

# Lecture 11: Neural Networks

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**COMP90049**

**Introduction to Machine Learning**

Semester 2, 2020

Hadi Khorshidi, CIS

The presentation adapted from the slides prepared by Lea Frermann, CIS

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## So far ... Classification and Evaluation

- Naive Bayes, Logistic Regression, K-NN, Perceptron
- Probabilistic models
- Loss functions, and estimation
- Evaluation

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## Today... Neural Networks

- Multilayer Perceptron
- Motivation and architecture
- Linear vs. non-linear classifiers

## Introduction

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## Perceptron

$$\hat{y} = f(\theta \cdot x) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } \theta \cdot x \geq 0 \\ -1 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

- Single processing 'unit'
- Inspired by neurons in the brain
- Activation: step-function (discrete, non-differentiable)

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## Logistic Regression

$$P(y = 1|x; \theta) = \frac{1}{1 + \exp(-(\sum_{f=0}^F \theta_f^T x_f))}$$

- View 1: Model of  $P(y = 1|x)$ , maximizing the data log likelihood
- View 2: Single processing 'unit'
- Activation: sigmoid (continuous, differentiable)



## Neural Networks

- Connected sets of many such units
- Units must have continuous activation functions
- Connected into many layers → **Deep** Learning

## Multi-layer Perceptron

- One specific type of neural network
- Feed-forward
- Fully connected
- Supervised learner

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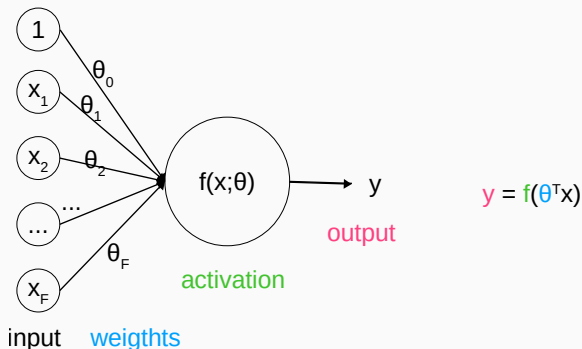
## Other types of neural networks

- Convolutional neural networks
- Recurrent neural networks
- Autoencoder (unsupervised)



# Perceptron Unit (recap)

## A single processing unit

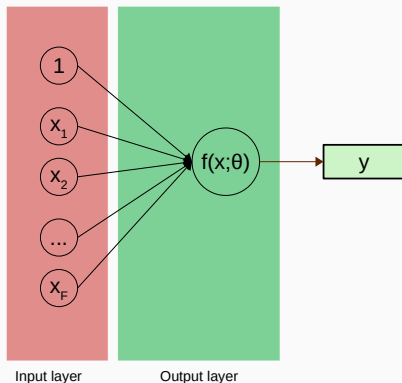


A **neural network** is a combination of lots of these units.

# Multi-layer Perceptron (schematic)

## Three Types of layers

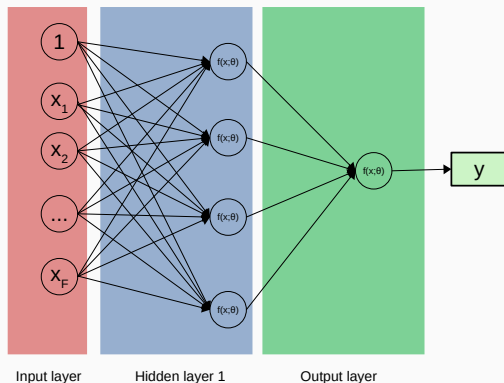
- **Input layer** with input units  $x$ : the first layer, takes features  $x$  as inputs
- **Output layer** with output units  $y$ : the last layer, has one unit per possible output (e.g., 1 unit for binary classification)
- **Hidden layers** with hidden units  $h$ : all layers in between.



# Multi-layer Perceptron (schematic)

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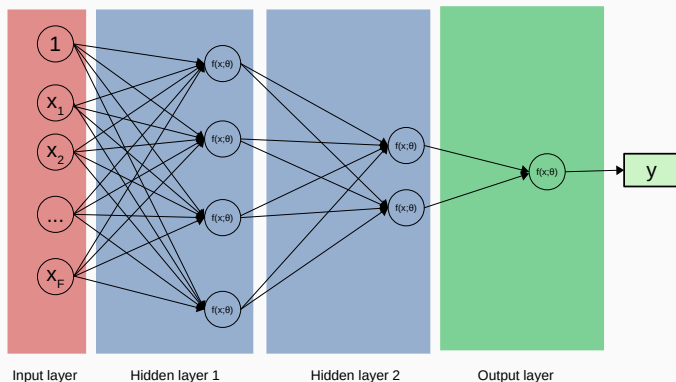
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## Linear classification

- The perceptron, naive bayes, logistic regression are linear classifiers
- Decision boundary is a linear combination of features  $\sum_i \theta_i x_i$
- Cannot learn 'feature interactions' naturally
- Perceptron can solve only linearly separable problems

## Non-linear classification

- Neural networks with at least 1 hidden layer and non-linear activations are non-linear classifiers
- Decision boundary is a non-linear function of the inputs
- Capture 'feature interactions'

## Feature Engineering

- (more next week!)
- The perceptron, naive Bayes and logistic regression require a fixed set of informative **features**
- e.g.,  $\text{outlook} \in \{\text{overcast}, \text{sunny}, \text{rainy}\}$ ,  $\text{wind} \in \{\text{high}, \text{low}\}$  etc
- Requiring **domain knowledge**

## Feature learning

- Neural networks take as input ‘raw’ data
- They learn features themselves as intermediate representations
- They learn features as part of their target task (e.g., classification)
- ‘Representation learning’: learning representations (or features) of the data that are useful for the target task
- Note: often feature engineering is replaced at the cost of additional parameter tuning (layers, activations, learning rates, ...)



# Multilayer Perceptron: Motivation I

## Example Classification dataset

Outlook	Temperature	Humidity	Windy	True Label
sunny	hot	high	FALSE	no
sunny	hot	high	TRUE	no
overcast	hot	high	FALSE	yes
rainy	mild	high	FALSE	yes
...				

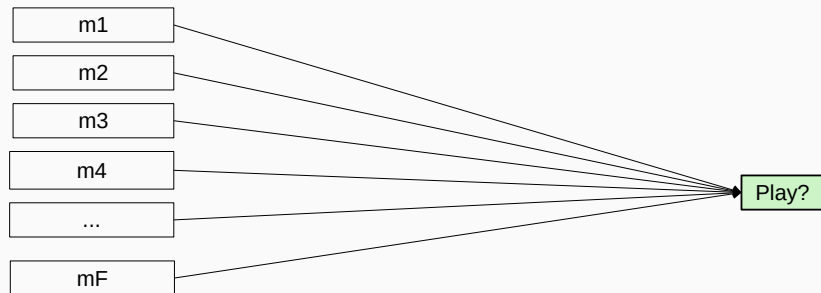
## We really observe raw data

Date	measurements						True Label
01/03/1966	0.4	4.7	1.5	12.7	...		no
01/04/1966	3.4	-0.7	3.8	18.7	...		no
01/05/1966	0.3	8.7	136.9	17	...		yes
01/06/1966	5.5	5.7	65.5	2.7	...		yes



# Multilayer Perceptron: Motivation II

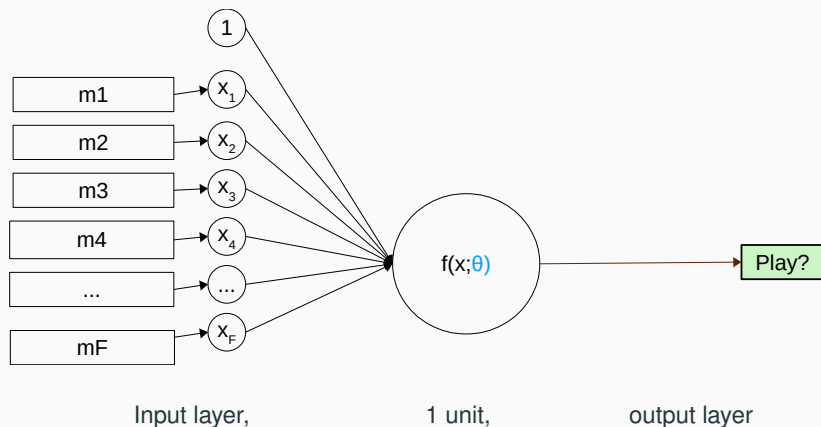
## Example Problem: Weather Dataset





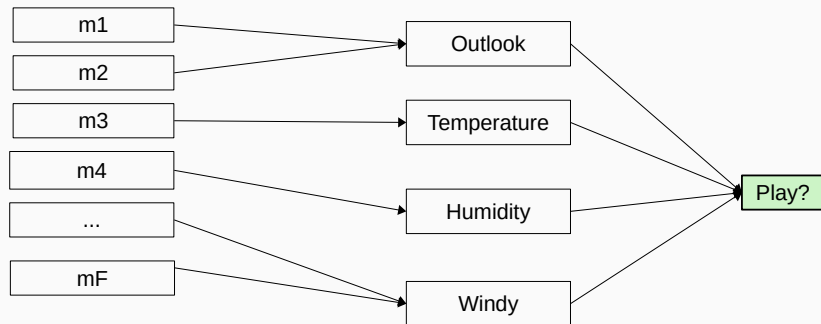
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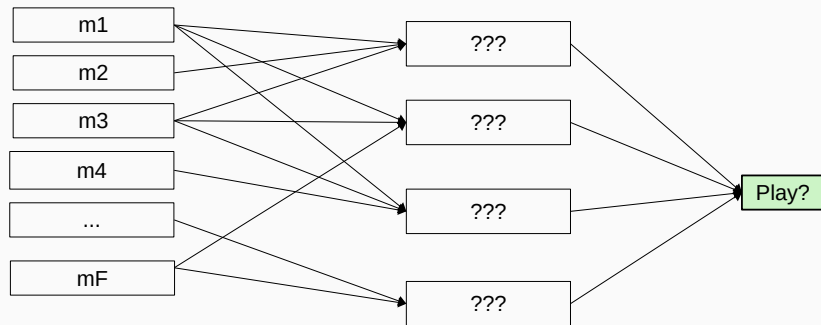
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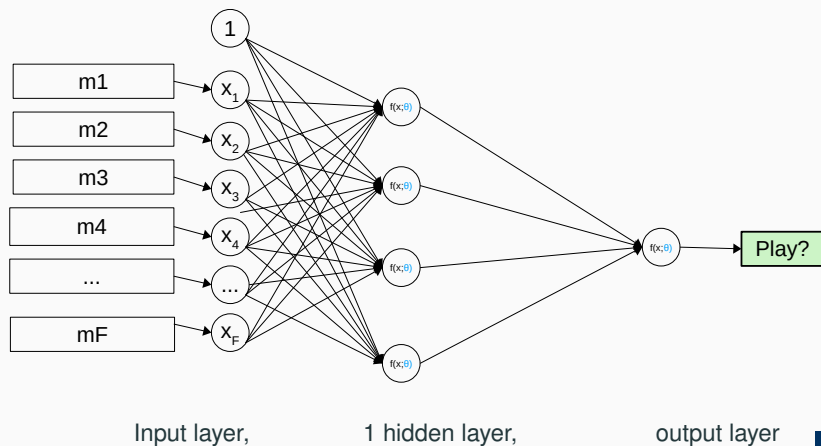
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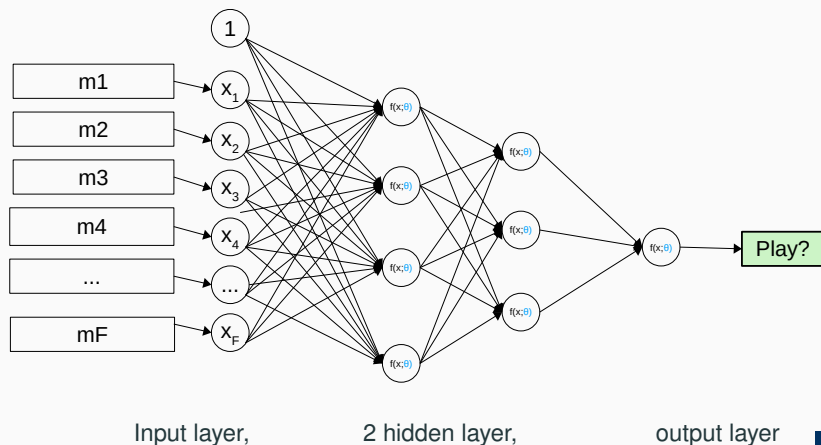
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## Example Problem: Weather Dataset



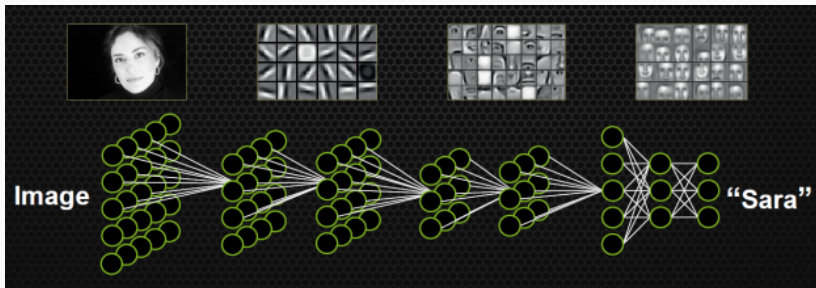
# Multilayer Perceptron: Motivation II

## Example Problem: Weather Dataset



## Another Example: Face Recognition

- the **hidden layers** learn increasingly high-level feature representations
- e.g., given an image, predict the person:



Source: <https://devblogs.nvidia.com/accelerate-machine-learning-cudnn-deep-neural-network-library/>

## Terminology

- input units  $x_j$ , one per feature  $j$
- Multiple **layers**  $l = 1 \dots L$  of nodes.  $L$  is the **depth** of the network.
- Each layer  $l$  has a number of units  $K_l$ .  $K_l$  is the **width** of layer  $l$ .
- The width can vary from layer to layer
- output unit  $y$
- Each layer  $l$  is **fully connected** to its neighboring layers  $l - 1$  and  $l + 1$
- one weight  $\theta_{ij}^{(l)}$  for each connection  $ij$  (including 'bias'  $\theta_0$ )
- non-linear activation function for layer  $l$  as  $\phi^{(l)}$

## Passing an input through a neural network with 2 hidden layers

$$h_i^{(1)} = \phi^{(1)} \left( \sum_j \theta_{ij}^{(1)} x_j \right)$$

$$h_i^{(2)} = \phi^{(2)} \left( \sum_j \theta_{ij}^{(2)} h_j^{(1)} \right)$$

$$y_i = \phi^{(3)} \left( \sum_j \theta_{ij}^{(3)} h_j^{(2)} \right)$$



## Passing an input through a neural network with 2 hidden layers

$$h_i^{(1)} = \phi^{(1)}\left(\sum_j \theta_{ij}^{(1)} x_j\right)$$

$$h_i^{(2)} = \phi^{(2)}\left(\sum_j \theta_{ij}^{(2)} h_j^{(1)}\right)$$

$$y_i = \phi^{(3)}\left(\sum_j \theta_{ij}^{(3)} h_j^{(2)}\right)$$

### Or in vectorized form

$$h^{(1)} = \phi^{(1)}\left(\theta^{(1)T} x\right)$$

$$h^{(2)} = \phi^{(2)}\left(\theta^{(2)T} h^{(1)}\right)$$

$$y = \phi^{(3)}\left(\theta^{(3)T} h^{(2)}\right)$$

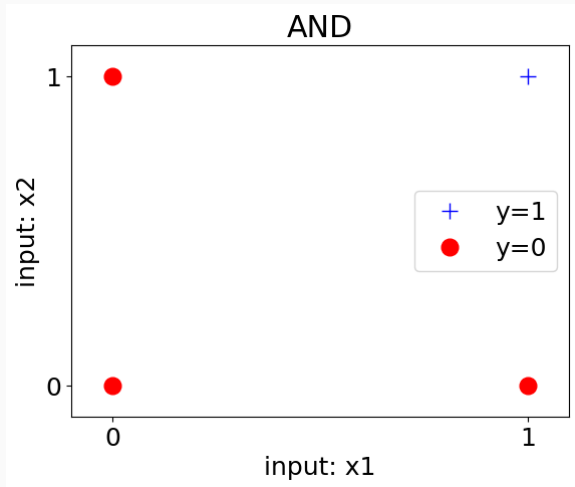
where the activation functions  $\phi^{(l)}$  are applied **element-wise** to all entries



# Boolean Functions

1. Can the **perceptron** learn this function? Why (not)?
2. Can a **multilayer perceptron** learn this function? Why (not)?

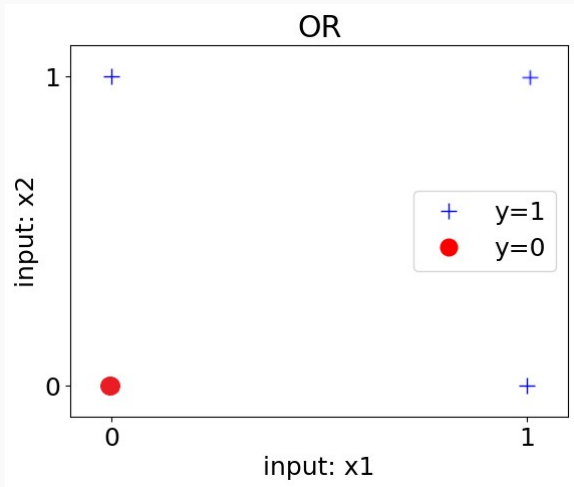
$x_1$	$x_2$	$y$
1	1	1
1	0	0
0	1	0
0	0	0



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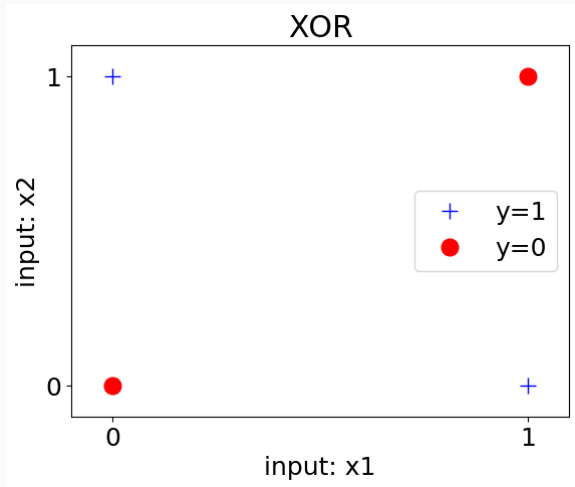
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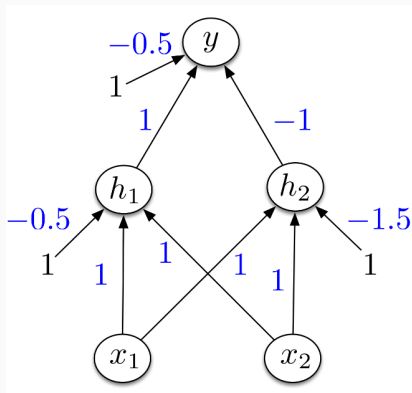
# Boolean Functions

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$x_1$	$x_2$	$y$
1	1	0
1	0	1
0	1	1
0	0	0



# A Multilayer Perceptron for XOR



$$\phi(x) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } x \geq 0 \\ 0 & \text{if } x < 0 \end{cases} \quad \text{and recall: } h_i^{(l)} = \phi\left(\sum_j \theta_{ij}^{(l)} h_j^{(l-1)} + b_i^{(l)}\right)$$

Source: [https://www.cs.toronto.edu/~rgrosse/courses/csc321\\_2018/readings/L05%20Multilayer%20Perceptrons.pdf](https://www.cs.toronto.edu/~rgrosse/courses/csc321_2018/readings/L05%20Multilayer%20Perceptrons.pdf)

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## Inputs and feature functions

- $x$  could be a patient with features {blood pressure, height, age, weight, ...}
- $x$  could be a texts, i.e., a sequence of words
- $x$  could be an image, i.e., a matrix of pixels

## Non-numerical features need to be mapped to numerical

- For language, typical to map words to **pre-trained embedding vectors**
  - for 1-hot:  $\dim(x) = V$  (words in the vocabulary)
  - for embedding:  $\dim(x) = k$ , dimensionality of embedding vectors
- Alternative: **1-hot encoding**
- For pixels, map to RGB, or other visual features

## Designing Neural Networks II: Activation Functions

- Each layer has an associated activation function (e.g., sigmode, ReLU, ...)
- Represents the extent to which a neuron is 'activated' given an input
- Each hidden layer performs a **non-linear transformation** of the input
- Popular choices include

## Designing Neural Networks II: Activation Functions

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- Popular choices include

1. logistic (aka sigmoid) (“ $\sigma$ ”):

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

2. hyperbolic tan (“tanh”):

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

3. rectified linear unit (“ReLU”):

$$f(x) = \max(0, x)$$

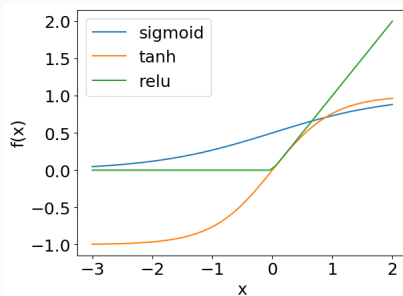
note not differentiable at  $x = 0$



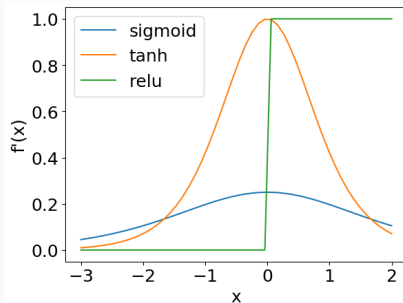


# Designing Neural Networks II: Activation Functions

function values:



derivatives:



## Network Structure

- Sequence of hidden layers  $l_1, \dots, l_L$  for a network of depth  $L$
- Each layer  $l$  has  $K_l$  parallel neurons (width)
- Many layers (depth) vs. many neurons per layer (width)? Empirical question, theoretically poorly understood.

**Advanced tricks** include allowing for exploiting data structure

- convolutions (convolutional neural networks; CNN), Computer Vision
- recurrences (recurrent neural networks; RNN), Natural Language Processing
- attention (efficient alternative to recurrences)
- ...

Beyond the scope of this class.

# Designing Neural Networks IV: Output Function

Neural networks can learn different concepts: **classification**, **regression**, ...  
The **output function** depends on the concept of interest.

- Binary classification:
  - one neuron, with step function (as in the perceptron)
- Multiclass classification:
  - typically **softmax** to normalize  $K$  outputs from the pre-final layer into a probability distribution over classes

$$p(y_i = j | x_i; \theta) = \frac{\exp(z_j)}{\sum_{k=1}^K \exp(z_k)}$$

- Regression:
  - identity function
  - possibly other continuous functions such as sigmoid or tanh



**Classification Loss:** typically negative conditional log-likelihood (cross-entropy)

$$\mathcal{L}^i = -\log p(y^{(i)}|x^{(i)}; \theta) \quad \text{for a single instance } i$$

$$\mathcal{L} = -\sum_i \log p(y^{(i)}|x^{(i)}; \theta) \quad \text{for all instances}$$

- Binary classification loss

$$\hat{y}_1^{(i)} = p(y^{(i)} = 1|x^{(i)}; \theta)$$

$$\mathcal{L} = \sum_i -[y^{(i)} \log(\hat{y}_1^{(i)}) + (1 - y^{(i)}) \log(1 - \hat{y}_1^{(i)})]$$

- Multiclass classification

$$\hat{y}_j^{(i)} = p(y^{(i)} = j|x^{(i)}; \theta)$$

$$\mathcal{L} = -\sum_i \sum_j y_j^{(i)} \log(\hat{y}_j^{(i)})$$

for  $j$  possible labels;  $y_j^{(i)} = 1$  if  $j$  is the true label for instance  $i$ , else 0.



## Regression Loss: typically mean-squared error (MSE)

- Here, the output, as well as the target are real-valued numbers

$$\mathcal{L} = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N (y^i - \hat{y}^{(i)})^2$$

- The **universal approximation theorem** states that a feed-forward neural network with a single hidden layer (and finite neurons) is able to approximate any continuous function on  $\mathbb{R}^n$
- Note that **the activation functions must be non-linear**, as without this, the model is simply a (complex) linear model

# How to Train a NN with Hidden Layers

- Unfortunately, the perceptron algorithm can't be used to train neural nets with hidden layers, as we can't directly observe the labels
- Instead, train neural nets with **back propagation**. Intuitively:
  - compute errors at the output layer wrt each weight using partial differentiation
  - propagate those errors back to each of the input layers
- Essentially just gradient descent, but using the chain rule to make the calculations more efficient

**Next lecture: Backpropagation for training neural networks**



## Reflections

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# When is Linear Classification Enough?

- If we know our classes are linearly (approximately) separable
- If the feature space is (very) high-dimensional  
...i.e., the number of features exceeds the number of training instances
- If the training set is small
- If *interpretability* is important, i.e., understanding how (combinations of) features explain different predictions

# Pros and Cons of Neural Networks

## Pros

- Powerful tool!
- Neural networks with at least 1 hidden layer can approximate any (continuous) function. They are **universal approximators**
- Automatic feature learning
- Empirically, very good performance for many diverse tasks

## Cons

- Powerful model increases the danger of 'overfitting'
- Requires large training data sets
- Often requires powerful compute resources (GPUs)
- Lack of interpretability



## Today

- From perceptrons to neural networks
- multilayer perceptron
- some examples
- features and limitations

## Next Lecture

- Learning parameters of neural networks
- The Backpropagation algorithm

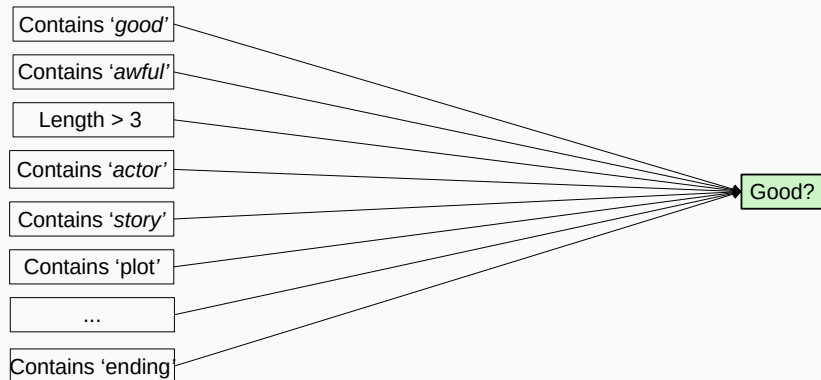
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<https://web.stanford.edu/~jurafsky/slp3/>

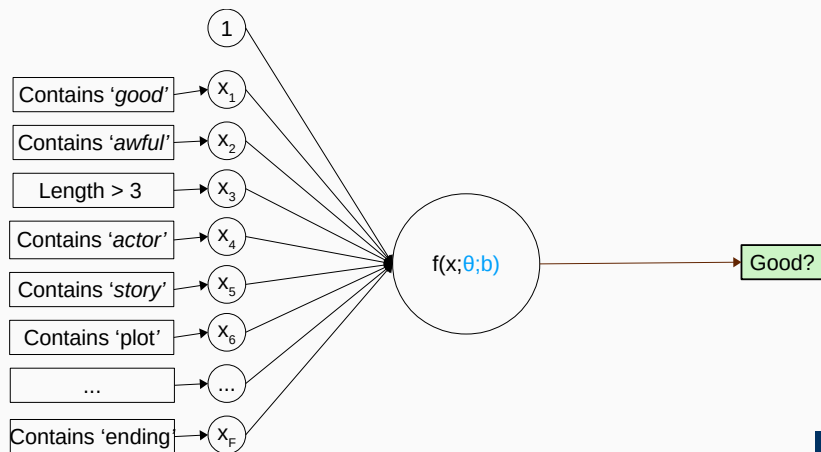
# Multilayer Perceptron: Motivation II

**Another Example Problem:** Sentiment analysis of movie reviews



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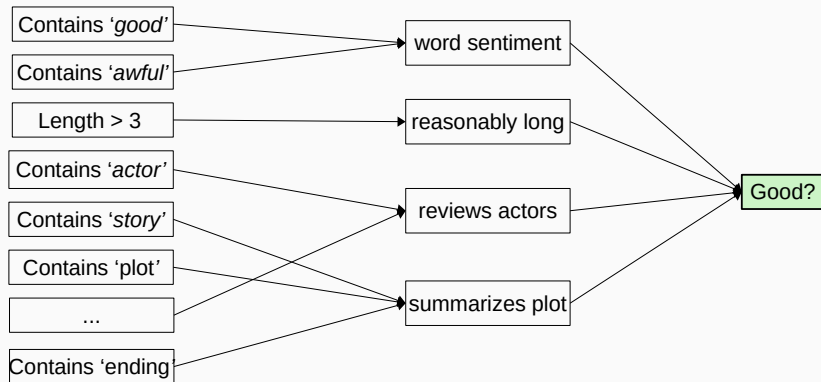
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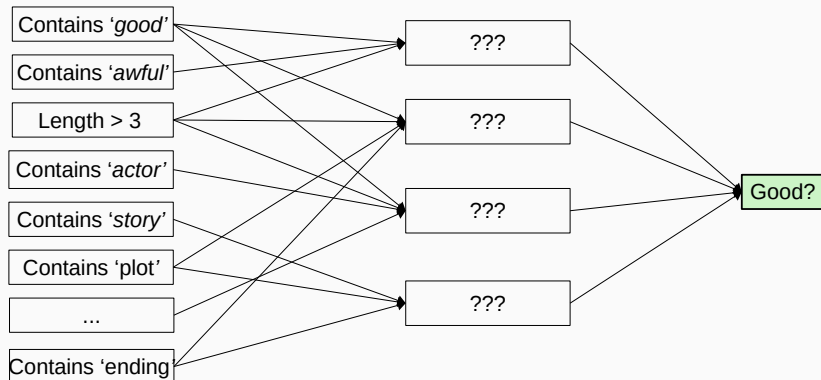
Input layer, 1 unit, output layer

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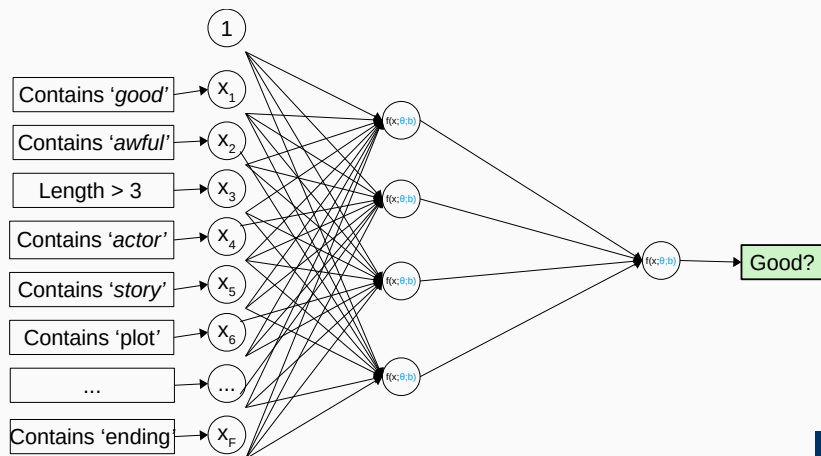
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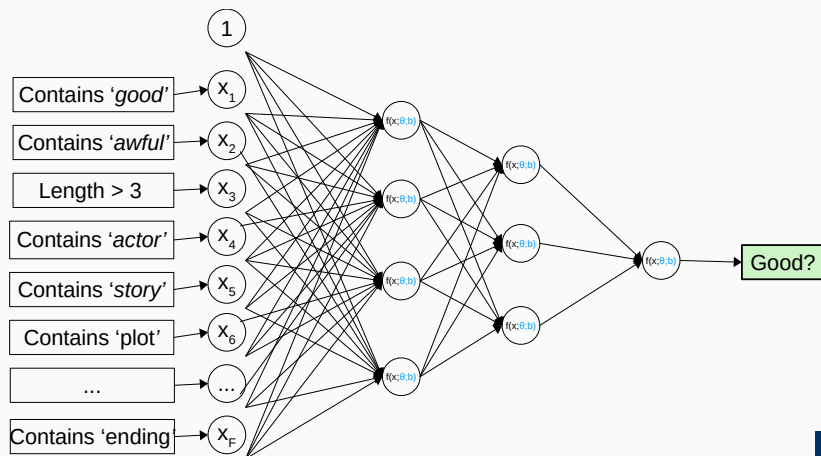
**Another Example Problem:** Sentiment analysis of movie reviews



Input layer, 1 hidden layer, output layer

# Multilayer Perceptron: Motivation II

## Another Example Problem: Sentiment analysis of movie reviews



Input layer, 2 hidden layer, output layer