

Neural Networks

A **Neural Network (NN)** is a computational model inspired by the human brain. It consists of **layers of neurons** that learn patterns from data. Neural networks are widely used in **deep learning** for tasks like image recognition, NLP, and reinforcement learning.

How Neural Networks Learn

Neural networks learn using **backpropagation** and **gradient descent**:

1. **Forward Propagation** → Data flows through the network, making predictions.
2. **Loss Calculation** → Measures how far predictions are from actual values.
3. **Backpropagation** → Computes gradients of the loss w.r.t. weights using the chain rule.
4. **Gradient Descent** → Updates weights using optimization techniques like **SGD, Adam, or RMSprop**.

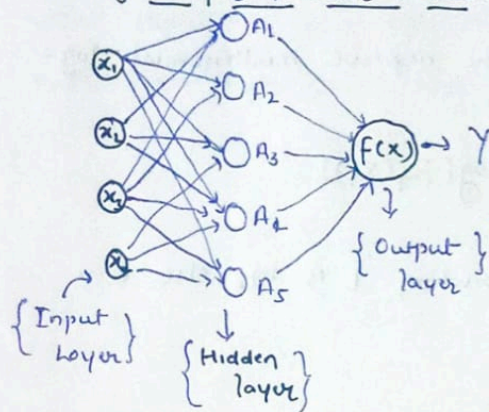
Common Types of Neural Networks

- ◆ **Feedforward Neural Network (FNN)** – Basic type; used for structured data.
- ◆ **Convolutional Neural Network (CNN)** – Designed for image processing.
- ◆ **Recurrent Neural Network (RNN)** – Used for sequential data (e.g., time series, NLP).
- ◆ **Transformers** – Modern NLP models (e.g., BERT, GPT).
- ◆ **Autoencoders** – Used for dimensionality reduction and anomaly detection.

Day-9 Neural Networks

→ A neural network is a machine learning program or model that makes decision in a manner similar to the human brain, by using processes that mimic the way biological neurons work together to identify phenomena, weigh options and arrive at conclusion.

• Single Layer Neural Network



$$f(x) = \beta_0 + \sum_{k=1}^h \beta_k t_k(x)$$

$$\Rightarrow \beta_0 + \sum_{k=1}^h \beta_k (\omega_{k0} + \sum_{j=1}^p \omega_{kj} x_j)$$

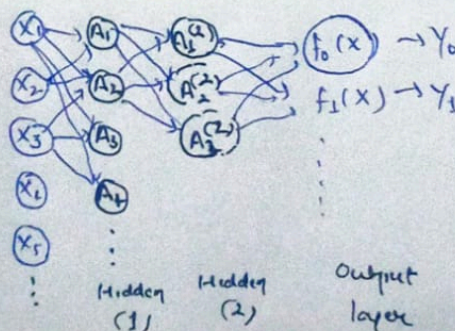
$$A_k = t_k(x) = g(\omega_{k0} + \sum_{j=1}^p \omega_{kj} x_j)$$

are called activation in the hidden layer

$g(x) \rightarrow$ activation function
popular are { sigmoid and rectified linear }

- Activation functions in hidden layers are typically non linear, otherwise the model collapses to the linear model.
- So the activations are like derived features - non-linear transformation of the linear combinations of the features
- The model is fit by minimizing $\sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - f(x_i))^2$
(e.g) for regression (loss)

• Complex Neural Network



Details of Output layer

- Let $z_m = \beta_{m0} + \sum_{l=1}^{h_2} \beta_{ml} \eta_l^{(2)}$, $m=0,1,\dots,9$ be a linear combination of activation at second layer

- Output activation function encodes the softmax function

$$f_m(x) = \Pr(Y=m|X) = \frac{e^{z_m}}{\sum_{l=0}^9 e^{z_l}}$$

- We fit the model by minimizing the negative multinomial log-likelihood (or cross-entropy)

$$- \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{m=0}^9 y_{im} \log(f_m(x_i))$$

- y_{im} is 1 if true class for observation i is m , else 0 - i.e. one-hot encoded.