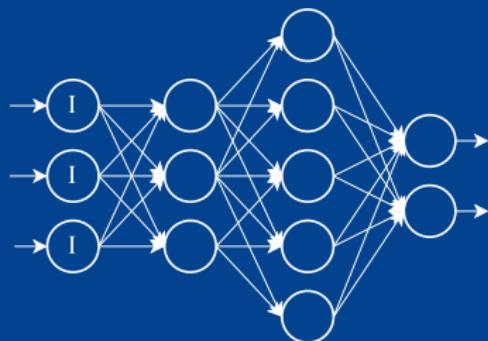




## LESSON 6: Neural Networks

CARSTEN EIE FRIGAARD

SPRING 2025



DATA SCIENCE

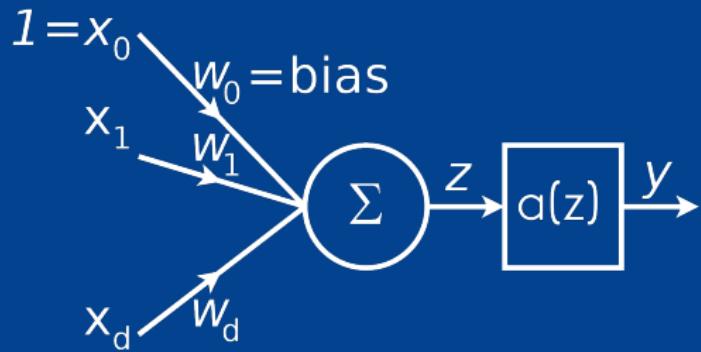
# L06: Neural Networks (NNs): Agenda

- ▶ The Biological Neuron,
- ▶ The Perceptron
  - ▶ activation functions
- ▶ The Multi-layer Perceptron (MLP)
  - ▶ definitions and more historical points
  - ▶ ...the XOR crisis, ML winters/summers
  - ▶ Training via BackPropagation
  - ▶ Opgave: L06/ANN.ipynb
- ▶ (History of Neural Networks)
- ▶ (History of MLPs)
- ▶ Implementing MLPs in Keras

# THE PERCEPTRON

---

...intro to biological and artificial neurons..



# The Biological Neuron

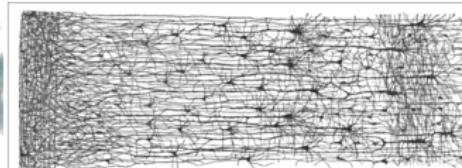
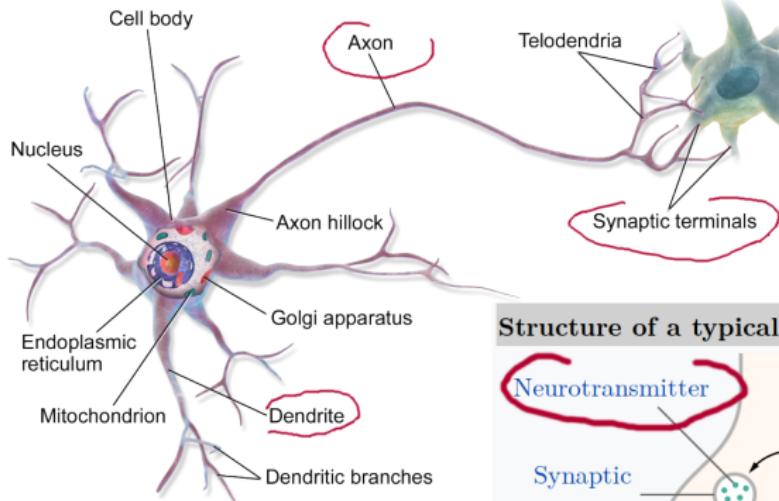


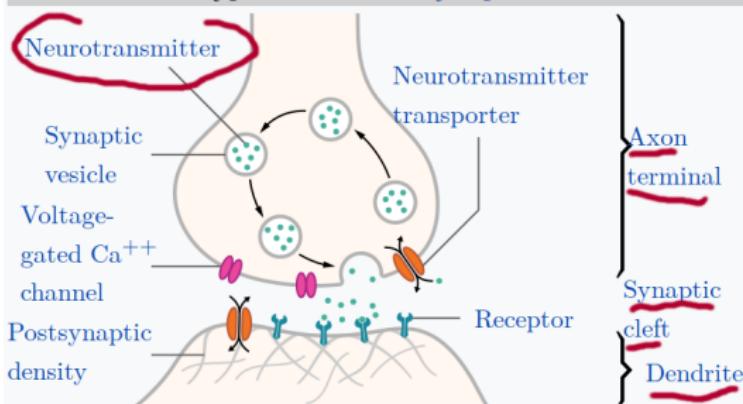
Figure 10-2. Multiple layers in a biological neural network (human cortex)<sup>3</sup>

Axons: nerve fibres connections to other neurons,

Dendrites: the input points to a neuron

Synapses: connection points btw. neurons.

Structure of a typical chemical synapse



# The Perceptron

From the biological to the artificial neuron

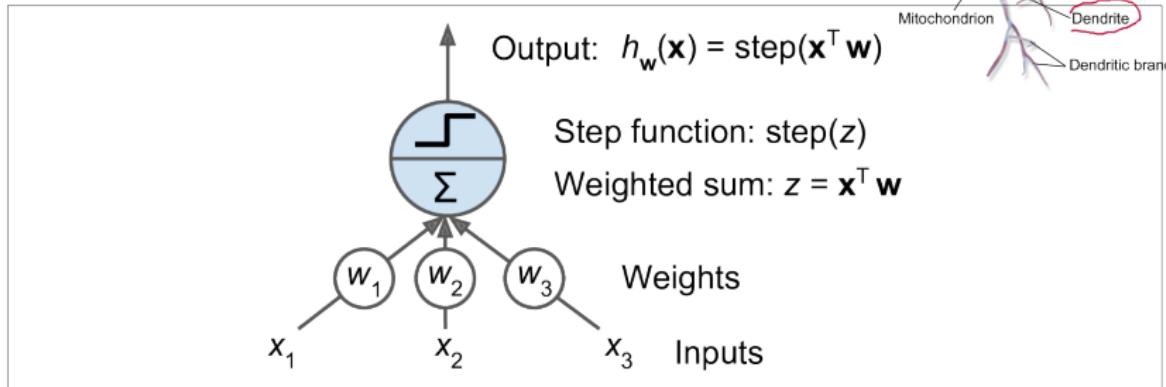
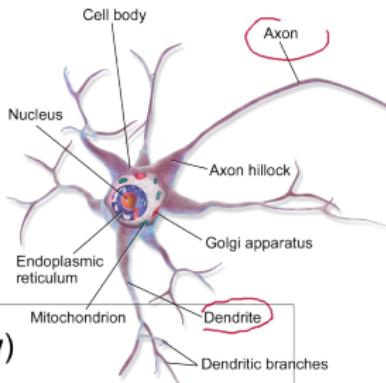


Figure 10-4. Threshold logic unit

# The Perceptron

## Definition

History:

1943: McCulloch-Pitts: artificial neuron + network.

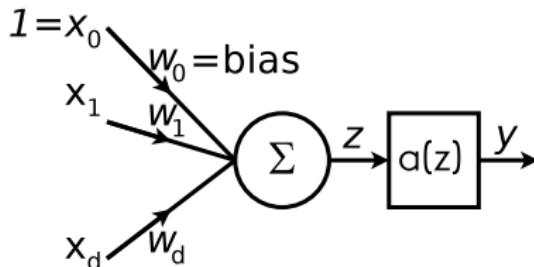
1957: Rosenblatt: the perceptron. Based on linear regressor + Heaviside activation function.

A linear regressor, with  $\mathbf{x} \equiv [1 \ x_1 \ x_2 \ \cdots \ x_d]^T$

$$\begin{aligned} z &= \mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x} \\ &= w_0 \cdot 1 + w_1 x_1 + w_2 x_2 + \cdots + w_d x_d \end{aligned}$$

plus activation function = the Perceptron (linear-threshold unit, LTU)

$$y_{\text{neuron}}(\mathbf{x}; \mathbf{w}) = a(z) = a(\mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{x})$$



# The Perceptron

The Activation Function,  $a(\cdot)$

Original Rosenblatt perceptron activation function

$$a_{\text{Rosenblatt}}(z) = \text{Heaviside}(z) = \begin{cases} 0, & \text{if } z < 0 \\ 1, & \text{if } z \geq 0 \end{cases}$$

but many other possible

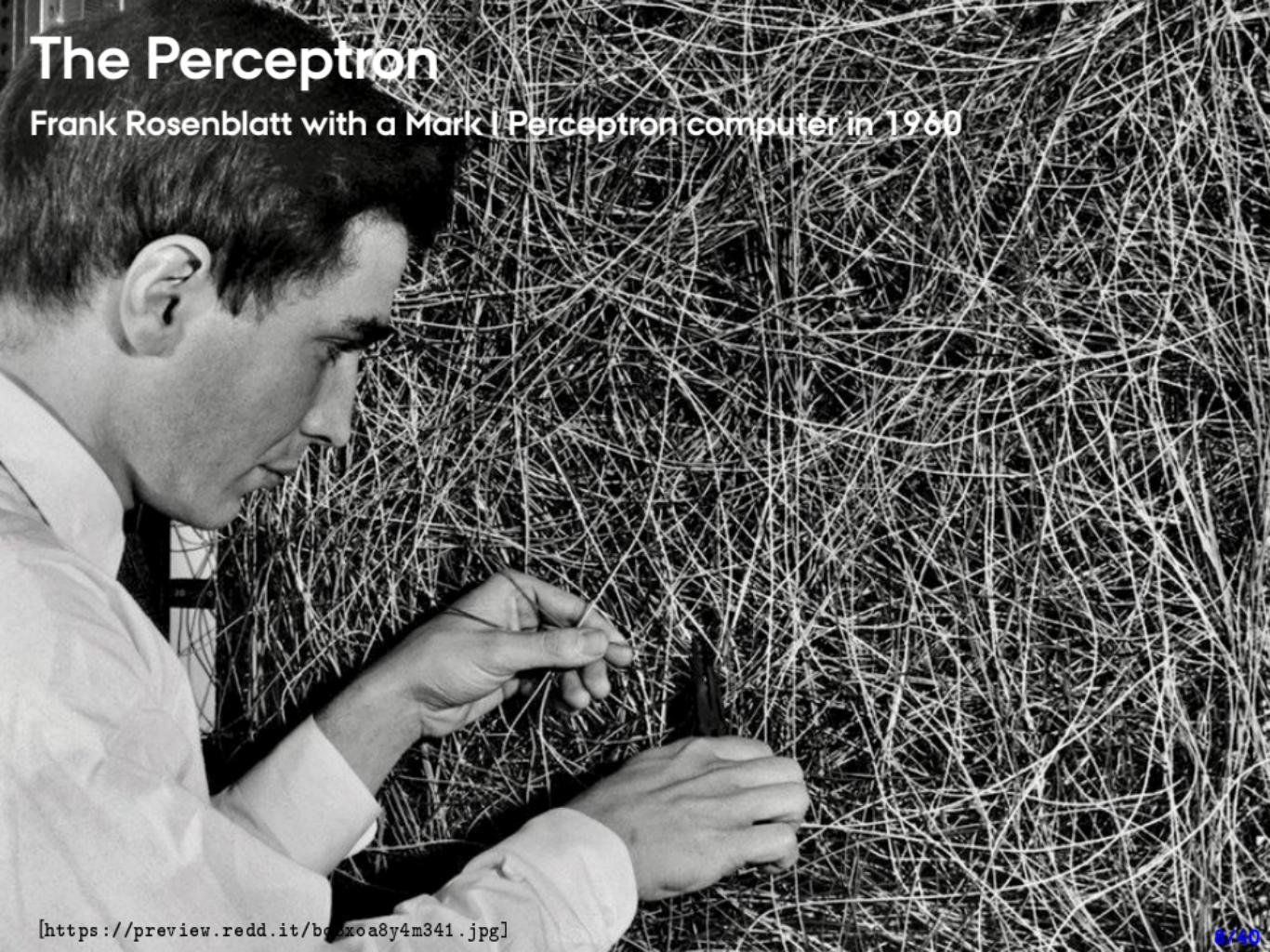
$$a_{\text{sign}}(z) = \text{sgn}(z) = \begin{cases} -1, & \text{if } z < 0 \\ 0, & \text{if } z = 0 \\ 1, & \text{if } z > 0 \end{cases}$$

Much debated,

and different favorites thought different ML-epochs  
...or *summers*.

# The Perceptron

Frank Rosenblatt with a Mark I Perceptron computer in 1960



# The Perceptron

More Activation Functions,  $a(\cdot)$

Logistic Sigmoid

$$a(z) = \sigma(z) = \frac{1}{1+e^{-z}}$$

$$\frac{da(z)}{dx} = \frac{e^{-z}}{(1+e^{-z})^2}$$

$$= a(z)(1 - a(z))$$

Hyperbolic Tangens

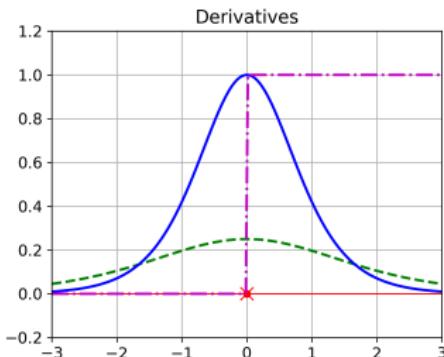
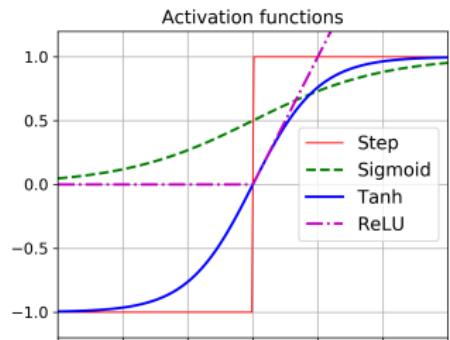
$$a(z) = \tanh(z) = \frac{e^z - e^{-z}}{e^z + e^{-z}}$$

$$\frac{da(z)}{dx} = 1 - (a(z))^2$$

Rectified Linear Unit, ReLU

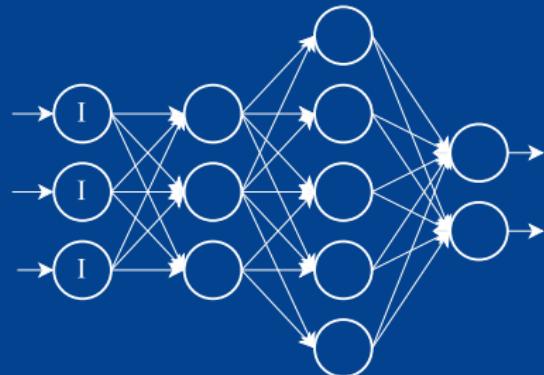
$$a(z) = z^+ = \max(0, z) = \begin{cases} z, & \text{for } z > 0 \\ 0, & \text{else} \end{cases}$$

$$\frac{da(z)}{dx} = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{for } z > 0 \\ 0, & \text{else} \end{cases}$$



# THE MULTI-LAYER PERCEPTRON

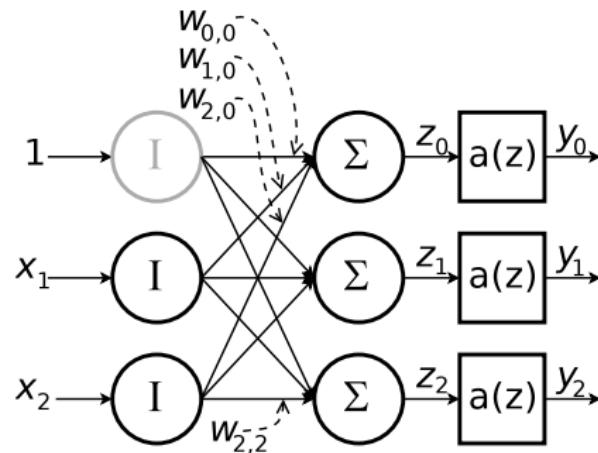
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# Multi-layer Perceptrons (MLPs)

MLP, but only one layer...

Stacking up neurons or perceptrons into an array

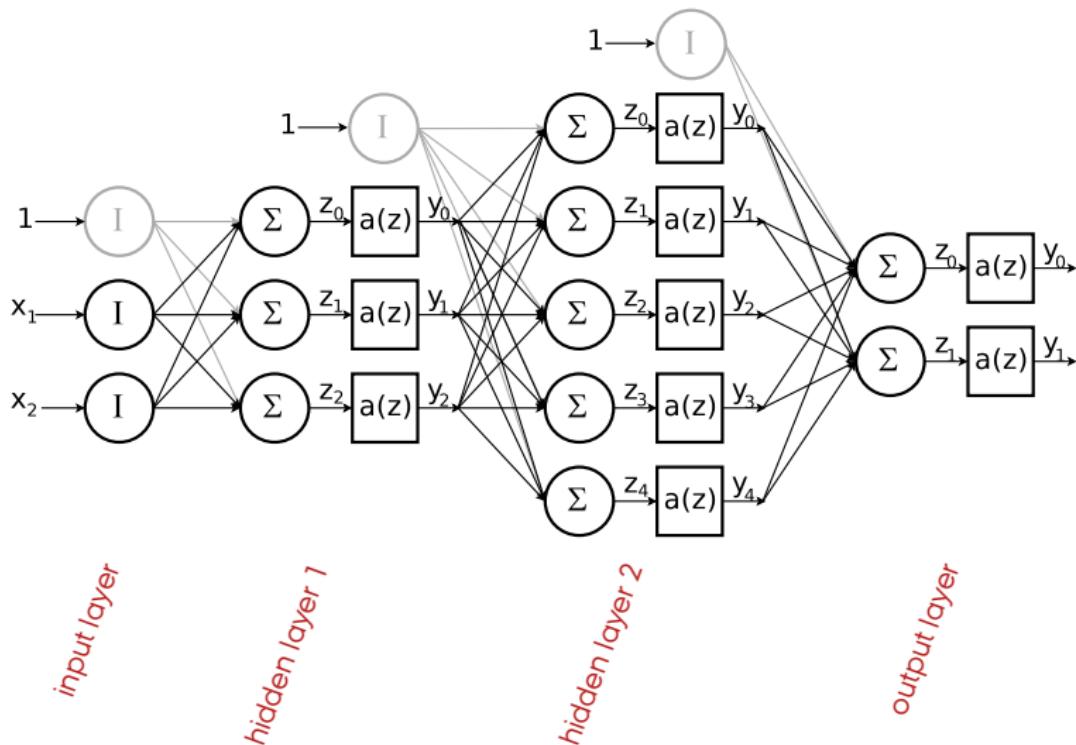


Deep feedforward networks, also often called feedforward neural networks, or multi-layer perceptrons (MLPs), are the *quintessential deep learning models*. [DL, p167]

# Multi-layer Perceptrons (MLPs)

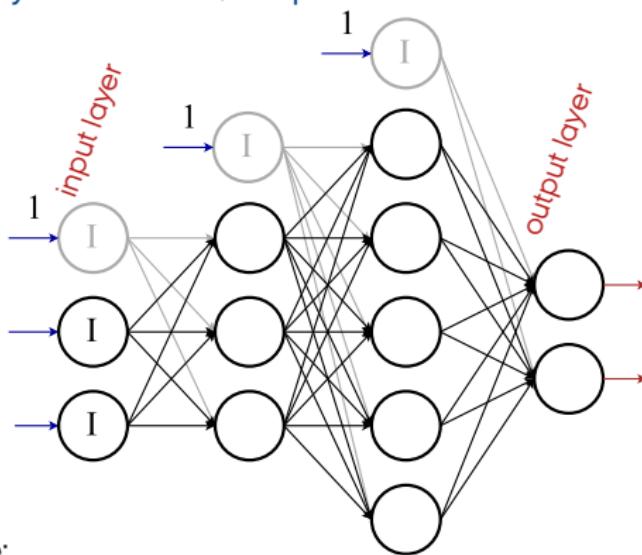
MLP, three layers, fully connected...

Stacking arrays of perceptrons into **layers**



# Multi-layer Perceptrons (MLPs)

MLP, three layers, fully connected, simplified nodes...



## MLP nomenclature:

**input layer:** handles the input  $\mathbf{x}$  data,

**output layer:** only visible output signal from the network,

**hidden layer(s):** internal layers in the network,

**fully connected:** all nodes in layer connected to all neurons in the previous/next layer,

**feed-forward:** the signals flows only forward in the network  
(in contrast to feed-backward in BProp).

**Backpropagation:** or BProp, training algo of NN,

**Deep-learning networks:** MLP with several hidden layers, say >2 ?

# Multi-layer Perceptrons (MLPs)

From Perceptron Training to MLP Training

Training perceptrons and Hebb's postulate:

*"Cells that fire together wire together."*

and

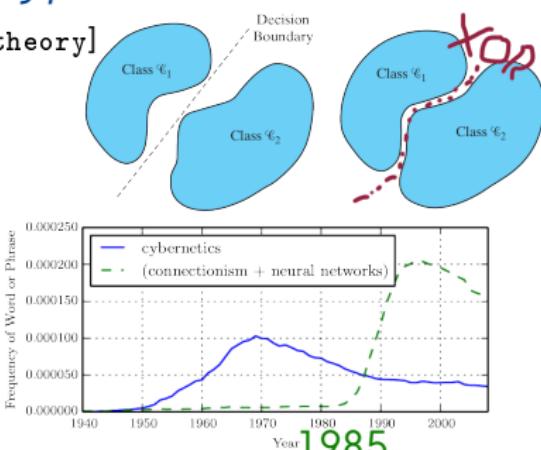
*[..] explain synaptic plasticity, the adaptation of brain neurons during the learning process.*

[[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hebbian\\_theory](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hebbian_theory)]

- ▶ for linearly separable problems:  
*perceptron convergence theorem,*
- ▶ but what about **XOR** problems:  
Minsky/Papert XOR crisis,
- ▶ and **how do you train MLP's?**

No method existed until..

1985/86: LeCun, Rumelhart et al.: Backpropagation



# Backpropagation (BProp)

Training MLPs

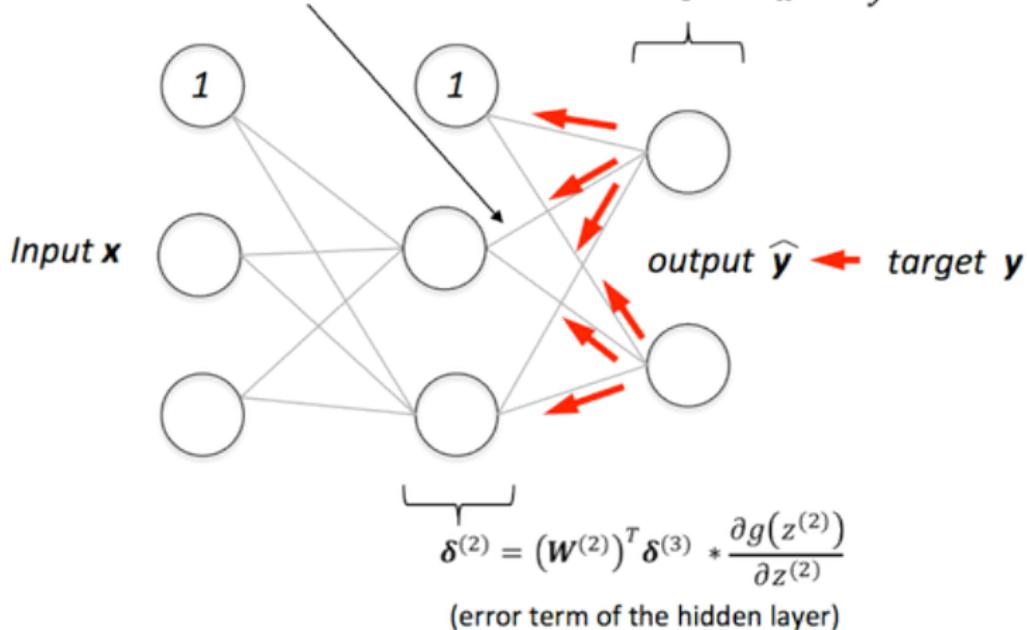
$$\frac{\partial}{\partial w_{i,j}^{(l)}} J(W) = a_j^{(l)} \delta_i^{(l+1)}$$

(compute gradient)

$$\nabla_w J(w) = \left[ \frac{\partial}{\partial w_1}, \frac{\partial}{\partial w_2}, \dots, \frac{\partial}{\partial w_m} \right]^T J(w)$$

(error term of the output layer)

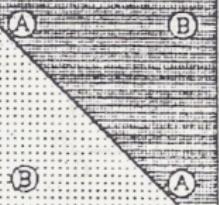
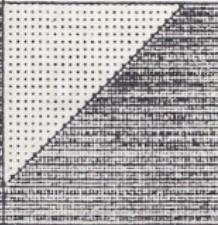
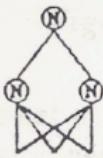
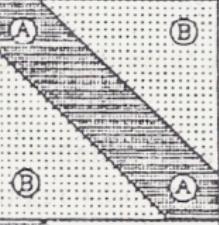
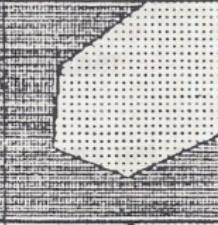
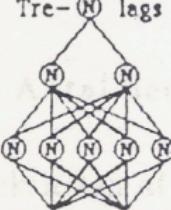
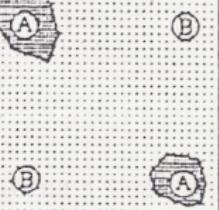
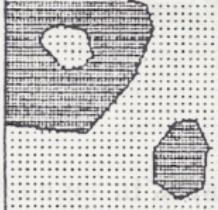
$$\delta^{(3)} = a^{(3)} - y$$



NOTE: <https://sebastianraschka.com/images/faq/visual-backpropagation/backpropagation.png>

# MLP: Linear/Unlinear Decision Boundaries

## 8 Beskrivelse af perceptronen.

| Struktur  | Type af beslutningsområde                           | XOR problem   | Indviklede klasser  | Typisk dannelse af beslutningsområde  |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Et-lags<br>  | Halvplan afgrænset af hyperplan                     |  |  |  |
| To-lags<br>  | Konveks åben eller lukket område                    |  |  |  |
| Tre-lags<br> | Arbitrær (Kompleksitet begrænset af antal neuroner) |  |  |  |

# Properties of The MLP Network

For linear/non-linear activation functions,  $a$

- ▶  $a$  (continuously) differentiable: for GD learning algo,
- ▶  $a$  monotonic: convex error surf for single layer model,
- ▶  $a$  linear: if multiple layers use identity  $a(z) = z$ , the network is equivalent to a single-layer,
- ▶  $a$  non-linear: two-layer neural network is a **universal function approximator**.

[[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Activation\\_function](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Activation_function)]

| Name  | Plot | Equation   | Derivative (with respect to $x$ )   | Range                             | Order of continuity | Monotonic | Monotonic derivative |
|---|------|--|---|-----------------------------------|---------------------|-----------|----------------------|
| Identity  |      | $f(x) = x$   | $f'(x) = 1$   | $(-\infty, \infty)$               | $C^\infty$          | Yes       | Yes                  |
| Binary step   |      | $f(x) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{for } x < 0 \\ 1 & \text{for } x \geq 0 \end{cases}$ | $f'(x) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{for } x \neq 0 \\ ? & \text{for } x = 0 \end{cases}$ | $\{0, 1\}$                        | $C^{-1}$            | Yes       | No                   |
| Logistic (a.k.a. Sigmoid or Soft step)                            |      | $f(x) = \sigma(x) = \frac{1}{1 + e^{-x}}$  | $f'(x) = f(x)(1 - f(x))$  | $(0, 1)$                          | $C^\infty$          | Yes       | No                   |
| TanH  |      | $f(x) = \tanh(x) = \frac{(e^x - e^{-x})}{(e^x + e^{-x})}$                            | $f'(x) = 1 - f(x)^2$  | $(-1, 1)$                         | $C^\infty$          | Yes       | No                   |
| ArcTan  |      | $f(x) = \tan^{-1}(x)$  | $f'(x) = \frac{1}{x^2 + 1}$   | $(-\frac{\pi}{2}, \frac{\pi}{2})$ | $C^\infty$          | Yes       | No                   |
| ArSinH  |      | $f(x) = \sinh^{-1}(x) = \ln(x + \sqrt{x^2 + 1})$                                     | $f'(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{x^2 + 1}}$  | $(-\infty, \infty)$               | $C^\infty$          | Yes       | No                   |
| ElliottSig <sup>[9][10][11]</sup><br>Softsign <sup>[12][13]</sup> |      | $f(x) = \frac{x}{1 +  x }$   | $f'(x) = \frac{1}{(1 +  x )^2}$   | $(-1, 1)$                         | $C^1$               | Yes       | 17/40                |

# HISTORY OF NEURAL NETWORKS

---

and some perspective..



# History of Neural Networks

## Engineered NN Systems Inspired by the Biological Brain

Focus has changed from biology understanding to beyond the neuroscientific perspective:

- ▶ began as engineered systems inspired by the biological brain—or as understanding of brain function,
- ▶ known as **cybernetics** in the 1940s–1960s,
- ▶ known as **connectionism** in the 1980s–1990s,
- ▶ now: "*a more general principle of learning [...] that are not necessarily neurally inspired*", [DL].

Let's look at a history timeline of NNs..

# History of Neural Networks

ML Summers and Winters [DL]

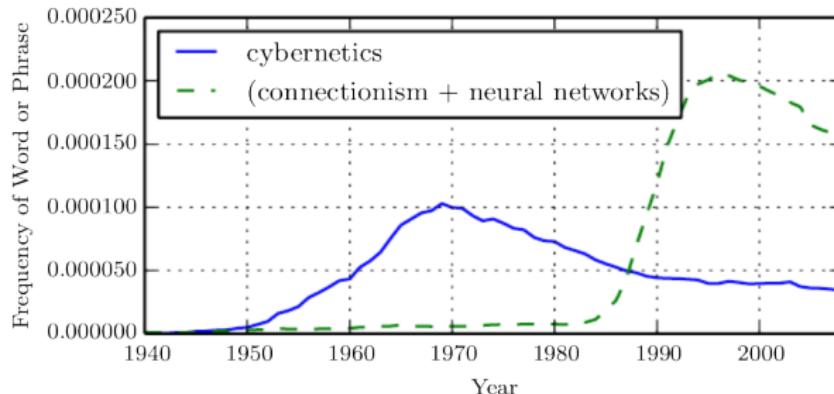


Figure 1.7: The figure shows two of the three historical waves of artificial neural nets research, as measured by the frequency of the phrases “cybernetics” and “connectionism” or “neural networks” according to Google Books (the third wave is too recent to appear). The first wave started with cybernetics in the 1940s–1960s, with the development of theories of biological learning (McCulloch and Pitts, 1943; Hebb, 1949) and implementations of the first models such as the perceptron (Rosenblatt, 1958) allowing the training of a single neuron. The second wave started with the connectionist approach of the 1980–1995 period, with back-propagation (Rumelhart *et al.*, 1986a) to train a neural network with one or two hidden layers. The current and third wave, deep learning, started around 2006 (Hinton *et al.*, 2006; Bengio *et al.*, 2007; Ranzato *et al.*, 2007a), and is just now appearing in book form as of 2016. The other two waves similarly appeared in book form much later than the corresponding scientific activity occurred.

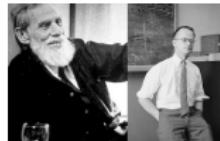
# History of Neural Networks

## Important Discoveries in the History of NN

- + 1670: Leibniz, L'Hôpital, chain rule differentiation
- ⋮
- + 1805/9: Legendre and Gauss, least-squares
- ⋮
- + 1847: Cauchy, numerical gradient descent
- ⋮
- + 1901: Pearson, PCA
- ⋮
- + 1936: Fisher, linear discriminant analysis of iris data  
(probability theory: F-distribution)
- + 1943: McCulloch and Pitts neuron
- + 1949: Hebb's rule for self-organized learning
- + 1957: Rosenblatt's perceptron and supervised learning
- + 1960-70: Multilayer perceptrons
- + 1969: Minsky and Papert, XOR crisis, **first winter**
- + 1985-86: BProp, LeCun, Rumelhart et al. **second summer**
- + **95'ish: second winter**
- + **2006'ish: GPUs, start of third summer**
- + 2009: Jarrett, reLU activation function
- + **2022'ish: third winter?**



Mr. Fisher



Mr. McCulloch-Pitts

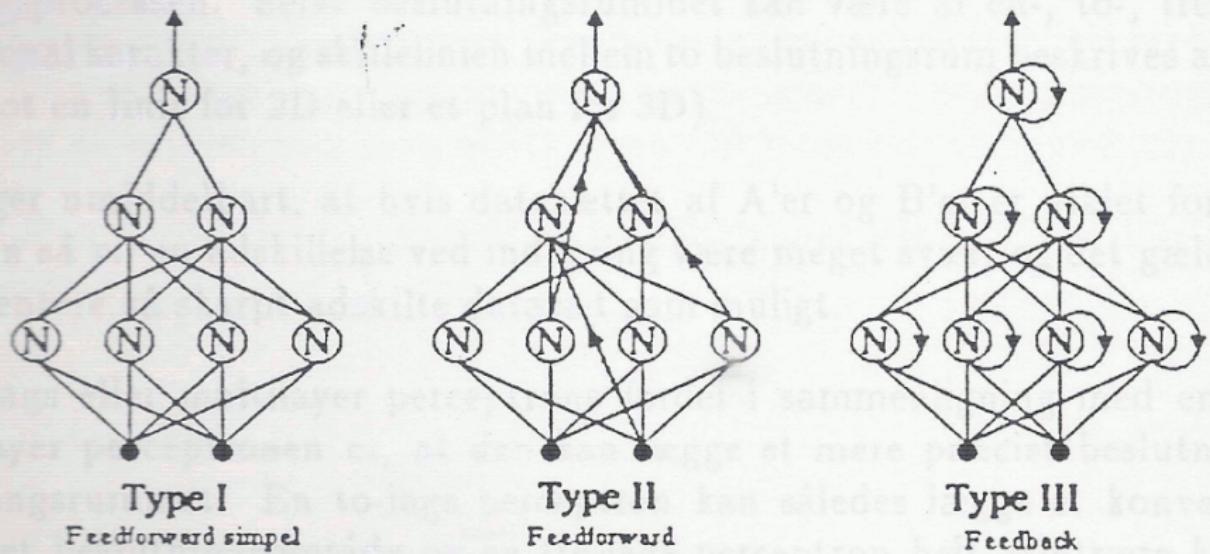


Mr. Rosenblatt



Mr. LeCun

# Other Types of Feedback in Networks

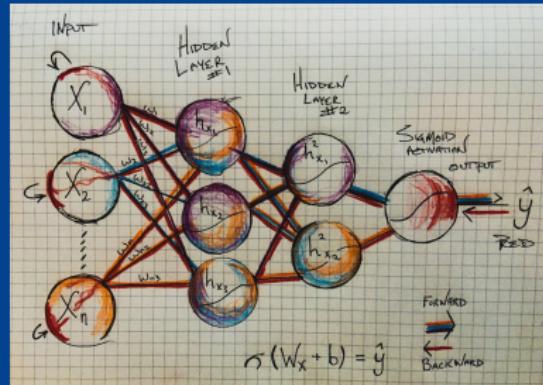


Figur 8.8: Typer af feedforward og feedback net.

# HISTORY OF MLPS

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and some perspective..



# The GPU vs the Brain

| GPU 1080          |                  | The Human Brain        |                               |
|-------------------|------------------|------------------------|-------------------------------|
| transistors       | $7.2 \cdot 10^9$ | neurons                | $\sim 86 \cdot 10^9$          |
| physical scale    | 16nm<br>(FinFET) | physical scale         | $\sim 0.05 \text{ mm}$        |
|                   |                  | synapses               | $\sim 1.5 \cdot 10^{14}$      |
|                   |                  | connections per neuron | $\sim 10^3 - 10^4$            |
| frequency         | 1.6 GHz          | frequency              | $\sim 10 \text{ Hz}$          |
| power consumption | 180 W<br>(TPD)   | power consumption      | $\sim 13\text{-}20 \text{ W}$ |

## Cerebral cortex

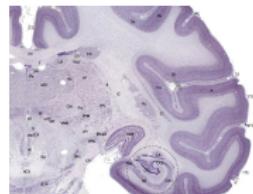
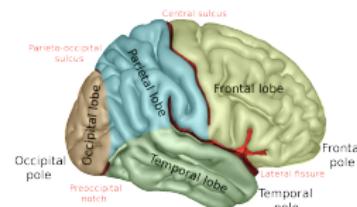
NOTE:

Cerebral cortex neurons:

Gorilla:  $33 \cdot 10^9$

Human:  $86 \cdot 10^9$

African elephant:  $257 \cdot 10^9$



[<https://hothardware.com/reviews/nvidia-geforce-gtx-1080-pascal-gpu-review>]

[[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List\\_of\\_animals\\_by\\_number\\_of\\_neurons](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_animals_by_number_of_neurons)]

[[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cerebral\\_cortex](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cerebral_cortex)]

[<https://hypertextbook.com/facts/2004/SamanthaCharles.shtml>]

# Multi-layer Perceptrons (MLPs)

## History: Dataset Size vs Time [DL]

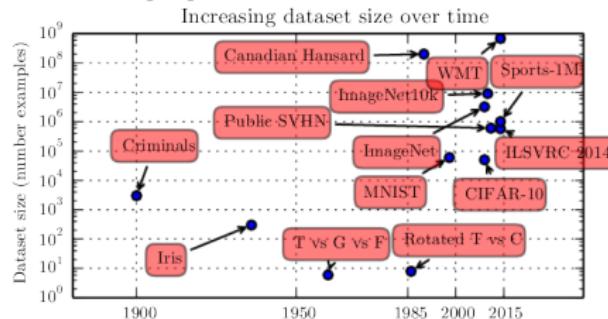


Figure 1.8: Dataset sizes have increased greatly over time. In the early 1900s, statisticians studied datasets using hundreds or thousands of manually compiled measurements (Garson, 1900; Gosset, 1908; Anderson, 1935; Fisher, 1936). In the 1950s through 1980s, the pioneers of biologically inspired machine learning often worked with small, synthetic datasets, such as low-resolution bitmaps of letters, that were designed to incur low computational cost and demonstrate that neural networks were able to learn specific kinds of functions (Widrow and Hoff, 1960; Rumelhart *et al.*, 1986b). In the 1980s and 1990s, machine learning became more statistical in nature and began to leverage larger datasets containing tens of thousands of examples such as the MNIST dataset (shown in Fig. 1.9) of scans of handwritten numbers (LeCun *et al.*, 1998b). In the first decade of the 2000s, more sophisticated datasets of this same size, such as the CIFAR-10 dataset (Krizhevsky and Hinton, 2009) continued to be produced. Toward the end of that decade and throughout the first half of the 2010s, significantly larger datasets, containing hundreds of thousands to tens of millions of examples, completely changed what was possible with deep learning. These datasets included the public Street View House Numbers dataset (Netzer *et al.*, 2011), various versions of the ImageNet dataset (Deng *et al.*, 2009, 2010a; Russakovsky *et al.*, 2014a), and the Sports-1M dataset (Karpathy *et al.*, 2014). At the top of the graph, we see that datasets of translated sentences, such as IBM's dataset constructed from the Canadian Hansard (Brown *et al.*, 1990) and the WMT 2014 English to French dataset (Schwenk, 2014) are typically far ahead of other dataset sizes.

# Multi-layer Perceptrons (MLPs)

## History: MLP Network Size vs Time [DL]

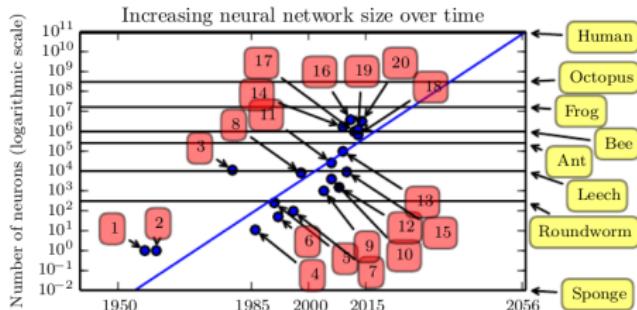


Figure 1.11: Since the introduction of hidden units, artificial neural networks have doubled in size roughly every 2.4 years. Biological neural network sizes from [Wikipedia \(2015\)](#).

1. Perceptron (Rosenblatt, 1958, 1962)
2. Adaptive linear element (Widrow and Hoff, 1960)
3. Neocognitron (Fukushima, 1980)
4. Early back-propagation network (Rumelhart et al., 1986b)
5. Recurrent neural network for speech recognition (Robinson and Fallside, 1991)
6. Multilayer perceptron for speech recognition (Bengio et al., 1991)
7. Mean field sigmoid belief network (Saul et al., 1996)
8. LeNet-5 (LeCun et al., 1998b)
9. Echo state network (Jaeger and Haas, 2004)
10. Deep belief network (Hinton et al., 2006)
11. GPU-accelerated convolutional network (Chellapilla et al., 2006)
12. Deep Boltzmann machine (Salakhutdinov and Hinton, 2009a)
13. GPU-accelerated deep belief network (Raina et al., 2009)
14. Unsupervised convolutional network (Jarrett et al., 2009)
15. GPU-accelerated multilayer perceptron (Ciresan et al., 2010)
16. OMP-1 network (Coates and Ng, 2011)
17. Distributed autoencoder (Le et al., 2012)
18. Multi-GPU convolutional network (Krizhevsky et al., 2012)
19. COTS HPC unsupervised convolutional network (Coates et al., 2013)
20. GoogLeNet (Szegedy et al., 2014a)

# Multi-layer Perceptrons (MLPs)

## History: MLP Neuron Connections vs Time [DL]

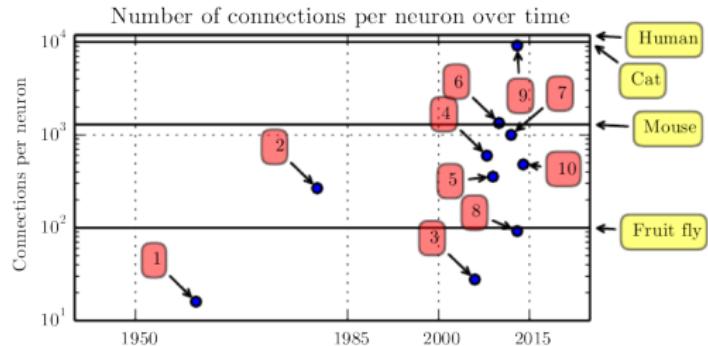


Figure 1.10: Initially, the number of connections between neurons in artificial neural networks was limited by hardware capabilities. Today, the number of connections between neurons is mostly a design consideration. Some artificial neural networks have nearly as many connections per neuron as a cat, and it is quite common for other neural networks to have as many connections per neuron as smaller mammals like mice. Even the human brain does not have an exorbitant amount of connections per neuron. Biological neural network sizes from [Wikipedia \(2015\)](#).

1. Adaptive linear element ([Widrow and Hoff, 1960](#))
2. Neocognitron ([Fukushima, 1980](#))
3. GPU-accelerated convolutional network ([Chellapilla et al., 2006](#))
4. Deep Boltzmann machine ([Salakhutdinov and Hinton, 2009a](#))
5. Unsupervised convolutional network ([Jarrett et al., 2009](#))
6. GPU-accelerated multilayer perceptron ([Ciresan et al., 2010](#))
7. Distributed autoencoder ([Le et al., 2012](#))
8. Multi-GPU convolutional network ([Krizhevsky et al., 2012](#))
9. COTS HPC unsupervised convolutional network ([Coates et al., 2013](#))
10. GoogLeNet ([Szegedy et al., 2014a](#))

# Multi-layer Perceptrons (MLPs)

## History: MLP Error Rate vs Time [DL]

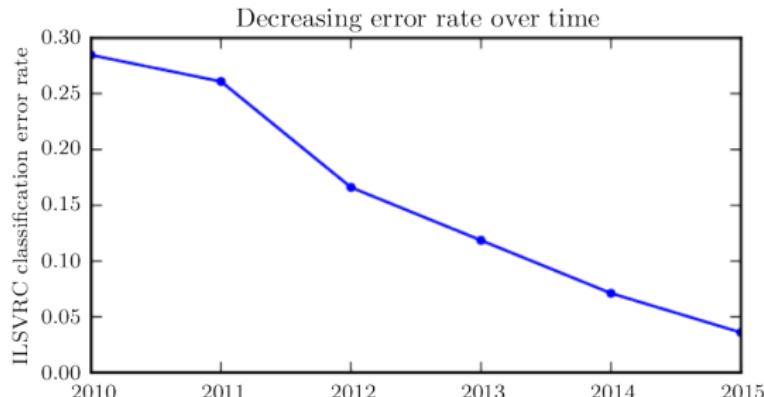
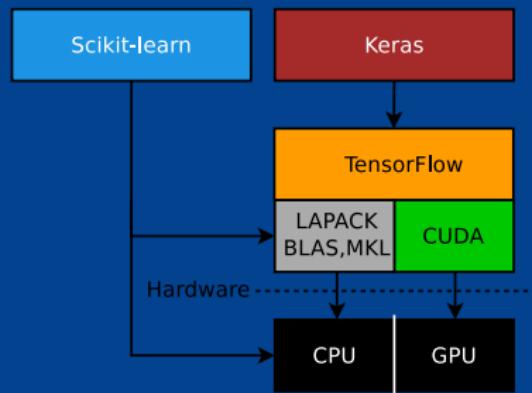


Figure 1.12: Since deep networks reached the scale necessary to compete in the ImageNet Large Scale Visual Recognition Challenge, they have consistently won the competition every year, and yielded lower and lower error rates each time. Data from [Russakovsky et al. \(2014b\)](#) and [He et al. \(2015\)](#).

# IMPLEMENTING MLPS IN KERAS

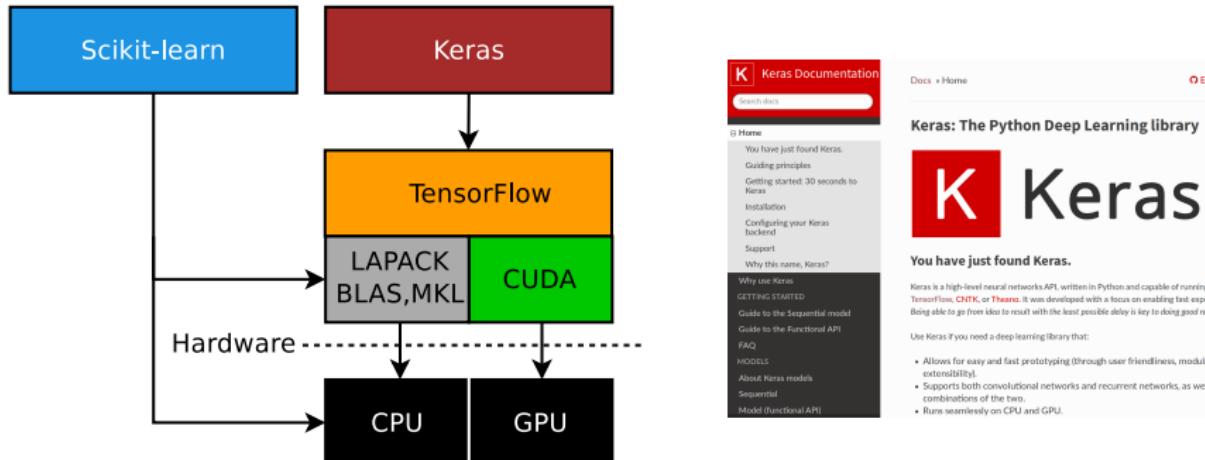
---



# Keras and Tensorflow



Using the Keras API instead of Scikit-learn or TensorFlow



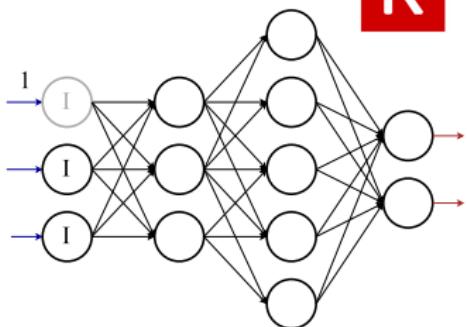
NOTE:

- ▶ documentation: <https://keras.io/>
- ▶ keras provides a `fit-predict`-interface,
- ▶ many similarities to Scikit-learn,
- ▶ but also many differences!

# Building Keras MLPs



Using the Keras `Sequential` class,  
programmatical build up model:



```
1 # Build Keras model
2 model = Sequential()
3 model.add(Dense(input_dim=2, units=3, activation="tanh", ...))
4 model.add(Dense(units=5, activation="relu", ...))
5 model.add(Dense(units=2, activation="softmax"))
6 .
7 .
8 X_train, ... = train_test_split(X, y, ... )
9 .
10 .
11 y_train_categorical = to_categorical(y_train, num_classes=2)
12 y_test_categorical = to_categorical(y_test, num_classes=2)
13 .
14 .
15 history = model.fit(X_train, y_train_categorical, ...
16 .
17 .
18 score = model.evaluate(X_test, y_test_categorical)
```

# Notes on Keras MLPs

Typical Keras MLP Supervised Classifier setup..

- ▶ loss function

```
loss='categorical_  
crossentropy'
```

- ▶ metrics collected via history

```
metrics=[  
    'categorical_accuracy',  
    'mean_squared_error',  
    'mean_absolute_error'])
```

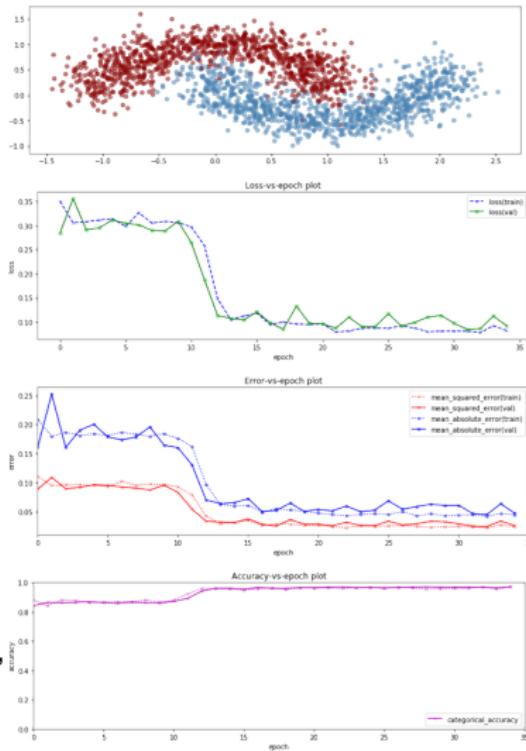
- ▶ input lay.: categorical encoding,

- ▶ output lay.: softmax function,

And notice that Keras do *not* provide metrics like  
precision, recall, F1

but instead

categorical\_accuracy, binary\_accuracy



# Input Layer: Categorical Encoding

For MLP Classification

One-hot to\_categorical(.) encoding in Keras:

- ▶ input layer: one-hot class encoding,
- ▶ output layer: one neuron per output class that fires,  
and use softmax for output neurons
- ▶ beware of misformated classes.

```
1 import numpy as np
2 from keras.utils.np_utils import to_categorical
3
4 y = np.array([1, 2, 0, 4, -1])
5 y_cat = to_categorical(y)
6
7 print(y_cat)
8
9 # [[0. 1. 0. 0. 0.] => i=0, class 1
10 # [0. 0. 1. 0. 0.] => i=1, class 2
11 # [1. 0. 0. 0. 0.] => i=2, class 0
12 # [0. 0. 0. 0. 1.] => i=3, class 4
13 # [0. 0. 0. 0. 1.]] => i=4, also class 4!
14 #                                     NOTE: no class 3
```

# Output Layer: Softmax Function

For MLP Classification: Assign a Probability for each Class

Softmax (softmax/normalized exponential) definition

$$\text{softmax}(\mathbf{x})_i = \frac{e^{x_i}}{\sum_{i=1}^n e^{x_i}}$$

**softmax**: smooth approx. of **argmax** function.

**argmax**: the index-of-the-max-value for some data.

```

1 # python demo of softmax/argmax
2 x = np.array([1, 2, -4, 5, 1])
3 i = np.argmax(x)
4
5 PrintMatrix(x, "x = ")
6 print(f"np.argmax(x) = {np.argmax(x)}")
7
8 def softmax(x):
9     z = np.exp(x)
10    s = np.sum(z)
11    return z / s
12
13 PrintMatrix(softmax(x), "softmax(x) = ")
14 print(f"np.argmax(softmax(x)) = {np.argmax(softmax(x))}")

```

|   |                                       |
|---|---------------------------------------|
| 1 | # output                              |
| 2 | x = [ 1 2 -4 5 1 ]                    |
| 3 | np.argmax(x) = 3                      |
| 4 | softmax(x) = [0.02 0.05 0. 0.92 0.02] |
| 5 | np.argmax(softmax(x)) = 3             |