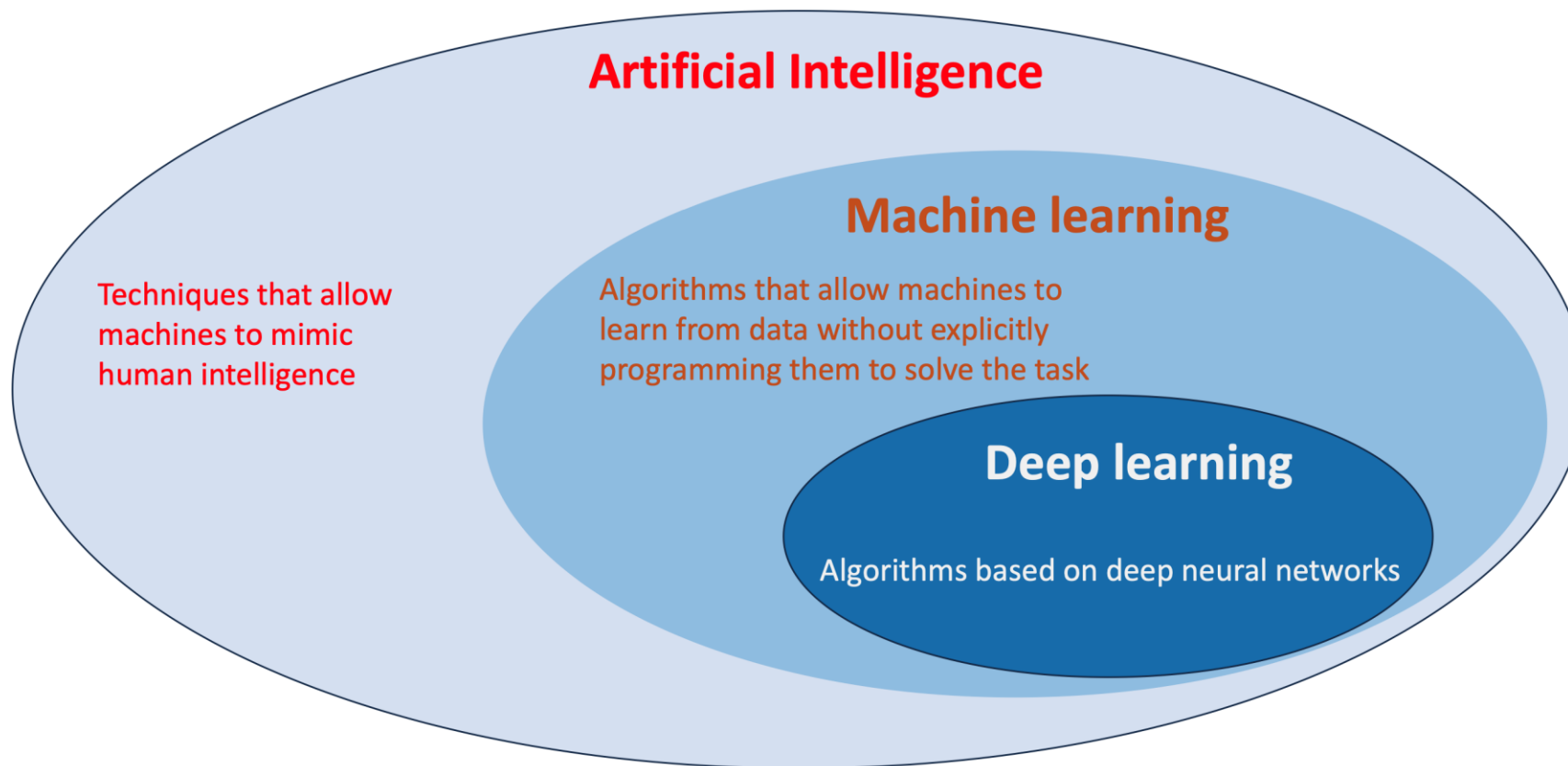# Feed-forward Neural Networks

Marco Forgione

SUPSI – Scuola Universitaria Professionale della Svizzera Italiana

IDSIA – Dalle Molle Institute for Artificial Intelligence

marco.forgione@supsi.ch

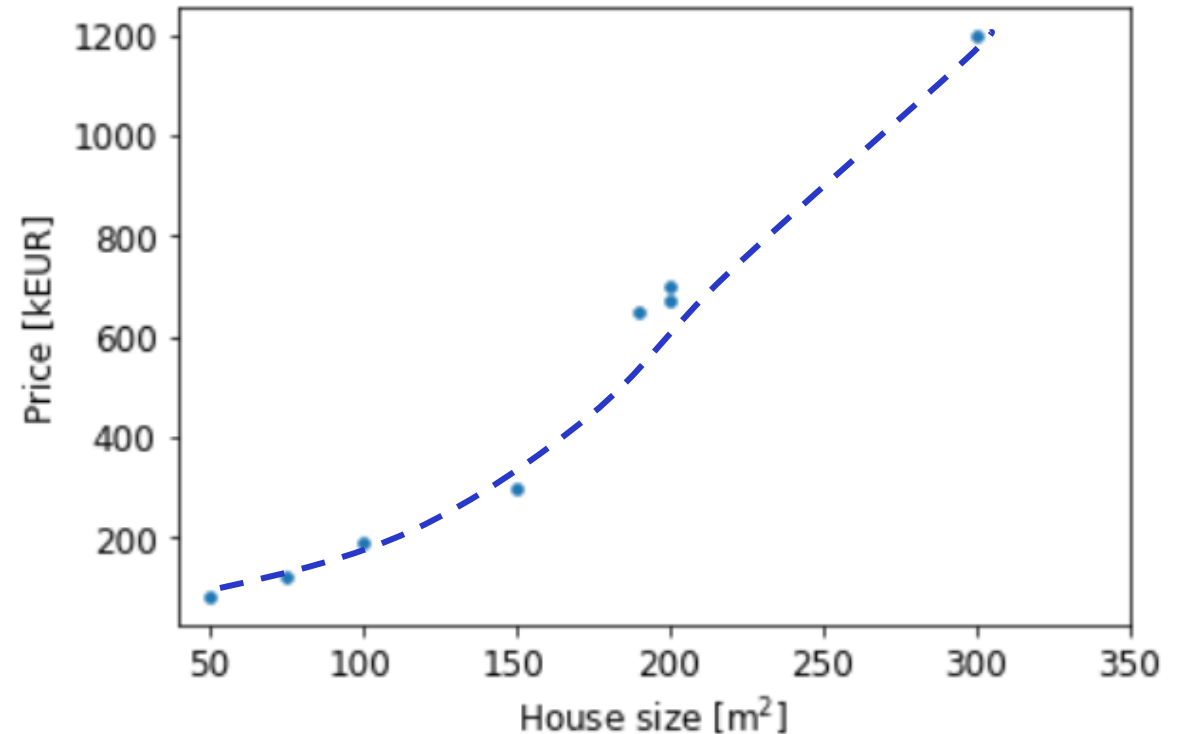# Artificial Intelligence, Machine Learning, Deep Learning

# Machine learning: Regression

## Real estate application

- $\{(x^i, y^i)\}$   $i = 1, ..., N$    available dataset

- $\hat{y}^i = M(x^i; \theta)$      parametric model

- $L(\theta) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^{N} \left(y^i - \hat{y}^i(\theta)\right)^2$   Loss (MSE)
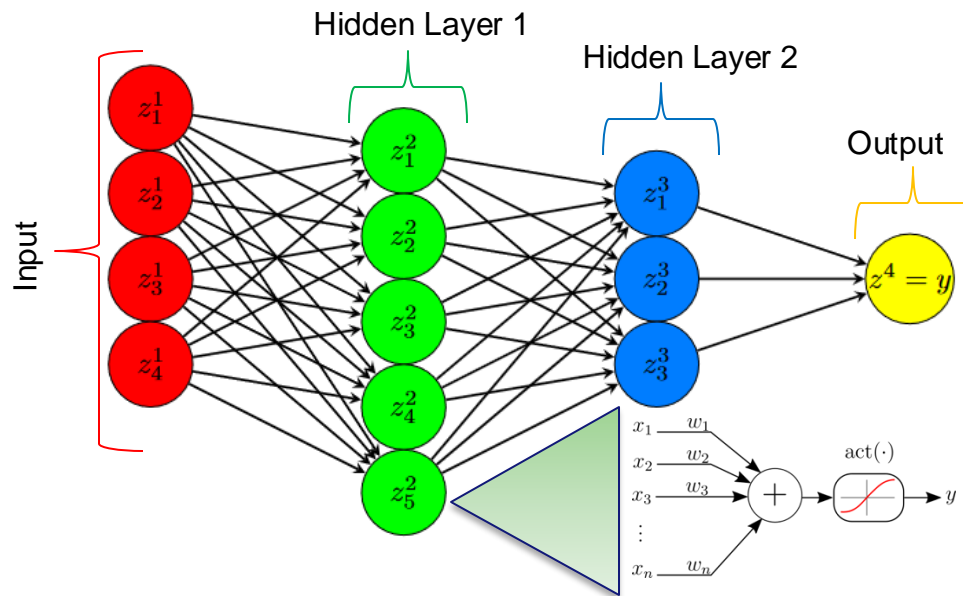
$$\theta^* = arg \min_{\theta} L(\theta)$$

# Feed-Forward Neural Networks

It is just a particular model structure

Hidden Layer 1

Hidden Layer 2

Output

Input

$$z_1^2 = \sigma \left( \sum_{j=1}^{4} w_{1,j}^1 z_j^1 + b_1^1 \right) = \sigma \left( W_1^1 z^1 + b_1^1 \right)$$

$$z_2^3 = \sigma \left( \sum_{j=1}^{5} w_{2,j}^2 z_j^2 + b_2^2 \right) = \sigma \left( W_2^2 z^2 + b_2^2 \right)$$

$$y = z^4 = \sum_{j=1}^{3} w_{1,j}^3 z_j^3 + b^3 = W_1^3 z^3 + b^3$$

$$y = z^4 = f(z^3(z^2(z^1)); W, b)$$

For regression, the output neuron typically does not have a nonlinear activation function

# Vanilla Gradient Descent

1. **Initialize Parameters**: $\theta^{(0)}$

2. **for** $k = 0, 1, \ldots$: **until** maximum number of iterations or convergence **do**:

    (a) **Compute Gradient**: $\nabla_\theta \mathcal{L}(\theta^{(k)})$

    (b) **Update Parameters**:

$$\theta^{(k+1)} = \theta^{(k)} - \gamma \cdot \nabla_\theta \mathcal{L}(\theta^{(k)})$$



Step 1

```
optimizer = optim.SGD(model.parameters(), lr=0.01, momentum=0.9)
```

Nowadays, the adam optimizer (optim.Adam) is a more common variant of vanilla gradient descent.
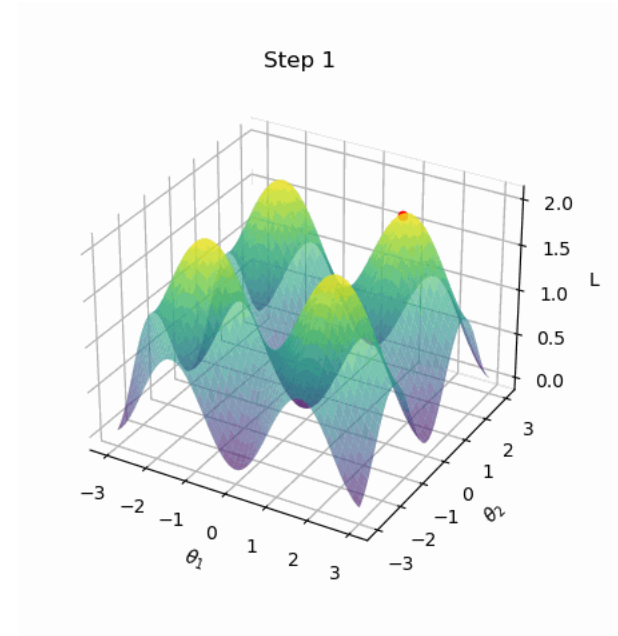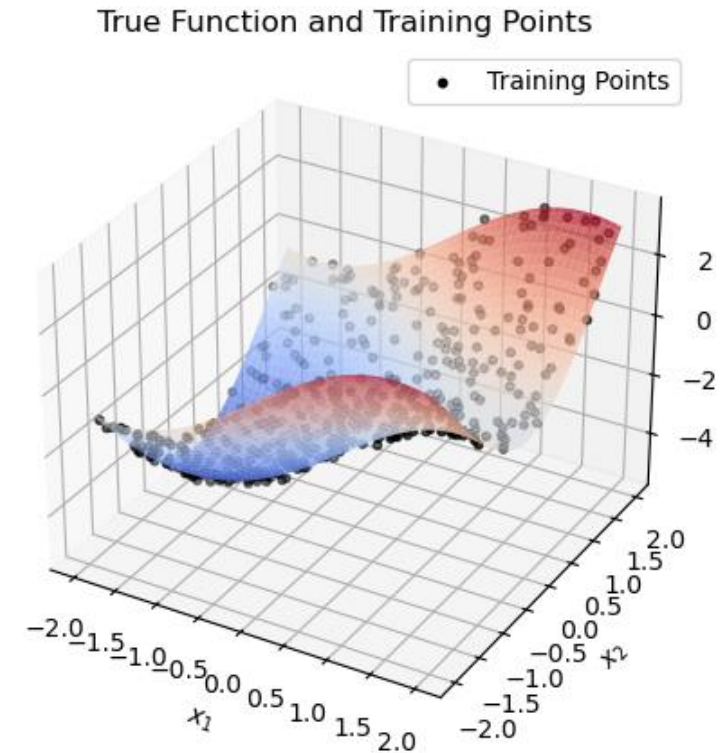
# Exercise: synthetic toy dataset (toy_example.ipynb)

Consider the 2D function $\quad f : \mathbb{R}^2 \to \mathbb{R}$

$$f(x) = 2\sin(x_1) - 3\cos(x_2)$$

$$x \in [-2, 2]^2 \subset \mathbb{R}^2$$

- Training and test datasets: 500 points uniformly sampled in the domain.

- Additive noise with standard deviation 0.1


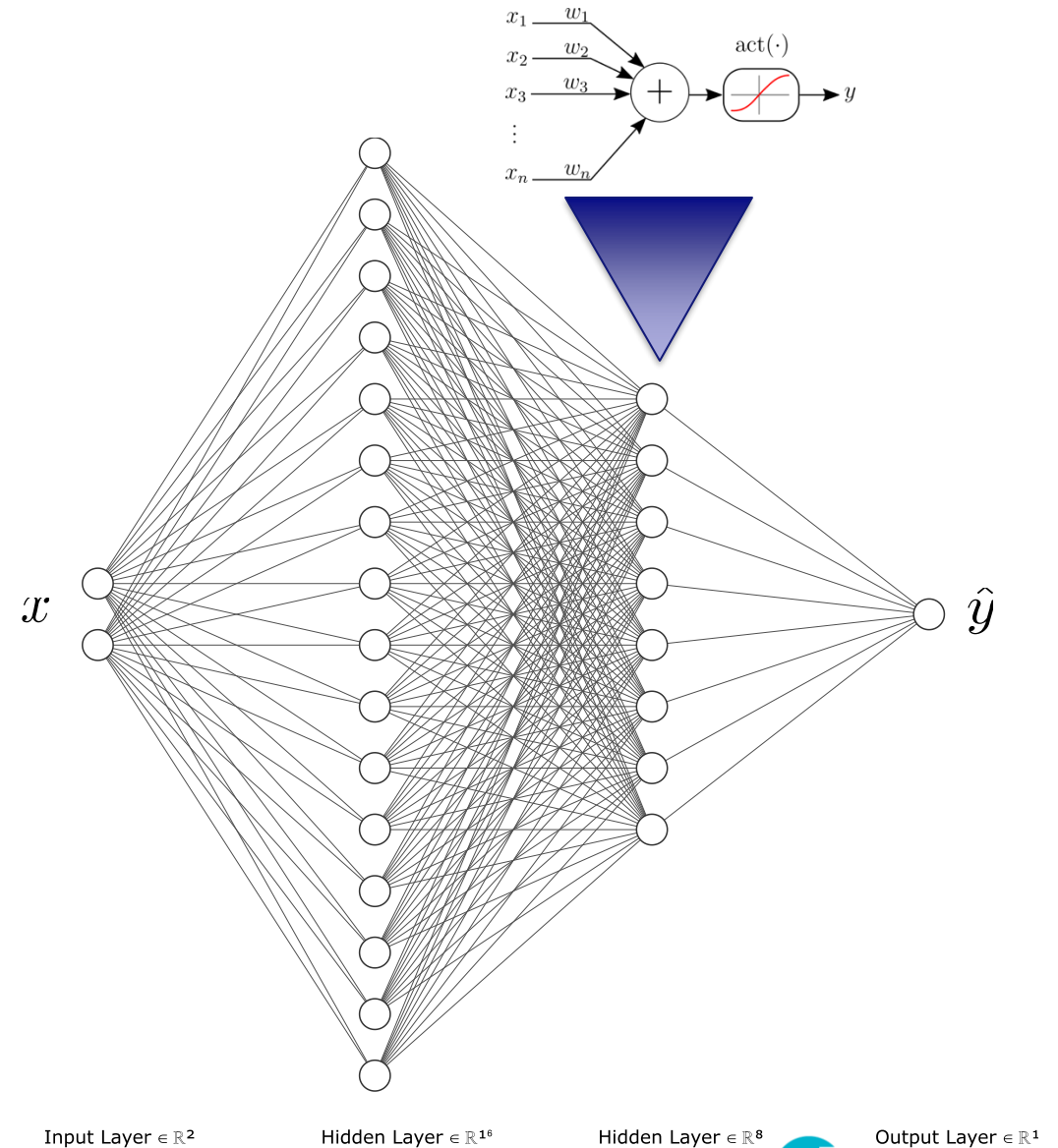
True Function and Training Points

• Training Points

# Feed-forward neural network model

- 2 inputs, 1 output - this is the structure of $f(x)$
- 2 hidden layers with [16, 8] neurons
- tanh non-linearities

```python
class FeedForwardNN(nn.Module):
    def __init__(self):
        super(FeedForwardNN, self).__init__()
        self.fc1 = nn.Linear(2, 16)
        self.act1 = nn.Tanh()
        self.fc2 = nn.Linear(16, 8)
        self.act2 = nn.Tanh()
        self.fc3 = nn.Linear(8, 1)

    def forward(self, x):
        x = self.act1(self.fc1(x)) # 16
        x = self.act2(self.fc2(x)) # 8
        x = self.fc3(x) # 1
        return x

model = FeedForwardNN()
```



$x$    $\hat{y}$

Input Layer $\in \mathbb{R}^2$    Hidden Layer $\in \mathbb{R}^{16}$    Hidden Layer $\in \mathbb{R}^8$    Output Layer $\in \mathbb{R}^1$

# Model training

```python
criterion = nn.MSELoss()
optimizer = optim.Adam(model.parameters(), lr=1e-3)

# Train the model
iters = 5000
LOSS = []
for iter in range(iters):
    optimizer.zero_grad()
    y_pred = model(X_train)
    loss = criterion(y_pred, y_train)
    loss.backward()
    optimizer.step()

    LOSS.append(loss.item())
    if iter % 100 == 0:
        print(f"Epoch {iter}: Loss = {loss.item():.4f}")
```
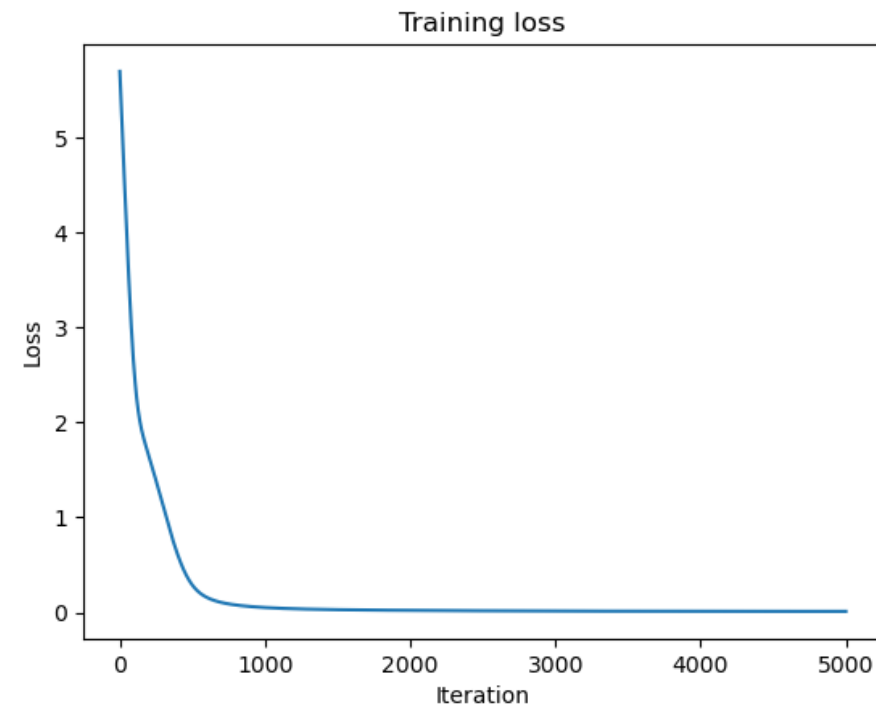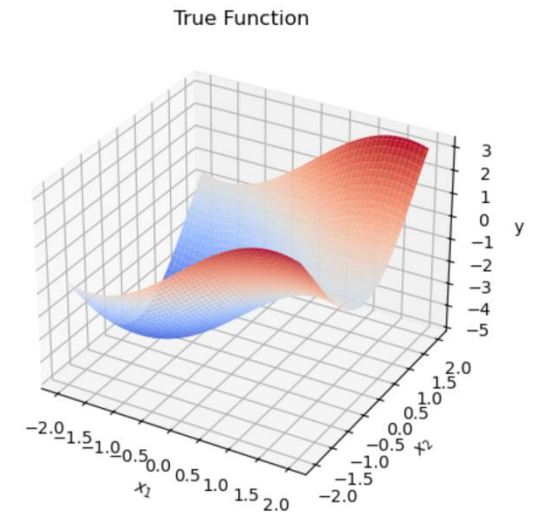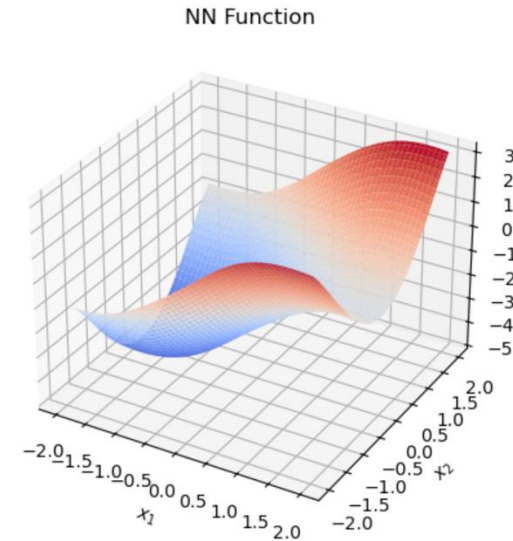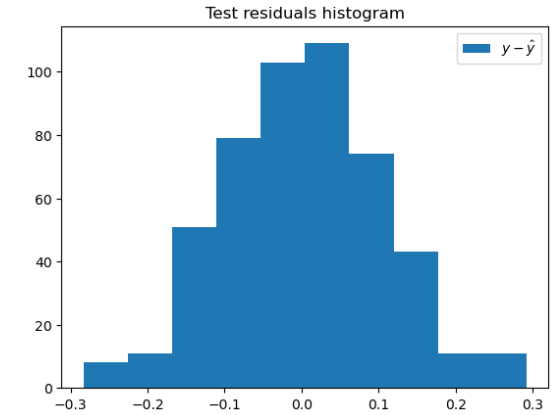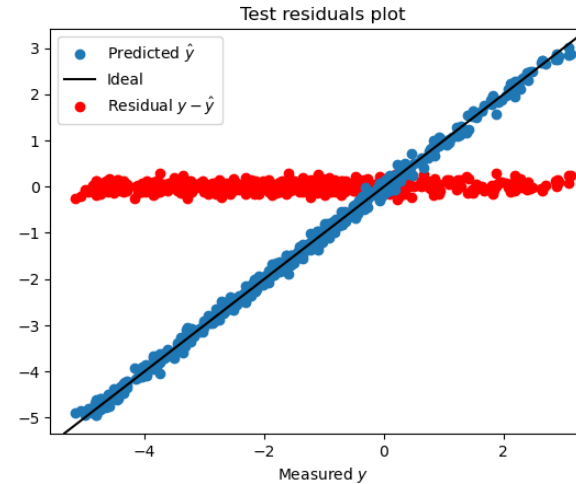
# Model evaluation

It is common to inspect, on the test dataset:

- Predictions and residuals vs measured y (top left)
- Histogram of residuals (top right)

In this toy example, we can do more:

- The input is only 2D. We can visualize the learned function over a grid (bottom left)
- The true function is known. We can also visualize it in 2D (bottom right)
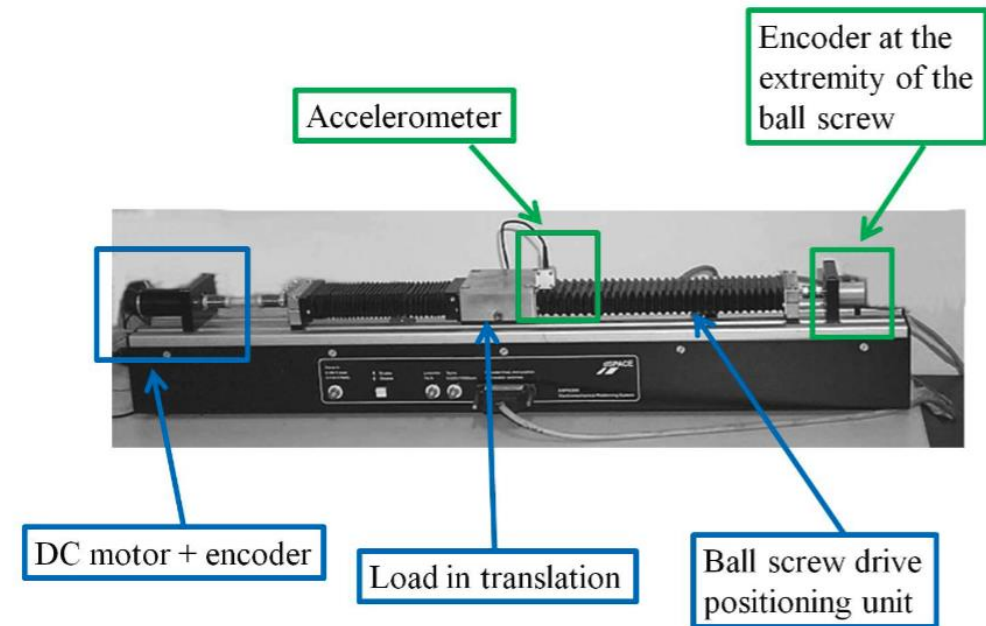
Everything seems to work well!

# Inverse Dynamical Modeling on the EMPS benchmark (emps_exercise.ipynb)

Real dataset from a (simple) mechanical system: the <u>Electro-Mechanical Positioning System</u>
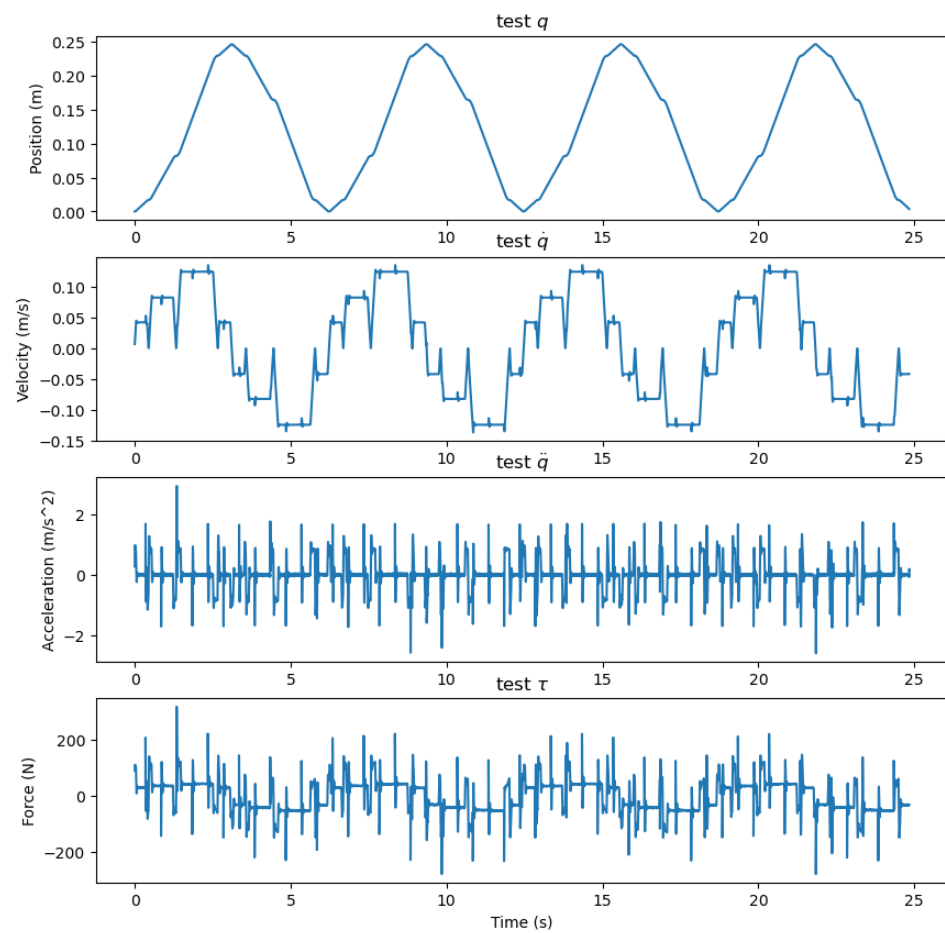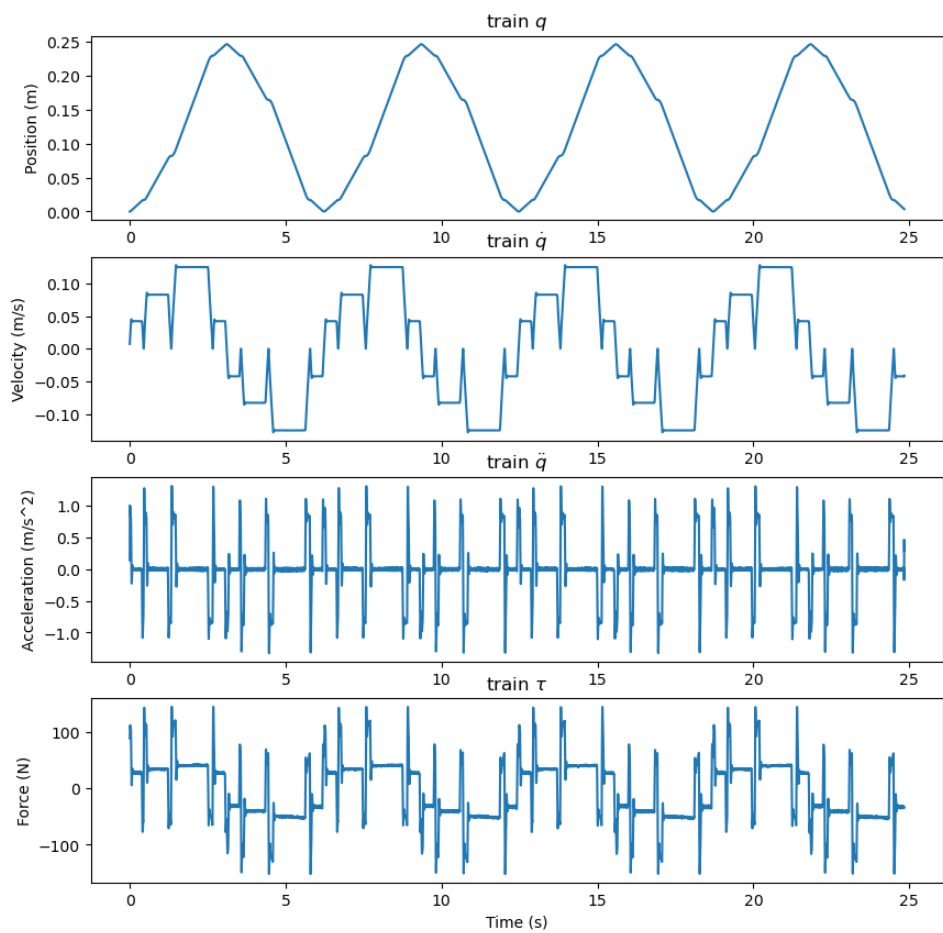
- Prismatic joint, 1-DoF mechanical system

$$M\ddot{q}(t) = \tau(t) - \tau_f(t) - b$$



- $q(t)$: measured position (m)
- $\tau(t)$: known applied force (N)
- $\tau_f(t)$: unknown friction (N)
- $M$: unknown mass (kg)
- $b$: force measurement bias (N)

We want an inverse dynamical model (IDM): $q(t), \dot{q}(t), \ddot{q}(t) \rightarrow \tau(t)$
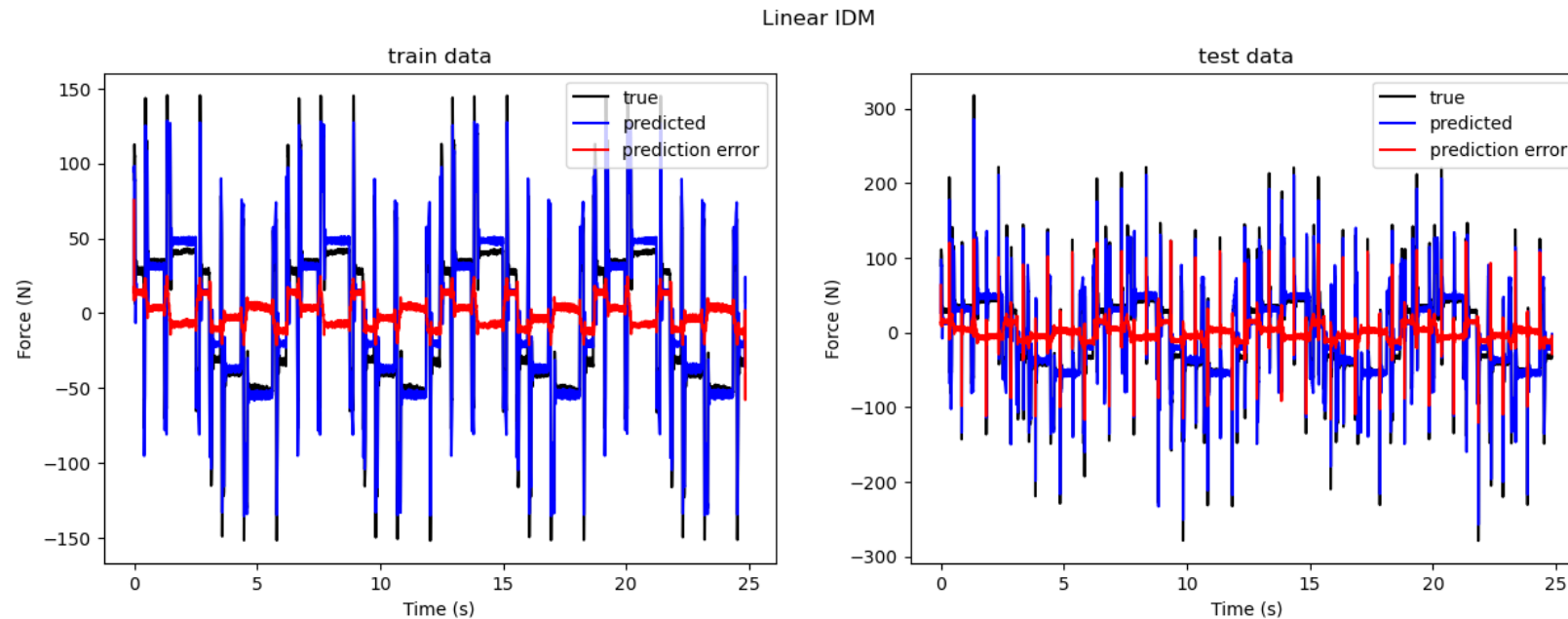
# Training and test datasets

# Linear model

We assume a linear friction model: $\tau_f = -F_v \dot{q}(t)$

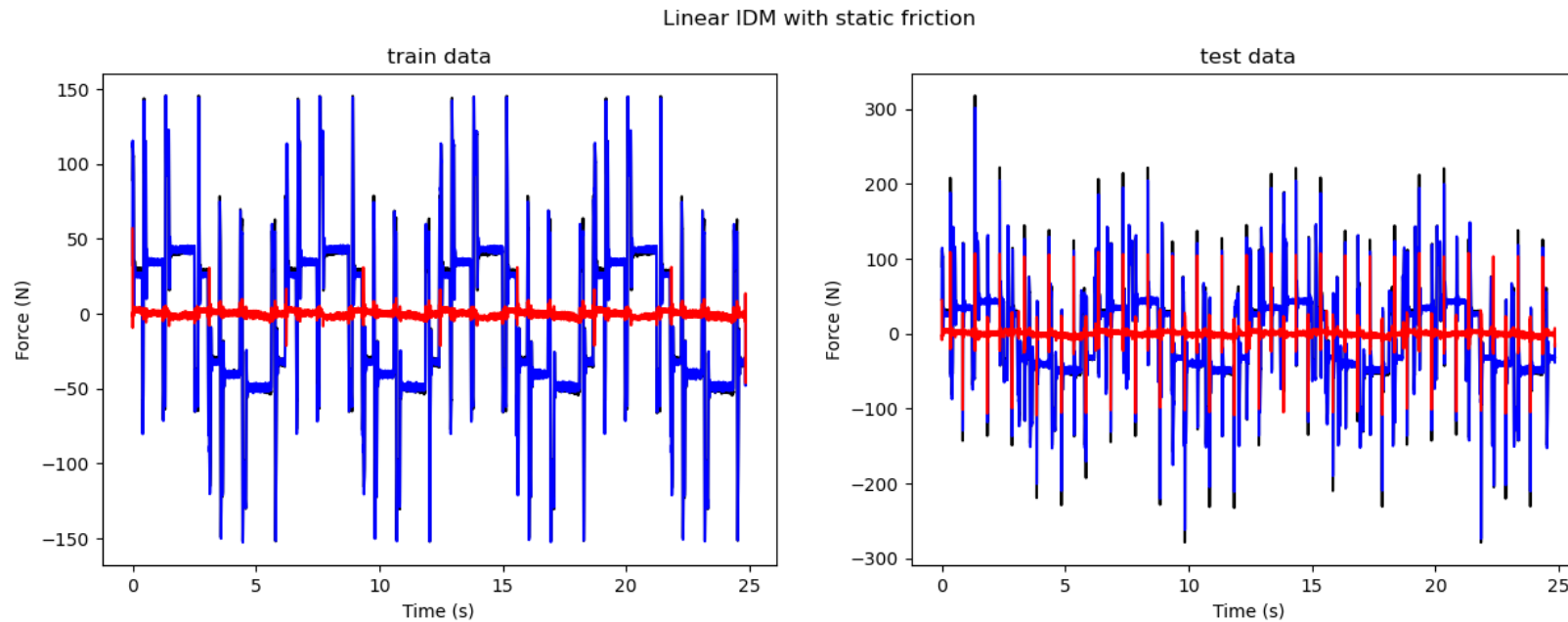Then, the IDM is: $\tau(t) = M\ddot{q}(t) + F_v\dot{q}(t) + b$. We can fit the IDM with a **linear regression**:

$$\tau(t) = \phi(t)\theta, \qquad \phi(t) = [\ddot{q}(t)\,\dot{q}(t)\,1], \qquad \theta = [M\,F_v\,b]^\top$$

# Linear model with static friction

We use a more sophisticated friction model: $\tau_f(t) = -F_v \dot{q}(t) - F_c \mathrm{sign}(\dot{q}(t))$

$$\tau(t) = \phi(t)\theta, \qquad \phi(t) = [\ddot{q}(t)\,\dot{q}(t)\,\mathrm{sign}(q(t))\,1], \qquad \theta = [M\,F_v\,F_c\,b]^\top$$



Linear IDM with static friction

# Feed-forward neural network

We ignore all physics and fit a feed-forward neural network instead: $\tau(t) = \mathrm{FF}(\ddot{q}, \dot{q})$
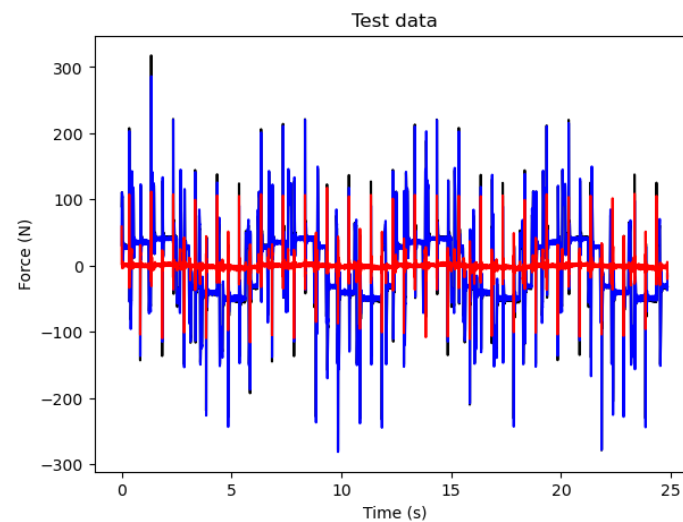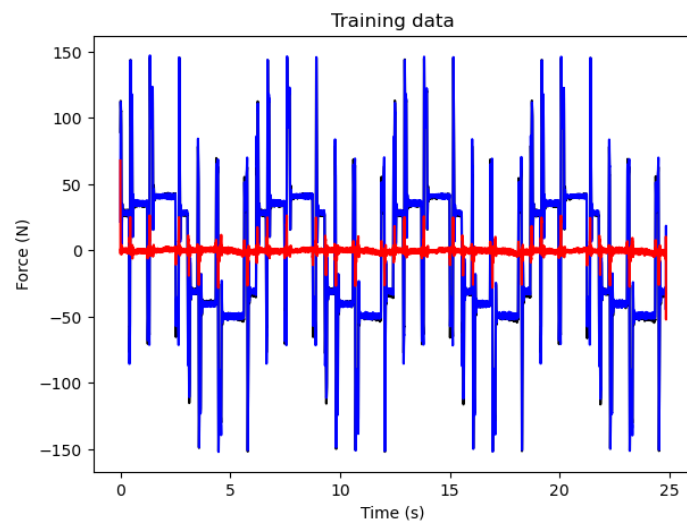
```python
in_dim = train_X_torch.shape[1] # 2
out_dim = 1
batch_size = 128
hidden_size = 32
lr = 5e-4

ff_net = torch.nn.Sequential(
    torch.nn.Linear(in_dim, hidden_size),
    torch.nn.ReLU(),
    torch.nn.Linear(hidden_size, hidden_size),
    torch.nn.ReLU(),
    torch.nn.Linear(hidden_size, 1)
)
```
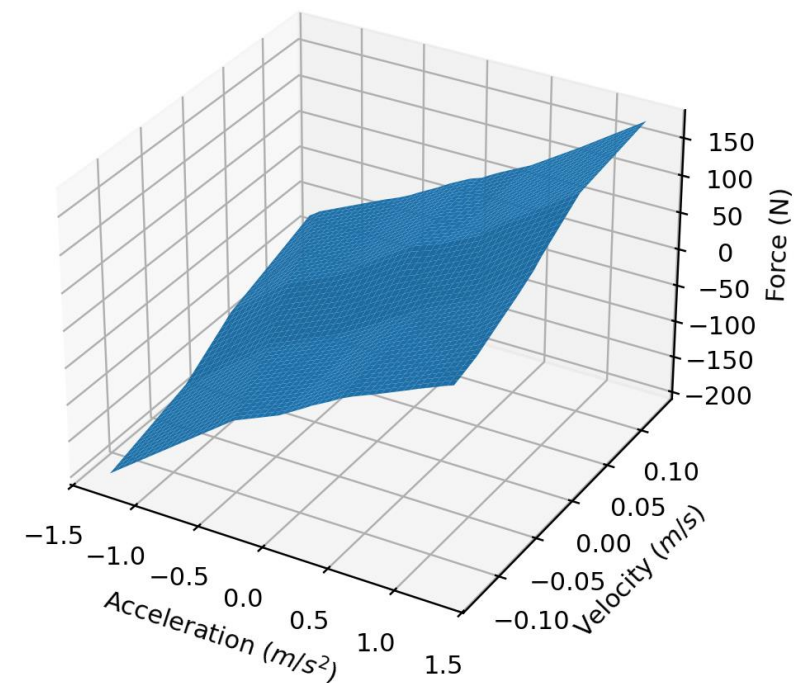


Training loss
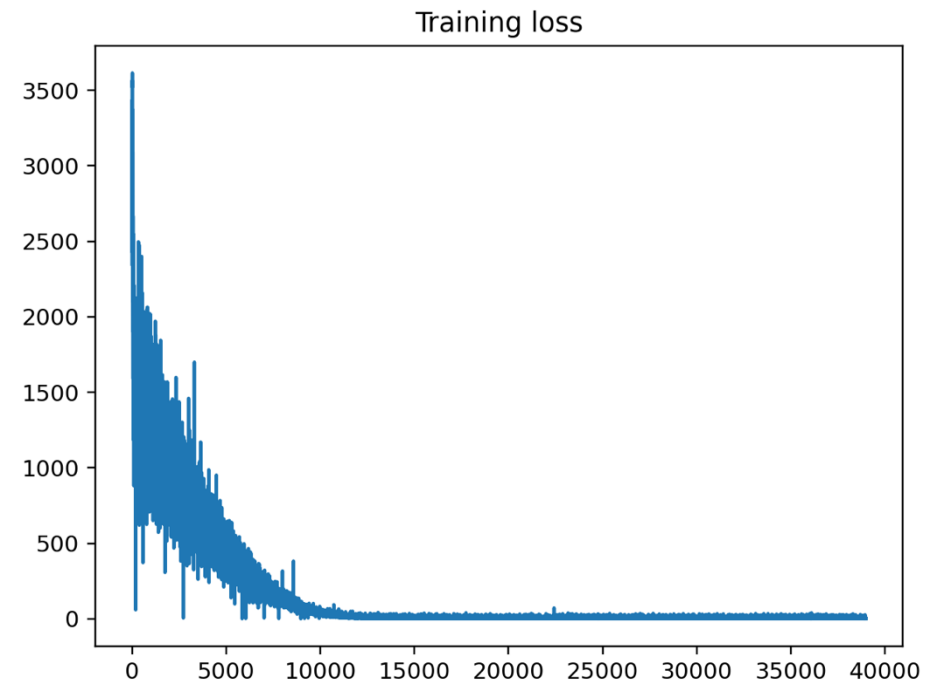
Train it yourself!

# Feed-forward neural network



FF Neural Network IDM model

Train it yourself!

# Physics-inspired neural network

We trust Newton's law, but nothing else: $\tau(t) = M\ddot{q} + \mathrm{FF}(\dot{q})$

```python
class CustomIDM(nn.Module):
    def __init__(self, n_q=1, hidden_size=32):
        self.n_q = n_q
        super(CustomIDM, self).__init__()
        self.inertia_net = nn.Linear(n_q, n_q, bias=False)
        self.friction_net = nn.Sequential(
            nn.Linear(n_q, hidden_size),
            nn.GELU(),
            nn.Linear(hidden_size, hidden_size),
            nn.GELU(),
            nn.Linear(hidden_size, 1)
        )

    def forward(self, x):
        inertia = self.inertia_net(x[:, :self.n_q])   # Linear in \ddot q
        friction = self.friction_net(x[:, self.n_q:])   # Non-linear in \dot q
        return inertia + friction
```



Friction Force vs Velocity

Train it yourself!

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