Exam Neural Networks

October 22, 2007

It is a "closed book" exam: you are not allowed to use any notes, books, etc. You may formulate your answers in Dutch or English. For each problem you get some points; additionally you get 10 points for free. The final grade for this exam is the total number of points you get divided by 10.

1) Single Perceptron (10+5+2+3 points)

- a. Describe the working of a single perceptron. Describe in detail the two learning algorithms: Perceptron and Pocket. What are the main properties of these algorithms?
- b. Is it correct that a single unit with a logistic sigmoid activation function may compute a non-linear decision boundary? Justify your answer!
- c. Let us consider a training set in \mathbb{R}^2 that consists of one "positive" pattern and one "negative" pattern. Is it true that a single perceptron can always learn to correctly classify these two patterns? Why?
- d. Now let us consider a training set in \mathbb{R}^2 that consists of three patterns: one "positive" and two "negatives". Is it true that a single perceptron can always learn to correctly classify these patterns? Why?

2) Thermometer representation of data (5+15 points)

- a. Describe the concept of a "thermometer representation" of a continuous input variable *x* that takes values in [0, 1]. What would be the representation of values: 0.0, 0.23, 0.7, and 0.8, assuming a scale with 5 levels?
- b. Let us assume that a continuous variable x that takes values in [0, 1] is represented with help of a 5-level thermometer scale. Then a network with 5 input nodes and a single linear output node computes a function f(x), f:[0,1]->R. Show that f(x) doesn't have to be a linear function of x. How would you call this function?

3) Encoder networks and image compression (5 + 10 points)

- a. Describe the concept of the Encoder Network. What is the architecture of this network, what are the inputs and outputs, and what is this network supposed to learn?
- b. Describe in detail (as much as you can) an application of encoder networks to image compression.

4) Backpropagation (5 + 10 points)

a) Let us consider a feed-forward network shown in figure below. Here we assume that the hidden units have no bias and that the activation function is given by S(net) = cos(net). (Recall that cos'(x) = -sin(x)).

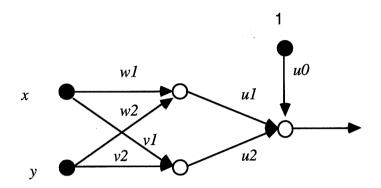


Figure 1. A 2:2:1 feed-forward network with 7 weights.

Express the output of this network as a function of nine variables: x, y, w_1 , w_2 , v_1 , v_2 , u_0 , u_1 , u_2 (write a formula).

b) Derive the update rules for weights u_0 , u_1 and w_1 . In other words, calculate the partial derivatives of the error function (for a single input vector (x, y) and the target value t) and use them in formulas of the form $u_0^{new} = u_0^{old} + \dots$.

5) Complexity of Backpropagation (2+3+10+5 points)

Let us consider a multi-layer perceptron with 100 inputs, 10 hidden nodes in the first layer and 5 nodes in the output layer.

- a) How many weights are used by the network?
- b) How many (roughly) operations (additions, multiplications, calling an activation function) should be performed in order to produce an output on a single input vector?
- c) How many (roughly) operations are needed for a single step of the backpropagation algorithm (propagating errors backward and updating all weights)?
- d) Generalize your findings for a network with K inputs, L nodes in the hidden layer, and M nodes in the output layer.