



**FAKULTA  
INFORMAČNÍCH  
TECHNOLGIÍ  
ČVUT V PRAZE**

## ZADÁNÍ BAKALÁŘSKÉ PRÁCE

**Název:** Rozpoznávání souvislé řeči s využitím neuronových sítí  
**Student:** Adam Zvada  
**Vedoucí:** Ing. Miroslav Skrbek, Ph.D.  
**Studijní program:** Informatika  
**Studijní obor:** Teoretická informatika  
**Katedra:** Katedra teoretické informatiky  
**Platnost zadání:** Do konce letního semestru 2018/19

### Pokyny pro vypracování

Provedte rešerši metod pro rozpoznávání souvislé řeči s využitím neuronových sítí. Uvažujte rekurentní neuronové sítě a zvažte také možnost použití neuronových turingových strojů. Na základě rešerše a po dohodě s vedoucím práce vyberte vhodné řešení pro robota NAO. Maximálně využijte existujících knihoven s implementacemi potřebných metod. Navržené řešení otestujte na reálných datech. Rozsah práce upřesněte po dohodě s vedoucím práce.

### Seznam odborné literatury

Dodá vedoucí práce.

doc. Ing. Jan Janoušek, Ph.D.  
vedoucí katedry

doc. RNDr. Ing. Marcel Jiřina, Ph.D.  
děkan

V Praze dne 13. února 2018



CZECH TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY IN PRAGUE  
FACULTY OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY  
DEPARTMENT OF THEORETICAL INFORMATICS



Bachelor's thesis

# Continuous Speech Recognition by Neural Networks

*Adam Zvada*

Supervisor: Ing. Miroslav Skrbek Ph.D

April 21, 2018



---

# Acknowledgements

THANKS



---

## Declaration

I hereby declare that the presented thesis is my own work and that I have cited all sources of information in accordance with the Guideline for adhering to ethical principles when elaborating an academic final thesis.

I acknowledge that my thesis is subject to the rights and obligations stipulated by the Act No. 121/2000 Coll., the Copyright Act, as amended, in particular that the Czech Technical University in Prague has the right to conclude a license agreement on the utilization of this thesis as school work under the provisions of Article 60(1) of the Act.

In Prague on April 21, 2018

.....

Czech Technical University in Prague

Faculty of Information Technology

© 2018 Adam Zvada. All rights reserved.

*This thesis is school work as defined by Copyright Act of the Czech Republic. It has been submitted at Czech Technical University in Prague, Faculty of Information Technology. The thesis is protected by the Copyright Act and its usage without author's permission is prohibited (with exceptions defined by the Copyright Act).*

### **Citation of this thesis**

Zvada, Adam. *Continuous Speech Recognition by Neural Networks*. Bachelor's thesis. Czech Technical University in Prague, Faculty of Information Technology, 2018.



---

## Abstrakt

V několika větách shrňte obsah a přínos této práce v českém jazyce.

**Klíčová slova** Replace with comma-separated list of keywords in Czech.

---

## Abstract

In my bachelor thesis Summarize the contents and contribution of your work in a few sentences in English language.

**Keywords** Replace with comma-separated list of keywords in English.



---

# Contents

<b>Introduction</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>1 Introduction to Speech Recognition</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>2 TESTIK</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>3 Neural Network</b>	<b>7</b>
3.1 Inspiration in Nature . . . . .	7
3.2 Artificial Neuron . . . . .	8
3.3 Perceptron . . . . .	8
3.4 Topology of Artificial Neuron Network . . . . .	10
3.5 Network Evaluation . . . . .	10
3.6 Training . . . . .	11
<b>4 Recurrent Neural Network</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>5 Connectionist temporal classification</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>Conclusion</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>A Acronyms</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>B Contents of enclosed CD</b>	<b>23</b>



---

## List of Figures

3.1	Illustration of nerve cell and communication flow . . . . .	8
3.2	Illustration of nerve cell and communication flow . . . . .	9
3.3	Basic topology of fully connected artificial neuron network with input vector of size 3, output vector of size 2 and two hidden layers.	11



---

# Introduction





# Introduction to Speech Recognition

Introduction to Speech Recognition



# TESTIK

TESTIK



---

# Neural Network

Neural networks have remarkable ability to derive meaning from complicated data. They can be used to extract patterns and detect trends that are too complex to be noticed by either humans or other computer techniques. Even though they have been around since the 1950s, it is only in the last decade when they started to outperform robust system or even humans in specify tasks. However, they require a huge amount of training examples and computational power to be trained for preforming a reasonable prediction. Fortunately, GPUs has seen enormous increase in performance<sup>1</sup> and 90% of the data in the world today has been created in the last two years alone, at 2.5 quintillion bytes of data a day\*Refrence data\*. That's why ANN is big topic in Computer Science and in the technology industry and it currently provides the best solutions to many problems such as speech recognition, image recognition, and natural language processing.

## 3.1 Inspiration in Nature

Artificial neural network (ANN) is heavily inspired by the way how biological neural networks process information in the human brain. Even though our brain is extremely complex and still not fully understand, we just need to know how information is being transferred. The basic building block is nerve cell called *neuron*. It receives, processes, and transmits information through electrical and chemical signals. It's estimated that an average human has 86 billion neurons \*.

*Dendrites* are extensions of a nerve cell that propagate the electrochemical stimulation received from other neurons to the cell body. You may think of them as inputs to neuron, whereas neuron's output is called *axon*, a long nerve fiber that conducts electrical impulses away from the cell body. The end of axon is branched to many axon terminals which can be again connected to

---

<sup>1</sup>WHY GPU FRO DEEP LEARNING.

### 3. NEURAL NETWORK

---

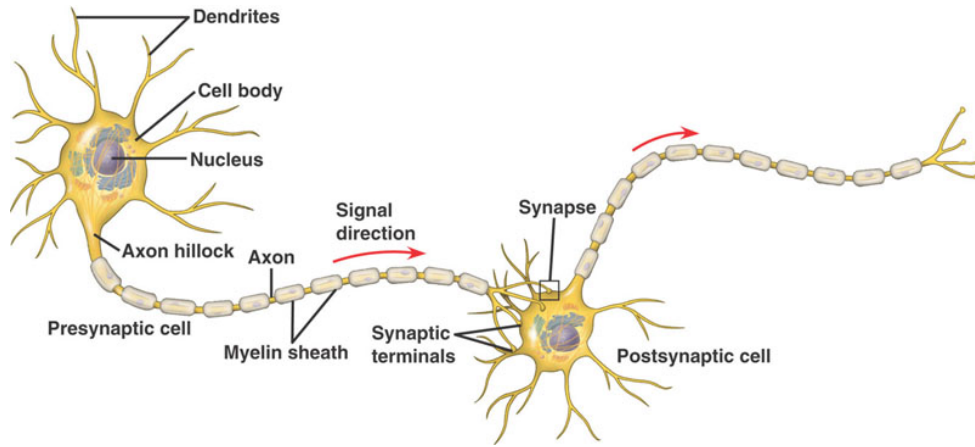


Figure 3.1: Illustration of nerve cell and communication flow

other dendrites. The connection is managed by *synapses* that can permit the passing of electrical signal to cell body. Once the cell reaches a certain threshold, an action potential will fire, sending the electrical signal down the axon to other connected neurons.

### 3.2 Artificial Neuron

Artificial neuron is a generic computational unit, basic building block for artificial neural network (ANN). It's simplified version of the biological counterpart and we are able to map parts of biological neuron with the artificial one. It takes  $n$  inputs represented as a vector  $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$  which correspond to dendrites. Generally artificial neuron produces single output  $y \in \mathbb{R}$  as biological neuron where we call it axon. Each neuron's input  $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$  has assigned weight (synapse)  $w_1, w_2 \dots w_n$ , they refer to the connection strength between neurons. Weights and same as for synapse are the backbone of learning because in training phases, they keep changing to produce wanted output. (\*In this chapter, we will elaborate further.) Inside the artificial neuron, input vector with their weights are combined and run through an activation function producing some output  $y$ . This process is illustrated in *LINKPERCEPTRON*.

### 3.3 Perceptron

Perceptron is the simplest ANN with just one neuron and since we covered the basic intuition about artificial neuron we may proceed further and take a look at how output is actually calculated. The equation for a perceptron can be written as

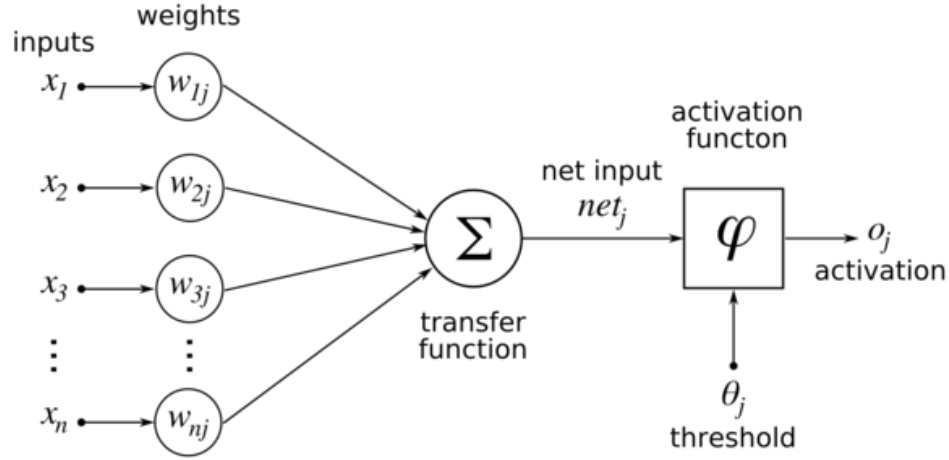


Figure 3.2: Illustration of nerve cell and communication flow

$$y = f\left(\sum_{i=1}^N w_i \cdot x_i + b\right)$$

where

- $x$  - input vector
- $y$  - predicted output
- $f$  - activation function
- $w$  - weights
- $b$  - bias

Perceptron is a basically linear classifier, therefore the data has to be linearly separable otherwise we would not be able to make the correct prediction. Problems such as speech recognition are not definitely linearly separable, however we can solve non-linear decisions for example by introducing another layer of neurons, thus creating *Multilayered Perceptron*.

### 3.3.1 Activation Functions

We have stated that biological neuron fires electrical signal to other connected neurons whenever it reaches a certain threshold of incoming electrical impulses. Activation function is based on that concept and inside an artificial neuron it is used for calculating output signal via equation\*. It introduces non-linear properties to our ANN and without an activation function would be just a regular linear regression model. Nowadays many different activation

### 3. NEURAL NETWORK

---

function are being used and their performance varies from model to model.

List of some activation function:

- *Sigmoid*

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

- *Hyperbolic Tangent*

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

- *ReLU*

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{for } x < 0 \\ x & \text{for } x \geq 0 \end{cases}$$

- *Softmax*

$$f_i(\vec{x}) = \frac{e^{x_i}}{\sum_{j=1}^J e^{x_j}}, \quad i = 1, 2 \dots J$$

where  $i$  is number of output

\* TODO: Activation Functions features... differentiable and non-linear\*

#### 3.3.2 Bias

We can think of bias as a value stored inside neuron and being used to calculate it's output. The bias value allows the activation function to be shifted to the left or right, to better fit the data.

### 3.4 Topology of Artificial Neuron Network

Basic ANN as feedforward model is a directed graph with nodes as neurons and edges with weights representing connection to other neurons. ANN can be divided to three important layers as shown in Fig\*. Yellow nodes is an input layer which takes input data, dimension of input vector has to correspond to number of input nodes. Hidden layer as the green nodes is most important to ANN and that is where the training and evaluation happens. Number of hidden layers and neurons needs to be in a good ratio between its size and its effectiveness. Output layer produces output vector as the prediction for given input.

### 3.5 Network Evaluation

Evaluation of ANN is done layer by layer.



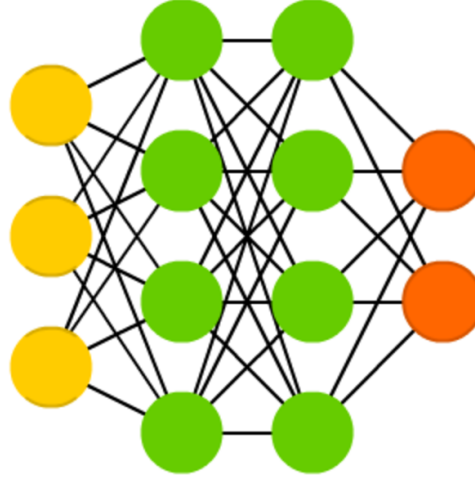


Figure 3.3: Basic topology of fully connected artificial neuron network with input vector of size 3, output vector of size 2 and two hidden layers.

## 3.6 Training

The greatest trait of ANN is ability to learn from given data and then make the best approximate prediction. The aim of the learning process is to find the most optimal values for network's weights and biases while minimizing error on predicated values. For ANN to learn we have to introduce training data consisted of input vector which will be feeded to the network and desired output value (label) for calculating our loss. This approach is called supervised learning<sup>2</sup>.

### 3.6.1 Loss Function

Loss function compares the prediction from ANN with the desired output and returns the error of the prediction. During a training ANN, the goal is to minimize given loss function. The most common and most intuitive loss function is Mean squared Error (MSE),

$$\text{MSE}(y, \hat{y}) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - \hat{y}_i)^2.$$

### 3.6.2 Backpropagation

Backpropagation algorithm is responsible for the ability to learn from given training data. It is an iterative algorithm which for each training data from

<sup>2</sup>ANN can be also trained using unsupervised learning.

given training dataset backpropagates the error and adjust the weights and biases accordingly to get desired output.

#### 3.6.2.1 Optimization

Backpropagation requires optimizer to minimize the error on the training data. We will describe backpropagation with using *gradient descent* as the most common optimization algorithm.

Weights and biases are updated using formula,

$$W_{jk}^l := W_{jk}^l - \alpha \frac{\partial E}{\partial W_{jk}^l}$$

$$b_j^l := b_j^l - \alpha \frac{\partial E}{\partial b_j^l}$$

where  $W_{jk}^l$  is weight with connection between unit  $j$  in layer  $l$  and unit  $i$  in layer  $l + 1$ ,  $b_j^l$  is bias associated with unit  $i$  in layer  $l + 1$ ,  $\alpha$  is a learning rate \*Reference\*, and  $\frac{\partial E}{\partial W_{jk}^l}$  or  $\frac{\partial E}{\partial b_j^l}$  can be interpreted as minimizing loss function with respect to given weight and bias respectively.

By applying a chain rule twice on the partial derivative of the loss function with respect to a weight, we get

$$\frac{\partial E}{\partial W_{jk}^l} = \frac{\partial E}{\partial a_j^l} \frac{\partial a_j^l}{\partial z_j^l} \frac{\partial z_j^l}{\partial W_{jk}^l}$$

where  $z_j^l$  is a sum of weighted inputs to unit  $j$  in layer  $l$

$$z_j^l = b_j^l + \sum_{k=1}^K w_{jk}^l a_k^{l-1}$$

and  $a_j^l$  is an output of node  $j$  in layer  $l$

$$a_j^l = f(z_j^l).$$

Let's calculate the last two products of equation \*Reference\*:

$$\frac{\partial a_j^l}{\partial z_j^l} = f'(z_j^l)$$

$$\frac{\partial z_j^l}{\partial W_{jk}^l} = \frac{\partial W_{jk}^l a_k^{l-1}}{\partial W_{jk}^l} = a_k^{l-1}$$

We introduce a new variable  $\delta_j^l$  which represents the error in unit  $j$  in layer  $l$  and helps us to better understand and calculate real interested value of  $\frac{\partial E}{\partial W_{jk}^l}$  and  $\frac{\partial E}{\partial b_j^l}$ .

$$\delta_j^l = \frac{\partial E}{\partial z_j^l}$$

We will simplify the error equation on neuron  $j$  in output layer  $L$  as

$$\delta_j^L = \frac{\partial E}{\partial z_j^L} = \frac{\partial E}{\partial a_j^L} \frac{\partial a_j^L}{\partial z_j^L} = \frac{\partial E}{\partial a_j^L} f'(z_j^L)$$

Now we have enough information to reformulate equation \*reference\* for output layer to

$$\frac{\partial E}{\partial W_{jk}^L} = \delta_k^L a_j^L.$$

However, to be able to update weights inside the hidden layers, we have to redefine the calculation of  $\delta_j^l$ . We know that the error produced by an output neuron is just influencing the output value but inside a hidden layer the produced error propagates to all following layers. Therefore we have calculate the  $\delta_j^l$  where layer  $l$  is inside a hidden layer and take into account all  $\delta^{l+1}$  from following layer  $l + 1$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \delta_j^l &= \frac{\partial E}{\partial z_j^l} = \sum_i \frac{\partial E}{\partial z_i^{l+1}} \frac{\partial z_i^{l+1}}{\partial z_j^l} = \sum_i \frac{\partial E}{\partial z_i^{l+1}} \frac{\partial z_i^{l+1}}{\partial a_j^l} \frac{\partial a_j^l}{\partial z_j^l} \\ &= \sum_i \delta_i^{l+1} W_{ij}^{l+1} f'(z_j^l) \end{aligned}$$

where the sum index  $i$  iterates over all neurons in layer  $l+1$  and Notice that we have substituted  $\frac{\partial E}{\partial z_i^{l+1}}$  with  $\delta_i^{l+1}$  which is calculated from previous iteration. Finally, we may calculate all weights adjustments through the whole network as

$$W_{jk}^l := W_{jk}^l - \alpha \delta_k^l a_j^l$$

where

$$\delta_k^l = \frac{\partial E}{\partial a_j^L} f'(z_j^L), \quad l = L$$

and

$$\delta_k^l = \sum_i \delta_i^{l+1} W_{ij}^{l+1} f'(z_j^l), \quad l = 2, \dots, L-1.$$

We won't be exemplifying the equation for biases adjustments because it follows a similar process shown above with just little changes, resulting to equation

$$b_j^l := b_j^l - \alpha \delta_j^l$$

### 3. NEURAL NETWORK

---

#### 3.6.2.2 Backpropagation Algorithm

---

**Algorithm 1** Backpropagation

---

- 1: Initialize network weights and biases
  - 2: **for each** training data from training dataset **do**
  - 3:     Forward pass and calculate network prediction for given training input
  - 4:     Calculate error  $\delta^L$  for output layer
  - 5:     Calculate errors  $\delta^l$  for hidden layers
  - 6:     Update weights and biases using precalculated  $\delta^l$
-

# Recurrent Neural Network



# Connectionist temporal classification

Connectionist temporal classification





---

## Conclusion



## Acronyms

**GUI** Graphical user interface

**XML** Extensible markup language



## Contents of enclosed CD

	readme.txt .....	the file with CD contents description
	exe .....	the directory with executables
	src .....	the directory of source codes
	wbdcm .....	implementation sources
	thesis .....	the directory of $\text{\LaTeX}$ source codes of the thesis
	text .....	the thesis text directory
	thesis.pdf .....	the thesis text in PDF format
	thesis.ps .....	the thesis text in PS format