



# Machine Learning

Session 5 - Introduction to neural networks



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[introduction-to-data-science](#)

# Introduction

What did we do last time?

# Course outline

## Machine learning course

Session 1: Regression

Session 2: Supervised classification

Session 3: Clustering

Session 4: Decision trees and ensemble methods

**Session 5: Introduction to neural networks**

Session 6: Advanced neural networks

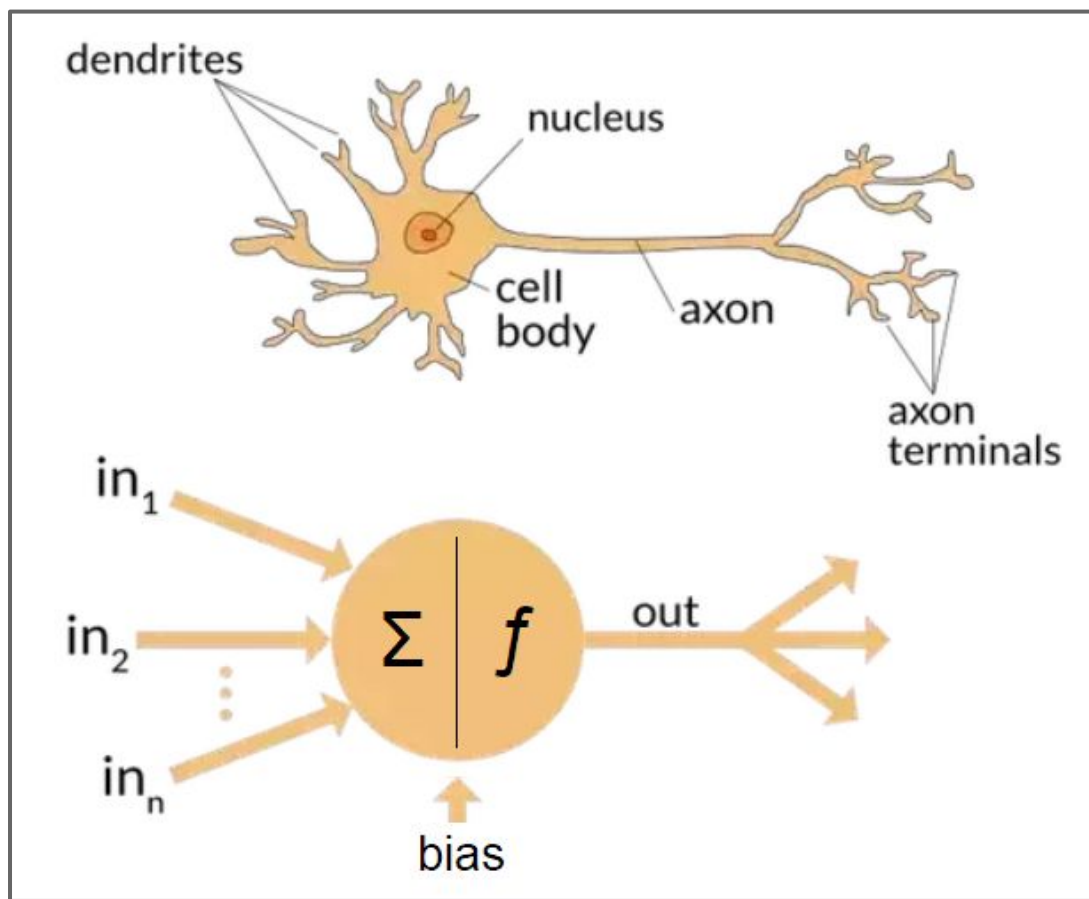
Session 7: Introduction to reinforcement learning

Session 8: Reading science papers



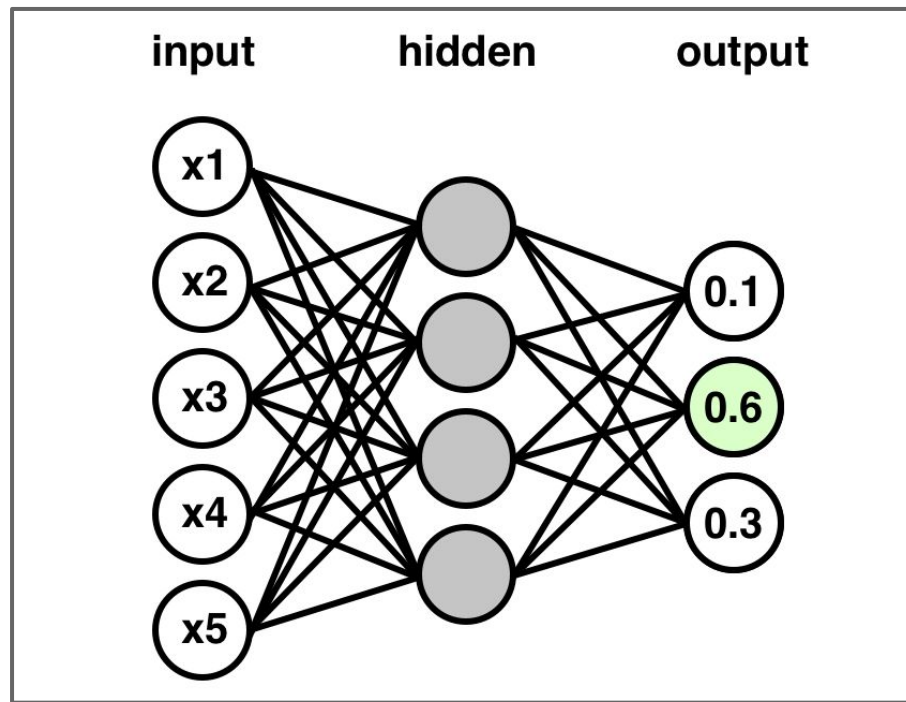
**Project**

# What are artificial neural networks?



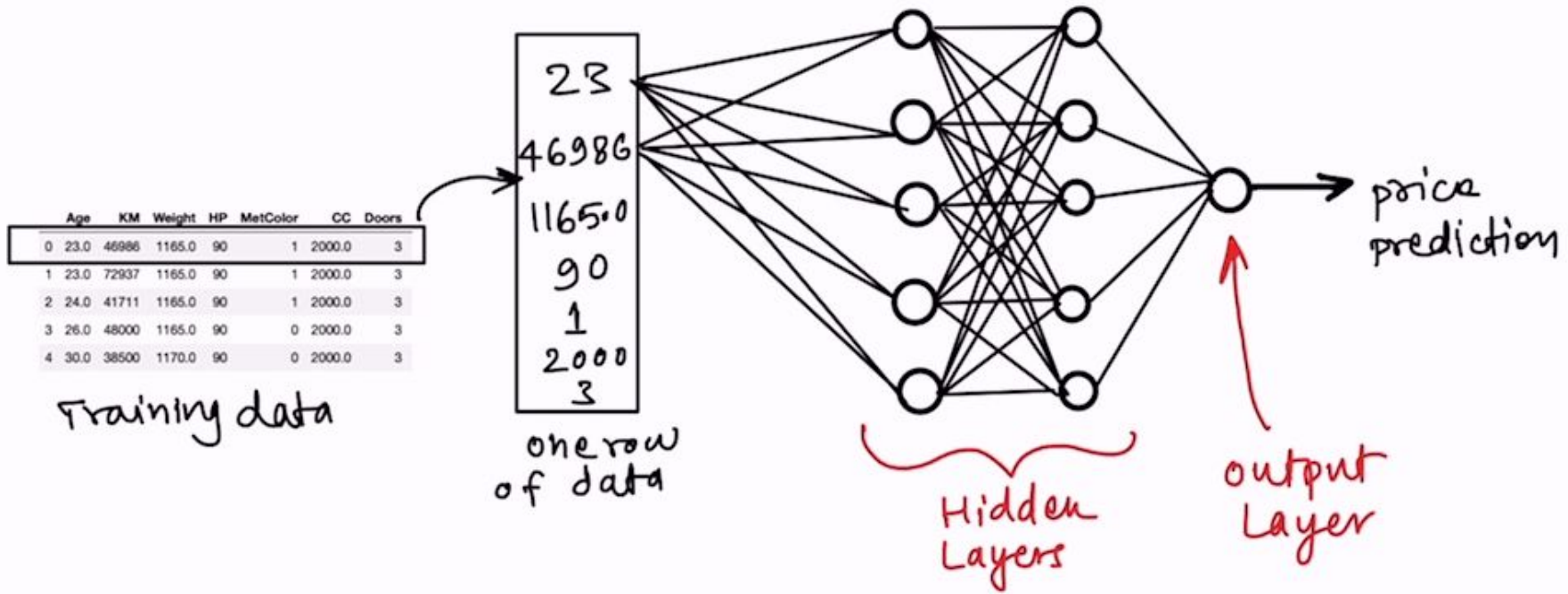
Neural networks are named after an analogy with the human brain

[Image source](#)

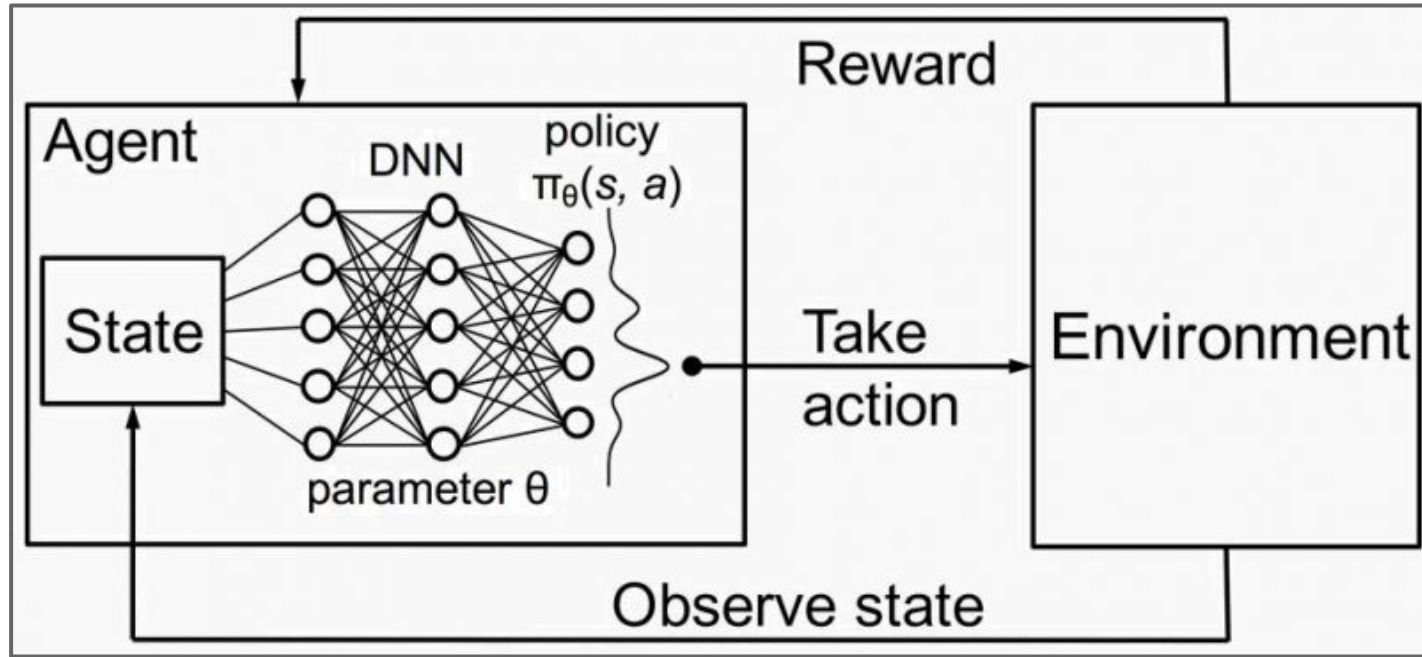


**The network outputs the probability for the sample to belong to each class**





**The network outputs the predicted value**



**The network learns the best action to execute in a certain state**

# Strength and weaknesses of neural networks

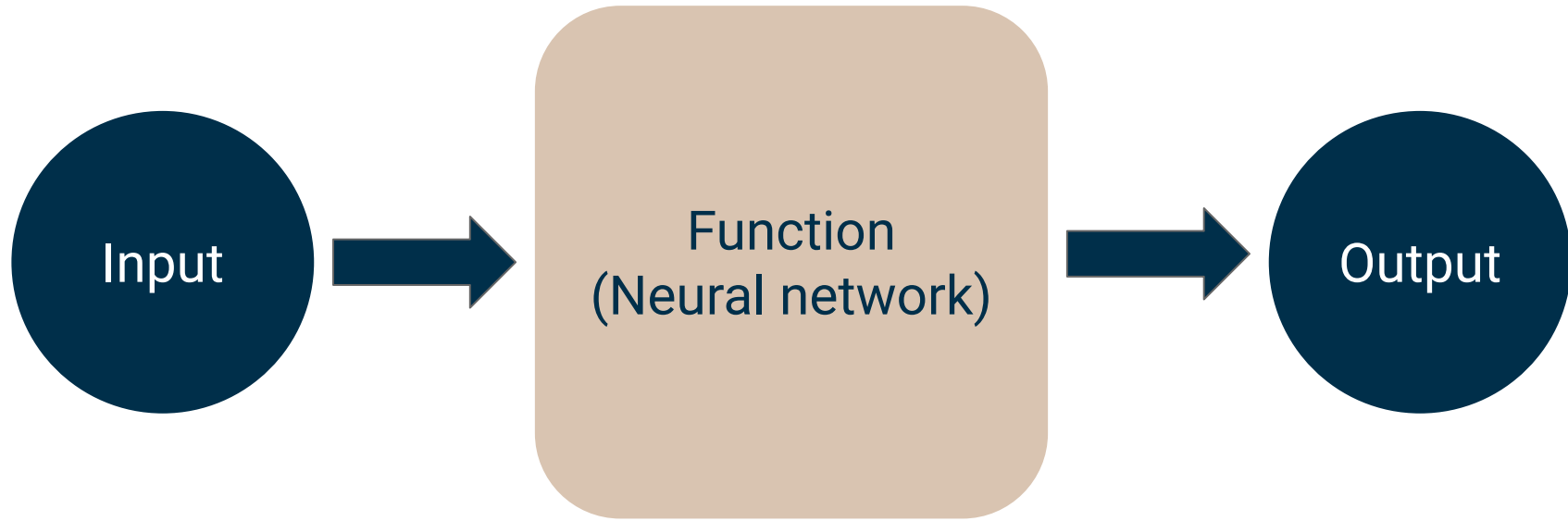
## Strengths

- Extremely flexible
- Learns nonlinear functions
- Fast predictions once trained
- Scalable to large datasets

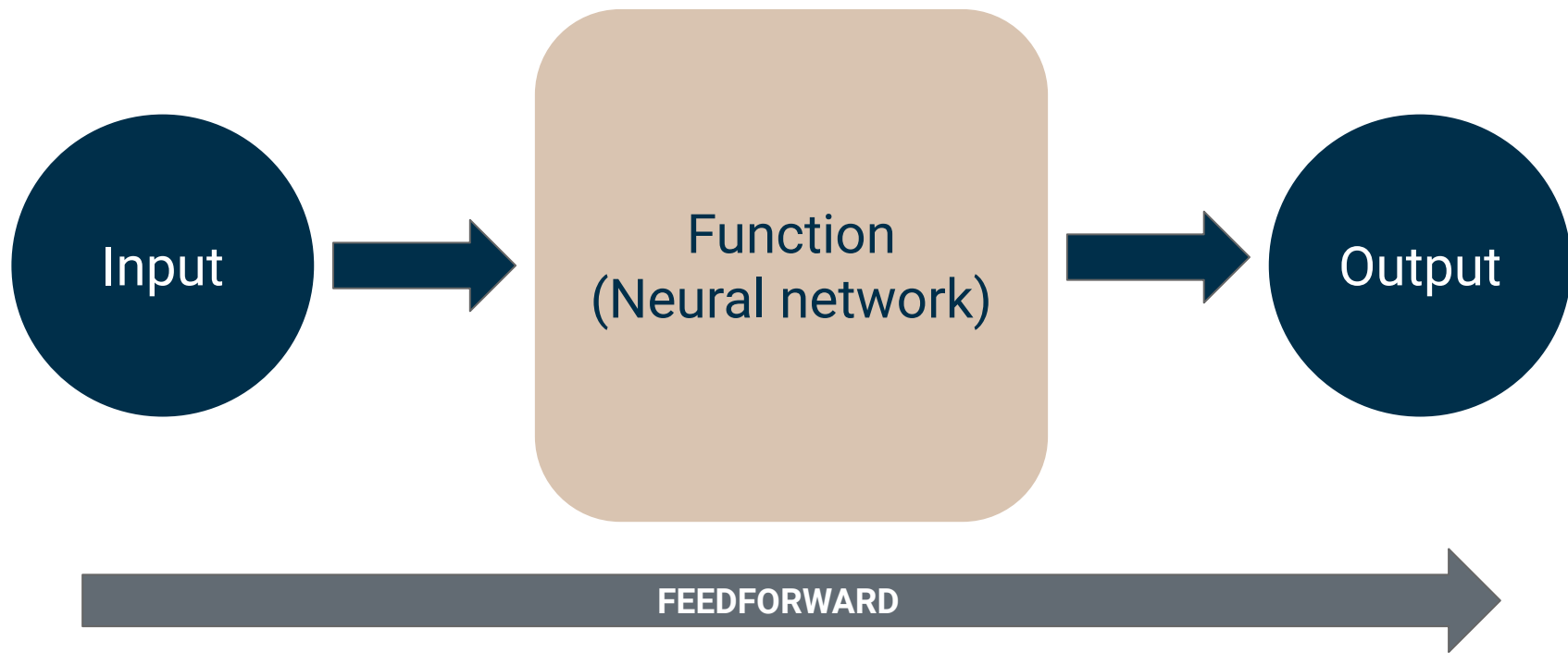
## Weaknesses

- Very difficult to interpret
- Computationally expensive
- Very slow training without GPUs

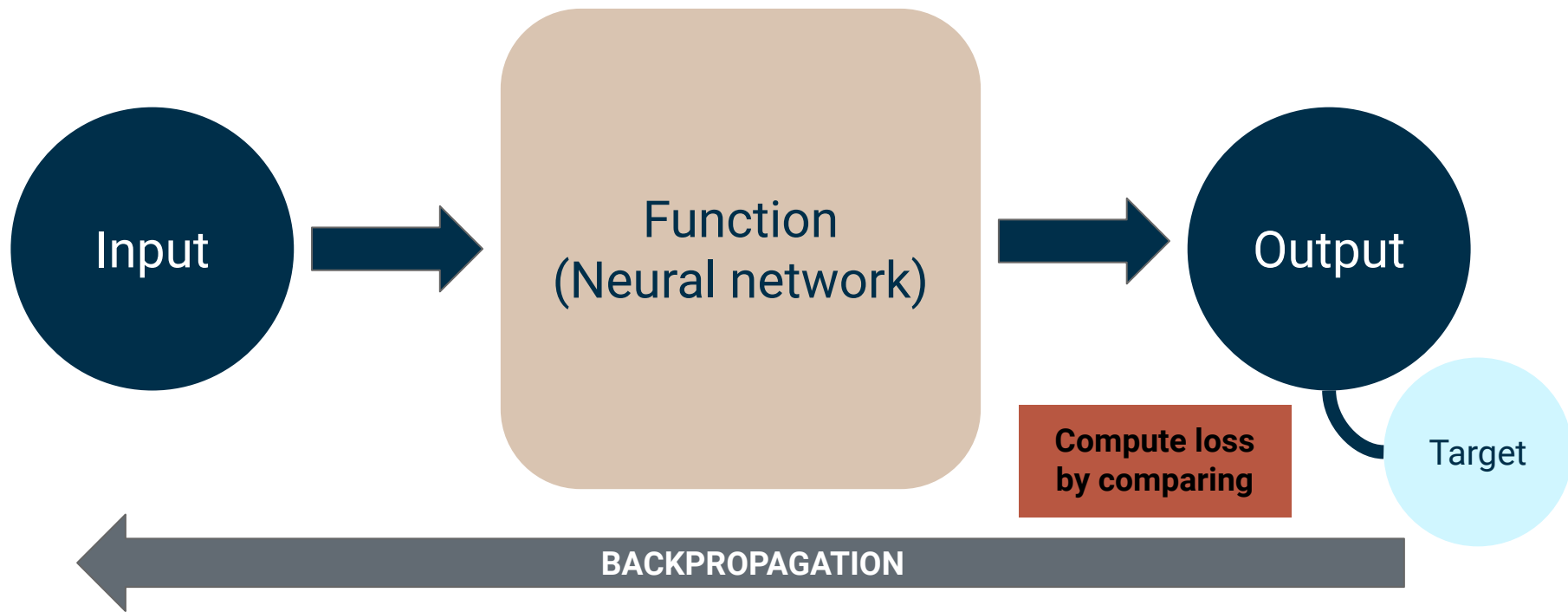
# How do ANNs work?



Neural networks are algorithms that learn a function linking input and output

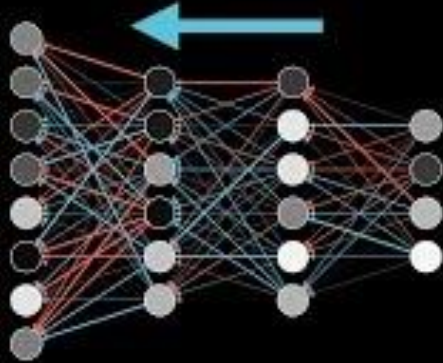


**In order to train the model, inputs are “fed forward” into the network, and outputs are computed**

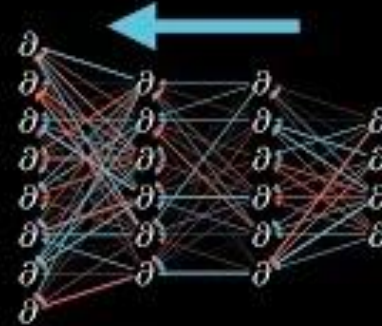


**The loss is computed, and the error is propagated back into the network to adjust weights**

## Backpropagation



## Backpropagation calculus



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=llg3gGewQ5U>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tleHLnjs5U8>

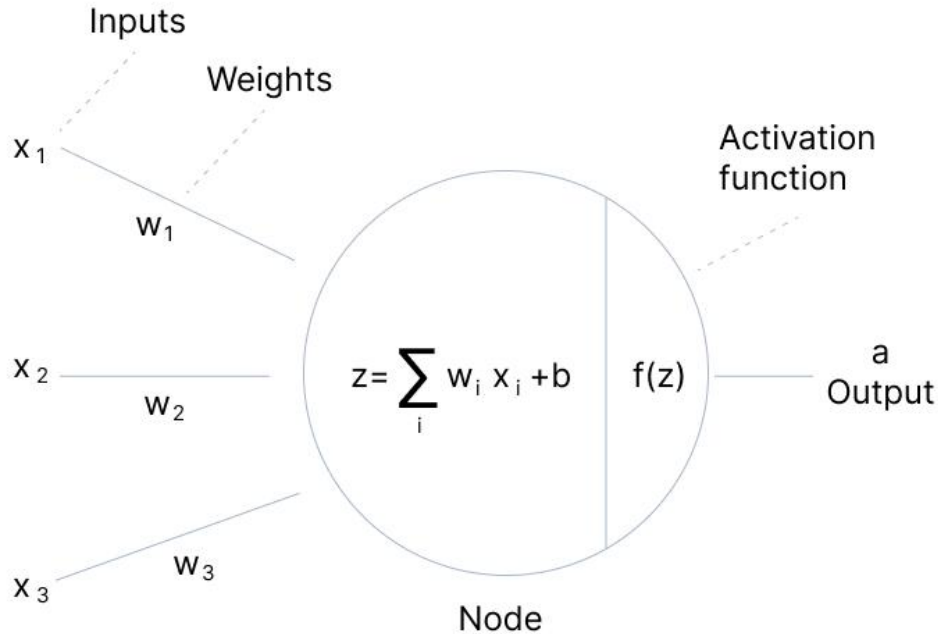
If you are interested in the math behind it, check out these excellent videos on the subject!

**In short: backpropagation is adjusting the network's weights to reduce the loss**

Backpropagation is performed with stochastic gradient descent



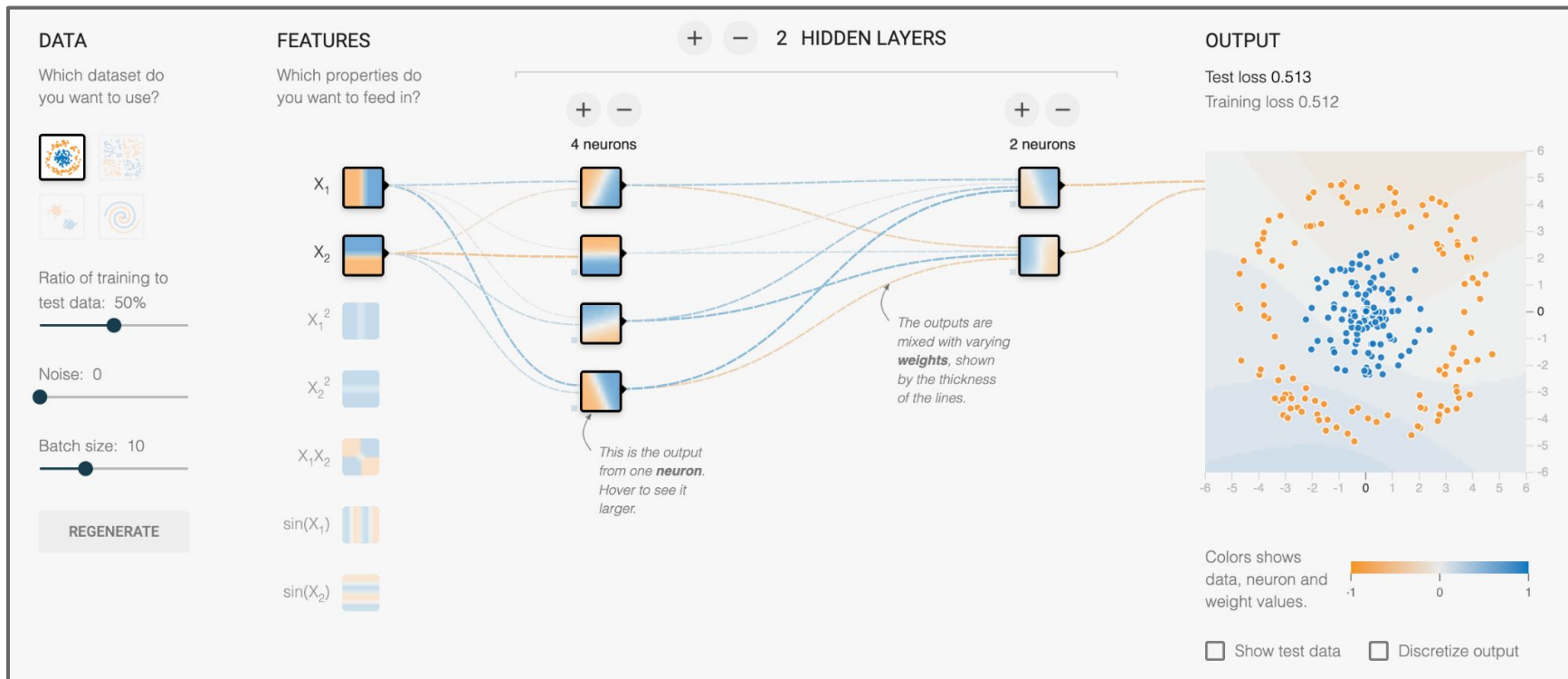
# What are ANNs made of?



V7 Labs

Weights are the **parameters** of the algorithm. They are adjusted during the learning process.

The **activation function** introduces nonlinearity in the network. This means the model can learn complex functions.



<https://playground.tensorflow.org/>

# Practical work

The notebook contains all the necessary instructions

# Debrief

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**What did we learn today?**

**What could we have done better?**

**What are we doing next time?**