

TRAINING NEURAL NETWORKS

Recall logistic regression:

1. Define prediction function $f_{w,b}$
2. Specify loss and cost fn. $J(w,b)$
3. Train on data by minimizing cost (using e.g. gradient descent)

For NN w/TF:

1. Build sequential model of dense layers (w/activation fn)
2. Specify loss fn to model. compile
3. Train on data w/ model. fit $(X, Y, \#epochs)$

Activation Functions

So far we've built a NN by stringing together a bunch of log. reg. models (since activation fn = sigmoid). But we can allow a larger range of activation values w/ diff. fns, e.g.

"ReLU" where $g(z) = \max(0, z)$. Linear also sometimes used (aka "none"), softmax.

(And others exist too.)

How to choose?

• Output layer:

- for binary classification, Sigmoid is natural (bc network learns to predict probabilities)
- for regression, linear is natural, since this permits full \mathbb{R} output (which is natural for regression)
- for multiple classes, ReLU is natural: nonzero but multiple values.

