

# TD - Gradients

## 1 Gradients

**Question 1** (Chain rule).

We say that a function  $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is differentiable at  $t$  if  $\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{h}(f(t+h) - f(t))$  exists. In that case, we denote

$$f'(t) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{h}(f(t+h) - f(t)) .$$

Equivalently, we can write: there exists a function  $\epsilon_f^t$  such that

$$f(t+h) = f(t) + f'(t)h + h\epsilon_f^t(h) .$$

and  $\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \epsilon_f^t(h) = 0$ .

Let  $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  and  $g : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ . Show that

$$(f \circ g)'(t) = f'(g(t)) \times g'(t)$$

**Question 2** (Jacobian matrix).

We say that a function  $f : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is differentiable at  $x$  if there exists a vector  $\nabla f(x) \in \mathbb{R}^n$  and a function  $\epsilon_f^x$  such that

$$f(x+h) = f(x) + \nabla f(x)^\top h + \|h\|\epsilon_f^x(h)$$

where  $\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \epsilon_f^x(h) = 0$ .

The coordinates of  $\nabla f(x)$  can be written in several ways:

$$(\nabla f(x))_i = \nabla_i f(x) = \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_i}(x) .$$

In fact  $\nabla_i f(x)$  is equal to the  $i^{th}$  directional derivative:

$$\nabla_i f(x) = \lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x+te_i) - f(x)}{t} .$$

Let  $F : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$  be a function with vectorial values, which means that  $F(x) = \begin{pmatrix} f_1(x) \\ \vdots \\ f_m(x) \end{pmatrix}$ .

We say that  $F$  is differentiable at  $x$  iff for all  $i \in \{1, \dots, m\}$ ,  $f_i$  is differentiable at  $x$ :

$$f_i(x+h) = f_i(x) + \nabla f_i(x)^\top h + \|h\|\epsilon_{f_i}^x(h)$$

where  $\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \epsilon_{f_i}^x(h) = 0$ .

The Jacobian matrix of  $F$  at  $x$  is the matrix that concatenates all the gradients of the  $f_i$ 's, that is

$$J_F(x) = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial f_1}{\partial x_1}(x) & \dots & \frac{\partial f_1}{\partial x_n}(x) \\ \vdots & & \vdots \\ \frac{\partial f_m}{\partial x_1}(x) & \dots & \frac{\partial f_m}{\partial x_n}(x) \end{bmatrix}.$$

Check that with this notation, we have

$$F(x + h) = F(x) + J_F(x)h + o(\|h\|).$$

**Question 3** (Gradient calculus).

- $f_1(x) = \frac{1}{2}\|Ax - b\|_2^2$ ,  $A$  matrix of size  $m \times n$ ,  $b \in \mathbb{R}^m$ ,  $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$ . Compute the gradient of  $f_1$  at  $x$ .
- $f_2(x) = Bx + c$ ,  $B$  matrix of size  $p \times n$ ,  $c \in \mathbb{R}^p$ ,  $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$ . Compute the Jacobian of  $f_2$  at  $x$ .
- $f_3(P, Q) = \frac{1}{2}\|M - PQ\|_F^2$ ,  $M$  matrix of size  $m \times n$ ,  $P$  matrix of size  $m \times k$  and  $Q$  matrix of size  $k \times n$ . Compute the gradient of  $f_3$  at  $(P, Q)$ .

**Question 4.** Let  $F : \mathbb{R}^m \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^p$  and  $G : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$  be two differentiable functions. Show that for all  $i, j$ ,

$$\frac{\partial(F \circ G)_j}{\partial x_i}(x) = \sum_{l=1}^m \frac{\partial F_j}{\partial y_l}(G(x)) \frac{\partial G_l}{\partial x_i}(x),$$

and that this formula is equivalent to

$$J_{F \circ G}(x) = J_F(G(x))J_G(x).$$

## 2 Backpropagation in neural networks

Let us consider the following 1-layer neural network:

$$y = f(w, x) = \sigma \left( \sum_{i=1}^H w_i v_i \left( \sum_{j=1}^N w_{i,j} x_j \right) \right). \quad (1)$$

In this formula:

- $x_1, \dots, x_N$  are the observations.
- $y$  is the output of the model.
- The integer  $H$  is the number of neurons.
- $\sigma$  and  $v_1, \dots, v_H$  are given functions called activation functions. We suppose that these functions are differentiable. A classical choice is  $\sigma(z) = v_i(z) = \tanh(z)$ .

- $w_1, \dots, w_H, w_{1,1}, \dots, w_{1,N}, w_{2,1}, \dots, w_{H,1}, \dots, w_{H,N}$  are the parameters of the model.  
There are  $N \times H + H$  of them.

The goal of this exercise is to find a formula to compute the gradient of  $f$  with respect to  $w$ , which is the first step to implement a gradient method. This formula is the basis of softwares for neural network training like Tensorflow or Keras.

**Question 5.** Écrire la fonction  $f : \mathbb{R}^{NH+H} \times \mathbb{R}^N \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  du modèle de réseau de neurones (1) comme une composition de fonctions plus simples de la forme suivante:

$$f(w, x) = \sigma \circ M(w, V \circ L(w, x)) .$$

Vous expliciterez les fonctions  $M$ ,  $V$  et  $L$  en faisant attention à leur nombre de variables et à la dimension des images.

**Question 6.** Calculer les jacobienes de chacune des fonctions en jeu.

**Question 7.** Montrer que le gradient de  $f$  par rapport à  $w$ , que l'on notera  $\nabla_w f$  peut s'écrire comme produit matriciel et somme des jacobienes calculées à question précédente.

**Question 8.** Évaluer le nombre d'opérations nécessaires pour calculer  $\nabla_w f$  quand on commence par la couche d'entrée du réseau de neurones. On rappelle que pour calculer le produit matriciel  $A \times B$  où  $A$  est de taille  $n \times m$  et  $B$  de taille  $m \times p$ , il faut environ  $nmp$  opérations.

**Question 9.** Évaluer le nombre d'opérations nécessaires pour calculer  $\nabla_w f$  quand on commence par la couches de sortie du réseau de neurones.