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# Data Mining

## Part 4. Prediction

### 4.5. Prediction by Neural Networks

Fall 2009

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# Outline (I)

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- **How the Brain Works**
- **Artificial Neural Networks**
- **Simple Computing Elements**
- **Feed-Forward Networks**
- **Perceptrons (Single-layer, Feed-Forward Neural Network)**
- **Perceptron Learning Method**
- **Multilayer Feed-Forward Neural Network**
- **Defining a Network Topology**
- **Backpropagation Algorithm**
- **Backpropagation and Interpretability**
- **Discussion**
- **References**

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# How the Brain Works

**Prediction by Neural Networks**

# How the Brain Works

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- **Neuron (nerve cell)**

- the fundamental functional unit of all nervous system tissue, including the brain.
- There  $10^{11}$  neurons in the human brain

- **Neuron components**

- **Soma (cell body):**
  - ◆ provides the support functions and structure of the cell, that contains a **cell nucleus**.
- **Dendrites:**
  - ◆ consist of more branching fibers which **receive signal** from other nerve cells

# How the Brain Works

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- **Neuron components (cont.)**

- **Axon:**

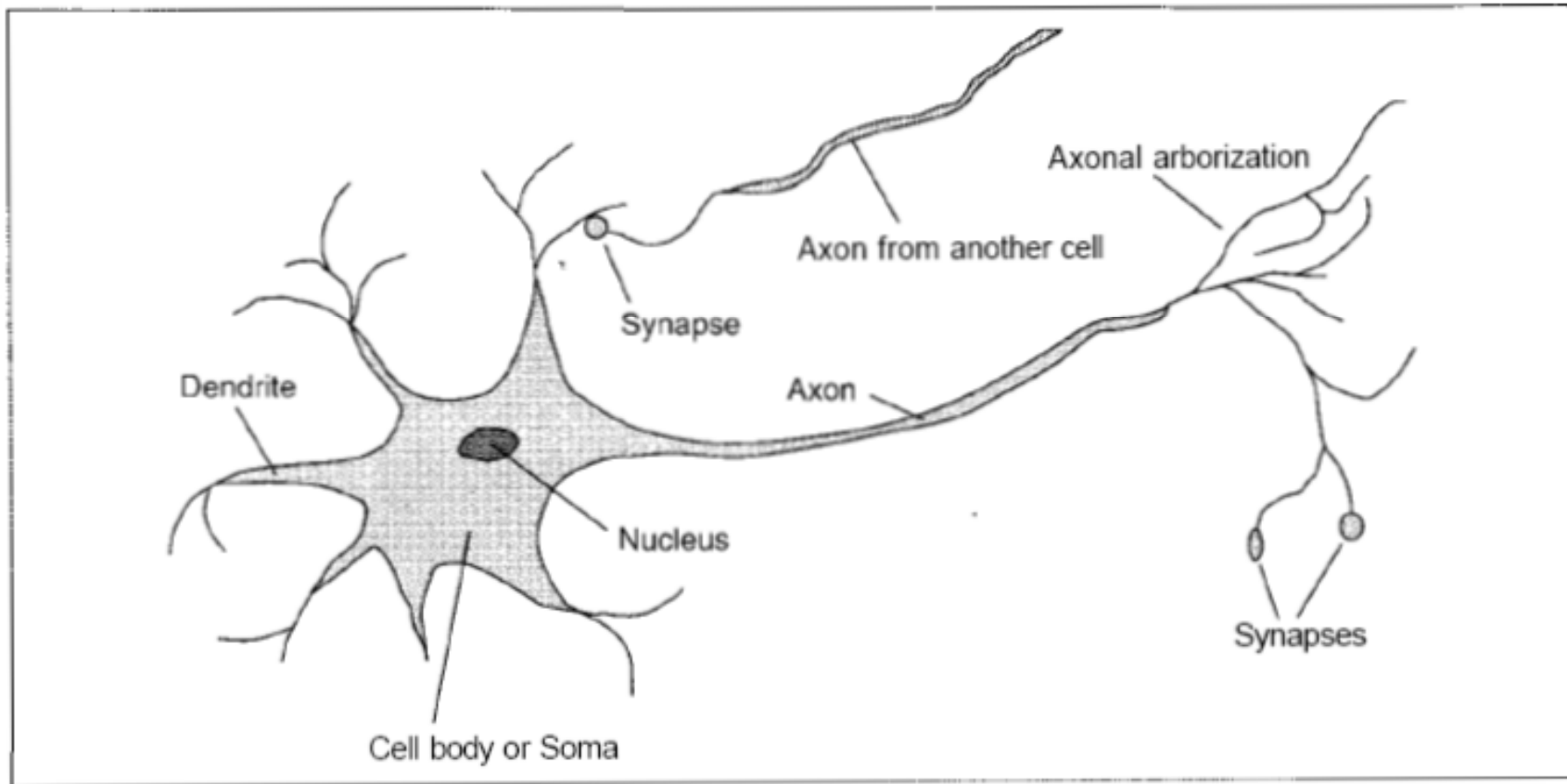
- ◆ a branching fiber which carries **signals away from** the neuron that connect to the dendrites and cell bodies of other neurons.
- ◆ In reality, the length of the axon should be about 100 times the diameter of the cell body.

- **Synapse:**

- ◆ The connecting junction between axon and dendrites.

# How the Brain Works

- The parts of a nerve cell or neuron.



**Prediction by Neural Networks**

# Neuron Firing Process

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- **Neuron Firing Process**

1. Synapse receives incoming signals, change electrical potential of cell body
2. When a potential of cell body reaches some limit, neuron “fires”, electrical signal (action potential) sent down axon
3. Axon propagates signal to other neurons, downstream

# How the Brain Works

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- **How synapse works:**
  - **Excitatory synapse:** increasing potential
  - **Synaptic connection:** plasticity
  - **Inhibitory synapse:** decreasing potential
- **Migration of neurons**
  - Neurons also form new connections with other neurons
  - Sometimes entire collections of neurons can migrate from one place to another.
  - These mechanisms are thought to form the basis for learning in the brain.
- A collection of simple cells can lead to **thoughts, action, and consciousness.**



# Comparing brains with digital computers

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- Advantages of a human brain vs. a computer
  - **Parallelism**: all the neurons and synapses are active simultaneously, whereas most current computers have only one or at most a few CPUs.
  - **More fault-tolerant**: A hardware error that flips a single bit can doom an entire computation, but brain cells die all the time with no ill effect to the overall functioning of the brain.
  - **Inductive algorithm**: To be trained using an inductive learning algorithm

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# Artificial Neural Networks

**Prediction by Neural Networks**

# Artificial Neural Networks

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- **Artificial Neural Networks (ANN)** Started by psychologists and neurobiologists to develop and test computational analogues of neurons
- Other names:
  - connectionist learning,
  - parallel distributed processing,
  - neural computation,
  - adaptive networks, and
  - collective computation

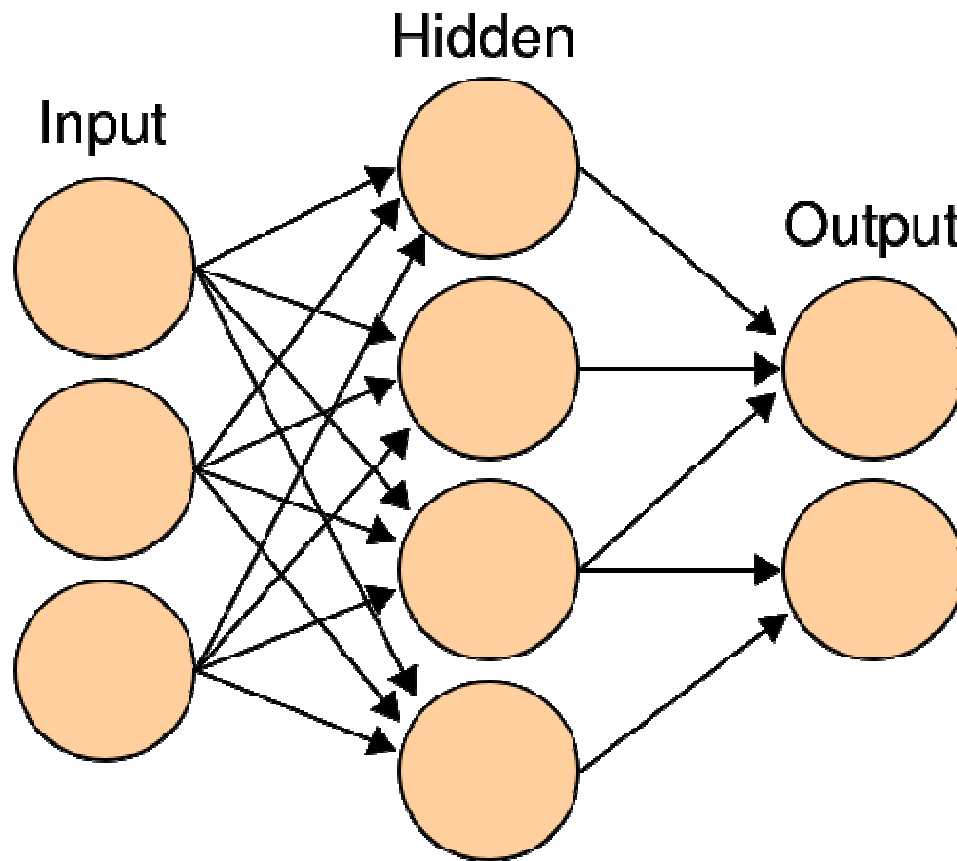
# Artificial Neural Networks

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- **Artificial neural networks components:**
  - **Units**
    - ◆ A neural network is composed of a number of **nodes**, or **units**
    - ◆ Metaphor for nerve cell body
  - **Links**
    - ◆ **Units** connected by **links**.
    - ◆ Links represent synaptic connections from one unit to another
  - **Weight**
    - ◆ Each link has a numeric **weight**

# Artificial Neural Networks

- An example of ANN



# Artificial Neural Networks

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- **Long-term memory**
  - Weights are the primary means of **long-term storage** in neural networks
- **Learning method**
  - Learning usually takes place by adjusting the weights.
- **Input and Output Units**
  - Some of the units are connected to the external environment, and can be designated as **input units** or **output units**

# Artificial Neural Networks

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- **Components of a Unit**

- a set of **input links** from other units,
- a set of **output links** to other units,
- a current **activation level**, and
- a means of computing the activation level at the next step in time, given its inputs and weights.

- The idea is that each unit does a local computation based on inputs from its neighbors, but without the need for any global control over the set of units as a whole.

# Artificial Neural Networks

- Real (Biological) Neural Network vs. Artificial Neural Network

Real Neural Network		Artificial Neural Network
Soma / Cell body	↔	Neuron / Node / Unit
Dendrite	↔	Input links
Axon	↔	Output links
Synapse	↔	Weight



# Artificial Neural Networks

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- Neural networks can be used for both
  - **supervised learning**, and
  - **unsupervised learning**
- For supervised learning neural networks can be used for both
  - classification (to predict the class label of a given example) and
  - prediction (to predict a continuous-valued output).
- In this chapter we want to discuss about application of neural networks for **supervised learning**

# Artificial Neural Networks

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- To build a neural network must decide:
  - how many units are to be used
  - what kind of units are appropriate
  - how the units are to be connected to form a network.
- Then
  - initializes the weights of the network, and
  - trains the weights using a **learning algorithm** applied to a set of training examples for the task.
- The use of examples also implies that one must decide how to encode the examples in terms of inputs and outputs of the network.

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# Simple Computing Elements

# Simple computing elements

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- Each unit performs a simple process:
  - Receives  $n$ -inputs
  - Multiplies each input by its weight
  - Applies activation function to the sum of results
  - Outputs result

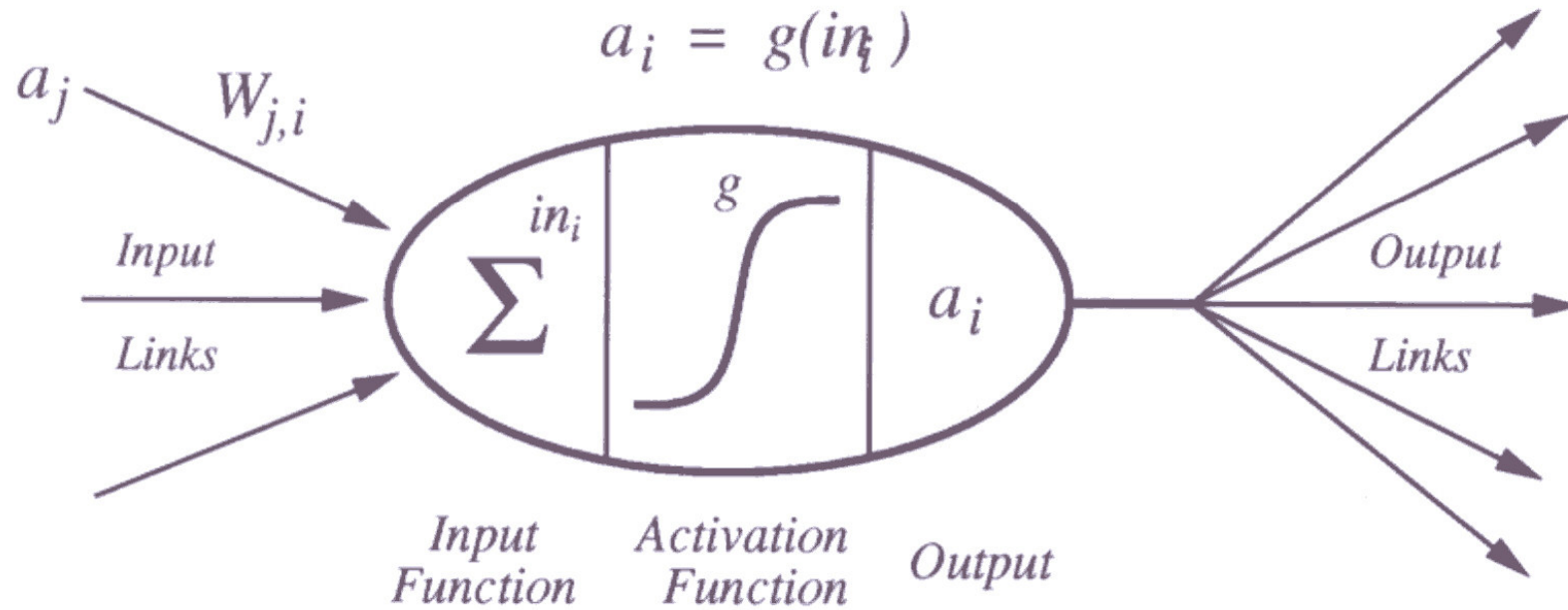
# Simple computing elements

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- Two computational components
  - **Linear component:**
    - ◆ **input function**, that  $in_i$ , that computes the weighted sum of the unit's input values.
  - **Nonlinear component:**
    - ◆ **activation function**,  $g$ , that transforms the weighted sum into the final value that serves as the **unit's activation value**,  $a_i$
    - ◆ Usually, all units in a network use the same activation function.

# Simple computing elements

- A typical unit



# Simple computing elements

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- Total weighted input

$$in_i = \sum_j W_{j,i} a_j$$

- the weights on links from node  $j$  into node  $i$  are denoted by  $W_{j,i}$
- The input values is called  $a_j$

# Example: Total weighted input

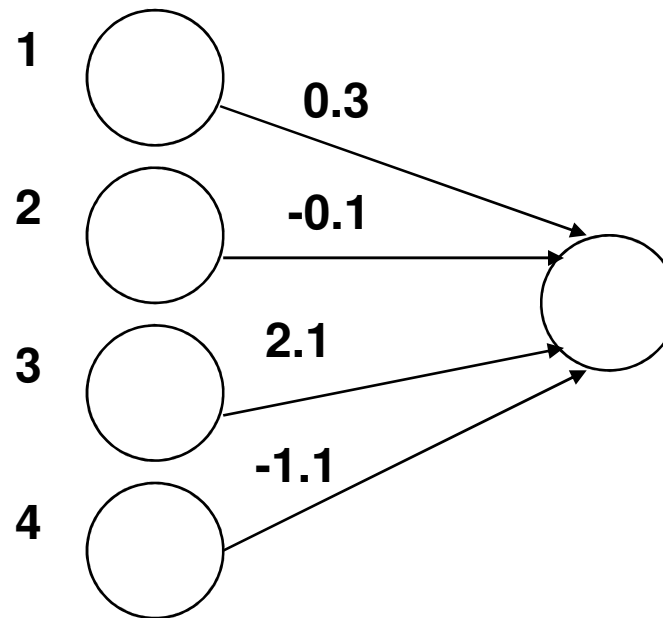
*Input:* (3, 1, 0, -2)

*Processing:*

$$3(0.3) + 1(-0.1) + 0(2.1) + -1.1(-2)$$

$$= 0.9 + (-0.1) + 2.2$$

$$= 3$$





# Simple computing elements

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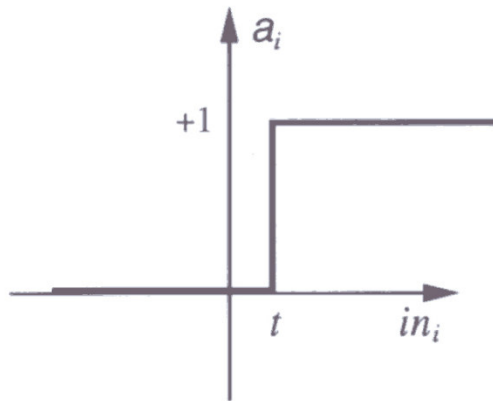
- The **activation function**  $g$

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

- Three common mathematical functions for  $g$  are
  - **Step function**
  - **Sign function**
  - **Sigmoid function**

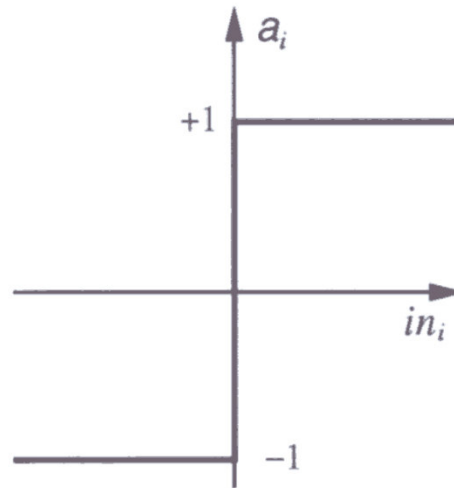
# Simple computing elements

- Three common mathematical functions for  $g$



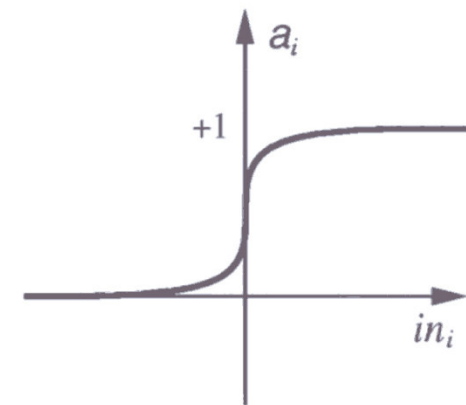
(a) Step function

$$\text{step}_t(x) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } x \geq t \\ 0, & \text{if } x < t \end{cases}$$



(b) Sign function

$$\text{sign}(x) = \begin{cases} +1, & \text{if } x \geq 0 \\ -1, & \text{if } x < 0 \end{cases}$$



(c) Sigmoid function

$$\text{sigmoid}(x) = \frac{1}{1 + e^{-x}}$$

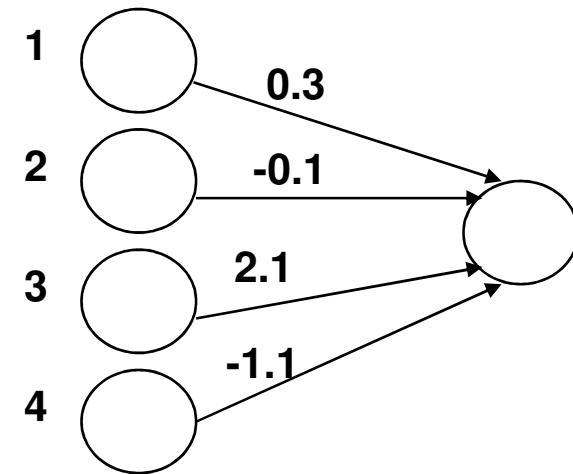
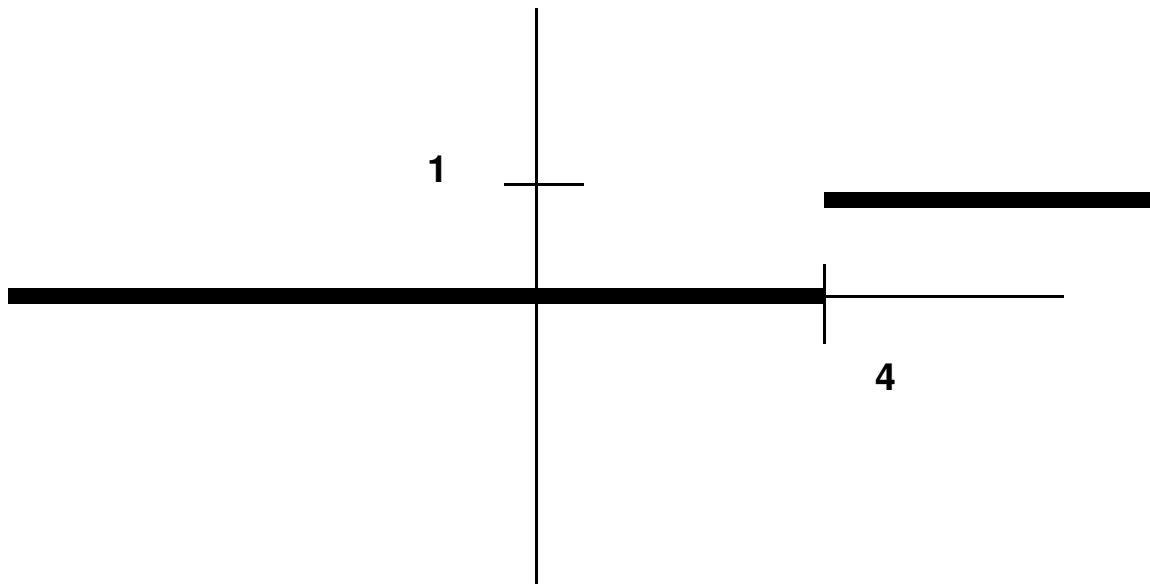
# Step Function

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- The **step function** has a threshold  $t$  such that it outputs a 1 when the input is greater than its threshold, and outputs a 0 otherwise.
- The biological motivation is that a 1 represents the firing of a pulse down the axon, and a 0 represents no firing.
- The threshold represents the minimum total weighted input necessary to cause the neuron to fire.

# Step Function Example

- Let  $t = 4$



$$Step_4(3) = 0$$

# Step Function

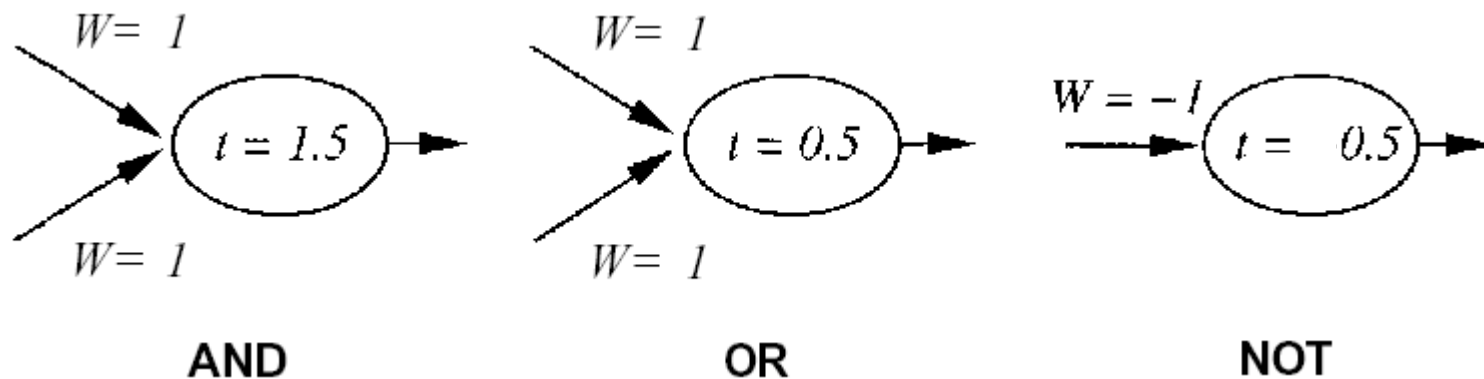
- It is mathematically convenient to replace the threshold with an extra input weight.
- Because it only needs to worry about adjusting weights, rather than adjusting both **weights** and **thresholds**.
- Thus, instead of having a threshold  $t$  for each unit, we add an extra input whose activation  $a_0$

$$a_i = \text{step}_t \left( \sum_{j=1}^n W_{j,i} a_j \right) = \text{step}_0 \left( \sum_{j=0}^n W_{j,i} a_j \right)$$

Where  $W_{0,i} = t$  and  $a_0 = -1$  ← fixed

# Step Function

- The Figure shows how the Boolean functions *AND*, *OR*, and *NOT* can be represented by units with a step function and suitable weights and thresholds.
- This is important because it means we can use these units to build a network to compute any Boolean function of the inputs.



# Sigmoid Function

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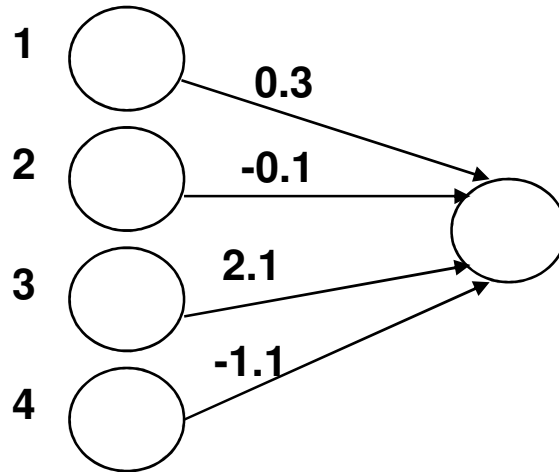
- A sigmoid function often used to approximate the step function

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{1 + e^{-\sigma x}}$$

$\sigma$  : the steepness parameter

# Sigmoid Function

- *Input:* (3, 1, 0, -2),  $\sigma=1$

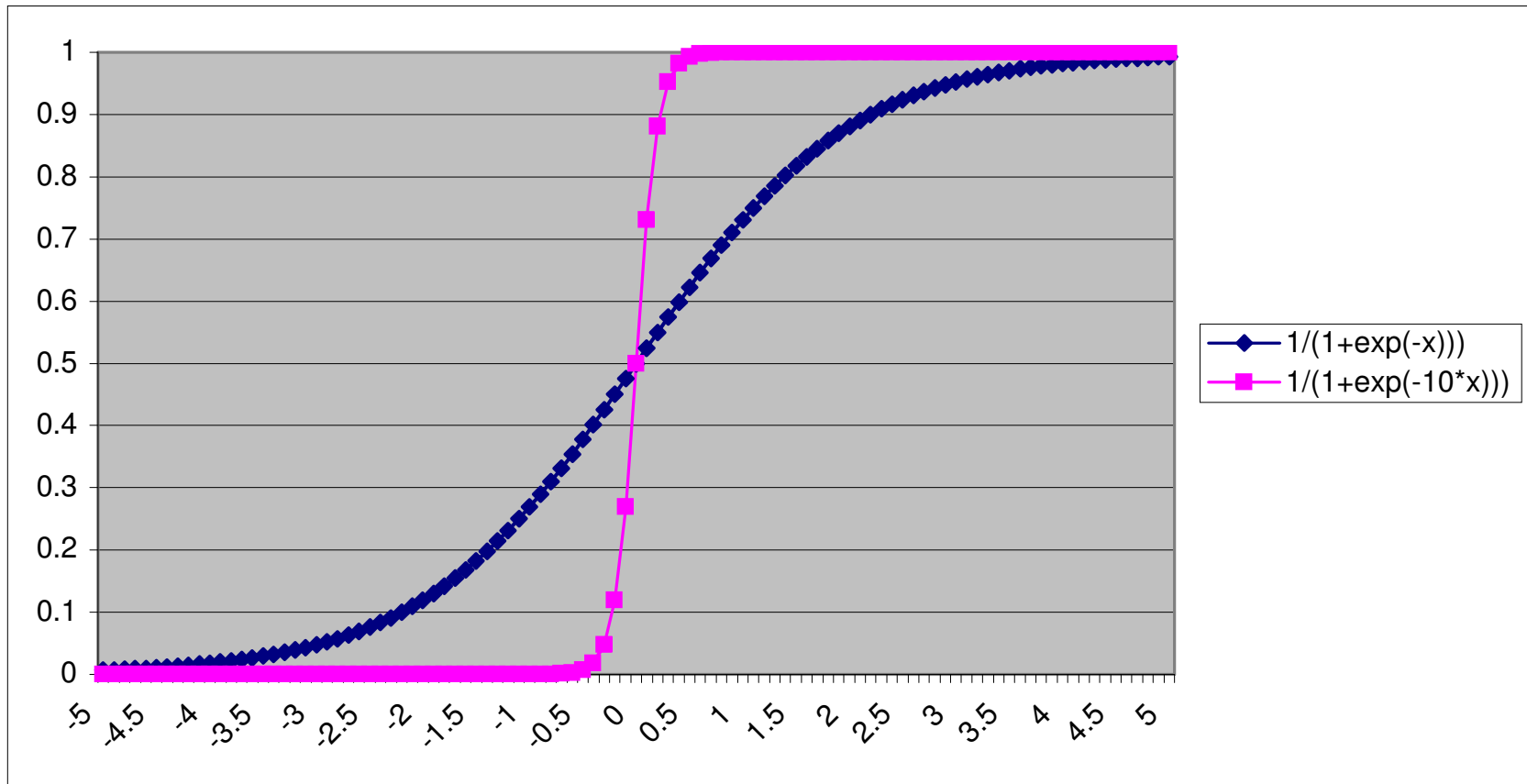


$$f(x) = \frac{1}{1 + e^{-\sigma x}}$$

$$f(3) = \frac{1}{1 + e^{-x}} \approx 0.95$$



# Sigmoid Function



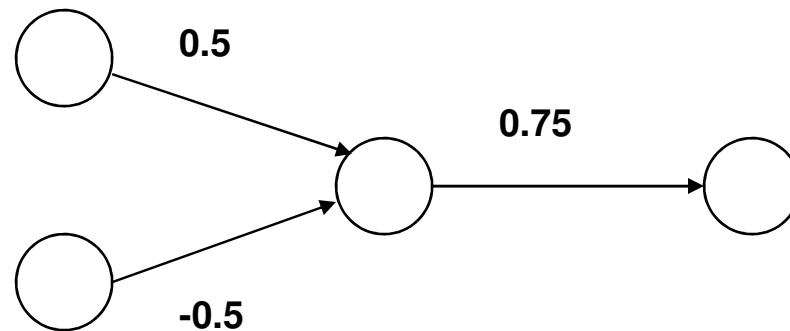
**sigmoidal(0) = 0.5**

**Prediction by Neural Networks**

# Another Example

- A two weight layer, feedforward network
- Two inputs, one output, one 'hidden' unit
- *Input: (3, 1)*

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{1 + e^{-x}}$$



- What is the output?

# Computing in Multilayer Networks

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- Computing:
  - Start at leftmost layer
  - Compute activations based on inputs
  - Then work from left to right, using computed activations as inputs to next layer

- Example solution

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{1 + e^{-x}}$$

- Activation of hidden unit
  - ◆  $f(0.5(3) + -0.5(1)) = f(1.5 - 0.5) = f(1) = 0.731$
- Output activation
  - ◆  $f(0.731(0.75)) = f(0.548) = 0.634$

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# Feed-Forward Networks

# Feed-forward Networks

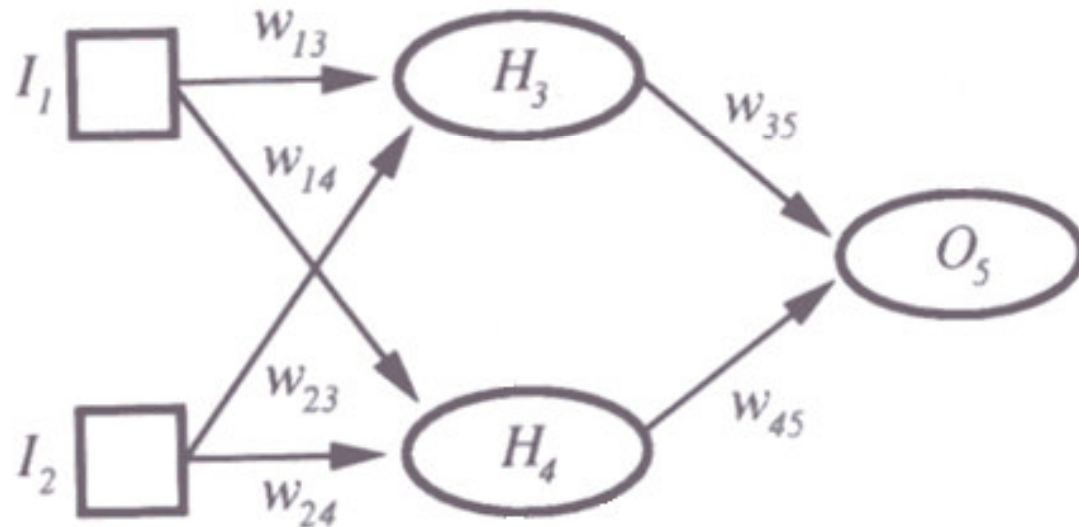
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- **Feed-forward networks**

- Unidirectional links
- Directed acyclic (no cycles) graph (DAG)
- No links between units in the same layer
- No links backward to a previous layer
- No links that skip a layer.
- Uniformly processing from input units to output units

# Feed-forward Networks

- An example: A **two-layer, feed-forward network** with **two inputs, two hidden nodes, and one output node**.



# Feed-forward Networks

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- **Units**

- **Input units**: the activation value of each of these units is determined by the environment.
- **Output units**: at the right-hand end of the network units
- **Hidden units**: they have no direct connection to the outside world.

- Because the input units (square nodes) simply serve to pass activation to the next layer, they are not counted

# Feed-forward Networks

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- Types of feed-forward networks:
  - **Perceptrons**
    - ◆ No hidden units
    - ◆ This makes the learning problem much simpler, but it means that perceptrons are very limited in what they can represent.
  - **Multilayer networks**
    - ◆ one or more hidden units



# Feed-forward Networks

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- Feed-forward networks have a fixed structure and fixed activation functions  $g$
- The functions have a specific parameterized structure
- The weights chosen for the network determine which of these functions is actually represented.
- For example, the network calculates the following function:

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

- where  $g$  is the activation function,  $a_i$  and  $a_j$  is the output of node  $i$ .

# What neural networks do

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- Because the activation functions  $g$  are nonlinear, the whole network represents a complex nonlinear function.
- If you think of the weights as parameters or coefficients of this function, then learning just becomes:
  - a process of tuning the parameters to fit the data in the training set—a process that statisticians call **nonlinear regression**.

# Optimal Network Structure

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- Too small network
  - incapable of representation
- Too big network
  - not generalized well
  - Overfitting when there are too many parameters.

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# **Perceptrons**

## **(Single-layer, Feed-forward Neural Networks)**

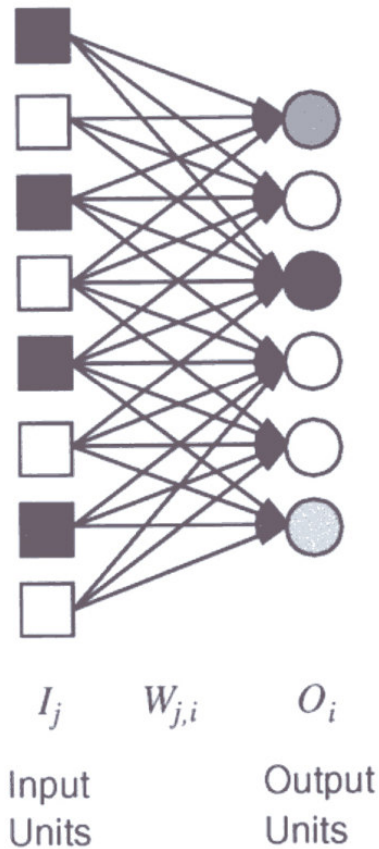
# Perceptrons

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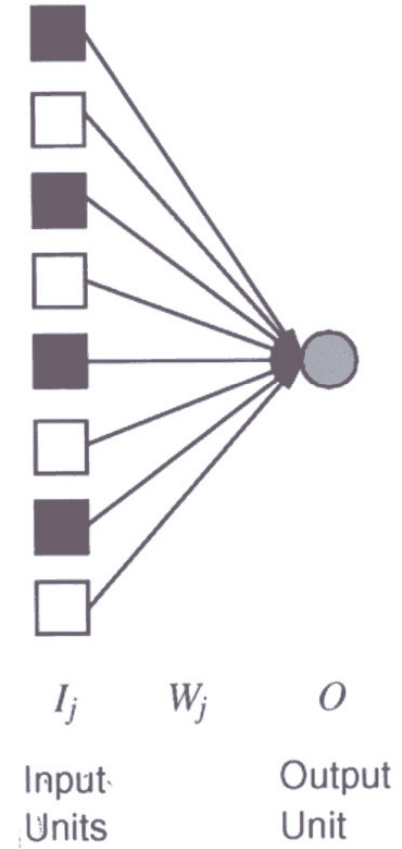
- **Perceptrons**
  - **Single-layer feed-forward network**
  - were first studied in the late 1950s
  
- **Types of Perceptrons:**
  - **Single-output Perceptron**
    - ◆ perceptrons with a single output unit
  - **Multi-output perceptron**
    - ◆ perceptrons with several output units

# Perceptrons

- Each output unit is independent of the others
- Each weight only affects one of the outputs.



Perceptron Network



Single Perceptron

# Perceptrons

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- Activation of output unit:

$$O = \text{Step}_0 \left( \sum_j W_j I_j \right) = \text{Step}_0(\mathbf{W} \cdot \mathbf{I})$$

- $W_j$  : The weight from input unit  $j$
- $I_j$  : The activation of input unit  $j$
- we have assumed an additional weight  $W_0$  to provide a threshold for the step function, with  $I_0 = -1$  .

# Perceptrons

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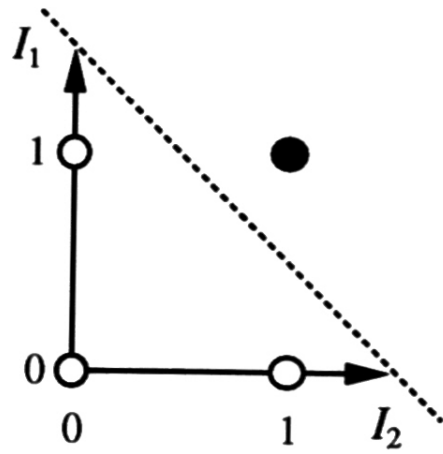
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- Perceptrons are severely limited in the Boolean functions they can represent.
- The problem is that any input  $I_j$  can only influence the final output in one direction, no matter what the other input values are.
- Consider some input vector  $a$ .
  - Suppose that this vector has  $a_j = 0$  and that the vector produces a 0 as output. Furthermore, suppose that when  $a_j$  is replaced with 1, the output changes to 1. This implies that  $W_j$  must be positive.
  - It also implies that there can be no input vector  $b$  for which the output is 1 when  $b_j = 0$ , but the output is 0 when  $b_j$  is replaced with 1.

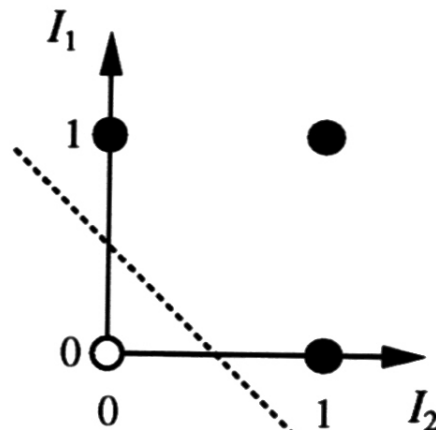


# Perceptrons

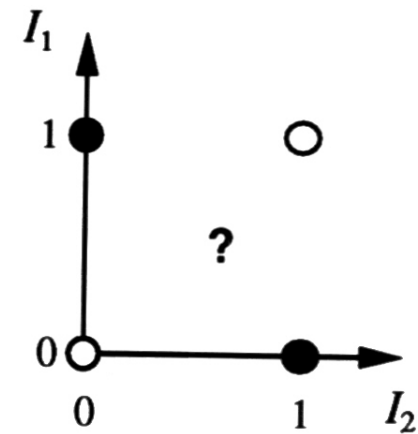
- The Figure shows three different Boolean functions of two inputs, the AND, OR, and XOR functions.



(a)  $I_1$  and  $I_2$



(b)  $I_1$  or  $I_2$



(c)  $I_1$  xor  $I_2$  ( $I_1 \# I_2$ )

- Black dots indicate a point in the input space where the value of the function is 1, and white dots indicate a point where the value is 0.

# Perceptrons

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- As we will explain, a perceptron can represent a function only if there is some line that separates all the white dots from the black dots.
- Such functions are called **linearly separable**.
- Thus, a perceptron can represent AND and OR, but not XOR (if  $I_1 \neq I_2$ ).

# Perceptrons

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- The fact that a perceptron can only represent linearly separable functions follows directly from Equation:

$$O = \text{Step}_0 \left( \sum_j W_j I_j \right) = \text{Step}_0(\mathbf{W} \cdot \mathbf{I})$$

- A perceptron outputs a 1 only if  $\mathbf{W} \cdot \mathbf{I} > 0$ .
  - This means that the entire input space is divided in two along a boundary defined by  $\mathbf{W} \cdot \mathbf{I} = 0$ ,
  - that is, a plane in the input space with coefficients given by the weights.

# Perceptrons

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- It is easiest to understand for the case where  $n = 2$ . In *Figure (a)*, one possible separating "plane" is the dotted line defined by the equation

$$I_1 = -I_2 + 1.5 \quad \text{or} \quad I_1 + I_2 = 1.5$$

- The region above the line, where the output is 1, is therefore given by

$$-1.5 + I_1 + I_2 > 0$$

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# Perceptron Learning Method

# Perceptron Learning Method

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- The initial network has randomly assigned weights, usually from the range  $[-0.5, 0.5]$ .
- The network is then updated to try to make it consistent with the training examples (instances).
- This is done by making small adjustments in the weights to reduce the difference between the observed and predicted values.
- The algorithm is the need to repeat the update phase several times for each example in order to achieve convergence.

# Perceptron Learning Method

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- **Epochs**

- The updating process is divided into **epochs**.
- Each epoch involves updating all the weights for all the examples.

# Perceptron Learning Method

- The generic neural network learning method

```
function NEURAL-NETWORK-LEARNING(examples) returns network
```

```
network ← a network with randomly assigned weights
```

```
repeat
```

```
  for each e in examples do
```

```
    O ← NEURAL-NETWORK-OUTPUT(network, e)
```

```
    T ← the observed output values from e
```

```
    update the weights in network based on e, O, and T → Err = T-O
```

```
  end
```

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

```
return network
```

an epoch ←

The generic neural network learning method: adjust the weights until predicted output values **O** and true values **T** agree.



# Perceptron Learning Method

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- The weight update rule

- If the predicted output for the single output unit is  $O$ , and the correct output should be  $T$ , then the error is given by

$$\mathbf{Err} = \mathbf{T} - \mathbf{O}$$

- If the *Err* is positive, we need to increase  $O$
- If the *Err* is negative, we need to decrease  $O$
- Each input unit contributes  $W_j I_j$  to the total input, so
- If  $I_j$  is positive, an increase in  $W_j$  will tend to increase  $O$
- If  $I_j$  is negative, an increase in  $W_j$  will tend to decrease  $O$ .

# Perceptron Learning Method

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- We can achieve the effect we want with the following rule:

$$W_j \leftarrow W_j + \alpha * I_j * Err$$

- $\alpha$  : is the **learning rate**
- This rule is a variant of the **perceptron learning rule** proposed by **Frank Rosenblatt**.
  - **Rosenblatt** proved that a learning system using the perceptron learning rule will converge to a set of weights that correctly represents the examples, as long as the examples represent a linearly separable function.

# Delta Rule for a Single Output Unit

$$\Delta W_j = \alpha(T - O)I_j$$

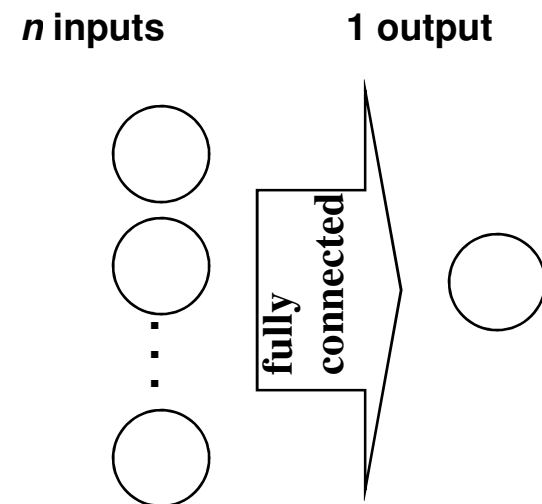
$\Delta W_j$  Change in  $j$ th weight of weight vector

$\alpha$  Learning rate

$T$  Target or correct output

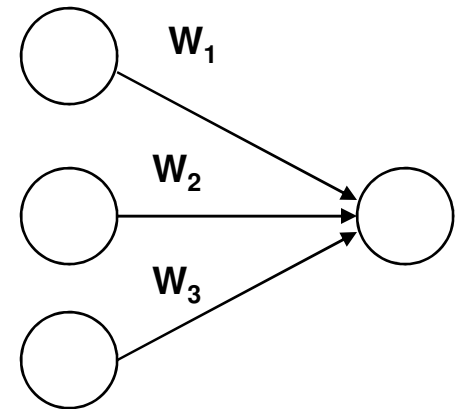
$O$  Net (summed, weighted) input to output unit

$I_j$   $j$ th input value



# Example

- $W = (W_1, W_2, W_3)$ 
  - Initially:  $W = (.5 \ .2 \ .4)$
- Let  $\alpha = 0.5$
- Apply delta rule



Sample	Input	Output
1	0 0 0	0
2	1 1 1	1
3	1 0 0	1
4	0 0 1	1

# One Epoch of Training

Step	Input	Desired output (T)	Actual output (O)	Starting Weights	Weight updates
1	(0 0 0)	0	0	(.5 .2 .4)	
2	(1 1 1)	1			
3	(1 0 0)	1			
4	(0 0 1)	1			

$$\text{Delta rule: } \Delta W_j = \alpha(T - O)I_j$$

Prediction by Neural Networks

# One Epoch of Training

Step	Input	Desired output (T)	Actual output (O)	Starting Weights	Weight updates
1	(0 0 0)	0	0	(.5 .2 .4)	W1: 0.1(0 - 0)0 W2: 0.1(0 - 0)0 W3: 0.1(0 - 0)0

$$\text{Delta rule: } \Delta W_j = \alpha(T - O)I_j$$

[delta-rule1.xls](#)

# One Epoch of Training

Step	Input	Desired output (T)	Actual output (O)	Starting Weights	Weight updates
1	(0 0 0)	0	0	(.5 .2 .4)	(0 0 0)
2	(1 1 1)	1		(.5 .2 .4)	
3	(1 0 0)	1			
4	(0 0 1)	1			

# Remaining Steps in First Epoch of Training

Step	Input	Desired output (T)	Actual output (O)	Starting Weights	Weight updates
1	(0 0 0)	0	0	(.5 .2 .4)	(0 0 0)
2	(1 1 1)	1	1.1	(.5 .2 .4)	(-.05 -.05 -.05)
3	(1 0 0)	1	.45	(.45 .15 .35)	(.275 0 0)
4	(0 0 1)	1	.35	(.725 .15 .35)	(0 0 .325)



# Completing the Example

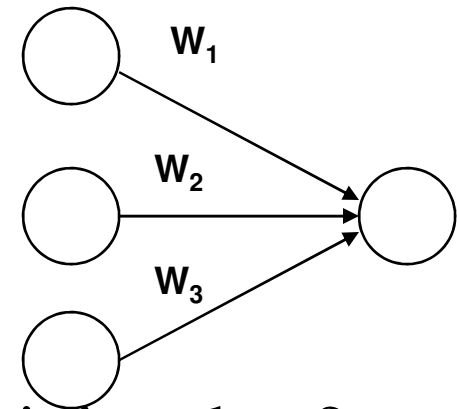
- After 18 epochs

- Weights

- ◆  $W_1 = 0.990735$

- ◆  $W_2 = -0.970018005$

- ◆  $W_3 = 0.98147$



- Does this adequately approximate the training data?

Sample	Input	Output
1	0 0 0	0
2	1 1 1	1
3	1 0 0	1
4	0 0 1	1

# Example

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- Actual Outputs

Sample	Input	Desired Output	Actual Output
1	0 0 0	0	0
2	1 1 1	1	1.002187
3	1 0 0	1	0.990735
4	0 0 1	1	0.98147

## examples in ANN

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- There is a slight difference between the example descriptions used for neural networks and those used for other attribute-based methods such as decision trees.
- In a neural network, all inputs are **real numbers** in some fixed range, whereas decision trees allow for multivalued attributes with a discrete set of values.
- For example, an attribute may have values *None*, *Some*, and *Full*.

# Perceptron Learning Method

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- **There are two ways to handle this.**
  - **Local encoding**
    - ◆ we use a single input unit and pick an appropriate number of distinct values to correspond to the discrete attribute values.
    - ◆ For example, we can use *None = 0.0*, *Some = 0.5*, and *Full = 1.0*.
  - **Distributed encoding**
    - ◆ we use one input unit for each value of the attribute, turning on the unit that corresponds to the correct value.

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# Multilayer Feed-Forward Neural Network

# Multilayer Feed-Forward Neural Network

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- A multilayer feed-forward neural network consists of several layers includes:
  - an **input layer**,
  - one or more **hidden layers**, and
  - an **output layer**.

# Multilayer Feed-Forward Neural Network

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- Each layer is made up of units.
- A two-layer neural network has a hidden layer and an output layer.
- The input layer is not counted because it serves only to pass the input values to the next layer.
- A network containing two hidden layers is called a **three-layer neural network**, and so on.

# Multilayer Feed-Forward Neural Network

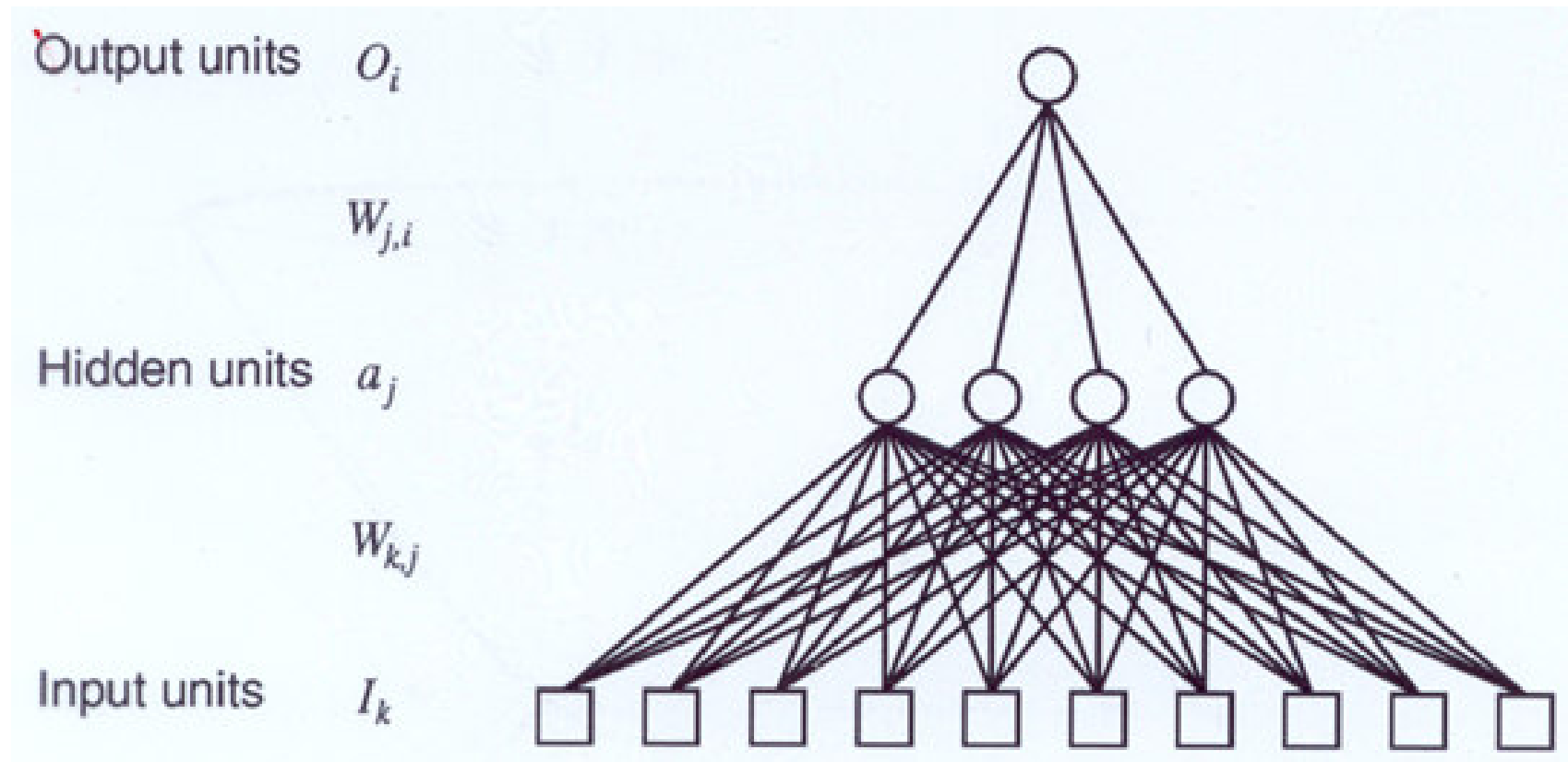
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- Suppose we want to construct a network for a problem.
- We have **ten attributes** describing each example, so we will need ten input units.
- How many hidden units are needed?
  - The problem of choosing the right number of hidden units in advance is still not well-understood.
- We use a network with four hidden units.



# Multilayer Feed-Forward Neural Network

- A two-layer feed-forward network



# Multilayer Feed-Forward Neural Network

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- The **inputs** to the network correspond to the attributes measured for each training example.
- Inputs are fed simultaneously into the units making up the **input layer**
- They are then weighted and fed simultaneously to a **hidden layer**
- The number of hidden layers is arbitrary, although in practice, usually only one is used.
- The weighted outputs of the last hidden layer are input to units making up the **output layer**, which sends out the network's prediction.

# Multilayer Feed-Forward Neural Network

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- The network is **feed-forward** in that none of the weights cycles back to an input unit or to an output unit of a previous layer
- From a statistical point of view, networks perform **nonlinear regression**
- Given enough hidden units and enough training samples, they can closely approximate any function

# Multilayer Feed-Forward Neural Network

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- **Learning method**

- example inputs are presented to the network and the network computes an output vector that matches the target.
- If there is an error (a difference between the output and target), then the weights are adjusted to reduce this error.
- The trick is to assess the blame for an error and divide it among the contributing weights.
- In perceptrons, this is easy, because there is only one weight between each input and the output.
- But in multilayer networks, there are many weights connecting each input to an output, and each of these weights contributes to more than one output.

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# Defining a Network Topology

# Defining a Network Topology

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- First decide the **network topology**:
  - the number of units in the **input layer**
  - the number of **hidden layers** (if  $> 1$ ),
  - the number of units in each hidden layer
  - the number of units in the **output layer**
- Normalizing the input values for each attribute measured in the training examples to  $[0.0—1.0]$  will help speed up the learning phase.

# Defining a Network Topology

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- **Input units**

- Normalizing the input values for each attribute measured in the training examples to [0.0—1.0] will help speed up the learning phase.
- Discrete-valued attributes may be encoded such that there is one input unit per domain value.
  - ◆ Example, if an attribute  $A$  has three possible or known values, namely  $\{a_0, a_1, a_2\}$ , then we may assign three input units to represent  $A$ . That is, we may have, say,  $I_0, I_1, I_2$  as input units.
  - ◆ Each unit is initialized to 0.
  - ◆ Then
    - $I_0$  is set to 1, If  $A = a_1$
    - $I_1$  is set to 1, If  $A = a_2$
    - $I_2$  is set to 1, If  $A = a_3$

# Defining a Network Topology

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- **Output unit**

- For classification, one output unit may be used to represent two classes (where the value 1 represents one class, and the value 0 represents the other).
- If there are more than two classes, then one output unit per class is used.



# Defining a Network Topology

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- **Hidden layer units**

- There are no clear rules as to the “best” number of hidden layer units
- Network design is a trial-and-error process and may affect the accuracy of the resulting trained network.

- Once a network has been trained and its accuracy is **unacceptable**, repeat the training process with a **different network topology** or a **different set of initial weights**

# Optimal Network Structure

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- Using **genetic algorithm**: for finding a good network structure
- Hill-climbing search (modifying an existing network structure)
  - Start with a big network: **optimal brain damage algorithm**
- Removing weights from fully connected model
  - Start with a small network: **tiling algorithm**
- Start with single unit and add subsequent units
- **Cross-validation techniques**: are useful for deciding when we have found a network of the right size.

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# Backpropagation Algorithm

# Backpropagation

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- The **backpropagation algorithm** performs learning on a **multilayer feed-forward neural network**.
- It is the most popular method for learning in multilayer networks
- **Backpropagation** iteratively process a set of training examples & compare the network's prediction with the actual known target value
- The target value may be the known class label of the training example (for classification problems) or a continuous value (for prediction problems).

# Backpropagation

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- For each training example, the weights are modified to **minimize the mean squared error** between the network's prediction and the actual target value
- Modifications are made in the “**backwards**” direction
  - from the output layer, through each hidden layer down to the first hidden layer, hence “**backpropagation**”
  - Although it is not guaranteed, in general the weights will eventually converge, and the learning process stops.

# Backpropagation

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- **Backpropagation algorithm** steps:
  - Initialize the weights
    - ◆ Initialize weights to small random and biases in the network
  - Propagate the inputs forward
    - ◆ by applying activation function
  - Backpropagate the error
    - ◆ by updating weights and biases
  - Terminating condition
    - ◆ when error is very small, etc.

# Backpropagation Algorithm

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- Input:
  - $D$ , a data set consisting of the training examples and their associated target values
  - $l$ , the learning rate
  - *network*, a multilayer feed-forward network
- Output:
  - A trained neural network.

# Initialize the weights

---

- **1) Initialize the weights**

- The weights in the network are initialized to small random numbers
- e.g., ranging from -1.0 to 1.0 or -0.5 to 0.5
- Each unit has a bias associated with it
- The biases are similarly initialized to small random numbers.

- **Each training example is processed by the steps 2 to 8.**



# Propagate the inputs forward

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- **2) determining the output of input layer units**
  - the training example is fed to the input layer of the network.
  - The inputs pass through the input units, unchanged.
  - For an input unit,  $j$ ,
    - ◆ its input value,  $I_j$
    - ◆ its output,  $O_j$ , is equal to its input value,  $I_j$ .

# Propagate the inputs forward

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- **3) compute the net input of each unit in the hidden and output layers**

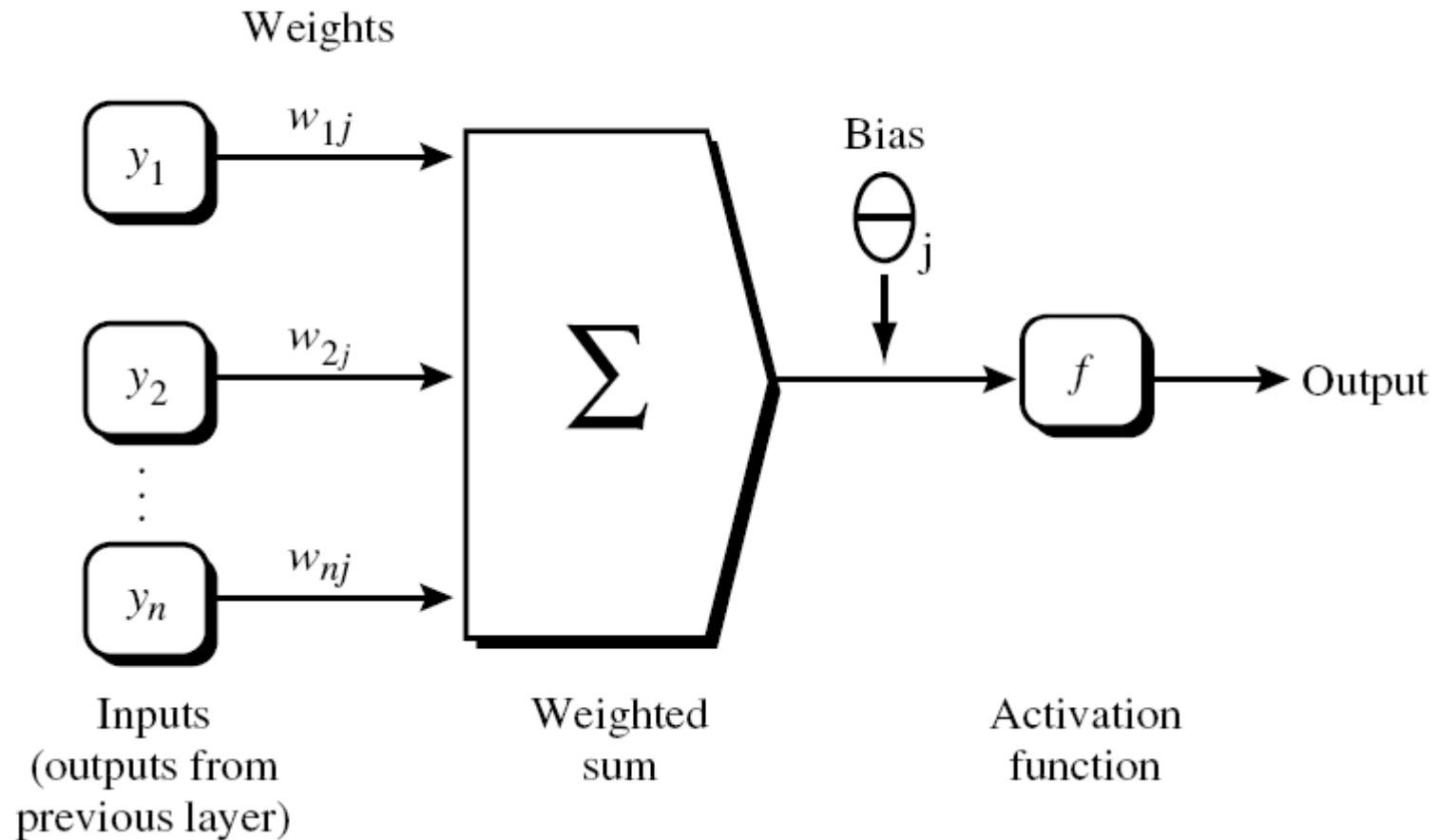
- The net input to a unit in the hidden or output layers is computed as a linear combination of its inputs.
- Given a unit  $j$  in a hidden or output layer, the net input,  $I_j$ , to unit  $j$  is

$$I_j = \sum_i w_{ij} O_i + \theta_j$$

- ◆ where  $w_{ij}$  is the weight of the connection from unit  $i$  in the previous layer to unit  $j$
- ◆  $O_i$  is the output of unit  $i$  from the previous layer
- ◆  $\theta_j$  is the bias of the unit

# Propagate the inputs forward

- A hidden or output layer unit  $j$



# Propagate the inputs forward

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- **4) compute the output of each unit  $j$  in the hidden and output layers**
  - The output of each unit is calculating by applying an **activation function** to its net input
  - The **logistic**, or **sigmoid**, function is used.
  - Given the net input  $I_j$  to unit  $j$ , then  $O_j$ , the output of unit  $j$ , is computed as:

$$O_j = \frac{1}{1 + e^{-I_j}}$$

# Backpropagate the Error

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- **5) compute the error for each unit  $j$  in the output layer**

- For a unit  $j$  in the output layer, the error  $Err_j$  is computed by

$$Err_j = O_j (1 - O_j) (T_j - O_j)$$

- $O_j$  is the actual output of unit  $j$ ,
- $T_j$  is the known target value of the given training example
- Note that  $O_j (1 - O_j)$  is the derivative of the logistic function.

# Backpropagate the Error

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- **6) compute the error for each unit  $j$  in the hidden layers, from the last to the first hidden layer**

- The error of a hidden layer unit  $j$  is

$$Err_j = O_j(1 - O_j) \sum_k Err_k w_{jk}$$

- $w_{jk}$  is the weight of the connection from unit  $j$  to a unit  $k$  in the next higher layer, and
- $Err_k$  is the error of unit  $k$ .

# Backpropagate the Error

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- **7) update the weights for each weight  $w_{ij}$  in network**

- Weights are updated by the following equations

$$w_{ij} = w_{ij} + \Delta w_{ij}$$

$$\Delta w_{ij} = (l) Err_j O_i$$

- $\Delta w_{ij}$  is the change in weight  $w_{ij}$
- The variable  $l$  is the **learning rate**, a constant typically having a value between 0.0 and 1.0

# Backpropagate the Error

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- **Learning rate**

- Backpropagation learns using a method of gradient descent
- The learning rate helps avoid getting stuck at a local minimum in decision space (i.e., where the weights appear to converge, but are not the optimum solution) and encourages finding the global minimum.
- If the learning rate is **too small**, then learning will occur at a very slow pace.
- If the learning rate is **too large**, then oscillation between inadequate solutions may occur.
- A rule to set the learning rate to  $1 / t$ , where  $t$  is the number of iterations through the training set so far.



# Backpropagate the Error

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- **8) update the for each bias  $\theta_j$  in network**

- Biases are updated by the following equations below:

$$\theta_j = \theta_j + \Delta\theta_j$$

$$\Delta\theta_j = (l)Err_j$$

- $\Delta\theta_j$  is the change in bias  $\theta_j$
- There are two strategies for updating the weights and biases

# Backpropagate the Error

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- **Updating strategies:**

- **Case updating**

- ◆ updating the weights and biases after the presentation of each example.
- ◆ case updating is more common because it tends to yield more accurate result

- **Epoch updating**

- ◆ The weight and bias increments could be accumulated in variables, so that the weights and biases are updated after all of the examples in the training set have been presented.
- ◆ One iteration through the training set is an epoch.

# Terminating Condition

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- **9) Checking the stopping condition**

- After finishing the processed for all training examples, we must evaluate the stopping condition
- Stopping condition: Training stops when
  - ◆ All  $\Delta w_{ij}$  in the previous epoch were so small as to be below some specified threshold, or
  - ◆ The percentage of examples misclassified in the previous epoch is below some threshold, or
  - ◆ A prespecified number of epochs has expired.
- In practice, several hundreds of thousands of epochs may be required before the weights will converge.
- If stopping condition was not true steps 2 to 8 should repeat for all training examples

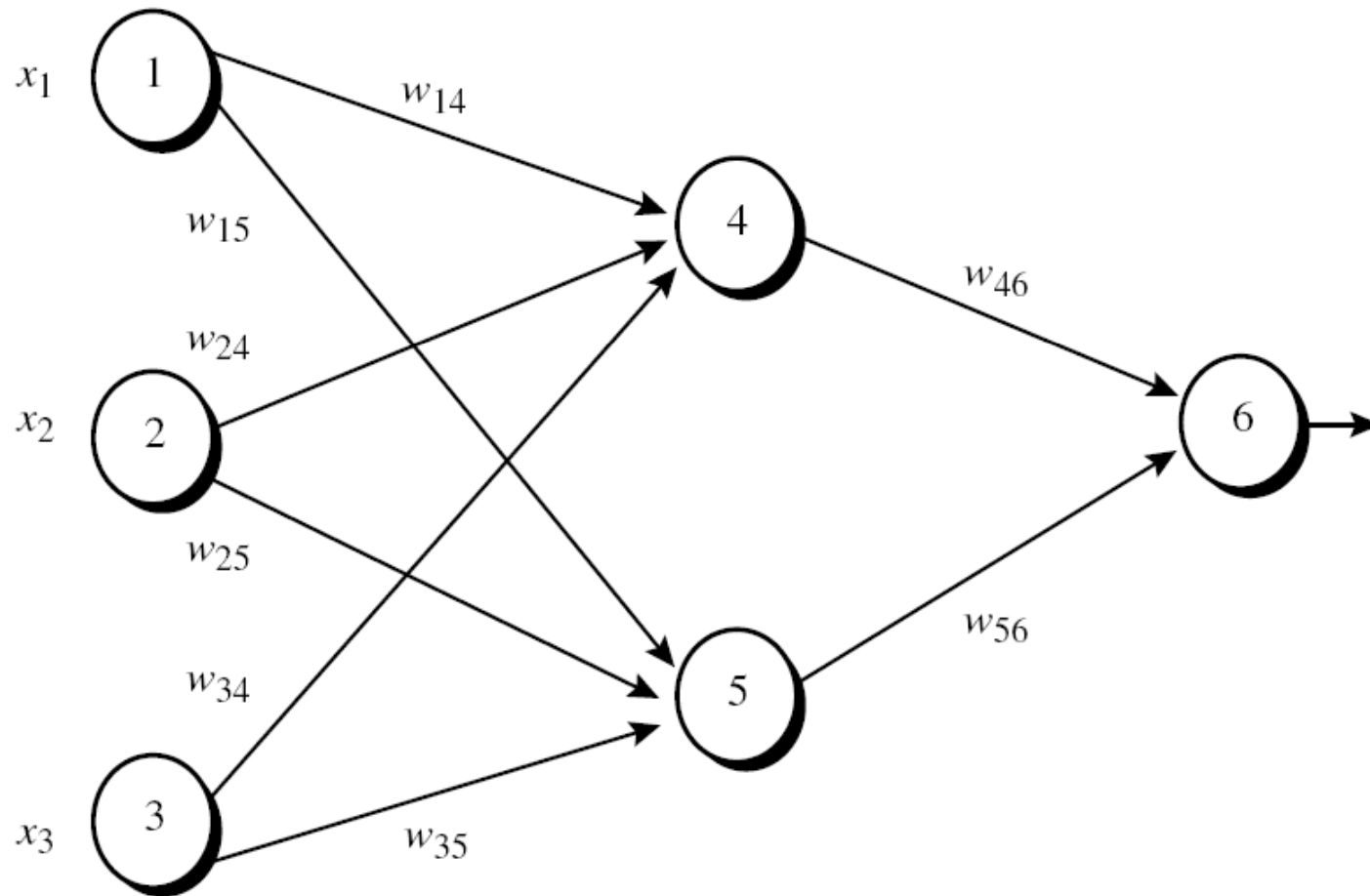
# Efficiency of Backpropagation

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- The computational efficiency depends on the time spent training the network.
- However, in the worst-case scenario, the number of epochs can be exponential in  $n$ , the number of inputs.
- In practice, the time required for the networks to converge is highly variable.
- A number of techniques exist that help speed up the training time.
  - Metaheuristic algorithms such as **simulated annealing algorithm** can be used, which also ensures convergence to a global optimum.

# Example

- The Figure shows a multilayer feed-forward neural network



**Prediction by Neural Networks**

# Example

- This example shows the calculations for backpropagation, given the first training example,  $X$ .
- Let the **learning rate** be 0.9.
- The initial weight and bias values of the network are given in the Table, along with the first training example,  $X = (1, 0, 1)$ , whose class label is 1.

$x_1$	$x_2$	$x_3$	$w_{14}$	$w_{15}$	$w_{24}$	$w_{25}$	$w_{34}$	$w_{35}$	$w_{46}$	$w_{56}$	$\theta_4$	$\theta_5$	$\theta_6$
1	0	1	0.2	-0.3	0.4	0.1	-0.5	0.2	-0.3	-0.2	-0.4	0.2	0.1

# Example

- The net input and output calculations:

$$I_j = \sum_i w_{ij} O_i + \theta_j$$

$$O_j = \frac{1}{1 + e^{-I_j}}$$

Unit $j$	Net input, $I_j$	Output, $O_j$
4	$0.2 + 0 - 0.5 - 0.4 = -0.7$	$1/(1 + e^{0.7}) = 0.332$
5	$-0.3 + 0 + 0.2 + 0.2 = 0.1$	$1/(1 + e^{-0.1}) = 0.525$
6	$(-0.3)(0.332) - (0.2)(0.525) + 0.1 = -0.105$	$1/(1 + e^{0.105}) = 0.474$

# Example

- Calculation of the error at each node:

- The output layer

$$Err_j = O_j(1 - O_j)(T_j - O_j)$$

- The hidden layer

$$Err_j = O_j(1 - O_j) \sum_k Err_k w_{jk}$$

Unit $j$	$Err_j$
6	$(0.474)(1 - 0.474)(1 - 0.474) = 0.1311$
5	$(0.525)(1 - 0.525)(0.1311)(-0.2) = -0.0065$
4	$(0.332)(1 - 0.332)(0.1311)(-0.3) = -0.0087$



# Example

- Calculations for weight and bias updating:

<i>Weight or bias</i>	<i>New value</i>
$w_{46}$	$-0.3 + (0.9)(0.1311)(0.332) = -0.261$
$w_{56}$	$-0.2 + (0.9)(0.1311)(0.525) = -0.138$
$w_{14}$	$0.2 + (0.9)(-0.0087)(1) = 0.192$
$w_{15}$	$-0.3 + (0.9)(-0.0065)(1) = -0.306$
$w_{24}$	$0.4 + (0.9)(-0.0087)(0) = 0.4$
$w_{25}$	$0.1 + (0.9)(-0.0065)(0) = 0.1$
$w_{34}$	$-0.5 + (0.9)(-0.0087)(1) = -0.508$
$w_{35}$	$0.2 + (0.9)(-0.0065)(1) = 0.194$
$\theta_6$	$0.1 + (0.9)(0.1311) = 0.218$
$\theta_5$	$0.2 + (0.9)(-0.0065) = 0.194$
$\theta_4$	$-0.4 + (0.9)(-0.0087) = -0.408$

$$w_{ij} = w_{ij} + \Delta w_{ij}$$

$$\Delta w_{ij} = (l)Err_j O_i$$

$$\Delta \theta_j = (l)Err_j$$

$$\theta_j = \theta_j + \Delta \theta_j$$

# Example

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- Several variations and alternatives to the backpropagation algorithm have been proposed for classification in neural networks.
- These may involve:
  - the dynamic adjustment of the network topology and of the learning rate
  - New parameters
  - The use of different error functions

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# Backpropagation and Interpretability

# Backpropagation and Interpretability

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- Neural networks are like a black box.
- A major disadvantage of neural networks lies in their knowledge representation.
- Acquired knowledge in the form of a network of units connected by weighted links is difficult for humans to interpret.
- This factor has motivated research in extracting the knowledge embedded in trained neural networks and in representing that knowledge symbolically.
- Methods include:
  - **extracting rules from networks**
  - **sensitivity analysis**

# Backpropagation and Interpretability

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- Often the first step toward extracting rules from neural networks is **network pruning**
  - This consists of simplifying the network structure by removing weighted links that have the least effect on the trained network.

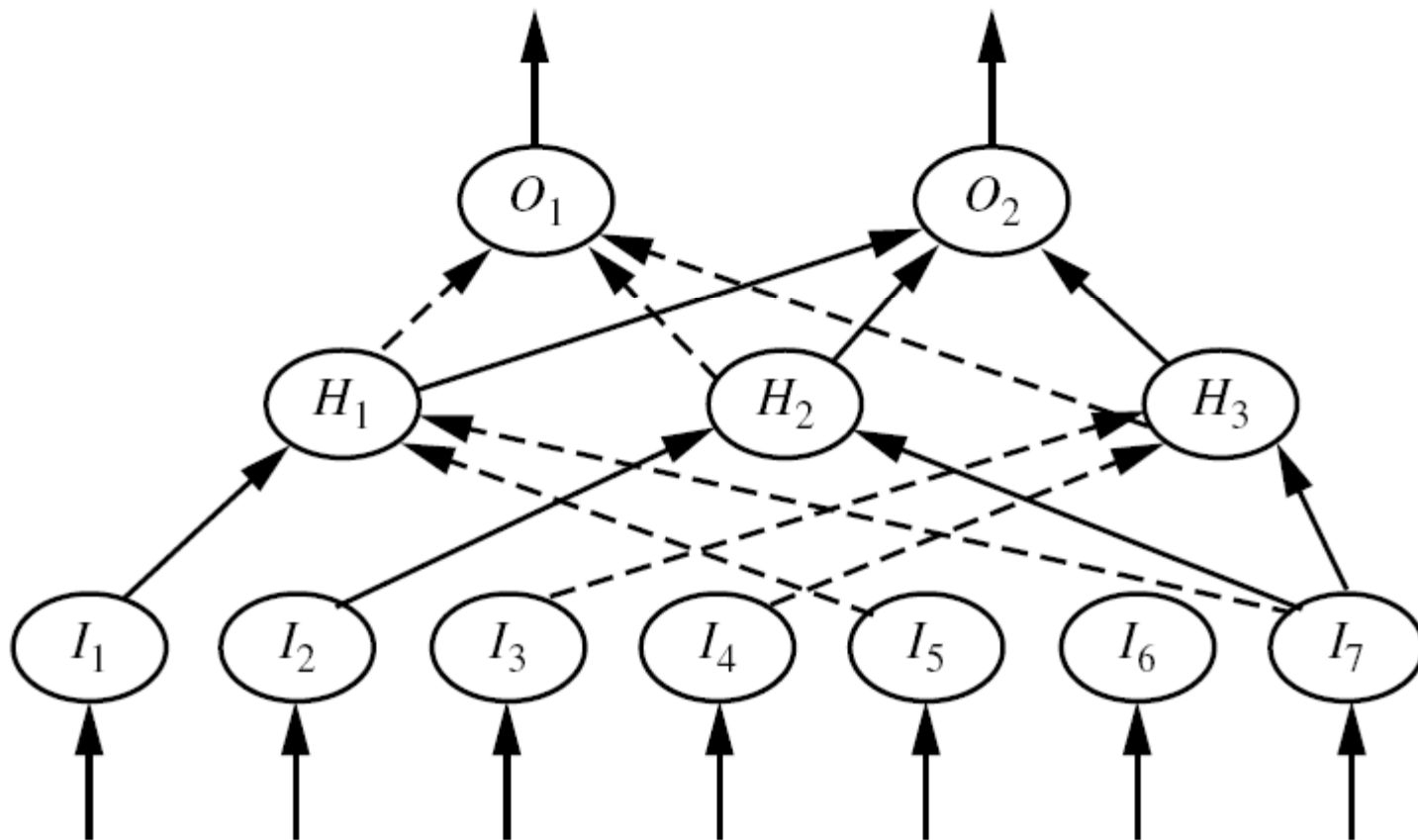
# Backpropagation and Interpretability

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- Rule extraction from networks
  - Often, the first step toward extracting rules from neural networks is **network pruning**.
    - ◆ This consists of simplifying the network structure by removing weighted links that have the least effect on the trained network
  - Then perform link, unit, or activation value clustering
    - ◆ In one method, for example, clustering is used to find the set of common activation values for each hidden unit in a given trained two-layer neural network.
  - The set of input and activation values are studied to derive rules describing the relationship between the input and hidden unit layers

# Backpropagation and Interpretability

- Rules can be extracted from training neural networks



Prediction by Neural Networks

# Backpropagation and Interpretability

Identify sets of common activation values for each hidden node,  $H_i$ :

for  $H_1$ : (-1,0,1)

for  $H_2$ : (0,1)

for  $H_3$ : (-1,0.24,1)

Derive rules relating common activation values with output nodes,  $O_j$ :

IF ( $H_2 = 0$  AND  $H_3 = -1$ ) OR

( $H_1 = -1$  AND  $H_2 = 1$  AND  $H_3 = -1$ ) OR

( $H_1 = -1$  AND  $H_2 = 0$  AND  $H_3 = 0.24$ )

THEN  $O_1 = 1, O_2 = 0$

ELSE  $O_1 = 0, O_2 = 1$

Derive rules relating input nodes,  $I_j$ , to output nodes,  $O_j$ :

IF ( $I_2 = 0$  AND  $I_7 = 0$ ) THEN  $H_2 = 0$

IF ( $I_4 = 1$  AND  $I_6 = 1$ ) THEN  $H_3 = -1$

IF ( $I_5 = 0$ ) THEN  $H_3 = -1$

Obtain rules relating inputs and output classes:

IF ( $I_2 = 0$  AND  $I_7 = 0$  AND  $I_4 = 1$  AND  $I_6 = 1$ ) THEN class = 1

IF ( $I_2 = 0$  AND  $I_7 = 0$  AND  $I_5 = 0$ ) THEN class = 1



# Backpropagation and Interpretability

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- **Sensitivity analysis**

- assess the impact that a given input variable has on a network output.
- The knowledge gained from this analysis can be represented in rules
- Such as “IF X decreases 5% THEN Y increases 8%.”

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# Discussion

# Discussion

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- Weakness of neural networks
  - Long training time
  - Require a number of parameters typically best determined empirically
    - ◆ e.g., the network topology or structure.
  - Poor interpretability
    - ◆ Difficult to interpret the symbolic meaning behind the learned weights and of “hidden units” in the network

# Discussion

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- Strength of neural networks
  - High tolerance to noisy data
  - It can be used when you may have little knowledge of the relationships between attributes and classes
  - Well-suited for continuous-valued inputs and outputs
  - Successful on a wide array of real-world data
  - Algorithms are inherently parallel
  - Techniques have recently been developed for the extraction of rules from trained neural networks

# Research Areas

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- **Finding optimal network structure**
  - e.g. by genetic algorithms
- **Increasing learning speed (efficiency)**
  - e.g. by simulated annealing
- **Increasing accuracy (effectiveness)**
- **Extracting rules from networks**

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# References

# References

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The end