

## Deep Learning, 1RT720

Instruction to the laboratory work

### Lab 1: Linear regression and backpropagation

Language: Python/numpy

**Preparation:**

Read what is stated in the reading instructions below  
Solve all preparatory exercises in Section 2

**Reading instructions:**

- UDL book: Chapter 7.1-7.4
- These lab instructions: Chapter 1-2.
- Skim through instructions for Hand-in Assignment 1

Name	Assistant's comments	
Program	Year of reg.	
Date		
Passed prep. ex.	Sign	
Passed lab.	Sign	

## Contents

<b>1</b>	<b>Introduction</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>Preparation exercises</b>	<b>1</b>
2.1	Linear regression . . . . .	1
2.2	Linear regression - multivariate output (ref: Problem 7.9 in UDL book)	3
2.3	Softmax and cross-entropy . . . . .	4
<b>3</b>	<b>Laboratory exercises</b>	<b>5</b>
3.1	Linear classification and gradient descent . . . . .	5
3.2	Backpropagation in toy model . . . . .	5
3.3	Backpropagation in a neural network model . . . . .	6
3.4	Backpropagation for multiple data points . . . . .	6
3.5	Backpropagation with softmax output and cross-entropy loss . . .	7
3.6	Moving forward for Hand-in Assignment 1 . . . . .	8

# 1 Introduction

After completing this laboratory assignment, you should:

- know how to implement and train a linear classification model from scratch,
- understand and implement the equations in backpropagation, and
- have a clear path forward for solving Hand-in Assignment 1.

After this lab, you will complete Hand-in Assignment 1, with the goals to

- implement a fully interconnected multilayer neural network from scratch and
- optimize that model using backpropagation together with stochastic gradient descent.

## 2 Preparation exercises

### 2.1 Linear regression

Consider a regression problem with multivariate input  $\mathbf{x} = [x_1, \dots, x_{D_i}]^T$  and scalar output  $y \in \mathbb{R}$ . We want to find a model from the input to the output using a linear regression model,

$$y = f[\mathbf{x}, \phi] = \sum_{j=1}^{D_i} \omega_j x_j + \beta = \boldsymbol{\omega}^T \mathbf{x} + \beta, \quad (1a)$$

where the weight vector  $\boldsymbol{\omega} = [\omega_1, \dots, \omega_{D_i}]^T$  and the offset  $\beta$  are the parameters  $\phi = \{\boldsymbol{\omega}, \beta\}$  of the model.

Consider a dataset  $\{\mathbf{x}_i, y_i\}_{i=1}^I$ , where  $I$  is the number of data points. The cost  $L$  is computed by averaging<sup>1</sup> the losses  $\ell_i$  over all data points

$$L = \frac{1}{I} \sum_{i=1}^I \ell_i, \quad \text{with the loss} \quad \ell_i = (f_i - y_i)^2, \quad (1b)$$

where

$$f_i = f[\mathbf{x}_i, \phi] = \sum_{j=1}^{D_i} \omega_j x_{ij} + \beta \quad (1c)$$

is the output of the model for input  $\mathbf{x}_i$  and where  $x_{ij}$  is the  $j^{th}$  component of  $\mathbf{x}_i$ . This can also be written in a vectorized manner as

$$L = \frac{1}{I} \|\mathbf{f} - \mathbf{y}\|^2, \quad \mathbf{f} = \mathbf{X}\boldsymbol{\omega} + \beta, \quad \text{where} \quad \mathbf{X} = \begin{bmatrix} x_{11} & \dots & x_{1,D_i} \\ \vdots & & \vdots \\ x_{I,1} & \dots & x_{I,D_i} \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{y} = \begin{bmatrix} y_1 \\ \vdots \\ y_I \end{bmatrix},$$

where  $\beta$  is added to each row (called broadcasting in Python language).

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<sup>1</sup>In the UDL book (and lecture), the cost is not divided by  $I$ . However, in implementation, we recommend you to do so, primarily to avoid re-tuning the learning rate when changing batch size.

To train this model with gradient descent, we need access to the gradient of the loss with respect to the model parameters. First, we consider only one data point, i.e., the partial derivatives  $\frac{\partial \ell_i}{\partial \omega_1}, \dots, \frac{\partial \ell_i}{\partial \omega_{D_i}}$ , and  $\frac{\partial \ell_i}{\partial \beta}$ . These you will derive in the following.

**Question 2.1:** Consider one data point  $\mathbf{x}_i, y_i$  and the model in (1). Give expressions for

$$\frac{\partial \ell_i}{\partial \beta} \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{\partial \ell_i}{\partial \omega_j} \quad \text{expressed in terms of} \quad \frac{\partial \ell_i}{\partial f_i}, \quad \frac{\partial f_i}{\partial \beta}, \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{\partial f_i}{\partial \omega_j}. \quad (2)$$

Note: The "in terms of" means that the answer should only include these three terms.

**Answer:**

**Question 2.2:** Give expressions for (the above used variables)

$$\frac{\partial \ell_i}{\partial f_i}, \quad \frac{\partial f_i}{\partial \beta}, \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{\partial f_i}{\partial \omega_j}. \quad (3)$$

**Answer:**

In practice, we need the gradient of the total cost (1b) with respect to the model parameters, i.e.,  $\frac{\partial L}{\partial \beta}$  and  $\frac{\partial L}{\partial \omega}$ . You will do this by writing the expressions in Question 2.1 and 2.2 in a vectorized manner.

**Question 2.3:** Consider all data points  $\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{y}$ . Give expressions for

$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial \beta} \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{\partial L}{\partial \omega} \quad \text{expressed in terms of} \quad \frac{\partial L}{\partial \mathbf{f}}, \quad \frac{\partial \mathbf{f}}{\partial \beta}, \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{\partial \mathbf{f}}{\partial \omega}. \quad (4)$$

**Answer:**

**Question 2.4:** Give expressions for (the above used variables)

$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial \mathbf{f}}, \quad \frac{\partial \mathbf{f}}{\partial \beta}, \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{\partial \mathbf{f}}{\partial \boldsymbol{\omega}}. \quad (5)$$

**Answer:**

*Hint:* The matrices above will be of the form

$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial \mathbf{f}} = \frac{1}{I} \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial \ell_1}{\partial f_1} \\ \vdots \\ \frac{\partial \ell_I}{\partial f_I} \end{bmatrix}, \quad \frac{\partial \mathbf{f}}{\partial \beta} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial f_1}{\partial \beta} & \cdots & \frac{\partial f_I}{\partial \beta} \end{bmatrix}, \quad \frac{\partial \mathbf{f}}{\partial \boldsymbol{\omega}} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial f_1}{\partial \omega_1} & \cdots & \frac{\partial f_I}{\partial \omega_1} \\ \vdots & & \vdots \\ \frac{\partial f_1}{\partial \omega_{D_i}} & \cdots & \frac{\partial f_I}{\partial \omega_{D_i}} \end{bmatrix}.$$

## 2.2 Linear regression - multivariate output (ref: Problem 7.9 in UDL book)

Consider a linear model with multivariate input  $\mathbf{h}$  and multivariate output  $\mathbf{f} = \boldsymbol{\Omega}\mathbf{h} + \boldsymbol{\beta}$  and a loss function  $\ell[\mathbf{f}]$ . We want to find how the loss  $\ell$  changes when we change  $\boldsymbol{\Omega}$ , which we will express with a matrix that contains the derivative  $\frac{\partial \ell}{\partial \Omega_{kj}}$  at the  $k^{\text{th}}$  row and  $j^{\text{th}}$  column.

**Question 2.5:** Find expression for  $\frac{\partial \ell}{\partial \Omega_{kj}}$  and then, using the chain rule, show that

$$\frac{\partial \ell}{\partial \boldsymbol{\Omega}} = \frac{\partial \ell}{\partial \mathbf{f}} \mathbf{h}^T.$$

**Answer:**

## 2.3 Softmax and cross-entropy

For a classification problem with multiple classes  $y \in \{1, \dots, D_o\}$  we typically use a softmax function

$$\text{softmax}_k[\mathbf{f}] = \frac{\exp[f_k]}{\sum_{k'=1}^{D_o} \exp[f_{k'}]}. \quad (6)$$

The likelihood that input  $\mathbf{x}$  belongs to class  $y$  is then

$$Pr(y = k|\mathbf{x}) = \text{softmax}_k[\mathbf{f}[\mathbf{x}, \phi]], \quad (7)$$

where  $\mathbf{f}[\mathbf{x}, \phi]$  is a regression model

$$\mathbf{f}[\mathbf{x}, \phi] = \mathbf{\Omega}\mathbf{x} + \beta. \quad (8)$$

with the parameters  $\phi = \{\mathbf{\Omega}, \beta\}$ .

The recommended loss function  $\ell_i$  for a multiclass classification problem is the cross-entropy loss, which, for numerical reasons when  $f \ll 0$ , is computed *together* with the softmax function<sup>2</sup>

$$\begin{aligned} \ell_i &= - \sum_{k'=1}^{D_o} \tilde{y}_{ik'} \log [\text{softmax}_{k'}(\mathbf{f}_i)] \\ &= \log \left( \sum_{k'=1}^{D_o} e^{f_{ik'}} \right) - \sum_{k'=1}^{D_o} \tilde{y}_{ik'} f_{ik'}, \end{aligned} \quad (9)$$

where  $\tilde{y}_{ik}$  is the one-hot encoding of the true label  $y_i$  for data point  $i$

$$\tilde{y}_{ik} = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } y_i = k \\ 0, & \text{if } y_i \neq k \end{cases} \quad \text{for } k = 1, \dots, D_o$$

and  $f_{ik}$  is the  $k^{\text{th}}$  output of the regression model  $\mathbf{f}[\mathbf{x}_i, \phi]$ .

**Question 2.6:** Given a data point  $\mathbf{x}_i, \tilde{y}_i$ , based on the loss function in (9), find expression for

$$\frac{\partial \ell_i}{\partial f_{ik}}.$$

**Answer:**

<sup>2</sup>Make sure you understand that (9) is the same expression as eq. (5.24) in the UDL book.

### 3 Laboratory exercises

This section contains instructions for the laboratory session. It consists of three notebooks. In the first notebook, you will implement and train a linear regression model using gradient descent, exclusively with `numpy`. In the following two notebooks, you will implement the equations required for implementing and training a neural network.

#### 3.1 Linear classification and gradient descent

**Task 3.1** Download the Jupyter notebook `Auto_linear_regression.ipynb` and open it. Alternatively, you can open the notebook on Google Colab. Work through the notebook. You can write your answers to the questions in the notebook below. ○

**Answer:**

#### 3.2 Backpropagation in toy model

Now, we will start investigating the backpropagation algorithm. We will do so by examining the Toy model presented in Section 7.3 of the UDL book.

**Task 3.2** Download the Jupyter notebook `Backpropagation_in_Toy_Model.ipynb` and open it. Alternatively, you can open the notebook on Google Colab. Work through the notebook. ○

### 3.3 Backpropagation in a neural network model

Now, we will proceed with the backpropagation algorithm for a fully connected neural network model.

**Task 3.3** Download the Jupyter notebook `backpropagation.ipynb` and open it. Alternatively, you can open the notebook on Google Colab.

Work through the notebook. When done, evaluate the code for different values of hidden units `K`, neurons per layer `D`, input dimension `D_i`, and output dimension `D_o`. You find these parameters at the beginning of the notebook. ○

### 3.4 Backpropagation for multiple data points

The code only runs the backpropagation algorithm for one data point. You should now extend it to handle multiple data points. We now want our code to compute the derivative of the total *cost* with respect to our weights and biases,

$$\frac{\partial L}{\partial \Omega_k} = \frac{1}{I} \sum_{i=1}^I \frac{\partial \ell_i}{\partial \Omega_k} \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{\partial L}{\partial \beta_k} = \frac{1}{I} \sum_{i=1}^I \frac{\partial \ell_i}{\partial \beta_k}.$$

You should not add any additional `for` or `while` loops over data points or hidden units, but rather use the equivalent matrix/vector operations. Therefore, you should decide which dimension indexes your data points and be consistent with that choice.

By choosing the second dimension (columns) representing the data index, the code requires only a minor modification. That means that the entries in the lists of activations, pre-activations `all_f` and `all_h`, corresponding derivatives `all_dl_df` and `all_dl_dh` all represent matrices, with one column for each data point.

**Task 3.4** Make a copy of the notebook in Task 3.3 and extend it to handle multiple data points. Choose the second dimension (columns) to index the data points. Evaluate your code by changing the parameter `n_samples = 1` to something greater than 1. Which line(s) in `forward_pass` and `backward_pass` do you need to change and why? Why do some lines not require any change at all? After doing the extension, make sure that the derivatives of weight matrices and biases still match up with the finite-difference approximation! ○

*Hint:* If you don't know where to start, just run your existing code with `n_samples` larger than 1 and debug from there based on your response. You should still be able to motivate the needed changes, though.

*Task 3.5 and 3.6 are optional, but there is a mandatory Task 3.7 on the last page!*



**Task 3.5 (optional)** In machine learning and Python, it is common to reserve the first dimension for indexing the data points, i.e., one row equals one sample. Modify your code in Task 3.4 such that the first dimension (rows) indexes the data points. This essentially requires transposing several of the equations. Evaluate your code in the same manner as above. ○

### 3.5 Backpropagation with softmax output and cross-entropy loss

The code only runs the backpropagation algorithm for the least square loss.

#### Task 3.6 (optional, but strongly recommended for completing HA1)

Make a copy of the notebook in Task 3.4 (or Task 3.5).

- Implement a function `softmax` that computes the softmax for every network output. See Equation (6).
- Add or replace the `compute_cost` with the cross-entropy loss with softmax. See Equation (9).
- Add or replace the `d_cost_d_output` with the derivative of cross-entropy loss with softmax. See Preparatory Exercise 2.6.

After doing the extension, make sure that the derivatives of weight matrices and biases still match up with the finite-difference approximation! ○

**Note 1:** Your implementation should work for multiple data points, i.e., you need to (also) sum over the data point dimension in `compute_cost`.

**Note 2:** Remember to do softmax column-by-column, (or row-by-row if you did Task 3.5 and used the first dimension representing data point). Same for cross-entropy loss and its derivative.

**Note 3:** The notation in the preparatory exercises is written with the first dimension representing data points. Make sure that your implementation is consistent with your choice of data point dimension.

**Note 4:** Preferably, normalize the cost (and its derivative!) with the number of data points, as we did for the least squares loss.

**Note 5:** To evaluate the code, we need to define a (random) output  $y$  in the same manner as the code does for evaluating the squared loss. Now, each column should be a one-hot encoded vector (if you use the column to index data points). This can (for example) be done with the following code line

---

```
y = np.eye(D_o)[np.random.choice(D_o, n_samples)].T
```

---

(or without the transpose if you did Task 3.5 and used rows as data point dimension).

**Note 6:** Output dimension  $D_o$  has to be larger than 1 for this cost function to make any sense (otherwise, we only consider one class!).

### 3.6 Moving forward for Hand-in Assignment 1

**Task 3.7** Read through the instructions for Hand-in Assignment 1 and identify the steps that need to be taken to complete that assignment based on the code you have created in this lab. List these items below, along with possible questions you might have for the teaching assistant related to this. Note, solutions to Hand-in Assignment 1 shall be handed in individually! ○

**Answer:**