

## Connectionist Neurons & Function Fitting

Please remember to upload exactly *one* ZIP file per group and name the file according to the respective group name: `yourgroupname.zip`

The ZIP file should contain a single Jupyter notebook source file as well as a single PDF file that is generated from the Jupyter notebook. Please do **not** include any folder structure, exercise PDF or data files.

### Exercise T2.1: Function Fitting

(tutorial)

- (a) What effect will the choice of error measure (particularly *quadratic or linear*) produce?
- (b) Outline the relation between the quadratic error function and the Gaussian conditional distribution for the labels.
- (c) Derive a suitable error function (*cross entropy*) for the following case: the output of a neural network is interpreted as the probability that the input belongs to the first of two classes.

### Exercise T2.2: Gradient Descent

(tutorial)

- (a) Outline gradient descent.
- (b) Determine the update rule for gradient descent for a connectionist neuron.

### Exercise H2.1: Connectionist Neurons

(homework, 6 points)

The dataset<sup>1</sup> `applesOranges.csv` contains 200 measurements (`x.1` and `x.2`) from two types of objects as indicated by the column `y`. In this exercise, you will use a connectionist neuron with a “binary” transfer function  $f(h)$  to classify the objects, i.e., obtain the predicted class  $y$  for a data point  $\underline{x} \in \mathbb{R}^2$  by

$$y(\underline{x}) := f(\underline{w}^\top \underline{x} - \theta)$$

with

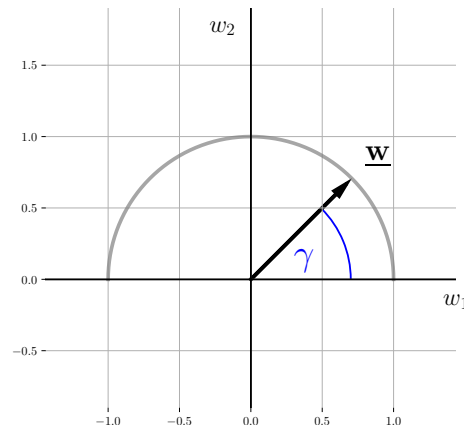
$$f(h) := \begin{cases} 1 & \text{for } h \geq 0, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

where  $h := \underline{w}^\top \underline{x} - \theta$  is the total input to the neuron.

- (a) Plot the data in a scatter plot ( $x_2$  vs.  $x_1$ ). Mark the points with different colors to indicate the type of each object.

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<sup>1</sup>This data file (and those required for future exercise sheets) is available on ISIS.



- (b) Set the bias  $\theta = 0$ . Create a set of 19 weight vectors  $\underline{w} = (w_1, w_2)^\top$  pointing from the origin to the upper semi-circle with radius 1 (i.e. if  $\gamma$  denotes the angle between the weight vector and the x-axis, for each  $\gamma = 0, 10, \dots, 180$  (equally spaced) such that  $\|\underline{w}\|_2 = 1$ ,  $w_1 \in [-1, 1]$ ,  $w_2 \in [0, 1]$ ).  
For each of these weight vectors  $\underline{w}$ ,
- determine % correct classifications  $\rho$  of the corresponding neuron and
  - plot a curve showing  $\rho$  as a function of  $\gamma$ .
- (c) Out of the 19 weight vectors from above, pick the  $\underline{w}$  that yields the best performance. Now, vary the bias  $\theta \in [-3, 3]$  and pick the value of  $\theta$  that gives the best performance.
- (d) Plot the data points and color them according to the predicted classification when using the  $\underline{w}$  and  $\theta$  that led to the highest performance. Plot the weight vector  $\underline{w}$  in the same plot. How do you interpret your results?
- (e) Find the best combination of  $\underline{w}$  and  $\theta$  by exploring all combinations of  $\gamma$  and  $\theta$  (within a reasonable range and precision). Compute and plot the performance of all combinations in a heatmap.
- (f) Can the *grid-search* optimization procedure used in (e) be applied to any classification problem? Discuss potential problems and give an application example in which the above method must fail.

**Exercise H2.2: Binary Classification****(homework, 4 points)**

For binary targets  $y_T^{(\alpha)} \in \{0, 1\}$  the network output  $y(\underline{\mathbf{x}}; \underline{\mathbf{w}}) \in (0, 1)$  can be interpreted as a probability  $P(y = 1 | \underline{\mathbf{x}}; \underline{\mathbf{w}})$ . A suitable error function for this problem is:

$$E^T = \frac{1}{p} \sum_{\alpha=1}^p e^{(\alpha)}$$

with

$$e^{(\alpha)} = - \left[ y_T^{(\alpha)} \ln y(\underline{\mathbf{x}}^{(\alpha)}; \underline{\mathbf{w}}) + (1 - y_T^{(\alpha)}) \ln (1 - y(\underline{\mathbf{x}}^{(\alpha)}; \underline{\mathbf{w}})) \right].$$

(a) (1 point) Show that

$$\frac{\partial e^{(\alpha)}}{\partial y(\underline{\mathbf{x}}^{(\alpha)}; \underline{\mathbf{w}})} = \frac{y(\underline{\mathbf{x}}^{(\alpha)}; \underline{\mathbf{w}}) - y_T^{(\alpha)}}{y(\underline{\mathbf{x}}^{(\alpha)}; \underline{\mathbf{w}}) (1 - y(\underline{\mathbf{x}}^{(\alpha)}; \underline{\mathbf{w}}))}$$

(b) (1 point) Consider an MLP with one hidden layer. The nonlinear transfer function for the output neuron ( $i = 1, v = 2$ ) is assumed to be

$$f(h_1^2) = \frac{1}{1 + \exp(-h_1^2)},$$

where  $h_1^2$  is the total input<sup>2</sup> of the output neuron. Show that its derivative can be expressed as

$$f'(h_1^2) = f(h_1^2) (1 - f(h_1^2)).$$

(c) (1 point) Using the results from (a) and (b), show that the gradient of the error function  $e^{(\alpha)}$  with respect to the weight  $w_{1j}^{21}$  between the single output neuron ( $i = 1, v = 2$ ) and neuron  $j$  of the hidden layer ( $j > 0, v = 1$ ) is

$$\frac{\partial e^{(\alpha)}}{\partial w_{1j}^{21}} = (y(\underline{\mathbf{x}}^{(\alpha)}; \underline{\mathbf{w}}) - y_T^{(\alpha)}) f(h_j^1).$$

**Total 10 points.**


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<sup>2</sup>The total input of a neuron is sometimes referred to as a *logit*.