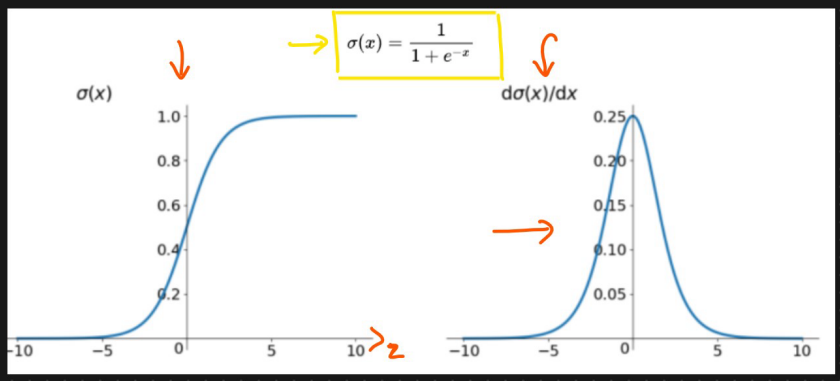
Activation Functions

① Sigmoid Activation function [0 to 1]

$$z = \sum_{i=1}^{n} w^T x + b$$



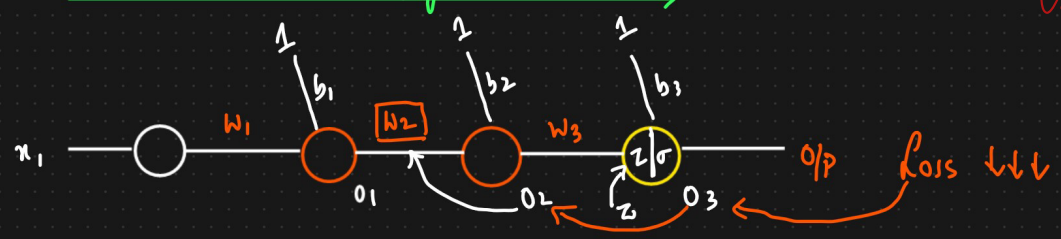
$\sigma(z) \Rightarrow$ 0 to 1

$\phi(z) \Rightarrow$

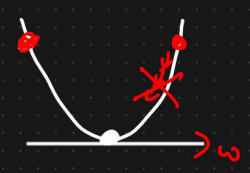
$$\frac{\partial \sigma(z)}{\partial z} = 0 \text{ to } 0.25$$

problem for vanishing Gradient.

Forward Propogation



Backward Propogation.



$$W_{2new} = W_{2old} - \eta \boxed{\frac{\partial h}{\partial W_{2old}}}$$

η = 0.001

$\boxed{0.00001}$

$\Rightarrow W_{2new} \approx W_{2old} \Rightarrow$

$$\frac{\partial h}{\partial W_{2old}} = \frac{\partial h}{\partial O_3} * \boxed{\frac{\partial O_3}{\partial O_2}} * \frac{\partial O_2}{\partial W_2}$$

↓↓↓↓

0.20 * 0.01 ×

Let $z = (O_2 * W_3) + b_3$

$$\frac{\partial O_3}{\partial O_2} = \frac{\partial(\sigma(z))}{\partial z} * \frac{\partial z}{\partial O_2}$$

[0 to 1]

$$= [0 - 0.25] * \frac{\partial[(O_2 * W_3) + b_3]}{\partial O_2}$$

$$= [0 - 0.25] * W_3 \Rightarrow \text{Small value} \Rightarrow$$

Advantages

1. Binary classification Suitable.
2. clear prediction i.e very close 1 or 0

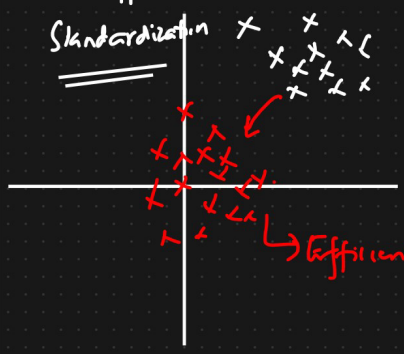
Disadvantages

1. Prone to vanishing gradient Problem.
2. Function output is not zero centred ⇒ Efficient weight updation
3. Mathematical operation are relatively time consuming

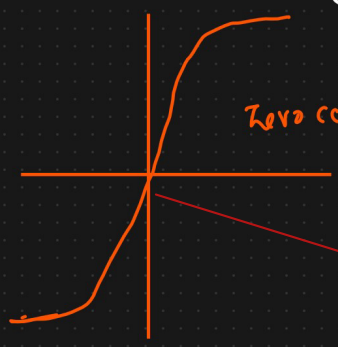
Zero centered

⇑

Standardization



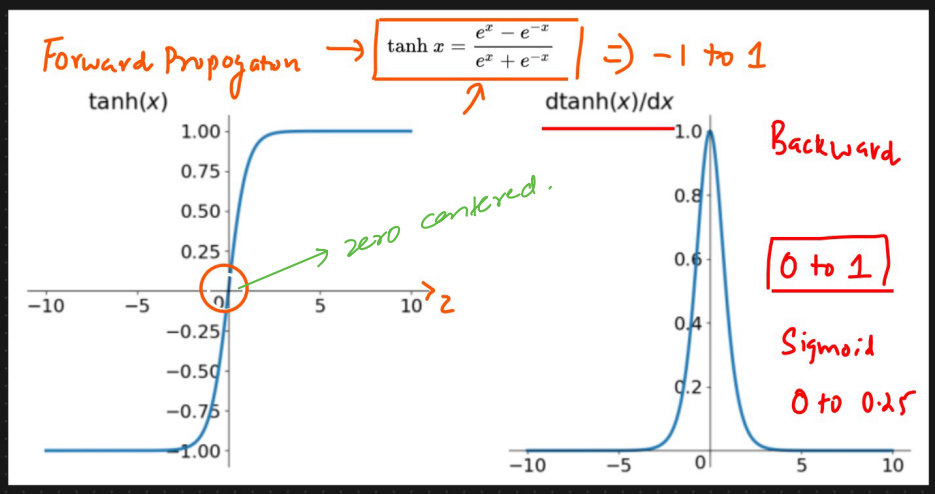
↳ Efficient weight updation



does'nt pass through 0.

② Tanh Activation Function

Forward Propogation → $\tanh x = \frac{e^x - e^{-x}}{e^x + e^{-x}}$ ⇒ −1 to 1

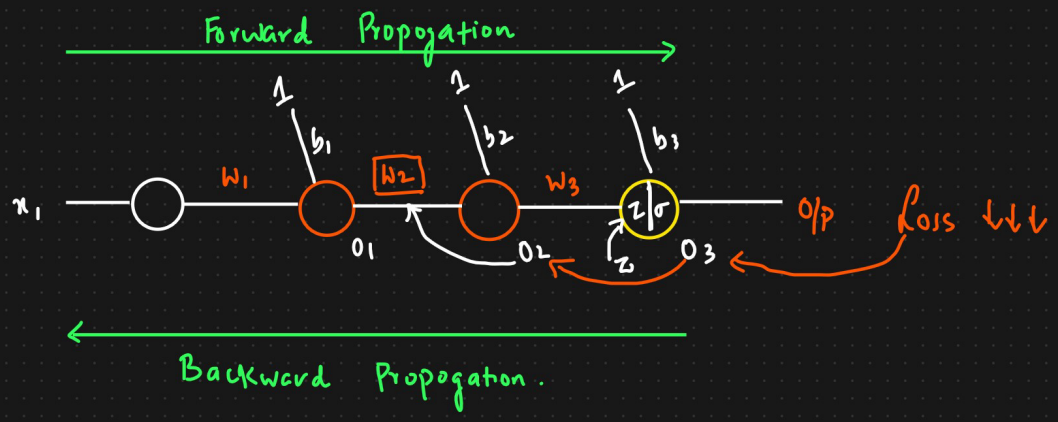


Backward

0 to 1

Sigmoid

0 to 0.25



$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial w_{2old}} = \frac{\partial L}{\partial o_3} * \boxed{\frac{\partial o_3}{\partial o_2}} * \frac{\partial o_2}{\partial w_2}$$

0.20_{11} * 0.01 ×

Let $z = (o_2 * w_3) + b_3$

$$\frac{\partial o_3}{\partial o_2} = \boxed{\frac{\partial(\tanh(z))}{\partial z}} * \frac{\partial z}{\partial o_2}$$

[0 to 1]

$$= [0-1] * \frac{\partial[(o_2 * w_3) + b_3]}{\partial o_2}$$

$$= [0-1] * w_3$$ ⇒ Small value ⇒

Advantages

① Zero Centric ⇒ Weight updation is Efficient

Disadvantages

① Prone to Vanishing Gradient Problem

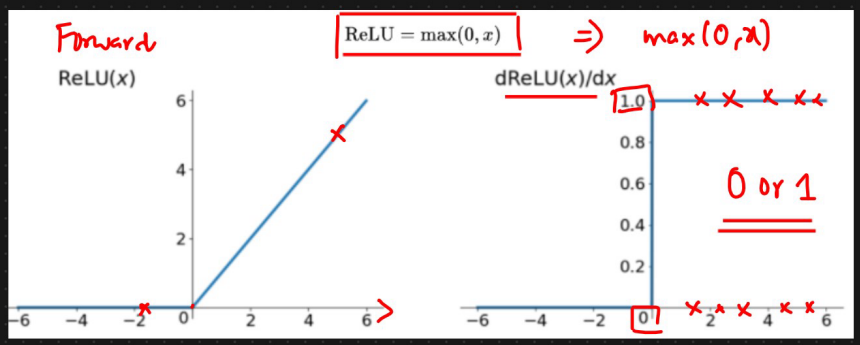
② Time complexity

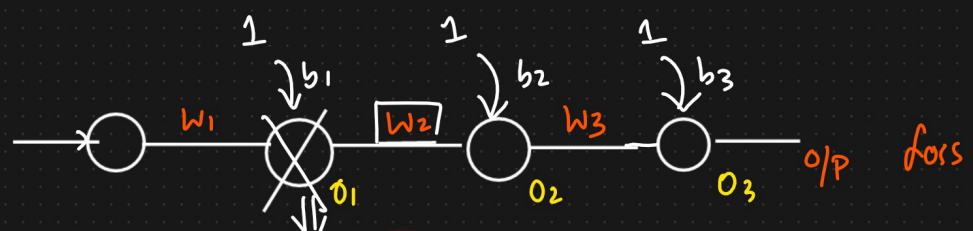
③ Relu Activation Function

[Rectified Linear Unit].

Tanh ⇒ 0 to 1

Sigmoid ⇒ 0 to 0.25





Dead Neuron

Big con.

$$\frac{\partial h}{\partial w_{2old}} = \frac{\partial h}{\partial o_3} * \boxed{\frac{\partial o_3}{\partial o_2}} * \frac{\partial o_2}{\partial w_2}$$

0.20_{11} * 0.01 ×

Let $z = (o_2 * w_3) + b_3$

$$\frac{\partial o_3}{\partial o_2} = \boxed{\frac{\partial(\text{relu}(z))}{\partial z}} * \frac{\partial z}{\partial o_2}$$

[0 to 1]

$$= [0 \text{ or } 1] * \frac{\partial[(o_2 * w_3) + b_3]}{\partial o_2}$$

$$= [\overset{-ve}{0} \text{ or } \overset{+ve}{1}] * w_3 \Rightarrow \text{Small value} \Rightarrow$$

If Derivative of Relu output is $\boxed{1}$ ⇒ Weight updation will happen

If Relu output is $\boxed{0}$ ⇒ Dead Neuron

$$W_{2new} = W_{2old} - \eta \boxed{\frac{\partial h}{\partial w_{2old}}} \Rightarrow 0$$

If Derivative of Relu(z) is 0

$$\boxed{W_{2new} \approx W_{2old}} \Rightarrow \text{Dead Neuron}$$

If $z = +ve$ $\quad \frac{\partial \text{Relu}(z)}{\partial z} = 1$

If $z = -ve$ $\quad \frac{\partial \text{Relu}(z)}{\partial z} = 0$

Advantages

① Solving Vanishing Gradient Problem

② Max(0, x) → Calculation is Superfast. The Relu function has a linear Relationship

③ It is much faster than Sigmoid or Tanh.

Disadvantages

① Dead Neuron

② Relu function O/P

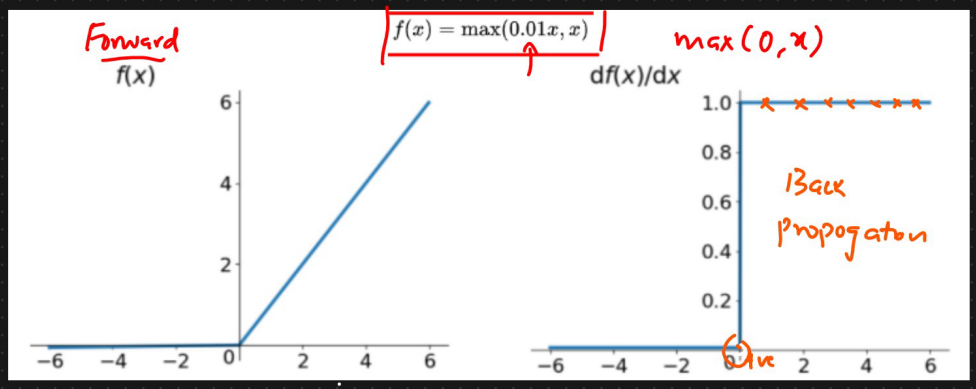
(0, x) ⇒ 0 or +ve number

⇓

It is not zero centric

④ Leaky Relu And Parametric Relu

max(αx, x) → hyperparameter α = alpha = 0.01, 0.02, 0.03



Relu → Dead Neuron → Dead Relu Problem

Advantages

① Leaky Relu has all the advantage of Relu

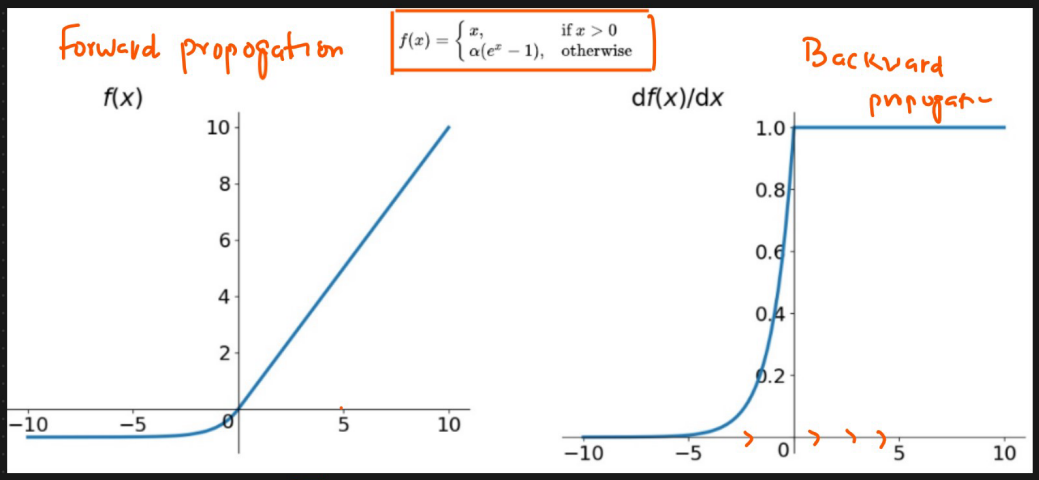
② It removes the Dead Relu Problem

Disadvantage

① It is not zero centric

⑤ ELU (Exponential Linear Units)

$\alpha(e^x - 1)$.



[It is used to solve Relu problems]

Advantages

① No Dead Relu Issues

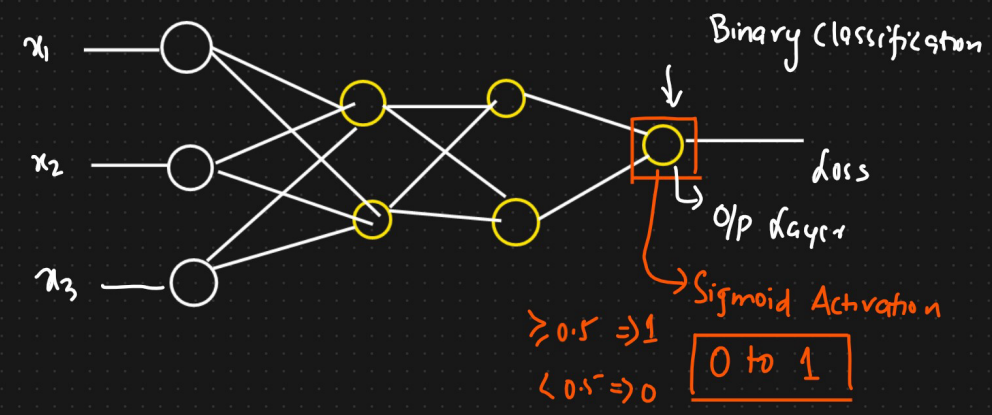
② Zero centered

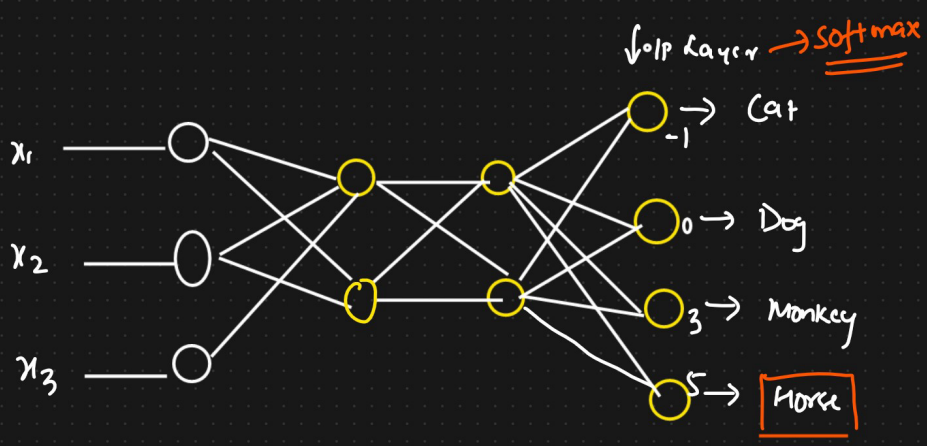
Disadvantage

1) Slightly more computationally Intensive.

⑥ Softmax Activation function

[Multiclass classification Problem]





Softmax Activation

$$\text{Softmax} = \frac{e^{y_i}}{\sum_{k=0}^{n} e^{y_k}}$$

$y_i = 0 * w + b$

Softmax ⇒ Cat $= \dfrac{e^{-1}}{e^{-1+0+3+5}} = 0.00033$

Dog $= \dfrac{e^{0}}{e^{-1+0+3+5}} = 0.0024$

Monkey $= \dfrac{e^{3}}{e^{-1+0+3+5}} = 0.0183$

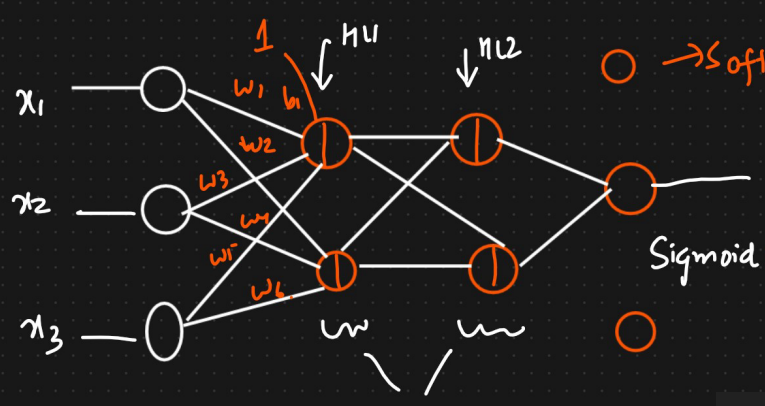
Horse $= \dfrac{e^{5}}{e^{-1+0+3+5}} = 0.1353$

Pr(Horse) = 0.1353

0.00033 + 0.0024 + 0.0183 + 0.1353

≈ 86%

⑦ Which Activation Function To Use When?



Hidden layers → Sigmoid or Tanh

⇓

Vanishing Gradient Problem

⇓

Multiclass Classification

Relu or its variant

Prelu, Leaky Relu,

Elu

In short;

hidden layer — ReLU

Output layer (classification) — sigmoid softmax

Output layer (Regression) — Regression Activator

✅ Activation Function Decision Chart (with Linear)

Situation / Layer Type	Best Activation Function
✅ Hidden Layers (default)	**ReLU**
Hidden Layers (risk of dead neurons)	**Leaky ReLU**
Hidden Layers (RNNs / time series)	**tanh**
Output – Binary Classification	**Sigmoid**
Output – Multi-class Classification	**Softmax**
Output – Regression (real number prediction)	**Linear**
Advanced models (deep / experimental)	**Swish / ELU**