MATH 829: Introduction to Data Mining and Analysis Neural networks I

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This lecture is based on the UFLDL tutorial (http://deeplearning.stanford.edu/)

Neurons



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- When a neuron fires, it starts a chain reaction that propagates information.
- There are *excitatory* and *inhibitory* synapses.

See Izenman (2013) for more details.

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- Can we construct a *universal* learning machine/algorithm?
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- Very popular in computer vision, natural language processing, and many other fields.
- Today, neural network models are often called *deep learning*.

Single neuron model:



Source: UFLDL Tutorial

Neural networks

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Input: x_1, x_2, x_3 (and +1 intercept). Output: $h_{W,b}(x) = f(W^T x) = f(W_1 x_1 + W_2 x_2 + W_3 x_3 + b)$, where f is the sigmoid function:

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Other common choice for f:

$$f(x) = \tanh(x) = \frac{e^x - e^{-x}}{e^x + e^{-x}}.$$

The function f acts as an **activation** function.



Idea: Depending on the input of the neuron and the *strength* of the links, the neuron "fires" or not.

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In above example: $(W,b) = (W^{(1)}, b^{(1)}, W^{(2)}, b^{(2)})$. Here $W^{(1)} \in \mathbb{R}^{3 \times 3}$, $W^{(2)} \in \mathbb{R}^{1 \times 3}$, $b^{(1)} \in \mathbb{R}^3$, $b^{(2)} \in \mathbb{R}$.

Activation



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We have:

$$\begin{aligned} a_1^{(2)} &= f(W_{11}^{(1)}x_1 + W_{12}^{(1)}x_2 + W_{13}^{(1)}x_3 + b_1^{(1)}) \\ a_2^{(2)} &= f(W_{21}^{(1)}x_1 + W_{22}^{(1)}x_2 + W_{23}^{(1)}x_3 + b_2^{(1)}) \\ a_3^{(2)} &= f(W_{31}^{(1)}x_1 + W_{32}^{(1)}x_2 + W_{33}^{(1)}x_3 + b_3^{(1)}) \\ h_{W,b} &= a_1^{(3)} &= f(W_{11}^{(2)}a_1^{(2)} + W_{12}^{(2)}a_2^{(2)} + W_{13}^{(2)}a_3^{(2)} + b_1^{(2)}). \end{aligned}$$

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• In what follows, we will let $z_i^{(l)} = \text{total weighted sum of inputs to}$ unit *i* in layer *l* (including the bias term):

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We extend f elementwise: $f([v_1, v_2, v_3]) = [f(v_1), f(v_2), f(v_3)]$. Using the above notation, we have:

$$z^{(2)} = W^{(1)}x + b^{(1)}$$
$$a^{(2)} = f(z^{(2)})$$
$$z^{(3)} = W^{(2)}a^{(2)} + b^{(2)}$$
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- In that case, we obtain a feedforward neural network (no directed loops or cycles).

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- Useful for applications where the output is multivariate (e.g. medical diagnosis application where output is whether or not a patient has a list of diseases).
- Useful to encode or compress information.