

# Hyperparameter selection

# Hyperparameters

Meta-learning



# Activation functions

*Examples*

- Heaviside
- Linear
- Sigmoid
- Tanh
- ReLU
- eLU
- Leaky ReLU
- Parameterised ReLU
- Swish
- Softmax

# Output and loss functions

*Hyperparameters*

## (Multivariate) Regression

- Linear Output:  $\hat{y} = \mathbf{W}^T \mathbf{a} + b$
- Quadratic loss:  $\ell(y, \hat{y}) = \|y - \hat{y}\|_2^2$

## Binary Classification

- Binary Output:  $\hat{y} = \sigma(\mathbf{W}^T \mathbf{a} + b)$  or  $\hat{y} = \tanh(\mathbf{W}^T \mathbf{a} + b)$
- Loss:  $\ell(y, \hat{y}) = \log(1 + e^{-y\hat{y}})$  for  $y \in \{-1, 1\}$

## K-class Classification

- Softmax Output:  $\hat{y} = \text{softmax}(\mathbf{W}^T \mathbf{a} + b)$ , with  $\text{softmax}(z) = \left\{ \frac{e^{z_1}}{\sum_{k=1}^K e^{z_k}}, \dots, \frac{e^{z_K}}{\sum_{k=1}^K e^{z_k}} \right\}$
- Loss:  $\ell(y, \hat{y}) = -\sum_{k=1}^K \mathbf{1}(k = y) \log(\hat{y}_k)$ , for  $y \in \{1, \dots, K\}$

# More loss functions

*Hyperparameters*

## **(Multivariate) Regression**

- **Mean Squared Error (MSE)**
- **Mean Absolute Error (MAE)**
- **Mean Absolute Percentage Error (MAPE)**
- Huber loss
- Log-cosh loss
- Quantile loss
- Mean Squared Logarithmic Error (MSLE)
- Cosine Similarity loss
- Poisson loss
- Kullback-Leibler divergence loss (KLD)

## **(K-class) Classification**

- **Binary Cross-Entropy Loss**
- **Categorical Cross-Entropy Loss**
- Sparse Categorical Cross-Entropy Loss
- Kullback-Leibler divergence Loss (KLD)
- Hinge Loss
- Squared Hinge Loss
- Multi-class Hinge Loss
- Logistic Loss
- Focal Loss
- Softmax Loss

# Weights initialisation

## The importance of initial conditions

- Convex problems: convergence is guaranteed regardless of initialisation
- Non-convex problems: initial conditions are paramount

## Symmetry

- One important thing is to break symmetry in the initialisation procedure
- For instance, it is usually not advised to set all weights and biases to the same value
- Similarly, small and large random numbers usually lead to dead or saturated neurons

## Solutions preserving variance across layers

- Gaussian Initialisation – draw initial parameters from the normal distribution  $N(\mu, \sigma^2)$
- Xavier Glorot<sup>[1]</sup> Initialisation – draw initial parameters from  $N(0, \sigma^2)$  where  $\sigma = g \sqrt{\frac{2}{n_{in} + n_{out}}}$  with  $g$  a hyperparameter to define,  $n_{in}$  the number of input units and  $n_{out}$  the number of output units. It can also be rewritten with a uniform distribution.
- LeCun's uniform initialisation is very similar

[1] Understanding the difficulty of training deep feedforward neural networks, Glorot X. et al. (2010)

## General Principle

“We almost always initialize all the weights in the model to values drawn randomly from a **Gaussian** or **uniform distribution**. The choice of Gaussian or uniform distribution does not seem to matter very much but has not been exhaustively studied. The **scale** of the **initial distribution**, however, does **have a large effect** on both the **outcome** of the optimization procedure and on the ability of the network to **generalize**.”

Goodfellow et al. “Deep Learning,, (2015): Section 8.4.

# Regularisation

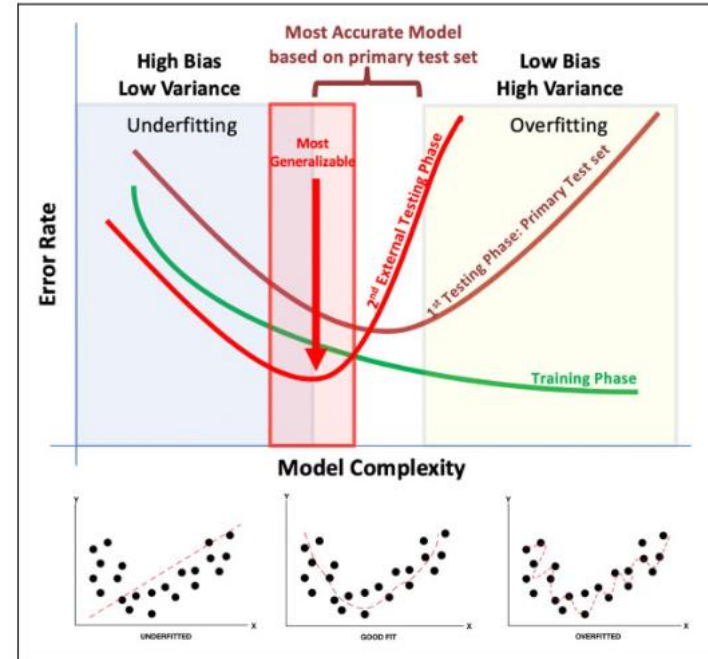
*Hyperparameters*

## Penalisation

- Replacing  $C_n(\theta)$  with  $C_n(\theta) + pen(\theta)$

## Dropout

- Killing random neurons at each learning iteration



“Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning in Pathology: The Present Landscape of Supervised Methods”, Rashidi et al. (2019)

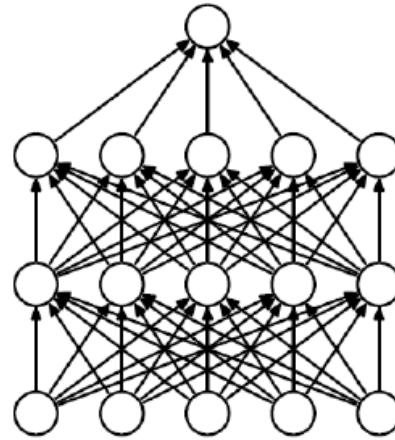


# Dropout

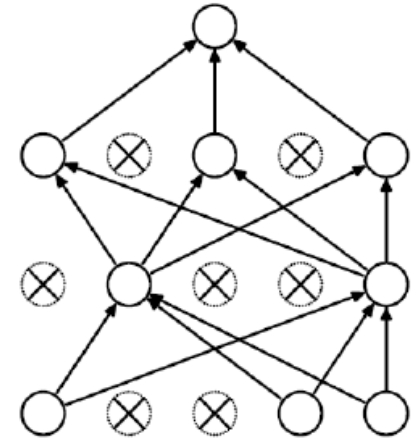
*Hyperparameters*

## In practice

- Each unit is independently retained with a certain probability
- The dropout layer is usually set after the activation layer



(a) Standard Neural Net



(b) After applying dropout.

# Dropout

## Training

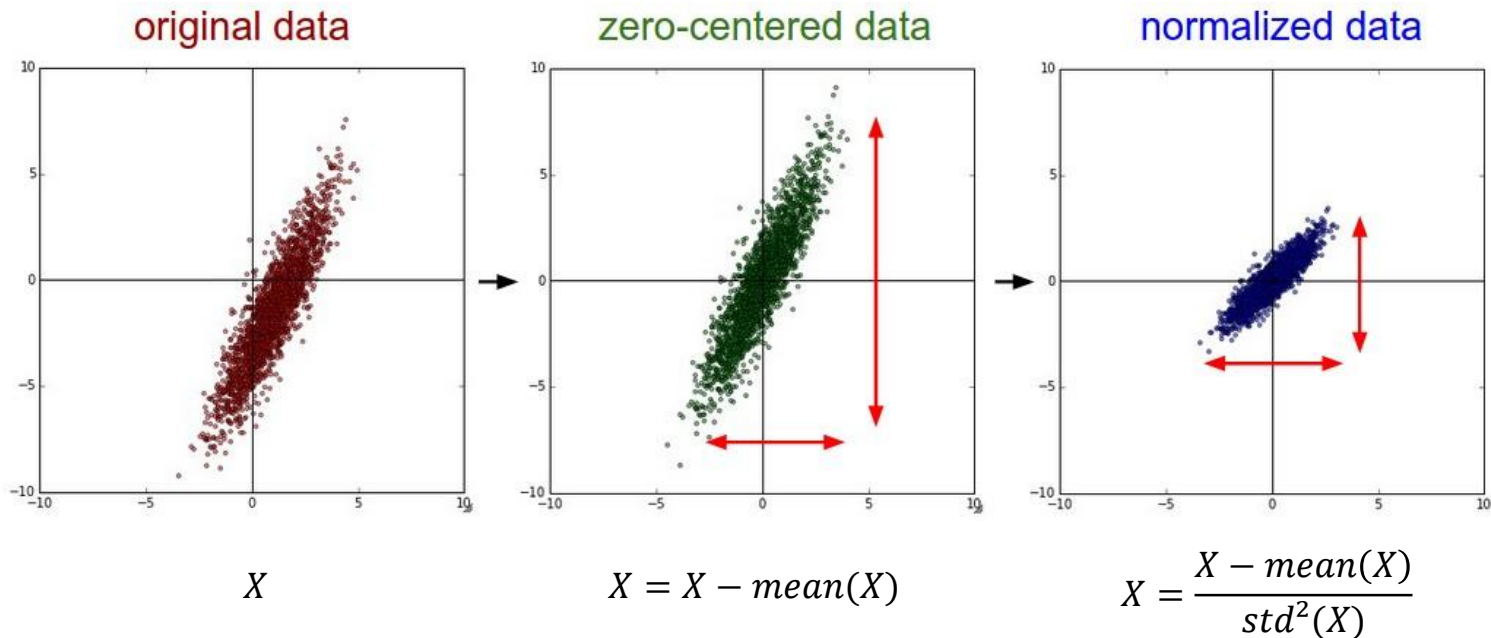
- Inside one epoch, for a mini-batch of size  $m$
- Sample masks of i.i.d. Bernoulli random variables with probability  $p$  per node of the network (inner and input nodes but not output nodes).
- For each one of the  $m$  samples in the mini-batch:
  1. Do a forward pass on the masked network
  2. Compute the gradients on the masked network
  3. Update weights on the masked network

## Prediction

- Use all neurons in the network with the weights learned during training multiplied by the dropout rate used during training  $y = x(1 - p)$  with  $p$  the dropout rate

# Inputs initialisation

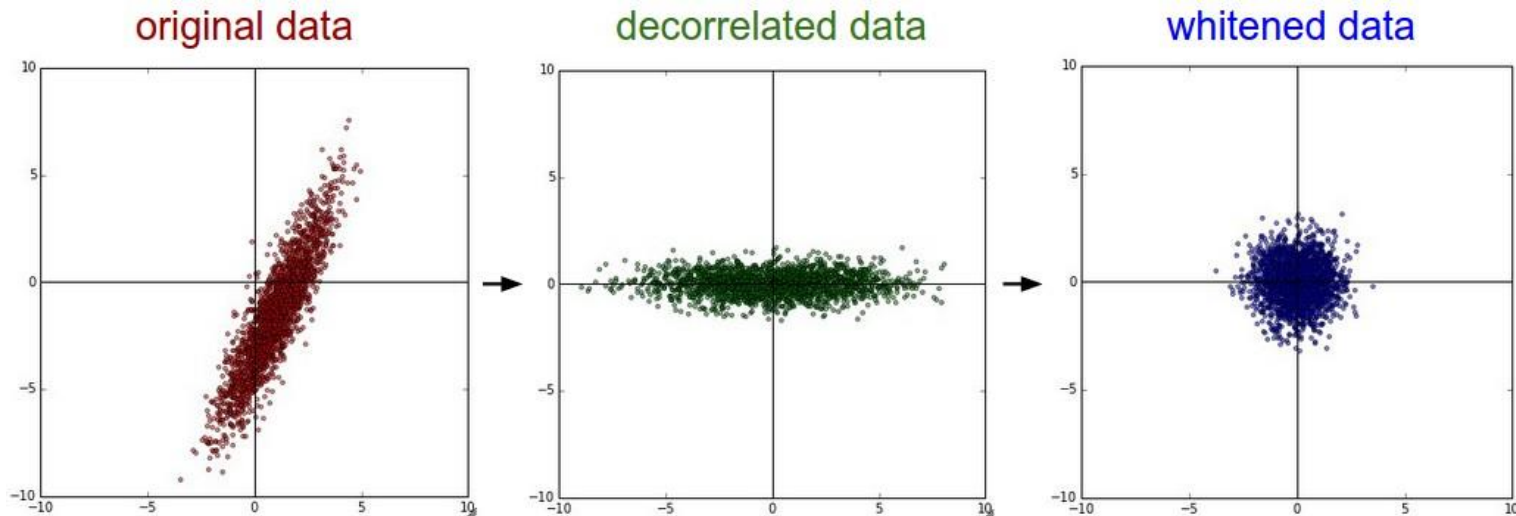
## Normalisation



# Inputs initialisation

*Hyperparameters*

## PCA



- 2-dimensional input data

- Data centered at zero
- Rotated into the eigenbasis of the data covariance matrix
- Decorrelates the data; the covariance matrix becomes diagonal

- Each dimension scaled by the eigenvalues
- Transforms the data covariance matrix into the identity matrix

# Normalisation

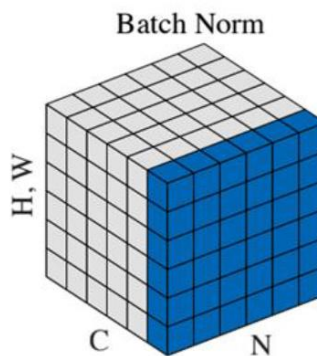
*Hyperparameters*

## Batch-normalisation

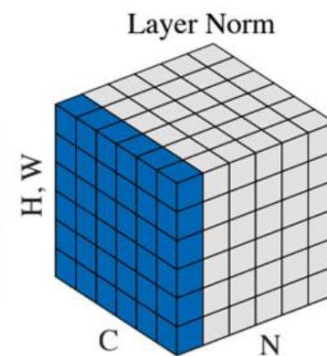
- Networks converge faster if inputs are scaled
- It improves gradient flows and allows for higher learning rates
- Reduces the dependence on initial conditions
- Batch-normalisation scales inputs based on the mean and variance of the mini-batch

## Layer-normalisation

- Same principles as batch-normalisation except that the standardisation occurs across a layer
- Particularly used for transformer architectures



**“Across Batch”**  
Statistics calculated over the whole training set but normalization applied to the current batch for each feature independently

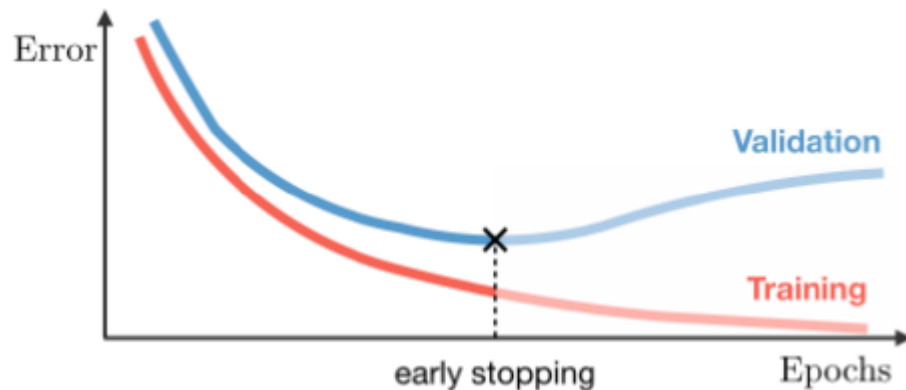


**“Across Features”**  
Statistics calculated for each observation of the current batch across the features

# Early Stopping

## Principle

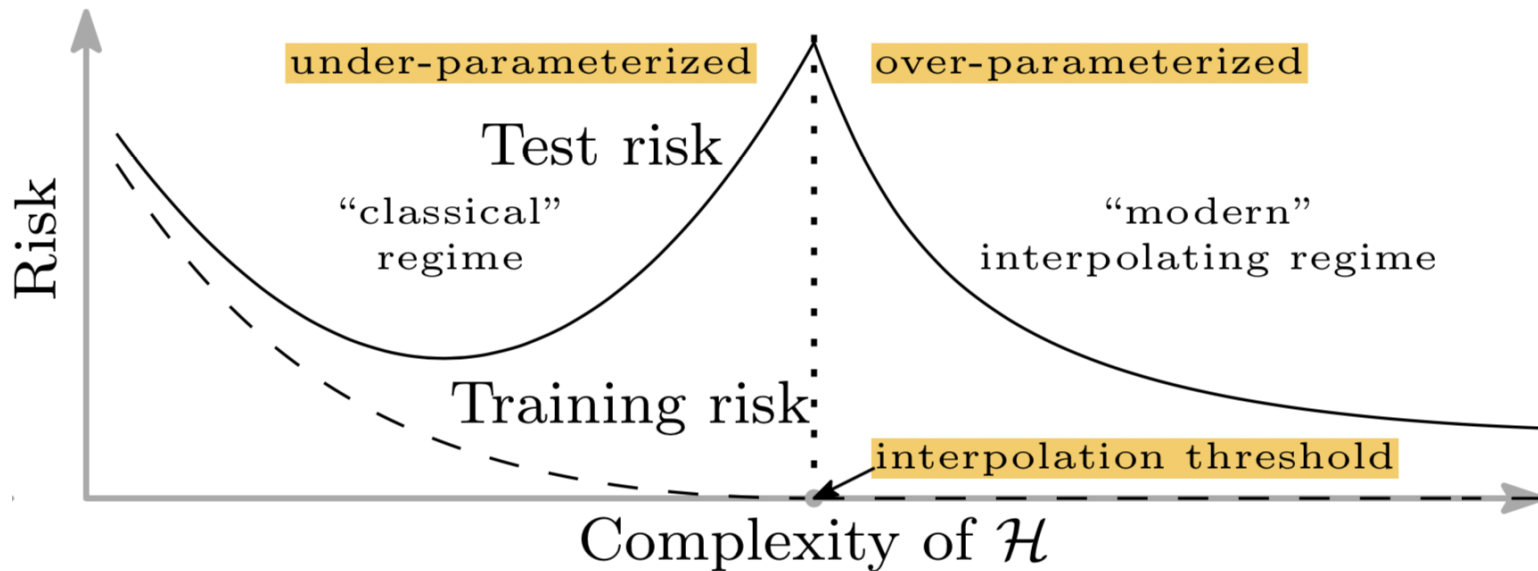
- Essentially, early stopping aims at ensuring the model generalization
- In practice, we stop training when the validation stops improving for a certain number of subsequent epochs



# Avoiding overfitting

- **Penalization** methods such as Ridge and L1 are used to replace certain elements in the optimization process.
- **Dropout** is a method where some neurons are randomly shut off during optimization and predictions are made using the entire network.
- **Batch normalization** involves normalizing the layers within a smaller subset of the data, to prevent the network from overfitting on a particular batch.
- **Early stopping** is a method where the optimization process is halted when the validation error fails to decrease over a certain number of iterations.

# Final comment



“Reconciling modern machine learning practice and the bias-variance trade-off”, Belkin et al. (2018)