

CSCE  
496/896

Lecture 2:  
Basic Artificial  
Neural  
Networks

Stephen Scott

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Together

# CSCE 496/896 Lecture 2: Basic Artificial Neural Networks

Stephen Scott

(Adapted from Vinod Variyam, Ethem Alpaydin, Tom Mitchell,  
Ian Goodfellow, and Aurélien Géron)

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# Introduction

## Supervised Learning

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- **Supervised learning** is most fundamental, “classic” form of machine learning
- “Supervised” part comes from the part of *labels* for examples (instances)
- Many ways to do supervised learning; we’ll focus on **artificial neural networks**, which are the basis for deep learning

Consider humans:

- Total number of neurons  $\approx 10^{10}$
  - Neuron switching time  $\approx 10^{-3}$  second (vs.  $10^{-10}$ )
  - Connections per neuron  $\approx 10^4$ – $10^5$
  - Scene recognition time  $\approx 0.1$  second
  - 100 inference steps doesn't seem like enough
- ⇒ massive parallel computation

# Introduction

## Properties

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## Properties of artificial neural nets (ANNs):

- Many “neuron-like” switching units
- Many weighted interconnections among units
- Highly parallel, distributed process
- Emphasis on tuning weights automatically

Strong differences between ANNs for ML and ANNs for biological modeling

# When to Consider ANNs

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- Input is high-dimensional discrete- or real-valued (e.g., raw sensor input)
- Output is discrete- or real-valued
- Output is a vector of values
- Possibly noisy data
- Form of target function is unknown
- Human readability of result is unimportant
- Long training times acceptable

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## History of ANNs

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- **The Beginning:** Linear units and the Perceptron algorithm (1940s)
  - **Spoiler Alert:** stagnated because of inability to handle data not *linearly separable*
  - Aware of usefulness of multi-layer networks, but could not train
- **The Comeback:** Training of multi-layer networks with Backpropagation (1980s)
  - Many applications, but in 1990s replaced by large-margin approaches such as support vector machines and boosting

- **The Resurgence:** Deep architectures (2000s)
  - Better hardware<sup>1</sup> and software support allow for deep (> 5–8 layers) networks
  - Still use Backpropagation, but
    - Larger datasets, algorithmic improvements (new loss and activation functions), and deeper networks improve performance considerably
  - Very impressive applications, e.g., captioning images

- **The Inevitable:** (TBD)
  - Oops



<sup>1</sup>Thank a gamer today.

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- Supervised learning
- Basic ANN units
  - Linear unit
  - Linear threshold units
  - Perceptron training rule
- Gradient Descent
- Nonlinearly separable problems and multilayer networks
- Backpropagation
- Types of activation functions
- Putting everything together



# Learning from Examples

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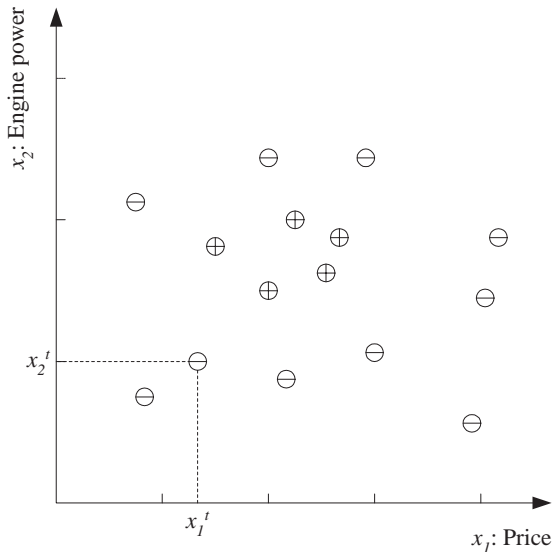
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Types of Units

Putting Things  
Together

- Let  $C$  be the **target function** (or **target concept**) to be learned
  - Think of  $C$  as a function that takes as input an **example** (or **instance**) and outputs a **label**
- **Goal:** Given **training set**  $\mathcal{X} = \{(\mathbf{x}^t, y^t)\}_{t=1}^N$  where  $y^t = C(\mathbf{x}^t)$ , output **hypothesis**  $h \in \mathcal{H}$  that approximates  $C$  in its classifications of new instances
- Each instance  $x$  represented as a vector of **attributes** or **features**
  - E.g., let each  $x = (x_1, x_2)$  be a vector describing attributes of a car;  $x_1 = \text{price}$  and  $x_2 = \text{engine power}$
  - In this example, label is binary (positive/negative, yes/no, 1/0, +1/-1) indicating whether instance  $x$  is a “family car”

# Learning from Examples (cont'd)



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- Can think of target concept  $C$  as a **function**
  - In example,  $C$  is an axis-parallel box, equivalent to upper and lower bounds on each attribute
  - Might decide to set  $\mathcal{H}$  (set of candidate hypotheses) to the same family that  $C$  comes from
  - Not required to do so
- Can also think of target concept  $C$  as a **set** of positive instances
  - In example,  $C$  the continuous set of all positive points in the plane
- Use whichever is convenient at the time

# Thinking about $C$ (cont'd)

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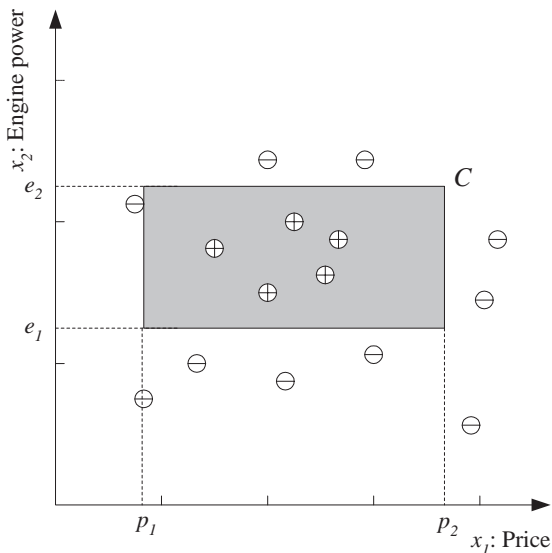
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# Hypotheses and Error

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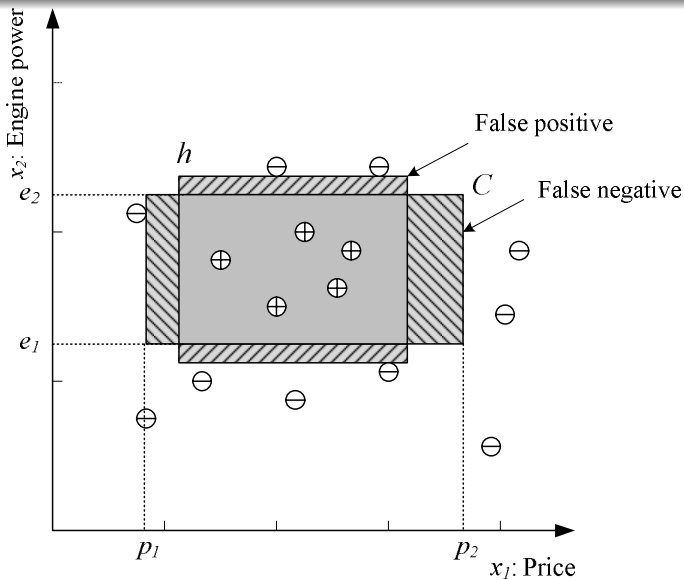
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Together

- A learning algorithm uses training set  $\mathcal{X}$  and finds a hypothesis  $h \in \mathcal{H}$  that approximates  $C$
- In example,  $\mathcal{H}$  can be set of all axis-parallel boxes
- If  $C$  guaranteed to come from  $\mathcal{H}$ , then we know that a perfect hypothesis exists
  - In this case, we choose  $h$  from the **version space** = subset of  $\mathcal{H}$  consistent with  $\mathcal{X}$
  - What learning algorithm can you think of to learn  $C$ ?
- Can think of two types of **error** (or **loss**) of  $h$ 
  - **Empirical error** is fraction of  $\mathcal{X}$  that  $h$  gets wrong
  - **Generalization error** is probability that a new, randomly selected, instance is misclassified by  $h$ 
    - Depends on the probability distribution over instances
  - Can further classify error as **false positive** and **false negative**

# Hypotheses and Error (cont'd)



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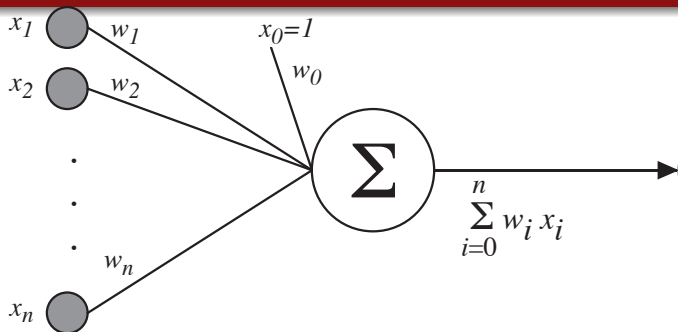
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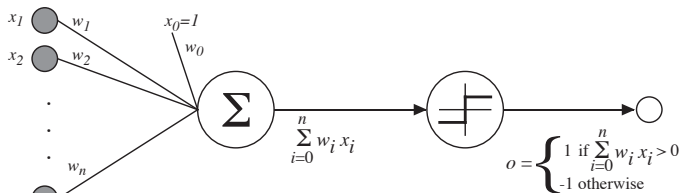
# Linear Unit (Regression)



$$\hat{y} = f(\mathbf{x}; \mathbf{w}, b) = \mathbf{x}^\top \mathbf{w} + b = w_1 x_1 + \cdots + w_n x_n + b$$

- Each weight vector  $\mathbf{w}$  is different  $h$
- If set  $w_0 = b$ , can simplify above
- Forms the basis for many other activation functions

# Linear Threshold Unit (Binary Classification)



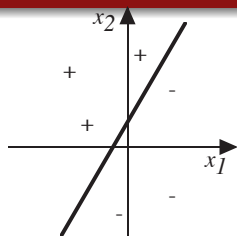
$$y = o(\mathbf{x}; \mathbf{w}, b) = \begin{cases} +1 & \text{if } f(\mathbf{x}; \mathbf{w}, b) > 0 \\ -1 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

(sometimes use 0 instead of  $-1$ )

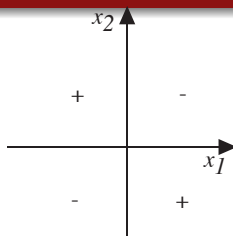


# Linear Threshold Unit

## Decision Surface



(a)



(b)

Represents some useful functions

- What parameters  $(\mathbf{w}, b)$  represent  $g(x_1, x_2; \mathbf{w}, b) = \text{AND}(x_1, x_2)$ ?

But some functions not representable

- I.e., those not **linearly separable**
- Therefore, we'll want **networks** of units

# Linear Threshold Unit

## Non-Numeric Inputs

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- What if attributes are not numeric?
- **Encode** them numerically
- E.g., if an attribute *Color* has values *Red*, *Green*, and *Blue*, can encode as **one-hot** vectors  $[1, 0, 0]$ ,  $[0, 1, 0]$ ,  $[0, 0, 1]$
- Generally better than using a single integer, e.g., *Red* is 1, *Green* is 2, and *Blue* is 3, since there is no implicit ordering of the values of the attribute

# Perceptron Training Rule (Learning Algorithm)

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$$w_j' \leftarrow w_j + \eta (y^t - \hat{y}^t) x_j^t$$

where

- $x_j^t$  is  $j$ th attribute of training instance  $t$
- $y^t$  is label of training instance  $t$
- $\hat{y}^t$  is Perceptron output on training instance  $t$
- $\eta > 0$  is small constant (e.g., 0.1) called **learning rate**

I.e., if  $(y - \hat{y}) > 0$  then increase  $w_j$  w.r.t.  $x_j$ , else decrease

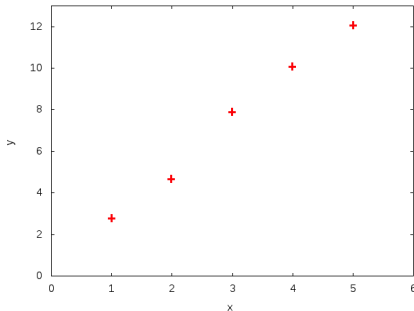
Can prove rule will converge if training data is linearly separable and  $\eta$  sufficiently small

# Where Does the Training Rule Come From?

## Linear Regression

- Recall initial *linear unit* (no threshold)
- If only one feature, then this is a **regression** problem
- Find a straight line that best fits the training data
  - For simplicity, let it pass through the origin
  - Slope specified by parameter  $w_1$

$x^t$	$y^t$
1	2.8
2	4.65
3	7.9
4	10.1
5	12.1



# Where Does the Training Rule Come From?

## Linear Regression

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- Goal is to find a parameter  $w_1$  to minimize **square loss**:

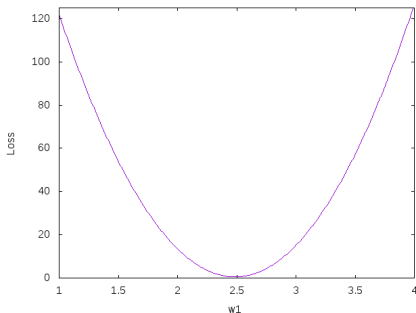
$$J(w_1) = \sum_{t=1}^m (\hat{y}^t - y^t)^2 = \sum_{t=1}^m (w_1 x^t - y^t)^2$$

$$\begin{aligned} &= (1w_1 - 2.8)^2 + (2w_1 - 4.65)^2 + (3w_1 - 7.9)^2 \\ &\quad + (4w_1 - 10.1)^2 + (5w_1 - 12.1)^2 \\ &= 55w_1^2 - 273.4w_1 + 340.293 \end{aligned}$$

# Where Does the Training Rule Come From?

## Convex Quadratic Optimization

$$J(w_1) = 55w_1^2 - 273.4w_1 + 340.293$$



- Minimum is at  $w_1 \approx 2.485$ , with loss  $\approx 0.53$
- What's special about that point?

# Where Does the Training Rule Come From?

## Gradient Descent

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- Recall that a function has a (local) minimum or maximum where the derivative is 0

$$\frac{d}{dw_1} J(w_1) = 110w_1 - 273.4$$

- Setting this = 0 and solving for  $w_1$  yields  $w_1 \approx 2.485$
- Motivates the use of **gradient descent** to solve in high-dimensional spaces with nonconvex functions:

$$\mathbf{w}' = \mathbf{w} - \eta \nabla J(\mathbf{w})$$

- $\eta$  is **learning rate** to moderate updates
- Gradient is a vector of partial derivatives:  $\left[ \frac{\partial J}{\partial w_i} \right]_{i=1}^n$

# Where Does the Training Rule Come From?

## Gradient Descent Example

- In our example, initialize  $w_1$ , then repeatedly update

$$w'_1 = w_1 - \eta(110w_1 - 273.4)$$

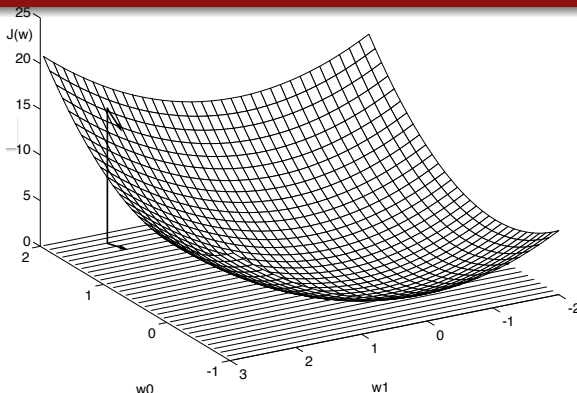
eta	0.01			
round	w	J	grad	update
0	1	121.893	-163.4	1.634
1	2.634	1.74498	16.34	-0.1634
2	2.4706	0.5434998	-1.634	0.01634
3	2.48694	0.531485	0.1634	-0.001634
4	2.485306	0.53136485	-0.01634	0.0001634
5	2.4854694	0.53136365	0.001634	-1.634E-05
6	2.48545306	0.53136364	-0.0001634	1.634E-06
7	2.48545469	0.53136364	1.634E-05	-1.634E-07
8	2.48545453	0.53136364	-1.634E-06	1.634E-08
9	2.48545455	0.53136364	1.634E-07	-1.634E-09
10	2.48545455	0.53136364	-1.634E-08	1.634E-10
11	2.48545455	0.53136364	1.634E-09	-1.634E-11
12	2.48545455	0.53136364	-1.634E-10	1.6337E-12
13	2.48545455	0.53136364	1.6314E-11	-1.631E-13
14	2.48545455	0.53136364	-1.592E-12	1.5916E-14
15	2.48545455	0.53136364	0	0

- Could also update one at a time:  $\frac{\partial J}{\partial w_1} = 2w_1 (x^t)^2 - 2x^t y^t$



# Where Does the Training Rule Come From?

## Gradient Descent



$$\frac{\partial J}{\partial \mathbf{w}} = \left[ \frac{\partial J}{\partial w_0}, \frac{\partial J}{\partial w_1}, \dots, \frac{\partial J}{\partial w_n} \right]$$

In general, define loss function  $J$ , compute gradient of  $J$  w.r.t.  $J$ 's parameters, then apply gradient descent

# Handling Nonlinearly Separable Problems

## The XOR Problem

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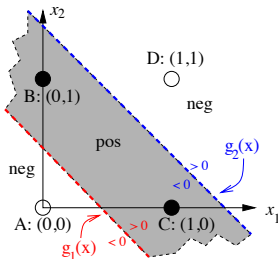
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Using linear threshold units



Represent with **intersection** of two linear separators

$$g_1(\mathbf{x}) = 1 \cdot x_1 + 1 \cdot x_2 - 1/2$$

$$g_2(\mathbf{x}) = 1 \cdot x_1 + 1 \cdot x_2 - 3/2$$

$$\text{pos} = \{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^2 : g_1(\mathbf{x}) > 0 \text{ AND } g_2(\mathbf{x}) < 0\}$$

$$\text{neg} = \{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^2 : g_1(\mathbf{x}), g_2(\mathbf{x}) < 0 \text{ OR } g_1(\mathbf{x}), g_2(\mathbf{x}) > 0\}$$

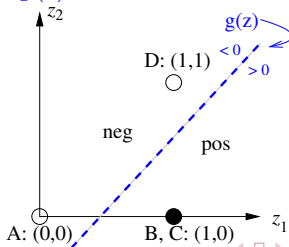
# Handling Nonlinearly Separable Problems

## The XOR Problem (cont'd)

$$\text{Let } z_i = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } g_i(\mathbf{x}) < 0 \\ 1 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Class	$(x_1, x_2)$	$g_1(\mathbf{x})$	$z_1$	$g_2(\mathbf{x})$	$z_2$
pos	B: (0, 1)	1/2	1	-1/2	0
pos	C: (1, 0)	1/2	1	-1/2	0
neg	A: (0, 0)	-1/2	0	-3/2	0
neg	D: (1, 1)	3/2	1	1/2	1

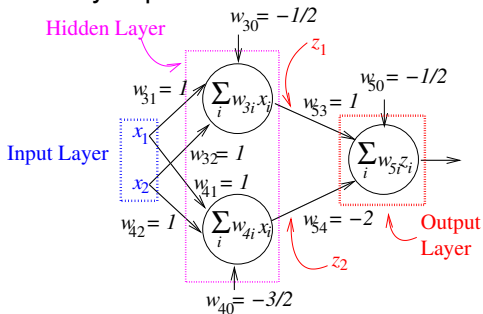
Now feed  $z_1, z_2$  into  $g(\mathbf{z}) = 1 \cdot z_1 - 2 \cdot z_2 - 1/2$



# Handling Nonlinearly Separable Problems

## The XOR Problem (cont'd)

In other words, we **remapped** all vectors  $x$  to  $z$  such that the classes are linearly separable in the new vector space



This is a **two-layer perceptron** or **two-layer feedforward neural network**

Can use many **nonlinear** activation functions in hidden layer

# Handling Nonlinearly Separable Problems

## General Nonlinearly Separable Problems

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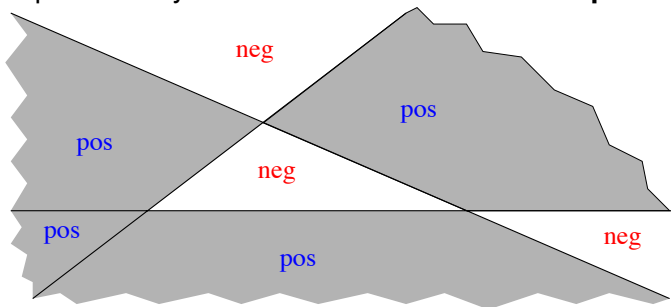
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By adding up to 2 **hidden layers** of linear threshold units, can represent any **union of intersection of halfspaces**



First hidden layer defines halfspaces, second hidden layer takes intersection (AND), output layer takes union (OR)

# Training Multiple Layers

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Computation Graphs

Sigmoid Unit

Multilayer Networks

Training Multilayer  
Networks

Backprop Alg

Types of Units

- In a multi-layer network, have to tune parameters in all layers
- In order to train, need to know the gradient of the loss function w.r.t. each parameter
- The **Backpropagation** algorithm first **feeds forward** the network's inputs to its outputs, then **propagates back** error via repeated application of **chain rule** for derivatives
- Can be decomposed in a simple, modular way

# Computation Graphs

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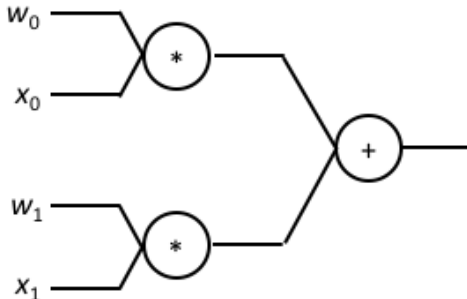
Multilayer Networks

Training Multilayer  
Networks

Backprop Alg

Types of Units

- Given a complicated function  $f(\cdot)$ , want to know its partial derivatives w.r.t. its parameters
- Will represent  $f$  in a modular fashion via a **computation graph**
- E.g., let  $f(\mathbf{w}, \mathbf{x}) = w_0x_0 + w_1x_1$



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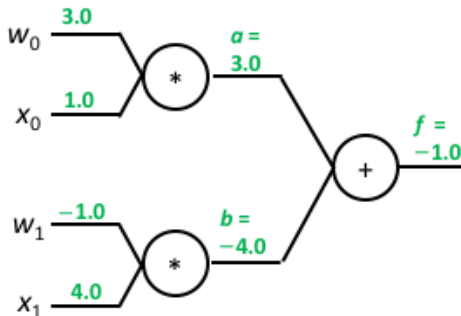
Multilayer Networks

Training Multilayer  
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Types of Units

E.g.,  $w_0 = 3.0$ ,  $w_1 = -1.0$ ,  $x_0 = 1.0$ ,  $x_1 = 4.0$





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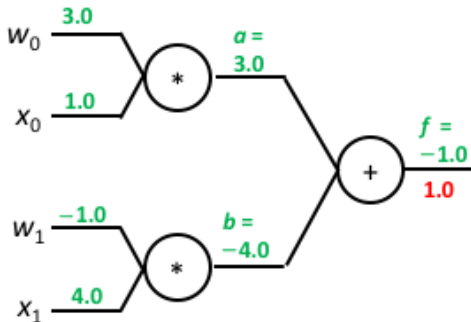
Multilayer Networks

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Types of Units

- So what?
- Can now decompose gradient calculation into basic operations
- $\frac{\partial f}{\partial f} = 1$



# Computation Graphs

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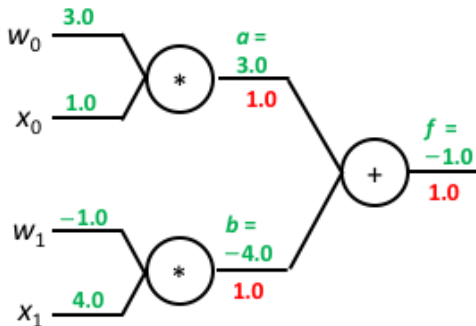
Multilayer Networks

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Types of Units

- If  $g(y, z) = y + z$  then  $\frac{\partial g}{\partial y} = \frac{\partial g}{\partial z} = 1$
- Via chain rule,  $\frac{\partial f}{\partial a} = \frac{\partial f}{\partial g} \frac{\partial g}{\partial a} = (1.0)(1.0) = 1.0$
- Same with  $\frac{\partial f}{\partial b}$



# Computation Graphs

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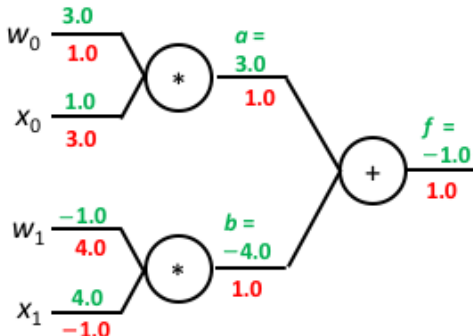
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Types of Units

- If  $h(y, z) = yz$  then  $\frac{\partial h}{\partial y} = z$
- Via chain rule,  $\frac{\partial f}{\partial x_0} = \frac{\partial f}{\partial a} \frac{\partial a}{\partial x_0} = 1.0w_0 = 3.0$



So for  $\mathbf{x} = [1.0, 4.0]^T$ ,  $\nabla f(\mathbf{w}) = [1.0, 4.0]^T$

# The Sigmoid Unit Basics

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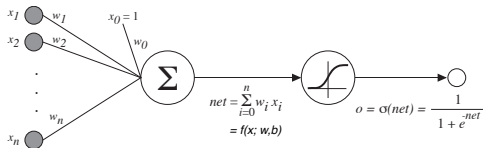
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Types of Units

- How does this help us with multi-layer ANNs?
- First, let's replace the threshold function with a continuous approximation



$\sigma(net)$  is the **logistic function**

$$\sigma(net) = \frac{1}{1 + e^{-net}}$$

(a type of **sigmoid** function)

**Squashes**  $net$  into  $[0, 1]$  range

# The Sigmoid Unit

## Computation Graph

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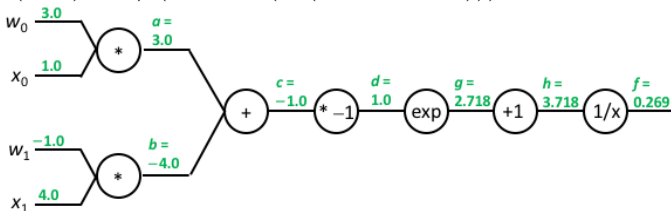
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Types of Units

$$\text{Let } f(\mathbf{w}, \mathbf{x}) = 1 / (1 + \exp(-(w_0 x_0 + w_1 x_1)))$$



# The Sigmoid Unit

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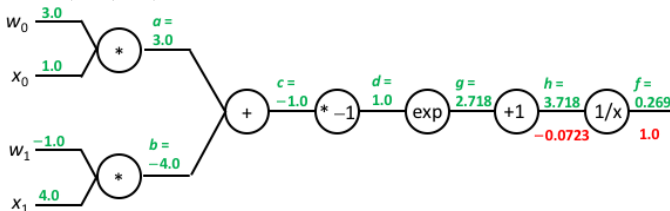
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Types of Units

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial h} = 1.0(-1/h^2) = -0.0723$$



# The Sigmoid Unit

## Gradient

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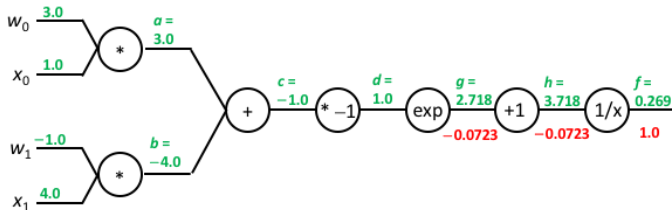
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Types of Units

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial g} = \frac{\partial f}{\partial h} \frac{\partial h}{\partial g} = -0.0723(1) = -0.0723$$



# The Sigmoid Unit

## Gradient

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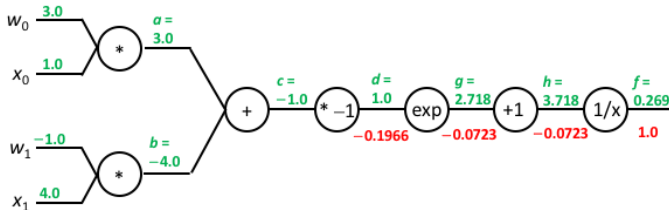
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Types of Units

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial d} = \frac{\partial f}{\partial g} \frac{\partial g}{\partial d} = -0.0723 \exp(d) = -0.1966$$

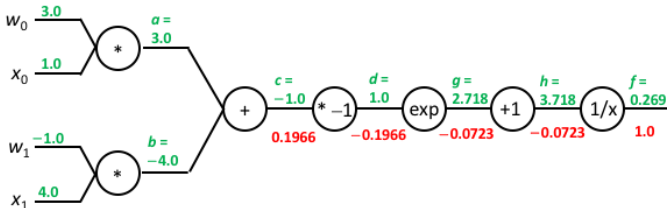




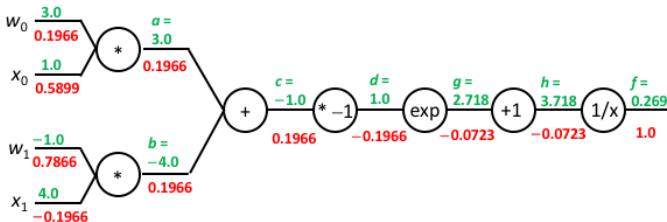
# The Sigmoid Unit

## Gradient

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial c} = \frac{\partial f}{\partial d} \frac{\partial d}{\partial c} = -0.1966(-1) = 0.1966$$

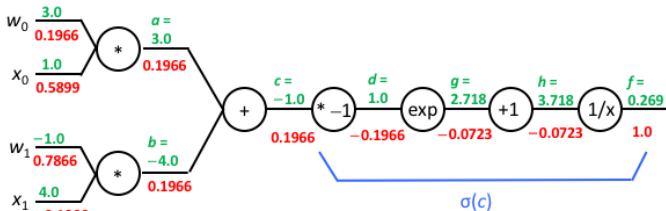


and so on:



So for  $\mathbf{x} = [1.0, 4.0]^T$ ,  $\nabla f(\mathbf{w}) = [0.1966, 0.7866]^T$

# The Sigmoid Unit Gradient



Note that  $\frac{\partial f}{\partial c} = \sigma(c)(1 - \sigma(c))$ , so

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial w_1} = \frac{\partial f}{\partial c} \frac{\partial c}{\partial b} \frac{\partial b}{\partial w_1} = \sigma(c)(1 - \sigma(c))(1)x_1$$

# Sigmoid Unit

## Weight Update

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Types of Units

- If  $\hat{y}^t = \sigma(\mathbf{w} \cdot \mathbf{x}^t)$  is prediction on training instance  $\mathbf{x}^t$  with label  $y^t$ , let loss be  $J(\mathbf{w}) = \frac{1}{2} (\hat{y}^t - y^t)^2$ , so

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\partial J(\mathbf{w})}{\partial w_1} &= (\hat{y}^t - y^t) \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial w_1} (\hat{y}^t - y^t) \right) \\ &= (\hat{y}^t - y^t) \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial w_1} \hat{y}^t \right) \\ &= (\hat{y}^t - y^t) (\hat{y}^t (1 - \hat{y}^t) x_1^t)\end{aligned}$$

- So update rule is

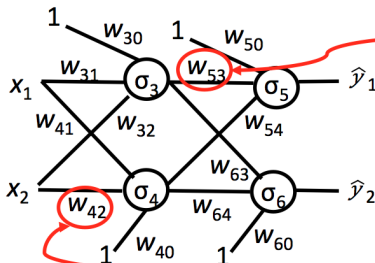
$$w'_1 = w_1 - \eta \hat{y}^t (1 - \hat{y}^t) (\hat{y}^t - y^t) x_1^t$$

- In general,

$$\mathbf{w}' = \mathbf{w} - \eta \hat{y}^t (1 - \hat{y}^t) (\hat{y}^t - y^t) \mathbf{x}^t$$

# Multilayer Networks

- That update formula works for **output units** when we know the target labels  $y^t$  (here, a vector to encode **multi-class** labels)
- But for a **hidden unit**, we don't know its target output!



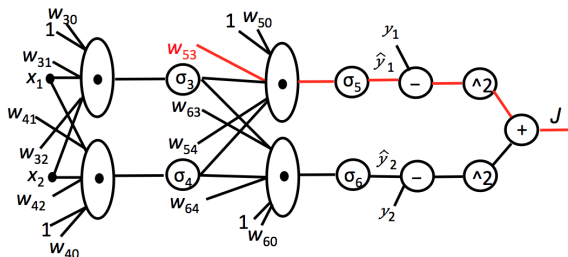
We can find gradient for this

How about this?

$w_{ji}$  = weight from node  $i$  to node  $j$

# Training Multilayer Networks

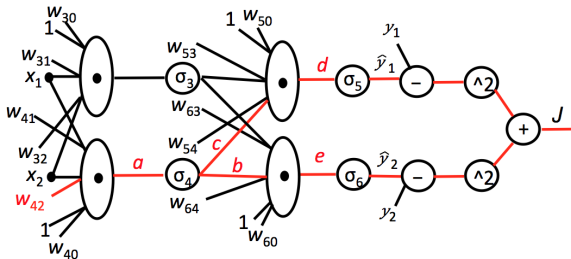
## Output Units



- Let loss on instance  $(\mathbf{x}^t, \mathbf{y}^t)$  be  $J(\mathbf{w}) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^n (\hat{y}_i^t - y_i^t)^2$
- Weights  $w_{5*}$  and  $w_{6*}$  tie to output units
- Gradients and weight updates done as before
- E.g.,  $w'_{53} = w_{53} - \eta \frac{\partial J}{\partial w_{53}} = w_{53} - \eta \hat{y}_1 (1 - \hat{y}_1) (\hat{y}_1 - y_1) \sigma_3$

# Training Multilayer Networks

## Hidden Units



Multivariate chain rule says we sum paths from  $J$  to  $w_{42}$ :

$$\begin{aligned}
 \frac{\partial J}{\partial w_{42}} &= \frac{\partial J}{\partial a} \frac{\partial a}{\partial w_{42}} = \left( \frac{\partial J}{\partial c} \frac{\partial c}{\partial a} + \frac{\partial J}{\partial b} \frac{\partial b}{\partial a} \right) \frac{\partial a}{\partial w_{42}} \\
 &= \left( \frac{\partial J}{\partial d} \frac{\partial d}{\partial c} \frac{\partial c}{\partial a} + \frac{\partial J}{\partial e} \frac{\partial e}{\partial b} \frac{\partial b}{\partial a} \right) \frac{\partial a}{\partial w_{42}} \\
 &= ([\hat{y}_1(1 - \hat{y}_1)(\hat{y}_1 - y_1)] [w_{54}] [\sigma_4(a)(1 - \sigma_4(a))] \\
 &\quad + [\hat{y}_2(1 - \hat{y}_2)(\hat{y}_2 - y_2)] [w_{64}] [\sigma_4(a)(1 - \sigma_4(a))]) x_2
 \end{aligned}$$

# Training Multilayer Networks

## Hidden Units

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Types of Units

- Analytical solution is messy, but we don't need the formula; only need to **compute** gradient
- The modular form of a computation graph means that once we've computed  $\frac{\partial J}{\partial d}$  and  $\frac{\partial J}{\partial e}$ , we can plug those values in and compute gradients for earlier layers
  - Doesn't matter if layer is output, or farther back; can run indefinitely backward
- **Backpropagation** of error from outputs to inputs
- Define **error term** of hidden node  $h$  as

$$\delta_h \leftarrow \hat{y}_h (1 - \hat{y}_h) \sum_{k \in \text{down}(h)} w_{k,h} \delta_k ,$$

where  $\hat{y}_k$  is output of node  $k$  and  $\text{down}(h)$  is set of nodes immediately downstream of  $h$

- Note that this formula is specific to sigmoid units

# Training Multilayer Networks

## Hidden Units

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Types of Units

- We are **propagating back** error terms  $\delta$  from output layer toward input layers, scaling with the weights
- Scaling with the weights characterizes how much of the error term each hidden unit is “responsible for”
- Process:
  - 1 Submit inputs  $\mathbf{x}$
  - 2 **Feed forward** signal to outputs
  - 3 Compute network loss
  - 4 Propagate error back to compute loss gradient w.r.t. each weight
  - 5 Update weights



# Backpropagation Algorithm

## Sigmoid Activation Units and Square Loss

Initialize weights

Until termination condition satisfied do

- For each training example  $(\mathbf{x}^t, \mathbf{y}^t)$  do
  - 1 Input  $\mathbf{x}^t$  to the network and compute the outputs  $\hat{\mathbf{y}}^t$
  - 2 For each output unit  $k$

$$\delta_k^t \leftarrow \hat{y}_k^t (1 - \hat{y}_k^t) (y_k^t - \hat{y}_k^t)$$

- 3 For each hidden unit  $h$

$$\delta_h^t \leftarrow \hat{y}_h^t (1 - \hat{y}_h^t) \sum_{k \in \text{down}(h)} w_{k,h}^t \delta_k^t$$

- 4 Update each network weight  $w_{j,i}^t$

$$w_{j,i}^t \leftarrow w_{j,i}^t + \Delta w_{j,i}^t$$

where  $\Delta w_{j,i}^t = \eta \delta_j^t x_{j,i}^t$  and  $x_{j,i}^t$  is signal sent from node  $i$  to node  $j$

# Backpropagation Algorithm

## Notes

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Types of Units

- Formula for  $\delta$  assumes sigmoid activation function
  - Straightforward to change to new activation function via computation graph
- Initialization used to be via random numbers near zero, e.g., from  $\mathcal{N}(0, 1)$ 
  - More refined methods available (later)
- Algorithm as presented updates weights after each instance
  - Can also accumulate  $\Delta w_{j,i}^t$  across multiple training instances in the same **mini-batch** and do a single update per mini-batch
    - $\Rightarrow$  **Stochastic gradient descent** (SGD)
  - Extreme case: Entire training set is a single batch (**batch gradient descent**)

# Types of Output Units

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Types of Units

Types of Output  
Units

Types of Hidden  
Units

Putting Things  
Together

Given hidden layer outputs  $\mathbf{h}$

- Linear unit:  $\hat{y} = \mathbf{w}^\top \mathbf{h} + b$ 
  - Minimizing square loss with this output unit maximizes **log likelihood** when labels from normal distribution
    - I.e., find a set of parameters  $\theta$  that is most likely to generate the labels of the training data
  - Works well with GD training
- Sigmoid:  $\hat{y} = \sigma(\mathbf{w}^\top \mathbf{h} + b)$ 
  - Approximates non-differentiable threshold function
  - More common in older, shallower networks
  - Can be used to predict probabilities
- Softmax unit: Start with  $\mathbf{z} = \mathbf{W}^\top \mathbf{h} + \mathbf{b}$ 
  - Predict probability of label  $i$  to be  $\text{softmax}(\mathbf{z})_i = \exp(z_i) / \left( \sum_j \exp(z_j) \right)$
  - Continuous, differentiable approximation to argmax

# Types of Hidden Units

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Types of Units

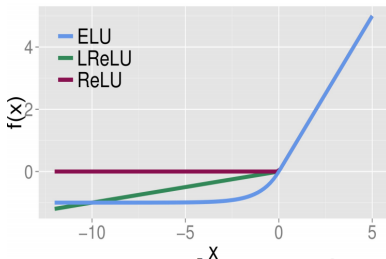
Types of Output  
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Types of Hidden  
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Putting Things  
Together

Rectified linear unit (ReLU):  $\max\{0, W^T \mathbf{x} + \mathbf{b}\}$

- Good default choice
- In general, GD works well when functions nearly linear
- Variations: **leaky ReLU** and **exponential ReLU** replace  $z < 0$  side with  $0.01z$  and  $\alpha(\exp(z) - 1)$ , respectively



Logistic sigmoid (done already) and tanh

- Nice approximation to threshold, but don't train well in deep networks since they saturate

# Putting Everything Together

## Hidden Layers

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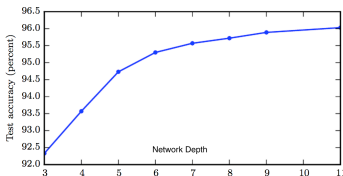
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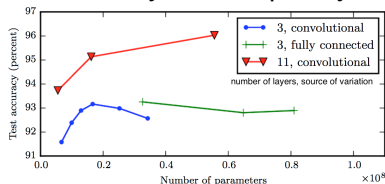
Putting Things  
Together

- How many layers to use?
  - Deep networks build potentially useful representations of data via composition of simple functions
  - Performance improvement not simply from more complex network (number of parameters)
  - Increasing number of layers still increases chances of overfitting, so need significant amount of training data with deep network; training time increases as well

### Accuracy vs Depth



### Accuracy vs Complexity



# Putting Everything Together

## Universal Approximation Theorem

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Putting Things  
Together

- Any boolean function can be represented with two layers
- Any bounded, continuous function can be represented with arbitrarily small error with two layers
- Any function can be represented with arbitrarily small error with three layers

### Only an **EXISTENCE PROOF**

- Could need exponentially many nodes in a layer
- May not be able to find the right weights
- Highlights risk of overfitting and need for **regularization**

# Putting Everything Together

## Initialization

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- Previously, initialized weights to random numbers near 0 (from  $\mathcal{N}(0, 1)$ )
  - Sigmoid nearly linear there, so GD expected to work better
  - But in deep networks, this increases variance per layer, resulting in **vanishing gradients** and poor optimization
- Glorot initialization** controls variance per layer: If layer has  $n_{in}$  inputs and  $n_{out}$  outputs, initialize via uniform over  $[-r, r]$  or  $\mathcal{N}(0, \sigma)$ 
  - $r = a\sqrt{\frac{6}{n_{in}+n_{out}}}$  and  $\sigma = a\sqrt{\frac{2}{n_{in}+n_{out}}}$

Activation	$a$
Logistic	1
tanh	4
ReLU	$\sqrt{2}$

# Putting Everything Together

## Optimizers

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### Variations on gradient descent optimization:

- Momentum optimization
- AdaGrad
- RMSProp
- Adam



# Putting Everything Together

## Momentum Optimization

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- Use a **momentum** term  $\beta$  to keep updates moving in same direction as previous trials
- Replace original GD update  $\mathbf{w}' = \mathbf{w} - \eta \nabla J(\mathbf{w})$  with

$$\mathbf{w}' = \mathbf{w} - \mathbf{m} ,$$

where

$$\mathbf{m} = \beta \mathbf{m} + \eta \nabla J(\mathbf{w})$$

- Using sigmoid activation and square loss, replace  $\Delta w_{ji}^t = \eta \delta_j^t x_{ji}^t$  with

$$\Delta w_{ji}^t = \eta \delta_j^t x_{ji}^t + \beta \Delta w_{ji}^{t-1}$$

- Can help move through small local minima to better ones & move along flat surfaces

# Putting Everything Together

## AdaGrad

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- Standard GD can too quickly descend steepest slope, then slowly crawl through a valley

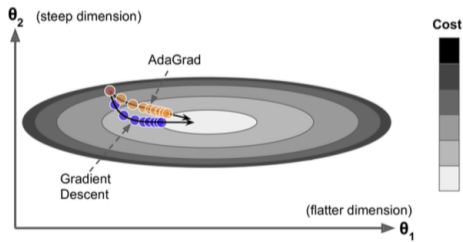
- AdaGrad** adapts learning rate by scaling it down in steepest dimensions:

$$\mathbf{w}' = \mathbf{w} - \eta \nabla J(\mathbf{w}) \oslash \sqrt{\mathbf{s} + \epsilon}, \text{ where}$$

$$\mathbf{s} = \mathbf{s} + \nabla J(\mathbf{w}) \otimes \nabla J(\mathbf{w}),$$

$\otimes$  and  $\oslash$  are element-wise multiplication and division and  $\epsilon = 10^{-10}$  prevents division by 0

$\mathbf{s}$  accumulates squares of gradient, and learning rate for each dimension scaled down



# Putting Everything Together

## RMSProp

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- AdaGrad tends to stop too early for neural networks due to over-aggressive downscaling
- **RMSProp** exponentially decays old gradients to address this

$$\mathbf{w}' = \mathbf{w} - \eta \nabla J(\mathbf{w}) \oslash \sqrt{\mathbf{s} + \epsilon} ,$$

where

$$\mathbf{s} = \beta \mathbf{s} + (1 - \beta) \nabla J(\mathbf{w}) \otimes \nabla J(\mathbf{w})$$

# Putting Everything Together

## Adam

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**Adam** (adaptive moment estimation) combines Momentum optimization and RMSProp

$$① \quad \mathbf{m} = \beta_1 \mathbf{m} + (1 - \beta_1) \nabla J(\mathbf{w})$$

$$② \quad \mathbf{s} = \beta_2 \mathbf{s} + (1 - \beta_2) \nabla J(\mathbf{w}) \otimes \nabla J(\mathbf{w})$$

$$③ \quad \mathbf{m} = \mathbf{m} / (1 - \beta_1^t)$$

$$④ \quad \mathbf{s} = \mathbf{s} / (1 - \beta_2^t)$$

$$⑤ \quad \mathbf{w}' = \mathbf{w} - \eta \mathbf{m} \oslash \sqrt{\mathbf{s} + \epsilon}$$

- Iteration counter  $t$  used in 3 and 4 to prevent  $\mathbf{m}$  and  $\mathbf{s}$  from vanishing
- Can set  $\beta_1 = 0.9$ ,  $\beta_2 = 0.999$ ,  $\epsilon = 10^{-8}$