

# Artificial Neural Networks

Inteligencia Artificial en los Sistemas de Control Autónomo  
Máster Universitario en Ingeniería Industrial

Departamento de Automática

## Objectives

1. Describe biological neurons and networks
2. Basics of artificial neurons and networks
3. Understand the role of training in ANNs
4. Strengths and weaknesses of ANNs

## Bibliography

- A. Tettamanzi, M. Tomassini. Soft Computing. Integrating Evolutionary, Neural, and Fuzzy Systems. Springer-Verlag. 2001
- McCulloch, W. and Pitts, W. (1943). A logical calculus of the ideas immanent in nervous activity. Bulletin of Mathematical Biophysics, 7:115 - 133.
- Rosenblatt, Frank. (1958). The Perceptron: A Probabilistic Model for Information Storage and Organization in the Brain. Psychological Review, 65:386-408

# Table of Contents

## 1. Introduction

- History
- Structure of neurons

## 2. Artificial neurons

- Definition
- Logical gates with a neuron
- Activation functions
- Learning limits

## 3. Artificial Neural Networks

- Definition
- Application examples

## 4. Feedforward networks

- Definition
- Demo
- Separability
- Bias in a MLP

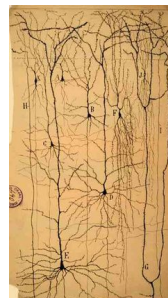
## 5. Training algorithms

- Problem statement
- Gradient descent algorithm
- Stochastic Gradient Descent
- Other optimization algorithms
- Backpropagation
- Learning problems

# Introduction

## History

- 1888 Ramón y Cajal. Discovery of biological neurons
- 1943 McCulloch & Pitts. First neural network designers
- 1949 Hebb. First learning rule
- 1958 Rosenblatt. Perceptron
- 1969 Minsky & Papert. Perceptron limitation - Death of ANN
- 1986 Rumelhart et al. Re-emergence of ANN: Backpropagation
- 201X Convolutional Neural Networks (CNNs) - Deep learning
- 2014 Goodfellow et al. Generative Adversarial Networks (GANs)



# Introduction

## Structure of neurons (I)

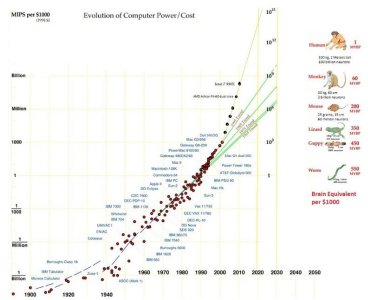
| ANIMAL    | NEURONS         |
|-----------|-----------------|
| Sponge    | 0               |
| Roundworm | 302             |
| Jellyfish | 800             |
| Ant       | 250,000         |
| Cockroach | 1,000,000       |
| Frog      | 16,000,000      |
| Mouse     | 71,000,000      |
| Cat       | 760,000,000     |
| Macaque   | 6,376,000,000   |
| Human     | 86,000,000,000  |
| Elephant  | 267,000,000,000 |

## Human brain

Neuron switching time: 0.001 s

Synapsis: 10-100 thousand

Scene recognition time: 0.1 s



(Source)

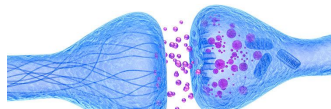
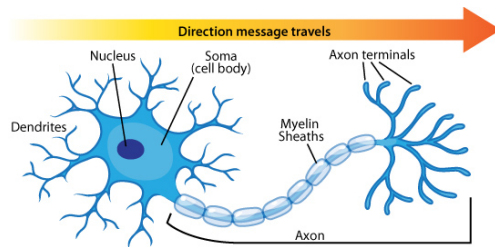
# Introduction

## Structure of neurons (II)

A neuron has a cell body ...

- ... a branching input structure (dendrite) and
- ... a branching output structure (axon)

Axons connect to dendrites via **synapses**



Artificial Neural Networks

# Introduction

## Structure of neurons (III)

A neuron only fires if its input signal exceeds a threshold

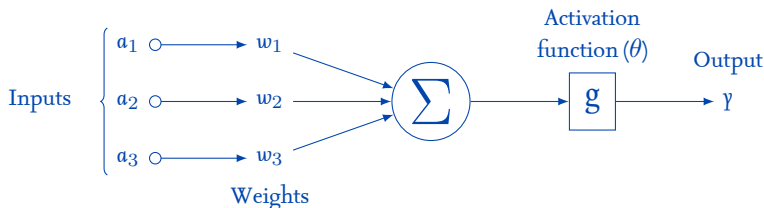
- Good connections allowing a large signal
- Slight connections allowing a weak signal
- Synapses may be either excitatory or inhibitory

Synapses vary in strength

- Biological learning involves setting that strength

# Artificial neurons

## Definition (I)



$a_i$  Normalized input ( $0 \leq a_i \leq 1$ )

$w_i$  Weight of input  $j$

$\theta$  Threshold

$g$  Activation function

Neuron model  
(perceptron)

$$\gamma = g \left( \sum_{i=1}^n w_i a_i \right)$$



# Artificial neurons

## Definition (II)

- Each neuron has a threshold value
- Each neuron has weighted inputs
- The input signals form a weighted sum
- If the activation level exceeds the threshold, the neuron activates

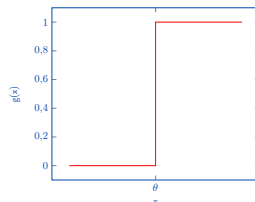
# Artificial neurons

## Definition (III)

The idealized activation function is a step function

$$g(x) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } \sum_{i=1}^N w_i x_i > \theta \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

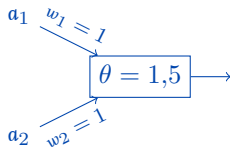
The step function is rarely used in practice



# Artificial neurons

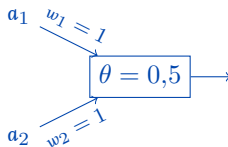
## Logical gates with a neuron

AND



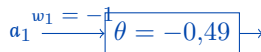
| $a_1$ | $a_2$ | $\gamma$ |
|-------|-------|----------|
| 0     | 0     | 0        |
| 0     | 1     | 0        |
| 1     | 0     | 0        |
| 1     | 1     | 1        |

OR



| $a_1$ | $a_2$ | $\gamma$ |
|-------|-------|----------|
| 0     | 0     | 0        |
| 0     | 1     | 1        |
| 1     | 0     | 0        |
| 1     | 1     | 1        |

NOT

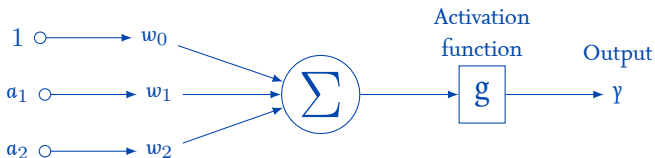


| $a_1$ | $\gamma$ |
|-------|----------|
| 0     | 1        |
| 1     | 0        |

(A neuron in Excel)

# Artificial neurons

## Definition of neuron (alternative version)



$a_i$  Normalized input ( $0 \leq a_i \leq 1$ )

$w_i$  Weight of input  $j$

$w_0$  Bias

$g$  Activation function

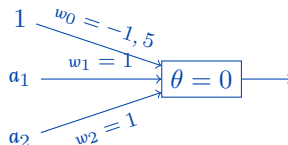
### Neuron model

$$\gamma = g \left( \sum_{i=0}^n w_i a_i \right)$$

# Artificial neurons

## Example of biased neuron

AND logical gate with a biased input

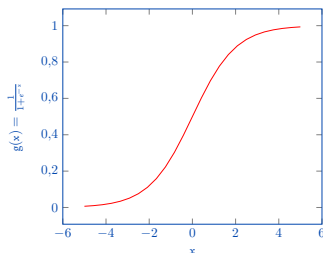


| $a_0$ | $a_1$ | $a_2$ | Output |
|-------|-------|-------|--------|
| I     | O     | O     | O      |
| I     | O     | I     | O      |
| I     | I     | O     | O      |
| I     | I     | I     | I      |

# Artificial neurons

## Activation functions: Sigmoid function

- Biological motivation
- S-shaped, continuous and everywhere differentiable
- Asymptotically approach saturation points
- Derivative fast computation
- Range  $\in [0, 1]$



### Sigmoid function

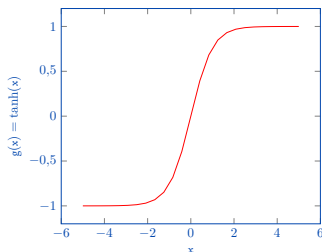
$$g(x) = \frac{1}{1 + e^{-x}}$$

$$g'(x) = g(x)(1 - g(x))$$

# Artificial neurons

## Activation functions: Tanh function

- Asymptotically approach saturation points
- Range  $\in [-1, 1]$
- Bigger derivative than sigmoid (faster training)



### Tanh function

$$g(x) = \tanh(x) = \frac{2}{1 + e^{-2x}} - 1$$

$$g'(x) = 1 - g(x)^2$$

# Artificial neurons

## Activation functions: Softmax function

- Generalization of the logistic function
- Usually used in the output layer in classification problems
- Asymptotically approach saturation points

### Softmax function

$$g(\mathbf{z})_j = \frac{e^{z_j}}{\sum_{k=1}^K e^{z_k}} \text{ for } j = 1, \dots, K$$

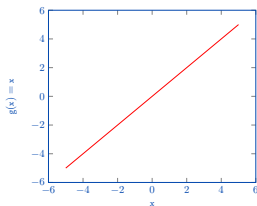
with  $\mathbf{z}$  a K-dimensional vector



# Artificial neurons

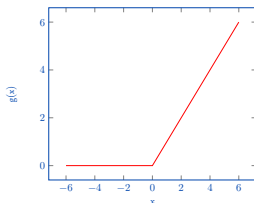
## Other activation functions

### Linear function



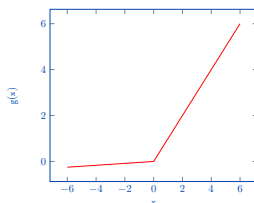
- Used in regression

### Rectified Linear (ReLU)



- Faster derivate
- Popular in DL

### Leaky ReLU

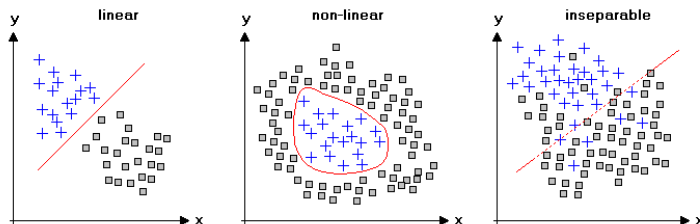


- More informative derivate
- Popular in DL

The lack of non-linear activation function makes a network a simple linear regression

# Artificial neurons

## Learning limits (I)

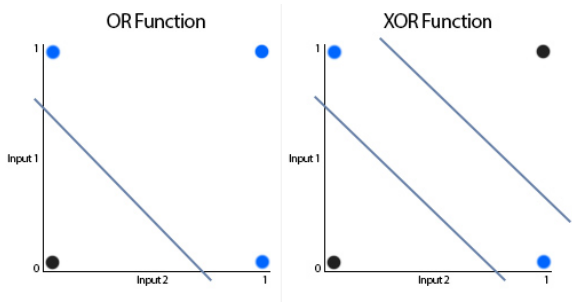


Problem: A single neuron only can solve linearly separable problems

# Artificial neurons

## Learning limits (II)

XOR cannot be implemented with a neuron



Solution: Neuronal networks

# Artificial Neural Networks

## Definition (II)

### ANN properties

- Noise tolerance
- General function approximator

### Machine Learning tasks

- Supervised learning (classification and regression)
- Unsupervised learning (known as **self-organizing maps** in ANN terminology)

### Many topologies

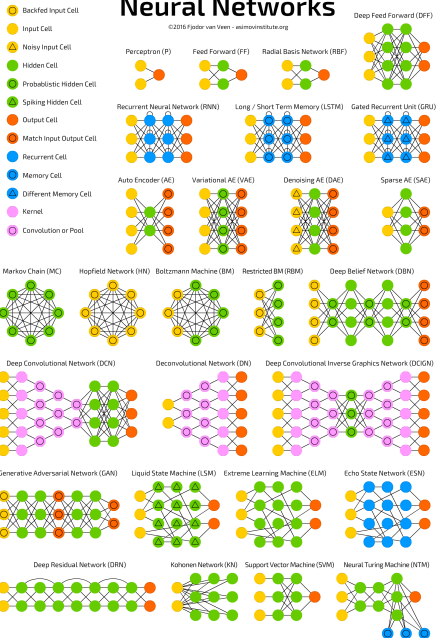
- Acyclic, recurrent (cyclic), modular, etc
- Feed Forward networks (MLPs)

Human readability less important than performance

A mostly complete chart of

# Neural Networks

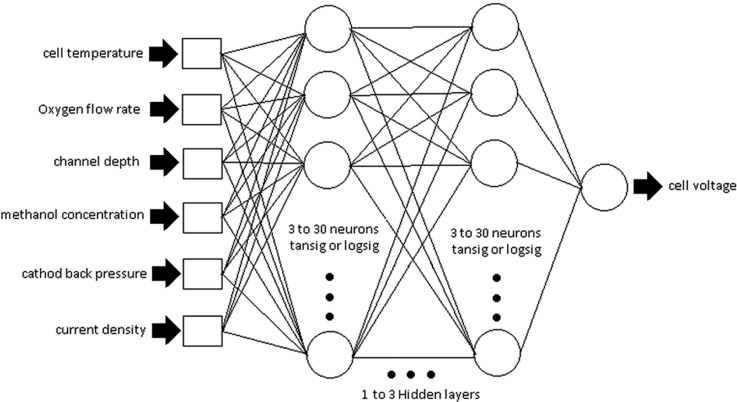
©2016 P.Jodier van Veen - aulmoulinstitute.org



(More info)

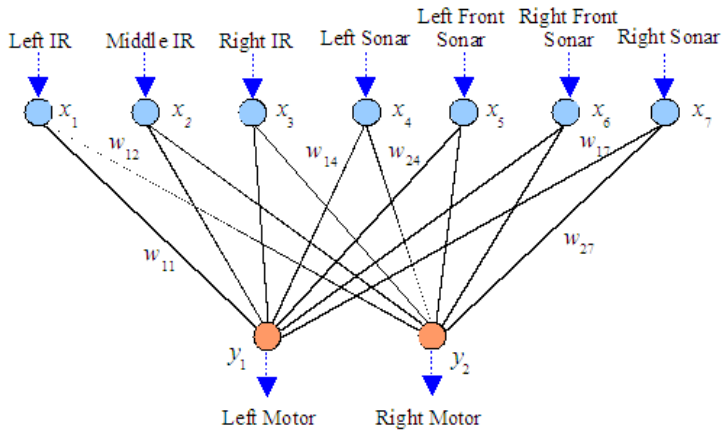
# Artificial Neural Networks

## Application examples (I)



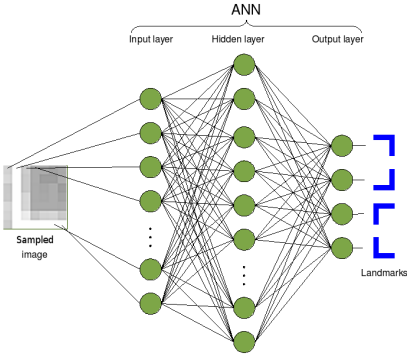
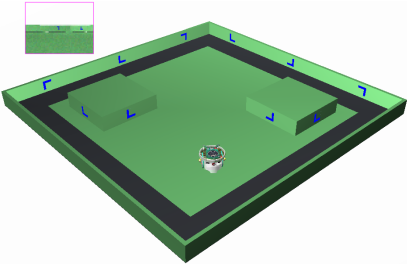
# Artificial Neural Networks

## Application examples (II)



# Artificial Neural Networks

## Application examples (III)

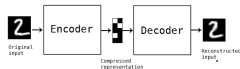
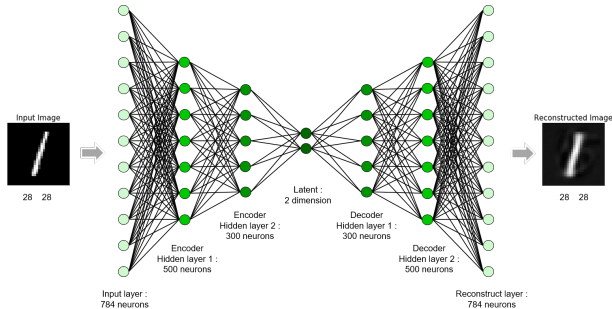


(Source)



# Artificial Neural Networks

## Application examples (IV)



(Source)

# Feedforward networks

## Definition (I)

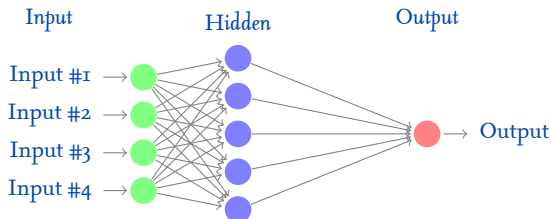
Neurons are arranged in **layers**

**Input** Which consists of any normalized data

**Output** Which are the net outcome

**Hidden** (Optional) No direct interaction

Also known as **multilayer perceptron (MLP)**



# Feedforward networks

## Definition (II)

### The input layer

- Introduces input values into the network
- No activation function or other processing

### The hidden layer(s)

- Perform classification of features
- Two hidden layers are sufficient to solve any problem
- Features imply more layers may be better

### The output layer

- Functionally just like the hidden layers
- Outputs are passed on to the world outside the neural network


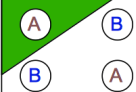
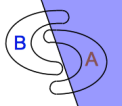


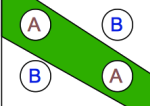
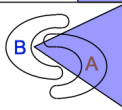
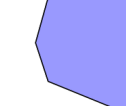
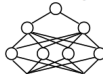
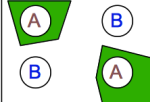

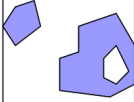
# Feedforward Networks

## Demo

(Online demo)

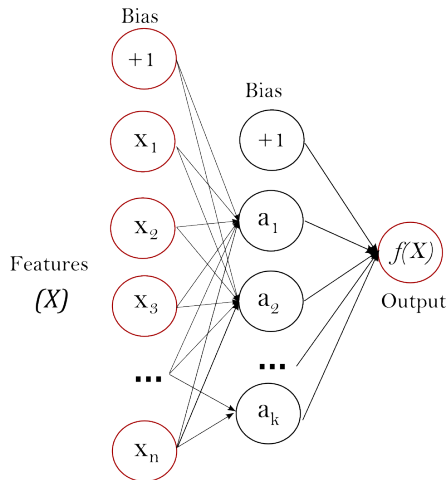
# Feedforward Networks

## Separability

| Structure  | Types of Decision Regions                             | Exclusive-OR Problem  | Classes with Meshed regions   | Most General Region Shapes  |
|--|---|---|---|---|
| <b>Single-Layer</b><br> | <b>Half Plane Bounded By Hyperplane</b>               |  |  |  |
| <b>Two-Layer</b><br>    | <b>Convex Open Or Closed Regions</b>                  |  |  |  |
| <b>Three-Layer</b><br>  | <b>Arbitrary (Complexity Limited by No. of Nodes)</b> |  |  |  |

# Feedforward Networks

## Bias in a MLP



(Source)

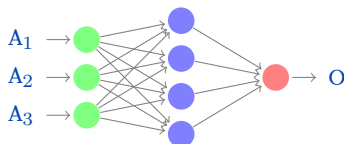
# Training algorithms

## Problem statement (I)

ANNs can perform different tasks

- Classification, regression, others

Classification (or supervised learning) uses a training set



| A <sub>1</sub> | A <sub>2</sub> | A <sub>3</sub> | O   | Y    |
|----------------|----------------|----------------|-----|------|
| 1,1            | 2,5            | 4,5            | 0,2 | -0,1 |
| 0,9            | 2,4            | 1,2            | 0,5 | 0,4  |
| 1,0            | 2,0            | 9,9            | 0,4 | 1,2  |

Toss function: Measure of the error

- Y and O are the desired and observed outputs
- Usually mean squared error (MSE):  $f(w) = E = \frac{1}{2}(\gamma - o)^2$

# Training algorithms

## Problem statement (II)

Problem: Determine  $\vec{w}$  that minimize  $f(\vec{w})$

- Remember,  $\vec{w}$  is our network
- This is a classical optimization problem
- Any optimization algorithm can be used
- ... in AI, optimization means search

We do know analytically  $f(\vec{w}) \Rightarrow$  Optimization based on gradients



# Training algorithms

## Gradient Descent (I)

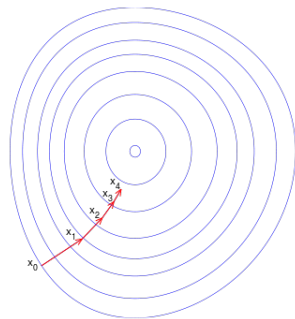
Calculate the gradient of the loss function with respect weights

- Adjust weights along gradient direction
- Gradient provides the direction
- $\alpha$  is the **learning rate** ( $|\alpha| < 1$ )

### Gradient descent

```

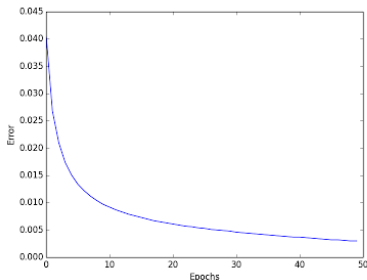
1:  $\vec{w} \leftarrow \text{random}()$ 
2: while Not converged do
3:   for all  $w_i \in \vec{w}$  do
4:      $w_i \leftarrow w_i - \alpha \frac{\partial}{\partial w_i} f(\vec{w})$ 
5:   end for
6: end while
  
```



# Training algorithms

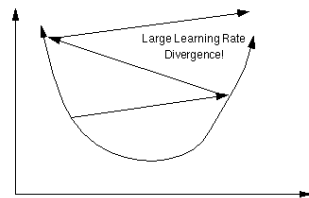
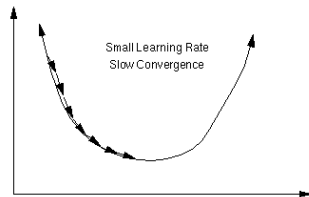
## Gradient Descent (II)

Each iteration is named **epoch**



(Source)

### Learning rate



(Source)

# Training algorithms

## Stochastic Gradient Descent (I)

SDG approximates the gradient sampling the dataset

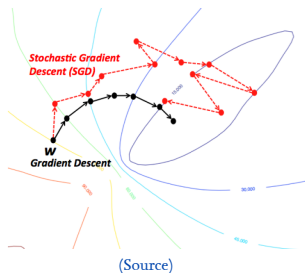
On-line One sample

Mini-batch Several samples

Batch All the samples (Gradient Descent)

Computations are faster ...

- ... but gradient estimation looses accuracy



# Training algorithms

## Stochastic Gradient Descent (II)

Usually, a **momentum** is introduced as

$$w^{k+1} = w^k - \alpha z^{k+1}$$

with

$$z^{k+1} = \beta z^k + \nabla g(\text{in})$$

where ...

- $\alpha$  is the learning rate
- $\beta$  is the momentum strength
- If  $\beta = 0$  then gradient descent

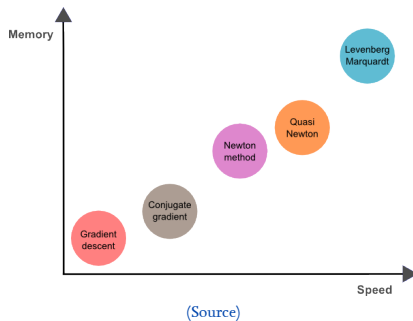
(On-line demo)

# Training algorithms

## Other optimization algorithms (I)

### Other second derivative-based optimization algorithms

- Newton's method
- Quasi-Newton's method
- Levenberg-Marquardt method
- Conjugate Gradient



# Training algorithms

## Other optimization algorithms (II)

Learning reate / momentum adaptative methods

- AdaGrad - Adaptive Gradient Algorithm
- RMSProp - Root Mean Square Propagation
- Adam - Adaptive Moment Estimation

# Training algorithms

## Backpropagation

Backpropagation is an efficient algorithm to compute gradients

- It applies the chain rule to propagate errors
- Implicit in optimization algorithms

### Backpropagation algorithm

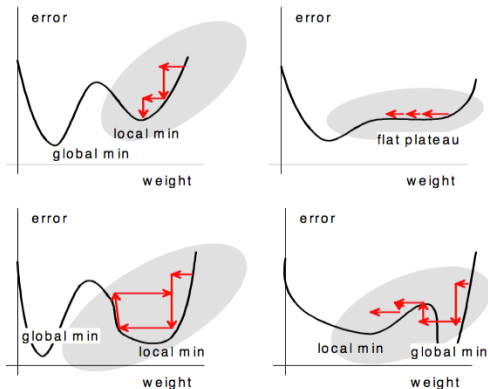
1. Compute output
2. Compute error
3. For each layer, repeat the following steps
  - 3.1 Propagate errors backwards
  - 3.2 Update weights between two layers

# Training algorithms

## Learning problems

### Potential problems

- Local minima
- Flat plateau
- Oscillation
- Missing good minima





# Training algorithms

## Learning problems: Under and overfitting (I)

**Underfitting:** Does not learn

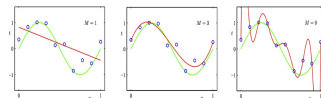
- Topology too simple

**Overfitting:** Memorizes samples

- Topology too complex
- Perhaps, the most serious concern in ML
- The net fails when exposed to new data

### Under- and Over-fitting examples

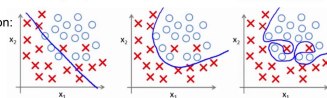
Regression:



predictor too inflexible:  
cannot capture pattern

predictor too flexible:  
fits noise in the data

Classification:



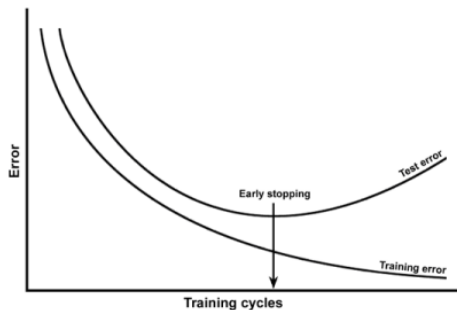
(Source)

# Training algorithms

## Learning problems: Under and overfitting (II)

Solution: Evaluate generalization capabilities

- Split training and validation sets and measure errors



(Source)

# Acknowledgements

- Jesus Aguilar Ruiz, Pablo de Olavide, Seville, Spain
- Daniel Rodríguez, Universidad de Alcalá, Alcalá de Henares, Spain