

Aim

Understand how to use Gradients to Control Composite Functions

Introduction

Why Control Composite Functions?

- Optimization in machine learning
- Finding maximum/minimum values
- Adjusting system parameters

```
In [131... # # Value Object Explained

# ## What is a Value Object?

# A Value object represents a variable in a computation and tracks two
# 1. The current value of the variable
# 2. How this variable affects the final output (its gradient)

from graphviz import Digraph

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class Value:
    def __init__(self, data, label="", prev=[], op=""):
        self.data = data
        self.grad = 0
        self.label = label
        self.prev = prev
        self.op = op

    def __add__(self, other):
        other = other if isinstance(other, Value) else Value(other)
        out = Value(self.data + other.data, prev=[self, other], op="+")
        return out

    def __mul__(self, other):
        other = other if isinstance(other, Value) else Value(other)
        out = Value(self.data * other.data, prev=[self, other], op="*")
        return out

    def __rmul__(self, other):
        return self * other
```

```

def __repr__(self):
    return f"Value(label={self.label}, data={self.data}, grad={self.grad})"

def _build(self):
    """builds a set of all nodes and edges in a graph"""
    nodes, edges = set(), set()

    def build(v):
        if v not in nodes:
            nodes.add(v)
            for child in v.prev:
                edges.add((child, v))
                build(child)
    build(self)
    return nodes, edges

def draw_dot(self):
    """Creates a visualization of the computation graph"""
    dot = Digraph(format='svg', graph_attr={'rankdir': 'LR'})

    nodes, edges = self._build()

    # Add all nodes to graph
    for n in nodes:
        uid = str(id(n))
        # Create a node label with data and optional label
        node_label = f"data {n.data:.4f}"
        if n.label:
            node_label += f" | label {n.label}"

        if n.grad:
            node_label += f" | grad {n.grad}"

        # Add the node as a box
        dot.node(name=uid,
                 label=node_label,
                 shape='record')

        # If it's an operation result, add the operation node
        if n.op:
            op_id = uid + n.op
            dot.node(name=op_id, label=n.op, shape='circle')
            dot.edge(op_id, uid)

    # Add edges between nodes
    for n1, n2 in edges:
        dot.edge(str(id(n1)), str(id(n2)) + n2.op)

    return dot

```

Understanding Our Function

We'll work with a simple composite function:

$$d = (a * b) + c$$

This function has three parts:

- Multiply a and b
- Add c to the result to get d

```
In [132... def abc(a, b, c):
            return (a * b) + c
```

Calculating Gradients

Numerical Method

We can approximate gradients using small changes

```
In [133... def partial_d(a, b, c, wrt):
    h = 0.001 # Small step size
    a_b_c = abc(a, b, c)
    if wrt == "a":
        a += h
    elif wrt == "b":
        b += h
    else:
        c += h
    a_b_c_h = abc(a, b, c)

    return (a_b_c_h - a_b_c) / h

gradients = [partial_d(2, -3, 10, 'a'), partial_d(2, -3, 10, 'b'), par
print(f"gradients a=2, b=-3, c=10 {gradients}")

gradients a=2, b=-3, c=10 [-3.0000000000001137, 1.999999999997797, 0.
999999999994458]
```

Analytical Derivation

For function $d = (a * b) + c$

With respect to 'a' ($\partial d / \partial a$):

$$\partial d / \partial a = b$$

Because when we change a, effect is multiplied by b

With respect to 'b' ($\partial d / \partial b$):

$$\partial d / \partial b = a$$

Because when we change b, effect is multiplied by a

With respect to 'c' ($\partial d / \partial c$):

$$\partial d / \partial c = 1$$

Because c is added directly, no multiplication

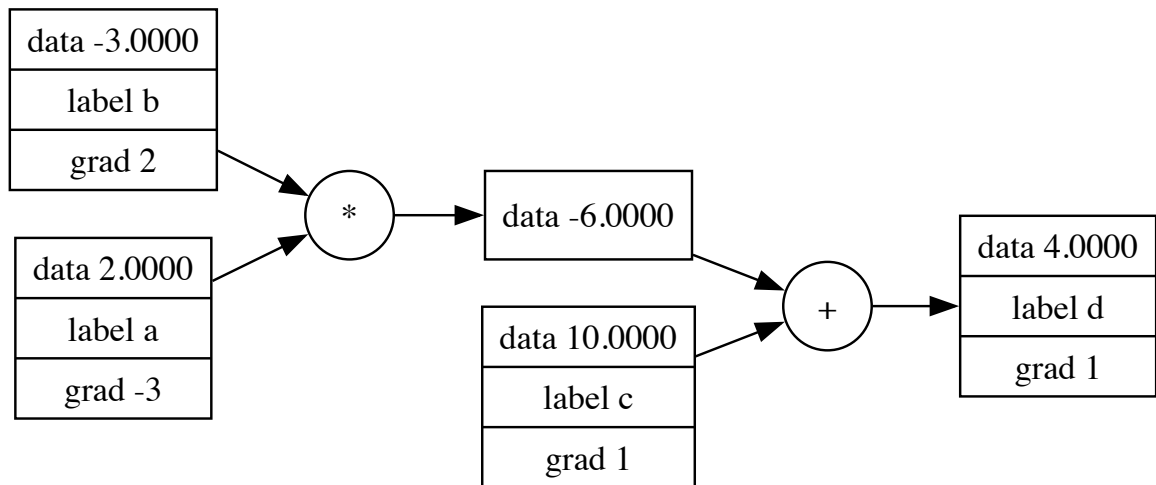
Example at point (a=2, b=-3, c=10):

```
# Numerical verification
∂d/∂a = -3 # Gradient for a
∂d/∂b = 2  # Gradient for b
∂d/∂c = 1  # Gradient for c
```

Visualization of the function with gradients

```
In [134... a = Value(2, label='a')
b = Value(-3, label='b')
c = Value(10, label='c')
d = a*b + c
d.label = 'd'
a.grad = -3
b.grad = 2
c.grad = 1
d.grad = 1
d
d.draw_dot()
```

Out[134]:



What Gradients Tell Us

For point (2, -3, 10):

a's gradient (-3) tells us:

- Increasing **a** decreases output (negative gradient)
- Effect is 3 times the change in **a**
- To increase output: decrease **a**
- To decrease output: increase **a**

b's gradient (2) tells us:

- Increasing **b** increases output (positive gradient)
- Effect is 2 times the change in **b**
- To increase output: increase **b**
- To decrease output: decrease **b**

c's gradient (1) tells us:

- Direct 1:1 relationship with output
- To increase output: increase c
- To decrease output: decrease c

Controlling the Output

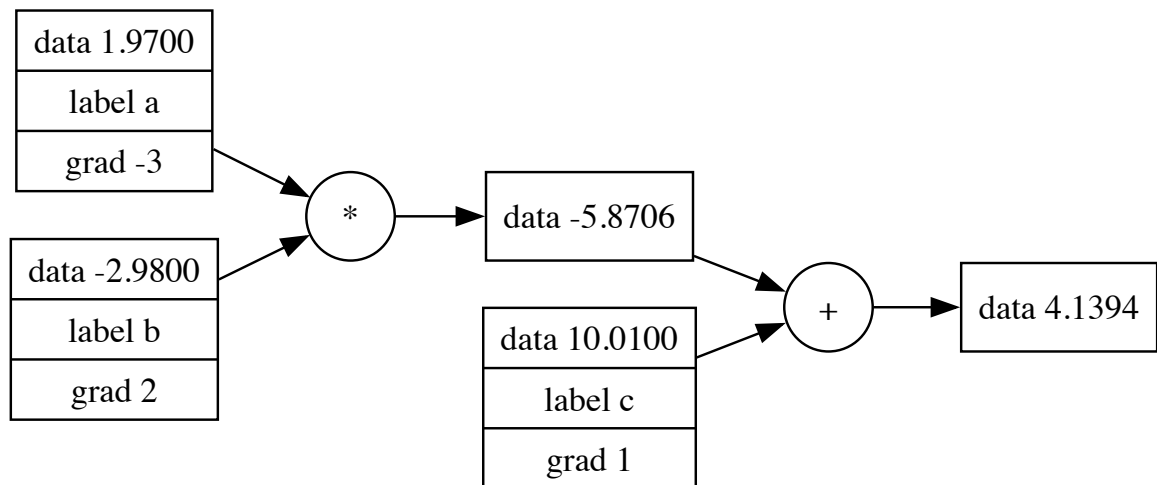
To increase output (d):

```
In [135... a = Value(2, label='a')
b = Value(-3, label='b')
c = Value(10, label='c')
d = a*b + c
d.label = 'd'
a.grad = -3
b.grad = 2
c.grad = 1
d.grad = 1
d
learning_rate = 0.01

# Move in direction of gradient
a.data += learning_rate * a.grad # 2 -> 1.97
b.data += learning_rate * b.grad # -3 -> -2.98
c.data += learning_rate * c.grad # 10 -> 10.01
d = a*b + c

# Result: Output increases from 4.0 to 4.1394
d.draw_dot()
```

Out[135]:



To increase output (d):

```

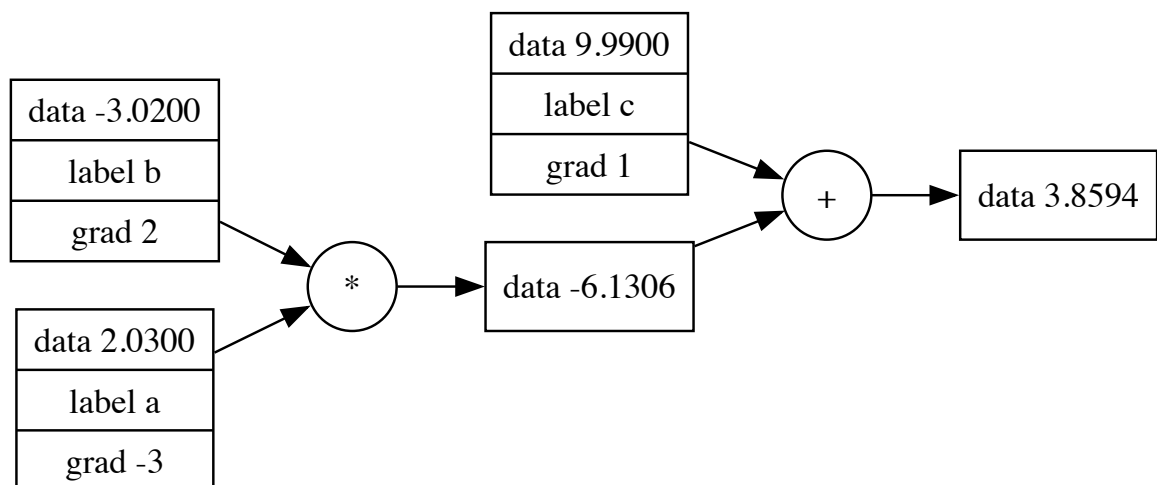
In [136... a = Value(2, label='a')
b = Value(-3, label='b')
c = Value(10, label='c')
d = a*b + c
d.label = 'd'
a.grad = -3
b.grad = 2
c.grad = 1
d.grad = 1
d
learning_rate = 0.01

# Move in direction of gradient
a.data -= learning_rate * a.grad # 2 -> 2.03
b.data -= learning_rate * b.grad # -3 -> -3.02
c.data -= learning_rate * c.grad # 10 -> 9.99
d = a*b + c

# Result: Output increases from 4.0 to 4.1394
d.draw_dot()

```

Out[136]:



Summary

- Gradients provide a roadmap for controlling composite functions
- The sign tells us direction, magnitude tells us strength
- Small, controlled steps (learning rate) help precise adjustments