



**Oregon State**  
University

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**AI 535 Deep Learning - Assignment #1**

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Hyuntaek Oh

ohhyun@oregonstate.edu

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## Project #1

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1. (Optimization) Compute the gradient  $\nabla f(\mathbf{x})$  and Hessian  $\nabla^2 f(\mathbf{x})$  of the function (5 points)

$$f(\mathbf{x}) = (x_1 + x_2)(x_1x_2 + x_1x_2^2)$$

Find at least 3 stationary points of this function (3 points). Show that  $[3/8, -6/8]^T$  is a local maximum of this function (2 points).

(i) Compute  $\nabla f(\mathbf{x})$ , which is  $\begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_1} \\ \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_2} \end{bmatrix}$  and Hessian  $\nabla^2 f(\mathbf{x})$ , which is  $\begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_1^2} & \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_1 \partial x_2} \\ \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_2 \partial x_1} & \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_2^2} \end{bmatrix}$

(i-1)  $\begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_1} \\ \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_2} \end{bmatrix}$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_1} &= \frac{\partial}{\partial x_1}[(x_1 + x_2)(x_1x_2 + x_1x_2^2)] \\ &= (x_1x_2 + x_1x_2^2) + (x_1 + x_2)(x_2 + x_2^2) \\ &= x_1x_2 + x_1x_2^2 + x_1x_2 + x_1x_2^2 + x_2^2 + x_2^3 \\ &= 2x_1x_2 + 2x_1x_2^2 + x_2^2 + x_2^3 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_2} &= \frac{\partial}{\partial x_2}[(x_1 + x_2)(x_1x_2 + x_1x_2^2)] \\ &= (x_1x_2 + x_1x_2^2) + (x_1 + x_2)(x_1 + 2x_1x_2) \\ &= x_1x_2 + x_1x_2^2 + x_1^2 + 2x_1^2x_2 + x_1x_2 + 2x_1x_2^2 \\ &= 2x_1x_2 + 3x_1x_2^2 + x_1^2 + 2x_1^2x_2 \end{aligned}$$

$$\nabla f(\mathbf{x}) = \begin{bmatrix} 2x_1x_2 + 2x_1x_2^2 + x_2^2 + x_2^3 \\ 2x_1x_2 + 3x_1x_2^2 + x_1^2 + 2x_1^2x_2 \end{bmatrix}$$

(i-2)  $\begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_1^2} & \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_1 \partial x_2} \\ \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_2 \partial x_1} & \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_2^2} \end{bmatrix}$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x_1}(2x_1x_2 + 2x_1x_2^2 + x_2^2 + x_2^3) = 2x_2 + 2x_2^2$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x_2}(2x_1x_2 + 2x_1x_2^2 + x_2^2 + x_2^3) = 2x_1 + 4x_1x_2 + 2x_2 + 3x_2^2$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x_2}(2x_1x_2 + 3x_1x_2^2 + x_1^2 + 2x_1^2x_2) = 2x_1 + 6x_1x_2 + 2x_1^2$$

$$\nabla^2 f(\mathbf{x}) = \begin{bmatrix} 2x_2 + 2x_2^2 & 2x_1 + 4x_1x_2 + 2x_2 + 3x_2^2 \\ 2x_1 + 4x_1x_2 + 2x_2 + 3x_2^2 & 2x_1 + 6x_1x_2 + 2x_1^2 \end{bmatrix}$$



(ii) Find at least 3 stationary points of the function.

The stationary points of the function are when the derivative of the function is equal to zero.

$$2x_1x_2 + 2x_1x_2^2 + x_2^2 + x_2^3 = 0$$

$$2x_1x_2 + 3x_1x_2^2 + x_1^2 + 2x_1^2x_2 = 0$$

$$\text{if } x_1 = 0, x_2^2 + x_2^3 = 0 \rightarrow x_2^2(1 + x_2) = 0 \Rightarrow x_2 = 0, -1$$

possible stationary points : (0, 0), (0, -1)

if  $x_2 = 0$ , there are no new stationary points since the values are zeros.

$$\text{if neither } x_1 \text{ nor } x_2 \text{ are zero, } 2x_1 + 2x_1x_2 + x_2 + x_2^2 = 0,$$

$$2x_2 + 3x_2^2 + x_1 + 2x_1x_2 = 0$$

possible stationary points : (3/8, -3/4), (1, -1)

Thus, stationary points are:

$$(0, 0), (0, -1), (3/8, -3/4), (1, -1)$$

(iii) Show that  $[3/8, -6/8]^T$  is a local maximum of this function.

$$\nabla f(\mathbf{x}) = \begin{bmatrix} 2(-\frac{6}{8}) + 2(-\frac{6}{8})^2 & 2(\frac{3}{8}) + 4(\frac{3}{8})(-\frac{6}{8}) + 2(-\frac{6}{8}) + 3(-\frac{6}{8})^2 \\ 2(\frac{3}{8}) + 4(\frac{3}{8})(-\frac{6}{8}) + 2(-\frac{6}{8}) + 3(-\frac{6}{8})^2 & 2(\frac{3}{8}) + 6(\frac{3}{8})(-\frac{6}{8}) + 2(\frac{3}{8})^2 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\nabla f(\mathbf{x}) = \begin{bmatrix} -\frac{3}{8} & -\frac{3}{16} \\ -\frac{3}{16} & -\frac{21}{32} \end{bmatrix}$$

Eigenvalues formula:

$$\det(A) = (-0.375)(-0.65625) - (-0.1875)^2$$

$$\lambda = \frac{-1.03125}{2} \pm \sqrt{\left(\frac{-1.03125}{2}\right)^2 - 0.2109375}$$

$$\lambda_1 = -0.28125, \lambda_2 = -.75$$

Since both eigenvalues are negative, the Hessian matrix is negative definite.

Thus,  $[3/8, -6/8]^T$  is a local maximum.

2. (Optimization) Show that the function  $f(\mathbf{x}) = 8x_1 + 12x_2 + x_1^2 - 2x_2^2$  has only one stationary point (4 points), and that it is neither a minimum nor a maximum, but is a saddle point (4 points).

(i) show that the function has only one stationary point.

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$$\nabla f(\mathbf{x}) = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_1} \\ \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_2} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 8 + 2x_1 \\ 12 - 4x_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$x_1 = -4, x_2 = 3 \Rightarrow \text{stationary point} : (-4, 3)$$

(ii) show that it is neither a minimum nor a maximum, but is a saddle point.

$$\nabla^2 f(\mathbf{x}) = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_1^2} & \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_1 \partial x_2} \\ \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_2 \partial x_1} & \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_2^2} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 0 \\ 0 & -4 \end{bmatrix}$$

The eigenvalues of the Hessian matrix are the diagonal entries:

$$\lambda_1 = 2, \lambda_2 = -4$$

Since the Hessian has both positive and negative eigenvalues, it implies that the stationary point  $(-4, 3)$  is a saddle point, meaning that it is neither a local minimum nor a maximum.

3. (Linear Algebra) If  $\mathbf{A}$  and  $\mathbf{B}$  are positive definite matrices, prove that the matrix  $\begin{bmatrix} A & 0 \\ 0 & B \end{bmatrix}$  is also positive definite (7 points).

To prove it, we need to use contradiction, assuming that the matrix  $M$  is **not** positive definite:

$$\mathbf{x}^T M \mathbf{x} \leq 0$$

$$\mathbf{x}^T M \mathbf{x} = [\mathbf{x}_1^T, \mathbf{x}_2^T] \cdot \begin{bmatrix} A & 0 \\ 0 & B \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{x}_1 \\ \mathbf{x}_2 \end{bmatrix} = \mathbf{x}_1^T A \mathbf{x}_1 + \mathbf{x}_2^T B \mathbf{x}_2$$

$$\mathbf{x}_1^T A \mathbf{x}_1 + \mathbf{x}_2^T B \mathbf{x}_2 \leq 0$$

Since  $A$  and  $B$  are positive definite, we know that for any nonzero vectors:

$$\mathbf{x}_1^T A \mathbf{x}_1 > 0 \text{ if } \mathbf{x}_1 \neq 0$$

$$\mathbf{x}_2^T B \mathbf{x}_2 > 0 \text{ if } \mathbf{x}_2 \neq 0$$

Therefore, the sum  $\mathbf{x}_1^T A \mathbf{x}_1 + \mathbf{x}_2^T B \mathbf{x}_2$  can only be non-positive if both terms are zero, meaning that  $\mathbf{x}_1 = 0, \mathbf{x}_2 = 0$ .

However, this contradicts our original assumption that  $\mathbf{x}$  is a nonzero vector.

Thus, the matrix  $M$  is positive definite.

4. (Chain Rule Calculus) Consider this function:  $f(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{w}_2^T \text{sigmoid}(\mathbf{W}_1 \mathbf{x})$ , where  $\text{sigmoid}(x) = \frac{1}{1+e^{-x}}$  applies to each entry of the vector, please compute the derivatives of  $\frac{\partial f}{\partial \mathbf{w}_2}$ ,  $\frac{\partial f}{\partial \mathbf{W}_1}$ ,  $\frac{\partial f}{\partial \mathbf{x}}$  (15 points),  $\mathbf{W}_1$  is  $c \times d$ ,  $\mathbf{x}$  is  $d \times 1$ ,  $\mathbf{w}_2$  is  $c \times 1$ .

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The result of the calculation  $\mathbf{W}_1 \mathbf{x}$  is  $c \times 1$  since the matrix product of  $\mathbf{W}_1 \mathbf{x} = (c \times d) (d \times 1)$  is  $c \times 1$ . This means the sigmoid function in the  $f(\mathbf{x})$  is vector. So, it can be expressed as:

$$\text{sigmoid}(\mathbf{W}_1 \mathbf{x}) = \begin{bmatrix} \sigma([\mathbf{W}_1 \mathbf{x}]_1) \\ \sigma([\mathbf{W}_1 \mathbf{x}]_2) \\ \sigma([\mathbf{W}_1 \mathbf{x}]_3) \\ \dots \\ \sigma([\mathbf{W}_1 \mathbf{x}]_c) \end{bmatrix}$$

Thus, the function  $f(\mathbf{x})$  is:

$$\begin{aligned} f(\mathbf{x}) &= [w_{21}, w_{22}, w_{23}, \dots, w_{2c}] \cdot \begin{bmatrix} \sigma([\mathbf{W}_1 \mathbf{x}]_1) \\ \sigma([\mathbf{W}_1 \mathbf{x}]_2) \\ \sigma([\mathbf{W}_1 \mathbf{x}]_3) \\ \dots \\ \sigma([\mathbf{W}_1 \mathbf{x}]_c) \end{bmatrix} \\ &= w_{21}\sigma([\mathbf{W}_1 \mathbf{x}]_1) + w_{22}\sigma([\mathbf{W}_1 \mathbf{x}]_2) + \dots + w_{2c}\sigma([\mathbf{W}_1 \mathbf{x}]_c) \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^c w_{2i} \cdot \sigma([\mathbf{W}_1 \mathbf{x}]_i) \end{aligned}$$

(i)  $\frac{\partial f}{\partial \mathbf{w}_2}$ :

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial \mathbf{w}_2} = \sigma(\mathbf{W}_1 \mathbf{x})$$

(ii)  $\frac{\partial f}{\partial \mathbf{W}_1}$ :

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial f}{\partial \mathbf{W}_1} &= \frac{\partial f}{\partial \sigma} \cdot \frac{\partial \sigma}{\partial \mathbf{W}_1} \quad (\text{chain rule}) \\ \frac{\partial f}{\partial \sigma} &= \mathbf{w}_2^T \end{aligned}$$

The derivative of the sigmoid vector  $\sigma(\mathbf{W}_1 \mathbf{x})$  with respect to  $\mathbf{W}_1 \mathbf{x}$  is:

$$\frac{\partial \sigma}{\partial \mathbf{W}_1} = \text{diag}(\sigma(\mathbf{W}_1 \mathbf{x})(1 - \sigma(\mathbf{W}_1 \mathbf{x})))$$

Then, the derivative with respect to  $\mathbf{W}_1$  using the chain rule:

$$\frac{\partial(\mathbf{W}_1 \mathbf{x})}{\partial \mathbf{W}_1} = \mathbf{x}^T$$

Finally, combining all these results:

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial \mathbf{W}_1} = (\text{diag}(\sigma(\mathbf{W}_1 \mathbf{x})(1 - \sigma(\mathbf{W}_1 \mathbf{x}))) \mathbf{w}_2) \mathbf{x}^T$$

(iii)  $\frac{\partial f}{\partial \mathbf{x}}$

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial \mathbf{x}} = \frac{\partial f}{\partial \sigma} \cdot \frac{\partial \sigma}{\partial \mathbf{x}} \quad (\text{chain rule})$$

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial \sigma} = \mathbf{w}_2^T$$

$$\frac{\partial \sigma}{\partial \mathbf{x}} = \text{diag}(\sigma(\mathbf{W}_1 \mathbf{x})(1 - \sigma(\mathbf{W}_1 \mathbf{x}))) \mathbf{W}_1$$

Thus, the derivative with respect to  $\mathbf{x}$  is:

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial \mathbf{x}} = \mathbf{W}_1^T \text{diag}(\sigma(\mathbf{W}_1 \mathbf{x})(1 - \sigma(\mathbf{W}_1 \mathbf{x}))) \mathbf{w}_2$$

5. (High Dimensional Statistics ("Curse of Dimensionality")) Consider  $N$  data points independent and uniformly distributed in a  $p$ -dimensional unit ball  $B$  (for every  $x \in B, \|x\|^2 \leq 1$ ), centered at the origin. The median distance from the origin to the closest data point is given by the expression:

$$d(p, N) = \left(1 - \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{N}\right)^{\frac{1}{p}}$$

Prove this expression (8 points). Compute the median distance  $d(p, N)$  for  $N = 10,000$ ,  $p = 1,000$  (2 points).

(i) Prove the expression  $d(p, N) = \left(1 - \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{N}\right)^{\frac{1}{p}}$

For the unit ball where  $R = 1$ , it can be simplified to:

$$V_p(1) = \frac{\pi^{\frac{p}{2}}}{\Gamma(\frac{p}{2} + 1)}$$

The volume of a ball in  $p$ -dimensional space that has radius  $r$  is:

$$V_P(r) = \frac{\pi^{\frac{p}{2}}}{\Gamma(\frac{p}{2} + 1)} r^p$$



The probability that a randomly chosen point lies within a radius  $r$  is:

$$P(\|\mathbf{x}\| \leq r) = \frac{V_p(r)}{V_p(1)} = r^p$$

We assume that the event that all  $N$  points are outside a given radius  $r$  to find the median distance of the closest point. Since points are uniformly distributed, the probability that all  $N$  points is outside a ball of radius  $r$  is:

$$(1 - r^p)^N$$

The median distance is the value of  $r$  such that at least one point lies inside the ball with probability 50% :

$$1 - (1 - r^p)^N = \frac{1}{2}$$

This can be solved for  $r$ :

$$(1 - r^p)^N = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$1 - r^p = \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^{\frac{1}{N}}$$

$$r^p = 1 - \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^{\frac{1}{N}}$$

$$r = \left(1 - \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^{\frac{1}{N}}\right)^{\frac{1}{p}}$$

Thus, we get:

$$d(p, N) = \left(1 - \frac{1}{2}^{\frac{1}{N}}\right)^{\frac{1}{p}}$$

(ii) Compute the distance  $d(p, N)$  for  $N = 10,000$ ,  $p = 1,000$

$$d(1000, 10000) = \left(1 - \frac{1}{2}^{\frac{1}{10000}}\right)^{\frac{1}{1000}}$$

*For large  $N$ , the term using logarithms can be approximated:*

$$\begin{aligned}\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^{\frac{1}{10,000}} &= e^{\frac{\ln(\frac{1}{2})}{10000}} \\ &= e^{-\frac{\ln 2}{10000}} \approx 1 - \frac{\ln 2}{10000} \approx 1 - 0.0000693 \\ 1 - \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^{\frac{1}{10000}} &\approx 0.0000693\end{aligned}$$

*Then, taking the  $\frac{1}{1,000}$  root:*

$$d(1000, 10000) \approx (0.0000693)^{\frac{1}{1000}}$$

*With logarithm expansion:*

$$\approx e^{\frac{\ln(0.0000693)}{1000}} \approx e^{-0.00957} \approx 1 - 0.00957$$

*Thus, the approximate value is:*

$$d(1000, 10000) \approx 0.9904$$