

Neural Networks and Deep Learning

Introduction II

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Questions?

History

Biological Motivation

Artificial Neural Networks



Hinton's Brief History of Deep Learning

What was hot in 1987?

- Back propagation
- Neural networks

What happened the past 30 years?

- Computers got faster
- Data sets got larger
- Software tools improved (automatic differentiation)

What is hot in 2017?

- Back propagation
- Neural networks

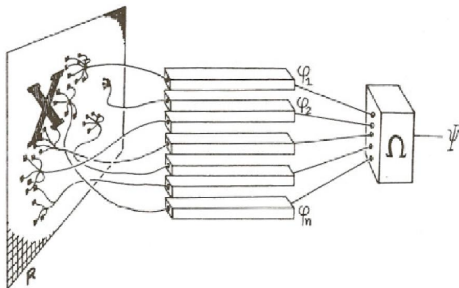


Neural Network History

1962

Frank Rosenblatt, Principles of Neurodynamics: Perceptrons and the Theory of Brain Mechanisms

A Perceptron can learn anything you can program it to do.

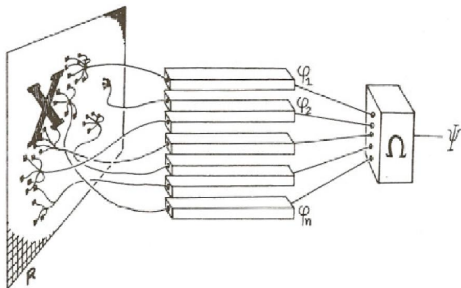


Neural Network History

1969

Minsky and Papert, *Perceptrons: An introduction to computational geometry*

There are many things a perceptron can't learn to do.



Neural Network History

1970-1985

Attempts to develop symbolic rule discovery algorithms.

1986

- Back propagation – Rumelhart, Hinton, and Williams (cf. R. Wengert, A Simple Automatic Derivative Evaluation Program, Article in Communications of the ACM, 1964)
- Overcame many of the Minsky & Papert objections
- Neural networks popular in cognitive science and AI



(circa 1990)



Neural Network History

1990-2005

Bayesian approaches

- take the best ideas from neural networks – statistical computing, statistical learning

Support-Vector Machines

- unlike neural networks, SVMs can be proven to converge

A few old timers keep playing with neural nets

- Hinton, LeCun, Bengio, O'Reilly

Neural networks banished from NIPS.



Neural Network History

2005-2012

Attempts to resurrect neural networks with

- Unsupervised pre-training
- Probabilistic neural nets
- Alternative learning rules

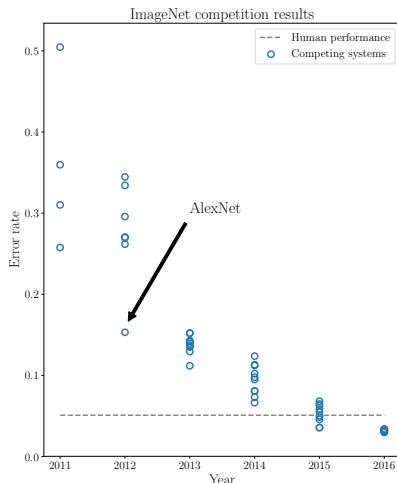


Neural Network History

2012 (AlexNet)-present

New techniques discarded in favor of 1980's-style supervised neural networks with

- Vastly larger supervised training sets
- Hardware accelerators for fast training and inference
- Refinements in optimization and generalization (mostly from Hinton)



Brains Versus Computers

Tasks that are easy for brains are not easy for computers, and vice versa.

Brains

- Recognizing faces
- Retrieving information based on partial descriptions
- Organizing information – the more information, the better the brain operates

Computers

- Arithmetic
- Deductive logic: $((p \rightarrow q) \wedge \neg q) \rightarrow \neg p$
- Retrieving information based on arbitrary features

→ Brains must operate quite differently than ordinary computers.



Caricature of How the Brain Operates

The brain is composed of neurons.

Neurons convey and transform information.

What is this information?

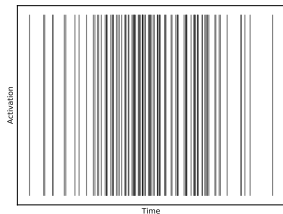


Figure 1: Neural spikes over time.

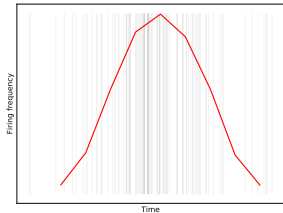


Figure 2: Averaging instantaneous binary-valued activity.

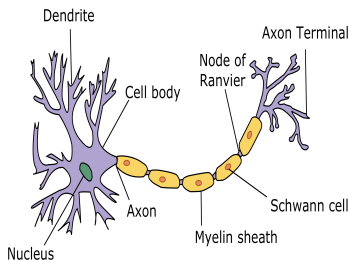


Neurons

Dendrite receives, integrates signals from other neurons. Neuron cell body “decides”. Axons communicate decision to other neurons.

Gross oversimplification

- Many types of neurons (sensory, motor, inter)
- Electrical and chemical interactions
- Many types of connections (e.g. dendrodendritic synapses)



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Key Features of Cortical Computation

- Neurons fire slowly - typically 100Hz, sometimes 1000Hz
- Large number of neurons (10-100 billion)
- Distributed, no central controller (unlike a CPU)
- Neurons receive input from a large number of other neurons (e.g. 10^4 fan-in and fan-out of cortical pyramidal cells)
- Communication via excitation and inhibition



Key Features of Cortical Computation (cont.)

- Statistical decision making (neurons that unilaterally turn on/off other neurons are rare)
- Learning involves modifying coupling strengths (the tendency of one cell to excite/inhibit another)
- Neural hardware is dedicated to particular tasks (vs. conventional computer memory)
- Information is conveyed by mean firing rate of neuron (i.e. by activation)

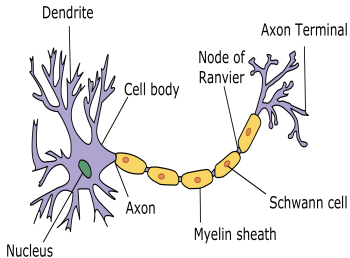


Conventional Computer Versus the Brain

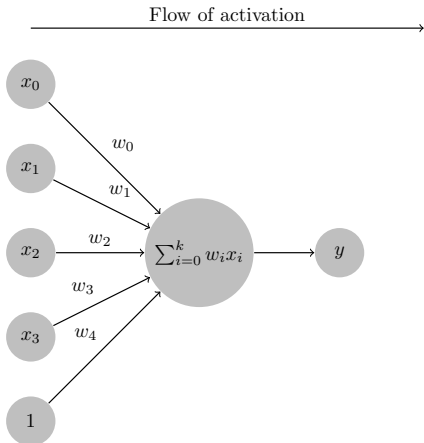
- Conventional computers
 - » One very smart CPU
 - » Many dumb memory cells
- Brains, connectionist computers
 - » No CPU
 - » Many slightly smart memory cells



Modeling Individual Neurons



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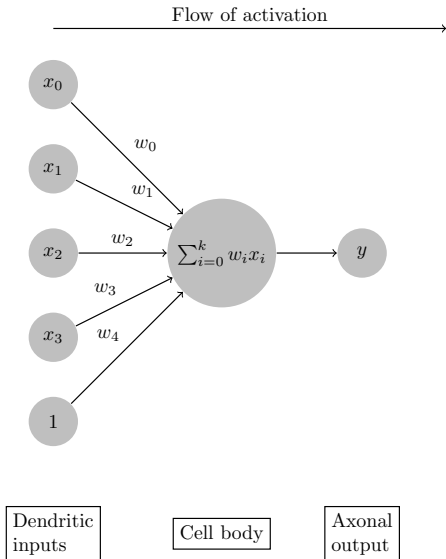
Dendritic
inputs

Cell body

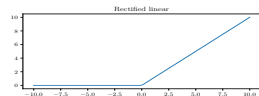
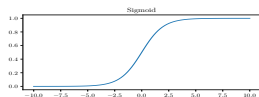
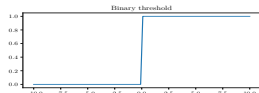
Axonal
output



Modeling Individual Neurons



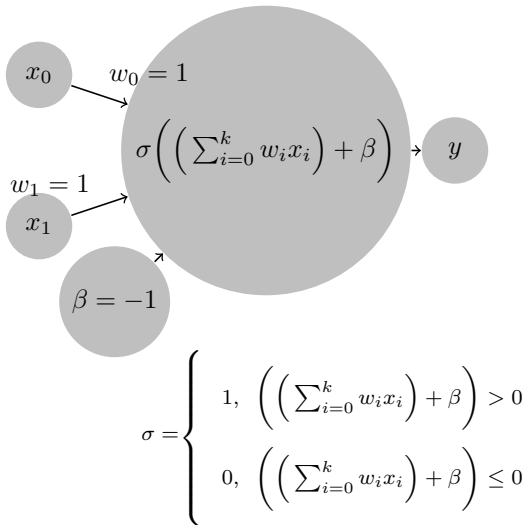
$$y = \sigma \left(\left(\sum_{i=0}^k w_i x_i \right) + \beta \right)$$



Computation with a Binary Threshold Unit

AND gate

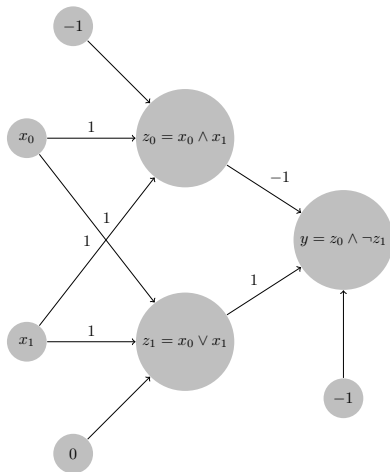
x_0	x_1	y
0	0	0
0	1	0
1	0	0
1	1	1



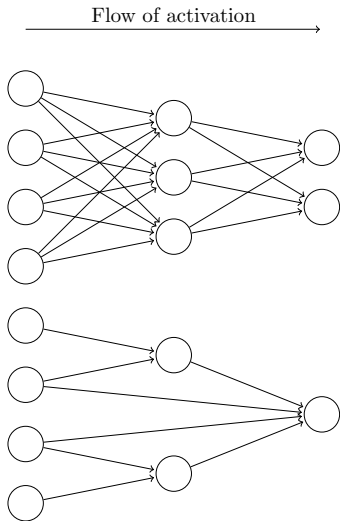
Computation with a Binary Threshold Unit

XOR gate

x_0	x_1	y
0	0	0
0	1	1
1	0	1
1	1	0



Feed-Forward Architectures



- Activation flows in one direction.
- Associates input and output patterns.
 - big, growling → run away
 - small, round, orange → eat
 - small, round, red → eat
 - small, growling → run away
- Learning: adjust connections to achieve input-output mapping

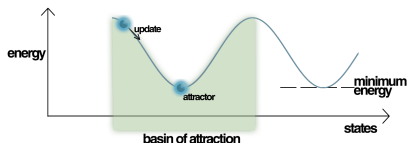


Recurrent Architectures

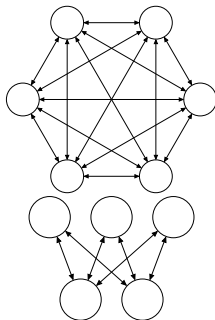
Example: Hopfield Network
([demo](#), [video demo](#))

Achieves best interpretation of partial or noisy patterns – e.g. MAR--M-LLow.

Learning: establishes new attractors and shifts attractor boundaries.



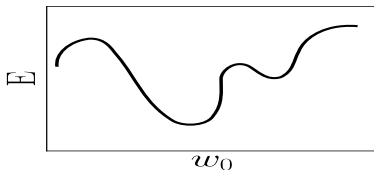
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Supervised Learning in Neural Networks

1. Assume a set of training examples (x^i, y^i) .
 - » big, growling → run away
 - » MAR--M-LLOW → MARSHMALLOW
2. Define a measure, E , of network error (cost, loss)

$$E = \sum_i \|y^i - \hat{y}^i\|^2$$



3. Make small, incremental changes to the weights to decrease the error (cost, loss) (i.e. gradient descent)

