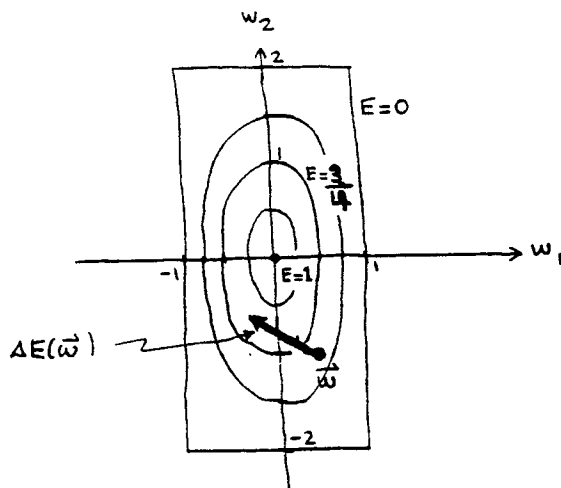


Apr 1990 Gradient Descent - Calculating Gradients  
 Neil E Cothen

ex: Find  $\nabla E(w_1, w_2)$  where  $E(w_1, w_2) = (1 - w_1^2) \left(1 - \frac{w_2^2}{4}\right)$



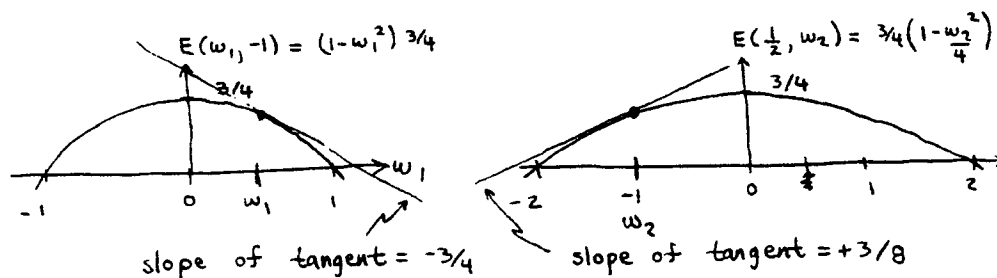
$$\nabla E(w_1, w_2) \equiv \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial E}{\partial w_1} \\ \frac{\partial E}{\partial w_2} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial}{\partial w_1} (1 - w_1^2) \left(1 - \frac{w_2^2}{4}\right) \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial w_2} (1 - w_1^2) \left(1 - \frac{w_2^2}{4}\right) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -2w_1 \left(1 - \frac{w_2^2}{4}\right) \\ -\frac{2w_2}{4} (1 - w_1^2) \end{bmatrix}$$

Consider  $\vec{w} \equiv (w_1, w_2) = \left(\frac{1}{2}, -1\right)$

$$\text{Then } \nabla E\left(\frac{1}{2}, -1\right) = \begin{bmatrix} -2\left(\frac{1}{2}\right) \left(1 - \frac{(-1)^2}{4}\right) \\ -\frac{2(-1)}{4} \left(1 - \left(\frac{1}{2}\right)^2\right) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -3/4 \\ 3/8 \end{bmatrix}$$

slope in  $w_1$  dir  
slope in  $w_2$  dir

Estimate  $\partial E / \partial w_1$ ,  $\partial E / \partial w_2$  from func profiles as a check:

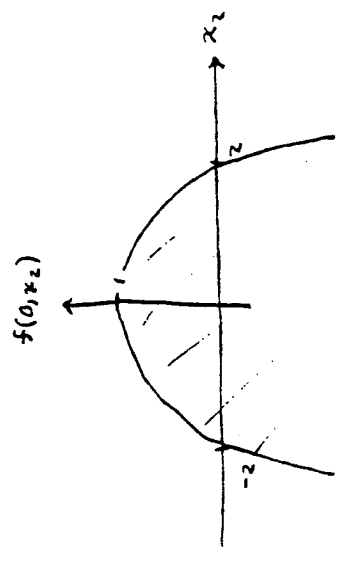
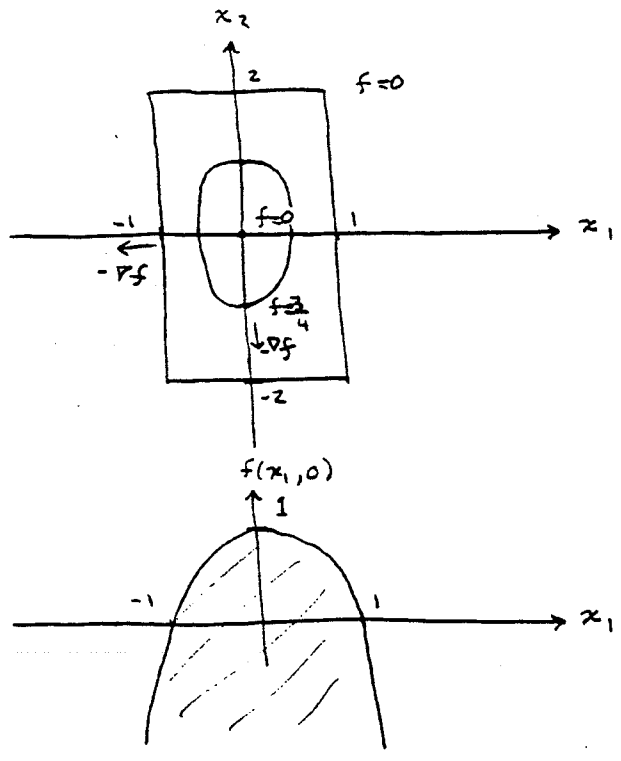


Crude sketch of profiles suggests  $\nabla E = \begin{bmatrix} -3/4 \\ 3/8 \end{bmatrix}$  is plausible

May 1988  
Neil E Cotton

Gradient Descent - Calculating Gradients (cont.)  
ex: Calc gradient

$$f(x_1, x_2) = \left[1 - \frac{x_1^2}{4}\right] \left[1 - \frac{x_2^2}{4}\right]$$



• Cross sections are parabolas

$$\nabla f = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_1} \left[1 - \frac{x_1^2}{4}\right] \left[1 - \frac{x_2^2}{4}\right] \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial x_2} \left[1 - \frac{x_1^2}{4}\right] \left[1 - \frac{x_2^2}{4}\right] \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -\frac{1}{2}x_1 \left[1 - \frac{x_2^2}{4}\right] \\ \left[1 - \frac{x_1^2}{4}\right] \left(-\frac{1}{2}x_2\right) \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\text{at } (-1, 0) \quad -\nabla f = \begin{pmatrix} -2(-1) \left[1 - \frac{0^2}{4}\right] \\ \left[1 - \frac{1^2}{4}\right] - 2 \cdot 0 / 4 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -2 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

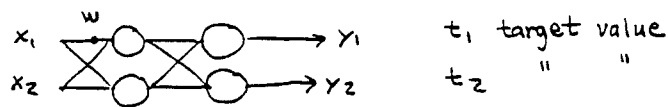
$$\text{at } (0, -1) \quad -\nabla f = \begin{pmatrix} -2 \cdot 0 \left[1 - \frac{(-1)^2}{4}\right] \\ \left[1 - \frac{0^2}{4}\right] \left(-2\right) \frac{(-1)}{4} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1/4 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ -1/4 \end{pmatrix}$$

• Gentler slope for gradient at (0, -1) as can be seen in the picture.

Apr 1990  
Neil E. Cottler

## Gradient Descent - Calculating Gradients (cont.)

### I. Multiple Output Net



Define error for multiple outputs:

$$E \equiv \frac{1}{2} \sum_{k=1}^n (t_k - y_k)^2 \quad \text{for } n \text{ outputs}$$

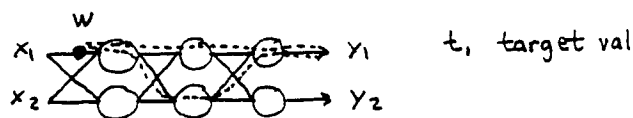
ex:  $n=2$   $E = \frac{1}{2} (t_1 - y_1)^2 + \frac{1}{2} (t_2 - y_2)^2$

A synaptic weight,  $w$ , can affect multiple outputs:

$$\frac{\partial E}{\partial w} = \frac{\partial}{\partial w} \frac{1}{2} \sum_{k=1}^n (t_k - y_k)^2 = \sum_{k=1}^n (t_k - y_k) \frac{\partial y_k}{\partial w}$$

$\therefore$  We calculate affect on each output and then sum.

### II. Multiple Pathways to Output



Dotted paths show how  $w$  affects  $y_1$  in two ways.

We can write a symbolic formula for  $y_1$ :

$$y_1 = f(g_1(w), g_2(w))$$

Then from multivariable calculus we have:

$$\frac{\partial y_1}{\partial w} = \frac{\partial}{\partial w} f(g_1(w), g_2(w)) = \frac{\partial f}{\partial g_1} \frac{\partial g_1(w)}{\partial w} + \frac{\partial f}{\partial g_2} \frac{\partial g_2(w)}{\partial w}$$

In general we have  $\frac{\partial y}{\partial w} = \frac{\partial}{\partial w} f(g_1(w), \dots, g_n(w)) = \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{\partial f}{\partial g_k} \frac{\partial g_k}{\partial w}$

18 Apr 1990

# Gradient Descent - Calculating Gradients (cont.)

Neil E Cotter

ex: Given:  $y(g_1(w), g_2(w)) = g_1(w) \cdot g_2(w)$

and  $g_1(w) = w^2$      $g_2(w) = w^3$

Find:  $\frac{\partial y}{\partial w}$     Use multiple pathways rule (II)

sol'n:  $\frac{\partial y}{\partial w} = \sum_{k=1}^2 \frac{\partial y}{\partial g_k} \frac{\partial g_k}{\partial w}$

$\frac{\partial y}{\partial g_1} = \frac{\partial}{\partial g_1} g_1 \cdot g_2 = g_2$  (treat funcs  $g_1, g_2$  like variables;

$g_2$  acts like const multiplying  $g_1$ , and  $g_1$  acts like a variable such as  $x$  in  $\frac{\partial f(x)}{\partial x}$ )

$\frac{\partial y}{\partial g_2} = \frac{\partial}{\partial g_2} g_1 \cdot g_2 = g_1$

Now we re-introduce  $w$  and note that  $g_2$  is really  $g_2(w)$ , i.e.  $g_2$  evaluated at point  $w$ .

$\frac{\partial g_1}{\partial w} = \frac{\partial}{\partial w} w^2 = 2w$

$\frac{\partial g_2}{\partial w} = \frac{\partial}{\partial w} w^3 = 3w^2$

So  $\frac{\partial y}{\partial w} = g_2(w) 2w + g_1(w) 3w^2$

$\frac{\partial y}{\partial g_1} \frac{\partial g_1}{\partial w} + \frac{\partial y}{\partial g_2} \frac{\partial g_2}{\partial w}$

$= w^3 \cdot 2w + w^2 \cdot 3w^2$

$= 5w^4$

Can check this:  $y = g_1 g_2 = w^2 w^3 = w^5$ ,  $\frac{\partial y}{\partial w} = 5w^4$  ✓

Not always convenient to find  $\partial y / \partial w$  this way.