

1. Neural Network:

- Define the neural network layer
- Assume you have the estimated parameters for the neural network layer, how do you define the loss function?
- How do you optimize the loss function?
- Solve backpropagation by an example
- Explain the concept of backpropagation
- Do you need to evaluate the backpropagation at the different nodes?

2. Cubic Splines

- Define the optimization problem
- What happens when λ goes to 0? To infinity?
- How do you solve the optimization problem?

3. Whitteker Henderson

- Define the optimization problem and describe the meaning of the terms
- How are the discrete derivatives defined?
- How do you solve the optimization problem?
- Compute the first derivative of the optimization problem in matrix notation

4. Lee Carter model

- Describe the Lee-Carter model
- Define the loss function
- Assume we have a solution for a_x , how do you solve for b_x and k_t ?
- Why can we use SVD to solve the problem?
- Can you prove the lemma which defines the SVD?