

# Aprenentatge Automàtic 1

**GCED**

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**LECTURE 9: Artificial Neural Networks (II)**

# Artificial neural networks (II): the RBF

## Introduction

- RBFs have their roots at exact function interpolation (formulation as a neural network came later)
- The output of a hidden neuron is determined by the **distance** between the input and the neuron's center (seen as a **prototype**)
- This latter fact has two important consequences:
  1. It allows to give a precise interpretation to the network output
  2. It allows to design de-coupled training algorithms

# Artificial neural networks (II): the RBF

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## Introduction

- Exact function interpolation:

$$h(\mathbf{x}_n) = t_n \quad \mathbf{x}_n \in \mathbb{R}^d, t_n \in \mathbb{R}, \quad n = 1, \dots, N$$

- The function  $h$  is expressed as a combination of **basis functions**:

$$\phi_n(\mathbf{x}) := \phi(\|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_n\|)$$

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## Introduction

- The combination is linear w.r.t. the basis functions:

$$h(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_{n=1}^N w_n \phi_n(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_{n=1}^N w_n \phi(\|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_n\|)$$

which we will force to be exact for all the data points:  $h(\mathbf{x}_n) = t_n$

- The function  $\|\cdot\|$  is any norm in  $\mathbb{R}^d$  (most often an **Euclidean norm**)
- Because of the norm, the  $\phi_n$  are functions that exhibit **radial** contours of constant value **centered** at the data points  $\mathbf{x}_n$

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## Introduction

In matrix notation:

$$\begin{pmatrix} \phi_1(\mathbf{x}_1) & \phi_2(\mathbf{x}_1) & \cdots & \phi_N(\mathbf{x}_1) \\ \phi_1(\mathbf{x}_2) & \phi_2(\mathbf{x}_2) & \cdots & \phi_N(\mathbf{x}_2) \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ \phi_1(\mathbf{x}_N) & \phi_2(\mathbf{x}_N) & \cdots & \phi_N(\mathbf{x}_N) \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} w_1 \\ w_2 \\ \vdots \\ w_N \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} t_1 \\ t_2 \\ \vdots \\ t_N \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\Phi \mathbf{w} = \mathbf{t}$$

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Note that the matrix  $\Phi$  is  $N \times N$  and symmetric.

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## Introduction

- Assuming that  $\Phi$  is non-singular,  $w$  can be found as  $w = \Phi^{-1}t$  (e.g., using LU decomposition:  $\Phi = LU$  where  $L$  is lower triangular,  $U$  upper triangular)
- It can be shown that indeed  $\Phi$  is non-singular for various choices of the basis functions (**Micchelli's theorem**), including:
  1.  $\phi(z) = \exp(-z^2/\sigma^2)$
  2.  $\phi(z) = (z^2 + \sigma^2)^\alpha$ ,  $\alpha \in (-\infty, 0) \cup (0, 1)$
  3.  $\phi(z) = z^3$
  4.  $\phi(z) = z^2 \ln z$

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## Introduction

- If the interpolation problem has codomain in  $\mathbb{R}^m$  (i.e.,  $t_n \in \mathbb{R}^m$ ), the generalization is straightforward:

$$h_k(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_{n=1}^N w_{kn} \phi_n(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_{n=1}^N w_{kn} \phi(\|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_n\|), \quad 1 \leq k \leq m$$

that we will force to be exact for all the data points:  $h_k(\mathbf{x}_n) = t_{nk}$

- This problem leads to  $\Phi W = T$ , solved again by simple matrix inversion as  $W = \Phi^{-1}T$

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Note the dimensions:  $\Phi$  is  $N \times N$ , but  $W, T$  are  $N \times m$

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## Regularization

- Very often, in ML, the exact function interpolation setting is **not attractive** at all!
  1. High number ( $N$ ) of interpolation points  $\rightarrow$  complex and unstable solutions
  2. The outputs  $t_n$  depend stochastically on the inputs  $x_n \rightarrow$  overfit solutions
  3. The interpolation matrix  $\Phi$  can be singular or ill-conditioned
  4. The inversion of  $\Phi$  grows as  $O(N^3)$   
(for symmetric PD matrices, Cholesky decomposition takes some  $N^3/3$  steps)
- We are in need of a tighter **control of complexity** of the solution



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## Regularization

- From previous lectures, we know that **regularization** penalizes the size of the weight matrix:

$$E_{emp}(W) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{n=1}^N \sum_{k=1}^m (t_{nk} - h_k(\mathbf{x}_n))^2 + \frac{\lambda}{2} \sum_{k=1}^m \|\mathbf{w}_k\|^2$$

which results in  $W = (\Phi + \lambda I_N)^{-1}T$ ; the value of  $\lambda > 0$  is proportional to the amount of noise in the data

- Another way of obtaining much simpler solutions is to use a **subset** of the data points to center the basis functions; more generally, they can be centered at a carefully selected set of points in  $\mathbb{R}^d$

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## RBF networks

With these modifications, we obtain the so-called RBF network:

$$h_k(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_{i=0}^H w_{ki} \phi_i(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_{i=0}^H w_{ki} \phi(\|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{c}_i\|), \quad 1 \leq k \leq m$$

which is a **two-layer neural network**:

1. The first (hidden) layer of  $H \ll N$  neurons compute the basis functions  $\phi_i(\mathbf{x})$ , centered at the vectors  $\mathbf{c}_i$
2. A constant basis function  $\phi_0(\mathbf{x}) = 1$  compensates for the difference between the mean values of the output and the targets

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## RBF networks

A very popular choice for the  $\phi_i$  is a simple Gaussian:

$$\phi_i(\mathbf{x}) = \exp\left(-\frac{\|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{c}_i\|^2}{\sigma_i^2}\right)$$

- The new matrix  $\Phi_{N \times (H+1)}$ , is sometimes known as the **design** matrix; now the weight matrix is  $W = (\Phi^T \Phi)^{-1} \Phi^T T$
- If the original  $\Phi_{N \times N}$  matrix was non-singular, then the matrix  $\Phi_{N \times (H+1)}^T \Phi_{N \times (H+1)}$  is also non-singular (very important result!)

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If we also regularize the solution, then  $W = (\Phi^T \Phi + \lambda I_{H+1})^{-1} \Phi^T T$

# Artificial neural networks (II): the RBF

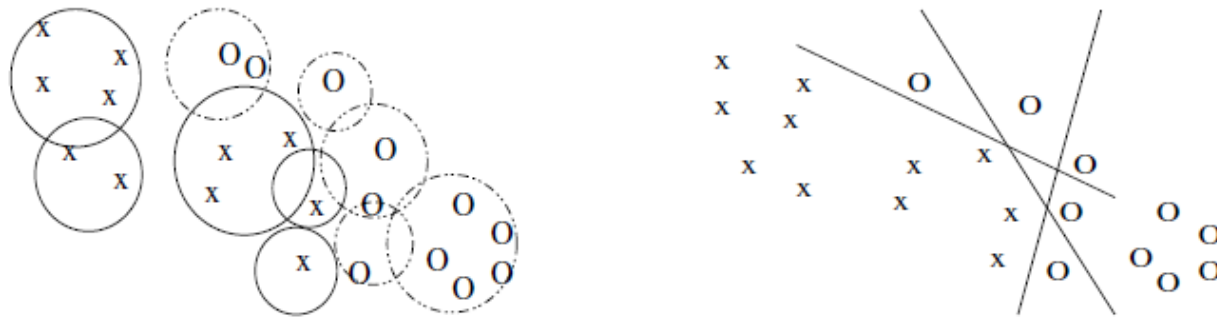
## In summary

**RBF network training** is typically performed in a decoupled way:

1. The first stage finds  $H, \{c_i\}, \{\sigma_i^2\}$  using a **clustering** algorithm
2. The second stage finds  $W$  by any of the usual (linear) methods:
  - Solution using the pseudo-inverse (via the SVD), for **regression**
  - Solution using IRLS (logistic regression), for **binary classification**

# Artificial neural networks (II): the RBF

## Comparison to the MLP



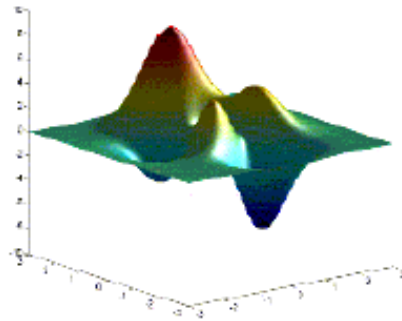
Two-class classification:

(left) separation by Gaussian neurons (RBFNN)

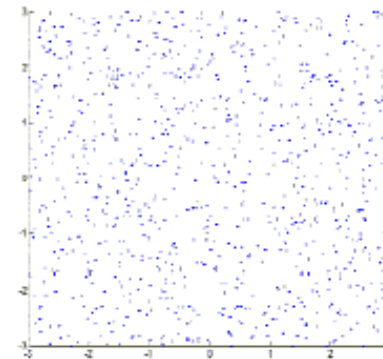
(right) separation by hyperplanes (MLP)

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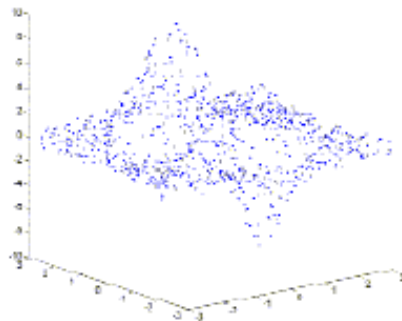
## Example (I)



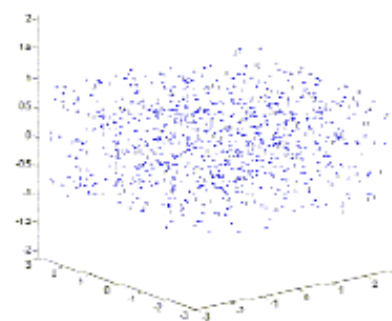
a: Deterministic function



b: Uniform distribution of data points



c: The data sample with noise

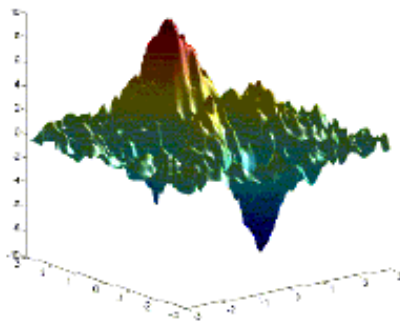


d: The  $U(-1,1)$  noise component

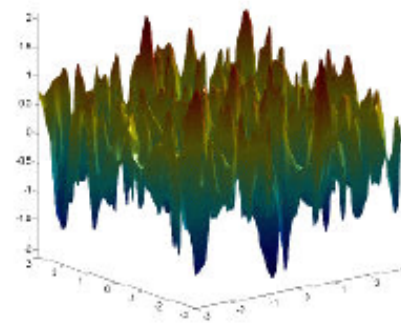
# Artificial neural networks (II): the RBF

## Example (II)

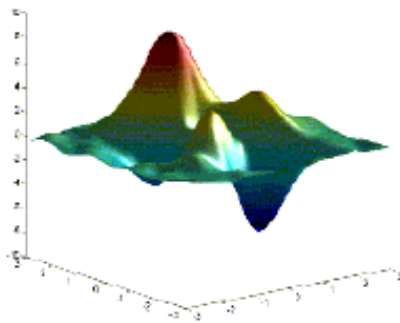
Example



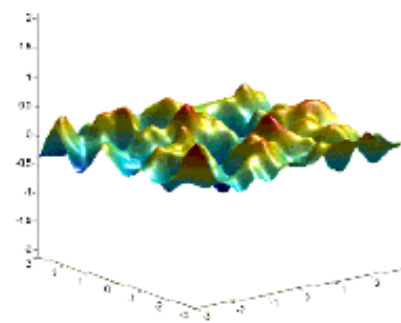
e: Exact fit to data points in (c)



f: (e)-(a), i.e., exactly fitting the data in (d)



g: Approximating RBF



h: (g)-(a)