

1 Written: Understanding word2vec (30 points)

- (a) (3 points) Prove that the naive-softmax loss (Equation 2) is the same as the cross-entropy loss between \mathbf{y} and $\hat{\mathbf{y}}$, i.e. (note that $\mathbf{y}, \hat{\mathbf{y}}$ are vectors and \hat{y}_o is a scalar):

$$-\sum_{w \in \text{Vocab}} \mathbf{y}_w \log(\hat{y}_w) = -\log(\hat{y}_o). \quad (3)$$

Your answer should be one line. You may describe your answer in words.

\mathbf{y} is a one-hot vector, and has only a 1 for y_o , rest are zeros.

$$-\mathbf{y} \log(\hat{\mathbf{y}}) = -\sum_w y_w \log(\hat{y}_w) = -\log(\hat{y}_o) \quad y_w, \hat{y}_w \in \mathbb{R}. \quad \mathbf{y}, \hat{\mathbf{y}} \in \mathbb{R}^m$$

$m = |\text{vocab}|$ i.e. size of vocab

- (b) (5 points) Compute the partial derivative of $J_{\text{naive-softmax}}(\mathbf{v}_c, \mathbf{o}, \mathbf{U})$ with respect to \mathbf{v}_c . Please write your answer in terms of \mathbf{y} , $\hat{\mathbf{y}}$, and \mathbf{U} . Additionally, answer the following two questions with one sentence each: (1) When is the gradient zero? (2) Why does subtracting this gradient, in the general case when it is nonzero, make \mathbf{v}_c a more desirable vector (namely, a vector closer to outside word vectors in its window)?

$\mathbf{v}_i, \mathbf{u}_i \in \mathbb{R}^d$, $\mathbf{U} \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times m}$, where $d = \# \text{dimensions}$, $m = |\text{vocab}|$ size of vocab.

$$\begin{aligned} (\log \hat{y}_o)'_{\mathbf{v}_c} &= \frac{1}{\hat{y}_o} \left(\frac{\exp \mathbf{u}_o^T \mathbf{v}_c}{\sum_w \exp \mathbf{u}_w^T \mathbf{v}_c} \right)'_{\mathbf{v}_c} \\ &= \frac{1}{\hat{y}_o} \left(\frac{\exp \mathbf{u}_o^T \mathbf{v}_c}{\sum_w \exp \mathbf{u}_w^T \mathbf{v}_c} \cdot \mathbf{u}_o - \frac{\exp \mathbf{u}_o^T \mathbf{v}_c}{(\sum_w \exp \mathbf{u}_w^T \mathbf{v}_c)^2} \sum_w \exp \mathbf{u}_w^T \mathbf{v}_c \cdot \mathbf{u}_w \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{\hat{y}_o} (\hat{y}_o \mathbf{u}_o - \hat{\mathbf{y}} \cdot \mathbf{U} \hat{\mathbf{y}}) \\ &= \mathbf{u}_o - \mathbf{U} \hat{\mathbf{y}} \quad (\in \mathbb{R}^d) \end{aligned}$$

$$\nabla J_{\mathbf{v}_c} = \mathbf{U} \hat{\mathbf{y}} - \mathbf{u}_o$$

(1) When $\mathbf{U} \hat{\mathbf{y}} = \mathbf{u}_o$, gradient is zero

(2) Loss $J_{\mathbf{v}_c}$ increases the fastest in the direction of $\nabla J_{\mathbf{v}_c}$ w.r.t. \mathbf{v}_c .

i.e. Subtracting $\nabla J_{\mathbf{v}_c}$ reduce loss the fastest w.r.t. \mathbf{v}_c .

- (c) (5 points) Compute the partial derivatives of $J_{\text{naive-softmax}}(\mathbf{v}_c, o, \mathbf{U})$ with respect to each of the 'outside' word vectors, \mathbf{u}_w 's. There will be two cases: when $w = o$, the true 'outside' word vector, and $w \neq o$, for all other words. Please write your answer in terms of \mathbf{y} , $\hat{\mathbf{y}}$, and \mathbf{v}_c . In this subpart, you may use specific elements within these terms as well (such as $\mathbf{y}_1, \mathbf{y}_2, \dots$). Note that \mathbf{u}_w is a vector while $\mathbf{y}_1, \mathbf{y}_2, \dots$ are scalars.

$$\begin{aligned}
 (\log \hat{y}_o)'_{u_o} &= \frac{1}{\hat{y}_o} \left(\frac{\exp \mathbf{u}_o^T \mathbf{v}_c}{\sum_w \exp \mathbf{u}_w^T \mathbf{v}_c} \right)'_{u_o} & w=o \\
 &= \frac{1}{\hat{y}_o} \left(\frac{\exp \mathbf{u}_o^T \mathbf{v}_c}{\sum_w \exp \mathbf{u}_w^T \mathbf{v}_c} \cdot \mathbf{v}_c - \frac{\exp \mathbf{u}_o^T \mathbf{v}_c}{\left(\sum_w \exp \mathbf{u}_w^T \mathbf{v}_c \right)^2} \exp \mathbf{u}_o^T \mathbf{v}_c \cdot \mathbf{v}_c \right) \\
 &= \frac{1}{\hat{y}_o} (\hat{y}_o \mathbf{v}_c - \hat{y}_o^2 \mathbf{v}_c) \\
 &= \mathbf{v}_c - \hat{y}_o \mathbf{v}_c \\
 &= (1 - \hat{y}_o) \mathbf{v}_c.
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 (\log \hat{y}_o)'_{u_w} &= -\frac{1}{\hat{y}_o} \frac{\exp \mathbf{u}_o^T \mathbf{v}_c}{\left(\sum_w \exp \mathbf{u}_w^T \mathbf{v}_c \right)^2} \exp \mathbf{u}_w^T \mathbf{v}_c \cdot \mathbf{v}_c & w \neq o \\
 &= -\frac{1}{\hat{y}_o} \cdot \hat{y}_o \cdot \hat{y}_w \mathbf{v}_c \\
 &= -\hat{y}_w \mathbf{v}_c
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\nabla J_{u_w} = \begin{cases} (1 - \hat{y}_o) \mathbf{v}_c & w=o \\ \hat{y}_w \mathbf{v}_c & w \neq o. \end{cases}$$

When $\hat{\mathbf{y}}$ approaches \mathbf{y} , $\hat{y}_o \rightarrow 1$, $\hat{y}_w \rightarrow 0$, gradient $\rightarrow 0$

- (d) (1 point) Write down the partial derivative of $J_{\text{naive-softmax}}(\mathbf{v}_c, o, \mathbf{U})$ with respect to \mathbf{U} . Please break down your answer in terms of $\frac{\partial J(\mathbf{v}_c, o, \mathbf{U})}{\partial \mathbf{u}_1}, \frac{\partial J(\mathbf{v}_c, o, \mathbf{U})}{\partial \mathbf{u}_2}, \dots, \frac{\partial J(\mathbf{v}_c, o, \mathbf{U})}{\partial \mathbf{u}_{|\text{Vocab}|}}$. The solution should be one or two lines long.

Let $m = |\text{Vocab}|$, $d = \text{dimension}$ $\mathbf{U} \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times m}$

$$\nabla J_{\mathbf{U}} = \left(\frac{\partial J}{\partial \mathbf{u}_1} \quad \frac{\partial J}{\partial \mathbf{u}_2} \quad \dots \quad \frac{\partial J}{\partial \mathbf{u}_m} \right) \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times m}$$

$$\frac{\partial J}{\partial \mathbf{u}_w} \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times 1}$$

- (e) (2 points) The ReLU (Rectified Linear Unit) activation function is given by Equation 4:

$$f(x) = \max(0, x) \quad (4)$$

Please compute the derivative of $f(x)$ with respect to x , where x is a scalar. You may ignore the case that the derivative is not defined at 0.⁵

$$\frac{df}{dx} = \begin{cases} 0 & x \leq 0 \\ 1 & x > 0 \end{cases}$$

- (f) (3 points) The sigmoid function is given by Equation 5:

$$\sigma(x) = \frac{1}{1 + e^{-x}} = \frac{e^x}{e^x + 1} \quad (5)$$

Please compute the derivative of $\sigma(x)$ with respect to x , where x is a scalar. Hint: you may want to write your answer in terms of $\sigma(x)$.

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{df}{dx} &= - \frac{1}{(1+e^{-x})^2} \cdot e^{-x} \cdot (-1) = \frac{e^{-x}}{(1+e^{-x})^2} = \frac{e^{-x}}{1+e^{-x}} \cdot \frac{1}{1+e^{-x}} \\ &= \left(1 - \frac{1}{1+e^{-x}}\right) \cdot \frac{1}{1+e^{-x}} = (1 - \sigma(x)) \sigma(x) \end{aligned}$$

- (g) (6 points) Now we shall consider the Negative Sampling loss, which is an alternative to the Naive Softmax loss. Assume that K negative samples (words) are drawn from the vocabulary. For simplicity of notation we shall refer to them as w_1, w_2, \dots, w_K , and their outside vectors as $\mathbf{u}_{w_1}, \mathbf{u}_{w_2}, \dots, \mathbf{u}_{w_K}$.
⁶ For this question, assume that the K negative samples are distinct. In other words, $i \neq j$ implies $w_i \neq w_j$ for $i, j \in \{1, \dots, K\}$. Note that $o \notin \{w_1, \dots, w_K\}$. For a center word c and an outside word o , the negative sampling loss function is given by:

$$\mathbf{J}_{\text{neg-sample}}(\mathbf{v}_c, o, \mathbf{U}) = -\log(\sigma(\mathbf{u}_o^\top \mathbf{v}_c)) - \sum_{s=1}^K \log(\sigma(-\mathbf{u}_{w_s}^\top \mathbf{v}_c)) \quad (6)$$

for a sample w_1, \dots, w_K , where $\sigma(\cdot)$ is the sigmoid function.⁷

- (i) Please repeat parts (b) and (c), computing the partial derivatives of $\mathbf{J}_{\text{neg-sample}}$ with respect to \mathbf{v}_c , with respect to \mathbf{u}_o , and with respect to the s^{th} negative sample \mathbf{u}_{w_s} . Please write your answers in terms of the vectors \mathbf{v}_c , \mathbf{u}_o , and \mathbf{u}_{w_s} , where $s \in [1, K]$. **Note:** you should be able to use your solution to part (f) to help compute the necessary gradients here.

$$\begin{aligned} \nabla \mathbf{J}_{\mathbf{v}_c} &= -\frac{1}{\sigma(\mathbf{u}_o^\top \mathbf{v}_c)} (1 - \sigma(\mathbf{u}_o^\top \mathbf{v}_c)) \sigma(\mathbf{u}_o^\top \mathbf{v}_c) \mathbf{u}_o - \sum_{s=1}^K \frac{(1 - \sigma(-\mathbf{u}_{w_s}^\top \mathbf{v}_c)) \cdot \sigma(-\mathbf{u}_{w_s}^\top \mathbf{v}_c)}{\sigma(-\mathbf{u}_{w_s}^\top \mathbf{v}_c)} (-\mathbf{u}_{w_s}) \\ &= -(1 - \sigma(\mathbf{u}_o^\top \mathbf{v}_c)) \mathbf{u}_o - \sum_{s=1}^K (1 - \sigma(-\mathbf{u}_{w_s}^\top \mathbf{v}_c)) (-\mathbf{u}_{w_s}) \\ \nabla \mathbf{J}_{\mathbf{u}_o} &= -(1 - \sigma(\mathbf{u}_o^\top \mathbf{v}_c)) \mathbf{v}_c \\ \nabla \mathbf{J}_{\mathbf{u}_{w_s}} &= -(1 - \sigma(-\mathbf{u}_{w_s}^\top \mathbf{v}_c)) (-\mathbf{v}_c) = (1 - \sigma(-\mathbf{u}_{w_s}^\top \mathbf{v}_c)) \mathbf{v}_c. \end{aligned}$$

- (ii) In lecture, we learned that an efficient implementation of backpropagation leverages the re-use of previously-computed partial derivatives. Which quantity could you reuse between the three partial derivatives to minimize duplicate computation? Write your answer in terms of $\mathbf{U}_{o, \{w_1, \dots, w_K\}} = [\mathbf{u}_o, -\mathbf{u}_{w_1}, \dots, -\mathbf{u}_{w_K}]$, a matrix with the outside vectors stacked as columns, and $\mathbf{1}$, a $(K+1) \times 1$ vector of 1's.⁸

$$\begin{aligned} C_{K+1} &= \sigma(\mathbf{U}_{o, \{w_1, \dots, w_K\}}^\top \mathbf{v}_c) \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} 1 - \sigma(\mathbf{u}_o^\top \mathbf{v}_c) \\ 1 - \sigma(-\mathbf{u}_{w_1}^\top \mathbf{v}_c) \\ \vdots \\ 1 - \sigma(-\mathbf{u}_{w_K}^\top \mathbf{v}_c) \end{bmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

$\mathbf{u}_o \in \mathbb{R}^d, \mathbf{v}_c \in \mathbb{R}^d$
 $\mathbf{U}_{o, \{w_1, \dots, w_K\}} \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times (K+1)}$
 $C_{K+1} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ \vdots \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^{K+1}$

- (iii) Describe with one sentence why this loss function is much more efficient to compute than the naive-softmax loss.

The naive-softmax loss requires to go through the entire vocabulary, whereas this negative sampling loss sums K randomly sampled vectors.

- (h) (2 points) Now we will repeat the previous exercise, but without the assumption that the K sampled words are distinct. Assume that K negative samples (words) are drawn from the vocabulary. For simplicity of notation we shall refer to them as w_1, w_2, \dots, w_K and their outside vectors as $\mathbf{u}_{w_1}, \dots, \mathbf{u}_{w_K}$. In this question, you may not assume that the words are distinct. In other words, $w_i = w_j$ may be true when $i \neq j$ is true. Note that $o \notin \{w_1, \dots, w_K\}$. For a center word c and an outside word o , the negative sampling loss function is given by:

$$\mathbf{J}_{\text{neg-sample}}(\mathbf{v}_c, o, \mathbf{U}) = -\log(\sigma(\mathbf{u}_o^\top \mathbf{v}_c)) - \sum_{s=1}^K \log(\sigma(-\mathbf{u}_{w_s}^\top \mathbf{v}_c)) \quad (7)$$

for a sample w_1, \dots, w_K , where $\sigma(\cdot)$ is the sigmoid function.

Compute the partial derivative of $\mathbf{J}_{\text{neg-sample}}$ with respect to a negative sample \mathbf{u}_{w_s} . Please write your answers in terms of the vectors \mathbf{v}_c and \mathbf{u}_{w_s} , where $s \in [1, K]$. Hint: break up the sum in the loss function into two sums: a sum over all sampled words equal to w_s and a sum over all sampled words not equal to w_s . Notation-wise, you may write 'equal' and 'not equal' conditions below the summation symbols, such as in Equation 8.

$$\nabla \mathbf{J}_{\mathbf{u}_{w_s}} = \sum_{\substack{i=1 \\ w_i = w_s}}^K (1 - \sigma(-\mathbf{u}_{w_i}^\top \mathbf{v}_c)) \mathbf{v}_c.$$

- (i) (3 points) Suppose the center word is $c = w_t$ and the context window is $[w_{t-m}, \dots, w_{t-1}, w_t, w_{t+1}, \dots, w_{t+m}]$, where m is the context window size. Recall that for the skip-gram version of word2vec, the total loss for the context window is:

$$\mathbf{J}_{\text{skip-gram}}(\mathbf{v}_c, w_{t-m}, \dots, w_{t+m}, \mathbf{U}) = \sum_{\substack{-m \leq j \leq m \\ j \neq 0}} \mathbf{J}(\mathbf{v}_c, w_{t+j}, \mathbf{U}) \quad (8)$$

Here, $\mathbf{J}(\mathbf{v}_c, w_{t+j}, \mathbf{U})$ represents an arbitrary loss term for the center word $c = w_t$ and outside word w_{t+j} . $\mathbf{J}(\mathbf{v}_c, w_{t+j}, \mathbf{U})$ could be $\mathbf{J}_{\text{naive-softmax}}(\mathbf{v}_c, w_{t+j}, \mathbf{U})$ or $\mathbf{J}_{\text{neg-sample}}(\mathbf{v}_c, w_{t+j}, \mathbf{U})$, depending on your implementation.

Write down three partial derivatives:

- (i) $\frac{\partial \mathbf{J}_{\text{skip-gram}}(\mathbf{v}_c, w_{t-m}, \dots, w_{t+m}, \mathbf{U})}{\partial \mathbf{U}}$
- (ii) $\frac{\partial \mathbf{J}_{\text{skip-gram}}(\mathbf{v}_c, w_{t-m}, \dots, w_{t+m}, \mathbf{U})}{\partial \mathbf{v}_c}$
- (iii) $\frac{\partial \mathbf{J}_{\text{skip-gram}}(\mathbf{v}_c, w_{t-m}, \dots, w_{t+m}, \mathbf{U})}{\partial \mathbf{v}_w}$ when $w \neq c$

Write your answers in terms of $\frac{\partial \mathbf{J}(\mathbf{v}_c, w_{t+j}, \mathbf{U})}{\partial \mathbf{U}}$ and $\frac{\partial \mathbf{J}(\mathbf{v}_c, w_{t+j}, \mathbf{U})}{\partial \mathbf{v}_c}$. This is very simple – each solution should be one line.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{(i)} \quad \frac{\partial \mathbf{J}_{\text{skip-gram}}(\mathbf{v}_c, w_{t-m}, \dots, w_{t+m}, \mathbf{U})}{\partial \mathbf{U}} &= \sum_{\substack{-m \leq j \leq m \\ j \neq 0}} \frac{\partial \mathbf{J}(\mathbf{v}_c, w_{t+j}, \mathbf{U})}{\partial \mathbf{U}} \\ \text{(ii)} \quad \frac{\partial \mathbf{J}_{\text{skip-gram}}(\mathbf{v}_c, w_{t-m}, \dots, w_{t+m}, \mathbf{U})}{\partial \mathbf{v}_c} &= \sum_{\substack{-m \leq j \leq m \\ j \neq 0}} \frac{\partial \mathbf{J}(\mathbf{v}_c, w_{t+j}, \mathbf{U})}{\partial \mathbf{v}_c} \\ \text{(iii)} \quad \frac{\partial \mathbf{J}_{\text{skip-gram}}(\mathbf{v}_c, w_{t-m}, \dots, w_{t+m}, \mathbf{U})}{\partial \mathbf{v}_w} &= 0 \quad \text{when } w \neq c \end{aligned}$$