

# Sparse Neural Computation

Dr Varun Ojha

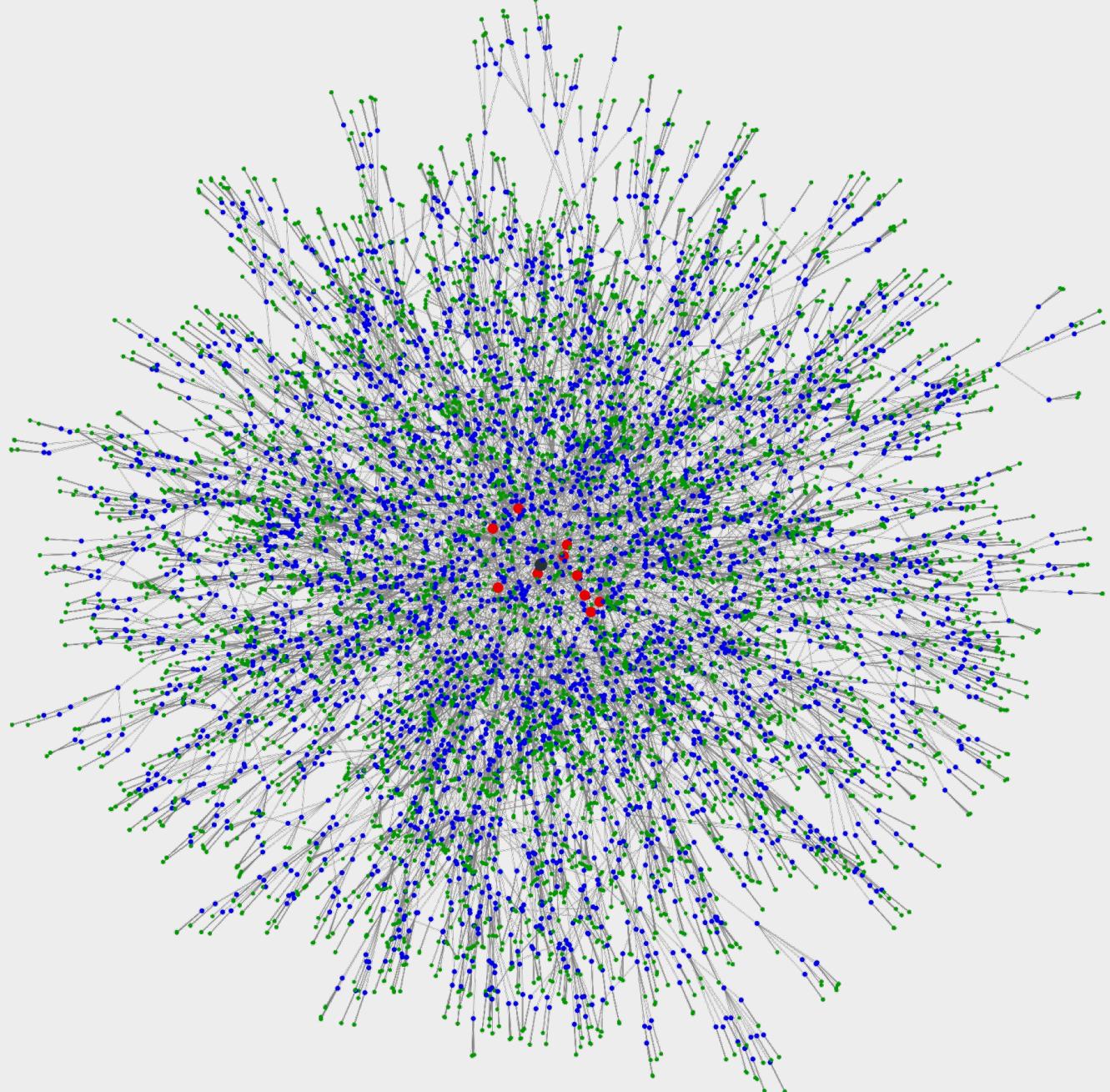
Department of Computer Science  
University of Reading

at

Centre for Computational Science and  
Mathematical Modelling

Coventry University

10 June 2022



# Intrinsic Intelligence of a child's mind

Slide inspiration: Josh Tenenbaum, Prof. MIT, USA  
Video Source:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dEnDiyWHN4A>  
(Accessed on 21 Feb 2021)



# Learning

Training the *Mind of Species*

Video source:

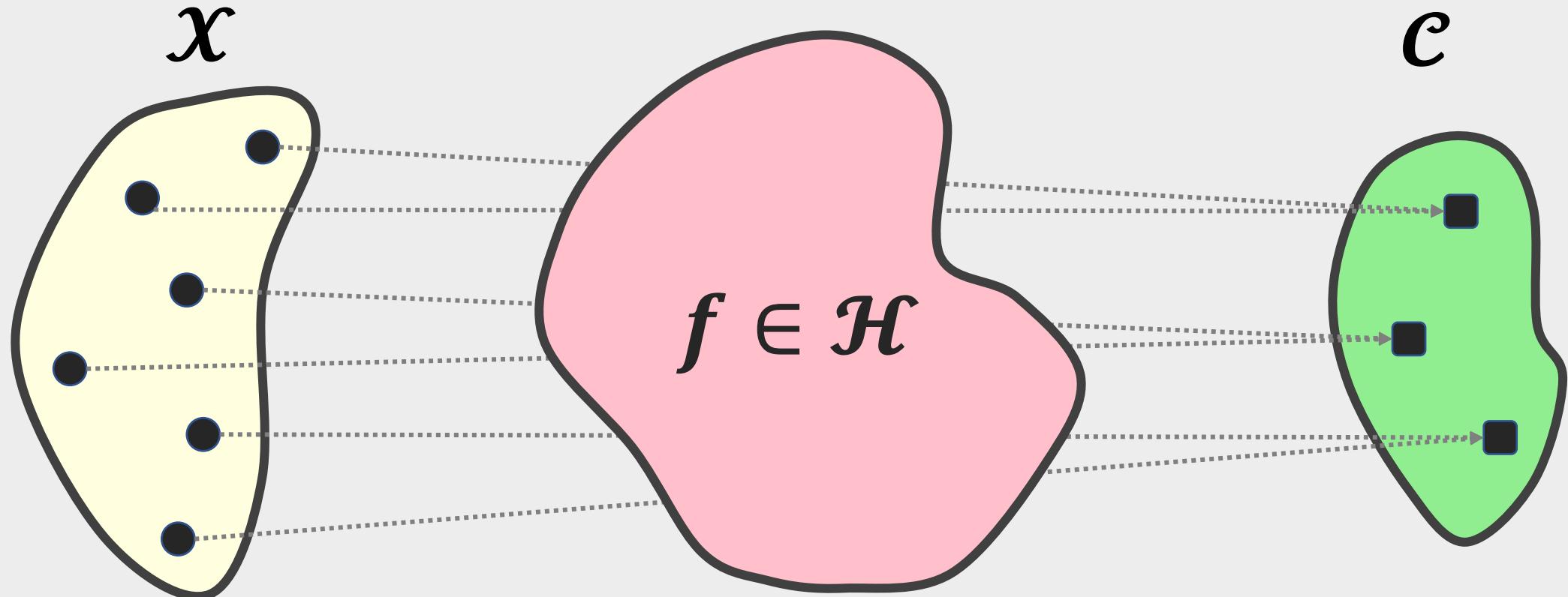
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nbrTOcUnjNY>

(Accessed on 21 Feb 2021)



# Learning $f: X \rightarrow y$

Find the unknown target function  $f$  that does the mapping



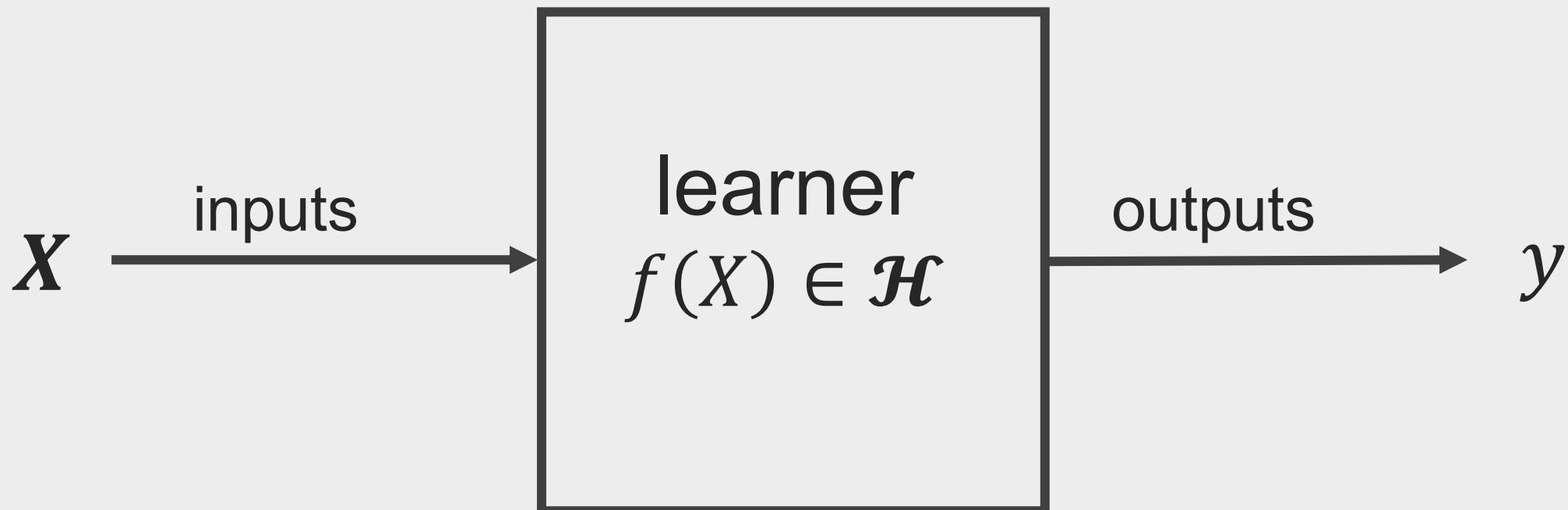
Inputs  $X \in \text{Input space } \mathcal{X}$

hypothesis space  $\mathcal{H}$

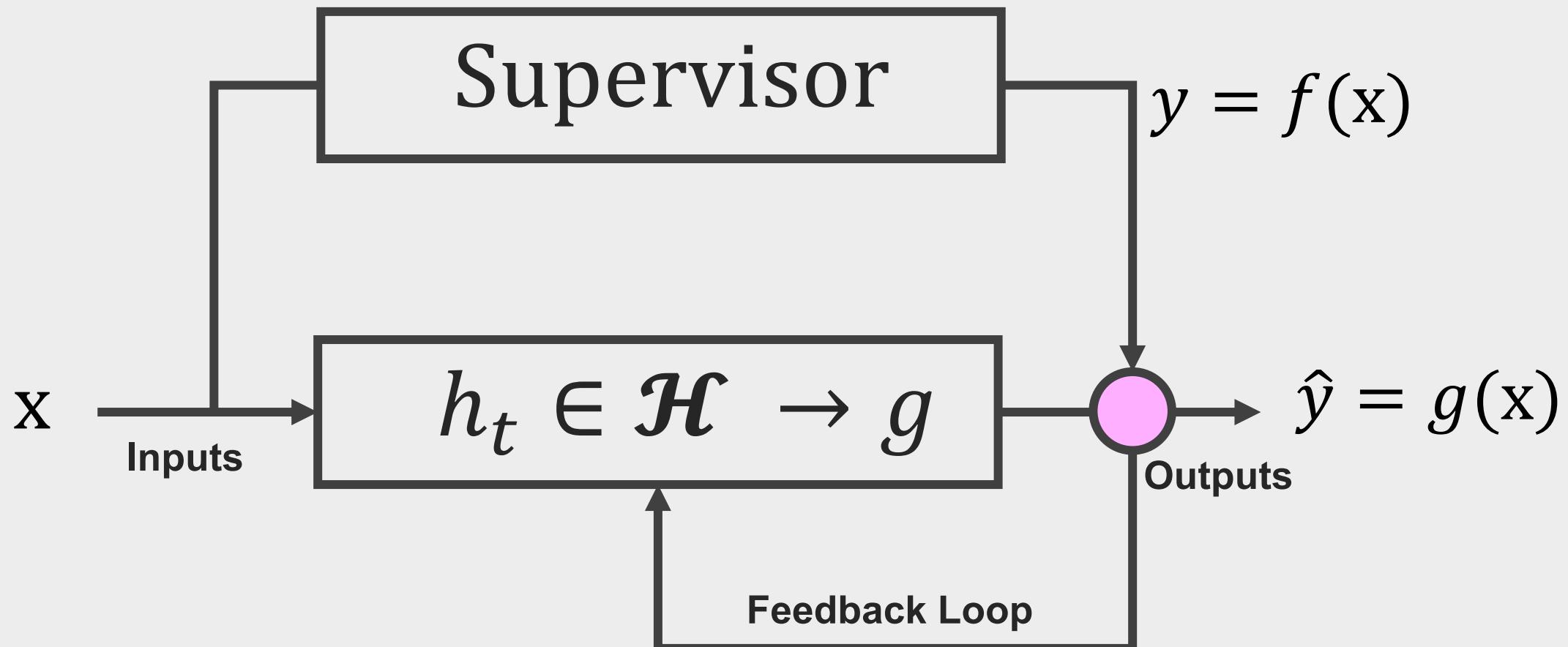
outputs  $y \in \text{concept space } \mathcal{C}$

# Learning $f: X \rightarrow y$

Supervised learning approximates a function  $g \sim f$  for mapping inputs  $X$  to outputs  $y$



# How to Produces the Function $g: X \rightarrow y$



# What Learning Needs

Learning needs the method(s) to

**Represent**

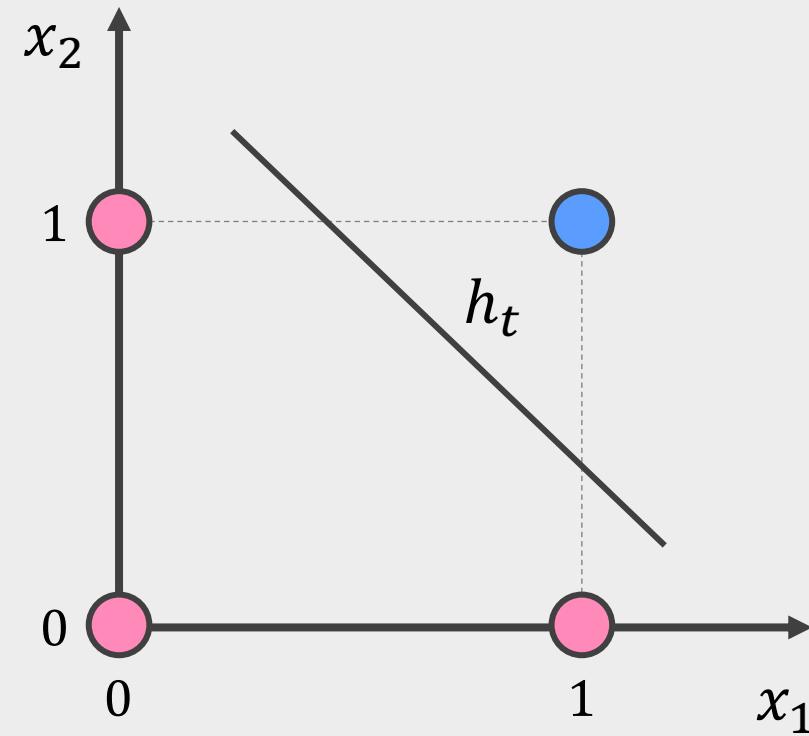
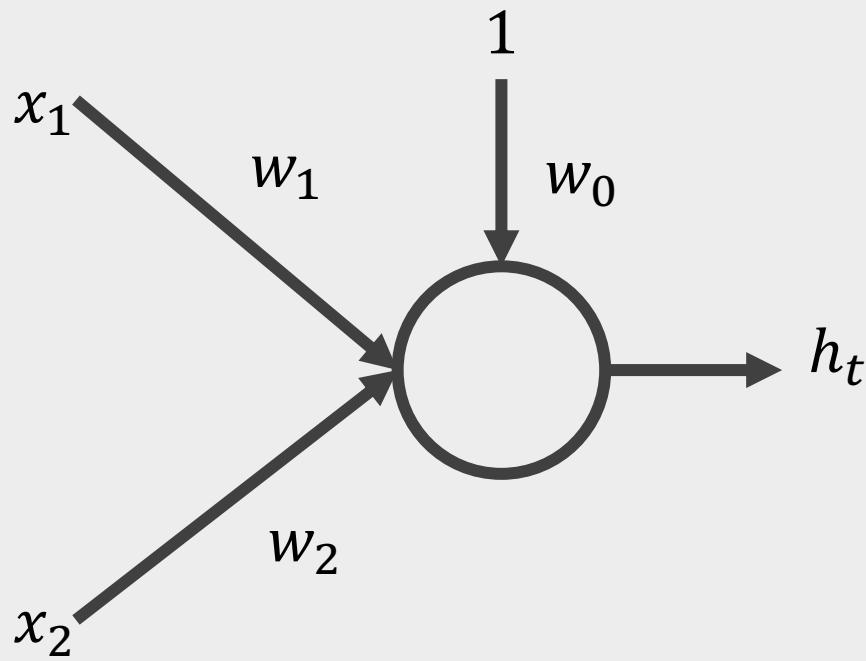
**Evaluate**

**Optimize**

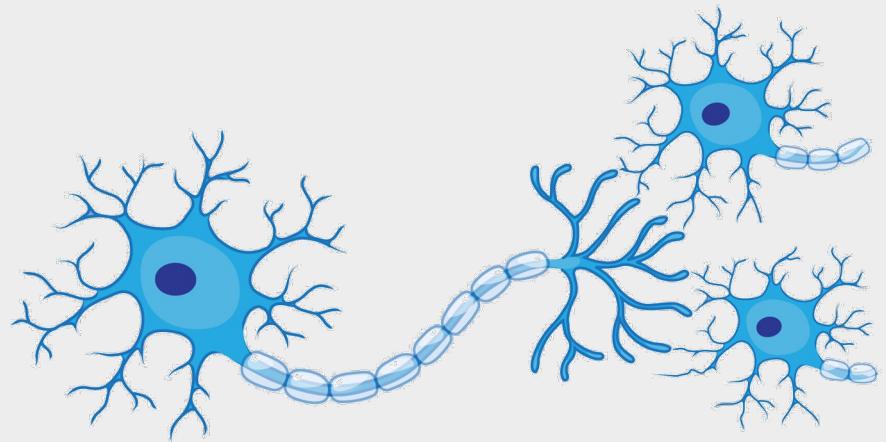
a hypothesis  $h_t$

# How to Represent a Hypothesis $h_t \in H$

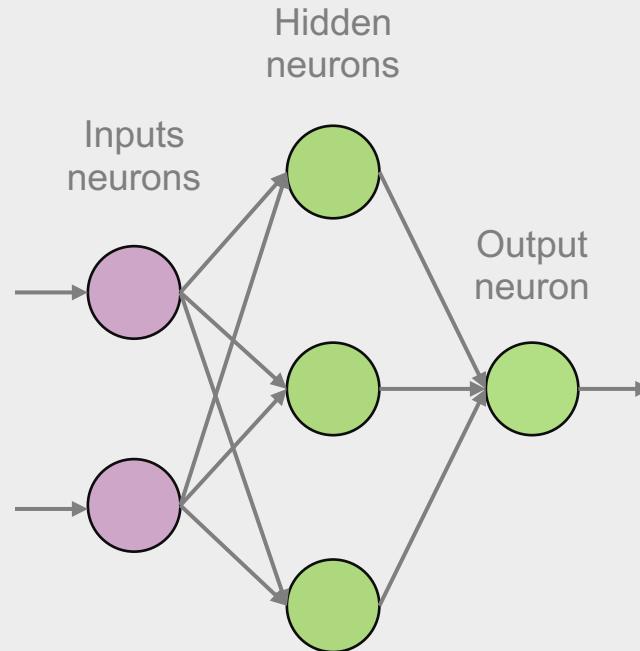
A line separating data can be considered a hypothesis



# Learning Systems: Neural Networks



1 Biological networks of neurons in human brains



2 AI representation of biological neural networks

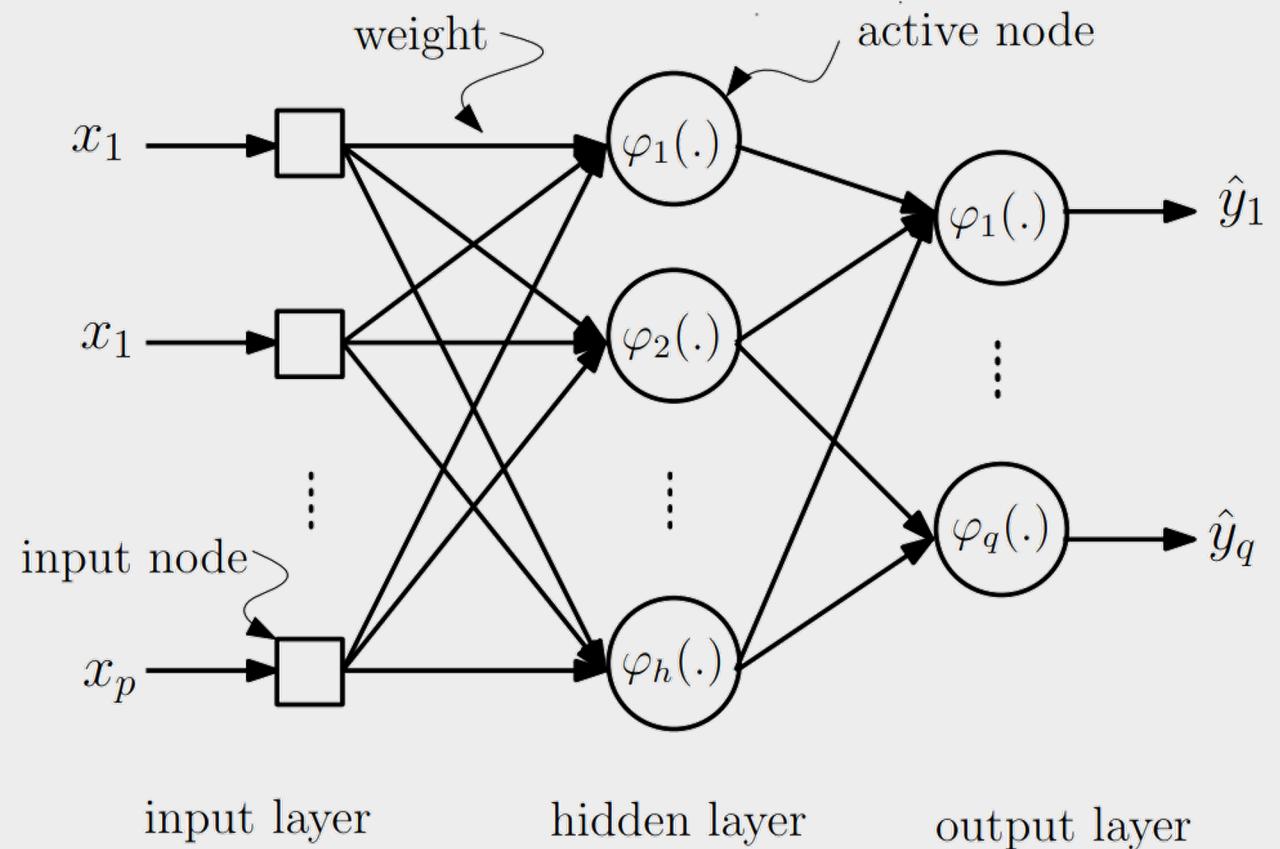

A 4x6 matrix representing the state of a neural network. The first column is pink and empty. The second column contains the binary values 1, 0, 1. The third column contains 0, 1, 1. The fourth column is green and empty. The fifth column contains 1, 1, 0. The sixth column is orange and empty.

3 Mathematical representation of the neural networks

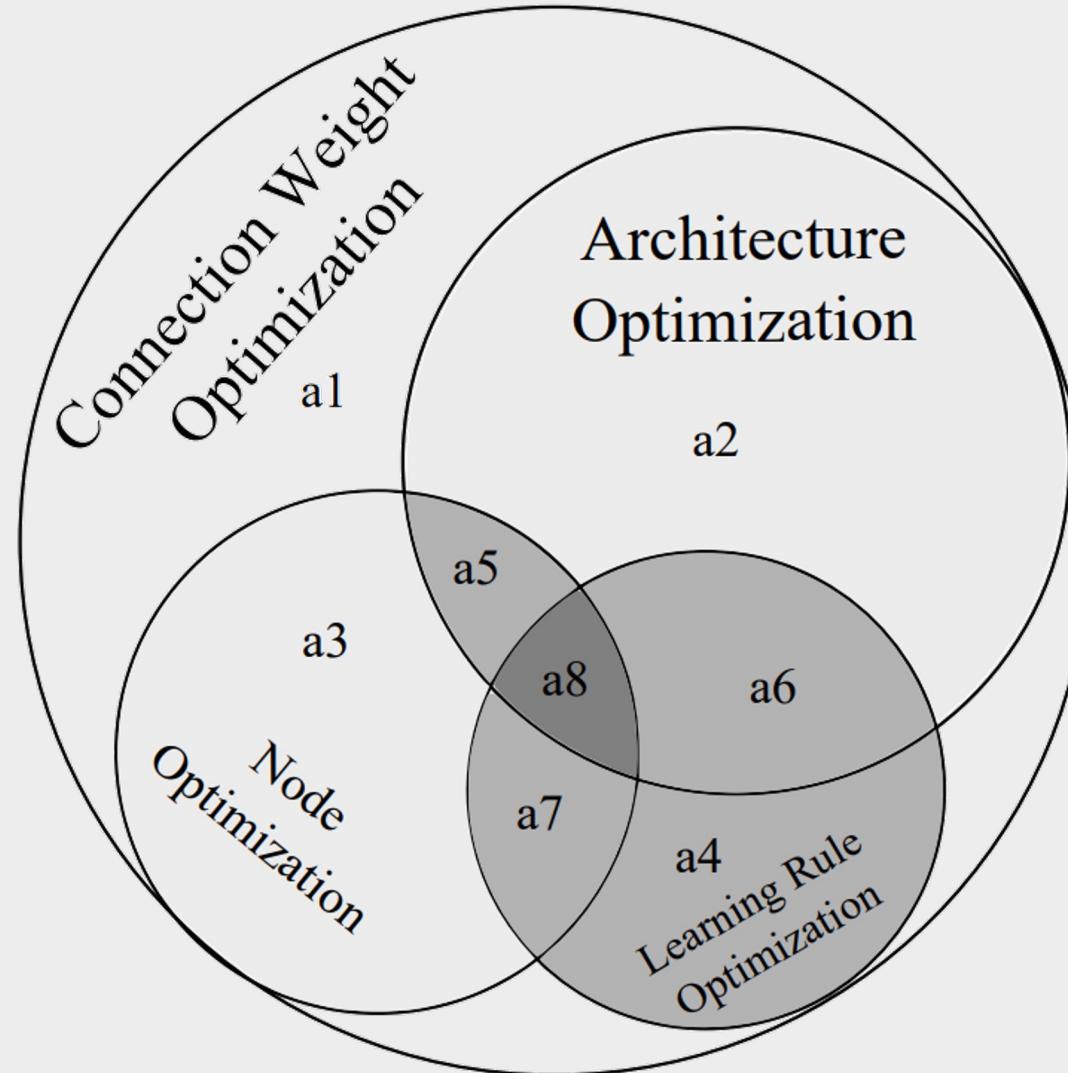
# Neural Networks

## NN components:

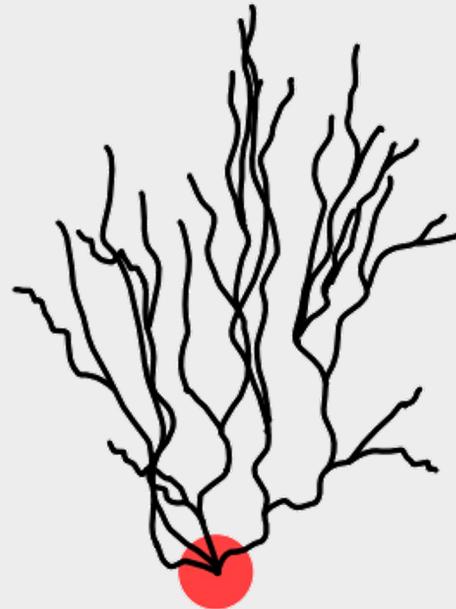
- Inputs
- Weights
- Architecture
- Activation functions
- Learning algorithms



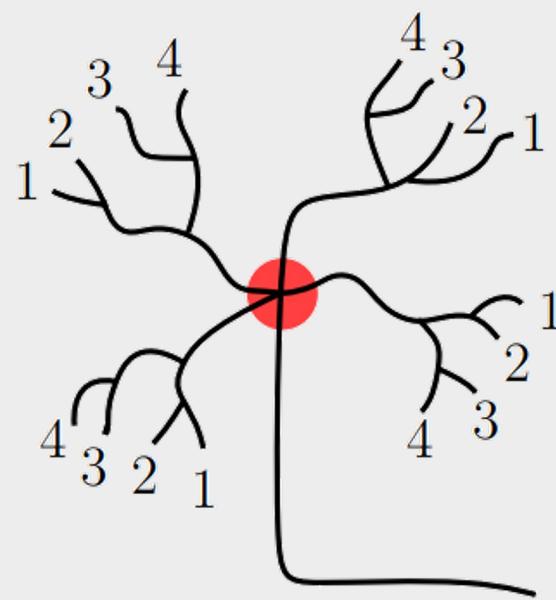
# What Could be optimized?



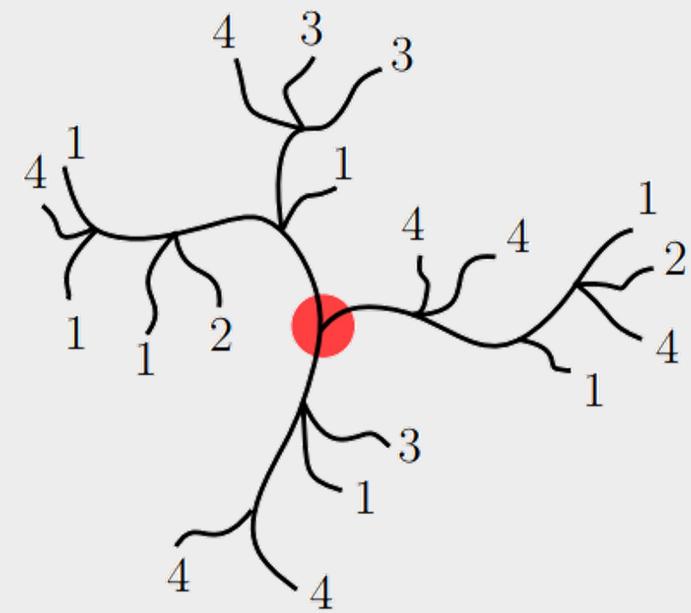
# Plausible Biological Inspiration



Travis et al. (2005)



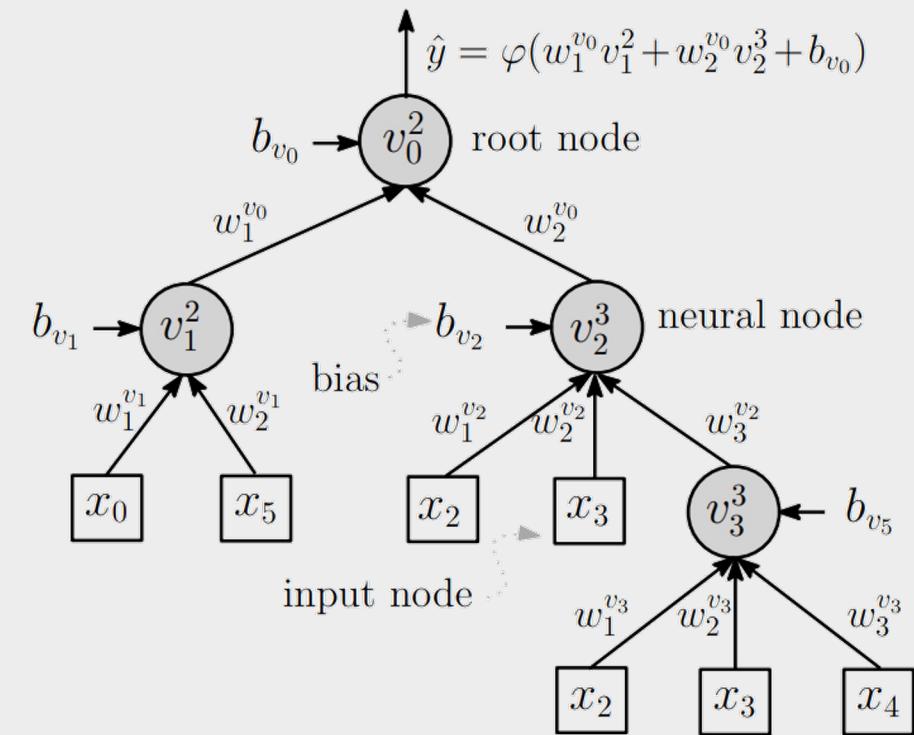
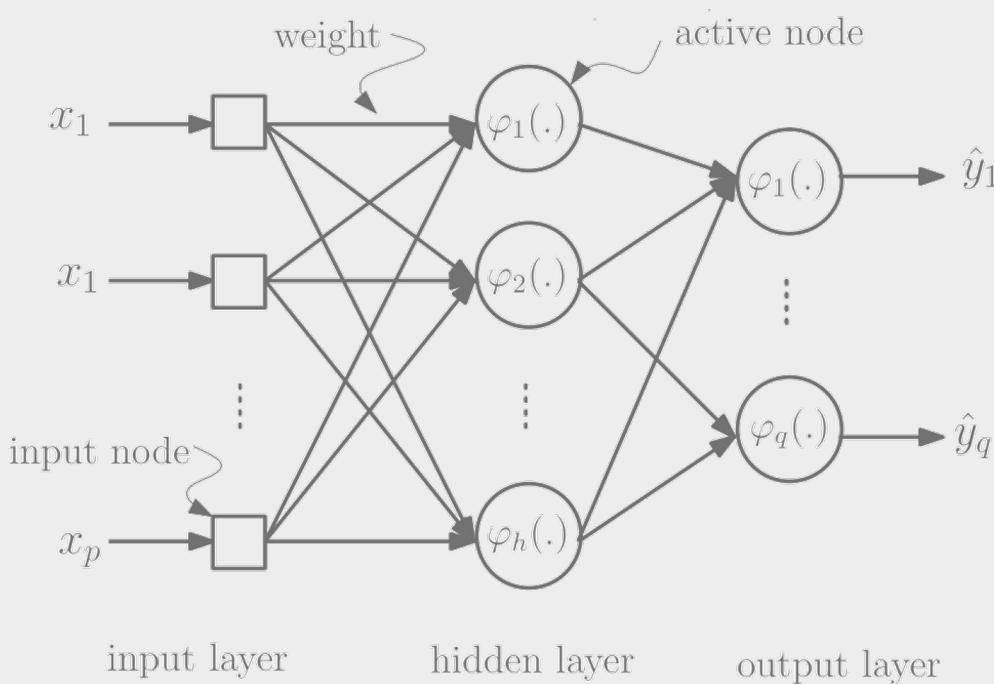
Jones and Kording (2021)



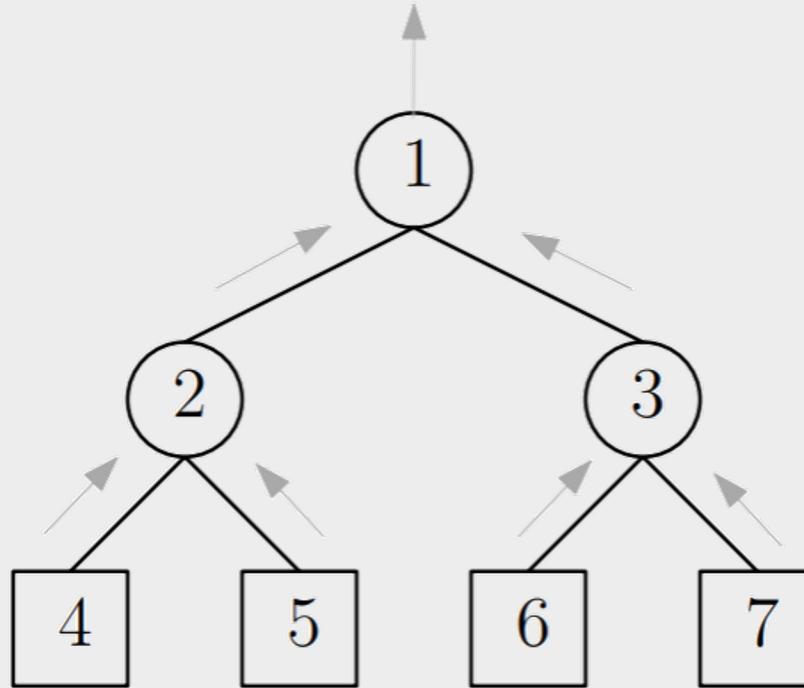
Ojha and Nicosia (2022)

# Neural Tree

## Neural Networks Architecture Search



# Neural Computation

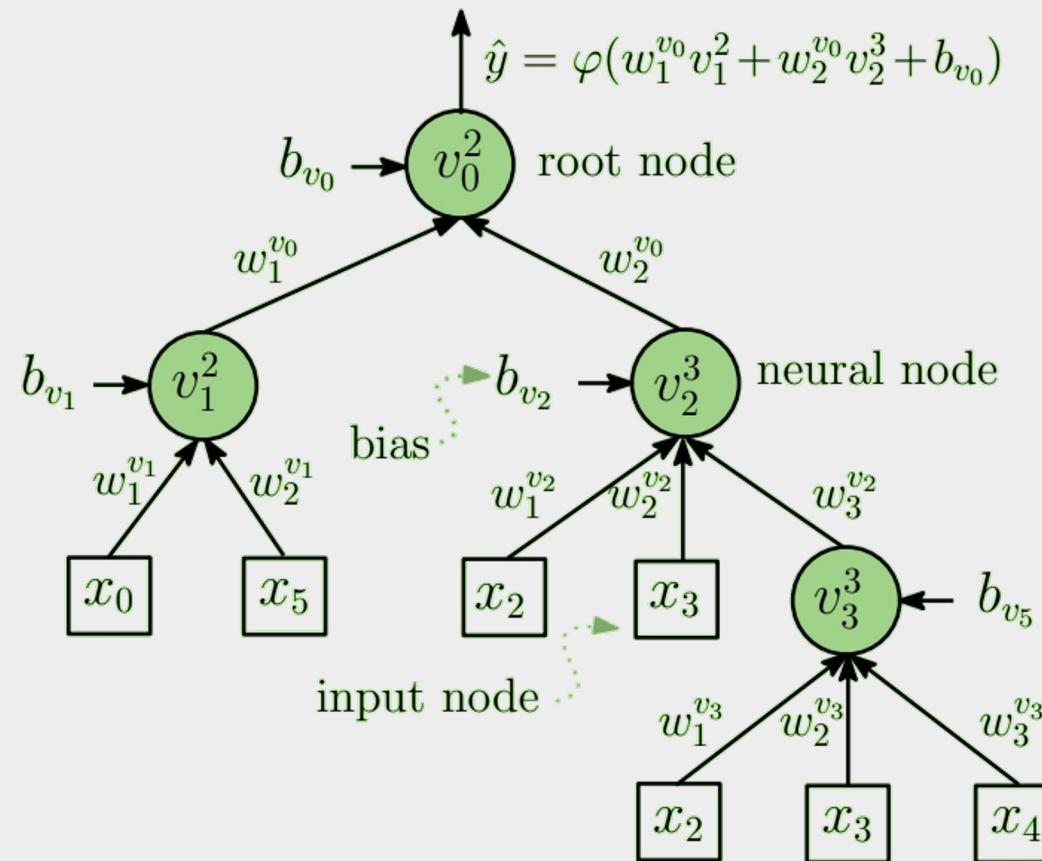


$$[((4 \ 5) \rightarrow 2) \quad ((6 \ 7) \rightarrow 3)] \rightarrow 1$$

forward pass: post-order

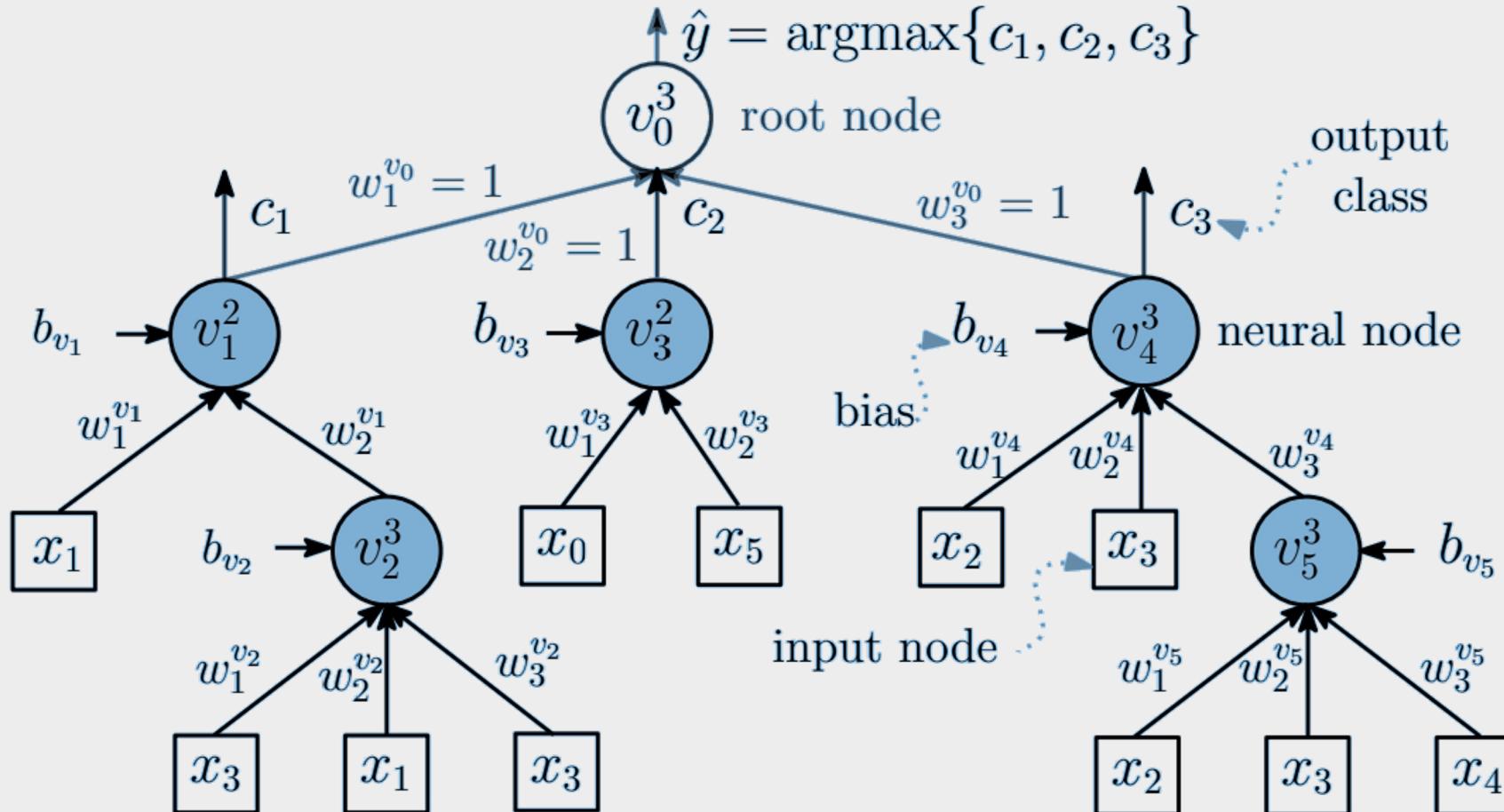
# Types of Neural Tree

Regression Tree



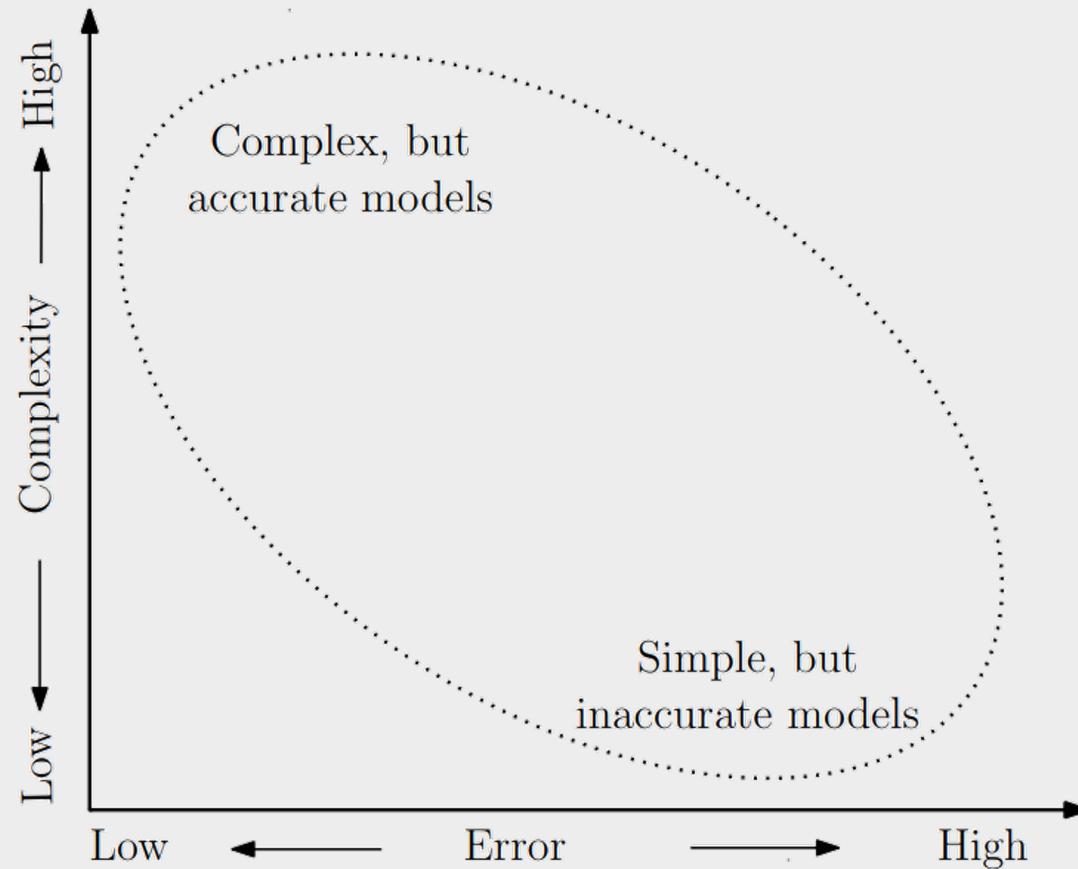
# Types of Neural Tree

Classification Tree



# Neural Architecture Search

Trade-offs

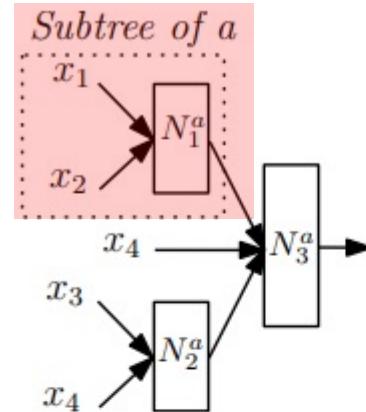


# Neural Architecture Search

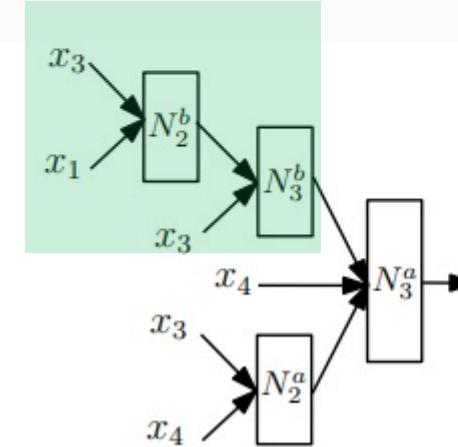
Trade-offs

Multiobjective  
Genetic Programming  
Crossover

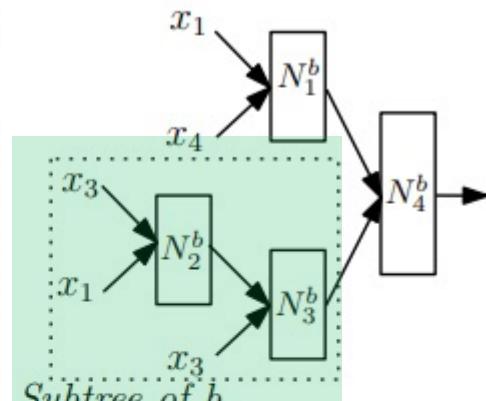
Ojha et al (2017), *IEEE Trans. Fuzzy Systems*



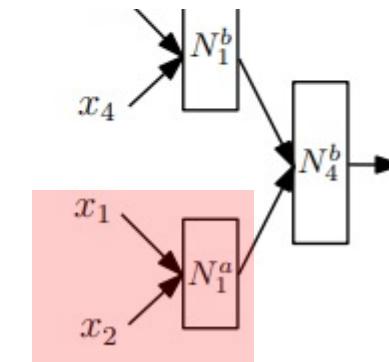
Parent tree: a



Child tree: c



Parent tree: b



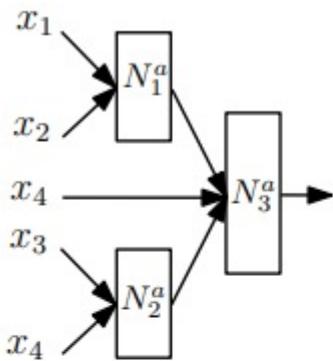
Child tree: d

# Neural Architecture Search

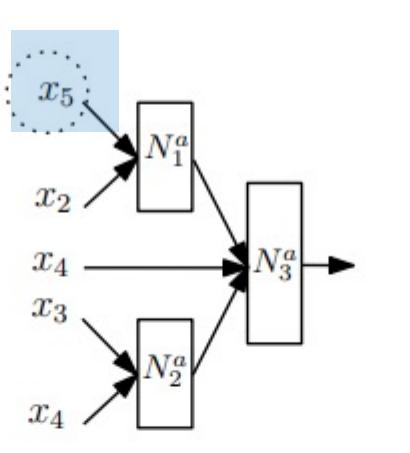
Trade-offs

Multiobjective  
Genetic Programming  
**Mutation**

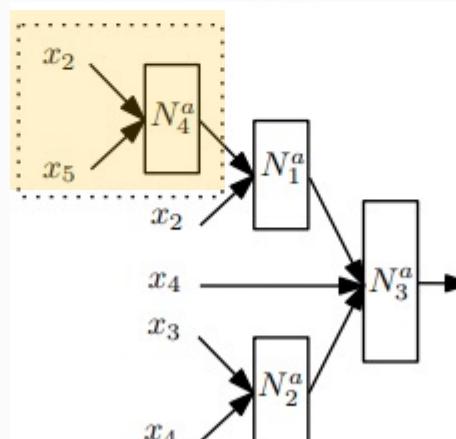
Ojha et al (2017), *IEEE Trans. Fuzzy Systems*



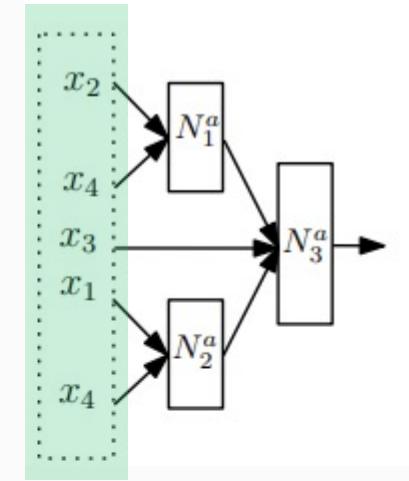
Parent tree



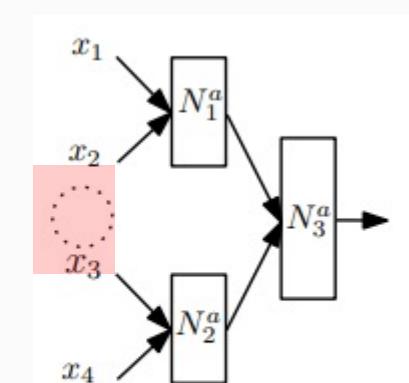
Single leaf mutation



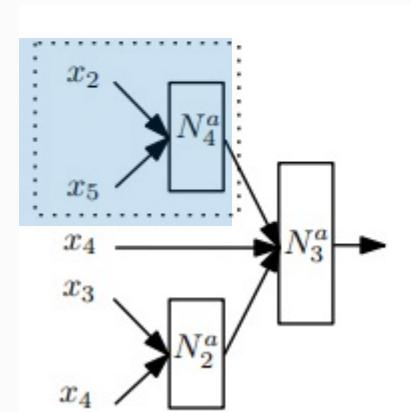
A subtree insertion



All leaves mutation



A subtree deletion

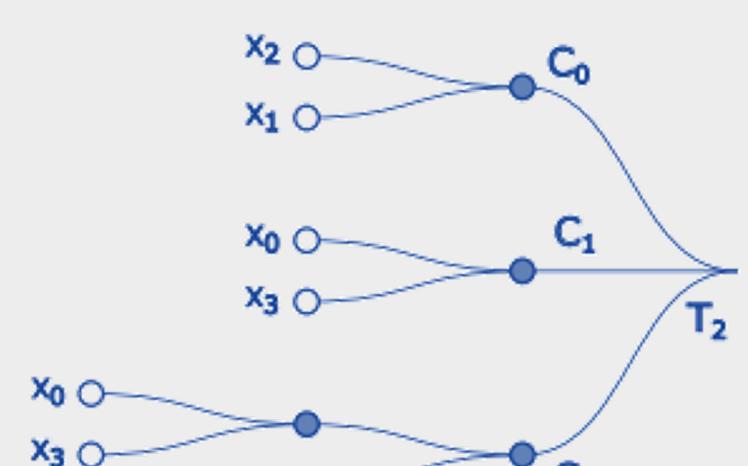
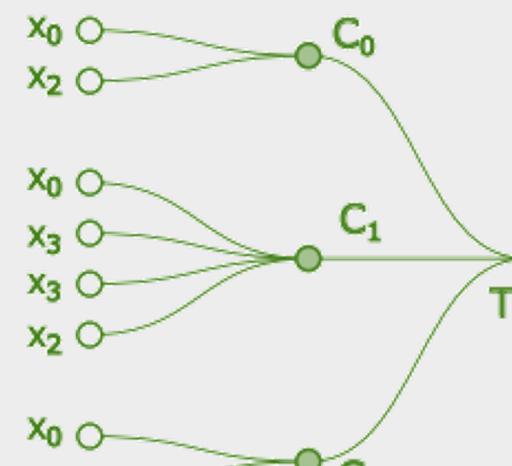
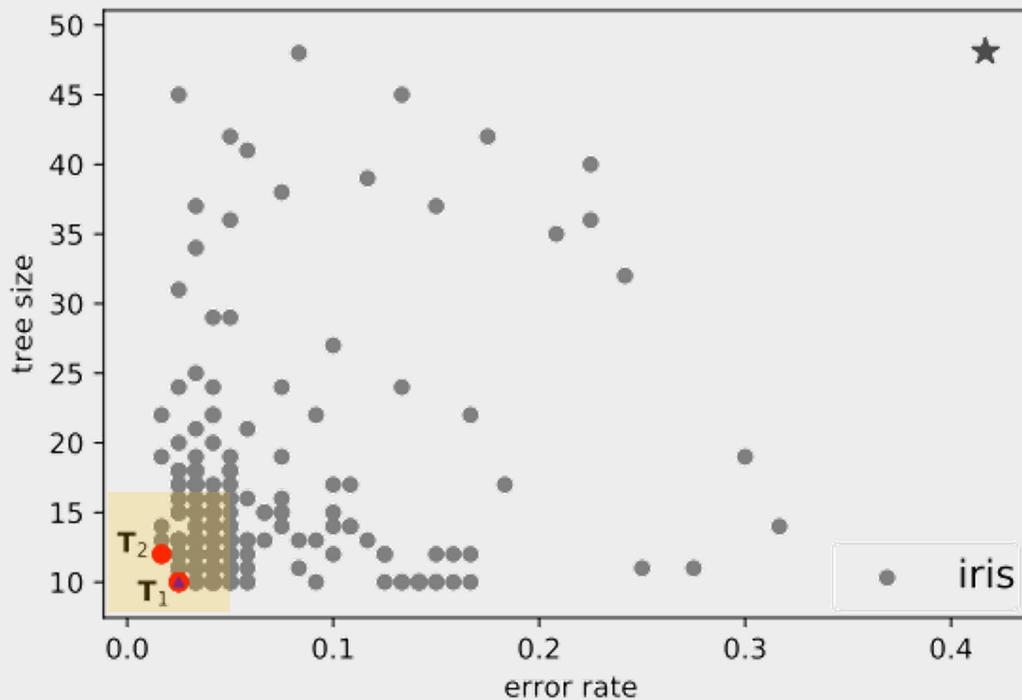


A subtree replacement

# Architecture Search Trade-offs

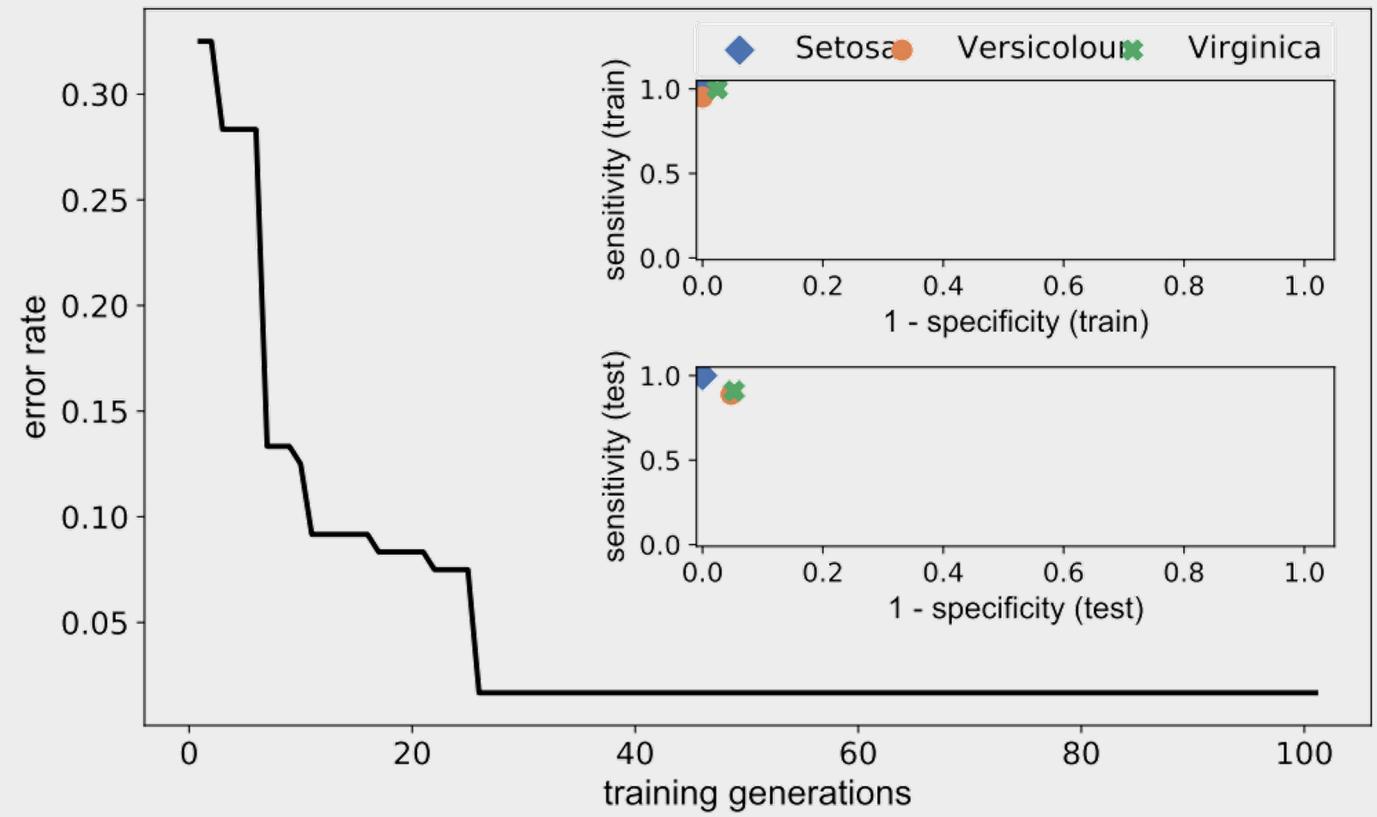
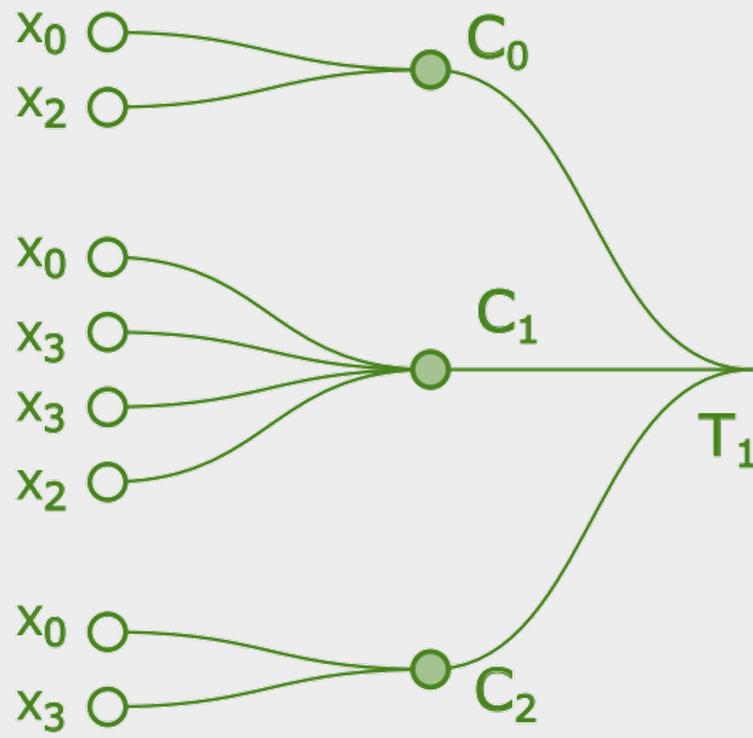
## Multiobjective Genetic Programming

Selection of trees using Hypervolume indicator from a Pareto Front



# Learnability of Classes

Competition between classes: TPR/Recall/Sensitivity vs FPR/(1 - Specificity)

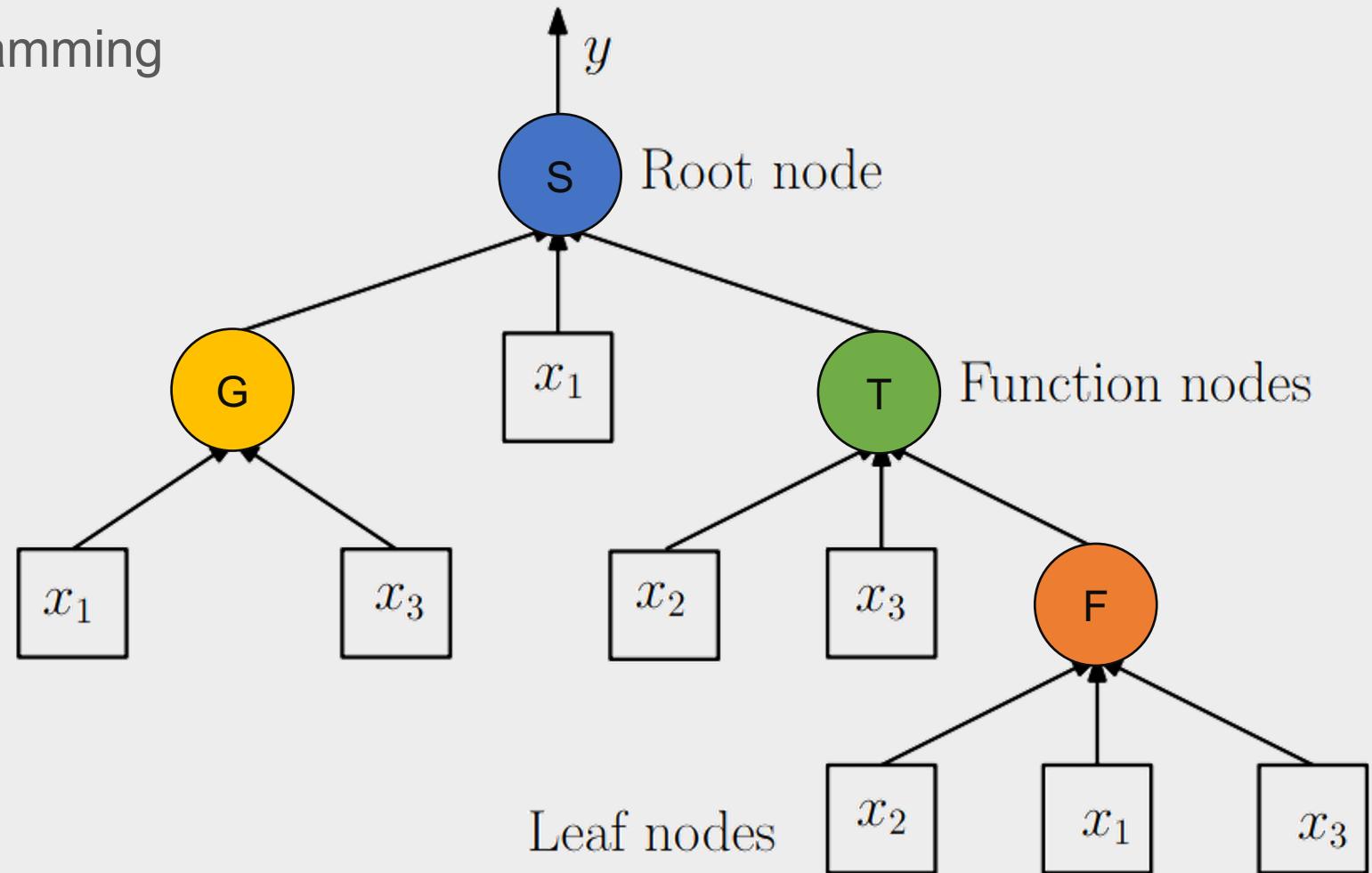


# Heterogeneous Neural Tree

Multiobjective Genetic Programming

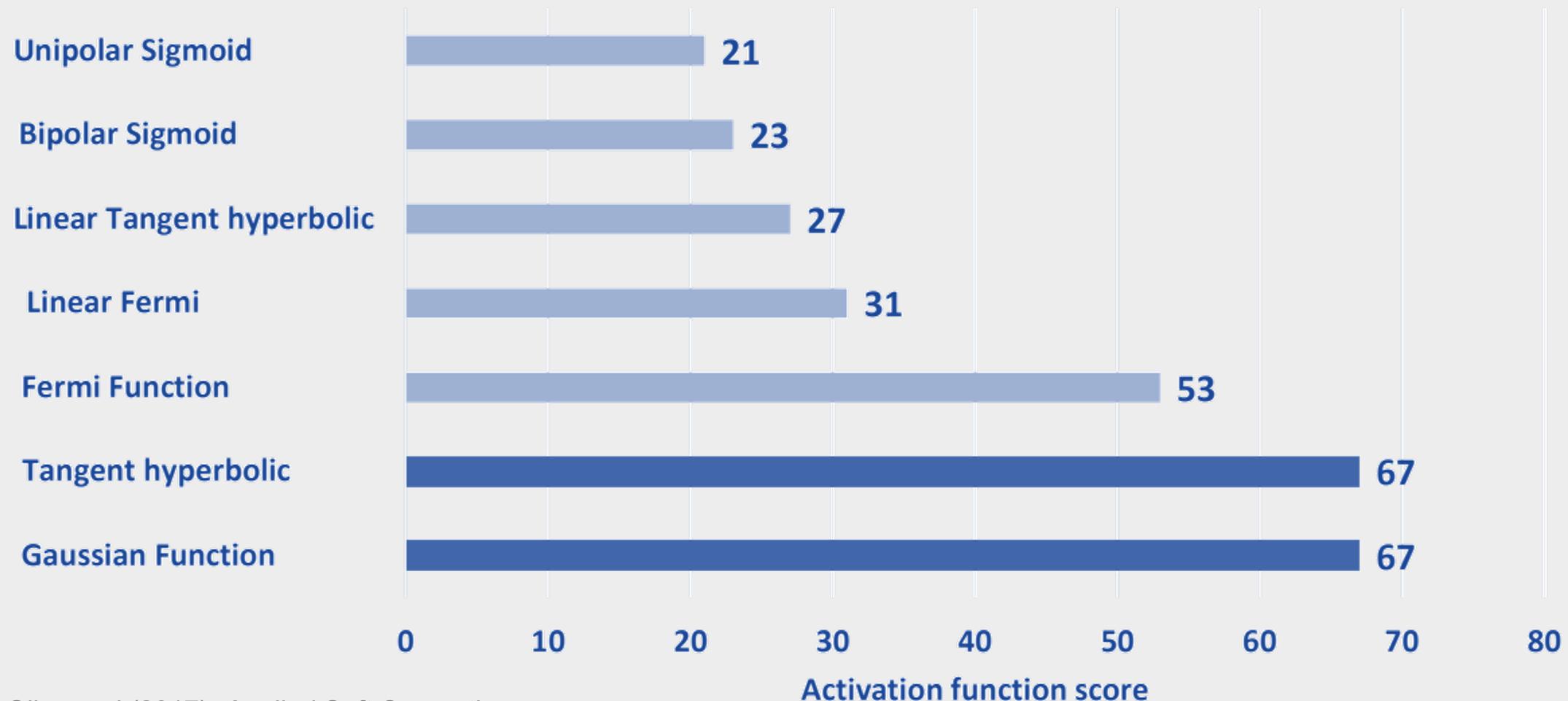
## Activation Function Search

- S – Sigmoid
- G – Gaussian
- T – Tanh
- F – Fermi

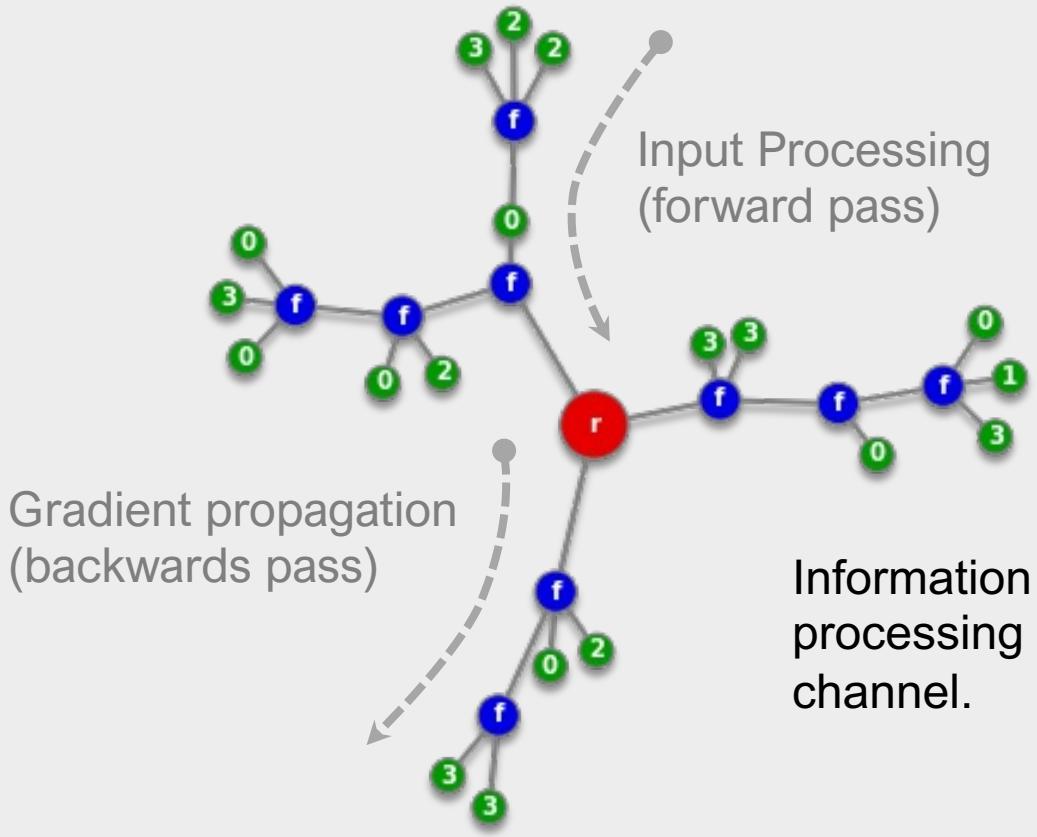


# Activation Function Performance

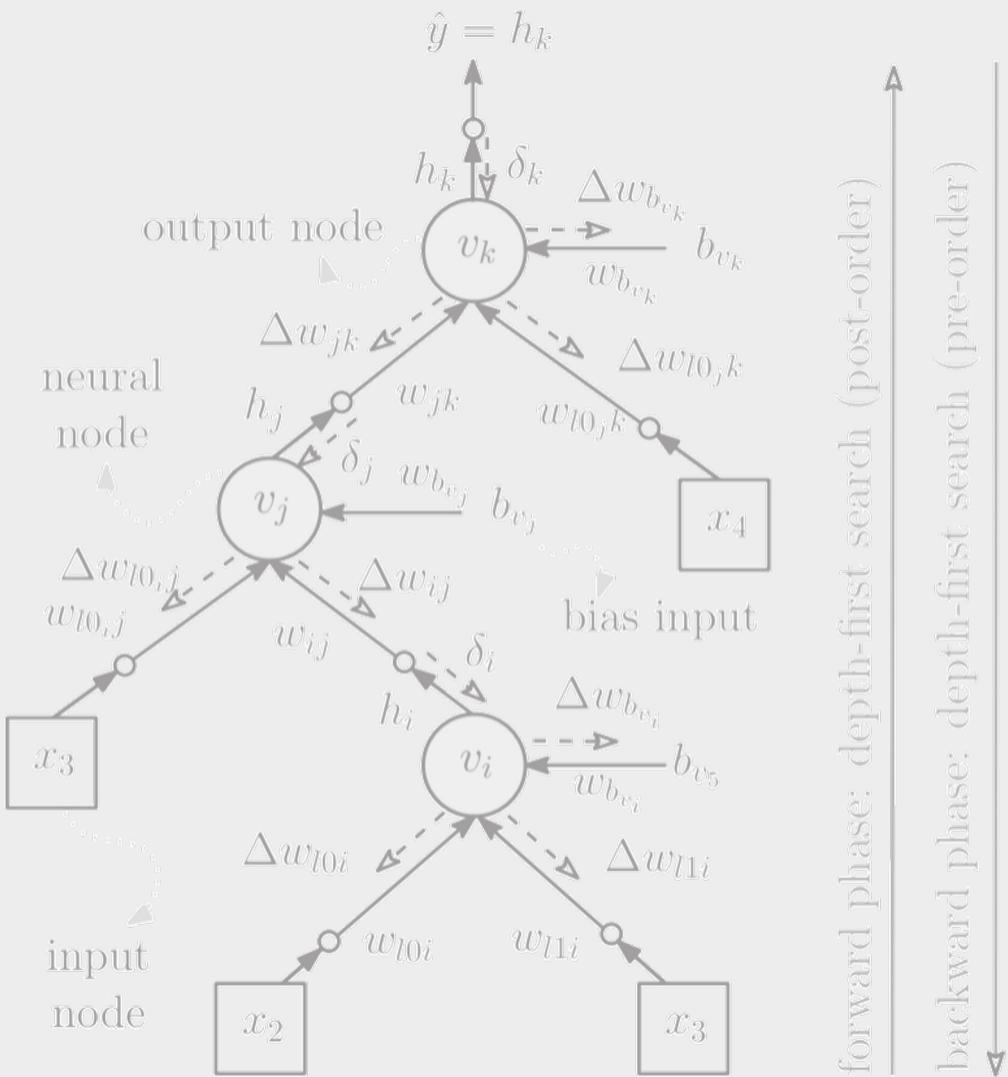
Higher values are better



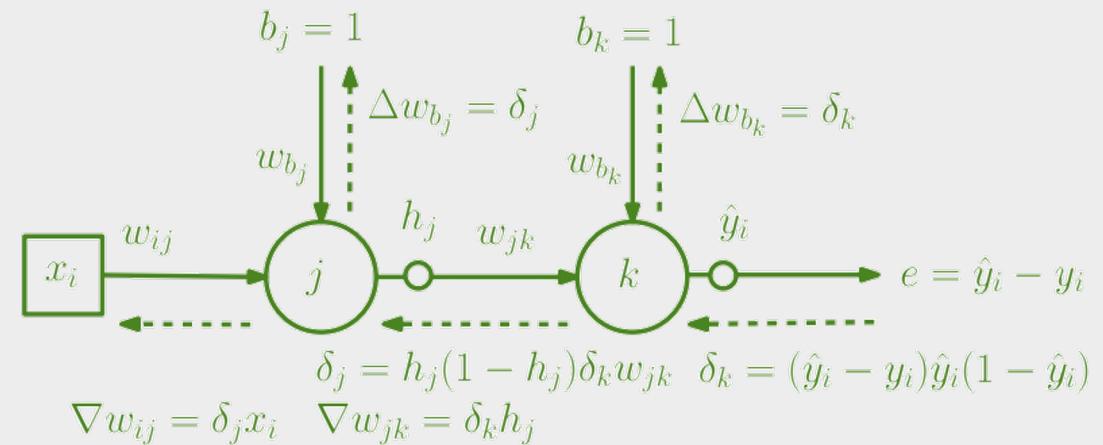
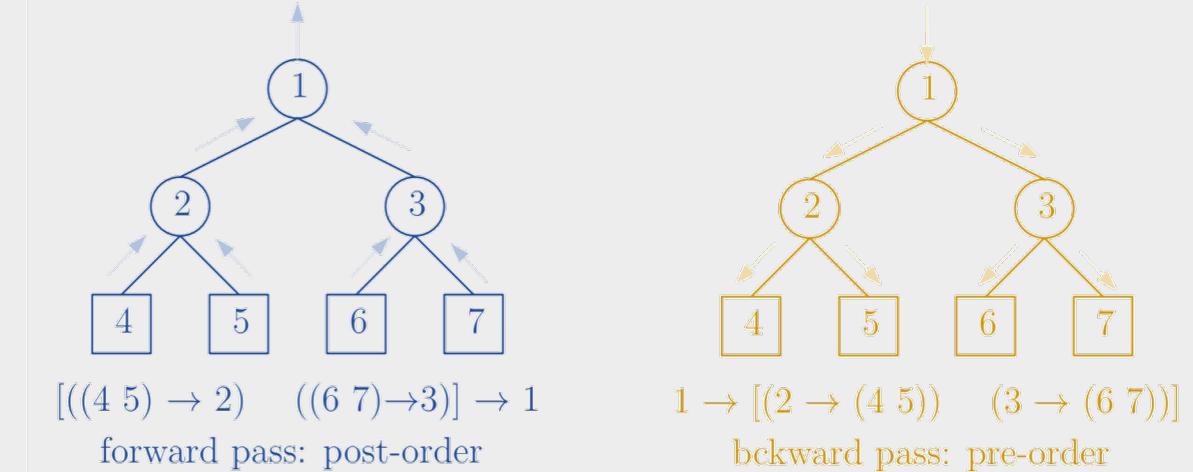
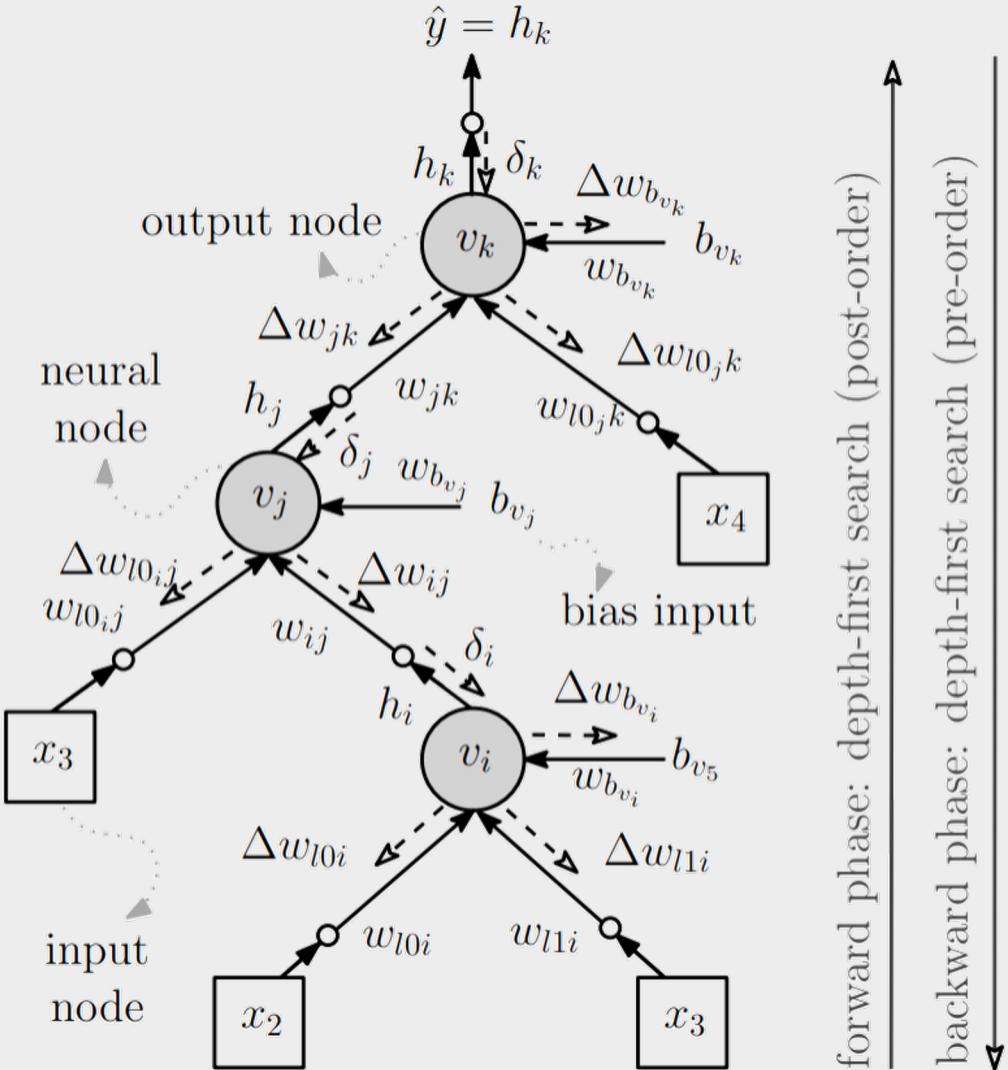
# Backpropagation Neural Tree



**Fig A.** Forward pass and gradient backpropagation

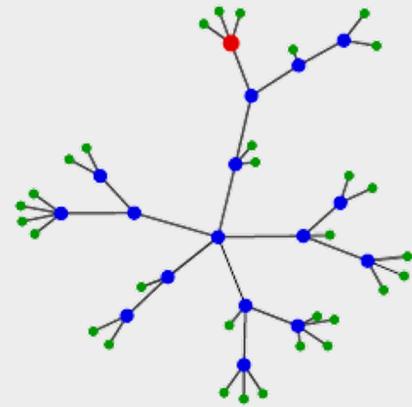


# Backpropagation Neural Tree

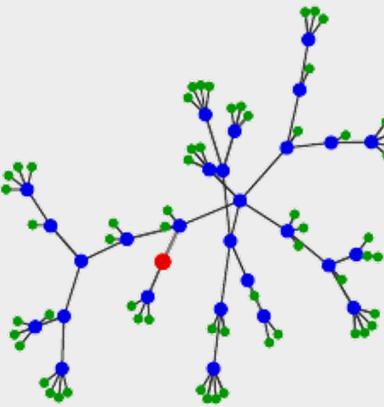


# Backpropagation Neural Tree

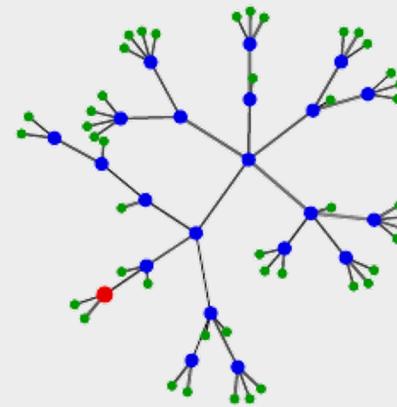
Regression results



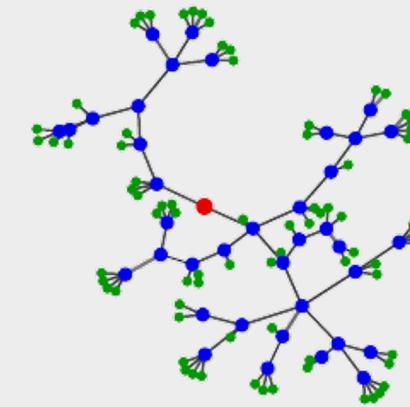
(a) baseball (.85, 48)



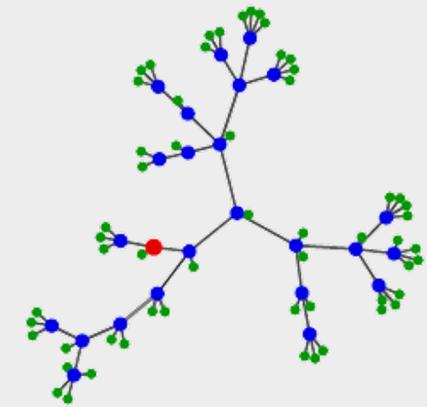
(b) dee (.89, 89)



(c) diabetese (.63, 67)



(d) friedman (.95, 116)



(e) mpg6 (.9, 82)

Algorithm	Bas	Dee	Dia	Frd	Mpg	Avg Acc	Avg Weights
<b>BNeuralT</b>	0.665	0.837	0.492	0.776	0.867	<b>0.727</b>	<b>152</b>
<b>MLP</b>	0.721	0.829	0.49	0.943	0.874	<b>0.772</b>	<b>1041</b>

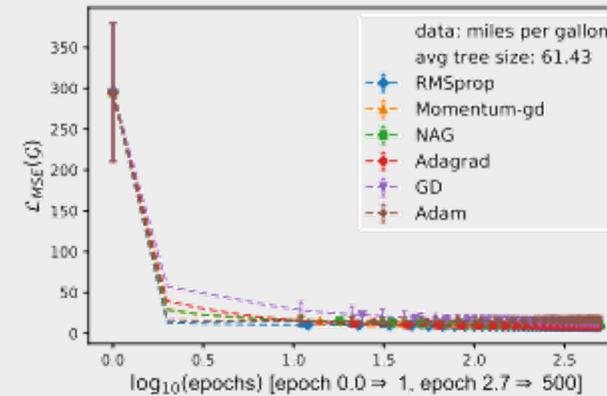
# Backpropagation Neural Tree

Regression results

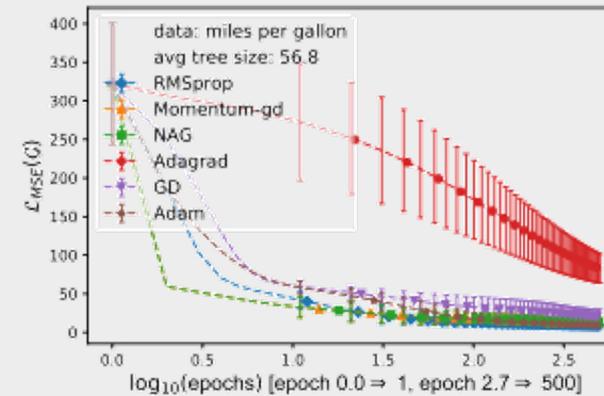
- BNeuralT used only 14.6% of MLP
- Accuracy differs only 5.8% lower than the best MLP result

# Neural Tree vs Neural Networks

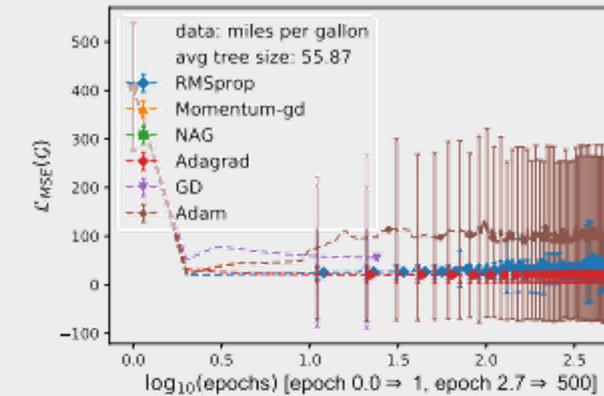
## Regression Problems



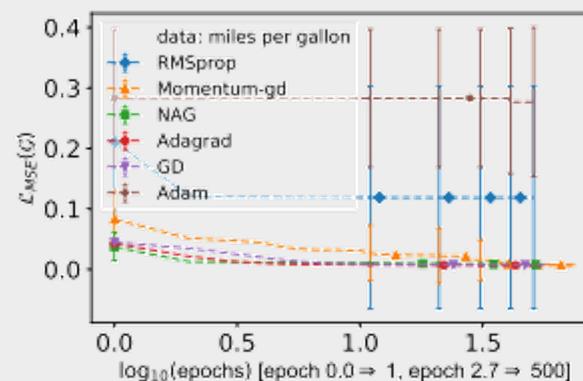
(g) BNeuralT: Sigmoid,  $\eta = 0.1$



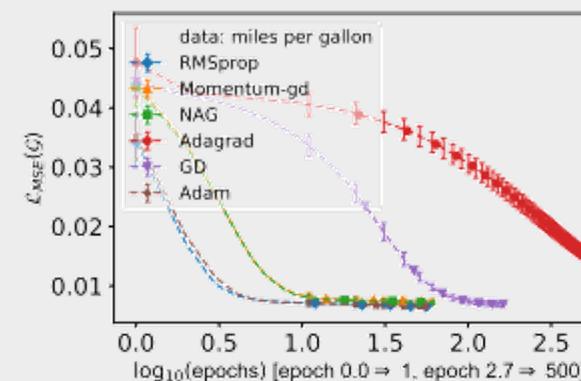
(h) BNeuralT: Sigmoid,  $\eta = \text{default}$



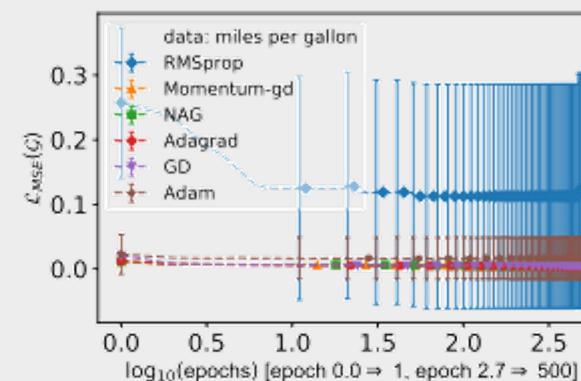
(i) BNeuralT: ReLU,  $\eta = 0.1$



(j) MLP: Sigmoid,  $\eta = 0.1$



(k) MLP: Sigmoid,  $\eta = \text{default}$

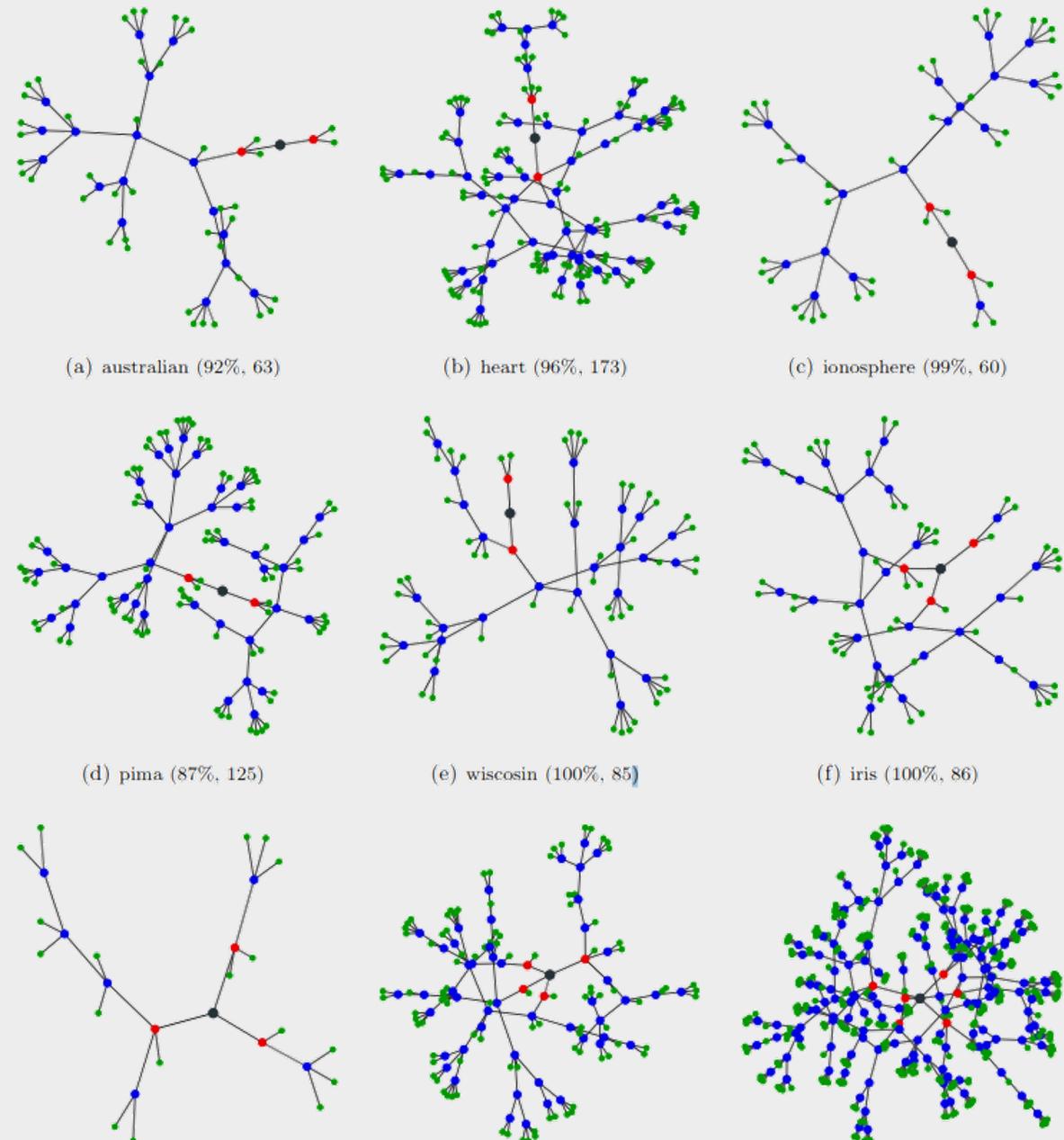


(l) MLP: ReLU,  $\eta = 0.1$

# Backpropagation Neural Tree

Classification results.

Data	BNeuralT	MLP
Aus	0.895	0.876
Hrt	0.897	0.833
Ion	0.952	0.882
Pma	0.822	0.774
Wis	0.986	0.984
Irs	0.992	0.972
Win	0.991	0.991
Vhl	0.75	0.826
Gls	0.732	0.635
<b>Avg. Accuracy</b>	<b>0.891</b>	<b>0.863</b>
<b>Avg. Weights</b>	<b>261</b>	1969



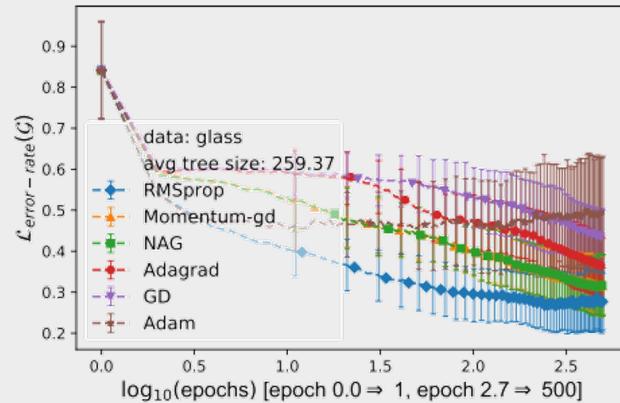
# Backpropagation Neural Tree

Classification results

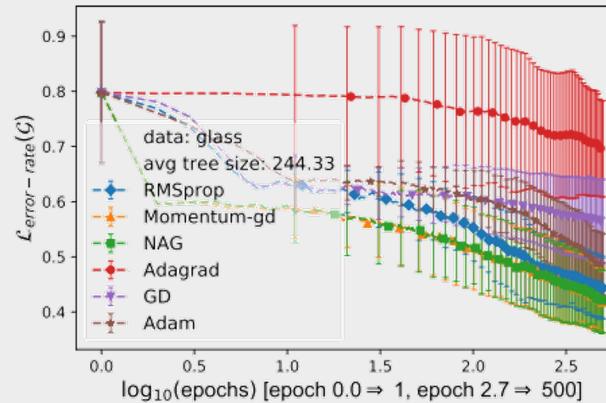
- BNeuralT used **only 13.25% parameters** of MLP
- Accuracy is **2.65% better than the best MLP result**

# Neural Tree vs Neural Networks

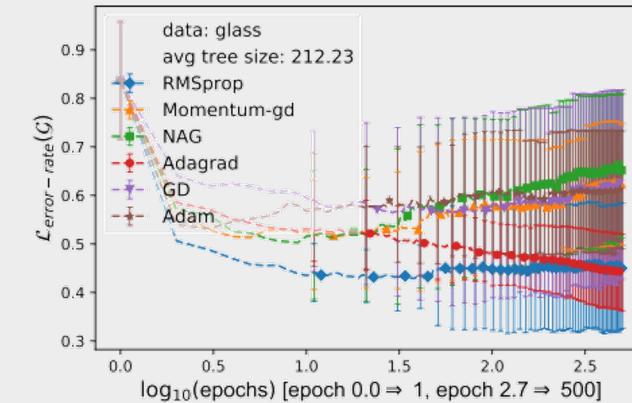
## Classification Problems



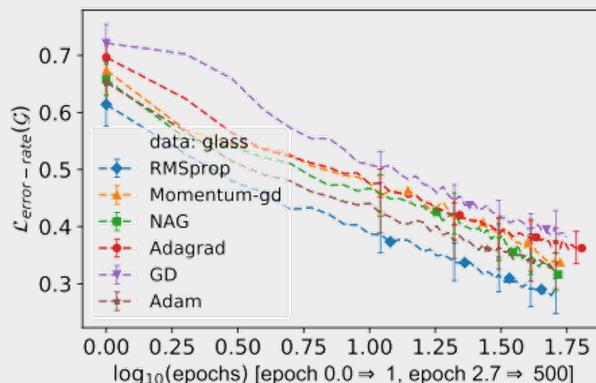
(a) BNeuralT: Sigmoid,  $\eta = 0.1$



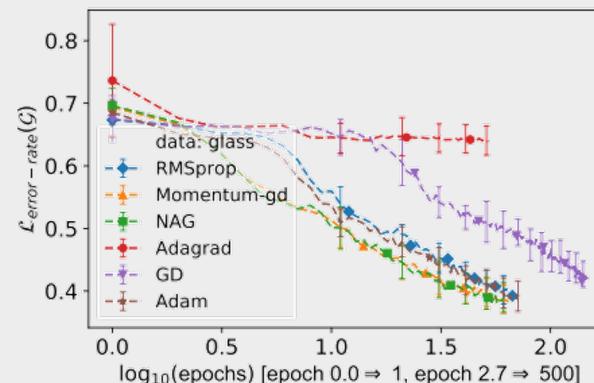
(b) BNeuralT: Sigmoid,  $\eta = \text{default}$



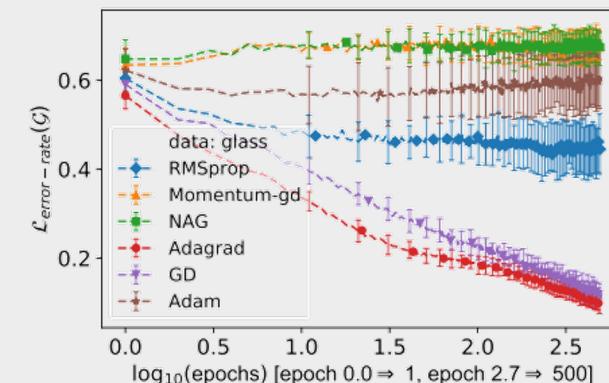
(c) BNeuralT: ReLU,  $\eta = 0.1$



(d) MLP: Sigmoid,  $\eta = 0.1$

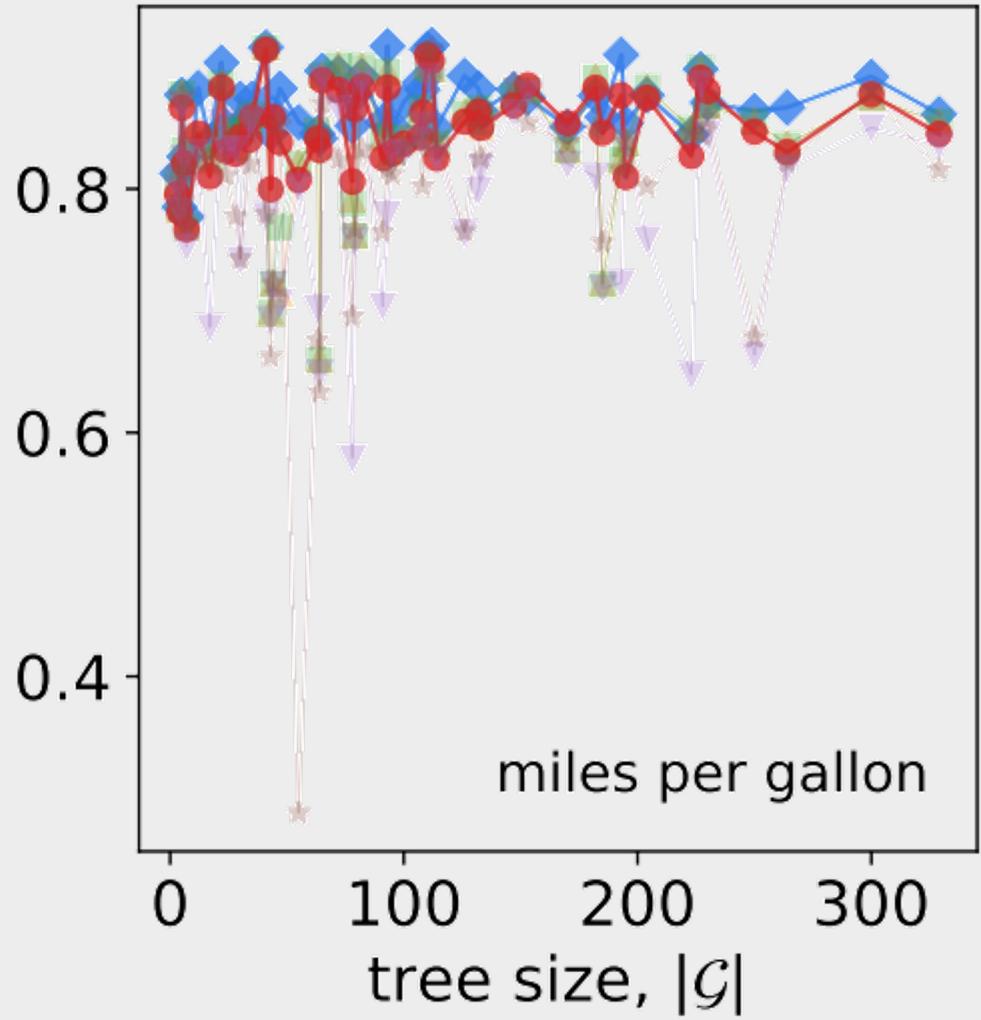
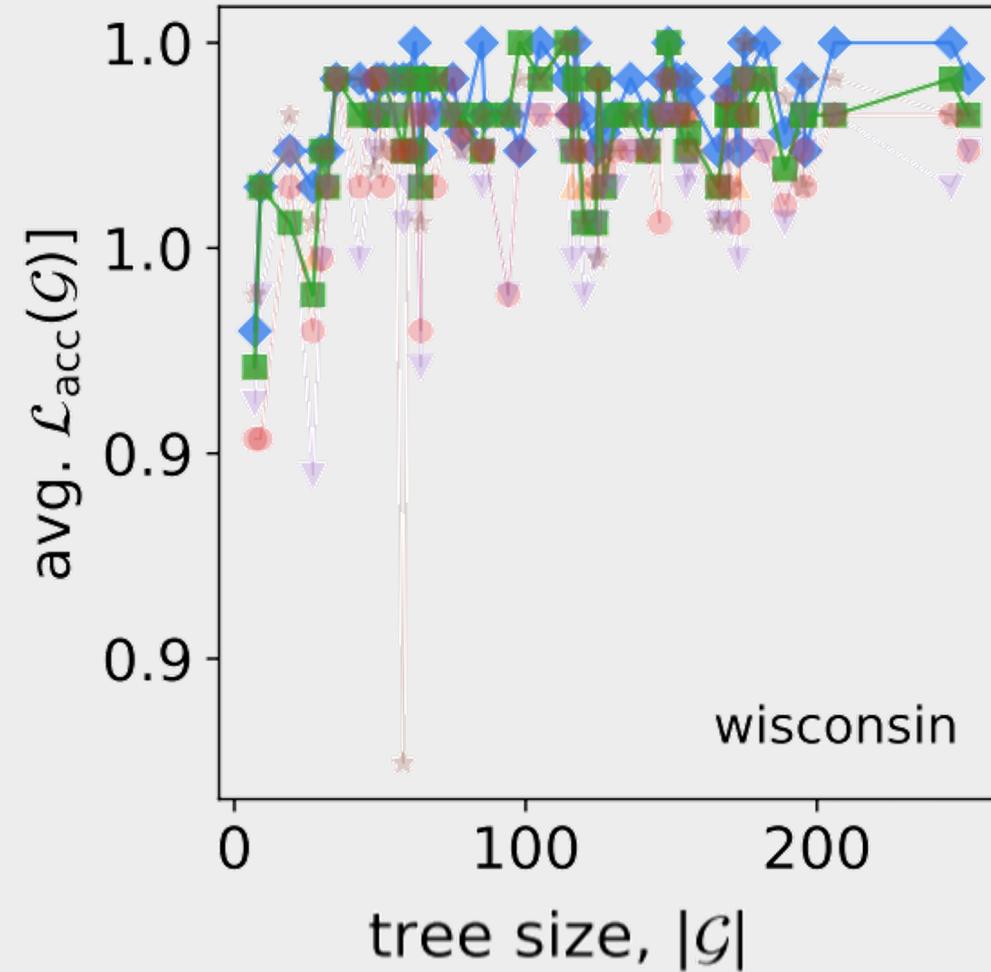


(e) MLP: Sigmoid,  $\eta = \text{default}$

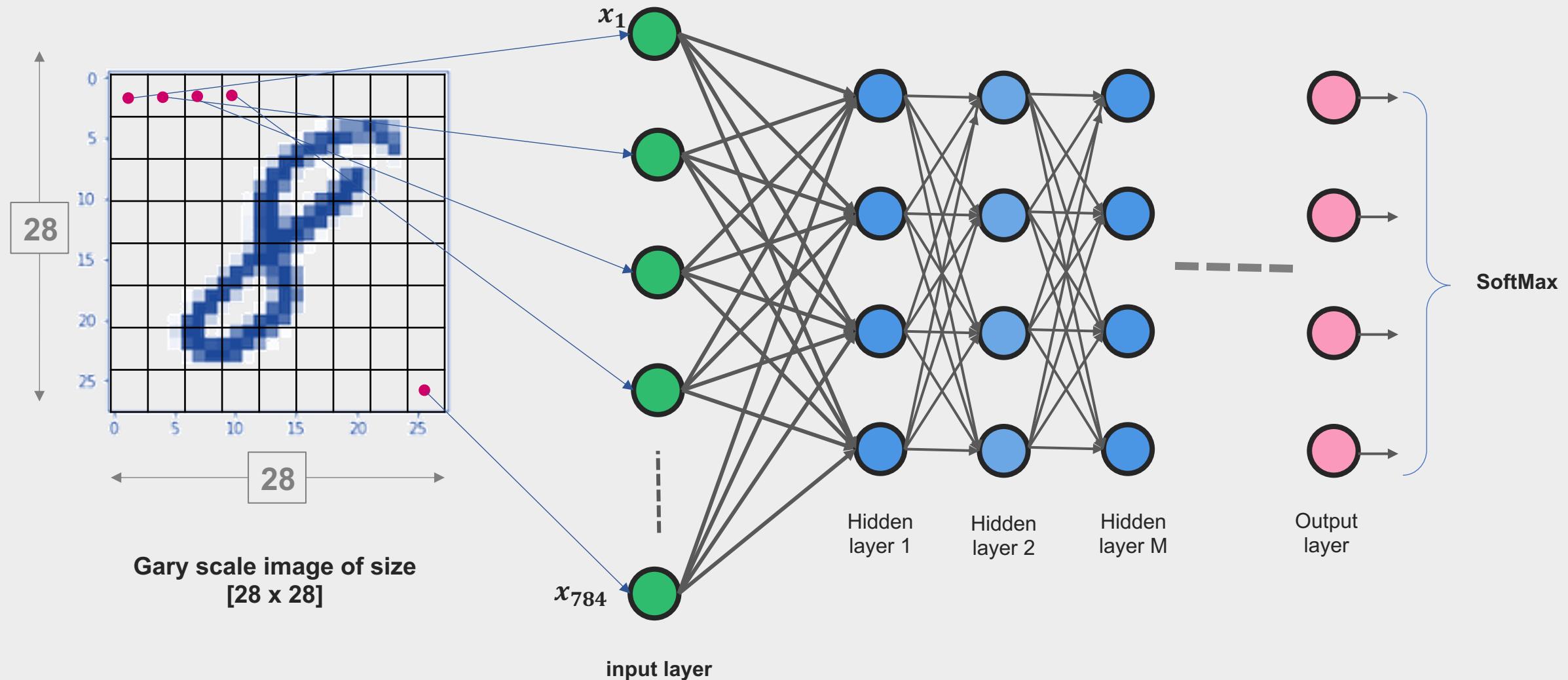


(f) MLP: ReLU,  $\eta = 0.1$

# Architectural Stochasticity



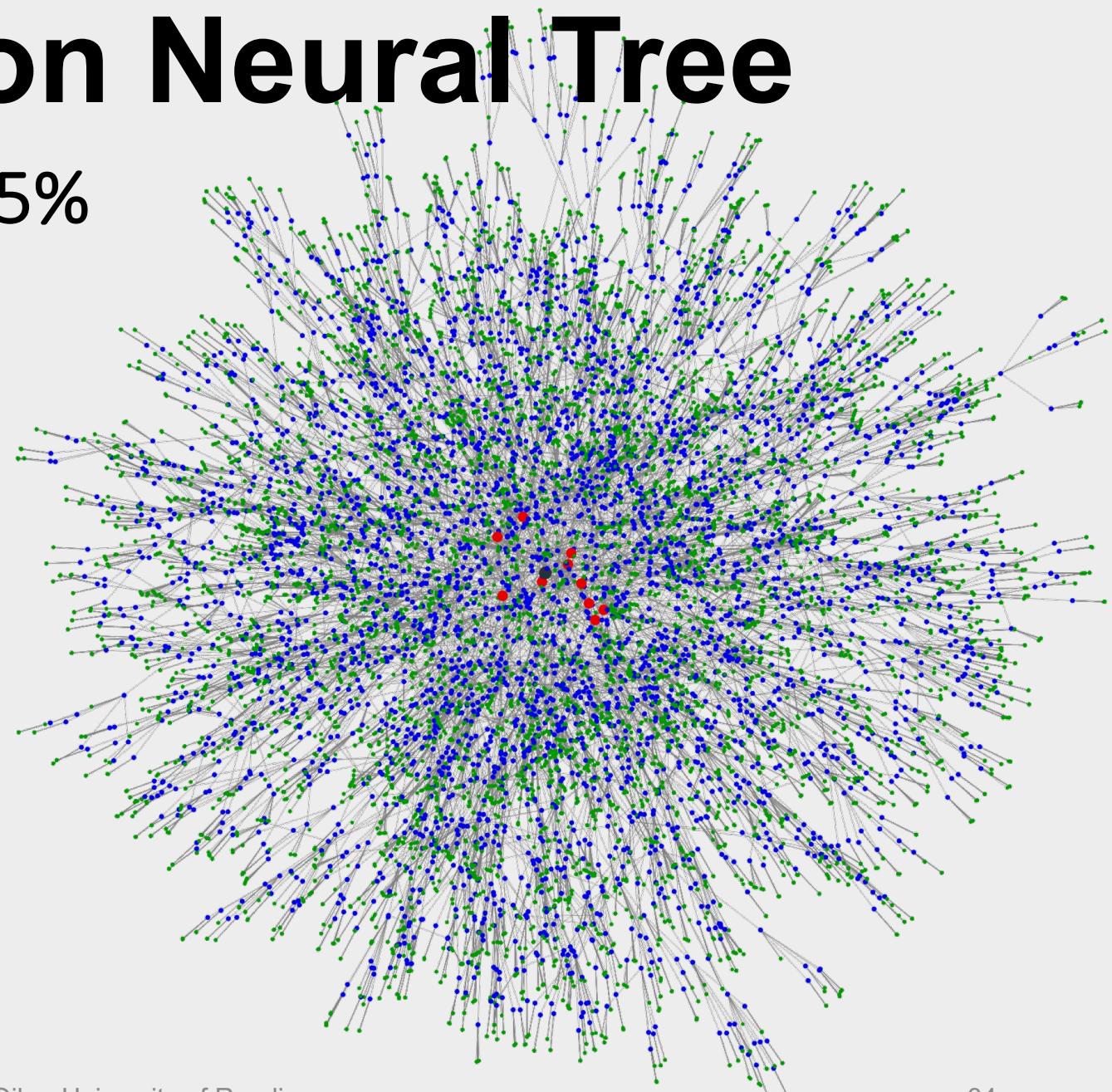
# Deep Neural Networks



# Backpropagation Neural Tree

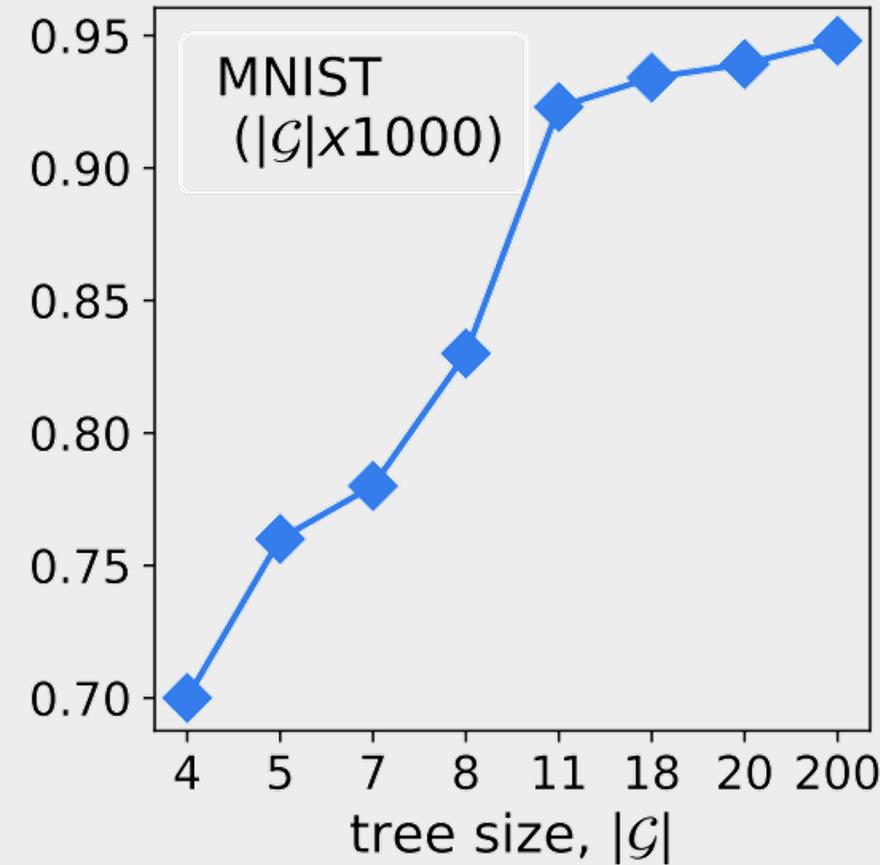
MNIST Model Accuracy ~95%

	Algorithms	Error(%)
BNeuralTs	BNeuralT-10K (pixels)	7.74
	BNeuralT-18K (pixels)	6.58
	BNeuralT-20K (pixels)	6.08
	BNeuralT-200K <sup>†</sup> (pixels)	<b>5.19</b>
Classification Trees	GUIDE (pixels, oblique split)	26.21
	OC1 (pixels, oblique split)	25.66
	GUIDE (pixels)	21.48
	CART-R (pixels)	11.97
	CART-P (pixels)	11.95
	C5.0 (pixels)	11.69
	TAO (pixels)	11.48
	TAO (pixels, oblique split)	5.26



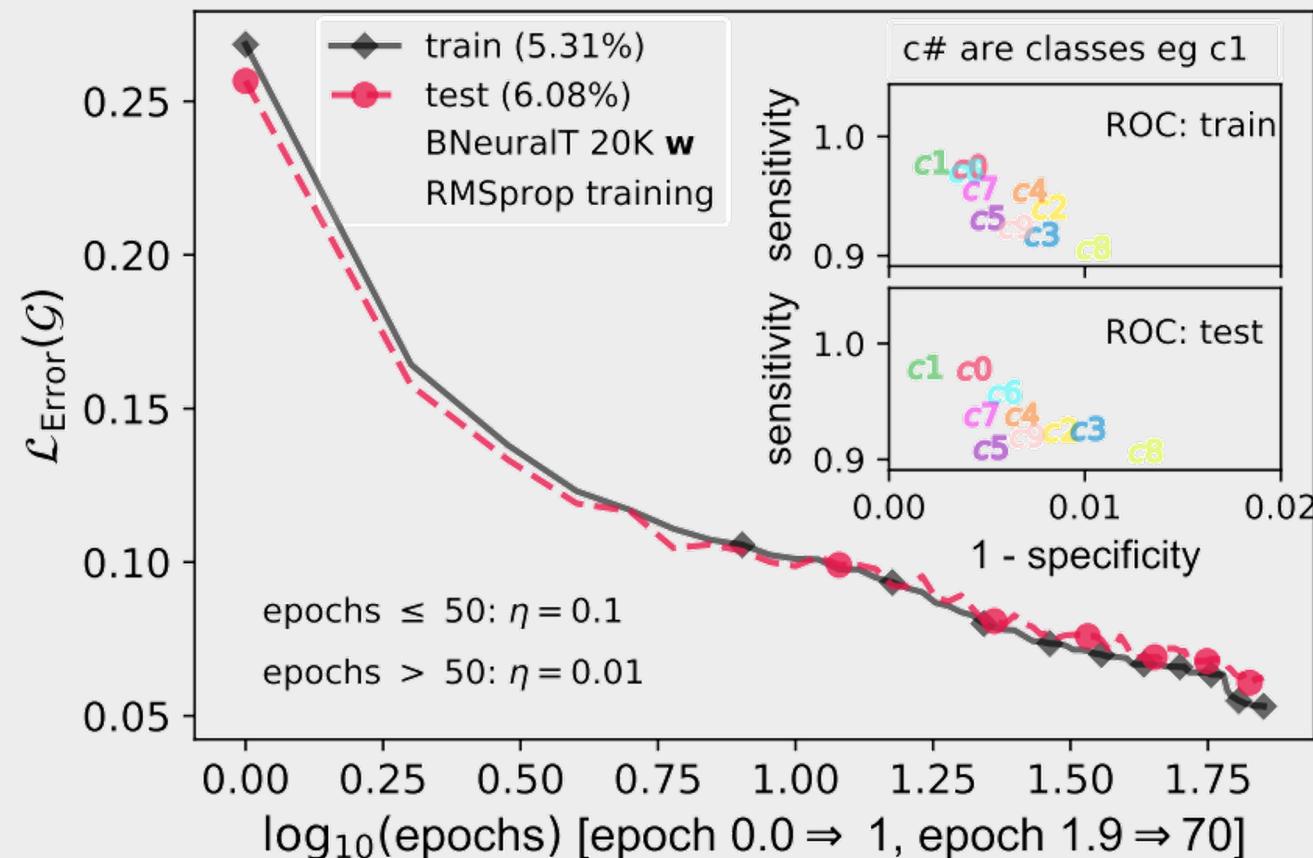
# Model Size vs Accuracy

Algorithms	Error(%)
BNeuralTs	BNeuralT-10K (pixels) 7.74
	BNeuralT-18K (pixels) 6.58
	BNeuralT-20K (pixels) 6.08
	BNeuralT-200K <sup>†</sup> (pixels) <b>5.19</b>
Classification Trees	GUIDE (pixels, oblique split) 26.21
	OC1 (pixels, oblique split) 25.66
	GUIDE (pixels) 21.48
	CART-R (pixels) 11.97
	CART-P (pixels) 11.95
	C5.0 (pixels) 11.69
	TAO (pixels) 11.48
	TAO (pixels, oblique split) 5.26



# Learnability of Different Classes

Competition between classes: TPR/Recall/Sensitivity vs FPR/(1 - Specificity)



# Summary

stochastic gradient descent training of any a priori arbitrarily “thinned” network has the potential to solve machine learning tasks with an equivalent or better degree of accuracy than a fully connected symmetric and systematic neural network architecture.

# References

- Ojha, V., & Nicosia, G. (2022). Backpropagation neural tree. *Neural Networks*, 149, 66-83.
- Ojha, V., & Nicosia, G. (2020). Multi-objective optimisation of multi-output neural trees. In 2020 IEEE Congress on Evolutionary Computation (CEC) (pp. 1-8). IEEE.
- Ojha, V. K., Abraham, A., & Snášel, V. (2017). Ensemble of heterogeneous flexible neural trees using multiobjective genetic programming. *Applied Soft Computing*, 52, 909-924.
- Ojha, V. K., Snášel, V., & Abraham, A. (2017). Multiobjective programming for type-2 hierarchical fuzzy inference trees. *IEEE Transactions on Fuzzy Systems*, 26(2), 915-936.