



ALMA MATER STUDIORUM
UNIVERSITÀ DI BOLOGNA
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91258 / B0385 Natural Language Processing

Lesson 10. “One” Neuron

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Previously

- From Words to Topics
- ML pipeline

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Chapter 5 of Lane et al. (2019)

There Was Life Before Deep Learning

Inspired by Hermann Ney's lesson at the 2017 DL Summer School (Bilbao)

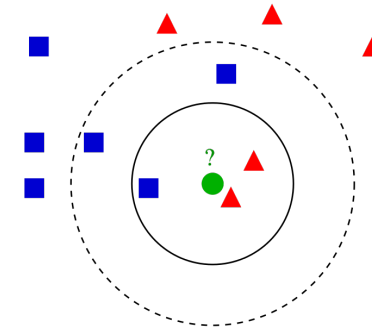
There Was Life Before Deep Learning

(And Many Non-NN in-Production Models Prevail)

- Naïve Bayes
- k -nearest neighbors
- Random forests
- Support vector machines
- HMM
- Logistic Regression
- ...

There Was Life Before Deep Learning

k -Nearest Neighbours



The class of ● is the same as the most frequent among its k neighbours

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/K-nearest_neighbors_algorithm

There Was Life Before Deep Learning

Random Forests (showing only one decision tree here)

Playing Golf



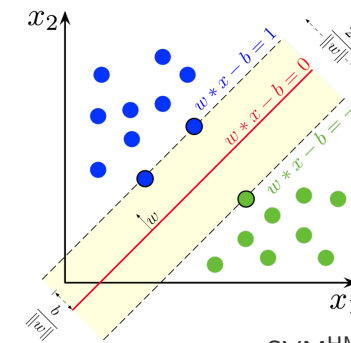
Multiple decision trees are learned and the final class is the **mode**

Picture from <https://medium.com/@MrBam44/decision-trees-91f61a42c724>

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Random_forest

There Was Life Before Deep Learning

Support Vector Machines



Kernels

- Linear
- Polynomial

- RBF
- Tree

- SVM^{HMM} for sequences^a
- SVM-Rank for ranking
- SVR for regression

^aAlso HMM

There Was Life Before Deep Learning

There are many, many others

- Often they are SotA (or close)
- In general, they are *cheaper*
- In general, they require *less* data
- Some of them are *explainable*
- In general, representations have to be *engineered*

Some History

Some History

Opening paragraph of Rosenblatt (1957)'s *The Perceptron—a perceiving and recognizing automaton*

Since the advent of electronic computers and modern servo systems, an increasing amount of attention has been focused on the feasibility of constructing a device possessing such human-like functions as perception, recognition, concept formation, and the ability to generalize from experience. In particular, interest has centered on the idea of a machine which would be capable of conceptualizing inputs impinging directly from the physical environment of light, sound, temperature, etc. -- the "phenomenal world" with which we are all familiar -- rather than requiring the intervention of a human agent to digest and code the necessary information.

AI Winters

1974–1980 First major winter

1987–1993 Second major winter

1966 Failure of MT

1970 Abandonment of connectionism (explain mental phenomena using artificial neural networks)

1971–75 DARPA's frustration wrt CMU's speech recognition research

1973 Lighthill report decreases AI research in the UK¹

1973–74 DARPA's cutbacks to academic AI research

1987 Collapse of the LISP machine market

1988 Cancellation of new spending on AI by the Strategic Computing Initiative

1993 Resistance to expert systems deployment and maintenance

1990s End of the Fifth Generation computer project's original goals²

¹https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lighthill_report

²https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Fifth_generation_computer

The Perceptron

The Perceptron

- Intended to be a machine able of recognising images

- Rough idea:

Input: features of an image (small subsections)

Parameters: weights for each feature (measure of importance)

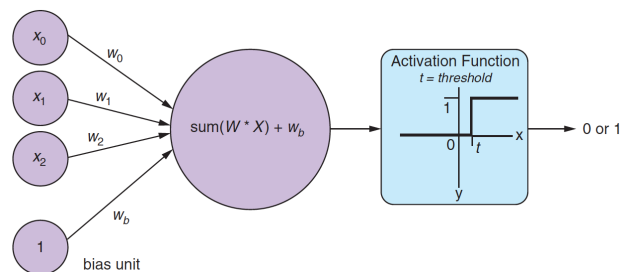
Output: *Fire* once all potentiometers pass a certain threshold

Fired: positive match in the image

Did not fire: negative class

The Perceptron

Numerical Perceptron³



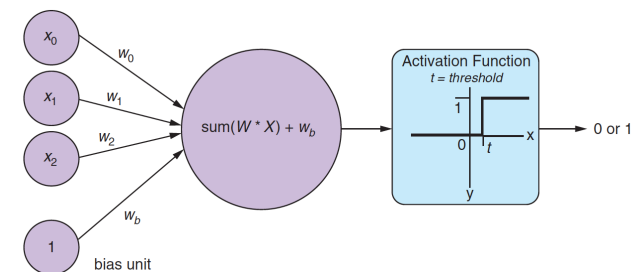
(Lane et al., 2019, p. 158)

- Feature vector: $X = [x_0, x_1, \dots, x_i, \dots, x_n]$
- Associated weight (per feature): $W = [w_0, w_1, \dots, w_i, \dots, w_n]$
- Sum up: $(x_0 * w_0) + (x_1 * w_1) + \dots + (x_i * w_i) + \dots (x_n * w_n)$
- Bias: always-on input (resiliency to inputs of all zeros)
- Activation (step) function

³I am intentionally dropping biological references

The Perceptron

Numerical Perceptron



(Lane et al., 2019, p. 158)

$$\hat{y} = f(\vec{x}) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } \sum_{i=0}^n x_i w_i > \text{threshold} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \quad (1)$$

This perceptron is a special case of a *neuron* —the base unit of a neural network

The Perceptron

Without Bias

“The output [of a perceptron] is a linear function of the input”
(Goodfellow et al., 2016, p. 105)

$$\hat{y} = w^T x \quad (2)$$

The Perceptron

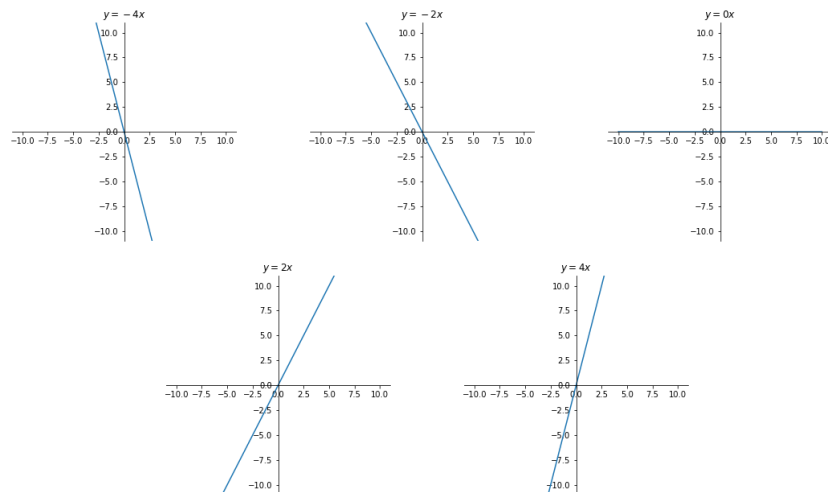
Without Bias

```
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
import numpy as np
for i in range(-5, 5, 1):
    fig, ax = plt.subplots(figsize = (5,5))
    ax.spines['left'].set_position('center')
    ax.spines['bottom'].set_position('center')
    ax.spines['right'].set_color('none')
    ax.spines['top'].set_color('none')
    ax.set(title='$y=w^Tx$')
    x = np.arange(-5.0, 5.0, 0.01)
    plt.xlim((-5,+5))
    plt.ylim((-5,+5))
    ax.set(title='$y=\{i\}x$'.format(i))
    y = i*x #1 + np.sin(2 * np.pi * x)
    ax.plot(x, y)
    fig.savefig("linear_w{}.png".format(i))
plt.show()
```

The Perceptron

Without Bias

Plotting with different values of w ; do you see an issue?



The Perceptron

With Bias

$$\hat{y} = w^T x + b \quad (3)$$

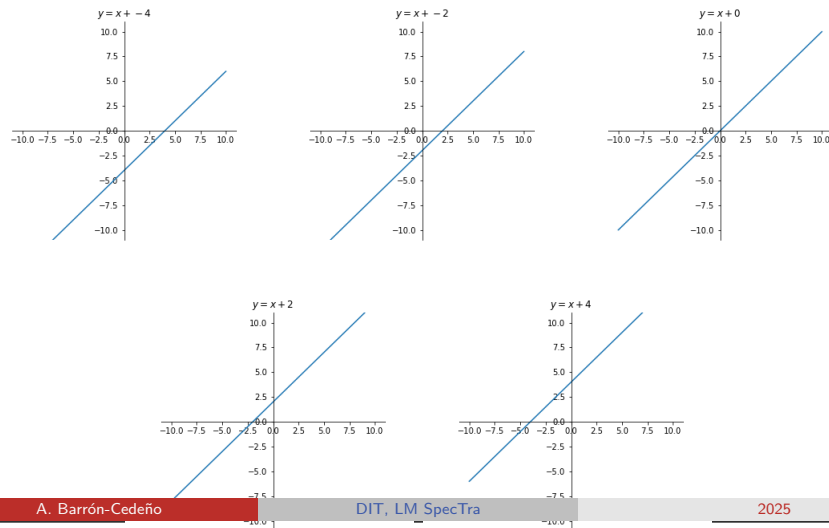
“[...] the mapping from parameters to predictions is still a linear function
but the mapping from features to predictions is now an affine function”
(Goodfellow et al., 2016, p. 107)

(does not need to pass by the origin)

The Perceptron

Without Bias

Plotting with $w = 1$ and different values of b



The Perceptron

Typical Learning Process (1/2)

Given an annotated dataset...

- start with a random weight initialisation from a normal distribution

$$\vec{w} \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu, \sigma^2) \text{ with } \mu \sim 0 \text{ (but do not use 0!)}$$

- feed one instance and see if the predicted class is correct

1: **if** the class is correct **then**

2: do nothing

3: **else**

4: adjust the weights (slightly; not until getting the class right!)

Each weight is adjusted by how much it contributed to the resulting error

The Perceptron

Typical Learning Process (2/2)

- All instances in the training data are fed a number of times (iterations): **epoch**
- Typical stop criteria include
 - $error < \epsilon$ (convergence)
 - error stabilisation
 - max number of epochs reached

The Perceptron

Example 1: Logical OR function

input		output
0	0	0
0	1	1
1	0	1
1	1	1

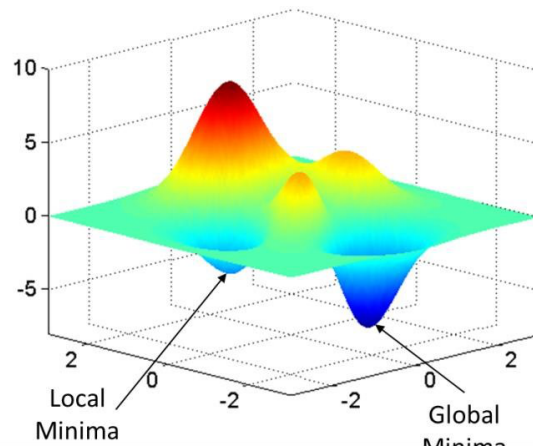
 Let us see

Mr. Perceptron can learn!

This learning model is called **linear regression** (another ML alternative)

The Perceptron

Drawback: Local vs Global Minimum

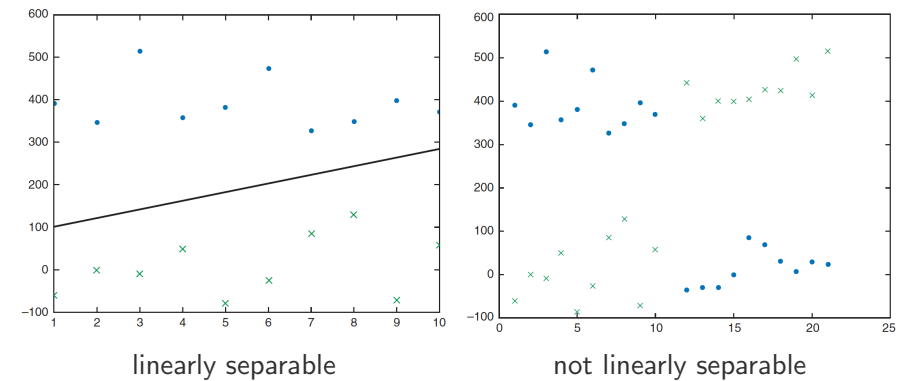


No guarantee that the model will reach the global optimal solution

The Perceptron

Drawback: Linearly separable

The perceptron can only deal with linearly separable data



Plots from (Lane et al., 2019, p. 164–165)

The Perceptron

Example 2: Logical XOR

We have learned a logical OR function ...

Can we learn a logical XOR?

input	output
0 0	0
0 1	1
1 0	1
1 1	0

1	●	●
0	●	●
	0	1

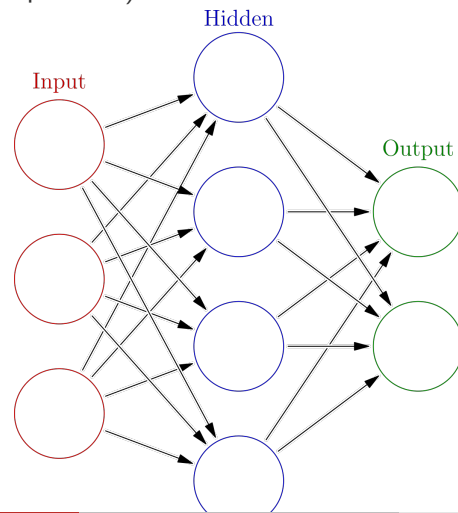
Let us see

Mr. Perceptron **cannot** learn! ... winter

More than One Neuron

Neural Networks

A neural network is a combination of multiple perceptrons (and it can deal with more complex patterns)



Fully-connected neural network

Next

- Backpropagation (briefly)
- Activation functions
- Keras

Some Formalisms

Input $x = [x_1, x_2, x_3, \dots, x_k]$

Output $f(x)$ ⁴

Answer y

Cost Function⁵ Quantifier of the mismatch between **actual** and **predicted** output

$$err(x) = |y - f(x)| \quad (4)$$

Training goal Minimising the cost function across all input samples

$$J(x) = \min \sum_{i=1}^n err(x_i) \quad (5)$$

⁴aka \hat{y}

⁵aka loss function

References

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