

SRP  
Neural Networks

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Goals of the meeting:

- Give an overview of applications of artificial neural network
- Present in some detail a machine learning application
- Discussion

# Outline

1. Neural Science
2. Artificial Neural Networks
  - Feedforward Networks
    - Single-layer perceptrons
    - Multi-layer perceptrons
  - Recurrent Networks
3. Other Applications
  - Simulations

What is the mind?

- Neither scientists nor philosophers agree on a universal definition or specification.
- Colloquially, we understand the mind as a collection of processes of **sensation, perception, action, emotion, and cognition**.
- The mind can integrate ambiguous information from sight, hearing, touch, taste, and smell; it can form spatio-temporal associations and abstract concepts; it can make decisions and initiate sophisticated coordinated actions.



## Neuroscience

- is concerned with how the biological nervous systems of humans and other animals are organized and how they function
- the specificity of the synaptic connections established during development underlie perception, action, emotion, and learning. We must also understand both the innate (genetic) and environmental determinants of behavior.
- THE TASK OF NEURAL SCIENCE is to understand the mental processes by which we perceive, act, learn, and remember. How does the brain produce the remarkable individuality of human action?  
Are mental processes localized to specific regions of the brain, or do they represent emergent properties of the brain as an organ?

# Dualism theory

Descartes' (1596-1650) dualism:

	Mind	Body
essence	Thinking (consciousness) (res cogitans)	physical extension (having spatial dimensions) (res extensa)

↪ Mind-Body problem:

how can there be causal relationship between two completely different metaphysical realms?

- Strong artificial general intelligence AI (a branch of cognitive science) system-level approach to synthesizing mind-like computers. (top-down, reductionism)
- Neuroscience takes a **component-level approach** to understanding how the mind arises from the wetware of the brain (bottom-up).
- **Cognitive computing** aims to develop a coherent, unified, universal mechanism inspired by the mind's capabilities.  
Rather than assemble a collection of piecemeal solutions, whereby different cognitive processes are each constructed via independent solutions, we seek to implement a unified computational theory of the mind.

**Cognitive computing:** simulation from neuroscience data. Neurobiological data provide essential constraints on computational theories

↪ narrowing the search space.

**Goal:** discover, demonstrate, and deliver the core algorithms of the brain and gain a deep scientific understanding of how the mind perceives, thinks, and acts.

Ultimately, this will lead to novel cognitive systems, computing architectures, programming paradigms, practical applications, and intelligent business machines.



## Observations of neuroscience

- Neuroscientists: view them as a web of clues to the biological mechanisms of cognition.
- Engineers: The brain is an example solution to the problem of cognitive computing

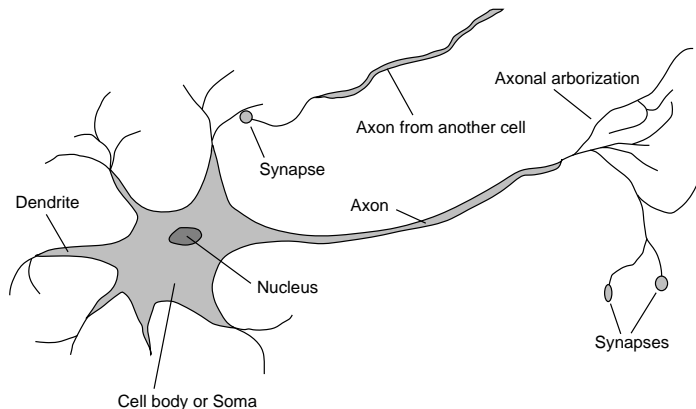
# Neurophysiology

The adaptation of a biological cell into a structure capable of: **receiving** and **integrating input**, making a **decision** based on that input, and **signaling** other cells depending on the outcome of that decision is a truly remarkable feat of evolution.

three main structural components:

- **dendrites**, tree-like structures that receive and integrate inputs;
- a **soma**, where decisions based on these inputs are made;
- and an **axon**, a long narrow structure that transmits signals to other neurons near and far (can reach one meter length)

# A neuron in a living biological system



Signals are noisy “spike trains” of electrical potential

In the brain:  $> 20$  types of neurons with  $10^{14}$  synapses

	Brain	Computer
No. of processing units	$\approx 10^{11}$	$\approx 10^9$
Type of processing units	Neurons	Transistors
Type of calculation	massively parallel	usually serial
Data storage	associative	address-based
Switching time	$\approx 10^{-3}\text{s}$	$\approx 10^{-9}\text{s}$
Possible switching operations	$\approx 10^{13} \frac{1}{\text{s}}$	$\approx 10^{18} \frac{1}{\text{s}}$
Actual switching operations	$\approx 10^{12} \frac{1}{\text{s}}$	$\approx 10^{10} \frac{1}{\text{s}}$

(compare with world population =  $7 \times 10^9$ )

Additionally, brain is parallel and reorganizing while computers are serial and static

Brain is fault tolerant: neurons can be destroyed.

## Signal integration and transmission within a neuron:

- Fluctuations in the neuron's membrane potential: voltage difference across the membrane that separates the interior and exterior of a cell.
- Fluctuations occur when ions cross the neuron's membrane through channels that can be opened and closed selectively.
- If the membrane potential crosses a **critical threshold**, the neuron generates a **spike** (its determination that it has received noteworthy input), which is a reliable, stereotyped electrochemical signal sent along its axon.
- **Spikes** are the essential information couriers of the brain e.g., used in the sensory signals the retina sends down the optic nerve in response to light, in the control signals the motor cortex sends down the spinal cord to actuate muscles, and in virtually every step in between.

- **Synapses** are tiny structures that bridge the axon of one neuron to the dendrite of the next, transducing the electrical signal of a spike into a chemical signal and back to electrical.
- The spiking neuron, called the **presynaptic neuron**, releases chemicals called neurotransmitters at the synapse that rapidly travel to the other neuron, called the **postsynaptic neuron**.
- The neurotransmitters trigger ion-channel openings on the surface of the post-synaptic cell, subsequently modifying the membrane potential of the receiving dendrite.
- These changes can be either **excitatory**, meaning they make target neurons more likely to fire, or **inhibitory**, making their targets less likely to fire.
- Both the **input spike pattern** received and the **neuron type** determine the final spiking pattern of the receiving neuron.

Thus:

- essentially digital electrical signal of the spike sent down one neuron
- is converted first into a chemical signal that can travel between neurons
- then into an analog electrical signal that can be integrated by the receiving neuron.

The magnitude of this analog post-synaptic activation, called **synaptic strength**, is not fixed over an organism's lifetime.

Widely believed among brain researchers that changes in synaptic strength underlie **learning** and **memory**, and hence that understanding **synaptic plasticity** could provide crucial insight into cognitive function.

Donald O. Hebb's famous conjecture for synaptic plasticity is "neurons that fire together, wire together," i.e., that if neuron A and B commonly fire spikes at around the same time, they will increase the synaptic strength between them.

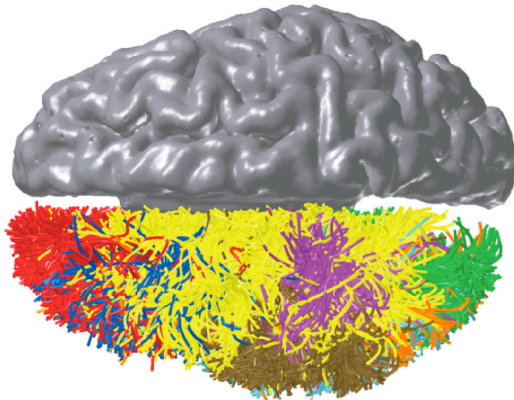
How much details of such a spiking message passing, like time dynamics of dendritic compartments, ion concentrations, and protein conformations, are relevant to the fundamental **principles of cognition**?



# Neuroanatomy

At the surface of the brains of all mammals is a sheet of tissue a few millimeters thick called the **cerebral cortex**

Neurons are connected locally through gray-matter connections, as well as through long-range white-matter connections

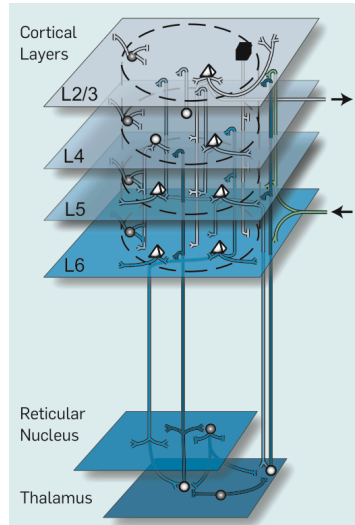


diffusion-weighted magnetic resonance imaging (Dw-Mri)  
functional magnetic resonance imaging (fMRI)

Structure within cortex: six distinct horizontal layers spanning the thickness of the cortical sheet. interlaminar activity propagation

Cortical columns organize into cortical areas that are often several millimeters across and appear to be responsible for specific functions, including motor control, vision, and planning.

Scientists have focused on understanding the role each cortical area plays in brain function and how anatomy and connectivity of the area serve that function.



**Structural plasticity** For example, it has been demonstrated that an area normally specialized for audition can function as one specialized for vision, and vice versa, by rewiring the visual pathways in the white matter to auditory cortex and the auditory pathways to visual cortex

The existence of a canonical **algorithm** is a prominent hypothesis

At the coarsest scale of neuronal system organization, multiple cortical areas form networks to address complex functionality.

# From Brains to Artificial Neural Networks

From neuroscience observations to artificial neurons

- The brain's neuronal network is a **sparse, directed graph** organized at multiple scales.
- Local, short-range connections can be described through statistical variations on a repeating canonical subcircuit,
- Global, long-range connections can be described through a specific, low-complexity blueprint.
- Repeating structure within an individual brain and a great deal of homology across species.

Thesis: computational building blocks of the brain (neurons and synapses) can be **described** by relatively compact, functional, phenomenological mathematical models, and their communication can be summarized in binary, asynchronous messages (spikes).

Key idea: behavior of the brain apparently **emerges** via non-random, correlated interactions between individual functional units, a key characteristic of **organized complexity**.

Such complex systems are often more amenable to **computer modeling and simulation** than to closed-form analysis and often resist piecemeal decomposition.

## 1. Neural Science

## 2. Artificial Neural Networks

- Feedforward Networks

  - Single-layer perceptrons

  - Multi-layer perceptrons

- Recurrent Networks

## 3. Other Applications

- Simulations

How to teach computers to carry out difficult tasks?

Get inspired from Biology and let computers learn themselves like children.

[A.M. Turing. Computing Machinery and Intelligence. Mind, Oxford University Press on behalf of the Mind Association, 1950, 59(236), 433-460]

Learning:

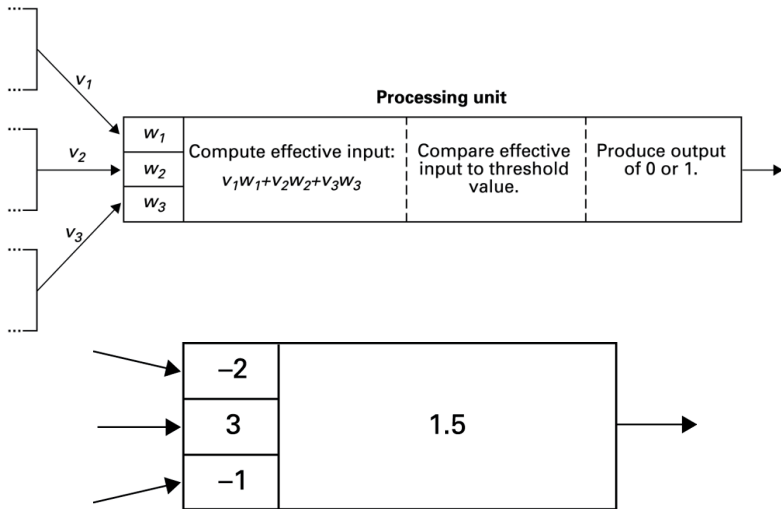
- Supervised Training (Imitation)
- Reinforcement
- Unsupervised

↪ “**The** neural network” does not exist. There are different paradigms for neural networks, how they are trained and where they are used.

- Artificial Neuron
  - Each input is multiplied by a weighting factor.
  - Output is 1 if sum of weighted inputs exceeds the threshold value; 0 otherwise.
- Network is programmed by adjusting weights using feedback from examples.

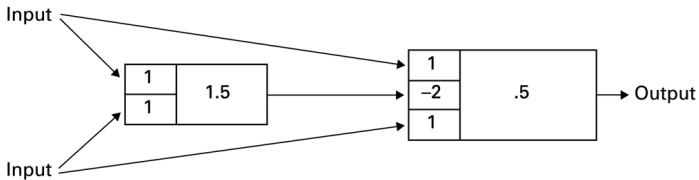


# Activities within a processing unit

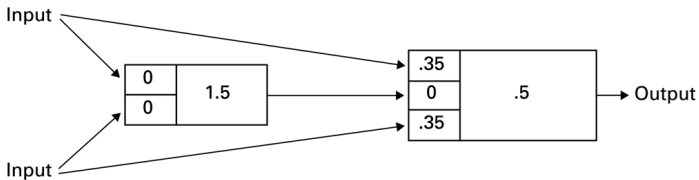


# Neural Network with two layers

a.



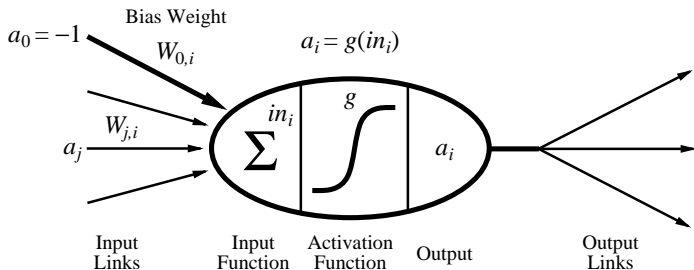
b.



# McCulloch–Pitts “unit” (1943)

Output is a function of weighted inputs:

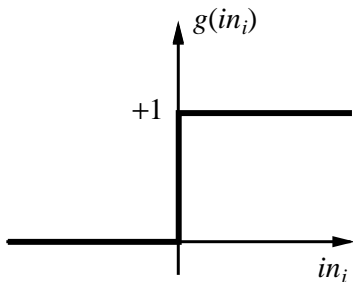
$$a_i = \sigma(in_i) = \sigma \left( \sum_j W_{j,i} a_j \right)$$



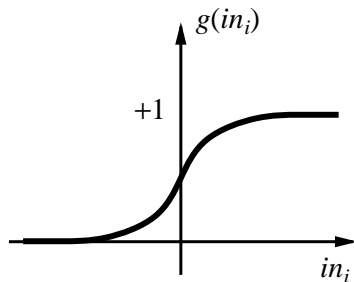
A gross oversimplification of real neurons, but its purpose is to develop understanding of what networks of simple units can do

# Activation functions

Non linear activation functions



(a)

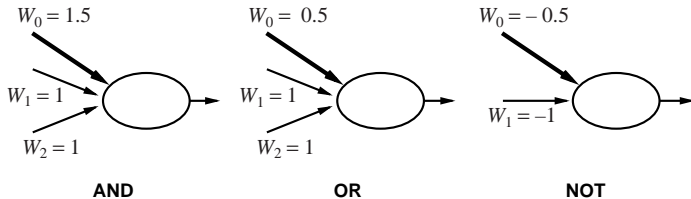


(b)

- (a) is a **step function** or **threshold function** (mostly used in theoretical studies)
- (b) is a **continuous activation function**, e.g., **sigmoid function**  $1/(1 + e^{-x})$  (mostly used in practical applications)

Changing the bias weight  $W_{0,i}$  moves the threshold location

# Implementing logical functions



McCulloch and Pitts: every Boolean function can be implemented

# Network structures

Architecture: definition of number of nodes and interconnection structures and activation functions  $\sigma$  but not weights.

- Feed-forward networks:

- no cycles in the connection graph

- single-layer perceptrons (no hidden layer)

- multi-layer perceptrons (one or more hidden layer)

Feed-forward networks implement functions, have no internal state

- Recurrent networks:

- Hopfield networks have symmetric weights ( $W_{i,j} = W_{j,i}$ )

- $\sigma(x) = \text{sign}(x)$ ,  $a_i = \{1, 0\}$ ; **associative memory**

- recurrent neural nets have directed cycles with delays

- $\implies$  have internal state (like flip-flops), can oscillate etc.

Neural Networks are used in **classification** and **regression**

- Boolean classification:
  - value over 0.5 one class
  - value below 0.5 other class
- $k$ -way classification
  - divide single output into  $k$  portions
  - $k$  separate output unit
- continuous output
  - identity activation function in output unit

## 1. Neural Science

## 2. Artificial Neural Networks

Feedforward Networks

Single-layer perceptrons

Multi-layer perceptrons

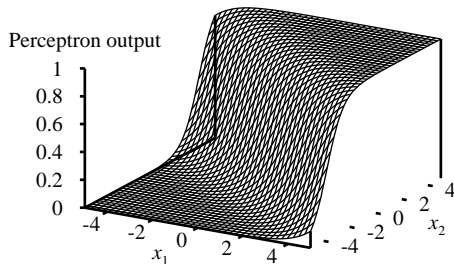
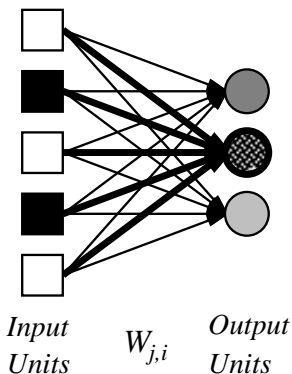
Recurrent Networks

## 3. Other Applications

Simulations



# Single-layer NN (perceptrons)



Output units all operate separately—no shared weights

Adjusting weights moves the location, orientation, and steepness of cliff

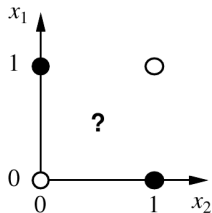
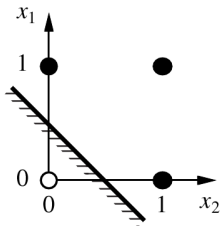
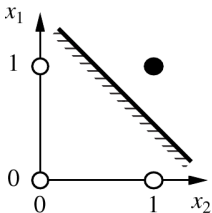
# Expressiveness of perceptrons

Consider a perceptron with  $\sigma =$  step function (Rosenblatt, 1957, 1960)  
 The output is 1 when:

$$\sum_j W_j x_j > 0 \quad \text{or} \quad \mathbf{W} \cdot \mathbf{x} > 0$$

Hence, it represents a **linear separator** in input space:

- hyperplane in multidimensional space
- line in 2 dimensions



Minsky & Papert (1969) pricked the neural network balloon

# Perceptron learning

Learn by adjusting weights to reduce **error** on training set

The **squared error** for an example with input  $\mathbf{x}$  and true output  $y$  is

$$E = \frac{1}{2} \text{Err}^2 \equiv \frac{1}{2} (y - h_{\mathbf{W}}(\mathbf{x}))^2 ,$$

Find local optima for the minimization of the function  $E(\mathbf{W})$  in the vector of variables  $\mathbf{W}$  by **gradient methods**.

Note, the function  $E$  depends on constant values  $\mathbf{x}$  that are the inputs to the perceptron.

The function  $E$  depends on  $h$  which is non-convex, hence the optimization problem cannot be solved just by solving  $\nabla E(\mathbf{W}) = 0$

# Digression: Gradient methods

Gradient methods are iterative approaches:

- find a descent direction with respect to the objective function  $E$
- move  $\mathbf{W}$  in that direction by a step size

The descent direction can be computed by various methods, such as gradient descent, Newton-Raphson method and others. The step size can be computed either exactly or loosely by solving a line search problem.

Example: gradient descent

1. Set iteration counter  $t = 0$ , and make an initial guess  $\mathbf{W}_0$  for the minimum
2. Repeat:
3. Compute a descent direction  $\mathbf{p}_t = \nabla(E(\mathbf{W}_t))$
4. Choose  $\alpha_t$  to minimize  $f(\alpha) = E(\mathbf{W}_t - \alpha\mathbf{p}_t)$  over  $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}_+$
5. Update  $\mathbf{W}_{t+1} = \mathbf{W}_t - \alpha_t\mathbf{p}_t$ , and  $t = t + 1$
6. Until  $\|\nabla f(\mathbf{W}_k)\| < tolerance$

Step 3 can be solved 'loosely' by taking a fixed small enough value  $\alpha > 0$

# Perceptron learning

In the specific case of the perceptron, the descent direction is computed by the gradient:

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\partial E}{\partial W_j} &= Err \cdot \frac{\partial Err}{\partial W_j} = Err \cdot \frac{\partial}{\partial W_j} \left( y - \sigma \left( \sum_{j=0}^n W_j x_j \right) \right) \\ &= -Err \cdot \sigma'(in) \cdot x_j\end{aligned}$$

and the weight update rule ([perceptron learning rule](#)) in step 5 becomes:

$$W_j^{t+1} = W_j^t + \alpha \cdot Err \cdot \sigma'(in) \cdot x_j$$

For threshold perceptron,  $\sigma'(in)$  is undefined: Original perceptron learning rule (Rosenblatt, 1957) simply omits  $\sigma'(in)$

# Perceptron learning contd.

**function** Perceptron-Learning(*examples, network*) **returns** *perceptron weights*

**inputs:** *examples*, a set of examples, each with input

$\mathbf{x} = x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$  and output  $y$

**inputs:** *network*, a perceptron with weights  $W_j, j = 0, \dots, n$  and activation function  $g$

**repeat**

**for each**  $e$  **in** *examples* **do**

$$in \leftarrow \sum_{j=0}^n W_j x_j[e]$$

$$Err \leftarrow y[e] - g(in)$$

$$W_j \leftarrow W_j + \alpha \cdot Err \cdot g'(in) \cdot x_j[e]$$

**end**

**until** all examples correctly predicted or stopping criterion is reached

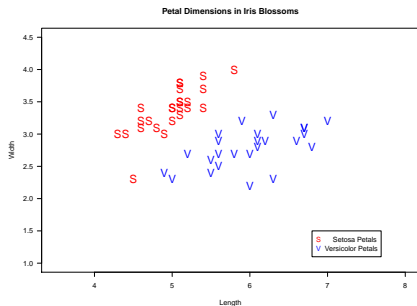
**return** *network*

Perceptron learning rule converges to a consistent function

**for any linearly separable data set**

# Numerical Example

The (Fisher's or Anderson's) **iris** data set gives the measurements in centimeters of the variables petal length and width, respectively, for 50 flowers from each of 2 species of iris. The species are "Iris setosa", and "versicolor".



```
> head(iris.data)
```

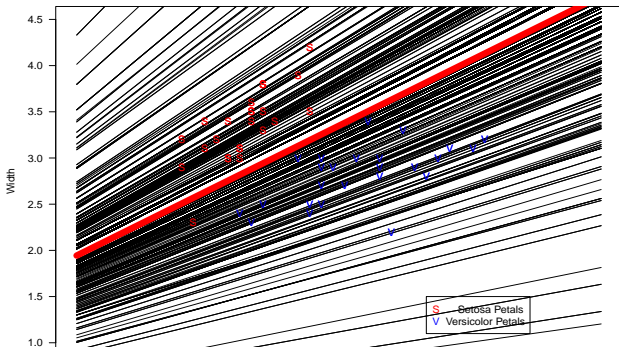
	Sepal.Length	Sepal.Width	Species	id
6	5.4	3.9	setosa	-1
4	4.6	3.1	setosa	-1
84	6.0	2.7	versicolor	1
31	4.8	3.1	setosa	-1
77	6.8	2.8	versicolor	1
15	5.8	4.0	setosa	-1

```

> sigma <- function(w, point) {
+   x <- c(point, 1)
+   sign(w %% x)
+ }
> w.0 <- c(runif(1), runif(1), runif(1))
> w.t <- w.0
> for (j in 1:1000) {
+   i <- (j - 1)%50 + 1
+   diff <- iris.data[i, 4] - sigma(w.t, c(iris.data[i, 1], iris.data[i, 2], 1))
+   w.t <- w.t + 0.2 * diff * c(iris.data[i, 1], iris.data[i, 2], 1)
+ }

```

Petal Dimensions in Iris Blossoms





## Using Linear algebra to build the Perceptron

```
> with(linalg):  
> x1 := vector([0.3,0.7, -1]);  
> y := 1;  
> w0 := vector([-0.6,0.8, 0.6]);  
> i1 := dotprod(a1,w0);  
> g := signum(i1);  
> diff := y-1  
> w1 := w0 + 0.2 * diff * x1
```

## 1. Neural Science

## 2. Artificial Neural Networks

Feedforward Networks

Single-layer perceptrons

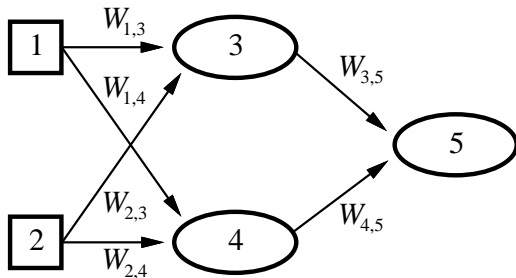
Multi-layer perceptrons

Recurrent Networks

## 3. Other Applications

Simulations

# Multilayer Feed-forward



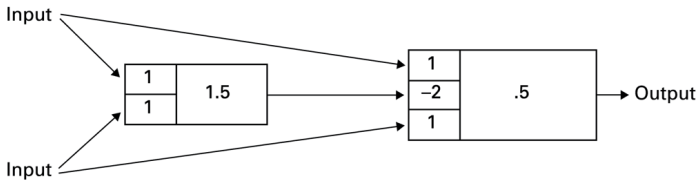
Feed-forward network = a parametrized family of nonlinear functions:

$$\begin{aligned}a_5 &= \sigma(W_{3,5} \cdot a_3 + W_{4,5} \cdot a_4) \\ &= \sigma(W_{3,5} \cdot \sigma(W_{1,3} \cdot a_1 + W_{2,3} \cdot a_2) + W_{4,5} \cdot \sigma(W_{1,4} \cdot a_1 + W_{2,4} \cdot a_2))\end{aligned}$$

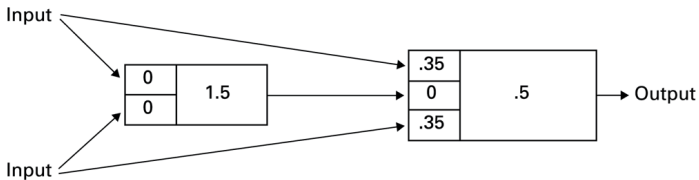
Adjusting weights changes the function: do learning this way!

# Neural Network with two layers

a.



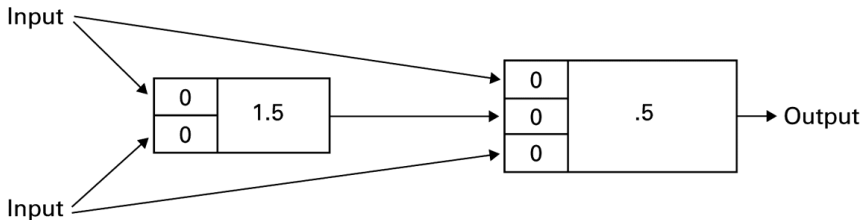
b.



# Multilayer Expressiveness

## Basic Example

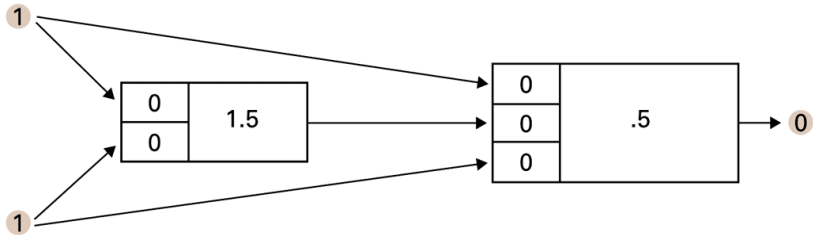
**Exercise:** set the weights in such a way that the network represents the XOR logical operator.



# Multilayer Expressiveness

## Basic Example

**Exercise:** set the weights in such a way that the network represents the XOR logical operator.

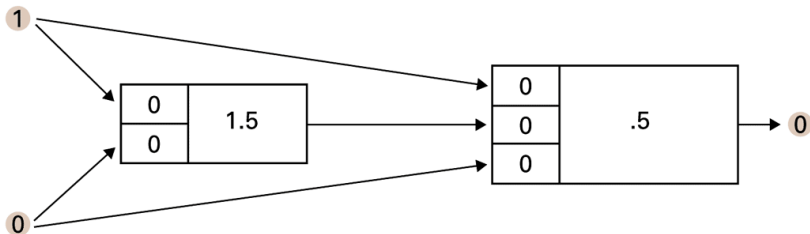


a. The network performs correctly for the input pattern 1, 1.

# Multilayer Expressiveness

## Basic Example

**Exercise:** set the weights in such a way that the network represents the XOR logical operator.

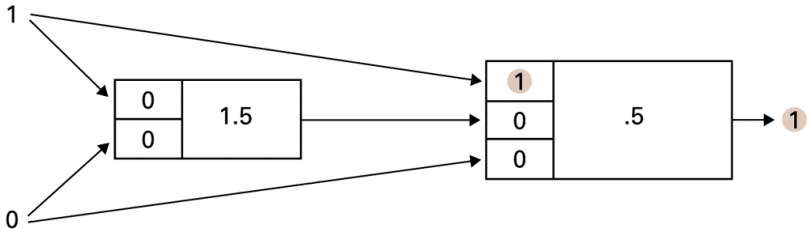


b. The network performs incorrectly for the input pattern 1, 0.

# Multilayer Expressiveness

## Basic Example

**Exercise:** set the weights in such a way that the network represents the XOR logical operator.



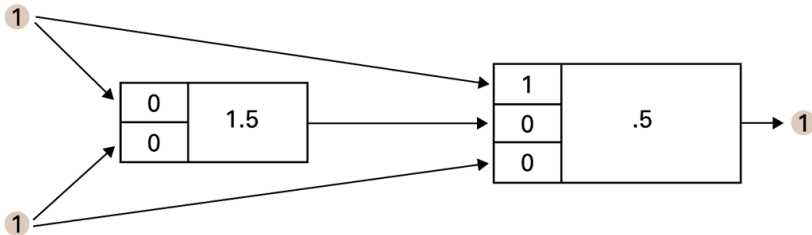
c. The upper weight in the second processing unit is adjusted.



# Multilayer Expressiveness

## Basic Example

**Exercise:** set the weights in such a way that the network represents the XOR logical operator.

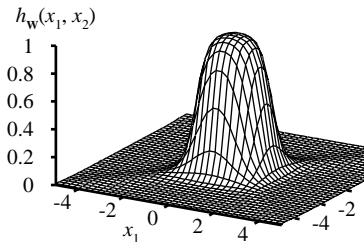
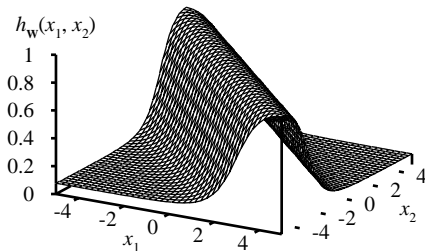


d. However, the network no longer performs correctly for the input pattern 1, 1.

...how should we continue?

# Expressiveness of MLPs

All continuous functions with 2 layers, all functions with 3 layers



Combine two opposite-facing threshold functions to make a ridge

Combine two perpendicular ridges to make a bump

Add bumps of various sizes and locations to fit any surface

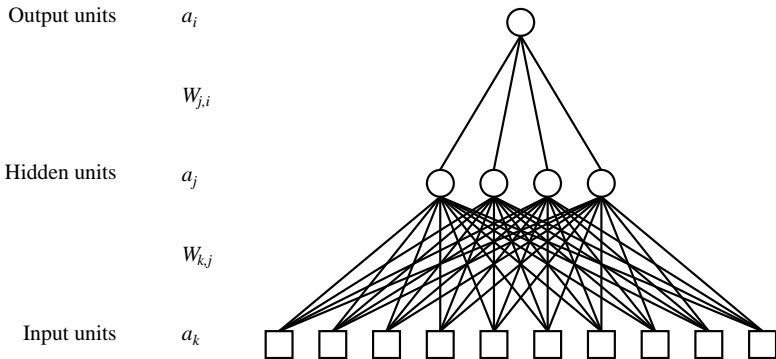
Proof requires exponentially many hidden units

# Backpropagation Algorithm

- Supervised learning method to train multilayer feedforward NNs with differentiable transfer functions.
- Adjust weights along the negative of the gradient of performance function.
- Forward-Backward pass.
- Sequential or batch mode
- Convergence time vary exponentially with number of inputs
- Avoid local minima by **simulated annealing** and other **metaheuristics**

# Multilayer perceptrons

Layers are usually fully connected;  
numbers of **hidden units** typically chosen by hand



# Back-propagation learning

**Output layer:** same as for single-layer perceptron,

$$W_{j,i} \leftarrow W_{j,i} + \alpha \times a_j \times \Delta_i$$

where  $\Delta_i = Err_i \times g'(in_i)$

**Hidden layer:** **back-propagate** the error from the output layer:

$$\Delta_j = g'(in_j) \sum_i W_{j,i} \Delta_i .$$

Update rule for weights in hidden layer:

$$W_{k,j} \leftarrow W_{k,j} + \alpha \times a_k \times \Delta_j .$$

(Most neuroscientists deny that back-propagation occurs in the brain)

# Back-propagation derivation

The squared error on a single example is defined as

$$E = \frac{1}{2} \sum_i (y_i - a_i)^2 ,$$

where the sum is over the nodes in the output layer.

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial E}{\partial W_{j,i}} &= -(y_i - a_i) \frac{\partial a_i}{\partial W_{j,i}} = -(y_i - a_i) \frac{\partial g(in_i)}{\partial W_{j,i}} \\ &= -(y_i - a_i) g'(in_i) \frac{\partial in_i}{\partial W_{j,i}} = -(y_i - a_i) g'(in_i) \frac{\partial}{\partial W_{j,i}} \left( \sum_j W_{j,i} a_j \right) \\ &= -(y_i - a_i) g'(in_i) a_j = -a_j \Delta_i \end{aligned}$$

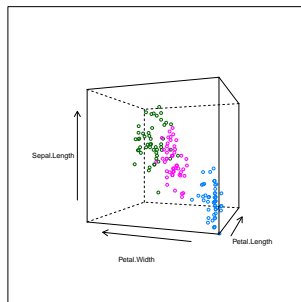
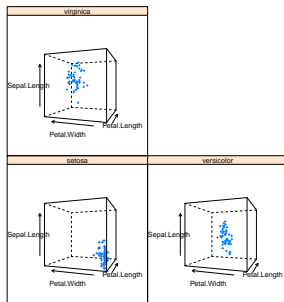
## Back-propagation derivation contd.

For the hidden layer:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \frac{\partial E}{\partial W_{k,j}} &= -\sum_i (y_i - a_i) \frac{\partial a_i}{\partial W_{k,j}} = -\sum_i (y_i - a_i) \frac{\partial g(in_i)}{\partial W_{k,j}} \\
 &= -\sum_i (y_i - a_i) g'(in_i) \frac{\partial in_i}{\partial W_{k,j}} = -\sum_i \Delta_i \frac{\partial}{\partial W_{k,j}} \left( \sum_j W_{j,i} a_j \right) \\
 &= -\sum_i \Delta_i W_{j,i} \frac{\partial a_j}{\partial W_{k,j}} = -\sum_i \Delta_i W_{j,i} \frac{\partial g(in_j)}{\partial W_{k,j}} \\
 &= -\sum_i \Delta_i W_{j,i} g'(in_j) \frac{\partial in_j}{\partial W_{k,j}} \\
 &= -\sum_i \Delta_i W_{j,i} g'(in_j) \frac{\partial}{\partial W_{k,j}} \left( \sum_k W_{k,j} a_k \right) \\
 &= -\sum_i \Delta_i W_{j,i} g'(in_j) a_k = -a_k \Delta_j
 \end{aligned}$$

# Numerical Example

The (Fisher's or Anderson's) *iris* data set gives the measurements in centimeters of the variables petal length and width, respectively, for 50 flowers from each of 2 species of iris. The species are "Iris setosa", and "versicolor".





# Numerical Example

```
> samp <- c(sample(1:50, 25), sample(51:100, 25), sample(101:150, 25))
> Target <- class.ind(iris$Species)
> ir.nn <- nnet(Target ~ Sepal.Length * Petal.Length * Petal.Width, data
+   size = 2, rang = 0.1, decay = 5e-04, maxit = 200, trace = FALSE)
> test.cl <- function(true, pred) {
+   true <- max.col(true)
+   cres <- max.col(pred)
+   table(true, cres)
+ }
> test.cl(Target[-samp, ], predict(ir.nn, iris[-samp, c(1, 3, 4)]))
```

```
      cres
true  1  2  3
  1 25  0  0
  2  0 22  3
  3  0  2 23
```

# Training and Assessment

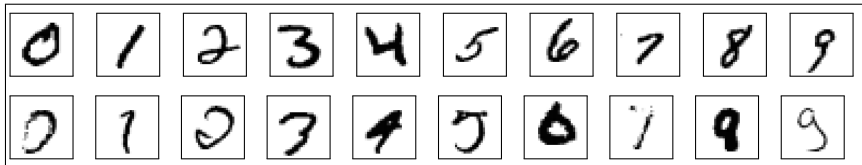
Use different data for different tasks:

- Training and Test data: **holdout cross validation**
- If little data:  **$k$ -fold cross validation**

Avoid peeking:

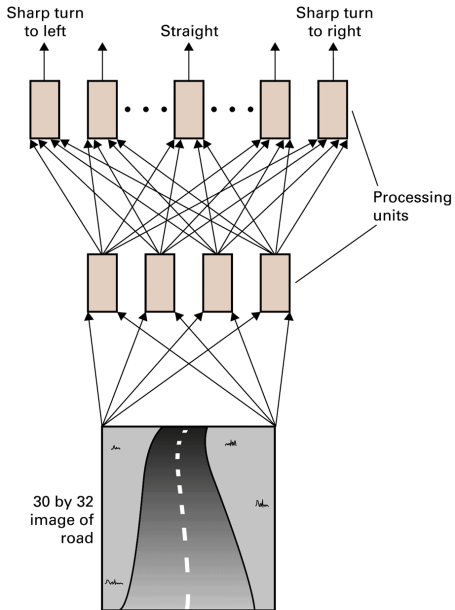
- Weights learned on training data.
- Parameters such as learning rate  $\alpha$  and net topology compared on validation data
- Final assessment on test data

# Handwritten digit recognition



- 400–300–10 unit MLP = 1.6% error
- LeNet: 768–192–30–10 unit MLP = 0.9% error  
<http://yann.lecun.com/exdb/lenet/>
- Current best (kernel machines, vision algorithms)  $\approx$  0.6% error
- Humans are at 0.2% – 2.5 % error

# Another Practical Example



# Directions of research in ANN

- Representational capability assuming unlimited number of neurons (no training)
- Numerical analysis or approximation theoretic: how many hidden units are necessary to achieve a certain approximation error? (no training)  
Results for single hidden layer and multiple hidden layers
- Sample complexity: how many samples are needed to characterize a certain unknown mapping.
- Efficient learning: backpropagation has the curse of dimensionality problem

# Approximation properties

NNs with 2 hidden layers and arbitrarily many nodes can approximate any real-valued function up to any desired accuracy, using continuous activation functions

*E.g.: required number of hidden units grows exponentially with number of inputs.*

*$2^n/n$  hidden units needed to encode all Boolean functions of  $n$  inputs*

However proofs are not constructive.

More interest in efficiency issues: NNs with small size and depth

Size-depth trade off: more layers  $\rightsquigarrow$  more costly to simulate

Backpropagation through time solve temporal differentiable optimization problems with continuous variables

- Associative memory: The retrieval of information relevant to the information at hand
- One direction of research seeks to build associative memory using neural networks that when given a partial pattern, transition themselves to a completed pattern.



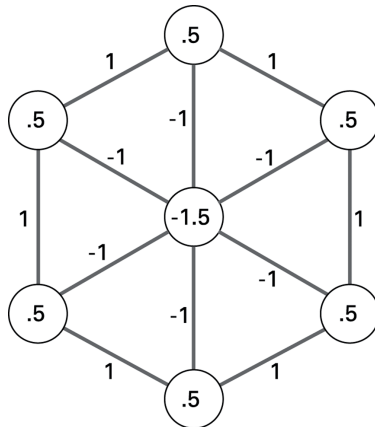
## Example

An artificial neural network implementing an associative memory

– symmetric weights ( $W_{i,j} = W_{j,i}$ );

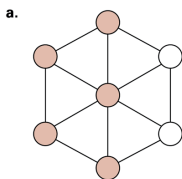
–  $\sigma(x) = \text{sign}(x)$ ,  $a_i = \{1, 0\}$ ;

– operates in synchronized discrete steps

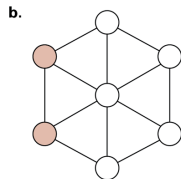


# Example

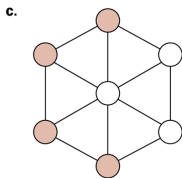
The steps leading to a stable configuration



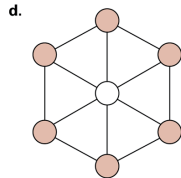
**Start:** All but the rightmost units are excited



**Step1:** Only the leftmost units remain excited



**Step 2:** The top and bottom units become excited



**Final:** All the units on the perimeter are excited

- Supervised learning
- Perceptron learning rule: an algorithm for learning weights in single layered networks.
- Perceptrons: linear separators, insufficiently expressive
- Multi-layer networks are sufficiently expressive
- Many applications: speech, driving, handwriting, fraud detection, etc.
- Recurrent networks give rise to associative memory

## 1. Neural Science

## 2. Artificial Neural Networks

- Feedforward Networks

  - Single-layer perceptrons

  - Multi-layer perceptrons

- Recurrent Networks

## 3. Other Applications

- Simulations

# Applications

- supervised learning: regression and classification
- associative memory
- optimization:

*R. Durbin and D. Willshaw. An analogue approach to the traveling salesman problem using an elastic net method. Nature, 326:689–691, 1987*

*J.J. Hopfield and D.W. Tank. Neural computation of decisions in optimization problems. Biological Cybernetics. 52: 141–152,1985*

*T. Kohonen. Self-Organizing and Associative Memory. Springer. Berlin 1988.*

(position of units incrementally adjusted – like weights in NNs – until sufficiently close to vertices.)

- grammatical induction, (aka, grammatical inference)  
e.g. in natural language processing
- noise filtering
- simulation of biological brains

# Simulation of biological brains

Operationalize neuroscience data

Bottom-up approach

Cognitive computing

Appropriate level of abstraction and resolution: the only solution is to experiment and explore as a community.

- AI: high levels of abstraction: cognitive science, visual information processing, connectionism, computational learning theory, and Bayesian belief networks
- Others: reductionist biological detail, exhaustive, biophysically accurate simulation.

# Mammalian-scale brain simulator

Neuroanatomy and neurophysiology, together, have produced a rich set of constraints on the structure and the dynamics of the brain.

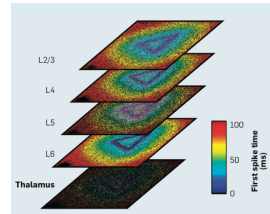
Ingredients:

- phenomenological model neurons exhibiting spiking communication, dynamic synaptic channels, plastic synapses, structural plasticity,
- multi-scale network architecture, including layers, minicolumns, hypercolumns, cortical areas, and multi-area networks,

Simultaneously achieving scale, speed, and detail in one simulation platform presents a formidable challenge with respect to the three primary resources of computing systems: memory, computation, and communication.



- Cortical simulation algorithms capable to simulate cat-scale cortex on Lawrence Livermore national Laboratory's Dawn Blue Gene/P supercomputer with 147,456 CPUs and 144TB of main memory.
- roughly equivalent to 4.5% of human scale
- The networks demonstrated self-organization of neurons into reproducible, time-locked, though not synchronous, groups.
- In a visual stimulation-like paradigm, the simulated network exhibited population-specific response latencies matching those observed in mammalian cortex.
- Figure outlines this activity, traveling from the thalamus to cortical layers four and six, then to layers two, three, and five, while simultaneously traveling laterally within each layer.



The realistic expectation:

- not that cognitive function will spontaneously emerge from these neurobiologically inspired simulations.
- rather, the simulator supplies a substrate, consistent with the brain, within which we can formulate and articulate theories of neural computation (mathematical theory of how the mind arises from the brain)
- it is a tool not the answer (a key integrative workbench for discovering algorithms of the brain)
- goal: building intelligent business machines.

Good news: human-scale cortical simulations are not only within reach but appear inevitable within a decade.

Bad news: the power and space requirements of such simulations may be many orders of magnitude greater than those of the biological brain.

# Movement

- Rodney Brooks (1989), "A Robot that Walks; Emergent Behaviors from a Carefully Evolved Network", *Neural Computation* 1 (2): 253-262, *doi:10.1162/neco.1989.1.2.253*, <http://people.csail.mit.edu/brooks/papers/AIM-1091.pdf>
- Asimo, 2006 <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VT1VOY5yAww>
- Asimo, 2011 <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eU93VmFyZbg>
- Relevant applications in proteases

- Brookshear J.G. (2009). **Computer Science - An Overview**. Pearson, 10th ed.
- Kandel E.R., Schwartz J., and Jessell T. (eds.) (2000). **Principles of Neural Science**. McGraw-Hill, New York, US, 4th ed. 5th ed. expected for 2012 (ISBN 0-07-139011-1).
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- Wikipedia (2011). **Gradient descent**.