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# Introduction to neural networks

### 1.1 High Level View

On its core, Machine Learning about is a program that changes from exposure to data (experience).

Data and parameters are the input to a mathematical function. This outputs a prediction, that we later use to update the parameters. The process is iterative.

Deep Learning models complex patterns of data. It's particularly useful for non-linear patterns, and opens up a new space of problems to solve. Because Deep Learning is a part of Machine Learning, the previous logic is found deep network diagrams.

Examples of Network Diagrams can be found in section 5.1.

#### 1.1.1 The steps

There are two main steps: forward and backward propagation.

Suppose a mathematical function is given to us:

$$\hat{y}(x_1, x_2) = ax_1 + bx_2 + c$$

where a, b, c are parameters.

In **Forward Propagation** we initialize a set of parameters (say a,b,c=0), and use the equation to estimate the real output (y). Both values are input to " $C(y,\hat{y})$ " which is small if we're doing well, or large if bad.

So forward propagation is the calculation of  $\hat{y}$  and  $C(y,\hat{y})$  whatever shape they happen to have.

In **Backward Propagation** we minimize C, by differentiation, and find a way to move our function parameters towards the minimum of C. We use *Gradient Descent* for this task.

The simplest neural network is the single layer. Later, hidden layers are included, from 1 (shallow network), to many (deep network).

We will see examples in detail, starting with multivariable linear regression, that is, a previous step to *Deep Learning*.

#### 1.1.2 Summary

Calculate  $\hat{y}$  which is an estimation of y, compute  $C(y,\hat{y})$ , and use this to update  $\hat{y}$  parameters, iteratively.

In the next chapters y,  $\hat{y}$  are a and  $\hat{a}$ ; this is just the notation used in ML/DL.

### 1.2 Multivariable Linear Regression

A linear regression model for 2 features:

$$a(x_1, x_2) = w_1 x_1 + w_2 x_2 + b$$
  
=  $\vec{w} \cdot \vec{x} + b$ 

 $w_1, w_2$  control the slopes of this plane, b translates it up and down.  $\vec{x}$  is for one sample. Two or more samples are represented as a matrix:

$$[a_1, a_2] = [w_1, w_2] \cdot \begin{bmatrix} x_1 & x_1 \\ x_2 & x_2 \end{bmatrix} + b$$

 $a_i$  is the result for each sample (columns in the matrix).

The same than for a line (figure 1.1) by tuning W and b we can find the best linear fit. The sign of W reflects the line over Y(a) axis, and its magnitude controls the slope; b translates the line over x. Without b the line has to go through the origin.

We need to do forward and backward propagation.

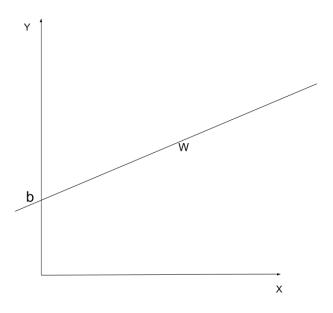


Figure 1.1: Line plot

### 1.2.1 Forward Propagation

A general network scheme is shown in 5.2. Calculations are built following that network scheme.

• The activation is a linear function:

$$\hat{\vec{a}} = \vec{w} \cdot \mathbf{X} + \vec{b}$$

• The Loss =  $Loss(w_1, ..., w_n, b)$  or just  $L(\vec{w}, b)$  is the Square Error:

$$L_i(\vec{w}, b) = (a_i - \hat{a})^2 = (a_i - \sum_j w_j \mathbf{X}_{ji} - b)^2$$

 $\sum_{i} w_{j} \mathbf{X}_{ji}$  is the dot product.

• The cost is the averaged sum of  $L_i$ , and it's the *Mean Square Error*:

$$C(w_1, w_2, b) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=0}^{i=2} L_i(w_1, w_2, b)$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} ([a_1, a_2] - [\hat{a}_1, \hat{a}_2]) \cdot ([a_1, a_2] - [\hat{a}_1, \hat{a}_2])$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} ([a_1, a_2] - [w_1, w_2] \cdot \mathbf{X} - b) \cdot ([a_1, a_2] - [w_1, w_2] \cdot \mathbf{X} - b)$$

$$(1.1)$$

 $\frac{1}{2}$  is to average over samples. Equation 1.1 is what we implement into code. In Python it'd look like:

#### **Backward Propagation** 1.2.2

For a function of a single variable C(x) the derivative at a point  $x_0$  is the slope (figure 1.2) at  $x_0$ .

For many variables, it's a similar process: the total derivative of a function is the sum of partial derivatives.

$$dC(\vec{w}, b) = \frac{\partial C}{\partial w_1} + \frac{\partial C}{\partial w_2} + \frac{\partial C}{\partial b}$$
(1.2)

(1.3)

C(w,b) derivative is used to find better weights and bias:

$$\begin{split} \vec{w} &= [w_1, w_2] - [\frac{\partial C}{\partial w_1}, \frac{\partial C}{\partial w_2}] \cdot \alpha \\ \vec{w} &= \vec{w} - \frac{\partial C}{\partial \vec{w}} \cdot \alpha \\ b &= b - \frac{\partial C}{\partial b} \cdot \alpha \end{split}$$

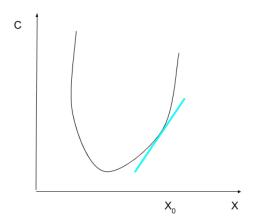


Figure 1.2: Derivative

Let's get started.

$$dC(\vec{w}, b) = \frac{\partial C}{\partial w_1} + \frac{\partial C}{\partial w_2} + \frac{\partial C}{\partial b}$$

$$= d(\sum_{i=0}^{i=2} L_i) = \sum_{i=0}^{i=2} dL_i(\vec{w}, b)$$

$$= \sum_{i=0}^{i=2} \frac{\partial L_i}{\partial w_1} + \frac{\partial L_i}{\partial w_2} + \frac{\partial L}{\partial b}$$

$$(1.4)$$

These equations are important. Equation 1.4 is always the starting point in any method. Equation 1.5 makes use of linearity property of diff.

What we look for is:

$$\frac{\partial C}{\partial w_1} = c \sum_{i} \frac{\partial L_i}{\partial w_1} = c \sum_{i} \frac{\partial L_i}{\partial A_i} \frac{A_i}{\partial w_1}$$

$$\vdots$$

$$\frac{\partial C}{\partial w_n} = c \sum_{i} \frac{\partial L_i}{\partial w_n} = c \sum_{i} \frac{\partial L_i}{\partial A_i} \frac{A_i}{\partial w_n}$$
(1.6)

(Remember, updating w, b, minimizing C, fits line to data. That's why we are deriving). Last equality uses the chain rule  $df(g(x))=\frac{df}{dg}\frac{dg}{dx}$ .

$$L_k(\vec{w}, b) = (a_k - \hat{a}_k)^2$$

 $A_k$  is the difference  $a_k - \hat{a}_k$ . We need dw and db; and for this  $dA_k$ :

$$\begin{split} \frac{\partial L_k}{\partial w_j} &= 2A_k \, \frac{\partial (a_k - w_j \, \mathbf{X}_{jk} - b)}{\partial w_j} \\ \sum_k \frac{\partial L_k}{\partial w_j} &= -2 \sum_k A_k \, \mathbf{X}_{jk} \end{split}$$

Replacing results in equations 1.6. For example:

$$\frac{\partial C}{\partial w_1} = \frac{1}{2} 2 \sum_i \mathbf{X}_{1i} (a_i - \hat{a}_i)$$
$$= \frac{1}{2} 2 \sum_i \mathbf{X}_{1i} A_i$$

Finally, using Gradient Descent method, we update vectors:

$$\vec{w} = \vec{w} - \frac{\partial C}{\partial \vec{w}} \alpha$$

$$= \vec{w} + \frac{1}{2} \times 2\mathbf{X} \cdot \vec{A}^T \alpha \qquad (1.7)$$

$$b = b - \frac{\partial C}{\partial b} \cdot \alpha$$

$$= b + \frac{1}{2} \times 2\vec{A} \times \vec{1} \alpha \qquad (1.8)$$

 $\alpha$  is called *learning rate* and we use to tune the derivation. We go against the gradient so the sign is changed to - (it points to max increasing direction otherwise).

#### Interpretation

There is no graphical justification as to why we update w and b like that, but we are moving w against (minus) the gradient multiplied by a constant (alpha) called learning rate.

The minus sign is because the gradient always points away from the minimum and we want towards it (in one dimension there are only 2 directions).

$$\vec{w} = \vec{w} - \frac{\partial C}{\partial \vec{w}} \alpha \tag{1.9}$$

$$= \vec{w} - \left[ \frac{\partial C}{\partial w_1}, \frac{\partial C}{\partial w_2}, \dots, \frac{\partial C}{\partial w_n} \right] \alpha \tag{1.10}$$

It means we have a vector of corrections for each slope such that the overall cost is decreased. If we take say  $\frac{dC}{dw_1}$  it is the sum of slopes for each sample, divided by m.

The slope depends on the sum of features times errors, as it was found:

$$\frac{\partial C}{\partial w_1} = -\frac{2}{m} \sum_i \mathbf{X}_{1i} (\vec{a}_i - \vec{\hat{a}}_i)$$

#### 1.2.3 Many features and samples

For a larger problem, the only difference is the size of the matrices.

The problem is to find  $w_i$ , b such that the multidimensional "plane" has small error respect to each datapoint. Then for a new datapoint we will have a trained predictor.

As it was shown, for linear regression the model is:

$$\hat{a}(\vec{x}) = w_1 x_1 + w_2 x_2 + \ldots + w_n x_n$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^{n} w_i x_i + b$$

$$= \vec{w} \cdot \vec{x} + b$$

Here  $\vec{x}$  is for one sample. For n samples, it becomes a matrix, we write  $\hat{\vec{a}} = \vec{w} \cdot \mathbf{X} + \vec{b}$ . This is represented:

$$[a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n] = [w_1, w_2, \dots, w_n] \cdot \begin{bmatrix} x_{11} & x_{12} & \dots & x_{1m} \\ x_{21} & x_{22} & \dots & x_{2m} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ x_{n1} & x_{22} & \dots & x_{nm} \end{bmatrix} + [b_1, b_2, \dots, b_m]$$

The  $b_i$  are all the same number. There are m examples-columns with n features-rows. Hence  $[\mathbf{X}]=m\times n$ 

The results are exactly the same than the previous section.

### 1.3 Mulvariate Binary Regression

Also known as logistic regression. The activation is:

$$\hat{a}(\vec{x}) = \frac{1}{1 + e^{-(\vec{w}\cdot\vec{x} + b)}}$$

plot for 1 feature on figure 1.3. By tuning w and b we can find the best fit.

The sign of w reflects the line over y axis, the magnitude controls the slope. Again, b translates over x.

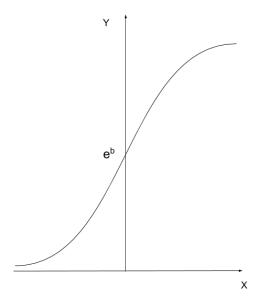


Figure 1.3: Sigmoid. Mistake: at x=0,  $y=(e^{-b}+1)^{-1}$ 

#### 1.3.1 Forward Propagation

The network schema can be found in 5.2. It is used to build the calculations:

• The activation is a sigmoid function:

$$\hat{a}_i = \frac{1}{1 + e^{-(\sum_j w_j \, \mathbf{X}_{ji} + b)}}$$

• The Loss is the Cross Entropy Loss:

$$L_i = a_i \log(\hat{a}_i) + (1 - a_i) \log(1 - \hat{a}_i)$$

• The cost:

$$C(\vec{w}, b) = -\frac{1}{m} \sum_{i=0}^{m} L_i(\vec{w}, b)$$

This is coded:

```
cost = 1/m*(np.dot(A, np.log(Ap).T)
+ np.dot(1-A, np.log(1-Ap).T))
#or
Cost = 1/m*(np.sum(np.multiply(A, np.log(Ap))
+ np.multiply(1-A, np.log(1-Ap))))
#tested
```

#### 1.3.2 Backward propagation

$$\frac{\partial L_i}{\partial w_i} = \left(\frac{\partial L_i}{\partial \hat{a}_i} \frac{\partial \hat{a}_i}{\partial z_i}\right) \frac{\partial z_i}{\partial w_j} \tag{1.11}$$

$$\frac{\partial L_i}{\partial b} = \left(\frac{\partial L_i}{\partial \hat{a}_i} \frac{\partial \hat{a}_i}{\partial z_i}\right) \frac{\partial z_i}{\partial b} \tag{1.12}$$

The first two derivatives (enclosed in parens) are the same, let's compute them.

$$\begin{split} \frac{\partial L_i}{\partial \hat{a}_i} &= \frac{a_i}{\hat{a}_i} + \frac{(1 - a_i)}{1 - \hat{a}_i} \left( -1 \right) \\ \frac{d\hat{a}_i}{dz_i} &= -\left( \frac{1}{1 + e^{-z}} \right)^{-2} e^{-z} (-1) \\ &= \left( \frac{1}{1 + e^{-z}} \right)^{-2} \left( e^{-z} + 1 - 1 \right) \\ &= \hat{a}^2 \left( \frac{1}{\hat{a}} - 1 \right) \\ \frac{\partial \hat{a}_i}{\partial z_i} &= \hat{a}_i \left( 1 - \hat{a}_i \right) \end{split}$$

Hence the derivative is:

$$\frac{\partial L_i}{\partial \hat{a}_i} \frac{\partial \hat{a}_i}{\partial z_i} = \left[ \frac{a_i}{\hat{a}_i} + \frac{(1 - a_i)}{1 - \hat{a}_i} (-1) \right] \hat{a}_i (1 - \hat{a}_i)$$

$$= a_i - \hat{a}_i$$

$$\frac{\partial z_i}{\partial w_j} = \mathbf{X}_{ji}$$

$$\frac{\partial z_i}{\partial b} = 1$$

We are left with:

$$\begin{split} \frac{\partial L_i}{\partial \hat{a}_i} \, \frac{\partial \hat{a}_i}{\partial z_i} \, \frac{\partial z_i}{\partial w_j} &= (a_i - \hat{a}_i) \, \, \mathbf{X}_{ji} \\ \frac{\partial L_i}{\partial \hat{a}_i} \, \frac{\partial \hat{a}_i}{\partial z_i} \, \frac{\partial z_i}{\partial b} &= (a_i - \hat{a}_i) \, \, 1 \end{split}$$

We then have:

$$w_{j} = w_{j} - \alpha \frac{\partial C}{\partial w_{j}}$$

$$= w_{j} + \frac{\alpha}{m} \sum_{i} \frac{\partial L_{i}}{\partial w_{j}}$$

$$= w_{j} + \frac{\alpha}{m} \sum_{i} (a_{i} - \hat{a}_{i}) \mathbf{X}_{ji}$$

But we can compute in general:

$$\vec{w} = \vec{w} - \frac{\alpha}{m} \frac{\partial C}{\partial \vec{w}}$$

$$= \vec{w} + \frac{\alpha}{m} \mathbf{X} \cdot \Delta \mathbf{A}^{T}$$

$$b = b - \frac{\alpha}{m} \frac{\partial C}{\partial b}$$

$$= b + \frac{\alpha}{m} \Delta \mathbf{A}$$
(1.13)

The same result than for linear regression.

### 1.4 Results

After experimenting with single layer NNs, the following are a few conclusions.

In general, non-normalized data blows up some calculation. In sigmoid, it is the exponential wX+b; in linear, because of  $A^2$  in the cost. Here also the learning rate can be really large (up to 100) and the code optimizes well. With smaller learning rates, we need more cycles.

#### 1.4.1 Interesting

The backward propagation ends up being the same for both methods (apart from a constant as far as I can see). So it is useful for both methods. The cost is different though.

# More complex networks

#### 2.1 Multiclass Network

This network can be used for multiclass problems, but it's actually used with a softmax function instead of sigmoid.

The prediction for a sample (a) is a column vector. The cost can be arranged as a row vector of N components, for N different labels.

From the NN diagram, we derive the computations:

$$\begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & \dots & a_{1m} \\ a_{12} & a_{22} & \dots & a_{2m} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ a_{s1} & a_{s2} & \dots & a_{sm} \end{bmatrix} = \sigma(\begin{bmatrix} w_{11} & w_{12} & \dots & w_{1n} \\ w_{12} & w_{22} & \dots & w_{2n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ w_{sn} & w_{sn} & \dots & w_{sn} \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} x_{11} & x_{12} & \dots & x_{1m} \\ x_{21} & x_{22} & \dots & x_{2m} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ x_{n1} & x_{22} & \dots & x_{nm} \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} b_1 \\ b_2 \\ \vdots \\ b_s \end{bmatrix})$$

s dimension is equal to the number of nodes in the output layer, and n to the number of features on the input layer. B will actually be broadcasted to match the shape of A.

The cost for the j node is:

$$C_j = -\frac{1}{m} \left( \sum_i \mathbf{A}_{ji} \log(\hat{\mathbf{A}}_{ji}) + (1 - \mathbf{A}_{ji}) \log(1 - \hat{\mathbf{A}}_{ji}) \right)$$
(2.1)

which may be coded like this:

The gradients are:

$$\frac{dC}{d\mathbf{W}} = -\frac{1}{m} \Delta \mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{X}^{T}$$

$$\frac{dC}{d\mathbf{B}} = -\frac{1}{m} \Delta \mathbf{A}$$
(2.2)

$$\frac{dC}{d\mathbf{B}} = -\frac{1}{m}\Delta\mathbf{A} \tag{2.3}$$

A was a vector, now it's turned into a matrix, one row for each node. Same thing for  $\mathbf{W}$ .

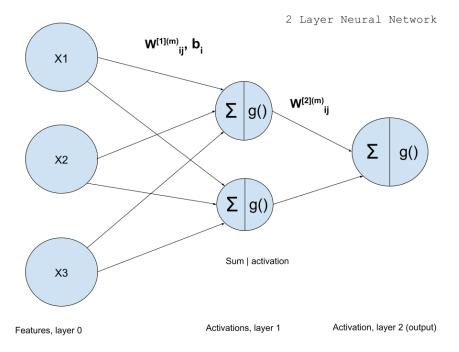


Figure 2.1: Shallow NN diagram

### 2.2 Shallow Neural Network

Standalone regressions approximate data with a single function. Hence they can't represent complex patterns.

We calculate what is shown in 5.3.

#### 2.2.1 Forward Propagation

What changes is  ${\cal W}$ , passes from a vector to a matrix. Each row will represent a node.

$$\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{W} \cdot \mathbf{X} + \mathbf{B} \tag{2.4}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} a_1^1 & \dots & a_m^1 \\ a_1^2 & \dots & a_m^2 \\ \vdots & \dots & \vdots \\ a_1^s & \dots & a_m^s \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} w_1^1 & w_2^1 & \dots & w_n^1 \\ w_1^2 & w_2^2 & \dots & w_n^2 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ w_1^s & w_2^s & \dots & w_n^1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_{11} & x_{12} & \dots & x_{1m} \\ x_{21} & x_{22} & \dots & x_{2m} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ x_{n1} & x_{22} & \dots & x_{nm} \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} b_1 \\ b_2 \\ \vdots \\ b_n \end{bmatrix}$$

A acts now like X, each column being a sample. Each row belongs to a node. And each activation in the row, is a linear combination of weights and bias from that node, and a sample from X.

This process can be done iteratively, with many layers.

- Each row in the is associated with a single node in the neural network.
- Each column is instead refered to a sample of X going through each node, so it's a different linear combination of the features.

To look at detailed take a hidden layer with two nodes, and two initial input features.

$$\begin{bmatrix} a_1^1 & a_2^1 \\ a_1^2 & a_2^2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} w_1^1 & w_2^1 \\ w_1^2 & w_2^2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_{11} & x_{12} \\ x_{21} & x_{22} \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} b_1 \\ b_2 \end{bmatrix}$$

They compute:

$$a_1^1 = w_1^1 x_{11} + w_2^1 x_{21} + b_1$$

$$a_1^2 = w_1^2 x_{11} + w_2^2 x_{21} + b_2$$

$$a_2^1 = w_1^1 x_{12} + w_2^1 x_{22} + b_1$$

$$a_2^2 = w_1^2 x_{12} + w_2^2 x_{22} + b_2$$

The upper number is the neuron, lower number is the sample. If each of those is input to a linear function the result is  $r_1=c_1\,a_1^1+c_2\,a_1^2+b$  and  $r_2=c_1\,a_2^1+c_2\,a_2^2+b$  this is the same than using a single neuron. The same thing happens if we have any other linear piece like a sigmoid. Hence linear functions aren't normally used in hidden layers.

But the whole reasoning is useful for other hidden layers.

Luckily, each activation is input to a function, hence the whole matrix is passed through a function (easy to do in python).

#### 2.2.2 Implement Forward Propagation

In the code, we implement equation 2.4 several times. The most important piece is:

```
# arch is an array describing the architecture:
arch = [4,3,2,1] #has 4 layers with those nodes.
def fp(X, arch):
    W,B = initialize(arch[0], X.shape[0]) #nodes x features
    A = predict(W,B,X,np.tanh) # 2, m
    for layer in arch[1:-1]:
        W,B = initialize(arch[layer], A.shape[0])
        A = predict(W,B,A,np.tanh) # 2, m
```

W,B = initialize(arch[-1], A.shape[0]) #nodes x features
return predict(W,B,A,sigmoid)

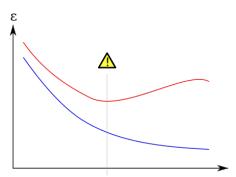
Sanity check: W, b aren't initialized as zeros, but if they were and the output is a sigmoid, the result has to be 0.69.

# **Deep Networks**

# Concepts

### 4.1 Related Concepts

*Overfitting*: Occurs when the cost in the training dataset decreases but it increases on the test dataset. The model starts to *memorize* data, and does not *generalize*.



Training error: blue; validation error: red, both as a function of the number of training cycles. The best predictive and fitted model would be where the validation error has its global minimum.

*Underfitting*: It occurs when the model or algorithm does not fit the data enough. It could be a bad model (too simple, or just not the right fit), or a lack of training, etc.

Classification v Regression: A classification model is one which attempts to predict a class, or category. That is, it's predicting from a number of discrete possibilities, such as "dog" or "cat." A regression model is one which attempts to predict one or more numeric quantities, such as a temperature or a location. Which one we use depends on the nature of the variables.

Cross Validation: The goal of cross-validation is to test the model's ability to predict new data that was not used in estimating it, in order to flag problems like overfitting or selection bias, and to give an insight on how the model will generalize to an independent dataset.

Why a CNN? It's the current state-of-the-art approach to creating computer vision models.

**Figures** 

### 5.1 Figures

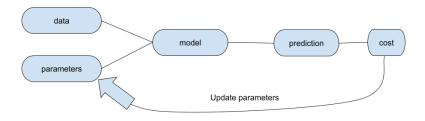


Figure 5.1: Machine Learning Process



Figure 5.2: Single Layer Neural Network

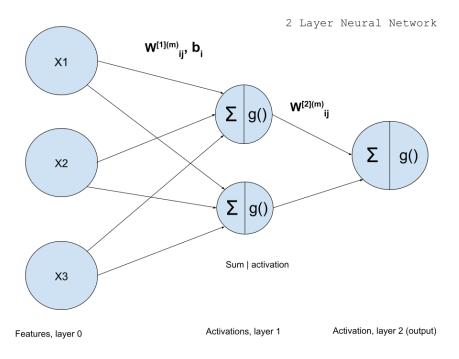


Figure 5.3: Shallow Neural Network