

# Intro to Neural Nets

Class Logistics and Introduction

# Session Agenda

## 1. INTRO & LOGISTICS

- Who am I? Why should you care what I have to say?
- Schedule and evaluation criteria.
- Delivery format, etc.

## 2. WHAT IS DEEP LEARNING?

- How did we get here? When are these techniques this useful?
- Examples of good, useful, and problematic applications

## 3. THE BASICS & A FIRST EXAMPLE

- What is a neural network?
- How does it work?
- Training our first neural network.





# About Me



# Grading & Evaluation



Premodule quiz



## Post module

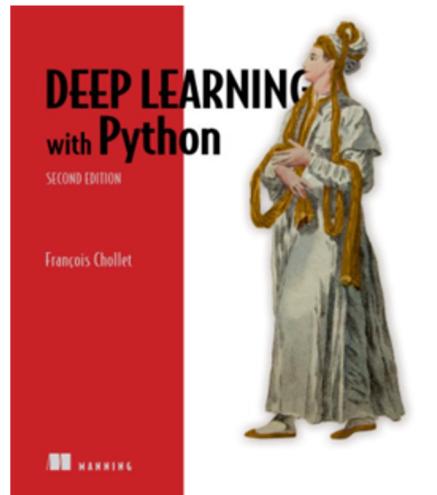
(40%) INDIVIDUAL PROJECT - Complete the Deep Learning assignment posted on NYU Brightspace . Please feel free to write to me and TF for any questions. The exercise should be done ***independently***. Discussions with other students are allowed, but each student needs to submit his/her individual write-up. Please submit a single Colab/RMD/HTML/PDF file as your homework submission (with your name and ID)

### PLUS

30% GROUP PROJECT -- Assume you are a technical leader or business manager of a company, Brainstorm the main business of your company and the size of the business. Please describe the details of your virtual company. Describe how AI can potentially help your business. Describe in more detail about an AI strategy that you would like to implement. You should provide the timeline, the team, and the data acquisition strategy, and any other ideas that you would like to share. Based on the information above, please organize them and write an essay on the plan of implementing an AI strategy in your "virtual" or "real" company (12 point font, 1.5 line space, at maximum 2 pages).



# Textbook



Chollet, Francois. (2021). *Deep Learning with Python* (2<sup>nd</sup> Edition).  
Manning Publications Co. **ISBN-13: 978-1617296864**.  
<https://www.manning.com/books/deep-learning-with-python-second-edition>

# We Will Be Using Keras...

## SOFTWARE CONFIGURATION

- You can access Google Colab at <https://colab.research.google.com>. You should have setup a colab account already.



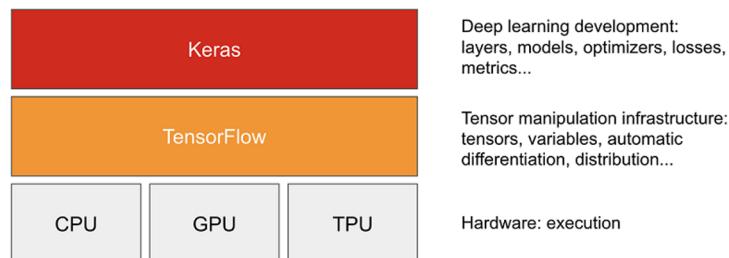
# Keras and Tensorflow

## 1. Tensorflow

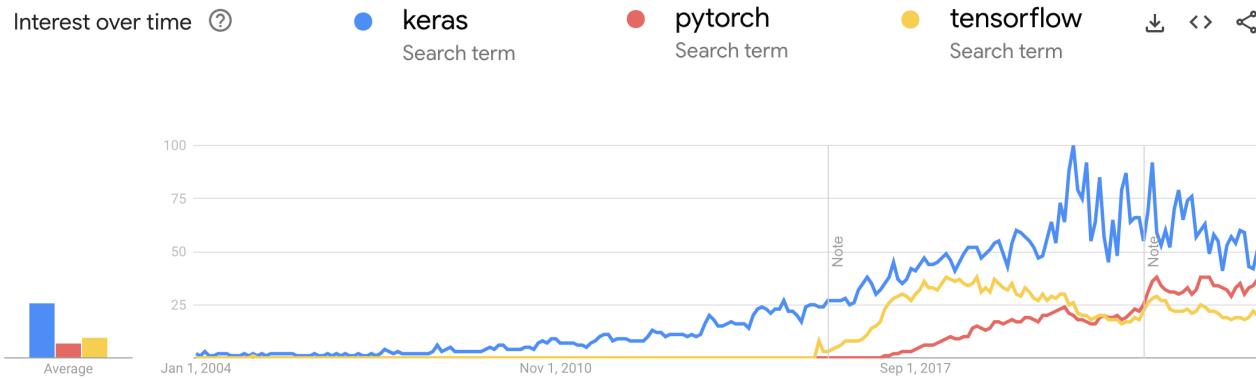
- A Python platform for working with tensors, implementing automatic differentiation, providing access to repositories of (well-known) pre-trained models.

## 2. Keras

- A higher-level API that wraps common usage patterns with Tensorflow functions, pre-defined loss functions, optimization algorithms, etc.
- Keras simplifies data scientists' interaction with Tensorflow.



# Why Keras?



Course



## LECTURE AND DISCUSSION

- For each session block over the next two days, I will begin by presenting concepts, describing logic, discussing implementation considerations.

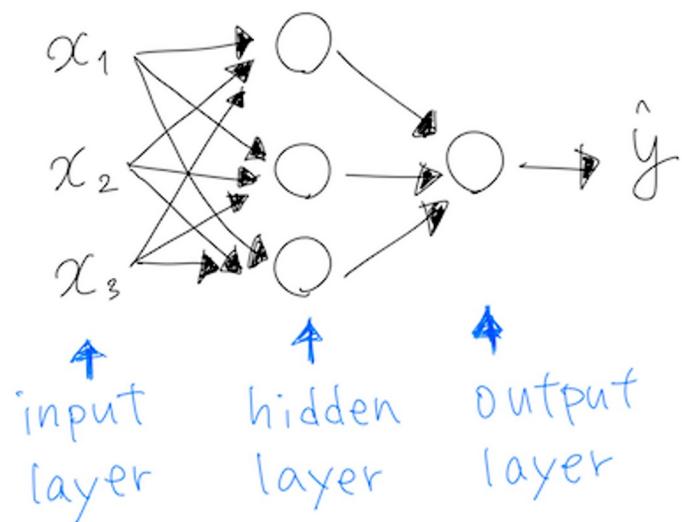
## HANDS-ON EXERCISES

- The latter half of each session will be dedicated to hands on examples in Colab notebooks, where I will walk through the code and explain the logic of what we are doing, allow you to ask questions, etc.

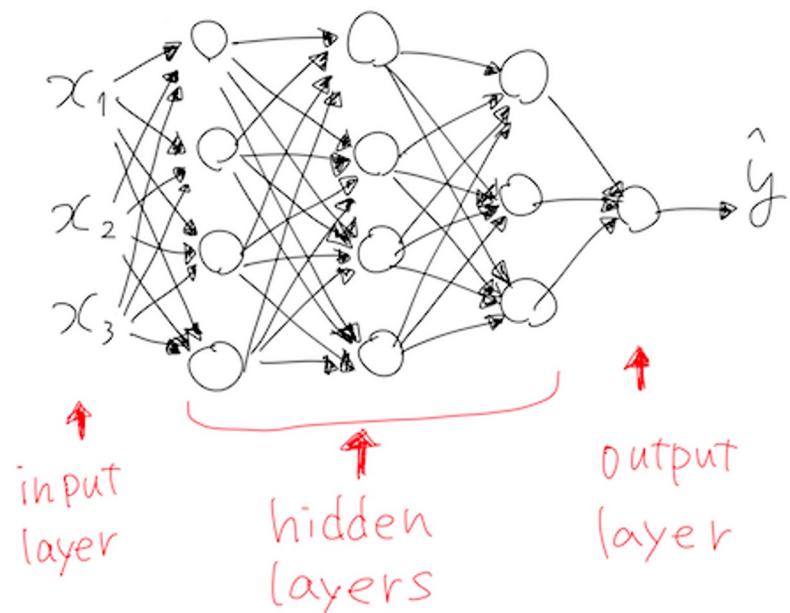
Question: What is ‘Deep’  
(vs. Shallow) Learning?

# What is ‘Deep’ Learning?

Shallow Neural Network



Deep Neural Network



# A Very Simple Application

Communicated by Dana Ballard

## Backpropagation Applied to Handwritten Zip Code Recognition

Y. LeCun  
B. Boser  
J. S. Denker  
D. Henderson  
R. E. Howard  
W. Hubbard  
L. D. Jackel

AT&T Bell Laboratories Holmdel, NJ 07733 USA

The ability of learning networks to generalize can be greatly enhanced by providing constraints from the task domain. This paper demonstrates how such constraints can be integrated into a backpropagation network through the architecture of the network. This approach has been successfully applied to the recognition of handwritten zip code digits provided by the U.S. Postal Service. A single network learns the entire recognition operation, going from the normalized image of the character to the final classification.

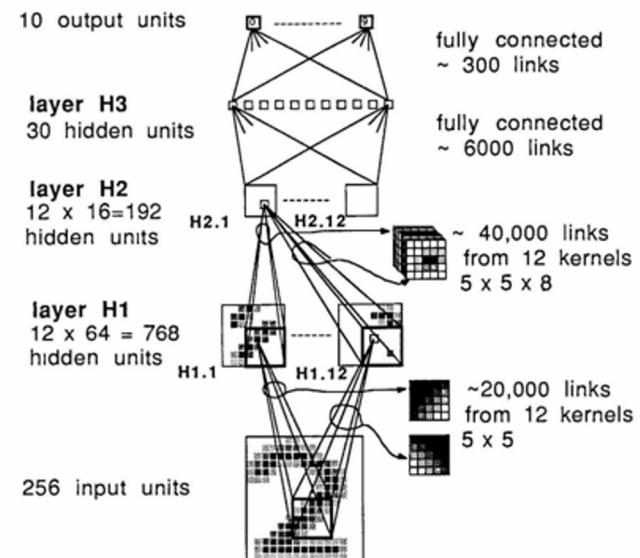


Figure 3 Log mean squared error (MSE) (top) and raw error rate (bottom) versus number of training passes

# Then It Shuffled Along for Decades...

## What was actually wrong with backpropagation in 1986?

- We all drew the wrong conclusions about why it failed.  
The real reasons were:
  1. Our labeled datasets were thousands of times too small.
  2. Our computers were millions of times too slow.
  3. We initialized the weights in a stupid way.
  4. We used the wrong type of non-linearity.

A few years ago, Jeff Dean decided that with enough computation, neural networks might do amazing things.

He built a lot of infrastructure to allow big neural nets to be trained on lots of cores in Google data centers.

THE  
**ROYAL  
SOCIETY**

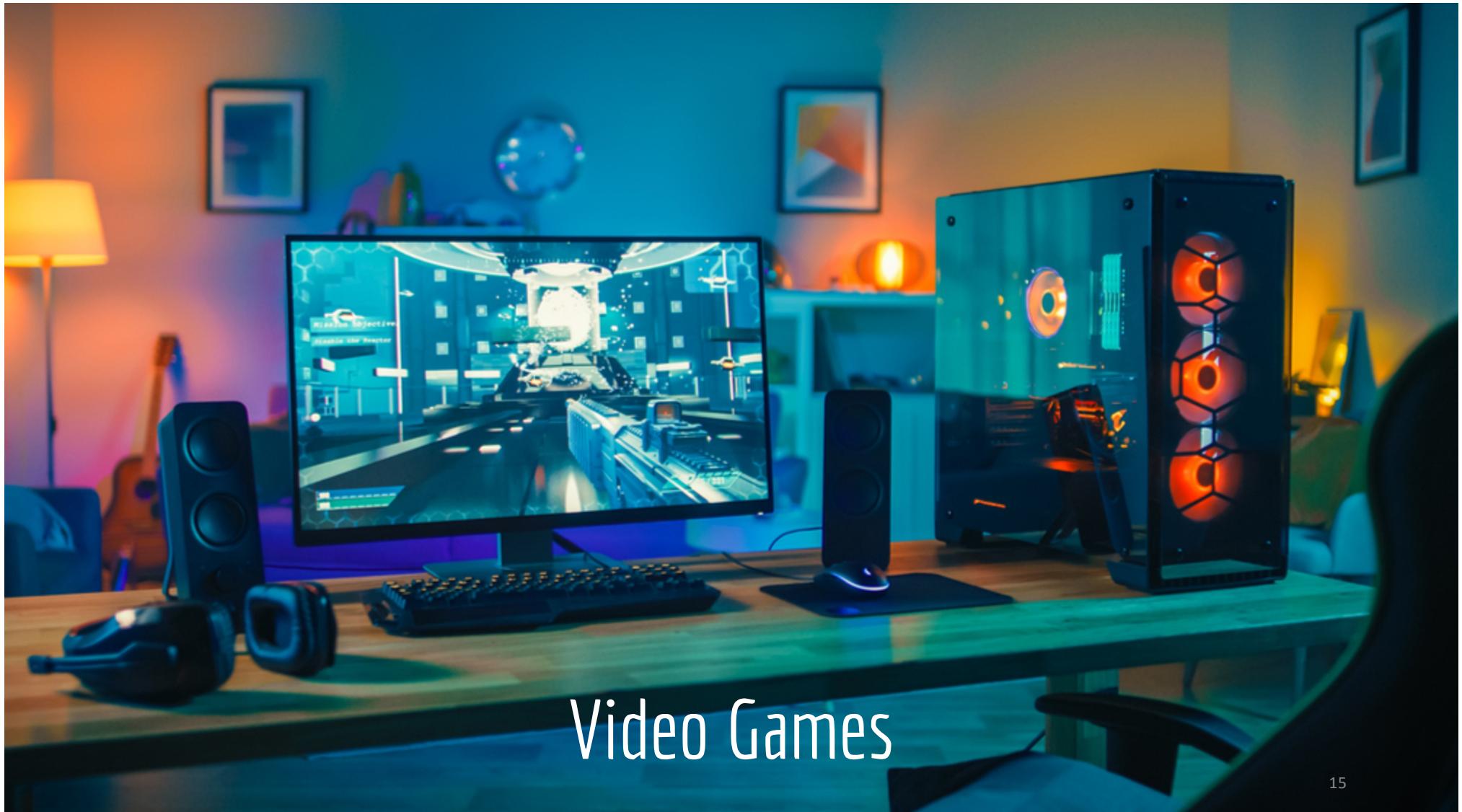




Watch more vid  
[royalsociety.org](https://royalsociety.org) 42:50

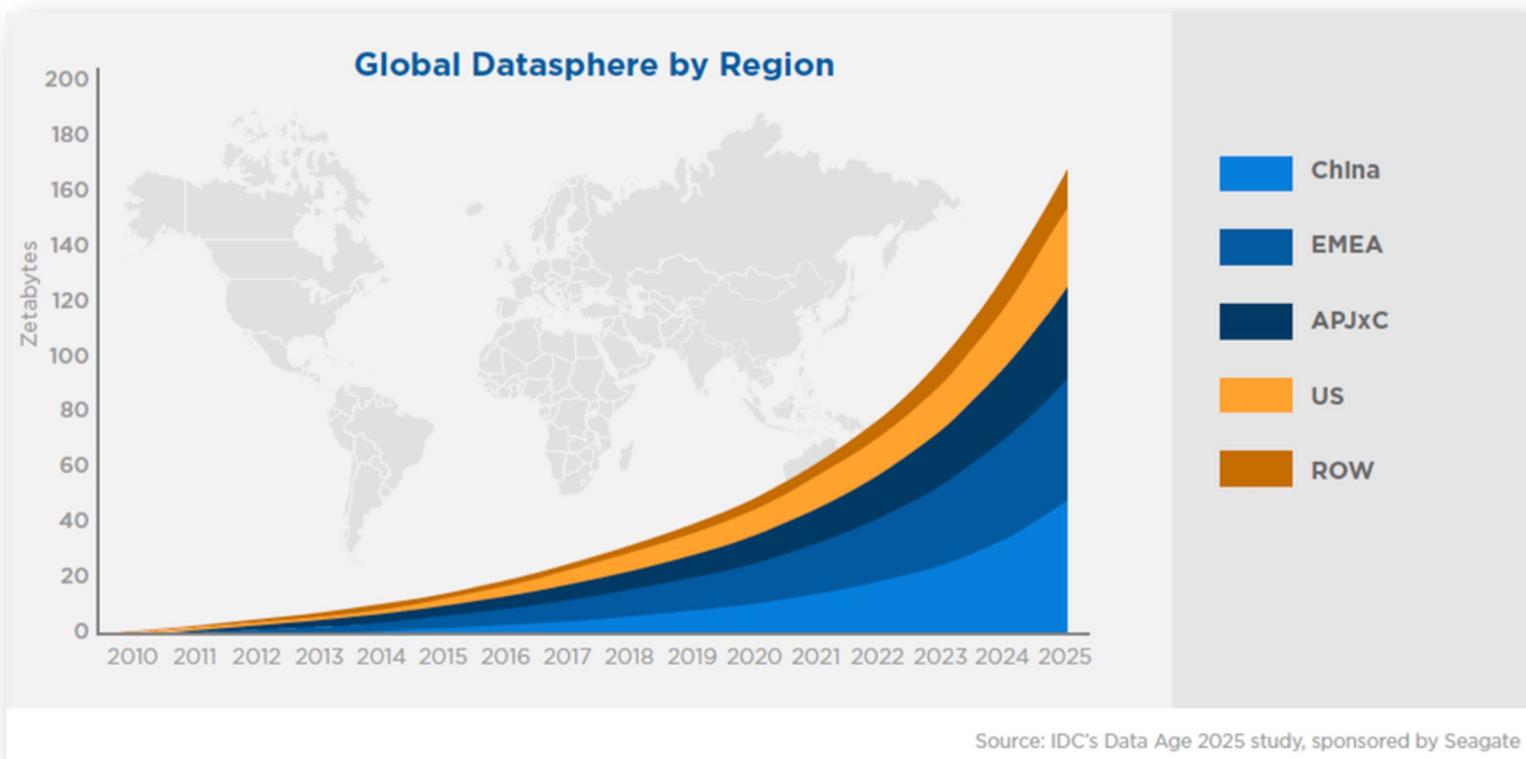
# Now...

# Why Did Deep Learning Take Off?

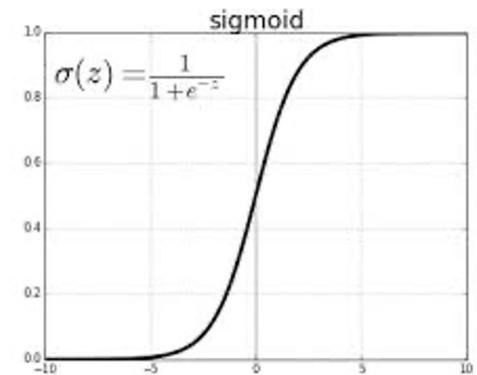
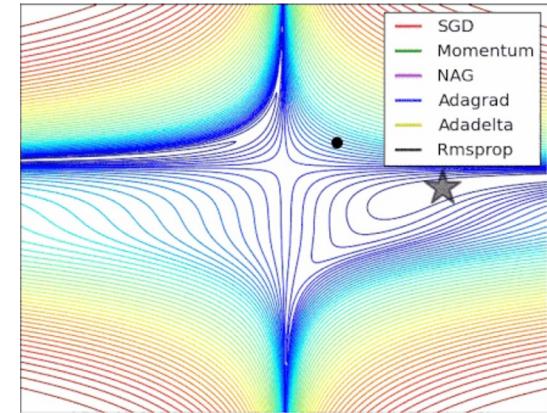
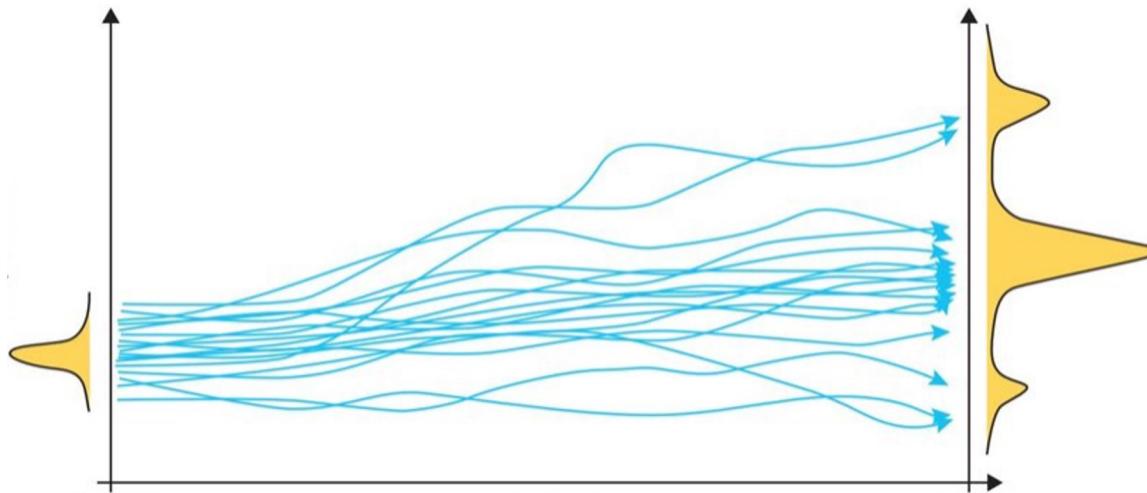
A photograph of a well-lit gaming setup. A large monitor sits on a desk, displaying a futuristic video game with a white, spherical character in a blue, geometric environment. To the left of the monitor are two black speakers. In front of the monitor is a black keyboard and a black mouse on a matching mousepad. To the right of the monitor is a tall, black computer tower with a clear side panel showing internal components and illuminated by red and orange lights. On the desk, there are also a pair of black headphones and a small glowing orb. The background features a wall with warm, colorful lighting (orange, yellow, blue) and framed abstract art. A guitar is leaning against the wall on the left.

# Video Games

# Data



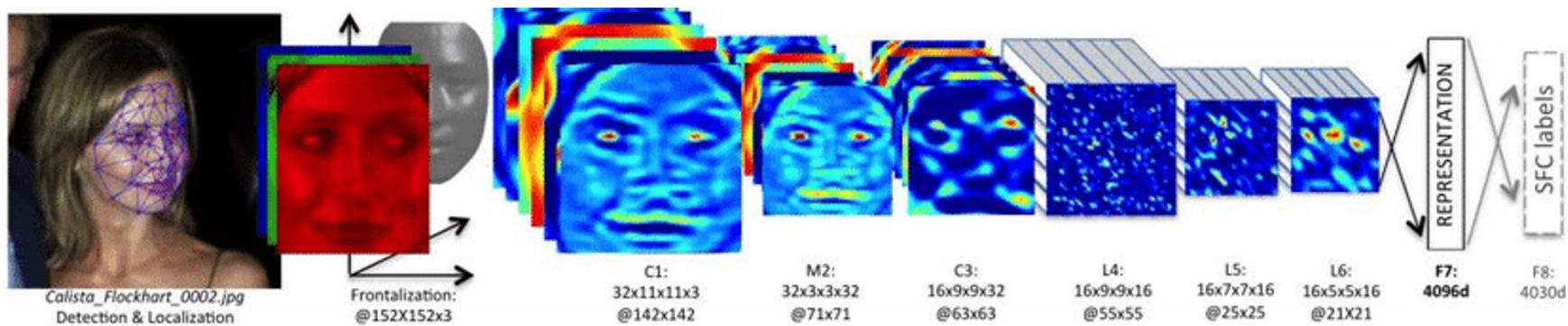
# Algorithmic Improvements



# When to Learn Deeply (vs. Not)

## COMPLEX RELATIONSHIPS

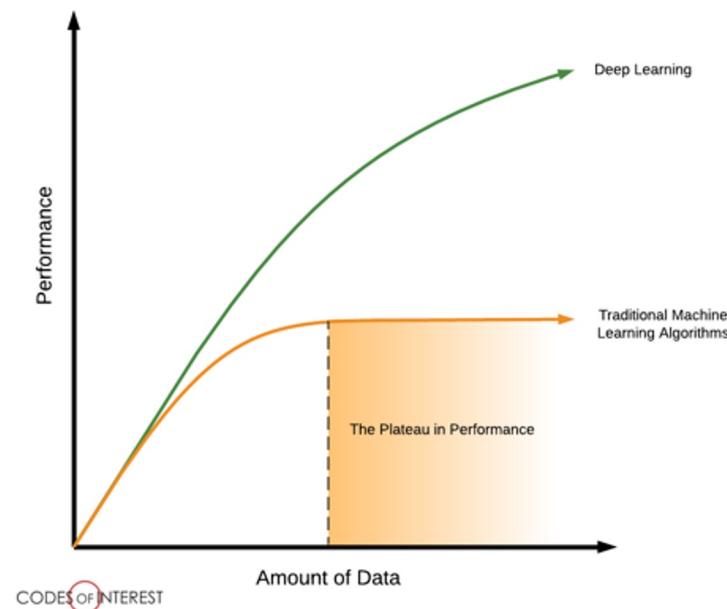
- Complex, non-linear, interactive relationships and mappings; common use cases involve unstructured (high dimensional) data. Deep learning techniques remove the need for feature engineering, a daunting task.



# When to Learn Deeply (vs. Not)

## LOTS OF DATA ON HAND

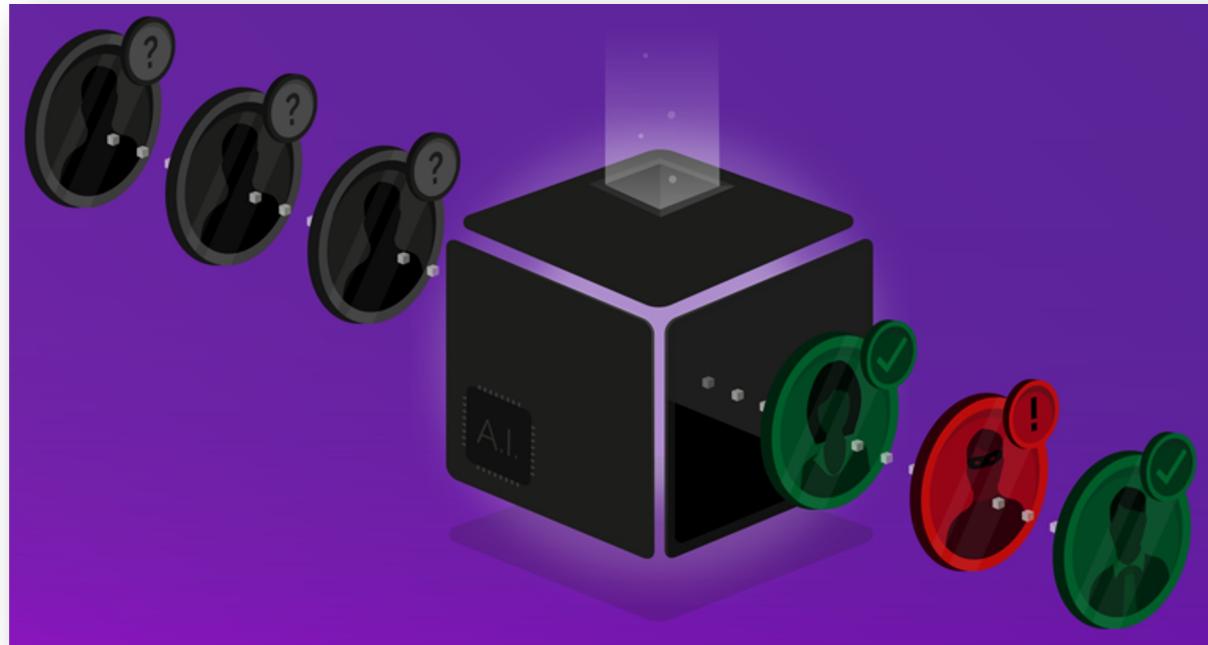
- To be able to learn those complex mappings, typically requires many, many, many training examples.



# When to Learn Deeply (vs. Not)

## LITTLE NEED FOR UNDERSTANDING

- Although there have been advancements in explainable and interpretable AI, deep nets are notoriously “black box” algorithms.



ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

# A GPT-3 bot posted comments on Reddit for a week and no one noticed

Under the username /u/thegentlemetre, the bot was interacting with people on /r/AskReddit, a popular forum for general chat with 30 million users.

By Will Douglas Heaven

October 8, 2020

[Learn more >](#)[Technical Preview](#)

# Your AI pair programmer

With GitHub Copilot, get suggestions for whole lines or entire functions right inside your editor.

[Sign up >](#)

A screenshot of a code editor interface. At the top, there are tabs for 'sentiment.ts', 'write\_sql.go', 'parse\_expenses.py', and 'addresses.rb'. The 'sentiment.ts' tab is active. Below the tabs, a code editor shows the following TypeScript code:

```
1 #!/usr/bin/env ts-node
2
3 import { fetch } from "fetch-h2";
4
5 // Determine whether the sentiment of text is positive
6 // Use a web service
7 async function isPositive(text: string): Promise<boolean> {
8   const response = await fetch(`http://text-processing.com/api/sentiment/`, {
9     method: "POST",
10    body: `text=${text}`,
11    headers: {
```

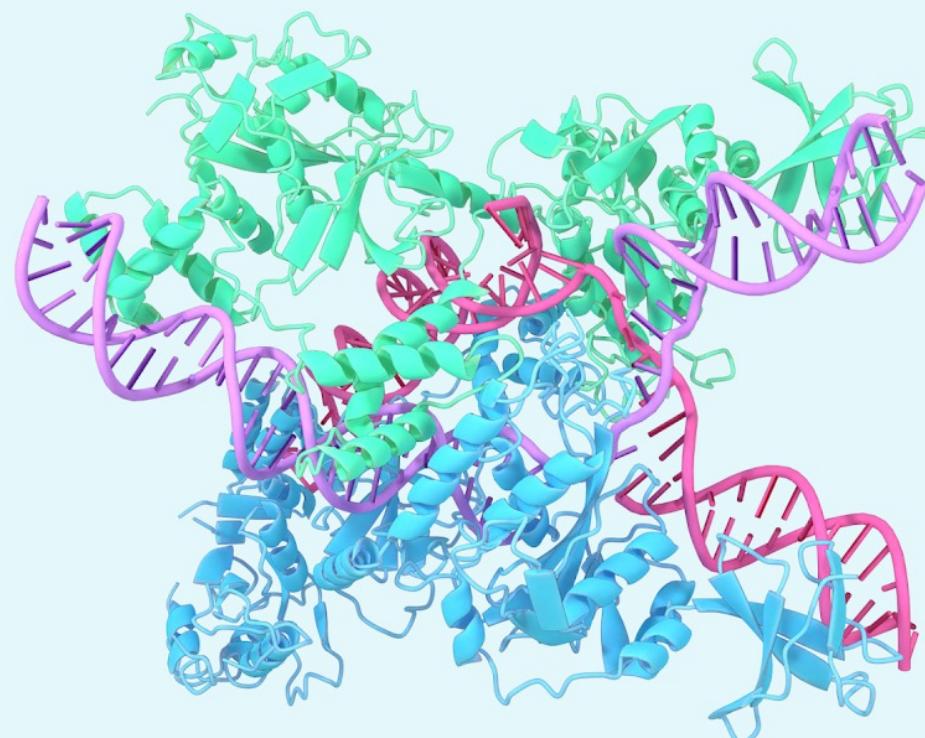
The line 'const response = await fetch(`http://text-processing.com/api/sentiment/`, {' is highlighted with a blue selection bar, indicating it is the current suggestion being previewed.

TECHNOLOGY

## AlphaFold

AlphaFold is accelerating research in nearly every field of biology.

Google DeepMind



© Gordon Burch, 2022

Money Stuff

# Sorry, Zillow's Computer Can't Buy Your House Right Now

Also CEO pay, the Boredom Markets Hypothesis and Big Short guys being big short.

By Matt Levine [+Sign Up](#)

October 18, 2021, 1:18 PM EDT

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Matt Levine is a Bloomberg Opinion columnist covering finance. He was an editor of Dealbreaker, an investment banker at Goldman Sachs, a mergers and acquisitions lawyer at Wachtell, Lipton, Rosen & Katz, and a clerk for the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 3rd Circuit.

[Read more opinion](#)

## Zillow

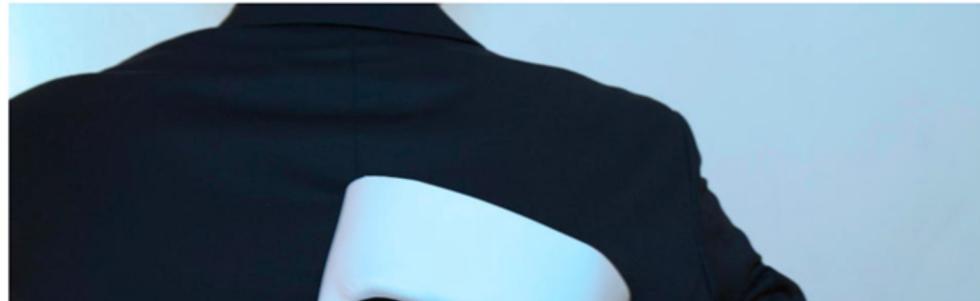
Deciding how much you should pay for a share of large-cap publicly traded stock is not an *entirely* solved problem, but it's pretty close. If someone comes to you and says "hey I have 100 shares of Microsoft Corp. stock for sale, how much will you pay me for it," a pretty decent answer would be to look at the last price at which Microsoft traded – like a millisecond ago – and subtract, you know, one cent from that price. That will get you a price that is likely to be competitive (the seller might actually sell to you), likely to be profitable (you might be able to sell it for more than you paid), and



ZEGNA

EDITORS' PICK | Oct 14, 2021, 07:01am EDT | 79,274 views

# Fraudsters Cloned Company Director's Voice In \$35 Million Bank Heist, Police Find

**Thomas Brewster** Forbes Staff[Cybersecurity](#)*Associate editor at Forbes, covering cybercrime, privacy, security and surveillance.*  

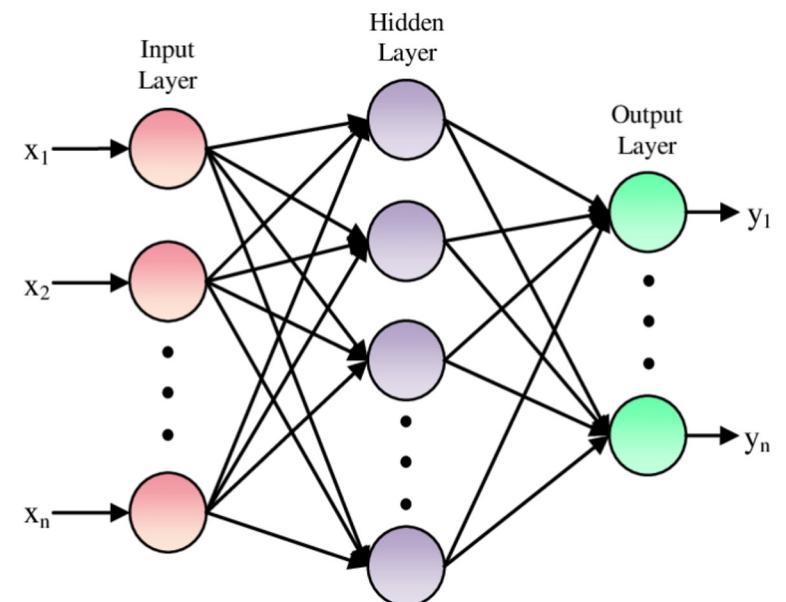
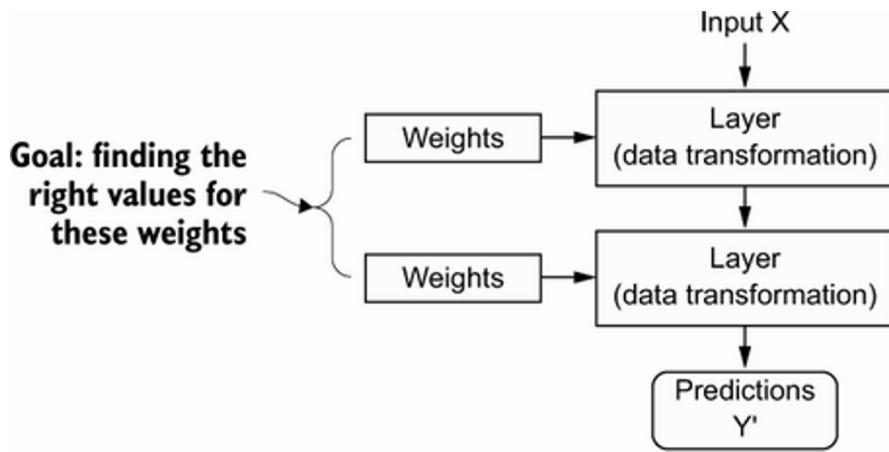


<https://twitter.com/gburtch/status/1366806289192517634>

# How Neural Nets Work, Conceptually

# Model Parameters

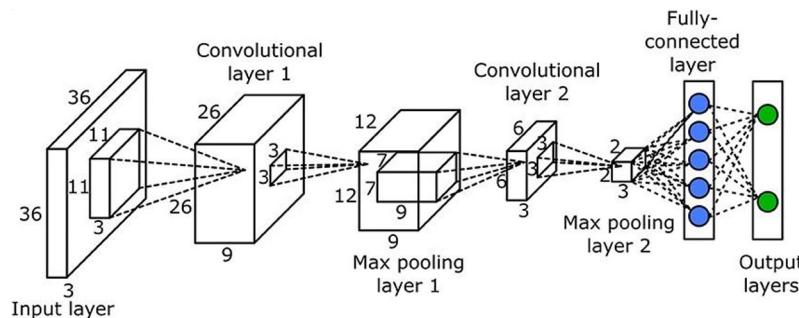
**Goal: finding the right values for these weights**



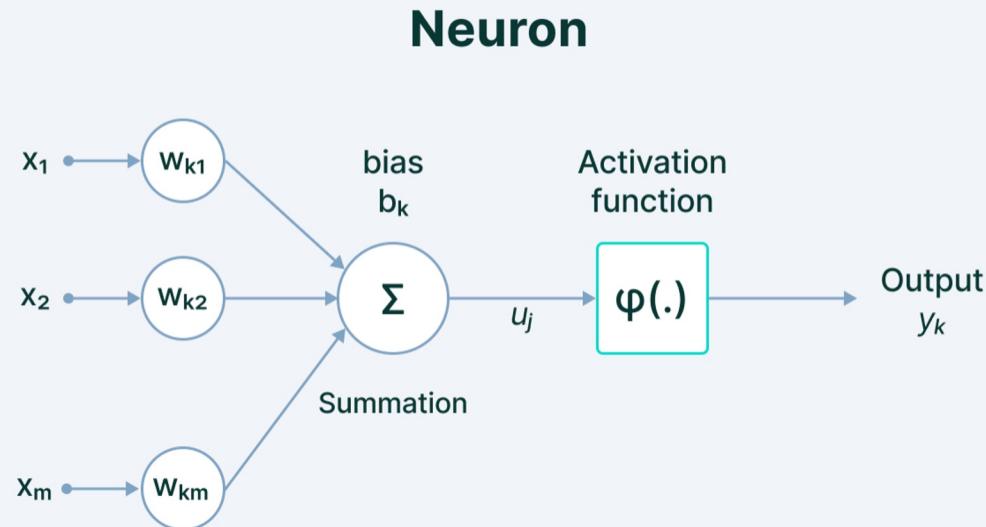
# Neural Network Layers

## Layers are the Key Building Block of NNs

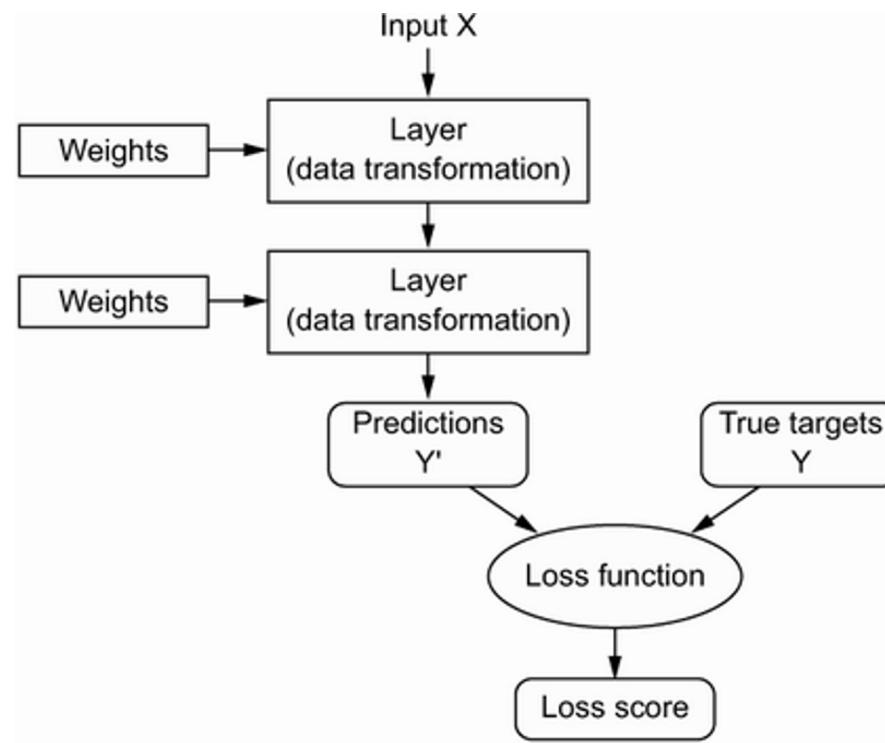
- Dense layers are the simplest form, `layers.Dense()`, but there are others, e.g., convolutional layers, max-pooling layers, recurrent layers, and so on:  
<https://keras.io/api/layers/>
- These are different architectural components that can be mixed and matched in different ways to create different network topologies. It is also possible to construct custom layers.



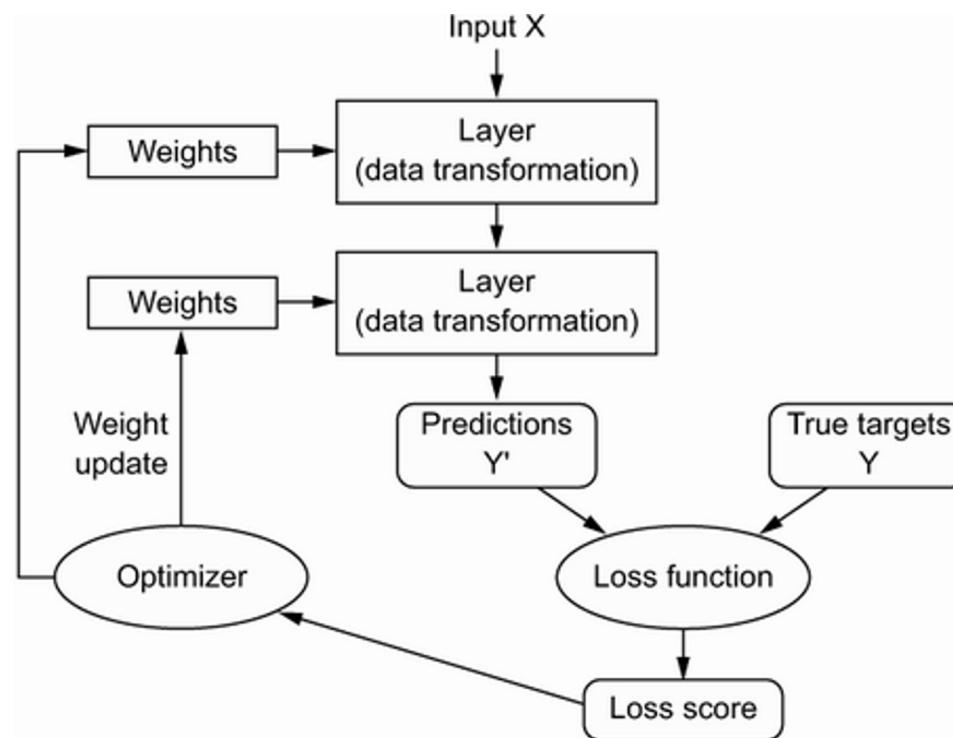
# Model Parameters



# Loss Function (Error)



# Optimization



# Questions?

# First Example

