

0 1 2 3

The goal of this exercise is to appreciate how the ReLU's non-linear behavior provides the needed ability to turn functions off until they are needed. Let's see how this worked in this example. The plots on the right contain the output of the units in the first layer.

contain the output of the units in the first layer. Starting at the top, unit 0 is responsible for the first segment marked with a 1. Both the linear function z and the function following the ReLU a are shown. You can see that the ReLU cuts off the function after the interval [0,1]. This is important as it prevents Unit 0 from interfering with the following segment.

Unit 1 is responsible for the 2nd segment. Here the ReLU kept this unit quiet until after x is 1. Since the first unit is not contributing, the slope for unit 1, $w_1^{(1)}$, is just the slope of the target line. The bias must be adjusted to keep the output negative until x has reached 1. Note how the contribution of Unit 1 extends to the 3rd segment as well.

Unit 2 is responsible for the 3rd segment. The ReLU again zeros the output until x reaches the right value. The slope of the unit, $w_2^{(1)}$, must be set so that the sum of unit 1 and 2 have the desired slope. The bias is again adjusted to keep the output negative until x has reached 2.

0 1 2 3 d until x=Z

The "off" or disable feature of the ReLU activation enables models to stitch together linear segments to model complex non-linear functions.

0.5 1.0 1.5 2.0 2.5 3.0 x

Congratulations!

You are now more familiar with the ReLU and the importance of its non-linear behavior.

In []: