Lecture 3:
Loss functions and Optimization

Homework 1

- Due on 9/28 (Th.) 11:55 pm
- Submit via gradescope
  - We will enroll you on gradescope this week

First Optional Discussion Section

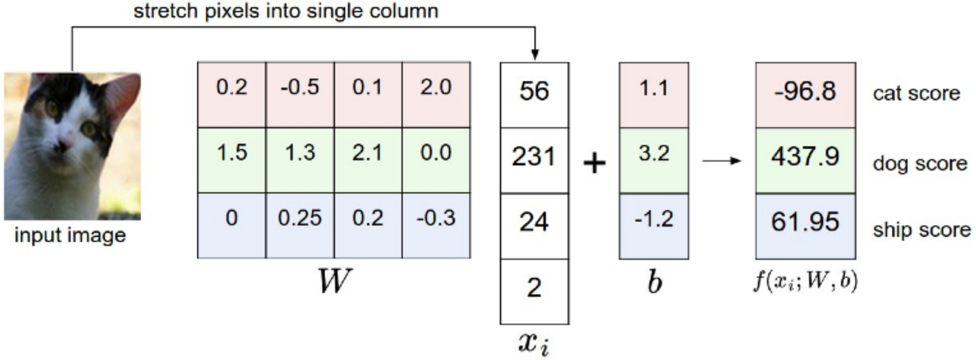
- This Friday ??am. Led by TA Max Hamilton.
- Topic: Slicing and broadcasting in Python:
    - Example:
        - A is a 5x8 array.
        - B is a 1x8 array.
        - A+B in python will replicate B 5 times to make it the same size as A before adding.
            - This is “broadcasting”.
- Try to read NumPy Tutorial sections on Indexing and Broadcasting before you get there. Try some examples.

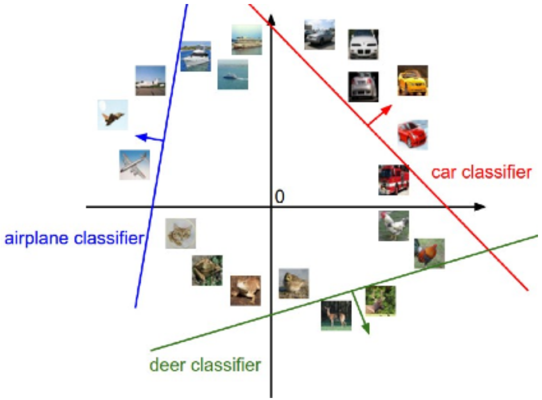
Recall from last time ... Linear classifier

[32x32x3]
array of numbers 0...1
(3072 numbers total)

image parameters
$f(\mathbf{x},\mathbf{W})$

10 numbers, indicating class scores





Loss function/Optimization

airplane	-3.45	-0.51	3.42
automobile	-8.87	**6.04**	4.64
bird	0.09	5.31	2.65
cat	**2.9**	-4.22	5.1
deer	4.48	-4.19	2.64
dog	8.02	3.58	5.55
frog	3.78	4.49	**-4.34**
horse	1.06	-4.37	-1.5
ship	-0.36	-2.09	-4.79
truck	-0.72	-2.93	6.14

TODO:

1. Define a **loss function** that quantifies our unhappiness with the scores across the training data.

1. Come up with a way of efficiently finding the parameters that minimize the loss function. **(optimization)**

Suppose: 3 training examples, 3 classes.
With some W the scores $f(x, W) = Wx$ are:

			
cat	**3.2**	1.3	2.2
car	5.1	**4.9**	2.5
frog	-1.7	2.0	**-3.1**

Suppose: 3 training examples, 3 classes.
With some W the scores $f(x, W) = Wx$ are:



cat	**3.2**	1.3	2.2
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Multiclass SVM loss:

Given an example (x_i, y_i)
where x_i is the image and
where y_i is the (integer) label,

and using the shorthand for the
scores vector: $s_i = f(x_i, W)$

the SVM loss has the form:

$$\boxed{L_i = \sum_{j \neq y_i} \max(0, s_j - s_{y_i} + 1)}$$

Suppose: 3 training examples, 3 classes.
With some W the scores $f(x, W) = Wx$ are:

  

cat	**3.2**	1.3	2.2
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Losses:	2.9		

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the SVM loss has the form:

$$\boxed{L_i = \sum_{j \neq y_i} \max(0, s_j - s_{y_i} + 1)}$$

= max(0, 5.1 - 3.2 + 1)
+max(0, -1.7 - 3.2 + 1)
= max(0, 2.9) + max(0, -3.9)
= 2.9 + 0
= 2.9

Suppose: 3 training examples, 3 classes.
With some W the scores $f(x, W) = Wx$ are:



cat	**3.2**	1.3	2.2
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Losses:	2.9	0	

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the SVM loss has the form:

$$\boxed{L_i = \sum_{j \neq y_i} \max(0, s_j - s_{y_i} + 1)}$$

= max(0, 1.3 - 4.9 + 1)
+max(0, 2.0 - 4.9 + 1)
= max(0, -2.6) + max(0, -1.9)
= 0 + 0
= 0

Suppose: 3 training examples, 3 classes.
With some W the scores $f(x, W) = Wx$ are:

cat	**3.2**	1.3	2.2
car	5.1	**4.9**	2.5
frog	-1.7	2.0	**-3.1**
Losses:	2.9	0	12.9

Multiclass SVM loss:

Given an example (x_i, y_i)
where x_i is the image and
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and using the shorthand for the scores vector: $s_i = f(x_i, W)$

the SVM loss has the form:

$$\boxed{L_i = \sum_{j \neq y_i} \max(0, s_j - s_{y_i} + 1)}$$

= max(0, 2.2 - (-3.1) + 1)
+max(0, 2.5 - (-3.1) + 1)
= max(0, 6.3) + max(0, 6.6)
= 6.3 + 6.6
= 12.9

Suppose: 3 training examples, 3 classes.
With some W the scores $f(x, W) = Wx$ are:

  

cat	**3.2**	1.3	2.2
car	5.1	**4.9**	2.5
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Multiclass SVM loss:

Given an example (x_i, y_i)
where x_i is the image and
where y_i is the (integer) label,

and using the shorthand for the scores vector: $s_i = f(x_i, W)$

the SVM loss has the form:

$$L_i = \sum_{j \neq y_i} \max(0, s_j - s_{y_i} + 1)$$

and the full training loss is the mean over all examples in the training data:

$$L = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^{N} L_i$$

L = (2.9 + 0 + 12.9)/3
= **5.3**

Suppose: 3 training examples, 3 classes.
With some W the scores $f(x, W) = Wx$ are:



cat	**3.2**	1.3	2.2
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Multiclass SVM loss:

Given an example (x_i, y_i)
where x_i is the image and
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and using the shorthand for the scores vector: $s_i = f(x_i, W)$

the SVM loss has the form:

$$L_i = \sum_{j \neq y_i} \max(0, s_j - s_{y_i} + 1)$$

Q: what if the sum was instead over all classes?
(including j = y_i)

Suppose: 3 training examples, 3 classes.
With some W the scores $f(x, W) = Wx$ are:



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Losses:	2.9	0	12.9

Multiclass SVM loss:

Given an example (x_i, y_i)
where x_i is the image and
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and using the shorthand for the scores vector: $s_i = f(x_i, W)$

the SVM loss has the form:

$$L_i = \sum_{j \neq y_i} \max(0, s_j - s_{y_i} + 1)$$

Q2: what if we used a mean instead of a sum here?

Suppose: 3 training examples, 3 classes.
With some W the scores $f(x, W) = Wx$ are:



cat	**3.2**	1.3	2.2
car	5.1	**4.9**	2.5
frog	-1.7	2.0	**-3.1**
Losses:	2.9	0	12.9

Multiclass SVM loss:

Given an example (x_i, y_i)
where x_i is the image and
where y_i is the (integer) label,

and using the shorthand for the scores vector: $s_i = f(x_i, W)$

the SVM loss has the form:

$$L_i = \sum_{j \neq y_i} \max(0, s_j - s_{y_i} + 1)$$

Q3: what if we used

$$L_i = \sum_{j \neq y_i} \max(0, s_j - s_{y_i} + 1)^2$$

Suppose: 3 training examples, 3 classes.
With some W the scores $f(x, W) = Wx$ are:



cat	**3.2**	1.3	2.2
car	5.1	**4.9**	2.5
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Multiclass SVM loss:

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the SVM loss has the form:

$$L_i = \sum_{j \neq y_i} \max(0, s_j - s_{y_i} + 1)$$

Q4: what is the min/ max possible loss?

Suppose: 3 training examples, 3 classes.
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Given an example (x_i, y_i)
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the SVM loss has the form:

$$L_i = \sum_{j \neq y_i} \max(0, s_j - s_{y_i} + 1)$$

Q5: usually at initialization W are small numbers, so all s ~= 0. What is the loss?

Example numpy code:

$$L_i = \sum_{j \neq y_i} \max(0, s_j - s_{y_i} + 1)$$

```
def L_i_vectorized(x, y, W):
  scores = W.dot(x)
  margins = np.maximum(0, scores - scores[y] + 1)
  margins[y] = 0
  loss_i = np.sum(margins)
  return loss_i
```

Coding tip: Keep track of dimensions:

```
N = X.shape[0]
D = X.shape[1]
C = W.shape[1]

scores=X.dot(W)                    # (N,D)*(D,C)=(N,C)
```

There is a “bug” with the loss:

$$f(x, W) = Wx$$

$$L = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^{N} \sum_{j \neq y_i} \max(0, f(x_i; W)_j - f(x_i; W)_{y_i} + 1)$$

E.g. Suppose that we found a W such that L = 0.
Is this W unique?

Suppose: 3 training examples, 3 classes.
With some W the scores $f(x, W) = Wx$ are:

  

cat	**3.2**	1.3	2.2
car	5.1	**4.9**	2.5
frog	-1.7	2.0	**-3.1**
Losses:	2.9	0	12.9

$$\boxed{L_i = \sum_{j \neq y_i} \max(0, s_j - s_{y_i} + 1)}$$

Before:

= max(0, 1.3 - 4.9 + 1)
+max(0, 2.0 - 4.9 + 1)
= max(0, -2.6) + max(0, -1.9)
= 0 + 0
= 0

With W twice as large:

= max(0, 2.6 - 9.8 + 1)
+max(0, 4.0 - 9.8 + 1)
= max(0, -6.2) + max(0, -4.8)
= 0 + 0
= 0

$$f(x, W) = Wx$$

An example:

What is the loss? (POLL)

cat	1.3
car	**2.5**
frog	2.0

Loss:

$$f(x, W) = Wx$$

An example:

What is the loss?

cat	1.3
car	**2.5**
frog	2.0
Loss:	0.5

$$f(x, W) = Wx$$

cat	1.3
car	**2.5**
frog	2.0
Loss:	0.5

An example:
What is the loss?

How could we change W to eliminate the loss? (POLL)

$$f(x, W) = Wx$$

cat	1.3	2.6
car	**2.5**	**5.0**
frog	2.0	4.0
Loss:	0.5	0

An example:
What is the loss?

How could we change W to eliminate the loss? (POLL)

Multiply W (and b) by 2!

$$f(x, W) = Wx$$

cat	1.3	2.6
car	**2.5**	**5.0**
frog	2.0	4.0
Loss:	0.5	0

An example:
What is the loss?

How could we change W to eliminate the loss? (POLL)

Multiply W (and b) by 2!

Wait a minute! Have we done anything useful???

$$f(x, W) = Wx$$

cat	1.3	2.6
car	**2.5**	**5.0**
frog	2.0	4.0
Loss:	0.5	0

An example:
What is the loss?

How could we change W to eliminate the loss? (POLL)

Multiply W (and b) by 2!

Wait a minute! Have we done anything useful???

No! Any example that used to be wrong is still wrong (on the wrong side of the boundary). Any example that is right is still right (on the correct side of the boundary).

Regularization

λ = regularization strength (hyperparameter)

$$L(W) = \underbrace{\frac{1}{N}\sum_{i=1}^{N} L_i(f(x_i, W), y_i)}_{\text{Data loss}} + \underbrace{\lambda R(W)}_{\text{Regularization}}$$

Data loss: Model predictions should match training data

Regularization: Prevent the model from having too much flexibility.

Simple examples

L2 regularization: $R(W) = \sum_k \sum_l W_{k,l}^2$

L1 regularization: $R(W) = \sum_k \sum_l |W_{k,l}|$

Elastic net (L1 + L2): $R(W) = \sum_k \sum_l \beta W_{k,l}^2 + |W_{k,l}|$

More complex:

Dropout

Batch normalization

Stochastic depth, fractional pooling, etc

Regularization

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$$L(W) = \underbrace{\frac{1}{N}\sum_{i=1}^{N} L_i(f(x_i, W), y_i)}_{\text{Data loss}} + \underbrace{\lambda R(W)}_{\text{Regularization}}$$

Data loss: Model predictions should match training data

Regularization: Prevent the model from having too much flexibility.

Why regularize?
- Express preferences over weights
- Make the model *simple* so it works on test data
- Improve optimization by adding curvature

Regularization: Expressing Preferences

$$x = [1, 1, 1, 1]$$

$$w_1 = [1, 0, 0, 0]$$

$$w_2 = [0.25, 0.25, 0.25, 0.25]$$

$$w_1^T x = w_2^T x = 1$$

L2 Regularization

$$R(W) = \sum_k \sum_l W_{k,l}^2$$

Regularization: Expressing Preferences

$$x = [1, 1, 1, 1]$$
$$w_1 = [1, 0, 0, 0]$$
$$w_2 = \boxed{[0.25, 0.25, 0.25, 0.25]}$$

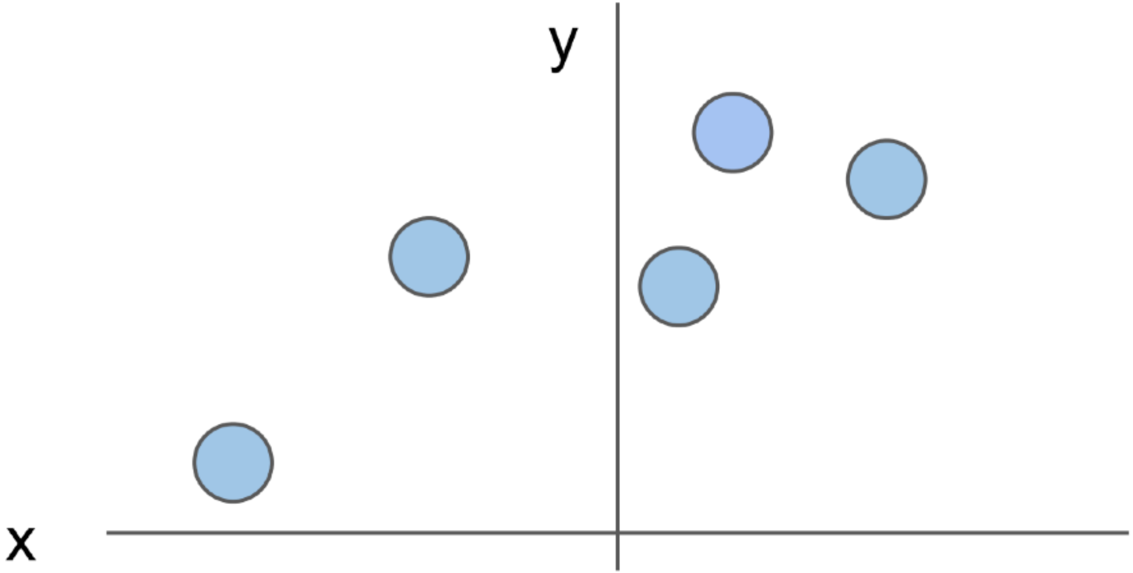
$$w_1^T x = w_2^T x = 1$$

L2 Regularization

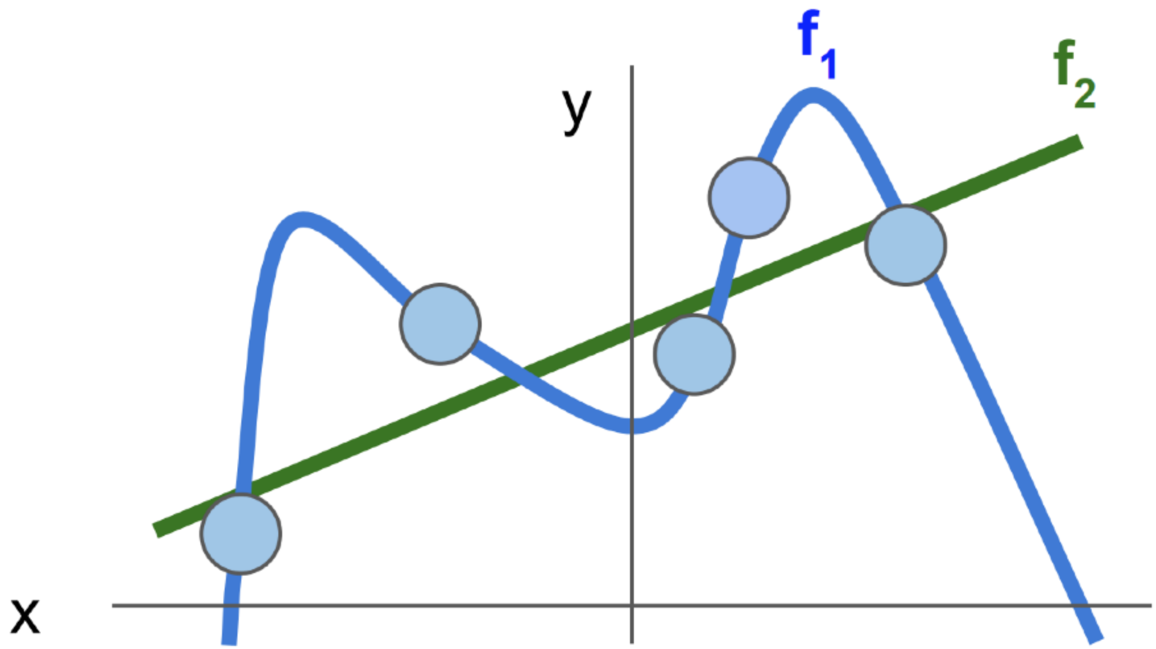
$$R(W) = \sum_k \sum_l W_{k,l}^2$$

L2 regularization likes to "spread out" the weights

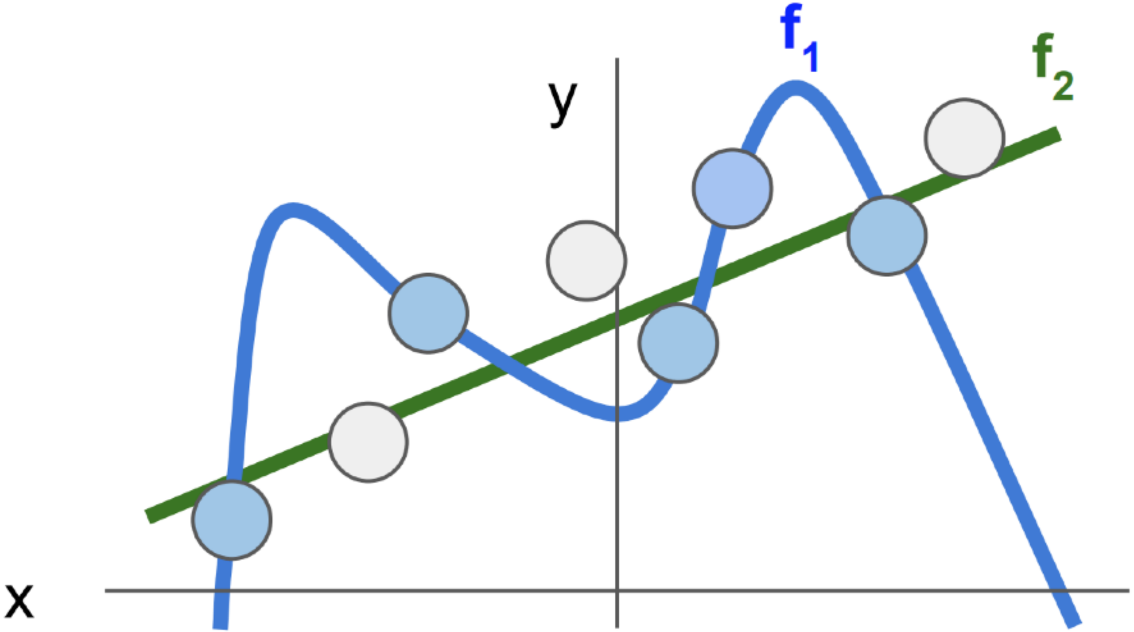
Regularization: Prefer Simpler Models



Regularization: Prefer Simpler Models



Regularization: Prefer Simpler Models



Regularization pushes against fitting the data with too much flexibility. If you are going to use a complex function to fit the data, you should be doing based on a lot of data!

Regularization

λ = regularization strength (hyperparameter)

$$L(W) = \underbrace{\frac{1}{N}\sum_{i=1}^{N} L_i(f(x_i, W), y_i)} + \underbrace{\lambda R(W)}$$

Data loss: Model predictions should match training data

Regularization: Prevent the model from having too much flexibility.

Why not force W to have a FIXED MAGNITUDE?

For example: |W| = 1.

Regularization

λ = regularization strength (hyperparameter)

$$L(W) = \underbrace{\frac{1}{N}\sum_{i=1}^{N} L_i(f(x_i, W), y_i)}_{\text{Data loss}} + \underbrace{\lambda R(W)}_{\text{Regularization}}$$

Data loss: Model predictions should match training data

Regularization: Prevent the model from having too much flexibility.

Why not force W to have a FIXED MAGNITUDE?

For example: |W| = 1.

Could be OK, but makes the optimization process more challenging. Will say more about later.

Softmax Classifier (Multinomial Logistic Regression)

cat	**3.2**
car	5.1
frog	-1.7

Softmax Classifier (Multinomial Logistic Regression)

scores = unnormalized log probabilities of the classes.

$$\boxed{s = f(x_i; W)}$$

cat	**3.2**
car	5.1
frog	-1.7

Softmax Classifier (Multinomial Logistic Regression)

scores = unnormalized log probabilities of the classes.

$$\boxed{P(Y=k|X=x_i)=\frac{e^{s_k}}{\sum_j e^{s_j}}}$$ where $$\boxed{s=f(x_i;W)}$$

cat	**3.2**
car	5.1
frog	-1.7

Softmax Classifier (Multinomial Logistic Regression)

scores = unnormalized log probabilities of the classes.

$$P(Y=k|X=x_i) = \boxed{\frac{e^{s_k}}{\sum_j e^{s_j}}} \quad \text{where} \quad s = f(x_i; W)$$

Softmax function

cat	**3.2**
car	5.1
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$$\boxed{P(Y=k|X=x_i)=\frac{e^{s_k}}{\sum_j e^{s_j}}}\quad \text{where} \quad \boxed{s=f(x_i;W)}$$

Want to maximize the log likelihood, or (for a loss function) to minimize the negative log likelihood of the correct class:

$$\boxed{L_i=-\log P(Y=y_i|X=x_i)}$$

Softmax Classifier (Multinomial Logistic Regression)

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scores = unnormalized log probabilities of the classes.

$$\boxed{P(Y=k|X=x_i)=\frac{e^{s_k}}{\sum_j e^{s_j}}}$$ where $$\boxed{s=f(x_i;W)}$$

Want to maximize the log likelihood, or (for a loss function) to minimize the negative log likelihood of the correct class:

$$\boxed{L_i=-\log P(Y=y_i|X=x_i)}$$

in summary: $$L_i=-\log\left(\frac{e^{s_{y_i}}}{\sum_j e^{s_j}}\right)$$

Softmax Classifier (Multinomial Logistic Regression)

$$L_i = -\log\left(\frac{e^{s_{y_i}}}{\sum_j e^{s_j}}\right)$$

cat	**3.2**
car	5.1
frog	-1.7

unnormalized log probabilities

Softmax Classifier (Multinomial Logistic Regression)

$$L_i = -\log\left(\frac{e^{s_{y_i}}}{\sum_j e^{s_j}}\right)$$

unnormalized probabilities

cat	**3.2**	exp $\rightarrow$	**24.5**
car	5.1		164.0
frog	-1.7		0.18

unnormalized log probabilities

Softmax Classifier (Multinomial Logistic Regression)

$$L_i = -\log\left(\frac{e^{s_{y_i}}}{\sum_j e^{s_j}}\right)$$

unnormalized probabilities

	unnormalized log probabilities	exp →	unnormalized probabilities	normalize →	probabilities >0, sum to 1
cat	**3.2**		**24.5**		**0.13**
car	5.1		164.0		0.87
frog	-1.7		0.18		0.00

unnormalized log probabilities

probabilities
>0, sum to 1

Softmax Classifier (Multinomial Logistic Regression)

$$L_i = -\log\left(\frac{e^{s_{y_i}}}{\sum_j e^{s_j}}\right)$$

unnormalized probabilities

	unnormalized log probabilities	exp →	unnormalized probabilities	normalize →	probabilities
cat	**3.2**		**24.5**		**0.13**
car	5.1		164.0		0.87
frog	-1.7		0.18		0.00

→ L_i = -log(0.13)
= **0.89**

unnormalized log probabilities

probabilities

Softmax Classifier (Multinomial Logistic Regression)

$$L_i = -\log\left(\frac{e^{s_{y_i}}}{\sum_j e^{s_j}}\right)$$

unnormalized probabilities

	unnormalized log probabilities	exp →	unnormalized probabilities	normalize →	probabilities
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unnormalized log probabilities

probabilities

Softmax Classifier (Multinomial Logistic Regression)

$$L_i = -\log\left(\frac{e^{s_{y_i}}}{\sum_j e^{s_j}}\right)$$

Q: What is the min/max possible loss L_i?

unnormalized probabilities

	unnormalized log probabilities		unnormalized probabilities		probabilities
cat	**3.2**	exp →	**24.5**	normalize →	**0.13**
car	5.1		164.0		0.87
frog	-1.7		0.18		0.00

→ L_i = -log(0.13)
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unnormalized log probabilities

probabilities

Softmax Classifier (Multinomial Logistic Regression)

$$L_i = -\log\left(\frac{e^{s_{y_i}}}{\sum_j e^{s_j}}\right)$$

Q2: usually at initialization W are small numbers, so all s ~= 0. What is the loss?

unnormalized probabilities

cat	**3.2**	exp →	**24.5**	normalize →	**0.13**
car	5.1		164.0		0.87
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→ L_i = -log(0.13)
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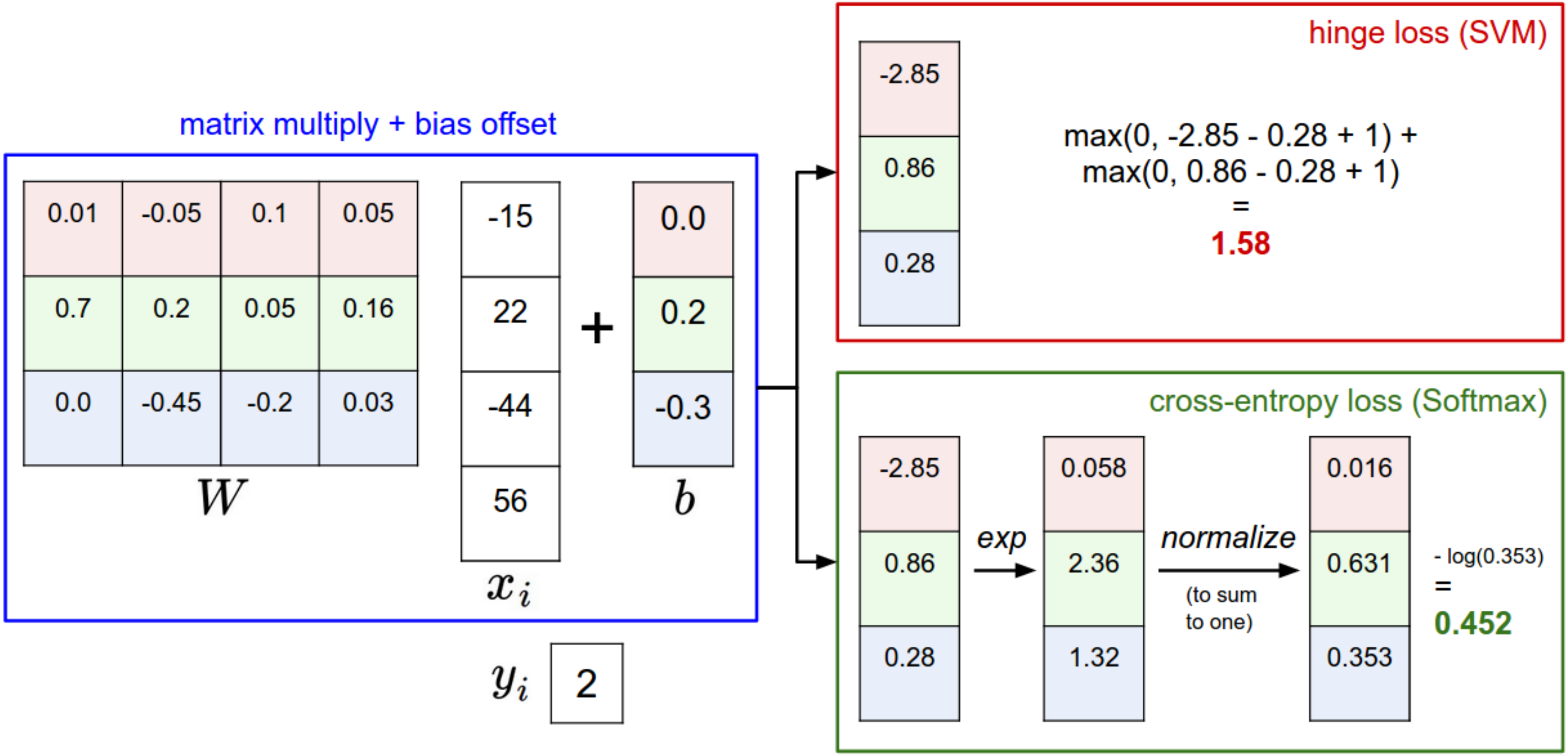
unnormalized log probabilities

probabilities


matrix multiply + bias offset
0.01
-0.05
0.1
0.05
0.7
0.2
0.05
0.16
0.0
-0.45
-0.2
0.03
W
-15
22
-44
56
x_i
+
0.0
0.2
-0.3
b
y_i
2
hinge loss (SVM)
-2.85
0.86
0.28
max(0, -2.85 - 0.28 + 1) +
max(0, 0.86 - 0.28 + 1)
=
1.58
cross-entropy loss (Softmax)
-2.85
0.86
0.28
exp
0.058
2.36
1.32
normalize
(to sum
to one)
0.016
0.631
0.353
- log(0.353)
=
0.452

Softmax vs. SVM

$$L_i = -\log\left(\frac{e^{s_{y_i}}}{\sum_j e^{s_j}}\right)$$

$$L_i = \sum_{j \neq y_i} \max(0, s_j - s_{y_i} + 1)$$

Softmax vs. SVM

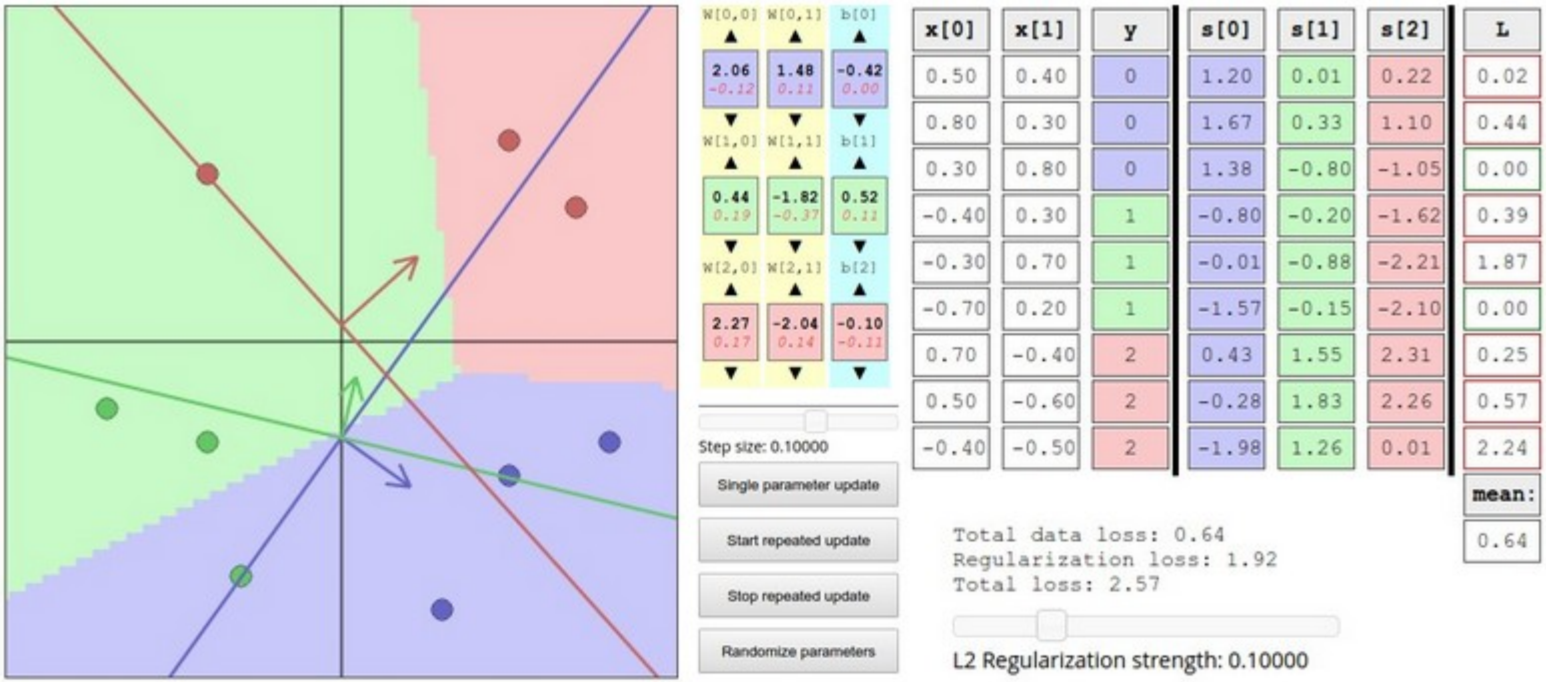
$$L_i = -\log\left(\frac{e^{s_{y_i}}}{\sum_j e^{s_j}}\right)$$

$$L_i = \sum_{j \neq y_i} \max(0, s_j - s_{y_i} + 1)$$

assume scores:
[10, -2, 3]
[10, 9, 9]
[10, -100, -100]
and $\boxed{y_i = 0}$

Q: Suppose I take a datapoint and I jiggle a bit (changing its score slightly). What happens to the loss in both cases?

Interactive Web Demo time....



http://vision.stanford.edu/teaching/cs231n/linear-classify-demo/

Recap

- We have some dataset of (x,y)
- We have a **score function:** $s = f(x; W) \overset{\text{e.g.}}{=} Wx$
- We have a **loss function**:

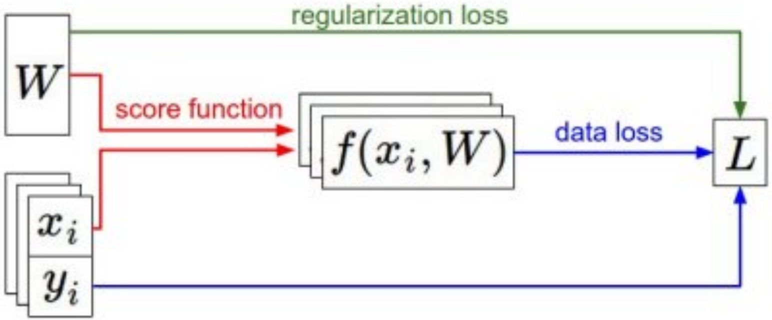
Softmax

$$L_i = -\log\left(\frac{e^{s_{y_i}}}{\sum_j e^{s_j}}\right)$$

SVM

$$L_i = \sum_{j \neq y_i} \max(0, s_j - s_{y_i} + 1)$$

$$L = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^{N} L_i + R(W)$$ Full loss



Optimization

Strategy #1: A first very bad idea solution: **Random search**

```
# assume X_train is the data where each column is an example (e.g. 3073 x 50,000)
# assume Y_train are the labels (e.g. 1D array of 50,000)
# assume the function L evaluates the loss function

bestloss = float("inf") # Python assigns the highest possible float value
for num in xrange(1000):
  W = np.random.randn(10, 3073) * 0.0001 # generate random parameters
  loss = L(X_train, Y_train, W) # get the loss over the entire training set
  if loss < bestloss: # keep track of the best solution
    bestloss = loss
    bestW = W
  print 'in attempt %d the loss was %f, best %f' % (num, loss, bestloss)

# prints:
# in attempt 0 the loss was 9.401632, best 9.401632
# in attempt 1 the loss was 8.959668, best 8.959668
# in attempt 2 the loss was 9.044034, best 8.959668
# in attempt 3 the loss was 9.278948, best 8.959668
# in attempt 4 the loss was 8.857370, best 8.857370
# in attempt 5 the loss was 8.943151, best 8.857370
# in attempt 6 the loss was 8.605604, best 8.605604
# ... (trunctated: continues for 1000 lines)
```

Let’s see how well this works on the test set...

```
# Assume X_test is [3073 x 10000], Y_test [10000 x 1]
scores = Wbest.dot(Xte_cols) # 10 x 10000, the class scores for all test examples
# find the index with max score in each column (the predicted class)
Yte_predict = np.argmax(scores, axis = 0)
# and calculate accuracy (fraction of predictions that are correct)
np.mean(Yte_predict == Yte)
# returns 0.1555
```

15.5% accuracy! not bad!
(SOTA is ~95%)

How often should I expect a random search to find a new improved solution? (POLL)