

# Basics of Numerical Optimization: Computing Derivatives

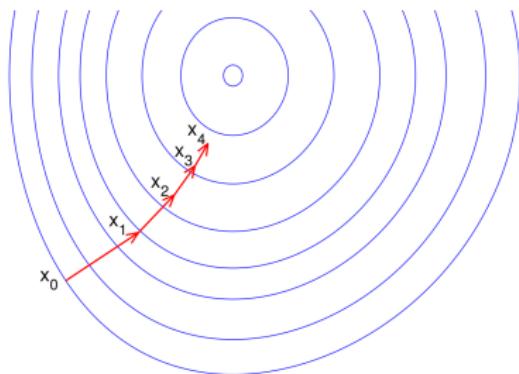
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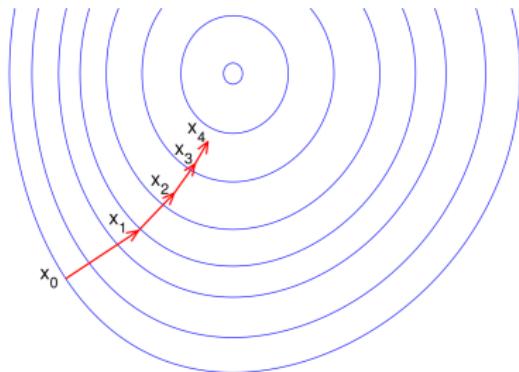
# Derivatives for numerical optimization



Credit: aria42.com

- gradient descent
- Newton's method
- momentum methods
- quasi-Newton methods
- coordinate descent
- conjugate gradient methods
- trust-region methods
- etc

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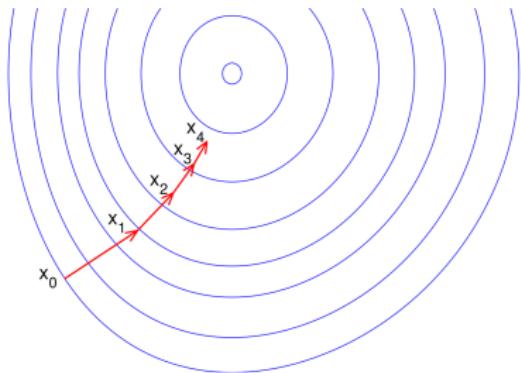


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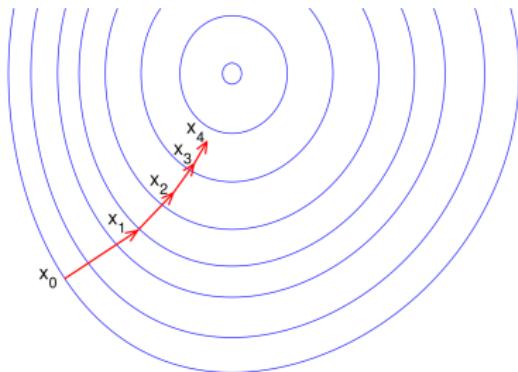


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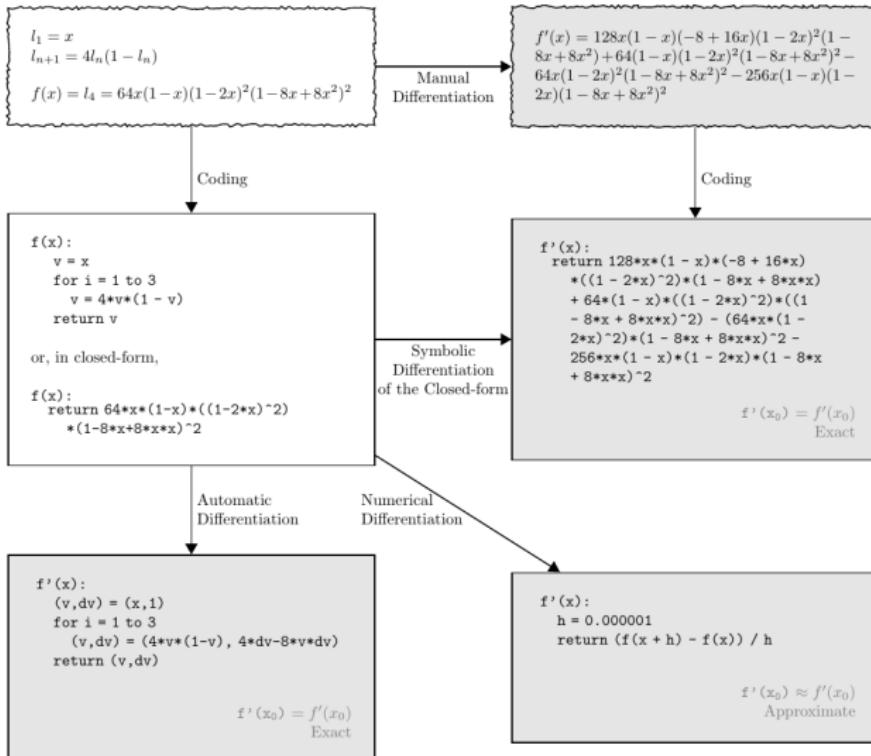
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- Almost all methods require low-order derivatives, i.e., gradient and/or Hessian, to proceed.
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This lecture: how to compute the numerical derivatives

# Four kinds of computing techniques



# Outline

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Analytic differentiation

Finite-difference approximation

Automatic differentiation

Differentiable programming

Suggested reading

## Analytic derivatives

**Idea:** derive the analytic derivatives first, then make numerical substitution

# Analytic derivatives

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To derive the analytic derivatives by hand:

- **Chain rule (vector version) method**

Let  $f : \mathbb{R}^m \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$  and  $h : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^k$ , and  $f$  is differentiable at  $\mathbf{x}$  and  $\mathbf{y} = f(\mathbf{x})$  and  $h$  is differentiable at  $\mathbf{y}$ . Then,  $h \circ f : \mathbb{R}^m \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^k$  is differentiable at  $\mathbf{x}$ , and

$$\mathbf{J}_{[h \circ f]}(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{J}_h(f(\mathbf{x})) \mathbf{J}_f(\mathbf{x}).$$

**When**  $k = 1$ ,

$$\nabla [h \circ f](\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{J}_f^\top(\mathbf{x}) \nabla h(f(\mathbf{x})).$$

# Analytic derivatives

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When  $k = 1$ ,

$$\nabla [h \circ f](x) = \mathbf{J}_f^\top(x) \nabla h(f(x)).$$

- **Taylor expansion method**

Expand the perturbed function  $f(x + \delta)$  and then match it against Taylor expansions to read off the gradient and/or Hessian:

$$f(x + \delta) \approx f(x) + \langle \nabla f(x), \delta \rangle$$

$$f(x + \delta) \approx f(x) + \langle \nabla f(x), \delta \rangle + \frac{1}{2} \langle \delta, \nabla^2 f(x) \delta \rangle$$

## Derive chain rule by Taylor expansion (optional)

Start with  $h(f(x + \delta))$ , where  $\delta$  is always sufficiently small as we want

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$$\begin{aligned} h(f(\mathbf{x} + \boldsymbol{\delta})) &= h\left(f(\mathbf{x}) + \underbrace{\mathbf{J}_f(\mathbf{x}) \boldsymbol{\delta} + o(\|\boldsymbol{\delta}\|_2)}_{\text{perturbation}}\right) \\ &= h(f(\mathbf{x})) + \mathbf{J}_h(f(\mathbf{x})) [\mathbf{J}_f(\mathbf{x}) \boldsymbol{\delta} + o(\|\boldsymbol{\delta}\|_2)] + \\ &\quad \underbrace{o(\mathbf{J}_f(\mathbf{x}) \boldsymbol{\delta} + o(\|\boldsymbol{\delta}\|_2))}_{o(\|\boldsymbol{\delta}\|_2)} \\ &= h(f(\mathbf{x})) + \underbrace{\mathbf{J}_h(f(\mathbf{x})) \mathbf{J}_f(\mathbf{x}) \boldsymbol{\delta}}_{\text{linear term}} + o(\|\boldsymbol{\delta}\|_2), \end{aligned}$$

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So,

$$\mathbf{J}_{h \circ f(\mathbf{x})} = \mathbf{J}_h(f(\mathbf{x})) \mathbf{J}_f(\mathbf{x}).$$

# Taylor expansion method, again

Derive gradient of a three-layer linear neural network

$$\min_{\mathbf{W}_1, \mathbf{W}_2, \mathbf{W}_3} f(\mathbf{W}_1, \mathbf{W}_2, \mathbf{W}_3) \doteq \sum_i \|\mathbf{y}_i - \mathbf{W}_3 \mathbf{W}_2 \mathbf{W}_1 \mathbf{x}_i\|_F^2$$

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For example, for  $\mathbf{W}_2$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} & f(\mathbf{W}_1, \mathbf{W}_2 + \Delta, \mathbf{W}_3) \\ &= \sum_i \|\mathbf{y}_i - \mathbf{W}_3 (\mathbf{W}_2 + \Delta) \mathbf{W}_1 \mathbf{x}_i\|_F^2 \\ &= \sum_i \|(\mathbf{y}_i - \mathbf{W}_3 \mathbf{W}_2 \mathbf{W}_1 \mathbf{x}_i) - \mathbf{W}_3 \Delta \mathbf{W}_1 \mathbf{x}_i\|_F^2 \\ &= \sum_i \|\mathbf{y}_i - \mathbf{W}_3 \mathbf{W}_2 \mathbf{W}_1 \mathbf{x}_i\|_F^2 - 2 \langle \mathbf{y}_i - \mathbf{W}_3 \mathbf{W}_2 \mathbf{W}_1 \mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{W}_3 \Delta \mathbf{W}_1 \mathbf{x}_i \rangle + O(\|\Delta\|_F^2) \\ &= \sum_i \|\mathbf{y}_i - \mathbf{W}_3 \mathbf{W}_2 \mathbf{W}_1 \mathbf{x}_i\|_F^2 \\ &\quad - 2 \sum_i \langle \mathbf{W}_3^\top (\mathbf{y}_i - \mathbf{W}_3 \mathbf{W}_2 \mathbf{W}_1 \mathbf{x}_i) (\mathbf{W}_1 \mathbf{x}_i)^\top, \Delta \rangle + O(\|\Delta\|_F^2) \end{aligned}$$

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So:  $\nabla_{\mathbf{W}_2} f = -2 \sum_i \mathbf{W}_3^\top (\mathbf{y}_i - \mathbf{W}_3 \mathbf{W}_2 \mathbf{W}_1 \mathbf{x}_i) (\mathbf{W}_1 \mathbf{x}_i)^\top$ .

# Symbolic differentiation

**Idea:** derive the analytic derivatives first, then make numerical substitution

To derive the analytic derivatives by software:

## Differentiate Function

Find the derivative of the function  $\sin(x^2)$ .

```
syms f(x)
f(x) = sin(x^2);
df = diff(f,x)
```

```
df(x) =
2*x*cos(x^2)
```

Find the value of the derivative at  $x = 2$ . Convert the value to double.

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df2 = df(2)
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df2 =
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- Python (SymPy, `diff`)
- Mathematica (`D`)

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**Effective for functions with few variables only**

# Outline

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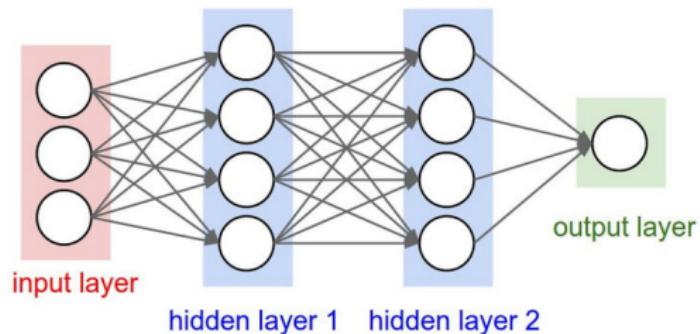
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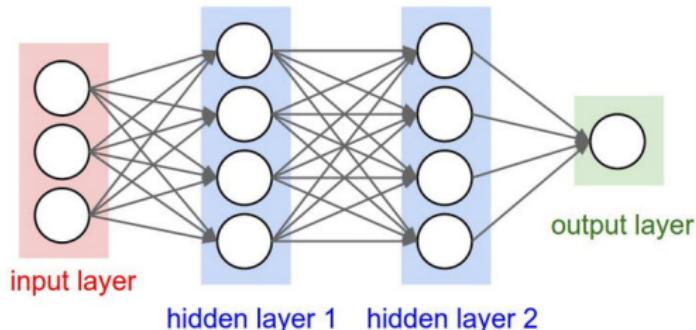
Differentiable programming

Suggested reading

# Limitation of analytic differentiation



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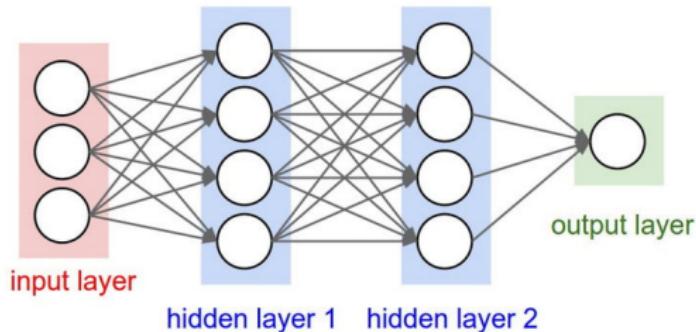


What is the gradient and/or Hessian of

$$f(\mathbf{W}) = \sum_i \|\mathbf{y}_i - \sigma(\mathbf{W}_k \sigma(\mathbf{W}_{k-1} \sigma \dots (\mathbf{W}_1 \mathbf{x}_i)))\|_F^2?$$

Applying the chain rule is boring and -prone. Performing Taylor expansion is also tedious

# Limitation of analytic differentiation



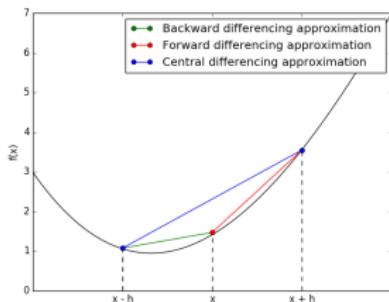
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Lesson we learn from technology history: leave boring jobs to computers

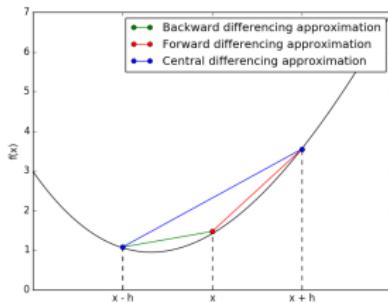
# Approximate the gradient



(Credit: numex-blog.com)

$$f'(x) = \lim_{\delta \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x+\delta) - f(x)}{\delta}$$

# Approximate the gradient



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For  $f(\mathbf{x}) : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ ,

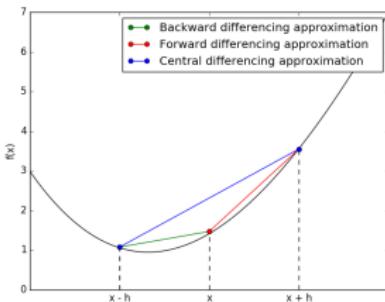
$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial x_i} \approx \frac{f(\mathbf{x} + \delta e_i) - f(\mathbf{x})}{\delta} \quad (\text{forward})$$

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial x_i} \approx \frac{f(\mathbf{x}) - f(\mathbf{x} - \delta e_i)}{\delta} \quad (\text{backward})$$

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial x_i} \approx \frac{f(\mathbf{x} + \delta e_i) - f(\mathbf{x} - \delta e_i)}{2\delta} \quad (\text{central})$$

$$f'(\mathbf{x}) = \lim_{\delta \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(\mathbf{x} + \delta) - f(\mathbf{x})}{\delta}$$

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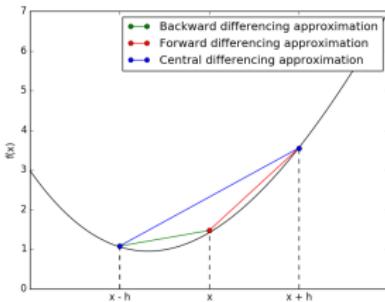
Similarly, to approximate the Jacobian for  $f(\mathbf{x}) : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$ :

$$\frac{\partial f_j}{\partial x_i} \approx \frac{f_j(\mathbf{x} + \delta e_i) - f_j(\mathbf{x})}{\delta} \quad (\text{one element each time})$$

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial x_i} \approx \frac{f(\mathbf{x} + \delta e_i) - f(\mathbf{x})}{\delta} \quad (\text{one column each time})$$

$$\mathbf{J}\mathbf{p} \approx \frac{f(\mathbf{x} + \delta \mathbf{p}) - f(\mathbf{x})}{\delta} \quad (\text{directional})$$

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$$J_p \approx \frac{f(\mathbf{x} + \delta p) - f(\mathbf{x})}{\delta} \quad (\text{directional})$$

For  $f(\mathbf{x}) : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ ,

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial x_i} \approx \frac{f(\mathbf{x} + \delta e_i) - f(\mathbf{x})}{\delta} \quad (\text{forward})$$

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# Why central?

## Stronger form of Taylor's theorems

- **1st order:** If  $f(\mathbf{x}) : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is twice continuously differentiable,  
$$f(\mathbf{x} + \delta) = f(\mathbf{x}) + \langle \nabla f(\mathbf{x}), \delta \rangle + O(\|\delta\|_2^2)$$
- **2nd order:** If  $f(\mathbf{x}) : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is three-times continuously differentiable,  
$$f(\mathbf{x} + \delta) = f(\mathbf{x}) + \langle \nabla f(\mathbf{x}), \delta \rangle + \frac{1}{2} \langle \delta, \nabla^2 f(\mathbf{x}) \delta \rangle + O(\|\delta\|_2^3)$$

# Why central?

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Why the central theme is better?

- Forward: by 1st-order Taylor expansion  
$$\frac{1}{\delta} (f(\mathbf{x} + \delta \mathbf{e}_i) - f(\mathbf{x})) = \frac{1}{\delta} \left( \delta \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_i} + O(\delta^2) \right) = \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_i} + O(\delta)$$

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- Central: by 2nd-order Taylor expansion 
$$\frac{1}{\delta} (f(\mathbf{x} + \delta e_i) - f(\mathbf{x} - \delta e_i)) = \frac{1}{2\delta} \left( \delta \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_i} + \frac{1}{2} \delta^2 \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_i^2} + \delta \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_i} - \frac{1}{2} \delta^2 \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_i^2} + O(\delta^3) \right) = \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_i} + O(\delta^2)$$

## Approximate the Hessian

- Recall that for  $f(\mathbf{x}) : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  that is 2nd-order differentiable,  
 $\frac{\partial f}{\partial x_i}(\mathbf{x}) : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ . So

$$\frac{\partial f^2}{\partial x_j \partial x_i}(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} \left( \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_i} \right)(\mathbf{x}) \approx \frac{\left( \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_i} \right)(\mathbf{x} + \delta \mathbf{e}_j) - \left( \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_i} \right)(\mathbf{x})}{\delta}$$

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- We can also compute one row of Hessian each time by

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} \left( \frac{\partial f}{\partial \mathbf{x}} \right)(\mathbf{x}) \approx \frac{\left( \frac{\partial f}{\partial \mathbf{x}} \right)(\mathbf{x} + \delta \mathbf{e}_j) - \left( \frac{\partial f}{\partial \mathbf{x}} \right)(\mathbf{x})}{\delta},$$

obtaining  $\widehat{\mathbf{H}}$ , which might not be symmetric. Return  $\frac{1}{2} (\widehat{\mathbf{H}} + \widehat{\mathbf{H}}^\top)$  instead

- Most times (e.g., in TRM, Newton-CG), only  $\nabla^2 f(\mathbf{x}) \mathbf{v}$  for certain  $\mathbf{v}$ 's needed: (see, e.g., Manopt <https://www.manopt.org/>)

$$\nabla^2 f(\mathbf{x}) \mathbf{v} \approx \frac{\nabla f(\mathbf{x} + \delta \mathbf{v}) - f(\mathbf{x})}{\delta} \quad (1)$$

## A few words

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<https://www.manopt.org/tutorial.html#costdescription>)

## A few words

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- Finite-difference approximation of higher (i.e.,  $\geq 2$ )-order derivatives combined with high-order iterative methods can be very efficient (e.g., Manopt  
<https://www.manopt.org/tutorial.html#costdescription>)
- Numerical stability can be an issue: truncation and round off s (finite  $\delta$ ; accurate evaluation of the nominators)

# Outline

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Analytic differentiation

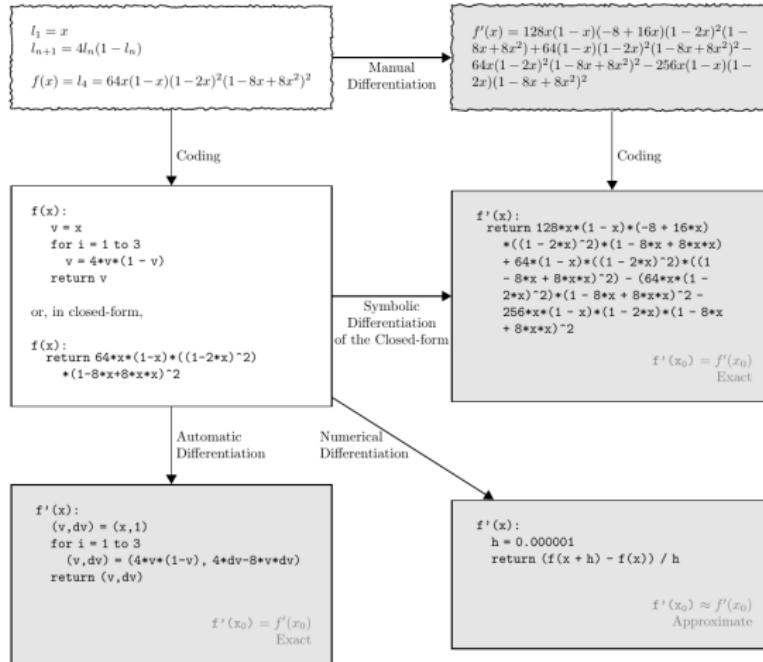
Finite-difference approximation

**Automatic differentiation**

Differentiable programming

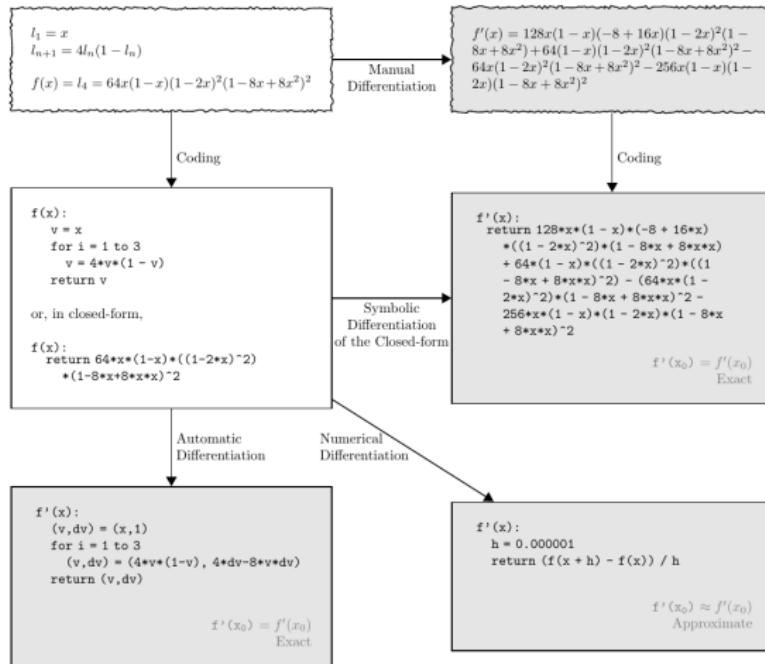
Suggested reading

# Four kinds of computing techniques



Credit: [Baydin et al., 2017]

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Misnomer: should be **automatic numerical differentiation**

## Forward mode in 1D

Consider a univariate function  $f_k \circ f_{k-1} \circ \cdots \circ f_2 \circ f_1(x) : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ . Write  $y_0 = x$ ,  $y_1 = f_1(x)$ ,  $y_2 = f_2(y_1)$ ,  $\dots$ ,  $y_k = f(y_{k-1})$ , or in **computational graph** form:



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Chain rule:  $\frac{df}{dx} = \frac{df}{dy_0} = \left( \frac{dy_k}{dy_{k-1}} \left( \frac{dy_{k-1}}{dy_{k-2}} \left( \dots \left( \frac{dy_2}{dy_1} \left( \frac{dy_1}{dy_0} \right) \right) \right) \right) \right)$

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---

**Input:**  $x_0$ , initialization  $\frac{dy_0}{dy_0} \Big|_{x_0} = 1$

**for**  $i = 1, \dots, k$  **do**

    compute  $y_i = f_i(y_{i-1})$

    compute  $\frac{dy_i}{dy_0} \Big|_{x_0} = \frac{dy_i}{dy_{i-1}} \Big|_{y_{i-1}} \cdot \frac{dy_{i-1}}{dy_0} \Big|_{x_0} = f'_i(y_{i-1}) \frac{dy_{i-1}}{dy_0} \Big|_{x_0}$

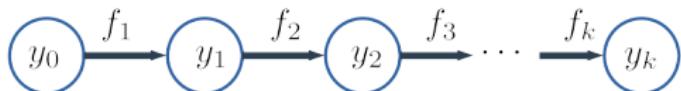
**end for**

**Output:**  $\frac{dy_k}{dy_0} \Big|_{x_0}$

---

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compute  $y_i = f_i(y_{i-1})$

**end for** // **forward pass**

**for**  $i = k-1, k-2, \dots, 0$  **do**

compute  $\frac{dy_k}{dy_i} \Big|_{y_i} = \frac{dy_k}{dy_{i+1}} \Big|_{y_{i+1}} \cdot \frac{dy_{i+1}}{dy_i} \Big|_{y_i} = f'_{i+1}(y_i) \frac{dy_k}{dy_{i+1}} \Big|_{y_{i+1}}$

**end for** // **backward pass**

**Output:**  $\frac{dy_k}{dy_0} \Big|_{x_0}$

---

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## Chain rule in computational graphs

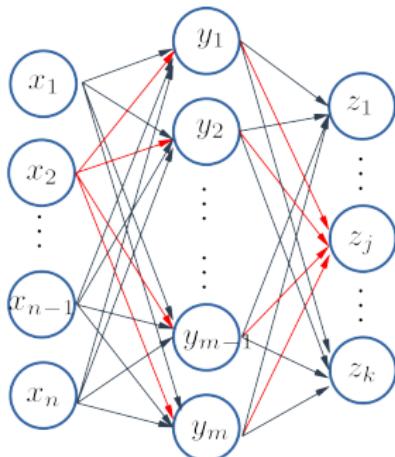
**Chain rule** Let  $f : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$  and  $h : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^k$ , and  $f$  is differentiable at  $\mathbf{x}$  and  $\mathbf{y} = f(\mathbf{x})$  and  $h$  is differentiable at  $\mathbf{y}$ . Then,  $h \circ f : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^k$  is differentiable at  $\mathbf{x}$ , and (write  $\mathbf{z} = h(\mathbf{y})$ )

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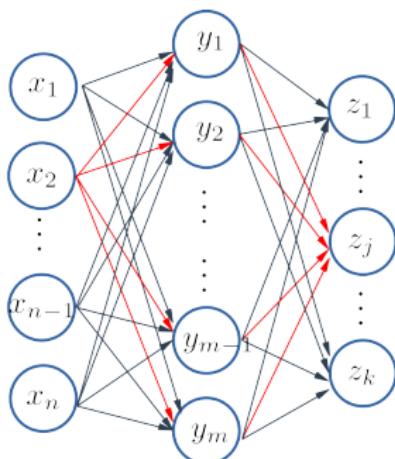


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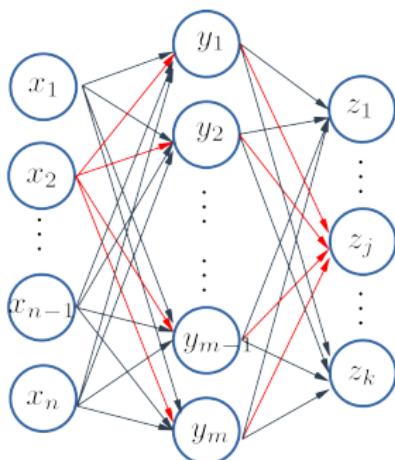
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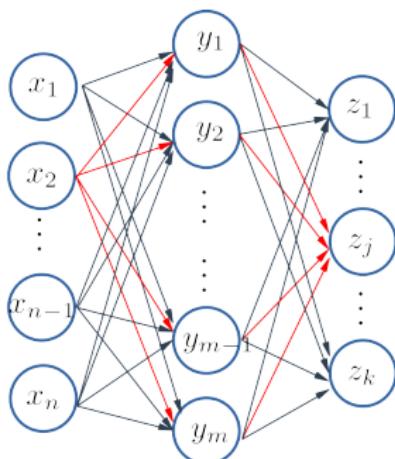
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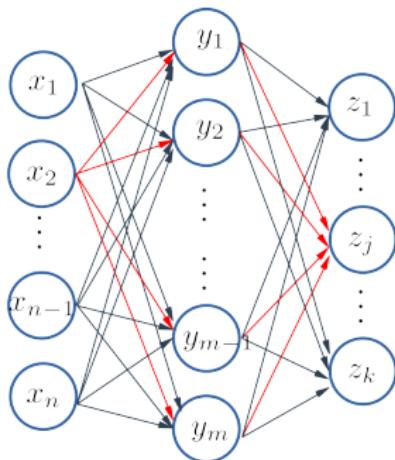
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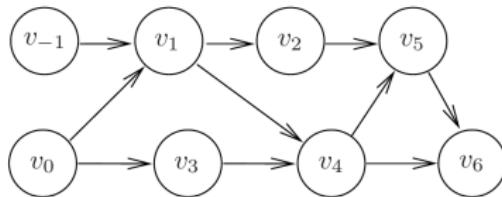


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- Traveling along a path, rates of changes should be multiplied
- Chain rule: summing up rates over all connecting paths! (e.g.,  $x_2$  to  $z_j$  as shown)

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## A multivariate example — forward mode

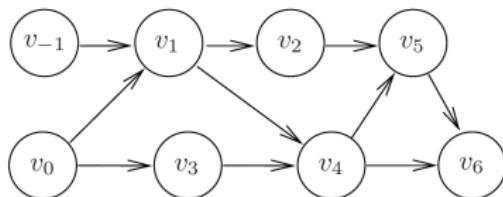
$$y = \left( \sin \frac{x_1}{x_2} + \frac{x_1}{x_2} - e^{x_2} \right) \left( \frac{x_1}{x_2} - e^{x_2} \right)$$



$v_{-1}$	$=$	$x_1$	$=$	1.5000
$v_0$	$=$	$x_2$	$=$	0.5000
$v_1$	$=$	$v_{-1}/v_0$	$=$	1.5000/0.5000 = 3.0000
$v_2$	$=$	$\sin(v_1)$	$=$	$\sin(3.0000)$ = 0.1411
$v_3$	$=$	$\exp(v_0)$	$=$	$\exp(0.5000)$ = 1.6487
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$v_5$	$=$	$v_2 + v_4$	$=$	0.1411 + 1.3513 = 1.4924
$v_6$	$=$	$v_5 * v_4$	$=$	1.4924 * 1.3513 = 2.0167
$y$	$=$	$v_6$	$=$	2.0167

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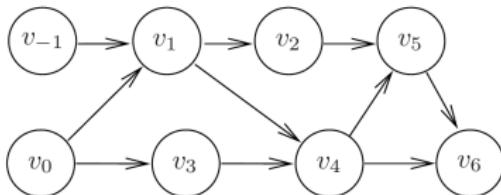
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$\dot{v}_0 = \dot{x}_2$	$=$	0.0000
$v_1 = v_{-1}/v_0$	$=$	1.5000/0.5000 = 3.0000
$\dot{v}_1 = (\dot{v}_{-1} - v_1 * \dot{v}_0)/v_0 = 1.0000/0.5000$	$=$	2.0000
$v_2 = \sin(v_1)$	$=$	$\sin(3.0000)$ = 0.1411
$\dot{v}_2 = \cos(v_1) * \dot{v}_1$	$=$	-0.9900 * 2.0000 = -1.9800
$v_3 = \exp(v_0)$	$=$	$\exp(0.5000)$ = 1.6487
$\dot{v}_3 = v_3 * \dot{v}_0$	$=$	1.6487 * 0.0000 = 0.0000
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$\dot{v}_4 = \dot{v}_1 - \dot{v}_3$	$=$	2.0000 - 0.0000 = 2.0000
$v_5 = v_2 + v_4$	$=$	0.1411 + 1.3513 = 1.4924
$\dot{v}_5 = \dot{v}_2 + \dot{v}_4$	$=$	-1.9800 + 2.0000 = 0.0200
$v_6 = v_5 * v_4$	$=$	1.4924 * 1.3513 = 2.0167
$\dot{v}_6 = \dot{v}_5 * v_4 + v_5 * \dot{v}_4$	$=$	0.0200 * 1.3513 + 1.4924 * 2.0000 = 3.0118
$y = v_6$	$=$	2.0100
$\dot{y} = \dot{v}_6$	$=$	3.0110

- interested in  $\frac{\partial}{\partial x_1}$ ; for each variable  $v_i$ , write  $\dot{v}_i \doteq \frac{\partial v_i}{\partial x_1}$

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$v_0 = x_2$	$=$	0.5000
$\dot{v}_0 = \dot{x}_2$	$=$	0.0000
$v_1 = v_{-1}/v_0$	$=$	1.5000/0.5000 = 3.0000
$\dot{v}_1 = (\dot{v}_{-1} - v_1 * \dot{v}_0)/v_0 = 1.0000/0.5000$	$=$	2.0000
$v_2 = \sin(v_1)$	$=$	$\sin(3.0000)$ = 0.1411
$\dot{v}_2 = \cos(v_1) * \dot{v}_1$	$=$	-0.9900 * 2.0000 = -1.9800
$v_3 = \exp(v_0)$	$=$	$\exp(0.5000)$ = 1.6487
$\dot{v}_3 = v_3 * \dot{v}_0$	$=$	1.6487 * 0.0000 = 0.0000
$v_4 = v_1 - v_3$	$=$	3.0000 - 1.6487 = 1.3513
$\dot{v}_4 = \dot{v}_1 - \dot{v}_3$	$=$	2.0000 - 0.0000 = 2.0000
$v_5 = v_2 + v_4$	$=$	0.1411 + 1.3513 = 1.4924
$\dot{v}_5 = \dot{v}_2 + \dot{v}_4$	$=$	-1.9800 + 2.0000 = 0.0200
$v_6 = v_5 * v_4$	$=$	1.4924 * 1.3513 = 2.0167
$\dot{v}_6 = \dot{v}_5 * v_4 + v_5 * \dot{v}_4$	$=$	0.0200 * 1.3513 + 1.4924 * 2.0000 = 3.0118
$y = v_6$	$=$	2.0100
$\dot{y} = \dot{v}_6$	$=$	3.0110

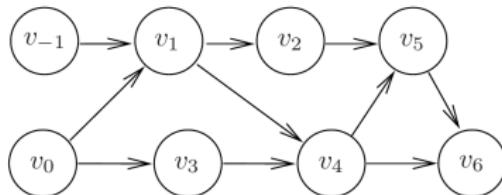
– interested in  $\frac{\partial}{\partial x_1}$ ; for each variable  $v_i$ , write  $\dot{v}_i \doteq \frac{\partial v_i}{\partial x_1}$

– for each node, sum up partials over all incoming edges, e.g.,

$$\dot{v}_4 = \frac{\partial v_4}{\partial v_1} \dot{v}_1 + \frac{\partial v_4}{\partial v_3} \dot{v}_3$$

# A multivariate example — forward mode

$$y = \left( \sin \frac{x_1}{x_2} + \frac{x_1}{x_2} - e^{x_2} \right) \left( \frac{x_1}{x_2} - e^{x_2} \right)$$



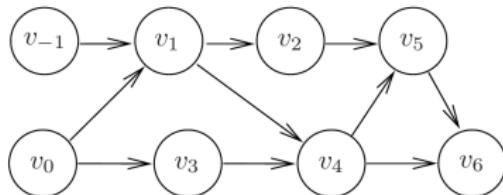
$v_{-1}$	$=$	$x_1$	$=$	1.5000
$v_0$	$=$	$x_2$	$=$	0.5000
$v_1$	$=$	$v_{-1}/v_0$	$=$	1.5000/0.5000 = 3.0000
$v_2$	$=$	$\sin(v_1)$	$=$	$\sin(3.0000)$ = 0.1411
$v_3$	$=$	$\exp(v_0)$	$=$	$\exp(0.5000)$ = 1.6487
$v_4$	$=$	$v_1 - v_3$	$=$	3.0000 - 1.6487 = 1.3513
$v_5$	$=$	$v_2 + v_4$	$=$	0.1411 + 1.3513 = 1.4924
$v_6$	$=$	$v_5 * v_4$	$=$	1.4924 * 1.3513 = 2.0167
$y$	$=$	$v_6$	$=$	2.0167

$v_{-1} = x_1$	$=$	1.5000
$\dot{v}_{-1} = \dot{x}_1$	$=$	1.0000
$v_0 = x_2$	$=$	0.5000
$\dot{v}_0 = \dot{x}_2$	$=$	0.0000
$v_1 = v_{-1}/v_0$	$=$	1.5000/0.5000 = 3.0000
$\dot{v}_1 = (\dot{v}_{-1} - v_1 * \dot{v}_0)/v_0 = 1.0000/0.5000$	$=$	2.0000
$v_2 = \sin(v_1)$	$=$	$\sin(3.0000)$ = 0.1411
$\dot{v}_2 = \cos(v_1) * \dot{v}_1$	$=$	-0.9900 * 2.0000 = -1.9800
$v_3 = \exp(v_0)$	$=$	$\exp(0.5000)$ = 1.6487
$\dot{v}_3 = v_3 * \dot{v}_0$	$=$	1.6487 * 0.0000 = 0.0000
$v_4 = v_1 - v_3$	$=$	3.0000 - 1.6487 = 1.3513
$\dot{v}_4 = \dot{v}_1 - \dot{v}_3$	$=$	2.0000 - 0.0000 = 2.0000
$v_5 = v_2 + v_4$	$=$	0.1411 + 1.3513 = 1.4924
$\dot{v}_5 = \dot{v}_2 + \dot{v}_4$	$=$	-1.9800 + 2.0000 = 0.0200
$v_6 = v_5 * v_4$	$=$	1.4924 * 1.3513 = 2.0167
$\dot{v}_6 = \dot{v}_5 * v_4 + v_5 * \dot{v}_4$	$=$	0.0200 * 1.3513 + 1.4924 * 2.0000 = 3.0118
$y = v_6$	$=$	2.0100
$\dot{y} = \dot{v}_6$	$=$	3.0110

- interested in  $\frac{\partial}{\partial x_1}$ ; for each variable  $v_i$ , write  $\dot{v}_i \doteq \frac{\partial v_i}{\partial x_1}$
- for each node, sum up partials over all incoming edges, e.g.,  $\dot{v}_4 = \frac{\partial v_4}{\partial v_1} \dot{v}_1 + \frac{\partial v_4}{\partial v_3} \dot{v}_3$
- complexity:

# A multivariate example — forward mode

$$y = \left( \sin \frac{x_1}{x_2} + \frac{x_1}{x_2} - e^{x_2} \right) \left( \frac{x_1}{x_2} - e^{x_2} \right)$$



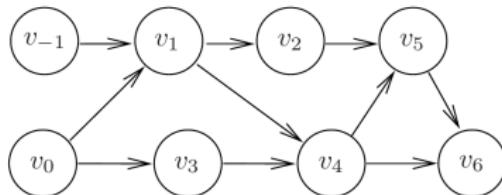
$v_{-1}$	$=$	$x_1$	$=$	1.5000
$v_0$	$=$	$x_2$	$=$	0.5000
$v_1$	$=$	$v_{-1}/v_0$	$=$	1.5000/0.5000 = 3.0000
$v_2$	$=$	$\sin(v_1)$	$=$	$\sin(3.0000)$ = 0.1411
$v_3$	$=$	$\exp(v_0)$	$=$	$\exp(0.5000)$ = 1.6487
$v_4$	$=$	$v_1 - v_3$	$=$	3.0000 - 1.6487 = 1.3513
$v_5$	$=$	$v_2 + v_4$	$=$	0.1411 + 1.3513 = 1.4924
$v_6$	$=$	$v_5 * v_4$	$=$	1.4924 * 1.3513 = 2.0167
$y$	$=$	$v_6$	$=$	2.0167

$v_{-1} = x_1$	$=$	1.5000
$\dot{v}_{-1} = \dot{x}_1$	$=$	1.0000
$v_0 = x_2$	$=$	0.5000
$\dot{v}_0 = \dot{x}_2$	$=$	0.0000
$v_1 = v_{-1}/v_0$	$=$	1.5000/0.5000 = 3.0000
$\dot{v}_1 = (\dot{v}_{-1} - v_1 * \dot{v}_0)/v_0 = 1.0000/0.5000$	$=$	2.0000
$v_2 = \sin(v_1)$	$=$	$\sin(3.0000)$ = 0.1411
$\dot{v}_2 = \cos(v_1) * \dot{v}_1$	$=$	-0.9900 * 2.0000 = -1.9800
$v_3 = \exp(v_0)$	$=$	$\exp(0.5000)$ = 1.6487
$\dot{v}_3 = v_3 * \dot{v}_0$	$=$	1.6487 * 0.0000 = 0.0000
$v_4 = v_1 - v_3$	$=$	3.0000 - 1.6487 = 1.3513
$\dot{v}_4 = \dot{v}_1 - \dot{v}_3$	$=$	2.0000 - 0.0000 = 2.0000
$v_5 = v_2 + v_4$	$=$	0.1411 + 1.3513 = 1.4924
$\dot{v}_5 = \dot{v}_2 + \dot{v}_4$	$=$	-1.9800 + 2.0000 = 0.0200
$v_6 = v_5 * v_4$	$=$	1.4924 * 1.3513 = 2.0167
$\dot{v}_6 = \dot{v}_5 * v_4 + v_5 * \dot{v}_4$	$=$	0.0200 * 1.3513 + 1.4924 * 2.0000 = 3.0118
$y = v_6$	$=$	2.0100
$\dot{y} = \dot{v}_6$	$=$	3.0110

- interested in  $\frac{\partial}{\partial x_1}$ ; for each variable  $v_i$ , write  $\dot{v}_i \doteq \frac{\partial v_i}{\partial x_1}$
- for each node, sum up partials over all incoming edges, e.g.,  $\dot{v}_4 = \frac{\partial v_4}{\partial v_1} \dot{v}_1 + \frac{\partial v_4}{\partial v_3} \dot{v}_3$
- complexity:  $O(\#edges + \#nodes)$

# A multivariate example — forward mode

$$y = \left( \sin \frac{x_1}{x_2} + \frac{x_1}{x_2} - e^{x_2} \right) \left( \frac{x_1}{x_2} - e^{x_2} \right)$$

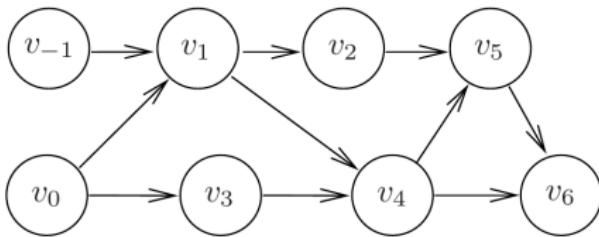


$v_{-1}$	$=$	$x_1$	$=$	1.5000
$v_0$	$=$	$x_2$	$=$	0.5000
$v_1$	$=$	$v_{-1}/v_0$	$=$	1.5000/0.5000 = 3.0000
$v_2$	$=$	$\sin(v_1)$	$=$	$\sin(3.0000)$ = 0.1411
$v_3$	$=$	$\exp(v_0)$	$=$	$\exp(0.5000)$ = 1.6487
$v_4$	$=$	$v_1 - v_3$	$=$	3.0000 - 1.6487 = 1.3513
$v_5$	$=$	$v_2 + v_4$	$=$	0.1411 + 1.3513 = 1.4924
$v_6$	$=$	$v_5 * v_4$	$=$	1.4924 * 1.3513 = 2.0167
$y$	$=$	$v_6$	$=$	2.0167

$v_{-1} = x_1$	$=$	1.5000
$\dot{v}_{-1} = \dot{x}_1$	$=$	1.0000
$v_0 = x_2$	$=$	0.5000
$\dot{v}_0 = \dot{x}_2$	$=$	0.0000
$v_1 = v_{-1}/v_0$	$=$	1.5000/0.5000 = 3.0000
$\dot{v}_1 = (\dot{v}_{-1} - v_1 * \dot{v}_0)/v_0 = 1.0000/0.5000$	$=$	2.0000
$v_2 = \sin(v_1)$	$=$	$\sin(3.0000)$ = 0.1411
$\dot{v}_2 = \cos(v_1) * \dot{v}_1$	$=$	-0.9900 * 2.0000 = -1.9800
$v_3 = \exp(v_0)$	$=$	$\exp(0.5000)$ = 1.6487
$\dot{v}_3 = v_3 * \dot{v}_0$	$=$	1.6487 * 0.0000 = 0.0000
$v_4 = v_1 - v_3$	$=$	3.0000 - 1.6487 = 1.3513
$\dot{v}_4 = \dot{v}_1 - \dot{v}_3$	$=$	2.0000 - 0.0000 = 2.0000
$v_5 = v_2 + v_4$	$=$	0.1411 + 1.3513 = 1.4924
$\dot{v}_5 = \dot{v}_2 + \dot{v}_4$	$=$	-1.9800 + 2.0000 = 0.0200
$v_6 = v_5 * v_4$	$=$	1.4924 * 1.3513 = 2.0167
$\dot{v}_6 = \dot{v}_5 * v_4 + v_5 * \dot{v}_4$	$=$	0.0200 * 1.3513 + 1.4924 * 2.0000 = 3.0118
$y = v_6$	$=$	2.0100
$\dot{y} = \dot{v}_6$	$=$	3.0110

- interested in  $\frac{\partial}{\partial x_1}$ ; for each variable  $v_i$ , write  $\dot{v}_i \doteq \frac{\partial v_i}{\partial x_1}$
- for each node, sum up partials over all incoming edges, e.g.,  $\dot{v}_4 = \frac{\partial v_4}{\partial v_1} \dot{v}_1 + \frac{\partial v_4}{\partial v_3} \dot{v}_3$
- complexity:  $O(\#edges + \#nodes)$
- for  $f : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$ , make  $n$  forward passes:  $O(n(\#edges + \#nodes))$

# A multivariate example — reverse mode



$$v_{-1} = x_1 = 1.5000$$

$$v_0 = x_2 = 0.5000$$

$$v_1 = v_{-1}/v_0 = 1.5000/0.5000 = 3.0000$$

$$v_2 = \sin(v_1) = \sin(3.0000) = 0.1411$$

$$v_3 = \exp(v_0) = \exp(0.5000) = 1.6487$$

$$v_4 = v_1 - v_3 = 3.0000 - 1.6487 = 1.3513$$

$$v_5 = v_2 + v_4 = 0.1411 + 1.3513 = 1.4924$$

$$v_6 = v_5 * v_4 = 1.4924 * 1.3513 = 2.0167$$

$$y = v_6 = 2.0167$$

$$\bar{v}_6 = \bar{y} = 1.0000$$

$$\bar{v}_5 = \bar{v}_6 * v_4 = 1.0000 * 1.3513 = 1.3513$$

$$\bar{v}_4 = \bar{v}_6 * v_5 = 1.0000 * 1.4924 = 1.4924$$

$$\bar{v}_4 = \bar{v}_4 + \bar{v}_5 = 1.4924 + 1.3513 = 2.8437$$

$$\bar{v}_2 = \bar{v}_5 = 1.3513$$

$$\bar{v}_3 = -\bar{v}_4 = -2.8437$$

$$\bar{v}_1 = \bar{v}_4 = 2.8437$$

$$\bar{v}_0 = \bar{v}_3 * v_3 = -2.8437 * 1.6487 = -4.6884$$

$$\bar{v}_1 = \bar{v}_1 + \bar{v}_2 * \cos(v_1) = 2.8437 + 1.3513 * (-0.9900) = 1.5059$$

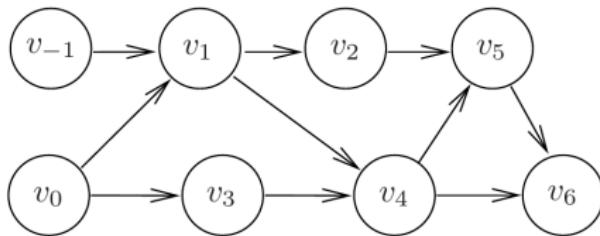
$$\bar{v}_0 = \bar{v}_0 - \bar{v}_1 * v_1/v_0 = -4.6884 - 1.5059 * 3.000/0.5000 = -13.7239$$

$$\bar{v}_{-1} = \bar{v}_1/v_0 = 1.5059/0.5000 = 3.0118$$

$$\bar{x}_2 = \bar{v}_0 = -13.7239$$

$$\bar{x}_1 = \bar{v}_{-1} = 3.0118$$

# A multivariate example — reverse mode



- interested in  $\frac{\partial y}{\partial}$ ; for each variable  $v_i$ , write  $\bar{v}_i \doteq \frac{\partial y}{\partial v_i}$  (called **adjoint variable**)

$$v_{-1} = x_1 = 1.5000$$

$$v_0 = x_2 = 0.5000$$

$$v_1 = v_{-1}/v_0 = 1.5000/0.5000 = 3.0000$$

$$v_2 = \sin(v_1) = \sin(3.0000) = 0.1411$$

$$v_3 = \exp(v_0) = \exp(0.5000) = 1.6487$$

$$v_4 = v_1 - v_3 = 3.0000 - 1.6487 = 1.3513$$

$$v_5 = v_2 + v_4 = 0.1411 + 1.3513 = 1.4924$$

$$v_6 = v_5 * v_4 = 1.4924 * 1.3513 = 2.0167$$

$$y = v_6 = 2.0167$$

$$\bar{v}_6 = \bar{y} = 1.0000$$

$$\bar{v}_5 = \bar{v}_6 * v_4 = 1.0000 * 1.3513 = 1.3513$$

$$\bar{v}_4 = \bar{v}_6 * v_5 = 1.0000 * 1.4924 = 1.4924$$

$$\bar{v}_4 = \bar{v}_4 + \bar{v}_5 = 1.4924 + 1.3513 = 2.8437$$

$$\bar{v}_2 = \bar{v}_5 = 1.3513$$

$$\bar{v}_3 = -\bar{v}_4 = -2.8437$$

$$\bar{v}_1 = \bar{v}_4 = 2.8437$$

$$\bar{v}_0 = \bar{v}_3 * v_3 = -2.8437 * 1.6487 = -4.6884$$

$$\bar{v}_1 = \bar{v}_1 + \bar{v}_2 * \cos(v_1) = 2.8437 + 1.3513 * (-0.9900) = 1.5059$$

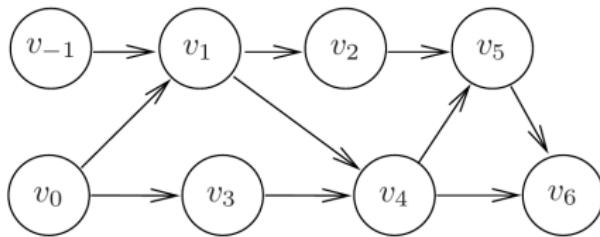
$$\bar{v}_0 = \bar{v}_0 - \bar{v}_1 * v_1/v_0 = -4.6884 - 1.5059 * 3.000/0.5000 = -13.7239$$

$$\bar{v}_{-1} = \bar{v}_1/v_0 = 1.5059/0.5000 = 3.0118$$

$$\bar{x}_2 = \bar{v}_0 = -13.7239$$

$$\bar{x}_1 = \bar{v}_{-1} = 3.0118$$

# A multivariate example — reverse mode



$$v_{-1} = x_1 = 1.5000$$

$$v_0 = x_2 = 0.5000$$

$$v_1 = v_{-1}/v_0 = 1.5000/0.5000 = 3.0000$$

$$v_2 = \sin(v_1) = \sin(3.0000) = 0.1411$$

$$v_3 = \exp(v_0) = \exp(0.5000) = 1.6487$$

$$v_4 = v_1 - v_3 = 3.0000 - 1.6487 = 1.3513$$

$$v_5 = v_2 + v_4 = 0.1411 + 1.3513 = 1.4924$$

$$v_6 = v_5 * v_4 = 1.4924 * 1.3513 = 2.0167$$

$$y = v_6 = 2.0167$$

$$\bar{v}_6 = \bar{y} = 1.0000$$

$$\bar{v}_5 = \bar{v}_6 * v_4 = 1.0000 * 1.3513 = 1.3513$$

$$\bar{v}_4 = \bar{v}_6 * v_5 = 1.0000 * 1.4924 = 1.4924$$

$$\bar{v}_4 = \bar{v}_4 + \bar{v}_5 = 1.4924 + 1.3513 = 2.8437$$

$$\bar{v}_2 = \bar{v}_5 = 1.3513$$

$$\bar{v}_3 = -\bar{v}_4 = -2.8437$$

$$\bar{v}_1 = \bar{v}_4 = 2.8437$$

$$\bar{v}_0 = \bar{v}_3 * v_3 = -2.8437 * 1.6487 = -4.6884$$

$$\bar{v}_1 = \bar{v}_1 + \bar{v}_2 * \cos(v_1) = 2.8437 + 1.3513 * (-0.9900) = 1.5059$$

$$\bar{v}_0 = \bar{v}_0 - \bar{v}_1 * v_1/v_0 = -4.6884 - 1.5059 * 3.000/0.5000 = -13.7239$$

$$\bar{v}_{-1} = \bar{v}_1/v_0 = 1.5059/0.5000 = 3.0118$$

$$\bar{x}_2 = \bar{v}_0 = -13.7239$$

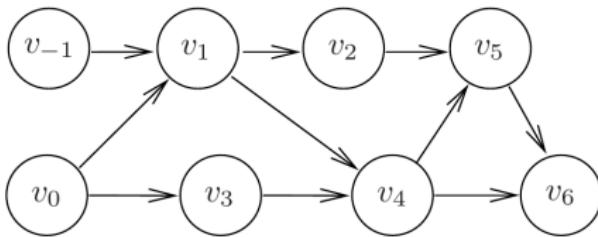
$$\bar{x}_1 = \bar{v}_{-1} = 3.0118$$

- interested in  $\frac{\partial y}{\partial}$ ; for each variable  $v_i$ , write  $\bar{v}_i \doteq \frac{\partial y}{\partial v_i}$  (**called adjoint variable**)

- for each node, sum up partials over all outgoing edges, e.g.,

$$\bar{v}_4 = \frac{\partial v_5}{\partial v_4} \bar{v}_5 + \frac{\partial v_6}{\partial v_4} \bar{v}_6$$

# A multivariate example — reverse mode



$$v_{-1} = x_1 = 1.5000$$

$$v_0 = x_2 = 0.5000$$

$$v_1 = v_{-1}/v_0 = 1.5000/0.5000 = 3.0000$$

$$v_2 = \sin(v_1) = \sin(3.0000) = 0.1411$$

$$v_3 = \exp(v_0) = \exp(0.5000) = 1.6487$$

$$v_4 = v_1 - v_3 = 3.0000 - 1.6487 = 1.3513$$

$$v_5 = v_2 + v_4 = 0.1411 + 1.3513 = 1.4924$$

$$v_6 = v_5 * v_4 = 1.4924 * 1.3513 = 2.0167$$

$$y = v_6 = 2.0167$$

$$\bar{v}_6 = \bar{y} = 1.0000$$

$$\bar{v}_5 = \bar{v}_6 * v_4 = 1.0000 * 1.3513 = 1.3513$$

$$\bar{v}_4 = \bar{v}_6 * v_5 = 1.0000 * 1.4924 = 1.4924$$

$$\bar{v}_4 = \bar{v}_4 + \bar{v}_5 = 1.4924 + 1.3513 = 2.8437$$

$$\bar{v}_2 = \bar{v}_5 = 1.3513$$

$$\bar{v}_3 = -\bar{v}_4 = -2.8437$$

$$\bar{v}_1 = \bar{v}_4 = 2.8437$$

$$\bar{v}_0 = \bar{v}_3 * v_3 = -2.8437 * 1.6487 = -4.6884$$

$$\bar{v}_1 = \bar{v}_1 + \bar{v}_2 * \cos(v_1) = 2.8437 + 1.3513 * (-0.9900) = 1.5059$$

$$\bar{v}_0 = \bar{v}_0 - \bar{v}_1 * v_1/v_0 = -4.6884 - 1.5059 * 3.000/0.5000 = -13.7239$$

$$\bar{v}_{-1} = \bar{v}_1/v_0 = 1.5059/0.5000 = 3.0118$$

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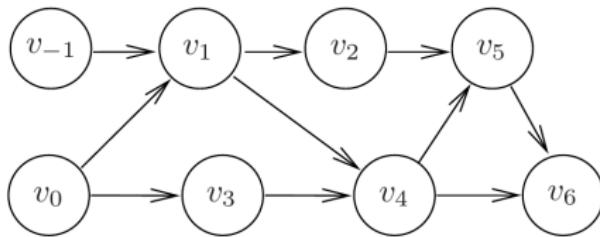
- interested in  $\frac{\partial y}{\partial}$ ; for each variable  $v_i$ , write  $\bar{v}_i \doteq \frac{\partial y}{\partial v_i}$  (called **adjoint variable**)

- for each node, sum up partials over all outgoing edges, e.g.,

$$\bar{v}_4 = \frac{\partial v_5}{\partial v_4} \bar{v}_5 + \frac{\partial v_6}{\partial v_4} \bar{v}_6$$

- complexity:

# A multivariate example — reverse mode



$$v_{-1} = x_1 = 1.5000$$

$$v_0 = x_2 = 0.5000$$

$$v_1 = v_{-1}/v_0 = 1.5000/0.5000 = 3.0000$$

$$v_2 = \sin(v_1) = \sin(3.0000) = 0.1411$$

$$v_3 = \exp(v_0) = \exp(0.5000) = 1.6487$$

$$v_4 = v_1 - v_3 = 3.0000 - 1.6487 = 1.3513$$

$$v_5 = v_2 + v_4 = 0.1411 + 1.3513 = 1.4924$$

$$v_6 = v_5 * v_4 = 1.4924 * 1.3513 = 2.0167$$

$$y = v_6 = 2.0167$$

$$\bar{v}_6 = \bar{y} = 1.0000$$

$$\bar{v}_5 = \bar{v}_6 * v_4 = 1.0000 * 1.3513 = 1.3513$$

$$\bar{v}_4 = \bar{v}_6 * v_5 = 1.0000 * 1.4924 = 1.4924$$

$$\bar{v}_4 = \bar{v}_4 + \bar{v}_5 = 1.4924 + 1.3513 = 2.8437$$

$$\bar{v}_2 = \bar{v}_5 = 1.3513$$

$$\bar{v}_3 = -\bar{v}_4 = -2.8437$$

$$\bar{v}_1 = \bar{v}_4 = 2.8437$$

$$\bar{v}_0 = \bar{v}_3 * v_3 = -2.8437 * 1.6487 = -4.6884$$

$$\bar{v}_1 = \bar{v}_1 + \bar{v}_2 * \cos(v_1) = 2.8437 + 1.3513 * (-0.9900) = 1.5059$$

$$\bar{v}_0 = \bar{v}_0 - \bar{v}_1 * v_1/v_0 = -4.6884 - 1.5059 * 3.000/0.5000 = -13.7239$$

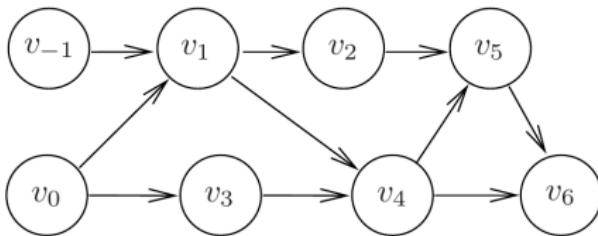
$$\bar{v}_{-1} = \bar{v}_1/v_0 = 1.5059/0.5000 = 3.0118$$

$$\bar{x}_2 = \bar{v}_0 = -13.7239$$

$$\bar{x}_1 = \bar{v}_{-1} = 3.0118$$

- interested in  $\frac{\partial y}{\partial}$ ; for each variable  $v_i$ , write  $\bar{v}_i \doteq \frac{\partial y}{\partial v_i}$  (called **adjoint variable**)
- for each node, sum up partials over all outgoing edges, e.g.,  
$$\bar{v}_4 = \frac{\partial v_5}{\partial v_4} \bar{v}_5 + \frac{\partial v_6}{\partial v_4} \bar{v}_6$$
- complexity:  
 $O(\#edges + \#nodes)$

# A multivariate example — reverse mode



$$v_{-1} = x_1 = 1.5000$$

$$v_0 = x_2 = 0.5000$$

$$v_1 = v_{-1}/v_0 = 1.5000/0.5000 = 3.0000$$

$$v_2 = \sin(v_1) = \sin(3.0000) = 0.1411$$

$$v_3 = \exp(v_0) = \exp(0.5000) = 1.6487$$

$$v_4 = v_1 - v_3 = 3.0000 - 1.6487 = 1.3513$$

$$v_5 = v_2 + v_4 = 0.1411 + 1.3513 = 1.4924$$

$$v_6 = v_5 * v_4 = 1.4924 * 1.3513 = 2.0167$$

$$y = v_6 = 2.0167$$

$$\bar{v}_6 = \bar{y} = 1.0000$$

$$\bar{v}_5 = \bar{v}_6 * v_4 = 1.0000 * 1.3513 = 1.3513$$

$$\bar{v}_4 = \bar{v}_6 * v_5 = 1.0000 * 1.4924 = 1.4924$$

$$\bar{v}_2 = \bar{v}_4 + \bar{v}_5 = 1.4924 + 1.3513 = 2.8437$$

$$\bar{v}_2 = \bar{v}_5 = 1.3513$$

$$\bar{v}_3 = -\bar{v}_4 = -2.8437$$

$$\bar{v}_1 = \bar{v}_4 = 2.8437$$

$$\bar{v}_0 = \bar{v}_3 * v_3 = -2.8437 * 1.6487 = -4.6884$$

$$\bar{v}_1 = \bar{v}_1 + \bar{v}_2 * \cos(v_1) = 2.8437 + 1.3513 * (-0.9900) = 1.5059$$

$$\bar{v}_0 = \bar{v}_0 - \bar{v}_1 * v_1/v_0 = -4.6884 - 1.5059 * 3.000/0.5000 = -13.7239$$

$$\bar{v}_{-1} = \bar{v}_1/v_0 = 1.5059/0.5000 = 3.0118$$

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$$O(\# \text{edges} + \# \text{nodes})$$

- for  $f : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$ , make  $n$  forward passes:

$$O(m (\# \text{edges} + \# \text{nodes}))$$

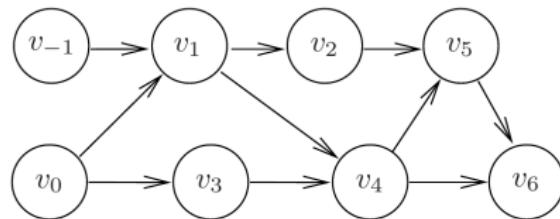
example from Ch 1

of [Griewank and Walther, 2008]

## Forward vs. reverse modes

For general function  $f : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$ , suppose there is no loop in the computational graph, i.e., **acyclic graph**.

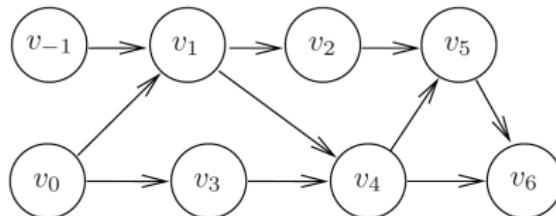
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	forward mode	reverse mode
start from	roots	leaves
end with	leaves	roots
invariants	$\dot{v}_i \doteq \frac{\partial v_i}{\partial x}$ ( $x$ —root of interest)	$\bar{v}_i \doteq \frac{\partial y}{\partial v_i}$ ( $y$ —leaf of interest)
rule	sum over incoming edges	sum over outgoing edges
complexity	$O(n E  + n V )$	$O(m E  + m V )$
better when	$m \gg n$	$n \gg m$

## Directional derivatives

Consider  $f(\mathbf{x}) : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$ . Let  $v_s$ 's be the variables in its computational graph. Particularly,  $v_{n-1} = x_1, v_{n-2} = x_2, \dots, v_0 = x_n$ .  $D_p(\cdot)$  means directional derivative wrt  $p$ . In practical implementations,

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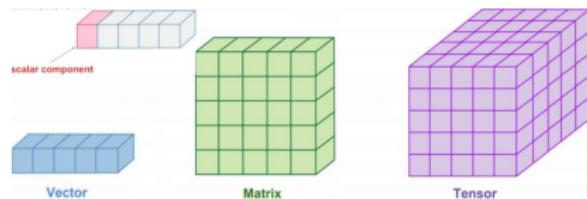
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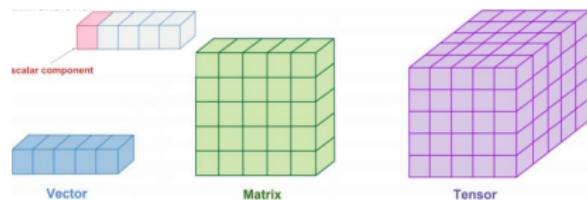
# Tensor abstraction

Tensors: multi-dimensional arrays



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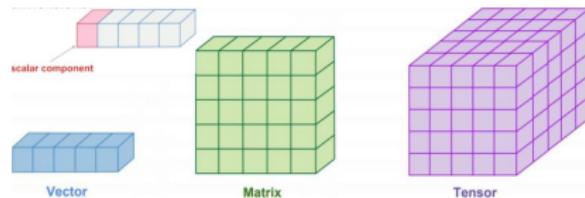
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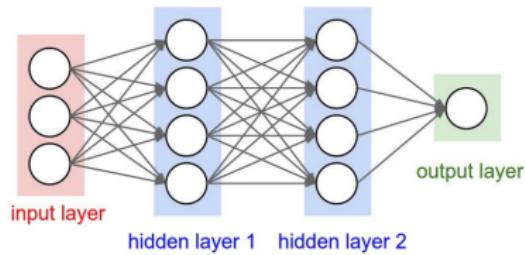
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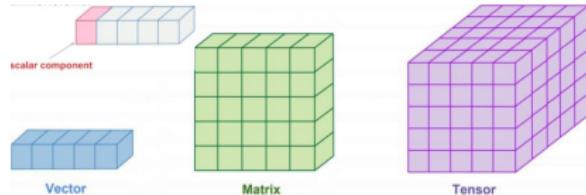
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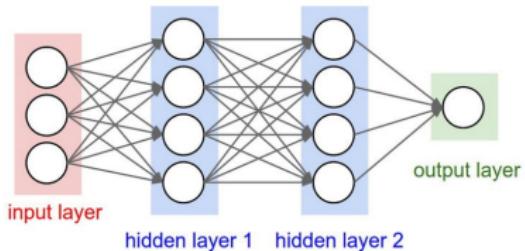
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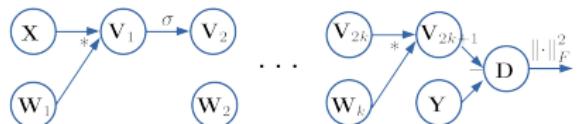


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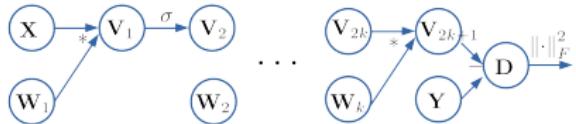


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computational graph for DNN

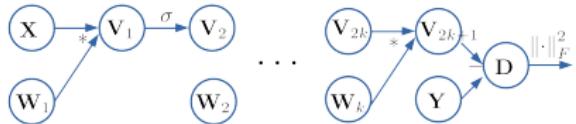


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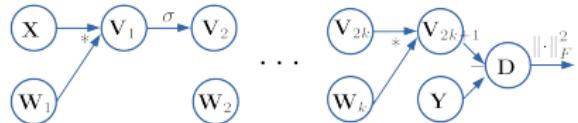
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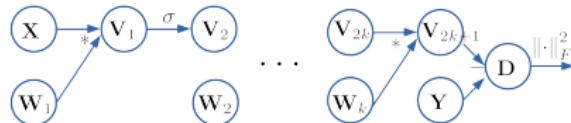
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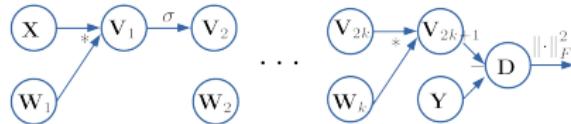


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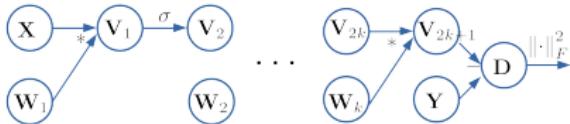


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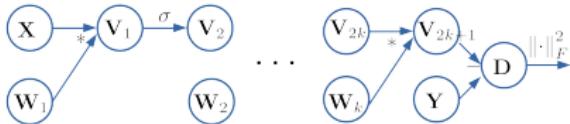


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- General resources for autodiff: <http://www.autodiff.org/>,  
[Griewank and Walther, 2008]

# Autodiff in Pytorch

Solve least squares  $f(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}\|_2^2$  with  $\nabla f(\mathbf{x}) = -\mathbf{A}^\top (\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x})$

```
import torch
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt

dtype = torch.float
device = torch.device("cpu")

n, p = 500, 100

A = torch.randn(n, p, device=device, dtype=dtype)
y = torch.randn(n, device=device, dtype=dtype)

x = torch.randn(p, device=device, dtype=dtype, requires_grad=True)
step_size = 1e-4

num_step = 500
loss_vec = torch.zeros(500, device=device, dtype=dtype)

for t in range(500):
    pred = torch.matmul(A, x)
    loss = torch.pow(torch.norm(y - pred), 2)

    loss_vec[t] = loss.item()

    # one line for computing the gradient
loss.backward()

    # updates
    with torch.no_grad():
        x -= step_size*x.grad

    # zero the gradient after updating
    x.grad.zero_()

plt.plot(loss_vec.numpy())
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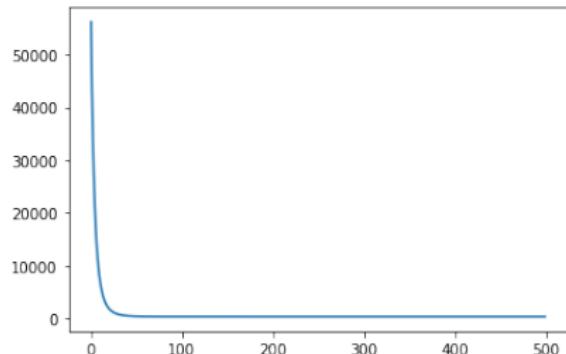
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loss vs. iterate



# Autodiff in Pytorch

Train a shallow neural network

$$f(\mathbf{W}) = \sum_i \|\mathbf{y}_i - \mathbf{W}_2 \sigma(\mathbf{W}_1 \mathbf{x}_i)\|_2^2$$

where  $\sigma(z) = \max(z, 0)$ , i.e., ReLU

[https://pytorch.org/tutorials/beginner/pytorch\\_with\\_examples.html](https://pytorch.org/tutorials/beginner/pytorch_with_examples.html)

- `torch.mm`
- `torch.clamp`
- `torch.no_grad()`

**Back propagation is reverse mode auto-differentiation!**

# Outline

---

Analytic differentiation

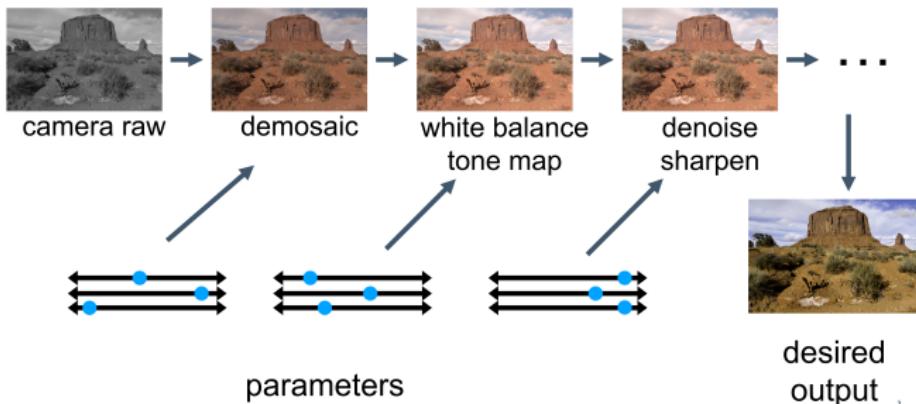
Finite-difference approximation

Automatic differentiation

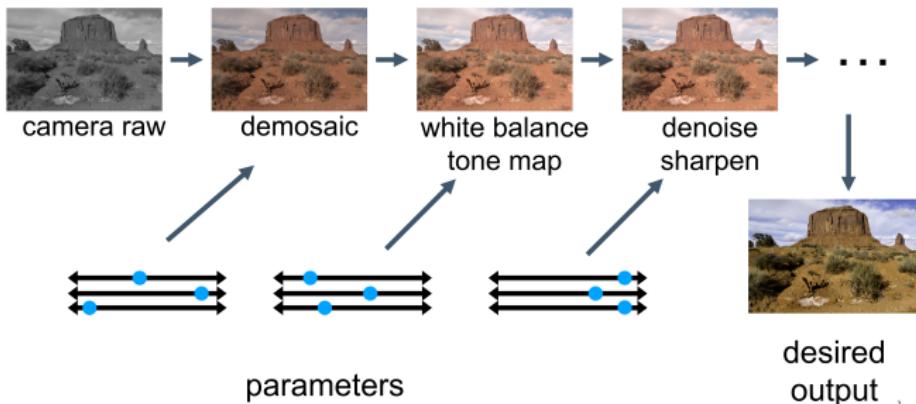
Differentiable programming

Suggested reading

# Example: image enhancement

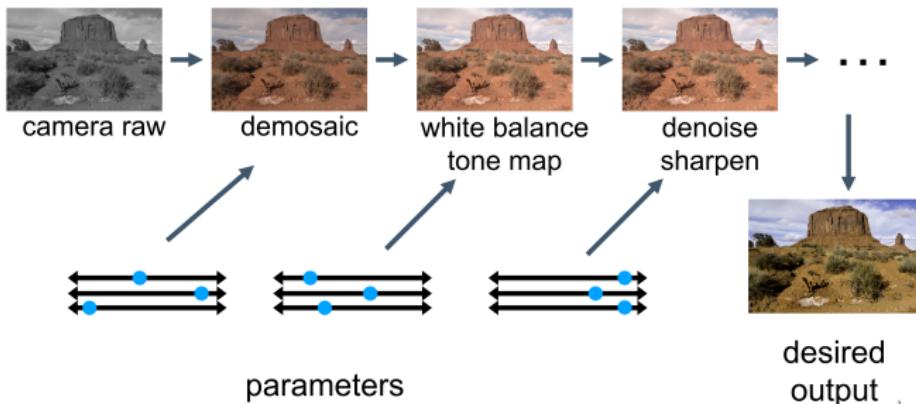


## Example: image enhancement



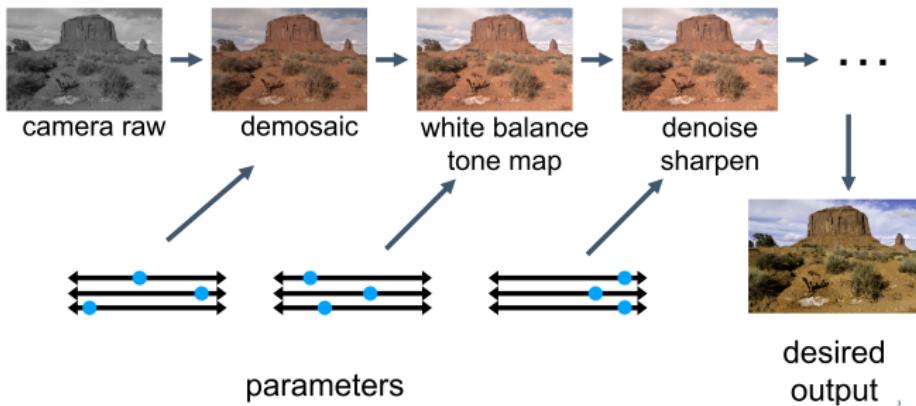
- Each stage applies a parameterized function to the image, i.e.,  
 $q_{w_k} \circ \dots \circ h_{w_3} \circ g_{w_2} \circ f_{w_1}(\mathbf{X})$  ( $\mathbf{X}$  is the camera raw)

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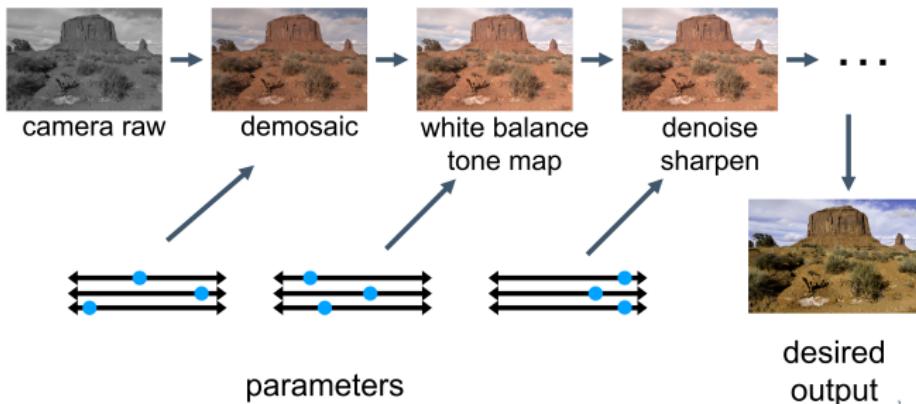
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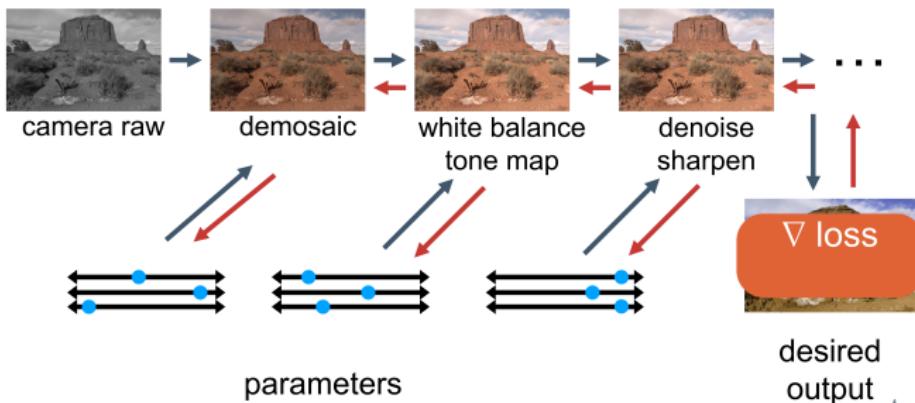
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- $w_i$ 's are the trainable parameters

Credit: [https://people.csail.mit.edu/tzumao/gradient\\_halide/](https://people.csail.mit.edu/tzumao/gradient_halide/)

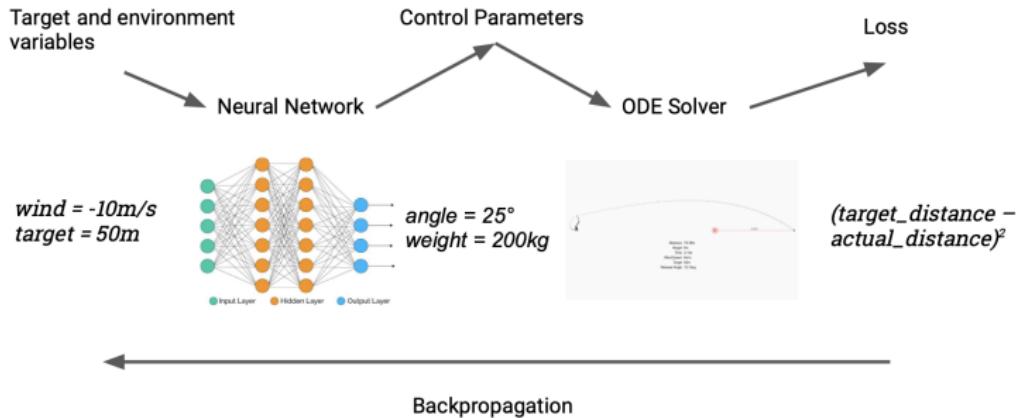
# Example: image enhancement



- the trainable parameters are learned by gradient descent based on auto-differentiation
- This is generalization of training DNNs with the classic feedforward structure to training general parameterized functions, using derivative-based methods

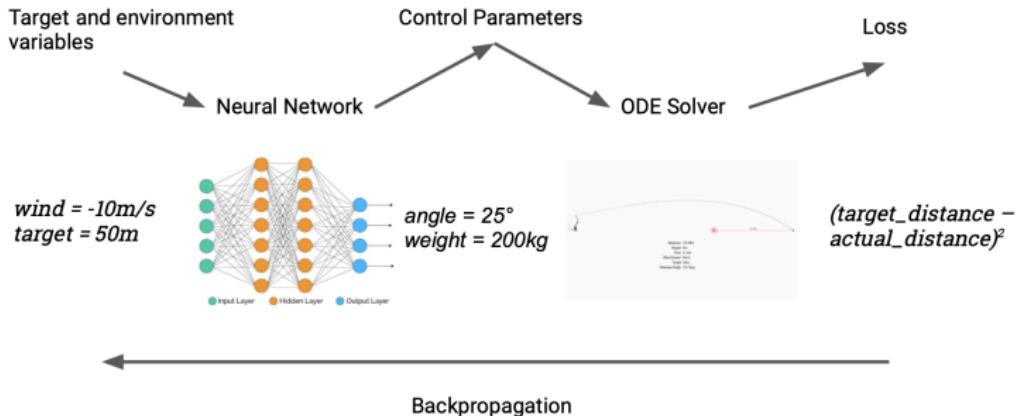
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# Example: control a trebuchet



<https://fluxml.ai/2019/03/05/dp-vs-rl.html>

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- Given wind speed and target distance, the DNN predicts the **angle of release** and **mass of counterweight**
- Given the angle of release and mass of counterweight as initial conditions, the ODE solver calculates the actual distance by iterative methods
- We perform auto-differentiation through the iterative ODE solver and the DNN

# Differential programming

## Interesting resources

- Notable implementations: Swift for Tensorflow  
<https://www.tensorflow.org/swift>, and Zygote in Julia  
<https://github.com/FluxML/Zygote.jl>
- Flux: machine learning package based on Zygote  
<https://fluxml.ai/>
- Taichi: differentiable programming language tailored to 3D computer graphics  
<https://github.com/taichi-dev/taichi>

# Outline

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Analytic differentiation

Finite-difference approximation

Automatic differentiation

Differentiable programming

Suggested reading

## Autodiff in DNNs

- <http://neuralnetworksanddeeplearning.com/chap2.html>
- <https://colah.github.io/posts/2015-08-Backprop/>

## Differentiable programming

- [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Differentiable\\_programming](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Differentiable_programming)
- <https://fluxml.ai/2019/02/07/what-is-differentiable-programming.html>
- <https://fluxml.ai/2019/03/05/dp-vs-rl.html>

## References i

- [Baydin et al., 2017] Baydin, A. G., Pearlmutter, B. A., Radul, A. A., and Siskind, J. M. (2017). **Automatic differentiation in machine learning: a survey.** *The Journal of Machine Learning Research*, 18(1):5595–5637.
- [Griewank and Walther, 2008] Griewank, A. and Walther, A. (2008). **Evaluating Derivatives: Principles and Techniques of Algorithmic Differentiation.** Society for Industrial and Applied Mathematics.