

Problem Set 1 – Supervised Learning

DS542 – DL4DS

Spring, 2025

Note: Refer to the equations in the *Understanding Deep Learning* textbook to solve the following problems.

Problem 2.1

To walk “downhill” on the loss function (equation 2.5), we measure its gradient with respect to the parameters ϕ_0 and ϕ_1 . Calculate expressions for the slopes $\frac{\partial L}{\partial \phi_0}$ and $\frac{\partial L}{\partial \phi_1}$.

$$\begin{aligned} L(\phi) &= \sum_{i=1}^I (\ell(x_i, \phi) - y_i)^2 \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^I (\phi_0 + \phi_1 x_i - y_i)^2. \end{aligned} \quad (2.5)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{dL}{d\phi_0} &= \sum_{i=1}^I (\phi_0 + \phi_1 x_i - y_i) \\ \hookrightarrow & \sum_{i=1}^I (\phi_0 + \phi_1 x_i - y_i) \cdot \frac{d}{d\phi_0} (\phi_0) = \sum_{i=1}^I (\phi_0 + \phi_1 x_i - y_i) \cdot 1 \end{aligned}$$

!! chain rule

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{dL}{d\phi_1} &= \sum_{i=1}^I (\phi_0 + \phi_1 x_i - y_i) x_i \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^I (\phi_0 + \phi_1 x_i - y_i) \cdot \frac{d}{d\phi_1} (\phi_1 x_i) = \sum_{i=1}^I (\phi_0 + \phi_1 x_i - y_i) \cdot x_i \end{aligned}$$

!! chain rule

Problem 2.2

Show that we can find the minimum of the loss function in closed-form by setting the expression for the derivatives from Problem 2.1 to zero and solving for ϕ_0 and ϕ_1 .

$$0 = \sum_{i=1}^I (\phi_0 + \phi_1 x_i - y_i) \cdot 1$$

$$0 = \sum_{i=1}^I (\phi_0 + \phi_1 x_i - y_i)$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^I \phi_0 + \sum_{i=1}^I \phi_1 x_i - \sum_{i=1}^I y_i$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^I y_i - \sum_{i=1}^I \phi_1 x_i = \sum_{i=1}^I \phi_0$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^I y_i - \sum_{i=1}^I \phi_1 x_i = I \phi_0$$

$$\phi_0 = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^I y_i - \sum_{i=1}^I \phi_1 x_i}{I}$$

$$\phi_0 = \bar{y} - \bar{x} \phi_1$$