



INTRODUCTION TO NEURAL NETWORKS

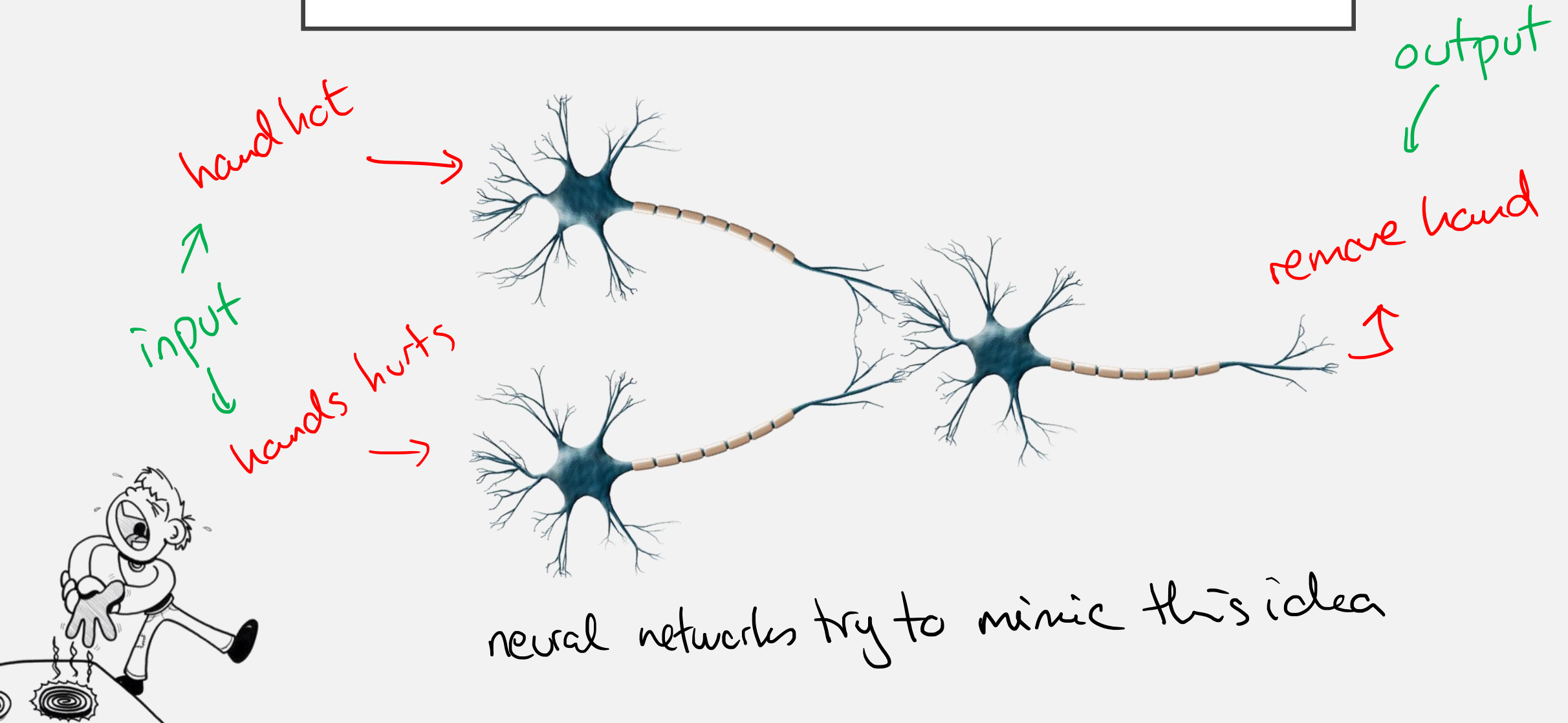
- Lecture II
- MALI, 2024



INTRODUCTION TO NEURAL NETWORKS

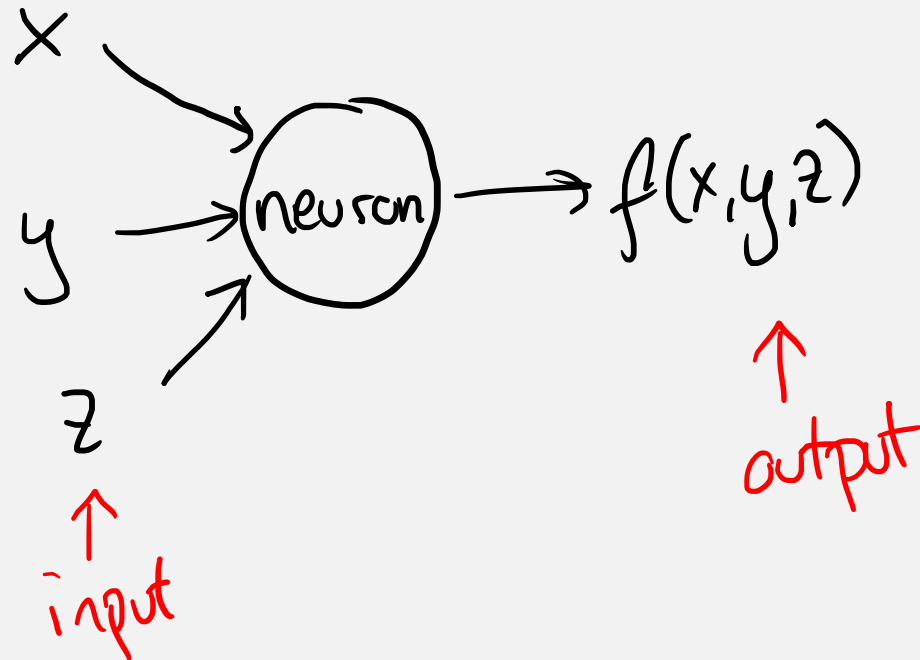
- What is a neural network?
- How do we structure it?
- How do we train it?
- How do we implement it?

NEURONS



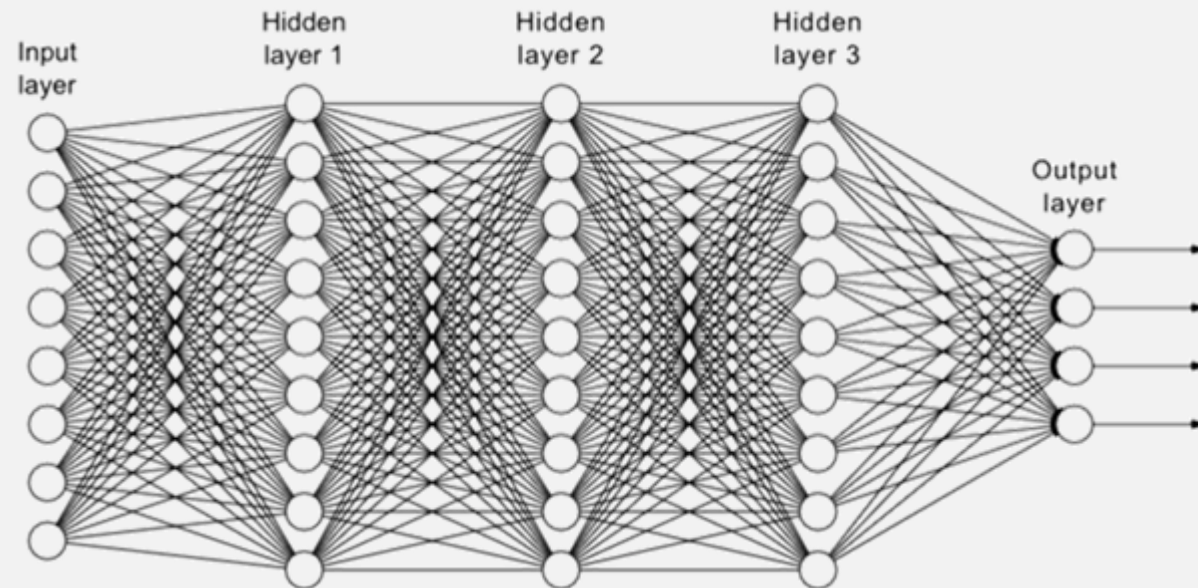
ARTIFICIAL NEURONS

ARE REALLY JUST FUNCTIONS



ARTIFICIAL NEURAL NETWORKS

attempts to mimic the brain



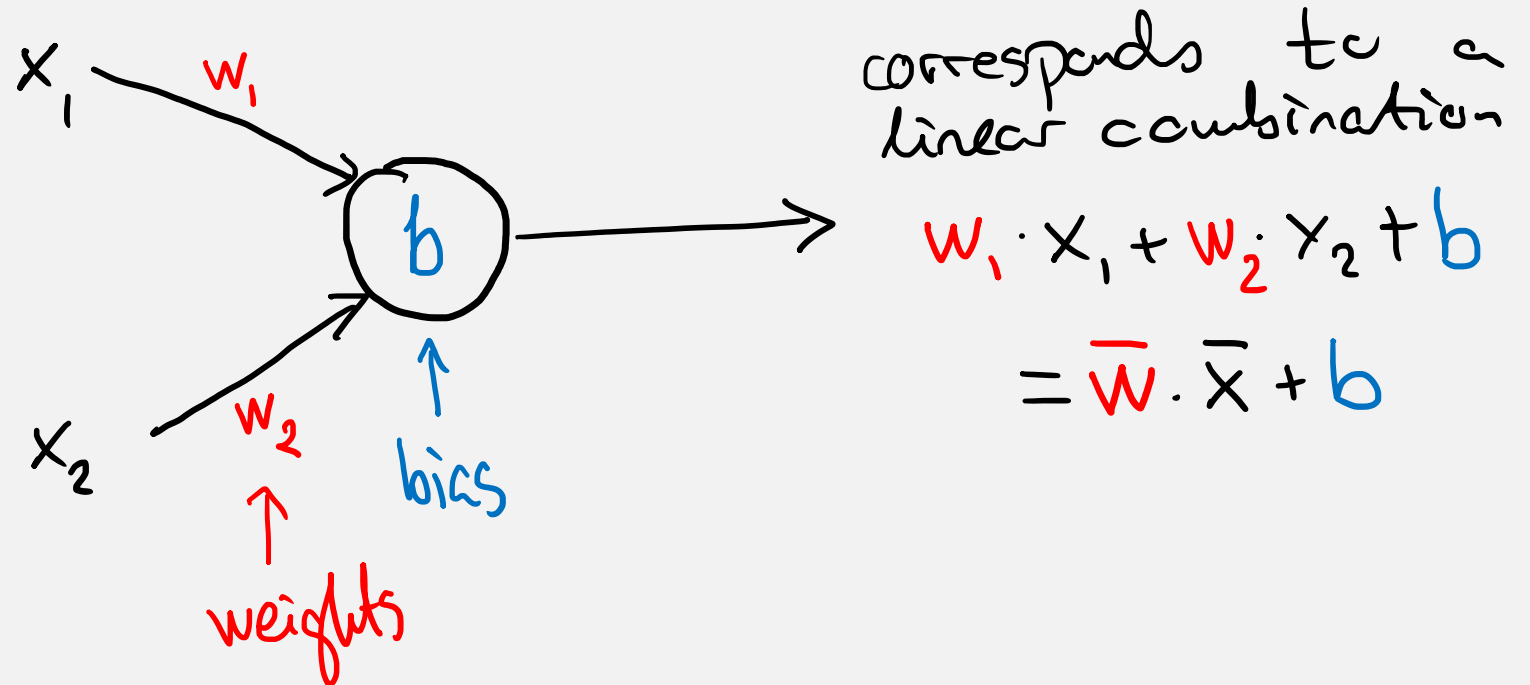
HOWEVER ...

... a neural network has absolutely nothing to do with a brain.

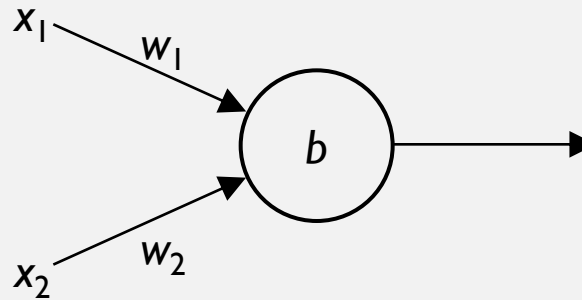


Rather, it allows for arbitrarily complex
decision boundaries/regression functions

NOTATION: WEIGHTS AND BIASES



PERCEPTRONS

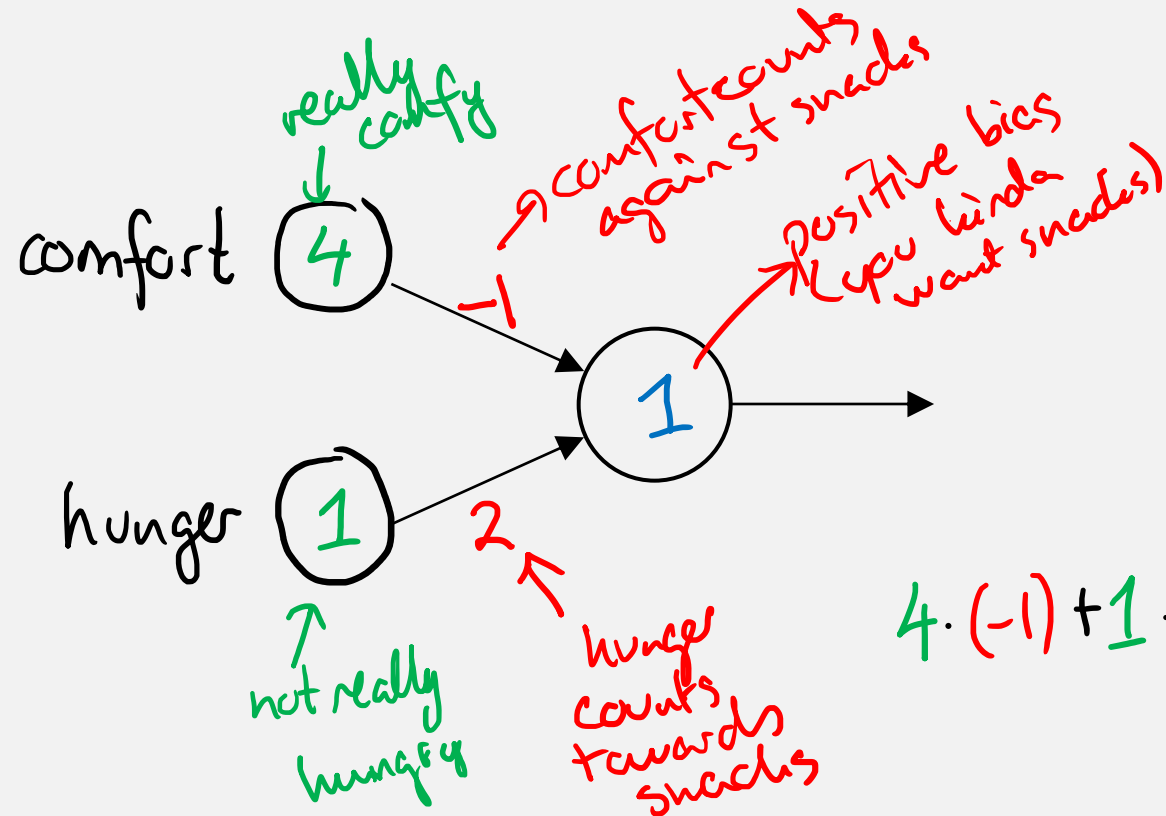


$$\text{output} = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } \bar{w} \cdot \bar{x} + b \leq 0 \\ 1 & \text{if } \bar{w} \cdot \bar{x} + b > 0 \end{cases}$$

THE SNACK EXAMPLE

You just sat down in the couch to watch your favorite tv show!

Is it really worth it to get up again to get some snacks?



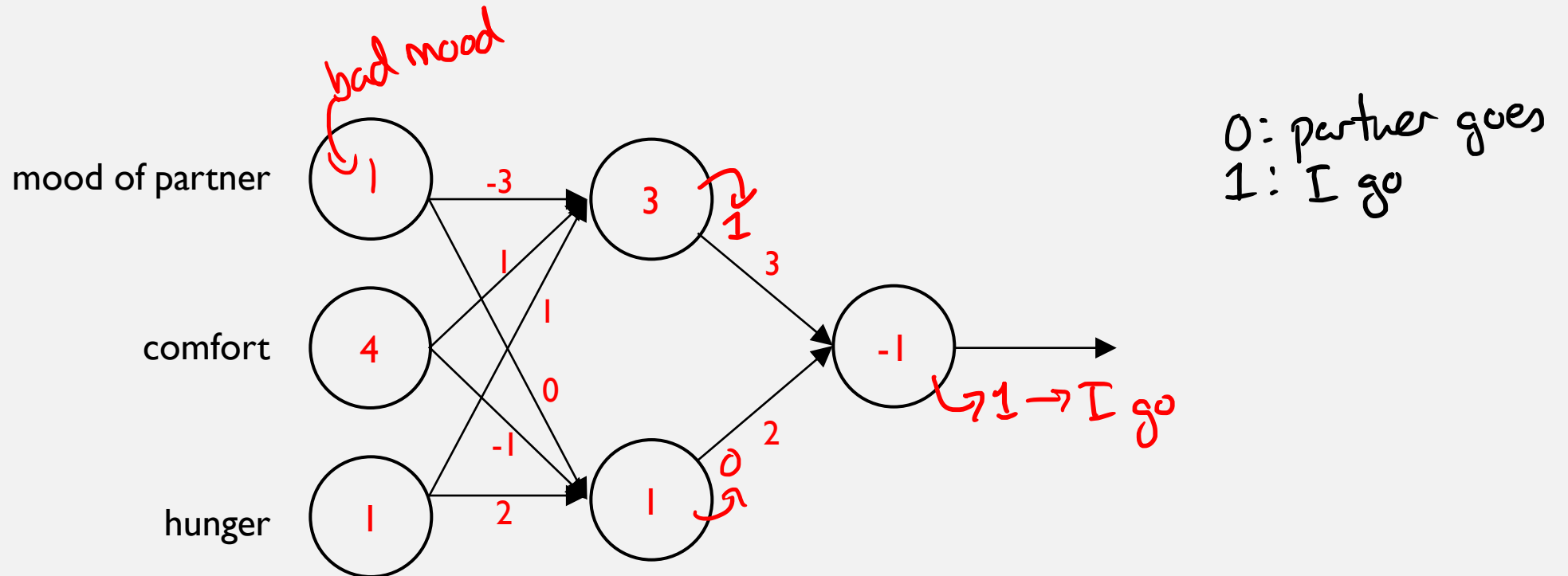
0: stay in couch
1: get snacks

$$4 \cdot (-1) + 1 \cdot 2 + 1 = -1 \rightarrow \text{output } 0$$

THE SNACK EXAMPLE II

You decide that you absolutely want snacks.

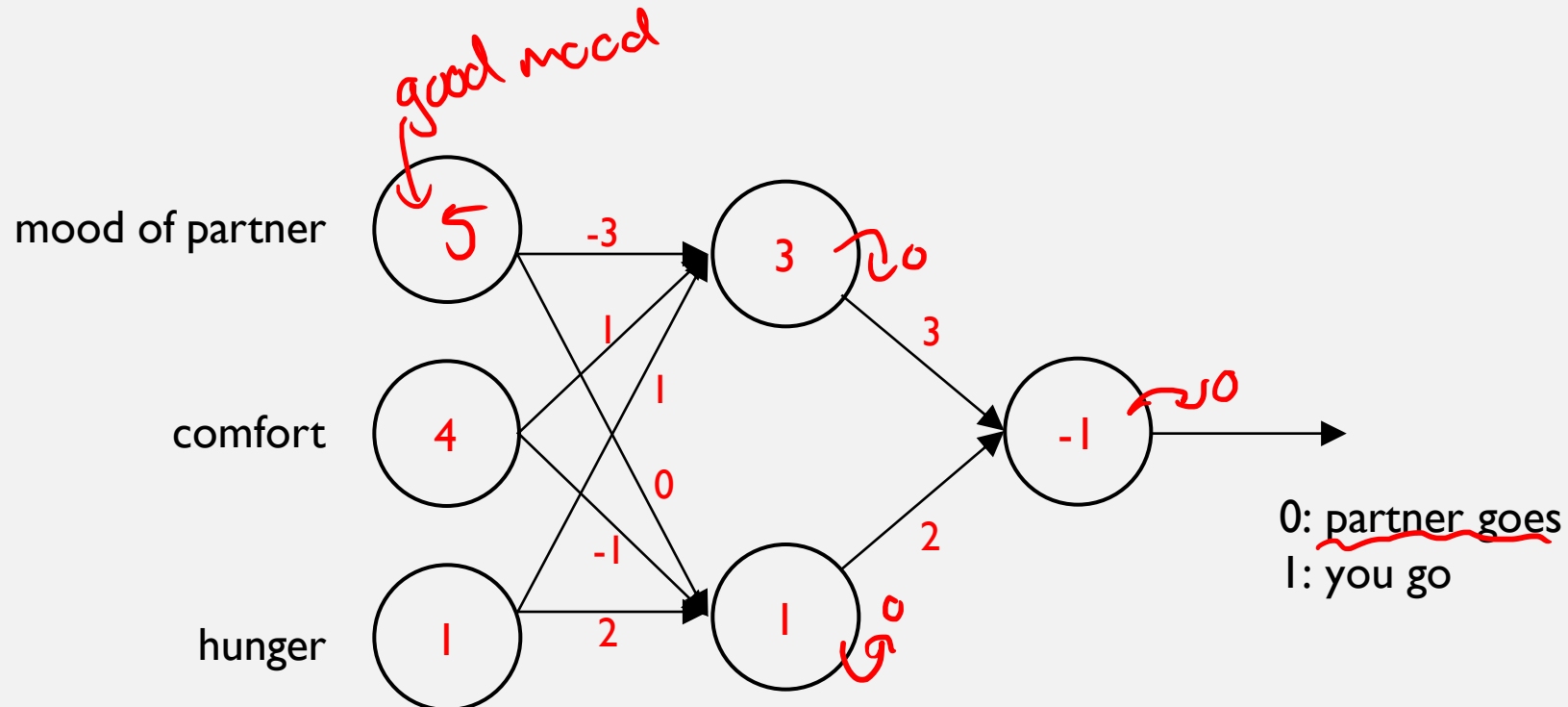
Luckily, your partner is not sitting in the couch!



THE SNACK EXAMPLE II

You decide that you absolutely want snacks.

Luckily, your partner is not sitting in the couch!



TRAINING A NEURAL NETWORK

means finding the best
set of weights & biases
for a given network
architecture

THIS LEAVES TWO QUESTIONS

1. How to structure the network
2. How to optimize weights & biases

THE TENSORFLOW PLAYGROUND



playground.tensorflow.org

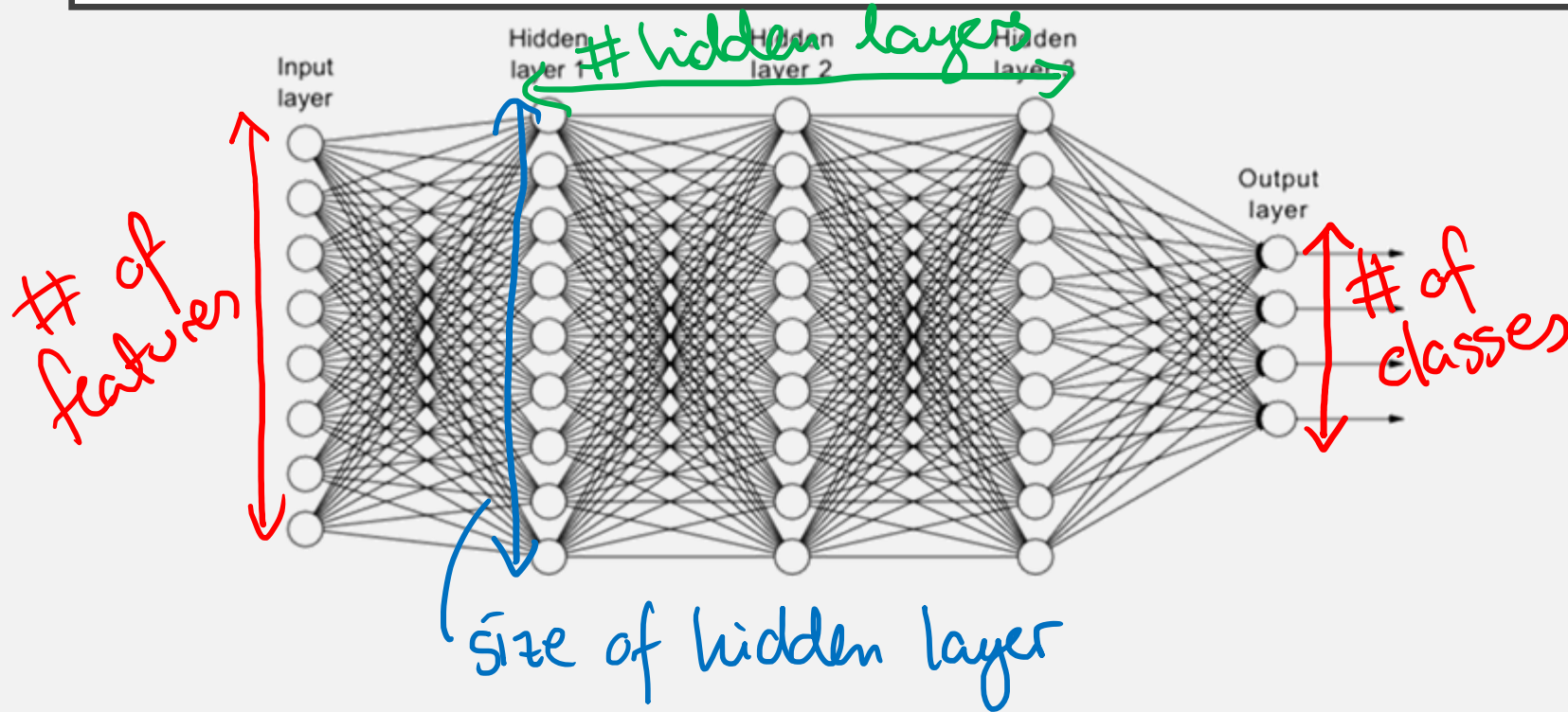


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HOW TO STRUCTURE THE NETWORK

FULLY-CONNECTED



usually one hidden layer is enough
input layer → hidden layer → output layer

The background of the slide is a complex, abstract illustration. It features a central silhouette of a human brain, which is filled with intricate, swirling patterns in shades of blue, teal, and purple. These patterns resemble neural pathways or data flow. Surrounding the brain are numerous small, glowing spheres in various colors (blue, green, yellow, pink) and thin, curved lines that suggest a network or a field of energy. The overall aesthetic is futuristic and technological.

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HOW TO OPTIMIZE WEIGHTS AND BIASES

Minimization problem

Searching for the
lowest point in a
landscape

Longitude & latitude: weights & biases

Altitude: something like
↓
"loss function" # of misclassifications
(1-accuracy)



GRADIENT DESCENT

1. Find the direction in which the descent is steepest

gradient $\nabla l(\beta) = \left[\frac{\partial l}{\partial \beta_0}(\beta), \frac{\partial l}{\partial \beta_1}(\beta), \dots \right]$

loss fct \uparrow coordinates \nwarrow

2. Take a step in that direction

$$\beta \leftarrow \beta - \eta \nabla l(\beta)$$

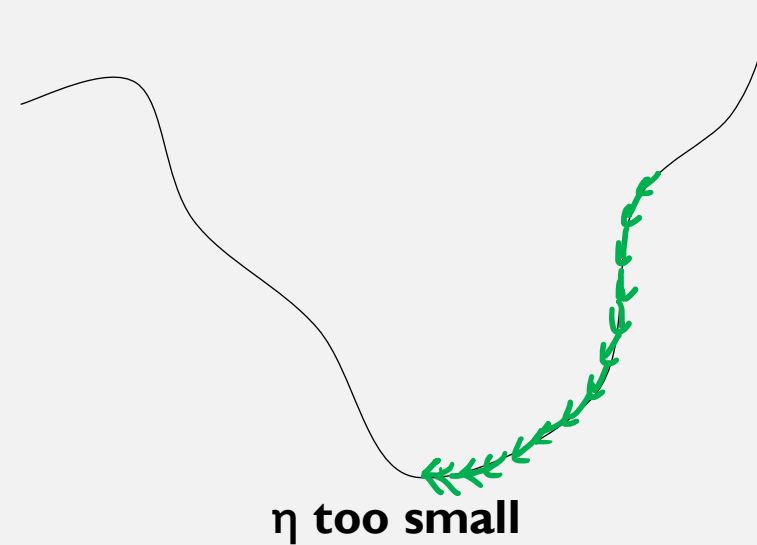
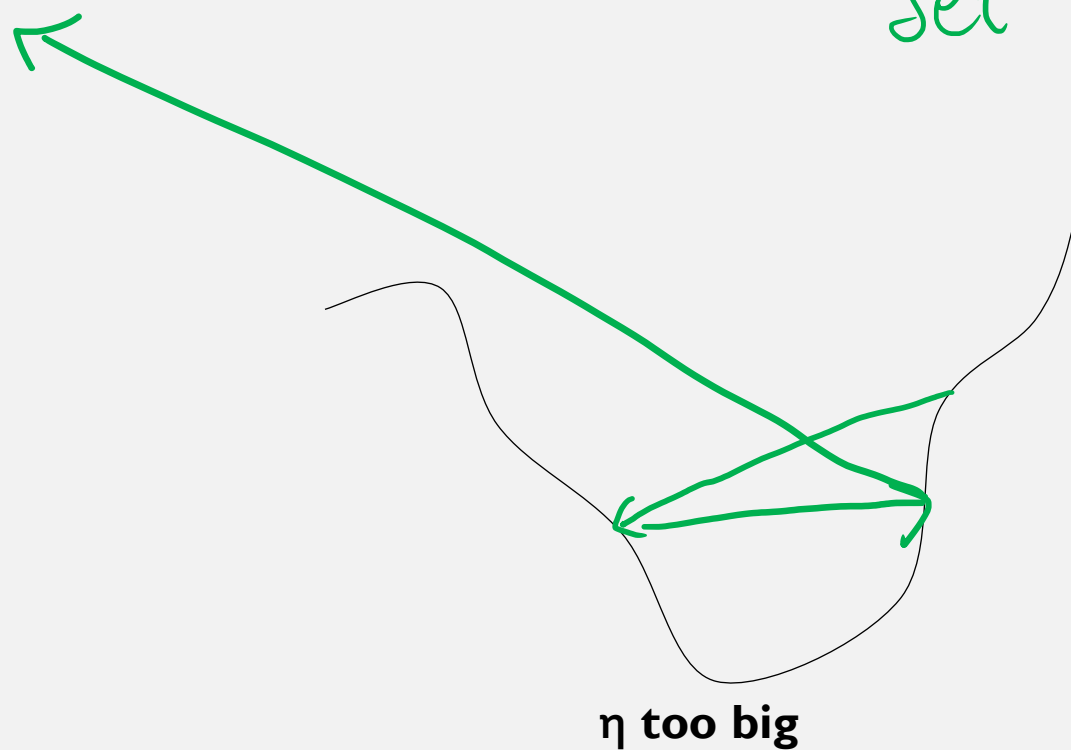
learning rate \nwarrow

3. Repeat until you reach the bottom

eg. when $\nabla l(\beta) = [0, 0, 0, 0, \dots, 0]$

THE LEARNING RATE

set by trial-and-error



STOCHASTIC GRADIENT DESCENT

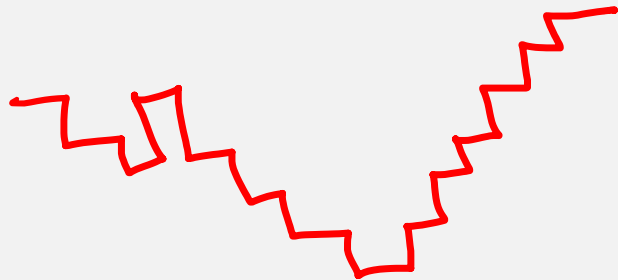
Don't update weights and biases based on **all** your data every time. Instead,



When you have gone through all your samples, you finish a **training epoch**.

BUT WHAT IF ...

landscapes mostly flat
&
small step \Rightarrow sudden change



SUDDEN CHANGES

1. Perceptrons suddenly change output from 0 to 1

⇒ don't use perceptrons

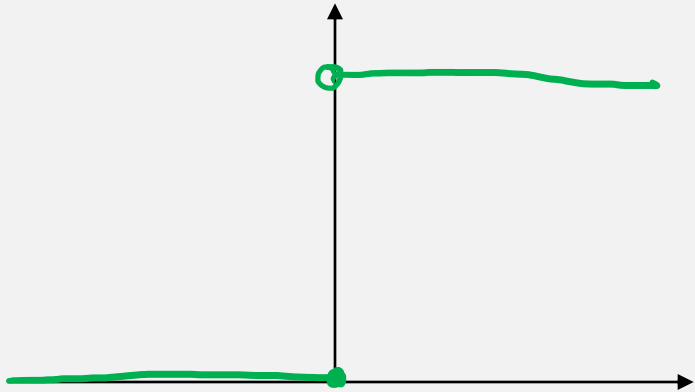
2. The number of misclassifications (1-accuracy) suddenly changes when a perceptron changes its mind

⇒ don't use accuracy

FIXING THE PERCEPTRON PROBLEM

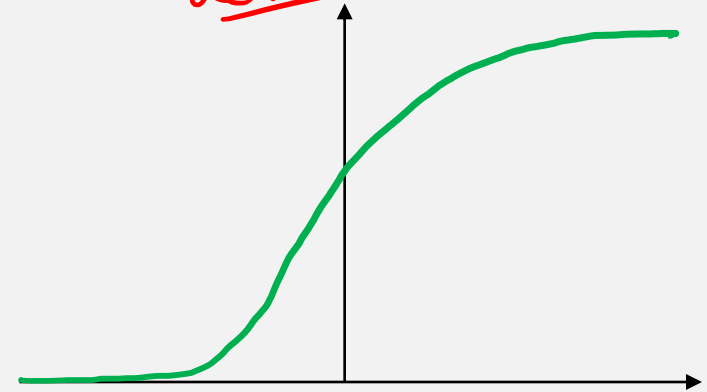
$$\text{output} = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } wx + b \leq 0 \\ 1 & \text{if } wx + b > 0 \end{cases}$$

without activation function



$$\text{output} = \frac{1}{1 + e^{-(wx+b)}}$$

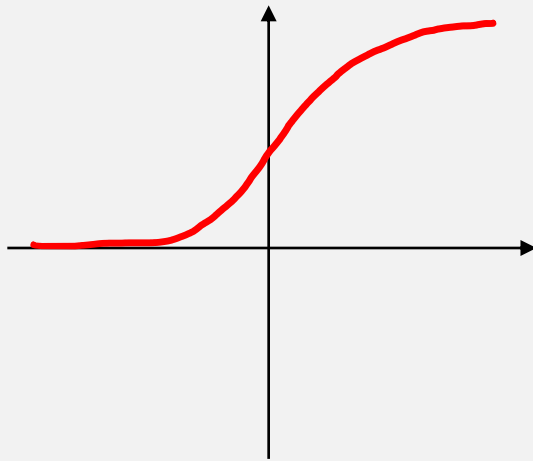
with the sigmoid
activation function



DIFFERENT ACTIVATION FUNCTIONS

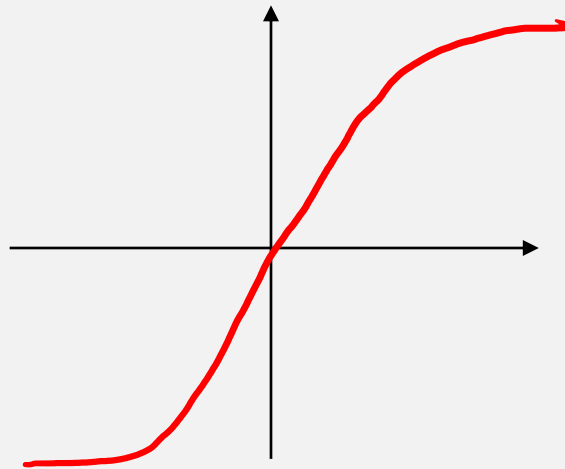
sigmoid

$$\frac{1}{1 + e^{-z}}$$



tanh

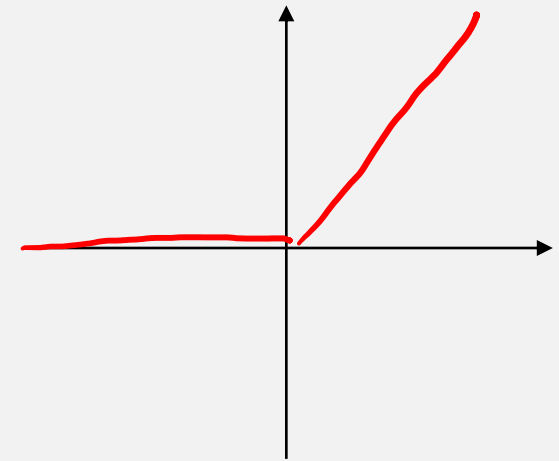
$$\tanh(z)$$



ReLU

"rectified
linear
unit"

$$\max(0, z)$$



ACTIVATION IN THE OUTPUT LAYER

$$\text{softmax}(z_i) = \frac{e^{z_i}}{\sum_j e^{z_j}}$$

output layer

class A (5)

class B (2.5)

class C (0.5)

\Rightarrow
softmax

(0.92)

(0.08)

(0.01)

probability of belonging to particular class
sums to 1

FIXING THE ACCURACY PROBLEM

Define a loss function \mathcal{L}

belongs to
class 2

true
class

$$y(x_1) = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

prediction

$$\hat{y}(x_1, w, b) = \begin{bmatrix} 0.1 \\ 0.8 \\ 0.07 \\ 0.03 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\mathcal{L} = \frac{1}{2n} \sum_i \|y(x_i) - \hat{y}(x_i, w, b)\|^2 \quad (\text{MSE})$$

\hookrightarrow #training data

THE LOSS FUNCTION

The quadratic loss function captures the general idea

$$L(\mathbf{w}, \mathbf{b}) = \frac{1}{2n} \sum_x ||y(x) - \hat{y}(x, \mathbf{w}, \mathbf{b})||^2$$

but usually we use the cross-entropy loss function

$$\mathcal{L}(\mathbf{w}, \mathbf{b}) = -\frac{1}{n} \sum_x y(x) \cdot \overset{\text{dot product}}{\ln(\hat{y}(x, \mathbf{w}, \mathbf{b}))}$$

$$\begin{aligned} y(x) \cdot \ln(\hat{y}(x_1, \mathbf{w}, \mathbf{b})) &= 0 \times \ln 0.1 + 1 \times \ln 0.8 + 0 \times \ln 0.07 + 0 \times \ln 0.03 \\ &= \ln 0.8 = -0.223 \end{aligned}$$

Example from before

$$y(x_1) = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

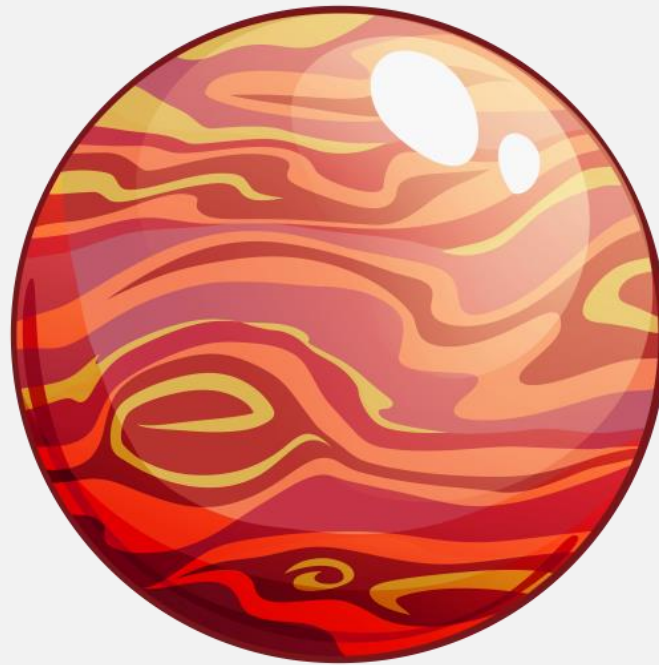
$$\hat{y}(x_1, \mathbf{w}, \mathbf{b}) = \begin{bmatrix} 0.1 \\ 0.8 \\ 0.07 \\ 0.03 \end{bmatrix}$$



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LET'S TRY TO MAKE ONE



Jupyter Notebook **Neural networks - Digits**

