

Sanity:

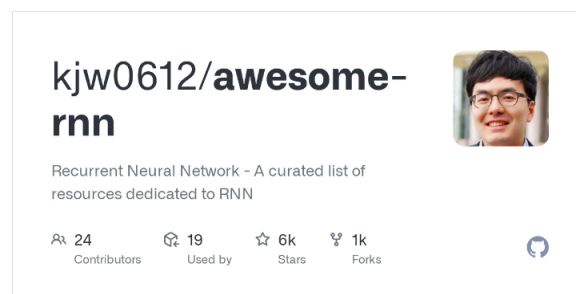
The Paradox of Deep Learning" discusses the reasons why deep learning performs effectively despite several inherent challenges.

Reasons for Effectiveness:

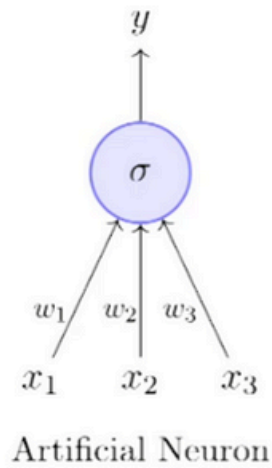
1. **High Capacity:** Deep learning models have a high capacity for learning, which makes them susceptible to overfitting.
2. **Numerical Instability:** Issues like vanishing and exploding gradients can occur during training, affecting model performance.
3. **Sharp Minima:** The presence of sharp minima in the loss landscape can lead to overfitting.
4. **Non-Robustness:** Deep learning models may lack robustness, making them sensitive to small changes in input data.

Current Understanding:

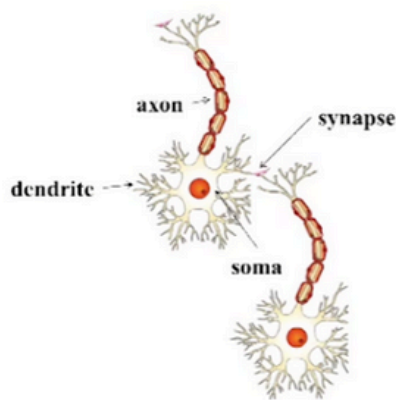
- There are no clear answers to why deep learning works so well despite these issues.
- There is a growing emphasis on **explainability** and **theoretical justifications** in the field.
- The hope is that this focus will lead to more coherent and rational approaches in deep learning research.



Motivation from Biological Neurons



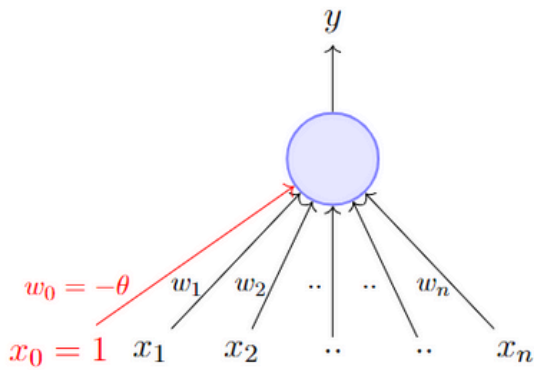
- The most fundamental unit of a deep neural network is called an *artificial neuron*
- Why is it called a neuron ? Where does the inspiration come from ?
- The inspiration comes from biology (more specifically, from the *brain*)
- *biological neurons = neural cells = neural processing units*



Biological Neurons*

- **dendrite:** receives signals from other neurons
- **synapse:** point of connection to other neurons
- **soma:** processes the information
- **axon:** transmits the output of this neuron

*Image adapted from
<https://cdn.vectorstock.com/i/composite/12,25/neuron-cell-vector-81225.jpg>



A more accepted convention,

$$\begin{aligned}
 y &= 1 && \text{if } \sum_{i=0}^n w_i * x_i \geq 0 \\
 &= 0 && \text{if } \sum_{i=0}^n w_i * x_i < 0
 \end{aligned}$$

where, $x_0 = 1$ and $w_0 = -\theta$

$$\begin{aligned}
 y &= 1 && \text{if } \sum_{i=1}^n w_i * x_i \geq \theta \\
 &= 0 && \text{if } \sum_{i=1}^n w_i * x_i < \theta
 \end{aligned}$$

Rewriting the above,

$$\begin{aligned}
 y &= 1 && \text{if } \sum_{i=1}^n w_i * x_i - \theta \geq 0 \\
 &= 0 && \text{if } \sum_{i=1}^n w_i * x_i - \theta < 0
 \end{aligned}$$
