

# Accelerating Access to Life-Saving Treatments to Patients

pumas<sup>AI</sup>



# Machine Learning and Neural Networks

DeepPumas Workshop

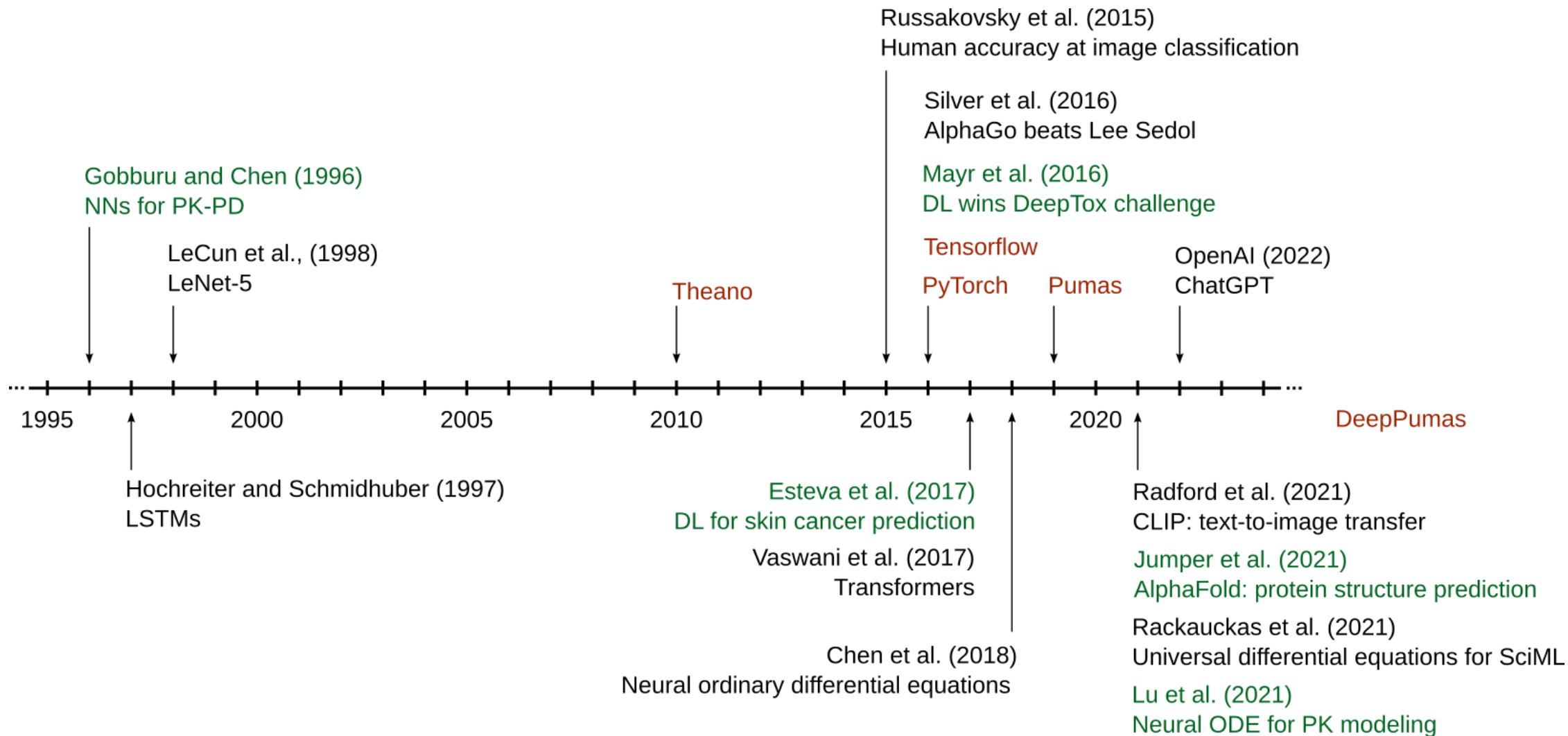
**Authors: Andreu Vall, Mohamed Tarek, and Niklas Korsbo**

Pumas-AI Inc

Jun 2, 2025



# Context and Evolution





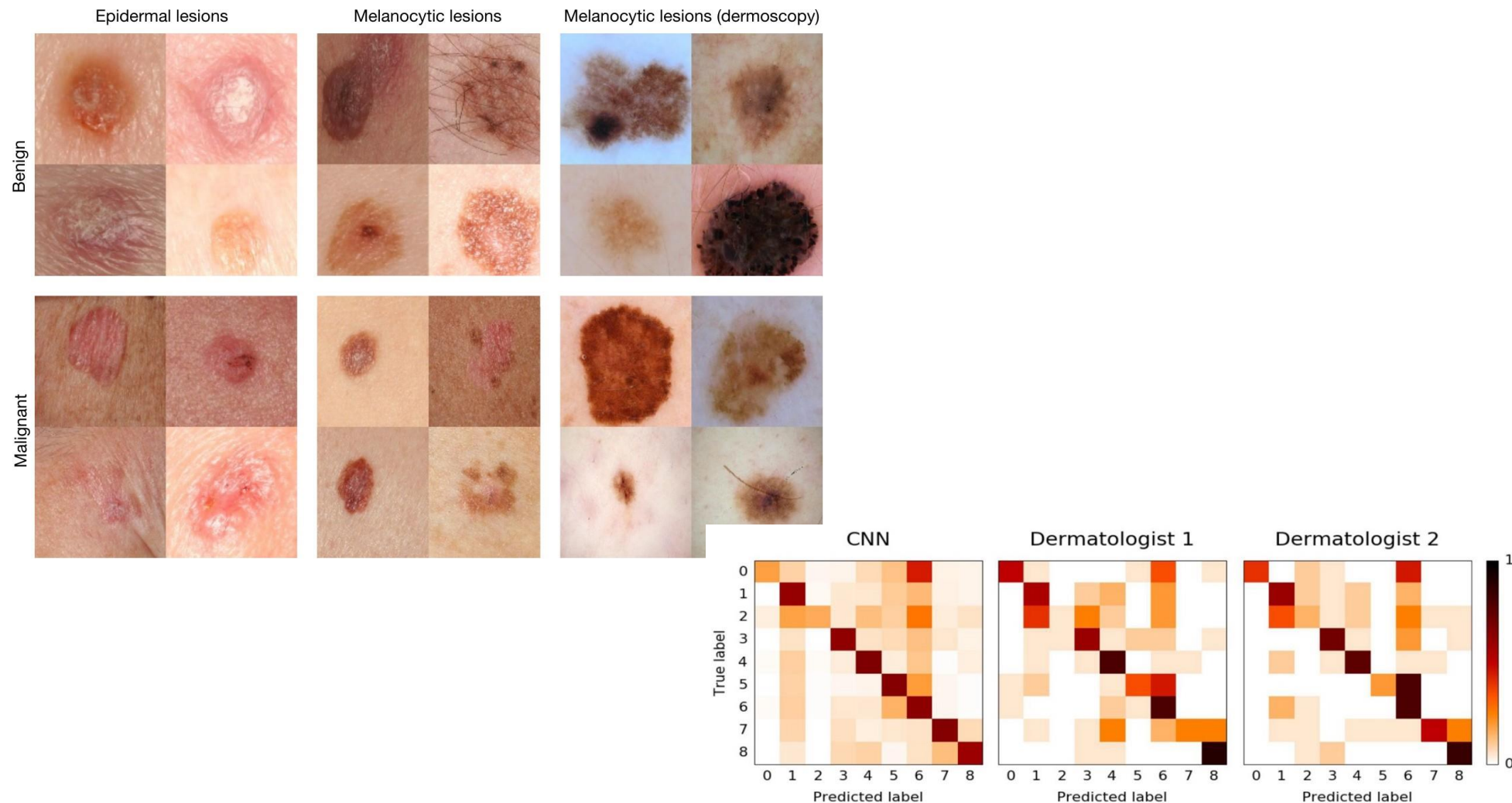
# Toxicity Prediction with Deep Learning

	AVG	NR	SR	AhR	AR	AR-LBD	ARE	Aromatase	ATAD5	ER	ER-LBD	HSE	MMP	p53	PPAR.g
<i>our method</i>	<b>0.846</b>	<b>0.826</b>	<b>0.858</b>	<b>0.928</b>	0.807	<b>0.879</b>	<b>0.840</b>	0.834	0.793	<b>0.810</b>	0.814	<b>0.865</b>	0.942	0.862	<b>0.861</b>
AMAZIZ	0.838	0.816	0.854	0.913	0.770	0.846	0.805	0.819	<b>0.828</b>	0.806	0.806	0.842	<b>0.950</b>	0.843	0.830
dmlab	0.824	0.811	0.850	0.781	<b>0.828</b>	0.819	0.768	<b>0.838</b>	0.800	0.766	0.772	0.855	0.946	<b>0.880</b>	0.831
T	0.823	0.798	0.842	0.913	0.676	<b>0.848</b>	0.801	0.825	<b>0.814</b>	0.784	0.805	0.811	0.937	0.847	0.822
microsomes	0.810	0.785	0.814	0.901	–	–	0.804	–	0.812	0.785	<b>0.827</b>	–	–	0.826	0.717
filipsPL	0.798	0.765	0.817	0.893	0.736	0.743	0.758	0.776	–	0.771	–	0.766	0.928	0.815	–
Charite	0.785	0.750	0.811	0.896	0.688	0.789	0.739	0.781	0.751	0.707	0.798	0.852	0.880	0.834	0.700
RCC	0.772	0.751	0.781	0.872	0.763	0.747	0.761	0.792	0.673	0.781	0.762	0.755	0.920	0.795	0.637
frozenarm	0.771	0.759	0.768	0.865	0.744	0.722	0.700	0.740	0.726	0.745	0.790	0.752	0.859	0.803	0.803
ToxFit	0.763	0.753	0.756	0.862	0.744	0.757	0.697	0.738	0.729	0.729	0.752	0.689	0.862	0.803	0.791
CGL	0.759	0.720	0.791	0.866	0.742	0.566	0.747	0.749	0.737	0.759	0.727	0.775	0.880	0.817	0.738
SuperTox	0.743	0.682	0.768	0.854	–	0.560	0.711	0.742	–	–	–	–	0.862	0.732	–
kibutz	0.741	0.731	0.731	0.865	0.750	0.694	0.708	0.729	0.737	0.757	0.779	0.587	0.838	0.787	0.666
MML	0.734	0.700	0.753	0.871	0.693	0.660	0.701	0.709	0.749	0.750	0.710	0.647	0.854	0.815	0.645
NCI	0.717	0.651	0.791	0.812	0.628	0.592	0.783	0.698	0.714	0.483	0.703	<b>0.858</b>	0.851	0.747	0.736
VIF	0.708	0.702	0.692	0.827	0.797	0.610	0.636	0.671	0.656	0.732	0.735	0.723	0.796	0.648	0.666
Toxic Avg	0.644	0.659	0.607	0.715	0.721	0.611	0.633	0.671	0.593	0.646	0.640	0.465	0.732	0.614	0.682
Swamidass	0.576	0.596	0.593	0.353	0.571	0.748	0.372	0.274	0.391	0.680	0.738	0.711	0.828	0.661	0.585

Mayr et al. “DeepTox: Toxicity Prediction Using Deep Learning.” ([Front. in Env. Sci.](#), 2016)



# Image-based Diagnostic with Deep Learning



Esteva et al. "Dermatologist-Level Classification of Skin Cancer with Deep Neural Networks." ([Nature](#), 2017)



# Broad types of machine learning

- Supervised machine learning
  - Prediction
  - Classification
- Unsupervised machine learning
  - Generative models
  - Feature extraction
  - Clustering
- Semi-supervised machine learning
  - Has components of both supervised and unsupervised learning
  - Examples:
    - Semi-supervised conditional generative models
    - Feature extraction followed by supervised ML



# General notes

- Not all machine learning algorithms use neural networks
- Not all machine learning algorithms use probabilistic models, e.g.
  - K-nearest neighbor algorithm
  - Decision trees
  - Hierarchical clustering
  - DBSCAN
- Probabilistic machine learning borrows many concepts from computational (Bayesian) statistics
- Machine learning builds on many fields including
  - Statistics
  - Optimization
  - Database management
  - Image and signal processing
  - Software engineering
- Related terms: data mining, data science, artificial intelligence, and more



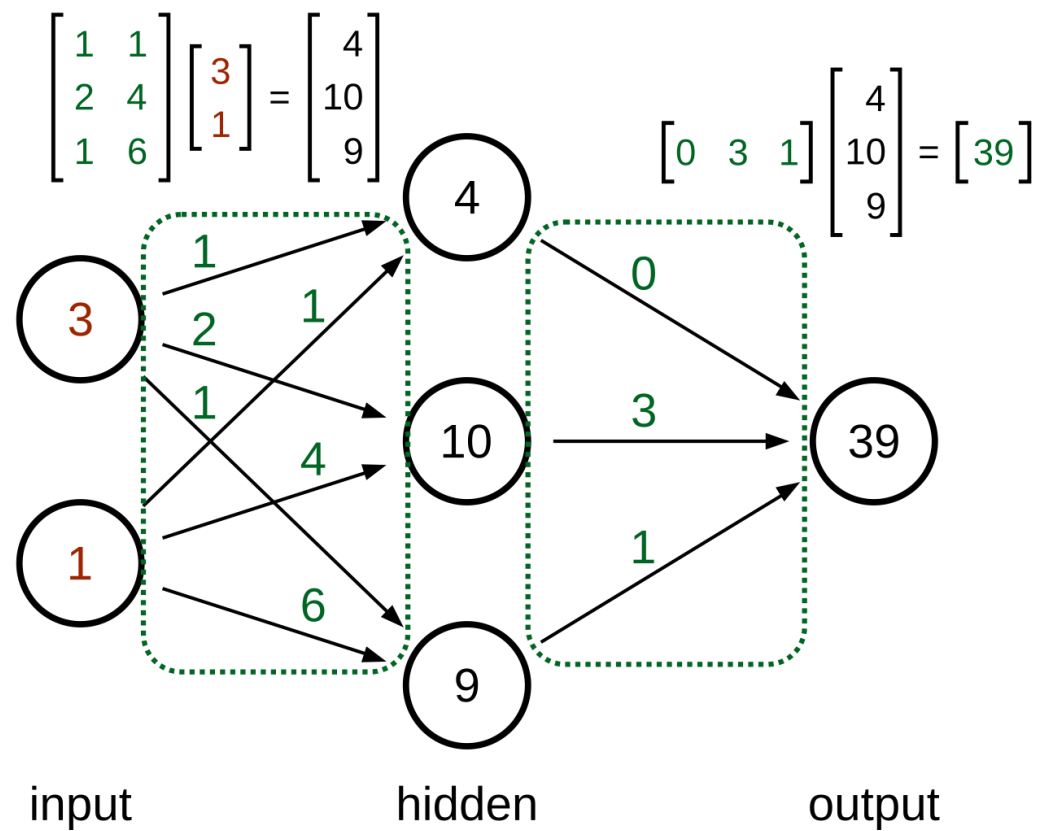
# Fundamental Concepts of Machine Learning and Neural Networks





# Neural Networks

$f = g = \text{identity}$





# Training

- Find network parameters  $\mathbf{W}$  that minimize a suitable cost function

$$R_{\text{emp}}(\mathbf{W}, \mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Y}) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=1}^N L(y^n, \hat{y}^n(\mathbf{x}^n; \mathbf{W}))$$

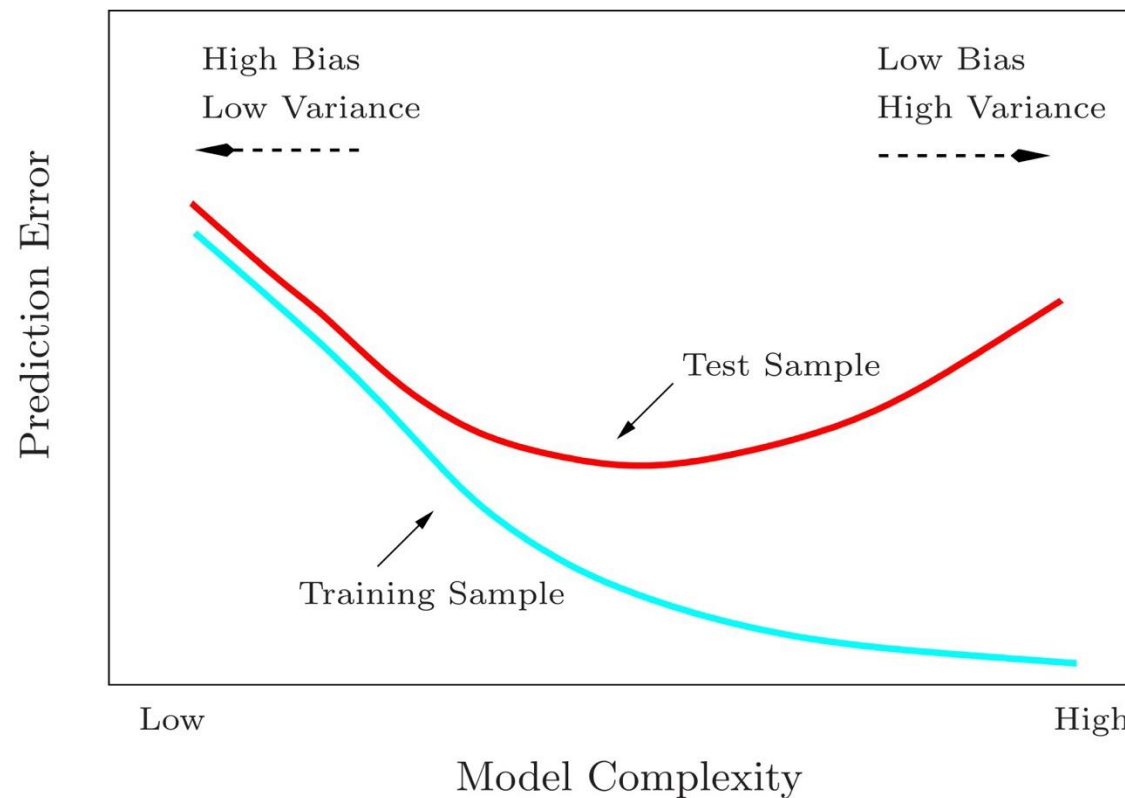
- Iteratively refine the parameters by stochastic gradient descent

$$\mathbf{W}^{\text{new}} = \mathbf{W}^{\text{old}} - \eta \nabla_{\mathbf{W}} R_{\text{emp}}(\mathbf{W}, \mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Y})$$

- Gradient computed by backpropagation ([Rumelhart et al., 1986](#))



# Control on Withheld Data



**FIGURE 2.11.** *Test and training error as a function of model complexity.*

Figure by [Hastie et al.](#), 2008

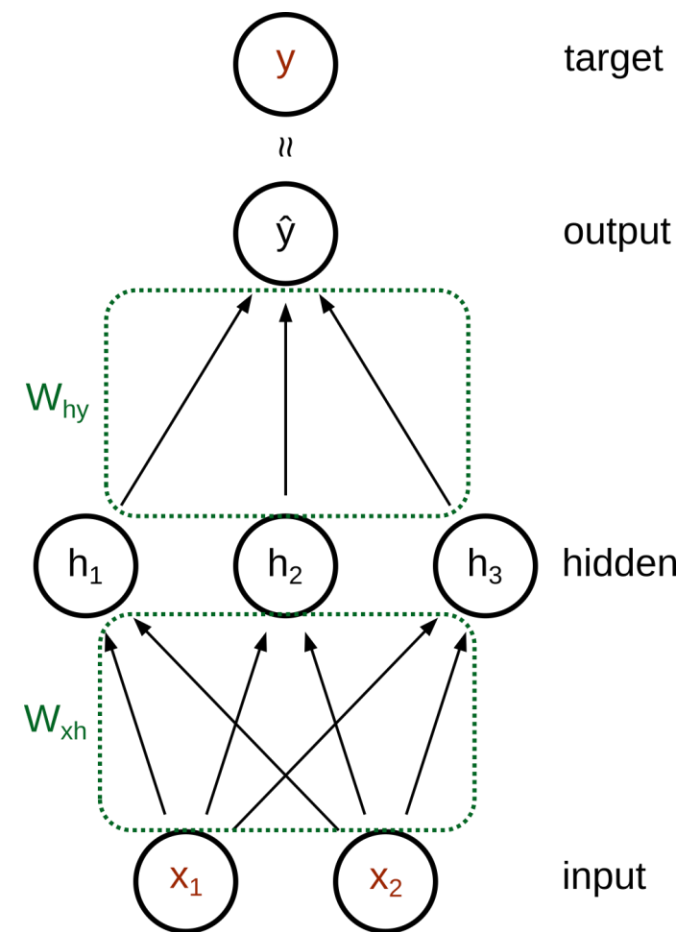


# Practical Guide to Training Neural Networks



# Feed-Forward Networks

- The basic interface is quite given by the task
  - Number of input units
  - Number of output units
  - Activation function for the output layer
- The *architecture* must be selected carefully
  - Number of hidden layers
  - Number of units per hidden layer
  - Activation function for the hidden layers
  - Parameters of the optimization algorithm





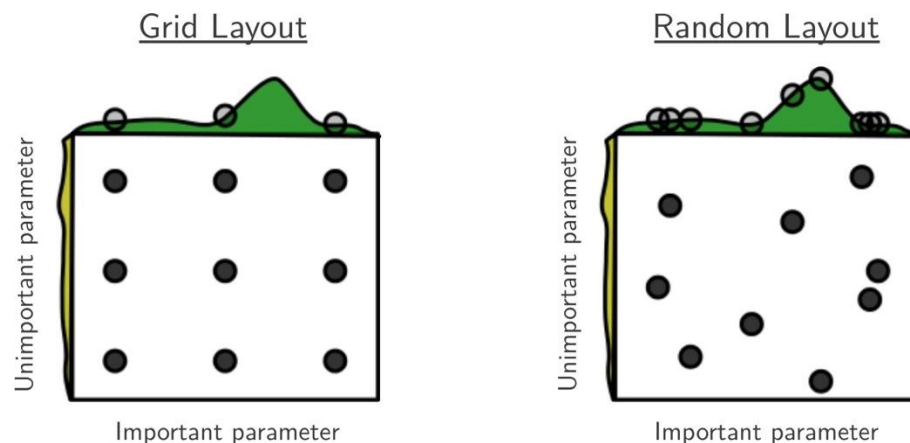
# Activation Functions

- At the output layer we typically use
  - the identity function for regression tasks,
  - the sigmoid function for binary classification tasks,
  - the softmax function for multiclass classification tasks, and
  - the softplus function to ensure non-negativity.
- At the hidden layers,
  - traditional activations are the sigmoid and tanh functions,
  - but deeper networks will suffer from vanishing gradients.
  - In this case, experiment with the ReLU and SELU functions.



# Architecture Selection

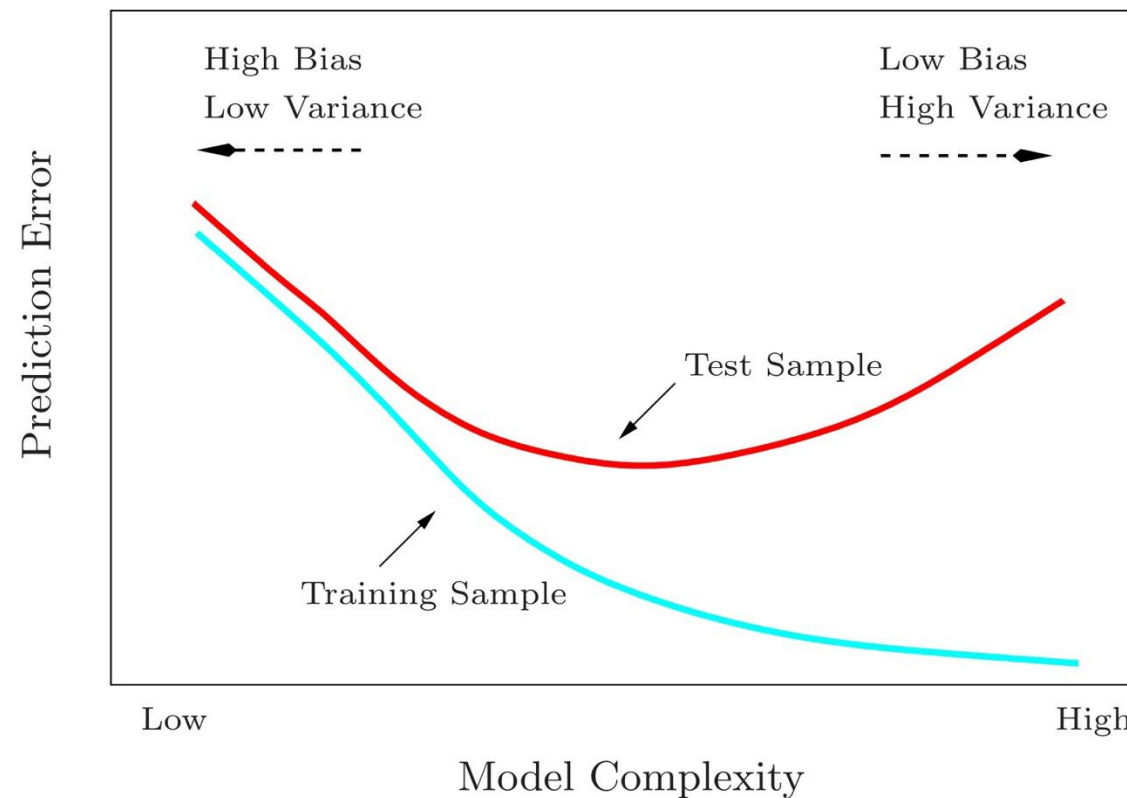
- Typically based on empirical investigation and assessment on withheld data
- Initial exploration to get a feel of reasonable network dimensions
- Hyperparameter search
  - Design a grid of hyperparameters based on the previous exploration
  - In case of a tight budget, pay attention to the learning rate
  - Exhaustive, random, Bayesian search



Bergstra and Bengio “Random search for hyper-parameter optimization.” ([JMLR](#), 2012)



# Underfitting and Overfitting



**FIGURE 2.11.** *Test and training error as a function of model complexity.*

Figure by [Hastie et al.](#), 2008





# Strategies to Prevent Overfitting

- Early stopping based on withheld data
- Most careful data splitting to avoid data leakage
- Networks as large as possible, but not larger
- Larger and more diverse training datasets
- Regularization
  - Penalization of the cost function
  - Dropout (Srivastava et al., 2014)
  - Data *augmentation*



# Penalization of the Cost Function

- Cost function

$$\arg \min_{\mathbf{W}} \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=1}^N L(y^n, \hat{y}^n(\mathbf{x}^n; \mathbf{W}))$$

- Penalized cost function reduces expressiveness

$$\arg \min_{\mathbf{W}} \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=1}^N L(y^n, \hat{y}^n(\mathbf{x}^n; \mathbf{W})) + \lambda \|\mathbf{W}\|_p$$

- Typically using  $L1$  or  $L2$  norm



# Hands-on session: Fitting, Overfitting and Regularizing Neural Networks



# Conditional generative models



# Generative models

- Definitions
  - $\mathbf{z}$ : latent variables of dimension  $d$
  - $\mathbf{y}$ : observed response/data
  - $\mathbf{y}_g$ : generated/simulated/synthetic response/data
- Model

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{y}_g &= \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{z}) + \boldsymbol{\epsilon} \\ \mathbf{z} &\sim \text{Normal}(0, \mathbf{I}_{d \times d}) \\ \epsilon_i &\sim \text{Normal}(0, \sigma^2)\end{aligned}$$

- Objective: choose  $\mathbf{f}$  such that the distribution of  $\mathbf{y}_g$  is close to the distribution of the observed data  $\mathbf{y}$



# Conditional generative models

- Definitions
  - $\mathbf{z}$ : latent variables of dimension  $d$
  - $\mathbf{x}$ : observed covariates
  - $\mathbf{y}$ : observed response
  - $\mathbf{y}_g$ : generated/simulated/synthetic response
- Model

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{y}_g &= \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{z}, \mathbf{x}) + \boldsymbol{\epsilon} \\ \mathbf{z} &\sim \text{Normal}(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{I}_{d \times d}) \\ \epsilon_i &\sim \text{Normal}(0, \sigma^2)\end{aligned}$$

- Objective: choose  $\mathbf{f}$  such that the conditional distribution of  $\mathbf{y}_g \mid \mathbf{x}$  is close to the conditional distribution of the observed data  $\mathbf{y} \mid \mathbf{x}$

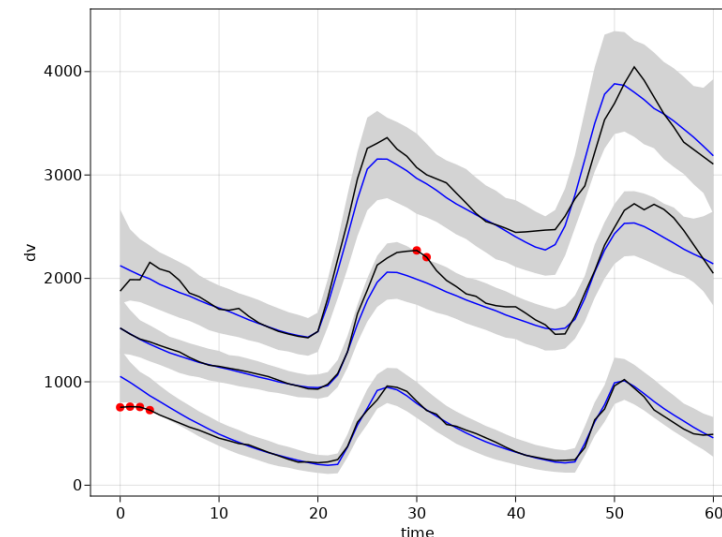


# Population PK is machine learning!

- Definitions
  - $\eta$ : latent variables of dimension  $d$  and covariance matrix  $\Omega$
  - $\mathbf{x}$ : observed covariates
  - $\mathbf{dv}$ : observed response
  - $\mathbf{dv}_g$ : generated/simulated/synthetic response

- Model

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{dv}_g &= \mathbf{f}_\theta(\eta, \mathbf{x}) + \epsilon \\ \eta &\sim \text{Normal}(0, \Omega) \\ \epsilon_i &\sim \text{Normal}(0, \sigma^2)\end{aligned}$$



- Objective: choose  $\mathbf{f}_\theta$  such that the conditional distribution of  $\mathbf{dv}_g \mid \mathbf{x}$  is close to the conditional distribution of the observed data  $\mathbf{dv} \mid \mathbf{x}$