Neural Networks

Terminology

- Inspired by biology
- Better picture: nested linear algebra functions, fully parametrized
- Layers: Differentiable functions on previous intermediate results with free parameters for training
- Deep learning: more layers

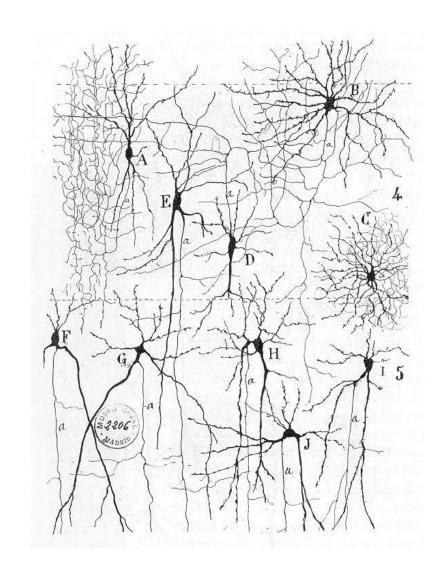
Key ingredients

- Non-linear function
- Linear model
 - w: some weights
 - b: bias

$$g(\mathbf{X})$$

$$\hat{y} = \mathbf{w}g(\mathbf{X}) + \mathbf{b}$$

Universal Approximation Theorem
Given enough layers and width, any function can be represented.



Layer types

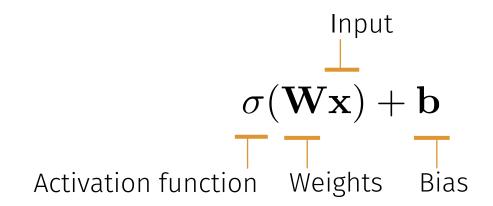
Convolution layer: includes a fixed neighborhood

- Weighted combination of close entries, fixed weights

Pooling layer: reduce dimensionality

- Aggregate (typically max) values

Dense layer: general use



Layer ingredients

Activation function

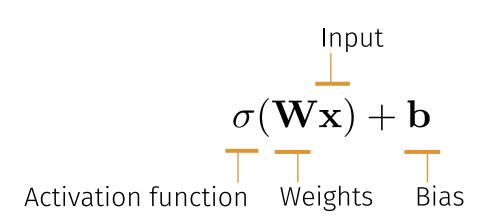
- Differentiable
- Non-linear
- Hyperparameter
- Common: rectified linear unit (ReLU) = max(0, x)

Weights

- Matrix, free parameters
- Shape determines dimensionality of output

Bias

- Vector, free parameters



Layers with are no layers

Hidden layer: anything the result of which is not inspected by the user

Activation layer: Explicit application of the activation function

Dropout layer: stochastic method of ignoring features to reduce overfitting

Input layer: tensor of input features

Output layer: tensor (often vector) of observables or probabilities

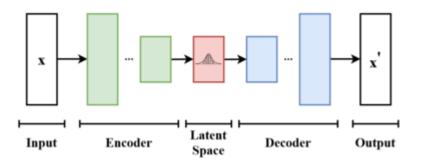
Latent space

Implicitly learned representation

- Other methods: require features
- NN: implicitly find one at the cost of complexity and data

Use cases

- Generate more similar systems / elements of similar properties



Common types of networks

Graph neural network (GNN): Input is a graph

Convolutional neural network (CNN): Uses at least one convolution, often for image-like data

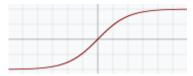
Autoencoder: small layer somewhere in the network (everything before: encoder, everything after: decoder)

Common types of activation functions

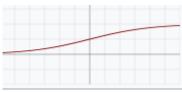




Tanh



Logistic



Rectified Linear Unit (ReLU)



Vanishing gradient

Is the function almost constant anywhere?

Cost

Can be evaluated quickly?

Normalisation

Is there a finite output domain?

Differentiable

Otherwise hard to optimize

Summary Neural networks

- Chained, heavily parametrized functions
- Applied in order ("layers")
- Implictly find a representation
- Somewhat intransparent
- Need to be trained iteratively