10-601 Introduction to Machine Learning

Machine Learning Department
School of Computer Science
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Backpropagation

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Lecture 12
Feb 23, 2018

Neural Networks Outline

- **Logistic Regression (Recap)**
  - Data, Model, Learning, Prediction
- **Neural Networks**
  - A Recipe for Machine Learning
  - Visual Notation for Neural Networks
  - Example: Logistic Regression Output Surface
  - 2-Layer Neural Network
  - 3-Layer Neural Network
- **Neural Net Architectures**
  - Objective Functions
  - Activation Functions
- **Backpropagation**
  - Basic Chain Rule (of calculus)
  - Chain Rule for Arbitrary Computation Graph
  - Backpropagation Algorithm
  - Module-based Automatic Differentiation (Autodiff)

Last Lecture

This Lecture

ARCHITECTURES

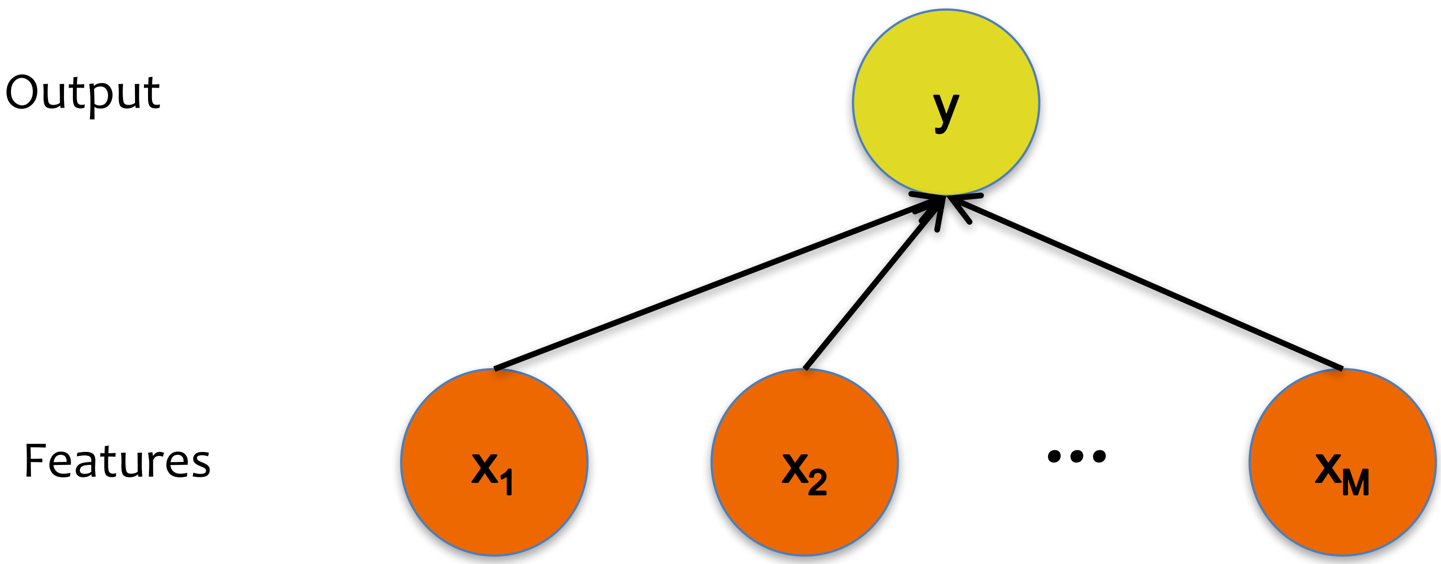
Neural Network Architectures

Even for a basic Neural Network, there are many design decisions to make:

1. # of hidden layers (depth)
2. # of units per hidden layer (width)
3. Type of activation function (nonlinearity)
4. Form of objective function

Building a Neural Net

Q: How many hidden units, D, should we use?



Building a Neural Net

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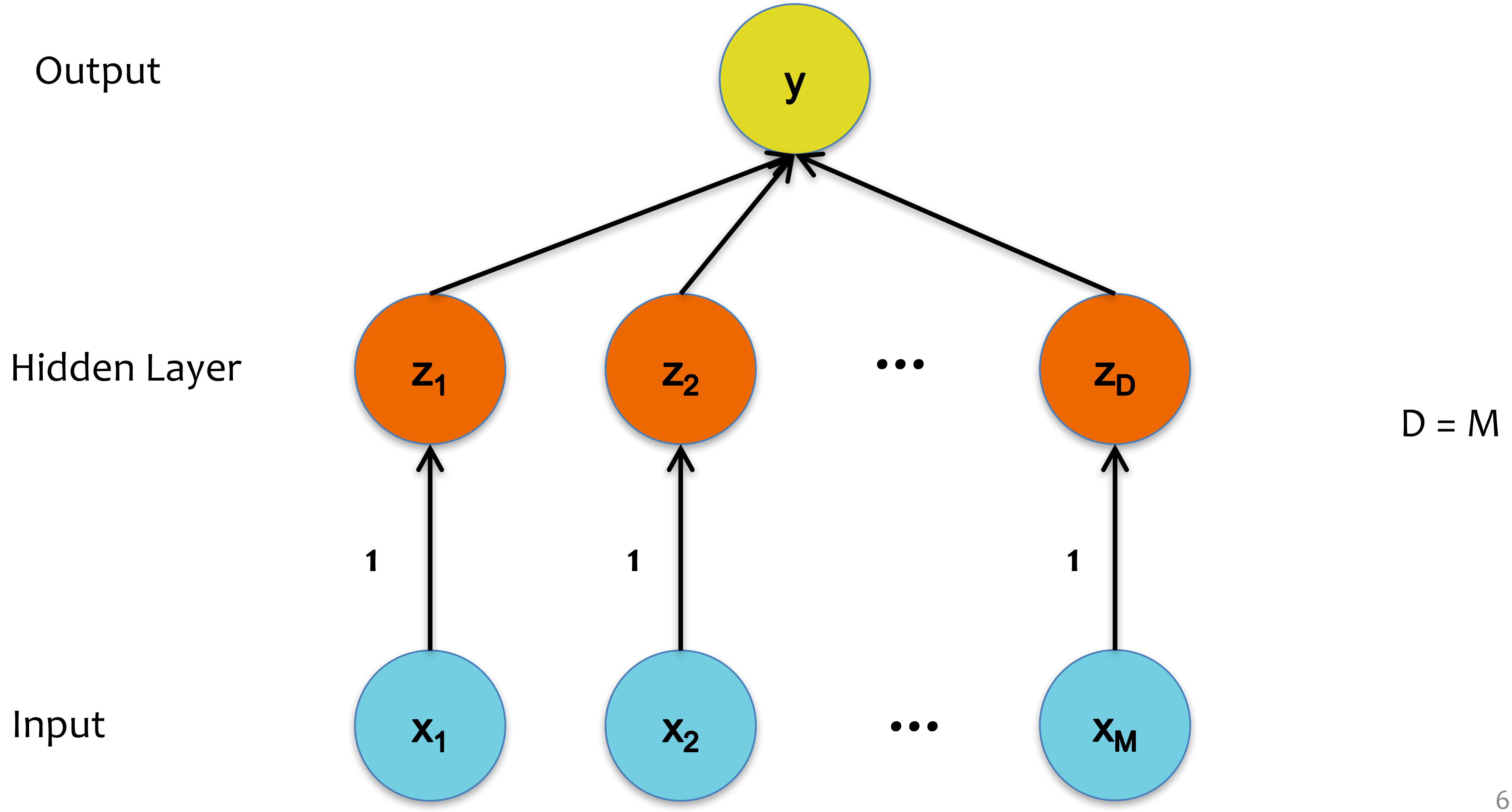

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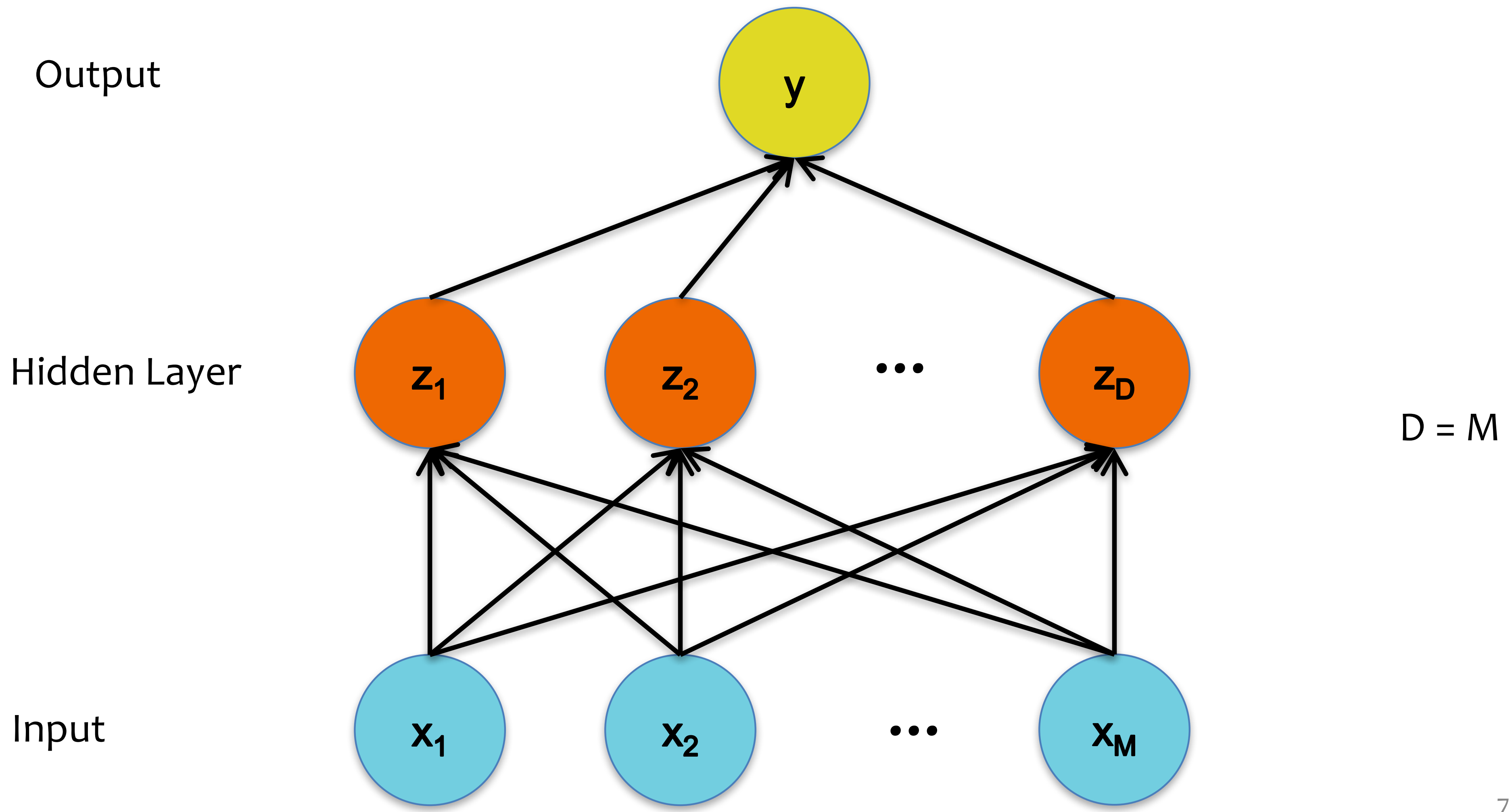

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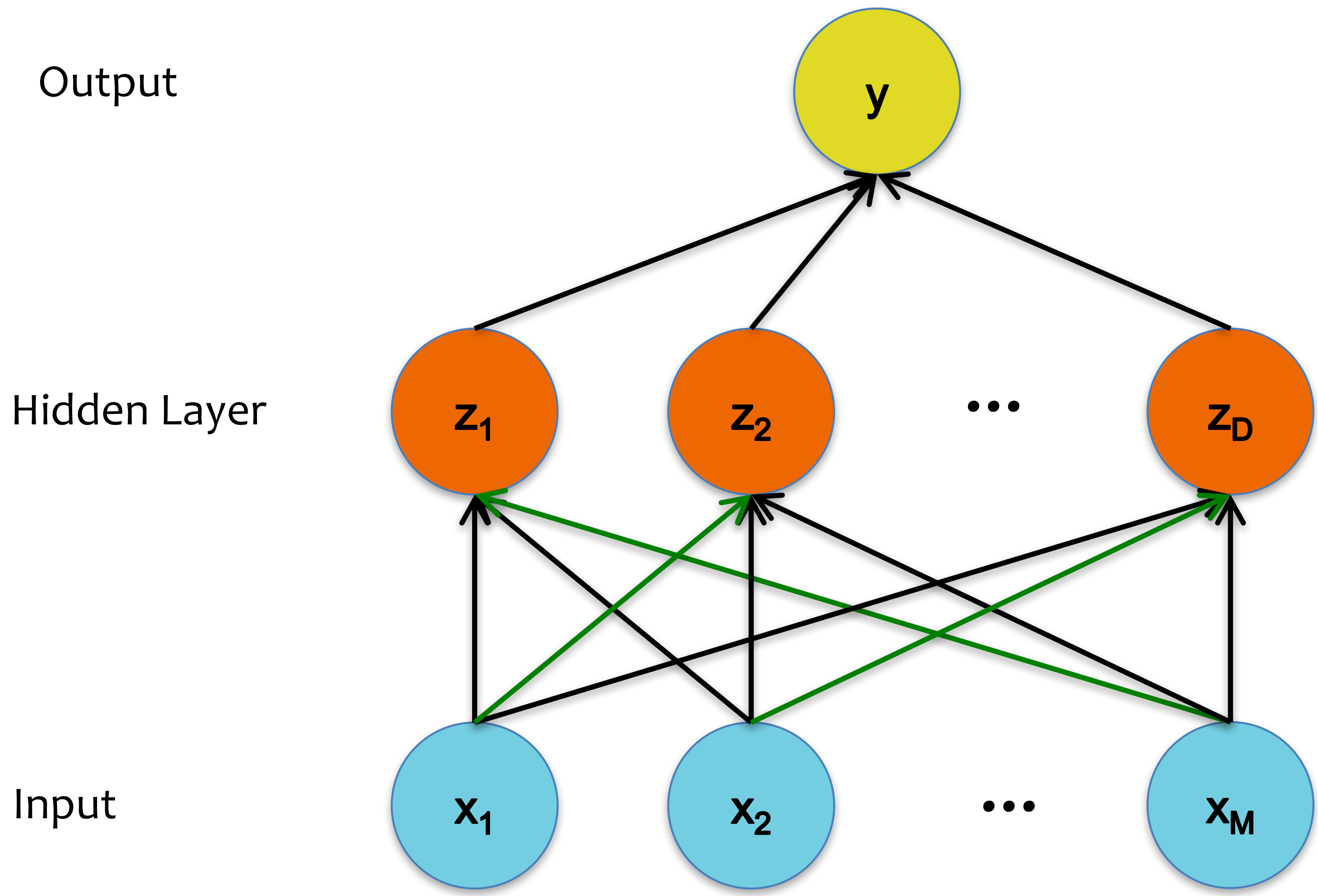

D = M

Building a Neural Net

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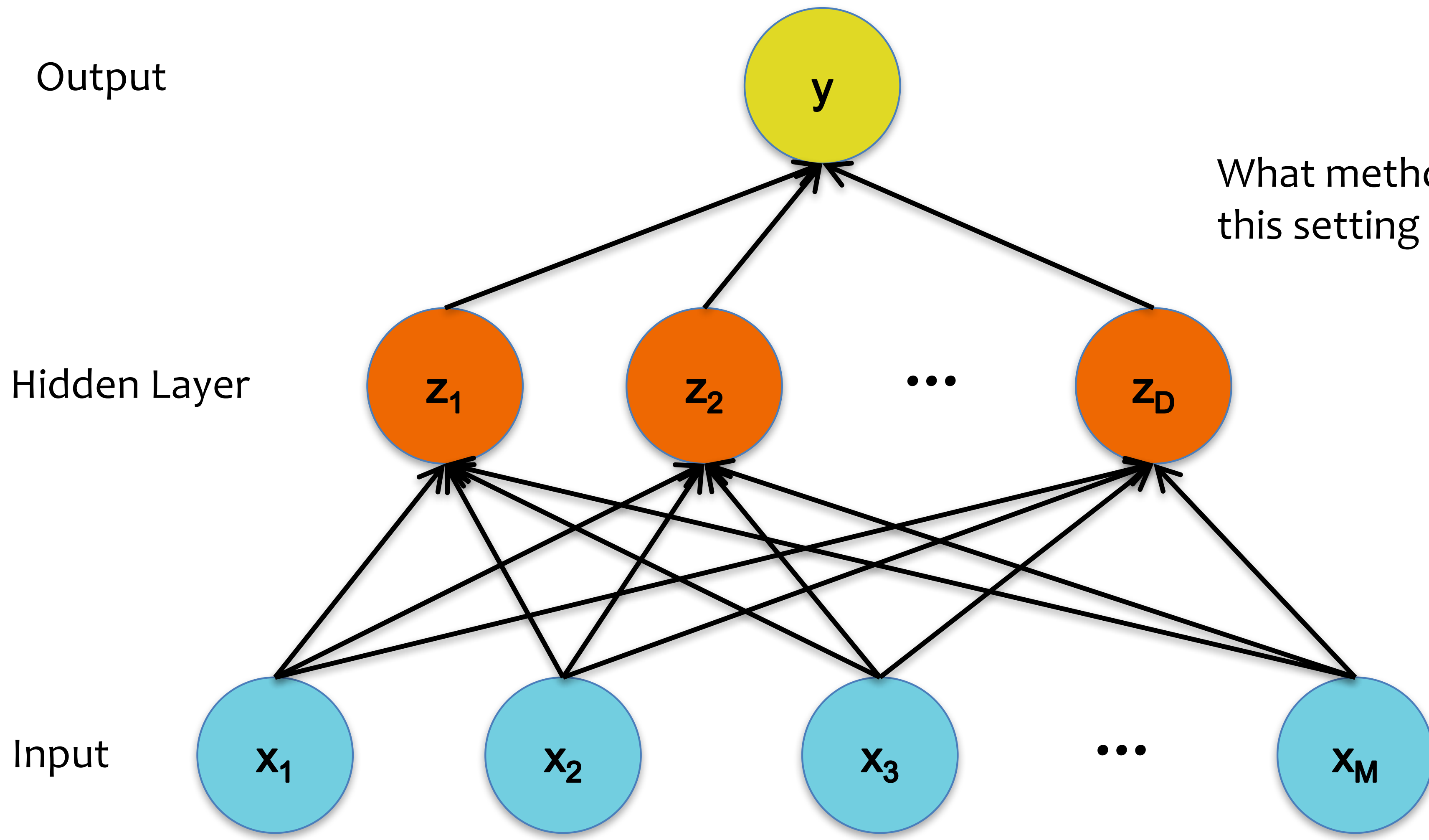
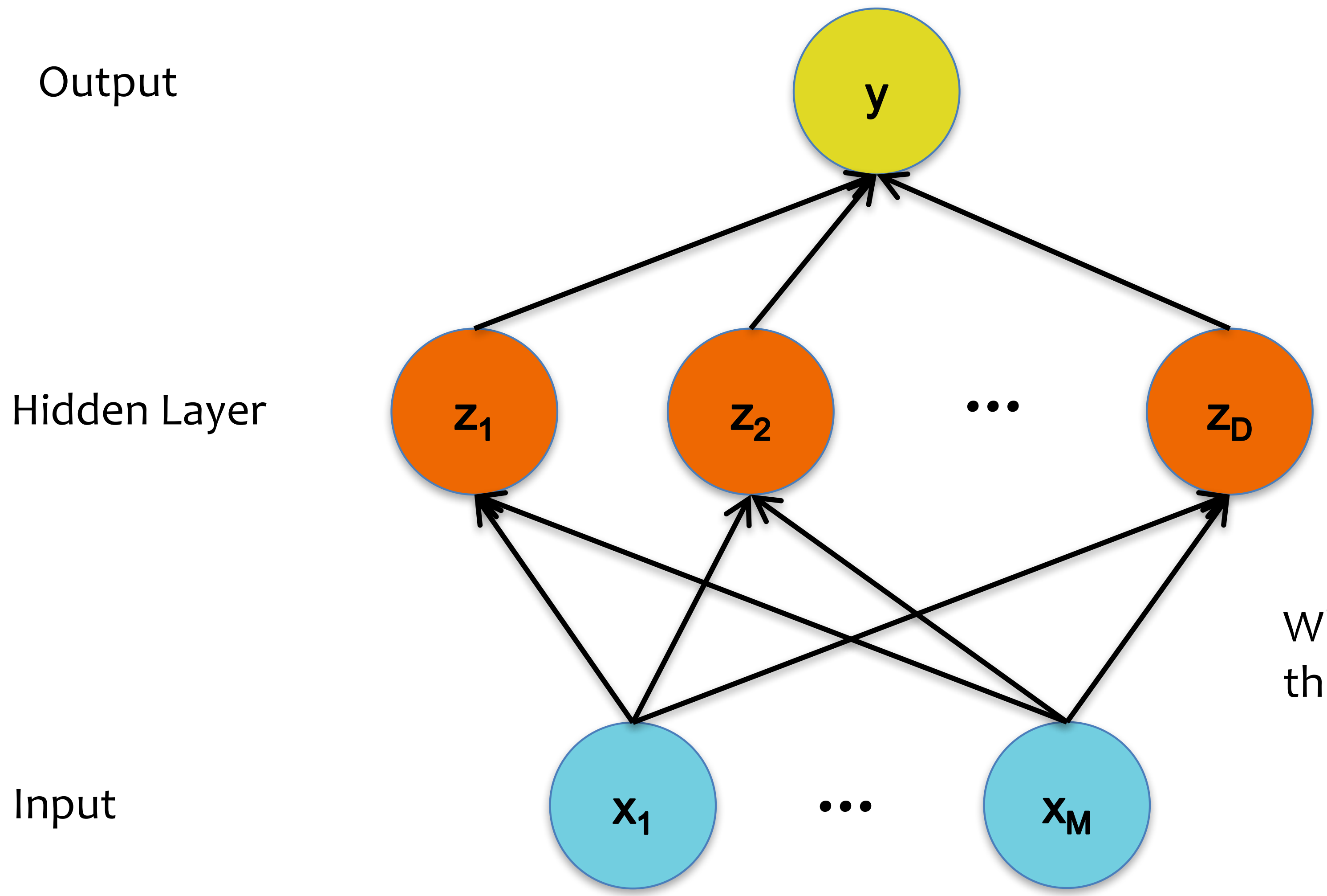


What method(s) is this setting similar to?

D < M

Building a Neural Net

Q: How many hidden units, D, should we use?



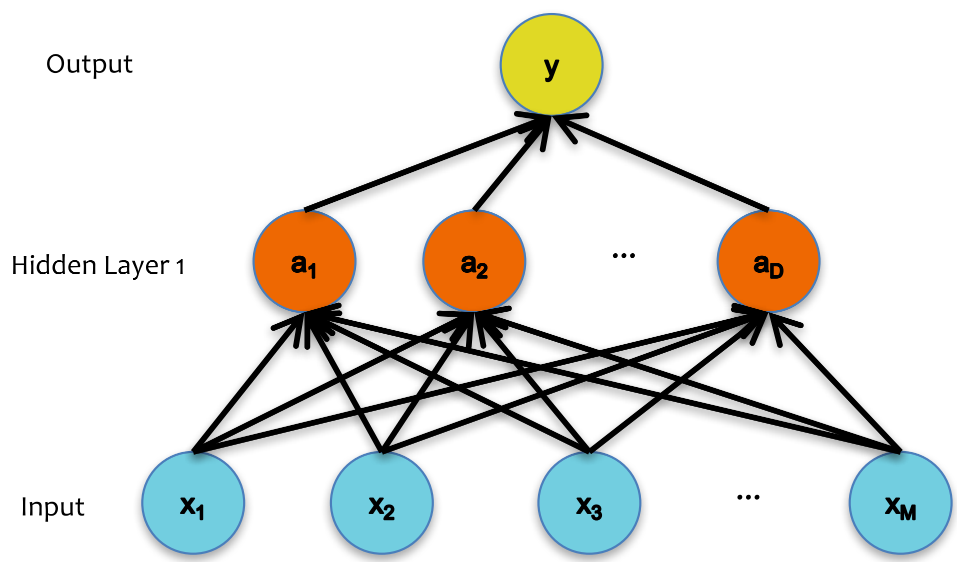
D > M

What method(s) is this setting similar to?

Decision Functions

Deeper Networks

Q: How many layers should we use?



Decision Functions

Deeper Networks

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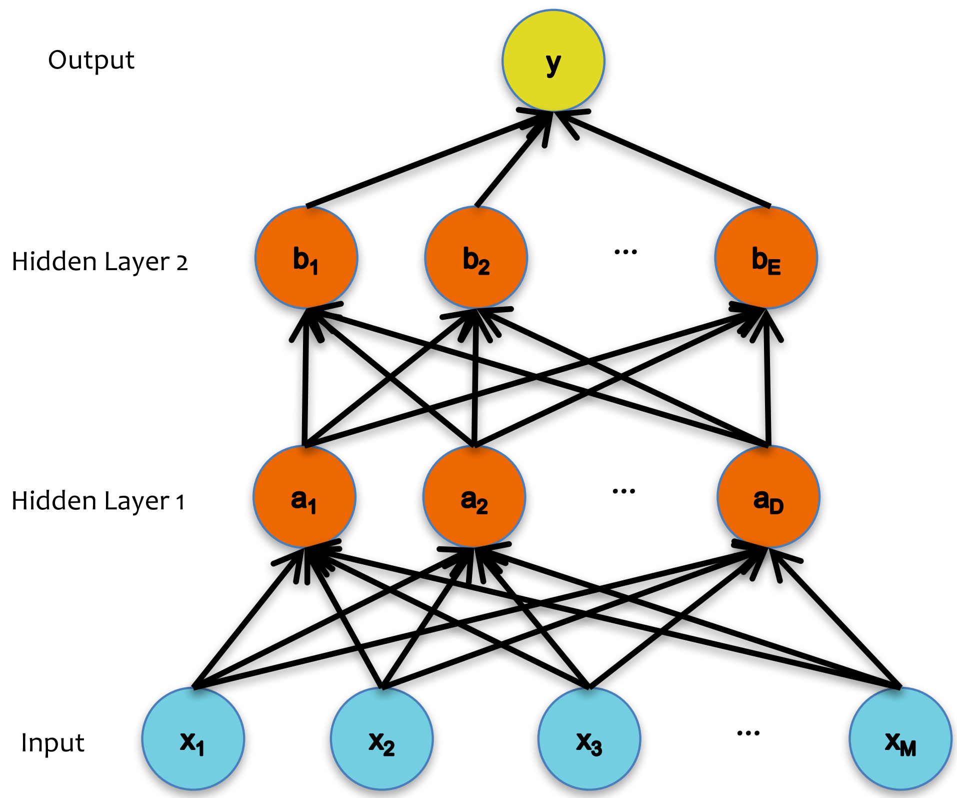

Decision Functions

Deeper Networks

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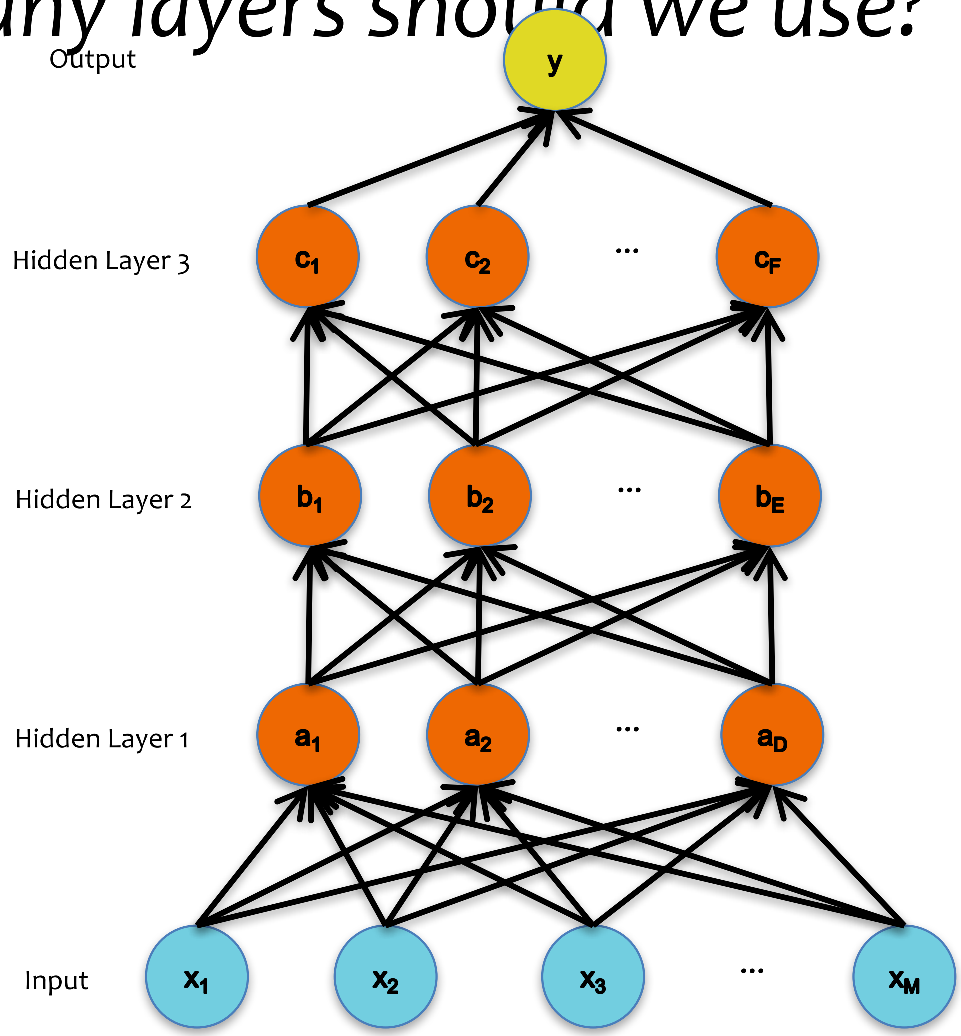


Deeper Networks

Q: How many layers should we use?

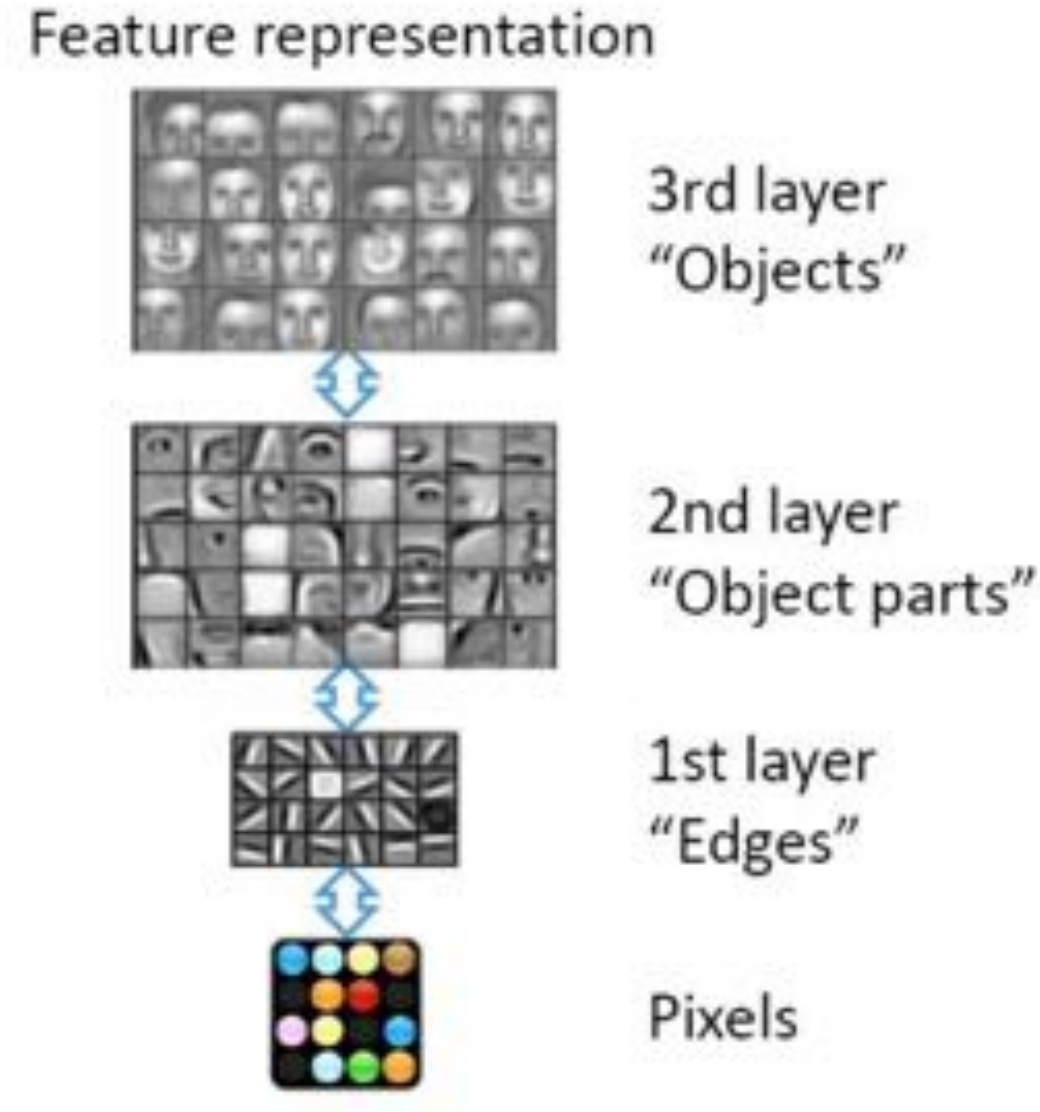
- **Theoretical answer:**
  - A neural network with 1 hidden layer is a **universal function approximator**
  - Cybenko (1989): For any continuous function g(**x**), there exists a 1-hidden-layer neural net $h_\theta(\mathbf{x})$ s.t. $| h_\theta(\mathbf{x}) - g(\mathbf{x}) | < \epsilon$ for all **x**, assuming sigmoid activation functions
- **Empirical answer:**
  - Before 2006: "Deep networks (e.g. 3 or more hidden layers) are too hard to train"
  - After 2006: "Deep networks are easier to train than shallow networks (e.g. 2 or fewer layers) for many problems"

    Big caveat: You need to know and use the right tricks.

Decision Functions

Different Levels of Abstraction

- We don't know the "right" levels of abstraction
- So let the model figure it out!



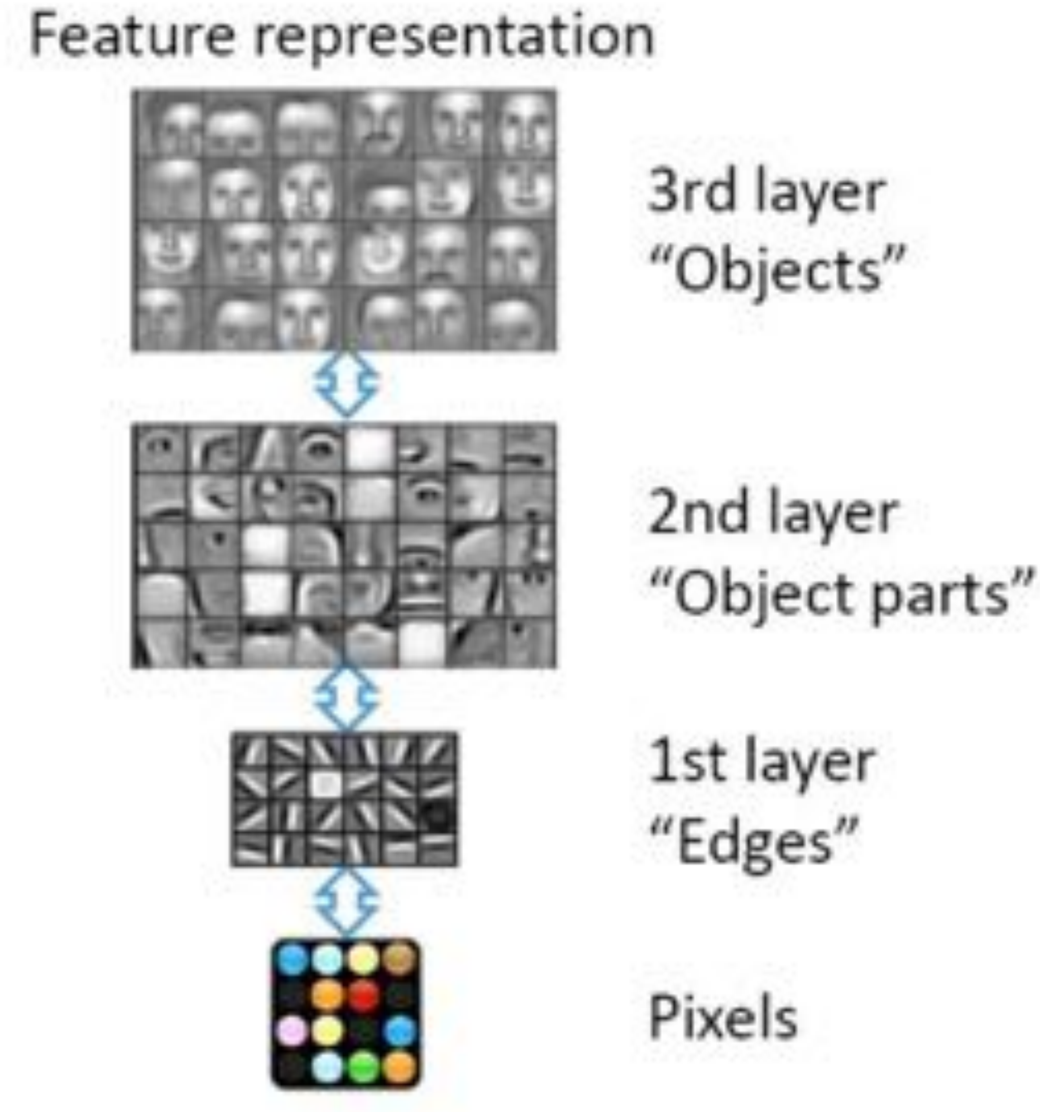
Example from Honglak Lee (NIPS 2010)

Decision Functions

Different Levels of Abstraction

Face Recognition:

- Deep Network can build up increasingly higher levels of abstraction
- Lines, parts, regions



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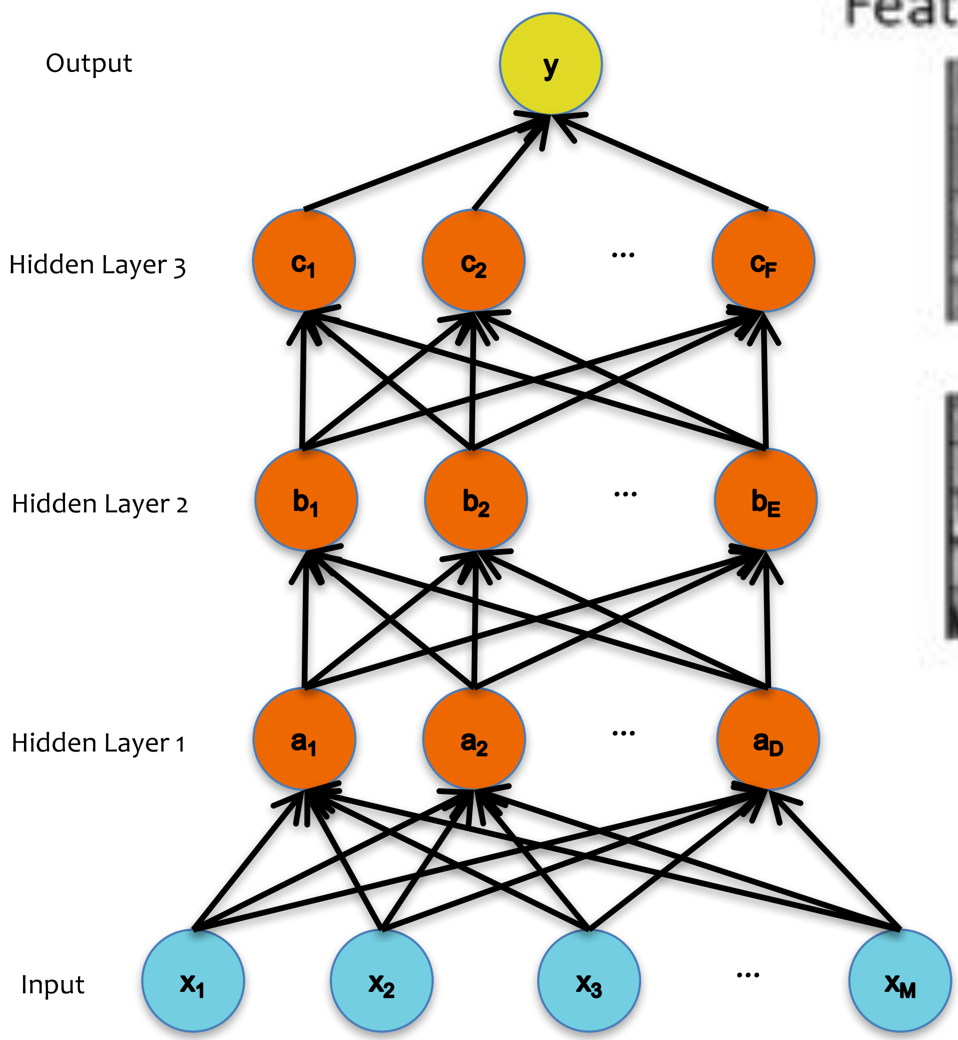
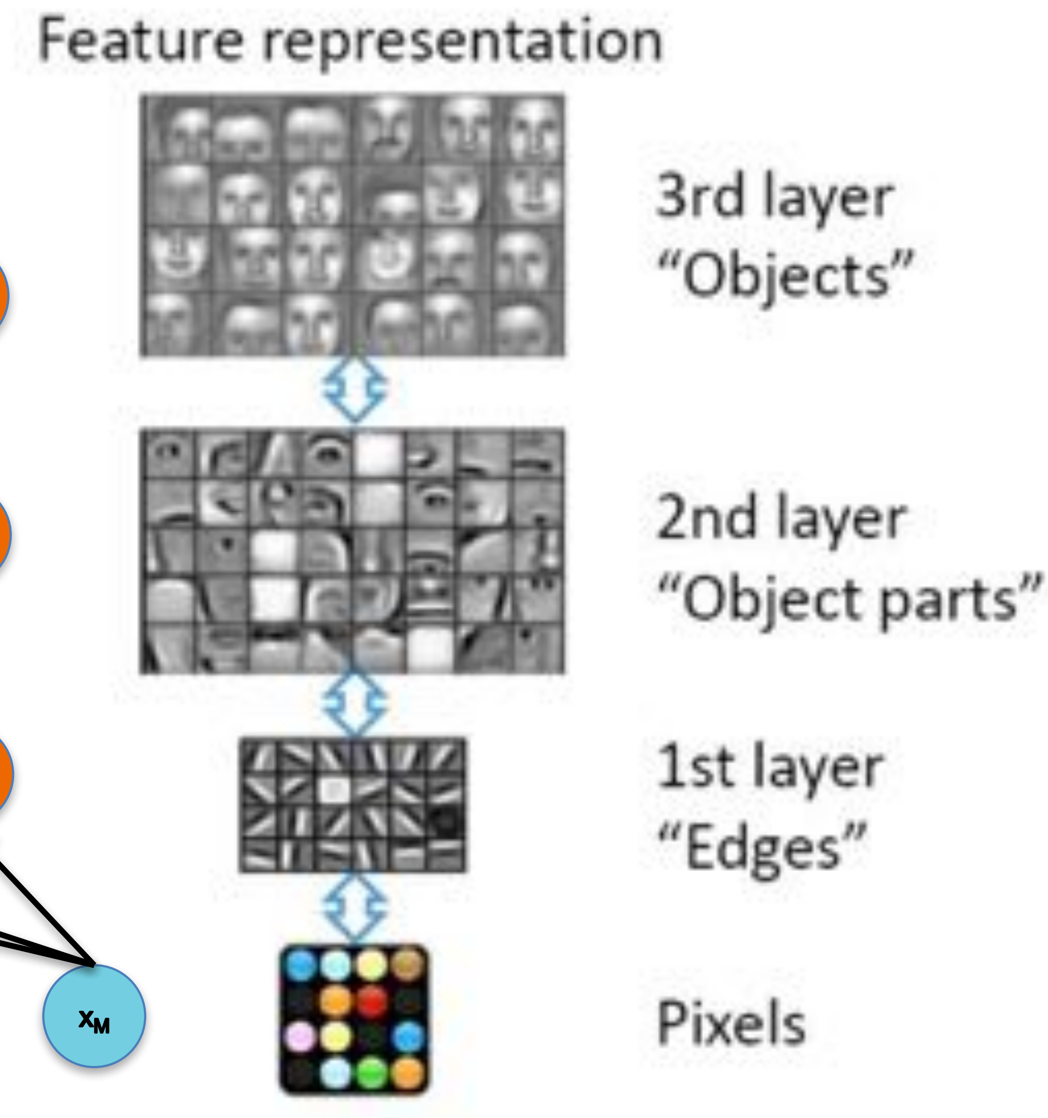
Decision Functions

Different Levels of Abstraction

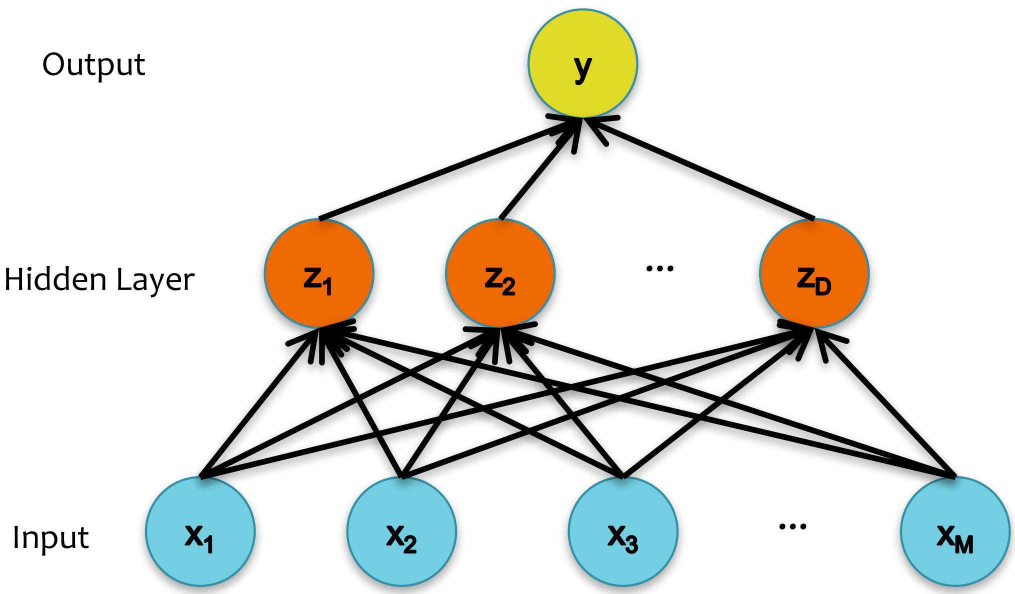




Example from Honglak Lee (NIPS 2010)

Activation Functions

Neural Network with sigmoid activation functions



(F) **Loss**
$J = \frac{1}{2}(y - y^*)^2$

(E) **Output (sigmoid)**
$y = \frac{1}{1+\exp(-b)}$

(D) **Output (linear)**
$b = \sum_{j=0}^{D} \beta_j z_j$

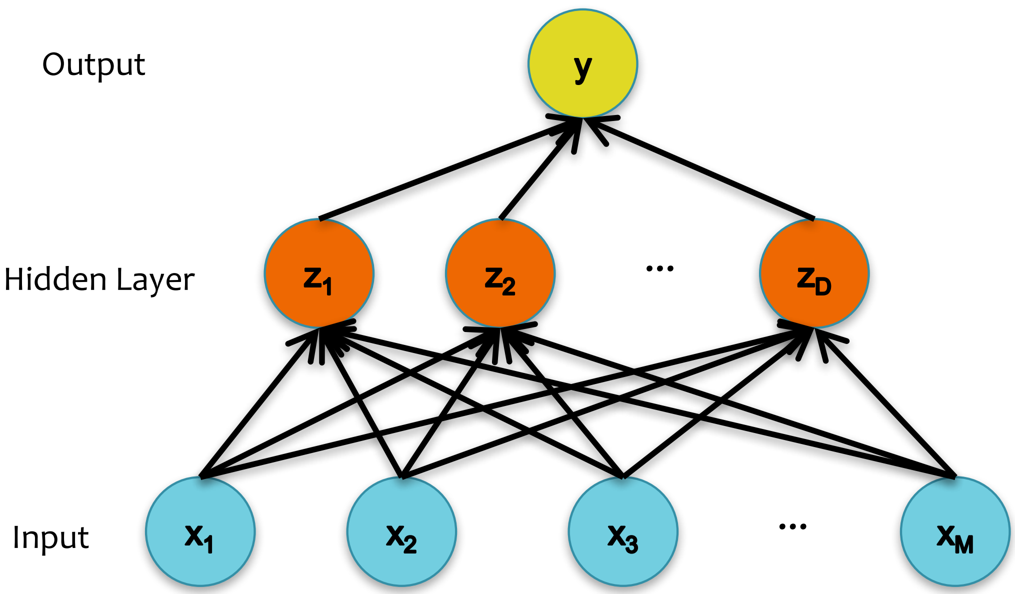
(C) **Hidden (sigmoid)**
$z_j = \frac{1}{1+\exp(-a_j)}, \quad \forall j$

(B) **Hidden (linear)**
$a_j = \sum_{i=0}^{M} \alpha_{ji} x_i, \quad \forall j$

(A) **Input**
Given $x_i, \quad \forall i$

Activation Functions

Neural Network with arbitrary nonlinear activation functions



(F) Loss
$J = \frac{1}{2}(y - y^*)^2$

(E) Output (nonlinear)
$y = \sigma(b)$

(D) Output (linear)
$b = \sum_{j=0}^{D} \beta_j z_j$

(C) Hidden (nonlinear)
$z_j = \sigma(a_j), \ \forall j$

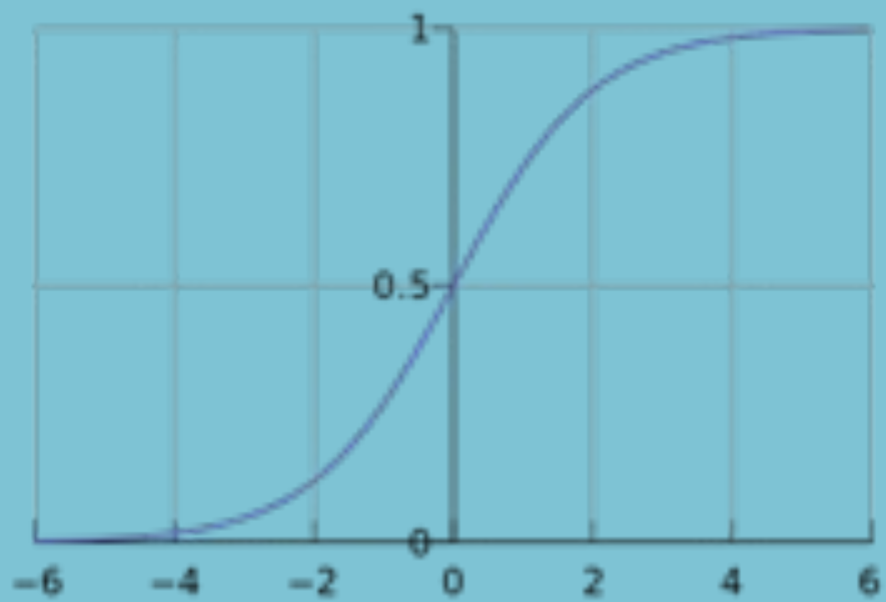
(B) Hidden (linear)
$a_j = \sum_{i=0}^{M} \alpha_{ji} x_i, \ \forall j$

(A) Input
Given $x_i, \ \forall i$

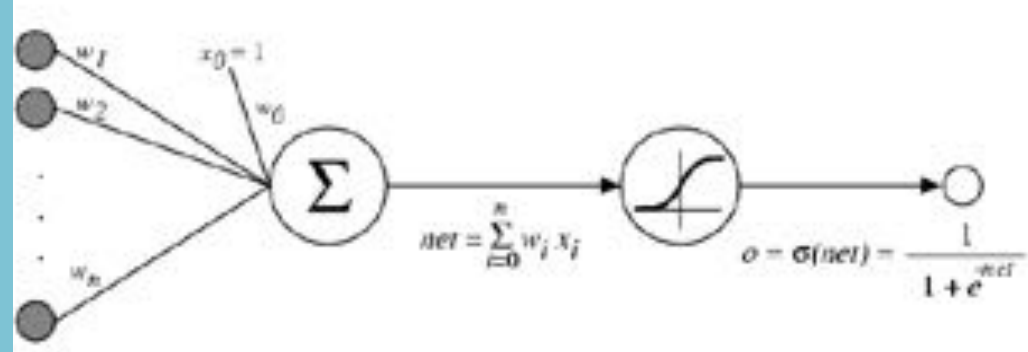
Activation Functions

Sigmoid / Logistic Function

$$\text{logistic}(u) \equiv \frac{1}{1+e^{-u}}$$

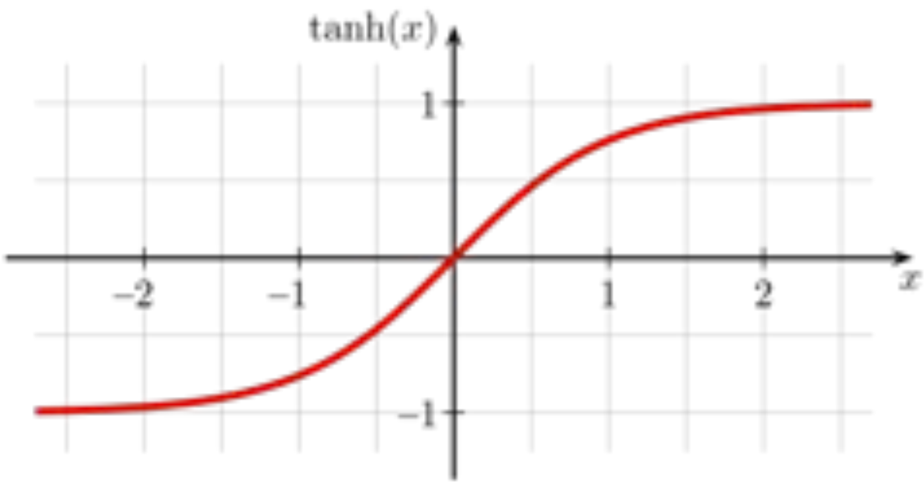


So far, we've assumed that the activation function (nonlinearity) is always the sigmoid function…



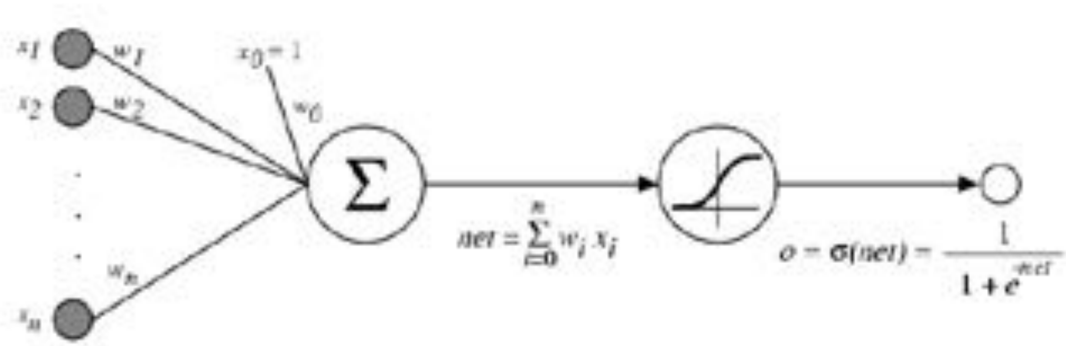
Activation Functions

- A new change: modifying the nonlinearity
  - The logistic is not widely used in modern ANNs



Alternate 1: tanh

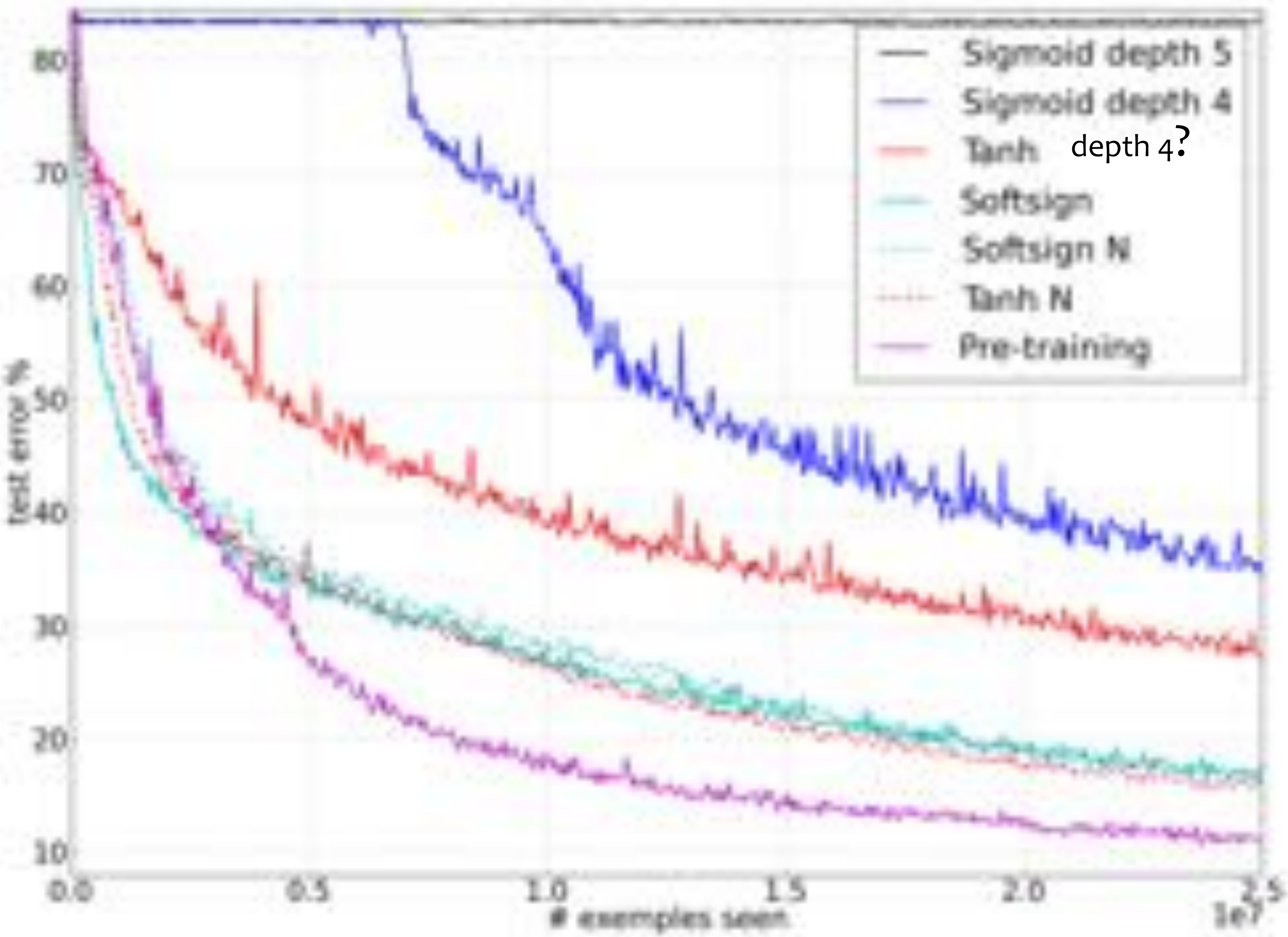
Like logistic function but shifted to range [-1, +1]



Slide from William Cohen

Understanding the difficulty of training deep feedforward neural networks

AI Stats 2010

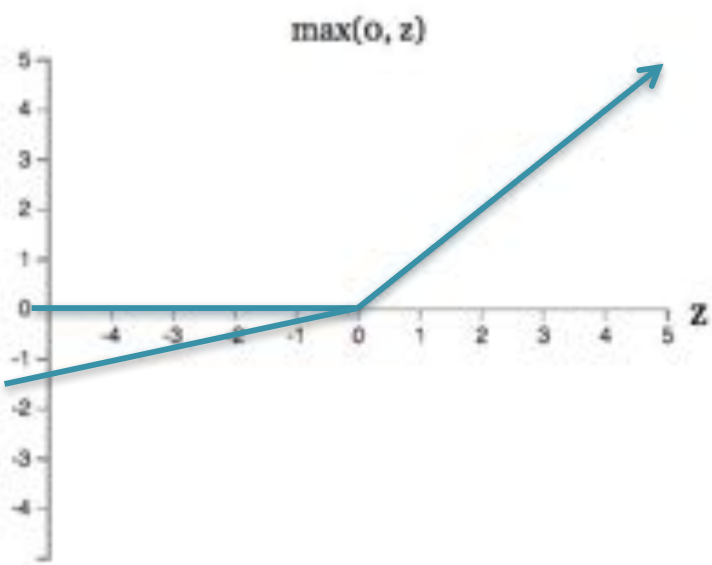


sigmoid
vs.
tanh

Figure from Glorot & Bentio (2010)

Activation Functions

- A new change: modifying the nonlinearity
  - reLU often used in vision tasks

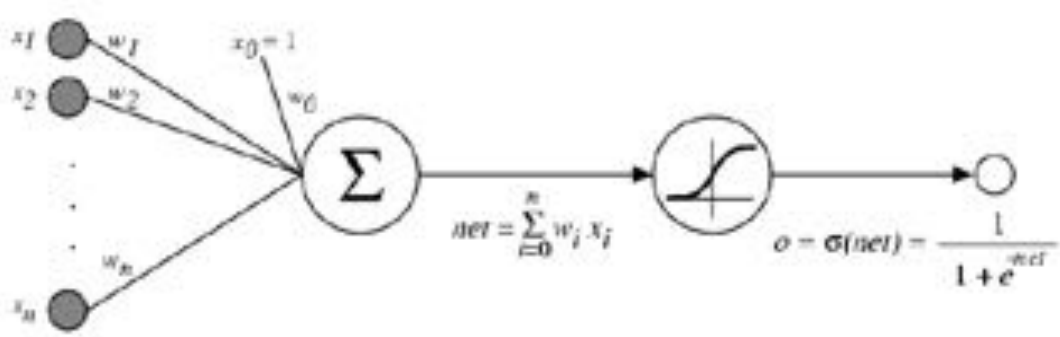


$$\max(0, w \cdot x + b).$$

Alternate 2: rectified linear unit

Linear with a cutoff at zero

(Implementation: clip the gradient when you pass zero)



Slide from William Cohen

Activation Functions

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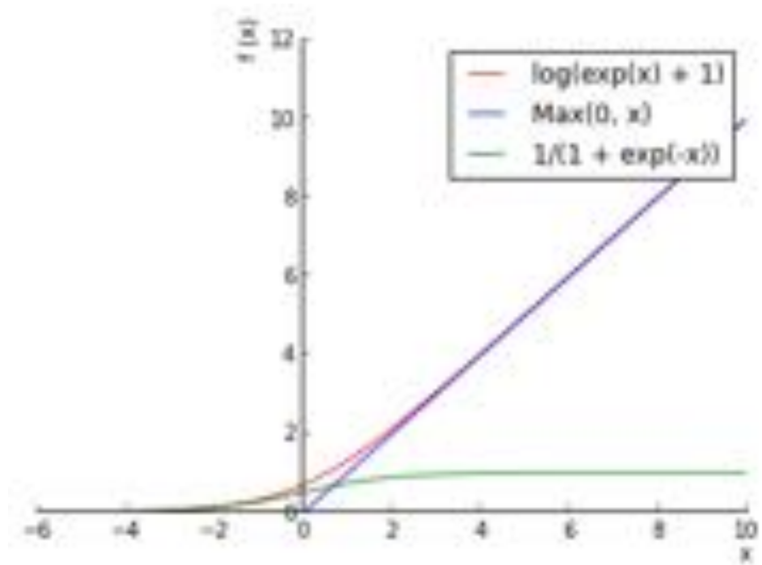
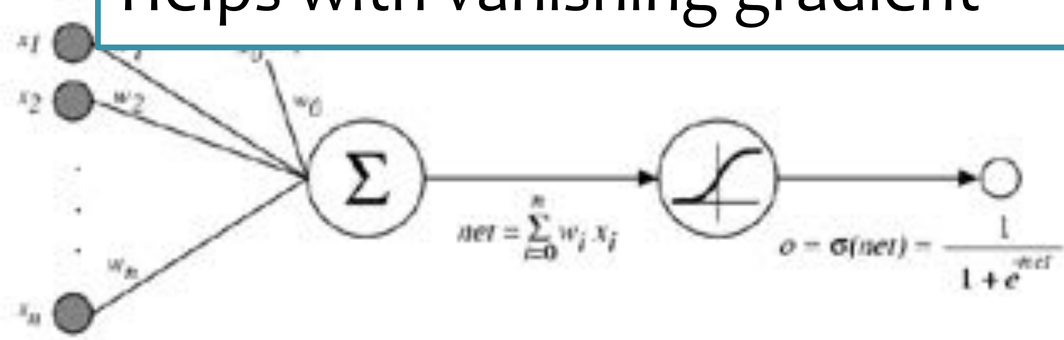


Alternate 2: rectified linear unit

Soft version: log(exp(x)+1)

Doesn’t saturate (at one end)
Sparsifies outputs
Helps with vanishing gradient



Slide from William Cohen

Objective Functions for NNs

1. Quadratic Loss:
   – the same objective as Linear Regression
   – i.e. mean squared error
2. Cross-Entropy:
   – the same objective as Logistic Regression
   – i.e. negative log likelihood
   – This requires probabilities, so we add an additional "softmax" layer at the end of our network

	Forward	Backward
Quadratic	$J = \frac{1}{2}(y - y^*)^2$	$\frac{dJ}{dy} = y - y^*$
Cross Entropy	$J = y^* \log(y) + (1 - y^*) \log(1 - y)$	$\frac{dJ}{dy} = y^* \frac{1}{y} + (1 - y^*) \frac{1}{y - 1}$

Objective Functions for NNs

Cross-entropy vs. Quadratic loss

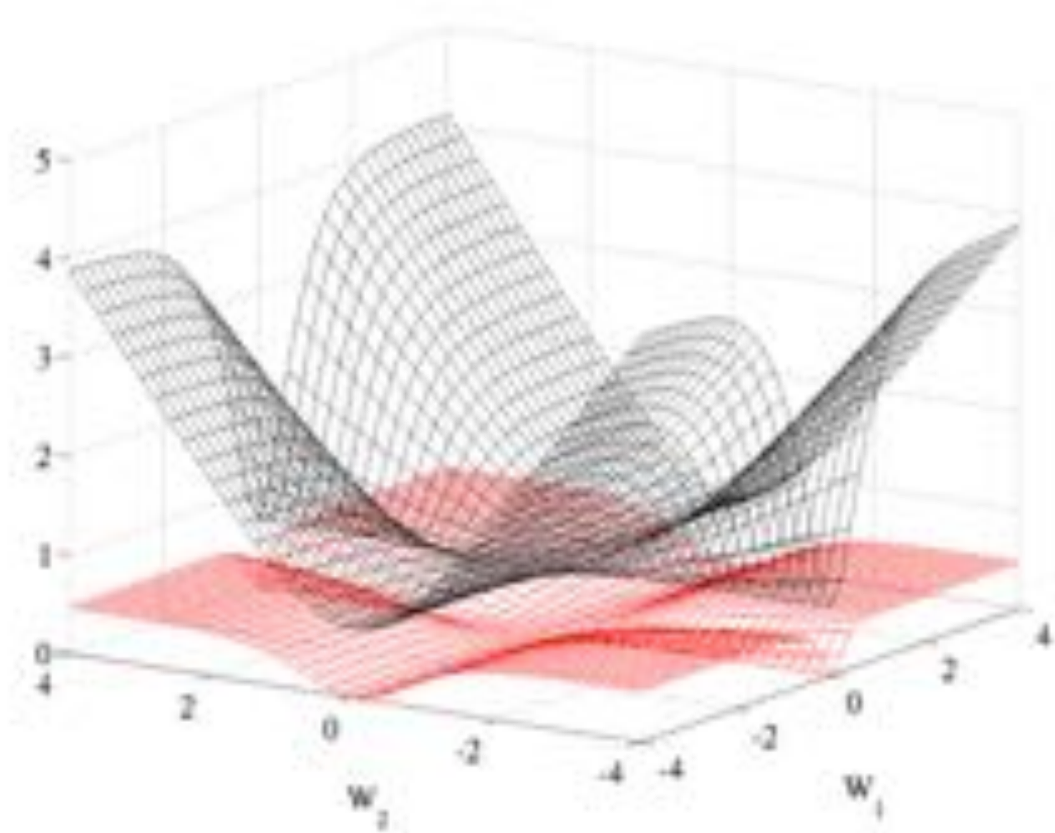
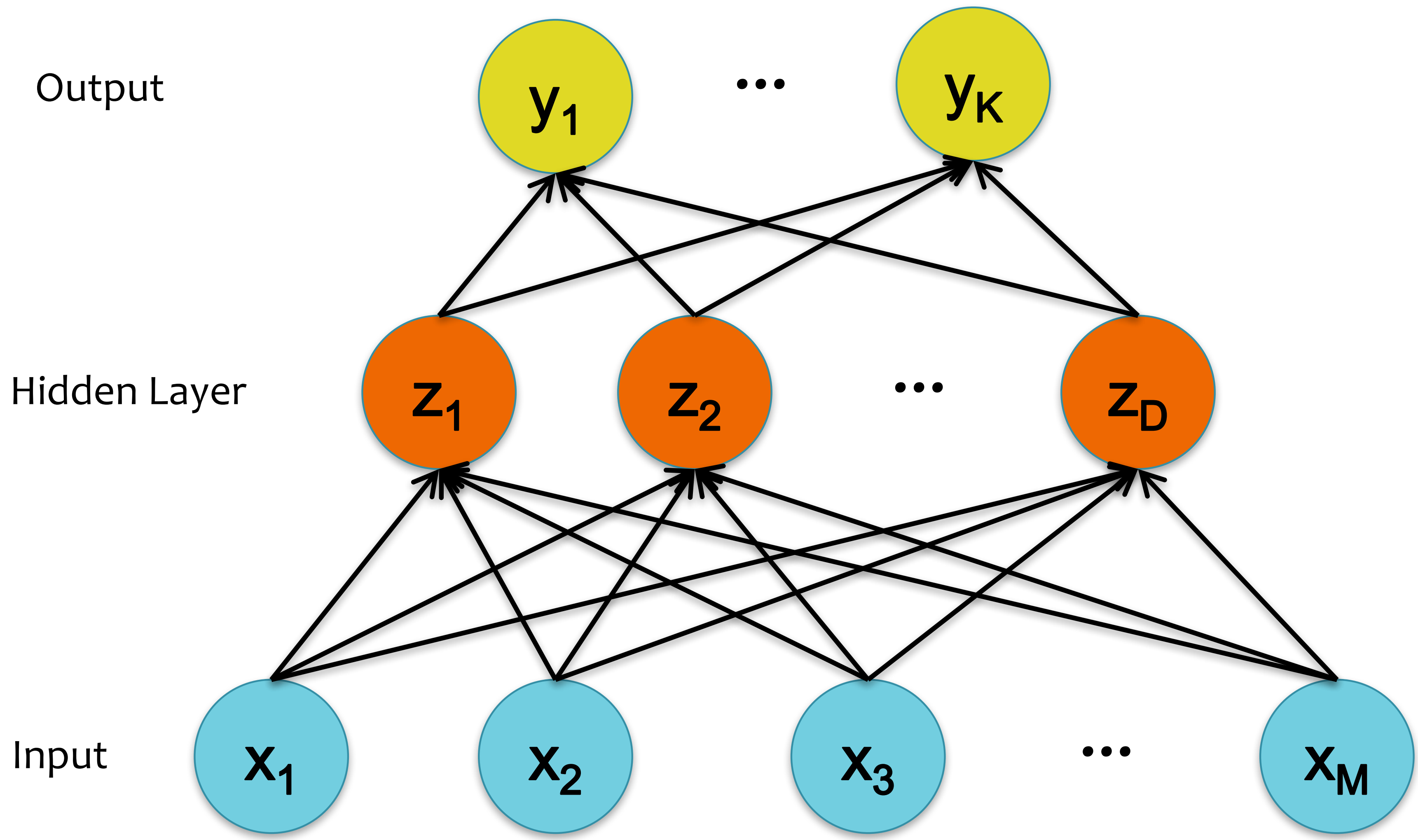


Figure 5: *Cross entropy (black, surface on top) and quadratic (red, bottom surface) cost as a function of two weights (one at each layer) of a network with two layers, W_1 respectively on the first layer and W_2 on the second, output layer.*

Figure from Glorot & Bentio (2010)

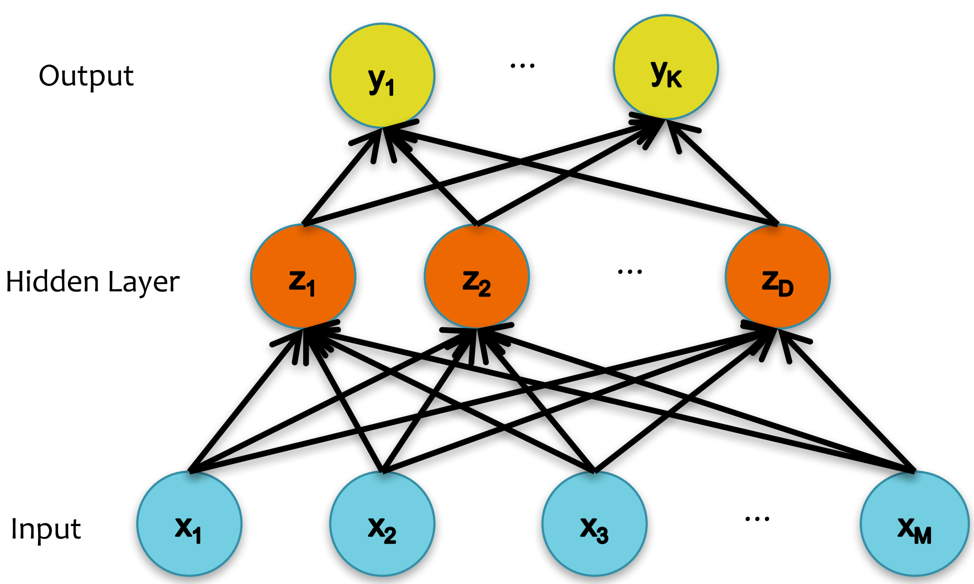
Multi-Class Output

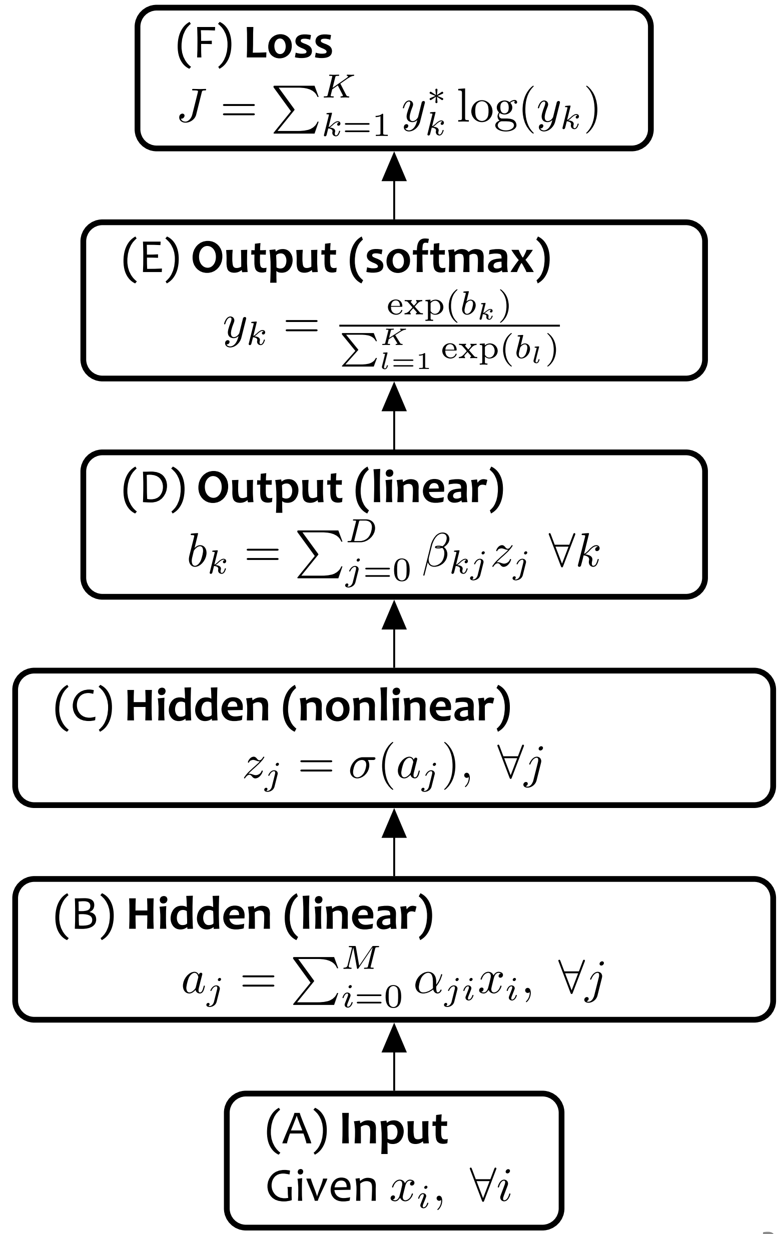


Multi-Class Output

Softmax:

$$y_k = \frac{\exp(b_k)}{\sum_{l=1}^{K} \exp(b_l)}$$





BACKPROPAGATION

Background

A Recipe for Machine Learning

1. Given training data:

$$\{\boldsymbol{x}_i, \boldsymbol{y}_i\}_{i=1}^N$$

2. Choose each of these:

– Decision function

$$\hat{\boldsymbol{y}} = f_{\boldsymbol{\theta}}(\boldsymbol{x}_i)$$

– Loss function

$$\ell(\hat{\boldsymbol{y}}, \boldsymbol{y}_i) \in \mathbb{R}$$

3. Define goal:

$$\boldsymbol{\theta}^* = \arg\min_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} \sum_{i=1}^N \ell(f_{\boldsymbol{\theta}}(\boldsymbol{x}_i), \boldsymbol{y}_i)$$

4. Train with SGD:
(take small steps opposite the gradient)

$$\boldsymbol{\theta}^{(t+1)} = \boldsymbol{\theta}^{(t)} - \eta_t \nabla \ell(f_{\boldsymbol{\theta}}(\boldsymbol{x}_i), \boldsymbol{y}_i)$$

Training

Approaches to Differentiation

- **Question 1:**
  When can we compute the gradients of the parameters of an arbitrary neural network?

- **Question 2:**
  When can we make the gradient computation efficient?

Training

Approaches to Differentiation

Given $f : \mathbb{R}^A \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^B, f(\mathbf{x})$

Compute $\frac{\partial f(\mathbf{x})_i}{\partial x_j} \forall i, j$

1. Finite Difference Method
   - Pro: Great for testing implementations of backpropagation
   - Con: Slow for high dimensional inputs / outputs
   - Required: Ability to call the function f(**x**) on any input **x**
2. Symbolic Differentiation
   - Note: The method you learned in high-school
   - Note: Used by Mathematica / Wolfram Alpha / Maple
   - Pro: Yields easily interpretable derivatives
   - Con: Leads to exponential computation time if not carefully implemented
   - Required: Mathematical expression that defines f(**x**)
3. Automatic Differentiation - Reverse Mode
   - Note: Called *Backpropagation* when applied to Neural Nets
   - Pro: Computes partial derivatives of one output $f(\mathbf{x})_i$ with respect to all inputs x_j in time proportional to computation of f(**x**)
   - Con: Slow for high dimensional outputs (e.g. vector-valued functions)
   - Required: Algorithm for computing f(**x**)
4. Automatic Differentiation - Forward Mode
   - Note: Easy to implement. Uses dual numbers.
   - Pro: Computes partial derivatives of all outputs $f(\mathbf{x})_i$ with respect to one input x_j in time proportional to computation of f(**x**)
   - Con: Slow for high dimensional inputs (e.g. vector-valued **x**)
   - Required: Algorithm for computing f(**x**)

Finite Difference Method

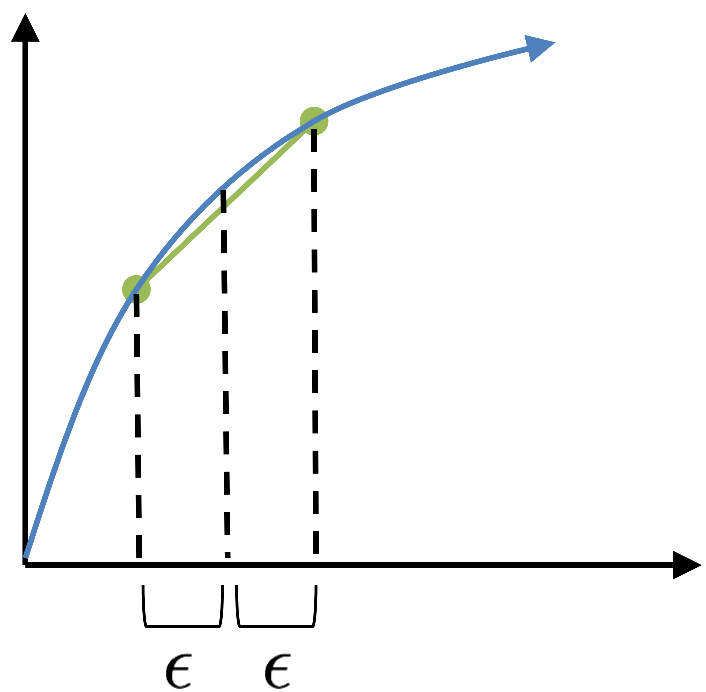
The *centered* finite difference approximation is:

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta_i} J(\boldsymbol{\theta}) \approx \frac{(J(\boldsymbol{\theta} + \epsilon \cdot \boldsymbol{d}_i) - J(\boldsymbol{\theta} - \epsilon \cdot \boldsymbol{d}_i))}{2\epsilon} \quad (1)$$

where $\boldsymbol{d}_i$ is a 1-hot vector consisting of all zeros except for the ith entry of $\boldsymbol{d}_i$, which has value 1.

Notes:

- Suffers from issues of floating point precision, in practice
- Typically only appropriate to use on small examples with an appropriately chosen epsilon



Symbolic Differentiation

Chain Rule Quiz #1:

Suppose x = 2 and z = 3, what are dy/dx and dy/dz for the function below?

$$y = \exp(xz) + \frac{xz}{\log(x)} + \frac{\sin(\log(x))}{\exp(xz)}$$

Symbolic Differentiation

Calculus Quiz #2:

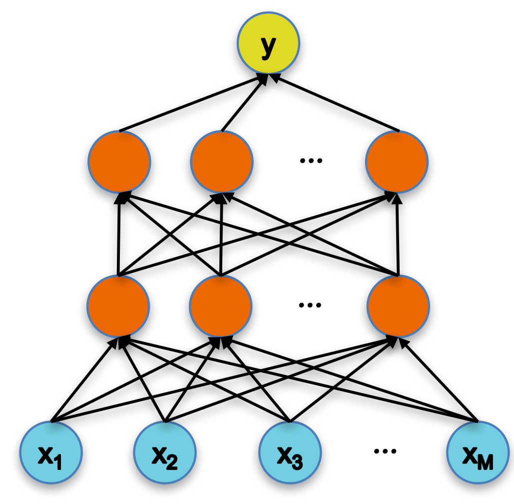
A neural network with 2 hidden layers can be written as:

$$y = \sigma(\boldsymbol{\beta}^T \sigma((\boldsymbol{\alpha}^{(2)})^T \sigma((\boldsymbol{\alpha}^{(1)})^T \mathbf{x}))$$

where $y \in \mathbb{R}$, $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^{D^{(0)}}$, $\boldsymbol{\beta} \in \mathbb{R}^{D^{(2)}}$ and $\boldsymbol{\alpha}^{(i)}$ is a $D^{(i)} \times D^{(i-1)}$ matrix. Nonlinear functions are applied elementwise:

$$\sigma(\mathbf{a}) = [\sigma(a_1), \ldots, \sigma(a_K)]^T$$

Let σ be sigmoid: $\sigma(a) = \frac{1}{1+exp-a}$
What is $\frac{\partial y}{\partial \beta_j}$ and $\frac{\partial y}{\partial \alpha_j^{(i)}}$ for all i, j.



Chain Rule

Whiteboard

– Chain Rule of Calculus

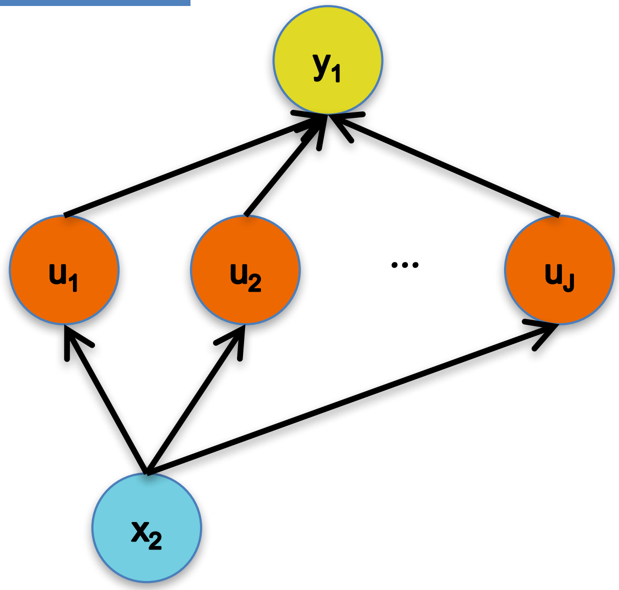
Training

Chain Rule

Given: $\boldsymbol{y} = g(\boldsymbol{u})$ and $\boldsymbol{u} = h(\boldsymbol{x})$.

Chain Rule:

$$\frac{dy_i}{dx_k} = \sum_{j=1}^{J} \frac{dy_i}{du_j} \frac{du_j}{dx_k}, \quad \forall i, k$$



Chain Rule

Given: $\boldsymbol{y} = g(\boldsymbol{u})$ and $\boldsymbol{u} = h(\boldsymbol{x})$.

Chain Rule:

$$\frac{dy_i}{dx_k} = \sum_{j=1}^{J} \frac{dy_i}{du_j}\frac{du_j}{dx_k}, \quad \forall i, k$$

Backpropagation is just repeated application of the **chain rule** from Calculus 101.