Machine Learning and Data Mining (IT4242E)

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Hanoi University of Science and Technology
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Academic year 2021-2022

The course's content:

- Introduction
- Performance evaluation of the ML/DM system
- Regression problem
- Classification problem
 - Artificial neural network
- Clustering problem
- Association rule mining problem

Artificial neural network – Introduction (1)

- Artificial neural network ANN
 - Simulation of biological neuron systems (the human brains)
 - ANN is a structure/network made up of a number of neurons linked together

A neuron:

- Has an input/output characteristics
- Performs a local calculation (i.e., function)
- The output value of a neuron is determined by:
 - Its input/output characteristics
 - Its links to other neurons
 - (Possibly) additional inputs

Artificial neural network – Introduction (2)

- ANN can be viewed as a highly distributed and parallel information processing structure
- ANN is able to learn, recall, and generalize from training data by assigning and adjusting (i.e., adapting) the weight values (i.e., importance degrees) of the links between neurons
- The function of an ANN is determined by:
 - Topology of the neural network
 - Input/output characteristics of each neuron
 - □ Learning (i.e., training) strategy
 - Training data

ANN – Typical applications (1)

- Image processing and Computer vision
 - Examples: Image segmentation and analysis, object detection, object recognition, human activity recognition and prediction, character recognition, face recognition, etc.
- Natural language understanding
 - Examples: Text classification, Name entity recognition (NER),
 Sentiment analysis, Question answering, etc.
- Speech understanding
 - Examples: Speech recognition, etc.
- Signal processing
 - Example: Signal analysis and seismic morphology for earthquake prediction
- Pattern recognition
 - Examples: Feature extraction, Radar signal analysis and classification, Fingerprint recognition, etc.

ANN – Typical applications (2)

Financial systems

 Examples: Stock market analysis, real estate evaluation, credit card access control, stock trading, etc.

Medical systems

 Examples: ECG signals analysis and understanding, diseases diagnostics, medical images processing, etc.

Energy systems

 Examples: System status evaluation, problem detection and troubleshooting, workload prediction, safety evaluation, etc.

Military systems

Examples: Detection of mines, radar noise classification, etc.

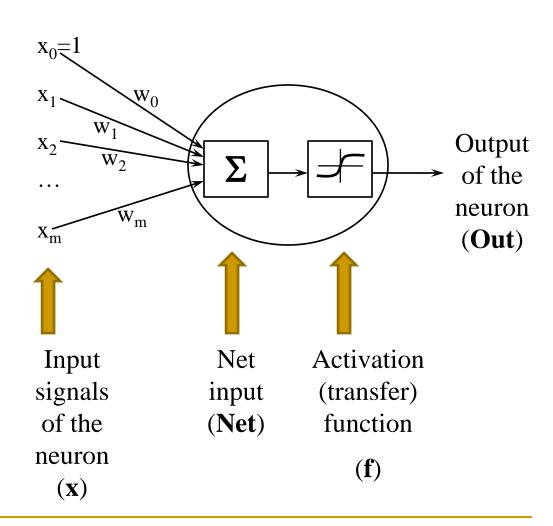
...(and many other application areas!)

DNN – Break-through application domains

- Deep neural networks (DNN) achieves breakthrough results in some application domains, such as:
 - Computer vision
 - Natural language understanding
 - Speed recognition

Structure and operation of a neuron

- Input signals of a neuron (x_i, i=1..m)
 - Each input signal x_i
 associates with a weight w_i
- Adjustment (bias) weight w_0 (for x_0 =1)
- Net input is an integrated function of the input signals
 Net (w, x)
- Activation (transfer)
 function calculates the
 output value of the neuron –
 f (Net (w, x))
- Output of the neuron:
 Out=f(Net(w,x))

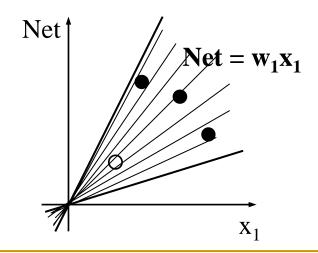


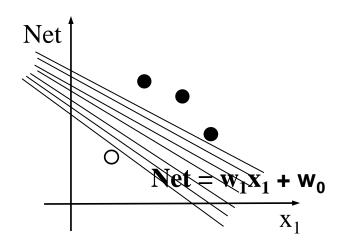
Net input and Bias

The net input is usually calculated by a linear function:

$$Net = w_0 + w_1 x_1 + w_2 x_2 + \dots + w_m x_m = w_0 \cdot 1 + \sum_{i=1}^m w_i x_i = \sum_{i=0}^m w_i x_i$$

- Meaning of the bias
 - \rightarrow Family of separation functions Net= w_1x_1 cannot separate examples into 2 classes
 - \rightarrow But: Family of functions Net= $w_1x_1+w_0$ can do that!



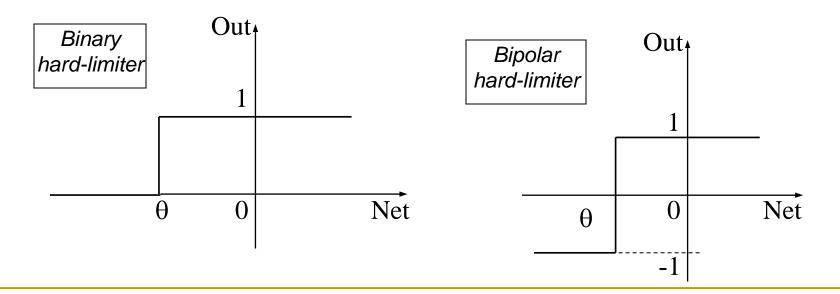


Activation function: Hard-limiter

- Also called Threshold function
- The output value takes either of the 2 values
- $Out(Net) = hl1(Net, \theta) = \begin{cases} 1, \text{ nêu } Net \ge \theta \\ 0, \text{ nêu nguoc lai} \end{cases}$

- θ is a threshold value
- Disadvantage: Discontinuous, and its derivative is discontinuous

$$Out(Net) = hl2(Net, \theta) = sign(Net, \theta)$$

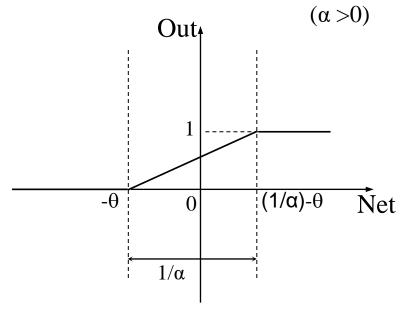


Activation function: Threshold logic

$$Out(Net) = tl(Net, \alpha, \theta) = \begin{cases} 0, & \text{if} & Net < -\theta \\ \alpha(Net + \theta), & \text{if} -\theta \le Net \le \frac{1}{\alpha} - \theta \\ 1, & \text{if} & Net > \frac{1}{\alpha} - \theta \end{cases}$$

$$= \max(0, \min(1, \alpha(Net + \theta)))$$

- Also called Saturating linear function
- A combination of 2 activation functions: Linear and Hard-limiter
- α defines the slope of the linear range
- Disadvantage: Continuous, but its derivative is discontinuous



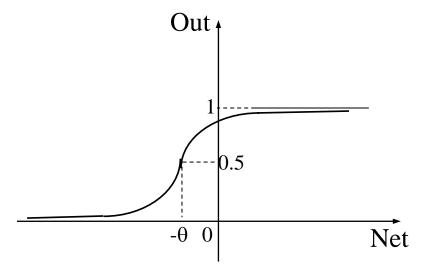
Activation function: Sigmoidal (Logistic)

$$Out(Net) = sf(Net, \alpha, \theta) = \frac{1}{1 + e^{-\alpha(Net + \theta)}}$$

- Very popularly used
- **Parameter** α defines the slope
- The output value is in range of (0,1)

Advantages:

- Continuous, and its derivative is continuous
- The derivative of a sigmoidal function can be represented by a function of itself



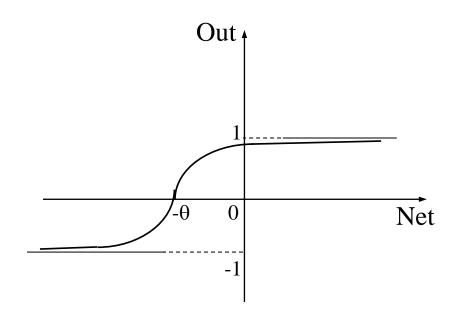
Activation function: Hyperbolic tangent

$$Out(Net) = \tanh(Net, \alpha, \theta) = \frac{1 - e^{-\alpha(Net + \theta)}}{1 + e^{-\alpha(Net + \theta)}} = \frac{2}{1 + e^{-\alpha(Net + \theta)}} - 1$$

- Also popularly used
- Parameter α defines the slope
- The output value is in range of (-1,1)

Advantages:

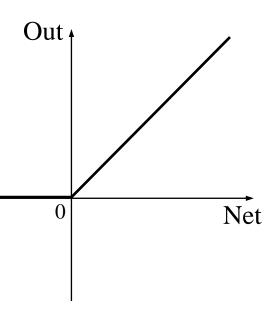
- Continuous, and its derivative is continuous
- The derivative of a tanh function can be represented by a function of itself



Activation function: Rectified linear unit (ReLU)

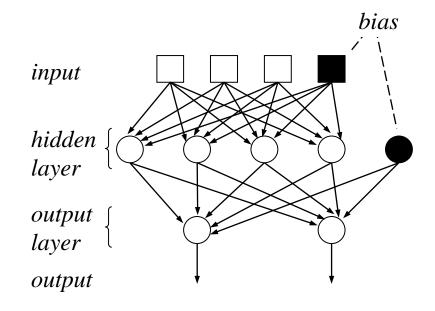
$$Out(Net) = relu(Net) = max(0, Net)$$

- Very popularly used in deep learning
- Advantages (compared to sigmoid, tanh):
 - Avoid the problem "Vanishing gradients"
 - Reduce much of computational cost
- Continuous, but its derivative is discontinuous (i.e., for negative input values)
 - Assumption: Derivative is 0 for negative input values



ANN – Topology (1)

- Topology of an ANN is defined by:
 - Number of input and output signals
 - Number of layers
 - Number of neuron for each layer
 - Number of weights of the links for each neuron
 - How neurons (in a layer, or between layers) are connected
 - Which neurons receive error correction signals
- An ANN has:
 - 1 input layer
 - 1 output layer
 - Zero, one, ore more hidden layer(s)



Example: An ANN having 1 hidden layer

- Input: 3 signals
- Output: 2 values
- In total, this ANN has 6 neurons:
 - 4 in the hidden layer
 - 2 in the output layer

ANN – Topology (2)

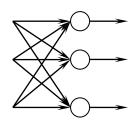
- A layer contains a group of neurons
- A hidden layer is such layer that is a layer located between the input layer and the output layer
- The hidden nodes do not interact directly with the external environment (of the neural network)
- An ANN is called fully connected if all outputs from one layer are connected to every neuron of the next layer

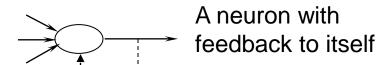
ANN – Topology (3)

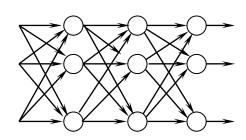
- An ANN is called a feed-forward network if there is not any output of a neuron that is the input of another neuron in the same layer (or a previous layer)
- When the output of a node links backward as the input of another node in the same layer (or a previous layer), then it is a *feedback* network
 - If the feedback is an input to the nodes of the same layer, then it is lateral feedback
- Feedback networks have closed loops called recurrent networks

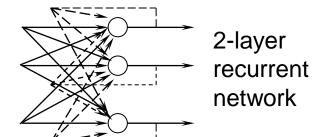
Network topology – Examples

2-layer feedforward network

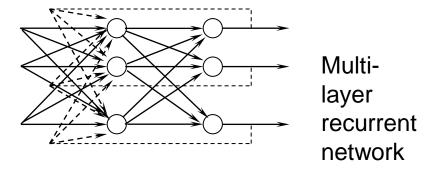








multi-layer feedforward network



ANN – Learning rules

- 2 learning types for ANNs
 - Parameter learning
 - → The goal is to learn (i.e., to adapt) the weights of links in the neural network
 - Structure learning
 - The goal is to adapt the network structure, including the number of neurons and the types of connections between them
- These two types of learning can be done simultaneously or separately
- Most of the learning rules for ANN belong to parameter learning
- In this lecture, we consider just parameter learning

General weight learning rule

At learning step (t), the adjustment of the weights vector w is proportional to the product of the learning signal r(t) and the input x(t)

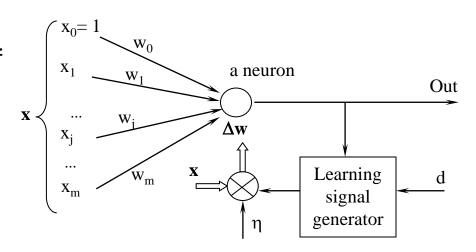
$$\Delta \mathbf{w}^{(t)} \sim \mathbf{r}^{(t)}.\mathbf{x}^{(t)}$$

 $\Delta \mathbf{w}^{(t)} = \eta.\mathbf{r}^{(t)}.\mathbf{x}^{(t)}$

where η (>0) is learning rate

- The learning signal r is a function of w, x, and the expected output d r = g(w,x,d)
- General weight learning rule:

$$\Delta \mathbf{w}^{(t)} = \eta . g(\mathbf{w}^{(t)}, \mathbf{x}^{(t)}, \mathbf{d}^{(t)}) . \mathbf{x}^{(t)}$$



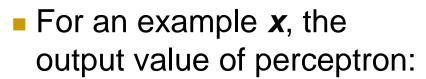
Note: x_i can be:

- An input signal, or
- An output value of another neuron

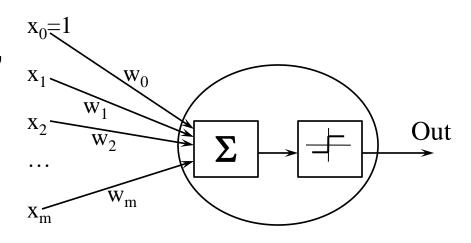
Perceptron

- A perceptron is the simplest kind of ANNs (i.e., containing only 1 neuron)
- Use the hard-limiter activation function

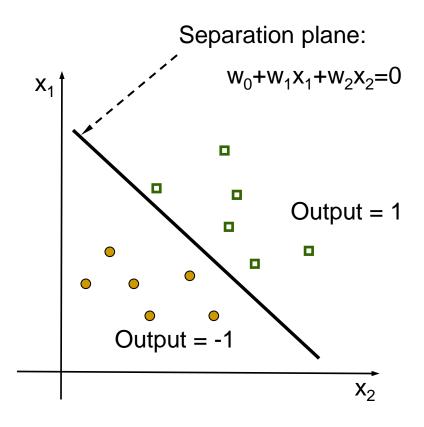
$$Out = sign(Net(w, x)) = sign\left(\sum_{j=0}^{m} w_j x_j\right)$$



- □ 1, if Net(w,x)>0
- □-1, if otherwise



Perceptron – Illustration



Perceptron – Learning algorithm

- Given a training set D= {(x,d)}
 - x is an input vector
 - d is the expected output value (-1 or 1)
- The learning process of a perceptron aims to determine a weights vector that allows the perceptron produces the exact output value (-1 or 1) for each training example
- For a training example x that is correctly classified by the perceptron, the weights vector w does not change
- If d=1 but the perceptron outputs -1 (Out=-1), then w needs to change so that Net(w,x) increases
- If d=-1 but the perceptron outputs 1 (Out=1), then w needs to change so that Net(w,x) decreases

```
Perceptron_incremental(D, η)
Initialize \mathbf{w} (\mathbf{w}_i \leftarrow an initial (small) random value)
do
   for each training instance (x, d) \in D
      Compute the real output value Out
      if (Out≠d)
         \mathbf{w} \leftarrow \mathbf{w} + \eta (d-Out) \mathbf{x}
   end for
until all the training instances in D are correctly classified
```

return w

```
Perceptron_batch(D, η)
Initialize \mathbf{w} (\mathbf{w}_i \leftarrow an initial (small) random value)
do
   \Delta \mathbf{w} \leftarrow 0
   for each training instance (x, d) \in D
       Compute the real output value Out
       if (Out≠d)
           \Delta \mathbf{w} \leftarrow \Delta \mathbf{w} + \eta (d-Out) \mathbf{x}
   end for
   \mathbf{w} \leftarrow \mathbf{w} + \Delta \mathbf{w}
until all the training instances in D are correctly classified
```

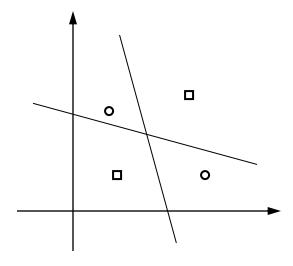
Machine learning and Data mining

return **w**

Perceptron – Limitation

- The learning algorithm of perceptron is proved to converge if:
 - The training examples are linearly separable,
 - Using a small-enough learning rate η
- The learning algorithm of perceptron may not converge if the training examples are not linearly separable
- Then, use the delta rule
 - Guarantee to converge to an approximation of the target function
 - The delta rule uses the gradient descent strategy to find in the space of hypotheses (i.e., weight vectors) a weight vector most appropriate to the training examples

A perceptron cannot classify correctly this training set!



Error/loss function

- Let's consider an ANN that has n output neurons
- For a training example (x,d), the training error caused by the (current) weights vector w:

$$E_{\mathbf{x}}(\mathbf{w}) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \left(d_i - Out_i \right)^2$$

The training error caused by the (current) weights vector w for the entire training set D:

$$E_D(\mathbf{w}) = \frac{1}{|D|} \sum_{\mathbf{x} \in D} E_{\mathbf{x}}(\mathbf{w})$$

Gradient descent

- Gradient of E (denoted as VE) is a vector that has:
 - The direction of going up of the slope
 - The length is proportional to the slope
- Gradient *VE* determines the direction that causes the **steepest** increase of the error *E*

$$\nabla E(\mathbf{w}) = \left(\frac{\partial E}{\partial w_1}, \frac{\partial E}{\partial w_2}, \dots, \frac{\partial E}{\partial w_N}\right)$$

where N is the number of weights (links) of the network

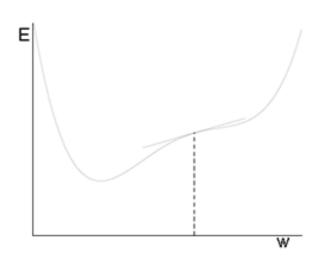
■ Therefore, the direction that causes the **steepest decrease** is the negation of the gradient of E

$$\Delta \mathbf{w} = -\eta \cdot \nabla \mathbb{E} \left(\mathbf{w} \right);$$
 $\Delta w_i = -\eta \frac{\partial E}{\partial w_i}, \quad \forall i = 1..N$

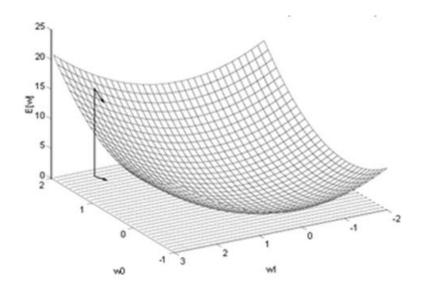
Condition: The activation functions used in the network must be continuous to the weights, and their derivatives are also continuous

Gradient descent – Illustration

1-dimensional space E(w)



2-dimensional space $E(w_1, w_2)$



```
Gradient_descent_incremental (D, η)
Initialize \mathbf{w} (\mathbf{w}_i \leftarrow an initial (small) random value)
do
   for each training instance (x, d) \in D
      Compute the network output
      for each weight component w<sub>i</sub>
          W_i \leftarrow W_i - \eta (\partial E_x / \partial W_i)
      end for
   end for
until (stopping criterion satisfied)
return w
```

Stopping criterion: Number of epochs, Error threshold, ...

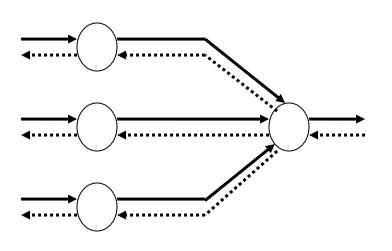
Multi-layer ANN and Back-propagation algorithm

- A perceptron can represent only a linear separation function
- A multi-layer ANN learns by the back-propagation (BP) algorithm can represent a highly non-linear separation function
- The BP learning algorithm is used to learn the weights of a multi-layer ANN
 - □ *The network topology is fixed* (i.e., the neurons and their links are fixed)
 - For each neuron, the activation function must have its derivative continuous
- The BP algorithm applies the gradient descent strategy for the weights update rule
 - To minimize the error (difference) between the real outputs and the expected ones for the training examples

Back-propagation learning algorithm (1)

- The back-propagation learning algorithm searches for a weights vector that minimizes the error made by the system for the training set
- The BP algorithm consists of 2 phases:
 - Signal forward propagation. The input signals (i.e., a vector of input values) are propagated forward from the input layer to the output one (passing through the hidden layers)
 - Error backward propagation
 - Based on the expected output value of the input vector, the system computes the error
 - Starting from the output layer, the error <u>is propagated backward</u> through the network, from a layer to another previous one, until the input layer
 - This error back-propagation is done by computing (recursively) the local gradient of each neuron

Back-propagation learning algorithm (2)



Signal forward propagation:

 Propagate forward the input signals through the network

Error backward propagation:

- Compute the error at the output layer
- Propagate backward the error through the network

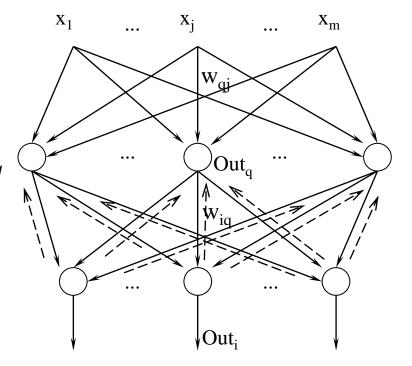
BP algorithm – Network topology

- Let's consider a 3-layer ANN for illustration of the BP alg.
- m input signals x_i (j=1..m)
- I hidden neurons z_q (q=1..I)
- n output neurons y_i (i=1..n)
- w_{qj} is the weight of the link from the input signal x_j to the hidden neuron z_q
- w_{iq} is the weight of the link from the hidden neuron z_q to the output neuron y_i
- Out_q is the (local) output value of the hidden neuron z_q
- Out_i is the output of the network w.r.t. the output neuron y_i



Hidden neuron z_q (q=1..l)

Output neuron y_i (i=1..n)



BP algorithm – Forward propagation (1)

- For a training example x
 - The input vector x is propagated from the input layer to the output one
 - The network produces an actual output *Out* (a vector of the values Out_i , i=1..n)
- For an input vector \mathbf{x} , a hidden neuron \mathbf{z}_{α} receives the net input:

$$Net_q = \sum_{j=1}^m w_{qj} x_j$$

...and produces a (local) output value:
$$Out_q = f(Net_q) = f\left(\sum_{j=1}^m w_{qj}x_j\right)$$

where f(.) is the activation function of the neuron z_{α}

BP algorithm – Forward propagation (2)

■ The net input of the output neuron y_i :

$$Net_i = \sum_{q=1}^{l} w_{iq} Out_q = \sum_{q=1}^{l} w_{iq} f\left(\sum_{j=1}^{m} w_{qj} x_j\right)$$

The neuron y_i produces the output value (i.e., which is an output value of the network):

$$Out_{i} = f(Net_{i}) = f\left(\sum_{q=1}^{l} w_{iq}Out_{q}\right) = f\left(\sum_{q=1}^{l} w_{iq}f\left(\sum_{j=1}^{m} w_{qj}x_{j}\right)\right)$$

The vector of the output values Out_i (i=1..n) are the actual output values of the network for the input vector x

BP algorithm – Error computation

- For a training example x
 - The error signals, caused by the difference between the expected output vector *d* and the actual output vector *Out*, are computed
 - These error signals are back-propagated from the output layer to the previous ones to update the weights (of the links)
- To present the error signals and their back propagation, we need to define an error (loss) function:

$$E(w) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^{n} (d_i - Out_i)^2 = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^{n} [d_i - f(Net_i)]^2$$
$$= \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \left[d_i - f\left(\sum_{q=1}^{l} w_{iq} Out_q\right) \right]^2$$

BP algorithm – Backward propagation (1)

For the gradient descent method, the weights of the links from the last hidden layer to the output one are updated by:

$$\Delta w_{iq} = -\eta \frac{\partial E}{\partial w_{iq}}$$

■ Using the derivative chain rule for $\partial E/\partial w_{iq}$, we have:

$$\Delta w_{iq} = -\eta \left[\frac{\partial E}{\partial Out_i} \right] \left[\frac{\partial Out_i}{\partial Net_i} \right] \left[\frac{\partial Net_i}{\partial w_{iq}} \right] = \eta \left[d_i - Out_i \right] f'(Net_i) \left[Out_q \right] = \eta \delta_i Out_q$$

(Note: The sign "-" is already integrated in the value of ∂E/∂Out_i)

 δ_i is the **error signal** of the neuron y_i at the output layer

$$\delta_{i} = -\frac{\partial E}{\partial Net_{i}} = -\left| \frac{\partial E}{\partial Out_{i}} \right| \left| \frac{\partial Out_{i}}{\partial Net_{i}} \right| = \left[d_{i} - Out_{i} \right] f'(Net_{i})$$

where Net_i is the net input of the neuron y_i at the output layer, and $f'(Net_i) = \partial f(Net_i)/\partial Net_i$

BP algorithm – Backward propagation (2)

To update the weights of the links from the input layer to a hidden one (or from a hidden layer to a next hidden one), we also apply the gradient descent method and the derivative chain rule:

$$\Delta w_{qj} = -\eta \frac{\partial E}{\partial w_{qj}} = -\eta \left[\frac{\partial E}{\partial Out_q} \right] \left[\frac{\partial Out_q}{\partial Net_q} \right] \left[\frac{\partial Net_q}{\partial w_{qj}} \right]$$

From the formula of the error function $E(\mathbf{w})$, we see that each error component $(d_i y_i)$ (i=1..n) is a function of Out_a

$$E(\mathbf{w}) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \left[d_i - f \left(\sum_{q=1}^{l} w_{iq} Out_q \right) \right]^2$$

BP algorithm – Backward propagation (3)

By applying the derivative chain rule, we have:

$$\Delta w_{qj} = \eta \sum_{i=1}^{n} \left[(d_i - Out_i) f'(Net_i) w_{iq} \right] f'(Net_q) x_j$$
$$= \eta \sum_{i=1}^{n} \left[\delta_i w_{iq} \right] f'(Net_q) x_j = \eta \delta_q x_j$$

lacksquare is the error signal of the neuron z_q at a hidden layer

$$\delta_{q} = -\frac{\partial E}{\partial Net_{q}} = -\left[\frac{\partial E}{\partial Out_{q}}\right]\left[\frac{\partial Out_{q}}{\partial Net_{q}}\right] = f'(Net_{q})\sum_{i=1}^{n} \delta_{i}w_{iq}$$

where Net_q is the net input of the neuron z_q at a hidden layer, and $f'(Net_q) = \partial f(Net_q)/\partial Net_q$

BP algorithm – Backward propagation (4)

- In the formulae of computation of the error signals δ_i and δ_q , the error signal of a neuron at a hidden layer is different from the error signal of a neuron at the output layer
- Because of this difference, the weights update procedure of the BP algorithm is called the general delta learning rule
- The error signal δ_q of the neuron z_q at a hidden layer is defined by:
 - □ The error signals δ_i of the neurons y_i at the output layer (that the neuron z_q links to), and
 - □ The weights *w_{iq}*
- An important characteristic of the BP algorithm: The weights update rule is local
 - To compute the change (update) of the weight of a link, the system needs to use just the values at the 2 ends of that link!

BP algorithm – Backward propagation (5)

- The process of computing the error signals mentioned above can be extended (generalized) easily for an ANN that has more than 1 hidden layer
- The general form of the weights update rule of the BP algorithm is:

$$\Delta W_{ab} = \eta \delta_a X_b$$

- □ b and a are the 2 indexes corresponding to the 2 ends of the link $(b \rightarrow a)$ (from neuron (or input signal) b to neuron a)
- x_b is the output value of a neuron at a hidden layer (or an input signal) b,
- \square δ_a is the error signal of neuron a

Back_propagation_incremental(D, Ŋ)

The ANN consists of Q layers, q = 1,2,...,Q

^qNet_i and ^qOut_i are the net input and the output value of neuron i at layer q

The ANN has *m* input signals and *n* output neurons

 qw_{ij} is the weight of the link from neuron j at layer (q-1) to neuron i at layer q

Step 0 (Initialization)

Select the error threshold $E_{threshold}$ (i.e., the maximum acceptable error) Initialize the weights by small and random values

Assign E=0

Step 1 (Beginning of an epoch)

Apply the input vector of the training example k to the input layer (q=1)

$${}^{q}Out_{i} = {}^{1}Out_{i} = x_{i}^{(k)}, \forall i$$

Step 2 (Forward propagation of the input signals)

Forwardly propagate the input signals through the ANN, until receiving the output values of the ANN (at the output layer) ${}^{Q}Out_{i}$

$${}^{q}Out_{i} = f({}^{q}Net_{i}) = f\left(\sum_{j} {}^{q}w_{ij} {}^{q-1}Out_{j}\right)$$

Step 3 (Computation of the output error)

Compute the output error of the ANN and the error signal ${}^{Q}\delta_{i}$ of each neuron at the output layer $E = E + \frac{1}{2}\sum_{i=1}^{n}\left(d_{i}^{(k)} - {}^{Q}Out_{i}\right)^{2}$

$${}^{Q}\delta_{i} = (d_{i}^{(k)} - {}^{Q}Out_{i})f'({}^{Q}Net_{i})$$

Step 4 (Backward propagation of the output error)

Backwardly propagate the output error to update the weights and compute the error signals $q^{-1}\delta_i$ for the previous layers

$$\Delta^{q} \mathbf{w}_{ij} = \eta . (q \delta_i) . (q - 1) \mathbf{Q} \mathbf{u}_{ij}; \qquad q \mathbf{w}_{ij} = q \mathbf{w}_{ij} + \Delta^{q} \mathbf{w}_{ij}$$

$$^{q-1}\delta_i = f'(^{q-1}Net_i)\sum_{j}^{q}w_{ji}^{q}\delta_j; \text{ for all } q = Q, Q-1,...,2$$

Step 5 (Check the termination condition at an epoch)

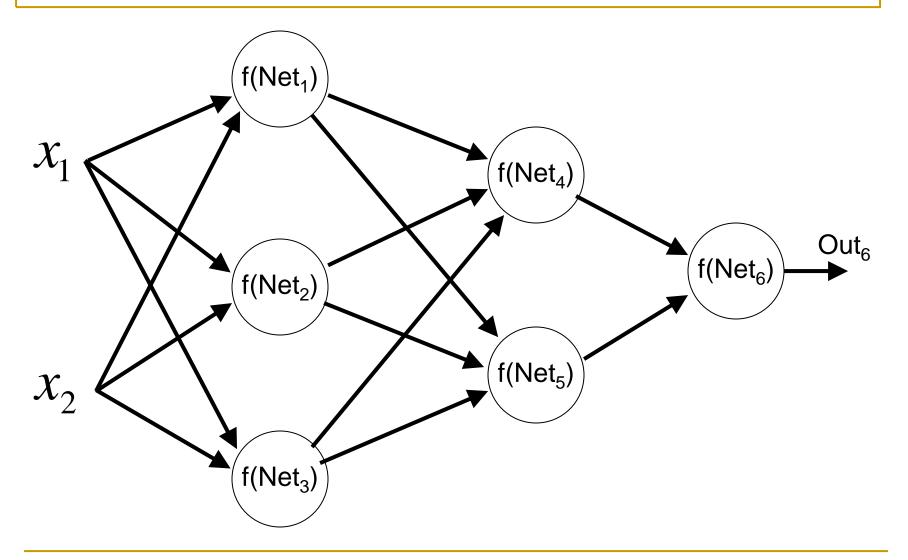
Check if the entire training set is exploited (i.e., if a training epoch is elapsed)

If the entire training set is exploited, then go to Step 6; otherwise, go to Step 1

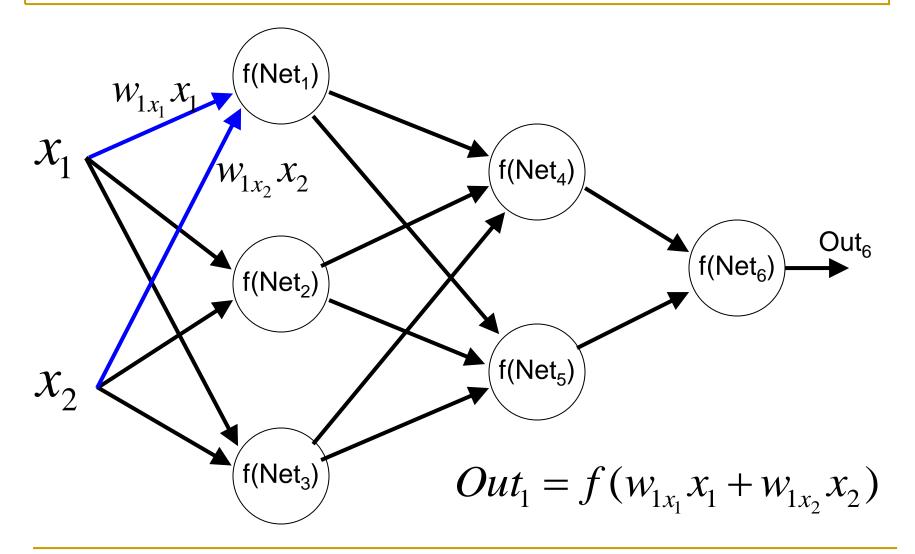
Step 6 (Check the total error)

If the total error $E < E_{threshold}$, then the training process ends and returns the learned weights; Otherwise, re-assign E=0, and start a new training epoch (i.e., go to Step 1)

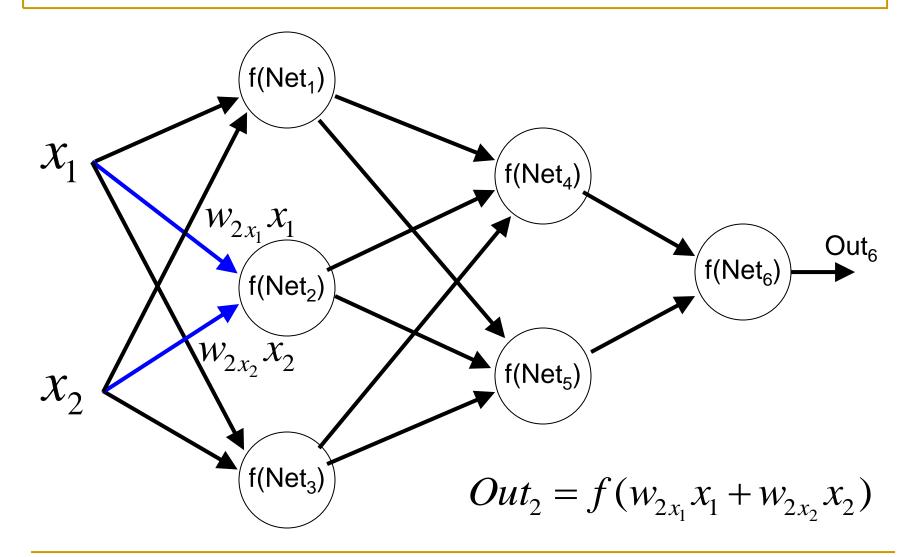
BP algorithm – Forward propagation (1)



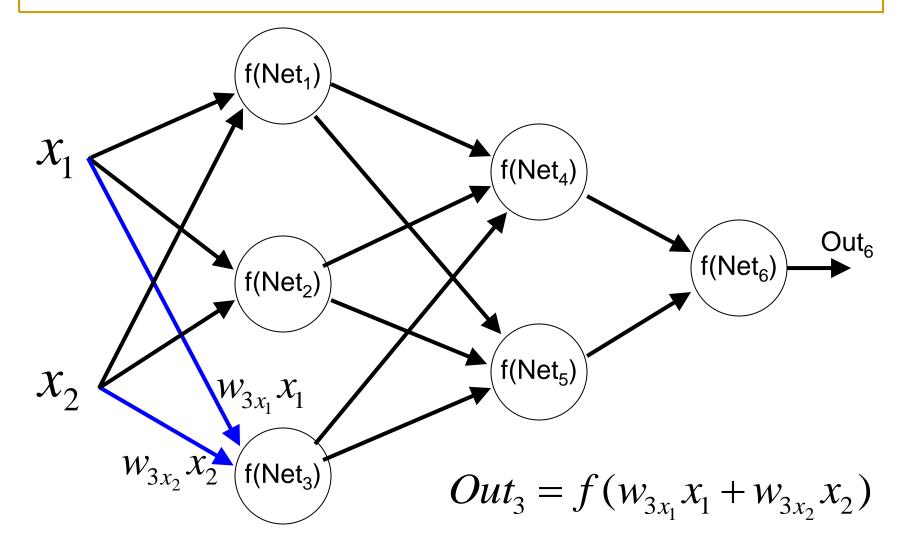
BP algorithm – Forward propagation (2)



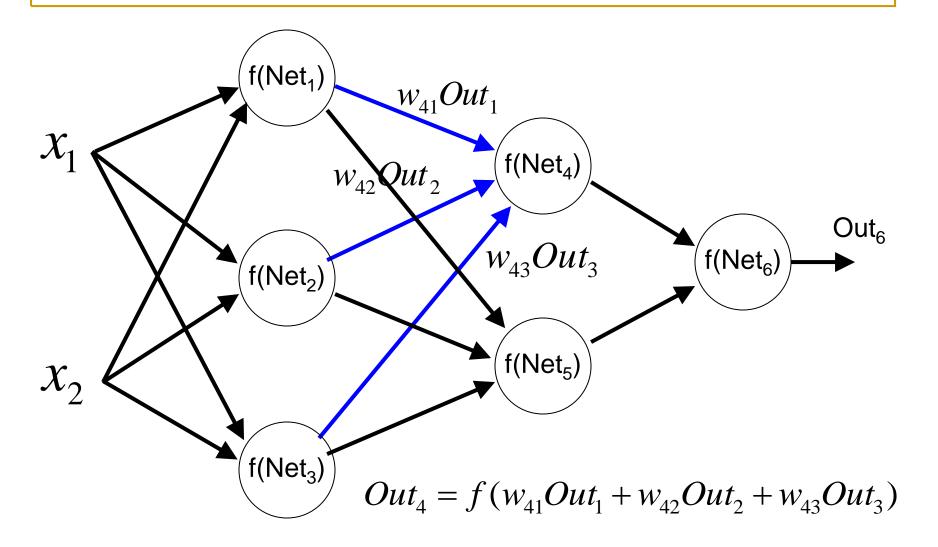
BP algorithm – Forward propagation (3)



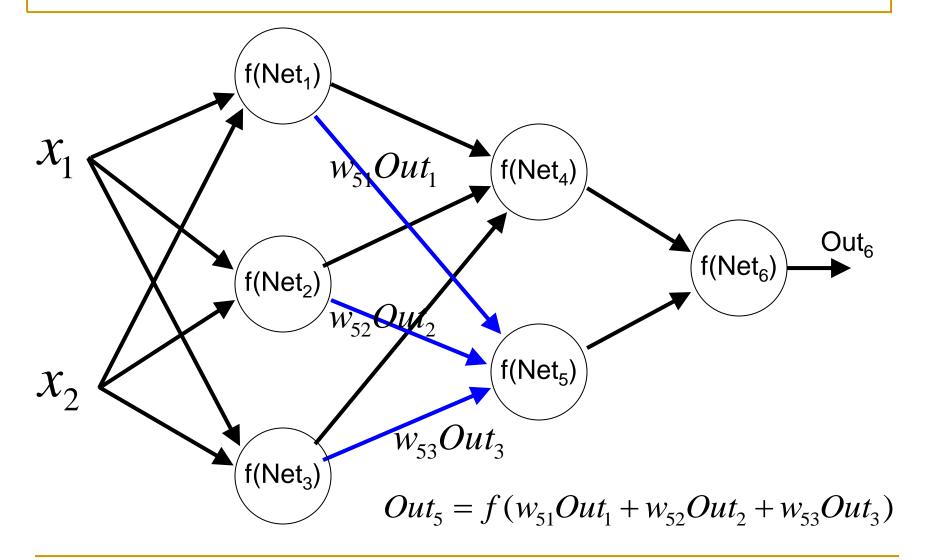
BP algorithm – Forward propagation (4)



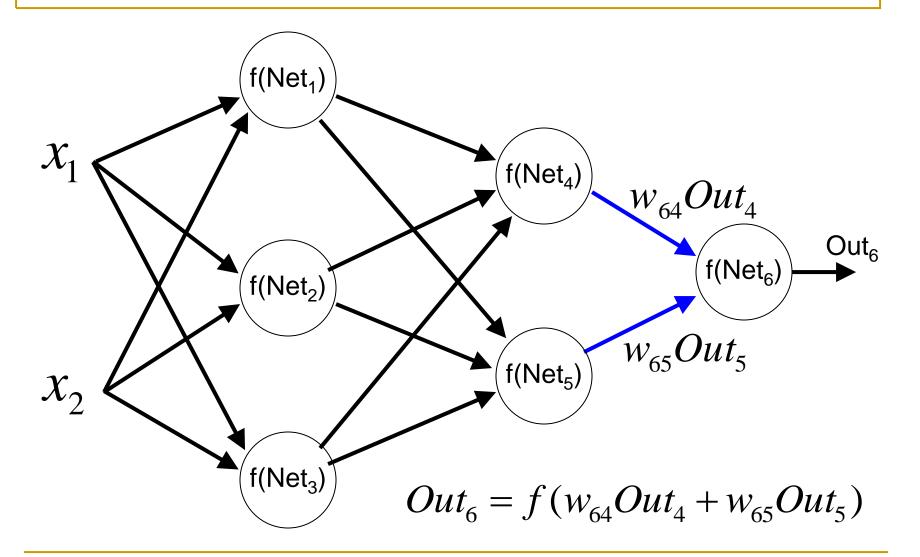
BP algorithm – Forward propagation (5)



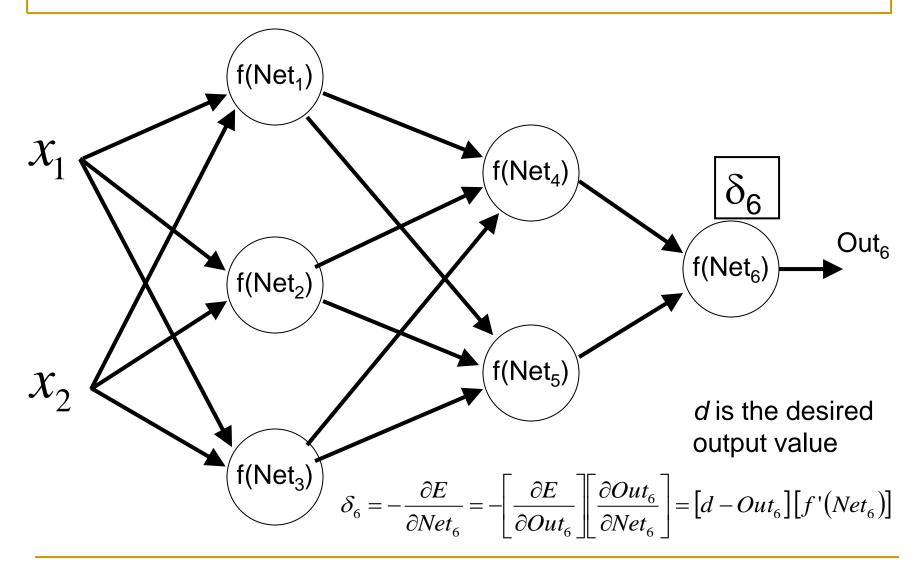
BP algorithm – Forward propagation (6)



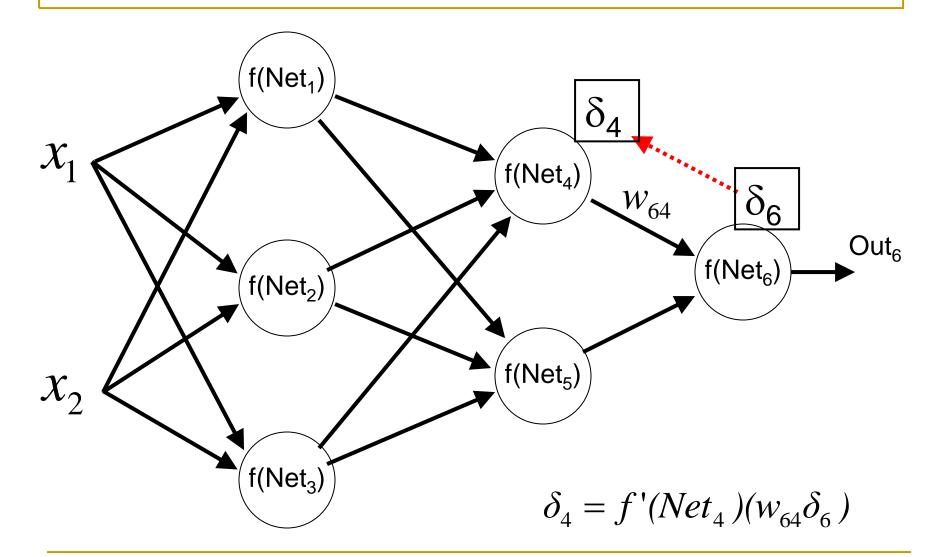
BP algorithm – Forward propagation (7)



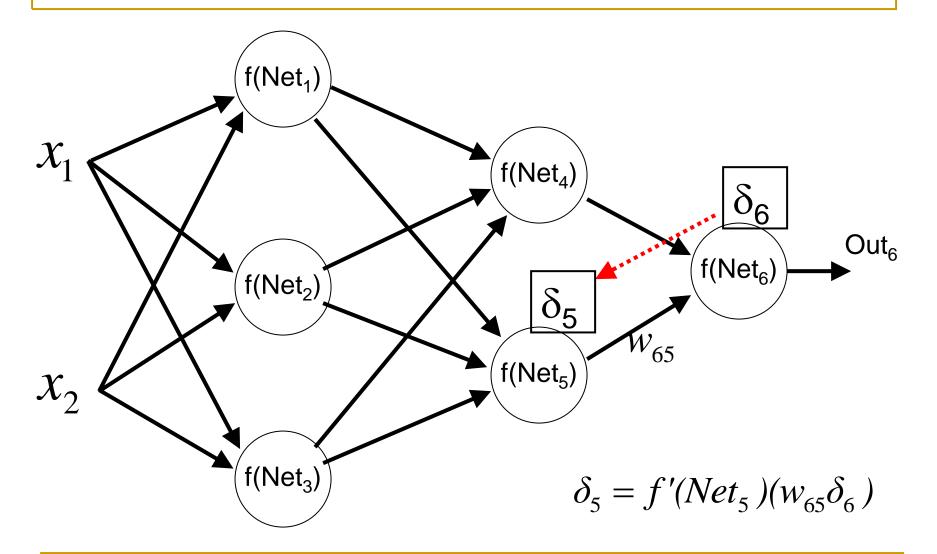
BP algorithm – Error computation



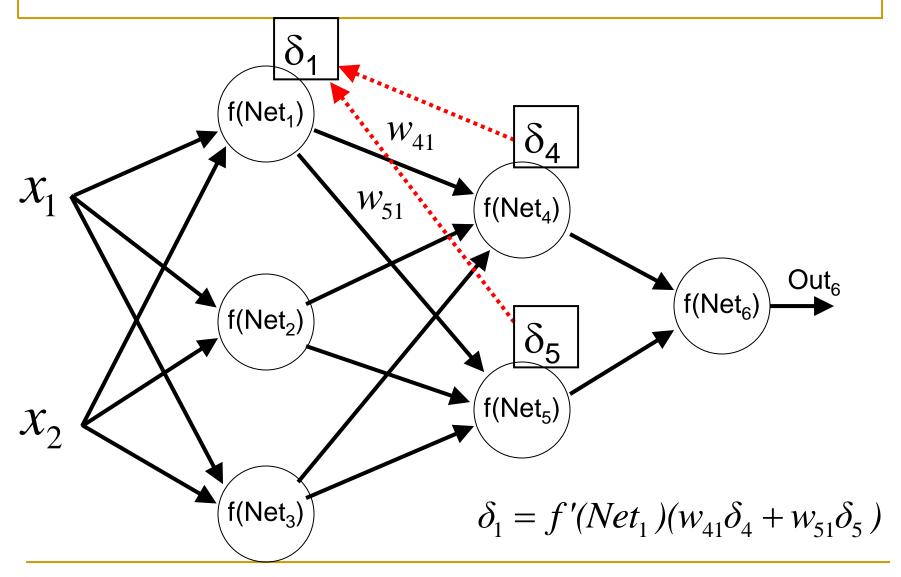
BP algorithm – Backward propagation (1)



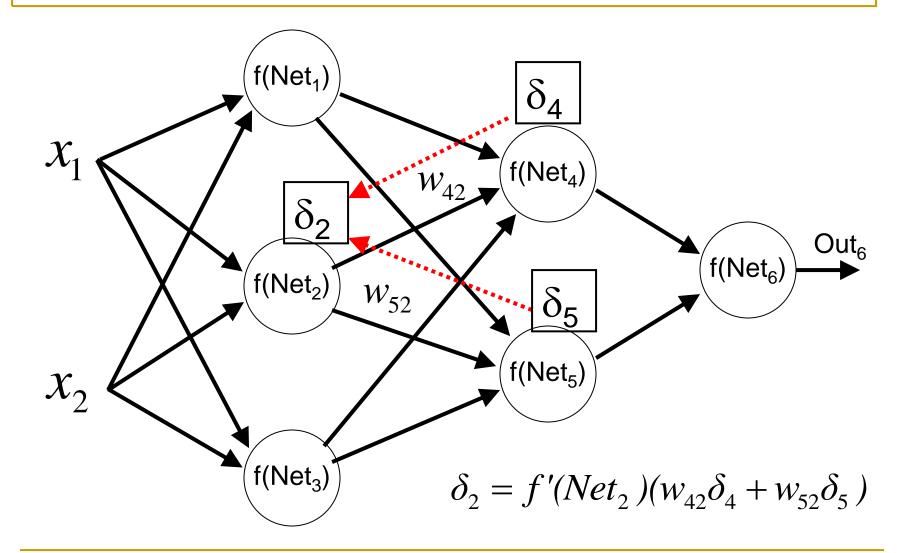
BP algorithm – Backward propagation (2)



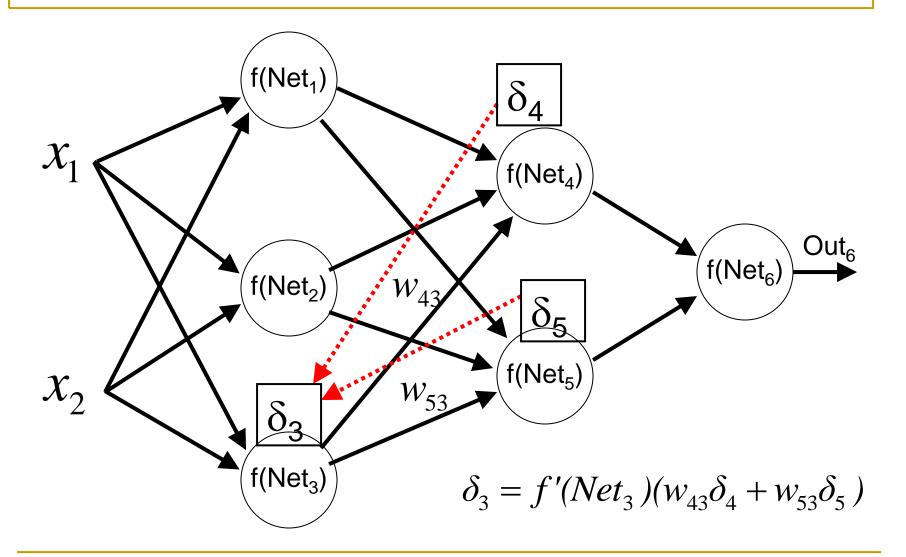
BP algorithm – Backward propagation (3)



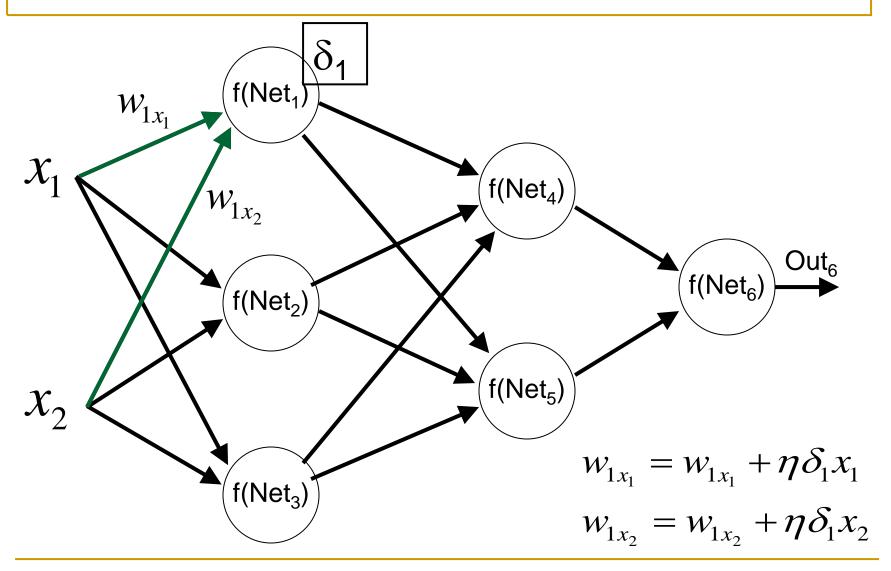
BP algorithm – Backward propagation (4)



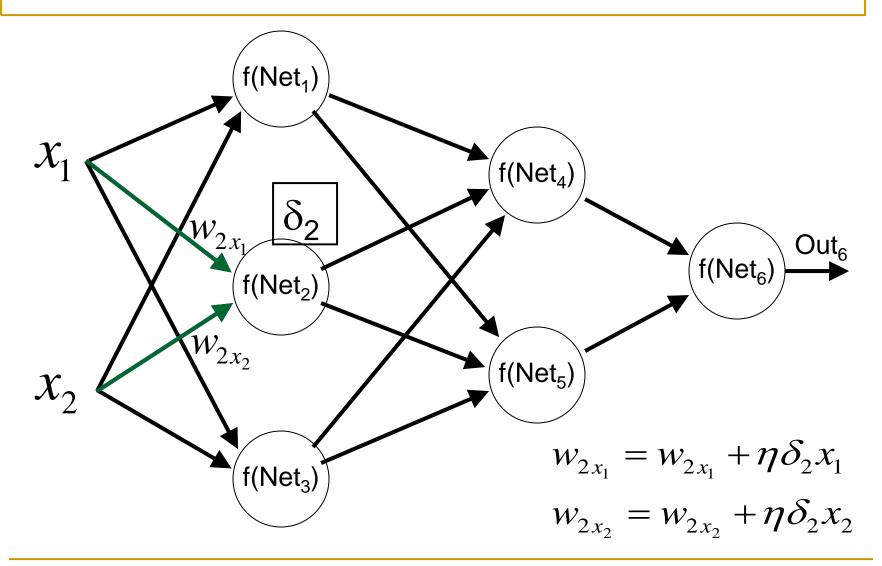
BP algorithm – Backward propagation (5)



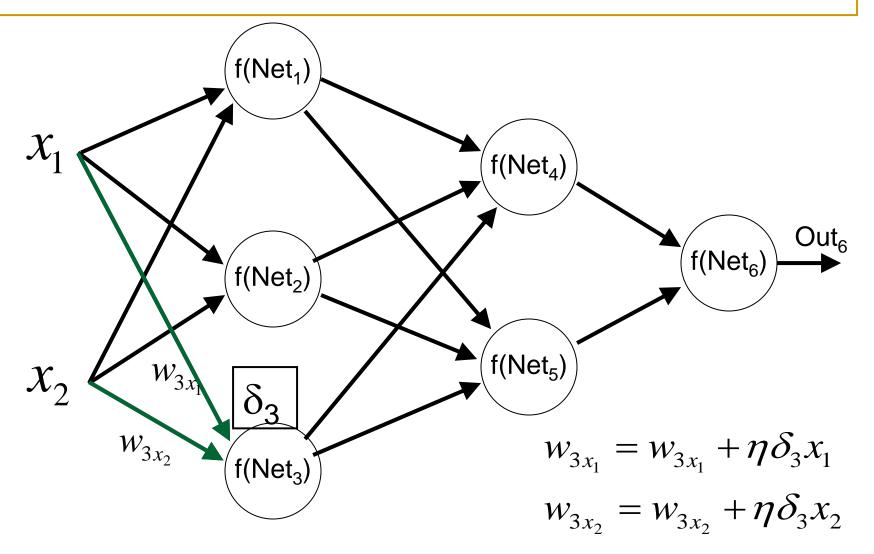
BP algorithm – Weight update (1)



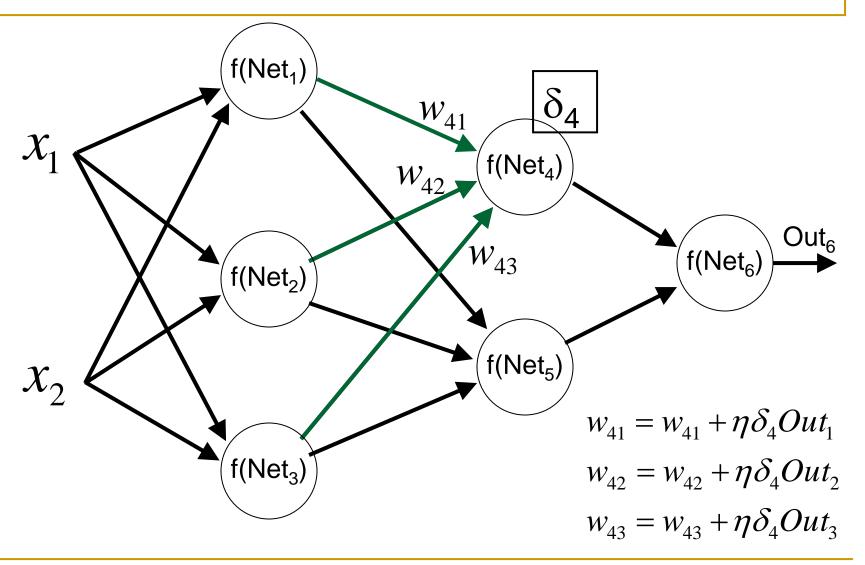
BP algorithm – Weight update (2)



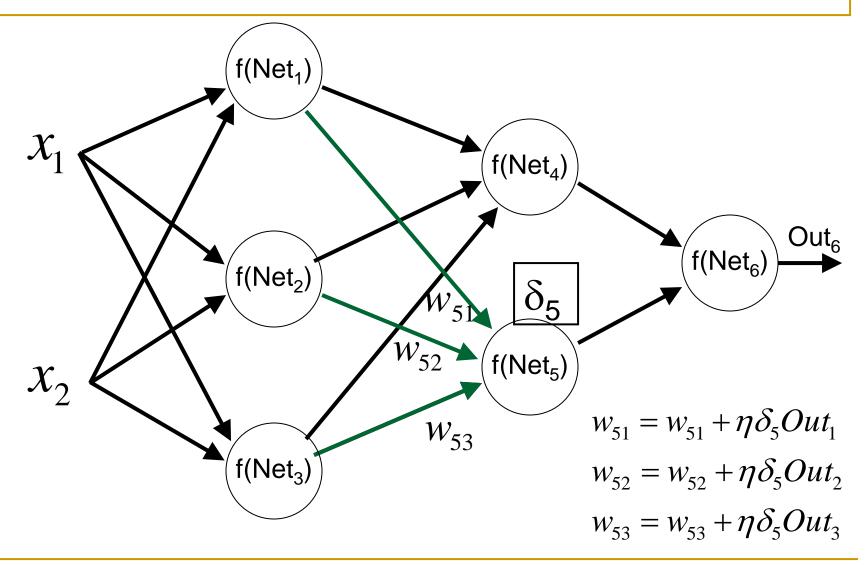
BP algorithm – Weight update (3)



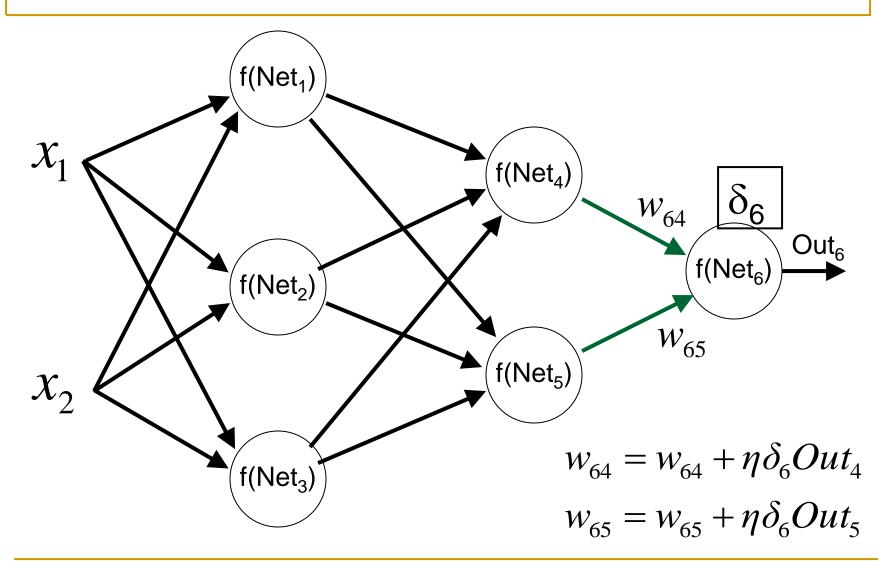
BP algorithm – Weight update (4)



BP algorithm – Weight update (5)



BP algorithm – Weight update (6)



BP: Initialization of weight values

- Often, the weights are initialized by small and random values
- If the weights have large initial values, then:
 - The sigmoid functions soon reaches saturation state
 - The system gets stuck at a local minimum or in a very flat plateau close to the starting point (of the training process)
- Suggestions for w_{ab}^0 (of the link from neuron b to neuron a)
 - Let's call n_a is the number of neurons at the same layer of neuron a

$$w_{ab}^0 \in [-1/n_a, 1/n_a]$$

□ Let's call k_a is the number of neurons that link to neuron a (=the number of the input links of neuron a)

$$w^{0}_{ab} \in [-3/\sqrt{k_a}, 3/\sqrt{k_a}]$$

BP: Learning rate

- Strongly influence the efficiency and convergence of the BP learning algorithm

 - \Box A small value η can make the training process (very) long
- Often the learning rate is selected experimentally for a specific problem
- A good learning rate at the beginning of the training process may become not good at a later time
 - □ We should employ an adaptive (i.e., dynamic) learning rate
- After updating the weights, check if the weights update reduces the total error

$$\Delta \eta \ = \ \begin{cases} a & \text{, if } \Delta E < 0 \text{ consistently} \\ -b \eta & \text{, if } \Delta E > 0 \\ 0 & \text{, otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

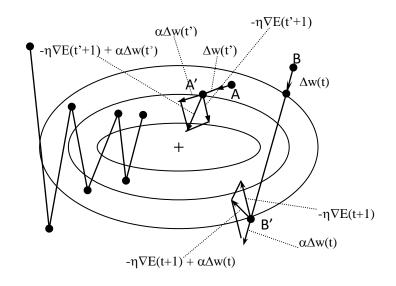
BP: Momentum

- The Gradient descent method can be too slow if η is small, and can oscillate much if η is too large
- To reduce the oscillation, we need to put in a new component called momentum

$$\Delta w^{(t)} = -\eta \nabla E^{(t)} + \alpha \Delta w^{(t-1)}$$

where α (\in [0,1]) is a momentum
parameter (often selected =0.9)

A hint, derived from experiments, to select appropriate values for the learning rate and momentum:
 (η+α) >≈ 1; where α>η to avoid oscillation



Gradient descent for a simple second-order error function.

The left trajectory does not use momentum.

The right trajectory uses momentum.

BP: The number of neurons at a hidden layer

- The size (i.e., the number of neurons) of a hidden layer is an important question for the application of multi-layer feedforward ANNs to solve practical problems
- In practice, it is very difficult to determine precisely the number of neurons necessary to get an expected accuracy of the system
- The size of a hidden layer is often selected experimentally (i.e., trial and test)
- Recommendations:
 - Start with a small number of neurons at the hidden layer (=a small ratio compared to the number of input signals)
 - If the ANN cannot converge, then add more neurons to the hidden layer
 - If the ANN converges, then consider to reduce the number of neurons of the hidden layer

ANN – Advantages, Disadvantages

Advantages:

- It supports (in nature of the structure) parallel computation at a very high degree
- Noise/error tolerance, by the parallel computing architecture
- Can be designed to be self-adaptive (of weights, network structure)

Disadvantages:

- No general rule for determining the network structure and the training hyper-parameters' optimal values for a (family of) problem(s)
- No general method for evaluating the internal operation of the ANN (therefore, the ANN system is considered a "black box")
- Very difficult (if not impossible) to produce explanations for users
- Very challenging to predict the system performance in future (i.e., the generalization capability of a learning system)

ANN – When?

- A training example is represented by set of (very) many discrete- or numeric-valued attributes
- The output value domain of the target function has a real or discrete or vector type
- The dataset may contain noise/error
- The representation (i.e., form) of the target function is unknown
- Not required (or not important) to show explanations for users for the (classification/prediction) results
- It is acceptable for a (very) long time of training
- Require for a (very) quick time of classification/prediction