Deep Learning

The Artificial Neuron

- Modeled after the human brain's neurons
- The basic building block of any neural network or deep learning model
- We will quickly go over the evolution of the artificial neuron
- Note: Everything discussed in these slides is from the software perspective (it does not discuss hardware of data)

The M-P Neuron

- Considered by many the first artificial neuron
- The McCulloch-Pitts Neuron (a.k.a. the MCP Neuron); created by Warren McCulloch and Walter Pitts in 1943
- Based on the concept that the brain's decision-making process can be modeled using boolean functions

The M-P Neuron

- Contains 4 parts:
 - a set of inputs x where each input can be 0 or 1 (i.e., false or true, respectively), can be excitatory or inhibitory
 - \circ ~ a summing function ${\boldsymbol g}$ to sum ${\boldsymbol x}$
 - \circ a decision (or piecewise) function **f**
 - **f** also contains a threshold value, **θ** (**theta**)
- A neuron outputs **0** or **1** (i.e., **false** or **true**, respectively)
- The real power of neurons is to use them in sequence (i.e., in a network)

The M-P Neuron



$$g(x_1, x_2, x_3, \dots, x_n) = g(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_{i=1}^n x_i$$
$$y = f(g(\mathbf{x})) = 1 \quad if \quad g(\mathbf{x}) \ge \theta$$
$$= 0 \quad if \quad g(\mathbf{x}) < \theta$$

The M-P Neuron: Limitations

- All input is equivalent in importance
- Cannot model non-boolean data (e.g., cannot process images, text, etc.)
- Must identify and hard-code every input
- Must find/calculate and hard-code every threshold
- Individual neurons can only handle linearly separable decisions (i.e., the decision space must be separated into 2 parts, as true or false, 1 or 0)
 - Can still model some non-linearly separable decisions, but must use multiple neurons to do it

The Perceptron

- First proposed by Frank Rosenblatt in 1958 and further refined by Marvin Minsky and Seymour Papert in 1969
- Used the M-P Neuron as a foundation, but with 3 main differences:
 - Input (x) are now real-valued numbers; weights have been included for each input (x), they are to be multiplied with each of their corresponding input (x) before being summed by g
 - A mechanism (i.e. **learning algorithm**) to learn/determine the best/optimal value for those weights has been introduced; example data is needed for the algorithm to learn
 - θ (theta), has been removed as a threshold value and reintroduced as a bias term (i.e., θ (theta) can be learned like the weights and doesn't need to be determined in advance)

The Perceptron



The Perceptron: Learning Algorithm

- Note: the learning algorithm is completely separate from the Perceptron (i.e., you can replace the current learning algorithm with a different learning algorithm and the perceptron will not change)
- Is proven to converge every time, for any given input

Algorithm: Perceptron Learning Algorithm

```
P \leftarrow inputs with label 1:
N \leftarrow inputs with label 0:
Initialize w randomly;
while !convergence do
     Pick random \mathbf{x} \in P \cup N;
     if \mathbf{x} \in P and \mathbf{w} \cdot \mathbf{x} < 0 then
          \mathbf{w} = \mathbf{w} + \mathbf{x};
    end
    if \mathbf{x} \in N and \mathbf{w} \cdot \mathbf{x} > 0 then
          \mathbf{w} = \mathbf{w} - \mathbf{x};
    end
end
```

//the algorithm converges when all the inputs are classified correctly

The Perceptron: Limitations

- Old limitations that are still applicable to the Perceptron:
 - Must identify and hard-code every input
 - Individual neurons can only handle linearly separable decisions
- The learning algorithm only converges based on the example input given (i.e., given a new example, it cannot be guaranteed that the neuron will produce the correct result)

The Sigmoid Neuron

- Came about from the culmination of a number of papers and researchers in the mid 1980s
- Considered the "normal" or "average" neuron using in neural networks today
- Uses the Perceptron as a base, but with 1 major difference
 - f has been modified from the (piecewise) step function to the sigmoid function (a.k.a. the activation function); instead of producing 0 or 1, it produces a real-valued number between 0 and 1
- f can use other activation functions (e.g., tanh, ReLU, etc.)
- Must use a more sophisticated learning algorithm (e.g., Mean Squared Error, Gradient Descent, etc.)

The Sigmoid Neuron



The Sigmoid Neuron



The Sigmoid Neuron: Limitations

• Complete convergence is often no longer possible

Neural Networks

- Neurons are most useful connected together in a network
- We will look at the most basic neural network (and the foundation of all modern neural networks and deep learning research), the Feed-Forward Neural Network (FFNN)
- The FFNN has 3 main layers:
 - The **Input Layer** the input data to the network; can be any real-valued data (e.g., pixel values in an image, sales data, population data, etc.)
 - The **Hidden Layer** a set of artificial neurons that are densely connected they transform input based on their summing and activation functions and pass their output to subsequent layers
 - The **Output Layer** a final data transformation to the proper output format, the final transformation is dependent on the type of output (e.g., if it is a categorization problem it will likely use a softmax function)

Neural Networks



Neural Networks

- There can be multiple levels of hidden layers (this is what makes the learning "deep")
- Note: We can no longer tell what each artificial neuron represents