

COMP3411 / COMP9414: Artificial Intelligence

8b. Perceptrons

Russell & Norvig: 18.6, 18.7

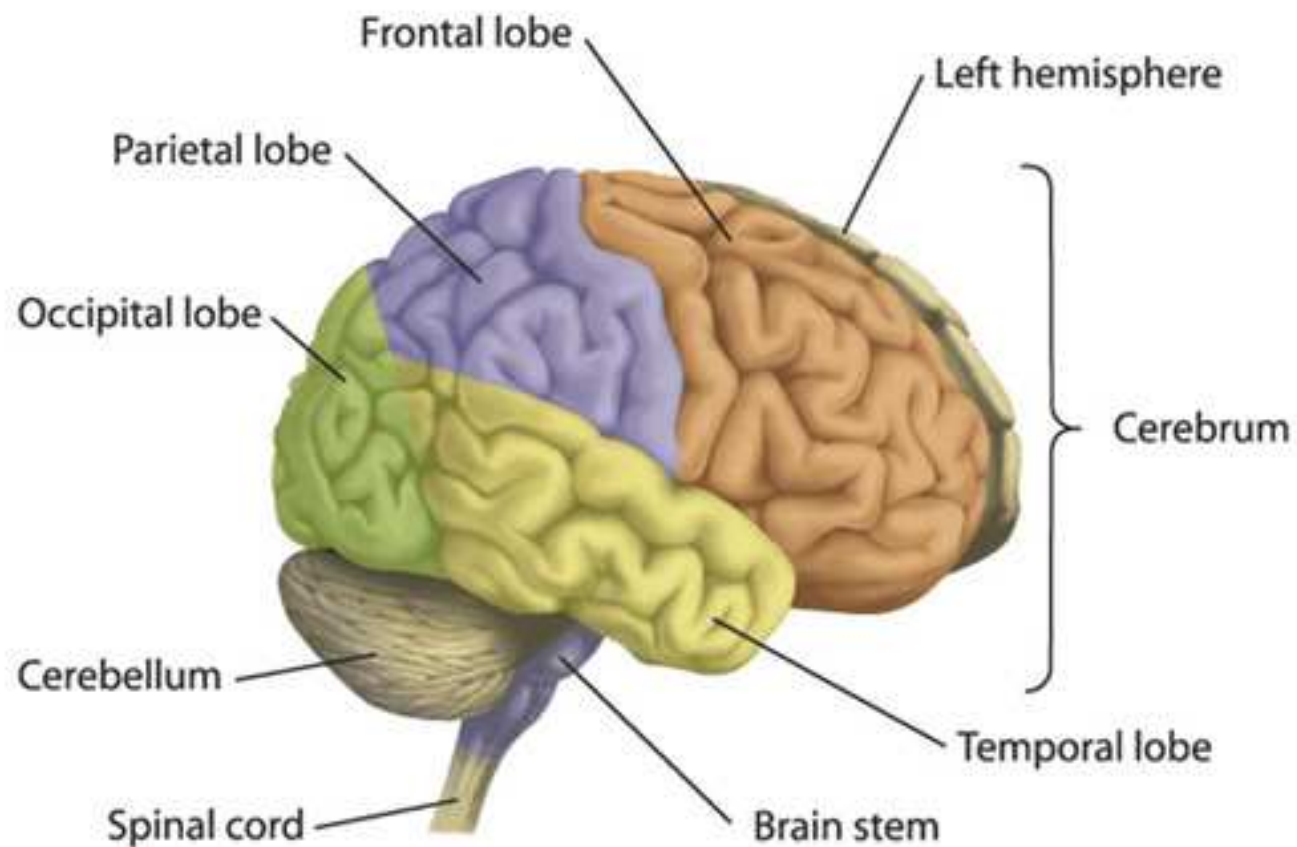
Outline

- Neurons – Biological and Artificial
- Perceptron Learning
- Linear Separability
- Multi-Layer Networks

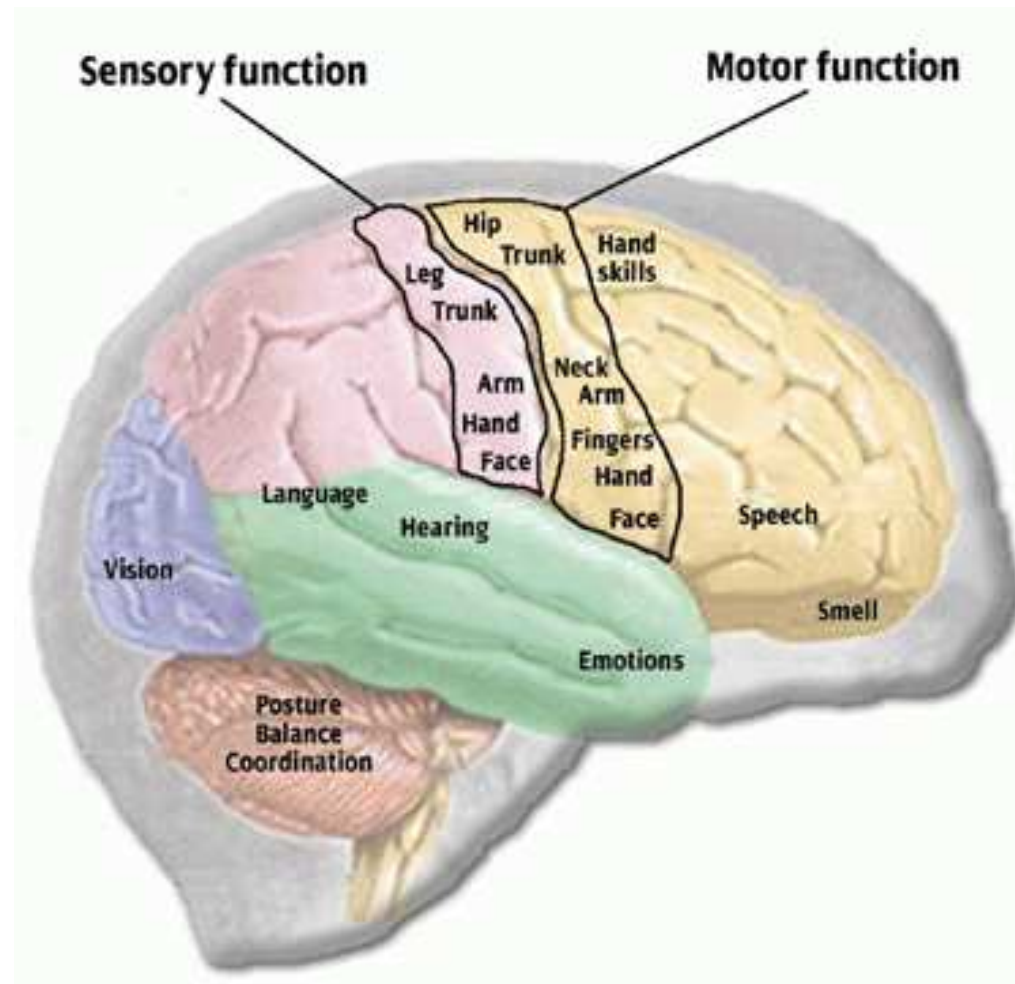
Sub-Symbolic Processing



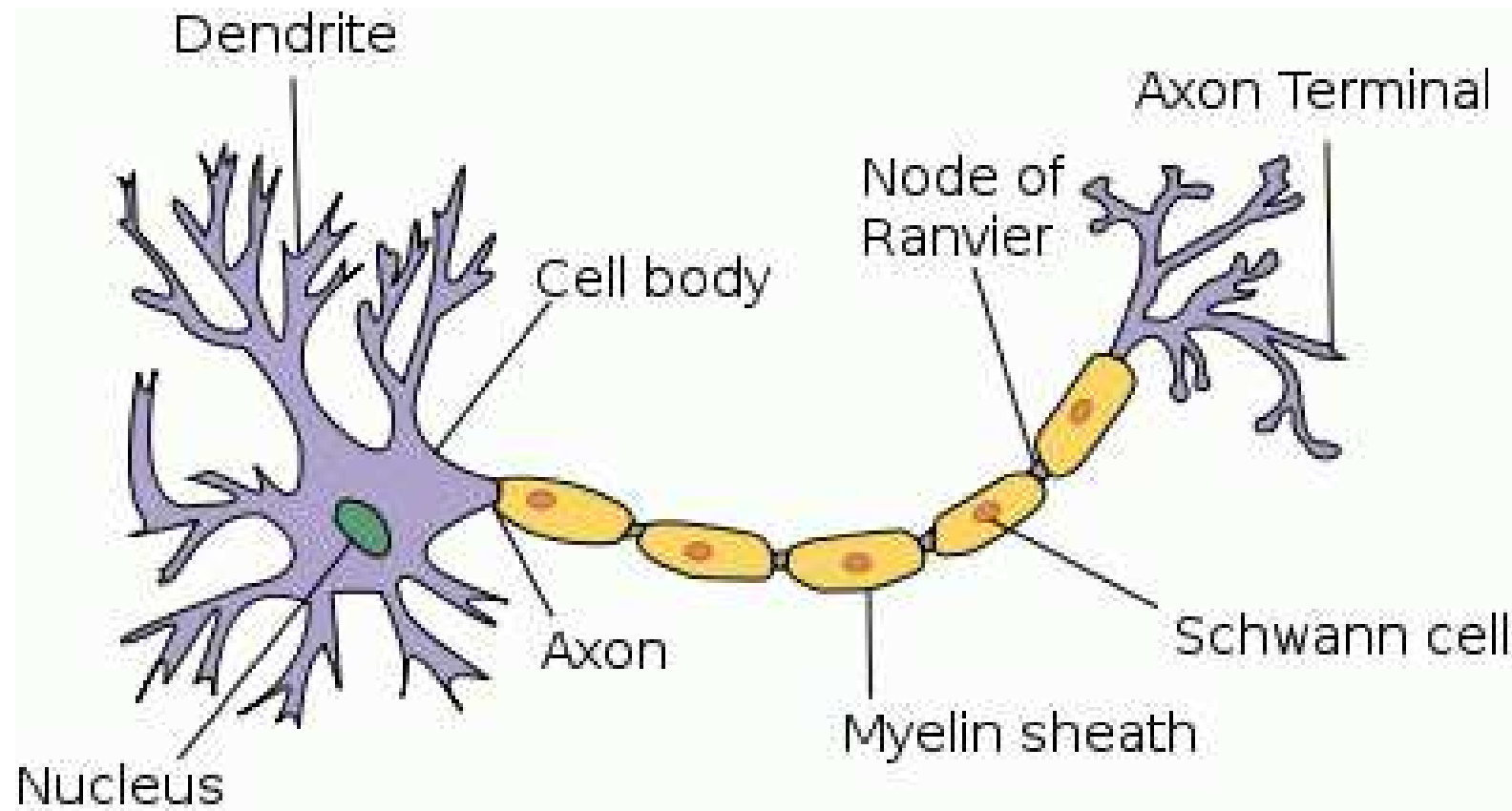
Brain Regions



Brain Functions



Structure of a Typical Neuron



Biological Neurons

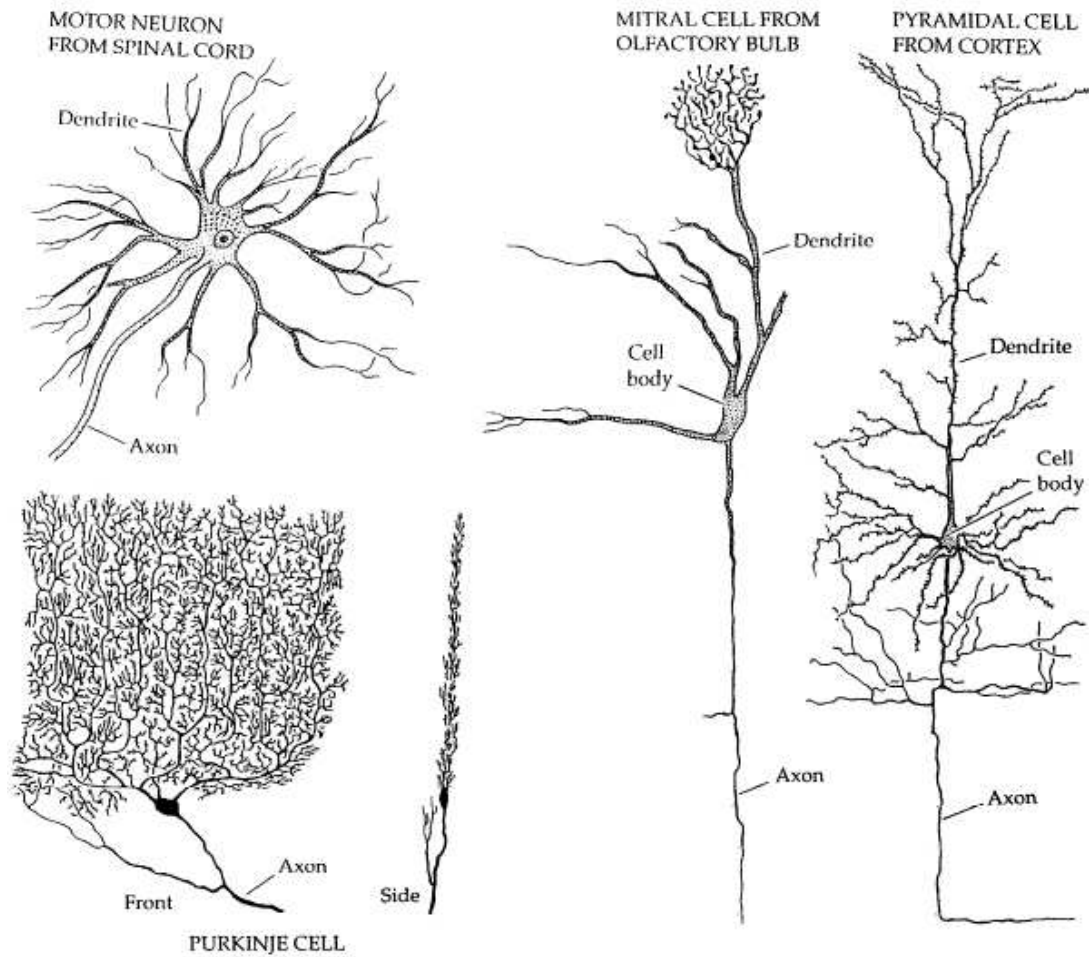
The brain is made up of **neurons** (nerve cells) which have

- a cell body (soma)
- **dendrites** (inputs)
- an **axon** (outputs)
- **synapses** (connections between cells)

Synapses can be **excitatory** or **inhibitory** and may change over time.

When the inputs reach some threshold an **action potential** (electrical pulse) is sent along the axon to the outputs.

Variety of Neuron Types



The Big Picture

- human brain has 100 billion neurons with an average of 10,000 synapses each
- latency is about 3-6 milliseconds
- therefore, at most a few hundred “steps” in any mental computation, but massively parallel

Artificial Neural Networks

(Artificial) Neural Networks are made up of nodes which have

- inputs edges, each with some **weight**
- outputs edges (with **weights**)
- an **activation level** (a function of the inputs)

Weights can be positive or negative and may change over time (learning).

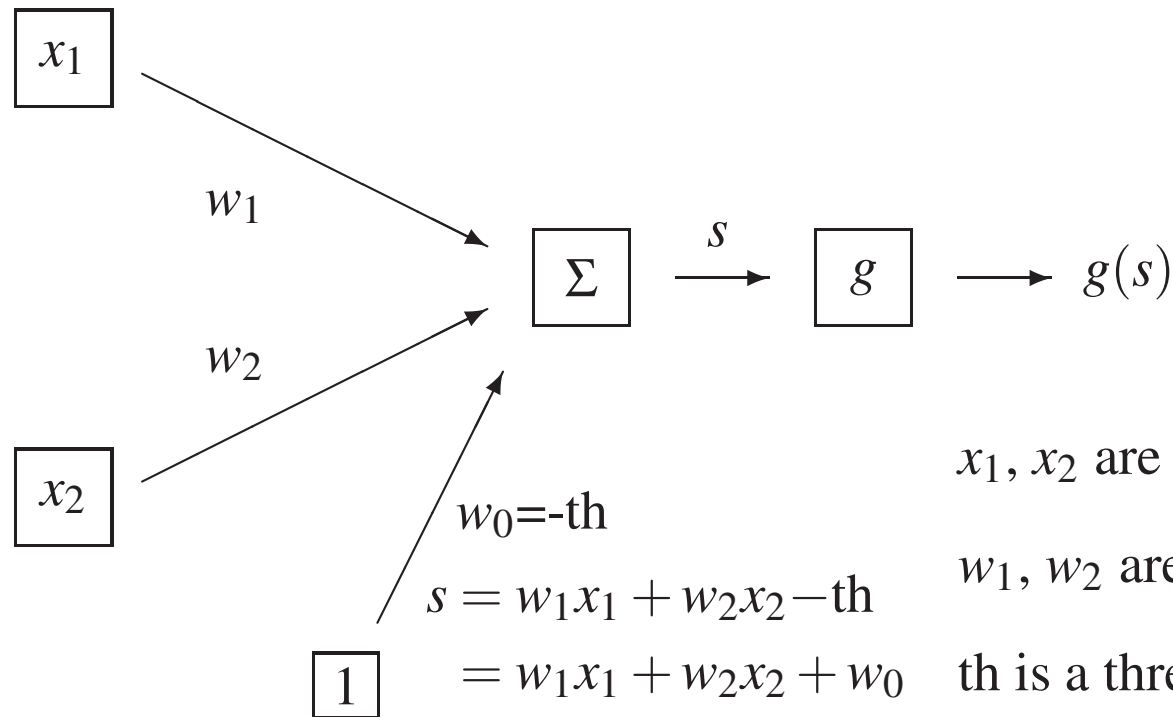
The **input function** is the weighted sum of the activation levels of inputs.

The activation level is a non-linear **transfer** function g of this input:

$$\text{activation}_i = g(s_i) = g\left(\sum_j w_{ij}x_j\right)$$

Some nodes are inputs (sensing), some are outputs (action)

McCulloch & Pitts Model of a Single Neuron



x_1, x_2 are inputs

w_1, w_2 are synaptic weights

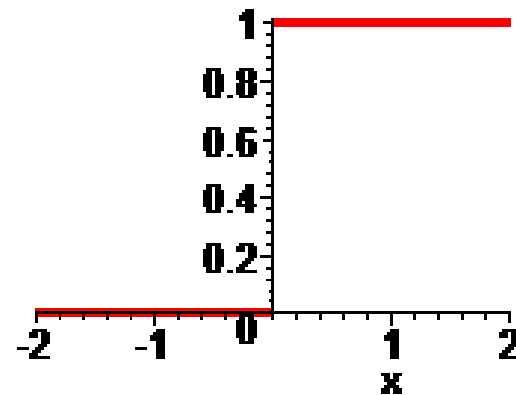
th is a threshold

w_0 is a **bias** weight

g is transfer function

Transfer function

Originally, a (discontinuous) step function was used for the transfer function:



$$g(s) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } s \geq 0 \\ 0, & \text{if } s < 0 \end{cases}$$

(Later, other transfer functions were introduced, which are continuous and smooth)

Linear Separability

Q: what kind of functions can a perceptron compute?

A: linearly separable functions

Examples include:

AND $w_1 = w_2 = 1.0, \quad w_0 = -1.5$

OR $w_1 = w_2 = 1.0, \quad w_0 = -0.5$

NOR $w_1 = w_2 = -1.0, \quad w_0 = 0.5$

Q: How can we train it to learn a new function?

Perceptron Learning Rule

Adjust the weights as each input is presented.

recall: $s = w_1x_1 + w_2x_2 + w_0$

if $g(s) = 0$ but should be 1,

if $g(s) = 1$ but should be 0,

$$w_k \leftarrow w_k + \eta x_k$$

$$w_k \leftarrow w_k - \eta x_k$$

$$w_0 \leftarrow w_0 + \eta$$

$$w_0 \leftarrow w_0 - \eta$$

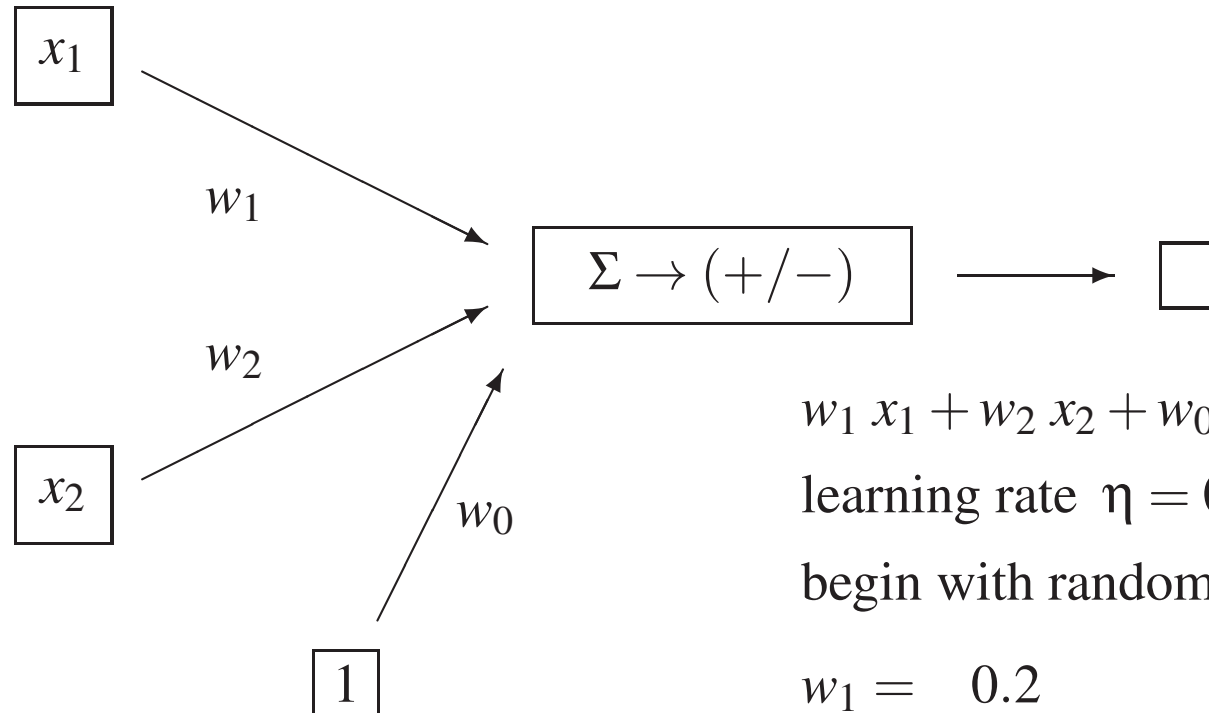
$$\text{so } s \leftarrow s + \eta \left(1 + \sum_k x_k^2\right)$$

$$\text{so } s \leftarrow s - \eta \left(1 + \sum_k x_k^2\right)$$

otherwise, weights are unchanged. ($\eta > 0$ is called the **learning rate**)

Theorem: This will eventually learn to classify the data correctly, as long as they are **linearly separable**.

Perceptron Learning Example



$$w_1 x_1 + w_2 x_2 + w_0 > 0$$

learning rate $\eta = 0.1$

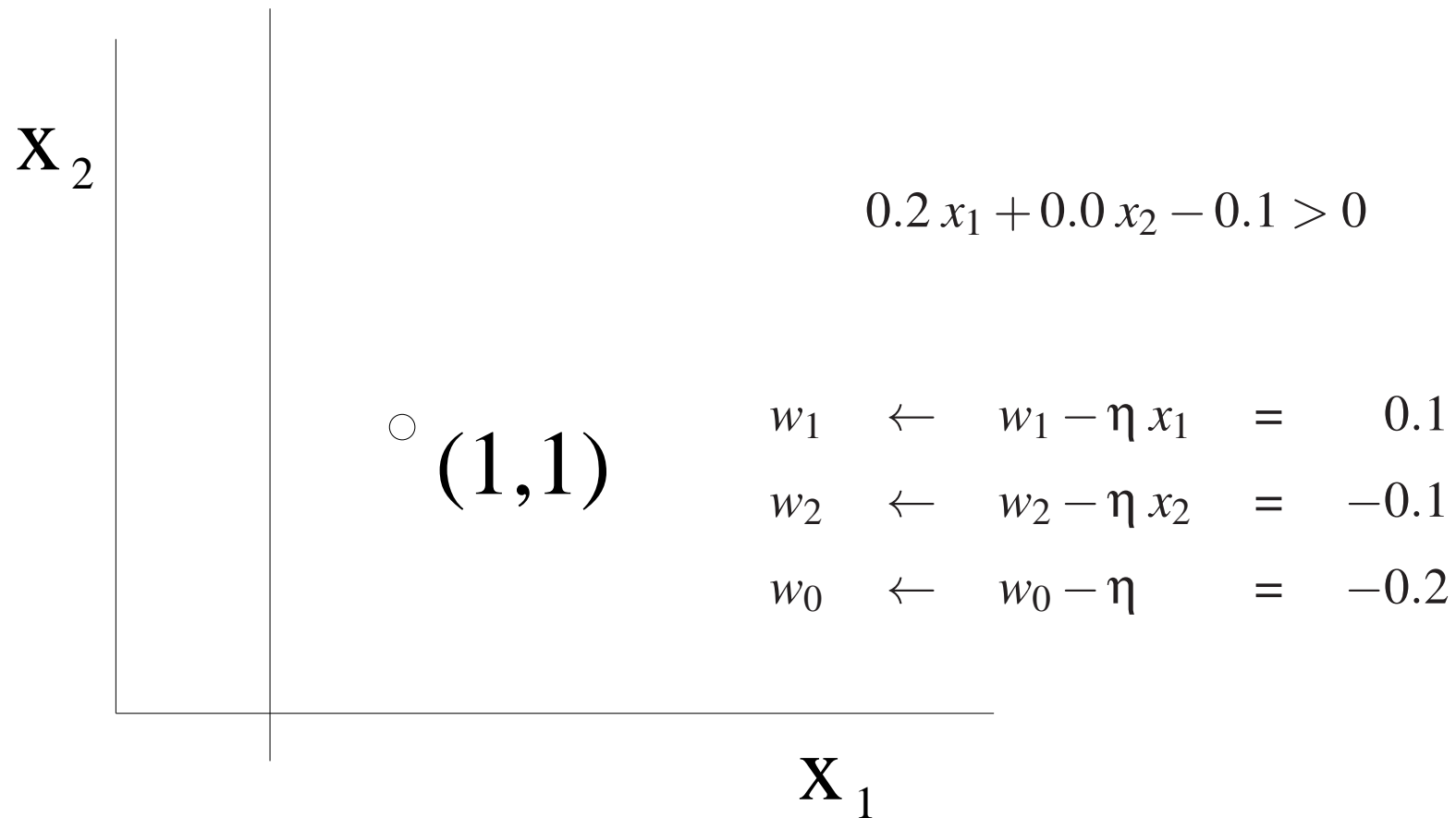
begin with random weights

$$w_1 = 0.2$$

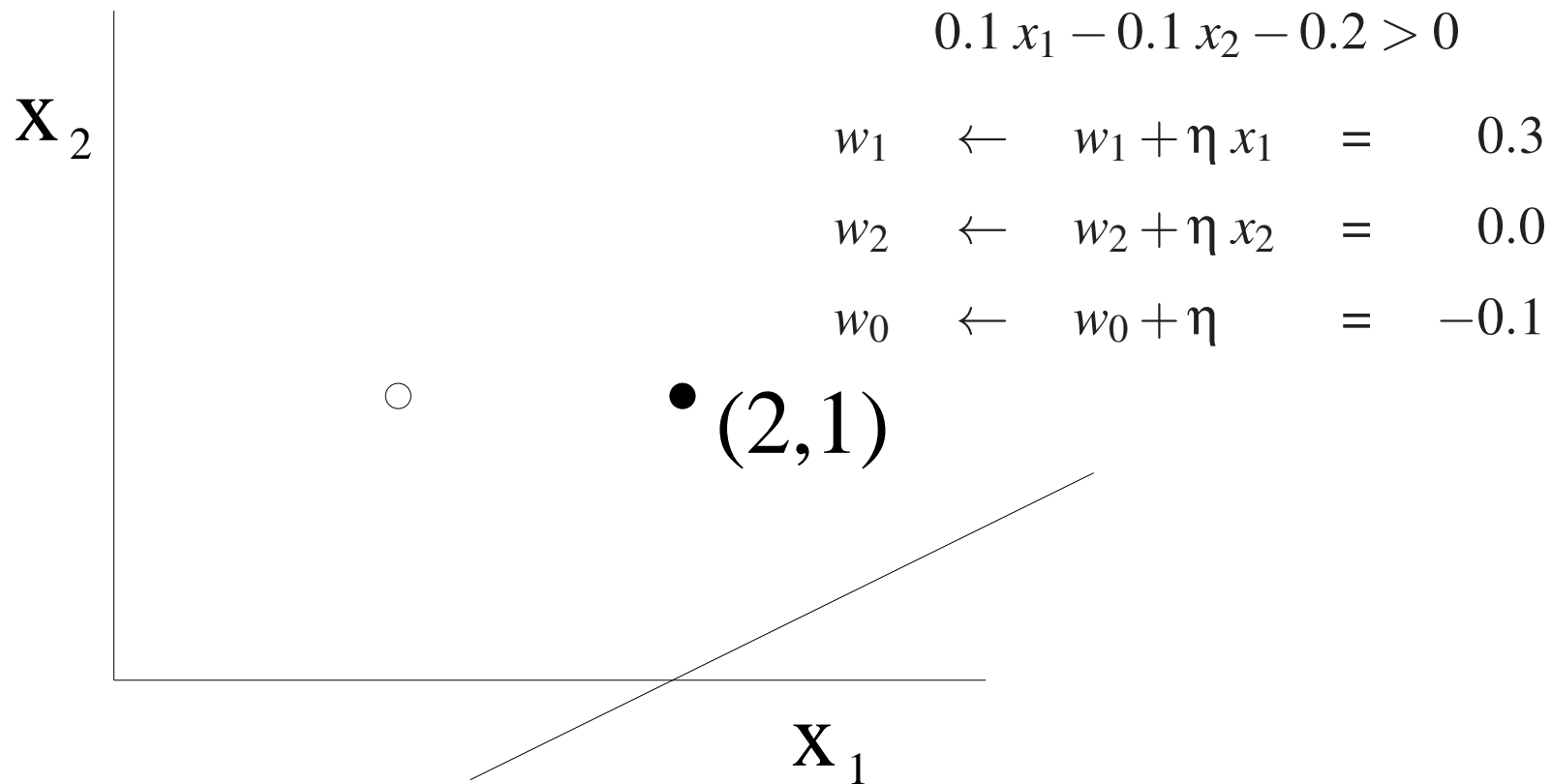
$$w_2 = 0.0$$

$$w_0 = -0.1$$

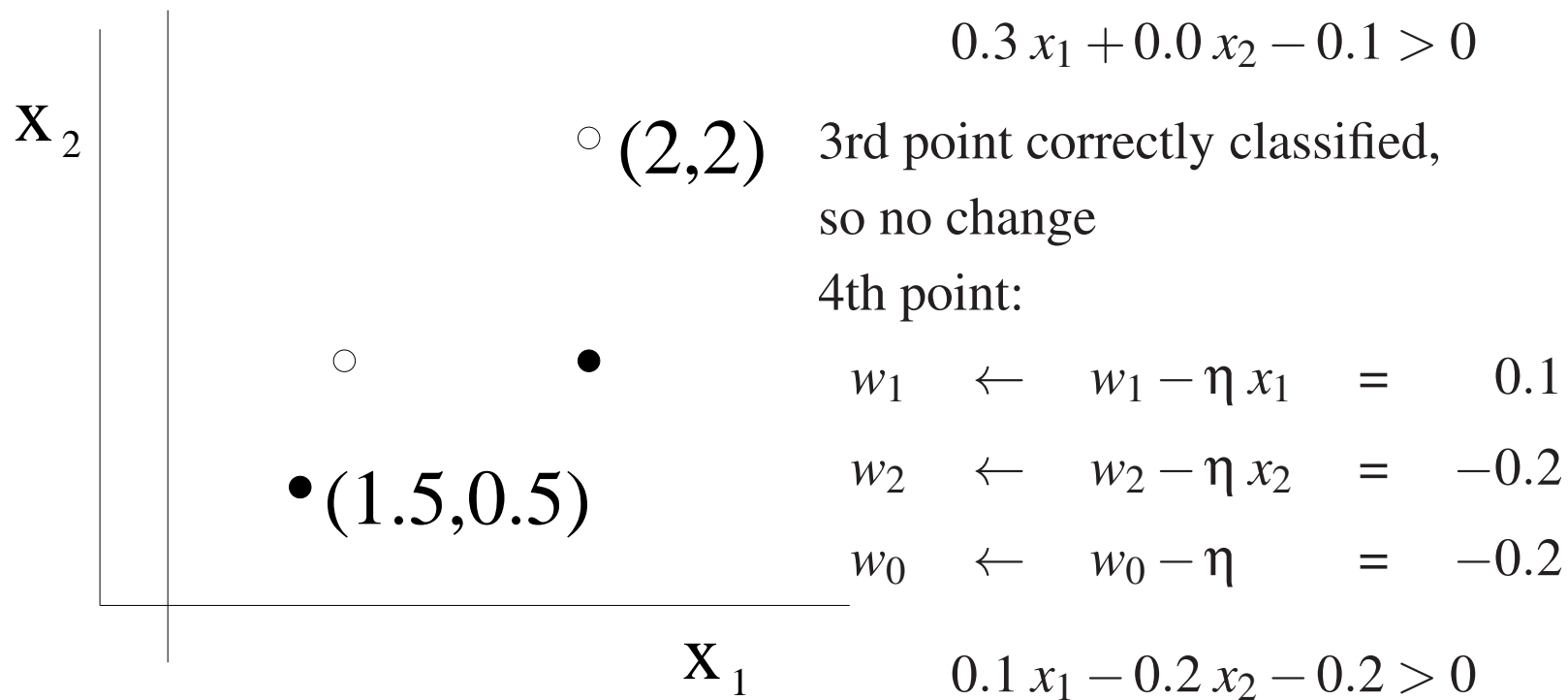
Training Step 1



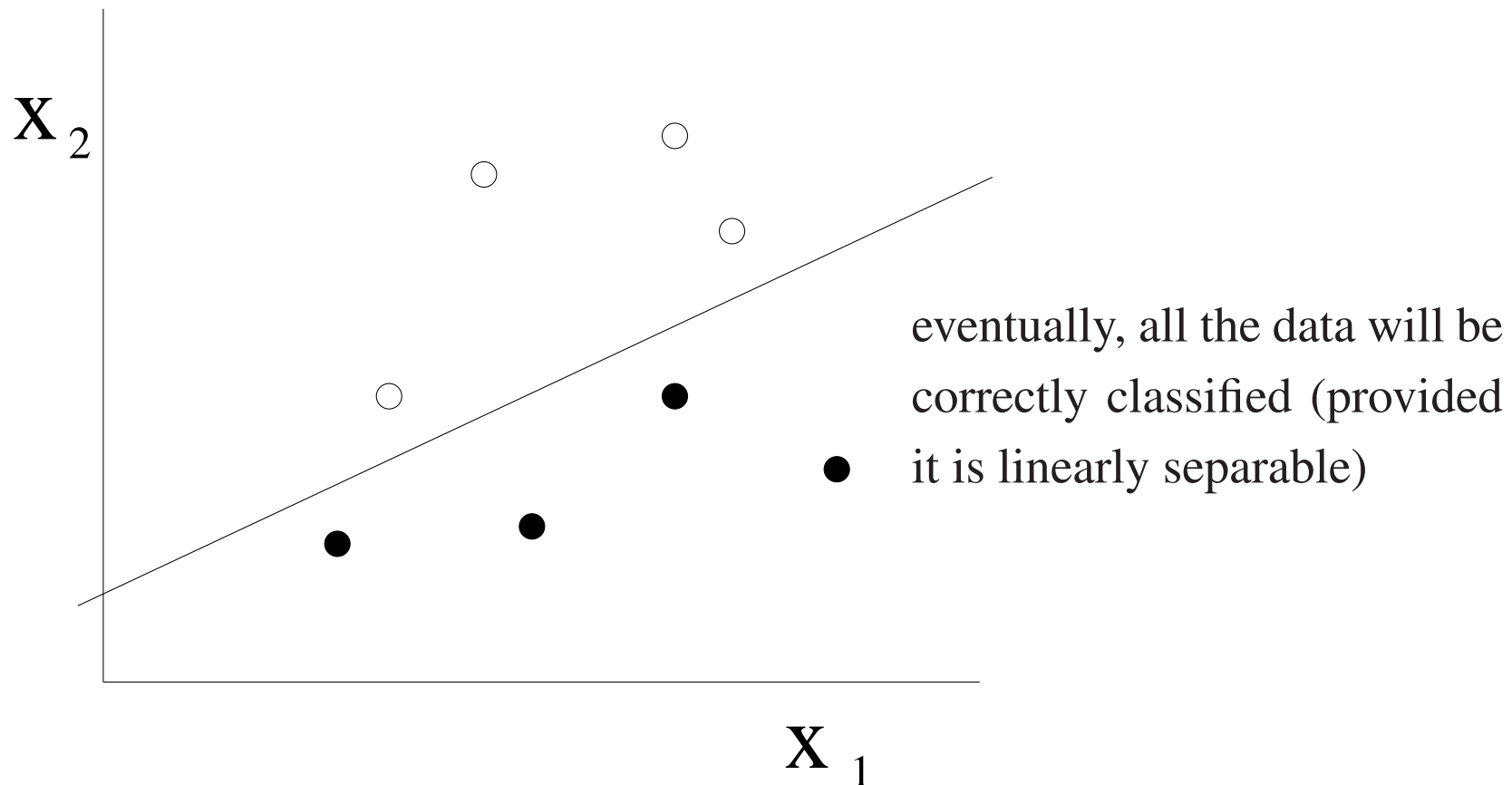
Training Step 2



Training Step 3

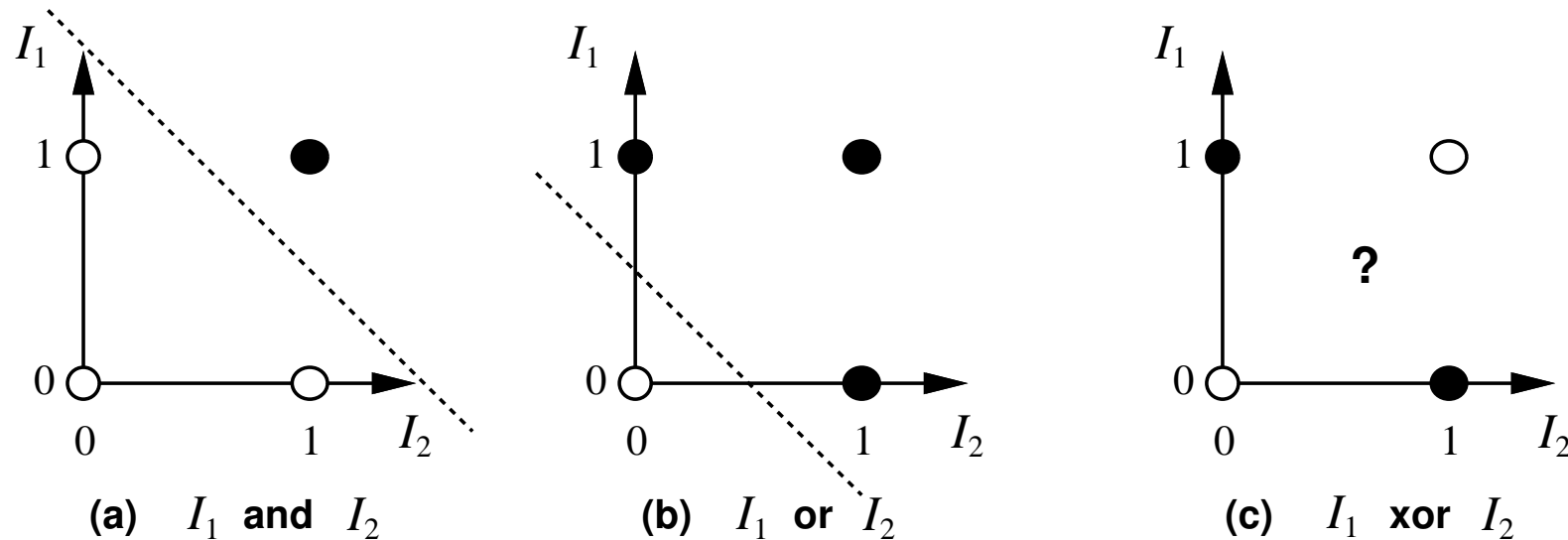


Final Outcome



Limitations of Perceptrons

Problem: many useful functions are not linearly separable (e.g. XOR)

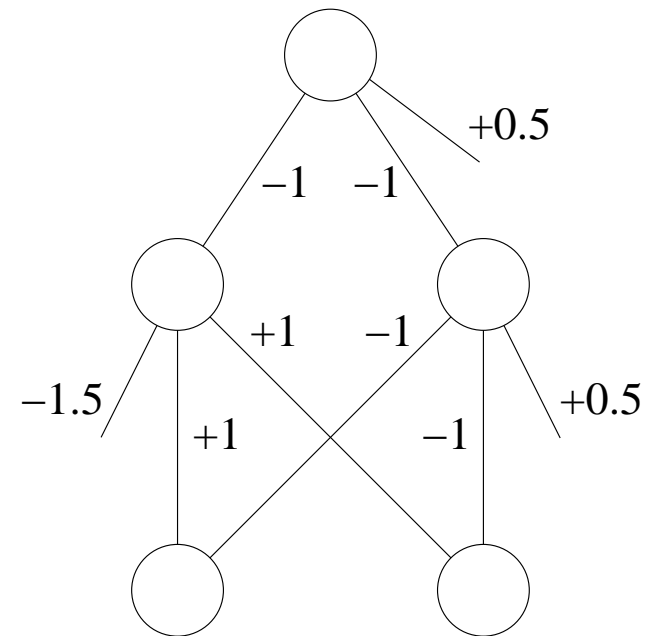
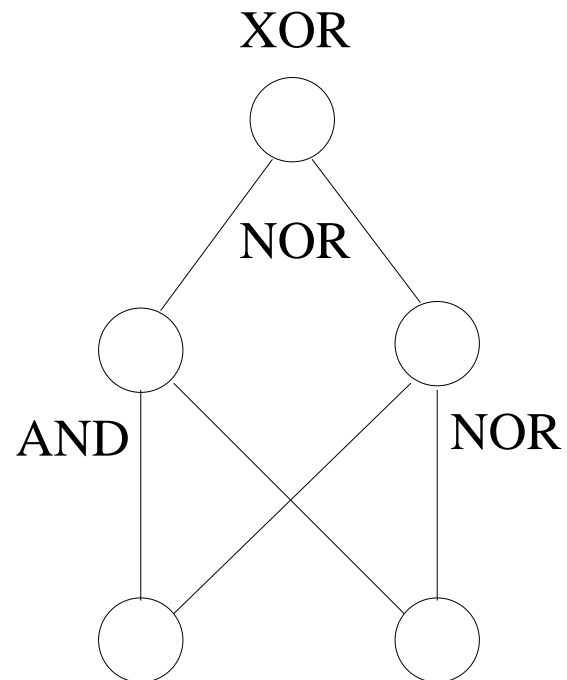


Possible solution:

x_1 XOR x_2 can be written as: $(x_1 \text{ AND } x_2) \text{ NOR } (x_1 \text{ NOR } x_2)$

Recall that AND, OR and NOR can be implemented by perceptrons.

Multi-Layer Neural Networks



Problem: How can we train it to learn a new function? (credit assignment)