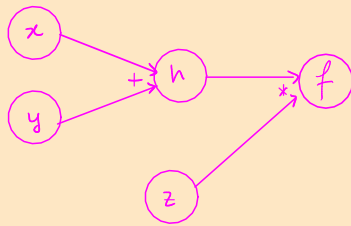


## 2 Backprop in Practice: Staged Computation

For the function  $f(x, y, z) = (x + y)z$ :

- (a) Decompose  $f$  into two simpler functions.
- (b) Draw the network that represents the computation of  $f$ .



$$f(x, y, z) = g(h(x, y), z)$$
$$g(a, b) = a \cdot b$$
$$h(a, b) = a + b$$

- (c) Write the forward pass and backward pass (backpropagation) in the network.

```
def forward(x, y, z):  
    h = x + y  
    f = h * z  
    return f
```

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial x}(x + y) = 1$$

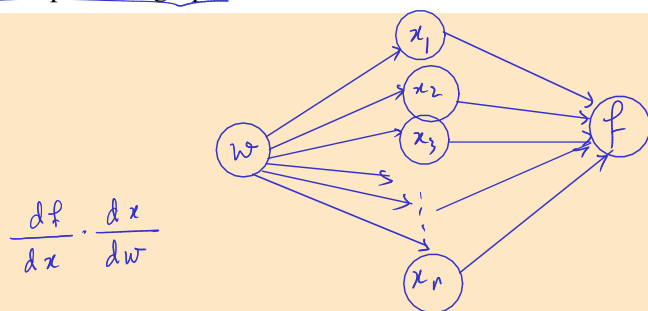
```
def backward(x, y, z):  
    df_dz = h  
    df_dh = z  
    df_dx = df_dh  
    df_dy = df_dh
```

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial x} = \frac{\partial f}{\partial h} \cdot \frac{\partial h}{\partial x} = \frac{\partial f}{\partial h}$$

- (d) Update your network drawing with the intermediate values in the forward and backward pass.  
Use the inputs  $x = -2$ ,  $y = 5$ , and  $z = -4$ .

### 3 Backpropagation Practice

- (a) Chain rule of multiple variables: Assume that you have a function given by  $f(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$ , and that  $g_i(w) = x_i$  for a scalar variable  $w$ . How would you compute  $\frac{d}{dw} f(g_1(w), g_2(w), \dots, g_n(w))$ ? What is its computation graph?



$$\frac{df}{dx} \cdot \frac{dx}{dw}$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^n \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_i} \cdot \frac{\partial x_i}{\partial w}$$

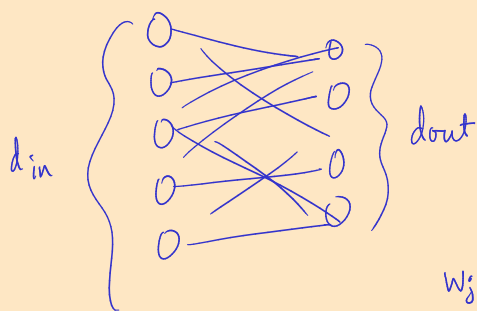
||

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial x} \cdot \frac{\partial x}{\partial w}$$

row vec   col vec

$d_n = \text{batch size}$

- (b) Let  $Z = XW + \mathbf{1}b^T$ , where  $Z \in \mathbb{R}^{d_n \times d_{out}}$ ,  $X \in \mathbb{R}^{d_n \times d_{in}}$ ,  $W \in \mathbb{R}^{d_{in} \times d_{out}}$ ,  $b$  is a ~~scalar~~ vector in  $\mathbb{R}^{d_{out}}$ , and  $\mathbf{1}$  is a column vector in  $\mathbb{R}^{d_n}$ . Given  $\frac{\partial L}{\partial Z} \in \mathbb{R}^{d_n \times d_{out}}$ , where  $L$  is a scalar loss, calculate  $\frac{\partial L}{\partial W}$  and  $\frac{\partial L}{\partial b}$ .



$$\begin{bmatrix} -x_1^T \\ -x_2^T \\ \vdots \\ -x_{d_n}^T \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} | & | & \dots & | \\ w_1 & w_2 & \dots & w_{d_{out}} \\ | & | & \dots & | \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$z_{ij} = \sum_k x_{ik} w_{kj} + b_j = x_i^T w_j + b_j$$

$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial b_i} = \sum_{j,k} \frac{\partial L}{\partial z_{jk}} \cdot \frac{\partial z_{jk}}{\partial b_i} = \begin{cases} 0 & k \neq i \\ 1 & k = i \end{cases}$$

$$= \sum_j \frac{\partial L}{\partial z_{ji}}$$

$$i = k$$

$$Z = \begin{bmatrix} x_1^T w_1 + b_1 & x_1^T w_2 + b_2 & \dots \\ x_2^T w_1 + b_1 & x_2^T w_2 + b_2 & \dots \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots \end{bmatrix}$$

$$z_{ij} = x_i^T w_j$$

$$Z = XW$$



$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial w_{ij}} = \sum_{k,l} \frac{\partial L}{\partial z_{kl}} \cdot \frac{\partial z_{kl}}{\partial w_{ij}} = \begin{cases} 0 & l \neq j \\ x_{ki} & l = j \end{cases}$$

$$= \sum_k \frac{\partial L}{\partial z_{kj}} \cdot x_{ki}$$

$$= x_{:,i}^T \frac{\partial L}{\partial z_{:,j}}$$

$$z_{11} = x_{11} w_{11} + x_{12} w_{21} + x_{13} w_{31}$$

$$\frac{\partial z_{11}}{\partial w_{31}} = x_{13}$$



$$u \in \mathbb{R}^m$$

$$A \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$$

$$v \in \mathbb{R}^n$$

$$A_{ij} = u_i v_j$$

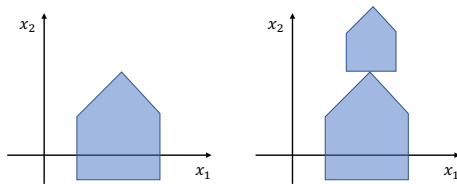
$$A = uv^T$$

$$u, v \in \mathbb{R}^n$$

$$\sum u_i v_i = u^T v$$

## 1 Decision Space

Let's further the intuition about how we can compose arbitrarily complex decision boundaries with a neural network. Consider the images below. For each one, build a network of units with a single output that fires if the input is in the shaded area.



**Take-away:** MLPs can capture any classification boundary. MLPs are universal classifiers. Note that we haven't said anything yet about their ability to generalize.

## 2 Backprop in Practice: Staged Computation

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- Draw the network that represents the computation of  $f$ .
- Write the forward pass and backward pass (backpropagation) in the network.
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## 3 Backpropagation Practice

- Chain rule of multiple variables: Assume that you have a function given by  $f(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$ , and that  $g_i(w) = x_i$  for a scalar variable  $w$ . How would you compute  $\frac{d}{dw}f(g_1(w), g_2(w), \dots, g_n(w))$ ? What is its computation graph?
- Let  $Z = XW + \mathbf{1}b$ , where  $Z \in \mathbb{R}^{d_n \times d_{out}}$ ,  $X \in \mathbb{R}^{d_n \times d_{in}}$ ,  $W \in \mathbb{R}^{d_{in} \times d_{out}}$ ,  $b$  is a row vector in  $\mathbb{R}^{d_{out}}$ , and  $\mathbf{1}$  is a column vector in  $\mathbb{R}^{d_{in}}$ . Given  $\frac{\partial L}{\partial Z} \in \mathbb{R}^{d_n \times d_{out}}$ , where  $l$  is a scalar loss, calculate  $\frac{\partial L}{\partial W}$  and  $\frac{\partial L}{\partial b}$ .

## 4 Model Intuition

- (a) What can go wrong if you just initialize all the weights in a neural network to exactly zero? What about to the same nonzero value?
- (b) Adding nodes in the hidden layer gives the neural network more approximation ability, because you are adding more parameters. How many weight parameters are there in a neural network with architecture specified by  $d = [d^{(0)}, d^{(1)}, \dots, d^{(N)}]$ , a vector giving the number of nodes in each of the  $N$  layers? Evaluate your formula for a 2 hidden layer network with 10 nodes in each hidden layer, an input of size 8, and an output of size 3.
- (c) Consider the two networks in the image below, where the added layer in going from Network A to Network B has 10 units with linear activation. Give one advantage of Network A over Network B, and one advantage of Network B over Network A.

