

# Deep Learning

## Introduction, simple architectures (MLPs) and autodiff

Lessons: **Kevin Scaman**  
TPs: Paul Lerner



# Practical details

## Timeline

- ▶ **Dates:** Every Friday afternoon from 09/02 to 22/03 (except 23/02)
- ▶ **Room:** 2012 (lessons), 2014 (practicals)
- ▶ **Format:** 4 lessons, 2 practicals

## Validation

- ▶ 1 homework. Due date: 22/03.
- ▶ 1 final project. Due date: 29/03.
- ▶ **Final grade:**  $(H + P)/2$

## Communication

- ▶ Email ([kevin.scaman@inria.fr](mailto:kevin.scaman@inria.fr))

# Overview of the course

## Lessons

1. <b>Introduction, simple architectures (MLPs) and autodiff</b>	09/02
2. Training pipeline, optimization and image analysis (CNNs)	16/02
3. Sequence regression (RNNs), stability and robustness	08/03
4. Generative models in vision and text (Transformers, GANs)	15/03

## To go further

- ▶ **Dataflowr:** Pytorch implementation. <https://dataflowr.github.io/>
- ▶ **The little book of DL:** <https://fleuret.org/public/lbdl.pdf>
- ▶ **Deep Learning book:** overview of Deep Learning. [www.deeplearningbook.org/](http://www.deeplearningbook.org/)
- ▶ **Distill journal:** Nice visualizations. <https://distill.pub/>

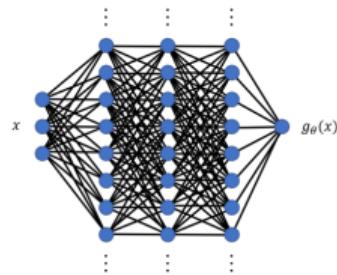
# What is Deep Learning?

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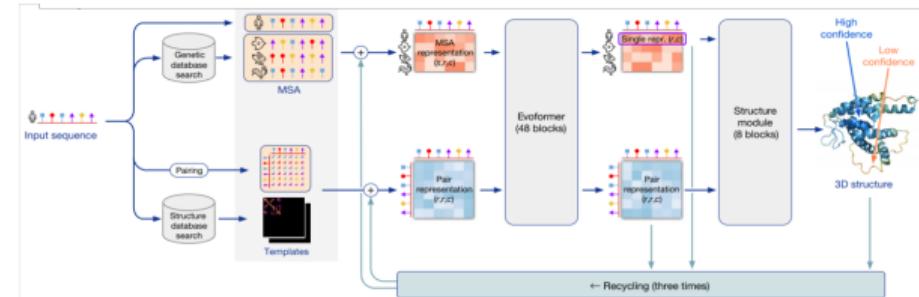
First, what are neural networks?

- ▶ The notion changed over the last 8 decades...!
- ▶ From early neural networks imitating real neurons...
- ▶ To highly complex architectures with multiple sub-modules.

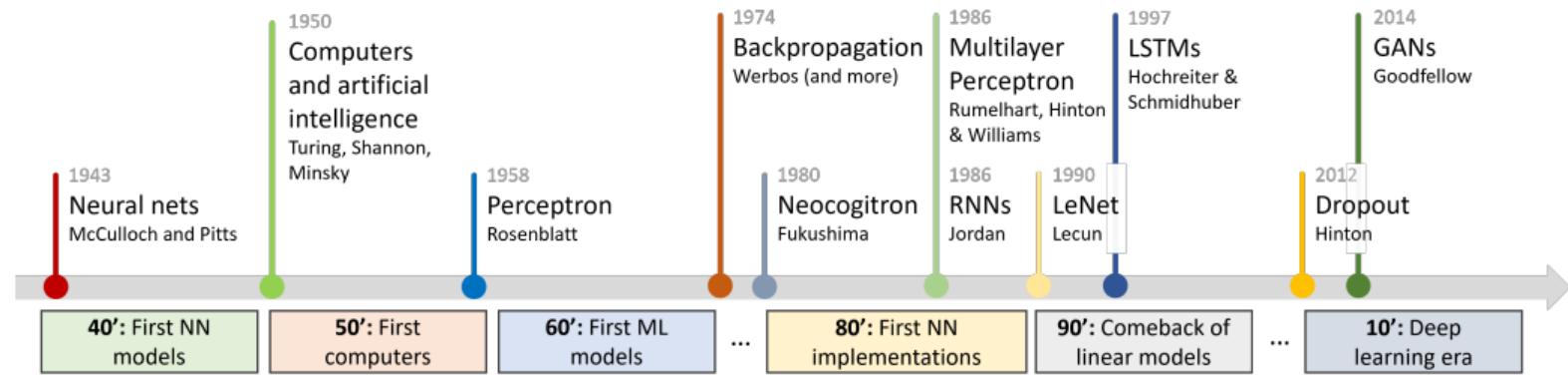
Multi-Layer Perceptron  
(Rumelhart, Hinton, Williams, 75)



AlphaFold  
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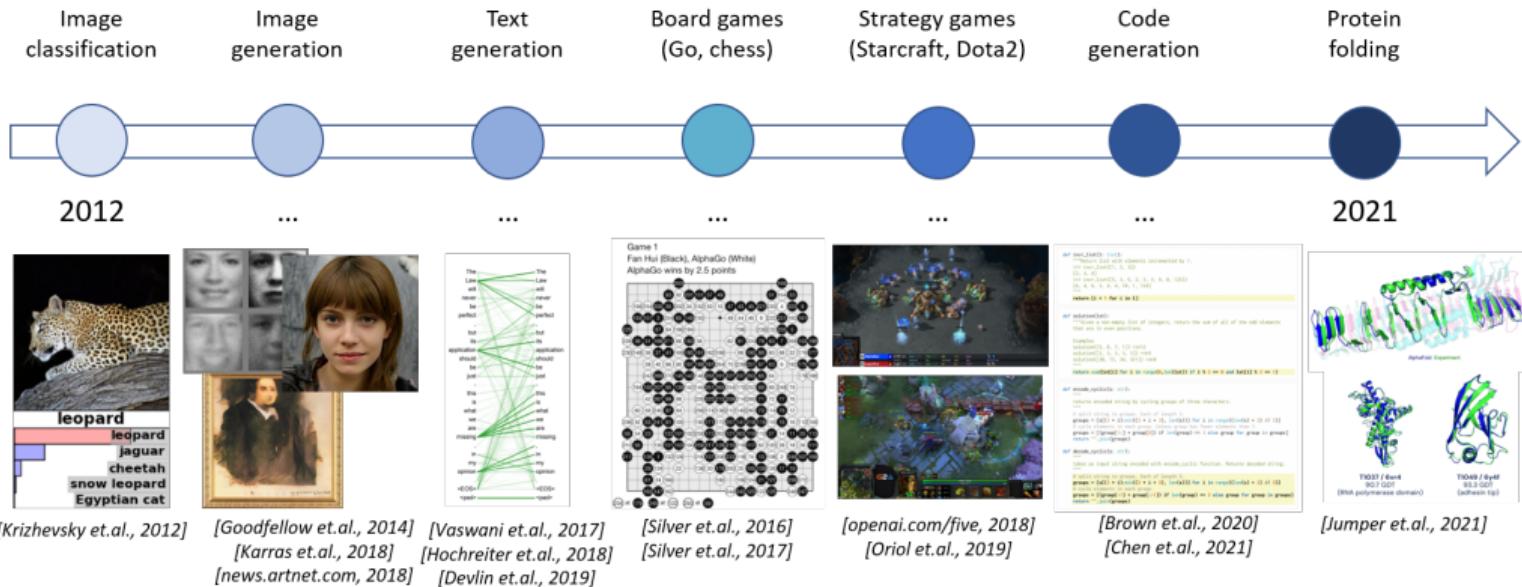


# Timeline of Deep Learning



source: adapted from Mourtzis & Angelopoulos (2020)

# Recent deep learning applications

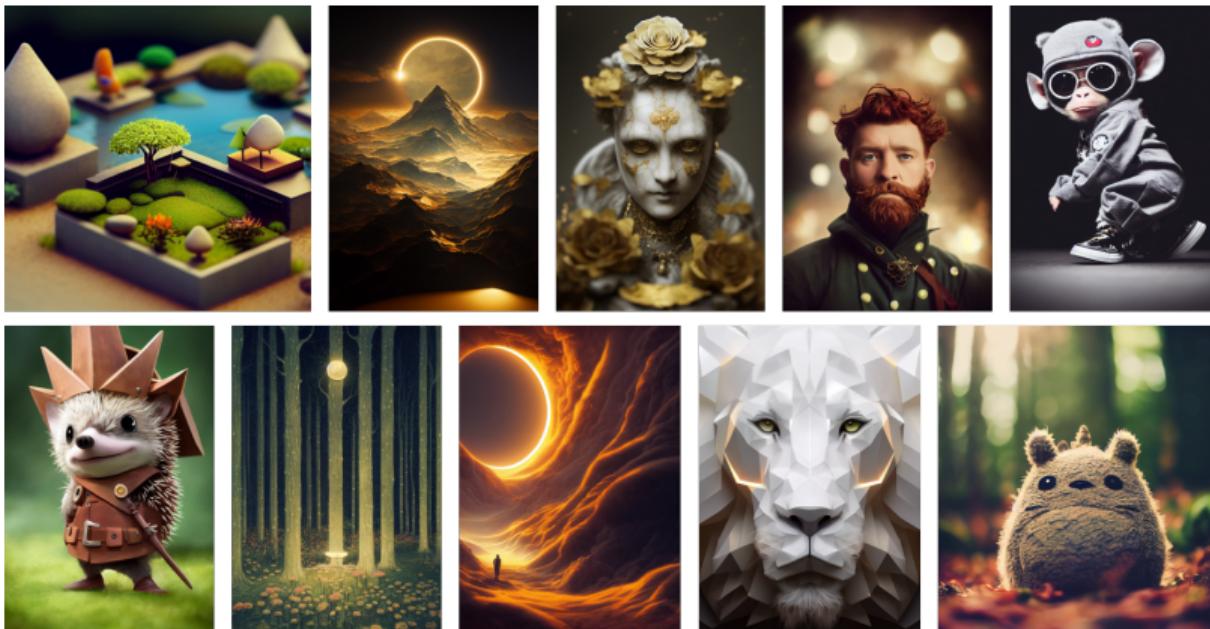


Since 2021

Thousands of applications

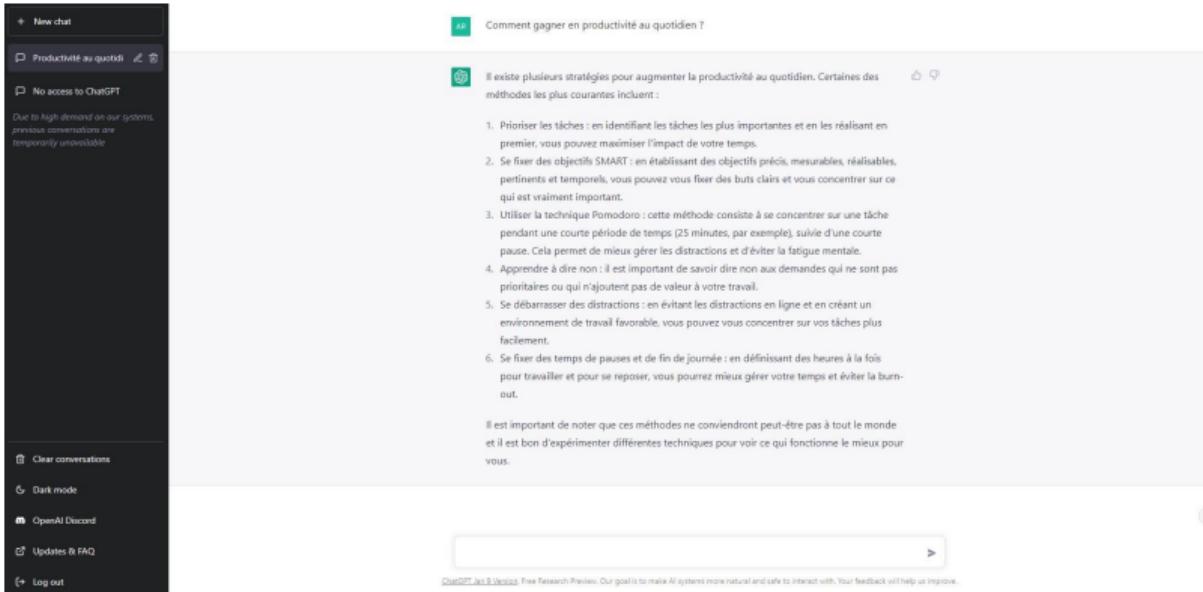
- ▶ **Voice/audio/music generation:** MusicGen, MusicLM, MusicLDM, Jukebox, HeyGen
- ▶ **Voice to text:** Whisper
- ▶ **Image generation/deep-fakes:** Dalle-3, MidJourney, Stable Diffusion XL
- ▶ **Text generation/chatbots:** ChatGPT, GPT4, LLama, Claude, Mistral
- ▶ **Video generation:** Make-a-video, HeyGen
- ▶ **Code generation/automatic app creation:** Codex, Code LLama, phi-1.5, AutoGPT
- ▶ **Strategic games (Go, chess, Starcraft, diplomacy):** AlphaZero, LeelaChess, Cicero
- ▶ **Autonomous driving**
- ▶ ...

# Most recent breakthroughs: image generation (Dalle3, SD, MJ, ...)



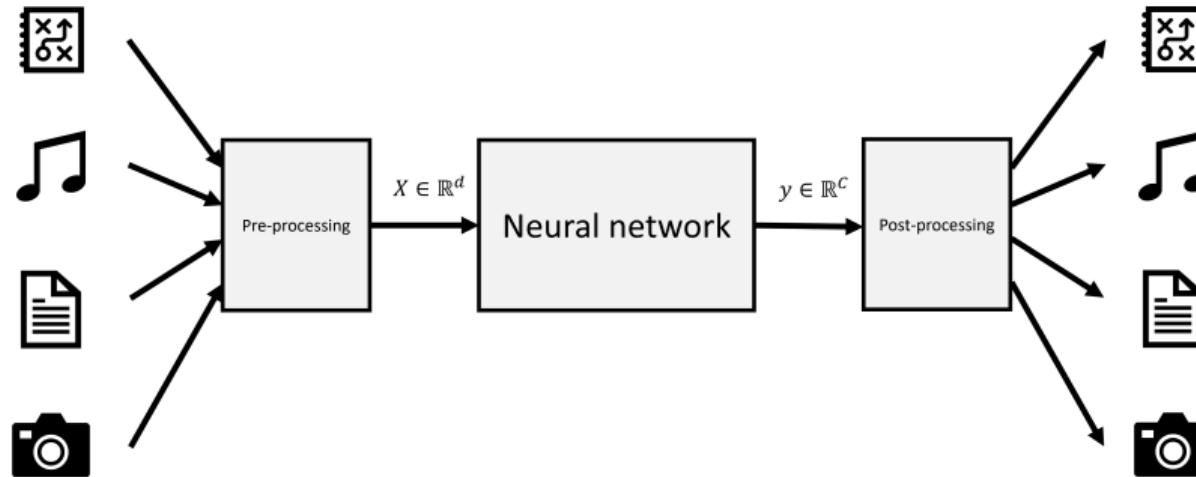
*Images generated from prompts using MidJourney (<https://www.midjourney.com/>)*

# Most recent breakthroughs: text generation (GPT4, LLama, Claude, ...)



source: OpenAI's ChatGPT (<https://chat.openai.com/>)

# What is Deep Learning? (usual setup)



# What is Deep Learning? (required skills)

What do you need to create a DL architecture?

## 1. Know how to **encode/decode data**

- ▶ Data loader, data augmentation, data handling during training, mini-batch, ...
- ▶ Encoding layers, one-hot, tokenization, embeddings, ...

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- ▶ Different types of layers, attention mechanism, batch normalization, ...
- ▶ Multiple architectures: MLPs, RNNs, CNNs, GNNs, Transformers, ...

## 3. Know how to **train the neural network**

- ▶ Optimization perspective, auto-diff, SGD, Adam, momentum, ...
- ▶ Weight initialization, loss functions, scheduling, hyper-parameter optimization...

# What is Deep Learning? (twitter wisdom)



**Yann LeCun**

@ylecun

...

Some folks still seem confused about what deep learning is. Here is a definition:

DL is constructing networks of parameterized functional modules & training them from examples using gradient-based optimization....

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[Traduire le Tweet](#)

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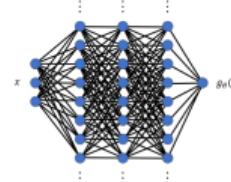
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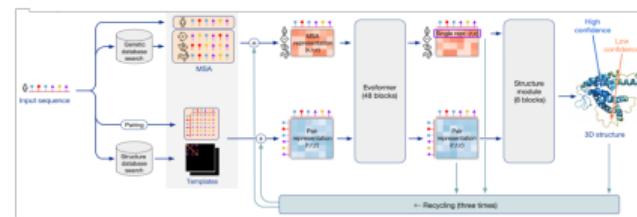
# Why Deep Learning Now?

- ▶ Five decades of research in machine learning

Multi-Layer Perceptron  
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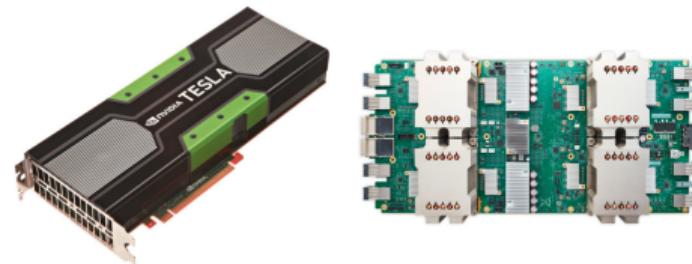


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- ▶ lots of data from “the internet”
- ▶ tools and culture of collaborative and reproducible science
- ▶ resources and efforts from large corporations

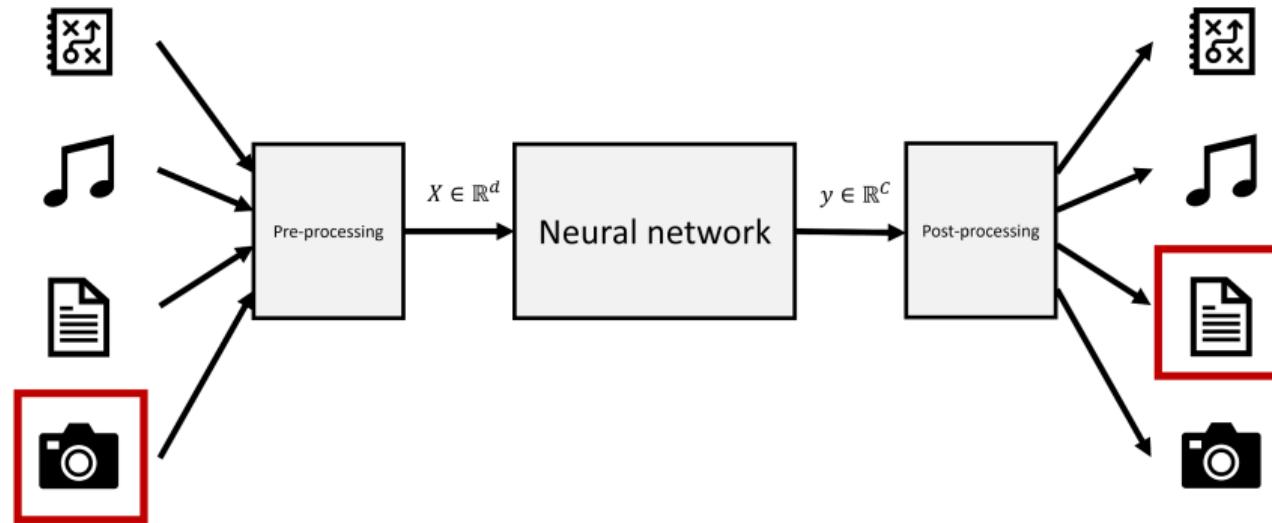


# Machine Learning pipeline

## A short recap

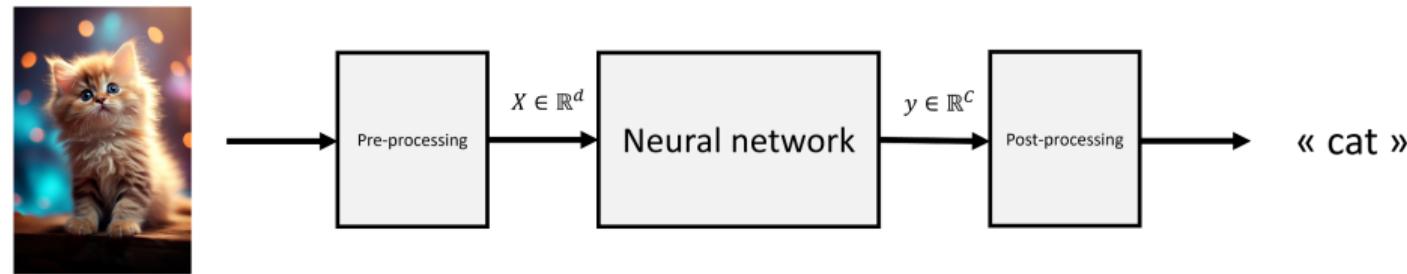
# Simple example: cats vs. dogs

Typical binary classification task. Objective is to distinguish **cat images from dog images**.



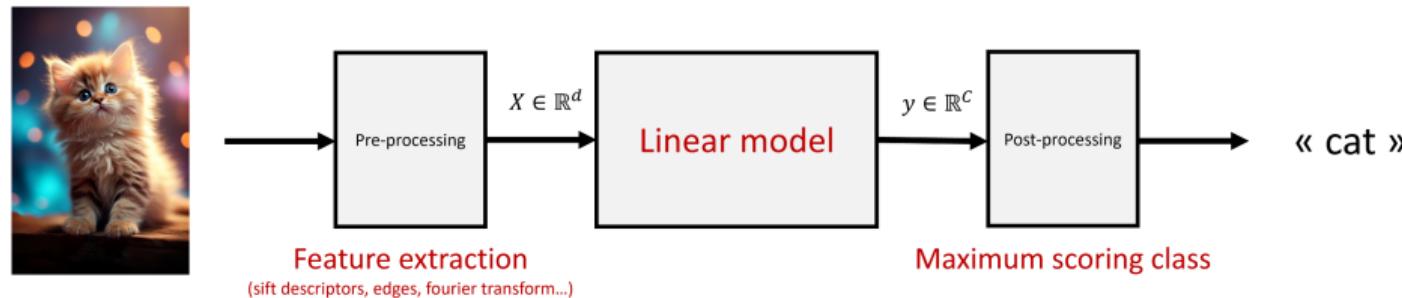
# Simple example: cats vs. dogs

Output class is represented as a **2d vector** ((0, 1) for "cat" and (1, 0) for "dog").



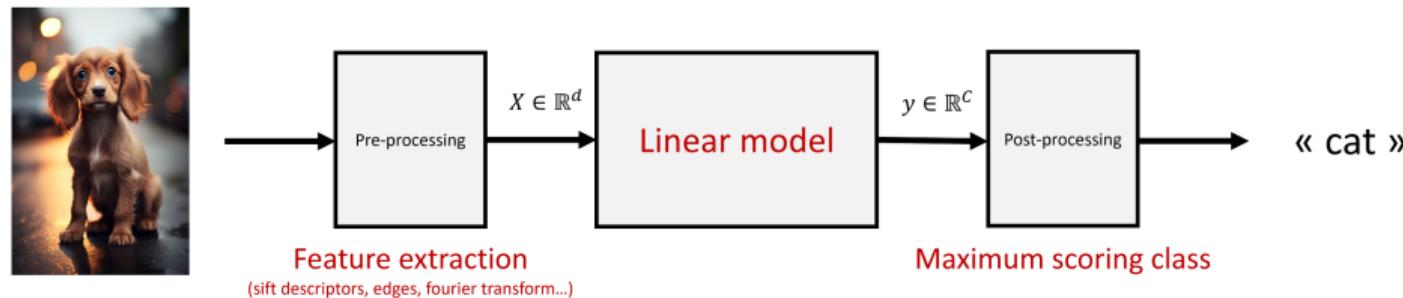
# Simple example: cats vs. dogs (linear model)

**Image features** (sift, wavelets,...) are extracted and given as input to the model.



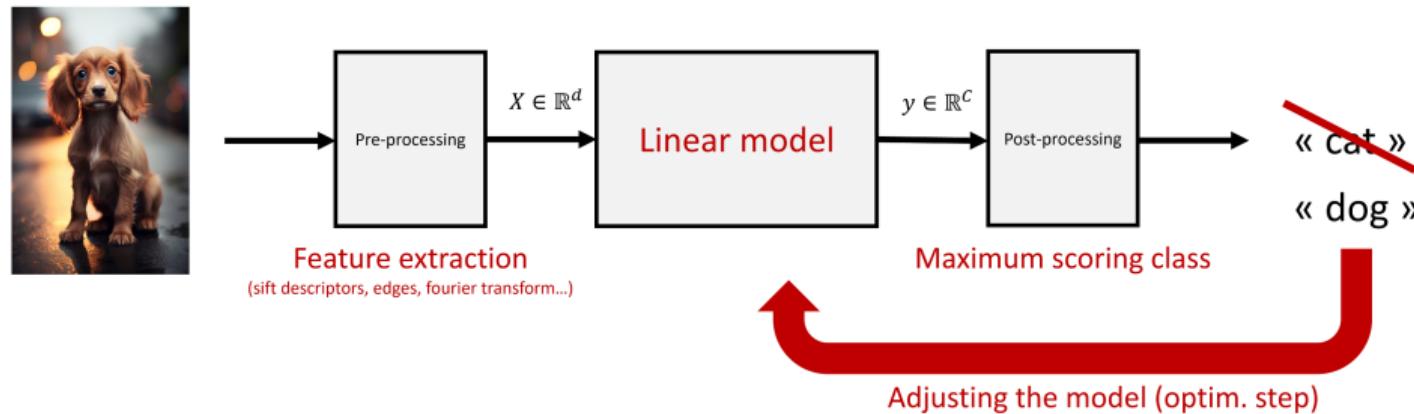
# Simple example: cats vs. dogs (inference)

The model makes a **prediction** ("cat" or "dog") for a given image.



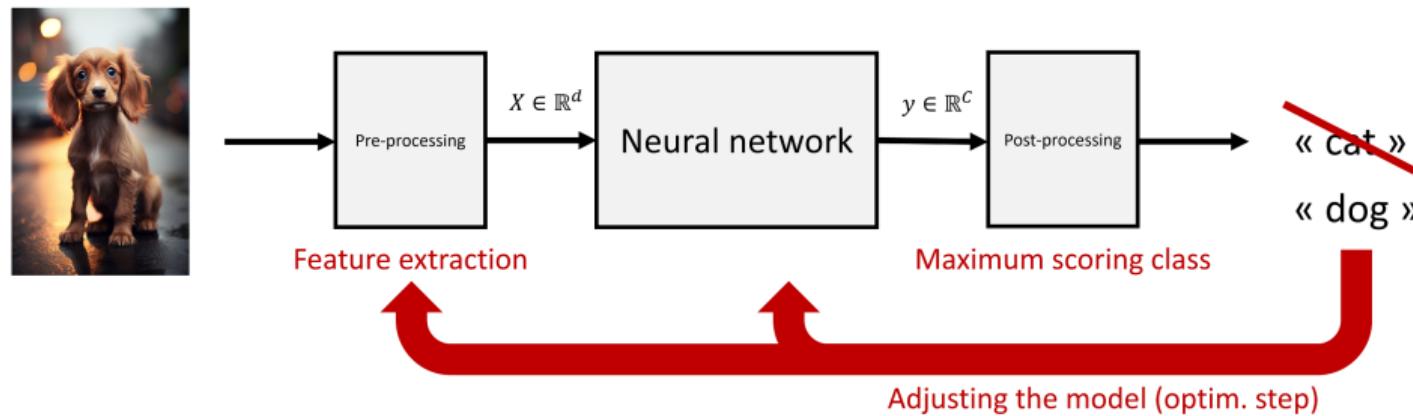
# Simple example: cats vs. dogs (training loop)

If the prediction is false, the **model updates its parameters** to improve its prediction.



# Simple example: cats vs. dogs (deep learning version)

In deep learning, we can train the **whole pipeline** using **automatic differentiation**.



# Typical Machine Learning setup

## Data distribution

Let  $\mathcal{X}, \mathcal{Y}$  be an input and output space and  $\mathcal{D}$  a distribution over  $(\mathcal{X}, \mathcal{Y})$ . Then, we denote our (test) input/output pair as

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## Risk minimization (a.k.a. supervised ML)

The objective of *risk minimization* is to find a minimizer  $\theta^* \in \mathbb{R}^p$  of the optimization problem

$$\min_{\theta \in \mathbb{R}^p} \mathbb{E}(\ell(g_\theta(X), Y))$$

where  $\ell : \mathcal{Y}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$  is a loss function and  $g_\theta : \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathcal{Y}$  a model parameterized by  $\theta \in \mathbb{R}^p$ .

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The target loss (e.g. accuracy) may be hard to train, and can thus be different from the one used as objective during training!

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- ▶ **Loss function (train):**  $\ell(y, y') = -\sum_i y'_i \ln \left( \exp(y_i) / \sum_j \exp(y_j) \right)$  (cross entropy)

# Training objective

## Empirical risk minimization

Let  $(x_i, y_i)_{i \in [\![1, n]\!]} \in \mathcal{D}$  be a collection of  $n$  observations drawn independently according to  $\mathcal{D}$ . Then, the objective of *empirical risk minimization* (ERM) is to find a minimizer  $\hat{\theta}_n \in \mathbb{R}^p$  of

$$\min_{\theta \in \mathbb{R}^p} \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \ell(g_\theta(x_i), y_i)$$

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## Optimization by gradient descent

We can minimize this loss by iterating

$$\theta_{t+1} = \theta_t - \eta \nabla \hat{\mathcal{L}}_n(\theta_t)$$

where  $\eta > 0$  is a fixed step-size and  $\hat{\mathcal{L}}_n(\theta) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \ell(g_\theta(x_i), y_i)$  is our objective.

# Typical loss functions

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- ▶ For **regression** tasks, we usually use  $\mathcal{Y} = \mathbb{R}^d$  and
  - ▶  $\ell(y, y') = \|y - y'\|_2^2 = \sum_i (y_i - y'_i)^2$  (mean square error) or,
  - ▶  $\ell(y, y') = \|y - y'\|_1 = \sum_i |y_i - y'_i|$  (mean absolute error).

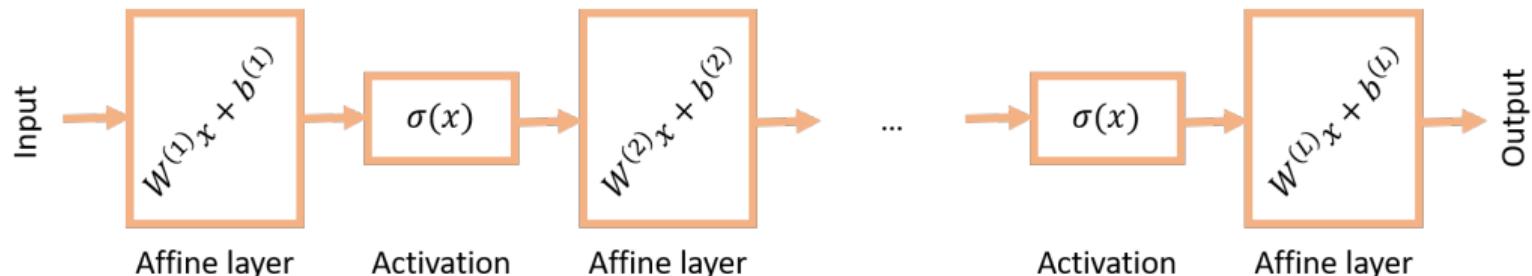
# Recap

- ▶ Learning is rephrased as minimizing a **loss function** over the **training dataset**.
- ▶ Loss is typically **cross entropy** for classification and **MSE** for regression.
- ▶ Training achieved by (stochastic) **gradient descent** (or its variants).
- ▶ The whole pipeline is trained (i.e. its parameters are optimized) using **autodiff**.

# Multi-Layer Perceptron

Definition and Pytorch implementation

# Multi-Layer Perceptron (Rumelhart, Hinton, Williams, 75)



## Details

- ▶ **Idea:** Composition of **affine** (also called linear) and **activation** (simple non-linear coordinate-wise) functions. Simple extension of linear models.
- ▶ **Activations:** Coordinate-wise functions. (usually ReLU i.e.  $\sigma(x)_i = \max\{0, x_i\}$ ).
- ▶ **Update rule:**  $x^{(l+1)} = \sigma(W^{(l)}x^{(l)} + b^{(l)})$  (except for the last layer!).
- ▶ **Brain analogy:** A “neuron” is a coordinate of an activation layer.

# Structure of MLPs with ReLU activations

ReLU networks create affine regions

- ▶ Case of two layers and  $d^{(2)} = 1$ :  $g_\theta(x) = \sum_i w_i^{(2)} \sigma(\langle w_i^{(1)}, x \rangle + b_i) + c$

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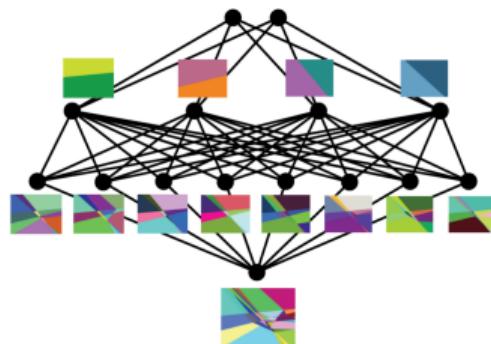
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- ▶ Each ReLU activation can create a new affine region.
- ▶ Example of affine regions of a ReLU network trained on MNIST:



(image credits: Hanin & Rolnik, 2019)

# Pytorch implementation

- ▶ Simple implementation as a **sequence of base operations**

- ▶ **Affine layers** in Pytorch:

```
layer = torch.nn.Linear(n_in, n_out)
```

- ▶ **ReLU activation layers** in Pytorch:

```
layer = torch.nn.ReLU()
```

- ▶ Each layer contains its parameters, that can be accessed with `layer.parameters()`.

- ▶ We can thus create an **MLP** with the code:

```
model = torch.nn.Sequential(torch.nn.Linear(n_in, n_internal),  
                           torch.nn.ReLU(),  
                           ...,  
                           torch.nn.Linear(n_internal, n_out))
```

# Automatic differentiation

## Differentiating composite functions

# Existing approaches to compute gradients

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- ▶ **Automatic differentiation:** clever use of the **chain rule**.

## Chain rule (simple version)

Let  $f, g : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  differentiable, then

$$(f \circ g)' = (f' \circ g) \cdot g'$$

# Recap: derivatives of multi-dimensional functions

## Definition (Jacobian matrix)

Let  $f : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$  a differentiable function. Its Jacobian  $J_f(x) \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$  is the matrix whose coordinates are the partial derivatives:

$$J_f(x) = \begin{bmatrix} \nabla f_1(x)^\top \\ \dots \\ \nabla f_m(x)^\top \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial f_1(x)}{\partial x_1} & \dots & \frac{\partial f_1(x)}{\partial x_n} \\ \dots & \dots & \dots \\ \frac{\partial f_m(x)}{\partial x_1} & \dots & \frac{\partial f_m(x)}{\partial x_n} \end{bmatrix}$$

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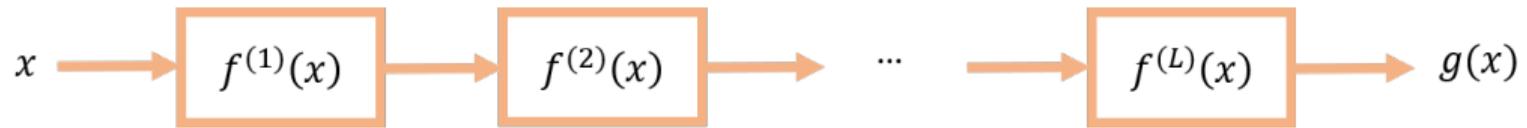
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## Chain rule (multi-dimensional version)

Let  $f : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$  and  $g : \mathbb{R}^p \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$  differentiable, then

$$J_{f \circ g} = (J_f \circ g) \times J_g$$

# Derivative of a composition of functions

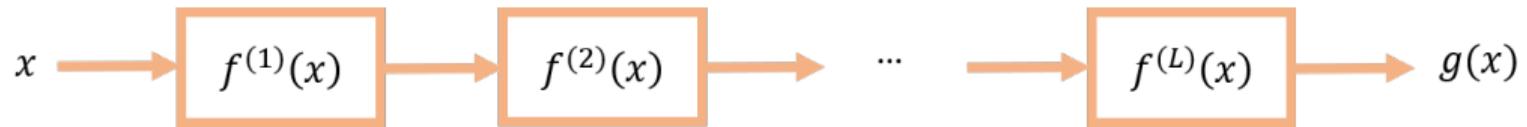


## Composite function

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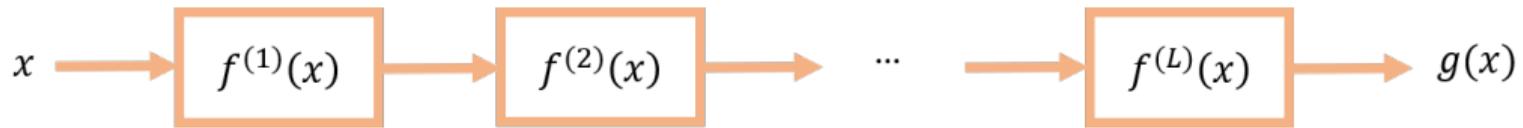
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- What is the **computational complexity** to compute the Jacobian matrix?

# Computational complexity

## Finite differences

- ▶ The gradient of  $g$  can be approximated by **finite differences**:  $\nabla g(x)_i \approx \frac{g(x+\varepsilon e_i) - g(x)}{\varepsilon}$
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- ▶ **Backward propagation**: Compute  $\nabla g(x)^\top = (((J_L \times J_{L-1}) \times \cdots \times J_2) \times J_1)$ . If output is 1-dimensional, only needs **matrix-vector products**!

# Which algorithm is faster?

## Complexity for gradients of MLPs

- ▶ Let  $g_\theta : \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  an MLP of width  $w \geq d$  and depth  $L \geq 1$ .
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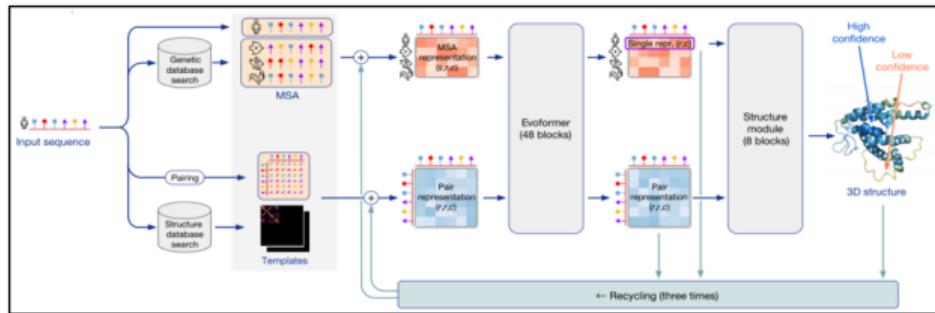
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## Intuition for gradients w.r.t. parameters

- ▶ Finite differences requires **two function calls per parameter**.
- ▶ Backprop requires **O(1) function calls for the whole gradient**.
- ▶ Interpretation as parameter testing:
  - ▶ Each partial derivative w.r.t. a parameter indicates if this parameter can describe the data.
  - ▶ With backprop, we can test **all parameters at once**.

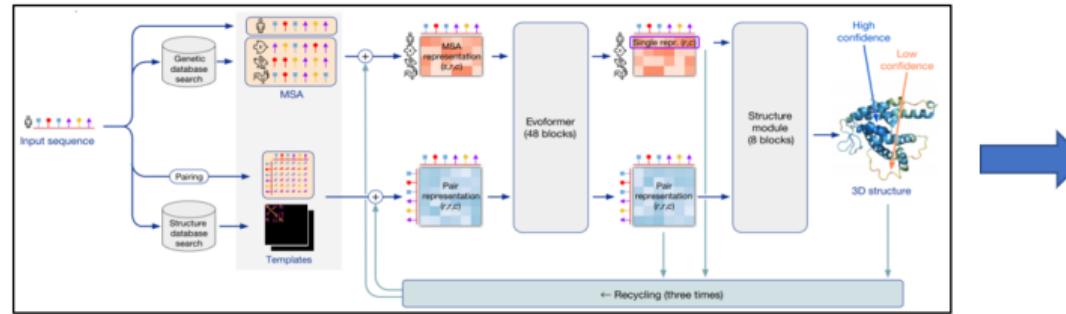
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Complex neural network architecture (e.g. AlphaFold)



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Code (e.g. Python)

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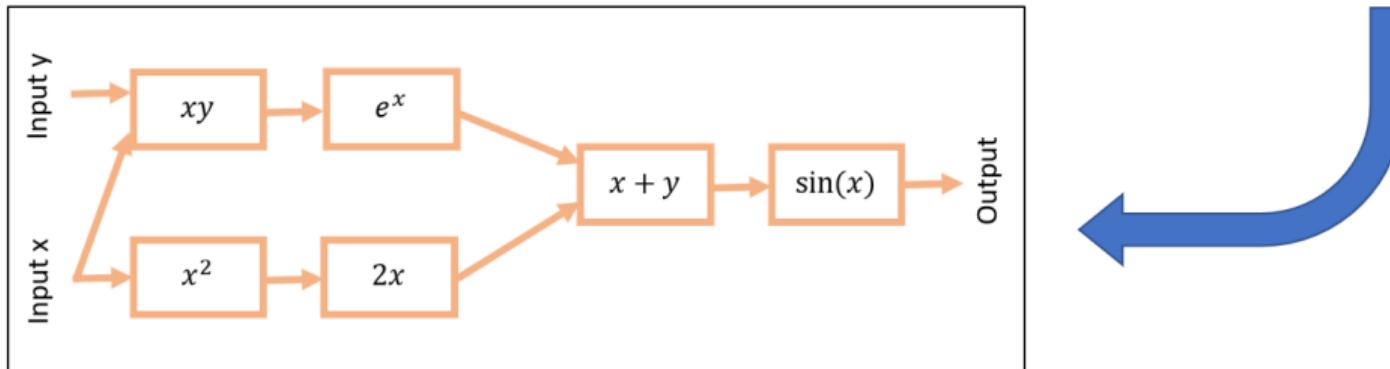


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Computation graph (DAG of mathematical operations)



# Computation graphs: formal definition

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- Essentially **all programmable functions** can be decomposed this way.
- Chain rule:** partial gradient  $\frac{\partial x^{(f)}}{\partial x^{(v)}}$  for a node  $v \in V$  from that of its children.

$$\frac{\partial x^{(f)}}{\partial x^{(v)}} = \sum_{w \in \text{Children}(v)} \frac{\partial f^{(w)} \left( (x^{(w')})_{w' \in \text{Parents}(w)} \right)^T}{\partial x^{(v)}} \frac{\partial x^{(f)}}{\partial x^{(w)}}$$

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- ▶ **BP:** Let  $z^{(f)} = 1$  and, for  $v \in V/F$ , we compute iteratively **from leaf to roots**,

$$z^{(v)} = \sum_{w \in \text{Children}(v)} \frac{\partial f^{(w)} \left( (y^{(w')})_{w' \in \text{Parents}(w)} \right)^{\top}}{\partial x^{(v)}} z^{(w)}$$

- ▶ Then, for all  $r \in R$ , we have  $\frac{\partial \mathcal{L}(\theta)}{\partial \theta^{(r)}} = z^{(r)}$ .

# Class overview

## Lessons

- |  |       |
|--|-------|
| 1. <b>Introduction, simple architectures (MLPs) and autodiff</b> | 09/02 |
| 2. Training pipeline, optimization and image analysis (CNNs)     | 16/02 |
| 3. Sequence regression (RNNs), stability and robustness          | 08/03 |
| 4. Generative models in vision and text (Transformers, GANs)     | 15/03 |

## Practicals

- |  |       |
|--|-------|
| ▶ <b>TP1:</b> MLPs and CNNs in Pytorch   | 01/03 |
| ▶ <b>TP2:</b> RNNs and generative models | 22/03 |