

Neural networks curve fitting

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This page presents a neural network curve fitting example. This example shows and details how to create nonlinear regression with TensorFlow.

The following has been performed with the following version:

- Python 3.6.9 64 bits
- Matplotlib 3.1.1
- TensorFlow 2.1.0

Try the example online on [Google Colaboratory](#).

Problem definition

The goal of this example is to approximate a nonlinear function given by the following equation:

$$y = 0.1 \cdot x \cdot \cos(x) \tag{1}$$

The blue dots are the training set, the red line is the output of the network:



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Source code

Each line is explained in the next section. Source code and example can be run online on [Google Colaboratory](#).

Explanation

First, we import the libraries:

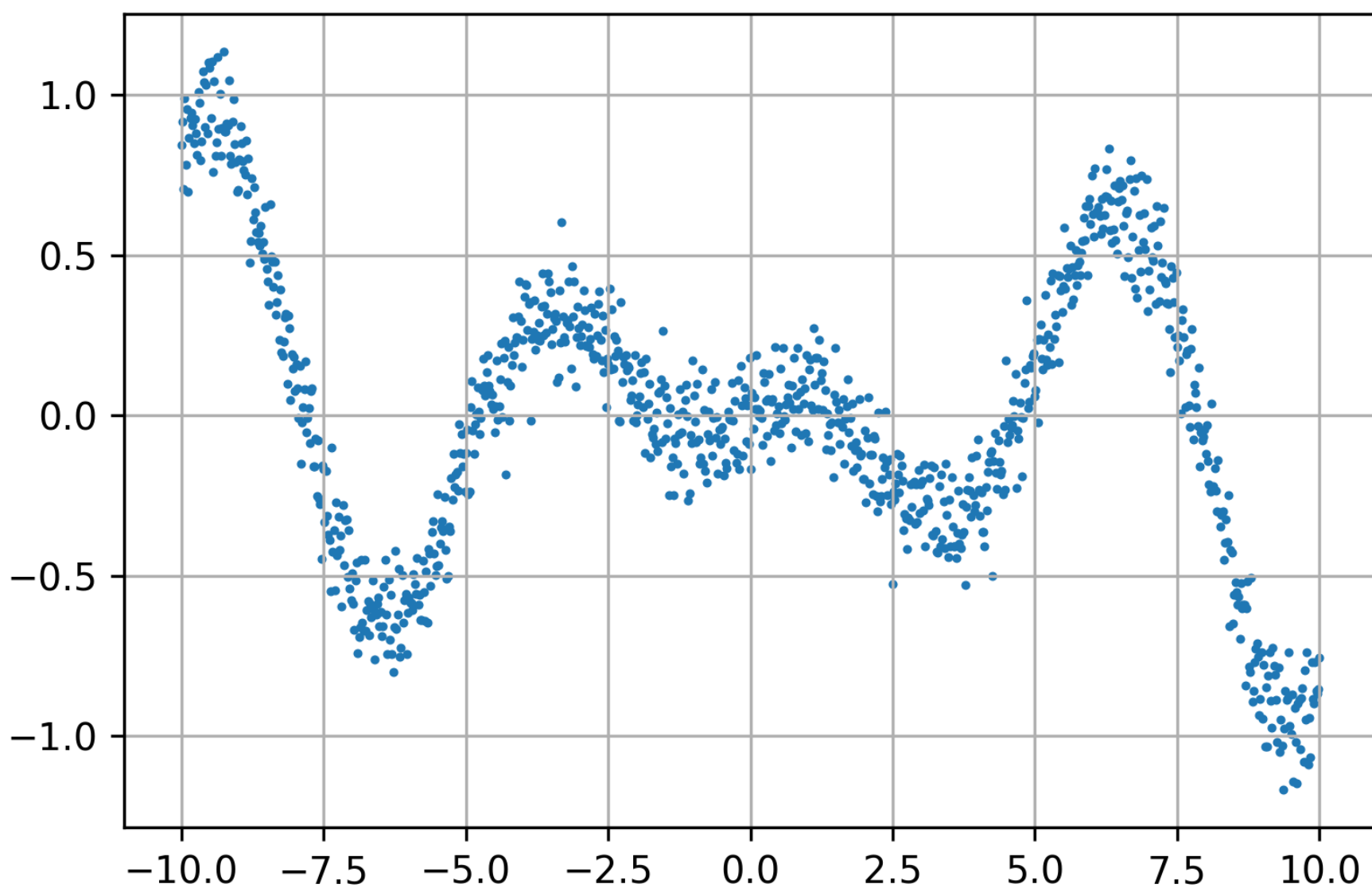
- **numpy** for arrays and matrices
- **matplotlib** for displaying charts
- **google.colab** for downloading files (only if working with Google Colaboratory)
- **Tensorflow** for neural networks
- **math** for the cosinus function

```
import numpy as np
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
from tensorflow import keras
from google.colab import files
import tensorflow as tf
import math
```

Then, we create the training data. **x_data** composed of 1000 points, and normal noise is added to the y-coordinate of each point:

```
# Create noisy data
x_data = np.linspace(-10, 10, num=1000)
y_data = 0.1*x_data*np.cos(x_data) + 0.1*np.random.normal(size=1000)
print('Data created successfully')
```

Here is the training set:



Once our training dataset is built, we can create our network:

- First layer is a single linear unit layer (for the input)
- Second layer is a 64 units RELU layer
- Third layer is a 64 units RELU layer
- Last layer is a single linear unit (for the output)

RELU is probably not the best choice for this application, but it works fine. ELU should provide smotther results.

```
# Create the model
model = keras.Sequential()
model.add(keras.layers.Dense(units = 1, activation = 'linear', input_shape=[1]))
model.add(keras.layers.Dense(units = 64, activation = 'relu'))
model.add(keras.layers.Dense(units = 64, activation = 'relu'))
model.add(keras.layers.Dense(units = 1, activation = 'linear'))
model.compile(loss='mse', optimizer="adam")

# Display the model
model.summary()
```

The model is compiled with the following optimization parameters:

- Optimization algorithm is Adam (`optimizer="adam"`), more info [here](#).
- Loss is the regression loss based on Mean Square Error (`loss='mse'`). More information about metrics on [this page](#).

Once the model is defined, let's train our network:

- `x_data` is the input
- `y_data` is the expected output
- `epochs=100` means our network will be trained 100 times with our dataset
- `verbose=1` display progression and loss in the console.

Training

```
model.fit( x_data, y_data, epochs=100, verbose=1)
```

It should display something like (loss should decrease):

```
Train on 1000 samples
Epoch 1/100
1000/1000 [=====] - 0s 321us/sample - loss: 0.2125
Epoch 2/100
1000/1000 [=====] - 0s 49us/sample - loss: 0.1914
Epoch 3/100
1000/1000 [=====] - 0s 50us/sample - loss: 0.1932
Epoch 4/100
1000/1000 [=====] - 0s 60us/sample - loss: 0.1922

...

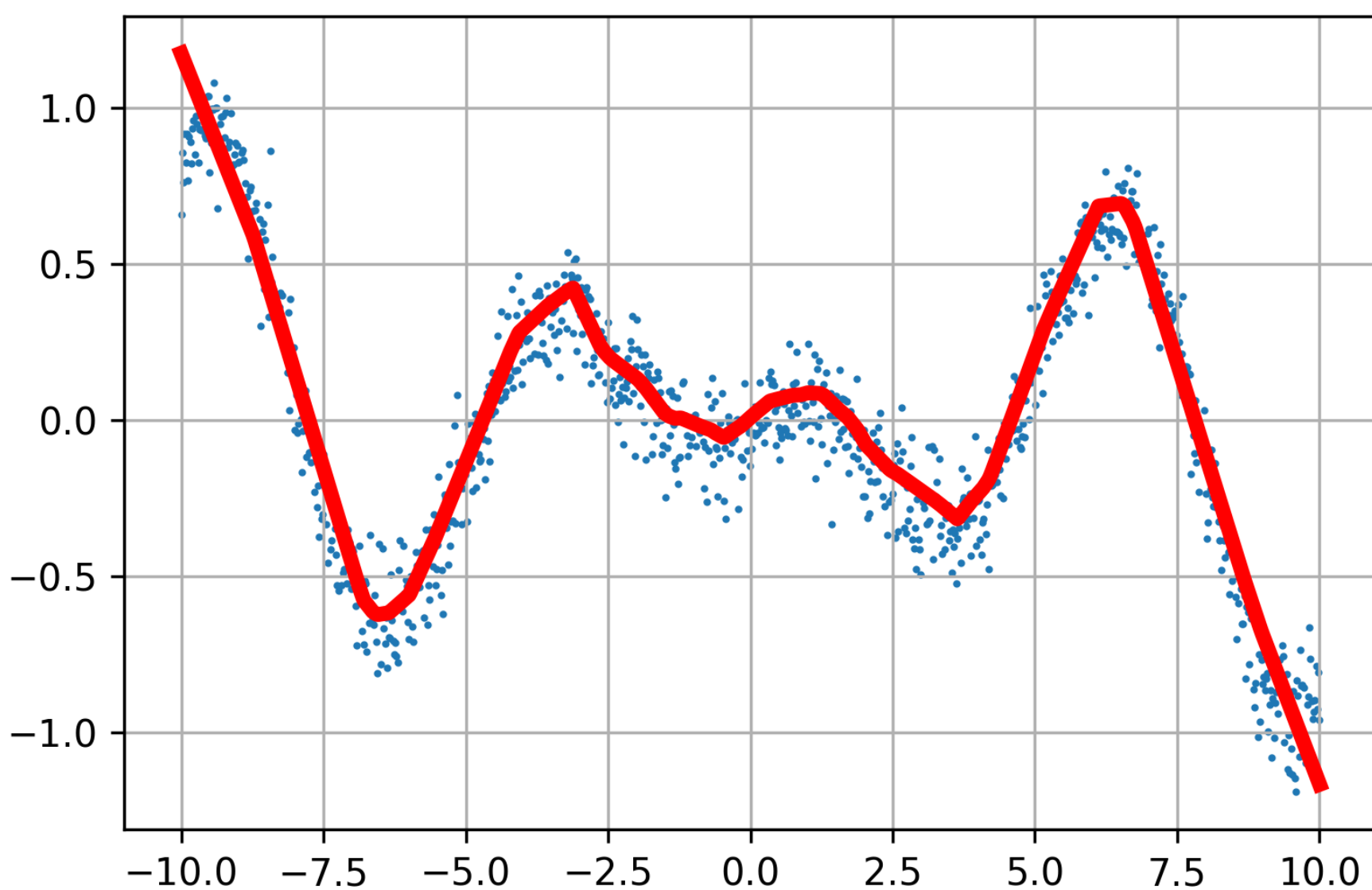
Epoch 97/100
1000/1000 [=====] - 0s 59us/sample - loss: 0.0180
Epoch 98/100
1000/1000 [=====] - 0s 53us/sample - loss: 0.0188
Epoch 99/100
1000/1000 [=====] - 0s 54us/sample - loss: 0.0161
Epoch 100/100
1000/1000 [=====] - 0s 55us/sample - loss: 0.0147
```

Once training is over, we can predict and display the output for each input:

```
# Compute the output
y_predicted = model.predict(x_data)

# Display the result
plt.scatter(x_data[:,1], y_data[:,1])
plt.plot(x_data, y_predicted, 'r', linewidth=4)
plt.grid()
plt.show()
```

Here is the result:


















Source code

You can try this example online on [Google Colaboratory](#).

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See also

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- [Gradient descent example](#) 
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