

**CMSC 409:  
Artificial Intelligence**

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Fall 2023,  
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**CMSC 409: Artificial Intelligence**

**Session # 17**

**Topics for today**

- Announcements
- Midterm exam preparation

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# CMSC 409: Artificial Intelligence

## Session # 17

### Topics for today

- Announcements
- Previous session review
- Midterm exam preparation
- Agent-Environment Interface & RL
  - *Agents*
  - *Returns*
  - *Markov Property*
  - *Markov Decision Processes (MDP)*
  - *Example (recycling robot)*
  - *MDP graph*
- Q Learning, Smart Cab Problem

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# CMSC 409: Artificial Intelligence

## Announcements

## Session # 17

- IMPORTANT:
  - *Course materials (slides, assignments) are copyrighted by instructor & VCU. Sharing/posting/chatGPT/similar is copyright infringement and is strictly prohibited. Such must be immediately reported.*
- Canvas
  - *New slides posted*
- Office hours zoom
  - *Zoom disconnects me after 45 mins of inactivity. Feel free to chat me via zoom if that happens and I will reconnect (zoom chat welcome outside of office hours as well)!*
- Project #3
  - *Deadline Oct. 26; Review a week from the deadline.*
- Midterm exam (in-class)
  - *Oct. 19 (Thu); prep examples are posted*
- Paper (optional)
  - *The 3<sup>rd</sup> draft due Nov. 2 (noon)*  
*In addition to previous draft, it should contain a technique (or selection thereof), you plan on using to solve the selected problem (check out the class paper instructions for the 3<sup>rd</sup> draft)*
- Subject line and signature
  - *Please use [CMSC 409] Last\_Name Question*

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# Project 3

## Q Learning, Smart Cab Problem

*Reinforcement Q-Learning from Scratch in Python with OpenAI Gym:*  
<https://www.learn datasci.com/tutorials/reinforcement-q-learning-scratch-python-openai-gym/>

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## Q-Learning

### Smart Cab

- Drops off the passenger to the right location.
- Performs route optimization to minimize the ride time.
- Observe traffic rules and prioritize passenger's safety.

### Rewards

- 8 maximum number of time steps
- (+20) for a successful drop off
- (-10) for illegal actions
- (-1) for each time step it takes to get to the destination

### Q Learning Approach

- No knowledge about the environment
- Table to represent the value function [500,6]



$$Q_{t+1}(s, a) = Q_t(s, a) + \alpha(R + \lambda \max_a Q(s + 1, a) - Q_t(s, a))$$

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# Q-Learning

## Key parameters

- $\alpha$  (Learning Rate) ▶ Bigger makes convergence faster but may cause convergence difficulties
- $\lambda$  (Discount Factor) ▶ Close to 1 to take into account future rewards
- $\epsilon_{\text{decay}}$  (Drop rate of randomness) ▶ Close to 1 to make sure to explore enough

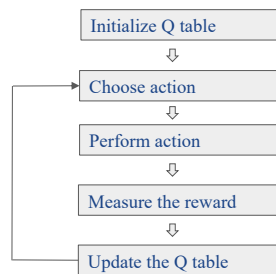
## Exploration vs exploitation

- Exploration → Agent will take random decisions, this is useful to learn about the environment.
- Exploitation → Agent will take actions based on what he already knows.(From the Q table)

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# Q-Learning

## • Q Learning



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# Q-Learning

## • Initialization

Initialize the Q table with zeros

```
q_table = np.zeros([env.observation_space.n, env.action_space.n])
```

Parameters chosen for taxi exercise

```
# Hyper params:
total_ep = 15000
total_test_ep = 1000
max_steps = 100

lr = 0.01
gamma = 0.99

# Exploration Params:
epsilon = 0.5
max_epsilon = 1.0
min_epsilon = 0.01
decay_rate = 0.01
```

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# Q-Learning

## • Train Algorithm

```
# Implementing the Q Learning Algorithm:
for episode in range(total_ep):
    # Reset Environment:
    state = env.reset()
    step = 0
    done = False

    for step in range(max_steps):
        # Choose an action a in the current world state(s) (step 3)
        # First we randomize a number
        exp_exp_tradeoff = random.uniform(0, 1)

        # If this number > greater than epsilon --> exploitation (taking the biggest q value for the current state):
        if exp_exp_tradeoff > epsilon:
            action = np.argmax(q_table[state, :])

        # Else, doing random choice:
        else:
            action = env.action_space.sample()

        # Take the action (a) and observe the outcome state (s') and the reward (r)
        new_state, reward, done, info = env.step(action)

        # Update Q(s,a) = Q(s,a) + lr (R(s,a) + gamma * max Q(s',a') - Q(s,a))
        q_table[state, action] = q_table[state, action] + lr * (reward + gamma * np.max(q_table[new_state, :]) - q_table[state, action])

        # Our new state:
        state = new_state

    # If done True, finish the episode:
    if done == True:
        break

    # Increment number of episodes:
    episode += 1

print("Training finished.\n")
```

- Pick a random value action or exploit computed Q values
- Execute the chosen action -> obtain next state and reward
- Calculate the max Q value and update the Q table

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# Q-Learning

## • Evaluate Algorithm

```

"""Evaluate agent's performance after Q-learning"""
# Using Q Table:

env.reset()
rewards = []
tot_penalties = []

for episode in range(total_test_ep):
    state = env.reset()
    step = 0
    done = False
    total_rewards = 0
    penalties = 0
    print('=====')
    print('EPISODE: ', episode)

    for step in range(max_steps):
        env.render()

        # Take the action based on the Q Table:
        action = np.argmax(q_table[state, :])

        new_state, reward, done, info = env.step(action)

        if reward == -10:
            penalties += 1

        total_rewards += reward

    # If episode finishes:
    if done:
        rewards.append(total_rewards)
        tot_penalties.append(penalties)
        print('Reward: ', total_rewards)
        print('Penalty: ', penalties)
        break

    state = new_state

env.close()
print('Reward Over Time: {}'.format(sum(rewards)/total_test_ep))
print('Penalty Over Time: {}'.format(sum(tot_penalties)/total_test_ep))

```

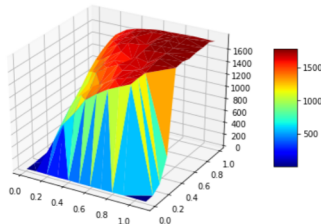
- Agent switch from exploration to exploitation
- Next action is selected using the best Q- value
- Penalty is updated for (-10) reward
- If no penalty -> Smart cab agent performed correct pick up/drop off actions with 1000 passengers

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# Q-Learning

## • Parameters study

- Different results for  $\alpha$ ,  $\lambda$ , epsilon between [0,1]
- High Learning Rate could cause convergence problems with more complex problems or with more noise
- No universal rules, parameter study is recommended



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## Q-Learning

- Results for chosen parameters
  - Around 1,000 episodes to converge
  - Takes longer to converge than with bigger Learning Rate but ensures stability

```
# Hyper params:

total_ep = 15000
total_test_ep = 1000
max_steps = 100

lr = 0.01
gamma = 0.99

# Exploration Params:

epsilon = 0.5
max_epsilon = 1.0
min_epsilon = 0.01
decay_rate = 0.01
```

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## Clustering

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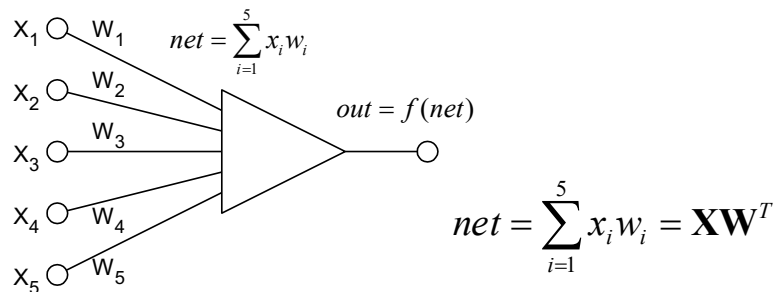
## Clustering as competitive learning

- *Kohonen Networks (WTA)*
- *Derivation*
- *Steps*
- *Example*
- *Problems & remedies*

Kohonen, T. (1988) Self-Organization and Associative Memory, 2nd Ed. New York, Springer-Verlag.  
Kohonen, T. (1982) Self-organized formation of topologically correct feature maps. Biological Cybernetics, 43:59-69.  
Kohonen, T. (1990) The Self-Organizing Map. Proceedings of the IEEE, 78:1464-1480.  
Kohonen, T. (1995) Self-Organizing Maps. Springer, Berlin.  
Kohonen, T., Oja, E., Simula, O., Visa, A., and Kangas, J. (1996). Engineering applications of the self-organizing map. Proceedings of the IEEE, 84:1358-1384.

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## Kohonen Network



Remember:

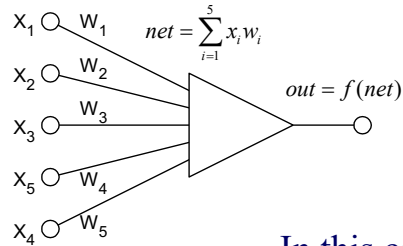
*If inputs are binaries, for example  $\mathbf{X}=[1, -1, 1, -1, -1]$  then the maximum net value is when weights are identical to the input pattern:*

$$\mathbf{W}=[1, -1, 1, -1, -1]$$

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## Kohonen Network



Also....

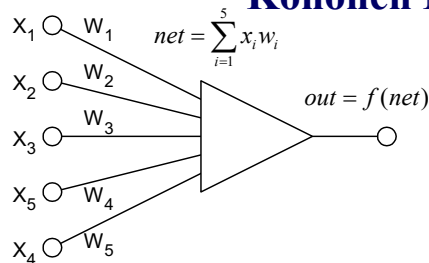
In this case  $net = 5$ .

For binary weights and patterns  $net$  value can be found using equation:

$$net = \sum_{i=1}^n x_i w_i = \mathbf{XW}^T = n - 2HD$$

where  $n$  is the number of inputs and  $HD$  is the Hamming distance between input vector  $\mathbf{X}$  and weight vector  $\mathbf{W}$ .

## Kohonen Network



*This concept can be extended to weights and patterns with analog values as long as both lengths of the weight vector and input pattern vectors are the same.*

The Euclidean distance between weight vector  $\mathbf{W}$  and input vector  $\mathbf{X}$  is:

$$\|\mathbf{W} - \mathbf{X}\| = \sqrt{(w_1 - x_1)^2 + (w_2 - x_2)^2 + \dots + (w_n - x_n)^2}$$

Also can be written as:

$$\|\mathbf{W} - \mathbf{X}\| = \sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^n (w_i - x_i)^2} = \sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^n (w_i w_i - 2w_i x_i + x_i x_i)}$$

$$\|\mathbf{W} - \mathbf{X}\| = \sqrt{\mathbf{W}\mathbf{W}^T - 2\mathbf{W}\mathbf{X}^T + \mathbf{X}\mathbf{X}^T} \quad (\text{matrix form})$$

## Kohonen Network

$$\|\mathbf{W} - \mathbf{X}\| = \sqrt{\mathbf{W}\mathbf{W}^T - 2\mathbf{W}\mathbf{X}^T + \mathbf{X}\mathbf{X}^T}$$

Now, if the lengths of both the weight and input vectors are normalized to value of one:

$$\|\mathbf{X}\| = 1 \quad \text{and} \quad \|\mathbf{W}\| = 1$$

then the equation simplifies to:

$$\|\mathbf{W} - \mathbf{X}\| = \sqrt{2 - 2\mathbf{W}\mathbf{X}^T}$$

NOTE: the maximum value of net value (net=1), is when  $\mathbf{W}$  and  $\mathbf{X}$  are identical...

## Kohonen Networks (WTA)

- ☐ *Derivation*
- ➡ *Steps*
- ☐ *Example*
- ☐ *Problems & remedies*

## Kohonen Network

*(unsupervised training process)*

1. All patterns are normalized (the lengths of the pattern vectors are normalized to unity).
2. Weights are chosen randomly for all neurons

{

$$z_1 = \frac{x_1}{\sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^n x_i^2}}$$

....

$$z_n = \frac{x_n}{\sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^n x_i^2}}$$

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## Kohonen Network

*(unsupervised training process)*

3. Lengths of the weight vectors are normalized to unity.
4. A pattern is applied to an input and *net* values are calculated for all neurons

{

$$v_1 = \frac{w_1}{\sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^n w_i^2}}$$

....

$$v_n = \frac{w_n}{\sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^n w_i^2}}$$

$$net = \sum_{i=1}^5 z_i v_i = \mathbf{ZV}^T$$

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## Kohonen Network

*(unsupervised training process)*

5. A winning neuron is chosen (neuron with largest *net* value).

6. Weights for the winner  $k$  are modified using a weighted average:

$$\mathbf{W}_k = \mathbf{V}_k + \alpha \mathbf{Z}$$

where:

$\alpha$  - is the learning constant,

$k$  – index of winning neuron

weights of other neurons are not modified.

## Kohonen Network

*(unsupervised training process)*

7. Weights for the winning neuron are normalized.

8. Another pattern is applied (go to step 4.).

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} v_l = \frac{w_l}{\sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^n w_i^2}} \\ \dots \\ v_n = \frac{w_n}{\sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^n w_i^2}} \end{array} \right.$$

## Kohonen Network

*(unsupervised training process)*

During pattern applications **some neurons** are frequent winners and other never take part in the process. The latter ones are eliminated and the **number of recognized clusters** is equal to the **number of surviving neurons**.

NOTE: *number of clusters might not be known upfront. You can start with larger network and eliminate neurons as you go. However, there is a danger of misclassification in this case.*

### Things to keep in mind:

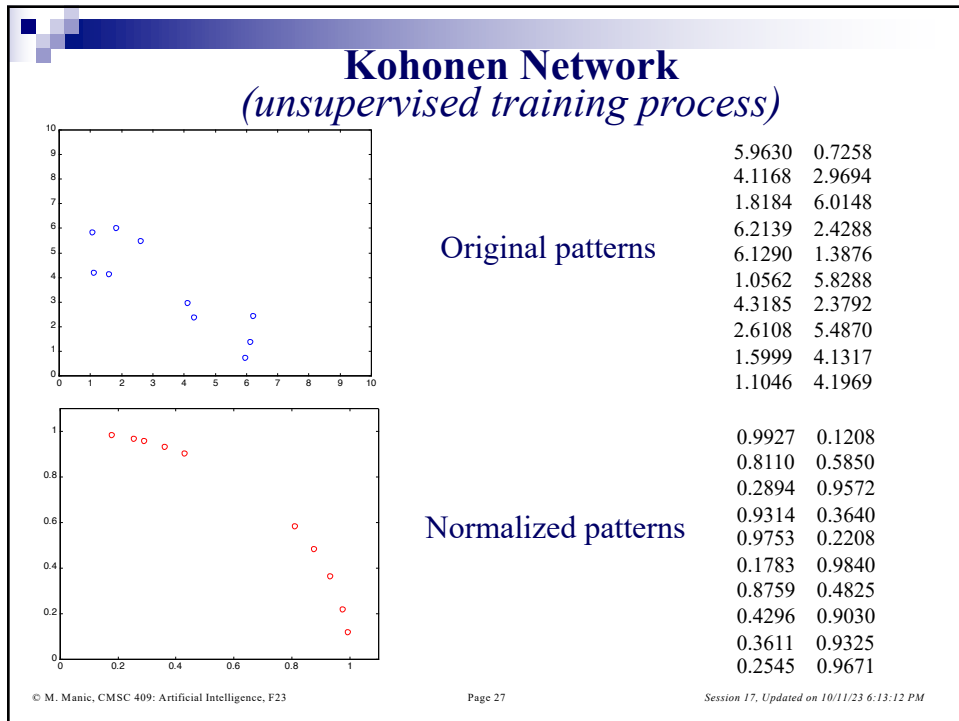
- Clustering is strongly dependent on the initial set of randomly chosen weights, and order of updating.
- During the normalization process important information about the length of input patterns is lost.

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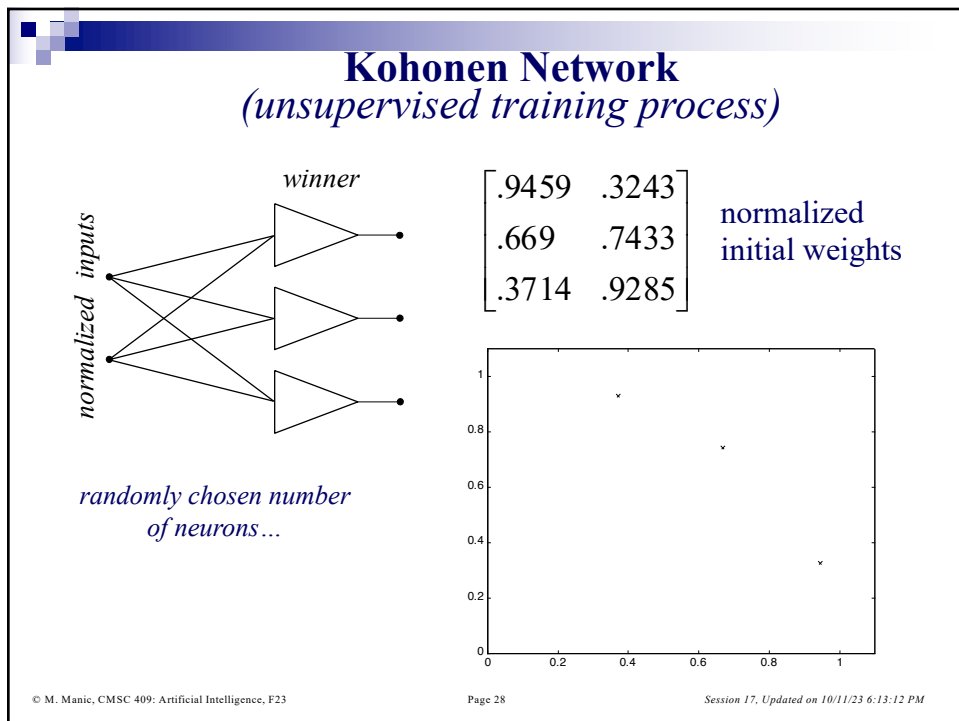
## Kohonen Networks (WTA)

- ☐ *Derivation*
- ☐ *Steps*
- ➡ *Example*
- ☐ *Problems & remedies*

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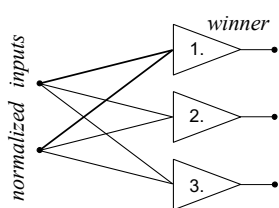
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## Kohonen Network (unsupervised training process)

applying the first pattern  $Z_1 = [0.9927 \ 0.1208]$



normalized inputs

winner

1.

2.

3.

*initial weights*

$$\begin{bmatrix} .9459 & .3243 \\ .6690 & .7433 \\ .3714 & .9285 \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 0.9782 \\ 0.7539 \\ 0.4809 \end{bmatrix}$$

*net*

From here, neuron #1 is the winner. Therefore, weights for neuron #1 are updated and normalized:

$$\mathbf{W}_k = \mathbf{V}_k + \alpha \mathbf{Z} = (0.9459 \ 0.3243) + \alpha (0.9927 \ 0.1208) = \left( \frac{1.2437}{\sqrt{1.2437^2 + 0.3606^2}} \right) = 0.96044$$

$$= (0.9459 \ 0.3243) + 0.3 (0.9927 \ 0.1208) = (1.2437 \ 0.3606) \xRightarrow{\text{normalization}} (0.9605 \ 0.2784)$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} .9459 & .3243 \\ .6690 & .7433 \\ .3714 & .9285 \end{bmatrix} \xRightarrow{\text{weight update}} \begin{bmatrix} .9605 & .2784 \\ .6690 & .7433 \\ .3714 & .9285 \end{bmatrix}$$

*1<sup>st</sup> neuron updated*

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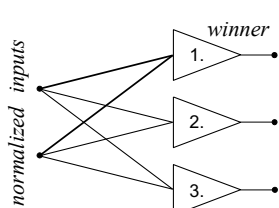
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## Kohonen Network (unsupervised training process)

applying the second pattern  $[0.8110 \ 0.5850]$



normalized inputs

winner

1.

2.

3.

*initial weights*

$$\begin{bmatrix} .9605 & .2784 \\ .6690 & .7433 \\ .3714 & .9285 \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} 0.9418 \\ 0.9774 \\ 0.8444 \end{bmatrix}$$

*net*

From here, neuron #2 is the winner. Therefore weights for neuron #2 are updated and normalized:

$$\mathbf{W}_k = \mathbf{V}_k + \alpha \mathbf{Z} = (0.6690 \ 0.7433) + \alpha (0.8110 \ 0.5850)$$

$$= (0.6690 \ 0.7433) + 0.3 (0.8110 \ 0.5850) = (0.9123 \ 0.9188) \xRightarrow{\text{normalization}} (0.7046 \ 0.7096)$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} .9605 & .2784 \\ .6690 & .7433 \\ .3714 & .9285 \end{bmatrix} \xRightarrow{\text{weight update}} \begin{bmatrix} .9605 & .2784 \\ .7046 & .7096 \\ .3714 & .9285 \end{bmatrix}$$

*2<sup>nd</sup> neuron updated*

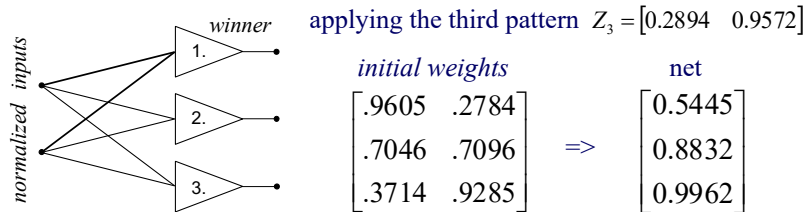
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## Kohonen Network (unsupervised training process)



From here, neuron #3 is the winner. Therefore weights for neuron #3 are updated and normalized:

$$\mathbf{W}_k = \mathbf{V}_k + \alpha \mathbf{Z} = (0.3714 \quad 0.9285) + \alpha (0.2894 \quad 0.9572)$$

$$= (0.3714 \quad 0.9285) + 0.3 (0.2894 \quad 0.9572) = (0.4582 \quad 1.2156) \xRightarrow{\text{normalization}} (0.3527 \quad 0.9357)$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} .9605 & .2784 \\ .7046 & .7096 \\ .3714 & .9285 \end{bmatrix} \xRightarrow{\text{weight update}} \begin{bmatrix} .9605 & .2784 \\ .7046 & .7096 \\ .3527 & .9357 \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{3rd neuron updated}$$

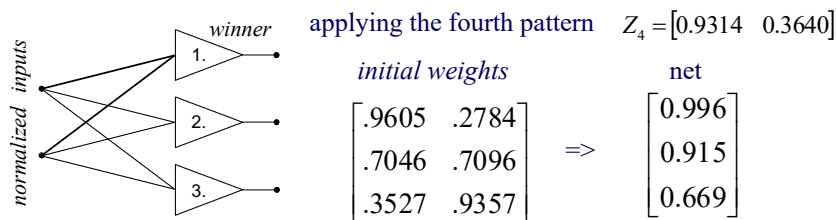
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## Kohonen Network (unsupervised training process)



From here, neuron #1 is the winner. Therefore weights for neuron #1 are updated and normalized:

$$\mathbf{W}_k = \mathbf{V}_k + \alpha \mathbf{Z} = (0.9605 \quad 0.2784) + \alpha (0.9314 \quad 0.3640)$$

$$= (0.9605 \quad 0.2784) + 0.3 (0.9314 \quad 0.3640) = (1.2399 \quad 0.3876) \xRightarrow{\text{normalization}} (0.9544 \quad 0.2983)$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} .9605 & .2784 \\ .7046 & .7096 \\ .3527 & .9357 \end{bmatrix} \xRightarrow{\text{weight update}} \begin{bmatrix} .9544 & .2983 \\ .7046 & .7096 \\ .3527 & .9357 \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{1st neuron updated}$$

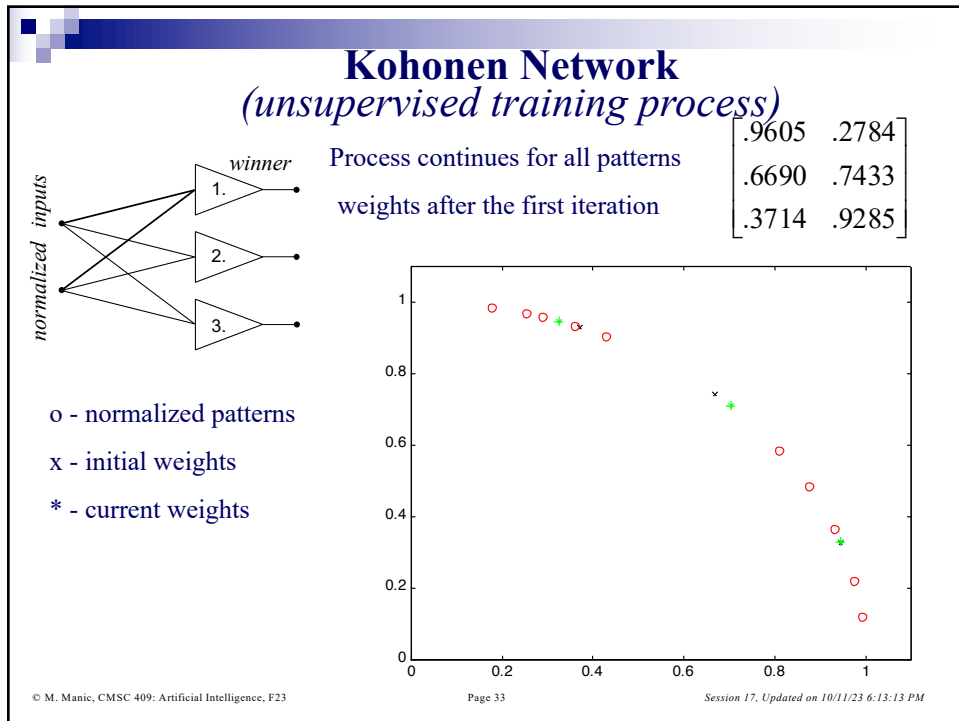
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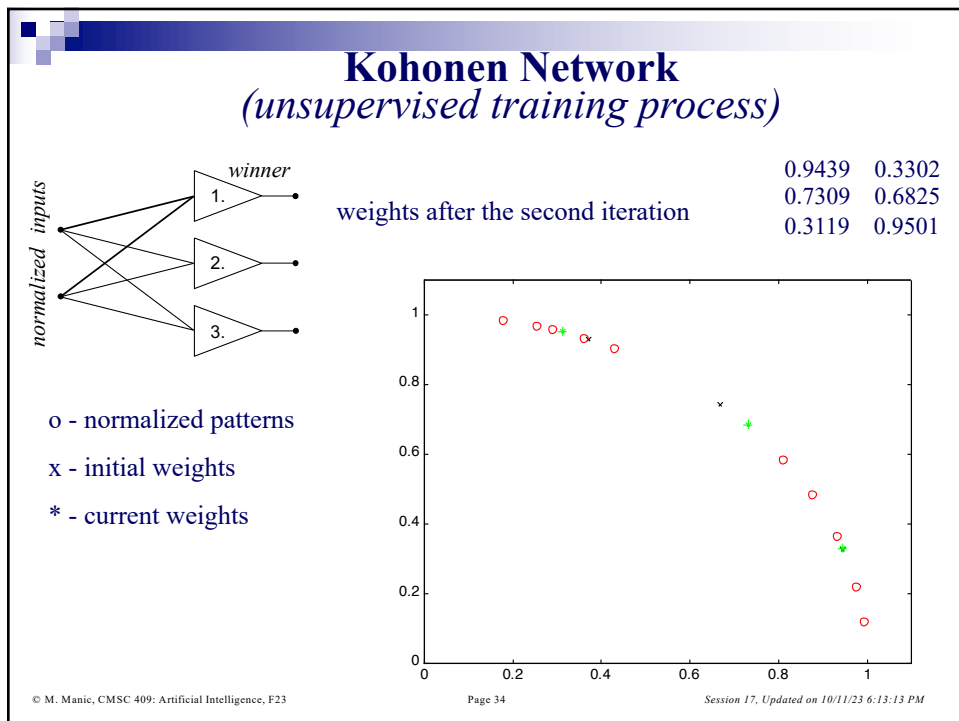
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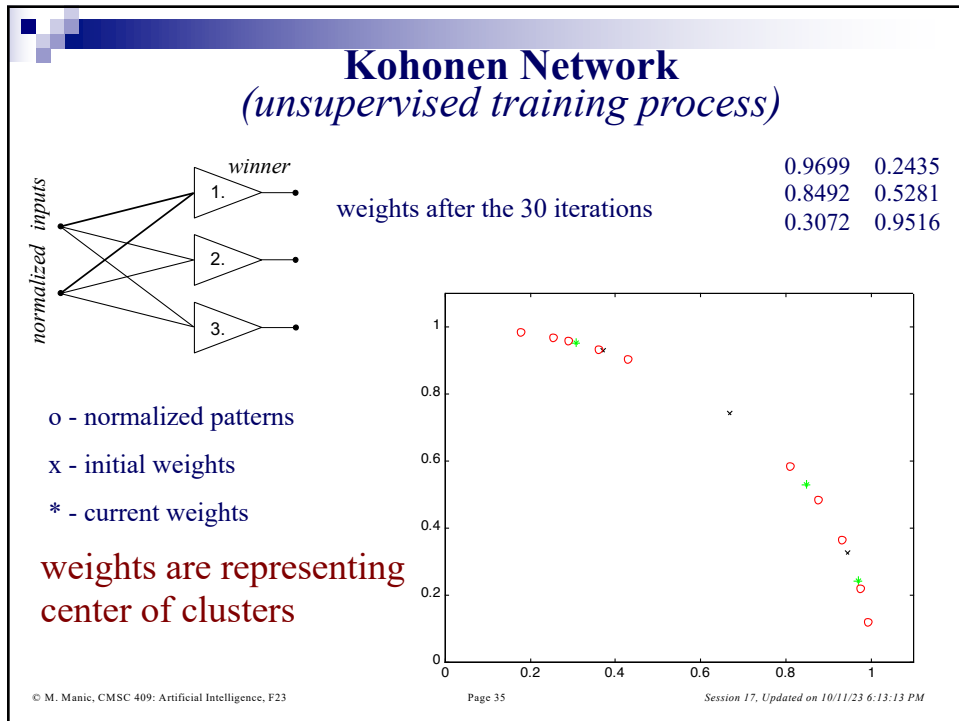




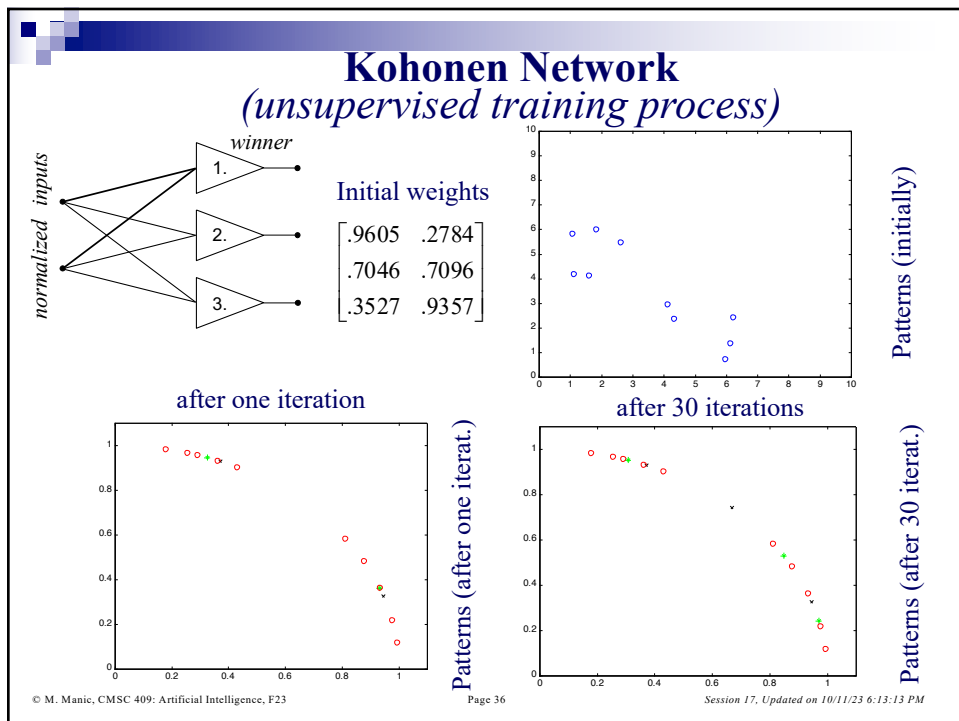
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## Kohonen Networks (WTA)

- ☐ *Derivation*
- ☐ *Steps*
- ☐ *Example*
- ➡ *Problems & remedies*

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## Kohonen Networks *Problems & Remedies*

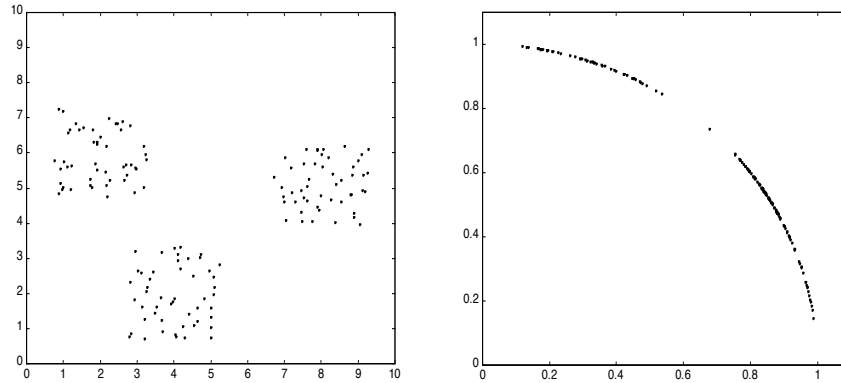
1. Important information about the length of the vector is lost during the normalization process
2. Clustering may depend on:
  - a) Order patterns are applied
  - b) Number of initial neurons
  - c) Initial weights

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## Kohonen Networks

### *Problems & Remedies*

Important information about length of the vector is lost during the normalization process



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## Kohonen Networks

### *Problems & Remedies*

#### **Problem:**

*Important information about length of the vector is lost during the normalization process.*

Possible remedies:

- The problem can be solved by increasing a dimension by one and usage of vector angles as variables. Lengths are the same. This approach (used by Kohonen) leads to complex trigonometric computations
- Other way to approach the problem is to project patterns into hypersphere of higher dimensionality. This way all patterns have the same length but important information is not lost.

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