



ECE499/ECE590 Machine Learning for Embedded Systems (Fall 2021)

Lecture 1: Course Information and Introduction to Machine Learning

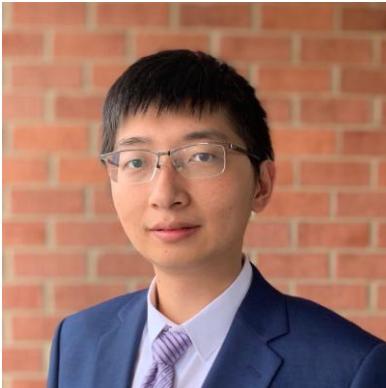
Weiwen Jiang, Ph.D.

Electrical and Computer Engineering

George Mason University

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About Me.



Dr. Weiwen Jiang

- **Background**
 - Researcher at University of Pittsburgh (2017-2019)
 - Postdoc at University of Notre Dame (2019-2021)
 - George Mason University (2021 - present)
- **Research Interests**
 - HW/SW Co-Design
 - Quantum Machine Learning
- **Contacts:**
 - wjiang8@gmu.edu
 - Nguyen Engineering Building, Room3247
 - (412)427-0695
 - <https://jqub.github.io/>

Teaching Assistant



Zhepeng Wang (Ph.D. Candidate)

zwang48@gmu.edu

Office Hours: TBD

Agenda

- Course Information
 - **Logistics**
 - Motivation
 - Overview
- Introduction to Artificial Neuron and Multi-Layer Perceptron (MLP)

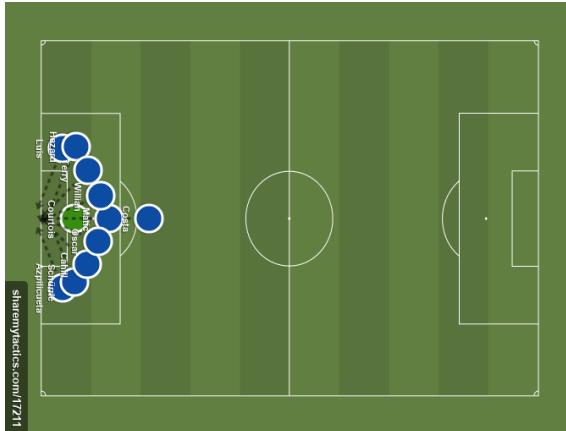
Course Logistics

Prerequisites (Important!)

CS 222 and ECE 231 and ECE 350 with the minimum grade of C

- **CS 222 - Computer Programming for Engineers**
- **ECE 231: Digital System Design**
- **ECE 350: Embedded Systems and Hardware Interfaces**

Lecture-Presentation-Lab Hours



10-0-0
(No!)



4-3-3
(Yes!)

Good Stuff

- No hand-writing
- No hand-writing
- Contents driven by demand and interest
- **State-of-the-art techniques**

I am inviting special guests from
Facebook, Harvard, UIUC, and
Northeastern to present their
works.

“Bad” Stuff

- You'll have to make presentation or critiques
- You'll have to hand-on labs
- You'll have to work on a final project
- Eventually, they will do you good!

Course Resources

- **Blackboard:**
 - Assignments will be posted and submitted here!
 - Online discussion, shared documents, announcements.
 - Do NOT upload codes in discussion.
- **Course Website:**
 - <https://jqub.github.io/2021/09/01/ML4Emb/>
 - Course information (TA time, location, zoom, etc.)
 - Slides, readings, and documents will be posted here!

Grading Policy

Undergraduate (ECE 499)

- Homework & Labs 50%
- Paper Critiques 10%
- Project progress review 10%
- Project final review 30%

Graduate (ECE 590)

- Homework & Labs 50%
- Research paper presentation 20%
- Project progress review 10%
- Project final review/report 20%

You Have Been Warned. Zero Tolerance!

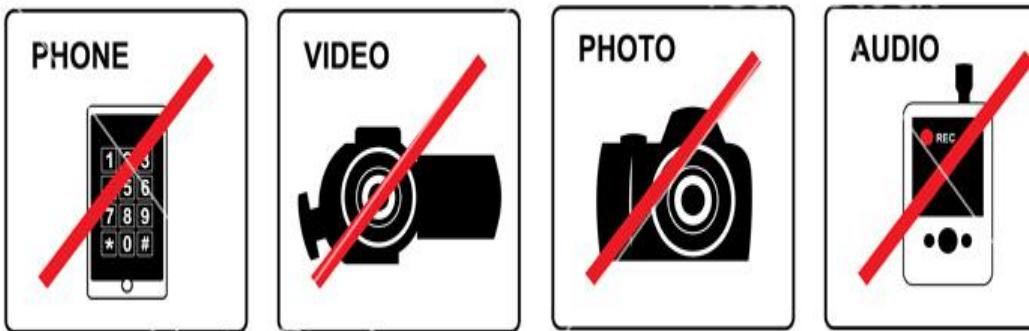
- No matter vaccinated or not, face mask is required in class



- Request to a Zoom access for a few classes if needed

You Have Been Warned. Zero Tolerance!

- Lecture content and materials should **NOT** go online without explicit permission



- **No plagiarism!**

The most common sense of way interpreting no plagiarism:
You need to DO your work.



“Machine Learning for Embedded Systems”

Course Motivation



A dark-themed photograph of a person from the side, wearing over-ear headphones and looking down at a laptop keyboard. In front of them are two computer monitors. The monitor on the left shows a complex interface with multiple windows and data tables. The monitor on the right displays several lines of green and blue text, characteristic of programming code or terminal output. The overall atmosphere is focused and technical.

"MACHINE LEARNING WILL
AUTOMATE JOBS THAT
MOST PEOPLE THOUGHT COULD ONLY BE
DONE BY PEOPLE." ~DAVE WATERS.

ML Applications

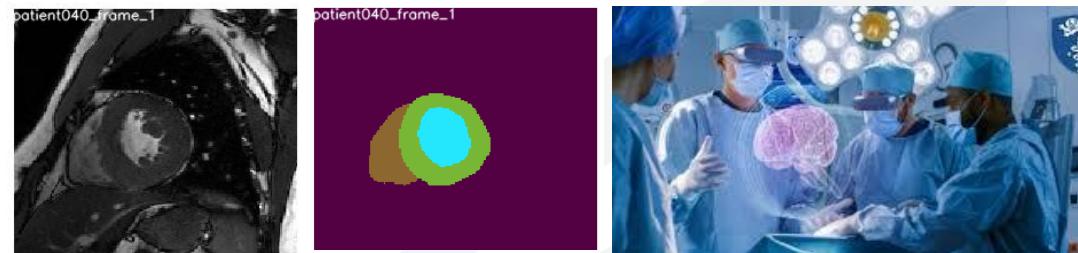
Game Play



Autonomous Driving

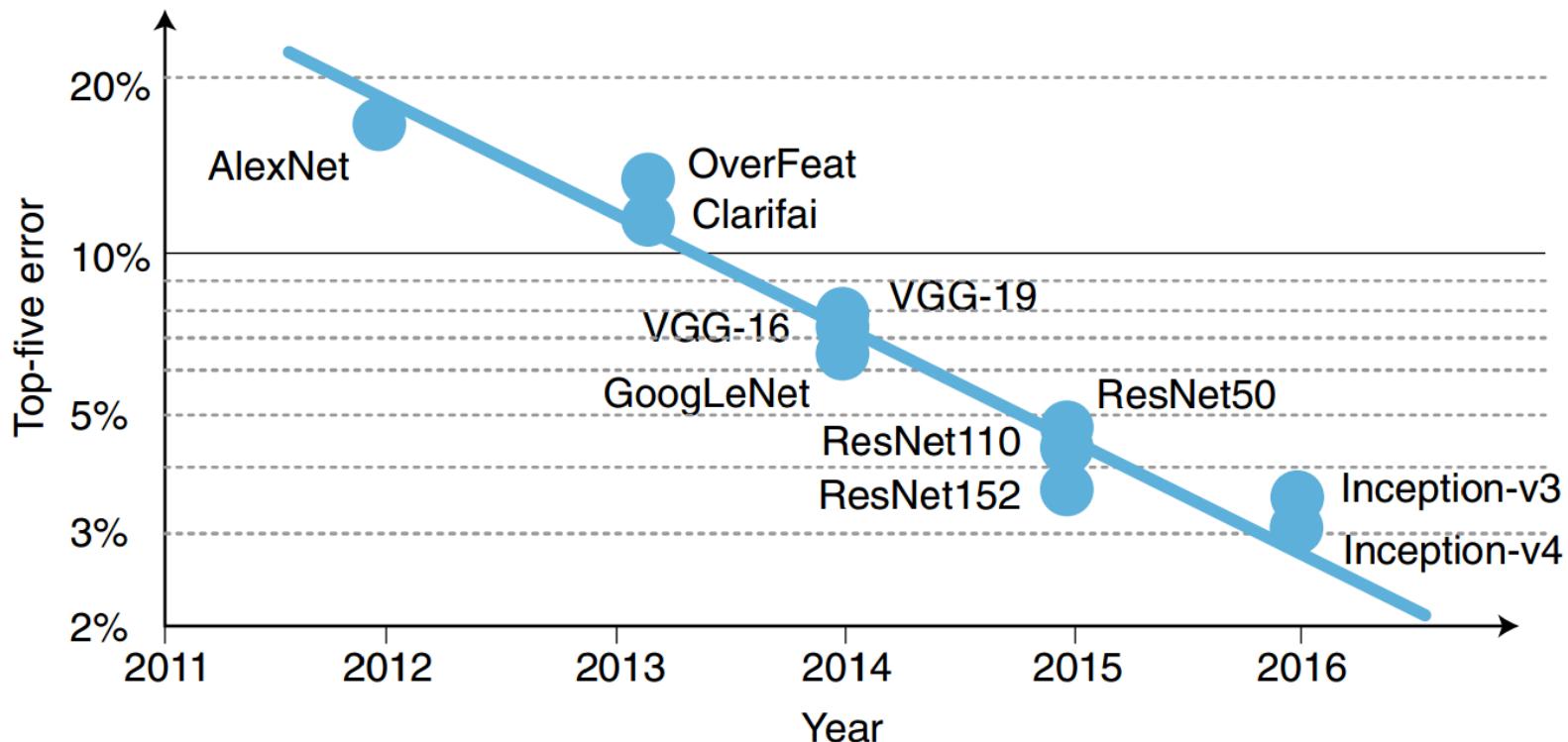


Medical Applications



Accuracy is the Key in ML

Error rate improved exponentially

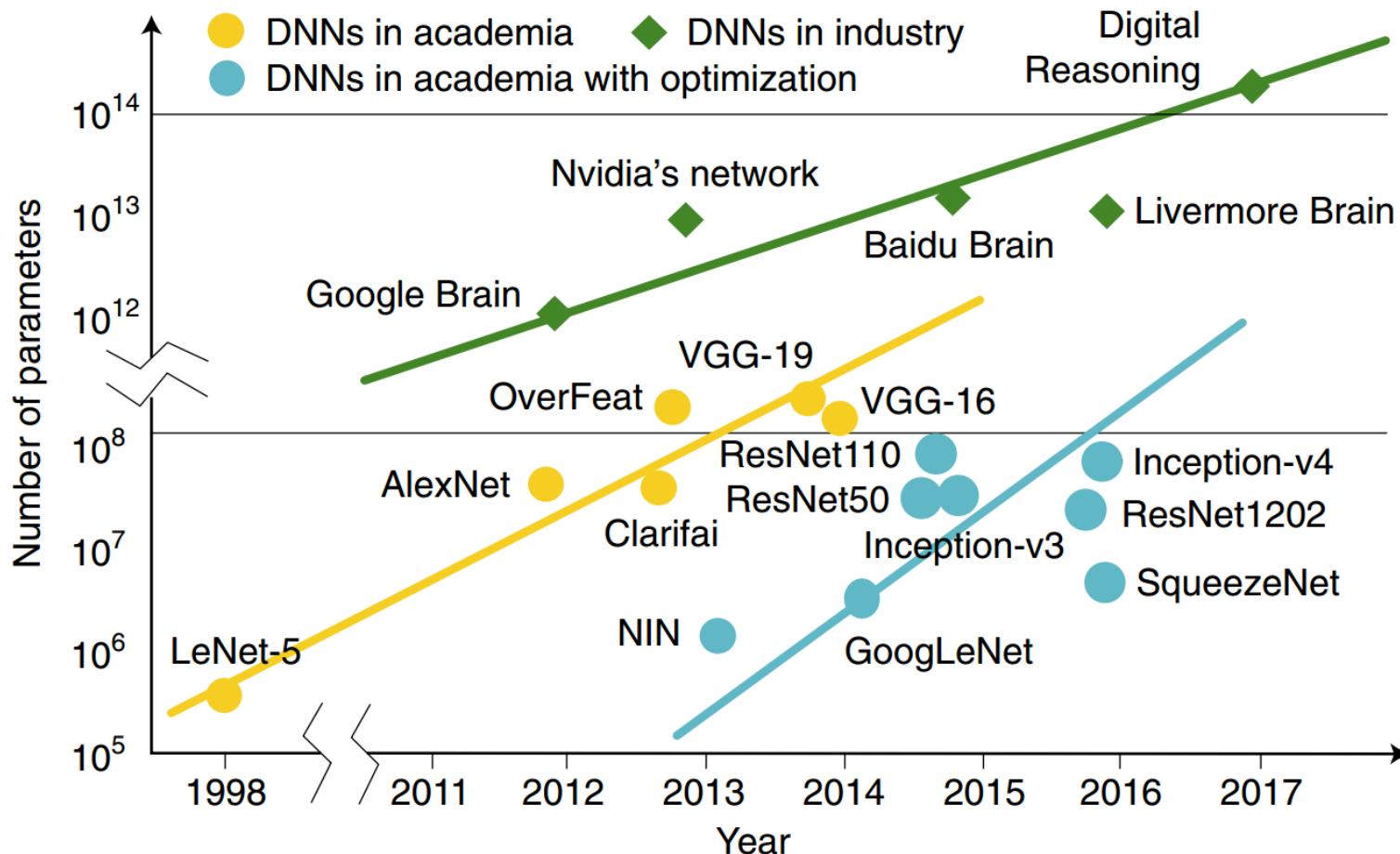


Error rate decreases by approximately 30% each year

Xu, Xiaowei, et al. "Scaling for edge inference of deep neural networks." Nature Electronics 1.4 (2018): 216.

Overhead on Higher Accuracy

Size of machine learning model also increases exponentially

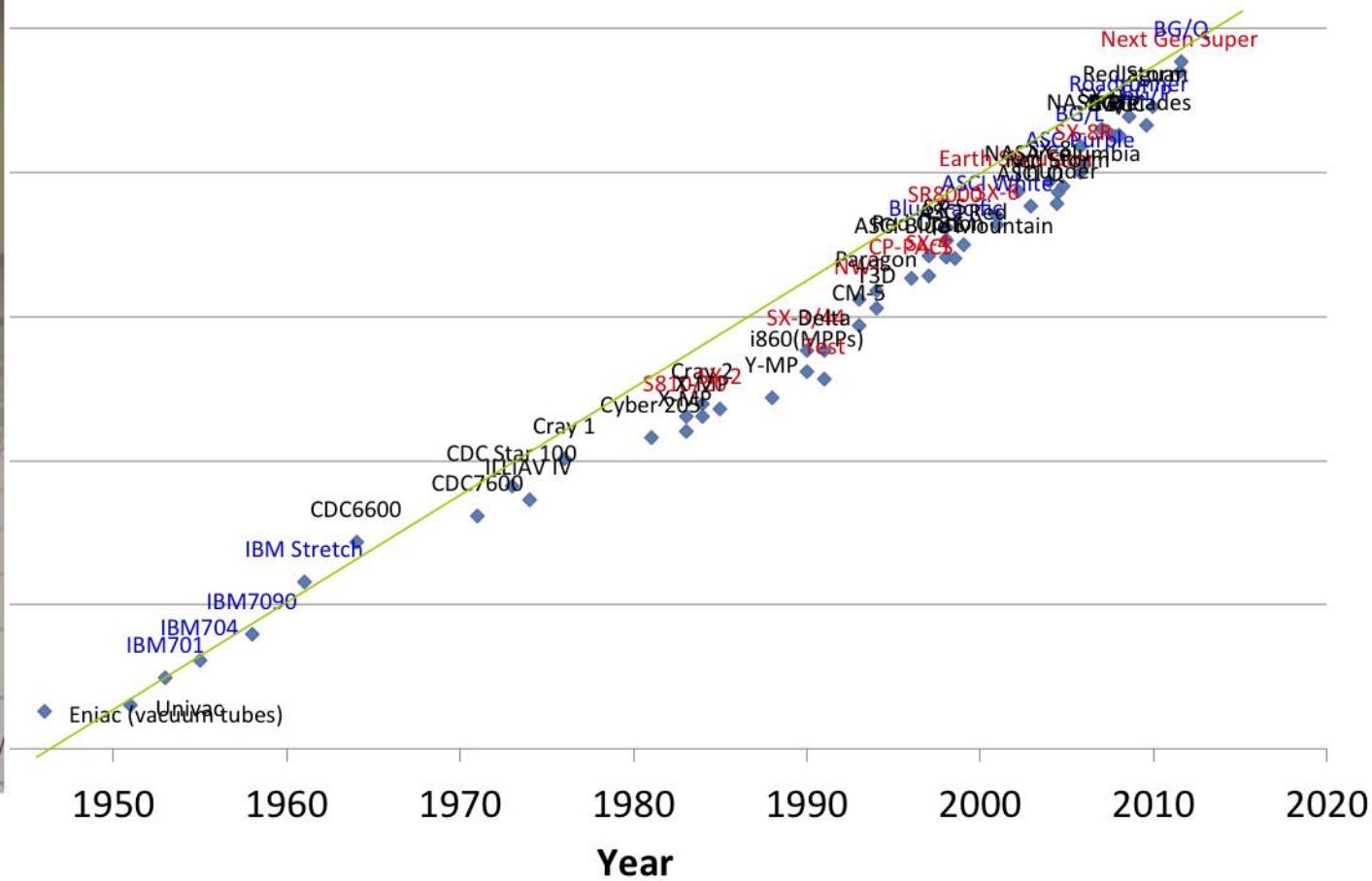


Xu, Xiaowei, et al. "Scaling for edge inference of deep neural networks." Nature Electronics 1.4 (2018): 216.

Race of Computer Powers Enables ML



Credit: IBM Blue Gene/Q Supercomputer



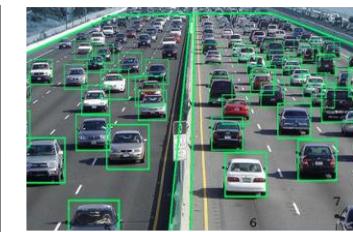
Machine Learning on the Edge



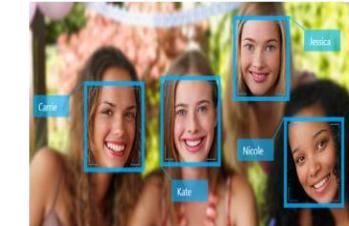
EDGE DEVICES



CAMERA (USB OR PI-CAMERA)



EDGE-BASED COMPUTER VISION SOLUTIONS



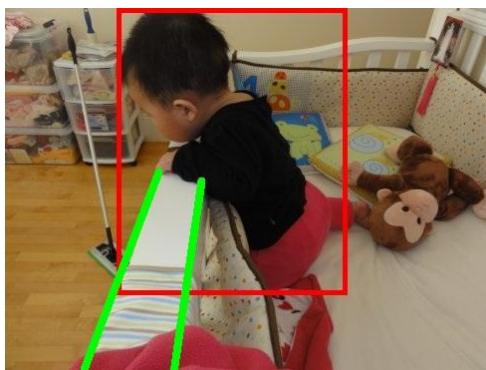
Why on the Edge?

- Latency Problem



- Delay & Latency
- Speed
- WiFi Access

- Privacy Leakage

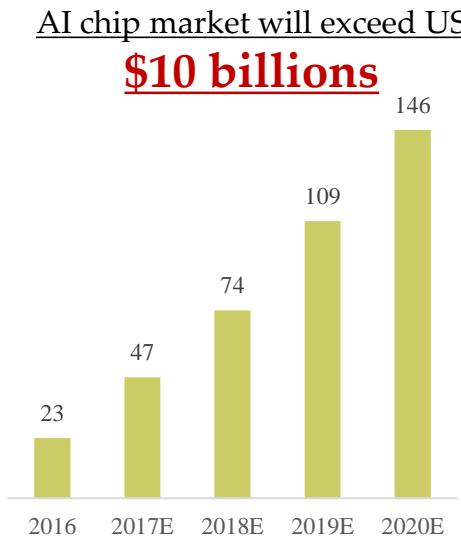
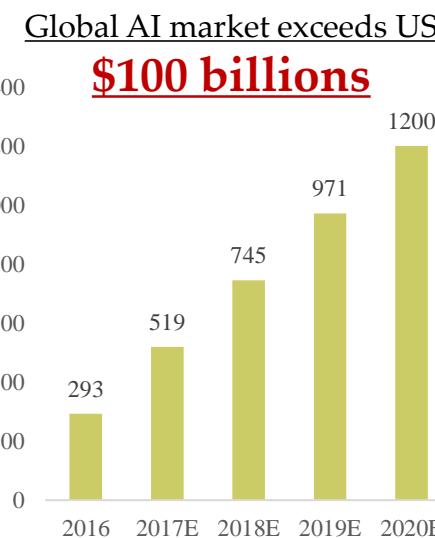
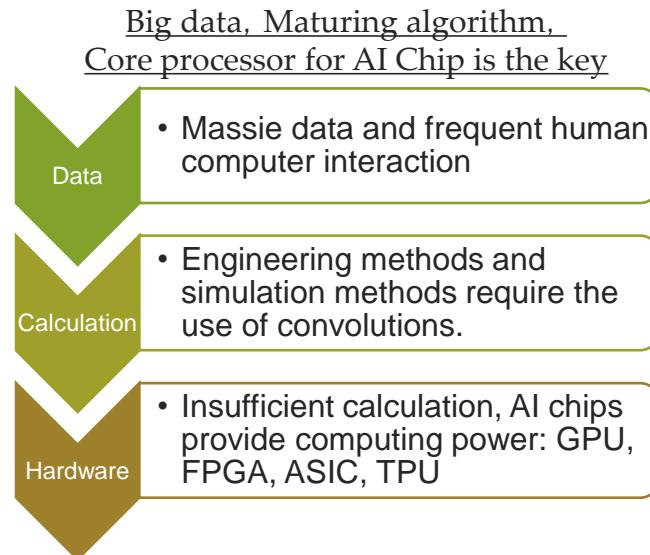


- Data uploaded to the server
- Privacy concerns

- Cost/energy efficiency considerations

Why on the Edge?

AI chip bearing artificial intelligence algorithm, billion dollar market opportunity



14.6 billions
Smart end devices
Apple, Qualcomm, Spreadtrum, HiSilicon, Mediatek, annual volume

9 billions
Home appliance
Smart appliance, digital TV, set top box, game console, VR/AR annual volume

200+ billions
Autopilot
ADAS chip market potential

Global AI Chip Market is Expanding!

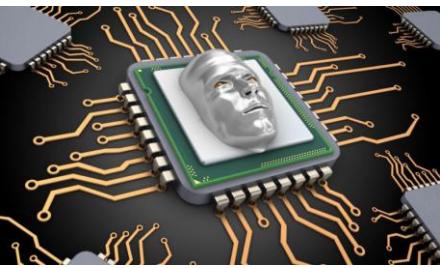
Source: CCID, NVIDIA, Intel, gartner, CITIC Securities

Challenges in ML on Edge

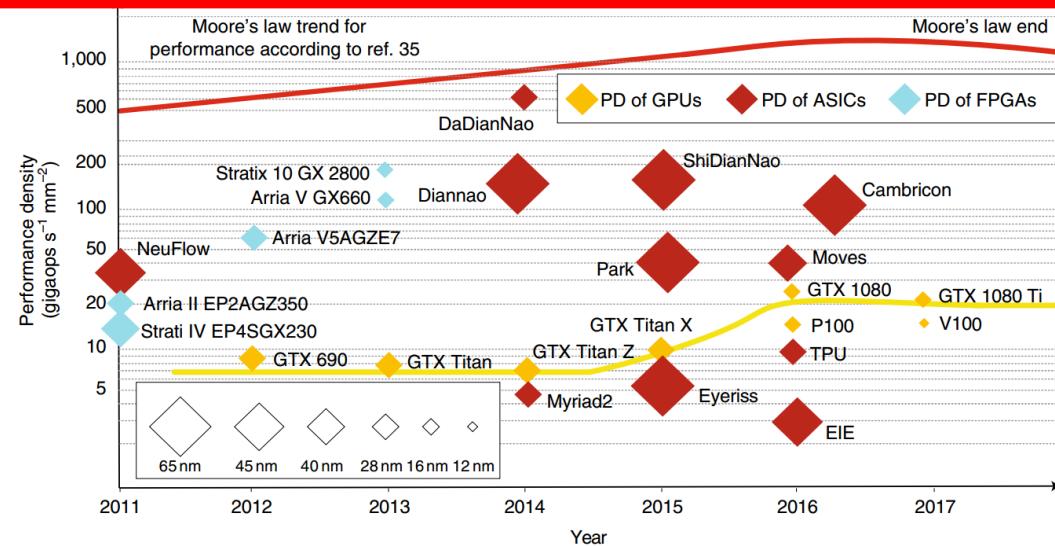
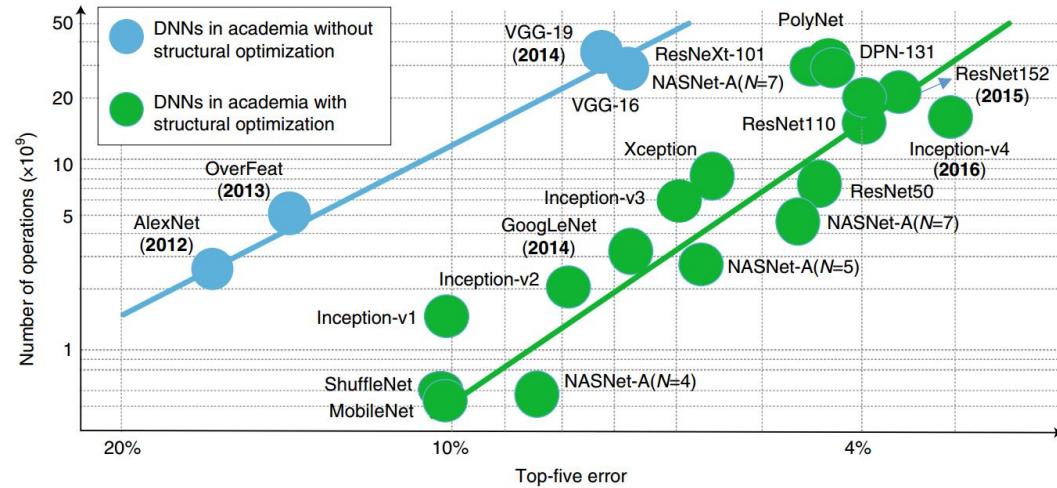
Computing performance gap



Number of DNN **operations** increases exponentially



Performance density almost stops increasing

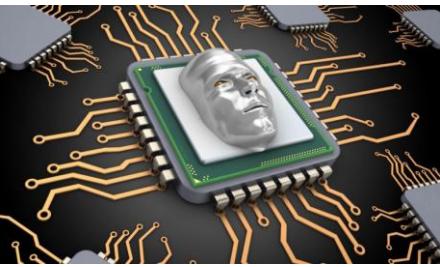


Challenges in ML on Edge

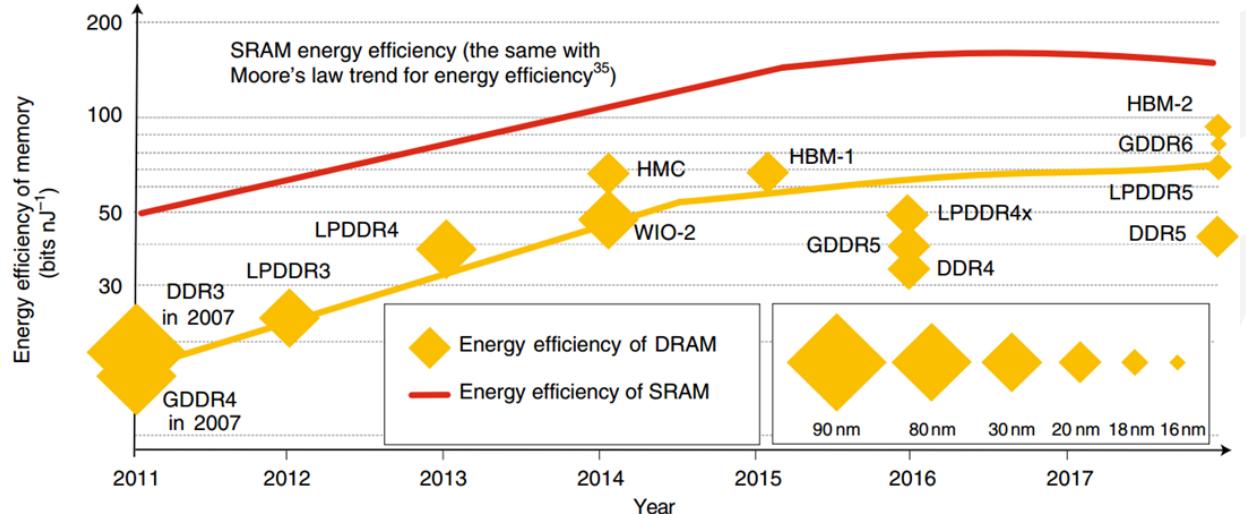
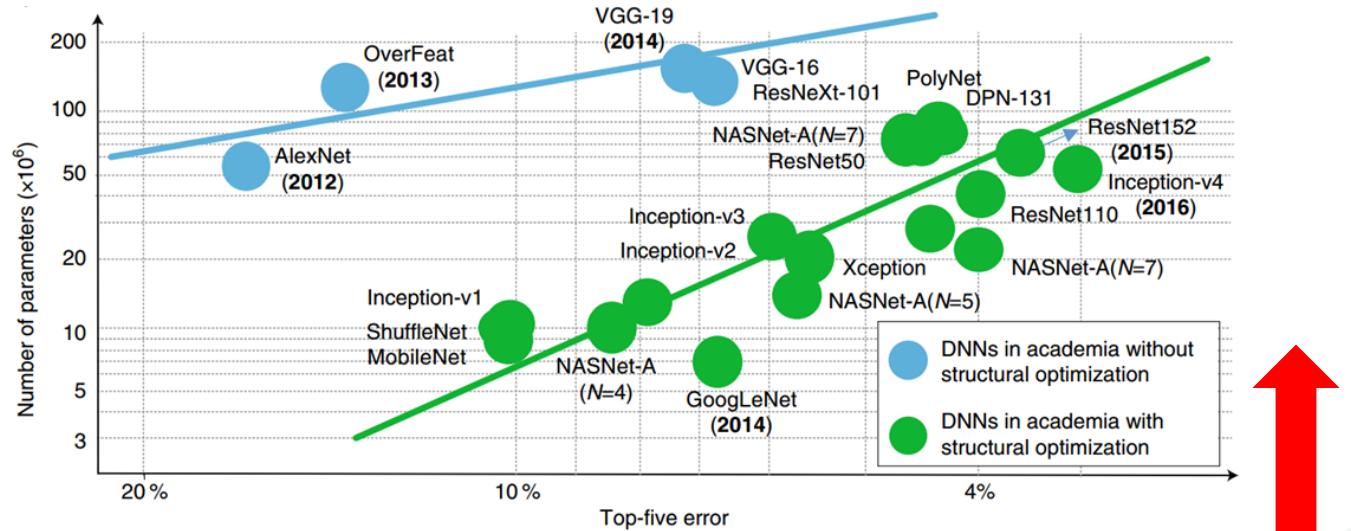
Storage energy efficiency gap



Number of DNN **parameters** increases exponentially



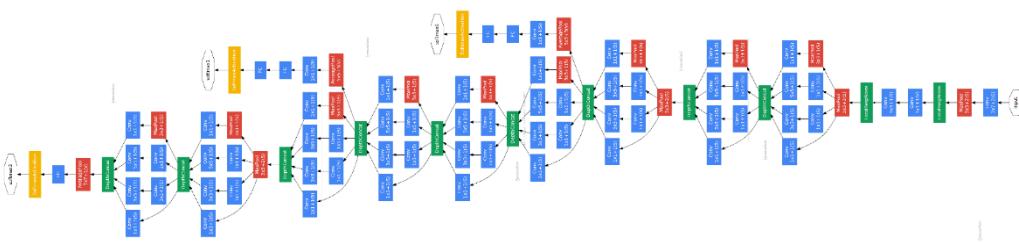
Energy efficiency of memory almost stops increasing



Course Overview

What is This Course About?

Open question on Machine Learning for Embedded Systems!



Machine Learning

- High computation complexity
- High storage complexity

V.S.



Embedded Systems

- Low power
- Small on-chip memory
- Low bandwidth
- Real-time requirements

How to overcome the limitations of embedded systems?

What is This Course About?

Software side: AI/ML/DL?

Artificial Intelligence (AI)

[Definition] AI is intelligence demonstrated by machines, unlike the natural intelligence displayed by humans and animals, which involves consciousness and emotionality.

What is This Course About?

Software side: AI/ML/DL?

Artificial Intelligence (AI)

Machine Learning (ML)

[Definition] ML is the study of computer **algorithms** that **improve automatically** through experience and by the use of **data**. It is seen as a part of **AI**.

ECE 527: Learning From Data

What is This Course About?

Software side: AI/ML/DL?

Artificial Intelligence (AI)

Machine Learning (ML)

Deep Learning (DL)

[Definition] DL is a class of ML Algorithms that uses multiple layers to progressively extract higher-level features from the raw input.

Computer Vision

Natural Language

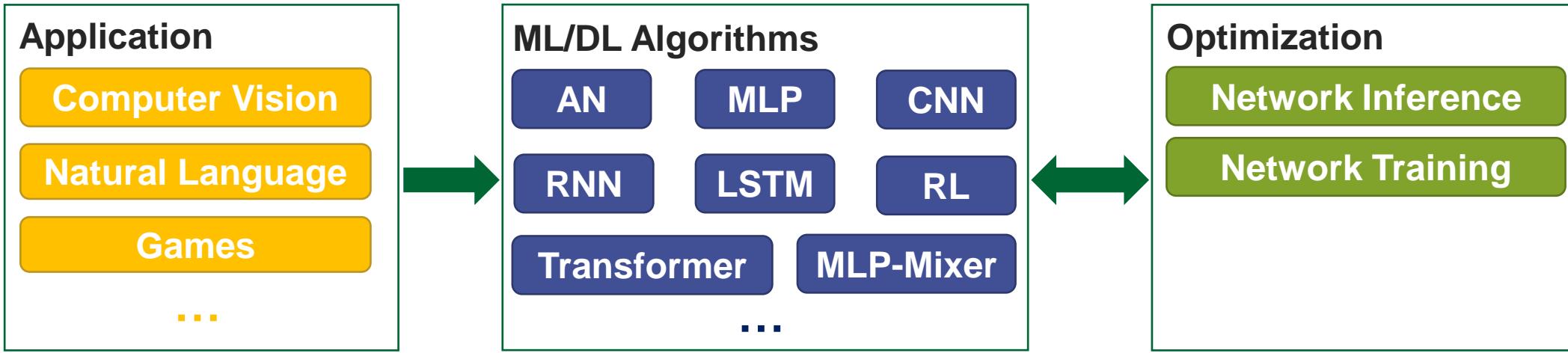
Games

...

What is This Course About?

Overview: software side

Software



High Accuracy

What is This Course About?

Hardware side: from cloud to edge

ECE 350: Embedded Systems and
Hardware Interfaces



Cloud
GPU/CPU

ECE 231: Digital System Design



Mobile Device

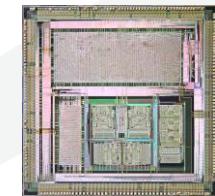
Microcontroller

General Purpose Computing

Customized Computing



FPGA
Field-Programmable
Gate Array



ASIC
Application Specific
Integrate Circuit

What is This Course About?

Overview

Software

Hardware

Application

Computer Vision

Natural Language

Games

...

ML/DL Algorithms

AN

MLP

CNN

RNN

LSTM

RL

Transformer

MLP-Mixer

...

Optimization

Network Inference

Network Training

Model Compression

Network Design



Embedded Systems



ECE 618: Hardware Accelerators for
Machine Learning

Low-Power



Low-Latency

What is This Course About?

Overview

Software



Hardware

Application

Computer Vision

Natural Language

Games

...

ML/DL Algorithms

AN

MLP

CNN

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LSTM

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...

Optimization

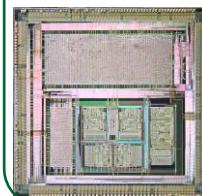
Network Inference

Network Training

Model Compression

Network Design

Embedded Systems



Performance Model

Resource Usage

Power

Latency

Optimization

Hardware Design

Mapping/Scheduling

Communication

Three Sections

SECTION I: Introduction of Machine Learning and Deep Neural Networks

Date	Topic
Week 1	Course Information & Introduction to Machine Learning
Week 2	Train Neural Networks
Week 3	Deep Convolutional Neural Networks (CNN)
Week 4	Natural Langue Processing
Week 5	Reinforcement Learning

Lecture and Lab

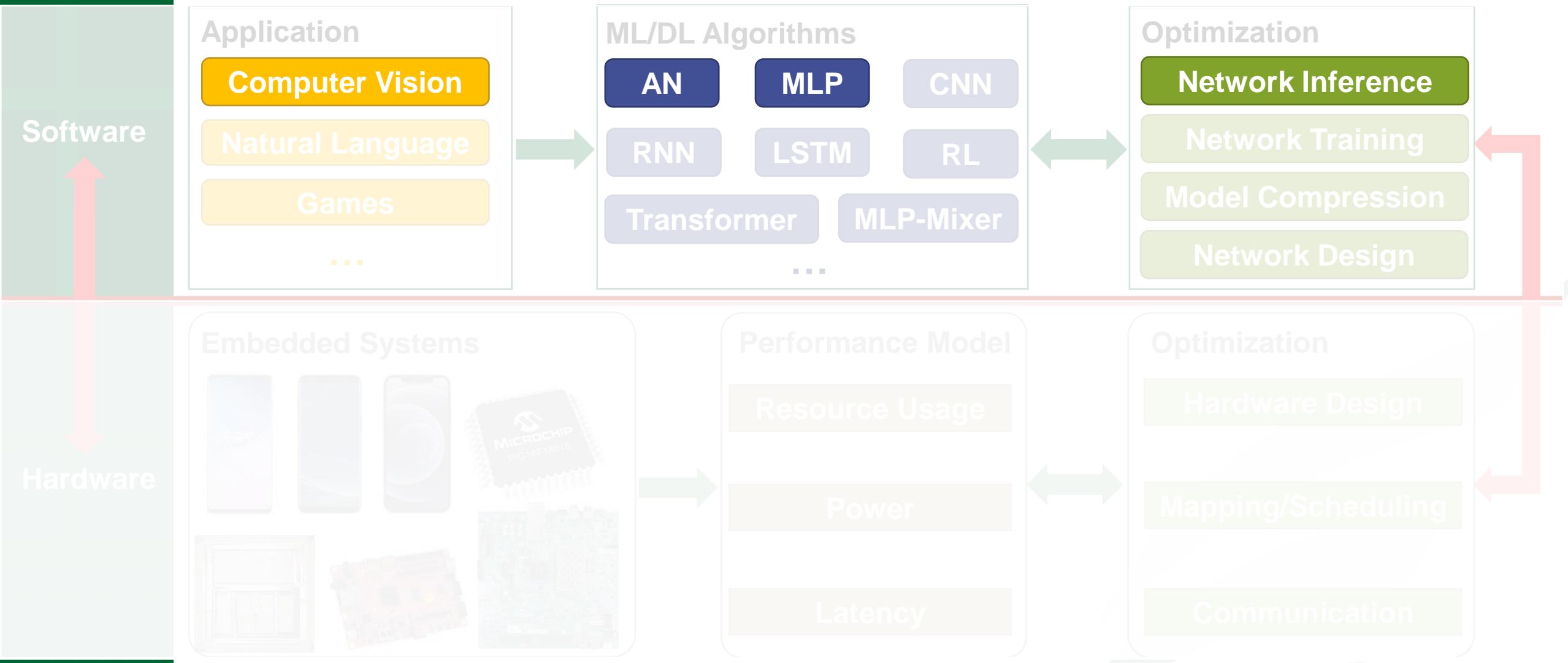
SECTION II: Automated Neural Network Design

Date	Topic
Week 6	ML Accelerator Design (1)
Week 7	ML Accelerator Design (2)
Week 8	Model Compression
Week 9	Neural Architecture Search (1)
Week 10	Neural Architecture Search (2)

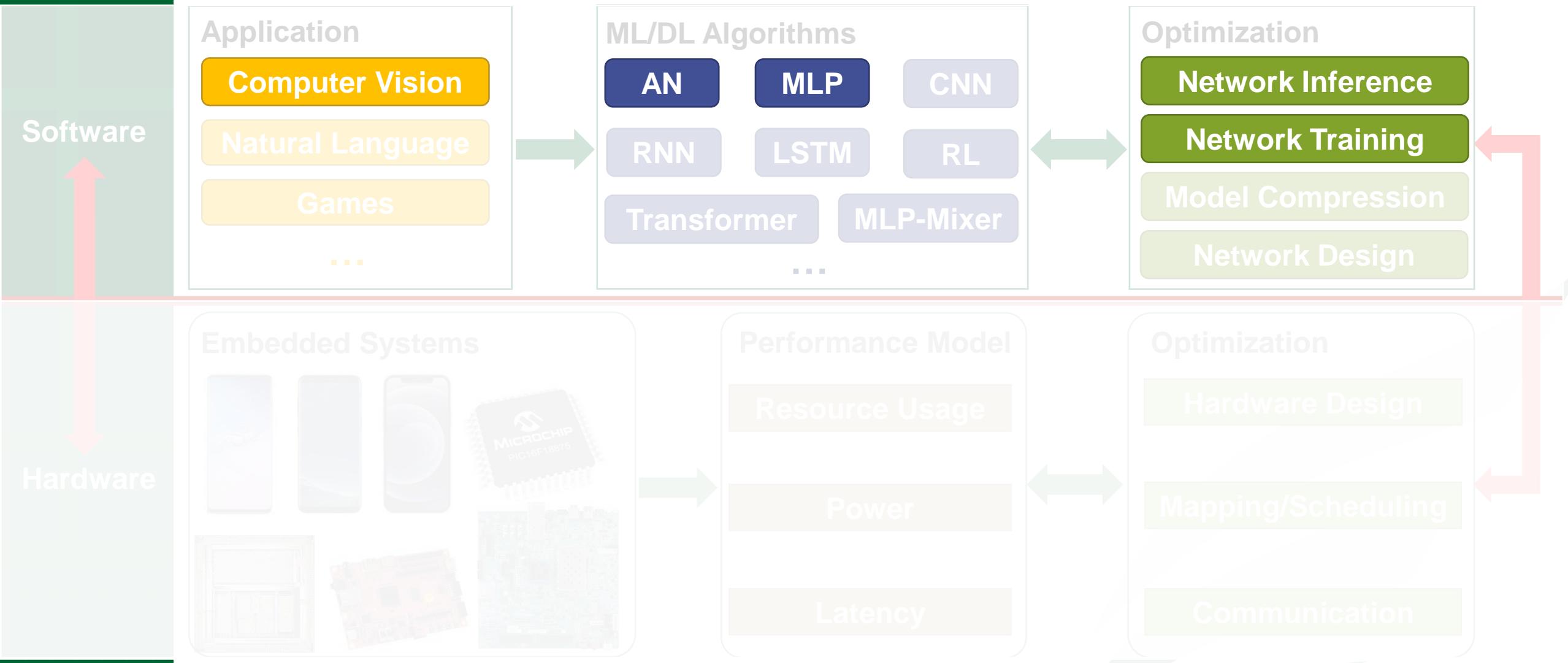
SECTION III: Optimization of both ML/DNN and Hardware Design

Date	Topic
Week 11	Hardware-Aware Neural Architecture Search
Week 12	HW/SW Co-Design with Neural Architecture Search (1)
Week 13	HW/SW Co-Design with Neural Architecture Search (2)
Week 14	Course Project Demonstration

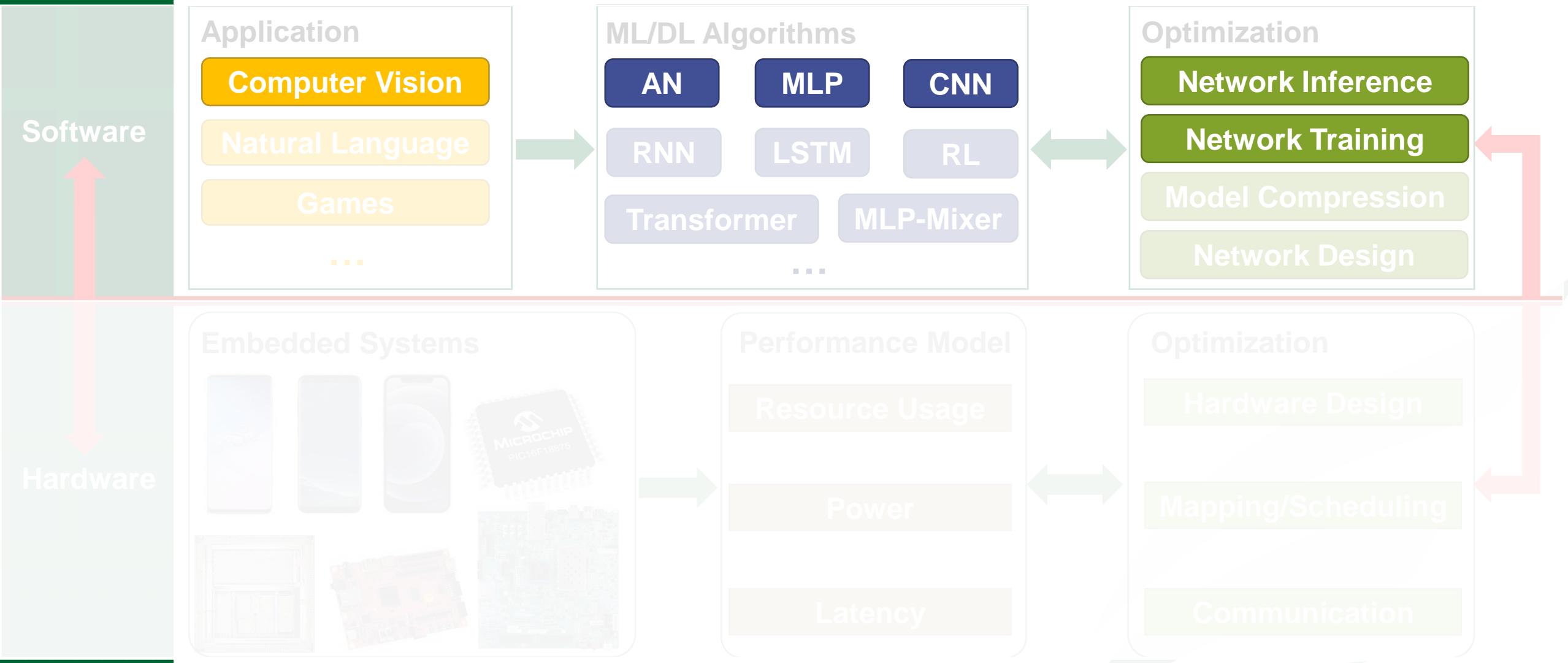
Week 1: Introduction to Artificial Neuron and MLP



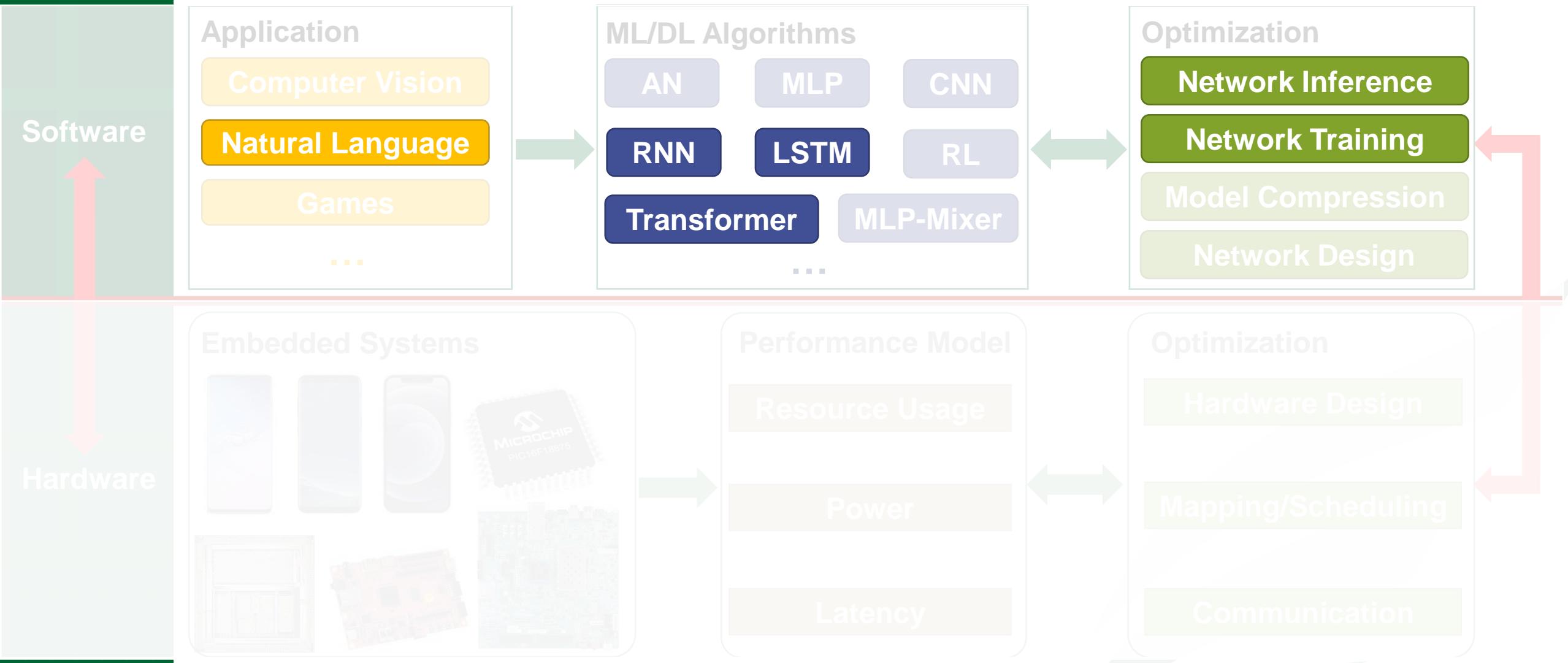
Week 2: From Inference to Training



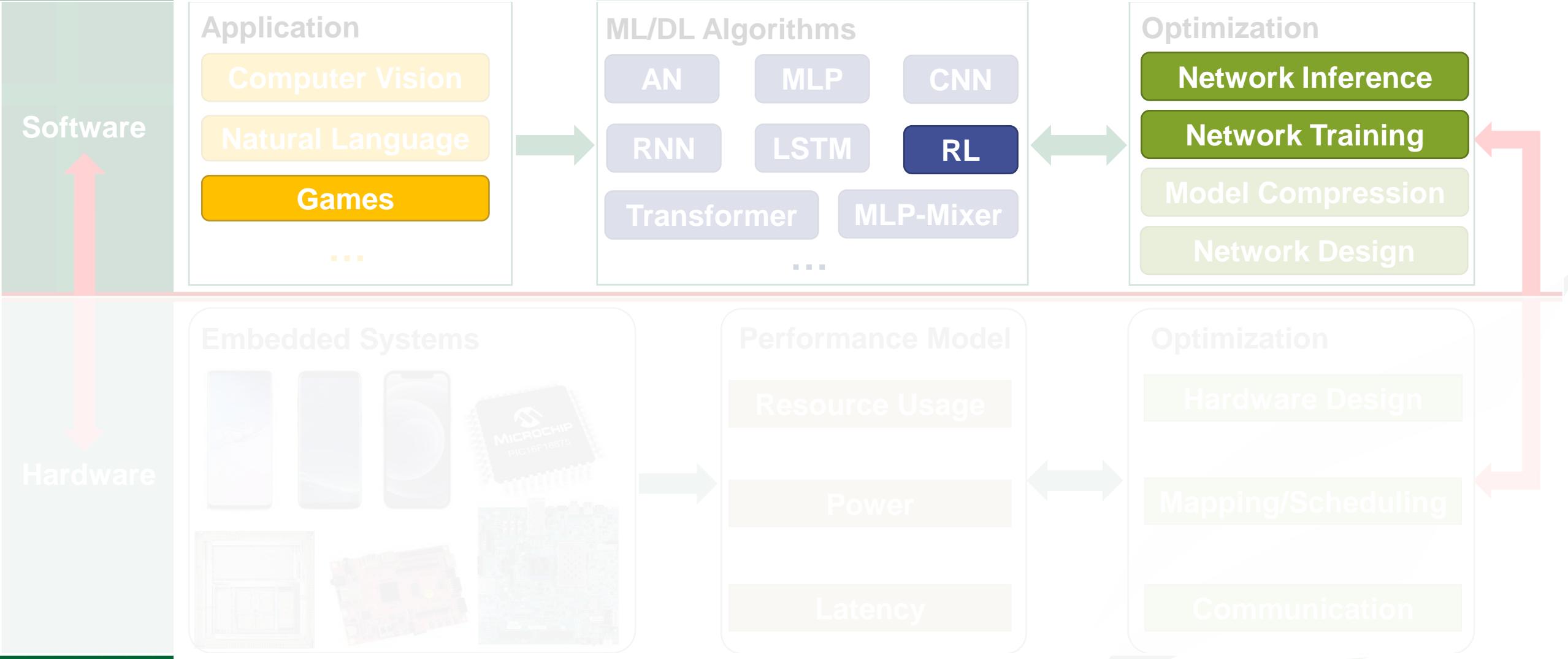
Week 3: From MLP to CNN



Week 4: From CV to NLP



Week 5: From Supervised Learning to Reinforcement Learning



Three Sections

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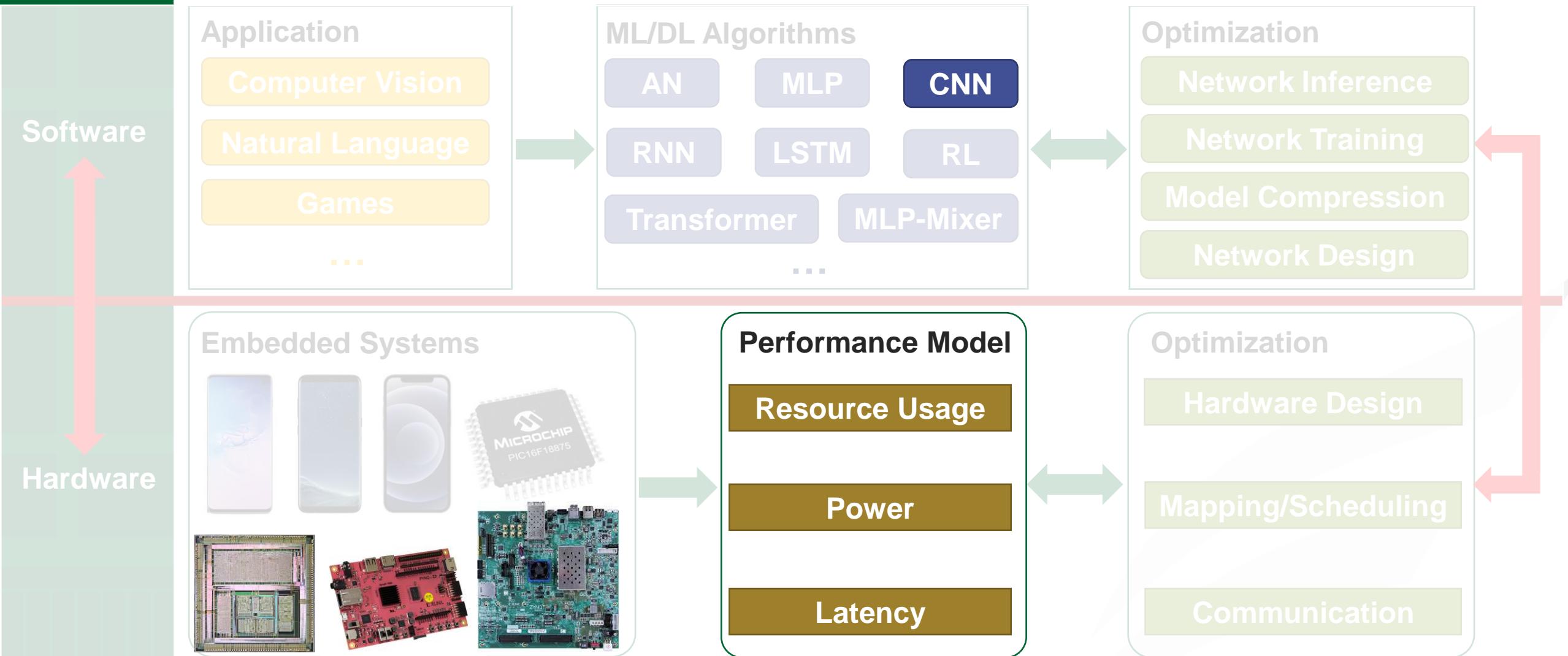
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Lecture, presentation and Lab

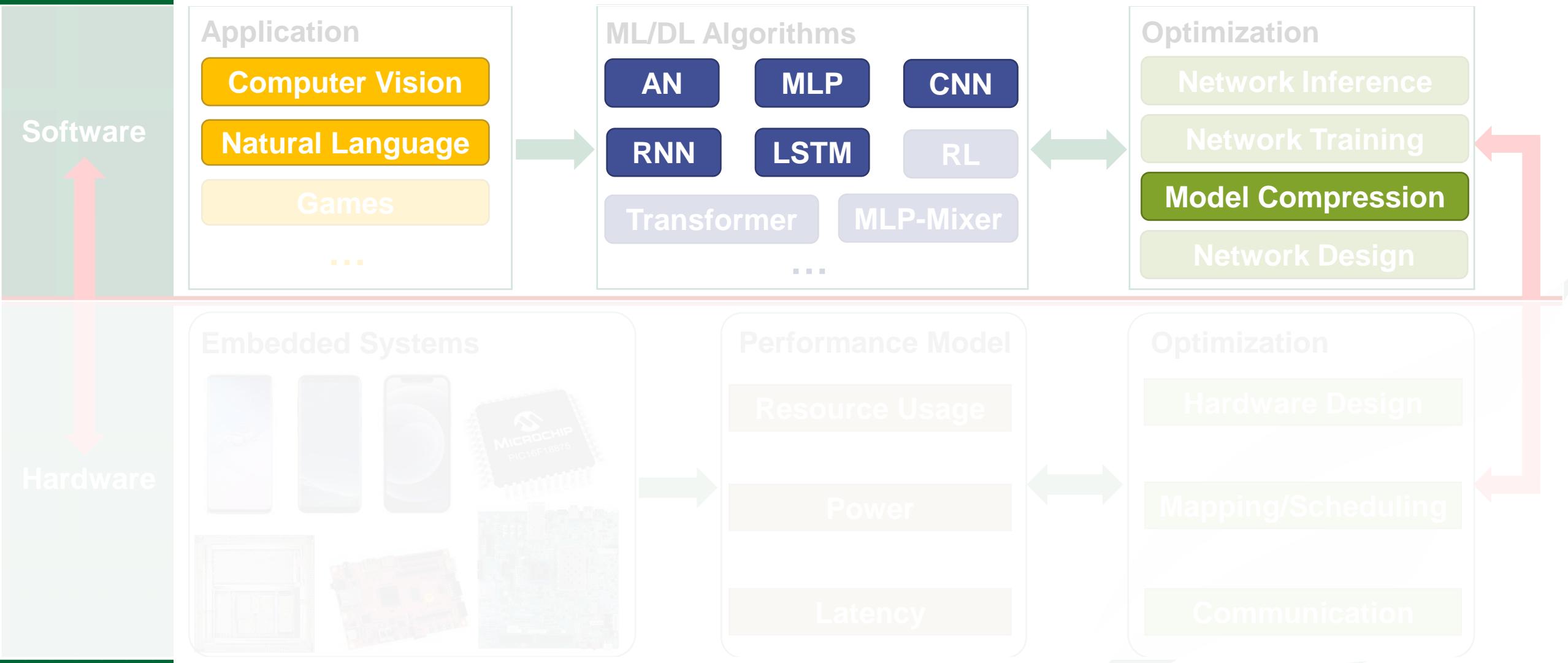
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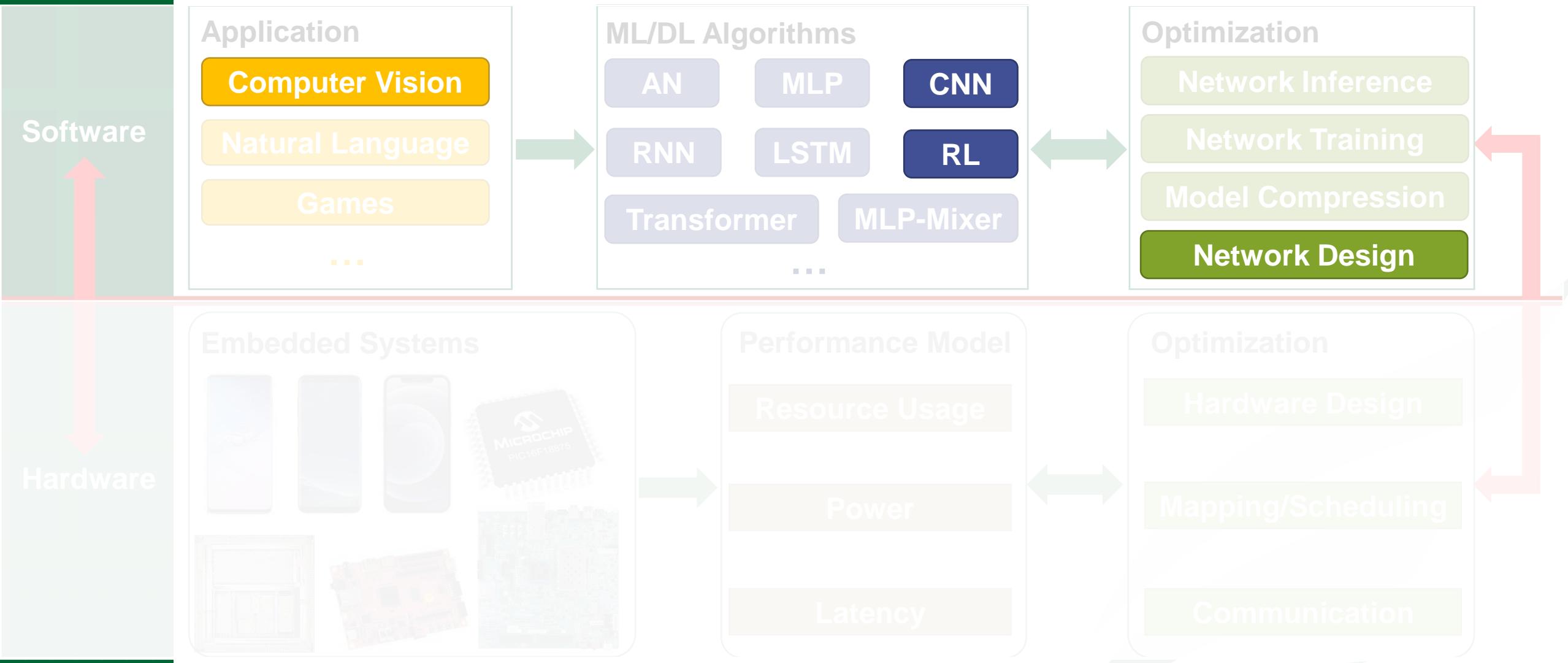
Week 6-7: ML Accelerator Design



Week 8: Model Compression



Week 9-10: Neural Architecture Search



Three Sections

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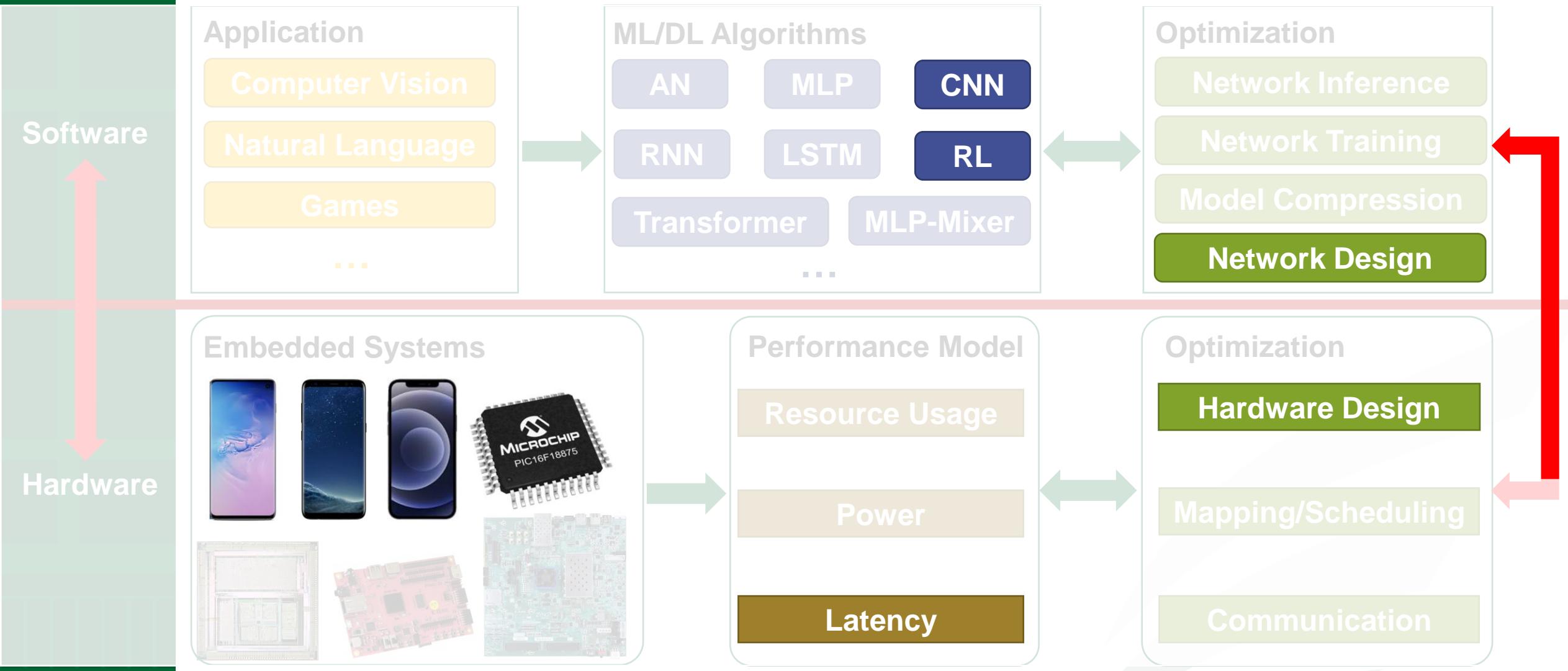
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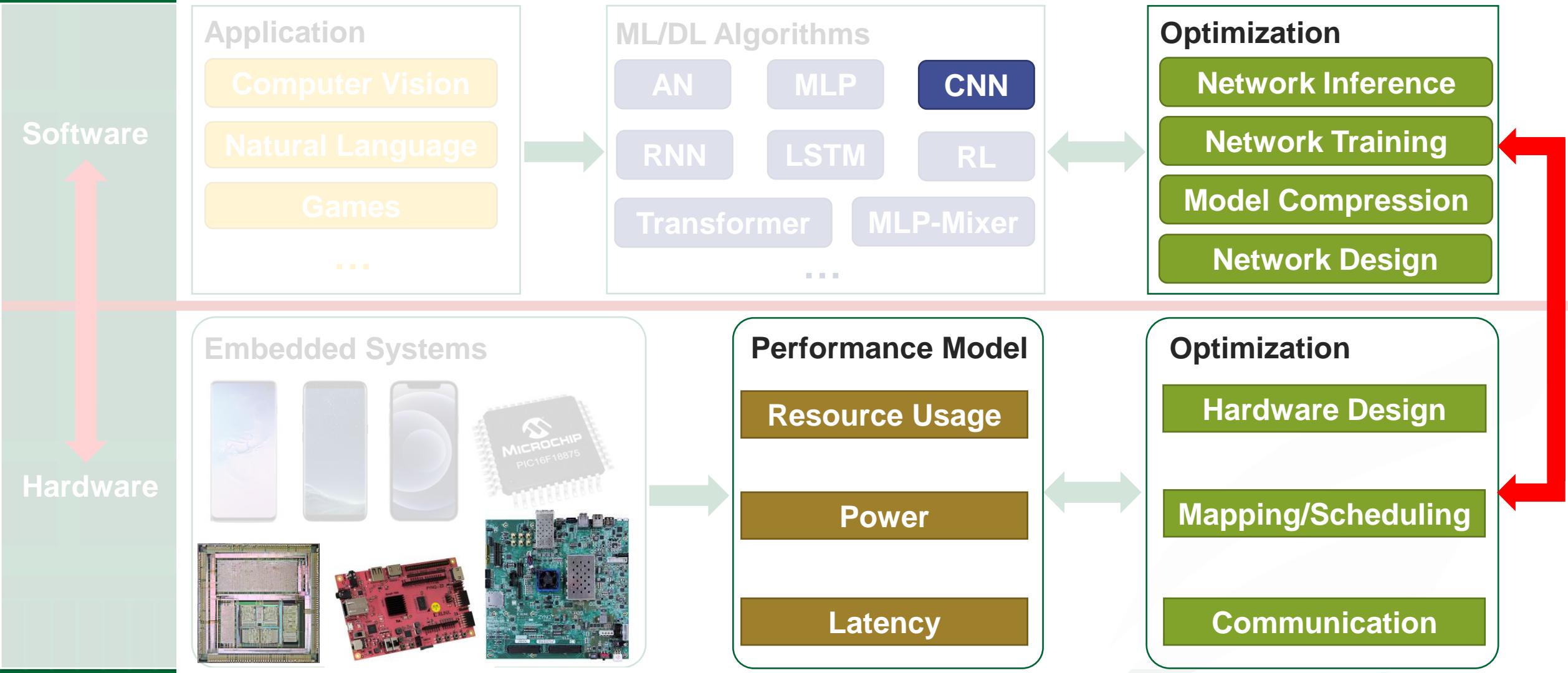
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Week 14	Course Project Demonstration

Lecture, presentation and Lab

Week 11: Hardware-Aware Neural Architecture Search



Week 12-14: HW/SW Co-Design with Neural Architecture Search



Invited Special Guest

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UIUC

Northeastern

SECTION III: Optimization of both ML/DNN and Hardware Design

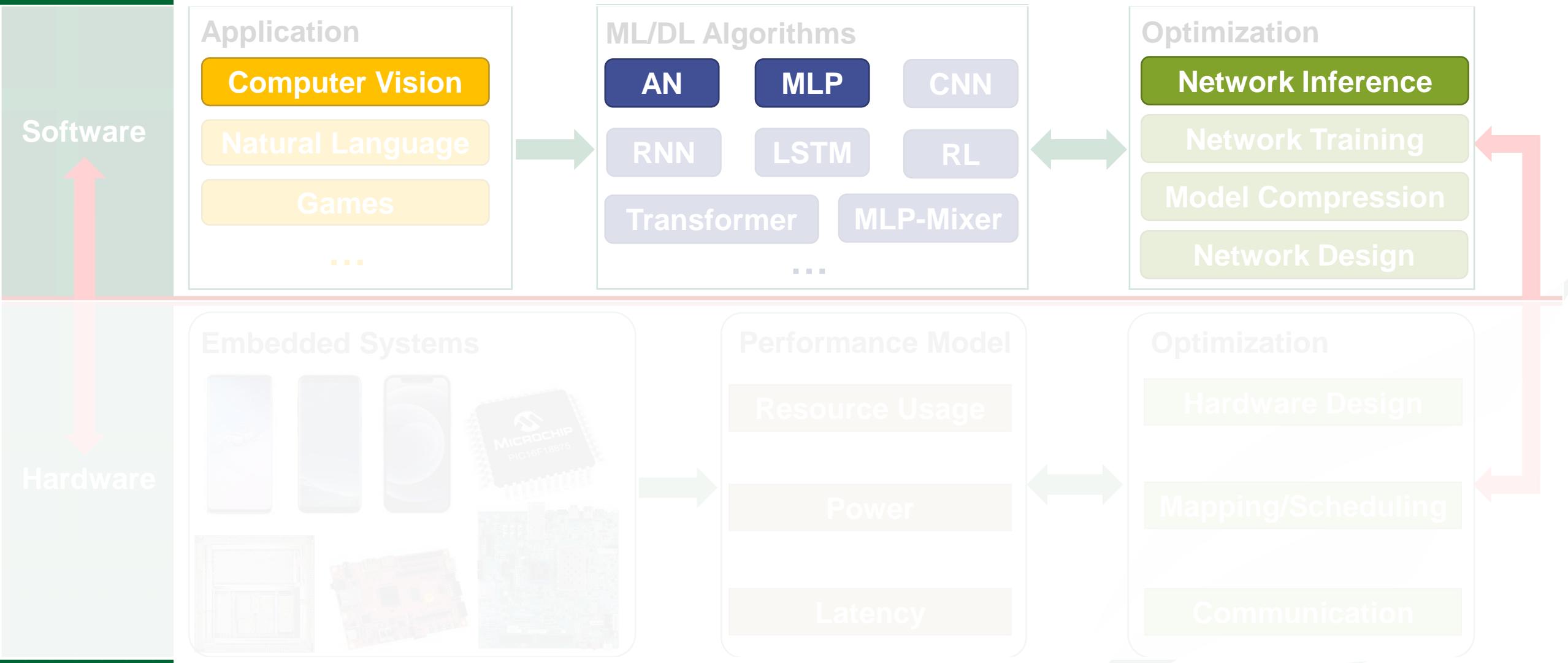
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Facebook

Harvard

Introduction to Artificial Neuron and MLP

Week 1: Introduction to Neural Network



Why Neural Networks

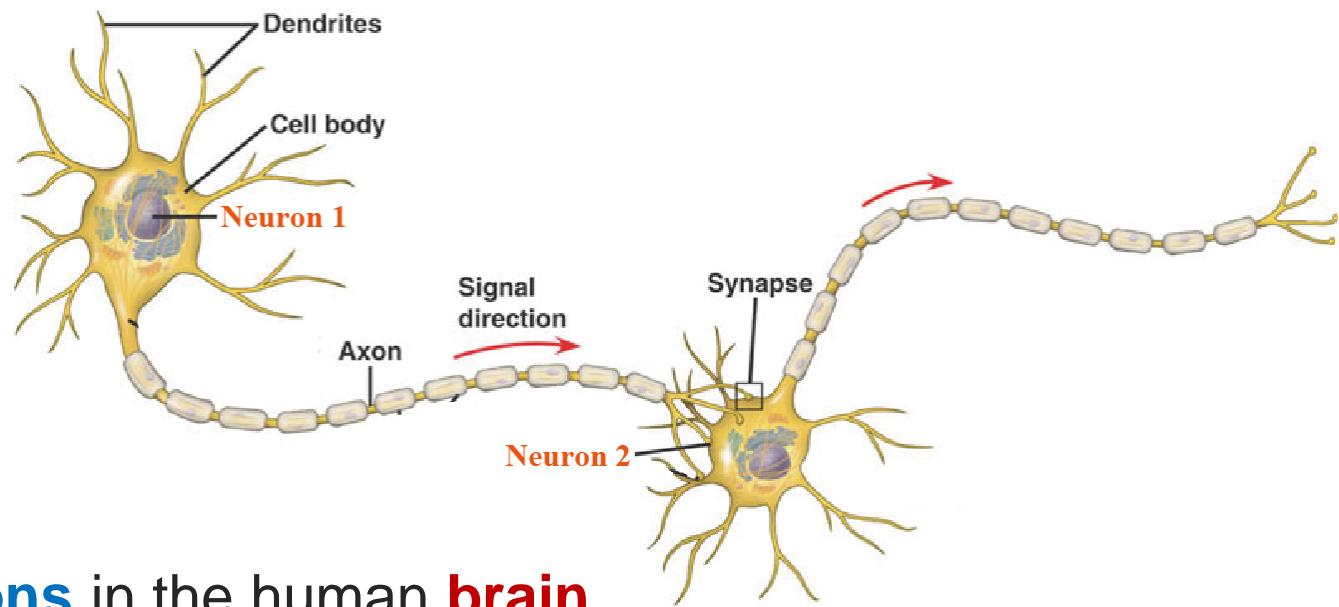
- An emulation of the biological neural systems
 - Parallel computation
 - Adaptive connections
- Very different style from sequential computation
 - Should be good for things that brains are good at (e.g., vision)
 - Should be bad for things that brains are bad at (e.g., $23 \times 7!$)
- To solve practical problems by using novel learning algorithms inspired by the brain
 - Learning algorithms can be very useful even if they are not how the brain actually works.



Biological Neuron

Human intelligence reside in the brain:

- Approximately **86 billion neurons** in the human **brain**
- The brain is a **network** of **neurons**, connected with nearly $10^{14} – 10^{15}$ **synapses**



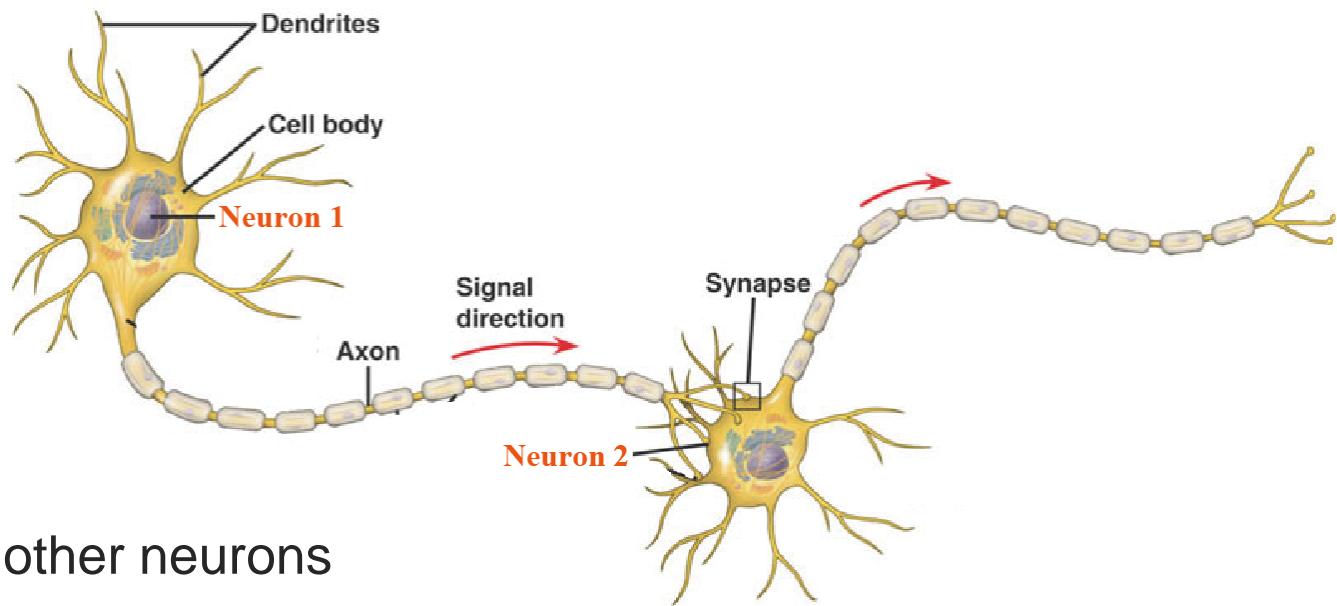
How to equip intelligence in the machine?

- To understand how the brain network is constructed
- To mimic the brain

Biological Neuron

Neurons work together:

- **Cell body** process the information
- **Dendrites** receive messages from other neurons
- **Axon** transmit the output to many smaller branches
- **Synapses** are the **contact points** between **axon** (Neuron 1) and **dendrites** (Neuron 2) for message passing



Cell body receives input signal from **dendrites** and produce output signal along **axon**, which interact with the next neurons via **synaptic weights**

Synaptic weights are learnable to perform useful computations

(e.g., Recognizing objects, understanding language, making plans, controlling the body.)

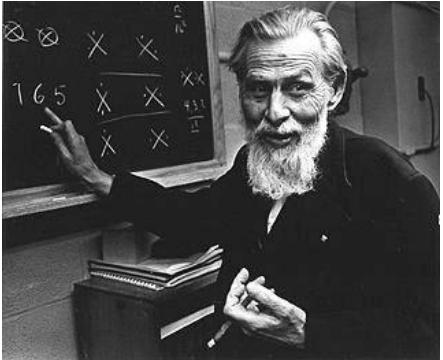
Artificial Neuron Design

- Idealized neuron models

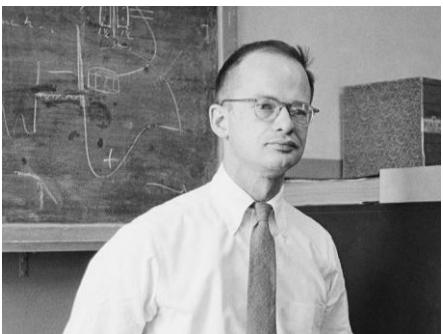
- Idealization **removes complicated details** that are not essential for understanding the main principles.
- It allows us to apply **mathematics** and to make **analogies**.

McCulloch-Pitts (MP) Neuron

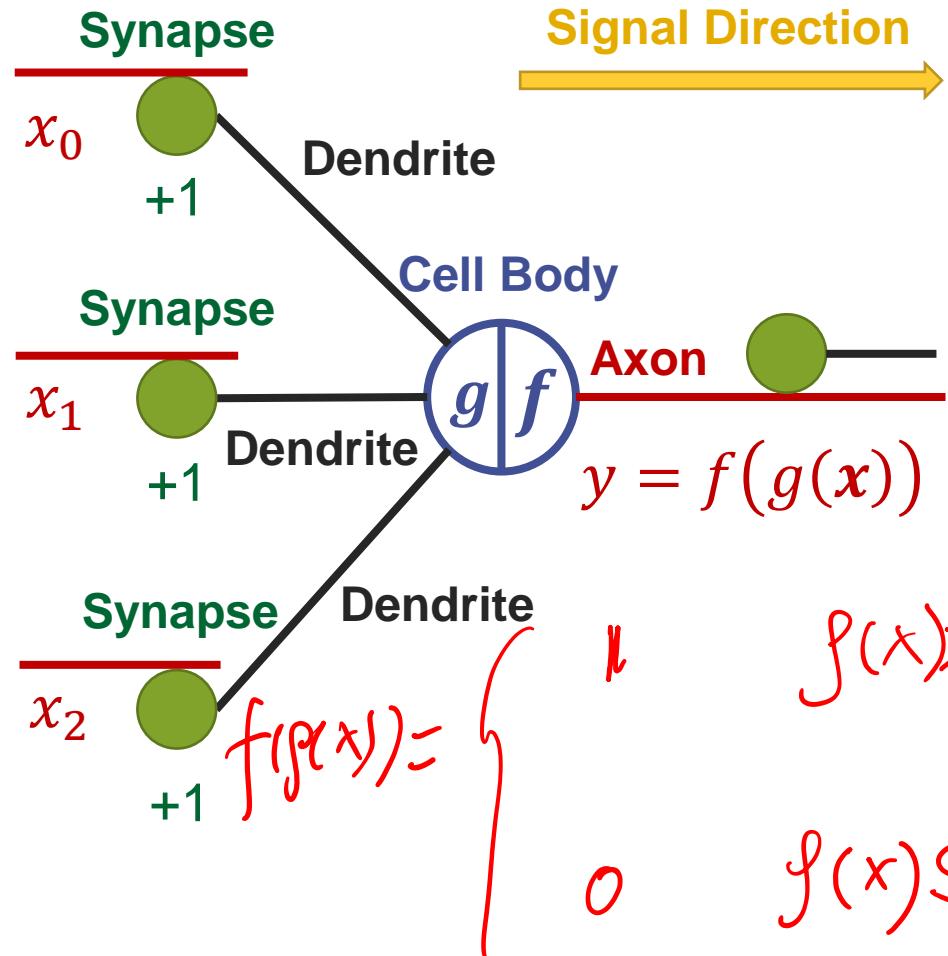
The first computational model of a biological neuron @ 1943



Warren McCulloch

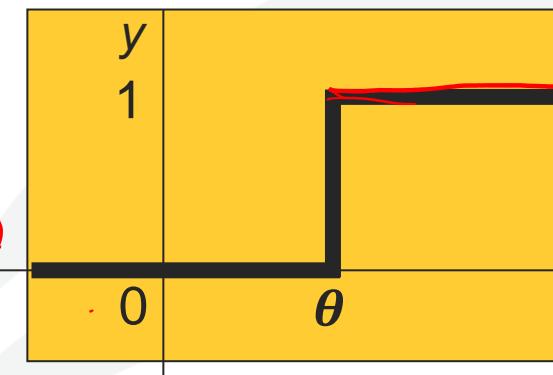


Walter Pitts



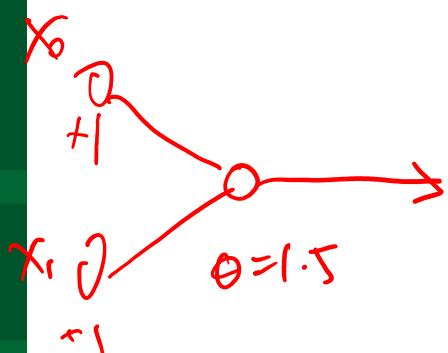
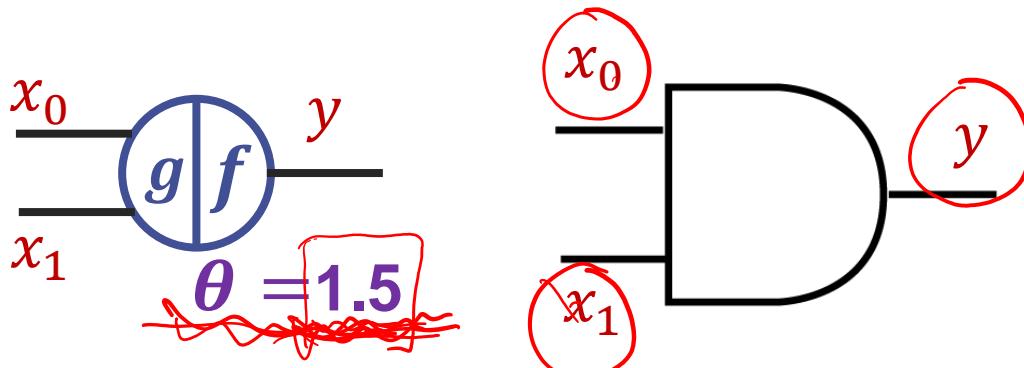
Assumptions:

- Binary devices (i.e., $x_i \in \{0,1\}$ and $y \in \{0,1\}$)
- Identical synaptic weights (i.e., $+1$)
- Activation function f has a fixed threshold θ



McCulloch-Pitts Neuron

Boolean function ‘AND’ can be implemented by using MP Neuron

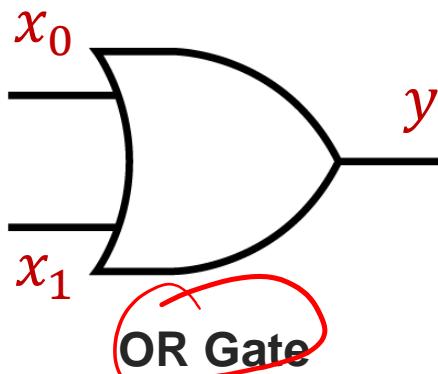
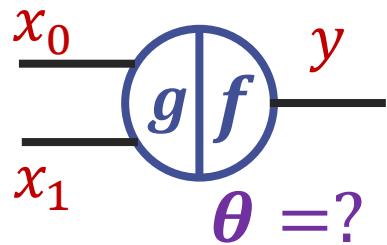


x_0	x_1	y
0	0	0
0	1	0
1	0	0
1	1	1

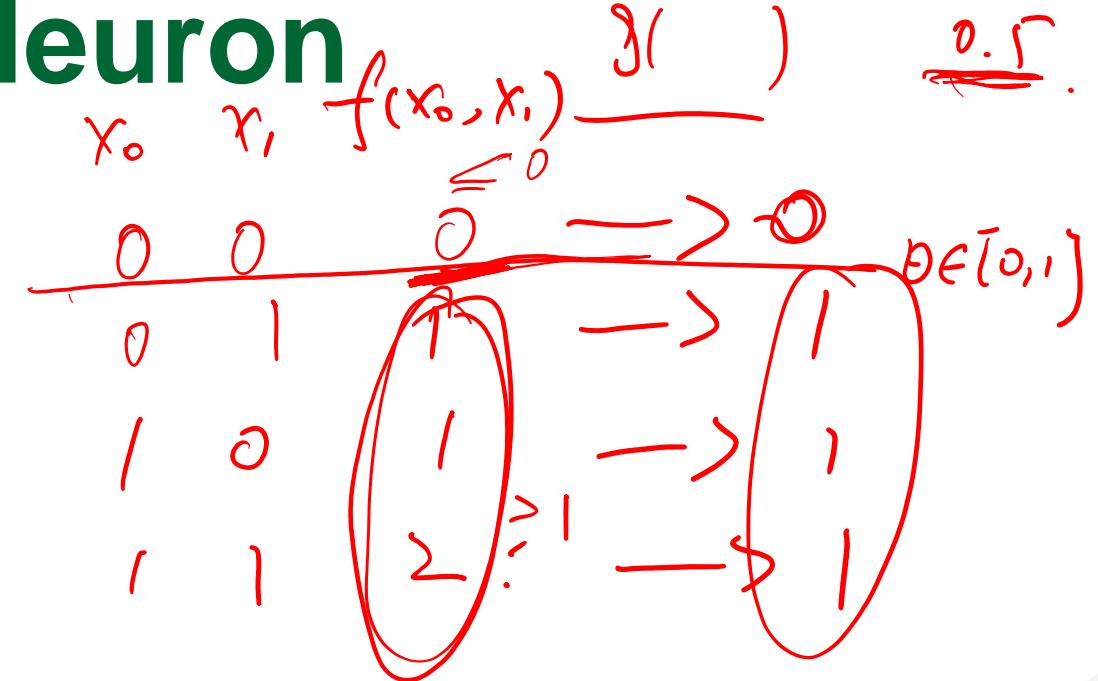
$$\begin{aligned}
 & \underline{0 \ 0} \quad 0 \times f(0) + 0 \times f(+1) = 0 \\
 & f(0, 0) = 0 \rightarrow 0 \\
 & f(0, 1) = 1 \rightarrow 0 \\
 & f(1, 0) = 1 \rightarrow 0 \\
 \hline
 & \underbrace{f(1, 1) = 2}_{\text{---}} \rightarrow 1 \quad (1, 2) \\
 & \boxed{P(f(x))} = \begin{cases} 1 & f(x) > \\ 0 & f(x) \leq \end{cases}
 \end{aligned}$$

McCulloch-Pitts Neuron

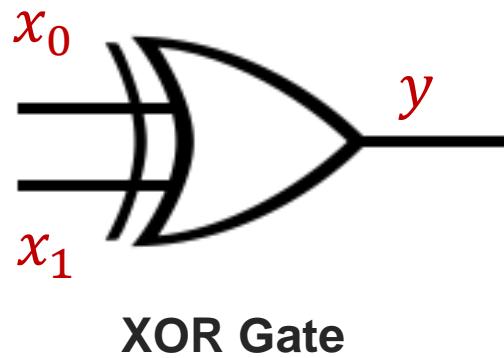
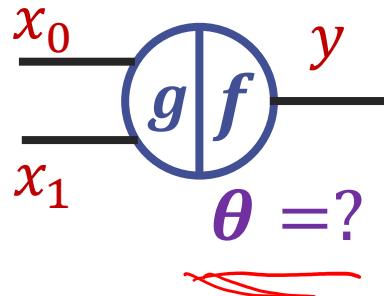
0.5



x_0	x_1	y
0	0	0
0	1	1
1	0	1
1	1	1



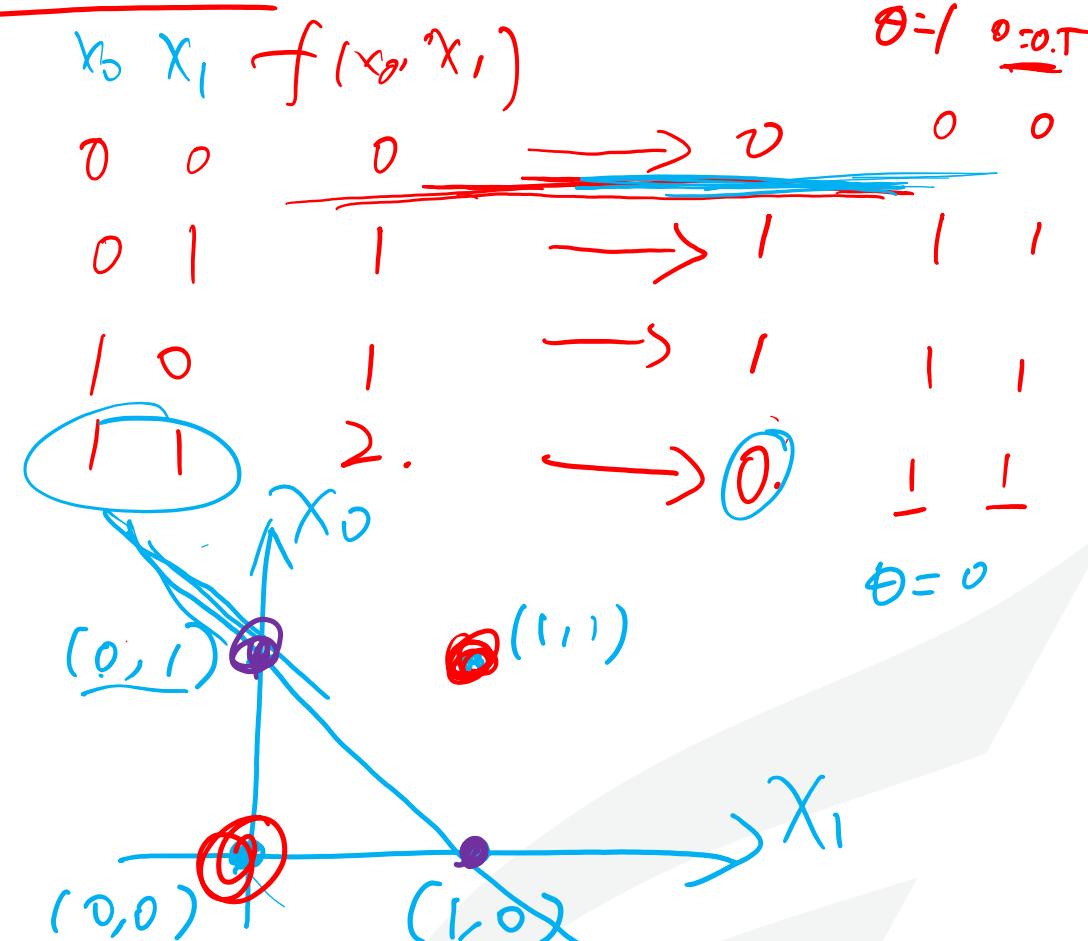
McCulloch-Pitts Neuron



x_0	x_1	y
0	0	0
0	1	1
1	0	1
1	1	0

impossible

$$0.5 \cdot \delta(f(x_0, x_1)) = x_0 + x_1 - 1 \approx 0$$



MP Neuron is limited to only solve linearly separable functions!

Artificial Neuron Design

■ Idealized neuron models

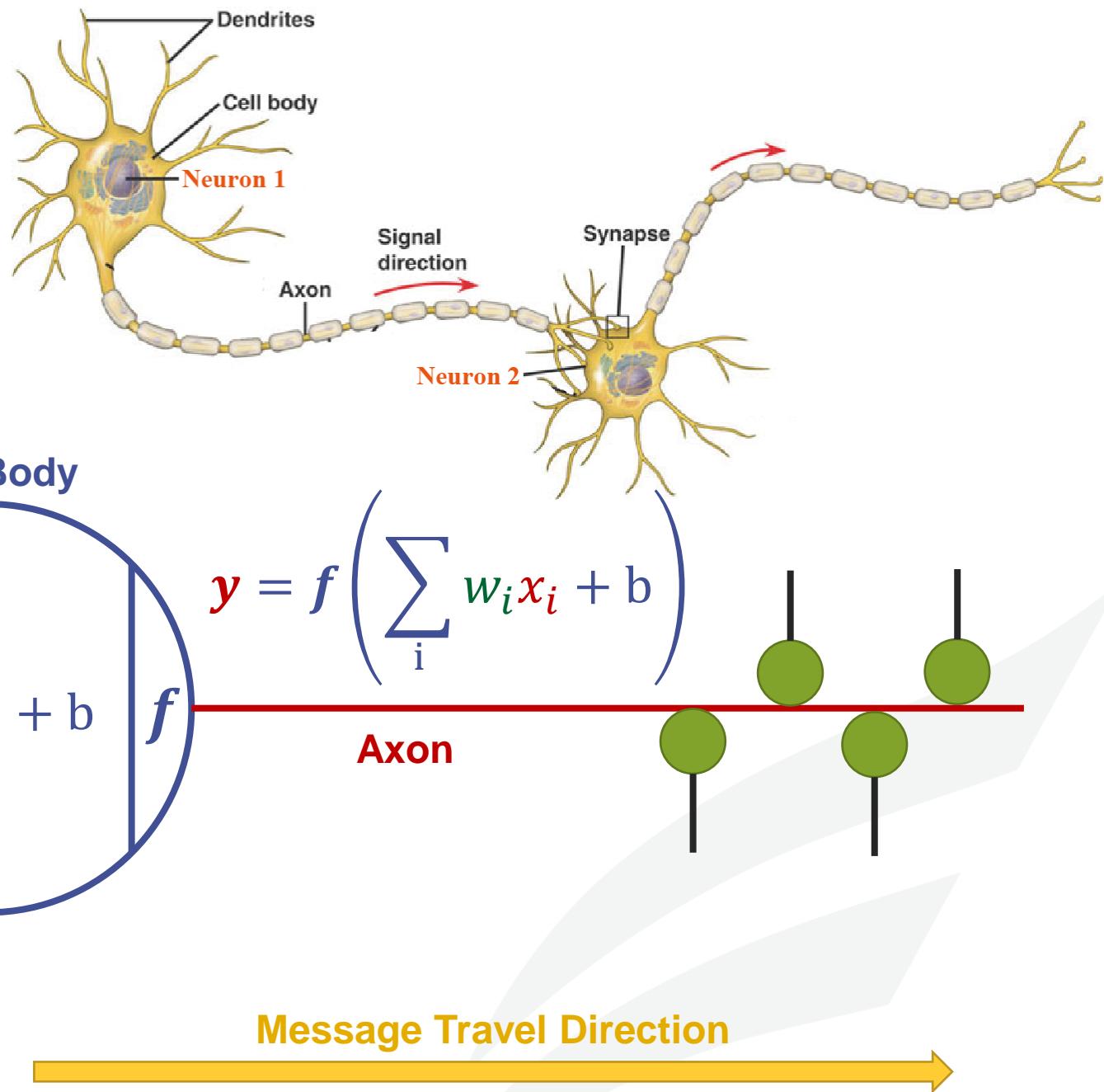
- Idealization removes complicated details that are not essential for understanding the main principles.
- It allows us to apply mathematics and to make analogies.

■ Break the limitations on MP Neuron

- What about non-boolean inputs (say, real number)?
- What if we want to assign more weight (importance) to some inputs?
- What about functions which are not linearly separable ?
- Do we always need to hand code the threshold?

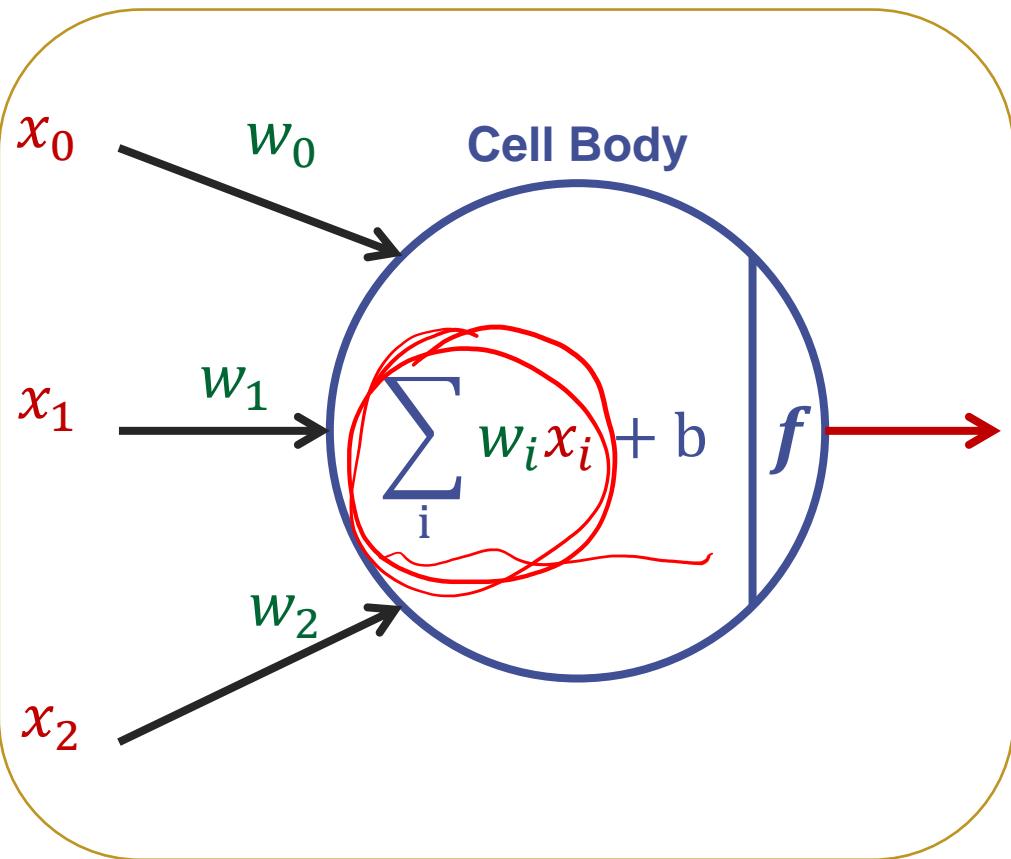
Perceptron

Frank Rosenblatt @ 1958

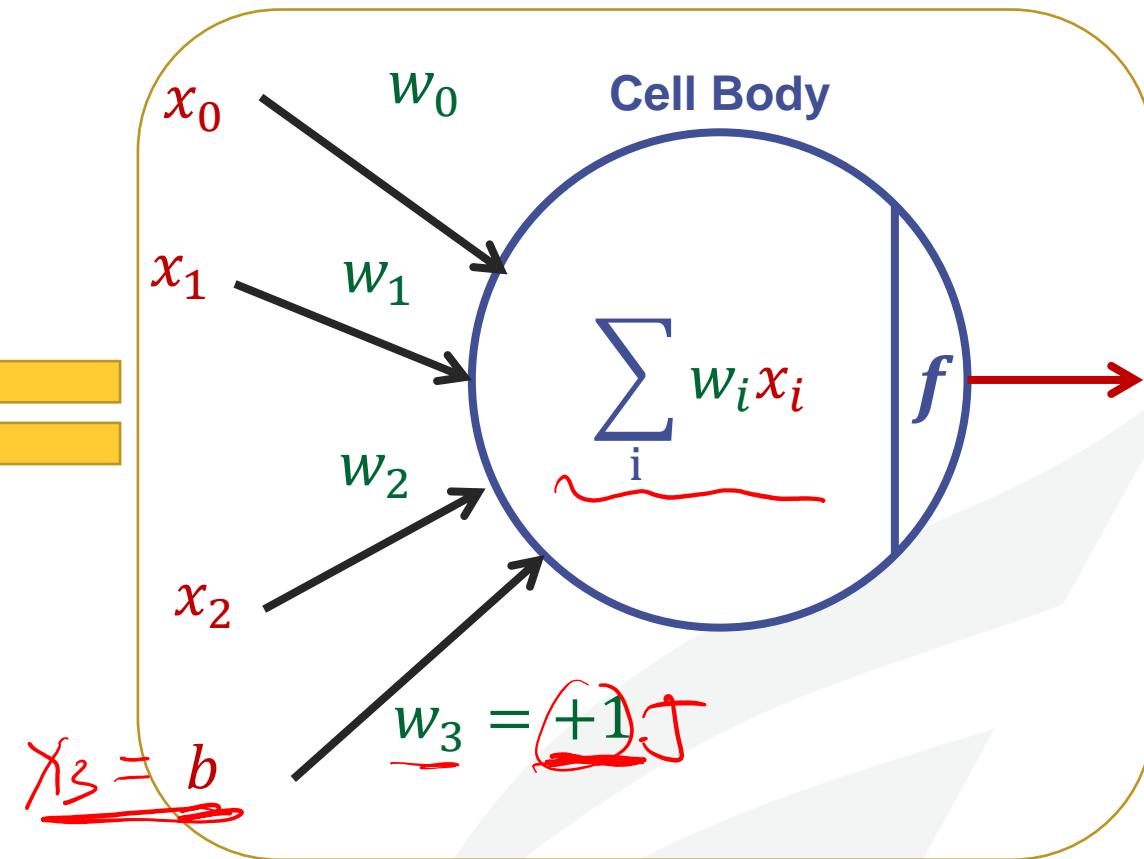


Perceptron

What is Bias b ?

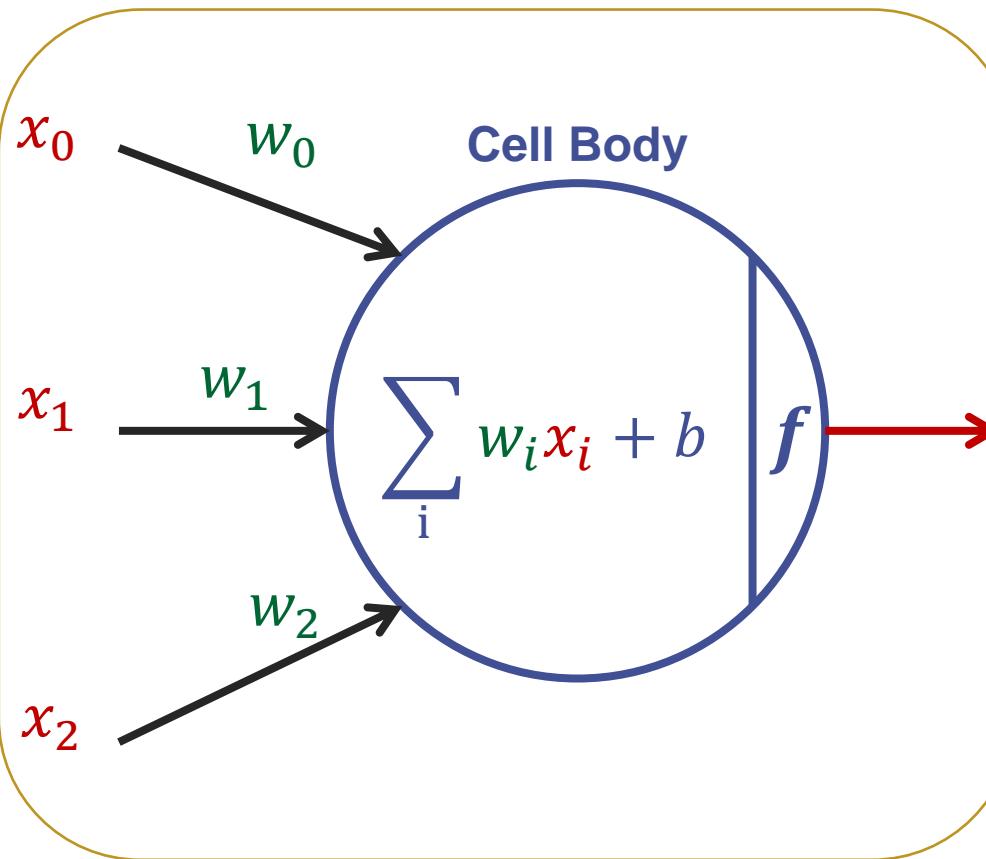


$$\underline{w_0 x_0 + w_1 x_1 + w_2 x_2 + b}$$



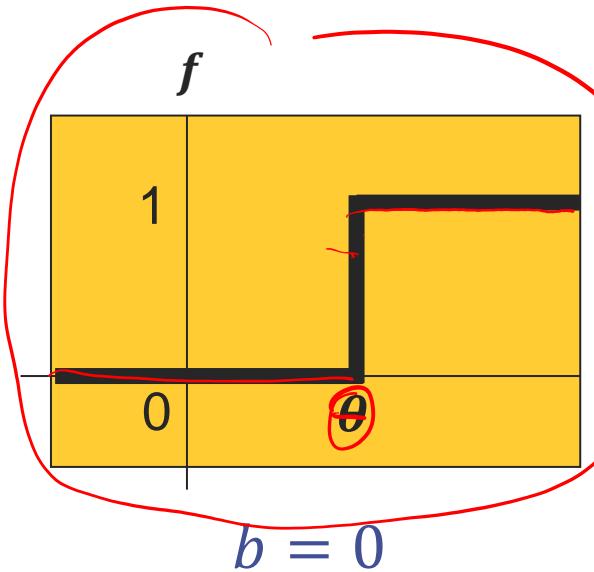
Perceptron

Effect of bias b on Threshold Step activation function.



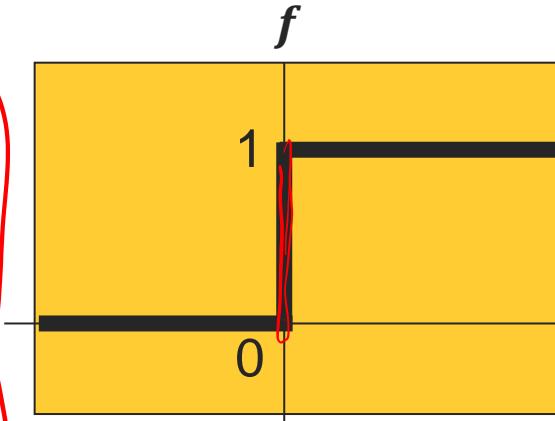
MP Neuron

Receptor



$$z = \sum_i x_i w_i$$

$$y = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } z > \theta \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$



$$z = \sum_i x_i w_i - \theta$$

$$y = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } z > 0 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Perceptron v.s. MP Neuron

Perceptron

$$y = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } \sum_i x_i w_i + b > 0 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

MP Neuron

$$y = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } \sum_i x_i > \theta \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

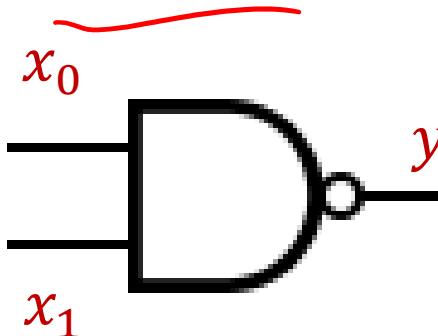
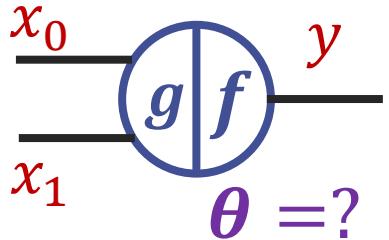
In Perceptron: the inputs can be **real numbers**; the weights (including threshold) can be **learned/trained**.

In Perceptron: like MP Neuron, the Perceptron separates the input space into two halves. However, all inputs producing 1 lie on one side, and those producing 0 lie on the other side.

==> A single perceptron can still **only used to implement linearly separable functions**, but not for XOR-like function.

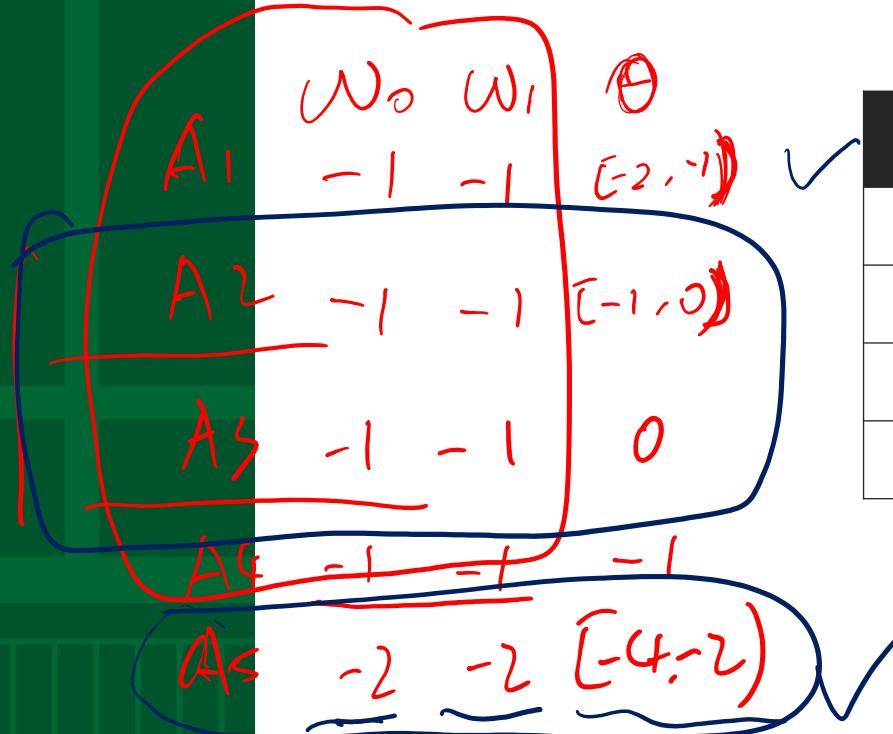
Perceptron

Boolean function 'NAND' can be implemented

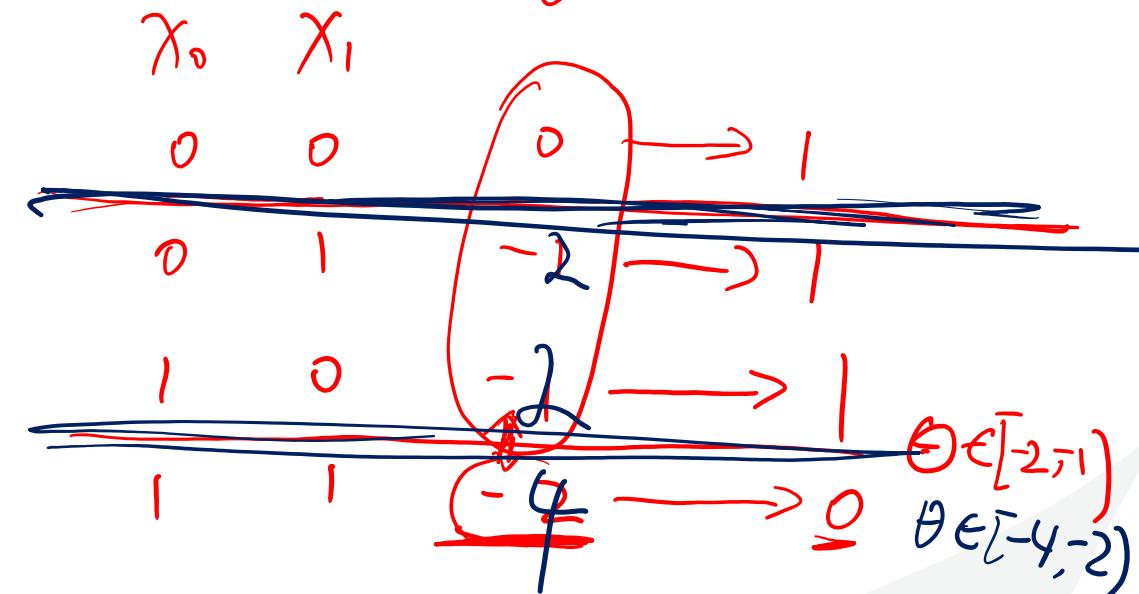


NAND Gate

x_0	x_1	y
0	0	1
0	1	1
1	0	1
1	1	0



$$f(x_0, x_1) = \underline{w_0} x_0 + \underline{w_1} x_1$$



$$f(x_0, x_1) = \begin{cases} 0 & f(x_0, x_1) < -1.5 \\ 1 & f(x_0, x_1) \geq -1.5 \end{cases}$$

Artificial Neuron Design

■ Idealized neuron models

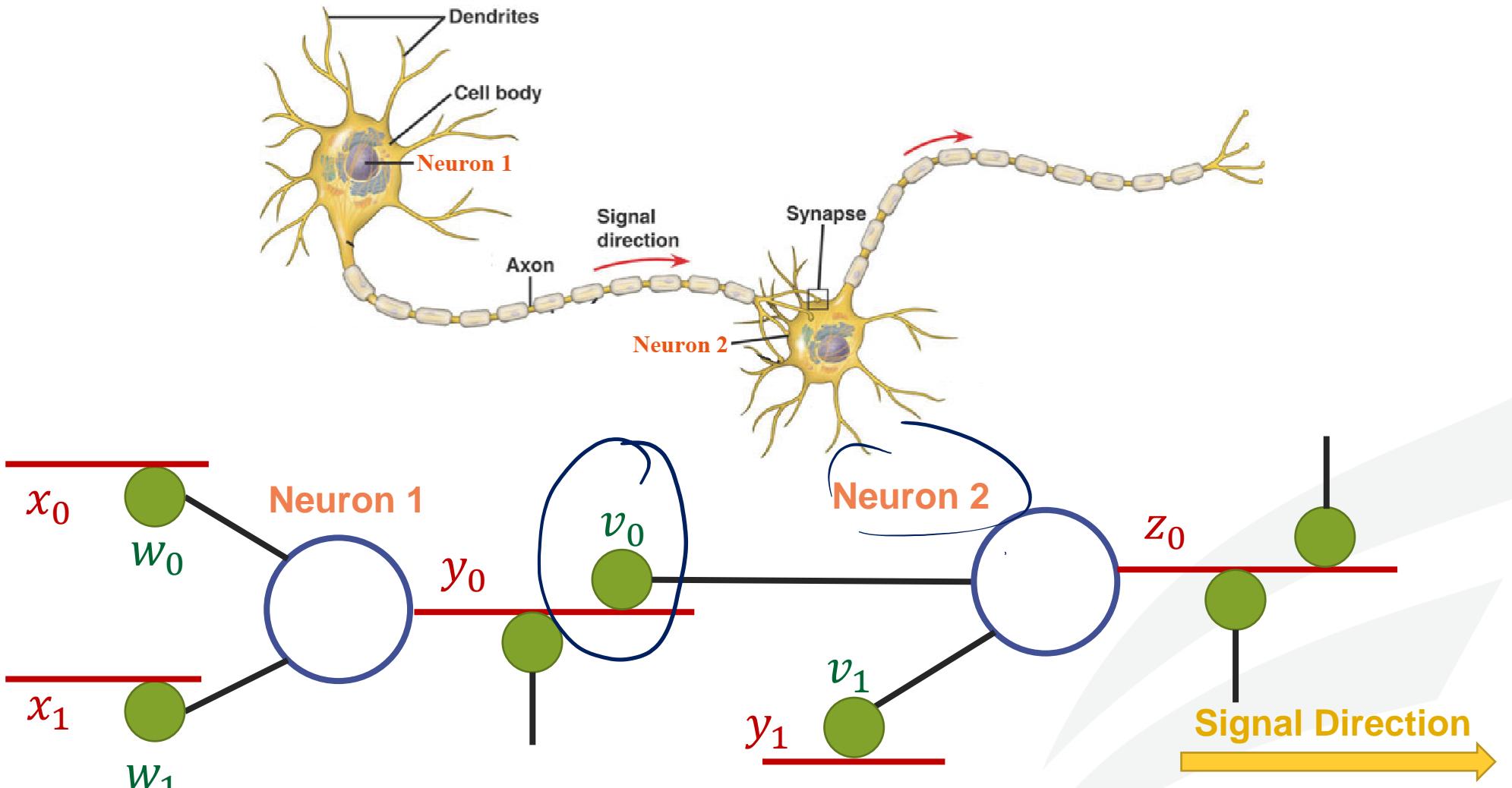
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■ Break the limitations on MP Neuron

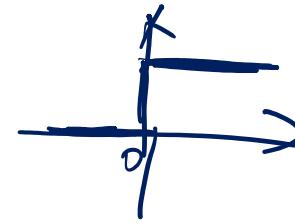
- What about non-boolean inputs (say, real number)? ✓
- What if we want to assign more weight (importance) to some inputs? ✓
- What about functions which are not linearly separable ? ? => **MLP**
- Do we always need to hand code the threshold? ? => **Training**

Multi-Layer Perceptron (MLP)

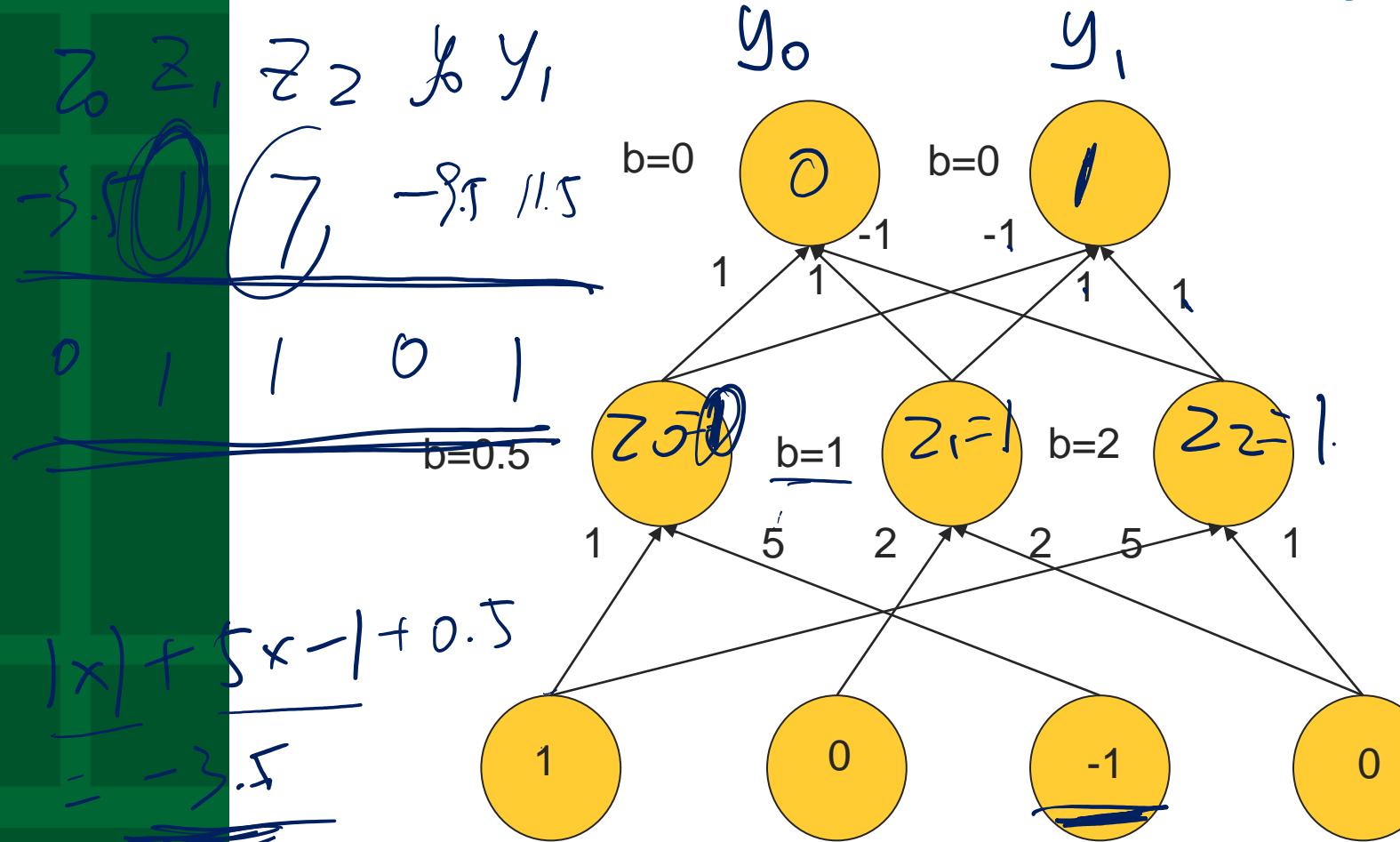
Connect two neurons



Multi-Layer Perceptron (MLP)



Connect more neurons and more layers



$$\underline{f(f(x_0, x_1))}$$

Output Layer (Layer 3)

$$\underline{f(x_0, x_1) = w_0 x_0 + w_1 x_1} \\ = 3.5$$

Hidden Layer (Layer 2)

$$\underline{f(f(x_0, x_1)) = 1}$$

Input Layer (Layer 1)

Lab 1: Introducing Yourself and Implementing XOR using MLP on Colab

Assignments and Related Documents:

- <https://jqub.github.io/2021/09/01/ML4Emb/>

Due Date: Next Friday (09/03/2021) by 1 PM

- Please take this chance to evaluate the required programming background and the required bandwidth to decide whether keep or drop this course.

Programming Platform

Google



<https://colab.research.google.com/>



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