(x)}{x^2} \text{Swish}(x), \quad \text{where} \quad (5)$$

$S(x)$  is the activation function and  $\text{Swish}(x)$  is the Swish activation function from before

## Problem 5

The given neural network consists of two layers and of three neurons. On the first one, activation function is logsig or swish and on the second one is purelin. On the left side of figure 7 we see the sketches for all outputs when the activation function is logsig and on the right side all outputs with activation function being swish.

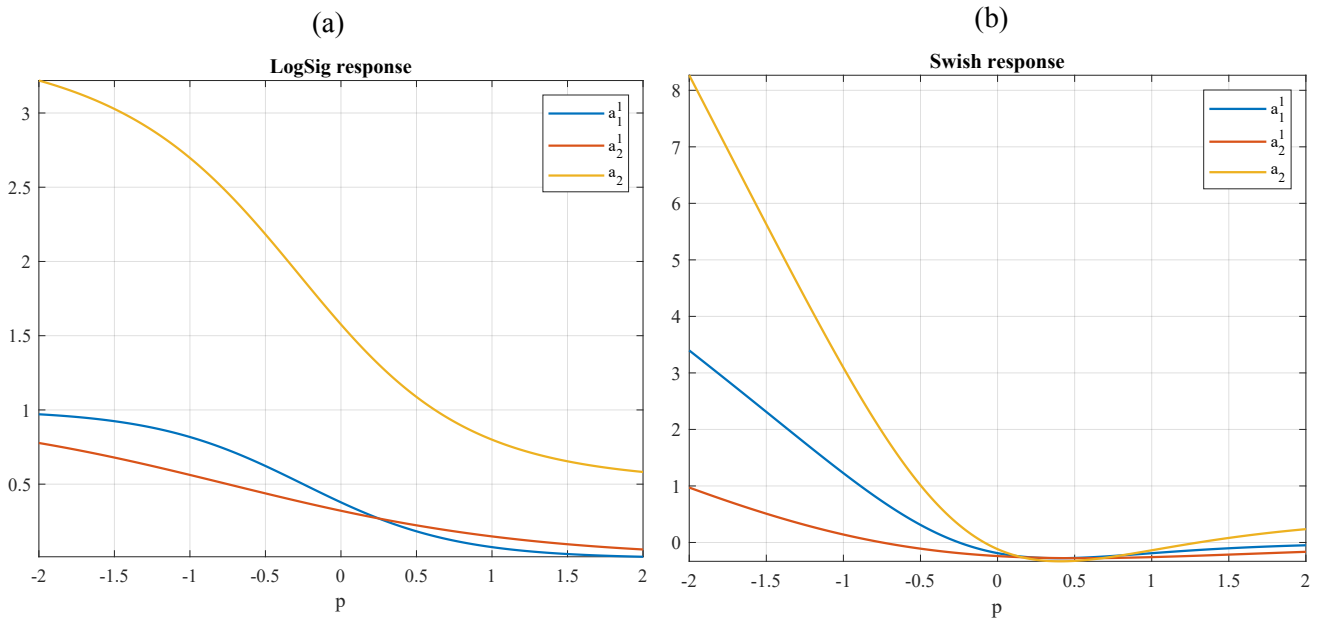


Figure 7: Responses of different outputs of the neural network



## Problem 8

ADALINE is a single-layer artificial neural network that can learn and adapt to non-linear relationships between inputs and outputs.

It consists of a single neuron with a linear activation function. Each input of the neuron has a corresponding weight, which is adapted during training to minimize the error between the network's output and the desired output. To adjust the weights the algorithm uses the learning rule  $\alpha$ .

Suppose that we have the following three reference patterns and their targets:

$$\left\{ p_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix}, t_1 = [26] \right\} \quad \left\{ p_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}, t_2 = [26] \right\} \quad \left\{ p_3 = \begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ -2 \end{bmatrix}, t_3 = [-26] \right\}$$

The probability of vector  $p_1$  is  $P_1 = 0.20$ , the probability of vector  $p_2$  is  $P_2 = 0.70$ , and the probability of vector  $p_3$  is  $P_3 = 0.10$ .

### (a) Question a

The number of inputs to an ADALINE network for each neural network is determined by the dimensionality of our data, not by the number of patterns we have. In our case, each pattern is a 2-dimensional vector. Therefore, our ADALINE network has two inputs, one for each dimension.

In an ADALINE network, the number of weights is equal to the number of inputs. In our case, we have two inputs. Thus, our neural network has two weights, one for each dimension of the input.

From theory, the output of an ADALINE network is  $a = \text{purelin}(W_p + b)$ .

So, the network diagram for the given ADALINE network with no bias that will be trained with these patterns is shown in figure 8.

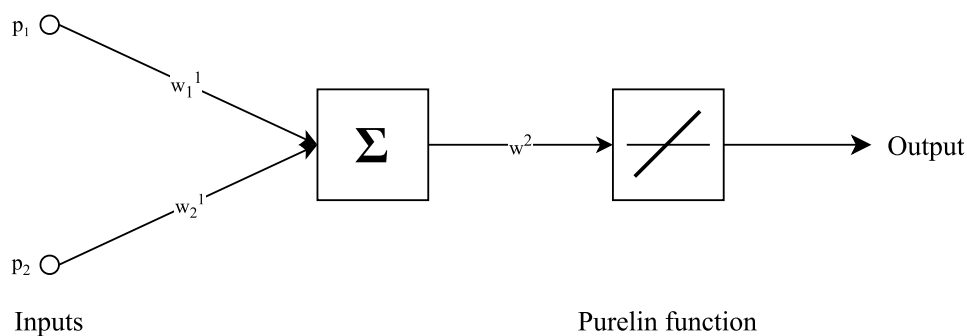


Figure 8: ADALINE neural network architecture

**(b) Question b**

In order to sketch the contour plot of the mean square error performance index, we first must calculate the various terms of the quadratic function.

Recall that,  $F(x) = c - 2 \cdot x^T \cdot h + x^T \cdot R \cdot x$  where,

- c: A scalar constant term. It shifts the function up or down along the y-axis.
- R: Correlation matrix of the input data. It determines the curvature of the function
- h: The cross-correlation between the input data and its associated target. It determines the slope of the function.
- x: The vector of variables (or weights).

These parameters define the shape of the quadratic function. So, we must calculate c, h, R in relation to

$$x = \begin{bmatrix} W_{11} & W_{12} \end{bmatrix}$$

The calculations:

$$c = E[t^2] = t_1^2 \cdot p_1 + t_2^2 \cdot p_2 + t_3^2 \cdot p_3 = 26^2 \cdot 0.2 + 26^2 \cdot 0.7 + (-26)^2 \cdot 0.1 \\ \rightarrow c = 676$$

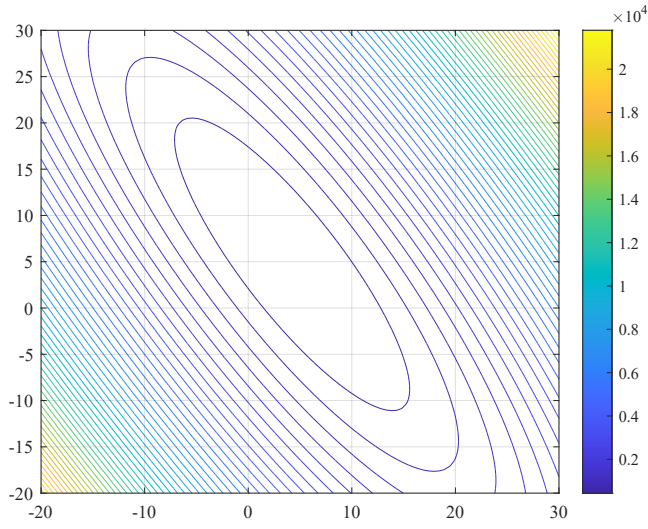
$$h = E[t \cdot p] = P_1 \cdot t_1 \cdot p_1 + P_2 \cdot t_2 \cdot p_2 + P_3 \cdot t_3 \cdot p_3 = \\ 0.2 \cdot 26 \cdot \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix} + 0.7 \cdot 26 \cdot \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} + 0.1 \cdot (-26) \cdot \begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ -2 \end{bmatrix} \\ \rightarrow h = \begin{bmatrix} 88.4 \\ 62.4 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$R = E[p \cdot p^T] = P_1 \cdot p_1 \cdot p_1^T + P_2 \cdot p_2 \cdot p_2^T + P_3 \cdot p_3 \cdot p_3^T \\ = 0.2 \cdot \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix}^T + 0.7 \cdot \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}^T + 0.1 \cdot \begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ -2 \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ -2 \end{bmatrix}^T \\ \rightarrow R = \begin{bmatrix} 12.4 & 7.6 \\ 7.6 & 6.4 \end{bmatrix}$$

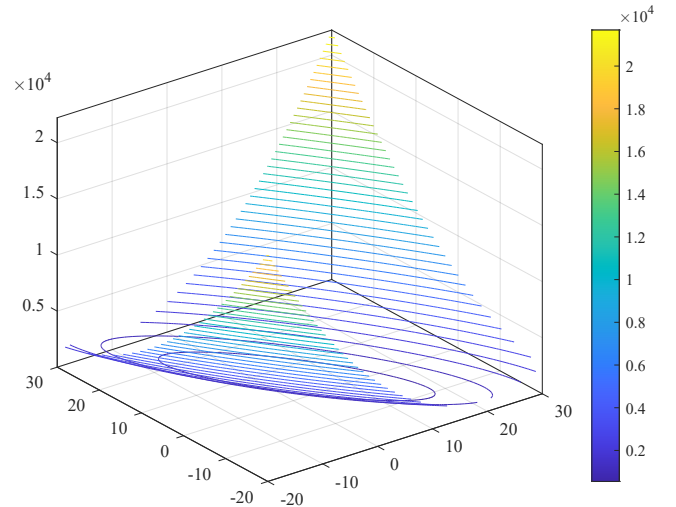
In conclusion the Mean Square Error (MSE) performance index is:

$$F(x) = 676 - 2 \cdot \begin{bmatrix} W_{11} & W_{12} \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} 88.4 \\ 62.4 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} W_{11} & W_{12} \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} 12.4 & 7.6 \\ 7.6 & 6.4 \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} W_{11} \\ W_{12} \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \\ F(x) = 676 - 176.8 \cdot W_{11} - 124.8 \cdot W_{12} + 12.4 \cdot W_{11}^2 + 15.2 \cdot W_{11} \cdot W_{12} + 6.4 \cdot W_{12}^2$$

By inserting this function into Matlab we get the 2D and 3D contour plots of the MSE index as shown in figures 9a and 9b



(a) 2D plot of MSE index



(b) 3D plot of MSE index

### (c) Question c

A decision boundary is a hypersurface that separates different classes in a classification problem. The optimal decision boundary is the one that minimizes a certain transfer function. Here it is a line that can be described by the equation

$$f(x) = W^T \cdot x^*,$$

where  $W = \begin{bmatrix} W_{11} & W_{12} \end{bmatrix}$  and  $x^*$  the minimum square error

$x^*$  is the strong minimum, a stationary point that is indeed the center of the cycle of Figure 9a.

So, in order to find the optimal decision boundary we follow the mentioned steps:

- $f(x) = W^T \cdot x^*$
- Set  $f(x) = 0$
- Calculate  $x^* = R^{-1} \cdot h$
- Replace the value in  $f(x)$

By calculating  $x^* = R^{-1} \cdot h$  we get that  $x^* = \begin{bmatrix} 4.2370 \\ 4.7185 \end{bmatrix}$

and the optimal decision boundary is  $f(W_{11}, W_{12}) = 4.2370 \cdot W_{11} + 4.7185 \cdot W_{12}$

With the help of Matlab we get the following figure 10

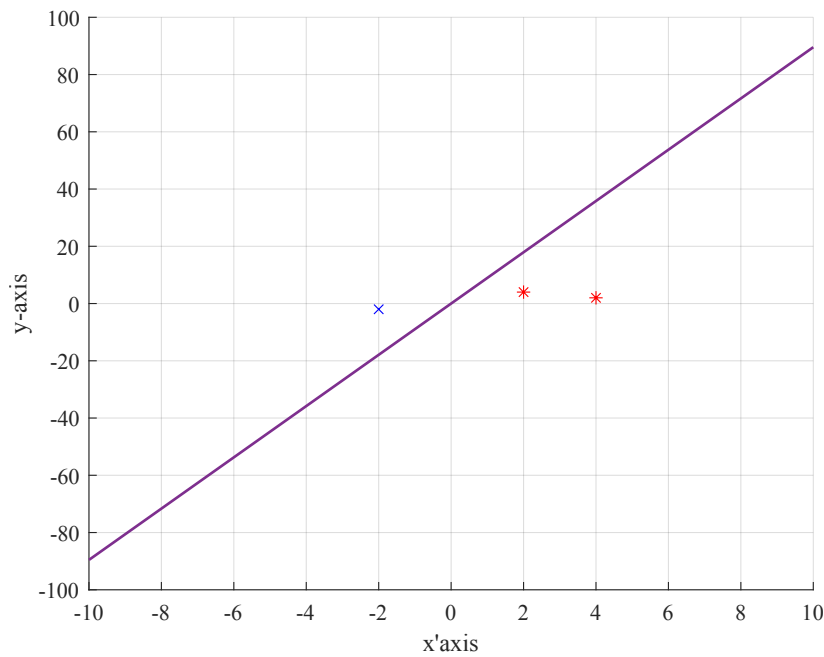


Figure 10: Optimal Decision Boundary line and the patterns

From the figure 10 it is obvious that the optimal decision boundary separates and correctly classifies the patterns. For a binary classification problem, as in our case, all points (\*) on one side of the decision boundary are predicted to belong to one class, while points (x) on the other side are predicted to belong to the other class.

#### (d) Question d

The maximum stable learning rate for the LMS algorithm can be calculated by  $lr_{max} = \frac{1}{\lambda_{max}}$ , where  $\lambda_{max}$  is the largest eigenvalue of the correlation matrix R. With the help of matlab i calculated and found that the eigenvalue matrix of R is

$$eigenvalue = \begin{bmatrix} 1.2293 \\ 17.5707 \end{bmatrix}$$

Thus the largest eigenvalue is  $\lambda_{max} = 17.5707$  and in conclusion the maximum learning rate is  $lr_{max} = \frac{1}{17.5707} \rightarrow \boxed{lr_{max} = 0.0569}$

As we have already mentioned, the learning rate is related to the correlation matrix R. The matrix R depends only on the properties of the input data -  $R = E[p \cdot p^T]$  - and not on the output. The learning rate does not depend on the target values but on the properties of the input data.

This means that, changing the target values could potentially affect the convergence of the LMS algorithm and the final solution. However, the maximum stable learning rate itself, as a parameter of the algorithm, would not be directly affected by changes in the target values.

**(e) Question e**

To perform one iteration of the LMS algorithm we will need a learning rate, the initial weight values and an input. It is given that

- Input data: pattern  $p_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix}$
- $w(0) = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$
- Learning rate:  $lr = 0.05$

For a single-layer ADALINE network we recall the rule

$$W_{k+1} = W_k + 2 \cdot lr \cdot e_k \cdot p_k^T$$

where  $e_k$  is the error on that step.

To begin with, we must follow these steps for the iterations. For  $k=0$  we get:

- Step1: Find output  $a_k$   
 $a_0 = \text{purelin}(W(0) \cdot p_1) = \text{purelin}(w(0)) = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix} = 0$
- Step2: Calculate error  $e_k$   
 $e_0 = t_0 - a_0 = t_1 - a_0 = 26 - 0 = 26$
- Step3: Calculate weight  $W_{k+1}$   
 $W_1 = W_0 + 2 \cdot lr \cdot e_0 \cdot p_0^T = w(0) = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + 2 \cdot 0.05 \cdot e_0 \cdot \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix} = [ 5.2000 \quad 10.4000 ]$

**Problem 9**

Again, suppose that we have the following two reference patterns and their targets:

$$\left\{ p_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}, t_1 = [-1] \right\} \quad \left\{ p_2 = \begin{bmatrix} -2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}, t_2 = [1] \right\}$$

The probabilities of vectors  $p_1$  and  $p_2$  are equiprobable, so that means  $P_1 = P_2 = 0.5$ .

**(a) Question a**

In order to sketch the contour plot of the Mean Square Error performance, we ought to calculate the arguments of the quadratic function  $F(x)$ . As we did on Problem8-Question (b), with the help of Matlab we calculate the c,R,h and we get the following results

- $R = \begin{bmatrix} 2.5 & 0 \\ 0 & 2.5 \end{bmatrix}$

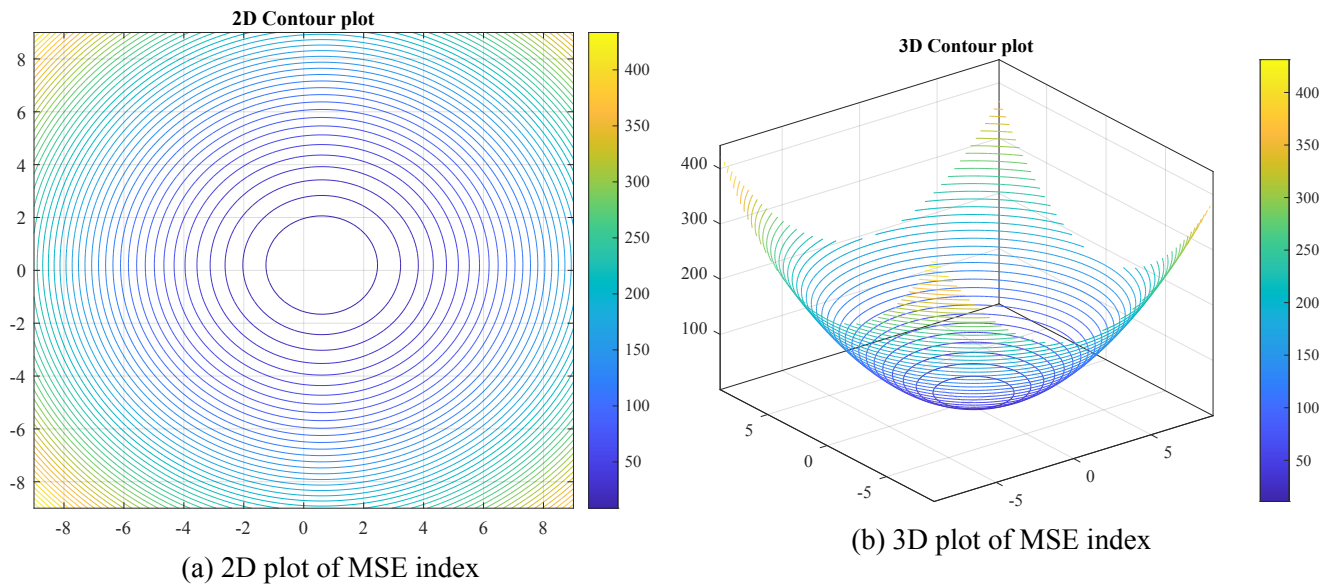
- $h = \begin{bmatrix} -1.5 \\ -0.5 \end{bmatrix}$

- $c = 1$

and the MSE function is:  $F(x) = 1 - 3 \cdot w_{11} - w_{12} + 2.5 \cdot w_{11}^2 + 2.5 \cdot w_{12}^2$

From the form of the equation we can understand that it is a circle with a center of  $x^* = R^{-1} \cdot h$ .

By the Matlab code that i provided to calculate the  $F(x)$ , we get the 2D and 3D contour plots of the MSE index as shown in figures 11a and 11b



## (b) Question b

Working with the same method as i did in Problem8-Question (c) but this time with the help of Matlab code, we got the following sketch about the optimal decision boundary.

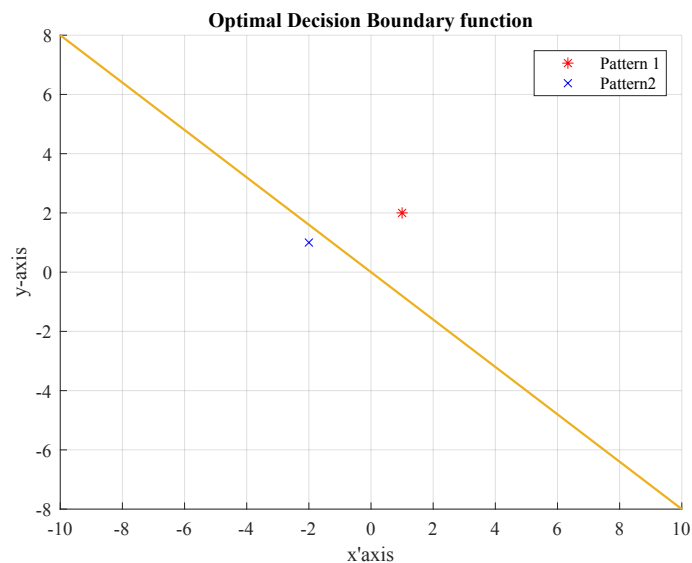


Figure 12: Optimal decision Boundary plot

We can verify that indeed the optimal decision boundary separates and correctly classifies the patterns.

### (c) Question c

If we want to sketch the trajectory of the LMS algorithm on our contour plot, we follow the methodology of Problem8- Question(e), but for the number of iterations  $N = 100$ .

Here our learning rate is  $lr = 0.025$  and the initial weight is  $w(0) = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$

Using Matlab, we exported this trajectory of the LMS algorithm to our 2D contour plot of the mean square error performance index.

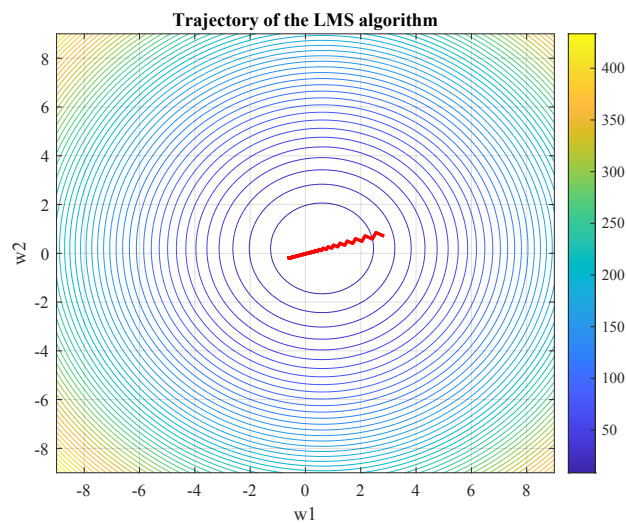


Figure 13: Trajectory of the LMS algorithm

## Problem 10

### (a) Question A

The patterns that we want to separate are plotted in figure 14.

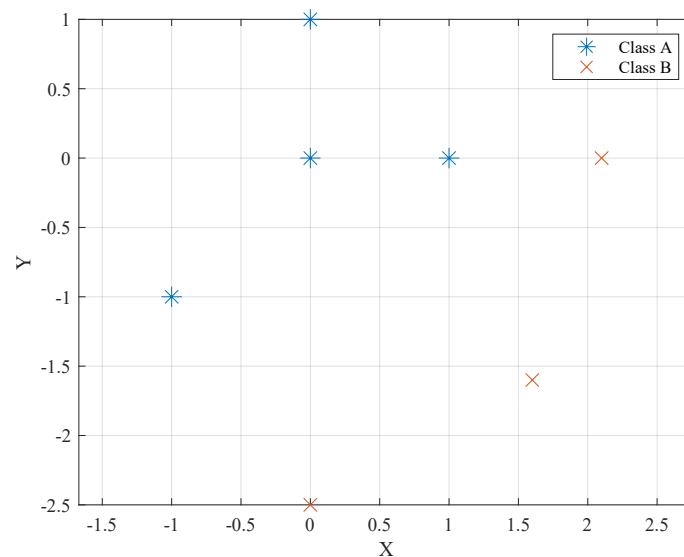


Figure 14: Plot of patterns

We can clearly see that there can be a straight line that can separate the two classes, thus an ADALINE neural network can work in classification for this system.

### (b) Question B

The designed ADALINE neural network will be of the following architecture

- **Input Layer:** Since the patterns are two-dimensional (each pattern has two values), the input layer will have two nodes.
- **Output Layer:** The output layer will have one node. This is because the task is a binary classification. The output node will use a linear activation function, as is standard in ADALINE networks.
- **Weights and Bias:** There will be two weights (one for each input node) and one bias. The weights and bias are parameters that the network will learn during the training process.
- **Learning Rule:** The network will use the LMS learning rule (*Least Mean Square*) to update the weights and bias. This rule minimizes the mean square error between the network's output and the target output.

This architecture described beforehand is shown in figure 15.

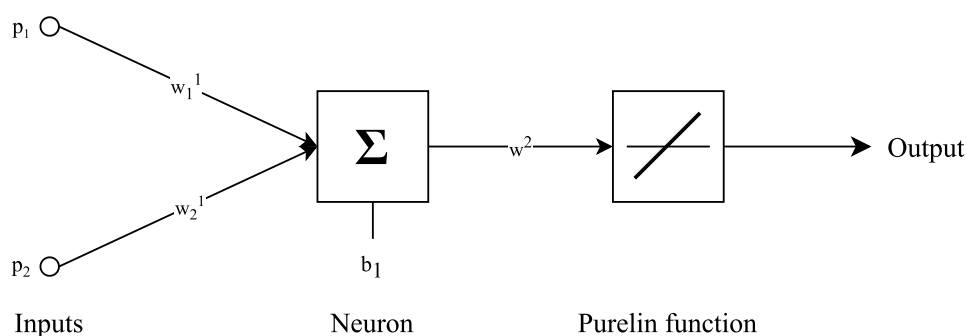


Figure 15: ADALINE neural network architecture



### (c) Question c

The ADALINE neural network mentioned above was coded in MATLAB. During training, we plotted its weights and bias in order to check their progression. Maximum iteration value was defined in code to be  $10^4$  and minimum error to end train and consider the solutions converged is *epsilon* of the machine, specifically  $eps = 2.2204 \cdot 10^{-16}$ .

After converging, the final weights and bias are presented in table 1 below.

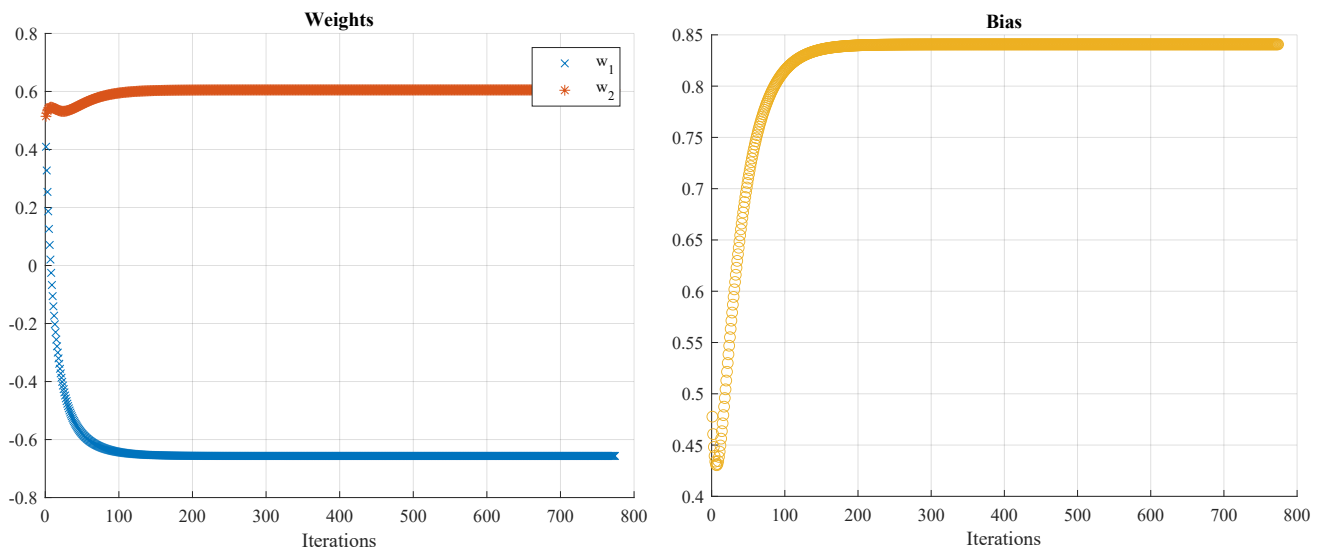


Figure 16: Plots of weights and biases during training

Weight 1	Weight 2	Bias
-0.6564	0.6052	0.8407

Table 1: Final table of weights and bias

## Problem 11

Fuzzy logic is a type of logic that deals with vague, imprecise, or uncertain information. It is based on the concept of fuzzy sets, which are sets that can have any degree of membership between 0 and 1. The value zero is used to represent complete non-membership, the value one is used to represent complete membership, and values in between are used to represent intermediate degrees of membership. This means that an element can be a member of a fuzzy set to some degree, rather than all or nothing.

The uniqueness of fuzzy logic is that fuzzy logic can handle imprecise and uncertain information, which makes it a valuable tool for dealing with real-life problems that are inherently vague or fuzzy.

On this exercise, we are dealing with the linguistic variable *Truth* with a possible membership set:

$$T = \text{Absolutely false, Very false, False, Fairly true, True, Very true, Absolutely true}$$

Based on that set we may define the membership function of truth as:

$$\text{True}(u) = u \quad \text{False}(u) = 1-u$$

for each  $u \in [0, 1]$ .

## Problem 12

In order to evaluate the expression "not( $A(x)$  OR  $B(x)$ )", we must first take a look at how fuzzy logic differs from binary logic at operation level. In binary logic we have three basic operations: AND( $x, y$ ), OR( $x, y$ ) and NOT( $x$ ). But, in fuzzy logic, where a function can have a value in the range of  $[0...1]$ , things are slightly different. The binary operation AND( $x, y$ ) is equivalent to MIN( $x, y$ ) from fuzzy logic, OR( $x, y$ ) to MAX( $x, y$ ) and NOT( $x$ ) to  $1-x$ .

We need to find the proper  $x$  for which the previous expression has the maximum value. First, we calculate the expression and then find the correct  $x$ . To achieve this, we need to divide our calculations into ranges.

Starting for  $x \leq 2$ , " $A(x)$  AND  $B(x)$ " is equal to " $\max(A(x), B(x))$ " = 1. Applying De Morgan's law, we therefore have  $\max(A(x), B(x)) \Rightarrow \text{not}(A(x) \text{ or } B(x)) = 0$ . Exactly the same result is obtained with  $x \geq 7$ .

Things are a bit different in  $2 \leq x \leq 7$ . The function  $A(x)$  starts to fall while  $B(x)$  starts to rise. The point at which the two functions cross is important for the definition of the required expression and can be obtained by solving the equation:

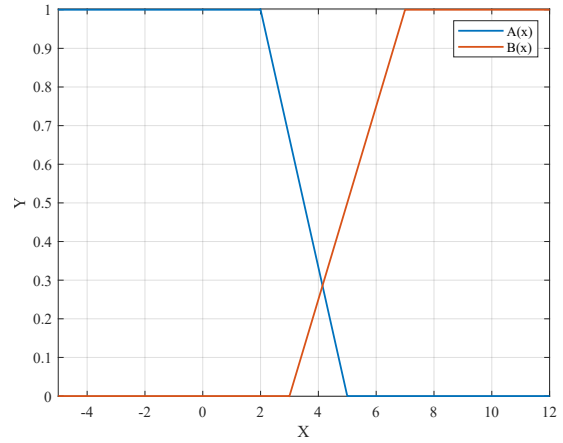


Figure 17: Plot of  $A(x)$ ,  $B(x)$

$$A(x_{crit}) = B(x_{crit}) \Leftrightarrow 1 - \frac{x_{crit} - 2}{3} = \frac{x_{crit} - 3}{4} \Rightarrow x_{crit} = \frac{29}{7}$$

For  $2 \leq x \leq \frac{29}{7}$ ,  $\max(A(x), B(x)) = 1 - \frac{x - 2}{3} = A(x)$ , because in this region  $A(x)$  lies above  $B(x)$ .

Thus,  $\text{not}(A(x) \text{ or } B(x)) = \frac{x - 2}{3}$ .

Using the same logic, we find out that for  $\frac{29}{7} \leq x \leq 7$ ,  $\text{not}(A(x) \text{ or } B(x)) = 1 - \frac{x - 3}{4}$ .

Therefore, the expression  $f(x) = \text{not}(A(x) \text{ or } B(x))$  is summarized below:

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} 0 & x \leq 2, \\ \frac{x - 2}{3} & 2 \leq x \leq \frac{29}{7}, \\ 1 - \frac{x - 3}{4} & \frac{29}{7} \leq x \leq 7, \\ 0 & x \geq 7 \end{cases} \quad (6)$$

By plotting this function in figure 18, we can clearly see that the maximum occurs at  $x = x_{crit} = \frac{29}{7}$  and its value is  $\frac{10}{14}$  or 0.715465.

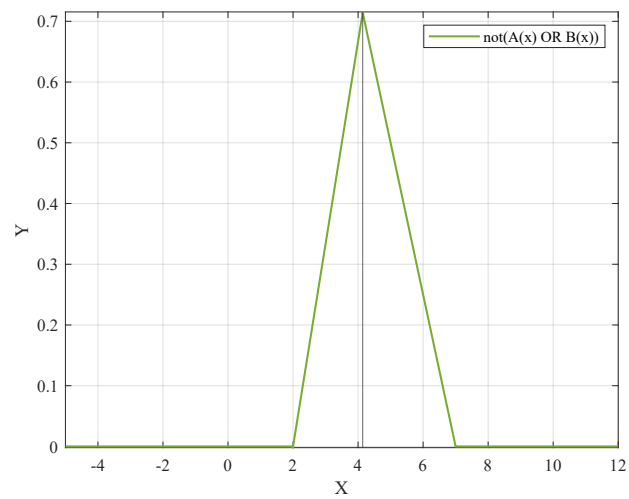


Figure 18: Expression's plot